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AGO ltr 29 Apr 1980

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AGDA (M) (1 Aug 69) FOR OT UT 692331

7 August 1969

AD857032

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 92d Engineer Battalion, Period Ending 30 April 1969

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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.

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KENNETH G. WICKHAM
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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 92D ENGINEER BATTALION
APO 96491

EGBD-O

SUBJECT: Operational Report for the 92D Engineer Battalion (Construction)
for the Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

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1. Section 1, Operations: Significant Activities.

a. Command:

(1) This report covers the following headquarters and units with arrival dates in the theater as indicated:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>ARRIVAL</u>	<u>OPERATIONAL</u>
92d Engr Bn (Const) (Less D Co)	23 May 1967	30 May 1967
Co D, 92d Engr Bn (Const)	21 February 1967	25 February 1967
41st Engr Co (Port Const)	2 February 1967	9 February 1967
143d Engr Det (CM&P)	23 March 1967	1 July 1967
497th Engr Co (Port Const)	24 August 1965	4 September 1965

(2) Mission:

(a) The mission of the 92d Engineer Battalion is to construct and rehabilitate roads, airfields, pipeline systems, structures and utilities; and to assist in emergency recovery operations.

(b) The mission of the 41st Engineer Company (Port Construction) and the 497th Engineer Company (Port Construction) is to perform special engineering work involved in constructing port, beach, river and marine POL facilities in support of military operations.

(c) The mission of the 143d Engineer Detachment (Concrete Mixing & Paving) is to provide batched and mixed concrete in support of construction operations.

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SUBJECT: Operational Report for the 92d Engineer Battalion (Construction) for the Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (RL)

(3) Assignments, Attachments & Detachments:

(a) The 92d Engineer Battalion (Construction) is assigned to the 159th Engineer Group, a subordinate unit of the 20th Engineer Brigade.

(b) The 3rd Platoon (Earthmoving), Company D, 92d Engineer Battalion (Construction) was detached on 22 March 1969 and attached to Company D, 169th Engineer Battalion (Construction).

(c) The 41st Engineer Company (Port Construction) remained attached to the 92d Engineer Battalion (Construction) under General Order No. 34, Headquarters, 159th Engineer Group, dated 18 December 1967.

(d) The 497th Engineer Company (Port Construction) became attached to the 92d Engineer Battalion (Construction) under authority of General Order No. 9, Headquarters, 159th Engineer Group, dated 13 February 1969, effective 27 January 1969.

(e) The 143d Engineer Detachment (Concrete Mixing & Paving) remained attached to the 92d Engineer Battalion (Construction) under authority of General Order No. 43, Headquarter, 159th Engineer Group, dated 3 December 1968, and was subsequently attached to Company A under authority of General Order No. 36, Headquarters, 92d Engineer Battalion (Construction), dated 6 December 1968, effective 3 December 1968.

(4) Location and movements: The 92d Engineer Battalion (Construction) is located at Long Binh, Republic of Vietnam. Company C displaced to Vung Tau in mid-February in conjunction with a change in the battalion AOR. Company D remained at Long Thanh North with the exception of the earthmoving platoon which displaced to a base camp on QL 20 to support the 169th Engineer Battalion (Construction). Late in April the earthmoving platoon, Company C, moved to Long Thanh North to support Company D, 92d Engineer Battalion (Construction). The 41st Engineer Company (Port Construction) and the 497th Engineer Company (Port Construction) are both located at Long Binh. The quarry section of Company A, reinforced by one vertical platoon, Company C, 92d Engineer Battalion (Construction), occupies and operates the rock quarry at Xom Tam.

