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S &amp; C FILES

3D MARINES

00664-68

HEADQUARTERS

3d Marines

3d Marine Division (Reinf), FMF  
FPO San Francisco, 96602

3/DIH/row

5750

08 Nov 1968

Ser: 003431368

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)  
 Via: (1) Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Reinf), FMF  
 (2) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force  
 (3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 to 31 October 1968.

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A w/Ch #1  
 (b) FMFPacO 5750.8  
 (c) 3d Mar DivO 5750.1B (NOTAL)  
 (d) Maps: VIETNAM, AMS, Series L7014, L:50,000, Sheets  
 6342 I, II, III, and IV.

Encl: (1) 3d Marines Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a), (b), and (c), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. Upon removal of enclosure (1) this letter is downgraded to unclassified.

*M. M. SPARK*  
 M. M. SPARK

3d Marines

Copy 5 of 8

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HEADQUARTERS  
3d Marines  
3d Marine Division (Reinf), FMF  
FPO San Francisco, 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 to 31 October 1968

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## PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

3d Marines(-) (Reinf)

COMMANDERSCol R. L. MICHAEL JR.  
1-31 Oct2. LOCATION. Republic of Vietnam.SUBORDINATE UNITS

HqCo, 3d Marines

Capt F. R. LENNON 1-31 Oct

1st Bn, 3d Marines

LtCol R. B. TWOHEY 1-31 Oct

2nd Bn, 3d Marines

LtCol B. T. CHEN 9-31 Oct

3d Bn, 3d Marines

LtCol W. H. BATES 1-31 Oct

1st Bn, 4th Marines

LtCol T. H. GALBRAITH 1 Oct

2nd Bn, 26th Marines

LtCol W. E. SPARKS 1-16 Oct

4.

ATTACHED UNITS

None.

5. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer

LtCol J. J. MCMONAGLE 26-31 Oct

S-1

1stLt G. B. KRUCZKOWSKI 1-31 Oct

S-2

Maj J. R. GUTHEINZ 1-31 Oct

S-3

Maj D. C. ROVEGNO 1-31 Oct

ALO

Maj D. J. KIELY 1-10 Oct  
Capt R. H. MEYDEY 11-28 Oct  
Capt P. F. ANGLE 29-31 Oct

S-3A/NBC Empl Off

Capt K. E. FOX 1-27 Oct  
1stLt R. F. REILLY 28-31 Oct

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S-3A/LN Off

S-3A/LN Off

S-4

S-4A

S-4A

Regt Supply Off

MTO

Comm Off

Asst Comm Off

Regt Surgeon

Chaplain

Hq Commandant

6. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

USMC  
OFF/ENL

16/197

USN  
OFF/ENL

2/5

1stLt R. R. RICE 1-19 Oct  
1stLt J. E. PLANT 22-31 Oct

1stLt D. T. MADISON 1-26 Oct  
2ndLt W. T. HUGGETT 27-31 Oct

LtCol J. J. MCMONAGLE 1-25 Oct  
Capt J. F. X. CONNOLLY 26-31 Oct

1stLt W. J. QUIGLEY 1-31 Oct  
Capt J. F. X. CONNOLLY 1-25 Oct

1stLt R. G. HOWIE 1-31 Oct  
GySgt C. E. LAWLER 1-31 Oct

Capt D. J. KENT 1-30 Oct  
1stLt H. R. NOTHHAFT 31 Oct

1stLt H. R. NOTHHAFT 1-3 Oct  
Lt G. W. GREGORY, MC, USN  
1-31 Oct

LtCdr H. H. BOND 1-31 Oct

Capt F. R. LENNON 1-31 Oct

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## PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

3d Marine Regiment (Reinforced) continued extensive multi-battalion search and destroy operations in the DMZ and Mutter's Ridge area during the month of October 1968.

The month of October opened with the continuation of 1st Battalion, 3d Marine's two separate, but parallel axis sweep in the Mutter's Ridge area. Companies B and D advanced along Axis GREEN (Mutter's Ridge) with Companies A and C supporting their move along Axis BLUE. 2nd Battalion, 3d Marines pushed further on with their sweep operations southeast along the Cam Lo River Basin towards route #9. Company F operated from FSB Pete. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines assumed responsibility of Dong Ha Mountain, Khe Gio Bridge, FSB Bird, Thon Son Lam, Camp Carroll and patrol operations along route #9. 1st Battalion, 4th Marines continued to advance toward route #1022, a known road used by the NVA to move supplies and 152mm guns across an underwater bridge in the Ben Hai River.

3d Marines assumed operational control of 2nd Battalion, 26th Marines on 1 October 1968. 26th Marines took over the mission of continuing the advance along route #1022 from 1st Battalion, 4th Marines, who were helilifted to Vandegrift Combat Base. 3d Marines passed operational control of 2nd Battalion, 3d Marines minus to C. G., Task Force Hotel.

Company D, 1st Battalion, 3d Marines completed their helilift to FSB Mac, including a battery of 105mm howitzers. On the evening of 2 October, Camp Carroll received 11 rounds of 130mm artillery from the northwest. All artillery rounds impacted outside the lines with negative casualties.

On 4 October, Company K, 3d Battalion, 3d Marines helilifted from LZ Bird to Camp Carroll, relieving Company L of their responsibility for Camp Carroll, road sweep, MCB and convoy escort. Company L conducted fire exercises in preparation for an operation in Dong Ma and Dong Kio complex. Company H, 2nd Battalion, 3d Marines returned to Camp Carroll for rehabilitation. Commanding General, 3d Marine Division assumed operational control of one platoon Company B, 1st Battalion, 3d Marines, and passed operational control to C. G., III Marine Amphibious Force for duty as headquarters security.

