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AUTHORITY

AGO D/A ltr, 29 Apr 1980

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS 85TH EVACUATION HOSPITAL (S&H)  
APO 96238

AVCA-ME-GB-EB

4 November 1966

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned for Quarterly Period Ending  
31 Oct 1966 (RCS CSFOR-65)

THRU: Commanding Officer  
55th Medical Group  
ATTN: AVCA-MB-GB-B  
APO 96238

Commanding Officer  
44th Medical Brigade  
ATTN: Historian  
APO 96307

Commanding General  
1st Logistical Command  
ATTN: AVLK-OO-H  
APO 96307

Commanding General  
United States Army, Viet. M.  
ATTN: AVC-BH  
APO 96307

Commander-in-Chief  
United States Army, Pacific  
ATTN: CPOP-ME  
APO 96558

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

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SEP 11 1970

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(ARMY) ATTN: FOR OT UT, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

AD 874150

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FOR OT UT  
660383

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6 November 1966

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned for Quarterly Period  
Ending 31 October 1966 (RCS CSFOR-65)

SECTION I

SIGNIFICANT ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

The hospital bed capacity at the start of the reporting period was 680. This was reduced by 120 when the 67th Evacuation Hospital (SMBL) opened on 7 October 1966. As of the end of the reporting period the bed authorization has been reduced to 400.

The professional, nursing and registrar staff continued to be augmented by personnel from the 67th Evacuation Hospital (SMBL) until approximately three weeks before it's opening on 7 October 1966. This rather abrupt withdrawing of personnel caused a greatly increased workload on the staff of this hospital as there was no immediate decrease in our workload.

The hospital operated at approximately 80% of it's authorized bed capacity throughout the period.

The following statistics indicated the heavy workload throughout the period:

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>DAILY AVERAGE BEDS OCCUPIED</u>	<u>TOTAL ADMISSIONS</u>	<u>MALARIA ADMISSIONS</u>	<u>IRHA ADMISSIONS</u>	
AUGUST	445	1472	223	175	
SEPTEMBER	440	1823	515	245	
OCTOBER	370	1695	439	223	
TOTAL	N/A	4990	1177	643	
<u>MONTH</u>	<u>DISPOSITIONS</u>	<u>DUTY DISPOSITIONS</u>	<u>TRF. DISPOSITIONS</u>	<u>OTHERS</u>	<u>DEATHS</u>
AUGUST	1498	801	689	67	5
SEPTEMBER	1820	762	1045	56	8
OCTOBER	1754	680	1020	79	4
TOTAL	5072	2243	2754	202	17
<u>MONTH</u>	<u>SURG PROCEDURES</u>	<u>OUT/PATIENTS VISITS</u>	<u>X-RAYS EXPOSURES</u>	<u>LAB. PROCEDURES</u>	
AUGUST	415	1780	4889	3090	
SEPTEMBER	518	1740	4709	7846	
OCTOBER	607	2041	5324	2072	
TOTAL	1540	5561	14922	17008	

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A self-help painting program has been started on most of the wards and clinics. The Dental Clinic, Registrar Branch and four wards have completed the interior painting of their buildings.

An additional 100 kilowatt generator, has been aquired but is not yet in operation. It is located in the area of the mess hall and will be used primarily for it. This should enable the mess to use its steam tables, electric ovens, etc. which could not be operated previously because of the power drop from the existing generators. The hospital now has five 100 kilowatt generators.

An additional two-story wooden billets housing 70 enlisted personnel was constructed during the period and another is approximately 50% complete. When this third barracks is complete there will be no requirement to billet any enlisted personnel in tents.

The Hospital Headquarters, Personnel Branch and the Chief Nurses Office made an administrative move into a former ward building. The building also has room for offices for the Chief Professional Services, and the Chiefs of Surgery and Medicine. This has saved much time and effort in coordinating administrative actions and provides for better communications among the hospital staff.

A new well was drilled and by using it in conjunction with an Erdlator, potable water is provided for the entire hospital compound.

A second operating suite was opened. This provides an additional three operating rooms bringing the total available to eight. The floors in both operating suites have been tiled and this helps reduce the dust problem created by the bare concrete floors.

Approval has been received to build an additional supply warehouse and a subsistence supply storage building under the self-help program.

Television sets were purchased for all the wards with the use of Sundry Fund profits.

The unit was operational during the entire period.

There were no tactical moves during the period.

SECTION II - COMMANDER'S OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Part 1. Observations (Lessons Learned)

PATIENT PERSONNEL RECORDS

Item: The hospital receives numerous requests for personnel records of patient personnel.

