

HEADQUARTERS, 5TH MARINES  
 1st Marine Division (Rein) Fleet Marine Force  
 c/o Fleet Post Office  
 San Francisco, California 96602

3/RJC/phm  
 5750  
 5 August 1967

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding Officer, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 to 31 July 1967

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2  
 (b) FMFPacO 5750.8  
 (c) DivO 5750.2B

Encl: ✓(1) 5th Marine Regiment Command Chronology  
 ✓(2) Headquarters Company, 5th Marines Command Chronology  
 ✓(3) 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Command Chronology  
 ✓(4) 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines Command Chronology  
 ✓(5) 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines Command Chronology  
 ✓(6) 5th Marines Combat After Action Report, Operation CALHOUN

*File d  
Sep  
File w/  
Comd Chron*

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a), (b) and (c), enclosures (1) through (6) are submitted.

  
 S. DAVIS

S & C FILES  
 HEADQUARTERS  
 1ST MARINE DIVISION, FMF

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5TH MEAD S&C FILES

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SERIALIZED	FILED

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 Declassified After 12 Years  
 DOD DIR 5200.10

HEADQUARTERS, 9TH MARINES  
1st Marine Division (Rein) Fleet Marine Force  
c/o Fleet Post Office  
San Francisco, California 96602

**UNCLASSIFIED**

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 July to 31 July 1967

INDEX

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1

ENCLOSURE (1)

PART A

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

5th Marine Regiment (-) (Rein) Colonel S. DAVIS

SUBORDINATE UNITS

Headquarters Company, 5th Marines  
 1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines  
 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines

Capt R. J. SALVATI  
 LtCol P. L. HILGARTNER  
 LtCol G. C. McNAUGHTON  
 LtCol C. B. WEBSTER

2. LOCATION

THANG BINH District, QUANG TIN Province, RVN 1-15 July 1967  
 QUE SON District, QUANG NAM Province, RVN 15-31 July 1967

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer

LtCol J. S. HECKER

S-1

2ndLt J. W. HORTON

S-2

WO J. W. WALSH

S-3

Major R. J. ALGER

S-4

Major L. E. JOHNSON

(1-12 July 1967)

Major C. E. CAUDILL

(13-31 July 1967)

S-5

Capt W. F. BELL

Communications Officer

Major R. E. WALKER

(1-9 July 1967)

Capt R. W. SLOAN

(10-31 July 1967)

Motor Transport Officer

None Assigned

(1-16 July 1967)

1stLt R. E. BLACK

(17-31 July 1967)

Supply Officer

None Assigned

Regimental Chaplain

LCdr W. D. BRUNNER CHC USN

Regimental Surgeon

Lt T. E. BRUNNELL MC SUN

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTHUSMC

<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
137	3260

USN

<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
10	177

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## PART II

~~SECRET~~ NARRATIVE SUMMARY

The month of July was devoted to displacing the Regimental Command Post from Hill 29 and the Logistics Support Area located at Tam Ky to the new Combat Base at Hill 63. A new area of operations was assigned necessitating detailed coordination with Province and District officials in both Quang Tin Province and Quang Nam Province.

Operation CALHOUN terminated on 1 July 1967. The displacement of the Regimental Command Post, the Command Post of the 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines, and the Logistics Support Area commenced on 15 July 1967 and was completed on 20 July 1967. Extensive Rough Rider Convoys were conducted in order to replenish the LSA and provide the fortification materials initially required.

Company B, 1st Engineer Battalion commenced extensive construction of roads, installation of facilities, clearance of fields of fire and assistance in the construction of fortifications. Excellent progress was made in construction of the Combat Base at Hill 63 as well as the Combat Base at QUE SON.

Security continued to be provided to the 9th Engineer Battalion, tasked with opening National Route #1 from Tam Ky northward. 3rd Battalion conducted two unnamed operations during the month, one between Hill 63 and QUE SON and one in the vicinity of the inland waterway. Tank-infantry patrols between the Regimental Combat Base and QUE SON were frequently conducted, and aggressive patrolling in the vicinity of Hill 63 and QUE SON/NUI LAC SON continued in cooperation and coordination with Regional and Popular Forces.

## PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Personnel and Administration. The Regiment experienced a turnover of approximately 378 personnel; 228 rotated to CONUS, with 150 being med-evacuated out of country. Approximately 409 replacements were received during the month. The average chargeable strength was 40 Marine officers and 1008 Marine enlisted.

Shortages of officers in the 0130, 0202, 0402 and 0430 MOS's continue to exist. These shortages, although not critical, tended to impair the operational capabilities of the Regiment. Expected personnel losses for the coming month are 163 personnel due for rotation to CONUS. Expected losses in the next two months of SNCO ranks are considered to be of utmost concern.

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Casualties for the month of July were as follows:

	<u>KIA</u>	<u>WIA(N)</u>	<u>DOW</u>	<u>WIA(E)</u>	<u>NEC</u>	<u>MIA</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Eq Co	0	3	0	1	0	0	4
1/5	9	34	2	16	32	0	93
2/5	13	47	1	67	56	0	184
3/5	6	17	0	14	2	0	39
	28	101	3	98	90	0	320

2. Intelligence.

a. Operation CALHOUN terminated on 1 July 1967. Cumulative enemy losses included:

- (1) 14 VC KIA (Confirmed), 19 VC KIA (Probable).
- (2) 24 Detainees, 1 PW, 3 IWC and 0 CSWC.

b. Efforts continued throughout the early part of the month for the move of the Regimental Command Post to a more permanent base camp vicinity Hill 63 (BT 136455), MOC BAI Strategic Zone, PHU HIEP (V), QUE SON (D), QUANG NAM (P). It was requested that the 1st Marine Division furnish a Counter-Intelligence Sub Team to supervise closing of 5th Marines CP at Hill 29 (BT 235315) and this subject team reported on 12 July. It furnished assistance during the period 12-16 July and was instrumental in recovering 2000 rounds of abandoned small arms ammunition and a quantity of 782 equipment. No security violations were uncovered.

c. Arrival at Hill 63 required expansion of Intelligence Liaison efforts. The Regimental area of operations now encompasses two districts in two provinces: QUE SON (D) in QUANG NAM (P) and THANG BINH (D) in QUANG TIN (P). Liaison was established with US Advisors and their ARVN counter-parts at all four locales. Of special interest was Gunnery Sergeant BURTON, MOS 0211, 7th CIT, reporting to the THANG BINH DIOCC for duty on 23 July. Gunnery Sergeant BURTON was the first member of the newly formed joint intelligence agency to arrive at the District Headquarters.

d. Significant aspects of enemy, weather, and terrain:

(1) Enemy: Three lows were observed for SPAR's during July. Average reporting for the month was 18, yet on 19 July only 3 reports were received; 27 July only 6 reports were received; and on 30 July only 4 reports were received.

(2) Weather: Negative.

(3) Terrain: Negative.

3. Training. The indoctrination training program continued to be emphasized. Commander's emphasis for training during the month focused on:

M16A1 Rifle

Night Discipline

Ambush Techniques

Fire Discipline

Scouting and Patrolling

Employment of RCA

The following schools were utilized by the command during July:

<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER ATTENDED</u>
NCO Leadership School	Okinawa	15
Vietnamese Language School	Okinawa	10
Vietnamese Language School	Da Nang	2
Basic Ammo Tech Course	Okinawa	2
Infantry Weapons Repair Course	Okinawa	3
Psychological Warfare Course	Da Nang	4

4. Operations. Operation CALHOUN terminated on 1 July. 3rd Battalion conducted an unnamed operation on 25 and 26 July targeted for a suspected VC market place in PHUOC AM (2) (BT 214437). This operation, conducted in conjunction with Regional and Popular Forces, resulted in light contact with the enemy, but did recover an M-60 machinegun and M16A1 rifle from the Viet Cong. Another unnamed operation was conducted by the 3rd Battalion on 29 and 30 July to escort two 155mm self-propelled guns to QUE SON. The mission was successfully accomplished and characterized by light contact.

Several company-sized operations were conducted by both battalions with moderate to light contact. Excellent use was made of aerial observers in all of the aforementioned operations. Tanks continued to be employed on patrols, but emphasis shifted to the retention of armor at the combat base for commitment if and when a solid contact was developed.

5. Fire Support. The 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines continued as the artillery unit in direct support of the 5th Marines. During the month of July, the following missions were fired in support of the Regiment:

<u>OBS</u>	<u>UNOB</u>	<u>H&amp;I</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>TYPE AND NUMBER OF ROUNDS FIRED</u>	<u>WEAPON</u>
320	230	1185	1735	HE 14535 ILLUM 280 WP 1068 OTHER 1 TOTAL 15884	105mm
94	115	465	674	HE 4650 ILLUM 394 WP 222 TOTAL 5266	155mm
155	45	363	563	HE 3206 ILLUM 609 WP 495 TOTAL 4310	4.2 Mtr

The 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines received credit for 77 VC KIA (Confirmed) and 220 VC KIA (Probable).

The following Naval Gunfire missions were fired by the USS WALKER (DD 517) in support of 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines during the period 25-26 July:

2 Observed Missions	30 rounds
1 Unobserved Mission	36 rounds
8 H&I Missions	60 rounds

The fires were delivered in a timely manner and excellent target coverage was noted.

6. Air Support. Air support for the month of July was as follows:

a. Helicopter Support.

(1) Number of total helicopter support requests	140
(a) Number requests filled	125
(b) Number requests not filled	15

## (2) Logistical Helicopter Support

(a) Total pounds of cargo 1,392,000 (Note 1)

(b) Total number of troops lifted 2,057

## (3) Medevac

(a) Number of medevac requested/filled 32 (Note 2)

b. Fixed Wing Support. Fixed wing support was utilized by battalion and company sized units only and will accordingly be reported separately.

Aerial observers utilized - 34

Flareships requested/filled - 4

Note 1 - This total excludes all normal resupply carried by helicopters assigned to the HST.

Note 2 - This excludes all medevac handled by MEDEVAC helicopters assigned to the HST.

7. Logistics. During the month of July all supply and service support for the regiment was provided by the Logistics Support Area. The displacement of the regiment and its supporting units and the establishment of a Combat Base at Hill 63 commenced on 6 July. Company B, 1st Engineer Battalion with elements of the Third Battalion for security proceeded to Hill 63 from Hill 29 and CHU LAI on 6 July. Construction commenced immediately on roads, pads for staff offices, billeting areas, and service installations; and revetment of the Logistics Support Area. The displacement of the Regimental Command Post, the 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines Command Post, the remainder of the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, all supporting units and the LSA was completed on 20 July.

During the month the move of the 5th Marines rear was completed from CHU LAI to DA NANG, and the supplies and equipment previously stored in the rear were moved to the Combat Bases.

Company A, 9th Engineer Battalion established itself at the 5th Marines Combat Base and assisted in engineering tasks at the LSA.

Rough Rider convoys were received on a near daily basis during July.

8. Civil Affairs/Civic Action. During the month of July the main efforts of the 5th Marines Civil Affairs Section were directed towards the smooth reestablishment of the civilian populace near the Hill 63 area, the new site of the

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Regimental Combat Base. The Regimental Civil Affairs Officer relocated in advance of the movement of the command post in order to make liaison with local military and civil officials and iron out such problems as land acquisition, transfer of grave sites, and where possible, continued farming of the areas already under cultivation.

The Regiment attempted to assist in civilian re-location efforts wherever possible and provided such materials as 500-105mm ammunition boxes to nearby PHU HIEP and PHU HONG for use as coffins and the delivery of rice and lumber to several families forced to displace their dwellings.

On 8 July, within hours after an airstrike in support of engaged Marines of Company K, causing 20 civilian casualties and extensive damage to TU CAM (3) Hamlet, the 5th Marines Civil Affairs Officer accompanied by the Province Chief, MACV Sector Advisor and CORD personnel visited the area to express condolences to the bereaved and expedite engineering assistance. Within 9 days a total of 3 truckloads of lumber and 58,000 piasters was made available to the affected sub-hamlets.

Close liaison was effected between the Regimental Civil Affairs Officer and the Popular Force Company Commander of the MOC BAI Special Sector in the Hill 63 area, and such offers of assistance from the Regiment as the loan of tentage for a Revolutionary Development training facility for the Popular Force Company were accepted.

9. Psychological Operations. A total of four leaflet drops were coordinated in the Regimental Area of Operations during the month of July as well as five radio broadcasts totaling 125 minutes. Dominant themes were the Chieu Hoi program, reconciliation with the government, and rewards to those offering information about mines and booby traps.

10. Communications. The major portion of significant events accomplished by the 5th Marines Regimental Communications concerned the movement of the Regimental area of operations and displacement of the Regimental CP.

First, on 6 July, an AN/MRC-62 radio relay team, provided by 7th Communications Battalion, installed a radio relay link from 5th Marines at Hill 29 to 1st Battalion at QUE SON. The AN/MRC-62 replaced the existing AN/TRC-27 radio relay to QUE SON and eliminated the need for the relay point at NUI LAC SON.

On 14 July communications elements with the advance party moved to Hill 63 with AN/TRC-97 and AN/MRC-62 radio relays. The AN/MRC-62 was initially installed to 1st Marine Division to provide telephone service until the AN/TRC-97 was installed. The AN/MRC-62 was then placed in a back up status. Radio stations were activated on the Regimental TAC #1 Net, the Division Tac Net (covered with KY-8), and the Division Special Purposes Net.

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During the next two days communications elements with the Alpha Command Group moved to Hill 63 with AN/MRC-62 radio relay. This relay was installed from Hill 63 to QUE SON to provide landline communications to 1st Battalion. A switchboard was installed at Hill 63 connected to 1st Marine Division, 1st Battalion, and 3rd Battalion. A full duplex covered teletype circuit was installed to 1st Marine Division.

Additionally, the AN/TRC-27 radio relay between Hill 29 and TAM KY was secured. The Select Rear switchboard at TAM KY was secured. All communication personnel at TAM KY returned to Headquarters, 5th Marines. Communication guard was assumed by 5th Marines for 3rd Battalion and 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines.

By the third week in July, a half duplex covered teletype circuit was activated with the 1st Battalion and the 5th Marines assumed communications guard for 1st Battalion. A 7th Communications Battalion Cable Construction Detachment began installing a 50 pair polyethelene telephone cable within the Hill 63 Combat Base. This cable will provide telephone service to all units at Hill 63.

Finally, on 26 July, the 7th Communications Battalion Detachment completed construction of the 50 pair cable within the Hill 63 Combat Base.

11. Medical. A total of 207 patients were treated during the month; 38% were from Headquarters Company, 5th Marines, 24% were from other 5th Marine Units, and 38% were from units outside the regiment. Of this group, in addition to military personnel, several were Vietnamese civilian indigent persons, RVN military personnel and detainees treated for humanitarian reasons. There was no organized MEDCAP during this period. During the early morning mortar attack on 14 July at Hill 29 there were 21 casualties, 5 of which were serious and required emergency MEDEVAC. On 15 July, the medical section moved with the Bravo Command Group from Hill 29 to Hill 63 and reestablished the Regimental Aid Station.

12. Dental. In the month of July, patients from the following units in the given percentages were treated:

HqCo - 31%; 2/11 - 26%; 1st Engr Bn - 6%; 1st Tank Bn - 5%; 1/5 - 3%; 9th Engr Bn - 3%; LSA - 3% and 1st SP Bn - 1%; 3/5 - 21%; 1st AT Bn - 1%. The patient load from 1/5 is somewhat restricted due to travel requirements.

The Regimental Dental Section completed its move to Hill 63 and was operating in its new location by the end of July. A total of twelve working days were lost in the move but improvements in packaging and palletizing have been instituted which will streamline embarkation and displacements in the future.

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At present the dental clinic with one dentist and one dental technician is supporting 3400 personnel. In the coming month, the dental support coverage will increase to an estimated 4000 personnel.

