

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

3:RP:mz  
 5750  
 Ser: 07-67  
 7 Mar 1967

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
~~COMINT~~

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding General, First Marine Division  
 Subj: Command Chronology for Period 1 February 1967 to 28 February 1967 (u)

1ST ENGR BN 08967  
 CMCC NB  
 COPY 1 OF 6 COPIES

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2  
 (b) FMFPacO 5750.8  
 (c) DivO 5750.2b

Encl: 1(1) 1st Engineer Battalion Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a), (b), and (c),  
 enclosure (1) is submitted.

*C. O. Newton*  
 C. O. NEWTON

Classified by the Director of  
 the Corps History and Museums  
 in accordance with the provisions  
 of COMINT Ser 009DS23/232095 of  
 21 Feb 1979  
 Signature Date 2/19/79  
*J.C.*

S & C FILES  
 HEADQUARTERS  
 1ST MARINE DIVISION, FMF  
 67 1024  
 Copy 1 of 5 copies

1ST ENGR BN

FEB 1967

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HEADQUARTERS

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

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 February 1967 to 28 February 1967

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## PART I

## ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. <u>DESIGNATION</u>	<u>COMMANDERS</u>
1st Engineer Battalion	Maj C. O. NEWTON (1-28 Feb)
<u>SUBORDINATE UNITS</u>	
H&S Company (-)	Capt R. OSBORNE (1-28 Feb)
Support Company (-)	Maj P. J. SHANK (1-28 Feb)
Company A (Rein)	Capt H. E. ITCHKAWITCH (1-28 Feb)
Company B (-)	Capt R. W. FALKENBACH (1-28 Feb)
Company C	Capt H. L. LUTTRELL (1-28 Feb)
2. <u>LOCATION</u>	
Battalion minus A Company (Rein)	1-28 Feb Chu Lai, RVN
A Company (Rein)	1-28 Feb Danang, RVN
3. <u>STAFF OFFICERS</u>	
Executive Officer	Maj E. J. TOWNSEND (1-28 Feb)
Sergeant Major	SgtMaj F. C. TOMON (1-28 Feb)
S-1/Adjutant	2ndLt J. MOUTON (1-28 Feb)
S-2	1stLt D. N. TOTH (1-28 Feb)
S-3	Maj R. PETROFF (1-28 Feb)
S-4	Capt J. J. KIRKPATRICK (1-20 Feb) Maj J. C. FLOYD (21-28 Feb)
S-5	Capt R. OSBORNE (1-28 Feb)
Supply Officer	Capt T. F. BYRNE (1-28 Feb)
Communications Officer	1stLt A. J. BARATELA (1-23 Feb) 1stLt P. A. BERKHEIMER (24-28 Feb)
Medical Officer	Lt J. A. BACKER (1-28 Feb)

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4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>		<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
24	698		1	10

## PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

The First Engineer Battalion minus "A" Company (Rein), the second platoon of "B" Company, and 19 men from "C" Company, was in general support of Task Force X-Ray at Chu Lai. One officer from "A" Company and 19 men from "C" Company were under the operational control of the Chu Lai Defense Command. All three letter companies reinforced by elements of Headquarters and Service and Support Companies were heavily committed to combat support missions during this period while simultaneously accomplishing various types of construction and maintaining their respective routine road sweeps. The Battalion (-) continued its participation in a major operation, DESOTO, which began on 26 January 1967 and is continuing; and supported three other major operations, CLAY, RIO GRANDE, and DESOTO/DECK HOUSE VI. The Battalion (-) also supported four small unit operations, 23 convoys, and swept a total of 604 kilometers of roads in the Task Force X-Ray TAOR. "A" Company participated in five major operations during this period, LENOKE, SEAROY, LINCOLN, INDEPENDENCE, and STONE. "A" Company swept a total of 614 kilometers of roads in the Danang TAOR.

Improved weather and improvement regarding the receipt of repair parts were noted during the period.

## PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. PERSONNELa. Gaines and Losses

During entire month

Joined one Marine officer, 13 Marine enlisted, and one Navy enlisted; dropped six Marine officers, 29 Marine enlisted and four Navy enlisted.

b. Casualties

During entire month

22 WIA's and three KIA's

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2. INTELLIGENCEa. Road recons

Check condition of 1/7 MSR, BT620013-BS700976; determine road rehabilitation requirements for placement of artillery for Operation RIO GRANDE, BS577725-BS546733.

b. Weather

(1) Only four days of heavy rain during the month permitted a near maximum capability for road construction and other earth work.

Ref: SITREPS of 112400Feb67, 122400Feb67, 132400Feb67, and 152400Feb67.

c. Enemy Ordnance

(1) One booby trap and two mines were discovered and destroyed during routine sweeps in the Task Force X-Ray TAOR.

Ref: SITREPS of 042400Feb67 and 152400Feb67.

(2) Discovered and destroyed nine boobytraps during conduct of Operation CLAY.

Ref: Plt Cmdr "B" Co AA Rpt 3/REH/jtd over 3480 of 6 Feb 67.

(3) Discovered and destroyed following enemy ordnance during conduct of Operation RIO GRANDE:

- (a) 10 booby trapped tree and brush obstacles
- (b) Four booby trapped 155mm rounds
- (c) 15 57mm RR rounds

Ref: CO "B" Co AA Rpt RWF:gaf over 3480 of 5 Mar 67.

d. Tunnel/Cave/Fighting Hole Destruction

(1) Following tunnels/caves destroyed during small unit operations:

- (a) 3x4x14 cave
- (b) 3x4x8 cave
- (c) 1Mx2Mx5M cave
- (d) 1Mx1Mx35M tunnel
- (e) 3Mx4Mx22M cave

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Ref: SITREPS of 052400Feb67 and 202400Feb67.

(2) Following destroyed during Operation RIO GRANDE

(a) Eight trench lines each 1.5Mx1.5M

Ref: CO "B" Co AA Rpt RWF:gaf over 3480 of 5 Mar 67

### 3. TRAINING

a. H&M Firing. Personnel fired individual and crew served weapons during the month as follows:

<u>Wpn</u>	<u>Pers</u>
M-14	224
M-60 MG	46
.45 Cal Pistol	43

Ref: BnBul 1500 of 6 Mar 67

b. Land Mine Warfare and Demolitions Training. Forty men attended the Division Land Mine Warfare and Demolitions School and received additional instruction in mine sweep procedures and techniques.