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2nd Battalion, 26th Marines discovered two 152mm gun pits on 6 October. Located near the gun positions were 200 rounds of 152mm, ammunition, 166 fuses, 181 unexpended canisters, 26 expended canisters, and one box of increments. In the afternoon Company E, discovered one destroyed enemy halftrack capable of carrying ten to fifteen personnel or towing a 152mm gun.

Company B, 1st Battalion, 3d Marines conducted a "stay behind" operation in vicinity of LZ Marilyn, while Company A and C, continued their search and destroy operation through 7 October. Company L, 3d Battalion, 3d Marines completed their move to FSB Pete, and relieved Company F, 2nd Battalion 3d Marines.

On 8 October, 3d Marines assumed operational control of Company K, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines at FSB Winchester. 2nd Battalion, 3d Marines continued their search and destroy operation in the vicinity of Hill 461. Company F, was helilifted to LZ Catapult. Company I, 3d Battalion 3d Marines moved to Camp Carroll to relieve Company K. Company K, assumed responsibility for Khe Gio Bridge and positions along route #9. Company M, was relieved by Company A, 1st Battalion, 9th Marines for defense of Thon Son Lam.

On 9 October, Company I, 3d Battalion, 3d Marines completed their helilift to FSB Winchester relieving Company K, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines. Company K, 3d Marines relieved a platoon of Company I on Dong Ha Mountain of Khe Gio Bridge, and positions along route #9. One platoon of Company M, helilifted to FSB Catapult. 3d Marines passed operational control of Company A, 1st Battalion, 9th Marines to Commanding General, 3d Marine Division.

On 12 October, Company F, 2nd Battalion, 26th Marines found one destroyed amphibious tractor along route #1022. The road continues north across an underwater bridge in the Ben Hai River.

1st Battalion, 3d Marines completed their helilift to 2nd Battalion, 26th Marines position in the DMZ. Company B remained at FSB Mac. 3d Marines continued the mission of uncovering route #1022 by cutting trees at 300 meter intervals for future aerial reconnaissance to detect any new vehicle movement. At 161530H, 3d Marines assumed operational control of Company D, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines and passed OPCON of Company K, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines to Commanding General, 3d Marine Division. 3d Marines

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passed OPCON of 2nd Battalion, 26th Marines to Commanding General, 3d Marine Division upon completion of their helilift to C-4 and Mai Loc.

On 17 October, Company D, 3d Marines found 250, 152mm artillery rounds while checking out a bunker complex just south of the Ben Hai River. Ten artillery rounds were transported by air to 3d Marines and forty artillery rounds to Headquarters, 3d Marine Division for intelligence purposes.

In accordance with Frag Order 55-68, 3d Marines helilifted 1st Battalion from the DMZ to provide security along route #9. 2nd Battalion operating in the western DMZ was helilifted to the Cam Lo and Mai Loc area. 3d Battalion was helilifted into FSB Catapult to commence search and destroy operations to the southwest.

Company A, 1st Battalion, 3d Marines assumed responsibility for FSB Catapult and Company C for FSB Winchester. Company M and I, 3d Marines returned to Camp Carroll for future operations on 22 October. Company D relieved Company K of the responsibility for Dong Ha Mountain, Khe Gio Bridge and defense of route #9. 3d Marines assumed operational control of Company A, 9th Marines at Thon Son Lam, Company K, 9th Marines at FSB Pete. Company G, 3d Marines relieved Company D, 4th Marines of its responsibility for Camp Carroll and MCB and convoy escort. OPCON of Company D, 4th Marines was passed to Commanding General, 3d Marine Division upon return to Vandergrift Combat Base.

Company F, 2nd Battalion, 3d Marines completed their foot march to Mai Loc for operations with RF/PF units on 24 October.

On 25 October, Company H, 2nd Battalion, 3d Marines moved to Cam Lo to participate in combined action patrols with RF/PF units.

OPCON of Company L, 3d Battalion, 3d Marines and attached Recon platoon (Ringlet) was passed to Commanding General, 3d Marine Division on 30 October. Three Companies of 3d Battalion completed their helilift to Camp Carroll for rehabilitation.

On 31 October 1968, 3d Battalion, 3d Marines conducted a motor march to Con Thien and C-2 to relieve 1st Brigade, 5th Division (Mechanized). Company A, 3d Marines helilifted from FSB Catapult to Camp Carroll. OPCON of Company L, 3d Battalion was passed to Commanding General, 3d Marine Division.

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3d Marines assumed operational control of Company K, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines at TSL. A platoon from Company D, 1st Battalion, 3d Marines at Khe Gio Bridge received probes from the south by an estimated fifteen NVA. The attack was preceded by 60mm mortar fire and small arms fire.

