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HEADQUARTERS  
11th Engineer Battalion  
3rd Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
FPO San Francisco 96602

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003A00769  
01-69  
7 Jan 1969



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From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps  
Via: (1) Commanding General, 3rd Marine Division  
(2) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force  
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 December to 31 December 1968.

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2  
(b) FMFPACO 5750.9  
(c) DivO 5750.1A

Encl: ✓(1) 11th Engineer Battalion Command Chronology

I. References (a), (b) and (c) set forth the requirement for a Monthly Command Chronology and sets forth the procedure for reporting. In compliance with reference (a), (b) and (c) Enclosure (1) is submitted.

*R. C. Evans*  
R. C. EVANS

11TH ENGR BN

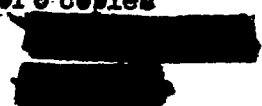
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DEC 1968

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 December 68 to 31 December 68

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- PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY
- PART III - SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
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## PART I

## COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

**1. Designation**  
11th Engineer Bn.

**Commander**  
LtCol. R. C. EVANS  
1 Sept 68 - Current

SUBORDINATE UNITS

Hq Co	Capt. A.R. GEIGER, USMC 21 Oct 68 - Current
Serv Co	Maj. L.W. YOUNG, USMC 12 Nov 68 - Current
A Co	1stLt. R.W. LUXON, USMC 10 Nov 68 - Current
B Co	1stLt. R.J. CAPPOCK, USMC 21 Oct 68 - Current
C Co	Capt. W.A. WOODCOCK, USMC 8 May 68 - Current
D Co	1stLt. F.D. CAMPBELL, USMC 26 Nov 68 - 11 Dec 68
	1stLt. H.L. RAU, USMC 12 Dec 68 - Current
3rd Bridge Co	1stLt. F.E. HENSEL, USMC 10 Aug 68 - Current
<b>2. Staff Officers</b>	
Executive Officer	Maj. E.F. HUIZENGA, USMC 7 Nov 68 - Current
S-1/Adjutant	1stLt. W.M. HAMILTON, USMC 17 Aug 68 - Current

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Enclosure (1)



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S-2/3	Capt. J.C. HARRISON, USMC 21 Oct 68 - Current
S-4	Maj. R.H. HUCKABY, USMC 12 Aug 68 - Current
Supply Officer	Capt. T.A. HAZEL, USMCR 25 Aug 68 - Current
Communications Officer	Capt. A.R. GEIGER, USMCR 3 Jun 68 - Current
Medical Officer	Lt. J.S. RABADA, USN (MC) 24 Nov 68 - Current
Chaplain	ICdr. D.F. BROCK, USN (CHC) 16 Aug 68 - Current

3. Location

1 December - 31 December 1968 - Dong Ha, RVN

December Monthly Strength

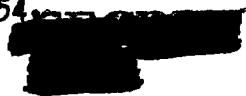
USMC		USN		OTHER	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
47	1052	4	21	0	1 (ARVN)

Part II

During the month of December a total of 31,733 man-days and 2,648 engineer equipment hours and 61,041 board feet of lumber were expended.

The Battalion Command Post remained at Dong Ha during the month of December. The engineer capabilities of the Battalion were employed at Dong Ha Combat Base, Vandegrift Combat Base, Camp Carroll, C-3, C-1, Quang Tri, Hailang, Cua Viet, and Camp Eagle.

During the month of December, "A" and "B" and "C" Companies were employed at Vandegrift Combat Base. "B" Company was relieved by "C" Company 15 December and returned to Dong Ha Combat Base. As a result of the construction effort, the third increment of 10 of a total of 54



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18x24' bunker was begun. This project now stands 52% complete. Work is still discontinued on the construction of 105 concrete fighting hole bunkers pending the arrival of equipment and also due to higher priorities. A new helicopter rearming facility, 172'x82', was constructed. Also an 8x12 bunker at the rearming facility and an addition to the post office bunker were completed as was the relocation of a 10x24 bunker for the Base Coordinator. The month of December saw the completion of one SEA hut at the CH-46 parking pad, a generator shed for C-Med, and a gravel parking lot at Task Force Hotel. Work was begun on renovating the CG's messing facility at Task Force Hotel and on constructing ramps at the asphalt distribution point. Both projects are 75% complete. During the month efforts were begun to cover two old trash dumps and are now 95% complete. The internal road network was continually maintained and upgraded during this period, and completion of a 650 meter dual lane access road to the 4th Marines area was effected.

