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AUTHORITY

AGO Ltr 29 Apr 1980 ; AGO Ltr 29 Apr 1980

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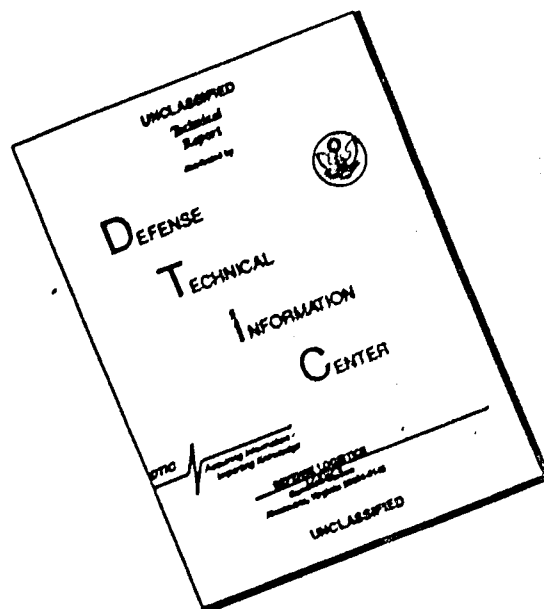
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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

20

18 ACSFOR

IN REPLY REFER TO

AGAM-P (M) (2 Jan 69)

FOR OT-UT-683130

8 January 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 210th Combat Aviation Battalion, Period Ending 31 July 1968 (U)

AD395041

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.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

Kenneth G. Wickham

KENNETH G. WICKHAM
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

1 Incl
as

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BATTALION

AVGC-DC

15 August 1968

SUBJECT: Operations of the Combat Aviation Battalion for the
Period Ending 31 July 1968 (R1) (C)

1. (C) Section I, Distribution of
 - a. There have been no changes in the organization.
 - b. There have been no changes in the organization and structure (Inclosure 1).
 - c. Changes in personnel are as follows:

(1) The following changes in the structure of the 210th Combat Aviation Battalion have been made:

(a) LTC [redacted] assumed command of the 210th Combat Aviation Battalion, [redacted] 060511, on 11 May 1968. LTC Ewell L. Brown, 018439, assumed the duties of Executive Officer from [redacted].

(b) [redacted] assumed the duties of S-2 from Major Robby R. [redacted].

(c) Major Paul [redacted] assumed the duties of S-4 from LTC Edward T. Walker, [redacted].

(2) Subordinate units of the 210th Combat Aviation Battalion have made the following changes:

(a) Major [redacted] assumed command of the 184th Reconnaissance Airplane Squadron from [redacted] Ralph E. Naumann, 076459, on 19 June 1968.

(b) Major Jerry E. [redacted] assumed command of the 73d Surveillance Airplane Company from [redacted] Rungee, 087904, on 25 June 1968.

(c) Major Dennis [redacted] assumed command of the 25th Aviation Company from Major [redacted] 104479, on 21 June 1968.

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683130

Inclosure 1

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(d) LTC Neal W. Sanders Jr., 067978, assumed command of the 120th Assault Helicopter Company from LTC Richard F. Beck, 01925150 on 6 May 1968.

(e) LTC William H. Cox, 0839068, assumed command of the Command Airplane Company (Provisional) from LTC Pelham G. Helton, 0948733 on 1 July 1968.

(f) Major James E. Lybrand, 05301534, assumed command of the 54th Utility Airplane Company from LTC Merrill T. Peterson, 04005926, on 12 July 1968.

