



24th Supply and Service Company
APO New York 09169
Fighting Quartermaster



AETVSC MB 24

14 March 1977

SUBJECT: Annual Historical Summary

Commander
19th Maintenance Battalion (DS)
APO 09169

1. References: a. V Corps Supplement One to USAREUR Supplement One to AR 870-5.

b. Disposition Form, Headquarters, 19th Maintenance Battalion (DS), AETVSC MB PA, dated 11 January 1977, subject as above.

2. The references above direct the submission of a detailed narrative on unit operations of the 24th Supply and Service Company, during the calendar year 1976. A recommended outline for the historical summary is attached to reference a, above as Appendix B.

3. IAW the references above, the following information is submitted for the 24th Supply and Service Company, 19th Maintenance Battalion (Direct Support):

a. Personnel and Administration

(1) The Commander, 24th Supply and Service Company, 19th Maintenance Battalion (DS), throughout calendar year 1976, was CPT William Joseph Cummings; he assumed command of the company on 31 July 1975, and was extended in command through July 1977.

(2) The First Sergeant of the 24th Supply and Service Company through October 1976 was First Sergeant William B. Jeans; his successor as Company First Sergeant for the rest of the calendar year was First Sergeant William K. Carroll. The officers of the company through most of the calendar year were:

1LT Galen O. Norby

1LT Carlos R. Fernandez

1LT Harold R. Zimmerman

2LT Martha L. Zeman

Accountable Officer

Supply Platoon Leader

PO1 Platoon Leader

L&B Platoon Leader

There were other officers assigned to the company for short periods in calendar year 1976, but these officers constituted the primary officers during the year.

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(3) The operational strengths of the company were as outlined below:

	<u>Officers</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EP</u>	<u>Civilians</u>	<u>Total</u>
1 January 1976	5	0	152	32	189
31 December 1976	6**	0	130	24***	160

**This condition was temporary; the additional officer to the authorized TO&E number of five was approaching DROS.

***A USAREUR Manpower Survey slashed the authorizations for Local National (German) workers; the losses came through both RIF action and attrition.

(4) The following is a list of disciplinary actions taken in calendar year 1976:

Total number of Article 15 punishments	98
Field grade Articles 15	6
Company grade Articles 15	92

Total number of Articles 15 to blacks	59
Total number of Articles 15 to whites	34
Total number of Articles 15 to others	5

Total number of repeat offenders	23
Total number of one-time offenders	40

<u>Offense</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Other</u>
AWOL	18	8	1
Disrespect	5	6	1
Drugs	9	7	1
DWI	0	2	1
Failure to Obey	9	7	1
Larceny	6	0	0
Assault	4	0	0

The remaining Articles 15 were under a miscellaneous category.

There were three courts-martial during the calendar year- one of each type. None was completed. One individual elected to request a Chapter 10, AR 635-200 discharge in lieu of a Special Court-Martial. The charges were dismissed on the other two courts-martial.

(5) The Eagles Nest Unit Lounge was operated during the year in Room 413, Building 500, Pendleton Barracks, for the personnel of the company. The Lounge was a very profitable venture, but the paperwork increased in direct proportion to the length of time that the Lounge was open; eventually, there was so much paperwork, that the Lounge had to be discontinued. During the time that the Lounge was in operation, the purchase of numerous entertainment items brought recognition to the Lounge as the Best Dayroom in Third Support Command (Corps). A program whereby junior enlisted personnel were given a day at being in the key leadership positions in the company was initiated, with commendable results. The Junior Leadership Weeks received recognition in Third Support Command (Corps) newspapers and in Giessen newspapers.

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REFORGER, the Laundry and Bath Platoon deployed to Brakel, Germany, to support soldiers from the 2/36th Cavalry and a Belgian airborne battalion. The operation was conducted successfully, although, the mission was marred by a small incident. The Company Commander received a call from the Company Charge of Quarters that one of the men in the Laundry and Bath Platoon in Brakel, had beaten up a few people, broken up a gasthaus and assaulted two Belgian officers; the call came in to the company at 2300 hours, and the Commander and Platoon Leader were on the road for the field location within minutes. Upon arriving, they found the situation under control by the Belgian Staff Duty Officer; the drunk soldier was in a detention cell. The story had been blown completely out of proportion, and there was no harm done. The man slept in the cell, awoke the next morning and was washing the clothes of the Belgians with whom he had had the scuffle that morning.

(2) In July 1976, eight personnel of the POL Platoon assisted the German people in a small town near Lang-Goens, by providing a water haul from a stone quarry to the town pump station. The water table in the area had been diminished due to the drought conditions throughout Europe during the hot summer of 1976, and this drought brought about a curtailment in the availability of water in many German communities. Working with the G5, Third Armored Division, the POL Platoon personnel set up 350 gpm pumps at the quarry site to pump the badly needed water up a 60% grade for 130 meters to the waiting water tankers. The water tankers then hauled the water to a pump station for the town; set up at the pump station was a water purification unit from the Third Armored Division Engineers. The water was pumped from the tankers into 3000-gallon standing water tanks, from there into the purification unit and from there into the pump station. The POL Platoon transported over 45,000 gallons of water to the pump station over a three-day period. The Burgermeister, during a visit to the sweltering quarry site, left a case of cold German beer with the soldiers to ease their burdens during the long operation. During REFORGER 76, the POL Platoon was heavily tasked to provide site support and long haul operations to friendly forces operating north of Frankfurt. In support of the tough 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), and the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, the POL Platoon operated stationary issue points at Bueches and Hungen, and mobile refuel points at Hartmannshain and Lazenhain. Support was also provided to other allied soldiers including some from German and British units. More than fifteen 5000-gallon tankers and six 1200-gallon tankers provided 480,000 gallons of JP4, 867,000 gallons of diesel and 117,000 gallons of mogas, to supported units.

