

HEADQUARTERS  
11th Engineer Battalion  
3rd Marine Division (Rein), FMF  
FPO San Francisco 96602

24068

UNCLASSIFIED

3/WWS/jgo  
002-68  
5750  
8 January 1968

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From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps

Copy 7 of 7 Copies

Via: (1) Commanding General, Third Marine Division  
(2) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force  
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 December 1967 to 31 December 1967;  
submission of

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2  
(b) FMFPACO 5750.8  
(c) 3d MarDivO 5750.1A

Encl: (1) 11th Engineer Battalion Command Chronology

1. Pursuant to references (a), (b), and (c), enclosure (1) is submitted.

*V.A. Perry*  
V. A. PERRY

//THENG R BN

CMD CHRON

DEC 1967

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PART I  
Organizational data1. DESIGNATION

11th ENGINEER BATTALION

COMMANDERLtCol. V. A. PERRY, USMC  
5Nov67 - CurrentSUBORDINATE UNITS

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

Capt. L. L. LISZEWSKI, USMC  
8Nov67 - Current

SERVICE COMPANY

Capt. W. T. EVANS, USMC  
24Sep67 - Current

"A" COMPANY

Capt. R. E. REAGAN, USMC  
24Sep67 - Current

"B" COMPANY

1stLt. R. F. BAILLES, USMC  
22Nov67 - Current

"C" COMPANY

Capt. J. R. FLEIER, USMC  
23Sep67 - Current

"D" COMPANY

Capt. R. H. BRINKLEY, USMC  
25Nov67 - Current2. LOCATION

1 December 1967 - 31 December 1967 - Dong Ha, RVN.

3. STAFF OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Maj. W. P. P. MANNIX, USMC  
26Nov67 - Current

S-1/ADJUTANT

1stLt. D. W. CZAPOR, USMC  
1Jul67 - 22Dec67  
1stLt. S. E. DURHAM  
23Dec67 - Current

S-2/3

Maj. J. C. THORP, USMC  
24Nov67 - Current

S-4

Maj. C. J. WOLK JR, USMC  
26Nov67 - Current

Group 4

Downgraded at 3 year intervals;  
Declassified after 12 years.

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SUPPLY OFFICER

2ndLt. H. RIJFKOGLE  
20Nov67 - Current

COMMUNICATION OFFICER

2ndLt. R. W. OCONNER, USMC  
28Nov67 - Current

MEDICAL OFFICER

Lt. F. C. SANFORD, USNR(MC)  
1Aug67 - Current

CHAPLAIN

LCDR P. D. KEELEY, USN(CHC)  
15Jun67 - 4Dec67  
LCDR J. W. McELROY, USN(CHC)  
5Dec67 - Current

## 4. 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          | 920        | 2          | 20         | 0            | 0          |

## PART II

Operation Dye Marker continued as the major project for this battalion with A-2, A-3, A-4, C-3 and CaLu under construction during this reporting period. During the month of December construction of 66 bunkers laying of 2900 meters of three strand warning fence, laying of 8400 meters of double apron fence, laying 9000 meters of double apron fence with two on three concertina between the aprons, laying of 2625 meters of German Steel Tape, and emplacing 32,265 mines was completed on these positions. 6,450 mandays and 6,971 equipment hours were expended on this project.

Continued work on upgrading route 561 from YD 146605 to YD 114701 to a class 60, limited all-weather, single lane road. This road is being upgraded as the main supply route to A-4 and is in support of Operation Dye Marker. The road is currently 98% complete. A 135 foot M-6 bridge is in place at YD 129674.

Commenced construction on class 60, limited, all-weather, single lane road 5000 meters long from YD 213727 to YD 177723 to follow general trace of route 566. Pioneering work is completed and 850 meters of rock base completed. This road is being built for the access road to position A-3 and is a part of Operation Dye Marker.

During the reporting period a total of 541 mandays, 3,842 engineer equipment hours and 6085 cubic yards of material were expended on road construction.

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In addition to Operation Dye Marker the battalion continued to provide support to the 3rd Marine Division and other units located in the Dong Ha Combat Base, Camp J. J. Carroll, Camp Hill and Con Thien.

During the reporting period, the battalion continued to operate and maintain the water points in the 3rd Marine Division northern area of operations and a total of 2,333,800 gallons of potable water was produced. The Water Supply Platoon commenced drilling of a well at Con Thien, but were held up at a depth of 87 feet due to mechanical troubles on the well rig.

During the reporting period, personnel, equipment and materials were provided to maintain and repair the existing structures, facilities, and equipment in the 3rd Marine Division northern area of operations. 29 projects for repairs/improvements to existing facilities and/or cantonment type construction were completed.

This battalion continued to furnish all electrical power for the 3rd Marine Division northern area on operations. Nine projects of an electrical nature were completed during the reporting period. This battalion is currently operating 20 generators at 18 different locations.

The availability of equipment due to a lack of repair parts continued to deteriorate during the reporting period.

Five power earth augers were received as test items and proved invaluable for minefield installation. Use of the auger increased installed mines per day quantities by 50 per cent.

Two Homelite chain saws were tested extensively during the construction of the A-3 position. The saws were far superior to those presently being used by this unit.

Rewarehousing of the Battalion Supply to the newly constructed Butler building has been accomplished. At this time the temporary storage facilities are being dismantled to clear an area for Butler building construction.

