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

3/TEH/mep  
5750  
8 November 1970

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)  
Via: Commanding Officer; 1st Marines  
Commanding General; 1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
Commanding General; III Marine Amphibious Force  
Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

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Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 October 1970 to 31 October 1970

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2  
(b) FMF PacO 5750.8  
(c) DivO 5750.2B  
(d) RegtO 5750.2

Encl: / (1) October 1970 Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a), (b), (c) and (d), enclosure (1) is submitted.

P. D. Slack  
P. D. SLACK  
By direction of the Director of  
Marine Corps History and Museums  
in accordance with the provisions  
of MCO ltr Ser 009D03/232095 of  
22 Feb 1979  
Signature Date 6/27/77  
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1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Battalion, 1st Marines  
1st Marine Division (Rein) FPF  
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 October 1970 to 31 October 1970

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## PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. Designation

1st Battalion, 1st Marines 1-31 October 1970

Commander

LtCol. R. P. ROSE

Subordinate Units

H&amp;S Company

1-5 October 1970  
6-31 October 19701stLt. R. D. BURCHFIELD  
Capt. W. S. DEFOREST

Company "A"

1-31 October 1970

Capt. C. E. DENNIS

Company "B"

1-5 October 1970  
6-31 October 19701stLt. D. D. CRETCHFIELD  
Capt. B. E. FELLENGER

Company "C"

1-31 October 1970

1stLt. J. N. WOOD Jr.

Company "D"

1-31 October 1970

Capt. E. M. STCLAIR

Company "M"

1 October 1970  
2-31 October 1970Capt. R. D. KINCADE  
Capt. H. W. GARDNER2. Location

1-31 October 1970: Quang Nam Province, Republic of Vietnam

3. Staff Officers

Executive Officer

1-31 October 1970

Major P. D. SLACK

Sergeant Major

1-31 October 1970

SgtMaj. W. J. JONES, Jr.

S-1/Adjutant

1-31 October 1970

2ndLt. S. B. EDWARDS

S-2

1-31 October 1970

Capt. D. W. PICKERSCILL

S-3

1-31 October 1970

Major T. E. HEMINGWAY

S-4

1-31 October 1970

Capt. D. E. CHRISTY

S-5

1-15 October 1970  
16-31 October 19701stLt. W. H. TOPPING  
1stLt. J. B. PHILIPS

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Enclosure (1)

CEO	1-31 October 1970	Capt. T. A. FARLEY
ALO	1-31 October 1970	1stLt. R. E. SCAR
FAC	1-31 October 1970	1stLt. D. F. ZELLER
Chaplain	1-31 October 1970	LCdr. J. R. MORITZ
Surgeon	1-31 October 1970	Lt. S. P. KERNER

4. Average Monthly Strength

<u>USMC</u>	
<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
44	1298

<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
3	54

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PART II  
SECTION A  
PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION

1. Personnela. Average Monthly Strength

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
H&S Company	18	325	3	54
Company "A"	5	190		
Company "B"	5	179		
Company "C"	5	178		
Company "D"	5	183		
Company "M"	6	243		

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b. Casualties

<u>KIA</u>	<u>BATTLE</u>			<u>SERIOUS</u>	<u>NON-BATTLE</u>	
	<u>WIA</u>	<u>MIA</u>	<u>DOW</u>		<u>MINOR</u>	<u>DEATH</u>
2	31	0	0	2	21	1

c. Replacements Received

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
4	219	1	11

d. Rotation During Month

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
5	160	0	17

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Enclosure (1)

2. Legal and Discipline

	<u>H&amp;S</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>M</u>
NJP	7	8	2	3	0	0
SCM (COMPLETED)	0	0	0	0	0	0
SCM (PENDING)	1	0	1	0	0	0
SPCM (COMPLETED)	0	0	1	0	0	2
SPCM (PENDING)	1	2	0	2	0	5
GCM (COMPLETED)	1	0	0	0	0	0
GCM (PENDING)	0	0	0	0	0	0
INVESTIGATIONS (COMPLETED)	3	0	0	0	0	0
INVESTIGATIONS (PENDING)	2	1	0	0	0	0

3. R&R Program

	<u>H&amp;S</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>M</u>
Bangkok	3	1	1	1	1	1
Hong Kong	1	1	1	1	1	1
Taipei	3	1	1	1	1	1
Sydney	3	1	1	2	1	1
Hawaii	3	1	2	1	2	0
Okinawa	4	2	2	2	2	0

4. Awards

a. The following awards were recommended for members of the battalion during the month of October 1970:

(1) Navy Commendation	3
(2) Navy Achievement Medal	3
(3) Bronze Star	11

b. The following awards were presented to members of this battalion during the month of October 1970:

(1) Purple Heart	12
------------------	----

c. The following awards were forwarded to MCB Camp Butler, Okinawa:

(1) Purple Heart	20
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5. Promotions

a. The following promotions were effective within the battalion during the month of October 1970:

