

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

2 November 1943

ENGINEER INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY)

NUMBER

37 )

1. This report covers the period 312400A Oct to 012400A Nov 43.
2. Roads and Bridges and Mines:  
See attached overlay.
3. Water Supply:
  - a. WP at N435905 (Telese) closed.
  - b. WP's in operation at N371996 (Gioia), H284024 (near Alife) and H180057.
  - c. Total amount of water issued during the month of October was 1,224,040 gallons (2 gallons per man per day). Total amount of water issued from September 10 to October 31 inclusive was 1,773,135 gallons from a total of 26 water points.
4. Engineer Disposition:

Bn Hq	H215044
H&S Co	H212042
Co A	H144086 in support of the 180th Inf
Co B	H155082 in support of the 179th Inf
Co C	H211062 in Bn reserve
5. Effective Bn Strength;

747 EM
38 Off
1 WO

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

## HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

6 November 1943

## ENGINEER INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY)

NUMBER 40 )

1. This report covers the period 032400A to 042400A Nov 43.
2. Roads, Bridges and Mines:
  - a. See attached overlay.
  - b. Bridge at H040200 was prepared for demolition but not blown. Bridge is stone arch, 10 ft high, 10 ft span, with 16 inch ring. Charge consisted of Italian Box mines, placed 18 inches center to center along haunch, on one side only, and connected with detonating cord.
  - c. Field of 50 Teller mines found at bridge site H060137 was posted (In German) "Danger--Stay on road--Ground mined". Booby traps were not found, mines were well camouflaged under sod. Field included Teller mines Type 2, 3 and 4.
3. Water Supply:
  - a. New WP opened at H090104 at 041600A.
  - b. Points now in operation at H284024 and H180057.
4. Engineer Disposition:
 

Bn Hq	H087077
H&S Co	H077076
Co A	Venafro, in close support of the 180th Inf.
Co B	Venafro, in close support of the 179th Inf.
Co C	Venafro, maintaining MSR north to Venafro.
5. Effective Bn Strength:
 

EM	743
Off	39
WO	2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
 Capt CE  
 S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

7 November 1943

ENGINEER INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY )

NUMBER

41 )

1. This report covers the period 052400A to 062400A Nov 43.
2. Mines:
  - a. S-Mines with trip wires were encountered in possible bivouac area at H027192.
  - b. Over 200 lbs of explosives were removed from mined buildings in Venafro.
3. Water Supply:
  - a. New WP opened 061600A just west of Venafro.
  - b. Other WP's in operation at H090104 and H180057 & H284024.
4. Engineer Disposition:

Bn Hq	H072129
H&S Co	H077076
Co A	H060193, in close support of 180th Inf, cleared houses etc. in Venafro for mines.
Co B	H066183, in close support of 179th Inf
Co C	H042208, maintaining MSR. Improved by-passes south of Venafro and continued clearing routes through town.

1st platoon Co C 48th Engr C Bn, will be attached for use as mine clearing platoon for a period of one week beginning 7 Nov 43.

5 Effective Bn Strength:

EM	736
Off	37
WO	2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

8 Nov 43

Engineer Intelligence Summary)  
No. 42 )

1. This report covers the period 062400A Nov to 072400A Nov.
2. Bridges:
  - a. Treadway bridge at H122067 has been removed.
  - b. Bridge at 048240 blown. Covered by enemy AT guns, small arms, and mortars. (071500A)
  - c. Bridge 040253 intact. (071700)
3. Mines:
  - a. Area at H075180, where plastic mines were reported, was swept for mines. Three box mines were found but no plastic mines.
  - b. Trip wires encountered vicinity of 043243.
  - c. AT mines and trip wires found at H037238.
4. Water Supply:
  - a. WP at H284024 (ALIFE) closed Nov 7.
  - b. Other WP's in operation at H180057, H090104, and west of Vanafro.
5. Engineer Supplies:
  - a. Engineer dump at H065134.

6. Engineer Disposition:

Bn Hq	-----	H072129	
HQS Co	-----	H081127	
"A" Co	-----	H065180	Bn reserve
"B" Co	-----	H065180	supporting advance 179th Inf. 1st platoon
			Co "C" 48th Engr C Bn attached as mine clearing detail.
"C" Co	-----	H040208	Supporting advance 157th Inf.

7. Effective Battalion Strength:

EM ----- 736      Off ----- 37      WO ----- 2

For the Division Engineer

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGR C BN  
APO 45 US ARMY

BEB/wah

9 Nov 43

Engineer Intelligence Summary)  
No 43 )

1. This report covers the period from 072400A to 082400A Nov.
2. Roads and Bridges:
  - a. Trail H047231 (POZZILLI) - 037240 - 035247 - will require some work before it is passable for 1/4 tons.
  - b. Road H092094 - 101093 - 103097 - 098107 - 103112 - 068160 is in fair condition despite the rains.
  - c. Approaches to ponton bridge at 066164 were very muddy and almost impassable at 071200A. Somerfeld mats have now been put in place here.
3. Mines:
  - a. S-mines were found along trail vicinity of 045230. Some of these examined had ZZ42 igniters (combination pull or tension release type); in some the black powder train was replaced by TNT so that the mine would detonate in the ground. Others were of the usual jumping type. The shrapnel in the examined mines was of varying shapes - some cylindrical, some spherical, and some bullet shaped.
  - b. Trail 047231 (POZZILLI) - 037240 - 035247 is heavily mined with S-mines.
  - c. Area between road 050217 - 051228 and canalized stream 053218 - 052228 is heavily mined with S-mines. A stone wall running along the road has a great many trip wires running along it.
  - d. Area 063186 - 067190 - 069189 - 070190 - 072187 - 070183 - 066185 - 063186 - cleared of mines. Some Italian Box-mines were found. Two S-mines were found at house 069186, one in path near gate and one at foot of outside stairway.
  - e. S-mines cleared from vicinity of blown bridge at 048240.
4. Miscellaneous:
  - a. Unconfirmed civilian report: Germans used rooster behind locomotive to cut ties on Isernia - Naples railroad. One locomotive with rooster went south, one north.
5. Water Supply:
  - a. WP's in operation at H180057; H090104, and west of Venafro.
6. Engineer Disposition:

En Hq ----- H072129  
E&S Co----- H081127  
"A" Co----- H065180, En reserve, cleared mines vicinity house at 069186. Laid Somerfeld mats on approaches to bridge 066164.

Engineer Intelligence Summary No 43 (con't)

"B" Co ----- H065180 supporting advance 179th Inf. Cleared S-mines  
from vicinity of blown bridge at 048240.

"C" Co ----- H040208 supporting advance 157th Inf. Cleared streets  
of POZZILLI.

7. Effective Battalion Strength:

EM ----- 736      Off ----- 37      WO ----- 2

For the Division Engineer

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGR C BN

BEB/wah

10 Nov 43

Engineer Intelligence Summary }  
No 44 }

1. This report covers the period from 082400A Nov to 092400A Nov.
2. Mines:  
180th Inf reports observing party of about 70 Germans laying mines in trail from CONCASALE to top of Mt. CROCE at dusk Nov. 8.
3. Water Supply:  
No change.
4. Engineer Disposition:  
Bn Hq ----- H072129  
Hq Co ----- H081127  
"A" Co ----- H095136 maintaing road on east side of VOLTURNO RIVER between and including ponton bridges H092095 and H067164.  
"B" Co ----- H209090 realigning and constructing road between RJ 100093 and 130071.  
"C" Co ----- H040208 all operations in forward area. 1st platoon, Co C, 48th Engr C Bn attached as mine clearing platoon.
5. Effective Battalion Strength:  
EM ----- 735      Off ----- 38      WO ----- 2

For the Division Engineer

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

11 Nov 43

Engineer Intelligence Summary }  
No 45 }

1. This report covers the period from 092400A Nov to 102400A Nov.
2. Bridges:
  - a. Culvert and fill completed at bridge 048240.
  - b. Bridges at 037246, 038250, and 045246 were prepared for demolition but not blown. Charges have been removed.
3. Mines:
  - a. RJ 039250 is booby-trapped (100800A).
  - b. 146 Teller mines, nos. 3 & 4, and 42 S-mines were removed 9 Nov. from an area about the size of two city blocks, vicinity 054226.
  - c. Stream bed parallel to road, both above and below bridge 048240, is posted with German signs "Achtung Minen".
  - d. At bridge 038250 (listed above), a motorcycle, tree charges, and the bridge were prepared for simultaneous demolition but were not blown. Some of the charges have been removed and the wires have been cut.
  - e. Bridge 045246 (listed above), was mined with delay action device.
  - f. Forward slope of hill vicinity 045235 marked "Mines."
  - g. All trip wires found in vicinity of hill northwest of POZZILLI are connected to pull igniters. Some mines are prepared charges. All mines recovered from roads in this vicinity are tellermines.
  - h. Trail across loop of road 048242 - 048240 is probably mined.
  - i. All minefields located are being marked with tracing tape and signs.
  - j. 171 FA reports butterfly bombs dropped in their area, west of VENAFRO, on evening of 10 Nov.
4. Water Supply:  
No change.
5. Engineer Disposition:  
NO change.
6. Effective Battalion Strength:

EN ----- 735      Off ----- 38      WO ----- 2

For the Division Engineer

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2



HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER C BATTALION

12 November 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary)  
No 46 )

1. This report covers the period 102400A Nov to 112400A Nov.
2. Mines:
  - a. Mines from "butterfly" bomb, dropped west of Venafro Nov 10, have been marked with tracing tape and signs.
  - b. "Butterfly" bomb reported dropped on infantry CP, hill 671
  - c. Eleven S-mines removed from stream bed south of bridge 048240. All had 3-pronged pressure igniters. Nine of them had delay pellets removed for instantaneous detonation, two were of the usual bouncing type. Of six dead bodies in vicinity, all had legs blown off, indicating that when these mines are set for instantaneous detonation they are almost certain to produce at least one casualty when detonated.
3. Water Supply:  
No Change
4. Engineer Disposition:  
No change
5. Effective Bn Strength:

EM	-----	725
Off	-----	40
WO	-----	2

For the Division Engineer

BENJAMIN E MILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

## HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

13 November 1943

## ENGINEER INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY)

NUMBER 47 )

