

DECLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS

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

3/JPK/ewu

5213/5

27 APR 1970

(Unclassified upon removal of Enclosure (1))

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

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 - 31 March 1970

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2  
(b) FMFPacO 5750.0  
(c) DivO 5750.2E

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

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

J. P. KRAYNAK

9TH ENGINEER BN S & C

70-0089

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9TH ENGINEER BN

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MAR 1970

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HEADQUARTERS  
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FPO San Francisco, California 96602

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 March 1970 - 31 March 1970

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PART IORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. Designation.

9th Engineer Battalion, FMF

Commander  
LtCol J. P. KRAYNAK  
1 - 31 March 1970SUBORDINATE UNITS

Headquarters Company	Capt N. R. MARTIN 1-31 March 1970
Service Company	Capt J. L. MCORE 1-31 March 1970
Company "B"	1stLt T. M. TURNER 1-31 March 1970
Company "C"	1stLt J. W. NOLLENBERGER 1-10 March 1970
Company "D"	1st Lt L. H. PROSSER 11-31 March 1970 Capt R. D. OLSON 1-31 March 1970

ATTACHED UNITS

3rd Bridge Platoon, 1st Bridge Company in direct support	Sgt R. W. MONROE 1-14 March 1970 Dropped 15 March 1970 Returned to 1st Bridge Co.
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2. LOCATION.

9th Engineer Battalion (-)	Chu Lai, RVN BT514046	1-20 March 1970
	DaNang, RVN AT981746	21-31 March 1970
Company "B" (-)	Hill #10 BT199390	1-31 March 1970
Company "B", 1st Platoon	Tam Ky BT290230	21-31 March 1970

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Company "C" (-)	Chu Lai, RVN BT514046 Hill #34 AT982711	1-24 March 1970 25-31 March 1970
Company "C" 1st Platoon	Chu Lai, RVN BT514046(Bn Rear)	1-31 March 1970
Company "C" 3rd Platoon	Tam Ky, RVN BT290230 Hill #34 AT982711	1-20 March 1970 21-31 March 1970
Company "D" (-)	Hill #63 BT131452	1-31 March 1970
Company "D" Rock Crusher Platoon	BT108428	1-31 March 1970 Secured 31 March 1970

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer	Major L. L. O'LAUGHLIN 1-12 March 1970
S-1/Adjutant	Major J. B. TOWNSEND 13-31 March 1970
S-2/S-3 Officer	Capt T. W. SCHAUER 1-25 March 1970
S-4 Officer	Capt N. E. BRAYFIELD 26-31 March 1970
S-5 Officer	Capt R. H. RAILEY 1-13 March 1970
Personnel Officer	Major L. L. O'LAUGHLIN 14-31 March 1970
Sergeant Major	Major J. R. CORCORAN 1-6 March 1970
Motor Transport Officer	Capt R. C. WEST II 7-31 March 1970
Construction Officer	1st Lt H. B. SPEED III 1-25 March 1970
	Capt T. W. SCHAUER 26-31 March 1970
	Capt N. E. BRAYFIELD 1-31 March 1970
	Sgt. Maj. M. W. KRUEGER 1-31 March 1970
	1st Lt P. Q. FOSTER 1-12 March 1970
	2nd Lt B. L. SMITH 13-31 March 1970
	Capt R. H. RAILEY 1-31 March 1970

