

HEADQUARTERS  
7th Engineer Battalion (Rein), FMF  
FPO San Francisco 96602

3/MGL/r1b  
5750  
7 Jan 1969

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, First Marine Division (Field Historian)

Subj: Command Chronology

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

Encl: (1) December Chronology

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

*M.G. Lilley*  
M.G. LILLEY  
By direction

7TH ENGR BN

CMD CHRON

DEC 1968

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY  
1 December 1968 to 31 December 1968

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## PART I

## ORGINIZATIONAL DATA

1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

7th Engineer Battalion (Rein), PMF

LtCol T.T. ANNAS

SUBORDINATE UNITS

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Commander</u>	<u>RTD</u>
Hq Co	1stLt A.S. HILLARD	2 February 1969
Ser Co 5 Dec 68	Maj J.T. MARSHALL Maj G.S. HAMILTON	3 October 1969 11 September 1969
Co "A" 10 Dec 68	1stLt A.E. MORRISON 1stLt J.A. FRANTZ	18 December 1968 22 March 1969
Co "B"	Capt M.J. ESPOSITO	4 February 1969
Co "C"	Capt J.V. WITMER	9 May 1969
Co "D"	1stLt E. BOTELHO	18 September 1969

ATTACHED UNITS

1st Bridge Co 10 Dec 68	1stLt D.A. PEASENELL 1stLt M.H. DARITY	18 December 1968 17 December 1969
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2. LOCATION

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Date Arrived in Country</u>	<u>Location</u>
7th Engineer Battalion	6 August 1965	DaNang, RVN
1st Bridge Co	8 December 1965	DaNang, RVN

3. STAFF OFFICERS

<u>Section</u>	<u>Officer</u>	<u>RTD</u>
Executive Officer	Major R.A. HOOK	20 November 1969
S-1 15 Dec 68	CWO E.A. HUFNAGEL 1stLt R.H. ALNUTT	1 January 1969 10 January 1970

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S-2/S-3	Major M.G. LILLEY	7 July 1969
S-4	Major G.S. HAMILTON	11 September 1969
5 Dec 68	Major J.T. MARSHALL	3 October 1969
Supply Officer	2ndLt L.E. KRUSEMARK	12 October 1969
Sgt Maj	SgtMaj P.R. HAMBLETON	15 May 1969

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
50	957	2	24

5. PERSONNEL GAINS AND LOSSES

<u>GAINS</u>		<u>LOSSES</u>	
<u>USMC</u>	<u>USN</u>	<u>USMC</u>	<u>USN</u>
OFF 2	0	5	0
ENL 82	2	50	2

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## PART II

## NARRATIVE SUMMARY

The 7th Engineer Battalion continued support of the III Marine Amphibious Force within the DaNang area. The battalion continued maintenance responsibility of 70 miles of road, and conducted daily mine sweeps of 40 miles of roads. One platoon of the 1st Bridge Company continued to furnish tactical support to the 9th Engineer Battalion at Chu Lai.

Company "A", 7th Engineer Battalion continued upgrading of Routes 545 and 30 for class 50 traffic and maintenance of Routes 544, 540, and 10. The upgrading responsibility of 13-C was transferred to MCB 12 on 2 December 1968. On 12 December 1968, Company "A" assumed responsibility for the 15 mile route mine sweep of QL-1 (Hai Van Pass) from AT 927842 to AT 886954.

Company "B", 7th Engineer Battalion continued upgrading of Route 1 for class 50 traffic. The maintenance responsibility of Route 12E and Route 12W was transferred to MCB 12 on 2 December 1968 at which time Company "B" assumed maintenance responsibility of Route 4 from BT 056589 to AT 912577.

Company "C", 7th Engineer Battalion continued upgrading of Route 540 North for class 50 traffic and maintenance of Route 542.

Company "D", 7th Engineer Battalion continued upgrading of Route 540 South for class 50 traffic and maintenance of Route 4 as required.

Responsibilities on Phase II of the DaNang Barrier tasked to the 7th Engineer Battalion were completed 12 December 1968.

## PART III

## 1. Topics

a. Personnel and Administration. None

b. Enemy, weather, and terrain - A total of 6.92 inches of rain was recorded during the month of December.

<u>TIME</u>	<u>INCIDENT</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>
020855H.	Company "B" mine sweep team tripped one booby trapped M-16. One 7th Engr Bn WIA.	BT 046613
040845H.	Company "B" mine sweep reported Zappers Gulch Bridge was blown and made impassable. By-pass in good condition.	BT 045614
040845H.	Company "B" mine sweep found one booby trapped mortar round. Blown in place. One USMC WIA.	BT 045614

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- 050720H. Company "B" mine sweep team was approximately 100 meters north of BT 038629 when a suspected 30 lb. box mine was command detonated. Returned fire with negative results. Road was repaired. Negative casualties. BT 038629
- 081120H. FLC semi-truck was hit by 15-20 lb. command detonated box mine. One USMC WIA AT 941651
- 092215H. Company "D" received numerous small arms fire in CP area. All personnel manned bunkers, returned fire. No casualties. AT 917580
- 101600H. Company "A" personnel returning to CP at Hai Van Pass were ambushed, taking automatic fire. Fought off ambush. 1 USMC medevaced. AT 939880
- 160800H. Company "B" mine sweep visually found 30 lb. box mine on Route QL-1 South. Blown in place. BT 038628
- 160800H. 1st Bridge Company personnel operating Song Thu Bon ferry discovered 250 lb. bomb with two detonating devices floating down river on a bamboo raft. Raft lodged against bank. EOD was called and disarmed ordnance. AT 925534
- 170730H. Company "C" mine sweep team visually found (3) box mines located 15 meters apart. Mines contained C-4 with detonator on top or side. Explosives burned; mines containers brought to Company "C" CP. AT 942655
- 180950H. Company "B" mine sweep team received approximately 30 rounds of sniper fire from west side of Route QL-1. Negative casualties. BT 055594
- 181400H. Company "A" sweep team enroute to 7th Engineer Bn. CP from Hai Van Pass was ambushed after explosive charge was detonated by army truck. 1 ARMY WIA AT 911943
- 181700H. Company "B" reported ROK cargo truck hit 20 lb. box mine. Believed to be command detonated. Sniper fire received during medevac. Immediate area swept with negative results. 1 ROK KIA, 4 ROK WIA BT 054594
- 191220H. 105mm round command detonated on An Hoa Road. Appeared to be intended for ammo truck in convoy. Slight damage to M-51 dump. Negative casualties. AT 910489

