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AUTHORITY

AGO D/A ltr, 29 Apr 1980

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

130-14-301
NO INDEX VALUE

IN REPLY REFER TO
AGAM-P (M) (24 Apr 67) FOR OT 670076

26 April 1967

AD 874137

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, HQ, 17th Field Hospital
Quarterly Period Ending (31 January 1967) RCS CSFOR 65

TO: SEE DISTRIBUTION

1. Forwarded as inclosure is Operational Report - Lessons Learned Headquarters, 17th Field Hospital for period ending 31 January 1967. Information contained in this report should be evaluated by CDC in accordance with paragraph 6f of AR 1-19 and by CONARC in accordance with paragraph 6c and d of AR 1-19. Evaluations and corrective actions should be reported to ACSFOR OT within 90 days of receipt of covering letters.

2. Information contained in this report is provided to the Commandants of the Service Schools 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

KENNETH G. WICKHAM
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

1 Incl
as

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SEP 11 1970

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(Continued on page 2)

FOR OT UT
670076

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, 17TH FIELD HOSPITAL
APO 96243

AVIC-MB-GD- FB

8 February 1967

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned, For Quarterly Period Ending
(3: Jan 67) RCS CSFOR65

THRU: Commanding Officer
68th Medical Group
APO 96491

THRU: Commanding Officer
44th Medical Brigade
APO 96307

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

SECTION I

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

A. COMMAND

1. Unit engaged in hospital operations for 92 days of the reporting period.
2. The hospital has, as part of its mission, several specialty clinics which render care and treatment as applicable. Some of these are Dermatology, ENT, Psychiatry, Physical Therapy, Surgical, Medical and Urology Clinics. During the latter part of the report period a new commanding officer was assigned, who is a Orthopedic surgeon.
3. Many dignitaries were treated at this hospital. Some of these being, Ambassador Lodge, Mrs Lodge, General Westmoreland, Major General MacKay of the Australian Army. During this report period, the hospital commander was replaced by LTC Donald H. Tilson, Jr. Major Withers was reassigned to the USA Hospital, Fort Carson, Colorado.
4. Outpatient visits by month appear below:
 - a. November: Outpatient visits 8707, admissions 371, immunizations 6102, prescriptions filled 20500, X-rays provided 2552, and physical therapy procedures 1370.

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8 February 1967

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period (ending 31 Jan 67)
(PCS CSFOR 65)

b. December: Outpatient visits 8,717, admissions 109, immunizations 5,929, prescriptions filled 19,692, X-rays provided 2,559 and physical therapy procedures 712.

c. January: Outpatient visits 7,579, admissions 284, immunizations 8,043, prescriptions filled 19,157, X-rays provided 324 and physical therapy procedures 976.

B. PERSONNEL, ADMINISTRATION, MORALE AND DISCIPLINE.

1. Personnel replacements for rotating personnel during the period 17 February - 15 March is considered inadequate at present. Many sections of the hospital will be inadequately manned with qualified personnel unless suitable replacements arrive soon.

2. The Medical Supply Officer was placed on TDY to the 45th Surgical Hospital (MUST) for administrative assistance. The Medical Supply Officer was also detailed to Inspector General Team for 1st Logistical Command to inspect various medical facilities.

3. The NCOIC's of Medical Supplies of 17th Field Hospital and 45th Surgical hospital exchanged positions which enabled both hospitals to exchange ideas, experiences plus philosophies which proved to be very beneficial to both units.

4. The administration of the hospital, as a whole continues to be adequate. Several inspections and liaison visits were satisfactory.

5. The morale of the unit, is very high as recreational facilities are available within Saigon / Cholon area. Disciplinary problems have been minor during this report period.

C. INTELLIGENCE AND COUNTERINTELLIGENCE. N/A.

D. PLANS, OPERATIONS AND TRAINING:

1. The mass casualty plan was implemented on four occasions, during this report period. Terrorists activities continue, but only one major disaster occurred during this time.

2. The training of disaster recovery teams continues; as personnel rotate and new personnel are assigned. The teams are constantly training in the care and handling of casualties.

