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HEADQUARTERS
2nd Battalion, 3d Marines
3d Marine Division, (Rein), FMF
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California 96602

3/RFS/riv
5750
2 September 1966

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, 3d Marines

Subj: Command Chronology; submission of

Ref: (a) DivO 3100.1B
(b) DivO 3000.5
(c) DivO 5750.2
(d) RegtO 3120.1B
(e) Map: VIETNAM: 1:50,000, AMS Series L7012
Sheet 6640 IV

Encl: (1) Command Chronology for the period 1-31 August 1966

1. In accordance with references (a) thru (d), enclosure (1) is submitted herewith.


V. OHANESIAN

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 August through 31 August 1966

Part I	Organizational Data Sheet
Part II	Significant Events
Part III	Supporting Documents

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ENCLOSURE (1)
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PART I

1. Reporting Unit. 2d Battalion, 3d Marines
2. Command Post. DA NANG, RVN, Coordinates (AT 916582)
3. Period Covered. 1 August - 31 August 1966
4. Date of Submission. 3 September 1966
5. Average Monthly Strength:

	USMC	USN
Officers	33	2
Enlisted	878	55

6. Commanding Officer. Lieutenant Colonel V. OHANESIAN
7. Principle Staff

S-1	2ndLt C. E. HURST	USMC
S-2	2ndLt R. COOK	USMC
S-3	Capt R. F. SHERIDAN	USMC
S-4	Capt R. L. WOODWARD	USMC

8. Subordinate Units

H&S Co	1stLt C. F. LEWIS (1-8Aug66) Capt J. L. THROCKMORTON (9Aug-current)	USMC USMC
Co "E"	1stLt G. P. NUGENT Jr.	USMC
Co "F"	Capt J. P. HARDIN	USMC
Co "G"	Capt A. H. GOMEZ (1-24Aug66) 1stLt J. R. KOPKA (25Aug-current)	USMC USMC
Co "H"	Capt J. L. THROCKMORTON (1-8Aug) 1stLt J. M. BURCH (9Aug-current)	USMC USMC

*1stPlt, Co A,

3d Bn

2ndLt T. W. ROHLER

USMC

*1stPlt, Co A,

3d Engr Bn

1stLt J. A. STUTTS

USMC

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*1st Plt, CoA,
3d ATBn

2nd Lt E. A. ROBELLE (1-14 Aug)
2nd Lt T. KIMBELL (15-current)

USMC
USMC

**16th Plt,
768th Co. RVN NO NGUYEN AN BIEN

ARVN.

* Direct Support
** OPCON 2/3

9. Mission

a. To occupy, defend, and control assigned TAOR: conduct search and clear operations within the TAOR; conduct combat/reconnaissance patrolling throughout the TAOR; maintain control of the populated areas to preclude the Viet Cong from infiltrating into such areas and to preclude them from exerting influence on the populace; be prepared to conduct combined USMC/RVN force operations; and be prepared to conduct operations involving adjacent units within and/or beyond assigned TAOR.

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1. Personnel

a. Replacements. During the reporting period the Battalion joined the following replacements:

- (1) USMC Enlisted 121
- (2) USN Officers 1
- (3) USN Enlisted 7

b. Rotation. The following number of personnel were rotated to CONUS:

- (1) USMC Officers 2
- (2) USMC Enlisted 76
- (3) USN Officers 1
- (4) USN Enlisted 7

c. Personnel lost through attrition other than rotation

- (1) WIA 59
- (2) KIA 7

(3) Three USMC permanent change of station in connection with emergency leave.

- (4) Non-battle casualties 11

(5) Intra Division/Regimental Transfers

(a) Division Transfers. One USMC officer to Division.

(b) Regimental Transfers. 46 USMC enlisted to Regiment

d. R&R. During the period the following number of personnel visited the places indicated:

Tokyo	14	Manila	2
Bangkok	15	Taipei	8
Okinawa	21	Kuala Lumpur	3
Hong Kong	7	Penang	3
Singapore	3	Hawaii	3

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c. Special Services

- (1) A ration of beer was distributed to all units that participated in Operation ALLEGHANY free of charge on 29 August.

2. Administration

a. Personnel Accounting. A shortage of consumable supplies still exists.

b. Postal. Satisfactory.

c. Pay. No problem areas

d. Post Exchange. The Battalion is currently served by mobile exchange truck. Arrangements are currently being made for an exchange trailer which which will provide seven day service.

e. Legal and Discipline

- (1) Two Summary Courts Martial were held during the period.

(2) Two discharges for unfitness and two undesirable discharges are pending.

- (3) One man confined for safe keeping.

- (4) Two persons are currently on legal hold.

- (5) One Bad Conduct Discharge Pending.

(6) The following Article 15 punishments were held within the Battalion:

<u>Article</u>	<u>Total NJP's</u>
86 3	Battalion 3
89 1	Company 7
91 2	
92 3	
112 1	
113 2	
134 2	

f. Awards. An unknown number of Purple Hearts have been awarded at C-Med and NSA.

g. Promotions. The following promotions were delivered during this period:

(1)	To MSgt	1
(2)	To GySgt	1
(3)	To Cpls	29
(4)	To LCpl	27

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3. Intelligence

a. Enemy Situation at Beginning of Period

(1) Confirmed units within the TAOR consisted of the Dai Loc (LF) Company with a strength of 90 men located vicinity AT 801552.

(2) A SPAR report confirmed the 402d Battalion (NVN) with a strength of 400 men vicinity GS (AT 8060). (Realignment of the TAOR boundary put this unit with the TAOR).

(3) Also confirmed was the Headquarters of the R20 (Doc Lap) Battalion with a strength of 130 men vicinity GS (AT 8854), approximately 1500 meters south of the TAOR, and the Hoa Hieu (LF) Company with a strength of 120 men vicinity GS (AT 9464), approximately 1000 meters northeast of the TAOR.

(4) *Probable units consisted of the 5/V25 Battalion with a strength of 600 men vicinity GS (AT 8753), approximately 3000 meters south of the TAOR, with two companies with a combined strength of 215 men possible located vicinity GS (AT 8054) and GS (AT 8055), in the extreme southwestern portion of the TAOR.

(5) An unidentified NVA battalion was reported by Dai Loc District Headquarters as possible located vicinity GS (AT 8254, AT 8354, AT 8554 and AT 8453) approximately 1000 to 2000 meters south of the TAOR.

(6) Dai Loc District Headquarters reported six guerrilla platoons as operating within the southern portion of the TAOR. Each platoon was reported as having a strength of 30 to 40 men.

* Two separate reports, one from a captured member of the 5/V25 Battalion and the other from a rallier from the R20 Battalion, have indicated that the 5/V25 Battalion and R20 Battalion are one and the same unit. The captured man made this statement under lie detector test and it was indicated that he was speaking the truth.

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b. Enemy Initiated Incidents During the Reporting Period.

- (1) 010910H - "G" Co: Patrol discovered a ChiCom grenade set beside a hole in the wall vicinity AT 938596. A trip wire was stretched across the hole so that anyone stepping into the hole would push down on the wire and activate the grenade. Mine was destroyed in place.
- (2) 011045H - CombatGas: Patrol observed two female VN running from patrol vicinity AT 945627. Patrol pursued and apprehended the women. A search revealed food, a vial of Penicillin and another vial of unknown type medicine. The women were sent to District Headquarters for questioning. Both women admitted they were carrying these supplies to the VC. The women were sent to IIT for interrogation. One woman was released. The other woman was revealed as the wife of a known VC and was classified as a VC by IIT.
- (3) 011115H - "A" Co, 9th Engr Bn: While improving the MSR two caves were found vicinity AT 928608. Caves were 8' deep and 15' long, with two entrances. Caves were destroyed.
- (4) 011130H - "H" Co: Patrol discovered five M2A1 "Bouncing Betty" mine casings, one ChiCom grenade with filler and fuze removed and four 20mm shell casings, vicinity AT 923591. Casings were disposed of by sinking in the river.
- (5) 011430H - "F" Co: Patrol found what appeared to be a trench on the river bank vicinity AT 885557. Trench was 15' long and 3' deep and appeared freshly dug.
- (6) 021100H - "G" Co: Patrol conducting routine ID check found two female VN with ID cards issued in Saigon. Women were apprehended vicinity AT 908507. Interrogation showed that the two women were former residents of the area and were returning to the area. They were released.
- (7) 021115H - "C" Co, 3d Recon: Patrol observed three VC with weap vicinity AT 835613. Artillery mission was requested but VC moved into heavy brush and results of fire could not be observed.
- (8) 021155H - "H" Co: A Hamlet Chief contacted the mine sweep team and informed them that he knew of 20 VC operating in the hamlet of Lac Thanh Tay vicinity AT 943592 in the adjacent unit's MAOR. A platoon of district forces was escorted to the area and made liaison with elements of the adjacent unit who were dispatched to sweep the area.

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- (9) 030830H - CombatCo: Patrol found two caves vicinity AT 928608. One cave had an entrance 1 1/2' high and 1' wide with an internal room 10' long by 5' wide by 3' high. The cave was reinforced with metal stakes and bamboo. An entrance 1 1/2' high by 1' wide led from the first cave into a second cave measuring 9' long by 4' wide by 3' high and reinforced with bamboo. Five .30 cal carbine rounds were found in the second cave. Both caves were destroyed.
- (10) 031000H - CombatCo: Patrol stopped four girls and four women on the road vicinity AT 902572. They were carrying 20 pounds of salt and 15 pounds of dried fish. District forces attached to the CAC stated that the females were carrying supplies to the VC. All eight were sent to District Headquarters for questioning. The four girls were released. The four women were turned over to the National Police for further interrogation.
- (11) 031800H - "A" Co, 9th Engr Bn: Security elements vicinity AT 926608 received two rounds of S/A fire from vicinity AT 924609. The area was searched and three caves were located measuring 12' long by 8' wide by 5' high and reinforced with bamboo. One cave was being used as a living quarters by an elderly man. The other two caves were destroyed.
- (12) 032215H - Bn OP Hill 65: OP observed sporadic MG fire originating from vicinity AT 903565. One explosion was also observed. The fire was aimed SW into the area south of the Seng Vu Gia.
- (13) 041045H - "A" Co, 9th Engr Bn: Equipment operators received three rounds of S/A fire from An My (3) vicinity AT 915608. CAC searched the area and thought they saw a man run into a cave vicinity AT 925608. Brush was fired at the cave entrance to smoke the man out. Two secondary explosions occurred, indicating the cave was a storage for explosives or that the entrance had been booby trapped. The cave was searched and some empty plastic bags were found. The cave was destroyed.
- (14) 051000H - "H" Co: Patrol found a tunnel vicinity AT 920587, measuring 2' high by 1 1/2' wide by 10' long leading into another tunnel or cave. The second tunnel was not searched as the entrance was too small to get into. Engineer assistance was requested to destroy the tunnel.
- (15) 051630H - "H" Co: Engineers destroyed tunnel complex vicinity AT 920587. Tunnel was in bank that had been the rear of a destroyed house. A 10' long tunnel led into a

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tunnel complex in a rough "T" shape. The entrance led into a passageway 8½' long by 2' wide by 3' high. Another passageway led off at a right angle from the first and measured 6' long by 2' wide by 3' high. At the end of this passageway was another right angle section measuring 4' long by 2' wide by 3' high. The tunnel complex was destroyed with demolitions.

- (16) 052225H - "A" Co, 9th Engr Bn: An outpost vicinity AT 935640 received one incoming grenade. Hand illumination was utilized and one person was observed entering a ravine approximately 300 meters from the position. The individual went out of sight before fire could be directed at him.
- (17) 061000H - "F" Co: Patrol approaching area vicinity AT 920590 to search out VC activity found two empty medicine vials, one ampule of sterile water and two syrettes of Penicillin, each containing 400,000 units. Medical supplies were sent to higher echelon.
- (18) 071815H - "C" Co, 3d Recon Bn: Patrol observed one VC with weapon and wearing green uniform moving on trail toward stream bed vicinity AT 859604. Patrol fired on VC with negative results due to advances range. VC ran into stream bed and disappeared.
- (19) 071820H - "F" Co: Artillery FO observed nine VC with weapons and packs moving south to north vicinity AT 842565. Artillery, mortars, tanks and 106mm RR fire was utilized. VC ran into treeline. Rounds fell into treeline but results could not be observed. The following morning the Village Chief vicinity Hill 65 reported that the fire had killed eight VC, whose bodies he had observed. The 20 Power binoculars were set up at the OP on Hill 65 to improve observation south and west of Hill 65.

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- (29) 071930H - "F" Co: Artillery FO observed four VC walking across rice paddies carrying packs vicinity AT 824560. Artillery mission fired. VC went into hole in paddy which appeared to be a cave. No casualties were observed.
- (21) 081430H - "F" Co: Supply truck detonated a box type mine vicinity AT 889570. Mine utilized a 1/2 pound charge of TNT with a pressure type detonator. There were no casualties or damage to the vehicle. Area was searched for further mines with negative results.
- (22) 091025H - "F" Co: A vehicle activated a box type mine vicinity AT 928616. The mine utilized a pressure type fuze and contained five to ten pounds of explosive. The mine only partially detonated and the vehicle was not damaged. Engineers searched the area and uncovered a second box type mine with a pressure fuze and containing six to eight pounds of explosives. The mine was recovered.
- (23) 100930H - "F" Co: Artillery FO obs 30-50 VC carrying packs and possibly weapons moving north to south vicinity AT 8156. to 101930H Artillery, tanks and Ontos fired into the VC concentration. FO observed two groups of three men each hit by direct hits. Air strikes were flown utilizing rockets and napalm. One secondary explosion resulted from napalm drop. One VC was observed to be hit by napalm. Casualties were assessed as follows: KIA by Artillery, six (conf), five (prob); KIA by air, one (conf), 15 (prob).
- (24) 101245H - CombActCo: Patrol found 60mm dud and a small amount of medical supplies vicinity AT 940620. Mortar round was not booby trapped. Mortar round was destroyed and medical supplies forwarded to higher echelon.
- (25) 101300H - "C" Co, 3d Recon Bn: Patrol observed six VC with weapons and two VC carrying approximately 200 pounds of rice vicinity AT 803606. Artillery mission was fired with good target coverage. One KIA (conf) was observed.
- (26) 101815H - "G" Co: Patrol found a book in an empty house vicinity AT 901597. Book appeared to be a training manual for hospital attendants. Book was sent to higher echelon for study.
- (27) 111000H - "F" Co: Artillery FO observed seven VC with packs moving north to south vicinity AT 819561. Artillery fire was called. FO observed two VC stagger into tree line, obviously wounded.

