

3D MARUIV S&C FILE 17 493268

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3d Battalion, 4th Marine

Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force

FPO San Francisco 96602

3/BEP:wys. **57**50 Ser: 003A2236B 10 Aug 1968

From:

Commanding Officer

To:

Commandant of the Marine Corps (A03D)

Viz:

Commanding General, 3d Marine Division Force Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Command Chronology (U)

Ref:

Subj:

MCO 5750.1A (a)

- FMFPac0 5750.8 (b)
- Div0 5750.1A

Encl: $\sqrt{(1)}$ Command Chronology for July 1968

1. In accordance with references (a), (b), and (c), enclosure (1) is

hereby submitted.

S&C FILES HELDQUARTERS

3d Battalion, 4th Marine

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18 AUG 1968

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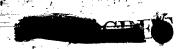
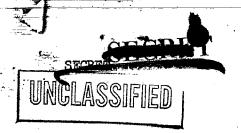


TABLE OF CONTENTS

I	ORGANIZATIONAL DATA	
II	S-1 AND PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION	
III	INTELLIGENCE	
IA	OPERATIONS AND TRAINING	- •
Ψ	IOGISTICS	
VI	COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS	
AII	FIRM SUFFORE COCRUITATION	V CTL
VIII	AIR SUFFORT	`.
IX	MEDICAL AFFAIRS	
x	CIVIL AFFAIRS	* ****
XI	PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND LESSONS	LEARNED





SECTION I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

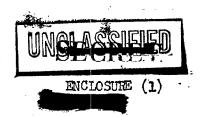
Designation/Location

a. 3d Battalion, 4th Marines b. CP located LZ Hawk (ND 895405), 1-6 July, Fire Pase Shopherd (XD 936409), 7-31 July. Co's "L" and "M" maintained platocn sized patrol bases along Route 9 in the AO providing security and conducting road sweeps along Route 9. "K" Co was under the operational control of 2d Battalion. 1st Marines and maintained a defensive position on Hill 471 (XD 846393), 1-6 July. Co "L" was located in a defensive position on key terrain at (XD 875383), providing protection for Route 9 from the south, 1-11 July. Co moved from Hill 471 to a position adjacent to Co man, 7-16 July. Co "L" was placed under the operational control of the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines and was displaced by helicopter from Fire Base Shepherd to Hill 689 west of The Sanh to the 1/1 AO, 9-13 July. Co "M" was placed under the operational control of 2d Battalion, 4th Marines and was assigned the defense of Fire Base Cates. The Battalion commenced operating under a concept of mobile defense, utilizing one rifle company for defense of the Fire Fase and placing the remaining companies in a forward position of patrolling to the west and southwest. The rifle companies rotated back to the Fire Mase one at a time on a 12-15 day cycle, with one company at the Fire Pase 4-5 days and then patrolling throughout the AO for 19-12 days.

2. Period Covered in Report. 1-31 July 1968

3. Billet Assignments

a.	Commanding Officer	1-31 July 1968	LtCol F. L. BUINE, Jr.
b.	Executive Officer	1-23 July 1968	Maj. J. H. MEAD
		24_31 July1968	Maj. R. L. BAKER
C.	S1	1-31 July 1968	1stLt E. N. FIERTZ
\mathbf{d}_{\bullet}	S-2	1-6 July 1968	1stLt J. C. DAY
		7-31 July 1968	lstLt G. F. DICKINSON, Jr.
e.	S-3		Maj. V. E. FIRNSTAHL
			Capt J. D. CARR
			Maj. C. W. MACFARIAN
f.	S_4		1stLt W. S. SELLERS
-			1stLt J. C. DAY
g.			Capt J. B. WHALEN
			Capt J. B. WHALEN
ja	CO Co TIT		Capt M. A. SEXTON
i,	CO Co "K"		Capt S. E. THOMAS
k.	CO Co "L"		Capt S. W. AUSTIN
1.	CO Co "M"	1-31 July 1968	





SECTION II

SI AND PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION

1. Replacements Received

a.	USMC Enlisted	152
b	USMC Officers	9
C.	USN Enlisted	. 9

2. Personnel Rotated

æ.	USMC Enlisted	239
b.	USMC Officers	5
er.	USN Palisted	6

3. Other Personnel Losses

a.	Tran	sfer	bу	Service	Records
	(1)	usm() Ĕr	listed	108
	(2)	UEN	En]	Listed	1

ĪΟĀ	Vounded	in	Action	

(2)	USM	Enlisted	4/3
100	TT SWICE	Office organization	Λ

c. Killed in Action

(I) U	SMC Finl:	ls t ed	13
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d. Humanitarian Transfer

(I) U	SMC E	listed	ટ
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e. Non-battle Casualties

(1)	USMC	Enlisted	17
		Officers	7

(2) USMC Officers 1

f. Intra-Divisonal/Regiment Transfers

(1)	USNC	Enlisted	€5
(2)	TIME STOP	Officere	6

(2) ULMO Officers 6

(3) USN Enlisted 7

4. Number of P&R Trips

86 Out-of-country
44 In-country

5. Average Monthly Strength

3,	USMC Edisted	1066
b.	USMC Officers	30
Co	U/N Enlisted	5 7
đ,	UST Officers	2





SECTION III

INTELLIGENCE

- I. The 3d Battalion, 4th Marines spent the month of July working in the area along Route 9 between Ca Lu and Khe Sanh Combat Base. The first part of the month consisted of the companies being situated on stragetic high ground or along important routes of egress around the Khe Sanh area as friendly forces conducted retrograde operations. The latter part of the month found the Battalian operating along Route 9 between Ca Lu and Hill 471 (XD 847393) and south of Route 9. The Battalian was given an area of primary interest bounded on the west by the north-south grid line XD 84, on the south by the east-west grid line XD 36, on the east by the north-south grid line XD 95 and on the north by the Riviere de Rao Guen and Riviere de Quang Tri.
- Terrain. Key terrain defensive positions in the Battalion's area of primary interest consists of Hill 471 (XD 847393), Foxtrot Ridge (XD 87 4383), LZ Hawk (XD 895406), Fire Base Shepherd (XD 935410), and Hill 412 (XD 922377). There is a continuance of area reconnaissance which should result in other key terrain defensive positions and company size patrol bases. In the area of primary interest there is a large variety in composition terrain. In the area bounded by the grid (upper left) XD 9240 and (lower right) XD 9536, extremely mountainous terrain is found. These mountains are covered with two and three layers of jungle canopy. slopes are very steep and can classify as rocky cliffs at points. mountain ridges run in a north-west to southwest direction and there are two prominent ridge lines. On top of these ridges in the XD 9138 and XD 9237 grid squares there is a large amount of elephant grass ranging from 3 to 12 feet in height. The ridge have been heavily cratered from bombing. To the west of the north-south grid line 92, to the north-south grid line 88. and south of the east-west grid line 39, much of the same terrain is found. This area is heavily bunkered along the numerous fingers and slopes which are covered with undergrowth, vines, elephant grass and trees. From the north-south grid line 88, west to the north-south grid line 84, the terrain becomes more rolling and less wooded but the elephant grass and thick underbrush become key obstacles. Old defensive positions can be found on many of the hilltops. In the area of primary interest two rivers flow, the Da Krong and the Riviere de Rao Quan. The latter is the smaller of the two and during the dry season is fordable at almost any point, The Da Krong, however, has only selected sites fording, which are few and far between. There are five main streams in the area that flow all year around. During the dry seasons, there is still a swift flow of water making good waterpoints. The streams are spread fairly evenly throughout the Battalion's area of primary interest. There are many other seascnal streams that orginate from springs or drain into ravines and gullies. Overall, finding water in this area is not a problem. What is a problem, however, is night movement which is slow and hazardous. A company can move approximately 1000 meters in six to seven hours in this terrain,

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				i miner.
	Officers	Rank T.	MOS 0130	Needed
a.	officers	Lt		باد
		Lt	0302	14
	-	•		Number
		Rank E-9	MOS	Needed
b.	Enlisted	E-9	9999	ī
		E-7	0369	0
		E-6	0369	8
		E-5	0311	14
		E-5	0231	10
		E _4	0331	8



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weather. The weather during July was predominantly dry with only an occasional shower. However, during the latter part of the month, cloud accumulation became increased considerably and on two occasions, the area experienced heavy rainfall. There is little fog in the mornings or evenings but as August approaches, fog accumulation increases ever so slightly. Temperatures have ranged from 100 to 70 degrees with humidity as high as 95% and as low as 60%. Visability is generally about 10 miles with a ceiling averaging about 10,000 feet. However, as July approached August

the weather conditions began to assume monsoon characteristics.

