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HEADQUARTERS

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

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5750
0028-69

15 MAR 1969

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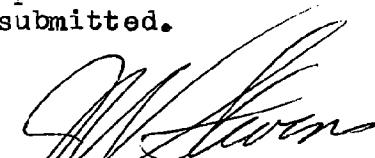
From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, First Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, FPO San Francisco, California 96602 (Field Historian)

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 February 1969 to 28 February 1969

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

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

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


J. W. STEVENS
Acting

9TH ENGR BN

CMD CHRON

9TH ENGINEER BN

S & C LOG NO: 0028-69
COPY 1 OF 7

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REPORT
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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 February 1969 - 28 February 1969

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

9th Engineer Battalion

COMMANDER

LtCol D. U. DAVIDSON

Subordinate Units

Headquarters Company
 Service Company
 Company "A"
 Company "B"
 Company "C"
 Company "D"

1stLt W. G. WARD
 Capt C. H. JONES
 1stLt D. E. CRAIS
 1stLt G. M. SHERMAN
 Capt C. H. ROYER
 Capt J. K. NAGAZYNA

Attached Units

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

2ndLt K. D. PRICER

2. LOCATION

9th Engineer Battalion	Chu Lai, RVN	1-28 February 1969
Company "A" (-)	Hill #10	1-28 February 1969
1st P	BT 199390	
1st Platoon	Hill #29	1-28 February 1969
	BT 221326	
3rd Platoon	Tam Ky, RVN	1-28 February 1969
Company "B"	Chu Lai, RVN	1-28 February 1969
Company "C" (-)	7th Engr, RVN	1-28 February 1969
1st Platoon	3/11	1-28 February 1969
2nd Platoon	Hill #22, RVN	1-28 February 1969
3rd Platoon	2/1	1-28 February 1969
Motor Transport/Heavy Equipment Platoon	Chu Lai, RVN	1-28 February 1969
Company "D"	Hill #63	1-28 February 1969
	BT 136448	

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer
 S-1 Adjutant
 Personnel Officer

Maj J. W. STEVENS
 1stLt R. J. BURNS
 1stLt R. J. BURNS

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S	S-2/3 Officer	Maj E. M. CONDRA
	S-4 Officer	1stLt D. R. FARO 1-23Feb69
	S-5 Officer	Maj R. B. FIELDS 24-28Feb69
	Sergeant Major	1stLt W. J. KING Jr.
	Motor Transport Officer	1stSgt F. F. ROHRS 1-6Feb69
	Construction Officer	SgtMaj H. L. NICKELS 7-28Feb69
	ADM Officer	1stLt J. D. BUCHANAN
	Maintenance Officer	1stLt C. J. TOENISKOETTER
	Utilities Officer	Maj E. M. CONDRA
	Legal Officer	WO-2 W. E. YORK
	Medical Officer	1stLt R. H. MILLER
	Supply Officer	1stLt R. J. BURNS
	Embarcation Officer	Lt A. P. IVERSON (USN)
	NBC Officer	1stLt V. H. CUYNO
	Training Officer	1stLt D. R. FARO
	Education Officer	1stLt C. J. TOENISKOETTER
	Chaplain	1stLt C. A. ROSS
	Communications Officer	1stLt C. A. ROSS
	Heavy Equipment Officer	LtComdr R. W. BLACK
		1stLt M. E. WENZEL
		1stLt J. HAWKINS

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>	<u>USN</u>		
<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>
38	910	2	18

