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HEADQUARTERS  
BLT 1/3  
9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade  
c/o FPO, San Francisco, California 96601

3/GFS/jay  
5750.1  
1 Apr 65

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, Ninth Marine Expeditionary Brigade

Subj: Command Diary

Ref: (a) Brigade Order 5750.1

Encl: (1) BLT 1/3 Command Diary

1. In accordance with reference (a) enclosure (1) is submitted.

*H. J. BAIN*  
H. J. BAIN

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ENCLOSURE (8)

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ORGANIZATIONAL DATA SHEET

PART I

DESIGNATION OF REPORTING UNIT:

BLT 1/3

PERIOD COVERED BY REPORT:

25 February to 31 March 1965

DATE OF SUBMISSION OF REPORT:

1 April 1965

COMMANDING OFFICER

Lieutenant Colonel Herbert J. BAIN

LOCATION OF COMMAND POST AT END OF PERIOD:

Grid Coordinates: 002748

MAP: INDOCHINA, 1:50,000, TOURANE, Sheet 6659 III, Series L701

SUBORDINATE UNITS AT END OF PERIOD:

COMMANDERS:

BAS Co, 1st Bn, 3d Mar

1stLt Michael B. RILEY

Co A, 1st Bn, 3d Mar

Capt James K. MILLER

Co B, 1st Bn, 3d Mar

Capt Richard D. ROSS

Co C, 1st Bn, 3d Mar

Capt Lee A. PETERSON

Co D, 1st Bn, 3d Mar

Capt Terry TURNER

1st Plat, Co A, 3d TK Bn

2ndLt Giles W. BOND

3d Plat, Co B, 3d TK Bn

1stLt Francis T. KLABOUGH

1st Plat, Co A, 3d AT Bn

1stLt Roger M. JAROSH

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BLT 1/3 COMMAND DIARY

PART II

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b. Air Embarkation. From 7 March through 12 March BLT 1/3 conducted an air movement from Naha Air Base, Okinawa, R I, to Da Nang RVN. Seventy six KC-130's carried BLT 1/3 less the tank platoon and some low-priority vehicles. The sea echelon followed several days after bringing the tank platoon, the low priority vehicles and Class I, IV and V supplies to supplement the air mount out blocks.

c. As the situation developed, and as units of the BLT arrived in Da Nang the execution of BLT 1/3's assigned mission involved an incremental expansion of the Da Nang perimeter to the rear of the RVN Regional Forces disposed around the airfield.

By 11 March, BLT 1/3, with the exception of the seetail, was in the objective area, and all preparations completed for the relief of the RVN Forces.

In view of the two part mission of the BLT; to defend against (1) infiltration, and (2) attack by units ranging from squad to battalion size, coupled with the extremely large sector of defense assigned it was necessary for the BLT to be capable of meeting attacks in any strength from any direction, without fragmenting unit integrity or losing depth in the defense.

To this end an extensive system of listening posts forward of the company defensive areas was employed, supported by a strong reaction force capable of assuming any of four counterattack plans to any sector of the defense where penetration might occur.

Restrictions placed upon 9th MEB, disallowing operations beyond the confines of the airfield, presented significant problems in the execution of the BLT's mission. Without the use of listening posts and reconnaissance patrols outside the perimeter, the BLT had no effective warning system, and was thus denied the ability to defend against a mortar/artillery attack. In addition the restriction of patrols to the confines of the airfield had several limitations, the most serious being their subjection to enemy observation and fire. The use of patrols under these circumstances, negated any advantages derived therefrom, and so were discontinued on the perimeter.

The difficulty in identifying and controlling Vietnamese personnel posed a serious problem to morale and efficiency in security measures, in that there was uncertainty and confusion in the minds of the troops regarding the procedure to follow when confronted with the Vietnamese, and the disposition of same. A warning proclamation was recommended by the BLT informing the local populace to stay clear of the perimeter fence. In addition, a clearly defined procedure for challenging was disseminated throughout the BLT, with checkpoints established at strategic points.

### 3. TERRAIN AND WEATHER

a. Through close liaison with the 3d MarDiv map office, the full planning allowance of the most recent map coverage had been maintained prior to deployment. At the time of commitment to Da Nang, this command had an adequate supply of appropriate maps on hand.

