

## HEADQUARTERS

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

3/gbc  
5750  
4 September 1968  
005468

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 August 1968 to 31 August  
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

S & C FILES  
HEADQUARTERS  
1ST MARINE DIVISION, FMF

68 3682

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9TH ENGINEER BN

S & C LOG NO: 0054-68  
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9TH ENGINEER BN

CMD CHRON

AUG 1968

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 August 1968 - 31 August 1968  
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## PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

9th Engineer Battalion

COMMANDER

LtCol H. E. PEREA

Subordinate UnitsHeadquarters Company  
Service CompanyCompany "A"  
Company "B"  
Company "C"  
Company "D"Capt. C. H. ROYER  
Capt. S. W. FITZGERALD  
\*Capt. J. K. NAGAZYNA  
Capt. G. B. BARNEY  
1stLt D. E. SIEGWALD  
Capt. D. W. JOHNSON  
Capt. R. G. RIZZO  
\*\*1stLt W. G. WARD\*Assumed duties on 23 Aug 68  
\*\*Assumed duties on 6 Aug 68Attached Units3rd Bridge Platoon, 1st Bridge  
Company in direct support1stLt L. E. MORLAN  
\*2ndLt P. J. SHEA

\*Assumed duties on 17 Aug 68

2. LOCATION

9th Engineer Battalion	Chu Lai, RVN	1-31 August 1968
Company "A"	Chu Lai, RVN	1-18 August 1968
	Hill #10	19-31 August 1968
	BT 199390	
Company "B"	YD 893129	1-31 August 1968
Company "C"	Hill #10	1-18 August 1968
	BT 199390	
Company "D"	Chu Lai, RVN	19-31 August 1968
	Hill #63	1-31 August 1968
	BT 132454	

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**3. STAFF OFFICERS**

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

Maj. C. N. WALL  
1stLt R. J. BURNS  
1stLt R. J. BURNS  
Capt. W. H. SKIERKOWSKI  
1stLt C. E. HUGHES  
Maj. W. B. CHANNEL  
Sgt Maj. D. K. CRAIG  
1stLt J. D. BUCHANAN  
Capt. W. H. SKIERKOWSKI  
Capt. W. H. SKIERKOWSKI  
1stLt H. J. COLEMAN  
Capt. C. H. JONES  
Lt M. P. KOLSKY USN (MC)  
WO 1 F. A. R. LANDRY  
\*Capt. C. H. JONES  
Capt. S. W. FITZGERALD  
Capt. C. H. ROYER  
1stLt H. J. COLEMAN  
\*\*1stLt R. G. ERICSON  
1stLt W. B. TOWNE  
1stLt W. B. TOWNE  
Lt M. P. KOLSKY USN (MC)  
Services conducted by  
visiting Chaplain Capt.  
C. J. RICHARDSON

\*Assumed duties on 4 August 1968

\*\*Assumed duties on 15 August 1968

**4. Average Monthly Strength**

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
40	940	1	19

**PART II**

During the month of August 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)

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to the Song Cau Lau (BT 091554). The maintenance and 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.

\*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 300235) 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 August, 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 5544 man hours and 4793 equipment hours in hauling 14,168 cubic yards of rock and placing 2,200 gallons of asphalt.

Between Tam Ky (BT 300209) and Thang Binh (BT 175418), the 9th Engineer Battalion personnel expended 6500 man hours and 5317 equipment hours in hauling and placing 8418 cubic yards of rock and 4170 cubic yards of fill.

\*During the period 17 - 20 August 1968 Company "A" and Company "C" exchanged respective locations and responsibilities.

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Between Thang Binh (BT 175418) and the Song Cau Lau (BT 091554), 9th Engineer Battalion personnel expended 1343 man hours and 1104 equipment hours in hauling and placing 1371 cubic yards of rock and 170 cubic yards of fill.

During the month of August 1968, Company "C" repaired the following bridges:

<u>Bridge #</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Man Hours</u>	<u>Equip Hours</u>	<u>Date Completed</u>
29	BT 219358	40'	Steel Stringer, Timber Decking	35	5	24 Aug 68
23	BT 196391	78'	Steel Stringer, Timber Decking	730	40	10 Aug 68
39	BT 276261	89'	Timber Trestle	275	5	5 Aug 68

During the month of August 1968, Company "C" constructed 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>
-----	BT 263253	67'	Timber Trestle	2118	179	28 Aug 68

During the month of August there were eight (8) culverts destroyed and one (1) bridge damaged 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; eight (8) incidents where boobytraps were found; and eleven (11) incidents where craters were blown in a place other than existing culvert.

