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AGO ltr 29 Apr 1980

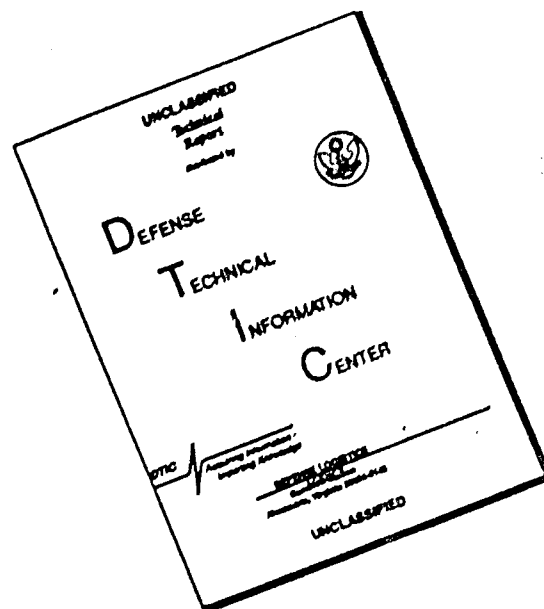
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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

IN REPLY REFER TO

AGDA (M) (18 Nov 69) FOR OT UT 692193

28 November 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 73d Signal Battalion, Period Ending 30 April 1969

SEE DISTRIBUTION

1. Subject report is forwarded for review and evaluation in accordance with paragraph 4b, 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

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UNCLASSIFIED REPORT

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ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF FOR FORCE DEVELOPMENT
(ARMY) ATTN FOR OT UT, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 73d SIGNAL BATTALION (SPT)
APO US Forces 96312

SCCPV-NG-SS-OP

17 May 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 73d Signal Battalion (SPT) for
Period Ending 30 April 1969.

See Distribution

1. Section 1. Operations: Significant Activities:

a. General:

(1) The mission of the 73rd Signal Battalion (SPT) is to direct and coordinate operations, and to provide command and control, staff planning and supervision of a battalion consisting of two to seven companies. The Battalion provides VHF, UHF, microwave, and tropospheric scatter communications support to US and Free World Military Forces, Vietnam, in the provinces of Ninh Thuan, Binh Thuan, Lam Dong, Quang Duc, Tuven Duc, and the southern half of Khanh Hoa province.

(2) On 13 March, Major Richard C. Jamison became the new Executive Officer, vice Major Ollie E. Ison who was reassigned to Ft. Bragg. On 26 March CPT Lester Smith assumed command of E/43rd Signal Battalion, vice CPT Glenn R. Love who was reassigned to Ft. Monmouth. On 27 March 1LT Worth M. Helms became the new Operations Officer, vice CPT Grant W. Puckett who was reassigned to Ft. Huachuca. On 24 April CPT James Canty assumed command of Co C, 41st Signal Battalion, vice CPT Thomas Theroux who was reassigned to Headquarters CMAC, in Saigon.

(3) On 9 February 1969 newly constructed chapels were dedicated at Dalat, Pr'Line and Lang Bian Mountain. Distinguished guests attending the dedication included: Brigadier General Thomas M. Rienzi, CG 1st Signal Brigade, Chaplain (COL) John D. Roth, Staff Chaplain USASTRATCOM, Chaplain (COL) Gerhardt W. Hyatt, Command Chaplain MACV, and Colonel Thomas R. Musgrave, CO 21st Signal Group. On 10 - 11 February Colonel Musgrave made his initial visit to the Battalion. On 15 February, General Ralph E. Haines, CG USARPAC, visited Pr'Line Mountain Signal Site as a part of his 10-day tour of Vietnam. On 18 February 1969, Colonel Torgeson, Chief of Staff, US Army Support Command, Cam Ranh Bay, made an orientation visit to the Battalion's operating sites at Cam Ranh Bay. On March 9, Colonel Burns, Director of Operations, 1st Signal Brigade, and LTC Lutsch, Systems Division, 1st Signal Brigade, visited the Battalion. On 10 - 11

FOR OTUT

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March and 11 April Colonel Musgrave again visited the Battalion areas. On 31 March and 1 April LTC Milton Nemky, Deputy CO, 21st Signal Group, visited the Battalion for an orientation visit. On 15 April 1969, LTC Nemky gave a welcoming address to the first class of the 21st Signal Group Telephone Installation and Repair School, located in Cam Ranh Bay.