4. The enemy situation has been from heavy contact in the early days of July to light contact during the remainder of the month. The order of battle carried elements of the 83th Regiment of the 508th Division and the 66th Regiment of the 504th Division in the Battalion's area of primary interest. Indications of an engineer battalion were found in the area, but was never confirmed. Most of the enemy sightings were made in the western sector of the area of primary interest, where companies of 3/4 made small arms contact and received indirect fire from such wearons as 82mm mertars, 60mm mortars and artillery from Laos. From 1 July to 5 July an estimated NVA Battalion Jaunched an all out attack against a company located at XD 873383, but the attack was successfully repulsed. After this enemy effensive, contact remained light. Only an occasional small group of NVA were observed traveling the trails and streambeds. Numerous bunker complexes and NVA equipment have been found by reconnaissance patrols and heavy trail activity was noticed by ground as well as acrial observation. The main area in which the energy seems to be harbouring is in the southern and southwestern portion of the area of primary interest where acrial observation is limited, The predominant direction of enemy movement appeared to be from the northwest to southeast. Trail direction and activity indicate an infiltration route was being used that ran from Huong Hoa southeast through the Battalion's area of operation. During the latter part of July, activity along Route 9 west of the north-south grid line 88 increased, Enemy sightings became more numerous, but contact with the Battalion's units was not made until 27 July, when an OP observed five NVA near XD 869329 and took them under small arms fire and later artillery. It is believed that the enemy is using the Khe Sanh Valley frequently for supply purposes since the friendly units have withdrawn from the area,

5. The following is a list of gear captured by 3/4 during July:

•	
Chloom Gronades	35
Skum Mertar Rounds	49
Sam Mortar Tripod	7.1
60mm Mowter Rounds	12
Com Mortar Tunes	14. Ch
FFG-2 Laurchers	3
RPG at Lounds	7
RFG-7 Launchers	3
IFG-7 Rounds	7
NVA Helmous	13
82hm Recoiless Mifle Rounds	6
Satchel Charges	3
INT Riccks	12
AK-47 Rifles	31.
AK_47 Rifles w/Grenade Launchers	9
AK_50 Rifles	24
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           On 5 July 1968: Co "K" 3/4 was chopped from 2/1; OPCON to 3/4
           On 6 July 1968: Co "L" 3/4 was chopped from 3/4; OPCON to 4th Marines
           On 9 July 1968: Co "L" 3/4 was chopped from 4th Marines; OPCON to 1/1
           On 12 July 1968: Co "M" 3/3 was chopped from 3/3; OPCON to 3/4
          On 13 July 1968: Co "L" 3/4 was chapped from 1/1; OPCON to 3/4 On 14 July 1968: Co "M" 3/3 was chopped from 3/4; OPCON to 3/3
           On 23 July 1968: Co "M" 3/4 was chopped from 3/4; OPCON to 2/4
5. The Battalian was task organized as follows:
          a. LZ Hawk (1-7 July)
                           Det H&S Co 3/4 (Cmd Grp)
Det Btry "I" 3/12 (Btry Linison O)
                           Det 81m MortPlat, H&SCo 3/4
                           Det 106 RR Plat, H&SCo 3/4
                           Det Scout Sniper Plat, HoCo 1st Mar
                           Det Co "A" 3d Engr Bn
                           Det 3d Shore Party Bn (HST)
                           1st Plat Co "M" 3/4
                Foxtrot Ridge (1-14 July)
                          Det H&SCo (Cmd Grp Brayo)
                          Co "I" (Rein)
                          Det Btry "I" 3/12 (FO Im)
                          Det 106 RR Plat H&SCo 3/4
                          Det Scout Sniper Plat HqCo 1st Mor
                          Det 3d Shore Party Bn (HST)
     James Co. "K" (Rein) (7-14 July)
On 5 J. Det Btry "I" 3/12 (FO In)
On 5 J. Det Btry "I" 3/12 (FO In)
      o. Fire Base Shopherd (XD 5-31 July)
     Det B&SCo 3/4 (Cmd Grp)
Det Btry "I" 3/12 (Arty Lisison)

8 Fry Mort Plat F&SCo 3/4
      3. 3. 3.006 RR Plat E&SCo 3/4
                                                                                                                 There is for the time of the
                        Det 3d Shore Farty Bn (HST)
      Det 3d MPBn (3 Dog Tms)
                        Det 1st SrchLt Etry (2 Lights)
               II I to Day And
                       2-1 100 3/2 (0 1 22)
2-1 3-1 12 1/2 (3-1 12)
2-1 3/2 (3-1 1/2)
                       Ret 16 is not, man of
                       9-4 South Bulgon Plus, E-Co let Mar I
                       100 30 AT 11 1000 D.
101 32 S. to Took In (1871)
1-1 11 2 S. to S. to S./
                 Trans (1974 (1944 1914)
Trans (1944 (1974) (1944)
                       to Tr (Red.)
                      のか 対対 (27 3/12 (西方)
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INTRODUCTION

The companies operated from fixed defensive positions during the early portion of the month, occupying the various hills lying to the south of Khe Sanh Combat Base. The Battalion participated in the withdrawal of units from the Khe Sanh area and gradually pulled the companies eastward in patrolling activities.

The Battalion extablished a continuous patrolling concept requiring three companies in the field, moving from patrol base to patrol base, and one company located in Fire Base Shepherd to provide for the defense. Initially the companies moved from patrol base to patrol base every two days and during the hours of darkness. The concept was ultimately modified to provide for movement during the day and was found to be more desirable. Movement at night was difficult due to the heavily vegetated areas and the steep terrain in our area of operations. Night movement was also characterized by excessive moise and reduced troop alertness for daytime activities.

The construction of the Fire Base continued in a satisfactory manner with all wooden bunkers being sand bagged and fighting holes and living bunkers being constructed flush to the ground.







NGLADONI CO "I" was situated on Foxtrot Ridge (XD 875383) in a defenplatoon in defense of a small knoll to the east. The two positions were separated by a narrow saddle approximately 100 meters long and not physically occupied. Commencing at 0005H, several NVA were observed skirting the edges of the perimeter and Co "I" began receiving light probes at approximately 0320H. Co "I" returned a heavy volume of small arms fire and threw M-26s with unknown results, A fire teen LP observed five NVA noving past their position and they opened fire resulting in one NVA killed. Movement continued throughout the night and one group of 20 NVA was spotted at 0530H to the northeast and was taken under fire by 106 Recoiless Rifles with unknown results. An AO was requested at first light and he observed approximately 15 NVA mean a montar pit at KD 879378 and 25 more at KD 876380 and directed artillery missions on the energy troops. (Commencing at 0630H, Co "I" came under enemy attack against an estimated battalion supported by automatic weapons, 60mm mortans, 32mm mortans, and 130mm artillery firing from Co Roc Ridge. At 0818H, two CH-46 helicorters received heavy machine gun and small arms fire and hucy gunships were requested for assistance. Co "I" continued to observe groups of 20 or nore NVA to their south throughout the day and responded by firing artillery and mortar missions on the enemy while awaiting fixed wing air, accounting for 54 NVA kills throughout the day. vided valuable assistance in locating and fixing the enemy positions. While sweeping the immediate battlefield area to their south, the 2d platoon of Co "I" made contact with several NVA and exchanged small arms fire with unknown results. The sweep continued with occasional sniper fire from the south and the unit reported counting 93 NVA killed by small arms and organic weapons. At 2230H, enemy movement began increasing and 3d Platoon reported hearing digging and pounding to the south of their Lines. The movement continued on into the next reporting period with occasional sightings. Co "K" was OPCON to 2/1 and located on Hill 471 (XD 846393). Co "L" conducted two recon ratrols along Route 9 from their plateon size patrol bases located at XD 871397 and 903397. The squad patrols reported negative sightings and no recent signs of enemy movement in the area. Co "M" conducted four recon patrols along Route 9 and reported negative enemy sightings and no recent signs of enemy movement in the area. Co "M" had one platoon located at LZ Howk, one platoon at XD 921405 and one platoon at XD 918406.

2 July: The movement south of Foxtrot Ridge, continued throughout the early morning of 2 July with Co "I" spotting several groups of two and three NVA moving and digging around the perimeter. Co "I" responded to the sightings with small arms fire and 60mm mortar missions. Co "I" found one NVA body resulting from the early morning firing during a perimeter sweep. The sweeping unit then moved scuth of the perimeter and observed three NVA at XD 863379 and fired an artillery mission with unknown results. An additional 12 NVA bodies were found at various locations surrounding the perimeter and approximately 125 fighting holes and trails were located to the east. The patrol found four more bodies near the fighting holes, the results of earlier artillery missions. They found an 82mm and two 60mm mortar pits at XD 879379 and destroyed them by collapsing the walls. Light movement was observed throughout the day and the company received intermittent 60mm and 82mm mortar fire and 75mm howitzer incoming from the 8136 grid at 1005H. At 2000F, the

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2d pratopn of Co The observed a company sized unit at XD 869376 and fired an artiflery mission and requested TPQ's. By 2115H, the movement around Co "I'm s position had increased acmaiderably and Co "I" observed a few NVA attempting to out the protective wire. The 2d platcom of Co "I" identified what was apparently an NVA column at 2146H by the luminous emblems the NVA wear on the back of their helmets. A whistle was reported being blown at 2300H and the enemy movement began increasing. At 2310H, approximately 40 NWA were spotted at various locations and Co "In took the enemy under fire resulting in nine enemy killed. The movement continued on into the next reporting period with occasional enemy sightings. Co "K" was OPCON to 2/1 and located on Hill 471. Co "L" conducted three squad recon patrols along Route 9 from their platoon patrol base position. INB, L2A, and L3B operated in the Route 9, Hill 162 and Hill 155 areas respectively and reported negative sightings. A Co NLW LP observed three NVA at XD 919412 at 2205H and notified Co MM" of their movement to the southwest. Co "M" conducted five squad recon patrols in the area of Route 9 and the surrounding hills. MEA observed three NVA on Hill 222 and fired an artillery mission with unknown results, and the other patrols were conducted without incident.