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PART II

1. During the month of February 1969, the 9th Engineer Battalion, LtCol D. U. DAVIDSON Commanding, continued as its primary mission the maintenance, upgrading, and asphaltic paving of RVN Route #1 from Chu Lai (BT 520044) to the Song Cau Lau (BT 091544). Engineer support of Free World Forces in the Chu Lai TAOR continued to require a significant engineer effort.
2. Company A (-), located at Hill #10 (BT 199390) was engaged in the process of maintaining and upgrading RVN Route #1 from Tam Ky (BT 330209) to Thang Binh (BT 175418), a distance of 14 miles.
3. Company B was located at Chu Lai (BT 520044) and is engaged in vertical construction in that area. It also carries the Battalion's primary task of paving RVN Route #1 from Chu Lai (BT 520044) to Tam Ky (BT 330209).
4. Company C (-) Command Post was located in the 7th Engineer Battalion Compound, Danang, RVN. The company is engaged in direct support vertical construction for the 1st Marine Division. The Motor Transport/Heavy Equipment section is located in Chu Lai, RVN (BT 520044) and is currently upgrading RVN Route #1 from Phu Khe (BT 368184) to Tam Ky (BT 330209).
5. Company D, located at Landing Zone Baldy (BT 136448) continued maintenance and upgrading of RVN Route #1 from Thang Binh (BT 175418) to the Song Cau Lau (BT 091554) a distance of 11.1 miles and engaged in construction in support of Free World Military Forces.
6. During the month of February, upgrading and repair of RVN Route #1 was broken down into three main areas of responsibility: Chu Lai to Tam Ky; Tam Ky to Thang Binh; and Thang Binh to the Song Cau Lau.
7. Between Chu Lai (BT 520044) and Tam Ky (BT 330209), elements of C Company, and Service Company expended 3,794 man hours and 2,016 equipment hours in hauling 8,684 cubic yards of rock, 7,081 cubic yards of sand, and 5,310 cubic yards of laterite.
8. In this same Area of Operations, Company B personnel expended 5,587 man hours and 2,093 equipment hours in paving RVN Route #1

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from Chu Lai (BT 520044) to Phu Khe (BT 368184) spreading and compacting 6,610 tons of asphaltic concrete. Assisting in the paving operations were personnel from MCB-58. When completed RVN Route #1 will have a 24 foot traveled way $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick. At the end of this period a total of 11.5 miles conformed to the above standards. In addition to paving, Company B hauled 3,150 cubic yards of rock in the upgrading of RVN Route #1 and spread 22,700 gallons of MC 250/RC800 in priming for asphaltic paving.

9. Between Tam Ky and Thang Binh, Company A personnel expended 2,075 man hours and 1,226 equipment hours in hauling and placing 862 cubic yards of rock, 4,476 cubic yards of sand and spreading 7,100 gallons of peneprime.

10. Between Thang Binh and the Song Cau Lau, Company D personnel expended 2,186 man hours and 1,288 equipment hours in hauling 868 cubic yards of rock, 235 cubic yards of sand, 1,579 cubic yards of laterite, and spreading 9,000 gallons of peneprime.

11. All upgrading in the assigned areas will conform to MACV standards for military roadway. Materials are provided from quarries operated in Chu Lai by RMK-BRJ, laterite and sand pits operated by the 9th Engineer Battalion at Hill #54 and a newly opened rock crusher site (BT 109429) operated by Company D, 9th Engineer Battalion.

12. During the month of February, 9th Engineer Battalion installed the following culverts, which required 26 feet of 60 inch, 96 feet of 48 inch, 250 feet of 36 inch, 100 feet of 18 inch, and 50 feet of steel plate arch culvert.

a. <u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>M/H</u>	<u>E/H</u>
BT 348198	18Feb69	2	36"	50'	330	142
BT 354195	19Feb69	1	36"	50'	210	61
BT 373180	22Feb69	2	18"	50'	220	75
BT 358191	15Feb69	1	Sectional Steel Plate Arch	50'	256	24
BT 182410	23Feb69	1	48"	44'	35	10
BT 272262	27Feb69	1	60"	26'	110	78
BT 282252	28Feb69	2	48"	26'	50	15
BT 373179	15Feb69	2	36"	50'	309	125

b. During this reporting period the following bridges were

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repaired or constructed.