Ref: SITREPS of 012400Feb67, 082400Feb67, 112400Feb67, 152400Feb67, 202400Feb67, and 282400Feb67.

### 4. OPERATIONS

26 Jan 1967

2nd Plt of "C" Co rein by det H&S and Spt Co's began direct spt of 3/7 (Rein) for Operation DESOTO. The operation is being conducted in an area surrounding Duc Pho, BS807378, in Quang Ngai Province. To date, engr efforts have been concerned with close combat spt, operation of a water point and shower point (including bath unit) and the operation of a D-4 tractor (bulldozer), on loan from MAG 13 for pioneer road construction, clearing fields of fire; and bunker construction.

Ref: TFX-Ray OpPlan 1-67(s)  
 TFX-Ray Admin Plan 1-67(s)  
 3/7 OpO 1-67(c)  
 7th Mar FragO 1-67(c)  
 3/7 AdminO 1-67(s)  
 CG TFX-Ray msg 271715ZJan67(s)

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31 Jan - 3 Feb 1967

3rd Plt of "B" Co provided direct support of 1/5 for Operation CLAY. The operation was a search and destroy mission in the vicinity of BT3809. Engr efforts were all directed toward close combat support.

Ref: 1/5 FragO 8-67(c)

Plt Cmdr, 3rd Plt "B" Co AA Rpt 3/REH/jtd over 3480 of 6 Feb 67

17 Feb - 22 Feb 1967

B Co (-)(Rein)(minus two plt's) began Operation RIO GRANDE. Co Hq reinforced by elements of H&S and Spt Co's provided assistance in positioning of 3/11 (-) and maintenance of the supply route. The 3d Plt provided close combat spt to 1/5. On 19 Feb the Co Hq joined 7th Regt Command Group controlling the operation. Engr spt initially provided 3/11 (-) was maintained throughout the operation which terminated on 22 Feb 1967.

Ref: 7th Marines FragO 2-67 (c)

CO "B" Co AA Rpt RWF:gaf over 3480 of 5 Mar 67

26 Feb 1967

"B" Co (-)(Rein) began Operation DESOTO/DECKHOUSE VI. "B" Co minus the 1st and 2nd platoons provided spt to the 7th Marines minus the 1st and second battalions and who had OPCON of 3/7 (Rein) from Operation DESOTO already in the area, and 1/5 (Rein). "B" Co therefore assumed OPCON of the 2d Plt (Rein) of "C" Co which was attached to 3/7 as stated above. The 3rd Plt of "B" Co provided close combat spt to 1/5. The operation was essentially a search and destroy mission. The operation terminated on 4 March 1967. The AA Rpt will be appended to the Command Chronology for March, 1967.

Ref: TFX-Ray FragO 8-67 (c)

TFX-Ray AdminO 2-67 (s)

5. WATER SUPPLY. During this reporting period, the Battalion (-) operated eight water points and nine shower points, which produced and issued 858,870 gallons of potable water and 814,100 gallons of shower water.

Ref: SITREPS for month of February 1967

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6. ROAD REHABILITATION. The Battalion (-) rehabilitated 14,000 meters of roads in the Task Force X-Ray TAOR. Rehabilitation included installation of 106 linear feet of 36" corrugated sheet steel culvert and placement of 3,700 cubic yards of sand and earth fill.

7. OTHER CONSTRUCTION.

a. During this period, units of the Battalion (-) accomplished the following miscellaneous construction:

- (1) Cleared fields of fire at the 7th Marine Regiment CP.
- (2) Cleared fields of fire at the Chu Lai Defense Command.
- (3) Fabricated 24 slings for the engineer equipment platoon.
- (4) Constructed 75 miscellaneous windshield covers.
- (5) Constructed a generator shed for the Chu Lai Defense Command.
- (6) Constructed a four hole head for the POW compound.
- (7) Relocated six 16' x 32' buildings for the 7th Regiment CP.
- (8) Improved the familiarization firing range for 3/11.
- (9) Constructed NBC alarms and biological sampling kits for the Battalion (-).
- (10) Constructed 80 mount-out boxes for 2/7.
- (11) Constructed a bunker interconnecting trench line in the Battalion (-) perimeter.

Ref: SITREPS for month of February 1967.

b. "A" Company (Rein) accomplished the following:

- (1) Precut 27,000 board feet of lumber for air delivery to Operation DESOTO.
- (2) Prefabricated 17 12' x 12' bunkers for F/2/1.
- (3) Prepared site and constructed a 44' x 50' timber helicopter landing pad for F/2/1.
- (4) Constructed a 16' x 32' building for the ARVN advisory unit at Hoi An.

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(5) Constructed a 20' x 30' bunker in the 11th Marines area.

(6) Assembled 20 20' sections of corrugated sheet steel culvert to be installed on National Highway 14.

(7) Hauled 205,000 board feet of lumber from Red Beach, Danang to Camp Stephens.

Ref: CO Co "A" Cmd Chronology HRI/ghw over 5213 of 1 Mar 67.

8. DIVISION LAND MINE WARFARE AND DEMOLITIONS SCHOOL. Marines trained during the month of February are as follows:

	<u>Chu Lai</u>	<u>Danang</u>
Infantry	286	176
Engineer	127	114
Other	10	17
TOTALS	423	307
GRAND TOTAL		730

Ref: SITREPS for month of February 1967

9. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT. Testing and evaluation of the acetylene gas generator tunnel destruction weapon was resumed with the receipt of 600 pounds of calcium carbide and authority to continue evaluation. Final report to be submitted 20 May 1967.

Ref: CG 1st Mar Div (Rein) msg 261350ZJul66  
 CO 1st Engr Bn ltr 3:RP:mz over 3900 ser 038-66 of 60ct66  
 CG III MAF ltr 3D/LB/wsr over 3960 of 2 Nov 66 (NOTAL)  
 CG 1st Mar Div Rein FMF ltr 4/TEF/def over 3900 of 8Feb67  
 CG 1st Mar Div Rein msg 190617ZFeb67  
 SITREPS of 162400Feb67 and 172400Feb67

10. CIVIL AFFAIRS/CIVIC ACTION

a. 368 people from the village of Phuoc An at BT572015 were provided medical aid.

