

~~SECRET~~

HEADQUARTERS

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

3/abc
5750
6 July 1968
070668

9TH ENGR BN

CMD CHRON

JUNE 1968

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

Subj: Command Chronology for Period 1 June 1968 to 30 June 1968

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

Encl: (1) 9th Engineer Battalion Command Chronology

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

H. E. PEREA
H. E. PEREA

UNCLASSIFIED

68 2680

9TH ENGINEER BN

S & C LOG NO. 0037-68
COPY 1 OR 6

DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

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

3/gbc
5750
6 July 1968
070668

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
1 June 1968 - 30 June 1968
INDEX

PART I
PART II
PART III

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA
NARRATIVE SUMMARY
SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF
SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~5750
6 July 1968
070668

PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

9th Engineer Battalion

COMMANDER

LtCol H. E. PEREA

Subordinate Units

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

Capt. E. G. PETERS
 Maj. W. B. CHANNEL
 Capt. G. B. BARNEY
 *1stLt D. E. SIEGWALD
 *1stLt R. G. ERICKSON
 Capt. R. G. RIZZO

*Left command on 16 June 1968, 1stLt G. M. SHERMAN assumed duties.

Attached Units

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

2ndLt L. E. MORLAN

2. LOCATION

9th Engineer Battalion
 Company "B"
 Company "C"
 Company "D"

Chu Lai, RVN
 YD 893129
 Hill # 10
 BT 199390
 Hill # 63
 BT 132454

1-30 June 1968
 1-30 June 1968
 1-30 June 1968
 1-30 June 1968

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer
 S-1 Adjutant
 Personnel Officer
 S-2/3
 S-5
 S-4

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

Maj. C. N. WALL
 WO-1 E. M. JOHNSON
 WO-1 E. M. JOHNSON
 Capt. W. H. SKIERKOWSKI
 1stLt R. J. HOBBS
 *1stLt C. E. HUGHES
 Capt. T. K. MCKEOWN
 **Capt. C. H. ROYER

~~SECRET~~

SECRET5750
6 July 1968
070668

*Assumed duties on 8 June 1968.
**Assumed duties on 26 June 1968.

Sgt Maj.
Motor Transport Officer
Construction Officer
ADM Officer
Maintenance Officer
Utilities Officer
Medical Officer
Ordnance Officer
Supply Officer
Legal Officer
Embarkation Officer
NBC Officer

Training Officer

Education Officer
Chaplain

Sgt Maj. D. K. CRAIG
1stLt J. D. BUCHANAN
Capt. W. H. SKIERKOWSKI
2ndLt R. G. MAKELA
WO-1 G. E. JOHNSON
WO-1 F. A. R. LANDRY
Lt M. P. KOLSKY USN (MC)
WO-1 F. A. R. LANDRY
Capt. C. N. PASTINO
Capt. E. G. PETERS
1stLt D. F. SIMSON
1stLt R. J. HOBBS
*1stLt C. E. HUGHES
1stLt J. R. GARDNER
**1stLt W. B. TOWNE
Lt. M. P. KOLSKY USN (MC)
Services conducted by
visiting Chaplain Capt.
C. J. RICHARDSON

*Assumed duties on 8 June 1968.
**Assumed duties on 8 June 1968.

4. Average Monthly Strength

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
38	961	1	17

UNCLASSIFIED

PART II

During the month of June 1968, the 9th Engineer Battalion, LtCol H. E. PEREA Commanding, continued as its primary mission the maintenance and upgrading of RVN Route # 1 from Chu Lai (BT 520044) to the Song Cau Lau (BT 091554). The maintenance of road networks for the Americal Division, Supply Company (Rein) FLC, plus engineer support of free world forces in the Chu Lai TAOR continued to require a significant engineer effort.

SECRET

~~SECRET~~5750
6 July 1968
070668

Company "A" continued maintenance and upgrading of RVN Route # 1 between Chu Lai (BT 520044) and Tam Ky (BT 330209), a distance of 16 miles and engaged in vertical construction in support of the Americal Division.

