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4 December 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 27th Transportation Battalion, Period Ending 31 July 1969

SEE DISTRIBUTION

1. Subject report is forwarded for review and evaluation in accordance with paragraph 4b, AR 525-15. Evaluations and corrective actions should be reported to ACSFOR OT UT, Operational Reports Branch, within 90 days of receipt of covering letter.

2. Information contained in this report is provided to insure appropriate benefits in the future from lessons learned during current operations and may be adapted for use in developing training material.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

Kenneth G. Wickham
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

1 Incl

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27th Transportation Battalion
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 27TH TRANSPORTATION BATTALION
APO 96226

AVCA QH TG 27 OP 1 August 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 27th Transportation Battalion (Truck) for the Period Ending 31 July 1969 RLS CSMCR-65 (R-1)

THRU: Commanding Officer, 5th Transportation Group, ATTN: 33, APO 96226

Commanding General, US Army Support Command, (H), ATTN: AVCA QH-QO-L APO 96238

Commanding General, 1st Logistical Command, ATTN: AVCA-QO-L, APO 96334

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

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

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

SECTION I
OPERATIONS: SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES

1. Command:

a. The 27th Transportation Battalion continued to support tactical and direct support operations as well as local and line haul operations. During the 92 day reporting period the battalion moved 133,086 short tons and 4,065,000 gallons POL while traveling 1,767,356 miles.

b. During the quarter the following changes in command positions took place. On 10 June 1969 CPT Robin Parry assumed command of the 444th Transportation Company. On 3 July 1969 LIT Fred Lees assumed command of the 597th Transportation Company and on 23 July 1969 LIT Terry Miller assumed command of the same company. On 5 July 1969 LIT Steven Welch assumed command of the 2nd Transportation Company and on 24 July 1969 LIT Robert Farley assumed command of the same unit. On 25 May 1969 CPT Robert Jones assumed command of the 86th Transportation Company.

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PROTECTIVE MARKING EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC TERMINATION.
2. Personnel, Administration, Morale and Discipline:

a. The Battalion's strength remained at a numerically acceptable level during the reporting period. Shortages in MOS 64A/64B exceed 90. Strength of cooks MOS 94B20 grade B5 is critical, authorized 8 and assigned 1. This command is short one WO, MOS 631A.

b. During the reporting period administration continued in a normal manner.

c. The morale and discipline remained high during this period. All units continued to make significant improvements in physical facilities.

3. Operations:

a. During the 92 day report period the 27th Transportation Battalion received 30 new 5 ton tractors and issued 18 to the 35th Transportation Company, 8 to the 444th Transportation Company, and 10 to the 597th Transportation Company. On 10 June 1969 an intensified POL operation began due to repairs/replacement of POL line from Qui Nhon to Pleiku. Over 4,085,000 gallons were hauled during the reporting period in addition to our normal line haul commitment.

b. During the past reporting period the percentage of vehicles committed has been very high. Of the vehicles available 94% were committed. This is extremely high in comparison to other comparable units in Vietnam.

c. Enemy activity in regard to ambushes has increased during the reporting period. Two ambushes occurred during the reporting period, one on 27 May 1969 resulting in no loss of life or loss of equipment (two EM wounded in action), the other on 3 June 1969 once again resulting in no loss of life or equipment (one EM wounded in action). Enemy sniper incidents have remained high. A total of eight sniper and mortar incidents occurred on 8 June 1969, 9 June 1969, 13 June 1969, 14 June 1969, 24 June 1969, 28 June 1969, 14 July 1969, and 16 July 1969. It has been determined that the increased training program concerning convoy deployment and composition of security vehicles, known as the Ludy Concept, has deprived the enemy of prime targets to be ambushed.

