

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS, 1<sup>ST</sup> BATTALION, 83d ARTILLERY (U)  
APO San Francisco 96291

AVGAZ-CO

1 August 1967

SUBJECT: Operational report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1967.  
Reports Control Symbol CSFOR-65 (U)

THRU: Commanding Officer  
54<sup>th</sup> Artillery Group  
APC 96376

Commanding General  
II Field Force Vietnam Artillery  
ATTN: AVFB-FAC  
APO 96266

Commanding General  
United States Army Vietnam  
ATTN: AVHGC-DH  
APO 96375

Commander-In-Chief  
United States Army Pacific  
ATTN: CPOP-OT  
APO 96558

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

SECTION I

SIGNIFICANT HEADQUARTERS OR UNIT ACTIVITIES

1. (U) . Administration and Personnel:

- a. The 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 83d Artillery remains assigned to the 54<sup>th</sup> Artillery Group.

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b. Normal S-1 activities have been conducted during the period 1 May 1967 through 31 July 1967.

c. Personnel strength of the command on 31 July 1967 was:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>TOE AUTH</u>			<u>MTOE PENDING</u>			<u>ASSIGNED</u>		
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>
Headquarters Btry	19	1	146	+1	+1	+34	16	1	152
A Battery	3	0	110	+1		+21	3		124
B Battery	3	0	110	+1		+21	3		116
C Battery	3	0	110	+1		+21	3		116
Service Battery	3	3	68			+11	3	2	81
Totals	31	4	544	+4	+1	+108	28	3	589

d. Critical MOS shortages in NCO grades. During the reporting period certain key MOS shortages were experienced. These shortages included NCO grades in Mess (94B40) and Maintenance (63C40). The reason for these shortages is due to Compassionate Reassignments for these NCOs concerned. The replacements for these NCOs have been requisitioned.

e. Personnel changes during this quarter include:

<u>(1)GAINS:</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>(2)LOSSES:</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>
	5	0	198		8	0	138

f. Casualties included:

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
Killed inaction	0
Wounded in Action	2
Missing in Action	0
Non-Battle Dead	0
Non-Battle Casualties	0

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g. Awards and Decorations presented to members of this command included:

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
Silver Star	0
Legion of Merit	0
Bronze Star (Valor)	0
Bronze Star (Merit)	1
Air Medal (Merit)	2
Air Medal (Oak Leaf Cluster)	2
Soldiers Medal	2
Commendation Medal (Valor)	0
Commendation Medal (Merit)	3
Purple Heart	2

NOTE: In addition to these awards, 12 recommendations for awards have been submitted and are pending approval by USARV.

h. R&R Program schedules include the following:

(1) The in-country R&R consisting of 3 day passes to Vung Tau have been utilized by 17 personnel.

(2) The out-of-country R&R included the following 5 day quotas:

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUNE</u>	<u>JULY</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Bangkok	10	9	9	28
Tokyo	4	9	10	23
Manila	4	2	2	8
Hong Kong	4	8	8	20
Taipei	4	8	8	20
Singapore	0	3	3	6

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h. (2) continued

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUNE</u>	<u>JULY</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Kuala Lumpur	0	3	0	3
Penang	0	2	2	4
Hawaii	8	4	7	19

i. Unit mail clerks pick up and deliver mail from the nearest APO. Numbers for the units are as follows:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>APO</u>
Headquarters Battery	96291
A Battery	96291
B Battery	96291
C Battery	96376
Service Battery	96291

j. Judicial and Non-Judicial actions by units included:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>ARTICLE 15</u>	<u>SUMMARY COURT</u>	<u>SPECIAL COURT</u>	<u>GENERAL COURT</u>
Headquarters Battery	0	0	8	0
A Battery	12	0	2	0
B Battery	7	0	1	0
C Battery	3	0	0	0
Service Battery	0	0	3	0
Totals	22	0	14	0

k. Pertinent medical service statistics include:

Total patient visits (unit personnel)	700
Admitted to hospital	16
Evacuated within the country	0

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k. continued

Evacuated our of country	2
Malaria Cases	0

i. Reportable accidents included:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>VEHICLE</u>	<u>AIRCRAFT</u>	<u>PERSONNEL</u>
Headquarter Battery	0	0	0
A Battery	0	0	1
B Battery	0	0	0
C Battery	0	0	2
Service Battery	0	0	0
Totals	0	0	3

m. The morale of the command is outstanding due to outstanding leadership present throughout the battalion, the R&R program in effect in the battalion, and the completion of mess halls and barracks facilities throughout the battalion.

n. Educational opportunities for personnel are provided by USAFI extension courses. Eight personnel received GED high school equivalency certificates during the reported period.

o. Religious Services, both Protestant and Catholic, are held on a regular basis by Chaplains from the 1<sup>st</sup> Australian Task Force and Headquarters, 54<sup>th</sup> Artillery Group.

p. Throughout the battalion, personal hygiene, health control, and VD control are good. The Battalion Surgeon is pleased with the cooperation of all units in maintaining proper facilities and training to facilitate a high state of health.

2. (C) Intelligence - Sources available to this battalion are as follows:

a. II Field Forces Vietnam

(1) FWMF

(2) Other sources

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2.b continued

b. 1 ATF

- (1) Patrols (Inf, SAS-LRRP)
- (2) Visual recon (Army)
- (3) RAAF
- (4) Agents

c. Binh Tuy, Long Khanh, Phouc Tuy, Sectors and 18<sup>th</sup> ARVN Division

- (1) RVN/RF/PF Units/Agents
- (2) National Police/Agents
- (3) FAC

d. 1/83d Arty – Visual recon (0-1)

e. I Field Force Vietnam (1<sup>st</sup> Air Cavalry Division)

3. (C) Training:

a. On the job and individual cross-training continues in all units of the battalion. A personnel infusion program with the 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 8<sup>th</sup> Artillery was completed on 15 July 1967. 95 personnel of assorted enlisted MOSs and grades were infused.

b. The following periods of mandatory training for personnel were conducted during the reported period:

- |                                   |          |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| (1) Code of Conduct               | 2 hours  |
| (2) Command Information           | 12 hours |
| (3) Character Guidance            | 3 hours  |
| (4) Civil Affairs                 | 2 hours  |
| (5) Safety                        | 2 hours  |
| (6) CBR                           | 1 hour   |
| (7) Defense of tactical positions | 1 hour   |
| (8) Convoy Operations             | 1 hour   |

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(9) Defensive Minefields	1 hour
(10) Geneva Convention	3 hours
(11) M-60 Machine Gun	1 hour
(12) Care and Use of Claymore Mines	1 hour
(13) Ambush and Counter-Ambush	1 hour
(14) Jungle Survival	1 hour

c. All individual replacements received an 18 hour training program within 7 days of their arrival in the unit.

d. A total of eight enlisted men attended a small arms maintenance course conducted by the 2d Maintenance Battalion on 26 and 28 May 1967.

e. A total of three enlisted men have received 8 inch nuclear warhead assembly refresher training during the reported period.

f. All personnel have fired familiarization with their individual weapons as well as all crew-served weapons on this units TO&E.

4. (C) Operations:

a. Normal operations, consistent with the battalion mission were conducted during the reported period.

b. Operation Newark (1 through 4 May). Battery B converted its two 175mm guns to 8 inch howitzers and deployed to vicinity of YT 0618 as an 8 inch Howitzer Battery in support of this 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade search and destroy operation. The battery fired 267 rounds.

c. Operation Lismore (2 through 8 May). Battery A supported the 1<sup>st</sup> Australian Task Force, 7<sup>th</sup> Royal Australian Regiment conducting a search and destroy operation in the vicinity of YS 5558. Support was rendered from the battery base camp location. 411 rounds were fired in support.

d. Operation Whirlwind (3 through 4 May). Battery C supported this 18<sup>th</sup> ARVN Division search and destroy operation from the vicinity of Gia xxx YT 6210. The battery fired in support of ten ground contacts. No surveillance was reported. In addition, nightly harassing and interdiction missions were fired. A total of 180 rounds were fired in support of the operation.

