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HEADQUARTERS

1st Battalion, 3d Marine
2d Marine Division (Rein), FID
APO, San Francisco 96332

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S/DLK/dlk
30 June 1969
Serial: 00143-69
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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of Marine Corps (Code AC3D)
Via: (1) Commanding General, 3d Marine Division
(2) Commanding General, III MAF

Subj: Command Chronology for period of 1-30 June 1969

Ref: (a) MCO F5750.11
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8
(c) DivO 5750.10

Encl? ☒ (1) Subject Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a), (b), and (c) enclosure (1) is submitted.

2. Downgrade at 3 year intervals, declassified after 12 years, DOD Directive 5200.10.

P. Chavez
P. CHAVEZ
By direction

1stBn, 3dMar S & C No.	00143-69
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HEADQUARTERS
1st Battalion, 3d Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMT
APO San Francisco 96302

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COMBAT CHRONOLOGY

1 June to 30 June 1969

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. ~~UNCLASSIFIED~~COMMANDERSDATES

1st Battalion, 3d Marines

LtCol D. G. HERRON

(1-30 Jun69)

SUBORDINATE UNITS

H&S Co

1stLt J. C. SAMBORN

(1-30 Jun69)

Co A

Capt J. M. MCADAMS

(1-30 Jun69)

Co B

Capt G. H. SAMPSON

(1-30 Jun69)

Co C

Capt T. H. GUERIN

(1-12 Jun69)

Capt G. E. CARLSON

(13-30 Jun69)

Co D

Capt J. E. GROOT

(1-30 Jun69)

ATTACHED UNITS

Co F, 2nd Bn, 9th Mar (19-25 June)

Co G, 2nd Bn, 9th Mar (19-25 June)

Co A, 3d Tank Bn (19-25 June)

Co B, 3d Tank Bn (19-25 June)

Co H, 2nd Bn, 3d Mar (25-28 June)

2. LOCATION1-25 June: Fixed Positions (Con Thien, C2, Cam Lo District Headquarters,
Khe Gio Bridge)

25-30 June: Virginia Ridge AO

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer

Maj R. B. NEILSON

(1-15 Jun69)

Maj W. R. ETMYRE

(16-30 Jun69)

S-1

1stLt P. CHAVEZ

(1-30 Jun69)

S-2

1stLt G. D. COOK JR

(1-30 Jun69)

S-3

Maj W. R. ETMYRE

(1-15 Jun69)

Maj G. H. WELSH

(16-30 Jun69)

S-4

1stLt J. W. HUST

(1-12 Jun69)

Capt T. H. GUERIN

(13-30 Jun69)

S-5

1stLt J. M. TOLAND

(1-30 Jun69)

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4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>OTHER</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
34	1116	2	47	None	None

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. Mission's Assigned

1-24 June - Continued to provide security for A-4, C-2, C-3 Bridge, Cam Lo District Headquarters, Khe Gio Bridge, and lines of communication within assigned area of operation.

Ref: Regt FragO 62-69

25-30 June - Conduct operations in accordance with BnFragO 175-69, to locate and destroy the enemy and his supplies within assigned area of operation.

Ref: Regt FragO 76-69

2. Intelligence. During the month of June the battalion was located in static positions. During this time contact with the enemy was light with only several minor incidents reported. During this time however, a steady increase in an enemy buildup was observed and detected in the northeast portion of our AO. Through agents and UR3 reports an element of the 270th NVA Regiment was detected as the unit infiltrating into this general vicinity (YD 1573). From 9 to 11 June sensor in the vicinity of (YD 1573) detected movement of approx 125 enemy into the subject area. And on 10 June Company "E" observed 15 enemy moving in the open in the same vicinity as previously stated. The 24th Sapper Company of the 270th NVA Regiment was reported, by a POW captured by the 2d ARVN's on 9 June, as operating between C-2 and Con Thien. Shortly after this time Company "A" at C-2 reported on several nights movement near the wire on the perimeter of C-2. This was possibly a recon of this position by elements of the 24th Sapper Company. Also at this time an agent report placed the 4th and 5th Battalions of the 88th NVA Regiment in the vicinity of (YD 0153). The possible location of this unit was a possible threat to Company "C" at Khe Gio Bridge.

3. Operations. During the month while a part of the Regimental operation "Virginia Ridge", the battalion acted as a blocking force to the east of Con Thien for the Third Battalion, 3d Marines. "A" and "B" Companies swept the same area later.

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a. Casualties inflicted on the enemy.

KIA - 6 Detainees - 3

b. Casualties sustained.

KIA - 2 WIA - 1

c. Equipment, ordnance and supplies captured, destroyed or damaged.

In addition to miscellaneous 782 gear, food, magazines and small arms ammo the following was captured and destroyed. 1- East German AT mine, 7-Claymore mines, 1-M-16 Bouncing Betty, 110-82mm mortar round, 9-Soviet directional mines, 3ft Det cord, 6-60mm mortar round (US), 6-Russian AT mines, 2-M79 round (US), 9-105mm arty rounds, 1-LAAW (M-72), 1-LAAW (M-72) dud round, 3-M26 frag grenade, 1-An/PRR 9 radio receiver (Serial # 18844), 9-81mm mortar rounds, 1-120mm mortar round, 25-lbs of TNT, 2-satchel charges, 2-82mm mortar bore swabs, 3-E-Tools, 1-saw, 18-RPG rounds, 21-Chicom grenades, 10-1 lbs blocks C-3, 6-plastic mine, 4-AT mine, 8-Duster (40mm) rounds, 40-50 caliber rounds, 1-40 lb plastic AT mine and 1-40 lb metal AT mine.

5. Supporting Arms.

a. Air. The air support for the month of June included the following sorties.

Resupply	71
Gunships	22
MedEvac	37
C&C (Command and Control)	50
AO (Aerial Observers)	48
Fixed Wing (CAS)	4
Beacon Hop	17
TPQ	30

During the month of June the majority of the Battalion was occupying defensive positions in the 3rd Marines AO. Consequently the number of CAS sorties is low since there was little contact. The beacon system and A6A aircraft were utilized as much as possible with some missions being ran above the DMZ with the assistance of aerial observers. The total Battle Damage Assessment reported for all fixed wing missions included 47 bunkers destroyed, 3 secondary explosions, 2 secondary fires, and 30 meters of trail destroyed.

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b. Artillery. During the month the following missions and amount of ammunition was fired in support of the battalion mission, using W/1/12, E/1/12, A/1/12, and the 2nd ProvGB 8/5.

Observed missions - 312

Unobserved missions - 135

Ammunition -
 29 HC
 93 Illum
 883 WP
 10,587 HE
 30 FC

6. Personnel and Administration

a. Personnel

(1) Administrative Gains

USMC		USN	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
4	107	1	6

(2) Administrative losses

USMC		USN	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
4	124	1	5

b. Administration. The usual administrative problems were encountered during this time, however, overall administration was considered to be satisfactory.

Promotions Effected

Gunnery Sergeant	1
Staff Sergeants	3
Sergeants	11
Corporals	57
Lance Corporals	121
Private First Classes	7

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b. Awards Recommended

Navy Crosses	2
Silver Stars	7
Bronze Stars	16
Navy Commendations	22
Navy Achievements	51

c. Awards Presented

Navy Commendations	2
Navy Achievements	5
Purple Hearts	95

c. Postal. Considered to be satisfactory although at times the delivery rate has been very slow.

7. Training. During the month of June five (5) Incountry Troop Indoctrinations were conducted and a total of 63 men attended. A new program for training was established and each company received three (3) days of training in the subjects outline by Division. Also a new program was recommended and approved to teach these subjects during the indoctrination period. This program will be instituted on 1 July. A condensed class on radio procedure and communication in general will be conducted as of 1 July and all hands will be required to learn basic radio procedure. During June the following schools were attended by members of this Battalion.

Land Mines, Booby Traps and Demo	3
Ground Surveillance	2
SNGO School	2
RPS	1

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

At 011020H a road sweep from Company "B" located at YD 132710, exploded two (2) antitank mines, apparently by personnel stepping on them. Company "B" suffered two (2) KIA and one (1) WIA.

Company "A" located at YD 136647 heard movement to their north-east in vic of YD 138653. Fired a 81mm Mortar mission with 7 WP, and 44 HE rounds. Unknown results. Time was 022200H.

At 030830H, in vic of YD 015565, road sweep from Elliot Combat Base found a crater in the road. At 0430, that morning Company "G" heard an explosion but believed it to be 175mm guns from Elliot. Engineers reported road impassable, to Company "C" at Khe Gio Bridge. They then turned around to return to Elliot, and one duster, hit a mine in the same location of the crater. Tractor from Company "C" position moved out to fill in the crater.

At approx 1000H on the 4th, a PFC R; L. J. 9944, a member of 1/9 stopped at Cam Lo District Headquarters. He had been leaving the north gate of Elliot Combat Base and was sniped at resulting in gunshot wounds in left hand and left lower leg. He was treated and sent to "D" Med.

At 050825H in vic of YD 136617 a road sweep found one (1) US 60mm Mortar round, blew it in place.

In the vic of YD 016565 an ambush of Company "G" was approached by three NVA. Ambush was triggered using claymores and M-60. The NVA fled the area. Results was one (1) NVA KIA.

A squad from Company "C" conducting S/D operation in the vic of YD 025565 at approx 061315H discovered the following enemy ordnance in an area that showed signs of recent use. 6 - Russian AT Mines, 7 - US Claymores set with det cord, 1 - M-16 bouncing betty. All ordnance blown in place.

At 070730H in vic of YD 078571 four (4) children turned in 1 - M-16 magazine (full) and 1 US claymore mine, they was paid a total of 900 piasters.

At 072030H, ground surveillance (SID) located at Company "B" indicated movement at 115743. At 2130, SID indicated track vehicles movement at 119748. At 2325 movement was to NE. Artillery was called in at 2030 and 2130. Heavier artillery was requested at 2230 for second target but was not obtained. Observed one secondary on grid 133754.

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At 080745H, in vic of YD 151618, road sweep found one (1) dud 82mm mortar round along the shoulder of the road, round was blown in place.

At 080815H in vic of YD 143613 road sweep found booby trapped M-79 round near shoulder of road. Round was planted in ground to be detonated by pressure of foot, blown in place.

At 080915H in vic of YD 104576, 20 Vietnamese children turned in 1 - LAAM, 1 dud 40mm LAAM round, 1 - M-79 round, 79 M-16 magazines (full), 1 M-26 frag grenade, 4 BAR magazines (full), 2 - AK-47 magazines and 1 bayonet (US). Children were paid 4800 piasters.