(5) Visitors and Awards:

(a) Visitors: The following distinguished visitors were given official briefings and/or tours of battalion projects during the reporting period:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>VISITOR</u>
12 February 1969	COL Fishback, Chief Mil Opns, USARV Engr COL Fowler, Chief Construction Div, USARV Engr

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SUBJECT: Operational Report for the 92D Engineer Battalion (Construction)
for the Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (RI)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>VISITOR</u>
27 February 1969	BG Yates, CG, USAECAV
11 March 1969	MG Parker, CG, Engr Troops, Vietnam (Prov)
14 March 1969	COL Parfitt, CO, 20th Engr Bde
21 March 1969	LTG Cassidy, Chief of Engrs
26 March 1969	MG Parker, CG, Engr Troops, Vietnam (Prov)
3 April 1969	MG Bradley, MACV Engr
10 April 1969	BG Bowers, DCS, Pers & Admin, USARV
24 April 1969	COL Wilson, DCO, 20th Engr Bde
30 April 1969	COL Hoegrefe, D/Engr, Engr Troops, Vietnam (Prov)

(b) Awards: The following individual awards were presented to members of the 92d Engineer Battalion and attached units during the reporting period:

<u>AWARD</u>	<u>VALOR</u>	<u>ACHIEVEMENT</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Silver Star	1	0	0	1
Bronze Star	0	1	16	17
Army Commendation Medal	0	2	41	43
Purple Heart	0	0	0	3

b. Personnel, Administration, Morale and Discipline:

(1) Personnel: There was little significant change in the structure of the organization or personnel status of the battalion and attached units during the reporting period. The battalion went from 62 overstrength on 31 January 1969 to 23 understrength on 30 April 1969. The strength figures (authorized/assigned) for this reporting period were as follows:

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SUBJECT: Operational Report for the 92D Engineer Battalion (Construction)
for the Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

(a) 28 February 1969:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
92d	33/36	7/6	673/651	713/693
41st	9/10	1/0	215/201	225/211
497th	9/11	1/1	215/213	225/225
143d	1/0	0/0	26/20	27/20

(b) 31 March 1969:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
92d	33/31	7/6	673/656	713/693
41st	9/9	1/0	215/192	225/201
497th	9/9	1/1	215/198	225/208
143d	1/0	0/0	26/14	27/14

(c) 30 April 1969:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
92d	33/28	7/5	673/650	713/683
41st	9/9	1/0	215/192	225/201
497th	9/10	1/1	215/186	225/197
143d	1/0	0/0	26/17	27/17

(2) Civilianization: During the reporting period, civilianization under Program 6 Maintained an average fill of 30 percent authorized civilian personnel. Heavy and light truck driver spaces continue to extremely difficult to fill. TDA civilian spaces reached 100 percent fill indicating that semi-skilled and unskilled labor is much more readily available than skilled labor required under Program 6. Department of the Army imposed a temporary freeze on hiring of civilians until 31 May 1969.

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SUBJECT: Operational Report for the 92D Engineer Battalion (Construction)
for the Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (RL)

(3) Administration: The battalion prepared and submitted 83 recurring reports to higher headquarters during the reporting period as follows: 5 daily, 13 weekly, 55 monthly, 4 bimonthly and 6 quarterly reports. In addition 205 non-recurring written reports and numerous "as required" telephonic reports were submitted.

(4) Morale:

(a) Six month tour extensions approved during the reporting period numbered seventy-one.

(b) The battalion had 70 percent average participation in the U.S. Savings Bond Program and 12 percent average participation in the Soldier's Savings Deposit Program.

(c) During the reporting period 181 men went on R&R.

(d) During the reporting period 42 men took special leave.

(5) Discipline: During the reporting period the battalion convened 5 Special Court-Martials. A total of 65 Company Grade Article 15's and 24 Field Grade Article 15's were administered during the same period. No Summary or General Courts-Martial were conducted involving personnel of this battalion or attached units.

(6) Information: The primary sources of information continues to be the battalion monthly newspaper, The Dirtmover, which contains articles on battalion activities, accomplishments by units and personnel and columns by command and staff personnel; and the Battalion Bulletin, published each Monday and Thursday. The bulletin, in addition to official business, contains sports scores, schedules of chapel services and movies. The battalion receives the following publications: Laterite Lantern, Castle Courier, The Army Times, The Army Reporter, The Observer and The Stars and Stripes. Numerous articles about the battalion have appeared in these publications. A full time photographer and an information clerk have been added to the battalion staff and are responsible for the significant increase in stories and photos submitted during this period.

