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HEADQUARTERS

1st Battalion 4th Marines

00210-69

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HEADQUARTERS

1st Battalion, 4th Marines (Rein)
3d Marine Division (-)(Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96602

3/CWC/mtb

5750

1 September 1969

009-69

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From: Commanding Officer

To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)

Via: (1) Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (-)(Rein), FMF
(Attn: G-3)

(2) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force (Attn: G-3)

(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific (Attn: G-3)

Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1 August to 31 August 1969

Ref: (a) MGO P5750.1

(b) FMFPacO 5750.8

(c) DivO 5750.1

Encl: ✓(1) 1st Battalion, 4th Marines Command Chronology

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

2. This letter of transmittal is declassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

J. A. Mac Innis
J. A. MAC INNIS

Copy to: CO, 4thMar

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DOD DIR 5200.10

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Command Chronology

Aug 1969

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 August to 31 August 1969

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

Designation	Commander	Date
1st Battalion, 4th Marines	LtCol C. E. WILLCOX	1-5 August
	LtCol J. A. MACINNIS	6-31 August

SUBORDINATE UNITS

Company H&S	1stLt J. F. HIGGINS	1-25 August
Company H&S	2ndLt G. H. CONVERSE	26-31 August
Company A.	1stLt R. M. JESSIE Jr.	1-31 August
Company B	Capt D. M. ATKINSON	1-8 August
Company B	1stLt V. J. LUDLUM	9-15 August
Company B	Capt E. P. CRAFT	16-31 August
Company C	1stLt L. C. IVERSON	1-31 August
Company D	Capt J. B. GREEN	1-29 August
Company D	Capt A. P. TOKARZ	30-31 August

ATTACHED UNITS

Det, Kit Carson Scout Center, Quang Tri
 Det, HqCo, 4th Marines
 Det, A Co, 3rd Engr Bn
 Det, G Btry, 3dBn12thMar
 Det, 3rd SPBn (HST)
 Det, 9thIT, 3dMarDiv
 Det, HqCo, Hq I Corps, ARVN (Interpreters)
 Det, 3d MPBn (Scout Dogs)
 Det, VMO2, MAG 16
 Det, VMFA 232, MAG 13
 Det, FMM 262, MAG 39

Location

Battalion CP 1-26 August 1969 Vandegrift Combat Base (VCB)
 Battalion CP 26-31 August 1969 FSB Cates XD936443

Staff Officers

Executive Officer	Major J. R. GREEN	1-31 August
S-1/Adjutant	2ndLt M. E. MACKIE, Sr.	1-31 August
Personnel Officer	1stLt M. T. OWENS, Jr.	1-31 August
S-2	2ndLt M. J. EISENBERGER	1-21 August
S-2	CySgt G. A. AMYOTTE, Jr.	1-31 August
S-3	Major C. W. COBB, Jr.	1-31 August
S-3A	Capt D. M. ATKINS, N	11-31 August
S-3 AIO	Capt R. W. CLIFTON	11-31 August

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S-3 FAC
S-3 FAC
Artillery Officer
S-4
S-4
Comm Officer
Comm Officer
Comm Officer
MT Officer
Supply Officer
Supply Officer
Chaplain
Bn Surgeon

1stLt R. P. MAKAREWICZ	1-6 August
Capt J. C. STOKES	7-31 August
1stLt K. A. SHELLEY, Jr.	1-31 August
Capt H. R. MORRIS	1-20 August
2ndLt J. H. DUBOSE	21-31 August
1stLt W. A. TYNDALL	1-11 August
GySgt W. H. BUXTON	12-20 August
1stLt Q. D. WORTHAM	21-31 August
2ndLt H. R. HEADAPHOHL	1-31 August
1stLt R. A. STOTZ	1-25 August
2ndLt W. B. WEMPLE	26-31 August
LT P. W. MCCLURE, USNR	1-31 August
LT H. R. WAGNER, Jr., USNR	1-31 August

Average Monthly Strength

USMC	
OFF	ENL
38	1160

USN	
OFF	ENL
2	50

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. General overview of all activities. As the month of August commenced, the Battalion was employed in the defense of VCB. Companies I, L, and M, 3/9, were OPCON to the Battalion. A platoon from Co C was providing security for the Dong Ha to VCB convoy on a daily basis, and was billeted in the 3rd Marines' area at Dong Ha. The defense of VCB included Signal Hill, and a platoon from Co D was performing that function.

During the month the remainder of the Battalion rear echelon was moved to VCB from Quang Tri. A transient facility was established by the 3rd Marine Division at Dong Ha to billet and process all replacements arriving there. They are trucked from this facility to the various units throughout the Division.