In the vic of YD 133624 at approx 080945 road sweep found dud 105mm round 10 meters off of road. Round was blown in place.

At approx 081740H in vic of YD 143604 small arms was fired at truck being washed at C-3 bridge by man from EIS Company. Fire came from vic YD 140598, patrol sent out to check out area.

At 090335H in the vic of YD 104576 14 children turned in 21 - M-16 magazines (full), 2 - M-26 frag grenades, and one (1) AM/FER9 radio receiver (serial 10344). They were paid a total of 1250 piasters.

At approx 091000H from vic YD 134695 a platoon combat patrol of Company "B" observed approx 12 NVA running to the northeast vic YD 139697. Combat patrol pursued and caught three. Aerial observer was requested. Artillery mission was requested but not fired. The remainder of the NVA fled into the ARVN AO. The three captured were turned over to the CIT.

Company "B" at approx 100130H from vic of YD 116701 reported that the TTS-5 (radar) picked up troops moving south in three groups of 18-25 and two smaller groups. Estimated enemy strength of 80 troops. Requested artillery illum and HE mission, fired 60mm and 81mm mortars and dusters. TTS-5 reported rounds on target. Troops began retreating to the north. At 0215, the artillery observer with Company "B" was informed the artillery missions was denied and that Company "B" was to use organic weapons. If the unit was in contact artillery would be available, but now they were on a tight schedule. This referred to Battalion S-3. Continued with 60 and 81 mortars and dusters. At 0220 received artillery illum mission and at 0245 received artillery fire for effect. TTS-5 reported artillery mission on target hitting several small groups of retreating troops. By 0315 enemy movement negative.

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At 101915H Company "B" in vic of YD 117702 observed 15 NVA from the tower at Con Thien in vic of YD 157733 moving to the north. Artillery mission was conducted on the area with good coverage but unknown results.

At approx 100830H in vic of YD 131628 a truck on a road sweep hit a mine and was disabled. Following the truck being disabled by the mine, four more mines were found and one Personnel Carrier was disabled by a sixth mine resulting in injuries. The mines were all plastic and were planted in tire tracks in staggered fashion in approx 20 meters intervals. Four mines were new and buried 3-4 inches below ground. Two older mines approx 6 inches below ground. Route 558 was closed and another truck with engineers was sent to the scene.

At 111545H in vic of YD 089576, a Vietnamese woman was hit and killed by a truck from MCB-53. The Rat Patrol (road patrol) and MACV personnel were sent to area. Civilians in area gradually dispersed.

A Regional Force Company at 121030H in vic of YD 110605 made contact with enemy carrying mines. Killed two (2) and captured 2 Chicom grenades and two anti-tank mines.

At approx 120900H in vic of YD 149612 a road sweep found one anti-vehicular mine in road. Mine was approx 9 inches in diameter. Mine blown in place.

In vic of YD 131628 at approx 121115H a road sweep found a mine approx 9 inches in diameter, in the right tire track. Mine blown in place.

In the vic of YD 093603 Company "D" at approx 121300H found well concealed tunnel entrance with numerous footprints in the area. Believe prints were cat prints. No evidence of recent use. Also found trench running east-west. Trench 4 feet deep and 3 feet wide. Tunnel and trench destroyed.

At approx 121500H a observation post at Con Thein observed 10 NVA in open with packs moving to the northwest. Artillery was conducted, observed three NVA received direct artillery hits.

At approx 130500H in vic of YD 152609, the 81mm Mortar. Platoon H&I fires resulted in the death of two Vietnamese.

Local security at G-3 bridge at approx 131130H in the vic of YD 148604 apprehended two (2) indigenous women with blasting caps and det cord. Delivered to 15th CIT for interrogation and further investigation.

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Company "C" in the vic of YD 001566 at approx 131237Z found three plastic type mines on Route 9 between the 00 and 01 North South grid line. One mine detonated by a 6X6 truck. The other two were blown in place by the road sweep team.

At 131915H Company "A" in the vic of YD 135645 sighted three (3) NVA wearing black PJ's inside outer wire. Three (3) rounds of canister and four (4) rounds of WP were fired by tanks. No bodies recovered.

Company "B" at 132355H located at Con Thein reported two 122mm rockets impacted in vic YD 115695. A similar incident during noon of 12 June makes apparent a possible NVA attempt to register Company "B" position.

A platoon from Company "A" in vic of YD 122658 at 140830H discovered a fresh bunker with good overhead. Searching area they found one (1) AT Mine. Mine blown in place.

At 151400H Company "E" located in a perimeter in vic of YD 057586 observed five bunkers. Combat patrol dispatched into area, all old 4' X 8', A frame type. Traces of CS were evident in the area. No signs of recent use in area. Area searched with negative results. Bunkers were destroyed.

At 151800H a short distance off the road in vic of YD 133633, a unit from Company "A" discovered following friendly ordnance neatly piled in a draw. 7 - 105MM HE rounds, 1 - 105MM Illum round, 4 - 60MM Mortar rounds, 6 - 81MM mortar rounds, 8 - duster rounds, and 40 - 50 caliber rounds.

At 161915H, Company "A" located at C-2 received 6-10 rounds of 122mm Rockets rounds, all rounds landed outside perimeter. Artillery fired rocket suppressive fire. AO in area reported a accurate grid of the NVA as YD 055673. He conducted an artillery mission on the site. Results unknown.

At 170615H Company "A" located at C-2, received two (2) volley of three (3) 122mm rockets each, all landed outside of the perimeter. Artillery and 81mm mortar missions called in on ID 105660 and YD 105668. Results unknown.

In grid square YD 0657 at 171205H, a road grader moving north off of I-80 on access road hit a large plastic mine, resulting in casualties. An army PC moved up same road shortly after and passed by the grader. Approaching rear of duster, PC hit a mine flipping PC over. Requested MedEvac copter for two (2) WIA, but an Army copter flew in and picked up MedEvac, Army MedEvac was not requested by 1/3, and source of the request is not known.

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At 180830H, in vic of YD 142722, a tank leaving Con Thein to join 3/3 unit, hit a mine. Negative damage to the tank.

A platoon combat patrol from Company "D" at 180945H in vic of YD 050586, found 10 bunkers, 4' X 8' in cleared area. Area appeared to have been used within last 4 days. Searched area finding 40 - 82mm Mortar rounds, three (3) cans 82mm Mortar fuzes (some old, some new), 2 bore swabs, 2 - AK 47 magazines with 60 rounds of ammo, 1 - 75mm recoilless cannister (empty), 3 - E-tools, 1 saw, 2 cans of coffee, and 3 unidentifiable objects 8 inches in diameter and 2 inches thick with silver attachment sticking out. These three objects were all 3 feet off the ground and anchored to trees. Destroyed everything, with the exception of one (1) of the unidentifiable objects, which were evacuated.

At 180900H, a road sweep from Company "A" located in vic of YD 135623 received SA fire from approx five (5) NVA located in vic of YD 134623. SA fire returned and NVA broke contact moving west. Sweep continued and completed, unit from Company "A" sent to S/D area.

A squad from Company "C" in vic of YD 073574 at approx 190955H discovered a booby trapped 82mm Mortar round. Round rigged by NCI can. Blown in place.

In vic of YD 065570 at 191455H a 6X6 hit a mine (plastic), vehicle a total lost. Sweep team sent to sweep area in case of more mines.

At 201130H in vic of YD 134634, a SeaBee bulldozer hit a mine or live round in the ground. Slight damage done to vehicle. Two NEC resulted from explosion.

A road sweep at 210920H in vic of YD 036563 found one (1) plastic East German mine on exit road on south side of Route 9. Mine was 40 pounds, rigged with pressure release device, blown in place.

Company "A" at 212245H, in vic of YD 146604, with Starlite scopes observed three (3) figures carrying weapons moving across channel to the north, approx 150 meters from lines. Fired small arms with unknown results.

NOTE: At 1530 on 19 June 1969, F/2/9, G/2/9, A Co 3d Tanks, and B Co 3d Tanks became OPCON to 1st Battalion, 3d Marines.

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At 220615 H Company "A" moved out of C-2, and Company "B" began movement out of Con Thein for final phase of "Operation Virginia Ridge" to the east of C-2 and southeast of Con Thein.

As Company "A" and Company "B" moved out of position, Companies "F" and "G" of 2/9 assumed the responsibility for Con Thein and C-2.

Company "F" of 2/9 located at C-2 received 9 rounds of 122mm rocket at 220640H, only one round fell inside of perimeter. Returned fire with artillery on YD 045673, results unknown.

At 221300H, Company "C" observed a mine explosion on Route 9, sent a road patrol vehicle to scene, a duster leaving Route 9 in vic of YD 060569 hit a large AT mine just as it left the black top. Excessive damage done to the duster, Army personnel suffer 1 KIA and 4 WIA. A MedEvac copter had been requested by the Army. Company "D" sent a sweep team to sweep the access road.

At 221540H, in the vic of YD 067642, Company "B" made contact with unknown size of NVA unit, located in vic of YD 069642. Pursued enemy with small arms and maneuver. Conducted artillery to the north. Tried to get the enemy to Cheiu Hoi. Killed 4 NVA and captured 4 - AK 47 and 1 pair of binocular.

At 230915H, in the vic of YD 133655 a member of "F" 2/9 on road sweep, suffered a gunshot wound in the leg from accidental discharge of his .45 caliber pistol.

At 230830H, in vic of YD 012564, road sweep from Company "M" 3/3 advancing along road was ambushed by four (4) command detonated claymore mines. One wire connected all four and led across road to north side of river to vantage point. Vantage point had observation in both direction of road. Company "D" dispatched a platoon to sweep both sides of road and river, they had negative results. Company "D" conducted artillery on north side of river. Company "M" suffered 2 KIA and 8 WIA.

During the afternoon of 24 June 1969, two company sweep was terminated, and Companies "A" and "B" returned to their positions in Con Thein and C-2 respectfully.

At approx 251100H, at Con Thein, three (3) members of Company "G" 2/9 entered a old Vietnamese minefield, plainly marked. One KIA and two WIA's.

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A road sweep from H&S Company out of Cam Lo District Headquarters at approx 250910H, in the vic of YD 136621 discovered two mines in the road and upon deploying to blow them, the team was taken under fire by five (5) enemy. The enemy were observed to flee to the south-east by a platoon of "F" 2/9 which was in the area also. The enemy was taken under fire and one was observed to be hit and was observed being dragged away. The platoon of "F" swept the area with negative results. The two mines (1-40lb AT mine (plastic), 140 lb metal AT mine, rigged to be AP) were blown in place.

