

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
863D TRANSPORTATION COMPANY (LT TRK)
APO San Francisco 96337

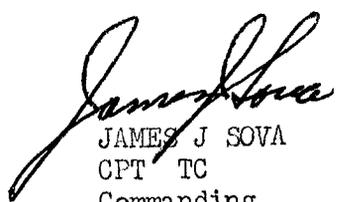
AVCA-QN-DN-A

4 August 1967

SUBJECT: Organizational History of the 863d Transportation
Company (Lt Trk).

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

In accordance with AR 870-5 dated August 1965, the Organizational
History of the 863d Transportation Company (Lt Trk) for the period from
its activation on 1 October 1965 to 31 December 1966 is hereby submitted.


JAMES J SOVA
CPT TC
Commanding

ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY
863D TRANSPORTATION COMPANY (LT TRK)

Organizational History
863d Transportation Company (Lt Trk)
APO 96337
Drawer 27

HISTORY

The 863d Transportation Company (Lt Trk) was organized at Fort Devens, Massachusetts on 10 October 1965 as a support unit for the 196th Lt Inf Bde stationed at Fort Devens. On 16 March 1966, the unit was attached to Headquarters Detachment, United States Army Garrison (1A-1170-00 TD) Fort Devens, Massachusetts. The unit was under the operational control of the Post Transportation Officer, Fort Devens, from October 1965 to March 1966 when it came under the operational control of Headquarters, Fort Devens. The unit provided support for all post activities assisting Fort Devens in meeting its operational and mission requirements to include ROTC and Reserve support. During the period from 21 March 1966 to 16 May 1966, the 863d Trans Co provided Transportation support in the form of 30 vehicles with 40 EM and one officer for the 196th Lt Inf Brigade's field training at Camp Drum, New York.

The unit's annual general inspection was conducted on 19 April 1966 for which it received a satisfactory rating. Also in April 1966, the 863d Trans Co was alerted for overseas deployment to a restricted area.

A CMMI was conducted by the First Army CMMI team from 5 July 1966 to 8 July 1966 for which the unit was given recognition as being outstanding.

The 863d provided transportation support for the 1500 ROTC cadets attending the 1966 ROTC Summer Camp at Fort Devens during June and July 1966 receiving recognition from all sections concerned.

During the unit's stay at Fort Devens, the 863d continually received recognition for its outstanding performance in the form of letters of appreciation and commendation for its unit operations and missions.

The 863d Trans Co departed the United States on 12 September 1966 aboard the USNS Rose and arrived in Vietnam on 12 October 1966. Upon arrival at Da Nang Sub Area Command, Da Nang, RVN which is a sub command under the First Logistical Command, the 863d Trans Co was required to be self sustaining even though its equipment did not arrive until 27 October 1966.

The 863d was the first company size unit to arrive at DSAC and thus became the nucleus of the newly established Da Nang Sub Area Command taking on all necessary responsibilities of a command. The 863d became the headquarters company for DSAC with the additional responsibility of performing the Headquarters Commandant functions responsible for establishing supervising installation supply, consolidated mess, consolidated motor pool, and

History Cont'd

security, enlisted club, billeting, mail services and morale and welfare activities for a 700 man force.

During the period from October 1966 to January 1967, the 863d Trans Co provided local haul transportation support in the Da Nang area for DSAC and assisted the Naval Support Activity in clearing supplies from the Da Nang port area to the NSA storage site.

Because of the professional attitude and knowledge of its personnel, the 863d Trans Co met its mission requirements at all times and had no deadlined equipment during its first three months in Vietnam despite adverse conditions.

MISSION

While stationed at Fort Devens, the 863d Transportation Company (Lt Trk) was a Rotational Base Unit responsible for training personnel in the MOS's authorized for this unit. The unit was also responsible for providing personnel support as required and transportation support for movement of personnel and cargo.

The present mission of the 863d Trans Co is to transport personnel and/or supplies in support of the Da Nang Sub Area Command.

ORGANIZATION

The 863d Transportation Company was activated by General Order 285, dated 4 October 1965, under TO&E 55-17F as a Light Truck Company, amended by General Order 81, dated 9 May 1966, less paragraph 02 and so much of paragraph 03(2 truck squads). The unit is authorized the following personnel:

<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>	<u>AGG</u>
1 Off 1 WO	116	118

PERSONNEL

Upon activation, 1LT Paul F. Haas was assigned as Commanding Officer of the 863d Transportation Company (Lt Trk) at Fort Devens, Massachusetts. LT Haas was replaced as Commanding Officer on 31 January 1966 by 1LT James J. Sova, later promoted to captain. Cpt Sova was still in command as of 31 December 1966.

The 863d Trans Co was assigned 49 EM from other units at Fort Devens by 17 October 1965 and reached as high as 232 personnel by May 1966. The unit shipped overseas in September 1966 with one officer, and one warrant officer and 118 enlisted men.

TRAINING

From the unit's activation in October 1965 until 25 May 1966 the 863d Trans Co trained with the Headquarters Detachment, US Army Garrison, Fort Devens for all mandatory subjects. The only training conducted by the unit during this period was MOS training. The 863d Trans Co crossed trained truck drivers from 1 to 20 March 1966 on Armored Personnel Carriers for support of the 196th Lt Inf Bde at Camp Drum, New York.

On 25 May 1966 the 863d started its intensified training program in preparation for overseas movement using ATP 11-55. The unit training program terminated on 4 August 1966. Drivers training was conducted in conjunction with ROTC Summer Camp during June and July.

The unit Army Training Test was conducted by Headquarters, Fort Devens on 6,7 and 8 August 1966 which the unit passed with a satisfactory rating.

No further formal training was conducted during 1966 with the exception of MOS training and other subjects as required to meet the unit missions.