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AUTHORITY
AGO D/A ltr, 29 Apr 1980

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
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IN REPLY REFER TO
AGAM-P (M) (5 Apr 67) FOR OT

10 April 1967

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, 45th Surgical Hospital (MA)

TO: SEE DISTRIBUTION

AD829484

1. Forwarded as inclosure is Operational Report - Lessons Learned, 45th Surgical Hospital (MA) for quarterly period 1 November 1966 - 31 January 1967. Information contained in this report should be reviewed and evaluated by CDC in accordance with paragraph 6f of AR 1-19 and by CONARC in accordance with paragraph 6c and d of AR 1-19. Evaluations and corrective actions should be reported to ACSFOR OT within 90 days of receipt of covering letter.

2. Information contained in this report is provided to the Commandants of the Service Schools 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

1 Incl
as

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(Continued on page 2)

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OPERATIONAL REPORTS - LESSONS LEARNED
QUARTERLY PERIOD 1 November 1966 to
31 January 1967
45TH SURGICAL HOSPITAL (MA)
APO 96256

SECTION I

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. COMMAND:

a. Unit Move: This organization began the report period in a staging area adjacent to Headquarters, 68th Medical Group, at Long Binh, RVN. At this time an advance party of 35 EM and two officers were at the hospital site at Tay Ninh in the vicinity of Headquarters, 196th Light Infantry Brigade. On 4 November 1966, a mortar attack by hostile forces resulted in thirteen hits in the hospital area. The Hospital Commander, Major Gar P. Wratten was killed and one enlisted man was injured. Damage was sustained to the unoccupied nurses quarters, the packaged inflatable shelters and other elements of the MUST (Medical Unit Self-Contained Transportable) equipment. Repairs were made without difficulty. On 6 November 1966, the main body was transported to Tay Ninh and joined the advance party. The ten female nurses arrived on 9 November 1966. The unit spent 3 days in troop movement during the reporting period.

b. Command Group Activities: Distinguished visitors to this hospital during the reporting period were as follows:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>DATE</u>
GEN William C. Westmoreland	COMUSMACV	9 Nov 66
LTG Jean Engler	Dep CG, USARV	10 Nov 66
LTG Leonard D. Heaton	The Surgeon General DA	21 Nov 66
BG William A. Hamrick	Ch, Med Service Corps	21 Nov 66
BG James A. Wier	Surgeon, USARV	21 Nov 66
The Honorable Henry M. Jackson	US Senator, State of Washington	5 Dec 66
BG R. J. Seitz	C/S USARV	5 Dec 66
BG J. J. Irvin	G-1, USARPAC	8 Dec 66

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Op Repts - Lessons Learned, Qtr Pd 1 Nov 66 to 31 Jan 67, DA, 45th Surg
Hosp (MA), APO 96256, 31 Jan 67, (Cont'd)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>DATE</u>
LTC Rogers	Ch Surgeon, Australian	10 Dec 66
LTG Nguyen-Van-Thieu	Ch of State, RVN	13 Dec 66
LTG Nguyen-Hun-Co	Minister of Defense, RVN	13 Dec 66
LTG Jonathan O. Seaman	CG, II Fld Forces, VN	13 Dec 66
His Excellency L. Moreno Salcedo	Ambassador, P.I.	13 Dec 66
MG Fred C. Weyand	CG, 25th Inf Div	13 Dec 66
BG James O. Lindburg	Dep Ch, A/AF Ex Svc	15 Dec 66
The Honorable George W. Grider	Member of Congress, Tenn	23 Dec 66
Mr. Hank Snow & Party	Entertainers, Nashville, Tenn.	24 Dec 66
His Emminence Francis Cardinal Spellman	Archbishop of New York	24 Dec 66
GEN Harold K. Johnson	C/S US Army	25 Dec 66
LTG Harry J. Lemley, Jr.	Dep C/S for Mil Op, DA	25 Dec 66
Mr. Le Phy Nhan	Dep Province Ch, Tay Ninh	25 Dec 66
Col Mildred Irene Clark	Ch, US Army Nurse Corps	27 Dec 66
MG Keith L. Ware	Ch, of Info, US Army	28 Dec 66
Miss Martha Raye	Entertainer, L.A. Calif.	28 Dec 66
MG Byron L. Steger	Surgeon, USARPAC	4 Jan 67
Premier Nguyen Ky	Premier, RVN	11 Jan 67
Secretary Stanley Resor	Secretary of the Army	14 Jan 67



