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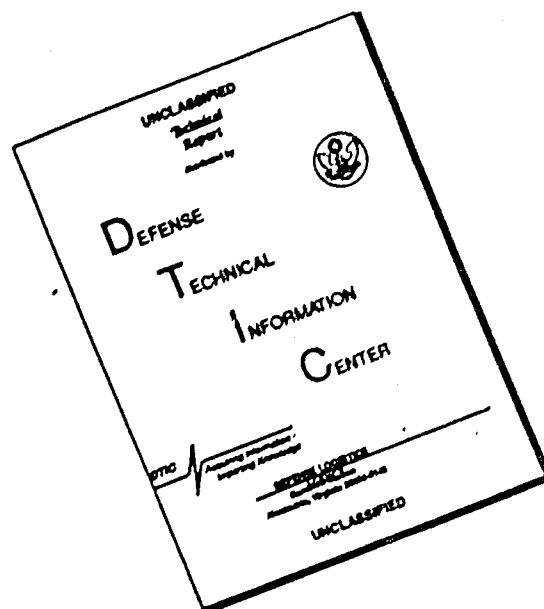
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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 44TH ENGINEER GROUP (CONSTRUCTION)
APO San Francisco 96233

RECEIVED
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THCON-OP

8 May 1967

SUBJECT: Operational Report for the Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1967,
RCS CSFOR-65

SECTION I, Significant Unit Activities

1. Mission: The 44th Engineer Group (Construction) continued to execute its mission of providing construction, rehabilitation and maintenance of roads and facilities in support of Army and Air Force operations in Thailand. In addition the Group continued to provide reconnaissance of the road net within Northeast Thailand. Operations on the Thai Peninsula were terminated during the reporting period and operations were again consolidated to the eastern half of Thailand. (Incl 1)

2. Completed Projects: During the reporting period the following construction projects were completed.

a. Signal Site - Sattahip.

This project consisted of construction of a signal operating facility on Hill 100, near Sattahip. Facilities constructed include operational and administrative areas, billets, security fencing and upgrading of the access road. Completion of the project had been delayed due to non-availability of earthmoving equipment for use on the access road. The project was completed on 15 Mar 67 at a total cost of \$6,867.

b. Pad at DeLong Pier, Sattahip.

This project, which consists of construction of a cargo handling and storage hardstand with a double bituminous surface treatment, was begun on 11 Feb 67 and completed on 28 Feb 67. The pad surface has an area of 19,000 square feet and is located near the DeLong Pier at Sattahip. Project cost was \$1,500.

c. Rehabilitation of Billet type Building, Sattahip.

This project consisted of rehabilitation of an existing billet type building located in the area of the new Sattahip Cantonment. This building serves as the headquarters of the Advance Coordination Element in connection with the construction of the new cantonment and depot complex. The project began on 13 Mar 67 and was completed on 18 Mar 67. (Incl 2)

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d. Additional Billets, Pak Chong Special Forces Training Site.

This project consisted of construction of three additional billets for use by Royal Thai Army personnel at the Pak Chong Special Forces Training Site. Construction was initiated on 6 Feb 67 and completed on 23 Feb 67. Project costs were \$7,000.

e. Repair of Access Road, Korat.

This project originally provided for repair of 0.8 Km of access road to Camp USARTHAI and the Korat Tank Farm. However, due to heavy POL tanker traffic the entire 2.4 Km of roadway became seriously deteriorated. As there was no general construction engineer troop unit in the Korat area the decision was made to rebuild the roadway by contract. In order to put the project under contract the plans and specifications are being prepared (see paragraph 3p, below). As an interim measure, elements of the 697th Engr Co (PL) (Const Spt) were assigned responsibility for the repair of the roadway. In order to execute this project the necessary items of equipment were borrowed from various sources. The roadway was reshaped, minimum fill added, compacted, and a double bituminous surface treatment placed. Construction began on 15 Feb 67 and was completed on 27 Apr 67. Project costs were \$3,318. (Incl 3)

f. Rehabilitation of NCO Club, Camp USARTHAI.