Discussion: Letters and electrically transmitted messages are received daily from hospitals in Japan and the United States for personnel records and financial data records of personnel evacuated through this hospital.

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As these patients are not assigned to this hospital the above mentioned records are not transmitted here but remain with their parent unit. Querying this hospital instead of the patients former unit delays the transmission of the records and places an additional administrative burden on the hospital.

Observation: Gaining hospitals in Japan and the United States should be directed to send requests for personnel and financial data records direct to the patients former unit.

PERSONNEL TURNOVER

Item: Mass turnover of personnel reduces hospital efficiency.

Discussion: During the month of August 1966, the hospital lost nearly two-thirds of its staff through rotation of personnel to the United States. This included many key personnel such as the Hospital Commander, Chief Nurse, Executive Officer and the heads of most of the major hospital activities. While patient care did not suffer, the administrative burden was greatly increased. Although replacements were furnished there was generally no overlap period for the orientation of new personnel.

Observation: Action must be taken to stop the rotation of large groups at any one time to avoid reducing hospital efficiency. This could be done by extension, curtailments, and transfer of personnel within various units.

STRYKER FRAMES

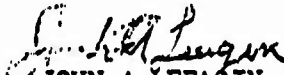
Item: Stryker frames are lost to the hospital when used in patient evacuation.

Discussion: When patients are evacuated on a Stryker frame the item is not replaced by property exchange by the Air Force. They will give a receipt for the frame which serves as the basis for requisitioning another frame. There has been a problem keeping sufficient Stryker frames in the medical depot and at the hospital.

Observation: It should be recognized that Stryker frames are not an item for property exchange and stockage levels established so that sufficient frames will be available for patient care in the hospital.

Part 2. Recommendations

None

  
JOHN A. FEAGIN JR.  
MAJ, MC  
Acting Commander

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Operational Report - Lessons Learned for Quarterly Period Ending  
31 October 1966 (RCS CSFOR .5)

COPIES FURNISHED:

- 1 - Commander-in-Chief, USARPAC  
ATTN: GPOF-MH, APO 96558 (Direct)
- 1 - Commanding General, USARV  
ATTN: AVC-DH, APO 96307 (Direct)
- 1 - Commanding General, USA SUPCOM, Qui Nhon  
ATTN: Historian, APO 96238 (Direct)

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AVCA-MB-GB-B (6 November 1966) 1st Ind  
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned for Quarterly Period  
Ending 31 October 1966 (RCS CSFOR-65)(U)

Headquarters, 55th Medical Group, APO 96238, 10 November 1966

THRU: Commanding Officer, 44th Medical Brigade, ATTN: Historian,  
APO 96307

Commanding General, 1st Logistical Command, ATTN: AVLC GO-H,  
APO 96307

Commanding General, United States Army, Vietnam, ATTN: AVC-DH,  
APO 96307

Commander-in-Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-MH,  
APO 96307

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

This headquarters concurs in the observations contained in the basic  
report submitted by the Commanding Officer, 85th Evacuation Hospital.

TEL: QN 679

*Robert H. Holzworth*  
ROBERT H. HOLZWORTH  
Lieutenant Colonel, MC  
Acting Commander



AVCA-MB-PO (6 Nov 66) 2nd Ind  
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned for Quarterly Period  
Ending 31 October 1966 (RCS CSFCR-65)

HEADQUARTERS, 44th Medical Brigade, APO 96307, 27 November 1966

TO: Commanding General, 1st Logistical Command, ATTN: AVCA-GC-0, APO  
96307

1. The 85th Evacuation Hospital was operational during this entire report period.

2. Reference Section II, Part I, item concerning Personnel Turn-over, basic report. Many units are faced with the possibility of a mass exodus of personnel and new replacements after a year in country. Shifting of personnel between units is being accomplished to the extent possible in order to provide for continuity of effort without serious impairment to mission accomplishment.

3. Reference Section II, Part I, item concerning Stryker Frames, basic report. Concur with comment. Measures have been taken to raise stockage levels in order to eliminate this problem.