(g) Major Joseph Turner, OF 106855, assumed command of the Headquarters and Headquarters Company from Major Arthur R. Vaughn, 04063955, on 13 July 1968.

d. Unit Strengths as of 31 July 1968:

(1) Military:

| Subordinate Unit | Officer | | WO | | EM | | TOTAL | |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Auth | O/H | Auth | O/H | Auth | O/H | Auth | O/H |
| HHC, 210th CAB | 21 | 25 | 2 | 2 | 86 | 124 | 109 | 151 |
| Cmd Apln Co | 29 | 57 | 1 | 2 | 64 | 116 | 94 | 175 |
| 25th Avn Co | 8 | 8 | 18 | 18 | 89 | 113 | 115 | 139 |
| 54th Avn Co | 10 | 14 | 28 | 16 | 120 | 119 | 158 | 149 |
| 73d Avn Co | 37 | 26 | 3 | 3 | 252 | 245 | 292 | 274 |
| 74th Avn Co | 41 | 38 | 1 | 1 | 82 | 72 | 124 | 111 |
| 98th Trans Det | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 70 | 58 | 72 | 59 |
| 120th Avn Co | 14 | 22 | 41 | 41 | 140 | 167 | 195 | 230 |
| 129th Med Det | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 13 | 9 | 14 |
| 184th Avn Co | 32 | 32 | 1 | 0 | 95 | 94 | 128 | 126 |
| 243d Sig Det | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 9 | 10 | 10 |
| 255th Trans Det | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 50 | 37 | 52 | 39 |
| 563d Trans Det | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 24 | 17 | 24 | 17 |
| 622d Sig Det | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 8 | 9 | 9 |
| 210th Cbt Avn Bn | 196 | 226 | 98 | 87 | 1097 | 1196 | 1391 | 1509 |

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(2) Subordinate Units

| Subordinate Unit | Type | Status | Personnel | Radio Mail | | Contractor |
|------------------|------|--------|-----------|------------|-----|------------|
| | | | | Auth | O/H | |
| HHC, 210th AVN | | | 13 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Cmd Appt Co | | | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 120th Avn Co | | | 13 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 25th Avn Co | | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 54th Avn Co | | | 13 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 73d Surv Appt Co | | | 12 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| 74th Recon Sq | | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 184th Recon Bn | | 0 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 98th Trans Det | | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

(3) Internal and Significant Activities

(a) During the period covered by this report the S-2 section validated 25 Top Secret, 21 Secret, 100 Secret and 29 Confidential clearances.

(b) In order to maintain uniformity throughout the Battalion due to various changes in procedures and regulations, a representative of the S-2 section visits companies and detachments on a monthly basis. This has become effective as of 1 June 1968.

(c) Due to the increased emphasis placed on the Escape and Evasion Program, this Battalion receives 4 to 5 allocations per month to the new Sea Survival School.

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(4) (C) Personnel Management

(a) Reclassification: Administrative MOS reclassification during the quarter totalled 339.

(b) Assignments: Personnel assigned during the quarter were as follows:

| <u>OFFICERS</u> | <u>WARRANT OFFICERS</u> | <u>ENLISTED</u> |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 73 | 26 | 217 |

(c) Promotions during the quarter were as follows:

| <u>OFFICERS</u> | | | | | | |
|-----------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| <u>COL</u> | <u>LTC</u> | <u>MAJ</u> | <u>CPT</u> | <u>1LT</u> | <u>2LT</u> | <u>CWO</u> |
| 0 | 4 | 3 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 5 |

| <u>ENLISTED</u> | | | | | |
|-----------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| <u>E-9</u> | <u>E-8</u> | <u>E-7</u> | <u>E-6</u> | <u>E-5</u> | <u>E-4</u> |
| 1 | 0 | 3 | 8 | 177 | 102 |

(d) Rotation to CONUS during the quarter was as follows:

| <u>OFFICERS</u> | <u>WARRANT OFFICERS</u> | <u>ENLISTED</u> |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 65 | 28 | 348 |

(e) Leaves during the quarter were as follows:

| <u>OFFICERS</u> | <u>WARRANT OFFICERS</u> | <u>ENLISTED</u> |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 6 | 3 | 55 |

(f) R & R's for the quarter:

Requested: 378

Received: 300

(g) Casualties during the quarter were as follows:

(1) Return to duty:

| <u>OFFICERS</u> | <u>WARRANT OFFICERS</u> | <u>ENLISTED</u> |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 0 | 1 | 16 |

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(2) Evacuated from Combat Zone:

| <u>OFFICERS</u> | <u>WARRANT OFFICERS</u> | <u>ENLISTED</u> |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 2 | 1 | 5 |

(3) Killed in Action:

| <u>OFFICERS</u> | <u>WARRANT OFFICERS</u> | <u>ENLISTED</u> |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 0 | 0 | 0 |

(B) Summary of Gains and Losses for Next 90 Days

| | <u>LOSSES</u> | | |
|----------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Aug 30 DAYS | Sep 60 DAYS | Oct 90 DAYS |
| OFFICERS | 14 | 20 | 20 |
| WARRANT | 14 | 5 | 11 |
| ENLISTED | 82 | 114 | 226 |

| | <u>GAINS</u> | | |
|----------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Aug 30 DAYS | Sep 60 DAYS | Oct 90 DAYS |
| OFFICERS | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown |
| WARRANT | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown |
| ENLISTED | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown |

e. Aircraft Status as of 31 July 1968 (See Inclosure 2).

f. Operational Results as of 31 July 1968 (See Inclosure 3).

2. (U) Section 2 - Lessons Learned: Commander's Observations, Evaluations and Recommendations

a. Personnel: Negative Report.

b. Operations:

(1) Photo confirmation of Visual Sightings:

(a) Observation: During the conduct of visual reconnaissance missions, pilots were reporting many individual sightings. A study was conducted to determine how many of these reports were of previously identified items. It was found that there were numerous recurring sightings and varying descriptions.

(b) Evaluation: Due to the size and number of missions the Visual Platoon is required to fly, a pilot cannot learn the III Corps Tactical Zone area well enough to avoid reporting previously sighted items. A policy requiring pilots to take confirming photography of any significant sightings was initiated. Validity of sightings was improved and the random photographic coverage revealed many significant items that had not been sighted by the pilots.

(c) Recommendation: That the importance of photography be emphasized at OV-1 Aviator's Qualification Course (F-14) at Fort Huachuca, Arizona and in all unit level training programs.

c. Training:

(1) Observation: Airborne Radar Repair Personnel (MOS 26M20) have not been fully qualified to use test equipment AN/GPM-42 and AN GPM-52.

(2) Evaluation: Personnel with MOS 26M20 assigned to this unit have apparently not received adequate school training for use of available test equipment. OJT conducted by the manufacturer's technical representative has proven effective.

(3) Recommendation: More extensive training be given in the operation of AN/GPM-42 and AN/GPM-52 test equipment during the Airborne Radar Repairman Course (MOS 26M20) at Fort Huachuca.

d. Intelligence: None.

e. Logistics:

(1) Quality of Differential in Film:

(a) Observation: A comparison was made under similar conditions using Kodak and Ansco film with the same FSN and expiration date to determine the relative quality of the two films.

(b) Evaluation: Ansco film produces less desirable imagery than does Kodak, even when the film is outdated. When expired, only the Kodak film produces satisfactory results.

(c) Recommendation: That Kodak film be used exclusively in sensor imagery systems.

(2) Doppler Navigational System entering "memory" mode.

(a) Observation: On several occasions, the CV-1 Doppler system would enter the "memory" mode for no apparent reason. All components of the system had been tested and found to be in good operating condition.

(b) Evaluation: Further examination of the system showed that fluid had seeped from the hydraulic system lines onto the conon plug and radom in the Doppler antenna.

(c) Recommendation: That cleaning of the Doppler antenna and fittings of all foreign matter and the inspection of nearby hydraulic lines be effected if the system fails for no other apparent reason.

(3) Field fabricated replacement for plastic insulating sheet in the A2A1 circuit board.

