19TH FINISHES ‘FINEST’ HELIPORT

Engineers have placed the final piece of local clay matting for what Brigadier General Charles N. Duke, 18th Engineer Brigade Commanding General, has described as "the finest heliport in Vietnam."

Located 12 miles northwest of Qui Nhon in the ROK (Republic of Korea) Valley, the 16-pad heliport will be the home base for the 196th Aviation Company, 17th Aviation Battalion.

The men of C Company and the 554th Engineer Company (Float Bridge), 19th Engineer Battalion (Combat) expended 31,000 man-hours during the construction.

In preparing the heliport for 400-lb matting, C Company engineers placed 11,200 tons of crushed rock from a nearby river bed, 73,000 cubic yards of laterite fill and 680 barrels of asphalt over the rock base.

The heliport consists of sixteen 100 by 60-foot pads and a 1,250-foot taxiway. At one end of the taxiway, the engineers constructed a 99,000-square-foot maintenance area which will greatly increase the maintenance effort and should significantly increase the aircraft availability.

Around the pads 850 barrels of pentolite were placed to prevent dust and small rock chips from being sucked into the

(Continued on Page 2)

SEARCH AND DESTROY

It isn’t every day that engineers conduct their own search and destroy operations. But this is exactly what the 2d and 3d Platoons of Company A, 39th Engineer Battalion (Combat) did.

Suspicious of a village on Highway QL-1 as a source of sniper fire, 1st Cong ambushes, and land mine teams, the engineers conducted a two-day search and destroy operation.

Encountering sniper fire on both days, the platoons fired and maneuvered to the wood line and began their search of the area.

Climbing upon their objective, the engineers discovered a V-shaped ditch and bunker which contained a sweeping field of fire along Highway QL-1, camouflaged with vines and bamboo. The bunker system was completely

(Continued on Page 4)

WAREHOUSE DEDICATED

A refrigerated warehouse that will add 30,000 cubic feet of cooling and freezing storage space to the U.S. Army Depot at Qui Nhon, has been completed by Army Engineers. The facility was dedicated by Major General Robert R. Plager, Commanding General, U.S. Army Engineer Command, Vietnam, and turned over to Brigadier General George H. McBride, Commanding General, Qui Nhon Support Command.

The 40- by 110-foot prefabricated structure was built by the 1st Construction Platoon of Company D, 84th Engineer Battalion (Construction). SFC James H. Krueger and SPC Gerald G. Martin supervised the project. SPC Martin was awarded the Bronze Star for his part in the project by General Plager.

Because of the warehouse, troops throughout the II Corps area of Vietnam will get better food faster. Fresh vegetables, dairy products and frozen meats unloaded in Qui Nhon harbor will be transported directly to the warehouse.

The warehouse consists of a small reception room and an 18,000-cubic-foot

(Continued on Page 5)
If there's more than one way to skin a cat, then C Company, 35th Engineer Battalion (Combat) will find a way using a field expedient. Until recently the refueling of C Company's earthmoving equipment and dump trucks was a time-consuming operation. It involved borrowing fuel trucks to transport fuel to the work site at the Cha Rang maintenance area whenever a dozer or tractor-scrapers ran out.

To remedy the situation CPT David C. Cottingham, company commander, erected two wooden piles with a cross bar and suspended 500 gallon collapsible fuel containers on hooks. Now 830-Ms (tractor-scrapers), D7Es (dozers) and dump trucks pass underneath the fuel lines and are able to fuel up with either gasoline or diesel in the company area every morning. The new device avoids having the equipment wait for fuel and allows it to run for 10 hours without refueling.

Another field expedient being put to efficient use is located at the company's batch plant. Taking the beds of 5-ton trucks which are no longer serviceable, the engineers have mounted them on concrete piers and are using them as hoppers. These pour directly into the two concrete mixers.

And as if that weren't enough they also made chutes from 55 gallon oil drums split in half to pour concrete from the mixers to waiting trucks.

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35TH MINE TEAMS
KEEP ROAD OPEN

An eight-mile stretch of Highway QL-1 from Landing Zone (LZ) Uplift to Bong Son has been a target of Viet Cong mine-placing teams. Keeping the road passable is vital to elements of the 1st Cavalry Division at LZ English, north of Bong Son. And given this task are mine-sweeping crews of the 35th Engineer Battalion (Coastal).

