

**UNCLASSIFIED**  
[REDACTED]

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

3:RHR:jgs  
5213/5  
24 NOV 1969

[REDACTED] (Unclassified upon removal of Enclosure (1))

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division, FMF, FFO San Francisco, California 96602

Subj: Command Chronology for Period 1 - 31 October 1969

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

Encl: ✓(1) 9th Engineer Battalion, FMF Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a), (b), and (c), Enclosure (1) is submitted.

*E. R. Maxwell*  
E. R. MAXWELL

**9TH ENGINEER BN**

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1ST MARINE DIVISION, FMF

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*DivOC  
23-69*

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9TH ENGR BN

CMD CHRON

OCT 1969

HEADQUARTERS  
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FPO San Francisco, California 96602

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 October 1969 - 31 October 1969

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PART IORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. Designation.

9th Engineer Battalion

Commander

LtCol E. K. MAXWELL  
1 - 31 October 1969SUBORDINATE UNITS

Headquarters Company

1stLt T. M. TURNER  
1 - 9 October 1969  
1stLt E. J. WAGES  
10 - 31 October 1969

Service Company

Major A. A. BERNOTAS  
1 - 31 October 1969

Company A

Capt J. L. SPIKERMANN  
1 - 31 October 1969

Company B

Capt R. F. SHOAF  
1 - 31 October 1969

Company C

Capt R. H. RAILLEY  
1 - 31 October 1969

Company D

Capt J. K. NAGAZYNA  
1 - 31 October 1969ATTACHED UNITS3d Bridge Platoon, 1st Bridge  
Company in direct support1stLt T. E. GORDON  
1 - 16 October 1969  
2ndLt D. C. BELL  
17 - 31 October 19692. Location.

9th Engineer Battalion

Chu Lai, RVN

1 - 31 October 1969

Company A

BT199390

1 - 31 October 1969

Company B

Chu Lai, RVN

1 - 31 October 1969

Company C (-)

Chu Lai, RVN

1 - 31 October 1969

3d Platoon

BT290230

1 - 31 October 1969

Tam Ky, RVN

Company D

BT136448

1 - 31 October 1969

Hill #63, RVN

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3. Staff Officers.

Executive Officer

S-1/Adjutant

Personnel Officer

S-2/S-3 Officer

S-4 Officer

S-5 Officer

Sergeant Major

Motor Transport Officer

Construction Officer

ADM Officer

Maintenance Officer

Utilities Officer

Legal Officer

Medical Officer

Supply Officer

Embarkation Officer

NBC Officer

Training Officer

Major J. W. STEVENS  
1 - 31 October 1969  
Capt T. W. SCHAUER  
1 - 31 October 1969  
1stLt T. L. JAMES  
1 - 31 October 1969  
Major E. M. CONDRA  
1 - 31 October 1969  
Major J. P. CORCORAN  
1 - 31 October 1969  
1stLt J. R. WOODMAN  
1 - 31 October 1969  
SgtMaj J. L. NICKELS  
1 - 31 October 1969  
1stLt P. Q. FOSTER  
1 - 31 October 1969  
CWO-2 J. O'CONNOR Jr.  
1 - 31 October 1969  
Major E. M. CONDRA  
1 - 31 October 1969  
CWO-2 W. E. YORK  
1 - 31 October 1969  
CWO-2 G. M. HAYES  
1 - 31 October 1969  
Capt T. W. SCHAUER  
1 - 31 October 1969  
Lt (n) KING (USN)  
1 - 31 October 1969  
Capt L. BUCKLEY  
1 - 10 October 1969  
1stLt R. R. EMERY  
11 - 31 October 1969  
2ndLt R. H. WIESNER  
21 - 31 October 1969  
Major E. M. CONDRA  
1 - 31 October 1969  
Major E. M. CONDRA  
1 - 31 October 1969

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Education Officer  
Chaplain  
Communications Officer  
Heavy Equipment Officer

Major E. M. CONDRA  
1 - 31 October 1969  
LtCdr R. A. BOYER (USN)  
1 - 31 October 1969  
1stLt R. L. VAN HOUTAN  
1 - 31 October 1969  
GySgt M. TIALAVEA  
1 - 3 October 1969  
1stLt J. M. PACYNIAK  
4 - 31 October 1969

