

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
COMPANY A 70TH ENGINEER BATTALION (COMBAT) (ARMY)
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96318

4 November 1967

SUBJECT: Narrative of Unit Activities from 1 August, 1967 to 31 October 1967.

TO: Commanding Officer
70th Engr. Bn. (Cbt)(A)
APO 96318

CD 42-937/V-67
Base Preparation QL-19

From 1 Aug, 1967 to 27 Aug, 1967, the 1st Flt. worked on upgrading Rt-19 from An Khe pass to An Khe in preparation for asphalt pavement. Graders were used to cut the initial ditches and fill potholes along the 10 mile section of road. When this was completed we moved to the top of the An Khe pass and began scarifying the entire roadway. Simultaneously 3" minus rock was hauled to the work site; mixed with the scarified soil; graded down; watered; and compacted with a 35 ton rubber tired roller. Approximately 4000 cubic yards of 3" minus rock were hauled and placed during this time period to complete a four mile section of the upgrading.

CD 63-207-06-T-68
Pipeline Structures

From 1 Aug, 1967 to 24 Aug, 1967, the 3rd Flt. worked on the construction of pipeline structures initiated by Co. A, 299th Engr. Bn. for the An Khe to Pleiku pipeline.

The work accomplished consisted of:

1. Removal of security fencing at pump station #2 which allowed heavy equipment the space to complete site preparation and drainage.
2. Construction of a standard 20' X 80' tropical building at station #2.
3. Construction of a 5' X 10' combination shower and latrine and a 1500 gallon water tower at station #2.

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4. The clearing of a 100 meter strip around the perimeter of station #2 to provide fields of fire and discourage infiltration.

5. Constructed a 120' span suspension bridge for the pipeline.

The project was turned over to Co. B, 70th Engr. Bn. on 24 Aug, 1967. At this time the security fencing had to be placed and pump station #3 had to be constructed.

Old An Khe Airfield

From 1 August 1967 to 24 August 1967, the 3rd Plt. was assigned the maintenance of the old An Khe airstrip. A portable asphalt plant was used to provide hot patches for the runway and overrun. Maintenance of the old strip was continuous during this period.

CMD 14-937/V-6

Route 19 Quarry An Khe

From 1 August 1967 to 25 August 1967, 2nd Plt. had operational control of Rt-19 quarry. During this period approximately 8150 cubic yards of blast rock were produced to be crushed into concrete aggregate for the new concrete airfield being built at An Khe. The equipment used to accomplish this was limited to one tracked drill and 2 or 3 dozers a majority of the time. One forty ton crane shovel and 5 ton dump trucks were utilized to load and haul the blast rock into the crushers.

3-937/V-67

Helicopter Revetments, Camp Holloway

From 1 September 1967 to 31 October 1967, the 1st Plt. has been mainly involved in construction of aircraft revetments at Camp Holloway. The platoon took over the construction from Co. C, 299th Engr Bn. About 60% of the work was composed of the following:

- a. Installing tie wire for reinforcement in M8A1 matting type revetments.
- b. Placing rebar for reinforcement in the wooden revetments.
- c. Filling revetments.
- d. Weather proofing with tar paper and sandbags.

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a. Stacking and filling 55 gallon drums for temporary revetments.

When this was completed the 1st Plt. constructed and installed eight revetments for the 219th Fixed Wing Company. The eight revetments were made out of 110 wooden boxes reinforced with rebar and wire. They are designed to be portable so that the revetments can be moved to meet changing demands.

Further construction of the box type revetments is not recommended. Each box weighs approximately 5 tons when full. This makes them very difficult to maneuver. If the idea of making them portable were dropped, over 50% of the necessary material could be eliminated. There were no provision made in the plans for treatment of the wooden boxes to guard against termites and creosote was not available for this purpose. It is estimated that these revetments will not last in this tropical climate over two years at most.