Each morning a 100-plus vehicle convoy is halted at LZ Uplift, packed high with supplies for the 1st Cav’s northern operations. But until engineers from A and B Companies of the 35th have finished their daily mine sweep, the convoy gets the “go ahead” from the military police escort.

Starting at 7 a.m., two mine sweeping teams start from LZ Uplift and Bong Son, working north and south, respectively.

523RD DIVERS RETRIEVE
WANDERING PIPELINE

Scuba divers from the 523d Engineer Company (Port Construction) went down 40 feet in Qui Nhon’s inner harbor to retrieve part of a submarine pipeline which was dragged out of position during a recent storm.

The four-inch steel line runs from the Esso Oil Corp. pier along the harbor bottom until it is attached to a 100-foot flexible, rubber hose called a sea hose. The hose is then linked to a mooring buoy on the surface by a chain. When tankers are ready to unload fuel they merely come alongside the mooring buoy, raise the sea hose and unload their fuel.

A Chevron Oil Corp. tanker was unloading fuel when rough waters and high winds snapped the manila rope that held the tanker to its mooring. As the tanker started to drift, the sea hose soon broke loose from the tanker, but by the time the submarine pipeline came to a halt it had traveled 1,500 feet, and had been almost completely turned around.

Divers from the 523d, led by ZLT Rod Nichols, worked one day on the project. With a crane mounted on a barge borrowed from the 497th Port Construction Company, the divers disconnected the sea hose, un-kinked the pipeline, returned the pipeline to its original position and then re-connected the hose.

Each team is composed of two HQOs, two sweepers with mine detectors, two probers and three additional engineers in each need arises to trace a wire or blow a mine in place. All these men are demolition specialists, highly trained in land mine warfare.

The most troublesome locations on the eight-mile stretch are the five bypasses. Most of the incidents have occurred here, so naturally the engineers devote more time to these areas. After checking the shoulders, they move to the culverts and the roadway itself, looking for grenades or any evidence of mines.

One of the big problems in mine sweeping is that the sweeper (a highly sensitive device) will pick up anything from a wire to a grenade or any evidence of mines.

523RD DIVERS RETRIEVE
WANDERING PIPELINE

Another problem is that the “ghost.” Here’s what had happened: In starting the vehicle at the motor pool, the driver had pushed the floor starter down as far as it would go, and it stuck. After he parked the jeep, the starter loosened and gradually edged up to the point where it usually starts the engine when pressed. This triggered the starting mechanism and its familiar “rrr-rrr-rrr” sound.

* * *

PFCs Jeffery Roberts and Walter Schneider of HHC, 33th Engineer Battalion received two sand wedges and 24 golf balls after writing to golf pro Arnold Palmer. Now they spend their spare time getting out of the “sand traps” in their company area near Tu Tu Hoe.
VILLAGE PROFITS, AS 577TH OPENS ROAD

In a war intertwined with as many frustrations as accomplishments, the phrase Revolutionary Development or Civic Action pops up as a key instrument in winning the hearts and minds of the people.

Phu Thu is a small hamlet eight miles north of Tuy Hoa. With a one-time population of some 2,000 Vietnamese, the figure slowly dwindled to less than 200 when the Viet Cong swept through the village. This is the way the situation remained, with the small segment indoctrinated and working for the VC, until the Republic of Korea Army recently secured Phu Thu.

The Republic of Vietnam provided assistance in the form of a rehabilitation team, food, seed and organization as the Koreans continued to pull day and night security on the area.

Gradually the situation began to change as 1,500 Vietnamese began drifting back into the village. A school was started with 157 students; houses went up; fields were planted and new roads were formed.

One section of roadway leading from the village out to the main highway, QL-1, across 100 feet of low swampy land, presented a major problem to the villagers. The road was impassable in wet weather.

Responding to a request by the commander of the 26th Advisory Team, D Company, 577th Engineer Battalion (Construction), the engineers volunteered their equipment and knowhow for a civic action project.

All told, one tractor-scraper, a three-quarter-ton truck and a grader worked on the road. Supervised by 2nd Lt. Jack Kealover, the engineers hauled 324 cubic yards of fill in four hours.

The road opening provides a much-needed supply route into and out of Phu Thu whereby the villagers may transport their products to the Tuy Hoa market.

