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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310



AGDA-A (M) (19 Apr 71) FOR OT-UT-704086

14 May 1971

SUBJECT: Operational Report, Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 1st
Battalion, 44th Artillery, Period Ending 31 October 1970 (U)

SEE DISTRIBUTION

- (9) 6-11-71. L. rpt. for general period ending 31 Oct 70.
1. The attached report is forwarded for review and evaluation in accordance with para 4b, AR 525-15. (11) 12 Nov 70 (12) 31 p.
 2. The information contained in this report is provided to insure that lessons learned during current operations are used to the benefit of future operations and may be adapted for use in developing training material.
 3. Information of actions initiated as a result of your evaluation should be forwarded to the Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, ATTN: FOR OT UT within 90 days of receipt of this letter.

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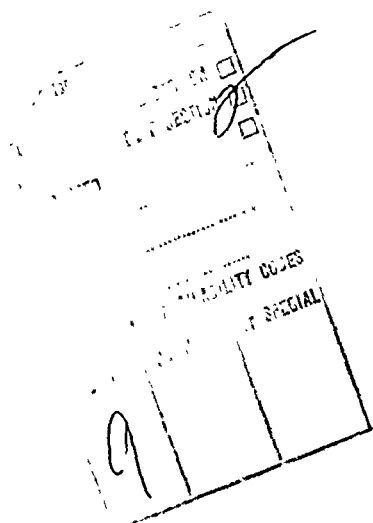
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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 1ST BATTALION (AW) (SP) 44TH ARTILLERY
APO San Francisco 96349

AVIIE-CO

12 November 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 1st Battalion (AW)(SP) 44th Artillery
for the Period Ending 31 October 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

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1. (C) Section 1. Operations: Significant Activities:

a. Administration/Personnel:

(1) The following awards and decorations were made to assigned and attached personnel:

<u>AWARDS</u>	<u>PERSONNEL</u>
Silver Star	1
Bronze Star for Valor	5
Bronze Star for Achievement	18
Bronze Star for Service	30
Army Commendation Medal for Valor	16
Army Commendation Medal for Achievement	45
Army Commendation Medal for Service	90
Air Medal	16
Purple Heart	11
Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry	0
Certificates of Achievement	0

(2) There was one administrative move during the reporting period: B Battery moved from Dong Ha Combat Base to Camp Love, Da Nang. The unit closed at Camp Love at 1410 hours, 30 August 1970.

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GROUP 4
DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS

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(3) The battalion personnel statistics as of 31 October 1970 were:

(a) Current Strength:

	<u>AUTHORIZED</u>			<u>ASSIGNED</u>		
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>
1st Bn (AW)(SP) 44th Arty:	36	3	653	39	4	680
G Btry (SLT) 29th Arty:	8	0	142	7	0	132
G Btry (MG) 65th Arty:	2	0	140	4	0	141

(b) Casualties: 1 August 1970 - 31 October 1970:

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
KIA	2
WIA	15*
MIA	0
Died of Wounds	0
Non-Battle Deaths	0

(c) R & R Experiences:

	<u>AUGUST</u>	<u>SEPTEMBER</u>	<u>OCTOBER</u>
Hawaii	17	20	14
Bangkok	3	3	10
Hong Kong	2	2	12
Sidney	9	9	15
Taipei	0	4	9
**Tokyo	4	0	N/A

(4) Current organisational structure of the 1st Battalion (AW)(SP) 44th Artillery is attached as Inclosure 1.

* 4 personnel medevaced with records, therefore no official record of award of purple heart.

** Effective 1 October 1970, discontinued as R & R site.

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b. Intelligence:

(1) Primary sources of intelligence information for Headquarters Battery during the reporting period was the G2 section, XXIV Corps Artillery. Batteries A and G/65 received intelligence information from the S2 section, 1st Brigade, 5th Infantry Division (Mechanized). Battery B was given intelligence information from the 2nd Battalion, 94th Field Artillery. Battery C received intelligence reports from the G2 section, Americal Division. G2 of the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) sent intelligence summaries to Battery D. Battery G, 29th Artillery received intelligence information from the S2 section, 11th USMC Regiment, 1st USMC Division. Supplementary information was received from XXIV Corps in the form of intelligence summaries and periodic intelligence reports and estimates from field commanders of supported units.

(2) Two tropical storms, KATE and LOUISE, struck the coastal areas on 25 October 1970 and 27 October 1970 respectively and resulted in light damage to bunkers on outlying fire bases from KATE and heavy flooding from LOUISE.

(3) Enemy Activity: Reduced drastically as a result of the storms and flooding.

(a) Mining incidents were moderate during the reporting period.

(b) Stand-off attacks increased toward the end of the period but were generally light.

(c) Enemy ground activity remained light throughout the reporting period.

c. Operations:

(1) General: The mission of the 1st Battalion (AW)(SP) 44th Artillery and Battery G (MG) 65th Artillery, continues to be general support of XXIV Corps. Battery G (SLT) 29th Artillery continues the mission of providing battlefield illumination to XXIV Corps.

