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P. B. Keppel 3/8/77  
Signature date

3/1st Marines  
Command Chronology

MAY-1966

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DOD DIR 5200.10

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# COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

3D BN, 1ST MAR  
3D MAR DIV (REIN)

1 TO 31 MAY

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

3rd Battalion, 1st Marines

1 May - 31 May 1966

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ENCLOSURE: (1)

HEADQUARTERS  
3rd Battalion, 1st Marines  
1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

3/ABS/wjw  
5750  
1 June 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF (Attn:  
Command Center)  
Via: Commanding Officer, 1st Marines  
Subj: Command Chronology; submission of  
Ref: (a) Marine Corps Order 5750.2  
(b) Division Order 5750.1  
(c) Regimental Order 5750.1A  
Encl: (1) Command Chronology, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines for Period  
1 May - 31 May 1966

1. In accordance with references (a), (b), and (c), Enclosure (1) is submitted herewith.

2. This cover letter is declassified upon being detached from Enclosure (1).

*J. R. Young*  
J. R. YOUNG

Copy to: CO, 9th Mar

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## SECTION I.

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA**UNCLASSIFIED**3rd Battalion, 1st Marines  
APO, San Francisco, 96602PERIOD COVERED

1 - 31 May 1966

COMMANDING OFFICER

Lieutenant Colonel James R. YOUNG

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Major Herschel L. JOHNSON, JR.

STAFF ASSIGNMENTS

1stLt W. D. KING	S-1
1stLt S. H. GREGORY	S-2
Maj W. D. FILLMORE	S-3
Capt M. C. PEASE	S-4 (1 - 19 May)
Capt H. T. WINSTON	S-4 (20 - 31 May)
Capt T. B. LECKY	S-5 (5 - 19 May)
Capt C. E. MARGUM	S-5 (20 - 31 May)
Capt L. J. KELLY	Communication Officer
Capt J. R. SKIENETTA	Air Liaison Officer
1stLt J. D. WITHERSPOON	Supply Officer
MSGT W. R. ELLIS	Motor Transport Chief
Lt (MC) C. V. DESHAZO	Medical Officer
Lt (CIC) K. LOEFFLER	Chaplain

UNIT COMMANDERS

Capt C. W. LATTING	H&S Company (1 - 29 May)
Capt J. F. O'ROURKE	H&S Company (30 - 31 May)
Capt T. B. LECKY	Company I (1 - 4 May)
Capt S. P. CHAPIN	Company I (5 - 31 May)
Capt L. H. GONZALES	Company K
Capt J. T. SEMULSTER	Company L (1 - 4 May)
Capt R. L. BAGGETT	Company L (5 - 31 May)
Capt J. J. ST. CLAIR	Company M

COMBAT POST LOCATIONS

Chu Lai, Quang Tin Province	1 - 21 May 1966
Da Nang, Quang Nam Province	22 - 31 May 1966

1

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Map references for period 1 - 21 May 1966:

Vietnam, 1:50,000, AMS Series L701, Sheets 6757 II, 6757 III, 6757 IV

Map references for period 22 - 31 May 1966:

Vietnam, 1:50,000, AMS Series L701, Sheets 6659 II, 6659 III, 6658 I, 6658 IV

AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTHOFFICERS

USMC	31
USN	3

ENLISTED

USMC	996
USN	50

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SECTION II. PERSONNEL/ADMINISTRATION

A. Summary. During the period covered by this report, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, in addition to conducting normal operations within the assigned tactical area of responsibility, deployed by fixed wing aircraft to Danang Combat Base on 22 May 1966. This deployment, though initially contemplated to be for an abbreviated period, has since been determined to be for a period of thirty days or longer. The separation of the Battalion from its administrative rear has, as a matter of course, resulted in some administrative problems which are due primarily to limited communications facilities between the forward and rear command posts; notwithstanding the above, the Battalion, in the administrative field, has continued to function efficiently.

B. Significant Events

1. During the period of 1 - 31 May, the Battalion sustained five men killed in action (one Vietnamese interpreter DOW included in this figure) and ten wounded in action. Also, there were nineteen non-battle casualties.

2. The Battalion transferred three captains and eight lieutenants with rotation tour dates of September 1966 to 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, during May and, in return, joined three captains and eleven lieutenants with rotation tour dates of March 1967 from 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines. This transfer was accomplished in order to vary the rotation tour dates of the officers in this Battalion. In addition, there was a turnover of approximately 150 enlisted personnel during the month due to transfers and joinings. The combat readiness category of the Battalion was C-1 during the initial few days of May but is now and has been, for the greater part of the month, category C-2.

3. On 27 May 1966, two officers of this organization, Captain Charles W. LATTING and First Lieutenant Simon H. GREGORY, were awarded the Silver Star Medal for extraordinary heroism and intrepidity displayed during Operation UTAH by Lieutenant Colonel James R. YOUNG, Commanding Officer, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines.

C. Problem Areas/New Developments

1. Since the tactical deployment of the Battalion to Danang on 22 May 1966, two command posts have been maintained; this, as a matter of course, has slowed down the timely handling of some administration reports. However, this problem is being alleviated as required elements of the Battalion rear are deployed to Danang.

2. In addition, there have been some problems in conducting line of duty/misconduct investigations due to the non-availability of material and/or principal witnesses. As an example, if an individual

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is wounded as a result of an accidental discharge, medical evacuation is invariably accomplished before statements can be obtained. As a result, investigations are being forwarded to Division that must be further forwarded to the principal for his statement of rebuttal.

D. Personnel. Battalion chargeable strength (end of period):

	<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
U. S. Marine Corps	33	990
U. S. Navy	3	52

E. Discipline, Law and Order. Good discipline was maintained within this organization during the reporting period. There was a decrease in all judicial proceedings during this period as is evidenced by the following statistics which are submitted:

1. Courts-Martial

Pending

Summary	0
Special	2

Completed

Summary	1
Special	5

2. Non-Judicial Punishment

Battalion Commander's	1
Company Commander's	8

F. Morale, PX, Postal Affairs, Liberty

1. The morale of this organization continues to be excellent. Many things have influenced the morale; of significance were:

a. Continued sufficient availability of soft drinks and beer rations for Battalion personnel.

b. Establishment of weekly PX runs by the 3rd Marine Division PX truck to the Battalion Command Post area.

c. Significant improvement in the mail service.

d. Shower facilities with an adequate water supply.

