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AD394460

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AUTHORITY

AGO ltr, 29 Apr 1980; 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

AGAM-P (M) (27 Nov 68) FOR OT UT 683165

4 December 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 26th
General Support Group, Period Ending 31 July 1968 (U)

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 that the Army realizes current benefits from lessons learned during recent operations.
3. To insure that the information provided through the Lessons Learned Program is readily available on a continuous basis, a cumulative Lessons Learned Index containing alphabetical listings of items appearing in the reports is compiled and distributed periodically. Recipients of the attached report are encouraged to recommend items from it for inclusion in the Index by completing and returning the self-addressed form provided at the end of this report.

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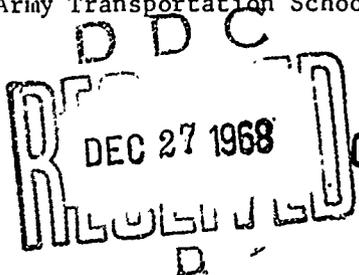
**C. A. STANFIEL
Colonel, AGC
Acting The Adjutant General**

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 26TH GENERAL SUPPORT GROUP
APO 96495

AVCA DN-QTO

31 July 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 26th General Support Group for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1968, Reports Symbol CSFOR-65 (R-1)

THRU: Commanding General, US Army Support Command, Da Nang (PROV)
ATTN: AVCA DNG-GO, APO 96349

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

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

Commander-in-Chief, United States Army, Pacific,
ATTN: GPOP-OT, APO 96553

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

1. References

- a. AR 380-5
- b. USARV Regulation 1-19
- c. 1st Logistical Command Regulation 1-19
- d. USASUPCOM DNG (PROV) Regulation 525-15

2. Forwarded in accordance with above references.

Stanley Tesko

STANLEY TESKO
COL, OrdC
Commanding

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SECTION I

SIGNIFICANT ORGANIZATIONAL OR UNIT ACTIVITIES

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. (C) Command

a. During the reporting period the 26th General Support Group established itself in all operational areas, in terms of the mission and also physical location. It was a period during which a solid foundation was established for the prompt and efficient reaction of this unit to the needs of the tactical situation and it was a period during which that reaction was tried and found to be responsive; fully satisfying the needs of combat units.

b. By 12 May 68 all the units which had initially been deployed with the 26th General Support Group had established themselves in areas which provided maximum efficient use of assets for the reporting period.

(1) Units of the 26th Group are located at Dong Ha, Quang Tri, Wunder Beach, Camp Evans, Camp Eagle, Phu Bai, Gia Le and at Landing Zones Betty and Sally extending from the Hai Van Pass to the DMZ.

(2) While the units of the 57th Transportation Battalion on Wunder Beach were improving the area, plans were being made for their movement to Quang Tri Combat Base when the beach is closed in the near future.

c. (1) The following key personnel joined the 26th General Support Group:

(a) Col Stanley Tesko, CO, 26th General Support Group, 2 May 68.

(b) LTC Duane Smith, CO, 159th Transportation Battalion (Tml Svc), 6 July 68.

(c) LTC Leland Tigh, CO, 39th Transportation Battalion (Mtr Trans), 2 May 68.

(d) LMT James Staley, Signal Officer, 15 May 68.

(e) LMT Jerry Hughes, Field Service Officer, 22 Jul 68.

(2) The following key personnel departed 26th General Support Group.

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- (a) LTC David Katz, Executive Officer, 15 June 68.
- (b) 1LT Gary Guyer, Signal Officer, 21 May 68.
- (c) 1LT Samuel L. McFarland III, RASC Officer
1 July 68.
- (d) 1LT William Dillon, Materiel MGT Officer,
20 July 68.

(3) LTC Deagle returned from recuperating from wounds received during Operation Pegasus to command the 57th Transportation Battalion (Mtr Trans). LTC Chester Henderson then CO, 57th Transportation Battalion (Mtr Trans) became Executive Officer, 26th General Support Group.

d. During the period 30 April 68 through 02 June 68 the HHD, 63d Maintenance Battalion, the 129th Main Support Company (see organization paragraph d) and the 596th Light Maintenance Company displaced from LZ Sharon in vic YD333495 to Quang Tri Combat Base and the site of the Army Logistic Area in vic YD317535.

e. The HHD, 39th Transportation Battalion closed to Gia Le on 02 May 68. Beginning 11 May 68 the 863d Transportation Company (Lt Trk), the 515th Transportation Company (Lt Trk) and the 585th Transportation Company (Med Trk) departed Wunder Beach after being assigned to the 39th Transportation Battalion from the 57th Transportation Battalion.

f. The 1st GOER stationed at Wunder Beach departed on 05 May 68 for Pleiku.

g. On 12 May 68 the HHD, 57th Transportation Battalion departed Quang Tri Combat Base for Wunder Beach in order to be in close proximity with 5 of its 7 units.

h. The 59th Ordnance Detachment (EOD) closed to Quang Tri Combat Base and became operational with a minimum of delay, providing EOD support for units in the Northern ICIZ. The unit arrived on 02 June 68.

i. On 06 June 68 the advance party of the 175th Veterinary Detachment arrived at Quang Tri Combat Base and by 23 June 68 the entire detachment had closed and were operational.

j. The arrival of the advance party of the 571st Ordnance Company (ammo) occurred on 23 June 68. Within one week, on 30 June 68 the entire unit had closed to the Army Logistic Area of Quang Tri Combat Base. Within another week after the arrival of the units heavy equipment, the unit became operational at the Quang Tri, Camp Evans and Phu Bai ASP's.

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k. The 403d Terminal Transfer Company had one platoon released by the Navy from operation at the Dong Ha ISU ramp on 29 June 68 and immediately prepared and executed a unit move to Wunder Beach to join its parent unit.

l. On 01 July 68 the 561st Shore Platoon departed Wunder Beach and left the Northern ICZ by air from Quang Tri Airfield to Binh Thuy in IV CTZ.

2. (U) Personnel, Administration, Morale and Discipline: The period of May thru July, after movement of the group headquarters from Dong Ha to Quang Tri, was spent establishing operating procedures. Studies of the numerous problems were made. Corrective action was taken and where necessary, policy was established or changed in an effort to minimize or eliminate problem areas. Due to the improvement made in many areas, as well as improving the living conditions, morale has further improved.

a. Financial Problems. Most of the financial problems experienced previously have been greatly reduced. The in-processing system used by the servicing personnel service company and the finance section insured that all personnel were completely processed and paid up to date prior to being shipped to their parent units. Difficulty was experienced however, in the payment of Task Force personnel who were attached to units located throughout RVN. Programs have been initiated which are designed to alleviate this situation and which will eventually reduce problems in the area of pay to no more than those normally experienced in a CONUS type environment.

b. R&R. R&R allocations for the months of May, June and July 1968 increased steadily as did the overall strength of the 26th General Support Group. However, allocations are insufficient in some areas and there still exists the strong possibility that some personnel will be unable to avail themselves of this program to the area of their choice due to impending DEKOS. This command is maintaining a 98% utilization of R&R allocations. In those isolated cases where an allocation is not used, it is due to last minute cancellations which resulted in this headquarters being unable to notify the next man on the list in sufficient time for him to make the flight. Sufficient controls have been established which should reduce last minute notification of this nature to an absolute minimum.

c. Promotions. Problem areas in the promotion system have been eliminated. Senior enlisted promotions are controlled by the next higher headquarters. At the present time, personnel of this command who are on the E-7, E-8 and E-9 Recommended List are:

- (1) Four to E-9,
- (2) Eight to E-8, and
- (3) Eleven to E-7.