(1) First Lieutenant	1
(2) Sergeant	1
(3) Corporal	14
(4) Lance Corporal	74
(5) Private First Class	7

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Enclosure (1)

SECTION B  
INTELLIGENCE

1. During the month of October, the battalion participated in the Voluntary Informant Program with purchases totaling 44,070 Piasters. All the purchases were made for ordnance brought out of the field by local Vietnamese.
2. October began with Hill 52 still under attack by fire from recoilless rifle, mortar and rocket fire. These attacks by fire continued with the last incident occurring on the 12th. Friendly supporting arms and resupply problems undoubtedly forced him to curtail his operations. These attacks on Hill 52 are felt to be a diversion from his attempts to resupply and counter the Pacification Program. Enemy activity throughout the last half of the month was sporadic and negligible.
3. Intelligence reports indicated the enemy had been ordered to move his supplies and caches to higher ground in order to escape the rising water of the monsoon. It is anticipated that during the coming month, the enemy will continue his resupply and counter pacification efforts although the present monsoon conditions are expected to seriously degrade his operation. Survival will become his concern.
4. Recapitulation of enemy activities during the month of October 1970.
 

(1) Sightings and contacts	14
(2) Small arms and harrassing Fire Attacks	36
(3) Grenade attacks	2
(4) Booby traps found and destroyed	3
(5) Booby traps detonated	3
(6) Mines found and destroyed	2
(7) Mines detonated	3
5. Recapitulation of enemy equipment and personnel losses for October 1970.
 

(1) Fighting holes, caves and bunkers	11
(2) KIA	1
(3) Detainees	19

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(10) KIA	5
(11) WIA	0
(12) Detainees	14
(13) POW's	0

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SECTION C  
OPERATIONS AND TRAINING1. Operations

a. Mission. From 1-31 October 1970, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines was assigned the mission of conducting unilateral and combined offensive operations in cooperation/coordination with Vietnamese forces within the designated TAOR to search out and eliminate enemy forces and logistical installations. The primary emphasis was placed on those elements and base areas posing the greatest hazards to the Government of Vietnam's control of significantly populated areas and to the security of friendly installations, as well as, the task of denying the enemy access to rocket sites against the Danang Vital Area. (See TAB C).

b. Tasks. From 1 to 31 October 1970, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines was assigned the following tasks:

- (1) To occupy and defend USMC portion of Hill 37, vic. AT916581.
- (2) To occupy and defend Hill 65, vic. AT880580.
- (3) To occupy and defend Hill 52, vic. ZC214554.
- (4) To occupy and defend Hill 10, vic. AT924690.
- (5) To provide one platoon OpCon to the 11th Marines for security of the O.P. located on Hill 250, vic. AT795531.
- (6) To provide security for O.P. located on Hill 270, vic. AT865681.
- (7) From 1 to 23 October 1970, to provide security for Engineer and U.S. Navy Mobile Construction Battalion projects within our TAOR to include daily mine sweeps along common access routes.
- (8) To be prepared to provide a reaction force capable of relieving the Hieu Duc and Dai Loc District Headquarters and Combined Action Company units within the TAOR.
- (9) To deny the enemy access to probable rocket launch site against the Danang Vital Area.

c. Special Operations

- (1) From 1 to 23 October 1970, Company "D" provided security for SeaBee units repairing the road network between Hill 37 and Hill 55.

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(2) From 1 to 31 October 1970, Company "M" CUPP units conducted combined tactical, civil, medical and psychological operations with local RF/PF forces in their assigned TAOR.

(3) From 1 to 31 October 1970, Company "D" conducted ambush and patrolling activities on the eastern slope of 'Charlie Ridge' to deny the enemy access routes to the rice lowlands adjacent to route 540.

(4) From 28 to 31 October 1970, elements of the battalion conducted repeated rescue missions assisting the RF/PF and civilian refugees of the Dai Loc District during the heavy monsoon rains and extensive flooding.

(5) On 27 and 28 October 1970, Company "C", located on Hill 52, provided security for "C" Battery 2/94 Artillery undertaking an "artillery raid" to determine the feasibility and reaction capability.

(6) On 4, 6, 13, 17, 21, 25 and 27 October 1970, units from the battalion were responsible for opening Route 4 to Hill 52, assuring safe and efficient trafficability. (See TAB A).

(7) Commencing on 25 October 1970 and proceeding into November 1970, Operation "Hoang Dieu" was introduced in the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines TAOR for the mission of utilizing the numerous RF/PF elements available within portions of Dai Loc and Hieu Duc Districts. As illustrated by TAB B, twenty-eight sectors were designated by the province as RF/PF A.O.'s to facilitate coordination of Marine and RVN forces to search and destroy the enemy. The no fire line illustrated in TAB B, also assisted in coordination and avoidance of friendly on friendly situations.

