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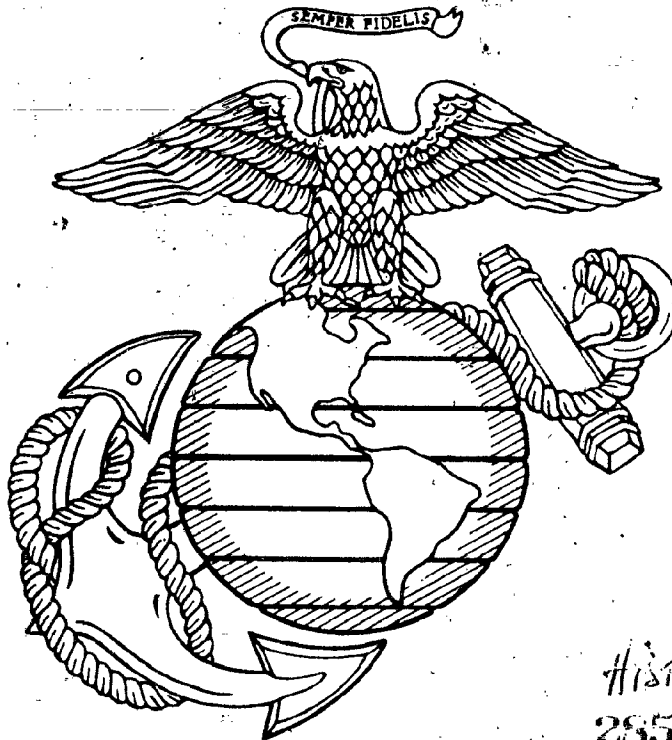
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65 9291

3D MARINE DIVISION

UNCLASSIFIED

FMF (-) (REIN)



HIST 3480
285.237

COMMAND DIARY for the month of

AUGUST 1965

MARINE CORPS
HISTORICAL

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August 1965
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SECOND ENDORSEMENT on CG 3d MarDiv ltr 3:GEL:af Ser. No.
00111-65 dated 12 October 1965

From: Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps

Subj: Command Chronology of 3d Marine Division(-)(Rein) for
the month of August 1965

Encl: (1) 3d MarDiv(-)(Rein) Command Diary for August 1965

1. Forwarded.

2. This letter is downgraded to UNCLASSIFIED upon removal of
enclosure (1).

D. H. Stapp

D. H. STAPP
Deputy Chief of Staff

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65 9291

#0032065

103/RPL/jfc
24 OCT 1965

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FIRST ENDORSEMENT on CG 3d MarDiv ltr 3:SEL:af Ser. No. 00111-65 of 12Oct65

From: Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps
Via: Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology of 3d Marine Division (-) (Rein) for the month
of August 1965

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
(b) CG FMFPac msg 251942 Aug65

Encl: (1) 3dMarDiv(-)(Rein) Command Diary for the month of August 1965

1. Reference (a) directed submission of Command Chronologies and prescribed the format for the subject report. Reference (b) directed monthly submission of subject report by units deployed in the Republic of Vietnam.

2. Enclosure (1) is the 3d Marine Division Command Chronology for the month of August 1965. The report is mislabeled Command Diary and is not in proper format, however, the basic facts required by reference (a) are included.

3. Enclosure (1) is hereby forwarded as 3d Marine Division Command Chronology for August 1965.

4. This letter is downgraded to unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

G.C. AxteLL
G.C. AXTELL
Chief of Staff

Copy to:
CG, 3dMarDiv

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

Copy 1 of 7 Copies
3:GEL:af
12 Oct 1965
Ser. No. 00111-65

~~SECRET~~

From: Commanding General
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code AO3D)
Via: (1) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force
(2) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Diary of the 3d Marine Division (-)(Rein) for the month of August, 1965

Ref: (a) III MAFO 3121.1A
(b) MCO 3480.1
(c) MCO 5750.2
(d) CG FMFPAC msg 251942 Aug 65

Encl: (1) 3d MarDiv (-)(Rein) Command Diary for the period 1-31 August 1965

1. Reference (a) required submission of Command Diaries monthly by Marine Corps Commands deployed to the Republic of VIETNAM. The format for such submission was prescribed in reference (b). Reference (c), received during August 1965, cancelled reference (b) and initially established a requirement for submission for a Command Chronology semi-annually, with the first report to cover the period 1 July to 31 December 1965.

2. Reference (d), received on 5 September 1965, transmitted the substance of a Commandant of the Marine Corps letter modifying the new semi-annual requirement and directing monthly submission by deployed units, using a new format.

3. In view of the foregoing, enclosure (1) is submitted in the Command Diary format. The Command Chronology for the month of September will be submitted in the new prescribed format.

4. This letter is unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

D. W. Sherman
D. W. SHERMAN
Chief of Staff

GROUP-4
DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

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PART I

ORGANIZATION DATA SHEET

THIRD MARINE DIVISION (REINFORCED), FLEET MARINE FORCE
COMMAND DIARY FOR THE PERIOD 1 AUGUST, 1965 TO 31 AUGUST, 1965

SUBMITTED SEPTEMBER, 1965

FROM THE DIVISION COMMAND POST

IN THE

MARINE COMPOUND, DA NANG AIR BASE, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

COMMANDING GENERAL

MAJOR GENERAL LEWIS W. WALT, U. S. MARINE CORPS

ASSISTANT DIVISION COMMANDERS

BRIGADIER GENERAL FREDERICK J. KARCH, USMC, TO 5 AUGUST, 1965

BRIGADIER GENERAL MELVIN D. HENDERSON, USMC

ASSISTANT DIVISION COMMANDER GROUP, CHU LAI, RVN

BRIGADIER GENERAL FREDERICK J. KARCH, USMC, FROM 5 AUGUST, 1965

CHIEFS OF STAFF

COLONEL ANDREW I. LYMAN, USMC, TO 14 AUGUST, 1965

COLONEL DONALD W. SHERMAN, USMC

GENERAL STAFF

ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, G-1

COLONEL ROBERT W. PORT, USMCR

ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, G-2

MAJOR CHARLES T. WILLIAMSON,
USMC, TO 25 AUGUST, 1965

LIEUTENANT COLONEL RICHARD
J. SCHRIVER, USMC

ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, G-3

COLONEL ROYAL E. NORTH, USMC,
TO 25 AUGUST, 1965

COLONEL DON P. WYCKOFF, USMC

ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, G-4

COLONEL FRANK R. WILKINSON,
JR., USMC

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ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, COMPTROLLER

COLONEL BERNARD M. BORESS, USMC

SUBORDINATE UNITS

Headquarters Battalion (Rein)

3d Marine Regiment (-)(Rein)

4th Marine Regiment (-)(Rein)

7th Marine Regiment (-)(Rein)

9th Marine Regiment (-)(Rein)

12th Marine Regiment (Rein)

Battalion Landing Team 2/7

3d Anti-Tank Battalion

3d Engineer Battalion (Rein)

3d Medical Battalion

3d Motor Transport Battalion (Rein)

3d Reconnaissance Battalion

1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion, FMF

3d Tank Battalion, FMF

COMMANDING OFFICERS

Major John E. WATSON, USMC

Colonel Edwin B. WHEELER,
USMC, to 16 August, 1965

Colonel Norman R. NICKERSON, USMC

Colonel James F. McCLANAHAN, USMC

Colonel Oscar F. PEATROSS, USMC

Colonel Frank E. GARRETSON, USMC,
to 15 August, 1965

Colonel John E. GORMAN, USMC

Colonel James M. CALLENDER, USMC

Lieutenant Colonel Leon N. UTTER, USMC

Lieutenant Colonel Bruce A. HEFLIN, USMC

Lieutenant Colonel Nicholas J. DENNIS,
USMC

Commander Almon C. WILSON, (MC), USN

Colonel Edward COCK, USMC

Lieutenant Colonel Don H. BLANCHARD,
USMC

Lieutenant Colonel William C. POMERROY,
USMC

Lieutenant Colonel States R. JONES, Jr.,
USMC

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. Background and Mission Assigneda. Background

1. During August, 1965, the Headquarters, 3d Marine Division (Reinforced) remained in the Marine Compound, DANANG Air Base, Republic of VIETNAM, in close proximity to the Headquarters, III Marine Amphibious Force and the Headquarters, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing (Advance). At the beginning of the month the Division's Zone of Operations was separated into four Tactical Areas of Responsibility, with one at HUE-PHU BAI, 35 miles north of the City of DANANG; another at DANANG itself; a third at CHU LAI, 65 miles south of DANANG, and a fourth at QUI NHON, 146 miles south of DANANG. 3d Battalion, 4th Marines under the operational control of 3d Marines, continued to occupy and defend the HUE-PHU BAI TAOR. At DANANG, 3d Marines, with its First and Second Battalions, and 9th Marines with its Second and Third Battalion occupied tactical positions on the perimeter at the beginning of the month. The Provisional Airfield Defense Battalion provided security for the airfield proper until relieved by 1st Battalion, 9th Marines.

2. 4th Marines, with 1/4, 2/4, 3/3 and 3/12 plus attachments occupied the CHU LAI TAOR until a portion of the TAOR was taken over by 7th Marines and 1/7. BLT 2/7 continued to occupy and defend the fourth TAOR at QUI NHON. By the fifth of the month, however, the number of enclaves under Division control had been reduced to three when BLT 2/7 was redesignated 2d Battalion, 7th Marines (Reinforced) and passed to the operational control of the newly-created Task Force ALPHA (U. S. Army). 2/7 continued to operate from its positions at QUI NHON for the remainder of the month. A detailed Division Task Organization and Troop List is appended hereto as an enclosure.

3. The Provisional Air Base Defense Battalion which had been activated during July, formed from in-country personnel assets, and its personnel returned to parent organizations when it became apparent that an additional infantry battalion would be landing in VIETNAM and available for assignment of the mission of Airfield Defense.

2. Resume of Activities, Movements and Results.

During the month of August the Third Marine Division (-), (Rein) in Viet Nam increased in strength from 21,792 officers and men to 25,644 officers and men. New unit arrivals included the 7th Marines minus 2/7, elements of the 11th Marines, the 1st Tank Battalion, FMF, the 1st Engineer Battalion, the 1st Reconnaissance Battalion and the 3d Amphibious Battalion, FMF.

Throughout the month the Third Marine Division retained the initiative over the Viet Cong highlighted by the highly successful "Operation STARLITE." "STARLITE" is documented in detail in supporting documents to this diary.

No less significant than "STARLITE", however, have been the constant aggressive small unit actions throughout the TAOR's. Day and night patrolling actions have convinced the Viet Cong that the hours of darkness will not allow freedom of movement.

At 130002H August Company F and Company H (-) of the 2d Battalion, 3d Marines conducted the first night helicopter assault of the war. The action took place in the NAM YEM/PHO NAN area and resulted in one Viet Cong KIA and twenty-nine Viet Cong suspects captured. There were no friendly casualties.

Reconnaissance units have introduced elements in all areas forward of the MLR's and are constantly observing the most distant points of the Division's TAOR's.

Effective 050001H August BLT 2/7, redesignated 2d Battalion, 7th Marines (Rein) and changed to OPCON, CG Task Force ALPHA (U. S. Army).

The 3d 155 Gun Battery (SP), FMF attached to 3d Battalion, 12th Marines on 7 August.

Correlated to the militarily successful month has been the impetus of civic action throughout the tactical areas of responsibility of the Third Marine Division. Thousands of civilians have received treatment for ailments in the villages throughout the area. Assistance to the population has been rendered in the form of school building, home building, protection during the rice harvesting and flood control.

The engineering effort throughout the month has resulted in significant improvements in bunkers, roads, airfields and water points.

Itineraries of distinguished civilians and military officers are described in an enclosure to this diary.

Third Marine Division actions during August resulted in 675 Viet Cong KIA, 72 Viet Cong WIA, 20 Viet Cong captured and 166 Viet Cong suspects captured. USMC casualties were 52 KIA, 10 DOW and 382 WIA.

AUGUST COMMAND DIARY INPUTCivic Action

(1) Objectives: The basic objectives of the Division's Civic Action Program remain the same, although during the month of August it became apparent that a third objective should be set forth as the coordination of the rural reconstruction programs of all U. S. agencies operating in the I Corps area. This includes the programs not only of the USMC, but also of the UNITED STATES OVERSEAS MISSION, VIETNAM; the Joint U. S. Public Affairs Office; the MACV Advisors and the various private charitable and religious organizations in-country. To this end, all III MAF Civil Affairs officers were to a 5-day Orientation Course in Saigon sponsored jointly by MACV and USOM. Following this, plans were made for the holding of a 3-day seminar in DANANG to be sponsored jointly by the USMC, MACV, USOM and JUSPAO. All Marine Civil Affairs Officers, all MACV Advisors in USMC TAOR's, and all USOM and JUSPAO field representatives in Division TAOR's attended. The seminar convened on 31 August.

(2) Coordinating Committee: A committee was created for the purpose of coordinating the programs of all U. S. agencies in the I Corps area. This committee is comprised of senior, Marine Corps representatives, MACV Advisors, and representative from USOM, and JUSPAO. Ultimately, it is planned to have senior GVN and RVNAF representatives on the committee. The Committee met for the first time on 30 August and appointed committee in the fields of logistics (primarily transportation problems), finance (primarily claims), public health, agriculture, public works, education, and security (primarily Popular Forces and People's Action Teams). Each committee is to canvass completely the problems in its respective field; determine the assets, capabilities and limitations of each agency working in said field, and recommend a coordinated plan of operations to the senior committee for approval and execution.

(3) Medical Assistance: The Navy medical teams from Division units continued to function, treating approximately 35,000 persons. In addition, the joint study committee on public health met for the first time. It consist of representatives from all U. S. agencies operating in the I Corps area. Its mission is to compile a complete list of medical and public health problems in the corps area, as well as a complete list of the capabilities, resources and limitations of all agencies in these fields, from which the senior committee for approval. This committee will continue to meet the senior committee for approval. This committee will continue to meet weekly until its primary mission has been accomplished.

(4) Soap Program: A great deal of interest has been shown in CONUS in response to Marine Corps efforts to start a soap drive for VIETNAM. Much correspondence was received and some small contributions of soap started arriving during the month. The first large contributions of soap should begin in VIETNAM early in September.

(5) Clothing Program: Arrangements were made with Catholic Relief Services whereby large amounts of used clothing are to be made available to the Division by that organization. Pending arrival of these larger quantities, limited amounts of clothing were distributed in 3 hamlets.

(6) Meetings with local Officials: The program of continuous meetings with local officials continued. A community Relations Committee met in the City of DANANG. This committee is headed by the Mayor of DANANG and has representatives of all GVN Departments and all military units serving in the immediate area of DANANG. Its purpose is to discuss and resolve common problems.

(7) Orphanages: The work with orphanages continued throughout the Division's TAORs. Plans are now being made to have all orphanages in TAOR's listed, together with major problems at each orphanage so that the Division's effort will be spread more evenly throughout all of its TAOR's.

(8) Claims: Third Marine Division Staff Legal Officer was assigned the responsibility of clearing up the confusion about how claims are to be processed and paid. He has held various meetings with MACV officers and it is expected that final clarifying instructions will be received from higher headquarters early next month.

(9) Food Program: Liaison has been made with Catholic Relief Services whereby that organization is going to make available to the Division large quantities of farm surplus commodities for use in its civic action programs. These will include bulgar wheat, corn meal, soy bean oil, beans, and some powdered milk. It is expected that the first large shipment of these commodities will be received in DANANG during September. In the meantime, 15 tons of this food were flown into the CHU LAI area for distribution to villagers in the area where Operation STARLIGHT was conducted. Other limited amounts of food were distributed in 4 other hamlets during the month.

(10) Use of Musicians: An 8-man combo was used in a program for an outlying village with very good results.

(11) Care: The American Legion has volunteered to support a program whereby that organization will donate money to CARE, and CARE will make its packages available to the Division via III Marine Amphibious Force for distribution throughout its TAORS. An appropriate order was promulgated to component units providing the guidelines for the operation of this program and it is anticipated that the first CARE packages will be received in September. Those packages will consist of tools, sewing materials, resettlers kits, masonry kits, and other items of a self-help nature.

(12) Operation Handclasp: Materials donated under the President's Operation HANDCLASP have commended to pile up on the West Coast awaiting transportation to VIETNAM. It is anticipated that the first large volume of these materials will arrive in VIETNAM early in September.

3D MARINE DIVISION - COMMAND DIARY

1 TO 31 AUGUST 1965

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. 3d Marine Division SITREPS #85-117
2. 3d Marine Division G-3 Journal / *September 1965 - 1967 Aug 8*
3. 3d Marine Division FSCC Journal
4. III MAF INTSUM
5. Daily Battle and Non-battle casualty report
6. VIP Visits to 3d Marine Division
7. 3d Marine Division Operation Order 327-65
8. 3d Marine Division Operation Order 328-65
9. 3d Marine Division Operation Order 329-65
10. 3d Marine Division Operation Order 330-65
11. 3d Marine Division Operation Order 331-65
12. Headquarters Battalion, 3d Marine Division Command Diary
13. 3d Marine Regiment Command Diary
14. 1st Battalion, 3d Marines Command Diary
15. 2d Battalion, 3d Marines Command Diary
16. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines Command Diary
17. 4th Marine Regiment Command Diary
18. 1st Battalion, 4th Marines Command Diary
19. 2d Battalion, 4th Marines Command Diary
20. 3d Battalion, 4th Marines Command Diary
21. 7th Marine Regiment Command Diary
22. 9th Marine Regiment Command Diary
23. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines Command Diary
24. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines Command Diary
25. 3d Battalion, 9th Marines Command Diary
26. 12th Marine Regiment Command Diary
27. 1st Battalion, 12th Marines Command Diary
28. 2d Battalion, 12th Marines Command Diary
29. 3d Battalion, 12th Marines Command Diary
30. 4th Battalion, 12th Marines Command Diary
31. 3d Reconnaissance Battalion Command Diary
32. 3d Tank Battalion Command Diary
33. 3d Anti-Tank Battalion Command Diary
34. 3d Engineer Battalion Command Diary
35. 3d Motor Transport Battalion Command Diary
36. 3d Medical Battalion Command Diary
37. 1st Am Trac Battalion Command Diary
38. Messages, Operation Star Lite, dtd 18 - 24 Aug 1965

Orders issued during August 1965-----3d MarDiv

Operation Order 327-65, 15 Aug 65

Operation Order 328-65, 17 Aug 65

-65

Operation Order 329, --Aug 1965

Operation Order 330-65, 31 Aug 1965

Operation Order 331-65, 30 Aug 65

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 150001H August 1965
 Ser No. 0063-65

Operation Order 327-65

Ref: (a) Maps AMS Series L701, Sheets 6756 I, 6756 IV, 6757 II, 6757

III

(b) CG, 3d MarDiv Operation Order 321A-65, w/ch, 1

(c) CG, 3d MarDiv Msg 150530Z Aug 65

Time Zone: Hotel

Task Organization: Annex A (Task Organization)

1. Situation.a. Enemy Forces. See current ESUMSb. Friendly Forces. Refer to reference (b).2. Mission. Defend the Chu Lai Airfield and ancillary facilities from enemy attack, and execute offensive operations against the enemy.3. Execution.a. Concept of Operations. Refer to reference (b) except as amended by Annex B, limits of CHU LAI TAOR and Regimental Boundaries.b. 4th Marines (-)(Rein).

(1) Defend the CHU LAI Airfield within the assigned zone of the TAOR.

(2) Be prepared to conduct, on order, unilateral or combined operations with RVNAF outside the TAOR Boundary.

(3) Be prepared to provide one company, on order, for employment anywhere in the Division areas of responsibility.

(4) Maintain local defense of CHU LAI Airfield with a Provisional Air Base Defense Battalion composed of two companies.

c. 7th Marines (-)(Rein).

(1) Defend CHU LAI Airfield within assigned zone of the TAOR.

(2) Be prepared to conduct, on order, unilateral or combined operations with RVNAF outside the TAOR Boundary.

(3) Be prepared to provide one company, on order, for employment anywhere in the Division areas of responsibility.

d. Artillery Bn. Group.

