

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

3/JCS/rah  
5750  
20 August 1969

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

Subj: Command Chronology; period 1 July to 31 July 1969

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

Encl: ✓(1) July Chronology

1. In accordance with references (a) through (c), enclosure (1) is hereby submitted.

  
J. C. SHUMAKER  
By direction

774ENSR B1



CRD Chron

July 1969

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY  
1 July 1969 to 31 July 1969

PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY

PART III - SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

PART IV - SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

√ TAB A OFFICER ASSIGNMENTS

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ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

7th Engineer Battalion (Rein), FMF

COMMANDER

Lt Col T. T. ANNAS

SUBORDINATE UNITS

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Commander</u>	<u>Period Individual Occupied Billet</u>
HqCo	1stLt D. T. DICKEN	5Apr69 - 31Jul69
Serv Co	Maj W. W. RICH	12Mar69 - 31Jul69
Co "A"	Capt C. J. GOMEZ	25Jun69 - 31Jul69
Co "B"	1stLt C. S. RINEHART	15Jun69 - 31Jul69
Co "C"	1stLt T. E. SOKOLOWSKI	10Jun69 - 31Jul69
Co "D"	1stLt E. BOTELHO	11Sep68 - 31Jul69

ATTACHED UNITS

1st Bridge Co	1stLt R. C. LAGEMANN	11Jan69 - 31Jul69
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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 Company	8 December 1965	Danang, RVN

3. STAFF OFFICERS

<u>Section</u>	<u>Officer</u>	<u>Period Individual Occupied Billet</u>
Executive Officer	Maj R. J. BORDENARO	18Apr69 - 31Jul69
S-1	1stLt R. H. ALNUPT	18Dec68 - 31Jul69
S-2/S-3	Capt J. C. SHUMAKER	22Jun69 - 31Jul69
S-4	Maj J. T. MARSHALL	12Dec68 - 31Jul69
Supply Officer	1stLt L. E. KRUSEMARK	12Mar69 - 31Jul69
SgtMaj	SgtMaj H. E. ABBOTT	25Apr69 - 31Jul69

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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>
46	1156	2	23

5. PERSONNEL GAINS AND LOSSES

<u>GAINS</u>		<u>LOSSES</u>	
<u>USMC</u>	<u>USN</u>	<u>USMC</u>	<u>USN</u>
OFF 1	1	1	2
ENL 84	0	107	0

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5750PART IINARRATIVE 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 38 miles of road. The Battalion maintained 7 water points in the Danang area producing 3,316,000 gallons of water. One platoon of the 1st Bridge Company continued to furnish tactical bridge support to the 9th Engineer Battalion at Chu Lai.

Company "A", 7th Engineer Battalion continued maintenance of Rt# 540 and 30 for class 50 traffic and maintenance of Route 540 from AT 899774 to AT 946706 Route 542, Route 544 and Route 10. One platoon is located at Hai Van Pass to conduct daily mine sweeps of Route QL-1N from AT 927843 to AT 886957. Company "A" also conducts daily mine sweeps of Route 545.

Company "B", 7th Engineer Battalion continued upgrading Route QL-1S in preparation for paving. Company "B" is also responsible for maintenance and upgrading on Route 4 from BT 056589 to AT 968584. Due to the tactical situation this portion of the route is not being used. Company "B" conducts daily mine sweeps of Route QL-1S from AT 999707 to BT 077651.

Company "C", 7th Engineer Battalion continued to maintain Route 540 from AT 912743 to AT 927608. Company "C" also conducts daily mine sweeps of Route 540 from AT 943663 to AT 927608 and is in the process of upgrading this section of road.

Company "D", 7th Engineer Battalion continued upgrading on Route 540 from AT 927608 to AT 874460 for class 50 traffic and maintenance of Route 4. Areas east of Hill 37 and west of Hill 65 were inaccessible due to the current tactical situation. Company "D" conducts daily mine sweeps of Route 540 from AT 927608 to AT 925533.

III MAF WORK ORDERS OUTSTANDING 1 JULY 1969

III MAF 6379 - Construct the following for 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines; 500 man mess hall with pot shack, 72 strongbacks, 10-4 hole heads, 21 urinals, 3 shower units with 10 heads and lavatories, 2-4 head showers and one 500 barrel water storage tower with tank.

III MAF 6385 - Construct 3 strongbacks, 16-4 hole heads, one 50 foot tower, one water tower, and 2 shower units for 2/1.

III MAF 6387 -

1. Perform horizontal construction as required on cantonment roads and Motor Transport lot at 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines.

2. Resurface 1000 linear meters of interior camp roads at 1st Battalion, 13th Marines.

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3. Perform horizontal construction on cantonment roads at 1st Battalion, 1st Marines.

4. Perform horizontal construction on cantonment roads at 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines.

III MAF - Provide one Eimco with operator to assist 7th Communication Battalion in laying cable.

III MAF 1051 - Construct one 250 man mess hall for 1st LAAM Battalion, Hai Van Pass.

III MAF 1056 - Construct one 250 man mess hall with garbage shed and grease trap for 5th Marines at Liberty Bridge.

III MAF 1061 - Construct 250 barrel water tank and tower for 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines.

III MAF - Construct the following for 5th/7th Communication Battalions; five (5) SEA huts, 11-4 hole heads, 2-16' X 32' (20) head showers, one (6) head shower, one 20' X 48' rigid frame building, and one 40' X 100' rigid frame building. (CG, III MAF msg 260008Z Apr69)

III MAF - Construct ten (10) 10' X 24' bunkers for MACS-4, at Monkey Mountain. (CG, III MAF msg 050714Z Apr69)

III MAF 1105 - Construct three (3) 20' gun pads for 1st 175mm Gun Battery, 11th Marines.

