

UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS
1st Battalion, 1st Marines
1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF
APO San Francisco 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 July 1968 to 31 July 1968

- PART I ORGANIZATIONAL DATA
- PART II NARRATIVE SUMMARY
- PART III SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF
SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
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Part I

Organizational Data1. Designation

Commander

1st Battalion, 1st Marine
Regiment (Rein)

LtCol Archie VAN WINKLE

1-31Jul1968

Subordinate Units

H & S Company	1stLt E. H. FLYN	1Jul1968
	2dLt R. J. COBB	2-31Jul1968
Company "A"	Capt J. P. MCHEENY	1-4Jul1968
	1stLt R. L. SMITH	5-31Jul1968
Company "B"	Capt R. A. BLACK	1-8Jul1968
	1stLt E. B. STOLLENWERCH	9-31Jul1968
Company "C"	Capt H. J. TRAUTWEIN Jr.	1-12Jul1968
		23-31Jul1968
	1stLt R. F. O'BRIEN	13-22Jul1968
Company "D"	1stLt D. L. ANDERSON	1-2Jul1968
		11-31Jul1968
	1stLt E. H. FLYNN	2-3Jul1968
	1stLt L. E. PERRY	3-10Jul1968

Attached Units

Det, Company B, 3d SPBn	(1-25Jul1968)
Det, Company A, 3d EngrBn	(1-25Jul1968)
Det, Company A, 1st SPBn	(25-31Jul1968)
Det, Company A, 1st EngrBn	(27-31Jul1968)
Det, Scout Sniper Plat, HQ Co, 1st Marines	(1-31Jul1968)
Company "I", 3d Bn, 4th Marines	(8-12Jul1968)
2 Plat, Company "M", 3d Bn, 3d Marines	(15-17Jul1968)
Company "G", 2d Bn, 1st Marines	(28-31Jul1968)

2. Location

1-6Jul1968: HILL 558, KHE SANH, QUANG TRI PROVINCE, RVN
 6-12Jul1968: HILL 689, KHE SANH, QUANG TRI PROVINCE, RVN
 12-14Jul1968: QUANG TRI COMBAT BASE, RVN
 14-26Jul1968: THE ROCKPILE, QUANG TRI PROVINCE, RVN
 26-31Jul1968: CON THIEN, QUANG TRI PROVINCE, RVN

3. Staff Officers

ExecO	Maj	R. L. WALSH	1-31Jul1968
S-1	1stLt	W. L. McIVER	1-31Jul1968
S-2	1stLt	J. M. COLEMAN	1-5Jul1968
	Lt (MC)	S. I. HOWARD	6-31Jul1968

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S-3	Capt	T. V. BARNETT	1-5Jul1960
	Capt	J. P. MCHEENRY	6-31Jul1960
S-4	1stLt	B. L. WATSON	1-28Jul1960
	Capt	A. A. JOHNSON	29-31Jul1960
S-5	1stLt	R. J. BRUGGER	1-31Jul1960
Commo	MSGt	T. R. SMITH	1-19Jul1960
	WO	A. L. LARSON	20-31Jul1960
SappO	1stLt	R. A. DAVIES	1-31Jul1960
MTO	2dLt	R. J. COBB	1-31Jul1960
AIO	1stLt	W. L. HOLLAND	1-31Jul1960
FAC	1stLt	W. P. SMITH Jr.	9-19Jul1960
Chaplain	Lt(CHC)	D. J. HICKEY	1-12Jul1960
	Lt(CHC)	A. E. PURDEMAN	13-31Jul1960
BnSur	Lt(ME)	S. I. HOWARD	1-31Jul1960
AsstBnSur	Lt(ME)	P. G. COLEMAN	1-31Jul1960

3. Average Monthly Strength

<u>USMC</u>	<u>USN</u>	<u>OTHERS</u>
<u>OFF</u> <u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u> <u>ENL</u>	
27 1012	3 53	None

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ENCLOSURE (1)

I-I-2

Part II

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Narrative Summary

PERSONNEL & ADMINISTRATION

1. PERSONNEL

a. Replacements. During this reporting period the Battalion received the following personnel and replacements:

USMC
OFF ENL
5 269

USN
OFF ENL
1 19

b. Rotation

USMC
OFF ENL
4 49

USN
OFF ENL
0 5

c. Losses Other Than Rotation

	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
(1) Interdivision	0	0	1	7
(2) Made good Out of RVN	3	98	0	0
(3) Twice/Three Wounded	0	21	0	1

d. Casualties

	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
(1) KIA	2	34	0	1
(2) MIA	4	182	0	7
(3) DOW	0	2	0	0
(4) WIA/NE	2	65	0	6

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(5) NBC

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e. Rest and Relocation. The following numbers of personnel were assigned R&R quotas to the locations indicated.

(1) Okinawa	3
(2) Hong Kong	11
(3) Bangkok	15
(4) Tokyo	7
(5) Manila	2
(6) Taipei	9
(7) Hawaii	14
(8) Singapore	3
(9) Kuala Lumpur	2
(10) Penang	2
(11) Australia	9

f. Legal and Discipline. The following legal proceedings were conducted within the Battalion during July 1960:

(1) NJP Awarded	12
(2) SCM Completed	0
(3) SCM Pending	1
(4) SPOM Completed	0
(5) SPOM Pending	0
(6) GCM Completed	0
(7) GCM Pending	0
(8) Investigation Completed	2
(9) Investigation Pending	0

2. ADMINISTRATION

a. Awards. The following awards were presented to members of the Battalion during July 1960:

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(1) Bronze Star	1
(2) Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry	30
(3) Purple heart	162

B. Promotions. The following promotions were effected within the Battalion during July 1968:

(1) 1st Lt	3
(2) Sergeant	1
(3) Corporal	45
(4) Lance Corporal	77

INTELLIGENCE

1. During the month of July 1968, the Battalion saw a great deal of movement. From the 1st through the 6th the Battalion CP and Company "C" were located at Hill 558 (XD 821449), with Company "A" at Hill 861 (XD 803445) and Company "B" at Hill 861 South (XD 777438).

2. During this time, the positions at Hills 861 and 861 South received light 82mm mortar fire, with night probes by sniper fire and rifle grenades. These probes increased slightly in intensity during the 4th and 5th.

