

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

3/JR/map
5750

Ser. No. 051-69
20 May 1969

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF
Subj: Command Chronology for the Period 1 April 1969 to 30 April 1969

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

Encl: (1) 1st Engineer Battalion Chronology

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

J. F. MADER

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of CMO ltr Ser 009D323/232096 of
31 Feb 1979

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1ST MARINE DIVISION, FMF

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1ST ENGR BN

CMD CHRON

Apr 1969

1ST ENGINEER BATTALION

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

1st Engineer Battalion

LtCol J. F. MADER

26Mar69 - Present

SUBORDINATE UNITS

H&S Company (-)

1stLt R. S. GRISCHKOWSKY

7Dec68 - 2Apr69

1stLt G. A. SCHILLER

3Apr69 - Present

Support Company (-)

Maj G. M. VAN ORDEN

25Feb69 - 15Apr69

Maj G. S. HAMILTON

16Apr69 - Present

Company "A" (Rein)

Capt I. E. PISTELLI

1Apr69 - Present

Company "B" (Rein)

Capt E. C. HEIN JR.

5Mar69 - Present

Company "C" (Rein)

1stLt C. S. JOLLY JR.

5Mar69 - Present

2. LOCATION

1st Engineer Battalion

21Apr67 - Present

Danang, RVN

Support Company

21Apr67 - Present

Danang, RVN

Company "A"

23Aug68 - Present

Danang, RVN

Company "B"

6Aug68 - Present

An Hoa, RVN

Company "C"

21Apr67 - Present

Danang, RVN

3rd Platoon

Company "A"

5th Engineer Battalion

29Apr67 - Present

Danang, RVN

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer

Maj J. G. CELLI

28Oct68 - Present

Sergeant Major

SgtMaj W. C. TRAMMEL

3Nov68 - Present

S-1/Adjutant

1stLt V. D. HIATT

20Dec68 - Present

S-2

1stLt D. C. PATTERSON

9Jan69 - 20Apr69

1stLt M. E. ROBERTS

21Apr69 - Present

S-3	Maj L. T. NAPPI	24Oct68 - Present
S-4	Maj M. E. McPHERSON	3Nov68 - Present
S-5	1stLt D. C. PATTERSON	9Jan69 - 20Apr69
	1stLt M. E. ROBERTS	21Apr69 - Present
Supply Officer	Capt G. S. MOORE	1Sep68 - 13Apr69
	1stLt G. W. JOHNSON	14Apr69 - Present
Communications Officer	1stLt P. D. BUCY	8Jul68 - Present
Medical Officer	Lt C. N. LEBOVITZ	7Feb69 - Present
M. T. Officer	1stLt B. HALLIMAN	11Mar69 - 15Apr69
	1stLt D. W. JAMIESON	16Apr69 - Present
Engineer Equipment Officer	CWO-2 W. M. CARLSON	1Nov68 - Present
Utilities Officer	1stLt G. T. MILLER	9Sep68 - 30Apr69
Construction Officer	CWO-2 K. E. DOUGAN	28May68 - Present

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
33	658	2	11

PART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the month of April 1969, the 1st Engineer Battalion remained committed to combat engineer support missions while simultaneously completing 45 Division and 26 Battalion Work Orders and other engineer projects while maintaining assigned mine detection and clearing sweeps.

Combat engineer companies, reinforced by elements of Headquarters and Service Company and Engineer Support Company provided close combat engineer support in Operations OKLAHOMA HILLS and Project WOODPECKER V.

During the reporting period, 1,768,000 meters of road in the 1st Marine Division TAOR were swept for mines. Mine sweeps of roads resulted in 22 mines/boobytraps being located and destroyed. In addition to daily mine detection and clearing sweeps, 30 rough rider convoys were supported by combat engineers of this Battalion. Also, 60 special sweeps were conducted during the reporting period.

Company "A" is providing close combat engineer support to the 21st and 37th ARVN Ranger Battalions on Project WOODPECKER V which commenced on 30 March 1969. At present, Company "A" maintained six daily mine detection and clearing sweeps in the 1st Marine Regiment TAOR. Company "A" was heavily committed to bunker construction and cantonment repairs within the 1st Marine Division TAOR, specified by Division Work Orders.