(2) Areas of operation during the reporting period:

Wolfe Mountain	1st Bde 5th Inf Div (Mech)	Jul 70-Present (A,G29,G65)
Texas Star	101st Abn Div (Ambl)	Apr 70-Sep 70 (D,G29,G65)
Chisago Peak	101st Abn Div (Ambl)	Jul 70-Aug 70 (D,G29,G65)
Frederick Hill	Americal Division	May 70-Present (C,G29)
Geneva Park	Americal Division	May 70-Present (C,G29)
Iron Mountain	Americal Division	May 70-Present (C,G29)

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Nantucket Beach	Americal Division	Jul 70-Present (C,G29)
Pennsylvania Square	Americal Division	May 70-Present (C,G29)
Barren Green	1st Marine Division	Jul 70-Present (B,G29)
Lyon Valley	1st Marine Division	Aug 70-Present (B,G29)
Pickens Forest	1st Marine Division	Jul 70-Aug 70 (G29)
Ripley Center	1st Marine Division	13Aug70-31Aug70 (G29)
Nebraska Rapids	Americal Division 1st Marine Division	05Sep70-08Sep70 (C,G29)
Dubois Square	1st Marine Division	10Sep70-19Sep70 (B,G29)
Elk Canyon I	Americal Division	Jul 70-Aug 70 (C,G29)
Elk Canyon II	Americal Division	Aug 70-Sep 70 (C,G29)
Imperial Lake	1st Marine Division	Aug 70-Present (B,G29)
Jefferson Glenn	101st Abn Div (Ambl) 1st ARVN Div	Sep 70-Present (D,G29,G65)
Lamson 361	1st ARVN Reg't	Jul 70-Sep 70 (A,B,G65)
Lamson 362	2nd ARVN Reg't	Jul 70-Sep 70 (A,G29,G65)
Lamson 363	3rd ARVN Reg't	Jul 70-Sep 70 (B,D)
Lamson 364	54th ARVN Reg't	Jul 70-Sep 70 (A,D,G29,G65)
Lamson 365	7th ARVN Cav	Jul 70-Sep 70 (A,G29,G65)
Lamson 368	1st ARVN Reg't	Oct 70-Present (A,G29,G65)
Lamson 369	2nd ARVN Reg't	Oct 70-Present (A,G29,G65)
Lamson 370	3rd ARVN Reg't	Oct 70-Present (D)
Lamson 371	54th ARVN Reg't	Oct 70-Present (D,G29,G65)
Lamson 372	11th ARVN Cav	Oct 70-Present (A,G29,G65)
Lamson 373	7th ARVN Cav	Oct 70-Present (A,G29,G65)
Hung Quang 1/32B	51st ARVN Reg't	May 70-Present (B,G29)
Hung Quang 1/32D	51st ARVN Reg't	May 70-Present (B,G29)

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Quyet Thang 45B	2nd ARVN Div	Jul 70-Sep 70 (B,G29)
Quyet Thang 45C	2nd ARVN Div	Oct 70-Present (B,G29)
Quyet Thang 54B	2nd ARVN Div	Jul 70-Sep 70 (B,G29)
Quyet Thang 54C	2nd ARVN Div	Oct 70-Present (B,G29)
Quyet Thang 63B	2nd ARVN Div	Jul 70-Sep 70 (B,G29)
Quyet Thang 63C	2nd ARVN Div	Oct 70-Present (B,G29)

(3) Significant Events:

(a) On 5 August 1970 at 1640 hours, the Dusters at FSB Dragon were firing suppressive and protective (S&P) fires. Impact of rounds started fires on a hill which in turn caused 10 to 15 secondary explosions, believed to be enemy mines and booby traps.

(b) On 23 August 1970 at 0730 hours, two Dusters from Battery C, 1st Bn (AW)(SP) 44th Arty conducted a "Duster Raid" on Hill 59. The Dusters fired 1389 rounds in the combat exercise. Results of the raid were two secondary explosions. (See para 2c(2))

(c) On 5 September 1970 at 1350 hours, two Dusters at An Do (T-Bone) were requested for support on a contact mission approximately 2,500 meters in front of their position by ARVN's. Dusters fired 350 rounds. There were 9 NVA KIA, 3 AK-47's and 3 B-40 rockets captured.

(d) On 8 September 1970 at 0213 hours, movement was spotted thru a starlight scope to the north front of the Duster position at FSB Cindy. The 2 Duster crews, C121 and C122, proceeded to fire a total of 120 rounds at the enemy movement. At 0420 hours, FSB Cindy, the Special Forces Compound and the local MACV Compound came under simultaneous mortar attack. At 0440 hours, these three areas were hit by a heavy ground attack from the 406th NVA Sapper Battalion. C121 and C122 laid down a heavy volume of fire at suspected and known enemy concentrations. The enemy succeeded in overrunning both the Special Forces Camp and MACV Compound but were turned back in their attempts to breach the wire at FSB Cindy. The Duster crewmen were given official credit for 26 enemy KIA. The men of Battery C, 1st Battalion (AW)(SP) 44th Artillery sustained no injuries or damage.

