

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 181ST TRANSPORTATION BATTALION
APO 09166

AETVSC-TB-S3

13 June 1974

SUBJECT: Historical Summary for Calendar Year 1973

THRU: Commander
V Corps Support Command
ATTN: AETVSC-GB-O
APO 09757

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

1. Personnel and Administration:

a. Command: LTC James B. Harburck; 1 Jan 73 - 6 Aug 73
LTC James Sanchez; 6 Aug 73 - 31 Dec 73

b. Key Personnel:

1. XO: MAJ Lewis R Heffner; 1 Jan 73 - 31 Dec 73
2. CSM: CSM Ralph Campbell; 1 Jan 73 - 31 Dec 73
3. S1/ADJ: CPT Richard P. Wells; 1 Jan 73 - 22 Jul 73
1LT William A MacIntosh; 27 Jul 73-31 Dec 73
4. S2/3: CPT Robert G Fear; 1 Jan 73 - 31 Dec 73

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5. Asst S2/3: CPT John Gordon; 1 Jan 73- 26 Aug 73

1LT Victor J Lord; 16 Nov 73- 31 Dec 73

6. S/4: CPT Gilbert W French; 1 Jan 73- 1 Aug 73

1LT Vincent A Bernhard; 1 Aug 73- 31 Dec 73

7. Maint Officer: CW3 William E Purdy;
1 Jan 73- 31 Dec 73

8. 41st Trans Co: CPT David E Reichert;
1 Jan 73- 31 Dec 73

9. 51st Trans Co: CPT Stuart G. Upson;
1 Jan 73- 22 Sep 73

1LT Stephen H. Dawson; 22 Sep 73- 1 Oct 73

CPT Samuel J Woolf; 1 Oct 73- 31 Dec 73

10. 590th Trans Co: CPT Richard D. Williams;
1 Jan 73- 25 Jul 73

CPT Rolland R. Montgomery; 25 Jul 73-31 Dec 73

11. HHD, 181st Transportation Battalion;

1LT Vincent A Bernhard: 1 Jan 73-10 Dec 73

1LT Stephen H Dawson; 10 Dec 73-31 Dec 73

12. 340th QM Detachment:

CW2 David F Richards; 1 Jan 73- 31 Dec 73

c. Operational strength as of 31 December 1973 was:

Officers: 14

Enlisted men: 467

Warrant Officers: 2

TOTAL: 483

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d. Article 15 remains an effective tool of discipline in the battalion. Average of 24 per month for the battalion. Special Courts-Martials have been on the rise since June 1973 as have been Summary Courts-Martials. This battalion has proceeded or referred 11 Summary, 11 Special, and 1 General Court Martial during the Calendar year 1973. There have been a few instances of minor pilferage in the barracks, but they occurred inconsistently. There were no recorded losses of weapons or ammunition.

e. Living and working conditions have been improved through many self-help projects such as repainting of billets and improvements of maintenance facilities. Troops possess a very liberal line of communications with their supervisors and commanders by participating in Weekly Command Information sessions, monthly platoon discussion groups, and open door policies of commanders.

f. Re-enlistment and Bars to Re-enlistment: During the calendar year 1973, the 181st Transportation Battalion had fifty re-enlistments. At the same time the Bar to Re-enlistment was an effective tool to remove substandard individuals and improve the image of the Army. Sixty-seven Bars to Re-enlistment were imposed.

g. Administrative Discharges: During calendar year 1973 the battalion processed out 31 people under Chapter 13, AR 635-200, 6 under the Qualitative Management Program, and 6 under the Expeditious Discharge Program.

h. Safety & Accident Prevention: The following accidents/injuries were reported by the battalion for the calendar year. AMV accidents 7; POV accidents 26; injuries 3; deaths 1. It is significant that the majority of these accidents occurred during the high traffic density periods of June through August and December. To combat this accident rate, the battalion is initiating a remedial driver training program designed to improve the driving habits of those involved in driver fault accidents. This program will be supervised by the V COSCOM Driver School which is operated by this Battalion.

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i. **Morale & Welfare:** Several programs were initiated to improve the morale and aid the welfare of the men. New equipment was issued for their use and enjoyment. The new equipment includes bicycles, barbeque grills, patio furniture and new athletic and dayroom equipment. To encourage professionalism and acknowledge achievement the "Best Unit of the Month" program was continued. This program grants a training holiday for the unit who is the recipient of the monthly award twice in the same quarter. Units are judged by the Battalion Commander and his staff in all area affecting the unit's professionalism and proficiency in executing its assigned missions. In the area of motor maintenance, the heart of a transportation unit, the "Best Motor Pool of the Quarter" Award was presented to the unit with the best motor maintenance program during the quarter. Units were recognized in Battalion Award Ceremonies. For the individual the battalion recognizes the "High Miler" each month. The high miler is recognized at monthly award ceremonies where he receives a 3 day pass, letter of commendation and Battalion Certificate of Achievement. The Soldier of the Month program was continued. Battalion nominees won V Corps Support Command twice. The winners went on to win the V Corps "Soldier of the Quarter". The "Mechanic of the Quarter" award was established to recognize a mechanic for his job performance and technical knowledge in all aspects of motor maintenance related to his MOS.

j. **Drug Control:** Increased visibility by the first line supervisors has greatly decreased the frequency of drug abuse. Aggressive testing under the urinalysis program and early identifications of the known users has diminished the amount of drugs in the command. Coordination with CDAAC has enabled several drug users to be rehabilitated. Commanders are well versed in drug abuse policies and pass their knowledge on through an aggressive Command Information program.

k. **Community Relations:**

1. Members of the 181st Transportation Battalion participated in and supported the community AYA carnival, conducted during the period of 29 June 73 through 6 July 1973. The carnival was open to the military community and German community alike.