Op Order 327-65, 15 Aug 1965
 3d Mar Div

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- (1) 3d Bn, 12th Marines-Direct support, 4th Marines.
- (2) 3d Bn, 11th Marines-Direct support, 7th Marines.
- (3) Btry K, 4th Bn, 12th Marines-General Support.
- (4) Btry M, 4th Bn, 11th Marines-General Support.
- (5) 3rd 155 Gun Btry (SP)-General Support.
- (6) 1st Plt, 1st 8" HowBtry (SP)-General Support.

e. Coordinating Instructions.

(1) The Commander ADC Command Group will coordinate overall security and allocation of units.

(2) The Commander ADC Command Group coordinates base type activities and functions, resolves administrative and station keeping matters, establishes logistical support priorities and distribution of common-use equipment and supplies.

(3) Direct liaison is authorized between the 4th Marines and 7th Marines.

(4) Reports. Refer to reference (b).

(5) Rules of Engagement. Refer to reference (b).

(6) Supporting Arms. Refer to reference (b) except as noted below:

(a) Artillery Bn Group.

1 Responsible for the functioning of the CHU LAI TAOR FSCC as established within the 4th Marines, and conduct the overall planning and coordination of fires within the CHU LAI TAOR.

2 For the Commanding General, and as a function of the Division FSCC, coordinate supporting arms fires with local RVNAF Commanders.

3 Delete paragraph 5.C of Annex C of reference (b).

4. Administration and Logistics.

a. In accordance with current instructions and procedures

b. 7th Marines (-)(Rein) note reference (c).

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5. Command and Communication - Electronics.a. Command.

(1) Administrative and operational control remains with CG 3d MarDiv.

(2) Report initial locations of 4th Marines and major subordinate command posts, and new locations of each command post upon displacement.

b. Communication - Electronics.

(1) In accordance with Annex G (Communication-Electronics) w/ change #1, to reference (b).

(2) 4th Marines, in coordination with 7th Marines, install two telephone trunk lines between 4th Marines and 7th Marines switching centrals.

(3) CHU LAI TAOR FSCC utilize 4th Marines radio call sign with appropriate liaison officer suffixes. Be prepared to establish radio communications with 3d MarDiv FSCC on D-84. Coordinate use of naval gunfire spotting frequencies and tactical air direction frequencies with 3d Marine Division FSCC.

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT:

L. W. WALT
L. W. WALT

Major General, U. S. Marine Corps
Commanding

ANNEXES:

↓ A. Task Organization

B. Concept of Operations Overlay NIF

↓ C. Distribution

DISTRIBUTION: Annex C (Distribution) to
Operation Order 327-65

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 3d MarDiv (Fwd), Danang, RVN
 150061H August 1965

Annex A (Task Organization to Operation Order 327-65)

Time Zone: Hotel

(All attachments effective 150001Z Aug 1965)

4th Marines (-) (Rein)

Col MCCLANAHAN

HqCo (-) (Rein)

Det, HqBn

Det, 3d CIT

1stBn

LtCol PERRICH

2dBn

LtCol FISHER

3dBn, 3dMarines

LtCol MUIR

Provisional Airbase Defense Bn

Co B (-) (Rein), 3rd At Bn

1stLt ROSKI

CoHq (-)

1st Plt

2nd Plt

3rd Plt, Co A

Det, Support Co

Co B, 3rd Recon Bn

Capt COMPTON

Co A, 1st AmTrac Bn, FMF

Maj HELSHER

Co C, (-) (Rein), 3rd TK Bn, FMF

Capt SANDERS

CoHq

Det, H&S Co

1st Plt

2nd Plt

3rd Plt, Co A

7th Marines (-) (Rein)

Col PEATROSS

HqCo (-) (Rein)

Capt THOMAS

Det, HqBn

1stBn

LtCol KELLY

CoC (-) (Rein), 1st AT Bn

Lt SNYDER

CoHq (-)

1st Plt

Co A (-) (Rein), 3rd AmTrac Bn, FMF

Capt BAIR

Co Hq (-)

1st Plt

Artillery Bn Group

LtCol PAGE

3rd Bn, 12th Marines

LtCol PAGE

Hq Btry

Det, CMR, HqBtry, 12th Marines

Btry G

Btry H

107mm Mortar Btry

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Btry C, 1st Bn, 12th Marines
3d Bn, 11th Marines
Hq Btry
Btry G
Btry K, 4th Bn, 12th Marines
Btry M, 3rd Bn, 11th Marines
3rd 155mm Gun Btry (SP)
1st AT, 1st 8" How Btry (SP)
Det, NBC-1

Lt Col PECK

Capt ROUNDTREE
Capt BLACK
Maj CUNLIFTE
Capt WOLFENDER
Lt MCGUIRK, USN

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL WALT:

D. W. Sherman
D. W. SHERMAN
Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps
Chief of Staff

DISTRIBUTION: Annex C (Distribution) to
Operation Order 327-65

OFFICAL:

D. P. Wyckoff
D. P. WYCKOFF
Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps
G-3

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Annex C (Distribution) To Operation Order 327-65

CG FME Pac	1
CG TIE MAF	1
CG IMAW	1
CG 3dMarDiv	1
ADC Command Grp	3
G-2 3dMarDiv	1
G-4 3dMarDiv	1
3d Marines	1
4th Marines	5
7th Marines	4
9th Marines	1
12th Marines	1
Artillery Bn Grp	3
3d MAB (TF-78)	3
File (G-3, 3dMarDiv)	6
	<u>42</u>

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL WALT

D. W. Sherman
D. W. SHERMAN
Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps
Chief of Staff

DISTRIBUTION: Annex C (Distribution) to
Operation Order 327-65

OFFICIAL:

D. P. Wycioff
D. P. WYCKOFF
Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps
G-3

Gen. L

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3d MarDiv (FWD), Danang, RVN
171200H August 1965
Ser No.

Operation STARLITE

Operation Order 328-65

Ref: (a) Maps AMS Series L701 Sheets 6756I, 6756IV, 6757II, 6757III
(b) 3d MarDiv OpOrd 321A-65

1. Situation.

A. Enemy Forces. See current Isums.

B. Friendly Forces.

(1) FMAW provides helicopter support, observation aircraft, close air support, and fixed wing support as required.

(2) 7th Fleet conducts naval operations against VC and provides Naval Gun fire and Amphibious Support to the 3d Marine Division on request.

(3) I Corps ARVN continues operations against the Viet Cong coordinated with U. S. Armed Forces.

C. Attachments and Detachments.

(1) 3d Marines. Attach two infantry Companies to C. O. 4th Marines effective 171600H.

(2) 4th Marines. Attach 2d Bn 4th Marines and 3d Bn 3d Marines to C. O. 7th Marines effective 171800H.

(3) 3d Recon Bn. Attach one reconnaissance Company to C. O. 4th Marines effective 171600H.

2. Mission. To destroy Viet Cong Forces in the Van Tuong Village complex area.

3. Execution.

A. Concept of Operation. To land by helicopter and/or amphibious means to block, fix and destroy Viet Cong forces in the area. Upon completion of this mission, retract by helicopter and/or amphibious means. Minimum prep fires will be conducted to protect the element of surprise. Operations will be conducted in three phases.

Phase I - Initial Assaults
Phase II - Operation ashore
Phase III - Retraction

*Op Order 328-65, 17 Aug 1965
3d Mar Div*

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B. 3d Marines.

(1) Effective 171600H detach two infantry Companies to C. O. 4th Marines.

(2) One infantry Company report and be staged for flight NLT 170800H at Army Aviation Hanger HUE PHU BAI for transportation CHU LAI.

(3) One infantry Company report and be staged NLT 171400H at Marine Air Transport Section DA NANG for Transportation CHU LAI.

C. 4th Marines.

(1) Effective 171800H detach 2d Bn 4th Marines and 3d Bn, 3d Marines to C. O. 7th Marines with such attachments as requested by C.O. 7th Marines.

(2) Be prepared to attach two infantry Companies and one reconnaissance Company NLT 171600H.

D. 7th Marines.

(1) Land units at L-hour on D-day by helicopter and/or amphibious means in the area of VAN TOUNG Village complex VIC (BS 7095).

(2) Conduct combat operation against VC forces in VAN TUONG Village complex VIC (BS 7095).

(3) Upon return occupy and defend assigned positions in the CHU LAI TAOR.

E. Artillery Bn Group.

(1) Continue to support operations of the 4th Marines with priority of fires to 7th Marines.

(2) Responsible for proper functioning of the 7th Marines FSCC.

F. 3d Recon Bn.

(1) Effective 171600H detach one reconnaissance Company to C.O. 4th Marines.

(2) This reconnaissance Company report and be staged NLT 170800 H at Army Aviation Hanger, HUE PHU BAI for transportation CHU LAI.

G. 3d Bn 7th Marines. Initially in floating reserve.H. Coordinating Instructions.

(1) This order effective upon receipt and for execution on D-day.

SECRET

- (2) D-day is designated as 18 August 1965.
- (3) L - Hour is as designated by C. O. 7th Marines.
- (4) Direct liaison with supporting units is authorized.
- (5) Units will be attached for a period of about 72 hours.
- (6) ADCON of ATTACHED units will remain with parent units.
- (7) Individual and unit equipment of attachments shall be as directed by the Attaching unit.
- (8) Supporting Arms.
 - (a) Air - as directed by Annex D of reference (b).
 - (b) Artillery. As designated in liaison between C. O. 7th Marines and C. O. Artillery Bn Group.
 - (c) Naval Gunfire. Two NGF ships have been requested.
- (9) Reports.
 - (a) As indicated in reference (b).
 - (b) SITREP to be submitted every hour, or more if situation dictates.
- (10) Rules of engagement - refer to reference (b).
- (11) The unclassified code name for this operation will be STAR-LITE.

4. Administration and Logistics.

A. Supply.

(1) General. FLSU #1 is the initial source for Class I, III and V for CHU LAI based forces and the primary resupply after D+4 for all forces. Initial source of supply for BLT 3/7 is embarked provisions. All resupply will be by CHU LAI based aircraft from FLSG #1 resources primarily and only from BLT 3/7 embarked supplies when no longer available through FLSU #1.

(2) Prescribed Load.

(a) Class I. One day MCI with fuel. One gallon of water per man. Two full canteens per man.

(b) Class II. Essential T/E items. Include 3 days salt tablets.

Secret

(c) Class III. Vehicle tanks 3/4 full plus fuel for 6 hours of operations. Package lubricants as required.

(d) Class IV. None except as deemed absolutely essential by organizational commanders.

(e) Class V. Basic allowance.

(f) Medical supplies. Full initial allowance list plus 3 days high usage items.

(g) Captured materials. Process through intelligence channels. If of no intelligence value, may be destroyed or converted to friendly use. War souvenirs will be processed in accordance with existing directives.

(3) Resupply.

(a) All classes by air from FLSU #1.

(b) As required, by any method from any source available.

(c) FLSU #1 has final responsibility for resupply for any item not obtainable elsewhere.

(4) Distribution. Unit distribution to all units.

B. Evacuation and Hospitalization.

(1) Evacuation. Four hour evacuation policy.

(a) CHU LAI forces by air to C&C Company, FLSU #1.

(b) BLT 3/7 forces by air or landing craft to ship(s) designated by BLT 3/7 surgeon.

(2) Hospitalization. As determined by CO C&C Company, FLSU #1 and designated ship's surgeon.

C. Transportation. By helicopter outside operating area. Within operating area by helicopter or organic vehicles.

D. Service. Driver/operator or crew maintenance only.

E. Personnel.

(1) Graves registration. KIA will be evacuated through medical evacuation prescribed in paragraph 4 b above.

F. Miscellaneous.

SECRET

(1) Uniform and Individual equipment. As prescribed by organizational commanders.

(2) Destruction policy. Items of equipment or material which cannot be evacuated will be destroyed or rendered unusable to the enemy.

5. Command and Communication Electronics.

A. Command Posts.

(1) HQ 3d Marine Division (BT 995755).

(2) 7th Marines report when established.

B. Communications for 3d Marine Division units will be in accordance with Annex G (Comm - ELECT) w/change 1 to reference (b) and as arranged by direct liaison with supporting units.

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT:

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL WALT:

D. W. SHERMAN

Colonel U. S. Marine Corps
Chief of Staff

ANNEX:

A. Distribution

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7th Marines	10
9th Marines	1
12th Marines	1
Artillery Bn Group	3
3d Recon Bn	1
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BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL WALT

D. W. Sherman
D. W. SHERMAN
Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps
Chief of Staff

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 August 1965
 0068-65

Operation Order 329-65

Ref: (a) Div OpOrder 321A-65

Time Zone: HOTEL

Task Organization: Reference (a)

1. SITUATION.

a. Enemy Forces. Reference (a) and current ISUMS

b. Friendly Forces.

(1) Reference (a)

(2) Armed Forces of RVN control and defend HOI AN (BT 1756), DIEN BAN (BT 6653), DAI LOC (BT 9158).

(3) Armed Forces of RVN provide security to Route 1 between the SONG CAU DO and SONG KY LAM.

(4) See Annex A (Disposition of ARVN Forces)

c. Attachments and Detachments. Reference (a)

2. MISSION. 3d Marine Division (Rein) commencing 1 September 1965 extends clear and hold operations to the south in order to further reduce Viet Cong capabilities and to dominate and intercept water communications on the SONG KY LAM.

3. EXECUTION.

a. Concept of Operation. Annex B (Concept of Operation)

b. 9th Marines (-) (Rein). Advance in zone; destroy enemy forces enroute; liberate populace from VC control; establish positions on line of Phase Line GREEN; dominate and intercept VC water communications on the SONG KY LAM.

c. 3d Marines (-) (Rein). Advance in zone, destroy enemy forces enroute; liberate populace from VC control; establish positions on line of Phase Line ORANGE.

d. 12th Marines (-) (Rein). Support the attack.

1/12 direct support of 3d Marines

2/12 direct support of 9th Marines

"L" 4/12 general support, Rein 2/12

1st 8" HowBtry General support

*Op Order 329, - Aug 1965¹
 3d Mar Div*

SECRET

SECRET

e. 3d Reconnaissance Battalion (-). Conduct directed reconnaissances of routes, zones and areas, in depth, to gain intelligence information in general support of the division. When directed, establish early warning and observation/listening posts on critical terrain overlooking avenues of approach into the division's Tactical Area of Responsibility.

f. Division Reserve. Be prepared for offensive operations in 9th Marines zone of action.

g. Coordination instructions.

(1) This order effective for planning on receipt and for execution without order on 1 September 1965.

(2) Annex C (Operations Overlay)

(3) No change in coordination instructions contained in reference (a).

(4) Contact right to left.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS.

Admin Order 321A-65

5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATION-ELECTRONICS.

a. Reference (a).

b. Command Posts.

(1) Div CP - No change

(2) Report CP locations on shift.

c. Axis of communication: Route #1

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT:

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL WALT

D. W. Sherman
D. W. SHERMAN
Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps
Chief of Staff

ANNEXES:

- ✓A - Disposition of ARVN Forces
- ✓B - Concept of Operation
- ✓C - Operations Overlay
- ✓D - Distribution

DISTRIBUTION: Annex D (Distribution)

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Annex B (Concept of Operation) to Operation Order 329-65

Time Zone: HOTEL

1. MISSION. The general plan is to extend the area under friendly control to the general line of the SONG THU BON - SONG KY LAM - SONG CAU LAU and to dominate that river line, intercepting and disrupting Viet Cong use of the river as a line of communication between the coast and the mountains.

2. CONCEPT. The operation will be in four phases, each representing an extension of control and liberation of Vietnamese population from Viet Cong oppression.

a. Phase I will constitute the movement from present positions to Phase Line ORANGE. It is to be completed prior to 1 October 1965.

b. Phase II is the extension of control to Phase Line PURPLE. It is to be completed prior to 1 November 1965.

c. Phase III is the extension of control to Phase Line BROWN. It is to be completed prior to 1 December 1965.

d. Phase IV is the extension of control to Phase Line GREEN. It is to be completed prior to 25 December 1965.

3. The 9th Marines (-) (Rein) will make the main attack.

4. The military operation must be closely coordinated with civic action, the re-institution of democratic government and law and order, and the development of local security forces capable of defending liberated areas from Viet Cong infiltrations. A month period has been allowed each phase in order to insure the stabilization of rear areas before further extension of control south.

5. Every effort must be made to win the population to the causes of South Viet Nam and the free world. Unnecessary battle damage will be avoided. Dwellings, religious shrines and buildings, graves and other objects held in regard by the Vietnamese people will be respected. It is not the intent of this instruction to restrict the use of force against force. All commanders are authorized to employ force against any military target that engages, or constitutes a threat to, a friendly unit.

6. It is not intended to extend the main line of resistance beyond Phase Line ORANGE. It is visualized that extension of control beyond that line be conducted by patrol, search and destruction and clear and hold operations in conjunction with RVN forces and facilities. Strongpoints

B-1

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and outposts will be established as required to accomplish basic mission and provide a basis for RVN control of the reoccupied areas.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL WALT

D. W. Sherman

D. W. SHERMAN
Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

D. P. WYCKOFF
Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps
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CG, FMAW	2
CG, 3D MARDIV	5
G-1, 3D MARDIV	1
G-2, 3D MARDIV	1
G-4, 3D MARDIV	1
3d Mar	4
4th Mar	1
7th Mar	1
9th Mar	4
12th Mar	2
3d Recon Bn	2
3d AmTrec Bn	1
3d AT Bn	1
3d Engr Bn	1
3d Med Bn	1
3d MTBn	1
3d Tk Bn	1
File (G-3, 3d MarDiv)	6
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 D. W. SHERMAN
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 0069-65

Operation Order 330-65

Ref: (a) Maps: AMS Series: L701, Sheets 6756 I, II, III, IV
 (b) 3d MarDiv OpO 321A-65
 (c) 3d MarDiv O P3800.1E

Time Zone: Hotel

TASK ORGANIZATION: See Annex A (Task Organization)

1. SITUATION.

a. Enemy Forces. See Annex B (Intelligence)

b. Friendly Forces.

(1) FMAW provides tactical air support, to include offensive air support, air assault and an airborne command/control capability as required.

(2) 7th Fleet conducts naval operations against VC and provides Naval Gunfire and amphibious support to the 3d Marine Division on request.

(3) Two battalions of RVN ~~Marine~~ Forces participate ^{in coordination} ~~with~~ ^{with} RLT-7.

c. Attachments and Detachments.

(1) 3d Marines. Attach ^{one} ~~the~~ infantry companies to CO, 4th Marines and the ~~Shore Fire Control Party~~ to CO, 7TH MARINES.

(2) 4th Marines. Attach ^{3d} ~~the~~ Bn, ^{3d} ~~the~~ Marines to CO, 7th Marines. Continue to defend assigned portion of Chu Lai TAOR; be prepared to assume responsibility of 7th Marines portion of Chu Lai TAOR on order.

(3) ~~3d Recon Bn.~~ Attach ~~one reconnaissance company~~ to CO, 4th ~~Marines.~~

(4) Artillery Battalion Group. Attach 3d Bn, 11th Marines and one 107mm Mortar Battery from 3d Bn, 12th Marines to CO, 7th Marines (-)(Rein).

(5) Attachments to be effected on order.

2. MISSION. To destroy Viet Cong Forces in the CAP BATANGAN and AN KY Peninsula.

Op Order 330-65, 31 Aug 1965
 3d Mar. Div

SECRET

3. EXECUTION.a. Concept of Operations.

(1) At H-Hour on D-Day (~~2~~⁷ September), RLT-7 and PVN ~~Marines~~^{FORCES} will conduct simultaneous surface and helicopter assaults on the objective.

(2) The helicopter assault force secures the high ground at (BS 732840), (BS 729349), and (BS 727358) in order to:

(a) Block the escape of Viet Cong Forces to the west.

(b) Protect the main attack.

(3) The surface force will land over the beach located between (BS 738838) and (BS 760866) in order to destroy Viet Cong Forces on CAP BATANGAN Peninsula.