1. This report covers the period 112400A to 122400 Nov 43.
2. Roads:
  - a. Road Montequila-Celli is badly torn up (34th Div report)
  - b. Trail 053145-029167 is class Fl. From 029167 a trail can be developed to join Venafro-Geppagna road at 021184. This trail would be difficult to construct and would have no defilade beyond 029167.
  - c. Streets in Filignano are covered with debris from 3 to 6 feet deep.
  - d. Road west from Venafro is cleared of trees and mines to 019184 (1530A).
  - e. Road being constructed from Venafro northwest to 020205.
3. Bridges:
 

Bridge 088072 is class 40.  
By-pass completed at 019184.
4. Mines:
  - a. Minefield at 050233 has been marked off with tracing tape.
  - b. Road Pozzilli--Filignano has been swept for mines.
  - c. Civilians report Germans left Filignano too hurriedly to plant mines. No mines have been noted here.
5. Miscellaneous:
  - a. 500 lbs of explosives were removed from prepared demolition on roadway at 049265 (200 lbs on roadway and 300 lbs on face of bluff below road).
  - b. Roads in vicinity of RJ039250 were camouflaged by Germans with wire and branch Camouflage designed against oblique view from hills. Project was apparently incomplete was ineffective.
6. Water Supply:
 

No Change
7. Engineer Dispositions:
 

Bn Hq -----H072129  
M&S Co -----H081127  
Co A -----H051208, cleared road Venafro - 019184 constructed by-pass  
019184 constructing road Venafro - 020205.  
Co B -----H209090 maintaining road between RJ 100093 and 130071.  
Co C -----H040208 Swept for mines to Filignano, clearing streets  
in Filignano.
8. Effective Bn Strength:
 

736 EM            40 Off            2 WO

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION  
OFFICE OF THE BATTALION COMMANDER

14 Nov 43

ENGINEER INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY)

NUMBER 48)

1. This report covers the period 122400 to 132400A Nov 43.
2. Roads:
  - a. Trail for  $\frac{1}{2}$  tons only has been constructed from Venafro northwest to 020205.
  - b. By-pass around town of Filignano has been marked and swept for mines (No mines found).
  - c. PW report road from Mennella to Carasuolo impassable and covered by fire.
3. Bridges:
  - a. Bridge blown at 009174 (Coppagna)
  - b. One-way by-passes marked and ready for use at bridges 019164 and 016182.
  - c. Masonry culvert at 046263 was prepared for demolition but not blown. A hole about 2 feet square and 6 ft deep was excavated in side of arch on each end of culvert. A 200 lb charge (Italian TNT) was placed in each cavity, and a wooden tube, 4 inches square in section, inserted with one end against charge and other extending one inch from face. Rock was replaced in cavity and a block of TNT tied to string left dangling from the tube. This was intended as a booster charge when fitted with cap and fuse and pushed into tube.
4. Mines:

PW reports sides of road from Delvone to Mennella heavily mined in berms and adjacent fields.
5. Water Supply:

No change
6. Engineer Disposition:

En Hq -----HO41203 (Venafro)  
E&S Co -----HO81127  
Co A -----HO51208  
Co B -----H209090  
Co C -----HO40208
7. Effective Battalion Strength:

725 EM      40 Off      2 WO

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

15 November 1943

ENGINEER INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY)

NUMBER 49 )

1. This report covers the period 132400A to 142400A Nov 43.
2. Roads:
  - a. Filignano--Casale road north to HO30253 is in good condition (Cl $\frac{1}{2}$ ). Civilian reports road blown from face of cliff farther on.
  - b. Road Venafre--Ceppagna is in good condition (Cl $\frac{1}{2}$ ) except for demolished bridges, all of which have one-way by-passes as far as bridge HO09178.
3. Bridges:
  - a. Culvert at HO45271 partially blown, can be crossed by  $\frac{1}{2}$  ton vehicles only.
  - b. Bridge at HO40271 prepared for demolition but not blown. Our patrol cut all lead wires but did not remove charges.
  - c. Bridge blown at OO9178. Ravine about 50 feet deep. Bailey bridge probably needed.
  - d. Rangers report bridges blown  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Ceppagna, and bridge prepared for demolition 3 miles from Ceppagna. These are probably bridges OO6174, O10178 and OO1161 respectively.
4. Mines:

All trails in vicinity of Ceppagna have anti-personnel mines.
5. Water Supply:

No change
6. Engineer Disposition:

No change:
7. Effective Bn Strength:

725 Em      40 Off      WO 2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

## HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

16 November 1943

## ENGINEER INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY)

NUMBER 50 )

1. This report covers the period 142400A Nov to 152400A Nov 43.
2. Roads:
  - a. Road 113090-119085 - in poor condition because of rain, improvement continues.
  - b. Road 123075-130071 in poor condition because of rain, improvement continues.
  - c. Road from 064163-RJ079201-054210 is in good condition.
  - d. Trail along mountain from Venafro to Pozzilli is in good condition.
  - e. Road Venafro-Ceppagna, including long bypass; has some muddy places and rocks, but is passable as far as the Ceppagna bridge.
3. Bridges:
  - a. All bridges across Volturno River upstream from Alife have been washed out by high water.
  - b. Trestle bridge near Alife (269981) still open, but roads leading to it are badly jammed with traffic.
  - c. Bypass at 053145 is under water, impassable to light vehicles. A steel trestle bridge is being installed here.
  - d. Fill at 073128 has partly washed out, will still carry one-lane
  - e. Volturno bridge at Capua is a high timber structure and is believed safe from high water.
  - f. Bridge in Pozzilli open, being improved to carry all vehicles.
  - g. Water in bypass at 052210 is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ft deep (1600A). MP's having all vehicles remove fan belts before crossing.
4. Water Supply:  
No change
5. Engineer Disposition  
No change:
6. Effective Bn Strength:  
725 EM      39 Off      2 WO

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
 Capt CE  
 S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

17 November 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary)

Number 51 )

1. This report covers the period 152400A Nov to 162400A Nov 43.
2. Roads:
  - a. Road VENAFRO-POZZILLI-FILIGNANO (along base of mountain) is in good condition.
  - b. Road VENAFRO-RJ050174-RJ064163-RJ083222-VENAFRO is good condition. Holes left in road section RJ 064163-083222 after box-mines were removed have been filled in.
3. Bridges:
  - a. By-passes at 052210-060222 in good condition.
  - b. Blown bridge at CEPPAGNO (010178) has a 30 foot gap. Ravine too deep for fill. Will require at least 40 feet of bridge.
4. Mines:
  - a. 16 AP mines were laid by our men at request of 1st Ranger Bn, in ravine 015190-007198. 12 additional mines left for completion of job. Sketch of completed field not yet received by this Hq.
5. Engineer Disposition:

Bn Hq ----- HQ39203 (Venafro)  
No change in company locations
6. Effective Bn Strength:

EM ----- 728                      Off ----- 39                      WO ----- 2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

## HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

18 November 1943

## ENGINEER INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY)

NUMBER 52 )

1. This report covers the period 162400A to 172400A Nov 43
2. Bridges:  
Treadway trestle bridge being installed by Corps Engineers at H067166 to replace ponton bridge washed out by high water.
3. Mines:
  - a. Enemy field of S-Mines rigged with trip wires reported about 300 yards up draw from group of houses vicinity 003188. Field extends at least 100 yards to either side of streambed. Depth of field unknown.
  - b. American M2 minefield has been laid on southeast edge of field reported above (Par 3A). Our side marked with tracing tape. Sketch submitted separately.
  - c. Enemy S-Mine fields reported at 006185; 999182; and 006194.
4. Water Supply:  
No change. Rishing water hindered operations during past three days.
5. Engineer Disposition:

Bn Hq -----	H039203 (Venafro)
H&S Co-----	H081127
"A" Co -----	060211
"B" Co -----	068214
"C" Co -----	042211
6. Effective Bn Strength:

721 EM	39 Off	2 WO
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For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S&2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

19 Nov 43

Engineer Intelligence Summary  
No 53

1. This report covers the period 172400A to 182400A Nov 43.
2. Roads:  
Maintenance continued on all roads in division net.
3. Bridges:
  - a. Treadway trestle bridge at HO67166 open for traffic.
  - b. A footbridge is being installed over the Volturno River at HO93093.
  - c. Corrugated iron pipe culverts being installed at O60222.
4. Camouflage:  
Camouflage of the division area was checked at 1000 and again at 1500. Camouflage discipline of the motorized elements of the division is poor. Outstanding defects were:
  - a. Track discipline: Few, if any, installations within the division area have any systematic traffic control. Tracks are found everywhere, and no attempt is made to follow natural terrain lines.
  - b. Improper use of camouflage nets; at least 90% of vehicles observed either did not use nets at all or had them wrapped around the truck as a diaper. **NETS SHOULD NOT TOUCH VEHICLES.**
  - c. Pup tents pitched in open where natural cover exists. Some specific examples of violation of camouflage discipline follow:
    - (a) at 181000A, AA guns (SP), near bridge HO83221, was placed in field with no attempt at camouflage. A 2½ ton truck was standing nearby with net properly supported, net not tied into any terrain feature though a row of trees was not over 100 ft away.
    - (b) A battery of 4.5 guns was emplaced along road near Mark Clark bridge. They were emplaced in the open, and covered by a net. By moving the guns 30 feet back along the line of fire, the guns could have been covered by trees without hindrance to the firing of the weapon.
    - (c) AA guns protecting 180th Inf CP were placed in the middle of a field with no attempt at concealment.
    - (d) 179 and 157 Inf Areas were inspected at 1500. Very few tents had received any camouflage treatment. There were vehicle tracks all over areas.
    - (e) The following vehicles were parked in the open with no attempt to find cover: 157 I SV15; 157 I SV16; 160 F HQ31.
    - (f) The following vehicles used nets improperly: 189 F C13; 160 F B14; The guns of Btry "B" 160FA Bn, were dug in and properly camouflaged.

5. Engineer Disposition:  
No change.

6. Effective Bn Strength:  
721 EM      39 Off      2 Off Warrant

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2



HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

20 November 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary  
Number 54

1. This report covers the period from 182400 to 192400A Nov 43.

2. Mines:

a. 4 Tellermine and 2 lkg. charges tied together were found in bypass vicinity 017177 during the night of Nov 18-19. The mines were placed in the tracks and lightly covered with debris. They were obviously placed there by either German patrols or civilians.

