

SAN ANGELO (con't)

MAJ JAMES L CHAPMAN III departed and was replaced as the battalion executive officer by MAJ JOSEPH E GRAHAM, and CPT RICHARD J DESER-PA assumed command of Headquarters Battery.

The 320th Arty medics provided MEDCAF to the people of SONG BE throughout the operation. Artillery techniques used in the past were again employed with highly successful results. The towed 155mm howitzers of Battery "A", 2d Battalion, 11th Artillery provided reinforcing fires while the big guns of Battery "B", 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery, a self-propelled 8"/175mm unit, provided general support. Battery "A", 2d Battalion, 13th Artillery, a towed 105mm battery, worked closely with the 320th. Their specific task was to support the operations of the 2d Squadron, 17th Cavalry in its mission of base camp security. During the operation the fire support bases received six mortar attacks.

The welcome respite from the war during the TET truce was shattered on 30 January 1968 when the overwhelming number of violations warranted the cancellation of the cease fire. It was soon apparent that these innumerable incidents were related; the VC/NVA had initiated a major offensive throughout SOUTH VIET NAM. The 1st Brigade was alerted to move its infantry battalions to strategic locations to help stem the tide of the offensive.

On 1 February, Battery "B" was alerted to move with 2d Battalion, 327th Infantry to TON SON NHUT air base for operations around SAIGON. On 3 February the 2d Battalion 502d Infantry and supporting artillery, Battery "C", was alerted to deploy to BIEN HOA. One platoon of Battery "A", 2d Battalion, 11th Artillery was moved to BEAR CAT on 6 February to support the operations around SAIGON. On 8 February Battery "A" was alerted for a move to the HUE area.