

UNIT HISTORY

512TH TRANSPORTATION COMPANY (LT TRK) (5T)

54TH TRANSPORTATION BATTALION (TRK)

USA SUPPORT COMMAND, QUI NHON

(1 January 1969 - 31 December 1969)

prepared by

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512TH TRANSPORTATION COMPANY (LT TRK) (5T)

1 February 1970

approved by

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Commanding

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I. Introduction

The 512TH TRANSPORTATION COMPANY (LT TRK) (5T) is assigned to the 54th Transportation Battalions in the 8th Transportation Group (Motor Transport). It is stationed at Camp Addison, Qui Nhon, Republic of Viet Nam.

The 8th Transportation Group has been designated a combat support group and is responsible for all Motor Transportation for the Qui Nhon Support Command.

II. Mission and Resources

a. Mission

To provide transportation for the movement of general cargo and personnel by Motor Transport.

b. Capabilities

the 512th Transportation Company (Lt Trk) (5T) is a line haul unit. It is capable of 540 short tons of cargo (6 tons per truck on 75 per cent availability of vehicles and 2 trips daily on highway or 1,620 passengers (18 passengers per trucks) on or off highway.

The 512th Transportation Company (Lt Trk) (5T) also has a heavy lift platoon with a capability of moving 325 tons per trip, line haul from Qui Nhon to Pleiku. This platoon became apart of the 512th Transportation Company in June 1969.

c. Organization and Utilization of Resources

The mission demands are such that the unit has a constant commitment of over 95 % of available vehicles each day. The principle convoy is to Pleiku from Qui Nhoneach day and is over 100 miles one way. The 5 ton cargo trucks are loaded each night and are line hauled to Pleiku. They are then offloaded, backloaded, and started back to Qui Nhon. The convoy responsibilities are rotated between the three companies of the 54th Transportation Battalion.

The mission of the heavy lift platoon is to move bulk type heavy equipment to Pleiku from Qui Nhon and then return with a like quantity of retrograde equipment. The average round trip for the heavy lift is 3 days. The heavy lift had an average strength of 26 EM and 1 Officer.

d. Personnel

1. The company experienced a large rotation of personnel in August and September 1969. These personnel were gradually replaced and the unit mission wasn't seriously jeopardized.

2. The company is authorized 179 personnel (174 EM and 5 Officers). The assigned strength through the year was approximately 138 EM and 3 Officers.

e. Vehicles and Equipment

1. The company is authorized 60 five ton cargos. The average assigned strength for the first 10 months was approximately 35. Starting in September the 5 ton cargo trucks were turned in and new vehicles were issued in their place.

2. The heavy lift is a provisional platoon and has on long term loan 13 (10 ton) tractors, 3 (50 ton) tank transporters, and 7 (25 ton) lobby trailers.

f. Facilities

1. The unit has a maintenance section equipped with 5 permanent type maintenance stalls with an adjoining operations and dispatching section.

2. The unit has a permanent type mess, which won first place in the Qui Nhon Support Command for the best decorated mess at Christmas.

3. The company Headquarters and billets are in permanent type structures. There are also permanent shower facilities and sanitary latrines.

III. Operations and Training

a. Training exercise

1. The company participated in numerous practice alerts during the year.

2. The unit has made maximum use of on-the-job training, especially in the maintenance operations.

b. Mandatory Subject Training

1. The unit complied with all training schedules and master training plans.

c. Combat action: the company was involved in the following ambushes during 1969.

1. 15 January- 1WIA

2. 14 February- 1KIA-1WIA
3. 23 February- 2KIA-1 truck destroyed
4. 4 March-6 WIA, 1 truck destroyed
5. 5 March- no casualties
6. 24 March- no casualties
7. 15 April- 3 WIA
8. 24 May- 1 WIA
9. 13 June- 1 MIA
10. 12 August- 1 WIA
11. 21 October- 1 WIA, 1 truck repairable

d. Weapons training:

1. As each new man entered the unit, he drew a weapon and familiarized himself and zeroed it before going on the road.

2. Each machine gunner and 50 caliber man is required to test fire his weapon before leaving on convoy each morning.

• Mission Accomplished: The unit continued to accomplish its mission by hauling cargo from Qui Nhon to Anke and Pleiku over QL 19, and from Qui Nhon to LZ Englis and Bong Song over QL 1 and to Tuy Hoa south on QL 1. The unit was assigned a new haul up QL 1 to Doc Pho. Most of Doc Pho convoys were small and were strictly ammunition hauls.