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ADM Officer	Capt R. H. RAILY
Maintenance Officer	1-31 March 1970
Utilities Officer	Capt S. F. TAYLOR
Legal Officer	1-31 March 1970
Medical Officer	CWO-4 G. M. HAYES
Supply Officer	1-31 March 1970
Embarcation Officer	Capt T. W. SCHAUER
NBC Officer	1-31 March 1970
Training Officer	Lt B. KING, USN
Education Officer	1-12 March 1970
Chaplain	Lt A. E. SQUIRE
Communication Officer	13-31 March 1970
Heavy Equipment Officer	Capt G. L. BRINGHAM
	1-31 March 1970
	1stLt R. W. REISNER
	1-13 March 1970
	1stLt T. M. HAJEWSKI
	14-21 March 1970
	1stLt J. P. CARRAS
	22-31 March 1970
	Capt R. H. RAILY
	1-31 March 1970
	Capt R. H. RAILY
	1-31 March 1970
	Capt R. H. RAILY
	1-31 March 1970
	LtOndr W. B. FINK, USN
	1-31 March 1970
	2ndLt D. J. HAZELL
	1-31 March 1970
	MGySgt C. F. CHANEY
	1-31 March 1970

4. Average Monthly Strength.

	USMC		USN
Officers	Enlisted	Officers	Enlisted
38	768	2	19

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## PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. During March 1970, the 9th Engineer Battalion was under the command of Lieutenant Colonel J. P. KRAYNAK. The Battalion continued its primary mission of maintenance and upgrading of Vietnam Route #1 from Chu Lai (BT520044) north to the Ly Ly River (BT145457), and haul support for the placement of base material from the end of the present pavement (BT210373) to the Ly Ly River (BT145457). Engineer support to the Americal Division, USA, MCB-7, USN, and other Free World Forces continued to require limited effort.
2. Company "A" embarked aboard shipping at the Sand Ramp, Chu Lai, and were transported to the Ferry Landing in Da Nang on 27 February 1970. Company "A" reembarked on 2 March in accordance with Operation Keystone Blue Jay, and arrived in Hawaii 15 March 1970.
3. Company "B" located at Hill #10 (BT199389) continued its primary mission of minesweeps, maintenance and upgrading in preparation for asphaltic paving of Vietnam Route #1 from the end of the present paving (BT210373) to the Ly Ly River (BT145457), a total of 7.0 miles. They also continued construction support to Free World Forces, throughout the area of operations. On 25 March 1970, first platoon moved into the Tam Ky compound (BT298230) replacing 3rd platoon, Company "C".
4. Company "C" from 1 to 25 March 1970, was located at Chu Lai compound, with one platoon located at Tam Ky (BT298230). The company engaged in support of Free World Forces in the Chu Lai - Tam Ky areas, with emphasis on its primary mission of minesweeps, maintenance of bridges and culverts, and repairs to Republic of Vietnam Route #1 from Chu Lai (BT520044) to the end of the asphaltic pavement (BT210373), a distance of 31 miles. On 21 March 1970, the minesweep responsibility for QL-1 from Chu Lai to Tam Ky was turned over to Regional Force Units. Deliberate maintenance and upgrading responsibilities for QL-1 from Chu Lai to Tam Ky were accepted by the DaNang Highway District, DGOH, GVN on 21 March 1970. On 25 March 1970, 3rd platoon moved from Tam Ky and company headquarters with 2nd platoon moved from Chu Lai to Hill #34 in Danang; 1st platoon remained in Chu Lai.
5. Company "D", located at Landing Zone Baldy (BT136448), continued the primary missions of daily minesweeps of Vietnam Route #1 from the Ly Ly River (BT145457), north to the Song Ba Ren Bridge (BT102510), a distance of 7.0 miles, and haul support from the end of the pavement (BT210373), to the Ly Ly River (BT145457).

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On 15 March 1970, the minesweep responsibility from the Ba Ren River (BT102510) to Cau Lau River (BT081546), a distance of 7 miles, was turned over to the Korean Marines. The company also carried the additional road maintenance responsibility of Route #535, from Huang Xuan (BT144457) to Landing Zone Ross (BT024345), a distance of 12.0 miles, and continued engineer support to Free World Forces, throughout the area of operations.

