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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL WASHINGTON, D.C. 20319



AGDA (H) (2 Oct .70)

FOR OT UT 702222 6 October 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 34th

Engineer Group, Period Ending 30 April 1970

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SEPARATED TITLE TO THE PROPERTY OF THE PRO

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY HEADQUARTERS, 34TH ENGINEER GROUP (COMBAT) APO San Francisco 96320

EGF-OP

14 Hay 1970

SUBJECT:

Operational Report - Lessons Learned of Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) for period ending 30 April 1970, RCS

CSFOR--65(R2)

THRU:

Commanding Officer 20th Engineer Brigade ATTN: AVBI-CS

ATIN: AVBI-C

Commanding General United States Army, Vietnam ATTN: AVHC-DST

APO 96375

Commander in Chief Vnited States Army, Pacific ATTN: GPOP-DT APO 96558

TO:

Assistant Chief of Staff for Forces Development Department of the Army (ACSFCR-DA) Washington, D.C. 20310

1. Section 1. Operations: Significant Activities

a. Commend.

(1) During the reporting period, Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) remained located in the MeKong Delta of South Vietnam. The major activities of the Group continued to include operational support to 3rd Brigade, 9th Infantry Division, Second Field Force Vietnam, (IIFFORCEV) and US units in the IV Corps Tactical Zone, lines of communication (LOC's), construction in the NACV Facility Frogram, airfield maintenance and upgrade, base construction, quarry operations, and support to the Revolutionary Development Program.

FOR OT UT

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SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned of Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) for period ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65(R2)

- (2) Colonel John E Sterling continued to command the Group throughout the period.
 - (3) Organization Structure:
- (a) The organization of 34th Group remained unchanged for the reporting period.
- (b) The 34th Engineer Group (Const) organization chart as of 30 April 1970 is attached as Inclosure 1.
 - (c) Unit locations for this Period were as follows:
 - 1. 35th Engineer Battalion (Cbt), Binh Thuy, RVN
 - 2. 36th Engineer Battalion (Const), Vinh Long, RVN
 - 69th Engineer Battalion (Const), Can Tho, RVN
 - 4. 93rd Engineer Battalion (Const), Dong Tam, RVN
 - 5. 94th Engineer Detachment (Quarry), Vung Tau, RVN
- 5. 67th Figineer Company (Dump Truck), Vung Tau, RVN. The 2nd platoon remained attached to the 93rd Engineer Battalion.
 - 7. 523rd Engineer Company (Port Construction), Binh Thuy, RVN.
 - 8. 702nd Powerline Detachment, Vung Tau, RVN.
 - 2. 34th Engineer Group (Const), HHC, Binh Thuy, RVN
- (4) Area of Responsibility: During the reporting period there was no change in the Group's ACR. Inclosure 2 portrays the Group ACR.
 - b. Personnel, Administration, Morals, Discipline.
 - (1) Strength:
 - (a) At the end of the reporting period the strength of the Group was

 CFF WO PM Total

 Authorized 176 35 3830 4041

 Assigned 174 35 3725 3934
- (b) During the reporting period the Group rotated approximately 29% of its total authorized strength. Critical personnel shortages as of 30 April 1970, are listed below:

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2

BGF-OP

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned of Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) for period ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFCR-65(R2)

MOS CODE	JOB DESCRIPTION	<u>auth</u>	ASGD
00Z50	Sergeant Major	5	4
12B30 ·	Combat Engineer	72	23
51C3O	Structure Specialist	26	4
51020	Mason	44	8
51F40	Construction Supervisor	4	3
51H4O	Construction Foreman	118	73
51H5C	Construction Supervisor	20	14
51K2O	Plumber	131	84
62B10	Engineer Equip Repairman	101	· 38
62030	Quarryman	31	6.
62H2O	Concrete Paving Equip Spec	28	15
62N4O	Construction Machine Super	84	64
53A10	Mechanical Main Apprentice	27	7
71T20	Maintenance Data Specialist	28	8
76A10	Supply Clerk	41	25
76 x 40	Subsistance Storage Spec	13	. 1
81020	Draftsman	3	0
82D20	Survey Supervisor	2	. O.
91B40	Medical Liaison Agent	.4	1

- (c) 171 personnel extended their foreign service tour during the reporting period.
- (d) The following promotions were made during the reporting period: E7-17, E5-288, E4-427.
- (2) Awards: The following awards were presented to 34th Engineer Group personnel:

Medal .	Qty
Silver Star	Ò.
Logion of Merit	1
Soldiers Medal	. 9
Air Medal	3
Bronze Star with "V" for Valor	4
Bronze Star for service/achievement	147
Joint Service Commendation Medal	Ö
Army Commendation Medal with "V"	
for Valor	1
Army Commendation Medal for service/	•
achievement	983
Purple Heart	13
Certificate of Achievement (20th	ii
Engineer Brigade)	-7-4

INCL

3

EGF-OP SUBJECT:

Operational Report - Lessons Learned of Headouarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) for period ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFCR-65(R2)

- (3) Re-calistment: During the reporting period the Group Recalistment rate remained at 100% for RA Career personnel, while RA 1st Term and AUS rose from 33.6% to 44.4%. Percentages quoted are based on quotas established by USARV, which are derived from .5% of the assigned strength.
- (4) Public Information Office: The Public Information Program of the 34th Engineer Group (Const) continued to be a showcase of energetic endeaver with the Group newspaper, the <u>Delta Developer</u> taking third place in the 1969 USARV annual Journalism Awards Competition, mimeographed category. In quality and quantity of news story releases by US Army Engineer Command, Vietnam (P), the 34th Group Information Office ranked second among all engineer groups in Vietnam. Feature stories released to higher headquarters during this period totaled 86 while hometown news releases totaled 1472. In addition to the publication of the <u>Delta Developer</u>, publication to the <u>Delta Pictorial</u> and the Group Scoop continued.