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Op Repts - Lessons Learned, Qtr Pd 1 Nov 66 to 31 Jan 67, DA, 45th Surg Hosp (MA), APO 96256, 31 Jan 67, (Cont'd)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Various Attache (19)	Embassies of Saigon	18 Jan 67
Mr. Sullivan & Mr. McMillan	OSD, Department of Research and Engineering	22 Jan 67
B3 George Hays	Ch, Prof Svc, OTSG, DA	24 Jan 67
Rear Admiral Cowan	Navy Surgeon's Office Headquarters, CINPAC	25 Jan 67

- 2. PERSONNEL: NONE
- 3. INTELLIGENCE: NONE
- 4. PLANS, OPERATIONS, TRAINING:

Opening of Hospital: After arrival of the main body on 6 November 1966, the hospital erection program was begun immediately and seven days later, 13 November 1966, operations began with the receipt of the first patient, a battle casualty. During the week the hospital was being erected, professional assistance was rendered to the clearing station, 196th Light Infantry Brigade. Since the opening of the hospital to the close of this reporting period, a total of 384 patients have been admitted and 208 Surgical Procedures performed. The hospital was operational 79 days during the reporting period.

- 5. LOGISTICS: NONE
- 6. SPECIAL STAFF SECTIONS: NONE

SECTION II, PART I
OBSERVATION (LESSONS LEARNED)

- 1. LOGISTICS:

ITEM: Foundations for the MUST inflatable shelters.

DISCUSSION: It was believed that the MUST (Medical Unit Self-Contained Transportable) shelters would be functional on any flat surface. The laterite base for the hospital site seemed to be satisfactory even though it was not completed at the time the hospital was erected. At the time the ground was too wet to be rolled, scraped, or

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Op Repts - Lessons Learned, Qtr Pd 1 Nov 66 to 31 Jan 67, DA 45th Surg Hosp (MA), APO 96256, 31 Jan 67, (Cont'd)

leveled. To have waited for the ground to dry would have meant a delay of several days or weeks before becoming operational. The original concept for the foundations were to be slightly oval. Thorough ditching was also planned. However, due to the urgent need for a surgical hospital at Tay Ninh to support Operation Attleboro, the hospital shelters were erected and operations began as quickly as possible. Unfortunately a heavy rainfall occurred before the ditching and foundation preparations were completed. Water accumulated under the shelter floors and in the interior of the inflatable shelters. The foundations could not dry because of the plastic composition of the floors and the mud became a serious problem.

OBSERVATION: The floor foundation for the MUST inflatable shelters must be several inches higher than the terrain it is situated on and there should be deep ditches around the shelter. The shelter floor is simply a plastic mat and therefore must have a relatively smooth surface. The surface and drainage must prevent water from running under the shelter's floor. This problem was corrected by removing the shelter and preparing the foundation properly.

2. PERSONNEL:

ITEM: Replacement of MUST Maintenance Personnel.

DISCUSSION: The TO&E of this hospital was modified to include two power pack specialists and one refrigeration specialist. In addition, one Warrant Officer and seven enlisted men were assigned as a MUST technical team and were intended to be assigned to the 32nd Medical Depot for depot maintenance of all MUST equipped units deploying to Viet Nam. However, it has been shown that more than three maintenance personnel are required to provide the necessary maintenance to the equipment of this hospital. For this reason, and due to the fact that there are no other MUST equipped units in-country, this team has remained assigned to this hospital. The problem now is how to requisition replacements for the technical team since they occupy no spaces on the 45th Surgical Hospital's authorization and they will rotate to CONUS in September 1967.

OBSERVATION: Appropriate authority has been informed that replacements should be trained and programed for the replacement of these personnel. A possible solution might be to assign the team to the 32nd Medical Depot with duty at this hospital. At the same time, augment the TO&E of the depot so as to authorize the team. Requisitions for replacements could then be made by the depot.