The culverts destroyed by enemy demolitions are shown below.

<u>Culvert Location</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>Date Destroyed</u>
BT 118490	1	6 August 1968
BT 102511	1	9 August 1968
BT 101517	1	23 August 1968
BT 102517	1	25 August 1968
BT 093536	1	27 August 1968
BT 101516	1	29 August 1968
BT 097524	1	29 August 1968
BT 106506	1	29 August 1968

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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 550044); (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 August 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 meters of berm for 3/18th Artillery Battalion. Date Started 12 June 1968, Date Completed 1 August 1968; Man Hours: 361, Equipment Hours: 213.

(2) Loading dump trucks for the 26th Engineer Battalion. Date Started 29 July 1968, Date Completed 1 August 1968; Man Hours: 28, Equipment Hours: 28.

(3) Construction of five earth foundations for security bunkers for MAG-12. Date Started 4 July 1968, Date Completed 2 August 1968; Man Hours: 347, Equipment Hours: 230.

(4) One Eimco tractor to dig laterite for MCB-71. Date Started 3 June 1968, Date Completed 2 August 1968; Man Hours: 105, Equipment Hours: 105.

(5) Improved berms for the 23rd S&T Battalion. Date Started and Completed 8 August 1968; Man Hours: 9, Equipment Hours: 9.

(6) Drilling of holes for power poles. Date Started and Completed 12 August 1968; Man Hours: 6, Equipment Hours: 6.

\*See note page 3

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(7) Graded and filled 300'x300' area around chapel for MAG-13. Date Started 18 July 1968, Date Completed 21 August 1968; Man Hours: 74, Equipment Hours: 40.

(8) Cleared and leveled a 100'x200' area for RSA, Americal Division. Date Started and Completed 24 August 1968; Man Hours: 10, Equipment Hours: 10.

During the month of August 1968, the 9th Engineer Battalion completed the following vertical construction.

(1) One (4) hole latrine for 1/82nd Artillery Battalion. Date Started 30 July 1968, Date Completed 2 August 1968; Man Hours: 87, Equipment Hours: 5.

(2) Two (4) hole latrines for 3/18th Artillery Battalion. Date Started 30 July 1968, Date Completed 2 August 1968; Man Hours: 87, Equipment Hours: 5.

(3) One 30'x80'x10' recreation building for the 2nd Surgical Company. Date Started 8 July 1968, Date Completed 1 August 1968, Man Hours: 1,356, Equipment Hours: 142.

(4) Four 8'x8'x6' bunker for CAP Unit 1-3-3. Date Started 3 August 1968, Date Completed 11 August 1968; Man Hours: 106, Equipment Hours: 2.

(5) A 16'x32' addition to a recreation hut for the 1/1 Cav. Date Started 22 July 1968, Date Completed 9 August 1968, Man Hours: 158, Equipment Hours: 2.

(6) Three (2) hole latrines for the Americal Division. Date Started 5 August 1968, Date Completed 10 August 1968; Man Hours: 121, Equipment Hours: 15.

(7) Four (4) hole latrines for the 1/82nd Artillery Battalion. Date Started 5 August 1968, Date Completed 10 August 1968; Man Hours: 138, Equipment Hours: 14.

(8) One 10'x10' addition to S-4 bunker for the 196th Infantry S-4. Date Started 29 July 1968, Date Completed 10 August 1968; Man Hours: 184.

(9) One 16'x32' bunker for the 8th Support Bn. Date Started 29 July 1968, Date Completed 11 August 1968; Man Hours: 194.

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(10) Four (2) hole latrines for the 9th Support Battalion. Date Started 13 August 1968, Date Completed 17 August 1968; Man Hours: 150, Equipment Hours: 8.

(11) One (4) hole latrine for the 14th Avn Bn. Date Started 13 August 1968, Date Completed 17 August 1968; Man Hours: 100, Equipment Hours: 8.

(12) One TOC bunker 67'x34'x10' for Headquarters, MAC-V at Tam Ky. Date Started 22 February 1968, Date Completed 18 August 1968; Man Hours: 8,135, Equipment Hours: 608.