<u>Location</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>E/H</u>	<u>M/H</u>	<u>Remark</u>
*BT 497067	250'8"	60	Steel Stringer Pile Bent, Pile Backfill Abutment	1685	110	Redeck
*BT 430109	229'8"	60	Steel Stringer Pile Bent, Pile Concrete Abutment	100	0	Tech Asst w/104 ARVN
*BT 219359	40'	60	Steel Stringer Pile Backfill Abutment	136	16	Repairs begun in January
*BT 226347	97'5"	60	Timber Stringer Pile Bent, Pile Backfill Abutment	N/A	N/A	Incomplete
*BT 276261	89'4"	60	Steel Stringer Concrete Support Pile Backfill Abutment	N/A	N/A	Incomplete
*BT 219359	40'	60	Steel Stringer Pile Backfill Abutment	N/A	N/A	Incomplete

c. During the month, the following tactical bridging was installed:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
BT 225347	M4T6	45'	60	Installed 25Feb69
BT 358191	Fixed Span	45'	60	Culvert Installation (Bypass)
BT 373179	Fixed Span	30'	60	Culvert Installation (Bypass)
BT 345202	Fixed Span	30'	60	Culvert Installation (Bypass)

d. During February, the following tactical bridging was removed:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Remark</u>
BT 358191	Fixed Span	45'	60	Culvert Installation (Bypass)
BT 373179	Fixed Span	30'	60	Culvert Installation (Bypass)
BT 345202	Fixed Span	30'	60	Culvert Installation (Bypass)
BT 497067	M/4	N/A	60	4 floats loaned to USA Engineer for M4T6 bridge at this location.

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e. During the month of February, the following culverts were destroyed by enemy demolitions:

<u>Location</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>Date Destroyed</u>
BT 179414	1	23 February 1969
BT 274267	1	23 February 1969
BT 272262	1	23 February 1969
BT 256295	1	23 February 1969
BT 406137	1	25 February 1969
BT 105507	1	25 February 1969
BT 119489	1	25 February 1969
BT 094534	1	26 February 1969
BT 093536	1	27 February 1969

13. In addition to the major road and bridge construction being done on RVN Route #1, the 9th Engineer Battalion was responsible for the repair and maintenance of other sections of road as shown below:

a. Headquarters Company Heavy Equipment Platoon retained the responsibility for upgrading the CP roads in the MAG-12 and MAG-13 areas.

b. Company B maintains from BT 325180 to BT 330207, a distance of 2 miles for CAP Unit 1-1-2/1-1-3; also Route #22 West from BT 512053 to BT 493037 and Route #22 East from BT 538027 to BT 549049, a distance of 2.2 miles.

14. Since 1 February 1969, the 9th Engineer Battalion has provided the following additional Engineer Support for the U. S. Army, U. S. Navy, U. S. Marine Corps, and the Korean Marine Corps units within its area of responsibility.

a. ChuLai Defense Command; clear fields of fire. Date started: 25 January 1969; date completed: 13 February 1969; man hours: 129; equipment hour: 129.

b. MAG-12; upgraded parking lot. Date started: 10 January 1969; date completed: 14 February 1969; man hours: 332; equipment hours: 250.

c. 9th Support Group, clear fields of fire. Date started: 31 January 1969; date completed: 9 February 1969; man hours: 56; equipment hours: 43.

d. During the month of February 1969, the 9th Engineer Battalion completed the following vertical construction:

(1) 9th Engineer Battalion, Hill #10; constructed, elevated 1,500 gallon gasoline tank. Date started: 1 February 1969; date completed: 10 February 1969; man hours: 48; equipment hours: 0.

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(2) Americal Banking Center, 2 Pascoe Buildings. Date started: 20 November 1968; date completed: 4 February 1969; man hours: 3,986; equipment hours: 187.

(3) 57th Transportation Battalion, Sea Huts. Date started: 13 January 1969; date completed: 3 February 1969; man hours: 1,841; equipment hours: 0.

(4) 523rd Signal Battalion, Water Tower. Date started: 3 February 1969; date completed: 12 February 1969; man hours: 182; equipment hours: 2.

(5) 16th Aviation Battalion, constructed water tower. Date started: 30 January 1969; date completed: 11 February 1969; man hours: 570; equipment hours: 35.

(6) 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines, constructed 17 GP Strongbacks, 4 four hole heads. Date started: 29 January 1969; date completed: 16 February 1969; man hours: 5,500; equipment hours: 49.