3 July: At 0040H, Co "I" fired on four to five enemy troops and accounted for three NVA confirmed by small arms fire. They received ten 82mm mortar rounds at 0200H from XD 867375 and reported the enemy massing to the south of Foxtrot Ridge at XD 872382. Co "I" maintained continuous illumination until 0300H when the enemy then began moving towards the lines. Both sides began firing small arms and there was a slight penetration of the 2d platoon's lines with two NVA moving inside the perimeter. Enemy movement increased to the northwest and Co "I" received several RPG rounds, 282mm and 60mm mortar rounds. The attack continued after a slight lull a t 0430H as Co "I" received another volley of eight 82mm mortar rounds. Shortly thereafter, the activity slackened considerably. At 0915H, Huey gunships came under heavy enemy small arms and automatic weapons fire from XD 877384. An AO came on station suon after daylight and observed small groups of NVA to the south. Co "I" sent out a plateen patrol to check the immediate area surrounding the perimeter for enemy bodies and weapons and found two bodies inside the perimeter and four MVA who had been killed the night before and weng, drug off. The activity began increasing at 1915H, with Go "I" receiving two more 82mm mortar rounds and the NVA began throwing rocks at the lines in an effort to make the positions expose themselves by premature firing. An LP located to the south of Foxtrot Ridge detected enemy troops in their immediate vicinity and withdrew firing M-79's with unknown results. The movement continued on into the next reporting period with occasional sightings of enemy activity. Co "K" was OPCON to 2/1 and located on Hill 471. Co "L" conducted three squad recon patrols; one from each of their platoon positions, and the activities were completed without incident. Co "M" continued patrolling along Route 9. M-2A found and destroyed three NVA bunkers in the vicinity of Hill 242. At 0904H, they found a small N"A ammunition cache containing one round of 82mm mortar, two punds of 60mm mortars, two rounds of RPG and 20 chicom grenades. All other Col patrols along Route 9 were conducted without incident. Gen DAVIS, CG, 3d Marine Division, visited the 3/4 CP at LZ Hawk and departed a half hour later.

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4 July: Slight enamy movement continued until 0420H when Co "I" came under full scale ground attack by an astimated NVA company. Co "I" received intense RPG and small arms fire and at one point was penetrated by the MVA. An AO was requested for 0500H and observed 15 to 20 NVA dug in around Co "I" & position on Fortrot Ridge and ran air strikes on the enemy groups of 15 to 20 at XD 868375 and XD 872383. While sweeping the perimeter and the immediate area, the sweep team came under machine gun fire from XD 873380 and a 60mm mortar mission was fired with unknown results. The results of the perimeter sweep revealed 15 NVA killed be small arms, two enemy weapns and assorted equipment. Enemy movement began increasing at 2100H as the third plateen observed four MVA through a storlight scorp. As the enemy activity increased, Co "I" fired Hal's in an effort to supress the movement. The enemy sightings and activity continued on into the next reporting period. Co "X" was CPCO to 2/1 and lee ted on Hill 471. Co "L" conducted three squad patrols from their plateen patrol bases along Route 9 and reported negative contact All other Co "L"day and night activities were conor enemy sightings. ducted with negative sightings. Co "II" conducted three squeet recon paterols from each of the platoon patrol bases along Route 9 and reported nogative enomy sightings. The patrols were conducted along Route 9 and provided Co. EM security to engineers working on the road. Day and nightime local security activities were conducted with no enemy sightings by So "M",

5 July: Enemy movement and sightings continued on into the day and Go "I" received sporadic small arms and mortar fire. Go "I" received one 82mm morter round from XD 868378 at 1900H, resulting in three med-evacs. A patrol from the 3d platoon of Co "I" received sniper fire from XD 868378 and directed a fire mission with unknown results. The 2d plateon of So "I" observed two NVA in a bomb crater and directed the 106 receiless rifles in a fire mission resulting in two confirmed KIA. At 2230H, as the enemy movement increased, a chicom granade was thrown into the perimeter and a 60mm morter mission was fired with unknown results. Hovement continued into the next reporting period. Co "K" was chopped from 2/1 and returned O CON to 3/4 - 1800H, Co "K" continued the activities as planned by 2/1 at Hill 471 At 2110H, Se plateon Co "K" spotted 5 HVA approximately 25 meters from the wire and fixed a M-79 with unknown results. An inspection of the suspected area revealed 2 chico's and numerous HVA "sneaker" type foot prints. Co "L" conducted one squar patrol and two patrol/ambushes setting in at AD 908385 and ID 91739 pespectivel A. Co "L" morning patrol investigated the area around Hill 15F and All writs reported negative sightings. Co "M" conducted four squad ratrols along houte 9 and set in as security at the following grids: 37 873591, 883369, 895395, and 904384. All day and night activities of Go "M" servated amadive sightings.

3 July: Enemy movement around Foxtrot Ridge continued and TVA were heard and sighted at XD 874383, 877380, and 874384 at 0300H. The UVA began war wing rocks at the lines in an effort to make them disclose their position by premature Giring. Artillary and 60mm mortar mission were fired with unimoun regults. At 0820H, Co "I" received 35 rounds of Sam morter fire Aron 872588 and requested an AQ. The AO controlled air strikes on the most a position and a RR site resulting in two secondary explosions. Co "I" received spoundic morter fire throughout the day and spotted six NVA 30 meters from the wire, Co "I" fired a 60mm with unknown results. Movement of enemy With a Colon

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forces continued on into the next reporting period. Co "K" departed Hill 471 at 1815H and the troop lift was completed to LZ Hawk at 1900H. Prior to and during the troop lift, Co "K" received approximately 25 rounds of 82mm mortar fire emanating from KD 849369. Co "K" reported no additional enemy activity or sightings. Co "L" continued local security patrols along Route 9 and reported no enemy sightings. Co "H" conducted 5 ambushes and MLA discovered two caves and two decomposed HVA bodies at XD 892396, All Co "M" activities were completed without incident and upon their return, the two platoon outposts departed their positions and moved into LZ Hawk.

7 July: The heighlift of Command Group "A" from LZ Hawk to Fire Base Shepherd was conducted at 1430H. Co "I" continued to receive 82mm and 60mm mortar incoming and s/a fire throughout the day. At O815H, a Ce "I" FO Team spotted a mortar tube at XD 873364 and fired an artillery mi sion with unknown results. An AO working in the Foxtrot Ridge area directed air strikes on XD 868370 destroying 20 bunkers and resulting in a secondary explosion. At 1660, a heliconter came under heavy machine gur tire while attempting to land. The AO on station directed air strikes on the encert position and the emplacement was destroyed. Co "K" departed LZ Hawk at 1300H for Foxtrot Ridge and arrived at approximately 2000H. Laision was effected and Co "K" set into the east of Co "I" at XD 878380. Co "K" reported negative sightings or movement. Co "L" continued to provide local security along Route 9 and conducted day and nightime activities without incident. Co "M" received four rocket rounds at 1215H at Mark from an unknown enemy location. All Company "M" activities reported to enemy sightings or evidence of movement.

