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

3/gbc
5750
4 December 1968
0086-68

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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 November 1968 to 30 November 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.

D. U. Davidson
D. U. DAVIDSON

S & C FILES
HEADQUARTERS
1ST MARINE DIVISION, FMF
68 5093
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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 November 1968 - 30 November 1968
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9TH ENGR BN

CMD CHRON

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

9th Engineer Battalion

COMMANDER

LtCol D. U. DAVIDSON

Subordinate UnitsHeadquarters Company
Service Company
Company "A"
Company "B"
Company "C"Capt. C. H. ROYER
Capt. J. K. NAGAZYNA
1stLt D. E. CRAIS
1stLt G. M. SHERMAN
Capt. D. W. JOHNSON
(1-26 November 1968)
1stLt W. H. JOHNSON
(27-30 November 1968)
1stLt W. G. WARD

Company "D"

Attached Units3rd Bridge Platoon, 1st Bridge
Company in direct support

2ndLt M. L. BECKER

2. LOCATION

9th Engineer Battalion	Chu Lai, RVN	1-30 November 1968
Company "A" (-)	Hill #10 BT 199390	1-30 November 1968
2nd Platoon	Hill #29 BT 221326	1-30 November 1968
Company "B"	Chu Lai, RVN	1-30 November 1968
Company "C" (-)	Chu Lai, RVN	1-30 November 1968
1st Platoon	Tam Ky, RVN	1-30 November 1968
Company "D"	Hill #63 BT 136448	1-30 November 1968

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer

Vacant (1-8 November 1968)
Maj. J. W. STEVENS
(8-30 November 1968)
1stLt R. J. BURNS
1stLt R. J. BURNSS-1 Adjutant
Personnel Officer

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S-2/3
S-5
S-4
Sgt Maj.
Motor Transport Officer
Construction Officer
ADM Officer
Maintenance Officer
Utilities Officer
Legal Officer

Medical Officer
Supply Officer

Embarkation Officer
NBC Officer
Training Officer
Education Officer

Chaplain

Maj. S. A. JOHNSON
Capt. C. E. HUGHES
Maj. W. B. CHANNELL
1stSgt F. F. ROHRS
1stLt J. D. BUCHANAN
Maj. S. A. JOHNSON
Maj. S. A. JOHNSON
GySgt B. SHUMPERT
Capt. C. H. JONES
Capt. C. H. ROYER
(1-26 November 1968)
1stLt R. J. BURNS
(27-30 November 1968)
Lt A. P. IVERSON (USN)
Capt. J. W. MOODY
(1-17 November 1968)
1stLt V. H. CUYNO
(18-30 November 1968)
1stLt D. R. FARO
1stLt C. J. TOENISKOETTER
1stLt C. J. TOENISKOETTER
1stLt D. R. FARO
(1-21 November 1968)
1stLt C. A. ROSS
(22-30 November 1968)
Capt. E. J. RICHARDSON USA

4. Average Monthly Strength

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
41	919	1	24

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PART II

During the month of November 1968, the 9th Engineer Battalion, LtCol D. U. DAVIDSON Commanding, continued as its primary mission the maintenance and upgrading of RVN Route #1 from Chu Lai (BT 520044) to the Song Cau Lau (BT 091554). The maintenance of 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" (-) was located at Hill #10 (BT 199390) and was in the process of maintaining and upgrading RVN Route #1 from (BT 259289) to Thang Binh (BT 175418), a distance of 10 miles. The 2nd Platoon, Company "A" was located on Hill #29. Between Bridge #35 (BT 259289) and Thang Binh (BT 175418), the "A" Company personnel expended 3,022 man hours and 974 equipment hours in hauling and placing 1,452 cubic yards of rock and spreading 34,000 gallons of pentaprime.

Company "B" was located at Chu Lai (BT 520044) and is engaged in vertical construction in that area. It also maintains RVN Route #1 from Chu Lai (BT 520044) and Ky Khoung (BT 417124), a distance of 5 miles.