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SUBJECT: Operational Report for the 92D Engineer Battalion (Construction)
for the Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

c. Intelligence and Counterintelligence:

(1) Intelligence: During the reporting period the combat intelligence functions remained limited. All intelligence information on enemy activity was obtained from reports disseminated by the 159th Engineer Group. Defensive measures and practice alert exercises were increased considerably by Long Binh Post and the 159th Group Sector Command since the NVA attack on Long Binh on 23 February 1969. Limited reconnaissance activities continued from fighting bunkers and the 60' observation tower within the battalion's subsector of the Long Binh Perimeter. Limited route reconnaissance continued on QL-15 from Bien Hoa to Vung Tau, on QL-1 from Bien Hoa east to the Bien Hoa Province boundary and on LTL 2 from Baria to Nui Dat. The battalion has primary route repair and maintenance responsibility and secondary interdiction repair responsibility for these lines of communication.

(2) Counter Intelligence: There were no active counterintelligence missions assigned to the 92d Engineer Battalion other than the routine reporting of unusual and significant activities pertaining to enemy action. The battalion continued to disseminate leaflets supporting the Volunteer Information Program (VIP).

d. Training: The 92d Engineer Battalion continued to train for its primary construction mission by implementing on-the-job-training for all constructor skills. Mandatory subjects training for individuals and units was conducted one-half day per week at company level in accordance with 159th Engineer Group Regulation 350-1 and training schedules. It became apparent during the 1969 Tet offensive that rifle marksmanship training was badly needed by most soldiers in the battalion. To satisfy this training requirement the battalion set up a temporary known-distance range utilizing mimeographed targets placed at 25 meters according to FM 23-71. At present 75% of all personnel have zeroed assigned weapons. For the forthcoming period anti-sapper training will be emphasized and conducted at the company level.

e. Operations:

(1) Combat Operations:

(a) Hostile Action: On the night of 22-23 February 1969 elements of a NVA sapper unit made several probes at the battalion subsector perimeter, Long Binh. The enemy was repelled by 92d Engineer Battalion subsector units alerted and on line during the action. Cobra gunships and elements of the 720th Military Police Battalion made direct contact with the enemy outside of the perimeter. During the operation the enemy suffered 23 confirmed KIA. Friendly forces sustained 1 KIA and 1 person WIA.

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SUBJECT: Operational Report for the 92D Engineer Battalion (Construction)
for the Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (RI)

Enemy weapons and supplies left by NVA sappers included RPG rounds, AK-47's, RPG launchers, bangalore torpedoes, havarsacks of explosives, handgrenades and foodstuffs. At Long Thanh North, Company D sustained several rocket and mortar attacks without serious damage or friendly casualties. On 9 March 1969 a motorized grader was lost when it struck a land mine at Bearcat while upgrading the Bearcat access road for asphalt paving. Minor injuries were sustained by the operator.

(b) Defensive Measures: Throughout the reporting period the battalion has been actively engaged in upgrading existing passive defense measures which include bunker construction, perimeter barrier wire and warning devices, claymore mines and defense plans. Long Binh Post published a new TAC SCF for implementation on 28 April 1969.

(2) Combat Support Operations: During the reporting period no combat support missions were assigned to the battalion. The battalion subsector reaction force, consisting of elements of Headquarters & Headquarters Company took part in two sweep operations conducted inside Long Binh Post.

(3) Construction Operations:

(a) General: Upon completion of the RTAVF Cantonment Facility at Bearcat, a battalion task force project, the 92d Engineer Battalion (Construction) resumed operations in the Long Binh, Long Thanh North and Vung Tau areas. Operational support missions to construct defensive positions and improve defensive perimeters accounted for much of the effort expended during this period. Airfield parking aprons and aircraft revetment construction projects also absorbed considerable effort. Port construction work was increased by the attachment and employment of the 497th Engineer Company (Port Construction). With the exception of the ammunition wharf project at Cogido, all port construction effort has been directed toward bridge pier protective systems.

