

(1)

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

3/EGP/fhw
 5750
 3 August 1967
 0114567

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 31 July 1967

Ref: (a) MC0 5750.2A
 (b) FMFPAC0 5750.8
 (c) DivO 5750.2B

Incl: ✓ (1) 9th Engineer Battalion Command Chronology

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

F. E. Paige
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 By direction

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 CG, III MAF (Engr)

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 HEADQUARTERS
 1ST MARINE DIVISION, FMF

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9TH ENGINEER BN TPL # 3947

9TH ENGR BN CMD CHRON

July 1967

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I ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

9th Engineer Battalion	<u>COMMANDER</u>
Headquarters Company	LtCol G. A. BABE
Service Company	Capt. G. A. BUCCI to 30 July 1967 1stLt G. BELEY from 31 July 1967
Company "A"	Capt. R. A. TIEBOUT
Company "B"	1stLt P. E. ALLEN
Company "C"	Capt. J. R. HOLLEY
Company "D"	Capt. B. K. WIEDENHOLD
3rd Platoon, 1st Bridge Company	1stLt R. D. HOLSTAD

2. LOCATION

9th Engineer Battalion (-) Rein	Chu Lai, RVN	1 - 31 July 1967
Company "A"	Da Nang, RVN	1 - 18 July 1967
	Hill 65, RVN	19 - 31 July 1967
Company "B"	Tan Ky, RVN	1 - 31 July 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. BLUEBRAKE
SgtMaj	SgtMaj E. C. MARGER
Motor Transport Officer	1stLt P. MCCAIN
Engineer Equipment Officer	2ndLt R. E. D. ROOS
Construction Officer	Vacant
Communications Officer	Capt. G. A. BUCCI to 30 July 1967 1stLt G. BELEY from 31 July 1967
ADM Officer	Capt. J. R. HOLLEY

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Maintenance Officer	2ndLt J. W. IVEY
Utilities Officer	Capt. T. K. MCKEEON
Medical Officer	Lt G. H. SALTBURG MC USM
Ordnance Officer	CWO-4 C. I. HERRIOTTS
Supply Officer	2ndLt D. J. LUCAS to 28 July 1967
Legal Officer	Capt. C. N. PASTINO from 29 July 1967
Embarcation Officer	Capt. T. K. MCKEEON
IBC/Civil Affairs Officer	1stLt R. J. COULTER
Chaplain	Capt. R. A. BLUFEMKAITZ Services conducted by visiting Chaplain Lt D. W. PEDERSEN USMR

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

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39 10 15 1 18

II NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the month of July, Company "A" remained under the OPCON of the 7th Engineer Battalion but moved from Da Nang to Hill 63 on 19 July. On 1 July Company "B" moved from Chu Lai to Tam Ky. The 9th Engineer Battalion (-) and 3rd Platoon, 1st Bridge Company, in direct support of the 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 20,626 man hours and 8248 equipment hours in placing 3052 cubic yards of fill and 6274 cubic yards of rock. The quarry operations produced 5112 cubic yards of rock. The Battalion continued to support the ROK Marines with a reinforced platoon from Company "C" which is also responsible for maintaining 12.4 miles of road and a water point. Work on the road net required 5095 man hours, 2007 equipment hours, and 4200 cubic yards of fill and the water point supplied 587,000 gallons of water. The five other water points operated by the 9th Engineer Battalion in the Chu Lai area supplied 4,361,700 gallons. Company "B" moved to Tam Ky and began repair work on Route #1 between Hill #29 and Tam Ky and also started construction of the first three bridges north of Tam Ky. The first bridge (40' span, steel stringer, located at BT 283252) was completed on 30 July 1967 and work continues on the other two; an 82' steel stringer bridge with concrete pier intermediate support, at BT 276262, and a 98' timber stringer bridge with pile bent intermediate supports at BT 268273. Company "B" also removed existing PSP decking and replaced it with 3" x 12" decking and 3" x 12" treadway on the existing eiffel bridge at

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BT 226347. This work was performed on 4 July 1967. The road repair work by Company "B" required the placement of 80 pieces of 60" culvert. A demolition team in support of the 1st Marine Reconnaissance Battalion returned on 4 July and one in support of 2/11 returned on 1 July. Two man demolition teams also supported 1st Reconnaissance Battalion for the periods 4 - 8 July and 26 - 31 July. Another two man team left on 30 July.

