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AUTHORITY

AGO ltr 29 Apr 1980

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

Ref. Doc. etc

20

AD 877332

IN REPLY REFER TO

AGDA (M) (23 Nov 70) FOR OT UT 702297

27 November 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 36th Signal Battalion, Period Ending 30 April 1970

SEE DISTRIBUTION

1. Subject report is forwarded for review and evaluation in accordance with paragraph 4b, AR 525-15. Information of actions initiated as a result of subject report should be forwarded to ACSFOR OT UT 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:

Verne L. Bowers

VERNE L. BOWERS
Major General, USA
Acting The Adjutant General

1 Incl
as

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 36TH SIGNAL BATTALION (CA)
APO San Francisco 96491

10 MAY 1970

SCCPV-SG-CA-0

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, 36th Signal Battalion (CA),
Period Ending 30 April 1970, ROS GSFOR-65 (R2)

SEE DISTRIBUTION

1. Operations: Significant Activities

a. During the past reporting period the operational activities of the 36th Signal Battalion have been geared to a program of communications phase down. ARVNIZATION plans were also drafted for various sites throughout the Battalion area of operation.

(1) Nui Ti: The relay site at Hill 837 was relocated on the ARVN site at Nui Ti. The relocation was done to afford vehicular access to the site for resupply and maintenance pickup.

(2) Lai Khe: The 1st Infantry Division redeployed to CONUS thereby eliminating the need for dial telephone service. The AN/TCC-28 at Lai Khe was relocated to Di An. It is presently being maintained but is not in operation. The disposition of the AN/TCC-28 is pending instructions from higher headquarters.

(3) Bien Hoa: The Flame switchboard and the BTAC switchboard were consolidated and redesignated Flame switch. The consolidation resulted in greatly improved telephone service for the MACV/CORDS subscribers of III CTZ and also reduced duplication of equipment.

(4) Bien Hoa: The AN/MSQ-73 was replaced by two (2) SB-675 patch panels. This move reduced numerous circuit outages due to problems encountered in the frame of the AN/MSQ-73 van. Control of circuits through the SB-675's is simpler and more in line with MOS skills authorized by our TO&E.

(5) Bien Hoa: The outside plant was rehabilitated to meet the Air Force standards of cable installation. The project is completed and is presently awaiting final inspection by Air Force GEEIA Team subsequent to turn over to the Air Force.

(6) Lai Khe: The outside plant is ready for turn over to ARVN. It was rehabilitated and necessary transfer documents were prepared, however, signatures have not been acquired due to the location of the frame. MACV

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requires the frame to be relocated outside of the MACV Compound instead of in its present location to allow ARVN access without entering the MACV Compound.

2. Lessons Learned: Commander's Observations, Evaluations and Recommendations:

- a. Personnel: None
- b. Intelligence: None
- c. Operations:

(1) Cutover of AN/TRC-111 systems.

(a) OBSERVATION: Since the beginning of the reporting period the 36th Signal Battalion has turned over much of its system responsibility to the 327th Signal Company, 39th Signal Battalion, who are installing AN/TRC-111 equipment to replace the AN/GRC-50 equipment presently in operation. With this cutover of communications to the AN/TRC-111 the 36th Signal Battalion has deactivated 14 systems leaving the Battalion with 21 systems in operation. Three more systems will be deactivated in the first few days of the new reporting period, leaving 18 systems in operation.

(b) EVALUATION: The new high capacity AN/TRC-111 equipment has proved quite good in its capability for 96 channel operation over 1 system as compared to 4 systems needed for the same capacity of AN/GRC-50 systems.

(c) LESSONS LEARNED: When communications is being cutover from AN/GRC-50 to AN/TRC-111 systems experience has proved that both ends must have identical circuit engineering orders to eliminate errors in circuit placement causing extensive trouble-shooting which extends circuit outage time.

(2) Utilization of the AN/TRC-111 Cable

(a) OBSERVATION: In the cutover of circuits from the AN/GRC-50 to the AN/TRC-111, new cable was required for termination of the new system at the TRC-111 and for gaining access to the patch panel and frames. Some of the required cable was installed before new bunkers and pads were in the correct or final locations.

(b) EVALUATION: Proper planning and coordination is necessary in any project to eliminate unnecessary loss of man-hours and waste of material and equipment. Some of the cable was installed prior to the installation of the TRC-111 equipment and thus was cut, shorted or damaged due to traffic and the emplacement of equipment. In other cases equipment was relocated from original plans and cables were not long enough to reach the equipment.

(c) RECOMMENDATION: That all equipment be in place or at least the exact location known by cable teams and installers prior to the installation of cable and that adequate coordination and planning be made to eliminate unnecessary retermination of interconnecting cables.

(3) Installation of Test Shots

(a) OBSERVATION: Prior to the relocation of the relay site from Hill 837 to Nui Ti, test shots were established between Nui Ti and Bien Hoa, and Nui Ti and Han Tan. The length of the shot exceeded the range of the equipment and the system did not profile. Nevertheless the result of testing revealed the systems to be adequate.