13. Chaplain. Five Catholic services and five Protestant services were held in the Regimental Area during July. The Battalion Chaplain of 1st Battalion provided Catholic coverage for the Regimental CP. The Regimental Chaplain provided Protestant coverage for 1st Battalion and 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines. A total of 12 services were held with an attendance of 394. On 29 July a temporary chapel tent was set up in the Regimental area with seating capacity of 75. On Sunday, 30 July, the Regimental Chaplain participated in the dedication service for the newly completed 1st Battalion chapel at QUE SON.

PART IVCHRONOLOGY OF SUBORDINATE COMMANDS  
AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1.  ENCLOSURE (2) HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 5TH MARINES COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

ENCLOSURE (3) 1ST BATTALION, 5TH MARINES COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

ENCLOSURE (4) 2ND BATTALION, 5TH MARINES COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

ENCLOSURE (5) 3RD BATTALION, 5TH MARINES COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

ENCLOSURE (6) 5TH MARINES COMBAT AFTER ACTION REPORT, Operation CALHOUN

*Filed  
Sep  
Calhoun*

## HEADQUARTERS, 5TH MARINES

1st Marine Division (Rein) Fleet Marine Force  
c/o Fleet Post Office  
San Francisco, California 96602

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3480

14 July 1967

5TH MAR S&amp;C FILES

00870-67

COPY NO. 10 OF 10

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, First Marine Division

Subj: Combat After Action Report

Ref: (a) Division Order 3480.1

Encl: (1) 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Combat After Action Report } Filed w/  
(2) 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines Combat After Action Report } End chron

Code Name: Operation CALHOUN

1. Operation CALHOUN was the first major effort to enter Base Area 116 in force and deny the enemy one of his haven areas within striking distance of ARVN and USMC installations in the QUE SON-THANG BINH Valley. Although the numbers of caches/hospitals/staging areas uncovered were not numerous, their subsequent destruction was significant in that they demonstrated to the enemy that he can no longer retreat into this mountainous area safe in the knowledge that he will not be pursued.

2. A great deal was learned about coordinating the maneuver and fire support of adjacent units operating in a rugged, heavily-canopied area. The decision to establish the battalion command groups in the valley floor where they could positively communicate with and control their subordinate units proved to be well founded.

3. Assuming that enemy harbor sites would be located near water, the rifle companies executed their assigned missions by searching the draws of the mountainous area. This method proved quite effective as evidenced by the numbers of caches/hospitals/staging and training areas discovered and destroyed.

4. The recommendation made by the Commanding Officer of the Third Battalion, 5th Marines is concurred with. Plans will continue to be made to conduct reconnaissances-in-force into known or suspected base area-type complexes.

R. J. Alger

R. J. ALGER

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.

DOD DIR 5200.10

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## HEADQUARTERS

1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
 1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
 FPO, San Francisco 96602

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3/CHB/dah  
 3480  
 11 July 1967

**00184-67***Copy 10 of 45*

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
 Via: Commanding Officer, 5th Marines  
 Subj: Combat After Action Report; Operation "CALHOUN"  
 Ref: (a) DivO 3480.1  
 (b) 5th Marines Frag Order 45-67  
 (c) 5th Marines Frag Order 46-67

Encl: (1) 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 75-67  
 (2) Movement and Night Disposition Overlay D-Day  
 (3) Modification to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 75-67  
 (4) Movement and Night Disposition Overlay D+1  
 (5) 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 75A-67  
 (6) Modification to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 75-67  
 (7) Movement and Night Disposition Overlay D+2  
 (8) 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 76-67  
 (9) Movement and Night Disposition Overlay D+3  
 (10) 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 77-67  
 (11) Movement and Night Disposition Overlay D+4  
 (12) 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 78-67  
 (13) Modification to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 77-67

1. Name.

Operation "CALHOUN" (Search and Destroy).

00184-67  
 10 OF 45

2. Dates.

From 250001H June 1967 to 011200H July 1967.

3. Location. 1st Battalion, 5th Marines participated in Operation "CALHOUN" in the central northwestern part of QUE SON District, QUANG NAM Province, RVN, within an area blocked by coordinates (AT 980410), (AT 980340), (BT 020410), and (BT 020340).

4. Control or Command Headquarters.

1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-)(Rein)

LTCOL P. L. HILGARTNER

1st Battalion, 5th Marines (Rear)

MAJ J. P. WHITE

H&amp;S Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines

CAPT G. L. MCKAY (Acting)

DECLASSIFIED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;

DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.

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Det, 81mm Mortar Plat  
Det, Comm Plat  
Det, Med Plat  
Kit Carson Tm  
S-2 Scout  
FAC Tm

6. Supporting Forces.

a. Air

(1) During Operation "CALHOUN", air support was provided by the 1st Marine Air Wing. On D+3 a TAC/A directed two air strikes. The first strike was conducted in vicinity (AT 985375) against a target consisting of 7 VC observed by Company B. One flight of A4 aircraft were directed on the target, in support of Company B. Subsequent to the strike, the area was searched with negative results. The second air strike was conducted in vicinity coordinates (AT 978361) as an area preparation controlled by the Air Liaison Officer. A TAC/A directed one flight of A4's on the target.

(2) TAC/A and AO were utilized throughout the operation by all participating units.

(3) FAC teams were assigned with each participating unit. The Air Liaison Officer moved with the Command Group.

b. Artillery

(1) Battery D, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines was in direct support of the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines during Operation CALHOUN. On call fires were planned to secure the left flanks of the Battalion, to fire preparation fires on objective areas and on terrain along the Battalion's route of advance.

(2) Company A used artillery on D-Day in vicinity (BT 001409) to recon by fire. The results of the mission were two fold - it enabled the company to mark its route of advance and disclosed some VC activity in the area.

(3) The Battalion Command Group was supported by Battery D on D+1 when two rounds of illumination were fired in vicinity (AT 004389) after two incoming grenades and some small arms fire were taken by the command group. On D+2 four (4) rounds of 105mm HE were fired in vicinity (AT 013377) a route of advance into the CP area. Battery D supported Company B on D+3 by firing in vicinity (AT 985374), when snipers were observed in the area. Coverage of the target area was excellent and further activity in the area was unobserved.

(4) H&I fires were fired nightly in the operating area, on harbor sites, avenues of infiltration, mortar sites and other likely places of VC activity. Artillery fire provided during the operation was quick, responsive and effective.

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(5) An Artillery FO team was assigned with each participating unit. The Artillery Liaison Officer moved with the Command Group.

c. Engineers

(1) Engineer support was provided by Company B, 1st Engineer Battalion with engineer teams assigned with each company and the Command Group. During the operation, engineers were effectively employed to destroy numerous caves and tunnels.

7. Intelligence.

a. Estimate of Enemy Strength, Location, and Disposition in the Objective area.

(1) Forces anticipated in the immediate area.

UNIT	TYPE	LOCATION	STRENGTH	TACTICAL DISPOSITION
3rd NVA Regt	NVA	BT 0826	660	Well trained and disciplined
K-50 Company	LF	Base Area 116	70	Unknown
Q-13 Company	LF	Base Area 116	80	Unknown

(2) Intelligence was initially provided to this unit by the 5th Marine Regiment and 1st Marine Division PERINTREP 12-67 (Base Area 116) (Update).

b. Enemy Strength and Situation actually Determined During the Operation

(1) Little opposition was encountered during the operation and those met seemed to have been taken by surprise indicating there was an apparent communications deficiency among the enemy.

c. VC/NVA Units Identified.

(1) Local Guerrillas

d. Significant Intelligence Gained.

(1) It was discovered that the Vietnamese populace were friendly and of a cooperative nature when approached for information but at times were hesitant to volunteer information in apparent fear of VC reprisal.

(2) The suspects captured displayed obvious fear when approached by Marines.

(3) Interrogation of detainees indicated a strong infrastructure, consisting of Youth, Farmers and Women's Associations.

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(4) The objective of this operation was to fix and destroy forces and supplies in the objective area.

e. Terrain.

(1) Critical Terrain Features.

(a) HON NUI TAU (AT 970389), elevation 3,129 feet.

(b) NUI MAT RANG (AT 983432), elevation 2,771 feet.

(2) Relief and Drainage.

(a) The area is a mountainous promontory approximately nine miles long and four miles wide. It is oriented generally northeast and southwest. The area is prominently cut northeast to southwest, by the KHE SUOI NOI River. This river provides a corridor which is the best avenue of approach into the center of the mountains. Extending southwest of the base area is a finger of mountains which would provide the enemy an excellent route of withdrawal.

(3) Vegetation.

Predominately evergreen forest and scrub. This placed a restriction on long and short observation and limited the availability of suitable helicopter landing zones.

(4) Obstacles.

A few rivers and streams traversed the objective area, but did not present any major problems to foot movement. Tank movement in this area is severely restricted.

(5) Avenues of Approach.

(a) Trails in the operational area were good to excellent for foot troops.

f. Cross Country Movement.

(1) No unusual problems were encountered for infantry.

g. Weather.

(1) Throughout the operation, the weather was warm and humid with late afternoon showers, and, for the most part, unrestricted visibility.

h. MISSION.

a. Commencing on D-Day conduct S&D operations into vicinity of Division Objective 2 to discover and capture or destroy enemy forces, supplies and equipment therein.

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9. CONCEPT OF OPERATION.

a. The 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) commences movement to LOD, at H-Hour, continues attack to Objectives A and B and conducts reconnaissance in force along routes of advance Spring and Summer and conducts combat patrols in the lowlands contingent to the hill mass comprising Base Area 116.

## 10. EXECUTION

## a. D-1. 24 June 1967

(1) 241530H Commanding Officer, 5th Marines and the Regimental S-2 and S-3 officers arrived at the combat base to discuss Operation CALHOUN.

(2) 5th Marines Frag Order 45-67 was received. See reference (b).

(3) 241730H A warning order was issued by the Commanding Officer concerning participation in Operation CALHOUN.

(4) 241735H NBC reporters, Mr. R. PETERSON, Mr. D. SILVA, Mr. PAT TELI and Marine escort from 3rd MAF Combat Information Bureau arrived at the Combat Base to provide news media coverage of Operation CALHOUN.

(5) 242400H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 75-67 was promulgated to all subordinate units. See enclosure (1).

## b. D-Day. 25 June 1967 (See enclosure (2).)

(1) 250200H Company A departed Combat Base to participate in Operation CALHOUN.

(2) 250310H Company A arrived at CP HENRY.

(3) 250330H Command Group and Company B departed Combat Base to participate in Operation CALHOUN.

(4) 250440H Command Group and Company B arrived at CP HENRY.

(5) 250720H Company A located in vicinity (BT 016387) received one round sniper fire from approximately 200 meters to the northeast. Enemy was wearing black and khaki clothing. Company A returned 3 rounds small arms fire killing the sniper. The area was searched and Company A found 1 US carbine, serial number 5756143, 1 carbine magazine, 1 notebook, and 10 rounds 30 caliber ammunition. Results: 1 VC KIA confirmed. Captured equipment was forwarded to 5th Marines S-2.

(6) 250800H Company A arrived at Objective A, established patrol base and conducted patrol activities.

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(7) 25081 Company A located in vicinity (BT 008397) received one round sniper fire from an unobserved enemy in heavy undergrowth approximately 125 meters to the north. Company A returned 50-75 rounds small arms fire and searched area with negative results. VC broke contact and fled to the north. Results: 1 USMC WIA.

(8) 250835H Company B arrived at Objective B, established patrol base and conducted patrol activities.

(9) 251030H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (Rear). Squad patrol 5C4 located in vicinity (BT 011335) spotted one Vietnamese male wearing black clothing carrying a bandolier in vicinity (BT 009334). Patrol went to village to investigate. While searching area, patrol received 40-50 rounds small arms fire from one automatic and 2 semi-automatic weapons. 200 rounds small arms fire was returned and area searched with negative results. A platoon from Company C was dispatched to the area and found a tunnel at vicinity (BT 012-334) which was 100 meters long, 3 to 4 feet wide and 5 feet high. Tunnel was destroyed and platoon returned to combat base.

(10) 251030H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (Rear). A local Popular Forces member came to Company D's position located in vicinity (BT 023288) with information concerning 1 VC squad that fired upon them (4 PF's) in vicinity (BT 998288). Number of rounds fired and type clothing worn by VC unknown. 1 civilian was wounded. 81's fired 7 HE rounds and 3 WP rounds unobserved fire on the VC location.

(11) 251300H Combat Outpost 5ALB located in vicinity (BT 008041) observed one Vietnamese male approaching from the west in vicinity (BT 007-402) wearing black clothing. Marines shouted in Vietnamese and in English for the Vietnamese to halt. When Vietnamese started to run, outpost fired 6 rounds small arms fire killing the VC. VC was about 25 years old and appeared to have pack strap marks on shoulders. Results: 1 VC KIA confirmed.

(12) 251540H Company A squad patrol located in vicinity (BT 006395) found building with unknown type booby trap on door. Squad attached rope to door. When rope was pulled, booby trap exploded and building was destroyed. Results: 1 USMC WIA.

(13) 251600H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (Rear). Detachment Company A, 1st Tank Battalion (4 tanks) and Detachment Company B; 1st AF Battalion (3 ontos) arrived at the combat base, escorted by platoon from I Company 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines.

(14) 251640H Company B squad patrol located in vicinity (BT 987392) found what appeared to be a training center consisting of 6 buildings, three were 40 feet by 20 feet. One building had fireplace which appeared to be a cooking area. The other two buildings had black boards and appeared to be classrooms or CP buildings. There were bed facilities in the large buildings.

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The area was near water and was clean and well kept. Area was thoroughly searched with no additional significant results. Company B destroyed buildings.

(15) 252155H Modification to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 75-67 was promulgated. See enclosure (3).

(16) 252210H Listening Post 5D21 located in vicinity (BT 001389) heard movement approximately 40 meters east of position. One M-26 grenade was thrown in the direction of suspected enemy movement. Area was searched at first light with negative results.

c. D+1. 26 June 1967 (See enclosure (4).)

(1) 260814H Company B located in vicinity (BT 001394) found 1 cave 4 feet wide, 15 feet long and 15 feet high. Cave was destroyed by engineers.

(2) 261200H Company B platoon located in vicinity (AT 988374) observed 2 VC males with weapons and one female without a weapon dressed in black clothing moving west in heavy brush in vicinity (AT 987374). Patrol fired 30-50 rounds small arms fire and 2 M-79 rounds at the VC. VC fled westward into the brush. The patrol pursued the VC, but was not able to regain contact. The area was searched with negative results.

(3) 261300H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 75A-67 was promulgated. See enclosure (5).

(4) 261450H Company A squad patrol 5A5 located in vicinity (BT 008-397) found 3 NVA packs with markings on one pack: "C, B-2-A-4"; 1 transport pack, 7 khaki shirts, 4 khaki trousers, 5 mosquito nets for bunks, 1 pair leather gloves, 1 pair cloth gloves, 2 homemade gas masks, 2 springs approximately 7 inches long, 1 wrench, 1 dark blue shirt and 4 grey plastic ponchos. Captured equipment was forwarded to 5th Marines S-2.

(5) 261603H Company A commenced movement to new patrol base located in vicinity (BT 002403).

(6) 261608H Company B commenced movement to new patrol base located in vicinity (AT 989399).

(7) 261655H Company B arrived in vicinity of (AT 989399), the proposed new patrol base and was directed to continue movement up the side of mountain to find an area to establish an LZ. Company B continued movement to vicinity (AT 985405).

(8) 261815H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Chief S-2 Scout conducted an English class for 25 Vietnamese civilians being detained until the command post departed the area.

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(9) 26105H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (Rein). Company D platoon patrol located in vicinity (AT 987307) received 7 rounds small arms fire from an unobserved sniper located in vicinity (AT 984304). Fire was received from the south at a distance of 400 meters. Patrol returned approximately 50 rounds small arms fire and moved through the area. The area was searched with negative results.

(10) 26200H Modification to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 75-67 was promulgated. See Enclosure (6).