(5) Chaplain's Activities:

- (a) Character Guidance Training increased slightly this quarter from 91% to 93% of present for duty strength. This increase is believed due to continued command interest in this area of training and aggressive leadership on the part of the charlains within the 34th Engineer Group. A slight increase was registered in the number of classes held from 40 to 41 per month this quarter.
- (b) Chapel attendance continues to remain strong at 29% of present for duty strength per week. This is the same per cent as registered last quarter. Continued emphasis on the number of worship opportunites available is the outstanding accomplishment in this area. The 35th Engineer Battalion was without a chaplain for half of this period. The 69th Engineer Battalion Chaplain rotated in March causing to the Group a loss of a Catholic chaplain for a short period of time.
- (c) The number of men counseled by chaplains with the Group continues to remain high due to the concern evidenced by Command and chaplains to assist the soldier in any way possible. Chaplains of the 34th Engineer Group counseled an average of 131 cases per chaplain or an increase over the 92 per chaplain per month of last quarter.
- (d) The two Chaplain's Fund operations within the 34th Engineer Group remain in good financial condition. Both funds contribute significantly to a more encompassing chaplain program within the 34th Engineer Group.
- (e) The 34th Engineer Group Headquarters at Binh Thuy opened a new facility for Chapel services in February in a Chapel/Theater building erected by contractor. There are no chapel facilities available in the 36th Engineer Battalion area. The 35th Engineer Battalion utilizes a

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4

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned of Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) for period ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65(R2)

medium wall tent for Chapel services which required considerable repair this quarter. Both the 69th Engineer Battalion and the 93rd Engineer Battalion have adequate chapel facilities.

- (6) Civilian Hires: During the reporting period an average of 818 permanent hire Vietnamese were employed by the 34th Group, and were paid salaries totaling 25,756,245 VN\$. Daily hire employees averaged 213 and were paid wages totaling 2,510,332 VN\$. A hire freeze continued in effect until early April when the 34th Group received a maximum civilian ceiling of 977 spaces.
- c. Intelligence and Counterintelligence: The primary sources of intelligence information for the 34th Engineer Group (Const) are USARV Weekly Intelligence Review, the JICSUM from Phong Dinh Province, II Field Forces PERINTREP, USARV Combat Intelligence and Security Review, Weekly Combat Lessons Bulletin, Monthly Battle Field Reports, and Commander's notes. Local intelligence is obtained daily from Air Force Security Police Daily Summary and the IV Corps 24 hour SITREP. Additional information is received from National Police, Navai Intelligence Liaison Officer, and Office of Security Information in Can Tho. Enemy incidents information, LOC interdiction and damage assessments are received from Group subordinates by SPOTREP.
 - d. Plans, Operations, and Training.
 - (1) Operational Support:
- (a) Combat and operational support effort for the months of February, March, and April averaged 15.4%. The effort on 30 Apr 70 was 20.4% of the total manhours expended in the Group.
- (b) The 93rd Engineer Battalion completed a 40 x80 K-wall reveted communications facility at Tan An in support of the 3rd Bdc/9th Inf Division.
- (c) The 69th Engineer Battalion completed refuel and rearm facilities at VI Thanh Airfield. Project included 12 refuel pads, 5 rearm pads, 4 rearm storage sites and 1 CH-47 refuel pad.
- (d) The 69th Engineer Battalion completed repairs of Vi Thanh Airfield. Project consisted of removing MBAi ma ting, compacting and shaping base material, and replacing the matting.
- (e) The 69th Ingineer Battalion also completed refuel and rearm facilities at Bac Liou and Ca Mau airfields. Total project included eighteen UH-1 refuel pads, two CH-47 refuel pads, oight rearm pads and 4 rearm storage sites.
- (f) The 35th Engineer Battalien completed two radar bunkers, a 16 x 30 ° at Chi Lang and a 20 x 24 ° at Tinh Bien. A bunker was also constructed to protect the generators at Tien Bien.

EGP-OP

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lossons Learned of Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) for period ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65(R2)

- (g) The 93rd Ingineer Battalion is prosently chagged in a major repair of Bon Tre Airfield. The project includes removal of existing AM2 matting, compaction and crowning of base material, water proofing with asphalt, and replacing the matting. Also included is construction of eight UE-1 refuel pads, one CH-47 refuel pad, 3 rearm pads and 2 rearm storage sites.
- (h) The 69th Engineer Battalien and the 36th Engineer Battalien are both constructing facilities for aviation unit relocations at Can The and Vinh Long Mirfield respectively. The Can The construction consists of 42,000 Square Yards of CH-47 parking apren and 16 revenuents with 3,000 Square Foot of maintenance shops, 15,000 Square Foot of DEC/BOQ, 3,000 Square Foot of administration, water storage and electrical distribution. The Vinh Long construction consists of 20,000 Square yards of parking apren, 500 Square Yards taxiway and latrines and showers.
- (i) The 35th Engineer Battalien is presently upgrading Moc Rea Airfield. The project consists of removal of the MBAI matting, shaping and compacting the base material and placing new MX-19 aluminum matting to upgrade the airfield for C-130 traffic.
- (j) The 93rd Engineer Buttalion is upgrading approximately 52 NM of secondary roads in Long An Province. Clay fill is hauled; compacted and shaped to form base. A laterite cap is then placed to make the roads capable of carrying all weather traffic. Bridges are being constructed or improved to be Class 12.

