

Bridge #30, an A Company, 70th Engineer Battalion (Cbt)(A) project, was completed during the final week of October and also the final days of the 70th Engineer Battalion's four year tour in Vietnam. The completion of bridge 30 marked the fourth bridge to be erected on QL21 by the A Company Engineers. Members of the third platoon completed the project with occasional assistance from the first and second platoon according to CPT David A. Corbett, Commanding Officer of the Combat Engineer Company. During the months of August and September, 1LT John D. Dravland's third platoon battled wet weather and resultant floods to construct the base pads and abutments for the bridge. 1LT Dravland's men prefabricated wooden forms for the abutments and enlisted the aid of a crane and cement mixer in pouring the 15' 6" abutments. The continuous pouring operation required many 16 hour days for the platoon. Once the crane had set the 40 foot steel stringers in place, the platoon moved full speed ahead on assembling the wooden superstructure of the bridge. Equipment and men from the 630th Engineer Company (LE) assisted the third platoon in the completion of the approaches to the bridge. Approximately 2000 cubic yards of fill material were required to fill the gaps on either side of the bridge with the material being continuously compacted by a sheep-foot roller. The completion of bridge 30 will permit the closing of the 1000 yard long B29 and B30 bypass and allow traffic to finally flow over B29 which A Company finished in July. The men of A Company look on these completed bridges as monuments, attesting to the fact that A Company, 70th Engineer Battalion (Combat)(Army) was here.