At Dong Ha Combat Base work was continued by Companies "B", "C" and "D". Work on the 24'x34' Special Intelligence Bunker in the 3d Marine Division area was completed, and a 24'x36' bunker for 12th Marines was also constructed. Efforts were begun to determine the possible existence of mine fields near the LCU ramp, but no accurate determination was made by the end of the month. In the Battalion area construction of a 16'x65'x4" non-reinforced concrete deck was finished, and the construction of 71 SEA Huts for Battalion billeting continued. The latter project was 83% complete.

During the month of December, heavy equipment was employed extensively in the destruction of existing fortifications and salvage of materials at bases throughout the northern I Corps area, to include C-3, A-3, and Camp Carroll. At Camp Carroll the Battalion was also tasked to provide two flag poles for the ceremonies officially closing the combat base.

At Cua Viet elements of "B", "D" and Service Companies formed the nucleus of a task force which was to set up a rehabilitation center for the 3rd Marine Division. Projects included: the establishment of a water point and shower facilities; erection of 80 GP tents for billeting and messing areas; prefabrication of 10 four hole heads, outdoor cooking grills, and messing tables; the construction of a stage and movie screen; and the installation of electrical interior and high line distribution for the center. Work was begun on 21 December and the initial requirements were completed by 23 December. The Battalion is now continuing routine maintenance of the camp facilities at the rehabilitation center.

Upgrading the lines of communications was again a major effort of the Battalion. The 3rd Bridge Company was responsible for the construction of a class 55 M4 fixed span bridge at coordinates YD 786239. Four bridges were also retracted during this period. Route 561 from Cam Lo, coordinates

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YD 133592, to A-4, coordinates YD 114696, was also continually improved and maintained.

Daily minesweeps were conducted on Route 9 from Dong Ha Combat Base to coordinates YD 129590, a distance of approximately 11,000 meters.

The Route 1 sweep was conducted on all odd days and on even days until 8 December from Dong Ha Combat Base to A-2, coordinates YD 213732, a distance of 12,500 meters. On 1, 3, 6, and 9 December the sweep continued to A-3, coordinates YD 172718, a distance of 16,500 meters.

On 15 December the sweep team on Route 9 at coordinates YD 189589 found a booby-trapped smoke grenade with 2 M-16 rounds attached. That same day a 25 Lb. AT mine was found and destroyed on Route 1 at coordinates YD 219638. On 18 December a French type mine was found on Route 1 at coordinates YD 219639. Similar mines were found on Route 9 at coordinates YD 200595 and YD 198594. The sweep team found Russian-made T-46 AT mines on 21 December at coordinates YD 213728 and on 27 December at coordinates YD 215725. On 31 December a 20 Lb. AT mine was found and destroyed at coordinates YD 219636. The latter three incidents all occurred on Route 1.

During this reporting period the Battalion continued to operate water points in the 3rd Marine Division AO; 4,079,000 gallons of potable and 2,762,000 gallons of non-potable water were produced.

The 11th Engineer Battalion continued to furnish electrical power distribution to the 3rd Marine Division AO. 16 generators were operational at the end of the month.

During December 2 Hincos and 2 Euclid sweep leaders were received by this Battalion while 8 pieces of engineering equipment and 17 motor transport vehicles were evacuated.

The Battalion suffered 1 hostile WIA, resulting in med-evac.

This month the Battalion joined 3 Officers and 145 Enlisted and transferred 4 Officers and 107 Enlisted. Five battalion office hours, three summary court martials, and one special court martial were conducted.

