

VOL. 1, No. 5

Qui Nhon, Vietnam

December 31, 1966

19TH SUPPORT 1ST CAVALRY

Company B of the 19th Engineer Battalion (Combat) recently returned to its base camp near Qui Nhon after completing three months of combat support for Operation Thayer, conducted by the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile).

Company B was given the job of opening up, grading and maintaining 50 miles of Highway QL-1 from Qui Nhon to Bong Son. This route included 92 bridges.

Based near Phu Cat during the first month, the engineers improved the route while passing more than 200 convoy vehicles a day from Qui Nhon to the Hammond Air Field near Phu Cat.

Company B moved to L.Z. Crystal, near Phylly, for the second phase of the operation. The emphasis on road repair shifted to a stretch between Hammond Air Field and Bong Son. This route had not been used by American combat troops since Operation Washer last spring.

Fighting both monsoon rains and Viet Cong harassment, the engineers upgraded the road to Class 35, capable of carrying heavy equipment.

84TH GIVES QUI NHON NEW LOOK

The transformation of U. S. Army billets in the Qui Nhon area from a sea of canvas tents to an orderly array of permanent buildings is well under way. Chief architect is the 84th Engineer Battalion (Construction), commanded by LTC William A. Rank.

This operation, known as the "Self-Help Program," promises to convert all existing cantonment areas into permanent sites, with facilities never dreamed of by the first units to arrive here in 1965. Implementation of the program, from initial stages to final construction of buildings, is simple but effective in time and labor.

The Operations section of the 84th prepares a detailed site layout of a given area and submits it to the requesting unit and higher headquarters for final approval. The requesting unit then submits its requirements for various types of buildings--mess halls, billets, administrative--to the 84th.

Next Company C of the 84th, using a large prefabrication site, turns out component parts of requested structures. The company is capable of prefabricating single- and two-story buildings 20 feet in width and in lengths that are multiples of 20 feet.

BOOBY TRAP

Company C of the 35th Engineer Battalion (Combat) finds the strangest things when engaged in routine jobs -- like possible Viet Cong booby traps, for instance.

The 1st Platoon was preparing for construction work on Qui Nhon-An khe pipeline pump station pads along Highway 19 one morning recently. The platoon, led by 1LT William A. Brantley, always inspects and clears work sites that have been left unattended before doing anything else.

SGT Moises Gonzales discovered a plastic bag containing two hand grenades with a C-ration can laying nearby. Investigation revealed both grenades had their pins removed and the handles were wired down.

Using a standard demolition charge, the platoon blew the grenades in place and went to work.

Was it a VC booby trap? Company C will never know for sure.

COMMANDER'S COLUMN

By COL George M. Bush

The 2,396 equipment operators in this group are responsible for 2,793 pieces of equipment with a total value of \$19,126,406. Each day this equipment consumes 13,281 gallons of POL. If all the power of this equipment were combined it could pull the equivalent of 1,499 D7E bulldozers.

Our equipment has one limitation, however. It must be properly cared for.

Each day the equipment must be properly used, not abused; it requires 4,189 man-hours of first echelon or operator maintenance. The engineering output of this group is totally dependent on the skill and dedication of our operators. Their

task is a demanding one--requiring long hours under tough conditions. Maintenance must frequently be performed in adverse weather -- rain, rugged heat or hot, blowing sand. But maintenance must be performed; and the equipment must be skillfully operated.

The supervisors of the 39th Engineer Group have the responsibility to insure that our equipment operators receive the time they need to OJT on their equipment; the time

and facilities they need to maintain their equipment; the supervisory assistance they need in both OJT and maintenance and finally, the recognition they deserve for a job well done.

OUR GOAL: A GOING MACHINE

PORT LANE WORK CONTINUED BY 577TH

Facilities at Port Lane, 20 miles south of Tuy Hoa, are undergoing continuous improvement by Company B of the 577th Engineer Battalion (Con-

struction).