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## PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. Combat Missions Assigned:

a. 1-5 October 1968, 3d Marines (Rein) continued search and destroy operations in eastern Lancaster II AO to destroy enemy fortifications, supplies, and equipment, and provide security for Camp Carroll, FSB Mac, Khe Gio Bridge, Dong Ha Mtn OP, and route #9 in AO. (See Supporting Document #1, 3d Marines Frag Order 49-68).

b. 6-20 October 1968, 3d Marines (Rein) conducted search and destroy operations in northeastern Lancaster II AO, commenced search and destroy operations in western Lancaster II AO, and provided security for TSL, Camp Carroll, Khe Gio Bridge, Dong Ha Mountain OP, FSB Catapult FSB Winchester, FSB Pete and LZ Mac. (See Supporting Document #2, 3d Marines Frag Order 53-68).

c. 21-25 October 1968, 3d Marines (Rein) continued present tasks and provided security forces in Cam Lo and Delta-5 Area. (See Supporting Document #3, 3d Marines Frag Order 55-68).

d. 26-30 October 1968, 3d Marines (Rein) continued to clear Lancaster II AO of enemy forces. Additionally, 3d Marines instituted a firm pacification assistance program for Operation Rong in the Cam Lo and Huong Hoa Districts in conjunction with GVN District Forces. (See Supporting Document #4, 3d Marines Frag Order 56-68).

e. 31 October 1968, 3d Marines (Rein) assumed responsibility for Lancaster/Kentucky AO, conducted offensive operations to destroy enemy forces, maintained security for fixed installations and roads in AO, and assisted RVN forces in pacification of Cam Lo and Huong Hoa Districts. (See Supporting Document #5, 3d Marines Operation Order 5-68).

2. Significant Operations Covered.

See paragraph 1 above.

3. Casualties Inflicted on the Enemy.

a. Confirmed NVA/VC KIA 99

b. NVA POW 3

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c. Detainees (Unclassified) 2

d. Detainees released as  
Innocent Civilians 0

4. Casualties Sustained.

<u>KIA</u>	<u>WIA (MEDEVAC)</u>	<u>WIA (MINOR)</u>	<u>MIA</u>
11	115	7	0

5. New Techniques Employed. None.

6. Command Relations. During the period 01-31 October 1968, 3d Marines were OPCON to CG 3d Marine Division.

7. Equipment. Allowance of T/E equipment supporting Headquarters, 3d Marines was considered to be adequate. No recommendations for modification of allowances were received during this period.

8. Logistics.

a. General. Logistically, October was an active month for helicopter resupply of the five battalions OPCON to 3d Marines. All resupply missions were accomplished at Vandegrift Combat Base, which provides Classes I, III, IV, and V supplies to support battalions located in the Northern I Corps and DMZ Areas. All other resupply was brought from Dong Ha by convoy for the Camp Carroll Contonement.

b. Supply.

(1) The overall supply support during this period was considered adequate.

(2) Class II from Dong Ha was a problem during this period. Office supplies are in short supply and could only be obtained by sending unit representatives directly to the NSA Serv-Mart at DaNang. Examples of unavailable office supplies are white mimeograph paper, manifold carbon sets (white, pink, and green), and stamp pad ink.

c. Evacuation and Hospitalization. The Regimental Aid Station provided routine medical treatment and emergency first aid. Serious cases were evacuated to 3d Medical Battalion Hospital at Quang Tri for treatment and further evacuation.

SECRETd. Transportation.

(1) 3d Marines had a truck company located at Camp Carroll that is in general support of the 3d Marine Division consisting of twenty three 2½ ton trucks, fifteen cargo trailers and one wrecker from 3d Motor Transport Battalion. During this period the truck company was used for tactical troop and administrative troop movements and general resupply missions for 3d Marines.

(2) The Motor Transport Section, Headquarters Company was in general support of the Regimental Headquarters. This section had some problems acquiring spare parts and batteries from the supply source.

e. Service.

(1) Construction. No construction was accomplished during this period due to tactical commitments. The present allowance of generators has not been adequate to handle all the requirements at Camp Carroll. Presently there are four generators operating at Camp Carroll. They are (2) 30KW's, (1) 60KW, and (1) 20KW. There is a need for (2) 100KW's, (1) 60KW and (1) 30KW generators to adequately support the requirements of the Marine Units at Camp Carroll. In conjunction with the generators requirements, the present electrical wiring system is being surveyed by Naval Construction Battalion personnel.

(2) Laundry service provided by Vietnamese civilians in Cam Lo was very satisfactory.

(3) Maintenance. Problems continued to exist in obtaining certain first and second echelon repair parts.

(4) Sanitation. Sanitation improvements have been made at Camp Carroll in the area of the dump and mess hall during the month of October. F

9. Civic Action.

a. Headquarters Company laundry continued to operate; employing approximately 30 Vietnamese in Cam Lo village(YD 145595). Total village laundry operations were valued at \$475.00.

b. \$252.45 was collected for the Third Marine Division Childrens Hospital Fund.

c. A program to gather empty wooden ammunition boxes and 6,000 empty 12 ounce cans was initiated.

d. Five hundred pairs of socks were obtained through the Regimental Chaplain and distributed through the Cam Lo dispensary.

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e. Turned over 5 high quality, manual brick-making machines to 2d Battalion 3d Marines for use in Operation DRAGON.

f. The Regimental Surgeon inspected the dispensary at Mai Loc (YD 101515) and ordered medical supplies to institute a MedCap program.

10. Administration.

a. Discipline. One regimental and two company office hours were conducted during this period.

## b. Special Services.

(1) Cigarette lighters and/or money clips were provided to personnel rotating to CONUS.

(2) Stationary kits were provided all personnel.

c. Post Exchange facilities were available at Camp Carroll and continued to carry basic health and comfort items and other merchandise.

d. A postal unit from the Division Post Office was in operation and served all units.

11. Personnel.

a. There is a critical shortage of a Career Planning NCO, MOS 8421.