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- (28) 111110H - "F" Co: Artillery FO observed six VC moving north to south along trail vicinity AT 818567. Artillery fire was called. VC moved into treeline and no casualties were observed.
- (29) 111200H - "F" Co: Artillery FO observed ten VC moving north to south vicinity AT 8156. Men were carrying packs. Further observation raised the number of VC to 30-35. Artillery, tanks and Ontos fired on the VC concentration. Air support was flown with excellent coverage. FO assessed 15 KIA (prob) by supporting weapons. Three boats with five men in each were observed trying to escape across the river vicinity AT 8154. Tanks fired on boats and destroyed all three. No survivors were observed. FO assessed 15 KIA (conf).
- (30) 112210H - CombAtCo: Patrol received approximately 30-50 rounds of fire from automatic weapons and carbines vicinity AT 898568. Artillery and mortars fired illumination and enemy fire ceased. Search of area was negative.
- (31) 112230H - "H" Co: Perimeter observed one man near perimeter position vicinity AT 920583. Illumination fired and S/A directed at person. Area was searched with negative results.
- (32) 120715H - "G" Co: On information received from an intelligence agent from Dai Loo District, a patrol was dispatched to search for two caves in which VC were hiding vicinity AT 903593. At 1100H two VN boys stopped the patrol and reported two VC wearing khaki and with one weapon had run into a cave vicinity AT 900588. Patrol went to area and found the cave. The interpreter tried to talk the VC out of the cave with negative results. The use of RCA also had negative results. Engineers destroyed the cave with demolitions. Cave measured 10' long by 2' wide by 2' high. It is assumed the two VC were killed in the cave-in.
- (33) 121155H - "F" Co: OP observed three VC wearing khaki and carrying packs crossing the Song Vu Gia in a boat vicinity AT 849552. Tanks fired on boat. First round missed boat and the VC jumped into the river. Second round destroyed boat but VC reached shore and disappeared into heavy underbrush.
- (34) 121300H - "F" Co: OP observed two VC wearing khaki and carrying packs crossing Song Vu Gia by boat vicinity AT 849552. Tanks fired on boat destroying it. Two VC bodies were observed flying through the air. Two KIA (conf).

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- (35) 121300H - 2/3 Wire Chief: The land line to "G" Company was found cut vicinity AT 911585. Wire appeared to have been cut by crushing between two rocks. No wire was missing.
- (36) 121300H - "G" Co: Patrol found two deserted caves vicinity AT 898588. One cave measured 8' long by 2' wide by 2' high, the other 15' long by 4' wide by 3' high. Both caves were destroyed.
- (37) 121415H - "F" Co: Company OP observed four VC with packs moving north to south vicinity AT 818566. Artillery mission was fired. No casualties observed as VC moved out of area of observation.
- (38) 121430H - 2/3 Wire Chief: Land line from the Battalion CP to Hill 65 was cut vicinity AT 881573. The lines were still overhead, indicating that the pole had been dropped, the lines cut, and the pole raised again. No wire was missing. The wire had been cut by being pounded by a blunt object, possibly a rock.
- (39) 121730H - "F" Co: Artillery FO observed ten VC in boat crossing the Song Vu Gia vicinity AT 825545. The VC disappeared before a fire mission could be called. A few minutes later nine more VC were observed with packs crossing the river. Artillery fire was called. Three men were observed running into the treeline on the south bank of the river at the same time artillery rounds fell on that spot. Three KIA (prob).
- (40) 130745H - "F" Co: Company OP observed 13 persons with packs on trail vicinity AT 820540 moving west to east. Artillery mission fired. One man was observed to run behind a bush at same time one round landed on bush. One KIA (prob).
- (41) 130900H - "F" Co: FO observed seven VC with packs moving east to west vicinity AT 821542. Artillery mission was fired but no casualties were observed.
- (42) 131225H - "F" Co: Company OP observed seven VC in khaki carrying packs and weapons crossing the river vicinity AT 818548. Artillery mission was fired but VC gained the south bank of river and disappeared into the heavy underbrush. No casualties were observed.
- (43) 131730H - "F" Co: Artillery FO observed eight VC with packs and weapons in three boats crossing the Song Vu Gia vicinity AT 854558. Three fired destroying one boat. Two bodies were observed floating in the water. Two KIA (conf).

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- (44) 140830H - "G" Co: A villager from An My (3) reported that six VC with weapons and grenades were seen vicinity AT 936 606. "G" Company dispatched a patrol to search out the VC. The patrol found four caves (three being used as family living quarters), two spider traps measuring 2' square by 5' deep and a motor assembly for a 3.5" rocket. One cave measuring 12' long by 6' wide by 4' high and the spider traps were destroyed. The rocket motor was destroyed by Engineers.
- (45) 140900H - "F" Co: Village Chief vicinity Hill 65 reported that the mortar H&I fires vicinity AT 852585 on 132130H resulted in four KIA (prob) and two WIA (prob).
- (46) 150759H - "G" Co: A 9th Motors truck detonated a pressure type mine on the road vicinity AT 911589. Mine was uncaas and contained approximately 30-40 pounds of compositio TNT.
- (47) 151000H - "G" Co: 9th Engineers found 40 rounds of M-1 ammunition wrapped in plastic and buried along shoulder of the road vicinity AT 916592. Ammunition was turned over to Bn 8-4 for disposal.
- (48) 160150H - CombatCo: Patrol vicinity AT 911608 received two bursts of S/A fire from vicinity AT 899607. "G" Company mortars fired mission with good target coverage. Results could not be determined.
- (49) 160750H - "F" Co: Company OP observed ten men with packs unloading two boats vicinity AT 811541. Artillery was fired with good target coverage. Two bodies were observed after fire mission. Other men came out of cave in river bank and checked the bodies. One body was picked up and carried away. The other body was left on the river bank. One KIA (conf) and one WIA (conf).
- (50) 160830H - "G" Co: Patrol found a deserted cave vicinity AT 909 603. Cave measured 6' long by 5' wide by 3' high. Search of cave was negative. Cave destroyed.
- (51) 161020H - "F" Co: Company OP observed ten VC with packs and weapons wearing black PJ's moving south on trail vicinity AT 804563. Artillery mission was fired with good target coverage. FO assessed five KIA (prob).
- (52) 170215H - "G" Co: Security element at An My (3) observed two persons approaching their position from the south vicinity AT 924607. The perimeter also observed one person approaching from the east. Persons were challenged but ran. Security fired with unknown results.

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- (53) 171215H - CombActCo: Engineers delivered a VN female to the CAC. Woman had been stopped for routine ID check vicinity AT 897569 and was found to have 30 pounds of salt in her possession. Woman is suspected of selling salt to the VC and was sent to IIT for interrogation.
- (54) 171220H - CombActCo: District forces attached to the CAC stopped two VN females for routine ID check vicinity AT 902572. Women were found to have 20 pounds of salt in their possession. Women were sent to District Hqs and were cleared by the District Chief.
- (55) 171545H - CombActCo: District forces attached to the CAC stopped two VN females for routine ID check vicinity AT 902572. Women were found to have approximately 100 pounds of salt in their possession. Women were sent to IIT for interrogation as possible VC food carriers.
- (56) 171640H - CombActCo: District forces attached to the CAC stopped five VN females for routine ID check vicinity AT 902572. Women were found to be carrying 80-90 pounds of salt. Women were sent to IIT for interrogation as possible VC food carriers.
- (57) 172215H - "F" Co: Company observed one red, one green star cluster fired in that order vicinity AT 825575 just after hearing approximately 50 rounds of .50 cal MG fire. The company was put on 100% alert as there are no known friendly units in that area. No further activity was observed.
- (58) 171700H - CombActCo: VN female was stopped for routine ID check vicinity AT 902572 and was found to be carrying 25 pounds of salt. Woman was sent to IIT for interrogation as a possible VC food carrier.
- (59) 180800H - 2/3 S-2: District intelligence agent reported two caves located vicinity AT 901589 and AT 905590. Intelligence personnel from district were sent to "G" Company to accompany a patrol to that area. Patrol found a tunnel complex vicinity AT 902593. One entrance led into a bunker measuring 10' square. At least two tunnels were found with a length in excess of 20 feet. Engineers estimated it would require at least 140 pounds of C-4 to blow the complex. Tunnel entrances were sealed with explosives.

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- (60) 181100H - CombActCo: One male and one female VN were stopped for routine ID check vicinity AT 923604. They were found to be carrying about 60 pounds of salt. Sent to IIT as suspected VC food carriers.
- (61) 181130H - CombActCo: Seven female VN and three children were stopped for routine ID check vicinity AT 902572. They were found to be carrying 100 pounds of salt and 120 pounds of fish. One woman in advanced state of pregnancy released. Others sent to IIT as possible VC food carriers.
- (62) 191905H - 2/3 Wire Team: Land lines to "Q" Company were cut vicinity AT 916596. About 500 meters north a second cut was found in the OAC lines. No wire was removed.
- (63) 200930H - "F" Co: Company OP observed two 15-foot barges on the river vicinity AT 855557. There were two men with pack on each barge. Tanks fired on barges but rounds did not explode.
- (64) 201015H - "F" Co: Company OP observed eight VC with packs moving south to north on trail vicinity AT 818570. Artillery mission was fired with good target coverage. FO assessed two KIA (prob).
- (65) 201125H - "F" Co: Patrol providing security for PsyWar team apprehended two men in a boat vicinity AT 868572. One man was in possession of a VC safe conduct pass. Both men sent to IIT as VUS.
- (66) 201305H - "F" Co: Company OP observed 14-16 persons, some with packs, unloading two boats vicinity AT 849551. Artillery mission fired with good target coverage. FO assessed five KIA (prob).
- (67) 201620H - "H" Co: Recon patrol found large VC complex vicinity AT 818613. Numerous classrooms, fortifications and tunnels. Patrol engaged in firefight with an estimated six VC armed with .50 cal machineguns and automatic weapons. One USMC WIA. Two VC KIA (conf).
- (68) 201700H - "F" Co: Company OP observed eight VC with packs and weapons moving from north to south on trail vicinity AT 805558. Artillery mission fired with good target coverage. FO assessed three KIA (prob).
- (69) 201730H - "H" Co: Recon patrol found possible medical aid station vicinity AT 818613. Tunnel large enough to hold ten people. Large amount of medical documents and assorted medical supplies found.

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- (70) 201800H - "H" Co: Recon patrol discovered large cache of VC supplies vicinity AT 818613. Captured material included two SMGs, uniforms, helmets, cartridge belts, grenades, S/A ammunition, web equipment, medical supplies and food stuffs. Materials will be sent to next higher echelon for study. Company CP 202000H.
- (71) 202200H - "A" Co, 9th Engr Bn: Company CP observed light on two occasions vicinity AT 920633 in area in which no friendly troops were present. Artillery mission was fired on suspect area. No further activity noted.
- (72) 210655H - "H" Co: Company made contact with unknown number of VC vicinity AT 817611. Enemy broke contact after short firefight. No casualties.
- (73) 210715H - "H" Co: Company made contact with unknown number of VC vicinity AT 818613. VC armed with automatic weapons. Enemy broke contact with patrol after short firefight. Enemy casualties unknown.
- (74) 210800H - "G" Co: Company engaged unknown number of VC vicinity AT 829615. VC broke contact after short firefight. One VC KIA (conf). One ChiCom carbine recovered.
- (75) 211230H - "G" Co: Patrol found three 30' structures and a tunnel vicinity AT 818607. Also found blood trails leading southwest from the area. Structures were burned and tunnel destroyed. Destruction of tunnel resulted in secondary explosions, cause unknown.
- (76) 211500H - "G" Co: Patrol received approximately 20 rounds of S/A fire vicinity AT 812604. Fire was returned and area searched. Large blood spoor was found. One VC WIA (conf).
- (77) 211435H - "K" Co, 3/3: Patrol observed five persons running in paddy vicinity AT 935595. Patrol challenged but people continued to run. Patrol fired with negative results. Suspect people were establishing possible ambush site.
- (78) 211600H - 2/3 Fwd Cmd Grp: Resupply helicopter received several rounds S/A fire vicinity AT 819613. Aircraft sustained hits and returned to rear CP for repairs. "H" Company dispatched patrol to area and engaged VC at 211650H. VC broke contact after short firefight. Casualties unknown.
- (79) 212030H - "C" Co, 3d Recon Bn: Patrol engaged nine to 11 VC vicinity AT 837613. VC broke contact after short fight. One VC KIA (prob).

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(80) 210255H - "C" Co, 3d Recon Bn: CP received incoming mortar fire from vicinity AT 834613. Size of mortars unknown. Mortar flashes were sighted. Illumination fired and helicopter gunships were requested. O-47 gunship fired on suspect area, as well as artillery. Enemy strength was estimated to be 30 men. Illumination from gunship revealed five VC KIA (conf) and ten KIA (prob). Search of area on morning of 22 August revealed many drag marks and blood trails. Also found a natural cave with some clothing.

(81) 220900H - "G" Co: Company engaged unknown number of VC vicinity AT 811606. Area appeared to be a small camp site. Enemy broke contact. Casualties unknown.

(82) 220930H - "H" Co: Rear guard received automatic weapons fire while departing CP location vicinity AT 818613. Fire was returned with unknown results.

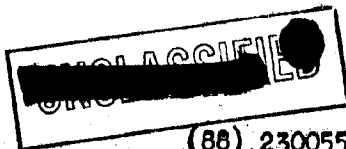
(83) 221150H - "G" Co: Patrol received three rounds of sniper fire from sniper in tree vicinity AT 809601. Fire was returned and sniper observed falling from tree. One VC KIA (conf).

(84) 221400H - "G" Co: Platoon patrol found large VC base camp vicinity AT 807604. Camp contained 30 huts capable of housing 15 men each, two large classrooms for 60 men each and large caves extending into the side of the mountain. While searching the camp an estimated reinforced platoon of VC engaged the patrol. A firefight ensued which lasted approximately two hours. Air was called. Helo's attempting to resupply and med-evac were hit by S/A, but mission was completed. Battalion interpreter monitored radio net and heard VC calling for withdrawal of their forces. Air was directed to cut off their escape route. VC went to ground and broke contact. Ten VC KIA (conf), 30 VC KIA (prob).

(85) 221500H - Cmd Grp "A": Battalion interpreter heard VC transmission on "F" and "H" Companies radio frequency that stated many Marines had been killed and weapons had been captured. Transmission also ordered all VC dead to be brought to an unknown person's house.

(86) 221920H - Cmd Grp "A": Battalion Tac net was interfered with by transmissions in Chinese. Transmission was conversational between Chinese man and woman followed by ten minutes of music and then one and one-half minutes more of conversation between two men.

(87) 221915H - Cmd Grp "A": Battalion TAC net was interfered with by VC transmission lasting about five minutes. Text of message concerned air strike on VC camp.