III MAF - Clear a 25 foot fire break around the perimeter of ASP #2. (CG, III MAF msg 100424Z May69)

III MAF 1102 - Construct 1100 feet of 4/0 wire for secondary distribution system, between Division Radio Relay and Radio Control.

III MAF 1110 - Construct three (3) 40' timber observation towers for the 610 Transportation Company.

III MAF - Upgrade Route QL-1S from Thanh Quit to BT 036631. (CG, III MAF msg 180610Z May69)

III MAF 1113 - Repair storm damage at Hill 55 and storm damage at Hill 37.

7 III MAF 1120 - Construct the following:

1. Eight (8) 20' X 32' X 8' bunkers at the III MAF R&R Transient Facility.

2. Install shower fixtures in existing buildings at 3rd Amtracks.

III MAF - Support ROK Marines with four (4) Eimco tractors. (CG, III MAF msg 081156Z Jun69)

III MAF - Support III MAF with six (6) Eimco tractors as needed. (CG, III MAF msg 040806Z Jun69)

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III MAF - Support III MAF with tactical Bridge support as required.  
(CG, III MAF msg 281310Z May69)

III MAF - Construct a class 40/45 raft in support of MCB. (Phone Call)

III MAF - Construct and remove one (1) M4T6 floating bridge at Lang Co.  
(Phone Call)

III MAF - Provide one (1) Eimco in support of EOD for maintenance of  
range disposal area.

III MAF 1150 - Construct five (5) standard culvert bunkers at Monkey  
Mountain.

III MAF 1139 - Construct one (1) 50' tower at the Golden Gate Bridge in  
the vicinity of Hill 55.

III MAF 1137 - Construct the following; four (4) 30 foot replacement  
towers for the Danang Barrier and Install four (4) 30 foot towers for the 2nd  
ROKMC Brigade.

III MAF - Construct culvert fighting bunkers as required by III MAF.  
(CG, III MAF Ltr 15.10/MNV over 11100 dtd 29Jun69)

III MAF 1187 - Install grease trap for the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines  
mess hall.

III MAF 1110 - Construct television repeater station to include;

1. Building for machinery
2. Pole for Antenna
3. Generator shed

III MAF 1157 - Install lightning rods on eighteen 60' towers and twenty  
four 36' towers for 2nd ROK Brigade.

III MAF 1147 - Install secondary distribution system for An Hoa Combat  
Base.

III MAF 1006 - Construct 500 barrel water storage tower and tank at the  
7th Engineer Battalion.

III MAF WORK ORDERS ISSUED DURING JULY 1969

III MAF 1137 - Install 4-30' preconstructed towers for 2nd ROK Brigade.

III MAF 1087 - Install grease trap for 1st Battalion, 1st Marines mess  
hall

III MAF ltr 15.6/MNV over 11100 - Horizontal construction of in-camp  
roads at 3rd 175mm Gun Battery.

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III MAF 1021 - Construct 2-250 barrel water tanks and towers at the An Hoa Combat Base.

III MAF 1019 - Construct four (4) 175mm gun platforms at the An Hoa Combat Base.

III MAF 1022 - Construct a 30' bridge on Route QL-1S (BT 043619)

III MAF 1016 - Construct two (2) 30' observation towers at the An Hoa Combat Base

III MAF 1028 - Construct one (1) 20' X 30' Medical Bunker for the 7th Engineer Battalion.

III MAF 1037 - Redeck and rebuild bridge abutments on Route QL-1S. (BT 055592)

III MAF 1035 - Construct one (1) 40' observation tower at Hill 55 for 7th Marines.

III MAF WORK ORDERS COMPLETED DURING JULY 1969

III MAF 6384 - Construct 26 strongbacks, 8 shower units, 24-4 hole heads, one pot shack, one GI building and install one hot water heater for 1st Battalion, 1st Marines.

III MAF 1120 - Install one (3) head shower at the 1st Medical Battalion.

III MAF 1099 - Construct one (1) 250 barrel water storage tower and tank at 1st Battalion, 1st Marines.

III MAF 1069 - Construct six (6) SEA huts for 175mm Gun Battery at Hill 34.

III MAF - Repair landing zone at 1st Battalion, 1st Marines. (CG, III MAF msg 310624Z May69)

III MAF 6379 - Reconstruct existing doors on the mess hall pot shack located at 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines.

PART III

1. Sequential Listing of Significant Events

- a. Personnel and Administration. None
- b. Enemy, weather and terrain. A total of 7.07 inches of rain was recorded for the month of July.
- c. Enemy Activity.

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<u>TIME</u>	<u>INCIDENT</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>
020900H	Company "B" sweep team found 1-105 mortar round and 2-M-26 grenades 30 meters off East side of road. All were Booby-trapped with trip wires. Also found 2 illumination canisters, lying side by side, 30 meters South of ordnance. They were not booby-trapped. All ordnance was blown in place causing secondary explosions from the M-26's.	BT 036634
031145H	Company "D" sweep team reported that a M-51 from an unknown unit hit approximately a 30 lb mine on the left side of the road moving south. Mine left small hole in road which did not need repair. M-51 sustained negative casualties.	AT 914512
032230H	Alpha November CP received approximately 10 mortar rounds of unknown size. Personnel manned defensive lines; sustained negative casualties.	AT 942918
040943H	Company "C" sweep team found a large shaped booby-trap buried in the ground. Believed to be wired for command detonation. Booby-trap blown in place and left a hole 3½' wide and 1 foot deep.	AT 922820
070730H	Company "C" sweep team found 1-20 shell casing set up and used as an anti-personnel mine. Booby-trap was disarmed and returned to Company CP upon completion of sweep.	AT 941647
070815H	Company "B" sweep team found 1-155 round on west side of road. Round was command detonated with wire running approximately 300 meters off west side of road. The round was blown in place and a large secondary explosion occurred.	BT 040623
071800H	Company "D" CP received 3-82mm mortar rounds. Personnel fell out, manning perimeter. Counter mortar fire was fired and personnel secured lines.	AT 925581
080930H	Company "D" sweep team found crater on shoulder of road probably caused by 105 round. Crater was filled.	AT 923930
121100H	Company "B" M64 detonated M26 Booby-trap with trip wire. Checked out area with negative results. 1 USMC WIA was treated for wounds and returned to duty.	BT 043618
121235H	Company "D" CP received 2-122mm rockets. Personnel manned lines at 1225H and secured at 1240H.	AT 925581
140730H	Company "A" sweep team found 2-81mm HE rounds along side road. Rounds were blown in place. Also found 2-81mm casings at AT 936776 with powder and nose missing; also blown in place	AT 935874