At 251420H the 3d Battalion, 3d Marines relieved the 1st Battalion, 3d Marines of the fixed positions (Con Thein, C-2, C-2 Bridge, Cam Lo District Headquarters and Khe Gio Bridge). As each unit was relieved they began movement toward the new Battalion AO to the west of Con Thein and C-2, and to the north of Dong Ha Mts (FSB Fuller).

Hotel Company 2/3 located on Dong Ha^{min} (FSB Fuller) was OPCON to 1/3.

At 271100H, in the vic of YD 046622 Company "C" discovered a cache in bunkers. Upon searching area thoroughly the following was found and destroyed, with the exception of one (1) can of 82mm Mortar fuzes, evacuated to Regiment. 1-RPG-2 round, 1-long handled Chicom grenade, 1 US 81mm Mortar round, 2-82mm Mortar round, 17-1-lb TNT blocks, 5-short Chicom grenades, 5-2½ lb blocks TNT, 10-1lb blocks C-3, 100-AK-47 rounds, 1-AK assault pack, 2-satchel charges, 3-pith helmets, 1-pair Ho Chi Minh sandals, 1-AK-47 magazine, 30-82 mm mortar fuzes, assorted bandages (packaged and bloody), and one book (being sent to Regiment).

At 272355H, Company "A" located in vic of YD 078617, received two (2) rounds believed to be friendly 105mm artillery. Rounds landed within 100 meters of perimeter. One (1) man suffer a dislocated shoulder. Requested check fire.

At 280800H, in the vic of YD 046626 a patrol from Company "C" found 15 A Frame type bunkers along trail running in a easterly direction. One of the bunkers (all 8'x4') had been destroyed by artillery. Two cooking areas were discovered in the area connected by a maze of secondary trails. One mortar pit and four fighting holes were also found in the area. Upon searching the area the following was found and destroyed along with the bunkers. 59-82mm Mortar rounds, 2-81mm Mortar rounds, 4-short Chicom grenades, 2-long Chicom grenades, 1-can of rice (12"by12"), 1-can soybean oil, 1-AK assault pack, miscellaneous propaganda literature, 1-½ lb block TNT, 1 bag AK-47 rounds (300), 12-82mm Mortar fuzes, 1-AK magazines, 14 containers mortar increments, 5-packets of dried fish, 1-center portion of 82 Mortar baseplate, 1-120mm mortar round, and assorted 782 gear and cooking gear.

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At 291200H, in the vic of YD 086634, Company "D" combat patrol found 25 bunkers, 7 of which had been used recently. Looked as if an enemy platoon had been in area. Discovered and destroyed following with exception of the papers forwarded to Regiment: 2-REG rounds, 3-full AK-47 magazines, 1-AK47A drum (loaded), 7-82mm Mortar rounds, 3-blocks TNT, 1-60mm Mortar round, 1-poncho, 9-Chicom grenades, 4 rice bags, 1 pair wire cutters, 2-A1 mines, 1 directional mine, 1 NVA gravemarker and misc papers.

NOTE: Passed OPCON of H/2/3 to 2/3 on the afternoon of 28 June 1969.

Co A 3d Tanks OPCON passed to 3/3 on relief of 1/3 from fixed positions on 25 June 1969. Co B 3d Tanks reverted to D/S 3d Mar on 23 June 1969. F and G/2/9 detached from OPCON 1/3 and returned to parent unit upon relief of 1/3 by 3/3 at Con Thein and G-2 on the 25th of June.

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- ✓ 1. Log book of RegtFrag0 Number 59-69 to 78-69
- ✓ 2. Log book of BnFrag0 Number 152-69 to 181-69
- ✓ 3. Day and Night Activities Log - June 1969
- ✓ 4. Watch Officer Log - June 1969
- ✓ 5. Situation Report and Spot Report Log - June 1969
- ✓ 6. BnFrag0 175-69 w/overlay
- ✓ 7. Company "A", 3d Tank Bn Operation Order 1-69
- ✓ 8. Bn Opns Plan 8-69 (TEUTONIC KNIGHT)
- ✓ 9. 3d Mar OpnsO 6-69 (VIRGINIA RIDGE)
- ✓ 10. Tactical Planning Guidance from 3d Mar dtd 22 June 1969
- ✓ 11. 3d Mar msg ITC 111130H May69 (Supporting Arms Employment within the Virginia Ridge AO)
- ✓ 12. Air Off Log - June 69
- ✓ 13. Arty Off Log - June 69

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ORIGINATED MESSAGES from 1/3
for June 1969

<u>DTG</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>
✓ 1. 020645H Jun	Request for checkpoints
✓ 2. 020730H Jun	Request for position and number of dusters
✓ 3. 051120H Jun	Detainision of civilians until Road Sweep is completed
✓ 4. 131025H Jun	Indoctrination training
✓ 5. 140730H Jun	A0 extension request
✓ 6. 151200H Jun	Request for squad of MP to be in D/S of 1/3
✓ 7. 161450H Jun	Boundary change

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JUNE 1969

CLASSIFICATION <i>Conf.</i>		PRECEDENCE <i>R</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> SEND MOD CLEAR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SEND CLEAR
FROM <i>BC</i>			TO <i>DM</i>		
DTG <i>020645H May 69</i>					
<i>Request checkpoints and their grid locations for roadways from D2 to hill 37, from B2 to hill 37, from B2 to C10 and from C9 to C10.</i>					
<i>DM</i> / <i>R26</i> <i>020730</i> / <i>FBS</i>					
DAY <i>02</i>	MONTH <i>June</i>	YEAR <i>69</i>	TIME SIGNED <i>0655</i>	SIGNATURE AND RANK OF RELEASER <i>R. Reynolds 1LT.</i>	
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER USE ONLY			COMM CENTER OR RELEASER USE (INSTR - 11)		
TIME FILED	COMM CEN NO.	HOW SENT	DATE - TIME GROUP		

MESSAGES

CLASSIFICATION <i>Conf.</i>		PRECEDENCE <i>R</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> SEND MOD CLEAR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SEND CLEAR
FROM <i>BC</i>			TO <i>DM</i>		
DTG <i>020730 4 June 69</i>					
<i>Request to know position and number of clusters at VIN DAI Rock Crusher and south of A4.</i>					
<i>SENT TO CONSTITUTION B, RRE</i>					
<i>DM</i> / <i>R26</i> <i>020730</i> / <i>FBS</i>					
DAY <i>02</i>	MONTH <i>June</i>	YEAR <i>69</i>	TIME SIGNED <i>0736</i>	SIGNATURE AND RANK OF RELEASER <i>R. Reynolds 1LT.</i>	
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TIME FILED	COMM CEN NO.	HOW SENT	DATE - TIME GROUP		

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CLASSIFICATION UNCLAS		PRECEDENCE		<input type="checkbox"/> SEND MOD CLEAR	<input type="checkbox"/> SEND CLEAR
FROM BC		TO BC "C"			
<p>DETAIN ALL CIVILIANS AT ^{your} POS. UNTIL Roadsweep is completed by COCONUT CANDY</p>					
<p style="text-align: center;">ADM / AN 051620H / C</p>					
DAY	MONTH	YEAR	TIME SIGNED	SIGNATURE AND RANK OF RELEASER	
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER USE ONLY			COMM CENTER OR RELEASER USE (INSTR - 11)		
TIME FILED	COMM CEN NO.		HOW SENT	DATE - TIME GROUP	

CLASSIFICATION UNCLAS		PRECEDENCE R		<input type="checkbox"/> SEND MOD CLEAR	<input type="checkbox"/> SEND CLEAR
FROM BC		TO BC-R			
<p>INDOCTRINATION TRAINING</p> <p>1. WANT IMMEDIATE RECONCILIATION OF S-1 GAINS WITH S-3 INDOCTRINATION ROSTER. Prepare roster by company of people in forward Area who has not been through indoctrination will be returned for indoctrination within next few weeks</p> <p>2 Action S-1</p>					
<p style="text-align: center;">Admin / RR / 121025H Jun 69</p>					
DAY	MONTH	YEAR	TIME SIGNED	SIGNATURE AND RANK OF RELEASER	
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER USE ONLY			COMM CENTER OR RELEASER USE (INSTR - 11)		
TIME FILED	COMM CEN NO.		HOW SENT	DATE - TIME GROUP	

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CLASSIFICATION <i>Conf.</i>		PRECEDENCE <i>P</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> SEND MOD CLEAR		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SEND CLEAR	
FROM <i>BC</i>				TO <i>DM</i>			
DTG <i>141073Z</i> <i>H</i> <i>June 69</i>							
Request addition to BC roll park to include four comic book spaces added provided by UL [VKMKY] and LR [BHVCB] to be effective 141500Z <i>H</i> <i>June 69</i> .							
DAY <i>14</i>	MONTH <i>June</i>	YEAR <i>69</i>	TIME SIGNED <i>0745</i>	SIGNATURE AND RANK OF RELEASER <i>R. Reynolds 1/LT.</i>			
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER USE ONLY			COMM CENTER OR RELEASER USE (INSTR - 11)				
TIME FILED			COMM CEN NO.	HOW SENT		DATE - TIME GROUP	

CLASSIFICATION <i>Conf.</i>		PRECEDENCE <i>P</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> SEND MOD CLEAR		<input type="checkbox"/> SEND CLEAR	
FROM <i>Alexander</i>				TO <i>Don Hand</i>			
DTG <i>151200Z</i> <i>H</i> <i>June 69</i>							
Request squad of MP in O/S of Alexander to provide traffic control at Khe Sanh bridge. Present traffic problems are resulting in a dangerous tactical situation.							
DAY <i>15</i>	MONTH <i>June</i>	YEAR <i>69</i>	TIME SIGNED <i>1205</i>	SIGNATURE AND RANK OF RELEASER <i>R. Reynolds 1/LT.</i>			
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER USE ONLY			COMM CENTER OR RELEASER USE (INSTR - 11)				
TIME FILED			COMM CEN NO.	HOW SENT		DATE - TIME GROUP	

