

UNIT HISTORY

58th Transportation Company
27th Transportation Battalion
USA Support Command, Qui Nhon
(1 January 1967 - 31 December 1967)

prepared by

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58th Transportation Company

19 March 1968

approved by

David E. Brink
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1LT, TC

Commanding

AFO 96238

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
58th Transportation Company
APO San Francisco 96238

19 March 1968

SUBJECT: Annual Historical Supplement

TO: Chief of Military History, Department of the Army,
Washington, D.C. 20315

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

Commanding General, United States Army, Vietnam,
ATTN: AVCHS-MH, APO 96375

✓ Commanding General, 1st Logistical Command,
ATTN: AVCA-GO-H, APO 96384

Commanding General, US Army Support Command,
ATTN: AVCA-QN-GO-H, APO 96238

Commanding Officer, 8th Transportation Group,
ATTN: Command Historian, APO 96238

Commanding Officer, 27th Transportation Battalion,
ATTN: AVCA-QN-TG-27-OP, APO 96238

1. INTRODUCTION: The 58th Transportation Company has been assigned in Vietnam since 27 August 1965, and is under the operational control of the 27th Transportation Battalion, and the 8th Transportation Group. The unit is presently located at The Thanh, Vietnam, which is approximately twelve (12) miles west of Qui Nhon, Vietnam at grid coordinates BR 992 248. During the calendar year this unit conducted port and beach clearance operations, provided troop lift and support for forward task forces of various combat units and supported 27th Transportation Battalion local and line haul operations.

2. MISSION AND RESOURCES:

a. Mission: The company's assigned mission is to transport general cargo and personnel by motor transport throughout the II Corps. This is accomplished through port and beach, local haul and line haul operations.

b. Capabilities: The capabilities of this unit for the year were unbelievable. The truckers of this unit traveled 1,613,363 miles, hauled 67,461 short tons of cargo and 72,575 passengers. The 58th was traveling as many miles as the medium truck companies were, especially

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during the months of January through May when infiltration convoy operations were in effect. The trucks were moving on the road constantly, 24 hours a day and the drivers were getting an average of six (6) hours of sleep nightly. The unit was understrength during the last quarter of 1967, but the maximum number of trucks rolled. For example, the 58th during the month of November was 33% short of personnel. The unit had sixty-one (61) task vehicles moving a day, plus six (6) administrative support jeeps with machine gunners and control officers. This unit with 113 EM present for duty could hit the road with 74 EM and 3 officers a day, still maintain its area security, night maintenance and operate a mess hall 24 hours a day, serving hot meals whenever a convoy rolled in or out of the area.

(1) To accomplish this clerks, cooks, mechanics, supply personnel and NCO's including the First Sergeant rolled vehicles. Never was a vehicle left in the motor pool for lack of a driver.

(2) This unit come to Vietnam to do a job that is moving troops and cargo in support of the line troops.

(3) The 58th Transportation Company has accomplished their mission in the highest tradition of the Transportation Corps.

c. **Organization:** The 58th Transportation Company is organized into a company headquarters, maintenance section and three (3) truck platoons each consisting of a platoon headquarters and two (2) truck squads (See Inclosure 2).

d. **Personnel:** Under the provisions of TOE 55-17F this unit is authorized 169 enlisted personnel, four (4) officers and one (1) warrant officer. The unit averaged 22% shortage in personnel during the months of September through December, see paragraph 2b.

e. **Vehicles and Equipment:** The status of vehicles and equipment with the 58th Transportation Company was outstanding. The 58th, moving and hauling more cargo than any other light truck unit; having more 2½ ton trucks on the road than any other light truck unit, had an amazing deadline rate of approximately 11%. This is a indication of the fine leadership among the officers and NCO's and the quality of enlisted men who drive and pull first echelon maintenance on their vehicles. Without the leadership and the drivers cooperation and skills, plus the fine maintenance crews, the 58th would not be on top as it is today. The unit has 60 task 2½ ton trucks plus six administrative 2½ ton trucks, five quarter ton trucks, and one five ton wrecker.

f. **Facilities:** The facilities of the unit were greatly improved during the year 1967. Under the self-help program, the men of the unit begun to build up their area. From August through December the following buildings were constructed: an operations building and command bunker; a maintenance building with five bays, maintenance office, tool and parts room; platoon OVM building; NCO billets; officers billets; supply building; shower-wash room building; and a two story 20X140 foot troop barracks which houses the second and third platoons. Building was commenced on a second troop barracks to house the remainder of the company. In light of the increasing enemy activity in the area three large steel reinforced bunkers were constructed and two towers were constructed in order to over

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look the road. Also, a thing of great importance was the construction of a 900 foot drainage ditch, which was constructed in preparation for the monsoon season.

