

## HISTORY

### COMPANY D, 704TH MAINTENANCE BATTALION

THE 704TH MAINTENANCE BATTALION WAS ORGANIZED ON 30 JULY 1943 AS THE 704TH ORDNANCE LIGHT MAINTENANCE COMPANY AT FORT DIX, NEW JERSEY AND ASSIGNED TO THE FOURTH INFANTRY DIVISION. THE 704TH ACCOMPANIED THE DIVISION ASHORE AT UTAH BEACH ON D-DAY, 1944 AND RENDERED MAINTENANCE SUPPORT THROUGH NORMANDY, NORTHERN FRANCE, THE RHINELAND, ARDENNES-ALSACE AND CENTRAL EUROPE. FOR ITS OUTSTANDING SERVICE, THE UNIT WAS AWARDED TWO MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATIONS AND THE BELGIAN FOURRAGERE.

AFTER TWENTY YEARS OF EXISTENCE, THE 704TH WAS REORGANIZED AS A BATTALION AT FORT LEWIS, WASHINGTON IN 1963, AND COMPANY D WAS CREATED AS A FORWARD SUPPORT COMPANY. IN SEPTEMBER 1966 <sup>THE COMPANY</sup> ~~IT~~ DEPLOYED TO VIETNAM WITH THE MANUEVER ELEMENTS OF THE 1ST BRIGADE, LANDING AT QUI NHON. SINCE THAT TIME D COMPANY HAS PROVIDED CONTINUOUS MAINTENANCE SUPPORT TO THE 1ST BRIGADE, PARTICIPATING IN OPERATIONS PAUL REVERE IV, FRANCIS MARION, SAM HOUSTON, MACARTHUR, AND HINES. ITS CONTACT TEAMS AND TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS HAVE RENDERED SUPPORT IN SUCH PLACES AS TUY HOA, KONTUM, JACKSON HOLE, DAK TO, BAN ME THUOT, ARMAGEDDON, AND NEW PLEI DJERANG, THE LATTER FROM WHICH THEY SUPPORTED OPERATIONS IN CAMBODIA. DURING THEIR PRESENCE IN VIETNAM, D COMPANY HAS SHARED IN TWO MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATIONS PRESENTED TO THE 704TH MAINTENANCE BATTALION.

BY PROVIDING CONTINUOUS FIELD MAINTENANCE REPAIR AND REPAIR PARTS SUPPLY SUPPORT, THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF D COMPANY, 704TH MAINTENANCE BATTALION HAVE LIVED UP TO THEIR MOTTO; "SKILLED AND STEADFAST."

THE U.S. ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS WAS FOUNDED 14 MAY 1812.

REMARKS

COMPANY D, 704TH MAINTENANCE BATTALION

AS YOU HAVE JUST HEARD, DELTA COMPANY CAME INTO BEING AS A UNIT IN 1963. IN THAT SHORT TIME IT HAS ESTABLISHED A RECORD OF DEDICATION AND PROFESSIONALISM AS FINE AS ANY UNIT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY. IT HAS PARTICIPATED, ALONGSIDE ITS SISTER COMPANIES, IN EVERY CAMPAIGN IN THE PROUD HISTORY OF THE 4TH DIVISION IN VIETNAM, PROVIDING CONTINUOUS DIRECT SUPPORT TO THE UNITS OF OUR FIRST BRIGADE.

I HAVE ON MANY OCCASIONS HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO OBSERVE YOU MEN OF DELTA COMPANY AS YOU ACCOMPLISHED YOUR VARIOUS TASKS WITH THE EFFICIENCY AND SPIRIT WHICH HAVE COME TO BE THE HALLMARK OF YOUR FINE UNIT. YOU HAVE PROVIDED DIRECT SUPPORT FOR THE ROLLING STOCK, SIGNAL, ENGINEER AND ORDNANCE EQUIPMENT OF THE BRIGADE, WHENEVER AND WHEREVER THAT SUPPORT WAS NEEDED, EVEN UNDER THE MOST ADVERSE CONDITIONS. YOUR CONTACT TEAMS HAVE PROVED INVALUABLE; THEY HAVE BROUGHT YOUR SERVICES TO EVERY LOCATION WHERE MANEUVER ELEMENTS WERE SENT TO FIGHT. YOU HAVE TRULY ACCOMPLISHED YOUR MISSION; AND TO DO THIS WAS NOT EASY. THE MEN OF THE COMPANY HAD TO BE KNOWLEDGEABLE IN A VAST NUMBER OF MAINTENANCE SKILLS AND TECHNIQUES. IN ADDITION, THERE WAS THE ADDED JOB OF KEEPING ABREAST OF ALL NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN EQUIPMENT AND PROCEDURES. YOU MEN OF THE DELTA COMPANY NOT ONLY DID ALL OF THESE THINGS, BUT INVARIABLY YOU EXCEEDED THE REQUIREMENTS. WITHOUT YOUR FINE EFFORTS IN ALL OF YOUR AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN LITERALLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE UNITS YOU HAVE SUPPORTED TO HAVE ACCOMPLISHED THEIR MISSION.

AND NOW, BECAUSE YOU AND OTHERS HAVE DONE SUCH AN OUTSTANDING JOB, THE 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION IS LEAVING THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS. MANY OF YOU WILL

BE REASSIGNED TO OTHER UNITS IN-COUNTRY. WHEREVER YOU GO, WEAR THE IVY  
PATCH PROUDLY ON YOUR RIGHT SHOULDER AND SERVE YOUR NEXT UNIT AS WELL  
AS YOU HAVE SERVED US. THE REMAINDER OF YOU WILL BE RETURNING TO THE  
UNITED STATES. I CONGRATULATE YOU ON THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF YOUR  
TOUR AND WISH YOU THE BEST IN THE FUTURE. TO ALL OF YOU, I SAY THANKS,  
GOOD LUCK AND ASSURE YOU THAT IT HAS BEEN AN HONOR FOR ME TO HAVE SERVED  
WITH YOU.