(e) On the morning of 9 September 1970, PFC Howard E. CHENAULT, Jr. asked for and was granted permission to search the river bank in front of the gun positions for dead or wounded enemy. Approximately 500 meters outside the wire and on the river bank, PFC CHENAULT spotted two Viet Cong hiding in the brush. He succeeded in capturing one enemy soldier while the other evaded deeper into the brush. Vital information was obtained from the prisoner about the attack of the night before and subsequent attacks planned by his unit, the 406th Sapper Battalion. The prisoner

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stated that the failure of the attack on FSB Cindy was due in a large degree to the heavy volume of fire put out by the Dusters. The early spotting of the enemy troops and subsequent fire brought upon them threw the enemy battalion into a state of confusion and disrupted their planned attack.

(f) On 17 September 1970 at 1015 hours, personnel from Battery A, while running a resupply mission to A-2, hit an unknown type of mine on QL1, in the vicinity of Gio Linh (V). Results were a 2½ ton truck combat loss and 4 US WIA.

(g) On 3 October 1970 at 0835 hours, a Duster from Battery C, while on a mine sweep operation from FSB 411, hit a command detonated plastic mine. Results were 1 M42A1 Duster combat loss, 1 US KIA and 3 US WIA.

(h) On 6 October 1970 at 2050 hours, MACV personnel stationed at An Do (FSB T-Bone) spotted unknown number of VC southwest of their position. Duster fire was requested. Dusters fired 240 rounds. Results were 8 VC KIA confirmed by MACV personnel.

(i) On 9 October 1970 at 0700 hours, a section of Dusters from Battery B, 1st Battalion (AW)(SP) 44th Artillery stationed at FSB Baldy went on a reconnaissance by fire with a Marine Combined Unit Pacification Program (CUPP) team. The patrols discovered caves with clothes, empty C-ration cans and other materials, including one cave apparently configured as a classroom. Booby traps were set up. After the patrols returned to the CP, the Dusters fired 300 rounds into the area leaving it in smoke.

(j) On 17 October 1970 at 0905 hours, elements of the 1st Battalion (AW)(SP) 44th Artillery stationed at FSB Nancy received a call from elements of the 14th Combat Engineers who were on a mine sweep to FSB Barbara. They were caught in an ambush by approximately two platoons of the 31st NVA Company. Two Dusters from FSB Nancy reacted in five minutes and within 18 minutes were at the site of the ambush. Also responding to the request was the truck mounted Quad 50, also stationed at FSB Nancy. The high volume of fire from the Dusters and Quad 50 broke up the ambush. The Dusters fired 1,000 rounds and the Quad 50 fired 12,000 rounds. Results were 2 US KIA, 3 US WIA, 12 ARVN WIA and 11 NVA KIA.

(k) On 23 October 1970 at 2100 hours, the Duster crewmen on Nui Yon spotted a VC company moving 800 meters to the southwest of their position. The two Dusters fired a total of 900 rounds at the enemy. Results of the firing were; 5 enemy KIA, 1 each AK-47 rifle and 120 kilos of rice captured.

(1) During the reporting period elements of this battalion

1 supported 24 convoy security missions and 89 minesweep operations.

2 Withstood 51 stand off rocket and/or mortar attacks with a total of 356 enemy rounds received. The size and number of rounds were: 60mm mortar - 62; 82mm mortar - 143; 122mm rocket - 75; 140mm rocket - 14; 58 unknown size mortars and 4 unknown size rockets

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2 Responded to a total of 3 radar or sensor targets with a total of 185 rounds expended.

(1) The Searchlight Battery continued to perform its mission of perimeter defense for guarding fire support bases, logistical outposts, bridges, roads and other key installations with illumination (visible and infrared) in support of night operations in the XXIV Corps AO. This has resulted in 16 searchlight assisted enemy contacts resulting in 41 enemy KIA, 1 boat destroyed and secondary explosion.

(4) Fire unit locations: At the end of the reporting period, 31 October 1970, the battalion was tactically deployed as follows:

	<u>UNIT ELEMENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>SUPPORTED UNIT</u>
(a)	HNB	Da Nang (AT946816)	
(b)	Battery A (-)	Dong Ha Combat Base (YD233583)	
1	2 Dusters	Dong Ha Combat Base (YD233583)	1st Bde 5th Inf Div (Mech)
2	2 Dusters	Khe Gio Bridge (YD029563)	1st ARVN Div
3	2 Dusters	A-4 (YD118701)	1st Bde 5th Inf Div (Mech)
4	2 Dusters	A-1 (YD270734)	1st ARVN Div
5	2 Dusters	C-1 (YD213674)	1st ARVN Div
6	2 Dusters	A-2 (YD213743)	1st ARVN Div
7	2 Dusters	Nancy (YD442394)	1st ARVN Div
8	2 Dusters	Barbara (YD327337)	1st ARVN Div
(c)	Battery B (-)	Da Nang (AT946783)	
1	2 Dusters	Da Nang (AT946783)	XXIV Corps
2	2 Dusters	Hill 55 (AT967617)	51st ARVN Reg't
3	2 Dusters	Hai Van Pass (AT939918)	51st ARVN Reg't
4	2 Dusters	Hill 10 (AT923691)	1st Mar Reg't
5	2 Dusters	Baldy (BT133453)	5th Mar Reg't
6	2 Dusters	Hill 190 (AT894823)	1st Mar Reg't

