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

AD 863213

AGDA (M) (20 Nov 69) FOR OT UT 693256

8 December 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 240th Quarter-
master Battalion, Period Ending 31 July 1969

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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:

KENNETH G. WICKHAM
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

1 Incl
as

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(ARMY) ATTN: FOR OT UT, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

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B

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 240TH QUARTERMASTER BATTALION
APO 96226

AVCA-QN-QM-1

AUG 10 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 240th Quartermaster Battalion
for the period ending 31 July 1969 RCS-CSFRO 65 (R-1)

THRU: Commanding General, US Army Support Command, Qui Nhon
ATTN: AVCA-QN-GO-H, APO 96238

Commanding General, 1st Logistical Command,
ATTN: AVCA-GO-O, APO 96304

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

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

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

1. Section I Operations: Significant Activities

a. Command:

(1) Since the last reporting period the 240th Quartermaster Battalion (Petroleum Operating) continued operational and administrative responsibility of the following units: Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 514th Quartermaster Company, 647th Quartermaster Company, 134th Quartermaster Company, 959th Petroleum Laboratory, 525th Pipeline Platoon, 79th Terminal Operating Platoon and 848th Terminal Operating Platoon.

(2) Staff assignments are as follows:

- a. Battalion Commander - LTC Erwin H. Schiff
- b. Executive Officer - MAJ James D. Montgomery Jr.
- c. S-1 - CPT James A. Wagoner

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- d. S-2 - CPT Russ Blumenthal
- e. S-3 - MAJ Horace B. Brewster
- f. S-4 - 1LT James L. Thorpe

b. Personnel, Administration, Morale and Discipline:

(1) Authorized strength of the 240th Quartermaster Battalion at the end of the reporting period was 29 officers, 4 Warrant Officers, and 666 enlisted men. Assigned strength was 25 officers, 2 Warrant Officers, and 638 Enlisted Men.

(2) Administration is accomplished by the Adjutant, an administrative NCO, 2 Clerk typists, and one legal clerk.

(3) Morale and discipline remained high throughout the reporting period.

c. Operations:

(1) During the reporting period, 221,826 barrels of bulk fuel was received at the An Khe Petroleum Terminal through the Qui Nhon-An Khe pipeline. Quantities received are as follows: JP-4 - 32,675 barrels, AVGAS - 14,418 barrels, MOGAS - 32,675 barrels, and DF-2 - 75,547 barrels. This pipeline transfer is equivalent to 1,864 individual 5,000 gallon tankers that would have traveled 89,472 road miles. The thru-put during the period May through July was 168,771 barrels lower than the previous reporting period. This was the result of pumping water into the Qui Nhon-An Khe pipeline on 8 June until 24 July. During June and July, five miles of pipeline was buried between BR823361 and BR848342.

(2) Pleiku Tank Farm received 164,618 barrels of bulk fuel through the An Khe-Pleiku pipeline. Quantities received by product are as follows: JP-4 - 73,549 barrels, MOGAS - 31,390 barrels, and DF-2 - 59,679 barrels. This is equivalent to 1,383 individual 5,000 gallon tankers traveling 159,045 road miles between Qui Nhon and Pleiku. This is an increase of 83,591 barrels over previous reporting periods. During the month of July, five miles of pipeline was buried from Camp Ratcliffe to BR574459.

(3) Phu Cat Air Force Base received 215,539 barrels of JP-4 via the Qui Nhon-Phu Cat pipeline. This represents a truck linehaul of 1,811 individual 5,000 gallon tankers traveling 36,220 road miles. Phu Cat also receives 102,868 gallons of MOGAS and 291,406 gallons of DF-2 by rail tank cars.

(4) Eighteen ocean tankers discharged 2,053,467 barrels of petroleum product in tankers at Tank Farms 1 and 2 in Qui Nhon.

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Quantities received by product are as follows: JP-4 - 756,017 barrels, AVGAS - 109,244 barrels, MORGAS - 261,902 barrels and DF-2 - 416,887 barrels.

(5) Since 1 May there have been 6,765,000 gallons of all bulk fuels (1,315 tanker loads) linehauled to LZ English, LZ Uplift, Phu Cat, An Kho, Pleiku, Song Cau, and Special Tank Force operations.

(6) The Package POL Depot received 3,644 short tons of packaged fuels and allied petroleum products and shipped 5,203 short tons. It also filled and shipped 358 collapsible drums (179,000 gallons) to operating elements in the II-CTZ.

(7) During the reporting period the flow rate of the "G" line was improved from 750 barrels an hour to over 1700 barrels an hour. This was accomplished by locating obstructions with pressure gauges. The obstructions consisted of lumber and rocks. Other blockages were similarly located on the An Kho-Pleiku and the Qui Nhon-Phu Cat pipelines which improved the thru-put 200 and 150 barrels respectively.

(8) During the reporting period the Command had 18 incidents involving enemy attacks on tank farms, pump stations, convoys, pipeline crews and single vehicles. During the same period there were over 150 enemy pipeline incidents reported. Most incidents involved small arms rounds, satchel charges and the complete disassembly of the pipeline.

