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

3/RMC/dsj
5150
16 February 1971

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (-) (Rein), FMF (G-3 Field Historian)

Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1 January to 31 January 1971

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.1
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8
(c) DivO 5750.2D

Encl: (1) 1st Engineer Battalion Command Chronology

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

D. E. Benstead
D. E. BENSTEAD

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Classified by the Director of
The Corps History and Museums
in accordance with the provisions
of CPO ltr Ser C09D323/232096 of
21 Feb 1979

Signature Date *7/2/97*

1ST ENG BN
SWTS NR *03-71*
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1ST ENG BN

FEB 1971

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1ST ENGINEER BATTALION

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 JANUARY 1971 TO 31 JANUARY 1971

PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY

PART III - SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

PART IV - SUBORDINATE UNITS COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

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PART I

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ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DesignationCommander

1st Engineer Battalion (Rein)

LtCol. W.F. GLOWICKI

1Feb70-16Jan71

LtCol. D. E. BENSTEAD

16Jan71-Present

SUBORDINATE UNITS

Headquarters & Service Company

Capt. J.V. SELIGA

30Nov70-Present

Engineer Support Company

Capt. P.R. CATALOGNE

5Sep70-Present

Company "A" (Rein)

Capt. T.J. DUMONT

21Oct70-Present

Company "B" (Rein)

Capt. J.T. WILLIAMS

22Jun70-19Jan71

Company "C" (Rein)

Capt. J.F. BRENNAN

19Jan71-Present

1stLt. T.H. DENIG

2Dec70-Present

ATTACHED UNITSCompany "C", 1st Shore Party
Battalion

Major R.W. SWEET

10Nov70-Present

2. Location

1st Engineer Battalion (Rein)

21Apr67-Present

Danang, RVN

Engineer Support Company

21Apr67-Present

Danang, RVN

Company "A" (Rein)

23Aug68-Present=

Danang, RVN

Company "B" (Rein)

5Oct70-Present

C.B. Baldy, RVN

Company "G" (Rein)

19Aug70-Present

Danang, RVN

Company "C", 1st Shore Party
Battalion

25Feb70-Present =

Danang, RVN

3. Staff Officers

Executive Officer

Maj. J.G. DIXON

14Nov70-6Jan71

Maj. D.P. HIBBS

6Jan71-Present

Sergeant Major

SgtMaj. R.R. CLARK

22Dec70-Present

S-1/Adjutant

1stLt. H.E. COPPERBERG

16Oct70-Present

S-2

1stLt. T.B. BREWSTER

13Oct70-23Jan71

1stLt. R.L. OSTRANDER

23Jan71-Present

S-3

Maj. J.G. DIXON

10Nov70-Present

S-4

Maj. T.E. HARRIS

1Jul70-Present

S-5

1stLt. T.B. BREWSTER

13Oct70-23Jan71

1stLt. R.L. OSTRANDER

23Jan71-Present

Supply Officer

Capt. G.T. KALT

5Nov70-Present

Communication Officer

1stLt. J.W. OKEEFE

8Dec70-Present

Medical Officer


Lt. S.D. SIDES

4Oct70-Present

Engineer Equipment Officer

W.O. H.C. BOUCHER

3Sep70-Present


Utilities Officer
Construction Officer
Motor Transport Officer

1stLt. R.J. McWILLIAMS
W.O. K.E. WEADBROCK
1stLt. J.C. GRADY

25Dec70-Present
20Oct70-Present
24Sep70-Present

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PART II

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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>
40	690	1	11

Throughout the month of January 1971, the 1st Engineer Battalion remained committed to combat engineer support of the 1st Marine Division and other III MAF Units with mine detection and clearance sweeps, construction of combat defensive fortifications and Fire Support Base improvements. An average of 12 combat engineers were employed in demolition teams rendering close combat support to the 1st and 5th Marine Regiments on platoon and company size operation. 9 Engineer Road Sweep Teams conducted sweeps over 2,000 Km of road resulting in the detection of 8 pieces of enemy emplaced ordnance. The counter mine program was further enhanced by the vigorous application of the Voluntary Information Program, 28 ordnance items were recovered while expending 9,900 piastres.

The Land Mine Warfare School Training Program consisted of a Mobile Contact Team and the resident school for personnel of the 1st Marine Division. The instruction conducted by the contact team consisted of instructing 1,780 personnel during 28 courses in Demolition and Counter Surprise Firing Device Tactics. The 1st Engineer Battalion Land Mine Warfare School graduated 137 students.