Company "C" completed the upgrading of RVN Route #1 between Chu Lai (BT 520044) and Ky Khoung (BT 417124) and is currently upgrading RVN Route #1 from Ky Khoung to Bridge #35 (BT 259289), a distance of 5 miles. Between Chu Lai (BT 520044) and Bridge #35 (BT 259289), the Company "C" personnel expended 12,143 man hours and 11,242 equipment hours in hauling 17,612 cubic yards of rock and placing 552 cubic yards of shot rock and 20,900 gallons of pentaprime.

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. Between Thang Binh (BT 175418) and the Song Cau Lau (BT 091554), the Company "D" personnel expended 2,582 man hours and 2,282 equipment hours in hauling and placing 1,755 cubic yards of rock, 198 cubic yards of sand, 210 cubic yards of laterite and 18,400 gallons of pentaprime.

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During the month of November 1968, the 9th Engineer Battalion units replaced, installed, or repaired twelve culverts along RVN Route #1. This required 120' of 18" culvert, 36' of 36" culvert, 224' of 48" culvert, and 106' of 60" culvert as shown below:

<u>Coordinates</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Man Hours</u>	<u>Equipment Hours</u>
BT 496077	1	20'	60"	13	7
BT 264252	1	44'	60"	151	33
BT 232337	3	44'	48"	184	80
BT 108503	2	40'	18"	17	1
BT 359190	1	42'	60"	275	20
BT 475077	1	48'	48"	145	30
BT 256259	1	36'	36"	79	40
BT 376176	1	44'	48"	110	45
BT 242318	1	40'	18"	290	88

During the month of November, the following bridges were repaired:

<u>Bridge #</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Man Hours</u>	<u>Equip Hours</u>	<u>Date Completed</u>
51	BT 430109	229'8"	Steel Stringer, Timber Decking	72	0	Incomplete
32	BT 230339	40'4"	Steel Stringer, Timber Decking	563	48	30 Nov 68
29	BT 219359	40'	Steel Stringer, Timber Decking	510	43	29 Nov 68
52	BT 497067	251'5"	Steel Stringer, Pile Back Fill Abutment and Timber Decking	725	69	Incomplete

During the month of November, the following tactical bridging was installed:

<u>Bridge #</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Installed</u>
52	BT 497067	290'	M-6	60	USMC
51	BT 430109	150'	Bailey Bridge	35	USA
51	BT 430109	180'	M4T6 Floating Bridge	60	USA

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The culvert destroyed by enemy demolitions are shown below:

<u>Culvert Location</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>Date Destroyed</u>
BT 104411	1	17 November 1968
BT 475077	1	19 November 1968

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 the maintenance for the MAC-V Senior Advisor from Route #1 to BT 264252 a distance of 1.5 miles.

Company "B" maintains from BT 325180 to BT 330207 a distance of 2 miles for CAP Unit 1-1-2/1-1-3, also Route #22 West from BT 512053 to BT 493037 and Route #22 East from BT 538027 to BT 549049 a distance of 2.2 miles.

Company "C" continued (1) the maintenance of 2.0 miles of roadway within the Supply Company (Rein) FLC-C (BT 532111) and the maintenance of 3.5 miles of roadway within the Supply Company (Rein) FLC-ASP (BT 550044).

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. The Platoon is also responsible for upgrading 300 meters of road for MAG-13, and resurfacing roads in the MAG-12 area.

Since 1 November 1968, the 9th Engineer Battalion has provided the following additional Engineer Equipment Support for the U. S. Army, U. S. Navy, U. S. Marine Corps and the Korean Marine Corps units within its area of responsibility.

(1) Upgrading of 300 meters of road at Ky Ha Island for 6/56th Artillery. Date Started 4 November 1968, Date Completed 19 November 1968; Man Hours: 306, Equipment Hours: 205.

(2) Upgrading of road from Route #22 to river in Tich Tay Village, Date Started 26 October 1968, Date Completed 20 November 1968; Man Hours: 1202, Equipment Hours: 1082.

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(3) Hauled fill and crushed rock to construct 30'x40' storage pad at Chu Lai west field. Date Started 26 November 1968, Date Completed 28 November 1968; Man Hours: 95, Equipment Hours: 95.