8 July: At 2000H 3/4 received a frag order directing the Pattelion to designate one company as the Regimental Reserve for 1/1; Co "L" was designated. Major Moad, the XO of 3/4 arrived at Foxtrot Ridge at 0945H and established a Command Group "Bravo". Themy activity in the Foxtrot ... Ridge area continued with several sightings of small groups of NVA. Both Co "I" and Co "K" received mortar fire throughout the day and Co "I" received appraise small arms fire. At 0827H, Co "I" spotted six NVA carrying a mortar tube and fired an artillery mission with good target coverage. A Co "If groush spotted approximately 20 NVA to the south of Foxtrot Ridge carrying what appeared to beRIG sand bangalore torpedoes. The ambush coened fire and directed artillery on the enemy and claimed two NVA killed. Go "K" jutacted movement from 875362 and shortly thereafter received an incoming chicom granade. Co "K" responded with small arms fire and Makis and the movement censed. "Co "L" continued to provide local security when Route 9 and reported no enemy sightings from their day and night artivities. Co "M" continued the defense of LZ Hawk and received four tords of 130mm artillery from a direction of 4600 mills. An artillary... tirsion was fired on the suspected target with unknown results. Co "I" top and nightime activities reported negative enemy sightings or novement during the puriod. الله المراجعية المستقوم على الإنجاب الله المراجعة المستواد الله المراجعة المراجعة المراجعة المراجعة المراجعة ا المراجعة ال

firs thrughout the day and responded with counter and artitlery firs.
The squid patrols were conducted and each covered a distance of 100 maters.
At 1145H, a patrol found an NVA body at 10 866380 believed to have been

of the first of the company of the second of

killed the previous day by artillery. A Co "I" 0" spotted two HVA moving to the south at KD 864397 at 1620H and fired artillery missions with unknown results. At 1905H a CH-46 was attempting to bring in an external load for resupily and was taken under fire by NVA at 867377. Movement and digging was detectued in the vicinity of XD 874383 at 2145H and artillery fires were called with un'nown results. Go "K" continued receiving sporadic nortar fire throughout the day and fired numerous artiller missions on suspected grids as well as conducting air strikes. At 2015H, Co "K" detected movement to the south of the saddle area and shortly thereafter heard a round being chanbered. Co "K" responded by throwing two M-26's and checked out the area at first light with negative results. At approximately 2030H, a Co "K" ambush was moving to their nightime position and were about 30 meters east of the perimeter when they spotted 15-20 NVA moving in column. The ambush took the column under fire and received heavy machine gun fire from the south. The ambush returned to the perimeter while artillery was fired in the area and then noved to a different position. Co "L" remained OPCOF to 1/1. located in the vicinity of Hill 689. Co "M" conducted local security patrols in the vicinity of LZ Hevil and had negative sightings or enemy activity.

10 July: Co "I" conducted two plateon recon patrels in the 8737 grid square and found numerous fighting holes, bunkers and five MVA bedies which were a perentity killed by artillery. At 1835H, Co "I" spetted IVA at -XD 275579 and fired an artillery mission with unknown results. A helicopter attempted to land at Co "I" s position and received 50 cal. and AK-47 fire from XD 867376 at 1955H. An artillery mission was fired and Co "1" observed two secondary explosions. A Go "I" ambush opened up on 3-5 MVA at 10 872382 moving towards the perimeter from the south and a 60mm morter mission was fired killing two NVA. Bneny activity decreased following the above incident and Co "I" detected no enemy movement for the remainder of the night. Co "A" conducted two recon patrols in the 8837 grid and found numerous bunkers, fighting holes and HVA 782 gear. Day and nightine Co"K" activities remorted no significant activity during the remainder of the reporting period. Co "L" remain d OFCCH to 1/1 ... located in the vicinity of Filt 688 - To "Fit conducted two recon patrols from their position at LY Want along horte 9 to the east and west and reported negative sightings.

It July: Co "L" reported no significant movement around their position during the e-rly morning cours of the 11th, but began taking 60mm and 82mm morths fire commencing at 1430H and terminating at 1950H. A platern recon patrol was conducted in the 8637 grid square but had negative sightings or indications of recent enemy movement. Co "K" conducted a plateon recon patrol in the 8736 grid and reported no enemy sightings. Go "L" remained OPCON to 1/1, located in the vicinity of Hill 689. So "M" received three rounds of artillery fire at LZ Hawk from Co Roc and an artillery mission was fired on the suspected grid with unknown results. Two squad patrols were conducted on either side of Nouto 2 and an NVA was captured at 903396. Co "N" indicated no other sightings or enemy movement.

12 July: Go "N" 5/3 arrived at Fire Base Shepard at 0900% and come under the CPCOT of 3/4 at that time. The company was employed in building up the defensive perimeter and conducted a squad patrol along Route 2

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to destroy defense positions. The patrol detected possible enemy movement and heard a humming noise. A check of the area produced negative results. Co "I" reported the autivity in the Foxtrot Ridge area decreased considerably and reported no incoming or enemy troops sighted. Co "K" received five rounds of 82mm mortar fire from XD 862366 grid and one round of 122mm rocket fire from the Co Roc area. An AO observed the area with negative results. Co "I" conducted a platoon recon patrol of the 8838 grid and reported negative sightings or contact. Co "K" at 1415H, a Co "K" FO Team observed one NVA at XD 882362 and adjusted an artill ry mission resulting in one NVA confirmed. Co "K" conducted a platoon recon patrol of the 8837 grid square with negative sightings or contact. Go "I" remained OPCON to 1/1 located in the vicinity of Hill 689. Co "H" conducted a platcon patrol to the southwest and proceeded to check out the Route 9 area with negative results. The patrol returned to the patrol base passing through the Hill 242 area. Co "H" also conducted a squad patrol to the southwest bordering Route 9 and reported no sightings. At 1940H, a premature mirburst from friendly artiller wounded a Marine and an investigating officer was appointed.

13 July: At OSROH Gon DAVIS, C. G. 3d MarDiv arrived at Fire Base Shaphard and observed the construction of the position and departed at 1005H. Col. Dick, Chief of Stoff, arrived at our position at 1105H and departed at 1215H. Col Millor, CO, 4th Marines arrived at Fire Base Shaphard at 1515H and departed at 1545H. Co "I" conducted a plateon patrol of the 8935 grid square and reported negative sightings. Co "I" observed two FVA near their wire at 874384 and fired small arms with unknown re-Eults. At 0940H, Co "I" observed a jet making a bomb run burst into flower and crash with no parachutes sighted. Co "I" spotted an NVA moving to the southeast of Foxtrot Ridge at XD 874382 at 2000H and 60mm mentur and artillery were fired resulting in one HVA confirmed. Co with conducted a plateon patrol in the 8936 grid square and spotted an MVA fles flying at XD 870397 and requested an artiller mission. Co "L" received an EEG round at 2130H from 871382; a 60mm mortar mission was fired with unknown results. "Co "L" was choppedfrom 1/1 and returned orcq: to 3/4 at 1820d, Co."L" was taken by helicopter to Fire Base. Shepherd. Co "M" conducted a nistoon patrol to the east, and the northeast bordering doute 9, and reported negative signs of recent enemey activity. Go. "III" 3/3 continued construction of the defensive perimeter and conducted parimeter patrols around Fire lase Shepherd with no sightings. · 一个一个数据在一个时间的 的 网络哈勒尔普特林

from Foxtrot Rich to the vicinity of AD 883380. There was no nortar incoming or sightings during the day and the company conducted four fire team LP's. Go "I" commenced their move at 2200H and arrived at their new position at 150150H. Go "K" continued the defense of Foxtrot Ridge and assumed complete control when Go "I" departed at 2200H. A squad ambush was conducted at XD 869381 along with three LP's. An L' reported eighting 10 to 12 NVA at XD 843346 moving in groups of four to the south. Go "K" received three 82m morter rounds at 1915H coming from 870368. Commend Group. "Pravo" departed Foxtrot Hidge at 1600H and returned to fire Base Shepherd. Co "L" continued the defense of Fire Base Shepherd and conducted a squad patrol along Route 9 and the Quang Tri River with no

sighting. Co "M" conducted two patrols in their area to determine the extent of recent enemy activity and at 1100H found 15-20 bunkers interconnected by tunnels. The bunkers did not appear to have been recently used and two NVA bodies approximately 60 days old were found in the area the count was added to Third Battalion, Fourth Marines total as directed by Fourth Marines. Co "M" 3/3 was chopped from 3/4 at 1600H and was helilifted from Fire Base Shepherd at 1550H.

15 July: Co "I" maintained the operation of their patrol base at ID 863380 by sending out local security patrols and conducting a squad ambush. They reported negative sightings of enemy movement or activity in the area. Go "K" continued the defense of Foxtrot Ridge and conducted local Ors around the perimeter. One ambush was conducted at XD 837359 with negative results. At 2330H an LP heard digging and movement 75 meters from the wire, M-26 and 60mm mortar fire caused the activity to cease. The area was checked out the following morning and fresh intestines and blood was found. Co "K" received a total of 6 rounds of 82mm mortar fire through out the day and called artillery missions on the suspected grids. Co "L" conducted a recon patrol of the 9038 grid square and three OP's at XD 895388, 904384 and 908385. At 0830H, Co "M" observed two 82mm mortar tubes firing from XD 907381 and fired artillery with unknown results. Co "M" OP's spotted four NVA in the open at XD 895406 moving from east to west and fired artillery with unknown results. An ambush was conducted at XD 904394 with negative results.