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7	2 Dusters	Hill 52 (AT787553)	1st Mar Reg't
8	2 Dusters	Ross (ET027342)	5th Mar Reg't
(d)	Batt. ry C (-)	Chu Lai (BT529088)	
1	2 Dusters	Chu Lai (BT529088)	Americal Division
2	2 Dusters	Tien Phuoc (BT108142)	Americal Division/CIDG
3	2 Dusters	Nui Ong (BS613735)	2nd ARVN Div
4	2 Dusters	LZ Dragon (BS731528)	2nd ARVN Div
5	2 Dusters	FSB 411 (BS539732)	Americal Div/2nd ARVN Div
6	2 Dusters	FSB Cindy (BS345883)	Americal Division/CIDG
7	2 Dusters	FSB Crunch (BS534516)	Americal Division/CIDG
8	2 Dusters	Nui Yon (BT170250)	RF/PF
(e)	Battery D (-)	Phu Bai (YD880140)	
1	4 Dusters	Phu Bai (YD880140)	101st Abn Div (Ambl)
2	4 Dusters	Birmingham (YD706102)	101st Abn Div (Ambl)
3	2 Dusters	Camp Evans (YD535314)	101st Abn Div (Ambl)
4	2 Dusters	LZ Sally (YD638274)	1st ARVN Div
5	2 Dusters	An Do (YD659203)	1st ARVN Div
6	1 Duster	Phu Loc (YD100007)	RF/PF
7	1 Duster	FSB Anzio (YD934072)	54th ARVN Reg't
(f)	Battery G/65(-)	Dong Ha Combat Base (YD233583)	
1	5 M55's	Dong Ha Combat Base (YD233583)	1st Bde 5th Inf Div (Mech)
2	2 M55's	FSB Bastogne (YD620095)	101st Abn Div (Ambl)
3	1 M55	Nancy (YD442394)	1st ARVN Div
4	1 M55	A-1 (YD270734)	1st ARVN Div
5	1 M55	C-2 (YD135645)	1st Bde 5th Inf Div (Mech)

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6	1 M55	A-2 (YD213743)	1st ARVN Div
7	1 M55	Camp Eagle (YD827137)	101st Abn Div (Ambl)
8	2 M55's	Tan Lam (YD063544)	1st ARVN Div
9	1 M55	SS Screaming Eagle (AT860970)	101st Abn Div (Ambl)
10	2 M55's	A-4 (YD118701)	1st Bde 5th Inf Div (Mech)
11	1 M55	Lam Co Bridge (AT888956)	RF/PF
12	1 M55	FSB Birmingham (YD706102)	101st Abn Div (Ambl)
13	1 M55	FSB Rakkasan (YD490198)	101st Abn Div (Ambl)
14	1 M55	Dong Toan (YD029478)	1st ARVN Div
15	1 M55	Phu Bai (YD880140)	101st Abn Div (Ambl)
16	1 M55	FSB Jack (YD495287)	101st Abn Div (Ambl)
(g) Battery G/29(=) Da Nang (AT957757)			
1	1 SLT	Camp Eagle (YD827137)	1st Bde 101st Abn Div (Ambl)
2	1 SLT	FSB Rakkasan (YD490198)	101st Abn Div (Ambl)
3	1 SLT	SS Screaming Eagle (AT860970)	101st Abn Div (Ambl)
4	1 SLT	Phu Bai (YD880140)	101st Abn Div (Ambl)
5	1 SLT	FSB Birmingham (YD706102)	101st Abn Div (Ambl)
6	1 SLT	FSB Bastogne (YD620095)	101st Abn Div (Ambl)
7	1 SLT	Camp Evans (YD535314)	101st Abn Div (Ambl)
8	1 SLT	Khe Gio Bridge (YD029563)	1st ARVN Div
9	1 SLT	A-4 (YD113700)	1st Bde 5th Inf Div (Mech)
10	1 SLT	A-2 (YD213743)	1st ARVN Div
11	1 SLT	A-1 (YD270734)	1st ARVN Div
12	1 SLT	Crows Nest (BT069705)	2nd Bn 1st Marines

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13	1 SLT	Hill 190 (AT894823)	3rd Bn 26th Marines
14	1 SLT	Nam Bridge (AT927842)	3rd Bn 26th Marines
15	1 SLT	Hill 327 (AT973737)	Southern Sector Defense Command
16	1 SLT	Cau Do Bridge (AT997705)	51st ARVN Reg't
17	1 SLT	Hill 65 (AT878576)	5th Marine Reg't
18	1 SLT	FSB Baldy (BT133453)	3rd Bn 11th Marine Reg't
19	1 SLT	LZ Ross (BT027342)	3rd Bn 11th Marine Reg't
20	1 SLT	Hill 270 (AT865681)	1st Bn 1st Marine Reg't
21	1 SLT	Hill 119 (AT989509)	11th Marine Reg't
22	1 SLT	Hill 10 (AT923691)	1st Bn 1st Marine Reg't
23	1 SLT	Hill 55 (AT967617)	2nd Bn 11th Marine Reg't
24	1 SLT	Hill 52 (AT787553)	3rd 8" Arty 11th Mar Reg't
25	1 SLT	FSB Dottie (BS630855)	Americal Division
26	1 SLT	Nui Ong (BS613735)	2nd ARVN Div
27	1 SLT	FSB Siberia (AT901232)	Americal Division
28	1 SLT	FSB Mary Ann (AS962999)	Americal Division
29	1 SLT	FSB Center (BT052253)	Americal Division
30	1 SLT	FSB Hawk Hill (BT231315)	Americal Division
31	1 SLT	FSB Fat City (BT435079)	Americal Division
32	1 SLT	LZ Tra Bong (BS340900)	Americal Div/CIDG
33	1 SLT	FSB Stinson (BS538824)	Americal Division
34	1 SLT	OP-1 (BS518779)	Americal Division
35	1 SLT	Montezuma (BS818383)	Americal Division
36	1 SLT	OP-3 (BS752432)	Americal Division

