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HEADQUARTERS
11th Engineer Battalion
Fleet Marine Force, Pacific
FPO San Francisco 96602

217067

3/WWS/rpp
S&C 015-67
5750
6 May 1967

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code AO3D)
Via: (1) Commanding General, 3rd Marine Division
(2) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 April 1967 to 30 April 1967

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8

Encl: ✓(1) 11th Engineer Battalion Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a) and (b), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. Regrade unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

R. L. Mulford
R. L. MULFORD

11TH ENGR BN

CMD CHRON

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

Eleventh Engineer Battalion

COMMANDERLtCol R. L. MULFORD, USMC
16Aug66-CurrentSUBORDINATE UNITS

Headquarters Company

1st Lt. W. D. CORNELIUSON, USMC
16Jan67-20Apr67
Capt. A. J. BURGER, USMC
21Apr67-Current

Service Company

Capt. J. A. HONSE, USMC
1Sep66-5Apr67
Maj. R. F. EASTIN, USMC
6Apr67-Current

"A" Company

Capt. T. C. POPE Jr., USMC
1Apr67-Current

"E" Company

Capt. P. L. BARTH, USMC
1Feb67-Current

"C" Company

Capt. W. S. MARSHALL III, USMC
30Aug66-Current

"D" Company

Capt. N. T. BERTHUSEN, USMC
1Mar67-Current2. LOCATION

1 April 1967 - 30 April 1967: Dong Ha RVN

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer

Maj. H. R. SHORTT, USMC
29Mar67-Current

S-1/Adjutant

2nd Lt. R. G. GULLEY, USMC
5Jun66-Current

S-2/3

Maj. H. R. SHORTT, USMC
1Sep66-Current

S-4

Maj. J. T. SCHULTZ, USMC
25Jul66-Current

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Enclosure (1)

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Supply Officer

2nd Lt. F. V. RHYDER, USMC
17Sep66-Current

Communication Officer

1st. Lt. P. C. TRILOLO, USMCR
1Sep66-Current

Medical Officer

Lt. C. L. HIGHGENBOTEN, USN (MC)
29Jan67-Current

Chaplain

LCDR. M. A. ONDO, USN
24Jan67-Current4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>OTHER</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
47	1327	2	18	0	0

PART II

During the month of April 1967, the 11th Engineer Battalion continued to provide Engineer support to the 3rd Marine Division (Northern AOR) and other Units located in the Dong Ha Combat Base, Camps J. J. Carroll, Gio Linh and Khe Sanh. "C" Company, reinforced, of this Battalion, headquartered at Phu Bai, RVN under the operational control of the III Marine Amphibious Force, continued to provide Engineer support to the 3rd Marine Division units located in the Hue, Phu Bai area. Road maintenance and road improvement projects continued to be accelerated in order to maintain and improve adequate routes of communications commensurate with the tactical situation. Road maintenance and road improvements to the 18.1 miles of road net in the Dong Ha Combat Base, 4.20 miles of road net at Camp Carroll and 1.25 miles of road net at Gio Linh consisted mainly of ditching, grading, installing culverts for drainage and applying gravel to earth surface roads. Road maintenance and road improvements to the 27 miles of macadam surface road on Route Nine from Dong Ha to Ca Lu and 8.8 miles of macadam surface road on Route One from Dong Ha to Gio Linh consisted primarily of repairing culverts, maintaining bridge bypasses, and repairing existing macadam road surface with concrete or a mixture of crushed aggregate and bituminous asphalt. This task is being increased daily due to rapid deterioration of the existing surface caused by age, weather conditions and increased traffic.

A reinforced Engineer Platoon previously deployed to Khe Sanh supported the Lang Vei Special Forces Camp in camp projects and Civic Action projects in Camp Khe Sanh and in the Lang Vei Village. They enlarged an existing 100' x 800' airstrip to 200'x1300'; leveled the ruins of the old Village of Lang

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Vei; widened 2.8 miles of dry weather road from 12' to 22' by clearing and grubbing; and constructed two new water points. They also constructed one 16' x 32' dispensary, one 16'x16' dispensary, one 16'x32' school house, one 16' x 50' team house, one 12'x8' pot shack and one 12'x16' garbage house. This Platoon returned to the Battalion Command Post on 21 April 1967.

A limited all weather, class 60, .40 miles of two lane 22 feet wide and .20 miles of single lane 12 feet wide, with laterite base and river run gravel surface was completed in the vicinity of Dai An Village at YD 241588 as an interior road net for a new Command Post serving three Infantry Battalions rear areas.