4. Average monthly strength.

USMC		USN	
Officers	Enlisted	Officers	Enlisted
40	1010	2	20

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1. During the month of October 1969, the 9th Engineer Battalion, FMF, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel E. K. MAXWELL continued its primary mission of maintenance, upgrading, and asphaltic paving of Republic of Vietnam #1, from Chu Lai (BT520044) north to the Song Cau Lau River (BT081546). Engineer Support to the Americal Division, USA, and Free World Forces continued to require significant engineer effort.
2. Company A located at Hill 10 (BT199389) continued to maintain and prepare Route #1 from BT208376 to BT144456 in upgrading prior to paving, and from BT330209 to BT145458 for maintenance and repair; a distance of 19.5 miles.
3. Company B (-) located at Chu Lai with elements supporting the Provisional Land Clearing Company located at Gaza Strip (NE of Duc Pho) was engaged in support of Free World Forces in the Americal TAOR. In addition, Company B is responsible for maintenance and repair of Republic of Vietnam Route #1 from Chu Lai, (BT520044), to Tam Ky, (BT330209), a distance of 16.5 miles.
4. Company C (-) located at Chu Lai is engaged in support of Free World Forces in that area. The 3d Platoon Task Element at Tam Ky (BT290230) is responsible for minesweep of the Republic of Vietnam Route #1 from Tam Ky to Bridge 33, (BT237326), a distance of 7 miles.
5. Company D located at Landing Zone Baldy (Hill 63) (BT136448), continued maintenance and repair of Republic of Vietnam Route #1 from Huong Xuan (BT144456); north to the Song Cau Lau (BT081546), a distance of 8 miles. In addition, Company D is tasked with construction in support of Free World Forces in that area. Company D is tasked with maintenance of Route 535 from BT024345 to BT144456, a distance of 17 miles.
6. During the month of October, Repair and Maintenance of Republic of Vietnam Route #1 was broken down into three main areas of responsibility; Chu Lai to Tam Ky, Tam Ky to Huong Xuan; and Huong Xuan to Song Cau Lau. The 9th Engineer Battalion, FMF, is also responsible for the maintenance of Route 535 from Huong Xuan to Landing Zone Ross (BT025345).
7. During the month of October main construction emphasis was directed to maintaining 30 miles of asphaltic concrete and parallel shoulders when excessive fall monsoon rains flooded critical sections of QL-1. In addition, route 535 was maintained for all weather tactical traffic within the 7th Marine Regimental area of operations. Motor Transport elements supported by Company A, B, C, D, elements of Company C, 1st Engineer Battalion and 1st Shore Party Battalion expended 3,115 man days and 14,596 equipment hours in hauling 14,312 cubic yards of mineral products.

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Headquarters Company spread 24,100 gallons of peneprime on shoulders of QL-1 from Chu Lai to Tam Ky to prevent erosion. Headquarters Company was also engaged in repair of QL-1 from Chu Lai to Tam Ky.

8. During the reporting period the 9th Engineer Battalion, FMF, conducted land clearing operations in two separate locations within the Americal Division, USA, TAOR. Participating units were: Elements of the 39th Engineer Battalion, USA; headquarters Company, Service Company, Company B of the 9th Engineer Battalion, FMF, USMC; elements of the 7th Engineer Battalion, USMC; elements of the 26th Engineer Battalion, USA; elements of the 196th Infantry Brigade, USA, (Security); "F" Troop, 17th Cavalry, USA, (Security); and two Vietnamese Regional Force Companies. Elements of the 11th Infantry Brigade, USA, also provided security.

a. 1 - 4 October 1969: Land clearing operations were conducted in BS grids 4575, 4576, 4476, 4376, 5174, 5224, 5275, 5374, 5375, 5474, 5574, 5575, 5675, 5775, west of Quang Ngai.

- (1) 3,160 lineal yards trench destroyed.
- (2) 400 acres cleared
- (3) 120 bunkers destroyed
- (4) Ordnance discovered and destroyed:
  - (a) 8 - 40mm rounds.
  - (b) 7 - 105mm rounds.
  - (c) 3 - 155 rounds
  - (d) 11 - booby traps.

b. 12 - 31 October 1969: Land clearing operations were held in the Gaza Strip Area around Hill 43 (BS5377 and BS8045), north of Duc Pho.

