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31 May 1976, GDS, DoD 5200.1-r; AGO D/A ltr, 29 Apr 1980	

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

IN REPLY REFER TO

AGDA (M) (30 Jun 70)

FOR OT UT 702026

10 July 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 5th Battalion, 42d Artillery, Period Ending 30 April 1970 (U)

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1. Subject report is forwarded for review and evaluation in accordance with paragraph 4b, AR 525-15. Information of actions initiated as a result of subject report should be forwarded to ACSFOR OT UT within 90 days of receipt of covering letter.

2. Information contained in this report is provided to insure appropriate benefits in the future from lessons learned during current operations and may be adapted for use in developing training material.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

Kenneth G. Wickham

KENNETH G. WICKHAM
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

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5th Battalion, 42d Artillery

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 5TH BATTALION 42D ARTILLERY
APO San Francisco 96491

AVGE-ZC

8 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned 5th Battalion 42d Artillery,
Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

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1. (C) Operations: Significant Activities:

a. Personnel:

(1) The 5th Battalion 42d Artillery remains assigned to the 23d Artillery Group, APO 96289, with the mission of General Support II Field Force Vietnam. During the reporting period batteries of the battalion supported the II Field Force in a General Support role priority of fire to 3d Brigade, 9th Infantry Division (US) with supporting fires provided to 25th ARVN Division; General Support of II Field Force Vietnam, supporting fires to Long Binh Special Zone; General Support Reinforcing 25th Infantry Division Artillery, with supporting fires to 18th ARVN Division, and General Support, 2nd ARVN Abn Bde, ARVN Abn Div. At the beginning of the reporting period the 5th Bn 42d Artillery was designated as the US Artillery Control Headquarters for Long Binh Special Zone.

(2) Base camp location of the battalion during period 1 February to 30 April 1970 was Camp William S. Price (vicinity YT 045117).

(3) Command Changes:

(a) On 5 February 1970, Leo L. Hayden III, CPT, FA assumed command of A Battery from John T. Thomas Jr, CPT, FA.

(b) On 14 March 1970, Donald C. Mulvanity, LTC, FA assumed command of the 5th Bn 42d Artillery Battalion from Robert L. Schroeder, LTC, FA.

(c) On 23 March 1970, Thomas T. Singlotary, CPT, FA assumed command of Headquarters battery from Larry G. Baldwin, CPT, FA.

(d) On 5 April 1970, Richard W. Czarnocki, CPT, FA assumed command of A Battery from Leo L. Hayden III, CPT, FA.

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Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

(4) Normal SI activities were conducted during the reporting period.

(5) Personnel strength of the command as of 30 April 1970:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>AUTH</u>			<u>ASGD</u>		
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>
Hq Btry	13	3	113	13	3	131
A Btry	6	0	119	4	0	95
B Btry	6	0	119	9	0	106
C Btry	6	0	119	6	0	89
Svc Btry	2	3	85	2	3	82
TOTAL	33	6	555	34	6	503

(6) Critical MOS Shortages:

<u>MOS</u>	<u>GRADE</u>	<u>NO</u>
13E40	E5, E6	5
31G40	E5	3
36K20	E3, E4	15
94B20	E7	1

(7) Personnel Changes during this quarter included:

<u>GAINS:</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>LOSSES:</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>
	4	2	138		14	2	178

(8) Casualties:

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
Killed in Action	0
Wounded in Action	0
Missing in Action	0
Non-battle Dead	0
Non-battle Casualties	3

(9) Pertinent medical service statistics included:

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
Total Patient Visits	1218
Admitted to Hospital	18
Evacuated	5
Return to Duty	13
Malaria Cases	0

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8 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned 5th Battalion 42d Artillery,
Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

(10) Awards and decorations presented to members of this command:

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
Bronze Star w/V Device	0
Bronze Star	56
Air Medal	1
Purple Heart	0
Army Commendation Medal w/V Device	1
Army Commendation Medal	81

(11) Judicial and Non-Judicial Actions:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>ART 15</u>	<u>SCM</u>	<u>SPCM</u>	<u>GCM</u>
Hq Btry	2	0	0	0
A Btry	4	0	0	0
B Btry	6	1	0	0
C Btry	1	0	1	0
Svc Btry	1	0	0	0
TOTALS	<u>14</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>

(12) Reportable Accidents:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>VEHICLE</u>	<u>AIRCRAFT</u>	<u>PERSONNEL</u>
Hq Btry	0	0	0
A Btry	2	0	1
B Btry	1	0	0
C Btry	2	0	1
Svc Btry	0	0	0
TOTALS	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>

