

[REDACTED] (1)

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

3/EGP/fhw  
5750  
6 July 1967  
0118767

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force  
Pacific, FPO San Francisco, California 96602 (Attn: Field Historian)  
Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 to 30 June 1967  
Ref: (a) MCC 5750.2A  
(b) FMFPACO 5750.8  
(c) DivO 5750.2B  
Encl: (1) 9th Engineer Battalion Command Chronology

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

*G. Babe*  
G. BABE

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CG, III MAF (Engr)

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1ST MARINE DIVISION, FMF  
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0116767I. ORGANIZATION DATA1. DESIGNATION

9th Engineer Battalion	<u>COMMANDER</u>
Headquarters Company	LtCol G. A. BABE
Service Company	Capt. G. A. BUCCI
Company "A"	Maj. E. W. LIFSET
Company "B"	1stLt W. L. PLATZ from 1 June 1967 to 19 June 1967 Capt. R. A. TIEBOUT from 20 June 1967
Company "C"	1stLt P. B. ALLEN
Company "D"	Capt. T. R. HOLLEY
3rd Platoon, 1st Bridge Company	Capt. B. K. WIEDERHOLD
3rd Platoon, 1st Bridge Company	1stLt R. D. MOLSTAD

2. LOCATION

9th Engineer Battalion (-) Rein	Chu Lai, RVN	1 - 30 June 1967
Company "A"	Da Nang, RVN	1 - 30 June 1967
Company "B" (-)	Phu Bai, RVN	1 - 23 June 1967
	Chu Lai, RVN	24 - 30 June 1967

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer	Vacant
S-1, Adjutant	2ndLt J. R. HUDSON
Personnel Officer	2ndLt J. R. HUDSON
S-2/3	Maj. F. E. PAIGE
S-4	Capt. R. A. BLUMENKRANTZ
SgtMaj	SgtMaj E. C. YARGER
Motor Transport Officer	1stLt P. MCCANN
Engineer Equipment Officer	2ndLt R. E. D. ROOS
Construction Officer	2ndLt F. R. PRICE to 5 June 1967

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Communications Officer	Capt. G. A. BUGGI
ADM Officer	Capt. J. R. HOLLEY
Maintenance Officer	2ndLt J. W. IVEY
Utilities Officer	2ndLt R. BARNETT to 18 June 1967
Medical Officer	Capt. T. K. MCKEOWN from 19 June 1967
Ordnance Officer	Lt G. H. SALZBERG MC USMR
Supply Officer	1stLt C. N. TOFFT to 8 June 1967
Legal Officer	CWO-4 C. I. HERRIOTTS from 24 June 1967
Embarcation Officer	WO CONAROW to 17 June 1967
NBC/Civil Affairs Officer	2ndLt D. J. LUCAS from 18 June 1967
Chaplain	Capt. T. K. MCKEOWN from 19 June 1967
	Capt. M. E. LUNDY to 17 June 1967
	1stLt R. J. COULIER from 18 June 1967
	Capt. R. A. BLUMENKRANTZ
	Services conducted by visiting chaplain
	Lt J. DORSEY USM

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

	USMC	USN		
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL	
41	1102	1	18	

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II. NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the month of June, Company "A" remained at Da Nang under OPCON of 7th Engineer Battalion. On 23 June the first elements of Company "B" returned from Phu Bai, RVN where they had been providing engineer support to the Third Marine Division. By 24 June the entire company had returned to Chu Lai. The Battalion (-) and 3rd Platoon, 1st Bridge Company in direct support of the 9th Engineer Battalion, remained at Chu Lai. Company "D" retained responsibility for maintaining and upgrading Route #1 from the rock crusher site north to Tam Ky. Company "D" spent 12,022 man hours and 6487 equipment hours in placing 3107 cubic yards of fill and 3207 cubic yards of rock. Work included clearing and ditching operations, filling of the south approach to An Tan bridge, and the installation of 3 each 18" culverts 40' long. The quarry operation produced 3862 cubic yards of crushed rock. The Battalion continued to support the ROK Marines with a reinforced platoon from Company "C" which is responsible for maintaining 20 km of road and a water point. Work on the road required 5010 man hours, 1835 equipment hours and 4667 cubic yards of fill. The water point at the Korean Marine Corps Camp provided 275,000 gallons of water. During June the five (5) other water points operated by the Battalion produced