3. Camouflage:

Camouflage was inspected between 0800 and 1000 in CP and rear area installations. It is noticeable that forward elements are making some effort at camouflage decreasing generally in the service elements.

As the division is now in a static position, the use of camouflage is mounting rapidly in importance.

Major defects noted were - (1) Improper use of camouflage nets as a drape. (2) Vehicle dispersion. (3) Track discipline.

Detailed report of inspection follows:

a. In 180th Inf area - Vehicle dispersion excellent, camouflage of area was well observed. Major defects were faulty use of camouflage nets and track discipline.

b. 120th Engr Bn.

1. Engr Dump - Excellent use of natural covering and nets to hide materials spoiled by uncamouflaged pup-tent in area.

2. Dozers (2) not sufficiently hidden.

3. H&S Co - Some vehicles in open, tents by haystack could be blended with haystack but at present uncamouflaged. Company gas dump under small trees offer little concealment.

4. Co "B" - Improper use of nets on most vehicles.

c. 189th FA Sv Btry - Vehicles not dispersed and poor track discipline.

d. 45th QM Co - No camouflage of any kind used in area.

e. 45th MP Co CP - No dispersion of tents or any attempt at camouflage.

f. 645th TD 3 Plat Recon Co - No attempt at use of cover or camouflage.

4. Water Supply:

No change.

5. Engineer Disposition:

No Change.

6. Effective Bn Strength:

721 EM            139 Off            2 WO

For the Division Engineer

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

21 November 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary)

No. 55 )

1. This report covers the period 192400A to 2024 00A Nov 43.

2. Bridges:

A stream gauge has been installed at bridge H066196. The following readings were taken during this period:

0600A ----- 1.7 ft

1100A ----- 1.1 ft

1800A ----- 2.0 ft

3. Water Supply:

No change.

4. Effective Bn Strength:

715 EM 38 Off 2 WO

5. Engineer Disposition:

No change.

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS

Capt CE

S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER C BATTALION

22 Nov 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary }  
 No. 56 }

1. This report covers the period from 202400A Nov to 212400A Nov.

2. Bridges:

- a. Footbridge built over Volturno at H093093.  
 b. Stream gauge readings at bridge H066166 since records were initiated:

200600A ----- 1.7 ft  
 1100A ----- 1.1  
 1800A ----- 2.0  
 210900A ----- 1.0  
 1330A ----- 1.0

At this bridge the maximum safe level would be 5.0 Ft.

3. Water Supply:

- a. Water points in operation -- no change.  
 b. Total water delivered from Sept 10 to Nov 20 incl. -- 2,684,040 gals.  
 Average delivery per day ----- 44,734  
 c. Water delivered last week ----- 290,665  
 Average delivery per day ----- 41,524  
 d. Water delivered Nov 20 ----- 69,710  
 e. Tabulation of delivery by WP to include Nov 20, follows:

(x indicates point still in use)

WP	Location	Total gal del	WP	Location	Total gal del
1.	N823120	130,745	15.	N625817	157,490
2.	N935266	14,760	16.	N706909	6,655
3.	N890203	53,030	17.	N576904	43,520
4.	N835238	83,505	18.	N533911	73,975
5.	N934266	8,060	19.	N489910	93,380
6.	0- 049286	51,250	20.	N435905	306,635
7.	0- 057327	55,765	21.	N417923	2,000
8.	0- 045358	74,525	22.	N353925	13,720
9.	0- 082448	86,700	23.	N371996	212,585
10.	0- 000534	93,125	24.	N433914	31,565
11.	N991598	74,355	25.	H290015	103,495
12.	N795729	22,145	x26.	H180057	287,885
13.	N718736	9,350	x27.	H080103	263,890
14.	N676799	48,340	x28.	H033200	281,330
			Total		2,684,040 gals.

4. Engineer Disposition:

No Change

5. Effective Battalion Strength:

EM ----- 715      Off ----- 38      WO ----- 2  
 One platoon 48th Engrs atch. (Mine removal unit)  
 Lt Stephens, AFTC, atchd as observer (enemy mine practice)

For the Division Engineer

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
 Capt CE      S-2

## HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BN

BEB/wah

23 Nov 43

Engineer Intelligence Summary)  
No. 57)

1. This report covers the period from 212400A Nov to 222400A Nov.
2. Bridges:
  - a. Mark Clark bridge (the lower of the two bridges at 065163) was damaged by shellfire.
  - b. Water gauge reading at GI bridge (upper of the two bridges at (065163) since records were initiated:
 

200600A ...	1.7 ft
1100A ...	1.1
1800A ...	2.0
210900A ...	1.0
1330A ...	1.0
220900A ...	0.8

At this bridge the maximum safe level would be 5.0 ft.
3. Water Supply:  
No change.
4. Camouflage:  
Inspection of CP areas was conducted between the hours of 0930 & 1130.
  - a. Survey reveals that camouflage discipline in the individual soldier is lax. Units invariably select well defiladed and covered bivouac areas where possible, but the individual soldier makes no effort at all to conform to camouflage doctrines. In view of the present nature of combat, this defect is becoming more acute daily.
  - b. Outstanding defections noted yesterday included:
    - 180th Inf CP area;
      1. Pup-tents in open and crowded together.
      2. Clothing, bedding, and individual equipment in open.
      3. Camouflage nets not used or improperly used.
      4. Ration boxes stacked in open field.
      5. Vehicle tracks clearly define occupied areas.
    - 179th Inf CP Area;
      1. Camouflage discipline generally well observed.
      2. Some clothing, bedding, etc., sunning in open.
    - 171 FA Bn CP;
      1. Tents well dispersed and where they are in open, an attempt has been made to camouflage them.
      2. Fires in area reveal troop position by heavy smoke.
      3. Kitchen tent well placed and screened from overhead, but visible from oblique view.
    - 189 FA Bn CP;
      1. Advantage has been taken of excellent cover, and consequently, security from observation has been attained. No major defects.

Engineer Intelligence Summary)  
No. 57)

- c. Listed below are some vehicles noted parked in open with no attempt whatsoever to provide concealment;
  - 45 - 180I - D - 29
  - 45 - 180I - D - 23
  - 45 - 180I - MD - 14 (this vehicle has been previously reported)
  - 45 - 171 - HQ - 8
- d. Vehicle No. 45 - 171F - A - 2 is not using net properly. When nets are used as drapes they must be lifted from the truck and allow shadow patterns to form on the vehicle.

5. Engineer Disposition:  
No change.

6. Operations:
- a. Mine clearing near POZZILLI.
  - b. Improvement of trail near 180th Inf CP.
  - c. Maintenance of Division road net.
  - d. Repair of existing road south of Mark Clark bridge and on east side of river.

7. Effective Battalion Strength:

EM ----- 715      Off ----- 38      WO ----- 2

2 EM from S-2, Engr Sec., VI Corps Hq., have been attached for reconnaissance missions.

For the Division Engineer

BENJAMIN E HILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

24 November 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary)  
No. 58 )

1. This report covers the period 222400A Nov to 232400A Nov.
2. Roads:
  - a. 8 inches water in field and bypass at 028190 (231000A). Passing traffic without difficulty. Drainage being done.
  - b. Road RJ 050174--064163 is rutting some, 39th Engineers putting on gravel.
  - c. Drainage being done on road vicinity 063170 by 39th Engineers.
  - d. Road vicinity 073170 being drained and improved by 36th Engineers.
  - e. Road 122076--100093--103111-094131 is impassable due to rain.
  - f. Road 094131--101152--068160 needs small fills in spots, very simple drainage.
3. Bridges:
  - a. Both bridges at 066163 were raised 1 foot at 231600, making a maximum safe level on stream gauge of 6.0 ft. Stream gauge readings during this period:
 

230900A	-----	0.8 Ft.
1500A	-----	5.0
2015A	-----	6.0
2200A	-----	6.5
2400A	-----	6.5
  - b. Footbridge at 093093 is washed out by high water.
  - c. Bypass at 157084 and bridge at 145086 need drainage and fill, will soon be impassable because of mud if not maintained.
4. Mines:
  - a. A field of Teller mines (all types) in vicinity of bypass 060222 has been about half cleared. Of approximately 40 mines removed so far, 8 were activated. One mine examined was equipped with ZZ35 igniter in bottom of mine, connected to a peg with a short piece of wire. The wire was clipped and the mine pulled with a rope, but the mine exploded. The activated mines were along a trail and the outer edge of the minefield. A wire fence runs along the south edge of the field.
5. Water Supply:  
No change.
6. Engineer Disposition:  
No change.
7. Effective En. Strength:

EM ----- 717      Off ----- 38      WO ----- 2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E. BILLUPS  
Capt. CE  
S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120<sup>TH</sup> ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

25 November 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary }  
No 59 }

1. This report covers the period 232400A to 242400A Nov.

2. Roads and Bridges:

- a. See attached overlay
- b. Stream gauge readings at Mark Clark bridge for past 48 hours:

230900A -----	0.8 Ft
1500A -----	5.0
2015A -----	6.0
2200A -----	6.5
2400A -----	6.5
240200A -----	6.0
0400A -----	5.5

The maximum safe level on stream gauge at this bridge is 5.6 ft

- c. A new bypass with single span stringer bridge has been constructed around bridges at 017183.

3. Water Supply:

No change

4. Engineer disposition:

No change

5. Engineer Operations:

- a. Maintenance continued on trail 053144 - 024175
- b. New bypass and bridge constructed around bridges at 017183
- c. Road to hospital at 087095 reconstructed
- d. Began work on new footbridge at 093093 to replace bridge washed out
- e. Completed removal of minefield vicinity bypass 060222. Continued removal of S-minefield near Pozzilli.
- f. Reconnaissance mission to Benevento -- Maddaloni -- Capua (see overlay)
- g. Patrol and maintenance of all roads in division area.