## b. Summary:

(1) Gains:	4/MCOff	18/MCEnl	0/USNOff	0/USNEEnl
(2) Losses:	5/MCOff	15/MCEnl	0/USNOff	0/USNEEnl
(3) Monthly average strength:				
	16/MCOff	196/MCEnl	2/USNOff	5/USNEEnl
(4) Net loss/gain:				
	1/0 MCOff	0/3 MCEnl	0/0 USNOff	0/0 USNEEnl

c. Awards. During the reporting period the following awards were presented:

1 Purple Heart Medal  
11 Vietnamese Crosses of Gallantry

d. Morale is considered to be excellent to outstanding. The in-country and out-of-country R&R programs were contributing factors. There were 8 in-country and 11 out-of-country R&R quotas used during this period.

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## e. Chaplain:

- (1) Chaplain assigned: LCdr Hollis H. BOND
- (2) Divine Services conducted:
  - (a) Sunday Worship - 4 with 83 attending.
  - (b) Sunday Mass - 4 with 94 attending.
- (3) Professional counseling cases: 26
- (4) Other significant activities:
  - (a) Distributed 30 paperback books to Marines throughout the Regiment.
  - (b) Conducted 10 Sunday and 18 Weekday Worship services in other commands with attendance of 317 personnel.
  - (c) Baptized 4 Marines.
- (5) Facilities: 3d Marines have a chapel built as a Southeast Asia hut, seating capacity of 50, complete with furnishings and alter appointments. No additional facilities are required.

12. Intelligence

a. Significant Events. During the early part of October, the enemy fought a delaying action along Route #1022S in the Demilitarized Zone, to cover withdrawal north across the Ben Hai River of ground elements of the 320th NVA Division and of unidentified artillery units. The largest contact was with an enemy company on 8 October. After that date, enemy activity was minor and isolated for the remainder of the month.

(1). Route 1022S had been discovered by visual aerial reconnaissance and verified by aerial photography during September. Running through the southern Demilitarized Zone from XD 964677 to XD 980685 to XD 997707, it crossed into North Vietnam over underwater bridges. Along this road, elements of 52d Regiment, 320th NVA Division, occupied a series of blocking positions during the first eight days of October. By 9 October the enemy had withdrawn across the Ben Hai River.

(2). Along Route 1022S, five enemy artillery positions were discovered. The guns had been withdrawn north, but six hundred ninety eight 152mm and ninety 85mm artillery rounds were found. The remains of two tracked vehicles that could have been used to tow artillery pieces and to haul artillery ammunition were also found. Likewise, during the period of the enemy's withdrawal, numerous vehicles were heard while the underwater bridges hit daily by air and artillery were repaired at night.

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(3). Since it completed its withdrawal, on 8 October the 320th Division has remained in North Vietnam. Enemy activity in the AO of 3d Marines then consisted of sniping and mining, coupled with infiltration and exfiltration of small groups through the area.

(4). Many new and well-used trails were discovered during operations in the extreme western portion of the AO, between 8 and 28 October. Some of the trails were well-constructed, and included handrails and steps on the steep portions. Log footbridges had been constructed across streams. Numerous bunkers and shelters were found along and near the trails, almost all of them unoccupied.

(5). Three NVA prisoners were captured during operations the West. All three had been separated from their units and were captured without difficulty. Of these prisoners, one did not know his parent unit; and one was from the 246A Regiment, which he stated was organic to the 304th Division (246th Regiment is carried as subordinate to the 338th Division). Details concerning supply routes were given by the prisoner from the transportation unit. This led to the discovery of trails, but not of supply caches.

b. <u>CONTACTS AND INCIDENTS</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>NIGHT</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
(1) <u>Small Arms/Snipers</u>			
(a) 1st Bn 3d Mar	1	2	3
(b) 2d Bn 3d Mar	7	0	7
(c) 3d Bn 3d Mar	0	1	1
(d) 3d Bn 26th Mar	8	1	9
(e) Recon	5	0	5
Totals for Month	21	4	25
(2) <u>Grenades</u>			
(a) 2d Bn 26th Mar	2	0	2
Totals for Month	2	0	2
(3) <u>Booby Traps</u>			
(a) 1st Bn 3d Mar	3	0	3
(b) 2d Bn 3d Mar	3	0	3
(c) 3d Bn 3d Mar	3	0	3
(d) 2d Bn 26th Mar	4	0	4
Totals for Month	13	0	13

SECRET(4) Sightings Where Enemy Did  
Not Fire or Return Fire

	<u>Day</u>	<u>Night</u>	<u>Total</u>
(a) 1st Bn 3d Mar	3	1	4
(b) 2d Bn 3d Mar	1	0	1
(c) 3d Bn 3d Mar	5	0	5
(d) 2d Bn 26th Mar	10	1	11
(e) Recon	4	4	8
Totals for Month	23	6	29

(5) Mortar/Arty/Rocket Fire

(a) 1st Bn 3d Mar	13	3	16
(b) 3d Bn 3d Mar (Includes Camp Carroll)	0	2	2
(c) 2d Bn 26th Mar	20	2	22
Totals for Month	33	7	40

(6) Engagements

(a) 2d Bn 26th Mar	1	0	1
Totals for Month	1	0	1

(7) Miscellaneous

(a) 1st Bn 3d Mar	10	6	16
(b) 2d Bn 3d Mar	6	0	6
(c) 3d Bn 3d Mar	11	5	16
(d) 2d Bn 26th Mar	19	11	30
(e) Recon	9	5	14
(f) A.O.	17	0	17
Totals for Month	72	27	99

c. ENEMY LOSSES(1) Personnel

## (a) Confirmed

1 KIA-99  
2 PW-3

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SECRET(2) Material(a) Weapons