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- 151035H Three vehicles from Company "C" enroute to their CP received small arms fire from a village. Trucks returned to CP with negative damage or injuries. AT 950709
- 172045H Company "D" CP received 2-82mm rounds and small arms fire. Fired counter mortar fire and secured at 2045H. AT 925581
- 180105H Company "D" CP received 5-60mm mortar rounds. Personnel manned lines; Counter mortar fire was fired at suspected launch site of incoming. by 7th Marines mortar crew AT 925581
- 180815H Unknown type of mine detonated in front of Company "B" sweep team. Explosion uncovered 1 unknown type mine and 1-105mm round that had been buried in the road. Ordnance was blown in place and area was checked with negative results. BT 036631
- 181605H Company "D" M-64 detonated anti-personnel mine. Checked area with negative results; negative injuries or damage AT 924518
- 202000H Unknown type of explosion occurred in Company "D" CP. One USMC WIA. AT 925535
- 220955H Company "B" sweep team found 1-M-26 grenade approximately 300 meters off side of road. Grenade was booby-trapped with trip wire. Ordnance was blown in place. BT 037628
- 231005H While Company "D" sweep team was sweeping newly opened Borrow Pit, They found a vent hole 8 inches wide and 6 feet deep. Further investigation revealed 3 entrances to possible bunker complex. Further investigation pending. AT 924518
- 250910H Security at 40' Bridge turned over to Company "D" sweep team 5 LAAWS, 18-M26 grenades, 5 Chi Com grenades, 1-105mm mortar round, 1-M1 rifle grenade, and 1-60mm mortar round. Security received ordnance from Vietnamese children. Ordnance was blown in Company "D" Fill Pit. AT 914598
- 270755H Company "B" sweep team found 4 LAAWS left in Vietnamese house Ordnance was blown in Company "B" fill pit. BT 032642
- 310900H Company "A" grader moving Northeast on Route #5 received 3 sniper rounds. Negative casualties were sustained. AT 925743

c. ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS

- (1) Officer assignment - See TAB A, enclosure (1)

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## (2) Operation 1 July - 3 July 1969

(a) Horizontal construction - The 7th Engineer Battalion continued maintenance of Route 542 by hauling and spreading 500 gallons of oil at AT 942754 to AT 935750, to aid in dust suppression and mine detection. The 7th Engineer Battalion hauled, spread, graded and rolled 132.5 cubic yards of 6"(-) rock on Route QL-1S in the vicinity of BT 043617, to upgrade and widen this section of the road, to aid in dust suppression and mine detection. The 7th Engineer Battalion hauled and spread 2,000 gallons of oil on Route QL-1S in the vicinity of BT 043617. 145.4 cubic yards of 6"(-) rock was hauled, spread, graded and rolled on Route QL-1S in the vicinity of BT 043617, to upgrade this section of the road in preparation for paving. In the vicinity of BT 043617 on QL-1S, 161.6 cubic yards of 6"(-) rock was hauled, spread, graded and rolled by the 7th Engineer Battalion in preparation for paving. On Route 540 from AT 943663 to AT 933627, 93 cubic yards of 3"(-) rock was hauled, spread, graded and rolled to repair and improve this section of the road. During this reporting period the 7th Engineer Battalion hauled, spread, and compacted 700 cubic yards of fill on the An Hoa Road from AT 923527 to AT 924525, plus hauling and spreading 350 cubic yards of fill from AT 922525 to AT 922516. At AT 927523 to AT 923525, 750 cubic yards of fill were hauled, spread, graded and rolled, to improve and upgrade the An Hoa Road. In the vicinity of AT 922527 on the An Hoa Road, 484 cubic yards of fill was hauled, spread, graded and compacted. The 7th Engineer Battalion hauled and spread 235 cubic yards of 3"(-) rock on the An Hoa Road in the vicinity of AT 922529. 1,000 gallons of oil was hauled and spread on the An Hoa Road from AT 922529 to AT 923526, to aid in dust suppression and mine detection. The 7th Engineer Battalion hauled 700 cubic yards of 4"(-) rock for stockpile at Phu Loc (6) for future use on the An Hoa Road. Civilian contractors hauled for stockpile at Company "C", 7th Engineer Battalion 975 cubic yards of 3"(-) rock. The 7th Engineer Battalion hauled, and spread 320 cubic yards of 3"(-) rock to their construction lot to improve drainage. This project is 96% complete. Company "D", 7th Engineer Battalion assembled 210 feet of 36" culvert for future use on the An Hoa Road. Hauled and spread 2,000 gallons of oil in-camp cantonment roads at Hill 37.