This project, which is part of the overall Camp USARTHAI rehabilitation program, was begun on 8 Feb 67 and completed on 20 Apr 67. Project costs were \$4,500. (Incl 4)

g. Construction of Class I Supply Point, Sakon Nakhon.

This project was necessitated by the Army assumption of responsibility for Class I supplies in Thailand. The Northeast Base Camp (see para 3 p below) was selected as the optimum location for the storage and distribution center for this class of items. The area served by this location includes Sakon Nakhon, Nakhon Phanom, Mukdahan and surrounding areas. The facility consists of a 30' x 100' covered refrigerator dock and a 40' x 80' warehouse on a concrete slab as well as an access road and hardstand areas. Construction of the facility began on 1 Mar 67 and was completed 5 Apr 67. Costs of the project were \$13,500.

h. Water Storage Tank and Pipeline, Nakhon Phanom Airbase.

This project for the U.S. Air Force was necessitated by the extreme shortage of water at this airbase due to failure of several base wells. In order to provide adequate water for base consumption as well

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as for use in construction of the new taxiway and runway at this location a 10,000 BBL bolted steel tank, 40,000' of 8" pipeline and the necessary pumping facilities were constructed. Water was drawn from a nearby reservoir and pumped to the storage tank on the base. The project, constructed on a high priority basis, was begun on 13 Mar 67 and completed on 18 Apr 67. Project costs are not finalized as yet.

1. Engineering Study, 8" Tactical Pipeline.

This project consisted of preparation of a complete engineering study for construction of an 8" tactical pipeline from Sattahip to Korat with provision for tank storage at Chachoengsao. As a follow on action an additional study for construction of a 6" tactical pipeline from Korat to Udorn was completed. (Incl 5,6,7)

3. Projects Carried Forward: The following construction projects have been carried forward from the previous reporting period.

a. Cantonment Area, Camp Vayama, Sattahip.

Construction of this 1200 man cantonment was virtually completed on 4 April 1967. The only remaining item is installation of air conditioning in the Communication Facility. This was delayed pending approval of the Airconditioning Plan for Thailand. The necessary units will be procured upon receipt of instructions from higher headquarters. The project is now 98% complete. Responsibility for construction of the fire station and the telephone building was transferred to 9th Log Comd in order to release troop effort for use on the Inland Road. (Incl 8,9)

b. Ammunition Storage Facility, Sattahip.

During the reporting period earthwork on all 35 pads and access roads within the ammunition storage area was completed. Currently a DBST is being applied to all pads and access roads. The requirement to provide fencing and security lighting was removed from the Group responsibilities in order to free troop effort for work on the Inland Road. This project is approximately 93% complete. The area has been used for storage of ammunition during the reporting period. (Incl 10, 11)

c. Inland Road.

(1) Progress on this major road construction project continued during the reporting period. The road is being constructed in two phases: a passable construction road along the design centerline is the first phase and the final road with a laterite surface is the second phase. The 809th Engr Bn is working toward the goal of completing the first phase of

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construction prior to the advent of rainy season. The second phase of construction is to be completed by 31 December 1967.

(2) In order to meet the construction schedule the battalion is working a 22 hour construction day consisting of two 11 hour shifts Monday thru Friday, and one 11 hour shift on Saturday. In addition the 809th has been augmented by the 260th Transportation Company of the 519th Transportation Battalion which provides 60 5-ton dump trucks in support of the construction project, by D Company, 23rd Engineer Battalion (Combat), Royal Thai Army which is providing general construction support, and by an extensive fleet of contract rental equipment. In addition several items of equipment have been loaned from OICC excess equipment and from Army Project Stocks. (Incl 12, 13, 14, 15, 16)

(3) Completion of the second phase of construction will require the hauling, placing and compacting of an estimated 2,100,000 cubic meters of fill material. To date 690,000 meters have been hauled, placed and compacted. A total of 55 Km of construction road have been completed.

d. Bangkok By-Pass Extension.