4. Training:

a. During the 92 day reporting period this battalion has continued to conduct training in accordance with the Army Subject Schedule at night when most personnel are available. Additional emphasis has been placed on subjects pertaining to convoy operations.

b. OJT training is being conducted in the POI (Program of Instruction) format specified by US. SFPCo., Qui Nhon.

c. Special subjects such as "Sapper Attacks" and "Claymore Mines" have been implemented into the company's orientations for both new and old personnel. Manditory monthly training and daily briefings are also given on these subjects.
SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 27th Transportation Battalion (Truck) for the Period Ending 31 July 1969

1. Personnel: None
2. Operations: None
3. Training:
   Item: Driver Training

Observation: Many of the replacement drivers arrived within the command without DA Form 348, Qualification Record. This necessitated driver retraining and retesting for those personnel, thus increasing the in-processing time.
AVGA QH 27 GP 1 August 1969
SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 27th Transportation Battalion (Truck) for the Period Ending 31 July 1969 RCS GEPOR-65 (R-1)

Evaluation: Had records been screened at FOR Boards corrective action could have been taken to insure that replacements had in their possession proper driver qualification record (DA Form 348) prior to arriving in country. Such action could have shortened the period of time that these personnel were not available to perform their primary mission. Such additional retesting and retraining is unrealistic and time consuming to perform in a combat zone.

Recommendation: That COUS FOR Boards screen all personnel records prior to departure to insure inclusion of DA Form 348 for overseas replacements, driver personnel. International Road Sign Test for personnel assigned overseas in driver MOS's should be accomplished at state side posts prior to movement overseas, thus cutting down the in-processing time in the combat zone.

4. Intelligence and Security: None

5. Logistics:
   Item: Outstanding Requisitions

Observation: Outstanding requisitions on the depot system are not being released expeditiously as stock is made available on hand. Each unit presently has approximately 216 outstanding due outs.

Evaluation: If outstanding due outs were released to the requisitioners more storage area would be available; money would be saved in various ways such as limiting units missions, reducing pilferage, reducing factory defects, reducing storage deterioration, and eliminating reprocessing.

Recommendation: That Inventory Control Center and depots release stocks immediately to requisitioners to cut down on wasted time, supplies, labor, and help increase the efficiency of units in RVN.

Item: Contact Teams

Observation: Unit mid December 1968 the Support Maintenance Battalion had a contact team that provided excellent support for units within the Battalion. For example a clutch, transmission, engine, or brakes would go out on a vehicle. You then notified the contact team and the next morning the vehicle would be ready for the road.

Evaluation: Had this practice continued a more efficient utilization of vehicles would have prevailed.

Recommendation: That this system be put back into effect throughout RVN.

6. Organization: None

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SITREP

Operational Report of the 27th Transportation Battalion (Truck) for the Period Ending 31 July 1969 RCB-OSFOR-65 (R-1)

Escape and Evasion: This organization has had no escape and evasion experience during the reporting period.

Other: None

WILLIAM C. FREEMAN
LTG, TC
Commanding

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SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 27th Transportation Battalion (Truck)
for the Period Ending 31 July 1969 RCS CSFOR-65 (R-1)

DA, HQ, 8th Trans Gp (MT), APO 96226, 13 Aug 69

Commanding General, USASC, QN, ATTN: AVCA QN-GO-H, APO 96236

1. The Operational Report for the 27th Transportation Battalion (Truck)
has been reviewed and the information contained therein is considered adequate.

2. The following comments are submitted:

TEL: PT 785

GARIAND A. IUDY
Colonel, TC
Commanding

This is a true copy

JAMES R. MACRACEK
1LT, GS
Military History Division
SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 27th Transportation Battalion (Truck) for the Period Ending 31 July 1969 RCS CSFOR-65 (R-1)


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

1. (FOUO) The Operational Report, Lessons Learned of the 27th Transportation Battalion for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1969 has been reviewed by this headquarters and the following comments are submitted:

   a. SECTION II, paragraph 3: Concur. This item requires action by higher headquarters to inform pertinent organizations in CONUS of the problem.

   b. SECTION II, paragraph 5 (1st item): Concur. USAD, QN and the DSU/GSU's publish a monthly status listing for customer units. A check of this listing will provide the unit with current status and information as to whether or not valid due outs have been established. If units have valid due outs for critical supplies, these can be placed on the Commander's Critical Items List (CCIL) so that action can be taken.

   c. SECTION II, paragraph 5 (2d item): Concur. This procedure cannot be implemented at the present time, since personnel resources do not permit a dedicated contact team for this transportation battalion. The response of supporting maintenance units to the field maintenance requirements of the units supported is considered adequate. The proximity of the supported and supporting units (less than 5 miles) also tends to negate the contact team requirement. Contact team maintenance is being used in support of FSA's, LSA's, remote fire bases and special forces camps. No action is required by higher headquarters since the use of contact teams to perform on-site maintenance is adequately covered in current doctrine.