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- 191415H. A M-54 cargo truck from 1st M.T. hit a 20 lb. mine on Route 545. Company "A" swept area with negative further results. 2 USMC WIA AT 899808
- 210205H. Company "D" as well as other units received AK-47 rounds and approximately 12- 60mm mortar rounds. Defensive positions manned. 12 WIA's (1/7) AT 917580
- 220830H. Company "B" mine sweep team reported Vietnamese civilian truck hit 50 lb. box mine on Route QL-1. Driver stated he received sniper rounds prior to hitting mine. Negative casualties. BT 049604
- 221950H. Company "D" reported VC loud speaker set up broadcasting "Americans give up or you will die." AT 920590
- 231015H. Company "A" mine sweep team received automatic fire for 20 minutes on Route 545. Returned fire with unknown results. Negative casualties. AT 889830
- 240800H. Company "B" mine sweep team found bush barricade on road with propaganda leaflets. Cleared barricade, blew possible booby trapped grenade. BT 038629
- 260845H. Company "B" mine sweep team found one small explosive on west shoulder of Route QL-1, believed to be anti-personnel pressure firing device. Blown in place. BT 037630
- 280845H. Company "B" mine sweep team found three 105mm rounds attached to wires leading off the road. One round found 20' off the side of the road, one 30' off the road, and one 150' off the side of the road. At the end of the wire was one VC suspect. The 105mm rounds were blown and the VC suspect was taken into custody of the CAP unit personnel on Route QL-1 South. BT 039628
- 301020H. Company "B" mine sweep team found a blown culvert which resulted in a crater 8' in diameter and 6' deep. Road was passable and the crater was filled. BT 077558

ENCLOSURE (1)

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c. Organization and Operations

- (1) Officer Assignments - See TAB A, Enclosure (1)
- (2) Operations

1 Dec: .02 inches of rain fell on the 7th Engr Bn CP. Hauled and stockpiled 190 cu. yds. of 6"(-) rock at Song Thu Bon to be used on An Hoa Road. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 20 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 37 round trips. All companies completed road recon of respective areas of responsibilities.

2 Dec: Company "B" mine sweep team tripped one booby trapped M-16 at AT 046613. One 7th Engr Bn WIA. .00 inches of rain fell on the 7th Engr Bn CP. Hauled and spread 120 cu. yds. of rock to bypass of bridge at AT 898813. Hauled and spread 35 cu. yds. of rock to road leading from 1/26 CP to Route 545. Hauled and spread 40 cu. yds. of rock to north ferry approach of Song Cau Do at AT 998707. Hauled and spread 35 cu. yds. of rock at Cooper Bridge site. Hauled and spread 210 cu. yds. of rock at intersection of Route 540 and access road to Hill 41. Hauled and stockpiled 75 cu. yds. of rock at Song Thu Bon to be used on An Hoa Road. Spread 4,000 gallons of oil on Route 540. Removed 850 tons of rock from Hill 327 Rock crusher. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 33 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 11 round trips. Completed culvert and headwall at entrance to 1/26 CP. Completed south approach for ferry at Son Cau Do. Completed ferry approaches of Cooper bridge. Destroyed two (2) caves at Marble Mountain. Completed two headwalls and began work on two additional headwalls on Route 540. Completed repairs of tower at CAP Unit.

3 Dec: Continued hot and dry weather. Hauled and spread 30 cu. yds. of rock, graded same on Route 545. Spread 64 cu. yds. of rock in upgrading North approach of the Cau Do Ferry. Spread 16 cu. yds. of rock to repair North approach to Cau Do Bridge. Hauled and spread 228 cu. yds. of rock at intersection of Route 540S and access road to Hill 41. Hauled and spread 45 cu. yds. of rock from AT 920515 to AT 918509 on An Hoa Road. Hauled and spread 125 cu. yds. of rock on ferry landing at AT 925534. Removed 1,054 tons of rock from Hill 327 Rock Crusher. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 18 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 18 round trips. Completed 2 headwalls and dug out for 2 additional headwalls. Twenty-seven walls completed to date for Route 540 maintenance.

4 Dec: .00 inches of rain fell on the 7th Engr Bn CP. Hauled and spread 60 cu. yds. of rock on bypass at bridge on Route 545. Graded Route 545 and spread 800 gallons of oil on same. Hauled 36 cu. yds. of rock to Song Cau Do Ferry approaches. Hauled and spread 65 cu. yds. of fill and 110 cu. yds. of rock to intersection of Route 540 and access road to Hill 41. Hauled and spread 35 cu. yds. of rock on An Hoa Road. Cut new drainage ditches for same. Hauled and stockpiled 125 cu. yds. of rock at Song Thu Bon for use on ferry approaches and An Hoa Road.