On 26 August, the Battalion exchanged AO's with 3/4, and the "A" Command Group moved to FSB Cates. The following day, a vertical assault was conducted by the Battalion, with three companies landing unopposed in grid square XD 8548. One company has been held in reserve at VCB, while Co M, 3/4 defended FSB Cates and Hill 950. This company has been chopped OPCON to the Battalion when the AO's were exchanged. As the month ended, Co D, which had replaced Co M, was defending FSB Cates and Hill 950; Co's A and B were continuing their sweep through the "rocket belt"; and Co C was OPCON to 3/4 as the Sparrow Hawk/Bald Eagle unit.

2. Command Relations. The Battalion remained under the operational control of the 4th Marine Regiment throughout the month. There were several different companies OPCON to the Battalion during the month, while the organic companies were periodically chopped OPCON to other organizations. Specific units, dates, and times are delineated in the Sequential Listing of Significant Events portion of this chronology.

3. Mission Assigned. For most of the month, the mission of the Battalion was to defend VCB, Signal Hill, and Ca Lu. However, there were several other missions assigned periodically. They included providing a Sparrow Hawk/Bald Eagle unit; providing security for the Dong Ha to VCB road convoy; maintaining a readiness posture to be employed as the reserve Battalion for the "Project Delta" operation which was conducted west of the 4th Marines' AO, or to be used as the reserve Battalion for the 3rd Marines' Operation south of the DMZ; and to provide security for the MCB workers who were improving the road between VCB and Elloit Combat Base (ECB). During the last five days of the month, the Battalion was responsible for defending FSB Cates, Hill 950, and conducting operations north of these positions. The vertical assault into the area northwest of FSB Cates was in response to the mission assigned by the 4th Marines to "conduct a reconnaissance in force operation through the rocket belt."

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4. Intelligence

a. For most of the month the Battalion was assigned responsibility for the defense of VCB and security for the daily road sweeps. There were several sightings on the VCB perimeter. A platoon from Co D made contact with two NVA on the ridgeline southeast of VCB with negative results. To the south at Ca Lu, a ground surveillance unit observed 25-30 suspected enemy through a night observation device (NOD). The company fired mortars and checked the area the following morning with negative results.

VCB received four to six rounds of 122mm rockets and 14 rounds of 107mm rockets during the month.

On 15 August the convoy from Dong Ha was ambushed as it approached VCB. The NVA used small arms fire, RPG's, and claymores. The claymores were of a new configuration; two mines tied together with a sandbagged buffer between them. The first mine is command detonated and the top mine has a pull release fuse with a three to four foot string tied to a stake in the ground. The bottom mine blows to top one into the air where it detonates and sprays the area. Investigation of the area showed the device failed to work properly in that both mines detonated simultaneously.

The Battalion was relieved of responsibility for defending VCB on 26 August, and the following day moved into the field to conduct sweep operations. Ground Surveillance Teams, organized from personnel within the Battalion, were attached to the companies. They employed NOD's, radar, meta-scopes, starlight scopes, and other equipment to detect enemy movement beyond human vision and hearing distance. On several occasions the observation equipment detected movement enabling the units to take special precautionary measures.

b. Weather. The weather consisted primarily of hot, humid days with only three or four days of moderate rainfall. There was generally a gentle breeze blowing in the higher elevations, at times reaching to gusts of 15 to 20 knots.

c. Terrain. The terrain in which VCB is located consists of a large valley broken by small and rugged mountains with crests to 552 meters. The Ca Lu area is in a valley floor with sharply rising mountains on both sides. The area in which the Battalion commenced operations during the latter part of the month is characterized by rolling hills, four to five foot high "elephant" grass, and small deep ravines with intermittent streams.

5. Operations. All of the activities of the Battalion during the month were part of the 4th Marines' operation "Georgia Tar." On 18 August, Co D was chopped OPCON to the 3rd Marines and participated in operation "Virginia Ridge" until 24 August when they returned to the Battalion.

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6. Results of Operations

a. 1 NVA KIA

b. Enemy Equipment Captured/Destroyed(1) Mines, Ammunition, Demolition and Explosives

Det Cord, can	1
AP Mines (Claymore)	6
82mm Mortar Rds	36
ChiCom Grenades	4
50 Cal Rds	520
60mm Mortar Rds	57
Explosive (Pounds)	1
Cans of 82mm Fuses	2

(2) Miscellaneous

Rice (Bags)	3
Bunkers	47
Living Huts	8
Fox Holes	27
Canteen	2
Stoves	2
Comm Wire	200 Meters

7. Supporting Arms

a. Air Support. During the first 27 days of the month, tactical air support for the Battalion consisted primarily of TFQ-10 bombing attacks of suspected enemy positions. Of the 102 missions requested, 20 were conducted. A total of 69 tons of bombs were expended. Bomb damage assessment (BDA) was impossible due to the nature and location of these strikes. An additional 22 divert targets were submitted. These targets were submitted to higher headquarters for possible attack by aircraft unable to expend their ordnance on preplanned targets. None of the 22 were hit.

When the Battalion moved into the field late in the month, the opportunity for use of close air support increased perceptibly. Prior to the vertical assault conducted by the Battalion, nine flights of fixed wing strikes were flown in and around the landing zone. The BDA for these strikes was 10 bunkers destroyed, three secondary explosions, one secondary fire, and 100 meters of trails and trench lines destroyed.

