

HEADQUARTERS
7th Engineer Battalion (Rein) FMF
c/o FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

3/RDK/bfn
5750
8 June 1966

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 May to 31 May 1966.

2. Average Monthly Strength

	<u>USMC</u>	<u>USN</u>
Off	35	2
Enl	1062	16

3. Personnel

<u>Gains</u>		<u>Losses</u>	
	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>
Off	2	Off	5
Enl	18	Enl	15

4. Administration. Company "C" rejoined this Battalion on 30 May 1966.
(1 USMC Off and 115 USMC Enl)

5. Civil Affairs/Military Government/Community Relations

a. Civil affairs continues on a daily basis in six hamlets in the village of Hoa Khanh. Items distributed throughout the month were as follows:

Grain:	15,700 pounds	Hotel Size Soap:	2,040 bars
Clothing:	1200 pounds	Cooking Oil:	12 gal
Canned Goods:	300 pounds	Soap Powder:	50 pounds
		Several loads of scrap wood	

b. Activities were as follows:

- (1) Ninety graves were removed from the new FLSG area.
- (2) 1,283 villagers attended sick call during the month.

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(3) One hundred textile kits were distributed and 21 school kits were presented to graduates at Da Phuoc school AT 946786 and 50 pounds of candy was distributed to teachers and hamlet chiefs.

(4) Three private schools are being built in three hamlets.

(5) One public school is planned for the near future.

(6) A cattle crossing culvert has been completed.

c. The overall civil affairs program is progressing very satisfactorily.

6. Staff and Command Billets

a. 1st Lieutenant Stephen L. WINTERS 087987/1302 USMCR assigned as Commanding Officer of Company "C" on 31 May 1966.

b. 1st Lieutenant John D. DEHOLL 087399/1802 USMC assigned as Commanding Officer of 1st Bridge Company on 2 May 1966.

c. 2nd Lieutenant Cornelius J. GALLAGHER 096725/0402 USMC assigned as Battalion S-4 Officer on 27 May 1966.

7. Intelligence Incidents to Report

<u>DTG</u>	<u>Incident</u>	<u>Place</u>
081815H	Three indigenous youths reported in III MAF dump in possession of M26 fragmentation grenade. One of the three youths was apprehended, but no ordnance was found on his person. He was turned over to the 3d Marine Regiment for further transfer to the interrogator, translator team	AT 949814
220940H	Battalion S-2 section received information that three bodies were found at the III MAF Dump, two ARVN and one civilian. ARVN sergeant reported dump had been hit by an estimated 20 VC at approximately 0130.	AT 949814

8. Logistics

a. Correspondence, originated by the Battalion S-4, of special interest was:

(1) On 17 May 1966 a request for cancellation of FMFPAC Tables of Distribution M-4343 (1st Bridge Company, FMF), M-4355 (Service Com-

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pany), and M-4356 (Headquarters Company), was submitted to Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force. This request was generated by the return to Battalion operational control of the 1st Bridge Platoon, 1st Bridge Company, FMF and Company "C", 7th Engineer Battalion, FMF. Letter was forwarded to Commanding General, FMFPAC for approval.

(2) On 19 May authority was requested to requisition a replacement bituminous distributor on priority 05. Pending arrival of replacement the present distributor would be maintained in marginal operating condition and not evacuated to higher echelon. It was further requested that the replacement be mounted on a five ton truck chassis.

(3) On 22 May a memorandum was submitted to CG, 3d MarDiv, concerning the inadequacies of 1st Bridge Company's allowance of 25 HP outboard motors. Memorandum included recommendation with justification for adoption of a 45 HP long shaft McCulloch model outboard.

(4) Also on 22 May a letter was submitted to CG, 3d MarDiv, justifying the requirement for an allowance of ~~one~~^{three} semi-trailer, repair parts, shop, van, T/A #50423. *8811*

b. Embarkation. Shipping space for seven bridge trailers and 42 S/T of M4T6 bridging was requested from CG, III MAF on 16 May 1966. Material was loaded aboard the USS Outogamie County (LST-1073) on 28 May and shipped to 1st Engineer Battalion based at Chu Lai.

c. Supply

(1) During the month of May, the Supply Section reconciled all outstanding requisitions with 3d FSR and FLSG in accordance with the cut off dates established by those activities. Approximately 800 requisitions were cancelled where quantities on order for stock exceeded requisitioning objectives. This did not include items on order based upon "Command Judgement." There were also about 1200 requisitions reinstated as they did not appear on the obligation listings. Property records were also reconciled with valid obligations to insure that all documents were in fact posted to expected receipts.

(2) During the month, there were 4080 requisitions processed, 950 warehouse issues from stock, and 2154 receipts from FLSG and 3d FSR.

d. Messing. The Battalion Mess Staff continued the normal mess operation of providing 4 meals daily excepting Sundays, the fourth meal being a midnight ration for night crews. Sundays meals were scheduled as a brunch in the morning, normal evening chow and the midnight ration.

e. Medical. The Battalion aid station treated a total of 1865 patients, of which, 800 were indigenous personnel treated in conjunction

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with the Battalion civil affairs activities.

f. Motor Transport. A total of 148,827 miles were logged on the Battalion's motor transport equipment.

g. Maintenance. The Battalion maintenance platoon processed 142 pieces of motor transport and 180 pieces of engineer equipment.

h. Utilities. The Battalion utilities section continued its normal encampment operations of providing water, electricity and the extension of its services to new structures and encampments throughout the operational area.

9. Training

a. Troop indoctrination continues for newly arrived personnel, and debriefing for those departing.

b. Thirty personnel of the Battalion attended three full days of training at the mine warfare and demolitions school conducted by the 3rd Engineer Battalion here in RVN.

c. Thirteen personnel attended our own Battalion motor transport operators' school for six days. All thirteen students received motor vehicle operators licenses.

d. A total of 285 personnel of the Battalion fired their personal T/O weapon and the Battalions T/O crew served weapons for familiarization.

e. Four personnel of the Battalion attended ADM refresher training during the reporting period.

f. The only other training done by the Battalion during this reporting period was on the job training.

10. NBC Warfare. None.

11. Command Control. No change.

12. Air Defense. No change.

13. Special Operations

a. On 2 May 1966 1stLt John A. NORDIN 089436/1302 USMC and a five man team departed to perform a road reconnaissance of Route #1 from Da Nang to Hue. The team returned to the Battalion area on 5 May after completing its mission without incident.

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b. On 14 May 1966 1stLt Stephen L. WINTER 087987/1302 USMCR and a seven man team performed a road reconnaissance of Route #1 from Da Nang to Chu Lai. The team returned on 17 May. Incidents during the reconnaissance were as follows:

(1) The security force which accompanied the team from "F" Company, 2/3, suffered two WIA due to an enemy land mine.

(2) One VC was killed and three captured.

(3) Sniper fire was prevalent on the return trip.

c. On 18 May 1966 Captain Allan J. STEFFEN and a team of four departed on the first leg of an airfield reconnaissance mission. A total of twelve airfields were reconed in the I Corps area. The team completed its mission on 26 May without any unusual incidents to report.

d. Elements of the 1st Bridge Company with 45 feet of fixed span bridging supported two Rough Rider operations on 3 May and 9 May 1966. Concerning these operations nothing unusual to report.


E. L. MEEKER