(1) This project continued to be the major project of the 538th Engr Bn during the reporting period. The realignment in the mountainous section (Km 89.5 - 94.5) was essentially completed with some additional work being done on the connection at the southern end of this section (Km 95). Additional upgrading to reduce curves and grades continues in the section between Km 63 and 74. The next area to be upgraded is the portion between Km 81 and 89. (Incl 17, 18, 19)

(2) Troops are preparing to pave the portion between Km 57 and Km 98. Paving of the other portions of the road will be done by contract. The project is currently 92.3% complete.

e. Northeast LOC's.

(1) The 561st Engineer Company is devoting considerable effort toward upgrading of Route 223 between Sakon Nakhon and That Phanom. This work includes removing existing wooden bridges and replacement by circular metal pipe culverts where appropriate, construction of necessary longitudinal ditches and lifting of roadway. To date 9 bridges have been replaced by appropriate culverts. In addition preparations were initiated for construction of the necessary box culverts. The construction of the precast area for casting of prestressed bridge members began during the reporting period. (Incl 20, 21, 22)

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(2) In addition maintenance of Route 22 between Nakhon Phanom and Sakon Nakhon is being conducted. Procurement action is currently under way for the rental of a package of equipment to perform this maintenance. This equipment will be operated by local nationals under the supervision of US personnel. Use of rental equipment will greatly reduce the logistic arrangements that would be necessary when US operators are utilized, and will allow the equipment to perform maintenance along the entire road by moving from section to section as the situation dictates. It has been found that considerable time is lost moving US operators to and from the distant work sites.

f. Korat Logistical Complex.

(1) Considerable review and revisions have been made on the list of items to be constructed by troops in the Korat Logistical Complex. The current program includes the following facilities:

- 10 Bachelor Officer Quarters Buildings
- 1 Retail POL Facility
- 1 Female Officer Quarters Building
- 3 Motor Pool Buildings
- 1 Mess Hall
- 4 Company Headquarters Buildings (2 Co per bldg)
- 1 Field Maintenance Buildings
- 2 Battalion Headquarters Buildings
- 1 Quartermaster Self Service Supply Center
- 2 Bachelor Enlisted Quarters
- 1 Headquarters Building

(2) Several items have been dropped from the construction program and others have been transferred to the Sattahip Cantonment and Consolidated Supply Activity. To date the major effort has been devoted to construction of the BOQ's. Currently two of these buildings are completed and occupied, and seven more are under construction. (Incl 23)

(3) As noted in the previous report these buildings are being constructed to a higher standard than previous troop construction in Thailand. The buildings are of wood frame on concrete slab with plywood interior panelling and asbestos cement siding. Interior plumbing is also provided. These higher construction standards have required considerable training for the construction personnel, both US and LN. In addition procurement of the higher standard construction supplies has been beset with problems. Both the need for additional training and the difficulties in procurement have caused delays in the construction program. With the completion of two buildings the majority of these problem areas have been eliminated.

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g. Expansion of Army Airhead, Korat.

This project originally specified expansion of the existing Army Airhead facilities. Upon review of future Army and Air Force requirements it became apparent that the area currently occupied by the Army Airhead would be required for a programmed expansion of the Air Force facilities. Therefore the decision was made to relocate the Army Airhead to the opposite end of the Korat Airbase runway. This new complex is currently under design. No work has been done on the original project to date.

h. Diesel and MOGAS Service Station, Camp Friendship.

Construction of this facility has been delayed pending finalization of location and determination of user requirements. Design is presently 97% complete.

i. Korat POL Facility.

Construction of Phase II has not been initiated due to higher priority projects. The facility requirements are under review and a determination being made as to what structures and operations will be transferred to the new Sattahip Cantonment and Consolidated Supply Activity.

j. Skeet Range, Korat.

Construction of this low priority project continued as troop effort became available. The project is currently 15% complete.

k. Troop Cantonment, Koke Kathiem.