6. During the month of March 1970, the battalion continued to stress the primary missions of upgrading and haul support on QL-1.

a. The upgrade and maintenance tasks on QL-1 consisted of correcting deficiencies in the road from Chu Lai (BT520044) to Tam Ky (BT293240) in preparation for transfer to the Government of Vietnam; repairing of the road from Tam Ky (BT293240) to the end of the pavement (BT210373); upgrading of the road in conjunction with MCB-7, USN, from the end of the pavement to the Ly Ly River (BT145457); and assistance to MCB-7 from the Ly Ly River to the Ba Ren River (BT102510).

b. During the reporting period, the following mineral products were emplaced on QL-1 in accordance with the above tasks: 8,817 cubic yards of 2 inch minus base rock, 939 cubic yards of 6 inch minus base rock, 530 cubic yards of shot rock, 1,598 cubic yards of laterite, 1,545 cubic yards of sand, 530 tons of asphalt, and 7800 gallons of penetrime.

c. In addition to the upgrading efforts, 5 minefields were cleared to allow for the widening of QL-1 and for the building of an approach to a new sand pit near Landing Zone Baldy.

7. The Second Provisional Land Clearing Company conducted operations in the 1st Armored Brigade, ARVN area of operations. Other units participating were the 37th and 39th ARVN Ranger Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade, ARVN; one company of 196th Light Infantry Brigade, Americal Division, USA; and 17th Armored Cavalry, ARVN.

a. 19 - 31 March 1970, land clearing operations were held in the following BT grids: 1943, 1944, 1945, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146.

- (1) 100 lineal yards of trenches destroyed
- (2) 1,698 acres cleared
- (3) 356 bunkers destroyed
- (4) 334 fighting holes destroyed

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- (5) 225 spider traps destroyed
- (6) 60 lineal yards of multi-level tunnels destroyed
- (7) Ordnance discovered, retained and/or destroyed:
  - (a) 3-81mm rounds
  - (b) 5-M79 rounds
  - (c) 4-B40 rockets
  - (d) 19-M26 grenades
  - (e) 17- 105mm rounds
  - (f) 1-750# bomb
  - (g) 1-20# composition "B" homemade fragmentation mine
  - (h) 1-250# bomb with bomb tube
  - (i) 1-40# box mine
  - (j) 1-82mm round
  - (k) 19-60mm rounds
  - (l) 2-satchel charges
  - (m) 14-LAAW
  - (n) 1-60mm RPG
  - (o) 5-155mm rounds
  - (p) 4-chi cam grenades
  - (q) 4-individual weapons
  - (r) 1-unknown artillery shell

8. On 10 March 1970, though all operational commitments were continued, significant effort of the battalion was placed on the relocation of the battalion to DaNang. By 30 March 1970, 475 personnel and 2,650 tons of equipment had been moved by convoy and sealift.

9. During the reporting period the 9th Engineer Battalion, FMF has completed the following support to the Free World Forces:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Description</u>
Americal Division	90 - Ice boxes
Americal Division	175 - Mount out boxes
Americal Division	Construct classroom and shop at Orphanage
Americal Division	Pre-cut 3 seahuts
Americal Division	Form and pour concrete pad
Americal Division	Plumbing for showers
196th Infantry Brigade	Construct Heli pad
MAG-13	45 Mount out boxes
MAG-13	Form and pour concrete pad
9th Engineer Battalion	Construct frame building for
Headquarters Company	maintenance shop
Headquarters Company	300 mount out boxes

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Headquarters Company	Construct sump for showers
Headquarters Company	Build Generator shed for COC
Headquarters Company	Construct 4 Maintenance trailers for land clearing Company
Bravo Company	Rehabilitate living bunkers at Hill 10
Delta Company	Rehabilitate welding shop
Delta Company	Rehabilitate maintenance shed
Delta Company Rock Quarry	Construct Grease rack
Delta Company Rock Quarry	Construct Maintenance slab
Delta Company Rock Quarry	Construct Door for Sea Hut
Delta Company Rock Quarry	Construct Slab for Shower
Delta Company Rock Quarry	Form and pour Concrete pad for open storage area.

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PART IIISequential Listing Of  
Significant Events1. Civic Action.

