

Here in the base camp the battalion headquarters frequently controls at least three batteries, two of which may be from another battalion.



*Base camp showing 105, 155, 8"/175 Batteries*

This battalion operates a Fire Support Coordination Center (FSCC) for all artillery fired from the base camp. All fire missions received by batteries in the base camp are routed through this FSCC.



US and ARVN clearance must be obtained by the FSCC prior to allowing the batteries to fire.



*Base Camp Defense Section*

Assignment of Defensive Concentrations, final protective fires and development of the counter mortar and counter rocket programs are accomplished at the FSCC.



*Counter Mortar-Counter Rocket Section.*



*Field Grade Clearance*

In addition the responsibility for the FSCC usually includes responsibility for operational control of the counter mortar radar.

It also includes control and possibly operation of the observation towers.



Q4 Radar



*Observation Tower*



*The Needle*

Also included in an FSCC is the Artillery Warning Control Center (AWCC). Artillery firing data must be broadcast by this center to all aircraft in the area. This includes the direction of fire, range, maximum ordinate and four-place grid coordinates of impact. This center may also direct a check fire to allow designated aircraft to pass through the sector.



*Typical AWCC*



Batteries in the base camp respond to fire missions as directed by the FSCC, except when a battery is designated as direct support (DS) for a particular maneuver battalion. Still the DS battery must obtain clearance to fire from the FSCC.



*FADAC in Battery FDC*

Batteries in the base camp operate their own FDC's. All computation of firing data is done at the battery. Every part of the computation of data for the guns is double checked.



*Typical Battery FDC*

All batteries in the base camp must maintain a 6400 mil capability to deliver indirect fire.



*155 Howitzer Position*



*105 Battery 6400 Mil Capability*



*155 Battery 6400 Mil Capability*



*8"/175 Battery 6400 Mil Capability*



Fire Support Bases or  
Fire Support Patrol  
Bases.

*Fire Support Base*

Normally batteries of a battalion are positioned from 10-60 km apart. If the battery cannot support the maneuver element from the base camp, it will be moved to either a fire support base, a relatively permanent position, or a fire support patrol base, a relatively temporary position.



*Fire Support Patrol Bases*



From these positions the battery must be able to deliver indirect fire in any direction and all-around defensive fires both direct and indirect.



*All-Around Defense 105 Battery*



*All-Around Defense 155 Battery*

Normally the battery is augmented with some type of security. This may be infantry.

*Or it may be dusters,*



*"Dusters"*

Occasionally the battery is provided no additional security.



*Infantry Providing Security for FSB*

*Or it may be Quad 50's*



*Quad 50's at FSB*