This project remains deferred and no construction effort was expended on it during the reporting period. Current indications are that the operational facilities may be constructed by contract. Some troop effort may be required to rehabilitate three billets and associated facilities being turned over to the US Forces by the Royal Thai Government. No definitive instructions have been issued to date.

l. POL Facility, Nakhon Phanom Air Base.

At the close of the reporting period the 20,000 BBL facility was in use by the Air Force. Considerable difficulty has been experienced in procuring the flow meters for this project. To date these items have not been received, but the facility was placed in operation with the flow meters to be added upon arrival. Construction of a third 10,000 BBL tank for JP-4 is now underway. The overall project is 75% complete.

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m. Rehabilitation of Camp Charn Sinthope.

(1) This project includes both repair and new construction sub-projects to include repair of troop housing, existing mess halls, secondary electrical distribution system and the NCO Club.

(2) New construction subprojects include a primary electrical distribution system, a repair parts warehouse, unit maintenance facilities, showers and washroom, two company messhalls, latrines, a EM Club, and expansion of the existing airstrip. Construction of these projects continues as troop effort becomes available. No effort is being made which will detract from the construction of the Inland Road.

n. Rehabilitation of Camp USARTHAI.

Rehabilitation of the NCO Club has been completed during the reporting period. Work continues on rehabilitation of the Theater with completion scheduled for 15 May 1967. One pit latrine has been replaced by a newly designed burnout latrine with a "Urinoil". Experience since construction indicates that this is an excellent design and replacement of existing pit latrines is scheduled for the next reporting period. Construction of new showers has been deferred due to nonavailability of troop effort but is scheduled to begin in the near future.

o. Northeast Base Camp.

Construction of this camp continued during the quarter with considerable improvement being achieved. Major remaining projects are completion of in-camp roads, security lighting system, maintenance facilities for the DSU element and completion of the prestress casting yard. (Incl 24)

p. Plans and Specifications, Access Road.

This project consists of design, preparation of plans, and preparation of the specifications for rebuilding the access road to Camp USARTHAI and the Korat POL Farm. This project is presently 88% complete. The project was delayed due to lack of survey capability.

4. New Projects: The following projects were assigned to the Group during the reporting period.

a. Replacement of POL Tank, Udorn Air Base.

This project entails removal of an existing 10,000 BBL bolted steel tank, removal of the petroleum soaked earth foundation, construction of a properly compacted laterite pad with a concrete ring base, and construction of a new 10,000 BBL tank. This project is a joint venture of the 561st Engr Co and the 697th Engr Co (PL).

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b. Airfield, Pak Chong Special Forces Training Site.

(1) This project consists of construction of an airfield capable of accepting C-123 aircraft at the Special Forces Training Site near Pak Chong. The surfaced area is to be 2000' x 50' with a double bituminous surface plus 500' compacted overrun at each end. The overall cleared area will be 4000' x 300'. The required completion date is 1 Jun 67. (Incl 25, 26, 27, 28)

(2) This project is being constructed by B Company, 538th Engr Bn and required diversion of effort from the Bangkok By-Pass Extension. This loss of capability is being replaced by contract rental equipment. There are no additional sources of supervisory personnel, however.

c. Thai Security Guard Complex, Camp Nam Pung Dam.

This project consists of construction of three billets, showers, latrine, mess hall and administrative buildings at this location previously referred to as the Sakon Nakhon Special Forces Training Site. The directed completion date for this project is 20 May 1967. Procurement of supplies on such short notice remains a problem with projects of this nature.

d. Construction of 8" Pipeline Sattahip.

This project consists of construction of 5,000 meters of 8" tactical pipeline between the MAP Pier and the Interim Army Tank Farm. This will require construction of one pumping station and one suspension bridge approximately 300 ft in length.

e. Sattahip Cantonment and Consolidated Supply Activity.

