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AUTHORITY

AGO D/A ltr, 29 Apr 1980

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AD875442

AGDA (M) (29 Sep 70) FOR OT UT 702134

2 October 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, USASTRATCOM
Signal Support Agency, Long Binh, Period Ending 30 April 1970

SEE DISTRIBUTION

*20
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1. Subject report is forwarded for review and evaluation in accordance with paragraph 4b, AR 525-15. Information of actions initiated as a result of subject report should be forwarded to ACSFOR OT UT within 90 days of receipt of covering letter.

2. Information contained in this report is provided to insure appropriate benefits in the future from lessons learned during current operations and may be adapted for use in developing training material.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

Kenneth G. Wickham

KENNETH G. WICKHAM
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

16 1970
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UNCLASSIFIED REPORT
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(ARMY) ATTN: FOR OT UT, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, USASTRATCOM SIGNAL SUPPORT AGENCY LONG BINH
APO San Francisco 96491

SCCPV-UG-FF-SC

18 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, USASTRATCOM
Signal Support Agency Long Binh, Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

SEE DISTRIBUTION

1. Operations: Significant Activities.

a. On 1 March 1970 the 44th Signal Battalion consisting of the units listed below was inactivated in accordance with USASTRATCOM General Order 21, dated 6 February 1970:

HHD, 44th Signal Battalion
Company A, 44th Signal Battalion
Company B, 44th Signal Battalion
Company C, 44th Signal Battalion
Company D, 44th Signal Battalion
Company E, 44th Signal Battalion

b. On 1 March 1970 the following units were organized from the inactivated 44th Signal Battalion in accordance with USASTRATCOM General Order 25, dated 6 February 1970:

Signal Support Agency, LBN
Radio Company, LBN
Command Communications Center Company, LBN
Area Communications Center Company, LPN
Telephone Operations Company, LBN

c. During this quarter five AN/TRC-111 microwave systems were installed in the Long Binh Radio Park. The installation of the systems was completed on 16 March 1970. However, on 1 April 1970, the AN/TRC-111 system CASO4 (LBN-TSN) was turned over to Technical Representatives from Bendix and Raytheon to undergo extensive testing. On 30 April 1970, CASO4 was returned to the control of the Agency. These AN/TRC-111 systems that were installed replaced the following AN/TRC-29 Systems:

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AN/TRC-29 SYSTEM

AN/TRC-111 SYSTEM

CCM97 (LBN-TSN)	CAS04 (LBN-TSN)
CAM92 (LBN-BCT)	CAS05 (LBN-BCT)
- CAM01 (LBN-BNH)	CAS06 (LBN-BNH)
CAM94 (LBN-DAN)	CAS07 (LBN-DAN)
CAM90 (LBN-LAI KHE)	CAS08 (LBN-PHU LOI)

d. During this quarter seven of the eight AN/TRC-29 systems were deactivated. However, it was necessary to reactivate the AN/TRC-29 system CCM95 (LBN-TSN) on 1 April 1970 to accept the circuits on the AN/TRC-111 system CAS04 (LBN-TSN) that was undergoing test conducted by Technical Representatives from Bendix and Raytheon. The reactivation of CCM95 left a total of six AN/TRC-29 systems deactivated at the end of the quarter. These systems are listed below.

AN/TRC-29 SYSTEM

CAM90 (LBN-LAI KHE)
CAM91 (LBN-BNH)
CAM92 (LBN-BCT)
CAM94 (LBN-DAN)
CAM97 (LBN-TSN)
CAM99 (LBN-SGN)

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

- a. Personnel. None
- b. Intelligence. None
- c. Operations. None
- d. Organization. None
- e. Training. None
- f. Logistics. Load Lists

(1) OBSERVATION: Prescribed load lists were not being properly maintained and far too many items were being deemed as mission essential.

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(b) EVALUATION: MOS trained personnel were not available to replace those that rotated. This left numerous personnel working in PLL's that had little or no experience in PLL. This Agency's immediate action was to conduct a series of inspections by the Agency S-4 to assist PLL personnel in improving their records keeping and PLL management. Another action taken by the Agency was to send additional personnel to the Signal School Southeast Asia #1 for training in PLL. These actions proved very beneficial.

(c) RECOMMENDATION: Commands should take advantage of the different training available at the Signal School Southeast Asia #1 to cross-train personnel in all critical areas.

(g) Communications.

(1) Wearing of Safety Helmets By Personnel Working On Telephone Lines.