(4) One battalion of RVN ~~Marines~~^{FORCES} will enter the objective area by means to be prescribed, to destroy Viet Cong Forces located on the AN KY Peninsula.

(5) Landing Force Reserve will, initially, remain afloat in amphibious shipping in the objective area.

(6) Aircraft from FMAW will provide D-Day and Post D-Day pre-planned and on call airstrikes for area neutralization and selected target destruction.

(7) Naval Gunfire ships will provide D-Day, and Post-D-Day scheduled and on call fires for area neutralization and selected target destruction. Illumination as requested.

(8) Preparatory fires prior to landing will not be utilized other than helicopter landing zone preparation. ~~AND PREPARATION OF THE LANDING BEACH BY AIRCRAFT ROCKETS AND STAFFING. PREPARATORY FIRES WILL NOT BE DIRECTED AT DWELLINGS~~

b. 3d Marines.

(1) On order detach ~~one~~^{one} infantry companies to CO, 4th Marines.

(2) One infantry company to report and be staged for flight at Army Aviation Hanger, PHU BAI for transportation to CHU LAI.

? (3) ~~One infantry company to report and be staged at Marine Air Transportation, DA NANG for transportation to CHU LAI.~~

(c) 4th Marines.

(1) On order detach ~~3d~~^{3d} Bn, ~~3d~~^{3d} Marines to CO, 7th Marines.

SECRET

(2) Defend CHU LAI TAOR including assigned zone of action 7th Mar
 (-)(Rein) ~~(3) Attach two LUTE 1 to CO, 9th Marines~~
 d. RLT-7. Assume OPCON forces assigned; on order conduct assault at
 CAP BATANGAN and AN KY Peninsula; destroy Viet Cong therein.

e. Artillery Battalion Group.

- (1) Continue to support operation of the 4th Marines within the TAOR.
- (2) On order detach 3d Battalion, 11th Marines (-)(Rein) to CO, 7th Marines.
- (3) On order detach one Battery 107mm, 2d Battalion, 12th Marines (-)(Rein) to CO, 7th Marines.

f. 3d Reconnaissance Battalion.

- (1) ~~On order detach one reconnaissance company to CO, 4th Marines.~~
- (2) ~~This reconnaissance company to report and be staged for flight at the Marine Air Transportation, DA NANG, for transportation to CHU LAI.~~

g. Communications Company, Headquarters Battalion.

- (1) On order provide communication team to 3d Marine Division Liaison Officer with Headquarters, 7th Marines.
- (2) Be prepared to establish and maintain communications for Commanding General, Third Marine Division CP Forward, afloat or airborne.

~~h. 3d Battalion, 7th Marines. Be prepared to conduct a Helicopter and/or amphibious assault operation on the objective area.~~

i. Coordinating Instructions.

- (1) This order is effective upon receipt and for execution on D-Day.
- (2) D-Day to be designated.
- (3) H-Hour as recommended by CO, RLT-7.
- (4) Direct liaison with supporting units is authorized.
- (5) Units will be attached for a period of about 5 days.
- (6) ADCON of attached units will remain with parent units.
- (7) Individual and unit equipment of attachments shall be as directed by parent units.
- (8) Rules of Engagement. Refer to reference (b).
- (9) The unclassified code name for this operation is PIRANHA.
- (10) Supporting Arms.

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(a) Air. See Annex C.

(b) Artillery. As designated in liaison between CO, 7th Marines and CO, 3d Battalion, 11th Marines.

(c) Naval Gunfire. Three NGF ships (two DD's and one CA) have been requested.

(11) Reports.

(a) As indicated by reference (b).

(b) SITREP to be submitted as soon after H-Hour as possible and every four hours after.

(12) EEL:

(a) Is there a major command post located in the objective area? If so, where and of what organization?

(b) Is there a major communication installation in the objective area? If so, where and of what organization?

(c) Is there a major military supply installation in the objective area? If so, where and containing what?

(d) Is there a coordinated anti-aircraft defense weapons/system in the objective area? If so, where and in what strength?

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS.

a. Supply.

(1) General. FLSU #1 is the initial source for Class I, III and V for the landing force and primary resupply after D+4 for all forces. Three days Class I, III and V will be landed as Landing Force Supplies. Class II and IV as directed by Landing Force Commander. Resupply will be by CHU LAI based aircraft from FLSU #1.

(2) Prescribed Load.

(a) Class I. One day MCI with fuel. One gallon of water per man, two full canteens per man.

(b) Class II. Essential T/E items, including 3 days salt tablets.

(c) Class III. Vehicle tanks 3/4 full plus fuel for 6 hours of operation. Packaged lubricants as required.

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(d) Class IV. None, except as deemed absolutely essential by organizational commanders.

(e) Class V. Basic allowance.

(f) Medical Supplies. Full initial allowance list plus 3 days high usage items.

(3) Resupply.

(a) All classes by air from FLSU #1.

(b) As required, by Landing Force Commander. Pass requirements to FLSU #1.

(4) Distribution. Unit distribution for all units.

b. Evacuation and Hospitalization.

(1) Evacuation. Four hour evacuation policy.

(a) By air to C&C Company, FLSU #1.

(b) LPH if available.

(2) Hospitalization. As determined by CO, C&C Company, FLSU #1 and designated ships' surgeon.

c. Transportation. By helicopter outside operating area. With operating area by helicopter or organic vehicles.

d. Service. Driver/operator or crew maintenance only.

e. Administration and Personnel.

(1) Casualty reporting in accordance with Division (Fwd) Order 3040.2.

(2) Commencing D+1 submit personnel daily summary as of 2400H by 1200H following day in accordance with example 68, FM 101-65.

(3) Submit periodic personnel report in accordance with Form 13, USMC Staff Manual weekly as of 2400H Thursday by 1200H Friday.

(4) Routine administration in accordance with current directives.

(5) Graves Registration. KIA will be evacuated through medical evacuation prescribed in paragraph 4.b. above.

(6) Measures for handling prisoners, captured documents and captured material.

(a) All captured personnel, material and documents will be tagged and evacuated through intelligence channels as provided for in reference (c).

(b) Personnel. All captives will be tagged to provide interrogators

with full information concerning capture. Upon screening, all VCC/VCS will be forwarded immediately to CHU LAI Collection Point for interrogation and further disposition. Capturing units will maintain an accurate running total of captives by category. Women, children and old men will not be evacuated to CHU LAI with VCC/VCS.

f. Miscellaneous.

(1) Uniform and individual Equipment. As proscribed by organizational commanders.

(2) Captured Material. All captured material of intelligence value will be reported immediately. Of particular importance is communication equipment to include radios, telephone, and assorted cryptographic equipment. Report capture of communications material immediately and evacuate to this headquarters as soon as possible. VC weapons will be collected, counted and evacuated. A system of supervision and accountability for the collection of VC weapons will be established to deprive the enemy of critically needed weapons, to allow for more positive verification of reported VC KIA, and to ensure evacuation and delivery through intelligence channels.

(3) Destruction Policy.

(a) Items of equipment or material which cannot be made serviceable or evacuated will be destroyed.

(b) Disposal of enemy KIA will be arranged with local ARVN, District or Village Chiefs.

(c) Dispose of captured food to local ARVN organizations or Village Chiefs if identified as anti-VC.

(4) Civil Affairs. See Annex C (Civil Affairs).

(5) Air Delivery. See Appendix 8 (Air Delivery) to Annex C (Air Support).

5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS/ELECTRONICS.

a. Communications-Electronics.

(1) In accordance with Change ² to Annex G (Comm-Elect) to reference (b).
and as modified herein

(2) 3d Marine Division Liaison Officer enter Division Tactical Net #1 as desired from objective area. Call sign MONROE KILO.

(3) INTENTIONS AND FRIENDLY CASUALTIES MUST NOT BE TRANSMITTED IN THE CLEAR.

(4) Communication arrangements with supporting naval elements to be announced.

(5) 7th Marines and 4th Marines will enter Division Tactical Net #2 at H-30.

(6) Call signs and frequencies as assigned in Annex E.

b. Command. Relationship with naval amphibious and gunfire elements to be announced.

(1) Command relationships in accordance with LFM-01 (NWP 22(a)/

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FM 31-11 (Doctrine for Amphibious Operations)

(2) Command Posts.

(1) CG, 3d Marine Division _____

(2) CO, RLT-7 report planned and actual locations when established.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL WALT:

D. W. Sherman
D. W. SHERMANColonel, U. S. Marine Corps
Chief of StaffACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT:ANNEXES:

- ✓ A - Task Organization
- ✓ B - Intelligence
- ✓ C - Air Support
- ✓ D - Civil Affairs
- E - Communications (to be published later) *NIF*
- ✓ F - Distribution

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August 1965
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Annex A (Task Organization to Operation Order 330-65)

Time Zone: Hotel

(All attachments effective upon order)

RLT-7

COL PEATROSS

HqCo (-), 7th Marines
Det, HqBn
Det, IIT
Co B (-) (Rein), 1st Tank Bn
Co A (-) (Rein), 3d AmTrac Bn
Co C (-) (Rein), 1st AT Bn
Co C (-) (Rein), 1st Engr Bn
Co C (Rein), 1st SP Bn
Det, FLSU #1, EOD Team
Plt, Co C (-) (Rein), 1st MT Bn
Lv+6-1

CAPT THOMAS

BLT 1/7

LTCOL KELLY

1st Bn, 7th Marines
Det, HqCo, 7th Marines
Det, Btry G, 3d Bn, 11th Marines
Plt, Co C, 1st AT Bn
Plt, Co B, 1st Tank Bn
Plt, Co A, 3d AmTrac Bn
Plt, Co C, 1st Engr Bn
Det, Collection Plt, Co C, 1st Med Bn
Shore Fire Control Party, 3d Bn, 12th Marines (from PHU BAI)
Helicopter Support Team (HST)

BLT 1/4

LTCOL PEPFICH

1st Bn, 4th Marines
Plt, Co B, 3d Tank Bn
Plt, Co B, 3d AT Bn
Plt, Co B, 3d Engr Bn
Plt, Co A, 1st AmTrac Bn
Det, Collection Plt, Co B, 3d Med Bn
NGF Spot Team
Helicopter Support Team (HST)
Composite Shore Fire Control Party (from DANANG)

A-1

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BLT 3/7

LTCOL BODLEY

Det, HcCo, RLT-7
-Btry I(Rein) 3d Bn, 11th Marines
-Plt (Rein), Co C, 1st AT Bn —
-Plt (Rein), Co C, 1st Engr Bn
-Plt (Rein), Co C, 1st Recon Bn
-Plt (Rein), Co A, 7th MT Bn
-Plt, Co B, 1st Tank Bn —
-Plt (Rein), Co A, 3d AmTrac Bn —
-Plt, 1st Force Recon
Det, Collection Plt, Co C, 1st Med Bn
-Det, FSR
Det, 1st SP Bn
-Det, BMU, NLC

3d Bn (-) (Rein), 11th Marines
HqBtry, 3d Bn, 11th Marines
-Btry G, 3d Bn, 11th Marines
107mm Mortar Btry, 3d Bn, 11th Marines
107mm Mortar Btry, 3d Bn, 12th Marines

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL WALT

D. W. SHERMAN
Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps
Chief of Staff

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270800 AUGUST 1965

Annex B (Intelligence) to Operation Plan 330-65

Ref: (a) Map, Republic of South Vietnam, 1:50,000 AMS L701, Sheets
6757 II and III, and Sheets 6756 I, II, III, and IV
(b) Div Order 3800.1E
(c) Force Order 3801.1

Time Zone: H

1. SUMMARY OF THE ENEMY SITUATION

a. Characteristics of the Area of Operations

(1) Weather Forecast and Light Data

(a) Weather Forecast - See Weather Forecasts as issued.

(b) Light Data (Based on Danang Weather Data)

MOONRISE AND MOONSET TABLE

<u>AUGUST</u>	<u>PHASE</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>
30	1/4	0911	2154
31	1/4	1006	2235
<u>SEPT</u>	<u>PHASE</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>
1	1/4	1137	2317
2	1/2	1234	
3	1/2	1324	0001
4	1/2	1416	0047
5	1/2	1510	0145
6	3/4	1558	0226
7	3/4	1644	0317
8	3/4	1728	0409
9	3/4	1807	0501
10	FULL	1844	0550
11	FULL	1921	0640
12	FULL	1965	0728
13	FULL	2131	0818
14	3/4	2109	0907
15	3/4	2150	0959

SUNRISE AND SUNSET TABLE

<u>AUGUST</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>
30	0634	1901
31	0634	1901

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<u>SEPTEMBER</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>
1	0634	1900
2	0634	1859
3	0634	1859
4	0634	1858
5	0634	1857
6	0634	1856
7	0635	1856
8	0635	1855
9	0635	1854
10	0635	1853
11	0635	1852
12	0635	1851
13	0635	1850
14	0635	1850
15	0636	1849

Duration of Civil Twilight is approximately 23 minutes.

Civil Twilight is defined as follows: The degree of illumination at the beginning and end of civil twilight is such that the brightest stars are just visible, and terrestrial objects can be easily distinguished. Danang Local Standard Time is GCT plus 8 hours.

(2) Terrain

(a) Observation and Fields of Fire.

The high ground on the rocky headlands southeast of NIS Landing Beach 12 afford excellent observation of sea approaches and the beach. Long range fields of fire for direct fire weapons are excellent and enfilade the beach along its entire length.

Observation and fields of fire over NIS Landing Beach 13 are excellent from the rocky headlands on the northeast end of the beach.

The high ground on the peninsula proper provides excellent observation and fields of fire over the eastern approaches. Observation and fields of fire over beach exits from NIS Landing Beach 12 are limited due to scrub growth and scattered pine.

Nui A Linh (BS7285) provides excellent observation and fields of fire over the northwestern, central, and southwestern approaches to the peninsula.

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Hill 108 provides excellent observation and fields of fire over the northwestern approaches to the peninsula. Observation and fields of fire over western approaches are partially hindered by the roughly dissected terrain and scrub growth in the vicinity of BS6681 and BS6781.

Hill 144 (BS6786) provides excellent observation and fields of fire over western and northwestern approaches to the peninsula.

(b) Cover and Concealment (See Appendix 1 - Terrain Overlay)

The pine and scrub growth to the south of NIS Landing Beach 12 affords concealment for individuals and small units. Some cover is provided from direct fire weapons by the dunes paralleling the beach.

Built up areas provide concealment for individuals and small units.

The terraced paddies on the peninsula proper provide protection from direct fire weapons.

(c) Obstacles (See Appendix 1 - Terrain Overlay and Appendix 2 - Obstacles Overlay)

The Song Cho Moi is an obstacle to east-west and north-south movement from the mainland to the An Ky Peninsula (BS7581).

The pine growth paralleling NIS Landing Beach 12 is an obstacle to vehicular movement south from the beach.

The wet rice paddies in the neck of the peninsula are obstacles to track and wheel vehicles.

(d) Key Terrain

Hill 38 (BS7784)
 NUI A LINE (BS7285)
 Hill 108 (BS6982)
 Bridge (BS763834)
 Bridge (BS737820)
 Bridge (BS740810)
 Bridge (BS743605)
 Arms Factory (Suspected) BS735844)
 Arms and Ammunition Cache (Suspected) (BS743865)
 Arms and Ammunition Cache (Suspected) (BS53865)
 Radio Station (Suspected) (BS793857)

(e) Avenues of Approach

NIS Landing Beach #12
 NIS Landing Beach #13

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Helicopter Landing Zones (See Appendix 3 - Helicopter Suitability Overlay)

Overland from northwest parallel to NIS Landing Beach #12.

Overland from southwest along ridge of hill (BS6962).

(3) Effect on Enemy Courses of Action

The reduced visibility conditions existing during the night will favor Viet Cong exfiltration tactics; however, these same conditions reduce his ability to adjust fires against moving targets.

(4) Effect on Friendly Courses of Action

Reduced visibility conditions existing during the night, favor USMC offensive operations; however, a serious danger exists that well camouflaged positions will be by-passed. Defense against exfiltration will be rendered more difficult.

(5) Beaches

(a) NIS Landing Beach #12.

1. Bordered by rocky headlands; extends from BS775862 northwest to BS718927.
2. Usable for 4 3/4 of its 5 mile length; interrupted by rocky outcroppings vicinity BS7291.
3. Tidal range - 4 feet.
4. Surf greater than 4 feet - only 4% of time during this period.
5. 6 fathom line lies 750 - 1300 yds off shore.
6. Gradient - northwestern half - accepts all landing craft; southeastern half - accepts only LVT's.
7. Width - 40 to 160 yards.

(b) NIS LANDING BEACH #13

1. Bordered by rocky headland to northeast vicinity BS767816.
2. Usable entire mile and a half length.
3. Tidal range - 4 feet.
4. Surf greater than 4 feet - only 4% of time during this period.

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5. 6 fathom line lies 2500 - 3000 yds off shore.
6. Gradient - Accepts only LWT's.
7. Width - 15 to 70 yards wide.

b. Enemy Situation

(1) Composition, Strength and Disposition

Viet Cong forces in the objective area consist of Main and Local Forces, supported by an undetermined number of guerrillas. Forces within the objective area are disposed as follows:

(a) FORCES IN IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVE AREA

<u>MAIN FORCE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>STRENGTH</u>	<u>WEAPONS</u>
90th Bn	BS7378	350	1x80mm Mort 2x60mm Mort 2xHMG 12xAR 1x44 Gun
3d Co 80th Bn	General area NE of objec- tive area	100	Unknown
<u>LOCAL FORCE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>STRENGTH</u>	<u>WEAPONS</u>
QUANG NGAI PROV CP	BS7585	180	Unknown
25th ReconCo	BS7585	130	Unknown
27th LiaisonCo	BS7585	25	Unknown
24th EngrFlat	BS7585	30	Unknown
135th TransFlat	BS7585	30	Unknown
52nd Bn	BS7086	500	2x81 Mort 8x60 Mort 3x57mm RR 6xRAR 4xMG 23xAR
T18 Co	BS6887	50	Unknown

(b) REINFORCEMENTS (AVAILABLE WITHIN 24KM RADIUS)

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<u>MAIN FORCE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>STRENGTH</u>	<u>WEAPONS</u>
104th Bn	BS5694	300	1x81mm Mort 3x60mm Mort 3x.50 Cal MG 19xAR 1x4.2 MG

<u>LOCAL FORCE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>STRENGTH</u>	<u>WEAPONS</u>
3C2d DOC LAPCo	BS5761	150	Unknown
3C7thDocLapCo	BS7563	150	Unknown
210 DOC LAP Co	BS5684	100	Unknown
T19th Co	BS5392	120	Unknown
T20th Co	BS5082	80	Unknown
206th Co	BS5771	90	Unknown
89th Co	BS5863	90	Unknown
C17 Co	BS6660	100	Unknown

(c) TOTAL FORCES AVAILABLE

Main Force Units in Objective Area - 450
 Local Force Units in Objective Area - 945
 *Guerrilla Forces in Objective Area - 1000
Total Forces in Objective Area - 2395

Main Force Units within 24KM Radius - 300
 Local Force Units within 24KM Radius - 880
 *Guerrilla Forces within 24KM Radius - 1000
 Total Forces within 24KM Radius - 2180

*Guerrilla force strengths are estimates based on total guerrilla forces available in Quang Ngai Province and population density; and in the case of forces in the objective area, length of time since last ARVN/GVN operation in area and extent of defensive works.

(2) Recent and Present Significant Activities

90th Bn. This unit had been identified in the Van Tuong Village complex just prior to the commencement of Operation Starlite; however, reports subsequently received indicate the 90th had moved south to the Cap Batangan Area on 15 August. It is believed this unit escaped intact and still possesses it's full combat potential.

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3d Co, 80th Bn. A VCC captured by the 11th Ranger Battalion (ARVN) stated that the 1st and 2d Companies were decimated during Operation Starlite, but the 3d Company suffered only 20-30 casualties. The 3d Company attempted to exfiltrate the battle area, but was turned back by ARVN blocking forces along Route #1. VCC claims the 3d Company is presently operating in the area immediately northwest of Cap Batangan.

52d Battalion. This battalion was not identified in the Van Tuong battle area. This battalion has always operated in the general area south of Chu Lai and east of Route #1.