Ref: MEDCAP Team Rpt for month of February 1967

b. The Battalion (-) distributed twenty pounds of candy and 3,400 piasters among 170 children at the above village during the celebration of Tet on 10 February 1967.

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## PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>REFERENCE</u>
<u>Tab A</u> ✓ Operation CLAY	Plt Cmdr, 3rd Plt, Co "B" AA Rpt 3/REH/ jtd over 3480 of 6Feb67 W/CO Co "B" 1st End 6/RWF/jtd over 3480 of 15Feb67
<u>Tab B</u> ✓ Operation RIO GRANDE	CO Co "B" AA Rpt RWF:gaf over 3480 of 5Mar67
<u>Tab C</u> ✓ Sweep Technique training at 1st Mar Div LMWS, Chu Lai	Photograph of practical application
<u>Tab D</u> ✓ Evaluation of Acetylene Gas Generator Tunnel Destruction Weapon	Photograph of test being conducted
<u>Tab E</u> ✓ Civic Action - Presentation of gifts during celebration of Tet Holidays at village of Phuoc An, BT52015	Photographs of Gift Presentation (2)

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6/RWF/jtd  
3480  
15 Feb 1967

FIRST ENDORSEMENT on Platoon Leader, Third Platoon, Company "B" ltr  
3/REH/jtd file 3480 dtd 6 Feb 1967

From: Commanding Officer, Company "B", 1st Engineer Battalion

To: Commanding Officer, 1st Engineer Battalion

Subj: Combat Operation After Action Report

1. The task organization of engineer personnel and equipment appeared to have been consistent with the engineer support requirements of the infantry battalion on this particular operation.
2. Infantry Battalion Commanders' request for each engineer to carry twenty-five (25) pounds of demolitions on operation DeSoto is considered by this officer to be excessive. The quantity of demolitions, in addition to the normal combat load, makes it extremely difficult for engineer personnel to maneuver with the infantry and still remain physically and mentally prepared to employ demolitions safely.
3. Concur with recommendations contained in basic report. Most operations are conducted in areas where communications with the First Engineer Battalion is impossible without an adequate relay system. Use of radio equipment provided by the infantry is recommended for both internal communications and communications back to this battalion.

*R.W. Falkenbach*  
R. W. FALKENBACH

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*Task A*

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COMPANY "B"  
1st Engineer Battalion  
1st Marine Division (Rein) EME  
FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

3/REH/jtd  
3480  
06 Feb 1967

From: Platoon Leader, Third Platoon  
To: Commanding Officer, 1st Engineer Battalion  
Via: Commanding Officer, Company "B", 1st Engineer Battalion  
  
Subj: Combat Operation After Action Report

Ref: Maps of Viet Nam: Series L7014 Sheet 6639I

Ref: Maps of Viet Nam: Series L7014 Sheet

1. Code Name. Operation Clay
  2. Date. 31 January 1967 to 03 1400H February 1967 \*
  3. Location. South of Tam Ky, Tien Phu'oc
  4. Central or Command Headquarters.
    - a. Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, Fifth Marine - Major Peter L. HILGARTNER, USMC.
    - b. Commanding Officer, Company "A", 1st Lieutenant Author C. BLADE, USMC.
    - c. Commanding Officer, Company "C", Captain Russel J. CASWELL, USMC.
    - d. Commanding Officer, Company "D", Captain John J. CARTY, USMC.
  5. Task Organization. Squad Leader attached to each Company Headquarters group and one (1) four man team to each of the two (2) Platoons in the Company, Platoon Leader, Platoon Sergeant, Right Guide, Radio man and Mine Detector Operator attached to Battalion Command Post.
  6. Supporting Forces. Not Applicable
  7. Intelligence. Battalion TAOR Sweep, Unit was warned to expect heavy booby-traps.
  8. Mission. To provide direct Combat Engineer support to Companies "A", "C", and "D", of 1st Battalion, Fifth Marines.
  9. Concept of Operation. One (1) four man team attached to each of the six (6) Rifle Platoons, Squad Leader with each Company Command Post and Platoon Leader, Platoon Sergeant, Right Guide, Radio Man and Mine Detector Operator with Battalion Command Post.
  10. Execution.
    - a. Warning order received on 30 January 1967 by Company "B", 1st Engineer Battalion of a Battalion size operation by First Battalion, Fifth Marines, starting on 31 January 1967 at 1600. UNCLAS @ QFED

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## EDITORIAL

Tab A

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- b. One Engineer Platoon required.
- c. 30 1600H January 1967 - Commencement of Operation
- d. 30 2000H January 1967 - Operation temporarily secured because of commitments to Operation De Soto; Battalion on 24 hours stand-by.
- e. 31 1600H January 1967 - Resume Operation Clay.
- f. 01 0900H February 1967 - Sergeant COMP and 1st Squad attached to Company "A", 1st Battalion, Fifth Marines, found six (6) 60 mm mortar rounds set in as booby-traps, one (1) 81 mm mortar round set in as a booby-trap, one (1) Chi-com grenade booby-trap, one (1) US M 26 grenade booby-trap, marked location of mortar rounds for future disposal. All of the above found at coordinates BT 313110. Destroyed grenades in place using one and one quarter (1 1/4) pounds of C-4.
- g. 01 1000H February 1967 - Private First Class Robert W. BROWN was wounded in upper part of left arm by sniper round. At coordinates BT 327116 while attached to Company "C", 1st Battalion, Fifth Marines.
- h. 01 1200H February 1967 - Sergeant MASLANKA and 3rd Squad attached to Company "C", 1st Battalion, Fifth Marines, found two (2) 3.5 rockets and one (1) LAAW, destroyed same in place with two (2) pounds of C-4 on each object, at coordinates BT 329109. The above were duds found by Company "C", 1st Battalion, Fifth Marines personnel.
- i. 01 0800H February 1967 - Sergeant MASLANKA and 3rd Squad attached to Company "C", 1st Battalion, Fifth Marines, found one (1) H. E. 3.5 round, one (1) 60 mm round dud, and destroyed these rounds in place at coordinates BT 327116 using two (2) pounds of C-4 on each round.
- j. 02 0900H February 1967 - Sergeant COMP and 1st Squad removed six (6) 60 mm rounds and one (1) 81 mm round from helo-pad and made a stock pile to be destroyed at later date, these are the same rounds found on 01 February 1967 (See sub paragraph 10f). Removal was necessary due to required use of helopad. Destruction in place would have rendered Landing Zone unserviceable.
- k. 02 1400H February 1967 - Sergeant COMP and 1st Squad attached to Company "A", 1st Battalion, Fifth Marine destroyed six (6) 60 mm rounds, and one (1) 81 mm round at coordinates BT 310112, destroyed them using two (2) pounds of C-4.
- l. Operation Clay ended at 03 1400H February 1967 at Battalion Command Post of 1st Battalion, Fifth Marines.