(3) Annual training on weapons and other mandatory subjects was conducted at Wildflecken, Germany, with the rest of the Battalion during the April-May 1976 time frame. The weather was cold and snow fell on several days, but training took place regardless of the conditions. The training covered one week and was very vigorous.

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(4) Selected personnel from all platoons underwent training in Graves Registration Operations conducted by personnel from the Frankfurt Mortuary. The training was intended to acquaint personnel with the basic requirements for the operation of collection points for bodies in time of war. Under ALO One, this company is authorized some personnel to perform this mission but company personnel were training in case the school-trained personnel are not forthcoming in wartime. Although the original concept for graves registration called for the personnel of the Laundry and Bath Platoon to handle the mission, a closer look at the war plan disclosed that these personnel would be deployed away from the company with their field laundry and bath units; other personnel had to be identified for the mission who would be available for deployment to collection points under wartime conditions.

(5) The personnel of the POL Platoon, as a training exercise, set up a Fuel Systems Supply Point (FSSP) at the Giessen POL Point. The results of this exercise were most illuminating. It was discovered that the rubber POL bags, which had not been laid out for a few years, had succumbed to dry rot and would not have been in a serviceable condition to handle any wartime operations. After the exercise, which was the first time many of the POL Platoon personnel had seen an FSSP laid out since AIT, the unserviceable bags were classified and turned in to the Giessen PDO. New bags have been received since the turn in of the old bags, and the FSSPs of the company are fully prepared for deployment. The two FSSPs authorized for the POL Platoon are laid out semi-annually now.

(6) Twice during the year 1976, the NCR 500 vans for the AK/WK of the company were deployed from their home site in the Giessen Quartermaster II and IV Area, to field sites around Giessen. These exercises were very beneficial to the NCR 500 operators; they showed areas where company personnel needed additional training. Although a lot of work went into the movement of these vans to the field, these exercises were looked forward to by NCR 500 personnel because the locations in the field were away from phones and most of the higher ranking supervisors. These personnel said they liked the quiet.

c. Logistics

(1) The V Corps MAIT arrived at the company for a visit during the second week of November 1976, and conducted many classes which aided the maintenance personnel of this unit in the performance of their duties. Operators of all types of equipment also received expert, detailed instruction from the MAIT.

(2) The transportation assets of the company were proven inadequate to the task of mobilizing the 1600 ASL items stocked by the AK/WK. It was demonstrated that the organic transportation assets of this company were only sufficient to deploy the personnel and their personal equipment. The solution to the problem of not having a mobile ASL, is to provide additional transportation. The alternative, which has been implemented, is to accept the fact that the ASL is not mobile and plan for wartime support in light of this situation. A suitable change to the company GDP was accepted to overcome this shortcoming.

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d. Civil Affairs

(1) The POL Platoon assisted the German people living near Lang-Goens as outlined in paragraph b(2) above.

(2) Personnel of the company took part in many Project Partnership activities with the soldiers of the 2d Instandsetzungs Battalion of the Bundeswehr, including competitive athletic events, parties; a Goose Shoot, the Battalion Organization Day in August, and many individual activities.

(3) During the 1976 Fasching (German Festival) parade in Giessen, the personnel of the company transformed a warehouse tractor and several trailers into a "Bicentennial Dragon". The sections of the dragon were covered in red, white, and blue target cloth and out of the dragon's nostrils came "smoke". The smoke was actually some CO₂ from fire extinguishers strategically mounted in the head of the dragon. Several company soldiers dressed up in knights costumes and walked along the parade route throwing candy to the German and American children and shouting the traditional Fasching greeting of "Hallo". At the end of the parade, free beer was provided to the marchers from the Giessener Brauhaus Brewery. Another company addition to the parade was a 5-ton tractor which was requested from the company on the morning of the parade by the supervisors of Giessen Jugend (Giessen Youth); their tow truck had broken down and there was no available replacement to be had in all of Giessen except for the American Army. The tractor towed a large trailer which had a boxing ring mounted on the bed, and there were many happy German young people along for the trip.

(4) Reflecting most unfavorably upon the US Army here in Giessen was a soldier who molested four German women over the course of two nights in August. This man was put in for a General Court-Martial, which was delayed for several months on defense and prosecution motions. When the case finally came to trial, only one of the German women would come forward to testify, and she was not able to positively identify the man in a line-up. Charges on the man were reluctantly dropped on the man by the Third Armored Division, and he was transferred out of Giessen.

4. The only additional statistic about the 24th Supply and Service Company which was noteworthy, was that for the entire year, the racial breakdown of the company hovered at around the following figures:

<u>Black</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Other</u>
46%	44%	10%

5. The calendar year of 1976 was an excellent year for the men and women of the 24th Supply and Service Company, and the Fighting Quartermasters are looking forward to another year of challenges met and successfully overcome in 1977.

William J. Cummings
 WILLIAM J. CUMMINGS
 CPT, QMC
 Commanding