There are presently 48 personnel on the group's Recommended list for promotion to E-6. Battalion Commanders have E-5 promotion authority and unit commanders have E-4 promotion authority. Promotion allocations for grades E-4 and E-5 have steadily increased to the point of having sufficient quotas to promote almost every individual recommended during the month of July 1968.

d. Personal mail. The Army Postal Unit which began servicing the Quang Tri-Wunder Beach area on 1 May 1968 has, in general, done an outstanding job under adverse operating conditions. Upon arrival, it was insufficiently equipped to properly perform their mission. Several congressional inquiries into the subject of non-receipt of mail were received as well as numerous personally registered complaints. Liaison was established between the Group Adjutant and the newly assigned NCOIC of the AFU. It was discovered that a recent change of AFU designation for this area was causing the delay in receipt of mail. This problem has since been rectified and mail service to this area indicates an in-transit period from date posted to date received of from four to eight days.

e. Replacement personnel. This is the subject of a separate action which has been initiated by this headquarters, which is designated to help smooth the flow of replacements to subordinate units of this command. The concept that all replacements should be routed to the group headquarters proved to be impractical due to the travel difficulties experienced in Vietnam. Approximately 275 replacements were processed by the S-1/adjutant section during this quarter. Action being initiated is to have enlisted replacements in grade E-5 and below routed directly to the battalion. Senior enlisted and officer replacements are still required to process through the group headquarters where they are personally interviewed by the group commander and briefed by the group staff.

f. TOE authorization. Since the last report, a request for additional personnel to staff the S-1/adjutant section for processing actions not normally handled at this level is presently under study. Each month, as the group expands, the correspondence workload increases as additional units are assigned or attached to the command. Yet, the TOE authorization for this section remains the same, one adjutant (major), one personnel staff NCO (E-7) and one E-4 clerk typist. For example, during May 1968 approximately 650 personnel actions were processed while in June 1968 832 were processed. This required the PSNCO and typist to devote full time to these actions, working at least 14 hours per day and on many occasions as much as 16-20 hours per day, seven days a week. A staff study is under review and if approved and adopted is expected to eliminate this problem.

g. Courier Service. In general, courier service within the group is satisfactory. Correspondence and distribution for battalion units is picked up daily by couriers from battalion headquarters and broken down to individual unit couriers from their subordinate units on a daily basis. Separate non-battalion units, attached directly to this headquarters, send couriers daily to pick up distribution. Correspondence and distribution from higher headquarters is received through postal channels and generally takes from five to seven days in transit.

h. Film Accounts. All units of the group have submitted an application for 16-millimeter free motion picture accounts. All applications were approved for assignment of film account numbers by AAFMPS. With film account numbers from AAFMPS, each unit has submitted a requisition for a projector. Projectors are not in the supply channels and the 14th Inventory Control Center has issued a statement of nonavailability for all units. The 26th General Support Group headquarters submitted a request to the Central Post Fund in Da Nang for a grant of \$500.00 for each unit so that projectors may be purchased by each unit fund.

i. Stars and Stripes Newspaper. Insufficient copies of the newspaper are received sporadically from the Special Services Office III Marine Amphibious Force, in whose area of responsibility this headquarters is located. Action continues in this area in an effort to obtain better service. A list of all units not receiving regular distribution of Stars and Stripes newspapers has been submitted to the Stars and Stripes Office in Da Nang.

j. Discipline. Having just recently established a legal section at this headquarters in mid-May, this headquarters has had four members of the command brought before a special courts-martial which convened here in Quang Tri, of which two were found guilty. Although the Tables of Organization and Equipment does not include a legal section, the Command Judge Advocate has trained members of this command to handle the administrative proceedings which are involved in handling violators of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ).

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3. (C) Operations

a. Forward Support Areas

(1) At the close of the last quarter the 26th General Support Group began support of the 1st Air Cav Div which was engaged in Operation Delaware in the A Shau Valley. The support during the early part of the present reporting period was provided by 1 officer, 10 ammunition personnel, 5 graves registration personnel and 2 shower point personnel. The equipment in support was 1 shower point and 1 graves registration box. Both personnel and equipment operated as an augmentation to the 1st Air Cav Div FSE (Forward Support Element) stationed in the A Shau Valley. The men returned to Task Force 26-3 on 13 May 68.

(2) On 19 May 68, Task Force 26-3 operational area received an intense rocket attack (See Intelligence, paragraph 7j). Re-establishing an operational posture at the Task Force was undertaken immediately. Equipment was moved from standby FSA assets located throughout this organization and obtained through prompt reaction by higher headquarters.

(3) General George H. Young Jr., Commanding General, USASUPCOM DNG (PAOV), after inspecting TF 26-2 on 29 June 68, ordered the phase out of the FSA. Immediately, plans were developed to issue all remaining supply stocks and to provide graves registration facilities, shower points and laundry to the 1st Bde, 1st Air Cav located at LZ Betty in vic YD338507. The Task Force was deactivated on 16 July 1968.

(4) General Young, after inspecting Task Force 26-3 on 03 July 68, ordered the phase out of this Task Force. Again, plans were developed and implemented on the disposition of supply stocks, personnel and equipment. The laundry, showers, ice cream plant and ASF personnel remaining after the phase out were attached to the 178th Div Maint Co at Camp Evans. Phase out of TF 26-3 was completed on 15 July 1968.

(5) Task Force 26-1 was deactivated on 12 July 68. A detachment of the 63d Main Support Company was established to provide direct support to Army Units in the Dong Ha area. A detachment of the 571st Ordnance Company (ammo) was also established at Dong Ha to provide ammunition support in that area.

b. Base Development.

(1) In early May a special section was established to carry out the supervision and direction of Base Development of the 26th General Support Group, to determine future land requirements and prepare the 26th General Support Group for the coming September monsoon.

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(2) -- study was made by Col Tesko - CO, LTC Metz - XO, LTC Fulmer - Group S&O, LIA Lingle - CO, 526th Engineer Detachment and LIA Ash - 26th GSG Engineer Officer of the immediate and expected needs of this organization. -- letter was submitted on 12 May 68 to the Commanding General, US Army Support Command, Da Nang (Provisional) outlining this organizations needs and requesting assistance. On the 14th of May the request was approved and forwarded to III MAF recommending approval.

(3) The 26th General Support Group presented its land requirements to the Quang Tri Subarea Base Development Board, 3d Mar Div, on 3 June 1968. It was agreed by the Quang Tri Subarea Base Development Board that the 26th General Support Group could have the needed land if FLSG-B agreed to vacate the temporary fuel and ammunition storage.

(4) A formal request was drawn up and submitted to the Quang Tri Subarea Base Development Board on 13 June 68 requesting the land with boundaries of HCBU301 property line on the north to QL-1 on the east to the present perimeter on the south to the railroad tracks on the west (see Fig 1). A list of the horizontal and vertical construction priorities of the 26th General Support Group was also integrated into the Quang Tri subarea Base Development Board Construction priority list.

(5) In the last week of June a Base Development Office and a tent prefabrication shop were set up in the 526th Engineer Detachment (K&U) area to expedite and control the building of tent frames and other minimum essential required construction in the 26th General Support Group. The 26th Group pooled all of its craftsmen in the Base Development Office to expedite work and get maximum utilization of resources.

(6) In a discussion following the 13 June 1968 Quang Tri Subarea Base Development among:

Major Polo	Engineer 1st Log
Major Huckaby	3d Mar Div Engr
Cpt Fisher	Engineer DSC
LIA Ash	26th GSG Engr
LIA Edwards	COMNAV FORV REP

it was learned that the Navy design for Southeast Asia huts, using metal roofs instead of tents were cheaper, more durable and more desirable to live in. Major Polo took this under advisement and sent a letter suggesting a change in USARV Reg 415-1, April 1968, to allow the Army in NICTZ to convert to the Navy design.

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(7) A letter from Fleet Logistic Command to the Commanding General, US Army Support Command, Da Nang (Provisional), dated 4 July 1968 gave the 26th General Support Group permission to construct in the FLSG-B area. The construction was to begin prior to the anticipated 1 September 68 completion date for Army Bulk Fuel Tanks.

c. Operational Liaison Visits

(1) The 26th General Support Group during the present reporting period has had units and activities stationed at combat bases, landing zones and installations along National Highway (QL)-1 from Dong Ha on the north to Gia Le, south of Hue, a distance of approximately 50 miles. In addition the Wunder Beach Road, a secondary road off QL-1 leading to the Logistics Over the Shore (LOTS) operation added another 7 miles to travel from the main road, in order to visit either one of this organizations two other Transportation Battalions at that location.

(2) (U) For units and activities within a 15 mile radius of the 26th Group headquarters at Quang Tri Combat Base the main mode of transportation was over the road network. However, for operational liaison visits to units outside the 15 mile radius or when the liaison visit was made by the Commanding Officer, a helicopter was used whenever possible.

(3) (U) The Commanding Officer covered nearly 2,000 miles and had 29 hours and 40 minutes flying time in order to make the numerous liaison visits necessary for strong command control of 26th Group units stationed throughout the northern ICTZ. All of this travel was performed on flights of opportunity. Provisions should be made to provide logistic group commanders with adequate helicopter service.

(4) (U) Each staff officer made operational liaison visits with units in the command in order to keep abreast of accomplishments and problem areas.

d. The 526th Engineer Detachment (A&U)

(1) Immediately upon deployment in the Army logistic area of Quang Tri Combat Base, the 526th Engineer Detachment was called on to install defensive, tactical and supplementary wire for the portion defended by Army troops. The detachment installed two rows of triple concertina barbed wire, tanglefoot and a single apron of barbed wire over a 1500 meter long portion of the perimeter. The laying of wire occurred between 1 May and 20 May.

