

1978



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 3rd ORDNANCE BATTALION
APO NEW YORK 09058

AEUSA-W

26 March 1979

SUBJECT: Annual Historical Review

Department of the Army
ATTN: DAMH-HD
200 Stovall Street
Washington, DC 20314

1. Reference is made to AR 870-5, Military History, 23 Jan 77.
2. The Annual Historical Report for the 3rd Ordnance Battalion for the period 1 Jan 1978 to 31 Dec 1978 is forwarded.

1 Incl
as

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry R. Capps".

LARRY R. CAPPS
LTC, OrdC
Commanding



3RD ORDNANCE BATTALION
ANNUAL HISTORICAL REVIEW
(RCS CSHIS-6 (R-3))
1 JANUARY 1978 TO 31 DECEMBER 1978



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NARRATIVE SUMMARY
HISTORY OF 3RD ORDNANCE BATTALION
1 JANUARY 1978 TO 31 DECEMBER 1978

Activated in September 1977 as the only Guided Missile General Support Maintenance Battalion in the US Army, the 3rd Ordnance Battalion continued to fill key personnel positions and identify and develop new mission responsibilities throughout 1978. Perhaps most significant about 1978 was that the 3rd Ordnance Battalion very quickly earned itself a well deserved reputation as the center of excellence in the Theater for missile maintenance customer units, most notably 32nd Army Air Defense Command and the 56th Field Artillery Brigade (PERSHING), came to expect highly responsive support of their mission needs which encouraged them to request and assist in the development of new and more innovative programs directly affecting an increased readiness posture.

Another keynote of 1978 was the channels of communication established. Dialogue and coordination with DARCOM Commodity Commands, particularly MIRCOM, MIRADCOM, ARRCOM, and DESCOM, was established and became routine, greatly enhancing the information flow between the materiel readiness and acquisition agencies and the field "users".

Key personnel and dates of tenure include:

Commander	LTC Larry R. Capps	1 Jan 78 -
CSM	CSM Henry Johnson, Jr.	1 Jan 78 -
Executive Officer	MAJ John J. Voda, Jr. MAJ Daniel T. Workizer MAJ Douglas R. Baker	1 Jan - 12 May 78 12 May - 15 Aug 78 15 Aug 78 -
S-1	CPT Douglas R. Baker 1LT Elizabeth A. Hull	16 Jan - 12 May 78 12 May 78 -
S-2/3	MAJ Francis W. Thonus 2LT Bradley E. Whorley CPT Donald B. Patterson	1 Jan - 5 Jul 78 5 Jul - 5 Nov 78 6 Nov 78 -
S-4	CPT Ronald E. Martin	1 Jan 78 -
Materiel Officer	MAJ Daniel T. Workizer MAJ John J. Voda, Jr.	1 Jan - 12 May 78 12 May 78 -
Surveillance Office	Mr. Jerry W. Brady	1 Jan 78 -

Headquarters Company

Commander	2LT Bradley E. Whorley	1 Jan 78 -
First Sergeant	SFC Lawrence Whatley	1 Jan - 22 Jun 78
	1SG Paulino R. Martinez	22 Jun 78 -

4th Ordnance Company

Commander	CPT James H. Ware, Jr.	1 Jan - 29 Mar 78
	CPT Joseph W. Arbuckle	29 Mar 78 -
First Sergeant	1SG James T. Flippin	1 Jan 78 -

41st Ordnance Company

Commander	CPT Gary Andrews	1 Jan 78 -
First Sergeant	1SG John J. O'Brien	1 Jan 78 -

563rd Ordnance Company

Commander	CPT William S. Taylor	1 Jan - 6 Jan 78
	MAJ J. W. Leisen	6 Jan 78 -
First Sergeant	1SG Lloyd L. Stokes	1 Jan 78 -

579th Ordnance Company

Commander	MAJ Charles E. Kawakami	1 Jan - 5 Jul 78
	MAJ Francis W. Thonus	5 Jul 78 -
First Sergeant	1SG Garrett Beverly	1 Jan 78 -

Significant inspections of 3rd Ordnance Battalion units by higher headquarters included the 59th Ordnance Brigade Annual General Inspection during the period 6 - 17 November 1978. Results of the AGI were:

Battalion Headquarters:

S1	Superior
S2	Satisfactory
S3	Excellent
S4	Excellent
Acting IG	Excellent
Materiel	Not inspected