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4,919,800 gallons of water. A demolition team has been in support of the 1st Marine Reconnaissance Battalion since 28 June and another demolition team has been in support of 2/11 since 27 June. Also in the month of June the Battalion joined 81 enlisted men and 8 officers and transferred 190 enlisted men and 19 officers. One officer returned from ADK school on Okinawa. The Battalion Reconnaissance Officer made several road and bridge recons north to the Thang Binh area. On 9 June the Commanding General, 1st Marine Division visited the area and on 28 June the Commanding General, FIFPac, Commanding General, III MAF and Commanding General, Chu Lai Installation Coordinator visited the 9th Engineer Battalion area. A 5 float class 55 ferry was maintained at coordinates BT 378174 and a 53' M4T6 fixed span bridge was placed and removed at coordinates BT 276262 for passage of a tank company moving north on Route #1. Work continued on the Dickie Chapelle Dispensary with the construction of a water purification shed, two thousand (2000) gallon septic tank and drain field, and a water tower. In addition the Battalion completed construction of a 25' x 50' storage shed at FLSG-B, a 60' x 200' storage pad at MAG-13 a 65' x 592' bomb storage pad at MAG-13, a 100' x 100' helopad at the Chu Lai POW compound and 11 huts at MAG-36. A water well is also being drilled for MAG-36. The Battalion began construction of two bunkers, 1 at 2nd LAAM Battalion and 1 at 1st Reconnaissance Battalion. The Battalion also continued to support Task Force Oregon by completing the following: dug three wells; utilities connections were made to three (3) house trailers; constructed a 30' x 50' storage building; a 100' x 100' helopad, and a generator shed for 4 - 100 kw generators; rewired four (4) surgical suites; applied pentaprime on several miles of roads; constructed 34 - 4 hole heads. The following projects are in progress: constructing addition to Task Force Oregon messhall; installing a new power distribution system at 2nd Surgical Hospital (USA); constructing a 20' x 40' tactical operations center bunker; building a complete cantonment for the 161st Aviation Company (USA) and one for the 14th Aviation Battalion (USA); constructing a helicopter landing pad 240' x 480'; and pouring a 25' x 32' concrete pad for two (2) computer vans.

III. SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. PERSONNEL

1 June 1967

PFC A. L. LACARESE was awarded the Purple Heart. Sgthaj. YARGER and 1stSgt BUTENAS reported aboard.

4 June 1967

M GySgt DANIELS and SSgt DUNCAN transferred to COMUS.

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2. CIVIC ACTION

Medical Assistance to 76 Vietnamese of Tich Tay (BT 496055)  
 Dental Assistance to 20 Vietnamese of Tich Tay.

Personal assistance to Vietnamese of Tich Tay consisted of 334 bars of soap, 100 school kits, 240 hair brushes, 9 tooth brushes, and 65 dump truck loads of scrap lumber.

Continued work on well at Dickie Chapelle Dispensary and generator repair at Chu Lai New Life Hamlet. Also continued work on community bath and well in village of Tich Tay. Also began work on irrigation ditch at Tich Tay.

English language classes for 11 adults and 19 children were given in the village of Tich Tay for a total of 13 hours.

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3. ENGINEER OPERATIONS

1 June 1967

Taped interview with CMC concerning the M16 rifle was held in the officers club. Taped interview with CMC concerning the M16 rifle was heard by the SMC's. Started construction of sewage and water systems at the 2nd Surgical Hospital (USA).

5 June 1967

Started construction of the water tower at the Dickie Chapelle Hospital.

6 June 1967

Completed 60' x 200' pad for MAG-13. Completed 100' x 100' helopad at POW compound.

7 June 1967

An accident involving an Army PC and a Marine asphalt distributor occurred at BT 510055. No one was hurt.

8 June 1967

Started work on septic tank at Dickie Chapelle Hospital. Headquarters Company Heavy Equipment Platoon's Tandem Roller was slightly damaged by a mortar attack on PF camp at BT 462082.

9 June 1967

Completed 20m x 180m bomb handling pad at MAG-13.

10 June 1967

Finished XRay wing extension for 2nd Surgical Hospital (USA).

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11 June 1967      Bridge blown at BS 593933. Lt PLUNKETT made recon south to this area. Lana Turner toured the 9th Engineer Battalion area.

14 June 1967      LtCol BABE traveled to Da Nang and returned the same day. Major PAIGE and Lt PLUNKETT conducted a road and bridge recon to Hill 29. Put in and removed 53' fixed span at BT 276262 to allow passage of 13 tanks. Lt PLUNKETT conducted a bridge and road recon north to Thang Binh.

16 June 1967      Begin construction of 14th Aviation Battalion cantonment. Started work on a laterite and concrete pad for the 221st SOS Battalion (USA). Finished 11 huts for MAG-36. Completed storage shed for 2nd Surgical Company Hospital.