## 2. Training

a. A Mine/Booby Trap Contact Team from 1st Engineer Battalion held instructions on land mines and booby traps. Five classes were held with a total attendance of 218 personnel.

b. During the month, a contact team from 1st Medical Battalion visited fixed positions in the A.O., presenting lectures on Malaria Control. Ten classes were presented with total attendance of 507 personnel.

c. On 22 October 1970, a representative from III Marine Amphibious Force held instruction on Drug Abuse. Two classes were held with a total of 105 personnel in attendance.

d. Two hundred and thirty-five personnel joining the battalion received the battalion orientation course.

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e. Nineteen personnel successfully completed the one week resident Land Mine Warfare School conducted by 1st Engineer Battalion.

f. Company level training during the month placed emphasis on personal response, mines and booby traps, drug abuse, patrolling techniques and land navigation.

### 3. Air Support

a. During the month of October 1970, 71 flights of fixed wing from MAG 11 were flown in support of the battalion. The aircraft expended a total of 608,000 pounds of bombs, 102,000 pounds of napalm, 2 pods of 2.75" rockets and 2,700 rounds of 20 mm ammunition. The damage assessment included 11 bunkers destroyed, 125 meters of treeline, 50 meters of trenchline and eight secondary fires and explosions.

b. OV10A Bronco aircraft from VMO-02 amassed 22 hours of flight time in aerial observation, artillery spotting missions and close air support. The aircraft expended three pods of rockets and 2,600 rounds of 7.62 ammunition.

c. In support of combat operations in the TAOR, a total of 35 sorties for 22 emergency, 30 priority and 20 routine med-evacs were flown. Also 4 sorties were flown by CH-46D and CH-53 helicopters lifting and extracting 302 troops. A total of six hours flight was flown by "Cobra" gunships. Sixteen visual reconnaissance missions were flown with a total of 25 hours and 50 minutes of flight time. Seventeen resupply lifts with a total weight of 141,010 pounds were flown.

### 4. Artillery Support

a. Alpha Battery, 1st Battalion, 11th Marines fired 7,999 rounds during the month of October in support of 1st Battalion, 1st Marines. There were six contact missions, in which 306 rounds were expended, 45 targets of opportunity in which 795 rounds were expended, and 190 intelligence targets, which accounted for 5,846 rounds. There also 447 pre-emptive targets fired on during the month by Alpha Battery, and this consumed 2,052 rounds.

b. There were no significant incidents occurring this month. Alpha Battery is credited with two enemy KIA's and one confirmed WIA. The bulk of this month's fires were delivered during the first half of the month, as a massive no fire zone imposed at mid-month greatly inhibited the volume of fire. Flood conditions during the last few days of the month also reduced severely the number of rounds fired.

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SECTION D  
LOGISTICS

1. The battalion is continuing the upgrading of defensive positions on Hill 37, Hill 65 and Hill 52. Sand bags and culverts have been procured for construction of low silhouette living bunkers on Hill 52. In addition, four 8 X 8 ammunition bunkers were built by 1st Platoon, Company "A", 1st Engineers on Hill 52.
2. Elements of Company "A", 7th Engineers are continuing to upgrade Route 4 west, but due to recent flooding work has ceased.
3. Major logistical support is being supplied to all units by helicopter out of Hill 37, LZ 432. The Logistical Support Unit at Hill 37 provides Class I, III and V to the battalion.
4. During the month of October, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines supplies all of its units out of Hill 37, LZ 432. A total of 141,010 pounds of cargo was lifted out of LZ 432 during the month of October 1970.
5. On 3 October 1970, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines supply underwent a Financial Management Inspection. A grade of satisfactory with one minor discrepancy was received. On 19 October, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines Supply underwent a Field Supply Analysis Office Inspection, however the final report has not yet been received by this unit.

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SECTION E  
PSYCHOLOGICAL OPERATIONS/CIVIL AFFAIRS

1. Public Works. The battalion S-5 Section provided four truck loads of ~~sand~~ for the Dai Loc High School. S-5 also provided lumber for the reconstruction of homes damaged by gunships at Ai My, vic. AT918567.
2. Welfare. This battalion provided clothes, health items and fire wood to flood refugees.
3. Education. Negative report this month.
4. Health. This battalion treated 1419 civilians on our battalion Med-Caps. Three mobile Med-Caps were held at various points within our TAOR, treating a total of 500 Vietnamese civilians.
5. Agriculture. Negative report this month.
6. Social
  - a. The battalion provided transportation for four civilians to the Danang Provincial Hospital and one to FLC Children's Hospital.
  - b. The Battalion Commander and Chaplain presented Solatium Payments to the relatives of two Vietnamese children who were involved in a Serious Incident.
  - c. The battalion assisted in the evacuation of flood refugees to reach collection points.
7. Security. Three man H.B. Team promoting ordinance turn in was employed throughout the TAOR.
8. Personal Response. Two classes on Personal Response were given during the month.
9. Solatium Payments. Two Solatium Payments were made during the month.