Units:

a. Required Subjects:	<u>HHC</u>	<u>4th</u>	<u>41st</u>	<u>563rd</u>	<u>579th</u>
(1) Cloth, Eq, Billets	EXC	UNSAT	SAT	SAT	EXC
(2) Facilities	EXC	SAT	SAT	SAT	EXC
(3) Dining Facility	NA	NA	NA	NA	SAT
(4) Admin	EXC	SAT	SAT	SAT	SAT
(5) Control of Classified Doc.	NA	UNSAT	SAT	SAT	SAT
(6) Unit Fund	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
(7) Supply	SUP	SAT	SAT	SAT	EXC

a. Blanket Purchase Agreement/Local Procurement. This program is designed to improve procurement of repair parts needed to repair commercial test equipment. Additionally, through this program, subordinate units are able to obtain mission peculiar repair parts, not readily available through normal supply channels.

b. Automatic Data Processing Equipment Acquisition. This provides the capability to increase the effectiveness of requisition processing, with the capability of verifying parts request, thereby reducing procurement time for needed repair parts.

c. Tech Supply Fund Blotters. This is a revised funding report which eliminates separate figures for prior fiscal year transactions and tracks submission of verification of receipt documents to control and monitor tech supply expenditures.

d. Automatic Return Item Inventories. A monthly inventory of 100 selected high dollar value Material Category Code "L", Automatic Return Items is conducted to insure that unserviceable items are being turned in when serviceable items are requisitioned on a recurring basis.

e. Report of Supply Activity (ROSA). This report is designed to measure the performance of the Supply Support Activities in the areas of demand accommodation, demand satisfaction and Authorized Stock List zero balance percentages.

4th Ordnance Company

As the sole source for in-Theater General Support maintenance for the Nike Hercules and Hawk Missile Systems, the 4th Ordnance Company serves a crucial role in the combat readiness of the 32nd Army Air Defense Command and USAREUR. During 1978, the 4th Ordnance Company assumed several new missions designed to increase the efficiency of support and provide more timely return of repaired equipment. These programs include:

a. The Improved Hawk and Nike Hercules Direct Exchange (DX) and Dedicated Delivery Service (DDS). The program provides twice weekly pick-ups of DX items from organic Direct Support platoons of 32nd AADCOM units, thereby increasing processing times and increasing return times. Currently there are 56 lines on the Improved Hawk Theater DX list and 31 lines on the Nike Hercules Theater DX list. Twenty-six lines have been approved for addition to the Nike Hercules DX list.

b. Improved Hawk Product Improvement Program (PIP) Support List Allowance Card (SLAC) Deck. The deck represents the recommended repair parts peculiar to Phase I of the PIP, for support of the first two Battalions receiving the PIP modification. Finalization of the program is expected by 15 July 1979 when TAMMC and 3rd Ordnance Battalion will meet to discuss specific recommendations which will be referred to MIRCOC for a response.

c. Repair of the Improved Hawk Modulator Oscillator (MOD OSC). This program was begun in 1977, but did not reach full operation until 1978. The program, establishing centralized repair of the MOD OSC, has far exceeded original expectations. When originally initiated the failure rate for the RF oscillator (a component of the MOD OSC) used in the Improved Continuous Wave Acquisition Radar was approximately 75%. As a result of this program, however, the failure rate of RF oscillators has been greatly decreased and has almost eliminated the problem of serviceable field returns. An addition to the program, since its conception in 1977, has been the training of Direct Support personnel in the repair and use of the microwave calibrator, which is used to adjust the MOD OSC.

d. General Support Maintenance of the AN/TPX-46 IFF. In December 1977, 32nd AADCOC expressed dissatisfaction with the maintenance of subject equipment. A program was developed whereby the 4th Ordnance Company would provide GS maintenance for all units in 32nd AADCOC utilizing the AN/TPX-46 IFF. At present, the 4th Ordnance Company has acquired all the necessary TOE personnel, equipment, repair parts and test equipment needed to adequately repair and maintain Theater stock of AN/TPX-46 IFF.

41st Ordnance Company

The primary mission of the 41st Ordnance Company is to store Theater reserve stocks of the following missile systems (less nuclear warheads): Pershing, Lance, Hawk and Nike Hercules.