b. Activities:

(1) During the quarter, the Battalion has continued to emphasize the awards program. Command emphasis has brought about an increase in the number of recommendations for awards submitted to this Headquarters and forwarded to 21st Signal Group. An increase of 161% of the recommendations for awards submitted during this reporting quarter was achieved, as compared to the previous quarter. During February, 58 recommendations for awards and certificates were submitted: 1 Legion of Merit, 14 Bronze Star Medals, 27 Army Commendation Medals, and 16 Brigade Certificates of Achievement. During March, 24 recommendations for awards and certificates were submitted: 1 Legion of Merit, 1 Soldiers Medal, 9 Bronze Star Medals, 12 Army Commendation Medals, and 1 Brigade Certificates of Achievement. April was a particularly productive month. Ninety five recommendations for awards and certificates were submitted: 21 Bronze Star Medals, 3 Air Medals, 35 Army Commendation Medals and 36 Brigade Certificates of Achievement. During the quarter, a total of 177 recommendations were forwarded to 21st Signal Group.

(2) During this period, SF4 Christopher Crickmer, Company C, 41st Signal Battalion, was recommended for the Soldier's Medal for risking his life on two separate occasions within one hour in order to rescue two individuals from drowning.

(3) During this period, "On the Spot" Army Commendation Medals were presented to five enlisted men of the 362nd Signal Company at Kraus Compound and Pr'Line Mountain Signal Site by BG Thomas M. Rienzi for their efforts in the construction of chabers at their sites.

(4) Vietnamese/American relations were enhanced at Lang Bian Mountain. In early April, CPT Dung, CO, 205th ARVN Signal Company, visited LFM and had dinner with CPT Smith, CO, Company E, 43rd Signal Battalion. The following week, the chief of the local Montagnard village visited Lang Bian Mountain. He toured the mountain site where 50 of his people are employed. After lunch, a number of projects to aid the many local Montagnard villages that surround the mountain were discussed. As one of the results the this meeting, arrangements were made to hold sports contests twice a month. The contestants will play soccer and volley ball.

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(5) On 4 April 1969, a new MARS Station was opened by D Company, 36th Signal Battalion at Dong Ba Thin. During the first month of operation, 536 calls were completed out of 741 attempted.

(6) On 4 April 1969, the MARS Station located at Kraus Compound Dalat, went on a 24 hour a day schedule. A total of 323 calls were completed out of 490 attempted.

(7) Cam Ranh Bay MARS Completed 3096 phone patches during the third quarter of this fiscal year, with a record number of 1628 calls completed during March.

c. Personnel:

(1) The following is a list of critical MOS's of the Battalion:

MOS	Authorized	Actual
31M40 Radio Relay Team Chief	40	<u>26</u>
31J20 Teletype Repairman	12	<u>8</u>
72C20 Telephone Switchboard Op.	52	<u>45</u>

(2) The lack of trained replacements in MOS's 31M40, 31J20, and 72C20 is creating difficulties in the operation of the numerous communications sites within the Battalion's area. Outstanding Specialist E-4's are being utilized as NCO's in MOS 31M40 to alleviate the critical shortage of supervisors. In MOS 31J20, Teletype Repairman and 72C20 Telephone Switchboard Operator, there is a critical need for experienced personnel.

(3) The following are percentages of fill of the Battalion's requisitions:

Month	Req	Fill	%
Feb	124	76	61%
March	39	51	130%
April	62	61	98%

With the assignment of 36C20 Wiremen and 36E20 Cable Splicers, the shortage that existed last quarter has been alleviated.

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d. Operations:

(1) During the reporting period, this command established two continuing Commander's Special Interest Goals. These were the improvement of the quality of communications and the improvement of physical security. Special emphasis has been placed on all circuits to achieve a minimum signal to noise ratio of -47db. Through this emphasis on all circuits throughout the Battalion's area, many substandard circuits have been greatly improved. In addition, recommendations are given to 21st Signal Group to reroute marginal circuits.

(2) An AN/TRC-97B system was established between Ban Me Thuot and Hill 1028 at Fleiku. Personnel from the 362nd Signal Company (TROPO) are being utilized for the operation of this system and are attached to the 459th at BMT and 43rd Signal Battalion at Fleiku.