(11) 262245H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Command Group in night defensive position located in vicinity (BT 002388) heard 4 rounds small arms fire at vicinity (BT 000391). At 262250H, defensive position received one incoming grenade at vicinity (BT 003387). Enemy apparently tried to locate Command Group's positions. Two rounds 81mm illumination were fired and a flare ship was requested. Enemy fire ceased, no friendly fire was returned and no casualties were sustained.

d. D+2. 27 June 1967 (See enclosure (7).)

(1) 270700H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (Rear). Company C (-) commenced search and destroy operations in accordance with 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 75A-67. See enclosure (5).

(2) 270745H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (Rear). Company C arrived at GP 1.

(3) 270900H Squad patrol 545 located in vicinity (BT 001402) sighted 4 VC with weapons, wearing black clothing in vicinity (BT 002398). Patrol maneuvered to suppress the enemy, firing approximately 200 rounds small arms fire and 8 M-79 rounds. A 60mm mortar fire mission was requested and 2 rounds 60mm WP were fired on VC locations. Area was thoroughly searched with negative results.

(4) 270935H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (Rein). Local PF reported to Company D located at (BT 023288) that a platoon of VC located in vicinity (BT 006276) fired upon PF patrol in vicinity (BT 001282). PF patrol requested 81mm fire support from Company D's position. Company D fired 3 rounds 81mm WP and 2 rounds 81mm HE unobserved fire on enemy position.

(5) 271045H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (Rein). Company C conducted search of Objective B with negative results.

(6) 271145H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (Rein). Company C conducted a search of Objective C with negative results.

(7) 271228H Company A was directed to commence movement at 271600H to establish a patrol base in vicinity of Objective G. Company B was directed to commence movement at 271600H to link up with the Command Group, establish a patrol base and conduct patrols as directed. The linkup between the Command Group and Company B was controlled by the Command Group.

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(8) 271245H Company C, while on search and destroy operation located in vicinity (BT 015329) found cave 5 feet high, by 5 feet wide by 7 feet long. Cave was searched with negative results and destroyed by engineers.

(9) 271515H Company A commenced movement to establish patrol base in vicinity of Objective G.

(10) 271600H Company B commenced movement to link up with Command Group located in vicinity (BT 013393).

(11) 271705H Command Group commenced movement to vicinity (BT 013393) to establish patrol base.

(12) 271800H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (Rear). Company C arrived at Objective E, searched area and was directed to commence movement to combat base.

(13) 271805H H&S Company squad patrol located a tunnel 150 feet long, 4 feet high and 3 feet wide in vicinity (BT 012341). Tunnel was searched with negative results.

(14) 271830H A member of Battalion S-2 section apprehended one Vietnamese female with a baby in a cave at vicinity (BT 013391). Woman was wearing black clothing. Interrogation revealed that her husband is a member of VC Main Forces and belongs to the 2nd Battalion, 4th Company. Detainee and child were forwarded to 5th Marines S-2.

(15) 271920H Company B located in vicinity (BT 002381) observed 3 VC running from house, one dressed in black and khaki clothing, the other 2 dressed in green utilities. One VC had a cartridge belt and grenades. Point fired 50 rounds small arms fire hitting 2 VC. One VC fell when hit, got up and fled with his comrades into dense vegetation. The area was searched and a blood trail was found and followed with negative results. Further searching yielded 1 VC KIA confirmed. Results: 1 VC KIA confirmed.

(16) 271930H Company C arrived at combat base terminating S&D operations.

(17) 271945H Company B located in vicinity (BT 000399) found a cave 5 feet wide and 5 feet long. The cave was searched with negative results and destroyed by engineers.

(18) 272000H Company B linked up with Command Group.

(19) 272320H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 76-67 was promulgated. See enclosure (8).

e. D+3. 28 June 1967 (See enclosure (9). )

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(1) 280615H Company B squad ambush 5B2 located in vicinity (BT 0033-89) observed one Vietnamese male, dressed in black clothing moving along a trail. Squad fired 10-15 rounds small arms fire at Vietnamese male, wounding him in the leg. Detainee was about 50 years of age and possessed two ID cards. Wounded detainee was forwarded to 5th Marines S-2.

(2) 280630H Company A commenced movement to Objective K. 1st Platoon Company B commenced movement to Objective L.

(3) 280800H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (Rear). 23 Refugees were evacuated by helicopter from the operating area to the combat base. Refugees consisted of 8 children, 14 women and 1 male. Refugees were forwarded to the Refugee Camp established in the QUB SON District area.

(4) 280950H Tunnel located in vicinity (BT 012341) was destroyed with 30 cratering charges. Squad security patrol 5M1 located in vicinity (BT 002332) received 6 rounds small arms fire from an unobserved sniper located in a hut at vicinity (BT 003331). Fire was received from the south-east at a distance of approximately 150 meters. Patrol returned fire with 50-75 rounds small arms fire and 5 M-79 rounds. Patrol searched the hut and found a blood trail which was followed with negative results. Results: 1 VC KIA probable.

(5) 281015H Command Group commenced movement to vicinity (BT 001373).

(6) 281035H Company B located in vicinity (BT 000368) observed 6 VC running from a house dressed in black clothing and grey helmets. 3 VC were carrying packs. No weapons were observed. The point of Company B fired 40 rounds small arms fire at fleeing VC, killing 3 and capturing one. The area was searched for other VC with negative results. The following equipment was captured: 2 packs, 1 grey helmet, and one canteen. Captured equipment was forwarded to 5th Marines S-2. Results: 3 VC KIA confirmed and 1 VC captured.

(7) 281125H Company B located in vicinity (AT 993369) observed 7 VC running up the side of a mountain in vicinity (AT 986375). VC were dressed in green and black clothing. 4 60mm HE rounds and 4 60mm WP rounds were fired with excellent target coverage. Area was searched with negative results.

(8) 281405H Company A established patrol base at Objective K.

(9) 281500H Company B patrol 5B2 in vicinity (AT 988367) observed 1 VC dressed in black clothing and carrying a weapon, running from a house approximately 60 meters from the patrol. Patrol fired 40 rounds small arms fire and 2 M-79 rounds at the fleeing VC. VC fled into thick vegetation moving in a southerly direction. Patrol searched the area with negative results.

(10) 281530H The Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines directed all unit commanders to instruct their personnel on rules of the Geneva Convention with special emphasis on treatment of prisoners.

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(11) 281530H Company B patrol reported finding a trenchline approximately 300 meters long; 3-4 feet deep and 2 feet wide running from (BT 005-371) to (BT 002369). The area in vicinity of the trenchline contained helicopter punji stakes 6 feet high, 3-4 feet apart.

(12) 281610H Company B patrol in vicinity (AT 984368) received 5 rounds small arms fire from an unobserved sniper located in vicinity (AT 985364). Fire was received from the south at a distance of approximately 400 meters. Company B returned fire with 20 rounds small arms fire at suspected VC location, and moved to search the area. Area was searched with negative results.

(13) 281735H Company A located in vicinity (AT 986380) observed 3 VC dressed in black clothing at a range of approximately 200 meters to the north. Company A fired 10 rounds small arms fire at the VC and physically pursued. One VC was wounded and captured. The other VC fled in a westerly direction. The area was searched and the following items were found; assorted medical supplies, 5 hypodermic needles, 6 bottles of penicillin. VCC (WIA) and captured equipment was forwarded to 5th Marines S-2.

(14) 281845H Squad patrol 5A2 located in vicinity (AT 987381) found 4 huts that appeared to be a hospital complex. Patrol threw one grenade, fired approximately 30-40 rounds small arms fire at the huts and swept through the area. Patrol found 2 VC KIA confirmed and apprehended one Vietnamese female with shrapnel wound in the leg and one male, age 24 with a wounded leg. Patrol also found one US carbine serial number 912624, medical supplies, assorted clothing and cooking supplies. Hospital complex was destroyed. VCC and captured equipment was forwarded to 5th Marines S-2.

(15) 281950H Squad patrol 5B4 located in vicinity (AT 993364) observed 3 VC walking up trail in vicinity (AT 987368). VC observed patrol and fled west along trail, then in heavy brush to the east. VC were wearing black clothing and carrying weapons. Patrol fired 15-20 rounds small arms fire and one M-79 round at fleeing VC. Patrol searched the area and found one NVA helmet. Captured equipment was forwarded to 5th Marines S-2.

(16) 282050H 5th Marines Frag Order 46-67 was received. See reference (c).

(17) 282400H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 77-67 was promulgated. See enclosure (10).

f. D+4. 29 June 1967. (See enclosure (11).)

(1) 290130H Company A COP 5A1 located in vicinity (AT 988385) received one incoming fragmentation hand grenade which wounded 2 Marines. Grenade was thrown from a westerly direction. The patrol leader threw one hand grenade in direction of suspected VC location, waited about one hour and repositioned the COP about 100 meters to the southeast. At first light

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on 30 June 1967, the area was searched with negative results. Results: 2 USMC WIA/NE.

(2) 290630H Tanks and Platoon from Company C departed the combat base moving along Phase Line Nancy to linkup with 1st Battalion, 5th Marines.

(3) 290630H Marine at the maingate of the Combat Base received a report from 2 Vietnamese boys, ages 10 and 12 that there was a booby trap located in vicinity (AT 024346). Engineers were dispatched to investigate the report and found one 60mm mortar round buried nose up with about one inch of the mortar round above the surface. The round was destroyed in place by engineers.

(4) 290905H Company A located in vicinity (AT 998378) apprehended one Vietnamese male about 30 years of age, dressed in black and white clothing. Detainee was searched and found without ID card. Detainee was forwarded to 5th Marines S-2.

(5) 290920H The point of Company A located in vicinity (AT 986382) observed one Vietnamese male moving to the east at a distance of about 50 meters. Vietnamese male was ordered to halt in Vietnamese and English. The male did not respond to the challenge. The Vietnamese started to run and the point fired one round killing the VC. Body of the dead VC was searched with negative results. Result: 1 VC KIA confirmed.

(6) 291115H Squad patrol 542 located in vicinity (AT 976380) apprehended one Vietnamese male about 20 years of age dressed in blue clothing and without ID card, hiding in dense vegetation. The detainee and immediate area was searched, and one grey uniform was found. Detainee and uniform were forwarded to 5th Marines S-2.

(7) 291130H Company B located in vicinity (AT 981359) apprehended 2 Vietnamese males, ages 13 and 32. 13 year old detainee was dressed in blue and white clothing, the 39 year old detainee was dressed in black and white clothing and possessed an ID card. During questioning, the 39 year old detainee admitted having participated in VC activities in the area. Detainee were forwarded to the 5th Marines S-2.

(8) 291215H Chatsworth units positioned to cover advance of 1st Battalion, 5th Marines units, fired 40 rounds 90mm, 100 M-60 rounds preparation fires. Observed 3 enemy run from house vicinity (AT 985365) and two fell when taken under fire. Search of the area revealed heavy blood trails. Results: 2 VC KIA probable, and 11 caves destroyed.

(9) 291235H Company A located in vicinity (AT 976356) found a cave 5 feet wide, 5 feet high and 6 feet long. Cave was searched and the following items were found: 1 gas mask, 20 rounds M-16 ammunition, 1 pair blue trousers and one khaki shirt. Captured equipment was forwarded to 5th Marines S-2. Cave was destroyed by engineers.

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(10) 291300H Patrol from H&S Company located in vicinity (AT 996366) located 9 60mm mortar rounds and 1 M-16 anti-personnel mine buried on a trail. 60mm mortar rounds were buried in the ground nose up, with about 1 inch of the round above the surface. Engineers destroyed 60mm mortar rounds and M-16 mine in place.

(11) 291300H 2nd Platoon, Company D arrived at the combat base.

(12) 291400H 5th Marines directed 1st Battalion, 5th Marines to conduct search and destroy operations to the Combat Base.

(13) 291340H Frag Order 78-67 was promulgated. See enclosure (12).

(14) 291500H Company B located in vicinity (AT 974345) received 6 rounds small arms fire from an unobserved sniper located in vicinity (AT 978-346). Fire was received from the northeast at a distance of approximately 200 meters. Company B returned 35-40 rounds small arms fire and searched the area with negative results.

(15) 291530H Tanks and Platoon Company C reached Objective V.

(16) 291559H Command Group arrived at the Combat Base.

(17) 291636H Company B arrived at the Combat Base.

(18) 291905H Company A linked up with tanks and Platoon from Company

(19) 292400H Modification to Frag Order 77-67 was promulgated, directing Company A to continue search and destroy operations toward NUI LAC SON and relieve Company D at NUI LAC SON. See enclosure (13).

g. D+5. 30 June 1967

(1) 30 June 1967 Company A; 1st Platoon, Company C and Tanks were directed to conduct search and destroy operations in accordance with Frag Or 77-67. See enclosure (13).

(2) 300615H Company A commenced movement to Objective 1. See enclos (13).

(3) 300655H Company A while in vicinity (AT 975335) received 75-80 rounds small arms fire from 6-8 unobserved VC located in vicinity (AT 978336). Fire was received from the northeast at a distance of approximately 200 meters. A squad searched the area with negative results.

(4) 300955H Company A arrived at Objective 4. See enclosure (13).

(5) 301030H 26 Refugees consisting of 8 females, 12 children and 6 males requested that Company A evacuate them from the area, located in vicinity (AT 970315). The Refugees were forwarded to the Combat Base on 1 June 1967.

(6) 301100H 1st Platoon, Company C and Tank were directed to move to Objective 2 to support Company A.

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(7) 30110H Squad patrol 543 located in vicinity (AT 968322) apprehended 10 Vietnamese; 4 males about 30-50 years of age in black and white clothes; one female about 30 years of age dressed in black clothing and 5 children with ages ranging from 3-16 years of age. The area was searched and patrol found assorted medical supplies. Medical supplies and detainees were forwarded to Battalion S-2 on 1 June 1967.

(8) 301200H Squad patrol 561 located in vicinity (AT 987328) observed one VC moving southwest in vicinity (AT 989326). VC was wearing grey clothing and carrying a pack. Patrol challenged the VC and he started running in a southwest direction. Patrol fired 70-75 rounds small arms fire at the fleeing VC, seriously wounding him. A medical evacuation was effected for the wounded VC. The area was searched where VC was initially observed and patrol found 25 battle dressings, 2 bottles of penicillin and hypodermic needles. Medical supplies were forwarded to 5th Marines S-2. Results: 1 VC (WIA).

(9) 301430H Company A located in vicinity (AT 970320) received 50-75 rounds small arms fire from 15-20 VC, wearing green type utilities, located in vicinity (AT 958321). Company A returned fire with 150-200 rounds small arms fire, 10 M-79 rounds and 20 60mm HE rounds. An air strike was requested and completed at 1705H, Company A sustained two casualties. A medical evacuation was effected to extract the USMC casualties from the operational area. Following the air strike, elements were dispatched to search the area. Blood trails were found indicating 6 VC KIA probable. Results: 1 USMC KIA, 1 USMC WIA, 6 VC KIA probable.

(10) 301715H Company A was directed to continue attack to Objective 5.

(11) 301845H Company A located in vicinity (AT 982314) received 20 rounds small arms fire from an unobserved sniper located in vicinity (AT 987-316). Fire was received from the northeast at a distance of approximately 300 meters. Company A returned fire with 40-50 rounds small arms fire, 10 M-79 rounds and 3 60mm HE rounds. The area was searched with negative result. Results: 1 USMC WIA.

(12) 301942H 19 refugees located in vicinity (AT 985325) requested that Company A evacuate them from the area.

(13) 301942H Company A established night defensive perimeter in vicinity (AT 966356).

h. D+6. 1 July 1967

(1) 010600H 1st Platoon Company C, and tanks departed for the Combat Base with 19 refugees. See 301900H.

(2) 010700H Company A located in vicinity (AT 983322) received 10-15 rounds small arms fire from an unobserved sniper located in vicinity (AT 978-313). Fire was received from the southeast at a distance of 500 meters. Company A returned fire with 30-40 rounds small arms fire and 8 M-79 rounds. The area was searched with negative results.

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(3) 010810H Company A arrived at Objective 5.