(b) Vertical construction - The 7th Engineer Battalion continued construction of 10' X 40' bunkers for MACS-4, located at Monkey Mountain. The deck for the 20' X 20' shower at the 7th Engineer Battalion CP was poured and the plywood for the walls was cut. This project is 45% complete. The construction of three (3) gun pads for the 1st 175mm Gun Battery, 11th Marines on Hill 34 continued by the 7th Engineer Battalion. At this time the project is 21% complete. Construction continued of the 20' X 20' shower unit at 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines. Also at 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines cantonment the installation of sheathing on the walls was completed and the tin was being placed on the roof on the 16' X 32' shower unit. At the 7th Communication Battalion, the 16' X 32' shower unit and the six (6) head shower is 65% complete. Repairs on the 250 barrel water storage tank at the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines was started by the 7th Engineer Battalion. Also repairs to the helopad at the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines was reported 98% complete. The SEA huts on Hill 37, which are being constructed by the 7th Engineer Battalion is 82% complete.

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Construction continued on the generator shed for the 5th Marines at Liberty Bridge by the 7th Engineer Battalion. At Company "C", 7th Engineer Battalion CP, construction continued on one (1) eight hole head. This project is 25% complete.

(3) Operations - 4 July - 10 July 1969

(a) Horizontal construction - The 7th Engineer Battalion hauled, spread, graded and rolled 1,437 cubic yards of 6"(-) rock on Route QL-1S in the vicinity of BT 043619, to upgrade and improve this section of the road in preparation for paving. The 7th Engineer Battalion in its effort to improve and maintain Route 545, 25 cubic yards of 3"(-) rock was hauled and spread. The 7th Engineer Battalion hauled 1400 cubic yards of fill to the vicinity of AT 924574 to AT 926523 on the An Hoa Road, 210 cubic yards of fill was hauled to Route 540 at AT 922528 to AT 925520 to repair and improve this section of road. Hauled 535 cubic yards of 3"(-) rock to Phu Loc (6) for use on the An Hoa Road. The 7th Engineer Battalion improved drainage on Route 540 by placing a 30' - 36" culvert at AT 909481. 150 cubic yards of 3"(-) rock was hauled to AT 923925 on Route 540 to improve this section of the road. 15 cubic yards of 3"(-) rock was hauled to Marshall Bridge bypass. In the vicinity of AT 923526 to AT 924525, 150 cubic yards of fill was spread and compacted for improvement of An Hoa Road. The Provisional Land Clearing Company discovered and destroyed 149 bunkers and cleared 1161 acres of land.

(b) Verticle construction - The 7th Engineer Battalion completed construction of one (1) 20' X 20' generator shed for 5th Marines. Company "A", 7th Engineer Battalion completed three (3) 10' X 40', (1) 10' X 24' and one (1) 14' X 14' bunkers at MACS-4. Standard culvert bunkers were started at the III MAF R and R center and TRC-97 Radio Relay. Company "B", 7th Engineer Battalion continued construction of gun pads for 11th Marines. Storm damage repair at Hill 37 continued and storm damage repair on Hill 55 for 7th Marines was completed. Work continued on the 5th/7th Communications Battalions joint cantonment and construction began on one (1) 10' X 10' shower for 1st Medical Battalion. Company "D", 7th Engineer Battalion completed construction of cantonment for 1st Battalion, 1st Marines on 9 July 1969. Construction on 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines mess hall and cantonment continued. Company "A", 7th Engineer Battalion continued work on a shower unit at their CP. Company "D", 7th Engineer Battalion continued repairs on maintenance shed at Hill 37.

(c) Engineer Comments - Significant Events

10 July 1969 - Completed three (3) 10' X 40', one (1) 10' X 24' and one (1) 14' X 14' bunkers at MACS-4 at Monkey Mountain.

(4) Operations - 11 July - 17 July 1969

(a) Horizontal Construction - The 7th Engineer Battalion hauled, spread, graded and rolled 974.4 cubic yards of 3"(-) rock on Route QL-1S in the vicinity of BT 046615, to continue upgrading and improvement of this section in preparation for paving, also 390.7 cubic yards of 6"(-) rock was hauled and spread near Thanh Quit. Upgrading of the An Hoa Road was continued by hauling 5889 cubic yards of fill and 1660 cubic yards of sand in the

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vicinity of AT 926522 to AT 925522. On Route 10, the 7th Engineer Battalion repaired the 48' X 24' bridge at AT 906743. One (1) 12" X 12" cap and 2400 board feet of 3" X 12" decking material was required. The maintenance of Route 540 was continued by the 7th Engineer Battalion by hauling, spreading and grading 99 cubic yards of fill from AT 944664 to AT 942643, to improve the road surface. In the vicinity of AT 949652 to AT 943689, 319 cubic yards of 3"(-) rock was hauled, spread and graded on Route 540. 2000 gallons of oil was hauled and spread from AT 922567 to AT 922540, 200 gallons of oil from AT 914587 to AT 919598, and 10,000 gallons of oil from AT 942643 to AT 945706 on Route 540 to aid in dust suppression and mine detection. The 7th Engineer Battalion hauled and spread 1200 gallons of oil on the ASP #2 roads to aid in dust suppression.

(b) Vertical Construction - The 7th Engineer Battalion began construction of three (3) 40' observation towers for 610 transportation Company. They began reassembling the 250 barrel water tank for the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines. The tank was leaking due to lack of sealing agent. The construction of the 200 man mess hall and SEA huts at the 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines cantonment is 85% complete. The 7th Engineer Battalion completed the construction of 26 strongbacks, 8 shower units, 24-4 hole heads, one pot shack, one GI building and installed one hot water heater for the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines. They began construction of a 20' X 20' generator shed at Radio Relay, 1st Marine Division. The forms were set and deck was poured on the generator shed. The 7th Engineer Battalion began installation of a grease trap for the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines mess hall. The site preparations were begun on the 2-250 barrel water tank and towers at the 7th Engineer Battalion compound. The construction at the 1st Medical Battalion of one shower unit is 95% complete. The wall frames have been erected and the rafters are now being placed. At the R&R center for III MAF, construction continued on the 12' X 35' fighting bunkers. All site preparation is complete and the uprights are being set. The 7th Engineer Battalion continued the construction of 5 standard fighting culvert bunkers at TRC-97, Monkey Mountain. All site preparations and part setting is complete. The T.V. Repeater hut and generator shed at the Hai Van Pass is 30% complete. All forms were set and the decks were poured. The 7th Engineer Battalion continued the construction of three (3) 175mm gun pads at 11th Marines by setting all deadmen and have the decks formed and ready to pour the concrete. At the 5th/7th Communications Battalion cantonment the construction of the 40' X 100' Butler building was continued by forming the deck and preparing to pour the deck.