T18 Company. Little is known of this unit, but it is believed that it operates in the same general area as the 52d Battalion.

Quang Ngai Province Local Force Headquarters and Other Local Forces and Guerrillas. (See Appendix 4 - Trenches and Strong points overlay and Appendix 5 - Defenses Overlay)

It is believed the Quang Ngai Province Local Force Headquarters has been directing the fortification of the Cap Batangan Peninsula and environs. Initially, defenses were oriented westward, but recent photography indicates that during July and especially early August, Viet Cong has extended his fortifications to include sea approaches.

(3) Morale and Combat Efficiency.

90th Bn - Combat efficiency is excellent. Most highly decorated unit of the 1st VC Regiment. Morale is presumed to be poor to fair due to the recent defeat of its parent unit.

3d Co, 80th Bn. - Combat efficiency and morale is poor due to recent losses at Van Tuong.

52nd Bn - UNKNOWN - Strength and weapons indicate that it is a strong force and it must be presumed to enjoy wide support from local populace in the objective area.

Other Forces - UNKNOWN

c. Enemy Capabilities

(1) Viet Cong can exfiltrate the objective area by land, sea, or river.

(2) Viet Cong can defend in place with an estimated 2 infantry battalions and 2 infantry companies reinforced by guerrillas.

(3) Counterattack with an estimated 2 infantry battalions and 2 infantry companies reinforced by guerrillas.

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(4) Attack our forces in the landing beaches and/or landing zones with an estimated 2 infantry battalions and 2 infantry companies reinforced by guerrillas.

(5) Reinforce with

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>*TIME SPACE</u>
104th Bn	BS5694	NUI A LINH BS7285	8 hours
302 DOC LAP Co	BS5761	NUI A LINH BS7285	10 hours
307 DOC LAP Co	BS7563	NUI A LINH BS7285	5½ hours
210 DOC LAP Co	BS5684	NUI A LINH BS7285	6 hours
T19th Co	BS5392	NUI A LINH BS7285	7 hours
T20th Co	BS5082	NUI A LINH BS7285	9 hours
206th Co	BS5771	NUI A LINH BS7285	8½ hours
89th Co	BS5863	NUI A LINH BS7285	5½ hours
C17th Co	BS6660	NUI A LINH BS7285	8 hours

*All times approximate

(6) Viet Cong can withdraw from the objective area prior to H-Hour, D-Day.

(7) To relieve pressure from the battle area, make a diversionary attack against Chau Lai or Quang Ngai City with the 108th VC Regiment reinforced by an unconfirmed 3-4 battalions and undetermined number of guerrillas, supported by available artillery.

d. Analysis and Discussion

Capability #1 - To exfiltrate by land, sea or river. In the past, Viet Cong has refused to engage superior forces, especially where the circumstances of battle are not of his choosing. The recent defeat at Van Tuong is almost certain to have made the Viet Cong leery of engaging USMC forces on a large scale. The numerous fishing craft; the extensiveness of the stream and river network; the accessibility to the sea; and the ruggedness of the terrain all favor Viet Cong exfiltration.

Opposed to this are psychological and prestige considerations. Viet Cong had had uncontested control of this area for at least a year. He has erected extensive defense works which are a tangible demonstration

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to the local populace of his intention to defend. The abandonment of a safe base, which is also a major infiltration and resupply route, could result in such a serious psychological readjustment and loss of prestige among the civil populace and their own troops, that Viet Cong may be willing to stand and fight. While this is contrary to his tactical doctrine, it must be remembered that Viet Cong is primarily waging a war for the "minds of the people."

Capability #2 - To defend in place. While past Viet Cong tactics dictate against the adoption of this capability, Viet Cong has recently shown that he is shifting from Phase II (War of Upheaval) to Phase III (Mobile Warfare) which requires the maintenance of safe bases for infiltration of troops and logistics. His defensive preparations indicate a preparedness, although perhaps not a willingness, to stand and fight.

On the other hand, Viet Cong must be aware that if he intends to inflict any damage on USMC forces, he must select all the circumstances of battle so as to have the maximum advantage. This he does not possess in the Cap Batangan area.

Capability #3 - Counterattack - The SONG CHAU ME DONG would restrict any counterattack from the Cap Batangan Peninsula to the narrow neck in the vicinity of BS7685. This would have the effect of channelizing Viet Cong and render him vulnerable to superior USMC firepower.

Capability #4 - Attack our forces in the helicopter landing zones and on the landing beaches. This capability offers Viet Cong his greatest chance for success as this is the period during which USMC units would be most vulnerable. If USMC forces are denied extensive pre-D-Day and pre-H-Hour preparation fires, Viet Cong would be free to move against these entry points with relative ease. It must be assumed that Viet Cong's extensive knowledge of the area has enabled him to select all possible entry points and prepare to attack them.

Capability #5 - Reinforce - Viet Cong is capable of reinforcing with units within a 24 kilometer radius of the objective area within 5-10 hours; however, there is no evidence of an effective command structure which could coordinate these units and feed them into the battle area at a time and place most advantageous to Viet Cong. While this capability is improbable of adoption, it must be considered as a possibility.

Capability #6 - Withdrawal prior to D-Day - There is a distinct possibility that Viet Cong may be aware of USMC intentions and therefore withdraw from the battle area on some face-saving pretext. This would cause the least damage to his prestige and still allow him to avoid a battle which is disadvantageous to him.

Capability #7 - Diversionary Attack - Viet Cong has sufficiently rapid communication to enable him to direct a diversionary attack

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against Chu Lai, Tam Ky, or Quang Ngai City for the purpose of relieving pressure on the battle area. The 108th Regiment with a reported strength of over 1000, is poised west of Chu Lai. In addition, several unconfirmed reports indicate the presence of at least three or four other battalions in that area, possibly with one or two 105mm Howitzers. Likeliest target for a diversionary attack - Chu Lai.

d. Conclusions

(1) Own course of action. Recommend beach landing over NIS Landing Beaches 12 and 13, and vertical envelopment by helicopter into landing zones to west of Hill 108 (BS6982) and NUI A LINH (BS7285) immediately prior to BMNT to enhance element of surprise.

(2) Enemy's Probable Course of Action

- (a) Capability 2, switching to capability 1 when his position becomes untenable.
- (b) Combination of 1, 2 and 4
- (c) Capability 6
- (d) Capability 3
- (e) Capability 5
- (f) Capability 7 may be conducted concurrently with any of the above as it involves forces outside the battle area.

2. INTELLIGENCE REQUIREMENTS.

- a. What are the strength and identities of Viet Cong forces contacted by USMC forces in the Cap Batangan area? What other units were reported, but not contacted?
- b. What degree of resistance was encountered in the helicopter landing zones and landing beaches? What tactics did the Viet Cong employ?
- c. Did Viet Cong attempt to defend in strength? What tactics did he employ? What use did he make of his fortifications?
- d. Did Viet Cong attempt to exfiltrate from the battle area? What tactics did he employ? By what routes?
- e. Where were Viet Cong command posts located?
- f. What communications equipment did the Viet Cong in the battle area possess? What signal systems were employed?

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g. What crew-served weapons were encountered in the battle area? Where were they located? How employed? (Special attention to anti-aircraft and anti-tank weapons)

h. To what extent were mines utilized by Viet Cong? Where were the mines located? How located? What types? What system was utilized to mark the locations?

i. What was the status of Viet Cong logistics in the area?

3. INTELLIGENCE TASKS

a. Orders

(1) Commanding Officer, 7th Marines

(a) Conduct continuous liaison with sector headquarters at Quang Ngai and Tam Ky, and subsector headquarters at Binh Son and Ly Tin to determine the answers to the intelligence requirements. Report information as obtained. Coordinate liaison with CO, 4th Marines.

(b) Provide answers to intelligence requirements and/or information pertaining thereto as obtained.

(2) Commanding Officer, 4th Marines

(a) Conduct continuous liaison with sector headquarters at Quang Ngai and Tam Ky, and subsector headquarters at Binh Son and Ly Tin.

(b) Conduct continuous reconnaissance and surveillance in assigned areas of responsibility to determine the Viet Cong threat against the Chu Lai TAOR. (Special attention to the west.) Report by FLASH message to this headquarters (Attention G-2) any indication of Viet Cong movement against Chu Lai.

(3) All units

(a) Report answers to intelligence requirements and/or information pertaining thereto as obtained.

b. Requests to Higher and Adjacent Units

(1) Commanding General, III MAF

(a) Provide answers to intelligence requirements and/or information pertaining thereto as obtained.

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(2) Commanding General, 1st MAW

- (a) Provide aerial reconnaissance and surveillance of the objective area prior to and during the operation.

4. MISCELLANEOUS

a. Measures for Handling Prisoners, Captured Documents and Captured Material.

- (1) General: All captured personnel, material and documents will be evacuated through intelligence channels provided for in Division Order P3800.1E. The III MAF collection point is established as the terminal collection point for all captured personnel, documents, and material.
- (2) Documents: In accordance with 3d MarDiv Order 3800.1E all captives will be tagged to provide interrogators with full information concerning capture. Screening will be accomplished in or near the objective area; immediately thereafter prisoners will be evacuated to the CHU LAI Collection Point. An accurate account of captives by category (VC/VCS) taken during the entire operation will be reported every 4 hours. Women, children and old men will not be evacuated with VCC/VCS unless there is positive evidence that they participated in the battle. Capture tags will indicate whether or not the VCC/VCS was engaged in hostile activities.
- (3) Material. All captured material of intelligence value will be reported immediately to this headquarters (Attention G-2). Of particular importance is communications equipment including radios, telephones and cryptographic equipment; such equipment will be evacuated to this headquarters as soon as possible. Viet Cong weapons will be collected, counted and evacuated. A system of accountability will be established to prevent the loss of weapons and provide for a more positive verification of reported Viet Cong KIA's as well as to insure evacuation and delivery through proper intelligence channels. All captured material not having intelligence or salvage value may be destroyed in place.
- (4) Documents. All documents will be forwarded to the III MAF Collection Point for screening. Documents taken with captives will be evacuated with them to facilitate interrogation. Documentary material of intelligence value such as radio codes, call signs, operations plans or orders will be reported immediately and forwarded to this headquarters as soon as possible. All other documents may be exploited locally in support of the tactical situation and will then be evacuated to this headquarters.

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- b. SOUVENIRS. Individuals capturing Viet Cong weapons of no intelligence value may make claim on such weapons as provided for in reference (c). Additionally an individual desiring to claim a weapon will ensure that the name and organization or the capturer are entered on the capture tag affixed to the weapon.
- c. REPORTS.

ISUM - Commencing D-Day, CO, 7th Marines submit ISUM to this headquarters by 0500 as of 2400. Continue for duration of Operation PIRANEA.

Captured personnel, documents, and material - Commencing H+2 and every 4 hours thereafter, CO, 7th Marines submit report on number, type, and disposition.

INTELLIGENCE RECAP - On the fourth day following termination of Operation PIRANEA, CO, 7th Marines submit a comprehensive recapitulation of items of intelligence value developed during operation, to include any lessons learned; efficiency of captured personnel, documents, and materials evacuation and accounting procedures; critique of intelligence support rendered by higher headquarters; intelligence problems encountered; and recommendations for future operations.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL WALT

D. W. SHERMAN
Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps
Chief of Staff

APPENDIXES

- 1 - Terrain Overlay NIF
- 2 - Obstacles Overlay NIF
- 3 - Helicopter Suitability Overlay NIF
- 4 - Trenches and Strong points Overlay NIF
- 5 - Defenses Overlay NIF

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Annex C (Air Support) to Operation Order 330-65

- Ref: (a) Maps: AMS Series; L701, Sheets 6756 I, II, III, and IV
 (b) Charts: USAF/USN, FLIP, Enroute Pacific and Southeast Asia, Chart No. 7 and Enroute High Altitude Chart, Pacific and Southeast Asia
 (c) 3d MarDiv OpOrd 321A-65
 (d) FMFM 7 - 3, Air Support
 (e) FMFM 7 - 1, Fire Support Coordination

Time Zone: HOTEL

1. SITUATION.

- a. Enemy Forces. See Annex B (Intelligence).
 b. Friendly Forces.

(1) FMAW provides tactical air support to include offensive air support, air assault support and an airborne command/control capability as required.

(2) 7th Fleet conducts naval operations against VC and provides Naval Gunfire and amphibious support to the 3d Marine Division on request.

2. PROCEDURES.

- a. Commander, RLT-7 established bomblines and publishes changes thereto as they occur.
- b. Air-to-ground strikes within the bomblines must be under positive control of TACP, TAC(A), or ASRT.
- c. Coordination of supporting fires in accordance with references (c), (d), and (e).
- d. Mark friendly front lines with front line marking panels and/or colored smoke prior to executing air-to-ground strikes.
- e. Use target designator grid contained in reference (a) for all air support missions.
- f. Mission request procedures. See Appendix 1 (Mission Request Procedures).
- g. Control and orbit points for air support flights are contained in Appendix 2 (Air Operations Overlay).
- h. Alert status of on-call support aircraft as follows:

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- CONDITION I - Two minutes
- CONDITION II - Five minutes
- CONDITION III - Fifteen minutes
- CONDITION IV - Thirty minutes
- CONDITION V - As ordered

- i. Aerial delivery. See Appendix 8 (Aerial Delivery).
- j. Aircraft armament codes. See Appendix 4 (Aircraft Armament Codes).
- k. Target area weather minimums:

	FLTS OF 4 OR MORE	LESS
Helicopter (Day)	500 Ft - 5 MI	500 Ft - 1 MI
Helicopter (Night)	500 Ft - 5 MI	500 Ft - 2 MI
Day Visual Close Air Support - 3000 Ft - 5 MI		
Visual Aerial Delivery - 1000 Ft - 3 MI		
Fixed Wing Observation - 500 Ft - 2 MI		
ASRT Missions - No restrictions		

- 1. Aircraft accidents or incidents. Report details including existing weather conditions to DASC or FSCC by most expeditious means.

3. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATION - ELECTRONICS. (To be issued)

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL WALT

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Chief of Staff

APPENDICES:

- 1. Mission Request Procedures
- 2. Air Operations Overlay (To be issued) NIF
- 3. Air Fire Plan (To be issued) NIF
- 4. Aircraft Armament Codes (To be issued) NIF
- 5. Air Schedules (To be issued) NIF
- 6. Air Communications (To be issued) NIF
- 7. Instructions for TACP's
- 8. Aerial Delivery

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DA NANG, RVN
August 1965

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Appendix 1 (Mission Request Procedures) to Annex C (Air Support) to
Operations Order 330-65

Time Zone: HOTEL

1. CONCEPT: Control of tactical air operations will be exercised by the Tactical Air Commander (Ashore). When RLT-7 is ready to assume responsibility for the coordination of supporting arms, control of both fixed wing and helicopter operations within the bombline will be exercised by the DASC (FWD) located with RLT-7 headquarters:

2. PREPLANNED: Requests for both fixed wing and helicopter aircraft in support of pre-planned operations should be submitted via command channels to reach the Division Air Officer or his representative by 1800 each day. In the event additional pre-planned air support is required after submission of daily requirements such request should be submitted via command channels to reach the Division Air Officer or his representative prior to four hours before the support is required. In the event the four hour lead-time can not be met, the air support required must be considered ON-CALL and requested over the TAR net.

3. ON-CALL:

a. Fixed Wing. Requests for fixed wing air support will be submitted over the TAR net (HF or UHF as directed), to the DASC (Airborne) until coordination of supporting arms is established ashore by RLT-7 at which time requests will then go to the DASC (FWD) ashore.

b. Helicopters. Requests for on-call helicopter support will be submitted over the TAR net (HF or UHF as directed) to the DASC (Airborne) until control of helicopter operations is assumed by the DASC (FWD) ashore. TAB A contains the Helicopter Request Form to be utilized.

c. Aerial Reconnaissance, (Visual/Photo). Requests for on-call visual and photo recon mission will be submitted to Division G-2 AO Representative located in the RLT-7 headquarters via the most direct means.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL WALT

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TABS:

✓ A - Helicopter Request Form

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DA NANG, RVN
August 1965

Appendix 7 (Instructions for TACP's) to Annex C (Air Support) to Operation Order 330-65

Time Zone: HOTEL

1. LOCATION: TACP's shall keep DASC and FSCC advised of units current positions and dispositions. Forward friendly positions shall be marked with panels and/or smoke when close air support strikes are in progress.

2. CONDUCT OF STRIKES:

a. All CAS strikes are to be made parallel to the front lines whenever possible, and by single aircraft. Each pilot must acknowledge the sighting of the target. A minimum of 20 minutes will be allowed for conducting a four plane strike.

b. Every effort should be made to mark targets with smoke or WP whenever possible.

c. FAC's will locate their position in relation to the target by use of flashing mirror and/or colored smoke.

d. FAC's will call target areas using four-digit grid coordinates and then revert to "no-map" control. "No-map" control is calling the target in clock code from a known position, e.g., marking smoke, the FAC's position or prominent terrain feature in close proximity. In this regard, it may be necessary to assist the pilot in establishing an attack heading and target acquisition by advising him when to roll into his run.

e. FAC's will not change targets without so advising the strike pilots.

f. FAC's will brief strike pilots utilizing the shortened mission briefing form. TAB A contains a Short Mission Briefing Form.

g. FAC's will insure that post-strike damage assessments are given to strike pilots and the DASC. CAS strikes will be stopped by the FAC when any of the following conditions exists:

- (1) The attack aircraft are not on the prescribed heading.
- (2) The attack aircraft is off target.
- (3) Weather conditions do not meet those specified in Annex C.
- (4) The time prescribed for the attack has elapsed.

3. CONDUCT OF HELICOPTER OPERATIONS:

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a. All landing sites will be suitably marked with panels and/or colored smoke. They will be at minimum, 60 paces on each side. During the hours of darkness, the four corners of landing sites will be illuminated, on a required basis. Oil/fuel fires, HST landing site lights and pilot's mercury strobe survival lights are suitable for illumination. Flashlights are inadequate for proper site identification at night.

b. Mission priority for Med-Evacs will be as follows:

- (1) Emergency (Critical).
- (2) Priority (Serious).
- (3) Routine (Evac not required immediately).

c. FAC's will advise all Med-Evac flights of the best approach and retirement routes to and from the pick-up point to reduce the hazards of hostile ground fire. Every effort will be made to provide Med-Evac flights with friendly suppressive fires, ground or air, during the pick-up phase.