3. OPERATIONS AND TRAINING:

a. Training: During the year 1967, various training exercises were conducted with primary emphasis placed on weapons and drivers training. All personnel were instructed in weapons firing, safety, care, and cleaning. This included the M-14 rifle, M-79 grenade launcher and M-60 machine gun. During the month of December, this unit was instructed to prepare for a future change over from a light truck company to a medium truck company. An intensive one week training program was initiated to qualify all drivers in medium trucks.

b. Operations: Primary combat service support was given to the support of task forces at Bong Son, Phu Cat, and LZ Uplift, near Phu My, on QL#1 North. To the west convoys were run to An Khe, Pleiku, Kontum, and Dak To. Throughout the first eight (8) months of the year, trucks were committed on a twenty-four hour a day shuttle from Qui Nhon to An Khe, but starting in September, after a costly ambush for the 54th Transportation Battalion, all trucks were run in daylight convoys, using security vehicles. A new concept in convoy security was initiated at this time, and the 58th had twelve of its 2½ ton trucks converted into armor plated vehicles upon which two M-60 machine gunners and an M-79 grenade launcher gunner rode. All convoys had at least two of these vehicles, in addition to radio equipped machine gun jeeps.

c. Special Operations: Many troop movements plus special commitments were carried out through the year. First of all, 19 February saw the departure of the 28th Transportation platoon under 2LT Wilson, from the 58th and moved to Pleiku. Also during this time we were able to drop 10 people from the rolls that had been TDY to the "Goers" in Pleiku as they became a separate organization.

(1) In April, May, and June the 58th began to make trips to the south on QL#1 in support of the Republic of Korea's elite Tiger Division. This was the first time anyone from the Qui Nhon area had gone south on QL#1 by vehicle. From 16-19 June the 58th's first platoon was sent to Pleiku to help move the 173rd Airborne Brigade to Dak To, to the north of Pleiku.

(2) From August through October, marked the new convoy operations, plus many troop moves and special commitments. In October, twenty (20) trucks from the 58th Trans Co moved part of the 1st Air Cavalry Division (Air Mobile) from English Air Field near Bong Son, to Hill 663 near Da Nang, a trip which took the 58th vehicles 200 miles north of its base camp in Qui Nhon. The "Roadrunners" transported the 173rd Airborne Brigade from Qui Nhon to An Khe on 23 October. From 28 to 29 October the unit moved the 1st Battalion, 17th Air Cavalry from Qui Nhon to Pleiku.

(3) November and December brought more praise and honor

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to the 58th. During the month of November the unit played a big role in the movement of personnel and cargo to Dak To during the Dak To crisis. Upon completion of the fighting the 58th, the first cargo trucks to go up in support, received special praise from General Westmoreland down to Battalion Commander, Major Quinton T. Martin. At no time were the allies a victim of supply shortage. In December one of the largest troop movement commitments of the year, lasting from the 20th to the 25th, the 11th Brigade Americal Division was moved from Qui Nhon to Duc Pho. Captain Thomas, the company commander of the 58th, led his truckers to even more fame for their efficiency and speed in carrying out the mission.

(4) In addition to all of the above, the 58th continued its daily commitment's (see para 3b). The following is a combined total of tons and miles for the special and daily commitment's for the calendar year 1967:

<u>Month</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Tons</u>
January	156,771	6,294
February	177,232	7,304
March	182,374	9,003
April	73,588	7,526
May	180,677	6,334
June	99,388	2,684
July	119,236	3,800
August	101,825	3,360
September	135,200	5,587
October	100,873	3,460
November	126,199	4,269
December	160,000	7,840

4. ADMINISTRATIVE AND PERSONNEL ACTIVITIES:

a. Change of Command: The company had two, changes of Command Ceremonies during the year. On 20 January 1967, First Lieutenant Thomas F. Adams assumed command from Captain Fahr, and on 8 September 1967, Captain Charles B. Thomas replaced Captain Adams, who rotated back to the states.

b. Promotions: There were many promotions of enlisted personnel to PFC E3, to SP4 E4, to SP5 E5, to SGT E5, to SSG E6 and two officers to First Lieutenant. These promotions lifted the morale greatly, plus instilled incentive and initiative, producing a much higher level of job performance.

