

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS, 8TH INFANTRY DIVISION ARTILLERY  
APO 09034

AETHA-A

29 March 1976

SUBJECT: 8th Infantry Division Artillery Military History (1 January 1975  
to 31 December 1975)

Chief  
U.S. Army Center of Military History  
Washington, D.C. 20315

1. REFERENCES:

- a. Army Regulation (AR) 870-5.
- b. USAREUR Suppl 1 to AR 870-5.
- c. V Corps Suppl 1 to USAREUR Suppl 1 to AR 870-5.
- d. 8th Infantry Division letter 14 Mar 75, subject: LOI, Military History, Responsibilities, Policies and Procedures.

2. PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION:

- a. Commander:
  - (1) Colonel Robert L. Schweizer - 19 Jun 74 to 19 Dec 75.
  - (2) Colonel William W. Berry - 19 Dec 75 thru end of period.
- b. Key personnel:
  - (1) Commander, 1st Battalion, 2d Field Artillery
    - (a) LTC Merton L. Townsend - 5 Feb 74 to 4 Aug 75.
    - (b) LTC Richard S. Sundt - 4 Aug 75 thru end of period.
  - (2) Commander, 3d Battalion, 16th Field Artillery
    - (a) LTC Townsend A. Van Fleet - 22 Aug 73 to 21 Feb 75.
    - (b) LTC Gordon E. Saul - 21 Feb 75 thru end of period.

AETHA-A

29 March 1976

SUBJECT: 8th Infantry Division Artillery Military History (1 January 1975 to 31 December 1975)

(3) Commander, 2d Battalion, 81st Field Artillery

LTC Robert N. Morrison - 18 Dec 74 thru end of period.

(4) Commander, 1st Battalion, 83d Field Artillery

(a) LTC James W. Shufelt - 1 Nov 73 to 2 May 75.

(b) LTC Wilburt L. Jenkins - 2 May 75 thru end of period.

(5) Commander, HHB, 8th Infantry Division Artillery

CPT Bruce M. Malone - 3 Dec 74 thru end of period.

(6) Executive Officer, Hqs, 8th Infantry Division Artillery

LTC Aquila E. Stipe - 13 Dec 74 thru end of period.

(7) S3, Hqs, 8th Infantry Division Artillery

(a) LTC Gordon E. Saul - 12 Jul 74 to 21 Feb 75.

(b) LTC Townsend A. Van Fleet - 21 Feb 75 to 1 Jul 75.

(c) MAJ Lawrence Brooks - 1 Jul 75 to 7 Aug 75.

(d) LTC Willis C. Collett, Jr. - 7 Aug 75 thru end of period.

(8) AFSC, Hqs, 8th Infantry Division Artillery

(a) LTC Wilburt L. Jenkins - 31 Jul 74 to 2 May 75.

(b) MAJ Russell Friedrich - 2 May 75 to 28 Jul 75.

(c) LTC A. O'Neil Crocker - 28 Jul 75 thru end of period.

c. Operational strength as of 31 December 1975:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
HHB Div Arty	24	9	156	189
1-2 FA	27	3	424	454
3-16 FA	21	1	398	420
2-81 FA	30	3	431	464
<u>1-83 FA</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>422</u>	<u>451</u>
TOTAL	129	18	1831	1978

AETHA-A

29 March 1976

SUBJECT: 8th Infantry Division Artillery Military History (1 January 1975 to 31 December 1975)

d. Discipline, law and order: During the period 1 Jan 75 to 31 Dec 75, the following legal actions were processed: Special Courts-Martial - 55; Special Courts-Martial empowered to adjudge a Bad Conduct Discharge - 9; General Courts-Martial - 12. Detailed staff assistance was offered down to company/battery level on all aspects of administrative law and military justice.

e. Reenlistment and bars to reenlistment (1 Jan 75 to 31 Dec 75):