4. COMMUNICATIONS:

a. See Appendix 6, Air Communications.

b. TACP's shall establish communications on assigned nets as soon as practicable after arrival at a new location.

c. Every effort will be exerted to gain maximum efficiency from organic TACP communications equipment. Particular attention will be devoted to battery supply and state antenna installation and transmitting location.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL WALT

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Chief of Staff

TABS:

- ✓ A - Tactical Air Request Form
- ✓ B - Shortened Pilot Briefing Form

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DA NANG, RVN
August 1965

TAB A (Helicopter Request Form) to Appendix I (Mission Request Procedures) to Annex C (Air Support)
to Operations Order 330-65

AIRCRAFT MISSION REQUEST FORM REQUEST NO. _____
HELICOPTER - OE - FIXED WING TRANSPORT MISSION NO. _____

1. ACTION ADDE (CALLSIGN) _____ THIS IS (ORG CALLSIGN) _____

2. THIS MISSION REQUEST FOR:
(A) () HELICOPTER (B) () FIXED WING TRAN (C) () OE / LAISON

3. MISSION IS: (A) () EMERGENCY (B) () PRIORITY (C) () ASAP (D) () ROUTINE

4. TYPE:
(A) () TROOPS (E) () SPOT / OBSERV (I) () VIP CODE _____
(B) () LOGISTIC (F) () PHOTO (J) () EVAC (URGENT OR ASAP)
(C) () ADMIN (G) () UNIT CMDR (K) () SAR
(D) () RECON (H) () STAFF (L) () OTHER _____

5. AIRLIFT DESCRIPTION: Number and Weight
A. # OF TROOPS: _____
B. DESCRIPTION AND WEIGHT/CUBE INTERNAL CARGO: _____
C. DESCRIPTION AND WEIGHT EXTERNAL CARGO: _____
D. REMARKS: _____

6. INSTRUCTIONS: (S-H-A-C-K-L-E - WHEN NECESSARY)

PICKUP COORDINATES	LOCAL DATE/TIME	DESTINATION COORDINATES	CARGO / PASS
A. _____	_____	_____	_____
B. _____	_____	_____	_____
C. _____	_____	_____	_____
D. _____	_____	_____	_____
E. _____	_____	_____	_____
F. _____	_____	_____	_____

7. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: _____

8. LZ/SITE WILL BE MARKED/IDENTIFIED BY:
(A) () UNMARKED (C) () PANELS (E) () LIGHTS
(B) () MARKED WITH _____ (D) () SMOKE (F) () FLARE
(COLOR)
(G) () OTHER _____

9. COMMUNICATIONS: FOR A/C AND LZCP/TACP
A. CONTACT _____ B. CHANNEL / CIRCUIT _____
C. FREQUENCY _____
(DO NOT GIVE FREQUENCY UNLESS NO COLOR CODE OR CIRCUIT DESG)

10. LOCAL DATE/TIME: _____ AUTHENTICATION: _____

11. ESCORT: () REQUESTED () ASSIGNED
A. NO / TYPE ACFT: _____
B. CALLSIGN: _____
C. COMMUNICATIONS: _____
D. ARMAMENT CODE: _____

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL WALT

D. W. SHERMAN
COLONEL, U. S. MARINE CORPS
CHIEF OF STAFF

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Operations Order 330-65

OFFICIAL:

D. P. Wyckoff
D. P. WYCKOFF
Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps
G-3

C-1-A-1

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3d Marine (A-1), 1st
DA NANG, RVN
August 1965

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TAB B (SHORTENED PILOT BRIEFING FORM) to Appendix 7 (Instructions for TACP's) to Annex C (Air Support) to Operation Order 330-65.

Time Zone: HOTEL

1. GENERAL. It is recommended that the below displayed form be reproduced on a 5" X 8" card for local use.

PILOT BRIEFING FORM

1. CALL SIGN:

2. TGT IS:

IN GRID SQ: FROM: DIST:

MOVING / STATIONARY

TGT ALT (MSL):

3. ATK HDG:

PULL OUT: LFT RT SA

4. FAC/FRONT LINE IS:

FROM TGT.

5. CAN (NOT) / WILL (NOT) CONTROL

6. REMARKS:

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL WALT

D. W. SHERMAN
Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps
Chief of Staff

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Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps
G-3

G-7-B-1

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3d Marine (Rein), FMF
DA NANG, RVN
August 1965

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Appendix 8 (Air Delivery) to Annex C (Air Support) to Operations Order
330-65

Time Zone: HCTEL

1. ORGANIZATION.

a. Aerial Delivery Platoon, Supply Company, Force Logistics Supply Group.

2. GENERAL. First Marine Aircraft Wing provides aerial delivery of supplies from airfields to be designated within the III MAF tactical area.

3. OPERATING PROCEDURES.

a. Elements of Aerial Delivery Platoon, operating at such airfields as directed, establish packing and handling facilities for air delivery of supplies as directed.

b. Submit requests for air delivered supplies via command channels to Division Air Officer or his representative using the format contained in TAB A.

c. Make maximum effort to salvage parachutes and air delivery containers. Turn in daily to battalion/regimental S-4.

4. COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRONICS

a. See Appendix 6 (Air Communications) and Annex E (Communications-Electronics) to Operation Order 330-65.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL WALT

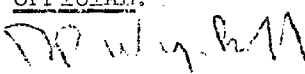
D. W. SHERMAN
Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps
Chief of Staff

TABS:

A - Aerial Delivery Request Form

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Operations Order 330-65

OFFICIAL:


D. P. WYCKOFF
Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps
G-3

C-8-1

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30 March 1965, PAF
DA NANG, VN
August 1965

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TAB A (Air Delivery Request) to Appendix 8 (Air Delivery) to Annex C
(Air Support) to Operation Order 330-65

Time Zone: HOTEL

AIR DELIVERY REQUEST

ALFA:	Support Unit
BRAVO:	Pick-up Point
CHARLIE:	Pick-up Date
DELTA:	Drop Time
ECHO:	Drop Zone Chart Numbers
FOXTROT:	Drop Zone Coordinates
GOLF:	Controller Frequencies, PRIMARY/SECONDARY
HOTEL:	Call Signs: AIRCRAFT/CONTROLLING AGENCY
INDIA:	Vehicles/class of Cargo/Cargo Weight
JULIET:	Drop Zone Markings: 1. Panel Color/Pattern 2. Smoke Color 3. Pyrotechnics Color
KILO:	Contact Origin and Phone Number
LIMA:	Contact Pick-up Point and Phone Number
MIKE:	Remarks BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL WALT

D. W. SHERMAN
Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps
Chief of Staff

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C-8-A-1

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3d MarDiv (Rein), FMF
DA NANG, RVN
August 1965
0069-65

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Annex D (Civil Affairs) to Operation Order 330-65

Ref: (a) Map, South Vietnam, AMS Series L701, Sheets 6756, I, II,
III and IV 1:50,000

1. SITUATION. (See Operations Order 330-65)

2. MISSION:

a. 3d Marine Division Civil Affairs (CA) organization will support RLT-7 landing operation. It will assist in the rehabilitation of the local population as permitted within the availability of local resources and U. S. supplies.

3. EXECUTION.

a. Concept of Operation.

(1) Civil Affairs units will conduct operations to control refugees and other civilian personnel in the combat area.

(2) During the combat phase Civil Affairs units will provide essential minimum assistance as may be required to establish and maintain order and population control.

b. Tasks.

(1) CO, RLT-7 will establish civil affairs control in objective area.

c. Delegation of authority.

(1) Conduct of civil affairs operations is delegated to CO, RLT-7.

(2) During the operation, primary concern of CAO's will be directed toward sociological aspects of activity, with secondary concern for problems of reconstruction.

d. Coordinating Instructions.

(1) Report locations and primary points of contact with civil authorities.

D-1

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(2) Collection of contraband from civilians will be only registered and safeguarded.

(3) Chu Lai Civil Affairs relief dump will be controlled and operated by CO, RLT-7. Request for relief supplies shall be requested through normal command/logistic channels.

(4) Damage assessment, to local structures, rice paddies and such other property that may require reconstruction assistance during the post operation period, will be maintained to maximum extent possible.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS.

a. Civilian Relief.

(1) Subordinate unit commanders can request relief supplies from Chu Lai Civil Affairs dump.

(2) Supplies available consist of 15 tons of foodstuffs, medcap supplies and clothing, 6 tons of wheat, 5 tons cornmeal, 3 tons soybean oil and 2 ton clothing.

b. Economic.

(1) Commanders will limit military assistance in the combat phase to rehabilitation which will assist military operations. In the post combat phase, military effort may be directed toward reconstruction and rehabilitation.

c. Sociological.

(1) Public health. Initially, commanders will protect the health of the military forces and will assist in providing essential medical treatment to civilian personnel as required.

(2) Displaced persons.

(a) Commanders will direct the handling and evacuation of displaced persons and set standards of care to prevent disease and unrest.

(b) Care and support of displaced persons will be provided from supplies contained in paragraph 4.b.(2) above.

(3) Arts, monuments and archives.

(a) Commanders will ensure that troops are especially careful not to damage or violate the premises of religious establishments and other property such as graves which hold particular significance to the people.

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(b) Troops must refrain from needless damage or wanton destruction of property consistent with the overall military mission.

(4) Cultural relations.

(a) Within the requirement of the military situation, maximum respect for customs, traditions and desires of the people should be enforced.

(b) Use of churches, temples and other religious institutions for military purposes is prohibited.

5. COMMAND AND SIGNAL.

a. Annex E communication to Operation Order 330-65.

b. Command. CAO's

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL WALT:

D. W. SHERMAN
Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps
Chief of Staff

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OFFICIAL:

DP Wyckoff
D. P. WYCKOFF
Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps
G-3

D-3

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 DA 1220, 1965
 August 1965
 0069-65

Annex F (Distribution) to Operation Order 330-65

CG, FMFPAC
 CG, III MAF
 CG, FILW
 CG, 3d MAF Div
 3d Marines
 4th Marines
 7th Marines
 9th Marines
 12th Marines
 3d AT Bn
 3d Tank Bn
 3d Recon Bn
 HqBn, 3d MarDiv
 MAG-16
 MAG-32
 MAG-36
 3d Bn, 7th Marines
 File (G-3, 3d MarDiv)

2
 5
 4
 2
 2
 4
 12
 2
 4
 1
 1
 1
 2
 4
 4
 4
 4
 25
 83

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL WALT

D. W. SHERMAN
 Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps
 Chief of Staff

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OFFICIAL:

D. P. Wyckoff
 D. P. WYCKOFF
 Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps
 G-3

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CH: 1049
IMMEDIATE 180920Z

File 1
MAF 15
DIV 10
WIN 174

DRAFTER FHS
SECRET 3 PHONE 3
TRANS TOD
CWO

FROM: CG III MAF
TO: COMUSMACV
ADMINO FMFPAC

INFO: CMC
CINCPAC
CINCPACFLT
CG FMFPAC/I MAC (FWD)
CG THIRD MARDIV (FWD)
CG FIRST MAW (ADV)
CTF SEVEN NINE

CTF SEVEN SIX
ADMINO THIRD MARDIV
CMDR MCS
CTE 70.2.1.1
USS VANCOUVER (LPD-2)
CG TASK FORCE ALPHA
CO I CORPS ADV GRP

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~~SECRET~~

SPECIAL SITREP 1 18AUG

OPERATION STARLITE VAN TUONG COMPLEX CHU LAI TAOR

1. AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULT BY THREE SLANT THREE AND HELBORNE LANDING BY TWO SLANT FOUR EXECUTED AS PLANNED.
2. LANDINGS OF HELBORNE UNITS ACCOMPLISHED IN FACE OF DETERMINED ENEMY RESISTANCE.
3. ENEMY WELL ORGANIZED IN DEPTH WITH ENTRENCHMENTS AND FORTIFICATIONS INCLUDING NUMEROUS CONCRETE BUNKERS.
4. AT 1458H CG III MAF REQUESTED TWO COMPANIES THREE SLANT SEVEN BE LANDED FROM SLF BY HELO TO JUNCTURE OF TWO SLANT FOUR AND THREE SLANT THREE.
5. U.S. CASUALTIES AS OF 1540H WERE FOURTEEN KIA, SEVENTY-NINE WIA.
6. ONE UH-34D HELO DOWNED AND SUBSEQUENTLY DESTROYED. CREW EVACUATED. HELOS RECEIVING CONSIDERABLE BATTLE DAMAGE FROM SMALL ARMS AND AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE.
7. VC CASUALTY COUNT INCOMPLETE BUT MINIMUM ONE HUNDRED VC KIA AND MUCH MATERIEL CAPTURED.
8. MORE TO FOLLOW.

GP-4

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~~SECRET~~
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CCN 1861

IMMEDIATE 181167

FROM: CG III MAF
TO: COMUSMACV
CG FMFPAC

INFO: CMC
CINCPAC
CINCPACFLT
CG FMFPAC/I MAC (FWD)
CG THIRD MARDIV (FWD)
CG FIRST MAW (ADV)
CIT SEVEN LIRE

CIT SEVEN SIX
ADMINO THIRD MARDIV
CMDT MCS
CITE 70.2.1.1
USS VANCOUVER (LPD-2)
CG TASK FORCE ALPHA
CG I CORPS ADV GRP

DRAFTER MM
SECT CHD CIR PHONE 105
TRANS TOD
CWO

File 10
MAF 15
DIV 16
WING 177

ACTION COPY
G-3
NAK

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III MAF SPECIAL SITREP NUMBER 2 PERIOD 180650H TO 181600H FOR SENSATION
STAR LITE (VAN TUONG COMPLEX)

1. THE FOLLOWING ARE THE MAJOR GROUND EVENTS IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER:

A. 180650H - FIRST WAVE BLT 3/3 LANDED OVER GREEN BEACH VIC (BS 679928)

A SIMULTANEOUS HELICOPTER ASSAULT BY BLT 2/4 COMMENCED LANDING AT BROMAN
AT LANDING ZONES RED (BS 671951) WHITE (BS 679928) AND BLUE (BS 679919)

B. 180815H - BLT 3/3 REPORTED TWO MARINES WIA. VIC AN QUONG COVE
(BS 702928) AND ONE VCC CAPTURED SAME GENERAL AREA.

C. 180900 - SIX USMC WIA BY 82 MM MORTAR. COORD TIME INCIDENT
UNREPORTED.

D. 181115H - ONE USMC, TWO USN CORPSMEN, ONE USA KIA. SIXTEEN USMC
WIA. HOTEL COMPANY, BLT 2/4 ENCOUNTERED WELL DEFENDED CONCRETE BUNKERS.

E. 181120H - BLT 2/4 REPORTED TWO TANKS KNOCKED OUT (NO CASUALTIES
REPORTED) BY VC 57 MM NR FIRE. ONE UH-1E HELO DOWNED BY SMALL ARMS FIRE
AT LZ BLUE. TWO VH-34 DOWN AT CHU LAI FROM SMALL ARMS FIRE RECEIVED IN
OBJECTIVE AREA.

18 & 27
PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES

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181130H - CONFIRMED CASUALTIES:

	USN	USA	USMC
KIA	2	1 (CREW MEMBER UH-18)	1
WIA	-	-	25

G. 181156H - UH-1E DOWNED IN IZ BLUE REPAIRED AND RETURNED TO CHU LAI AIRFIELD.

H. 181231H - TWO TANKS PREVIOUSLY DAMAGED BACK IN ACTION.

I. 181240H - BLT 2/4 ENCOUNTERED CONCRETE PILLBOX WITH VC MACHINE GUN VIC COORD (BS 686935). BLT 2/4 REPORTED THEY RECEIVED HEAVY CASUALTIES FROM MORTAR ATTACK AND THAT VC WERE CUTTING IN ON USMC TACTICAL NET.

J. 181345H - UH-34 DOWNED BY SMALL ARMS FIRE VIC COORD (BS 712772). STRIKE DAMAGE TO HELO AND WAS DESTROYED BY AIR STRIKE. CREW EVACUATED.

K. 181453H - TWO COMPANIES FROM 1ST (BLT 3/7) DIRECTED TO LAND BY HELO VIC COORD (BS 702921).

L. 181510H - ONE COMPANY VC THAT REPORTED VIC COORD (BS 695-927).

2. AIR ACTIVITY.

A. IZ PREP

(1) 0615 - C730 20 A4/F4 ACFT CONDUCTED IZ PREP DROPPING 19.5 TONS OF BOMES, 4 TONS OF NAPALM AND 3000 RDS OF 20 MM.

B. GAS/HELLO CAP

(1) 0630 - 1600 20 SORTIES A4/F4 ACFT DROPPED 29 TONS OF BOMES, FIRED 95 ROCKETS PLUS MAX 20 MM IN SUPPORT OF GROUND UNITS.

C. FIXED WING TRANSPORT

(1) 3 - C130 MEDEVAC CHU LAI TO DA NANG.

(2) 1 - C54 AIRLIFTED ONE SPECIAL SURGICAL TEAM FROM PHU BAT TO DA NANG.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

D. USMC AIRCRAFT BATTLE DAMAGE SUMMARY

- (1) 8 UH-34 LIGHT TO SERIOUS ✓
- (2) 1 UH-34 DESTROYED ✓
- (3) 2 UH-1E MINOR ✓
- (4) 1 UH-1E SERIOUS ✓

3. U.S. CASUALTIES AS OF 181600H 14 KIA; 81 WIA. 25% OF WIA SERIOUS,
 REMAINING 75% SUPERFICIAL. COUNT OF VC DEAD NOT FIRM BUT IN EXCESS OF
100. 15 VCC PRISONERS AND NUMEROUS WEAPONS CAPTURED.

4. ENEMY IS CONDUCTING DETERMINED, SKILLFUL DEFENSE. QUALITY OF
 RESISTANCE AND USE OF COMBINED ARMS TENDS TO CONFIRM ORIGINAL ESTIMATE
 THAT THIS IS A HARD CORE VC REGIMENT. ESTIMATED ENEMY STRENGTH OF 2000
 SEEMS WELL FOUNDED.

5. ENEMY IS NOW ENCIRCLED BY MARINE FORCES. HE CAN ELECT TO STAY IN
 PLACE AND FIGHT OR HE CAN ATTEMPT TO BREAK OUT. HE ALSO HAS CAPABILITY
 OF ATTEMPTING REINFORCEMENT FROM THE WEST.

GP-4

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Hogan Fuller

TOD
 182119
 a-2
 SC

Ted/wing
 182217H/REH

~~SECRET~~

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PAGE 3 OF 3 PAGES

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CON: 18817

IMMEDIATE: 181556Z

FROM: CG III MAF
TO: COMUSMACV
CG ILEPAC

INFO: CMC
CMCPAC
CMCPACFLT
CG ILEPAC/I PAC (FV1)
CG THIRD MARDIV (FV1)
CG FIRST MAF (ADV)
CGT SEVEN NINE

MAF-LS
DIU-16
WING-33/ty

DRAFTER JMM
SECT CMD CTR PHONE 205
TRANS TOD
CWO

CGT SEVEN SIX
ADMINO THIRD MARDIV
CMT MCS
CGT 70.2.1.1
USS VALQUER (LHD-2)
CG TASK FORCE
CO/I

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III MAF SPECIAL SITREP NUMBER 3 PERIOD 181600H TO 182200H FOR OPERATION

STAR LITE (VAN TUONG COMPLEX)

1. FOLLOWING ARE MAJOR GROUND EVENTS IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER:

A. 181600H - SEVENTH MARINES REQUESTED REMAINING COMPANIES OF 501
BE MADE AVAILABLE.

B. 181655H - SEVENTH MARINES REPORTED THAT VC MAY HAVE CAPTURED 3.5
INCH ROCKET LAUNCHER FROM WOUNDED MARINE.

C. 181735H - SEVENTH MARINES FOIARE OBSERVER REPORTED A VC COMPANY
VIC (BS 701959).

D. 181800H - H COMPANY ENGAGED VIC (BS 695920). A HELICOPTER RECEIVED
TWO ROUNDS SMALL ARMS FIRE BASE GENERAL AREA.

E. 181815H - THIRD BN, SEVENTH MARINES ESTIMATED TWO ADDITIONAL
COMPANIES OF 501 LAD OVER GREEN BEACH AT 181900H.

F. 181800H - SEVENTH MARINES REPORTED A FISHING FLEET WHICH HAD
ARRIVED VIC (BS 5105) TO (BS 5103) EARLY / WERE DEPARTED IN LAST TWO HOURS;

ACTION COPY

PAGE 1

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APPROX TO BE HEARD WITHIN OFF () () ()

G. 181915H - L COMPANY, THIRD BN, SEVENTH MARINES TAKING CASUALTIES;
SITUATION IS UNDER CONTROL.

H. 182110H CASUALTY REPORT 23 KIA, 131 WIA

2. AIR ACTIVITY

A. GAS/HELO CAP

(1) 1600-2200 31 A1/F4 SORTIES IN SUPPORT GROUND FORCES, AIRCRAFT
W/TH HELD ON STATION THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT. EIGHT TONS BOMBS, 456 ROCKETS
EXPENDED.

(2) TPQ-10 CONTROLLED DEFENSIVE AIR FIRE PLAN IN EFFECT FOR NIGHT,
REGIMENTAL FSCC AUGMENTED WITH ADDITIONAL AIR CONTROLLERS.

B. FIXED WING TRANSPORT

(1) C-117 MADE EMERGENCY RE-SUPPLY RUN DA NANG TO CHU LAI WITH
BLOOD.

(2) C-130'S EVACUATED NINETY SEVEN CASUALTIES TO DA NANG - AIRCRAFT
ON FIFTEEN MINUTE STANDBY.

(3) C-123 AIRCRAFT WILL RELIEVE ON STATION THROUGHOUT NIGHT AS
PLANE PLAINES.

