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

SUBJECT: Operational Reports - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 62d Maintenance Battalion (DS), Period Ending 31 July 1967

TO: SEE DISTRIBUTION

1. Subject report is forwarded for review and evaluation by USACDC in accordance with paragraph 6f, AR 1-19 and by USCONARC in accordance with paragraph 6c and d, AR 1-19. Evaluations and corrective actions should be reported to ACSFOR OT 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:

C. A. STANFIELD
Colonel, AGC
Acting The Adjutant General

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(Continued on page 2)
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11th Infantry Brigade (Sep)
Commanding Officers
5th Battalion, 46th Infantry
5th Battalion, 12th Infantry
6th Battalion, 1st Infantry
31st Engineer Battalion (Cbt)
5th Battalion, 42d Artillery (155mm-T)
62d Maintenance Battalion (DS)
CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 62D MAINTENANCE BATTALION (DS)
APO US FORCES 96318

8 August 1967

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1967 ROSACSP0895(U)

THRU: Commanding Officer
Pleiku Sub Area Command
APO US Forces 96318

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

SECTION I

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

A. (U) CONTINUED

1. (U) The battalion engaged in mission operations for ninety-two (92) days of the reporting period.

2. (C) Command Group Activities:

a. On 27 May 1967 the 552d Lt Maint Co (DS) was attached to the battalion, following its move from Phn Bang, RVN, to Pleiku, RVN.

b. CPT James W. Bugoy, OrdC, assumed command of the 552d Lt Maint Co (DS), VICS OrdC Kendall S. Nyers, OrdC, on 26 July 1967.

c. The battalion organization as of 31 July 1967 is shown on Inclosure 1.

B. (C) PERSONNEL, RECRUITMENT, MORALE, AND DISCIPLINE:

1. (U) Personnel Status as of 31 July 1967 is shown on Inclosure 2.

2. (C) Casualties: Two (2) KIA were killed as a result of hostile action on 10 June 1967.

For OT ED File 670554

Downgraded at 3 year intervals
Declassified after 12 years
DOD DIR 5200.10
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AVCA-01 P-K-127C
3 August 1967

SUBJECT: Operational Report For Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1967

3. (U) There were no major administrative, morale, or disciplinary problems. In general, morale has been exceptionally high, and disciplinary problems have been minimal.

C. (C) INTELLIGENCE AND COUNTER INTELLIGENCE:

1. (C) Enemy attack of 10 June 1967:
   a. At 1051 JUN 67 the battalion area was hit by a Viet Cong support force estimated at platoon size. The west perimeter of the 628th Maintn Spt Co was penetrated by a number of VC who used rocket motor charges to blow a path thru the two triple concertina and one double apron fences. Extensive damage was done to customer-owned heavy equipment under repair, as well as TCE repair vans. Two H-90 converted fork lifts; one ditcher, one 20-ton crane, and one Engineer shop set were damaged sufficiently by explosive charges to require evacuation. Another shop set, one H-90 fork lift, one ditcher, one CAT 12, two D7C dozers; and one water distributor were damaged but repairable. Three VC were killed in the motor pool area by small arms fire delivered by a G5 Edwin A. Tater. The VC were barefooted and wore black shorts. They were armed with M-47 rifles, cartridge belts, CHICOM grenades, and explosive charges.

b. Simultaneously, the west perimeter of the battalion technical supply area was penetrated by cutting the fences and tying down the trip flares. One charge or grenade was placed or thrown at a guard post, killing one M instantly and seriously wounding one OJ. The VC died shortly after the attack, before he could be evacuated. Both IIs were assigned to the 628th Maint Spt Co. One warehouse in the area was extensively damaged. Repair parts stored inside were destroyed or strewed about by the explosion. Charges were also detonated under several parts storage vans, causing minor damage to the vans. Some repair parts and supplies stored outdoors were also destroyed.

c. About forty (40) total explosive charges were detonated during the attack. Following the attack, the 85th Ord Det (C) found about fifty (50) unexploded charges throughout the area(s), only five of which had been activated. Nine (9) CHICOM grenades and several propaganda leaflets were also found.

d. Contributing factors to the enemy's success in penetrating the perimeters:

(1) There was no perimeter lighting installed. This battalion had submitted a work order for 100 pole-mounted floodlights in February 1967, which had not been completed. (Lights have since been installed.)
August 1967

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1967

(2) The weather was chilly, dark, drizzling, and foggy.