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Hauled 35 cu. yds. of fill and 15 cu. yds. of rock to new ferry site at Song Thu Bon. Removed 1,106 tons of rock from Hill 327 Rock Crusher, and 64 cu. yds. from Hill 10 Borrow Pit. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 17 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 1 round trip. Sent 30 men to An Hoa to construct tent decks and bunkers. One officer and 22 enlisted men arrived from 9th Engineer Battalion to assist. Completed new ferry site at Song Thu Bon except for traffic control sign installation. 1st Bridge Company retrieved bridging parts from Hai Van Pass.

5 Dec: .00 inches of rain fell on the 7th Engr Bn CP. Spread 2,400 gallons of oil on Route 545 as part of continuous maintenance and upgrading of road for all weather trafficability. Spread 6,000 gallons of oil on Route QL-1 from intersection of Anderson Trail on south as necessary to aid in mine detection and dust suppression. Hauled and spread 352 cu. yds. of fill and 314 cu. yds. of rock on Route 540. Spread 2,000 gallons of oil on Route 540 to aid in mine detection and maintenance. Hauled and spread 25 cu. yds. of rock to upgrade Route 4 from Hill 65 to AT 911570. Removed 822 tons of rock from Hill 327 Rock Crusher and 352 cu. yds. from Route 540 Borrow Pit. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 27 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 15 round trips. Constructed 50 meters of split double apron-triple concertina fence at OP-6 near the 7th Engr Bn. Hauled and spread 12 cu. yds. of rock and 12 cu. yds. of fill at Tam Giap Bridge. Completed 3 tent decks at An Hoa construction project. Blew sandbar at ferry site of Song Thu Bon. Two sandbars remain to be removed before ferry can use high water landing on South shore. 1st Bridge Company retrieved components for 30' fixed span from Hai Van Pass. 1st Bridge Company retrieved 270' foot bridge used on Operation Meade River.

6 Dec: .00 inches of rain fell on the 7th Engr Bn CP. Hauled and spread 165 cu. yds. of fill on Route 544. Hauled and spread 30 cu. yds. of rock on south approach of Tam Giap Bridge as part of continuous upgrading of Route QL-1 South and bridges along the route. Hauled and spread 180 cu. yds. of rock on Route 540, 2,400 gallons of oil spread to aid in mine detection and road stability. Graded Route 540 as part of continuous maintenance and upgrading of road. Spread 4,000 gallons of oil on same. Hauled and stockpiled 65 cu. yds. of rock at Song Thu Bon to be used for An Hoa Road. Removed 850 tons of rock from Hill 327 Rock Crusher. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 20 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 26 round trips. Construction of 60' tower for support of operations at An Hoa 35% complete. Completed forms for grease trap to be built for and installed at 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines. Constructed three (3) tent decks for a total of 9 completed and precut materials for 3 additional tent decks at An Hoa construction project. Received additional plywood and 2X4 for tent decks. Set piers for 3 sea huts and completed 5 tent strongbacks for a total of 14. 1st Bridge Company staged 6 bridge trailers at Coopers Ferry in preparation for the removal of a 120' fixed span bridge at Dien Ban, BT 055592. DaNang Wire Barrier detail completed 400 meters of wire as work site has dried permitting vehicles to transport cargo.

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7 Dec: .00 inches of rain fell on the 7th Engr Bn CP. Hauled and spread 60 cu. yds. of fill at junction of Route 544 and Route 540 as part of continuous upgrading and maintenance of vital roads. Performed maintenance as required to retain crown on Route QL-1 south at Dien Ban. Spread 1,000 gallons of oil on Route 540 to suppress dust and aid in mine detection. Hauled and spread 45 cu. yds. of rock on Route 4 to Hill 65 as part of upgrading effort of road. Spread 400 gallons of oil on Route 540 to suppress dust and aid in mine detection. Hauled and stockpiled 100 cu. yds. of rock at Song Thu Bon for use on An Hoa Road. Hauled and spread 340 cu. yds. of fill on Route 540 to build up shoulders. Removed 280 tons of rock from Hill 327 Rock Crusher and 340 cu. yds. of fill from Route 540 Borrow Pit. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 16 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 25 round trips. Hauled and spread 60 cu. yds. of rock at the South abutment of the Tam Giap Bridge as part of continuous upgrading of all bridges on Route QL-1 South. Completed 6 tent decks at An Hoa for a total of 24. Continued building piers for sea huts. Received materials for bunker construction in support of An Hoa operations. 1st Bridge Company began taking out 120' fixed span at Dien Ban.

8 Dec: The 7th Engr Bn is currently short 4 officers and 158 enlisted men. .00 inches of rain fell on the 7th Engr Bn CP. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 44 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 23 round trips. Completed bracing and added top deck to 60' tower. Constructed 6 tent decks for a total of 32 at An Hoa. Built 2 strongbacks and constructed piers for sea huts in support of An Hoa operations. 1st Bridge Company completed removal of 120' fixed span from Dien Ban. 1st Bridge preloaded bridging to be installed at Song Cau Do. The DaNang Wire Barrier was able to continue progress constructing 350 meters of split double apron-triple concertina wire.

9 Dec: Weather continued to be hot and dry. Hauled and spread 35 cu. yds. of rock on bridge bypass at BT 045614 and BT 046610. Hauled and placed 50 cu. yds. of rock and 30 cu. yds. of fill at Song Cau Do. Hauled and spread 75 cu. yds. of fill on Route 540 in the vicinity of AT 915583. Road was rolled to widen and repair portions torn up by tracked vehicles. Continued bypass upgrading on Route 540. Hauled and spread 45 cu. yds. of rock on Marshall Bridge bypass. Graded with tow grader opening route to tracked as well as wheeled vehicles. Hauled and spread 95 cu. yds. of fill on Route 540. Installed a 36" culvert 40' long at bypass on An Hoa Road. Removed 929 tons of rock from Hill 327 Rock Crusher and 340 cu. yds. of fill from Route 540 Borrow Pit. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 20 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 26 round trips. Moved personnel to Hai Van Pass in preparation of assuming road sweep responsibilities. Completed laying treadway and repaired curbing and handrails of the Golden Gate Bridge. Poured bottom slab of grease trap for 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines. Constructed 6 tent decks, one GP tent deck, and began construction of 20' X 32' bunker and two gun pads in support of operations at An Hoa. Cut a staging area at base of Phu Loc 6 for staging convoys transported across Song Thu Bon after dark. 1st Bridge began building Class 60, 655' floating bridge at Song Cau Do. DaNang Wire Barrier detail completed the enemy side wire and began work on closing the friendly side wire, approximately 1,500 meters remaining.