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- (88) 230055H - "H" Co: LP detected movement to their front vicinity AT 821605. LP threw two grenades. Illumination was fired. No further movement noted.
- (89) 230920H - "G" Co: Platoon engaged an estimated three to five VC in a 30-minute firefight vicinity AT 817606. VC broke contact. Patrol moved to vicinity AT 820610 and found two large freshly dug graves capable of holding three bodies each. Fresh blood was seeping through the dirt. Also found excessive blood trails and drag marks. Six KIA (prob).
- (90) 231400H - "E" Co: Patrol encountered small VC unit and engaged in short firefight vicinity AT 824609. VC broke contact. Area was searched with negative results.
- (91) 231600H - "G" Co: Platoon with one squad of Recon Bn returning from recon patrol was engaged by an estimated rein-platoon of VC vicinity AT 807606. VC were in fighting holes. VC also dropped grenades from treetops. The company dispatched a relief column. The patrol broke the VC attack effort and completed link-up with the relief column. A search of the area at conclusion of the engagement revealed 23 KIA (conf). Drag marks and excessive blood trails indicated another possible 20-30 KIA/WIA.
- (92) 241100H - "H" Co: Patrol tripped M-26 grenade with trip wire vicinity AT 810600.
- (93) 241130H - "H" Co: Patrol found one M-14 rifle #937278 and camouflage cover vicinity AT 810600. It is not known whether rifle was lost by the VC or by friendly troops. Weapon sent to higher echelon.
- (94) 241300H - "G" Co: Company moved into area vicinity AT 810605 and made contact with VC. Firefight ensued. At end of engagement a search of the area revealed 22 KIA(conf) plus excessive blood trails and drag marks indicating another possible 20-30 KIA/WIA. Company also found approximately 2500 pounds of rice which was destroyed. Also destroyed 17 huts, one large classroom and three caves.
- (95) 241745H - "A" Co, 9th Engr Bn: Engineers laying asphalt vicinity AT 935631 noted two VN boys had set fire to freshly laid asphalt. Approximately 200 feet was burned. Boys, 12 and 16 years of age, were apprehended and delivered to Hieu Duc District Chief for appropriate action.

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241930H - Cmd Grp "A": Battalion TAC net was interfered with by VC transmission referring to the moon being right on night of 24 August.

- (97) 250152H - Dai Lac District: Approximately 30 VC attacked a refugee camp vicinity AT 930578. Approximately 80 houses were destroyed and seven civilians injured. District forces withdrew to an adjacent camp to protect it from further attack. Mortars from 2/3 fired illumination and HE in support of the District forces. District Hqs reported that two VC were KIA and three WIA.
- (98) 250730H - "E" Co: Company engaged unknown number of VC in base camp vicinity AT 815605. Enemy broke contact after firefight. Search of area revealed 32 VC KIA (conf) and excessive amount of blood trails and drag marks indicating a possible 20-30 additional KIA/WIA.
- (99) 250840H - "E" Co: Company sweep through base camp vicinity AT 815605 destroyed 18 huts, four tunnels and 19 caves. One VC KIA was found in the camp.
- (100) 251100H - Cmd Grp "A": Found large cave vicinity AT 814607. Cave was approximately 100 meters in length and was horseshoe-shaped. Cave contained food, clothing and some spare parts for weapons. Cave was destroyed.
- (101) 251230H - "E" Co: Company engaged VC snipers who were sniping from treeops along ridgeline vicinity AT 812603. Marksmen were brought forward to clean out snipers. VC broke contact. Casualties unknown.
- (102) 251800H - Cmd Grp "A": Battalion TAC net was interfered with by a VC transmission. Person wanted to know what was going on. Also wished to speak to "Huy", "Luo" or "Nam".
- (103) 252030H - Cmd Grp "A": ARVN liaison monitored VN transmission on battalion TAC net. Text of message was threat to shoot VC if they did not obey orders. Also a complaint of lack of sleep due to a stab in the belly.
- (104) 252300H - Cmd Grp "A": CP heard eight to ten rounds of possible 81mm mortar from southwest of the CP vicinity AT 811600. Rounds passed overhead and detonated approximately 1000 meters northeast of the CP.
- (105) 260320H - Cmd Grp "A": CP heard four mortar rounds pass overhead and detonate approximately 500 meters northeast of the CP. Mortar fire may have come from vicinity AT 806597. Counter-battery fire could not be employed due to lack of knowledge of location of mortars.

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- (106) 260800H - Cmd Grp "A": Battalion TAC net was interfered with by VC transmissions referring to the arrival of one big commander who would arrive on the 27th of August. Also instructions for the capture of someone to be brought to the CP as soon as possible.
- (107) 260810H - Cmd Grp "A": Patrol discovered mock-up of 105mm gun and round vicinity AT 812603. This was mock-up reported by Recon Bn patrol on 14 August. Mock-up was air lifted to higher echelon.
- (108) 260900H - "H" Co: Air strike was conducted on a suspected VC supply and/or base camp vicinity AT 806608. Mission was completed with excellent target coverage. Assessed 30 KIA (prob).
- (109) 260950H - "G" Co: Company received sporadic sniper fire from snipers in treetops but sustained no casualties.
- (110) 261245H - "H" Co: Company received sporadic sniper fire from treetops vicinity AT 816605. Snipers fired at ranges from ten to 100 meters. USMC personnel are spotting snipers and shooting them out of trees. Seven VC KIA (conf) and 24 WIA (prob).
- (111) 261300H - Cmd Grp "A": ARVN liaison officer monitored Regimental Tac net and translated VC transmission referring to WIA to be carried away. Person also said he had lost two men from his group.
- (112) 261309H - Cmd Grp "A": Battalion TAC net was interfered with by Chinese language transmission. ARVN liaison officer requested person to speak VN but received no answer. Transmission continued for nine minutes.
- (113) 261345H - "H" Co: Patrol received sporadic sniper fire from treetops vicinity AT 814607. Patrol returned fire and continued to move forward. Two VC KIA (conf), four VC KIA (prob) and one VC WIA (prob).
- (114) 261415H - "G" Co: Company and elements of Cmd Grp "A" engaged two to three snipers vicinity AT 811600. Patrol was dispatched and searched area with negative results.
- (115) 261610H - "G" Co: Company interpreter monitored VC transmission on the company radio net ordering the VC forces to harass the USMC forces when they relaxed, such as at meal time.

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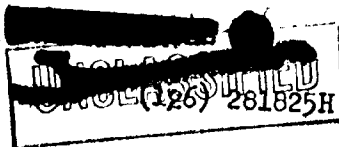
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- (116) 261620H - Cmd Grp "A" Resupply helicopters received automatic weapons fire from vicinity AT 805595. Aircraft returned 200 rounds of 7.62mm machinegun fire with unknown results.
- (117) 262020H - "F" Co: Company outpost vicinity AT 921584 heard movement on river bank about 50 meters east of their position. Hand illumination was fired and one man observed on river bank. Man ran when area was illuminated. Outpost fired one round S/A and searched area with negative results.
- (118) 270130H - Cmd Grp "A": CP received 20-30 rounds of 81mm mortar fire vicinity AT 811600. Location of mortar fire could not be determined, but it is believed that fire came from extreme range.
- (119) 270700H - "F" Co: Patrol received approximately 30 rounds S/A fire vicinity AT 874563. Fire came from south side of river. Mortar fire was put on suspected positions with unknown results.
- (120) 270740H - "H" Co: Company radio net was interfered with by Chinese language transmission. Text of the message unknown.
- (121) 271100H - Cmd Grp "A": An air strike was conducted on area from which automatic weapons fire was originating vicinity AT 806608. Direct hits with napalm resulted in two secondary explosions. Three huts were destroyed. Enemy casualties were assessed as six KIA (prob).
- (122) 280925H - Cmd Grp "A": Artillery mission was requested and fire on suspected VC position vic AT 810570. Blood trails and drag marks indicated a casualty count of six VC KIA (prob).
- (123) 281145H - "F" Co: Company interpreter monitored VC transmission on Company radio net stating that VC would be moving south and cross the Song Vu Gia about 1700H.
- (124) 281207H - "H" Co: Company received sniper fire from vic AT 821651. Artillery mission was fired on suspect area. One secondary explosion was observed. Enemy casualties unknown.
- (125) 281700H - Cmd Grp "A": Artillery monitored a foreign language transmission on their radio net. Language was not oriental and was very harsh. Unable to determine what language was being used.

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- (126) 281825H - Cmd Grp "A": AO observed 15 boats with people on river vicinity ZC 197553. Also observed about 70 boxes on river bank. Artillery mission was fired and helicopter gunships fired on boats. AO observed two secondary explosions. Three boats were destroyed.
- (127) 281920H - Battalion CP received 15-20 rounds S/A fire from vicinity AT 836563. Fire was returned. Artillery mission fired on suspect area. Two secondary explosions observed. Sniper fire ceased.
- (128) 281920H - "G" Co: Company received 10-15 rounds of S/A sniper fire from vicinity AT 842562. Fire returned and artillery mission fired. Sniper fire ceased.
- (129) 282130H - Cmd Grp "A": Interpreter monitored VC transmission on battalion TAC net stating that VC were having a meeting to drive USMC forces out of the area. Also heard drums being used as a signal.
- (130) 291010H - Cmd Grp "A": Observed undetermined number of people moving vicinity AT 813603. Artillery mission fired with good target coverage. Artillery FO assessed three KIA (prob).
- (131) 301900H - Bn Wire Chief: Land line from "G" Company to the CombatCo position was out vicinity AT 922603. Two splices were removed and approximately 1/8 mile of wire was removed.
- (132) 311015H - "C" Co, 3d Recon Bn: Patrol heard movement and talking from estimated three persons vicinity AT 882617. Patrol opened fire with S/A. Search of area revealed blood trail and drag marks indicating one KIA (prob).

c. Enemy Losses for the Period

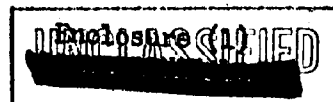
(1) Weapons

One K-50 SMG
 One K-44 SMG
 One Carbine (Mossin-Nagant)
 One M-14

(2) Personnel

KIA: 139 confirmed, 292 probable
 WIA: 22 confirmed, 48 probable
 VCC: One
 VCS: 27

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(3) Munitions

Satchel Charges	10
TNT	25 pounds
Chi Com Grenades	28
7.62mm	2200 rounds
.30cal	5 rounds
.223 cal	140 rounds
AT Mine	1
3.5" Rkt Fuze	1
Shape Charge	1

(4) Fortifications

Caves	48
Tunnels	6
Spider Traps	2

(5) Equipment

Uniforms	23
Packs	15
Helmets	3
Cartridge Belts	6
Canteens	22
Entrenching Tools	20
Medical Kits	2
K-50 Magazines	2
Gas Mask (Home Made Plastic)	1
105mm Gun Mock-up	1

(6) Other

Houses/Structures	50
Boats	9
Rice	11,500 pounds (approximately)
Salt	515 pounds (approximately)
Corn	1500 pounds (approximately)
Fish	200 pounds (approximately)
Assorted medicine	30 pounds
Assorted Documents	3 large bags
Clothing	100 pounds

d. Significant Trends During the Period

(1) There were several reports from the Dai Loc District Headquarters to the effect that the District VC Chief had ordered all VC supplies moved from the mountain area vicinity GS (AT 8060) south to the Huu Nien Mountains vicinity GS (ZC 1947). It was also reported that the VC Chief had ordered

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his Village Chiefs to procure 400 pounds of salt to be sent to Huu Nien before the monsoon season started. The salt was to be purchased on the open market in Dai Loc, Tuy Loan and Danang. The validity of these reports was somewhat substantiated by the following activities:

(a) Commencing on 7 August, there were daily sightings of persons in khaki uniforms and carrying packs moving from north to south and south to north vicinity N-S GL 80 to 82. Very few of these persons carried weapons, indicating that they were being utilized as cargo bearers. During the same period, there were many sightings of personnel crossing the Song Vu Gia. Most of these people were observed to be armed. Those activities indicated that the bearers were bringing supplies out of the mountains and delivering them to the river to be transported across the river and then south to the Huu Nien Mountains

(b) On 17 and 18 August, USMC personnel manning check points on the main MSR through the TAOR apprehended 26 persons, mostly females and children, carrying excessive amounts of salt. Several of the persons admitted that they were taking the salt south of the Song Vu Gia to sell it to the villagers. This area is considered to be VC controlled. In this two-day period, 550 pounds of salt were confiscated. This activity was significant in that the sudden upsurge of salt purchasing came soon after the VC District Chief had ordered 400 pounds of salt to be moved to the supply cache in the Huu Nien Mountains. It was suspected that the people were buying the salt in Danang and then reselling it at a considerable profit to the VC.

(2) At 0820H on 14 August, a recon patrol from the 3d Recon Battalion found a VC training camp vicinity AT 814603. Of special significance was the discovery of a 105mm gun mock-up, as well as a mock-up of a 105mm shell. This may have been erected to train a possible VC suicide squad for attack and destruction of an artillery battery, or for training purposes in anticipation of receiving such weapons from North Vietnam.

(3) There have been many reports received to the effect that the VC have been attempting to prevent the local populace from moving out of their hamlets into the government-controlled areas. This was substantiated somewhat by the attack of approximately 30 VC on the morning of 25 August against the refugee camp at Huan My vicinity AT 930578. The VC destroyed some 80 houses rendering about 100 families homeless.

(4) Operation ALLEGHENY in the Dong Lan Mountains has been most significant in that the enemy forces encountered were both well-trained and well-disciplined. The enemy refused to hit and run but preferred to stay and fight it out. Enemy fire discipline was considered excellent. Weapons captured were exceptionally well maintained. The weapons looked almost new or were well preserved. The enemy forces appeared to have a preponderance of automatic weapons. The enemy unit has been tentatively confirmed as the 402d NVA Sapper Battalion. This unit appears to be well trained and disciplined, far superior to any other unit encountered within this TAOR

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e. Enemy Situation at End of Reporting Period

(1) Captured documents have tentatively confirmed the 402d NVA Sapper Battalion as operating in the Dong Lam Mountains vicinity GS (AT 8060 to AT8360). This unit has been badly mauled during Operation ALLEGHENY, suffering 113 confirmed KIA's and 219 probable KIA's. This unit is considered non-effective for at least two months.

(2) The R20 (Doc Lap) Battalion is carried as confirmed and operating south of the Song Vu Gia approximately 1000 to 3000 meters south of the TAOR. Strength of this unit is estimated to be 500 men.

(3) The Dai Loc (LF) Company with a strength of 90 men is confirmed in the western portion of the TAOR vicinity AT 8055.

(4) The Hoa Hieu (LF) Company with a strength of 120 men is confirmed vicinity GS (AT 9664), approximately 1000 meters northeast of the TAOR.

(5) The 5/V25 Battalion with a strength of 500 men is carried as probable vicinity AT 8753, approximately 3000 meters south of the TAOR. Two reports, one from a rallier of the 5/V25 Battalion and the other from a captured member of the R20 (Doc Lap) Battalion, have indicated that these units are one and the same.

(6) Reports from Dai Loc District Headquarters have indicated a possible unidentified company with a strength of 100 men vicinity GS (AT 7955) and a second unidentified company with a strength of 100 men vicinity GS (AT 8355).

