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AUTHORITY

AGO ltr 29 Apr 1980

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

AD 860083

IN REPLY REFER TO
AGDA (M) (24 Sep 69)

FOR OT UT 692217

29 September 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, Da Nang
Signal Battalion, Period Ending 30 April 1969

SEE DISTRIBUTION

1. Subject report is forwarded for review and evaluation in accordance with paragraph 5b, AR 525-15. Evaluations and corrective actions should be reported to ACSFOR OT UT, Operational Reports Branch, within 90 days of receipt of covering letter.

2. Information contained in this report is provided to insure appropriate benefits in the future from lessons learned during current operations and may be adapted for use in developing training material.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

ROBERT E. LYNCH
Colonel, AGC
Acting The Adjutant General

1 Incl
as

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- Assistant Chiefs of Staff

OCT 14 1969

UNCLASSIFIED REPORT

DISTRIBUTION NO FOREIGN WITHOUT APPROVAL OF
ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF FOR FORCE DEVELOPMENT
(ARMY) ATTN FOR OT UT, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS DA NANG SIGNAL BATTALION (USASTRATCOM) (PROVISIONAL)
APO 96337

SCCPV-PG-DG-OP

1 May 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned of Headquarters Da Nang Signal Battalion for the Period ending 30 April 1969.

TO: SEE DISTRIBUTION

1. SECTION 1, OPERATIONS: SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES

a. ORGANIZATION: The Da Nang Signal Battalion was transferred from the Regional Communications Group and placed under the command and operational control of I Corps Tactical Zone Signal Group, effective 15 April 1969. This was accomplished to consolidate all 1st Signal Brigade units in the I Corps area under one headquarters for centralized planning and control.

b. ADMINISTRATION DIVISION: None.

c. LOGISTICS DIVISION: Zero balances have declined to the lowest percentage since the battalion was formed. From 1 February to 30 April 1969, they have decreased from 19% to 12.9% which is approaching the 1st Signal Brigade objective of 10%. Through the utilization of proper requisitioning practices and the continuous review and analysis of demand data information, the zero balances rate will undoubtedly continue to decline. However, it should be noted that even the best Technical Supply Section cannot maintain a low zero balance level and good customer services without a responsive Direct Support Activity.

d. OPERATIONS DIVISION:

(1) On 4 March 1969, the Annual Inspector General Inspection was conducted within the COMSEC Section. The Emergency Plans and Key Card Control Procedures were commended by the inspection team.

(2) A power study was conducted by the Facilities Branch during March 1969 to evaluate the proposed no - break power system for the Relay Facility. Coordination was effected with the Installation Engineers, Naval Support Activity and RMC - BRJ. The project has been initiated with the construction of a concrete pad for the no - break generator. A completion date for this project is not available at this time.

FOR OT UT

692217

Inclosure

(3) Mr. Billy J. Sutphin, Technical Representative, Radiation, Inc., visited the Relay Facility for approximately 10 days during March 1969 for the purpose of reviewing maintenance procedures. He also compiled a list of parts required for a well balanced maintenance program. Necessary follow-up action has been taken to obtain these parts.

(4) On 22 April 1969, the Operations Division was reorganized to include a Traffic Branch to effect better traffic supervision and analysis. This change was made possible by the assignment of a new Operations Officer to the battalion. An organizational chart of the Operations Division is depicted at Inclosure 1.

e. SUPPORT COMPANY:

(1) During February 1969 an examination was made by the Battalion Commander of the battalion's defensive posture. The examination revealed that protective and defensive bunkers, and perimeter defenses were inadequate. Accordingly, the Da Nang Signal Battalion Support Company was tasked, based upon plans formulated by the Operations Division, with the responsibility of providing manpower to complete the reconstruction of the bunkers and to improve the perimeter defenses. Presently, the plans and progress of work toward completion of the projects have been highly successful.