(a) Observation: The plastic insulating sheet under the A2A1 board (not available through supply channels) in the TG-78/ASN-12 and TG-80/ASN-12 electro-mechanical actuator was found to be unserviceable in several units.

(b) Evaluation: The sheet was melted due to R2 and R-5 burning when Q, Q-2, Q-3 or Q-4 developed a short circuit. The sheet is a required installation to prevent further short circuits on the A2A1 board.

(c) Recommendation: That a photographic film negative, cut to proper size, be used as a replacement for the original sheet.

(4) Inadvertant inverter shutdown:

(a) Observation: Occasionally on nighttime flights, a pilot would intentionally turn off the inverter switch, instead of the drop tank transfer switch.

(b) Evaluation: The probable reason for this error is the location of the inverter switch, less than an inch from the drop tank transfer switch.

(c) Recommendation: That a locally fabricated ground partition be placed between the two switches to prevent unintentional shutdown of the inverter.

(5) Deterioration of the wiring harness to the Video Signal Monitor Scope and Radar Set Control.

(a) Observation: Deterioration of the wiring harness was discovered during removal of the Video Signal Monitor Scope and the Radar Set Control from the aircraft.

(b) Evaluation: Developing fluid from the RO-166 had seeped onto the floor of the aircraft at location of the harness.

(c) Recommendation: That the harness be modified or treated to protect against the corrosive effects of the developing fluid. Plastic tubing has been found satisfactory for this purpose.

f. Organization: None.

g. Other: None.

- 3 Inclosures *Withdrawn, HQ, DA
~~1. Organizational Chart~~
~~2. Aircraft Status~~
~~3. Operational Results~~

Leo C. Bryan
LEO C. BRYAN
LTC, CE
Commanding

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4. DA, Headquarters, 12th Cbt Avn Gp, ATTN: AVGC-SC, APO 96266 (5)
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AVGC-SC (15 Aug 68) 1st Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 210th Combat Aviation Battalion for
Period Ending 31 July 1968 (RCS CSFOR - 65) (RI)

DA, HEADQUARTERS, 12TH COMBAT AVIATION GROUP, APO 96266 21 August 1968

TO: → Commanding General, II Field Force Vietnam, ATTN: AVFBC-RE-H,
APO San Francisco 96266
ACofS for Force Development, DA (ACSFOR, DA), Washington, D.C. 20310

1. In compliance with AR 525-15 and USARV Regulation 525-15, two
(2) copies of subject report are forwarded.

2. This headquarters has reviewed subject report and the following
comments are made:

a. The title of this report should be Unclassified.

b. Reference page 7, item (4)(a): This observation pertains
to the OV-1 Mohawk. The word "intentionally" should be changed
to read "unintentionally".

c. Reference Inclosure 2, Aircraft Status: Authorization
should read:


- (1) HHD - 3 OH-6A, 1 U-6A
- (2) CAC - 1 U-6A, 26 U-21
- (3) 74th RAC - 1 U-6A, 32 O-1
- (4) 184th RAC - 1 U-6A, 24 O-1
- (5) 54th UAC - 18 U-1A
- (6) 73d SAC - 18 OV-1, 1 U-6A
- (7) 120th AHC - 6 OH-6A, 8 UH-1B/C, 30 UH-1D/H
- (8) 25th Avn Co - 6 OH-6A, 0 U-1C, 7 UH-1D/H, 1 U-21

d. Reference Inclosure 3, Operational Statistics: The enemy KIA,
Structures and Sampans destroyed and damaged by the 74th RAC and 184th
RAC were the result of adjustment of artillery fire and not K&A.