(2) Lines of Communication:

- (a) During the past quarter, 34th Group has concentrated its greatest effort on the 1970 CENCOM LOC construction. The average level of effort during this period was 69.5%. The LOC construction effort peaked at 73.1% during the week of "Operation 25 Klicks." "Operation 25 Klicks" established the 20th Brigade goal of 25 kilometers and 34th Group goal of 10.5 kilometers of 2 lane asphalt paving during one week of operation. The 34th Group, with 3 paving trains, passed their goal by paving 13.24 kilometers.
- (b) The 35th Engineer Battalion (Cbt) has retained its mission of upgrading QL-4 from Thanh Hoa to Soc Trang to Class "F" standards. The Battalion was also tasked with the mission of placing the asphaltic concrete surface on QL-4 between Cai Rang and Thanh Hoa. Bridge construction continued to require a large portion of the 35th Engineer Battalion's effort.
- (c) The 36th Engineer Battalion (Const) has continued the Class "A" upgrade of QL-4. The 36th Battalion remained responsible for placing the asphaltic concrete surface between the My Thuan Ferry and Can Tho Ferry. The remaining work includes 20.0 kilometers of paving two 2" lifts and 7 meters wide. LTI-7A, Vinh Long to Ap An Dien, is being upgraded to class "F" standards by the 36th Battalion. In April the 36th Battalion added a

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2

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lossons Learned of Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) for the Period ending 30 .pril 1970, RCS C3FOR-65(R2).

35 TPH continuous asphalt hot-mix plant to the existing 80 - 100 TPH plant system at Vinh Long.

- (d) The 69th Engineer Battalion (Const) has concentrated its LOC effort on QL-4 between C.1 Rang and Thanh Hoa and from Ba Cang to Binh Minh. One portion of this section of QL-4, called the Binh Minh sypass, involved construction of over 3 kilometers of Class "A" highway through rice paddies. The embankment consists of paddy clay and clay-lime mixture. Over 50% of the Bypass was completed during the past quarter.
- (e) The 93rd Engineer Battalion (Const), continued the Class "F" upgrade of TL-24 between My The and Go Cong. Four kilometers of readway, called the Che Gao Bypass, shaped through rice paddy and jungle, was initiated in mid-March and on 30 April was nearly 50% complete. The 93rd Battalion has also maintained a company sized effort on the Tactical (Secondary) Read not in Long An Prevince and completed all vertical construction at Tan An for the 3rd Bde/9th Inf Division.
- (f) Rock Offload sites for LOC construction were maintained and operated at Phung Hiop, See Trang, Vinh Long, Ap Nuce Kay, Binh Minh, Dong Sen, and Tan An by the 34th Engineer Group. The 94th Engineer Detachment (Quarry) continued to operate the Vung Tau quarry/crusher operation producing over 90,000 tens of crushed rock each menth in support of the Dolta Rock Agency.
- (g) The 34th Group began preliminary planning for the 1971 LOC program during this period. The 279 kilometers of read programmed for upgrade includes LTL-64, TL-26, LTL-74, LTL-31, LTL-27, LTL-9, LTL-10, and LTL-84.
 - (3) Base Construction
- (a) 34th Group Base Construction for this period averaged 6.0% of the manhour effort. The base construction manhour effort at the end of April stands at 2.8%.
- (b) The 69th Engineer Dattalion completed a 30 x30 communications bunker at Bac Liou.
- (c) The 36th Engineer Dattalion completed a 20 x20 communications bunker at Tra Vinh.
- (d) The 35th Engineer Battalien completed a 20 x40, a 20 x20 and a 20 x30 communications bunkers at Long Kuyon, Rach Gia and Ca Mau respectively.
- (e) The 93rd Engineer Battalion completed the 824 man canterment for the 3rd Bdo/9th Inf Division at Tan An. The scope included 48,000 square feet of BEQ, 16,000 square feet of BOQ, 20,000 square feet of administration, 3 each 40 x96 Pascoe buildings and 3,000 linear feet of electrical distribution.