(4) On 17 April, personnel from Co B, 40th Signal Battalion arrived in Dalat to begin work on the Dalat cable project which involved the laying of 25 pair cable from Cam Ly to police point near the Du Tan Hotel. When completed, the cable will provide higher quality and more reliable communications for all Dalat subscribers.

(5) Space diversity receiving antennas have been installed on microwave systems 77UMG1, 77UMV3, 77UM2, and 77UO1 with resulting increase in system reliability and quality.

(6) An extensive program is underway to rehabilitate the existing 400 pair TK-1 Cable between the Army and Air Force DTE's at CRB. Personnel of the 578th Signal Company have been tasked with this project. Completion is scheduled during the next reporting period.

(7) In March the van mounted X-Y dial exchange located at Navy Market Time was removed and all subscribers were connected by a new, 200 pair cable to the CRB Army DTE.

(8) At Dong Ba Thin South, coordination with the forces of the Republic of Korea led to the installation of AN/TRC-24 equipment on Hill 124 to assist in tactical operations conducted by the ROK's. Coordination with the Koreans has continued in many areas, from limited ELM support to increased communications. Dong Ba Thin South Signal Site won the Battalion Site of the Month Award for February.

(9) A Quality Assurance Team has been established to improve the technical engineering standards of all communications facilities operated by this command. Team members, headed by a lieutenant who has a degree in electrical engineering, continuously visit all of the Battalion's sites

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with test equipment and materials to inspect, improve, and mark grounds, improve antennas, terminals, connectors, cable switchboards, patching facilities and all other communications elements as required.

(10) Sudden, heavy rains have caused microwave outages on the system between Fr'Line and LRM Mountains. A 12 channel VHF system was installed between the two sites to be used for backup and to alternate high priority circuits when an outage occurs. This system is automatically brought up during threatening or inclement weather conditions.

(11) Signs, instructing switch board operators to use proper switch board procedures, were printed in Vietnamese and English. These signs have been posted in the break room and the working area at the Cam Ranh Bay Dial Telephone Exchange to aid Vietnamese switchboard operators in understanding what is desired of them.

(12) During March and April, an AN/TRC-24 relay was installed at Di Linh. The relay, with three channels dropped and inserted, replaced the BBW4C system from Lang Bian Mountain to Rao Loc. The routing provides telephone communications support to the Sub Sector Advisor and the advisors to the 53rd ARVN Division.

(13) This quarter saw the completion of an extensive 50 pair cable plant at Rao Loc. The cable project (approximately 6 miles long) was completed in three and one half weeks. A frame and small patch panel were also constructed.

(14) On 6 April 1969, an AN/TRC-112 system was installed between Fr'Line and Don Duong to provide communications to the 577th Engineers.

(15) In March, an additional AN/MSC-29 telegraph terminal was installed at Task Force South Communications Facility.

(16) THUNDER Switchboard, located at Task Force South Communications Facility, was moved from the upper level of the TFS Headquarters building to an underground bunker below the building. The move was made to provide the commander with ready access to his communications in an emergency situation, as well as to provide protection for the operators and the equipment.

(17) The message reject rate at Cam Ranh Bay Communications Center was reduced by 20% by converting from organic generators to commercial power.

(18) A work order was submitted to FA&E to complete the electrical and physical deficiencies in the new communications center at Cam Ranh Bay.

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(19) Command inspections of all of the Battalion's subordinate units were conducted in the following areas: mess, vehicles, weapons, supply, property books, logistics, administration, mail rooms, files, and reenlistment programs.

(20) The physical security posture of Hills 182 and 184 GFB, were improved by the installation of several additional facilities, including a TOC, perimeter lighting, and new ammunition bunker. Model fighting bunkers were constructed on Hill 184 and Dr'Line. These bunkers are serving as an example for a program, now underway, for the construction of all new bunkers patterned after the models. The new bunkers use 3/8" salvaged plywood for walls. They offer a low silhouette design and optimum size and shape apertures. The implementation of plywood will have the overall effect of eliminating the many manhours used to fill sand bags which have to be replaced usually every two or three months. The use of salvaged plywood is also considered more economical than sandbags, which cost 37 1/2 cents apiece.

(21) The physical security of the Than Bang Signal Platoon area was improved. New bunkers were constructed and passage ways between the bunkers and the barracks were dug for added protection.

