

HEADQUARTERS

1st Engineer Battalion
1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

3:RP:aac
5750
5 Aug 1966

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF, FPO,
San Francisco, California 96602.

Subj: Command Chronology

Ref: (a) DivO 5750.2A

Encl: (1) Command Chronology, 1st Engineer Battalion (-), 1st
Marine Division (Rein), FMF, FPO, San Francisco,
California 96602.

1. The Command Chronology of the 1st Engineer Battalion (-) 1st Marine
Division (Rein), for the month of July 1966, appended hereto as
enclosure (1), is hereby submitted in accordance with reference (a).

J. R. Aichele
J. R. AICHELE



COMMAND CHRONOLOGY1. Organizational Data

a. 1st Engineer Battalion (-), 1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF

b. Location(1) Headquarters and Service Company (-), Chu Lai.(2) Support Company (-), Chu Lai.(3) Company "A" (-) (Rein), Da Nang.(a) 1st Platoon, Company "A", Phu Bai.(4) Company "B" (-), Chu Lai.(a) 3rd Platoon, Company "B", SLP w/BLT 3/5.(5) Company "C", Chu Lai.c. Period Covered. 1 July 1966 to 31 July 1966d. Command and Staff Officers

Commanding Officer	Lt. Col	J. R. AICHELE
Executive Officer	Maj.	F. P. KUNKLE
Sergeant Major	Sgt. Maj.	G. W. SHAW
Adjutant/S-1	2nd Lt.	F. H. STRIKER
S-2/Legal Officer	Capt.	R. W. BOLSTER
S-3 Officer	Maj.	R. PETROFF
S-4 Officer	Capt.	J. J. KIRKPATRICK
H&S Company/Supply Officer	Capt.	W. D. SMITH
Support Company	Capt.	D. R. HINES
Company "A" (-) (Rein)	Capt.	G. R. MEIBAUM
Company "B" (-)	Capt.	T. P. KILDAY
Company "C"	Capt.	J. T. KOMAR
Resident OICOC Div CP	Capt.	F. J. COX

e. Average Strength

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
27	616	1	11

2. Commander's Narrative Summary

a. Organization. On 1 July 1966, the 1st Engineer Battalion consisted of the Headquarters and Service Company; Engineer Support Company; Company "A" in direct support of the 1st Marine Regiment at Da Nang with the 1st Platoon of Company "A" in direct support of the 2nd Battalion 1st Marine Regiment at Phu Bai; Company "B" minus the 3rd Platoon and Company "C". The 3rd Platoon Company "B" was attached to BLT 3/5, the 7th Fleet SLF. The above organization remained constant for the month of July.

b. Intelligence

(1) Road and Bridge Reconnaissance. Continuous reconnaissance of secondary roads and bridges throughout the TAOR was conducted by the Battalion and the results forwarded to the 1st Marine Division Headquarters.

c. Training.

(1) Division Land Mine Warfare School. During July 1966, 423 men from 1st Marine Division units attended the school. The syllabus for the training of all personnel included the following subjects;

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
Route and Trail Clearance.	30 minutes
U. S. Firing Devices.	30 minutes
Foreign Mines, Fuses and Firing Devices.	40 minutes
U. S. Mines (A.P. to include M18A1)	50 minutes
Trail Markers	30 minutes
VC Explosive Devices	30 minutes
Booby Traps	70 minutes
Walk-Through Booby Trap Trail	50 minutes
Examination	30 minutes

In addition to the above subjects, infantry units received training in the following areas;

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
Introduction to Demolitions and Explosives	30 minutes
Non-electric Firing	80 minutes
Improvised Charges	80 minutes
Practical Application in use of C4, TNT, and detonating Cord	180 minutes
Examination	30 minutes

d. Operations

(1) Tactical Support. During this period this Battalion participated in Operations Washington (19-22 July 1966) and Franklin (26-28 July 1966). In addition the 5th and 7th Marine Regiments were tactically supported on twelve (12) company and platoon size operations. A five (5) man breeching/demo team was provided on a continuous basis for D/1/7, I/3/7, L/3/7 and M/3/7. These teams provided tactical support and mine sweeping capabilities for these units. A total of 2,540 pounds explosives was expended during this period for the destruction of caves, dud ordnance and mines.

(2) LVTE-1. During this period the 1st Engineer Battalion provided teams to the 3rd Amtrac Battalion for the firing of approximately 15 line charges for tactical operations.

(3) Convoy Escort. Engineer breeching teams supported nine (9) convoys to the Quang Ngai and Tam Ky area during the reporting period.

(4) Contacts. Members of this Battalion have been involved in five (5) separate contacts with the VC exclusive of Engineer support of infantry-operations.

(5) Casualties. During this reporting period the Battalion suffered two (2) KIA, six (6) WIA and one (1) killed by non-hostile fire. All WIA's were from mines or boobytraps.

(6) Road and Bridge Construction. This Battalion replaced and/or repaired culverts on Rt #1 to Quang Ngai, constructed four (4) kilometers of road from Rt #1 to M/3/7 combat outpost, constructed two (2) kilometers of road at the 3rd Amphibious Tractor Battalion CP and continued improvement of the drainage and surfaces of the 1/7 and I/3/7 access roads. These projects have resulted in the construction of six (6) kilometers of new road and the improvement and maintainance of approximately fifteen (15) kilometers of existing roads.

(7) Water Points. This Battalion established new water points at the 1/7 and 3/7 CP areas and operated ten (10) water points in Chu Lai area which produced 3,391,830 gallons of potable water and another 2,107,800 gallons of shower water.

(8) Division CP Construction. During this reporting period the Battalion provided one (1) officer and twenty-three (23) enlisted men for the construction of the Division Command Post.

(9) Civil Affairs/Civic Action. This Battalion's present area of responsibility in the Civil Affairs program is Dong Binh (1) (BS 571993) and Dong Binh (2) (BS 564002) in Quang Ngai Province. During this reporting period, 312 people received medical aid and 150 bars of soap were distributed. The attitude of the villagers has remained very good during this period.