(2) On 8 March 1969, the Da Nang Signal Battalion Support Company was organized into three detachments: Headquarters, Relay, and Maintenance Detachments. This was deemed necessary to effect better administration and control of battalion personnel. An organizational chart of the Support Company is attached as Inclosure 2.

f. OTHER: None.

2. SECTION 2, LESSONS LEARNED: COMMANDER'S OBSERVATIONS, EVALUATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

a. ADMINISTRATION DIVISION: None

b. LOGISTICS DIVISION: None.

c. OPERATIONS DIVISION:

(1) AMARS Reperferators

(a) Observation: The Da Nang Relay Facility has experienced a problem with AMARS reperferators double punching periodically.

(b) Evaluation: A check of the escapement adjustments and the clutch for the capstan advance proved to be good. Although the trouble appeared to be of a mechanical nature, this was not the case.

The output of DIF module # 2A2C8B was scoped and revealed that module oscillation was causing an undesired capstan advance pulse. Therefore, the module had to be replaced.

(c) Recommendation: When erratic double punching occurs in AMARS reperferators, module # 2A2C8B should be checked prior to pulling the reperferator pan.

(2) Manual Teletype Traffic

(a) Observation: The overall handling times of immediate, priority and routine precedence messages have increased by approximately 25% this quarter over those of the previous quarter. During the same period, the overall service rates for the Da Nang Relay Facility have decreased by approximately 35%, while traffic volume remained relatively constant.

(b) Evaluation: The Da Nang Relay Facility has placed continuous emphasis on the practice of accuracy before speed. In so doing, the Radiation, Inc. Recall Unit has been utilized extensively to repair message discrepancies before they are retransmitted. Also, quality control has served to detect poor quality traffic and to stop its needless transmission. These procedures have been mainly responsible for the present low service rate that this facility is now experiencing.

(c) Recommendation: That relay stations stress accuracy before speed to improve overall traffic quality and effect lower service rates.

d. SUPPORT COMPANY:

(1) Polypropylene Sandbags

(a) Observation: After having stacked several hundred sandbags, the discovery was made that the polypropylene sandbags did not retain the sand nearly as well as the cotton sandbags previously utilized.

(b) Evaluation: An attempt was made to remedy the sand seepage problem by spraying several types of solidifying fluids on the sandbags, however, this caused the sandbags to decay. This practice has since been discontinued.

(c) Recommendation: An improvement of the polypropylene sandbags should be made so that sand will not escape.

(2) 175 mm Ammunition Powder Containers

(a) Observation: As the Da Nang Signal Battalion area has a surface of sand, it has been difficult to prevent large quantities of

sand from continuously covering the PSP employed as sidewalks in the cantonment area.

(b) Evaluation: It was determined that ammunition powder containers should be placed horizontally, parallel and adjacent to both sides of the PSP. This resulted in reducing the quantity of sand being introduced onto the PSP, and also enhanced the appearance of the area.

(c) Recommendation: That ammunition powder containers be used extensively throughout sandy areas to serve in functional and beautification capacities.

e. ORGANIZATION: None.

f. OTHER: None.



MICHAEL J. XENOS
MAJ, SigC
Commanding

~~2 Incl~~

Incls wd Hq, DA

DISTRIBUTION:

- 2 - Commander in Chief, United States Army Pacific, ATTN: GFOP-OT, APO 96558
- 3 - Commanding General, United States Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVHGC-DST, APO 96384
- 1 - Commanding General, USASTRATCOM - PAC, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, APO 96557
- 1 - Commanding General, 1st Signal Brigade(USASTRATCOM), ATTN: SCCVOP, APO 96348
- 9 - Commanding Officer, ICTZ Signal Group, ATTN: SCCPV-PGOI, APO 96308

SCCPV-PCOI (1 May 1969) 1st Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned of Headquarters Da Nang
Signal Battalion for the Period ending 30 April 1969.