DGF-OP

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lossons Learned of Headquarters, 94th Engineer Group (Const) for period ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65(R2)

- (f) The 35th Engineer Battalion completed the Cao Lanh Detention Contor. Facilities included two 100 man barracks, two guard towers, kitchen facilities, and perimeter lighting and foncing.
- (g) The 69th Engineer Battalion completed the 292nd Finance Conter at Binh Thuy. The project included construction of a 40 x96° and 40 x144° Pascoo building, electrical wiring and a 8 x18 x10° reinforced concrete yault.
- (h) The 93rd Engineer Dattalion completed construction of the Tan An Dog Kennels. Project included a 2550 square feet kennel to house 26 scout dogs, water supply, and electrical wiring.
- (1) The 35th Engineer Battalion is presently constructing facilities for the 52nd Signal Dattalion Headquarters at Binh Thuy. Project includes construction of a 40°x96° Pascoo warehouse and a 40°x144° headquarters building.
- (j) The 69th Engineer Battalien is constructing a 40 x78 messhall addition as part of the aviation unit relocation at Can The Mirfield.
- (k) The 94th Engineer Detachment (Quarry) is constructing a new and expanded crushing complex at Vung Tau. The new site is located on a sand fill approximately & of a mile from the quarry.
- (1) M.CV ficilities were completed at Tra Vinh, Moc Hoa, Long Phu, and Si Doc. The development of the M.CV facility by the 523rd Engineer Company (PC) at Sa Dec included a 1100 feet shoot pile sea wall and drainage system.
- (m) MER construction was comploted at Dong Son, Tan An and Ap Muoc Kay. The 93rd Engineer Cattalion is currently constructing MER facilities at Tan An. This project includes six 01E revoluents, four LOH6 revoluents. cight UH-1 revoluents, a 200 x220 parking apren, and a 240 x300 taxiway.
 - (4) Construction Support Operations:
 - (a) Tons of rock produced: 290,000 tons
 - (b) Tons of asphalt purchased: 27,482 tons
 - (c) Tons of asphalt produced: 34,513 tens
 - (5) Design and Construction Engineering:
- (a) The engineering and plans'soction devoted a large portion of its offert in providing subordinate units with technical design assistance and information. Furing the last quarter significant design projects included:

EGF-OP SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lossons Coarned by Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) for the period ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFCR-65(R2)

Communications facilities at Tinh Minh and Moc Hea; Thi Lang bunker; standard bridge abutment lesign; clay-lime-coment stabilization study; and 2nd Signal Battalien Headquarters building. The Engineering and Plans section also maintained the status reports on the 1970 LOC Read and Bridge Program. Preliminary planning for the 1971 LOC Program get underway with read and bridge reens, land use requests, surveys, c n-struction planning and astimates. The drafting personnel contributed substantially to the production of the Engineer Specien by preparing drawings for projects designed at Group level, updating and drafting charts for briefings, and revising drawings produced by subordinate units.

- (b) The Soils and Survey terms continued to devote the majority of their effort to supporting the 35th Engineer Dattelion's construction of QL-4 south, Thanh Hea to See Trang. CER, moisture, density, and Marshall Stability tests were an everyday occurance in support of the 35th Dattalion's Quality Control Program. The Seils Section also made gradation tests on rock from the offload sites at Phung Hiep and See Trang. The survey section continued the work of laying out bridge sites, staking out road conterlines, and taking cross-sections along QL-4. In addition to occasional support given to the other battalion's, the Survey and Spils teams contributed significantly to the Group Quality Control Program.
- (c) The Group Quality Control Team made frequent visits to the battalien work sites to give assistance to the Group and Jattalien Commanders in maintaining quality construction. The Quality Control Program has proven to be very successful.
- (d) The Group Photography Section contributed significantly to the PIO publications, Liaison Officer, and Commander's briefings.
 - (6) Land Clearing:
- (a) The 36th Engineer Battalion began land clearing operations on 11 Feb 70 in Sa Dde Province. In 17 days the land clearing team cleared 261 acros with their 5 rome plows and 2 bulldozers. The area generally consisted of small to medium sized trees in heavy underbrush and wet, swampy land with many canals. Enemy activity encountered consisted entirely of mines and booby traps. There were no US casualties. Security for the operation was provided by the Sa Dec Province Regional Forces. Combat engineer support and river transportation were provided by the 9th ARVN Infantry Division. The total friendly casualties consisted of 1 RF KIA and 5 RF WIA, all from booby traps. In addition to clearing the growth, the following were destroyed: 25 greeneds traps, 3 on 105mm mines, 1 ea 60mm mine, 89 on 2 man bunkers, 16 on 4 man bunkers, 8 on 6 man bunkers, and 55 on spider holes. Two cache's were found with a total of 320 lbs rice, 1 barber set, and 2 sets of documents. Two Hoi Chans surrendered to the security company.

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons bearned of Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) for period ending 30 Levil 1970, RG

Engineer Group (Const) for poriod ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65(12)