(1) <u>UNIT</u>	<u>OBJECTIVE</u>	<u>REENLISTED</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>BARS</u>
HHB, Div Arty	9.80	18	184	5
17th Finance	5.20	7	135	0
1-2 FA	29.25	32	109	20
3-16 FA	29.25	43	147	37
2-81 FA	29.25	35	120	23
<u>1-83 FA</u>	<u>29.25</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>123</u>	<u>29</u>
TOTAL	132.00	171	130	114

(2) The reenlistment program underwent significant Department of the Army directed changes during this period. As a result, fewer soldiers within the 8th Infantry Division Artillery were eligible to reenlist. 17th Finance continues to receive reenlistment support from Division Artillery and therefore is included in Division Artillery reenlistment statistics.

f. Administrative discharges:

(1) Eliminations UP of Chapter 13, AR 635-200: 72

(2) Eliminations UP of Expeditious Discharge Program: 290

g. Safety: Division Artillery continued to place emphasis on its safety program:

(1) There were 74 POV accidents during the period.

(2) There were 61 AMV accidents during the period.

h. Division Artillery continued the Incentive Awards Program by conducting quarterly competition for soldier-of-the-quarter, cook-of-the-quarter, mechanic-of-the-quarter, and driver-of-the-quarter. Soldiers selected received \$50.00 U.S. Savings Bonds.

AETHA-A

29 March 1976

SUBJECT: 8th Infantry Division Artillery Military History (1 January 1975 to 31 December 1975)

i. Drug Control: At the beginning of 1975 there were 40 persons in the USAREUR Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Program. Of these, 6 were in the alcohol rehabilitation program, 16 were in the drug rehabilitation program, and 18 were in social evaluation. By the end of December 1975, the total figure was 56 persons in the program: 9 in alcohol rehabilitation, 35 in drug rehabilitation, and 13 in social evaluation.

j. Morale and Welfare:

(1) The 8th Infantry Division Artillery Race Relations and Equal Opportunity Program (RR/EO) for the calendar year 1975 was the most successful in recent years. In March 1974, Division Artillery RR/EO began its Phase II Race Relations instruction. 100% completion was accomplished prior to June 1975. A 44 percent completion rate was attained prior to the end of December 1975 for the Phase III Race Relations Education Program (RREP) begun in August 1975, surpassing the Baumholder Military Community goal of 40 percent. This success was due to the combined efforts of the four USAREUR school-trained instructors currently assigned in the 8th Infantry Division Artillery, and the sustained emphasis at all levels of command.

(2) The Race Relations/Equal Opportunity staff continued to work with Baumholder Military Community Housing Referral to insure that Division Artillery personnel who are authorized to reside on the German Economy find adequate, discrimination-free quarters in a timely manner. Stockade visitations, Project Headstart and statistical analysis reports were successfully accomplished during the period.

(3) The Division Artillery Commander remains informed of problem areas and attitude trends through the conduct of monthly RAPPOR sessions. Unit enlisted representatives attend these regularly scheduled meetings with the intent of exposing and solving ethnic and other social problems.

(4) The Affirmative Actions Panel (AAP), established in April 1975, has as its purpose the identifying and attacking of social problems in advance of their development into large-scale command problems. Meetings have proven to be both informative and useful to the staff and command representatives as special input for unit programs.

### 3. OPERATIONS AND TRAINING:

a. Plans: Division Artillery commenced work on a new 8th Infantry Division General Defense Plan (GDP). The Division Artillery portion of the new plan includes all aspects of fire support for the 8th Infantry Division and V Corps (US). A complete new GDP for the Division Artillery was produced. The Division Artillery also refined its plans in order to increase its ability to conduct timely upload of ammunition.

b. Training evaluations:

(1) Battery evaluations were conducted at the Baumholder MTA

AETHA-A

29 March 1976

SUBJECT: 8th Infantry Division Artillery Military History (1 January 1975 to 31 December 1975)

from 7 April 1975 to 1 May 1975 by Headquarters, Division Artillery and again at the Grafenwoehr MTA from 10 October 1975 to 10 December 1975 by each Field Artillery Battalion. Each of the 12 firing batteries was evaluated in accordance with the new Army Training and Evaluation Program (ARTEP) concept.