3. On the 5th of July 1968, Company "D" located at Hill 689 (XD 803409) came back under operational control of the Battalion from 2d Battalion, 1st Marines. During the past 6 - 8 days, Company "D" had been subject to 82mm and 120mm mortar fire, rifle grenades and SA/AV sniper fire. On the 5th, elements of Company "D" at XD 795408 came under intense mortar and AV attack which resulted in heavy friendly casualties.

4. On 6 July 1968, the Battalion, less Company "D" displaced to Hill 689. On the 7th, elements of Company "C" moved through the wire to XD 795408, only to come under heavy attack by SA/AV and 82mm mortar fire. The enemy used the tactic of having troops well dug in in spider holes near friendly wire and covered by SA/AV fire.

5. On the night of the 7th, an enemy attack from XD 782408 (western slope of Hill 689) resulted in 15 KIA's (enemy) inside the perimeter. The rest of the night saw the perimeter probed from all directions.

6. The enemy attack on the 7th took the form of undercover assault with the enemy yelling English phrases such as "Friendly Corporal", "Got Down" and "Friendly." Upon gaining access through the wire, they covered their attack with 60mm mortar fire. At one time during the battle, 7 NVA took refuge in a bunker, which was subsequently annihilated by LAAM fire from close range.

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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7. Examination of the enemy KIA's showed fresh haircuts, good uniforms/equipment and generally well cared for weapons.

8. During the period 6 - 12 July 1968, the Battalion received sporadic 82mm mortar fire and 50 caliber machine gun fire from a general heading of 3900 mills. The fire usually ceased at sundown. Possible location of the 82mm mortar site was XD 780381, XD 791381, and 793387. Artillery coverage, 81mm mortar fire and air strikes were directed on all of the above positions.

9. On the 12th, the Battalion left Hill 689 for Quang Tri and a day's rest. On the 14th, the Battalion, less Company "B", departed Quang Tri for positions at the Rockpile and Camp Carroll. Company "B" remained at Quang Tri. Enemy contact during the next two weeks was negligible with the exception of 2 rocket attacks at the Battalion CP at the Rockpile (XD 908533). The rocket attacks were on the 19th and 22d and were composed of 122mm and 102mm rockets. Rocket launching positions were XD 908533, XD 912522, XD 925554 and 929534. Heavy artillery coverage and air strikes were conducted. Both attacks took place in the late afternoon.

10. On the 26th of July 1968, the Battalion moved to Con Thien, with the CP at A-4. Light incoming 82mm mortars were received at A-3 with a possible mortar site at YD 187752.

11. Light to moderate enemy movement during the rest of the month was moving from the DNZ, down to the Market Place (YD 135725), southwest through the "Agricultural Development Center" (YD 0969) and south southeast through "An Phu", "Lac Son" and near "Leatherneck Square" (YD 155702).

12. Future plans are to carefully observe the infiltration routes just outlined with emphasis on the Agricultural Development Center as a possible lay over or meeting place. Utilization of all on position "Dual Blade" equipment will be stressed to the maximum output.

13. Enemy initiated contact during the reporting period consisted of:

a. Mortar 60mm	--	14	instances
b. Mortar 82mm	--	35	instances
c. Rockets 122/102mm	--	23	instances
d. Artillery 152mm	--	1	instance
e. Rifle Grenades	--	6	instances
f. Small Arms	--	6	instances
g. Chi-con Grenades	--	4	instances

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ENCLOSURE (9)

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14. Heavy equipment and personnel losses for the reporting period:

a. Personnel

(1) KIA	-	95
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b. Equipment and Weapons

(1) AK-47	-	8
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(2) RPD	-	1
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(3) SKS	-	7
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(4) Mortar 60mm	-	1
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(5) B-40	-	2
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(6) 7.62 HMG	-	1
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c. Ammo Destroyed

(1) 75mm RR	-	17 rounds
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OPERATIONS AND TRAINING

1. Operations

a. Mission. 1st Battalion, 1st Marines continued the mission of defense of (Operation SCOTLAND II) and systematic destruction of (Operation CHARLIE) the combat bases and combat outposts on Hills 550, 561 and 561S to be completed prior to "E" Day.

b. Operations

(1) On 1 July 1966, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines, continued the mission of defending the combat outposts on Hills 550, 561, and 561S. Company "D" was OPCON to 2d Bn, 1st Marines and was occupying the combat outpost on Hill 609. Destruction of the positions continued as part of Operation CHARLIE. This included destroying all bunkers and trenches, burying all matting and stakes, rendering the sandbags unusable and burning all that could be burned. This was to be completed prior to "E" Day which was scheduled for 6 July.

(2) On 5 July at 1000, 1st Battalion assumed the control of Company "D" and also Company "G" and "E" of the 2d Battalion, 1st Marines. Company "G" (-) was on Hill 609 assisting Company "D" to recover the remains of 8 Marine casualties which were located on the southwest slope of the hill, approximately 150 meters from the edge of the tactical wire. One platoon of Company "G" and Company "E" were located on Hill 552. Plans were made to recover the bodies the morning of 6 July under the cover of close air support.

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(3) On 6 July, Company "D" and Company "G" (-) failed to gain fire superiority over the enemy who was dug in around the Marine bodies in a series of spider holes. The enemy had numerous mortar firing positions which continued sporadic fire on the defensive position and the planned recovery was aborted.

(4) At 1200 on 6 July, the CO of the 1st Marines directed that the remainder of the 1st Battalion helolift to Hill 609 to assist Company "D" and that the 2 companies of 2d Battalion, then be lifted to return to their parent unit. The lift was scheduled to commence at 1500 however at 1515 Company "B" reported that a Marine was missing from the perimeter on 001S. A shot had been heard and a blood trail was found leading from a break in the tactical wire. A patrol left the perimeter and located the body, however the enemy had set up an ambush around it. 2 attempts were made to recover the body resulting in numerous casualties. The area was prepped with an air strike prior to each attempt but the position was out of artillery range and the company had depleted their 81mm mortar and 60mm ammunition so these supporting arms were not available. Company "B" was the final unit moved to Hill 609 and the Marine was listed as KIA, body not recovered. The helolift was completed successfully, but Company "C" sustained casualties when the landing zone was mortared, with 82mm mortars. The Battalion was then OPCON to the 4th Marines. Plans were made to recover the Marine bodies on 7 July.