(4) Upgrade area at Water Point #8, Chu Lai Base. Date Started 18 October 1968, Date Completed 29 November 1968; Man Hours: 582, Equipment Hours: 300.

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

(1) Replaced landing mat on helicopter pad for the 9th Engineer Battalion. Date Started 21 November 1968, Date Completed 22 November 1968; Man Hours: 159, Equipment Hours: 14.

(2) Constructed laterite storage area 75'x150' and 220'x390' for MAG-13. Date Started 3 September 1968, Date Completed 2 November 1968; Man Hours: 948, Equipment Hours: 447.

(3) Constructed one 16'x75' storage/issue loading dock for 9th Support Group. Date Started 8 November 1968, Date Completed 15 November 1968; Man Hours: 825, Equipment Hours: 20.

(4) Constructed two 12'x24' bunkers for Company "A", 9th Engineer Battalion at BT 199390. Date Started 3 November 1968, Date Completed 27 November 1968; Man Hours: 600, Equipment Hours: 60.

(5) Reconstructed BAS bunker for the 9th Engineer Battalion, Date Started 1 October 1968, Date Completed 22 November 1968; Man Hours: 312, Equipment Hours: 37.

(6) Provided technical assistance for CAG, MTT Unit bunker. Date Started 25 November 1968, Date Completed 29 November 1968; Man Hours: 75, Equipment Hours: 8.

(7) Constructed 49'x52' building for 123rd Aviation Battalion. Date Started 29 August 1968, Date Completed 9 November 1968; Man Hours: 3580, Equipment Hours: 330.

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(8) Constructed stage and movie screen for the Americal Division. Date Started 25 October 1968, Date Completed 2 November 1968; Man Hours: 185, Equipment Hours: 10.

(9) Constructed six 4 hole latrines for the Americal Division. Date Started 9 November 1968, Date Completed 19 November 1968; Man Hours: 280, Equipment Hours: 60.

(10) Constructed offices in Butler Building for MAG-13. Date Started 18 October 1968, Date Completed 9 November 1968; Man Hours: 2306, Equipment Hours: 250.

(11) Provided technical assistance for Americal Combat Center Chapel. Date Started 5 November 1968, Date Completed 6 November 1968; Man Hours: 150, Equipment Hours: 0.

(12) Constructed Asphalt Tower for 9th Engineer Battalion. Date Started 4 October 1968, Date Completed 21 November 1968. Man Hours: 175, Equipment Hours: 441.

During the period, the 9th Engineer Battalion water points produced 4,308,000 gallons of potable water and expended 3571 man hours and 7442 equipment hours.

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

During the month of November mine sweep personnel expended 9676 man hours and 920 equipment hours on RVN Route #1 and were responsible for locating the subsequently mentioned mines.

<u>TEAM</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>METERS COVERED</u>	<u>COMPOSITION</u>
"C" Co	BT 520044	BT 330235	26,000	4
"C" Co	BT 300235	BT 259289	7,000	4
"A" Co	BT 242318	BT 259289	3,600	4
"A" Co	BT 242318	BT 226347	3,700	4
"A" Co	BT 198389	BT 226347	5,000	5
"A" 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

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Personnel & Administration

4 November 1968	Dropped SSgt P. BURGESS Jr.
7 November 1968	Joined 2ndLt R. N. KERN
8 November 1968	Joined Maj. J. W. STEVENS
9 November 1968	Dropped MSgt A. J. CORTESE
10 November 1968	Joined GySgt C. A. CLAYPOOL
10 November 1968	Joined 1stLt V. H. CUYNO
17 November 1968	Dropped Capt J. W. MOODY

2. Civic Action

During this period, the Civic Action team of this command has treated more than 333 men, women, and children on MEDCAPS. Also this month this command completed three projects: renovation of furniture for school; upgrading of Tich Tay road; and erection of a 30-foot flag pole in front of the Buddhist Temple. Movies were shown on 9 and 21 November 1968 in the Tich Tay area. Films were given and shown by the 7th Psy-Ops Battalion, Psy-Ops Team, U. S. Army.