16 July: Co "I" conducted a squad recon patrol to the southwest of their position covering approximately 2000 meters and reported no energy or signs of activity. At 1500H Co "I" OP observed six NVA at XD 833873 moving south and fired an artillery mission with unknown results. 90 % 11 remained in defense of Foxtrot Ridge throughout the day and conducted local recomity patrols and 02s. At 1715. Co "K" observed approximatel - 14 personnel moving toward theirposition, and were identified as civilians. the civilians were staged for removal from the area and they were evacusered by helicopter at 1600H. Go "K" continued the destruction of invifications on Foxtrot Ridge and departed their position at 2300H for their new patrol base at AD 890365. Co "L" continued the defense and engineering effort of Fire Base Shepherd and conducted a platoon recon patrol to the west along Route 9 bordering the Quang Tri River erea. petrol was completed without incident. While in it's position , a Co "M" OP spotted four hVA possibly carrying a mortar tube moving to XD 902378. 14) artillery mission was fired with unknown results. Co "M" conducted a recon patrol of the 9037 grid square and observed two NVA in a bomb grater at ID 908376. An artillery mission was fired with good target coverage but unknown results. The patrol found a partially destroyed 57mm recoiless rifle at 899385 at 1830H, which had been damaged by artiller; fire, The recoiless rifle was buried and several fighting heles in the area were destroted. Co "H" commenced their move at 2300H to their pew base at III.918273.

17 July: 30 "1" conducted a plateon recon patrol of the 8737 grid square from their patrol base at AD 882382 and reported no significant sightings. Co "I" also conducted a squad recon patrol be lecave a reute to their new patrol base at XD 907382 and reported nogative significant.

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At 21000 Co "I" departed for their new position. Co "K", commenced their move at 1623H and arrived at their new position at 1714H. A squad ambush was conducted at XD 891366 without incident. Co "L" continued the defence and engineering effort of Fire Base Shepherd and conducted a Fire Team OP which reported no enemy sightings. Co "M" arrived at their new position at XD 918378 at 0545H. During their move they were taken under fire byone NVA bunker, inclumed some fire, and accounted for one NVA confirmed. At 1600H, they adjusted their position and moved to XD 917377 and arrived at 1940H. Co "M" conducted a plateon recon patrol of the 9136 grid square and a squad recon to XD 921377 and both returned without incident. A 1600M's squad ambush was conducted at XD 917381 and three LP's were placed. So old the perimeter formighttime security.

18 July: Fire Base Shepherd received four rounds of estimated 130mm artillery landing outside the perimeter from an approximate grid of XD 887358. An artillery mission was fired on the suspected enemy grid with unknown results. Co "I" commenced moving to a new patrol base located at XD 903383 at 1340H and conducted a plateon recon of the grid square. They put out four nightime Lois until they departed for their new patrol base at XD 918390 at 2105H. Co "L" reported negative sightings during the reporting period. Go "K" conducted aplateon recon patrol of the 9033 grid square from their patrol base located at XD 892368. They received small arms fire from 896366. Intillery was requested but was held in check fire due to the possibility of friendlies being in the area. The initial enemy fire sounded like M-16 fire and was returned in heavy volume. The area was finally determined to be free of friendlies and the cheek was lifted. The Third Platorn then moved back into the area and observal several NVA resting on their bunkers which appeared to be about a battalion sized complex. Artillery missions were fired with good target coverage and the third platoon returned to the area to check out the bunkers. They were able to search two bunkers before coming under enemy fire again. The plateon then returned to the company area. Co "K" displaced to XD 892372. Trains activities consisting of four fire team LP's, were conducted without incident. Co "L" continued the defense and engineering effort of Fire Base Shepherd and conducted a fire team 0? in the vicinity of AD 928409 with negative results. Co "M" conducted apiation size recon patrol in the 9237 grid square and reported negative sightings. Wighttime activities including one squad ambush and three team Lots were cenducted without incident.

19 July: Sc "I" continued their move to establish a patrol base at ID 907387 at C355H. A t O810H, Co "I" continued its displacement moving once again and set in at ID 915392 at 1100H. A platoon recon patrol of the 9258 grid square was conducted without incident. Co "I" conducted four LP's in the vicinity of their position until 2130H when they departed for ND 929399. Co "R" conducted two platoon reconstating in the 9036 grid square and the third platoon in the 6936 grid square. The first platoon located seven MVA bunkers measuring 3'X6'X6' at ID 895370. The bunkers were overheaded with logs and dirt but did not appear to have been recently used. The first platoon observed smoke smanating from a few of the bunkers and called artillory missions with unknown results. They also

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found 10 bunkers and 20 fighting holes at XD 897370 containing assorted NVA 782 gear. The third platoon reported hearing voices at XD 891366 from a complex containing aproximately 20 bunkers with fighting holes attached. The patrol established an ambush with negative results. They also observed one NVA at XD 892368 and estimated an additional three or four to be in the area. An artillery mission was fired with unknown results. High Mark activities consisted of four fire team LP's and were without incident. Go "L" continued the defense and engineering efforts of Fire Base Shepherd and conducted night imeLP's around the perimeter without incident. Go "I" conducted a platoon recon patrol of the 9236 grid square and spotted one I"V at XD 924368. They also found 30 recently constructed fighting holes in the same grid. The Co "M" patrol base was located at XD 918378. Co "M" night activities consisted of three LP's and one ambush and they reported negative sightings.

20 July: Co "I" continued their movement towards Fire Base Shapherd Co "I" halted their movement at XD 924405 at 0625H and sent an advance party into Fire Base Shephard to effect liaison. Co "I" began moving into Fire Base Shepherd at 1519H and assumed the defense of the perimeter. Co "I" conducted four L"'s around the perimeter and reported no enemy activity. Co "K" conducted a plateon recon patrol of the 9057 grid square commencing at 0730H without incident. Co "K" moved from their patrol base at XD 892371 at 1610H to a new site at XD 894376 and arrived at 1800H, At 1000H, Co "K" received approximately twenty 82mm mortar rounds from suspected grids of XD 896366 and 899359 at 0916H. An artillary mission was fired with unknown results. Following the artillery mission, an AO checked the suspected grids and reported negative sightings. At 1900H the rear security thought they detected movement of four to six NVA near the rear of the company at XD 893375 and two squads were dispatched to searth out the area. A scout sniper observed an HVA move over a ridge at the above grid and an artillery mission was fired with unknown results. Nighttime activities consisted of four fire team LP swhichreported negative enemy activity. Co "L" departed Fire Base Shepherd at 0630H and reached their objective grid of XD 914406 at 1634H. Co "L" conducted assigned OP's and LP's with negative contact or sightings. Co "L" found two M-16's not in operating condition at XD 925404 which appeared to have been lost from a convoy. The weapons we e returned to the Battalion for further disposition. Co "N" conduted a platoon recon patrol of the 9137 grid square commencing at 0700H with negative sightings. Λ squad patrol was dispatched to determine a suitable route to XD 925364 from their position 😂 XD 919379. Co "II" departed for their new patrol base at 2140H.

At July: Go "I" continued the defense of Fire Base Shepherd and conducted local dar and night activities with negative sightings. Co "K" conducted a platoon size recon patrol in the 8837 grid square commencing at 0.753h. The patrol located five NVA bunkers measuring 3'X3'X3' approximately two to four weeks old, a well camouflaged morter pit, eight 82mm worker rounds and one 82mm mortar bipod with yoke at KD 897375. The rounds were buried and the bipods us a returned to Fire Base Shepherd. Go "K" also located 42 NVA bunkers and 17 fighting holes at XD 901373 at 0945H. Go "K" conducted day and nighting local security activities and reported negative sightings. Go "K" departed their position at 2125H.

for their new patrol base at XD 913374. Co "L" conducted a platoon reconpatrol in the 9039 grid square and located a trail which appeared to have been recently used by friendlies at XD 905395 running northwest to fourthwest. Assorted equipment was found along the trail including two K-36's. several M-16 magazines and a K-Par; the equipment appeared to be about three days old. At 0944H, Co "L" observed authorizate fire and a direction of 3640 mills and at a range of 12000 meters from their position at XD 914406. Total day and nightime security activities were conducted and reported negative sightings. Co "L" departed their position at XD 934406 at 2130H for the new patrol base site at XD 896398. Co "W" conducted a platoon recon patrol of the 9136 grid square and reported negative enemy sightings.

In addition, day and night local security activities were conducted by Co "M" with negative enemy sightings.

22 July: On "I" continued the defense of Fire Base Shaphord and conducted local day and night security activities with negative enoney sightigs. Co "K" errived at their patrol base located at NO 815565 at 1450H; their movement was delayed considerably when one of their new foll into a gorge at OllSH. The man was unconscious and was finally builded ber evacuated at 0420H. Co "K" conducted a platoon size reach potrol of Hill 412 and the 9237 grid square commencing at 0650H without incident. Additional day and night local security activities were conducted with negative enemy sightings. Co "E" arrived at their new patrol base at XD 895399 at 0500H and reported negative enemy sighting on route. A plateon size recon patrol was conducted in the vicinity of LZ Hawk and Route 9 west of the vicinity of XD 877396 at 0700H. The patrol reported no enemy sightings or signs of recent enemy movement in the area. Go "L" conducted additional day and night local security activities with negative incidents, Go "M" conducted a plateon recon patrol commencing at 0650H in the vicinity of Will 805 and searched for a favorable route to their next patrol base without incident. Co "" also conducted day and night local security activities with no enemy sightings reported.