- a. Ten Vietnamese were treated at the Battalion Aid Station at BT514046.
- b. A grader was provided for Chu Lai roads on 3 March 1970.
- c. A load of wood was donated to rebuild 3 homes destroyed by fire on 9 March 1970.
- d. Hoa Van Swine Project received 5 loads of scrap wood. Chu Lai Buddhist Temple received 9 loads of scrap wood. The Chu Lai combat youth received 4 loads of scrap wood. Transportation was provided to purchase two piglets for Dong Yen Swine Project. A scrap tent and two loads of scrap wood were also provided for Dong Yen. Long Phu I Swine Project received three loads of scrap wood.
- e. Civic Action terminated in Chu Lai area on 20 March 1970.
- f. General Walt Scholarship Funds are being turned over to Ly Tin District Headquarters for continuance of Scholarship for 9 students.

2. Training.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SCHOOL OR COURSE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>PERSONNEL</u>
1Mar70	Officer Leadership Course	DaNang	Officer
1 Mar70	NCO Leadership Course	DaNang	Enlisted
7Mar70	Embarkation Course	Okinawa	Enlisted
8Mar70	SNCO Seadership Course	DaNang	Enlisted
15Mar70	NCO Leadership Course	DaNang	Enlisted
28Mar70	Basic Ammo Tech Course	Okinawa	Enlisted
28Mar70	Basic Infr. Weapons Repair Course	Okinawa	Enlisted

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3. Engineer Operations

a. 02 March 1970

(1) 020735H at BT296232 at Tam Ky (Company "C") compound received 3 rounds of 82mm fire in vicinity, no damage, no casualties.

(2) 020755H at BT148455 Company "D" sweep team found one 2.75 HE warhead, destroyed in place.

b. 03 March 1970

(1) 030935H at BT163436 Company "D" sweep team found one M-26 fragmentation grenade on side of road, destroyed in place.

(2) 030330H at BT296232 at Tam Ky (Company "C") compound reported receiving small arms fire at 030245 from south. Adjacent unit (ARVN) reported one KIA, six WIA civilians, no USMC injuries. Flare ship called in, compound secured from alert at 030400.

c. 04 March 1970

(1) 040745H at BT089538 Company "D" sweep team found one 82mm Illumination round embedded in road, removed and destroyed in paddy.

(2) 040825H at BT248307 Company "C" sweep team found one 105mm HE round on side of road, destroyed in place.

(3) 040900H at BT128479 Company "D" sweep team found small portion of culvert in road, believed to be booby trapped, destroyed in place, no booby trap, no damage to road, no casualties.

(4) 040930H at BT128479 Company "D" sweep team found four 60mm HE rounds on side of road, negative lot number, destroyed in place, negative damage to road.

d. 06 March 1970

(1) 060810H at BT256293 Company "C" sweep team with ARVN sweep team found one 25 pound block mine. ARVN removed mine and took to compound.

(2) 061020H at BT116494 Company "D" sweep team found one 105mm HE round by house near road, pulled from area, destroyed in paddy, negative damage or casualties.

(3) 061905H at BT209235 Company "C" sweep team found one 90mm round, two M-79 rounds, one ChiCom grenade turned in by USA personnel, destroyed by sweep team.

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e. 07 March 1970

(1) 070800H at BT207375 Company "B" sweep team found one M-79 round, negative lot number, destroyed in place.

(2) 070910H at BT119489 Company "D" sweep team found one 60MM round on side of the road, negative lot number, destroyed in place.

f. 08 March 1970

(1) 080730H at BT415125 Company "C" sweep team reported Vietnamese civilian pointed out one 105mm round, a search found 8 others. Destroyed in paddy by demolition team from battalion.

(2) 080850H at BT174426 Company "D" sweep team found one M-26 fragmentation grenade off shoulder of road, destroyed in place.

(3) 080900H at BT163436 Company "D" sweep team found one M-79 HE round, negative lot number, destroyed in place.