Company "B" (-) was located in the Hue-Phu Bai area, RVN YD 893129, in direct support of Task Force X-Ray. First Platoon, Company "B" was located at Chu Lai (BT 520044) and is engaged in bridge and vertical construction.

Company "C" (-) was located at Hill # 10 (BT 199390) and was in the process of maintaining and upgrading RVN Route # 1 from Hill # 29 (BT 226320) to Thang Binh (BT 175418) a distance of 11 miles. The 2nd Platoon, Company "C" was located on Hill # 29 and was in the process of upgrading and maintaining RVN Route # 1 from Tam Ky (BT 300233) north to Hill # 29 a distance of 8.2 miles.

Company "D" 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.

During the month of June, upgrading and repair of RVN Route # 1 was broken down into three areas of responsibility; Chu Lai to Tam Ky, Tam Ky to Thang Binh, and Thang Binh to the Song Cau Lau.

Between Chu Lai (BT 520044) and Tam Ky (BT 330209), 9th Engineer Battalion personnel expended 2144 man hours and 1795 equipment hours in hauling 7973 cubic yards of rock.

Between Tam Ky (BT 330209) and Thang Binh (BT 175418), the 9th Engineer Battalion personnel expended 2854 man hours and 2202 equipment hours in hauling and placing 1535 cubic yards of rock and 5750 cubic yards of fill.

Between Thang Binh (BT 175418) and the Song Cau Lau (BT 091554), 9th Engineer Battalion personnel expended 1283 man hours and 1062 equipment hours in hauling and placing 2742 cubic yards of rock and 1023 cubic yards of fill.

During the month of June, the 9th Engineer Battalion units replaced or repaired twelve (12) culverts along RVN Route # 1. Replacement of these culverts, necessitated by enemy demolitions, required 120' of 36" culvert, 260' of 48" culvert, and 152' of 60" culvert as shown below:

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~5750
6 July 1968
070668

<u>Coordinates</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Man Hours</u>	<u>Equipment Hours</u>
BT 442098	1	40'	36"	18	15
BT 453087	1	40'	36"	20	15
BT 121487	1	48'	48"	12	4
BT 122486	1	44'	48"	16	2
BT 405133	1	50'	36"	35	14
BT 279257	1	50'	60"	40	4
BT 279257	1	50'	60"	60	4
BT 119487	1	44'	60"	46	3
BT 230339	1	40'	48"	54	22
BT 259289	1	40'	48"	86	15
BT 120487	1	44'	48"	120	3
BT 271267	1	52'	60"	60	10

During the month of June 1968, Company "C" reconstructed the following bridge.

<u>Bridge #</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Man Hours</u>	<u>Equip Hours</u>	<u>Date Completed</u>
31	BT 226347	100'	Timber stringer, Pile abutment and wing walls	800	47	8 June 1968

During the month Company "A" constructed the following bridge.

<u>Location</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Man Hours</u>	<u>Equip Hours</u>	<u>Date Completed</u>
BT 460062	24'	20	Single span, Timber trestle	150	20	26 June 1968

During the month, the 3rd Platoon of 1st Bridge Company accomplished the following bridge construction along RVN Route # 1.

<u>Location</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Man Hours</u>	<u>Equip Hours</u>
BT 102511	60'	N4T6	163	19

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

5750
6 July 1968
070668

During the month of June there were seven (7) culverts destroyed by enemy demolitions. There were eight (8) incidents where mines were found and blown in place; six (6) incidents where mines were found and removed.