(2) (U) In addition from 1 May to 20 May the detachment bulldozed and graded about 150,000 sq meters for the perimeter to clear sectors of fire and level terrain which could provide cover for an attacking enemy force. Construction is now proceeding on 24 new bunkers which when completed will provide a most effective perimeter defense posture.

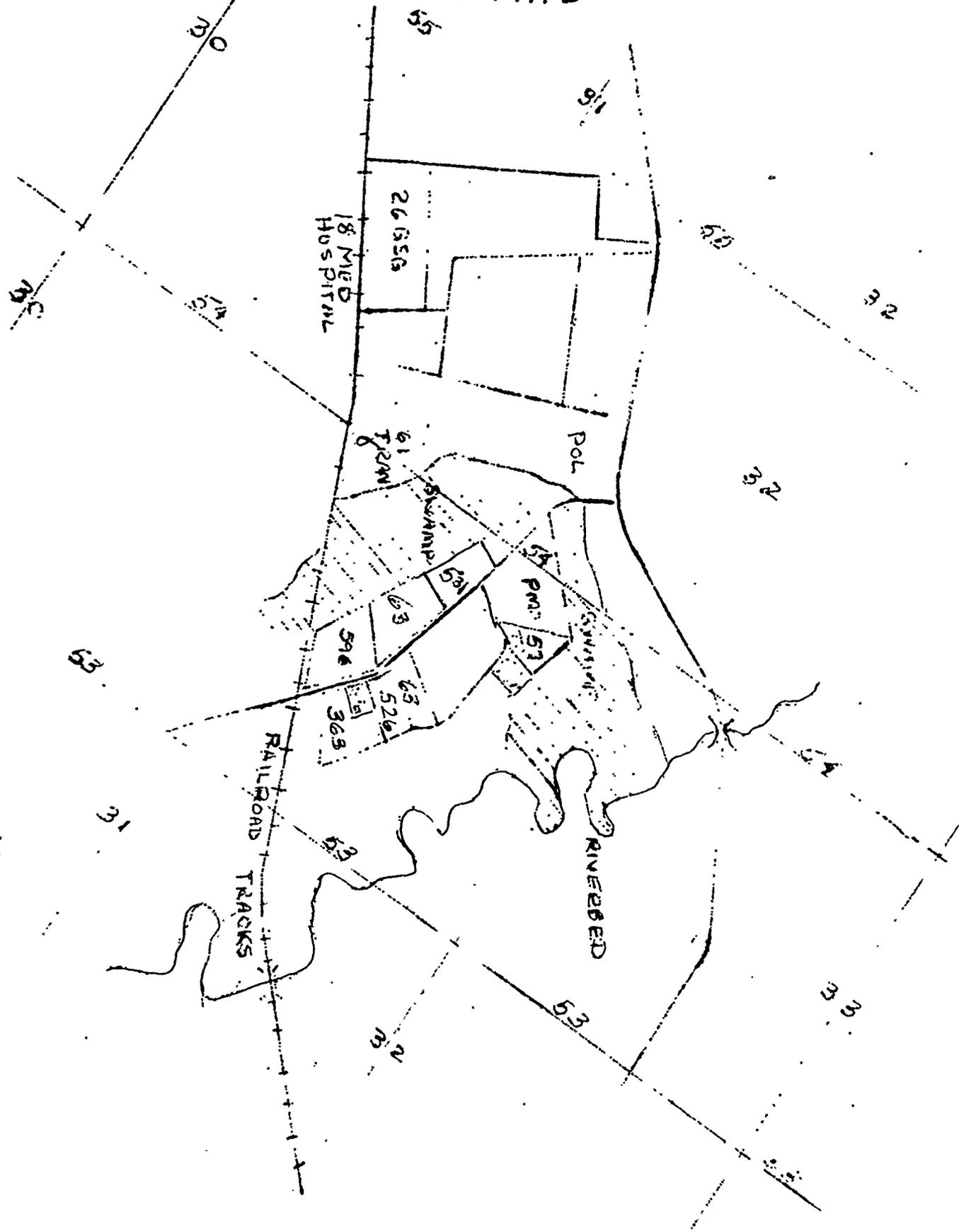
(3) (U) From 20 June to 10 July 200 cubic yards of cement were poured with a 16S mixer for maintenance pads for the 596th Light Maintenance Company and 63d Main Support Company areas.

(4) (U) The 526th Supervised the laying of 7,000 sq meters of wool matting from 3 June to 5 July in the 596th Light Maintenance Company area. The "hardstand" will be used for outdoor storage.

(5) (U) A pre-fabrication shop for tent frames was established on 27 June and has produced pre-cut frames for approximately 120 tents. The shop has another 240 tent frames to cut before the entire group is living in these structures.

(6) (U) At Camp Evans the 526th was involved in pouring cement pads for the ice cream plant and the laundry. Pads were also poured at LZ Betty for a shower point and laundry.

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5. (C) Intelligence

a. (U) The Intelligence Officer, LT. Sklar continued to make effective liaison with major tactical units in this area including the 1st Air Cavalry Division, the 3d Marine Division and the 1st MVA Division through daily attendance of MLCV Intelligence Briefings.

b. (U) From 02 May 68 until 25 May 68 the Intelligence Officer acted as OIC of the portion of the perimeter of Quang Tri Combat Base which was designated as the responsibility of Army Logistics units. At the time, the 26 bunkers, accounting for 104 men each night were manned solely by personnel of two companies of the 63d Maintenance Battalion with augmentation from the 57th Transportation Battalion. During this time all defensive, tactical and supplementary wire was laid, terrain features which might aid the enemy were leveled, S.O.P.'s were published based on the Base Defense Operations plan and an aggressive program of reconnaissance patrols was instituted. The aggressive professional attitude of the personnel of the 63d Maintenance Battalion contributed a great deal to the development of an effective perimeter defense.

c. (U) On 1 June 68, 26th General Support Group Regulation 380-5 was published in order to provide a ~~definitive~~ guidance for 26th Group on matters of safe-guarding defense information.

d. The Intelligence Officer provided initial briefings on friendly and enemy situations when the 571st Ordnance Company (ammo) arrived at this location from CONUS.

e. Initial map support was provided to the advance party of the 1st Bde 5th Inf (Mech) after they arrived at this location from CONUS.

f. (U) A vigorous security inspection was instituted during the month of July. Inspections were held both in conjunction with pre-AGI inspections conducted by a team from 26th General Support Group Headquarters and separately conducted solely by the Intelligence Officer.

g. (U) The following are enemy initiated incidents which occurred during the reporting period and involved 26th Group personnel and equipment. Units in parentheses are the units involved.

(1) 022120H May 68, Quang Tri Combat Base Logistics Area received 2 each 60mm mortar rounds. Negative casualties; negative damage.

(2) 022130H May 68, the logistics complex at Quang Tri Combat Base received small arms fire and automatic weapons fire on the south side of the perimeter in the vic YD317534 (Ref map: 1:50,000 Series L7014 Sheet 6442 IV). Fire was returned. Negative friendly casualties; unknown enemy casualties. (63d Maintenance Battalion)

(3) 041100H May 68 - A tractor/trailer returning to Wunder Beach in vic YD442497 struck a mine. Rear portion of trailer was damaged. Negative friendly casualties. (572d Transportation Company)

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(4) 06250H May 68 - 4 rounds 60mm mortar were received in vic YD316533. Negative casualties; negative damage to equipment. (63d Maintenance Battalion)

(5) 071815H May 68 - A tanker proceeding to Wunder Beach in vic YD442497 was hit by a command detonated mine. Negative casualties; negative damage. (61st Transportation Company)

(6) 090800H May 68 - TF 26-3 at Camp Evans received 1 each 122mm rocket in the Class I yard destroying 02 pallets of 'B' rations, negative casualties.

(7) 081930H May 68 - A convoy returning to Wunder Beach vic YD425539 came under rocket attack. Negative casualties, negative damage. (57th Transportation Battalion)

(8) 141129H May 68 - One round of 130mm artillery landed in the 446 Transportation Company motor pool area in vic YD232583. Negative casualties; 5 each 5 ton tractors damaged by shrapnel.

(9) 141345H May 68 - As a result of incoming rounds impacting in the Dong Ha ASP and the resulting explosions of several pads, the 446th Transportation Company was littered with dud rounds. Several trucks were damaged by shrapnel.