Also in the month of July the Battalion joined 48 enlisted men and 4 officers and transferred 56 enlisted men and one officer. One officer left for Okinawa to attend ADI School. On 5 July, Major MACKENZIE, CO 1st Engineer Battalion visited the 9th Engineer Battalion area and during the period 12 - 14 July LtCol WILSON, new 1st Marine Division Engineer Officer visited the Battalion area and project sites. A 5 float class 55 ferry was maintained at coordinates BT 378174; a 53' fixed span with intermediate supports was installed at BT 276262; a four float floating bridge 98' long was installed at BT 226347; and a 45' fixed span with intermediate supports was installed at BT 219559. Work has been completed at the Dickie Chappelle dispensary and the building is now in use by the Vietnamese. In addition, the Battalion completed a bunker for 1st Reconnaissance Battalion and continued work on one at 2nd LAAM Battalion. Other work performed included the following; cleaned out a well for 3rd Antracs unit, constructed packing boxes and disconnected utilities for CLIC, completed 2 - 300' x 450' bomb storage pads for MAG 12, installed 40' x 36" culvert on Route 122, and constructed a 20' x 100' area with a 5' berm for TAFDS for MAG 36 at ROK Marines. The Battalion continued to support Task Force Oregon. The Task Force Oregon TOC bunker was completed as was a cantonment for the 161st Aviation Company and one for 14th Aviation Battalion. A storage pad and road network were completed for the 221st S&S Company. Work began on a 150' x 500' laterite pad for the 80th GSG and 80' of 36" culvert was installed for drainage in the same area. The Battalion also started on a 30' x 70' messhall for the 25th Medical Company. Utilities personnel began wiring and installing plumbing in the 14th Aviation Battalion cantonment and the 161st Aviation Company cantonment, and began drilling a well at Tam Ky. Finally the construction platoon built 22 - 4 hole heads.

III SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. PERSONNEL

2 July 1967	Joined GySgt EUGLEHART and GySgt COLANGELO from COMUS.
3 July 1967	Joined 2ndLt LEATHERS, 2ndLt BRADY, SSgt BAKER and SSgt CHAMBERS from COMUS.
7 July 1967	Joined JO CLEYZAL from COMUS.
15 July 1967	Awarded Purple Heart Medal to LCpl WEINSTEIN and PFC WARD.
17 July 1967	Awarded Purple Heart Medal to LCpl B. M. MIGGINT.

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20 July 1967 Joined SSgt HAELETT from COMUS.
22 July 1967 Awarded a Certificate of Commendation to SSgt W. H. ASHFORD.
 Awarded Purple Heart Medal to LCpl G. R. AGGUINO, Pvt
 M. C. LINTON JR., LCpl G. E. MICHAEL JR., Sgt F. L. PEUGH,
 and LCpl W. L. SMART.
24 July 1967 Joined 2ndLt BELEY from COMUS.
28 July 1967 Joined Capt. PASTING from COMUS.

2. CIVIC ACTION

Medical Assistance to 45 residents of Tich Tay (BT 496053). Dental Assistance to 64 residents of Tich Tay. Personal Assistance to the people of Tich Tay consisted of 560 bars of soap, 32 dump truck loads of scrap lumber, 8 - 55 gallon drums, 14 tooth brushes, 16 cases of Micrin mouth wash, 24 carpenters kits, 10 mason kits, and 30 school kits. Also 8 large boxes of hospital supplies, 250 bars of soap, 7 cases of Micrin mouth wash, and 1 doctor kit was donated to the Dickie Chapelle hospital (BT 504054). In addition 7 jeep trailer loads of scrap lumber and 20 lbs of 6d nails were donated to the Buddhist pagoda at BT 504045. Work on the Dickie Chapelle dispensary was completed during the month of July as were two irrigation ditches in the vicinity of BT 496067 and 496062 respectively. A culvert was also installed at BT 496062. There are 24 Vietnamese workers undergoing vocational training; 14 carpenters, 8 masons, and 2 automotive mechanics. English instruction totaling 44 hours was held for 26 children and 17 adults of the Tich Tay community.