(a) OBSERVATION: One telephone lineman was killed while working on line, when his head touched an over head power line.

(b) EVALUATION: The wearing of Safety Helmets will help insure safety while working on or near power lines.

(c) RECOMMENDATIONS: All Telephone Linemen be equipped with plastic type safety helmets without metal rivets and be made to wear them whether working on poles or on the ground beneath power lines.

(2) Radio Controlled Cable & Splicer Teams.

(a) OBSERVATIONS: Slow reaction time in dispatching of cable splicer and cable construction teams during major cable outages or damages.

(b) EVALUATION: To reduce time in dispatching cable splicer and cable construction teams to area where cables have been seriously damaged, Also to maintain greater control and be able to continually report rate of progress on restoration of cable and re-routing of high priority circuits. Continuous radio contact would be of immeasurable value. Bell Telephone uses this system and has found it to be feasible.

(c) RECOMMENDATION: All cable splicer and construction teams be equipped with FM radio's.

(3) Placement of Equipment Racks in AN/TCC-62 Multiplexer Vans
(PCM HICAP)

(a) OBSERVATION: As the AN/TCC-62 van is prepared at the factory the TD-353 multiplexers are mounted on the lower part of the equipment rack and the storage box is mounted at waist level up to the top.

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This arrangement has proved unsatisfactory because it is uncomfortable for the operators to bend down to operate the equipment and the inter-connection cables are strung across the floor where they are tripped on and pulled loose. The same problem existed in the TCC-62 van with the spare circuit board box being mounted along the floor and the small storage compartment being mounted at shoulder height. This resulted in the circuit panel spares being both kicked and getting dirty from the dirt on the floor.

(b) EVALUATION: The solution to both problems has been to change the multiplexer with the storage rack. The switch is simple since both are the same size and both are mounted on the same size brackets.

(4) AN/TRC-111 and AN/TCC-62 Equipment

(a) OBSERVATION: This Agency experienced frequent outages with the AN/TRC-111 and AN/TCC-62 microwave radio equipment installed in the Long Binh Radio Park.

(b) EVALUATION: Some outages can be attributed to operators not being familiar with the new systems and others can be attributed to faulty equipment. When the radio set was used with the PCM-TDM Digital 96 Channel equipment it was necessary to "Broad Band" the transmitter. Failure to Broad Band the transmitter resulted in noise and distortion on all 96 channels and loss of the extreme upper and lower channels. HI CAP PCM-TDM equipment used in the AN/TCC-62 is of excellent design and should function well. However, during the early stages of operation this Agency experienced a high failure rate of the modulized panels. Reason for high failure rate is unknown, but this Agency believes that some of the spare parts were faulty. Recently the systems have begun to settle and the failure rate of modulized panels has decreased greatly. Three of the seven voltage regulators will not operate in the automatic mode. These three voltage regulators are being operated in the manual mode. This Agency has also experienced difficulty in carrying teletype traffic, dial trunks and SDQC because of noise and distortion introduced on the VF Channels. From 1 April - 30 April 1970, Technical Representatives from Bendix and Raytheon operated the AN/TRC-111 system CCSO4 (LBN-TSN) in order to determine reasons for the frequent outages. The results of this study have not been revealed to the Agency at this time.

(c) RECOMMENDATION: In the future, new operators should be given: at least two weeks of training to become familiar with the equipment. A more thorough inspection should be made of spare parts.

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SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, USASTRATCOM
Signal Support Agency Long Binh, Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

3. Headquarters, Department of the Army Survey Information.

Omitted

2 Incl.

1. ~~List of Key Personnel~~
(~~Commanders and Staff~~)

2. Agency Organization Chart

Incl 1 w/d HQ DA

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- 1 - Commanding General, 1st Signal Brigade (USASTRATCOM), ATTN: SCCPV-OP, APO 96384
- 1 - Commanding General, USASTRATCOM-PAC, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii
- 6 - Commanding Officer, 160th Signal Group, APO 96491

Percy W. Collom, Jr.