2. The Battalion is now making arrangements for joint training with the German Army in areas such as weapons qualifications and with the 340th QM Detachment with regard to airborne jumps.

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2. Intelligence:

a. Border Operations: N/A

b. Security Incidents: There have been no reported attempts to proselyte personnel of this unit. However, a constant surveillance is maintained for such attempts and liaison is retained with our Military Intelligence unit, the 527th M.P. Battalion.

c. Anti-American Activity: The Community Leaders office has forewarned the Battalion against several demonstrations which have been scheduled for the downtown area. When this occurs, the installation goes into a higher state of readiness. To date none of these demonstrations have had any effect on the Battalion.

3. Operations & Training:

a. Exercises:

1. The Battalion supported V Corps HQ, during the Wintex Operation held in March 1973 by moving troops and material to and from field locations.

2. During the period 9 May through 5 Jun 73 the Battalion supported the 1/509 INF while the unit tested contingency plans. They were supported with 20, 5 Ton tractors and trailers.

3. The Battalion motor marched to and from Wildflecken in June for an annual training exercise. All available motor vehicles and personnel participated in this exercise. Additionally, V COSCOM units were supported with transportation while they trained.

4. Regularly throughout the year the Battalion transported missile components to and from Mannheim and Bremerhaven. The Admiral G.T. Callahan was used for shipping these components and the drivers received valuable experience in the relatively new concept of roll-on, roll-off shipping. The drivers also gained valuable experience moving classified cargo on this commitment.

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5. In September, the unit again supported V Corps HQ, by moving them to and from field locations.

6. The entire 3rd Armored Division was transported to field by the 41st and 590th Transportation Companies, during October 1973. This exercise utilized vehicles in a three day ground survey exercise using wheeled vehicles instead of tracked, to hold down the cost of maneuver damage.

b. Plans: N/A

c. New Units/Deactivations: N/A

d. Force Development: N/A

e. Stationing: N/A

f. ATT/ORT: The Battalion took its annual Organizational readiness Test in December; Results: Combat Ready.

g. Squad/Crew Proficiency: The men of the 181st Transportation Battalion qualified, not only with their basic weapons but also with their crew served weapon (M60) during their training at Wildflecken in June of 1973.

h. E.I.B. Testing: N/A

i. Schools/Training Programs: In addition to sending unit personnel to schools run by higher commands, the 181st Transportation Battalion operated the V COSCOM Driver School. The Battalion operates this school for all V COSCOM units. During CY 1973, 689 soldiers attended this school. V COSCOM sent 454, the 181st Transportation Battalion sent 202, and 33 came from other units.

j. Adventure Training:

1. Rubber Ducky: For the second consecutive year, volunteers from the units were trained in the use of engineer assault rafts on the Neckar River. In four days of operation, covering 68 kilometers, 104 men were trained.

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2. Drivers Rodeo: These tests of driving skills and abilities were conducted three times during the year. They include categories for 1/4 ton vehicles with trailers, 2 1/2 ton vehicles with trailers and 5 ton tractors with trailers. The testing includes a written examination on the appropriate TM, a roadside inspection by Battalion maintenance of the vehicle, an inspection of the individual and vehicle for appearance and an obstacle course to be navigated by the driver in his vehicle.

4. Logistics:

a. New Equipment: The 181st Transportation Battalion was issued 28, M203's during the months of July and August 1973.

b. Changes to Basic Loads: N/A

c. Transportation Problems: N/A

d. The 181st Transportation Battalion consistently maintains the highest pass rate average on roadside inspections of any V COSCOM unit. (approximately 87%) This is representative of the Battalions maintenance program and the high state of readiness kept by the unit. Awards of passes and administrative leaves are granted to drivers and mechanics who perform in a professional military manner and see there duties completed correctly.

5. Civil Affairs and Community Relations:

a. Assistance has been provided on several occasions to the local military community. Some of these occasions have been supply transportation for the removal of derelect automobiles from the local housing area, sending men and material to work with the annual American Youth Activity Carnival and supplying men for interior guard duty at the Mannheim American High School during the period while construction was being accomplished.

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b. **Fostering German/American Relations:** In May 1973, this unit provided assistance to the Mayor of Mannheim in building a playground for the children in downtown Mannheim. Also in May the Battalion supported the German Red Cross with 2 trucks and assistant drivers who assisted in a clothing drive. Officers and NCO's teamed up with their counterparts from the German Army for a tour of the Black Forest. Many such programs are now being developed for calendar year 1974. Some of these are German/American weapons qualifications, airborne activities and social events. There is also an increase in the number of men from the Battalion participating in Volksmarches.

c. **Complaints:** Complaints were received over the noise being made by military tactical vehicles being operated during late hours. To solve this, a Driver Education Program was launched to make drivers aware thereby reducing complaints of speeding and driving through residential areas after duty hours. Tight control was placed on the operation of vehicles on week-ends.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

William A Macintosh
WILLIAM A MACINTOSH
1LT, TC
Adjutant