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HEADQUARTERS

3d Battalion (Rein), 4th Marines (-) (Rein)
3d Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force
c/o FPO, San Francisco, 96602

203466

1/JER/mjy
5750
3 May 1966

0017-66

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force (Attn: SC-3)
Via: Commanding Officer, 4th Marines

Subj: Command Chronology

Ref: (a) Division Order 5750.1
(b) Battalion Order 5750.1

- Encl: (1) Overlay of locations of all units (S-3)
(2) Personnel (S-1)
(3) Administration (S-1)
(4) Intelligence (S-2)
(5) Training (S-3)
(6) Special Operations (S-2, S-3, S-4)
(7) NBC (S-3)
(8) Command and control (S-3)
(9) Communication-Control (CEO)
(10) Close Combat (S-3)
(11) Fire Support Coordination (FSCC)
(12) Logistics (S-4)
(13) Air Defense (S-3)
(14) Combat Air Support (Air Officer)
(15) Medical and Dental Support (Bn Surgeon)
(16) Chaplain Support (Bn Chaplain)

S&C FILES
HEADQUARTERS
3d Battalion, 4th Marines (Rein)
660076
Copy 1 of 8 Copies

1. In accordance with references (a) and (b), the Command Chronology for April 1966, is hereby submitted.

PART I

1. Reporting Unit: 3d Battalion, 4th Marines
2. Command Post: See overlay
3. Period Covered: 1 April - 30 April 1966
4. Date of Submission: 1 May 1966
5. Average Monthly Strength:

	Marine	USN
a. Officer	28	1
b. Enlisted	1010	50

6. Commanding Officer: Lieutenant Colonel S. A. VALE

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7. Principal Staff:

S-1	1stLt D. A. GRANT
S-2	Capt H. J. FORLANO
S-3	Maj W. C. RUTHAZER
S-4	Capt T. F. JESSEN
CommO	2ndLt T. L. STROHECKER

8. Subordinate Units:

H&SCo	1stLt J. W. WOOLARD
I Co	Capt F. W. TUCKWILLER
K Co	Capt H. GONZALEZ
L Co	Capt D. M. MCEWEN
M Co	Capt R. E. AKINS

S. A. Vale
S. A. VALE

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PERSONNEL (S-1)

1. Number of replacements received:

USMC Officers	3
USMC Enlisted	37
USN Officers	2
USN Enlisted	2
2. Number of personnel rotated:

USMC Officers	12
USMC Enlisted	96
USN Officers	1
USN Enlisted	9
3. Breakdown of personnel lost other than rotation:
 - a. WIA: 2
 - b. KIA: 4
 - c. DOW: 0
 - d. Unsuitability Discharge: 2
 - e. Humanitarian/Emergency transfers: 4 Enlisted, 1 Officer
 - f. Non-Battle injuries: 1 drowned (USN enlisted)
 - g. Intra Div/Regt transfers: 1 Officer, 1 Staff Sergeant
4. Rest and Recuperation Trips: None


ENCLOSURE (2)

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ADMINISTRATION (S-1)

1. Personnel accounting: Annual review of Battalion directives now in process. Combat casualty order rewritten in accordance with current directives.
2. Awards: 2 Bronze Stars
1 Air Medal
3 Navy Commendations
5 Purple Hearts
3. Promotions: To SSgt - 2
To Sgt - 1
To Cpl - 53
To LCpl - 63
To PFC - 6
4. Postal Service: Satisfactory except that when mail is picked up at airport after dark it is not distributed until the next day.
5. Pay: Satisfactory - Disbursing Office is currently behind in working up the Unit Diaries.
6. Post Exchange: Satisfactory except that there is a need for more exchange outlets or an increase in size of the current exchange to provide adequate support for the increased population in this enclave.
7. Legal and Discipline:
 - a. GCM - 0
 - b. SPLCM - 0
 - c. SummaryCM - 2
 - d. Art. 15 - 18


ENCLOSURE (3)

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INTELLIGENCE

1. Enemy Situation At The Beginning Of The Period. At the beginning of the period there was one Viet Cong battalion and three Viet Cong companies located in or adjacent to the TAOR. The 810th Main Force Battalion was located in the vicinity of YC 905960, the K-80 company located in the vicinity of YD 850050, the K-41 company located in the vicinity of YD 820050, and unconfirmed reports received by III MAF located a Main Force Company in the vicinity of Huong Thuy District, YD 789097. The strength of these companies is approximately 90 men each.
2. Enemy Incidents During Period. See Enclosure (10).
3. Enemy Losses. 8 KIA Confirmed 11 Possible KIA
 - a. Enemy Equipment and Material Losses.
 - (1) Weapons: 4 total
 - (a) Individual: 1 Mat-49, 1 K-50, 1 M-79 (U.S.), 1 Cal .45 (U.S.)
 - (b) Ammunition: 90 rounds small arms, 23 M-79 rounds (U.S.), 7 bamboo stick grenades
 - (2) Equipment: 1 homemade kerosene lamp, 1 homemade battle dressing, 2 pair black PJ pants, 3 K-50 magazines, 1 U.S. type star cluster cannister, 3 pair green trousers, 3 green shirts, 1 U.S. pistol holster, 3 web belts, 2 .45cal magazines, 1 mirror, 2 bottles, 1 needle and thread, 2 gauze packets, 1 diary, 1 camouflage poncho, 1 plastic sheet 4x6, 1 pair black shorts, 1 half U.S. poncho, 1 VC poncho, 1 U.S. canteen cover, 3 M-79 pouches, 1 pack, 1 first aid kit, 1 plastic belt and buckle, 1 small bag with charcoal, 1 hat, 2 tobacco sacks, 1 key chain, 1 nail clipper, 1 pair rubber shoes, 1 U.S. flashlight.
4. Significant Trends During Period. The contacts during this reporting period proved that the enemy is well organized and disciplined. Several encounters indicated that the enemy was willing to fight instead of quickly breaking contact. In one fire fight it is beleived the Viet Cong attempted to encircle a marine squad before breaking contact.
5. Enemy Situation At End Of Period. Same as paragraph 1.