The culverts destroyed by enemy demolitions during the month of June 1968 are shown below:

<u>Culvert Location</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>Date Destroyed</u>
BT 359190	1	4 June 1968
BT 342204	1	6 June 1968
BT 391162	1	7 June 1968
BT 119489	1	16 June 1968
BT 371181	1	19 June 1968
BT 121486	1	19 June 1968
BT 359190	1	22 June 1968

UNCLASSIFIED

In addition to the major road and bridge work 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:

Company "A" continued (1) the maintenance of 2.0 miles of roadway within the Supply Company (Rein) FLC-C (BT 532111); (2) the maintenance of 3.5 miles of roadway within the Supply Company (Rein) FLC ASP (BT 520044); (3) the maintenance of 1.6 miles of roadway on Route # 22W (BT 512053)-(BT 493037); and (4) the maintenance of 0.6 miles of roadway on Route # 22E (BT 538027)-(BT 549049).

Headquarters Company Heavy Equipment Platoon retained the responsibility for the maintenance and repair of the Americal Perimeter road (BT 521071)-(BT 519049) a distance of 8.5 miles.

Since 1 June 1968, the 9th Engineer Battalion has provided the following additional engineer equipment support for U. S. Army, U. S. Navy, U. S. Marine Corps and Korean Marine Corps units within its area of responsibility.

(1) Construction of 300 yds of new road for CAP 1-1-2. Date Started 16 May 1968, Date Completed 1 June 1968; Man Hours: 110, Equipment Hours: 48.

(2) Clearing a 50'x50' tent area for Hq Co 196th Inf Bde. Date Started and Completed 6 June 1968; Man Hours: 8, Equipment Hours: 8.

(3) Three (3) TD-18 and three (3) Eimco tractors to support land clearing operations in the DaNang TAOR.

(4) Clearing area for Supply Co FLSG-B. Date Started 24 May 1968, Date Completed 6 June 1968; Man Hours: 89, Equipment Hours: 38.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~5750
6 July 1968
070668

(5) Upgrading of road for 23 S&T Bn. Date Started 8 May 1968, Date Completed 15 June 1968; Man Hours: 74, Equipment Hours: 45.

(6) Construction of two miles of new road for Ly Tin District Headquarters. Date Started 14 June 1968, Date Completed 17 June 1968, Man Hours: 45, Equipment Hours: 29.

(7) One Eimco tractor to dig laterite for Americal. Date Started 3 June 1968, Date of Completion Unknown.

During the month of June 1968, the 9th Engineer Battalion completed the following vertical construction:

(1) Construction of three - four hole and one - two hole latrines for Americal Long Range Recon Patrol. Date Started 5 June 1968, Date Completed 15 June 1968; Man Hours: 240, Equipment Hours: 22.

(2) Construction of two - two hole latrines for the 9th Support Bn. Date Started 18 June 1968, Date Completed 21 June 1968; Man Hours: 96, Equipment Hours: 14.

(3) Construction of one - 10' water tower for Special Forces at BT 132452. Date Started 14 June 1968, Date Completed 17 June 1968; Man Hours: 198, Equipment Hours: 2.

(4) Construction support in sealing Americal General's mess for air conditioning. Date Started 15 June 1968, Date Completed 22 June 1968, Man Hours: 188, Equipment Hours: 4.

(5) Construction of one 20'x32'x4" concrete deck for the 8th Support Bn. Date Started 16 June 1968, Date Completed 21 June 1968; Man Hours: 167.

(6) Construction of one - 30' gun tower. Date Started 24 May 1968, Date Completed 17 June 1968; Man Hours: 754, Equipment Hours: 39.

(7) Construction of eleven 8'x6'x2' storage shelves for the 27th Surgical Co. Date Started 26 June 1968, Date Completed 27 June 1968; Man Hours: 96, Equipment Hours: 29.

(8) Construction of one 18'x20' dog kennel for the Americal Training Center. Date Started 14 April 1968, Date Completed 28 June 1968; Man Hours: 1776, Equipment Hours: 29.

(9) Construction of four - four hole latrines for the 14th Avn. Bn. Date Started 18 June 1968, Date Completed 29 June 1968; Man Hours: 260, Equipment Hours: 29.

(10) Renovation of one building for 2nd Surgical Co. Date Started 10 June 1968, Date Completed 28 June 1968, Man Hours: 476, Equipment Hours: 8.