Five helicopter lifts were accomplished during the month, lifting a total of 500 pounds of cargo and 901 troops. Helicopters MEDEVAC missions carried a total of 12 emergency, eight priority, and 19 routine.

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The overall effectiveness of the TACP was enhanced considerably with the assignment of an F-4B pilot who replaced the Battalion FAC. The Battalion now has two Naval Aviators with a wide range experience in helicopters, the OV-10A, and high performance aircraft.

b. Artillery Support. The preponderance of artillery fire was provided by G Battery, 3/12 located at Ca Lu, and 155mm Guns and 8" Guns located at VCB. During the last week of the month, the Battalion was supported by artillery and air when it launched a vertical assault on an objective in the new AO. Prep fires for the operation were conducted in three phases; artillery, air, followed by more artillery. Phase one commenced at 0430 and lasted until 0630 when air strikes commenced. The air strikes ended at 0730 and the final artillery prep fires were delivered on the objective. There were three linear and eight periphery targets hit during the prep fires, a total of 1800 rounds of 105mm, 155mm, and 8" were expended.

	Weapon	Targets	Rounds
Harassing and Interdiction	155mm	52	100
	105mm	354	1740
Prep Fires (1) 105mm, 155mm, and 175mm		11	1800

c. When the Battalion assumed responsibility for a new AO late in the month, eight counter rocket/counter mortar plans were in existence: Bobcat, Krait, Tiger, Bronze, Panther, Lion, Fox and Hawk.

8. Logistics

a. Supply

(1) Class I. All Class I was drawn at VCB. The Battalion messhall served "A" rations daily at VCB. Hot food was delivered to the field on an average of every other day. Additionally, 2,294 cases of MCI and 48,350 gallons of water were delivered to units in the field during operation "Georgia Tar."

(2) Class II. The Battalion Supply Section moved from Quang Tri to VCB during the month. Shortages in the following items were experienced during the period (all items have been requisitioned):

- Flack Jackets
- Nozzle, Cover (Water Buffalo M107A1)
- Coat, utility (All sizes)
- Socks (All sizes)
- Magazines (Cal .45)
- Helmets, steel
- Cover, canteen
- Canteens

(3) Class III. Class III was drawn at VCB and was sufficient to support operations. A total of 34 barrels of Diesel Fuel, three

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barrels of MoGas, and three barrels of 30W Oil was delivered to the field.

(4) Class IV. Class IV was drawn at VCB and was adequate. The following amounts were utilized by the Battalion:

Sandbags	25,000
Concertina	75 rolls
Stakes, drive	8 bundles

(5) Class V. Class V was drawn at VCB. The following ordnance was delivered to the field in support operations:

81mm Mortar	2,700 rounds
60mm Mortar	2,080 rounds
5.56	63,800 rounds
7.62	22,490 rounds
C-4 Demo Kits	12
Smoke grenades	11 cases

(6) Class VI. Class VI was delivered to the field in the following amounts:

Beer	176 cases
Soft drinks	176 cases
SP's	36 cases
Assorted Juices	123 cases

(7) Class VII. Organic motor vehicles were used for administrative and logistical runs at VCB and Quang Tri. Performance of the vehicles was considered satisfactory. Usage data for the month is as indicated below:

18 M151A1	13,481 miles
4 M37B1	3,987 miles
30 Mules	787 hours

(8) Class VIII. Medical supplies were available in sufficient quantities during the month.

(9) Class IX. Repair parts were received through normal channels; however, insufficient parts were received to keep all items of equipment operational. Required parts remain on requisition.

b. Support. Division Motor Transport furnished transportation for delivery of Class II and Class VI from the Reporting Unit Code (RUC) Lines at Quang Tri and Dong Ha Combat Bases to VCB.

c. Services. Laundry facilities at Dong Ha were utilized. A total of 2,700 sets of utilities were laundered with an estimated 300 sets being lost or returned in an unserviceable condition.

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9. Communication-Electronics

a. Message Center. All message center traffic was transmitted, received, and reproduced by the 4th Marine Regiment during the month. Administrative message pick-ups were made each morning for the first two weeks of the month, and increased to three times each day when it became apparent that one pick-up was not sufficiently responsive to the operational needs of the Battalion. Authentication tables were distributed and utilized as required.

b. Radio. Voice radio communications provided the primary means of control for the various elements of the Battalion. All frequencies and call signs were listed in a Communications Operating Instructions (COI) which was prepared by the communication center, and distributed to each unit commander. The KAC QAL 512 and KAC PZ-4 were utilized for encrypting and decrypting tactical traffic on all radio nets. The AN/PRC-88 continued to be effectively utilized on the platoon/squad level in tactical operations.

c. Covered circuits. An additional AN/PRC 77 was used in conjunction with a KY-38 to facilitate transmission of classified traffic without the time consuming use of encrypting and decrypting devices.