(7) A report from Dai Loc District Headquarters indicates a possible unidentified company with a strength of 90 men vicinity AT 9358 and AT 9459, approximately 500 meters east of the TAOR.

(8) Dai Loc District Headquarters has reported the presence of five platoons of guerrillas operating within the southern portion of the TAOR. The strength of each platoon varies from 20 to 40 men.

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4. Training

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a. Objectives

(1) To maintain peak combat efficiency and increase the knowledge and relationship of U. S. Marines and Vietnamese people.

(2) The objectives for training personnel with the Combined Action Company are to provide professional guidance and train Vietnamese Popular Force personnel to a degree that enables them to provide for the defense of their respective villages and hamlets. To-date, two (2) Combined Action Platoons have been established in Dai Loc District.

b. Major Training Highlights

- (1) FAM Firing Individual and Crew Served Weapons
- (2) Tactical Trends and VC Tactics
- (3) FDC Operating Procedures for 81mm Mortar Personnel
- (4) Field Fortifications
- (5) Field Sanitation
- (6) Moral Guidance
- (7) Handling POW's
- (8) Ambush Techniques
- (9) Laying of Protective Wire
- (10) Map Reading
- (11) Care and Maintenance of Individual Equipment
- (12) Detection of Mines and Booby Traps
- (13) Combat Patrolling
- (14) Field Radio Procedure
- (15) Information Program
 - (a) Mission, Objectives and Responsibilities
 - (b) Rules of Engagement
 - (c) Treatment of Captured Personnel
 - (d) Chieu Hoi Program (Rallier)

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5. Special Operationsa. Amphibious Operations. Noneb. Combined Operations

(1) This Battalion conducted one Battalion size operation in the DONG LAM Mountain range from 19-29 August 1966 (Operation ALLEGHENY).

c. Psychological/Warfare Operations

(1) During the reporting period the following psychological warfare activities were activated:

(a) 2 August - Movies were shown to 1500 people at Hoan My Hamlet, coordinates AT 916580, by the Audio-Visual Team, 34th ARVN, Psy Ops Company. Movies shown were:

1 Four Days of Liberty

2 Newsreel (Vietnamese War)

3 General Ky's visits to various parts of South Vietnam

(b) 4 August - The Audio-Visual Team from the 244th Psy Ops Co, USA, showed the following movies to 500 persons at Dai Loc District Headquarters, coordinates AT 916579.

1 For the Freedom of Man

2 The Leaflet

3 The River of Life

4 Walt Disney Cartoons

(c) 11 August - The same movies listed above were shown to 700 people in the Loc Chanh Refugee Camp, coordinates AT 922583.

(d) On 13, 15 and 16 August, from 2000-2400, the Audio-Visual Team from the 244th Psy Ops Co broadcasted Chieu Hoi messages from coordinates AT 920579. Chieu Hoi messages were also broadcasted from HILL 65 (AT 878577), to the area west of the hill.

(e) 17 August - 100,000 Chieu Hoi leaflets were dropped by C-47 aircraft over the area west of HILL 65.

(f) 20 August - The Cultural Team of the 10th Psy War Bn (ARVN) presented a show at Dai Loc District Headquarters, coordinates AT 916579, with about 3000 persons attending.

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(g) During the period covered by this report numerous broadcast were made over a P.A. system throughout the district, concerning the National elections which will be 11 September 1966. Voting procedures were explained. Also prepared taped messages were delivered explaining the Government of Vietnam and the U. S. role in Vietnam

6. Nuclear, Biological, Chemical and Other Special Type Warfare

a. This Battalion has not employed CBR weapons. However, scout sniper teams with squad patrols and platoon and company size operations have been utilized.

b. Each company has assigned one NBC officer and three enlisted personnel as company NBC NCO's. Each company has assigned personnel by name to either a monitoring or decontamination team that is trained at company level.

c. Status of NBC equipment on hand is in serviceable condition and maintained by Battalion supply.

7. Command and Control

a. Task Organization

2nd Battalion, 3d Marines

LtCol OHANESIAN

Battery A, 1st Battalion, 12th Marines
1st Plt, Co A, 3d AT Bn
1st Plt, Co A, 3d Tk Bn
Scout Dog Team, Hdqts Bn, 3d Mar Div
Scout Sniper Sect, 3d Marines

H&S Co

Capt THROCKMORTON

Co E

Lt NUGENT

Co F

Capt HARDIN

Co G

Lt KOPKA

Co H

Lt BURCH

b. Location of Command Posts

2nd Bn, 3d Marines

H&S Co

Co E

Co F

Co G

Battery A, 1st Bn, 12th Mar

1st Plt, Co A, 3d AT Bn

1st Plt, Co A, 3d Tk Bn

Scout Dog Team

Scout Sniper Section

AT 916582

AT 916582

AT 882581

AT 879577

AT 914598

AT 883578

AT 916582

AT 916582

AT 916582

AT 916582

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c. Attachments and Detachments

(1) Company E assigned to operational control of 9th Marine Regiment from 16-21 August when they returned to operational control of 2/3.

(2) The following units were attached to 2nd Battalion while on Operation ALLIANCE:

- (a) Company C, 1st Battalion, 3d Marines (19-29 August)
- (b) Plt, Company H, 2nd Battalion, 26th Marines (26-29 August)
- (c) Plt, Company K, 3d Battalion, 3d Marines (20-25 August)

8. Communications-Electronicsa. Wire

(1) The usual maintenance problems were encountered during the current period. Engineers and tracked combat vehicles are the main wire line breakers. In one area continued friendly brakeage caused air overhead installation of 18' in height. However, this arrangement soon proved vulnerable to the oncoming backblast. Complete rerouting of the line presented a solution. During this period there were five enemy initiated wire cutting incidents. Overhead installations were dropped by the VC and selective cutting accomplished on the rifle company lines. This constitutes a cut of two lines in a five pair cable. One additional cut utilized by cutters. After the cutting, the lines were replaced in their overhead position, however the dangling lines easily revealed the place of cutting.

(2) Presently the Battalion is utilizing a switchboard at each infantry company, the supporting artillery battery and the FSCC. The accompanying trunks facilitate wire communications to the subordinate elements in each are such as the FAC, artillery FO, oncom, amtracs, engineers, CAC units, tanks, etc.

(3) No wire was utilized on Operation ALLIANCE in the field. The established system in the Dai Loc area was maintained for the rear elements.

(4) Test wire WD36/TT was tested and displayed many disadvantages.

b. Radio

(1) Radio Personnel. Significant shortages in radio operators have hampered but not curtailed operations. Methods to circumvent the problem are the utilization of versatile wire men and supply personnel especially during Operation ALLIANCE when the situation demanded the operation of normal battalion requirements in the rear CP while these same personnel resources supported the same type employment in the committed Battalion Command Post. The special requirement called for an air liaison team in the rear CP, an air liaison officer with the command group in the field and two FAC teams with the infantry companies. Two wiremen were used to carry radios. An HST communications requirement was accomplished by utilizing supply personnel in the absence of qualified radio personnel.

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(2) Equipment. During this period the AN/PRC 25 was received. The AN/PRC-6 was removed from service due to its complete unreliability. The Battalion allowance of AN/PRC 10's were continued in use on the infantry company level. Allocation of seven AN/PRC 10 and eight AN/PRC 25 were made to each rifle company. During Operation Allegheny this arrangement proved invaluable. The infantry platoons moving through terrain which yielded only five to ten meters visibility utilized this additional communications for point squad/ flank squads coordination. The control thus enjoyed over movement of these vital combat elements greatly enhanced the operation. The AN/PRC 10 still can be used for this type operation effectively. Without the AN/PRC 10 at that level control would have been less effective. AN/PRC 25 was utilized at platoon and company level. The Battalion TAC net utilized the AN/PRC 25 as did the TACP local net. It proved an extremely reliable radio over long distances. The Helicopter Logistical Support Net from the Command Group to the rear CP also utilized the AN/PRC 25 since many nets were duplicated between the rear CP and the Command Group. The extra AN/PRC 25 made available by use of the AN/PRC 10 were not only available for this duplication, but also for instant replacement when downages occurred. Radio availability in the FM range was never critical and always adequate. Two AN/PRC 41 radios were shorted out completely while the wiremen being utilized to transport them were fording a waist high creek. This made the AN/PRC 41's inoperable for the rest of the operation. Positive air strike control was subsequently accomplished through FM equipment to the TAC(A). TAC capability was maintained in the rear CP and requests for air were called to that station via the TACP local net. This arrangement proved entirely adequate. No difficulties were encountered in obtaining or directing air support. Additionally a radio was maintained in the S-2 section of the command group to monitor enemy FM transmissions. An interpreter manning this station made many valuable contributions to the effort. Additional AN/PRC 25 radios were utilized at the Command Group to monitor the fast moving situations at the company TAC Net level. This extra capability enabled the Battalion Commander to be fully aware of developments while relieving the Company Commanders of the responsibility of having to submit constant reports in an extremely difficult and fast developing situation. Much traffic on the Battalion TAC Net was thus conserved in this manner. The Battalion Commander was able to be fully aware of the situation as it developed and react accordingly. This type of control was indispensable in the terrain involved. The RC-292 antenna proved invaluable in long range communications.

c. Radio Relay. This link to Regiment has proven extremely reliable. No change has been introduced in its employment since the last reporting period.

d. Message Center. This installation has been moved into Dai Loc Fort. The area now occupied is extremely well located and offers requisite security requirements. The AN/GCC 3 tape cutter has become inoperable and is at ELSG for repair. Message center personnel proceed with improvement of the facility. Separate offline and online crypto rooms have been built. Storage is excellent.

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e. Maintenance

(1) 1st echelon care remains the earmark of this program in a difficult climate. No problems out of the ordinary are encountered in the care and maintenance of the large employment of AN/PRC 10 and AN/PRC 25. FLSG offers excellent support.

(2) Supply. No appreciable difficulty is encountered in obtaining parts or supplies outside of the ordinary wait period and the occasional lack of prompt response in certain items such as electron tubes, fuses, and component parts.

f. Power. Many problems were encountered in this area. Initially a lack of back up power imposed a continuous employment schedule on the Battalion's PU 482 and PU 348. Recent acquisition of an additional PU 239 and a PE 95 promise to alleviate the current situation with the needed backup. Buildup of the cantonment will impose an added power requirement which will total in the vicinity of 50-60kw for the entire cantonment or Command Post area. It is visualized that 113 huts will be installed while the contemplated 500 man galley will utilize many electrical appliances such as electric toasters, electric coffee pots, electric dishwashers, electric water heaters, electric potato mashers and an electric steam table. 113 huts at an estimated 34 kw input during periods of darkness, added to the expected electric consumption of the new galley will demand a 60 kw power input. The Dai Loc Fort uses considerable electricity. The S-4 has already requested in writing this 60kw requirement with backup.

g. Specific problems encountered have been treated in its particular area.

9. Close Combata. Operations Conducted

(1) This Battalion conducted 186 squad size day patrols, 141 squad size night patrols, 196 ambushes and 384 listening post.

(2) This Battalion conducted one battalion size operation from 19 August to 29 August (Operation Allegheny).

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- (1) 1 August - At 010830H, Company G patrol found Chi Com grenade emplaced as a mine vicinity AT 938596. Grenade was set beside hole on a trail. Hole was covered with bamboo, brush and a plastic covering. Trip wire was across the top of the hole, so when person stepped into the hole the grenade would be activated. Mine was destroyed in place and a search for further explosive devices was conducted with negative findings. At 011115H, Company A, 9th Engineer Battalion discovered two caves at AT 928608 while improving the MSR. Caves were 8' deep and 15' long with two entrances. Caves were destroyed with demolitions. At 011130H, Company H patrol found five cannisters from M-2A1 mines and one pineapple Chi Com grenade with fuze and filler removed in a house vicinity AT 923591. Four 20mm rounds empty, were also found in same house. Items found were sent to Battalion S-2 for evaluation. At 011045H, CAC 21 saw two women run from patrol as they approached. Patrol fired warning shots over their head and women continued to run. Patrol chased and apprehended two women. When apprehended, patrol found food, small tube of penicillin, small plastic tube of medicine and flint. Women taken to Dai Loc District Headquarters for interrogation and items sent to Battalion S-2. At 0111430H, Company F patrol found what appeared to be a trench line 15' long and 3' deep at AT 885557. Diggings appeared to be recent. This Battalion conducted four squad size day patrols, six squad size night patrols, five ambushes, ten listening posts and 95 H&I fires.
- (2) 2 August - At 021155H, village chief reported to mine sweep security element at AT 928577 that 20 VC were living in two caves at AT 943592. PF platoon also stated it knew the location of the caves. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines notified and they requested this unit to escort PF platoon to AT 943582 where they would make liaison. 2nd Battalion, 3d Marines provided blocking force along banks of SONG AI NGHIA and SONG YEN from AT 938589 to AT 938596. PF's made liaison with 1st Battalion, 9th Marines. Area searched by 1st Battalion, 9th Marines with negative results. 14 VC observed south of HILL 42 (GS AT 945) heading west. Area searched with negative results.

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At 021115H, three VC were sighted by reconnaissance patrol at AT 835613. Fire mission requested but mission cancelled as VC departed area before fire mission was approved. At 021100H, Company G patrol while conducting routine identification check, found two women with identification cards issued in Saigon. Women taken to Dai Loc District Headquarters as identification card violators. At 021115H, CAC 21 found one 155mm HE round at AT 923624. Engineer team dispatched from Company G and round was destroyed in place. This Battalion conducted five squad size day patrols, one squad size night patrol, five ambushes, ten listening posts and 106 H&I fires.

- (3) 3 August - At 030830H, CAC 21 patrol found two caves at AT 928608. First cave entrance was 1½' high, 1' wide and the interior was 10' long, 5' wide, and 3' high reinforced with steel stakes and bamboo. Second cave entrance lead from first cave. Area was searched with negative results and caves were blown by engineers. At 031000H, CAC 22 apprehended four women and four children who were carrying food. PF's attached to unit said Vietnamese females were taking food to VC that were located in hills behind HILL 65. Women were taken to Dai Loc District Headquarters for interrogation and released as non-VCS. At 031700H, Company G patrol apprehended a Vietnamese male, NGUYEN HAI, whose name appeared on the black list. VCS taken to Dai Loc District Headquarters for interrogation and released as non-VC. This Battalion conducted five squad size day patrols, two squad size night patrols, six ambushes, 15 listening posts and 104 H&I fires.