(5) 7 July dawned with a low cloud cover which precluded early utilization of close air support to silence the enemy mortars and attack the well entrenched enemy. The location of the enemy positions were masked by the Battalion's position from all but high angle artillery fire. After a 90 minute air strike, Company "C" moved through the tactical wire on the southern portion of the perimeter, in front of Company "D"'s lines to recover the bodies. The Marines were mortared initially but maintained their momentum until they were about 100 meters from the bodies, when they came under intense small arms fire from NVA troops from spider holes. Company "C" was then withdrawn leaving 3 of their own dead near the former casualties.

(6) Just prior to 2100, the Battalion was set in for the night, (see Figure 1). An artillery/air OP had been established to maintain fire on the enemy position and illumination by use of a flare ship over the area where the bodies lay. At about 2100 at least 30 NVA breached the wire outside Company "D"'s lines. As they hit the trench line they attacked along it in both directions, (see Figure 2). A quick reaction by CO of Company "D" and Company "C" and a platoon of Company "B" succeeded in containing the penetration by 2300. Company A was moved from the ridge they had occupied to the west of Company "D" and attacked on line in a southerly direction to restore the perimeter by 000300H, (see Figure 4). One of Company "D"'s KIA's here to fore missing, recovered during the action.

(7) The 1st Battalion was reinforced by Company "L", 3d Bn, 4th Marines at 1530 on 8 July. 8, 9, and 10 July, were spent making plans and covering all known and suspected enemy positions with artillery and

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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- 5 Jul 68 Convoy B departed Khe Sanh Base enroute to LZ STUB at 1720H and arrived at 1912H.
- 5 Jul 68 Convoy C departed Khe Sanh Base enroute to LZ STUB at 1845H and arrived at 2220H.
- 5 Jul 68 1st Marines chopped OPCON of 3/9 to Task Force Hotel at 1900H. Task Force Hotel assumed and passed OPCON of Command Group Bravo to 4th Marine Regiment at 2030H.
- 5 Jul 68 2/1 departed Khe Sanh Base enroute to coordinates XD 921419 at 2000H.
- 6 Jul 68 Helilift of E/2/1 from XD 920420 to Mai Xa Thi commenced at 0825H and ended at 0930H. Concurrently, F/2/1 was helilifted to Quang Tri.
- 6 Jul 68 E/2/1 was chopped to Task Force Hotel at 0910H.
- 6 Jul 68 Helilift of D/1/1 from Hill 001 (S) to Hill 689 commenced at 1500H and was completed at 2015H.
- 6 Jul 68 Helilift of A/1/1 from XD 803443 to Hill 689 commenced at 1510H and was completed at 1547H.
- 6 Jul 68 Helilift of G/1/1 and 1/1 CP from XD 820450 commenced at 1547H and was completed at 1725H.
- 6 Jul 68 F/2/12 was chopped from 1/11 to Task Force Hotel at 1715H.
- 6 Jul 68 Helilift of G/2/1 from Hill 689 to LZ BLUE JAY commenced at 1725H and was completed at 1820H.
- 6 Jul 68 Hq (-) 1/11, G/3/12 and F/2/12 were chopped from 1/11 to CG, TF Hotel at 2025H. Concurrently 1/1, 3/4, 3d Plat, COG 3d Tk Bn, 1st Plat Co B 3d SP Bn, 1st Plat Co B 3d Tk Bn and Co A 3d Tk Bn were chopped from 1st Marines to CG, TF Hotel.
- 6 Jul 68 1st Marines terminated participation in Operation SCOTLAND II at 2020H and concurrently closed CP at YD 007461 and opened at YD 349695.
- 6 Jul 68 1st Marines assumed responsibilities of NAPOLEON/SALINE AG from 1st Antrac Bn at 2300H.

ENCLOSURE (1)

III-A-4

SITUATION REPORT #30
120600H to 121200H July 1968

1. Unit Locations: No Change
2. Summary of Operations: Maintained defensive position and prepared for car wash.
3. Enemy Contacts: Was light receiving 17 rounds of 82mm mortars.
4. Significant Events: Perspective 6 left this position to meet with League Leader Five.
5. Plans: Car Wash
6. Cumulative Casualties:

Friendly

No Change

Enemy

No Change


SITUATION REPORT #19
120001H to 120500H July 1968


1. Unit Locations: No Change.
2. Summary of Operations: Continued defensive position with max use of suppressive fires.
3. Enemy Contacts: One suspected light probe
4. Significant Events: None
5. Plans: Carry out your 112330H Frag Order.
6. Cumulative Casualties:

Friendly

No Change

Enemy

No Change


SITUATION REPORT #18
111800H to 112400H July 1968

1. Unit Locations: No Change.
2. Summary of Operations: Maintained defensive positions and recover MIA's with the aid of 5 sorties of fixed wing knockings out 2 50 calib positions, 2 mortar positions, 2 KBA's and firing 1,378 rounds of Arty
3. Enemy Contacts: Was light receiving 4 rounds of 82mm mortars.
4. Significant Events: Ball game completed without incident.
5. Plans: Maintaining and improving defensive positions.
6. Cumulative Casualties:

Friendly

WIANE - add 2

Enemy

KIA - add 2

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SITUATION REPORT #17
111200H to 111800H July 1968

1. Unit Locations: No Change

2. Summary of Operations: Maintained defensive positions and continued suppressive action running 8 sorties of fixed wing and firing 12 rounds of ARTY.