(7) 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines, constructed 10'x24' Bunker; date started: 12 February 1969; date completed: 22 February 1969; man hours: 800; equipment hours: 20.

(8) 3rd Battalion, 16th Artillery, constructed two tower bunkers. Date started: 8 February 1969; date completed: 25 February 1969; man hours: 848; equipment hours: 2.

(9) MAG-13, constructed Officer's Club Stage. Date started: 12 February 1969; date completed: 19 February 1969; man hours: 192; equipment hours: 0.

(10) 9th Engineer Battalion, Hill #10, erected metal guard tower. Date started: 1 February 1969; date completed: 7 February 1969; man hours: 432; equipment hours: 12.

(11) 8th Support Hospital, repair work. Date started: 30 January 1969; date completed: 12 February 1969; man hours: 212; equipment hours: 4.

(12) 1st CAG, constructed 8'x28' bunker. Date started: 8 February 1969; date completed: 12 February 1969; man hours: 256; equipment hours: 0.

(13) MAG-12, poured 20'x30'x4" concrete deck. Date started: 22 February 1969; date completed: 22 February 1969; man hours: 24; equipment hours: 24.

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(14) 9th Engineer Battalion, Tam Ky, Hill #10 constructed two generator sheds. Date started: 22 January 1969; date completed: 10 February 1969; man hours: 165; equipment hours: 0.

(15) Americal Combat Center, wire sea huts. Date started: 25 January 1969; date completed: 10 February 1969; man hours: 217; equipment hours: 0.

(16) 1st CAG, constructed two sea huts, one ammo bunker. Date started: 8 February 1969; date completed: 12 February 1969; man hours: 256; equipment hours: 0.

(17) MAG-12, constructed twenty foot walkway with 6'x6'x4" concrete pad. Date started: 22 February 1969; date completed: 23 February 1969; man hours: 36; equipment hours: 6.

(18) MAG-13, constructed 110'x79' concrete pad with double Butler Building. Date started: 5 September 1968; date completed: 18 February 1969; man hours: 5,875; equipment hours: 596.

15. During the period, the 9th Engineer Battalion water points produced 5,124,713 gallons of water and expended 2,622 man hours and 4,110 equipment hours.

16. During the same period, the 9th Engineer Battalion conducted daily mine sweeps from BT 520044 to BT 092549.

17. During the month of February, mine sweep personnel expended 10,752 man hours and 1,284 equipment hours on RVN Route #1 and were responsible for locating the subsequently listed mines.

a.	<u>Team</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Meters Covered</u>	<u>Composition</u>
	B Co	BT 520044	BT 320235	26,000	6
	A Co	BT 300235	BT 259289	7,000	9
	A Co	BT 242318	BT 259289	3,600	8
	A Co	BT 242318	BT 226347	3,700	8
	A Co	BT 198389	BT 226347	5,000	9
	A Co	BT 198389	BT 175418	3,800	9
	D Co	BT 144457	BT 175418	5,000	10
	D Co	BT 144457	BT 113497	5,200	12
	D Co	BT 113497	BT 092549	6,800	12

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PART III

Sequential Listing of Significant Events

1. Civic Action.

a. During the month of February, the Civic Action Team accompanied the MedCap Team and assisted in the treatment of 821 men, women, and children within the 9th Engineer Battalion TAOR, providing immunizations and innoculations against Cholera, Plague, and Tetanus to Vietnamese men, women, and children. The team worked in conjunction with the "New Life Catholic Orphanage" in An Tan as well as with the surrounding villages in their area.

b. During the period the Battalion ran patrols in conjunction with the 26th Engineer Battalion, and with local P. F. groups on one occasion, delivering a child at Sam Linh. Movies were shown on three occasions and four propaganda broadcasts were conducted in conjunction with the 7th Psy-Ops Battalion, 1st Psy-Ops Team, U. S. Army, in the Binh Sa and Tich Tay areas.

