

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
1ST BATTALION 12TH INFANTRY
"RED WARRIORS"
APO San Francisco 96262

25 November 1969

AVDDB-121

SUBJECT: Report of Investigation

TO: Commanding General
4th Infantry Division
APO SF 96262
ATTN: Safety Officer

THRU: Commanding Officer
2d Bde, 4th Inf Div
APO SF 96262

THRU: Commanding Officer
1st Battalion, 12th Infantry
APO SF 96262

1. Investigation of personal injury sustained by 2LT CROWLEY, Thomas D., OOL-44-3040, Battery B, 4th Battalion, 42d Artillery, APO SF 96262, Forward observer for C Company, 1/12 Infantry, on 22 November 1969 at 2100 hours.

- a. Nature of wound: Laceration
- b. Location: Upper right buttock
- c. Cause: Fragment from exploding mortar round

2. Investigation revealed that at approximately 2100 hours, 22 November 1969, 2LT CROWLEY was adjusting mortar fire for a defensive target at grid BS801150. While lying on his stomach in a bomb crater adjusting on a point approximately 150 to 200 meters to his front, he received a fragment from the next round fired when it hit a tree to his right front. The round was fired by C Company, 1/12 Infantry, 81mm Mortar Section located at grid BS744156.

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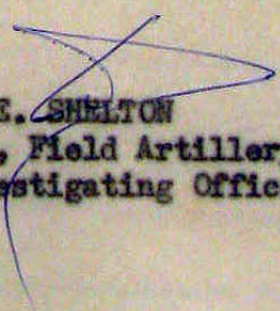
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3. Investigation of the computer's record revealed that data fired was the same data computed by the mortar section's FDC. No discrepancy could be found in the computation of the data fired.

4. Findings:

- a. Deflection and elevation computed: Within 4 mils deviation.
- b. Deflection and elevation fired: 0 mils deviation.
- c. Correction given by observer: Not excessive.

5. Recommendations: That all personnel adjusting Defensive Targets or artillery in general be cautioned about overhead obstructions on the gun target line. Also to be instructed to be aware, at all times, of the effects of an exploding round, in relation to possible obstructions, e. g. intervening crests, trees and rocks.


D. E. SHELTON
CPT, Field Artillery
Investigating Officer