Company "C", 1st Engineer Battalion personnel installed a 30 foot observation tower for 1st Battalion, 11th Marines at Hill 190. The tower was prefabricated by construction platoon of Support Company at Camp Faulkner. A CH-54 Sky Crane was utilized to lift the tower to Hill 190 and the tower was anchored into place by Company "C" personnel. Proper utilization of available assets enabled the actual work at the site to be completed in a minimum amount of time.

Construction and emplacement of moveable shelves in the Division Exchange Van was completed by Construction Platoon of Support Company. The moveable shelves allow for display and secure transporting of luxury items to Marines located in out lying cantonments.

Work to enlarge the landing zone and provide a tower for IOD equipment on OP Roundup was completed by personnel of Company "B". The IOD equipment was removed from the hill while engineer personnel blasted the granite rock to enlarge the landing zone. After blasting was completed a prefabricated tower was flown to the site from 1st Engineer Battalion, assembled at the site, and the IOD equipment installed. By proper utilization and coordination of available assets the on site work was completed in a minimum amount of time resulting in a minimum loss of the effective use of the IOD equipment.

[REDACTED]

The Engineer Equipment Platoon of Support Company provided a Case 450 to Golf CUPP, 5th Marines, position in Thach Khe Hamlet located on Route 535 to improve the unit's defensive positions. The tractor was utilized at the position for three (3) days during which time fields of fire and a hasty road was constructed which enables the unit to resupply by vehicle.

Culvert to be utilized for bunkers and LZ matting for overhead cover was provided to Golf CUPP units 7, 8, and 9. Personnel from Company "B", 1st Engineer Battalion provided close combat support to CUPP units 7, 8, and 9 to advise and assists the units in improving their defensive positions and fields of fire.

A land clearing operation was begun at Goi Noi Island. The operation is being accomplished by utilizing three (3) EIMCO tractors from 1st Engineer Battalion and three (3) disc-harrows from Company "A", 7th Engineer Battalion. One TD-15 from 1st Engineer Battalion is being used as a retriever for the EIMCO's. The land clearing operation is being conducted to provide resettlement land for the Vietnamese.

Personnel of Company "C" constructed one (1) 8x12x8 bunker, one (1) 8x8x8 bunker and rehabilitated one (1) 12x8x8 ammo bunker for elements of 1st Battalion, 11th Marines at Hill 65. In addition to the bunker rehabilitation and construction, one (1) 105mm Gun Pit was constructed solely by engineer personnel as an example. Seven (7) other gun positions were constructed utilizing materials furnished by 1st Engineer Battalion and technical assistance provided by Company "C" personnel.

General Engineer Support was provided as evidenced by the completion of 76 Division Work Orders, 18 Battalion Work Orders and the production of 7,955,000 gallons of potable water during the reporting period.

Company "C", 1st Shore Party Battalion continues to operate 15 Landing Zones throughout the 1st Marine Division TAOR. 1,342 tons of resupplies and combat essential cargo and 13,440 passengers were moved utilizing a total of 1,227 helicopter sorties.

In support of the engineer operations a daily average of 39 organic motor vehicles traveled a total of 54,204 miles within the 1st Marine Division TAOR.

During the reporting period the Commanding Officer and selected Staff Officers continued to visit each job site and supporting Regimental areas to gain first hand knowledge of progress and problem areas.

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PART III

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1. Personnel

a. Gains and Losses

	<u>USMC</u>	<u>USN</u>
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
DROPPED:	5	103
JOINED:	11	105

b. Casualties

	<u>KIA HOSTILE</u>	<u>KIA NON-HOSTILE</u>
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
	0	0

	<u>WIA HOSTILE</u>	<u>WIA NON-HOSTILE</u>
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
	0	1

2. Enemy Information

a. During the month of January 1971, 1st Engineer Battalion Road Sweep Teams paid 9,900 \$VN from Voluntary Informant Program funds for the following 28 ordnance items. (Figures in parentheses are those employed at mines or Surprise Firing Devices.)

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>
M-26 Grenades	11
105mm HE rounds	3
60mm HE rounds	9
ChiComs	3
M-79 HE round	1
Road Mine, Bamboo pressure type	1 (1)
	<u>28 Total</u>

b. In addition, sweep teams found the following 8 items of ordnance (Figures in parentheses are those employed as mines or Surprise Firing Devices).