CD 26-937/V-67

Engineer Hill Security

From 27 August 1967 to 16 September 1967, the 3rd Plt. took over and completed the Engineer Hill security project from Co. C, 299th Engr. Bn. A long section of cattle fence, a section of double apron fence, one tower, and one mortar bunker were constructed.

33-937/V-67

Road Maintenance of Route 14N From Fleiku to Kontum

The 3rd Plt. was assigned the task of keeping Rt-14N open between Fleiku and Kontum from 21 September 1967 to 31 October 1967. This consisted of maintaining the bypass at bridge 14-2 in good enough condition to bypass the heavy supply convey traffic travelling north. The bypass is made up of two M176 dry span bridges. The approaches to the bridges are cut into a solid layer of clay. Approximately 375 cubic yards of 18" minus blast rock and 150 cubic yards of 3" minus rock were placed on the bypass during this period. The problem of the unstable clay base on the bypass was solved by placing 18" minus blast rock onto the approaches; working it into the base with a dozer; then capping the approaches with 3" minus rock. The blast rock was large enough to stabilize the base material, and the 3" minus served to shake off the blast rock and yield a fairly smooth roadway surface. Since this treatment was used, the bypass requires approximately one hour of dozer work to back blade the bypass and recut the drainage ditches about once a week. This method of stabilization is highly recommended for stabilization of the clay base on roads in this area.

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45-937/V-67

70th Engineer Cantonment Area

From 18 September 1967 to 31 October 1967, the 3rd Plt. was engaged in the construction of minimum essential requirements for the 70th Engr. Bn. cantonment area on Engineer Hill.

The project consisted of the construction of 6 mess halls, 6 maintenance buildings, 6 each showers and latrines, 6 water towers (3000 gal), and 6 orderly rooms.

At this time all work is complete with the exception of (5) maintenance buildings and the orderly rooms. With the exception of Headquarters Company, all orderly rooms and maintenance buildings were turned over to the respective Companies at the completion of the earth work. To date, 447 cubic yards of concrete have been placed.

Support for the project was provided by the 815th Engr. Bn. The support was in the form of materials, Vietnamese labor crews (carpenters, plumbers, electricians, and masons) and, until the arrival of the 70th Engr. Bn., equipment. The support provided and the cooperative nature of their personnel was outstanding and very much appreciated.

99-937/V-66

Perimeter Lighting, Camp Holloway

From 28 August 1967 to 15 October 1967, the 2nd Plt. was engaged in the installation of a security lighting system around the perimeter of Camp Holloway, Pleiku, RVN. During this period 131 aluminum telescoping light poles were placed, 140 crossarms for lights were prefabricated, 74 crossarms with lights were bolted to the poles, approximately 18,000 feet of wire was strung, 60 insulator racks were prefabricated out of short "U" type pickets, and two 10' X 20' generator sheds were constructed. Work on the project was suspended 15 October 1967, pending receipt of necessary materials. The project is now 55% complete.

22-937/08-67

Land Clearing Rt-19 East

From 16 October 1967 to 20 October 1967, 2nd Plt. was clearing on Rt-19 East from Pleiku. There were 4 to 5 dozers used which averaged approximately 15 acres cleared each day. A total of 74.3 acres were cleared during this period of time.

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33-937/05-67
Route 509 West

From 21 October 1967 to 31 October 1967, the 2nd Plt. was involved in upgrading Route 509 West to a class 35 wheel, 55 track, one lane, fair weather road.

To date approximately 8 KM of road has been upgraded. Two 18" culverts approximately 30' long and one 36" culvert 28' long have been placed and headwalls for these culverts have been constructed. Approximately 20 KM of road has been rough out with a dozer. An AVLB bypass was constructed on the river at coordinates 2AD38431.

Operational Support of the 299th Engr. Bn.

From approximately 17 September 1967 to 23 September 1967, approximately 600 six inch diameter trees 18 ft. long were cut and trimmed by Company A personnel and transported to Dak To for a corduroy road being constructed by the 299th Engr. Bn.

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