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e. Operation Dayton 5 through 17 May). This search and destroy operation conducted by the 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade and elements of the 18<sup>th</sup> ARVN Division took place in the vicinity of YS 7890. Medium and heavy artillery in a General Support reinforcing role were controlled by a 40 man command, control and operations element of this headquarters. Battery B participated in a pure 8 inch howitzer configuration. Battery C participated in a 175mm gun configuration. Battery B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion 35<sup>th</sup> Artillery (155mm) was attached to the battalion from 6 May through 17 May 1967. A fire support base was established for the battalion control element, Batteries B and C, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion 83d Artillery and Battery B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion 35<sup>th</sup> Artillery in the vicinity of Gia Ray YT 6210. On 10 May 1967 the battalion control element, Battery B, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion 83d Artillery and Battery B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion 35<sup>th</sup> Artillery displaced to a fire support base in the vicinity of YT 7400. They were escorted into position by D Troop, 16<sup>th</sup> Armored Cavalry Squadron, 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade. At this new fire support base Battery C, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion 35<sup>th</sup> Artillery was attached to the battalion. Battery B, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion 83d Artillery remained in position in the vicinity of Gia Ray. A unique aspect of this operation is that the battalion control element with vehicles and equipment was airlifted to the original fire support base by Chinook helicopter. Using organic vehicles in the resupply of heavy artillery ammunition while retaining the capability of displacing at short notice was the thorniest problem encountered. Combined battery ammunition sections hauled ammunition from Long Binh Yt 0511 to Xuan Loc YT 4508. The ammunition trains waited at Xuan Loc until late afternoon for an armored cavalry escort to proceed to the fire support bases at Gia Ray and YS 7400, usually arriving at the later at about 1900 hours. It is felt that medium or heavy truck company support during the operation would have enhanced the mobility of all elements. Battery B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion 35<sup>th</sup> Artillery fired 1601 rounds in support. Battery C, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion 35<sup>th</sup> Artillery fired 1995 rounds in support. Battery B, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion 83d Artillery fired 991 175mm rounds in support. Battery C, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion 83d Artillery fired 1786 8 inch rounds in support.

f. Operation Bowen (9 through 12 May). Battery A supported the 1<sup>st</sup> ATF's 6 Royal Australian Regiment (6 RAR) in a series of company-group patrols into an area on the vicinity of Long Tan YS 4865 from their base camp position. 177 rounds were fired in support.

g. Operation Collaroy (18 through 19 May). Battery A supported this contingency cordon and destroy operation from their base camp. The mission of the operation was to trap the VC D445 Battalion reported to be in the vicinity of YS 4768. 147 rounds were fired in support.



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h. Operation Broken Hill (7 through 13 June). Battery A supported this search and destroy operation from their base camp position. The operation was conducted in the vicinity of YS 4277 by the 1<sup>st</sup> ATF's 7 Royal Australian Regiment. 560 rounds were fired in support.

i. Operation Geraldton (15 through 20 June). A search and destroy mission by elements of the 1<sup>st</sup> ATF in Southern Phouc Tuy Province. This operation caused this unit to deploy to Horseshoe Feature vicinity YS 4962. The operation resulted in minor contact with caches of rice and equipment found. During this operation and Australian Forward Observer, using US destruction fire techniques, attempted to destroy a large rice cache that had dimensions of approximately 5 meters in width and 8 meters in depth with 8 inch howitzer firing charge 7 at approximately 14,000 meters range. When accurate dimensions of the target were sent by the observer to the FDC, he was advised as to why he was not receiving good effect on the target. At the completion of this mission the observer was informed as to the inherent systems errors of the 8 inch howitzer. A better understanding of the use of heavy artillery was realized by the Australian observers. 2208 rounds were fired in support by Battery A.