- (b) After ? days standown for maintenance in the battalien area, the land clearing team began movement by LRVN river boats and then by LRVN lowboys, to arrive at Tinh Bien in Chau Dec Province, within 10 km of the Cambodian bordor. The clearing operation finally get off to a good start at elearing on 11 Mar 70 and in the next 13 days, cleared 536 acres of large bambe trees and other hardweeds. The area was dry sandy and dust, with the heat and dust increasing the maintenance problems. In addition to clearing the land, the following were destroyed: 66 ca.2 man bunkers, 54 ea 4 man bunkers, 25 ca 6 man bunkers, 12 ca 8 man bunkers, 5 ea 10 man bunkers, 19 ca booby trapped grenades, 8 ea mortar rounds, 3 ca rockets, 4 ca mines and 2 ea 500 lb bombs. One cache of 5 ea rifles, 2 ca VC flags and medical supplies were also discovered. Ther were no US casualties in this area. The local security was previded by two Regional Force Companies from Chau Dec Province. One RF was wounded by a booby trap during that part of the operation.
- (c) Coinciding with the completion of that area was an increase in energy activity, so the land clearing team withdrew to a local MACV site to allow the scenity forces to participate fully in offensive operations. After 5 days of maintenance the new area was determined to be secure and the team moved back cut to commence cutting on 29 Mar 70. The new area was a thick forest and more enemy resistance was encountered in the clearing of 501 acres in 18 days. There were two decors hit by 3-40 reckets, the night defensive position was attacked by ground forces one night and several booky traps were encountered which were set up in trees where the shrapnel could hit the decor ope ator. A total of 12 US from the land clearing team were wounded plus one advisor was killed by a land mine while driving a joop. In a littien to the landclearing, 24 earthen bunkers, 14 cancrete bunkers, 13 mines and 19 grounded traps were destroyed. 3 on RF's were killed and 20 RF's wounded from the security forces.
- (d) The land clearing team again moved back to the battalien area: for 5 days maintenance stand down and 25 Har 70 moved into Vinh Long Frevince for present clearing operations. The present area is again a wet, soft area with many canals throughout the area.
- (e) Our experience gained in land clearing in the swampy delta areas during the dry season shows that rome pleas can clear only 40% as much per day as when working on dry land.
 - (7) Training:
- (a) Other than the training required by US RV Reg 350-1 and 20th Engineer Brigade Reg 350-1, the 34th Engineer Group personnel received training from Quinten-Budleng representatives on special MC/-LOC equipment. In addition selected selfiers were sent to USABCV(P).classroom and laboratory instruction on soils testing and equipment. On-the-job training on all pieces of equipment has been continual practice.

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned by Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) for period ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65(R2).

- (b) Units of the 34th Group trained 19 personnel from the 7th ARVN Engineer Group. Eleven of these were trained as mechanics and eight were trained as wheel tractor 290M operators. Glassroom and OJT lasted from 34 to 63 days.
- (c) Givilian hires were trained to be carpenter, masons, equipment operators, rock crusher operators and asphalt plant operators.
- (7) Givic Action: Due to the concentrated troop and equipment offert on LOC construction, very little civic action construction could be done. However, the dectors and medical personnel of the 34th Group units took an active interest in providing medical aid to local nationals through Medcap.
 - c. Logistics.
 - (1) Rocks
- (a) The Lines of Communications Program (LOC) has been delayed significantly by delay in shipment of crushed rock scheduled for delivery through the construction season. The amount of crushed rock shipped to the Delta versus the amount required during February, March and April 1970, illustrates the adverse effect that material non-deliveries had on construction.

MONTH	SHIPPED	PROGRAMMED REQUIREMENTS
Fobruary	156,133	319,000
March	165,306	345.645
April.	175,977	384,380

- (b) In February the rock shipmonts fell short due to the short month, and the TET Holiday when all OICC and ARVN operated offload sites and quarries were closed.
- (c) In March the delay in rock shipments was due to strikes at CICC operated offload sites and quarries and to the closing of the canal out of Nui Sap Quarry while the Long Kuyen bridge was being repaired.
- (d) In April the delay in shipping was due to the diversion of barges for shipping of sand from Thu Duc for thirteen days of the month and the shipping of loss than six barges of rock a day from the "ui Sap Quarry."
- (e) Many other problems dolayed shipments during this three month period such as inoperative equipment at quarries and offload sites, responsiveness of tugs and barges, to tides and lack of necessary secretive.

11

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned by Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) for period ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65(R2)

(2) Transportation:

- (a) Transportation of construction materials into the Dolta continued to be a severe problem. Local support units are only authorized to be supplied by water and air and are not permitted to run conveys to the major depot in the Long Rinh area. This necessitates the multiple handling of materials (i.e., from the depot to Newport docks or an airfield to be leaded on a carrier, unleading of the materials at an airfield or across the beach, and then moving the materials to the requisitioning or local DS unit). This multiple handling, in addition to being time consuming, increases the psibility of less and damage to material. Unit conveys continue to be, in many cases, the only rapid means of supply.
- (b) Although mine LCU's and five LST's have been dedicated to resupply of the Dolta, supporting transportation is still unable to keep pace with consumption. A major bottloneck in the water resupply system is the poor turn-around time of boats, caused primarily by slow port operations at Binh Thuy and Can The. This situation has wereoned in the last few menths due to the build up of carge on the ARVN beach and the lack of material handling equipment and haul capability within the Delta.
- (c) The troop roduction program, with simultaneous emphasis on roduction of materials inventory has also made it difficult at times to locate materials for Operational Support type projects where there is little lead time in which to requisition.
- f. Maintenanco: Maintenance work load increased during the last three months mainly due to the addition of over 150 items of critical equipment, including an asphalt plant, three paving trains, and a land clearing mission. Repair parts for the asphalt plant, paving trains and rome plows have been extremely hard to find. Repair parts for the asphalt plant must be rebuilt at Vinnel Corporation located at Cam Ranh Bay and flown to Vinh Long. Damage to track frames, equilizer bars, and equilizer bar pads by mines cause a high loadline of rome plows. Farts for gradors, 10 ten rellers, AC scoop loaders and bitumious distributors remained critical and provided the largest reduction in production.
 - g. 523rd Engineer Company (Port Construction).
 - (1) Command:
- (a) The 523rd Engineer Company (Fort Construction) remained at Rinh Thuy, RVN, RPO 96320, during this reporting period.
- (b) .CPT Jerry W Luoma assumed command on 22 February 1970 and commanded throughout the major part of the reporting period.
 - (2) Forsonnel, Administration, Moralo, and Discipline:

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned by Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) for period ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65(R2)

(a) At the end of this report period the unit strength was:

	OFF	<u>wo</u>	<u>BM</u>
Previously authorizeds	9	1	215
Prosently Authorized:	9	1	169
Prosently Assigned:	7	1	131 (as of 30 Apr 70)

- (b) During the reporting period the everall strength dropped approximately 38 men to DEROS, however these personnel spaces are expected to be filled during the next quarter.
- (c) The foreign Service Tour Extension Program produced the following results:

Total Eligible for DEROS:

72

Extended boyond DEROS:

· 5

DEROS ed.