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CLASSIFICATION		PRECEDENCE		<input type="checkbox"/> SEND MOD CLEAR		<input type="checkbox"/> SEND CLEAR	
FROM Alex				TO ABCD			
Boundary Change							
EFF 161800H							
<p>U2.2 exclusive of it</p> <p>FM Monday R2.6 8.3 Follow CANOE Palm</p> <p>TO FM LT. R0.3 U3.3 THEN STRAIGHT Palm</p> <p>TO CART FM Sunday R2.3 U0.3 THEN Palm</p> <p>parallel to but exclusive of CART TO FM</p> <p>MAJOR R1.7 D1.8 THEN STRAIGHT Palm ELM TO</p> <p>Present AD at FM BANANA R5.0 U0.1</p>							
DAY	MONTH	YEAR	TIME SIGNED	SIGNATURE AND RANK OF RELEASER			
16	June	69	1445	R. Reynolds 1/LT, AC			
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER USE ONLY				COMM CENTER OR RELEASER USE (INSTR - 11)			
TIME FILED		COMM CEN NO.		HOW SENT		DATE - TIME GROUP	

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STAFF, 3RD AIRBORNE DIV
 2ND AIRBORNE DIV
 243300Z JUN 69

MARE ORDER 175-69

TIME ZONE: M

TASK ORGANIZATION: SEE ANNEX H (TASK ORGANIZATION)

1 SITUATION

A. ENEMY FORCES: 1930P

B. FRIENDLY FORCES: 30th AIRBORNE DIVISION
 CONTINUES SEARCH AND DESTROY OPERATION
 (VIRGINIA MIKE) NORTH OF ROUTE #9 TO LOCATE
 AND DESTROY ENEMY FORCES INFILTRATING
 ACROSS THE LAIZ. 3/3 OPERATES TO SOUTH
 AND EAST OF 1/3 RD. 1/2 (-) REIN IN DIS
 3RD AIRBORNE. 1ST BATTAL PROVIDES ROTARY WING
 AND FIXED WING SUPPORT.

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C. ATTACHMENTS AND DETACHMENTS.

DET "A" BTRY, 1ST BN, 12TH MAR (-) REM

PH, Co "B", 3RD INFAN BN

DET 3RD SHORE PARTY BN

DET INTERPRETERS, ARVN LIAISON, III MAF

DET SCOUT/NUCK, Hq Co, 3RD INFAN BN

LAT KIT (ARVN SCOUTS)

2. MISSION

1/3 IS RELIEVED OF RESPONSIBILITY OF DEFENSE OF FIXED POSITIONS AT A-4, C-2, C-3 BRIDGE, AND CHIN LU HQ AND SECURITY FOR ROUTES #7 AND #561 AND KHE CID BRIDGE BY ELEMENTS OF ~~1/3~~ 3/3. UPON RELIEF, ON 25 JUN 69, 1/3 ATTACKS FROM EAST TO WEST ALONG MUTTER'S RIDGE/HELICOPTER VALLEY COMPLEX.

3. EXECUTION

a. CONCEPT OF OPERATION. ANNEX B, (OPERATIONS OVERLAY)

1. MANEUVER WITH TWO COMPANIES

ATTACKING FROM EAST TO WEST, ONE COMPANY ATTACKING FROM SOUTH TO NORTH, AND ONE COMPANY WITH BN COMMAND GROUP ATTACKING

(2)

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FROM SOUTHEAST TO NORTHWEST, 1/3 CONDUCTS
COORDINATED, DETAILED SEARCH AND DESTROY
OPERATIONS IN ASSIGNED AO.

2. FIRES. MAXIMUM UTILIZATION OF ARTILLERY
AND AIR SUPPORT, INCLUDING PATROL PREP,
JDE, AND COUNTER/BATTERY FIRE.

ON 25 JUN 69,

B. H. S. Co. ALONG RELIEF AND PASSAGE OF
COMMAND AT CAMP 10 DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS,
ON ORDER CONDUCT MOTOR MARCH TO VIC
GRID 192577, DEBARK TRUCKS AND CONDUCT
TACTICAL MARCH TO VICINITY GRID 091602.
LINKUP WITH CO "C" AT THAT LOCATION, ESTAB-
LISH DEFENSIVE POSITIONS. ON ORDER,
REFRAX 262711H JUN 69, BE PREPARED TO
CONDUCT TACTICAL MARCH TO VICINITY GRID
201615.

ON 25 JUN 69,

C. Co. A ALONG RELIEF OF PLATOON PROVIDING
SECURITY FOR C-3 BRIDGE, THAT PLATOON
WILL CONDUCT MOTOR MARCH TO C-2. ALONG
RELIEF AT C-2 ON 25 JUN 69, AND ON

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ORDER, CONDUCT TACTICAL MARCH TO VIC GRID 115614 AND ESTABLISH DEFENSIVE POSITIONS. IN ORDER, APPROXIMATELY 260630 JUN 69, CONDUCT TACTICAL MARCH TO VIC GRID 115613 AND ESTABLISH NIGHT DEFENSIVE POSITIONS. CONDUCT AGGRESSIVE SAND/PLANT IN DAYLIGHT ACTIVITIES AND MAXIMUM SMOKE AMBUSHES DURING HOURS OF DARKNESS.

A.C. "B". ON 25 JUN 69, MEN RELIEF AT A-4, AND IN ORDER, CONDUCT TACTICAL MARCH TO VIC GRID 114660 AND ESTABLISH DEFENSIVE POSITION. IN ORDER, APPROXIMATELY 260630 JUN 69, CONDUCT TACTICAL MARCH TO VIC GRID 114626 AND ESTABLISH DEFENSIVE POSITION. CONDUCT AGGRESSIVE SAND/PLANT IN DAYLIGHT ACTIVITIES AND MAXIMUM SMOKE AMBUSHES DURING HOURS OF DARKNESS.

2. Co "C". AT 250630 JUN 69, CONDUCT TACTICAL MARCH TO VICINITY GRID 114622, SECURE POSITION, AND PREPARE TO LINK UP WITH AND PROVIDE SECURITY FOR BN COMMAND (POW) ARRIVING THAT LOCATION DURING INTERCOM. IN ORDER, APPROXIMATELY 260700 JUN 69, BE PREPARED TO CONDUCT TACTICAL MARCH

(4)

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TO VICINITY GRID 041615. COMPANY GROUP SECURITY TO BE PROVIDED BY (C) (-), PERMITTING AT LEAST ONE PLATOON FOR MANEUVER. ANTICIPATED THAT MANEUVER PLATOON WILL PASS THROUGH COMPANY POSITION EVERY OTHER DAY.

4. 0 D. ON 25 JUN 69, INCOMING RELIEF AND IN ORDER ATTACK IN NORTHERLY DIRECTION AND ESTABLISH NIGHT DEFENSIVE POSITIONS VICINITY GRID 042598. ON JPOSR, APPROXIMATELY 260630 JUN 69, CONTINUE ATTACK TO NORTH AND ESTABLISH NIGHT DEFENSIVE POSITIONS VICINITY GRID 021623. CONDUCT AGGRESSIVE SQUAD/PLATOON DAYLIGHT ACTIVITIES AND MAXIMUM SQUAD AMBUSHES DURING HOURS OF DARKNESS.

Coordinating Interactions

1. ALL COMPANIES WILL UTILIZE A TOTALY MOBILE CONCEPT WITH ALL ELEMENTS NOT TRANSPORTABLE AND MAXIMUM DEPENDENCE ON HELICOPTERS.

2. MOVEMENT SHOULD BE BY NO LARGER THAN PLATOON-SIZE UNITS, WHENEVER POSSIBLE.

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(3) AVOID ESTABLISHING POSITIONS ON HIGH GROUND TO COMBAT MORTAR THREAT. UTILIZE HIGH GROUND PRIMARILY FOR OBSERVATION.

(4) DO NOT WALK ALONG CRESTS OF HILLS AND RIDGELINES, WHENEVER POSSIBLE.

(5) ALL PLATOON AND LARGER POSITIONS WILL BE DUG IN.

(6) MAXIMUM USE OF SUPPORTING ARMS.

(7) MORTAR THREAT IS CONSTANT. ADVANCE LZ'S WITH MINIMUM NUMBER PERSONNEL AND CLEAR QUICKLY. ESTABLISH LZ DEFENSE WELL AWAY FROM LZ.

1. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS. NO CHANGE

2. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS. NO CHANGE

②

Secret

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D. HERRIN
1st COL USMC
Commanding

ANNEXES:

A - TASK ORGANIZATION

B - OPERATIONS OVERLAY

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Major USMC

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Copy 3 of 6 copies
 1st BN, 3RD MARINES
 CAMBODIA DISTRICT HQ
 240800H JUN 69

FRAG ORDER 175-69

Time Zone: H

TASK ORGANIZATION: SEE ANNEX A (TASK ORGANIZATION)

SITUATION

A ENEMY FORCES PASEP

FRIENDLY FORCES 3d MARINE REGIMENT
 CONTINUES SEARCH AND DESTROY OPERATION
 (VIRGINIA RIDGE) NORTH OF ROUTE #9 TO LOCATE
 AND DESTROY ENEMY FORCES INFILTRATING
 ACROSS THE DMZ. 3/3 OPERATES TO SOUTH
 AND EAST OF 1/3 AO. 1/12 (-) REIN IN D/S
 3RD MARINES. 1st MAW PROVIDES ROTARY WING
 AND FIXED WING SUPPORT. 2/3 eastern adjacent
 unit.

①

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C. ATTACHMENTS AND DETACHMENTS.

DET "A" BTRY, 1ST BN, 12TH MAR (-) REIN

PH, Co "B", 3RD ENGR BN

DET 3RD SHORE PARTY BN

DET INTERPRETERS, ARVN LIAISON, III MAF

DET SCOUT/SNIPEER, HQ Co, 3RD MARINES

DET KIT CARSON SCOUTS

2. MISSION

1/3 IS RELIEVED OF RESPONSIBILITY OF DEFENSE OF FIXED POSITIONS AT A-4, C-2, C-3 BRIDGE, AND CAM LO HQ AND SECURITY FOR ROUTES #9 AND #561 AND KHE GIO BRIDGE BY ELEMENTS OF ~~1/3~~ ~~2/3~~ 3/3. (IP) IN RELIEF, ON 25 JUN 69, 1/3 ATTACKS FROM EAST TO WEST ALONG MUTTER'S RIDGE/ HELICOPTER VALLEY COMPLEX.