j. Operation Cooparoo (22 June through 1 July). This 7 Royal Australian Regiment search and destroy operation was supported by Battery A from its base position. 2629 rounds were fired in support.

k. Operation Paddington (6 through 17 July). A search and destroy operation conducted by elements of 9<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, 11 ACP and 1<sup>st</sup> ATF in Eastern Phouc Tuy Province, center of Mass YS 6776. Operation Paddington resulted in 99 VC KIA and discovery of caches of weapons and rice. Battery A displaced to the Horseshoe Feature and provided defensive fires for 1<sup>st</sup> xATF and Headquarters, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion 83d Artillery base camp in addition to firing H&I missions and distraction missions on the western flank of the zone of operation. 1900 rounds were fired in support.

l. Permanent movement of Battery B's base camp from Bear Cat to Ham Tan (10 July). The movement was effected in two phases. During the first phase, the advance party moved by sea to Ham Tan and began construction of guard bunkers and sandbagging tent positions. A minor delay was encountered when scheduled supplies were not received on time. For the second phase, the main body moved by sea to Ham Tan. Difficulties were encountered during off-loading on the beach. The landing point for the LCU's is on a sand bar off shore. To get off the sand bar requires that vehicles be driven through salt water in depths up to five feet. Due to the large load on the vehicles and the inexperience of drivers, most vehicles were stuck in the sand.

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4.1 continued

It was necessary for the tracked vehicles to tow nearly every wheeled vehicle off the beach. After gaining experience in driving through sand, it was discovered the 5 ton vehicles could navigate the sand as well as the crossing through salt water. In order to store enough ammunition on hand, it was necessary to off load and to stock 2,000 rounds each of 8 inch ammunition and 175mm ammunition. This stockpile took seven days to complete. While accomplishing this operation, the following equipment was deadlined due to water damage.

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>REASON FOR DEADLINE</u>
M548 Cargo Carrier	Water in Electric Fuel Pump
M548 Cargo Carrier	Water in Electric Fuel Pump
5 ton truck	Replace Head Gasket
5 ton truck	Replace Engine
5 ton truck	Replace Engine
5 ton truck	Replace Clutch and Throwout Bearing
5 ton truck	Replace Clutch and Throwout Bearing
2 ½ ton truck	Replace Engine
¼ ton truck	Replace Carburetor and Distributor
¾ ton truck	Replace Carburetor and Distributor and Fuel Pump
¼ ton truck	Replace Carburetor and Distributor

If fording kits had been issued for this operation, many of the above would not have been deadlined. The electric fuel pumps on the M548 Cargo Carrier were designed to be water proof. Since one half of this battery's M548s were deadlined due to water damaged fuel pumps, it is recommended that the quality control of these items be reviewed. During the off loading operation, it was noted that it is mandatory that the unit have organic or attached lifting devices of at least 10,000 pound capacity. One of these devices must be a fork lift because the ammunition is shipped in an LCU. A wrecker does not provide the necessary maneuverability to work on an LCU. This unit has one ten KW generator, one 5 KW generator, and one 1.5 KW generator.