- (1) 2,551 acres cleared.
- (2) 419 bunkers destroyed.
- (3) 18,320 lineal yards trench cleared.
- (4) 68 punji traps destroyed.
- (5) 40 fighting holes destroyed.

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## (6) Ordnance discovered and destroyed:

- (a) 35 - 155mm rounds.
- (b) 33 - 105mm rounds.
- (c) 4 - M-26 grenades.
- (d) 2 - M-79 grenades
- (e) 5 - 81mm rounds.
- (f) 1 - 60mm round.
- (g) 3 - 122mm rockets.
- (h) 1 - 250 lb. bomb.
- (i) 3 - M-18 claymore mines.
- (j) 21 - booby traps.
- (k) 1 - ChiCom grenade.

(7) The Command Post was assaulted three times by LOB bombs, received small arms fire twice and security forces received sniper fire on two occasions.

9. Bridges.

a. During the month of October the following bridges were under construction:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
BT081389	80'	60	Steel Stringer, Pile Bent, File Backfill Abutment	To replace 6-60" culverts, RT 535

## b. Tactical Bridging Installed:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
BT200385	140'	60	Double Double Single lane Bailey Bridge, 26th EngrBn, USA	Installed 10Oct69, due to washout and flooding

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BT284248 45' 60 M4T6 Installed 6Oct69 due  
to flooded bypass.

BT081389 90' 60 M-6 Installed 21Oct69  
due to washout, RT535

c. Tactical bridging recovered:

BT200385 140' 60 Double Installed 10Oct69  
Double Removed 25Oct69  
Single  
lane  
Bailey Bridge,  
26th EngrBn, USA

BT284249 45 30 M4T6 Installed 6Oct69  
Removed 11Oct69

10. During the reporting period the 9th Engineer Battalion, FMF has completed the following engineer support to the Free World Forces:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Construction</u>
26th EngrBn, USA	Rehab chapel
MAG-12, MAG-13	5 Generator Sheds
Americal Div, USA	Addition to CG Mess 10'x60'
CSD, Quang Ngai	4 TSFC Bunkers, 1 Tower
26th EngrBn, USA	30 latrines
3/18 Arty, USA	1 - 50' tower

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a. During the month of September 1969, four MEDCAPS were conducted at Long Phu 1 and 2, (BT519032) and Tich Tay, (BT503042). Approximately 165 Vietnamese were treated.

b. The battalion also continued a cultural exchange between Marines and Vietnamese Boy Scouts at the Catholic Orphanage.

c. The battalion continued to supply garbage for the Tich Tay Pig farm. The Civil Affairs Section is encouraging the Vietnamese People to supply their own food for the pigs.

d. During the reporting period the battalion accomplished support to Ly Tin School with two loads of scrapwood and tin for roofing. Three loads of scrapwood were delivered to the Tich Tay Buddhist School, three loads of scrapwood and forty bags of cement to the school being built at Long Binh Refugee Camp. Two loads of scrapwood were given to Pastor Hue's orphanage for desk and chairs. Twelve swings were made for the schools of Tich Tay and Chu Lai. Fifty bags of cement were given to An Tan for the bridge being built at Long Binh.

2. Training.

<u>Date</u>	<u>School or Course</u>	<u>Off/Enl</u>	<u>Location</u>
5Oct69	Special Weapons Training	Officer	Okinawa
		Enlisted	Okinawa
6Oct69	Vietnamese Language/Culture	Enlisted	Danang
10Oct69	Basic Ammunition Technician	Enlisted	Okinawa
12Oct69	Leadership	Officer	Danang
12Oct69	Leadership (NCO)	Enlisted	Danang
18Oct69	Career Planning	Enlisted	Danang
19Oct69	Leadership (SMCO)	Enlisted	Danang
20Oct69	Embarkation	Enlisted	Okinawa
26Oct69	Leadership	Officer	Danang
26Oct69	Leadership (NCO)	Enlisted	Danang

3. Engineer Operations.

a. 2 October 1969:

(1) Company D received approximately 3 to 5 small arms sniper fire at BT163438.