23 July: Co "I" continued the defense of Fire Base Shepherd and conducted a recon patrol to the north of the Fire Base along the Chang Thi River in an attempt to locate potential fording sites. Co "I" observed two lights that appeared to be flashlights at XD 941404 at 2215H and ifired artillory with unknown results. A fire team OP at XD 923400 and four LP's were conducted in the vicinity of Fire Base Shepherd and all reported negative sightings. Co "K" conducted a squad size recon patrol in the vicinity of XD 927402 commencing at 0630H. An advance party entered the Fire Desc Shipphord at 1700H to effect liasion and the Co returned to the So "K" position at 1825H. Co "K" conducted two CP's at 45 (1775 and 93.3581 and four fire town AP; s in the vicinity of the Co "K" northfor without incidents to "K" departed their position at 1960E to establish a percel base in the vicinity of ID 927402. Co "L" conducted a Latorn size recen patrol of the 8938 grid square conneccing at 0645H. The patrol was assigned the mission of determining revive trafficability, record enemy audiving and locations of samufactory vater points, The patrol was completed without enemy sighting and returned to the Oc. "AF position at 1925H, Co "L" also conducted a squad recon patrol in the 55.79 grild square commencing at 034.78 with this same mission and returned at





1850H without incident. Additional activities consisted of two OP's at 10 893399 and 898398 and four LP's were conducted around the Co "L" positionand activities were conducted without incident. Co "L" departed their position at 2000H to establish a patrol base at XD 878394. Co "M" was heldlifted from their position to Fire Base Cates at 0715H and 2/4 assumed 0700N of them at that time.

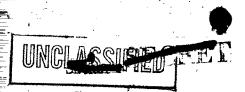
24 July: Co "I" departed Fire Base Shepherd at 0700H to establish a patrol base at XD 900385 and was directed to conduct a recon along their axis of advance to ascertain route trafficability and fording sites. Co "I" stopped short of the proposed site and established their patrol base at XD 905386 at 1930H. While en route to their patrol base, Co "I" found three fresh NVA footprints moving from south to north and checked out the area with negative results. Co "I" found one M-16, ser no 767300, at XD 902387 at 1930H which appeared to have been left there some 30 hours earlier. Upon their arrival at the patrol base, Go "I" contacted two OP's at XD 905386 and 898389 and they returned to Co "I" psition at 1830H without incident. Co "I" conducted a squad ambush in the vicinity of XD 904384 and three IP's near their position. Co "I" activities reported negative enemy sightings. Co "K" departed for Fire Base Shepherd at 1500H and entered the Fire Base at 1640H. A fire team OP was established at ID 928409 immediately upon Co "K" s arrival and the OP returned to this position at 1823H without incident. Co "K" then conducted four LP's commonging at 1845H and there were negative enemy sightings. Co "L" arrived at their pairol base at XD 878394 at 0035H without incident. Go "I" conducted a plateon recon patrol of the 8738 grid square commencing St 0800H and returned at 1345H without incident. Day and night local security activities were conducted by Co "L" with negative enemy sightings. Co. "M" continued the defense of Fire Base Cates, OPCON to 2/4 AD 496539 and \$28508 and four Land were conducted recent the Co "L" absitioners 25 July 60 "L" conducted a platoon recom patrel in the 8938 grid square commercia; at 0749H and concluding at 1310H with negative enemy sightings. Two fire team TR's wore conducted at XD 905386 and XD 898389 commencing at 073QH and terminating at 1830H without incident. Co "I" then spotted one NVA at XD 900382 at 1930H and fired a mission with unknown results. Three Les were conducted in the vicinity of Co "I" of sa resition and a squad ambush at 893385. Co "I" units reported negative chimy sightings. Co "K" continued the defense of Fire Base Shepherd. conducting four LP's in the vicinity of Fire Base Shepherd commencing at 19-5H vithout incident. Co "L" conducted a plateon patrol to the west of their position accurencing at 1640H and was completed at 1200H. The patrol reported finding what appeared to be a battalion sized bunker complex at 40 869397 at 18004. The bunkers seemed to be about three weeks old and painted 6'X4'X4', They also spotted three NVA moving in a southernly rigitic, from XD 841398 at 1020H and fired artillery with unknown results. o "" enarted possibly sighting 15 to 20 NVA at approximately 1100H The personnel were too distant to confirm as enemy. Further investigation indicated that no friendly units were operating in that in the vicinity and artillery was fired with unknown results. Additional day and might the coll security activities were conducted with negative sightings Co"M" intinued the defense of Fire Base Cates, OPCON to 2/4, tour tour commanda out leadth and those vices angulatvo among sighting

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Co "I" found one SKS, 30 rounds of SKS ammunition, four chicoms, and 30 rounds of 50 cal. ammunition situated in their patrol base at XD 896387 at 0730H. The SKS was sent to the S-2 for further routing and the ammunition was buried. Co "I" conducted a platoon recon patrol of the 8937 grid square commencing at 0815H and terminating at 1315H. Their mission was to determine the enemy situation, water points, possible sites for LZ's, trails, and patrol base sites. The patrol reported negative enemy sightings. Two OP's were conducted at XD 907384 and 903386 commencing at 0630H and terminating at 1845H without incident. They also conducted an ambush at XD 904392 and three LP's in the vicinity of the Co "I" perimeter with negative sightings. Co "I" departed their position at 2015H and arrived at their new position at grid XD 904390 at 2400H and established bocal security activities. Co "L" conducted a platoon recon patrol commencing at 0630H to the southwest, with the patrol locating 5 NVA bunkers at XD 866388 interconnected by tunnels. The bunkers measured 6'X2'X4' and were covered by approximataly a foot of dirt. The patrol also located a heavy MG position in the complex, appearing to be one to two months old and not recently used. All bunkers were subsequently destroyed, and the patrol returned at 1645H with negative contact. Day and mightime: local security was conducted without incident, with Co "L" departing their position for their new patrol base located at XD 873388 at 2015H. Co "M" continued the defense of Fire Base Catos, OPCON to 2/4.

27 July: Co "I" conducted a plateon recen patrol in the 8939 grid square commencing at 0700H and terminating at 1400H. The patrol found 20 NVA fighting holes measuring 3'X3'X2' approximately two menths old at 893388. The Co "I" patrol also located a suitable landing zone for holicopter support at XD 891399. A Co "I" squad recon patrol was conducted to find a suitable route to their next patrol base located at XD 896396. A secondary mission was to locate ambush sites for future use in the 9039 grid square and two were found at XD 904392 and 905394. Two daytime activities were conducted at XD 893384 and 898389 and the OP's reported no enemy sightings. Nighttime activities consisted of an ambush at XD 896392 and three LP's in the vicinity of the Co "I" position with no enemy sightings. Co "K" continued the defense of Fire Base Shepherd and conducted day and mighttime local security activities with negative centact or sightings. Co "L" conducted a plateon size recon patrol from their position west around Hill 471, north for approximately 6000 meters and then returned to the patrol base. The patrol encountered bunkers at XD 862389 and 862391 and several were overheaded with logs, "I" beams and dirt. An AO spotted additional bunkers at XD 862391 inter connected by lines. A squad recon patrol was conducted north of the Foxtrot Ridge area in the 8738 grid square. The patrol located a site favorable for an LZ and patrol base at XD 878389 and a water point at XD 870395. Co "L" estallished two OP's at XD 876386 and 868391 and one OP observed three personnel at 0820H wearing khaki uniforms picking up equipment. An artillery mission was called and directed by the OP. After the mission was fired, the OP swept the area and found one NVA killed and one wounded. The PCW was evacuated to Dong Ha for further interrogation. Compr dain and nighttime local socurity activities were conducted with negative sightings or contacts.

23 July: Co "I" conducted a plateon size recon patrol to the northwest commencing at 0730H and reported no recent signs of eromy activity.



A daytime ambush was conducted at XD 904392 commencing at 0630H and returning at 150QH. The ambush reported no enemy sightings or signs of enemy activity in the area. Co "I" conducted an OP at XD 905385 and returned to the patrol base without incident. The company departed their position at XD 896396 at 1600H to establish a new patrol base at XD 896396 and arrived at 2020H. The movement was conducted without incident and local security was established upon their arrival. Co "K" continued the defense of Fire Base Shepherd and provided day and nightime local security activities. The units reported negative enemy sightings. Co "L" conducted a platoon recon patrol to the 8638 grid square in an effort to determine the nature of recent enemy activity and locations for LP's, OP's and LZ's. The patrol heard what appeared to be 50 cal. fire emanating from an unknown source and observed smoke rising from XD 885395. The patrol heard small arms fire coming from the 8438 grid square and observed small puffs of smoke from the same area. The small arms fire was established as coming from a Co "L" ambush that had four NVA pinned down and the patrol moved forward to assist them. An AO arrived on station firing rockets and machine guns at the enemy and then directed an artillery mission with good target coverace. The ambush and patrol then swept the area and found one NVA killed and retrieved an SKS carbine. Day and nightime local security activities were conducted with negative sightings. Co Mu continued the defense of Fire Base Cates, OPCON to 2/4.