Company B is handling the second phase of construction. The initial phase was completed in October by the 39th Engineer Battalion (Combat) and other elements of the 45th Group, plus one company from the 35th Engineer Group.

Bulldozers from Company B are cutting into a mountain to get rock for a 250-foot causeway for a DeLong Pier. Seventy feet of the causeway have been placed and 250,000 square feet of jungle cleared. This provides access to not only the rock, but also an area where a 365,000 square foot hardstand will be built.

Principal construction feature, however, is the 250-foot causeway. This will be connected by three girder spans to two DeLong Pier units. When completed, it will provide facilities for simultaneous unloading of two deep-draft ships.

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COL GEORGE M. BUSH

Commanding

LTC MICHAEL J. McCARTHY

Executive Officer

* * *

Editor...

2LT Woodrow B. Haskins

Managing Editor...

PFC David A. Hurst

Mimeo.SP4 Jesse H. Carney

PFC Gary D. Tucker

Typists..PFC Gerald Scott

PFC Ronald Vignari

ORPHANS THANK 39TH

Children of a Tuy Hoa orphanage recently said "Thank you" to members of Headquarters Company, 39th Engineer Battalion (Combat) who have supported the orphanage through civic action projects.

Men were invited to the annual Christmas program at the Loc Thien Orphanage. The program consisted of dances and plays presented by various grades of a school associated with the orphanage.

Opening the program was the Vietnamese National Anthem and a welcoming speech by Sister Teresa, the orphanage director. Parts of the program were translated into English. Honor students received certificates for their achievements. For the dances and plays, children were dressed in elaborate, colorful costumes of traditional Vietnamese design.

The 39th Battalion has supported the Loc Thien Orphanage since last April.



PERSONAL GLIMPSES

Two members of Company C of the 35th Engineer Battalion have brothers who are also stationed in Vietnam.

PSG Fred South, Jr. of Company C has a brother, Air Force Technical Sgt Robert E. South, stationed about 300 miles from Qui Nhon at Tan Son Nhut Air Base near Saigon.

Both brothers were in the Korean conflict, but their assignments have kept them apart ever since. "The last time I saw Bob, I was in a hospital in Korea in 1951," Fred South recalled.

The brothers grew up together in Indianapolis, Indiana. Fred South entered the Army in May, 1949 and Robert South joined the Air Force soon afterward.

Fred hopes to get a three-day pass to visit his brother at Tan Son Nhut. It will have to come some time in the next two months, however, because Robert is scheduled to return to the States March 10.

SP4 Arthur J. Hotard of Company C is only 15 miles from his brother, PFC Delvin P. Hotard, who is assigned to the 300th Transportation Company in Qui Nhon harbor and has been in country since September.

The brothers saw each other last Jan. 3, while Arthur was still a civilian and Delvin had been in the Army four months. Their next meeting was Dec. 17 in Qui Nhon. Arthur is an assistant squad leader in his unit, and Delvin helps unload ships in the harbor.

Although both are aware of an Army policy that allows a man in Vietnam to return to the States if his brother is assigned there, Arthur doesn't think Delvin will take advantage of the opportunity.

19TH CHALLENGES BIG PATCH OF JUNGLE

Challenges are nothing new to U. S. Army Engineers, and a construction project now under way near Qui Nhon seems designed especially to tax their talents to the fullest extent.

The challenge is 640 acres -- one square mile -- of snake-infested, swampy, tropical jungle that must be cleared to make way for a logistics depot expansion project. Company A of the 19th Engineer Battalion (Combat) is handling this initial phase of the job.

Under the guidance of PSG Thomas M. Hamblin, the 3d Platoon of Company A recently plunged into the task by removing brush and tropical growth in the area. Four powerful HD-16 bulldozers push the top bushes into hedge rows between existing trails and natural drainage ditches. The dozers then make a second pass over the same area, cutting about three inches lower to insure that all roots have been removed.

Hedgerows are then saturated with diesel oil and burned. The remaining ash and soil then is

moved by bucket loaders into dump trucks, with PFC Larry D. Prokop and SP4 Walter B. Wood in charge. It is hauled to a nearby gully, where it is used as fill.