ENCLOSURE (4)

TRAINING

1. The following training was conducted during this period.

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Subject</u>
Co I	04 Apr 0830-0900	PT
	1000-1100	Operation and care of AN/PRC 6 & AN/PRC 10
	1000-1100	Mapping - Intersection and Resection
	1300-1400	Rifle and equipment inspection
	1830-2030	Night firing
	05 Apr 0800-0900	Rifle and equipment inspection
	1000-1100	Operation of AN/PRC 6 and AN/PRC 10
	1300-1350	Mapping - Use of thrust line coordinates
	06 Apr 0830-0900	PT
	1000-1100	Radio school - Comm procedures
	1300-1400	Rifle inspection
	1400-1500	Mapping - Compass as Field expedient, FO procedures
	08 Apr 0800-0945	782 gear survey
	1000-1100	Tank orientation
	1300-1400	Map reading
	18 Apr 0800-0830	PT
	1000-1100	Tactics: Duties of individuals in ambush
	19 Apr 0800-0830	PT
	1000-1100	Tactics: Ambush situations
Motor Transport	20 Apr 0800-0830	PT
	1000-1100	Use and control of fire and pyrotechnics in the ambush
	1300-1330	Mapping - Use of thrust line coordinates
	21 Apr 0800-0830	PT
	1000-1100	Night movement and patrols
	1300-1330	Mapping - FO procedures for small unit leaders
	06 Apr 0800-0845	Introduction driving - regulations and safety
	0900-0945	DD-110
	07 Apr 0800-0845	M274A1
	0900-0945	PM - Before and after driving
Co K	08 Apr 0800-0945	Weekly PM
	09 Apr 0800-0945	Weekly PM
	11 Apr 0800-0945	Tactical driving - rough terrain, 4 wheel
	1400-1600	Tactical driving - rough terrain, 4 wheel
	04 Apr 1800-1930	Live fire (81mm Mortars & 3.5 Rocket launcher)

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Unit

Date/Time

Subject

H&S Co
106 Plat
Flame Sec

05 Apr 1330-1430
05 Apr 0800-1200
06 Apr 0900-1030

Fam Firing (M-14)
106 RR live fire
Flames live fire

ENCLOSURE 5

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~~SECRET~~SPECIAL OPERATIONS

1. At 100700H Companies I and L with the Battalion Command Group deployed by motor march to YD965064 to conduct Operation GOLDEN FLEECE II in the B-5 area. (See enclosures 4, 10, 11, 12, 15 and 17.)
2. At 250020H Company I, with the Battalion Command Group, departed the PHU BAI Airfield (YD885148) by helicopter in response to 4th Marine Telecon, 242345H. Friendly elements landed at YD715204 to search and destroy VC elements that conducted a mortar attack on HUE, RVN (YD7520). At 1255H the operation was secured due to negative enemy contact and Company I and the Command Group returned to the Battalion CP.
3. At 260700H Companies I and K with the Battalion Command Group moved by fixed wing aircraft to DONG HA (YD241559) in support of Operation VIRGINIA. The duration of this deployment was 6 days. There was negative enemy contact.

~~SECRET~~
ENCLOSURE 6
~~SECRET~~

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~~SECRET~~

NUCLEAR - BIOLOGICAL - CHEMICAL

1. Nothing significant to report.

ENCLOSURE 7

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

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COMMAND AND CONTROL

1. The 1st Plat Co L remained under operational control of MASS-2 during the reporting period.
2. Co M was placed under operational control of 1-4 on 2 April 1966 and remained in that status.
3. 2nd Plat Co M was placed under operational control of 4th Marine Regt on 17 April 1966 and remained in that status.
4. 2nd Plat, Co L was placed under operational control of 2-1 17 April 1966 and remained in that status.
5. The 3rd Sqd, 3rd Plat, Company L was placed under operational control of the USS MAURY on 23 April 1966 and remained in that status.
6. 3rd Plat, Company K was under operational control of the 4th Marine Regt 16 April 1966 to 20 April 1966.
7. 1st Plat, Company K was under operational control of 2-1 from 7 April 1966 to 17 April 1966.
8. One TACP was under operational control of 4th Marine Regt from 21 April 1966 to 26 April 1966.
9. Company I was under operational control of 4th Marine Regt on 23 April 1966.

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ENCLOSURE 8

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COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRONICS

1. Nothing significant to report

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ENCLOSURE (9)

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CLOSE COMBAT1. 1 APRIL

a. Company K conducted 1 Plat and 1 Sqd day patrols, 1 Plat and 4 Sqd night patrols, 1 Plat and 4 Sqd ambushes and 4 LP's.

b. Friendly units had negative enemy contact.

2. 2 APRIL

a. Company K conducted 5 Plat, 3 Sqd and 2 FT day patrols, 1 Plat, 2 Sqd and 4 FT night patrols, 1 Plat and 2 Sqd ambushes and 4 LP's.

b. Friendly units had negative enemy contact.

3. 3 APRIL

a. Company K conducted 2 Plat, 2 Sqd and 2 FT day patrols, 1 Plat and 2 Sqd night patrols, 1 Plat and 2 Sqd ambushes and 10 LP's.

b. At 0645H 3d Plat Company K received 3 rounds small arms sniper fire at YD898077. A patrol searched the area with negative results.

4. 4 APRIL

a. Company K conducted 6 Sqd and 3 FT day patrols, 8 Sqd night patrols, 8 Sqd ambushes and 10 LP's.

b. Friendly units had negative enemy contact.

5. 5 APRIL

a. Company K conducted 1 Plat, 5 Sqd and FT day patrols, 7 Sqd night patrols, 7 Sqd ambushes and 10 LP's.

b. Friendly units had negative enemy contact.