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2. Adverse factors include: Even though R&R quotas continue to be provided on a regular basis, there is little or no liberty and, thus, very few deviations from the everyday routine for Battalion personnel.

G. Chaplain's Activities and Totals

1. General

<u>SERVICES</u>	<u>HOURS OF SERVICES</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>
Sunday	22	538
Weekday	15	343
Total	37	681

2. In addition, sixteen communion services were held and 107 men received communion at these services. Sixteen hospital calls were made and forty-two interviews were conducted. Also, confirmation was held for one man, and one memorial service was conducted for members of this organization who had recently been killed in action. The Chapel Choir and Bible Study Classes continue to meet weekly.

3. Additionally, the Chaplain presented eight lectures on the Religions of South Vietnam. 882 men attended these presentations.

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## SECTION III. INTELLIGENCE

A. Summary of Enemy Activity1. General

a. During May, the 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines did not participate in any major operations but limited its operations to those within its assigned TAOR in Chu Lai Combat Base and its newly assigned TAOR in the Danang Combat Base.

b. Enemy contact throughout the month was light; the most significant occurrences are as listed below:

(1) Operations in Chu Lai TAOR

(a) At 031100H, Company M patrol was fired on by approximately ten VC at BT 449161. Fire was returned and Marines pursued physically. Four VCS and two VC KIA found in shallow cave at BT 444163.

(b) At 061530H, a VC prisoner led An Tan Hamlet Chief and Company M patrol to two caves. First cave was located at coordinates BT 442151 which was 105 feet long, three feet wide, three feet tall with well-concealed entrance. Second cave was at coordinates BT 446151 and was forty-three feet long, three feet wide, three feet tall with the last thirteen feet joining main cave at forty-five degree angle. Two spider holes of identical size and construction were located in adjacent area at coordinates BT 448152 and BT 447153. Holes were well-concealed and were three feet deep, five feet wide, and sixteen feet in diameter with a capacity of five men. All caves, after being searched, were destroyed.

(c) At 091530H, Company M patrol was fired on by six VC from vicinity coordinates BT 444155. Patrol returned fire and wounded and captured one VC. Subsequent search of area also resulted in apprehension of one VCS.

(d) From 101450H to 101945H, Company M patrol, combined with a Popular Forces squad and acting upon information received from a Vietnamese boy, commenced a search for a VC hiding in cave at coordinates BT 431173. Upon searching cave, one CHICOM sub-machinegun, one U.S. M-1 rifle, one U.S. M-1 carbine, one CHICOM assault rifle, one Thompson .45 caliber sub-machinegun, one Claymore mine, and assorted small arms rounds were discovered. In addition, another cave was discovered, and while a search of it was being conducted, two grenades were thrown at the USMC/PF patrol resulting in one USMC KIA, one PF KIA, one Vietnamese interpreter KIA, and four USMC WIA. Following this, a grenade was thrown into the cave, followed by small arms fire,

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and a search of the cave was conducted during which three VC, two of which were dead and one wounded, together with two U.S. .45-caliber M-3Als, were discovered.

(e) From 110630 to 111730H, two platoons from Company M continued search and clear operations vicinity coordinates BT 431173. An additional two VC bodies were recovered from cave mentioned in entry above, and three more tunnels were located and searched. None of these tunnels contained any VC or VC documents; the first, however, contained two French sub-machineguns. All caves and tunnels, after being completely searched, were destroyed by demolitions.

(f) At 161715H, a patrol from Company M, vicinity coordinates BT 417126, observed four VC running from a hedgerow forty meters to the west of their position, one man was armed with a rifle. Patrol fired thirty rounds small arms wounding one VC who was captured and seriously wounding another who, with assistance from the other two VC, escaped leaving blood trail. Search of area resulted in discovery of a small cave which contained one Thompson sub-machinegun and one CHICOM assault rifle plus two full magazines for the Thompson and 100 rounds of ammunition for the assault rifle. Additionally, one CHICOM hand grenade was found. Patrol was not, however, able to regain contact with VC.

(2) Operations in Danang TAOR

(a) At 261105H, a Company L patrol in the vicinity of coordinates AT 964688 observed two VC in the vicinity of coordinates AT 963683; patrol pursued the fleeing VC and succeeded in capturing one of them. The second VC escaped capture by crossing the Song Yen River (AT964688). The captured VC was dressed in grey uniform-type clothing and possessed three CHICOM grenades and several documents.

(b) At 271000H, a Company L patrol operating in the vicinity of Cam Ho (1) Hamlet (AT988693), discovered one U.S. M-1 carbine and two ammunition magazines. One VCS was apprehended when he was found in the area and appeared unwilling to cooperate with the Marines.

(c) At 282345H, a security squad from Company L at the An Trach Bridge (AT 962660) observed a VC swimming from pontoon to pontoon in the river. One grenade was thrown at the VC who climbed onto the bridge and ran across. Squad fired several small arms rounds at VC who was hit and fell into the river. Search of area around bridge and downstream from bridge at first light was conducted with negative results.

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B. Recapitulation of Enemy Activity

1. Contacts. A total of twenty-seven VC contacts were made during the month of May. These contacts reflect incidents where fire was either received, delivered, or exchanged.

2. Enemy Lossesa. Personnel

VC KIA (Confirmed)	6
VC KIA (Possible)	2
VCC	14
VCS	25
VC WIA	4
VC WIA (Possible)	3

b. Weapons and Equipment Destroyed or Captured

CHICOM Sub-machinegun	1
U.S. M-1 Rifle	1
U.S. .45-caliber M-3A1	2
French Sub-machinegun	2
Thompson Sub-machinegun	2
CHICOM Assault Rifle	3
U.S. M-1 Carbine	2

C. Weather and Terrain

1. Weather. Throughout May, the weather was generally clear, hot, and very humid. There were occasional afternoon and early morning showers with a tropical downpour occurring on 23 May 1966. Weather did not interfere with operations.

2. Terrain. Terrain posed no serious problems and passed from coastal sanddunes to inland rice paddies in the Chu Lai TAOR. In the Danang TAOR, the terrain was dominated by rice paddies, low sandy hills and many small streams and waterways. Troops could negotiate the TAOR by foot or amphibian tractor without difficulty.