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>
M16A1	1
M-79 HE round	1
105mm Illum rounds	5
M-26 Grenades	1
	<hr/>
	8 Total

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3. Training

a. During January 1971, 137 students graduated from the five day course of instruction at the 1st Engineer Battalion Land Mine Warfare School. Unit attendance is listed below:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>
1st Battalion, 1st Marines	11
2nd Battalion, 1st Marines	3
3rd Battalion, 1st Marines	12
1st Battalion, 5th Marines	13
2nd Battalion, 5th Marines	17
3rd Battalion, 5th Marines	17
1st Engineer Battalion	64
	<hr/>
	137 TOTAL

b. A mobile contact team traveled to elements of the 1st Marine Division to conduct twenty eight (28) one-half day courses of instruction for 1,780 students. Unit attendance is listed below:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>
1st Battalion, 1st Marines	111
2nd Battalion, 1st Marines	140
3rd Battalion, 1st Marines	191
1st Battalion, 5th Marines	756
2nd Battalion, 5th Marines	149
3rd Battalion, 5th Marines	111
1st Recon and Headquarters	109
11th Marines	111
11th Motor Transport	40
1st MP's (Special Contact)	20
3rd Battalion, 1st Marines (CUPP)	42
	<hr/>
	1,780 TOTAL

4. The following 76 Division Work Orders were completed during the reporting period.

1177-70 1 Jan 71 Cut and issue (40) feces disposal barrels
1210-70 1 Jan 71 Provide (1) portable shower unit
1235-70 1 Jan 71 Provide equipment to improve defensive positions
1103-70 3 Jan 71 Provide engr. asst. to repair (1) 8x8x8 bunker
1214-70 3 Jan 71 Repair wiring in living quarters
1248-70 3 Jan 71 Erect 200 meters of triple concertina
1119-70 4 Jan 71 Cut and issue (15) urinoils
1252-70 5 Jan 71 Dismantle (5) buildings
1121-70 5 Jan 71 Dismantle, clean and store materials
1072-70 6 Jan 71 Construct 12 x 20 hard surface with overhead cover
1157-70 6 Jan 71 Cut and issue (4) urinoils
1217-70 6 Jan 71 Upgrade cantonment roads
794-70 7 Jan 71 Prepare washdown point near tactical water point
1170-70 7 Jan 71 Install culvert around CO's office
1250-70 7 Jan 71 Replace wooden footings under (2) reefers
850-70 8 Jan 71 Mark all minefields controlled by Marine forces
7-71 8 Jan 71 Construct one standard 8x8x8 bunker
9-71 8 Jan 71 Rehab one 12x8x8 bunker
25-71 8 Jan 71 Construct one standard 8x8x8 bunker
421-70 9 Jan 71 Grade route from Hill 65 to Hill 52 and oil
993-70 9 Jan 71 Assess electrical requirements and make repairs
1003-70 9 Jan 71 Install drain pipe in garbage house
1095-70 9 Jan 71 Inspect messhall and showers

[REDACTED]

1173-70 9 Jan 71 Construct (2) SEAhuts

1208-70 9 Jan 71 Construct (1) grease trap

1240-70 9 Jan 71 Haul (5) loads of rock

3-71 9 Jan 71 Deliver 60 yards of rock

5-71 9 Jan 71 Inspect and repair the water plumbing system

6-71 9 Jan 71 Cut and issue (20) excreta barrels

14-71 9 Jan 71 Construct (5) platforms for 3,000 gallon tanks

1060-70 10 Jan 71 Rebuild drainage in messhall and showers

1081-70 10 Jan 71 Provide emergency water storage for BAS

289-70 11 Jan 71 Oil route 535 bi-weekly

905-70 11 Jan 71 Operate and maintain the water point

937-70 11 Jan 71 Install one grease trap

967-70 11 Jan 71 Install power line to perimeter lighting

1013-70 11 Jan 71 Provide technical assistance to install sidewalk

1082-70 11 Jan 71 Replace 30' observation tower

1213-70 12 Jan 71 Provide engineer assistance to improve drainage

1234-70 12 Jan 71 Reinforce the door on the exchange

1255-70 12 Jan 71 Raise the roof of the IOD tower to 8'