(3) The two (2) BN KIA's were behind a temporary ground level defensive position because the regular guard tower foundation had sunk in the mud the previous day, causing the tower to lean.

2. (C) Patrols and Listening Posts:

a. During the period 14 June - 31 July 1967 the battalion conducted forty-four (44) patrols and listening posts. Thirty-four (34) were night listening posts, the remainder were day patrols. The patrols varied in size from 6 to 12 men. Areas of operation varied from 500 meters to 3,000 meters outside the perimeter, covering likely avenues of approach.

b. The patrols have located many foxholes, punji stick filled holes, snoop sites, several cavo entrances, and odd markings and writings in the ground, all of which were reported through intelligence channels.

3. (C) During July 1967 a mine field employing M16A1 and M14 anti-personnel mines was installed by the 526th Eng Det outside the west perimeter of the battalion area.

D. (C) PLANS, OPERATIONS, AND TRAINING

1. (U) On 13 July 1967 the battalion mission was augmented to include operation of a collection, classification, and salvage point. The remainder of the battalion mission remains unchanged.

2. (U) To accomplish the battalion maintenance mission with the most efficient use of available personnel, equipment, and facilities, the subordinate unit missions were realigned on 12 June 1967 as follows:

a. 156th Lt Maint Co (DS): Automotive Equipment and Combat Vehicles.

b. 552d Lt Maint Co (DS): Engineer and Quartermaster Light Equipment, Chemical Equipment, Office Machines, Small Arms and Fire Control Instruments, Clothing and Textiles, Artillery (Towed and Self-Propelled), Direct Exchange Operation (IX), and Emergency Wrecker Service.


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8 August 1967

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1967

3. (C) The expected additional mission of GS repair of M48A3 tanks in the Pleiku area, mentioned in the last quarterly OUI, has not materialized.

4. (U) Conversion of the battalion technical supply stock control records to the NCR-500 system is progressing satisfactorily, with an estimated completion date of 20 August 1967.

5. (U) The DI project Counter tour completed the mission in this area on 21 July 1967.

6. (U) During the reporting period, support in the way of personnel, equipment, and maintenance contact teams was furnished to the Forward Support Activities (FS's) of Task Forces Salzman and Furr. Maintenance support was also furnished Task Force Hurrie.

7. (U) A summary of maintenance operations for the reporting period is attached as enclosure 3.

2. (U) LOGISTICS:

1. (U) The most significant shortages of TOE equipment as of 31 July 1967 are as follows:

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<th>Quantity</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shop Set, Fld Maint, Surv, Basic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shop Set, Fld Maint, Art, Basic</td>
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2. (U) The following items were received during the reporting period:

<table>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tool Kit, Gun Mechanics</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truck, Cargo, 2 ton</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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3. (U) As of 31 July 1967, a total of thirty-one (31) buildings are included in the battalion maintenance facility plan. Construction progress status is as follows:

   a. Fourteen (14) buildings have been completed and are in use.
   b. Five (5) buildings are under construction.
   c. Twelve (12) buildings have not been started.
8 August 1967

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1967

F. (U) SPECIAL STAFF SECTIONS:

As part of the battalion Civic action program, water storage facilities for a local orphanage were completed. Water is now trucked to the orphanage daily.

SECTION II (PART I)

OBSERVATIONS (LESSONS LEARNED)

A. (U) CONT'D: Note:

B. (U) ILLUSTRATIONS, MODS., AND DISCIPLIN:

C. (U) INTELLIGENCE AND COUNTER INTELLIGENCE:

D. (U) PLANS, OPERATIONS AND TRAINING:

1. (U) ITEM: High rate of brake and clutch failures in monsoon.

DISCUSSION: A high rate of failure in automotive brakes and clutches has been experienced since the beginning of the monsoon season. Brake failure is caused by mud caking in the wheel, which causes brake shoes to fail to retract. As a result, the constant contact wears out the shoes and in many cases the wheel. Clutches wear out quickly due to impossible driving conditions.

OBSERVATION: The DSO must stock extra quantities of brake shoes and clutch components on a seasonal basis in order to prevent excessive demands for hitting the supply system. Non-availability would result in increase in deadlines. Using units must perform additional brake and wheel maintenance, specifically cleaning, to assist in reducing this problem.