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SECTION IV. OPERATIONS/TRAININGA. Operations

1. During the period 1 - 21 May, the 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, continued operations within the Battalion assigned TAOR (Chu Lai), conducting extensive patrols and ambushes on the islands of Ky Hoa (BT 5013), Ky Xuan (BT 4809), Hoa Xuan (BT 4215), and that portion of the Ky Ha Peninsula within the Battalion TAOR. In addition, one company or company (-), when tactical commitments permitted, was normally maintained in vicinity of the Battalion Command Post as Battalion reserve/strike force.

2. Operations conducted during this period consisted primarily of small unit security/combat patrols and ambushes within the Battalion TAOR. Contacts were light with the majority of contacts occurring on the island of Hoa Xuan.

3. In addition to the above activities, the Battalion was required to provide one reinforced rifle company and command group to the Chu Lai Defense Command during the period 4 - 18 May for security of the MAG-12 Airfield and the vital RMK Installation, and one reinforced rifle company to the 7th Marines during the period 6 - 15 May to be utilized as security for the 1st Battalion, 7th Marines, TAOR while that unit participated in Operation MONTGOMERY. The Battalion was also alerted and initiated planning for three separate Battalion and larger operations, Operation COLUMBIA (22 - 25 May), Operation MOBILE (25 May), and Operation PIKE (prior to establishment of dates, operation was cancelled). The Battalion, however, did not participate in these operations due to other commitments or cancellation of the operation.

4. On 18 May, in accordance with Commanding Officer, 1st Marines, verbal order, the Chu Lai Defense Command and 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, commenced assumption of responsibility for 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, TAOR, assuming responsibility for Ky Ha Peninsula and the island of Hoa Xuan, respectively. Final relief was effected 20 May as 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, assumed responsibility for security of the islands of Ky Xuan. With this relief, all units of this Battalion retracted to the vicinity of the Battalion Command Post to prepare for further deployment.

5. On 21 May, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, was alerted for air movement to Danang for riot control in accordance with Commanding General, III MAF, Movement Plan 21-05, and early on 22 May, the Battalion was directed by Commanding Officer, 1st Marines, to execute the aforementioned plan. In compliance, at 221040H, the Battalion was staged at the Chu Lai Airfield for air transport to Danang with the lift commencing 221149H and arriving Danang at 221202H. Upon arrival Danang, the Commanding Officer, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, was directed to report to the Commanding Officer, 9th Marines, for operational control, who, in turn, directed 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, to assume responsibility for that area designated as 9th Marines Rear Area.

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6. Accordingly, the 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, Command Post was established coordinates AT 992677; Company I was assigned the east sector of the Battalion TAOR and established its command post BT 036721; Company K established blocking positions at Phong Le Bridge (AT 998717) and Cam Le Bridge (BT 016710) and assumed responsibility of center sector of Battalion TAOR; Company L was assigned west sector of the Battalion TAOR and established its command post AT 980690; and Company M was alerted as Regimental Mobile Reserve. At 251900H May, after 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, was deployed as indicated above, a relief of 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines, was effected, and the Battalion assumed responsibility for its newly assigned TAOR.

7. During the remainder of the month, operations were limited to patrolling/ambushing activity within the Battalion TAOR in coordination and cooperation with the 59th RF Battalion. This coordination provided for assignment of one Regional Force company in each of the 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, rifle company sectors mentioned above.

8. At the end of the reporting period, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, was deployed as indicated above and was continuing operations in order to ensure the security and pacification of its assigned TAOR.

#### B. Training

1. During the month of May, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, conducted training as prescribed in 1st Marines Regimental Bulletin 1500 of 17 February 1966. Emphasis was placed on helicopterborne assault troop movement, basic communications, field fortifications, scouting techniques, map reading, individual and crew-served weapons training, and special emphasis was focused on physical conditioning to acclimate recent replacements.

2. During the early part of the reporting period, training of three rifle squads continued in order to prepare these squads for operations in conjunction with Popular Forces units. Emphasis was placed on basic communications, map reading, cross-weapons training, sanitation and hygiene, as well as Vietnamese language, customs, and religions.

3. Coupled with the above, formal school training was also utilized by the Battalion to increase combat readiness and included: Land Mine Warfare School conducted by Company A, 1st Engineer Battalion, Chu Lai, and Company B, 3rd Engineer Battalion, Danang. A total of fifteen Marines attended the three-day course of instruction. In addition, the 1st Radio Battalion (Danang) conducted a one-hour communications security class for all officers and staff NCOs within the Battalion,

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4. In addition to and complimenting the foregoing, on [REDACTED], training was conducted continuously during all Battalion operations. Detailed critiques on all phases of operations were held by subordinate units. In this manner, lessons learned were developed in an effort to profit from operations conducted and to improve future operations.

C. Chronological Narrative of Significant Events

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- 1 In accordance with verbal orders of CO, 3/1, 2nd Plt, Co L, was directed to reinforce Co I (-) on island of Ky Hoa in order to provide additional forces for increased patrolling activity in that sector. In addition, 2nd Plt, Co I, was directed to reinforce 3rd Plt, Co I, on island of Ky Xuan. At 010730H, both platoons commenced movement to respective islands. Movement completed 011030H.

At 011900H, Co M patrol observed an individual approaching its position. Patrol took suspected VC under fire and pursued, locating Vietnamese male in shelter vicinity coordinates BT 437151. Individual was apprehended and forwarded for further interrogation to ITT.

At 012015H, vicinity coordinates BT 414145, a squad patrol from Co M encountered approximately six VC and, in the fire fight which ensued, approximately fifty rounds small arms fire were exchanged by each. The VC broke contact and a search of the area disclosed brass casings and a blood trail which was hastily covered by sand. At first light on 2 May, a patrol was again sent to the same area for further search of area and surrounding huts. No further discoveries were made. No friendly casualties. Undetermined VC casualties.