(4) 010830H Company A located in vicinity (AT 992309) received 25-30 rounds small arms fire from an unobserved sniper located in vicinity (AT 995-313). Fire was received from the northeast at a distance of 400-500 meters. Company A returned fire with approximately 325 rounds small arms fire and 10 M-79 rounds. A squad searched the area with negative results. After the squad passed through the area, the sniper resumed firing, wounding 2 Marines. The area was taken under fire with 60mm and 4.2 inch mortar fire. Company A secured an LZ and requested an emergency medical evacuation. The medical evacuation helicopter received 5-10 rounds small arms fire while attempting to land. After the medical evacuation was completed, the area was searched with negative results. 2 USMC WIAE.

(5) 010915H 1st Platoon, Company C and tanks returned to the Combat Base with 45 refugees. Refugees were questioned and turned over to the QUE SON District Refugee Center.

(6) 011045H During the questioning of the refugees, one Vietnamese male was pointed out as being a VC. During the interrogation, the VC readily admitted to being an economist of the VC cadre and stated he no longer wanted to work for the VC. He admitted this was the first opportunity he had to get away from the VC. In his possession, he had a small box containing papers with Chinese writing, assorted medicines, 2 changes of clothing, and 3300 piasters. Medicines, papers and piasters were forwarded to 5th Marines S-2.

(7) 011200H Company A continued to conduct search and destroy operations in accordance with enclosure (13).

(8) 011200H Operation CALHOUN terminated.

### 11. Results

#### a. Friendly

KIA	1
DOW	0
WIAE	4
WIAE	4

#### b. Enemy

VC KIA confirmed	11
VC KIA probable	11
VC captured	6 (4 WIA)
Detainees Apprehended	12

#### c. Refugees

42 Refugees relocated to QUE SON District Refugee Center

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d. Ordnance Captured

2 US 30 caliber M1 carbines serial numbers 912624, 5756143  
1 15 round 30 caliber carbine magazine

e. Munitions Captured/Destroyed

10 Rounds 30 caliber carbine ammunition (US)  
20 Rounds M-16 ammunition (US)  
1 M-16 Anti-personnel mine (booby trapped)  
10 60mm HE rounds (buried in ground as a booby trap)  
1 unknown type booby trap  
3 ChiCom fragmentation grenades

f. Equipment Captured

5 packs  
8 Khaki shirts  
4 Khaki trousers  
5 Mosquito nets for bunk.  
1 Pair cloth gloves  
1 Pair leather gloves  
3 gas masks  
1 Wrench  
1 Dark blue sweat shirt  
4 Grey ponchos  
1 Grey helmet, WA  
1 Canteen  
3300 Piasters  
1 Grey uniform  
1 Blue trouser  
Assorted medical supplies (consisting of hypodermic needles, 8 bottles penicillin, 25 battle dressings, and assorted medicines).

g. Cave/Tunnels and Buildings Destroyed

2 tunnels 1-100 feet long X 5 feet high and 4 feet wide  
1-150 feet long 4 feet high X 3 feet wide

4 Caves 1-5 feet long X 4 feet high X 4 feet wide  
1-7 feet long X 4 feet high X 5 feet wide  
1-5 feet long X 5 feet high X 5 feet wide  
1-6 feet long X 5 feet high X 5 feet wide

4 huts (used as medical complex)  
6 buildings 40 feet X 20 feet (VC training site)

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12. Administrative Mattersa. Supply

(1) Resupply was effected by helicopters controlled by Helicopter Support Teams provided by the 1st Platoon, Company B, 1stSP Battalion. HST's were attached to each participating company and the Command Group.

(2) Initially 6 MCI's were carried by each individual. This proved adequate for a three day period. A basic allowance of ammunition and 3 canteens were carried by each individual. Ammunition resupply requests were processed through routine missions. Water presented no problem due to the numerous streams located in the operating area. In addition to individual weapons, machine guns and both 60mm and 82mm mortars were carried on the operation.

b. Maintenance

(1) Cleaning equipment for crew served and individual weapons was carried by all units. Weapons were cleaned and inspected on a daily basis. No maintenance problems were encountered during the operation with weapons or equipment utilized by the battalion.

c. Treatment of Casualties and Evacuation and Hospitalization

(1) Casualties were initially treated by 3 corpsmen attached to each letter company and 2 corpsmen and Battalion Surgeon moving with the Command Group.

(2) Casualties were evacuated by helicopter and were transported to a Collecting and Clearing Company located at the LSA at TAM KY, RVN. At the Collecting and Clearing Company, casualties were processed and further transferred to field hospitals located in the CHU LAI and DA NANG area.

d. Transportation

(1) The only transportation utilized during the operation was helicopters. Helicopters were utilized to effect routine resupply missions and medical evacuations. On D+4, 23 refugees were transported by helicopter to the battalion combat base. One minor problem was experienced with the helicopters. The mountainous terrain of the operating area offered few landing zones for the helicopters.

e. Communications

(1) Operating units were in close proximity to each other. As a result, no significant problems were encountered with communications.

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1. Medical Evacuation

(1) Each corpsman carried sufficient medical supplies to provide adequate treatment of the wounded, until a medical evacuation could be effected.

(2) Casualties were evacuated by helicopters. The arrival of helicopters was timely on all evacuations.

(3) The battalion had no heat casualties, although the temperature reached highs of around 100 degrees. Omission of upper torso body armor and command attention to the consumption of salt tablets were factors in preventing heat casualties.

13. Special Equipment and Techniques

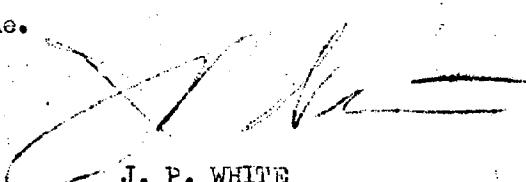
No special equipment and techniques were utilized by this Battalion during Operation CALHOUN.

14. Commanders Analysis

a. Operations in mountainous terrain with jungle canopy require renewed attention to the principals of land navigation and compass reading. The problems were further complicated by the variations in terrain height and the corresponding effect on vertical distance traveled.

B. This operation presented no serious problems of resupply or availability of water because deployments and resupply were planned to take advantage of available landing zones and water points.

15. Recommendations. None.



J. P. WHITE  
By direction

SECRET

QUE SON, RVN  
242400H June 1967

Frag Order 75-67

Ref: Map, RVN; 1:50,000; Series L 7014; Sheet 6640 I-IV

Task Organization

1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-)(Rein)

LTCOL P.L. HILGARTNER

Det, H&amp;S Company

CAPT MCKAY (Acting)

Det, 81 Plt

Det, 106 RR Plt

Det, Comm Plt

Det, FAC Tm

Det, Med Plt

ARVN In Off

Det, Co B, 1stEngrBn

Det, Btry D, 2ndBn, 11thMar

Det, Co B, 1stSPBn

Plt, Co D

Company A

CAPT BRODIE

Det, Btry D, 2ndBn, 11thMar

Det, Co B, 1stEngrBn

Det, Co B, 1stSPBn

Det, Hq Co, H&amp;S Bn, 1stMarDiv (Photographer)

Det, Hq Co, 5thMar (Scout Sniper)

Det, H&amp;S Co.

Det, 81mm Mortar Plt

Det, Comm Plt

Det, Med Plt

Kit Carson Tm

S-2 Scout

FAC Tm

Company B

CAPT REESE

Company B (-)

Det, Btry D, 2ndBn, 11thMar

Det, Co B, 1stEngrBn

Det, Co B, 1stSPBn

Det, Hq Co, 5thMar (Scout Sniper Tm)

Det, H&amp;S Co.

Det, 81mm Mortar Plt

Det, Comm Plt

Det, Med Plt

Kit Carson Tm

S-2 Scout

FAC Tm

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1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
QUE , RVN  
242400H June 1967

Battalion Frag Order 75-67

Ref: Map, RVN; 1:50,000; Series L 7014; Sheet 6640 I-IV

## 1. SITUATION.

- a. Enemy forces: no change.
- b. Friendly Forces

(1) 1st Recon Bn (-), direct support 5th Marines.

## 2. MISSION.

a. Commencing on D-Day conduct S&D operations into vicinity of Division Objective 2 to discover and capture or destroy enemy forces, supplies and equipment therein.

### 3. EXECUTION.

a. Concept: At H-Hour 1st Battalion, 5th Marines attacks from LOC to establish Command Post in vicinity of foothills offering entry into ~~Base Area 116~~ <sup>Base Area 116</sup>, conducts reconnaissance in force along routes of advance Spring and Summer, and conducts combat patrols in the lowlands contiguous to hillmass comprising Base Area 116 to accomplish assigned mission.

b. Company A.

(1) On order at H-Hour - 4 hours commence movement along PL Nancy to CP Henry then along LOD to Objective Foxtrot.

(2) At H-Hour, on order, attack along route of advance Summer to Objective Alpha, establish patrol base and conduct reconnaissance in force, as directed, to discover and capture or destroy enemy forces, supplies and equipment.

(3) Recommend future patrol bases to the Headquarters.  
(4) Be prepared to assume other missions on order.

c. Company B.

(1) On order, at H-Hour - 3 hours commence movement in trace of company A along PL Nancy to C.P. Henry and then along LOD to Objective Echo.

(2) At H-Hour, on order, attack to establish patrol base at Objective Bravo on PL Spring and conduct reconnaissance in force, as directed, to discover and capture or destroy enemy forces, supplies and equipment.

- (3) Recommend future patrol bases to the Headquarters.
- (4) Be prepared to assume other missions on order.

~~SEARCHED~~ ~~INDEXED~~ ~~FILED~~ Det. H&S Company.

(1) General Support.

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(2) On order at H-Hour - 2½ hours commence movement in trace of Company E along PL Nancy to C.P. Henry and then along LOD to Objective E.

(3) Provide C P. security with Delta -2 and Battalion security group.

e. Reserve.

(1) Delta 2, Battalion Reserve.

(a) Be prepared to reinforce, on order, either of attacking companies.

(b) Be prepared to assume other missions on order.

f. Coordinating Instructions.

(1) H-Hour 0600, D-Day 25 June 1967.

(2) Reports:

(a) Position report hourly at 10 minutes before the hour.

(b) Spot reports as events occur.

(c) Report use of RCA to this Headquarters and Reconnaissance inserts located in area.

(3) Destroy captured supplies/or equipment only on approval of this Headquarters.

(4) Boundary for companies along route of advance is the military crest on either side of the respective draws.

(5) 1st Force Reconnaissance Co (-) inserts.

(a) Call sign-Dutch Oven

Frequency; 40.1

Located vicinity AT 980410

(b) Call sign-Killer Kane

Frequency; 39.6

Located vicinity BT 010433

(6) Use of RCA authorized and encouraged.

(7) Employment of Kit Carson Scouts with/and/or near point is encouraged.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS.

(a) Flak jackets will not be worn.

(b) Two salt tablets will be taken by all hands with each canteen of water consumed.

(c) Gas Masks will be carried.

(d) Resupply requests to Battalion HST by 1700H on day before.

5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS.

(a) Air panels will be displayed on backs of packs with orange side out. At least one air panel per squad will be carried.

SECRET

## (b) Thrust points:

- (1) Wrist watch AT 9940
- (2) Insect BT 0040
- (3) Disease BT 0041
- (4) President BT 0242

(c) Ensure capability to translate radio frequency to M Designations.

(d) Common Frequency 42.0 - Blue Belt

P. L. HILGARTNER  
Lieutenant Colonel  
Commanding

HILGARTNER

ANNEX A: Operation Overlay

ANNEX B: Fire Support Plan

OFFICIAL

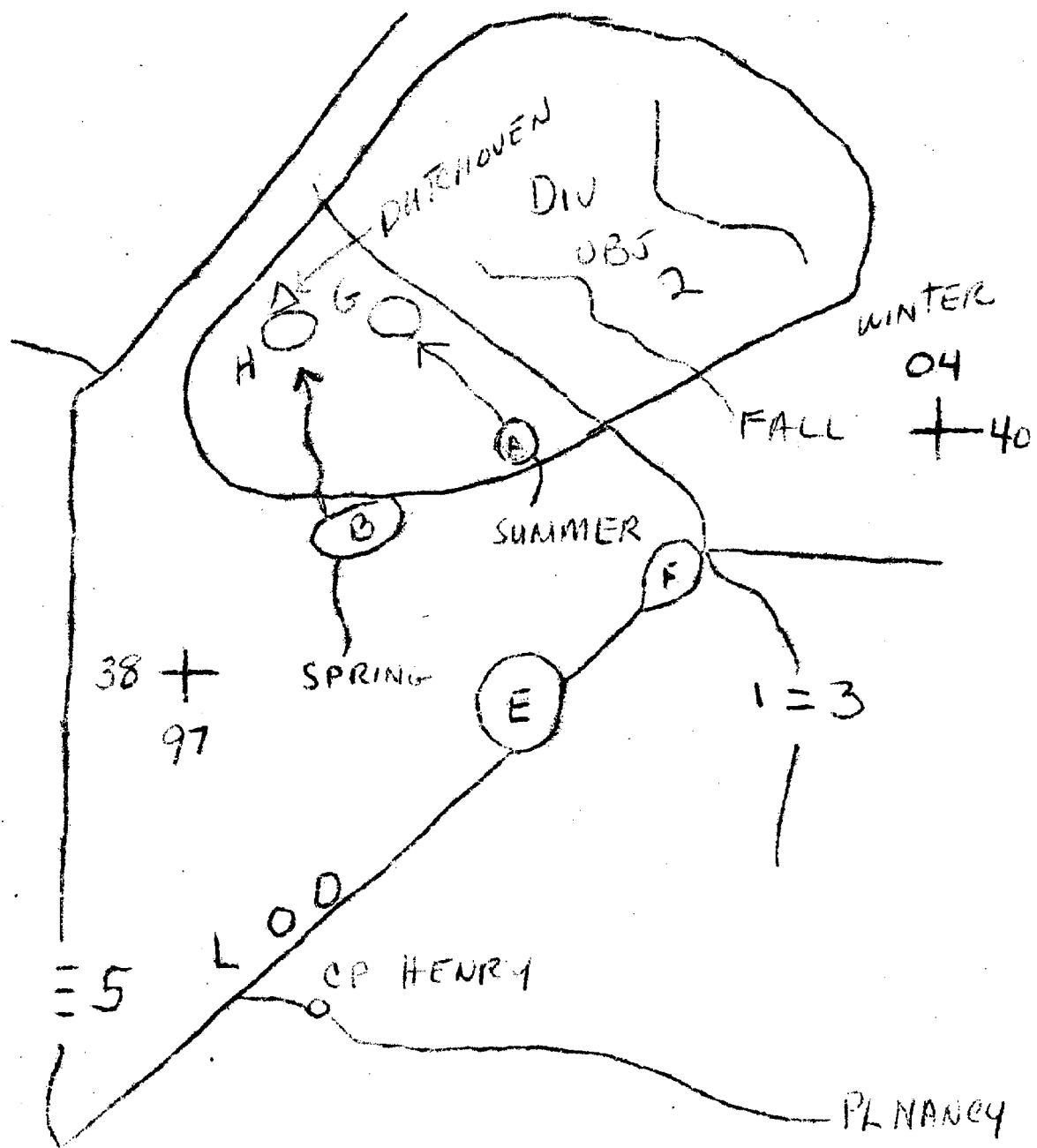
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C. H. BLACK  
Major, USMC  
S-3

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Annex A (Operation Overlay) to Frag Order 75-67

Ref: (a) Map, 1:50,000; Series L 7014, Sheet 6640 III



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C. H. BLACK  
Major, USMC  
S-3

S-3

P. L. HILGARTNER  
Lieutenant Colonel  
Commanding

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Enclosure (1)  
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**DECLASSIFIED**

242400H June 1967

## Annex B (Fire Support Plan) to Frag Order 75-67

Ref: (a) Map, RVN; 1:50,000; Series L7014, Sheet 664Q III

1. Artillery.

a. Initial on call fires are located as follows: See (Fire Support Overlay).