(1) Since the last operational report a major addition has been made to the Group projects. In the final planning and initial execution phase is a 1500 man cantonment and consolidated supply activity (depot). Programmed cost of this facility is approximately \$1.55 million. The construction is to be done by troop and by contract through the OICC/Thailand. The facility will be located as shown on the Sattahip area Master Plan between the new port and the air base at U Tapao. (Incl 29)

(2) The Group Engineer Section completed a topographic survey of the cantonment area on the 15th of April and is now working on plans and detail drawings for the roads and drainage system. The OICC/Thailand has made a four man survey team available to make a topographic survey of the proposed consolidated supply activity area. It is in this area that the contract work is contemplated.

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(3) Detail drawings have been completed and been reviewed for EM Billets, HQ's, Mess Hall, Consolidated Motor Maintenance Facilities, and Thai Security Guard Facilities. Siting of these facilities is essentially as shown on the Master Plan with minor relocations necessary as a result of the final topographic survey. Construction in the cantonment and consolidated supply activity will conform to MACTHAI standards. The majority of facilities will consist of wood frame construction on concrete slab with asbestos cement roofing (corrugated) and siding (flat). Jalousied windows will be used throughout except for air conditioned facilities. Buildings housing special activities such as automatic data processing equipment will be air conditioned. It is contemplated that all air conditioning will be installed by contract.

(4) Preliminary designs and plans are being prepared for sewage, water, and electrical systems. At this time there has not been a final determination as to how the sewage will be treated. Several possibilities are being investigated to include tie-in to the Air Force system presently under construction, or the use of lagoons or construction of a new treatment facility in the cantonment area. The water requirements for the area will be supplied from the new Air Force system at U-Tapao. Two 10,000 barrel bolted steel tanks will provide a reservoir in the cantonment area with a five to six day capacity. A ten-inch water line will connect the Air Force system to the cantonment reservoir. Electricity will be provided to the cantonment and consolidated supply activity through generator equipment being installed in the new port area. Present plans call for 22 KV primary distribution system to allow future tie-in to commercial power to be made available by the Provincial Electric Authority (P.E.A.). The P.E.A. system will also employ 22 KV distribution.

(5) The 538th Engineer Bn (Construction) has been tasked with the troop construction portion of the facility. As of 1 May the advance elements of "D" Co had moved to the site and have begun construction of the company camp and warehousing facilities. As real estate becomes available through MACTHAI the company will expand its activities and begin construction of roads and buildings in the cantonment area. (Incl 30)

5. Personnel.

a. During this reporting period official notification was received of reorganization of HHC, 44th Engineer Group (Const) under MTOE 5-112E and of the 809th Engineer Battalion (Const) under MTOE 5-115E, with the addition of Company D to that organization. Personnel required by these reorganizations were requisitioned. (Incl 31)

(1) As of 30 April 1967 81% of the authorized strength of the 44th Engr Gp (Const) was present for duty. This includes the reorganization and activation mentioned above.

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(2) Company D, 809th Engineer Battalion (Const) was activated on 15 April and the morning report opened with one officer attached as commander. Response to the personnel requisitions for this company has been excellent. The bulk of the enlisted personnel E-1 through E-6 will be arriving in June, and the NCO's, E-7 and E-8, and officers are expected in July and August. Current plans are to attach these personnel to other companies within the battalion until approximately 80% arrive, then organize the company into a functioning unit. All personnel arriving for Co D will not ultimately be assigned there. To eliminate peak rotations from Co D to CONUS in June, July, and August 1968, assignment of personnel will be made so as to spread the turnover across a span of six (6) months or more.

b. A major problem area during the reporting period has been the shortage of senior supervisory personnel. This command is authorized 84 non-commissioned officers in grades E-7 and E-8. Present for duty strength is 62, a shortage of 22. Many of these positions are filled by E-6 NCO's, thus causing a shortage of working-level project supervisors. Although this shortage provides excellent opportunity for promotion of observing E-5's to E-6, the deficiency in seasoned and experienced enlisted supervisors definitely makes itself felt.