3. EXECUTION

A. CONCEPT OF OPERATION. ANNEX B, (OPERATIONS OVERLAY)

1. MANEUVER WITH TWO COMPANIES

ATTACKING FROM EAST TO WEST, ONE COMPANY ATTACKING FROM SOUTH TO NORTH, AND ONE COMPANY WITH BN COMMAND GROUP ATTACKING

②

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ORDER, CONDUCT TACTICAL MARCH TO VIC GRID 115614 AND ESTABLISH DEFENSIVE POSITIONS. ON ORDER, APPROXIMATELY 260630 JUN 69, CONDUCT TACTICAL MARCH TO VIC GRID 084613 AND ESTABLISH NIGHT DEFENSIVE POSITIONS. CONDUCT AGGRESSIVE SQUAD/PLATOON DAYLIGHT ACTIVITIES AND MAXIMUM SQUAD AMBUSHES DURING HOURS OF DARKNESS.

1. Co. "B". ON 25 JUN 69, UPON RELIEF AT A-4, AND ON ORDER, CONDUCT TACTICAL MARCH TO VIC GRID 114660 AND ESTABLISH DEFENSIVE POSITION. ON ORDER, APPROXIMATELY 260630 JUN 69, CONDUCT TACTICAL MARCH TO VIC GRID 101626 AND ESTABLISH DEFENSIVE POSITION. CONDUCT AGGRESSIVE SQUAD/PLATOON DAYLIGHT ACTIVITIES AND MAXIMUM SQUAD AMBUSHES DURING HOURS OF DARKNESS.

2. Co. "C". AT 252630 JUN 69, CONDUCT TACTICAL MARCH TO VICINITY GRID 091602, SECURE POSITION, AND PREPARE TO LINK UP WITH AND PROVIDE SECURITY FOR BN COMMAND GROUP ARRIVING THAT LOCATION DURING AFTERNOON. ON ORDER, APPROXIMATELY 260700 JUN 69, BE PREPARED TO CONDUCT TACTICAL MARCH

(4)

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TO VICINITY GRID 061615. COMMAND GROUP SECURITY TO BE PROVIDED BY CO (-), PERMITTING AT LEAST ONE PLATOON FOR MANEUVER. ANTICIPATED THAT MANEUVER PLATOON WILL PASS THROUGH COMPANY POSITION EVERY OTHER DAY.

8. "D" ON 25 JUN 69, UPON RELIEF AND UPON ORDER ATTACK IN NORTHERLY DIRECTION AND ESTABLISH NIGHT DEFENSIVE POSITIONS VICINITY GRID 042598. ON ORDER, APPROXIMATELY 260630 JUN 69, CONTINUE ATTACK TO NORTH AND ESTABLISH NIGHT DEFENSIVE POSITIONS VICINITY GRID 020623. CONDUCT AGGRESSIVE SQUAD/PLATOON DAYLIGHT ACTIVITIES AND MAXIMUM SQUAD AMBUSHERS DURING HOURS OF DARKNESS.

9. Coordinating Instructions

1. ALL COMPANIES WILL UTILIZE A TOTALLY MOBILE CONCEPT WITH ALL ELEMENTS FOOT TRANSPORTABLE AND MINIMUM DEPENDENCE ON HELICOPTERS.

2. MOVEMENT SHOULD BE BY NO LARGER THAN PLATOON-SIZE UNITS, WHENEVER POSSIBLE.

Secret

(3) AVOID ESTABLISHING POSITIONS ON HIGH GROUND TO COMBAT MORTAR THREAT. UTILIZE HIGH GROUND PRIMARILY FOR OBSERVATION.

(4) DO NOT MOVE ALONG CRESTS OF HILLS AND RIDGELINES, WHENEVER POSSIBLE.

(5) ALL PLATOON AND LARGER POSITIONS WILL BE DUG IN.

(6) MAXIMUM USE OF SUPPORTING ARMS.

(7) MORTAR THREAT IS CONSTANT. MAIN LZ'S WITH MAXIMUM NUMBER PERSONNEL AND CLEAR QUICKLY. ESTABLISH LZ DEFENSE WELL AWAY FROM LZ.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS. NO CHANGE

5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS. NO CHANGE

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D. HERRON
L+COL USMC
COMMANDING

ANNEXES:

A - TASK ORGANIZATION

B - OPERATIONS OVERLAY

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Annex A (Task Organization) Ho. Reg 175.

1st. Bn. 3rd. Marines (Rein)

Det. A Btry, 1st Bn. 12th Marines D/S

2 Plt. Co. B, 3rd Engr. Bn. D/S

Det. 3rd. Shore Party D/S

Det. Ant. ARVN Liaison III MAF D/S

Det. Scout Sniper HQ Co 3rd Mar. D/S

Det. Scout Dog 3rd MP Bn. D/S

Det. Kil Cannon Scouts D/S

H & A Co

Engineers (2)

H&A (1)

Dog Teams (0)

Sniper Teams (0)

Interpreters (1)

KCS (0)

1 (one) section 81mm Mort. Plt. G/S

Det 106 R.R. Plt. (5-M60 M.G.)

Company A (Rein)

Engineers (2)

H&A (1)

Dog Teams (1)

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Sniper Team (1)

Interpreters (1)

KCS (2)

H & A Co

Det. Med. Sec. (7)

Det. Intell. Sec. (1)

Det. 81 m. m. Mort. Plt. (1)

Det. Comm. Plt. (1)

Det. TACP (1)

Det. FSCC (2)

Company B (Rein)

Engineers (2)

H & T (1)

Dog Team (1)

Sniper Team (1)

Interpreters (1)

KCS (2)

H & A Co.

Det. Med. Sec. (7)

Det. Intel. Sec. (1)

Det. 81 m. m. Mort. Plt. (1)

Det. Comm. Plt. (1)

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Secret

Det. TACP (1)

Det. FSCC (2)

Company C (Rein)

Engineers (2)

HST (1)

Dog Teams (1)

Striper Teams (1)

Interpreters (1)

KCS (2)

H&A Co

Det. Med. Sec. (7)

Det. Intell. Sec. (1)

Det. 81 m m. Mort. Plt. (1)

Det. Comm Plt (1)

Det. TACP (1)

Det FSCC (2)

Company D (Rein)

Engineers (2)

HST (1)

Dog Teams (1)

Striper Teams (1)

Interpreters (1)

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KCS (2)

H4A Co.

Det. Med. Sec (7)

Det. Intell. Sec. (1)

Det. 81m.m. Mort. Plt. (1)

Det. Comm. Plt. (1)

Det. TACP (1)

Det. FSOC (2)

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D. Heron

Lt. Col. USMC
Commanding

Secret

"A" COMPANY
3d Tank Battalion, 3d Marine Division (Rein), RMF
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

SECRET

8/MW/jed
3 June 1969

OPERATION ORDER 1-69

Security of Route 561: "Operation Hot OP"

Ref: (a) Map: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Series L7014, Sheets 6442IV, Quang Tri,
Sheet 6342 I, Cam Lo

1. SITUATION

a. ENEMY: Frequently in the past 6 months, the enemy has attempted to temporarily interdict the MSR, Route 561, between C-3 Bridge and Con Thien. Due to the nature of the terrain along the road which enhances good observation, this has been an impossible task. His activity has thus been reduced to harassment characterized by strike ambushes, mining, sniper fire, and detonation of various type SFD. It is also well known that the enemy attempts to keep the road under constant observation from numerous vantage points and OP's along the road. From POW interrogation, it is known that these positions frequently have radio capability yielding VRS readings. Their mission appears to be radio interception while closely watching movement along Route 561. It does not take long to correlate vehicle tag markings on scheduled moves with unit call signs, thus breaking radio codes.

b. FRIENDLY FORCES: 1st Battalion, 3d Marines continues assigned mission of security of fixed positions from Khe Gio Bridge along Route 9 to Con Thien on Route 561. Activities include extensive day and night patrols through-out the AO. Friendly forces will be periodically operating in proximity to Route 561. Indirect fire support will be available through the 1st Battalion, 3d Marines COC with Barcroft 24.

c. ATTACHMENTS: Five APC's from H&B Company are attached to "A" Company, 3d Tanks for augmentation into route security plans.

2. MISSION: "A" Company, 3d Tank Battalion, in D/S of 1st Battalion, 3d Marines continues to provide armor support whenever armor can materially contribute to the destruction of the enemy and daily provides one section of tanks or APC's to provide security along Route 561 whenever the MSR is open for traffic.

3. EXECUTION:

a. CONCEPT OF OPERATION: Tanks will occupy the fixed positions at A-4, C-2, and C-3 Bridge, ready to react to enemy contact in the A.O.

one of

Daily, an armor section will be dispatched from the fixed locations at C-3 Bridge, C-2 and A-4 accompanied by one infantry fire team per vehicle. Infantry security will be provided by units located at points of departure. Movement along the road will be governed by limits established on Annex 1. Maximum use of reconnaissance-by-fire will be used on suspected ambush sites and observation points along the road.

b. 1ST PLT., "A" CO. Be prepared to assign two tanks on daily basis for road security and provide immediate reaction force anywhere in 1st Battalion, 3d Marines A.O. Ensure all tank commander's are familiar with all targets on Annex 1 and Coordinating Instructions. Coordinate activities with infantry commander at your position.

c. 2ND PLT., "A" CO. Same as paragraph b.

d. 3RD PLT., "A" CO. Same as paragraph b.

e. H. PLT., "A" CO. Be prepared to augment other platoons when needed. Maintain M57A2 tanks in readiness for special assignments as requested by 1st Battalion, 3d Marines.

f. APC PLT (ATTACHED). Provide two APC's continuously at C-3 Bridge for augmentation into Road security plan. Be prepared to dispatch APC'S ON order to transport infantry in reaction to significant enemy contact. Comply with instructions in para. b. where applicable

g. Coordinating Instructions: (for road security operations)

1) Departure time: 0830
Return time: 1800 or when road closes.

2) Movement: Unscheduled and will not be systematic, but irregular as possible. Complete travel from Con Thien to C-3 at least once every 2 hours. Tanks will not occupy tank slots previously constructed along Rt. 561. Limits of movement are indicated on Annex 1.

3) Daily assignments for tanks and infantry will be promulgated weekly and separate from this order.

4) Fire: Maximum reconnaissance-by-fire will be directed toward numbered targets at possible ambush sites and observation points along the road. Clearance to fire will be obtained through 1st Bn, 3d Marines COC. The 90mm gun, .30 cal COAX, or .50 cal MB will be specified in the request for fire.

5) Numbered targets and Check Points will be used as Thrust Points for shifting fire or giving location reports.

6) Report crossing check points to Constitution A.

7) Action on Contact: Report to 1st Bn, 3d Marines ASAP. When the situation is appropriate, the enemy will be decisively destroyed by overwhelming tank fire power.