- 1 AK-47 -- 5
- 2 RPG -- 2
- 3 60mm Tube -- 1
- 4 .30cal -- 1
- 5 SKS -- 3

(b) Ammunition

- 1 152mm rds -- 698
- 2 152mm fuses -- 166
- 3 RPG rds -- 36
- 4 82mm rds -- 73
- 5 82mm fuses -- 3
- 6 60mm rds -- 5
- 7 85mm rds -- 90
- 8 85mm fuses -- 12
- 9 AK-47 rds -- 2,310
- 10 12.7mm rds -- 9,218
- 11 .50cal -- 8 cases

(c) Demolitions

- 1 TNT -- approx 15 lbs
- 2 Chicom Grenades -- 34
- 3 Mines -- 30 directional type

(d) Weapon Accessories

- 1 RPG Carrier -- 1
- 2 Ammo Pouch -- 1
- 3 AK-47 Magazines -- 14

(e) Food

- 1 Rice -- 17,300 lbs
- 2 Sugar -- 1 bag
- 3 Oil -- 1 bottle

(f) Documents

- 1 Diaries -- 2
- 2 Letters and Miscellaneous Doc
- 3 I.D. Cards -- 2
- 4 Flags -- 2
- 5 Map -- 1



SECRET(g) 782 Gear

- 1 Ponchos -- 2
- 2 Gas Masks -- 9
- 3 Entrenching tools -- 7
- 4 Picks -- 2
- 5 Helmets -- 8
- 6 Utilities
- 7 Bayonet -- 1
- 8 Lantern -- 1
- 9 Canteen -- 1

(h) Medical Supplies

- 1 Medical Kits -- 10
- 2 Plasma -- 4 cans
- 3 Battle wraps -- several
- 4 Aspirin -- 500 tablets

(i) Discovered/Destroyed, Fortifications and Positions

- 1 Bunkers -- 465
- 2 Foxholes -- approx 70
- 3 AW Positions -- 4

d. Enemy Units Observed during the Reporting Period

<u>TYPE OF UNIT</u>	<u>GRID</u>	<u>DATE OF MONTH</u>
2 NVA	018621	1 Oct
1 NVA	977687	2
2 NVA	994691	3
2 Enemy	993677	9
3 NVA	990693	8
25 NVA	988689	8
20 NVA	987688	9
1 NVA	989688	9
1 NVA	959702	9
6 NVA	014684	11
2 Enemy	937611	11
1 NVA	852629	12
1 NVA	992651	13
1 NVA	895595	14
5 NVA	956598	15
1 NVA	985567	19
2 NVA	916634	21
2 NVA	003642	27

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<u>TYPE OF UNIT</u>	<u>GRID</u>	<u>DATE OF MONTH</u>
5 Enemy	098446	27
10 Enemy	12 7458	27
2 Enemy	891556	28
1 NVA	1656	30
7 Enemy	084475	30

13. Communicationsa. General

(1) The Regimental Communications Platoon continued to support 3d Marines with continuous and reliable communications.

(2) During this period, the Message Center processed a total of 2428 messages. Of these 1851 were received and 557 were transmitted. Of the total twenty messages were handled by courier.

b. Listing of Events.

(1) 7 Oct. - A two man radio team was emplaced at Landing Zone Catapult to insure communications with 3d Battalion, 3d Marines.

(2) 15 Oct. - A radio relay shot (AN/TRC-27) was established from Camp Carroll to Quang Tri. This provided the Battalion rear areas at Quang Tri with two direct channels each to Regimental Headquarters at Camp Carroll.

14. Weather

a. Weather during October consisted of periods of almost continuous rain which lasted about a week, periods of scattered showers, visibility was severely limited; it was sometimes as low as 0 in the mountainous portion of the 3d Marines AO. Visibility was also restricted by daily early morning fog.

b. Temperatures during October were slightly lower than in September, while humidity was slightly higher. Winds shifted, as the northeast monsoon season began, but the wind velocity remained moderate. Statistics were as follows:

- (1) Average high temperature - 85 Degrees
- (2) Average low temperature - 72 Degrees
- (3) Average humidity - 81%
- (4) Average daily rainfall 0.42 inches at Camp Carroll.

SECRET

c. During periods of reduced visibility, which were long and frequent, air support was limited. Helicopter lifts, in particular, were often postponed or delayed by the weather. Ground operations were only slightly hampered by the rain.

15. Fire Supporta. Units Providing Artillery Support(1) Direct Support

A/1/12  
 B/1/12  
 C/1/12  
 W/1/12  
 F/2/12  
 B/1/13  
 1st Prov 155 Howitzer (Towed)  
 2nd Prov 155 Howitzer (Towed)

(2) General Support

K/4/12  
 L/4/12  
 M/4/12  
 5th Prov. 155 Guns  
 108th Field Artillery  
 1st 8" Howitzers

b. Displacements

03 Oct 68 A-1-12 from TSL to FSB MAC  
 03 Oct 68 B-1-13 from FSB BIRD to TSL  
 09 Oct 68 B-1-13 from TSL to FSB MAC  
 10 Oct 68 B-1-12 from FSB PETE to FSB WINCHESTER  
 16 Oct 68 C-1-12 from Camp Carroll to FSB CATAPULT  
 23 Oct 68 A-1-12 from FSB MAC to CAMP CARROLL  
 31 Oct 68 A-1-12 from Camp Carroll to TSL  
 31 Oct 68 C-1-12 from FSB CATAPULT to C-2

c. MissionsOpn Lancaster II

Observed	1042
Unobserved	418
Harrassing	984

SECRET

d.	<u>Ammunition Expended</u>	<u>Opn Lancaster II</u>
105	HE	24,755
	WP	1,111
	ILL	516
	FC	88
	BH	91
	HC SMOKE	142
107	HE	235
	WP	19
	ILL	11
155	HE	11,763
	WP	487
	ILL	357
	FC	12
155 Guns	HE	672
	WP	9
8" How	HE	645
175 Guns	HE	95

e. Enemy Casualties Inflicted

Opn Lancaster II 10

f. Control and Coordination

1st Battalion, 12th Marines with organic as well as units which were OPCON provided direct support fires to 3d Marines. Tactical and technical fire direction was centralized at Camp Carroll. Fire support coordination was between adjacent, higher, and lower echelons.