MISSION NUMBER	LOCATION	TYPE FIRE
SD001	AT 986369	HE only
SD002	AT 981389	HE only
SD003	AT 990387	HE only
SD004	AT 994389	HE only
SD005	BT 002385	HE only
SD006+2	BT 013366	HE & ILL
SD007+2	AT 981354	HE & ILL
SD008	AT 994395	PREP Fire
SD009	BT 005399	PREP Fire
SD010	AT 980360	PREP Fire
SD011+2	BT 009354	HE & ILL
SD012+2	BT 009345	HE & ILL
SD013	BT 008374	HE only
SD014	BT 004379	HE only
SD015	BT 011380	HE only

b. Additional artillery fire will be provided as required.

c. All requests for artillery will come through the Company FO Teams.

2. Air.

a. TAC/A and AO's will be divided as requested for aerial reconnaissance of the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines operational area as defined in Frag Order 75-67.

b. Fix wing support will be available as required by 1st Battalion, 5th Marines.

c. Air will be under control of the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines ALO.

d. Decision on use of air support remains with the CO, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines.

B-1

Enclosure (1)

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d. All requests for air must come through the Company FAC Team.

P. L. HILGARTNER  
Lieutenant Colonel  
Commanding

Tab (1) Fire Support Overlay

OFFICIAL

C. H. BLACK  
Major, USMC  
S-3

sentimental and mobilized for  
KIA, WIA, DIA

THREE

sentimental and mobilized for  
KIA, WIA, DIA

sentimental and mobilized for  
KIA, WIA, DIA

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Enclosure (1)

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## DECLASSIFIED

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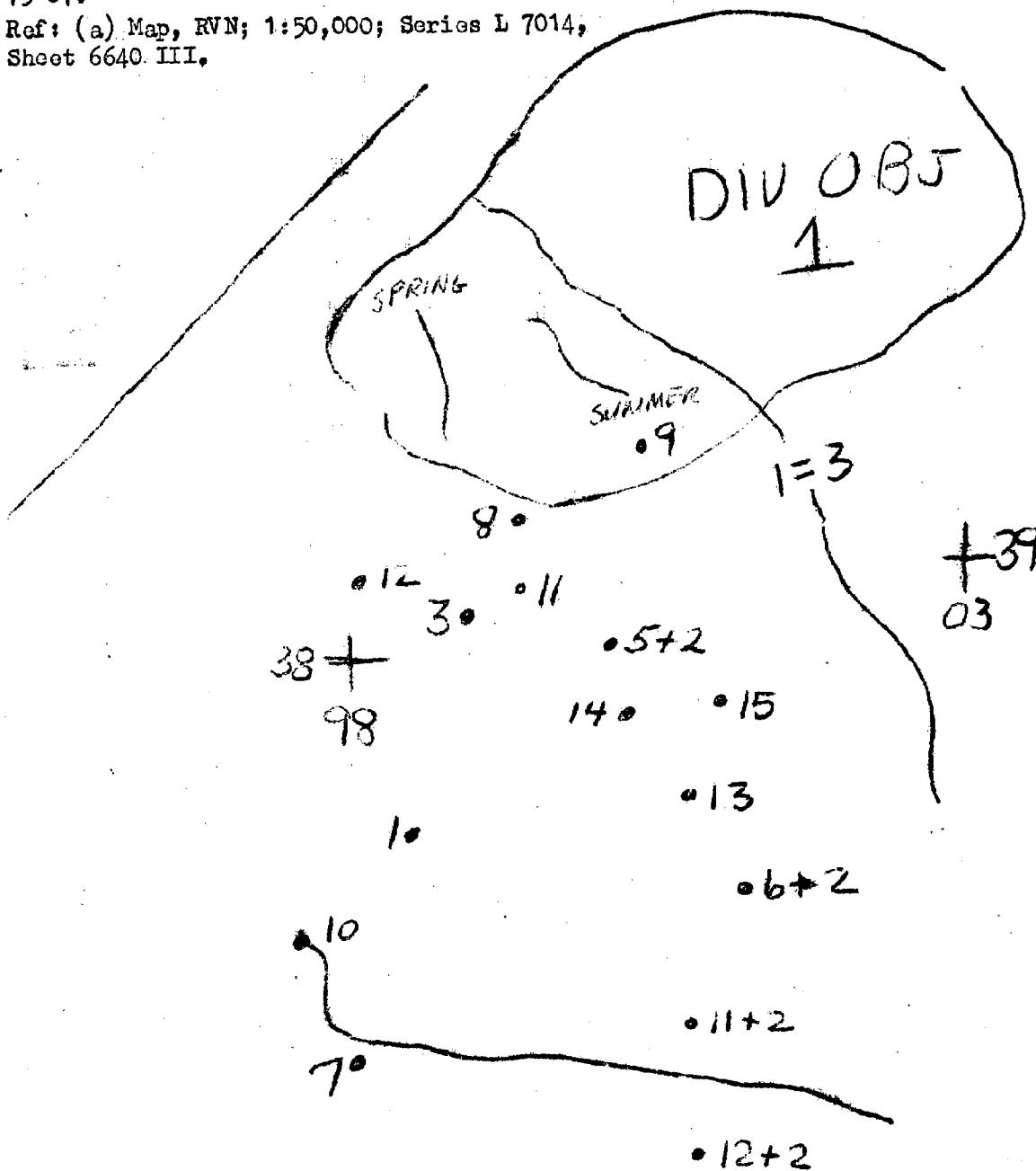
1st Battalion, 5th Marines

QJE SON, RVN

24 JUN 1967

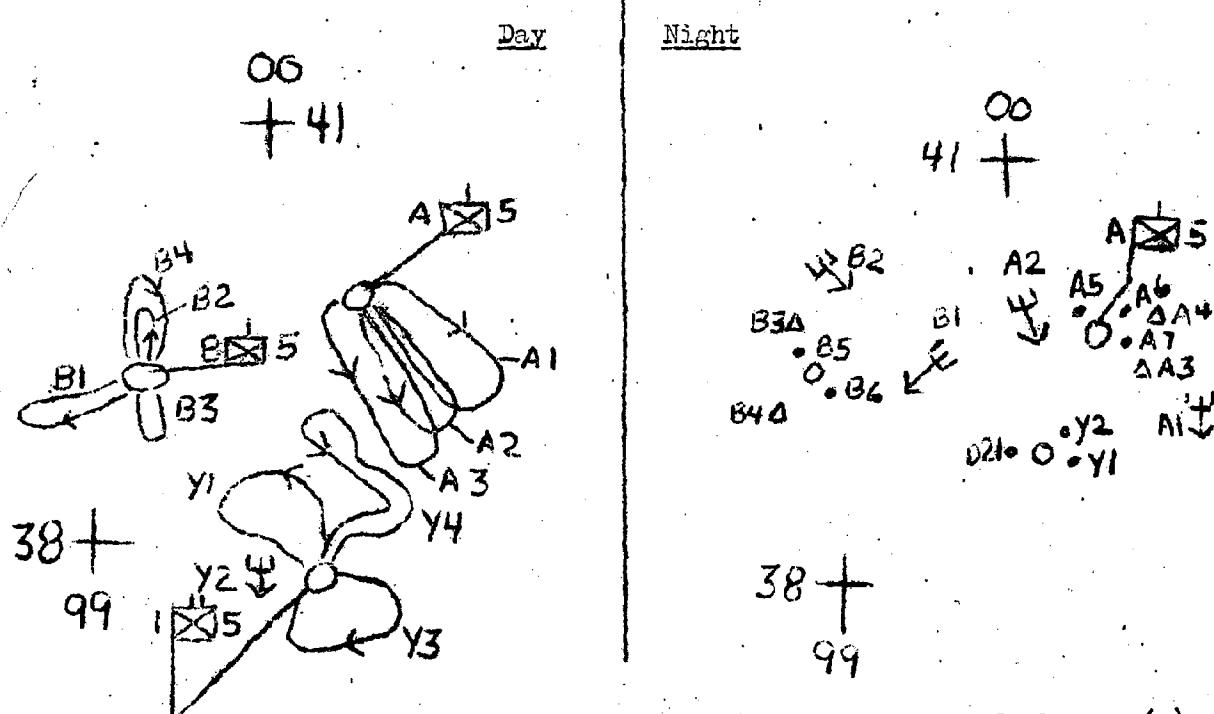
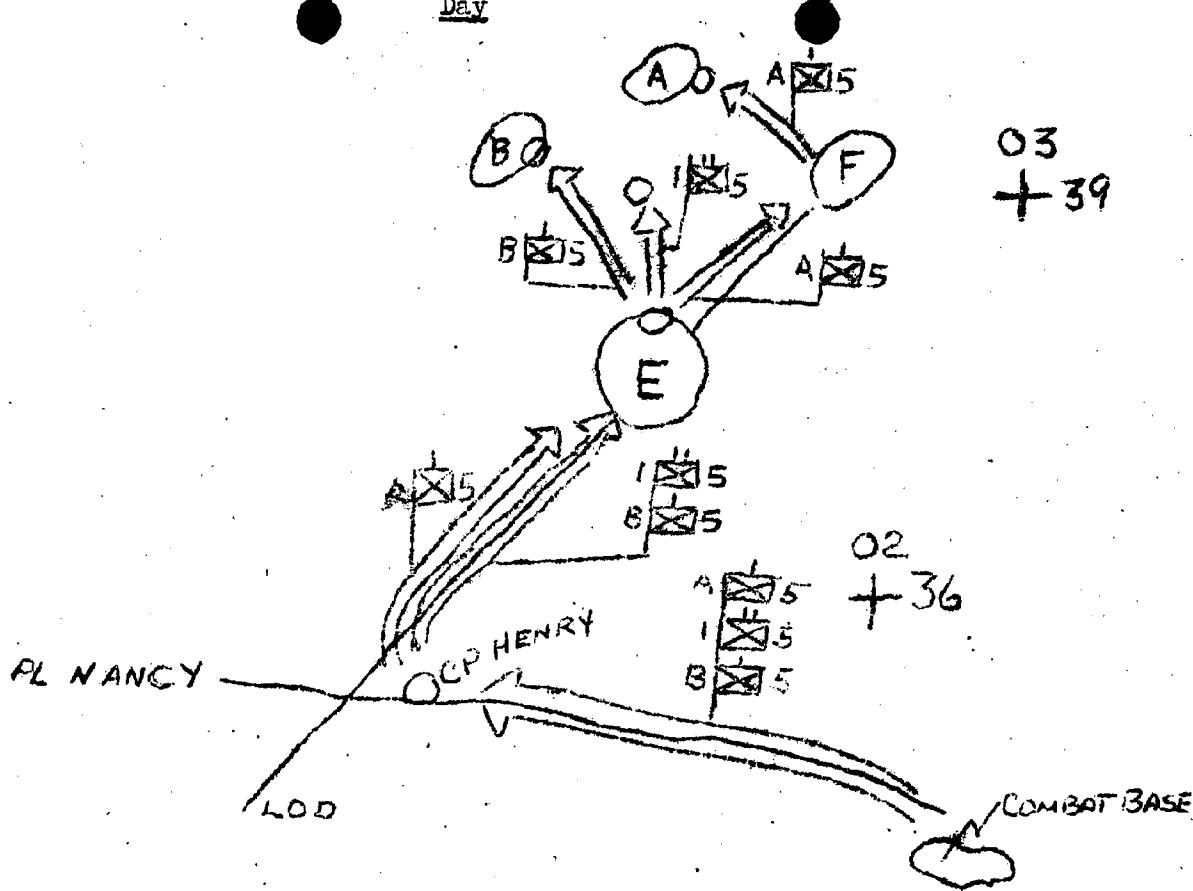
Tab 1 (Fire Support Overlay) to Annex B (Fire Support Plan) to Frag Order  
75-67.

Ref: (a) Map, RVN; 1:50,000; Series L 7014,  
Sheet 6640 III.



## DECLASSIFIED

MOVEMENTS AND NIGHT DISPOSITION OVERLAY ~~Day~~  
Ref: (a) Map, RVN; 1:50,000; Series L 7014, Sheet 6640 III  
Day



Enclosure (2)

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1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
 QUE SON, RVN  
 25 June 1967

Modification to Frag Order 75-67

Ref: (a) Map, RVN; 1:50,000; Series L7014, Sheet 6640 III

1. SITUATION. No change.

2. MISSION. 1st Battalion, 5th Marines conducts S&D operations to kill or capture VC, weapons, locate caves, tunnels, harbor sites and destroy fortifications.

3. EXECUTION.

a. Company A.

(1) Continue patrolling from present patrol base. The following areas will be thoroughly searched:

- (a) (AT 999395)
- (b) (BT 060403)
- (c) (BT CP6405)
- (d) (AT 996404)

(2) Be prepared to displace patrol base on order.

b. Company B.

(1) Continue patrolling from present position. The following areas will be thoroughly searched:

- (a) (AT 993394)
- (b) (AT 983398)
- (c) From Patrol Base to (AT 999383)
- (d) From Patrol Base to (AT 992374)
- (e) From (AT 990380) to (AT 984387)

(2) Be prepared to displace patrol base on order.

(3) Conduct fire team patrol to Battalion CP at 0600H.

c. Det. H&S Company.

(1) Continue patrolling from present patrol base, the following locations will be thoroughly searched:

- (a) (AT 998389)
- (b) (BT 014399)

d. Coordinating Instructions. No change.

SECRET

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS. No change.
5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS. No change.

P. L. HILGARTNER  
Lieutenant Colonel  
Commanding

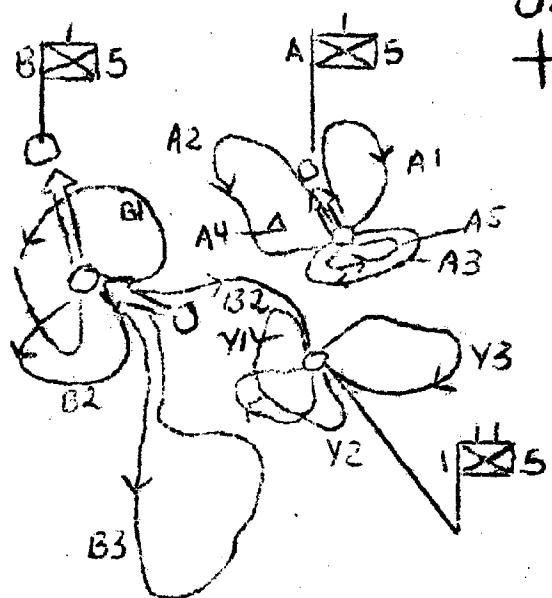
OFFICIAL

  
C. H. BLACK  
Major, USMC  
S-3

SECRET

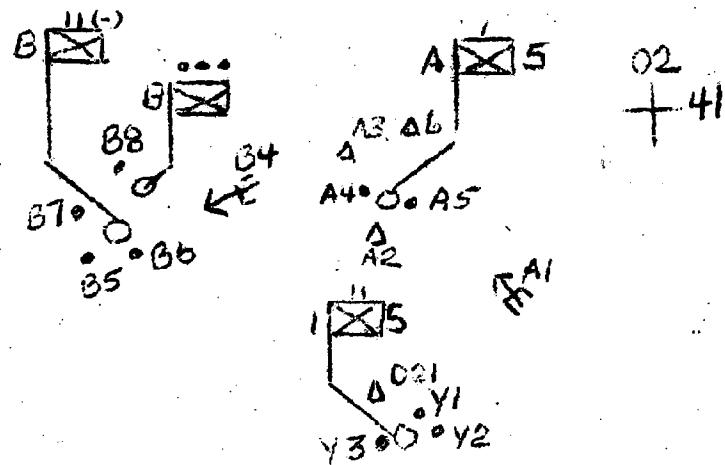
Movement and Night Disposition Overlay D+1

Ref: (a) Map, RVN; 1:50,000; Series L 7014, Sheet 66A0 III

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Enclosure (4)

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SECRET

1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
 QUE SON, RVN  
 261500H June 1967

Frag Order 754-67

Ref: (a) Map, RVN; 1:50,000; Series L 7014, Sheet 6640 III

Task Organization.