d. Wire. A fourth SB-22 switchboard was installed for use in the Battalion rear area at VCB.

e. Maintenance. The maintenance section conducted its normal maintenance and repair work for the Battalion, and realigned the AN/PRC-88's and set new frequencies on them. The total equipment placed on deadline and repaired is as follows:

ITEM	D/L	REPAIRED
AN/PRC-25	24	19
AN/PRC-88	2	0
AN/PRC-47	4	2
SB-22/pt	1	1
AN/CRA-39	1	0
AN/RPS-6	3	0
AN/FP-4567	2	0

Repair parts shortages for this period were almost nonexistent, with the exception of the Handset, receiver element, FSN 5965-933-6897.

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10. Personnel and Administrationa. Losses and Gains

	USMC		USN	
	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
Losses	8	228	0	15
Battle	(0)	(44)	(0)	(0)
Non-Battle	(3)	(37)	(0)	(11)
Administrative	(5)	(147)	(0)	(4)
Gains	8	159	0	8

b. Awards. During the reporting period five Bronze Star Medals, six Navy Commendation Medals, sixteen Navy Achievement Medals, twenty three Purple Heart Medals and sixteen Vietnamese Crosses of Gallantry were presented. The follow awards were processed recommending approval:

Silver Star Medal	2
Bronze Star Medal	7
Navy Commendation Medal	13
Navy Achievement Medal	37
VCG	3

c. Discipline. The number of disciplinary cases acted upon or pending action is as follows:

Courts-Martial/Administrative Discharges Pending/Completed

Art 32 Investigations	1 Pending
Special Courts-Martial	2 Pending
Special Courts-Martial	2 Completed
Summary Courts-Martial	2 Pending
Summary Courts-Martial	7 Completed
Administrative Discharges	3 Completed

Non-Judicial Punishments

Battalion Commander's	8
Company Commander's	12

d. R&R. The Battalion utilized the following out of country R&R quotas for the month of August:

Bangkok	15	Singapore	6	Manila	1
Hawaii	23	Okinawa	4		
Hong Kong	12	Sydney	16		
Taipei	9	Tokyo	8		

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e. Promotions. During the month the following promotions were effected:

<u>TO</u>	<u>REGULAR</u>	<u>MERITORIOUS</u>
PFC	7	0
LCpl	0	7
Cpl	26	7
Sgt	0	2

11. Training

a. General Military Subjects and MOS training for the month increased considerably due to the opportunity afforded by the Battalion spending most of the month at VCB. A copy of the training accomplished report is attached as a supporting document.

b. All replacements received indoctrination training in accordance with the Battalion's SOP for indoctrination training. Each Marine joining the Battalion during the month fired the M-16 for familiarization prior to being assigned to a unit.

c. Officer and Staff Noncommissioned Officer training was implemented during the month while the Battalion was in a static defense posture at VCB. The subjects taught and total attendance are included in the training accomplished report.

12. Psychological Operations. In addition to the operations conducted by higher headquarters within the Battalion's AO, a MEDCAP was carried out, the report of which is attached as a supporting document.

13. Medical and Dental Affairs

a. The total number of visits to the BAS during the month of August was 706.

b. Prevalent medical entities encountered were:

Gonorrhea	5	Rat Bites	4
Diarrhea	56	FUO	58
Malaria	15	Dermatological	
URI	29	Conditions	214
NP Disorders	2	Heat Casualties	29
Hepatitis	1		

c. All suspected and confirmed cases of Venereal Disease were given an STS in accordance with NAVMED 22-18 and the results entered in the individual health record.

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d. A total of 49 patients were referred to 3rd Medical Battalion. Of these referred, the following were consults:

BEENT	5	Internal Medicine	17
Urology	4	Dermatology	11
Surgery	2	Orthopedics	9
NP	1		

(1) There were no referrals to NAS Da Nang or hospital ships.

(2) The total number of patients referred to Dental for treatment was 64.

e. The following is a breakdown of casualties encountered for the month:

KIA	0	WFO	1
WIA	16	DOW	0
MIA	0	NBC	88

f. Weekly malaria prophylaxis was continued with the use of Chloroquine-Primaquine tablets in the Battalion area. In conjunction with the weekly malaria prophylaxis, daily malaria prophylaxis was continued also.

g. Sanitation inspections of the Battalion were held daily and weekly in accordance with DivO P6000.4D. Few discrepancies were noted. Steps are being taken to correct all discrepancies. Particularly noteworthy areas included the messhall, company showers, and the transient area.

h. During the month of August the BAS at Quang Tri was moved to VCB, thereby combining the forward BAS and the secondary BAS into a single unit. The BAS now includes the Battalion Surgeon and 18 Hospital Corpsmen. Incoming Hospital Corpsmen are now indoctrinated and outfitted at VCB. All injuries and malaria encounters were treated by rifle company corpsmen and, when required, casualties were promptly transferred for further treatment. No serious delays were encountered in resupply or evacuation during this period.