16. Air Support

a. During the month of October 3d Marines received air support from 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, 7th Air Force and U. S. Army. Rotary Wing support was provided by MAG 16, MAG 36, and MAG 39. Fixed Wing Support was provided by MAG 11, MAG 12, MAG 13, and 7th Air Force. Observer flights were provided by MAG 16, and 7th Air Force.

The types of missions flown were command and control, resupply, medical evacuation, observation, photo reconnaissance, illumination, psychological warfare troop and logistical lifts,

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as well as close air support, both conventional and radar controlled.

b. MEDEVACS

	US WIA	US ILL	US NBC	US KIA	CIV ILL	NVA WIA	TOTALS
0/3	0	21	5	2	0	0	28
1/3	22	16	21	4	0	0	63
2/3	6	52	6	3	0	1	68
3/3	0	24	38	0	0	1	63
2/26	<u>116</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>139</u>
Totals:	144	120	73	22	0	2	361

c. CAS: 65 Flights 68 A/C 322,140# Ord.  
 CSS: 87 Flights 176 A/C 536,000# Ord.

d. R/S: 1/3 414,625#  
 2/3 23,600#  
 3/3 206,872#

Total: 645,097# (Incomplete Totals)

e. A/O: 3d MarDiv 123 Flights 214 1/2 Hrs.  
 12th Mar 31 Flights 50 1/2 Hrs.

Total: 154 Flights 264 1/2 Hrs.

f. G/S: 44 Flights 82 A/C 25 Rocket Expended (Incomplete)

g. C&C: 22 Flights 44 A/C 0/3 299 Pax. 3 V/R's 4 Medevacs  
 1/3 46 Pax. 4 V/R's 5 Medevacs  
 2/3 8 Pax. 0 V/R's 3 Medevacs  
 3/3 36 Pax. 0 V/R's 2 Medevacs

Total: 389 Pax. 7 V/R's 14 Medevacs

h. 4435 Control Functions  
 143 Average per day  
 High 220 on 01 October  
 Low 5 on 14 October

i. 1 Flareshape-2 1/2 Hrs.  
 5 C-47 Gunships 5 1/2 Hrs.  
 11 Psychological warfare aircraft 14 Hrs.

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7 Bn Troop Lifts  
7 Btry lifts  
14 Co Troop lifts  
3 Plt Troop lifts

17. Psychological Operations. None.

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PART IV  
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- ✓1. Tab A - 3d Marines Frag Order 49-68 (Overlay)
- ✓2. Tab B - 3d Marines Frag Order 53-68 (Overlay)
- ✓3. Tab C - 3d Marines Frag Order 55-68 (Overlay)
- ✓4. Tab D - 3d Marines Frag Order 56-68 (Overlay)
- ✓5. Tab E - 3d Marines Operation: Order 5-68
- ✓6. TAB F - " " " " " " 6-68

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 3d Marines (Reinf)  
 CAMP CARROLL, RVN  
 211600H Cat 68

Frag Order 55-68

Ref: (a) Map: VIETNAM, 1:50,000, AMS, Series L7014, Sheets  
 6342 I & II, 6442 II & IV.  
 (b) Operation Order 5-68

# 1. SITUATION.

- a. Enemy Forces. No Change
- b. Friendly Forces. No Change
- c. Attachments and Detachments.
  - (1) 2 CO's 9th Mar OPCON 1st Bn on order.
  - (2) 3d Bn OPCON 4th Marines on order, prior to Link-Up.

# 2. MISSION

3d Marines continues present tasks and provides security forces in Cam Lo and Delta-5 area.

# 3. EXECUTION

- a. Concept of Operations. (Overlay PASSEP)
- b. 1st Bn(Reinf)
  - (1) Assume OPCON two companies of 9th Marines.
  - (2) Provide security for FSB CATAPULT, FSB WINCHESTER, LZ MAC, FSB PETE, ESL, KHE GIO BRIDGE, and DONG HA MTN OP.
  - (3) Conduct mine sweeps and provide Route #9 security in AO.
- c. 2nd Bn
  - (1) Provide one company for CC security and SPARROW HAWK Forces.
  - (2) Provide one company for Opns with Cam Lo Forces.
  - (3) Provide one company for Opns with MAI LOC Forces.
  - (4) Provide one company for reaction force north of Cam Lo.
  - (5) Conduct mine sweeps and provide Route #9 security and Convoy security in AO.

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REF:

1. Ed in

- (1) Conduct helilift to vic LA BONTITA
- (2) Conduct search and destroy along AXIS RED.
- (3) Be prepared to CROP to 4th Marines prior to link-up.

e. Coordinating Instructions. (Ref b)

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS. (Ref b)

5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRONICS. (Ref b)

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*R. L. Michael Jr.*  
 R. L. MICHAEL JR.  
 Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps  
 Commanding

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D. C. ROVEGNO  
 Major USMC  
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**SECRET****S & C FILES****3D MARINES**

00607-68

Operation Order 5-68

Ref: (a) Map: VIETNAM, 1:50,000, AMS, Series L7014, Sheets  
6342 I & II, 6442 II & IV.