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b. Weather has presented no serious obstacle. Although heat and humidity are higher than on Okinawa during this time of year, personnel adjusted rapidly. Terrain within the perimeter presents no problem in our present situation, as the area is both flat and reasonably dry. Some dense foliage along the perimeter, growing throughout the barbed wire barricades has been burned out by flame throwers, allowing better observation.

c. Surrounding approximately 40% of the perimeter are wooded areas, farmers houses, and RVN dependent housing, which severely restrict observation and fields of fire.

#### 4. TRAINING CONDUCTED

a. The training conducted by the BLT was oriented, using all available media, toward the maintenance of an offensive spirit, while assuming a defensive role. Though not formal in nature, this training by all companies included helicopter indoctrination and application, tank-infantry instruction and coordinated training, and riot control training.

b. In conjunction with the BLT's mission of defending the Da Nang airfield perimeter, training in camouflage, improvement of positions, planning and execution of counter attack plans, and the construction of bunkers, was scheduled and conducted by all companies.

c. The flame section of H&S Company conducted training by burning areas of heavy foliage forward of company positions, thus providing greater visibility and fields of fire, while achieving significant psychological effects.

d. The overall training objective was to maintain a continuous state of readiness over an extended period of time in a defensive posture, without sacrificing the offensive attitude and ability to respond at any moment.

#### 5. MORALE AND DISCIPLINE

##### a. Morale

(1) No significant morale problems have been encountered and the morale of the BLT remains high.

(2) A regular postal schedule has been established and no major difficulties have been encountered with the mail.

(3) A positive Special Services program has been initiated within the BLT which has incorporated such features as movies, inter-company softball games, and organized beach parties and fishing trips. Barber and laundry facilities have also been established within the area.

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1 Apr 65PART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY1. MISSION ASSIGNED

a. On 20 February 1965 BLT 1/3 was activated for planning as Number 2 air lift in 3d MarDiv contingency alignment. In order to enhance the BLT's ability to respond rapidly in support of the various 3d MarDiv contingency plans, Staff planning commenced immediately. A series of visits and conferences with G-3, III MEF, and G-3, 3d MarDiv, made available to the BLT Staff all contingency plans, maps and related background matters.

b. On 25 February the BLT Commander received a briefing from the Division G-3 that indicated a landing at Da Nang RVN was imminent and BLT 1/3 was tentatively scheduled to be airlifted to the objective area for defense of the airfield.

c. 9th MEB Staff conducted a map exercise of 9th MEB Operation Plan 37D at Camp Hauge, Okinawa on 2 March 1965. At this time BLT 1/3 was assigned as the BLT to defend the Da Nang Airfield perimeter when 9th MEB Operation Plan 37D was implemented.

d. On 7 March BLT 1/3 was ordered to move by air to Da Nang RVN in accordance with 3d MarDiv Operation Plan 201-63. On arrival to Da Nang RVN the BLT Commander received the mission of defending the airfield perimeter.

2. OPERATION PARTICIPATION

a. BLT 1/3 was task organized for air movement as follows:

1st Bn, 3d Mar (-)\*  
Det, Hdqs Bn  
Det, 3d Dental Co  
Btry A (Rein), 12th Mar  
1st Plt (Rein), Co A, 3d AT Bn  
1st Plt (Rein), Co A, 3d TK Bn  
LVT Plt (Rein), H&S Co, 1st AmTrac Bn  
1st Plt (Rein), Co A, 3d Engr Bn  
Det, Coll Plt, Co A, 3d Med Bn  
Det, 3d Serv Bn  
1st Plt, Co A, 3d MT Bn  
1st Plt, Co D, 3d Recon Bn

\* Detached as of 22 Jan 65 for duty as Security Detachment, Marine Unit Viet Nam Company D (Rein), 1st Bn, 3d Mar.