2. Training.

2 February 1969	1 Officer	Officers Leadership School, Danang
2 February 1969	1 Enlisted	Land Mine Warfare School, 1st EngrBn.
9 February 1969	1 SNGO	Staff NCO School, Danang
9 February 1969	1 Enlisted	Land Mine Warfare School, 1st EngrBn.
10 February 1969	3 Enlisted	ADM School, Okinawa
10 February 1969	1 Enlisted	Clerk Fiscal Course
15 February 1969	1 Enlisted	Danang
16 February 1969	1 Enlisted	Basic Ammo Tech School, Okinawa
24 February 1969	1 Enlisted	Land Mine Warfare School, 1st EngrBn.
28 February 1969	1 Enlisted	16mm Projectionist Course, Danang
		16mm Projectionist Course, Danang

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3. Engineer Operations.

a. 1 February 1969.

(1) D Company sweep team uncovered one M-26 grenade boobytrapped with Chi-Com grenade at BT 097522. It was blown in place.

(2) D Company sweep team received approximately 30 to 40 rounds of small arms fire at BT 097522. The ensuing fire fight lasted ten minutes with no known enemy or friendly casualties.

(3) Vietnamese civilian turned in one B-40 round to D Company sweep team at BT 173410. The round detonated wounding ten Vietnamese civilians, seven USMC personnel, and one USA personnel.

b. 2 February 1969.

(1) Company A received two 60mm mortar rounds incoming on perimeter followed by small arms fire. No known enemy or friendly casualties. Counter Battery Fire provided by ARVN artillery positions.

c. 3 February 1969.

(1) One 26'x48" culvert stored at BT 102516 reported missing. Ensuing search produced negative results.

(2) Company D sweep team received six rounds of small arms fire. Returned fire while USA personnel pursued. No known enemy or friendly casualties.

d. 7 February 1969.

(1) Company D sweep team received one round of small arms fire at BT 161438. The mine sweep continued with no casualties.

e. 12 February 1969.

(1) Company D sweep team received sniper fire at BT 097527. One USMC wounded in action and evacuated to KMC Aid Station.

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f. 13 February 1969.

(1) Company D sweep team assisted in the MEDEVAC of one Vietnamese civilian at BT 263280. Origin of wound was undetermined. The mine sweep continued.

(2) Company D sweep team received five rounds of small arms fire at BT 108503. No friendly casualties.

g. 14 February 1969.

(1) Company D Rock Crusher Platoon received three rounds of small arms fire at BT 107422. Sighted one squad of VC with packs. Two P. F. personnel were wounded and a Vietnamese civilian detained. Elements of USA pursued. There were no known enemy casualties.

h. 23 February 1969.

(1) Company A received six rounds of incoming ordnance estimated to be 122mm rockets at BT 294231. There were no friendly casualties.

(2) Company D sweep team found 32'x3'x1' barricade in road along with several small piles of sand containing A/P mines at BT 152452. The obstacle was cleared and the sweep continued.

(3) Company A assisted MEDEVAC of Vietnamese civilian at BT 185378. Vietnamese tripped A/P mine.

(4) Company D sweep team MEDEVACED six wounded Vietnamese civilians at BT 102510, shot by VC collecting taxes and rice.

(5) Bridge blown by VC at BT 219359, 50% damage to three piles, two I beams, and northwest abutment. The charge is estimated at 150 to 200 pounds. Operation to construct a bypass was immediately initiated.

(6) Culvert at BT 273267 blown and was impassable to traffic. Company D repaired with ten loads of fill.

(7) Company D found a 9'x9'x4' hole at BT 093545, the charge is estimated 20 pounds. Road opened with three loads of fill.

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(8) Company D personnel ambushed with automatic weapons fire at BT 101516 and tripped booby trapped grenade. One USMC was wounded in action and MEDEVACED.

i. 24 February 1969.

(1) Company D sweep team found one 155mm round booby trapped at BT 121487. It was blown in place.

(2) Bridge was blown at BT 276262 and road impassable to traffic due to 75% damage to entire bridge.