(10) 160045H May 68 - Wunder Beach came under mortar attack. One bunker took a direct hit. 12 WHA (572d Transportation Company 63d Transportation Company)

(11) 191925H May 68 - Camp Evans received heavy rocket attack resulting in the destruction of a great deal of equipment to the units in the area. TF 26-3 reported the following damaged or destroyed: Class V approximately 3200 tons destroyed, Class III, mogas and DF-2 totally destroyed, 2 refrigeration units totally destroyed, 1 each 20 ton crane damaged, 3 each 4,000 pound fork lift destroyed, 2 each 6,000 pound forklift destroyed, 2 each 2 1/2 ton trucks totally destroyed, 1 each 2 1/2 ton truck destroyed, Class II & IV penprime totally destroyed. There were numerous dud rounds in the TF 26-3 area vic YD533318. 7 WHA

(12) 210030 May 68 - 20 rounds of undetermined caliber landed within TF 26-4 area; 25 foot of hosing and 1 each JP-4 bag totally destroyed in vic YD818155.

(13) 210100H May 68 - The perimeter at Gia Le came under ground and rocket attack for 1 hour. One bunker was destroyed, 2 KHA, 1 WHA. Resulting enemy casualties approximately 32 KIA. (39th Transportation Battalion)

(14) 210530H May 68 - 8 each 122mm rockets landed in the TF-26-3 area, vic YD533318. Negative casualties, negative damage.

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(15) 251130H May 68 - a 3/4 ton truck struck a mine on QL-1 in vic YD507354. 1 WHA (POL Pltn, 148th S&S Co)

(16) 201600H Jun 68 - Dong Ha ASP received approximately 20 rounds of 130mm artillery fire. The rounds caused destruction of approximately 12,000 S/T's of both US Army and USMC ammunition. All 26th Group personnel were accounted for. Negative casualties. (630th Ordnance Detachment, 40th Ordnance Detachment)

(17) 251306H Jun 68 - One 5 ton tractor hit a mine in vic YD098525. Tractor destroyed, negative casualties. (446th Trans Co)

(18) 261515H Jun 68 - One 5 ton tractor hit mine in vic YD103538. Tractor totally destroyed. 1 WHA (minor). (446th Trans Co)

(19) 212300H Jun 68 - 8 to 10 122mm rockets fell into Quang Tri Combat Base. Negative Casualties; negative damage.

(20) Total casualties for the reporting period: 2 KIA, 20 WHA (minor), 2 WHA (serious).

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6. (c) Logistics

a. During the reporting period the major troop units supported were:

- (1) Provisional Corps Vietnam Troops
- (2) 1st Air Cavalry Division
- (3) 101st Air Cavalry Division (-)
- (4) 3d Light Infantry Brigade, 82d Airborne Division
- (5) 108th Artillery Group
- (6) 26th General Support Group

b. The major exercises supported were Operation Delaware, Lamson 216 in the A Shau Valley area and Operation Thor, a combined air-artillery bombardment aimed at targets in and adjacent to the Demilitarized Zone. The routine operations such as Jeb Stuart II, the 1st Air Cavalry Division continuing search, seize and destroy operations and similar operations were supported from the 26th General Support Group's normal support posture.

c. Supply - A resume of supply operations by class of supply follows for the reporting period.

(1) Class I

(a) Class I support in the Northern I Corps Tactical Zone (NICTZ) is split into three areas of operation. For units stationed between the Hai Van Pass to the Perfume River at Hue, rations are drawn from the Force Logistical Support Group-Alpha (FIGS-A), the USMC logistics base located at Phu Bai. For units stationed between the DMZ and the Thach Han River at Quang Tri, rations are drawn from FIGS-B located at Dong Ha. Rations for units between the two rivers are provided by the 26th General Support Group. The Class I point located at Wunder Beach on the Gulf of Tonkin and operated by the 625th Supply and Service Company provides retail ration support to units at Wunder Beach and wholesale delivery to divisional forward support elements and Landing Zones Sally, Jane, Sharon and Camp Evans. Retail support is provided by the divisional FSI to the troop units.

(b) During May, the 625th Supply and Service Company issued 432,284 refrigerated rations components, 231,266 non-refrigerated rations components, 306,169 combat individual rations and 8,085 sundry packs.

(c) During June, the issues consisted of 536,241 refrigerated rations components, 630,958 non-refrigerated components, 231,071 combat individual rations and 9,102 sundry packs.

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(d) During July, the issue consisted of 803,126 refrigerated rations, 617,653 non-refrigerated components, 221,258 combat individual rations and 6,255 sundry packs.

(e) Ice cream

(1) To afford ice cream support for the AOR north of the Hai Van Pass, a total of five each Bastion-Blessing 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon capacity machines and one experimental St. Regis machine (fifty gallon capacity continuous flow type from Natick Laboratories) were established in the Group area.

(2) Problems encountered in establishing this support program included:

(a) Freezer capacity to handle plant production,

(b) Non-availability of ice cream shipping containers that will keep the product in a frozen state from issue point of production to point of consumption.

(3) Actions taken to remedy problem areas:

(a) Freezer capacity organic to the 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon machines amounted to forty gallons of hardening cabinet on the machine itself. Due to production needed to afford three weekly issues of 3.5 gallons per 100 men, this was not sufficient to give needed storage capacity. For this reason, commercial upright freezers of 19-22 cubic foot capacity were ordered to supplement the holding capacities of these plants. Freezers released were of three general configurations:

(1) Sub-zero with a temperature gauge on the outside of the freezer box. This freezer cooling element is mounted in the top of the box and cool air is circulated by two small rotary fans.

(2) Sub-zero with no temperature gauge on the freezer door. This freezer has a coolant circulating in lines between the shelves of the box.

(3) Harvester model with cooling system similar to 2 above. Of the three types of freezers, the second has proven itself to be best due to a pronounced tendency of the first to have its fans freeze up, and the lower shelves of the third type necessitating storage of the product on the containers' sides due to lack of adequate shelf height.

(b) In the case of the continuous flow package from Natick Laboratories, a 1600 cubic foot reefer was constructed with four each 10,000 BTU cooling units attached. This refrigerator provides ample space for holding, storage and shipment load-out adjacent to the plant.

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(c) To provide an insulated shipping container for holding ice cream from production to issue point to consumer, a plywood box was constructed of sufficient size to permit a styrofoam liner, made from aircraft flare packing material, to be installed. These snippers are sufficient to keep the product for approximately four hours, but are difficult to maintain and control.

(f) A field bakery facility was operated at Wunder Beach during the reporting period. The bakery with a capacity greater than 36 pounds per hundred troops supported issued approximately 25 pounds per hundred men at request of the supported units. Variety was introduced with the production of raisin and whole wheat once every week. The bakery produced for issue in May 237,423 pounds of bread, in June 241,440 pounds and in July 209,460 pounds.

(2) Class II

(a) Support of Class II items (less repair parts) is generally divided into two systems in NICTZ. Divisional units draw through their division supply officers. Support for non-divisional units north of the Perfume River are based on the 625th Supply and Service Company at Wunder Beach; units south of the river on the Da Nang Depot. In support of the non-divisional units north of the Perfume River, the 625th Supply and Service received 238 tons of material in May, 281 tons in June and 270 tons in July; and issued 218 tons in May, 489 tons in June and 192 tons in July.

(b) Repair parts supply support throughout the zone is provided by the direct support maintenance units throughout the zone, divisional DS units in support of their respective divisions and the 63d Maintenance Battalion for non-divisional customer units. The 63d Maintenance Battalion's direct support units are the 63d Main Support Company in Quang Tri with a detachment at Dong Ha, the 596th Light Maintenance Company at Quang Tri with a detachment at Wunder Beach, the 178th Divisional Maintenance Company at Camp Evans and the 67th Divisional Maintenance Company at Camp Eagle, all of which provide support on an area basis. This battalion also has the 578th Light Maintenance Company located at Phu Bai which provides general support for electronic and light engineer equipment.

(3) Class III

(a) Bulk Class III support for Army troops north of the Perfume River is generally handled by shipment for a "Bag Farm" located at Wunder Beach and operated by the US Marine Corps. Tank trailers make daily deliveries to "bag farms" located at Landing Zones Sharon, Jane, Sally and Camp Evans. At Landing Zone Sharon and Camp Evans the operation of the bulk storage farms was a joint division/26th General Support Group operation with the division responsible for retail distribution. By the end of the reporting period the 26th General Support Group phased out of this operation at these installations.

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(b) During the reporting period, the bulk fuel point at Wunder Beach received the following products by use of two submerged lines from ocean going tankers and issues the following quantities primarily by 5000 gallon tank tractor trailers: (quantities in thousands of gallons)

(1) <u>May 1968</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Issued</u>
JP-4	1,798	1,564
AVGAS	98	73
MOGAS	497	475
DF-2	745	638

(2) <u>June 1968</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Issued</u>
JP-4	1,278	1,475
AVGAS	32	46
MOGAS	443	442
DF-2	610	728

(3) <u>July 1968</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Issued</u>
JP-4	1,719	1,608
AVGAS	103	61
MOGAS	497	497
DF-2	876	843

(c) Units in the Hue/Phu Bai and Quang Tri/Dong Ha areas are drawing bulk fuel products directly from the US Marine Corps sources at established filling stations.