3. ENGINEER OPERATIONS

1 July 1967 Company "B" arrived at Tam Ky and started work on bridge at BT 268275.
3 July 1967 Company "B" started work on bridge at BT 283252. Bridge Platoon emplaced 45' fixed span at BT 219359. Completed concrete slab for 188th Maintenance Company. Division Inspector conducted a Material Readiness Inspection.
4 July 1967 Company "B" replaced decking on bridge at BT 226347. Two man demolitions team with 1st Reconnaissance Battalion returned. Another two man team took their place. Provided support for a convoy from 1st Engineer Battalion going to Hill 29.

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5 July 1967 Bridge Platoon emplaced 96' floating bridge at BT 226347. Fire at BT 399145 caused by helicopter crash in Army ammo dump. Company "D", 1st Platoon provided assistance to contain and extinguish fire. Major MCKENZIE CO 1st Engineer Battalion visited 9th Engineer Battalion area.

6 July 1967 Bridge Platoon emplaced 55' fixed span at BT 276262.

8 July 1967 Company "B" started work on bridge at BT 276262. Company "D" completed septic tank and well at Dickie Chapelle dispensary. A two man demolitions team returned from 1st Reconnaissance Battalion.

9 July 1967 Company "C" finished Task Force Oregon TOC bunker. Started wiring and installing plumbing at 161st Aviation Company.

10 July 1967 Started work on bomb storage pads at MAG 12. Company "B" received 10 rounds of sniper fire at BT 276262. Company "D" received 3 rounds of sniper fire at BT 403142.

11 July 1967 M51 from Company "B" hit a mine at BT 257292. Two Marines and one corpsman slightly wounded and returned to duty. Started work on laterite pad for the 221st S&S Company. Began wiring and installing plumbing at 14th Aviation Battalion. Dug out well for unit of 3rd Autrac Battalion.

12 July 1967 Started drilling well at Tam Ky. LtCol WILSON, new 1st Marine Division Engineer Officer visited 9th Engineer Battalion.

13 July 1967 Built packing boxes and disconnected utilities at CLIC Headquarters.

17 July 1967 Company "D" received sniper rounds at BT 395178.

19 July 1967 Provided support for Company "A", 9th Engineer Battalion as they moved to Hill 63. Began work on 138th Motor Transport Battalion Motor Transport Lot.

21 July 1967 LtCol BABE, LtCol HARRIS, and LtCol FUNDERBURK traveled to Da Nang from Chu Lai via Route #1. Began work on 80th GSG laterite storage pad. Installed 40' of 36" culvert on Route #22. Completed bomb storage pads for MAG 12.

22 July 1967 LtCol BABE returned from Da Nang with Col JOHNSON, III MIF Engineer Officer. An M51 from Company "D" received 6 sniper rounds at BT 364182. Observed 15 - 20 armed VC. Finished 161st Aviation Company cantonment.

25 July 1967 Constructed a 20' x 100' area with a 3' berm for TAFDS for MAG 36 at ROK Marines Camp.

26 July 1967 Sent two men to 1st Reconnaissance Battalion. Began construction of a messhall at the 25th Medical Company.

27 July 1967 Promoted 2ndLt BELEY to 1stLt. Date of Rank is 1 July 1967.

29 July 1967 Finished construction of 14th Aviation Battalion area.

30 July 1967 Sent two man demolition team to 1st Reconnaissance Battalion.

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31 July 1967

PFC J. E. LAVIGNE killed by exploding mine while working with 1st Reconnaissance Battalion. Two man demolition team sent to 1st Reconnaissance Battalion on 26 July returned to 9th Engineer Battalion.

4. TRAINING

3 July 1967

One man was sent to Embarkation School, Okinawa. Five men were sent to Landmine Warfare School, 1st Engineer Battalion. Five men were sent to Landmine Warfare School, 1st Engineer Battalion.