11. Results. One Engineer personnel WIA

12. Administrative Matters. Not Applicable.

13. Special Equipment and Techniques. Not Applicable.

14. Commanders Analysis. Battalion sweep of TAOR in which engineers were efficiently utilized. Mine detector was used efficiently. Battalion Commanding Officer desired twenty five (25) pounds of demo per man for Operation De Soto.

15. Recommendation. In operations out of normal PRC-25 range, that there be no requirement for radio to be carried by engineers, also that demolitions be limited to five (5) pounds per man where mobility is required.

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R. E. HOLMES

SSgt USMC

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## INDIVIDUAL MINE/BOOBY TRAP INCIDENT REPORT

REPORTING  
UNIT CODE 11404MONTH, DATE, & TIME  
OF INCIDENT Feb, 01, 0900H

## REMARKS

The first helicopter landing on the Landing Zone set off a boobytrap believed to be either a 60 mm mortar round or an 81 mm mortar round. Three (3) infantry personnel were wounded. When engineer personnel arrived the area was checked with a P-153 mine detector and seven (7) mortar rounds were discovered in the Landing Zone. The Mortars were marked and destroyed the next day using Two and one half ( $2\frac{1}{2}$ ) pounds of C-4.

## TACTICAL SITUATION AT TIME OF REPORT

Setting in defensive blocking position.

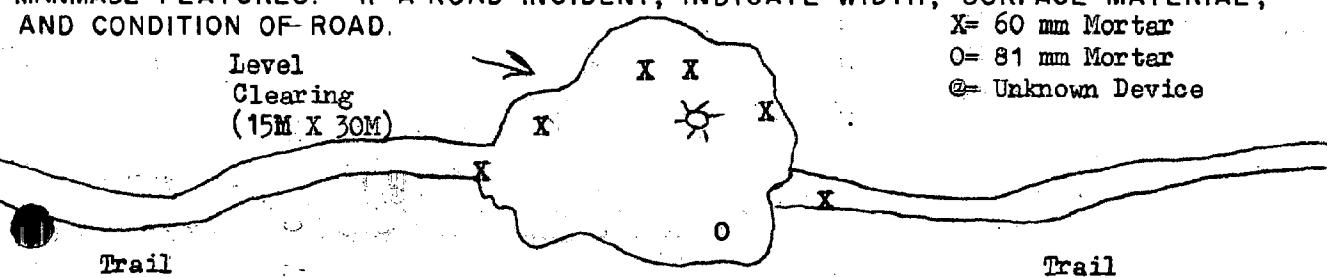
## IDENTIFICATION OF COMPONENTS OF DEVICE

✓ (6) 60 mm mortar rounds,  
✗ (1) 81 mm mortar round.

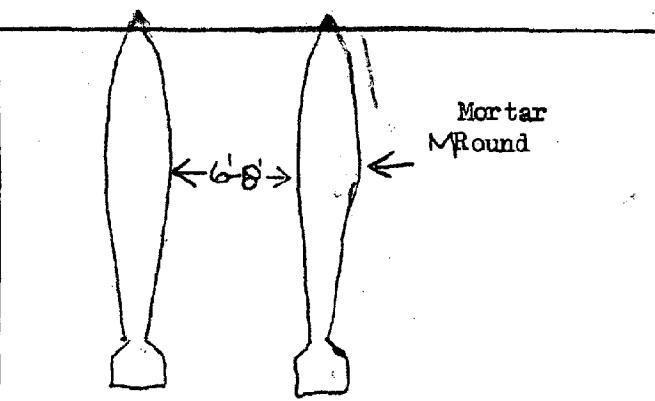
## LOCATION OF DEVICE IN RELATION TO GROUND

The rounds were buried with only a portion of the point detonating fuze above the ground. The rounds were all located in the center of a flat area on a hill, a location suited for a Landing Zone.

## SKETCH INDICATING LOCATION OF DEVICE IN RELATION TO PERSONNEL, TERRAIN, MANMADE FEATURES. IF A ROAD INCIDENT, INDICATE WIDTH, SURFACE MATERIAL, AND CONDITION OF ROAD.



## SKETCH OF METHOD OF EMPLACEMENT



## SKETCH OF WARNING INDICATORS IN AREA

NONE

Submitted by LARRY, I. COMP Sgt 'B' Co, 1st Engr  
Name, Grade/Rank, Org, Title Squad Leader

*Larry J. Comp*

FORM # 8092

## INDIVIDUAL MINE/BOOBY TRAP INCIDENT REPORT

REPORTING UNIT CODE	MONTH DATE	TIME	LOCATION	DEVICE TYPE	DEVICE SIZE (LBS)			
1 1 4 0 4	0 2 0 1 0 9 0 0	6	B T 3 1 3 1 1 0	2	0 7			
		14		22	23			
NUMBER OF VEHICLES DAMAGED	NUMBER OF PERSONNEL FWF ARVN	TIME SINCE LAST FRIENDLY PASSAGE	VIETNAMESE					
DETONATION	PERSONNEL FWF ARVN	D H M						
4 25	42	46	52 80					
26								
28								
30								
32								
34								
36								
VEHICLE DAMAGE	UNIT DESCRIPTION	UNIT SIZE						
DETONATION	UNIT DESCRIPTION	UNIT SIZE						
4 25	4	38						
26								
28								
30								
32								
34								
36								
REPORTING UNIT CODE	KIA	INJURY LOCATIONS	BODY ARMOR	WIA	INJURY LOCATIONS	BODY ARMOR		
	16		41	0 3	48	u n k.	73	
	21		42	46	53		74	
	26		43		58		75	
	31		44		63		76	
	36		45		68		77	
MONTH DATE	TIME							
6								