The current utilities situation remains relatively unchanged, although problems are being encountered maintaining the generators due to excessive use on the generators. Plans are presently being made for electrical requirements for C-2, C-3, CaLu, Camp Carroll and A-4 positions. A bill of materials has been formulated for C-4 and the materials have been placed on priority two requisition.

A study is being made to permanently replace the sluice gates on the old division water point dam. These gates would ensure adequate water for the Dong Ha Combat Base during the dry season. This estimate was made by the civilian water supply experts in DaNang.

During December one Officer attended Nuclear Safety Officers Course, two Officers and eight Enlisted attended Special Weapons Training Course, one Enlisted attended 3rd Marine Division Personal Response Course, and four Enlisted attended Force Reconnaissance Battalion Patrol School. 150 new personnel attended

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Battalion In-Country Indoctrination Class. Transition training and FAM firing on the M-16 rifle was conducted for 300 men of the Battalion.

During the month of December This Battalion suffered one KIA and 17 WIA's. Three non-hostile casualties were also recorded during this period.

This Battalion transferred one Marine Officer; joined 227 Marine Enlisted and transferred 47; joined one Navy Officer and transferred one; joined six Navy Enlisted and transferred 3.

During the month of December this battalion had operational control of the following units:

3rd Platoon, 3rd Bridge Company - 1 Officer, 25 Enlisted  
 1st Platoon, 25th Chemical Company (SG), USA - 2 Officers, 25 Enlisted  
 Company "D" 9th Engineer Battalion - 6 Officers, 105 Enlisted, 1 Naval Enlisted  
 Company "A" 7th Engineer Battalion - 3 Officers, 86 Enlisted, 2 Naval Enlisted

On 31 December 1967 the 11th Engineer Battalion strength including attached units was:

| <u>MARINE CORPS</u> |            | <u>NAVY</u> |            | <u>ARMY</u> |            |
|---------------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| <u>OFF</u>          | <u>ENL</u> | <u>OFF</u>  | <u>ENL</u> | <u>OFF</u>  | <u>ENL</u> |
| 56                  | 1201       | 2           | 27         | 2           | 25         |

The Battalion Personnel Strength by major area of deployment was as follows:

| <u>MARINE CORPS</u> |            | <u>NAVY</u> |            | <u>ARMY</u> |            |
|---------------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| <u>OFF</u>          | <u>ENL</u> | <u>OFF</u>  | <u>END</u> | <u>OFF</u>  | <u>ENL</u> |
| 36                  | 744        | 2           | 16         | 2           | 25         |
| 0                   | 10         | 0           | 0          | 0           | 0          |
| 6                   | 112        | 0           | 1          | 0           | 0          |
| 0                   | 9          | 0           | 0          | 0           | 0          |
| 4                   | 81         | 0           | 2          | 0           | 0          |

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|   |    |   |               |   |   |   |
|---|----|---|---------------|---|---|---|
| 5 | 89 | 0 | A-3           | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| 3 | 83 | 0 | C-3           | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| 2 | 73 | 0 | Non Effictive | 0 | 0 | 0 |

## PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1 December 1967: A jeep detonated an AT mine in center of route 566 at YD 178722. The jeep was totally destroyed and two WIA MedEvacs resulted.

5 December 1967: Sweep team on route 566 found three AT mines 20 meters off of side of road at YD 184721 and destroyed them. Sweep team on route 566 found two AT mines at YD 187724 and destroyed them.

6 December 1967: Detail working at positions C-3, YD 169714 received three rounds of mortar fire which resulted in two WIA MedEvacs and one WIA Non MedEvac.

7 December 1967: Sweep team on route 566 found one AT mine at YD 190-725 and destroyed it.

8 December 1967: Sweep team on route 9 found one T-41 AT mine on north shoulder of road. EOD was called and disarmed it. Sweep team on route 566 found two AT mines at YD 190-725 and destroyed them.

10 December 1967: Detail working at position A-3 received 122mm rocket fire resulting in two WIA Med Evac. Instructions were recieved from Commanding General, 3rd Marine Division to put maximum effort into work on position A-3 and complete it in ten days. Detachments from "C" and "D" Companies were moved to A-3 to assist "A" Company in construction of bunkers, clearing fields of fire and installing wire and minefields. This original deadline on this project was 15 January 1968.

17 December 1967: Position A-3 received incoming artillery fire resulting in one WIA Med Evac.

20 December 1967: Sweep team on route 1 found an AT mine at YD 220636 and destroyed it. Major portion of work on position A-3 completed and started extracting Engineer Troops from position.

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M-52 with lowbed hauling a TD-15 tractor hit a command detonated mine at YD 219695. Lowbed trailer was damaged but no casualties.

22 December 1967:

A marine working in minefield at A-3 stepped on a M-14 mine while arming mines. One Med Evac Casualty resulted.

24 December 1967:

M-37 hit an AT mine at YD 201725 on route 566. Vehicle was totally destroyed and three WIA Med Evac's resulted.

25 December 1967:

Holiday routine was declared by the Battalion Commander for all except essential work. RAdm Kelly, Chief Of Chaplains was guest speaker at Protestant Christmas Services. A Battalion Party was held with two cans of beer and soft drinks and snacks for each man. A talent show put on by members of the Battalion was enjoyed by all.

26 December 1967:

Sweep team on route 9 found an AT mine at YD 175588 and destroyed it.

28 December 1967:

Sweep team at route 9 found an AT mine at YD 175588 and destroyed it.

31 December 1967:

A Marine working in the minefield at CaLU stepped on a M-14 mine. One Med Evac Casualty resulted.

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