

Aloha from the 3rd Battalion 7th Field Artillery Regiment

Welcome to the Never Broken family!

Whether this is your first assignment or you have already moved a number of times, we are glad you are here. The 3-7 Field Artillery Regiment consists of highly motivated leaders who are dedicated not only to the mission, but also the Soldiers, civilians and families that make up this great organization. Our team is proud to develop and train Soldiers who are disciplined, physically and mentally tough. We live faithfully by our unit motto, “Nunquam Aerumna nec Proelio Fractum” (“Never Broken by Hardship or Battle”). It is our pleasure to have you as part of the Never Broken Ohana. Please continue reading this site and find us on Facebook to learn more about the 3-7 Field Artillery Regiment. For further assistance regarding your upcoming move to Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, please visit www.25idl.army.mil and click on the “Newcomers” link.



Command Team



LTC Kenneth D. Slover

Commander

3rd Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment



CSM Gary O. Deloach

Command Sergeant Major

3rd Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment

Mission Statement

The mission of the 3rd Battalion, 7th Field Artillery regiment is to destroy, neutralize, or suppress the enemy by cannon fire and to help integrate all lethal and nonlethal fire support assets into combined arms operations in support of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team “Broncos.” On order, The 3rd Battalion, 7th Field Artillery regiment stands ready to deploy with a scalable and tailorable force package that can meet mission requirements of any contingency in the United States Pacific Command (USPACOM) area of responsibility.

History and Lineage

We are extremely proud of our unit’s rich history and strive daily to represent the lineage well.

World War One

The 7th Field Artillery Regiment was first formed at Fort Sam Houston, Texas on July 1, 1916, as the United States reinforced its forces on the Mexican border in response to the ongoing Mexican Civil War. The unit remained in Texas during General Pershing's expedition into Mexico in pursuit of Pancho Villa's forces, which lasted into February 1917. No sooner had American troops returned to Texas when greater events intervened that would send the regiment into its baptism of fire in one of the greatest battles of the 20th Century.

World War One had been raging in Europe for two and a half long and bloody years. Since its beginning in 1914 pressure had slowly mounted on the United States to take more active measures on the side of the Allied Powers against the Central Powers led by Wilhelm II's German Empire. Increasing German provocations led to American aid to the allies, first money then weapons. Some eager Americans volunteered for service with the French and British Armies in Europe. Things came to a head in early 1917, and on April 6 Congress voted for war. The 7th Field Artillery Regiment was called upon to be one of the leading artillery units of the American war effort.

On 8 June 1917 the 7th Field Artillery Regiment was assigned to the US 1st Expeditionary Division (later re-designated the US 1st Infantry Division) and quickly deployed to Europe in support of the Allied war effort, going into combat in October 1917. A/1-7 FA fired the first artillery rounds of the American war effort against Germany near Luneville, France on 22 October 1917 – the three crescents on the unit crest derive from the coat of arms of Luneville in recognition of this. The unit remained on the static front lines in Lorraine in northeast France throughout later 1917 and into early 1918, earning the "Lorraine 1917" and "Lorraine 1918" campaign streamers.

As the spring of 1918 arrived a great battle was brewing and the unit would soon be needed elsewhere. On 21 March 1918, German troops opened an all-out offensive in northern France, blowing a forty-mile hole in the Allied lines. They were only stopped in April after desperate fighting. They were not done, however. In May they attacked again, renewing the offensive across the Aisne River. Only the efforts of the American Expeditionary Force prevented them from breaking through on the old 1914 battlefield of the Marne, less than 40 miles from Paris. During this time the 1st Infantry Division, with the 7th Field Artillery Regiment, moved into defensive positions in Cantigny, to the west of the German salient. After their repulse on the Marne, on June 9 the Germans attacked again to the west and the 7th Field Artillery went into action to help defeat the assault, earning the "Montdidier-Noyon" campaign streamer for their efforts.

The German offensive had been defeated. It was time to counterattack, defeat Germany and end the war. On 18 July, the American Expeditionary Force, fighting under the command of the French Sixth Army, went on the offensive. The 7th Field Artillery Regiment, as part of the 1st Division, led the assault, earning the "Aisne-Marne" campaign streamer for their efforts. The 1st and 2nd Divisions suffered over 10,000 casualties in a matter of days but dealt a decisive blow to the German Army, forcing them back from Paris and erasing their gains of the last three months.