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ENCLOSURE (1)

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS  
DOD DIR 5200.10

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- (4) Liberty is being granted to ten percent of the command daily.
- (5) Pay call has been scheduled twice monthly and every effort is made to improve the messing facilities and living quarters.

b. Discipline

- (1) There are no major disciplinary problems.
- (2) Eleven Marines have been awarded non-judicial punishment by the BLT Commander, four Marines have been awarded trial by a Summary Court, and one Marine has been awarded trial by a Special Court during the period the BLT has been in Viet Nam.
- (3) The comparatively small number of offenses committed by members of this BLT are attributable to unit leaders efforts in exercising initiative and imagination to keep their men gainfully occupied and to improve living and recreational facilities.

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BLT 1/3 COMMAND DIARY

PART III

CHRONOLOGICAL NARRATIVE

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UNCLASSIFIEDPART IIIBLT 1/3 CHRONOLOGICAL NARATIVE25 Feb 65

Commanding Officer BLT 1/3 and S-3 Officer received initial briefing at Division Command Post, on execution of 9th MEB Operation Plan 37D.

26 Feb 65 through 1 Mar 65

Although BLT 1/3 not assigned to number one air, preparations were made for rapid air movement, in accordance with 3d MarDiv Air Embarkation Plan 201-63.

1 Mar 65

Received 9th MEB Operation Plan 37D. Analytic study made by BLT 1/3 Executive and Special Staff Officers.

2 Mar 65

Map study of 9th MEB Operation Plan 37D was made at 9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade Headquarters. Problems, in conjunction with 9th MEB Operation Plan 37D, were resolved.

3 Mar 65 through 6 Mar 65

Continued planning for Air/Sea movement in conjunction with 9th MEB Operation Plan 37D.

7 Mar 65

BLT 1/3 duty Officer, received alert from division Command Center that BLT 1/3 was on a four (4) hour air alert status. Executive Officer and S-3 Officer were notified. S-3, in telephone conversation with G-3, was ordered to bring BLT 1/3 to four hour alert status to execute 9th MEB Operation Plan 37D; first chalk scheduled to arrive at MCAF, Futema, Okinawa at 072000I Mar 65. At 1330I, the Executive Officer was informed by the Commanding General to set an eight (8) hour alert status. At 1600I, G-3 informed BLT 1/3 that the first 16 chalks scheduled to depart Camp Schwab at 072000I Mar 65. Telephone conversation between Commanding Officer BLT 1/3, and Division Embarkation Officer confirmed the BLT would use 76 chalks in lieu of 81 chalks. At 1830I, chalks 1 through 16 were mustered. At 1900I BLT 1/3 Operation Order 37-65, was issued to BLT 1/3. At 2130I, chalks 1 through 6 departed from Camp Schwab and arrived at MCAF, Futema at 2230I. Integration of supplies into chalks commenced on arrival.

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Received orders at 0130I from Division Embarkation Officer, to move chalks 1 through 6 to AFB, Naha, Okinawa. Arrived Naha at 0340I, and reported to aircraft loading points. Chalks were given a 3 hour standdown. At 0730I, chalks 1, 2, and 3 took off for Da Nang, Viet Nam. Chalk 1 received small arms fire on landing. Between the hours 1230H and 1830H, chalks 1 through 13 arrived at Da Nang, RVN. Orders received, at 1300H, for BLT 1/3 to assume defensive positions at the southern end of airstrip. BLT 1/3 Command Post established at 009742. At 1400H issued BLT 1/3 Frag Order Number 1. Commanding Officer BLT 1/3 and S-3 Officer attended briefing by I Corps Senior Advisor for Da Nang Special Sector, at 2000H.

9 Mar 65

Briefing held, at 0830H, by I Corps representatives of the Da Nang Special Sector. At 1030H, CO BLT 1/3, attended briefing at Command Post of BLT 3/9. S-3 Officer attended 9th MEB Commanding General's conference, to confirm boundaries for perimeter defense. S-3 coordinated with BLT 3/9 to determine sectors of responsibility, and met with I Corps representative to discuss 9th MEB's plan for base defense. Company "D" reverted to operational control of BLT 1/3, Company "C" assigned defense of southern portion of air base, Company "B" reserve.