(d) Supply of packaged POL products is also divided into two systems. Units, to include divisional, north of the Perfume River requisition packaged POL from the 625th Supply and Service Company at Wunder Beach which in turn requisitions from the Naval Support Activity in Da Nang. Units south of the Perfume River draw directly on the Naval Support Activity. Additionally, Task Force 26-4 at Camp Eagle maintains a small stock of packaged POL for emergency issues to units in the Hue/Phu Bai area.

(4) Class IV. Supply of Engineer construction material follows generally the same lines as packaged POL. Units north of the Perfume River request supplies from the 625th Supply and Service Company. Units south draw directly from the Naval Support Activity.

(5) Class V.

(a) Ammunition resupply support is provided by supply point distribution on an area basis. Ammunition supply points are shared with USMC at Dong Ha, Quang Tri and Phu Bai. In addition,

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this headquarters operates Army ASP's at Camp Evans and Wunder Beach.

(b) Exceptions to supply point distribution are made when bulk shipments of palletized loads can be through-put directly into a landing zone or fire base.

(c) On 20 May, enemy rocket fire struck the ASP at Camp Evans. The resultant conflagration and explosions destroyed the entire stock of approximately 3,200 short tons. A new temporary ASP was immediately established for 450 S/T.

(d) On 20 June, enemy artillery and rocket fire struck the USMC/US Army ASP at Dong Ha. Again, losses of ammunition stock was total and caused the loss of approximately 4000 short tons of Army ammunition. No new ASP has been established.

(e) On 25 June, the first segment of the new USMC/US Army ASP at Quang Tri were opened for storage. The first two modules of five pads each were assigned for USMC use. The next two totalling nine pads are in use for Army storage. As more modules become available, they are being equally distributed for USMC and Army use.

(f) To show the impact of the loss of two ASP's at Camp Evans and Dong Ha, and the occupant of the new ASP at Quang Tri, the following tabular information is provided:

<u>ASP</u>	<u>STOCKAGE OBJECTIVES</u>		<u>ON HAND TONNAGES</u>	
	1 May	31 July	1 May	31 July
DONG HA	3518	0	4127.9	0
QUANG TRI	959	1792	1187.4	2058.5
WUNDER BEACH	0	0	1659.8	1467.0
CAMP EVANS	1005	448	2885.0	342.0
PHU BAI	3609	3608	4739.0	2935.0

(g) On 1 July, Operation Thor, a mass air-artillery bombardment of the DMZ began. Between 1 and 7 July a total of 1773 short tons of ammunition was supplied to Army artillery units. Of this 873 tons was supplied from Wunder Beach using 26th General Support Group transportation assets. Approximately 95% was shipped directly to the customer thus avoiding double handling at the Quang Tri ASP and the resultant congestion which would have occurred.

d. Services:

(1) Laundry

(a) Laundry service north of the Perfume River is handled on an area basis. Field laundries are operated at Camp Evans with five

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tidal washer-dryer machines, at Landing Zone Betty-Sharon with four bidals, one washer and one dryer and at Wunder Beach with three washers and two dryers. Laundry is delivered to and picked up from the facility by the customer units.

(b) A summary of services provided is as follows:
(Figures expressed in pounds)

	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUN</u>	<u>JULY</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Camp Evans	113,691#	202,606#	142,870#	463,167#
LZ Betty-Sharon	108,640#	148,800#	206,020#	463,460#
Wunder Beach	NOT OPEN	30,505#	57,700#	88,205#
Total	222,331#	385,991#	406,590#	1,014,832#

(c) Service south of the Perfume River is provided by a contract laundry facility in Hue.

(d) At the close of the reporting period negotiations were being carried on and facilities inspected for the establishment of a civilian contracted laundry in the Quang Tri area.

(2) Bath

(a) Field shower units have been made available to augment unit showers at four installations, LZ Sally, Camp Evans, LZ Betty-Sharon and LZ Eagle.

(b) A resume of number of personnel who made use of the facilities follows:

	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUN</u>	<u>JULY</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
LZ Sally	NOT OPEN	14,000	2,474	16,474
Camp Evans	33,011	25,500	13,992	72,503
LZ Betty-Sharon	13,505	8,030	11,205	32,740
LZ Eagle	28,000	25,999	15,107	69,106
Total	74,516	67,129	42,778	187,423

(3) Graves Registration

(a) As with the other field services, graves registration is provided on an area basis. Four points are in operation, one each in Phu Bai, LZ Sally, Camp Evans and LZ Sharon.

(b) During the reporting period 697 human remains and two canine remains were identified, processed and transported to the US Army Mortuary, Da Nang; 237 humans from Phu Bai, 17 humans from LZ Sally, 130 humans from Camp Evans and 163 humans and two canines from LZ Sharon.

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c. Pipeline Service.

(1) The number of incidents involving damage to the Tan My/Fau Bai pipeline by friendly vehicles was lowered markedly during the latter part of the reporting period after certain portions of the line were buried.

(2) During the reporting period an attempt was made to construct an 8" pipeline from Wunder Beach to Quang Tri. From 11 May until 27 May, when the project was discontinued, the 26th General Support Group was engaged in a joint effort with the Seabees to complete the line and water-test it prior to the 26th Group assuming full responsibility for the pipeline maintenance. Contributing to the abandonment of the project was the large amount of damage caused in a relatively short time by enemy action and vehicular accidents on the portion of the line from Wunder Beach to Hai Lang, due to poor road conditions. It may be expected that the proposed pipeline from Hue to Quang Tri which was passed through similarly unsecure areas, will be similarly harassed by enemy sabotage unless adequate security is provided.

d. Maintenance

(1) As with Field Services, maintenance support is provided on an area basis. The 63d Maintenance Battalion in Quang Tri has units located from Dong Ha in the north to Phu Bai in the south. The 63d Main Support Company, formerly the 129th Main Support Company, supports the area from the DMZ south to the Thach Han River at Quang Tri, and in addition to its prime company area in Quang Tri, has a detachment at Dong Ha for artillery support. The 596th Light Maintenance Company area begins at the Thach Han River in Quang Tri and continues south to the boundary generally defined as the Hai Lang to Wunder Beach Road. In addition to its company area, the company operates a detachment at Wunder Beach. The 178th Divisional Maintenance Company located at Camp Evans covers the area from the Hai Lang-Wunder Beach Road south to the Perfume River. The 67th Divisional Maintenance Company at Camp Eagle has responsibility for the area between the Perfume River to the Hai Van Pass. The 578th Light Maintenance Company, located in Phu Bai, has general support responsibility for electronics and light equipment for the whole NICTZ.

(2) Recurring maintenance reports submitted by subordinate units have been significantly improved regarding completeness, accuracy and timeliness. The expansion of communications media and the employment of couriers has insured the timely meeting of suspense dates. Many man-hours are expended in gathering data. Considering manpower shortages at the unit level, a review of required reports in all areas as well as maintenance has proven most beneficial.

(3) Support maintenance missions formerly performed by the Task Force was entirely absorbed by collocated direct support units. The phasing out of the task force will in no way adversely affect supported units. Battalions of the 108th Artillery Group which relied

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upon Task Force Colvin at Dong Ha, are supported by a detachment of the 63d Main Support Company. Armament repair personnel of the Task Forces were transferred to the 63d Main Support Company. Repair parts supply, while continuing to be a problem area, has improved. Battalions in the 26th General Support Group have appointed material readiness expeditors who take unit daily deadline reports and screen them against technical supply assets in the direct support units. The most significant lesson learned during this reporting period is that the resolution of maintenance problems can best be solved at the unit level. Direct contact between unit commanders and Company Commanders of the DSU's has solved problems in maintenance that were difficult to approach in any other manner.

g. Transportation.

(1) Truck transportation.

(a) Land transportation support in NICTZ is provided by two subordinate battalions. The 57th Transportation Battalion (Truck) located at Wunder Beach and Dong Ha generally provides support from the DMZ south to the Perfume River. The 39th Transportation Battalion (Truck) located in the Hue/Fnu Bai area provides support from the Perfume River south to Da Nang. Each battalion may be called upon to overlap into the other's area.

(b) At Wunder Beach, the 57th Transportation Battalion has assumed operation of 10 Kenworth 20 ton trucks and 15 ton Eidal trailers from the Vinnell Corporation. The vehicles have proven invaluable for the beach clearance mission as well as for line haul.