(b) Projects and Related Activities:

1 Projects completed or terminated during the reporting period:

a (OPN SPT) 159-456, Defensive Measures, Long Thanh North, D Company, 92d Engineer Battalion: Constructed 2300 meters of 8' high berm and placed triple standard concertina with single apron fence along berm. Constructed fighting bunkers and lookout tower bunkers. Project completed 14 February 1969.

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SUBJECT: Operational Report for the 92d Engineer Battalion (Construction) for the Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

b (OPN SFT) OSD 159-68-295C, Engineer Support, FSB Concord, B Company, 92d Engineer Battalion: Constructed 1000 meters of 8' high perimeter berm, installed eleven (11) culverts, and constructed 2000 chain links fence around six gun positions. Constructed and installed nine (9) new bunkers, installed eight (8) already constructed bunkers, placed two (2) 20' x 60' concrete pads, project completed 27 March 1969.

c (OPN SFT) OS 159-69-048, Generator Sheds and Pads, Rach Cat and Cau' Ganh Bridges, 497th Engineer Company (Fort Construction): Constructed two (2) 14' x 14' x 4" generator pads and two (2) generator Sheds. Project completed 15 March 1969.

d (OPN SFT) 243-5303-0-20, Mine Boom, Cogido, 497th Engineer Company (Fort Construction): Constructed a floating mine boom up and downstream of the Cogido Ammo Wharf. Project completed 14 March 1969.

e (OPN SFT) OSD 159-68-64, Sixty Foot Tower, Long Binh Post, 41st Engineer Company (Fort Construction): Constructed sixty foot observation tower in the 64th OM Bn perimeter area. Project completed 5 April 1969.

f (LOC) LC 159-68-005, Thu Cuong Bridge Repair, 41st Engineer Company (Fort Construction): Removed wreckage from bridge site. Reconstructed destroyed and damaged portion of the bridge to MACV standards. Reconstructed two (2) piers, three (3) spans supported by two (2) piers. Resurfaced damaged portions with asphaltic concrete and addition of stiffeners and cross-bracing to the corbels on all fifteen piers. Project completed 14 February 1969.

g. (LOC) LC 159-69-002, Bearcat Access Road, D Company, 92d Engineer Battalion: Prepared and paved 2.7 miles of roadway (24' wide). Installed one (1) 36" \emptyset culvert, 60' long, at intersection of QL-15 and access road to Bearcat. Project completed 26 March 1969.

h (MER) 387-5306-0-20, MER for 5th Mobile Construction Battalion, Vung Tau, C Company, 92d Engineer Battalion: Loaded and delivered 3" (-) rock 3600 CY, and 2550 CY sand/laterite to 5th Mobile Construction Battalion for construction of aircraft revetments. Project completed 11 March 1969.

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SUBJECT: Operational Report for the 92D Engineer Battalion (Construction) for the Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFCR-65 (R1)

i (MER) MR 159-06-001, MER for 15th TC Battalion, Long Thanh North, D Company, 92d Engineer Battalion: Constructed four (4) UH-1 fly-in revetments and twenty (20) UH-1 common wall maintenance revetments. Constructed 20,000 SY of helicopter maintenance hardstand of compacted laterite and penoprime. Constructed one (1) concrete mess hall slab. Project completed 3 March 1969.

j (B.CON) CD 46-233-03, Airfield Support Facilities, Long Thanh, RT.VF, D Company, 92d Engineer Battalion: Constructed two (2) 20' x 48' operations buildings and 18,000 SY of hardstand ramp and taxiway. Paved ramp and taxiway. Erected 1500 LF of 10' K-wall revetments. Project completed 18 February 1969.

k (CIN SIT) 243-5504-0-20, Security Fence 1st Log Operations Center, Long Binh Post, 41st Engineer Company (FC): Erected 300 LF 8' high chain link fence, two (2) 10' x 10' guard bunkers, placed steel grill in air vent. Constructed and placed concrete covers over electrical junctions. Project completed 11 April 1969.

l (CIN SIT) 243-5356-0-20, Chain Link Standoff, US.MV ACC, Long Binh Post, 497th Engineer Company (FC): Constructed three (3) chain link fence standoffs, ACC ventilator double fence w/gate, generator and radio area single fence. Approximately 700 LF 8' high chain link fencing installed. Project completed 20 February 1969.