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Op Repts - Lessons Learned, Qtr Pd 1 Nov 66 to 31 Jan 67, DA, 45th Surg
Hosp (MA), APO 96256, 31 Jan 67, (Cont'd)

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That all MUST inflatable shelters be erected on firm, smooth, and raised foundations in the future.

2. That replacements be trained and provided for each of the MUST maintenance personnel currently assigned.

CHARLES M. LYON
MAJ, MC
Commanding


7
AVCA MB-GD-PC (10 Feb 67) 1st Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 Jan 67
(RCS CSFOR-65) (45th Surgical Hospital)

HEADQUARTERS, 68TH MEDICAL GROUP, APO 96307 20 February 1967

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

Concur in recommendations.

TEL: Long Binh 3326


CHARLES C PIXLEY
Colonel Medical Corps
Commanding

Incl 1

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AVCA-MB-PO (10 Feb 67) ^{2d} Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned for Quarterly Period Ending
31 January 1967 (RCS CSFOR-65) (45th Surgical Hospital)

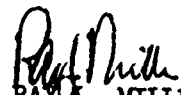
HEADQUARTERS, 44th Medical Brigade, APO 96307, 21 February 1967

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

Concur with observations and recommendations of the basic report.

Lynx 382

1 Incl
ORL (dup)


RAY L. MILLER
Colonel, MC
Commanding

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Incl 1

AVCA GO-O (10 Feb 67)

3d Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report For Quarterly Period Ending 31 January
1967, (RCS CSFOR-65)

HEADQUARTERS, 1ST LOGISTICAL COMMAND, APO 96307

26 FEB 1967

TO: Deputy Commanding General, United States Army, Vietnam, ATTN:
AVHGC-DH, APO 96307

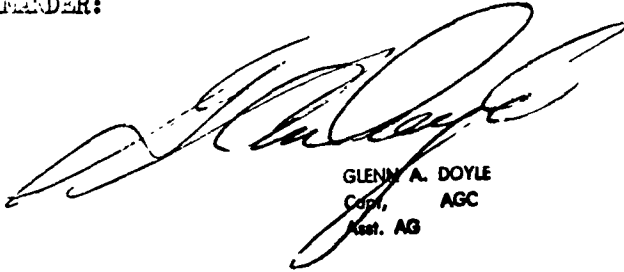
1. The Operational Report - Lessons Learned submitted by the
45th Surgical Hospital for the quarterly period ending 31 January
1967 is forwarded herewith.

2. Concur with the basic report. The report is considered
adequate.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

TEL: Lynx 782/430

1 Incl
nc



GLENN A. DOYLE
Capt, AGC
Asst. AG

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AVHGC-DH (10 Feb 67) 4th Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the Period Ending
31 January 1967 (RCS CSFOR-65)

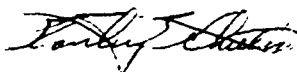
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96307 11 MAR 1967

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

1. This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the period ending 31 January 1967 from Headquarters, 45th Surgical Hospital (MA).

2. Reference Paragraph 2, Part I, Section II, Page 4, and Paragraph 2, Recommendation, Page 5. The Surgeon General, Department of the Army is taking action to provide enlisted replacement of two 51L20 (E-4), two 52C20 (E-5), and two 52C20 (E-4). All replacements are programmed for arrival in Vietnam prior to the DEROS of incumbents.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



STANLEY E. SCHULTS
Major, AGC
Asst Adjutant General

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GPOP-OT (10 Feb 67)

5th Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the Period Ending
31 January 1967 (RCS CSFOR-65), HQ 45th Surg Hosp (MA)

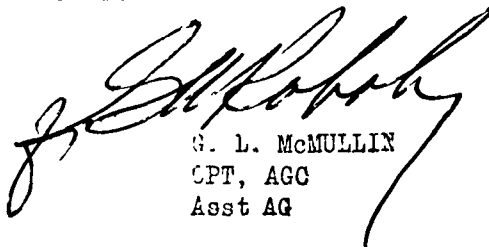
HQ, US ARMY, PACIFIC, APO San Francisco 96558 2 (1-11)

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:

1 Incl
nc


G. L. McMULLIN
CPT, AGC
Asst AG

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Incl 1