4. Concur with all other comments in basic report, and the comment contained in the 1st Indorsement.

*Ray J. Miller*  
RAY J. MILLER  
Colonel, MD  
Commanding

AVCA GO-C (6 Nov 66) 3d Ind  
SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1966  
(RCS CSFOR-65)

HEADQUARTERS, 1st Logistical Command, APO 96307

▷ 1 DEC 1966

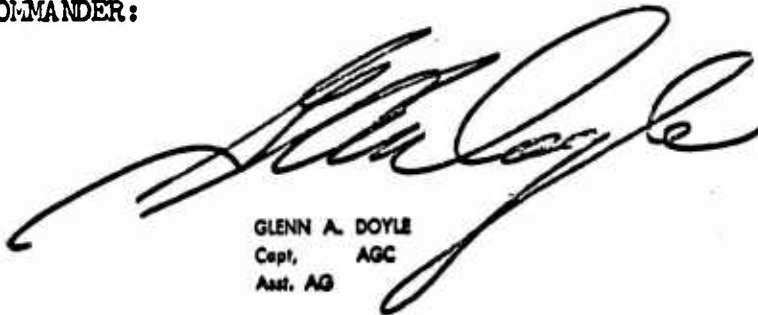
TO: Commanding Officer, 44th Medical Brigade, APO 96307

1. The Operational Report - Lessons Learned for the 85th Evacuation Hospital (SMBL) forwarded by your headquarters is returned for the following reason: The problem area concerning patient personnel records, page 2, section 2, part 1, first item, was entered without a statement as to what action is being taken to correct it or to initiate corrective action by higher headquarters.

2. Request your headquarters review USARV Regulation 870-2 and forward the omission listed in paragraph 1 above by indorsement to this headquarters NLT 7 Dec 66.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

TEL: Lynx 782/930



GLENN A. DOYLE  
Capt, AGC  
Asst. AG

AVCA-1B-PO (4 Nov 66)

4th Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned for Quarterly Period  
Ending 31 October 1966 (RCS CSFOR-65)

HEADQUARTERS, 44th Medical Brigade, APO 96307, 4 December 1966

TO: Commanding General, 1st Logistical Command, ATTN: AVCA-GC-O, APO  
96307

1. Forwarded in compliance with provisions of 3rd Indorsement.

2. Reference Section II, Part 1, item concerning Patient Personnel Records, basic report. When a U.S. military patient is admitted to a hospital in RVN, he is immediately carried on the morning report of his unit as being in a hospitalized status, and his personnel records remain with his unit. Upon the patient's evacuation out-of-country, all responsibility for the patient, which the in-country hospital had, comes to an end. The patient's unit is notified by USARV that he was evacuated out-of-country and directed to forward his personnel records to the USARV Casualty Branch, in Saigon. The in-country hospital at no time receives personnel records of patients, nor handles these. This headquarters has requested the USARV Casualty Branch to notify all PACOM and COMUS hospitals of the procedures by which patient personnel records are handled, and to request that in-country hospitals not be sent correspondence pertaining to these records.

*Ray Miller*  
RAYL. MILLER  
Colonel, MC  
Commanding

AVCA GO-O (4 Nov 66) 5th Ind  
SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1966  
(RCS CSFOR-65)

HEADQUARTERS, 1st Logistical Command, APO 96307

11 DEC 1966

TO: Deputy Commanding General, US Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVEGC-DH, APO 96307

1. The Operational Report - Lessons Learned submitted by the 85th Evacuation Hospital (SMRL) for the quarter ending 31 October 1966 is forwarded herewith.

2. The 85th Evacuation Hospital engaged in combat support operations for 92 days during this reporting period.

3. Concur with the basic report as modified by the comments contained in the preceding indorsements. The report is considered adequate.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

TEL: Lynx 782/930



GLENN R. BOYLE  
Capt, AGC  
Asst. AG

AVHGC-DH (4 Nov 66) 6th Ind  
SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the Period Ending  
31 October 1966 (RCS CSFOR-65)

22 DEC '66


HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96307

TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: GPOF-OT  
APO 96558

1. This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned from Headquarters, 85th Evacuation Hospital (SMBL) as indorsed for the period ending 31 October 1966.

2. Pertinent comments are as follows: Reference Paragraph 2, 4th Indorsement: This headquarters has notified PACOM and COMUS hospitals of the procedures used in this command for handling personnel records of evacuated personnel.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

  
W. R. AUTREY  
Cpt, AGC  
Asst Adjutant General

GPOP-OT (4 Nov 66)

7th Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the Period Ending  
31 October 1966

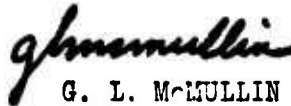
HQ, US ARMY, PACIFIC, APO San Francisco 96558

14 JAN 1967

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

This headquarters concurs in the basic report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:



G. L. McMULLIN  
CPT, AGC  
Asst AG

UNCLASSIFIED

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CO, 85th Evacuation Hospital			
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