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(5) Ammunition expenditures:

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>REPORTING PERIOD</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
40mm	141,093	2,331,737
50 caliber	895,880	5,610,982

(6) Days spent for training, movement, operations were as follows:

- (a) Training (OJT): 92 days.
- (b) Training (Replacement): Replacement training is now provided by the major units supported.
- (c) Movement: B Btry - 2 days.
- (d) Operations: 92 days.

d. Logistics:

(1) Property books have been established within the organization as follows:

- (a) 1st Bn 44th Arty for HHB.
- (b) A Btry, 1st Bn 44th Arty.
- (c) B Btry, 1st Bn 44th Arty.
- (d) C Btry, 1st Bn 44th Arty.
- (e) D Btry, 1st Bn 44th Arty.
- (f) G Btry 29th Arty.
- (g) G Btry 65th Arty.

(2) Significant equipment fills: The following major end items have been received over the past quarter:

- (a) 1st Bn (AW)(SP) 44th Arty: Truck, cargo, 3/4 ton - 2ea
- (b) G Btry (SLT) 29th Arty: Truck, utility, 1/4 ton - 9ea
- (c) G Btry (MG) 65th Arty: None.

(3) Significant equipment shortages: The following items are now on requisition and are considered critical to this units mission:

- (a) 1st Bn (AW)(SP) 44th Arty: Recovery vehicle, M-578 - 1ea

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(b) G Btry (SLT) 29th Arty: None.

(c) G Btry (MG) 65th Arty: Truck cargo, 5 ton - 4ea.

e. Religious Activities:

(1) Two memorial services were held.

(2) During the reporting period, the Battalion Chaplain conducted 70 worship services as follows:

(a) Base Camp - 30.

(b) Field Locations - 40.

(3) Special Activities:

(a) During August and September, the Battalion Chaplain served as Compound Chaplain during the absence of the Viking Compound Chaplain

(b) During the reporting period, the Battalion Chaplain began relocating the Battalion Memorial Chapel from Dong Ha Combat Base to Viking Compound located at Red Beach, Da Nang. The memorial items were removed from Dong Ha and will be placed in the chapel at Red Beach when construction is completed.

f. Medical:

(1) During the reporting period, there were 370 out-patient visits to the aid station, and 1370 immunizations given. The majority of which were given during an influenza program where the entire battalion was immunized.

(2) The most common and frequent diseases were skin diseases, acute respiratory infections, diseases of the ears, nose, throat and various injuries, mostly minor. There have been no cases of typhus, cholera or plague seen in the battalion. There have been two cases of malaria during the reporting period. Both men have returned to duty.

(3) Sanitary inspections are conducted by the battalion surgeon or other medical personnel once a month. During the reporting period, all inspections have been satisfactory.

(4) A drug amnesty program was initiated during the reporting period. After initially encouraging results, there has been no obvious improvement in the drug situation. The program will continue.

g. Civil Affairs: When the move from Dong Ha to Da Nang was completed, the 1st Bde, 5th Inf Div (Mech) took over the Civil Affairs Program of the 1st Bn (AW)(SP) 44th Arty, which consisted mainly of MEDCAP's in the Dong Ha/Gio Linh area.

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h Education:

(1) 1st Bde, 5th Inf Div (Mech) Education Center, Quang Tri Combat Base administers all courses and tests for Battery A and Battery G, 65th Arty.

(2) The 80th Support Group, Da Nang, administers all courses and tests for HHB, Battery B and Battery G, 29th Arty.

(3) The Americal Education Center in Chu Lai administers all courses and tests for personnel of Battery C.

(4) The 26th General Support Group, Phu Bai Combat Base, administers all courses and tests for Battery D.

2. (C) Lessons Learned: Commander's Observations, Evaluations and Recommendations:

a. Personnel: None

b. Intelligence: None

c. Operations:

(1) Top door cover safety:

(a) Observation: This unit has experienced trouble with the top door covers on M42A1 Dusters blowing open during firing.

(b) Evaluation: Command Emphasis was placed on this safety hazard and it was determined by the firing sections that the top door cover latch would vibrate to the open position during firing. This was caused by the locking pin being too short to withstand the vibration caused by firing.