Company "B" provided close combat engineer support for the 5th Marine Regiment. In addition to routine demolition work, Company "B" also continued bunker construction and cantonment improvements for the 5th Marines and 2d Battalion, 11th Marines at the An Hoa combat base. Two daily mine detection and clearing sweeps were maintained by Company "B".

Company "C" is currently providing close combat engineer support for elements of the 7th Marines on Operation OKLAHOMA HILLS which commenced on 31 March 1969. Included in this support are special sweep teams which sweep Route 4 from Hill 65 to Hill 52. Other support consists of combat engineer support in construction of fire support bases, Landing Zone clearing and land clearing as outlined in Operations OKLAHOMA HILLS.

Six daily mine detection and clearing sweeps were continued by Company "C" during the reporting period. This company also provided general support in the form of construction and cantonment repairs, for units of the 1st Marine Division.

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Personnel

a. Gains and Losses:	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
Dropped:	7	57	1	3
Joined:	4	80	1	3
b. <u>KIA</u>	<u>WIA</u>			
1	15			

2. Intelligence

a. Road and Bridge Reconnaissance. During the month of April 1969, procedures whereby mine sweep teams submit daily reports of road, bridge, and culvert conditions for routes being maintained were continued.

b. Weather. During the month of April 1969, the weather was characterized

by relatively clear skies with an abnormally light amount of rain. There was a total of .52 inches of rain during the reporting period, while temperatures ranged from an average high of 83° to an average low of 70°.

c. Mine Warfare. A total of 31,400 \$VN was paid to indigenous personnel for the following ordnances:

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>
60mm Illum rounds	113
M79 rounds	44
3.5 inch rockets	16
105mm HE rounds	41
M26 grenades	23
REC round	1
M16 magazines w/rounds	32
M1 carbine ammo	20
Boobytrap w/pull friction fuse	1
81mm Illum rounds	55
81mm HE rounds	28
Smoke grenade	1
4.2 HE rounds	21
4.2 Illum rounds	7
Rifle grenade	1
HE round, unknown caliber	1
M72 rounds	12
82mm Illum rounds	2
2.75 inch rockets	13
Shotgun rounds	8
M18A1 mine	3
.50 cal. rounds	37
Grenade, illum	4
60mm HE rounds	21
106mm HE round	1
20mm round	3
CS grenade	1
AK rounds	100
155mm HE rounds	2

d. Ordnance Destroyed

(1) The following ordnance items located and destroyed on routine sweeps in the 1st Marine Division TAOR are listed below:

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>BOOBYTRAPPED</u>
81mm Illum round	1	
ChiCom grenade	5	3
Molded mine, 10#	1	
105mm HE rounds	16	

M79 rounds	4	
250# bombs	2	
60mm Illum rounds	12	
81mm HE rounds	15	
50# mine	1	
40# mine	1	
30# mine	2	
M26 grenades	8	
155mm HE round	1	
500# bombs	2	
106mm HE round	1	
3.5 inch rockets	2	
20mm cannon round	2	
250# bomb rigged with command detonation device	1	1
AP mines	4	
20# molded mine	2	
Boobytrap, unknown type	1	1
175mm HE round	1	
TNT 1# block	1	
2.75 inch rocket	5	
Boobytrap, unknown type	4	4

3. Training

a. During the month of April 1969, a total of 535 Marines attended Demolitions, Land Mine Warfare, and Viet Cong Boobytrap School. In addition, 535 Marines received the special one-day classes taught by the Mobile Instruction Team. Attendance for the period covered is as follows:

<u>BATTALION</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>
1/1	50
2/1	52
3/1	51
1st Engineer Battalion	63
7th Engineer Battalion	44
9th Engineer Battalion	3
2/7	13
1/26	26
2/26	47
1/5	40
2/5	39
3/5	34
1st Reconnaissance Battalion	73

b. Mobile Instruction Team Attendance

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>
Division Schools	74
4/11	88
26th Marines (Staff & Officer)	30
2/1	30
II CAG	265
3d Shore Party	8