(9) On 12 May 1969, Tank Farm 2 (Package POL Depot) was attacked by B-40 rockets and small arms fire. Tank 6 was hit twice. One round hit the chain link fence and exploded on impact; however shrapnel punctured the tank. The second round cleared the top of the chain link fence and hit the tank below the top and ignited the tank. However, the fire extinguished itself. Of the 7,218 barrels in the tank, 6,600 barrels was saved by transferring the fuel (DF-2) to another Tank Farm. On the same night the An Kho Tank Farm was attacked by recoilless rifles. Tanks 1 and 2 were hit. The tanks exploded with a loss of 7773 barrels of JP-4 and 9783 barrels of DF-2. Burning fuel overflowed the fire wall and destroyed three six-by-one pumps and the manifold.

- d. Training -- None
- c. Intelligence -- None
- f. Logistics:

(1) During the reporting period, HHD, 240th Quartermaster Battalion completed the installation of a 500-gallon fuel pad for use in heating water for the Battalion shower facilities, completed EM billets, painted all buildings in the Detachment, completed renovation of troop billets, and completed renovation of Battalion transient billets.

FOUO

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(2) The 134th Quartermaster Company completed building a new supply room and arms room, constructed tank pick-up points, continued to improve troop billets, motor pool and defensive fortifications.

(3) The 647th Quartermaster Company completely remodeled the Company mess hall. The security of the An Khe Tank Farm was improved by the completion of a new perimeter fence and the start of construction of a new defensive perimeter. The mess and recreation area at Pump Station 8 was rebuilt after destruction by enemy attack.

(4) The 514th Quartermaster Company continued to make security improvements to all locations including the clearing of all perimeters, the completion of a chain link fence around Tank Farm 2 and is presently working on construction of chain link fences at all pump stations.

2. Section II, Lessons Learned: Commander's Observation,
Evaluation and Recommendations.

a. Personnel -- None

b. Operations

(1) Item: Crossing Culverts and other obstructions with buried pipelines.

Observation: When crossing culverts and other obstructions with coupled pipe extreme stresses are placed on the pipe and joints. Several failures have occurred at these locations and they have proven difficult to repair.

Evaluation: Pipe joints are not designed to take stresses of this nature and every effort should be made to lay pipe evenly with the weight being distributed along the entire length of the pipe.

Recommendation: In areas where it is not possible to lay pipe under ideal conditions short sections of welded line be employed.

(2) Failure of gaskets and couplings in buried pipeline.

Observation: During initial testing and use of buried coupled pipelines, an excessive number of failures have occurred at couplings.

Evaluation: Most buried pipeline constructed during this period has been coupled above ground and either thrown or dropped into the ditch. This practice substantially increases the possibility of failure.

Recommendation: That ditches be wide enough to allow the pipeline to be constructed in place and that ditch not be filled back until testing is completed.

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(3) Item: Repair of buried coupled pipeline.

Observation: Breaks and leaks in buried coupled pipeline are difficult and dangerous to prepare. The trouble area must be dug up. In the process the hole often fills with fuel and repairmen become soaked.

Evaluation: Considerable care must be exercised while repairing these leaks. Whenever possible drainage ditches should be dug to allow the product to flow away from the work area. All digging should be done by hand or by a "clam digger" which has sufficient boom length to keep the hot power plant well away from the work area.

Recommendations: That at least one man stay well clear of the work area and be prepared to fight flash fires. That consideration be given to authorization and issue of special engineer type equipment to be used in excavation of trouble areas.

(4) Item: Booby Traps.

Observation: There has been an increase in the use of booby traps against pipeline repair crews.

Evaluation: The enemy has shown a tendency to interdict the pipeline and leave booby traps to catch crews that must repair them.

Recommendation: That the area around the pipeline tracks be carefully searched prior to the start of repairs work and that EOD be called if there is any doubt. That the crew stay as dispersed as possible with at least one man clear of the area by a radio.

c. Training -- None

d. Intelligence

(1) Item: Alert Messages

Observation: On several occasions the Battalion reinforced the guard at the three petroleum storage areas in Qui Nhon as a result of intelligence received from higher headquarters,

Evaluation: The intelligence passed to this Headquarters in regard to increased enemy activity often times contains no evaluation of the source and information. Determination of an accurate response to an enemy threat is made more difficult when the reliability of information cannot be determined. When central installations are fully reinforced the total daily guard commitment increases from a normal 49% of eligible personnel to as high as 70%, thereby causing a corresponding degradation in mission support on following days.

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Recommendation: That every effort be made to include evaluations of sources and information.

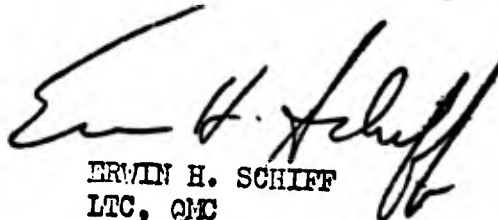
(2) Item: Military Information

Observation: During the reporting period efforts at coordination with tactical forces, Military Police, and civil authorities were initiated.