m (CIN SIT) 243-5362-0-20, Barrier at Big John's Gulch, Long Binh Post, D Company, 31st Engineer Battalion (C): Constructed barriers at four locations, each barrier consists of 100 meter mined strip, two (2) triple concertina fences separated by tanglefoot, trip flares and fougasse devices. Each barrier includes one (1) fighting/observation bunker. Project completed 17 February 1969.

n (CIN SIT) 243-5426-0-20, Equipment Support, Long Binh Forimeter, B Company, 92d Engineer Battalion: Improved observation and fields of fire by removing approximately three (3) meters of overburden. 55,000 CY were moved. Project completed 8 March 1969.

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o (CFN SFT) 243-5440-0-20, Physical Security, Sanford AAF, Long Binh Post, B Company, 92d Engineer Battalion: Installed 2500 meters of concertina fence, three (3) tower bunkers, fifteen (15) fighting bunkers, 300 trip flares and cleared 2500 SM of brush. Project completed 9 March 1969.

2 Projects Under Construction:

a (CFN SFT) CSD 159-68-201, Long Binh Post Perimeter Relocation, B Company, C Company, the 41st and 497th Engineer Companies (FC), 92d Engineer Battalion: Constructed a class 20 timber trestle single span bridge. Completed construction of 5500 meter perimeter road (20' wide). Constructed and installed 42 each fighting bunkers on perimeter. Constructed approximately 5500 meters of 7 roll concertina, 2 triple standard concertina and 2 tanglefoot wire barriers. Cleared approximately 951 acres. Prepared 2 each 50' x 100' pads for 50 man reaction bunkers, which are under construction. Project is 89% complete.

b (CFN SFT) CD 46-214-01-T-7S, Site preparation for Long Thanh Power Plant and Distribution System, D Company, 92d Engineer Battalion: Constructed 465 LF of 10' revetments. Hauled 520 CY of fill. Hauled and placed 40 CY sand and 60 CY for FCL tank pads. Project is 90% complete.

c (CFN SFT) CD 43-378-05, Cogido Ammo Facility, 497th Engineer Company (FC): Removed three (3) each old piers and cleared area. Constructed 200 FB sheet pile wharf. Hauled 3,206 tons of 6" rock for wharf area. Installed bumper system for wharf area. Project is 67% complete.

d (CFN SFT) CD 407-0301-0-01, Pier Protection, Phu Cuong Bridge, 41st Engineer Company (FC): Constructed and installed floating collar pier protective system on 3 piers. Project is 32% complete.

e (CFN SFT) CS 159-69-028c, Aircraft Revetments, Vung Tau, C Company, 92d Engineer Battalion: Constructed 2066 LF of revetments (786 LF of 10' prefabricated revetments and 1364 LF of K-wall). Project is 27% complete.

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f (OPN SPT) OS 159-69-030, Aircraft Parking Ramp, Vung Tau, C Company, 92d Engineer Battalion: Hauled and graded 24,379 CY of rock. Placed 53,053 SY of MBAL matting. Placed 200' of 30" culvert and constructed headwalls. Project is 72% complete.

g (OPN SPT) CD 507-0302-0-01, Five Pascoe Buildings, 101st ABN Div, Bien Hoa, B Company, 92d Engineer Battalion: Constructed five (5) 40' x 96' Pascoe pre-engineered buildings on concrete slabs at Bien Hoa Army Post. Project is 99% complete.

h (OPN SPT) OS 159-68-233, Trang Bom Tank Firing Range, B Company, 92d Engineer Battalion: Cleared 30,000 SM of woodland and jungle. Levelled 5000 SM of hardstand. Project is 7% complete.

i (BACON) CD 46-227-01, Cantonment Facilities, 224th Aviation Battalion, Long Thanh North, D Company, 92d Engineer Battalion: Constructed 25,000 SF facilities, including: EM barracks, BOQ's, 500 Man mess-hall, showers and latrines, Company HQ's bldg and supply/arms room Bn HQ's bldg, Avn opns bldg and crypto/mission opns bldg. Constructed 120 LF commo building revetments. Started construction of generator shed. Landscaped area. Installed 14 each security light poles and 800 LF security fencing. Project is 96% complete.

j (BACON) CD 543-0302-0-01, EM Billets, 92d Engineer Battalion, B Company, 92d Engineer Battalion: Completed construction of one (1) each 20' x 96' building on concrete slab. Constructed one (1) each 20' x 96' concrete slab with framework complete. Project is 18% complete.