6. 6 APRIL

a. Company K conducted 1 Plat and 7 Sqd day patrols, 1 Plat and 6 Sqd night patrols, 6 Sqd ambushes and 10 LP's.

b. Friendly units had negative contact.

ENCLOSURE 10

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7. 7 APRIL

a. Company K conducted 9 Sqd, and 2 FT day patrols, 8 Sqd night patrols, 8 Sqd ambushes, and 10 LP's.

b. At 2330H 2nd Plat Company K ambush was probed by 2 VC at YD859094. The area was searched with negative results.

8. 8 APRIL

a. Company K conducted 1 Plat, 6 Sqd and 2 FT day patrols, 1 Plat and 6 Sqd night patrols and 1 Plat and 6 Sqd ambushes, and 10 LP's.

b. At 2150H Company K received 3 rounds small arms sniper fire at YD888086. The area was searched with negative results.

9. 9 APRIL

a. Company K conducted 1 Plat and 4 Sqd day patrols.

b. 3d Battalion, 4th Marines received 4th Marine Regiment Frag Order 4-66 to conduct operation GOLDEN FLEECE II.

c. Company K returned to the Battalion CP to prepare for Operation GOLDEN FLEECE II.

d. Friendly units had negative enemy contact.

10. 10 APRIL

a. At 0700H the 3d Battalion, 4th Marines (-) commenced a motor march to the area of Operation GOLDEN FLEECE II and established a Battalion Command Post at YD965064 with Company L (-) (Rein) operating in the village of LOC AN (YD959-041) and Company I (Rein) operating in the village of LOC DIEN (YD976063).

b. Each company established a Combat base for their respective companies and given the mission of conducting aggressive day and night patrolling within their assigned AOR's.

c. 6 Plat and 2 Sqd day patrols, 10 Sqd night patrols, 10 Sqd ambushes and 9 LP's were conducted.

d. The Battalion Civil Affairs Officer, Chaplain, and Surgeon established liaison with the village and hamlet officials for the initiation of a Medical Assistance Program.

ENCLOSURE 10

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11. 11 APRIL

a. 2 Plat and 6 Sqd day patrols, 10 Sqd night patrols, 10 Sqd ambushes, and 1 OP were conducted.

b. At 1900H a Mail Convoy received an incoming SA round at YD963028. Area was searched with negative results. One WIA friendly (NonEvac) resulted from shattered glass when round hit vehicle windshield.

c. At 2047H a 2nd Sqd, 3d Plat, Co L ambush opened fire in the vicinity of YD954054. 2 VC KIA were dragged from scene. Results of action: 2 Friendly WIA (Minor NonEvac).

d. At 2333H 2nd Sqd, 2nd Plat, Company L, fired on four VC at YD944046. Action resulted in 2 VC KIA recovered and 1 carbine and 2 hand grenades.

12. 12 APRIL

a. 4 Plat and 4 Sqd day patrols, 13 Sqd night patrols, 13 Sqd ambushes, 12 day OP's and 17 night LP's were conducted.

b. The village chief of LOC AN (YD959041) conducted psychological warfare activities in coordination with Company L.

c. 7 women, 2 men and 62 children were treated at MEDCAP conducted in LOC AN (YD959041). Soap and sewing kits were also distributed.

d. At 1200H Company K (-) (Rein) assumed a portion of the battalion TAOR.

13. 13 APRIL

a. 2 Plat and 5 Sqd day patrols, 13 Sqd night patrols, 13 Sqd ambushes, 12 day OP's and 17 night LP's were conducted.

b. At 0433H approximately 30 VC were ambushed by 1st Sqd, 2nd Plat, Company L at YD956033. Results of action were 1 VC KIA and 1 9mm Auto-matic weapon, 2 grenades and 1 pack with documents captured.

c. At 1120H one M-35 6x6 and one M42A1 Mighty Mite in Convoy received one sniper round on road (YD934085) north of CP. Elements of Company L searched the area with negative results.

d. At 0930H one Vietnamese National boy was evacuated to A-MED with an ankle laceration. The boy was treated and returned to his village.

ENCLOSURE 10

14. 14 APRIL

a. 2 Plat and 4 Sqd day patrols, 16 Sqd night patrols, 16 Sqd ambushes, 12 day OP's and 16 night LP's were conducted.

b. At 2227H 3-4 VC were ambushed by 2nd Sqd, 3d Plat, Company L. Friendlies fired SA but received no incoming fire. Area was searched and indications of 3 VC WIA's (possible) were discovered.

c. At 1300H MEDCAP was conducted at LOC AN hamlet (YD972062) and HA THANH (YD954069). 42 women, 17 men, and 118 children were treated and 175 bars of soap were distributed to villagers.

15. 15 APRIL

a. 4 Plat and 5 Sqd day patrols, 1 Plat and 11 Sqd night patrols, 1 Plat and 11 Sqd ambushes, 12 day OP's and 17 night LP's were conducted.

b. At 0500H 3d Sqd, 2nd Plat, Company L spotted approximately 10 VC moving along trail at YD955026. The area was illuminated by artillery and HE was fired as blocking fire. The VC broke contact and moved into area where artillery was firing blocking fire. The area was searched and drag marks in brush were found at YD955028. 1 friendly WIA was evacuated to A-MED.

16. 16 APRIL

a. 2 Sqd day patrols, 7 Sqd night patrols, 7 Sqd ambushes and 8 LP's were conducted.

b. There was negative contact with the enemy.

c. At 1020H Battalion Command Group, Company I, and Company K (-) returned to PHU BAI TAOR.

17. 17 APRIL

a. 2 Sqd day patrols, 5 Sqd night patrols, 5 Sqd ambushes, and 4 LP's were conducted.

b. At 1940H 1st Sqd, 3d Plat, Company L encountered an estimated 1 Plat of VC at ambush site (YD964030). Area of ambush was illuminated and the remainder of the platoon was brought up to reinforce the squad. Area was searched revealing 3 VC KIA, 4 VC KIA (possible), 1 M-79 (US) with 23 rounds M-79 (US) ammunition, 1 Cal. 45 Pistol (US), 2 Cal. 45 magazines and 45 rounds of Cal. 45 ammunition. Friendlies sustained 2 WIA (NonEvac).