On the 3rd June 1969, the 512th Transportation Company received a 5 ton tractor platoon on TDY from the 27th Transportation Battalion for the purpose of assisting the Han Jin shuttle. This platoon did an outstanding job while maintaining the standards of the 512th Transportation Company and was returned to its home unit the 23rd June after having accomplished its mission.

The 512th Transportation Company was assigned the mission of providing all the security for all the battalions convoy on 25 June 1969. The 512th Transportation Company was assigned all of the gun Trucks and gun jeeps in the 54th Transportation Battalion and was charged with this security mission until 28 September 1969. During this period the 512th Transportation Company hauled no cargo except moved by the heavy lift platoon. This was an unusually hard mission given the 512th Transportation Company, but the Officers and men again responded with an outstanding effort.

IV. Intelligence and Security Activities

a. The company's sector of perimeter was improved by new and reinforced bunkers and extra concertina around the perimeters.

b. Safeguarding of military information was continually stressed.

c. The unit continued to strive to maintain alert, informed guards, and an immediate reaction force always aware, prepared and equipped.

V. Logistical activities

a. Logistical problems: Material necessary for unit improvements were difficult to obtain throughout the year.

b. Maintenance Activities:

1. The unit maintenance section worked diligently throughout the year, which is reflected in an annual deadline rate of 9.5%.

VI. Special Events

The company had four company Commanders during the year: 1LT Jay E Shelly, 1LT Obed P Higgins III, Cpt Jay E Russel, Cpt Ruben G. Thompson. These Commanders successfully guided the unit through all inspections in an outstanding manner.

SUBJECT: Unit: Lineage, Hohors, and History

The 512th Transportation Company (Lt Trk) (5 ton) was reactivated 1 June 1966, at Ft Campbell, Kentucky, by 3rd Army General Order 156. The 512th has a long war history dating from 31 July 1942 when it was constituted as G Company, 487th QM Battalion at Indian Gap, Pennsylvania. It was redesignated the 186 Port Company on 1 October 1954 at Camp Leroy Johnson, Louisiana.

Campaign Bands Include: Normandy (with Arrowhead), Northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsoce.

Unit Decorations: a. French Croix de Guerre w/palm (Normandy)

b. Belgian Army Order of the Day (Antwerp)

CONUS Location: Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania; Ft Hamilton, N.Y.; Camp Patrick Henry, Virginia; Ft Lawton, Washington; Camp Leroy Johnson, Louisiana; Ft Eustia, Virginia; Ft Campbell, Kentucky.

OS Location: England, Belgian, France, Germany, Alaska, New Foundland, Viet Nam.