18 June 1967      Started digging well at MAG-36. Started on power distribution system at 2nd Surgical Company Hospital.

19 June 1967      Started and completed concrete deck at TFO messhall.

22 June 1967      Began work on ammo bunker at 1st Reconnaissance Battalion.

23 June 1967      Major PAIGE conducted a road and bridge recon north to Tam Ky. Completed work on ASP building and pad for FLSG-B.

25 June 1967      Started work on ammo bunker for 2nd LAAM Battalion.

26 June 1967      Sent two (2) men to 2/11 for engineer support.

27 June 1967      Finished ammo bunker for 1st Reconnaissance Battalion. Furnished two (2) men to 1st Reconnaissance Battalion for engineer support.

28 June 1967      LtCol BABE, Major PAIGE, Major MCKEEENIE and Lt PLUNKETT made road and bridge recon north to Thang Binh and Hill 63.

30 June 1967

4. TRAINING

11 June 1967      One (1) Marine was sent to Fork Lift School Division Supply. One (1) Marine was sent to HUMS School, Division Supply.

12 June 1967      One (1) Marine was sent to ADI School. One (1) Marine was sent to Field Wire Course.

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16 June 1967	One (1) Marine was sent to MUIIS School, Division Supply.
19 June 1967	FAM Fire 210 Marines with M16 at MAG-12 Range.
20 June 1967	FAM Fire 230 Marines with M16 at MAG-12 Range.
21 June 1967	FAM Fire 156 Marines with M16 at MAG-12 Range.
22 June 1967	FAM Fire 141 Marines with M16 at MAG-12 Range.
23 June 1967	FAM Fire 84 Marines with M16 at MAG-12 Range.
26 June 1967	Three (3) Marines were sent to Landmine Warfare School at 1st Engineer Battalion.
27 June 1967	FAM Fire 104 Marines with M16, M60, and .45 caliber pistol at MAG-12 Range. All new personnel from COINUS were given an Indoctrination Lecture by the Battalion Commander.
29 June 1967	Two (2) Marines were sent to Landmine Warfare School at 1st Engineer Battalion.
30 June 1967	FAM Fire 116 Marines with M16 at MAG-12 Range. A GMST was administered to 56 Marines at the Battalion Mess Hall.

## 5. PATROLS

2 June 1967	Night Rein. Fireteam Recon Patrol, from 0222120H to 030630H. No significant sightings.
4 June 1967	Night Rein. Fireteam Recon Patrol, from 042100H to 050600H. No significant sightings.
5 June 1967	Night Rein. Fireteam Recon Patrol from 052200H to 060500H. No significant sightings.
8 June 1967	Night Rein. Fireteam Recon Patrol from 080100H to 080500H. No significant sightings.
9 June 1967	Night Rein. Fireteam Recon Patrol from 090100H to 090630H. No significant sightings.
10 June 1967	Night Rein Fireteam Recon Patrol from 102400H to 110500H. Heard movement to rear, was Vietnamese fisherman who had ID.
11 June 1967	Night Rein Fireteam Recon Patrol from 112400H to 120500H. Detained one male prisoner in rice paddies without ID card. Saw two men in boat would not respond to call and were lost out of sight.
12 June 1967.	Night Rein. Fireteam Recon Patrol from 122400H to 130500H. Detained one male prisoner on Route #22.
15 June 1967	Night Rein Fireteam Recon Patrol from 152400H to 160500H. Received 30 - 35 rounds from SE at 125 - 150 yards vicinity ET 4955055. Flares called negative sightings.

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16 June 1967 Night Rein. Fireteam Recon Patrol from 162300H to 170500H. No significant sightings.  
17 June 1967 Night Rein Fireteam Recon Patrol from 172300H to 180500H. No significant sightings.  
19 June 1967 Night Rein. Fireteam Recon Patrol from 192100H to 200300H. No significant sightings.  
21 June 1967 Night Rein. Fireteam Recon Patrol from 212300H to 220500H. No significant sightings.  
23 June 1967 Night Rein. Fireteam Recon Patrol from 232400H to 240600H. No significant sightings.  
25 June 1967 Day Rein. Fireteam Recon Patrol from 250630H to 251130H. No significant sightings.  
27 June 1967 Night Rein. Fireteam Recon Patrol from 272000H to 280300H. No significant sightings.  
29 June 1967 Night Rein. Fireteam Recon Patrol from 292300H to 300300H. No significant sightings.  
30 June 1967 Night Rein. Fireteam Recon Patrol from 302100H to 010300H. Detained 3 suspects near An Tan Bridge. One woman and two boys.

REFERENCES

Staff Journals

Maps: AMS Series L7014, sheets 6640IV, 6739I, 6739IV, 6640II,  
AMS Series L909X scale 1:12,500 Chu Lai and Vicinity

Task Organization Report

LOC Report

Tactical Bridging Report

Engineer Operations Report

Patrol Reports

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