(2) Field Artillery battalion evaluations were conducted by Headquarters, 8th Infantry Division Artillery for all battalions of the Division Artillery during the period 6 to 29 June 1975. The ARTEPs were conducted at Grafenwoehr Major Training Area and were significantly different from previous Annual Training Tests (ATT) in that: (1) the new evaluation was spread over a 3-day period; (2) it required the tested battalion to perform its missions as an integrated member of the combined arms team; and (3) it required approximately twice as much ammunition as the old test. Three of the four battalions were rated "Combat Ready, Level 1". The other battalion was rated "Combat Ready, Level 2".

(a) The objectives of the test are to evaluate unit proficiency in the following areas:

1. The ability to perform as an integrated combined arms team.
2. The ability to provide adequate support during sustained combat operations.
3. Nuclear operations.
4. Ability to operate in a chemical environment.
5. Use of dispersion, cover and concealment, security and counterintelligence.
6. Communication and electronic warfare operations.
7. Survey operations.
8. Tactics.
9. Tactical intelligence.
10. Planning and execution to support attack, exploitation, defense and delay.
11. Identify areas where additional training is required.

(b). Scenario:

1. The battalion was alerted the first day of the test and moved to a tactical assembly area. Simultaneously, forward observers reported

AETHA-A

29 March 1976

SUBJECT: 8th Infantry Division Artillery Military History (1 January 1975 to 31 December 1975)

to the supported maneuver company commanders and the fire support officers reported to battalion and brigade. The battalion then moved a minimum of five (5) times with the firing batteries occupying 18 different firing positions. These moves were necessary for the battalion to support the maneuver brigade during a delay, defense, attack and exploitation. Throughout the evaluation the units of the battalion were subject to air attacks, ground attacks, CBR warfare, electronic warfare and a nuclear attack by the aggressor forces.

2. Prior to the termination of the test, at least 25% of the battalion was required to qualify with their individual weapon, crew-served weapon, and direct fire with the howitzer.

3. Each battalion received a rating of either "Combat Ready" or "Not Combat Ready".

(3) During calendar year 1975, special weapons inspections brought highly qualified test teams from higher headquarters to evaluate the nuclear readiness of Division Artillery units. Each battalion received one Technical Proficiency and Security Inspection (TPSI) from a USAREUR or higher headquarters, and one Technical Evaluation Inspection (TEI) from V Corps Headquarters. Both the 1st Bn, 83d FA, and the 2d Bn, 81st FA conducted nuclear support operations with the 567th Engineers. Training and preparation for these evaluations was given first priority in all units, and accounted for a major portion of training time during the period.

c. Training Program:

(1) All battalions conducted unit level training during the period while concurrently conducting individual training. All battalions conducted live fire training at Baumholder, supplemented with training at Grafenwoehr as below. Individual weapons familiarization and qualification was conducted during these periods.

(a) 1-2 FA - 16 May 75 to 11 Jun 75  
12 Nov 75 to 25 Nov 75

(b) 3-16 FA - 26 May 75 to 23 June 75  
29 Oct 75 to 11 Nov 75

(c) 2-81 FA - 5 Jun 75 to 2 Jul 75  
15 Oct 75 to 4 Nov 75

(d) 1-83 FA - 23 May 75 to 20 Jun 75  
26 Nov 75 to 10 Dec 75

(e) HHB Div Arty - 2 Jun 75 to 1 Jul 75

AETHA-A

29 March 1976

SUBJECT: 8th Infantry Division Artillery Military History (1 January 1975 to 31 December 1975)

(2) A Division Artillery Field Training Exercise (FTX) was planned and conducted in August 1975 in the Baumholder MTA. This FTX was designed to evaluate and improve combat readiness through conduct of night moves and numerous live fire missions. Each of Division Artillery's four battalions and Headquarters and Headquarters Battery participated. Coordinated moves in and out of off-post firing points, and across the Baumholder MTA provided necessary training in organization and combined maneuver. The exercise culminated with a Division Artillery Time-on-Target (TOT) fire mission.

