

UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS
9th Engineer Battalion, FMF
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

3/jgs
5213/5
17 SEP 1969

~~SECRET~~

(Unclassified upon removal of Enclosure (1))

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division, FMF, FPO San Francisco, California 96602

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 - 31 August 1969

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

Encl: ✓(1) 9th Engineer Battalion Command Chronology

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

E. K. Maxwell
E. K. MAXWELL

S & C FILES
HEADQUARTERS
1ST MARINE DIVISION, FMF

69 3301
COPY 1 of 5 COPIES

9TH ENGINEER BN

69 0086

COPY 1 OF 11

UNCLASSIFIED
~~SECRET~~
(Unclassified upon removal of Enclosure (1))

9TH ENGR BN

CMD CHRON

AUG 1969

UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS
9th Engineer Battalion, FMF
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

3/jgs
5213/5
17 SEP 1969

Command Chronology

1 August 1969-31 August 1969

INDEX

Part I

Organizational Data

Part II

Narrative Summary

Part III

Sequential Listing of
Significant Events

UNCLASSIFIED

3/jgs
5213/5

17 SEP 1969

UNCLASSIFIED

PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Designation.

9th Engineer Battalion

Commander

LtCol B. F. VISAGE
1 - 31 August 1969

SUBORDINATE UNITS

Headquarters Company

Service Company

Company A

Company B

Company C

Company D

1stLt T. M. TURNER
1 - 31 August 1969
Capt C. H. JONES
1 - 4 August 1969
Major A. A. BERNOTAS
5 - 31 August 1969
1stLt J. L. SPIKEMAN
1 - 31 August 1969
Capt R. F. SHOAF
1 - 31 August 1969
1stLt R. J. CALDARELLA
1 - 31 August 1969
Capt J. K. NAGAZINA
1 - 31 August 1969

ATTACHED UNITS

3d Bridge Platoon, 1st Bridge
Company in direct support

1stLt T. E. GORDON
1 - 31 August 1969

2. Location.

9th Engineer Battalion
Company A

1st Platoon

Company B
Company C (-)
3d Platoon

Company D

Chu Lai, RVN
BT199390
Hill #10, RVN
BT221326
Hill #29, RVN
BT199390
Hill #10, RVN
Chu Lai, RVN
Chu Lai, RVN
BT290230
Tam Ky, RVN
BT136448
Hill #63, RVN

1 - 31 August 1969
1 - 31 August 1969
1 - 7 August 1969
7 - 31 August 1969
1 - 31 August 1969
1 - 31 August 1969
1 - 31 August 1969
1 - 31 August 1969

UNCLASSIFIED
Enclosure (1)

UNCLASSIFIED

3/jgs
5213/5

17 SEP 1969

3. Staff Officers.

Executive Officer

S-1/Adjutant

Personnel Officer

S-2/S-3 Officer

S-4 Officer

S-5 Officer

Sergeant Major

Motor Transport Officer

Construction Officer

ADM Officer

Maintenance Officer

Utilities Officer

Billet Vacant
Legal Officer

Medical Officer

Supply Officer

Embarkation Officer

Billet Vacant
NBC Officer

Training Officer

Major J. W. STEVENS

1 - 31 August 1969

Capt T. W. SCHAUER

1 - 31 August 1969

Capt T. W. SCHAUER

1 - 24 August 1969

2dLt T. L. JAMES

25 - 31 August 1969

Major E. M. CONDRA

1 - 31 August 1969

Major J. P. CORCORAN

1 - 31 August 1969

2dLt J. R. WOODMAN

1 - 31 August 1969

SgtMaj J. L. NICKLES

1 - 31 August 1969

1stLt P. Q. FOSTER

1 - 31 August 1969

GySgt O. E. SHOEMAKER

1 - 31 August 1969

Major E. M. CONDRA

1 - 31 August 1969

CWO-2 W. E. YORK

1 - 31 August 1969

1stLt R. R. MILLER

1 - 16 August 1969

17 - 31 August 1969

2dLt C. J. SIMOLKE

1 - 3 August 1969

Capt T. W. SCHAUER

4 - 31 August 1969

Lt C. B. CANTT (USN)