67

- (d) Reenlistments during the periods 1
- (o) No unusual disciplinary problems occured. Disciplinary Actions during the period were as follows:

Article 15's - 12

Summary Court Martials - 0

Special Court Martials - 1

General Court Martials - 0

(f) Promotions:

E-6 - 1

E-5 - 10

B-4 - 17

(g) imards:

Bronze Star - 13

Army Commendation Medal - 40

Brigade Certificate of Achievement - 0

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned by Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) for period ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65(R2)

- (h) Nows releases 27
- (1) Feature stories 1
- (3) Plans Operational and Training:
- (a) The 523rd Engineer Company (PC) during this period engaged in 844 working days and 42 days of training. The training consisted of classes on portinent military subjects, personnel by ione, safety and familiarization of weapons and equipment.
- (b) The principal operational activity during the reporting period consisted of work on mine projects. Projects worked are as follows:
- 1. The Sa Dec Seawall was constructed at the MACV compound, to provent further erosion of the land. The project consists of approximately seven miles of wood, steel "H" pile, and sheet pile. SD: 15 July 1969, CD 9 Merch 1970.
- 2. The Vinh Long Rock Offloading facility project consisted of the disassembly of the old damaged pier, and replacing of wood pile, caps, stringers and decking. This work was accomplished while rock offloading continued. SD: 27 Jul 69, CD: 11 Feb 70.
- 3. At Vung Tau recrushor site the service plateen with assistance of crows from the 36th Engineer Battalien and the 93rd Engineer Battalien drove approximately one mile of "Bu pile, and sheet pile for head walls and romps. They also placed concrete for seven pads for crushing equipment and generator shed. This work was accomplished in support of the 24th Engineer Datachment (Q). SD: 24 Jun 69. CD: Feb 70
- 4. The Dong Son Rock pier project consisted of driving pile and constructing delphines for a temporary rock offloading site to be used by the 93rd Engineer Battalien on TL-21. SD: 28 Jan 70, CD: 6 Feb 70.
- 5. The Tan an mooring delphins and repair work consisted of driving seven mooring delphins, replacement of decking on pier, and the installation of additional diagonal bracing on pier have been completed, and three delphins constructed. Construction of four additional delphins deferred to a later date. SD: 16 Mar 70, CD: 15 Nov 70.
- 6. Dridge 5 on LTL-7% involved the demolition of existing concrete piers, and driving four steel "H" pile bridge piers. This work is in support of the 35th Engineer Dattalion. SD: 20 Mar 70, CD: 15 May 70, (riors Only)
- 7. Bridge 4 on LTL-74 involved demolition and dredging of existing piers and the driving of four steel "H" pile bridge piers. This work is in support of the 36th Engin or Battalian. SD: 25 Feb 70, CD: 15 May 70 (Piers Only).

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned by Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) for period ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65(R2)

- 8. The Thanh Tan rock offloading facility work consisted of driving a shoot pile headwall with wing walls and deadman system to provide a hard stand for off-leading rock barges. This project was in support of the 69th Engineer Battalien. SD: 3 Apr 70. CD 15 Apr 70.
- 2. Bridge 2 on QL-4 consists of driving sheet pile headgall and a mono-tube abutment. This project is in support of the 35th inginoer Battalion. SD: 28 upr 70, and is in progress at this time.
 - h, 57th Engineer Company (Dump Truck).
 - (1) Command:
- (a) During the reporting period this unit continued to support the 94th Engineer Detachment (Quarry). The 2nd plateon continued to support the 93rd Engineer Battalien at Dong Tam. During the latter portion of the reporting period, Victnamization of the Vung Tau operation was well underway.
 - (b) CPT Thomas R Marshall was the commanding officer for this quarter,
 - (2) Personnel, Administration, Morale, and Disciplines
 - (a) At the end of the reporting period the personnel strength was:

	OFF	WO	БŊ.	TOLL
AUTH	3	1	109	113
ASSG	3	0	147	1 <i>5</i> 0

- (b) During the reporting period 33.7% of the unit's personnel rotated to COMUS.
- (c) During the reporting period there were 42 awards and decorations given to individuals of this unit. There were no IG complaints, no class I or Class II offenses and no AWOL during this period. Personnel within the unit received 31 Company Grade Article 15°s.
 - 1. 94th Engineer Detachment (Quarry).
 - (1) Command:
- (a) CPT Clyde H Madry Jr took command on 3 Jan 70 and has commanded through this reporting period.
- (b) Two 94th Engineer Detachment (Quarry) has remained in Vung Tau, RVN, for the entire period.
 - (2) Personnel, idministration, Moralo and Discipline:

	Engineer Group CSFOR-65(R2)	_			
	The status of peas as follows:	ersonnel at thi	s unit for	tne end or	the reportin
		OFF	WO	em	TOTAL
AUTH		4	1	191	196
ASSG		. 7	2	254	263
	gures show that (there was an in	crease of 1	7 men over	the previous
(b)	Extensions durin	ng the period w	ereas follo	ws:	
	Eligible for ext	ension	150		
•	Extension beyond	DEROS	30		
	Extension beyon	i deros	76		
	During the repoindividuals of		ere were 42	awards and	decorations
Reports, no Summa	Personnel of the no field grade a ry Courts Martia aint, no Class On	Article 15's, m l, one Special	ine company Court Marti	grade Arti al. There w	cle 15's, ere, one
(3)	Plans, Operation	ns, and Trainin	ıg:		
	The 94th Engine operations. During llows:				
	2". 39,092	1½" -0-	<u>3/4</u> " 56,918	3/8	n .
	39,092	-0-	56,918	23,3	91
		od the followin	g amount of	rock by si	zés Was
(b)	•				
(b) loaded o	During the perion barges: 2" 09,121	1½" 635	3/4 ⁿ 52,698	3/8	pe

EGF-OF

SUBJECT: Operational report - Lossons searned of Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) for period ending 30 spril 1970, RCS CSFOR-65(R2)

- (a) The operations of the 94th Engineer Detachment (Q) were supported by elements of the 67th Engineer Company (DT) and 702nd Powerline Letachment.
- (f) The 94th Engineer Detachment (Q) engaged in 83 working days and 6 days training. The training consisted of classes on pertinent military subjects and maintenance.
 - j. 702nd Powerling Detachment.
 - (1) Commands
- (a) The 702nd rowerline Detachment remained in Yung Tau, WW in support of the 94th Engineer Detachment (Quarry) construction.
 - (b) During this poriod the commanding officer was as follows:
- 11 First Lieutonant Dalo Jopson, 1 February 1970 to 26 February 1970.
- 2. First Lieutonant James Lossman, 26 February 1970 to 8 March 1970.
 - 3. Captain John W McCoy, 8 March 1970 to 30 april 1970.
 - (2) Forsonnel, Administration, Morale and Liscipline:
- (a) As of 30 april 1970, the unit is at authorized strength of 13 onlisted mon and 1 officer.
 - (b) No unusual disciplinary problems loveleped during this period.
 - (3) Plans, Operations, and Training:
- (a) During the reporting period the unit was employed on the following projects:
- 1. The installation of the electrical powerlines for the Cao Lanh Dotontion Facility.
- 2. The installation of the power distribution system for the primary and secondary lines at the 94th Engineer Lotachment (Quarry) recrusher site. Two transformer banks were installed in this operation.
- (b) Iraining for this quarter was consistent with portionat regulations.

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned of Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) for period ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65(R2)

- 2. Section 2, Lessons Learned: Commander's Observations, Evaluations, and Recommendations.
 - a. Personnel. None
 - b. Intelligence. None
 - c. Operations.
 - (1) Civilian Himes:
- (a) OBSERVATION. Vietnamese civilian employees are used to the maximum extent in an effort to complete mission.
- (b) EVALUATION. The Vietnamese civilians have proven to be effective equipment operators, truck drivers, carpenters, and masons. Vietnamese employees can be used in base construction work which would result in release of U.S. military personnel for Operational Support missions.
- (c) RECOMMENDATION. That Vietnamese hiring program be reviewed to allow increased numbers of Vietnamese civilians to be hired in the skilled levels.
 - (2) US/ARVN Affiliation:
- (a) OBSERVATION. An affiliation program was instituted in the 34th Group during this reporting period. Each battalion within Group has been assigned one or more ARVN Engineer Battalions as an affiliate unit.
- (b) EVALUATION. The purpose of this program is to establish specific ties between two units with the same mission Engineer Support. By establishing this permanent relationship between the ARVN and US units, close social, technical, and operational ties will develop. The program has proven to be very valuable and has generated interest in joint training and operational mission.
- (c) RECOMMENDATION. That the ARVN/US Affiliation Program be continued and expanded.
 - d. Organisation. None.
 - e. Training.
 - (1) US/ARVN Mechanics OJT Programs:

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned of Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) for Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65(R2)

- (a) OBSERVATION. The mechanics OJT programs disclosed that interperters are the key to an effective training program.
- (b) EVALUATION. Due to the importance of a mechanic developing proper thought patterns in attempting to diagnose mechanical difficulties, it is necessary to have constant communication between the instructor or demonstrator and the trainee.
- (c) RECOMMENDATION. During the OJT of mechanics or other technical skills an interperter is necessary for each work group. A desirable rate is one interperter per 2-3 trainees.
 - (2) Driver Training:
- (a) OBSERVATION. During the reporting period, the 67th Engineer Company (DT) found it necessary to train many replacement drivers from CONUS. The lack of knowledge demonstrated by the replacements relating to motor stables and safe driving habits suggests deficient preparation in AIT.
- (b) EVALUATION. This situation has contributed to a relatively sharp increase in the deadline rate of critical items. Much valuable supervisory time has been wasted on retraining U.S. personnel.
- (c) RECOMMENDATION. It is recommended that the AIT for all 64A and 64B MOS personnel be reviewed for effectiveness.
 - f. Logistics.
 - (1) Rome Plow Deadline:
- (a) OBSERVATION. Damage to track frames, equilizer bars, and equilizer bar pads by mines caused a high deadline rate with Rome Plows.
- (b) EVALUATION. These parts are almost never replaced in normal usage and have low demand data causing them not to be stocked.
- (c) RECOMMENDATION. That a PLL of parts required by land clearing dozers be required before the unit goes to the field.
 - (2) Repair Parts for Construction Equipment:
- (a) OBSERVATION. Deadline construction equipment has critically limited construction.
- (b) EVALUATION. Unavailability of parts for graders, 10 ton rollers AC scoop leaders, and bituminous distributors caused the most serious delay in construction progress.