The Battalion's personnel strength by major areas of deployment were as follows:

USMC		USN	
DONG HA COMBAT BASE			
35 OFFICERS	759 ENLISTED	4 OFFICERS	17 ENLISTED

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USMC

USN

## VANDEGRIFT COMBAT BASE

7 OFFICERS	175 ENLISTED	0 OFFICERS	2 ENLISTED
GIA LE			
5 OFFICERS	118 ENLISTED	0 OFFICERS	2 ENLISTED

## Part III

## Chronological Sequence of Events

- 1 December a. Completed relocation and reconstruction of bunker for Task Force Hotel I at Vandegrift Combat Base.
- 3 December a. Constructed 30', class 55, M4 fixed span bridge at coordinates YD 786239.
- 4 December a. Relocation of 1, 8x12 bunker from 11th Engineer Battalion area to 3rd Marine Division Forward CP area 100% complete.  
b. Cancelled attachment of advisory personnel to help construct a district headquarters at Mai Lec.  
c. Completed retraction of a 113' class 20, MAT6 floating bridge.
- 5 December a. Destruction of all existing fortifications at A-3 begun.
- 6 December a. Dong Ha Combat Base: Construction of Special Intelligence Operations Bunker 100% complete.
- 9 December a. Retracted a 165', class 20, MAT6 floating bridge at coordinates YD 448509.  
b. Destruction of existing fortifications at A-3 completed.
- 10 December a. Construction of 172'x82' helicopter rearming facility at Vandegrift Combat Base 72% complete.
- 12 December a. Destruction of existing fortifications and salvage of materials begun at Camp Carroll. Removed two 50' radio towers from that position.
- 14 December a. Began covering of old trash dumps at Vandegrift Combat Base.
- 15 December a. The Battalion sweep team found 1 booby-trapped smoke grenade with 2 M-16 rounds attached at YD 189589. The grenade was blown off the bypass. Later a 25 Lb. AT mine was found and destroyed by the team at YD 219638.
- 16 December a. Retracted 45' MAT6 fixed span bridge at YD 610313.
- 18 December a. 1 French type AT mine was found by the Battalion sweep team at YD 219639.
- 20 December a. Vandegrift Combat Base: Completed an 8x12 bunker for helicopter rearming facility and a SEA Hut at the CH-46 parking pad.  
b. At YD 200595 the Battalion sweep team found 1 French type AT mine. A similar mine was also destroyed by the team at YD 198594.  
c. Halted the removal and salvage of existing bunkers at C-3.

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- 21 December
- a. Terminated the destruction of existing fortifications and salvage of materials at Camp Carroll.
  - b. Construction of a gravel parking lot for Task Force Hotel at Vandegrift Combat Base 100% complete.
  - c. Work was begun on the 3d Marine Division Rehabilitation Center at Cua Viet.
  - d. The Battalion sweep team found and destroyed 1 Russian T-46 AT mine at YD 213728.
- 22 December
- a. Vandegrift Combat Base: Completed an addition to the existing Post Office bunker.
- 23 December
- a. Initial projects completed at the 3rd Marine Division Rehabilitation Center at Cua Viet.
- 24 December
- a. Construction of generator shed for C-Med at Vandegrift Combat Base 100% complete.
- 25 December
- a. The Battalion followed a holiday routine Christmas Day. At Dong Ha Combat Base, a field meet was held. Company "D" received a plaque for outstanding performance. In the evening a USO show was presented at the Battalion EM Club.
- 26 December
- a. Vandegrift Combat Base: Completed construction of a 172'x82' helicopter rearming facility.
  - b. Dong Ha Combat Base: Completed a 24x36 bunker for 12th Marines.
- 27 December
- a. The Battalion sweep team found and destroyed one 25 Lb. Russian AT mine at YD 215725.
  - b. Retracted 45', class 20, MAT6 floating bridge at YD 822147.
- 28 December
- a. Relocation of a 10x24 bunker for the Base Co-ordinator at Vandegrift Combat Base 100% complete.
- 29 December
- a. Completed construction of a 16'x65'x4" non-reinforced concrete deck for the Battalion Motor Transport Platoon.
- 31 December
- a. The Battalion sweep team found and destroyed a 20 Lb. AT mine at coordinates YD 219636.