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

FOR THE COMMANDER:

[Signature]

TEL: QN 2161

ROBERT J. FLORCZAK

CP, AGC

Asst Adjutant General

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AVCA GO-MH (1 Aug 69) 3rd Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned of the 27th Transportation
Battalion for Period Ending 31 July 1969 RCS CSPOR-65 (R1) (U)

DA, Headquarters, 1st Logistical Command, APO 96384  18 OCT 1969

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

1. The Operational Report - Lessons Learned submitted by Headquarters, 27th
Transportation Battalion for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1969 is
forwarded.

2. Pertinent comments follow: Reference item concerning Outstanding Requisitions,
page 4, paragraph 5. Concur.

   a. The release of dues-out upon receipt of stock in the depot is an automatic feature of 3SVN. The problem that prevents timely release of dues-out is the lag time in processing of receipts from storage to the stock control element for posting on the ABF. If the receipt is picked up in a timely manner, the same basic processing cycle will effect release of dues-out in order of priority and age within priority.

   b. Items issue, control of which is held by the ICCV, are subject to the same procedures. The due-out is held on the due-out subsidiary file of the ICCV rather than on the file of the depot. The receipt of material by the depot must again be posted to the ICCV ABF before the due-out can be automatically released. The computer systems supporting the supply system in Vietnam work very efficiently in respect to release of dues-out; however the release can be no more timely than the posting of receipt documentation. The problem of supply discipline at the receiving function in the depot is the basis of the condition described. Its resolution lies in the training of depot personnel.

   c. A system is presently being incorporated as an integral part of scheduled cycle processing which causes reactivation of backorders at each depot periodically for submission to the ICCV to be matched with assets in other command depots. This will preclude a backorder from remaining on one depot's file while another depot has the stock.

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AVGA GO-MH

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned of the 27th Transportation Battalion for Period Ending 31 July 1969 RCS CWPVR-65 (U)

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

FOR THE COMMANDER:

TEL: LBN 4039

CP:
USASUPCOM QNH
8th Trans Gp
27th Trans Bn

[Signature]

3rd. D. STAFFORD
1Lt, AGG
Asst Adjutant General

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TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: GrUP-’T,
 APO 96558

1. This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report—Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1969 from Headquarters, 27th Transportation Battalion (Truck).

2. Reference item concerning "Driver Training," section II, page 3, paragraph 3; concur. CONUS POR boards are required to check each individual's 201 File for correctness and presence of all allied documents. If an individual has been qualified as a driver the POR Boards are required to insure that the DA Form 348 is present. Regardless of the qualifications listed on an individual's DA Form 348, he must be given additional training before being permitted to operate a vehicle in RVN. Recommend this item be forwarded by DA to CONAC for consideration and action if appropriate.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

RICHARD V. FUKIP
CPT, AGC
Assistant Adjutant General

Cy furn:
27th Trans bn
1st Log Comd
GPOP-DT (1 Aug 69) 5th Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, 27th Transportation Battalion (Truck) for Period Ending 31 July 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 7 NOV 69

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

This headquarters concurs in subject report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:

[Signature]

C. L. SNORII
CPT, AGG
Adu AG
Operational Report - Lessons Learned, HQ, 27th Transportation Battalion

Experiences of unit engaged in counterinsurgency operations, 1 May 69 to 31 July 69.

CO, 27th Transportation Battalion

1 August 1969

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N/A

N/A

OACSFOR, DA, Washington, D.C. 20310

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