10 Mar 65

Chalks 14 through 38 arrived this date. Commanding General, 9th MEB, assigned base defense responsibility to BLT 1/3. Company "L", BLT 3/9 and 3d Plt, Co B, 3d TK Bn under operational control of BLT 1/3. At 1700H issued BLT 1/3 Frag Order number 2. BLT 1/3 assigned as follows: Company "C" southeast portion of perimeter, Company "B" southwest portion of perimeter, Company "A" relieved Company "L" north portion of perimeter, Company "D" responsible defense 9th MEB HQ's and Marine Compound. Company "L" reserve, assuming counterattack mission, A Battery in general support. H&S Company formed 3 platoons for blocking positions vicinity 008758. Light section of tanks attached to Company "A" for defense. Heavy section tanks attached to Company "L" for counterattack support. Company "B" reported receiving 2 small arms rounds.

11 Mar 65

Chalks 39 through 45, 48 through 56, and 58 through 62 arrived this date. Liaison was made with I Corps representative for relieving Regional Forces RVN of their security duties. The Command Post displaced to 002748. Received 9th MEB Defense Order 3/JEM:abvb, 11 Mar 65 (Secret). Planning commenced on minefield barrier plan. An aerial reconnaissance was made by the Commanding Officer BLT 1/3 and S-3 Officer of the Da Nang area. There was a report of 3 tracer rounds being fired at a landing aircraft, at 2130H, without damage.

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1 Apr 6512 Mar 65

All chalks of BLT 1/3 have landed as of this date. The USS Terrell County (LST 1157) departed from Ora Wan Beach, Oknawa with "seatail" of BLT 1/3. Constant patrolling was instituted, scheduled at irregular intervals.

Continued improvement of defensive positions, and patrol routes, has resulted in better fields of fire, and more secure patrol routes. In accordance with CG, 9th MEB messages 110532Z Mar and 121446Z Mar, the following units were detached this date:

Btry "A", 1st Bn, 12 Marines

1st Plat, Co D, 3d Recon Bn

1st Plat, Co A, 3d MT Bn

Det, HQ Btry, 12th Marines (CMR)

Det, HQ Bn, 3d MarDiv

Det, 3d Dental Co

Det, 3d Serv Bn

Det, Coll Plat, Co A, 3d MEB Bn

1st Plat, Co A, 3d Engr Bn

The 3d platoon, Company B, 3d Tank Battalion was attached this date. Rules of engagement were resolved by I Corps and 9th MEB. Marines are not to fire at persons beyond fence. Suspicious persons are to be reported to the Marine Liaison Officer at the Joint Defense Coordination Center. Fire to be returned only when attacked.

13 Mar 65

At 0800H, the battalion was informed the ARVN troops had not vacated their positions as scheduled. In coordination with I Corps representative, a new time deadline was established as 131300H. At 1200H, all Companies moved into former ARVN positions, except Company B. A section of 106mm recoilless rifles were attached to Companies A, B and C. Work was continued on the Minefield Barrier Plan. Companies commenced work on improving positions and clearing fields of fire.

14 Mar 65

Company B completed move into former ARVN positions at 0800H. Positions were consolidated into mutually supporting defense plan. A recommendation was made to I Corps for removal, or relocation of lights illuminating positions. Small arms fire was reported being received

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by Companies A, B, and C. ARVN forces, coordinating with the Marine Liaison Officer, dispatched an ARVN patrol to investigate areas from which small arms fire was received. No casualties or damage was caused by the fire. The battalion continued to improve its defensive positions.

15 Mar 65

The battalion established a motorized patrol to provide a fast moving, striking element, and to provide a link between listening posts. Patrol consists of four men with normal arms, one M-422 with a mounted M-60 machine gun. The battalion continued to improve its defensive positions. A Viet Nameese, carrying two helicopter type rockets in a bag, was apprehended by a Marine in Company B. The man was turned over to the 6th Regiment ARVN for interrogation. Company A reported receiving one small arms round at 1345H with no damage.

16 Mar 65

In order to offer maximum protection against infiltration, repositioning of Marines from block house type positions to two man emplacements and listening posts was accomplished. Coordination was made with I Corps representative to have selected lights around the defensive perimeter extinguished. The USS Terrell County (IST 1157) arrived this date with "seatail" of BLT 1/3. Companies A, B, and C made reports of sporadic fire, throughout the day, without casualties or damage. Company B reported approximately 25 mortar rounds landed in an area one mile from their positions. Company A reported observing two indigenous men carrying carbines, and the construction of six fox holes adjacent to their positions. 9th MEB informed of all enemy activity.