INJURY LOCATION  
 1. HEAD AND NECK  
 2. UPPER TORSO  
 3. ABDOMEN AND GROIN  
 4. LEGS AND FEET  
 5. ARMS AND HANDS

BODY ARMOR  
 Y YES  
 N NO  
 - UNKNOWN  
 O N/A

## CODES

## DEVICE TYPE

1. MINE
2. BOOBY TRAP
3. OTHER
4. UNKNOWN

## METHOD OF DETONATION

1. N/A
2. DISARMED OR DESTROYED
3. TRIPWIRE
4. PRESSURE
5. ELECTRICAL
6. COMMAND
7. OTHER
8. UNKNOWN

## VEHICLE DAMAGE

A TWO NUMBER CODE. THE FIRST NUMBER GIVES VEHICLE TYPE, THE SECOND EXTENT OF DAMAGE

TYPE	EXTENT
1.1/ST TRUCK	1.1ST ECHELON REPAIR
2.1/ST "	2.2ND " "
3.3/4T "	3.3RD " "
4.2/ST "	4.4TH " "
5.6T	5.5TH " "
6.LVT	6. DESTROYED
7.TANK	
8.OMTOS	
9.OTHER	

UNIT DESCRIPTION	UNIT SIZE
1.DEFENSIVE POSITION	1. SQUAD
2.PATROL	2. PLATOON
3.AMBUSH	3. COMPANY
4.BLOCKING POSITION	4. OTHER
5.SECURITY FORCE	
6.SWEEPING FORCE	
7.OTHER	

VIETNAMESE
1. HOME IN AREA
2. HOSTILE
3. INDIFFERENT
4. FRIENDLY
5. REPORTED PRESENCE OF DEVICE

## INDIVIDUAL MINE / BOOBY TRAP INCIDENT REPORT

REPORTING  
UNIT CODE 11404MONTH, DATE, & TIME  
OF INCIDENT Feb, 01, 0900

## REMARKS

One (1) M 26 U.S. fragmentation grenade with trip wire (vine) found on trail approximately fifteen (15) meters from a landing zone. The grenade was destroyed in place using one pound of TNT.

## TACTICAL SITUATION AT TIME OF REPORT

Setting in defensive blocking position.

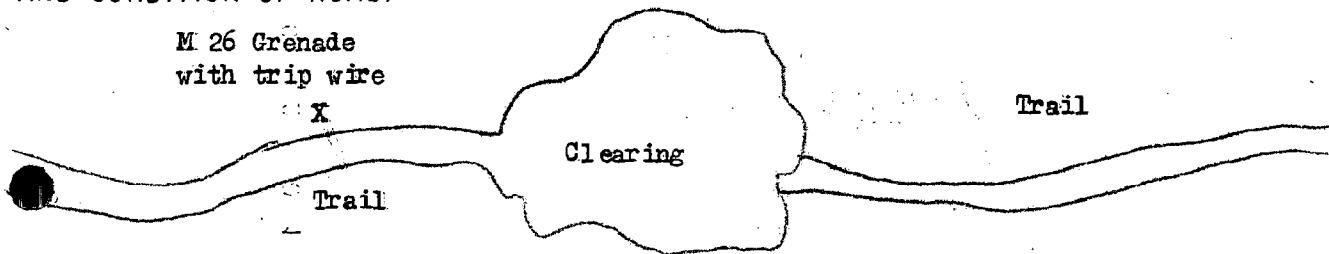
## IDENTIFICATION OF COMPONENTS OF DEVICE

- One (1) M 26 U.S. fragmentation grenade.
- One (1) trip wire (vine).

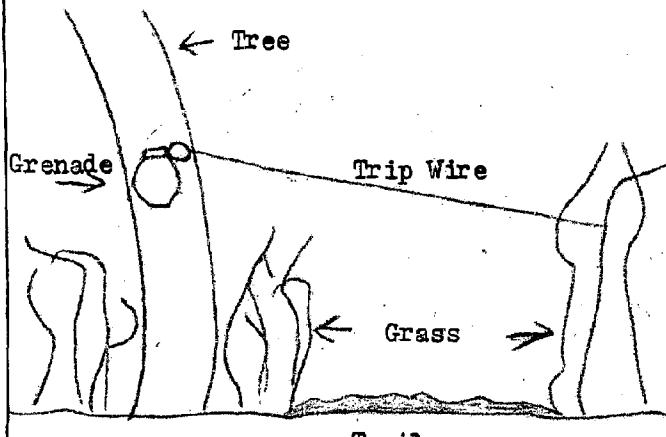
## LOCATION OF DEVICE IN RELATION TO GROUND

The grenade was secured to adjacent to trail about one meter above ground level, the trip wire was stretched across the trail.

## SKETCH INDICATING LOCATION OF DEVICE IN RELATION TO PERSONNEL, TERRAIN, MANMADE FEATURES. IF A ROAD INCIDENT, INDICATE WIDTH, SURFACE MATERIAL, AND CONDITION OF ROAD.



