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1 of 5

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

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8 FEB 1969

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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 January 1969 to 31 January 1969

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2  
(b) DivO 5750.2E  
(c) FMFPacO 5750.8

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

9TH MARR

9TH MARR  
COMMAND CHRON

SECTION NO: 0016-69  
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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 January 1969 - 31 January 1969

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## PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

9th Engineer Battalion

LtCol D. U. DAVIDSON

Subordinate UnitsHeadquarters Company  
Service Company  
Company "A"  
Company "B"  
Company "C"  
Company "D"1stLt W. G. WARD  
Maj. E. M. CONDRA  
1stLt D. E. CRAIS  
1stLt G. M. SHERMAN  
Capt C. H. ROYER  
Capt J. K. NAGAZYNAAttached Units3rd Bridge Platoon, 1st Bridge  
Company in direct support

2ndLt K. D. PRICER

2. LOCATION

9th Engineer Battalion	Chu Lai, RVN	1-31 January 1969
Company "A" (-)	Hill #10 BT 199390	1-31 January 1969
1st Platoon	Hill #29 BT 221326	1-31 January 1969
3rd Platoon	Hill #10 BT 199390	1-17 January 1969
Company "B"	Tam Ky, RVN	17-31 January 1969
Company "C" (-)	Chu Lai, RVN	1-31 January 1969
	Chu Lai, RVN	1-26 January 1969
	7th Engr	26-31 January 1969
1st Platoon	Tam Ky, RVN	1-18 January 1969
	3/11	18-31 January 1969
2nd Platoon	Chu Lai, RVN	1-26 January 1969
	Hill #22 RVN	27-31 January 1969
3rd Platoon	Chu Lai, RVN	1-26 January 1969
	2/1	27-31 January 1969
Motor Transport/Heavy Equipment Platoon	Chu Lai, RVN	1-31 January 1969
Company "D"	Hill #63 BT 136448	1-31 January 1969

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3. STAFF OFFICERS

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

Maj. J. W. STEVENS  
1stLt R. J. BURNS  
1stLt R. J. BURNS  
Maj. S. A. JOHNSON  
1stLt D. R. FARO  
1stLt W. J. KING Jr.  
1stSgt F. F. ROHRS  
1stLt J. D. BUCHANAN  
1stLt C. J. TOENISKOETTER  
Maj. S. A. JOHNSON  
WO-2 W. E. YORK  
Capt C. H. JONES  
1stLt R. J. BURNS  
Lt. A. P. IVERSON (USN)  
1stLt V. H. CUYNO  
1stLt D. R. FARO  
1stLt C. J. TOENISKOETTER  
1stLt C. A. ROSS  
1stLt C. A. ROSS  
LtComdr R. W. BLACK  
1stLt M. E. WENZEL  
WO-2 W. E. YORK

4. Average Monthly Strength

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
39	925	2	18

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## PART II

During the month of January 1969, 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" (-), located at Hill #10 (BT 199390), was in the process of maintaining and upgrading RVN Route #1 from Tam Ky to Thang Binh (BT 175418), a distance of 14 miles. Between Tam Ky and Thang Binh (BT 175418), the "A" Company personnel expended 2,417 man hours and 912 equipment hours in hauling and placing 1,317 cubic yards of rock, 1,352 cubic yards of sand and spreading 6,000 gallons of pentaprime.

Company "B" was located at Chu Lai (BT 520044) and is engaged in vertical construction in that area. It also is paving RVN Route #1 from Chu Lai (BT 520044) to Tam Ky (BT 330209), the "B" Company personnel expended 7,431 man hours and 2,250 equipment hours in spreading 7,130 tons of asphalt concrete. Assisting in the paving operations were personnel from MCB-74. When completed QL-1 will have a 24 foot traveled way 2½" thick. At the end of this period a total of 7.6 miles conformed to the above standards.

Company "C" Motor Transport is currently upgrading RVN Route #1 from Ky Khoung to Tam Ky a distance of 5 miles. Between Chu Lai (BT 520044) and Tam Ky (BT 300209), the Company "C" personnel expended 5,441 man hours and 1,728 equipment hours in hauling 12,543 cubic yards of rock, 3,806 cubic yards of sand and spreading 32,000 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 3,009 man hours and 1,124 equipment hours in hauling 1,601 cubic yards of rock, 261 cubic yards of sand and spreading 1,430 gallons of pentaprime.

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During the month of January 1969, the 9th Engineer Battalion did not install any culverts, however, they were engaged in culvert extension, improvement and repair.

During the month, the following bridges were repaired or constructed.

<u>Bridge #</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Equip Hours</u>	<u>Man Hours</u>	<u>Date Completed</u>
*29	BT 219359	40'	Steel Stringer, Timber Decking	N/A	N/A	Incomplete
52	BT 497067	251'4"	Steel Stringer, Pile Back Fill Abutment and Timber Decking	N/A	N/A	Incomplete
--	BT 102511	722'	Steel Stringer, Pile Abutments Timber Pile Bent	2,368	15,699	1 Jan 1969

\*Technical assistance to 104th ARVN Engineers

During the month, the following tactical bridging was installed:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
BT 358191	Fixed Span	45'	Culvert Installation

During the month, the following tactical bridging was removed:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
BT 102512	M4T6	60'	Class 20
BT 102511	M4T6	60'	Class 20

During the month, the following culverts were destroyed by enemy demolitions.