The 41st Ordnance Company provides Lance Propellant Draining (De-Tank) Support to the Theater. This mission requires especially trained teams accompany major Lance shipments and remain on call in support of all Lance Main Missile Assemblage (MMA) movement anywhere in Theater. The team is prepared through training and equipment to render safe a damaged or leaking Lance MMA by draining the fuel and oxidizer from the missile into a separate container. The fuel, unsymmetrical dimethylhydrazine (UDMH) spontaneously ignites in the presence of the oxidizer, inhibited red fuming nitric acid (IRENA). Other missions assumed during 1978 include:

a. High Humidity I-Hawk Missiles. Eighty (80) I-Hawk Missiles in the 32nd AADCOC have been identified with excessive moisture in the G&C sections. Missiles are returned to the 41st Ordnance Company and then shipped to the Theater Repair Monitoring Facility (TRMF) for replacement of a gasket in the G&C section. The 41st Ordnance Company will deliver serviceable missiles to the battery with a simultaneous turn-around of high humidity missiles.

b. Nozzle Replacement Program. HITCO type nozzles used in the 5000 and above series Pershing Propulsion Sections have a manufacturing defect which has resulted in a degradation of in-flight reliability. The defective nozzles are being replaced with reworked nozzles by contractor personnel at the Weilerbach Storage Area.

c. Second Stage Thrust Reversal Port Modification. Thrust Reversal Port Systems have had an inherent moisture problem which has begun to degrade the reliability of the Thrust Reversal System. The modification being performed at the Weilerbach Storage Area consists of a desiccant being installed in the Thrust Reversal Port Covers and the serviceability of the Thrust Reversal Ports is certified.

d. Pershing Operational Test Unit (POTU) Support. The 41st Ordnance Company provides surveillance support and a temporary holding area for Pershing Missile sections being returned to CONUS for live firing exercises. Resupply of 56th Field Artillery Brigade assets is accomplished by the 41st Ordnance Company using assets provided by the Pershing Project Manager's Office.

e. Pershing (in-Theater) Reliability Sampling Program. The intent of this program is to provide an on-going assessment of missile reliability. This program will supplement the Follow-on Test Program. A sample of the missile assets removed from the Combat Alert Status Site are given a detailed inspection by the 41st Ordnance Company at the Weilerbach Storage Location. A report of this inspection is forwarded to the Commander, 56th Field Artillery Brigade.

563rd Ordnance Company

The 563rd Ordnance Company has the most diverse mission of the Battalion, supporting seven different missile systems. These missile systems provide close combat support of the maneuver elements assigned to USAREUR and 7th Army. Additional missions assumed by the 563rd Ordnance Company during 1978 were:

a. TOW Weapons System Verification. This program was initiated to insure verification of TOW Weapons System across the Land Combat Support System (LCSS). The program was initiated 1 March and completed 1 October 1978.

b. Lance Accelerometer Exchange. Program to exchange all tactical Lance Accelerometers with modified VENON gas accelerometers. The program started in March 1978 and was completed in November 1978.

c. Recent mission additions are support of the 7th Army Training Center for TOW, Chaparral and Vulcan and DS/GS support of the 2nd Armor Division Forward (Brigade 75) located in permanent garrison at Garlstedt in Northern Germany.

579th Ordnance Company

The 579th Ordnance Company is dedicated to the support of the 56th Field Artillery Brigade and recently assumed the additional mission of supporting the 56th Field Artillery Brigade organic generators, which are used in conjunction with the Pershing Missile system. Other projects include:

a. The Pershing DX and DDS program was initiated in April 1978. The 579th Ordnance Company is the sole source of supply in Theater for the 64 lines established on this external DX. This program facilitates service to the 56th Field Artillery Brigade by delivery of assets to the Battery Support Maintenance Platoons.

b. AN/TRC-80 Rebuild Program. The 579th Ordnance Company is the central turn-in/issue facility in support of a CONUS depot rebuild program which refurbishes the AN/TRC-80 Radio Terminal Set.

c. Facilities Distribution Trailer (FDT) Exchange Program. The FDTs are being rebuilt in a CONUS depot rebuild program. Unused components are being removed and other components are being replaced with like components found in the Pershing Power Station. The 579th Ordnance Company is the central turn-around point for this Theater.

d. DX/Contractor Repair Program. The program provides for in Theater depot level repair of certain critical items by contractor personnel. The 579th Ordnance Company collects, screens, and job orders the critical items to the contractor repair facility. A recently implemented Dedicated Delivery Service provides greater service to 56th Field Artillery Brigade units.



ABBREVIATIONS

1. DDS - Dedicated Delivery Service
2. DX - Direct Exchange
3. FDT - Facilities Distribution Trailer
4. LCSS - Land Combat Support System
5. MOD OSC - Improved Hawk Modulator Oscillator
6. PIP - Product Improvement Program
7. RF - Radio Frequency
8. ROSA - Report of Supply Activity
9. SLAC - Support List Allowance Card
10. TAMMC - Theater Army Materiel Management Center
11. MMA - Main Missile Assemblage
12. UDMH - Unsymmetrical dimethylhydrazin
13. IRENA - Inhibited Red Fuming Nitric Acid
14. G&C Section - Guidance & Control Section
15. TRMF - Theater Repair Monitoring Facility
16. POTU - Pershing Operational Test Unit