The US Army in France, having earned the respect of our Allies and grown too large to fight under direct French command, reorganized shortly afterwards and formed the US First

Army under General John Pershing. After recovering from its losses in the earlier offensives, in September the First Army shifted its front and massed to wipe out the last remaining salient in the Allied line at Saint-Mihiel. The 1st Division, with the 7th Field Artillery, attacked on the left of the German-held bulge as part of a massive force of some 550,000 American soldiers, crushing all German resistance in its sector in a matter of days and earning the “Saint-Mihiel” campaign streamer.

The Americans were needed elsewhere immediately. Allied high command had urgent plans for an assault in the Argonne, and as the Saint-Mihiel Offensive came to a close the First Army again shifted its front and prepared to attack again. On 26 September the First Army attacked into the teeth of German defenses in the Argonne Forest, starting the bloodiest single battle in American history. The leading divisions were spent by 4 October and the reserves went into the line, including the 1st Infantry Division with the 7th Field Artillery Regiment. By 17 October American troops had smashed through the Hindenburg Line, the primary German defensive line. By the 31st they had cleared the forest and began advancing towards Sedan, site of the great French defeat in 1870 that ultimately led to the First World War. The United States suffered 27,000 Soldiers killed and 96,000 wounded over the course of the battle and the many units involved, including the 7th Field Artillery Regiment, earned the “Meuse-Argonne” campaign streamer for their valiant efforts.

The collapse of the Hindenburg line led to chaos and revolution in Germany. On 9 November the German Emperor abdicated and fled into exile in the Netherlands, and an armistice with Germany was concluded shortly afterwards. Fighting stopped on the Western Front at 1100 on 11 November 1918. The 7th Field Artillery Regiment ended the war with the 1st Division in positions near Sedan, and served on occupation duty in the German city of Coblenz for a time before leaving for the United States in September 1919. As the Regiment’s final battles of the war took place in the old French province of Picardy, the Regiment was finally awarded the “Picardy 1918” campaign streamer in recognition of their efforts.

For their efforts in the defense of France the 7th Field Artillery Regiment was twice awarded the French Croix de Guerre as well as the French Fourragere. The regimental motto, “Nunquam Aerumna nec Proeilo Fractum,” or “Never Broken by Hardship or Battle,” derives from a citation given to the unit by French General Ferdinand Foch, supreme commander of Allied forces on the Western Front in 1918.

World War Two

Between the wars the 7th Field Artillery Regiment was stationed at Fort Ethan Allen, Vermont as part of the 1st Infantry Division. Inactivated for a time during the 1930s, it was reconstituted on 1 May 1939 and designated the 7th Field Artillery Battalion on 1 October 1940. C Battery of the 7th Field Artillery Battalion would later become the 3rd Battalion of the 7th Field Artillery Regiment after the Army reorganizations of the 1960s.

War was again brewing in the world, and the 7th Field Artillery would be called upon again to lead the fight, this time against Adolf Hitler’s Germany. Following a period of neutrality as Nazi Germany conquered much of Europe and invaded the Soviet Union from

1939 to 1941, the United States entered the war following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941. The 1st Infantry Division quickly received orders to deploy to Europe, first landing in Great Britain. After a period of training and preparation for combat, the 7th Field Artillery loaded transports for French Algeria as part of Operation Torch on 10 October 1942. They would be some of the first American troops to see combat in Europe.

The first wave of the amphibious assault at Oran, Algeria went in at 0100 on 8 November. The first elements of the 7th Field Artillery, an advance party from A BTRY, were on the ground at 0130, and the battalion fired its first rounds of the war in anger at the Vichy French-held town of La Macta, Algeria at 1224 hours on 8 November. C BTRY was emplaced and firing by 1440. The unit continued to advance and fire in support of the 1st Infantry Division's troops until the Vichy French government in Algeria surrendered on 10 November. For this battle the unit was awarded the "Algeria-French Morocco" campaign streamer with an assault-landing arrowhead.

From Algeria the battalion moved to Tunisia to confront General Erwin Rommel's Afrika Corps. Hard fighting followed from the beginning of February 1943, as the battalion fired almost ten thousand rounds supporting Allied efforts at Sidi Bou Zid (note: pronounced "See Dee Bow Zeed") and during the bloody Battle of the Kasserine Pass. By 25 February Rommel's troops had retreated from the pass and the US Army went onto the offensive in Tunisia. After a short rest the battalion was back in action by mid-March, providing decisive fires at the Battle of El Guettar, providing decisive fires that smashed repeated German attacks on 23 and 24 March and supporting American troops as they counterattacked from 25 March to 9 April and drove German troops to the south, firing 15,000 rounds over the course of the battle. Rommel's Afrika Corps, some 230,000 German soldiers, surrendered a month later. For their valiant efforts in the Tunisian Campaign the battalion earned the "Tunisia" campaign streamer and the French Croix de Guerre.