3. Enemy Contacts: was hit receiving 14 rounds of 82mm mortars.

4. Significant Events: None.

5. Plans: Carrying out plans discussed with league leaders.

6. Cumulative Casualties:

Friendly

WIAE - add 2

Enemy

KIA - add 7

SITUATION REPORT #16
110600H to 111200H July 1968

1. Unit Locations: No change.
2. Summary of Operations: Continuing assigned mission with aid of 2 sorties of napalm flights, 500# bombs, and 211 rounds of ARTY fire.
3. Enemy Contacts: Was light receiving 8 rounds of 82mm and 60mm mortar fire.
4. Significant Events: None.
5. Plans: Continuing plans as previously discussed by Perspective 6 with league leaders.
6. Cumulative Casualties:


Friendly

WIAE - add 1

Enemy

No Change

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SITUATION REPORT #15
101800H to 110600H July 1968

1. Unit Locations: No Change

2. Summary of Operations: Continued heavy suppressive fires through night. Heavy emphasis on aerial illumination of southwest sector of perimeter to prevent movement. Called 144 rounds of observed artillery in addition to suppressive fires.

3. Enemy Contacts: Sniper and mortar fire increased just prior to sundown but enemy contact was negative during the night.

4. Significant Events: None.

5. Plans: Continued plans to fulfill mission.

6. Cumulative Casualties:

Friendly

WIAE - add 2

Enemy

No Change

SECRET

SITUATION REPORT #14
102200H to 121800H July 1968

1. Unit Locations: No Change.

2. Summary of Operations: Maintained defensive positions with the aid of 2 sorties of fixed wing and firing 236 rounds of ARTY. ARTY had two confirmed.

3. Enemy Contacts: Was light receiving 13 rounds of 82mm and 60mm mortars. Sent 2 platoon size patrols out, one found 6-2 man bunkers, cooking utensils and 4 E-tools, USMC type, and destroyed bunkers.

4. Significant Events: None.

5. Plans: Improving defensive positions and continue assigned mission.

6. Cumulative Casualties:

Friendly

WIAE - add 2
KIA - add 11

Enemy

No Change

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SITUATION REPORT #13
100600H to 101200H July 1968

1. Unit Locations: No change.
2. Summary of Operations: Maintained defensive positions with A0 and 4 sorties of fixed wing and firing 151mm rounds of ARTY.
3. Enemy Contacts: Enemy contact was light, receiving 9 rounds of 82mm mortars.
4. Black Botton 6 arrived at this position 100915H.
5. Plans: Continue assigned mission.
6. Cumulative Casualties:

Friendly

No Change

Enemy

No Change

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SITUATION REPORT #12
100001H to 100600H July 1968

1. Unit Locations: No Change.
2. Summary of Operations: Maintained defensive positions with suppressive fires and flareship.
3. Enemy Contacts: Enemy contact and mortars continued to be negative throughout the night.
4. Significant Events: None
5. Plans: Continue assigned mission.
6. Cumulative Casualties:

Friendly

WIANE - add 1

Enemy

No Change

~~SECRET~~
SITUATION REPORT #11
091800H to 092400H July 1968

1. Unit Locations: No Change
2. Summary of Operations: Maintained defensive position with suppressive fires and flareship.
3. Enemy Contacts: None
4. Significant Events: None.
5. Plans: Continue assigned mission.
6. Cumulative Casualties:

Friendly

No Change

Enemy

No Change

~~SECRET~~
SITUATION REPORT #10
091200H to 091800H July 1968

1. Unit Locations: No Change.
2. Summary of Operations: Continued to improve defensive positions and fired 308 rounds of artillery missions and while working with AO ran four sorties of fixed wing.
3. Enemy Contacts: Enemy contact was light with 82mm mortars's receiving constant fire.
4. Significant Events: None.
5. Plans: Continue assigned mission.
6. Cumulative Casualties:

Friendly

WIAE -- add 2
WIANE -- add 1

Enemy

No Change

SITUATION REPORT #9
090600H to 091200H July 1968

1. Unit Locations: No Change.

2. Summary of Operations: Continued to improve positions and ran 4 sorties of Huey gunships and 8 sorties of fixed wing.

3. Enemy Contacts: Was light consisting of sporadic 82mm mortars and light 50 caliber sniper fire originating from grid 810400, 3100 miles. Possible mortar sites 788381, 791381, 791385, 792387, 793387

4. Significant Events: Hallmark 6 arrived 090930H.

5. Plans: Continue assigned mission.

6. Cumulative Casualties:

Friendly

WIANE - add 1

Enemy

No Change

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SITUATION REPORT #8
081800H to 082400H July 1968

1. Unit Location: No change.
2. Summary of Operations: Maintained defensive positions with suppressive fires and flare ship. Received sporadic enemy mortars.
3. Enemy Contacts: Enemy mortars inactive afternight.
4. Significant Events: None.
5. Plans: Improved present positions continue assigned mission.
6. Cumulative Casualties:

Friendly

WIAE - add 3

Enemy

No change

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SITUATION REPORT #7
081200H to 081800H July 1968


1. Unit Locations: No change.
2. Summary of Operations: Maintained defensive positions.
3. Enemy Contacts: During the reporting period, enemy activity was light consisting of 82mm mortars and sporadic sniper fire, originated from XD 9343 3900 mills heading. Possible sites 788381, 791381, 791385, 792387, 793387.
4. Significant Events: Iceboat, Lima was helilifted and chopped to Perspective at Hill 689.
5. Plans: Continue assigned mission.
6. Cumulative Casualties:

Friendly

No change

Enemy

No change


SITUATION REPORT #6
080600H to 081200H July 1968

1. Unit Locations: No change

2. Summary of Operations: Maintained defensive positions, in proving position. Sent platoon size wire patrol out.

3. Enemy Contacts: This position received sporadic 82mm rounds during this period.

4. Significant Events: None.

5. Plans: Continue assigned mission.

6. Cumulative Casualties:

Friendly

No change

Enemy

No Change


SITUATION REPORT #5
072000H to 080600H July 1968

1. Unit Locations: No change.

2. Summary of Operations: Enemy estimated Sapper company attacked and penetrated Delta's lines about 2100. Reactionary force by Charlie and Bravo contained penetration. Attack by Alfa restored the lines about 080315H. Entire lines probed during action, enemy contact negative by 080500H. Entire 689 Hill complex surrounded by NVA with 60mm and 82mm mortars.

3. Enemy Contacts: Captured 8 AK-47's, 7 SKS and 1 RPG, 1 60mm mortar, also captured one diary. The enemy were sapper troops, with fresh haircuts and new sneakers or shoes.