Perhaps the value of this type of civic action or Revolutionary Development project may be seen in the words of a Vietnamese farmer who made this comment to the engineers: "You accomplished in four hours what it would take our villagers months to do. We thank you for your assistance."

(Continued from Page 1) concealed from aerial view.

From all indications it appeared that a company-size VC unit had recently set up a defensive perimeter. An abandoned house with punji stakes encircling it was found to contain stored ammunition.

The engineers set fire to 50 houses and 30 haystacks. Small arms ammo in five houses was detonated by the heat while large size ammunition was discovered in others.

The larger type explosive was thought to be the type used for VC land mines on Highway QL-1.
HELI PORT COMPLETED

(Continued from Page 1)

Chinoeka's turbo-jet engines.

Following the completion of the heliport, the 196th Aviation Company treated all the engineers who had worked on the project to a chopper ride throughout the AOK valley.

The heliport will be a staging area for CH-47 choppers flying combat support missions throughout the II Corps zone of Vietnam.

35TH SWEEPS FOR MINES

(Continued from Page 3)

used mine sweepers to create mines or batteries. It may be only an M-14 round but then again it may be a grenade that will cost a life, so you have to check everything no matter how long it takes.

By 9 a.m., the two companies link up at the halfway point. Continuing south to LZ Uplift, one can see the importance of what has become a daily routine mine sweep operation. Lined up for at least three-quarters of a mile are close to 200 trucks of various Qui Nhon Support Command units, hauling much-needed supplies to the 1st Cav at LZ English.

"BUT WHY WOULD YOU PREFER TURKEY, HAM OR SHIP?"

TAKE FIVE: WHAT'S YOUR PURPOSE?

By Chaplain (CIT) Calvin V. Swearingin

19th Engineer Battalion

Most things that soldiers do have a purpose, such as a soldier and his girl in a purloined car, the man on a weekend pass, a letter written home to loved ones, soldiers studying a correspondence course together, or a soldier bowing his head to worship in chapel this Sunday. There is a purpose to each of these actions.

The difference in these things is that some are only for the moment or a few hours at most; while others have a lifetime value. There is no wrong in a short lived purpose if it is part of the total effort. However, without this being "part of the whole," we end up with an unrelated piece and therefore no value. It does not belong to the rest of our life.

I believe the best way to build a life is to get a long range purpose and then take it one step at a time. If we keep working at it even the hard to identify pieces will find a place to fit in. An action that does not fit into the over-all picture should be thrown away for it will only clutter and confuse your life.

Someone once said that our lives should be formed like an arrowhead, every effort forged to point in one direction. Others may not agree with your direction, but they will never be in doubt about its existence. We always respect the man who knows where he is going because he has a "big purpose" and every effort he makes fits into that purpose.

On the other hand the story is told of a friend who was asked what he thought of a speech. "Well," he answered, "it reminded me of the man who mounted his horse and attempted to ride off in three directions at the same time." It can't be done! So it is with the man who has no "big purpose" in life.

WAREHOUSE DEDICATED

(Continued from Page 1)

Freezer room that will store meat at 5 degrees below zero, and a 12,000-cubic-foot chill room for vegetables and dairy products at 37 above.

To aid in maintaining these temperatures, the floors in the warehouse were constructed in three layers: an 8-inch bottom slab of reinforced concrete that sits on footers; a 6-inch layer of insulation, material called Styrofoam; and a top 4-inch reinforced concrete slab.

"INSTANT" SURVEYORS

Three members of Company A, 19th Engineer Battalion (Combat) are being trained as surveyors to meet a need for these technicians during expansion of the ammunition supply point near Qui Nhon.

Sgt. Phillip G. Rowe, PFC Juan F. Davis and PFC Anthony P. Mihalevitch are learning the fundamentals of measuring distances and using a transit from their platoon leader, 2LT David A. Fadock. They are bowling a great demand for surveyors and learning another valuable skill.
45TH GROUP PROMOTIONS

HHC, 45TH ENGR GP

1LT Robert Jeffries
35G Mateo V. Faggin Jr.
35G William T. Luces
STT Jesse H. Carmey
SP5 Bruce D. Patterson
SP5 Robert C. Pulley
SP5 Jay H. Stecher
SP5 Ronald E. Stephens
SP5 Gordon L. Thompson
SP5 John J. Tripp
SP5 Theodore A. Sudder