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10 Dec: Weather continued hot and dry. Hauled and placed 120 cu. yds. of rock at bridge approaches of Song Cau Do. Hauled, spread, and rolled 80 cu. yds. of fill at approaches to 40' bridge at AT 925605 thus improving road stability to withstand tracked as well as wheeled vehicles. Hauled, spread, and rolled 75 cu. yds. of fill on tank trail at Hill 37. Hauled and stockpiled 85 cu. yds. of rock to Phu Loc 6 just south of Song Thu Bon to use when necessary on An Hoa Road. Spread 3,000 gallons of oil on Route 4. Removed 1,070 tons of rock from Hill 327 Rock Crusher and 210 cu. yds. of fill from Route 540 Borrow Pit. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 37 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 27 round trips. Began construction of bunkers and perimeter wire for compound at Hai Van Pass. Dug out east side of south abutment of Zappers Gulch Bridge and prepared to begin work on piles and northeast wingwalls destroyed by enemy last week. Hauled and placed 110 cu. yds. of rock to improve drainage system at 7th Bulk Fuel Company. Continued construction as tasked by III MAF in support of An Hoa operations. 9th Engr Bn as well as 7th Engr Bn personnel are combining efforts on these construction projects. 1st Bridge removed 88' of a floating foot bridge at AT 997706 used in conjunction with Operation Meade River. 1st Bridge continued construction of 655' floating bridge at Song Cau Do. The DaNang Wire Barrier detail constructed 200 meters of split double apron-triple concertina of friendly side wire.

11 Dec: Two MRS-200's were classed Code H and permanently dropped from the 7th Engr Bn. Weather continued hot and dry. Hauled and placed 70 cu. yds. of rock at BT 085556 where culvert is being excavated and repaired. Hauled and spread 65 cu. yds. of fill on Route 540 as part of continuous upgrading. Hauled and spread 105 cu. yds. of fill on tank trail at Hill 37 to build up shoulders. Removed 1,587 tons of rock from Hill 327 Rock Crusher. Assumed full responsibility of Route QL-1 mine sweep through Hai Van Pass. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 35 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 20 round trips. Hauled and placed 480 cu. yds. of rock at the 7th Bulk Fuel Company in order to improve drainage system. Completed one gun pad, one tent deck, two GP tent decks and continued work on 20' X 32' bunker in support of An Hoa operations. 1st Bridge Company continued work on 840' floating bridge at Song Cau Do so that present bridge can be closed for repairs. The DaNang Wire Barrier detail constructed 500 meters of friendly wire.

12 Dec: The 7th Engr Bn is currently short 4 officers and 151 enlisted men. .18 inches of rain fell on the 7th Engr Bn CP. Spread 4,400 gallons of oil on Route 540 to aid in mine detection and increase road stability. Removed 961 tons of rock from Hill 327 Rock Crusher. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 40 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 37 round trips. Continued excavations of culvert at BT 085556; hauled and placed 75 cu. yds. of rock at work site. Completed clearing suspected minefield at Radio Company, 5th Comm to enable Public Works to install an anchor for a utility pole. Hauled and placed 120 cu. yds. to improve drainage system of 7th Bulk Fuel Company, continued to repair damaged culverts. Replaced signs and installed 20 balk pins at Crooked Bridge. Preparations are being made to construct a timber bridge at this site. 1st Bridge continued loading, transporting and installing components of 840' floating bridge at Song Cau Do.

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13 Dec: 1 M-543 wrecker acquired through R&E program, one M-51 dump acquired through Division Float, one PU-482 generator classed Code H and permanently dropped from 7th Engr Bn. .07 inches of rain fell on the 7th Engr Bn CP. Hauled and spread 80 cu. yds. of rock at BT 085556 where culvert is being excavated and road repaired to upgrade in preparation of future bypass requirements. Spread 2,000 gallons of oil on Route 540 to aid in mine detection and road stability. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 34 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 42 round trips. Completed 60' tower for An Hoa operations. Began prefabrication of 14 heads for CAG unit. Hauled and placed 120 cu. yds of rock at 7th Bulk Fuel Company and continued repairs of crushed culverts to improve drainage system. Drove one pile at Zappers Gulch Bridge and made preparations to put in stringers destroyed by enemy. Constructed 4 tent decks and continued construction of three 20' X 32' bunkers. Hauled and spread 30 cu. yds. of rock at new ferry approach on south shore which extends 100' from the shore. Hauled and spread 65 cu. yds of rock at Marshall Bridge approaches to increase road stability. 1st Bridge removed 45' fixed span bridge at AT 935579 where Company "D" will install culverts. 1st Bridge neared completion of 840' floating bridge at Song Cau Do.