Company C (-)(Rein)

CPT JOHNSTON

Company C (-)

Det, H&S Co.

81 FO Tm

EAC Tm

Det, Med Plt

S-2 Scout

Kit Carson Tm

Det, Co B, 1stSPBn

Det, Co B, 1stEngrBn

Plt (-), Co 4, 1stTKBn

Det, Btry D, 2ndBn, 11thMar

1. SITUATION. No change.

2. MISSION. To conduct search and destroy operations to kill or capture VC and capture or destroy enemy weapons and equipment.

3. EXECUTION.

A. Company C (-)(Rein)

(1) Conduct S&D operations from present positions. See Annex A (Operation Overlay).

B. Company M, 3rdBn, 5thMar (-)(Rein).

(1) Continue defense of 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Combat Base in assigned sector.

(2) Conduct patrol activity as directed.

(3) Maintain one hour alert status.

(4) Be prepared to assume other missions on order.

C. H&S Company (-)(Rein)

(1) Continue defense of Combat Base in assigned sector.

(2) Conduct patrol activity as directed.

D. Platoon, Company C

(1) Continue defense of Combat Base in assigned sector.

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E. Plt (-), Company A, 1st Tank Bn

(1) Direct support, Company C.

F. Coordinating Instructions.

(1) H-Hour 0700

(2) D-Day 27 June 1967

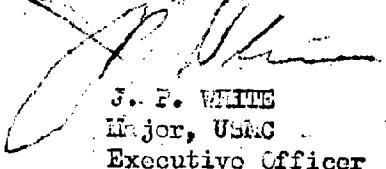
(3) Report reaching checkpoints and assigned objectives.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS. No change.

5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS.

(a) Company C reports to Company C (Rear) at Combat Base on company tactical net.

(b) Company C (Rear) reports to Battalion (Rear) on land line.

  
J. P. WHITE  
Major, USMC  
Executive Officer

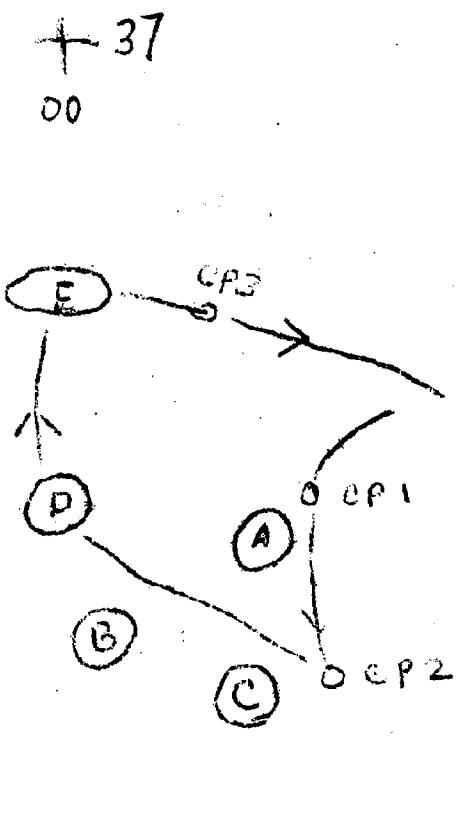
ANNEX: A Operation Overlay

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1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
QUE SON, RVN  
261300H June 1967

## A Annex A (Operation Overlay) to Frag Order 75A-67

Ref: (a) Map, RVN; 1:50,000; Series L7014, Sheet 6640 III



J. P. WHITE  
Major, USMC  
Executive Officer

A-1

Enclosure (5)

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1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
 QUE SON, RVN  
 262001H June 1967

Modification to Frag Order 75-67

Ref: (a) Map, 1:50,000; Series L7014, Sheet 6640 III

1. SITUATION. No change.
2. MISSION. Conduct search and destroy operations, capture and destroy VC, weapons caves, tunnels and fortifications.
3. EXECUTION.

a. Company A.

(1) From Patrol base conduct patrolling to thoroughly search area along military crest vicinity (AT 998403) northwest to (AT 995405) to Objective G to (AT 000408) to southeast to (AT 004405) to patrol base.

b. Company B.

(1) From patrol base conduct patrolling to thoroughly search area along military crest vicinity Objective A to (AT 993406) to (AT 993407) to (AT 994401) to (AT 985400) to (AT 982401) to patrol base.

c. Coordinating Instructions.

(1) Submit patrol routes to accomplish search of assigned areas and additional recommended routes to provide all around coverage of area surrounding patrol base along military crest. Company B submit recommended patrol route to include coverage of crest of Hill 384.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS. No change.
5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS. No change.

P. L. HILGARTNER  
 Lieutenant Colonel  
 Commanding

OFFICIAL

*C. H. Black*  
 C. H. BLACK  
 Major, USMC  
 S-3

Enclosure (6)

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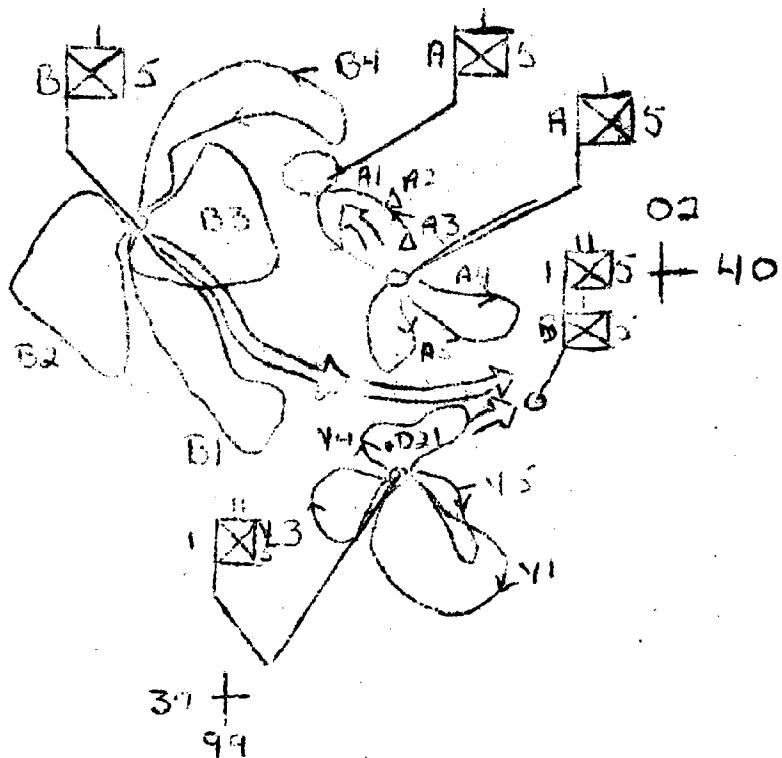
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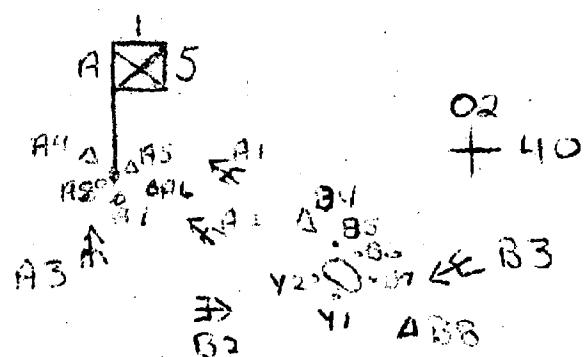
## Movement and Night Disposition Overlay D42

Ref: Map, RVN; 1:50,000 Series L7014, Sheet II-III

Day



## Night



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Enclosure (7)

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## DECLASSIFIED

(a) EMERGENCY

S

REF ID: A6522

SECRET

1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
QUE SON, RVN  
27 June 1967

Frag Order 76-67

Ref: (a) Map, RVN; 1:50,000; Series L7014, Sheet 6640 III

1. SITUATION. No change.

2. MISSION. To kill or capture VC and weapons, to destroy caves, tunnels, and fortifications.

3. EXECUTION.

a. Company A.

(1) At H-Hour continue attack along route of advance to Objective K, be prepared to continue attack on order.

(2) Route of advance from Company A patrol base to (AT 981394) to Phase Line Linda at CP Hwy, then along Phase Line Linda to CP Su to Objective K.

(3) Be prepared to assume other missions on order.

(a) EMERGENCY

b. Company B.

(1) At H-Hour conduct platoon patrol to secure Objective L, continue attack on order to search Objective M and set up blocking position.

(2) On order Company B (-) continues attack to search Objective N be prepared to continue attack on order.

(3) Be prepared to assume other missions on order.

c. Det, HQ Company.

(1) General Support.

(2) On order, commence movement as directed in trace of Company B.

d. Battalion Reserve.

(1) 2nd Platoon, Company D.

(2) Command group security.

e. Coordinating Instructions.

(1) H-Hour 0630; D-Day 28 June 1967

(2) Locations:

Objective K (AT 985379).

Objective I (AT 000377).

Objective J (AT 983368).

Phase Line Linda from (AT 982385) to northwest along stream to (AT 504383).

REF ID: A6522

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Enclosure (8)

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Objective L (IT 026384).  
Objective M (IT 008383).  
Objective P (AT 987374).  
Objective N (IT 004374).

(3) Boundary line between Company A and D is a line connecting points from (AT 996377) and (AT 975356). Company A zone of action is northwest of boundary. Company B zone of action is southeast of boundary.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS. No change.

5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS. No change.

P. L. HILGARTNER  
LIEUTENANT COLONEL, U. S. Marine Corps  
Commanding

ANNEX A: Operation Overlay  
ANNEX D: Fire Support Plan

OFFICIAL

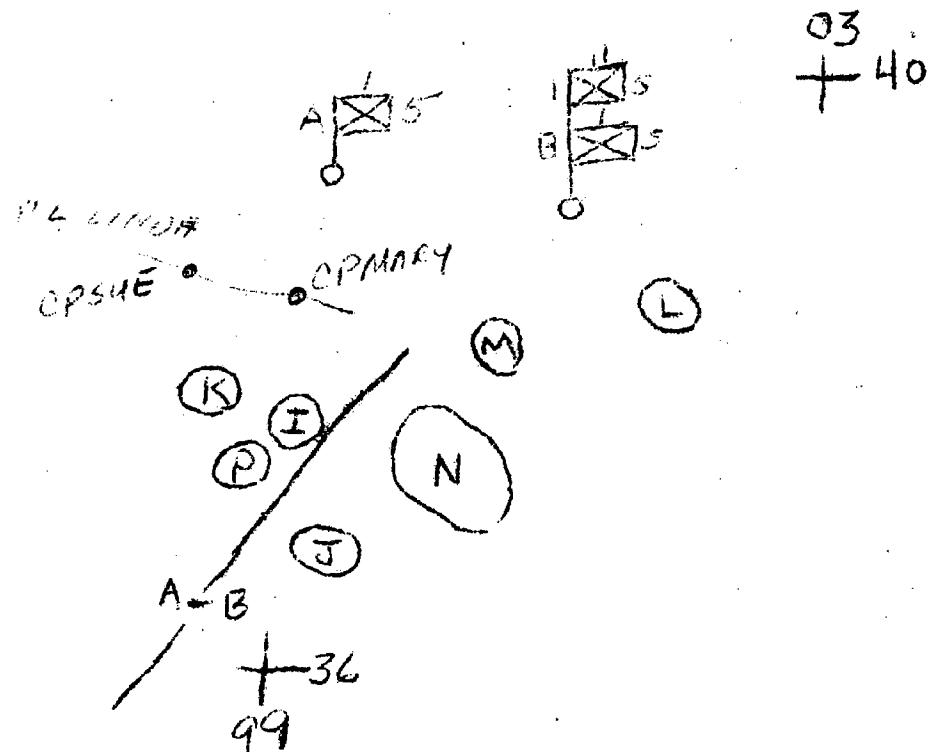
C. H. BLACK  
Major USMC  
S-3

SECRET

1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
 QUE SON, RVN  
 27 June 1967

Annex A (Operation Overlay) to Frag Order 76-67

Ref: (a) Map, RVN; 1:50,000; Series L7014, Sheet 6640 III



P. L. HILGARTNER  
 Lieutenant Colonel  
 Commanding

OFFICIAL

*C. H. Black*  
 C. H. BLACK  
 Major, USMC  
 S-3

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Enclosure (8)

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SECRET

1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
QUE SON, RVN  
27 June 1967

## Annex B (Fire Support Plan) to Frag Order 76-67

Ref: (a) Map, RVN; 1:50,000; Series L 7014, Sheet 6640 III

1. Artillery.

a. Initial on call fires are located as follows: See (Fire Support Overlay).

<u>MISSION NUMBER</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TYPE FIRE</u>
SD001	BT 017384	HE only
SD002	BT 010381	HE only
SD003	BT 001372	HE only
SD004	AT 994367	HE only
SD005	AT 992377	HE only
SD006	AT 983379	HE only
SD007	AT 988374	HE only
(8) SD008	AT 991306	HE only
SD009	AT 985388	HE only

TERMINUS

b. Additional artillery fire will be provided as required.

c. All requests for artillery will come through the Company FO Team.

2. Air.

a. TAC/4 and A0's will be divided as requested for aerial reconnaissance of the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines operational area as defined in Frag Order 75-67.

b. Fix wing support will be available as required by 1st Battalion, 5th Marines.

c. Air will be under control of the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines ALO.

d. Decision on use of air support remains with the CO, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines.

(8) emulsion

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TERMINUS

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Enclosure (8)

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d. All requests for air must come through the Company FAC Team.

P. L. HILGARTNER  
Lieutenant Colonel  
Commanding

Tab (1) Fire Support Overlay

(b) exemption

OFFICIAL APPROVAL

*C. H. Black*  
C. H. BLACK  
Major, USMC  
S-3

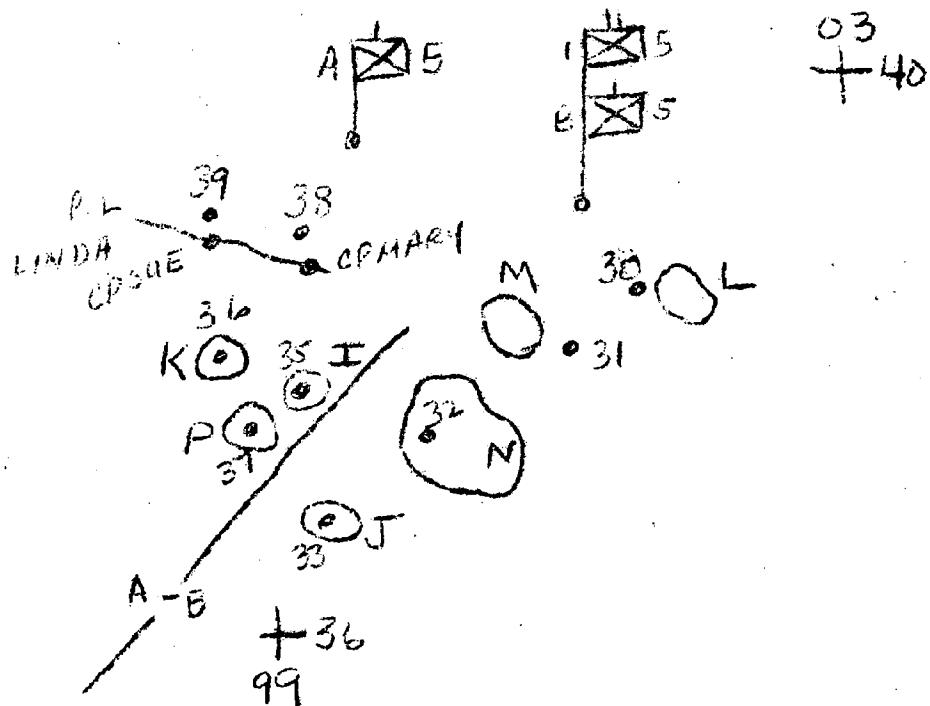
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1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
 QUE SON, RVN  
 27 June 1967

Tab 1 (Fire Support Overlay) to Annex B (Fire Support Plan) to Frag Order 76-67.