17 Mar 65

Three rehearsals were held for counterattack plan "Sally". Commanding General of 9th MEB observed final rehearsal. One Marine was evacuated from wounds received by the accidental detonation of a land mine. Company "C" reported they received three rounds of small arms fire, without casualties or damage. Radar team (TIPS-21) reported sporadic movement of indigenous personnel beyond the tactical wire. Work was continued on defensive positions.

18 Mar 65

Commanding General, 3d Marine Division, visited the BLT Command Post and Company "A". The USS Westchester County (IST 1167) departed White Beach, Okinawa, this date, with the sea echelon of BLT 1/3. Companies "A" and "C" reported receiving sporadic small arms fire, without casualties or damage.

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Radar team (TIPS-21) reported detecting occasional movement by indigenous personnel beyond the tactical wire. Company "D" defensive dispositions in the HQ's 9th MEB area were altered. Work continued on improving positions.

19 Mar 65

The Commanding Officer attended a conference by the Commanding General, 9th MEB. Rehearsals were held for counterattack plan "Wanda". Battalion continued work on defensive positions and fields of fire. Company "A" reported observing small arms fire approximately 300 meters from their position. Radar team (TIPS-21) reported the detection of personnel beyond the tactical wire.

20 Mar 65

Conducted rehearsals for counterattack plan "Nancy". The radar team (TIPS-21) reported slight personnel movement beyond the tactical wire. Company "A" reported that two unknown men attempted to cross their tactical wire, but retreated when a flare was thrown in their direction. Companies "B", "C" and "D" reported sporadic small arms firing in the vicinity of their positions without casualties or damage. The battalion continued improvement of its positions. Forwarded a recommendation for the Bronze Star Medal concerning actions of a Marine from Company "C" in rescuing a wounded Marine within a minefield.

21 Mar 65

The S-3 Officer made an area reconnaissance in connection with 9th MEB Frag Order 9-65. The radar team (TIPS-21) reported slight movement of personnel beyond the tactical wire. Company "A" reported sighting a flare approximately 200 yards in front of their position. Companies "B" and "C" reported sighting and receiving small arms fire without damage or casualties. Work continued on improvement of positions.

22 Mar 65

The USS Westchester County (LST 1167) arrived at Da Nang, RVN with the sea echelon of BLT 1/3. Attached tank units conducted rehearsals over counter attack routes. 9th MEB Frag Order 9-65 was cancelled. Radar team (TIPS-21) reported a significant reduction in movement beyond the tactical wire. Companies "C" and "D" reported hearing small arms fire. Companies "A" and "B" reported sighting two flares approximately 200 meters from their positions. Forwarded a recommendation for the Bronze Star Medal, concerning rescue operations on 14 Feb 65 at Quin Nhon Bachelor Enlisted Quarters, performed by a member of 3d Engineer Battalion, who was previously attached to Company "D", BLT 1/3.

23 Mar 65

The Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, toured positions of BLT 1/3, and lunched with BLT 1/3. Received a warning order from 9th MEB to

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be prepared to relieve BLT 3/9 commencing 6 April 1965. Company "A" reported flares and explosions from 1 to 1½ miles out. Company "C" reported 2 explosions about 350 meters from their positions, and sporadic small arms fire. Work continued on defensive positions.

24 Mar 65

Operational control of Company "L" reverted to BLT 3/9, effective 1200H. Fields of fire, and observation, were improved in Company "A" area by burning brush with flamethrowers. Radar team (TIPS-21) reported no movement during the night, beyond the tactical wire. Company "A" reported sporadic small arms fire and the sighting of flares, in their area of observation. The BLT continued to improve positions.

25 Mar 65

Portable flamethrowers were used to burn brush interfering with observation and fields of fire. Training was conducted, on platoon level, in tank-infantry tactics. Company "C" reported what appeared to be a fire fight, approximately 1000 meters from their position. Companies "A", "B" and "C" reported no movement in their area of surveillance. The BLT continued improvement of positions.