1 - 24 August 1969

Lt B. (n) KING (USN)

25 - 31 August 1969

Capt L. BUCKLEY

1 - 31 August 1969

1stLt E. E. TELAVICH

1 August 1969

2 - 31 August 1969

Major E. M. CONDRA

1 - 31 August 1969

Major E. M. CONDRA

1 - 31 August 1969

Enclosure (1)

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

3/jgs
5213/5

17 SEP 1969

Education Officer

Chaplain

Communications Officer

Billet Vacant
Heavy Equipment OfficerMajor E. M. CONDRA
1 - 31 August 1969
Lt R. S. LIPPERT (USN)
1 - 31 August 1969
1stLt J. F. CRAWFORD
1 - 27 August 1969
27 - 31 August 1969
GySgt M. TIALAVEA
1 - 31 August 19694. Average Monthly Strength.USMC

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>
37	1016

USN

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>
2	20

Enclosure (1)

UNCLASSIFIED

3/jgs
5213/5
17 SEP 1969

UNCLASSIFIED

PART II

1. During the month of August 1969, the 9th Engineer Battalion, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel B. F. VISAGE, continued its primary mission of maintenance, upgrading and asphaltic paving of Republic of Vietnam Route #1, from Chu Lai (BT520044) to the Song Cau Lau (BT091544). Engineer Support of Free World Forces in the Chu Lai TAOR continued to require significant engineer effort.
2. Company A located at Hill #10, (BT196391), continued to maintain and upgrade Republic of Vietnam Route #1 from BT242318 to Thang Binh (BT175418) a distance of 8 miles.
3. Company B located at Chu Lai was engaged in vertical construction in support of Free World Forces in the Americal TAOR. The Heavy Equipment/Motor Transport Section furnished augmentation support to Company A Task Organized element located at Hill #29, (BT238315), to support upgrading and paving operations on Republic of Vietnam Route #1. In addition Company B is responsible for maintenance and repair of Republic of Vietnam Route #1 from Chu Lai, (BT520044), to Tam Ky (BT330209), a distance of 16.5 miles.
4. Company C (-) located at Chu Lai was engaged in vertical construction in support of Free World Forces in that area. The 3d platoon Task Element at Tam Ky, (BT290230), is responsible for maintenance and repair of Republic of Vietnam Route #1 from Tam Ky to Bridge #33, (BT237326).
5. Company D located at Landing Zone Baldy (BT136448) continued upgrading and maintenance to Republic of Vietnam Route #1 from Thang Binh, (BT175418), north to the Song Cau Lau, (BT091544), a distance of 11.1 miles, plus construction in support of Free World Forces. Concurrently, Company D is upgrading QL-1 (new roadway) from BT092537 to BT080548, a distance of 1 mile.
6. During the month of August 1969, upgrading and repair of Republic of Vietnam Route #1 was broken down into four main areas of responsibility; Chu Lai to Tam Ky, Tam Ky to Bridge #33, (BT237326), Bridge #33 to Thang Binh, and Thang Binh to the Song Cau Lau.
7. From Bridge #35, (BT259289) to BT242318 Republic of Vietnam Route #1, Company A augmented by Motor Transport elements of Service, Bravo, and Charlie Companies expended 4,373 man-days and 20,503 equipment-hours in hauling 11,952 cubic yards of mineral products and 4,230 cubic yards of laterite in upgrading Republic of Vietnam Route #1 to MACV standards for paving with asphaltic concrete. Headquarters Company spread 21,000 gallons of penprime/RC800 in the maintenance of Republic of Vietnam Route #1. As of 31 August 1969, Republic of Vietnam Route #1 has been paved from An Tan, (BT379174) to BT237326, a distance of 27.3 miles. During the reporting period 2,020 tons of asphaltic concrete was laid down from BT242318 to BT237326, a distance of 1.0 miles of paving. Enclosure (1)

3/jgs
5213/5
17 SEP 1969

8. Between Thang Binh and Song Cau Lau, Company D expended 165 man-days and 1,000 equipment-hours in placing 210 cubic yards of mineral products, 4,432 cubic yards of laterite, and operating a rock quarry in support of Republic of Vietnam Route #1.