<u>Location</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>Date Destroyed</u>
BT 119489	1	22 January 1969

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:

Headquarters Company Heavy Equipment Platoon retained the responsibility for upgrading the CP roads in the MAG-12 and MAG-13 area.

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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.

Since 1 January 1969, 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) MAG-12 area resurfaced CP roads. Date Started 16 December 1968, Date Completed 5 January 1969; Man Hours: 90, Equipment Hours: 75.

During the month of January 1969, the 9th Engineer Battalion completed the following vertical construction.

(1) Chapel for 196th Light Infantry Brigade at Hill #63. Date Started 14 October 1968, Date Completed 5 January 1969; Man Hours: 5,000, Equipment Hours: 0.

(2) 3/16th Artillery Battalion construct six (2) hole heads. Date Started 1 January 1969, Date Completed 11 January 1969; Man Hours: 240, Equipment Hours: 16.

(3) 9th Engineer Battalion Chapel extension. Date Started 7 January 1969, Date Completed 11 January 1969; Man Hours: 311, Equipment Hours: 2.

(4) Americal Combat Center constructed 15 Sea Huts. Date Started 27 September 1968, Date Completed 3 January 1969; Man Hours: 5,745, Equipment Hours: 484.

(5) MACV one sea hut. Date Started 30 December 1968, Date Completed 3 January 1969; Man Hours: 250, Equipment Hours: 15.

(6) MACV two sea huts. Date Started 15 December 1968, Date Completed 3 January 1969; Man Hours: 930, Equipment Hours: 44.

(7) MAG-12 partition to COC bunker. Date Started 20 December 1968, Date Completed 3 January 1969; Man Hours: 735, Equipment Hours: 70.

(8) 54th Medical Battalion, Chu Lai 20'x30' bunker. Date Started 8 January 1969, Date Completed 25 January 1969; Man Hours: 1,100, Equipment Hours: 100.

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(9) 5th Special Forces Camp, Gia Vuc 20'x32' bunker. Date Started 7 January 1969, Date Completed 28 January 1969; Man Hours: 1,080.

(10) CLDC clear fields of fire. Date Started 5 January 1969, Date Completed 18 January 1969; Man Hours: 156, Equipment Hours: 110.

(11) Addition to Americal Division General's Mess. Date Started 10 January 1969, Date Completed 23 January 1969; Man Hours: 64, Equipment Hours: 4.

(12) 9th Engineer Battalion one 12'x12' sea hut for mortar crew. Date Started 16 January 1969, Date Completed 20 January 1969; Man Hours: 64, Equipment Hours: 4.

(13) MAG-12 concrete pad for recreation facilities. Date Started 4 January 1969, Date Completed 26 January 1969; Man Hours: 1300, Equipment Hours: 110.

(14) 27th Surgical Hospital 2 sea huts. Date Started 1 October 1968, Date Completed 24 January 1969; Man Hours: 72, Equipment Hours: 1.

During the period, the 9th Engineer Battalion water points produced 4,235,000 gallons of potable water and expended 2,922 man hours and 4,244 equipment hours.

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

During the month of January, mine sweep personnel expended 11,915 man hours and 1,426 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>
"B" Co	BT 520044	BT 330235	26,000	6
"A" Co	BT 300235	BT 259289	7,000	9
"A" Co	BT 242318	BT 259289	3,600	8
"A" Co	BT 242318	BT 226347	3,700	8
"A" Co	BT 198389	BT 226347	5,000	9
"A" Co	BT 198389	BT 175418	3,800	9
"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. Civic Action

During the month of January, this command treated 584 Vietnamese men, women and children on the MEDCAP Program. Also immunizations and inoculations against cholera, plague and tetanus, were given to the children and nuns of the "New Life Catholic Orphanage" in An Tan. Movies were shown twice during January in conjunction with the 7th Psy-Ops Battalion, Psy-Ops Team, U. S. Army.

2. Training

- 4 January 1969 - Basic Inf Wpns Repair School, 1 Enlisted, Okinawa
- 4 January 1969 - Basic Ammo Tech School, 1 Enlisted, Okinawa
- 5 January 1969 - Embarkation School, 1 Enlisted, Okinawa
- 5 January 1969 - Officers Leadership School, 1 Officer, Danang
- 6 January 1969 - Land Mine Warfare School, 1 Enlisted, Danang
- 12 January 1969 - Staff NCO Leadership School, 1 Enlisted, Danang
- 18 January 1969 - Land Mine Warfare School, 1 Enlisted, Danang
- 19 January 1969 - NCO Leadership School, 2 Enlisted, Danang
- 19 January 1969 - Officers Leadership School, 1 Officer, Danang
- 20 January 1969 - 16mm Projectionist School, 1 Enlisted, Danang
- 20 January 1969 - Land Mine Warfare School, 1 Enlisted, Danang
- 25 January 1969 - Vietnamese Language School, 1 Enlisted, Danang
- 29 January 1969 - 16mm Projectionist School, 1 Enlisted, Danang

Other training highlights for January were visits by the 1st Marine Division Personal Response Team on 11 January 1969, Starlight Scope Training with Americal Division on 21 January 1969, and the Multifuel Vehicle Contact Team from 24-31 January 1969.