## SKETCH OF METHOD OF EMPLEMENT



## SKETCH OF WARNING INDICATORS IN AREA

NONE

Submitted by *Larry S. Coops*  
Name, Grade / Rank, Org, Title

FORM # 8092

## INDIVIDUAL MINE / BOOBY TRAP INCIDENT REPORT

REPORTING  
UNIT CODE

11404

MONTH DATE TIME

02010900

6

LOCATION

BT313110

DEVICE  
TYPE

2

DEVICE  
SIZE (LBS)

01

22

23

## CODES

## DEVICE TYPE

1. MINE
2. BOOBY TRAP
3. OTHER
4. UNKNOWN

## METHOD OF DETONATION

1. N/A
2. DISARMED OR DESTROYED
3. TRIPWIRE
4. PRESSURE
5. ELECTRICAL
6. COMMAND
7. OTHER
8. UNKNOWN

## VEHICLE DAMAGE

A TWO NUMBER CODE. THE FIRST NUMBER GIVES VEHICLE TYPE, THE SECOND EXTENT OF DAMAGE

## TYPE

- |                |                       |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| 1. 1/4 T TRUCK | 1. 1ST ECHELON REPAIR |
| 2. 1/2 T "     | 2. 2ND " "            |
| 3. 3/4 T "     | 3. 3RD " "            |
| 4. 2 1/2 T "   | 4. 4TH " "            |
| 5. 5 T "       | 5. 5TH " "            |
| 6. LVT         | 6. DESTROYED          |
| 7. TANK        |                       |
| 8. BOAT        |                       |
| 9. OTHER       |                       |

## UNIT DESCRIPTION UNIT SIZE

- |                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| 1. DEFENSIVE POSITION | 1. SQUAD   |
| 2. PATROL             | 2. PLATOON |
| 3. AMBUSH             | 3. COMPANY |
| 4. BLOCKING POSITION  | 4. OTHER   |

## VIETNAMESE

1. NONE IN AREA
2. HOSTILE
3. INDIFFERENT
4. FRIENDLY
5. REPORTED PRESENCE OF DEVICE

REPORTING  
UNIT CODE

11404

MONTH DATE TIME

02010900

14

LOCATION

BT313110

DEVICE  
TYPE

2

DEVICE  
SIZE (LBS)

01

22

23

NUMBER  
VEHICLES  
DAMAGED

26

28

25	26
30	31
32	33
34	35
36	37

NUMBER  
PERSONNEL  
FWF ARVN

42

UNIT  
DESCRIPTION

38

UNIT SIZE

39

TIME SINCE LAST  
FRIENDLY PASSAGE

D

46

H

52

M

80

VIETNAMESE

REPORTING  
UNIT CODE

11404

KIA

14

INJURY  
LOCATIONS

16

21	22
26	27
31	32
36	37

41

42

43

44

45

BODY  
ARMOR

48

49

50

51

52

53

54

55

56

57

58

59

60

61

62

63

64

65

66

67

68

69

70

71

72

73

74

75

76

77

78

79

80

INJURY  
LOCATIONS

73

74

75

76

77

78

79

80

BODY  
ARMOR

73

74

75

76

77

78

79

80

## INJURY LOCATION

1. HEAD AND NECK
2. UPPER TORSO
3. ABDOMEN AND GROIN
4. LEGS AND FEET
5. ARMS AND HANDS

## BODY ARMOR

Y YES

N NO

U UNKNOWN

O N/A

## INDIVIDUAL MINE/BOOBY TRAP INCIDENT REPORT

REPORTING  
UNIT CODE 11404MONTH, DATE, & TIME  
OF INCIDENT Feb, 01, 0900

## REMARKS

One (1) Chicom grenade found on trail leading to a landing zone approximately ten meters from the Landing Zone. The grenade was destroyed in place using one (1) pound of TNT.

## TACTICAL SITUATION AT TIME OF REPORT

Setting in a defensive blocking position.

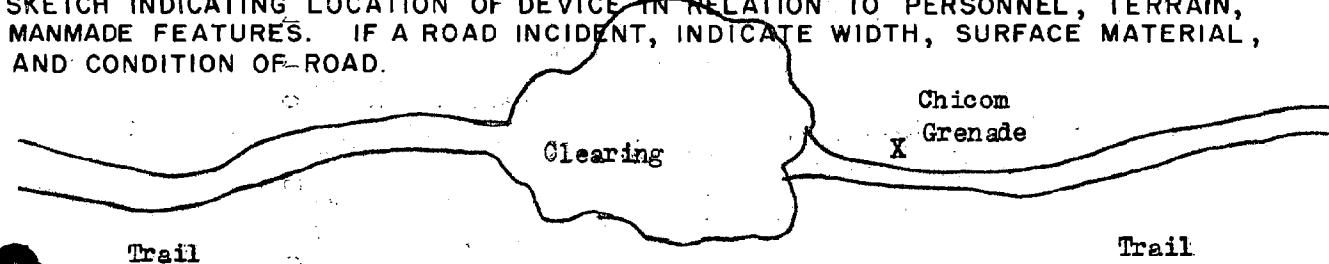
## IDENTIFICATION OF COMPONENTS OF DEVICE

One (1) Chicom grenade

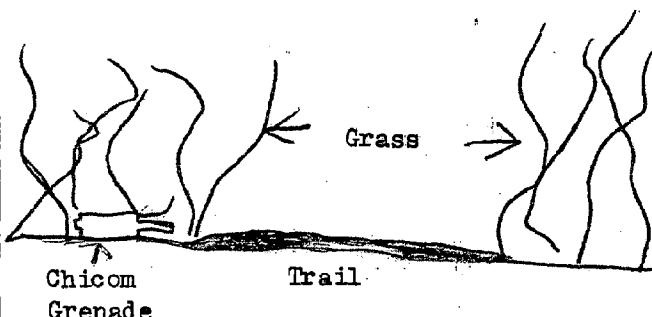
## LOCATION OF DEVICE IN RELATION TO GROUND

Lying on the ground in a grassy area beside a trail.

SKETCH INDICATING LOCATION OF DEVICE IN RELATION TO PERSONNEL, TERRAIN, MANMADE FEATURES. IF A ROAD INCIDENT, INDICATE WIDTH, SURFACE MATERIAL, AND CONDITION OF ROAD.