(c) During the reporting period the transportation units carried the following cargo:

	<u>39th TC Bn</u>		<u>57th TC BN</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	Dry	POL	Dry1	POL	Dry	POL
May	17406 S/T	323000 gal	43030 S/T	2955000 gal	60436 S/T	3278000 gal
June	16649 S/T	1740000 gal	52292 S/T	2665000 gal	68941 S/T	4405000 gal
July	21336 S/T	2097000 gal	39409 S/T	3405000 gal	60745 S/T	5502000 gal
Total	55391 S/T	4160000 gal	134731 S/T	9025000 gal	1901228/T	13185000gal

(1) Transportation Terminal Operations

(a) On 7 July, the command of the 159th Transportation Battalion (Terminal Service) was re-assigned from the US Army Support Command, Da Nang to the 26th General Support Group. The battalion located at Wunder Beach is responsible for cargo discharge of ships, boats and lighterage, and delivery of the cargo to the storage sites operated by the 625th Supply and Service Company.

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(b) During the reporting period the battalion discharged the following tonnages from a total of 19 deep-craft vessels, 166 LST/LCU/YFU and 13 others:

	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUN</u>	<u>JUL</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Tonnages	39957 S/T	18005 S/T	3143 S/T	89396 S/T

7. (U) Organization

a. The following is a list of units assigned and attached to the 26th General Support Group during the reporting period.

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
(1) 159th TC Bn (Tnl Svc)	7 Jul
(2) 132d Engr Det (Power Plant Operating)	20 Jun
(3) 625th Supply and Service Company	21 May
(4) 610th QM Det (Refrigeration) (TMLA)	21 May
(5) Bakery Platoon, 34th S&S Bn	21 May
(6) F&C Platoon, 139th Supply Company	21 May
(7) 39th Trans Bn	2 May
(8) 571st Ordnance Company (ammo)	26 Jun
(9) 59th Ordnance Detachment (EOD)	24 May
(10) 575th LPU	15 Jul
(11) 42nd LPU	15 Jul

b. The following units were assigned or attached by the 26th General Support Group.

(1) 43d Engineer Detachment (Maint) attached to the 67th Division Maintenance Company, 17 Jun 68.

(2) POL Platoon, 148th Supply and Service Company attached to the TF 26-4, 1 Jun 68 for rations and quarters; opcon to headquarters 26th General Support Group.

(3) 625th attached to the 57th TC Bj (Mtr Trans), 21 May 68 for administration of military justice (Field Grade article 15).

(4) Bakery Platoon, 24th Supply and Service Battalion, attached to the 625th Supply and Service Company, 21 May 68.

(5) F&C Platoon, 139th Supply and Service Company (Hvy Mtrl) attached to the 625th Supply and Service Company, 21 May 68.

(6) 610 QM Detachment (Refrigeration) (YML) assigned to the 625th Supply and Service Company, 21 May 68.

(7) 863d TC Co (Lt Trk), 515th TC Co (Mtr Trans), 585th TC Co (Lt Trk) assigned to the 39th TC Bn (Mtr Trans), 2 May 68.

c. The 526th Engineer Detachment (R&U) was reassigned to the United States Army Engineer Construction Agency, Vietnam (USACEAV), 1 Jul 68.

d. The 129th Main Support Company (DS) was redesignated the 63d Main Support Company and H&D, 63d Maintenance Battalion was attached to the unit forming the 63d Headquarters and Main Support Company.

8. (U) Signal

a. Telephone/Wire Section

(1) The following lines were terminated at 26th switch for the month of May.

- (a) Da Nang Support Command _____ V1914B
- (b) Da Nang Support Command _____ V1915B
- (c) Da Nang SP&O. _____ PL91
- (d) Dynamic TOC _____ V1936B
- (e) Base Defense _____ Land Line
- (f) ISU Quang Tri _____ Land Line
- (g) ALL LINES ARE OPERATIONAL AT THIS TIME

(2) Lines follow for the month of June.

- (a) M&G 39 _____ Land Line
- (b) M&G 39 _____ Land Line
- (c) 63d Maintenance _____ Land Line
- (d) Hot Line M&G 39 _____ Cpt Shires
- (e) Hot Line M&G 39 _____ Col Tesko
- (f) Hot Line M&G 39 _____ LTC Fennema
- (g) Task Force 26-1 (Dong Ha) _____ V1846B
- (h) Task Force 26-3 _____ V1848B
- (i) Task Force 26-4 _____ V1847B
- (j) Quang Tri Marines _____ Land Line
- (k) 59th EOD _____ Land Line

(3) Lines follow for the month of July.

- (a) 26th Group FWD.....NONA
- (b) 571st Ord.....Land Line
- (c) Base Development Office.....Land Line
- (d) MCB 11.....Land Line
- (e) MLRS Operations.....Land Line
- (f) Army ASP (Wunder Beach).....Land Line
- (g) ANY OF THESE LINES CAN PUT YOU IN CONTACT WITH M.G. 39.

b. Radio Teletype Section.

(1) The radio teletype section operated an unclassified net with Da Nang as Net Control Teletype Station from 1 May 68 to 30 June 68.

(2) 1 July the Radio Teletype Section went into a secure net with Da Nang Support Command being the net control station. At the present time the Radio Teletype Section is fully operational and can handle Crypto Secret and below.

c. Message Center Section.

(1) From 1 May 68 to 15 June 68 the 26th Group Message Center processed incoming and outgoing messages, classified and unclassified thru MACV, Quang Tri, M.G. 39 and the 26th Group Radio Teletype Section.

(2) From 15 June 68 until the present time, the 26th Group Message Center is processing incoming and outgoing messages through the 588th Signal Communications Center and the 26th Group Radio Teletype Section.

(3) Following is a list of units which the 26th Group Message Center supports:

- (a) 26th Group Headquarters
- (b) 57th Transportation Battalion
- (c) 63d Maintenance Battalion
- (d) 571st Ordnance Company

SECTION 2

LESSONS LEARNED

COMPLAINERS OBSERVATIONS, EVALUATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. (U) Personnel, Administration, Morale and Discipline:

Item: When insufficient equipment is available, a postal detachment should be limited in the amount of postal money orders to be sold.

Observation: In the initial stages of operation of the postal detachment at Quang Tri, it was necessary to limit the amount of postal money orders sold. This was necessitated by a lack of adding machines and lack of parts for repair.

Evaluation: Personnel of small postal detachments, operating under the adverse climatic, combat conditions such as the Quang Tri area affords cannot possibly provide full postal service, without adequate equipment and secure facilities.

Recommendation: Each unit must be properly equipped with at least one serviceable adding machine, as well as additional tentage and preferably more permanent type buildings to provide adequate accountability, protection and working space. Facilities should be constructed prior to beginning of operation.

Item: Table of Organization and Equipment is inadequate in the authorization of personnel and equipment for the S-1/adjutant section of the group headquarters.

Observation: A general support group is organized and equipped under TOE 29-102F, which authorizes an adjutant (major), a personnel staff NCO (E-7), and one E-4 clerk typist in the adjutants office. This is entirely inadequate, considering other various administrative areas required to be performed and supervised by this section. These include, but are not limited to matters such as non-appropriated funds, publications and blank forms stockage, supervision of postal activities of subordinate units, and other administrative activities. According to the TOE, the group headquarters is responsible for these areas for not only the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, but up to six battalions as well.

Evaluation: During the reporting period, the services of one experienced administrative NCO and one other person, working as many as 16-18 hours per day, seven days a week, have been devoted to these strictly administrative areas. The administration would have no doubt been more efficiently accomplished had sufficiently trained, qualified personnel been available.

Recommendations: although the TOE obviously did not intend that the general support group be an administrative headquarters, in RVN it is required, of necessity, due to wide dispersion of units and personnel. Recommend a review of the TOE and as a minimum, the following personnel authorized to staff the S-1/Adjutant Section:

One adjutant, MOS 2110, grade: Major
One administrative officer, MOS 2120, grade: Captain
One personnel staff NCO, MOS 71H40, grade: SFC
One administrative supervisor, MOS 71L40, grade: SFC
One legal clerk, MOS 71D20, grade: SP/6
Two administrative specialists, MOS 71L20, grade: SP/5
Four clerk typists, MOS 71B20, grade: SP/4

TOTAL: Officers: 2 Enlisted: 9

The above recommendation is considered realistic since the S-1/Adjutant Section at the group headquarters level is responsible for all actions accomplished by the G-1, Adjutant General, Judge Advocate, Provost marshal, Special Services Office and secretary of the staff of a higher headquarters. In addition, the adjutant is often called upon as the Commanding Officer's personal secretary and to provide for appropriate protocol.

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2. (C) Operations:

Item: Lack of proper equipment to perform mission.