(c) Engineer Comments - Significant events

10 July 1969 - Completed construction of 26 strongbacks, 8 shower units, 24-4 hole heads, one pot shack, one GI building and installed one hot water heater for 1st Battalion, 1st Marines.

(5) Operations 18 July - 24 July 1969

(a) Horizontal construction - The 7th Engineer Battalion continued to upgrade the cantonment roads at the 3rd 175mm Gun Battery by hauling and spreading 345 cubic yards of fill and 15 cubic yards of 6"(-) rock. On QL-1S, the 7th Engineer Battalion hauled, spread, graded, and rolled 1113.7 cubic yards of 6"(-) rock in the vicinity of the Thanh Quit Bridge to

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continue upgrading and improvement of this section of the road in preparation for paving. On the An Hoa Road upgrading continued by hauling, spreading and compacting 4689 cubic yards of fill and 2362 cubic yards of sand in the vicinity of AT 924525. Maintenance continued on Route 545 by hauling and spreading 4600 gallons of oil from AT 909783 to AT 944786, to aid in mine detection and dust suppression. The 7th Engineer Battalion continued to maintain Route 540 by hauling, spreading and grading 903 cubic yards of 3"(-) rock to improve the road surface in the vicinity of AT 942663 to AT 928615. From AT 922546 to AT 943683, 10,200 gallons of oil were hauled and spread to aid in dust suppression and mine detection. Civilian contractors hauled 495 cubic yards of 3"(-) rock to Company "C"'s stockpile for future use on Route 540. The 7th Engineer Battalion hauled and stockpiled 635 cubic yards of 3"(-) rock and 190 cubic yards of 6"(-) rock at the Phu Loc (6) stockpiled for future use on the An Hoa Road.

(b) Vertical construction - The 7th Engineer Battalion began reassembling the 500 barrel water storage tank at the 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines. At the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines reassembling and welding continued on the 250 barrel water storage tank. This project is 55% complete. Construction was started on the MACS-4 bunkers with fugasse dives. The 7th Engineer Battalion began site preparations and setting the forms for the deck on the 200 man mess hall at the Liberty Bridge for the 5th Marines. The 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines cantonment project is reported 91% complete. The 20' X 20' generator shed at Radio Relay, 1st Marine Division is 95% complete. The 7th Engineer Battalion constructed the forms for the footing on the 2-250 barrel water tanks at their CP. The 7th Engineer Battalion completed the construction of the 10' X 10' shower at the 1st Medical Battalion. Construction continued on the 12' X 35' fighting bunkers at the R&R center by placing roofing paper on the 4th bunker and pre-cut materials for the 5th bunker. All of the radial work is complete at the TV Repeater hut and the wall frames have been erected and the door hung. The materials for the 5th bunker at TRC-97 have been pre-cut. At Company "B", 7th Engineer Battalion construction continued on the 20' X 20' shower by preparing the forms for the concrete cap on the deck. The construction of the (3) 175mm gun pads at 11th Marines was continued by back-filling on the deadmen and setting forms for the deck. The grease trap at 1st Battalion, 1st Marines is formed and ready to pour the concrete. The 7th Engineer Battalion has completed all vertical construction at the 5th/7th Communications Battalion cantonment except for the 40' X 100' Butler building. All forms have been set and 16 cubic yards of concrete has been poured. Company "D", 7th Engineer Battalion reports the construction of the maintenance shed at their CP is 96% complete.

(c) Engineer Comments - Significant Events

19 July 1969 - Completed construction of one (1) 10' X 10' shower at the 1st Medical Battalion.

(6) Operations - 25 July - 31 July 1969

(a) Horizontal construction - The 7th Engineer Battalion hauled, spread, graded, and rolled 644 cubic yards of 6"(-) rock and 638.4 cubic yards of 3"(-) rock on Route QL-1S in the vicinity of BT 035634, in preparation for paving. On the An Hoa Road, upgrading continued by hauling,

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spreading, and compacting 7222 cubic yards of fill in the vicinity of AT 924525. 210 feet of 36" culvert was installed in this same area to aid in drainage. Civilian contractors hauled to the Company "C" stockpile 1245 cubic yards of 3"(-) rock, to be used in maintaining Route 540. The 7th Engineer Battalion hauled, spread, and compacted 305 cubic yards of 3"(-) rock, 45 cubic yards of sand and installed 110 feet of 60" culvert to repair a burned bridge site in the vicinity of AT 943691. 18,000 gallons of oil was hauled and spread from AT 946705 to AT 844461, to aid in dust suppression and mine detection. On the 3rd 175mm Gun Battery cantonment roads 265 cubic yards of fill, 120 cubic yards of 3"(-) rock and 60 cubic yards of 6"(-) rock were hauled, graded, and compacted. 30 feet of 36" culvert was also installed. The 7th Engineer Battalion hauled 885 cubic yards of 3"(-) rock and 260 cubic yards of 6"(-) rock to the Phu Loc (6) stockpile, for future use on the An Hoa Road.