i. Lectures were given regularly at the BAS and by the rifle company Corpsmen.

j. With cooperation of the Dental units, a total of 64 patients were referred for treatment. All arrivals into the Battalion were screened and those having a class III or IV dental profile were referred prior to going to the field.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. Combat Operations

- 01 Aug As the month of August commenced, the Battalion was engaged in the defense of VCB. There were three companies from 3/9 OPCON to the Battalion (I, L, and M). Co A was the Sparrow Hawk/Bald Eagle company; Co B was defending Ca Lu; 2nd Plat, Co C was providing security for the daily convoy from Dong Ha to VCB; 3d Plat, Co D was defending Signal Hill; and Companies D(-) and C (-) were conducting an operation astride the ridgeline north of the Ba Long Valley.
- 02 Aug At 1400, Co K, 3/9 relieved Co L, 3/9 in the lines at VCB. At that time the Battalion assumed OPCON of Co F and OPCON of Co L was chopped back to 3/9.
- 07 Aug At 0945, a Vietnamese Provisional Reconnaissance Unit (PRU), operating in Co B's area southeast of Ca Lu, encountered an estimated 10 NVA/VC. A fire fight resulted in the vicinity of YD043434, with unknown results. Co B was unable to get involved in the action as it was in a no fire zone, and the Co itself was not under fire.
At 1010, a patrol from Co D encountered two NVA who threw an explosive device wounding one Marine. The patrol fired small arms at the fleeing NVA with negative results. An AO was called and arrived on station but because of the heavy smoke in the area of contact (YD031483) the AO was unable to help.
At 2250, a ground surveillance unit observed movement north of the VCB perimeter through a Night Observation Device. Mortars (60's and 81's) were fired into the area. A check the following morning turned up negative results.
- 08 Aug At 1200, the Vietnamese PRU operating in the Ca Lu area detained nine VC suspects. Two were released due to poor state of health and seven were trucked to the PRU Headquarters at Cam Lo.
- 11 Aug Effective 1100, Co K was relieved in the lines at VCB by Co C(-). At the same time the Battalion relinquished OPCON of Co K to 3/9.
- 12 Aug At 1610, Co's I and M were chopped OPCON back to 3/9 to prepare for embarkation. They were relieved in the lines at VCB by CoD(-).

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15 Aug

- At 0950, Co G relieved Co A as the Sparrow Hawk/Bald Eagle unit and Co A joined Co's C and D in the lines at VCB.
- At 1420, the convoy from Dong Ha to VCB received RPG's and small arms fire at XD981514. Four Marines were WIA, two of which were members of the Battalion. A heavy section of tanks and two squads from Co A were dispatched to the area. They uncovered four Russian type Claymore Mines wired for command detonation along the west side of the road (Route #9), and parts of an exploded RPG-7.
- 16 Aug At 1700, Co K relieved Co G as the Sparrow Hawk/Bald Eagle unit.
- 18 Aug At 0900, Co L relieved Co D in the lines at VCB.
At 1000, the 3rd Plat, Co L relieved the 2d Plat, Co D on Signal Hill.
At 1320, a patrol from Co C heard a rifle bolt being moved and delivered small arms into the suspected enemy position. An artillery and mortar barrage was also fired into the area, flushing one NVA who escaped. Other noises led the members of the patrol to believe that there were more, though only one NVA was spotted. When the supporting arms fire was lifted, the area was searched with negative results.
- 20 Aug At 1030, a patrol from Co B found a bivouac site for approximately 10 NVA. It had been used in the past few days. There was one M-26 grenade, five M-16 magazines, and an electrical wire leading from the site to Route #9. The site was located at XD980516. At 1115 the same patrol found a sniper position in the vicinity of XD974520. Fresh trails were leading in and out of the position. An AK-47 magazine, 1 NVA canteen, 2 pop-up flare containers, 2 AK-50 rounds, a small roll of Communication wire, and some empty food packages were found.
- 21 Aug At 2115, Co A observed movement outside the wire barriers along the northern sector of the VCB perimeter. By use of a NOD, a Marine from the company was able to observe several NVA soldiers. Small Arms, artillery and mortar fire were delivered, and an AO was requested. When the AO arrived he further requested a "spooky" (machine gun firing C-47 aircraft) which attacked targets in this area. A patrol set out the following morning to assess results and found nothing.
- 22 Aug At 1340, a patrol from Co C observed two suspected NVA in the vicinity of YD028467. Visual contact was lost almost immediately.
- 25 Aug At 1600, the Sparrow Hawk was helilifted to an area (vicinity of YD1151) where a recon team had been extracted due to heavy enemy contact. They experienced negative contact.

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27 Aug At 0815, the leading elements of Co A landed in grid square XD8548. The landing was preceded by artillery prep fires and air strikes, and was unopposed. Three companies landed and swept through the "rocket belt." Co's I and C followed Co A into the LZ without incident.