The next step is stripping the topsoil. The entire area is covered with six inches of decomposed earth. This is removed by two 830M 18-yard scrapers, supervised by SGT Ronald K. Paul. Material is then stockpiled next to hedgerows of bush and removed with it.

A constant headache is the possibility of equipment getting mired down in saturated soil. With the ever-present rainfall and high water table, care must be taken not to travel the same route more than twice; this prevents severe breakage

577TH SURFACES 6 HELIPADS

Company B of the 577th Engineer Battalion (Construction) has completed

surfacing of six helicopter landing pads at Tuy Hoa.

Company B completed the project in two days under the direction of SSG James Weatherspoon.

SSG Weatherspoon's squad of 14 men placed a total of 110 pieces of

pierced steel planking (PSP) on the sites.



FENCED IN--Lovely Jean Carroll gazes at a rustic spot as she takes in the sun. Jean is an ardent sports enthusiast and was last year's Tournament of Champions Queen.

QUARRY SITE BUILT BY 73D

The quarry platoon of the 73d Engineer Company (Construction Support) 84th Engineer Battalion (Construction), has completed construction of a quarry site near Qui Nhon. Crushed rock is now being produced at the site.

The platoon finished the job in one month under the direction of CPT John I. Winnill, formerly platoon leader and now company commander.

The quarry consists of a primary and secondary crushing unit and a washing and screening plant. The system is capable of producing crushed rock of various sizes, washed or unwashed.

The quarry site is near the village of Phu Thah and another quarry operated by Company A of the 84th. Together they promise much production.

553D RETURNS TO TUY HOA

After 11 months in the Qui Nhon area, the 2d and 3d platoons of the 553d Engineer Company (Float Bridge), 39th Engineer Battalion, have rejoined the company at its new location south of Tuy Hoa.

The platoons had been attached to the 509th Engineer Company (Panel Bridge), under the 937th Engineer Group, and were located about eight miles north of Qui Nhon.

During their stay, the platoons worked on various tasks in addition to bridging missions. They were instrumental in construction of the Highway 6R access road to the Republic of Korea Tiger Division Base Camp. The 2d platoon was assigned to Company B, 19th Engineer Battalion (Combat) for construction of prefabricated buildings.

GENERAL JOHNSON VIEWS 45TH GROUP PROJECTS

General Harold K. Johnson, U. S. Army Chief of Staff, visited the 45th Engineer Group during a tour of Vietnam Dec. 27.

General Johnson viewed Port Lane and other Group projects in the Tuy Hoa area. He was accompanied by Colonel George M. Rush, Commanding Officer of the 45th.

General Johnson left Tuy Hoa by helicopter for Port Lane. He was accompanied by Brigadier General Mahlon E. Gates, Commanding General, Cam Ranh Bay Support Command and Colonel Paul W. Ramee, Commanding Officer, 18th Engineer Brigade. They flew over a float bridge, Bailey bridge, engineer rock crusher, and POL bladder farm.

The party was met by Colonel Bush at the intersection of Highway QL-1 and Bryant Road, the access road to Port Lane. They drove down the road and were met at a point overlooking the port by Colonel B. F. Parker, Commanding Officer, Tuy Hoa Sub Area Command.

After an orientation on port activities, General Johnson was met by Colonel W. F. Starnes, Commanding Officer, 35th Engineer Group, and toured Port Lane.