During the reporting period, a total of 1647 man days, 4840 Engineer equipment hours, 15,454 cubic yards of material, and 60 feet of nestable culvert were expended on road maintenance and road construction projects.

During the reporting period 10 non-standard bridges were constructed or under construction, 144 feet of M4T6 standard bridge was retracted and 34 feet was erected.

Replaced a single lane, 18 feet long, wood stringer, wood deck bridge with two 48 inch diameter culverts 40 feet long with a 22 feet laterite roadway. This was constructed at YD 238595 on an interior road in the Dong Ha Combat Base Complex to allow two lane traffic.

Constructed a single lane, 40 feet long, class 60, pile bent timber stringer, wood deck bridge with a 15 foot roadway at YD 218709 on Route One to replace a partially destroyed steel truss bridge.

Constructed a culvert causeway/bridge, 22 feet long, using two 60 inch culverts 40 feet long with 15 feet concrete slab roadway at YD 229624 on Route One to replace a partially destroyed steel stringer bridge.

Constructed a single lane, 150 feet long, class 60, four span, pile pier, steel stringer, wood deck, bridge on existing abutments at YD 224661 on Route One to replace a destroyed bridge.

Constructed a single lane, 23 feet long, class 60, timber stringer, wood deck bridge on existing abutments at YD 194591 on Route Nine to replace a class 14 reinforced T beam bridge.

Constructed a single lane, 50 feet long, class 60, steel stringer, wood deck bridge on existing masonry abutments at XD 977435 on Route Nine to replace a 50 foot Eiffel bridge which had been destroyed.

Constructed a single lane, 70 feet long, class 60, steel stringer, wood deck bridge on existing masonry abutments at XD 942422 on Route Nine to replace an 80 feet Eiffel bridge which had been destroyed.

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Constructing a culvert/causeway bridge, 72 feet long, using four 60 inch culverts 40 feet long with a 15 feet concrete slab roadway at YD 219636 on Route One replacing a partially destroyed class 12, steel stringer bridge.

Constructing a culvert causeway/bridge, 15 feet long, using two 60 inch culverts 40 feet long with a 15 feet roadway at YD 103576 on Route Nine replacing a destroyed class 60, timber stringer, wood deck bridge.

Constructing a culvert causeway/bridge, 15 feet long using two 36 inch and two 60 inch culverts 40 feet long with a 15 feet wide roadway at YD 096575 on Route Nine replacing a destroyed class 60, timber stringer, wood deck bridge.

During this reporting period the Battalion continued to operate and maintain the water supply point for the Dong Ha Complex. Personnel equipment and materials were provided to maintain and repair the existing structures, facilities and equipment at the Dong Ha Combat Base. During April 1967, a total of 1,613,455 gallons was produced and 61 projects for repairs to existing facilities and/or cantonment type construction were completed.

On 11 April 1967 this Battalion started operations on the Gio Linh to Con Thien "Fire Break", 3rd Marine Division Frag Order 9-67. Phase I, which consisted of removing all vegetation and clearing a strip 200 meters wide and 10,560 meters long from Gio Linh (YD 214743) to Con Thien (YD 116702) was completed on 1 May 1967. In the 19 days of actual operation of Phase I an average of 20 USMC tractors and 4 ARVN tractors were used daily. During this time 187 pieces of ordnance, ranging from hand grenades to a 250 pound aerial bomb, were found and destroyed. This Battalion had 19 casualties during this operation. Only two were serious enough for evacuation.

During the reporting period the Engineer support provided the 3rd Marine Division units, Phu Bai area by "C" Company, 11th Engineer Battalion consisted of operating and maintaining a water point at the ARVN Boot Camp cantonment area; providing personnel and equipment to continue construction of the 3rd Marine Division Ammunition Supply Point Complex, including constructing access and interior roads, construction of bunkers and other related defenses; maintained the 3rd Marine Division trash dump; and conducted deliberate mine sweeps daily.

Currently the 11th Engineer Battalion overall cantonment is 97 percent complete. Personnel protective defenses in the living and working areas continued during April and are currently 55% complete.

During April 1967 Power Control units, Rippers and winches for the Einco tractors, M-64, were received. Two sheepsfoot rollers were received increasing the earth compaction capability of the Battalion.

A 23,000 gallon water tank was installed on a 20 feet high by 33 feet square tower at a new Water Point. This tank was to facilitate the delivery

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of potable water to the units in this area.