- 3 At 031400H, Co M patrol observed ten VC vicinity coordinates BT 419161 and engaged with heavy small arms fire. VC returned fire and broke contact, fleeing in northwesterly direction. The patrol continued to pursue both physically and by fire; and, upon thorough search of suspected VC positions, four Vietnamese females were captured in shallow caves vicinity BT 414163 and two VC KIA found vicinity coordinates BT 413162. No friendly casualties.
- 4 As ordered by CO, 1st Mar, Command Group Bravo and Co K (Rein) CHOP OPCON, effective 051600H, to Chu Lai Defense Command for security of MAG-12 Airfield.
- 5 At 051820H, a patrol from Co M on Hoa Xuan was returning to their

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- 5 CP when they received approximately fifty rounds small arms fire from vicinity coordinates BT 435149; their position was vicinity coordinates BT 442152. They deployed and pursued by fire and physically, expending 150-200 rounds small arms fire and twenty rounds M-79. VC broke contact and the patrol could not again reestablish contact. No friendly or VC casualties.
- 6 At 060900H, verbal orders were received from CO, 1st Mar, which directed CO, 3/1, to CHOP OPCON of one rifle company, effective 070800H, to Command Group, 2/5, to be utilized in 1/7 TAOR for the duration of Operation MONTGOMERY; Co L, 3/1, was alerted for compliance with this order. As per CO, 3/1, order, Co L CHOP OPCON 070800H to 2/5 Command Group.
- A VCC captured by PF on 4 April 1966 vicinity coordinates BT 425103 claimed to be from the island of Hoa Xuan (BT 452149) and claims to be a cell leader for the VC Farmers Association on Hoa Xuan. He expressed a willingness to point out both VC leaders and caves on the island. The VCC accompanied by NUYEN-HUY-CHUONG, the village chief of An Tan, plus two assistants, were taken to Co M CP on the island and remained there from 061000H until 071200H to collect information.
- 7 At 071915H, a combined squad patrol of Co I and PF observed one VC running across an open field at coordinates BT 485094. When told to stop, he continued running and was taken under small arms fire, approximately ten rounds. A search of the surrounding area revealed a blood trail which was lost due to weather. No friendly casualties; one VC WIA.
- Plt from Co M made a systematic sweep of the eastern portion of Hoa Xuan (center GS BT 4215) accompanied by NUYEN-HUY-CHUONG; village chief of An Tan, his three PF body guards, and a VCC. The platoon captured twenty-five VCS, all having been pointed out by the accompanying party; nineteen were captured in the northeastern sector while the other six were captured on the southeastern peninsula. All VCS were evacuated to ITT.
- 8 At 082114H, a Co I perimeter observed an individual about forty meters in front of lines, coordinates BT 487123. When challenged, individual did not reply and started running in opposite direction. Five rounds small arms fire delivered in area, illumination fired in area, and search of area was conducted with negative results. No friendly or confirmed VC casualties.
- 9 At 091530H, Co M patrol received seven rounds small arms fire

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- 9 fired by approximately six VC vicinity coordinates BT 444155. The patrol returned fifty-seven rounds small arms fire. One VC was observed grabbing his shoulder as if wounded while continuing to flee to southeast. A USMC fire team and PF squad were sent from Co M CP to the area to assist in the search for the VC. The patrol captured one VCS, a woman approximately twenty-four-years-old. Under interrogation, she related that there were two VC platoons on the island of Hoa Xuan, one in the northeast sector and one on the southeast peninsula. She further stated that an additional VC platoon was located in GS BT 4217 and that the VC were planning an attack on Co M positions on 9 or 10 May. There were no friendly casualties and one VC WIA (probable). Co M took positive action to prepare for possible attack including increasing night patrol/ambush actions and numbers of listening posts and observation posts.

At 091700H, the village chief of Ky Xuan reported to 3rd Plt, Co I, that the Ky Xuan PF platoon had apprehended a fourteen-year-old male VC distributing VC propaganda vicinity coordinates BT 948084 and carrying a CHICOM grenade. The VC was apprehended at 081700H, but no report was made to 3rd Plt, Co I, until 091700H. The PF platoon retained the VC for further interrogation. VC later forwarded to ITT.

At approximately 092310H, 1st Mar inquired as to whether 3/1 was firing 60/81mm mortars west from positions on Hoa Xuan. 1st Mar reported that area vicinity Hill 54 (BT 396145) and east to Song Cho River was receiving incoming mortar rounds. After confirmation from Co M on Hoa Xuan, a negative report as to mortar firing was submitted to 1st Mar, who, in turn, requested that 3/1 fire counter-mortar fire on coordinates BT 415153 which had been determined to be the position of VC mortar. Co M fired eight rounds HE and WP with point detonating and VT fuze. Firing was completed 092347H. Patrol was dispatched to impact area of counter-mortar fire at first light to determine effectiveness of fire and to search for any indications or signs of exact VC mortar positions. No indications were found although patrol did have contact enroute to area to be searched (see 100830H entry below).

- 10 From 100700H to 101230H, Co M conducted search and clear operations with two platoons USMC and forty PFs, lead by hamlet chief of An Tan, in GS BT 4217, 4317, and 4218. Ten families were removed from this area by hamlet chief for relocation on Ky Hoa. There was no enemy contact, but seven VCS were detained by PFs for interrogation. Two caves were located at BT 444163 and BT 443164, and after a detailed search were destroyed.

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- 10 At 100830H, the patrol from Co M which was enroute to the suspected VC mortar site was taken under fire at coordinates BT 417152 by VC vicinity BT 418153 with twelve rounds of small arms fire. Patrol could not determine exact location of VC, and continued on assigned mission. Patrol was shortly thereafter taken under fire from vicinity BT 416156 with fifteen rounds small arms fire. The patrol returned forty-five rounds small arms fire and pursued VC physically. Upon crossing a bamboo hedgerow, the patrol tripped a booby trap which injured a nearby Vietnamese farmer. He was evacuated to 1st Med Bn for treatment. The VC fled northwest and contact was lost. An M-26 mine was located and destroyed at BT 418153. No friendly casualties; no confirmed VC casualties.

From 101450H to 101945H, Co M patrol, combined with a PF squad and acting upon information received from a Vietnamese boy, commenced a search for a VC hiding in cave at coordinates BT 431173. Upon searching cave, one CHICOM sub-machinegun, one U. S. M-1 rifle, one U. S. M-1 carbine, one CHICOM assault rifle, one Thompson .45-caliber sub-machinegun, one Claymore mine, and assorted small arms rounds were discovered. In addition, another cave was discovered, and while a search of it was being conducted, two grenades were thrown at the USMC/PF patrol resulting in one USMC KIA, one PF KIA, one Vietnamese interpreter KIA, and four USMC WIA. Following this, a grenade was thrown into the cave, followed by small arms fire, and a search of the cave was conducted during which three VC, two of which were dead and one wounded, together with two U. S. .45-caliber M-3A1s were discovered.