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SECTION F  
COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS

1. The highlights of the individual communications sections are as follows:

a. Radio

(1) The radio section supported the battalion with reliable communication during the month of October 1970.

(2) Call signs and frequencies were changed on 3 October and 15 October.

(3) During this period, 1,253 incoming messages and 795 outgoing messages were processed through the COC.

b. Tech Shop. During the month of October, the following pieces of equipment were processed through the Tech Shop.

(1) Pieces turned in	234
(2) Pieces to FSR	29
(3) Pieces from FSR	18
(4) Pieces to DX	67
(5) Pieces from DX	60
(6) Pieces out of the shop	123
(7) Pieces into the shop	18

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c. Wire Shop

(1) During the month of October, the wire section installed a telephone circuit with switchboard along the perimeter on Hill 52.

(2) The switchboard at Hill 37 handled approximately 18,000 calls during the month of October.

d. Communications Center

(1) Total messages processed for the month are as follows:

(a) Total messages outgoing	533
(b) Total messages incoming	1050

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(2) Down time for this month is estimated at 97 hours and is broken down as follows:

(a) Radio Relay	80 hours
(b) Camp Power	10 hours
(c) Communications equipment	00
(d) Others	7 hours

e. Electrical Power. Electrical work in the battalion during the month included the following:

- (1) Three additional spot lights were installed on Hill 37.
- (2) One generator was turned around due to mechanical failure.
- (3) One generator was turned around due to electrical malfunction on Hill 65.

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SECTION 4  
MEDICAL

1. Personnel. The battalion has one Medical Officer and 33 Hospital Corpsmen assigned to Hill 37 BAS, one Medical Officer and 2 Hospital Corpsmen assigned to Hill 65, 10 Hospital Corpsmen assigned to rifle companies and 10 Hospital Corpsmen assigned to the CUPP units.

2. Facilities. The Battalion Aid Station on Hill 37 consists of five buildings which are utilized for storage, sleeping quarters, sickcall, administration and supply. The BAS on Hill 65 consists of two buildings and one bunker.

3. Daily Activities

a. Sickcall is held from 0830 to 0930 and 1300 to 1400 daily. Emergencies are seen at any time.

b. A total of 580 patients were seen during the month of October. Ailments are broken down as follows:

(1) Fever Unknown Origin	19
(2) Urinalysis	26
(3) Skin Disorders	83
(4) Venereal Disease	20
(5) Malaria	9
(6) Lacerations	29
(7) Diarrhea	60
(8) Consults	74
(9) Physicals	64
(10) Others	208

c. Transportation is provided for patients referred to other medical facilities. The BAS ambulance is utilized for emergency and administrative runs as required. Medical evacuation by helicopter is used when the time element is vital.

d. A total of 787 immunizations were given in October.

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e. 1418 Vietnamese civilians were treated by Med-Cap personnel.

4. Weekly Activities. Sanitation inspections of the cantonment and messing facilities were conducted on a weekly basis.

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SECTION H  
RELIGIOUS SERVICES

1. There were 43 Protestant Services conducted for the battalion during the month of October. The total attendance was 1037. The total number receiving communion was 861.
2. There was 1 service conducted by the Battalion Chaplain for other units. The total attendance was 16. The number receiving communion was 12.
3. There were 4 Catholic masses conducted for the battalion by other Chaplains. The total attendance was 35.
4. Thirty-three were visited in the hospital. The total of those visited in the brig was 13.
5. Two Division Chaplain's meetings were attended.
6. Three men of the battalion were notified regarding their Red Cross cases.
7. There were 252 men that received private counseling by the Battalion Chaplain.
8. There were 2 Bible Classes held with 11 persons in attendance.
9. The Battalion Chaplain arranged for Vietnamese Catholic priest to conduct regular Sunday mass for this battalion on Hill 37.
10. The Battalion Chaplain arranged and assisted in holding 2 narcotics seminars in the battalion.
11. The Battalion Chaplain worked with refugees during the flood, bringing food to those marooned in the area.
12. On 31 October 1970, the Battalion Chaplain and a Vietnamese Catholic priest assisted a recon team in rescuing approximately 800 persons whose lives were threatened with the rising flood waters.
12. The Battalion Chaplain arranged Christmas parties for local churches, schools and orphanages in Dai Loc District through the Protestant ARVN Chaplain.