14 Dec: .00 inches of rain fell on the 7th Engr Bn CP. Hauled and spread 45 cu. yds. of rock on interior access road at 7th Engr Bn. Received and spread 60 cu. yds. of rock at Song Cau Lau. Hauled and spread 40 cu. yds. of rock on North ferry approach at Song Cau Do. Utilized 2,600 gallons of oil on Route 540 and Route 8. Spread 30 cu. yds. of rock at ferry landing, AT 925534. Hauled 50 cu. yds. of rock to stockpile at Company "D". 1st Bridge Company placed curbing on floating bridge at Song Cau Do. Installed one 24" culvert at AT 924528. Installed two culverts at AT 925577. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 45 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 39 round trips. Framed 15 heads for CAG unit. Poured baffle wall and continued to lay pipe at 3/1 grease trap.

15 Dec: One M-150T46 was classed Code H and permanently dropped from 1st Bridge Company. One compressor used to propell ferry was down for a period of three hours rendering the Tu Cau Ferry inoperable during that period of time. .11 inches of rain fell on the 7th Engr Bn CP. Hauled and spread 30 cu. yds. of rock to north bridge approach of Song Cau Do. Hauled and spread 120 cu. yds. of fill along tank trail within Hill 37 cantonment to help maintain road for tracked vehicles. Removed 120 cu. yds. of fill from Route 540 Borrow Pit. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 36 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 12 round trips. Completed three tent decks, one head, and continued work on three 20' X 32' bunkers and two gun pads in support of An Hoa operations.

16 Dec: Song Thu Bon Ferry inoperable until 1200 due to 250 lb. bomb intended to destroy ferry and landings. 1.87 inches of rain fell on the 7th Engr Bn CP. Hauled and spread 110 cu. yds. of rock on north approach at Song Cau Do. Hauled and stockpiled 45 cu. yds. of rock to be used on An Hoa Road as required. Hauled and spread 15 cu. yds. of rock on An Hoa Road to increase all weather trafficability. Installed 30' X 36" culvert at AT 924528 on An Hoa Road. Removed 645 tons of rock from Hill 327 Rock Crusher. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 25 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 8 round trips. Completed north wingwall at Zappers Gulch Bridge. Installation of I beams with nailers completed.

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Completed placing all footings for living quarters at Hoi An water point. Completed connecting pipes and continued work on culverts for grease trap at 3/1. Completed three tent decks, one 20' X 32' bunker, one 10' X 24' bunker, and continued building one 20' X 32' bunker, two gun pads and additional heads.

17 Dec: 1.27 inches of rain fell on the 7th Engr Bn CP. Hauled and spread 110 cu. yds. of rock on north bridge approach of Song Cau Do. Hauled and spread 85 cu. yds. of rock on Route 542 to fill bridge approaches and areas where road shoulders had been washed away. Hauled and placed 10 cu. yds. of fill and 75 cu. yds. of rock at culvert site on Route 4, AT 930578 where efforts to control water flow to enable road upgrading is in progress. Removed 1,180 tons of rock from Hill 327 Rock Crusher. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 31 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 10 round trips. Finished making cover and back filling grease trap for 3/1. Completed two tent decks, one 20' X 32' bunker, and continued construction of heads and gun pads in support of operations at An Hoa. 1st Bridge completed loading of Bailey Bridge components as requested by III MAF.

18 Dec: .00 inches of rain fell on the 7th Engr Bn CP. Hauled and spread 50 cu. yds. of rock at road repair site near Song Cau Lau. Hauled and placed 20 cu. yds. of rock on north bridge approach to Song Cau Do Bridge. Hauled and spread 115 cu. yds. of rock on Route 540 to improve road stability. Removed 873 tons of rock from Hill 327 Rock Crusher. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 34 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 16 round trips. Welded stringers to bearing plate braces; began construction of 1st layer of decking at Zappers Gulch Bridge. Constructed one strongback and one deck for 1st Battalion 26th Marines. Completed three 8' X 10' fighting bunkers for total of three; two tent decks for total of 59; continued construction of two gun pads and 34 heads. 68 burn barrels and six urinals arrived for installation.

19 Dec: Weather continued hot and dry. Hauled and placed 75 cu. yds. of rock at bridge approach to Song Cau Do. Spread 4,000 gallons of oil on Route 540. Hauled and spread 85 cu. yds. of rock on Route 542 for general road repair and maintenance. Spread 4,000 gallons of oil on An Hoa Road to aid in mine detection and all weather road trafficability. Hauled and spread 310 cu. yds. of fill to 40' bridge at AT 295605 to improve approaches and prevent erosion. Removed 596 tons of rock from Hill 327 Rock Crusher and 310 cu. yds. of fill from Route 540 Borrow Pit. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 32 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 15 round trips. Spread rock on cantonment area of 2nd CAG. Completed the 1st layer of decking and began the 2nd layer of decking at the Zappers Gulch Bridge. Completed living quarters at Hoi An water point. Constructed two strongbacks and two heads for 1st Battalion, 26th Marines. Completed one 8' X 10' bunker for total of 4, one tent deck for total of 60, one gun pad for total of three and two tent decks for total of 11 on amended work order in support of An Hoa operations. Continued work on 20' X 36' bunker.

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20 Dec: Spread 5,200 gallons of oil on Route 540 to aid in mine detection and all weather road trafficability. Hauled and spread 105 cu. yds. of rock on Route 542. Hauled and stockpiled 40 cu. yds. of rock for use on An Hoa Road and Route 4 as required. Removed 675 tons of rock from Hill 327 Rock Crusher. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 34 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 48 round trips. Installed plywood on front and sides and cut tin for roofs of heads to be built for CAG units. Completed spreading rock on cantonment area of 2nd CAG unit where road surface was being repaired. Constructed two heads for total of two and two strongbacks for total of three at 1st Battalion, 26th Marines cantonment. Completed 8 heads on amended work order for a total of 8, and continued work on bunkers and gun pads in support of An Hoa operations. Assembled 12' of 24" culvert and 60' of 36" culvert to be installed at base of Hill 65 and 45' of 60" culvert to be installed on An Hoa Road.