(4) ARMY OLF AIRCRAFT WITH MARINE OBSERVERS CONTINUOUSLY MONITOR ME
AS RADIO RELAY AND NAVAL GUNFIRE AND ARTILLERY SPOT.

(5) C-130 MADE EMERGENCY CLASS 5 RESUPPLY RUN DA NANG TO CHU LAI.

C. HELICOPTERS CONTINUE AROUND THE CLOCK RESUPPLY AND EVACUATION. LIGHT
SEVEN OF EIGHTEEN UH-34 FROM ONE SQUADRON RECEIVED SMALL ARMS BATTLES
DAMAGE WHILE EVACUATING WOUNDED FROM FRONT LINES.

~~SECRET~~

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3. THE LOCATION OF THIS MAIN FORCE VC UNIT AT VAN TUONG IS DIRECTLY
ATTRIBUTABLE TO EXCELLENT AND TIMELY GATHERING AND ANALYSIS OF INTEL-
LIGENCE BY ALL U. S. AND VIETNAMESE INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES.

4. 1. THE FORCES REMAIN IN CONTACT WITH ENEMY. VC KIA WILL BE RECORDED
AFTER DAWN 19 AUGUST WHEN VISIBILITY WILL ALLOW A MORE ACCURATE COUNT.

SP-4

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Deagan Full

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*707 / 6-2
120 / 80*

*TOD / WING
190145K / RCH*

12

~~SECRET~~
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PAGE 3 OF 3 PAGES

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G.T. # 905

G.T. #

DRAFTER JWD
SECT G-3 PHONE PARCHMENT
TRANS TO
CNO

CCN: 1897

IMMEDIATE 190146Z

FROM: CG III MAF
TO: COMUSMACV
ADMINO FIHPAC

INFO: CMC
CINCPAC
CINCPACFLT
CG FIHPAC/I MAC (FWD)
CG THIRD MARDIV (FWD)
CG FIRST MAW (ADV)
CTF SEVEN NINE

CTF SEVEN SIX
ADMINO THIRD MARDIV
CMT MCS
CTE 70.2.1.1
USS VANCOUVER (LPD-2)
CG TASK FORCE ALPHA
CG I CORPS ADV GRP
COM SEVENTHFLT

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III MAF SPECIAL SITREP NUMBER 4 PERIOD 182201H TO 190600H FOR OPERATION
STAR LITE (VAN TUONG COMPLEX)

1. FOLLOWING ARE MAJOR GROUND EVENTS IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER:

- A. 182215H. SEVENTY CONFIRMED VC KIA AS OF 181700H. EST 300.
- B. 182328H. CASUALTY REPORT 23 KIA. 144 WIA.
- C. 182000H-190600H CONTINUE TO IMPROVE DEFENSIVE POSITIONS AND ORGANIZE FOR MORNING ATTACK.
- D. 182000H-190600 - ARVN JUNK FLEET CONTINUED OFF-SHORE PATROLS TO PREVENT VC ESCAPE TO SEAWARD.

- E. THROUGHOUT PERIOD ARTY AND NGF ON-CALL FOR FIRE SUPPORT.
- F. MAINTAINED CONTACT WITH ENEMY AND RECEIVED NO REPORTS WHICH INDICATED THAT THE VC ATTEMPTED TO BREAKOUT.

2. AIR ACTIVITY

- A. CAS/HELICOPTER CAP

(1) 2230-0600. 16 A4/F4 SCRAMBLES UTILIZED FOR AIRBORNE ALERT RELIEF ON STATION IN SUPPORT OF GROUND FORCES. AIRCRAFT NOT USED IN CLOSE AIR SUPPORT

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ROLE. TEN SORTIES EXPENDED ORDNANCE UTILIZING TPQ-10 RADAR TO ISOLATE AREA FROM SOUTHWEST, ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~.

(2) TWO SORTIES STRIP ALERT LAUNCHED FOR TPQ-10 CONTROLLED STRIKE.

B. FIXED WING TRANSPORT

(1) TWO KC-130's UTILIZED FOR MEDICAL EVACUATION.

(2) ONE KC-130 MADE EMERGENCY RESUPPLY RUN DA NANG TO CHU LAI WITH BLOOD.

(3) C-123 AIRCRAFT CONTINUOUSLY ON STATION FOR FLARE DROP.

C. HELICOPTERS CONTINUED REQUIRED MEDICAL EVACUATION AND LIMITED RESUPPLY MISSIONS.

3. INTENTIONS. RESUME ATTACK AT 190700H.

GP-4

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TOP/MS
191045/MS

35/1-3

TOP/WWI
19/1934H
W

~~SECRET~~
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DECLASSIFIED

CONV

FLASH

190546Z

DATE

STATE

TRANS TO

CWO

PHONE

FROM: CG III MAF
TO: COMUSMACV
ADMINO JTFPAC

INFO: CMC
CINCPAC
CINCPACFLT
CG JTFPAC/1 MAC (FWD)
CG THIRD MARDIV (FWD)
CG FIRST MAW (ADV)
CTF SEVEN NINE
COMSEVENTHFLT

CTF SEVEN
ADMINO THIRD MARDIV
CMT ACS
CTE 70.2.1.1
USS VANCOUVER (LPD-2)
CG TASK FORCE ALPHA
CG I CORPS ADV GRP

File 1
MAF 15
MAIL 15
DIV 10
WING 33/HTY

NAL

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III MAF SPECIAL SITREP NUMBER 5 PERIOD 190601H TO 191200H FOR OPERATION

STAR LIFE (VAN TUONG COMPLEX)

1. FOLLOWING ARE MAJOR GROUND EVENTS IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER:

FOLLOWING INTENSIVE PREPARATION FIRES, BLT 3/3 AND BLT 3/4

A. 190700H - ~~REMARKS~~ CROSSED LOD FOR ATTACK SUPPORTED BY

ON-CALL AIR, ARTY AND NGF. GAINS OF 800 TO 1000 YARDS BEFORE ENEMY
RESISTANCE STIFFENED. DIFFICULT TERRAIN CHARACTERIZED BY HEAVILY FORTIFIED

B. 190820H - BLT 3/3 CROSSED PHASE LINE CHERRY.

C. 190900H - 7TH MAR CONFIRMED U.S. CASUALTIES AS 36 KIA, 154 WIA
AND 2 MISSING. 7TH MAR ESTIMATES 400-500 VC KIA TO DATE.

D. 191015H - ~~REMARKS~~ 7TH MAR CALLED
FOR NGF ON THE BEACH AT COORD (BS 699976). TROOPS IN THE OPEN.

~~REMARKS~~ CONTROL WITH VC.

E. 191024H - BLT 2/4 REQUESTED AIRSTRIKE ON 25 VC. COORD NOT REPORTED.

F. 191030H - BLT 3/3 REPORTED RECEIVING HEAVY SMALL ARMS FIRE AND
REQUESTED FIRE SUPPORT. ~~COORDS~~ NO REPORTED CASUALTIES.

G. 191045H - GOLF CO BLT 2/4 REACHED PHASE LINE CHERRY. REPORTED 29
VC KIA BY SMALL ARMS. REPORTS MANY VC KILLED IN 2/4 ZONE BY AIR, ARTY,
NGF AND MORTARS.

DIKES AND HEDGEHOGS. PATCHWORK OF
INTERVENING PADDIES MAKES FIGHTING
ANALOGOUS TO FIGHTING FROM 200M TO 300M.

ACTION COPY

PAGE 1

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Copy 18 OF 41

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FLASH AUG 19 1965

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191100H ~~INDIC~~ 72 MAR INDIC **DECLASSIFIED**
 VAN TUONG HAMLET VIC COORD 6995 IS VC STRONG POINT.

I. 191121H - BLT 2/4 REQUESTED AND RECEIVED NGF SUPPORT ON HILL 32.4K COORD

J. 191130H - FOLLOWING NGF SUPPORT EASY GO BLT 2/4 TO COMMENCE

SWEEP AREA VIC COORD (BS 7193)

3. TWO-THIRDS OF OBJECTIVE AREA NOW IN OUR HANDS.

3. SIGNIFICANT DETAILS FROM NIGHT OF 18-19 AUG NOT PREVIOUSLY REPORTED -

IN VIC COORD (BS 695931) THE FOLLOWING MAJOR EQUIP RECEIVED BATTLE DAMAGE:

A. ONE FLAME TANK DESTROYED.

B. ONE FLAME TANK DAMAGED AND RETRIEVED.

C. TWO GUN TANKS DAMAGED AND NOT YET RETRIEVED.

D. FOUR LVT DAMAGED AND NOT YET RETRIEVED.
 INDIA COMPANY, 3D Bn, 3d MARINES HEAVILY ENGAGED DURING NIGHT.
 ADDITIONALLY VC MADE TWO ATTEMPTS TO BREAKOUT IN BLT 2/4 ZONE. BOTH

ATTEMPTS UNSUCCESSFUL. NGF WAS USED FOR NIGHT ILLUM.

3. SUMMARY OF COMBAT POWER ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN OBJECTIVE AREA.

7th RIFLE COS

TWO TANK PLTS (=) (8 M48, 3 FLAME)

TWO ANTITANK PLTS (-) (8 M50 ONTOS)

ARTY: ONE BTRY 107 MM HOWTAR (6) HOWTARS.

FIFTEEN AMPHTRACS

ADDITIONALLY, ^{Five} ~~THREE~~ 155 MM HOW (SP) AND TWO 155 MM GUNS ARE IN DIRECT

SUPPORT FROM CHU LAI. USS GALVESTON AND USS ORLEANS PROVIDING DIRECT NGF

SUPPORT. ^{DETAILED} ~~ACTIVITY TO BE FURNISHED NEXT SPECIAL~~
 AIR SUPPORT ~~DISCUSS~~ ^{SITREP}

4. FRONT LINE POSITIONS AT CLOSE OF THIS REPORTING PERIOD ARE: BLT 2/4
 GENERALLY ON A LINE FROM VIC COORD (BS 695979) TO (BS 695924) TO (BS 700925).
 BLT 3/7 GENERALLY ON A LINE FROM COORD VIC (BS 700925) TO (BS 714947) TO
 (BS 724939). BLT 3/3 SWEEPING BEACHES TO REAR OF BLT 3/7. MIKE CO BLT 3/3
 PLUS 107 MM HOWTAR BTRY MOVING FROM BLOCKING POSITION VIC COORD (BS 671969)

PAGE 2 OF 3 PAGES

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TO (S 693983) TO H BIE 3/3.

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5. MEDICAL. MEDVACS HAVE BEEN FROM OBJECTIVE AREA TO COMPANY B MED BN CHU LAI AND TO USS IWO JIMA WITH FURTHER EVAC TO DA NANG WHEN REQUIRED. A TOTAL OF 35 CASUALTIES FROM CURRENT OPS PLUS AN ADDITIONAL 32 CASUALTIES WERE EVACUATED DURING NIGHT OF 18 AUG BY SPECIAL USAF MEDVAC ACFT FROM DANANG TO CLARK AFB. ANTICIPATE FURTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIAL MEDVAC OUT OF COUNTRY ON 19 AND 20 AUG.

6. I CORPS SUPPORT. I CORPS ADVISORY GROUP RELEASED SIX OLJ LIGHT OBSERVATION ACFT TO OPCON III MAF FOR DURATION OF OPERATION. FIVE OF THE SEVEN FLYABLE U. S. ARMY HU 1B HELOS ARE IN DIRECT SUPPORT. REGIONAL AND POPULAR FORCE UNITS OF BINH SON LOCATED WEST OF OBJ AREA PROVIDED AMBUSH SITES FOR NIGHT OF 18 AUGUST VIC COORD (BS 6095, 6286, 6293, AND 6284). VIETNAMESE INTERROGATION TEAM FROM BINH SON DISTRICT HDQS ASSISTING 7TH MAR TACTICAL COMMAND POST.

7. INTELLIGENCE NOTE: ATTITUDE OF VILLAGERS HAS NOT BEEN HOSTILE TO MARINES. VILLAGERS ARE COOPERATIVE AND HAVE VOLUNTEERED INFORMATION ON VC. VC UNIFORMS ARE OF MANY TYPES BUT MAINLY BLACK PAJAMAS. SOME US HELMETS AND HELMET LINERS OBSERVED. MOST VC ARMED WITH MAS 36 RIFLES.

GP-4

Five

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Dequan Fuller

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CON: 1982

IMM DATE 190924Z

DRAFTER GHG

SECT G-3 PHONE 3

TRANS TO

CWO

FROM: CG III MAF
TO: COMUSMACV
ADMINO PTFAC

FILE 1
SRIC/MAF 15
DIV 10

INFO: CEC
CINCPAC
CINCPACFLT
CG PTFAC/I MAC (FWD)
CG THIRD MARDIV (FWD)
CG FIRST MAF (ADV)
CTF SEVEN NINE
COMSEVENTHFLT

CTF SEVEN SIX
ADMINO THIRD MARDIV
CHDT MCS
CTE 70.2.1.1
USS VANCOUVER (LPD-2)
CG TASK FORCE ALPHA
CO I CORPS ADV GRP

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III MAF SPECIAL SITREP NUMBER 6 PERIOD 191200H TO 191430H FOR OPERATION

STAR LIFE (VAN TUONG COMPLEX)

1. FOLLOWING ARE MAJOR GROUND EVENTS IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER:

A. 191205H BLT 2/4 REQUESTED HELICOPTER PICKUP OF VCG COORD (BS 713960)
REQUEST APPROVED AT 191330H.

B. 191220H

(1) BLT 2/4 REQUESTED HELICOPTER TO LIFT CO H FAC TEAM TO BLT
2/4 CP VIC COORD (BS 713960). CO H TO BE HELILIFTED TO CHU LAI.

(2) BLT 3/3 LINES FROM VIC COORD (BS 717957) TO (BS 927950).

(3) BLT 2/4 REPORTED THAT VAN TUONG (1) (BS 6995) APPEARS TO BE
COMBAT VILLAGE WITH POSSIBLE COMMAND CENTER. COMM LINES LEAD INTO VILLAGE
FROM ALL DIRECTIONS. FORTIFIED W/TRENCHES AND FIGHTING HOLES. PACK
CONTAINING HAND SETS F/FIELD RADIO AND RADIO EQUIP, CLOTHING, MESS GEAR,
RICE, AND CORN IN ABUNDANCE. ANTI-AMERICAN SIGNS LEAD INTO HAMLET. THE
HOMEMADE GRANADES AND MUCH SMALL ARMS ALSO FOUND. EIGHT VCS TAKEN.

ACTION COPY
G-3

PAGE 1 OF 4 PAGES

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C. 191330H. AN AO WAS REQUESTED TO INSPECT A BOAT LOADING AT COORD (BT 642028) TO ASCERTAIN IF VC USING TO ESCAPE.

2. FOLLOWING LATE ENTRY NOT REPORTED PRIOR TO 191200.

A. PREGNANT VIETNAMESE WOMAN EVAC TO B MED WITH CHEST WOUND. LATER AIR EVAC TO DA NANG.

3. INTELLIGENCE REPORT

A. FOLLOWING VC UNITS IDENTIFIED IN OBJ AREA:

40TH MF BN

60TH MF BN

90TH MF BN

B. A VCG STATED 450TH VC BN ALSO IN AREA.

C. AS OF 1415, 50 VCG AND 100 VC KIA (BODY COUNT) ESTIMATE VC KIA AT 400 TO 450.

4. AIR ACTIVITY SUMMARY TO 191430H

A. CUMULATIVE FIXED WING TACTICAL TOTALS FOR ENTIRE OPERATION PERIOD 180600H TO 191200H

JET SORTIES	116
BOMBS	88 TONS
ROCKETS (2.75)	627
NAPALM	4 TONS
20 MM	8400 ROUNDS

HAVE

B. HELO OPS ~~WAS~~ CONTINUED AT A MAX EFFORT FROM THE INITIAL LANDING OF BLT 2/4. MAX AVAILABLE HELOS HAVE BEEN COMMITTED PLUS ADDITIONAL HELOS FROM THE SLF. FOLLOWING THE INITIAL TROOP LIFT OF BLT 2/4 FIRST PRIORITY WAS FOR HELOS ~~WAS~~ MEDEVAC. NUMEROUS MISSIONS WERE PERFORMED LIFTING SUPPLIES

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IN AND LIFTING MEDEVACS OUT. DURING THIS PERIOD SMALL ARMS FIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED IN MANY OF THE LANDING ZONES. MANY AIRCRAFT WERE HIT IN THE FIRST FEW HOURS FOLLOWING THE INITIAL LANDING WHILE ENGAGED IN MEDEVAC MISSIONS, WOUNDING THREE PILOTS AND A CREW MEMBER. ^{ON 18 AUGUST} BY 1300, ONE HELICOPTER HAD BEEN DESTROYED AFTER BEING SHOT DOWN AND EIGHT OTHERS WERE OUT OF COMMISSION FROM BATTLE DAMAGE. HELICOPTER REINFORCEMENTS WERE MOVED IN FROM THE DA NANG AREA AT 1200H. RESUPPLY AND MEDEVAC MISSIONS WERE CARRIED OUT FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE DAY USING ALL AVAILABLE AIRCRAFT.

AT 190545H ALL AVAILABLE MARINE HELICOPTERS DEPARTED DA NANG WITH 4 UH1B'S OF THE 7TH AVIATION FT USA FOR CHU LAI TO SUPPORT THE OPERATION IN CONJUNCTION WITH HELICOPTERS OF THE SLF.

OF THE 18 HELICOPTERS RECEIVING HITS ON 18 AUGUST, ALL BUT FIVE WERE BACK IN AN OPERATIONAL STATUS AT 0545H 19 AUGUST.

5. POSITIONS AT END OF REPORTING PERIOD ARE:

- A. CO G, 2/4 (BS 698975) TO (BS 699976).
- B. CO H, 3/3 (BS 699976) TO (BS 701971) TO (BS ⁶⁹⁸⁹⁷⁰ ~~700970~~).
- C. CO E, 2/4 (BS 708970) TO (BS 701960).
- D. CO E, 3/7 (BS 701960) TO (BS 709959).
- E. CO I, 3/7 (BS 709959) TO (BS 715957).
- F. CO L, 3/7 (BS 715957) TO (BS 720955).
- G. CO L & K, 3/3 (BS 720955) TO (BS 725955).

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ABOVE LINE OF COMPANIES COMPRESSES THE ENEMY INTO A NARROW STRETCH
OF ROCKY BEACH ABOUT 3000 METERS LONG AND ON THE PHUOC THUAN PENINSULA
(BS 715975). HIS BACK IS TO THE SEA AND HE HAS NO PLACE TO GO.

GP-4

RELEASED BY *E. J. Sami*

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CCN: 2024

FLASH

191320Z

MAF-15
DIU - 10
WING - 114

DRAFTER

SECT G-3

PHONE

TRANS TOD

CWO

FROM: CG III MAF
TO: COMUSMACV
ADMINO MELPAC

FLASH

INFO: CMC
CINCPAC
CINCPACFLT
CG MACPAC/1 MAC (FWD)
CG THIRD MARDIV (FWD)
CG FIRST MAF (ADV)
CTF SEVEN SIX
COMSEVENTHFLTCTF SEVEN SIX
ADMINO THIRD MARDIV
CNDT MCS
CTE 70.2.1.1
USS VANCOUVER (LPD-2)
CG TASK FORCE ALPHA
CG I CORPS ADV GRP

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N A H

III MAF SPECIAL SITREP NUMBER 7 PERIOD 191430H TO 192000 H FOR OPERATION

STAR LITE (VAN TUONG COMPLEX)

AFTER DAY LONG FIGHT AGAINST STUBBORN RESISTANCE

1. LAST UNIT REACHED FINAL OBJECTIVE ON BEACHES OF SOUTH CHINA SEA FROM

COORD (BS 692982) TO (BS 942954) WHEN CO E BLT 2/4 SWEEP PHUOC THUAN

PENINSULA (BS 7197) AT 191645H. ALL UNITS CONDUCTING HOPPING UP OPERATIONS

AND DESTROYING CAVES, TUNNELS, BUNKERS, TRENCHES AND OTHER VC INSTALLATIONS

OBJECTIVE AREA. ~~THIS IS THE FINAL OBJECTIVE~~

2. NAVAL GUNFIRE.

PROVIDED TIMELY ACCURATE
OFUSS GALVESTON (OAG-3) AND USS ORLECK (DD-886) SUPPORTED 7TH MAR ATTACK
AT TIMES WITHIN 100 YDS OF FRIENDLY UNITS
BY FIRING NINETEEN NGF SUPPORT MISSIONS COVERING PERIOD 180600H TO 191830H.