c. A very serious shortage of officers appears likely to develop within the next 60 to 90 days. During the period between now and 31 July, the 44th Engineer Group (Const) will lose 50 officers through normal rotation: 6 majors, 10 captains, 22 lieutenants, and 12 warrant officers. Of the existing position vacancies and those created by forthcoming rotations, there are 40 for which validated USARPAC replacement requisitions have been received but for which no individual replacements have been named. Also, there are 11 for which requisitions have been submitted but for which no validated USARPAC requisition has been received. Should a significant portion of these vacancies not be filled, a serious shortage of officers will develop which will materially impair the ability of the Group to perform its high priority missions throughout Thailand. Based on present personnel strengths, should no gains materialize other than those now identified by name and availability date, by 31 July, 44th Engineer Group (Construction) will have a net shortage of 3 majors, 14 captains, 26 lieutenants, and 8 warrant officers. This will leave the Group with 79 officers, or 61% of its authorized officer strength of 130. This supervisory deficiency is aggravated by existing and projected understrengths in senior NCO's, especially 62E40 (Engineer Equipment Supervisor) and 51H40 (Construction Supervisor). A letter pointing out this problem and listing all validated requisitions and position vacancies for which no validated requisitions have been received was forwarded to higher headquarters on 26 April. In all cases but one, requisitions for the personnel mentioned above were submitted by the appropriate unit in accordance with AR 614-185.

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d. Receipt of Section II cancellations for NCO's E-7 and E-8, with corresponding promotion allocations has considerably brightened the promotion picture to these pay grades. The promotion problem mentioned in the previous report no longer exists.

6. Supply.

a. During the reporting period open-end procurement contracts were negotiated and finalized for supply of lumber, sand and gravel, asphalt, and hardware. Experience to date with these contracts has been good. The greatest benefit realized is a significant reduction in the procurement time for these standard items.

b. On 15 April 1967, General Order #63, Hqs, USARPAC, 4 April 1967, activated D Co, 809th Engr Bn (Const). Major items of equipment were previously authorized by GO #285 and utilized by "B" & "C" Companies to increase construction capability. A review has been made of current authorization and necessary supply action is being taken to requisition items short, turn in excess items, cancel requisitions and upgrade priorities.

SECTION II
PART I
OBSERVATIONS

1. Personnel:

a. The impending officer shortage was apparently caused partially by a failure by this and our next higher headquarters to take timely follow-up action on all requisitions submitted. A detailed procedure to prevent recurrence has been established.

b. The requirement of AR 600-200 that an individual who is promoted to E-7, E-8, or E-9 must be transferred into the position vacancy against which he was promoted creates a serious problem of continuity, particularly in the supervisory skills of the losing organization. The scope and responsibility ordinarily associated with a position calling for these pay grades is such that the incumbent rarely reaches maximum effectiveness before two or three months in the job. In a short tour area, the "efficiency gap" caused by rapid turnover of personnel is by itself a serious problem. The requirement that a key individual be transferred upon promotion, which normally occurs midway or in the latter portion of a tour, merely aggravates the problem.

c. This command is encouraging personnel to request extension of foreign service tours as a means of reducing the impact of rapid personnel turnover. The program has been highly successful and continued excellent

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response is expected. Presently 77 men are serving on extensions, and an additional 34 men have applications for extension pending approval.

2. Operations:

a. The need for early information on developing construction requirements and the need for orderly development of all phases of the construction cycle were again demonstrated during the quarter. All projects, regardless of size or complexity require planning, design, and procurement time. The amount of time for these functions is directly proportional to the scope and complexity of the project. Although operational requirements often necessitate immediate construction on a high priority basis, early warning information should be passed as soon as possible to allow preliminary actions to get underway.

b. The need to establish and maintain prestocked supplies of general construction supplies at key locations was also made apparent. Provision of these supplies will enable the Group to react more quickly and effectively to high priority construction missions.

c. It has become readily apparent that there is a definite requirement for a general construction element of approximately company size assigned to this Group and stationed in the Korat area. Since the transfer of the 561st Engineer Company from this area to the Northeast numerous general construction tasks in the Korat area have been assigned to the 697th Engineer Company (Pipeline) (Construction Support). This company has neither the equipment nor the personnel to properly execute these missions. As a result considerable time has been spent attempting to borrow required equipment from all possible sources, both civilian and military. Although the tasks are eventually completed, the requirements for additional coordination and the lack of direct control over the equipment has a serious impact on the efficiency of the operation.

d. The use of contract rental equipment complete with operators and maintenance has proven a most effective means of augmenting the constructing unit's capability. The major advantage lies in the fact that it provides the added mechanical capability without placing a greatly increased burden on the heavily committed maintenance elements. The items of equipment furnished by the contractor are of civilian design, non-military standard, and a requirement to provide maintenance for this equipment would be untenable.