29 July: Co "I" conducted a plateen recon patrol to the west and found a suitable water point at XD 900396, a possible LZ at XD 895403 and an ambush site at XD 893402. Two OP's were conducted at XD 899396 and 893394 with negative enemy sightings. A squad recon patrol was conducted south of the patrol base at XD 896396 to determine the extent of recent enemy activity and reported negative enemy sightings. Day and nightine local security activities were conducted with negative results. Co "K" was helolifted from the lower LZ at Fire Base Shepherd at 0745H and was transported to XD 874394. Upon arriving, the company moved out to establish a patrol base at XD 882394 and local security was established upon setting in. A squad recon patrol of the 8839 grid square was conducted to determine the extent of recent enomy activity and reported negative sightings. An ambush was conducted at XD 888390 and three Lois were established in the vicinity of he company perimeter with negative sightings. Co "L" wes helolifted to the lower LZ at Fire Base Shepherd at 0735H and they procooded into the Fire Base at 1100H to assume the defense. An OP was established at XD 928409 and reported negative enemy sightings. At 1020H "I" Battery 3/12 reported receiving two sniper rounds from the southeast and fired 81mm mortars and 106 HEPT and beehive at suspected grids of XD 948408. 947402 and 948397. A squad patrol was sent to the area from which the Fire was thought to be coming, but observed no enemy movement. At 1200H Go "L" assumed the Sparrow Hawk mission; local security activities were conducted with no sightings. Co "M"; continued the defense of Fire Base Cates, OPCON to 2/4.

30 July: Co "I" conducted plateon recon patrol to the east of their position at XD 889399 in an effort to determine recent enemy activity. The patrol located one possible patrol base site at XD 893370. A squad recon

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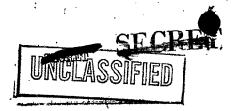


patrol was also conducted to Co "I"'s next patrol base at XD 888398 and the patrol located a site for an ambush at XD 885399. An OP was conducted at XD 893394 and reported no enemy sightings. Co "I" departed their position for their new patrol base located at XD 833398 at 1630H and arrived at 1825H. Upon their arrival, Co "I" established three nightime In is in the vicinity of the patrol base; all activities reported magative sightings, Co "K" conducted a plateen recon patrol southwest of their position at XD 887387 and reported finding good water policy in the XD 888396 area. A squad recon patrol was conducted north of the potrol base and south of Route 9 in the 8859 grid square and reported in the At 1.720H, Go "K" commone and their nove to XD 887387 and errived and occasion. and south of Route 9 in the 8839 grid square and reported no contributings. Four LT's were established with negative sightings, to all country the defonse of live Dase Phenherd and established day and mightang ingel. security with negative sightings. A social recon probed was conducted by the southeast to chack but the suspected suiper postation of the day busies but reported segutive sightings. Co We continued the defense fire East Cates, 07021 to 2/4,

SI July: Co "I" conducted a pinboon recon patrol studiesec of their resition at XD 886586 and reported negative sightings. A equal paper was sout out in the vicinity of the patrol bare to select a survable site for the helo lift to be conducted the following day. The patrol choso ND 891399 for the LZ. Day and nightime local security activities were conducted and the units reported negative sightings. Co "K" conducted a plateen recon patrol to the southeast and reported finding 50 old NVA bunkers at XD 888884 that were interconnected by trenches. Approximately half had been destroyed previously and were estimated to be about four to six months old. Various types of armunition were found in the area elong with two letters which were routed to 5.2. A squad recen was conducted in the vicinity of the patrol base to locate a suitable LZ for the helolift the following day. A daytime ambush was conducted at XD 880362 and at 1070H the ambush sighted four NVA at XD 847405 and fired artillery with unknown results. Day and Nightime local security activities were conducted with pogative sightings. Co "L" continued the defense of Fire Base Shepherd and gordacted day and night local security activities with regative exemy sightings. The an PRS-6 detected movement at 2030H approximately 120 meters outside the wire tot all movement ceased shortly thereafter. Co "M" continued the defense of Fire Hase Cases, OPCON to 2/4. Andrea (Ling Toll Court emitte (1997) entry factor between 1997 (1997) for the between 1997 (1997) for the first of the first between 1997 (1997) for the first of the first between 1997 (1997) for the first between 1997) for the first between 1997 (1997) for the first between 1997) for the first between 199

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SECTION V

LOGISTICS

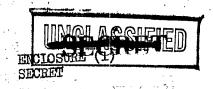
I. GENERAL

- a. Early resupply of Class I, III, IV and V items have been conducted from LZ Stud, by helicopter. Class II items have come by motor convoy to LZ Stud from Dong Ha and by helicopter to the companies at their various positions.
 - b. Operations: The S-4 operation was divided into three (3) areas.
- (1) S-4 reer maintained all paperwork, and coordinated movements of men and material (primarily Class II) to LZ Stud.
- (2) Our resupply base at LZ Stud is maintained with S-4 personnel, one (1) supply representative from each company, the Battalian mess section, Motor Transport personnel and a mailmen. In addition to normal resupply, a company a day was fed hot chow from the galley at LZ Stud in the field. Helicopter support improved considerably, largely due to a Regimental G-4 forward representative. The messhall cooked for permanent personnel at at LZ Stud, and occasionally through arrangements with Regimental G-4, for at LZ Stud, and occasionally through arrangements with Regimental G-4, for units moving through LZ Stud. The only shortages of goods during the period units moving through LZ Stud. The only shortages of goods during the period were selected Class V items such as elaynores and Time Fuses. These items never became critical, however. The operation at LZ Stud during the nonth man relatively smooth and efficiently, with a noticeable improvement over last month.
- (3) An S-A capability was always maintained with the Battalion Command Post to handle incoming and outgoing goods and provide proper liaison with the Battalion Commander. An HST capability was maintained at each position.

II. SUPPLY

- a. The overall supply support during this period was satisfactory.
- b. Some critical shortages of supplies existed and were reported in the Logistics Summary Report:

Gos Masks- Small, Medium, Large 3.5 Rocket Launchers Motor Transport Repair Parts Flame Thrower Compressors



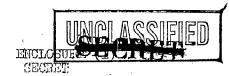


III. TRANSPORTATION

- a. One (1) M-151Al vehicle is deadlined for a defective voltage regulator. The replacement regulator has arrived and the one (1) subject vehicle should be operational-ready within two days.
- b. The communication vehicles are operational-ready. One (I) MRC 109 has a cracked windshield with a replacement on order.
- e. Two (2) M-37Bl vehicles are ef FCR in Okineva, One (1) is awaiting replacement and one (1) is operational-ready in the MZ Situ areas.
- to The Britiston possesses 27 M-27442 vehicles with three (3) replacements in order. Firther (15) of these M-274A2 vehicles are deadlined for starter assumblies that are on order through the Direct Exchange program at FISG.
- e. The JO-M-1 or HPCU has returned from FLSG with a new engine. It is deadlined for a magneto which has never been red-balled.
- f. The five (5) M-107Al water trailers are now operational due to receipt of parts. One (1) M-107Al has been dropped from our account and a replacement put on order.
- g. The Battalion received two (2) M-101A1, 3/4 ton cargo tanilars with two (2) more on order.

IV. MAINTIMANCE

- a. The present lat and 2nd echelon maintenance program is highly effective and will continue for all new vehicles.
- by Scheduled maintenance has been performed on the M-27/AV voidables. The requisition of starter assorbties will renove them from a condition starter.
- c. Acceptance chacks have been completed for the two (2) M-101413 3/4 for cargo trailers.



SECRET

SECRET

SECTION VI

COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS

1. Radio

a. The Battalion maintained stations on the following radio nous while on field operations during May 1968:

Post TAO A. (TM)	5.5	Jo TI TAC Net
Bert 110 40 (201) Bu 120 (21 (101)		Co "K" TAC Not
		Co "L" TAC Not
An 140_(2 (HM)		Co "M" TAC Net
Bn Admin (FM)		81mm Mortar Conduct of Fire Net

b. Supporting arms circuits for air and artillery were employed utilizing FM equipment.

2. Wire

a. The Battalion Rear at Dong Ha maintains wire communications for administrative purposes and provides two trunks to the 9th Marines.

b. The Battalion maintained extensive CP wire systems at LZ Hawk from 1 to 7 July, and at Fire Base Shepherd from 5 to 31 July.