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for The Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFCR-65 (R1)

f. Logistics:

(1) Supply:

(a) Construction Materials:

1 The relocation of the supply depot from Saigon to Long Binh has significantly decreased the time formerly required to draw and deliver construction materials. However, some construction materials located in the ECMY are unknown to stock control sections at depot and will remain "lost" until inventories can be made. Consequently, these items continue to be unavailable to construction battalions and substitute items must be used when possible or construction progress slowed.

2 Although a shortage of sized lumber has been recognized, it has not become as big a problem as anticipated. The battalion, however, has experienced a severe shortage of all sizes of plywood. This shortage has created a demand for 1 x material for sheathing and formwork.

(b) Construction Equipment: During the reporting period the battalion has conducted considerable activity involving construction equipment:

1 Equipment Turnover to ARVN: The 92d Engineer Battalion (Construction) was responsible for the 20th Engineer Brigade turnover of certain items of construction equipment to ARVN. From the battalion the best equipment on hand was transferred in order to meet rigorous acceptance criteria. The loss of this equipment created a temporary shortage in the battalion TC&E which, coupled with existing shortages and deadlined equipment, reduced the construction capability of the battalion. It is anticipated that more of the battalion's equipment will be transferred to ARVN in the near future. What effect these transfers of equipment will have on the battalion's ability to accomplish its directed construction mission will depend on the type of equipment transferred and time required to replace that equipment through supply channels.

2 MCA-LOC Buy Equipment: The battalion received several pieces of MCA-LOC equipment during the reporting period. This equipment is being utilized to support Xcm Tam Quarry and Company A's asphalt and paving section. All schedule MCA-LOC equipment has not arrived as yet, but delivery is expected within 90 days. This equipment will add much flexibility to the battalion's present construction capability.

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SUBJECT: Operational Report for the 92d Engineer Battalion (Construction)
for the Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

3 TO&E Equipment: Although several major items of TO&E equipment were received this period, a critical shortage of maintenance trucks, welding machines, 5 ton dump trucks and other smaller items of equipment still exists.

(2) Maintenance:

(a) For the second consecutive reporting period structural cracks on 290M tractors and 18 CY scrapers continue to be a critical maintenance problem. Rewelding has not produced lasting results. A survey of these items indicated that the equipment had exceeded overhaul time by as much as 200%. Battalion maintenance has begun to identify these items and initiate turn-in action where necessary. Equipment turn-in created supply demands and the battalion received four 290M tractors and three 18 CY scrapers this period.

(b) Although the battalion has no TO&E shortage of D7E tractor dozers, dozer engines have been extremely difficult to obtain through normal maintenance supply channels. Neither MRE nor Redball Express requisitions have relieved this problem. D7E tractor dozers are being turned in as soon as turn-in criteria are established for each unit. New equipment is apparently readily available and has been issued from existing stocks rather quickly.

(c) During the reporting period three companies failed initial 20th Engineer Brigade CMMI inspections and are scheduled for reinspection during the next quarter. One reinspection was conducted by the same CMMI team with excellent results. Maintenance readiness and operational requirements continue to be incompatible on a short term basis.

g. Civil Affairs:

(1) The MEDCAP program continues to be a strong point in the battalion's civic action program. The Battalion Surgeon visited the Thi Nghe Protestant Mission in Bien Hoa for about 2 1/2 hours each week during the reporting period. The battalion MEDCAP team treated as many as 75 Vietnamese civilians during each visit. The program has been popular and successful in promoting close Vietnamese-American relationships.