(b) EVALUATION: It is essential that all precautions be observed when test shots are made to insure that all data is correct, antennas are at proper heights, and that all equipment to be used on the system is tested.

(c) RECOMMENDATION: All equipment should be thoroughly tested by personnel involved in installation and supervision of test stations or systems so that all shortcomings are discovered prior to its actual use.

d. Organization: None

e. Training:

(1) Inadequately Trained Operators.

(a) OBSERVATIONS: Newly assigned 31M personnel directly out of the MOS school in most cases are not adequately trained in the proper procedures for drop and insert operation with AN/GRC-50 PCM systems.

(b) EVALUATION: Extensive on the site training of new personnel proves to be a continued requirement for this type operation.

(c) RECOMMENDATION: That MOS producing schools teach or expand the training for operators to include drop and insert operation with AN/GRC-50 PCM equipment.

f. Logistics:

(1) Inadequate Supply Support.

(a) OBSERVATION: Although the situation has improved during the quarter, the line units continue to encounter difficulty in obtaining certain items through supply channels.

(b) EVALUATION: The supply system is not adequately meeting demands of units. There is a critical shortage of trained and experienced supply personnel. 1st Logistical Command's policy on follow-up prevents adequate control of requisitions by the using unit.

(c) RECOMMENDATIONS: More over-all command emphasis be given at all echelons to insure adequate stockage at DSU's and that depot continue to tighten controls, to insure priority system is not being improperly utilized. Increase input of personnel into supply MOS' at DA level since critical shortage appears to be Army-wide. Increase number of PLL

school allocations (one week course given in Vietnam). Reverse or modify 1st Logistical Command's "no follow-up" policy to be more realistic with units mission requirements.

g. Communications: None

h. Material: None

i. Other: None

1 Incl
Organization Chart

C. E. McKnight Jr.
C. E. MCKNIGHT JR.
LTC, SigC
Commanding

Distribution:

2-CINCUSARPAC, ATTN: GROF-DT, APO 96558
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1-CG, 1st Signal Brigade (USASTRATCOM), ATTN: SCCPV-OP-AD, APO 96384
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21 MAY 1970.

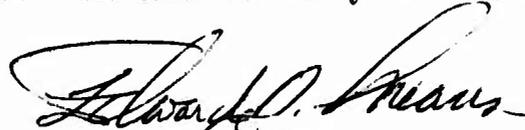
SCCPV-SF-00 (10 May 70) 1st Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, 24th Signal Battalion
(CA), Period Ending 30 April 1970, RSN SCFVR-65 (70)

DA, Hqs, 2d Signal Group, IFC SF 96491

TO: Commanding General, 1st Signal Brigade, ATTN: SCFVR-SF, IFC SF 96004

1. Subject report is forwarded in accordance with 1st Signal Brigade Supplement 1 to AR 525-15.
2. The report has been reviewed and concurred in by this headquarters.



EDWARD C. WILLIAMS
Colonel, SigC
Commanding

NOT REPRODUCIBLE

SCCPV-OP-ADA (21 May 70) 2nd Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned, 36th Signal Battalion
(CA), Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

DA, HQ, 1st Signal Brigade (USASTRATCOM), APO 96384 17 June 1970

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

1. Subject report is forwarded in accordance with AR 525-15.
2. This headquarters has reviewed the report and concurs in it.

FOR THE COMMANDER.

J. M. Beyersdorf, cPT
for O. V. BONEBRAKE
Major, AGC
Adjutant General

CF:
Commanding General, U.S. Army Strategic Communications Command,
ATTN: SCC-OPS-RT, Ft Huachuca, Arizona 85613
Commanding Officer, 2d Signal Group, APO 96491
Commanding Officer, 36th Signal Battalion, APO 96491

AVHGC-DST (10 May 70) 3d Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, 36th Signal Battalion (CA)
Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (E2)

Headquarters, United States Army Vietnam, APO San Francisco 96375 17 JUL 1970

THRU: Commanding General, United States Army Strategic Communication
Command-Pacific, AFU 96557

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 30 April 1970 from Headquarters, 36th Signal Battalion (CA) and concurs with comments of indorsing headquarters.

2. Comments follow:

a. Reference item concerning "Inadequate Supply Support," page 3, paragraph 2f(1): concur. This Headquarters has established the following standards to be attained by each supply and maintenance DSU; Demand satisfaction (percent fill of requests which match the DSU stockage list) equal to 70% and demand accommodation (percent of requests which match the DSU stockage list) equal to 85%. DSU's failing to achieve the above goals will receive assistance from subordinate commands and this Headquarters so that the described standards may be attained. Utilization of the priority system is being monitored by this Headquarters. This Headquarters is cognizant of the problems in this area and has instituted measures, to include command review of all high priority requests, to eliminate abuse of the priority system. The "no follow-up" policy is presently being reviewed. It is tentatively planned for the follow-up policy to be reinstated by the end of the 1st Quarter FY 71. No action by USARPAC or DA is recommended.

b. Reference item concerning "Inadequately Trained Operators," page 3, paragraph 2e(1): concur. In addition, the PCM(MEDCAP) operators course, taught at the Southeast Asia Signal School #1 should be considered as a means of teaching in-country personnel who are not adequately MOS qualified. Action by USARPAC is recommended.