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## PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- 010720H Company "C", Hill 52, vic. ZC214552, received three 60 mm mortar rounds. The rounds impacted 25 to 100 meters from their position. The suspected enemy firing position, vic. ZC198552, was immediately subjected to counter mortar fire with 81 mm mortars and artillery with unknown results.
- 011130H While on patrol, vic. ZC210567, C2 found a possible 122 mm rocket launching site. A tripod made of tree branches approximately 2 inches in diameter, approximately 4 feet high and 5 feet long was set at an angle orientated to the Southeast.
- 011830H A 10 year old Vietnamese boy turned in two Chinese made anti-personnel mines to CUPP4. The mines were approximately 8 inches tall, 3½ inches in diameter, dark green in color and had Chinese writing on them. Mine was turned over to S-2 for classification.
- 011840H While set in FPB site, vic. AT948585, D1 received enemy small arms fire, five M 79 rounds and three 60 mm mortar rounds from vic. AT946578. Negative friendly casualties were sustained. D1 returned fire with small arms, M 79 and called artillery mission. A sweep of the area later produced negative results.
- 011935H Hill 52 defensive position, vic. ZC214552, received eight rounds of 75 mm recoilless rifle fire from two different enemy firing positions simultaneously vic. ZC204530 and ZC212533, resulting in five USMC WIA's. Both enemy firing positions were engaged with "duster", 81 mm mortars and artillery fire. Unable to assess enemy damage due to tactical situation.
- 020730H Company "C", Hill 52, vic. ZC214552, received five rounds of 60 mm mortar fire from vic. ZC198552. Negative casualties were sustained. All rounds impacted outside of the defensive wire. Company "C" immediately returned counter mortar fire with 40 mm "duster" fire, 60 mm mortars and 106 recoilless rifle and artillery fire with unknown results.
- 020815H Company "C", Hill 52, vic. ZC214552, observed three Vietnamese males approximately 15 years old acting suspiciously near the hill. Company "C" dispatched a patrol to apprehend them. The Vietnamese males had one bangalore torpedo. They were detained and turned over to Dai Loc District Headquarters for interrogation.

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- 021125H One USMC 6 X 6 truck detonated a mine on Route 540 vic. AT914645, resulting in extensive damage to the vehicle but causing no casualties. The mine was estimated to be 30-40 pounds and was apparently pressure detonated.
- 021345H A Vietnamese civilian bus, attempting to pass a halted ARVN convoy from the mine incident of 021125H, detonated a mine, vic. AT932623. Five Vietnamese civilians were killed, one Vietnamese civilian wounded, two ARVN soldiers wounded and one U.S. Army advisor wounded. It was estimated that the mine was a 30-40 pound mine, (pressure detonated).
- 021440H Company "C", Hill 52, vic. ZC214552, while receiving resupply by helicopter, received six incoming 60 mm mortar rounds from vic. ZC197553, resulting in negative casualties. Counter mortar fire with 106 recoilless rifle and 60 mm mortars was immediately initiated. The suspected enemy position was also cleared for a Cobra gun ship, who expended on board ordnance. Tactical situation precluded assessment of damage to the enemy.
- 021720H Company "C", Hill 52, vic. ZC214552, received 8-10 75 mm recoilless rifle rounds from, vic. ZC207529. Two Marines were wounded. Company "C" immediately returned 106 recoilless rifle fire and called artillery. No assessment possible.
- 021927H Company "C", Hill 52, vic. ZC214552, received 6 rounds of 75 mm recoilless rifle fire from vic. ZC207529. There were no casualties. Company "C" immediately returned fire with 106 recoilless rifle and 81 mm mortars.
- 022322H 1/1 Command Post, Hill 37, vic. AT916581, detected a large caliber artillery/rocket round pass over the cantonment and impact outside the defensive wire. Sensing on the round indicated the direction of flight was from the northeast. There were negative military damage or casualties sustained.
- 022324H Hill 65 defensive position received two large caliber artillery/rocket rounds impacting on the eastern side of the position. Sensing of rounds indicate direction of flight was from northeast to southwest. Negative damage or casualties were sustained.
- 030848H While on patrol, vic. ZC214553, C21 observed two VC/NVA moving along the south side of river, vic. ZC197553. C21 called a 60 mm mortar mission with good coverage of target area. The water barrier precluded a physical check of the area.
- 031055H Lieutenant General MCCUTCHEON visited Hill 52.

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- 031145H While on patrol, vic. ZC206563, C21 found a cave thought to be a possible mortar firing position. The cave was approximately 8 feet wide, 6 feet high and 10 feet deep at a 40° angle on hill. The cave showed signs of recent use. An artillery ambush was called on the position later that day with excellent coverage.
- 031348H Major General WIDDECKE visited Hill 52.
- 032155H Company "C", Hill 52 received two incoming rounds believed to be RPG or rifle grenade rounds from unknown position. There were no casualties or damage sustained.
- 040630H - 041630H A company size unit provided security for a road opening operation on Route 4, west from Hill 65 to Hill 52, insuring safe passage of Marine and ARVN convoys to Hill 52 and return.
- 040634H Company "C", Hill 52, received one 122 mm rocket from vic. ZC213538; five 82 mm mortar rounds from vic. ZC197553 and five 60 mm mortar rounds from vic. ZC197550. There were no casualties. The enemy positions were engaged with counter mortar fire from 60 mm mortars, 81 mm mortars, 106 recoilless rifle and 40 mm "duster" fire. An air strike was called.
- 040830H Colonel KELLEY visited Hill 52.
- 041530H Colonel KELLEY visited Hill 270.
- 050723H Company "C", Hill 52, vic. ZC214552, received six rounds of 60 mm mortar fire simultaneously from two enemy positions, vic. ZC214540 and ZC198553. No casualties or damage were sustained. The enemy firing positions were engaged with close air support which was on station at the time.
- 050815H An ARVN soldier walking ahead of and independent of a Marine road sweep, vic. AT957584, detonated a booby trap. There was one ARVN wounded. The booby trap was a M26 grenade with trip wire.
- 050912H Company "C", Hill 52, vic. ZC214552, received eight 60 mm mortar rounds from vic. ZC198550. There were no casualties. The enemy position was engaged with 40 mm "duster", 106 recoilless rifle fire and 60 mm mortar fire.
- 051825H Company "C", Hill 52, vic. ZC214552, received six large caliber rounds of undetermined type from vic. ZC207524 and ZC198552. There were no casualties. Company "C" returned fire with 106 recoilless rifle fire, 81 mm mortars and called an artillery fire mission.