Ref: (a) Map, RVN; 1:50,000; Series L 7014, Sheet 6640 III



P. L. HILGARTNER  
 Lieutenant Colonel  
 Commanding

OFFICIAL

*[Signature]*  
 C. H. BLACK  
 Major, USMC  
 S-3

B-1-1

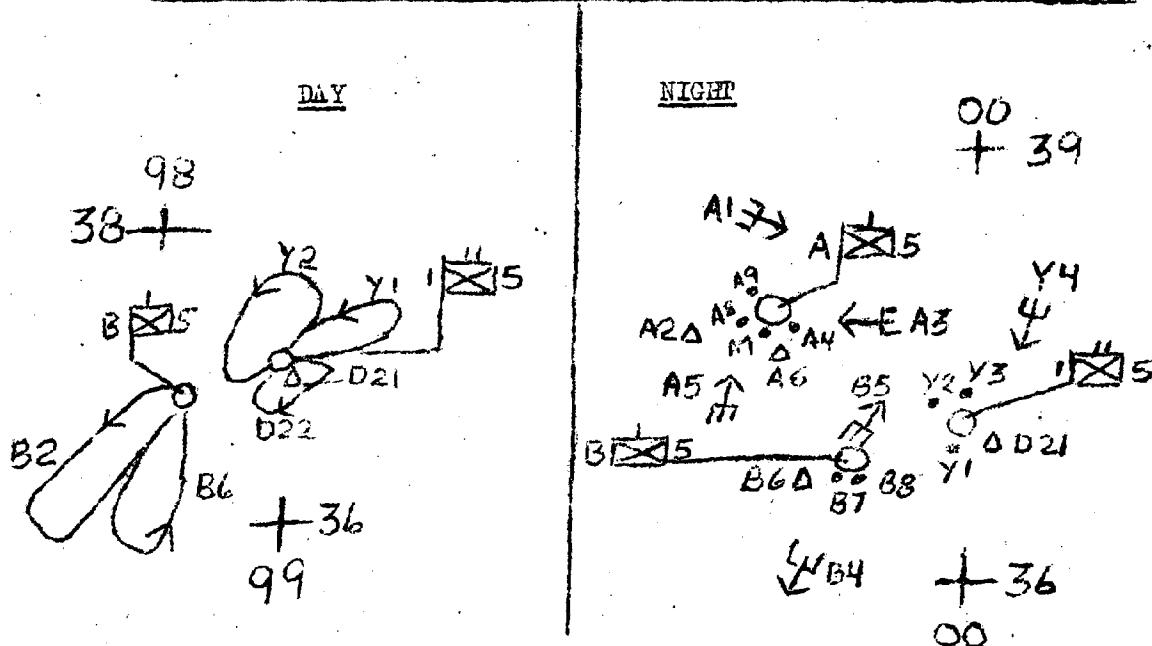
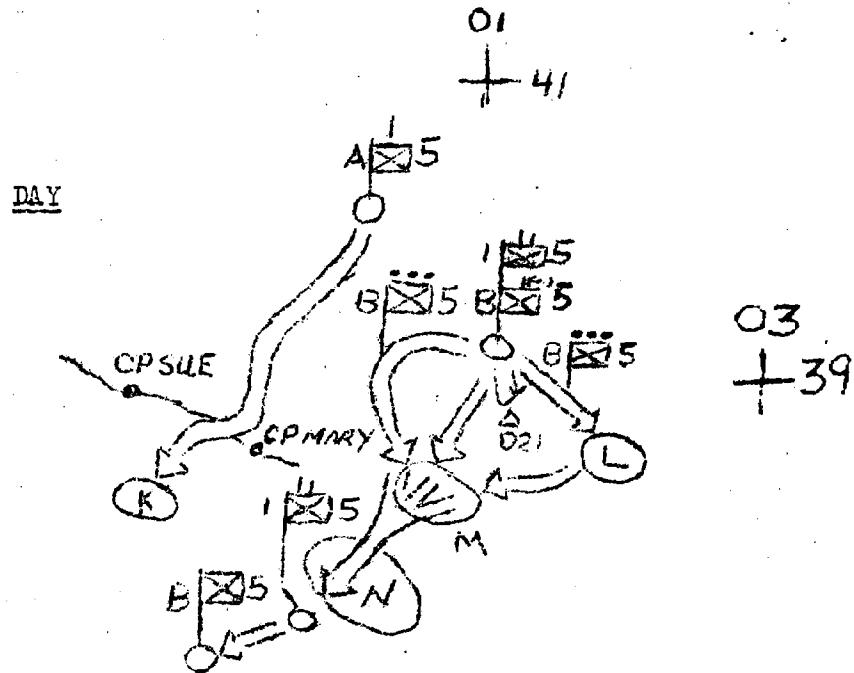
Enclosure (8)

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## Movement and Night Disposition Overlay D-3

Ref: Map, RVN; 1:50,5000; Series L7014, Sheet 6640 III



SECRET

1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
 QUANG NAM, RVN  
 282400H June 1967

Frag Order 77-67

Ref: (a) Map, RVN; 1:50,000; Series L 7014, Sheet 6640 III

1. SITUATION.

- A. Enemy, no change.
- B. Friendly, light Section Chastworth ALTA in direct support 1/5.

2. MISSION. To kill and capture VC and weapons, destroy caves, tunnels, and fortifications.

3. EXECUTION.

A. Company A.

- (1) At H-Hour continue attack to Objective U.
- (2) Establish patrol base and patrol to Objective T.
- (3) Be prepared to assume other missions on order.

B. Company B.

- (1) Conduct patrols from present positions to Objective V and Objective S.
- (2) Be prepared to continue attack on order.
- (3) Be prepared to assume other missions on order.

C. Company C.

- (1) At H-Hour-30 detach 1 platoon (Rein) with Artillery FO and Engineers to escort Sec. 3rd Plt, Co. A, 1st Tank Battalion along Phase Line Nancy to CP Henry, then to CP John.
- (2) Be prepared to assume other missions on order.

D. H&S Company.

- (1) General Support.
- (2) On order commence movement to CP John.

E. 3rd Platoon, Company A, 1st Tank Battalion.

- (1) At H-Hour-30 commence movement with Company C platoon along Phase Line Nancy to CP Henry. Then to CP John, be prepared to support 1st Battalion, 5th Marines units by fire.

- (2) Be prepared to assume other missions on order.

SECRET

f. Battalion Reserve.

- (1) 2nd Platoon, Company D.
- (2) Battalion security group.

g. Coordinating Instructions.

- (1) H-Hour 0600H.
- (2) D-Day 29 June 1967.
- (3) Locations:

- (a) Objective U (AT 974375)
- (b) CP John (AT 989358)
- (c) FCL From (AT 990367) to (AT 976376)
- (d) Objective S (AT 998362)
- (e) Objective V (AT 977354)
- (f) Objective T (AT 983368)

(4) All units report arrival at checkpoints, phase lines and objectives.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS. No change.

5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS. No change.

P. L. HILGARTNER  
LIEUTENANT COLONEL  
Commanding

Annex 4: (Operation Overlay)

OFFICIAL

*C. H. Black*  
C. H. BLACK  
Major, USMC  
S-3

ENCLOSURE (10)

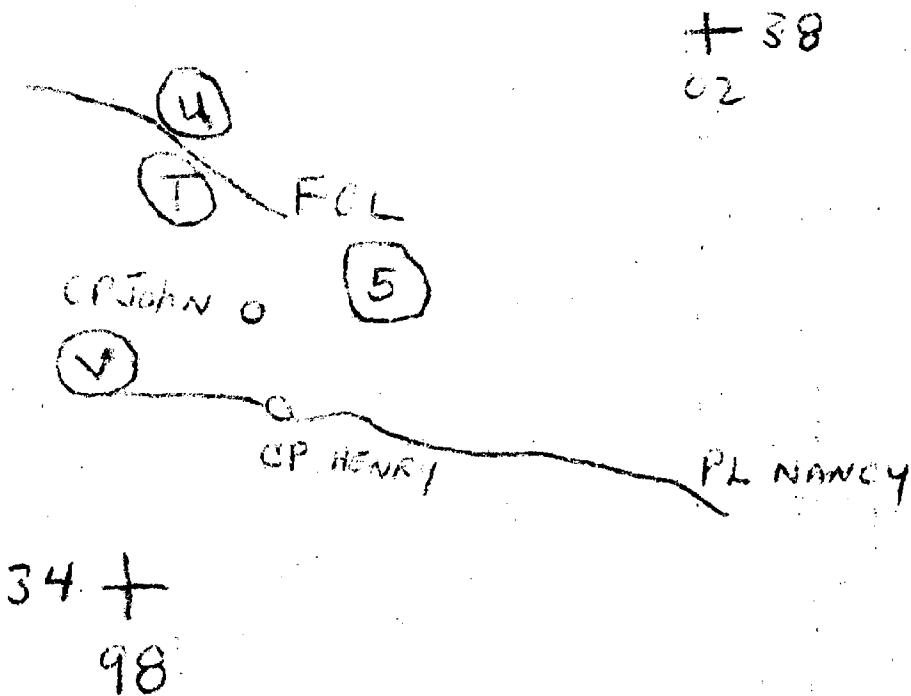
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1st ~~Br~~ Battalion, 5th Marines  
 QUE SON, RVN  
 282400H June 1967

Annex A: (Operation Overlay) to Frag Order 77-67

Ref: (a) Map, RVN; 1:50,000; Series L 7014, Sheet 6640 III



P. L. HILGARTNER  
 Lieutenant Colonel  
 Commanding

OFFICIAL

*C. H. Black*  
 C. H. BLACK  
 Major, USMC  
 S-3

A-1

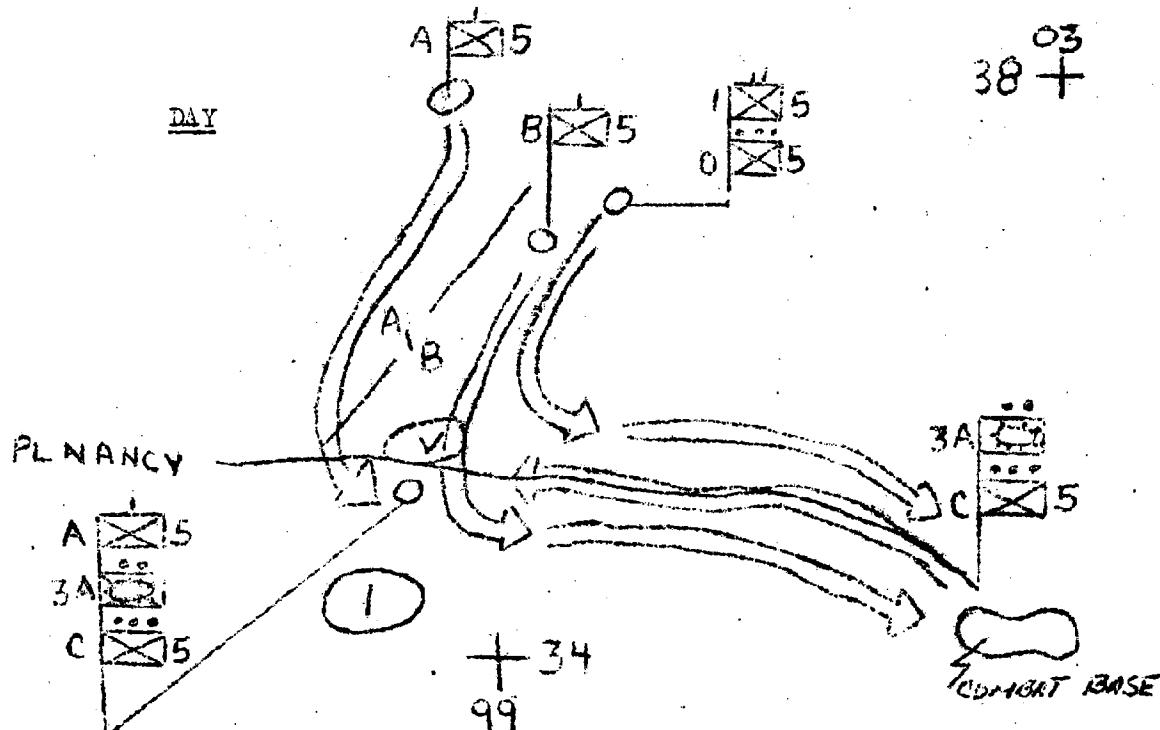
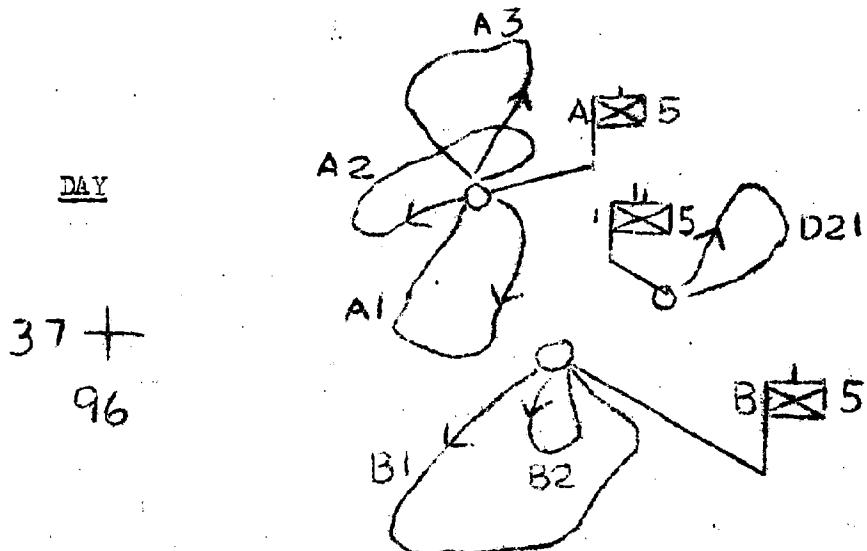
Enclosure (10)

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Movement and Night Disposition Overlay D+4

Ref. Map, RVN; 1:50,000, Series I7014, Sheet III

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Enclosure (11)

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1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
 QUÉ SON, RVN  
 29 June 1967

## Frag Order 78-67

Ref: (a) Map, RVN: 1:50,000; Series L7014, Sheet 6640 III

TIME ZONE

Time Zone: H

## 1. SITUATION. No change.

2. MISSION. 1st Battalion, 5th Marines conducts search and destroy operations to kill or capture VC, weapons, locate cave, tunnel, harbor sites and destroy fortifications.

## 3. EXECUTION.

a. Company A.

TIME ZONE

(1) Light section of tanks D/S Company A.

(2) On order at H-Hour commence search and destroy operation to Objective U. continue attack to Objective I, keeping within zone to Phase Line Nancy; continue attack on order along axis of advance to combat base at Nui Lac Son.

(3) On arrival combat base Nui Lac Son receive Company D and assume mission and responsibility for security of combat base at Nui Lac Son. Be prepared to assume other missions on order.

b. Company B.

(1) On order continue attack to Combat Base at Hill 51.

(2) Be prepared to assume other missions on order.

c. Det. HES Company.

(1) General Support.

(2) Provide security for Battalion Command Group.

(3) On order continue attack to Combat Base Hill 51.

d. Company D.

(1) On order, when received by Company A, commence movement along axis of advance to Combat Base Hill 51.

(2) Control Linkup with Company A and provide guides to meet Company A and escort them into combat base at Nui Lac Son.

(3) Be prepared to assume other missions on order.

e. Platoon Company C with Light Section Tanks.

(1) Direct Support Company A.

(2) On order, when directed, continue attack to Combat Base Hill 51.

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f. Battalion Reserve.

(1) Battalion security group.

g. Coordinating Instructions.

(1) H-Hour 1400  
 (2) Locations

(a) Objective 1 (AT 983346)  
 (b) Objective 2 (AT 983325)  
 (c) Objective 3 (AT 010314)

(d) Phase Line Judy from (BT 020343) south along road to (BT 000283)

(e) CP Jane (BT 034294)  
 (f) CP Irene (BT 034316)  
 (g) CP Alice (BT 033334)

(h) Company A axis of advance: Objective 1 to Objective 2 to Objective 3 to Phase Line Judy, southwest along Phase Line Judy into Combat Base at Nui Lac Son.