E. LOGISTICS: No major problems existed other than one box of parts for the 300 MA X-ray machine that has not arrived.

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F. SPECIAL SECTIONS:

1. The Dermatology Clinic has been one of the most active departments with many interesting cases such as articularia pigmentosae.

2. Registrar. There has been a definite decline in medical claims processed under dependents' medical care program. There were only 5 claims submitted during this report period.

SECTION II

NOT REPRODUCIBLE

A. PERSONNEL, ADMINISTRATION, MORALE AND DISCIPLINE.

Item: Personnel Rotation.

Discussion: A majority of personnel arrived in RVN with the hospital in February and March of 1966. Now that one year has elapsed and the tour is about over, replacements are required. Lack of adequately trained medical technicians can decrease the quality of medical attention all patients are entitled to.

Observation: Properly trained technicians should be available from CONUS sources or in country units. There should be a moderate overlap between incoming and outgoing personnel.

B. PHYSICAL PLANT

Item: Glass windows can kill.

Discussion: Terrorists cause injuries and death which can possibly be avoided. Broken glass causes more serious injuries than do actual shell fragments.

1. Remove glass windows and replace with acetate.

2. During attack stay away from windows and/or glass doors.

Observation: All personnel that take these precautions will lower their chances of sustaining serious injury or death. All glass windows have been removed from the 17th Field hospital and replaced with acetate.

C. PHYSICAL PLANT IMPROVEMENT:

Item: Sink in Centralized Materiel Section.

Discussion: Sink in CMS was moved to new location.

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SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned, For Quarterly Period Ending
(31 Jan 67) (RCS CSFOR65)

Observation: New location provides improved work flow and greatly increases efficiency of CMS personnel. Work area consolidated which decreases walk space, therefore efficiency is increased.

Item: Generators.

Discussion: Noise level of generators can be distracting to both patients and staff alike. New mufflers were installed in cement approximately one foot below ground.

Observation: Noise level has been greatly reduced. The noise was decreased by at least 50%. Generators with straight exhaust systems cause increased noise therefore distract personnel causing decreased efficiency and should be considered for encasement in cement under ground.

Item: Painting of Interior of Hospital.

Discussion: Interior of the hospital requires painting more often than other institutions. For patient welfare, morale, comfort and sanitary reasons.

Observation: Freshly painted areas improve appearance by 100% and therefore this atmosphere enhance patient morale and recovery.

SECTION II

PART II

RECOMMENDATION: The mission of the hospital is unique in the fact that the field hospital is responsible for out patient care for all military and other authorized personnel in the Saigon/Cholon area. The present staff should be augmented, I feel, by two MC, dispensary teams (Off 3, EM 14 per team) which would provide dispensary care for the authorized personnel of this area. If the present staff were reduced to TOE strength, the quality of patient care might be adversely affected, Consideration should be given to replacement of rotating personnel, as too many key personnel rotating at the same time can have adverse affects on both patient care and staff morale. I would suggest that in-country replacements be considered from other in-country units.

/s/
DONAL H. TILSON, JR.
LTC MC
Commanding

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AVCA MB -GD-PO (8 Feb 67) 1st Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 Jan 67
(RCS CSFOR-65)(17th Field Hospital)

HEADQUARTERS, 68TH MEDICAL GROUP, APO 96491 20 February 1967

TO: Commanding Officer, 74th Medical Brigade, APO 96307

1. Section I, para B1. Replacements will be provided as they become available.

2. Reference para E page 2. A follow up letter has been written to the General Electric Co, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, regarding the missing parts.

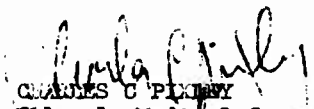
3. Section IIA. Action is being taken by this headquarters to prevent recurrence of rotational humps within a given unit. Hospital and other unit commanders must realize that reassignment of personnel is necessary to implement the system of staggering the rotation dates. A steady, regulated flow of rotating and replacement personnel is desirable.