(13) R & R

(a) Out-of-Country:

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>FEBRUARY</u>	<u>MARCH</u>	<u>APRIL</u>
Australia	8	9	2
Bangkok	5	0	11
Hawaii	18	12	10
Hong Kong	4	7	0
Manila	1	0	0
Singapore	0	0	0
Taipei	3	0	0
Tokyo	0	0	0
TOTALS	<u>39</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>23</u>

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SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned 5th Battalion 42d Artillery,
Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

8 May 1970

(b) In-Country (Vung Tau):

	<u>FEBRUARY</u>	<u>MARCH</u>	<u>APRIL</u>
OPS	0	0	0
PL	3	3	3
PLS	3	3	3

b. Operations:

(1) A Battery Activities: At the beginning of the reporting period A Battery was located at FSB Tan Tru (vicinity XS 655620) with the mission of GS 11FFV, POF to 3d Bde, 9th Inf Div (US) with supporting fire to 25th ARVN Div. On 11 February 1970, A Battery received notice to practice implementation of II FFVA OPLA 2-69, with the mission of GS IIFV, POF to Capital Military Assistance Command. A Battery moved one howitzer by road march to FSB Stephanie (vicinity XS 750002), occupied the position, registered and returned to FSB Tan Tru (vicinity XS 655620). On 11 March 1970, A Battery received the Annual Inspector General's Inspection and achieved a satisfactory rating. On 11 March 1970, three howitzers displaced by road march from FSB Tan Tru to FSB Thu Thua (vicinity XS 547702). The mission of A Battery was unchanged. On 10 April 1970, A Battery moved by road march from FSB Tan Tru and FSB Thu Thua to Phu Loi (vicinity XT 867000) on the first phase of their move to FSB Granito (vicinity XS 962080). On 11 April 1970, A Battery moved by road march from Phu Loi to Quan Loi (vicinity XT 810903) for the second phase of deployment to FSB Granito. On 14 April 1970, A Battery moved from Quan Loi by air lift to FSB Granito (vicinity XU 926080), completing the final phase of deployment. A Battery assumed the mission of GS, 2nd ARVN Abn Bde, ARVN Abn Div. On 21 April 1970, A Battery moved by air lift from FSB Granito (vicinity XS 926080) to Quan Loi (vicinity XT 810903). A Battery moved by road march from Quan Loi (vicinity XT 810903), to Duster Compound (vicinity YT 131113) with the mission of GS IIFV, POF to 199th Light Inf Bde. On 23 April 1970, A Battery moved by road march from Duster Compound (vicinity YT 131113) to FSB Verna (vicinity YT 278103) with the mission of GS IIFV, POF to 199th Light Inf Bde. On 28 April 1970, A Battery moved by road march from FSB Verna (vicinity YT 278103) to Quan Loi (vicinity XT 809903) with the mission of GS IIFV. During the period from 1 February 1970, to 13 March A Battery had one FO party attached to the 2nd ARVN Abn Bde at FSB Sandra.

(2) B Battery Activities: At the beginning of the reporting period, B Battery remained in a split configuration with B (-) at FSB Thu Thua (vicinity XS 547702) and Bravo Platoon at FSB Tra Cu (vicinity XS 477984) with the mission of GS IIFV, POF 3d Bde, 9th Inf Div (US) with supporting fires to 25th ARVN Div. While in the split configuration Bravo Platoon at Tra Cu was resupplied from Cu Chi by air with a total of 153 sorties. On 11 February 1970, B Battery received notice to practice implementation of IIFVA OPLA 2-69, with the mission of GS IIFV, POF to Capital Military Assistance Command. B Battery moved one howitzer by road march to FSB Sue (vicinity XS 750840), occupied the position, registered and returned to FSB Thu Thua (vicinity XS 547702).

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8 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned, 5th Battalion, 42d Artillery
Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSF(R-65 (R2))

On 21 February 1970, B Battery displaced four howitzers by road march from FSB Thu Thua (vicinity XS 547702) to FSB Redleg (vicinity XS 509704) with the mission of GS 5th Bn 60th Inf, 3d Bde, 9th Inf Div (US) in support of operation Jitterbug (vicinity XS 4729) starting at 0930 hours and terminating on order from CG, supported unit. On 5 March 1970, B Battery moved by road march from FSB Thu Thua to FSB Concord (vicinity YT 034174) with the mission of GS IIFFV w/supporting fires to Long Binh Special Zone. On 9 April 1970, B Battery moved by road march from FSB Concord to FSB Michelle (vicinity YT 279101) with the mission of GS IIFFV POF to 18th Light Inf Bde. On 11 April 1970, B Battery displaced by road march from FSB Michelle to FSB Concord (vicinity YT 034174) with the mission of GS IIFFV w/supporting fires to Long Binh Special Zone. On 27 April 1970, B Battery (-) moved by road march from FSB Concord (vicinity YT 034174) to Hoip Hoa (vicinity XT 339040). From Hoip Hoa B Battery (-) air lifted to FSB Harry (vicinity XT 341040). On 27 April 1970, Bravo Platoon air lifted from FSB Tra Cu (vicinity XS 477984) to FSB Harry (vicinity XT 341040). B Battery assumed the mission of GS IIFFV, w/supporting fires provided to III Corps Artillery elements.