21 Dec: Three bridge boats deadlined for repairs at 201815H. Suspended Song Thu Bon Ferry operations until 211210H when a new bridge boat arrived. Ferry damaged when tractor-trailer rolled off after ammo shifted. Pullcable system unable to be used. Tu Cau Ferry inoperable 0800 - 1030H due to water receding requiring extensions on ferry approaches. .08 inches of rain fell on the 7th Engr Bn CP. Hauled and spread 50 cu. yds. of rock near Song Cau Lau where road repairs are 95% complete in improving bypass during current heavy use. Hauled and spread 105 cu. yds. of rock on Route 542. Spread 3,200 gallons of oil on Route 6 and Route 540. Hauled and stockpiled 70 cu. yds. of rock to Company "D" CP to be used on Route 4 and An Hoa Road as required. Removed 650 tons of rock from Hill 327 Rock Crusher. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 13 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 24 round trips. Finished roofing and constructing doors for 15 heads to be built for 2nd CAG. Completed 75% of 2nd layer of decking and 75% of 3rd layer of decking of Zappers Gulch Bridge. Constructed an additional 2 strongbacks for a total of 5 for the improvement of the 1/26 cantonment. Drove 4 piles at Marshall Bridge where repairs are being made necessary by flood damage. 30' of fixed span presently accounting for part of total bridge span was removed. Removed treadway and decking from first span.

22 Dec: The 7th Engr Bn is currently short 4 officers and 153 enlisted personnel. The Song Thu Bon Ferry suspended operations from 1245 to 1340 due to pontoon shifting on ferry making it impossible to load vehicles. .31 inches of rain fell on the 7th Engr Bn CP. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 42 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 26 round trips. Completed 2nd and 3rd layer of decking of Zappers Gulch Bridge. Continued framing construction of strongbacks and heads for improvement of 1/26 cantonment. Completed construction of four gun pads and continued building heads in support of operations at An Hoa. Drove 4 piles at Marshall Bridge; 4 piles remain to be driven in. Removed stringers and cap from 1st span.

23 Dec: One M-172 semi-trailer was classed Code H and permanently dropped from the 7th Engr Bn. 2.65 inches of rain fell on the 7th Engr Bn.

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Hauled and spread 150 cu. yds. of rock on QL-1 from Song Cau Do to Vinh Dien as required. Hauled and spread 170 cu. yds. of rock on bridge approaches and bypass to Zappers Gulch Bridge in anticipation of possible future heavy use. Hauled and spread 150 cu. yds. of rock on Route 542 to improve areas washed out by weather. Removed 1,054 tons of rock from Hill 327 Rock Crusher. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 30 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 28 round trips. Retrieved 120 - 155mm rounds from Song Thu Bon; 240 retrieved to date, 120 remaining. 1st Bridge completed stringing new 5/8" cable at Song Cau Do replacing damaged cable initially installed.

24 Dec: The Song Thu Bon Ferry secured operations at 232235H. A pile floating from upstream lodged in the path of the ferry. The Song Thu Bon Ferry secured operations at 240800H for the entire day because of swift current, unusual amount of debris floating in river, and a hole in pontoon all contributing to hazardous operating conditions. Tu Cau Ferry was inoperable for 1½ hours due to mechanical difficulties with the compressor which is employed as the prime mover for ferry cable system. .46 inches of rain fell on the 7th Engr Bn CP. Hauled, spread and graded 170 cu. yds. of rock on Route 540. Removed 474 tons of rock from Hill 327 Rock Crusher. Tu Cau Ferry completed 27 round trips. Completed an additional 9 heads for a total of 27 to date and continued construction of 20' X 32' bunker in support of An Hoa operations.

25 Dec: .10 inches of rain fell on the 7th Engr Bn CP. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 22 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 37 round trips.

26 Dec: The 7th Engr Bn is currently short 3 officers and 140 enlisted men. A tractor-trailer rolled while crossing on the Song Thu Bon Ferry so that one wheel slipped off the side. Crane pulled the vehicle back on to the ferry. No damage. Hauled and spread 100 cu. yds. of rock on Route 545. Hauled and spread 50 cu. yds. of rock for completion of road repairs and culvert excavation near Song Cau Lau. Hauled and spread 300 cu. yds. of rock on Route 540 to upgrade and maintain stability. Graded and spread 1,200 gallons of oil on same area. Spread 2,000 gallons of oil on Route 540 to aid in mine detection. Removed 1,454 tons of rock from Hill 327 Rock Crusher. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 31 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 32 round trips. Constructed one strongback for total of 8 and two heads for total of 7 for the improvement of 1/26 cantonment. Completed 6 heads on amended work order for total of 34 and continued construction of 20' X 32' bunker in support of An Hoa operations.

27 Dec: Weather continues hot and dry. Hauled and spread 115 cu. yds. of rock on washed out areas of Route 545. Hauled, graded and rolled 30 cu. yds. of rock to Route 540. Spread 1,200 gallons of oil on same. Removed 1,804 tons of rock from Hill 327 Rock Crusher. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 23 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 20 round trips. Completed 90% of concertina around perimeter, picked up 2 loads of sandbags; 1st bunker 90% complete, 2nd bunker 70% complete, finished water point for showers and completed wind breaker for shower at Hai Van Pass. Constructed decks for two or more huts; 8 huts completed and two in process, and finished putting screen on two heads for total of 7 heads completed at 1/26 cantonment.