19TH ENGR BN

HHC

SP5 Joseph J. O'Connor
SP4 Thomas H. Deane
SP4 Daniel P. Van Cott
SP4 James W. Haynor
SP4 Donald N. Carr
SP4 James C. Dunsmay
SP4 Douglas C. Aufsmith
SP4 John Bonfede
SP4 Daniel T. Buck
SP4 Robert F. Varga

CO B

35G Jimmie D. Faraldo
35A Brian W. Cates
SP4 Robert J. Marthe
SP4 Dale L. Ashley

CO C

SP5 George A. Hansen
SP4 Harold W. Bryan
SP4 Harold L. Williams
SP4 Joseph J. Castil Jr.
SP4 Wayne L. Stevenson
SP4 Richard T. Stanek
SP4 John Kasinski

554TH ENGR CO

SP4 David H. Randrell
SP4 Clifton H. Bondis

29TH ENGR BN

HHC

LT Roger L. Abel

24TH ENGR BN

HHC

LT Alan S. Harper

CO D

SP4 Thomas B. James
SP4 Larry J. Hood

577TH ENGR BN

HHC

SP5 Barry L. Hathorn
SP4 James H. Vitaro
SP4 Horace L. Montgomery
SP4 Edwin Parsons
SP4 Robert M. Dunn, Jr.

CO A

35G William E. Froctor
SP4 John P. Migliore
SP4 Carmel J. Stone
SP4 Kenneth D. Storjohn

523D ENGR CO

SP4 William J. Boyle Jr.
SP4 Stanley W. Slater
SP4 Michael D. Littrell
SP4 Arnold E. Carpenter
SP4 Robert A. Schuman
SP4 Stanley E. Vincigun
SP4 James E. Sturgis Jr.
SP4 Jarose E. Bondis
SP4 Danny A. Nast
SP4 Lawrence J. Lee
SP4 Francis E. Scheafer
SP4 Stephen W. Roberts
SP4 Chester N. Gibson
SP4 Donald J. Betelle Jr.
SP4 William J. Scott

SP4 Robert A. Hauer
SP4 Robert M. Ashley
SP4 Thomas J. Sexton
SP4 Robert D. Renaux
SP4 Dale E. Gates
SP4 Jon C. Hamcock
SP4 Danny E. Isaac
SP4 Richard A. Bernardi
SP4 Harry E. Nadig
SP4 Michael J. Klueck
SP4 Donald J. Hycki
SP4 Gerald W. Kassula
SP4 Verl F. Duncan
SP4 Larry J. Blais
SP4 Donald H. Holmes
SP4 George W. Stephens
SP4 Jerry L. Hatmaker
SP4 Ronald E. Porter
SP4 Jerry H. Flowers

AWARDS

Bronze Star with "V" Device
SP4 David L. Bryant, Co B
39th Engr En
SP4 Roy L. Taylor, Co B
39th Engr En

Bronze Star

CTT Paul A. Crone, HHC
45th Engr Gp
M2 Foy E. Nowlin, HHC
45th Engr Gp
SFC Gerald G. Martin, Co D
39th Engr En
S5G Kenneth Huffman, HHC
45th Engr Gp

Army Commendation Medal with "V" Device

FFC Roger Harpaz, Co B
39th Engr En

Army Commendation Medal

LTC Robert D. Smith, Co A
19th Engr En
SGT Donald K. Fettig, HHC
45th Engr Gp
SP5 Anderson Whorton, HHC
19th Engr En
SP4 Barry K. Lyons, HHC
19th Engr En
SP4 Alvin H. Galle, HHC
19th Engr En
SP4 Arthur P. Ward Jr.
HHC, 39th Engr En
SP4 Ernest E. DeFau, Co B, 39th Engr En
SP4 Linwood J. Brown, HHC
19th Engr En

PRETTY Sue—Pretty girl in picture is Sue Hamilton of the movies. Lots of folks say she's the girl they'd like most to climb a ladder with.
45TH GROUP

PROMOTIONS

HHC 45TH ENGR GP
1LT Robert Jefferies
356 Weath V. Foggia Jr.
333 William T. Lucas
SGT Jesse H. Carney
SP5 Bruce A. Patterson
SP5 Robert C. Pulley
SP5 Jay H. Stecher
SP5 Ronald E. Stephens
SP5 Gordon L. Thompson
SP5 John J. Tripp
SP5 Theodore A. Sudder