## SKETCH OF METHOD OF EMPLACEMENT



## SKETCH OF WARNING INDICATORS IN AREA

NONE

Submitted by *James J. Conroy*  
Name, Grade/Rank, Org, Title

FORM #8092

## INDIVIDUAL MINE / BOOBY TRAP INCIDENT REPORT

REPORTING  
UNIT CODE

1 1 4 0 4

MONTH DATE

0 2 0 1 0 9 0 0

6

LOCATION

B T 3 1 3 1 1 0 2 0 1

DEVICE  
TYPE

22 23

DEVICE  
SIZE (LBS)

## CODES

## DEVICE TYPE

1. MINE
2. BOOBY TRAP
3. OTHER
4. UNKNOWN
5. PRESSURE
6. ELECTRICAL
7. COMMAND
8. OTHER
9. UNKNOWN

## METHOD OF DETONATION

1. N/A
2. DISARMED OR DESTROYED
3. TRIPWIRE
4. PRESSURE
5. ELECTRICAL
6. COMMAND
7. OTHER
8. UNKNOWN

DETONATION  
NUMBER  
OF  
VEHICLES  
DAMAGED

8	28
25	26
30	38
32	39
34	42
36	46

VEHICLE  
DAMAGEUNIT  
DESCRIPTION

UNIT SIZE

NUMBER  
PERSONNEL  
FWF ARVNTIME SINCE LAST  
FRIENDLY PASSAGE  
D M M VIETNAMESE

## VEHICLE DAMAGE

A TWO NUMBER CODE. THE FIRST NUMBER GIVES VEHICLE TYPE, THE SECOND EXTENT OF DAMAGE

## TYPE

- |                |                      |
|----------------|----------------------|
| 1. 1/4 T TRUCK | 1. 1ST ECHLON REPAIR |
| 2. 1/2 T "     | 2. 2ND "             |
| 3. 3/4 T "     | 3. 3RD "             |
| 4. 2/2 T "     | 4. 4TH "             |
| 5. 5T "        | 5. 5TH "             |
| 6. LVT         | 6. DESTROYED         |
| 7. TANK        |                      |
| 8. ONTOS       |                      |
| 9. OTHER       |                      |

## UNIT DESCRIPTION UNIT SIZE

- |                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| 1. DEFENSIVE POSITION | 1. SQUAD   |
| 2. PATROL             | 2. PLATOON |
| 3. AMBUSH             | 3. COMPANY |
| 4. BLOCKING POSITION  | 4. OTHER   |
| 5. SECURITY FORCE     |            |
| 6. SWEEPING FORCE     |            |
| 7. OTHER              |            |

## VIETNAMESE

1. NONE IN AREA
2. HOSTILE
3. INDIFFERENT
4. FRIENDLY
5. REPORTED PRESENCE OF DEVICE

REPORTING  
UNIT CODE

1 1 4 0 4

KIA

INJURY  
LOCATIONSBODY  
ARMOR

WIA

INJURY  
LOCATIONSBODY  
ARMOR

14	16		41	48		73	
	21		42	53		74	
	26		43	58		75	
	31		44	63		76	
6	36		45	68		77	

16

21

26

31

36

45

48

46

53

58

63

68

80

## BODY ARMOR

Y YES

N NO

U UNKNOWN

O N/A

## INJURY LOCATION

1. HEAD AND NECK
2. UPPER TORSO
3. ABDOMEN AND GROIN
4. LEGS AND FEET
5. ARMS AND HANDS

## COMPANY "B"

1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division (Rein) FMC  
FPO, San Francisco, California 96602 RWT:gaF

05 Mar 1967

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, 1st Engineer Battalion  
Subj: Combat Operation After Action Report

Ref: Maps of Vietnam Series L7014 Sheet Numbers 6739 I, II, III, IV

1. Code Name. Operation "RIO GRANDE".

2. Date. 17 February 1967 to 22 February 1967.

3. Location. Area between Song Tra Bong River to Song Tra Khuc River.

4. Control or Command Headquarters.

a. Commanding General, Task Force X-Ray- Brigadier General W. A. STILES, USMC.

b. Commanding Officer, 7th Marine Regiment- Colonel Charles C. CROSSFIELD II, USMC.

c. Commanding Officer, 3d Battalion, 11th Marines- Lieutenant Colonel Alexander S. RUGGIERO, USMC.

d. Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines- Major Peter L. HILGARTNER, USMC.

e. Commanding Officer, "A" Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines- 1st Lieutenant L. G. HUTCHESON, USMC.

f. Commanding Officer, "C" Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines- Captain Russel J. CASWELL, USMC.

g. Commanding Officer, "D" Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines- Captain John J. CARTY, USMC.

5. Task Organization. Elements of Company Headquarters provided engineer assistance for moving artillery to objective area, then attached to Task Force X-Ray Command Post. Third Platoon attached to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines with one squad attached to each company, Platoon Headquarters with Battalion Command Post.

6. Supporting Forces. Not Applicable

7. Intelligence. Known local forces totaling approximately 1500, enemy capable of strength of 4500 within 24 to 96 hours. Armament up to and including 120 Mortars and 105 Howitzer.

8. Mission. To provide direct combat engineer support to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, 3d Battalion, 11th Marines, and Task Force X-Ray Command Post.

9. Concept of Operation. Search and destroy operation with squads attached to infantry companies and sweep/lead clearing capability with Tab B

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## 10. Execution.