4. Operations

a. Operation OKLAHOMA HILLS. Operation OKLAHOMA HILLS commenced on 31 March 1969 with Company "C", reinforced by elements of Support Company and one squad from Company "B" are in support of the 7th Marine Regiment. In addition, one platoon (-) from Company "A" is in support of 3d Battalion, 1st Marines on the operation. Included in this support are two mine sweep teams which clear Route 4 between Hill 65 and Hill 52. A total of 284,000 meters of road were swept by these teams during the reporting period. In addition, 58,000 square meters of land has been cleared along Route 4. Four fire support bases have been completed plus one fire support base is at 50 percent completion and three landing zones have been constructed by engineers of this battalion since the beginning of the operation. Enemy installations destroyed were, 132 bunkers, 133 fighting holes, 52 spider traps, 3853 lineal yards of trenchline and 194 lineal yards of tunnel were destroyed. Ordnance destroyed are as follows:

<u>NOMENCLATURE</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>
155mm HE rounds	5
81mm Illum rounds	3
105mm HE rounds	3
2.75 inch rockets	3
500# bomb	1

b. Project WOODPECKER V. Project WOODPECKER V commenced on 30 March 1969 and continues at the present time. Company "A" is providing one platoon (-) and Support Company is providing one squad in direct support of the 21st and 37th ARVN Ranger Battalion. A total of 4,482,000 square meters of land have been cleared to date. In addition, 307 bunkers, 209 fighting holes and 130 spider traps have been cleared and destroyed. Also 981 lineal yards of trenchline and 53 lineal yards of tunnels were destroyed. Ordnance destroyed to date are as follows:

<u>NOMENCLATURE</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>
105mm HE rounds	24
M26 grenades	25
ChiCom grenades	16
AT mine, unknown type	1

.30 cal. rounds	300
Mine, sandbag 30#	1
NVA Bangalore torpedo	1
250# bombs	12
2.75 inch rockets	9
20mm rounds	1
M33 grenade	1
60mm increments (cans)	4
Boobytrap, unknown type	1
Anti-tank mine	1
25# directional mine	1
90mm round	1
500# bombs	3
B40 rockets	2
M79 rounds	12
155mm HE rounds	2
82mm HE round	1
AK-47 rounds	190
Non-electric blasting caps	21
Electric blasting caps	4
Pull-pressure firing devices	2
Boobytrapped ammo cans	2
NVA blasting caps	100
60mm HE rounds	41
60mm fuzes	12
Aircraft illumination	2
M72 round	1
75mm round	1
SKS rounds	300
M16 mine	1
RPG round	1
8 inch round	1
7.62mm rounds	356
.50 cal. rounds	50
106mm HE round	1
2-10 mine	1
81mm HE round	1

5. Water Supply. During the month of April 1969, the 1st Engineer Battalion operated eleven water points which produced 3,801,100 gallons of potable water for units throughout the 1st Marine Division TAOR. In addition, a total of 493,000 gallons of non-potable water was produced.

6. Construction

a. The following 45 significant Division originated Work Orders were completed during the month of April 1969.

(1) DWO B255-69. Delivered materials to Division Engineer Office.

- (2) DWO D192-69. Delivered bolts to III MAF Brig for 100 picnic tables.
- (3) DWO D936-68. Effected repairs to hut/structure.
- (4) DWO D253-69. Furnished (15) urinals to S-4, 2/1
- (5) DWO D974-68. Constructed (1) 20x32 bunker for 1/11 with wooden deck, partitions, and lighting.
- (6) DWO D143-69. Constructed (10) urinals for 26th Marines.
- (7) DWO D182-69. Constructed (10) urinals for S-4, 7th Marines.
- (8) DWO D119-69. Provided materials and constructed (1) 8x8 bunker for 3/11 on Hill 55.
- (9) DWO D244-69. Furnished (5) urinals to 1st Marines.
- (10) DWO D186-69. Constructed (2) mount out boxes for 3/11.
- (11) DWO D154-69. Furnished (2) men for technical assistance to rehabilitate and construct sea huts.
- (12) DWO D61-69. Transported and installed (15) gate sections for 26th Marines at Namu Bridge.
- (13) DWO D65-69. Constructed mount out boxes for 3/11.
- (14) DWO D257-69. Constructed (2) mount out box lids for DEO.
- (15) DWO D226-69. Furnished materials and technical assistance to construct one 8x8 timber bunker for Service Co., Hq Bn, 1st Marine Division.
- (16) DWO D-6-69. Constructed (2) water towers on Hills 22 and 41 for 3/7.
- (17) DWO D199-69. Issued (1) 20x32 bunker to 7th Marines on Hill 65.
- (18) DWO D190-69. Constructed (1) 8x12 bunker for 3d LVT.
- (19) DWO D205-69. Provided materials and technical assistance to construct (3) 8x8 bunkers for 3/7 on Hill 41.
- (20) DWO D272-69. Provided technical assistance to clear drain for mess-hall at 2/7.
- (21) DWO D263-69. Constructed (4) mount out box lids for Hq BAS.
- (22) DWO D702-68. Constructed (28) field ranges, (13) vacuum cans, (13) vacuum jugs and (35) immersion heater crates for 3/1.