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- (4) 4 August - At 041045H, Company A, 9th Engineers working on MSR reported receiving three rounds small arms sniper fire from vicinity of An My (3) (AT 925608). QAC 21 patrol searched area and thought they saw a man enter a bunker at AT 925608. Patrol tried to smoke man out but with negative results. Two explosions occurred from fire which was started at entrance to bunker in attempt to smoke out anyone inside. Additional search was made with negative results. This Battalion conducted six squad size day patrols, six squad size night patrols, seven ambushes, 15 listening posts and 104 H&I fires.
- (5) 5 August - At 051045H, Company H river block/ambush found a M-26 grenade in a boat during a routine search at AT 920585. Grenade was destroyed and two men that were in boat were taken to Dai Loc District Headquarters for interrogation. At 051130H, Company H patrol found a tunnel vicinity AT 917587. Tunnel entrance was 18" wide and entrance was below what had been a entrance to a family bunker. Engineer assistance requested and engineers dispatched. Tunnel was destroyed. Additional search of area resulted with negative findings. At 051000H, Company H patrol while sweeping village at AT 920587 found tunnel measuring 2' high, 1 1/2' wide, 10' long leading into a longer cave or tunnel. Cave was blown by engineers. At 052225H, Company A, 9th Engineers received one incoming grenade at an outpost at AT 935640. 81mm and 105mm illumination fired and one male was spotted about 300 meters north of outpost position. Due to elapse during illumination bursts, VC contact was lost. Area was searched, but with negative results. This Battalion conducted six squad size day patrols, six squad size night patrols, seven ambushes, 14 listening posts and 93 H&I fires.
- (6) 6 August - At 060010H, two members of Company G patrol were lost for a period of 1 1/2 hours. Patrol lost radio contact with Company G CP and returned to area of last communications with negative results. Patrol returned to Company G CP and absense was noted. Patrol returned immediately to conduct a search for missing personnel. At 1100H

Patrol found two men as they were returning to CP. Two men stated they did not understand that patrol

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was moving out. At 061000H, based on information received from PF's, a patrol from Company H was sent to check out area for possible VC activity. Patrol found two vials of penicillin, one vial of sterilized water and a map of village at AT 920590. All items were taken to Battalion S-2 for evaluation. Area was searched completely for further VC activity but with negative results. This Battalion conducted five squad size day patrols, five squad size night patrols, six ambushes, 14 listening posts and 105 H&I fires.

(7) 3 August - At 071015H, CAC 22 patrol found identification card violator in a house at AT 906576. Vietnamese violator was sent to Dai Loc District Headquarters for investigation. Dai Loc District Headquarters released Vietnamese male as non-VC. At 071815H, reconnaissance patrol spotted one VC moving down trail to stream at AT 859604. Reconnaissance patrol took VC under fire with small arms fire. Artillery fire could not be called in due to the closeness of reconnaissance unit. VC broke contact and area searched with negative results. At 071930H, Company F forward observer saw four VC walking across rice paddies at AT 824560 with packs. Artillery fire missions called and 26 rounds expended. Results are unknown but movement ceased. At 071820H, Company F forward observer spotted nine VC with packs and weapons, 20 meters apart, walking in a single column moving from south to north. Artillery fire mission fired and 56 105mm rounds, 12 106mm rounds, six 90mm tank rounds and 20 81mm rounds were expended. VC ran into treeline and all rounds landed in treeline. Results of fire mission could not be observed. This Battalion conducted six squad size day patrols, six squad size night patrols, seven ambushes, 15 listening posts and 101 H&I fires.

(8) 8 August - At 081430H, approximately 1300 meters from base of HILL 65 at AT 889570, a M35 truck detonated a box type mine. No casualties or damage to truck resulted. Mine was only partially detonated. Engineers were dispatched from HILL 65 and remainder of mine removed and area searched for additional mines with negative results. At 081815H, village chief of TRUONG AN (1) reported to Company Commander, Company F that fire mission fired on nine VC at 071820H resulted in eight VC KIA by his body count.

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This Battalion conducted five squad size day patrols, five squad size night patrols, six ambushes, 15 listening posts and 101 H&I fires.

- (9) 9 August - At 090830H, a vehicle driving along MSR detonated a 15 pound mine at AT 922567 causing one USMC WIA. USMC med evaced from Battalion CP and area searched for additional mines with negative results. At 091025H, a M-422A1 vehicle detonated a pressure type fuze mine at AT 928616. Mine only partially detonated with no casualties or damage to vehicle. Engineers dispatched to check area and removed remaining portion of mine and discovered another mine filled with six to eight pounds of Chinese composition TNT. Additional search conducted with negative results. At 091130H, CAC 22 patrol observed one Vietnamese male running from patrol as they entered village at AT 949620. Patrol searched village with negative results but apprehended one Vietnamese female who had \$70.00 in Vietnamese money in her possession. Female brought to Dai Loc District Headquarters for interrogation. This Battalion conducted nine squad size day patrols, six squad size night patrols, seven ambushes, 14 listening posts and 114 H&I fires.
- (10) 10 August - At 100930H, CAC 21 patrol found head of 60mm mortar dud at AT 940620. While searching area also found small amount of medical supplies in same vicinity. Demolition team from Company G dispatched and 60mm mortar dud was destroyed and medical supplies taken to Battalion S-2 for evaluation. From 100920H, to 101930H, observation post on HILL 65 sighted VC column with packs moving supplies from north to south. 12 artillery fire missions and air support delivered 198 105mm rounds and eight 500 pound napalm bombs. Results of fire mission delivered were one VC KIA (confirmed) from air strike, 15 probable VC KIA from air strike, six VC confirmed KIA from artillery and five probable VC KIA from artillery missions. An artillery TOT was fired during night in GS (AT 8156). Air and artillery coverage of target was excellent. At 101245H, a young Vietnamese boy was inquiring extensively of engineers about USMC position on HILL 65. Boy was apprehended and taken to Dai Loc District Headquarters for questioning. At 101400 to 101600, medical evacuation for 13 Vietnamese civilians was effected. People stated they were wounded by artillery at DAI PHUOC (GS AT 8930). ARVN med evacs requested

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for injured civilians without success. At 101815H, Company G patrol while searching house in vacated village at AT 935601 found a Vietnamese book. Book taken to Company G CP where interpreter inspected and evaluated as a possible VC hospital training manual. Book forwarded to Battalion S-2 for further evaluation. This Battalion conducted nine squad size day patrols, six squad size night patrols, seven ambushes, 14 listening posts and 138 H&I fires.

- (11) 11 August - At 111200H, a continuous supply column of men moving north to south with packs spaced 100 meters apart was spotted by observation post on HILL 65. Tanks, mortars and artillery were fired and air support requested. Two fixed wing aircraft dropped eight 500 pound bombs and fired 20mm rounds at target. 30 VC confirmed KIA were observed, 15 confirmed VC KIA from air strike and 15 confirmed VC KIA from artillery fire missions. At 111545H, intelligence section of Dai Loc District informed this headquarters that three to six VC were located at AT 903593. Patrol in area attempted to locate cave with negative results. At 111610H, aerial observer moved over area of trail where VC had been moving supplies. Aerial observer checked area with negative results. At 112210H, CAC 22 patrol received 30 to 50 rounds of submachine gun, machine gun and carbine rounds from AT 900561. 81mm and 105mm fire missions were requested. Target was neutralized and small arms fire ceased immediately. Secondary explosion was observed with flames 75' to 100' high and burning for approximately five minutes which was believed to be ammunition cache. At 112230H, Company H foot bridge security located at AT 930585 observed one man near position approximately 50 meters in front of defensive wire. Company H perimeter security at AT 921583 heard movement in front of their position. 81mm illumination fired and small arms fire directed in vicinity of man and movement. Area searched with negative results. This Battalion conducted eight squad size day patrols, six squad size night patrols, seven ambushes, fifteen listening posts and 119 H&I fires.

- (12) 12 August - At 120715H, Dai Loc District Intelligence agent reported two caves at AT 903595 used by three to six VC to hide in when Marine patrols enter the area. The agent and Dai Loc District Intelligence representatives accompanied a special Company G patrol to area to attempt to locate caves and VC.

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At 121015H, engineer mine sweep detail received information that a mine was located in a house at AT 881572. Patrol went to house and ten PF's were in house with mine. PF's would not turn mine over to Marines but turned mine into District Headquarters. Mine was a box type, pressure detonated filled with six to eight pounds of Chinese composition TNT. At 121100H, Company G special patrol with agent and Dia Loc District Intelligence Agent was stopped by two young Vietnamese children who stated that two VC ran into a cave as patrol approached. Patrol attempted to have VC leave cave through interpreters with negative results. Riot control agents introduced with negative results. Cave was 10'X2'X2'. Cave was destroyed by engineers with demolitions with two probable VC KIA. At 121153, three VC wearing khakis and packs were observed in a boat crossing SONG VU GIA from north to south. Four rounds of 90mm tank ammunition fired which destroyed boat and two VC KIA confirmed. At 121300H, At 121300H, Company G special patrol, with agent and District intelligence representatives, had an accidental discharge as a corpsman was clearing his weapon and shot himself in the leg. Med evac effected. At 121415H, Company F observation post spotted four VC with packs moving north to south vicinity AT 818566. Artillery fire mission called on target and four rounds fired, but VC moved out of area of observation. At 121300H, Company G patrol found two caves at AT 898588. One cave was 8'X2'X2' and the other was 15'X4'X3'. Caves were destroyed by engineers with demolitions. At 121730H, Company F forward observer spotted ten VC in boat crossing SONG VU GIA from north to south. Artillery fire mission fired 26 rounds 105mm ammunition with three VC probable KIA. This Battalion conducted eight squad size day patrols, six squad size night patrols, seven ambushes 15 listening posts and 98 H&I fires.

(13) 13 August - At 130745H, artillery forward observer sighted 13 VC in khakis with packs moving along trail from west to east. Artillery fire mission requested and 18 rounds 105mm fired. VC ran and one VC who hid in brush was probable KIA since round landed in top of bush. At 130855H, Company F forward observer spotted seven VC wearing black pajama's carrying packs moving from west to east. 12 rounds of 105mm ammunition fired with excellent target coverage. No casualties observed. At 130130H, the land

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line to Company E was cut at AT 888572 by two blunt objects. Line repaired and area searched with negative results. At 130900H, aerial observer spotted 100 Vietnamese at AT 921641. Dispatched tank and CAC 21 to area. Determined people to be wood cutters. At 121225H, forward observer Company F spotted seven VC with packs and weapons at AT 818548. Artillery mission fired 26 rounds 105mm HE with excellent target coverage. Due to dense undergrowth, unable to observe casualties. At 131730H, Company F observation post spotted three sampans crossing river from north to south. Tanks fired six rounds with two confirmed VC KIA (bodies observed floating in water). At 131800H, a Marine got pinned between water trailer and M-35 truck while unhooking water trailer, suffering severe lacerations and bruises. Med evac effected at 131915H. This Battalion conducted ten squad size day patrols, six squad size night patrols, eight ambushes, 16 listening posts and 77 H&I fires.

- (14) 14 August - At 140755H, village chief vicinity HILL 65 reported that 81mm mortar H&I's fired at approximately 132130H resulted in four VC KIA and two VC WIA at AT 852585. At 140830H, villager from An My (3) notified PF's assigned to Company G security element that six VC with weapons and grenades were seen at AT 936606. Patrol dispatched to search area and found one cave with an entrance 2'X2' and 12'X4'X16' inside and two spider holes 2'X2'X5'. A spent motor from 3.5 rocket launcher found. All of the above destroyed with demolitions. At 131535H, an earth mover belonging to Company A, 9th Engineers slipped off the road injuring a 16 year old Vietnamese boy. Boy taken to Battalion aid station and treated for slight foot injuries. At 141230H, reconnaissance unit spotted four VC moving around hill top at AT 823600. Fire mission called and fired with good target coverage. This Battalion conducted nine squad size day patrols, six squad size night patrols, eight ambushes, 14 listening posts and 69 H&I fires.

- (15) 15 August - At 150759H, a M-35 truck from 9th Motor Transport Battalion detonated unknown type mine at AT 911589. Three USN personnel were wounded and med-evaced. Engineers dispatched to determine type of mine

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and searched area for additional mines with negative results. 9th Engineer Battalion sweep team found 40 rounds of 7.62mm ammunition wrapped up in a bundle and buried along the shoulder of the road at AT 916592. Ammunition sent to Battalion S-2 for inspection. Ammunition determined to be M-1 rifle cartridges. At 151102H, Company F observation post sighted ten VC moving north to south along trail at AT 804563 carrying packs and dispersed about 100 meters apart. Fire mission called and fired with excellent target coverage as VC moved into underbrush. Casualties sustained by VC from artillery unknown due to heavy underbrush. At 151100H, Company F patrol spotted about 25 Vietnamese, mostly women and children at AT887562. When patrol was 400 meters away the people ran. Patrol went to area and found 30 pound bag of salt. At 151515H, villagers reported that VC had planted a mine on road vicinity AT 924571 and there was another mine in a nearby hut. Notified 1st Battalion 9th Marines of report since it was in their TAC. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines requested 2nd Battalion, 3d Marines to check area. Patrol dispatched from Company H with engineers. A 60mm mortar round was found in the road and destroyed in place. Also, a M16A1 mine was found in a nearby hut and was destroyed in place. Area searched for additional mining incidents and VC activity with negative results. This Battalion conducted nine squad size day patrols, six squad size night patrols, nine ambushes, 15 listening posts and 70 H&I fires.

- (16) 16 August - CAC 21 patrol received two short bursts of fire from AT 899607. Patrol became slightly disorganized and due to language barrier and no interpreter. Reorganization was difficult. Patrol returned to CAC 21 position. An My (3) security had been notified and 81mm mortars from Company G fired in area as soon as patrol returned. Area searched at first light with negative results. At 160750H, Company F observation post spotted ten men with packs unloading boats at AT 811541. Artillery fire mission requested and 24 rounds 105mm expended with one confirmed VC KIA and one confirmed VC WIA. At 160830H, Company G patrol found a cave at AT 909603. Cave was 3'X5'X6' and was deserted

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Engineers dispatched from Company G CP and cave was destroyed with demolitions. At 161020H, Company F observation post spotted ten VC with packs and weapons in column approximately 20 meters apart at AT 804563. Artillery fire mission requested and 18 rounds 105mm ammunition fired resulting in five probable VC KIA. This Battalion conducted nine squad size day patrols, five squad size night patrols, six ambushes, 14 listening posts and 86 H&I fires.

- (17) 17 August - At 170215H, two individuals were seen approaching the south side of the perimeter around An My (3). They stopped when challenged but failed to answer. They began to move again and were challenged again. This time they ran southwest and hit the deck. Marines opened fire. About 100 meters east of this action one more individual was seen approaching the position. He was challenged twice but failed to stop. Perimeter also fired on him. Area was searched with negative results. At 171220H, PF's stopped two Vietnamese women for routine check. They were heading west on Highway 14 carrying excess amount of salt and fish. They were taken to District Headquarters for interrogation and ITT for further questioning. At 171215H, engineers took one Vietnamese female to CAC 22 position for carrying excess amount of salt and fish. Villagers from Hoa My Trung (2) said that woman was carrying salt and fish to river. She was taken to District Headquarters for interrogation and ITT for further interrogation. At 171545H, PF's stopped two Vietnamese women on routine check who were carrying approximately 100 pounds of salt. They were taken to District Headquarters and to ITT for further questioning. At 171640H, PF's stopped five women for routine check who were found to be carrying an excess amount of salt and fish. They were taken to District Headquarters for interrogation and to ITT for further questioning. At 171700H, CAC picked up one woman carrying 25 pounds of salt heading west toward HILL 65. She was taken to District Headquarters for questioning and subsequently taken to ITT for further interrogation. At 172215H, Company F Commander observed one red and one green star cluster fired in that order approximately 6000 meters west of HILL 65.