- 8) 90MM Beehive will be carried by all tanks on the move.
- 9) C-2 will be used through-out the day for At-Halt checks.
4. ADMINISTRATION/LOGISTICS: IAW Company SOP.
5. COMMAND AND SIGNAL:
- a. SIGNAL:
- 1) Visual: Ensure infantry understand arm-and-hand signals as appropriate when operating with armored vehicles.
- 2) COMMUNICATION:
- (a) Radio-RF-240: Constitution A 75.50
 Radio-R-442: Barcroft (P) 43.35 (Preset in Control Box)
 (S) 65.80
 Radio-R-442: Constitution A 75.50
- (b) Time/Direction Brevity Code:
- | | | | |
|---|------|-------|--------|
| U | 0500 | North | Blue |
| S | 1100 | South | Grey |
| M | 1700 | East | Silver |
| C | 2300 | West | Gold |
- (c) 3d Marines Thrust Points:
- | | | | |
|-----------------|------|----------------|------|
| Pacific Islands | 0655 | Weapons | 0063 |
| Motor Cycles | 0357 | Automobiles | 0864 |
| Girls Names | 1058 | Baseball Teams | 9865 |
| Beer | 1659 | MarCorps Bases | 0465 |
| Dogs | 0260 | Mountains | 1266 |
| Lakes | 9861 | Cigarettes | 0668 |
| Deodorants | 0662 | Ships | 1070 |
| Ice Cream | 1162 | Cities | 1273 |
- b. COMMAND:
- 1) Reports:
- (a) Spot Reports: ASAP
- (b) Loc Reports: Daily at 1300 and 1800. Road Security:
 Hourly to CA
- (c) Ammunition Expenditure: Daily at 1300
- (d) Other reports IAW "A" Co. SOP
- 2) Platoon Command Post:
- (a) 1st Platoon: C-2
- (b) 2nd Platoon: C-2
- (c) 3rd Platoon: A-4

Page 1 of 1
 1st Bn. 3rd. Marine
 Command District Hq. R.V.N.
 091500H June 69

OP Plan 08-69 (Eutonic Knight) HQ OPD. Virginia Ridge

1. Situation:

A. Enemy Forces Intelligence reports this area
 as a used by local V.C. as meeting place and
 possible cache sight. Enemy troops have been
 observed by A.D. in the general area.

B. Friendly Forces

1st at C-10 and C-12

1st at C-9

1st at D-2

1st in gray gold posture 1/3 A.D.

RF at B2

RF Center at B2

C. Attachments and Detachments Normal Plus
 Constitution A D/S, B 1/44 D/S.

2. Mission: 1/3 conducts joint 2 day S/D operations in
 the area bounded by UL 1567 and LR 1968 to find
 and destroy the enemy, his caches and installations.
 With one RF company in blocking position, one 1/3
 company conducts S/D operation/sweep of objective area.
 Following night 1/3/RF joint saturation ambushes,
 RF Company conducts second S/D/sweep of objective area.

3. Execution:

A. Concept of Operations Ref. Annex A (Operations Order)
 Secret

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On order, Company A (reinforced by normal attachments, 3 CIT (Same Mission Team) MACV, platoon of APC from "A" Co. 3rd Tank Bn. and section of "B" ltry. 44th. Mech., conduct mounted movement northeast of objective (Thin Chank) (165642): R F company moved into blocking position in conjunction with mounted movement R F established blocking position and ^{Company A} conducts S/D operations then sweep of objective area moving southwest. On order, upon completion of sweep Company A & R F company establish night defensive position at specified location. On order, during A.M. of 17 June, R.F. commence sweep to north through objective while Company A blocks on the west. R.F. sweep termination northwest of objective take met by APC and returned to base camp. Company A then migrates by foot to C-10 and detach ductors for return to Vinh Xai. Second R F company assumes ambush positions.

B. Company R F (Rein) On order, at or about 16 0500, conduct mounted migration on APC and ductors to demount vic. 165640. Establish defensive positions and conduct S/D patrols throughout the area. At 1900, sweep on foot with squads on line and

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dusters and APC in support to vic of 148632.

Establish squad ambush vic. 164637. NLT 170500H, squad ambush close on company position and establish blocking position. At 1800 company migrate to C-10 with dusters. Indigenous in area of operation and around C-2 dump will be collected for CIT screening.

C. B platoon & Delta platoon, On order on 15 June, Delta migrate tackle from company position to vic 02 for truck move to C-10; Bravo migrate platoon by truck to C-2. Upon arrival, chop open to Company A for approximately 48 hours.

D. Tigers move platoon of APC to C-10 by 151700H. On order, at 0500 16 June, move with mounted ^{Company A} units to vic. of 165640. Move in column with first APC empty and internal & external load on remainder. Support Company A at their position. On order, move with Company A sweep to vic 148632 and establish positions in support of ^{Company A}. Do not use established tracked vehicle trails for movement.

E. B Btry 44th Mech.

Migrate squad of dusters to C-10 by 151600H.

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On order, at 0500 H 16 June, conduct mounted troop movement to vic 16540 Provide fire support for established Company A perimeter. Migrate to vic. 148632 with ^{Company A} migration and provide supporting fires for night positions. On order, on 17 June, migrate in support of Company A to C-10.

F. R. F. Companies

1st. R.F. Co., on order 16 0500 June, migrate from present pos. to assume blocking platoon positions in vic. 150620, 161621, and 170630. On order on 17 June, sweep with platoon on line to vic. 140650. Shake hands with APC unit at 140650 and conduct mounted migration to base Camp.

2nd. R.F. Co on order, move into ambush posture vic. of 151610 & 195615.

G. Coordinating Instructions

1. Liaison officer and interpreter will be placed with R.F. company and Alpha command by MACV.
2. Radio operators for BC 24 and Company A push will be assigned to liaison officer.

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3. All fires will be cleared by BC 24; area prep will be coordinated with MACV.
4. "B" Btry. and APC come up on Company A push commencing 151700 H June.
5. VR for RFL, (AC), BC 3, APC 6 on 10 June.
6. Priority of fires to Company A & RF company.
7. A-4 provide trucks for Delta Tackle from D-2 to C-10 at 151500 and return 171700
Trucks for Bravo tackle from C-9 to C-10 151800 and return 171700.
8. CIT move with Alpha Command.
9. All personnel will carry gas masks.
10. CIT will operate collection point at C-2 ~~at~~ objective area.
11. A-4 provide 2-E8 gas launchers & CS crystals to Company A prior to 15 June.

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~~W. R. Etnyre~~
W. R. Etnyre
Maj. USMC
S-3

D. Heron
Lt. Col. USMC
Commanding

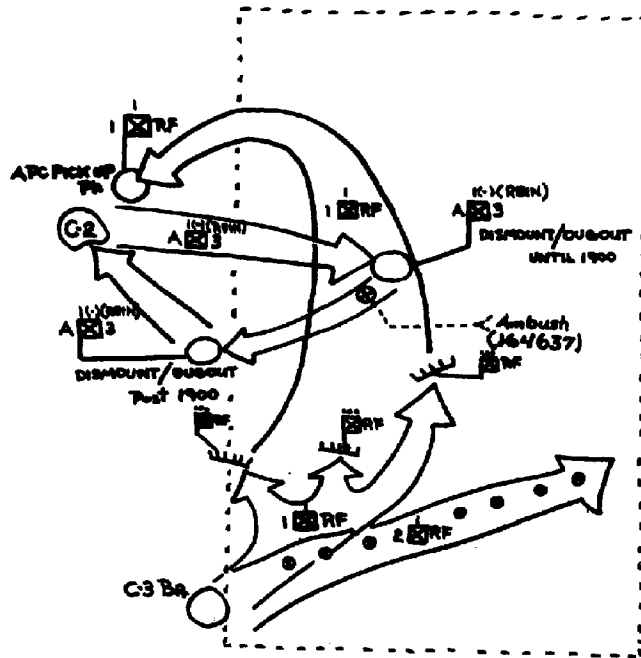
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09/50/14 June 69

ANNEX A (OPN. OVERLAY) TO Opn. PLAN 8-69 (TEUTONIC KNIGHT) TO Opn. VIRGINIA RIDGE

12
67+



MAP: VIETNAM: 1:100,000
SHEETS: 6248 I
6448 II
SERIES: L704

16 JUNE
17 JUNE

DISTRIBUTION: SPECIAL

+59
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S-3

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Commanding

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 S-2 1-3
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 090800H JUNE 1969

ANNEX B (INTELLIGENCE) TO OPERATION ORDER 8-69

REF: MAPS: SERIES L 7014 X 6442 IV QUANG TRI
 L 7014 X 6442 I NTS QUANG TRI

1. SUMMARY OF ENEMY SITUATION

Q. THE AREA OF OPERATIONS HAS BEEN REPORTED AS THE BASE AREA FOR A VIET CONG MAIN FORCE COMPANY, PROBABLY C-9. RECENTLY ROCKETS HAVE BEEN REPORTED OPERATING IN THE AREA (YD 170641 AND YD 191645). A BUNKER COMPLEX HAS BEEN LOCATED IN THE VICINITY OF YD 180647. TRAILS TRAVERSE THE AREA FROM NORTHWEST TO SOUTHEAST. THE ENEMY HAS BEEN EMPLOYED GATHERING RICE AND MAINTAINING CADRES IN THE LOCAL VILLAGES. ENEMY OPERATIONS ARE USUALLY IN SMALL UNITS. BUT OCCASIONALLY, FOR IMPORTANT OBJECTIVES, HE WILL MASS UP TO COMPANY SIZE.

B-1-

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SECRET**2. ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION****A. DETERMINE THE WEATHER FORECAST
FOR THE PERIOD OF THE OPERATION.**

- (1) THE S-2 WILL RECEIVE THE FORECAST FROM THE WEATHER SERVICE.

**B. DETERMINE EFFECT OF TERRAIN ON
OPERATION**

- (1) DISCOVER DENSITY OF VEGETATION
 - (a) ON HILLS
 - (b) ALONG STREAMS
 - (c) IN LOWLANDS
- (2) DISCOVER CONSISTENCY OF SOIL
 - (a) AREAS OF SAND
 - (b) RICE PADDIES
 - (c) EVIDENCE OF SWAMPS
 - (d) LOCATION OF HARD SOIL

**C. DETERMINE ENEMY AREAS OF
ACTIVITY.**

- (1) NOTE LOCATION OF
 - (a) CACHES
 - (b) BUNKERS

B-2

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(C) ASSEMBLY AREAS

(D) LOCATION OF WELL USED TRAILS

3. ACQUISITION TASKS

A. A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE INTELLIGENCE SECTION WILL TAKE PART IN THE PLANNED AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE TO ANSWER EEI'S CONCERNING SOIL AND VEGETATION.