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28 Dec: Weather continues hot and dry. Hauled and spread 130 cu. yds. of rock on Route 540. Hauled and stockpiled from RMK 25 cu. yds. of rock for use on Route 540. Service Company hauled and stockpiled 115 cu. yds. of rock to Company "D" for future use. Stockpiled 100 cu. yds. of rock to Company "B" CP for future use. Removed 1,116 tons of rock from Hill 327 Rock Crusher. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 17 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 39 round trips. Reported fifteen two hole heads for 2nd CAG unit are complete with the exception of the hinges for the doors. Dug 9 holes 5' deep, constructed three tower sections, 9 piles, and three 12 X 12 caps in the construction of water tower at 1/1. Drove 7 piles and placed decking on Marshall Bridge.

29 Dec: Weather continues hot and dry. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 25 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 54 round trips. Secured bolts and cables, prepared for pick up, and policed up area in the construction site of 60' tower for An Hoa. Continued construction of strongbacks for 1/26 cantonment. Ten strongbacks and eight heads are completed to this date.

30 Dec: Weather continues hot and dry. Hauled and spread 95 cu. yds. of crushed rock on Route 540. Hauled and spread 392 cu. yds. of rock on Route 540. Graded, rolled and oiled with 2,400 gallons of oil this same area. Culvert was blown at BT 077558. Repaired site of blown culvert. Removed 1,850 tons of rock from Hill 327 Rock Crusher. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 29 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 39 round trips. 60' tower was flown from the 7th Engr Bn to An Hoa. Positioned three tower sections, completed decking and handrails, and poured cement in 4 of 9 holes in the construction of water tower at 1st Battalion, 26th Marines. Reported new ferry approach on south side of Song Thu Bon is 75% complete.

31 Dec: Weather continues hot and dry. Hauled and spread a total of 314 tons of crushed rock on Routes 540 and 544. Spread, rolled and graded 145 cu. yds. of rock on Route 540. Removed 1,312 tons of rock from Hill 327 Rock Crusher. Song Thu Bon Ferry completed 38 round trips. Tu Cau Ferry completed 32 round trips. Attached all hinges in the construction of heads for 2nd CAG unit. Completed the construction of a water tower for 1/1. Completed three heads for a total of eleven, and installed decks and built side walls for strongbacks for 1/26 cantonment.

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5750d. Plans

- (1) Continue general support of all units within the 1st Marine Division TAOR, or as assigned by III MAF Headquarters.
- (2) Continue support of CAG units within 1st Marine Division TAOR, or as assigned by III MAF Headquarters.
- (3) Continue maintenance of bridges within the 1st Marine Division TAOR, or as directed by III MAF Headquarters.
- (4) Continue upgrading of Route 1.
- (5) Continue upgrading of Route LTL 4.
- (6) Continue upgrading of Route 545.
- (7) Continue upgrading of Route 30.
- (8) Continue maintenance of Route 540 to An Hoa.

e. Training

- (1) Command indoctrination and information for newly arrived personnel.
- (2) 2 SNCO attended Career Advisory School (Okinawa).
- (3) 2 enlisted attended Scuba School (Subic Bay, Philippines).
- (4) 3 enlisted attended Basic Supply Accounting (FLC).
- (5) 1 enlisted attended Vietnamese Language School (III MAF).
- (6) 1 enlisted attended Infantry Weapons Repair Course (Okinawa).

f. Logistics, Equipment and Supply

- (1) Administration
  - (a) Major J.T. MARSHALL assumed duties as S-4 Officer.
  - (b) Picked up one (1) M172A1 R&E Program.
  - (c) Picked up one (1) M543A3 R&E Program.
  - (d) Picked up one (1) M-51 Maintenance Float.
  - (5) Sent Unsatisfactory Equipment Report to CMC on three pump Centrifugal.
  - (6) Sent Unsatisfactory Report to CMC on two (2) M151A1.

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(7) Made liaison visit to Force Service Regiment, Maintenance Officer in regards to Tero's still outstanding. Results were, they coded some equipment and finished what they could during the month of December.

(8) The Battalion M170 ambulance was coded by FSR and a new type ambulance, M718, was put on requisition by Battalion Supply.

(2) Supply

7th Engineer Battalion FMF (AC 21300)

During the month of December Battalion Supply processed 92 priority 02, 776 priority 05, and 434 priority 12 and 17 requisitions. Also processed were 1,163 receipts from due, 1,163 issues from due, and 318 issues from stock.

1st Bridge Company FMF (AC 21325)

During the month of December 1st Bridge Supply processed 37 priority 02, 4 priority 05, and 35 priority 12 and 17 requisitions. Also processed were 98 receipts from due, 35 issues from due, and 14 issues from stock.

Motor Transport

Approximately 145,566 miles were logged in on the Battalion Motor Transport Vehicles during the month of December.

Maintenance

The Battalion Motor Transport Maintenance received 81 work orders, completed 53 work orders and sent 16 work orders to FSR during December. The Battalion Heavy Equipment Maintenance received 38 Engineer work orders, completed 35 and sent 20 work orders to FSR during December. Ten (10) items returned from FSR and eighteen items were Code H.

Messing

The Battalion Messhall continues to provide four (4) meals daily except Sunday. The fourth meal being mid rations for duty personnel. On Sundays and holidays a brunch is served replacing breakfast and dinner.

Medical

The Battalion Aid Station treated 804 military, 191 Vietnamese, and 8 civilian workers. The Battalion Dental Clinic treated 285 military, 20 Vietnamese and 3 civilian workers.

g. Civil Affairs/Civic Action

(1) The Civic Action Program continues on a daily basis.