3. Training

2 November 1968	- Vietnamese Language School, 1 Enlisted, Danang
4 November 1968	- Staff NCO Leadership School, 1 Enlisted, Danang
4 November 1968	- Division Embarkation School, 1 Enlisted, Danang
10 November 1968	- 16mm Projectionist School, 1 Enlisted, Danang
10 November 1968	- Basic Organic Supply School, 1 Enlisted, Danang
11 November 1968	- NCO Leadership School, 1 Enlisted, Danang
11 November 1968	- Officer Leadership School, 1 Officer, Danang
18 November 1968	- 10 Ton Tractor School, 14 Enlisted, Danang
23 November 1968	- Basic Ammo Tech School, 1 Enlisted, Okinawa
24 November 1968	- Registered Publications School, 1 Officer, Danang
25 November 1968	- Officer Leadership School, 1 Officer, Danang
25 November 1968	- 10 Ton Tractor School, 11 Enlisted, Danang
27 November 1968	- Organic Supply & Accounting School, 1 Enlisted, Okinawa

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0086-684. Engineer Operations

- 1 November 1968 S-3 found blown culvert, left lane, at BT 359190, also found one 30 lb nitro-starch mine with pressure/electric type detonator 10 miles south. Blown in place. S-3 reported north abutment of secondary bridge blown, primary bridge passable at BT 430109. Found comm wire leading to tree line 100' away.
- 2 November 1968 Civilian turned in one Chi-Com grenade to "A" Company sweep team at BT 219359. Blew in place and rewarded civilian. "A" Company found barricade across road 3' high composed of barb wire, rock, and dirt. Removed obstacle. "D" Company found crater in road 6' deep 15' wide by 15' long. Estimated 50 lb explosive was used.
- 3 November 1968 S-2 found three roles of concertina across road, 6 piles of dirt 2 feet high in front of wire. Removed obstacle.
- 6 November 1968 Civilian turned in M-26 grenade to "A" Company sweep team. Blew grenade in place and rewarded civilian. "A" Company sweep team found laundry bag containing 4 M16 receivers, 1 M79 breech and 4 M16 magazine holders. Returned gear to CP. "D" Company sweep team found one VN killed on roadside by a suspected hand grenade.
- 7 November 1968 Civilian turned in M26 grenade to "A" Company sweep team, grenade brought to CP, rewarded civilian.
- 8 November 1968 "A" Company sweep team found a M16 barrel in water at BT 219288, brought back to CP.
- 9 November 1968 "D" Company sweep team found a 4'x8' hole in the road at BT 153448. Also found a 30 lb box mine, brought back to CP. "A" Company sweep team found sand bags on bridge scattered on road at BT 218362. Also found signs in Vietnamese warning that culvert will be blown.

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- 9 November 1968 "A" Company sweep team found a 3' hole by 38' long at BT 1722422, road impassable.
"A" Company sweep team found bridge at BT 230339 10% blown on southwest corner.
"D" Company sweep team found a M-26 grenade in bombed out house at BT 092539. Blown in rice paddy.
- 10 November 1968 Civilian turned in Chi-Com grenade at BT 263292 to "A" Company sweep team. Grenade blown in place and rewarded civilian.
- 11 November 1968 "A" Company sweep team found a 60mm mortar round at BT 203337. Blown in place.
- 13 November 1968 "A" Company sweep team found WP booby trap at BT 219359. Blown in place.
"A" Company sweep team found a 60mm mortar round at BT 208375. Blown in place.
"C" Company sweep team reported Vietnamese truck hit a 30 lb mine at BT 369184, 1 VN KIA, 2 VN WIA. Truck landed on top of USMC grader causing \$500 damage. Negative USMC casualties.
- 14 November 1968 "A" Company sweep team found a M-26 grenade at BT 255295 on roadside. Blown in rice paddy.
- 16 November 1968 "A" Company sweep team found a M-26 grenade at BT 220358 in rice paddy. Grenade blown in place.
- 17 November 1968 Two bridges were blown during the night by sappers at BT 497067 and BT 430109 both impassable.
"D" Company sweep team found blown culvert at BT 118492 on right side of road. Estimated 30 lbs. of explosive used.
"D" Company sweep team found hole left side of road 5'x4' at BT 108503 believed caused by 155mm round.
"A" Company sweep team found west side of bridge blown at BT 219359, one I-beam and abutment destroyed 20% wood removed.
"C" Company sweep team found culvert blown at BT 104411 on right side of road.