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Just prior to seeing flares a .50 caliber machine gun fired approximately 50 rounds in same vicinity. Units on HILL 65 placed on 100% alert. At 172115H, Special Forces located at ZC 138558 reported that one of their ambush sites observed a very large number of VC wearing green uniforms, helmets and carrying weapons moving toward their position from north to northwest. People from nearby village reported that two VC battalions would overrun the camp on 17 August. Special Forces requested artillery support and artillery fire mission fired with good target coverage. This Battalion conducted eight squad size day patrols, five squad size night patrols, six ambushes, 15 listening posts and 86 H&I fires.

- (18) 18 August - At 181015H, District intelligence agent reported two caves located vicinity AT 901589 and AT 905590. Intelligence personnel from district were sent to Company G to accompany a patrol to that area. Patrol found a tunnel complex vicinity AT 902593. Engineers attached to patrol blew tunnel complex with C-4. At 181100H, CAC 22 stopped one male and one female for routine identification check vicinity AT 923604. They were found to be carrying about 60 pounds of salt. They were sent to ITT as suspected VC food carriers. At 181130H, CAC 22 apprehended seven females and three children for routine identification check vicinity AT 902572. They were carrying 100 pounds of salt and 120 pounds of fish. One woman in advanced state of pregnancy was released. Others sent to ITT as possible VC food carriers. This Battalion conducted nine squad size day patrols, seven squad size night patrols, 11 ambushes, 16 listening posts and 85 H&I fires.

- (19) 19 August - At 191905H, wire team reported a deliberate cut in the land line to Company G and another cut in the CAC 21 line at AT 916596. No wire was removed. Wire was repaired. This Battalion conducted nine squad size day patrols, six squad size night patrols, nine ambushes, 15 listening posts and 84 H&I fires.

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20 August - At 200930H, two barges about 15' long were observed moving east to west on the SONG VU GIA vicinity AT 855557 by observation post on HILL 65. Tanks from HILL 65 fired six rounds of 90mm ammunition with new HEP round. Rounds hit the water but failed to explode. Boats went behind sandbar in defilade position. At 201015H, Company F observation post observed eight VC with packs moving south to north vicinity AT 818570. Artillery fire mission requested and 12 rounds of 105mm HE ammunition fired with good target coverage resulting in two probable VC KIA. At 201125H, Company F patrol providing security for Psychological Warfare Team in Tam Hoa, vicinity GS (AT 8657 apprehended two VC in a boat moving from west to east. They had VC passports and other documents rolled up in a can. VC were taken to Dai Loc District Headquarters for interrogation and to ITT for further interrogation. At 201305H, Company F observation post spotted 14 to 16 VC wearing packs unloading two boats at AT 849551 on the south side of the SONG VU GIA. Fire mission fired 12 rounds 105mm HE ammunition with good target coverage resulting in five VC probable KIA. At 191905H, the land line to Company G was cut at AT 916596 and another cut was found in the CAC 22 line 500 meters north of first cut. Lines repaired by Battalion wire team. At 201620H, Company H reconnaissance in force found a large VC complex vicinity AT 818613. Complex contained numerous classrooms, fortification tunnels, demolitions and ammunition. A platoon from Company H engaged with at least six VC armed with two .50 caliber machineguns and automatic weapons. VC broke contact and fled. Results of fire fight were one USMC WIA and two confirmed VC KIA. At 201730H, Company H found what appeared to be a medical aid station. Many medical documents and miscellaneous medical gear captured. At 201740H, Company F observation post spotted eight VC with packs and rifles moving north to south on trail vicinity AT 805558. Artillery fire mission fired 18 rounds of 105mm HE ammunition resulting in three probable VC KIA. At 201800H, Company H found VC ammunition and weapons vicinity AT 818613. One K-50 rifle, one Chi Com rifle, one gun of unknown origin and large amount of various types of ammunition and grenades captured. At 201930H, Command

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Group Alpha (Operation ALLEGHANY) received two rounds sniper fire from AT 836616 with no friendly casualties. At 202200H, Company A, 9th Engineers at AT 937637 observed a light shining in the high ground 2000 meters from their OP. The light was visible on two occasions for five minutes time each. Artillery fire mission requested and eight illumination and 12HE rounds fired with good target coverage. This Battalion conducted six squad size day patrols, five squad size night patrols, seven ambushes, 14 listening posts and 108 H&I fires.

- (21) 21 August - At 210655H, Company H made contact with undetermined size unit located 190 meters southwest of their position at AT 818613. Enemy force employed automatic weapons. Enemy broke contact after short firefight. Med evac for one USMC KIA and six USMC WIA effected. At 210800H, Company G killed one VC and captured one Chi Com carbine in an engagement with unknown number of VC. At 211050H, Company H located at AT 818613 identified tunnels and buildings as school complex. Documents and diagrams indicate a five week course for men from 15-25 years of age. Diagrams of Special Forces camps, artillery positions and Dai Loc District Headquarters were found. All captured documents and diagrams forwarded to Regimental S-2. At 211230H, Company G at AT 818607 located three 30 foot long structures and a tunnel complex. A bloody trail lead out of the area to the southwest. The structures were burned and tunnels destroyed with demolitions. When tunnels were destroyed, secondary explosions occurred. At 211435H, patrol from K Co., 3d Marines spotted five suspicious persons running in rice paddies. Patrol challenged, but people continued to run. Patrol opened fire. Patrol checked area with negative results but found one canteen, one note book and other papers. All items forwarded to Battalion S-2 for evaluation. At 211500H, Company G while patrolling near AT 812604 received 20 rounds of small arms sniper fire. Fire returned, but terrain prevented deployment of troops. One USMC WIA sustained with gun shot wound in leg. Med evac effected. Area searched and large pool of blood found. At 211600H, resupply helicopter received several rounds of small arms

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rounds in CP was fired by
(22) 22 August -

fire from 150 meters north of landing zone (AT 819613). Helicopter sustained hits and was forced to return to Dai Loc until repair crew repaired helicopter. Landing zone area swept but with negative results. At 211550H, Command Group 4 received heavy small arms fire from automatic weapons. Patrol dispatched from Company H and short fire fight ensued then VC broke contact. Patrol continued to search area but with negative results. At 212030H, reconnaissance element engaged 9 to 11 VC vicinity AT 837613. VC broke contact after short firefight and area searched with negative results. At 212255H, reconnaissance elements received incoming mortars from 250 meters west of AT 837613. Artillery fired illumination and fire mission fired on target area. C-47 aircraft fired at target area and provided illumination. No friendly casualties sustained. Enemy suffered three probable KIA's. This Battalion conducted nine squad size day patrols, six squad size night patrols, eight ambushes, 14 listening posts and 91 H&I fires. A mortar attempt of 30-40 rounds in CP was fired by VC with all rounds missing target. Artillery fired. Company G engaged a VC unit of unknown size at a VC camp site at AT 811606. Contact was broken and rapid search of the area was conducted with negative results. At 220915H, Company G with the aid of two men from reconnaissance unit searched the area for the body of one USMC who was killed three days ago but with negative results. At 220930H, Company H received small arms automatic fire as company departed original VC base camp located at AT 818613. Fire was returned. Air strike called on vacated area when all units cleared area. At 220930H, reconnaissance searched area of landing zone and suspected enemy area where enemy attack launched on previous night. Reconnaissance unit found numerous body drag marks with blood trails and one natural cave with clothing inside. A detailed analysis of the area and sightings under night illumination indicate five VC confirmed KIA and ten VC probable KIA. At 221150H, Company G patrol encountered VC sniper fire wounding one USMC. Company G returned fire killing one VC (confirmed). Patrol attempted to recover VC body and weapon, but only found one K-50 magazine. At 221400H, Company G engaged a reinforced VC

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patrol while searching VC base camp and a two hour fire fight followed. Air strikes were called. The VC attempted to assault Company G positions but without success. Med evacs were called for wounded but could not be effected due to unsecure landing zone. Resupply of ammunition was accomplished by helicopter which were fired upon as they lowered gear to Company G. During the fire fight, Battalion interpreter monitored VC talking on radio concerning their withdrawal. Air strike was directed toward direction of VC withdrawal. The results of fire fight were 20 USMC WIA (five which were med evaced) with ten confirmed VC KIA and 30 probable VC KIA. This Battalion conducted nine squad size day patrols, six squad size night patrols, eight ambushes, 14 listening posts and 96 H&I fires.

- (23) 23 August - At 230055H, Company H listening post detected movement to their front vicinity AT 821605. Listening post threw two grenades and 81mm illumination was fired. No further movement noted. At 230920H, Company G patrol engaged an estimated three to five VC in a 30 minute firefight vicinity AT 817606. VC broke contact. Patrol moved to vicinity AT 820610 and found two large freshly dug graves capable of holding three bodies each. Fresh blood was seeping through the dirt. Excessive blood trails and drag marks were also found. An estimated six probable VC KIA were results of firefight. At 231400H, Company E patrol encountered small VC unit and engaged in short firefight vicinity AT 824609. VC broke contact. Area was searched with negative results. This Battalion conducted seven squad day patrols; six squad size night patrols, nine ambushes, 15 listening posts and 111 H&I fires.
- (24) 24 August - At 241106H, Company H patrol tripped M-26 grenade with trip wire vicinity AT 810600 causing one USMC KIA and two USMC WIA. At 241130H, Company H patrol found one M-14 rifle (#937278) with camouflage cover vicinity AT 810600. It is not known whether rifle was lost by VC or friendly troops. At 241300H, Company G moved into area vicinity AT 810605 and made contact with VC. Firefight ensued. At end of engagement a search of area revealed 22 confirmed VC KIA plus

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Excessive blood trails and drag marks indicating another possible 20-30 KIA/WIA. Company G also found approximately 2500 pounds of rice which was destroyed. 17 huts, one large classroom and three caves were also destroyed. At 241745H, Company A, 9th Engineer Battalion while laying asphalt vicinity AT 935631 noted two Vietnamese boys had set fire to freshly layed asphalt. Approximately 200 feet of asphalt was burned. Boys were apprehended and delivered to Hieu Duc District Chief for appropriate action. This Battalion conducted seven squad size day patrols, five squad size night patrols, five ambushes 14 listening posts and 142 H&I fires.

(25) 25 August - At 250152H, approximately 30 VC attacked a refugee camp vicinity AT 930578. Approximately 80 houses were destroyed and seven civilians injured. District forces withdrew to an adjacent camp to protect it from further attack. 81mm illumination and HE fired in support of District Forces and District Headquarters reported two VC KIA and three VC WIA. At 250730H, Company E engaged unknown number of VC in camp vicinity AT 815605. Enemy broke contact after firefight. Search of area revealed 32 VC KIA (confirmed) and excessive amount of blood trails and drag marks indicating a possible 20-30 addition KIA/WIA. At 250840H, Company E swept through base camp vicinity AT 815605 destroying 18 huts, four tunnels and 19 caves. One VC KIA was found in the camp. At 251100H, Command Group A found large cave vicinity AT 814607. Cave was approximately 100 meters in length and was horseshoe-shaped. Cave contained food, clothing and some spare parts for weapons. Cave was destroyed by engineers. At 252300H, Command Group A CP heard eight to ten rounds of possible 81mm mortar from southwest of the CP vicinity AT 811600. Rounds passed overhead and detonated approximately 1000 meters northeast of the CP. This Battalion conducted seven squad size day patrols, five squad size night patrols, five ambushes, 14 listening posts and 120 H&I fires.

(26) 26 August - At 260810H, Company G patrol discovered mock-up 105mm gun and round vicinity AT 812603. Mock-up was air lifted to higher echelon. At 260900H, Company H requested air strike on a suspected

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VC supply and/or base camp vicinity AT 806608. Mission was completed with excellent target coverage. 30 VC KIA were assessed from air strike. Company E received sporadic small arms fire from treetops vicinity AT 816605. Snipers fired at ranges from 10 to 100 meters. USMC personnel are spotting snipers and shooting them out of trees with seven VC KIA (confirmed). At 261345H, Company H patrol received sporadic sniper fire from treetops vicinity AT 814607. Patrol returned fire and continued to move forward. Patrol had two VC KIA (confirmed), four VC KIA (probable) and one VC WIA (probable). At 261415H, Company G with elements of Command Group A engaged two to three snipers vicinity AT 811600. Patrol was dispatched and searched area with negative results. At 261620H, resupply helicopters received automatic weapons fire from vicinity AT 805595. Aircraft returned 200 rounds of 7.62 machinegun fire with unknown results. At 262020H, Company F outpost vicinity AT 921584 heard movement on river bank about 50 meters east of their position. Hand illumination was fired and one man observed on river bank. Man ran when area was illuminated. Outpost fired one round small arms and searched area with negative results. This Battalion conducted six squad size day patrols, four squad size night patrols, eight ambushes, 14 listening posts and 114 H&I fires.

- (27) 27 August - At 270700H, Company F patrol received approximately 30 rounds small arms fire from south of SONG VU GIA 81mm mortar fired at suspected enemy positions. At 271100H, small arms fire was received by resupply helicopters and air strike effected at observed source of fire. One large and one small secondary explosions occurred. Three huts were destroyed and the target area was completely destroyed. At 271200H, Company F patrol suffered two heat exhaustion casualties due to intense heat. Med evac completed and patrol ordered to return to CP. At 272000H, Army Advisory Team received information from village chief of Loc Hung that there was a reinforced VC company at AT 941588. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines notified for area is in there TAOR. Artillery fire mission requested by 9th Marines at AT 941588. This Battalion

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conducted six squad size day patrols, six squad size night patrols, five ambushes, 14 listening posts and 100 H&I fires.