4. Significant Events: None.

5. Plans: Improving present position.

6. Cumulative Casualties:

Friendly

KIA - add 5
WIAE - add 27
WIANE - add 11
MTA - 0

Enemy

KIA - add 53
POW - add 1 (WIA)

SITUATION REPORT #4
071200H to 072000H July 1968

1. Unit Locations: No change.

2. Summary of Operations: Commenced air prep at 1300, Company C moved through wire at 1445 at XD 805408, received incoming 82mm. Attacked West toward objective area at 1530 commenced receiving intense small arms fire, tried to maneuver forward to objective but received excessive casualties. Broke contact at 1730 and returned to former position.

3. Enemy Contacts: Received 82mm and 60mm rounds during action at this position, and sporadic after action. Captured 1 60mm mortar with site, 2 AK-47 and 2 SKS's.

4. Significant Events: None.

5. Plans: Carrying out Frag Order.

6. Cumulative Casualties:

Friendly

KIA - add 7
WIA - add 30

Enemy

KIA - add 40
WIA


SITUATION REPORT #3
070600H to 071200H July 1968

1. Unit Locations: No Change.
2. Summary of Operations: Maintained defensive positions at above location. Prepared for day activities to recover MIA's.
3. Enemy Contacts: 070745H, 061425H, 061400H, 061540, 061600H, 061740H, 061830H, 071830H. Sporadic incoming 82mm rounds.
4. Significant Events: None.
5. Plans: Will conduct offensive daywork after air prep.
6. Cumulative Casualties:

Friendly

WIAE - add 4
NBC - add 1

Enemy

No Change


SITUATION REPORT #2
070001H to 070600H July 1968

1. Unit Locations: No Change
2. Summary of Operations: Maintained defensive positions and conducted nightwork.
3. Enemy Contacts: None.
4. Significant Events: None.
5. Plans: Awaiting arrival of League Leader Five. Preparing to recover MIA.
6. Cumulative Casualties:

Friendly

No change

Enemy

No Change


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HEADQUARTERS
1st Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment
FPO San Francisco, California, 96602

3/JFM/edk
4 Aug 1968

From: Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines
To: Commanding Officer, 4th Marines

Subj: Situation Reports; period of 061800H July 1968 to 121200H July 1968.

SITUATION REPORT #1
061800H to 062400H July 1968

1. Unit Locations: All Companies from RP T R 2.3 D00.1
2. Summary of Operations: Perspective consolidated unit position by helilift to Deltas position.
3. Enemy Contacts: Five NVA probed Perspective Alfa. One confirmed kill, and one AK-47 captured. Received sporadic mortar fire and three rounds 57mm RH.
4. Significant Events: None.
5. Plans: Awaiting arrival of League Leader Five.
6. Cumulative Casualties:

FRIENDLY

KIA	0
WIAE	13
WIANE	1
MIA	0
NBC	0

ENEMY

KIA	2
PW	0
DET	0
CSWC	0
IWC	1

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. Part IV

Supporting Documents

- ✓ TAB A Journal for 1 July 1960 to 31 July 1960
- ✓ TAB B Situation Reports for period 061000H
to 121200H

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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Part IIISequential Listing of Significant Events

- 2 July 1st Bn, 1st Marines, continued assigned mission of defense of and systematic destruction of combat bases and combat outposts on Hills 558, 861, and 881S to be completed prior to "E" Day. Ref: 1st Marines Frag O 105-68.
- 5 July 051800H, resumed control of Company "D" and OPCON of Company "G" and "E", 2d Bn, 1st Marines. Company "D" and part of Company "G" on Hill 609 and Company "E" and one platoon of Company "G" on Hill 552. Ref: 1st Marines Frag O 105-68.
- 6 July 061200H received verbal order from CO, 1st Marines to helo-lift Companies "A", "B", "C", with command group to assist Company D retrieve KIA's which were located outside perimeter. Companies "G" and "E" to be helolifted from position to return to control of 2d Bn, 1st Marines.
- 6 July 061500H issued Frag O to all companies giving the order of movement to Hill 689 and subsequent missions for each company upon arrival.
- 6 July 061515H Company "B" reported one Marine missing from the perimeter. A shot had been heard and a blood trail had been found leading from a break in the tactical wire on Hill 881S. The order of movement was corrected to allow Company "B" time to investigate the Marine's disappearance.
- 6 July 061600H, Helolift commenced to Hill 689
- 6 July 061800H, companies "E" and "G" completed lift from Hill 552 and 689 respectively and were returned to 2d Bn, 1st Marines control.
- 6 July 061800H Marines's body discovered by Company "B" unit outside wire, confirmed KIA. Two attempts to recover the body under the cover of fixed wing air strikes and organic weapons fire failed and Company "B" was helolifted to Hill 689.
- 6 July 062025H 1st Bn, 1st Marines chopped OPCON to 4th Marines. Ref: 1st Marines msg.
- 7 July 071445 Company "C" commenced attack to recover the bodies located on the south western slope of Hill 609. Received 02mm mortar fire upon commencement of movement. Ref: Sit-Rep #4 to 4th Marines (TAB B)
- 7 July 071530H Company "C" came under intense small arms fire from covered holes in the objective area. Attempted to maneuver

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forward. Ref: Sit Rep #4 to 4th Marines (TAB B).

7 July 071730H Company "C" broke contact and returned to perimeter before recovering the bodies due to excessive casualties. Ref: Sit Rep #4 to 4th Marines (TAB B).

7 July 072100H an estimated enemy sapper company penetrated Company "D's" lines. Reactionary force by Company "C" and 3d Platoon, Company "B", contained the penetration by 2300H. Sit Rep #5 to 4th Marines (TAB B).

8 July 080315 Company "A" attacked on line and succeeded in restoring the defensive perimeter. Sit Rep #5 to 4th Marines (TAB B).

8 July 081530H Company "L", 3d Bn, 4th Marines, helolifted to Hill 609 and reinforce 1st, 1st Marines.

9 July 090930H CG, Task Force Hotel arrived to survey the situation. Sit Rep #9 to 4th Marines (TAB B).

10 July 100915H CG, Task Force Hotel arrived to survey the situation. Sit Rep #13 to 4th Marines (TAB B).

10 July 101745H received 4th Marines Frng 0 directing that another attempt be made to recover the 9 Marine bodies outside the wire.