Observation: Personnel in logistics units assigned an additional mission of defense lack the proper equipment to perform the mission in a proper manner.

Evaluation: The 63d Maintenance Battalion was given the mission of defending a portion of the perimeter at Quang Tri Combat Base. The mission included daylight reconnaissance patrols and night listening posts both of which operate at some distance from the perimeter. In this posture, AN/PAC-25 radios are not only necessary but mandatory. Though an HPOB was rejected, two AN/PAC-25 radios were obtained to continue the mission.

Recommendation: When assigned a defense mission all necessary equipment be supplied.

Item: Southeast Asia Huts

Observation: Southeast Asia Huts used by the Navy and Marines afford better shelter than the Army tent frame.

Evaluation: Southeast Asia Huts, using metal roofs are more durable, cheaper and more desirable to live in than the Army tent frame. The huts are the same 16' X 32' size as the Army tent frame however, the Navy funds these huts for \$404.00 each, erected, while the tent frame costs over \$600.00. The use of the Navy design would not only save a considerable amount of money, but produce better living conditions for the troops.

Recommendation: Army units in NICPZ should be allowed to convert to the Navy design for Southeast Asia huts.

3. (U) Training; None

4. (U) Intelligence; None

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5. (C) Logistics

a. Item: Shipping containers for ice cream.

Observation: Shipping containers for ice cream are difficult to maintain and control.

Evaluation: The shipping container of plywood and styrofoam now used is sufficient to keep the product for approximately four hours, however, it cannot withstand any rough handling due to the manner of construction. In issuing them to units deployed at LZ's the boxes are lost very easily.

Recommendation: A shipping container of ample size to handle three each 2½ gallon containers of ice cream for 200 man mess should be developed. Constructed with a thin fiber-glass outer shell with styrofoam filler and a thin aluminum liner, the container would be compact, durable, easy to clean and reusable.

b. Item: Ice production and supply.

(1) Observation: Ice is not readily available to units deployed in the field due to the lack of ample ice production and distribution vehicles for delivery.

Evaluation: The lack of adequate transportation assets for hauling ice has led to the fabrication of insulated, aluminum lined cones mounted on 5 ton cargo trucks for ice haul to out-lying areas. These locally produced mobile insulated containers are working very well and greatly reduce ice loss due to lack of cover in transit.

Recommendation: Development of refrigeration units for line-haul of perishable commodities on a corps wide basis.

(2) Observation: There is a lack of army owned and operated ice plants in NIGTZ.

Evaluation: The Director of Foods, USASurCOM DMG (PROV) is endeavoring to find ice plants for this area. These plants would be FSN items and could be profitably used in this area of operation.

Recommendation: Development of an ice machine capable of providing block ice or cube ice to units in a field location. This machine should have a low power requirement and be of a sturdy enough design and construction to enable it to withstand the rigors of rapid deployment.

(3) Observation: There are few civilian contractor owned and operated ice plants with sufficient sanitation and production capabilities to meet Army requirements in NIGTZ.

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Evaluation: Continuing emphasis is placed on the search of all available sources on the civilian economy. Civilian plants presently under contract to the Army are encouraged and assisted, when possible, in increasing production.

Recommendation: Development of TOE ice plants and operating personnel in teams with water supply points in the field, thus providing ice production with a source of potable water. Co-location of ice plants with water points would provide better support to all customer units.

c. Item: Damage of oil pipeline.

Observation: There was a higher incident rate of damage to the oil pipeline by friendly vehicles at narrow positions of highways than at wider positions.

Evaluation: The pipeline, running along QL-1 was extremely susceptible to damage by vehicular traffic in areas where the highway was particularly narrow. This usually coincided with highly populated areas, resulting in a serious fire hazard when breaks occurred. In comparison to the Tan My to Phu Bai pipeline, the Dong Ha to Quang Tri line which was laid along a wider road, has had much fewer vehicular accidents.

Recommendation: Any future pipelines should be buried in areas where the road is narrow and/or heavily populated. The added difficulty in repairing a buried line appears negligible in light of the small amount of normal maintenance due to vibration, heat expansion, etc, which was required during the reporting period. It should be noted that no enemy activity was directed against buried portions of the line and only one repair due to normal maintenance was required on those portions.

6. (U) Organization: None

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AVCA-DNG-GO-H (31 Jul 68) 1st Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 26th General Support
Group for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1968, Reports Symbol
CSFOR-65 (R1)

HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY SUPPORT COMMAND, DA NANG (PROV), APO San Francisco
96349 22 Aug 68

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

(C) The Operational Report - Lessons Learned for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1968 from Headquarters, 26th General Support Group has been reviewed and is considered adequate with the following comments:

a. (U) References 1a and b in letter of transmittal are incorrect. USARV Reg 525-15, dtd 13 April 1968 superseded USARV Reg 1-19. 1st Log Comd Reg 525-15, dtd 22 July 1968 superseded 1st Log Comd Reg 1-19. USA-SUPCOM, DNG (Prov) Reg 525-15, reference 1c of letter of transmittal, paragraph 4d states the report will be prepared in letter form, not a letter of transmittal with the report attached.

b. (U) The Headquarters, 26th GS Group conducted logistical support operations for ninety-two (92) days of the reporting period.

c. (U) SECTION I, Paragraph 2b, R&R. This command concurs with the statement that quotas may be insufficient for certain R&R sites. A request for additional R&R quotas for those R&R sites that are not as popular as Hawaii and Australia, is currently being staffed by this headquarters. In addition, consideration is being given to centralizing the control of all R&R quotas at this headquarters for all R&R sites. At present, quotas for R&R to Hawaii for the month of September, 1968, are centralized, and consideration is being given to centralizing the quotas for other sites at this headquarters in order to insure the fullest and most equitable utilization of quotas.

d. (U) SECTION I, paragraph 2g, Courier Service. The sentence in this paragraph as reads, "Correspondence and distribution from higher headquarters is received through postal channels and generally takes from five to seven days in transit," is only partially correct. A 24 hour courier service has been initiated between this headquarters and the 26th General Support Group. Correspondence sent through postal channels would require from five to seven days.

e. (U) SECTION I, paragraph 2h, Film Accounts. The Central Post Fund Council, this headquarters, approved the purchase of nineteen 16mm motion picture projectors for the 26th General Support Group. Purchasing action is being withheld pending the confirmation of unit cost per projector. It has been determined that the unit cost of \$500.00 each was for an inferior grade projector and that the cost of each projector will be approximately seven hundred dollars (\$700.00).

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SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 26th General Support Group
for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1968, Reports Symbol
CSFOR-65 (R1)

f. (U) SECTION 2, paragraph 2, item 1, Lack of proper equipment to perform mission. This headquarters concurs with the requirement to provide logistical units with adequate equipment to perform a defense and security mission. The 26th GS Group was committed to a large sector of this Quang Tri Combat Base to include patrolling at night which required additional radio equipment for efficient operation. A request for combat essential items over and above TO&E authorization for 33 telephones and 6 AN/PRC-25 radios was submitted to 1st Logistical Command Headquarters in early May 1968. The request for the telephones was granted, but all attempts to obtain the authorization for additional radios from USARV have met with disapproval. The radios never were approved for augmentation to the 63d Maintenance Battalion. An adjustment of resources within the 26th GS Group was the only way that the radios could be obtained. As a result, 2 radios were transferred to the 63d Maintenance Battalion in order to make it possible for the Battalion to perform the defense and security mission.

g. (U) SECTION 2, Paragraph 5a, Shipping container for ice cream. Shipping containers for delivery of ice cream are a serious problem. The shipping boxes currently being used are designed to hold either two each 2½ gallon containers or two each 3 gallon containers (both sizes are presently in the system). This size shipper is considered more practicable because it is easier to handle, and two shippers will serve the requirements of unit size messes (200 men). There are no funds available for manufacture of these shippers, consequently, it has been a difficult problem to obtain them in any quantity. Since the USN has assumed functions formerly performed by PA&E, there has been no production received. A work order has been submitted to R&U, USN for 144 shippers per month. Insulation will consist of the "Quick Pack" process and will be accomplished at the CC&S yard where necessary equipment is available. This shipper will be stronger and will offer better insulation than the salvage styrofoam now used.

h. (U) SECTION 2, Paragraph 5b, Item 1, Ice production supply. Fifteen (15) each mastersize insulated boxes of 300 cu/ft each are due to arrive in the next 30 days. These boxes will be used to ship ice and other perishable items.

i. (U) SECTION 2, Paragraph 5b, Item 2, Ice production and supply. A 15-ton ice machine is due to arrive in Da Nang 12 August 1968 and will be transshipped to Quang Tri for installation. Three additional plants of similar capacity are programmed for the near future. This production will alleviate to a large degree the critical shortage of ice in NICTZ.

j. (U) SECTION 2, Paragraph 5b, Item 3, Ice production and supply. Maintenance and operation of 15-ton ice plants are beyond the capability of TO&E operating personnel and are R&U functions. Colocation of ice plants with water points should be accomplished as an economy measure.