3. Training and Organization:

A requirement for a capability to vary the mix of construction unit capabilities within a specific geographic area has recently developed.

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At present, construction companies have two vertical construction platoons and one horizontal construction platoon. This arrangement is not, at all times, the most efficient mix of capabilities. The current possible solutions to this problem are either the splitting of company size units or use of an entire company on a project at a loss of some efficiency.

4. Intelligence:

a. A situation recently noted in the area of one of the Group units indicated that the several intelligence producing elements in the area do not coordinate between themselves or pass all information on to higher headquarters. This has required the construction unit to provide information to the intelligence agencies in the area and to transmit the information to higher headquarters through non-intelligence channels.

b. With the critical shortage of officers and NCO's within the Group it has become increasingly difficult to provide the continuing reconnaissance information requested by various headquarters.

5. Logistics:

a. Continuous procurement on the local economy creates demands in excess of availability, increases costs, exhausts quality products and makes it increasingly difficult to meet design construction requirements. This has been particularly true in regard to the Korat Logistical Complex Construction. To reduce this effect, timely supply action must be taken through the supply system to obtain construction materials. Requisition objectives have been determined and placed into the system for all future requirements except for quality products manufactured in sufficient quantity to meet requirements.

b. Requirements have developed for small items of commercial type equipment for use in construction operations. Examples of this type items are portable compactors and concrete finishing machines. These items are not authorized on the current TOE or MTOE of Group units. A procedure for procurement of nonstandard items has been developed, however this requires submission of an MTOE and entails an inordinate amount of administrative effort. The alternate course of action is to rent these items which usually results in greater overall cost than would be entailed by direct purchase of the item.

c. Considerable delay has been experienced when attempting to secure construction materials through procurement channels. Local suppliers are not familiar with the description utilized or the standard expected. Resolution of this problem is aggravated by the physical separation between the procurement agency in Bangkok and the customer in Korat. Deficiencies

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within the system and delay in resolution of problems have caused significant delays in construction projects and required the assignment of liaison personnel from Group resources.

6. Maintenance:

The lack of an in-country General Support Maintenance capability places a greater burden on the Direct Support Activities. A shortage of major components such as transmissions, transfers, engines and axle assemblies has necessitated overhaul of these items at DSU level. A program has been initiated with 2d Log Comd. This is expected to reduce the deadline and nonavailability of equipment.

SECTION II
PART II
COMMANDERS RECOMMENDATIONS

1. It is recommended that commanders of units in short tour areas be exempted from the requirement to transfer personnel upon promotion. This problem area is described in paragraph 1, Part I, Section II above. A proposed change to AR 600-200 is being prepared which eliminates the requirement for transfer if the individual selected for promotion occupies a position in which promotion is authorized.

2. Recommend that the necessary planning groups be organized and empowered to develop master plans for all appropriate installations. These boards should take cognizance of all current and future requirements and provide timely information to develop the necessary facilities in an orderly manner.

3. Recommend that an additional engineer unit of company size or larger be assigned to the 44th Engineer Group for assignment to the Korat area.

4. Recommend that consideration be given to the development of cellular type construction units, thus providing the commander the capability to tailor each unit to the specific requirements within a particular area.

5. Recommend that authority be granted to purchase minor items of construction equipment for use on specific projects. These costs would be provided from project funds. Upon completion of the project the item of equipment could be placed in an equipment pool for use on subsequent tasks of a similar nature.

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6. Recommend that a Purchasing and Contracting Officer be assigned to the Korat area.