Commanding Officer: James D Himburg

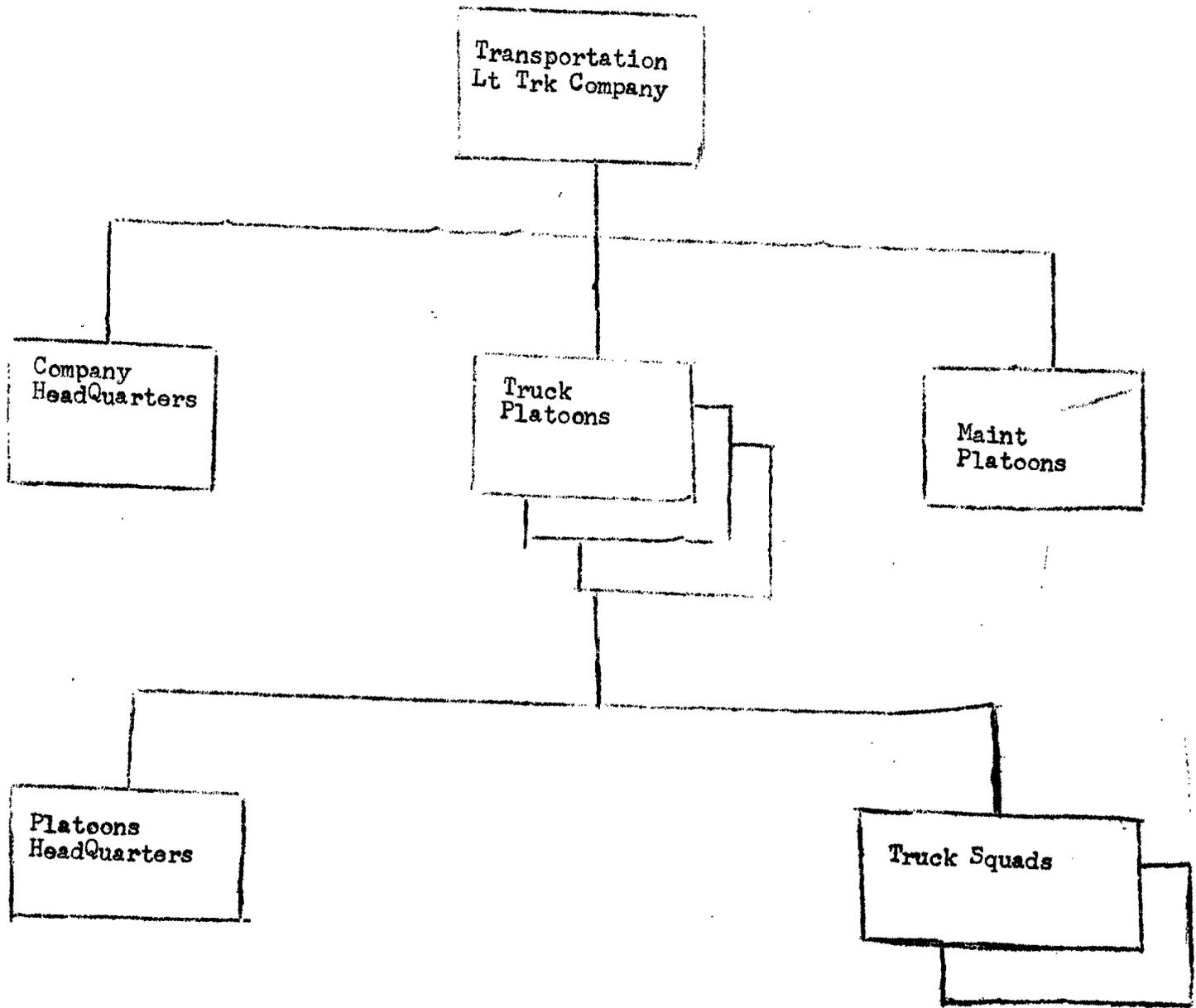
First Sergeant: William H. Boan


JAMES D HIMBURG

1LT TC

Commanding

512TH TRANSPORTATION LIGHT TRUCK COMPANY (5T)



AWARDS 1969

1. The following individuals recieved Bronze Star "V"

Aspland, Brain	1 LT
Lewis, Roger D	PFC E3
Vincent, Stephen L	SSG E6
Tindell, Sidney J	PVT E2

2. The following individuals recieve Bronze Star

Boan, William H	1 SG E8
Estrada, Manuel	SP4 E4
Logan, Clarence	SSG E6 W/ Oak Leaf Cluster
Rogers, James A	1 LT
Williams, Thomas E	SFC E7
Zwilling, Daniel M	SP5 E5

3. The following individual recieved Air Medal

Wimer, Daniel C	SP5 E5
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4. The following individuals recieved Army Commendation Medal "V"

Brink, William	SP4 E4
McNealy, Barry	SP4 E4
Moses, Charles	A/SGT E4
Spencer, Kenneth	SP4 E4

5. The following individuals recieved Army Commendation Medal

Lamoureux, Philip R	SP4 E4
Staff, Randolf K	SP4 E4
Stubbs, Larry S	SP4 E4
States, Robert E	SP5 E5
Wadsworth, William L	SP5 E5
Williams, Thomas E	SFC E7
Williamson, Ronald R	SP5 E5

6. The following individuals recieved Purple Hearts

Happeney, Paul B	SP4 E4
Hill, Louis O	SP4 E4
Jones, Glen J	PFC E3
Pheleps, Ronald	SP4 E4
Ranson, Neal	SP4 E4
Schall, Joseph D	SSG E6
Theres, John	SP4 E4
Vallejo, Vallentin	SP4 E4
Vela, Raymond	PFC E3

In addition to decorations, following Certificates of Achievements were awarded to the following individuals.

Eaton, Micheal J	SP4	E4
Fletwood, Roy J	SP5	E5
Martinez, Jehn O	SP5	E5
True, Donald A	SP4	E4
Walker, Jackie D	SP4	E4