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- b. 4 October 1969:
- (1) Company D found 1-60mm round at BT163436. Destroyed in paddy.
- c. 6 October 1969:
- (1) Company A assisted in MEDEVAC of one Vietnamese adult with gunshot wounds at B199389.
- d. 7 October 1969:
- (1) Company A assisted in MEDEVAC of one PF with multiple shrapnel wounds at BT199398.
- e. 9 October 1969:
- (1) Company D found culvert destroyed at BT100518. Road repaired.
- f. 10 October 1969:
- (1) Company D found culvert destroyed at BT097525. Road repaired.
- (2) Company D found 1-81mm round on shoulder at BT163436. Destroyed in place.
- g. 11 October 1969:
- (1) Company D found culvert destroyed at BT097525. Road repaired.
- h. 12 October 1969:
- (1) Company D, ARVN turned in 2-105mm rounds at BT196528. Destroyed in paddy.
- i. 15 October 1969:
- (1) Company A assisted in MEDEVAC of four ARVN with multiple gun shot and shrapnel wounds at BT208375.
- j. 16 October 1969:
- (1) Company B found culvert destroyed at BT344202. Road repaired.
- k. 17 October 1969:
- (1) Company B found groups of rock on road for 400 meters at BT410130. Rocks removed.

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## l. 18 October 1969:

(1) Company D MEDEVAC one USMC due to wound received from stray round in compound at BT135453.

## m. 19 October 1969:

(1) Company A assisted in MEDEVAC of one RF with gunshot wounds resulting with engagement with VC near BT199389.

(2) Company D assisted in MEDEVAC of one Vietnamese female with gunshot wounds at BT084544.

(3) Company D found 1-60mm round in paddy at BT084544. Destroyed in place.

(4) Company D assisted in MEDEVAC of one Vietnamese civilian with burns on arms, hands and face at BT102511.

## n. 21 October 1969:

(1) Company A assisted in MEDEVAC of one Vietnamese civilian with shrapnel wounds of lower extremities at BT199389.

(2) Company A assisted in MEDEVAC of one Vietnamese civilian with wound in abdomen at BT199389.

## o. 22 October 1969:

(1) Company D personnel ambushed in M-54 cargo truck at BT101512. One USMC KIA, 1 USN KIA, 3 USMC WIA.

(2) Company D assisted in MEDEVAC of one Vietnamese civilian with shrapnel wounds in back at BT102512.

(3) Company C personnel found one anti personnel mine at BT219359. Destroyed in place.

## p. 23 October 1969:

(1) Company D, Vietnamese civilian turned in one 60mm round and one 81mm round at BT217489. Destroyed in paddy.

(2) Company D found and assisted in MEDEVAC of Vietnamese female with shrapnel wounds at BT102512.

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q. 24 October 1969:

(1) Company A found L-14-79 round on shoulder of road at BT200386. Destroyed in place.

r. 26 October 1969:

(1) Company A found L-M-26 grenade at BT204380. Destroyed in place.

s. 28 October 1969:

(1) Company C found one body reported killed by PF's while placing anti-personnel mine at BT279258.

t. 29 October 1969:

(1) Company A assisted in MEDEVAC of one Vietnamese civilian with shrapnel wounds at ETL19385.

(2) Headquarters Company Bridge Platoon assisted in MEDEVAC of two Vietnamese children wounded while playing with grenade at BT425115.

#### 4. Voluntary Informant Program.

a. During the month of October 1969, Vietnamese civilians turned in the following ordnance to the 9th Engineer Battalion, FAF:

(1) 1 - 60mm round.

(2) 1 - 81mm round.

b. Total funds expended for the period: None.

5. Patrols. During the month of October 1969, the 9th Engineer Battalion conducted 31 daylight and 31 night reconnaissance patrols consisting of checkpoints and observation posts in ET grids 4903, 4904, 4905, 4906, 5003, 5004, 5005, and 5006 between the hours of 1300 and 0400 with negative results.

6. Patrol Training. During the month of October 1969, the 9th Engineer Battalion in conjunction with the 1st Combined Action Group, Chu Lai, RVN, participated with Combined Action Platoons in setting up night ambushes, reconnaissance patrols, and various Civic Action programs.

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