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HEADQUARTERS
ASSEMBLY AREA COMMAND
OFFICE OF THE SIGNAL OFFICER
APO 752

1 August 1945

SIGNAL SURVEY REPORT ON REDEPLOYMENT OF THE 40th SIGNAL LIGHT CONSTRUCTION BATTALION (Negro Enlisted Personnel) AT CAMP CLEVELAND, AAC, AS OF 30 JULY TO 1 AUGUST 1945.

SECTION I. General.

1. This survey was directed by the Commanding General, Assembly Area Command.
2. The battalion is classified as a Category II unit for direct redeployment.
3. This battalion is technically qualified to perform its primary mission.
4. Movement orders indicate a readiness date of 10 August 1945 for movement to a port of embarkation.

SECTION II. Personnel.

1. The unit is presently organized under T/O & E 11-25, 25 Feb 1944 with Change I, dated 25 May 1945. The battalion strength, including Medical Detachment, is as follows:

	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Warrant Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted Men *</u>
Authorized T/O strength	19	1	416
Authorized overstrength **	0	0	8
Actual Strength	19	1	423

- (*) Negro personnel
(**) Per ETO-POM-RED

2. The battalion commander, Lt Col William H. Cobb, joined the unit 2 October 1943 and assumed command on 13 December 1944.

3. The following personnel is required to bring the battalion up to authorized T/O strength:

<u>Number Required</u>	<u>Specialty</u>	<u>MOS</u>	<u>Reason Required</u>
3	Cook	060	One - note 1 Two - note 2

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SEC I; SEC II, par 1-3.

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<u>Number Required</u>	<u>Specialty</u>	<u>MOS</u>	<u>Reason Required</u>
1	Lineman	238	Note 1
1	Truck driver	345	Note 3

Note 1: To replace EM with critical ASR score

Note 2: To replace EM over 40 years of age

Note 3: To replace EM 39 years of age

a. A requisition for the above personnel requirements was submitted to Mourmelon Sub-Area Headquarters on 19 July 1945.

b. In addition to the above requirements, two enlisted men presently assigned to the battalion have been AWOL for long periods of time and probably will be lost to the unit. They are assigned T/O positions in the unit as follows:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>MOS</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Pvt	Davis, James L.	34742887	238	AWOL since 12 May/45
Pvt	McBride, Nathaniel	34541231	409	AWOL since 18 Sep/44

4. Personnel shown by name in the following sub-paragraphs will be lost to the unit for various reasons, as indicated.

a. Two enlisted specialists are over forty years of age and have initiated requests for discharge:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>MOS</u>	<u>Degree of Skill</u>
Tec 5	Fleming, Paul L.	32362879	060	Skilled
Pfc	Austin, Lawrence A	32502608	060	Semi-skilled

b. Four enlisted men have attained thirty-nine years of age and are eligible for separation from the unit:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>MOS</u>	<u>Degree of Skill</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>
* Tec 5	Joiner, Clarence B	38239500	(238 (353)	S/sk Sk	5 Aug/06
* Pfc	Shelton, William L	34786348	521	Qual	27 May/06
Pvt	Hawkins, George E	32456559	345	S/sk	1 Jun/06
* Pvt	Lambert, John	33222197	345	Sk	5 Oct/05

(*) Being carried as overstrength. (See par 5, this sec)

c. Two currently assigned enlisted specialists have ASR scores of more than 85 points.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>MOS</u>	<u>Degree of Skill</u>
* M/Sgt	Seaward, Percy	R-232936	238	Skilled
Tec 4	Henry, Harold L.	39913752	060	Skilled

(*) Has volunteered for continued service in this theater.

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SECTION III. Training.

1. This unit was activated at Camp Campbell, Kentucky on 21 September 1942 as a Signal Construction Battalion. On 25 May 1945, it was reorganized under T/O & E 11-25, dated 25 February 1944 and redesignated the 40th Signal Light Construction Battalion. The unit trained at Camp Campbell from date of activation until November 1943 under the various ATP's prescribed for Signal Corps units. After completing two periods of specialist training, which included the building of ten (10) miles of standard poleline for the range at Camp Campbell, the unit departed from the United States on 18 January 1944 and arrived in England on 29 January 1944.