PERCY W. COLLOM, JR.
LTC, SigC
Commanding

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SCCPV-UG-OP-PT (18 may 70) 1st Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, USASTRATCOM
Signal Support Agency Long Binh, Period Ending 30 April 1970,
RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

DA, Headquarters, 160th Signal Group, AFO 96491 22 May 1970

TO: SEE DISTRIBUTION

1. Report contained in basic correspondence is forwarded in accordance with AR 525-15.

2. The following comments apply to information contained in paragraphs indicated:

a. Para 1a: Although the units indicated in basic correspondence were inactivated as stated in the report, due to the cross assignment of units upon arrival in Vietnam all of these units were not assigned to the 44th Signal Battalion at the time of the inactivation on 1 March 1970. The actual organization of the battalion upon inactivation was as follows:

HHD, 44th Signal Battalion
Company B, 69th Signal Battalion
Company C, 69th Signal Battalion
580th Signal Company (CONS)
Area Signal Support Company (PROV)
Company E, 44th Signal Battalion (ZERO STRENGTH)

b. Para 1b: The new units indicated in basic report were organized from elements of the above units. This reorganization realigned personnel and equipment authorization for these units for accomplishment of their current mission of providing fixed communications support for Headquarters, USARV and units located in the Long Binh complex.

c. Para 2g(1): This recommendation has been implemented throughout the Group. All personnel engaged in outside plant cable construction are required to wear plastic safety helmets on the job.

d. Para 2g(3): Recommend that this modification be considered for application on new equipment procured by the Electronics Command. The unit has been directed to submit an Equipment Improvement Report (EIR) incorporating this recommendation.

3. Concur with the Commander's observations, evaluations and recommendations.



BERNARD J. PANKOWSKI
COL, SigC
Commanding

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- 2 - Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the Army (ASCFOR, DA), Washington, D.C. 20310
- 2 - Commanding General, 1st Signal Brigade (USASTRATCOM), ATTN: SCCPV-OP APO 96384

SCCPV-OP-ATA (18 May 70) 2nd Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters,
USASTRATCOM Signal Support Agency Long Binh, Period
Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

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

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

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

Reference item, "AN/TRC-111 and AN/TCC-62 Equipment", para 2.g.(4), pg.4. Results of a study and recommended action were furnished to all Groups in April 70 indicating PCM equipment required DS alignment. Once this was accomplished, noticeable improvements were evident in circuit quality.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

K. M. Beyersdorf CPT
for O. V. BONEBRANT,
Major, AGC
Adjutant General

CF:
Commanding General, U.S. Army Strategic Communications Command,
ATTN: SCC-OPS-RT, Ft Huachuca, Arizona 85613
Commanding Officer, 160th Signal Group, APO 96491
Commanding Officer, Signal Support Agency, Long Binh, APO 96491

AVHGC-DST (18 May 70) 3d Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned, Headquarters, USASTRATCOM
Signal Support Agency Long Binh, Period Ending 30 April 1970
RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

Headquarters, United States Army Vietnam, APO San Francisco 96375 6 JUL 1970

THRU: Commanding General, United States Army Strategic Communications
Command-Pacific, APO 96557

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

1. This Headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 30 April 1970 from Headquarters, USASTRATCOM Signal Support Agency Long Binh, and concurs with comments of indorsing headquarters.

2. Reference item concerning "Placement of Equipment Packs in AN/TCC-62 Multiplexer Van (PSM HI CAP)", page 4, paragraph 2g(3). Recommend that HQ, USALTRATCOM Signal Support Agency Long Binh, submit an Equipment Improvement Report (EIR) to USAECOM, Ft Monmouth, N.J. for a complete evaluation of the described equipment placements. No action by USARPAC or DA is recommended. Unit has been so advised.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



G. J. Winter
CPT, AGC

Assistant Adjutant General

Cy furn:
1st Signal Bde
USASTRATCOM Sig Support Agency Long Binh

SCCP-OP3 (18 May 1970) 4th Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters,
USASTRATCOM Signal Support Agency Long Binh, Period
Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

Headquarters, U. S. Army Strategic Communications Command-
Pacific, APO San Francisco 96557 1 4 JUL 1970

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

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

FOR THE COMMANDER:



A. J. SHORT
MAJ, AGC
Adjutant General

CF:
CG, USARV, APO 96375 wo incl
CG, 1st Sig Bde (USASTRATCOM), APO 96384 wo incl
CO, 160th Sig Gp (USASTRATCOM), APO 96491 wo incl
CO, USASTRATCOM Sig Support Agency Long Binh, APO 96491 wo incl

GPOP-DT (18 May 70) 5th Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, USASTRATCOM Signal Support Agency
Long Binh for Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558


23 JUL 70

THRU: ~~Commanding General, U. S. Army Strategic Communications Command,
Fort Huachuca, Arizona 95613~~ *At 30 July 1970*

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

This headquarters concurs in subject report as indorsed.