29 Aug At 0400, Co M had movement along the wire at FSB Cates. Fresh footprints were discovered by the wire check at 0630. At 1500, Co B was helilifted into the Battalion's AO to replace Co D on the operation. Co D was helilifted back to VCB and chopped OPCON to 3/4. At 1600, a patrol from Co B uncovered a bunker and mortar pit in the vicinity of XD888498. The bunker contained forty 60mm Mortar rounds and three hundred .50 Cal rounds. All this ammunition was destroyed.

30 Aug At 1200, a Plat from Co B while on patrol found 10 bunkers containing eleven 82mm Mortar rounds. Footprints around the bunkers appeared to be one week old. The ammo was destroyed. At 1045, the same patrol uncovered an eight bunker complex also containing eleven 82mm Mortar rounds which were destroyed. The bunkers were located at XD894485 while the 10 bunkers found later were located at XD893508. At 1130, a patrol from Co C found an old bunker complex containing eight 82mm Mortar rounds and two cans of fuses for them. The bunker complex had been previously destroyed, and was located in the vicinity of XD903492. The ammo and fuses were destroyed.

31 Aug At 1640, a patrol from Co B spotted one NVA at XD918516. An M-79 was fired at the fleeing NVA with negative results.

2. Significant events not related to combat operations

01 Aug At 1100, the Battalion Commander and the S-3 visited Company D(-) and C(-) in the field.

03 Aug At 1700, Co C(-) returned to VCB from their operation in the Ba Long Valley. At 2049, a VCB reaction force drill was held. It was 2124 before all units finally arrived at the assembly area. A critique was planned for the following day at the regimental morning briefing.

05 Aug At 1300, a change of command ceremony was held in the Battalion area at VCB. LtCol WILLCOX was relieved by LtCol MAC INNIS. Guests included MajGen JONES (CG, 3dMarDiv) and Col GOGGIN (CO, 4th Marines). Music was provided by the 3dMarDiv Band which was flown in by helicopter from Quang Tri.

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- 07 Aug Capt James C. STOKES reported to the Battalion to replace 1stLt MARKARWICZ, as the Battalion's FAC.
- 09 Aug At 1500, Col HERSHEY relieved Col GOGGIN as CO, 4th Marines. The Battalion Commander attended the change of command ceremony.
- 10 Aug At 1925, VCB received 4 to 6 incoming rounds of 122mm rockets resulting in six Marines being wounded (one from the Battalion and five from Co I).
- 12 Aug Effective at 1515, Co G, 2/4 was chopped OPCON to the Battalion.
- 13 Aug At 0850, a burn barrel exploded in Co C's sector of the lines at VCB. Apparently an explosive device had been thrown into the barrel through carelessness. One Marine was killed and another seriously wounded.
- 14 Aug At 1200, the Battalion's AO was increased by approximately two to three 1,000 meter grid squares along the southern boundary. The increase was caused by the departure of the 2d ARVN Regiment from the area.
- 16 Aug At 1600, Co K (3/4) was chopped OPCON to the Battalion.
- 17 Aug At 1030, Co G was chopped OPCON back to their parent 2/4. At 1300, the Battalion assumed OPCON of Co L, 3/4.
- 20 Aug At 1845, four 122mm rockets impacted at VCB wounding two Marines from Co A.
- 21 Aug At 0715, seven 107mm rockets impacted at VCB. There were no personnel wounded.
- 22 Aug During the day the Battalion Commander, S-3, ALO, and Arty IO made a reconnaissance in the UH 1E of an area that the Battalion was to conduct a vertical assault in on 25 August.
- 24 Aug At 0730, the Battalion Commander and S-3 met with the CO and S-3, 4th Marines to discuss a new concept of operations for the Battalion sweep into the "rocket belt" west of VCB. The original plan of a vertical assault had been disapproved by the 3rdMarDiv. The new concept was a two-company reconnaissance in force operation. Following the meeting, the CO, S-3, ALO, Arty IO, two company commanders (Co's A and G) and a platoon commander from each of the Co's made a VR of the area in UH 1E's.
Late in the afternoon Co D was helilifted from the 3rd Marines AO back to VCB. The Co was chopped OPCON back to the Battalion at 1600.

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- 25 Aug At 0930, Co B relieved Co K in place and assumed the Sparrow Hawk/ Bald Eagle mission.
- 26 Aug At 1524, VCB received three 107mm incoming rockets wounding nine Marines of the Battalion.
At 1530, the A Command Group arrived at FSB Cates and the Battalion exchanged AO's with 3/4. At the same time, the Battalion assumed OPCON of Co's I and M, 3/4.
At 1900, Co B was chopped OPCON to 3/4 to assume the Sparrow Hawk/Bald Eagle mission.
- 27 Aug At 1015, Co I was helilifted to VCB and chopped OPCON back to 3/4.
- 29 Aug At 0800, Co B was chopped OPCON back to the Battalion.
- 31 Aug At 0700, the Battalion regained OPCON of Co D as they commenced their helilift to FSB Cates. The Co(-) replaced Co M(-) at FSB Cates and helilifted its 2d Plat to Hill 950 and relieved one of the Plat's of Co M located there. The entire lift was completed at 0821, at which time Co M was chopped OPCON back to 3/4.
At 0900, Regimental Commander, Col HERSHEY visited FSB Cates and Hill 950.