3D MAR DIV S&C FILE  
175 88668

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3d Marines (Reinf)  
CAMP CARROLL, RVN  
191600H OCT 68  
SEL NO: 003A 29368

**1. SITUATION**a. Enemy Forces. Current Intsums.b. Friendly Forces.

(1) 3d Mar Div continues offensive opns in AO.

(2) Task Force Hotel continues S/D opns north of KHE SANH.

(3) Artillery

(a) 1st Bn, 12th Mar D/S 3d Mar

(b) 4th Bn, 12th Mar G/S 3d Mar Div

(4) 1st MAW and 7th AF provides Air Support

(5) Co B, 3d Engr Bn D/S 3d Mar

(6) Co B(-), 3d Tank Bn D/S 3d Mar

c. Attachments and Detachments. None.**2. MISSION**

3d Marines (Reinf) conducts search and destroy opns in  
western LANCASTER II AO and provides security in AO.

**3. EXECUTION.**a. Concept of Operations. Annex A (Operation Overlay).b. 1st Bn

(1) Effective 220800H extract one Co to CATAPULT and  
one Co to WINCHESTER, and one Co and CP to TSL.

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(2) Maintain Co at FSB MAC until relieved by 2nd Bn, then extract Co to TSL.

(3) Provide defense of TSL, WINCHESTER, and Route #9 in AO.

(4) Conduct Co patrol base opn west of TSL.

(5) CHOP Co at FSB CATAPULT to 3d Bn on order.

c. 2nd Bn

(1) Effective 221000H extract one Co to LZ MAC to relieve 1st Bn, and one plat to DONG HA MTN OP to relieve 3d Bn.

(2) Effective 230800H commence Daisy Chain extraction to CC with insertion of 3d Bn.

(3) Provide defense CC, AHE GIO BRIDGE, DONG HA MTN OP, and Route #9 in AO.

(4) Conduct Co patrol base opns vic LZ MAC.

(5) Conduct Co patrol opns slopes DONG HA MTN.

(6) Provide Sparrow Hawk, convoy security, and Seabee security.

d. 3d Bn

(1) Effective 220800H commence extraction of outlying Cos as relieved by 1st Bn.

(2) Effective 230800H commence insertion into 2nd Bn LZ AREA.

(3) Search and destroy along AXIS RED toward Obj. 1.

(4) Seize and destroy installations vic Obj. 1.

e. Coordinating Instructions.

(1) Due to weather, sequence of events may change in timing. Be prepared for helo changes accordingly.

(2) Hand held riot control agents authorized.

(3) THRUST POINTS effective 231200H Oct 68.

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(4) On call CAS will be scheduled through 3d Marines TAGP. Pre-planned CAS will be coordinated through 3d Marines TAGP.

(5) All targets within 500 meters of battalion boundaries, and 1000 meters of regimental boundaries will be sent to 3d Marines FSOC for clearance.

#### 4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS.

##### a. Supply.

##### (1) Class I

(a) 1 DOS MCI assault units

(b) 5 DOS MCI FSB

(c) LRPR for emergency usage only at rate of consumption of one package per individual daily. Six days will be carried (Four trioxane per package).

##### (2) Class V

(a) BA plus 1 DOA assault units

(b) BA plus 2 DOA FSB

##### (3) Availability

(a) VCB - Classes I, III, IV, and V.

(b) FLSG-B- all classes.

(4) Resupply - Helicopter from VCB for assault units.

#### 5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRONICS

##### a. Comm-Elect.

##### (1) FM Relay Point at FSB CATAPULT.

(a) Nets: Regimental TAC I - 74.90 M-100

Regimental TACP - 48.80 M-504

Charlie Btry CCF - 46.55 M-482

(b) Call Sign: Hallmark X-Ray

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(2) FM Relay Point at DONG HA MTH.

(a) Nets: Regimental TAC I - 74.90 M-100

Regimental TAC II- 35.20 M-1218

(b) Call Sign: Hallmark Relay.

(3) All radios embark with 3 BA-386. One in the radio - two spare - good for 9 days.

(4) When not on the move erect RC-292's for Reg TAC I and Reg TAC II.

(5) THRUST POINT

Football Teams	- 7864	Holidays	- 9059
Countries	- 8162	Presidents	- 0558
Actresses	- 7761	Actors	- 7657
Officer Rank	- 9860	Trees	- 9756

b. Command.

(a) 3d Mar - Camp Carroll  
 (b) 1stBn - TSN  
 (c) 2dBn - Camp Carroll  
 (d) 3dBn - Report when established

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 R. L. MICHAEL, JR.  
 Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps  
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ANEX:

A. Operation Overlay

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CAMP CARROLL, RVN  
311300H Oct 68

Operation Order 6-68

Ref: (a) Map: VIETNAM, 1:50,000, AMS, Series L7014, Sheets  
6312 I & II, 6412 III & IV,  
(b) DivO P02000.2F (COI)  
(c) DivO P2000.4L (Comm SOP)  
(d) RegO P2000.1C (Comm SOP)

Task Organization: Annex A

1. SITUATIONa. Enemy Forces. Current Intentions.b. Friendly Forces:

(1) 3d Mar Div (Reinf) continues offensive ops in Quang Tri province and supports RVN pacification program.