9. a. During the month of August 1969, no culverts were installed.

b. During the month of August 1969, the following bridges were repaired/constructed/under construction:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
BT225347	190'	60	Steel Stringer, Pile Bent Pile Backfill Abutment	Destroyed 7Jun69 Completed 11Aug69
BT102511	722'	60	Steel Stringer, Pile Bent Pile Backfill Abutment	Destroyed 21May69 Replace (3) 40' spans. Completed 31Aug69.
BT325215	40'	60	Steel Stringer, Pile Bent Pile Backfill Abutment	Single Lane. Secondary Parallel Road QL-1, 85% complete.
BT219359	40'	60	Steel Stringer, Pile Bent Pile Backfill Abutment	Destroyed 17May69 Installed 40' 2-way bridge 40% complete.
BT237326	16'	60	Timber Stringer, Pile Bent Pile Backfill Abutment	Replace Treadway Completed 13Aug69

c. Tactical bridging installed:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
BT325215	30'	60	M4T6	Installed 13Aug69

d. Tactical bridging removed:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
BT325215	30'	60	M4T6	Installed 13Aug69 Removed 29Aug69

3/jgs
5213/5
17 SEP 1969

<u>Location</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
BT102511	38'	60	M4T6 (Raft)	Installed 21Jun69 Removed 20Aug69
BT225347	105'	60	M6	Installed 17Jun69 Removed 11Aug69

10. Since 1 August 1969, the 9th Engineer Battalion has completed the following additional engineer support to Free World Forces.

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Construction</u>
3/17 Cav	27 revetment stands
9th EngrBn	Wing wall camp drainage system
63d TransBn	130'x20' messhall
Americal Div	4,000 sqft library built
9th EngrBn	24', 250 barrel water tower
1/82 ArtyBn	9 - 2 hole heads
14th Evac AvnBn	2 seahuts
54th MedBn	Relocate 5 seahuts
1/6 Americal Div	Cut & graded 16,000 sqft for seahuts
196th Brigade	Relocate 5 seahuts
9th EngrBn	Deck at Water Point #2

3/jgs
5213/5

17 SEP 1969

PART III

1. Civic Action.

a. During the month of August 1969, three MEDCAPS were conducted at Long Phu 1 and 2, (BT519032) and Tich Tay, (BT503042). Approximately 125 Vietnamese were treated.

b. The battalion also continued a cultural exchange between Marines and Vietnamese Boy Scouts at the Catholic Orphanage.

c. The battalion continued to supply garbage for Tich Tay pig farm. The Civil Affairs Section is encouraging the Vietnamese people to supply their own food for the pigs.

d. During the reporting period the battalion has accomplished support to Ky Lien School with 8 loads of scrap wood, 50 lbs. of 8d nails, and 3 loads of laterite. Two loads of scrap wood were delivered to the Protestant Orphanage, and in addition 36 loads of laterite were given to the Catholic Orphanage for the new church. Civic Action Team helped improve the road to Tich Tay by replacing a damaged 36" culvert with a 48" culvert 24' long, and installing two more 24" culverts 36' long to prevent erosion of road and providing better drainage for cultivated farm areas.

2. Training.

<u>Date</u>	<u>School or Course</u>	<u>Off/Enl</u>	<u>Location</u>
11Aug69	ADM Special Weapons	Enlisted	Okinawa
17Aug69	RPS	Officer	Danang
17Aug69	VN Language	Enlisted	Danang
25Aug69	ADM Special Weapons	Enlisted	Okinawa
30Aug69	Basic Ammunition Technician	Enlisted	Okinawa

3. Engineer Operations.

a. 2 August 1969:

(1) Company D received three (3) mortar rounds at BT101511. Negative casualties. Negative damage.

b. 4 August 1969:

(1) Company A Medevaced 4 ARVN's with multiple small arms and shrapnel wounds at BT196391.