(c) Recommendation: That a safety wire ring be attached to the cover latch lever and the handle, thus keeping the lever in the locked position. When opening the top door cover, the latch lever is brought back counter-clockwise and the safety ring is removed. The lever is then moved clockwise to open the top door cover.

(2) Duster raid concept:

(a) Observation: This unit has experienced outstanding results by utilizing the Duster in a bold, sudden direct fire attack against known or suspected enemy locations in the vicinity of friendly fire bases or base camps

(b) Evaluation: In many cases, more effective fire can be brought to bear against moving or entrenched enemy forces, cache sites, etc., by using rapid direct fire rather than indirect fire. Because the Duster Raid involves line of sight, speed and surprise are of greatest importance. Rapid deployment utilizing unlikely routes of approach to the raid site will

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lessen the probability of ambush or mines and lend to the element of surprise. Upon arrival at the raid site, the personnel will immediately set up perimeter security and commence firing at preplanned targets and targets of opportunity. Upon completion of firing, perimeter security will withdraw and the Dusters will depart the area with the security element being last to leave. The amount of time spent on the raid site will be dependent primarily on available targets and standby support. The smallest recommended Duster Raid consists of two Dusters and one APC. The APC is used as a command post and as a means of transportation for the infantry security force. Two additional Dusters should remain in a relatively secure area with the mission of providing covering fire and standby support to the main force as well as to replace either one or both of the raid Dusters in the event of breakdown or damage. During daylight hours, one squad of infantry with on-call artillery and ARA is considered to be sufficient local security for the raid. Long duration raids and night raids require a larger security force, the size of which would depend on the nature of the raid.

(c), Recommendation: That the Duster raid concept be initiated and utilized in like units and integrated in their plans of operations.

- d. Training: None
- e. Logistics: None
- f. Organization: None
- g. Communications:

(1) Observations: At present, the Battalion Headquarters is located in the Da Nang area with its northernmost batteries at Dong Ha, 142 km away and its southernmost battery at Chu Lai, 70 km away. Elements of the battalion are located at 58 sites throughout the 1st Military Region. The primary means of tactical communications is FM radio (secure). To reach all the batteries, it is necessary to employ a retransmission station located at Hai Van Pass, 10 miles north of Da Nang. The distance required to communicate with the batteries greatly exceeds the planning range of the VRC 12 series radios. The USMC logarithmic periodic antenna (bi-directional, vertically polarized) provides the best results. The retransmission station gives dependable communications with the battery in Chu Lai, and the battery in Phu Bai, but FM communications with the batteries at Dong Ha is marginal. To circumvent this, an AM radio (AN/GRC-106, voice, non-secure) is employed between Dong Ha and Da Nang. The batteries are faced with the same problem on a smaller scale. Due to the nature of the mission of this unit, the batteries are also spread beyond the normal disposition for a battery. One battery in particular, G/29 (Searchlights) is spread throughout the 1st Military Region.

(2) Evaluations: The authorized communications equipment was not allocated with the concept of such widespread deployment. Consequently, it is not sufficient to insure dependable tactical communications. The present deployment makes it necessary to employ retransmission stations. This unit is not authorized the necessary personnel, equipment or frequency allocations to install the needed retransmission stations. Frequency allocations

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are the most crucial of these requirements. At present, the battalion is operating on seven frequencies. With six batteries and a battalion command net requiring two frequencies, current operations do not allow alternate frequencies, and two of the batteries are sharing one frequency. A temporary authorization for additional personnel, equipment and frequencies will enable the implementation of additional retransmission stations. An additional retransmission station for the battalion command net and one for each of the four batteries would provide reliable tactical communications. The logarithmic periodic antenna (USMC, bi-directional) has proven to be an effective antenna for extending the range of FM communications for directional employment.

(3) Recommendations: That a MTOE change be requested for this equipment upon the approval and return of the currently submitted detailed MTOE.

h. Material: None

i. Other: None

- 3 Incl
- 1. Battalion Organizational Structure
- 2. Map of Battalion Deployment
- 3. Key to Map


DONALD E. SHAW
LTC, ADA
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:
2-USARPAC
3-USARV
14-XXIV Corps Artillery
2-Battalion File

AVII-ATC (12 Nov 70) 1st Ind

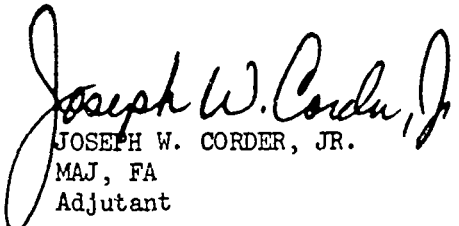
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned of the 1st Battalion (AW)
(SP) 44th Artillery for the Period Ending 31 October 1970, RCS
OFOR-65 (R2) (U)

DA, HQ, XXIV Corps Artillery, APO San Francisco 96349 29 NOV 1970

TO: Commanding General, XXIV Corps, ATTN: AVII-GCT, APO San Francisco
96349

1. The ORLL of the 1st Battalion (AW)(SP) 44th Artillery has been reviewed and is forwarded in accordance with AR 525-15.
2. This headquarters concurs with the report with the following comments reference paragraph 2, g:
 - a. 1st Bn 44th Artillery will submit MTOE action upon completion of the current detailed MTOE preparation - update cycle. The unit will be required to identify trade off spaces for the desired personnel. Equipment will be obtained by temporary loan.
 - b. No additional frequencies are presently available. This condition will be alleviated as the redeployment of US units reduces frequency requirements in MRL.