General Johnson returned to Tuy Hoa, flying over ROK and U. S. Forces cantonment areas.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

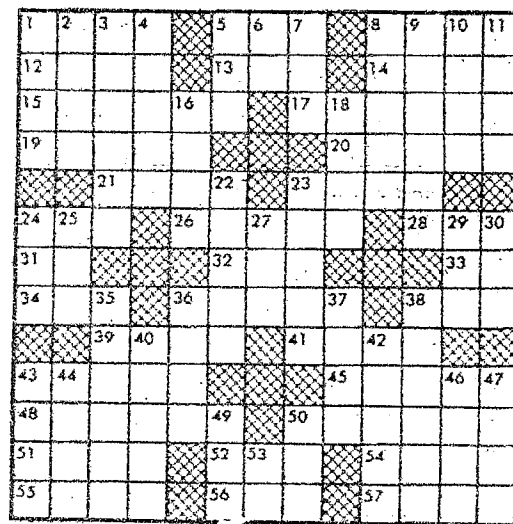
Answer to Previous Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1-Free ticket
- 5-Residue
- 8-Fragment
- 12-Toward shelter
- 13-Meadow
- 14-Opera by Verdi
- 15-Woolly
- 17-Part of fireplace
- 19-Trap
- 20-Amount at which a person is rated
- 21-Former Russian ruler
- 23-Man
- 24-High card
- 25-Commemorative disk
- 28-Bone of body
- 31-Proceed
- 32-Cushion
- 33-Note of scale
- 34-Poem
- 36-Foot lever
- 38-Communist
- 39-Actual
- 41-Manufactured
- 43-Ethical
- 45-Article of furniture
- 48-Puffs up
- 50-Minor item
- 51-Ceremony
- 52-Be in debt
- 54-Southwestern Indians
- 55-Pertaining to the dawn
- 56-Writing implement
- 57-Ancient Persian

DOWN

- 1-Cronies (colloq.)
- 2-Wolfhound
- 3-Lawmaking body
- 4-Scorches
- 5-Beverage
- 6-Compass point
- 7-Cut of meat
- 8-Waterway
- 9-Batsman
- 10-Mental image
- 11-Become insipid
- 16-Athletic group
- 18-Sea in Asia
- 22-Repulse
- 23-Title of respect
- 24-Time gone by
- 25-Food fish
- 27-Parent (colloq.)
- 29-Anger
- 30-Article of furniture
- 35-Mistakes
- 36-Wan
- 37-Tardy
- 38-Refund
- 40-Consumed
- 42-Fact
- 43-Simple
- 44-Mixture
- 46-Told falsehood
- 47-Otherwise
- 49-Soak up
- 50-Lair
- 53-Pronoun



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45TH SEES BOB HOPE

Men of Headquarters Company, 45th Engineer Group, were among an estimated 5,000 servicemen in the audience when Bob Hope presented his annual Christmas show at Qui Nhon.

The show included Hope as master of ceremonies, comedienne Phyllis Diller singers Vic Damone and Anita Bryant, dancer Joey Heatherton, baton twirler Diana Shelton, Reita Faria of India, the newly crowned Miss World, a singing-dancing group, the Korean Kittens, and Les Brown and his band. Evangelist Billy Graham, who was in the audience, appeared on stage at the end of the program.

Though it was an unforgettable experience for all, one member of Headquarters Company who is especially unlikely to forget the show is PFC Gerald Scott, a clerk-typist in the personnel section. He managed to get backstage after the show and took close-up photos of several stars.

Scott said he took pictures of Bob Hope, Vic Damone, Joey Heatherton, Billy Graham and Anita Bryant. "Miss Bryant even posed for me," he said.

"Even if the pictures don't come out, I'll never forget it!" Scott exclaimed. "It will be the most memorable day of my life."

TAKE FIVE PROFIT FROM PAST ERRORS

By Chaplain (CPT) Winslow E. Brown
35th Engineer Battalion

Christmas has come and gone, and the New Year is upon us. The old year with its joys and sorrows, its successes and failures, is fading into our memory. Just ahead there stretches out before us a brand new year. What will the New Year bring to you? In many ways it is up to you because the world tends to reflect back to us the same attitudes we show toward it.

For one thing, the New Year gives each of us a new chance to correct the errors we made last year. Only a fool refuses to profit from his errors; consequently, we should use 1967 to improve upon the blunders of 1966.