- (23) DWO D278-69. Constructed (2) Oriental heads for 7th Marines at Hill 55.
- (24) DWO D172-69. Repaired/replaced drains in Bn shower for 1/1.
- (25) DWO D656-68. Installed buy lines (2) on tower at Hill 10.
- (26) DWO D1042-68. Constructed (1) 8x12 bunker with 7" tower, lights, and decking.
- (27) DWO D23-69. Constructed (1) 10x24 and (1) 20x32 timber and matting bunker for 1st M.T. Bn.
- (28) DWO D166-69. Boxed in existing map board for 7th Marines.
- (29) DWO D241-69. Oiled road surface between AT908745 and AT925719 and also road surface at Dai La pass.
- (30) DWO D210-69. Oiled access roads from Route 547 to 3/11 cantonment.
- (31) DWO D232-69. Constructed a 24" pointer with cartridge case on bottom and bullet head on front end for CG use.
- (32) DWO D158-69. Picked up TSFC bunkers at 3d MCB.
- (33) DWO D77-69. Picked up TSFC bunkers from 3d MCB.
- (34) DWO D184-69. Issued interior wiring kits required to complete D1025-68.
- (35) DWO D148-69. Furnished material to S-4, 1/5 at Phu Loc 6.
- (36) DWO D231-69. Delivered (8) sea huts to Public Works #6.
- (37) DWO D116-69. Provided material to III MAF Brig for mount out boxes.
- (38) DWO D120-69. Delivered materials to III MAF Brig for 28 field range crates.
- (39) DWO D215-69. Furnished materials to III MAF Brig for mount out boxes for 1st Tank Bn.
- (40) DWO D160-69. Constructed berm and cleared fields of fire for 2/1. Also constructed (6) culver bunkers, (1) 8x12 bunker and (2) strongback tent decks.
- (41) DWO D901-68. Issued materials for (1) 10x24 bunker to 1st Shore Party Bn.
- (42) DWO D209-69. Issued materials to 1st Marines for POW compound.
- (43) DWO D153-69. Issued materials to Hq Bn, CG Mess area building 1115 at Division CP.
- (44) DWO D223-69. Delivered (2) loads of gravel to 7th Marines at Camp Muir.

- (45) DWO DL38-69. Constructed generator shed at 2/5 messhall to accomodate (1) 150KW generator.

b. The following 26 significant Battalion originated Work Orders were completed during the month of April 1969.