The battalion spent later May into early July 1943 training in preparation for their next mission, Operation Husky – the Allied invasion of Sicily. They loaded the assault transports in Algiers on 5 July and hit the beach in Sicily shortly after the first assault waves the morning of 10 July. A BTRY again fired the battalion's first rounds in action in Sicily at 0855. C BTRY was ashore by 1100. The battalion fired 3,481 rounds in the first day of fighting in Sicily, breaking up enemy armored counterattacks and providing vital counter-battery fire to cover the American advance. The battalion immediately pushed forward to cover the Allied advance firing thousands of rounds during the ensuing campaign, culminating with a vicious seven thousand round barrage from 2-6 August to batter down German defenses at Troina. Sicily was secured by 17 August, and for their efforts the 7th Field Artillery was awarded the "Sicily" campaign streamer with an assault-landing arrowhead.

Instead of joining Allied troops then on the attack in Italy, the 1st Infantry Division with the 7th Field Artillery Battalion was instead ordered back to England in October 1943 in preparation for Operation Overlord, the assault on Occupied France. Months of training ensued as the battalion prepared for the D-Day landings. The battalion loaded assault transports and departed for France the morning of 5 June.

Soldiers of the 7th Field Artillery landed with the 16th Regimental Combat Team in the first assault wave at Omaha Beach at 0630 hours on 6 June 1944. Facing vicious enemy fire and suffering heavy casualties, they fought as infantrymen and helped the 16th RCT establish a foothold and secure the landing beach. The last active enemy strongpoint still laying direct fire

on the landing beach was attacked and destroyed by troops from the 7th Field Artillery, killing 33 Germans in the process. Heavy enemy fire sank half the battalion's howitzers offshore, but the remaining six guns landed that afternoon and, with a seventh gun recovered from the surf, C BTRY fired the first artillery mission of D-Day from Omaha Beach at 1615 hours. The 7th Field Artillery earned its nickname "Lucky 7" on the bloody sand of Omaha Beach.

The 7th Field Artillery Battalion continued firing from the beach the next day before displacing inland to support advancing Allied troops, firing eight thousand rounds over the course of the month as the Allies consolidated the Normandy beachhead. Over the course of July the battalion fired some five thousand rounds in support of the ongoing Allied offensive, culminating in Operation Cobra from 25-31 July where the US Army finally broke through the German lines and out of the Normandy beachhead. For their heroic efforts in Normandy the battalion was awarded the "Normandy" campaign streamer with a richly deserved assault landing arrowhead as well as another French Croix de Guerre.

Now free of the constricting blockage and into open country, the US Army's advance accelerated. As German defenses across Northern France unraveled the 7th Field Artillery Battalion fired some five thousand rounds in support of the 1st Infantry Division's advance from Normandy to Paris, brushing aside German resistance and crushing the Falaise Pocket. By 27 August the Battalion's Soldiers were in sight of the Eiffel Tower. The battalion then drove to the east as September opened, helping the 16th RCT to capture 5,000 German prisoners in Maubeuge on 3 September and firing their first rounds into Germany during a registration by C BTRY near Aachen at 1355 on 12 September. For their efforts in the US Army's pursuit of German forces following the Normandy breakout the 7th Field Artillery was awarded the "Northern France" campaign streamer.

The 7th Field Artillery Battalion was firing from German soil by 16 September, just south of the city of Aachen, in support of the 16th RCT's efforts to break through German "Siegfried Line" defenses in the area. Heavy fighting continued through October as American troops slowly levered the Germans out of their positions, with almost 25,000 rounds fired during the month of October alone. After a short pause to refit during early November the battalion was again on the advance, firing some twenty thousand rounds in support of the 16th RCT as they advanced past Aachen to the town of Hucheln in Germany. For their efforts in this region the unit was awarded the "Rhineland" campaign streamer. The advance continued through the second week of December, when the battalion came out of the line for a well-earned rest period.

The battalion was in the town of Channeaux, Belgium cleaning quarters when the Germans launched their Ardennes Offensive on 16 December 1944, starting the Battle of the Bulge. The next day the battalion moved south to Sourbrodt, Belgium to provide direct support to the 16th RCT as they went into defensive positions to contain the northern shoulder of the German attack. The 7th Field Artillery remained in that position for almost a month, firing twenty-four thousand rounds in support of the American defense as the German attack bogged down and eventually failed. Recognizing their service defeating the German offensive, the unit was awarded the "Ardennes-Alsace" campaign streamer. The battalion resumed the offensive on the 13th, and ended the month of January in the town of Honsfeld, Belgium.