11 July 111345H submitted plan to 4th Marines for recovery of bodies.

11 July 112225H 4th Marines notified that 7 bodies had been recovered. The other bodies had been destroyed by air strikes. No casualties sustained during the recovery operation.

11 July 112250H Received 4th Marines Frng 0 to prepare to evacuate Hill 609 on 12 July.

12 July 121245H Helolift to LZ Stud commenced

12 July 121625H OPCON of 1/1 passed from 4th Marines to Task Force Hotel.

12 July 121715H OPCON of 1/1 passed from Task Force Hotel to CG 3d Mar Div. Operation SCOTLAND II ended for 1st Bn, 1st Marines.

12 July 121730H Helolift to Quang Tri Combat Base completed via LZ Stud.

13 July 131500H Company "B" OPCON to HQ Bn, 3d Mar Div, for defense of ASP at Hill 22.

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14 July 140930H Convoy with Companies A, C, D and H&S departed Quang Tri Combat Base for 3d Marines CP at Camp Carroll.

14 July 141700H Company "D" assumed responsibility for defense at Camp Carroll, Company "C" assumed responsibility for defense of 3 key positions on Rt 9 and Company "A" took over the defense at the Fire Support base at the Rockpile. The Battalion CP located with Company "A". 2d Bn, 3d Marines still is responsible for all positions.

15 July 150900H Assumed responsibility for defense of assigned positions from 2d Bn, 3d Marines in Operation LANCASTER II AO.

15 July 151200H 2 Platoons, Company "M", 3d Bn, 3d Marines OPCON to assist with mission.

17 July 171600H two platoons of Company "M", 3d Bn, 3d Marines returned to parent control. Company "A" minus one platoon directed to provide security for 2, 105mm howitzer batteries of the 1st Bn, 12th Marines on Rt 9 near Camp Carroll.

19 July 191655H Fire support base at the Rockpile received 12 rounds of 122mm rocket fire. 2 Marines KIA.

22 July 221640H Fire support base at the Rockpile received 15 rounds of 122mm and 192mm rocket fire.

26 July 261100H 1st Bn, 1st Marines relieved of positions in LANCASTER II AO by 2d Bn, 3d Marines and commenced movement as follows: Company "D" to C-2, Company "A" & "C" and Bn tactical staff to A-3, H&S Company (-) to A-4. Movement completed by 1630. Ref: 1st Mar Frag 0 111-60.

26 July 261630H OPCON 1st Bn, 1st Marines, passed to CG 3d Marine Division and further passed to 1st Marines.

27 July 270615H Companies "A" and "C" commenced search and destroy operation to the south and west of A-3 under control of Bn tactical staff at A-3. Ref: 1st Mar Frag 0 112-68.

27 July 271630H Search and destroy operation completed.

27 July 271925H CP Group helolifted to A-4.

28 July 280030H Assumed control of KENTUCKY AO from 2d Bn, 26th Marines. Company "B" returned to Battalion's control along with Company "G", 2d Bn, 1st Marines. Ref: 1st Marines msg 280030H and 1st Marines Frag 0 111-68.

31 July Received oral order CG, 1st Marines to maintain one company at all times in the "Leatherneck Square" of AO.

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c. Generator failure continues to plague this command; one PU-348 is in Okinawa; one PU-306 is in Yokosuka, Japan, both awaiting parts. One PU-239, which was in Da Nang for repair, was shipped to the Battalion repair at Phu Bai. This generator has never arrived at this command.

MEDICAL

1. Aside from battle casualties, the health of the Battalion has been generally excellent. 202 patients were seen at the Battalion aid station, most of whom had minor problems. Major problems included: dysentery - 7; mumps - 1; non-battle injuries - 5; minor surgery - 7; venereal disease - 5; malaria - 2 and heat exhaustion - 5.
2. We have begun to receive Dapsen tablets, each tablet a 25mg dose for use in conjunction with Chloroquin-Primaquin for the prevention of Malaria. Intake of this drug is being enforced to the greatest extent possible. Probably as a consequence of Dapsen use and movement eastward away from the Khe Sanh area, the incidence of malaria has undergone a marked decrease.
3. While the Battalion remains in the Con Thien area, one of the greatest problems anticipated is a high incidence of heat exhaustion. Prevention will depend on water discipline, use of salt tablets, pacing of patrols, and the avoidance of the use of high grassy areas for rest areas while on patrol.
4. Classes were started for corpsmen with the forward element of the Battalion. Instruction by the Battalion Surgeon has so far included diagnosis of febrile diseases; the use of antibiotics and combat psychiatry. These classes will be continued.

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c. On 15 July 1960, the Battalion arrived at the Rockpile. Minor radio problems were experienced with the Battalion Tactical net but these problems were relieved by using 292 antennas at Company positions.

d. On 26 July 1960, the Battalion arrived at Con Thien, with two (2) companies at A-3, one (1) at C-2 and one platoon at C-2 Bridge, no radio problems encountered.

e. 30 July 1960, KY-30 capabilities were effected with Companies "A" and "C" at A-3. The Battalion has had KY-30 capabilities since 3 July.

3. Wire

a. On 3 July 1960, a radio relay shot was installed to 1st Marines at Khe Sanh.

b. On 10 July 1960, wire installation was completed at the Rockpile with two lines via MRC-26 Van to 3d Marines at Camp Carroll.

c. On 27 July 1960, completed wire installation at A-4, Con Thien.

d. On 29 July 1960, removed SD-06 "Dual Blade" and replaced the SD-06 with three SD-22's, property of 1st Battalion, 1st Marines.

4. Message Center

a. On 4 July 1960, the Message Center was secured in preparation for the move from Hill 550. Message pick up was resumed on 24 July 1960 from the 1st Marines.

b. Message Center processed a total of 300 messages in the forward positions.

5. Maintenance and Supply

a. All radio and telephone equipment on A-4 sector, was given a PM check prior to installation.

b. Supply as outlined in paragraph (6) Problems Encountered.