(b) Vertical construction - The 7th Engineer Battalion continued construction on the standard fighting culvert bunkers with fugasse devices for MACS-4 at Monkey Mountain. The Battalion also started building 30' replacement towers to be used on the Danang Barrier. The TV repeater hut at Hai Van Pass was reported to be 98% complete during this period. The 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines cantonment is nearing completion, with start of last ten strongbacks. The Battalion continued to reassemble and weld 500 barrel water tank. The 250 barrel water tank and tower were completed on 30 July 1969. The Battalion poured 67 cubic yards of concrete for the 40' X 100' building at 5th/7th communications Battalions. Company "D" continued to repair storm damage on their own maintenance shed at Hill 37. All the interior forms for Liberty Bridge mess hall were finished and ready for concrete. The final 40 yards of concrete was poured for 3 gun pads at 1st 175mm guns. The Battalion continued to work on standard bunkers for TRC-97 and III MAF R&R center. The footing for platforms for two water storage tanks at 7th Engineer Battalion area were completed and the decking was being constructed.

(c) Engineer Comments - Significant Events

30 July 1969 - The 7th Engineer Battalion completed constructed 250 barrel water storage tank and tower for 1st Battalion, 1st Marines.

d. Plans

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

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- (7) Continue upgrading of Route 30
- (8) Continue maintenance of Route 544
- (9) Continue maintenance of Route 542
- (10) Continue maintenance of Route 10

e. Training

(1) Command indoctrination and information for newly arrived personnel was conducted. 104 enlisted personnel attended.

(2) 20 enlisted personnel attended Landmine Warfare School (1st Engineer Battalion)

(3) 1 NCO attended Career Planning Course (1stMarDiv)

(4) 1 enlisted attended Scuba School (Philippines)

(5) 1 enlisted attended Vietnamese Language School (III MAF)

(6) 1 NCO attended NCO Leadership School (1stMarDiv)

(7) 1 Officer attended Officer Leadership School (1stMarDiv)

(8) 3 enlisted attended Special Weapons Course (Okinawa)

(9) 1 enlisted attended Basic Infantry Weapons Course (Okinawa)

(10) 1 enlisted attended Basic Ammo Tech Course (Okinawa)

f. Logistics, Equipment and Supply

(1) Administration

(a) 7 July Received (1) Track Drill

(b) 4 July Received (1) MRS 100 and (1) Wobbly Wheel Roller

(c) 17 July Received 2,000,000 \$VN AIK fund

(d) 17 July Received (1) M64 returned from 3rd FSR

(e) 18 July Requested another 10,000 meters of rock be delivered by civilian trucks to Company "C"

(f) 20 July Received (2) M54's, (3) M51's, and (1) M52 from Maintenance Float.

(g) 25 July All equipment in from "Pipe Stone Canyon" for rework and troops in for a rest period.

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(h) 26 July Received (1) M718 Ambulance and (1) MRS 100 from Maintenance Float

(i) 28 July Received (1) Tandem Roller.

(2) Supply

7th Engineer Battalion (AC 21300)

During the month of July, Battalion Supply processed 201 priority 02, 438 priority 05 and 781 priority 12 and 17 requisitions. Also processed were 875 receipts from due, 875 issues from due and 579 issues from stock.

1st Bridge Company (AC 21325)

During the month of July, 1st Bridge Company Supply processed 21 priority 02, 89 priority 05 and 208 priority 12 and 17 requisitions. Also processed were 375 receipts from due, 342 issues from due and 78 issues from stock.

Motor Transport

Approximately 151,757 miles were logged in on the Battalion Motor Transport Vehicles during the month of July.

Maintenance

The Battalion Motor Transport Maintenance received 204 work orders, completed 180 work orders and 16 work orders to 3rd FSR during the month of July. The Battalion Heavy Equipment Maintenance received 84 engineer work orders, completed 60 and sent 9 work orders to 3rd FSR during July, 4 items returned from 3rd FSR and 1 was Code H during July.

Messing

The Battalion Mess hall 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 1583 military, 18 Vietnamese workers and 0 civilians. The Dental Clinic treated 299 military, 79 Vietnamese workers and 0 civilians.

g. Civil Affairs/Civic Action

- (1) The Civic Action Program sponsored the following:
  - (a) The MedCap Program provided treatment for 424 persons
  - (b) The DentCap Program provided treatment for 63 persons

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(c) Project submittal sheet submitted to province capitol for construction of Dam in Phu Thuong

(d) Brick factory produced 18,101 bricks

(e) Started chicken project, in Phu Thuong Hamlet with 50 chicks

(f) Four Psyops movies were held for approximately 1375 Vietnamese civilians

(2) Personal Response

(a) Three (3) cultural tours were conducted in Danang City

(b) Tour of An Ngai Tay Hamlet was conducted for 7th Engineer and FLC personnel.

#### PART IV

#### SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

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

NAME	SERV. NO/MOS	RANK	PRIMARY DUTY	RTD
ANNAS, T. T.	053496/1302/0430	LtCol	BnCmdr	30Aug69
BORDENARO, R. J.	064504/1302/2502/1802	Maj	ExecO	21Oct69
ALNUTT, R. H.	095814/0130/0102	1stLt	S-1/Adj	10Jan70
BRANNON, D. R.	0105032/2502	1stLt	CommO/LegalO	1Dec69
DICKEN, D. T.	0104170/1302	1stLt	HqComdt	25Aug69
ERICKSON, R. L.	0105083/1302	1stLt	Asst S-3	28Sep69
GETTMAN, J. A.	0102613/1302	1stLt	AwtgAsg(SplLv)	1Jan70
MARSHALL, J. T.	080929/1302/1310	Maj	S-4	30Oct69
MCALLISTER, G. D.	099031/1360	CWO-2	ConstPltCmdr	21Dec69
OSBECK, D. G.	0106007/1302/0430	1stLt	Asst S-4/LegalO	22Nov69
PRICER, K. D.	0104937/1302	1stLt	Asst S-3	6Dec69
SHUMAKER, J. C.	090562/1302	Capt	S-3/S-2	9Jun70
WHITE, E. G.	0105701/1302	1stLt	S-5/Asst S-2	17Oct69