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Enclosure (1)

- 060630H - 061630H A company size unit provided security for a road opening operation on Route 4, west from Hill 65 to Hill 52, insuring safe passage of Marine and ARVN convoys to Hill 52 and return.
- 060820H Company "C", Hill 52, vic. ZC214552, received one 122 mm rocket from enemy position vic. ZC202550. The rocket landed outside the perimeter. There were no casualties or damage and immediate counter rocket fire was initiated.
- 060915H Company "C", Hill 52, vic. ZC214552, received three 60 mm mortar rounds and 10-15 small arms rounds from an unknown enemy position. One Marine was wounded.
- 061240H While on a road clearing operation between Hill 65 and Hill 52, vic. AT956580, a SeaBee bulldozer detonated a 50 round box mine. No casualties were sustained. While attempting to return to the main road, the bulldozer struck a second mine, approximately 50 meters west of the first mine. One U.S.N. was wounded and there was major damage to the bulldozer.
- 061550H While resupplying Hill 52, a CH-53 helicopter dropped his external load of four pallets 81 mm mortar ammo, vic. AT840560. DI was dispatched to provide security to await the arrival of the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team to destroy the ammo.
- 061746H Company "C", Hill 52, vic. ZC214552, received three 82 mm mortar rounds from vic. ZC793557. One round hit the ammo bunker igniting some increments. Three ARVN's were wounded. Counter mortar fire was immediately initiated.
- 061756H C2 while returning to Hill 52, vic. AT810545, received six 60 mm mortar rounds from suspected enemy position, vic. AT816554. There were negative casualties. A fire mission was called on the enemy position with unknown results.
- 070323H "C" Company, Hill 52, vic. ZC214552, received eight rounds of 82 mm mortar fire from vic. ZC207539, rounds impacted outside defensive wire with negative casualties. Returned fire with 81 mm mortars and 106 recoilless rifle.
- 071100H M32A while on patrol vic. AT938595, a member of the patrol detonated a booby trap of undetermined size and type, resulting in one Marine and three PF's wounded.
- 071625H Company "C", Hill 52, received two 122 mm rocket rounds from vic. ZC207577. The rounds impacted in the defensive wire with negative casualties or damage. Immediate counter rocket fire was initiated.

III-4

Enclosure (1)

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- 072000H D22 while set in ambush vic. AT947583, observed four VC/NVA approaching their position. D22 initiated contact with small arms fire and M 79. Swept the area with negative results.
- 072030H D22 while moving to ambush site observed two enemy moving on road, vic. AT846583, D22 engaged the enemy with small arms fire and 60 mm mortars. The enemy returned fire and fled to the south. A sweep of the area produced negative results.
- 072330H 1st Battalion, 1st Marines, Hill 37, received two rounds suspected 82 mm mortars from vic. AT938573. The rounds impacted outside the perimeter. There were negative casualties or damage. An artillery fire mission was called on suspected firing position.
- 081100H General MEYER, U.S. Army, visited Hill 52.
- 081825H Company "C", Hill 52, vic. ZC214552, received one 60 mm mortar round which impacted outside of the defensive perimeter with negative damage or casualties.
- 082118H Company "C", Hill 52, vic. ZC214552, received four rounds of 75 mm recoilless rifle fire from vic. ZC204530. Two Marines were wounded. Artillery fire was immediately called on the suspected position.
- 090333H Company "C", Hill 52, vic. ZC214552, received two 60 mm mortar rounds from vic. ZC197553. One Marine was wounded. Counter mortar fire was immediately initiated.
- 091225H Company "C", Hill 52, vic. ZC214552, observed one secondary explosion during an air strike on suspected enemy 75 mm recoilless rifle site, vic. ZC203531.
- 091630H Company "C", Hill 52, vic. ZC214552, received two 60 mm mortar rounds from vic. ZC203530. One Marine was wounded. Counter mortar fire was immediately initiated.
- 091720H Company "C", Hill 52, vic. ZC214552, observed six secondary explosions during an air strike on two suspected enemy positions vic. ZC195548 and ZC203531.
- 091915H Company "C", Hill 52, vic. ZC214552, received five rounds of 75 mm recoilless rifle fire from vic. ZC199529. There were no casualties or damage and immediate counter mortar fire was initiated.
- 121800H Company "D", vic. AT932637, spotted two VC/NVA at vic. AT935638, carrying rifles and heading Northwest. Artillery fire mission was called. The rugged terrain precluded search of the area.