(22) Cyclone fencing was installed at the Than Banh Beach Site to provide protection from RPG rounds. An air conditioner was installed in the AN/MRC-73 van to provide protection for equipment. The Than Banh Beach Site was awarded a certificate for the Battalion Site of the Month during March.

e. Training and Organization:

(1) Formal Schools: During the reporting period, maximum use of quotas to the 1st Signal Brigade schools was made. It is believed that formal in country technical training on specific equipment is the best overall method to quickly and thoroughly prepare individuals to replace departing personnel.

(2) OJT and Cross-Training:

(a) The Battalion continues to place strong command emphasis on the quality of on-the-job training and cross-training. In order to minimize the effects of rotation of experienced technical personnel, and to gain in-depth capability, training of personnel in related MOS's is an important part of the over-all OJT program.

(b) On 15 April 1969, a 21st Signal Group Telephone Installation and Repair Course was established. Classes of two weeks duration are presently

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being conducted in the Cam Ranh Bay TROPO School area. The first class was graduated on 5 May 1969. Students were received from all the battalions in the 21st Signal Group. This course of instruction will greatly improve the trainee's knowledge in telephone installation and repair. This should help alleviate the I & R personnel shortage within this and the other battalions.

(3) Mandatory Training:

(a) Mandatory training is being conducted in accordance with the master training schedule published by this and higher headquarters.

(b) During this reporting period all Battalion personnel fired their individual and crew-served weapons for familiarization. Gas chamber exercises were completed by four companies.

f. Intelligence and Security:

(1) Considerable improvement has been accomplished in site physical security facilities. New fighting bunkers were constructed and watchtowers were erected. New ammunition bunkers were constructed, perimeter lighting and additional concertina were installed. Defensive bunkers were built at the CRP Communication Center. DUFFLE BAG equipment has been installed at Tr'Line and Lang Bien Mountain. Many other efforts to improve physical security have been made at all the Battalion's sites. Frigate assistance has been particularly valuable.

g. Logistics:

(1) During this period a major effort was conducted to improve the effectiveness of unit supply. All property books were audited, a physical inventory was made of all equipment, and a thorough check of property books against supporting documents was made to insure proper accountability. Inspection and assistance visits by qualified personnel from 21st Signal Group helped to identify and correct problem areas. Assistance teams from the Battalion S-4 checked the following areas and gave assistance as necessary: JLL operations, maintenance management, weapons, ammunition storage and handling, and vehicular and generator maintenance. This assistance resulted in improvement in records keeping and training of assigned personnel. Qualified personnel are now visiting all outlying areas on a continual basis to assist in generator maintenance. Organizational repairs are performed regularly on site.

(2) During this quarter, numerous movements of equipment to new and already established communications sites was required. Successful load-outs using various means of transportation accomplished the transfer of

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equipment. The Battalion has experienced some difficulty in performing tactical loadouts and initial installation of equipment at new sites in a timely manner. Plans are being developed and equipment has been requested from 21st Signal Group in order to conduct training to improve this area.

(3) Regular use of 21st Signal Group aircraft to transport repair parts, signal equipment, and personnel to outlying sites has improved during this period. This has proven to be a valuable augmentation to normal transportation means. 21st Signal Group transportation is now the best it has ever been and is considered fully adequate for mission support.

(4) Command Emphasis on lowering the FLL zero balance during the past six months has reduced the Battalion's overall percentage to 5.4%. The means of accomplishing this reduction include proper submission of requisitions with timely and regular follow up action, training of FLL clerks at 1st Signal Brigade FLL School, elimination of all line items that had no demand in a period of 180 days, and regular assistance visits by Battalion S-4.

2. Section 2. Lessons Learned: Commander's observations, evaluations and recommendations:

a. Personnel:

(1) Observations: This command is frequently tasked to install, operate and maintain radio systems utilizing equipment which must be obtained from the resources of other commands.

(2) Evaluation: When equipment is obtained from another command, the personnel to operate and maintain the equipment are not normally provided. This stretches the already thin personnel resources of the gaining unit.

(3) Recommendation: When an organization is tasked with an operational mission which will require equipment resources to be transferred from one command to another, the losing command should be required to furnish qualified personnel augmentation along with the equipment.

b. Operations:

(1) Microwave Systems Diversity Operation:

(a) Observation: During the upgrading of the microwave systems on Hill 184 to diversity operation, the two uppermost antennas on the East, which were formerly operating with transmission lines and launchers, were converted to coaxial cables. This conversion caused an increase in

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Period Ending 3 April 1969

17 May 1969

receive gain level readings.