- 11 From 110630H to 111730H, two platoons from Co M continued search and clear operations vicinity coordinates BT 437173. Continued excavation cave, additional two VC bodies were recovered from cave. In addition, three additional tunnels were located and were searched. None of these tunnels contained any VC or VC documents; the first, however, contained two French sub-machineguns. The first tunnel was approximately thirty feet long and three feet square. The entrance was through a false floor in a family shelter. The tunnel extended into a "I" shape with an eight to ten foot cross passageway. The entire tunnel was shored with logs. The second tunnel was approximately twenty feet long and two feet square with its entrance through removable stones in a well about eight feet from the lip. The tunnel encircled the well with one stretch about ten feet straight. The third tunnel was approximately ten feet long and two feet square with its entrance through a false bulkhead in the rear of a family shelter. Additionally, fourteen long reinforced bunkers

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- 11 or shelters were found and thoroughly searched. All of the caves, tunnels, and shelters were destroyed by demolitions. Six hundred pounds of TNT were utilized to destroy the positions. No friendly casualties; two VC KIA.
- 12 At 121620H, a platoon from Co M was reestablishing a platoon patrol base at coordinates BT 417154. Upon moving into the position, they completed a search of the area for possible mines and booby traps, finding none. While the platoon was establishing positions, a booby trap was detonated in a tree, the booby trap resembled an ant mound. No firing or detonating devices were found. There were two friendly WIAs, no VC casualties.
- 14 At 141730H, aerial observer reported a group of VC, in excess of twenty-five, moving east from coordinates BT 425138. VC fled as the aircraft circled overhead and entered two houses located at coordinates BT 427134. VC remained in houses for several minutes and then fled south; aerial observer called for an air strike by two armed HULE at the same time Co M departed their CP area with one platoon and two squads of PFs aboard two LVTs arriving in the area of the air strike while the strike was in progress. After the air strike was completed, Co M moved into the area and was directed to the last reported position of the VC by the AO. Elements of Co M pursued the VC who had withdrawn to the south, but were unable to gain contact. Meanwhile, the remainder of Co M conducted a search of the houses located at coordinates BT 427134. Nine VC pinpointed by the AO were apprehended. Four houses were destroyed by the air strike. The AO also reported that four VC were moving toward an island located at coordinates BT 432135. A Marine fire team and two PFs were dispatched by LVT to search the area. They were unable to locate the four VC reported by the AO. No friendly casualties; one VC KIA (probable), VC seen to drop twice under fire from Marine fire team at coordinates BT 427134. Nine VC were also captured.
- At approximately 141930H, 1st Mar notified 3/1 to have Sparrow Hawk Squad, effective 150600H, to be prepared to reinforce convoy enroute from Check Point 31 (coordinates BT 176418) to Chu Lai Combat Base.
- At approximately 142155H, S-3, 1st Mar, notified 3/1 to have Sparrow Hawk standdown from alert for reinforcement of convoy enroute from Danang to Chu Lai.
- 15 At 150800H, Co L, 3/1, CHOP OPCON from Command Group, 2/5, to 3/1.

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15 At 151330H, as per verbal orders CO, 1st Mar, a reinforced squad, including an artillery FO team, provided convoy security for motorized convoy enroute from Danang to Chu Lai from vicinity BT 4000146 to the 1st Mar CP.

16 At 160900H, thirteen "Combat Youths" from the village of Ky Chanh were taken to the island of Hoa Xuan, center GS BT 4215, to cooperate with Co M in conduct of search and clear operations on Hoa Xuan.

At 161215H, a patrol from Co M, vicinity coordinates BT 427134, located and destroyed in place one booby trapped AP mine with pressure type detonator. No friendly or VC casualties.

At 161420H, a combined USMC/PF patrol from Co M received one round small arms fire from vicinity coordinates BT 428120. Patrol returned five rounds small arms fire, deployed and captured two VCC attempting to depart the area by small fishing boat. Thorough search for weapons was conducted, none found. The VCC were evacuated to ITT under guard. No friendly casualties; no confirmed VC casualties.

At 161715H, a patrol from Co M, vicinity coordinates BT 417126, saw four VC run from a hedgerow forty meters to the west of their position, one man was carrying a rifle. Patrol fired thirty rounds small arms critically wounding one VC who was captured and seriously wounding another who, with assistance from the other two, escaped leaving a large blood trail. Patrol conducted thorough search of area and located small cave near the hedgerow which contained one Thompson and 100 rounds of ammunition for a CHICOM assault rifle. Additionally, one CHICOM hand grenade was found. Blood trail was followed, but lost after darkness. Captured VC was helicopter evacuated to 1st Med Bn. No friendly casualties; two VC WIA, one of which was captured.

17 At 170935H, Co M received information from "Combat Youths" that a tunnel was located vicinity coordinates BT 448152. Dispatched a combined USMC/PF patrol with mission to search area for the tunnel located at above coordinates. Search disclosed one CHICOM assault carbine. The tunnel was twelve feet long and three feet square. Tunnel was destroyed by demolitions. No friendly or VC casualties.

18 Effective 180800H, as directed by CO, 1st Mar, 3/1 was relieved of responsibility for security of Ky Ha Peninsula (centered GS BT 5210) by the Chu Lai Defense Command and Hoa Xuan (centered GS BT 4215) by 1/5.