(4) 080950H at BT129479 Company "D" sweep team found 30-35 opium pills laying in middle of road, burned with C-4.

g. 09 March 1970

(1) 090830H at BT257294 Company "C" sweep team reported three Vietnamese on motor cycle hit an estimated 50-60 pound command detonated mine, 4'X 5'X 4' hole left in road, two Vietnamese killed, one taken to aid station by USA vehicle. Repair crew called for.

(2) 090845H at BT127478 Company "D" sweep team found one dud 60mm HE round on west side of road, fuze number 10P-201-11-68, destroyed in place.

(3) 091845H at BT296332 Tam Ky (Company "C") compound reported four 120mm rockets landing in vicinity of the city of Tam Ky, no military casualties or damage.

h. 12 March 1970

(1) 121958H at BT199389 Company "B" reported Vietnamese child brought to compound with shrapnel wounds to legs, medevac called in.

i. 14 March 1970

(1) 140800H at BT128478 Company "D" sweep team found one LAAW, negative lot number, destroyed in place.

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j. 15 March 1970

(1) 150800H at BT202383 Company "B" sweep team found one 60mm round, negative lot number, destroyed in paddy.

(2) 150915H at BT102512 Company "D" sweep team found one M-14 Anti-personnel mine on side of road, destroyed in place.

k. 17 March 1970

(1) 170845H at BT197388 Company "B" sweep team found one 60mm round 20 meters on left side of road, destroyed in place.

l. 18 March 1970

(1) 180730H at BT438469 Company "D" sweep team found one 60mm round, lot number 498-2E2, destroyed in paddy.

(2) 180915H at BT115495 Company "D" sweep team reported receiving approximately 100 rounds of small arms fire 200 meters from west side of the road, negative casualties or damage.

m. 19 March 1970

(1) 190830H at BT130477 Company "D" sweep team found one 81mm WP round, negative lot number, destroyed in paddy.

n. 20 March 1970

(1) 200839H at BT146456 Company "D" sweep team reported USN truck hit mine on road being swept by sweep team, one USN KIA, six USN WIA, two USMC WIA, called in medevac, continued sweep.

o. 22 March 1970

(1) 221300H at BT145453 Company "D" reported USN 24 yard pan hit mine on access road to sand pit, sent sweep team to area, reswept with negative results.

(2) 221405H at BT177397 Company "B" personnel found one 175mm round, negative lot number, destroyed in place.

p. 23 March 1970

(1) 230800H at BT153448 Company "D" sweep team, PF turned in two ChiCom grenades, destroyed in paddy.

(2) 230930H at BT174420 Company "B" sweep team found one M-79 round on west side of road, negative lot number, destroyed in place.

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q. 24 March 1970

(1) 240800H at BT208374 Company "B" sweep team found one 60mm firing device, destroyed in paddy.

r. 30 March 1970

(1) 300900H at BT176418 Company "B" sweep team found one 60mm Illumination round, two M-79 rounds, negative lot number, destroyed in paddy.

4. Voluntary Informant Program.

a. During the month of March 1970, Vietnamese civilians turned in the following ordnance to the 9th Engineer Battalion, FMF:

- (1) 1-155mm round
- (2) 5-Chicom grenades
- (3) 2-82mm HE rounds
- (4) 50-60mm HE rounds
- (5) 1-60mm WP round
- (6) 3-105mm HE rounds
- (7) 5-M-79 HE rounds
- (8) 3-M-16 Anti-personnel mines
- (9) 5-M-26 Fragmentation grenades
- (10) 1-2.75 rocket
- (11) 1-LAAW
- (12) 3-4.2mm rounds

b. Total funds expended for the period: \$10,700 VN.

5. Patrols.

a. During the month of March 1970 the 9th Engineer Battalion conducted 12 daylight and 10 night recon patrols consisting of check points and observation posts in BT grids 4806, 4905, 4904, 4903, 5003, 5004, and 5005 between the hours of 0900 and 0400.