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III-5

Enclosure (1)



- 121915H A Marine from Company "C", vic. ZC214552, wounded himself as a result of an accidental discharge. A Ground Action Report was initiated.
- 130630H - 131630H A company size unit provided security for a road opening operation on Route 4, west from Hill 65 to Hill 52, insuring safe passage of Marine and ARVN convoys to Hill 52 and return.
- 141845H D2, while set in their night PPB, vic. AT946583, received seven rounds of 60 mm mortar fire. One mortar round hit their 60 mm ammunition causing a secondary explosion. D2 immediately returned fire with small arms and 60 mm mortars. An OV-10 was called to fire on the suspected enemy mortar site, vic. AT945577, and this was followed by an artillery fire mission. D2 sustained 16 wounded Marines, necessitating two emergency, four priority and six routine medevacs. Four wounded did not require evacuation.
- 152345H D24, while setting up night ambush position, spotted four VC/NVA who appeared to be mining the road, vic. AT948583. The squad moved to within 70 meters of the enemy and initiated contact. A fire fight resulted with negative apparent enemy casualties. An artillery fire mission was called on suspected enemy route of escape and a sweep was conducted with negative results.
- 160055H While set in night ambush position, M43A observed three enemy moving toward their position. As they entered the kill zone, the Marine/RF ambush opened fire with a claymore mine and small arms, killing one VC. The other two VC fled in a westerly direction.
- 170630H - 171630H A company size unit provided security for a road opening operation on Route 4, west from Hill 65 to Hill 52, insuring safe passage of Marine and ARVN convoys to Hill 52 and return.
- 171015H While on O.P., vic. AT815548, members of M24 spotted seven VC/NVA moving into a tree line across a river carrying large bags. After clearing grid, a fire mission was called, with excellent coverage of target area. Water barrier precluded a search of the area.
- 171815H While preparing for night defensive position, D1 received three rounds of 61 mm mortar from their southeast. No rounds impacted within 50 meters of the nearest friendly troops. D1 returned fire with eight rounds of 60 mm mortars. A squad from D1 searched the suspected enemy mortar site with negative results.
- 171900H While setting in night defensive position, vic. AT948588, D2 received three rounds of 61 mm mortars with negative casualties. D2 returned fire and sent squad to search suspected mortar site with negative results.

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Enclosure (1)

- 200730H Colonel KELLEY visited Hill 37.
- 210005H A31, while set in their night ambush site, vic. AT682592, received small arms fire and one chicom grenade. They returned fire with small arms and requested an artillery fire mission.
- 210630H - 211630H A company size unit provided security for a road opening operation on Route 4, west from Hill 65 to Hill 52, insuring safe passage of Marine and ARVN convoys to Hill 52 and return.
- 210920H Major General WIDDECKE, Commanding General 1st Marine Division and Colonel KELLEY visited Hill 52.
- 211135H General MYERS, 24 Corps Artillery Commander and Lieutenant Colonel BRADLEY arrived at Hill 52, and looked over possible artillery emplacement positions.
- 250100H Company "A", Hill 65, vic. AT880580, received one fragmentation grenade and one M 79 round. A flash was observed at vic. AT873615. An artillery fire mission was called and a sweep of the area later produced negative results.
- 250630H - 251630H A company size unit provided security for a road opening operation on Route 4, west from Hill 65 to Hill 52, insuring safe passage of Marine and ARVN convoys to Hill 52 and return.
- 251725H Lieutenant General MCCUTCHEON visited Hill 52.
- 260750H While conducting road sweep south of Hill 37, vic. AT922550, the security element detected what appeared to be an explosive device in the road. A charge was placed over the object, resulting in a large secondary explosion, believed to be a 60 pound box mine. The mine was marked by two bamboo sticks in the form of a "V".
- 270630H - 271630H A company size unit provided security for a road opening operation on Route 4, west from Hill 65 to Hill 52, insuring safe passage of Marine and ARVN convoys to Hill 52 and return.
- 272000H Company "M" participated in a combined cordon and search operation with six PF platoons of Ky Tan Hamlet. The combined unit screened approximately 2,000 Vietnamese civilians and detained 17 VC suspects to be interrogated.
- 272025H At defensive position on Hill 65, Company "A" observed movement in the wire. Illumination was called revealing two VC/NVA in the wire. Two fragmentation grenades were thrown in the area and the VC/NVA fled from the area.