1123-70 13 Jan 71 Survey for the construction of drainage ditch

1156-70 13 Jan 71 Install plumbing in rehabilitated area

1180-70 13 Jan 71 Repair storm damage

1007-70 14 Jan 71 Provide technical assistance to repair bunkers

15-71 14 Jan 71 Conduct survey of SEAhuts, showers and heads

1251-70 15 Jan 71 Provide (2) truckloads of CBR

23-71 15 Jan 71 Provide one backhoe to dig trench 400 yards long

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

1148-70 15 Jan 71 Grade and fill around the Post Office

1089-70 16 Jan 71 Upgrade roads and drainage in cantonment

1094-70 17 Jan 71 Relocate burn pit

19-71 17 Jan 71 Improve defensive positions in the Hamlet

924-70 18 Jan 71 Deliver rock to the messhall, motor pool & supply lot

1253-70 19 Jan 71 Provide engineer assistance to erect (1) bunker

1114-70 20 Jan 71 Survey for the construction of berms

1220-70 20 Jan 71 Repair deck of passenger bunker

1242-70 21 Jan 71 Repair or replace IOD tower

1243-70 21 Jan 71 Survey for construction of boobytrap lane

4-71 21 Jan 71 Survey for drainage problem DECLASSIFIED

11-71 22 Jan 71 Construct two 7'-7" culvert bunkers

21-71 22 Jan 71 Relocate stage in EM Club

1231-70 22 Jan 71 Enlarge the LZ, build and install one tower

1239-70 23 Jan 71 Repair one LZ on the north end of the Hill

12-71 23 Jan 71 Make repairs to two ammo bunkers

8-71 24 Jan 71 Install one grease trap

34-71 25 Jan 71 Install water line for washdown point

1136-70 27 Jan 71 Repair perimeter electrical wiring

37-71 27 Jan 71 Salvage invasion pipe

41-71 27 Jan 71 Improve (3) defensive positions

16-71 28 Jan 71 Construct (1) lubrication rack

22-71 28 Jan 71 Reconstruct (1) 16x8 SEAhut

32-71 28 Jan 71 Use dozer to push trash off hill

1-71 28 Jan 71 Construct moveable shelves in exchange van

[REDACTED]

1189-70 28 Jan 71 Repair blast wall
 1120-70 28 Jan 71 Provide and install (1) water faucet
 1249-70 30 Jan 71 Grade roadbed around messhall

a. The following construction material was expended on the foregoing Division Work Orders.

Man Hours - 4,325	Wire - 2,050'
Equipment Hours - 1,076	8x8x8 bunker - 1 EA
Lumber - 19,579 BF	Rock & Fill - 386 Tons
Plywood - 47 SH	Nails - 400 LB
Tarpaper - 6 RL	Pipe - 166'
Oxygen - 4,200 LB	Acetylene - 700 LB
55 gallon drums - 64 EA	Lampholders - 8 EA
Receptacles - 8 EA	Metal Handles - 32 EA
Culvert - 314 LF	Cement - 36 SK
Engineer Stakes - 140 EA	M8A1 Matting - 15 Bundles
Barbed Wire - 200 LF	Tie Wire - 425 LF
Minefield Marking Signs - 1,030 EA	Pre-Fab Doors - 2 EA
Tin - 30 SH	Screen - 2 RL
Steel Plate - 8 SF	

b. The following 18 Battalion Work Orders were completed during the reporting period.

435-70 8 Jan 71 Rebuild the roof on (1) fighting hole
 429-70 9 Jan 71 Make repairs to leaking plumbing
 239-70 9 Jan 71 Construct 90 grappling hooks
 382-70 9 Jan 71 Repair the roof of the MEDCAP building
 418-70 11 Jan 71 Paint the barber shop
 2-71 11 Jan 71 Construct (1) Road Master sign.
 296-70 12 Jan 71 Stockpile monsoon preparation materials
 5-71 14 Jan 71 Repaint the LMWS sign
 11-71 19 Jan 71 Construct (1) grease trap
 6-71 20 Jan 71 Deliver (2) loads of sand

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[REDACTED]

15-71 24 Jan 71 Deliver (18) loads of sand to perimeter areas
12-71 28 Jan 71 Repair the ladders on (3) observation towers
16-71 28 Jan 71 Repair the foot bridge at the Heavy Equipment lot
3-71 29 Jan 71 Construct (1) portable IOD tower
10-71 29 Jan 71 Construct new stock shelves for the exchange
18-71 29 Jan 71 Construct (6) signs required for vehicles
20-71 29 Jan 71 Repaint the name boards at the main gate
21-71 30 Jan 71 Construct (1) embarkation box

c. The following construction material was expended on the foregoing Battalion Work Orders.

Man Hours - 176
Equipment Hours - 28
Lumber - 444 BF
Paint - $5\frac{1}{2}$ gallons
5" Bolts - 14 EA
Steel Plate - 12 SF
Acetylene - 1,100 LB
Pipe - 8'
3/8" Round stock - 150'

Sand - 40 Tons
Nails - 82 LB
Plywood - 36 SH
7" Bolts - 12 EA
Lag Bolts - 28 EA
Oxygen - 2,400 LB
Welding Rod - 3 LB
55 gallon drums - 3 EA

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PART IV

SUBORDINATE UNIT COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

- ✓ A. 1st Shore Party Bn, Company "C", Command Chronology FILED SEP
- ✓ B. Pictorial Supplement to Command Chronology

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PICTORIAL SUPPLEMENT

TO

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

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