6. Problems Encountered

a. The shortage of repair and accessory parts for the AN/MRC-25 continues to be acute, especially tape type antennas, bases and batteries.

b. On 17 July 1960, one radio jeep (M-109) was destroyed as a result of enemy fire at the Rockpile. However the radios were not installed at the time and a replacement vehicle is presently on order.

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section needs a Sergeant, 0341 administrative chief.

2. Maintenance

(a) The M-170 ambulance that is to be replaced by the M-710 ambulance was dropped from the T/E and the M-710 is now on order.

(b) One (1) MRC-G3 D/L for 2nd Echelon Maintenance.

(c) There are three (3) M-274's D/L for 3rd Echelon Maintenance.

(d) One (1) MRC-109 was a combat loss and is on order.

3. Engineers. All work requests that have been submitted are complete.

4. Ordnance

a. Both of the Battalion's compressors that were previously on 3rd Echelon Maintenance have been code H and are on order.

b. The Battalion is short one (1) Recoilless Rifle which is on order.

c. At the present time there are only four (4) of the eight (8) 81mm mortars operational. Three were code H and are on order.

d. There is a current shortage of six (6) M-60 machine guns and these are on order.

5. Transportation. There are no current difficulties with transportation.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS

1. General

a. On 1 July 1968, the Battalion CP was located on Hill 558, north of Khe Sanh.

b. On 20 July 1968, W.C. LARSON, A. L. joined the Battalion, as Battalion Communications Officer.

2. Radio

a. On 3 July 1968, vertically polarized log periodic antenna was erected on an 00 degree azimuth to maintain communications with 1st Marines at Khe Sanh.

b. On 6 July 1968, the Battalion departed Hill 558 for Hill 689; only radio communications were used and no problems were encountered.

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(b) 50 Caliber Positions Destroyed	3
(c) Mortar Position Positions Destroyed	5
(d) bunkers Destroyed	21
(e) Rocket Positions Destroyed	5
(f) Secondary Explosions	7

2. Training

a. During this reporting period, this Battalion remained in an operational status, participating in Operation SCOTLAND II, LANCASTER II and "KENTUCKY." Training during the period was limited almost entirely to indoctrination of newly arrived personnel. A total of 231 replacements received this training which was conducted at the Battalion rear in Phu Bai in accordance with current 1st Mar Div directives.

b. Additionally, as the tactical situation allowed, some training was conducted by all units. Gunnery Sergeant ZEMRACK, M-16 Contact Team, HQ Bn, 3d Mar Div spent 4 days with the Battalion while at the Rockpile and held platoon size classes for over 300 Marines on the M-16 rifle. He emphasized care and cleaning, zeroing and field firing.

c. Schools. Personnel from the Battalion attended the following schools:

(1) NCO Leadership School, DA NANG	5
(2) Officer Embark School, OKINAWA	1
(3) Officer Leadership School, DA NANG	2
(4) SNCO Leadership School, DA NANG	1
(5) Basic Ammo Tech School, OKINAWA	1
(6) Embarkation School, OKINAWA	1

LOGISTICS

1. Supply. Some difficulties have been encountered in obtaining sufficient quantities of 702-gear. Some of the hard to obtain items are flak jackets, canteens, camouflage covers and certain sizes of clothing. Since the Battalion's move to Con Thien, the supply section has established a forward element at Dong Ha. This should expedite the resupply of the Battalion considerably. The Battalion is short general combat essential pieces of equipment including three (3) 61mm mortars, two (2) M-60 machine guns, one (1) 106 Recoilless Rifle and one (1) AN/MCR-109 radio jeep. These items are being placed on Red Ball. The supply personnel situation remains satisfactory with the exception that the

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AIO, after termination of the operation at 1630 the command group was taken by helicopter to A-4 (Con Thien).

(15) On 20 July at 0030, responsibility for defense of the combat base, offensive operations in the AO and custody of the "on position" "Dual Blade" equipment passed from 2d Bn, 26th Marines to 1st Bn, 1st Marines.

(16) On 31 July, during a visit to A-4 the CO, 1st Marines issued an oral order to the CO, 1st Bn, 1st Marines to maintain one company at all times in the "Leatherneck Square" area of the AO and plans were made to execute the order on 1 August.

c. Artillery Support

(1) During the reporting period artillery support was provided the Battalion by Batteries "A", "B", "C" and "D"/1/11; "F"/2/12; "G", "H" and "I"/3/12; "L"/4/12; "B"/1st GIN. Howitzer S.P.; "A", 2nd Bn, 94th Arty; "A", 1st Bn, 40th Arty S. P.; and "C", 1st GIN. Howitzer S. P.

(2) During the month of July, the following artillery fires were provided:

(a) 203 observed fire missions with an expenditure of 7,356 rounds.

(b) 1,650 H&I fires with an expenditure of 9,940 rounds.

d. Air Support. During July 1968, the following air support was provided the Battalion:

(1) Fixed Wing. 93 flights of CAS, nine TPQ-10's, 45 hours of flareship and nine hours AC-47 gunship.

(2) Aerial Observation. 95 hours and 55 minutes were flown.

(3) Helicopter Support. Marine helicopters flew the following sorties:

(a) Emergency Medevac	33
(b) Priority Medevac	63
(c) Routine Medevac	60
(d) Resupply	106

(4) BDA (Bomb Damage Assessment). During July 1968, bomb damage assessment in the 1st Battalion AO was as follows:

(a) BDA

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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air strikes. High angle artillery fire missions on the area surrounding the bodies was fired on the afternoon of 10 July.

(8) On 11 July, air strikes delivering napalm and 500 lb bombs were directed around the objective area. At 111345H the following message was sent to the 4th Marines. "E-Flour planned for 112030H. Airstrikes planned this afternoon. Supporting fires by artillery and Bn weapons during the operation, bodies to be picked up by four man teams. Non illuminated." On schedule the recovery teams from Company "A" recovered 7 of the bodies, the remainder being destroyed by the air strikes, (Fig 5) without further casualties. 300 artillery rounds were expended during the 2 hour operation in preplanned suppressive fires.