B. LIAISON WILL BE CREATED WITH THE COUNTER INTELLIGENCE TEAM CONCERNING INFORMATION ANSWERING THE EEI OF ENEMY ACTIVITY.

C. ALL SUBORDINATE UNITS ARE ASSIGNED THE TASK OF REPORTING LOCATION OF AREAS OF ACTUAL OR SUSPECTED ENEMY AREAS OF ACTIVITY, CACHES OR BUNKERS.

4. MEASURES FOR HANDLING ENEMY PERSONNEL, DOCUMENTS AND MATERIAL.

A. PRISONERS OF WAR

(1) ALL PERSONNEL APPREHENDED IN THE AREA OF THE OPERATION WILL

B-3

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BE CONSIDERED PRISONERS OF WAR.

- (2) ALL PERSONNEL APPREHENDED WILL BE TURNED OVER TO COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE PERSONNEL FOR INTERROGATION. THE CAPTURING UNIT WILL PROVIDE SUFFICIENT PERSONNEL TO GUARD PRISONERS.
- (3) THE S-4 WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF CAPTURED PERSONNEL.

B. CAPTURED DOCUMENTS

ALL PERSONNEL WILL BE ON THE ALERT FOR ANY DOCUMENTS. ALL DOCUMENTS WILL BE TURNED INTO THE S-2 VIA THE CHAIN OF COMMAND WITH INFORMATION CONCERNING: CIRCUMSTANCES OF CAPTURE; TIME; PLACE; UNIT OF CAPTURE; PERSON; AND SITUATION.

C. CAPTURED EQUIPMENT

ALL EQUIPMENT CAPTURED AS A RESULT OF CONTACT WITH THE ENEMY, SEARCHES OF THE AREA OF OPERATIONS AND DURING THE PERIOD OF THE OPERATION WILL BE

B-4

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TURNED INTO THE S-2 VIA THE
CHAIN OF COMMAND,

5. DOCUMENTS AND/OR EQUIPMENT REQUIRED
ALL REQUESTS FOR MAPS OF THE AREA
OF THE OPERATION WILL BE SUBMITTED
TO THE S-2 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

6. MISCELLANEOUS INSTRUCTIONS

A. TARGET INFORMATION

- (1) TWO LOCATIONS IN THE OPERATIONAL
AREA HAVE BEEN PREVIOUSLY ID-
ENTIFIED WITH ENEMY ACTIVITY
(a) YD 181648 BUNKERS
YD 170643 POSSIBLE ROCKET SITE

- (2) THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS HAVE BEEN
SELECTED AS POSSIBLE ESCAPE ROUTES.

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| (a) YD 132666 | STREAM |
| (b) YD 139664 | STREAM |
| (c) YD 147669 | TRAIL |
| (d) YD 148664 | TRAIL/STREAM JUNCTION |
| (e) YD 141657 | TRAIL/STREAM JUNCTION |
| (f) YD 148658 | TRAIL |

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(g) YD 136 653	TRAIL
(h) YD 138 658	TRAIL
(i) YD 152 669	TRAIL/STREAM JUNCTION
(j) YD 164 665	TRAIL/STREAM JUNCTION
(k) YD 166 669	STREAM
(l) YD 174 665	TRAIL JUNCTION
(m) YD 186 663	TRAIL/STREAM JUNCTION
(n) YD 156 659	TRAIL/STREAM JUNCTION
(o) YD 159 651	TRAIL JUNCTION
(p) YD 179 658	TRAIL/STREAM JUNCTION
(q) YD 179 654	TRAIL JUNCTION
(r) YD 178 649	TRAIL/STREAM JUNCTION
(s) YD 176 644	STREAM
(t) YD 174 641	STREAM
(u) YD 181 645	TRAIL JUNCTION
(v) YD 179 638	STREAM
(w) YD 178 632	TRAIL

Lt COL USMC
COMMANDING

B-6

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1/3

30 MARINE REGT.
FSB WHISMAN
28 1200 H APRIL 69

REFERENCE: MAP, VIETNAM, 1:50,000, SERIES
L7014 SHEETS 6442 IV AND 6342 I

CODE NAME : VIRGINIA RIDGE

TIME ZONE : N

TASK ORGANIZATION : ANNEX A.

1 SITUATION

a. ENEMY FORCES. ANNEX B

b. FRIENDLY FORCES. 3rd MARINE DIVISION

REDEPLOYS MAJOR FORCES TO CONTINUE PRESSURE AND EXPLOIT CONTACTS WITH ENEMY FORCES INFILTRATING ACROSS THE CENTRAL PORTION OF THE DMZ AND PREPARES FOR SEARCH AND DESTROY OPERATIONS IN THE UPPER DA KRONG VALLEY. 2^D ARVN REGT. OPERATES TO THE EAST OF 3^D MARINES AO. AND MAY HAVE UNITS DEPLOYED IN THE MUTTER'S RIDGE, HELICOPTER VALLEY AREA. 4TH MARINES IS DEPLOYED TO THE WEST WHILE 9TH MARINES PREPARES FOR OPERATIONS IN THE UPPER DA KRONG RIVER VALLEY. 1/2(-) REIN.

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IS IN DIRECT SUPPORT OF 3⁰ MARINES. 4/12 IS IN GENERAL SUPPORT OF 3⁰ MARINE DIVISION. 1ST MARINE AIR WING PROVIDES HELICOPTER SUPPORT IN COORDINATION WITH 7TH AIR FORCE, PROVIDES FIXED WING SUPPORT.

2 ATTACHMENTS AND DETACHMENTS. ANNEX A.

2 MISSION. 3⁰ MARINES PHASES OUT OPERATION MAINE CRAB AND REDEPLOYS TO COMMENCE SEARCH AND DESTROY OPERATION (VIRGINIA RIDGE) NORTH OF ROUTE 9 TO LOCATE AND DESTROY ENEMY FORCES INFILTRATING ACROSS THE DMZ. 3⁰ MARINES RELIEVES 9TH MARINES AT A-4, C-2, CAM-LO, KHE GIO BRIDGE, ECB, AND FSB FULLER

3. EXECUTION

a. CONCEPT OF OPERATION. ANNEX C, OPERATION OVERLAY

(1) MANEUVER. WITH ONE BATTALION OCCUPYING FIXED POSITIONS ALONG ROUTE 561, TO THE EAST AND ROUTE 9 TO THE SOUTH, TWO BATTALIONS OF THE 3⁰ MARINES CONDUCT COORDINATED SEARCH AND DESTROY OPERATIONS, ATTACKING FROM SW TO NE AGAINST THE FIXED POSITIONS ALONG RT 561. ONE BATTALION TO THE SOUTH ALONG THE DONG HA MTN. - ABOUT CAO RIDGE ~~FIELD~~ ^{LINE. ONE BATTALION TO THE} VALLEY.

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NORTH ALONG MUTTER'S RIDGE / HELD VALLEY.

(2) FIRES . PRIORITY OF ARTY AND TACTICAL AIR SUPPORT TO 1ST AND 3RD BATTALIONS.

a. 1ST BN

(1) ON 29 APRIL, CHOP OPCON TO 9TH MARINES FOR EMPLOYMENT IN VIC. OF CAMP CARROLL.

(2) ON 1 MAY RETURN OPCON 3RD MARINES; BEGIN S/D OPERATIONS IN THE DONG HA MTN. / ABOUT CAO RIDGE LINE; RELIEVE ELEMENT OF 2/9 AND PROVIDE SECURITY FOR FSB FULLER.

(3) ON 1 MAY CHOP COMPANY AT FSB ELLIOT TO 2/3 UNTIL 4 MAY.

(4) ON 4 MAY ATTACK SW TO NE ALONG THE DONG HA MTN. / ABOUT CAO RIDGE LINE IN CONJUNCTION WITH 3/3, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANNEX C.

c. 2ND BN

(1) ON 1 MAY, ASSUME AO. WITHIN OPERATION VIRGINIA RIDGE AND PROVIDE SECURITY FOR A-4, C-2, C-3 BRIDGE AND CAM LO HQ, RELIEVING 1/9; ASSUME SECURITY FOR ROUTES #9 AND 561, KHE GIO BRIDGE, AND FSB ELLIOT RELIEVING 2/9, ASSUMING OPCON CO/1/3 VIC. FSB ELLIOT.

(2) CHOP CO/2/3 AT FSB WHISMAN TO 3/3.

(3) BE PREPARED, ON 4 MAY, FOR RETURN TO 2/3'S OPCON, CO/2/3 FROM FSB WHISMAN.

(4) UPON ARRIVAL OF CO/2/3, RELEASE CO/1/3

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AT FSB ELLIOT.

(5) BE PREPARED ABOUT 23 MAY TO R&R AT CUA VIET. UPON RETURN, BE PREPARED FOR S/D OPERATIONS.

2. 3⁰ BN

(1) ON 30 APRIL RELIEVE CO/2/3 ON FSB M'CLINTOCK.

(2) ON 1 MAY ASSUME OPCON CO/2/3 AT FSB WHISMAN; BE PREPARED TO BECOME OPEN TO 9TH MARINES IN PRESENT AO.

(3) ON 3 MAY, CHOP CO/2/3 AT FSB WHISMAN TO 9TH MARINES; RELIEVED IN AO. BY 9TH MARINES UNIT AND RETURN TO OPCON 3⁰ MAR. VIC ROCKPILE AND FSB PETE.

(4) ON 4 MAY, ATTACK FROM SW TO NE ALONG MUTTER'S RIDGE/HELICOPTER VALLEY IN CONJUNCTION WITH 1/3 IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANNEX C.

2. COORDINATING INSTRUCTIONS

(1) OPERATION MAINE CRAB TERMINATES & OPERATION VIRGINIA RIDGE COMMENCES ON 1 MAY 69.

(2) 1ST AND 3⁰ BATTALIONS WILL EMPLOY A TOTALLY MOBILE CONCEPT, WITH ALL ELEMENTS FOOT TRANSPORTABLE, AND MINIMUM DEPENDENCE ON HELICOPTER SUPPORT.

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(3) IN LIEU OF A BOUNDARY BETWEEN 1ST AND 3RD BATTALIONS A FCL WILL BE UTILIZED, TO ALLOW CLOSER DIRECT COORDINATION OF FIRES AND MANEUVER BETWEEN THE TWO UNITS.