6. Effective En Strength:

EM ----- 713    Off ----- 36    WO ----- 2

For the Division Engineer

Benjamin E Billups  
Capt CE  
S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

AFG 45  
US Army  
26 Nov 43

Engineer Intelligence Summary  
Number 60

1. This report covers the period 242400A to 252400A Nov 43.
2. Bridges:  
Stream gauge readings at upper bridge at 066163 during the past 24 hours:
 

250930A	-----	1.5 ft
1345A	-----	1.8 ft
1900A	-----	5.6 ft
2200A	-----	5.0 ft
2400A	-----	3.5 ft

The gauge reading at maximum safe water level is 5.6.
3. Mines:  
A total of 123 Teller mines of all 4 types were found in minefield near by-pass near 060222 (see Engr Int Sum Nos 58, 59). Of these, 12 were equipped with anti-lifting devices consisting of Z335 igniters fitted in bottom and tied to peg with wire.
4. Water Supply:  
No change.
5. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Constructed trails and turnabouts at new hospital areas.
  - b. Maintenance of road on east side of Volturno River.
  - c. Completed and improved road from Venafro to Coppagna.
  - d. Patrolled roads and bridges in division areas throughout night.
  - e. Continued work on new footbridge at 093093.
  - f. Maintained road to 180th Inf CP.
  - g. Drained and improved road along feet of mountain from Venafro to Pozzilli.
  - h. Repaired by-pass at 060222.
  - i. General reconnaissance missions to front accompanying infantry patrols.
6. Engineer Disposition:  
No change.
7. Effective Bn Strength:
 

713 EM	38 Off	2 WO
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For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2



HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

APO 45,  
US Army  
27 November 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary

Number 61

1. This report covers the period 252400A to 262400A Nov 43.
2. Roads and Bridges:
  - a. See attached overlay.
  - b. Bridge blown at 012256 (reported in annex to Engr Int Summ No 60). Bridge has a gap of 20--25 ft, and ravine is about 20 ft deep, in a sharp valley between two mountains. The abutments are in good condition and the streambed is dry. No natural bypasses were found.
  - c. There are six shell craters in road up to bridge 012256, some as deep as 3 or 4 feet.
  - d. The Infantry reports Germans are using road on enemy side of bridge 012256, up as far as bridge.
  - e. Stream gauge readings at upper bridge at 066163 during the past 24 hours:
 

260200A-----	2.3 ft
0600A-----	1.5 ft
1200A-----	2.2 ft

 (stream gauge reading at maximum safe water level is 5.6 ft)
3. Mines:
  - a. A total of 8 AP mines were laid by 2nd Bn, 509 Par Regt, between H014202 and H022217, on downhill side of trail. Seven are hand grenades with trip wires, and one (on rock pinnacle) is Teller Mine with trip wire. All are marked with white rags above danger area. (sketch submitted separately).
4. Water Supply:
 

No change.
5. Engineer Operations.
  - a. Maintenance of roads in division area.
  - b. Tracing tape replaced with barbed wire on two minefields near Pozzilli.
  - c. Continued improvement of trail to 130th Inf CP.
  - d. Constructed peep trails northwest of Venafro to 63rd Chem Bn.
  - e. Constructed trails in new hospital area.
  - f. Maintenance and improvement of roads for Quartermaster and service units in vicinity of Vairano.
  - g. Reconnaissance mission in direction of Isernia.
  - h. Improvement of by-pass between Venafro and Coppagna.
6. Engineer Disposition:
 

No change:
7. Effective Bn Strength:
 

691 EM	300ff	2 WO
--------	-------	------

For the Division Engineer

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

APO 45,  
US Army  
28 November 43

Engineer Intelligence Summary)

Number

62 )

1. This report covers the period from 262400A to 272400A Nov 43.
2. Water Supply:
  - a. WP at 180057 closed at 271200A.
  - b. WP's still in operation at 080105 and 033200.
3. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Continued improvement and maintenance of trail to 180th Inf.
  - b. Simple stringer bridge, 16 foot span, built at 118037.
  - c. Continued construction of trails northwest of Venafre to 83rd Chemical Battalion.
  - d. Maintenance of roads in division area.
4. Engineer Disposition:

No change.
5. Effective Bn Strength:

691 EM	38 Off	2 WO
--------	--------	------

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

APO 45,  
US Army  
29 Nov 43

Engineer Intelligence Summary  
Number 63

1. This report covers the period from 272400 to 282400 A November.
2. Bridges and Roads:
  - a. A 45 foot treadway bridge is being installed at 009173 (Ceppagna)
  - b. Culverts blown at 050254 (previously reported as a bridge at 012256). 26 foot gap. Retaining wall still intact on upstream side. Soil is loose conglomerate which can be worked with a bulldozer. On downstream side the mountain drops away for at least 50 feet in sheer drop. (See sketch).
  - c. Road from RW039250 to 030254 has average width of crown of 12 feet, 9 ft in narrowest place. In addition, there is a 1-1/2 ft berm on each side. Wearing course is good gravel.
  - d. There are two demolition charges in road on east side of culvert 030254. Both appear to be large, and if blown would sluff the road into valley below.
  - e. Between RW039250 and blown culverts 030254, the enemy has used overhead and lateral camouflage screens extensively.
3. Water Supply:  
No change:
4. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Treadway bridge being installed at Cappagna (operations began at 2235A).
  - b. Filled shell holes in road between Ceppagna and 008150.
  - c. Maintenance continued on road to 180th Inf.
  - d. Constructed trails in hospital area.
  - e. Constructed trails for quartermaster and service units near Vairano.
  - f. Cleared mines from road and adjacent area at 070183.
  - g. Completed sketch of minefield at bridge 052209 (previously erroneously reported as at bridge 060222). Sketch to be submitted separately.
5. Engineer Disposition:  
No change.
6. Effective Bn Strength:

EM	651	Off	38	WC	2
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For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER C BATTALION

APO 45,  
US Army  
30 Nov 43

Engineer Intelligence Summary)

Number 64 )

1. This report covers the period from 282400A to 292400A Nov.
2. Bridges:  
Treadway bridge at 009177 completed (290400A)
3. Demolitions:  
Preparations are being made to blast rock ledge protecting chey in First Ranger Section.
4. Water Supply:  
No Change.
5. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Completed treadway bridge at 009177.
  - b. Prepared demolition of rock ledge in First Ranger Section.
  - c. Continued maintenance and improvement of 180th Inf Road.
  - d. Improved road from Hwy 85 to Vairano.
  - e. Co "B" held in readiness to support Infantry attack.
6. Engineer Disposition:  
No change.
7. Effective Ba Strength:

EM	696
OFF	39
WO	2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E MILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER C BATTALION

AFPO 45,  
US Army  
1 December 1943

ENGINEER INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY)  
NUMBER 65)

1. This report covers the period 292400 a Nov to 302400 Nov.
2. Water Supply:  
No change.
3. Camouflage:  
Areas of several division units were inspected for camouflage at 1500A.
  - a: 157th Inf.
    - (1) Pup tents neither dispersed nor camouflaged.
    - (2) Clothing and bedding hanging in open.
    - (3) Vehicles not using nets.
  - b: 179th Inf.
    - (1) Clothing hanging in open.
    - (2) Vehicles not sufficiently dispersed or properly located.
    - (3) Personnel living in buildings, thereby eliminating some camouflage problems.
  - c: 180th Inf.
    - (1) Latrines dug in open.
    - (2) Clothing and bedding hanging in open.
    - (3) Poor vehicle track discipline.
    - (4) Pup tents in open, not dispersed, and with no camouflage.
    - (5) Kitchens in open with no camouflage:
  - d: 158th FA
    - (1) Clothing hanging in open.
    - (2) Pup tents not dispersed, no attempt to camouflage those in open.
  - e: "A" Battery 171 FA.
    - (1) Pup tents not dispersed, those in open not camouflaged.
    - (2) Kitchen has good overhead concealment, but is open from oblique view.
    - (3) Vehicles A4 and A5, are not using camouflage nets. Vehicle A2 has it's net draped improperly.
  - f: "B" Battery 189th FA.
    - (1) Have taken good advantage of excellent concealment afforded by olive trees.
4. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Continued improvement of road to Vairano.
  - b. Continued operation rebuilding footbridge at 093093.
  - c. Repaired 2 culverts and improved road on east side of Volturno River between Mark Clark bridge and Mastrati:
  - d. Demolished cave on Monte Corno used by Germans as Artillery OP.
  - e. Cleared and marked minefields north of Pozzillil.
  - f. One platoon in readiness to support Infantry.

(Over)

5. Engineer Disposition:

No change:

6. Effective En Strength:

696 EM

40 Off

2 WO

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS

Capt CE

S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

2 December 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary }  
No 66)

1. This report covers the period 302400A Nov to 012400A Dec.
2. Water Supply:  
No change
3. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Improved bridge at HO48240
  - b. Patrolled and maintained roads to 180th Inf CP and to MISTRATI.
  - c. Widened curves in road at RJ HO62212 and at HO50207.
  - d. Widened street (FILIGNANO road) through POZZILLI and road from POZZILLI to RJ HO39250.
  - e. Completed suspension-foot bridge at HO93093.
  - f. Widened road at foot of mountain from VEMAFRO to POZZILLI.
  - g. Cleared streets in POZZILLI from concrete dip to corner of square.
  - h. Started to clear minefields north of POZZILLI.
4. Engineer Disposition:  
No change
5. Effective Bn Strength:

EM	.....	698
Off	.....	40
WO	.....	2

For the Division Engineer

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

3 December 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary)  
No 57 }

1. This report covers the period from 012400A Dec to 022400A Dec.
2. Roads and Bridges:
  - a. Road RJ H107242 - RJ H081340, class C2. Muddy surface with bad drainage from RJ H107242 to H090321.
  - b. Road RJ H081340 - H046343, class C1½.
  - c. There are three two-way timber trestle bridges between RJ H107242 and H103307.
  - d. There are "double-double" (one-lane) Bailey bridges at H103307, at H089321, and at H082338.
  - e. Bridge blown at H079337. One-way bypass in use, wood trestle bridge being constructed.
  - f. Road demolished at H050340; rough one-way bypass.
3. Water Supply:
  - a. No change in location of WP's.
  - b. Total water delivered Nov 21 (last report) to Nov 30, incl - 380675 gals
  - c. Total water delivered Sept 10 to Nov 30, incl..... 3027269  
Average Daily delivery..... 37374
  - d. Total water delivered for month of November..... 1298870  
Average daily delivery..... 43296
  - e. Average daily delivery last week of November..... 39762
  - f. Delivery last day of November..... 42040
  - g. Tabulation of daily delivery by WP, Nov 21-30, incl, follows:

Date	WP 26	WP 27	WP 28	Totals
Nov.	H180057	H080103	H033200	
21. ---	1600 --	6900 ---	23200 /-----	31700 gals
22. ---	2000 --	9445 ---	25725 -----	37170
23. ---	2000 --	2655 ---	28315 -----	33470
24. ---	2500 --	0 ---	35265 -----	37765
25. ---	2580 --	0 ---	35710 -----	38290
26. ---	1100 --	5625 ---	30345 -----	37070
27. ---	300 --	8775 ---	25350 -----	34425
28. ---	closed -	17160 ---	25245 -----	42405
29. -----		15950 ---	30340 -----	46340
30. -----		14890 ---	27145 -----	42040
			Total:	380675 gals
4. Engineer Disposition:  
No change
5. Effective Bn Strength:  
EM ----- 696      off ----- 41      WO ----- 2

For the Division Engineer:

Benjamin E Billups  
Capt CE  
S-2



HEADQUARTERS 120th ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

4 December 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary)  
No 68 )

1. This report covers the period from 022400A Dec to 032400A Dec.
2. Bridges:
  - a. 157th Inf reports bridge at H023254 still intact.
  - b. 180th Inf reports bridge at H002163 prepared for demolition but not blown. Charges have been removed.
3. Mines:
  - a. 35 S-mines were cleared from an area vicinity H008153.
  - b. 48 AP mines (M2) were laid by infantry at trail junction H022222 and on terraced ground east of junction on Nov 26. There are trip wires on the majority of the mines. (Sketch submitted separately).
  - c. 509 Par Bn reports laying mines along west ridge of Monte S. Croce, from H014209 to H024214. (Sketch to be submitted)
  - d. 180 Inf reports 7 Teller mines in road on east side of bridge H002163.
4. Water Supply:  
No change
5. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Co "A"
    - (1) Improved bypass at H043240
    - (2) Constructed roads in Class I, III, & IV dumps in Vairano (110035)
  - b. Co "B"
    - (1) Improved bypass in POZZILLI.
    - (2) Cleared streets in POZZILLI.
    - (3) Cleared S-mines vic. H008153.
  - c. Co "C"
    - (1) Maintained road RJ H050145 to CEPPAGNA.
    - (2) Maintained mountain road from VENAFRO to POZZILLI.
6. Engineer Disposition:  
No change
7. Effective En Strength:

EM ..... 699 Off.....41 WO .....2

For the Division Engineer

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

## HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

5 December 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary }  
No 69 }

1. This report covers the period from 032400A Dec to 042400A Dec.
2. Bridges:
  - a. Both trestle bridges at HO65163 washed out by high water during the afternoon. The Bailey bridge at the same site is in, but damaged so that it cannot be used at present.
  - b. Footbridge at HO93093 washed out.
  - c. All other bridges over the Volturno River north of the Dragoni bridge are washed out.
  - d. Bridge at HO88062 washed out during the night of Dec 4-5. Traffic is being re-routed over road HO88075--HO31065, thence south on Hwy 6.
3. Water Supply:  
No change.
4. Engineer Operations:
  - a. "A" Co
    - (1) Improved by-pass at HO48240.
    - (2) Maintained road HO93140 to HO88157.
    - (3) Constructed roads at Class I dump in Vairano.
  - b. "B" Co
    - (1) Maintained and patrolled main road from HO50174 to POZZILLI and mountain road from VENAFRO to POZZILLI.
    - (2) Cleared streets in Venafro.
    - (3) Conducted mine removal school for 180th Inf.
    - (4) Maintained by-pass at HO21176-HO24174.
  - c. "C" Co
    - (1) Maintained and improved road HO53143 to HO24174.
  - d. 5 dump trucks and shovel borrowed from 39th Engrs on "C" Co project.
5. Engineer Disposition:  
No Change.
6. Effective Bn Strength:  
EM ..... 697      Off ..... 41      WO ..... 2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

6 December 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary)  
No 70 )

1. This report covers the period from 042400A Dec to 052400A Dec.
2. Bridges:
  - a. The Bailey bridge at H065163 is being rebuilt because of damage to the pier and abutments caused by high water.
  - b. No bridges are at present in use over the Volturno River north of the Dragoni bridge.
3. Water Supply:  
No Change
4. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Co "A"
    - (1) Building bridge at H049241.
    - (2) Maintained and improved road H053143-H024178.
  - b. Co "B"
    - (1) Maintained road H061214-H042252.
  - c. Co "C"
    - (1) Maintained and improved road H053143-H024178.
5. Engineer Disposition:  
No change.
6. Effective En Strength:

M.....725      Off.....40      WO.....2

For the Division Engineer

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

## HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

7 December 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary)  
No 71)

1. This report covers the period from 052400A Dec to 062400A Dec.
2. Roads:
  - a. Road H034152-043169-048177 is impassable. It is a narrow, sunken cart track with no drainage, and bridge over canal at H043169 is out.
  - b. Road along east embankment of canal from H052209-054224-053226 to H049232 (POZZILLI) is class C1.
3. Bridges:
  - a. Bailey bridge is now open to traffic at H088072.
  - b. Bailey bridge is being installed at H018184.
  - c. Two-lane timber trestle bridge is under construction at H048241.
  - d. One-lane bypass has been built around blown culvert at H030254.
4. Mines:
  - a. Road along east embankment of canal from H052209-054224-053226 to H049232 (POZZILLI) has been swept for mines, no mines found.
  - b. Four demolition charges, averaging .200 lbs explosive each, were removed from road on east side of blown culvert at H030254.
5. Water Supply:  
No change
6. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Co "A"
    - (1) Constructing bridge at H048241.
    - (2) Maintained and improved road H052143-023178.
  - b. Co "B"
    - (1) Cleared streets in FILIGNANO
    - (2) Walking patrol maintained road from VEMAFRO to FILIGNANO, improved drainage system and filled shell holes.
    - (3) Constructed bypass at H030254.
    - (4) Removed road charges at H030254.
    - (5) Swept road for mines along east embankment of canal to POZZILLI.
  - c. Co "C"
    - (1) Maintained and improved road H052143-023178.
7. Engineer Disposition:  
No change
8. Effective Bn Strength:  
EM.....731      Off.....39      WO.....2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

8 December 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary)  
No 72)

1. This report covers the period from 062400A Dec to 072400A Dec.
2. Bridges:
  - a. A class 40 steel stringer bridge has been completed at H049241.
  - b. Bailey bridge at H065163 opened for traffic at 1500A.
3. Water Supply:  
No change
4. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Co "A"
    - (1) Completed bridge at H049241.
    - (2) Maintained and improved road at H053134 - 023178 (one platoon assisting Co "C")
  - b. Co "B"
    - (1) Clearing streets in FILIGNANO.
    - (2) Maintained and improved road VENA-FRO-POZZILLI-FILIGNANO.
    - (3) Building roads and turn-arounds in quartermaster area at VAIRANO.
  - c. Co "C"
    - (1) Maintained and improved road H053143 - 023178.
5. Engineer Disposition:  
No change
6. Effective Bn Strength:  
EM.....728      Off.....40      WO..... 2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMPAT BATTALION

9 December 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary)  
No 73 )

1. This report covers the period from 072400A Dec to 082400A Dec.
2. Water Supply:  
No change
3. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Co "A"
    - (1) Maintained bridge HO48240.
    - (2) Maintained and improved road east of bridge HO65163.
  - b. Co "B"
 

Cleared obstructing camouflage from road HO30254-RJ HO40249.

    - (2) Constructed roads and turn-arounds in quartermaster area at VAIRANO.
    - (3) Removed mud from road on east bank of canal south of POZZILLI.
  - c. Co "C"
    - (1) Maintained and improved road HO35143-023178.
    - (2) Erected shelters for aid stations in Ranger area.
4. Engineer Disposition:  
No change
5. Effective Ba Strength:

EM -----	726
Off-----	38
WO-----	2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E MILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

## HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

10 December 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary )  
 No 74 )

1. This report covers the period from 082400A Dec to 092400A Dec.

2. Bridges:

a. Bridge at H029254 is still intact. It is a masonry arch construction, about 80 ft overall length. Our patrol reported no demolition charges on the bridge. If the center of the bridge only should be blown, it could easily be repaired with a simple stringer bridge. No suitable by-pass sites were found, and it is reported that the easiest passage in the event of complete demolition would be gained by laying culvert and fill on original bridge site. This bridge is still within enemy lines.

3. Camouflage:

Notes on German Camouflage:

Road screens were placed on all portions of road from POZZILLI to FILIGNANO and from RJ H039250 to H035247 that are visible from the Volturno Valley, or from the hills east of the Volturno valley.

The camouflage was primarily designed as a screen against ground observation, and consisted of small trees, 10 to 12 ft high, wired in an upright position at 2 to 3 foot intervals. Along a large section of the road, the downhill side consists of a masonry parapet from 3 to 20 feet high. In such places the screen was so constructed as to cover the rock parapet as well. ~~Handwritten notes~~

In places where there was no wall on the downhill side, 4" x 12 ft posts were sunk in the ground at approximately 10 foot intervals and the screen was tied to these to provide rigidity.

The overhead bracing wire was occasionally used to support small brush, etc, which was suspended from supplementary wires.

The screen evidently served its purpose, as the road was apparently used without serious interference until the area was physically occupied by our forces, although the road was within our range and visible to our CP's for at least a week prior to that time.

On aerial photographs of that area taken November 2, 1943, it will be noted that the section H039250 to H035247 appears to be muddy, or in a state of disuse, whereas the opposite was true.

4. Water Supply:

No change

5. Engineer Operations:

a. Co "A"

- (1) Maintained and improved road east of bridge H065163
- (2) Hauled gravel for bridge at H048240.
- (3) Replaced tracing tape with barbed wire on minefield at H025196.

b. Co "B"

- (1) Building turn-ins and road at quartermaster area near Vairano;

c. Co "C"

- (1) Maintained and improved road H053134-023178.
- (2) Blasted shelter for Ranger aid station at H017205.

(Engr Int Sum No 74, cont'd)

6. Engineer Disposition:

No change

7. Effective En Strength:

EM .....725      Off.....38      WO.....2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CR  
S-2



## HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

11 December 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary)  
No 75 }

1. This report covers the period from 092400A Dec to 102400A Dec.

2. Bridges:

a. Two Bailey bridges on the VENAFRO-CEPPAGNA road opened for traffic:

(1) H018184.....Class 30

(2) H016182.....Class 24

b. Treadway bridge at H009179 (CEPPAGNA) is being replaced with a Bailey Bridge (class 40).