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned of Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) for the period ending 30 April 1970, RCS_CSFOR=65(R2)

- (c) RECOMMENDATION. That these items be command managed by logistical personnel to improve the procurement of repair parts.
 - g. Communications.
 - (1) AM/FM Radio Equipment:
- (a) OBSERVATION. The FM radio equipment organic to a Port Construction Company is both insufficient in quantity and inadequate is capability.
- (b) EVALUATION. The 523rd Engineer Company (Port Construction) presently has two LCM8's, two self propelled barges and three pile driving barges. These elements frequently operate independently at ranges in excess of 75 miles from the Company Headquarters. An AM radio communication net has been established within this unit utilizing equipment on hand receipt from several Bn's within the 20th Brigade. The resulting increase in reliable communications has greatly increased the effective utilization of equipment within this unit.
 - (c) RECOMMENDATION: AM communication equipment be made available.
 - h. Materials.
 - (1) Pile Driving:
- (a) OBSERVATION. The diesel and drop hammers organic to Engineer Units for pile driving are, at best cumbersome for driving sheet pile.
- (b) EVALUATION. The 523rd Engineer Company (Port Construction) has procurred and used a non-military pneumatic hammer with great success. The hammer is lighter than diesel hammers and consequently easier to handle. In addition, it causes less wear and tear on the crane than the drop hammer. Since it is pneumatic, it is easily maintainable.
- (c) RECOMMENDATION. The 523rd Engineer Company (RC) has a great deal of experience with diesel, pneumatic and drop hammers. It is recommended that pneumatic hammers be made available to Engineer Units.

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned of Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) for period ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65(R2)

2 INCL

2 Incls w/d HQ DA 1. Gp Organizational Chart 2. Gp AOR May

Acting Commander

Copies Furnsished:
1 - CO, 35th Engr En
1 - CO, 36th Engr En
1 - CO, 69th Engr En
1 - CO, 93rd Engr En
1 - CO, 523rd Engr Co
1 - CO, 94th Engr Det
1 - CO, 67th Engr Co

AVBI-OS (14 May 70) 1st Ind SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned of Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) for Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

DA, HEADQUARTERS, 20TH ENGINEER BRIGADE, APO 96491 11 JUN 1970

TO: Commanding General, United States Army Vietnam, ATTN:
AVHGC-DST, APO 96375
Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department
of the Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

- 1. Submitted in accordance with USARV Regulation 525-15, dated 13 April 1968.
- 2. This headquarters concurs with the submitted report with the following comments:
- a. Section 2, paragraph e (1), page 18-19: Non-concur: To date, the mechanics OJT program has graduated 10 ARVN personnel. The recommendation that one interpreter be assigned for every 2-3 trainees is not realistic. Present assignment of interpreters within the Brigade is based on operational requirements. Classes for 10-15 trainees could easily be handled by one interpreter.
- b. Section 2, paragraph g, page 20: Concur: The AM net for this unit was established by transferring AN/GRC-106 radios from the Group Headquarters. Recommend that required equipment be submitted on a MTOE change with a request for temporary loan until such change is approved. Should another situation arise requiring AM voice communications, the TOE resources will not be available.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

D. L. MC BRIDE
1LT, CE
Assistant Adjutant

Copy Furnished: CO, 34th Engr Gp

> PROTECTIVE MARKING IS EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC TERMINATION (PARA. 13, AR 340-16)

22

AVHGC-DST (14 May 70) 2d Ind SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned of Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) for period ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

Headquarters, United States Army Vietham, APO San Francisco 96375 1 7 JUL 1970

- TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-DT, APO 96375
- 1. This Headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 30 April 1970 from Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) and comments of indorsing headquarters.

2. Comments follow:

- a. Reference item concerning "Rome Plow Deadline," page 19, paragraph $\mathfrak{C}(f)$: concur. The commander maintaining the prescribed load is the approving authority for PLL's IAW C1, AR 735-35, paragraph 6-2c. The appropriate commander has been notified of this comment. No action by USARPAC or DA is recommended.
- b. Reference item concerning "Repair Parts for Construction Equipment," page 19, paragraph 2(f)(2): concur. These itemsaare already managed by USARV. No action by USARPAC or DA is recommended.
- c. Reference item concerning "Pile Driving," page 20, paragraph 2(h): nonconcur. Action is required at unit level to submit MTOR/MTDA changes as appropriate. Unit has been so advised.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

D. J. Winter CPT, AGC

Assistant Adjutant General

Cy furn: 20th Engr Bde 34th Engr Gp

GPOP-DT (14 May 70) 3d Ind SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, 34th Engineer Group (Const) for Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 5 AUG 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, AGO Asst AG

Security Classification					
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