(9) The Battalion was helolifted from Hill 609 on 12 July. The lift was completed in 2 stages, the first to LZ Stud and the second to Quang Tri Combat Base. At Quang Tri, the Battalion was taken to a rest over area for showers, clean clothes, hot chow, cold beer and a 2 night rest. Company "B" was ordered out of the rest area early (131500H) to relieve Company H, 2d Bn, 1st Marines, as security for the ASP on Hill 22 south of Quang Tri. They were OPCON to HQ Bn, 3d Mar Div.

(10) At 140930H, the Battalion loaded aboard trucks and moved to the vicinity of Camp Carroll. Upon arrival it came under OPCON of 3d Marines and was ordered to relieve units of the 2d Bn, 3d Marines. Company "C" assumed responsibility for defense of 3 key positions along Route 9, Company "D" assumed responsibility for defense of Camp Carroll and Company "A" took over the defense of the fire support base at the Rockpile. The Battalion CP was located with Company "A" at the Rockpile. At 0900 on 15 July, responsibility passed from 2/3 to 1/1 for all the assigned positions in the LANCASTER II AO.

(11) At 1600 on 17 July, Company "A" minus one platoon moved to a position north of Camp Carroll along Route 9, to provide security for 2 artillery batteries, firing in support of 3d Marine units. The remaining platoon of Company "A" and H&S Company provided security for the fire support base at the Rockpile.

(12) At 1500 on 25 July, 2d Bn, 3rd Marines returned by helicopter to the Rockpile, and prepared to relieve the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines of their defensive positions.

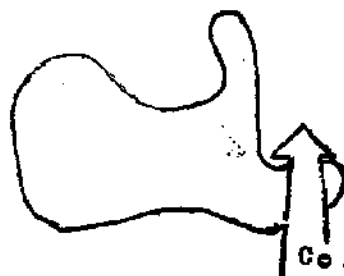
(13) On 26 July, after relief by 2d Bn, 3d Marines, the 1st Battalion, moved by truck convoy to the KENTUCKY AO encompassing the combat bases at A-3, A-4, C-2 and C-2 Bridge. Company D moved to C-2, Company "A" and "C" and a light CP group moved to A-3 and H&S Company moved to A-4. The AO was under the control of the 2d Bn, 26th Marines.

(14) At 0630 on 27 July, Companies A and C commenced a search and destroy operation south and west of A-3. Contact with the enemy was negligible however the hotter climatic conditions in the new operating area took its toll in heat casualties. The operation was controlled by the light CP group consisting of the CO, S-3, FSC and

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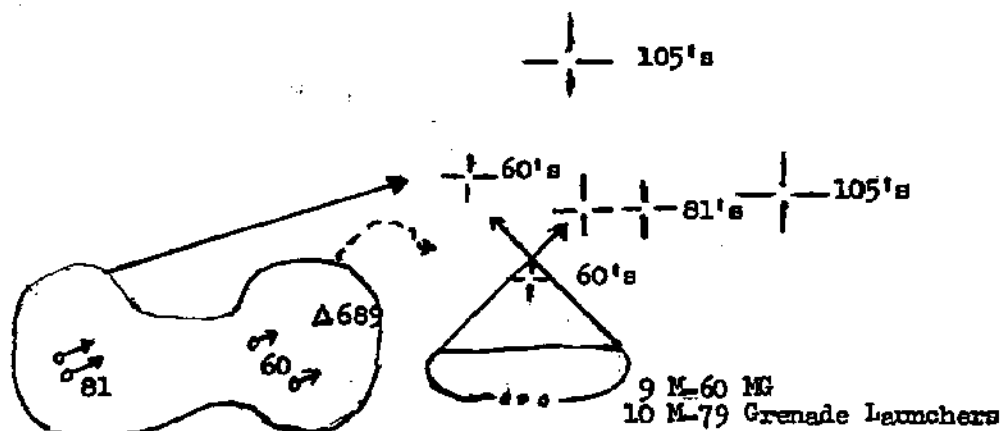
ENCLOSURE (1)



Co A's Attack

072400H Jul 1968

Figure 4



112030H Jul 1968

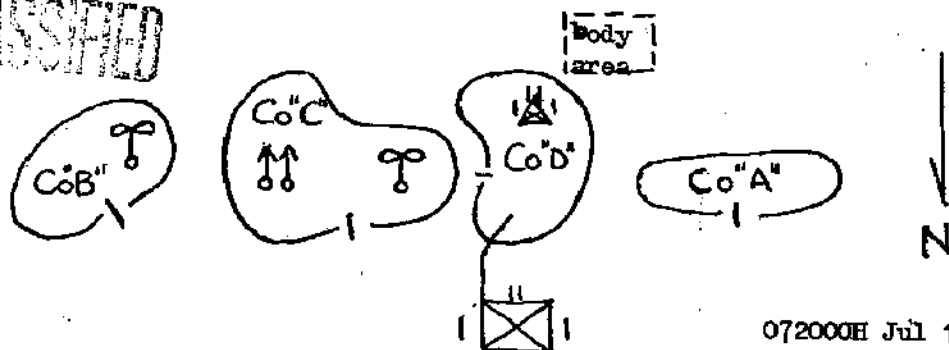
Route of
Recovery Teams

Figure 5

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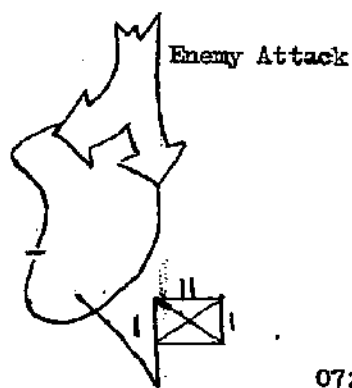
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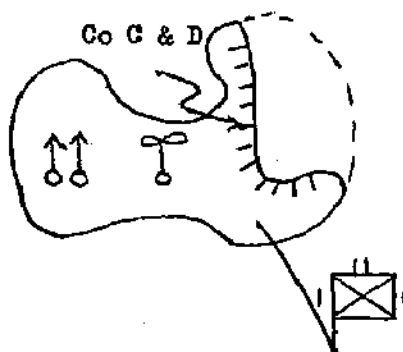
072000H Jul 1968

Figure 1



072100H Jul 1968

Figure 2



072300H Jul 1968

Figure 3

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~~SECRET~~
ENCLOSURE (1)