

Perimeter defensive positions must be established if the battery is providing its own security.



Initial Perimeter Bunker FSPB



Improved Perimeter Bunkers FSB



While in a Fire Support Base it is extremely important that the battery plan for use of direct fire in defense of the position. Individual sectors may be assigned to each howitzer. The use of Beehive ammunition and HE with delay fuzes (ricochet) and time fuzes ("Killer Junior") must be planned.



Individual Sectors of Direct Fire at a FSB

The defensive fires of the howitzers must be integrated with the fires of the security element to insure full coverage and allow the howitzers to fire to their full capability.

Special coordination problems confront the battery in a Fire Support Base. In most instances the control headquarters will not be the parent battalion. The battery not only must maintain communication with its parent battalion but also with the control headquarters and with the supported battalion if it is not the same as the control headquarters. The control headquarters will clear the fires for the battery. Coordination must also be made to insure support for ARVN and RF/PF outposts.

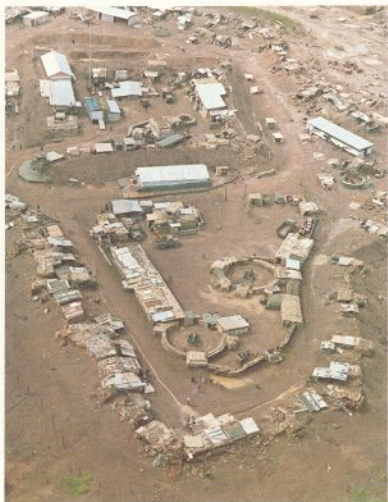


ARVN Outpost

A special type of employment of an artillery battery (105 or 155 towed) is by platoon in Special Forces Camps. These platoons must be airlifted into position and resupplied by air.



Special Forces Camp With Artillery Platoon



Platoon Position

Other employment considerations are similar to any other Fire Support Base.

As can be seen EMPLOYMENT of artillery in Vietnam presents new challenges to the artillery. However, the same ingenuity and professional competence the artillery has demonstrated in the past wars have provided the answers to challenges here in Vietnam.



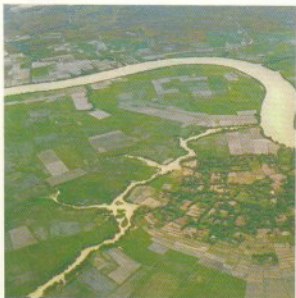
MOVEMENT



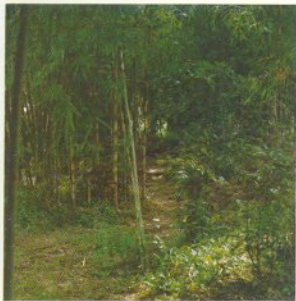


Rice Paddy

The terrain in Vietnam, combined with the fluid movement of the enemy, requires that movement be effected rapidly to extend the range of weapons as well as keeping them supplied and operational.



Waterway



Jungle Canopy



Road Security

Furthermore, the poor quality and insecurity of the existing roads place extreme hazards on conventional road movement.



Convoy on Road

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The Position Area



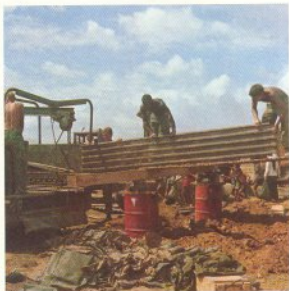
"Hustler's on the way"



Closing in



Setting up



Prefab Housing



Man works



"Unload Them Bullets"