4. Section II, part II.

a. The 17th Field Hospital is presently evaluating available resources versus the potential outpatient population to determine the actual requirement for augmentation. At the same time, the 74th Medical Battalion is surveying the possibility of providing a medical detachment (MC) to augment the 17th Field Hospital.

b. The number of patient records maintained is approximately 27,000. The average Army population served as shown on USARV Form 269 for the month of December 1966 was 20,435. The population served would seem to justify another medical detachment (MC) to be added to the troop list. However, further study will be conducted prior to recommending appropriate action.

TEL: Long Binh 3326


CHARLES C. PIQUERY
Colonel, Medical Corps
Commanding

AVCA-MB-PO (8 Feb 67) 2nd Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned for Quarterly Period
Ending 31 January 1967 (RCS CSFOR-65) (17th Field Hospital)

HEADQUARTERS, 44th Medical Brigade, APO 96307, 21 February 1967

TO: Commanding General, 1st Logistical Command, ATTN: AVCA-GO-O, APO
96307

1. Concur with the comments and observations of the basic report as modified by the comments of the previous indorsement.
2. Reference to Section I, Part I, B, paragraph 1 - the reduction of a rotational "hump" in a unit is a program of current interest throughout the command. The solution is as recommended and is in progress at this time.
3. Reference to Section II, Part II, - the mission of the 17th Field Hospital is indeed unique with outpatient care dominating the responsibility. The hospital has been augmented by an allocation to meet this requirement. With the present emphasis on a personnel ceiling, the staffing of this hospital is being reviewed to determine whether reduction of mission requirement of an augmentation is necessary. The employment of a TOE general dispensary (MC) to provide for the outpatient mission is one solution that is being considered.

Lynx 382

1 Incl
ORLL (dup)


RAY L. MILLER
Colonel, MC
Commanding

NOT REPRODUCIBLE

AVCA CO-0 (8 Feb 67) 3d Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report For quarterly period ending 31 January
1967, (RCS CSFOR-65)

HEADQUARTERS, 1ST LOGISTICAL COMMAND, APO 96307

26 FEB 1967

TO: Deputy Commanding General, United States Army, Vietnam, APO:
AVHOC-DH, APO 96307

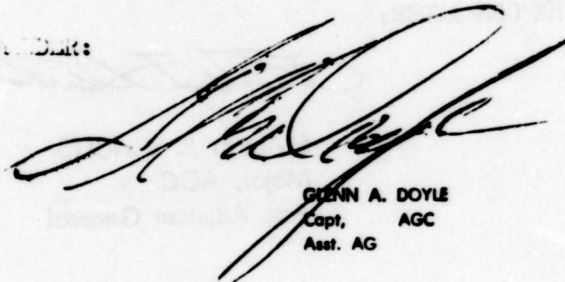
1. The Operational Report - Lessons Learned submitted by the
17th Field Hospital for the quarterly period ending 31 January 1967
is forwarded herewith.

2. Concur with the basic report as modified by the comments
contained in the preceding indorsements. The report is considered
adequate.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

ELL: Lynx 762/430

1 Incl
nc



GLENN A. DOYLE
Capt, AGC
Asst. AG

Incl 1

AVHGC-DH (8 Feb 67) 4th Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the Period Ending
31 January 1967 (RCS CSFOR-65)

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96307 8 MAR 1967

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

1. This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the period ending 31 January 1967 from Headquarters, 17th Field Hospital as indorsed.

2. Concur with the basic report as modified by the previous indorsements.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



STANLEY E. SCHULTS
Major, AGC
Asst. Adjutant General

1 Incl
nc

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GPOP-OT(8 Feb 67)

5th Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the Period Ending
31 January 1967 (RCS CSFOR-65), HQ 17th Fld Hospital

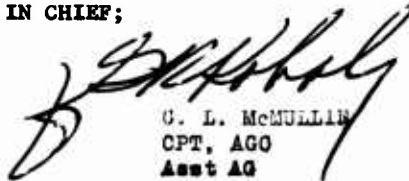
HQ, US ARMY, PACIFIC, APO San Francisco 96358

20 MAR 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. L. McMULLIN
CPT, AGO
Asst AG

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