(4) DIRECT SUPPORT ARTILLERY UNITS ARE IN SUPPORTING RANGE THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE VIRGINIA RIDGE A.O.

(5) THE FOLLOWING THRUST POINTS IN EFFECT 010001H MAY 69.

FISH 1072	✓ AFTER SHAVE LOTIONS 0460
FURNITURE 1468	✓ PLANETS 0158
MAGAZINES 0666 ✓	CARS 9757
ICE CREAM 0264 ✓	CITIES 0555
SNAKES 9963 ✓	COWBOY STARS 1658
PRESIDENTS 0959 ✓	BEERS 1462
NATO COUNTRIES 0862 ✓	

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS. ANNEX E.

5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS.

a 3RD MARINES COMMAND POST. DISPLACE FROM MAINE GRAB A.O. TO DONG NA COMBAT BASE. BE PREPARED TO REDEPLOY JUMP CP WITHIN A.O. AS SITUATION DICTATES WITHIN (1) HOUR AFTER ALERT.

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B. COMMUNICATIONS. ANNEX F.

ACKNOWLEDGE

ANNEXES : A - TASK ORGANIZATION
B - INTELLIGENCE
C - OPERATION OVERLAY
D - FIRE SUPPORT COORDINATION
E - ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS
F - COMMUNICATIONS

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COLONEL
U.S. MARINE CORPS
COMMANDING

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Dong Ha Combat Base, RVN
222300H June 69

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

3/TCD/wmh
22 June 69

From: Commanding Officer, Third Marines
To: Commanding Officer, First Bn, Third Marines
Commanding Officer, Second Bn, Third Marines
Commanding Officer, Third Bn, Third Marines
Info: Commanding Officer, First Bn, Twelfth Marines
Commanding Officer, Company A, Third Tank Bn
Commanding Officer, Company B, Third Tank Bn
Commanding Officer, Company B, Third Engineer Bn

Subj: Tactical Planning Guidance

Encl: ✓(1) Planning Overlay

1. On 25 June the Third Bn will complete its R & R and relieve the First Bn of the security role for the fixed positions (A-4, C-2, C-3B, CLDH, & KGB) and the LOC's in the Third Marines AO.

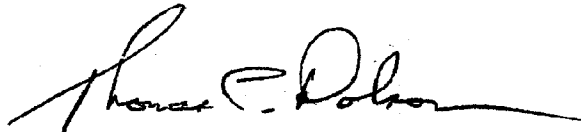
2. Upon relief, the First Bn will be committed into the western portion of the 3d Marines AO, astride Mutter's Ridge and north of Dong Ha Mountain. As they move west to east the First Bn will squeeze out the Second Bn.

3. The Second Bn will conduct a helicopter assault into Helicopter Valley at first light on the 24th. They will then continue their orientation to the east until they close on the fixed positions (toward end of June). Upon reaching the fixed positions, the Second Bn will assume an AO encompassing the Dong Ha Mountain complex, the valley north of there, and the SW area of the 3d Marines AO lying west of Hill 37.

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4. Thus about the 1st of July the 3d Marines will be generally oriented as per enclosure (1).

5. It is anticipated that our posture will again be changed around the 7th of July when we may move further to the west toward FSB Russell.



Thomas C. DOLSON
by direction

Distribution:	Third Marines (S-3)	(2)
	Third Marines (S&C)	(1)
	CC, First Bn, Third Marines	(2)
	CC, Second Bn, Third Marines	(2)
	CC, Third Bn, Third Marines	(2)
	CC, First Bn, Twelfth Marines	(1)
	CC, Company A, Third Tank Bn	(1)
	CC, Company B, Third Tank Bn	(1)
	CC, Company B, Third Engineer Bn	(1)

PRIORITY DTG: _____ Z MAY 69

FROM: 3d MARINES
TO: 1/3; 2/3; 3/3
INFO: 3d MARINE DIVISION; 1/12

DTG 111130H
MAY 69

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

SUBJ: SUPPORTING ARMS EMPLOYMENT WITHIN THE VIRGINIA RIDGE AO.

1. ARTILLERY SUPPORT AVAILABLE. IN SUPPORT OF MOST LOCATIONS IN THIS AO WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING ARTILLERY SUPPORT:

LOCATION	UNIT	RELATIONSHIP
POISON	8th BTRY (105)	B/2 BTRY
SL-2	9th BTRY (105)	"
	2d BTRY (155)	"
ALLIOT CE	10th BTRY (105)	"
	11th BTRY (105)	"
VARIOUS	12th (155)	QUICK FIRE (155)

IT IS FELT THAT THE REGIMENT IS NOT TAKING FULL ADVANTAGE OF THIS GREAT QUANTITY OF POSSIBLE ARTILLERY SUPPORT.

2. DEFENSIVE FIRES. DEFENSIVE FIRES ARE FELT TO BE ESSENTIAL FOR EACH SEPARATE POSITION. ALTHOUGH FREQUENTLY TIME CONSUMING TO PREREGISTER, IT IS CONSIDERED WORTH TOTAL EFFORT TO OBTAIN AND REGISTER DEFENSIVE FIRES.

a. ARTILLERY NIGHT DEFENSIVE FIRES (NDF). ARTILLERY NDF'S ARE RECOMMENDED TO BE FIRED BY TWO GUNS IN ADJUSTMENT. THE ARTILLERY BATTALIONS WILL FIRE THEM IN AS CLOSE AS 500 METERS WITH GOOD GUN TARGET LINES (GTL) AND 800 METERS WHEN THE ANGLE "T" IS LESS THAN 900 MILS. FREQUENTLY THIS IS NOT CLOSE ENOUGH AND THEREFORE, UPON THE REQUEST OF THE INFANTRY BATTALION COMMANDER, THIS DISTANCE CAN BE REDUCED TO 300 METERS. IN THE LATTER CASE, NDF'S WILL BE RECHECKED BY THE ARTILLERY DURING METRO CONDITION CHANGES WITH W.P. ROUNDS, TIME FUZED, WITH 200 METER HEIGHT OF BURST. UPON ENEMY CONTACT THESE FIRES MAY BE ADJUSTED TOWARDS THE FRIENDLY POSITIONS IN 50 METER INCREMENTS.

b. MORTAR NIGHT DEFENSIVE FIRES. MORTAR NIGHT D'S ARE USED TO CLOSE THE FIRE SUPPORT GAP BETWEEN THE ARTILLERY FIRES AND THE INFANTRY DEFENSIVE POSITIONS. THESE FIRES SHOULD ALSO BE REGISTERED AS CLOSE AS SAFETY PERMITS. UNDER PROPER SUPERVISION 81'S HAVE BEEN BROUGHT IN TO 100 METERS AND 60'S TO 50 METERS FROM THE FRIENDLY LINES. MORTAR AMMO CAN BE BUILT UP QUICKLY ON ANY POSITION BY PRIORITY RESUPPLY.

DECLASSIFIED

c. ILLUMINATION FIRES. ILLUMINATION BY ANY AND ALL MEANS IS OF GREAT ASSISTANCE ONCE UNDER ATTACK. THESE TARGETS MAY ALSO BE PREREGISTERED BY ARTILLERY & MORTAR BATTERIES AND FIRED IN MINUTES WHEN UNDER ATTACK. THE LACK OF FRIENDLY ILLUMINATION, WHEN AN ATTACK IS IMMINENT, IS THE ONE GREAT ADVANTAGE THE ENEMY HAS TO EXPLOIT OUR CONFUSION AND INITIAL LACK OF ORIENTATION. PROPERLY USED ILLUMINATION PROVIDES FRIENDLY FORCES THE ADVANTAGE.

d. ARTILLERY FINAL PROTECTIVE FIRES (FPF). EACH INFANTRY BATTALION IS HEREBY ASSIGNED ONE ARTILLERY FPF, UNLESS PRIORITIES ARE REQUESTED BY THIS HEADQUARTERS. A BATTERY FPF WILL HAVE THE SAME SAFETY CATCHER AS THE ARTILLERY MFP'S. HOWEVER, THE REGISTRATION IS MORE TIME CONSUMING BECAUSE SIX GUNS VERSUS TWO WILL BE REGISTERED. THE FPF WILL BE LAID ON THE BATTERY'S GUNS AT ALL TIMES WHEN NOT ENGAGED IN ANOTHER MISSION.

3. HARRASSING & INTERDICTION FIRES (H & I). H & I'S CAN BE USED TO COVER EVERY AVENUE OF APPROACH & DANGER AREA NOT AMBUSHED OR COVERED BY A WELL PLACED LISTENING POST. THIS REGIMENT WILL NEVER RESTRICT THE NUMBER OF H & I TARGETS, IF THE ASR DOES NOT PRECLUDE SAME.

4. MASSED FIRE. THERE ARE SEVERAL MEANS BY WHICH FIRES CAN BE MASSED TO PROVIDE VOLUME & AREA DESTRUCTION. THESE INCLUDE ZONE & SHIFT FIRES, TIME ON TARGET (TOT) FIRES, AND REINFORCING FIRES. WITHIN THE LIMITS OF UNIT SAFETY THESE TYPES OF FIRES CAN BE WELL EMPLOYED AGAINST KNOWN, SUSPECTED, OR FLEETING TARGETS, IF THE ENEMY POSITION CAN BE ESTABLISHED BY MAP PLOTS WITHIN 200 METERS ACCURACY.

a. TOT'S. IF THE ENEMY PRESENTS A LUCRATIVE MOVING OR STATIC TARGET, HIS POSITION AT THE LAPSE TIME IN FIRING IS ESTIMATED AND A TOT FIRE FOR EFFECT (FFE) CAN BE REQUESTED. FOR SUBSEQUENT FIRES, CORRECT AND REPEAT THE FFE.

b. ZONE & SHIFT FIRES (Z & S). IF THE KNOWN OR SUSPECTED TARGET IS AREA IN NATURE, WHETHER MOVING OR FIXED, ZONE & SHIFT, FFE CAN BE REQUESTED. FOR SUBSEQUENT FIRES, CORRECT AND REPEAT THE FFE.

c. REINFORCING FIRES. IF A GREATER VOLUME OF FIRES OR A LARGER CALIBER OF ARTILLERY IS DESIRED REQUEST REINFORCING FIRES BE ADDED TO a. & b. ABOVE.

RELEASED BY: Thomas C. Doherty

TIME: 1130H

UNIT: ARTILLERY