

1967

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
124TH TRANSPORTATION COMPANY (TERMINAL SERVICE)  
APO 96307

AVCA-SGN-TC-XB-124

20 February 1968

SUBJECT: Annual Supplement, Unit History (1967)

THRU: ~~Commanding Officer~~  
~~11th Transportation Battalion (Terminal)~~  
ATTN: AVCA-SGN-TC-XB-S3  
APO 96307 *22*

TO: Commanding Officer  
4th Transportation Command  
ATTN: Historian  
APO 96307

1. MISSION: a. Calendar year 1967 saw several changes in the mission of the 124th Transportation Company (Terminal Service), as it completed its second full year in the Republic of Vietnam. On 1 January 1967, the unit was located at the M & M Villa Area of Saigon Port. However, at that time a unit move to Cat Lai, Vietnam was already in progress, with an advanced party at work preparing a site for the company cantonment and preparing a mid-stream ship-to-barge discharge site. On 2 February 1967 the unit move was finally completed with all sections of the unit being stationed at Cat Lai. The unit remained at Cat Lai the remainder of the year.

b. At the start of this reporting period, this unit was charged with the dual mission of operating K-12 Dock, Area IV, Saigon Port, and operating the ammunition discharge site at Nha Be. Additionally, the development of the Cat Lai area and subsequent construction of barracks, bunkers, and other facilities occupied a substantial number of personnel throughout the year.

c. In July 1967 K-12 Dock was closed and the unit's responsibility there was terminated. Since the ammunition discharge facilities at Cat Lai were being expanded, the unit's mission reverted to the operation of this facility. The unit's mission remained constant the remainder of the year.

d. The unit gained operation and administrative control over the 592nd Transportation Detachment (MH-HV) in August 1967, the 586th Transportation Detachment (Maint) on 29 March 1967, and retained control over the 588th Transportation Detachment (MH-HV).

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2. SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE ORGANIZATION:

a. Personnel: Losses of key personnel during the year were caused by rotation to CONUS and transfer.

<u>LOSSES</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Cpt. Thomas K. Shelton	CO	25 Jun 67
LT John A. Battcher	Shore Plt Ldr	15 May 67
LT Donald L. Miller	Ship Plt Ldr	2 Nov 67
LT Will D. Morrow	Maint Officer	12 Aug 67
LT Gaylord J. Mathers	Shore Plt Ldr	27 Jul 67
LT Richard B. Kaufmann	Mess Officer	22 Jul 67
LT Clifton T. Lopez	Asst Ship Plt Ldr	16 Dec 67
MSG Talmage R. Carroll	First Sergeant	20 Apr 67
SFC Russel F. Hall	First Sergeant	13 Oct 67
SFC George H. Dörner	First Sergeant	26 Sep 67
SFC Charles E. Schaup Jr	First Sergeant	15 Jul 67
FSG James A. Overstreet	First Sergeant	19 Aug 67

<u>REPLACEMENTS</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Cpt Robert S. Davis	CO	19 Jun 67
LT Kenneth W. Mullen	Ship Plt Ldr	27 Jul 67
LT Gary L. Jordan	Ship Plt Ldr	17 Sep 67
LT Thomas M. Johnston Jr	Ship Plt Ldr	22 May 67
LT Kenneth P. Caldwell	Maint Officer	7 Sep 67
LT Reginald D. Newton	Asst Ship Plt Ldr	17 Oct 67
LT Clifton T. Lopez	Shore Plt Ldr	16 Dec 67
LT Richard Randall	Shore Plt Ldr	2 Nov 67
FSG James A. Overstreet	First Sergeant	29 May 67
SFC Homer Martin	First Sergeant	16 Aug 67

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b. EQUIPMENT: The only changes in the equipment were the additions of the TO&E equipment of the 592nd and the 586th Transportation Detachments.

### 3. PROBLEM AREAS.

Throughout the year the company met the critical challenges of rapid and almost total personnel turnover, and maintenance of all equipment in support of a twenty-four hour a day operation. Additionally, most replacements were untrained and/or inexperienced in the assigned duties and required extensive on-the-job training. The unit has operated throughout the year below authorized strength.

### 4. INDIVIDUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

In the course of a routine inspection of discharge operations aboard the S S Carroll Victory, Second Lieutenant Donald L. Miller, [REDACTED], observed a pallet of 20mm explosive shells fall from a height of 30 feet onto a barge. The shells started to smoke and appeared to immediately become hot, posing a threat of a high-grade explosion to the barge and vessels in the area. Fully aware of the possible consequences and danger involved, Lieutenant Miller boarded the barge and commenced, under extreme hazards of serious injury or death, to jettison the smoking ammunition over the side into the river, thereby averting a possible disaster in the ammunition discharge area which could have cost the lives of hundreds of people and untold property damages. Lieutenant Miller was awarded the Soldier's Medal for heroism.

  
ROBERT S. DAVIS  
Captain, TC  
Commanding