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4.1 continued

This equipment must provide electricity for the following:

- (1) 1 ea Mechanical Refrigerator Commercial Portable Reach-in 70 Cubic Feet
- (2) 1 ea Mechanical Refrigerator 65 Cubic Feet
- (3) VHF Equipment
- (4) An/GRC 106
- (5) Necessary lighting for the FDC and Orderly Room
- (6) 2 ea Refrigerators

It is quite obvious that the organic generators are not adequate for the needs of this unit.

m. The following number of missions were fired with total amounts of ammunition listed below:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>NUMBER OF MISSIONS FIRED</u>		<u>AMMUNITION EXPENDED</u>	
	<u>8"</u>	<u>175mm</u>	<u>8"</u>	<u>175mm</u>
A Battery	2,983	3,346	5,707	4,652
B Battery	1,033	1,143	2,017	3,410
C Battery	1,298	1,263	3,699	2,770
Total	5,314	5,752	11,423	10,832

5. (U) Logistics:

a. During the reported period the general condition of supply has improved. Problems that remain are considered minor and are being resolved.

b. Maintenance support is continuing to improve however some problem areas still exist. The major problem encountered had been failure in prompt delivery of critical need parts from support agencies located a good distance from the firing batteries due to a lack of aircraft. The existing problems are in the progress of being resolved.

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6. (C) Communications: Initial difficulty was experienced in establishing reliable communications with Battery B at Ham Tan. The battery is separated by a distance of approximately 40 miles from the Battalion Headquarters. Organic communication equipment has been augmented by the addition of two AN/GRC-106 single side band radios and the establishment of an FM relay station by 53<sup>rd</sup> Signal Battalion on Nui Chua Chan vicinity YT 6010.

## SECTION II

### PART I, OBSERVATIONS

#### 1. Personnel and Administration

None

#### 2. Intelligence

None

#### 3. Training and Organization

None

#### 4. Operations:

##### (C) a. ITEM: Forward Air Controllers.

(1) Discussion: Forward Air Controllers are unaware that the cannon battery FDC uses a mathematical solution in arriving at firing data to bring effective fire on destruction fire missions once the adjustment phase is completed and FFE is requested. Usually the FDC has to interpret the Forward Air Controller's small corrections for range and deflection in the FFE in order to arrive at sensings needed to refine firing data. Generally Forward Air Controllers feel they can, by moving around with normal area fire procedures, destroy a target without using the accepted destruction techniques.

(2) Observations: Forward Air Controllers should be thoroughly acquainted with destruction for techniques in order to bring effective fire on hard targets without wasting ammunition.

##### b. Item: Lifting equipment/recovery vehicle equipment.

(1) DISCUSSION: If Battery B does not have located at its isolated position one forklift and one wrecker at all times, then the turn around time for LCUs will increase from one day to seven days.

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4.b continued

(2) OBSERVATION: Battery B must be issued one forklift with a 10,000 pound capacity and one tracked recovery vehicle in order to assure proper unloading of air and sea delivered cargoes.

5. Logistics:

a. ITEM: Salt substitute.

(1) DISCUSSION: Due to unavailability, salt has been in short supply at the Class I Point at Vung Tau. A suitable field expedient substitute was found by crushing the regular issue salt tablets. It was most effective and the grains of salt from the tablets did not cling together in the shaker as did the regular salt.

(2) OBSERVATION: Crushed issue salt tablets are an effective substitute for regular salt.

b. ITEM: Unserviceable Fire Extinguishers.

(1) DISCUSSION: Once fire extinguishers have been used, it is extremely difficult to get them refilled. With the constant daily use of field ranges and generators, the need for CO<sup>2</sup> (Carbon Dioxide) type fire extinguishers is apparent. In-country facilities for the recharging of expended fire extinguishers should be established at the various fire station, e.g. Saigon, Vung Tau and Long Binh.

(2) OBSERVATION: In-country fire extinguisher recharging facilities should be provided to allow for the re-use of on hand CO<sup>2</sup> type fire extinguishers.

c. ITEM: Immersion Heater's Steel Tubing.