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ENCLOSURE 10

18. 18 APRIL

a. 1 Plat and 3 Sqd day patrols, 4 Sqd night patrols, 5 Sqd ambushes and 6 LP's were conducted.

b. There was negative contact with the enemy.

19. 19 APRIL

a. 2 Sqd day patrols, 4 Sqd night patrols, 4 Sqd ambushes and 7 LP's were conducted.

b. At 1320H Company L (-) (Rein) was further reinforced by the 2nd Plat, Company K.

20. 20 APRIL

a. 2 Sqd day patrols, 4 Sqd night patrols, 4 Sqd ambushes and 6 LP's were conducted.

b. 2 women, 1 man and 3 children were treated by Company L corpsmen. 1 child was evacuated to A-MED for treatment of an infection. After treatment, the child was returned to his home.

c. There was negative contact with the enemy.

21. 21 APRIL

a. 2 Plat and 1 Sqd day patrols, 4 Sqd night patrols, 4 Sqd ambushes and 6 LP's were conducted.

b. At 0837H Company L (-) (Rein) was relieved in the GOLDEN FLEECE II TAOR by Company K (-) (Rein). The 3d Plat, Company L remained in the area with Company K.

c. At 1020H the 3d fire team, 3d Sqd, 2nd Plat, Company K was fired upon in their OP position (YD955035). The friendly unit returned fire. Area was searched with negative results.

d. At 1215H the 3d Plat, Company K (YD975002) spotted 15 VC walking in column 400 meters west of their position. Small arms fire was exchanged and friendly artillery was expended on the VC position. Observation by AO and search of area produced negative results.

e. 2 women, three men and four children were treated by corpsmen.

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ENCLOSURE 10

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22. 22 APRIL

a. 4 Sqd day patrols, 4 Sqd night patrols, 4 Sqd ambushes and 6 LP's were conducted.

b. There was negative contact with the enemy.

23. 23 APRIL

a. 2 Sqd day patrols, 1 Plat and 3 Sqd night patrols, 1 Plat and 3 Sqd ambushes and 5 LP's were conducted.

b. 12 villagers were treated for minor ailments in MEDCAP in village of HA CHAU (YD968042). One male adult was evacuated to A-MED for treatment of an injured knee and returned to the village.

c. At 0855H VC sniper fire was received by 2nd Plat, Company K (YD954033). A search of the area produced negative results.

24. 24 APRIL

a. 2 Sqd day patrols, 1 Plat and 3 night patrols, 1 Plat and 3 Sqd ambushes and 5 LP's were conducted.

b. The villagers of HA CHAU (YD968042) were distributed 40 bars of soap. 12 villagers were treated for minor ailments.

c. There was negative contact with the enemy.

25. 25 APRIL

a. 2 Plat and 1 Sqd day patrols were conducted.

b. 40 people from HA CHAU (YD968042) were treated for ailments by corpsmen.

c. At 1600H Company K was recalled to Battalion CP (YD893136) and at 1800H the last elements of Company K returned to the Battalion area for the termination of Operation GOLDEN FLEECE II.

d. At 0020H Company I, with the Battalion Command Group, departed the PHU BAI Airfield (YD885148) by helicopter in response to 4th Marine Telecon, 242345H. Friendly elements landed at YD715204 to search and destroy VC elements that conducted a mortar attack on HUE, RVN (YD7520). At 1255H the operation was secured due to negative enemy contact and Company I and the Command Group returned to the Battalion CP.

26. 26 APRIL

a. At 0800H Company I, Company K, and Command Group departed PHU BAI airfield

ENCLOSURE 10

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(YD885148) for DONG HA (YD241599) in support of Operation VIRGINIA. Local security was established at the forward CP with negative contact.

27. 27 APRIL to 30 APRIL

a. There was negative contact during this period.

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ENCLOSURE 10
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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FIRE SUPPORT COORDINATION CENTER1. SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

a. India Battery 3/12 displaced forward to the edge of the PHU BAI TAOR in direct support of 3d Battalion, 4th Marines' operation GOLDEN FLEECE II. The Battery remained forward from 11 April until 18 April.

b. On 11 April, 1 Plat of Mike Battery 4/12 displaced forward within the TAOR to give general support of 3d Battalion, 4th Marines' operation GOLDEN FLEECE II. On 18 April another piece was added to Mike's forward platoon and Mike assumed a direct support role for GOLDEN FLEECE II. The Battery maintained this role until 25 April.

c. On 22 April, India Battery 3/12 again displaced to the edge of the TAOR for one day in direct support of a 3d Battalion 4th Marine sweep which took place south of the TAOR.

2. ARTILLERY UNITS

INDIA BATTERY	3/12
BRAVO BATTERY	1/11
HOTEL BATTERY	3/12
MIKE BATTERY	4/12

3. NAVAL SHIPS: Negative activity4. TYPES OF MISSIONS

a. H&I FIRES	920
b. H&I FIRE FOR EFFECT	7
c. TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY	43
d. REGISTRATIONS	9
Total Missions Fired:	979

5. AMMUNITION EXPENDED

a. 105 HE:	1928
105 ILL:	294
105 WP:	212
b. 155 HE:	309
155 ILL:	47
155 WP:	23

ENCLOSURE 11

LOGISTIC SUPPORT

1. During the month of April the Battalion made significant progress in erecting messing facilities and improving food handling.
2. The Battalion remains in the same location as it did upon arrival in Vietnam. No progress has been made on the planned cantonment site. Best available estimates at present, set the moving date to the cantonment site between 1 November and 1 December 1966.
3. During the month of April the Battalion received two new water trailers which alleviated the water storage problem. A well was drilled by Construction Battalion 5 which produced a limited amount of water until 27 April at which time it collapsed. At present it produces no water.
4. Nine new Mighty Mites were received during the month to replace nine old Mites on hand. An additional five mites are planned for exchange.
5. The Battalion participated in 2 significant operations during this month, Golden Fleece II and Virginia. No major logistical problems were encountered.
6. The Battalion has 85% of its operating stocks on hand. Supply support has generally been good. The critical shortage of halizone tablets is the only significant problem area.
7. The majority of major items of equipment are presently in good condition. No significant problems are being encountered with deadlining of combat essential equipment.
8. Adequate electricity for the present campsite continues to present a problem. A total of 3 generators were obtained on temporary loan from other services during the month, which have a total output of 22.5 KW. A minimum of 30 KW's are required to provide sufficient electricity for the Battalion.