(3) Company A sweep team found one 20 pound mine with bamboo firing device, one 40 to 50 pound mine with bamboo firing device, and one 30 pound mine with bamboo firing device. All mines were blown in place.

(4) Company D MEDEVACED five Vietnamese WIAs and one Vietnamese KIA at BT 102510. Wounds were suffered as result of mortar rounds from Korean Operations in progress in this area.

(5) Company D sweep team received ten rounds small arms fire at BT 102516. Fire was returned with no known enemy or friendly casualties.

(6) Company D Commander received six rounds small arms fire at Song Ba Ren bridge. Fire was returned with no known enemy or friendly casualties.

(7) Daylight Recon Patrol captured one VC suspect (female) at BT 503041 and turned her over to National Police at the Ly Tin District Headquarters.

j. 25 February 1969.

(1) Company D sweep team encountered one culvert blown at BT 119489. Culvert repair with three loads of fill and road opened to traffic.

(2) Company D sweep team found blown culvert with two barricades at BT 105507. Road was impassable and repairs begun immediately and were completed the same day.

(3) Bridge blown at BT 225347 with approximately 15% damage, open to traffic.

(4) Company A sweep team found two W/P grenades booby trapped with trip wire at BT 226346 and were blown in place.

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(5) Company D trucks received twenty rounds of small arms fire at BT 102516. Fire was returned with no known friendly or enemy casualties.

(6) ARVN vehicle detonated mine at BT 270269. Crochet 3 assisted in the MEDEVAC of three ARVN wounded. Road was reswept and opened to traffic.

(7) Company D Commander received six rounds of sniper fire at BT 103514. No friendly casualties sustained.

k. 26 February 1969.

(1) Company A sweep team found blown culvert at BT 094534, road was passable to traffic and repairs initiated.

(2) Company D sweep team found two barricades ten meters apart at BT 119489. Barricades removed with negative results.

l. 27 February 1969.

(1) Company D Commander received ten rounds sniper fire at BT 103514. Fire was returned with no known enemy or friendly casualties.

(2) Company D sweep team encountered 16'x12'x8' hole in road at BT 093536. Repairs initiated and road is passable to traffic.

m. 28 February 1969.

(1) Company D assisted MEDEVAC of one Vietnamese civilian at BT 108502 suffering gun shot wound in chest and arms.

4. Voluntary Informant Program.

a. During the month of January, Vietnamese Civilians turned in the following items of ordnance into 9th Engineer Battalion Personnel:

- (1) Three 3.5mm rocket rounds.
- (2) Forty nine M-26A1 grenades.

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- (3) Twenty six M-79 rounds.
- (4) Forty seven 60mm mortar rounds.
- (5) Seven M-16 Anti-Personnel Mines.
- (6) Sixteen Chi-Com grenades.
- (7) One French Anti-Personnel mine.
- (8) Seven M-14 Anti-Personnel mines.
- (9) One 175mm round.
- (10) Thirteen 105mm illumination cannisters.
- (11) Thirteen 105mm H. E. rounds.
- (12) Two M18A1 Claymore mines.
- (13) Two TNT blocks.
- (14) Six homemade mines.
- (15) Two White Phosphorous grenades.
- (16) One banalore torpedo.
- (17) Two 81mm mortar rounds.

Miscellaneous small arms and firing devices

- (18) One .30 Caliber Magazine (loaded)
- (19) One battery rigged with firing device.
- (20) One M72 LAAW (Booby Trapped).
- (21) One M72 LAAW.
- (22) Two M1 Smoke grenades.
- (23) One 60mm illumination rounds.
- (24) One 155mm round prepared for detonation.

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b. Total amount of funds expended for the period was 103,000 \$VN.

5. Patrols.

a. During the month of February, 9th Engineer Battalion conducted 28 daylight recon and 21 nightly recons consisting of checkpoints and observation posts in BT grids 4906, 4905, 4904, 4903, 5006, 5007, 5004, and 5003 between 2000H to 0500H with negative contact except for one occasion on 24 February 1969 when a daylight recon patrol captured one VC suspect (female), who was subsequently turned over to Ly Tin District National Police.

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