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- 18 Effective 181400H, as directed by CO, 1st Mar, 3/1 provided one reinforced rifle company, Co M, to Chu Lai Defense Command for OPCON. Concurrently, Co K CHOP OPCON from Chu Lai Defense Command to 3/1.
- 19 At 191400H, as per verbal order CO, 1st Mar, Co K, reinforced with a section of 81mm mortars, artillery FO team, and FAC team, was placed on one-hour alert as 1st Mar Div Reaction Force to be committed as directed.
- 20 In accordance with CO, 1st Mar, verbal order, Co I, at 200800H, returned to CP, effecting the final relief of 3/1 TAOR by 1/5.
- 22 At 220955H, 3/1 was directed by CO, 1st Mar, to execute CG, III MAF, Movement Plan 21-05. In compliance, at 221040H, 3/1 commenced staging of Battalion at Chu Lai Airstrip for air movement to Danang. Initial elements departed Chu Lai Airstrip 221149H and arrived Danang 221202H. Upon arrival Danang, 3/1 reported to CO, 9th Mar, for OPCON and commenced assumption of assigned TAOR. 3/1 CP established coordinates AT 992677.
- 23 Co I departed this CP by LVT at 231400H and established a platoon patrol base vicinity coordinates BT 025716 and company (-) patrol base vicinity coordinates BT 036721.
- 24 At 241045H, CG, 3rd Mar Div, visited this CP and was briefed on 3/1 activity in assigned TAOR. Departed 241115H.
- 26 At 261030H, Capt HUY, CO, 59th RF Bn, accompanied by Capt SWEET, USA advisor, arrived this CP to effect liaison on combined activities for security within 3/1 TAOR. Results of conference, which included agreement to station one RF company from 59th RF Bn in each company sector of 3/1, is subject to approval by CO, 59th Regt.
- At 261050H, a patrol from Co I, conducting clearing operation vicinity BT 023714, heard three small arms rounds fired from vicinity coordinates BT 032715 at air observer circling GS BT 0270. Patrol was diverted from planned route and checked area of firing with negative contact. No friendly or VC casualties.
- At 261100H, 3/1 assumed responsibility for addition to Bn TAOR to include area bounded by coordinates AT 970661 to AT 966657 to AT 959658.

At 261105H, a patrol from Co L captured a VCC at AT 964688 who was attempting to swim the river that vicinity. VCC was attired

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- 26 in gray type uniform and was carrying a cartridge belt with three CHICOM grenades attached. Another VC, attired in gray type uniform, was observed on the western bank of the river and was engaged with five rounds small arms fire. VC, upon being engaged, fled to the west. The captured VCC was processed to ITT. No friendly or confirmed VC casualties.
- 27 At 270930H, a patrol from Co L discovered a booby trapped 60mm mortar round vicinity coordinates AT 987693; round was destroyed in place. No friendly or VC casualties.

At 270945H, a patrol from Co L discovered freshly-dug punji trap measuring one foot square and one foot deep with bamboo stakes in the bottom vicinity coordinates AT 978678. Pit was destroyed. No friendly or VC casualties.

At 271000H, a patrol from Co L uncovered a M-1 carbine with two loaded magazines hidden under a small boat vicinity coordinates AT 988693. No Vietnamese were observed in area. Patrol continued on assigned mission. No friendly or VC casualties.

- 28 At 281200H, a patrol from Co L found a 7.62mm round booby trapped in a 20mm cannon shell with pressure type detonator vicinity AT 980689. Four feet away was an M-26 grenade rigged with a trip wire. Both mine and grenade were destroyed in place. No friendly or VC casualties.

At 281400H, at 3/1 CP, a conference was conducted between 3/1 and 59th RF Bn. The purpose of this meeting was to coordinate details concerning the introduction of one RF company into each of the company sectors of 3/1 TAOR and to discuss specifics concerning combined operations.

At 282345H, a security squad from Co L at the An Trach Bridge (AT 962660) observed a VC swimming from pontoon to pontoon in the river. One grenade was thrown at the VC who climbed onto the bridge and ran across. Squad fired several small arms rounds at VC who was hit and fell into the river. Search of area around bridge and downstream from bridge at first light was conducted with negative results. One VC WIA (Probable).

- 29 At 290200H, as per CO, 9th Mar, verbal order, Co M (Rein) was alerted for deployment outside periphery of 9th Mar TAOR.

Commencing 290800H, as per joint agreement reached in conference conducted on 28 May between 3/1 and 59th RF Bn, elements of the 59th RF Bn deployed into 3/1 TAOR. Elements of 59th RF Bn are

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29 presently co-located with rifle companies of 3/1 as follows:

Co I - 593rd RF Co  
Co K - 591st RF Co  
Co L - 594th RF Co

At 291035H, Co I, while displacing to new CP, received five rounds small arms fire from vicinity BT 033692; returned fifteen rounds small arms fire. The VC withdrew under fire. Since fire came from 2/4 TAOR, VC were not physically pursued and a report was made to 9th Mar Headquarters. No friendly casualties; no confirmed VC casualties.

At 291115H, a patrol from Co I at coordinates BT 032693 received fifteen rounds small arms fire from four VC dressed in black pajamas and rice hats vicinity BT 033691. Patrol returned forty-five rounds small arms fire; VC withdrew under fire. Since firing came from 2/4 TAOR, patrol did not physically pursue; however, 2/4 was advised as to location of VC elements. No friendly casualties; no confirmed VC casualties.

29 At 291310H, as per CO, 9th Mar, verbal order, Co M (Rein) was relieved of alert status.

30 At 300230H, the bridge security elements from Co K, coordinates AT 999699, received two rounds small arms fire from vicinity coordinates BT 005700. Unit did not return fire due to proximity of friendly patrols. A surveillance patrol was dispatched at first light to search suspected area with no evidence of VC found. No friendly or VC casualties.

At 300800H, 3/1, as per verbal orders from CO, 9th Mar, detached one reinforced platoon from Co K to be employed by H&S Co, 9th Mar, as ASP-1 security.

31 In accordance with CO, 9th Mar, Frag Order, a reinforced platoon from Co M was alerted, effective 310700H, as ROUGH-RIDER for a motorized convoy from Danang to Phu Bai and return.

At 311130H, a patrol from Co L, coordinates AT 965668, observed one VC dressed in black pajamas and conical rice hat, vicinity coordinates AT 966670. VC, upon seeing patrol, turned and ran north. Three rounds small arms were fired after VC and the patrol physically pursued following a blood trail, but lost contact at the rivers edge. No friendly casualties; one VC WIA possible.

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- 31 At 311400H, Co L commenced initial planning for a "County Fair" to be conducted on 3 June 1966 in a hamlet to be designated.

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SECTION V. LOGISTICSA. Significant Events

1. During the period covered, the average supported strength of the Battalion was 1026 men.
2. Commencing 22 May and continuing to the end of the month, the Battalion was split into two groups, and operated at both the Chu Lai and Danang Combat Bases. The larger portion of personnel and equipment were deployed to Danang while the administrative rear remained at Chu Lai.