ENCLOSURE (12)

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[REDACTED]

AIR DEFENSE

1. Nothing significant to report.

ENCLOSURE 13
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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COMBAT CLOSE AIR SUPPORT

1. Nothing significant to report.

ENCLOSURE 14

MEDICAL AND DENTAL SUPPORT1. SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

a. On 10 April 1966, the Battalion Aid Station Medical Team, consisting of one Medical Officer, ten Hospital Corpsmen, and one ambulance driver, deployed to participate in Operation Golden Fleece II.

b. On 21 April 1966, thirty-seven cases of Staphylococcal food poisoning were treated in the Battalion Aid Station. Cause as determined by the A Co., 3rd Medical Battalion Preventive Medicine Inspectors was the probable contamination of Potato-salad. Investigation of equipment, personnel, and procedures did not reveal the source of contamination. Less than 0.5% of personnel served were affected.

c. On 242315H the Battalion Aid Station Medical Team deployed with units of the Battalion to YD 713203 in reaction to a mortar attack on Hue, RVN. Two heat casualties were treated on this operation.

d. On 26 April 1966, the Battalion Aid Station Medical Team consisting of one Medical Officer and five Hospital Corpsmen accompanied Companies I and K and the Battalion Command Group to Dong Ha (YD 244596) for possible participation in Operation Virginia.

2. MEDICAL TRENDS

a. The composition of the Battalion Aid Station detachment to accompany the Command Group on future Battalion Operations will depend on the type, scale, and area of the operation and the mode of travel available.

b. The MedCAP supplies ordered initially on 20 April 1966 have not been received.

3. MEDICAL SUPPLY

a. Medical supplies available to accompany the Battalion Aid Station consist of 3 to 5 beach bags depending on the size of the operation and the transportation means available. These beach bags contain the following type of Medical Supplies:

(1) 1 to 3 Battle bags - contains large, medium, and small battle dressings and intravenous fluids for immediate treatment of shock.

(2) 1 - Sick call bag - contains a variety of prescription items for daily sick call.

(3) 1 - Foot treatment bag - contains supplies and medications to aid in treatment of non-battle incurred foot disease.

ENCLOSURE 15

b. One set of splints is also taken.

4. BATTLE CASUALTIES

a. KIA -4

b. WIA -7

5. NON-BATTLE CASUALTIES

a. One death by drowning and 16 accidents were reported for this period.

6. PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

a. Malaria tablets are available at the Battalion Aid Station for Companies every Sunday.

b. Twenty-five rat-traps have been received and set throughout the Battalion area.

c. The four-holer heads and urinals are maintained on a daily basis and replaced as needed. Each head has a hand-washing facility.

d. A Galley (food preparation), enlisted mess, Staff NCO and Officers Mess, and an ice house have been erected for the Mess area. They are properly screened and sanitarily adequate.

7. CIVIL AFFAIRS RENDERED

a. During Operation Fleece II approximately 600-650 civilians were treated in five villages.

b. Supplies for this operation were borrowed from 3rd Battalion 12th Marines.

8. PROBLEM AREAS

a. More emphasis on Venereal Disease, personnel hygiene and sanitation, basic battle first aid and buddy aid, prevention and treatment of heat exhaustion and heat stroke, medical problems relative to RVN, and treatment of snake bites should be included in company training schedules by the Senior Company Corpsman.

ENCLOSURE 15

CHAPLAINS SUPPORT

1. Nine Protestant Services of Worship were conducted during the past month. Attendance 302. Catholic Masses were said each week by Chaplain Scanlon. 2 Memorial Services were held. and 1 Baptismal Service was conducted.
2. The Chaplain participated in the Civic Action Program of the Battalion.
3. Documents were filed in proper sequence as received.
4. The Chaplain participated in Golden Fleece and Virginia Operations with the Battalion.
5. Chaplains Counseling and Spiritual Guidance interviews with personnel were conducted as the need arose.
6. The new Chaplain reported to the Battalion 16 April 1966.

ENCLOSURE 16

CIVIL AFFAIRS

1. A total of 657 people treated for various ailments. All treatment was in villages of Loc An (YD963062) and Loc Dien (968842). 1400 bars of soap were distributed in the same area. 8 Vietnamese were evacuated from this area to "A" Medical Company for treatment. All were returned the same day as evacuated, except one woman was taken to Hue for further care. Approximately 89 tons of rice were harvested in this area with Marine protection.

2. Liaison was made with Phu Xuan Orphanage in Hue. Future plans include aid in the areas of medicine, education, clothing and food. A 6X6 truck load of scrap lumber was delivered to the orphanage during the initial liaison visit.