Leslie B. Harding
LESLIE B. HARDING
Colonel, CE
Commanding

THCG (9 May 67) 1st Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period
Ending 30 April 1967 (RCS CSFOR - 65)

HQ, US ARMY SUPPORT, THAILAND, APO 96233

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TO: Commander in Chief, US Army Pacific, ATTN: GFOP-OT, APO 96558

1. Reference Section II, Part 1, paragraph 1: "The impending officer shortage" is not, in fact, a reality. The vast majority of requisitions have been validated and new validations are received almost daily. There is ample time to furnish the replacements required, and OPO/DA is well aware of and is working on this problem as are G1 personnel in USARPAC. Further, the requirement that EM promoted to the senior enlisted grades must be transferred to the position which is vacant is considered to be sound; the observation is not deemed valid under existing regulations.

2. Reference Section II, Part 1, paragraph 4: Intelligence reporting procedures are clearly set forth in USARSUPTHAI Regulation 380-2. Reconnaissance requirements are levied by MACTHAI in response to the requirements of higher headquarters. Presently there are no technical engineer reconnaissance units available in country and none are forecast. In order to support the requirements, units of the 44th Group must be requested to provide this support; however, all efforts will be made to hold these requests to a minimum.

3. Reference Section II, Part 1, paragraph 5a: To alleviate the problem of non-availability of critical materials requirements will be forecast, to the extent possible, far enough in advance to allow procurement to meet required delivery dates. Also, common, fast turnover items will be stocked by the depot to meet continuing requirements. Frequently it has been difficult to obtain critical items because of worldwide shortages, higher priorities in other areas, and short lead times. In the future, with an established stockage objective in-country, the problem should be considerably reduced.

4. Reference Section II, Part II, paragraph 2: A USARSUPTHAI Regulation pertaining to installation planning is presently in draft form and will be staffed and published in the very near future.

5. Reference Section II, Part II, paragraph 3: USARSUPTHAI has continuously advocated and requested that an additional Engineer Construction Battalion be provided for construction in Thailand. This would allow the assignment of at least one construction company for the Korat area.

6. Reference Section II, Part II, paragraph 4: The development of cellular type construction units to a certain degree is the prerogative of the commander concerned and has been performed in certain companies. In these companies, platoons are organized into horizontal construction

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units or vertical construction units. To perform this organizational concept on a company or battalion basis would require an MTOE; otherwise the redistribution of skills, grades, and equipment would become confused. It is doubtful that organization along functional lines is feasible in Thailand due to the geographical distribution of the construction requirements.

7. Reference Section II, Part II, paragraph 5: The procurement of minor items of equipment to augment the issued TOE equipment appears to have merit in that requirements for construction by Engineer troops in Thailand exceed the types of construction for which the TOE was designed. Case in point would be the large volume of vertical construction, to include utilities. Current TOE does not provide for utilities construction equipment nor proper testing equipment. Problem area which may materialize will be the maintenance and repair of such equipment and would necessitate commercial repair and/or procurement of parts. Project funds cannot be used.

8. Reference Section II, Part II, paragraph 6: The majority of procurement is accomplished in Bangkok. Procurement requests are received in Korat by 9th Logistical Command and forwarded to Bangkok. There are not sufficient sources of supplies or services in the Korat area to justify a Purchasing and Contracting Officer.

Theodore E. Schweitzer Col c/s
for EDWIN F. BLACK
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding

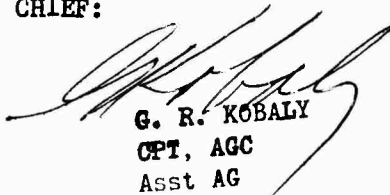
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GPOP-OT(9 May 67) 2d Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the Period Ending
30 April 1967 (RCS CSFOR-65), HQ 44th Engr Gp (Const)

HQ, US ARMY, PACIFIC, APO San Francisco 96558 1 JUL 1967

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the
Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

This headquarters concurs in the basic report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:


G. R. KOBALY
CPT, AGC
Asst AG

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