57TH ENGR BN

HHC
SP5 Joseph J. O'Connor
SP4 Thomas M. Deane
SP4 Daniel P. Van Cott
SP4 James W. Haynor
SP4 Donald N. Carr
SP4 James C. Duskey
SP4 Douglas C. Auffarth
SP4 John Bonfede
SP4 Daniel T. Buck
SP4 Robert F. Varpe

CO B
336 James D. Fegallo
SP4 Brian W. Coates
SP4 Robert J. Karthe
SP4 Dale L. Ashley

CO C
SP5 Charles A. Hansen
SP4 Harold W. Bryan
SP4 Harold L. Williams
SP4 Joseph J. Casta Jr.
SP4 Wayne L. Stevenson
SP4 Richard T. Stanek
SP4 John Kuzinski

554TH ENGR CO
SP4 David M. Randrell
SP4 Clifton H. Durbin

357TH ENGR BN

CO B
SSG Ernest R. Hines
SSG Max Hawkins
SP5 Albert E. Balmaseda
SP4 John F. Jackson
SP4 Gerald A. Marcus
SP4 Walter J. Rabatin
SP4 Homer P. Holder
SP4 Patrick W. McIntyre
SP4 Donald S. Chase
SP4 Melvin E. Wall
SP4 Rodney Malm

CO C
SP4 Paul Wright
SP4 Donald K. Sanborn
SP4 Walter Hamilton
SP4 Joe C. Bratton

39TH ENGR BN

HHC
1LT Roger L. Abel

CO D
SP4 Thomas B. James
SP4 Larry J. Hood

577TH ENGR BN

HHC
SP5 Garry L. Hathorn
SP4 James H. Vitars
SP4 Horace L. Montgomery
SP4 Edwin Parsons
SP4 Robert H. Dean, Jr.

CO A
335 William E. Proctor
SP4 John P. Migliore
SP4 Cornelius J. Stone
SP4 Kenneth D. Storjohann

523D ENGR CO
SP4 William J. Bailey Jr.
SP4 Stanley V. Glusser
SP4 Michael D. Littlefield
SP4 Arnold L. Carpenter
SP4 Robert A. Schumann
SP4 Stanley J. Vincenzi
SP4 James H. Smajak Jr.
SP4 Jaromir E. Bonnik
SP4 Danny S. Nelson
SP4 Lawrence J. Lee
SP4 Francis E. Schaefer
SP4 Stephen W. Roberts
SP4 Chester N. Gibson
SP4 Donald J. Bestelle Jr.
SP4 William J. Scott

SP4 Robert A. Houser
SP4 Robert M. Ashley
SP4 Thomas E. Sexton
SP4 Robert D. Renua
SP4 Dale E. Gates
SP4 Jon C. Hanock
SP4 Danny E. Isaac
SP4 Richard A. Berardi
SP4 Harry E. Nading
SP4 Michael J. Klopka
SP4 Donald J. Hackett
SP4 Gerald W. Kassuba
SP4 Verl F. Duncan
SP4 Larry S. Bliss
SP4 Donald H. Holmes
SP4 George W. Stephens
SP4 Jerry L. Hotze
SP4 Romell E. Foster
SP4 Jerry N. Flowers

AWARDS

Bronze Star with "V" Device
SP4 David L. Bryant, Co B
39th Engr En
SP4 Roy L. Taylor, Co B
39th Engr En

Bronze Star
OT Paul A. Croce, HHC,
45th Engr GP
W2 Foy E. Nowlin, HHC,
45th Engr GP
SP4 Gerald G. Martin, Co
D, 4th Engr En
SP5 Kenneth Hufnick, HHC,
45th Engr GP

Army Commendation Medal with "V" Device
SP4 Roger Harris, Co B,
39th Engr En

Army Commendation Medal
1LT Robert L. Smith, Co A
19th Engr En
SP4 Donald K. Fetig, HHC,
45th Engr GP
SP5 Anderson Whorton, HHC
19th Engr En
SP4 Ramo K. Lyons, HHC,
19th Engr En
SP4 Alain H. Galle, HHC,
19th Engr En
SP4 Arthur P. Ward Jr.,
HHC, 39th Engr En
SP4 Ernest E. Belew,
Co B, 39th Engr En
SP4 Linwood J. Brown, HHC
19th Engr En

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