(2) 4th Marines assumes responsibility for TSL and conducts offensive operations in Scotland AO.

(3) 9th Marines conducts offensive ops in Ba Long valley and Base Area 101.

(4) Artillery

(a) 1st Bn, 12th Mar D/S 3d Mar

(b) 4th Bn, 12th Mar G/S 3d Mar Div

(c) 108th Arty Gp G/S XXIV Corps

(5) 1st MAW and 7th AF provides Air Support.

(6) Co B (Reinf), 3d Engr Bn D/S 3d Mar.

(7) Co A (Reinf) and Co B(-), 3d Tank Bn D/S 3d Mar.

(8) Co B, 3d MT Bn, G/S 3d Mar.

c. Attachments and Detachments. See Annex A.

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2. MISSION

3d Marines (Reinf) assumes responsibility for Lancaster/Kentucky AO, conducts offensive ops to destroy enemy forces, maintains security for fixed installations and roads in AO, and assists RVN forces in pacification of Cam Lo and Huong Hoa Districts.

3. EXECUTIONa. Concept of Operations. Annex Bb. 1st Bn (-) (Reinf)

- (1) Effective on order CHOP one company to 3d Bn.
- (2) Effective 010800Z Nov relieve 2nd Bn of security for Camp Carroll, convoy escort and MCB security.
- (3) Maintain security of Dong Ha Mtn OP, Khe Gio Bridge, and route #9 in AO.
- (4) Continue to maintain security of TSL and LZ Mac until relieved by 4th Marines.
- (5) Conduct road sweeps of route #9 in AO.
- (6) Commencing on order conduct company patrol operations in AO.
- (7) 1st Bn western boundary shown in ANNEX B effective on order.

c. 2nd Bn (Reinf)

- (1) Continue "Operation Rong."
- (2) Conduct road sweeps in AO.
- \* (3) Effective 011300Z Nov CHOP one company to 9th Marines until COA 08 Nov 68.

d. 3d Bn (Reinf)

- (1) Relieve elements of 1st Bde, 5th Div (Mech) at C-3, C-2, C-2 Bridges, and A-4 by 311800Z Nov.
- (2) Conduct company patrol ops in AO.
- (3) Conduct road sweep of MSR in AO.
- (4) Maintain convoy control from C-3 to A-4.
- (5) Be prepared to receive Jump CP, 3d Mar at C-2 or A-4.

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a. Coordinating Instructions.

- (1) DIRLAUTH 2nd Bn CO with Province and District officials, COMUSMACV Advisory Personnel and CG, 3d Mar Div.
- (2) DIRLAUTH 3d Bn CO and CO's 1/11 and 1/61.
- (3) DIRLAUTH 3d Bn CO and CO 2nd ARVN Regt.
- (4) Rules of engagement must be stringently adhered to.
- (5) Bn Cmdr authorized to employ civilian labor after coordination with regimental S-5.
- (6) THRUST POINTS effective 311200H Nov.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS. Admin Order 6-685. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRONICS.a. Comm-Elec.

- (1) References (b), (c), and (d).

## (2) THRUST POINTS:

TREES	1071	ACTRESSES	1358
ACTORS	1268	ENL RANKS	0657
BEERS	0365	HOLIDAYS	1155
CARS	1463	PRESIDENTS	1352
RIVERS	0461	COUNTRIES	0950

## (3) Time Brevity Code:

U	0500
S	1100
M	1700
C	2300

## (4) Code Name - Lancaster/Kentucky

b. Command.

## (1) Reports

- (a) SITRPTS - 0500, 1100, 1700, 2300 daily.
- (b) Night acts and day acts - by 1600 daily.
- (c) SPOT RPTS - ASAP.

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## (2) Command Posts

- (a) 3d Mar - Camp Carroll
- (b) 1st Bn - Camp Carroll
- (c) 2nd Bn - Camp Carroll
- (d) 3d Bn - A-1

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT

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R. L. MICHAEL JR.  
Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps  
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ANNEX:

☒ Task Organization  
☒ Operation Overlay

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CAMP CARROLL, RVN  
311300H Oct 68

ANNEX A (Task Organization) to Operation Order 3-68

3d Marines (Reinf)

M M SPARK  
Col R. L. MICHAEL JR.

HqCo(-), 3d Mar  
15th ITT, HqBn  
Det, Rad Rel Plat, Comm Co, HqBn

1st Bn(-) (Reinf)

LtCol R. TWOHEY

1st Bn(-)  
Det, Scout/Sniper Plat, HqCo, 3d Mar  
Det, Scout/Sniper Dog Plat, 3d MPBn, FMF  
2nd Plat, Co B, 3d Engr Bn D/S  
Plat, Co B, 3d Tank Bn D/S

2nd Bn<sup>(-)</sup> (Reinf)

LtCol B. CHEN

2nd Bn  
Det, 7th Psy Ops Bn, D/S  
1st Plat, Co B, 3d Engr Bn D/S  
Sec, AT Plat, Co B, 3d Tank Bn D/S  
Sec, \_\_\_\_\_ Plat, Co B, 3d Tank Bn D/S

3d Bn (Reinf)

LtCol W. BATES

3d Bn  
Co C, 1st Bn  
Det, Scout/Sniper Plat, HqCo, 3d Mar  
3d Plat, Co B, 3d Engr Bn D/S  
Co A (Reinf), 3d Tank Bn D/S  
Det, Btry C, 1st Bn, 44th Arty G/S  
Co - (-), 1st Bn

2ND ARVN BN

M M SPARK  
R. L. MICHAEL JR.  
Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps  
Commanding

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