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- ✓1. S-2, S-3 Journal; 1 August through 31 August 1969. *Filed Sep*
- ✓2. Monthly training Report; for August 1969.
- ✓3. After Action Report (MEDCAP).
- ✓4. Operation Order 3-69, 251200 August 1969.
- ✓5. COI Effective 010800 August 1969 to 050800 September 1969.
- ✓6. Vietnam map sheets 6342II, 6342III (Previously submitted).

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HEADQUARTERS
1st Battalion, 4th Marines (Rein)
3d Marine Division (-)(Rein), FMF
FPO San Francisco 96802

S/CWC/mtb
1540
1 September 1969

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, 4th Marines

Subj: Training accomplished during the month of August 1969

Ref: (a) RegtO 1540.2H

1. In accordance with reference (a) the following report is submitted.

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Ambush	3½	308
Hand and arm signals	2	330
Hand and arm signals (application)	7	310
Fireteam and squad formations	1	160
Technique of fire	1	160
Mission of squad	½	160
Structure of squad	½	160
Troop leading steps	½	160
Five paragraph order	1½	160
Career planning	1	155
Leadership	2	155
Map reading	6	392
NBC	2	87
Weapons safety	1	226
Weapon security	1	155
Supporting arms	4½	285
First aid	1	155

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<u>Subject</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Night Attack, Night Movement Practical Application	4½	385
Tank, infantry tactics	½	155
8.5 Rocket Launcher	½	155
LAAW	½	155
Helicopter Operations	1	155
Forward Observer procedures	4	114
U.S. Pistol Cal. .45	½	30
Care and cleaning individual weapons	½	48
NBC Warfare	2	46
Radio procedures	1	72
Character Guidance	½	48
Seismographic intrusion device	2	34
Night observation devices	2	34
Silver Zine Battery building	1	11
PPS6 Care and Operation	1	11
PPS6 Practical Application	3	11
Metascope and Infra-red light	1	11
60mm Mortar	1	11
Terrain Appreciation	1	150
Drug abuse	1½	162
Officer and Staff Noncommissioned Officer Training		
Fitness Report	1	27
Artillery	1	23
Rules of engagement	½	24

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Air support, Request and observation	1	25
Uniform Code of Military Justice	1	29
Command Orientation and Troop Indoctrination program		142

C. W. COBB Jr.
By direction

23 August 1969

MEMORANDUM

From: Battalion Surgeon
To: Division Surgeon

Subj: Med Cap of 17 August 1969

1. On 17 August 69 the BAS of 1/4 provided medical treatment and drugs to the labor camp at Vandergrift Combat Base. Approximately 65 people were treated. None of these people were seriously ill and most had minor complaints such as coughs, diarrhea, headaches, and vague abdominal pain. One 15 year old male did have a temp. of 101.0 without an obvious reason and he was referred to C - Med for more complete diagnostic work-up.

H.N. Wagner
H.N. WAGNER
LT MC USNR

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QUANG TRI PROVINCE

251200H Aug 69

Operation Order 3-69

Ref: (a) Maps: Vietnam, 1:50,000 Series L7014, Sheets 6342 II, and III.

(b) COI 010800 Aug 69

Task Organization

(All attachments effective 26 August 1969)

1st Bn, 4th Marines

LtCol MAC INNIS

Co A

1stLt KESSIE

Co B

Capt CRAFT

Co C

1stLt IVINSON

Co D

Capt GREEN

81mm Mort Plat

1stLt NOEL

106mm RA Plat

2dLt WESTON

1. SITUATION

a. Enemy Forces

- (1) Current INTSUMS
- (2) Current PERINTREPS

b. Friendly Forces

- (1) 4th Marines continues operation "Georgia Tar".
- (2) 2d Bn, 4th Marines continues operation "Arlington Canyon" in AO to the north.
- (3) 3rd Recon Bn conducts surveillance operations in zones west and south.
- (4) 3rd Bn, 12th Marines D/S 4th Marines.
- (5) Air Support available upon request through 4th Marines ALO.
See Annex (a)
- (6) Normal attachments of medical, communications, HST, K C Scouts, ground surveillance and engineers.

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2. Mission: To conduct reconnaissance in force operations within the assigned AO, to search out enemy lines of communications, to seek out and disrupt the enemy and his supplies, and to curtail his ability to mount rocket attacks from this AO to friendly fixed positions.

