

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

3/PJM/bfn  
 5750  
 9 March 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 February 1966 to 28 February 1966.

2. Average Monthly Strength

	<u>USMC</u>	<u>USN</u>
Off	35	1
Enl	1000	17

3. Personnel

	<u>Gains</u>		<u>Losses</u>	
	<u>USMC</u>	<u>USN</u>	<u>USMC</u>	<u>USN</u>
Off	0	0	0	0
Enl	8	0	24	0

4. Administration. No administrative problems.

5. Civil Affairs/Military Government/Community Relations. Civil affairs continues on a daily basis in five (5) hamlets in the village of Hoa-Khanh, 900 pounds of wheat, 1,000 pounds of clothing, 2,500 hotel sized bars of soap, 1,000 bars of regular size soap, 50 pounds of bubble bath soap for washing clothing and several loads of wood were distributed to local hamlets during this period. English classes continue on a five nights a week basis with an average of 35-40 students attending. Overall the civil affairs program is progressing satisfactorily.

6. No changes were effected in staff or command billets in the Battalion.

7. Intelligence Incidents Reported

<u>Time</u>	<u>Incident</u>	<u>Coordinate</u>
100015H	The Da Nang ferry received sniper fire. A total of 30 incoming rounds of SA fire was received	BT 035782

Enclosure (5)

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<u>Time</u>	<u>Incident</u>	<u>Coordinate</u>
172110H	Co"D" M-51 received one round of SA fire	AT 979770
201950H	Received three (3) rounds of SA fire in Battalion perimeter	AT 954784

#### 8. Logistics.

a. During the period covered 43 separate pieces of correspondence were processed by this office. Of these 28 were general correspondence, 6 were recurring reports, and 9 special reports. Of special interest were:

(1) A report of reestablished combat active replacement factors based on knowledge gained from deployment to RVN. It is also noted that these factors were considered to be more applicable as combat theatre training than combat active.

(2) The Battalion Maintenance and Supply Officers were directed to review reorder points of certain repair parts. It has been realized that the requisitioning objective in some cases may not provide a sufficient quantity to complete certain repairs. This review therefore was to establish required quantities, regardless of the AMRD.

(3) A speed letter was sent to CMC requesting authority to retain TD-18s and MRS-200 tractors that have exceeded either the "one time repair limit" or the "cumulative total cost limit." This was generated by the facts that there are no assets available to replace these items, while the TD-18s are in the near future to be replaced by the Eimco tractor there is no known replacement for the MRS-200.

(4) Two letters were submitted depicting this Battalion's critical need for compressed gases. This problem has been the subject of correspondence in previous periods and as yet is unsolved.

(5) In addition to the routine correspondence above, the directives under the purview of this section have been revised to conform with both the directives issued by the new chain of command in WestPac, and the current tactical situation.

b. Battalion Supply submitted 2965 requisitions to FLSG for all supplies combined, during the period. There were 1301 requisitions filled by Battalion Supply from its stock and 1382 filled by receipts from FLSG/FSR. This increase of fills by our supply is attributable to FLSG now maintaining a 26% fill factor.

c. The Supply Warehouse and Armory moved into the new butler building location, which enhances the efficiency of the supply operation and provides more suitable storage conditions.

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d. Messing. The mess staff served a total of 72,948 meals for the period, consisting of A and B rations. Because of a new accounting system, MCIs are not figured in this total. Figured in this total are meals for 99 members of MCB-1 which are currently being hosted by this Battalion while developing their camp site.

e. Medical. The Battalion Aid Station treated a total of 2427 patients, of which 1006 were indigenous personnel treated in conjunction with the Battalion Civil Affairs Activities. Movement of the Battalion Aid Station to its new location in closer proximity to its bunker site was made in the latter part of the month.

f. Motor Transport.

(1) A total of 116,231 miles were logged on the Battalion's motor transport equipment. This includes at least two low beds operating continuously on a 24 hour work day during the period in support of the NSA.

(2) This Battalion received four trucks, utility M-38Als, as part of the FY66 R & E program. These were from 1st Marine Division allocation.

g. Maintenance.

(1) The Battalion maintenance platoon processed 256 pieces of motor transport and 91 pieces of engineer equipment end items. In addition are, 21 motor transport and 1 engineer equipment end items evacuated to FLSG. Of these 17 motor transport and the 1 engineer equipment items remain at FLSG, repairs not completed.

(2) The increased requisition fill rate by both FLSG and Battalion Supply, coupled with the opening of the maintenance shop butler building in the latter part of the month has enabled a more expanded and efficient maintenance operation.

h. Utilities.

(1) The Battalion utilities section continued its normal encampment operations of providing water, and electricity, and extension of service to new structures being built in the camp site.

(2) The section has received a 1000 barrel potable water storage tank to be used in the camp site. This should relieve somewhat the critical situation of processing water while it's being used.

9. Training.

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a. During this reporting period the Battalion has held two (2), seven (7) day motor transport schools. Twenty-three (23) men have thus been licensed as 5 ton drivers and three (3) as 3/4 ton drivers.

b. The Battalion has sent 25 men to each of three (3), three (3) day land mine warfare schools held by the 3rd Engineer Battalion.

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

10. NBC Warfare. None.

11. Command and Control. No changes.

12. Air Defense. No changes.

13. Special Operations

a. On 19 February 1966, 2nd platoon of Company "A" returned to their area after completing a bunker project in a U. S. Army Special Forces camp. All personnel except four (4) returned on this date. On 26 February these four (4) men returned with the scoop loader that they had been left behind to sectionalize.

b. On 11 February 1966 Lt MCDERMOTT and 5 men from Company "B" departed the Battalion area and were helilifted to Task Force Delta. They were to do a reconnaissance of Highway #1 in conjunction with Operation Double Eagle. The reconnaissance team returned to the Battalion area on 15 February 1966 with the required information.

c. On 7 February 1966 a detachment from 1st Bridge Company provided 40 feet of M4T6 bridge support to the 3rd Engineer Battalion. The bridging was sent on a convoy to Phu Bai, however the bridge was not committed and all hands returned safely.

d. On 19 February 1stLt TEALL and 20 men of the 1st Bridge Platoon accompanied a 2/9 convoy to Chu Lai. A 45' M4T6 fixed span capability was provided. The bridge was never committed and the detachment returned safely on 20 February with nothing more than a few sniper rounds to report.

e. One bridge section with a 45' fixed span was sent on Rough Rider South on 28 February 1966. The bridging was not used and the crew returned the same day with nothing unusual to report.

  
E. L. MEEKER