(1) The maximum use which this unit has experienced with the steel tubing gas line on the Mess Section's immersion heaters has been two months. This is attributed to the somewhat accelerated formation of rust on these items due to the high humidity atmosphere in which they are used. The Mess Section has taken the following steps to prevent deterioration: Cleaning the items with abrasive cloth; cleaning the items with steel wool; applying a light coat of lubricating oil to the items when in storage; applying paint to the items. None of these practices has significantly improved the use time for the items. These items should be improved either by the use of some other material on their construction or by recomputation of their expected life and making the necessary adjustment in availability in the supply system.

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5.c continued

(2) OBSERVATION: Gas lines used with the immersion heaters be made of some item other than steel, or that the life expectancy of the steel gas lines be reduced and they be made available in the supply system in greater quantities.

d.. ITEM: Failure of M151 Carburetors.

(1) DISCUSSION: This unit has found that the carburetors used on the M151 ¼ ton trucks fail at or about 9,000 miles. The trouble has been traced to deterioration of the diaphragm, which results in a useless carburetor and a deadlined truck. Due to the widespread failure of these parts, the waiting time between filling a requisition and receiving the item is several weeks. There are no repairs that can be made to this item, because of the nature and material involved. The item should be improved to last longer than it does, either by improvement in design or in the material used in the construction of the article.

(2) OBSERVATION: The design and material used in construction of the carburetor diaphragm should be improved. Improving the item's availability in the supply system would be of only marginal value, since the fault can be expected to occur every 9,000 miles for every M151 in use.

## SECTION II

### PART II, RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 1. Personnel and Administration

None

#### 2. Intelligence

None

#### 3. Training and Organization

None

#### 4. Operations:

a. That Air Force forward air controllers be given detailed instructions in the techniques of firing destruction missions using cannon artillery.

b. That the harbor facilities at Ham Tan vicinity ZS 0479 be improved.

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5. Logistics:

a. That facilities for recharging CO<sup>2</sup> fire extinguishers be established in strategic locations throughout the Republic of Vietnam.

b. That fuel lines used with immersion heaters be constructed of material other than steel.

c. That the design and material used in construction of the M151 carburetor diaphragm be improved.

GLENN W. MILLION  
LTC, Artillery  
Commanding

AVGA-C (1 Aug 67) 1<sup>st</sup> Ind  
SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1967,  
Reports Control Symbol CSFOR-65, (UIC) WA11TOA

HEADQUARTER, 54 TH ARTILLERY GROUP, APO 96376 17 August 1967

THRU: Commanding General, II Field Force Vietnam Artillery, ATTN: AVFB-FAC,  
APO 96266

Commanding General, United States Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVHGC-DH,  
APO 96375

Commander-In-Chief, United States Army Pacific, ATTN: GOPP-OT,  
APO 96558

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

1. (U) The quarterly report submitted by the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn, 83d Artillery is considered adequate.
2. (C) Reference Section II, Part I, paragraph 4a, Forward Air Controllers. The 54<sup>th</sup> Artillery Group strongly concurs with the need for better training of Forward Air Controllers in artillery adjustment procedures.
3. (C) Reference Section II, Part I, paragraph 4b, Requirement for Lifting Equipment. The 54<sup>th</sup> Artillery Group concurs with the need for lifting equipment at Ham Tan.
4. (C) Reference Section II, Part I, paragraph 5a, Salt substitute. Although there is no current shortage of salt at class I points, subordinate units have experienced erratic issue of salt during the reporting period. The Director of Supply, 1<sup>st</sup> Logistical Command has informed this headquarters that the problem has been solved and there will be no salt shortage problem in the foreseeable future.
5. (C) Reference Section II, Part I, paragraph 5b, Unserviceable Fire Extinguishers. This headquarters strongly concurs with the need for additional refilling facilities.
6. (C) Reference Section II, Part I paragraph 5c, Immersion Heater Tubing. It is felt that the short life of immersion heaters steel tube is an isolated problem effecting only units located near beach areas where salt water accelerates the deterioration of the tubes. It appears that the most feasible solution is to increase the prescribed load of this item through demand data.
7. (C) Reference Section II, Part I, paragraph 5d, Failure of M151 Carburetors. The 54<sup>th</sup> Artillery Group strongly concurs with the need for



AVGA-C (1 Aug 67)

1<sup>st</sup> Ind

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improvement in this area. EIR's have been submitted to the appropriate headquarters.