3. Water supply:

a. No change in WF locations.

b. Total water delivered Dec 1-8 incl .....389405 gallons

c. Total water delivered Sept 10-Dec 8 incl.....3407944 gals.

Average daily delivery.....37866 gallons

d. Total water delivered last week.....349165 gals.

Average daily delivery.....49881 gals.

e. Water delivered Dec 8.....54405 gals.

f. Tabulation of delivery by WF, Dec 1-8 incl follows:

	WF no. 27	WF No. 28	Totals:
Dec 1	15695	24545	40240
2	15720	28355	44075
3	14685	26010	40695
4	3640	33225	36865
5	12515	54740	67255
6	13390	41210	54600
7	11370	39400	50770
8	19265	35140	54405
			-----
			389405

4. Engineer Operations:

a. Co "A":

(1) Maintained and improved road east of bridge H065163.

(2) Marked off mined area vicinity H025196.

(3) Maintained and improved road net between Venafro and Volturmo.

(4) Completing Ranger aid station shelter.

b. Company "B":

(1) Building turn-ins and roads in quartermaster area at Vairano.

(2) Maintained and improved mountain road from Venafro to Pozzilli.

c. Company "C":

(1) Maintained and improved road H053143-023178.

(2) Finished blasting shelter for Ranger aid station at H017265.

5. Engineer Disposition:

No change.

6. Effective Battalion Strength:

EM-----725 Off-----38 WO-----2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E. BILLUPS, Capt CE S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION  
A.P.O. #45, U S Army

12 December 1943

ENGINEER INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY)

NUMBER 76)

1. This report covers the period from 102400A Dec to 112400A Dec.
2. Bridges:
  - a. Class 40 Bailey Bridge at H009179 (Ceppaga) is now open for traffic;
3. Water Supply:

No change.
4. German Anti-Personnel Bomb:
  - a. Enemy aircraft dropped AP bombs in vicinity of H027177 at 110930.
  - b. Carrying case for bombs with six unexploded bombs fell at that point. All are in good condition and intact. The case is in the shape of a 500 lb bomb, 14" diameter and 69 $\frac{1}{2}$ " long, exclusive of hinge. It is made in two sections, hinged at the tail, and with electric contacts and explosive chamber in the nose. It has a capacity of 150 or more AP bombs of the type shown in "Tactical and Technical Trends No. 13, p. 24. The sixth one is identical in appearance except that it is painted black instead of yellow. The fuse seems to be one piece, screwed by hand into nose. However these have not been examined closely.
  - c. Operation is believed to be as follows: The loaded case is loaded into bomb rack in usual manner. An attachment is provided in the plane which sends an electric impulse through connector on upper half of case when relief mechanism is operated. This probably actuates time fuse, which ignites charge in explosive chamber after bomb is safely clear of plane. Explosion forces nose apart and case hinges open, releasing small bombs. This is born out to some extent by several witnesses of yesterday's bombing, who reported that "AA fire hit one of the bombs, and it exploded in mid-air". This was over the area where these bombs fell.
  - d. Reports have been made to D.O.O. Parties interested in bomb removal or investigation should contact this Hq for guides to site. The case is at this CP.. Drawings of case have been made and will be forwarded as part of the next summary.
5. Engineer Operations:
  - Co "A":

Maintained and improved road net east of bridge H065153.  
Marked off mined area vicinity H027195.  
Maintained and improved road net between Venafro and the Volturmo.
  - Company "B":

Maintained and improved road H053143 to H023178.  
Maintained mountain and main roads between Venafro and Pessilli.
  - Company "C":

Maintained and improved road H053143 to H023178.  
Made turn-ins for Bn CP in Venafro.
  - H&S Co.

Motor action cleared road junction in Venafro to 2 vehicles that had collided.

BENJAMIN E. MILLAPS  
Capt CE., S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION  
A. P. O. #45, U. S. ARMY

13 December 1943

ENGINEER INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY:

NUMBER 77:

1. This report covers the period from 112400A Dec to 122400A Dec.
2. Bridges:
  - a. Bridge HQ24254 is still intact. Our infantry has a 12 man patrol at the bridge to secure it.
  - b.
3. Mines:
  - a. Infantry reports German egg grenades and Italian "Red Devils" being used as AP mines.
  - b. VI Corps Engineer reports concrete picket mines found in minefield near Scapoli. See appendix "A" for description.
4. Engineer Materials:
  - a. About 75 rolls of German barbed wire are located along road at HQ07152.
5. Water Supply:

No change
6. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Co "A":
    - (1) Maintained and improved main road HQ62213 to Pozzilli.
    - (2) Maintained and improved canal road HQ53210 to Pozzilli.
    - (3) Cleared and widened road in Pozzilli.
  - b. Company "B":
    - (1) Two platoons with Co C maintaining and improving road HQ53143-024185.
    - (2) Maintained and improved road from Pozzilli to Filigiano.
  - c. Co. "C":
    - (1) Maintained and improved road HQ53143-HQ24185
    - (2) On Dec 10 constructed 12 gun emplacements for 131st FA Bn W of Venafro.
  - d. H&S Co:
    - (1) Built road for 977 FA Bn.
    - (2) Removed wrecked vehicles from road in Venafro.
7. Engineer Disposition:

No change.
8. Effective Bn strength:

EM-----723    Off-----38    WO-----2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E. BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER C BATTALION  
APO #45, U S Army

14 Dec 43.

ENGINEER INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY)

NUMBER 76)

1. This report covers the period from 122400A Dec to 132400A Dec.
2. Mines:
  - a. Area at HO79217 swept for mines. No mines were found.
  - b. German egg grenades reported previously being used as mines (see Engr Int Summ No 77, par 3a) and some were found to be of a new type. Differences from the old type are as follows:
    - (1) A ring in base to facilitate attachment to trees ect for use as mine.
    - (2) Wing-nut on igniter to facilitate installation and removal.
    - (3) Lettering on top of BZE igniter reads "evy--43" instead of "evy--42" or "exl--42". These igniters were found to be used interchangeably.
    - (4) Lettering on bottom reads "hkn--43" instead of "can--42".
    - (5) Grenade is lettered on side "--da. März 1943"
3. Water supply:

No change.
4. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Company "A"
    - (1) Maintained and improved main road HO62213 to bridge HO48240.
    - (2) Made minor repairs and gravelled muddy spots on main road from Venafro south.
    - (3) Maintained and improved road east of bridge HO65163 to Mastratl.
    - (4) Completed marking off mined area vicinity HO27195.
  - b. Company "B":
    - (1) Cleared area of mines fro Div CP in divinity HO79217.
    - (2) Maintained and improved road from bridge HO48240 to Filignano.
    - (3) Two platoons with Co C maintaining and improving road HO53143-HO24185.
  - c. Company "C":
    - (1) Maintained and improved road HO53143-HO24185.
5. Engineer Disposition:

No change
6. Effective Strength:

EM-----733      Off-----38      WO-----2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E MILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION  
A. P. O. #45, U S Army

15 Dec 43

ENGINEER INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY)

NUMBER 79)

1. This report covers the period from 132400A Dec to 142400A Dec 43.
2. Water Supply:  
No change
3. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Co. "A"  
(1) Maintained and improved main road from HO50174 to Pozzilli.
  - b. Co "B":  
(1) Maintained and improved main road from Pozzilli to Filignano.
  - c. Co "C":  
(1) Maintained and improved road HO53143 to HO23185.  
(2) Filled crater at Class I dump at Vairano.
4. Engineer Disposition:  
No change.
5. Effective Dn Strengths:  
EM-----928      Off-----38      WO-----2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION  
A. P. O. #45, U. S. Army

16 Dec 43

Engineer Intelligence Summary)

Number 30)

1. This report covers the period from 142400A Dec to 152400A Dec 43.
2. Mines:
  - a. Trail from Pozzilli to HO41226 cleared of mines.
3. Water Supply:
  - a. No change in WP locations.
  - b. Total water delivered Sept 10-Dec 11, incl.-----3599309 gals.  
Average Daily delivery ----- 39123
  - c. Total water delivered for week Dec 5-11 incl----- 409665 gals.  
Average daily delivery ----- 58523 gals.
  - d. Water delivered Dec 11 ----- 70065 gals.
4. Engineer Operations:

Co "A":

  - (1) Maintained and improved main road from Pozzilli to CR HO39250.
  - (2) Explored for possible peep trail from Pozzilli to west. None found.

Co "B":

  - (1) Maintained and improved main road from HO39250 to Filignano.
  - (2) Constructed peep trail from Filignano to HO35267.

Co "C":

  - (1) Maintained and improved main and mountain roads from Venafre to Pozzilli and main road from Venafre south.
5. Engineer Disposition:  
No change.
6. Effective Bn Strength:  
Off-----38 WO-----2 EM 727

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

## HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

17 December 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary)  
No 61 )

1. This report covers the period from 152400A Dec to 162400A Dec.

2. Mines:

a. The following is an extract from a report submitted by Capt Hugh T. McCULLOUGH Jr., CO, Co "A", 120th Engr C BN:

"The following report covers the operations of one squad, thirteen men, from this company who were attached to the First Ranger Bn, from November 10th to December 14th. The prime mission of this squad was to clear paths and trails in the Ranger sector of mines and booby traps and to help with any necessary pioneer work. While working under extremely bad weather conditions up the slope and on the tops of M. Corne and M.S. Croce this squad deactivated some 350 S-mines. These mines were activated with all types of igniters, the pull type connected to a trip wire the most common. Plain uncoated steel wire was used in all cases and after three weeks of rain the fresh coating of rust made the wire very easily picked up by the eye. To say the least the area was well mined, with very little regard for any definite field pattern. Ravines, trails and terraces were always mined.

Many of the mines examined were faulty by reason of wet powder and blasting caps not inserted. In all examined mines the powdered type yellow explosive was used.

x x x x x x x x x

"Continual rain caused many failures in the mine detectors. In many places the detector could not be used on account of the heavy deposit of shrapnel on the ground and also exposure to the enemy. On the steep slopes, fatigue was the important factor.

"At one particular point on M. Corne a dead American soldier was de-booby trapped. A wire was connected from him to an S-mine, which shows our enemy in this sector will welcome the opportunity to booby-trap our dead personnel."