26 Mar 65

All companies conducted familiarization firing with 3.5" rocket launchers, M-79 grenade launchers and M-60 machine guns. The BLT Commander conducted a reconnaissance for relief of BLT 3/9 positions. Portable flamethrowers continued burning brush and work continued on defensive positions. Company "C" reported receiving one (1) round of small arms fire, and the detonation of a land mine in their area without casualties or damage. Radar team (TIPS-21) reported the sporadic movement of two (2) persons during the night.

27 Mar 65

The BLT Commander, S-3 Officer, and S-4 Officer continued their reconnaissance of BLT 3/9 positions. A reconnaissance was also made for selection of a supply route to Hill 368. Training was conducted, at platoon level, in Tank-Infantry tactics. The helicopter support team received review training in their duties and responsibilities. Radar team (TIPS-21) reported no significant activity in their area of surveillance. Company "C" reported sighting one (1) tracer round about 100 meters from their position.

28 Mar 65

The inspection of BLT 1/3 positions by the Commander of the 7th Fleet, was cancelled. Radar team (TIPS-21) made no report due to mechanical failure of set. Company "C" reported the detonation of two (2) land mines near their positions, and receiving one (1) small arms round without casualties or damage.

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The Battalion Commander made a reconnaissance of Hill 368 for Command Post site and avenues of approach. Company "C" reported a mine was detonated by a dog, in front of their position. Company "C" also reported sighting two (2) flares about 1100 meters in front of their positions. Continued to improve positions. BLT Commander conducted personnel and equipment inspection of Companies "A" and "D".

30 Mar 65

Training was conducted in helicopter support team duties, and Infantry-Helicopter operations. Radar team (TIPS-21) was not in operation this night (29 - 30 Mar). Company "B" reported receiving one (1) round of small arms fire. Company "C" reported sighting small arms fire and explosions, possibly mortar rounds, 1500 meters east of their positions. Work continued on defensive positions.

31 Mar 65

Alerted at 1350H by 9th MEB to prepare BLT reserve for helicopter lift to grid coordinates 070338. At 1355H, Company "D" was prepared for movement. At 1405H received message from 9th MEB to secure from alert. Executive Officer BLT 1/3 conducted personnel and equipment inspection of Companies "A" and "C". Radar team (TIPS-21) reported no significant activity in their zone of surveillance. Company "C" reported sighting small arms fire.

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BLT 1/3 COMMAND DIARY

PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TABLE OF CONTENTS

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5. Overlay of Defensive Perimeter
6. Overlay of Counterattack Plan
7. Pictorial Examples of Fortifications



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1 Apr 65

BLT 1/3  
CAMP SCHWAB, OKINAWA  
071900 Mar 1965

Operation Order 37-65

Ref: (a) Map: 1:12,500// AMS L909

Time Zone: I

1. SITUATION.

a. Enemy forces. Current ISUMS.

b. Friendly forces.

- (1) 9th MEB lands Da Nang Airfield assumes responsibility Marine Unit Viet Nam.
- (2) BLT 3/9 lands across RED II assumes defense Da Nang Airfield, on relief occupies and defends Hill 327.

c. Attachments and detachments.

- (1) Task Organization according 3d MarDiv msg 090308Z Jan 65.
- (2) Co D, 1/3 reverts to BLT 1/3 on order.

2. MISSION. BLT 1/3 lands at Da Nang, RVN commencing at H-hour, D-day assumes responsibility defense Da Nang Airfield.

3. EXECUTION.

- a. Concept of operation. BLT 1/3 loads 76 chinks of C-130's in accordance with BLT 1/3 201-65 lands at Da Nang RVN reorganized in company assembly areas and assumes defense western portion Da Nang Airfield.
- b. Co C. Leads in chinks 1-5 lands Da Nang assembles vicinity 005740 area of responsibility 004733 to 998745.
- c. Co B. Leads in chinks 9-14 land Da Nang assembles vicinity 000755 area of responsibility 998745 to 997760.
- d. Co A. Leads in chinks 16-20 land Da Nang assembles vicinity 996767 area of responsibility 997760 to 997775.
- e. H&S Co. Leads according to BLT 1/3 Plan 201-65 assembles vicinity 005745 attachments report vicinity 005745 on landing.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS. Administrative Order 201-65.