- a. Warning order received 141400H Feb67 of joint operation involving ARVN, ROKMC, and 1st Battalion, 5th Marines to commence 17 January 1967.
- b. One engineer platoon required for 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, Company Headquarters required to move elements of 3d Battalion, 11th Marines into position. Then provide sweep and light construction capability for Task Force X-Ray Command Post.
- c. At 161400H Feb67 engineer convoy consisting of three M51 dump trucks, one M199 dolly converter, and one M72A1 trailer carrying a TD15 tractor departed for the Quang Ngai LSA (BS605722).
- d. At 170001H Feb67 convoy from the 7th Marines Command Post with engineer support consisting of one M51 dump truck and one MRS 100 departed for BS661756.
- e. At 170100H Feb67 convoy from the 3d Battalion, 11th Marines with engineer support consisting of one M51 dump truck and one MRS 100 departed for objective area at BS546733.
- f. Artillery convoy arrived at Quang Ngai LSA at 170545H Feb67 (BS605722) and at the temporary artillery position (BS577725) at about 170800H Feb67.
- g. Elements of the engineer company command post with three P153 mine detectors, demolition materials, five M51 dump trucks, one TD15, one MRS 100 and security consisting of one infantry platoon and three ONTOS commenced clearing road from BS577725 to BS546733 at 170830H Feb67. Clearing operations completed at 171400H Feb67. The following obstacles encountered enroute and destroyed using 108 pounds of TNT and 11 five foot sections of Bangalore torpedoes:
  - (1) 10 tree and brush obstacles.
  - (2) Eight trenches (1.5m x 1.5m).
  - (3) One 155mm round with electrical wire.
  - (4) Three booby traps in tree and brush obstacles, unknown type, detected with P153, mine detector and destroyed in place. All had secondary explosions.
  - (5) One barb wire obstacle, (5m x 2m).
- h. Engineer platoon assigned to 1/5 departed in convoy to "G" Company, 1/7 position for Helo lift to assigned area.
- i. 171200H Feb67 Sergeant MASLANKA with "G" Company, 1/5 located 15 57mm recoilless rounds at grid coordinates BS446863, destroyed with 8lbs. of C-4. Also located one 500 pound bomb at grid coordinates BS457863. Destroyed bomb with 7½lbs. of C-4. Discovered suspected booby trapped 155mm cannister at grid coordinates BS458857. Destroyed with 1lb. of C-4.
- j. Captain FALKENBACH with three men and one MRS 100 moved to Task Force X-Ray Command Post. Gunnery Sergeant RICHARDSON with 16 men, one MRS 100, five M51 dump trucks, three P153 mine detectors, and one AN/PRR-4 mine detector remained at the artillery position to provide convoy escort twice daily for artillery ammo convoys from LSA to artillery position.
- k. 181300H Feb67 Sergeant MASLANKA's team discovered booby trapped 155mm round inside a hut under table. Destroyed with 1lb. of C-4 at coordinates BS475837.
- l. 181300H Feb67 Sergeant MASLANKA's team found two 60mm mortar rounds at coordinates BS503831. Destroyed with 11lbs. of C-4.
- m. 181500H Feb67 Sergeant MASLANKA's team found one M-79 round and 200lbs. of rice. Destroyed both with 5½lbs. of C-4 at coordinates BS505830.
- n. 181525H Feb67 Sergeant GOMP destroyed one 500lb. bomb at coordinates BS460835, 4½lbs. of C-4 was used.

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- o. 190815H Feb67 Sergeant COMP's team destroyed one 60mm mortar round, at coordinates BS488813, 1lb. of C-4 was used.
- p. 201115H Feb67 Sergeant MASLINKA's team destroyed one LAW rocket and one 155mm round at coordinates BS513773 using three pounds of C-4.
- q. 201400H Feb67 Sergeant MASLINKA's team destroyed an unknown round at coordinates BS516775 using three pounds of C-4.
- r. 201600H Feb67 Sergeant MASLINKA's team destroyed one 155mm round at coordinates BS516762 using two pounds of C-4.
- s. Lt. GLEESON relieved Captain FALKENBACH at Task Force X-Ray Command Post, at 201700H Feb67.
- t. 201900H Feb67 Sergeant MASLINKA WIA by grenade fragments. Not evacuated.
- u. 210900H Feb67 Sergeant MASLINKA's team found one WP round, two 60mm mortar rounds, one LAW, one M-26, and 200 rounds of 7.62. At coordinates BS556816, 7½ lbs. of C-4 was used to destroy.
- v. 211400H Feb67 Sergeant COMP's team had a heat casualty, PFC SUMNER, George E., 2245982, was medevacuated to Regimental Aid Station.
- w. 211400H Feb67 Task Force X-Ray Command Post returned to combat base. Lt. GLEESON and four men returned.
- x. Captain FALKENBACH took convoy from 1st Engineer Battalion to 3/11 position 210900H Feb67 with all equipment and 16 men, with the exception of one MRS 100, (MRS 100 had injector breakdown, returned 23 Feb67).
- y. 220845H Feb67 Sergeant COMP's team destroyed one 60mm mortar round at coordinates BS555809, using one pound of C-4.
- z. 221000H Feb67 Sergeant MASLINKA's team destroyed M-26 grenade at coordinates BS829544, using one half pound of C-4.
- aa. 221200H Feb67 Sergeant MASLINKA's team destroyed one M-26 grenade at coordinates BS555816, using one half pound of C-4.
- bb. 221430H Feb67 Sergeant MASLINKA's team destroyed one M-79 round and one LAW using one pound of C-4.
- cc. Operation "RIO GRANDE" ended at 221700H Feb67.

11. Results. Three engineer casualties; one not evacuated and two evacuated. Two and one half miles of road were swept daily by engineers and eight trenches were filled on the road to the artillery position. The following items were destroyed utilizing 56½ pounds of C-4, 108 pounds of TNT, and 11 sections of Bangalore torpedos:

- a. 10 tree and brush obstacles
- b. one barbed wire obstacle
- c. four 155mm rounds
- d. 15 57 recoilless rounds
- e. two 500 pound bombs
- f. one 155mm mortar
- g. six 60mm mortar rounds
- h. three M-79 rounds
- i. 200 pounds of rice
- j. three LAW rockets
- k. two M-26 grenades
- l. 200 rounds or 7.62mm
- m. one unknown round

12. Administrative Matters. Not applicable.

13. Special Equipment and Techniques. None used

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DECLASSIFIED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;

DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.

DOD DIR 5200.10

DECLASSIFIED

14. Commanders Analysis. A route reconnaissance report, ~~which had to be~~ used by 3/11 artillery was provided to this company approximately three days prior to the beginning of the operation. This report greatly enhanced the preparation of the convoy escort by giving an indication of the types of obstacles which would be encountered. Several items of discarded and inoperative ordnance discovered during the operation were not destroyed. Sufficient caution was not exercised by individuals when moving through areas containing possible boobytraps.

15. Recommendations. If at all possible, reconnaissance reports be provided on pertinent engineer aspects of operations. Also that, in commensurate with the tactical situation, engineers be afforded the opportunity to destroy ordnance discovered to prevent further use by Viet Cong forces.

*R. W. FALKENBACH*  
R. W. FALKENBACH