The battalion advanced along the Belgian-German border through the month of February, mostly acting as direct support for the 16th Regimental Combat Team and firing some eighteen thousand rounds, including 2500 rounds fired on 26 February to break up a series of strong

enemy counterattacks. For their part in the liberation of Belgium the 7th Field Artillery was awarded the Belgian Fourragere and twice cited in the Order of the Day of the Belgian Army for actions at Mons and Eupen-Malmedy.

The battalion's line-of-march turned into Germany proper and the advance continued through March, with the unit's 200,000th round fired against the enemy by B BTRY on 13 March, 1945. The 7th Field Artillery Battalion crossed the Rhine on 17 March, emplaced in the vicinity of Jungfeld, Germany and fired some six thousand rounds over four days to help the 16th RCT defeat a series of vicious enemy counterattacks from 22-26 March, including some 1600 rounds fired on and around the position of one of the battalion's forward observers as it was in danger of being overrun.

The fighting near Jungsfeld was the unit's last major battle of the war. The advance accelerated through April, with only five thousand rounds fired by the 7th Field Artillery as it moved south in the face of disintegrating German resistance. The war in Europe ended on 8 May, finding the 7th Field Artillery in Hartousov, Czechoslovakia. For their part in the advance into Southern Germany and the liberation of Czechoslovakia the unit was finally awarded the "Central Europe" campaign streamer. Following the conclusion of hostilities the battalion took up occupation duties in Gunzenhausen, Germany, and would remain stationed in Germany to guard against the new threat from the Soviet Union until 1955.

Vietnam

In 1955 the 7th Field Artillery Battalion returned to Fort Riley, Kansas, with the 1st Infantry Division. Following a series of reorganizations the unit was redesignated the 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment on 20 January 1964. The world remained a troubled place, and less than a decade later the Regiment would be called to battle again in the jungles of Vietnam.

On 25 June 1965 the first elements of the battalion arrived in Vietnam, establishing artillery positions near Bien Hoa and Cam Ranh Bay. C/1-7 FA made history when, supporting 1-18 IN, it fired the first American artillery rounds of the war. The battalion would remain in Vietnam for almost five years, finally returning to Fort Riley on 19 March 1970.

During their time in Vietnam our sister battalion's 105mm howitzers fired one million, two hundred and fifty thousand rounds in anger, six times more than the unit fired in the whole of World War II. For their efforts defeating the Communists' 1965 offensive, they earned the "Defense" campaign streamer. Supporting American counterinsurgency efforts over the next two years, they earned the "Counteroffensive," "Counteroffensive, Phase II," and "Counteroffensive, Phase III," campaign streamers. Fighting to defeat the Communist Tet Offensive and roll back the Viet Cong through 1968, they earned the "Tet Counteroffensive," "Counteroffensive, Phase IV," and "Counteroffensive, Phase V," campaign streamers. Supporting the "Vietnamization" effort of the later war as American troops began to draw down and battled further Communist offensives, the unit further earned the "Counteroffensive, Phase VI," "Tet 69/Counteroffensive" "Summer-Fall 1969" and "Winter-Spring 1970" campaign streamers. 1-7 FA furthermore earned two Meritorious Unit Commendations for their actions

from 1966-1967 and from 1967-1968, and was twice awarded the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm as well as the Republic of Vietnam Civil Action Honor Medal, First Class.

The 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment was inactivated at Fort Riley in 1983 and reactivated as part of the newly-reformed 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, New York on 24 September 1986. As part of the 10th Mountain Division, 1-7 FA provided Soldiers to support Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Operation Restore Hope in Somalia and Operation Uphold Democracy in Haiti. The unit deactivated at Fort Drum in 1995 and returned to the 1st Infantry Division at Fort Riley in 1996, deploying to Bosnia that year in support of Operation Joint Endeavour/Joint Guard. In 1999 1-7 FA deployed again, this time to Kosovo in support of Operation Joint Guardian II, firing the first American artillery rounds in anger in the Balkans in support of 1-26 IN on 30 July 1999.

Following the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001, our sister battalion made four deployments to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation New Dawn, earning a Valorous Unit Award for their action in battle against insurgent forces in the city of Tikrit on 9 November 2004 as well as two Meritorious Unit Commendations for their actions securing Baghdad from 2008-2009 and during the troop drawdown from 2010-2011.

