

HEADQUARTERS  
7th Engineer Battalion (-) Reim, RMF  
c/o FPO, San Francisco, California 96601

3/TCG/bfn  
5750  
5 November 1965

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force

Subj: Command Chronology

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2

1. In accordance with reference (a) the following monthly report is submitted covering the period 1 October to 31 October 1965.

2. Average Monthly Strength.

	<u>USMC</u>	<u>USN</u>
Off	37	1
Enl	919	16

3. Personnel.

<u>Gains</u>			<u>Losses</u>		
	<u>USMC</u>	<u>USN</u>		<u>USMC</u>	<u>USN</u>
Off	0	0	Off	2	0
Enl	21	7	Enl	14	1

4. Administration. No administrative problems. Purple Heart received 26 October 1965 for delivery to Ssgt L. M. RANGATTI.

5. Civil Affairs/Military Government/Community Relations.

a. Civil affairs continues on a daily basis in all hamlets of the Hoa Khanh. The medical program is increasing each week and the results are proving very satisfactory. Corpsmen from the Battalion have provided medical treatment for 745 nationals of the village of Hoa Khanh.

b. The civil affairs program and community relations can be considered excellent in all respects.

6. Intelligence. Enemy activity was light with minor incidents listed below.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Incidents</u>	<u>Place</u>
5Oct	0130	One Man Probe	945784
10Oct	2125	Sniper Fire	943772

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Incidents</u>	<u>Place</u>
19Oct	0100	Probe	943784
21Oct	0550	Sniper fire at M-51	980770
30Oct	1750	2 VCs with no identification, age 20 to 22 years old, turned over to III MAF, collection point no. are 252-10-65 and 253-10-65	943778
30Oct	1755	Man observed looking into Battalion area with field glasses	946786
30Oct	2130	CO of Co"B" reported that rocks about the size of softballs were laying diagonally across road vic 942773 and 945769 on Route 268	
31Oct	2200	3 VC on bridge on Route 268, Battalion OP opened fire on them	945775

7. Training. Due to heavy job commitments during the reporting period, no training was conducted.

8. Special Operations. None.

9. Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Warfare. None.

10. Command and Control. The Battalion Staff and Company Commanders remain unchanged since last report.

11. Air Defense. Air defense remains the same as previously reported. Four M-50s with antiaircraft mounts are strategically located around the Battalion area.

12. Logistics.

a. During this period the main logistics problem experienced was the availability of repair parts for motor transport/engineer equipment. Although the Battalion carried 60 DOS of repair parts (30 DOS operating stock, 30 DOS mount out), the difference in usage of the equipment during extended field operations versus garrison operations caused a deficit in required parts and consequently incurred longer deadline periods.

b. The Battalion construction platoon was employed primarily doing the following type work: Carpentry maintenance at the CG's quarters and mess and the ADC's quarters, mill work for the CG's quarters, prefab-

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rection and distribution of 60 strongbacks for general purpose tents, supervisory work at FLSC for the renovation of 30 warehouses (which stands at 11 completion) and 2/3 cantonment for the construction of strongback tents. Within the Battalion area, the construction platoon did sign painting as required and acted as issue point for construction material for internal and cantonment projects.

c. The Battalion utilities platoon was employed doing the following: Electricians, completed the CG's quarters and mess and the ADC's quarters, assisted the 3rd Engineer Battalion wiring the billeting area at Headquarters Battalion cantonment, relocated the power supply plant at III MAF Headquarters, installed floodlights around the Battalion perimeter, maintained the primary and secondary power systems within the Battalion area, installed lighting at the CG's heliport and completed 75% of the electrical work at the Headquarters Battalion 1600 man mess hall. The plumbers completed all plumbing requirements at the CG's mess and quarters and the ADC's quarters, laid an additional 3000 feet of 2 inch pipe at Headquarters Battalion cantonment, completed 75% of the plumbing requirements at the Headquarters Battalion cantonment and installed a 3000 gallon water storage tank at the CG's mess and quarters area. The water supply section rebuilt the 2/3 dam, provided 1,435,000 gallons of potable water at four separate water points, provided two shower units (one for this Battalion and one for 2/3), and are involved in drilling a well at Headquarters Battalion cantonment which now stands at 69 feet and drilling.

d. The Battalion supply section has maintained the Battalion's supply dumps which now contain the following: Class I, 520 cases of MCIs, class III, 81 drums of mogas, 100 drums of diesel and 30 drums of other POL products, class V, 8.5 S/T of small arms and .7 S/T of high explosives. They have processed approximately 3600 requisitions of which 2800 were sent to FLSC.

e. The Battalion maintenance section has worked continually on a 24 hour basis to service/repair 176 pieces of engineer equipment and 230 pieces of motor transport equipment. The machine shop has completed 21 jobs not related to maintenance of equipment and the welding shop has completed 20 such jobs including the fabrication of a canopy for the walkway from the CG's mess to his quarters.

f. The Battalion's motor transport equipment has traveled 115,223 miles mainly on construction projects.

g. The Battalion aid station treated 1314 military patients, 35 of which were referred to Company "C", 3rd Medical Battalion for admission and further treatment.

h. The Battalion mess section is operating on a 24 hour basis and has fed 60,000 meals during this period.

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13. Major Construction Projects.

a. Completed.

- (1) CG's quarters and mess.
- (2) ADC's quarters.

b. Under Construction.

- (1) Ammunition supply points #1 and #2.
- (2) 500 man and 1600 man mess halls for Headquarters Battalion.
- (3) Northern portion of Route 268.
- (4) Water and sewage distribution system for Headquarters cantonment.
- (5) Maintenance of 12th Marines and MASS-2 roads.
- (6) Headquarters, 9th Marine Regiment cantonment.
- (7) 2/3 cantonment.
- (8) 2/9 cantonment.
- (9) Upper Da Son road.
- (10) 7th Engineer Battalion cantonment.

14. Major Earth Work. Due to a high priority on route 268, Da Son and 12th Marines roads, two quarry pits and one borrow pit have continued operations on a 24 hour basis. A total of 17,720 cubic yards of fill and 900 cubic yards of crushed rock has been applied to these roads during the reporting period.

E. L. MEERER