3/jgs
5213/5
17 SEP 1969

(2) Company D Medevaced 3 PF's after they tripped booby trap in rice paddy at BT099512.

c. 5 August 1969:

(1) Company A Medevaced 1 VN child with shrapnel wounds and 1 without right leg at BT096526.

e. 7 August 1969:

(1) Company A sweepteam found 1 60mm HE round and 1 Chi Com grenade on side of road at BT211372.

f. 9 August 1969:

(1) Company D bridge security found 1 250 pound command detonated mine floating in river toward bridge at BT102511.

(2) Company D Medevaced 2 PF's with gunshot wounds at BT214437.

(3) Company D Medevaced 1 VN child run over by 2 1/2 ton civilian truck at BT102511.

g. 10 August 1969:

(1) Company D found booby trapped M-26 grenade at BT100519. Destroyed in paddy.

h. 11 August 1969:

(1) Company D Medevaced 3 VN civilians wounded by mortar round at BT100519.

(2) Company D Medevaced 1 VN civilian with gunshot wounds at BT102512.

i. 12 August 1969:

(1) Company D bridge security received 25 to 30 mortar rounds at BT102512. Negative damage, negative casualties.

(2) Company D found hole in road 7'x7'x7' at BT119489. Road repaired.

j. 13 August 1969:

3/jgs
5213/5

17 SEP 1969

(1) Company D sweepteam received small arms fire at BT102512. Negative casualties.

(2) Company C found 1 - 105mm round on west side of road at BT282252. Round removed.

(3) Company C found culvert in road 95% destroyed by explosives at BT216363. Road repaired.

(4) Company D sweepteam received approximately 200 rounds automatic weapons fire at BT114497. Negative casualties.

(5) Company D sweepteam received 30 to 40 rounds automatic fire at BT104506. Negative casualties.

(6) Company A Medevaced 1 VN civilian with gunshot wound at BT219359.

k. 14 August 1969:

(1) Company D Medevaced 1 VN civilian with multiple shrapnel wounds at BT102514.

(2) Company D sweepteam found 1 81mm HE round and 1 M-79 round at BT151452. Destroyed in place.

(3) Company D sweepteam found 1 60mm HE round at BT180413. Destroyed in paddy.

(4) Company A sweepteam found 1 105mm HE round at BT225347. Destroyed in place.

(5) Company D sweepteam found 1 M-61 frag at BT108431. Destroyed in place.

(6) Company D Medevaced 1 VN baby with shrapnel wounds at BT082545.

(7) Company D sweepteam found 2 60mm illumination rounds, 1 60mm HE round and 4 blocks of composition 8 at BT082745. Destroyed in paddy.

(8) Vietnamese truck detonated mine at BT119489. Mine approximately 75 pounds of which 20 pounds did not detonate. 20 pound block removed and destroyed in paddy. Road repaired.

3/jgs
5213/5

17 SEP 1969

DECLASSIFIED

l. 15 August 1969:

(1) Company A sweepteam found 1 105mm round on side of road at BT190398. Destroyed in paddy.

(2) Company D sweepteam found 1 mini-bomb in paddy at BT153453. Destroyed in place.

(3) Company A sweepteam found booby trapped grenade on side of road at BT221357. Destroyed in paddy.

(4) Company D medevaced VN civilian with shrapnel wounds at BT129479.

m. 16 August 1969:

(1) Company D Medevaced VN civilian with shrapnel wounds at BT103513.

n. 17 August 1969:

(1) Company C found 1 culvert blown at BT255295 leaving crater 10'x30'. Road repaired.

(2) Company A found 1 CHiCom grenade on side of road at BT255295. Destroyed in place.