Re-warehousing of the Battalion Supply warehouse was accomplished during the month of April in preparation for a complete inventory.

During the month of April 1967 this Battalion suffered one non-hostile death (injured in March); three KIA's from an ambush; 66 hostile WIA's and four non-hostile injuries.

During the month of April, this Battalion joined four Marine Officers and transferred three; 52 Marine Enlisted were joined and 44 were transferred. On 30 April 1967 the 11th Engineer Battalion personnel strength by major area of deployment was as follows:

<u>Marine Corps</u>		<u>Navy</u>	
Officers	Enlisted	Officers	Enlisted
Dong Ha			
36	1011	2	13
Phu Bai			
6	208	0	2
Ca Lu			
1	35	0	1
Gio Linh			
3	70	0	1

PART III

Sequential Listing of Significant Events

5 April 1967	Engineer equipment and dump trucks support to MCB-5 to repair the Dong Ha Airfield was terminated. A total of 5,460 tons of materials was loaded and delivered to the project site from the Cam Lo gravel pit, 162 man days and 1500 equipment hours were expended to complete this project.
8 April 1967	A special operation to transport elements of MCB-4 to Con Thien with construction materials and equipment was initiated. A sweep team of one Officer and 12 Enlisted was air lifted to Con Thien with a mission to sweep Route 74 east from Con Thien.

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A second sweep team of one Officer and 15 Enlisted and two TD-18 tractors were transported with elements of MCB-4 to YD 214727 on Route One with the mission to sweep Route 74 west from Route One. The two sweep teams met at YD 142691 and returned to Con Thien and remained over night.

9 April 1967

The two sweep teams commenced operations sweeping Route 74 east from Con Thien at 0730. Subsequently a third sweep team of 12 Enlisted with infantry support started sweeping west from Route One at YD 214727 meeting the two teams at YD 183698. All elements returned to the Command Post via Route One. It is noted that the area along the 12,000 meters of road from Route One to Con Thien is heavily concentrated with VC and the operation was accomplished without major difficulty. Congratulatory message was received for a job well done from Major General Hochmuth. (See Tab A).

21 April 1967

Rough Rider convoy from Khe Sanh returned all Battalion personnel from that position to the Battalion Command Post.

25 April 1967

A sweep team preceding a Rough Rider convoy west of Ca Lu was ambushed at XD 920412 receiving mortar fire and small arms fire. This Battalion suffered 3 KIA's and 21 WIA's. Equipment losses were one M-37 personnel carrier, one M-54 Cargo truck, and one M-51A2 dump truck. A Reconnaissance party on it's way to Ca Lu was ambushed at XD 983508 receiving two explosions of an unknown source and small arms fire. This party had one WIA and one M-37 personnel carrier was damaged.

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PART IV

Supporting Documents

- ✓TAB A Congratulatory message from Major General Hochmuth.
- ✓TAB B Photograph of "Operations Firebreak".
- /TAB C Photographs of bridge on Route One at XD 218709.
- ✓TAB D Photograph of Bridge on Route Nine at XD 977435.

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R 110730Z APR 67

FM THIRD MARDIV FWD

TO ZEN/THIRD MARINES

ZEN/TWELTH MARINES

ZEN/FIRST BN FOURTH MARINES

ZEN/ELEVENTH ENGR BN

ZEN/FIRST BN FORTY FOURTH ARTY USA

ZEN/NINTH MT BN

ZEN/FLSU ONE

ZEN/DET MAG ONE SIX FWD

NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION- FOUR

ZEN/SECOND ARVN REGIMENT

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

CON THIEN CONVOY

1. PLEASE EXTEND A "WELL DONE" TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CONVOY WHO
ACCOMPLISH

THEIR MISSION TO CON THIEN AND RETURNED TO DONG HA THIS EVENING.

MAJOR GENERAL HOCHMUTH SENDS.