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- 18 November 1968 "A" Company sweep team found 25 mud piles with scrap metal 2 wire obstacles at BT 336233. Removed obstacles. Civilians turned in 500 rounds of 50 caliber and 7.62mm linked ammo. Brought back to "A" Company CP and rewarded civilian.
- 19 November 1968 "A" Company sweep team received 20 rounds of small arms fire at BT 198389. Returned fire and called in illumination.
- 20 November 1968 "A" Company sweep team found B40 rocket in road at BT 183410. Blown in place. "D" Company found hole in road 5' diameter by 1½' deep at BT 172425. Filled hole.
- 21 November 1968 "A" Company CP received 2 self propelled satchel charges, one detonated left 3' wide by 2' deep hole. Returned fire at flashes. Negative casualties. "A" Company sweep team found a anti-personnel mine in road at BT 244314. Blown in place. "A" Company sweep team found 30 sand bags in the road at BT 218362. Upon searching bags a 60mm mortar round and two Chi-Com grenades boobytraps were found. Blew boobytraps in place and removed sandbags.
- 22 November 1968 "A" Company sweep team found a M17 gas mask in road at BT 243314 and returned it to the CP. "A" Company sweep team reported at BT 232336 bridge was 35% destroyed, impassable, outside I-beams damaged. Also found a 60 lb mine south of bridge. Blown in rice paddy. Civilian turned in two 60mm mortar rounds to "A" Company sweep team at BT 212369. Blown in rice paddy and rewarded civilian.
- 23 November 1968 Civilian turned in a 60mm mortar round to "A" Company sweep team at BT 206376. Blown in rice paddy and rewarded civilian.

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- 24 November 1968 "A" Company sweep team found two VC men and one VC woman killed by ARVN's at BT 202382. ARVN's captured one female VC, two M16's, US cartridge belt and VC mine
Civilian turned in a M26 grenade, 30 rounds of .30 caliber and one round .50 caliber at BT 248308 to "A" Company sweep team who brought to CP and rewarded civilians.
- 28 November 1968 "C" Company sweep team found a 155mm round at BT 260268 with fuze and explosives were removed.
- 29 November 1968 At BT 106505 MF Officer was ambushed by grenades and small arms fire, vehicle was damaged negative casualties.

5. Patrols

- 1 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 012300H to 020600H
- 2 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 022330H to 030500H
- 3 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 032200H to 040400H
- 4 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 042230H to 050330H
- 5 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 052400H to 060500H
- 6 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 062100H to 070300H
- 7 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 072300H to 080400H
- 8 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 082400H to 090500H
- 9 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 092300H to 100600H
- 10 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 102200H to 110300H
- 11 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 112400H to 120500H
- 12 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 122300H to 130600H
- 13 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with ambush from 132230H to 140430H

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15 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with
ambush from 152230H to 160400H

16 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with
ambush from 162400H to 170500H

17 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with
ambush from 172300H to 180300H

18 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with
ambush from 182230H to 190230H

19 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with
ambush from 192400H to 200400H

20 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with
ambush from 202100H to 210130H

21 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with
ambush from 212200H to 220230H

22 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with
ambush from 222300H to 230330H

23 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with
ambush from 232130H to 240130H

24 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with
ambush from 242430H to 250500H

25 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with
ambush from 252200H to 260330H

26 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with
ambush from 262300H to 270500H

27 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with
ambush from 272400H to 280330H

28 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with
ambush from 282100H to 290100H

29 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with
ambush from 292330H to 300245H

30 November 1968 Night Reinforced Fire Team Recon Patrol with
ambush from 302030H to 010100H

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