(3) Company D sweepteam found 1 60mm HE round at BT092535. Destroyed in paddy.

o. 19 August 1969:

(1) Company A sweepteam found 1 M-79 HE in paddy at BT186407. Destroyed in place.

(2) Company A sweepteam found 1 60mm HE on side of road at BT176415. Destroyed in place.

p. 20 August 1969:

(1) Company A sweepteam found 2 40 pound nitro starch mines one on either side of road at BT297257. Destroyed in place. Road repaired.

q. 21 August 1969:

3/jgs
5213/5

17 SEP 1969

(1) Company A sweepteam found 1 M-16 pressure detonated anti-personnel mine on side of road at BT218359. Removed and destroyed in river bed.

(2) Company A sweepteam found 1 illumination round on side of road at BT225348. Destroyed in paddy.

(3) Company D found two holes in road approximately 40 pound charges at BT099522. Road repaired.

r. 22 August 1969:

(1) Company D sweepteam received 5-10 rounds small arms fire at BT195516. Negative casualties.

(2) Company A sweepteam found 1 M-79 HE round on side of road at BT092535. Destroyed in paddy.

(3) Company D sweepteam found 1 60mm round rigged as grenade at BT092535. Destroyed in paddy.

(4) Company D medevaced 1 VN child with shrapnel wounds at BT102512.

s. 23 August 1969:

(1) Company A found 1 81mm illumination round in paddy at BT193395. Destroyed in paddy.

(2) Company C found 1 40 pound nitro starch mine on east side of road at BT272266. Destroyed in place, road repaired.

(3) Company C found 1 25 pound nitro starch mine on west side of road at BT272266. Destroyed in place. Road repaired.

(4) Company C Medevaced 1 U. S. Army personnel with shotgun wound received from sniper at BT294231.

t. 24 August 1969:

(1) Company D sweepteam found 1 81mm round rigged as booby trap at BT102415. Destroyed in paddy.

u. 26 August 1969:

3/jgs
5213/5
17 SEP 1969

(1) Company C found 1 M-79 round on side of road at BT219359. Destroyed in place.

v. 27 August 1969:

(1) Company A found 1 M-14 anti-personnel mine in paddy at BT208375. Destroyed in place.

w. 28 August 1969:

(1) Company C found 25 pound nitro starch electrically detonated mine on side of road at BT272266. Disarmed and cleared.

(2) Company D bridge security received two rounds of 60mm mortar on bridge at BT103512. Negative damage.

(3) Company D found 1 250 pound bomb under north end of bridge ready to be command detonated at BT104515. Bomb disarmed and turned over to EOD.

x. 29 August 1969:

(1) Company D sweep team found crater in road at BT092525 of unknown origin. Road repaired.

(2) Company D received approximately 200 rounds of automatic weapons fire at BT102513. Negative casualties.

y. 31 August 1969:

(1) Company A Medevaced 1 VN civilian suffering from unknown disease at BT200389.

4. Voluntary Informant Program.

a. During the month of August 1969, Vietnamese civilians turned in the following ordnance to the 9th Engineer Battalion, FMF

- (1) 1 - 75mm rd of French origin
- (2) 7 - ChiCom Gren
- (3) 2 - 60mm rds
- (4) 6 - M18A1 Claymore
- (5) 9 - M-26 Gren
- (6) 1 - Smoke Gren

3/jgs
5213/5

17 SEP 1969

- (7) 1 - M-16 Anti-personnel mine
(8) 7 - M-79 rds

b. Total funds expended for the period was \$VN8,800.

5. Patrols. During the month of August, 9th Engineer Battalion conducted 31 daylight patrols and 31 night reconnaissance patrols consisting of checkpoints and observation posts in BT grids 4906, 4905, 4904, 4903, 4803, 5006, 5005, 5004, and 5003 between the hours of 0730H and 0400H with negative contact.

6. Patrol Training. During the month of August 1969, the 9th Engineer Battalion in conjunction with 1st Combined Action Group, Chu Lai, RVN, participated with Combined Action Platoons in setting up night ambushes, recon patrols, and various Civic Action programs.