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(2) Activities were as follows:

- (a) The MedCap Program provided treatment for 201 persons.
- (b) The Battalion sponsored, Vietnamese brickyard produced a total of 35,600 soil-cement bricks.
- (c) A total of 9,240 bricks were issued for various Civic Action projects throughout Quang Nam Province.
- (d) A two-room school in Tung Son is 90% complete.
- (e) A Catholic shrine in An Ngai hamlet is 100% complete.
- (f) A culvert in An NgaiTay hamlet is 20% complete.
- (g) A hand operated pitcher pump was installed in An Ngai Tay hamlet.
- (h) A rice-drying floor in Tung Son is 100% complete.
- (i) 8 vegetable test plots in Hoa Thanh and Hoa Ninh villages are producing progressively.

## PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- ✓1. Officer Assignments, See TAB A of enclosure (1).

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6 Jan 1969

<u>NAME</u>	<u>SERV. NO./MOS</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>PRIMARY DUTY</u>	<u>RTD</u>
ANNAS, T. T.	053496/1302/0430	LtCol	BrCmdr	30Aug69
HOOK, R. A.	06121/1302/0302	Maj	Exec O	20Nov69
ALNUTT, R. H.	095814/0130/0102	1stLt	S-1/Adj	10Jan70
A OYAMA, K. M.	0103117/1302	1stLt	CivAff Off	28Apr69
CRAM, A. B.	0103164/1302	1stLt	S-2	11Apr69
BRISSON, J. J.	0105725/1310	WO	HvyEquipPltCmdr	1Aug69
DICKEN, D. T.	0104170/1302	2ndLt	Asst S-3/OIC Rock Crusher	25Aug69
FRANKE, R. A.	0104858/2501	2ndLt	CommO	8Sep69
HILLARD, A. S.	094276/1302	1stLt	HqCoCmdr	2Feb69
JONES, J. C.	0105555/1301	2ndLt	Asst S-3 Off	23Oct69
LILLEY, M. G.	078896/1302/5702	Maj	S-3 Off	7Jul69
MARSHALL, J. T.	080929/1302/1310	Maj	S-4 Off	30Oct69
MCALLISTER, G. D.	099031/1360	CWO-2	Const Plt Cmdr	22Nov69
REID, G. H.	095009/1302	Capt	Asst S-4	4Feb69
<u>SERVICE COMPANY</u>				
HAMILTON, G. S.	072022/1302	Maj	CO	11Sep69
GOODE, F. M.	0102777/3502	1stLt	BrMFO	21Apr69
HAMMACK, J. A.	0104222/3502	2ndLt	Asst MFO	13Sep69
JACKSON, J. M.	098854/1310	CWO-2	MaintPltCmdr	29Aug69
KRUSEMARK, L. E.	0104657/3002	2ndLt	BrSupO	12Oct69
MORIAN, L. E.	0103700/1302	1stLt	UtiliOff/Exec	9Mar69
LEBOWITZ, M.	0105571/3002	2ndLt	Asst/SupO	15Jan70
<u>"A" COMPANY</u>				
FRANTZ, J. D.	095726/1302	1stLt	CO	24Mar69
RIMSHART, C. S.	0105243/1302	2ndLt	Exec	30Sep69
CARLSON, F. G.	0105884/1301	2ndLt	PltCmdr	23Oct69
FLAMING, J. M.	0105512/1301	2ndLt	PltCmdr	17Oct69
GEERS, M. J.	0105916/1301	2ndLt	PltCmdr	28Nov69
<u>"B" COMPANY</u>				
ESPOSITO, E. J.	093085/1302/1320	Capt	CO	7Feb69
MICK, E. W.	0100510/1302	1stLt	Exec	25Jun69
ADAMS, R. E.	0105441/1301	2ndLt	PltCmdr	23Oct69
ERICKSON, R. L.	0105083/1302	2ndLt	PltCmdr	30Sep69
WISE, R. A.	0104959/1301	2ndLt	EquipPltCmdr	11Dec69
<u>"C" COMPANY</u>				
WITMER, J. V.	095166/1302/1320	Capt	CO	9May69
GETTMAN, J. A.	0102613/1302	1stLt	Exec	3Jun69
BECKER, M. L.	0105866/1302	2ndLt	EquipPltCmdr	22Nov69
DEBUSSEY, R. C.	0104910/1301	2ndLt	PltCmdr	23Nov69
WILLS, H. J.	0106074/1302	2ndLt	PltCmdr	23Nov69

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<u>NAME</u>	<u>SERV. NO.</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>PRIMARY DUTY</u>	<u>RTD</u>
<u>10<sup>th</sup> COMPANY</u>				
BOTELHO, E.	096213/1302	1stLt	CO	18Sep69
GARRIDO, D. D.	0101081/1302	1stLt	Exec	29Jun69
LEONARD, R. L.	0105185/1302	2ndLt	EquipPltCmdr	29Sep69
LINDSEY, E. E.	0105249/1301	2ndLt	PltCmdr	23Oct69
MANNALL, B. C.	0103650/1301	1stLt	PltCmdr	7Jan70
WHITE, E. G.	0105701/1301	2ndLt	PltCmdr	17Oct69
<u>1st BRIDGE COMPANY</u>				
DARITY, M. H.	095928/1302/1310/0430	1stLt	CO	17Dec69
LEGEMAN, R. C.	0101216/1302	1stLt	EXec	5Sep69
GORDON, T. E.	0105721/1301	2ndLt	PltCmdr	24Oct69
OSBORN, D. G.	0106007/1301	2ndLt	MaintPltCmdr	23Nov69
PASCARELLA, R. A.	0101721/1301	1stLt	PltCmdr	5Jan70
PRICER, K. D.	0104937/1301	2ndLt	PltCmdr	6Dec69
TORBET, P. A.	0104365/3002	2ndLt	SupO	16Sep69
<u>USN</u>				
MCKENZIE, E. III	728169/2105	Lt	BnSurgeon	22Jul69
COLEMAN, C. B.	723325/4105	Lt	BnChaplain	24Jul69