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~5750
6 July 1968
070668

(11) Engineer support in installing fluorescent lighting for the Americal Division. Date Started 26 June 1968, Date Completed 27 June 1968, Man Hours: 34, Equipment Hours: 4.

During the period, the 9th Engineer Battalion water points produced 5,727,000 gallons of potable water and expended 2880 man hours and 5220 equipment hours.

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

During the month of June mine sweep personnel expended 6789 man hours and 583 equipment hours on RVN Route # 1 and were responsible for locating previously mentioned mines.

<u>TEAM</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>METERS COVERED</u>	<u>COMPOSITION</u>
"A" Co	BT 520044	BT 330235	26,000	4
"C" Co	BT 300235	BT 259289	7,000	4
"C" Co	BT 242318	BT 259289	3,600	4
"C" Co	BT 242318	BT 226347	3,700	4
"C" Co	BT 196389	BT 226347	5,000	5
"C" Co	BT 198389	BT 175418	3,800	4
"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
	Total		66,100	

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~
~~SECURITY~~5750
6 July 1968
070668

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Personnel & Administration

4 June 1968	Joined 1stLt WARD
5 June 1968	Joined GySgt GIGIROLAMO
5 June 1968	Dropped 1stSgt GOSSE
6 June 1968	Dropped 1stSgt SHINN
7 June 1968	Joined 1stLt CRAIS
11 June 1968	Joined GySgt SHUMPERT
13 June 1968	Joined 2ndLt MORCELLUS
14 June 1968	Joined Capt. ROYER
15 June 1968	Joined 2ndLt BAKER
15 June 1968	Joined MSGT FAVILLE
16 June 1968	Dropped SSgt LAMAYE
16 June 1968	Dropped SSgt SANTIAGO
16 June 1968	Dropped SSgt FLETCHER
17 June 1968	Dropped 1stLt GOODY
17 June 1968	Dropped 1stLt HOBBS
18 June 1968	Joined SSgt WARD
23 June 1968	Dropped 1stLt SIEGWALD
24 June 1968	Joined GySgt TRAVERS
25 June 1968	Joined 1stLt ROPER
25 June 1968	Joined SSgt MEDRANO
26 June 1968	Dropped 1stLt SIMSON
26 June 1968	Dropped Capt. MCKEOWN
26 June 1968	Joined Capt. FITZGERALD
30 June 1968	Dropped GySgt ENGLEHART

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~2. Civic Action

One MEDCAP was held this month in Tich Tay. The MEDCAP reached (4) women (5) men and (6) children. The 9th Engineer Battalion donated 4 loads of 4" to 6" rock, 500 lbs of 60d nails, and 3 boxes of assorted CARE wood working tools to Tich Tay. 9th Engineers also donated 100 bags of cement and 1 load of scrap lumber to the common house in Hoa Van. There is one Public Improvement project in progress in Tich Tay. This project is a Buddhist Temple which is 20% completed. Three English Language classes were given in the past month. The total attendance for the 3 classes were 15 adults and 65 children. Each class lasted 1 hour.

~~SECRET~~
~~SECURITY~~

~~SECRET~~5750
6 July 1968
0706683. Engineer Operations

2 June 1968 A Vietnamese truck hit a mine in the road at BT 126480. Negative casualties.

3 June 1968 Company "D" minesweep received one round of sniper fire from BT 111485 and found one (1) pressure type mine using a 2.75" warhead at BT 129478. Company "D" minesweep also found one (1) 20 lb pressure - electric mine at BT 125482, and one dud 175mm shell at BT 102512. Company "C" had two personnel wounded in a minefield clearing operation at BT 276262. Both personnel were medevaced.

4 June 1968 Company "C" had an M-52 and M51AL hit mines at BT 272268. A Vietnamese truck was damaged when the M-52 hit a mine, result 16 Vietnamese WIA, 3 Vietnamese KIA, negative U. S. casualties. Company "D" minesweep found a pressure-electric 20 lb mine at BT 134475. A culvert was blown at BT 357191.

