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BT# 660768

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

3/RMS/gmj  
003A34268  
013-68  
7 Dec 1968

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Unclassified upon removal of enclosure

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps  
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 November to 30 November 1968.

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2  
(b) FMFPACO 5750.9  
(c) DivO 5750.1A

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

1. References (a), (b) and (c) set forth the requirement for a Monthly Command Chronology and sets forth the procedure for reporting. In compliance with reference (a), (b) and (c) Enclosure (1) is submitted.

*R.C. Evans*  
R. C. EVANS

GROUP 4  
Downgraded at 3 Year Intervals  
Declassified After 12 Years  
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11TH ENGR BN

CMD CHRON

NOV 1968

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY1. Designation  
11th Engineer Bn.Commander  
LtCol. R. C. EVANS  
1 Sept 68 - CurrentSUBORDINATE UNITS

Hq Co

Capt. A.R. GEIGER, USMCR  
21 Oct 68 - Current

Serv Co

Capt. D.C. SIKES, USMC  
21 May 68 - 11 Nov 68Maj. L.W. YOUNG, USMC  
12 Nov 68 - Current

A Co

Capt. P.J. GARIBOLDI, USMCR  
24 March 68 - 9 Nov 681stLt. R.W. LUNCH, USMCR  
10 Nov 68 - Current

B Co

1stLt. R.J. CAPPOCK, USMC  
21 Oct 68 - Current

C Co

Capt. W. A. WOODCOCK, USMCR  
8 May 68 - Current

D Co

1stLt. J.A. GOODMAN, USMCR  
15 Jul 68 - 25 Nov 681stLt. F.D. CAMPBELL, USMCR  
26 Nov 68 - Current

3rd Bridge Co

1stLt. F.E. HENSEL, USMC  
10 Aug 68 - Current2. Staff Officers

Executive Officer

Maj. E.F. HUIZENGA, USMC  
7 Nov 68 - Current

S-1/Adjutant

1stLt. W. M. HAMILTON, USMC  
17 Aug 68 - Current

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Enclosure (1)

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S-2/3

Capt. J.C. HARRISON, USMC  
21 Oct 68 - Current

S-4

Maj. R.H. HUCKABY, USMC  
12 Aug 68 - Current

Supply Officer

Capt. T. A. HAZEL, USMCR  
25 Aug 68 - Current

Communications Officer

Capt. A.R. GEIGER, USMCR  
3 Jun 68 - Current

Medical Officer

Lt. P.H. BRIDGEMAN, USN  
29 July 68 - 23 Nov 68

Lt. J.S. RABADA, USN (MC)  
24 Nov 68 - Current

Chaplain

LtCmdr. D.F. BROCK, USN (CHC)  
16 Aug 68 - Current

### 3. Location

1 November - 30 November 1968 - Dong Ha, RVN

#### November Monthly Strength

USMC	
OFF	ENL
47	1020

USN	
OFF	ENL
4	22

OTHER	
OFF	ENL
0	0

#### Part II

During the month of November a total of 11,533 mandays and 3811 engineer equipment hours and 48,424 board feet of lumber were expended.

The Battalion Command Post remained at Dong Ha during the month of November. The engineer capabilities of the Battalion were employed at Dong Ha Combat Base, Vandegrift Combat Base, C-3, Cam Lo, Cua Viet, Camp Carroll, Mai Loc, A-3, A-4, HaiLang and 9/12.

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During the month of November "A" and "B" Companies were employed at Vandegrift Combat Base. As a result of the construction effort, the second increment of 10 of a total of 54, 18'x24' bunkers were completed. The project was temporarily halted pending the reevaluation of the Duel Blade project. Work also stopped on the construction of 105 concrete fighting bunkers pending the projects reevaluation, but it is expected to begin again shortly. A 20'x24' bunker was completed for Task Force Hotel, as was the relocation and reconstruction of bunkers for Task Force Hotel, the PX, and Post Office. Work on the ASP continued, including the application of aggregate in the berms and improvement of the blast wall. The month of November also saw the completion of a 230'x460' OH-46 parking pad with attendant helo revetments at Vandegrift. The internal road network was continually maintained and upgraded during this period. Construction of a single lane access road to the water point was finished, and a 650 meter dual lane access road to the 4th Marines area was 75% completed.

At Dong Ha Combat Base work was continued by Companies "C" and "D". Construction was completed on a 24'x36' TFSC bunker for the 3rd MarDiv and the RAS bunker for 12th Marines was reconstructed. Work on the 24'x34' Special Intelligence Bunker was 98% completed. Repair of a fire damaged tower for Base Defense was also effected. In the Battalion area a 12'x24' BAS bunker and 2, 12'x24' bunkers for Hdq. Co. were completed. The construction of 71 SEA Huts for Battalion billeting continued. The latter project was 65% complete.

At Camp Carroll erection of two 50 ft. towers for 1st Radio Battalion was completed by Company "D" and construction of a 50 ft. observation tower at Cua Viet was finished by Company "C".

Upgrading the lines of communication was again a major effort of the Battalion. At Cam Lo River Company "D" and the 3rd Platoon, 3rd Bridge Company completed construction of a 261 ft. M4T6 floating bridge and salvaged a 353 ft. transom trestle bridge at the same site. The 3rd Bridge Company also modified the existing M-6 bridge at coordinates YD 026560 to class 100/90 by the addition of a transom trestle. Retraction of one bridge was completed and retraction of another begun during the month. Route 561 from Cam Lo, coordinates YD 147602, to A-4 coordinates YD 113701, was also continually improved and maintained.

