

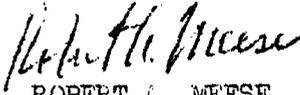
1968

HISTORY OF THE  
EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTH TRANSPORTATION COMPANY (LIGHT TRUCK)

1 January 1968 - 31 December 1968

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Approved by



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HEADQUARTERS  
SECOND MAINTENANCE BATTALION (DS)

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## ORIGIN

The 805th Transportation Company (Light Truck) was constituted 8 April 1944 in the Army of the United States as 805th Army Marine Ship Repair Company. It was activated 10 April 1944 at Camp John J. Knight, San Francisco, California. On 2 July 1947 the Company was redesignated as 805th Transportation Army Marine Ship Repair Company. The Company was inactivated 25 October 1949 at Yokohama, Japan. The unit is credited with campaign participation during World War II in New Guinea.

## REDESIGNATION

The company was redesignated as the 805th Transportation Company and allotted to the Regular Army on 18 January 1966. It was activated 25 March 1966 at Fort Eustis, Virginia.

## BACKGROUND AND MISSION

The 805th Transportation Company (Light Truck) arrived in Vung Tau, Republic of Vietnam on 13 October 1966 and was attached to the Vung Tau Sub-Area Command for all purposes on 15 October 1966.

On 15 November 1966 the 3rd Platoon was attached to Headquarters, Can Tho Forward Support Area, now Logistical Support Activity, Can Tho

The 62nd Transportation Detachment (Medium Truck) was attached to the 805th for all purposes on 17 November 1966. On 30 June 1967, the 805th was attached to 2nd Maintenance Battalion (DS) for all purposes, less operational control. Operational control of the unit was retained by the 53rd General Support Group Director of Transportation.

Operational control of the 805th was assumed by 2d Maintenance Battalion on 14 August 1968. In order to centralize Battalion transport capabilities, 5-ton tractors and S&P Trailors from all other Battalion units were then hand receipted to the 805th Transportation Company. Since that time dispatch of vehicles has been closely coordinated by the 2nd Maintenance Battalion Operations Section with excellent results.

On 20 July 1967 the 3rd Platoon of the 805th was attached to the 51st Maintenance Company (Lt) (DS) for all purposes except operational control, which rested with LSA Commander. The 62nd Transportation Detachment was detached from the 805th on 1 September 1967. The 10th Transportation Detachment was attached to the 805th for all purposes on 1 October 1967 and was detached on 12 December 1967.

The 805th Transportation Company is located in the northeast corner of the North Cantonment Area on the Vung Tau Peninsula. The company consists of four, two-story buildings and one single story building. These buildings house the orderly room, Gearjammers Club, dayroom, barber shop and billeting area. The motor pool is located 800 meters from the main area and is accommodated in one two-story building and two single story buildings. The two story structure has three maintenance bays and houses the dispatchers office. The two smaller buildings contain the tire shop, PLL room and platoon storage areas.

The mission of the 805th Transportation Company (Light Truck) is to provide transportation by motor transport of general cargo and personnel in the Vung Tau installation Area and, as directed, elsewhere in the 53rd General Support Group and Vung Tau Sub-Area Command support area.

The 805th Transportation Company (Light Truck) consists of a Company Headquarters, a Maintenance Section and three Truck Platoons. Each Platoon has a Platoon Headquarters and two Truck Squads.

As the only transportation truck unit operating in Vung Tau, the mission of moving the majority of all classes of cargo rests with the 805th. The 805th moves cargo between installation storage facilities and aerial and water ports on an around the clock basis. Due to tactical conditions, the movement of supplies to the artillery, Special Forces, and Combat Engineers is restricted to daylight hours. Convoys have been run to Saigon, Long Binh, Baria, and Nui Dat, during the past year.

The 2nd Platoon of the 805th Transportation Company (Light Truck) was attached to the 48th Group at Long Binh from 3 November to 6 December 1968 for the purpose of providing direct support to the 1st Air Cavalry. Two letters of commendation were received from the 1st Air Cav extending recognition to members of the 805th for an outstanding performance.

On the night of 23 April 1968, the Vung Tau area came under enemy rocket attack. The 805th Transportation Company lost one killed in action and ten wounded when a 122mm rocket hit the NCO billets above the orderly room and supply room.

SP5 James Allen, the company clerk, was killed. Three of the wounded were evacuated and the remainder were treated and released at the 36th Evac. Hospital in Vung Tau.

The attack was later determined to have been launched from Long Son island, approximately six miles across the bay from Vung Tau port. This is one of the few pieces of terrain in the Vung Tau area accessible to the VC-NVA and within range of their artillery.

On 21 October 1968 the Vung Tau area came under rocket attack again. PFC Ronald Jones was seriously wounded when his guard post took an indirect hit from an enemy rocket. He was evacuated and eventually recovered from his wounds. The unit took no other casualties or damage.

### INSPECTION PERFORMANCE

A command inspection was conducted in the 805th on 1 April 1968 where an overall rating of satisfactory was awarded.

A second command inspection was held on 25 July 1968 and the rating of satisfactory was again awarded.

On 12 August 1968 the annual General Inspection was held and the rating of satisfactory was awarded.

An Organizational Supply and Maintenance Inspection was conducted in the 805th on 28 September 1968 where an overall rating of unsatisfactory was given.

### MISSION ACCOMPLISHMENT

In 1968 the trucks of the 805th carried 55,329 passengers, hauled 138,424 tons and traveled 424,486 miles. (Monthly breakdown is provided in TAB C.)