Most important though, let us remember the New Year is God's gift to us. Life and time are God's property -- it is only our privilege and good fortune to use and enjoy them. 1967 then becomes our latest opportunity to use God's great gifts as He would have us use them.

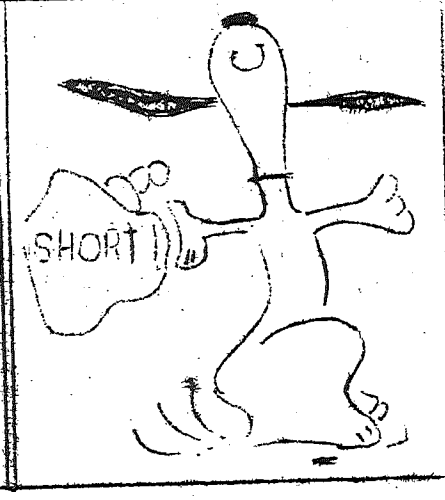
Let us look to our God for strength and guidance that we might each one measure up to our tasks, and our opportunities. God is handing you a fresh, new, clean sheet upon which to write the record of a new year. Use the mistakes of yesterday to write a record of a bright tomorrow.

SPORTS QUIZ

1. "Tillie" drew 1,153 bases on balls in 12 seasons with the Philadelphia Athletics and the Boston Red Sox. What was his real name?
2. Who was the first Canadian to win a PGA tourney?
3. Who was the first recognized heavyweight boxing champion of the world?
4. There were six errors in the 1966 World Series between the Dodgers and Orioles. Which team committed most of them?

ANSWERS

1. Max Bishop earned this nickname by being fussy at choosing pitches to swing on.
2. Al Balding captured the Mayfair Inn Open at Sanford, Fla., in 1955.
3. James Figg. He became prominent in 1719.
4. Dodgers, who made all six in second game.
(Courtesy of Armed Forces News Bureau)



PROMOTIONS AND AWARDS

PROMOTIONS

1Lt James W. Bowyer, HHC, 577th Engr Bn
 1SG Earl Longworth, Co D, 84th Engr Bn
 PSG Garland R. Crawford, Co C, 19th Engr Bn
 PSG Thomas M. Hamblin, Co A, 19th Engr Bn
 SSG Julious F. Littlefield, Co A, 19th Engr Bn
 SSG William M. Barnes, HHC, 45th Engr Gp
 SSG Nelson B. Jones, HHC, 45th Engr Gp
 SGT Jerry L. Basinger, Co C, 19th Engr Bn
 SGT Samuel B. Foor, Co C, 19th Engr Bn
 SGT David F. Terhune, Co A, 19th Engr Bn
 SGT Ronald K. Paul, Co A, 19th Engr Bn
 SP5 Johnny R. Stewart, HHC, 45th Engr Gp
 SP5 Eugene L. Kuentzler Jr., JJC, 19th Engr Bn
 SP5 Robert N. Turnmire, 554th Engr Co
 SP5 Edward L. Cromer, 73d Engr Co
 SP5 Ronald K. Goins, Co A, 19th Engr Bn
 SP4 Franklin W. Norris, 554th Engr Co
 SP4 Franklin D. Moyer, 554th Engr Co
 SP4 David C. Langer, 554th Engr Co
 SP4 Burton E. Wolf, 554th Engr Co
 SP4 Vicent J. Serio, 554th Engr Co
 SP4 Gary E. Guertin, 554th Engr Co
 SP4 John W. Lombard, 554th Engr Co
 SP4 Joe L. Muse, 554th Engr Co
 SP4 William E. Deal, 554th Engr Co
 SP4 Dennis J. Giesman, 73d Engr Co
 SP4 William D. Cleary, HHC, 45th Engr Gp
 SP4 Steven J. Monroe, HHC, 45th Engr Gp
 SP4 Dayle D. Thornton, HHC, 45th Engr Gp
 SP4 James B. Vickers, HHC, 45th Engr Gp
 SP4 William T. Block, Co C, 19th Engr Bn
 SP4 Michael P. Vranesevich Jr., Co A, 19th Engr Bn
 SP4 Carl F. McElhaney, Co A, 19th Engr Bn
 SP4 Wren K. Whittle, Co A, 19th Engr Bn
 SP4 James E. Quinn, Co A, 19th Engr Bn
 SP4 Robert D. Nesbitt, Co A, 19th Engr Bn
 SP4 Kenneth G. Shepherd, Co A, 19th Engr Bn
 SP4 Charles A. Newman Jr., Co A, 19th Engr Bn
 SP4 Allen R. Sanford, Co A, 19th Engr Bn
 SP4 Phillip G. Rowe, Co A, 19th Engr Bn
 SP4 Forrest J. Clark, Co A, 19th Engr Bn
 SP4 Thomas C. Lindsay, Co A, 39th Engr Bn
 SP4 Robert C. Kaiser, Co A, 39th Engr Bn
 SP4 Jerry F. Mauldin, Co A, 39th Engr Bn
 SP4 Dee A. Walker, 553d Engr Co
 SP4 Ernest L. Kennedy, 553d Engr Co
 SP4 Raymond L. Riley, 553d Engr Co
 SP4 Richard C. Steger, 553d Engr Co
 SP4 Walter L. Hulson, 553d Engr Co
 SP4 Terry Brown, 553d Engr Co
 SP4 David C. Mitchell, 553d Engr Co
 SP4 Ted K. Gray, 553d Engr Co
 SP4 Emmitt W. Stallworth, 553d Engr Co
 SP4 Johnny C. Mance, 553d Engr Co
 SP4 Andrew S. Webb, 553d Engr Co
 SP4 Loren C. Arnett, 553d Engr Co
 SP4 Jon J. Rodenburg, 553d Engr Co
 SP4 Lonnie V. Wright, 553d Engr Co
 SP4 Joseph C. Adrean, 553d Engr Co
 SP4 James D. Walker, 553d Engr Co
 SP4 Lonnie G. Emmons, 553d Engr Co
 SP4 Donald T. Dolan, 553d Engr Co