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TAB A



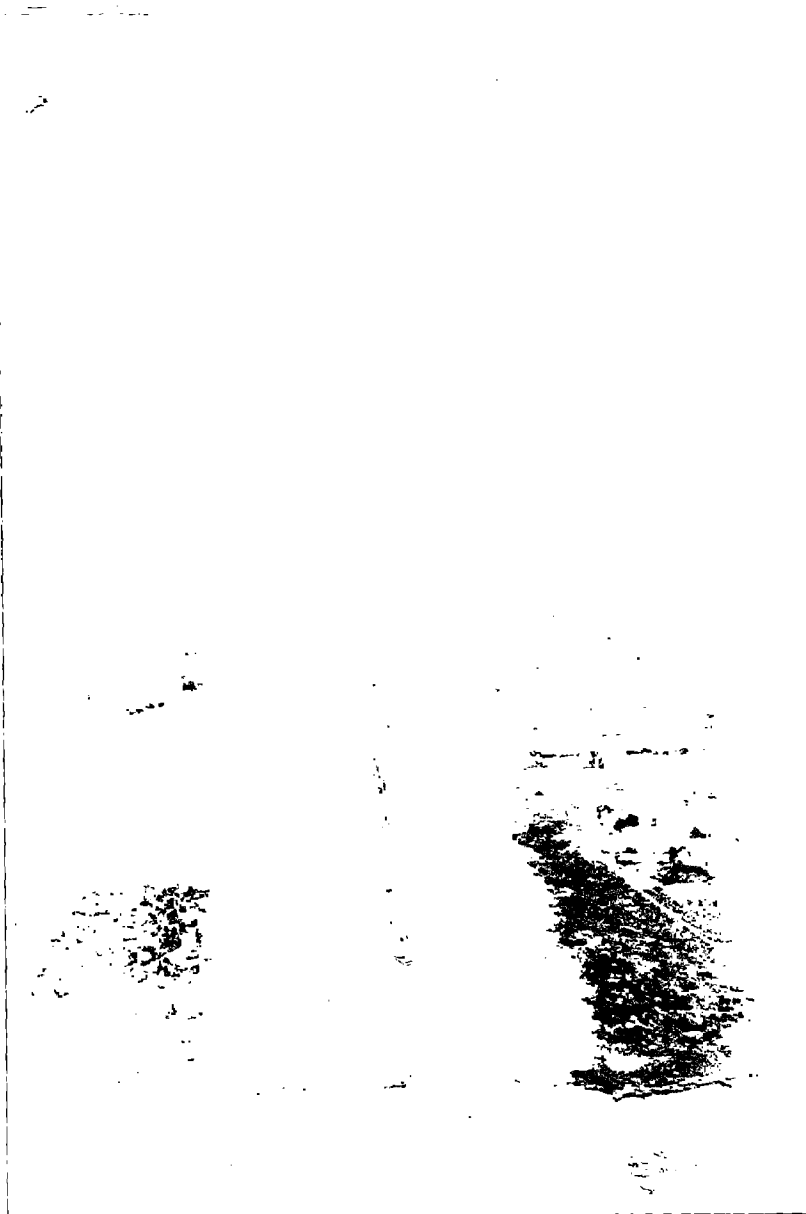
- (1) "Operation Firebreak", looking east from causeway at YD 183730 towards Gio Linh.
- (2) Construction of causeway at YD 183730
- (3) Completed causeway at YD 183730
- (4) Portion of completed Firebreak at YD 163723