(3) C Battery Activities: At the beginning of the reporting period C Battery was located at FSB Concord (vicinity YT 034174) with the mission of GS, IIFFV, w/Supporting fires to the Long Binh Special Zone. On 9 February 1970, C Battery received the Artillery Gunnery Evaluation conducted by 23d Artillery Group and achieved a satisfactory rating. On 25 February 1970, C Battery received the Artillery Gunnery Evaluation conducted by IIFFVA and achieved a satisfactory rating. On 3 March 1970, C Battery displaced by road march from FSB Concord to FSB Colorado (vicinity YS 315805) and assumed the mission of GSR 25th Inf Div Artillery, with supporting fires provided to 18th ARVN Div. On 4 March 1970, the headquarters element of C Battery moved by road march to Camp William S. Price with the mission of administrative and logistic support of the firing battery located at FSB Colorado. On 10 April 1970, C Battery moved by road march from FSB Colorado to FSB Thu Thua (vicinity XS 547702) and FSB Tan Tru (vicinity XS 655620) assuming a split configuration with the mission of GS, IIFFV, POF, 3d Bde, 9th Inf Div (US) w/Supporting fires to 25th ARVN Div. On 26 April 1970, C Battery moved two tubes by road march from FSB Thu Thua (vicinity XS 547702) to (vicinity XS 509703) on a one day operation with the mission of GSR, 2nd Bn 4th Artillery. On 29 April 1970, C Battery moved three tubes by road march from FSB Thu Thua (vicinity XS 547702) to (vicinity XS 508704) with the mission of GSR, 2nd Bn 4th Artillery.

(4) Headquarters and Headquarters Battery and Service Battery Activities: Both batteries were located at the base camp, (vicinity YT 045117) Camp William S. Price, and continued their role of battalion support for the entire reporting period.

(5) Ammunition Expended and Mission Fired:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>MISSIONS</u>	<u>ROUNDS</u>
A Battery	388	10,012
B Battery	927	12,279
C Battery	364	12,305
TOTALS	1,679	34,596

5

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3 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned 5th Battalion 42d Artillery,
Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

c. Trainings:

(1) During the reporting period, the battalion received a total of 89 days of training.

(2) Mandatory training was conducted in the following subjects: Character Guidance, Command Information, Defense Against Subversion and Espionage, Physical Fitness Program, Helicopter Load Preparation Tng Program, Communications Security, Geneva Convention, Vietnam and Relations with the Vietnamese, Physical Security, Military Justice and CBR Refresher.

(3) Integrated Training was conducted in the following subjects: First Aid and Emergency Medical Care, Field Sanitation, Material Readiness, Supply Economy and Sentry Duty.

(4) All batteries are continuing on-the-job training and cross training.

(5) During the reporting period, 1 February 1970, to 30 April a total of 8 hours on counter sapper training were presented to all battalion personnel.

(6) The following classes were presented to selected personnel:

(a) On 4 February 1970, 19 enlisted men successfully completed a Generator Air Compressor and Chain Saw operations and maintenance class.

(b) During the period of 5 February to 7 February 1970, and 9 February to 11 February 1970, a total of 9 officers and 5 enlisted men attended the classes conducted on the TAERS program by 23d Artillery Group.

(c) On 8 February 1970, 15 officers and 3 enlisted men attended the COMSEC Orientation conducted by the 101st Radio Research.

(d) During the periods 16 March 1970 to 21 March 1970 and 23 March 1970 to 28 March 1970, four enlisted men attended and successfully completed the PLL school conducted by the 135th Light Equipment Company.

(e) During the period of 23 March to 27 March 1970, one officer successfully completed the Fire Direction Officer's school conducted by IIFFV Artillery.

(f) During the reporting period 20 enlisted men attended the in-country orientation course conducted by the 199th Light Infantry Brigade at Long Binh RVN.