#### 4. LOGISTICS:

a. The period January 1975 to December 1975 saw some improvement in operational readiness (OR) rate of all equipment and in particular, the howitzers. The intensive howitzer maintenance program began to show some results and the howitzer OR rate stayed in the 85-90% bracket even during the intensive Grafenwoehr period.

b. The S4 was involved in general defense plan (GDP) planning. The first step in this direction was a Division LOGEX which discussed the logistics problems involved in GDP support. Division Artillery as a part of the LOGEX gave a one hour presentation on Division Artillery's deployment plans and the problems involved. Other units briefed on different GDP phases. The result was a continued emphasis on logistical support and how it can support or defeat tactical plans.

c. Division Artillery continued to work with the 84th Ordnance Company on stocking ammunition according to the "Battalion Street Concept". Several ammunition uploads were conducted during the period in conjunction with CPXs. Increased emphasis continues in this area.

d. As a result of the Grafenwoehr experience and LOGEX, Division Artillery was able to compile a critical parts list of repair parts that will be carried forward during tactical operations. This list was initially formulated using data from the 2d Battalion, 81st Field Artillery and then modified by other battalions. These items will be added to unit prescribed load lists and the 708th Maintenance Battalion's authorized stockage list. The list will be reviewed and altered as experience dictates.

#### 5. CIVIL AFFAIRS:

a. Project Partnership was initiated and carried out successfully in calendar year 1975. The program was executed down to battery and individual level. Athletic contests as well as social functions were organized by unit commanders, and contributed to a real spirit of cooperation and friendship.

b. The 8th Infantry Division Artillery and the Federal Republic of Germany Artillery School Support Regiment jointly sponsored German-American

AETHA-A

29 March 1976

SUBJECT: 8th Infantry Division Artillery Military History (1 January 1975 to 31 December 1975)

Artillery Friendship Days on 15 and 16 August 1975. All subordinate units of the Division Artillery and the German Artillery Regiment participated in this significant event. At this time, an instructional department of the German Artillery School, Lehr Gruppe C, officially became the partnership unit of the 1st Battalion, 83d Field Artillery. In addition to the newly formed partnership, each of the established partnerships--the Division Artillery and Artillery Regiment Headquarters; the 1st Battalion, 2d Field Artillery and the 310th Artillery Battalion; the 3d Battalion, 16th Field Artillery and the 51st Artillery Battalion; and the 2d Battalion, 81st Field Artillery and the 5th Target Acquisition Battalion--jointly supported and participated in a wide variety of professional, athletic and social activities. Events included weapons competition, both marksmanship and assembly/dis-assembly; athletic competition, to include team sports and individual competitions; and picnic outings co-sponsored by each German and American battalion partnership.

c. The partnership spirit within Division Artillery was exemplified by the exchange of howitzer crews between the 3d Battalion, 16th Field Artillery and the 51st Artillery Battalion. One German crew accompanied this battalion and participated in all phases of training conducted at Grafenwoehr, to include the unit's ARTEP evaluation. This very successful exchange was soon followed by the participation of a U.S. howitzer section in training conducted by the 51st Lehrbattalion at Grafenwoehr. This exchange organized and established a battery partnership, and carried the concept down to section and individual level. Other partnership batteries have conducted team athletic competitions, and have held numerous social functions.

d. The Division Artillery Headquarters hosted the commander and primary staff officers of the German Field Artillery School in late August for a tour of the field operations at the Baumholder MTA. The partnership project has been and continues to be strongly supported by commanders at every level.

6. ATTACHED UNIT: The 8th Infantry Division Noncommissioned Officers Academy (Provisional) remained attached to Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 2d Field Artillery for rations, quarters, administration, training and administration of the Uniform Code of Military Justice. The attachment was directed by Headquarters, 8th Infantry Division General Order Number 49, dated 24 February 1975. The authorized strength of the academy is 24 enlisted personnel.

CF:

Cdr, 8th Inf Div, ATTN: AETHGA-PS