3. Concur with all other comments and recommendations.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

4 Incl
Added 1 Incl
4. Operational Report of 210th
Combat Aviation Battalion


ROBERT A. WITCHER
Major, Armor
Asst Adjutant

AVFBC-RE-H (15 Aug 68) 2nd Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 210th Combat Aviation Battalion for
Period Ending 31 July 1968 (RCS CSFOR-65) (RI)

DA, HQ II FFORCEV, APO San Francisco 96266 4 SEP 1968

THRU: Commanding General, 1st Aviation Brigade, ATTN: AVBA-C, APO 96307


Commanding General, US Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVHGC-DH, APO 96375

Commander-In-Chief, US Army Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-OT, APO 96558

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

1. Subject report is forwarded.
2. This headquarters has reviewed and concurs with the Operational Report-
Lessons Learned of the 210th Combat Aviation Battalion for the period ending
31 July 1968, as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



O. B. FORY
1LT, AGC
Asst AG

3 Incl
nc

//

AVBA-C (15 Aug 68) 3d Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 210th Combat Aviation Battalion for
Period Ending 31 July 1968 (RCS CSFOR-65) (R1)

DA, HEADQUARTERS, 1ST AVIATION BRIGADE, AIO 96384

SEP 12 1968

THRU: Commanding General, United States Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVBCC-DST,
APO 96375
Commander-In-Chief, United States Army Pacific, ATTN: CFPF-CT,
AIC 96558

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

1. This headquarters has reviewed this report, considers it to be
adequate, and concurs with the contents as indorsed.

2. The following additional comment is considered pertinent:

Paragraph 2c, page 6. Further study of this problem is being con-
ducted by this headquarters. If this problem is universal, this head-
quarters will investigate the possibility of an in-country training
program to be conducted by the 34th General Support Group.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

3 Incl
nc



J. D. SECAL
1LT, AOC
ASST ADJUTANT GENERAL

AVRIS-DST (15 Aug 68) 4th Ind (U) MAJ Klingman/ds/DAI 4473
SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 210th Combat Aviation Battalion For
the Period Ending 31 July 1968 RCS CSFOR-65 (H1) (C)

II A QUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY, VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96375-229, 00011888

TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: GFCP-31, 41
96558

1. This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1968 from Headquarters, 210th Combat Aviation Battalion.
2. Reference item concerning training, page 6, paragraph 2c; and 3d in item 1, paragraph 2. Coordination with the 1st Aviation Brigade discloses that this problem is confined to the 210th Combat Aviation Battalion. Arrangements are being made by the 1st Aviation Brigade to have the 3d General Support Group provide required training on the AH/GFH-42 and AH/GFH-52.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

3 Incl
rc

Cy furn:
HQ 210th CAP
HQ 1st Avn Bde

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

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GPOP-DT (15 Aug 68) 5th Ind (C)
SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, 210th Combat Aviation Battalion for
Period Ending 31 July 1968, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1) (U)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 10 DEC 1968

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

1. (U) This headquarters has evaluated subject report and forwarding
indorsements and concurs in the report as indorsed, with the exception
delineated in the following paragraph.

2. (C) Reference Inclosure 2, basic report, and para 2c, 1st Ind:
Correct aircraft authorization as follows -

- a. HHD - 3 LOH (OH-6A)
- b. CAC - None*
- c. 74th RAC - 32 O-1
- d. 184th RAC - 24 O-1
- e. 54th UAC - 16 U-1A
- f. 73d SAC - 18 OV-1
- g. 120th AHC - 8 UH-1B/C, 29 UH-1D/H
- h. 25th Avn Co - 4 OH-6A, 7 UH-1D/H, 1 U-21

*Command Avn Co (CAC) is a USARV grouping of detachment-size units
for command/control purposes.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:


C. L. SHORT
CPT, AGC
Asst AG

3 Incl
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| 4. DESCRIPTIVE NOTES (Type of report and inclusive dates) | | |
| Experiences of unit engaged in counterinsurgency operations, 1 May - 31 July 1968 | | |
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| CO, 210th Combat Aviation Battalion | | |
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* Subject Title: A short (one sentence or phrase) description of the item of interest.

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