Evaluation: Coordination with interested agencies has resulted in a freer exchange of information, increased appreciation of route and pipeline security problems and more effective anti-sabotage and pilferage control programs. A study made by the 240th Quartermaster Battalion and members of Detachment "E", 8th MP Gp (CL) identified many problem areas.

Recommendation: That coordination of pipeline security efforts with a wide range of affected agencies be continued.

(3) Item: Escape and Evasion — No data compiled.



ERWIN H. SCHIEF
LTC, QMC
Commanding

AVCA QN-GO-H (10 Aug 69) 1st Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 240th Quartermaster Battalion for the Period Ending 31 July 1969 RCS CSFOR-65 (R-1)

DA, HEADQUARTERS, US Army Support Command, Qui Nhon, APO 96238 15 SEP 1969

TO: Commanding General, 1st Logistical Command, ATTN: AVCA GO-O,
APO 96384

1. (FOUO) The Operational Report - Lessons Learned of the 240th Quartermaster Battalion for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1969 has been reviewed by this headquarters and the following comments are submitted:

a. SECTION II, paragraph b (1): Concur. Engineers will be instructed to include the welding of pipe at stress points in all future pipeline construction projects.

b. SECTION II, paragraph b (2): Concur. Engineers will be instructed to construct ditches wide enough to permit the pipeline to be assembled inside the ditch. Additional instructions will be issued to allow for testing the line prior to covering it.

c. SECTION II, paragraph b (3): Concur. The safety precautions recommended are all valid. This command is presently employing pumps to remove fuel and reduce the danger in these situations.

d. SECTION II, paragraph b (4): Concur. The recommendation on booby traps is sound. Emphasis must always be placed using caution when there is a possibility of detecting booby traps. The noted procedure should continue to be utilized.

e. SECTION II, paragraph d (1): Concur. This problem continues. Local intelligence normally carries the reliability rating. A message has been sent to 1st Log Comd and IFFV requesting that the reliability ratings be included in the text of messages.

f. SECTION II, paragraph d (2): Concur. Every effort is being made to continue this coordination.

g. Escape evasion and survival information (Section III, DA Survey Information) was not required for this reporting period.

2. (U) This report is considered adequate as modified by the above comments.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

15 SEP 1969

Richard Daniels
Richard Daniels, PSC
15 SEP 1969
1st Logistical Command

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AVCA GO-MH (10 Aug 69) 2nd Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned of the 240th Quartermaster
Battalion for Period Ending 31 July 1969 RCS CSFOR-65 (U)

DA, Headquarters, 1st Logistical Command, APO 96384 1 6 OCT 1969

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

1. The Operational Report - Lessons Learned submitted by Headquarters, 240th
Quartermaster Battalion for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1969 is
forwarded.

2. Pertinent comments follow:

a. Reference item concerning buried pipelines, pages 4&5, paragraphs
b(1), (2), and (3). Concur. The recommendations are noteworthy and will be
valuable in future pipeline burial operations. These lessons learned will be
brought to the attention of units involved in pipeline operations.

b. Reference item concerning alert messages, page 5, paragraph d(1).
Concur only with the recommendation. The observation and evaluation are
stated in general terms without referring to specific messages or instances.
Some warnings of enemy intentions are received with little notice and with
no opportunity for proper evaluation. Dissemination of such messages is
handled on an expeditious basis since timely warnings are considered essential
despite the fact that the threat often does not materialize. Other messages,
such as 1st Log Comd Project Alert messages are often based on special in-
telligence which cannot be specifically identified as to sources or reli-
ability of sources. To not pass information of potential enemy attacks,
regardless of source or reliability, would be a disservice to subordinate
elements of the command. Reliable evaluations will be stated in alert mes-
sages if available.

3. Concur with the basic report as modified by this and previous indorsement.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

TEL: LBN 4839

CF:
USASUPCOM QNH
240th QM Bn

C. D. STAFFORD
1Lt, AGC
Asst Adjutant General

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AVHGC-DST (10 Aug 69) 3d Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 240th Quartermaster Battalion
for the period ending 31 July 1969 RCS CSFOR-65 (RI)

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY, VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96375 22 OCT 1969

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

This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned
for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1969 from Headquarters, 240th
Quartermaster Battalion and concurs with the report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Cy furn:
240th QM Bn
1st Log Comd



B. A. GOODWIN

MAJ, AGC

Assistant Adjutant General

GPOP-DT (10 Aug 69) 4th Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, 240th Quartermaster
Battalion for Period Ending 31 July 1969, RCS
CSFOR-65 (R1)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 29 OCT 69

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

This headquarters concurs in subject report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:



C. L. SHORTT
CPT, AGC/
Asst AG/

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CO, 240th Quartermaster Battalion

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