SERVICE COMPANY

RICH, W. W.	071206/1302/0302	Maj	CoCmdr	23Sep69
BANKS, R. J.	0100833/1302	1stLt	ExecO	14Mar70
DEBUSSEY, R. C.	0104910/1302	1stLt	UtilitiesO	23Nov69
HAMMACK, J. A.	0104222/3502	1stLt	BnMT	13Sep69
JACKSON, J. M.	098854/1310	CWO-2	MaintPltCmdr	20Aug69
KRUSEMARK, L. E.	0104657/3002	1stLt	BnSupO	11Oct69
VANCE, K. R.	081562/1310	Capt	MaintPltCmdr	16Aug70

"A" COMPANY

GOMEZ, C. J.	089904/1302	Capt	CoCmdr	16Jul70
CARLSON, F. G.	0105884/1302	1stLt	PltCmdr	23Nov69
FLAMMANG, J. F. JR.	0105512/1302	1stLt	PltCmdr	17Oct69
KLEIS, H. N.	0104652/1302	1stLt	PltCmdr	15Aug69
RANISZEWSKI, A. JR.	0106863/1301/1390	2ndLt	PltCmdr	17Jun70

"B" COMPANY

RINEHART, C. S.	0105243/1302	1stLt	CoCmdr	28Sept69
BASHAM, G. W.	0105865/1301	2ndLt	PltCmdr	17Jun70
WICKMAN, B. E.	0106423/1301/1390	2ndLt	PltCmdr	22Jun70
WISE, R. A. JR.	0104959/1302	1stLt	PltCmdr	11Dec69

"C" COMPANY

SOKOLOWSKI, T. E.	0104779/1302	1stLt	CoCmdr	18Aug69
LINDSEY, E. E.	0105959/1302	1stLt	PltCmdr	23Nov69
LYONS, A. E.	0106846/1302	2ndLt	PltCmdr	17Jun70
MGLARTY, R. A.	0106319/1302	1stLt	PltCmdr	17Mar70
PERRIN, W. R.	0108421/1301	2ndLt	PltCmdr	30Jun70

"D" COMPANY

BOTELHO, E.	096213/1302	1stLt	CoCmdr	18Sep69
ADAMS, R. E.	0105441/1302	1stLt	PltCmdr	23Oct69
LEONARD, R. L.	0105165/1302	1stLt	PltCmdr	29Sep69
MANGNALL, B. C. JR.	0103650/1302	1stLt	PltCmdr	3Jan70
WILLS, H. J.	0106074/1302	1stLt	PltCmdr	23Nov69
WILSON, T. J.	0107962/1301	2ndLt	PltCmdr	6Jun70

<u>NAME</u>	<u>SERV. NO. / MOS</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>PRIMARY DUTY</u>	<u>RTD</u>
<u>1ST BRIDGE COMPANY</u>				
LAGEMANN, R. G.	0101216/1302	1stLt	CoCmdr	5Sep69
GORDON, T. E.	0105524/1302	1stLt	PltCmdr	24Oct69
JONES, J. C.	0105555/1302	1stLt	PltCmdr	23Oct69
PASCARELLA, R. A. JR.	0103721/1302	1stLt	PltCmdr	3Jan70
TORBET, P. A.	0104365/3002	1stLt	Sup0	16Sep69
<u>USN</u>				
ANDREWS, S. S.	728168/2405	Lt	BnSurgeon	27Jul69
CARLSON, C. R.	698088/2205	Lt	BnDentist	6Feb70
ROBERTS, M. H.	650865/4100	LCdr	BnChaplain	27Jul69

ENCLOSURE (1)  
TAB A

LANDCLEARING COMPANY (PROVISIONAL)  
7th Engineer Battalion (Rein) FMF  
FPO San Francisco 96602

CMC  
A04E

L/RLL/ahb  
12 August 1969

From: Commanding Officer, Land Clearing Company (Provisional)  
To: Commanding Officer, 7th Engineer Battalion (Rein) FMF

Subj: After Action Report - Go Noi Island (Final)

Ref: (a) Regulation 335-18, 18th Engineer Brigade

1. a. Code Name: Operation Pipestone Canyon
  - b. Dates: Start: 14 June 69  
Finish: 24 July 69
  - c. Location: Go Noi Island, Republic of Vietnam
2. a. Command Headquarters  
Commanding Officer, First Marine Regiment USMC  
Commanding Officer, 45th Engineer Group USA  
Commanding Officer, 7th Engineer Battalion USMC
  - b. Supporting Forces  
  
Elements of the Second Brigade ROKMC  
Seventh Engineer Battalion  
Seventh Bulk Fuel Company  
First Shore Party Battalion  
Elements of the First Marine Regiment  
85th Maintenance Company USA  
45th Engineer Group USA  
First Engineer Battalion

3. Engineer Mission: Destroy all vegetation and field fortifications on Go Noi Island, in conjunction with Operation Pipestone Canyon.

4. Narrative of Operation: The Land Clearing Company moved onto Go Noi Island on 14 June 1969 with ten Marine Corps Eimco and nine U. S. Army D7E Tractors. Clearing began at the railroad berm and proceeded east at an average of 210 acres a day. The Company Command Post was kept at the center of operation. The CP was moved a total of 4 times on the eastern half and once on the western half to insure that the tractors had to move a minimum distance to get to or from the cut each day. The CP consisted of a 4 foot berm with two Command Amphibious Tractors, (LVT). The tractors were parked within the berm each night. One LVT was used for the Land Clearing Company, while the second was used by the Headquarters of the Rifle Company that was tasked for the security mission. Actual cutting commenced on the east side of the railroad berm that splits the island, on 15 June 1969. Tractors moved out daily at 0630 hours and remained on the cut until 1600 hours. The cut was accomplished in one of two manners.