FOR THE COMMANDER:


D. J. Winter
CPT, AGC
Assistant Adjutant General

Cy furn:
1st Sig Bde
36th Sig Bn

SCCP-OP3 (10 May 70) 4th Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, 36th Signal Battalion (CA),
Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR - 65 (R2)

Headquarters, U. S. Army Strategic Communications Command-Pacific, APO
San Francisco 96557 01 AUG 1970

TO: Commander in Chief, U. S. Army, Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-DT, APO 96558

1. Subject report is forwarded in accordance with AR 525-15.
2. This headquarters has reviewed subject report and offers the following comments:

a. Reference paragraph 2c(1), page 3: Insufficient evidence of a deficiency is presented upon which to base either a concurrence or a nonconcurrence. The fact that MOS 31M personnel require OJT to become skilled in their duties is not unique. This is the responsibility of the unit commander. Should there be a deficiency in the CONARC school base for MOS 31M, adequate evidence must be presented upon which to base a POI change.

b. Concur with the remainder of the report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



A. J. SHORT
MAJ, AGC
Adjutant General

CF:
CG, USARV, APO 96375 wo incl
CG, 1st Sig Bde (USASTRATCOM), APO 96384 wo incl
CO, 2d Sig Gp (USASTRATCOM), APO 96491 wo incl
CO, 36th Sig Bn (USASTRATCOM), APO 96375 wo incl

GPOP-DT (10 May 70) 5th Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, 36th Signal Battalion (CA) for
Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558

20 AUG 70

~~THRU: Commanding General, U. S. Army Strategic Communications Command,
Fort Huachuca, Arizona 85631~~ *2017 Sept 70*

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

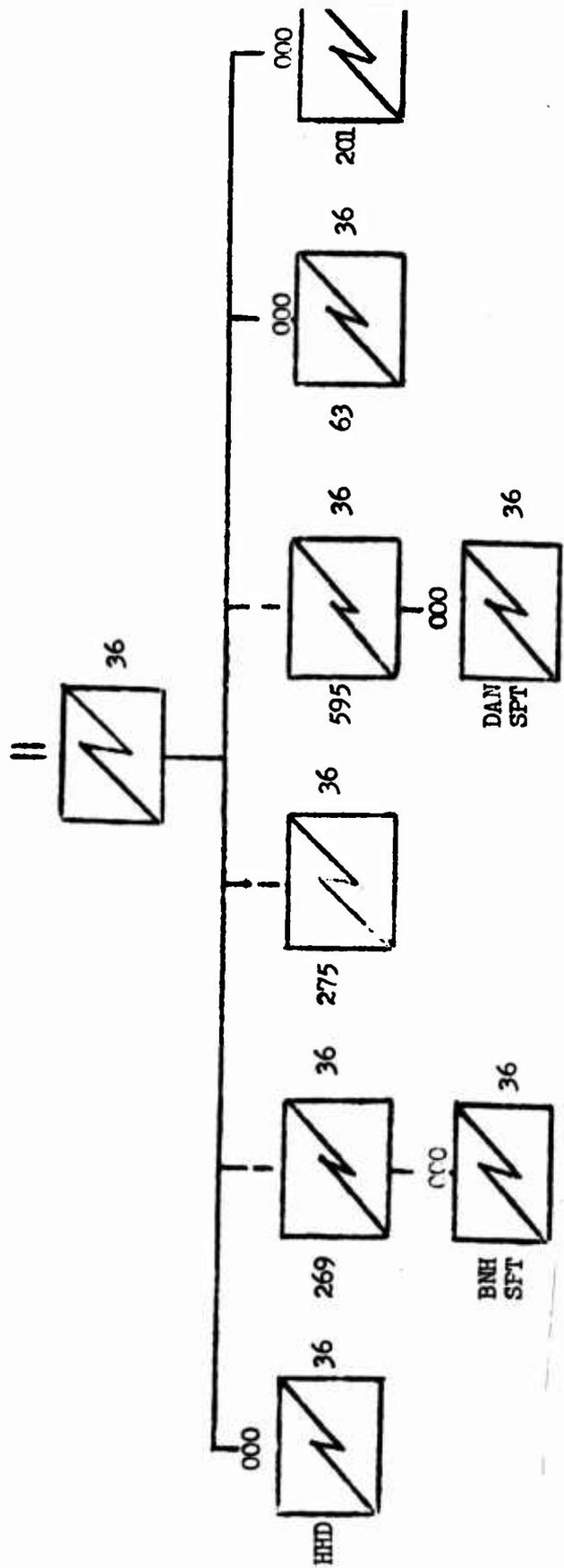
This headquarters concurs in subject report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:



D.D. CLINE
2LT, AGC
Asst AG

CF:
DA ACSFOR
CG USASTRATCOM-PAC



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CO, 36th Signal Battalion			
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