- (1) Filled in cracks along eaves in galley of messhall.
- (2) Repaired broken tiles on stage in Officers Club.
- (3) Shipped materials to Company "B" at An Hoa for construction of (2) gates for 5th Marines perimeter.
- (4) Delivered materials to An Hoa for DWO D957-68.
- (5) Picked up materials for DWO D828-68 and delivered to Company "B" at An Hoa.
- (6) Constructed shelving in Motor Transport OVM storage room.
- (7) Provided materials and constructed soakage pit at 1/1 messhall.
- (8) Corrected primary power line to Battalion Comm Battery shop.
- (9) Provided and constructed (2) 7x7 culvert bunkers for 5th Marines Comm and (2) 7x7 culvert bunkers for 2/11.
- (10) Constructed shower stand for 5th Marines at An Hoa.
- (11) Constructed (10) 12' knife rest road barriers for 5th Marines at An Hoa. Also filled in garbage pit at Weapons Range and dug new pit.
- (12) Constructed (10) plaques for Sgt Major of 1st Engr Bn.
- (13) Constructed new stage, movie screen, dressing room, and benches for 1st Engr Bn.
- (14) Constructed, lettered, and painted (2) Security Area signs for 1st Engr Bn COC entrances.
- (15) Installed (1) 10' section of 12" culvert pipe at H&S Company Ammo Bunker.
- (16) Installed new water valve and outlet with 20' length of water hose on 5000 gallon water trailer for 1st Engr Bn.
- (17) Performed road and bridge recons of Namu, Black, and White bridges.
- (18) Conducted road and bridge recons of Rt 540, Rt 542, and Rt 544.
- (19) Conducted road and bridge recons.

- (20) Fabricated (15) Anti-personnel gates for Company "C".
- (21) Conducted road and bridge recons.
- (22) Constructed (1) desk for FDCC in 1st Engr Bn COC bunker.
- (23) Fabricated (12) 3' steel mine probe rods for Company "C".
- (24) Constructed (32) pole guy anchors for Utilities Platoon, 1st Engr Bn.
- (25) Provided technical assistance to level school house, install front steps, and replace joists and bracing as required.
- (26) Constructed (1) single pedestal desk for S-3, 1st Engr Bn.

c. 4,367 manhours, 507 equipment hours, 4,999 BF lumber, (2) std Oriental heads, (1) std generator shed, (1) 8x12 bunker w/tower-lights-decking, (2) 10x24 timber and matting bunkers, (2) 20x32 timber and matting bunkers, (8) std SEA huts, (1) electrical package for 20x32 bunker, (1) interior wiring kit, (4) 8x8 bunkers, (63) sheets 3/4" plywood, 316# nails, 100' wire, (3) 8x12 bunkers, (40) 55 gallon drums, (1,400) bolts, (7) 3x6 doors, (64) cu yds 3" minus rock, (7) pieces 12" culvert, (24) pieces 36" culvert, 255' hose, (14) sheets tin, (62) 8" logs, 200' of 12/2 ROMEX, (1,110') pipe, (16) drift pins, (47) sheets 12" steel plating, 48" steel rod, 30# tar, (1) 55 GPM pump, (35) assorted electrical fixtures, (20) assorted plumbing fixtures, and (100,000) gallons of oil were required to complete the above listed Division Work Orders during the month of April 1969.

d. 2,416 manhours, (1,458) equipment hours, (2,618) BF lumber, (1) 55 GPM pump, 200' of 12/2 ROMEX, (62) 8" logs, (16) drift pins, (7) pieces 12" culvert, (24) pieces 36" culvert, 100' wire, 48" of 1/2" steel rod, (2) 3" T hinges, 263 pounds nails, 1/2 roll screen, (1,130') 3" pipe, (108) sheets 12"sq steel plate, (2) bags of cement, (24) sheets of 3/4" plywood, 15' waterproof paper, 30 pounds of tar, (200) bolts, (20) cu yds 6" minus rock, (40) cu yds 3" minus rock, 10' pipe, 255' hose, and (34) electrical fixtures were required to complete the above listed Battalion Work Orders.

7. Civil Affairs/Civic Action

a. During the month of April 1969, a total of 109 Vietnamese civilians (not resulting from hostile action) received medical assistance through MedCaps.

b. In the village of Son Thuy I, partitions were removed in the school house and minor repairs were completed. Also 15 truck loads of scrap lumber were distributed to the villagers.

c. A purchase of \$100.00 worth of text books and school supplies was issued to the school at Son Thuy I.

8. Psychological Operations. One Psyops movie was shown in the village of Son Thuy I, with a response of approximately 70 villagers.

9. Religious Affairs. Four Sunday Catholic Masses and four Sunday Protestant Divine services were held at the 1st Engineer Battalion Memorial Chapel during the month of April 1969 at 1030 and 0915 respectively. In addition, one Memorial Service was conducted for a deceased member of this battalion.

PART LV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Negative supporting documents for 1st Engineer Battalion for the month of April 1969.