SP4 Douglas L. Bland, 553d Engr Co
 SP4 Joseph D. Kelly, 553d Engr Co
 SP4 Willie R. Brown, HHC, 39th Engr Co
 SP4 Warren L. A. Hodges, HHC, 39th Engr Bn
 SP4 Howard R. Hewitt, 572d Engr Co
 SP4 Carl O. Reid Jr., 572d Engr Co
 SP4 Gerald A. Green, 572d Engr Co
 SP4 John R. Yancey, HHC, 45th Engr Gp

AWARDS

Army Commendation Medal
 1Lt Robert J. Motylenski, Co B, 39th Engr Bn
 1Lt Wayne D. Norton, HHC, 39th Engr Bn
 CWO W-2 Thomas B. Underwood, 572d Engr Co
 1SG John C. Kirkland, Co B, 39th Engr Bn
 PSG James A. Bates, Co C, 39th Engr Bn
 PSG Alonzo Brewer Jr., Co C, 39th Engr Bn
 SSG Rosendo Bacener - Quinones, 513th Engr Co
 SSG Jerry W. Beavers, HHC, 39th Engr Bn
 SSG Edward S. Condra, Co B, 39th Engr Bn
 SSG Oscar D. Dunbar, Co C, 39th Engr Bn
 SSG Hagan D. Gilbert, HHC, 39th Engr Bn
 SSG Lucius H. Snider, 39th Engr Bn
 SSG Max H. Stanley, HHC, 39th Engr Bn
 SSG Elbert Witt, Co C, 39th Engr Bn
 SGT Randell F. Fridolfson, Co C, 39th Engr Bn
 SGT Henry T. Holmes, 39th Engr Bn
 SP5 Richard Connors, Co B, 39th Engr Bn
 SP5 Keith Leighton, Co B, 39th Engr Bn
 SP5 Otis Howland, 39th Engr Bn
 SP4 Earl M. Hayes, HHC, 84th Engr Bn