(b) Evaluation: Although the G-line has a lower dB loss per foot than coaxial cable, it must be very carefully installed. Because of the lack of physical space available on Hill 184, optimum space for G-line installation could not be provided. This tended to nullify the advantages of the G-line. Coaxial cable afforded better transmission in this instance.

(c) Recommendation: The existing systems which utilize surface wave transmission assemblies should be checked to insure that optimum transmission lines are maintained. If the situation precludes this, coaxial cable should be considered.

(2) Utilization of 26 Pair Hocks for Wiring AN/TCC-13:

(a) Observation: Hard wiring AN/TCC-13 directly to the frame precluded efficient restoration of system.

(b) Evaluation: When changing to the backup equipment each wire of the 26 pair cable had to be individually removed and rewired. This resulted in excessive down time.

(c) Recommendation: Rather than hard wiring each AN/TCC-13 to the frame, it should be wired to a cable hock. The frame is also wired to another hock. Equipment can then be interchanged in a matter of seconds. Trouble shooting of the backup equipment can be implemented at leisure since the circuit can be immediately restored.

(3) Manholes and Handholes in Cable Construction:

(a) Observation: When underground cable splices are located which must be rehabilitated there is often no space to work around the splice conveniently.

(b) Evaluation: Upon finding the splice it is necessary for the crew to spend time excavating around it. Working on the splice is difficult and time consuming, because precautions must be taken to prevent sand and moisture from entering the splice.

(c) Recommendation: The Deputy Group Commander recommended during installation, manholes should be constructed at splice points. The manholes facilitate cable location and provide ready access for maintenance personnel at test points.

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Period Ending 30 April 1969

(4) Korean Language Barrier: Hill 194:

(a) Observation: Frequency interference was experienced on one of the Corps Area Communications Systems during a short period when ROK communications personnel were operating AN/TRC-24 equipment on Hill 194. Attempts by US operators to communicate orally with the Korean enlisted operators to alleviate the frequency block were only marginally successful.

(b) Evaluation: The ROK communications personnel were given specific frequencies to utilize; however, they later changed frequencies without informing the US VHF operators. Difficulties arose due to a misunderstanding of their instructions and the ROK personnel were unable to conveniently discuss their problem with us.

(c) Recommendation: To preclude a lack of understanding, a card was printed in both the Korean and English languages, which provided information and specific instructions covering a variety of possible situations. The US and Korean operators on the site were thus able to adequately converse about common situations concerning frequencies, power, antenna orientation, interference, and similar subjects.

(5) Dial Central Office Repair:

(a) Observation: The step-by-step dial central exchange located at Cam Ranh Bay is the only one of its kind in Vietnam. All other dial central exchanges are X-Y.

(b) Evaluation: Assigned personnel are trained to repair and maintain X-Y equipment but not step-by-step equipment. GHO contractor personnel presently maintain this equipment, however, their contract expires on 30 June 1969. US personnel are being given some on-the-job training in order that the Battalion can continue its mission and repair and maintain this switchboard after the contract expires.

(c) Recommendation: That GHO personnel be retained at Cam Ranh Bay.

(6) Non Supportable Equipment, AN/TRC-112:

(a) Observation: Trained personnel, parts manuals, technical manuals and spare parts are not available at the Cam Ranh Depot to support AN/TRC-112 equipment and requisitions for repair parts are not being filled timely.

(b) Evaluation: Maintenance problems were numerous during recent employment of this equipment. These were magnified by the lack of trained personnel, technical manuals and spare parts.

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Period Ending 30 April 1969

(c) Recommendation: Equipment that cannot be readily supported should be committed elsewhere in the 21st Signal Group.

c. Training:

(1) Observation: The Battalion is required to fill 88 quotas per year at 1st Signal Brigade and 21st Signal Group 360 schools.

(2) Evaluation: The quota is too large.

(3) Recommendation: The requirement for filling the Brigade 360 school quotas should be discontinued. Sufficient quotas are available from 21st Signal Group.

d. Intelligence: None

e. Logistics:

(1) High Priority Supply of Isolated Signal Sites:

(a) Observation: Fast reaction supply and resupply of isolated and widely scattered signal sites presently can be accomplished for small sized items only using 21st Signal Group air support. Large, heavy, and bulky shipments to isolated signal sites can be accomplished only by truck or ship.