B. Supply

1. During the first part of the month, supply requirements continued at a constant level. Plans were made to displace the Battalion Command Post within the Chu Lai Combat Base and every effort was made to ensure that all supply shortages were filled prior to the planned displacement. A problem mentioned in previous Command Chronologies concerning water cans was solved with the acquisition of new water cans from FLSC-Bravo.
2. With the movement of 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, to the Danang Combat Base commencing on 22 May, the Supply Section was split into a forward and rear echelon to ensure continued supply support in both areas. Source of supply at Danang Combat Base was FLSC-Alpha while supply support for the Battalion Rear remained with FLSC-Bravo at Chu Lai Combat Base.
3. That portion of the Supply Section remaining at Chu Lai was engaged in the packaging and forwarding of required organic supplies and support items from that combat base to Danang.

C. Transportation1. Organic

- a. The Motor Transport Section was divided into two sections. The smaller portion accompanied the Battalion to Danang to support the forward echelon of the Battalion Command Group. At the end of the reporting period, the Motor Transport Section at Danang had six M-422s with trailers and four M-274s.
- b. Organic vehicles remaining in the Chu Lai Combat Base were utilized for the administrative support of the Battalion Rear during this period.

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## 2. Support Vehicles

a. Support from motor transport support units in the Chu Lai area was excellent. Some difficulty however, has been experienced in the Danang area in acquiring sufficient truck support.

b. Helicopter support was utilized to move initial high priority items to Danang in support of the deployed element of the Battalion. Eight CH-46s were used to lift 18,621 pounds of supplies and one M-422 with trailer.

## D. Maintenance

1. Second echelon maintenance was performed on all types of equipment expeditiously. During the period covered, no single item of equipment was deadlined for second echelon maintenance in excess of ten days.

2. Third echelon and higher maintenance is still not being performed on deadlined M-274s, as this equipment is awaiting replacement; at the end of the reporting period, the Battalion was short five M-274s, awaiting replacement. All M-422s have now been replaced by M-422A1s.

E. Deadlined Combat Essential Equipment. With the exception of five M-274s awaiting replacement and that communications equipment deadlined, the Battalion has no deadlined combat essential equipment at the end of the reporting period.

## F. Embarkation

1. On 22 May, elements of the Battalion, Command Group Alpha together with the four rifle companies, were deployed to the Danang Combat Base by air. On 26 May, certain critical items of supplies and equipment required to support the deployed elements were airlifted to Danang by helicopter. (See paragraph C2b above).

2. At the conclusion of the reporting period, plans were being developed for movement of the remainder of the Battalion equipment to the Danang Combat Base by either air or sea lift. This plan was being developed in the eventuality that orders were issued for the remainder of the Battalion to deploy to the Danang Combat Base.

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SECTION VI. COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRONICS

A. General. During the period 1 - 21 May, the Communications Platoon, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, was engaged in improving the established communication facilities within the Battalion Command Post and TAOR at Chu Lai; and, after 22 May, with establishing and maintaining communication facilities at the Battalion's new Command Post and TAOR at Danang. In addition, the Communications Platoon conducted a one-week course in communications procedures. The purpose of which was to train rifle company personnel to be field radio operators and wiremen. At present, the platoon is engaged in improving the communication facilities within the Battalion TAOR at Danang, while still maintaining a limited wire communications capability at the Battalion's Rear Command Post at Chu Lai.

B. Equipment

1. On 31 May 1966, all T/E communications equipment was on hand.

2. The Battalion utilized an average of 35 AN/PRC-10s, six AN/PRC-6s, six AN/PRC-25s, one AN/PRC-47, and one AN/URC-22 daily. There was an average of four AN/PRC-6s, and three PRC-10s deadlined daily over this same period. Three AN/PRC-25s, one AN/MRC-87, and two AN/PRC-47s were deadlined during May.

3. All wire equipment was utilized excepting the following which was deadlined during May:

Ten TA-222s (SB-22 Line Packs), sixteen telephone TA-1s, eighteen telephones TS-10, and fourteen telephones TA-312/EE-8.

4. Equipment deadlined as of 31 May, 1966.

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>ECHOLON</u>
EE-8	3	2nd
EE-8	4	3rd
TA-1	5	2nd
TA-1	1	3rd
TS-10	9	2nd
TS-10	1	3rd
TA-312	2	2nd
AN/PIQ-5	1	3rd
AN/PRC-6	1	3rd
AN/PRC-10	7	3rd
AN/PRC-10	1	2nd
AN/MRC-87	1	3rd

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5. Wire Installed During May.Quantity

Telephone Cable, WD-1/TT

31 Miles

C. Message Traffic1. AdministrativeClassifiedUnclassified

Incoming

287

254

Outgoing

14

12

2. Combat Operations

Incoming

0

587

Outgoing

0

352

D. Personnel Status

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1. On 31 May, 1966, the communications personnel for the Battalion numbered 900.

2. Capitulation of personnel changes during May:

<u>MOS</u>	<u>TRANSFERRED</u>	<u>JOINED</u>	<u>HOSPITALIZED</u>	<u>RETURNED TO DUTY</u>
2531		2		
2532		1		1
2511	1	1		
3041		1		
TOTAL	1	5	0	1

E. Operations/Training

1. Training. From 17 to 21 May, 1966, a communication course was covered to train company radio operators and wiremen. A total of ten radio operators and six wiremen successfully completed the course.

2. Operations. The internal wire system for the CP at Chu Lai was completed in May, and presently 55% of the internal wire system within new TAOR at Da Nang has been completed.

F. The communication platoon did not participate in any combat operations; other than those conducted within the TAOR, during the month of May.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~SECTION VII. FIRE SUPPORT COORDINATION, NAVAL GUNFIREA. Artillery

1. General. During the month of May, Artillery Support for the 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines was limited as the Battalion was not involved in any major operations. The number of harrassing and interdiction fires was also reduced as positive developments in the civic action program recently initiated within the tactical area (Chu Lai) precluded these fires. In like manner, the pacification effort within the tactical area in Da Nang, precluded the use of harrassing and interdiction fires.

2. Statistical Summary

a. Number of Missions fired in Support 35

b. Type of Missions(1) Unobserved Missions

Harrassing and Interdiction 35

(2) Observed Missions. None.3. Weapons and Ammunition Expended

	<u>HE</u>	<u>Illum</u>	<u>Total</u>
105mm Howitzer 125	0		125
105mm Howitzer 120	0		120
			<u>245</u>

B. Naval Gunfire. Naval Gunfire was not utilized by 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines during the month of May. The Battalion did not participate in any major operations nor did the Battalion encounter any targets appropriate for Naval Gunfire within its assigned TAOR.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~SECTION VIII. AIR-SUPPORT - DEFENSEA. Air Support

1. During the month of May, the air support requirements of the 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines were minimal. No close air support, tactical reconnaissance, helicopter troop lift, resupply, or gunships missions were requested as the Battalion did not participate in any operations other than small unit patrols/ambushes within the Battalion tactical area or responsibility.

