

1 AUG 69 - 31 AUG 69

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
 Headquarters, 1st Battalion, 30th Field Artillery
 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile)
 APO San Francisco 96490

AVDAAR-J-00

1 September 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 1st Battalion, 30th Field
 Artillery for the Period Ending 1 August 1969 through 31 August 1969,
 RCS CSFOR-65 (RI)

Commanding Officer
 1st Cavalry Division Artillery (Airmobile)
 APO 96490

1. Section 1. Operations: Significant Activities

The 1st Battalion, 30th Field Artillery, continued in general support of the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) during the period 1 August 1969 through 31 August 1969. This period saw the continuation of operation TOAN THANG III in III CTZ and continued participation in the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) operation KENTUCKY COUGAR.

a. Organizations: At the beginning of the reporting period, Battery A, GSR to the 2d Battalion, 19th Artillery, was located at LZ JAMIE (XT 481714). Battery B (-), also GSR to the 2d Battalion, 19th Artillery, was located at LZ GRANT (XT 387623), while Battery B Platoon, located at LZ O'KEEFE (XT 197838), was placed GSR to the 1st Battalion, 77th Artillery. Battery C was located at LZ WESCOTT (XT 956914) and was given the mission of GSR to the 1st Battalion, 21st Artillery. Battery C Platoon, GSR to the 1st Battalion, 77th Artillery, was located at LZ BUTTONS (YU 143073). During the reporting period, the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) shifted its brigades to the westward to meet the threat of enemy exfiltration from WAR ZONE D. On 1 August 1969, Battery C Platoon was airlifted from LZ BUTTONS to LZ MARY (YU 138072). On 5 August 1969, Battery B Platoon was airlifted from LZ O'KEEFE to LZ CALDWELL (YU 436046) to support 2d Brigade operations in that area. On 8 August 1969, Battery A split as Battery A Platoon was airlifted to LZ BECKY (XT 374811). On 12 August 1969, Battery A Platoon was returned to LZ JAMIE as LZ BECKY was closed. On 16 August 1969, Battery C Platoon was airlifted from LZ MARY to LZ BUTTONS, remaining GSR to the 1st Battalion, 77th Artillery as brigade boundaries were realigned. On 17 August 1969, Battery B Platoon moved from LZ CALDWELL to LZ ALVARADO (YU 181108) to support 2d Brigade operations in that area.

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b. Operations: Chronological Sequence of Events

- (1) Battery C Platoon was airlifted from LZ BUTTONS to LZ MARY on 1 August 1969.
- (2) Battery B, firing for the 25th Infantry Division, received credit for 2 KBA on 2 August 1969.
- (3) Battery A fired on bunkers on 4 August 1969 and was credited with 3 KBA's and 3 bunkers destroyed.
- (4) Battery C Platoon, on 4 August 1969, received credit for 3 KBA's and 3 bunkers and 1 hootch destroyed.
- (5) Battery B, on 4 August 1969, was credited with 3 KBA's.
- (6) On 5 August 1969, Battery B Platoon was airlifted from LZ O'KEEFE to LZ CALDWELL.
- (7) On 8 August 1969, Battery A Platoon was airlifted from LZ JAMIE to LZ BECKY.
- (8) On 11 August 1969, at 0300 hours, LZ BECKY received 82mm mortar rounds and a small scale sapper attack. Artillery and infantry on the position engaged with organics. Although Battery A Platoon took a direct hit on its TOC, it was instrumental in repulsing the attack, firing 125 HE direct fire rounds. The battery lost 4 WIA. First light check revealed 10 NVA KIA.
- (9) At 0320 hours, 12 August 1969, LZ BECKY received another mortar and rocket attack as well as a ground probe. Despite the fierce bombardment, the cannoneers ran to their guns and began to place deadly return fire on the attackers. The enemy fire then shifted onto the 155 howitzers and trebled in intensity, causing heavy casualties. Battery A Platoon suffered 9 KIA, 19 WIA and 2 howitzers out-of-action. The Battery A commander was killed at the onset of action. First light check revealed 59 enemy bodies.
- (10) Battery A Platoon was returned to LZ JAMIE from LZ BECKY on 12 August 1969.

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(11) At 0100 hours, 15 August 1969, LZ JAMIE received a RPG mortar and sapper attack, with Battery A sustaining 3 WIA. Battery A fired 261 HE in base defense. At 1235 hours, LZ JAMIE received incoming mortar rounds with Battery A sustaining losses of 2 KIA and 2 WIA.

(12) Battery C PLT was airlifted from LZ MARY to LZ BUTTONS on 16 August 1969.

(13) Battery B PLT was airlifted from LZ CALDWELL to LZ ALVARADO on 17 August 1969.

(14) LZ JAMIE received a mortar attack on 17 August 1969, with Battery A sustaining 6 WIA.

(15) At 0435 hours, 24 August 1969, the fire direction officer at Battery C's LZ WESCOTT position reported that an artillery incident had occurred, as one of their planned fire rounds had apparently impacted on the perimeter at QUAN LOI, causing 1 US KIA and 1 US WIA. An investigation of all computations and firing data indicated that they were correct. Preliminary investigation indicates a 100 mil error had been set on the piece.

JACK G. CALLAWAY
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