CONFIDENTIAL

AVCA-DNG-GO-H (31 Jul 68)

22 Aug 68

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 26th General Support Group
for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1968, RCS CSFOR-65 (RI)

k. (C) SECTION 2, Paragraph 5c, Damage to oil pipeline. Concur. The excessive friendly damage to the petroleum pipeline is not confined only to vehicular damage at narrowed points of highway along QL-1. At any point where highway construction is underway, the pipeline has suffered severe damage from construction equipment as well as from normal traffic. At certain points along the pipeline damage has occurred as a result of deliberate discharge of US firearms at the line as well as vehicular damage to the pipeline. Currently all new portions of the petroleum pipeline (Tan My/Hue/Quang Tri) are being buried in order to preclude as much enemy and friendly damage as possible. Where possible, certain segments of the older pipeline are being buried. In addition, the Commanding General USASUPCOM, DNG(PROV) has instituted a policy of closer surveillance to prevent further friendly damage to the petroleum pipelines. The Commanding General, USASUPCOM, DNG(PROV) has also requested the assistance of the Commanding General, Provisional Corps Vietnam, in an effort to reduce friendly damage.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

s/ James R. May
t/ JAMES R. MAY
CPT, AGC
Asst Adjutant General

CONFIDENTIAL

AVCA GO-0 (31 Jul 68) 2nd Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 26th General Support
Group for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1968, Reports
Control Symbol CSFOR-65 (R-1) (U)

DA, Headquarters, 1st Logistical Command, APO 96384

16 is

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

1. (U) The Operational Report - Lessons Learned submitted by Headquarters, 26th General Support Group for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1968 is forwarded.

2. (U) Pertinent comments follow:

a. Reference Section 2, paragraph 1a. A postal detachment will not limit the amount of postal money orders sold or the postal service provided due to insufficient equipment. The equipment mentioned in the recommendation paragraph should be on hand prior to the postal unit becoming fully operational. Every effort will be made to provide the postal personnel with the equipment needed for efficient postal operations.

b. Reference Section 2, paragraph 1b.

(1) Personnel authorization guidelines in AR 310-32 authorizes the following personnel positions as recommended by the 26th GS Group:

(a) One legal clerk.

(b) Additional clerk typist positions as justified by workload. AR 310-32 does not authorize the following type personnel positions recommended: Administrative Officer; Administrative Supervisor; and Administrative Specialist.

(2) Remaining positions are currently authorized by MTOE under which 26th GS Group is organized.

(3) The problem existing in all General Support Groups throughout RVN with respect to assigned missions over and above TOE capabilities has been recognized at this headquarters. The solution to this problem lies in an increase in space authorizations, which under the current manpower limitations, is not forthcoming. An alternate solution is the identification of spaces to be used as trade-off within the support command to finance the additional personnel requirements.

c. Reference Section 2, paragraph 2a. Concur. Equipment required to perform a mission assigned by installation coordinators which exceeds

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SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 26th General Support Group for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1968, Reports Control Symbol CSFOR-65 (R-1)(U)

current authorizations should be requested through the installation coordinator as provided by USARV Regulation 10-4 and 525-5.

d. Reference Section 2, paragraph 2b. Concur. A letter was written by this headquarters to USARV on 24 Jun 68, requesting authority to construct Southeast Asia huts in I CTZ for logistical units, less Mobile FSA's, in lieu of tent frame structures. (See para 3b (6), section 1, page 8). On 25 Aug 68 USARV answered this reply authorizing the construction of huts and the upgrading of existing tent frame structures by replacing the tents with corrugated metal roofing and by the addition of wood and screen siding and screened doors. Copies of the reply will be forwarded to DNG SO and to 26th GS Gp. Instructions will also be included on how to request and fund the construction. No further action required by this headquarters.

e. Reference Section II, paragraph 5a. The following actions have been taken to assist USASUPCOM, DNG, in the obtaining of ice cream shipping containers.

(1) Fifty US Army Thermal Containers will be forwarded to USASUPCOM, DNG. These containers are made of fiberglass, are highly durable and will maintain cold temperatures for long periods of time. This container can hold six 2½ or 3 gallon containers of ice cream.

(2) Efforts are also being made to expedite the receipt of the Fome-Core ice cream shipping container. This container is made of cardboard insulated with styrofoam and is disposable. It can hold three three gallon containers of ice cream.

f. Reference Section 2, paragraph 5b(1), (2), and (3). Nonconcur. An ice plant of sufficient mobility to comply with that recommended would have to be vehicle mounted and could not practicably produce more than approximately two (2) tons per day. Considering melting in transit to be about 20%, this unit could provide ice to only 500 to 550 personnel per day based on 6 lbs/man/day. Storage space for the ice produced by such a mobile plant would have to be mobile also and probably would be a separate vehicle with a refrigerated van. This headquarters is in the process of locating four (4), 15-ton fixed ice plants at various locations in I CTZ. These plants will be located so that ice can be transferred to many of the US Army units which presently have no supply of ice other than local contractors. The location of these plants is dependent upon approval by USARV G-4 Plans and Operations. The construction and operation of these plants is the responsibility of USARCAV in conjunction with the US Naval Support Activity.

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g. Reference Section 2, paragraph 5c. Concur. Although coupled steel tubing is not normally buried, as mentioned in TM 5-343, Military Petroleum Pipeline Systems, it has been observed in RVN that sections of pipelines least damaged by friendly or enemy actions are those buried by natural movement of sand and mud. Therefore, this Command has encouraged burial of all pipelines wherever feasible.

3. (U) Concur with the basic report as modified by indorsements. The report is considered adequate.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

TEL: LBN 2684

Copy Furnished
26th Gen Sup Gp
USASUPCOM, DNG

John H. Hanson
AGC
AGC

AVHGC-DST (31 Jul 68) 3d Ind (U) MAJ Klingman/ds/LBN 4433
SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 26th General Support Group
for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1968, Reports Symbol CSFOR
65 (R-1)

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY, VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96375 24 OCT 1968

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 31 July 1968 from Headquarters, 26th General Support Group.
2. Reference item concerning ice production and supply, page 33, paragraph 5b(1) and (3); 1st Indorsement, paragraphs h and j; and 2d Indorsement, paragraph 2f:
 - a. Paragraph 5b(1): Nonconcur. Refrigeration vans are presently TOE equipment for those supply-type units which are required to transport perishable subsistence.
 - b. Paragraph 5b(3): Nonconcur. There is no requirement for such equipment. The planned construction of four-15 ton R&U-type ice plants in I CTZ will alleviate the immediate problem in that area.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

W.C. Arntz
W. C. ARNTZ
CPTAGC
Assistant Adjutant General

Cy furn:
HQ 26th GS Gp
HQ 1st Log Cnd

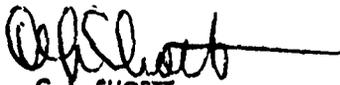
GPOP-DT (31 Jul 68) 4th Ind (U)
SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, 26th GS Gp for Period Ending
31 July 1968, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 18 NOV 1968

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 IN CHIEF:



C. L. SHORTT
CPT, AGC
Asst AG

UNCLASSIFIED

Security Classification

DOCUMENT CONTROL DATA - R & D

(Security classification of title, body of abstract and indexing annotation must be entered when the overall report is classified)

1. ORIGINATING ACTIVITY (Corporate author) HQ, OACSFOR, DA, Washington, D.C. 20310		2a. REPORT SECURITY CLASSIFICATION Confidential	
		2b. GROUP 4	
3. REPORT TITLE Operational Report - Lessons Learned, HQ, 26th General Support Group (U)			
4. DESCRIPTIVE NOTES (Type of report and inclusive dates) Experiences of unit engaged in counterinsurgency operations, 1 May - 31 Jul 68			
5. AUTHOR(S) (First name, middle initial, last name) CO, 26th General Support Group			
3. REPORT DATE 31 July 1968		7a. TOTAL NO. OF PAGES 43	7b. NO. OF REFS
6a. CONTRACT OR GRANT NO.		6b. ORIGINATOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S) 683165	
b. PROJECT NO. N/A		6c. OTHER REPORT NO(S) (Any other numbers that may be assigned and report)	
c.			
d.			
10. DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT			
11. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES N/A		12. SPONSORING MILITARY ACTIVITY OACSFOR, DA, Washington, D.C. 20310	
13. ABSTRACT			

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