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5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS.

- a. Guard radio nets on landing.
- b. BLT 1/3 Command Post vicinity 005740.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL BAIN

R. J. LYONS

Major, U. S. Marine Corps

Executive Officer

OFFICIAL:

G. F. SQUILLACE

Captain, U. S. Marine Corps

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1 Apr 65

BLT 1/3  
DA NANG, RVN  
081400 Mar 1965

Frag Order 1-65

Time Zone: H

BLT 1/3 assumes defense southern portion Da Nang airfield. Company B occupies and defends from 008739 to 010738. Company C occupies and defends from 010738 to 013739. Company D responsible defense 9th MEB HQ's and Marine Compound.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL BAIN

R. J. LYONS

Major, U. S. Marine Corps

Executive Officer

OFFICIAL:

G. F. SQUILLACE

Captain, U. S. Marine Corps

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1 Apr 65

BLT 1/3  
DA NANG, RVN  
101700 Mar 1965

Frag Order 2-65

Time Zone: H

Co L 3/9, 3d Plt B Co, 3d TK's OpCon BLT 1/3. BLT 1/3 assumes defense Da Nang airfield perimeter. Company defensive areas of responsibility.

Co C 012740 to 008738

Co B 008738 to 999744

Co A 004766 to 011769

Co D Responsible defense 9th MEB HQ's and Marine Compound.

H&S Co 3 Plts to occupy blocking positions vicinity 008758 south to 008754.

81mm Plt GS firing positions 008755.

A Btry, 12th Mar GS vic 006742.

3d Plt, B Co, 3d TK's: 1 sec attached Co A

1 sec GS vic 003746 with counterattack mission

Co L, 3/9 reserve vic 003746 be prepared execute counterattack mission.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL BAIN

R. J. LYONS

Major, U. S. Marine Corps

Executive Officer

OFFICIAL:

G. F. SQUILLACE

Captain, U. S. Marine Corps

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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1 Apr 65BLT 1/3  
DA NANG, RVN  
211600 Mar 1965

Frag Order 3-65

Cancelled by CG 9th MEB msg 211134Z (Confidential)

Time Zone: H

1. SITUATION.a. Enemy forces.

- (1) VC training camp estimated 800 to 1000 in strength, located at vicinity coord's 860640.

b. Friendly forces.

- (1) VNAF conducts air strikes preparatory to ARVN ground operations.
- (2) ARVN forces proceed to vicinity coord's 860640 via helicopter. Conduct operations against the enemy.
- (3) BLT 3/9 occupies high ground vicinity coord's 918728.
- (4) MAG-16 provides helo support ARVN forces.
- (5) A Btry 1/12 provide fire support from vic coord's 935718.

c. Attachments. BLSG provide ten (10) trucks BLT 1/3 at 220615H.

2. MISSION. BLT 1/3 (-) commencing 210700 conduct tactical motor march along route NASH to coord's 935718. Provide local security at firing positions for A Btry 1/12.

3. EXECUTION.

- a. Concept of operation. One company and one section of Ontos commencing 210700 will conduct motor march along route NASH. Provide route security A Btry 1/12 and local security at firing positions vicinity coord's 935718.

b. Co L (3/9).

- (1) Cross IP at 220700H. Conduct motor march route NASH to vic coord's 935718 provide route security A 1/12.

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- (2) On arrival firing positions coord's 935718 provide local security A 1/12.
- (3) Upon completion Arty Support/Mission and NLT 221530H return to airfield via route STUDEBAKER.
- c. BLSG. Ten (10) trucks attached L Co, 3/9 at 220615H.
- d. 1st Plt, A Co, 3d AT's.
  - (1) Proceed along route NASH to vic coord's 935718. Provide route security A 1/12.
  - (2) Provide local security A Btry 1/12 at firing positions.
  - (3) Upon completion of Arty Support/Mission and NLT 221530H return to airfield via route STUDEBAKER.
- e. Coordinating instructions.
  - (1) IP gate at 995747.
  - (2) Proceed route NASH, return route STUDEBAKER.
  - (3) L Co, 3/9 carry 100 sandbags to fill in culverts.
4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS.
  - a. Class I - One day.
  - b. Class V - Basic allowance.
5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATION-ELECTRONICS.
  - a. Fire direction 39.4 MCS.
  - b. Tactical command (ARVN) 49.5 MCS (US Advisor Objective area is net control this net).
  - c. All units guard MEB TAC 1.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL BAIN