- (28) 28 August - At 280925H, artillery fire mission called on AT 810570 as a suspected VC position. Battery A, 1st Battalion, 12th Marines fired 35 HE and seven WP rounds of 105mm ammunition. Infantry searched area with indications of six VC probable KIA. At 281207H, Company H patrol received sniper fire from AT 828555. Artillery FO called a fire mission expending 16 HE and 6 WP 105mm rounds. One secondary explosion was observed. At 281920H, Company E received 15-20 rounds small arms fire from AT 836563. Fire returned with small arms fire, 81mm mortars and artillery. When artillery fired for effect, two secondary explosions occurred. At 281825H, AO observed 15 boats in river at ZC 197553. Artillery fire mission called and two secondary explosions occurred (possibly munitions). AO estimated 20% destruction. This Battalion conducted five squad size day patrols, four squad size night patrols, seven ambushes, 14 listening posts and 96 H&I fires.
- (29) 29 August - At 291000H, undetermined number of personnel were observed moving at AT 813603. Artillery fire mission requested and 24 rounds of HE and two rounds of WP 105mm were fired. Movement ceased. This Battalion conducted five squad size day patrols, five squad size night patrols, seven ambushes, 14 listening posts and 73 H&I fires.
- (30) 30 August - On this date this Battalion made no enemy contact or witnessed any enemy initiated activity. This Battalion conducted five squad size day patrols, five squad size night patrols, six ambushes, 14 listening posts and 68 H&I fires.
- (31) 31 August - At 311015H, reconnaissance unit setting in OP at AT 888613 heard movement and talking at AT 882617. They opened fire resulting in one probable VC KIA. At 311030H, Company G patrol apprehended one man without identification card. VCS taken to Dai Loc District Headquarters for questioning. At 311820H, Company F observation post observed eight VC moving south at AT 805562. Fire mission requested and fired with two probable VC KIA. This Battalion conducted eight squad size day patrols, five squad size night patrols, six ambushes, 14 listening posts and 68 H&I fires.

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10. Fire Support and Fire Support Coordination

- a. Significant Events. During the period 1-31 August, the 1st Battalion, 12th Marines was in direct support of the 3d Marine Regiment. The majority of fire support was provided by Battery A, 1st Battalion, 12th Marines and Battery B, 1st Battalion 12th Marines. On 11 August, the 1st 8" Howitzer and 1st 155 Gun Battery displaced from their forward position on Hill 41 to Hill 65, followed by Battery K, 4th Battalion, 12th Marines on 20 August. At 1425 on 19 August, Operation ALLEGHENY commenced ending 1500 on 29 August.
- b. Artillery Units providing direct support or reinforcing fires:
- (1) Btry "A", 1st Bn, 12th Marines - 105mm How (1-31Aug)
 - (2) Btry "B", 1st Bn, 12th Marines - 105mm How (1-31Aug)
 - (3) Btry "K", 4th Bn, 12th Marines - 155mm How (20-31Aug)
 - (4) 1st 8" How Btry - 8" How (11-31Aug)
 - (5) 1st 155 Gun Btry - 155mm Gun (11-31Aug)
- c. Naval Gunfire. There were no NGF fire missions conducted.
- d. Types and number of missions fired
- (1) Artillery

(a) Observed fire missions	77
(b) Unobserved fire missions	7
(c) Groups of Fire	265
(d) Harrassing and Interdiction	1305
(e) Neutralization	4
(f) Prep Fires	28
(g) Registrations	6
(h) Training Fire Missions	4
(i) Fire power demonstration	1
(j) Total missions	1697

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(2) Naval Gunfire Missions fired - none.

(3) 81mm Mortars

(a) Observed Fire Missions	36
(b) Unobserved Fire Missions	3
(c) Groups of Fire	None
(d) Harrassing and Interdiction Fires	485
(e) Neutralization	None
(f) Prep Fire	None
(g) Registrations	13
(h) Training Fire Missions	19
(i) Total Fire Missions	556

e. Ammunition Expended

(1) Direct support artillery

105mm How	HE	3954
	WP	558
	Ill	188

(2) General support artillery

(a) 155mm How	HE	246
	WP	26
(b) 155mm Gun	HE	84
	WP	2
(c) 8" How	HE	148

(3) Naval gunfire support - none.

(4) 81mm Mortar	HE	2368
	WP	82
	Ill	157

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(5)	60mm Mortar	HE	53
(6)	Tanks 90mm	HE	246
		WP	53
		HEAT	69
(7)	Ontos 106mm	HEPT	1151

f. Surveillance

(1) From the above fire missions and number of artillery rounds used, the direct support and the general support artillery amassed a total of 12 confirmed KIA's, 25 probable KIA's, six WIA's, destroyed 20 VC supply boats and obtained five secondary explosions, as determined from observation by FO's and intelligence reports from the Battalion S-2 sources.

11. Logistics

a. Supply

(1) Supply distribution for the month was by company trucks and by company organic vehicles. Two water trailers from Company F and one each from the other line companies are filled daily in the Battalion CP area. Also a tanker distributes gasoline and diesel to the CP.

(2) The resupply was completed by truck from the Battalion Resupply point. Resupply is a time consuming factor at the present. A 45 mile round trip from supply point to Battalion CP is required daily and a maximum of two trips is all that can be made.

(3) Daily runs to FLSG Maintenance were made for repair of ordnance, optics and office machines.

(4) Requisitions were hand carried daily to the Fleet Stock Account. Priority O2 and walk-thru requisitions were cleared through Division Supply and G-4 prior to submission.

b. Maintenance. The following quantity of items by category were taken to FLSG for maintenance.

General Supply	25
Ordnance	34
Motor Transport	8
Communications	86

c. Food Services

(1) The Battalion mess hall provides three hot meals per day for personnel in the CP. Each company, in the outlying areas, now has a company mess.

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(2) The following shortages still exist:

(a) Eight accessory pack field ranges due to an increase in the T/E.

d. Cantonment and Camp Facilities Development.

(1) The permanent construction program is underway. Strongbacking and messhall construction should be complete by 15 September 1966.

(2) It is planned to have all necessary construction completed by 15 September in anticipation of the monsoon season.

e. Transportation and Roads

(1) Transportation. Organic battalion vehicles are utilized to the maximum; the six M-35 trucks attached daily are utilized for resupply, small detachment of troop movements and miscellaneous missions. Because of the distance this unit is removed from all supply services, it is strongly recommended that consideration be given to furnishing one additional M-35 truck on a TAD basis. This battalion currently operates with four of the assigned six trucks attached.

(2) Roads. Road construction in the Battalion TAOR is under direction of the 3d Engineer Battalion and Company A, 9th Engineers.

f. Fiscal. The units Operation Budget report was screened for erroneous changes. Corrections were submitted to 3d FSR.

g. Water

(1) Water is obtained from local water point within Battalion CP operated by 3d Engineers.

(2) The Battalion has a T/E of six water trailers while in country. One to each line company and two for the mess hall in the Battalion CP area. The trailers are filled from nearest water point and a water tanker refilled the trailers every other day.

(3) Platoon and squad positions are resupplied through the use of water cans.

(4) A bath unit was operated by 3d Engineers adjacent to local water point during first half of the month.

(5) Showers were constructed at all forward positions down to platoon level.

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h. Motor Transport

(1) The Battalion has 20 M422 and 30 M274A1 vehicles. One M422A1 and six M274A1 were combat deadlined during June 1966. 80% were available to the Battalion and 89% of the trailers were available during this period.

i. Embarkation

(1) Preparation of Semi-Annual Embark report completed and embark up to date

(2) Battalion has five school trained embarkation personnel. Two officers and three enlisted.

j. Hospitalization and Evacuation

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>METHOD</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
KIA	Helicopter	7
WIA	Helicopter	29
Non-battle	-	0

12. Air Defense. None.

13. Combat Air Support

a. During the reporting period rotary winged air support was provided by MAG-16, 1st MAW. This air support included close air support, medical evacuations, administrative flights and resupply flights. This support was accomplished with a variety of aircraft including OH-46's, HU-1E's, OH-37's and UH-34's.

b. During the reporting period fixed wing air support was provided mainly by MAG-11, 1st MAW. The Air Force provided a flare/gunship and one aerial delivery aircraft and the Army provided two aerial delivery aircraft. Fixed wing air support included F-4's, A-4's, C-123's and C-47's.

c. Significant events during the reporting period involved extensive close air support and logistics support during Operation ALLEGHENY from 19-29 August 1966.

d. The following is a listing of two plane missions flown in support of this battalion during the reporting period:

Close Air Support	17
Medical Evacuations	32
Administrative Flights	2
Resupply Flights	16

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14. Medical and Dental Supporta. Name of Surgeon: R. A. NIVALA, LT, MC, USNRb. Significant Events: None.c. Medical Trends: Gastroenteritis, probably viral, usually contracted within approximately 3-10 days after arrival.d. Number of Battle Casualties Treated:

(1) Gunshot 27

(2) Shrapnel 22

e. Number of Non-Battle Patients Treated: 346

(1) Admissions to BAS: 19

(2) Emergency Treatment

(a) Heat Casualties: None

(b) Lacerations, etc: 9

(3) Number of referrals to 3d Medical Battalion and Naval Support Activity Station Hospital, etc: 96

(4) Cases of significant diseases of the area:

(a) Shigella: 1

(5) Cases of VD

(a) Acquired out of country: 2

(b) Acquired in country: 5

f. Preventive Medicine and Sanitation

(1) Number of inoculations: 248

(2) Malaria prophylaxis administered weekly. The camp sanitation is considered satisfactory.

g. Civil Affairs Medical Support Rendered

(1) Number Treated: 2333

(2) Referrals for corrective surgery: None

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(3) Other events affecting civilian health: None

(4) Schooling conducted: None

h. Problem Areas: None

15. Chaplain Support

a. Name of Chaplain. L. L. ANDERSON, LT, CHC, USNR

b. Services Conducted

12 Sunday Services Conducted	250 in attendance
12 Weekday services Conducted	219 in attendance

c. 16 Professional Counseling sessions.

d. Significant Activities

(1) Participated in Operation ALLEGHENY.

(2) Provided Protestant religious services during the month for 3d Battalion, 3d Marines.

e. Facilities

(1) No chapel at present. Using mess tent until until proposed chapel is constructed.

16. Civil Affairs

a. Significant Activities

(1) 4 August - 65 gallons of paint were distributed to the people of the hamlets of Ai Nghia, coordinates AT 912578 and Hoan My, coordinates AT 916578. This marked the beginning of the painting project, the goal of which is to improve the appearance of the homes in the area. While the project is still underway, progress has been made and the improvement, to date is considerable, with approximately 26 buildings already painted.

(2) 6 August - The reconstruction of An My (3), coordinates AT 927609, began. During the course of the month a great deal of progress was made. As of 27 August the project was more than three fourths complete, with 78 structures standing. The procedure that has been followed is basically this: each morning between 60 to 100 Vietnamese are transported by Marine vehicles from the Refugee Camp to An My (3). The material has been supplied by the United States, while the labor and supervision was done by the Vietnamese. The houses being built are of sizes 15'X25' and 10'X20'. The people are eager and have been working hard. The project should be completed within two weeks.

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(3) 19 August - Acting on the request of the village chief, eight bags of cement were distributed to the Dai Loc Refugee Camp 1 in the hamlet of Ai Nghia, coordinates AT 913580. The cement is being used for the construction of wells so that the refugees may have enough water.

b. Materials Distributed

(1) During the period covered by this report a total of 2333 persons received medical aid from the medical personnel throughout the Battalion's TAOR. There were 51 bars of soap distributed to 97 persons, and 2215 pounds of food to 886 persons. Also distributed were:

- (a) 130 gallons of paint
- (b) 8 bags of cement
- (c) 9 truck loads of lumber
- (d) 13 CARE carpenter kits

(2) The following is a list of material distributed by the U. S. Army during the period covered by this report:

- (a) 20 CARE carpenter kits
- (b) 1500 half sheets of tin
- (c) 2000 bars of soap
- (d) 500 pounds of clothing
- (e) 30 bags of Bulgar wheat (30k bags)
- (f) 50 hoe heads

c. Special Civil Affairs Projects

(1) The construction of additional wells in the area of Dai Loc Refugee Camp 1, coordinates AT 913580.

(2) The construction of public sanitation facilities, requested by the Loc An Village Chief for the Village of Loc An.

d. Apparent Results of the Civil Affairs Program

(1) The people have responded well. They are friendly and cooperative. They seem to be taking some initiative in trying to overcome some of their more basic problems.

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PART III

Supporting Documents

1. ✓ Daily Journals *Filed Rep*
- Filed*
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Johnson { 2. ✓ Mine/Booby Traps and Grenade Incidents Overlay
3. ✓ Lessons Learned from Operation ALLEGHENY

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HEADQUARTERS
2nd Battalion, 3d Marines
FPO San Francisco 96602

3/RTS/rlv
3000
1 Sep 1966

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, 3d Marines
Subj: Lessons Learned during August 1966; submission of
Ref: (a) 3dMarDiv msg 300250Z April 66

1. In accordance with the instructions contained in reference (a), the subject Lessons Learned are hereby submitted. These lessons are the results of Operation Allegheny conducted in the DONG LAM Mountains 19-29 August 1966. A more detailed After Action Report (Operation Allegheny) will be subject of separate correspondence.

GROUND OPERATIONS

TOPIC: Enemy Tactics

ITEM: Viet Cong Defensive Positions

DISCUSSION: In all enemy living and training areas there were prepared defensive and ambush positions. These were usually located in the less dense undergrowth areas, but always well camouflaged by a heavy canopy. All defensive positions and ambushes were oriented down trails and stream beds or at right angles to them. In no instance were defenses or ambush sites encountered which faced uphill or upstream. In all cases, the assaulting units were directed to move parallel to trails and stream beds to a point above a suspected defensive position or ambush site and launch an attack downhill to the rear of the enemy forces. Although the use of this type of movement would take hours to accomplish, assaulting units always had the advantage of attacking downhill into the weakest point of the enemy's defenses.

RECOMMENDATION: When operating against well entrenched enemy forces in mountainous terrain avoid attacking up a draw or upstream. It is imperative that a unit out flank the defender and attack him from the rear or weakest point.

TOPIC: Movement of Forces

ITEM: Cross Country Movement in Mountainous Terrain

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DISCUSSION: The terrain was the greatest single limiting factor in Operation Allegheny. Ninety percent of the area consisted of dense jungle undergrowth with a 60-100 foot canopy and the other ten percent was elephant grass up to fifteen feet high. Movement through this terrain is slow and arduous, trails had to be hacked out and machetes were a must. Formations for any extended movement were restricted to that of a column. Companies travelled on line with platoons in column. In this way if one one point element was taken under fire, there was another platoon abreast of it in the vicinity ready to react. It must be noted that it was of paramount importance to know exactly where other units were located to avoid firing into friendly troops. This was accomplished by assigning a compass azimuth along a direction of march in addition to maintaining constant radio contact. The point element must be at least fifty meters forward of the main body as it was always the first element to be engaged. On several moves because of the point being well forward the enemy sprung his ambush too soon allowing the main body to react and overrun his position. Due to the great number of automatic weapons employed by enemy forces, dispersion of troops is mandatory. Booby traps and mines were not encountered in this area, except on one occasion in a landing zone previously utilized by reconnaissance elements. Despite the lack of VC mining activities, dispersion of troops must be stressed at all times.

RECOMMENDATION: That troops move in column, avoid the easy approaches, keep the point well forward and keep troops dispersed. In the long run, the time and effort expended will save the lives of many Marines.