(13) Four 8'x8'x6' bunkers for CAP 1-2-1. Date Started 15 August 1968, Date Completed 22 August 1968; Man Hours: 252.

(14) One 49'x52' building removed for 123rd Avn Bn. Date Started 20 August 1968, Date Completed 23 August 1968; Man Hours: 265, Equipment Hours: 15.

(15) Repaired roof and constructed shelves for the 2nd Surgical Co. Date Started 17 August 1968, Date Completed 22 August 1968; Man Hours: 26, Equipment Hours: 5.

(16) Six (2) hole latrines for the 1/6th Infantry Bn. Date Started 19 August 1968, Date Completed 23 August 1968; Man Hours: 201, Equipment Hours: 19.

(17) Four (2) hole latrines for the 1/46th Infantry Bn. Date Started 19 August 1968, Date Completed 23 August 1968; Man Hours: 44, Equipment Hours: 16.

(18) Four (2) hole latrines for the 5/46th Infantry Bn. Date Started 19 August 1968, Date Completed 23 August 1968; Man Hours: 146, Equipment Hours: 15.

(19) One 22'x60'x4" concrete pad for MAG-12. Date Started 23 July 1968, Date Completed 27 August 1968; Man Hours: 199, Equipment Hours: 13.

(20) Two (4) hole latrines for 26th Engineer Bn. Date Started 26 August 1968, Date Completed 29 August 1968; Man Hours: 156, Equipment Hours: 12.

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During the period, the 9th Engineer Battalion water points produce 7,019,500 gallons of potable water and expended 3240 man hours and 6992 equipment hours.

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

During the month of August mine sweep personnel expended 10,141 man hours and 654 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 198389	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	

\*See note on page 3

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## PART III

## SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Personnel & Administration

4 August 1968	Joined 1stSgt F. E. ROHRS
4 August 1968	Joined 1stLt K. G. WILSON
4 August 1968	Dropped SSgt E. I. HAZLETT
4 August 1968	Dropped SSgt H. G. HOLMES
4 August 1968	Joined 1stLt R. H. MILLER
16 August 1968	Dropped GySgt J. E. BURCHARD
17 August 1968	Joined Capt. J. K. NAGAZYNA
19 August 1968	Dropped GySgt C.R. CUNNINGHAM
19 August 1968	Dropped SSgt M. PICON
20 August 1968	Dropped MSGT C. T. BUCY
24 August 1968	Joined SSgt W. A. STEWART
24 August 1968	Joined SSgt L. M. ROSSI
26 August 1968	Dropped WO-1 F. A. LANDRY
26 August 1968	Joined SSgt W. M. CABBERA
26 August 1968	Dropped GySgt T. R. PARKER
27 August 1968	Dropped 1stLt H. J. COLEMAN
28 August 1968	Joined SSgt K. L. REPPART
31 August 1968	Joined Sgt Maj. R. V. OWENS

2. Civic Action

Eight (8) Med-caps were held this month in Tich Tay Hamlet. The med-caps treated 92 people and assisted a Vietnamese doctor from the Ly-Tin area in Cholera inoculations. In all 100 people were inoculated, mostly children. The 9th Engineer Battalion donated 50 bags of cement to Tich Tay Hamlet for a "public improvement project" which is a Buddhist Temple. This project is 96% complete. Also this command donated two truck loads of scrap lumber to the Tich Tay Hamlet for minor repairs on homes. In addition the "Local Combat Youth Squad" received ten (10) M-2 carbines from Ly-Tin District Headquarters. They are undergoing training in combat tactics and marksmanship from 9th Engineer Battalion instructors.

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0054683. Engineer Operations

1 August 1968 Company "C" minesweep found one (1) 25 lb pressure/electric concrete mine at BT 234335.

2 August 1968 Company "D" minesweep found one (1) 30 lb pressure/electric concrete mine at BT 119488.

5 August 1968 Company "D" minesweep found one (1) boobytrapped M79 round with wires attached at BT 277259.

6 August 1968 Company "D" convoy ambushed at BT 067565. Five (5) USMC WIA. One culvert blown at BT 118490.

8 August 1968 Company "D" minesweep found one (1) boobytrapped M26 grenade at BT 098523. Company "C" minesweep found two (2) 25 lb pressure/electric concrete mines at BT 259289.