5. LOGISTICAL ACTIVITIES:

a. The maintenance program of the 58th is without a doubt the best in 8th Group. This unit has a remarkable low deadline rate of 11% compared to the amount of vehicles it puts on the road, and miles driven. This rating is considered excellent for such a unit.

b. The year of 1967 could not be summarized without mention of our excellent mess hall. The mess hall held the best mess award for the battalion for several months. Also the 58th Mess Hall was chosen by the Group Commander and his Executive Officer to eat both Thanksgiving and

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Christmas dinner. Champayne was served at both meals.

6. SPECIAL EVENTS:

During 1967, all major inspections were passed with flying colors. The AGI was passed in January, a First Logistical Command CMMI in July, and a Qui Nhon Support CMMI in November.

7. CIVIL AFFAIRS:

The 58th Transportation Company is active in civil affairs by providing food, materials and transportation to the refugees of the Rhoc Thang Refugee Camp. Also, food and building materials were donated to the Qui Nhon Leprosarium. On numerous occasions the 58th Transportation Company has been committed to move food and materials to refugees in the Binh Dinh Province.

3 Incl

1. Lineage and Honors
2. Organizational Chart
3. General Orders


DAVID E. BRINK
1LT, TC
Commanding



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

Lineage and Honors

58th TRANSPORTATION COMPANY

Constituted 1 May 1936 in the Regular Army as Company L, 47th Quartermaster Regiment

Activated 22 March 1941 at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland

Redesignated 16 June 1942 as Company L, 47th Quartermaster Truck Regiment

Reorganized and redesignated 15 November 1943 as 3511th Quartermaster Truck Company

Converted and redesignated 1 August 1946 as 3511th Transportation Corps Truck Company

Redesignated 18 June 1947 as 58th Transportation Truck Company

Reorganized and redesignated 8 June 1953 as 58th Transportation Company

Inactivated 1 October 1953 in Germany

Activated 10 March 1955 at Camp Gordon, Georgia

58th TRANSPORTATION COMPANY

CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION CREDIT

World War II-EAME

Northern France

Rhineland

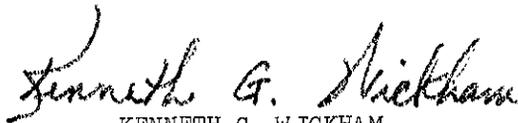
Ardenes-Alsace

Central Europe

DECORATIONS

None

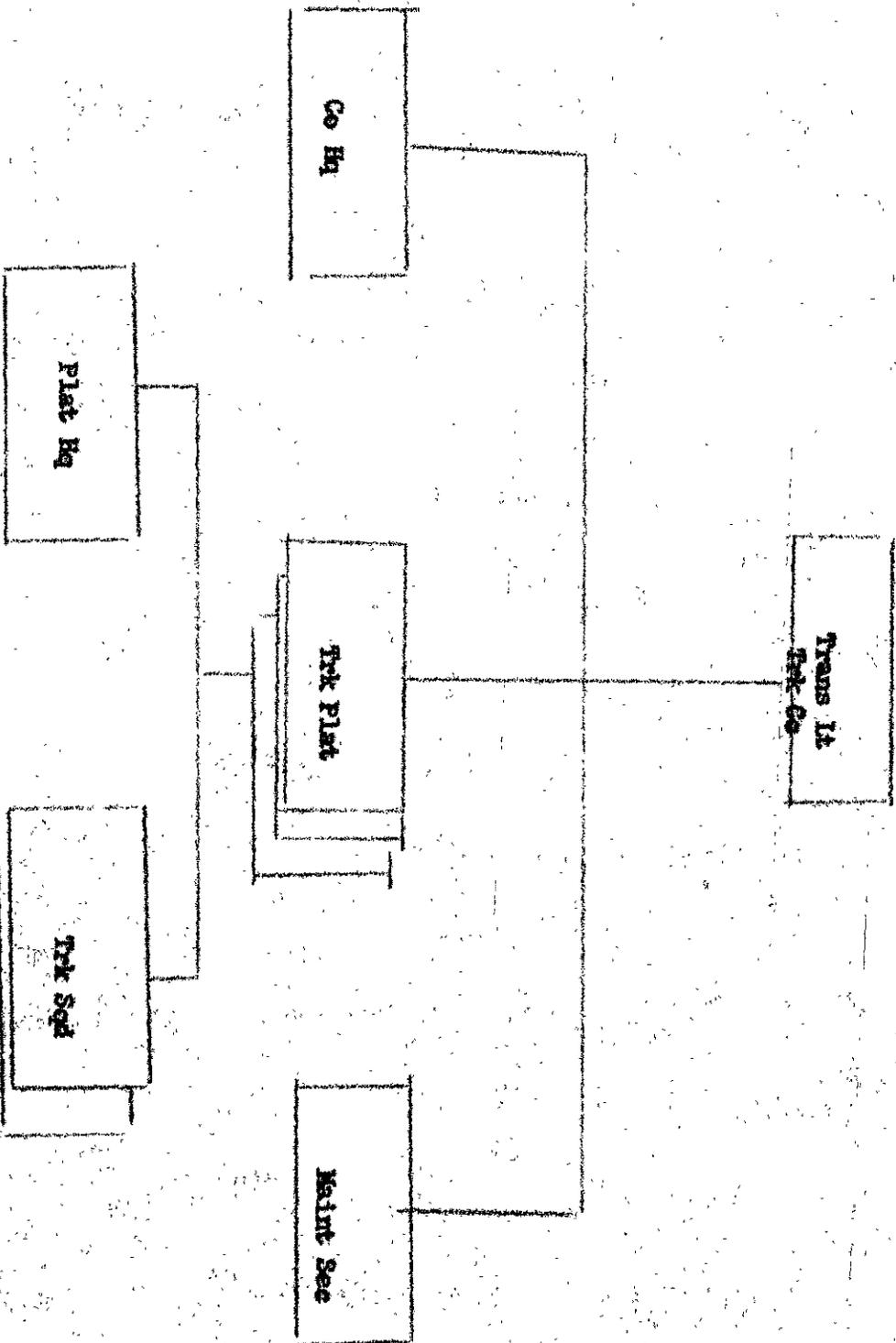
By Order of the Secretary of the Army:



KENNETH G. WICKHAM
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

9 DEC 1966

56th Transportation Truck Company
 TDE 55-177



Personnel

	Authorized	Assigned	Attached
Officers	4	4	
Warrant Off	1	1	
Enlisted	169	136	15

EQUIPMENT

	Authorized	On/Hand
2 1/2 Tons Truck	60	52
2 1/2 Tons Admin	6	6
1 1/2 Ton	5	5
Wrecker	1	1

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 21

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH UNITED STATES ARMY
Chicago, Illinois 60615, 23 February 1965

CHANGE IN STATUS OF CERTAIN FIFTH UNITED STATES ARMY UNITS

1. TC 371. Following orders REVOKED.

So much of: Paragraph 1, General Orders 3, this headquarters, current series
Pertaining to: Reorganization of certain Fifth United States Army Strategic Army Forces units.

2. TC 011. Following Fifth United States Army Strategic Army Forces units REORGANIZED.

* TPSN	* UNIT AND STATION	* TOE	* AUTHORIZED STRENGTH			
			OFF	AMSC	WO	ENL
35680	58th Trans Co (Lt Trk) Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri UMI: FATXN	55-17F, 64 (SRC 55 017F 4101) Plus: Para 5 (SRC 55 017F 4121)	4		1	169
35680	444th Trans Co (Lt Trk) Fort Riley, Kansas UMI: FBCKN	55-17F, 64 (SRC 55 017F 4101) Plus: Para 5, (SRC 55 017F 4121)	4		1	169

Effective date: 24 December 1964.

Equipment: Equipment required and not available will be requisitioned in accordance with normal supply procedures; equipment rendered excess will be disposed of in accordance with current procedures.

Personnel: Maximum number of enlisted personnel required by this action will be assigned from locally available resources without MPA-PCS costs. The remainder will be procured through application of normal personnel requisitioning procedures.

Files/Records: Will be continued without cutoff in accordance with paragraph 32, Army Regulations 345-215.

Morning Reports: Entry will be made in the Record of Events section of the Morning Report prepared for the effective date (Army Regulations 335-60).

Account classification: Appropriate allotment will be obligated to the extent necessary (Army Regulations 37-102).

Special instructions: a. Reorganization will be accomplished by commanding generals, stations concerned, in accordance with appropriate Tables of

- Organization and Equipment and authorized strengths shown.
- b. No change in station, priority, or assignment is involved.
 - c. Adjust unit funds, where necessary, in accordance with Army Regulations 230-10.
 - d. File a copy of these General Orders with the organization property book.
 - e. Mission is in accordance with TOE indicated above.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:

GEORGE M. JONES
Brigadier General, GS
Chief of Staff

/s/ B. E. Babcock
/t/ B. E. BABCOCK
Colonel, AGC
Adjutant General

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SAMUEL W. FARR
CPT, TC