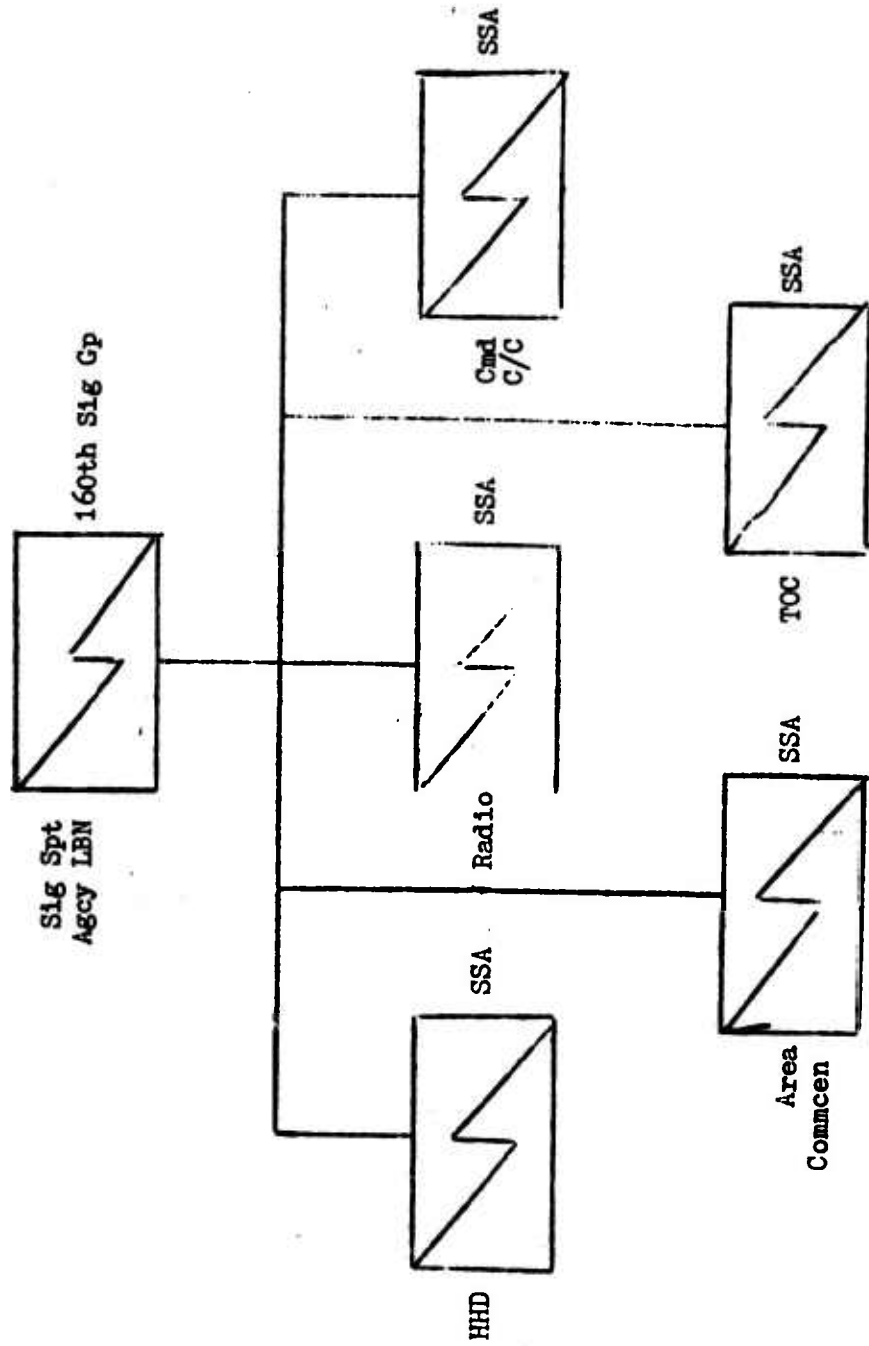
FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:



L.M. OZAKI
CPT, AGC
Asst AG

CF:
DA ACSFOR
CG USASTRATCOM-PAC

SIGNAL SUPPORT AGENCY LONG BINH



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Experiences of unit engaged in counterinsurgency operations 1 Feb to 30 April 70.

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CO, USASTRATCOM Signal Support Agency, Long Binh

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13. ABSTRACT