(2) The Battalion Chaplain again located needy Vietnamese families and institutions. He supervised the distribution of foodstuffs, clothing, candy, soap, toothpaste and scrap construction materials made available by the battalion, stateside civic organizations and individuals. During this period the battalion adopted a blind children's school in Saigon. Volunteers from the battalion worked to reconstruct the school mess facility and kitchen and contributed \$760.00 to purchase musical instruments and amplifying equipment for the school band.

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

a. Personnel: None

b. Operations:

(1) OBSERVATION: A TO&E Engineer Battalion (Construction) does not have the organic capability necessary to efficiently operate and maintain a quarry and a 225 TPH rock crushing plant.

(2) EVALUATION: Faced with the task of installing, operating and maintaining a 225 TPH rock crushing plant and all associated hauling and quarrying equipment, the Commanding Officer, 92d Engineer Battalion (Construction), was forced to divert valuable construction assets in equipment and man-power from within the battalion's resources to support the rock crushing mission assigned by higher headquarters. One TO&E construction company, less its organic earthmoving platoon, was assigned to the Kom Tam Quarry to retrain, to operate and maintain the quarry and crusher equipment and to supplement available equipment with organic equipment. That assignment required complete reorganization of the company and the changing of many MOS skills to fill quarry and rock crusher personnel requirements. The provisional detachment strength at Kom Tam Quarry is approximately 140 men and 4 officers. The loss of one construction company, less the earthmoving platoon, reduced the battalion's vertical construction capability by 33 percent. The effect of this action will not be fully recognized until the next quarter. It is felt, however, that the quarry operation will be more efficient, better supervised and considerably more productive because of the action taken.

(3) RECOMMENDATION:

(a) That MTO&E authorization be granted to activate a quarry detachment fully equipped to operate on a self-supporting basis and assigned to the 92d Engineer Battalion (Construction).

(b) That the Construction Company be reconstituted about the nucleus of the remaining earthmoving platoon in order for the battalion to carry its normal, full construction load.

c. Training: None

d. Intelligence: None

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SUBJECT: Operational Report for the 92D Engineer Battalion (Construction)
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e. Logistics:

(1) OBSERVATION: Certain construction materials stored in the battalion S-4 yard are not required for directed construction projects.

(2) EVALUATION: For a variety of reasons, certain construction materials have accumulated over a period of time in the S-4 yard and are now considered excess to the known requirements of the battalion. These materials are taking up needed storage space and in some cases are difficult to maintain and to protect from the weather. In all probability such materials are critical to other battalion projects and should be made available through normal supply channels for immediate use wherever needed. This headquarters contacted USARV G4 Construction Materials with a view toward turning in these excess materials not needed for battalion projects. At present no system exists for turning in such materials.

(3) RECOMMENDATIONS:

(a) That construction battalions be required to conduct quarterly inventories of construction materials and identify those items which are excess to needs.

(b) That arrangements be made at depots to receive excess materials from construction battalions and to put them back into the supply system.

(c) That materials considered to be of no use in Vietnam be retrograded or sold at cost to civilian contractors.

f. Organization: None

g. Maintenance:

(1) OBSERVATION: The unavailability of special repair parts and lubricants for MCA-LOC and low density, high cost equipment is presenting increasingly difficult maintenance and operational problems.

(2) EVALUATION: Major maintenance and repair problems, as well as operational delays, have developed because necessary lubricants, repair parts, parts references, and manuals have not arrived in Vietnam ahead of new MCA-LOC and other low density, high cost construction equipment. These types of equipment include bucket loaders, rock drills, air compressors, 225 TFF rock crusher and Euclid dump trucks. The lack of repair parts such as fuel filters, oil filters, tires and tubes has resulted in unnecessary downtime and in some cases delayed construction and production progress.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

EGB-CO (15 May 69) 1st Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 92nd Engineer Battalion (Construction)
for Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

DA, HQ, 159th Engineer Group, APO 96491

TO: Commanding Officer, 20th Engineer Brigade, ATTN: AVBI-OS, APO 96491

1. Submitted in accordance with USARV Regulation 525-15, dated 13 April 1969.

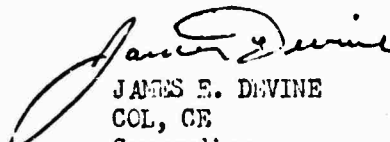
2. Reference: Section 1 paragraph f(2)(b) page 13. Overall the 159th Engineer Group has not experienced the ready availability of major end items of engineer equipment TCE shortages. Critical shortages remain unfilled for long periods of time.