(g) On 2 April 1970, 5 enlisted men successfully completed the Generator Operator school conducted by Mr. William B. Brower and Mr. James M. Parish, equipment specialist at the PMSO USAMECC.

d. Intelligence: Air observers assigned to this battalion are airborne on a daily basis for the purpose of collecting and evaluating intelligence data. This data was compiled by S2, 23d Artillery Group for the reporting period 1 February 1970 - 30 April 1970, and was distributed throughout the group. This information was used to provide intelligence targets and to update or reject previous information concerning enemy activity.

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8 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned 5th Battalion 42d Artillery,
Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

- (1) VR Missions flown during the reporting period: 72
- (2) Adjust fire missions fired during the reporting period: 0
- (3) Registrations conducted during the reporting period: 49
- (4) Convoy Coverage missions flown during the reporting period: 8
- (5) Intelligence targets fired on while airborne during the reporting period: 0
- (6) Total Air Time: 146 hrs 25 min
- (7) Route Recon during reporting period: 2
- (8) Targets given to tactical air during the reporting period: 0
- (9) Targets given to Hunter/Killer teams: 1
- (10) Targets denied during the reporting period: 2

a. Logistics:

- (1) Monthly deadline percentages:
 - (a) Vehicles: 1.9%
 - (b) Artillery: 2/10%
- (2) Ammunition resupplied by Service Battery:

ROUNDS

HE	27,428
WP	2,449
ILL	5,725
ICM	<u>1,709</u>
TOTAL	37,311 = 2,295 tons

(3) Miles traveled by Service Battery ammunition trains during the reporting period: 37,625

(4) Approximate tonnage of resupply during the reporting period:

Class - I	405
Class - II	28
Class - III	39
Class - IV	<u>45</u>
TOTAL	517 tons

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8 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned 5th Battalion 42d Artillery,
Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

(5) Number of sorties flown during the reporting period: 326

f. Other

(1) Civic Actions: During the reporting period material and technical assistance was furnished for a concrete floor in the market place in Binh An Hamlet. Project was completed on 10 April 1970.

(2) During the reporting period the following civic action projects were in progress:

(a) A joint US, ARVN medical program with the 46th RVN Artillery Battalion. In addition, five Vietnamese student nurses participated in this program.

(b) Swimming classes for 100 boy scouts are being conducted five days a week at the Camp William S. Price swimming pool.

(c) Instructors are being furnished to conduct English classes to high school students at Vinh Sanh High School.

(d) Continuous training courses in poultry raising are being conducted at the POW Compound at Ho Nai, Ho Nai district.

(e) Assistance in the construction of a maternity hospital is being provided at Bu Tiem Hamlet, Tan Hiep Village.

(3) Patients treated in the Medcap Program:

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>VISITS</u>	<u>PATIENTS</u>
February	5	759
March	10	955
April	7	668
TOTALS	22	2,382

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

a. Personnel: None

b. Intelligence: None

c. Operations:

(1) Air-Lifting the M114A1 155mm howitzer

(a) OBSERVATION: When air lifting the M114A1 howitzer with a CH54 the air lift straps apply extreme pressure to the left and right shields of the howitzer, causing them to crack. This necessitates removing the howitzer from the firing pit to perform the required welding and maintenance.

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8 May 1970

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Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

(b) EVALUATION: Removal of the left and right shield prior to air lifting the howitzer will prevent the shield from being cracked by the pressure applied to shield while howitzer is being lifted.

(c) RECOMMENDATION: That units employing the (M114A1) 155mm howitzer, remove the left and right shields prior to air lifting with a CH54 helicopter.

(2) Rapid Occupation of position with M114A1 towed 155mm Howitzer.

(a) OBSERVATION: During occupation of position with a M114A1 towed 155mm Howitzer the howitzer must be jacked up before emplacing the pedestal for shifting trails. This procedure requires the men to jack the howitzer once prior to being layed. The same requirement can be met by using 3 men per trail lifting the trails high enough to permit emplacement of the pedestal.

(b) EVALUATION: The time and effort expended can be greatly reduced by lifting the trails to emplace the pedestal.

(c) RECOMMENDATIONS: Units employing the M114A1 towed 155mm howitzer lift trails to emplace pedestal, rather than using the jack.

(3) Resupply of ammunition at remote fire support bases:

(a) OBSERVATION: When airlifting ammunition to a M114A1 towed 155mm howitzer battery located at a remote fire support base, transportation of the ammunition from the resupply pad to the howitzer section pit is difficult when using the limited number of vehicles present. The ammunition must be loaded on the vehicle and off-loaded at the section pit by hand. Use of (M 332) 1½ ton ammo trailers loaded with 32 complete rounds and air lifted by a CH47 helicopter has proven more satisfactory. After the trailer has been air lifted to the resupply pad a 3/4 or 2½ ton truck can haul it immediately to the howitzer section.