ORDNANCE EXPENDED:

USS GALVESTON

USS ORLECK

FLASH

ROUNDS

CALIBER

ROUNDS

CALIBER

260

6 INCH HC

124

5 INCH 38 HE

21

5 INCH 38

54

5 INCH 38 HP

11

5 INCH 38 TILDM

51

5 INCH 38 XIAUM

140

5 INCH 38 HE

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G3

191320

PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES

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AUG 20 1965

~~DECLASSIFIED~~3. INTENTIONS. *see*

A. BLT 3/3 WILL OCCUPY NIGHT DEFENSIVE POSITION ALONG RIDGE LINE GRID SQUARE (BS 7173), AND CONTINUE MOP-UP ON 20 AUG.

B. BLT 2/4 TO OCCUPY NIGHT DEFENSIVE POSITION GRID SQUARE (BS 7097).
AT FIRST LIGHT ON 20 AUG WILL COMMENCE RETURN TO CHU LAI BY HELOLIFT.

C. BLT 3/7 TO OCCUPY NIGHT DEFENSIVE POSITION GRID SQUARE (BS 6992)
CONTINUE MOP-UP
TO PROTECT DAMAGED TANKS AND LVTS UNTIL VEHICLES RECOVERED. ON 20 AUG OR AS
SOON AS MOP-UP COMPLETED
BLT 3/7 WILL RETURN TO ASSIGNED SLF SHIPPING BY HELO AND SURFACE CRAFT.

4. LATEST CASUALTY FIGURES AS OF CLOSE OF THIS SITREP 52 KIA, 205 WIA,
2 MIA.

5. COMPLETE AND ACCURATE VC CASUALTY FIGURES NOT AS YET AVAILABLE. AIR
(BOMBING AND NAPALM), HGF, ARTY, FLAME TANKS OFFENSIVE ACTION HAS MADE IT
IMPOSSIBLE IN MANY AREAS TO OBTAIN ACCURATE BODY COUNT. ESTIMATE VC KIA
AT 550.

6. AIR ACTIVITY. III MAF, SLF AND U. S. ARMY 7TH AVIATION PLATOON HELOS
CONTINUED TO PROVIDE OBSERVATION, MEDEVAC AND RECON MISSIONS IN SUPPORT
OF 7TH MARINES. NO UNUSUAL INCIDENTS. CAS ON-CALL THROUGHOUT PERIOD.
HELOS ESCORTED BY A14/Fl.

GP-4 7. Next SITREP will contain details of

above from

RELEASED BY

Dequan Fuller

liaison officer

Just returned

from area of *CPNS*
~~121200Z~~

~~DECLASSIFIED~~

DECLASSIFIED

913

CON: 2045

IMMEDIATE

192754Z

MAF-15
DIU-10
WING-33/pty

DRAFTER RCD
SECT G-3 PHONE 3
TRANS TOD
CWO

FROM: CG III MAF
TO: COMUSMACV
ADMINS FFPAC

INFO: CAC
CINCPAC
CINCPACFLT
CG FMFPAC/I MAC (FWD)
CG THIRD MARDIV (FWD)
CG FIRST MAW (ADV)
CTF SEVEN NINE

CTF SEVEN SIX
ADMINS THIRD MARDIV
COMDT MCS
CTE 70.2.1.1
USS VANCOUVER (LPD-2)
CG TASK FORCE ALPHA
CG I CORPS ADV GRP

SECRET/THREAT

DECLASSIFIED

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III MAF SPECIAL SITREP NUMBER 8 PERIOD 192000H TO 192300H FOR OPERATION

STAR LITE (VAN TUONG COMPLEX)

1. POSITIONS REPORTED IN PARA 3. (INTENTIONS) SPECIAL SITREP 7 HAVE BEEN CHANGED DUE TO REVISED PLANNING FOR OPERATIONS ON 20 AUG. NEW POSITIONS FOLLOW:

- A. BLT 3/3 NIGHT DEFENSIVE POSITION VIC (BS 720944) VIC (BS 7193).
- B. BLT 2/4 NIGHT DEFENSIVE POSITIONS LINE FROM (BS 711968) TO (BS 713974) VIC (BS 7097)
- C. BLT 3/7 NIGHT DEFENSIVE POSITIONS IN AN CUONG (BS 700927) VIC GRID SQUARE (BS 6992).

ADDITIONALLY, ON 20 AUGUST IN ORDER TO CAPITALIZE ON THE SUCCESS OF THE SWEEP OF THE VAN TUONG COMPLEX 18-19 AUGUST, III MAF PLANS TO REMAIN IN THE OBJECTIVE AREA FOR AT LEAST AN ADDITIONAL 48-72 HOURS. DURING THIS PERIOD III MAF FORCES WILL CONDUCT SEARCH AND CLEAR OPERATIONS IN ORDER TO ELIMINATE REMAINING ISOLATED VC RESISTANCE, AND MAKE A THOROUGH SEARCH FOR

ACT/DECLASSIFIED

25/19/1965

PAGE 1 OF 3 PAGES

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CONFIDENTIAL

INTELLIGENCE INFO AND COLLECT VC WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT.

2. INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. BY 191400H, ORGANIZED VIET CONG RESISTANCE IN THE VAN TUONG VILLAGE COMPLEX HAD CEASED. MARINES WERE OPPOSED BY THE 1ST VC REGIMENT, A FIRST LINE FORCE WITHIN I CTZ. ELEMENTS OF THE 1ST VC REGIMENT CONFIRMED BY VCC AND USMC UNITS AS HAVING TAKEN PART IN THE BATTLE INCLUDED THE 45TH, 60TH, 80TH AND 90TH BATTALIONS. THESE ARE THE SAME UNITS WHICH PARTICIPATED IN THE BA GIA ACTION ON 29 MAY 1965. PRELIMINARY REPORTS INDICATE VIET CONG SUFFERED OVER 564 KIAS, SEVERAL HUNDRED WIAS AND 82 VCC. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT MANY MORE VIET CONG PERISHED IN THE TUNNELS AND CAVES WHICH WERE SEALED OR DEMOLISHED BY ADVANCING MARINES. VIET CONG ARMAMENT INCLUDED 57 AND 75 MM RECOILLESS RIFLES, 60 AND 81 MM MORTARS, SATCHEL CHARGES, AND A VARIETY OF SMALL ARMS INCLUDING U.S., FRENCH, AND CHICOM MODELS. THE EXACT NUMBER OF CAPTURED WEAPONS IS STILL UNDETERMINED AS REPORTS CONTINUE TO BE RECEIVED. VIET CONG CAPTIVES STATED THAT THE COMBINATION OF USMC AIR AND ARTILLERY, AND NAVAL GUNFIRE SUPPORT RESULTED IN HEAVY CASUALTIES. A VCC, KNOWN PERSONALLY TO ^{AN OFFICER IN THE} 2D DIVISION (ARVN) G-2 ~~SECTION~~ WHO CONSIDERS HIS INFORMATION RELIABLE, STATES THAT THE 2D COMPANY, 45TH BATTALION "WAS DESTROYED BY USMC" FORCES. HE FURTHER STATED THAT USMC AIR STRIKES AGAINST NAM YEN RESULTED IN 30 VC KIAS, INCLUDING A UNIT POLITICAL OFFICER. TWO OTHER VCC GAVE SEPARATE ESTIMATES OF "200 VC KIA AND POSSIBLY 400" BY SUPPORTING ARMS IN ONE AREA. AN AGENT FROM DONG CO VILLAGE STATES HE CAN CONFIRM "53 VC KIA AND 7 WIA" BY ARTILLERY IN ANOTHER AREA. THE 7TH / MARINES REPORT THAT THE VILLAGE OF VAN TUONG (1) WAS A HEAVILY FORTIFIED COMBAT HAMLET AND APPEARED TO HOUSE THE COMMAND CENTER FOR THE VIET CONG FORCES IN THE AREA. IN ADDITION TO COMMUNICATION WIRE AND HANDSETS FOR

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RADIOS AND FIELD PHONES, SEVERAL PACKS AND STORES OF AMMUNITION, RICE AND CORN WERE UNCOVERED. MARINE UNITS REPORT A HIGH DEGREE OF COOPERATION FROM THE LOCAL POPULACE. CIVILIANS POINT OUT VIET CONG CONCENTRATIONS, FORTIFICATIONS, CAVES AND TUNNELS. VIET CONG'S DEFENSE OF THE VAN TUONG COMPLEX WAS TENACIOUS AND INDICATED A HIGH DEGREE OF TRAINING AND DISCIPLINE. THE MOVEMENT AND DEPLOYMENT OF REGIMENTAL SIZE FORCES CONFIRMS PREVIOUS INFORMATION THAT THE VIET CONG COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM HAS ATTAINED A HIGHER DEGREE OF SOPHISTICATION THAN HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN APPARENT.

3. AIR ACTIVITY.

A. CAS/1D

(1) 12 A1 SORTIES WERE UTILIZED FOR AIRBORNE ALERT IN SUPPORT OF GROUND FORCES. SIX AIRPLANES WERE CALLED IN ON STRIKES, EXPENDING 1600 ROUNDS OF 20MM SHELLS AND 19 ROCKETS.

(2) FOUR F4 SORTIES WERE UTILIZED FOR INTERDICTION IN THE II CORPS AREA, EXPENDING 3 TONS OF NAPALM AND 120 ROCKETS.

B. HELICOPTER.

TWELVE UH-34D HELICOPTER WERE UTILIZED FOR RESUPPLY MED LVAC AND TROOP MOVEMENTS. EIGHT OF THE HELICOPTER RETURNED TO DA NANG AT 2115 LEAVING FOUR TO BE UTILIZED FOR EMERGENCY RESUPPLY AND MED EVAC.

GP-4

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CCN: 2046

FLASH 1917562

FROM: CG III MAF
TO: COMUSMACV
CG 3D MARDIV (FWD)
CG FIRST MAN (ADV)
CTF 76
CTG 76.5

MAF-15
DIV-10
WING-33/TTT
4TH MAR-21/TTT
(-T 7TH MAR)

DRAFTER RCD
SECT G-3 PHONE 3
TRANS TOD
CWO

INFO: COMSEVENT FLT
CG 2D AIR DIV
CTF 77
CG TASK FORCE ALPHA
CO I CORPS ADV GRP
CO 7TH MARINES
CO 4TH MARINES

CTE 70.2.1.1
CTG 70.8
CTG 76.2
CTG 77.5
CTG 78.5
USS GALVESTON
USS ORLECK

DECLASSIFIED

Operation

DECLASSIFIED

OPERATION STAR LITE (VAN TUONG COMPLEX)

1. THIS IS TO ADVISE ALL CONCERNED THAT IN ORDER TO CAPITALIZE ON THE SUCCESS OF THE SWEEP OF THE VAN TUONG COMPLEX 18-19 AUGUST, III MAF PLANS TO REMAIN IN THE OBJECTIVE AREA FOR AT LEAST AN ADDITIONAL 48-72 HOURS.

2. DURING THIS PERIOD WILL CONDUCT SEARCH AND CLEAR OPNS IN ORDER TO ELIMINATE REMAINING ISOLATED VC RESISTANCE, MAKE ROUGH SEARCH FOR INTELLIGENCE INFO AND COLLECT VC WEAPONS AND EQUIP.

3. DETAILED SPECIFIC REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL SUPPORT RE INFO OF INFO ADDES WILL BE BY SEPARATE MESSAGE.

GP-4

RELEASED BY *Deagan Fuller*

AUG 20 1965

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DECLASSIFIED

DRAFTER

SEC G-3 PROBE SERVE-3

THANKS TO

C.O.

FLASH 200022Z

FROM: CG THIRD MARDIV
TO: 4TH MARINES
7TH MARINES
ADC COMD GRP

File 1
DIV 10

4TH MAR 2/77

DECLASSIFIED
SECRET

DECLASSIFIED

FRAG ORD R 3-65

1. PLAN RETRACTION OF 2/4 AND 3/3 THIS DATE.
2. PLAN DEPLOYMENT OF 1/7 THIS DATE TO REPLACE FORCES RETRACTED.
3. UPON RETURN TO CHU LAI ENCLAVE CHOP 2/4 AND 3/3 TO 4TH MARINES.
4. UPON DEPLOYMENT FROM CHU LAI CHOP 1/7 TO 7TH MARINES.
5. REQ YOU PASS THIS MSG TO DIV G-3 REP FOR INFO.
6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

GP-4

CCN 2065

RELEASED BY

D. H. Sherrill

TOD/20/0221Z
#1 Aug 65
SSO

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AUG 20 1965

20
36
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22
Copy 5 of 13
DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

DRAFTER
SECT G-3 PHONE PARCHEMENT 3
TRAIS TOD
CWO

GOV: 2092

FLASH 2005222

FROM: CG III MAF
TO: COMUSMACV
ADMINO FMFPAC

DECLASSIFIED

File 1
MAF 15
DID 10
LWING 175

INFO: CMC
CINCPAC
CINCPACFLT
CG FMFPAC/I MAC (FWD)
CG THIRD MARDIV (FWD)
CG FIRST MAW (ADV)
CIT SEVEN NINE
COMSEVENTHFLT

CIT SEVEN SIX
ADMINO THIRD MARDIV
CNDT MCS
CITE 70.2.1.1
USS VANCOUVER (LFD-2)
CG TASK FORCE ALPHA
CG I CORPS ADV CRP

DECLASSIFIED

FLASH

NAR

III MAF SPECIAL SITREP NUMBER 9 PERIOD 192301 TO 200800H FOR OPERATION
STAR LINE (VAN TUONG COMPLEX)

1. SUMMARY ACTIVITY DURING REPORTING PERIOD.

A. THE AREA OF OPERATIONS REMAINED QUIET THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT WITH VC
ACTIVITY AT A MINIMUM. ISOLATED SNIPERFIRE, NO REPORTS OF CONTACT.

2. NAVAL GUNFIRE

A. USS GALVESTON FIRED FIVE ROUNDS 5 INCH 38 RE ON SUSPECTED VC POSITION
(BS 713 960).

B. U.S. CRUECK REMAINED ON-CALL

C. USS BRITCHETT SUPPORTED 7TH MARINES WITH 5" ILLUM.

3. AIR ACTIVITY. TWO GAS RESEARCHER ON-STATION THROUGHOUT NIGHT. AT 200730H
VTC COORD (BS 00010) 2 A4 RECEIVED SMALL ARMS FIRE AND SUBSEQUENTLY MADE
NAPALM ATTACK ON TARGET. USAF C-123 FLARE ACFT MAINTAINED ON-STATION DURING
HOURS OF DARKNESS.

4. 7TH MAR UNITS NOW CONDUCTING SEARCH AND CLEAR OPS. NO CONTACTS REPORTED.

CP-4

AUG 20 1965

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DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

CON: 2103

IMMEDIATE 2006103

FROM: CG III MAF
TO: COMUSMACV
ADMINSO FIVEPAC

INFO: GMC
CINCPAC
CINCPACFLT
CG FIVEPAC/I MAC (FWD)
CG THIRD MARDIV (FWD)
CG FIRST MAW (ADV)
CTF SEVEN NINE
COMSEVENTHFLT

(I CORPS ADV GRP)

MAF-LS
DIU-10
WING-

SECT G-5
TRANS TO
CNO

PHONE 3

CTF SEVEN SIX
~~ADMINSO THIRD MARDIV~~
CMT MCS
CIE 70.2.1.1
USS VANCOUVER (LPD-2)
CG TASK FORCE ALPHA
CG I CORPS ADV GRP

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SECRET

III MAF SPECIAL SITREP NUMBER 10 PERIOD 200800H TO 201300H FOR OPERATION
STAR LITE (VAN TUONG COMPLEX)

1. SUMMARY OF GROUND ACTIVITIES IN REPORTING PERIOD

A. MOPPING-UP ACTIONS CONTINUE IN OBJECTIVE AREA. SPORADIC LIGHT
ACTIONS THROUGHOUT AS INDIVIDUALS AND SMALL GROUPS ARE FLUSHED OUT.

B. BLT 1/7 IN PROCESS OF RELIEVING BLTS 2/4 AND 3/3. BLTS 1/7 AND
3/7 WILL CONTINUE MOPPING-UP ACTIONS.

2. NAVAL GUNFIRE. 1 FIRED 66 ROUNDS 6" HIGH CAPACITY ON VC TROOP CONCEN-
TRATION WITH GOOD TARGET COVERAGE. VC CASUALTIES UNK.

3. AIR. AIR CAP CONTINUES ON STATION.

G-4

NAK

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ACTION COPY

G-3

REH

RE

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TOD / WWII

TOD / WING

20/2058

REH

2023304

2920

211965

06/10

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CCN: 2154

IMMEDIATE 201550Z

FROM: CG III MAF
TO: COMUSMACV
ADMINO FMFPAC

INFO: CMC
CINCPAC
CINCPACFLT
CG FMFPAC/I MAC (FWD)
CG THIRD MARDIV (FWD)
CG FIRST MAW (ADV)
CTF SEVEN NINE
COMSEVENTHFLT

MAF-15 (I CORPS ADV GROUP)
DIU - 10
WING - ~~20~~/HTY
DRAFTER
SECT G-3 PHONE 3
TRANS TO
CWO

CTF SEVEN SIX
COMDT MCS
GIE 70.2.1.1
USS VANCOUVER (LPD-2)
CG TASK FORCE ALPHA
CG I CORPS ADV GRP

1700
DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

III MAF SPECIAL SITREP NUMBER 11 PERIOD 201300H TO 202100H FOR OPERATION
STAR LITE (VAN TUONG COMPLEX) **REN**

1. RELIEF OF BLTS 2/4 AND 3/3 BY BLT 1/7 COMPLETED AT 202000H. BLT 2/4
AND 3/3 AT CHU LAI, BLT 1/7 IN NIGHT TACTICAL POSITION IN VAN TUONG COMPLEX **R**
VIC COORD (BS 725945). BLT 3/7 REMAINS VIC (BS 698928).

2. NAVAL GUNFIRE

A. DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD, USS ORLICK DD 886 FIRED 33 RDS 5 IN
HE AT TROOPS IN OPEN (BS 718949).

B. USS GALVESTON CLG 3 AND USS PRITCHETT DD 561 INTEND TO SAIL AT
210800H UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED. USS ORLICK DD 886 TO REMAIN ON STATION.

C. TIMELINESS AND ACCURACY OF NAVAL GUNFIRE CONTRIBUTED IMMEASURABLY
TO THE SUCCESS OF OPERATION STAR LITE AND AGAIN PROVED THE VALUE OF THE
NAVAL GUNS IN AMPHIBIOUS OPERATIONS.

3. AIR

A. A CONTINUOUS AIRBORNE ALERT WAS MAINTAINED THROUGHOUT THE DAY.

ACTION COPY

PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES

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30 20
AUG 21 1965

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B. SORTIES FLOWN DURING PERIOD 192400H TO 202100H.

A4/F4 64

KC-130 3

RF-8A 3

DECLASSIFIED

4. INTENTIONS. BLT'S 1/7 AND 3/7 WILL CONTINUE ~~SEARCH AND DESTROY~~ MOPPING
UP OPERATIONS WITH MISSION OF SEEKING OUT REMAINING VC AND ~~TO DESTROY~~ VC
FORTIFICATIONS AND FACILITIES. 3D VIETNAMESE MARINE BATTALION AND 3d
BATTALION, 51ST REGIMENT, ARVN, WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO VAN TUONG COMPLEX
ON 21 AUGUST FOR A PERIOD OF ABOUT TWO DAYS TO ASSIST IN ~~THE~~ SEARCH AND
DESTRUCTION PHASE OF THE OPERATION. THESE TWO BATTALIONS HAVE WORKED
PREVIOUSLY WITH THE U.S. MARINES.