2. (U) ITEM: Moisture damage to handset H138/U and other similar handsets during tactical operations.

DISCUSSION: Radio operators on night patrol occasionally have fallen into rice paddies and streams, which resulted in moisture damage to handsets.

OBSERVATION: It was found that a soft, pliable, plastic bag placed over the handset, taped to seal it, does not interfere with operation of the handset, and effectively protects it against moisture. The plastic must not be stiff or crackly however, to maintain noise discipline.
SUBJ: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1967

LOGISTICS: None.

SPECIAL STAFF SECTIONS: None.

SECTION II (PART II)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. (U) I have no additional recommendations to make at this time. The most significant maintenance and supply problems that this battalion has experienced were included in the ORILL dated 15 May 1967.

2. (U) It is anticipated that a detailed analysis of maintenance problems experienced in the recent season will be included in the next quarterly ORILL.

T.L. OLYMPIC 106
3 Incl
n/n

[Signature]

CHARLES B. THOMSON

ORDC
Commanding
SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1967

HEADQUARTERS, PLEIKU SUB AREA COMMAND, APO 96318, 21 August 1967

TO: Commanding General, U.S. Army Support Command, Qui Nhon, APO 96238

1. (Ref: Section II (Part I) D.1) The high rate of failure of brakes and clutches during the monsoon can be compensated for by stocking these items on a seasonal basis. It is recommended that consideration be given to developing a way to clean brake shoes and wheel drums without the present labor time involved to remove the wheels. Possibly an inspection plate and drain to flush the brake drum would be adequate.

2. (Ref: Section II (Part I) D.2) The field fix suggested for handsets is highly recommended. In addition, consideration should be given to waterproofing handsets.

3. The counter team has completed its survey and departed the Pleiku area. It is felt that the aid provided individual units in putting their PLL's was beneficial. Also, the location survey and inventory performed at the 62nd Maintenance Battalion (BS) technical supply activity has aided the performance of the supply activity. However, the ASL provided the unit by the counter team did not include all repair parts on unit PLL's. At the present time a new ASL is being established to include demand supported items, all unit PLL items, and other repair parts considered mission essential.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

[Signature]

TELEPHONE: Calvert 103

DUANE V. ACKERMAN
CPT, QMC
Adjutant
AVCA-QN-GO-0 (8 Aug 67) 2nd Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1967
R: SACSFOA65 (U)

HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY SUPPORT COMMAND, QUI Nhon, APO SAN FRANCISCO 96238

THRU: Commanding General, 1st Logistical Command, ATTN: AVCA QO-0,
APO 96307
Commanding General, United States Army, Vietnam, ATTN: AVHCQ-UST,
APO 96375
Commander-in-Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: CPOQ-CT,
APO 96558

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

(U) The attached Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending
31 July 1967 has been reviewed by this headquarters and is considered
adequate.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

[Signature]

QNL 150/600
3 Incl
nc

[Assistant Adjutant General's signature]
SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1967
(RCS CSFOR 65)

HEADQUARTERS, 1ST LOGISTICAL COMMAND, APO 96307

TO: Deputy Commanding General, United States Army Vietnam, APO 96375

1. The Operational Report - Lessons Learned submitted by the 3d Maintenance Battalion for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1967 is forwarded.

2. Reference page 5, paragraph D2: Concur. It should be noted, however, that it is to be removed upon completion of mission to exclude condensation within the headset.

3. The LIC of the reporting unit is L001AAA.

4. Concur with basic report as modified by inclosures. The report is considered adequate.

PI. R. 6-9 CONT'D.

JAMES D. FOX
2Lt AG
A& 9A

111: 1333 732

1 Inc.
SUBJECT: Operational Report—Lessons Learned for the Period Ending 31 July 1967 (RCS CSFOR-65) (U)

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

1. This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report—Lessons Learned for the period ending 31 July 1967 for Headquarters, 62d Maintenance Battalion (WCDIAAA) as indorsed.

2. Concur with the basic report as modified by indorsements. The report is considered adequate.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

/\E. L. Kennedy
CPT AGC
Asst AG

3 Incl
GPOP-DT (8 Aug 67) 5th Ind (U)

HQ, US ARMY, PACIFIC, APO San Francisco 96558 18 OCT 1967

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

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

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:

3 Inc1
nc

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| ACTUAL SHORTAGE| 7        | 0        | 133      | 140      |

Incl 2

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