(b) EVALUATION: The time and effort expended during ammunition resupply can be reduced by using the 1½ ton ammo trailers (M 332).

(c) RECOMMENDATIONS: Units employing the M114A1 towed 155mm howitzer use the (M 332) 1½ ton ammunition trailer for resupply at remote fire support bases.

d. Organization: None

e. Training: None

f. Logistics: None

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8 May 1970

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Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

g. Communications: None

h. Material: None

i. Others: None

Donald C. Mulvanity
DONALD C. MULVANYITY
LTC, FA
Commanding

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23d Artillery Group

AVGE (16 May 70) 1st Ind

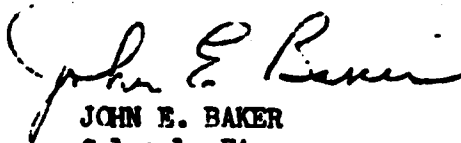
SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 5th Battalion, 42d Artillery,
Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS-CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)

DA, Headquarters, 23d Artillery Group, APO 96289 16 May 1970

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

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

This Headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report for the period ending
30 April 1970 from Headquarters, 5th Battalion, 42d Artillery.



JOHN E. BAKER
Colonel, FA
Commanding

AVFEB-FAC (8 May 70) 2d Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 5th Battalion, 42d Artillery
for Period Ending 30 April 1970. RCS CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)

DA, HEADQUARTERS, II FIELD FORCE VIETNAM ARTILLERY, APO 96266

TO: Commanding General, II Field Force Vietnam, ATTN: AVFEC-RG, APO 96266

This headquarters has reviewed the quarterly report of the 5th Battalion, 42d Artillery and concurs in operations and lessons learned as reported with the following exceptions:

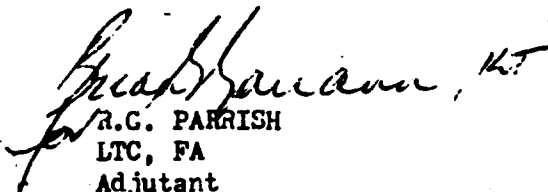
a. Para 2c(2) Occupation of position with M114A1 towed 155mm howitzer. The procedures outlined are faster than the standard procedure however, they should be used only when the terrain or firing pad is level and where air brakes are in good working order. Otherwise, loss of control of the weapon by the men raising the trails and possible injury to personnel or damage to the weapon could occur.

b. Para 2c(3) Resupply of ammunition at remote fire support bases.

(1) The observation and evaluation presented are valid; however, the limited availability of air assets precludes complete utilization of trailers.

(2) The use of trailers should be limited to initial occupation of position, and at a ratio of one trailer to two howitzer positions. This minimizes the loss of effective lift capacity and still provides the mobility needed for rapid occupation of position.

FOR THE COMMANDER:


R.G. PARRISH
LTC, FA
Adjutant

AVHOC-RE (8 May 70) 3d Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 5th Battalion, 42d Artillery
for Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)

DA, HQ, II FFORCEV, APO San Francisco 96266

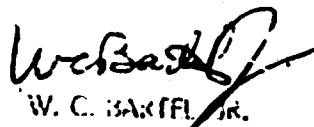
THRU: Commanding General, US Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVHOC(D3), APO 96266

Commander-In-Chief, US Army Pacific, ATTN: SPOF-D1, APO 96266

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

(U) This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report - Lessons
Learned for the quarterly period ending 30 April 1970 from Headquarters,
5th Battalion, 42d Artillery and concurs with the comments of the indorsing
headquarters.

FOR THE COMMANDER:


W. C. BARTEL, JR.
CPT, AGC
1 AG

CF:
CG, II FFORCEV Arty
CO, 5th Bn, 42d Arty

AVHGC-DST (8 May 70) 4th Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned 5th Battalion 42d Artillery,
Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

Headquarters, United States Army Vietnam, APO San Francisco 96375 16 JUN 70

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

This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 30 April 1970 from Headquarters, 5th Battalion, 42d Artillery and concurs with comments of indorsing headquarters.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Cy furn:
II FFORCEV
5th Bn, 42d Arty


Clark W. Stevens Jr.
Colonel
Assistant Adjutant General

GPOP-DT (8 May 70) 5th Ind (U)
SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ 5th Battalion, 42d Artillery for Period
Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 23 JUN 70

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
CPT, AGC
Asst AG

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