5. VC CASUALTIES. ACTUAL BODY COUNT REMAINS AT 451 REVISED FIGURES NOT
YET RECEIVED.

GP-4

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Dequan Fuller

TOP/WWIT
21/0108 JRA

TOP/WING
210103H RCH

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PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES

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DRAFTER 3:DRJ:rlt
SEC G-3 PHONE SHOVE-3
TRANS TOD
CJO

IMMEDIATE 210124Z

FROM: CG THIRD MARDIV
TO: CO SEVENTH MARINES
CO FOURTH MARINES
INFO: CG III MAF

File 1
DIV 10
MAF 15
WING 1

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A. III MAF 200234Z

HAS BEEN SENT

1. TO SEVENTH MARINES: YOUR FORAC. PHOTOGRAPHER WILL REPORT YOUR CP.

UNABLE PROVIDE OTHER TECHNICAL ASST. FOLLOW GUIDANCE REF A. (P)

2. TO FOURTH MARINES: PROVIDE INFORMATION REQUIRED FROM WITNESSES
YOUR COILAND PARTICIPATING OPERATION "STARLITE" AS REQUESTED BY CO
SEVENTH MARINES.

GP-4

CCN

2166

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210120

AUG 22 1965

2101

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CON: 2177

IMMEDIATE: 210240Z

FROM: CG III MAF
TO: COMUSMACV
ADMINO FMFPAC

DE: [REDACTED] CHG
SECT: G-3 PHONE: 3
TRANS: TO
CNO

DIV 10
FILE 1
MAF 15
WING 01/179

INFO: CMC
CINCPAC
CINCPACFLT
CG FMFPAC/I MAC (FWD)
CG THIRD MARDIV (FWD)
CG FIRST MAF (ADV)
CIT SEVEN NINE
COMSEVENTHFLT

CIT SEVEN SIX
CMDT MCS
CITE 70.2.1.1
USS VANCOUVER (LPD-2)
CG TASK FORCE ALPHA
CG I CORPS ADV GRP

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~~DECLASSIFIED~~

III MAF SPECIAL SITREP NUMBER 12 PERIOD 202100H TO 210700H FOR OPERATION
STAR LITE (VAN TUONG COMPLEX)

1. 1ST BN, 7TH MARINES AND 3D BN, 7TH MARINES ~~IN~~ DEFENSIVE POSNS
DURING THE NIGHT IN
VAN TUONG VILLAGE COMPLEX. NGF AND ARTILLERY PROVIDED ON CALL, ILLUMI-

NATION, AND H&I FIRES DURING THE HOURS OF DARKNESS. AT 202355H ^{ONE} ~~WENT~~

ROUND NGF WOUNDED TWO AND KILLED ONE USMC. AT 210440H 1ST BN, 7TH
MARINES CP, COMPANIES A, B, AND FIFTY PERCENT COMPANY C LOCATED VIC

(BS 718942). FIFTY PERCENT COMPANY C, 1ST BN, 7TH MARINES LOCATED AT
RECT CP VIC (BS 702913). 3D BN, ~~7TH MARINES~~ CP, COMPANIES I, L AND M,

3D BN, 7TH MARINES VIC (BS 703934). COMPANY K, 3D BN, 7TH MARINES
REMAINS ABOARD SHIP. MOPPING UP AND TIDYING BATTLEFIELD
CONTINUES IN THIS 20 SQUARE MILE AREA.

2. DURING OPERATION STAR LITE NINE M-48 TANKS, ONE M-67 FLAME TANK,
FIFTEEN LVT'S, ONE LVT (C&D) AND EIGHT M-50A1 ONTO'S WERE USED.

3. USMC CASUALTIES KIA 45, WIA 209, 1 MIA.

4. VC CASUALTIES, 564 KIA (BODY COUNT), VCC/VCS 108, INTERROGATION CON-
TINUING.

PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES

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5. ARVN OPNS IN CONJUNCTION WITH OPN STAR LITE. ARVN CODE NAME TU LUC 168.

A. ARVN TASK ORG INCL 3D VIETNAMESE MARINE BN, 2D BN 51ST REGIMENT, 3 PLTS 105/155 MM, 4/3RD ARM PERS CARRIER TROOP, ONE CO 3D BN 5TH REGIMENT. 11TH RANGER BN IN RESERVE AT QUANG NAI.

B. ARVN FORCES AREA OF OPNS BOUNDED BY (BS 6093) (BS 6893) (BS 6082) (BS 6882) ATTACK NORTH EAST, PLANNED 2 DAY OPN, COMMENCED 210600H. NO REPORTED CONTACT.

6. FOUR SCOUT DOGS W/HANDLERS FURNISHED USMC FORCES IN OPN STAR LITE BY ARVN TO ASSIST IN FERRETING OUT REMAINING VC.

GP-4

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10D/WW1
210200
TOD/WING
212054H RFA

~~DECLASSIFIED~~

SECT

CMD CTR

THE E 105

CCN 22 04

IMMEDIATE 21065

FROM: CG III MAF
TO: III MAF COLLECTIVE

THIS READDRESSES COMUSMACV 191411Z AUG65 AS INDICATED ABOVE

THIS SHEET BECOMES UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL OF BASIC MESSAGE

RELEASED BY

File 1
MAF 15
DIV 10
WING 33/MTF
FNCCSA 100
COMMSPTCO 2
DET "J" 2
FORECOMCO 2
30 MAR 2/MTF
5TH MAR 2/MTF
9TH MAR 2/MTF
12TH MAR 6
3D RECON 1
3D ENGR 4
HQ BN 1
I CORPS 3
FLSG 10-T-3D SVC BN
30 SP BN
7TH MT BN

SUBJ: CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

FM COMUSMACV 177 230

NY CCCCC

O 210650Z

FM CG III MAF

TO III MAF

O 191411Z

FM COMUSMACV

TO CG III MAF

BT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~DECLASSIFIED~~ 2910, FROM GENERAL WESTMORELAND.
FOR GENERAL WALT.

SUBJ: CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU AND MEMBERS OF YOUR COMMAND ON
THE SUCCESSFUL OPERATION SOUTH OF CHU LAI. YOUR PERFORMANCE
HAS DEMONSTRATED PLANNING AND TACTICAL EXECUTION OF THE
HIGHEST PROFESSIONAL STANDARD. THE RESULTS SPEAK FOR
THEMSELVES.

GP-A

BT

7.11/11/65
210650Z

DECLASSIFIED
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JUL 22 1965

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

CGN: 2218

IMMEDIATE: 210752Z

FROM: CG III MAF
TO: COMUSMACV
ADMINO FMFPAC

INFO: CMG
CINCPAC
CINCPACFLT
CG FMFPAC/I MAC (FWD)
CG THIRD MARDIV
CG FIRST MAW (ADV)
GTF SEVEN NINE

CTF SEVEN SIX
GMDT MCS
CTE 70.2.1.1
USS VANCOUVER (LPD-2)
CG TASK FORCE ALPHA
CG I CORPS ADV GRP

DRAFTER

SECT G-3

TRANS TOD

CMG

DECLASSIFIED

File

MAF

DIV

WING

L

15

10

33/100

DECLASSIFIED

SUBJ: PRESIDENTIAL QUESTIONS: OPERATION STAR LITE

A. COMUSMACV GED CDR TELECON "PRESIDENTIAL INQUIRY"

1. ARVN PARTICIPATION:

A. WITH U. S. FORCES IN OPERATION STAR LITE.

(1) 4 SCOUT DOG TEAMS DURING PERIOD 21 AND 22 AUGUST.

(2) I CORPS INTERROGATION TEAM HAS PARTICIPATED SINCE THE INCEPTION OF THE OPERATION AND WILL CONTINUE UNTIL INTERROGATION OF PRISONERS IS COMPLETED.

(3) RF AND PF UNITS FROM THE BINH SON DISTRICT

B. ARVN UNITS PARTICIPATING IN OPERATION TU LUG 168, A COOPERATIVE ARVN OPERATION THAT COMMENCED 210600H IN THE ADJACENT AREA TO THE WEST OF THE OPERATION STAR LITE AREA, ARE:

3RD VIETNAMESE MARINE BATTALION

2D BATTALION 51ST REGIMENT

4TH ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIER TROOP, 3D SQUADRON

3 PLATOONS OF 105/155 MM HOWITZERS.

1 COMPANY, 3D BN, 5TH REGIMENT

11TH RANGER BN IN RESERVE.

ACTION COPY
G-3

AUG 22 1965

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2. U. S. UNITS TO BE WITHDRAWN.

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A. FOLLOWING UNITS HAD BEEN WITHDRAWN FROM OPERATION STAR LITE BY 202015H.

- (1) BMT 2/4 HELILIFTED TO CHU LAI
- (2) BMT 3/3 HELILIFTED TO GREEN BEACH THEN MOVED BY LST TO CHU LAI
- (3) USS GALVESTON GLG-3 (210800H)
- (4) USS PRITCHETT DD-561 (210800H)

NOTE: BMT 1/7 AND 3/7 REMAIN IN AREA.

B. IT IS TENTATIVELY PLANNED TO TERMINATE OPERATION STAR LITE ON 22 AUGUST 1965. ALL REMAINING COMBAT, COMBAT SUPPORT, AND SERVICE SUPPORT UNITS WILL BE WITHDRAWN AND RETURNED TO PREVIOUS DUTIES AT THAT TIME.

3. CASUALTIES.

A. LATEST KNOWN U.S. CASUALTIES ARE:

- (1) USMC/USN 45 KIA, 209 WIA, 1 MIA.

B. KNOWN VC CASUALTIES ARE ⁵⁶⁴ KIA (CONFIRMED), 108 VCC/VCS.C. ^{FINAL} REPORTS HAVE NOT YET BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE FIELD AND ALL CASUALTY FIGURES ARE INCOMPLETE AT THIS TIME.

4. REMAINING RESISTANCE, ETC.

A. NO ORGANIZED RESISTANCE HAS BEEN ENCOUNTERED SINCE THE COMPLETION OF THE ASSAULT PHASE ON 19 AUG. VC REMAINING IN THE AREA CONSIST OF SMALL GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS HIDING IN CAVES, BUNKERS, TUNNELS AND SPIDER HOLES, WHO INFREQUENTLY SNIPE AT U. S. FORCES. THERE HAVE BEEN NO MAJOR CONTACTS.

B. THE PRESENT OPERATION CONSISTS OF PHYSICALLY SEARCHING THE AREA TO FLUSH OUT VC. THE 4 SCOUT DOGS WITH HANDLERS FURNISHED BY THE CG I CORPS WILL MATERIALLY AID IN THIS SEARCH.

CP-4

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Deagan Fuller

PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES

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SECRET

DECLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~

CCN: 2264

DRAFTER
SEC G-3 PHONE Shove 3
TRANS TOL
CWO

FLASH 2/14/24Z

FROM: CG, THIRD MARDIV
TO: CO, SEVENTH MARINES

// SECRET //

OPERATION STARLITE

HAS BEEN SENT

A. CG, III MAF 211150Z

1. CONTINUE CPNS ASHORE WITH RECON IN FORCE TOWARD HILL 128
(BS 688872) AND MOP UP OF VAN TUONG VILLAGES (BS 705950).
2. CONCEPT OF OPNS CONTAINED IN REF (A).

GP-4

CCN

2264

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CB5
82

~~20/4 MAR~~
~~24/055~~ CB5

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28/10/24
28/1/2335

FLASH

21/1424
~~SECRET~~
JUL 22 1965

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CIV 2266IMMEDIATE 221516Z(T-ICORPS ADV GRN)
MAF-15
DIU-10
WING-33/114DRAFTER
SECT 4-3 PHONE 3
TRANS TO
CWOFROM: CG III MAF
TO: COMUSMACV
ADMINO FMFPACINFO: CMC
CINCPAC
CINCPACFLT
CG FMFPAC/I MAC (FWD)
CG THIRD MARDIV
CG FIRST MAW (ADV)
CTF SEVEN NINE
COMSEVENTHFLTCTF SEVEN SIX
CMT MCSCG TASK FORCE ALPHA
CG I CORPS ADV GRP

SECRET (25)

//SECRET//

III MAF SPECIAL SITREP NUMBER 13 PERIOD 210700H TO 212300H FOR OPERATION

STAR LITE (VAN TUONG COMPLEX)

1. OPERATION STAR LITE

A. GROUND.

(1) BLT 1/7 AND BLT 3/7 (-) CONTINUED SEARCH AND CLEAR OPERATIONS DESTROYING CAVES, TUNNELS AND SPIDER HOLES. SPORADIC SHIPING CONTINUED WITH NO REPORTED USMC CASUALTIES.

(2) CURRENT POSITIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

CP 7TH MAR (BS 703922)

CP BLT 1/7 (BS 715938)

CP BLT 3/7 (BS 694928)

B. VC CASUALTIES:

KIA 599 CONFIRMED

VCG 6

VCS 22 (4 WOUNDED)

VCS CLEARED AND RELEASED 94

WEAPONS CAPTURED 83

SECRET
ACTION COPY
G-3
22
18 OF 26
JUL 22 1965

SECRET

C. PLANS.

(1) ON 22 AUG 1/7 WILL CONTINUE MOPPING UP IN VIC VAN TUONG VILLAGES (BS 705950).

(2) REMAINING RIFLE COMPANY OF 3/7 WILL BE LANDED FROM SLF.

(3) BLT 3/7 WILL RECONNOITER IN FORCE TOWARDS HILL 128 (BS 688872).

2. ARVN OPERATION TU LOC 168

A. ARVN FORCES SWEEPING EASTWARD HAVE ENCOUNTERED LIGHT RESISTANCE COORD (BS 630922) AND (BS 639903). HAVE ENCOUNTERED NO MAJOR CONTACT WITH ORGANIZED VC. VC CASUALTIES 6 KIA, 1 VCO KIA. SIX WEAPONS CAPTURED. ARVN CASUALTIES 1 WIA. FOUR B-57 PRE-STRUCK NINE PIN POINT TARGETS IN OBJECTIVE AREA.

B. NIGHT DEFENSIVE POSITIONS ARE:

CP 51ST REGIMENT (BS 602723)

105MM HOW BTRY (BS 602723)

VIETNAMESE

3D MARINE BN (BS 657930)

1/3/5 AND 4/3 APC TROOP (BS 646929)

2/51 (BS 655918)

GP-4

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Dequillo
BT

TOP/WWI
22/00/16 7/10

TOP/WING

72

SECRET

JUL 22 1965

DRAFTER BY 3:DP.:wmr
 SEC G-3 PHONE SHOVE-3
 TRANS TOD
 CWO

IMMEDIATE 221944Z

FM CG THIRD MARDIV
 TO CO SEVENTH MARINES
 INFO CG III MAF
 CG 1st MAW
 CG FOURTH MARINES

File
 DIV
 MAF
 WING
 4th MAR
 7th MAR

1
 8
 15
 33/MT
 2/MT
 2/MT

SECRET

//SECRET//

OPERATION STARLITE

1. BE PREP ON MY ORDER CONCLUDE OPNS IN OBJ AREA ON 24AUG65, COMMENCE RETRACTION ALL FORCES AT TIME DESIGNATED BY YOU, CLOSE CHU LAI TAOR OR SLF SHIPPING PRIOR DARK; ON RETRACTION CONDUCT OVERLAND MOVEMENT THROUGH TRUNG PHAN PENINSULA IN FORCE NOT LESS ONE INF BN. DESTROY ENEMY FORCES ENCOUNTERED EN ROUTE.
2. SUBMIT AIR REQUIREMENTS PRIOR 231600.
3. FOR FOURTH MARINES: PASS TO ADC CMD GRP.

HAS BEEN SENT

CCN 2335

RELEASED BY D. W. Sherman

AUG 24 1965

47th MAR

700 / 7 MAR

231040

SECRET

COPY 1 OF 3 COPIES

2268

23/0540

1944

DRAFTER BY 3:DPW:UNT
 SEC G-3 PHONE SHOVE-3
 TRANS TOD
 CWO

FLASH

~~TERMINATION~~240656Z

FL CG 3D MARDIV
 TC CO, 7TH MAR
 CO, 4TH MAR
 INFO CG III MAF
 CG 1ST MAW

DIV-10

MAF-15

7TH MAR-2/TTY

4TH MAR-2/TTY

WING-33/TTY

CONFIDENTIAL

TERMINATION OPERATION STARLITE

1. TERMINATE OPERATION STARLITE 241600H AUG.
2. ADDRES RESUME MISSIONS IN ACCORDANCE MY OPN ORDER 327-65
3. FOR FOURTH MARINES: PASS TO ADC CMD GRP.

GP-4

FLASH

CCN

2508

RELEASED BY

D. H. Sherman

46
 70P
 HAS 241600H SENT

86

TOD 7 MAR

241510 PC
 71002 1.30 protect CO 4TH MAR

AUG 24 1965

24 06 56

VV EFC407VV FCC108

OO RUMFUAQ

DE RUMFCR 251B 2382245

ZNY CCCCC

O 261312Z

13/99

FM USS PRICHETT

TO RUMSMA/COMUSMACV

INFO RUMGUX/CTG SEVEN ZERO PT EIGHT

CTU SEVEN ZERO PT EIGHT PT NINE

RUMFUU/CTF SEVEN SIX

RUMFUB/CTF SEVEN SEVEN

RUMFUU/CTF SEVEN EIGHT

RUMFL/CTF ONE ONE FIVE

RUEKDA/JCS

RUHLHQ/CINCPAC

RUHLHL/CINCPACFLT

RUMGUL/COMSEVENTHFLT

RUMFUAQ/CG 3RD MARDIV

RUMFUAK/CTG SEVEN SIX PT FIVE

RUMGCF/CTG SEVEN SIX PT TWO

BT

C O N F I D E N T I A L

NGFS IN RVN (C)

1. RESULTS OF NON-SCHEDULED MISSIONS FROM 181800H TO 241830H
OPERATION SOARLITE.

2. TGT NR 401

A. 191315H-191345H

B. BS 726941

C. TROOPS IN OPEN

D. 3RD BAT, 3RD MAR

F. 9 RDS 5"/38 AAC

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1 - FILE
8 - DIV

AUG 28 1965

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PAGE TWO RUMFCR NR 251B C O N F I D E N T I A L

G. EFFECT NOT OBS
TGT NR UNASSIGNED
A. 192100H-192107H
B. BS 718955
C. POSS VC APPROACH LANE
D. 3RD BAT, 3RD MAR
F. 4 RDS 5"/38 ILLUM
G. GOOD EFFECT
TGT NR 304
A. 192225H-192310H
B. BS 718955
C. POSS VC ASSEMBLY AREA
D. 3RD BAT, 3RD MAR
F. 4 RDS 5"/38 AAC
G. EFFECT NOT GIVEN
TGT NR 109
A. 21455H-221500H
B. BS 691891
C. VC TROOP CONCENTRATION
D. 3RD BAT, 7TH MAR

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PAGE THREE RUMFCR NR 251B C O N F I D E N T I A L

F. ONE RD 5"/38 AAC
G. RD LANDED ON TGT
TGT NR 135
A. 231036H-231049H
B. BS 687873
C. UNKNOWN
D. 3RD BAT, 3RD MAR
F. 2 RDS 5"/38 AAC
G. EFFECT NOT GIVEN
TGT NR 138
A. 231130H-231159H
B. BS 692855
C. ROAD JUNCTION
D. 3RD BAT, 3RD MAR
F. 4 RDS 5"/38 AAC
G. NO EFFECT GIVEN
TGT NR UNASSIGNED
A. 241204H-241209H
B. BS 673010
C. SEVERAL VC RAN INTO CAVE

PAGE FOUR RUMFCR NR 251B C O N F I D E N T I A L

D. 1ST BAT, 7TH MAR
F. 10 RDS 5"/38 AAC
G. EXCELLENT EFFECT ON TGT
GP-4
BT

CONFIDENTIAL

27/6820 TOR/111
R/O

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