ENCLOSURE (17)

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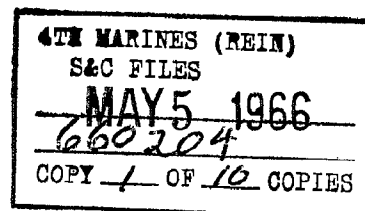
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4 May 1966

FIRST ENDORSEMENT on CO, 3rdBn, 4th Mar ltr 3/LFS/dld dtd 28 April 1966
Ser: 0013-66

From: Commanding Officer, 4th Marines (-) (Rein), 3d Marine Division (Rein),
FMF
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
Subj: Combat After Action Report (Operation GOLDEN FLEECE II)

1. Readdressed and forwarded.
2. In reference to paragraph 16a of the basic letter, funds for the payment of the subject claim were received by the 4th Marines and transferred to the Civil Affairs Officer, 3d Battalion, 4th Marines on 3 May 1966. The money source was the sub-sector imprest fund. Field operations are seldom of sufficient duration to process a war claim and follow it to completion. Late payment or non-payment of claims, results in victims harboring resentment against the Marine Corps. It is recommended that a fund be provided on the battalion level to insure expeditious payment of minor claims which can be expected to arise out of field operations.
3. Paragraphs 16b and 16c are concurred with.

D. W. Sherman
D. W. SHERMAN



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SAC FILES
HEADQUARTERS
3d Battalion, 4th Marines (Rein)
660067

HEADQUARTERS

3d Battalion (Rein), 4th Marines (-) (Rein)
3d Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force
c/o FPO, San Francisco, 96602

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173866

3/LFS/dld
28 April 1966
0013-66

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

Subj: Combat After Action Report (Operation GOLDEN FLEECE II)

Ref: (a) RegtO 3120.3a

Encl: (1) Overlay of Operation

1. NAME OF OPERATION. GOLDEN FLEECE II was a rice harvest guarding operation.

2. DATE OF OPERATION. 100700H to 251800H April 1966.

3. LOCATION. The Bravo 5 area in PHU LOC district, THUA THIEN sector located between the DANANG and PHU BAI enclaves encompassed by grid coordinates YD942072; YD900020; YC980979; ZC020998; ZD930-026; YD942072; 1:50,000 sheets PHU LOC 6559 I and TON BEN TAU 6559 IV.

4. COMMAND HEADQUARTERS. Command group, 3d Battalion, 4th Marines.

5. REPORTING OFFICER. Lieutenant Colonel S. A. VALE, Commanding Officer, 3d Battalion, 4th Marines.

6. TASK ORGANIZATION.

Commanding Officer
3d Battalion, 4th Marines

LtCol S. A. VALE

Company I

Capt F. W. TUCKWILLER

Company K

Capt H. GONZALEZ

Company L

Capt D. M. McEWEN

7. SUPPORTING FORCES

BATTERY I 4-12

Capt B. T. CHAMBLESS

8. INTELLIGENCE. There was little enemy activity to speak of in the B-5 area prior to Operation GOLDEN FLEECE II. It was suspected that the VC would try to confiscate the rice from the villagers

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during the rice harvesting season. During the first two days of the operation friendly patrols had several small encounters with the VC who were believed to be trying to get into the villages to collect a rice tax. The largest group encountered was believed to be of company size although reports received from ARVN sources claimed two VC battalions were moving into the area. These two battalions were never located. Harassing sniper fire was received throughout the operation.

9. MISSION. Commencing 10 April 1966, 3d Battalion, 4th Marines conducted GOLDEN FLEECE Operations in assigned area to protect Vietnamese Nationals in the harvest of the rice crops, to deny the VC foodstuffs, stifle his control over the local populace and aggravate the VC logistical program.

10. CONCEPT OF OPERATION.

(a) Commencing 100700H 3d Battalion, 4th Marines deployed to assigned area to conduct GOLDEN FLEECE Operations to protect the Vietnamese Nationals while harvesting rice and to prevent the VC from passing through area to the rice harvesting areas to the North or removing rice from or transporting rice through the area to the mountains to the South.

(b) One Platoon was provided as security for the 105 battery in direct support of the operation.

(c) Liaison with U.S. advisors to THUA THIEN sector PHU LOC district and with village and hamlet officials was established and maintained.

(d) After a period of 5 days, the main force of the battalion was withdrawn and one rifle company remained in the operation area.

11. EXECUTION.

9 APRIL 1966

(a) At 1200H 3d Battalion, 4th Marines received Frag Order 4-66 from 4th Marine Regiment to conduct Operation GOLDEN FLEECE II.

10 APRIL 1966

(a) At 0700H Lead elements of 3d Battalion, 4th Marines (-) commenced a Motor march to the area of Operation GOLDEN FLEECE II and established a Battalion Command Post at YD965064 with Company L (-) (Rein) operating in village of LOC AN (YD959-041) and Company I (Rein) operating in village of LOC DIEN (YD976053).

(b) Each company established a Combat base for their respective companies and the platoons were given the mission to establish a Platoon patrol base to conduct aggressive day and night patrolling.

(c) A total of 6 Plat and 2 Sqd day patrols, 10 Sqd night patrols, 10 Sqd ambushes, and 9 OP's were conducted.

(d) The Battalion Civil Affairs Officer, Chaplain, and Surgeon made liaison with the village and hamlet officials for initiating a Medical Assistance Program.

11 APRIL 1966

(a) 2 Plat and 6 Sqd day patrols, 10 Sqd night patrols, 10 Sqd ambushes, and 1 OP were conducted.

(b) At 1900H a Mail Convoy received an incoming SA round at YD963028. Area was searched with negative results. One WIA friendly (NonEvac) resulted from shattered glass when round hit vehicle windshield.

(c) At 2047H an ambush was sprung (YD954054) by 2nd Squad, 3d Platoon, Company L. 2 VC KIA were dragged from scene. Results of action: 2 Friendly WIA (Minor NonEvac).

(d) At 2333H 2nd Squad, 2nd Platoon, Company L, fired on four VC at (YD944046). Action resulted in 2 VC KIA recovered and 1 carbine and 2 hand grenades.

12 APRIL 1966

(a) 13 Sqd night patrols, 13 Sqd ambushes, 4 Plat daylight patrols, 4 Sqd daylight patrols, 12 observation posts and 17 night listening posts were conducted.

(b) The village chief of LOC AN (YD959041) conducted psychological warfare activities in coordination with Company L.