TOPIC: Tactics Utilized by a Recon in Force element

ITEM: Reconnaissance by Fire

DISCUSSION: On many occasions the use of reconnaissance by fire caused the enemy to give away his position prematurely. When moving through the dense and mountainous terrain it is usually impossible to detect the enemy positions until one is within a very few meters of his emplacement. Cantonment areas of thirty or more buildings could not be sighted from twenty meters away and if a unit waits until sighting an enemy force before firing, it will usually find itself pinned down by a large volume of automatic weapons fire from all directions, including fire from treetops. A heavy volume of fire delivered while on the move has a very discouraging effect upon the enemy since he never really knows what the attacking unit is firing at, and tends to become confused, reacting prematurely. The element of surprise becomes less important in view of the extreme difficulty encountered in moving large numbers of troops through dense terrain.

RECOMMENDATION: That reconnaissance by fire be constantly utilized by units moving through dense and mountainous terrain occupied by the enemy and should not wait for the enemy to fire first, or it may find itself subject to heavy casualties in lead element.

TOPIC: Weapons**ITEM: Limitations of Selected Weapons**

DISCUSSION: The Light Anti-Tank Assault Weapon (LAAW) could not be fired in the dense terrain and was considered excess gear. The bipods on the M-14 rifles were constantly getting fouled in the undergrowth impeding the movement of the Marines. The M-79 grenade launcher was extremely effective when the undergrowth thinned out but could not be used during most of the operation. Automatic rifles and machine guns were by far the most effective weapons employed against the enemy forces in the dense mountainous terrain.

RECOMMENDATIONS: That the LAAW and M-14 rifle bipods not be carried on operations in dense mountainous terrain.

TOPIC: Engineer Support**ITEM: Destroying Cantonment Complexes**

DISCUSSION: The complete destruction of an enemy cantonment was all but impossible with the limited engineer support available. Tunnels and caves up to 100 meters long were encountered and sufficient demolitions could not be man packed through the mountains to cause their complete destruction. The bamboo structures were easily destroyed by fire utilizing C-4 and illumination grenades.

RECOMMENDATION: That an Engineer Platoon be placed in direct support of a Battalion conducting operations against enemy cantonment facilities in mountainous terrain.

2. That sufficient demolitions be lowered from a helicopter into a hasty helixone once the cantonment is secured.

ARTILLERY OPERATIONS**TOPIC: Aerial Observation****ITEM: Limited Visibility of the FO Team**

DISCUSSION: Due to the dense terrain it was extremely difficult to adjust artillery rounds from a ground location. The FO could give the target location to the AO and have him adjust the artillery. No assessment of damage can be made until the infantry units occupies the terrain after the artillery mission.

RECOMMENDATION: That an AO be on station at all times during operations in mountainous terrain to observe the area and be available to rapidly adjust artillery fires.

TOPIC: Control and Clearing of Fire Missions

ITEM: Decentralized Artillery Support

DISCUSSION: Throughout this operation this unit had a battery in direct support allowing fires to be directed at targets within three minutes after the initial request. Decentralized control of artillery support and fire direction enabled this unit to lay fire onto enemy positions prior to every engagement. Casualties were very light due, in great measure, to this unit having the support of a battery that would fire preparatory fires within minutes after the ground unit had located a target.

RECOMMENDATION: That artillery support always be decentralized when engaged in any large scale operation to ensure immediate response to the Commanders requirement for artillery support.

AIR OPERATIONS

TOPIC: Close Air Support (Day)

DISCUSSION: During the most of Operation Allegheny this Battalion operated in terrain with dense undergrowth and/or dense overhead canopy cover. Observation by the FAC on the ground was limited to twenty to thirty meters most of the time. When contact was made with the enemy they were usually in close proximity to friendly front lines. There was a need for close air support in the most precise sense of the word. The FAC, taking into consideration safety of the troops, poor visibility and communications, felt that fixed wing jet aircraft could not be used initially for close air support.

RECOMMENDATION: 1. That when controlling close air support missions in this dense terrain, a UH-1E be requested to act as an offensive weapons platform as well as a TAC(M). The UH-1E can fly lower and slower, and remain on station longer than fixed-wing aircraft, thereby enhancing the chances of actually seeing the enemy. It can also place accurate small caliber fire in closer proximity to friendly troops without unduly endangering them. Recommendation 2. That fixed-wing aircraft be utilized once the enemy has broken contact and the separation between friendly and enemy units is such that heavy ordnance can be utilized to destroy the enemy with a heavy volume of fire with a safe allowance for deflection error at high airspeeds. It is also recommended that whenever possible 500 pound bombs be the minimum sized bomb requested because it appears to have a much better capability of blocking trails with debris so that napalm can be more effective.

TOPIC: Close Air Support (Night)

DISCUSSION: Inability to distinguish friendly lines as well as inability to observe targets is greatly increased at night, and safety of troops is difficult to ensure using fixed-wing jet aircraft. The Air Force

flare/gunship "Smokey" utilized itself or in coordination with UH-1E aircraft provided outstanding close air support during the hours of darkness in this type terrain. This is due mainly to their capability of flying more slowly and also their increased time on station.

RECOMMENDATIONS: That close air support during the hours of darkness in overgrown or canopied terrain be accomplished by flare/gunship by itself or in coordination with UH-1E aircraft. This type of close air support proves most satisfactory from the point of view of troop safety, probability of gaining immediate fire superiority, maintaining fire superiority due to time on station, and destroying and/or demoralizing the enemy by a heavy volume of accurate fire.

TOPIC: Preplanned Air Strikes

DISCUSSION: Preplanned air strikes were utilized on two occasions with moderate success. The requests were submitted the night before for strikes to be run prior to troops moving into an area the next morning. On the first occasion the TAC(A) was late and one of the jet aircraft on station had to return to land because of fuel shortage. On the second occasion the fixed-wing were to be controlled from the ground, and they arrived 25 minutes late. This delayed the movement of troops into the objective area.

RECOMMENDATIONS: That the ALO/FAC ensure that any plans for preplanned air strikes are submitted at least one full day in advance of the time requested whenever possible to facilitate coordination in the Direct Air Support Center. It is also recommended that whenever possible these strikes be controlled from the ground by the ALO/FAC.

TOPIC: Medical Evacuation

DISCUSSION: It can be plainly stated that medical evacuation during this operation was very difficult and caused many problems. Adequate landing zones are extremely scarce in this type terrain. Once we pushed into the terrain covered with dense canopy we had two alternatives. One was to keep an element in the elephant grass to secure an adequate landing zone where a med evac helicopter could land, and carry our evacuees back to this position through extremely difficult terrain. This proved unsatisfactory since it took up to five hours to traverse only 500-600 meters of this terrain with litters. The other alternative was to cut a landing zone in the dense canopy and undergrowth suitable for evacuation by hoist from a hovering helicopter. This method was used with much success on numerous occasions although the inability to secure more than 200 meters around the zone resulted in a number of helicopters taking hits from enemy snipers outside the perimeter. Although both the UH-34 and the UH-1E could pick up evacuees while hovering above terrain that averages 2400 MSL, the OH-46 proved to be the most suitable for this type pick-up because of its power and load capability. The Helicopter Support Team attached to the Battalion had carried a large heavy Burroughs power saw for literally thousands of meters through

mountainous terrain, only to find the equipment inoperable on reaching the proposed landing site.

RECOMMENDATION: That a Helicopter Support Team be attached to units in this type terrain. This team should be equipped with long handle axes and hand saws with which they can cut and clear an adequate zone to safely accommodate a hovering helicopter. The zone should provide as much cover from enemy snipers outside the perimeter as possible. All CH-46 aircraft used for medical evacuation, where they must hover, should be equipped with a litter so that thigh and stomach wounds as well as the dead do not have to be lifted by a horse collar.

TOPIC: Aerial Delivery

DISCUSSION: Resupply in this terrain was another major problem. The need for resupply, at times, hampered our tactical scheme of maneuver. About 10% of the operation was conducted in areas where helicopters could land; and resupply went smoothly. The rest of the time necessity placed us in areas very difficult to resupply. The most satisfactory method of resupply was to lower or drop supplies from a hovering helicopter. Aerial delivery was poor to unsatisfactory because 50-100 meters meant possible loss of the supplies due to the dense canopy and undergrowth as well as a steep gradient of 40-60 meters vertically per 100 meters horizontally. One drop was 250 meters off target and it took one company a period of six hours to find and recover all the containers due to the steep terrain. Since tactics put us on the high ground, anything less than pinpoint accuracy is totally unsatisfactory in this method of delivery.

RECOMMENDATIONS: That commanders try to have their resupply points in a landing zones that will facilitate the landing of a helicopter since no other method seems to be completely satisfactory. When this cannot be accomplished due to the tactical situation, units should try to request resupply by lowering or dropping from a hovering helicopter from a partially cleared zone. Aerial resupply should be requested only as a last resort and pinpoint accuracy must be stressed.

TOPIC: Air-to-Ground Communications

DISCUSSION: The AN/PRC 41 UHF radio is a delicate piece of communications equipment at best, and is very difficult to maintain in an "up" status in the damp surroundings of this dense type terrain. It is also the heaviest radio in the TACP. It is very difficult for FAC radio operators to maintain the pace set by Marines pursuing the enemy with this cumbersome man-packed radio. The limited capability of the FAC to observe targets and control fixed-wing aircraft in this type terrain also limits the capability of the UHF radio as a primary means of air-to-ground communications. The AN/PRC 25 FM radio proved invaluable as a piece of light, man-packed, rugged radio equipment. With an Ol-E or UH-1E acting as an intermediary between the ground FAC with FM and the fixed-wing with UHF, all fixed wing air strikes were successful. When the UH-1E aircraft were used as the primary weapons platform, the AN/PRC 25

proved invaluable because the radio operator could move much more easily through the undergrowth with the flexible tape antenna than could the AN/PRC 41 operator with the rigid AN/PRC 41 antenna.

RECOMMENDATIONS: That ALO/FAC teams operating in this type terrain be equipped with an AN/PRC 25 radio for each team to provide radio communications with each other under almost all conditions as well as direct communications with Ol-E, UH-1E and flare/gunships. Under these circumstances there will always be some type of air support at the disposal of the unit to which the ALO/FAC is attached.

TOPIC: Pyrotechnics

DISCUSSION: The marking of landing zones in dense overhead canopy proved difficult at first, but utilization of proper pyrotechnics solved this problem readily.

RECOMMENDATIONS: That during daylight in dense canopy a parachute flare be used for initial contact with incoming aircraft because it stays up much longer than a star cluster. Once your general location has been established use colored smoke on a long pole to pinpoint your location. Colored smoke on a pole is also a good device to use when marking front lines for air strikes because it facilitates the smoke getting up through the canopy much more readily. As an experimental measure, meteorological balloons were requested but never received. These balloons on long strings using helium capsules for inflation, could be used for effectively marking front line positions during air strikes and helicopter landing zones as required, then withdrawn when not required. It is remembered that this tactic be used at the next opportunity in the 80-100 foot jungle canopy to determine effectiveness and ease of handling.

MEDICAL OPERATIONS

TOPIC: Medical Operations in Mountainous Terrain

ITEM: Types of parenteral fluids and starting of intravenous therapy in the field.

DISCUSSION: The need for I.V. fluids and more specifically the plasma expanders in traumatic war injuries with acute blood loss in the field is well known. At the present, serum albumin is the best packaged, the easiest to carry and apparently the most obtainable volume expander available. Several incidents during Operation ALLEGHENY have convinced the 2d Battalion, 3d Marines Battalion surgeon that dextran (at least two bottles) and the threadable plastic catheter intracaths should be part of the CP medical supplies. CASE I - A man struck by sniper fire in left upper femur with probable FX and increasing swelling of upper thigh. Pulse initially 130 with fast and shallow respirations. Dextran started with straight needle and a favorable clinical response gauged by lowering pulse, etc. was observed. On moving patient to landing zone which was approximately 200 meters down a 45° slope, the needle infiltrated

and had to be restarted with loss of two to three minutes time. Patient survived. CASE II - A Marine received in BAS 20 minutes after suffering right shoulder and chest wounds in state of severe shock (i.e. no discernable pulse and collapse of peripheral vasculature). Patient was extremely restless and despite vigorous attempts to restrain his arm, two I.V.'s infiltrated after successful entry. Patient died - acute blood loss and inadequate fluid therapy. Dextran has several advantages and disadvantages.

ADVANTAGES

1. 500 cc bottle will expand blood volume at least X 3.
2. Maximum effect occurs relatively rapidly.
3. the 0.9% NaCl with which it is in solution also exerts an osmotic effect.

DISADVANTAGES

1. Glass bottled; therefore breakable and heavy
2. It may produce cross typing difficulties and there are reports of allergic manifestations.
3. No self-contained I.V. set - more items to carry. Intracaths with plastic catheters have virtually all the advantages and none of the disadvantages, of cut-downs or straight needles.
 - a. Quick
 - b. Easy to start with minimal instruction
 - c. Once inserted, infiltration with resultant loss of fluid pathways minimized.
 - d. Easy to carry and sterile.
 - e. Self contained save for I.V. tubing

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The BAS assigned to CP (not company or platoon corporals) to carry two bottles (total) dextran plus the regular amount of serum albumin.
2. An assortment of large (14g) and medium (17g) intracaths (2 ea) to be carried by BAS.
3. Senior or higher grade corporals to be instructed in their use.
4. Inquiries into feasibility of lighter, non-breakable, self contained with tubing, packaging of dextran should be made.

TOPIC: Medical operations in Mountainous Terrain

ITEM: Placement of BAS and general considerations of individual troop care and hygiene.

DISCUSSION: The advent of the helicopter has radically changed the role of the BAS participating in flat country. However, in the mountainous terrain encountered in Operation Allegheny, the concept of rapid medical evacuation had, at times, to be altered due to several factors. These included inability to permanently secure landing zones, tall tree canopies and landing zones separated from the wounded by considerable distance and extremely difficult terrain. In this respect, the BAS assumed a relatively greater importance in the acute care of trauma cases. This necessitated its closer operation near the perimeter. Ideally the BAS should be located close to the landing zone or canopy clearing. It should be shielded as much as possible from snipers, helicopter down blast and the elements. It should also have close contact with the communications available to the CP group. If a choice must be made between communications and nearness to possible evacuation sites (landing zones), the 2/3 BAS would favor the former. This would facilitate deploying corpsmen and anticipating supplies needed for the wounded. Generally speaking those two objectives present few problems. Once again problems of personal hygiene and care including foot care and adequate supply of dry socks, foot powder, salt, insect repellent, halizone and malaria tabs cropped up. These items have repeatedly been stressed but need to be emphasized again. The faithful taking of the suppressive malaria tabs and the application of repellent is essential. There were reportedly two malaria cases diagnosed during the operation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. BAS be kept close as possible CP communications and the perimeter, consistent with the safety of the wounded.
2. The favoring of communications over landing zone accessibility for reasons of men and supply deployment be stressed.
3. That reinstruction in personal hygiene as discussed above be accomplished.
4. That sufficient (two weeks) malaria tabs to be carried by each platoon corpsman


V. OHANESIAN