2. From 1 February until 4 July 1944, the battalion engaged in functional training which included the construction of approximately thirty (30) miles of British Multi-Air Lines, and of approximately thirty (30) miles of rapid pole line; the placing of new wire and crossarms on approximately twenty-five (25) miles of existing pole line; and the construction and removal of approximately thirty (30) miles of rapid pole line. During this period the unit also engaged in limited night operations, laying approximately thirty (30) miles of field wire.

3. On 6 July 1944, the unit arrived in France and from 7 July 1944 until 28 June 1945, in conjunction with other Signal Corps units, performed its prescribed mission of constructing telephone facilities for Twelfth Army Group. During the Ardennes offensive, the primary mission of the unit was to establish and maintain telephone communications between Headquarters, First U. S. Army and its various Corps.

a. Following is a tabulation of the amount of work completed by this unit while performing its mission on the continent:

<u>Type of Construction</u>	<u>Line Route Miles</u>
Standard pole line, 20-wire lead	350
Open wire rehabilitation, 4-wire lead	155
52-quad lead-covered cable	7
Spiral-4 cable	832
Field wire	600

4. Upon completion of operations in Germany, the unit participated in a two-week training program which included forty (40) hours of instruction on the running of spiral-4 cable and field wire, and a review of basic military subjects.

5. The unit left Germany on 29 June 1945 and arrived at Camp Cleveland, Assembly Area Command the following day. Since arrival at Camp Cleveland, the battalion has been engaged in packing and crating organizational equipment and processing to meet the requirements of ETO-POM-RED. No technical training has been conducted since arrival at Camp Cleveland.

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SECTION IV. Equipment.

1. Organizational equipment is supplied this battalion in accordance with T/O & E 11-25, 25 February 1944, with Change 1, 7 July 1944.

2. An impedimenta readiness date of 20 July 1945 had been established for organizational equipment. Shipment was completed on that date and equipment is now at the Port of Embarkation.

3. This unit arrived at Camp Cleveland, Assembly Area Command, on 30 June 1945. At the time of arrival the following shortages of Signal Corps equipment existed:

<u>Item No</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Auth</u>	<u>On Hand</u>	<u>Short</u>
1	Test Set EE-65	24	0	24
2	Block, Single Sheave w/hook	96	0	96
3	Sleeve Rolling Tool TL-143-A24	24	0	24
4	Chest CH-203	24	0	24
5	Tail Gate Step MX-134/MT	24	0	24
6	Reel Frame FM-81	24	0	24
7	Wire Raising Hook LC-65	32	0	32
8	Reel Unit RL-31	24	8	16
9	Reel Unit RL-26	24	15	9
10	Test Set TS-27/TSM	4	0	4
11	Tool Set TE-16	4	0	4

a. The above items were requisitioned thru the Signal Supply Officer, Camp Cleveland, on 30 June 1945.

b. Items 1,3,8 & 9 were received by the unit.

c. A requisition covering the balance of shortages was submitted to the Signal Supply Officer, Assembly Area Command on 14 July 1945 a teletype report of existing shortages was made by the Signal Supply Officer, Assembly Area Command to the Supply Division, Signal Section, USFET (Rear). By teletype, the Supply Division, Signal Section, USFET (Rear) has authorized the release of all available equipment in other Signal Depots for shipment to Signal Depot S-863 marked for the unit.

4. At the time this survey was made all organizational equipment had been shipped to the Port of Embarkation. The unit Supply Officer advised that all equipment had been moisture and fungus proofed, that all equipment was combat serviceable and had been packed in accordance with current instructions. The unit Supply Officer also stated that 1st and 2nd echelon maintenance had been accomplished on all equipment turned in and this equipment had been properly tagged.

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SEC IV