FOR THE COMMANDER:


JOSEPH W. CORDER, JR.
MAJ, FA
Adjutant

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AVII-GUT (12 Nov 70) 2d Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned of the 1st Battalion
(AW)(SP), 44th Artillery for the Period Ending 31 October
1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)

DA, HQ, XXIV Corps, APO 96349 8 DEC 1970

TO: Commanding General, United States Army, Vietnam, APO 96375

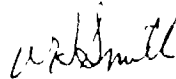
1. (U) This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report - Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 31 October 1970 from Headquarters, 1st Battalion (AW)(SP) 44th Artillery and concurs with the comments of the indorsing headquarters.

2. (C) Comments follow:

a. Reference item concerning "Top door cover safety," paragraph 2c(1), page 8: concur. Review of subject "fix" on site did not indicate any major problem in using the safety wire. Recommend continued use. Unit will be advised to submit an EIR with pictures showing the fix to CG, US Army Weapons Command, Rock Island, Ill. 61201.

b. Reference item concerning "Duster raid concept," paragraph 2c(1), page 8: concur. To date experience gained from this technique has been limited due to the small number of raids conducted, however results have been good. Special emphasis should be placed on protective measures to counter the enemy mine threat when planning raids in areas where mines are encountered.

FOR THE COMMANDER:


V. H. SMITH
Captain ACC
Assistant Adjutant General

CF:
CG, Corps Arty APO 96349
CG, 1st Bn, 44th Arty APO 96349

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AVHDO-DO (12 Nov 70) 3d Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 1st Battalion (AW)(SP) 44th Artillery
for the Period Ending 31 October 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

Headquarters, United States Army Vietnam, APO San Francisco 96375 7 FEB 1971

TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-DT,
APO 96558

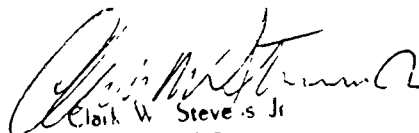
1. This Headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 31 October 1970 from Headquarters, 1st Battalion (AW)(SP) 44th Artillery and comments of indorsing headquarters.

2. Comments follow:

a. Reference item concerning "Top Door Cover Safety," page 13, paragraph 2c(1) and 2nd Indorsement, paragraph 2a. Unit concerned was notified to submit an EIR on the M42A1 top door cover ASAP and to have supporting maintenance evaluate the problem. Also, the unit was informed to continue to use the safety wire ring pending evaluation of EIR. This Headquarters will monitor the EIR submission for USAFECOM's evaluation.

b. Reference item concerning "Duster Raid Concept," page 13, paragraph 2c(2) and 2nd Indorsement, paragraph 2b. Concur with the "Duster Raid Concept," as an excellent sudden direct fire attack against known or suspected enemy locations. However, intelligence should be fairly accurate to insure efficient use of ammunition in order to obtain productive results. No action by USARPAC or DA is recommended. Unit has been so advised.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



Captain AGC

Assistant Adjutant General

Cy furn:
XXIV Corps
1st Bn, 44th Arty

GPOP-DT (12 Nov 70) 4th Ind (U)
SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, 1st Battalion (AW)(SP) 44th Artillery
for Period Ending 31 October 1970, RCS CSFOR-76 (R2)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 23 FEB 1971

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the
Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

This headquarters concurs in subject report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:

L.M. Ozaki Lt AGC
L.M. OZAKI
CPT, AGC
Asst AG

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ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

1. (C) Assigned:

a. Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion (AW)(SP) 44th Artillery.

b. Battery A.

c. Battery B.

d. Battery C.

e. Battery D.

2. (C) Attached:

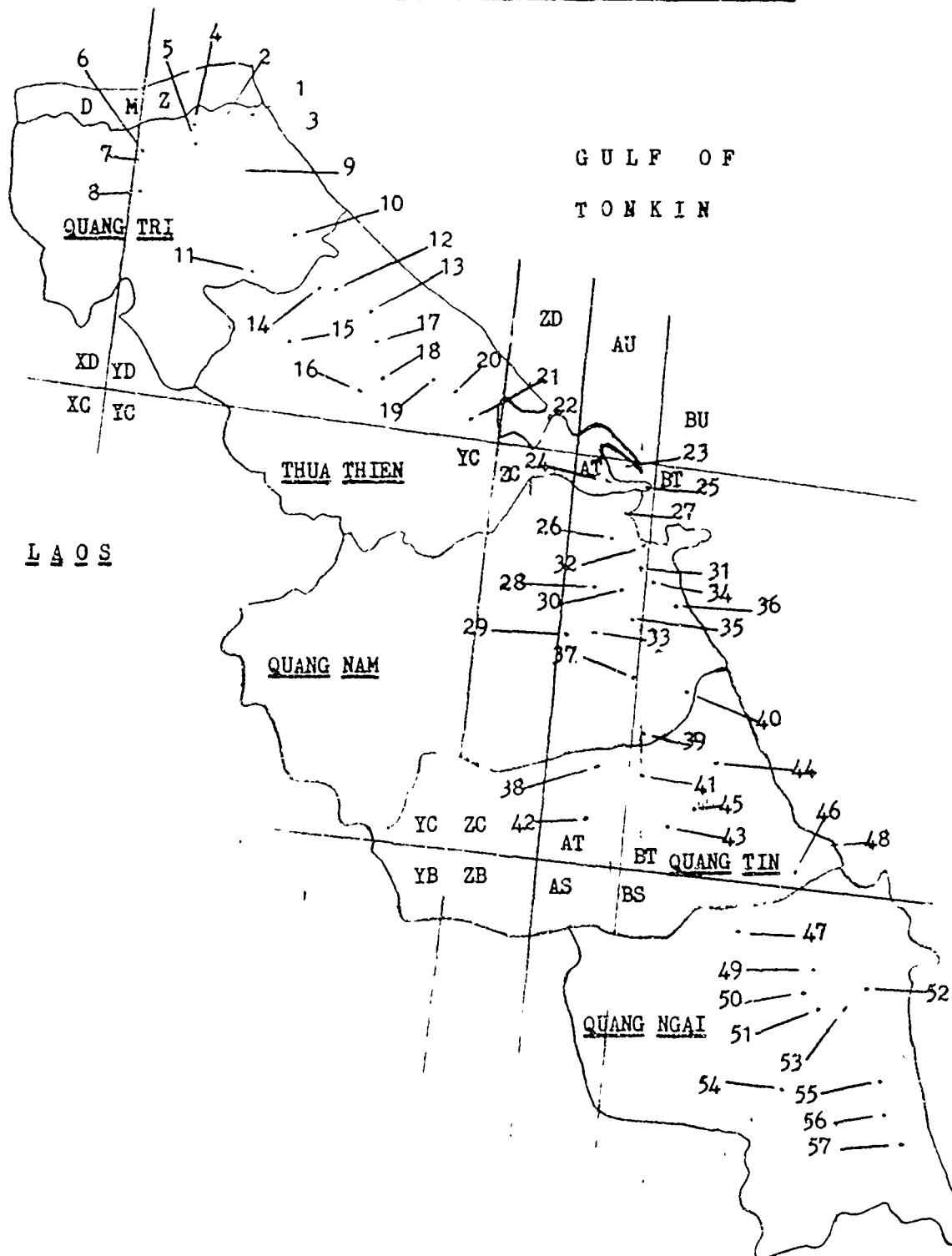
a. Battery G (Searchlight) 29th Artillery.

b. Battery G (Machinegun) 65th Artillery.

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I MILITARY REGION

1ST BN 44TH ARTY DEPLOYMENT (U)



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KEY TO MAP

1. A-1	YD270734
2. A-2	YD213743
3. C-1	YD213674
4. A-4	YD118701
5. C-2	YD135645
6. Khe Gio Bridge	YD029563
7. Tan Lam (Camp Carroll)	YD063544
8. Dong Toan (LZ Sarge)	YD029478
9. Dong Ha Combat Base	YD233583
10. LZ Nancy	YD442394
11. FSB Barbara	YD327337
12. Camp Evans	YD535314
13. LZ Sally	YD638274
14. FSB Jack	YD495287
15. FSB Rakkasen	YD490198
16. FSB Bastogne	YD620095
17. An Do (FSB T-Bone)	YD659203
18. FSB Birmingham	YD706102
19. Camp Eagle	YD827137
20. Phu Bai Combat Base	YD880140
21. FSB Anzio (La Son)	YD934072
22. Phu Loc District Headquarters	YD100007
23. SS Screaming Eagle	AT860970
24. Lang Co Bridge	AT888956
25. Hai Van Pass	AT939918

Inclosure 3

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26. Hill 190 (LZ Tucson)	AT894823
27. Namc Bridge	AT926742
28. Hill 270	AT865681
29. Hill 52 (Ha Nha Hill)	AT787553
30. Hill 10 (FSB Stallion)	AT923691
31. Hill 327 (OP Hawk)	AT973737
32. Da Nang	AT957757
33. Hill 65 (Nui Lo)	AT878576
34. Song Cau Do Bridge	AT999705
35. Hill 55 (FSB Muir)	AT967617
36. Crows Nest	BT069705
37. Hill 119 (OP Durham)	AT989509
38. FSB Siberia	AT901232
39. LZ Ross	BT027342
40. FSB Baldy	BT133453
41. FSB Center	BT052253
42. FSB Mary Ann	AS962999
43. Tien Phuoc	BT108142
44. FSB Hawk Hill	BT231315
45. Nui Yon	BT170250
46. FSB Fat City	BT435079
47. FSB Cindy	BS345883
LZ Tra Bong	BS340900
48. Chu Lai Combat Base	BT529088
49. FSB Stinson	BS538824
50. OP-1	BS518779

Inclosure 3

23

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51. FSB 411	BS539732
52. FSB Dottie	BS630855
53. Nui Ong	BS613735
54. FSB Crunch	BS534516
55. LZ Dragon	BS731528
56. OP-3	BS752432
57. Montezuma	BS818383

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