5 June 1968 Company "A" minesweep found two (2) AP mines at BT 371182. Company "C" minesweep found one (1) 15 lb pressure-electric mine at BT 278259 and one (1) dud 105mm round at BT 108416. Company "D" found one boobytrapped M-26 frag grenade at BT 100519.

6 June 1968 A french culvert was blown at BT 342204.

7 June 1968 Two (2) culverts were blown at BT 391162. Company "D" minesweep found one (1) dud 60mm mortar round at BT 100519.

11 June 1968 Company "A" minesweep found one (1) AP mine at BT 466081 and one (1) 15 lb mine at BT 406135. Company "D" minesweep received three (3) rounds of sniper fire at BT 101517.

12 June 1968 Company "C" found three (3) mines at BT 283250; two (2) were pressure-electric 20 lb concrete mines and one (1) was a 30 lb pressure mine. A dead Vietnamese male found at the same location next to a 5'x5'x4' crater.

16 June 1968 One (1) culvert was blown at BT 119489.

17 June 1968 Company "D" found one (1) 20 lb pressure-electric mine at BT 120489.

19 June 1968 A culvert was blown at BT 371181 and an M51AL hit a mine at the same location. Another culvert was blown at BT 121486.

21 June 1968 Company "C" minesweep found one (1) 175mm dud at BT 200375. Company "D" minesweep found one (1) 30 lb mine at BT 130478.

22 June 1968 A culvert was blown at BT 359190.

23 June 1968 A "D" Company unit received two (2) rounds of artillery, wounding two (2) men at BT 103530.

24 June 1968 Company "D" minesweep found one (1) 60mm mortar round at BT 163437.

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~
~~UNCLASSIFIED~~~~UNCLASSIFIED~~5750
6 July 1968
0706683. Training

1 June 1968 (1) man sent to III MAF Registered Pubs School, DaNang
1 June 1968 (2) men sent to Embarkation School, Okinawa
2 June 1968 (1) man sent to SMCO Leadership, DaNang
3 June 1968 (1) man sent to Division Embarkation School, DaNang
3 June 1968 (1) man sent to III MAF Registered Pubs School, DaNang
9 June 1968 (1) man sent to Basic Organic Supply Accounting School, DaNang
10 June 1968 (4) men sent to Special Weapons Training Course, Okinawa
10 June 1968 (1) man sent to NCO Leadership Course, DaNang
25 June 1968 (1) man sent to Disease Vector Control Course, DaNang
29 June 1968 (1) man sent to Basic Ammo Tech Course, Okinawa
29 June 1968 (1) man sent to Basic Infantry Weapons Repair Course, Okinawa
29 June 1968 (2) men sent to Embarkation School, Okinawa

5. Patrols

1 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 012030H to 020400H
2 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 022100H to 030300H
3 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 032300H to 040500H
4 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 042200H to 050530H
5 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 052100H to 060500H
6 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 062030H to 070400H
7 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 072100H to 080400H
8 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 082000H to 090500H
9 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 092100H to 100330H
10 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 102030H to 110400H
11 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 112200H to 120400H
12 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 122100H to 130330H
13 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 132330H to 140400H
14 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 142100H to 150300H
15 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 152230H to 160430H

~~SECRET~~
~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SECRET~~5750
6 July 1968
070668

[REDACTED]

16 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 162400H to 170500H
17 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 172200H to 180400H
18 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 182330H to 190430H
19 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 192300H to 200600H
20 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 202130H to 210430H
21 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 212230H to 220400H
22 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 222300H to 230500H
23 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 232230H to 240400H
24 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 242200H to 250400H
25 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 252400H to 260500H
26 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 262130H to 270400H
27 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 272030H to 280300H
28 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 282100H to 290330H
29 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 292200H to 300530H
30 June 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 302300H to 010500H


UNCLASSIFIED~~SECRET~~