Land Clearing Co (Prov), 7th Engr Bn  
A/A PIPESTONE CANYON

14 June - 24 July 1969

Most often a rectangular area was marked in the morning and then the tractors proceeded in ever-decreasing concentric rectangles until the area was completely cleared. Security was established after the initial cut was made and consisted of infantry forming a perimeter around the initial cut. The second type of cut utilized consisted of all tractors in echelon moving along one side of a predetermined area. Upon arrival at the established end or boundary the tractors would execute a 180 degree turn and return to the starting boundary. This would be continued for the duration of the day. Security was established by dispatching personnel to the estimated boundaries of the area to be cut during the day. Advantages and disadvantages of the two methods are discussed in section (6a) of this report. Throughout the entire operation, demolition personnel were utilized for the complete destruction of bunkers, tunnels, duds and enemy ordnance. Pyrotechnics and smokes were used as signal devices by tractor operators to call the Engineer attention to the discovery of an object requiring further investigation. Radio communications were available for one of every four tractors with control communications based in a command, tracked cargo carrier, also located on the cut. Due to location and tactical situation of the land clearing operation, ninety-five percent of all resupply was accomplished by helicopter from LSA and Camp Monahan. Fuel was delivered in 500 Gallon rubber blivets and all other POL in drums. Parts were requisitioned through the S-4, 7th Engineer Battalion, and once received were taken to the LSA for aerial delivery. Liaison personnel were kept at the LSA to assure proper resupply was being accomplished. As much maintenance as possible was accomplished in the field. Both the Army and Marine platoons had attached 3rd echelon mechanics. Special maintenance requirements were handled by contact teams flown in with a specific mission, then were returned to their rear area.

5. Significant Engineer Accomplishments: The Island of Go Noi no longer offers the enemy a significant place of cover or concealment.

6. Problems encountered in mission task:

a. Considering first the two methods of cutting used we find definite advantages and disadvantages to both. Directing analysis towards the rectangular initial cutting method we first find that the distribution of security is relatively simple due to the fact that a definite boundary is established on the area which requires securing. Also, terrain features that restrict movement by the tractors can be utilized as boundaries, thereby increasing efficiency. But, on the other side of the coin is the fact that control of the tractors is difficult since they become spread out on four different sides of the cut. With the one command vehicle it is difficult to provide adequate coverage of the entire area. This lack of control makes difficult field expedient maintenance and makes possible a tendency for operators to extend breaks. The cut on one front, of course, affords much better control of all tractors, at all times, by keeping the command vehicles at a vantage point in the center of the cut. Boredom can take its toll, though, if care is not taken to limit the length of cut. Security becomes a problem as definite boundaries are only known along the front and possibly the sides. The depth of the cut must be estimated and then the security elements must cross uncleared areas, increasing the possibility of casualties from SFD's. Finally, consideration is given to the fact that terrain features that limit production can not always be avoided in this method.

b. Bunker destruction presented a constant source of disagreement among involved parties. Although large quantities of C-4 were utilized it was felt that destroying the bunkers with tractors caused several problems. Time expended with

a tractor averaged approximately ten minutes per bunker to totally deny it's use. If every bunker discovered was handled in this fashion it would have virtually tied up one tractor for 17 days of the operation. This combined with the damage done to tractors that did attempt to destroy the fortifications would take a heavy toll on the number of tractors available for clearing.

7. a. Total Actual Tractor Hours Expended:

Einco Tractors: 1836 Hours  
D7E Tractors: 2205 Hours

b. Total Demolition Expended:

640 lbs C-4  
32-40 lbs Cratering Charges  
2-Lines Charges LVT EL

c. Total Fortifications Destroyed:

1089 Bunkers  
Lineal meters of Trench Line - Unknown  
Lineal meters of Tunnels - Unknown

d. Total Land Cleared:

7114 Acres

e. Total Friendly Ordnance Uncovered:

4-60mm HE	11-250lb Bombs HE
1-40mm HE	8-500lb Bombs HE
15-M-26 Grenades	4-750lb Bombs HE
17-105mm HE	1-1000lb Bomb HE
9-155mm HE	7-81mm HE
2-175mm HE	

f. Total Enemy Mines and SFD's Destroyed or detonated:

12-M26's	1-105mm HE
1-81mm HE	

g. Total Enemy Foodstuff Destroyed:

1800lb of Rice

h. Total Enemy Ordnance Uncovered:

1-B-40 Rocket  
10-ChiCom Grenades

i. Total Miscellaneous Material Found:

12-Shovels  
3-Hoes  
1-NVA Pack  
Numerous documents were found turned into the 1st Marine Regiment.  
2-Items of ChiCom communications gear  
1-PRC 10

## 8. Lessons Learned:

- a. Methods of cuts (Explained in section 6)
- b. Destruction of Bunkers (Explained section 6)

## 9. Recommendations and Comments:

- a. The effectiveness of the Land Clearing Company can be seriously hampered by a slow supply system.
- b. Go Noi Island should be selectively Napalmed to burn off the Elephant Grass that has been pushed down and dried.
- c. The Island should be patrolled to insure that it is not rebuilt.

*James A Cook*  
 JAMES A COOK  
 EXECUTIVE OFFICER

*R. L. Leonard*  
 R. L. LEONARD  
 Company Commander

Copy to: *→* CMC (Code A04)  
 CG FMFPac  
 CG III MAF  
 CG 1st MarDiv  
 CO 45th Engr. Group  
 CO 1st Mar. Regt.