- 3. Radio Relay. An AT/TRC-27 circuit, maintained by the law Marines from 1 to 5 July, was employed between 13 Eawl and the Sanh. An AN/TRC-27 circuit, maintained by the 4th Marines from 6 to 31 July, was employed between Fire Base Shepherd and Co In.
- 4. Perez. Power for the Bottalien Roar at Dong Ha is provided by the light





SECTION VII

FIRE SUPPORT COORDINATION

- 1. During the month of July, while 3/4 was operating in the Khe Sanh area, artillery support was provided by I/II and I/I2.
- 2. While operating in the Khe Sanh area, forward observation support of 3/4 called in 725 fire missions and expended 13,365 rounds. In addition 4,550 rounds were expended on 1,550 H&I targets and 1,680 rounds were expended on 180 TOT targets.
- 3. The following is a summary of artillery missions during the month of July:

UNIT	FIRE MISSIONS	ROUNDS EXPENDED
1/11 & 1/12	725	13,365
UNIT	H&I	ROUNDS EXPENDED
1/11 % 1/12	1,550	4,55
UNIT	TOTOS	ROUNDS EXPENDED
1/11 & 1/12	180	1,600

- 4. Total rounds expended in support of 3/4: 19595
- 5. Total rounds of fire cracker: 180
- 6. KIA by artillery: 12
- 7. Batteries that fired in support of 3/4 operations were:

105 Batteries:
Golf from 3/12
Hotel from 3/12
India from 3/12
Foxtrot from 2/12

155 Butteries: Tango from 1/12







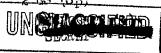
SECTION VIIII

AIR SUPPORT

- I. In defense of Foxtrot Ridge, India was supported extensively by conventional fixed and rotary wing aircraft, including flare ships and gunships which were used at night. It was during this period, the first half of the month of July, that the Battalion utilized the majority of it's available air supports.
- 2. During the latter half of the month, when we switched to the mobile company concept, air arms were used only sparingly, with fixed wing being utilized only on specific targets encountered on patrols. The majority of our work during this latter period revolved around resupply, modevacs, and troop lifts. Despite the difficulties the Battalion expected to encounter when it switched to the mobile concept of operation, all assignments were effectively accomplished.

Summa	ry of	5/4 air	acti:	vities MED	during	the mon	th of July:	TROOP	1	~
Day	AO	RIN	HIT	VAC	F/W	RM	SUPPORT	LIFE	MISC	
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	3 - 3 5 - 6 3 4 4 3 1 3 5 3 3 3	6 7 5 7 8 11 11 5 5 4 7 5 7 6 6	1 - 144 - 1 - 14 3 3 5 5 5 2 2	11 2 1 10 9 6 7 8 2 5 2 3 -8 11	5 -4 15 -6 8 7 12 5 2 2 2	7	3/4 "I" 3/4 "K"	all n	2 Flareships 1 Gunship (S 2 Flareships 1 Gunship (S)	
17 18 19 20 21 22 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	02471122222212	423636447435334	6 1 2 3 2 3	133132132 13123	3 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		3/4 "I"	inTu		
	70	170	47	313	74	13	5		es (Sp) Total	ន

VIII-I





SECTION IX

MEDICAL AFFAIRS

- 1. Third Battalion, Fourth Marines maintained the following positions during July: 1 to 7 July, LZ Hawk; 7 to 51 July, Fire Base Shepherd and 1 to 51 July, Dong Ha.
- 2. There were approximately 500 patients to visit the forward BAS in addition to assualties resulting from hostile action. Malaria and fevers of wuknown crigin continued to be in evidence although to a losser degree than the previous month. Sanitation has been practiced in an effective manner and the position appears relatively free of rodents.
- 3. Med-Caps were not conducted this month due to the adverse location of the forward BAS.



IX



SECTION X

CIVIL AFFAIRS

1. No civil affairs were conducted by this Battalion during July 1968.





- (1) Closer coordination between air and artillery to include impact grids of artillery fire, nature of targat, and origin of fire is essential. The type of aircraft is also of prime concern, along with their mission and destination. When this information is available to responsible agencies, the check fire can be imposed if required, or one aircraft can be given a specific run-in heading so as not to impede artillery fire. A thorough and mutual exchange of information can preclude unnecessary check fires and enhance operational safety.
- 7. Item: Aerial Observers and Artillery Check Fires
 - (a) Comment: A0's often request check fires when check fires are not desired.
 - (b) Lessons Learned
 - (1) AO's should be briefed proor to coming into the AO. They are told what their missions will be and what artillery missions are in progress. They are also told when they can have a check fire. They are given specific grids to stay out of until the artillery missions are finished. Rigid compliance to the briefing on the part of the AO is mandatory.
- 8. Item: Co-ordination Between Artillery and Air on the Company Level.
 - (a) Comment: Company Commanders fail to inform the Battalion FSCC of their plans for supporting arms.
 - (b) Lessons Learned
 - (1) The suporting arms representatives at the company level must inform the FSSC of the Company Commanders plans for supporting fire. When there is a conflict between air and artillery the decision on which to use must be relayed from the Comanny Commanded to the FSCC.



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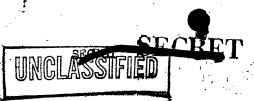
(3) Small unit leaders must be continually aware of the physical disposition of their personnel and iquipment. Systematic checks must be continually achieved during night time movement.

- (4) As an aid to nighttime motement, cohesive movement can be onhanced by the use of guide lines extending from man to man; these lines not only serve as a navigational aid but also provide a measure of safety in moving through difficult or treacherous terrain.
- 4. Item: Reconnaisance and Patrol Activities.
 - a. Comment: Emphasis must be continued at the small unit level in map reeding and land navigation.
 - b. Lessons Learned
 - (1) Position determination cannot be based on map observation alone. Trails and streams clearly depicted on maps are frequently obscured or obliterated by dense undergrowth or seasonal changes. It is imperative that continuous review of map reading fundamentals, including intersection and resection procedures be accomplished.
 - (2) In addition, the process of orienting to specific ground locations by marking rounds must be understood and practiced.

5. Air Control

- (a) Comment: It is imperative that school trained FAC's, enlisted or Officer, be assigned to an Infantry Battalion.
- (b) Lessons Learned
 - (1) The current pilot shortage has necessitated the assignment of two Naval Aviators to an Infantry Battalion. This necessity results in the use of enlisted personnal in requesting and controlling air activity within an AO. Although these personnel are trained radio operators, they are not trained as FAC's. In many inseances they nare unaware of aircraft capabilities or limitations and occasionally lack familiarity with proper control procedures, echelons of responsibility or radio technique. Formal Battalion schooling and on the job training is no substitute for a comprednessive training program for FAC's at higher echelon. Additional familiarization in coordinating Gun Ships, Flare Ships, Med Evacs, and AO activities is also a necessary part of a formal school curriculum.
- 6, Item: Initiation of Artillery Check Fires Due to Air Activity.
 - (a) Comment: Check fires are occasionally imposed when not necessary.
 - (b) Lesson Learned





SECTION XI

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND LESSONS LEARNED

- 1. The change in the Battalion's mission to conduct a mobile defense forward of, and adjacent to, a fixed fire base exposed some tactical difficulties. The concept of accomplishing surveillance and reconnaissance throughout an area of operations identified problems in movement and control of unit, evaluation of realistic time and sace factors, and abilities to accomplish rapid land navigation. The continuing displacement of companies from patrol base to patrol base, primarily at night, further identified problems in the control and registration of fire support, including methods of initiating check fires. Additional problems were identified in the capabilities and limitations of the FAC representatives to control aircraft throughout the AO.
- The Battalion's mission during July is defined as follows:
 - (a) To conduct surveillance, reconnaissance, and limited offensive operations within the area of operations in order to deny the enemy freedom of movement, to ascertain the nature of enemy activity, and to collect and disseminate intelligence regarding the enemy and the characteristics of the area of operations.
 - (b) To conduct the defense of Fire Base Shepherd.
 - (c) To continue the engineering effort of Fire Base Shepherd.
 - (d) To conduct collateral missions as were assigned by separate Frag Orders.
 - 3. Night Time Movement and Unit Displacement.
 - (a) Night time movement and displacement exposed certain inherent difficulties.
 - (b) Lessons Learned
 - (1) Initially an attempt was made to cover too much ground at night. Night time displacement can not be measured in terms of distances alone. The characteristics of a particular area govern the units ability to accomplish significant night movement. Distances of 500-600 meters were reasonable, whereas distances in excess of 1000 meters were unrealistic. The enemy's awareness of our presence can be effectively deterred by short night movement of 500-600 meters. Movements ranging up to and in excess of 1000 meters did no more to confuse the enemy than the shorter displacement. Extended night time movements also tended to tire troops and reduce their alertness and efficiency in subsequent activities.

(24 lt was further ascertained that it was desireable to remain in ore patrol base not more than two nights. Continued activity from one location and required helicopter support tended to comprenise locations.