R. J. LYONS

Major, U. S. Marine Corps

Executive Officer

IV-6

ENCLOSURE (1)

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OFFICIAL:

G. F. SQUILLACE

Captain, U. S. Marine Corps

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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UNCLASSIFIED

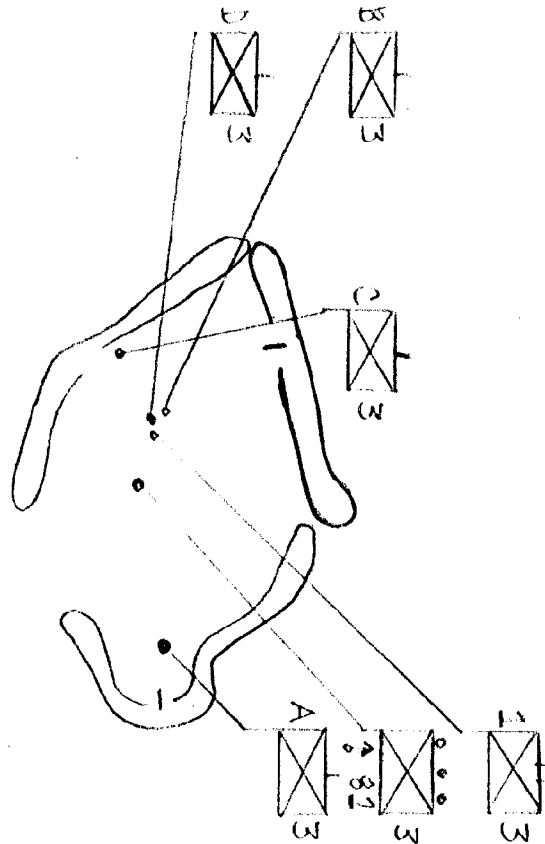
5750.1  
1 Apr 65

BLT 1/3  
DA NANG, RVN  
301700 Mar 1965

DEFENSIVE PERIMETER

Ref: (a) Map: TOURANE, 1:50,000 AMS L701, Sheet 6659 III

Time Zone: H



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ENCLOSURE (1)

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1/3 Diary, 25 Feb -  
Mar 65

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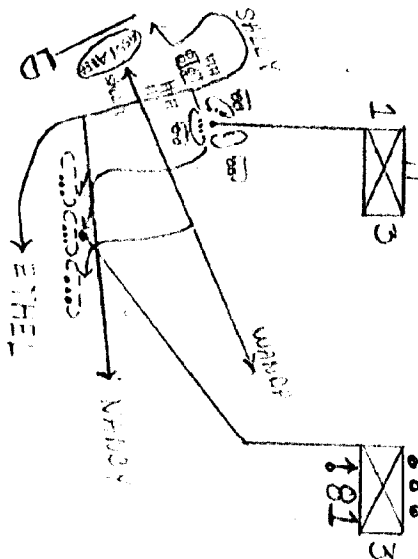
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1 Apr 65

BLT 1/3  
DA NANG, RVN  
301700 Mar 1965

COUNTERATTACK PLAN ROUTES

Ref: (a) Map: TOURANE, 1:50,000 MAS 1701, Sheet 6659 III

Time Zone: H



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ENCLOSURE (1)

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1/3 Dia. 11, 2536, 11/10/65

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1 Apr 65

1) Attached photographs depict a varied view of the types of fortifications constructed by this Battalion. It should be noted that in certain areas it was necessary to build up, rather than dig down due to water seepage. At the time these photographs were taken, there were no sandbags available to this Battalion, thus the unfinished appearance of some fortifications. Reinforcing materials are also difficult to obtain creating problems in completing roofs of sufficient strength to be impenetrable to mortar fire.

NOTE: Pictorial Examples of Fortifications attached to original only.  
Only one (1) copy available.

IV-10

ENCLOSURE (1)

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