2. One fixed wing air lift was conducted in support of the rapid deployment of the Battalion from Chu Lai to Danang. The first Marine Air Wing provided four KC-130 aircraft in response to an immediate request. The lift was satisfactory; no problems were encountered.

3. Coupled with the troop airlift to Danang, eight CH-46 helicopters were utilized to lift initial high priority supplies and equipment required by the Battalion to support operations within the new TAOR.

4. Four medical evacuation missions were executed without incident.

5. Air Support Requestsa. Helicopter(1) Resupply

Mission Requests	0
Missions Completed	0

(2) Evacuation

Mission Requests	4
Missions Completed	4

(3) Logistics Lift

Mission Requests	1
Missions Completed	1

(4) Tactical(a) Recon

Mission Requests	
Missions Completed	

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(b) Troop Lift

Mission Requests	0
Missions Completed	0

(c) Gunships

Mission Requests	0
Missions Completed	0

b. Fixed Wing Transport(1) Tactical Air Request Lift

Mission Requests	1
Missions Completed	1

c. Tactical Air Support(1) Air Strikes

Mission Requests	0
Missions Completed	0

(2) Helicopter Escort

Mission Requests	0
Missions Completed	0

B. Air Defense. The defense measures employed by the Battalion were passive. No organic weapons were employed for active air defense.

C. Problem Areas. None.

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SECTION IX. MEDICAL/DENTAL AFFAIRSA. Patient Load

1. During the month of May, a total of 472 patients were seen at the Battalion Aid Station in Chu Lai and 202 patients were seen at the Battalion Aid Station in Danang for an average of twenty-one patients per day.

2. Thirty-two patients were admitted at Battalion Aid Station during the month with an average daily census of three in-patients.

3. On 22 May, the Battalion Aid Station sent ten personnel including the Battalion Surgeon to the Danang area in support of the elements of this Battalion deployed to that area.

B. MEDCAP. Daily sick calls were held in the Battalion area of responsibility by company corpsmen and the Battalion Aid Station. A total of 3,114 Vietnamese civilians were treated.

C. Sanitation. Most of the major discrepancies relating to camp sanitation at Chu Lai were resolved by improvement of messing facilities and providing more toilet facilities. At the CP occupied at Danang, urinals and toilets were found in very deplorable condition. Corrective measures now have been taken to improve these conditions with satisfactory results.

D. Personnel. On 1 May, there were two medical officers and fifty hospital corpsmen on board for duty. Eleven corpsmen were transferred out of the Battalion and eleven replacements were received. Two corpsmen were returned from temporary addition duty on Okinawa. Total personnel on board at the close of the month was two medical officers and fifty hospital corpsmen.

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SECTION X. CIVIL AFFAIRS

A. General. The civic action program utilized resources from MEDCAP, USAID, and various self-help projects. During the period 1 - 8 May, activities were concentrated on 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, TAOR at Chu Lai Combat Base which included the villages of Ky Ha (BT 5210), Ky Xuan (BT 4910), Ky Hoa (BT 5013), and Hoa Xuan (BT 4316). From 18 - 21 May, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, was relieved of its TAOR by Chu Lai Defense Command and 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, who also assumed civic action responsibility for those areas. On 22 May, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, was deployed to Danang and was assigned a new TAOR within the Danang Combat Base to include the villages of Hoa Chou (BT 9570), Hoa Thai (BT 9869), Hoa Dai (BT 9770), and portions of Hoa Phuoc (BT 9471) and Hoa Loi (BT 9474). Accordingly, the 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines civic action effort focused on these villages.

B. Significant Events

1. Medical/Dental. During May, MEDCAP teams treated 3,114 villagers. Fifteen dental patients were also treated for a total of 3129 treated patients.

2. Self-Help. 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, distributed 300 bags of fertilizer to the villages of Ky Hoa and Ky Xuan. In addition, the Battalion arranged for trucks to be provided the hamlets of Xoung Trung (BT 5210), San Hai (BT 5111), and Duong Song (2) (AT 9967). These trucks were utilized to haul sand, fill, and fire wood.

3. USAID. USAID supplies distributed by 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines included twenty-five bags of cement which were provided to Ky Xuan (BT 4910) for reconstruction of a school and dispensary, and fifteen sections of pipe which was provided to San Hai (BT 5111) to be utilized as road culvert for that hamlet.

4. Visits

(a) On 14 May, LtGen KRULAK, Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, visited the island of Ky Hoa, "New Life" Hamlet of An Binh.

(b) On 29 May, KNXT-TV newscaster, Jerry Dunphy, visited the An Trach Hamlet school. A special news subject was filmed showing the children studying and school's educational equipment which had been provided by CARE.

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SECTION XI. PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE ACTIVITIES

A. General. Psychological operations conducted during the month of May were developed in conjunction with the civil affairs program on the islands within the Battalion tactical area of responsibility. These operations were limited to the promulgation of the successes enjoyed by Marine/ARVN units during offensive operations conducted in Quang Ngai Province. In addition, one film was presented on the island of Ky Hoa as part of the 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, pacification program.

B. Significant Events

1. On 2 May, a film was presented to the inhabitants of the island of Ky Hoa, centered grid square BT 5013 (AMS Series L701). The film, in substance, represented a fishing cooperative which had been created by the Government of Vietnam, and emphasized the benefits to be gained by those Vietnamese communities functioning under positive Governmental control. The presentation was well received and provided an excellent foundation in the effort to create, build, and maintain confidence in the Government of Vietnam, and the Marines now operating in that area.

2. From 4 - 8 May, 1,000 posters were distributed to the Marines operating on the islands of Ky Hoa (BT 5013), Ky Xuan (BT 4809), and Hoa Xuan (BT 4215) to be published in appropriate areas. These posters presented in detail the total successes of the Marine/ARVN Operation HOT SPRINGS, which was conducted in Quang Ngai Province, 20 - 22 April 1966. Tangible results of this program were not readily apparent.

3. It is worthy of note that the positive "soft sell" approach such as the film presentation mentioned in paragraph B1. above has proven more successful than any other program instituted to date.

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