(c) 7 women, 2 men and 62 children were treated at MEDCAP conducted in LOC AN (YD959041). Soap and sewing kits were also distributed.

(d) A small boy with a lacerated foot and his mother were evacuated to A-MED for treatment and later were returned to their hamlet in LOC AN (YD959041).

(e) At 1200H Company K (-) (Rein) assumed a portion of the battalion TAOR.

13 APRIL 1966

(a) 13 Sgd night patrols, 13 Sgd ambushes, 5 Sgd and 2 Plat day patrols, 17 night LP's and 12 day OP's were conducted.

(b) At 0433H approximately 30 VC were ambushed by 1st Sgd, 2nd Plat, Company L at YD956033. Results of action were 1 VC KIA and 1 9mm Automatic weapon, 2 grenades and 1 pack with documents were captured.

(c) At 1120H one M-35 6x6 and one M-422A1 Mighty Mite in Convoy received one sniper round on road (YD934085) north of CP. Elements of Company L searched the area with negative results.

(d) At 0930H one Vietnamese National boy was evacuated to A-MED for an ankle laceration. Treatment was administered and the boy was returned to his village.

(e) MEDCAP was conducted in LOC AN hamlet (YD959048) and LOC DIEN hamlet (ZD009034). Villagers were medically treated and soap and sewing kits were distributed.

14 APRIL 1966

(a) 16 Sgd night patrols, 16 night ambushes, 4 Sgd day patrols, 2 Plat day patrols, 18 night LP's and 12 day OP's were conducted.

(b) At 2227H 3 - 4 VC were ambushed by 2nd Sgd, 3d Plat, Company L. Friendlies fired SA but received no incoming fire. Area was searched and indications of 3 VC WIA's (possible) were discovered.

(c) At 1300H MEDCAP was conducted at LOC AN hamlet (YD972062) and HA THANH (YD954069). 42 women, 17 men, and 118 children were treated and 175 bars of soap were distributed to villagers.

(d) At 1300H MEDCAP was conducted at LOC DIEN hamlet BENH XA (YD950060). 66 children, 17 men and 15 women were treated.

15 APRIL 1966

(a) 11 Sgd and 1 Plat night ambushes, 11 Sgd night patrols, 1 Plat night patrol, 5 Sgd and 4 Plat day patrols, 17 night LP's and 12 day OP's were conducted.

(b) At 0500H 3d Sgd, 2nd Plat, Company L spotted approximately 10 VC moving along trail at YD955027. The area was illuminated by artillery and HE was fired as blocking fire. The VC broke contact and moved into area where artillery was firing blocking fire. The area was searched and drag marks in brush were found at YD955028.

1 friendly WIA was evacuated to A-MED.

(c) A child with a minor illness was treated at the Company L CP. One pregnant woman was evacuated to A-MED.

16 APRIL 1966

(a) 8 LP's, 5 Sqd ambushes, 7 Sqd night patrols and 2 Sqd day patrols were conducted.

(b) There was negative contact with the enemy.

17 APRIL 1966

(a) 2 Sqd day patrols, 5 Sqd night patrols, 5 Sqd ambushes, and 4 LP's were conducted.

(b) At 1940H 1st Sqd, 3d Plat, Company L encountered an estimated 1 Plat of VC at ambush site (YD964030). Area of ambush was illuminated and the remainder of the platoon was brought up to reinforce the squad. Area was searched revealing 3 VC KIA, 4 VC KIA (possible), 1 M-79 (US) with 23 rounds M-79 (US) ammunition, 1 Cal. 45 Pistol (US), 2 Cal. 45 magazines and 45 rounds of Cal. 45 ammunition. Friendlies sustained 2 WIA (NonEvac).

18 APRIL 1966

(a) 3 Sqd day patrols, 4 Sqd night patrols, 5 Sqd ambushes, 1 Plat day patrol and 6 LP's were conducted.

(b) There was negative contact with the enemy.

19 APRIL 1966

(a) At 1320H Company L (-) (Rein) was further reinforced by the second Plat of Company K. Company L conducted 2 Sqd day patrols, 4 Sqd night patrols, 4 ambushes, and 7 LP's.

(b) 2 women, 1 man and 7 children were treated for minor ailments by corpsmen from Company L.

20 APRIL 1966

(a) Company L (-) (Rein) conducted 2 Sqd day patrols, 4 Sqd night patrols, 4 Sqd ambushes, and 6 LP's.

(b) 2 women, 1 man and 3 children were treated by Company L corpsmen. 1 child was evacuated to A-MED for treatment of an infection. After treatment, the child was returned to his home.

(c) There was negative contact with the enemy.

21 APRIL 1966

(a) Company K (-) (Rein) conducted 2 Plat day patrols, 1 Sqd day patrol, 4 Sqd night patrols, 4 Sqd ambushes and 6 LP's.

(b) At 0837H Company L (-) (Rein) was relieved in the GOLDEN FLEECE II TAOR by Company K (-) (Rein). The 3d Plat, Company L remained in the area with Company K.

(c) At 1020H the 3d fire team, 3d Sqd, 2nd Plat, Company K was fired upon in their OP position (YD955035). The friendly unit returned fire. Area was searched with negative results.

(d) At 1215H the 3d Plat, Company K (YD975002) spotted 15 VC walking in column 400 meters west of their position. Small arms fire was exchanged and friendly artillery was expended on the VC position. Observation by AO and search of area produced negative results.

(e) 2 women, three men and four children were treated by corpsmen.

22 APRIL 1966

(a) Company K conducted 4 Sqd day patrols, 4 Sqd night patrols, 4 ambushes and 6 LP's and continued the Civic Action Program.

(b) There was negative contact with the enemy.

23 APRIL 1966

(a) Company K conducted 2 Sqd daylight patrols, 3 Sqd night patrols, 3 Sqd ambushes, 1 Plat night patrol, 1 Plat ambush and 5 LP's.

