

PD-ABH-600

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PROJECT ASSISTANCE COMPLETION REPORT

I. Background Data

- A. Project No. and Title: 515-0269, Rural Infrastructure Restoration; and 907-1048, International Disaster Assistance
- B. Implementation Agency: US Army Southern Command (SOUTHCOM)
- C. PACD: 515-0269: 04/30/92
907-1048: 05/22/92
- D. Amount Obligated:
- | | |
|----------|----------------|
| 515-0269 | \$3,000,000.00 |
| 907-1048 | \$2,002,798 |
- E. Total Expenditures
- | | |
|----------|----------------|
| 515-0269 | \$3,000,000.00 |
| 907-1048 | \$1,839,348 |
- F. Pipeline Unliquidated
- | | |
|----------|--------------|
| 515-0269 | 0 |
| 907-1048 | \$163,450.00 |
- G. Host Country Contribution: None Planned

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II. Project Background:

On the afternoon of 22 April 1991, a massive earthquake measuring 7.4 on the Richter scale hit southeast Costa Rica killing 55 people and completely destroying rail and road networks in the region. The initial estimate of infrastructure damage was over \$100 Million. The epicenter was in the Estrella Valley, which produces roughly 30% of the world banana crop. The National Emergency Council of Costa Rica was activated and a request for assistance was sent to the United States Embassy. The Embassy used the Agency for International Development Mission in Costa Rica as the nerve cell for response and the Regional Director for the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance acted as the coordinator for all relief efforts. The embassy declared the earthquake an international disaster and requested assistance from the US Army Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) in the form of air assets, medical supplies, and an engineer damage assessment team.

Based on the engineer damage assessment team report, the Costa Rican government asked for US assistance in restoration of the area from Limon to Sixaola. AID granted the amount of \$4,996,000 for restoration of items identified in the damage assessment report.

III. Project Description:

Final Project Outputs:

Completed work includes restoration of the Limon airport, two railroad bridges (Atalanta RR Bridge and Bananito Sur RR Bridge), construction of four temporary bridges, reconstruction and repair of five highway bridges (Banano Bridge, Westfalla Bridge, Sixaola Bridge, La Estrella Bridge, and Bananito Bridge), and restoration of roughly 40 kilometers of highway from Limon to La Estrella. Additionally, several service contracts were completed to include the design contract to provide design and drafting support for the construction contracts, as well as the service contracts required to support the US Army Corps of Engineers personnel in Costa Rica. Contingency funds were used to contend two major floods (August 1991 and May 1992) as well as additional work required as contracts were modified. These costs were absorbed by the initial contingency planning and no additional funding were necessary.

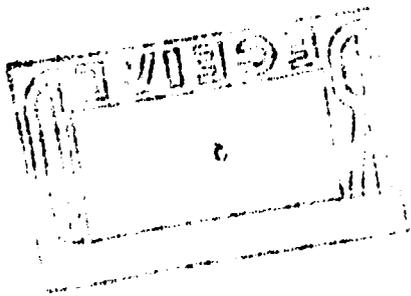
IV. Overall Status and conclusion:

Overall, the Project was quite successful in fulfilling its purpose set out in the PP, in that the project permitted the execution of emergency infrastructure restoration works in the earthquake damaged Atlantic Zone of Costa Rica.

The almost \$5 Million spent in this quick restoration effort constituted an

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Invaluable contribution to the recovery of this important area of the country and it made a very positive impact in Costa Rica's economy. The impact of US funding and cooperation between the Ministry of Public Works, the Railroad Institution, aeronautics administration, local contractors, A.I.D., US Corps of Engineers, and Embassy personnel were outstanding. The economy was restored as quickly as possible through the cooperation of many agencies.



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