3. Reference: Section 1 paragraph f(2)(c) page 13. Guidance has been provided by group concerning the proper balance between maintenance and operational requirements. Group does not indorse the philosophy that the two are incompatible.

4. Reference: Section 2 paragraph b(3)(a) page 14. The 159th Engineer Group has utilized currently available assets to operate the Resor Quarry. Of necessity the operation of Xom Tam Quarry was assigned to a construction battalion. 159th Engineer Group letter dated 18 May 1969 Subject: Paving and Quarrying Capabilities emphasized in paragraph 5b the requirements of additional quarry sections and administrative and maintenance personnel in order for the 103rd Engineer Company (CS) to operate both quarries. MTOE action is not necessary until a study of the proposals made in the referenced letter is concluded.

5. Reference: Section 2 paragraph e (z) page 15. A system for turning in excess construction materials does exist and is in practice within the 159th Engineer Group. The items must be properly identified and boxed and categorized as MCA OMA funded, which presents problems occasionally. A system for redistribution of needed materials among battalions within the the group is also in effect.

6. Subject report for the 92nd Engineer Battalion (Construction) has been reviewed and is considered adequate.


JAMES E. DEVINE
COL, CE
Commanding

CF:
CO, 92nd Engr Bn


AVBI-OS (15 May 69) 2nd Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 92nd Engineer Battalion (Const)
for Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

DA, HEADQUARTERS, 20TH ENGINEER BRIGADE, APO 96491

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

1. Submitted in accordance with USARV Regulation 525-15, dated 13 April 1968.
2. Subject report for the 92nd Engineer Battalion (Construction) has been reviewed and is considered adequate.

FOR THE COMMANDER:


J. J. MONTGOMERY
Major, AGC
Adjutant

Copies Furnished:
CO, 159th Engr Gp
CO, 92nd Engr Bn

AVHGC-DST (30 April 1969) 3d Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report for the 92d Engineer Battalion (Construction)
for the Period Ending 30 April 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY, VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96375 1 JUL 1969

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 1969 from Headquarters, 92d Engineer Battalion.

2. Comments follow:

a. Reference item concerning Certain construction materials stored in the battalion S-4 not required for directed construction projects, section II, page 15, paragraph 2e; page 1, paragraph 5, 1st Indorsement; concur. Either quarterly or continuous inventories of construction materials in the battalion Class IV Yards are both desirable and feasible. Arrangements have been made for the return and acceptance of excess stocks to Long Binh Depot providing they are properly packaged and identified. Similiar arrangements will be made with other depots through the 1st Logistical Command. Materials discovered to be excess to all requirements in Vietnam are being recommended as retrograde or disposal candidates to the 1st Logistical Command. Unit will be advised of above comment.

b. Reference item concerning Maintenance, section II, page 15, paragraph g; nonconcur. The MCA-LOC Equipment is commercial off-the-shelf equipment and, as such, is nonstandard to the military supply system. The purchase of this equipment was a one-time buy with the sole intention of using the equipment to improve RVN LOC's. Repair parts for this equipment were purchased with the equipment; however, these parts will not be introduced into the supply system. Therefore, FSN's will not be assigned. PLL's for this equipment will be carried by contract maintenance teams; other PLL items will be issued to the using units when parts are received. No further action is required by higher headquarters. Unit will be advised of above comment.

FOR THE COMMANDER:


W. C. ARNTZ
CPT, AGC
Assistant Adjutant General

Cy furn:
92d Engr Bn
20th Engr Bde

GPOP-DT (undtd) 4th Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, 92d Engr Bn (Const) for Period
Ending 0 April 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (RL)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 14 JUL 69

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

This headquarters has evaluated subject report and forwarding indorse-
ments and concurs in the report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:


C. L. SHORTT
CPT, AGC
Asst AG

UNCLASSIFIED

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