(b) 12 villagers were treated for minor ailments in MEDCAP in village of HA CHAU (YD968042). One male adult was evacuated to A-MED for treatment of an injured knee and returned to the village.

(c) At 0855H VC sniper fire was received by 2nd Plat, Company K (YD954033). A search of the area produced negative results.

24 APRIL 1966

(a) Company K conducted 2 Sqd day patrols, 3 Sqd night patrols, 3 Sqd ambushes, 1 Plat ambush, 1 Plat night patrol and 5 LP's.

(b) The villagers of HA CHAU (YD968042) were distributed 40 bars of soap. 12 villagers were treated for minor ailments.

(c) There was negative contact with the enemy.

25 APRIL 1966

(a) Company K conducted 2 Plat day patrols and 1 Sqd day patrol.

(b) 40 people from HA CHAU (YD968042) were treated for ailments by corpsmen.

(c) At 1600H Company K was recalled to Battalion CP (YD893-136) and at 1800H the last elements of Company K returned to the Battalion area for the termination of Operation GOLDEN FLEECE II.

12. RESULTS.

(a) General. The most significant results of operation GOLDEN FLEECE II was the successful harvesting of eighty nine tons of rice by the local populace. The Viet Cong seemed surprised to see Marines operating in this area.

(b) Friendly Equipment and Material Losses. None

(c) Enemy Equipment and Material Losses.

(1) Weapons: (4 total)

(a) Individual: 1-Matk-49, 1-K-50, 1 M-79, (US)
1 Cal. 45 (US).

(b) Ammunition: 90 rounds small arms, 23 M-79 grenades (US), 5 bamboo stick grenades.

(2) Equipment: 2 ponchos, 1 (US) canteen cover, 4 web belts, 3 (US) M-79 pouches, 1 pack, 1 first-aid kit, 5 magazines, 1 (US) holster.

(d) Friendly Losses: 6 WIA

(e) Enemy Losses: 8 KIA Confirmed, 11 KIA Possible.

13. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS.

(a) No problems were encountered with the furnishing of initial issues and basic allowances of supply.

(b) No problems were encountered with maintenance and transportation.

(c) A Motor Transport Contact team was sent to the Battalion CP (forward) (YD967064) to perform 2nd echelon maintenance to vehicles in the field.

(d) Companies reported friendly casualties to S-1 (forward) who obtained all information available at the scene. This information was relayed to S-1 (rear) who completed the casualty reports. All casualties were evacuated to A-MED. After checking with A-MED, S-1 reported information to the Division Casualty Report Center by telephone. No problems were encountered in casualty reporting.

(e) One AN/PRC-25 radio would not transmit or receive and the cause was traced to a loose Internal Oscillator Module, A-10. After tightening the module it was found that the module still moved in its socket when the kilocycle dial was turned producing intermittent operation. For a remedy a piece of cardboard was placed as a shim to the rear of the module, A-10 and the radio worked properly thereafter. This may be a simple solution to a common problem.

14. SPECIAL TECHNIQUES. Infrared Sniper Scopes were utilized in the Battalion security. The equipment performed well but results were negative.

15. COMMANDERS ANALYSIS.

(a) Relations with village and hamlet officials in the operation area were excellent. Initially they were reluctant to accept aid for their villagers because of pride and a desire to remain independent of American aid. As time progressed, however, their feelings changed and they became increasingly receptive to all assistance offered by the Marines.

(b) The control of small children in the vicinity of the command post and combat bases presented a substantial problem. Sentries were posted at critical points of access to the problem areas and eventually the large number of small children diminished.

(c) Difficulties were encountered in the vicinity of the supply of batteries for the Infrared Sniper Scope. A shortage of batteries made it necessary to send used batteries to the rear on a daily basis for re-charging. If the entire allowance of batteries had been on hand, the problem would not have existed. Sufficient batteries were on requisition, priority 02, prior to the beginning of the operation.

(d) A limited number of the new 5 gallon plastic water containers were used during the operation. The plastic water can proved to be a superior container to the metal, except for the detachable lids. The plastic container would be satisfactory in all respects, if modified to include a fastening device for the lids, to prevent loss. The device could be similar in design to that used on plastic canteens.

(e) The two village chiefs in the operation area related that during the period of time that Marines were operating in their areas, no rice was removed from the area by the VC.

(f) 17 Marines attended Easter Sunday Mass in a Catholic church located in the operation area. Villagers appeared genuinely pleased at the Marines appearance at Mass.

(g) Indiginous personnel were contacted and trained in the care and cleaning of small cuts and wounds. The HA CHAU hamlet chief provided nurses to assist corpsman in the training program.

(h) The villagers cheered the killing of VC in Marine ambushes but expressed a fear of intimidation and rice theft by the VC after the Marines left.

(i) The obtaining of medical supplies presented a problem. Initially these were obtained from Army sources due to the in-availability of MEDCAP supplies through regular channels. Supplies were finally borrowed from other Marine units in the PHU BAI enclave.

16. RECOMMENDATIONS.

(a) One water buffalo was killed by a Marine in self defense and arrangements were made through the Civil Affairs Officer to Division to reimburse the owner of the animal. Payment has not been made as of this date. It is recommended that the Battalion Civil Affairs Officer be provided with funds for the settlement of small claims such as this.

(b) Some of the poorer villagers find employment in the carrying of the harvested rice to market. When Marine vehicles are utilized in this capacity it places these villagers in an unemployed status and partially upsets the village economy. It is recommended that Marine vehicles are not furnished for the transportation of rice.

(c) When an 81mm mortar section is attached in direct support of a rifle company, a situation may arise where a section may fire all available illumination and if target coverage can be achieved by the 81mm mortar in general support, the mission will be assumed by them. It is recommended that when the above situation arises, the mortar in general support assume the mission at the earliest opportunity so as to allow the mortars in direct support sufficient illumination for a later mission in the event resupply is not immediately available.

K. J. Frazier
K. J. FRAZIER
By direction