

To all fellow members of the 169th Engineer Battalion – “Mind and Hand” – Greetings.

On the occasion of your third reunion, the Battalion Command Sergeant Major and I would like to extend our well wishes to you, our predecessors and brothers in arms.

We send our congratulations on your dedication to continue meeting and sharing and taking care of one another. We apologize that current missions keep us from attending your reunion and being able to share with, and learn from, you.

Our battalion has a proud history of service to the Nation, anchored by your stellar contributions in Vietnam. A reading of the after action reports and lessons learned details some of the outstanding missions which you all accomplished with skill and determination from 1966 to 1972. A few examples include:


- Long Binh Post Headquarters
- 11th ACR staging area and 2/34th Armor Battalion Cantonment – Honai
- Helicopter facilities – Bear Cat
- FWMAO Compound – Saigon
- BEQs for USARV and BOQs for II Field Force Headquarters
- Maintenance buildings for 64th Quartermaster Battalion
- Construction of the 506th Field Depot
- 50th Medical Company facilities to support enemy prisoners
- Long Khanh District Advisors’ billets
- Xuan Loc Airfield upgrades
- Construction of QL-20
- Civic action projects throughout sector

There is no doubt in our minds that you accomplished every one of these missions to the highest standard, directly contributing to the successes of the various maneuver and support units to which you provided assistance.

We have pictures and stories of many of you in action and would love to have more – Engineer Soldiers in action, like the ones from FSB “Rock” (vicinity Dinh Quan, Long Khanh Province) which Jeff Snyder recently sent to us – to display to our newest Soldiers. In addition, if any of you were with the battalion at Camp/Fort Stewart or Okinawa (or know someone who was), we are trying to improve our collection from that time period.

The Command Sergeant Major and I would like to invite all of you to stop by the battalion, if you are ever in the Fort Leonard Wood area – it might be figuratively “Fort Lost in the Woods,” but it is literally right off the highway. Please know that you all are always welcome.

Finally, the entire current “Mind and Hand” battalion would like to thank you for your service to our battalion, the Army, and the United States of America. We stand proudly on the shoulders of those who served before us. Mind and Hand.


MSG Henry T. Williams III
Command Sergeant Major




LTC Daniel S. Larsen
Commander