6 July 1967

Thirty-one men FAM fired the M-16 rifle and .45 caliber pistol at the MAG 12 FAM fire range.

8 July 1967

Three men departed for Da Nang for SAC Indoctrination Course.

9 July 1967

Five men were sent to Landmine Warfare School, 1st Engineer Battalion.

10 July 1967

Five men were sent to Landmine Warfare School, 1st Engineer Battalion.

15 July 1967

Five men were sent to Landmine Warfare School, 1st Engineer Battalion.

17 July 1967

Five men were sent to Landmine Warfare School, 1st Engineer Battalion.

20 July 1967

Five men were sent to Landmine Warfare School, 1st Engineer Battalion.

21 July 1967

One man was sent to NCO Leadership School, Camp Butler, Okinawa.

24 July 1967

1stLt FIEFS and 3 enlisted men left for Okinawa to attend ADN School. Five men were sent to Landmine Warfare School, 1st Engineer Battalion.

27 July 1967

Five men were sent to Landmine Warfare School, 1st Engineer Battalion.

29 July 1967

Thirty-four men FAM fired the .50 caliber machinegun at the 196th Light Infantry Brigade Range.

31 July 1967

Five men were sent to Landmine Warfare School, 1st Engineer Battalion.

5. PATROLS

1 July 1967

Night Ambush Patrol from 012200H to 020500H. No significant sightings.

3 July 1967

Night Ambush Patrol from 032000H to 040100H. No significant sightings.

4 July 1967

Day Reinforced Fireteam Recon Patrol from 040630H to 041200H. No significant sightings.

5 July 1967

Night Ambush Patrol from 052130H to 060150H. Checked ID's of 5 Vietnamese fisherman and released.

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6 July 1967 Night Ambush Patrol from 062200H to 070200H. No significant sightings.
 8 July 1967 Night Ambush Patrol from 082200H to 090400H. No significant sightings.
 11 July 1967 Night Reinforced Fireteam Recon Patrol from 112400H to 120400H. One male fisherman detained, checked ID card and released him.
 13 July 1967 Night Ambush Patrol from 152200H to 140400H. No significant sightings.
 15 July 1967 Night Recon/Ambush Insert Patrol from 152200H to 160530H. No significant sightings.
 17 July 1967 Night Recon/Ambush Insert Patrol from 172300H to 180500H. No significant sightings.
 18 July 1967 Night Recon/Ambush Insert Patrol from 182100H to 190300H. No significant sightings.
 19 July 1967 Day Reinforced Fireteam Recon Patrol from 190500H to 191100H. No significant sightings.
 22 July 1967 Night Reinforced Fireteam Recon Patrol from 222130H to 230130H. Heard 5 shots fired between Tich Tay and An Tan.
 23 July 1967 Night Recon/Ambush Insert Patrol from 232100H to 240500H. No significant sightings.
 24 July 1967 Night Reinforced Fireteam Recon Patrol from 242200H to 250400H. No significant sightings.
 25 July 1967 Night Ambush Patrol from 252230H to 260400H. No significant sightings.
 26 July 1967 Night Ambush Patrol from 262300H to 270400H. No significant sightings.
 27 July 1967 Night Ambush Patrol from 272100H to 280500H. No significant sightings.
 28 July 1967 Night Ambush from 281800H to 290530H at laterite pit on Route #22 received several bursts of AW fire, no casualties.
 29 July 1967 Night Ambush Patrol from 292100H to 300400H. No significant sightings.
 30 July 1967 Night Ambush Patrol from 302400H to 310500H. One VC suspect challenged at 50 yards. Did not respond, one round fired by patrol leader, negative results.
 31 July 1967 Night Ambush Patrol from 312200H to 010400H. No significant sightings.

REFERENCES

Staff Journals
Maps AMS Series L7014; sheets 6640IV, 6739IV, 6640II, 6740III,

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AM Series L606X scale 1:12,500 Chu Lai & Vicinity
Task Organization Report
LOC Report
Engineer Operations Report
Tactical Bridging Report
Patrol Reports
Civic Action Reports
Spot Reports

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