TAB B

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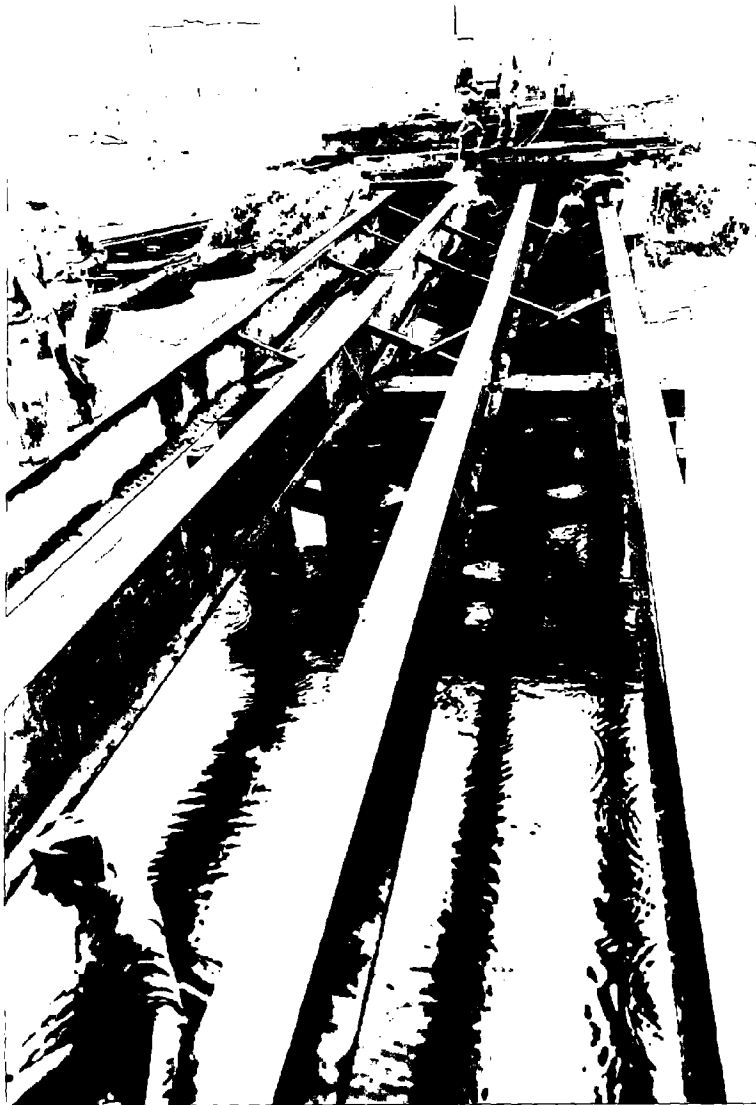
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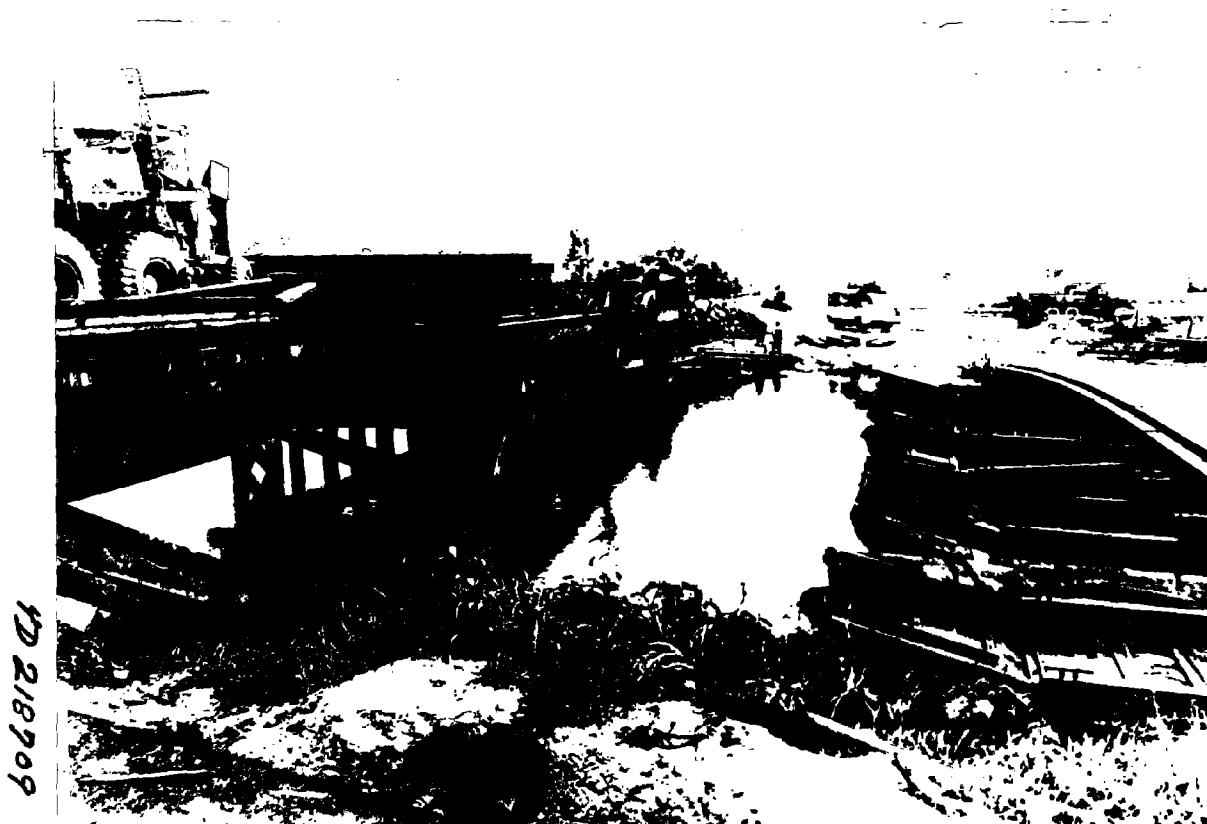
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YD 218709

Photographs of bridge on Route One at YD 218709.

TAB C





Photograph of bridge on Route Nine at XD 977435.

TAB D