(b) Evaluation: Supply and resupply of isolated sites of large items such as telephones, building materials, communications equipment sets, generators, etc. can only be accomplished by surface transportation or large helicopters which are not readily available. Scheduling is difficult and shipments are frequently delayed. In cases of urgent operational requirements, such delays frequently hinder mission accomplishment.

(c) Recommendation: Heavy lift rotary air support assistance should be made available when required. This support could be on-call or on a regular basis to the 21st Signal Group Aviation Section to support this command.

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EDISON M. CESAR JR.
LTC SigC
Commanding

SCCPV-NC-OPT (17 May 69) 1st Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 73rd Signal Battalion (SPT) for
Period Ending 30 April 1969, (RCS GCPOR-65) (RI)

DA, HEADQUARTERS, 21ST SIGNAL GROUP, APO 96240 25 May 1969

TO:

1. Subject report is forwarded IAW 1st Signal Regulation 1-19.
2. This headquarters has reviewed the basic report and concurs with the information and comments contained therein with the following complementary comments or exceptions relative to the referenced paragraphs.
 - a. Para 1c(1) and (2), page 3. MOS 31J20 is in short supply throughout 21st Signal Group. Each incoming 31J20 is handled in a case by case situation to determine where the most critical need is at the time of his arrival. Shortages in MOS 31M exist throughout the Group. Requisitioning procedures appear to be adequate but DA fill does not meet requirements, particularly in the higher grades. The result is an overall shortage and a critical shortage of senior NCO's. Due to recent losses the 73rd Signal Battalion had a shortage of 72C20's. However, four 72C20's have recently been assigned to the battalion and this should alleviate the shortage as they now have assigned 49 of the 52 authorized or 90%.
 - b. Para 13(2)(b), page 6. The 21st Signal Group I&R Course length is three weeks; two weeks of classroom work and one week of practical exercise consisting of actual telephone installation or clearing troubles as indicated on work orders or trouble tickets.
 - c. Para 2a, page 8. Prior to tasking any subordinate unit, the capability of the unit being tasked to accomplish the task is evaluated; when augmentation of equipment and/or personnel is absolutely essential, then such augmentation will be provided.
 - d. Para 2b(5), page 10. The Stroger and Stromberg-Carlson X-Y Systems both employ the principle of step-by-step, the basic difference being the Stroger System in use at Cam Ranh Bay DTE operates vertically while the Stromberg-Carlson DTE operates in a horizontal movement. Personnel schooled in the X-Y method should have no difficulty familiarizing themselves with the Stroger principles. Efforts are being made by 1st Signal Brigade to extend the contract for Gustaf-Hirsch personnel.
 - e. Para 2b(6), page 10. The 21st Signal Group is instituting a program to train and equip four AN/MRC-112 teams, which upon completion of training, will be committed as a team and remain with the equipment regardless of where they may be employed within the Groups' geographical area of responsibility.

SCCPV-NG-OPT

25 May 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 73rd Signal Battalion (SPT) for
period Ending 30 April 1969, (RCS 31807-65) (RI)

f. Para 2c, page 11. Coordination with 1st Signal Brigade indicates that units of 21st Sig Gp will not be required to send personnel to the USATF I&R Course unless such is requested by the unit.

g. Incl 1. All elements reflected on the organizational chart below company level are attached to the respective companies rather than assigned, as is implied by the chart.


THOMAS C. MUSGRAVE
Colonel, SigC
Commanding

SOCPV-OP-3D (17 May 69) 2nd Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 73rd Signal Battalion (SFT) for
Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFOA-6F (21)

DA, HQ, 1st Signal Brigade (USAST MACV), APO 96384 28 Jun 69

TO: Commanding General, United States Army Vietnam, ATTY: AVEHC-DST,
APO 96375

1. Subject report is forwarded in accordance with USARV Regulation 525-15.

2. This headquarters has reviewed the report and concurs in it as indorsed with the following comments and/or exceptions:

a. Paragraph 1c, page 3. As indicated in first indorsement, input of these MOS's continues at a slow rate of fill. All efforts are being made to assure equitable distribution of these MOS's within the Brigade. These listed critical MOS shortages are uniform throughout the Brigade. The rate of fill for the entire Brigade, as indicated in a recent survey, is averaging between 40% and 60%. As indicated in paragraph 1c(3) of basic report, the 73rd Signal Battalion shows a rate of fill higher than the Brigade average.

