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HEADQUARTERS  
3d Motor Transport Battalion (Rein)  
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF  
FPO San Francisco 96601

3/WHW:wls  
5750  
7 January 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF  
Subj: Command Chronology  
Ref: (a) DivO 5750.1

1. In accordance with reference (a), organizational data, including attachments, designations and locations of units of the 3d Motor Transport Battalion (-) (Rein), is hereby submitted.

a. DANANG ENCLAVE (3dMTBn Hq)

H&SCo, 3dMTBn  
Co"A"(-) (Rein), 3dMTBn, (1stPlt Co"A", 2ndPlt Co"B")

b. CHU LAI ENCLAVE (FLSU #1)

Co"C", 3dMTBn (Rein), w/Plt Co"C", 9thMTBn (OP Control)  
Co"C", 1stMTBn

c. PHU BAI ENCLAVE (FLSU#2)

Co"B" (-), 3dMTBn

2. Period Covered:

1 December - 31 December 1965

3. Name/Rank Commanding Officer and Staff:

BAKER, F. J.	Maj	Commanding Officer
NOYES, C. R.	Capt	Executive Officer
WALTERS, W. H.	Capt	S-3
SHOFFNER, M. JR.	2ndLt	S-1/Adj
BALAKER, V. T.	2ndLt	S-4/Supply
MARWITZ, H. R.	1stLt	CO, H&SCo
LAMBERT, C. S.	Capt	CO, Co"A"
KOZUBAL, L. J.	2ndLt	CO, Co"B"
KING, K. W. SR.	Capt	CO, Co"C"
BISSELL, J. C.	1stLt	CO, Co"C", 1stMTBn (Admin Control)
PARADIS, L.	SgtMaj	Battalion Sergeant Major

3d Motor Transport Battalion

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4. Average monthly strength:

a. Third Motor Transport Battalion, 15 Officers and 256 Enlisted personnel. 9 U. S. Navy Enlisted. Attached: Company "C", 1st Motor Transport Battalion, 3 Officers and 80 Enlisted. 2 U. S. Navy Enlisted.

5. Personnel. None

6. Administration. None

7. Training:

a. Familiarization firing on the .50 caliber machine gun was conducted for personnel (30) who had not previously FAM fired.

b. Regular instruction on GMST and Technical subjects were limited because of operation "Harvest Moon".

8. Special Operations - "Harvest Moon". (8 December - 20 December 1965)

a. The 3d Motor Transport Battalion was tasked organized to Task Force Delta for operation "Harvest Moon". All subordinate units of the Battalion were employed extensively during the course of operation. Infantry support was rendered by four separate Battalions based at both Chu-Lai and Da-Nang to provide security personnel for the many different convoys conducted during the operation. Ontes were employed as convoy escorts and were primarily used since the weight factor on roads and bridges restricted the use of armored vehicles. Air support was used extensively, and the armed helicopters was considered a necessity on all convoy movements outside the TAOR. The concept of operation and mission of the 3d Motor Transport Battalion was twofold:

1. Movement of troops from both Chu-Lai (2nd Battalion, 7th Marines) and Da-Nang (3rd Battalion, 3rd Marines) to the area of Tam-Ky and the logistic Support Area (Huong-Xuan).

2. Resupply of all necessary classes of supply required to support all units involved in the operation. All classes of supply were stored and loaded from both Da-Nang and Chu-Lai (FLSG and FLSU-1) and transported by vehicle convey along Route 1 to the LSA.

The battalion was also given the added responsibility of *assigned* organizing and staging convey elements for most of the other units and organization to Task Force Delta. Maintenance capabilities of 2nd echelon maintenance was accomplished at the LSA for all motor vehicles, and no serious maintenance difficulties arose.

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Convey movement for the most part had little or no difficulty, but the conditions of roads, bridges, and congestion of civilian traffic limited the use of time and space factors in adhering to strict convey scheduling. Convoys were not met by any serious opposition from enemy action, but many convoys were fired on by snipers, and occasional mortar rounds were directed at vehicles. One vehicle was damaged by a land mine slightly wounding both the driver and assistant driver. These were the only casualties suffered by motor transport personnel in the entire operation.

The movement of troops consisted of most units involved in the operation less the Special Landing Force. The Infantry Battalions were transported from their permanent Command Post locations to the designated assembly and LSA area's. The retrograde movement was similar to the initial forward movement, but helicopters were required in some areas due to inundated roads. Cargo movements were conducted during the entire operation utilizing two main supply points; one North (Da-Nang) and one South (Chu-Lai) from the LSA. Vehicle convoys were therefore hauling from two separate directions meeting the heavy commitments required to support three Battalions.

Fifty-four convoys were required to move 7,400 personnel and 1,400 tons of cargo. A total of 50,000 miles were driven consuming 10,000 gallons of MOGAS.

#### 9. Civil Affairs:

a. The Medical Contact Team of this command dispensed a total of 1,951 medical treatments in the Hoa Khanh Dong Phuoc Hamlet complex. Emergency medical assistance was rendered to 7 Vietnamese nationals three of whom were evacuated to the Civilian Hospital, in Da Nang. The month of December also witnessed an astounding improvement in the general health and cleanliness of the villages concerned. The Medical Team is being received with pronounced enthusiasm. It has been noticed that a distinct increase in the number of adults availing themselves for treatment.

b. A total of 250 pounds of assorted feedstuffs, 150 pounds of candy, 1,500 bars of soap and approximately \$500.00 worth of toys were distributed to an estimated 2,000 contacts in the Hoa Khanh, Dong Phuoc Hamlet complex and the Buddhist and Catholic orphanages in Da Nang.

c. The 14 year old girl "Adopted" by this command earlier last month was admitted to the Dag Tan Military Hospital for orthopedic surgery. Her case was referred to an orthopedic specialist from the Mayo Clinic who assures us that she is progressing favorably. The Battalion Medical Contact Team was successful in reuniting her with her parents, and her grandmother is currently caring for her at the Military Hospital. She was also treated to a birthday celebration at the hospital during which she was presented with her first bicycle and other personal items contributed by the Marines of this Command. To date some \$250.00 has been contributed to her "Get Well Fund".

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d. The members of the Medical Contact Team were invited to a celebration in their honor on Christmas evening by the villagers of Hoa Khanh. The evenings festivities included dinner, a Christmas pageant, performances of Vietnamese dances by the children, speeches thanking us for our efforts and the distribution of Christmas gifts. Needless to say we were most happy to note the excellent image that our Medical Team has projected.

e. Continued emphasis is being placed on the expeditious handling of civilian claims and on the daily indoctrination of our troops in local customs, traditions and regulations.

f. Extensive vehicle recovery assistance was rendered to civilian vehicles stranded because of flooding and other natural causes. The professional handling of these incidents has drawn extensive praise from a number of Vietnamese sources.

*W. H. Walters*  
W. H. WALTERS  
By direction

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