3. Water Supply:

No change

4. Engineer Operations:

a. Co "A"

(1) Constructed road from HO43211 to HO42224.

b. Co "B"

(1) Constructed road from FILIGNANO to HO35267.

c. Co "C"

(1) Maintained and improved main and mountain roads from VENAFRO to POZZILLI.

5. Engineer Disposition:

No change

6. Effective Bn Strength:

EM.....732 Off.....39 WO.....2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

18 December 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary)  
No 82 )

1. This report covers the period from 162400A Dec to 172400A Dec.
2. Water Supply:  
No Change
3. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Co "A"  
(1) Worked on ambulance trail from HO43211 to HO45215
  - b. Co "B"  
(1) Developed tank road from FILIGNANO to 500 yds south-west of LAGONE.
  - c. Co "C"  
(1) Maintained and improved road net from VENAFARO to POZZILLI:
4. Engineer Disposition:  
No change
5. Effective Bn Strength:  
EM.....713 Off.....38 WO.....2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2



HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

19 December 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary)  
No 83 )

1. This report covers the period from 172400A Dec to 182400A Dec.
2. Water Supply:  
No change
3. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Co "A"
    - (1) Improved road H024251 to H011256.
    - (2) Constructing by-pass at H012256.
    - (3) Filled crater at H011257.
    - (4) Swept road for mines from H024251 to H005266.
  - b. Co "B"
    - (1) Maintained and improved road from FILIGNANO to 500 yards south-west of LAGONE.
  - c. Co "C"
    - (1) Cleared and widened road from CR H039250 to H030254.
    - (2) Improved by-pass at H030254.
4. Engineer Disposition:  
No change
5. Effective Bn Strength:  
EM..... 721 Off.....37 WO.....2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

20 December 1944

Engineer Intelligence Summary)  
No 34)

1. This report covers the period from 182400A Dec to 192400A Dec.
2. Water Supply:  
No change
3. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Co "A"
    - (1) Maintained and improved road from CR H039250 to H010261.
    - (2) Completed by-pass at H012256.
  - b. Co "B"
    - (1) Constructing road from H035267 to park at H025266.
    - (2) Maintained and improved road from FILIGNANO to H035267.
  - c. Co "C"
    - (1) Improved and widened road from H010261 to H000271.
4. Engineer Disposition:  
No change
5. Effective Bn Strength:  
EM.....728      Off.....37      WO.....2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

## HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

21 December 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary)  
No 35 )

1. This report covers the period from 192400A Dec to 202400A Dec.

2. Water Supply:

- a. No change in WP locations.
- b. Total water delivered Dec 12-18, incl, ~~475390~~ 475390 gals  
Average daily delivery..... 67913
- c. Total water delivered Sept 10-Dec 18, incl..... 4074699  
Average daily delivery..... 40747
- d. Water delivered Dec 18..... 62665
- e. Tabulation of delivery by WP, Dec 12-18, incl, follows:
- | Date   | WP 27   | WP 28   | Totals                    |
|--------|---------|---------|---------------------------|
|        | H080103 | H033200 |                           |
| Dec 12 | 24170   | 38750   | 62920 gals                |
| 13     | 21430   | 38830   | 60260                     |
| 14     | 23535   | 50150   | 73685                     |
| 15     | 21785   | 52915   | 74700                     |
| 16     | 19445   | 57425   | 76870                     |
| 17     | 17200   | 47090   | 64290                     |
| 18     | 19285   | 43380   | 62665                     |
|        |         |         | <u>Total: 475390 gals</u> |

3. Roads:

- a. Truck trail constructed from FILIGNANO - H030268 - H021265. This trail is very steep, slick, and in places ground is soft.
- b. Truck trail under construction from H025267 to MASTRO GIOVANNI.
- c. It is reported by recon. parties that no feasible route exists N.E. of MASTRO GIOVANNI for continuation of truck trail.
- d. POZZILLI - CASALE road open for all types of vehicles to G995274. All demolitions are passed by 1 lane fills formed by sloughing off banks of craters. It is impossible to use motorized equipment in this area due to enemy action.

4. Demolitions:

- a. A series of 10 craters was blown in the roadway at H003269. They were 10-12 ft in diameter and 4 ft deep. Apparently single charges were used.
- b. Culvert was blown at H012256, G998273, G998274. Type of demolition same at H030254, previously reported.
- c. Bridge in CASALE demolished. Reconnaissance party estimated gap of 60 ft, but was unable to take measurements, nor estimate closely, due to darkness.

5. Engineer Operations:

- a. Co "A"  
(1) Maintained and improved road from CR H039250 to H010261.
- b. Co "B"  
(1) Maintained and improved road from FILIGNANO to H023266.
- c. Co "C"  
(1) Maintained and improved road H010261 to G995273.  
(2) Repaired bridge at G995273.

(Engr Int Summ No 85 cont'd)

6. Engineer Disposition:

No change

7. Effective En Strength:

EM.....714      Off .....36      WO.....2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-3

## HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

22 December 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary)  
No 36 )

1. This report covers the period from 202400A Dec to 212400A Dec.
2. Roads:
  - a. Construction of truck trail from H020266 to H015262 begun.
  - b. White posts, 4 ft high, are being placed on outside of berm of road RJ H039250 to CASALE as an aid to night driving.
3. Demolitions:
  - a. For details of prepared charge found at H012256, see Annex "A" to this report.
  - b. Bridge in CASALE blown. Estimated gap 50 ft. Measurements were impossible due to darkness and presence of enemy troops.
4. Mines:
  - a. Several Teller No. 3 mines are being found equipped with Teller No. 1 igniters.
  - b. Case for accessories to S-mines found at LAGONE was made of wood. All previous samples noted were of steel. The lid of the wooden box is stamped "Zundmittel fur je 9S. M1 35". Contents of the box is unchanged.
  - c. Several German magnetic hollow cone demolition charges found in vicinity of hill 470 (H025250).
5. Material:
  - a. Approximately 150 rolls barbed wire in FILIGNANO, more wire scattered along CASALE road.
6. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Co "A"
    - (1) Improved and widened road from cross roads H039250 to H010261.
    - (2) Placed white posts on sides of road to CASALE.
  - b. Co "B"
    - (1) Maintained and improved road from FILIGNANO to H020266.
    - (2) Extended road from H020266 on through to road at H015262.
  - c. Co "C"
    - (1) Maintained and improved road H010261 to H995273.
7. Engineer Disposition:  
No change
8. Effective Bn Strength:  
EM.....709    Off.....36    WO.....2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN B BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGR COMBAT BATTALION

23 December 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary )  
 No 87 )

1. This report covers the period from 212400A Dec to 222400A Dec.
2. Mines:
  - a. Sketch of wooden S-mine accessory box, reported in Engr Int Sum no 86, par 4b, accompanies this report.
3. Water Supply:  
 No change
4. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Co "A"
    - (1) Improved and widened road from cross roads H039250 to H010264.
  - b. Co "B"
    - (1) Extended FILIGNANO - LAGONE road on through to road at H015262.
  - c. Co "C"
    - (1) Constructed road for 171 FA from H024251 to H028250.
5. Engineer Disposition:  
 No change
6. Effective Bn Strength:  
 EM.....713    Off.....36    WO.....2
7. Correction:  
 Of the prepared demolition charges reported and described in Annex "A" to Engr Int Sum No 86, 16 were found in the same vicinity (H012256) in addition to the four previously reported.

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E HILLUPS  
 Capt CE  
 S-2

## HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

24 December 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary }  
 No 88 }

1. This report covers the period from 222400A Dec to 232400A Dec.
2. Bridges:  
Blown bridge at G995274 has been repaired with a hand fill.
3. Roads:
  - a. Road from FILIGNANO-LAGONE to road at H015262 has been completed. One bad turn at H015262 is being fixed. Road passable to half-tracks.
  - b. Road to CASALE has been swept for mines. No mines found.
4. Water Supply:  
No change
5. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Co "A"
    - (1) Maintained and improved road from cross roads H039250 to H006265.
    - (2) Hauled gravel for bridge H048240.
  - b. Co "B"
    - (1) Maintained and improved road from FILIGNANO - LAGONE to road at H015262.
    - (2) Cut trail to 180th Inf Cannon Co bivouac area.
  - c. Co "C"
    - (1) Maintained and improved road from H039250 to H006265 (with Co "A").
    - (2) Swept road for mines from H006265 to CASALE.
    - (3) Temporary repair on bridge H052209 (complete repair effected by 39th Engineers)
    - (4) Repaired bridge G995274.
6. Engineer Disposition:  
No change
7. Effective Bn Strength:  

EM.....	710	Off.....	36	WO.....	2
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For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
 Capt CE  
 S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

25 December 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary)  
No 39 )

1. This report covers the period from 232400A Dec to 242400A Dec.
2. Roads and Bridges:
  - a. Road back to SAN SALVATORE is passable by way of CAPIATI--PRATA--ALIFE--PIEDIMONTE--FIACCHIO. There is about 10 inches of water in the Fiume Tevere at the FIACCHIO by-pass. The bridge at GIOIA is strong enough to hold 2½ ton trucks. Other bridges and by-passes on route are in good condition.
  - b. Blown bridge at CASALE (G989280) has gap of 62 feet, ravine 30 feet deep. Can be bypassed on upstream side.
3. Mines:
  - a. Anti-personnel mines encountered by 157 Infantry patrol at G989249. Probably S-mines.
  - b. About 100 German box mines (Holmine) found stacked along fence on road to CASALE.
4. Water Supply:  
No change
5. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Co "A"  
(1) Maintained road RJ H039250--forward of RJ H015262.
  - b. Co "B"  
(1) Maintained and improved road FILIGNANO-LAGONE-RJ H015262.
  - c. Co "C"  
(1) Constructing trail for 171 FA from H024252 to H027250.
6. Engineer Disposition:  
No change
7. Effective En Strength:

EM.....714    Off.....35    WO.....2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN B BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2



## HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

26 December 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary)  
No 90 )

1. This report covers the period from 242400A Dec to 252400A Dec.
2. Roads:
  - a. Houses blown into street in two places at CASALE. One resulting pile of debris is 12-15 ft high.
  - b. Road beyond CASALE is in good condition for  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile.
3. Mines:
  - a. The German "Holzmines" reported yesterday (Engr Int Sum No 89, par 3b) are located at H015260, stacked with German artillery ammunition. There are about 120 of them in all.
  - b. On guard rail at H008263 were found 4 charges, each consisting of a 5 gallon tin filled with artillery powder and one 1-kg block.
4. Water Supply:  
No change
5. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Co "A"
    - (1) Maintained road from RJ H039250 to 180 Inf aid station at H011264.
    - (2) 1 officer and 2 enlisted men sent with 180 Inf patrol to CASALE.
    - (3) Swept and probed road for mines behind patrol to CASALE. Main mission was to probe for box mines.
  - b. Co "B"
    - (1) Maintained and improved road FILIGNANO-LAGONE to RJ H015262.
  - c. Co "C"
    - (1) Completed trail for 171 FA, and are extending it for use of 157 Inf mule head.
6. Engineer Disposition:  
No change
7. Effective En Strength:  
En.....716    Off.....35    WO.....2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

## HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

27 December 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary }  
 No 91 }

1. This report covers the period from 252400A Dec to 262400A Dec.
2. Bridges:
  - a. Further investigation of CASALE bridge site (0989280) reveals:
    - (1) Original bridge has gap of 62 feet.
    - (2) North abutment is almost vertical, with drop of 20 feet to stream bed.
    - (3) South abutment has a gradual slope.
    - (4) If bridge had been intact, the angle of approach on north bank would have made it impassable to all but  $\frac{1}{2}$  tons.
    - (5) By-pass route exists 50 yards north-west of original site, over terraces. Soil very soft. Bridge still required at stream.
    - (6) Best route: blow in north abutment and install culverts on original site.
  - b. Bridge at G974273 was intact at 262330A when our patrol visited it. German OP heard on south side of bridge.
3. Roads:
  - a. Road from CASALE to bridge G974273 is in good condition, class Cl $\frac{1}{2}$ .
  - b. Craters in road from H011264 have been filled.
4. Mines:
  - a. One S-mine found in area previously swept at culvert G995273.
5. Demolitions:
  - a. Patrol, while at bridge G974273, heard demolitions in direction of ACQUAFONDATA.
6. Enemy Material:
  - a. German smoke grenades (Blendkörper 2H) were found along road at H008261. Turned over to Div Chem Off.
7. Water Supply:
  - a. Dry WP opened in POZZILLI on morning of Dec 25. Water supplied from WP 28 and hauled by 405 Water Supply Bn.
  - b. Total water delivered Dec 19-25, incl. .... 471640 gals  
 Average daily delivery..... 87377
  - c. Total water delivered Sept 10-Dec 25, incl.....4546339  
 Average daily delivery..... 42890
  - d. Water delivered Dec 25..... 76870
  - e. Tabulation of delivery by WP, Dec 19-25, incl., follows:

(Engr Int Summ No 91 cont'd)

Date	WP 27 <u>H060103</u>	WP 28 <u>H033200</u>	Totals
Dec 19	18490 --	44870	63360 gals
20	14110 --	42545	56655
21	16650 --	43280	59930
22	6560 --	56175	62735
23	0 --	64760	64760
24	12080 --	75250	87330
25	16375 --	60495	76870
			<hr/> Total: 471640 gals

8. Engineer Operations:

a. Co "A"

(1) Maintained road from RJ H039250 to 180 Inf aid station at H011264.

b. Co "B"

(1) Maintained and improved road FILIGNANO - LAGONE - RJ H015262.

c. Co "C"

(1) Filled craters in road from 180 Inf aid station at H011264 to CASALE

(2) Constructing supply trail for 157 Inf.

9. Engineer Disposition:

No change

10. Effective Bn Strength:

EM.....714      Off.....36      WO.....2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

28 December 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary }  
 No. 92 }

1. This report covers the period from 262400A Dec to 272400A Dec.
2. Roads:  
See attached overlay
3. Water Supply:  
No change
4. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Co "A"
    - (1) Continued clearing rock and debris from barrow pits and berms of road from RJ H039250 to H011264.
    - (2) Improved and gravelled turnout at H008263 to mule-head dump.
  - b. Co "B"
    - (1) Maintained and improved trail FILIGNANO - LAGONE - RJ H010262.
  - c. Co "C"
    - (1) Filled shell craters in road 200 yards southeast of CASALE.
    - (2) Repaired the revetment in by-pass at G995274 damaged by artillery fire.
    - (3) Continued construction of trail H024252 - 028243.
5. Engineer Disposition:  
No change
6. Effective En Strength:  

EM.....	713	Off.....	36	WO.....	2
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For the Battalion Commander:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
 Capt CE  
 S-2

## HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

29 December 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary)  
 No 93 }

1. This report covers the period from 272400A Dec to 282400A Dec.

2. Roads and Bridges:

Reconnaissance party of night of Dec 27 - 28 reports:

- a. Road from CASALE to G974267 (limit of reconnaissance) is two-lane(-), gravel, in good condition. Several small shell craters exist.
- b. The bridge at G977273 is intact.
- c. There is a series of seven craters in the road at G974267. Although they effectively block the road, a bypass can be effected by cutting side hill to the right. Right bank is earth.

3. Water Supply:

No change.

4. Engineer Disposition:

a. Co "A"

- (1) Continued clearing rock and debris from barrow pits and berms of road, from RJ H039250 to H011264. Also building turn-outs and parking places and widening portions of the road.
- (2) Improving fences and placing signs on minefields between POZZILLI and bridge H048240.

b. Co "B"

- (1) Maintained and improved road FILIGNANO - LAGONE - RJ H015262.
- (2) Constructed trail for  $\frac{1}{2}$  tons from LAGONE to MASTRO GIOVANNI, connecting with above-mentioned road.

c. Co "C"

- (1) Finished trail for  $\frac{1}{2}$  tons from H024252 to G28243.
- (2) Demolished remaining abutments and portion of road at bridge in CASALE, in preparation for construction of fill.

d. H&S Co

- (1) Installing shower unit near water point in VENAFFRO.

5. Engineer Disposition:

No change

6. Effective Bn Strength:

EM.....708    Off.....35    WO.....2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
 Capt CE

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

30 December 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary }  
No 94 }

1. This report covers the period from 282400A Dec to 292400A Dec.
2. Roads and bridges:
  - a. Streets in CASALE cleared for one-lane traffic.
  - b. Blown bridge at CASALE has a one-lane by-pass suitable for all vehicles.
3. Water Supply:  
No change
4. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Co "A"
    - (1) Maintained and improved road RJ H039250 to H011264.
    - (2) One platoon cleared debris from streets in CASALE during night.
  - b. Co "B"
    - (1) Maintained and improved road FILIGNANO - LAGONE - RJ H015262 and trail to MASTRO GIOVANNI.
  - c. Co "C"
    - (1) Completed one-lane by-pass for bridge at CASALE during night.
  - d. H&S Co:
    - (1) Installing shower unit near WP in VENAFFRO.
5. Engineer Disposition:  
No change
6. Effective Bn Strength:  
E<sup>M</sup>.....714    Off.....35    WO.....2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

31 December 1943

Engineer Intelligence Summary )  
No. 95 )

1. This report covers the period from 292400A Dec to 302400A Dec.
2. Water Supply:  
No change
3. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Co "A"
    - (1) Maintained and improved road RJ H039250 to H011264, also placed white posts along road.
    - (2) One platoon continued clearing streets in CASALE.
  - b. Co "B"
    - (1) Maintained and improved road FILIGNANO - LAGONE - RJ H015262 and trail to MASTRO GIOVANNI.
    - (2) Built turn-outs and gun positions for 180th Inf Cannon Co.
  - c. Co "C"
    - (1) Improved by-pass at CASALE
  - d. H&S Co
    - (1) Completed installing shower unit near WP in VENAFRO.
4. Engineer Disposition:  
No change
5. Effective Bn Strength:  
EM..... 709    Off.....35    WO.....2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

## HEADQUARTERS 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

1 January 1944

Engineer Intelligence Summary)  
 No 96 }

1. This report covers the period from 302400A Dec to 312400A Dec.
2. Roads:
  - a. One to three inches snow on all roads north and west of POZZILLI.
3. Mines:
  - a. A new type of concrete mine was found in LAGONE, stored in a building with some Teller mines. Details are as follows (see also attached sketch):
    - (1) Mine spherical in shape, 13 inches in diameter, cast in two halves which are belted together by two steel rods. A fiber gasket was used between the two halves.
    - (2) Cavity for explosive measures approximately  $8\frac{1}{2}'' \times 8'' \times 4''$ .
    - (3) Explosive charge consisted of 14 200 gm blocks TNT ("Spreng-Korper 26"), and six or eight additional blocks crumbled to fill remaining space, making a total of about 9 lbs.
    - (4) No detonators or fuses were found with the mine. An opening one inch in diameter was left for insertion of detonator.
    - (5) The concrete casing has a core of fine, hard concrete, 11 inches in diameter, and a one-inch coating of coarse concrete. Between these two there is a network of reinforcing wire. Both types of concrete probably have shrapnel as aggregate.
    - (6) There is a canvas carrying strep provided, as shown in sketch.
  - b. ENGINEER BULLETIN NO 13, Headquarters VI Corps, dated 30 Dec 1943, describes a German anti-personnel spherical concrete mine which has been encountered on the 2nd DIM front in the vicinity of MONNA CASALE. This differs from the one described above in that it is 10 inches in diameter, is cast in a single piece, and contains 3 blocks of Triton (750 gm) inserted into the mine. It may be detonated with any standard detonator assembly. This mine may be plated with trip wire running in several directions; or, by reducing the charge to two blocks and countersinking the igniter, the mine could be used as a grenade by rolling down hill like a bowling ball.
4. Water Supply:  
 No change
5. Engineer Operations:
  - a. Co "A"
    - (1) Constructed trail from H007264 to G998253.
    - (2) Maintained and improved road RJ H039250 to H011264.
  - b. Co "B"
    - (1) Maintained and improved road FILIGHANO - LAGONE - RJ H015262.
    - (2) Improved turn-around at RJ H015262.
  - c. Co "C"
    - (1) Improved by-pass at CASALE.
    - (2) Maintained and improved roads vicinity CASALE.



(Engr Int Summ No 96 cont'd)

5. H&S Co  
(1) Shower unit near WP in VINA PRO put into operation at 311200A  
Dec.

6. Engineer Disposition:  
No Change

7. Effective En Strength:

EM.....715    Off.....35    WO.....2

For the Division Engineer:

BENJAMIN E BILLUPS  
Capt CE  
S-2

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