Since its arrival in Vietnam the 805th has participated in such major operations as Port Sea, Duck, Canary, and Paddington. The personnel of the 805th Transportation company, commonly known as the Gearjammers, always have and will continue to live up to their motto "You call, we haul, you all".

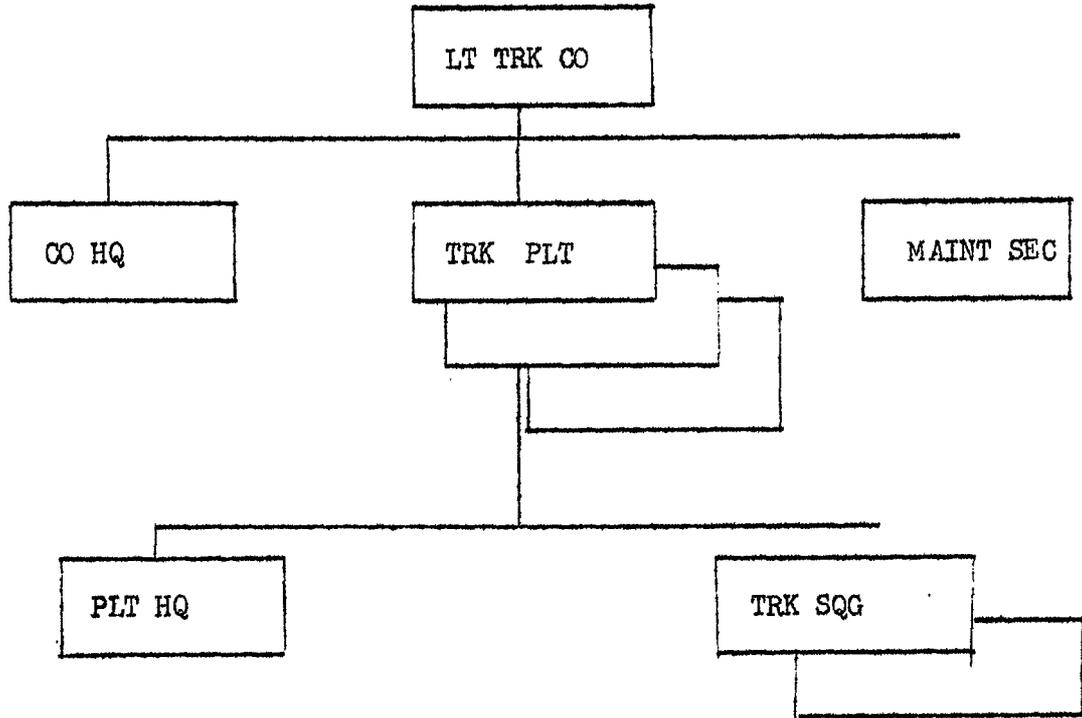
*James O. Sample*

JAMES O. SAMPLE

1LT TC

Commanding

805TH TRANSPORTATION COMPANY (LIGHT TRUCK)  
TOE 55-17F



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
805TH TRANSPORTATION COMPANY (LIGHT TRUCK)  
APO San Francisco 96291

805-TK-VTS

4 February 1969

TOTAL MILEAGE, TONNAGE SHIPPED, PASSENGERS TRANSPORTED

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>PASS</u>	<u>TONS</u>	<u>MILES LOADED</u>	<u>MILES UNLOADED</u>	<u>TOTAL MILES</u>
Jan 68	2,388	15,922	26,476	15,376	41,852
Feb 68	5,460	5,129	11,060	11,543	22,603
Mar 68	6,527	5,711	15,267	14,245	29,512
Apr 68	4,925	5,826	20,008	12,621	34,974
May 68	5,902	4,427	11,558	15,884	27,445
Jun 68	6,035	5,362	10,842	12,493	23,336
Jul 68	5,805	7,181	20,857	7,301	28,158
Aug 68	5,145	7,653	19,749	7,944	27,693
Sep 68	1,808	11,814	21,256	5,180	27,275
Oct 68	6,212	27,362	22,107	13,481	35,588
Nov 68	2,400	25,973	40,072	30,241	72,313
Dec 68	<u>2,742</u>	<u>16,059</u>	<u>41,712</u>	<u>9,231</u>	<u>53,737</u>
TOTAL	55,329	138,424	260,964	155,540	424,486

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
805TH TRANSPORTATION COMPANY (LIGHT TRUCK)  
APO San Francisco 96291

805...EX. VTS

29 March 1969

LIST OF KEY PERSONNEL

Commanding Officers

	FROM	TO
CPT THOMAS V. ARKO	5 Sep 67	2 Apr 68
1LT CLARENCE A. LOYD	2 Apr 68	27 Aug 68
1LT JAMES O. SAMPLE	27 Aug 68	

First Sergeants

1SG AARON R. WOODS JR.	20 Sep 67	16 Sep 68
SFC BILLY W. YARBROUGH	16 Sep 68	16 Nov 68
1SG ALBERT J. HILLIARD	16 Nov 68	

Platoon Leaders

1LT GERALD WINKLER	9 Feb 68	7 Jun 68
1LT JOHN R. WHITMAN	12 Jul 68	26 Nov 68
1LT DAVID S. TINKER	7 Sep 68	
1LT DAVID E. LONG	25 Nov 68	

Maintenance Officers

CW2 ALBERT NELSON	3 Sep 67	7 Aug 68
CW2 HERMAN B. PARSONS	7 Sep 68	

TRUCKMASTERS

SFC ELVIS J. MCCULLOUGH	15 Jul 68	18 Jan 69
SFC DANIEL P. BRADY	18 Jan 69	