DA, HQ, I CTZ Signal Group, APO 96308

24 May 1969

TO: CG, 1st Signal Brigade

(USASTRATCOM)

ATTN: SCCPV-CP

AFC 96384

1. Subject report is forwarded in accordance with 1st Signal Brigade
Regulation 1-19.

2. The report has been reviewed by this headquarters and is concurred in
as indorsed.

Mitchel Goldenthal
MITCHEL GOLDENTHAL
Colonel, SigC
Commanding

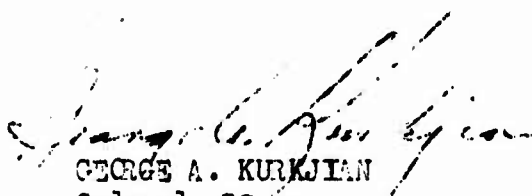
SCCPV-OP-SD (1 May 69) 2nd Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned of Headquarters Da Nang
Signal Battalion for the Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS
CSFOR-65 (R1)

DA, HQ, 1st Signal Brigade (USASTRATCOM), APO 96384 4 June 1969

TO: Commanding General, United States Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVHGC-DST,
APO 96375

1. Subject report is forwarded in accordance with USARV Regulation 525-15.
2. This headquarters has reviewed and concurs in the report.

FOR THE COMMANDER:


GEORGE A. KURKJIAN
Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff

CF:
Commanding General, United States Army Strategic Communications Command,
ATTN: DCSOPS, SCC-OPS-RT, Fort Huachuca, Arizona
Commanding Officer, I CTZ Signal Group, APO 96308
Commanding Officer, Da Nang Signal Battalion, APO 96337

AVHGC-DST (1 May 1969) 3d Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters Da Nang Signal Battalion
for Period Ending 30 April 1969

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY, VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96375 20 JUN 1969

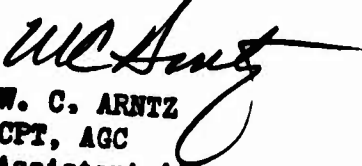
THRU: Commanding General, United States Army Strategic Communications
Command-Pacific, APO 96557

TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-DT,
APO 96558

1. This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 30 April 1969 from Headquarters, Da Nang Signal Battalion.

2. Reference item concerning Polypropylene Sandbags, section II, page 3, paragraph d(1); nonconcur. Polypropylene sandbags are being discontinued as soon as existing stocks are exhausted. Acrylic sandbags will be issued starting 1 July. The problem presented has not been encountered with the acrylic sandbag. The Da Nang Signal Battalion will be notified of the availability of the acrylic sandbag.

FOR THE COMMANDER:


W. C. ARNTZ
CPT, AGC
Assistant Adjutant General

Cy furn:
Da Nang Sig Bn
1st Sig Bde

SCCP-OP (1 May 69) 4th Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters Da Nang Signal Battalion
for Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

Headquarters, U. S. Army Strategic Communications Command-Pacific, APO
San Francisco 96557 AUG 21 1969

TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-DT,
APO 96558

1. Subject report is forwarded in accordance with AR 525-15.
2. This headquarters has reviewed and concurs with subject report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

FRANK C. MAHIN
COL, GS
Chief of Staff

GPOP-DT (1 May 69) 5th Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, Da Nang Signal Battalion
(USASTRATCOM) (Provisional) for Period Ending 30
April 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 2 SEP 69

THRU: Commanding General, US Army Strategic Communications
Command, Fort Huachuca, Arizona 85613

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

This headquarters has evaluated subject report and forward-
ing indorsements and concurs in the report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:



C. L. SHORTT
CPT, AGC
Asst AG

Cy furn:
DA, ACSFOR
CG, USASTRATCOM-PAC

SCC-PO-CERA (1 May 69) 6th Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, Da Nang Signal Battalion (USASTRATCOM)
(Provisional) for Period Ending 30 Apr 69, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

Headquarters, US Army Strategic Communications Command, Fort Huachuca,
Arizona 85613 15 SEP 1969

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

This Headquarters has evaluated subject report and forwarding indorse-
ments and concurs in the report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Robert A. Mall

ROBERT A. MALL
Captain, AGC
Asst Adj Gen

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