8. (C) Reference Section II, Part II. the 54<sup>th</sup> Artillery Group concurs with all recommendations of the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn, 83d Artillery.

JOHN J. NORRIS  
Colonel, Artillery  
Commanding

AVFB-FAC (1 Aug 67) 2nd Ind  
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned (U)

DA, HQ, II FFORCEV, APO 96266

THRU: Commanding General, II Field Force Vietnam, APO 69266

Commanding General, United States Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVHGC-DH,  
APO 96307

Commander-In-Chief, United States Army Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-OT,  
APO 96558

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

1. (U) The quarterly report of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 83d Artillery (WA11TO) adequately reflects the operations and lessons learned during the reporting period.
2. (C) Paragraph 4a, Part II, Section II. Subordinate units have been instructed to assist FAC's when any problem areas develop.
3. (C) Paragraph 4b, Part II, Section II. Nonconcur. Information available at this headquarters indicates that the local Province Chief does not desire any construction improvement to be made at Ham Tan Harbor at this time. The resupply of this unit is accomplished by air. One 10,000 lb. capacity forklift and two M543 wreckers are presently located with the battery at Ham Tan. These items will remain with that battery as long as a requirement exists. The subordinate unit has been notified of these matters.
4. (C) Paragraph 5a, Part II, Section II. Concur. Facilities for recharging CO2 fire extinguishers are available at major fire stations throughout RVN, to include Vung Tau, Saigon, and Long Binh. The subordinate unit has been notified.
5. (U) Paragraph 5b and 5c, Part II, Section II. Concur with corrective action indicated in paragraph 6 and 7, 1<sup>st</sup> Indorsement..

RAYMOND P. MURPHY  
Brigadier General, USA  
Commanding

AVHGC-DST (1 Aug 67) 4th Ind  
SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the Period Ending  
31 July 1967 (RCS CSFOR-65) (U)

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96375

TO: Commander-In-Chief, US Army Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-OT,  
APO 96558

1. This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the period ending 31 July 1967 from Headquarters, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 83d Artillery (A11A) as indorsed.

2. Pertinent comments follow:

a. Reference item concerning forward air controllers, page 12, paragraph 4A: Concur. In as much as Forward Air Controllers' (FAC) primary mission is the control of tactical air strikes, it must be realized that their capability to adjust fire will be limited at best. The local artillery commander should acquaint the FAC with artillery adjustment procedures so that he will become more responsive to firing on targets of opportunity.

b. Reference item concerning immersion heater steel tubing, page 13, paragraph 5c. Steel tubing gas line cannot be identified in TM 10-4540-201-15. Recommend unit properly identify the part and submit an EIR. PLL stockage should increase as demands increase.

c. Reference item concerning M-151 carburetors, page 14, paragraph 5d: Nonconcur. Carburetor is a direct exchange item and does not require a requisition. Due to a short supply status dues-out have been established. Apparently the fault is an isolated one since the EIR and maintenance digests (TB 750-981- 1 and 2) do not indicate trouble with this carburetor.

3. A copy of this indorsement will be furnished to the reporting unit through channels.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

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as

C. S. NAKATSUKASA  
Captain, AGC  
Assistant Adjutant General

GPOP-DT (1 Aug 67) 5th Ind (U)  
SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1967  
From HQ, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 83d Artillery (UIC: WA11AA) (RCS CSFOR-65)

HQ, US ARMY, PACIFIC, APO San Francisco 96558

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

This headquarters has evaluated subject report and forwarding indorsements and concurs in the report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:

HEAVRIN SNYDER  
CPT, AGC  
Asst AG