3. Engineer Operations

- 2 January 1969 "C" Company sweep team found booby trapped grenade at BT 274364. It was blown in place leaving a 2 foot crater.

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- 3 January 1969 "D" Company sweep team found hole blown in road at BT 157445.  
"A" Company sweep team found a 20 lb. pressure type mine in road at BT 122486. It was removed with a grappling hooks and destroyed.
- 4 January 1969 "D" Company sweep team received 50 to 60 rounds small arms fire 200 meters from LZ Baldy. Two USMC WIA'S, two VC suspects captured.
- 6 January 1969 At BT 093543 Commanding Officer 7th Engineer Battalion was ambushed by command detonated mine. Negative casualties.
- 8 January 1969 "A" Company sweep team received one round sniper fire at BT 296254. Fire was returned and sweep continued.
- 11 January 1969 "D" Company sweep team found rock and bamboo barricade across road at BT 101517. Barricade was removed.
- 13 January 1969 "D" Company sweep team found 15 lb. mine on west side of road at BT 120487. Mine was destroyed.  
"D" Company sweep team found 20 lb. mine in road at BT 118480. Mine was destroyed.
- 14 January 1969 "D" Company sweep team found crater blown in road at BT 093535. It required 2 loads of fill.
- 15 January 1969 "D" Company sweep team triggered a booby-trapped grenade at BT 167423. One USA and one USMC WIA.  
"A" Company sweep team found ammo can booby-trapped with M-26 grenade at BT 217357. It was destroyed in place.
- 16 January 1969 "D" Company sweep team blew in place a 20 lb. mine at BT 106504. This mine was pointed out by a VN Civilian.  
"D" Company sweep team found 30 lb. command detonated mine at BT 093534. Wires led 100 meters west of road. Mine was destroyed
- 17 January 1969 "D" Company sweep team medevaced a VN Civilian suffering from shrapnel wounds at BT 102510.
- 19 January 1969 "A" Company sweep team found three 15 lb. mines in road at BT 282246. All mines were burned.

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- 20 January 1969 "D" Company sweep team found a 13 year old civilian with six M26 grenades, one M33 grenade and other assorted military gear. I.D. card believed to be false. He was turned over to U.S. Army authorities at BT 136472. "A" Company sweep team found one 20 lb. concrete mine in road at BT 282246. Mine was burned in place.
- "D" Company sweep team brought wounded VN boy to Hill #63 hospital. He was suffering from shrapnel wounds.
- "D" Company rock crusher site at BT 110430 received 250 to 300 small arms fire. In the ensuing fire fight, USA and USMC personnel killed two V.C., four V.C. probable KIA's, and three POW's.
- 21 January 1969 "D" Company sweep team found barricade at BT 119489. Barricade was composed of rocks, dirt, pieces of culverts, and tree limbs. Sweep team removed barricade.
- 22 January 1969 "D" Company sweep team found culvert blown at BT 119429. It required 3 loads of fill.
- 23 January 1969 A VN civilian tripped a booby trapped grenade at BT 102515. Two VN civilians KIA, 16 VN civilians WIA.
- 24 January 1969 "A" Company sweep team found 40 lb. nitrostarch pressure detonated mine at BT 268274. Mine was blown in place.
- 27 January 1969 "A" Company sweep team found one booby trapped M79 round on side of road at BT 246308. It was blown in place.
- 31 January 1969 "D" Company sweep team received sniper fire at BT 099519. One VN civilian male was killed.

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0016-695. Voluntary Informant Program

During the month of January Vietnamese Civilians turned the following items of ordnance to 9th Engineer Battalion personnel:

- (1) 38 M-79 rounds
- (2) 66 M26A1 grenades
- (3) 30 60mm mortar rounds
- (4) Five 81mm mortar rounds
- (5) One M-72 round
- (6) 41 Chi-Com grenades
- (7) 50 .45 caliber rounds
- (8) One 2.75 rocket
- (9) Four 105 rounds
- (10) Two clips M-1 ammunition
- (11) One 155 round
- (12) Three smoke grenades
- (13) Three M-14 mines
- (14) 20 lb. block Tentelite with fuse well
- (15) 180 7.62mm ammunition
- (16) One B-40 rocket
- (17) Four White Phosphorous grenades
- (18) One 175 round
- (19) One Claymore mine
- (20) One RPG round
- (21) One M-16 Anti-Personnel mine

Total amount paid for the period was 97,600 \$VM.

6. Patrols

During the month of January, 9th Engineer Battalion conducted 31 Recon daylight and 31 nightly Recons consisting of checkpoints and observation posts in BT grids 4906, 4905, 4904, 4903, 5006, 5007, 5004, and 5003 between 2000H to 0500H with negative contact.

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