3. Execution

a. Concept of Operation. 1st Bn, 4th Marine Land at LZ Turkey. One company moves to the north to occupy the high ground and provide support for another company moving West to FSB Churka. A third company will move to the south and prepare for a sweep to the Northeast. One company remains in battalion and regimental reserve. On H+2 the company on Churka reverts to battalion and regimental reserve and the reserve company lands prepared to carry out a sweep to the Northeast on the left flank of the company to the south as indicated by annex (b). Estimated total time of operation is 10 days.

b. Co A (Rein)

(1) Commencing 270800 be helilifted to the designated LZ, secure the LZ and move to the high ground to the Northwest when relieved by "D" Co. as LZ security. Be prepared to continue search operations to the Northeast following in trace of Co's B and C.

c. Co B (Rein)

(1) Commencing 270830 follow Co A into the designated LZ and assume LZ security until relieved by Co "C". Move west and be prepared to occupy FSB Churka on D+1.

(2) Be prepared to revert to battalion reserve on order.

d. Co C (Rein)

(1) Commencing 270900 follow Co B into the designated LZ and assume LZ security. Upon completion of the lift, move to the S.E. Be prepared to conduct reconnaissance to the Northeast in conjunction with Co B on D+2.

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4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

- a. Supply and resupply. All units depart VCB with prescribed load (i.e., 1 DOA; 2 days MCI; salt tablets, halizone tablets; and insect repellent). Submit requests for resupply prior to 1100 for following day. Emergent resupply requests will be accepted anytime. Resupply will be by helicopter.
- b. Casualties. Exercise preventative medicine measures to reduce heat casualties. Utilize maximum anti-malaria procedures. Requests for MEDEVAC will be submitted through battalion LZ Control Net. Designate "routine", "priority", or "emergency".

5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRONICS

- a. Radio procedures.
 - (1) Reference (b).
 - (2) Authentication and numerical codes - KAC QAL 512.
- b. Visual signals.
 - (1) White smoke marks enemy positions.
 - (2) Yellow smoke marks friendly positions.
 - (3) Red smoke marks unsecure areas.
 - (4) Green smoke marks secured areas.
- c. Thrust lines (effective 270000).
 - (1) Boy's names - intersection of grid lines 84&50.
 - (2) Girl's names - intersection of grid lines 88&52.
 - (3) Cars - intersection of grid lines 90&47
 - (4) States - intersection of grid lines 94&50.

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- e. Co B (Rein): Commencing 270800 standby at VCB as battalion and regimental reserve. Be prepared to be helo lifted to the Co C and conduct reconnaissance in force operations as directed.
- f. 81mm Mortar Platoon
 - (1) On D-1 heli lift one section to Hill 950.
 - (2) Provide one squad to accompany Co C on D- Day to act as CP security and ammunition carriers.
- g. 106mm RR Platoon
 - (1) On D-Day provide one squad to act as ammunition carriers and CP security with Co C.
- h. Coordination Instructions.
 - (1) Companies move into night positions after dark and remain intact except for LP's and ambushes which will not be more than 200 meters from Co position.
 - (2) Company night positions will be more than 1,000 meters from previous night's position.
 - (3) Day and night activities will be submitted prior to 1400 daily for that night and following day. If unable to pinpoint positions for LP's and ambush sites, submit as soon as night position is occupied.
 - (4) D-Day, 27 Aug; H-Hour, 0800.
 - (5) Companies submit hourly situation reports between 2200 and 0600 (inclusive) daily.
 - (6) Casualty reports will be submitted in accordance with battalion code.
 - (7) Spot reports will be submitted as they occur, followed by additional details as they become known.

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d. Command Post

- (1) Initially, Bn Jump CP will be with Co C.
- (2) Alfa Command group (-) will move to FSB Gates on D-1.

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT (verbally)

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL MAC IRVIS

C. W. COBB, Jr.
Major, U. S. Marine Corps
Operations Officer

Annexes:

- ✓ A. Air Annex
- ✓ B. Overlay to OP Order 3-69

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QUANG TRI PROVINCE

Annex _____ (Air) to Operation Order _____

Ref: (a) Maps: (1) 6342II ed 2 AMS Ser L7014
(2) 6342III ed 5 AMS Ser L7014

Time Zone: HOTEL

1. Helo Assault Klondike Alpha LZ 856482 (Alt 857473) 170 Troops "A" Co.

a. L-Hour 0800

2. Schedule of Events

a. 0400-0615 Arty Prep of LZ

0615 A.O. on Station

0630-0730 F/W Prep of LZ (Five Flights)

0730-0800 Arty Prep of LZ

0800-0900 L-Hour Klondike "A"

0920-1100 Admin Lift to LZ Klondike "D"+"C"

b. Fixed Wing Cap

0800-0820 1 FLT Cap

0820-0840 1 FLT Cap

0840-0900 1 FLT Cap

Smoke Coverage

0755-0830 2 FLTS of F/W W/Smoke

c. Frequencies

UHF 339.0 (Magenta) F/W - 0710 - Helo

FM M462 37.00 Assault

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