In addition to supporting construction and lines of communications projects, heavy equipment was also utilized at A-3, Camp Rockpile and Mai Loc. One tractor supported the 12th Marines at the Rockpile constructing gun pads and berms. At A-3 a T-46 mobile crane was employed to extract concrete fighting bunkers. Construction advisory personnel, a concrete mixer, and a tractor were deployed to Mai Loc to aid civilian

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in the construction of a district headquarters.

Daily minesweeps were conducted on Route 9 from Dong Ha Combat Base to coordinates YD 129590, a distance of approximately 11,000 meters.

The Route 1 sweep was conducted on even days from Dong Ha Combat Base to C-1 position, coordinates YD 218673, a distance of 6,500 meters. When otherwise directed and on all odd days, the sweep continued from C-1 to A-2 to A-3, a distance of 16,500 meters.

On 4 November the Battalion sweep team found 2, 20 lb. AT mines stacked on top of each other at coordinates YD 214728. Two plastic mines were found on Route 561 at coordinates YD 195725 on November 15. The vehicle carrying the sweep team personnel hit a mine at those coordinates on the same day resulting in two WIA's, both requiring med-evac. Again on November 15, a Vietnamese bus hit a mine on Route 9, approximately 2 miles west of the Route 9 gate. A further check by 3rd Engineer personnel and the Battalion S-3 Officer uncovered a TM-41 AT mine approximately 150 meters east of that point.

During this reporting period the Battalion continued to operate water points in the 3rd Marine Division AO; 3,737,000 gallons of potable and 2,661,000 gallons of non-potable water were produced.

The 11th Engineer Battalion continued to furnish electrical power distribution to the 3rd Marine Division AO. 16 generators were operational during the month of November.

Motor Transport received 11 M-123C tractors and entered 7 M-151's into the maintenance float program.

The Battalion suffered 2 hostile WIA; 35 were classified as non-hostile casualties, requiring hospitalization of 24 hours or more.

This month the Battalion joined 8 Officers and 45 Enlisted and transferred 4 Officers and 105 Enlisted. Five battalion office hours and one special court martial were conducted.

The Battalion's personnel strength by major areas of deployment were as follows:

	USMC	USN
DONG HA COMBAT BASE		
31 OFFICERS	685 ENLISTED	4 OFFICERS 17 ENLISTED
VANDEGRIFT COMBAT BASE		
11 OFFICERS	204 ENLISTED	0 OFFICERS 3 ENLISTED

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USMC

USN

GIA LE  
5 OFFICERS

109 ENLISTED

0 OFFICERS 2 ENLISTED

## Part III

## Chronological Sequence of Events

- 1 November a. Installation of a single transom under M-6 bridge at coordinates YD 026562 100% complete. Bridge class modified to class 100/90.
- 2 November a. Vandegrift Combat Base: 20 of projected 54 bunkers, 100% complete; construction of bunker for Task Force Hotel 100% complete.
- 3 November a. Salvage of an existing transom trestle bridge and construction of 261' MAT6 floating bridge at Cam Lo 20% complete.
- 4 November a. A Battalion sweep team found 2, 20 lb. AT mines stacked on top of each other at coordinates YD 214728. The mines were blown in place.
- 5 November a. Vandegrift Combat Base: 2000 meter single lane access ~~road~~ to water point 100% complete.
- 6 November a. Construction of 50' observation tower at Cua Viet 50% complete.
- 8 November a. Construction of new trash dump at Vandegrift Combat Base 100% complete.
- 10 November a. Class 60 MAT6 floating bridge at Cam Lo 98% complete and bridge now open to traffic.
- 11 November a. Salvage of a transom trestle fixed span bridge and erection of floating bridge at Cam Lo 100% complete.
- 12 November a. Construction of a 50' observation tower at Cua Viet 100% complete.  
b. Dong Ha Combat Base: repair of the Battalion chapel 100% complete.
- 15 November a. The Battalion sweep team found 2 plastic mines in the same hole on the shoulder of road at coordinates YD 195725. The vehicle carrying the sweep team personnel hit a mine at the same coordinates. Resulting in two WIA's.  
b. On Route 9, 2 miles west of the Route 9 gate, a Vietnamese bus hit a mine resulting in one civilian WIA. A TM-41 mine was then found approximately 150 meters east of that point by 3rd Engineer personnel and the Battalion S-3 Officer.

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- 16 November c. Dong Ha Combat Base: Repair of the dam at the reservoir 100% complete.
- 16 November a. Vandegrift Combat Base: Relocation and reconstruction of post office and PX bunkers 100% complete.
- 17 November a. The Battalion Sweep team reported receiving both sniper and automatic weapons fire at coordinates YD 222603.
- 18 November a. Repaired M4T6 fixed span bridge at coordinates YD 610313.
- 19 November a. Vandegrift Combat Base: Construction of a 230'x460' CH-46 Helo Pad 100% complete.
- 21 November a. Dong Ha Combat Base: Repair of a Base Defense observation tower 100% complete.
- 22 November a. Vandegrift Combat Base: 4th Marines dual lane all-weather access road 50% complete. Work continued on the ASP.
- 23 November a. A completed retraction of bridge at coordinates YD 623303.
- 25 November a. Completed construction of 2, 12x24 bunkers in the Battalion area.
- 28 November a. Completed a 24'x36' TFSC bunker in the 3rd Marine Division area.
- 28 November b. Vandegrift Combat Base: 20 of a projected 54, 18'x24' bunkers completed.
- 30 November a. Vandegrift Combat Base: Relocation and reconstruction of a bunker for Task Force Hotel 100% complete.
- 30 November b. BAS bunker in the Battalion area completed.
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