9 August 1968 Company "D" minesweep found three (3) 25 lb pressure/electric concrete mines at BT 101515, and one (1) 25 lb box mine at BT 102511. One (1) Amtrac hit mine and sniper fire was received at BT 102511.

12 August 1968 Company "D" minesweep received sniper fire at BT 098545.

13 August 1968 Company "C" minesweep had one (1) person trip a boobytrap at BT 201382. Negative casualties. Company "D" minesweep received sniper fire at BT 107530. One (1) WIA.

14 August 1968 Company "D" minesweep received sniper fire at BT 098527.

18 August 1968 Company "A" minesweep found one (1) 3/4 lb TNT boobytrapped at BT 220358 and one (1) boobytrapped M14 round at BT 219360.

19 August 1968 Company "A" minesweep found one (1) boobytrapped M26 grenade at BT 207376.

21 August 1968 Company "A" minesweep found one (1) boobytrapped M26 grenade at BT 276261.

23 August 1968 One (1) culvert blown at BT 101517. Northwest abutment of bridge at BT 219359 damaged by enemy demolitions. Six (6) craters blown at BT 155445.

24 August 1968 One (1) crater blown at BT 107504 and one (1) crater blown at BT 101517. Company "D" disarmed two (2) boobytraps attached to fence constructed around crater.

25 August 1968 One (1) crater blown at BT 101516 and one (1) culvert blown at BT 102517.

26 August 1968 Company "D" minesweep found enemy bunker at BT 093536 with boobytrapped M26 grenade at rear exit. Company "A" minesweep found one (1) 10 lb box mine at BT 218362.

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27 August 1968

Company "D" found one (1) 30 lb mine at BT 101517 and one (1) 25 lb mine at BT 119489. One (1) culvert and two (2) craters were blown at BT 093536. Company "A" minesweep found two (2) 15 lb mines at BT 256294.

28 August 1968

One (1) culvert blown at BT 106506. Company "A" minesweep found boobytrapped M14 round at BT 220358.

29 August 1968

One (1) culvert blown at BT 101516 and at BT 097524.

30 August 1968

Company "D" found one (1) 30 lb pressure/electric concrete mine at BT 101517. One (1) culvert blown at BT 101516.

31 August 1968

Vietnamese civilians on motorbike hit one (1) mine at BT 259293. Three (3) Vietnamese killed.

#### 4. Training

5 August 1968 (1) man to NCO Leadership School, DaNang  
 10 August 1968 (1) man to Basic Ammo Tech Course, Okinawa  
 10 August 1968 (1) man to Infantry Weapons Repair, Okinawa  
 11 August 1968 (1) man to Comm Cyropto Course, Japan  
 12 August 1968 (1) man to NCO Leadership School, DaNang  
 12 August 1968 (1) man to Officers Leadership School, DaNang  
 15 August 1968 (1) man to Division Embarkation School, DaNang  
 18 August 1968 (1) man to Supply School, DaNang  
 18 August 1968 (1) man to SNCO Leadership School, DaNang  
 19 August 1968 (1) man to Fiscal Clerk School, DaNang  
 22 August 1968 (5) men to Forklift School, DaNang  
 24 August 1968 (2) men to Embarkation School, Okinawa  
 31 August 1968 (1) man to Infantry Weapons Repair, Okinawa

#### 5. Patrols

1 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 012300H to 020500H  
 2 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 022300H to 030400H  
 3 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 032200H to 040400H  
 4 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 042400H to 050500H  
 5 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 052200H to 060300H

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6 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 062300H to 070500H  
7 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 072200H to 080330H  
8 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 082230H to 090400H  
9 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 092400H to 100600H  
10 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 102230H to 110330H  
11 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 112300H to 120400H  
12 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 122130H to 130230H  
13 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 132400H to 140430H  
14 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 142330H to 150430H  
15 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 152230H to 160330H  
16 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 162330H to 170500H  
17 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 172200H to 180330H  
18 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 182400H to 190600H  
19 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 192230H to 200330H  
20 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 202330H to 210530H  
21 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 212400H to 220500H  
22 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 222330H to 230600H  
23 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 232230H to 240430H  
24 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 242400H to 250600H  
25 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 252330H to 260330H  
26 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 262230H to 270430H  
27 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 272200H to 280330H  
28 August 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 282230H to 290400H

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