b. Paragraph 1d(5), page 4. Correction. System 7752 should read 77U2U.

c. Paragraph 2b(1), page 8. Coaxial cable will be installed on all Microwave Systems between Cam Ranh Bay and Hon Tre Island when it becomes available.

d. Paragraph 2b(5), page 10. Efforts are being made by 1st Signal Brigade to extend the contract for Gustav-Hirsch Organization personnel. Cam Ranh Bay has sufficient personnel on hand to maintain the exchange. These personnel are sufficiently trained and/or experienced that no significant problems are anticipated at the termination of GHO contract. Realignment of MOS 36H personnel is being effected to insure that all DET's have an equitable share of trained personnel in accordance with the size of the problem.

e. Paragraph 2c, page 11 and paragraph 2f 1st Ind. Headquarters 21st Signal Group requests quotas to courses of instruction at the USATF, 1st Signal Brigade. If the 73rd Signal Battalion is required to fill 88 quotas per month in the 36C (Telephone Installation and Repair) Course, the requirement is placed on them by Group Headquarters, not Brigade Headquarters. The 1st Signal Brigade has not required any subordinate unit to fill any quotas in the USATF IFR Course. A request for requirements at this course was made to the Groups in April 1969. The 21st Signal Group replied with a request for four (4) quotas per month. These quotas were granted to the 21st Signal Group to distribute as they deemed necessary. In addition, this headquarters has received subsequent requests for IFR quotas from the 21st Signal Group. The IFR Course at the USATF

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SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 73rd Signal Battalion (SPT) for
Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFOP-65 (21)

was established per direction of the CG because Group Commanders
indicated a need for training of this type. The USATF I&R Course is
the official 1st Signal Brigade Telephone Installation and Repair Course.

f. Paragraph 2e, page 11. Recommend that procedures for requesting
aviation support beyond the capability of 1st Signal Brigade assets be
clarified by USAW.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

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NOT REPRODUCIBLE


WILLIAM C. SKINNER
Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff

CF:

Commanding General, United States Army Strategic Communications Command,
ATTN: DCSOPS, SCC-OPS-22, Fort Huachuca, Arizona
Commanding Officer, 21st Signal Group, APC 96240
Commanding Officer, 73rd Signal Battalion, APO 96312

AVHOC-DST (17 May 1969) 3d Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 73rd Signal Battalion (SPT) for
Period Ending 30 April 1969

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY, VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96375 23 JUL 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, 73rd Signal Battalion (SPT).

2. Reference item concerning "High Priority Supply of Isolated Signal Sites," section II, page 11, paragraph 2e(1) and 2d Indorsement, paragraph 2f; nonconcur. Heavy lift rotary wing aircraft support is normally provided on an area bases. Requirements for aviation support beyond the capabilities of brigade assets should be requested from the major headquarters' aviation element in the area where the support is required.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Cy furn:
73rd Sig Bn
1st Sig Bde

A.R. Guenther
A.R. GUENTHER
CPT. AGC
ASST. ADJUTANT GENERAL

SCCP-OP (17 May 69) 4th Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 73rd Signal Battalion (SPT) for
Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

Headquarters, U. S. Army Strategic Communications Command - Pacific,
APO San Francisco 96557 27 AUG 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 subject report and concurs as modified by indorsements.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

FRANK C. MAHIN
COL, GS
Chief of Staff

GPOP-DT (17 May 69) 5th Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, 73d Signal Battalion (SPT)
for Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 11 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 and concurs in subject report
as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:

[Signature]
TUCKER
LPT. AGC
ASST AG

Cy furn:
DA, ACSFOR
CG, USASTRATCOM-PAC

SCC-PO-CERA (17 May 69) 6th Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 73rd Signal Battalion (SPT) for
period ending 30 April 1969.

Headquarters, US Army Strategic Communications Command, Fort Huachuca,
Arizona 85613 27 OCT 1969

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

This headquarters has evaluated and concurs in subject report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Robert A. Mall

ROBERT A. MALL
Captain, AGC
Asst Adj Gen

CF:
CG, USASTRATCOM-PAC
HQ, US Army-Pacific

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