

*Artillery support during
Charlie Empire Battle*

HEADQUARTERS
1ST BATTALION, 7TH ARTILLERY
APO San Francisco 96345

ALRDA-D

19 April 1966

SUBJECT: ARTILLERY SUPPORT DURING BATTLE OF XA CAM MY, 11 April 1966

1. GENERAL: 1st Battalion, 7th Artillery (-) provided direct support to Company C, 2nd Battalion 16th Infantry during the battle vicinity Xa Cam My vicinity coordinates YS 535863. The Support consisted of one 105mm howitzer battery (Battery B, 1/7 Artillery) and one 155mm howitzer battery (Battery A 8/6 Artillery) located at Xa Thua Tich. Additional fire support was provided by 8/6 Artillery (GS) located vicinity Xa Binh Gia coordinates YS 495 784.

2. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS (11-12 April 1966)

a. 1415 - Company C, 2/16 had light contact with VC. Fire Mission was called by diver 93 Coordinates YS 535 863. 186 HE and 1 WP rounds expended. Cease fire was called by Diver 93 because rounds were too close to elements of Company C, 2/16 Infantry.

b. 1515 - Message from diver 24 that Company C, 2/16 Infantry sustained 2 KIA and 12 WIA. Casualties were evacuated by helicopter.

c. 1610 - Fire Mission from Diver 93 at coordinates YS 535 863. 23 HE and 4 WP rounds expended.

d. 1730 - Countermortar Radar 1/7 Artillery reported mortars firing at coordinates YS 5341 8639. 20 HE rounds fired at hostile mortar location. Mortar was silenced.

e. 1755 - Message from Diver 93 to Diver 50 (1/7 Artillery Aerial Observer) that Company C, 2/16 Infantry was surrounded by VC. Company C, was receiving heavy automatic weapons, mortar, and recoilless rifle fire.

f. 1757 - Fire Mission to 1/7 Artillery (-) for purpose of sealing off Company C, 2/16 Infantry from the attacking VC. Fires were brought directly on the company perimeter by Diver 93 and Damage Charlie 5. Artillery fires enclosed an area approximately 70 meters wide and 125 meters long. Battery B 1/7 Artillery continued to fire defensive and suppressive fires around the Company perimeter through out the night of 11 April until 0600 hours 12 April 1966.

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g. Through out the night of 11 April 1966 Battery B 1/7 Artillery and Battery A 8/6 Artillery fired illumination for Company C, 2/16 Infantry to supplement the Air Force flare ship which was providing illumination of the Company C battle area.

RESULTS:

a. Total mission - Three indirect fire missions and one counter mortar mission.

b. Ammunition Expended:

Shell HE 105mm - 1142 Rounds
Shell Smoke WP 105mm - 8 Rounds
Shell Illuminating 105mm - 48 Rounds
Shell Illuminating 155mm - 106 Rounds

c. Enemy losses from artillery and illuminating fires:

40 KIA (Estimated)
50 WIA (Estimated)

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