1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment remains in service at Fort Riley, Kansas, with the 1st Infantry Division's 2nd "Dagger Brigade" Heavy Brigade Combat Team.

Global War on Terror

The 3rd Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment was activated as part of the 25th Infantry Division at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii on 16 July 1986, twenty-seven years ago. Shortly afterwards, on October 16 1987 another element of the Regiment, the former Headquarters and Headquarters Battery of the 6th Battalion, was redesignated as Battery F, 7th Field Artillery Regiment and assigned to the 25th Infantry Division as the Divisional Artillery General Support 155mm howitzer battery.

Both units served admirably at Schofield Barracks for fifteen years until war again rocked the United States on 11 September 2001. We and our brothers in the Division Artillery were called upon to deploy to Afghanistan in April 2004 to confront the Taliban in the mountains of the Hindu Kush, becoming the first artillery battalion to deploy to Afghanistan with what was then our full complement of eighteen 105mm howitzers. We established artillery support through Regional Command East and what was at the time Regional Command South and fought as infantry in Kandahar Province, aggressively hunting Taliban insurgents and helping to supervise Afghanistan's first democratic elections. For our efforts in Afghanistan we were awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation and the "Consolidation I" campaign streamer.

We returned to Schofield Barracks in April 2005 and immediately set about reorganizing under the Army's new Modular Brigade structure, joining the 25th Infantry Division's 3rd "Bronco Brigade" Infantry Brigade Combat Team on 16 November 2005. As part of the

reorganization the old Divisional Artillery, F BTRY, 7th Field Artillery was deactivated. Soon thereafter on 5 August 2006 we headed to the northern province of Kirkuk in Iraq for a 15-month deployment in support of the “Troop Surge” that turned the tide of that conflict, reorganizing to provide an infantry task force for counterinsurgency operations as well as howitzer indirect fires for counterfire against insurgent rocket and mortar teams. For our efforts during the Surge we were awarded another Meritorious Unit Commendation and the “Iraqi Surge 2007-2008” campaign streamer.

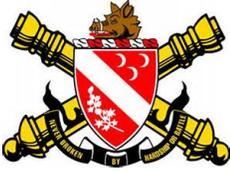
No sooner had 3-7 FA returned to Schofield Barracks on 15 October 2007 then we began preparing to return to Iraq, which we did exactly one year later. On 16 October 2008 we returned to Iraq, operating out of Contingency Operating Base Speicher in Salah al-Din Province immediately north of Baghdad. Operating as a maneuver task force, 3-7 FA partnered with the Iraqi Army and Police to build up security and governance in and around the city of Tikrit as American forces shifted to an advisory role. For our efforts during our second Iraq deployment we were awarded another Meritorious Unit Commendation and the “Iraqi Sovereignty 2009-2010” campaign streamer on our return to Schofield Barracks in 2009.

A new challenge awaited the Steel Battalion on its return to Schofield Barracks. The Taliban and their jihadist allies had grown and strengthened since we departed in 2005, and by 2009 they again threatened the safety and security of Afghanistan. 3rd Brigade was going back to war. A year and a half of training ensued, and in April 2011 we deployed to Afghanistan to smash the resurgent enemy. Over the next year 3-7 Field Artillery established nine firing positions across four provinces in Regional Command-East, firing thousands of 105 and 155mm rounds in support of two Brigade Combat Teams and many Afghan National Security Forces units conducting aggressive counterinsurgency operations against a determined enemy. In addition to delivering fires, we partnered with, advised and trained our counterparts in the Afghan National Security Forces and government as we worked to move Afghanistan’s military towards self-sufficiency in the battle against the Taliban and Al Qaeda. This included stability operations at and around the vital Torkham Gate international border crossing on the Pakistani border. When we departed in April 2012 the enemy had been driven back and the Afghans had made strides towards standing and fighting on their own.

3rd Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment remains at Schofield Barracks, HI after converting to a composite Battalion in 2015. The Battalion joined 2-11 FA with an attachment to the 25th DIVARTY to continue its historic “Legacy of Lethality.” 3-7 FA currently stands ready to deploy with a scalable and tailorable force package that can meet mission requirements of any contingency in the USPACOM area of responsibility.

No matter the changes, the challenges, or the hardships we endure, we will proudly follow in the footsteps of those we have heard about today. They are heroes that led by example, set the standard for us to follow, and served heroically through battle. Today, we are all a part of that long line. Our actions will be written about and discussed by future generations, so we must always stay ready. We remain, NEVER BROKEN!!!

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Bravo