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III-7

Enclosure (1)

- 281600H While operating from PPB, nineteen Marines from Company "M" were out off from their unit, due to heavy rains and flooding in vic. AT912566 Vietnamese boats were utilized to move the Marines to high ground with no casualties.
- 301645H Company "M", 3/1, rescued 24 Vietnamese civilians trapped in their houses, vic. AT915585, by flood waters.
- 310820H A recon team from 1st Reconnaissance Battalion assisted by M3, commenced rescue operations to evacuate 300 Vietnamese children from a church, vic. AT911577. A total of 800 Vietnamese civilians were assisted to safety from the vicinity of the church and surrounding area. Evacuation was completed at 311230H.

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- ✓ TAB A - 1st Battalion, 1st Marines Fmg 0 027-70
- ✓ TAB B - Overlay, Operation Saturation in 1st Battalion, 1st Marines TAOR
- ✓ TAB C - Overlay, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines TAOR, 1 to 31 October 1970

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IV-1

Enclosure (1)

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TAB A

FRAG O 027-70

FM: 1ST BATTALION, 1ST MARINES  
 TO: A, B, C, D, H&S, M 3/1

INFO: 1ST MARINES

FRAG ORDER 027-70

ENCL: (1) OPN OVERLAY 027-70

1. SITUATIONA. ENEMY:

- 1) THE ENEMY HAS BEEN KNOWN TO MINE ROUTE #4 BETWEEN HILL 65 VIC AT880580 AND HILL 52 VIC ZC214552
- 2) MANY OF THE LOCAL CIVILIANS IN THIS AREA ARE KNOWN TO BE VIET CONG SYMPATHIZERS.

B. FRIENDLY:

- 1) RF AND PF RICE DENIAL OPERATIONS NORTH OF ROUTE #4 ON 13 OCTOBER.
- 2) 1ST PLATOON "A" COMPANY TO PROVIDE SWEEP TEAM FROM HILL 65 TO HILL 52.

2. MISSION: TO EXECUTE A COORDINATED ROAD CLEARING AND OPENING OPERATION ON ROUTE #4 BETWEEN GRIDS AT880580 AND ZC214552.

3. EXECUTION:

- A. CONCEPT OF OPERATION: 3 PLATOONS (-) FROM A, C, D, MOVE FROM RESPECTIVE AREAS OF OPERATION TO ESTABLISH SECURITY POSITIONS ALONG ROUTE #4, TO ACT IN CONJUNCTION WITH ENGINEER ROAD SWEEP FOR A PERIOD OF 01 DAY.
- B. ALPHA COMPANY PROVIDE 1 PLATOON (-) AS ROAD SECURITY FROM HILL 65 TO THE 84 NORTH/SOUTH GRID LINE.
- C. BRAVO COMPANY - NO CHANGE
- D. CHARLIE COMPANY PROVIDE 1 PLATOON (-) ROAD SECURITY FROM THE 81 GRID LINE NORTH/SOUTH TO HILL 52.
- E. DELTA COMPANY PROVIDE 1 PLATOON (-) ROAD SECURITY FROM 84 NORTH/SOUTH GRID LINE TO THE 81 NORTH/SOUTH GRID LINE.
- F. MIKE COMPANY - NO CHANGE
- G. H&S COMPANY:
  - 1) COORDINATE WITH S-3A FOR CHANGES IN SWEEP SECURITY PRIOR TO 130600H OCT.
  - 2) S-4 TO REPORT TO COC WITH CONVOY READY TO MOVE OUT NLT 131330H OCT.
- H. COORDINATING INSTRUCTIONS:
  - 1) ALL SECURITY ELEMENTS TO BE IN POSITION BY 130900H - APPROXIMATE TERMINATION TIME 131800H.
  - 2) START TIME FOR SWEEP 130900H FROM HILL 65.
  - 3) CHECK POINTS: #1 - AT880580. #2 - THE 84 GRID LINE. #3 - THE 81 GRID LINE. #4 - AT214552.
  - 4) CHANGES TO SCHEDULED ACTS TO BE SUBMITTED BY 130200H.
  - 5) SECURITY WILL RETURN TO BASE POSITIONS ON ORDER FROM THIN MAN.

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6) COMPANIES WILL PROVIDE 6 MAN LOCAL SECURITY FOR ENGINEER SWEEP TEAM WITHIN ASSIGNED SECTORS.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS:

A. CARRY 1 DOS.

B. CARRY 1 BIA PER MAN.

5. COMMAND AND ELECTRONICS:

A. ALL PARTICIPATING UNITS REPORT WHEN SECURITY IN PLACE.

B. ALL UNITS WILL REPORT WHEN THE CONVOY PASSES THEM.

C. THE MINE SWEEP TEAM WILL HAVE RADIO ON BN ADMIN (PLAIN).

D. ALL SECURITY ELEMENTS WILL HAVE ONE RADIO ON BN ADMIN.

E. CONVOY CALL SIGN - THIN MAN MOBILE.

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT

IV - A - 2

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