(i) Company D axis of advance: CP Jane to CP Irene to CP Alice into Combatbase Hill 51.

(3) Boundary between Quang Da special zone and 1st Battalion, 5th Marines is the 96 North-South Grid Line.

4. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS. No change.

5. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS. No change.

P. L. HILG ROTHER  
 Lieutenant Colonel  
 Commanding

ANNEX: A Operation Overlay

OFFICIAL

*C. H. Black*  
 C. H. BLACK  
 Major, USMC  
 S-3

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED

## SECRET

1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
QUE SON, RVN  
29 Dec 1967

Annex A (Operation Overlay) to  
Frag Order 78-67

Ref: (a) Map, RVN; 1:50,000; Series  
L 7014, Sheet II-III

40

$$A = \mathbb{R}$$

Link up point for Co. A, Flt Co C and Tanks

$$\begin{array}{r} 35 \\ + \\ 97 \end{array}$$

1

PL. IV

## DATA BASE

— 5 —

GUANG DA  
Special Zone

## PLATINUM

2

10

0 155

04

28+

**OFFICIAL**

C. H. BLACK  
Major, USMC  
S-3

4-1

P. L. HILGARTNER  
Lieutenant Colonel  
Commanding

Enclosure (12)

**SECRET**

SECRET

1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
 SON, RVN  
 29 June 1967

## Modification to Frag Order 77-67

## 1. SITUATION

- a. Enemy. It is reported that a hospital is in vicinity of (AT 970325).
- 2. MISSION. To kill or capture VC and weapons, to destroy caves, tunnels and fortifications, and to locate and destroy hospital.

## 3. EXECUTION

a. Company A.

(1) At H-Hour, continue attack to search Objective 1, continue attack to Objective 4. Be prepared to continue attack to Objective 2, Objective 5, Objective 6 enroute to relief of Company D.

(a) Make recommendations to Commanding Officer when tanks can not effectively support attack of Company A because of trafficability of area.

(2) At Objective 4, conduct patrolling to find and destroy enemy hospital.

(a) 1st Platoon, Company A, 1st Tank Battalion.

(b) (1) Direct support of Company A.

(2) On order Commanding Officer be prepared to return to Combat Base at Hill 51, be separate route.

(c) Relieve Company C; be prepared to support attacking company on order.

d. Coordinating Instructions.

(1) H-Hour 0600H.

(2) Area bounded on north by 32 east west grid line and on east by 98 north south grid line is restricted. 1st . . . . ., 5th Marines units will not enter without permission from Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marin

(3) Location:

- (a) Objective 4 (AT 990325).
- (b) Objective 5 (AT 987315).
- (c) Objective 6 (AT 996300).

(4) Rules of engagement will be enforced.

(5) Coordinate fire support plan with Battalion FSO.

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ENCLOSURE (13)

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4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS. No change.
5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS. No change.

P. L. HILDGARTNER  
LIEUTENANT COLONEL  
Commanding

ANNEX: A Operation Overlay

OFFICIAL

*C. H. Black*  
C. H. BLACK  
Major, USMC  
S-3

ENCLOSURE (13)  
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1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
QUE SCN, RVN  
29 June 1967

Annex 4A (Operation Overlay) to Modification to Frag Order 77-67

Ref: (a) Map, RVN; 1:50,000; Series L 7014, Sheet 6640 III

349

PL  
JUDY

10

11

4

5

5

30 +  
47

5

OFFICIAL

P. L. HILGARTNER  
Lieutenant Colonel  
Commanding

C. H. BLACK  
Major, USMC  
S-3

4 - 5

Enclosure (13)

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## HEADQUARTERS

3rd Battalion, 5th Marines  
 1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
 FPO San Francisco, California 96602

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SERIAL NO. 00242-67

3/CBW/plb

3121

9 July 1967

COPY # 12 of 25 COPIES

From: Commanding Officer, Third Battalion, Fifth Marines  
 To: Commanding General, First Marine Division  
 Via: Commanding Officer, Fifth Marines

Subj: Combat After Action Report

Ref: (a) Division Order 3480.1  
 (b) 5th Marines Fwd Order 45-67

5TH MARINE REGIMENT FILES

Encl: Operations Description

00826-67

1. Code Name, Operation CALHOUN
2. Date of Operation, 250600H June 1967 to 011200H July 1967
3. Location, Quang Nam Province, Republic of Vietnam
4. Command Headquarters, See Task Organization
5. Task Organization

3rd Bn (-) (rein), 5th Marines

LtCol C. B. WEBSTER

H&S Co (-)  
 Det, Btry F, 2nd Bn, 11th Mar (Ln Tm)  
 Det, 1st SP Bn (HST)  
 Det, 1st Eng Bn  
 Det, Hq Co, 5th Mar (Scout-Sniper Tm)

Co I (rein)

Capt E. M. BURKE

Co I  
 Det, H&S Co  
 Det, Med Plat  
 Det, 81mm Mort Plat (FO Tm)  
 Det, Comm Plat (FAC Tm)  
 Det, Int Sect (Scouts and Chieu Hoi)  
 Det, Btry F, 2nd Bn, 11th Mar (FO Tm)  
 Det, 1st Eng Bn  
 Det, 1st SP Bn (HST)  
 Det, Hq Co, 5th Mar (Scout-Sniper Tm)

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9 July 1967Co L (rein)

Capt. H. D. PETTENGILL

Co L  
 Det, H&S Co  
 Det, Med Plat  
 Det, 81mm Mort Plat (FO Tm)  
 Det, Comm Plat (FAC Tm)  
 Det, Int Sect (Scouts, Interpreter and Chieu Hoi)  
 Det, Btry F, 2nd Bn, 11th Mar (FO Tm)  
 Det, 1st Eng Bn  
 Det, 1st SP Bn (HST)  
 Det, Hq Co, 5th Mar (Scout-Sniper Tm)

3rd Plat, Co B, 1st Eng Bn

2ndLt J. B. MILLS

2nd Plat, Co B, 1st SP Bn2ndLt R. G. WILMES  
1stLt R. W. BAXTERBattalion ReserveCo K (-) (rein)2ndLt J. C. GRACIDA  
Capt W. R. TWALEY

Co K (-)  
 Det, H&S Co  
 Det, Med Plat  
 Det, 81mm Mort Plat (FO Tm)  
 Det, Comm Plat (FAC Tm)  
 Det, Int Sect (Scouts and Kit Carson Scout)  
 Det, Btry F, 2nd Bn, 11th Mar (FO Tm)  
 Det, 1st Eng Bn  
 Det, 1st SP Bn (HST)  
 Det, Hq Co, 5th Mar (Scout-Sniper Tm)

6. Supporting Forcesa. Artillery

(1) During the course of Operation CALHOUN, the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines received artillery support from one battery. Battery F, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines was in direct support throughout the Operation. At no time during the course of the Operation was the Battalion without artillery support.

(2) Artillery was used to prepare Battalion and Company Objectives and routes of advance. Preparation fires were effective and timely.

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b. Air

(1) Operation CALHOUN took place inclusively from 25 June 1967 to 1 July 1967. There were no periods during the Operation where weather was a deterrent to utilization of close air support.

(2) Fixed wing support was used very little during the Operation due to the lack of contact. One fixed wing air strike was run in support of the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines on 26 June 1967.

(3) Airborne observers were utilized effectively during the Operation for visual reconnaissance of the operation area.

(4) The AN/PRC-25 was used exclusively for communications and proved to be a very reliable unit.

7. Intelligence

a. The enemy forces anticipated on Operation CALHOUN were primarily local force units with some possibility of finding elements of 2nd NVA Division Hqs in the mountain area vicinity of BT 0143. No other specific enemy units were identified as operating in the area though increasing activity had been noticed during the last 30 day period.

b. A small contact on the first day of the Operation resulted in the finding of numerous documents. One military document mentioned the GK 32nd unit which is a recoilless rifle battalion and another named the 620th unit, part of the 2nd NVA Division, which was working in the area. Later on that same day an underground hospital was found at BT 024403. It consisted of one main room (4' X 5' X 50') and three others measuring 5' X 5' X 15'. There were twenty (20) beds found in the cave plus numerous medical supplies. On 26 June 1967 a large cave was found at BT 015404 measuring 4' X 15' X 30'. Ten (10) uniforms were found inside and hidden near the mouth of the cave were 18-82mm mortar rounds and 20-75mm recoilless rifle rounds. Another cave was found on 27 June at BT 032378. It measured 5' X 10' X 80' and contained twenty (20) beds. The villagers in the area said the VC travelling through the area would often stop and use it for a resting place. Hidden rice in large quantities was found in numerous hiding places as were items of enemy uniforms and equipment. During the Operation occasional sniper fire and some small scale probing were encountered.

c. The objective area for the Operation was Base area 116; the 3/5 sector, moving NW out of Que Son (BT 0334), was the valley and hill area at BT 985355, then turning NE, the mountain area in the vicinity of BT 0241. In this area an arc light strike zone was examined and the area was heavily searched and patrolled. The latter part of the Operation was spent

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reversing direction and sweeping the same valley back into dense shrubs and 20 foot canopy spread over the area. Many well used trails covered the area, however very few civilians were encountered in the operational area.

d. The few Vietnamese civilians that were seen and questioned freely volunteered information concerning VC movements in the area. Because of the lack of people in the area civic action efforts were at a minimum. Some psychological warfare was employed through the Battalion's Kit Carson Scout and Chieu Hois who spoke to the civilians and explained the merits of the GVN program.

#### 8. Mission

During the conduct of Operation CALHOUN, the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines was assigned the mission of thoroughly and methodically searching the assigned objective area to locate enemy personnel, installations, and supply and equipment caches.

#### 9. Concept of Operations

At 242300H June 1967, three Companies I, K (-) and L, and the Alpha Command Group left the 1/5 Combat Base (BT 024346) and moved on foot along the LOD (main trail running from AT 988360 to BT 026397) crossing it at 250600H June 1967. Patrol bases were subsequently established in assigned zone to facilitate accomplishment of the assigned mission.

#### 10. Execution

##### a. 24 June 1967

(1) At 241700H the Commanding Officer, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines received the 5th Marine's Operation Order for Operation CALHOUN.

(2) At 242300H all units left the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Combat Base (BT 024346) and moved into position to cross the LOD at H-hour (250600H).

##### b. 25 June 1967

(1) At 250155H Company I's point encountered one VC on the trail at BT 003374 wearing a pack. The Marines fired at and killed the VC. While searching the area noises were heard in the bushes. Marines fired into the bushes and threw 4 grenades. A search of the area revealed two more VC bodies, two Chicom grenades, three packs, two cartridge belts, two carbine magazines and documents. Documents taken from one of the enemy dead mentioned the GK 32 and the 620th unit. The GK 32 was later found to be a weapons sub-unit of the RQ 22nd Battalion which is reported to have twelve 75mm recoilless rifles as part of its armament.

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- (2) At 250500H the lead elements arrived at the LOD (BT 022393).
- (3) At 250600H lead elements crossed the LOD.
- (4) At 250930H all units arrived at the following patrol base positions and commenced patrolling their assigned areas:

- (a) Command Group and Company K - BT 026408
- (b) Company I - BT 017404
- (c) Company L - BT 025410

(5) At 251130H Company I found 1000 pounds of rice in large containers at BT 023395. Rice was burned.

(6) At 251330H Company I found an underground hospital cave network at BT 014403. The main cave measured 4' X 5' X 50' and three side rooms measured 5' X 5' X 15'. The hospital contained 20 beds and the following items: 8-8oz powder bottles, 21 one quart urns of powder, 7 empty penecilin bottles, 5 gauze rolls, 5 medicine packets, 3 tubes of medicine and 1 small powder can. The medicine was manufactured by Vietnamese and French firms. The following items were also found in the cave complex: 250 pounds of rice, 10 pairs of black PJs, one blue uniform, one gun case for a caliber .50 machinegun and 7 rounds of Chicom 7.62mm ammunition. A sample of each medicine was forwarded to the S-2, 5th Marines and all other items were destroyed. The cave complex was blown by the engineers the next day.

(7) At 251400H Company K found one hut (BT 030410) with no people living in it. The hut contained six bushels of rice, four bushels of mushrooms, 15 pounds of salt, one half bushel of dried fruit, one half bushel of tobacco, one quart of kerosene and one quart of oil. The contents were destroyed in the hut.

(8) At 251830H a message was received from a recon insert stating that they had spotted numerous people vicinity BT 0339 moving west. No action taken because of inability to positively identify as VC.

(9) At 251840H a message was received from a recon insert stating that they had spotted VC at BT 043394 moving northeast and carrying something that looked like a mortar. 81mm mortar mission fired. Search of area revealed negative results.

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(10) At nightfall all units were located at their combat bases as described earlier. The limit of search for 25 June was as follows:

(a) Company I to BT 013409

(b) Company L to BT 019415

(11) At 25235H Company I (BT 017404) spotted six to eight VC approximately 50 meters in front of their perimeter. Marines opened fire with approximately 150 rounds SA and 2 grenades. VC returned approximately 50 rounds automatic fire. The Marines heard moans from the automatic weapons positions after the firing had ceased. The area was searched at first light and two heavy blood trails were found. Results were 2 VC KIA (probable).

c. 26 June 1967

(1) At first light all units initiated patrols in assigned areas.

(2) At 260620H Company I (BT 018402) found a VCS male hiding between some rocks in the vicinity of the previous night's probe. Found with him were 8 pounds of rice, three sets of Vietnamese clothing made of parachute material, a cigarette lighter with a 403 insignia on the side, a plastic tube of powder and some dried fruit. The VCS was forwarded to the 5th Marines.

(3) At 260730H Company I found a 64 year old man hiding in a cave at BT 014404. With him were found 4 sets of black PJs, three bags of rice and one bottle of liquid aspirin. The VCS was forwarded to the 5th Marines.

(4) Between 261000H and 261800H Company L patrols located the following:

(a) 200 pounds of rice at BT 021408.

(b) VC rest area at BT 020414 which contained old camouflage and the remains of old cooking fires. Rest area had not been used for sometime.

(c) Camp site at BT 023405 with hot food still on a small fire.

(5) At 261130H Company I (BT 034413) spotted 6 VC running down a trail (BT 038412) 500 meters away. One VC was carrying a BAR, another

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was carrying a carbine. Company I opened fire with 100 rounds of SA, two M-79 rounds and called in an artillery mission and an air strike. Conducted a search of the area finding 500 pounds of rice, 4 bushels of potatoes, an NVA sweatshirt, assorted documents, clothing, and medical supplies.

(6) At 261345H Company I's Chieu Hoi found a large camouflaged basket containing 600 pounds of rice at BT 017404.

(7) At 261700H Company I found a cave at BT 015404. Cave was 4' X 15' X 30' with five bamboo beds, six sets of black PJs, and four khaki uniforms in it. Outside the cave Company I found 18 rounds of 82mm mortar ammunition, (3 Chicom make, the rest Russian), 20 rounds of 75mm recoilless rifle ammunition with K3 markings on the projectile nose, one very rusty pump shotgun, one pack, one gas mask, and assorted papers. Four of the mortar rounds, one recoilless rifle round and all intelligence items were forwarded to the 5th Marines. The rest were destroyed.

(8) The limits of the day's search were as follows:

- (a) Company I - BT 006403
- (b) Company K - BT 044413
- (c) Company L - BT 014421

d. 27 June 1967

(1) At first light all units initiated patrols to continue search of assigned areas.

(2) At 270630H Company I moved it's patrol base from BT 017404 of assigned areas.

(3) At 270925H Company L found a small cave at BT 023408. It contained 75 dishes, a few cooking pots, carpenter tools, many chop sticks clothing and some papers. Samples of all items were forwarded to 5th Marines; the rest were destroyed.

(4) At 271000H Company K found a tunnel entrance 15' underground. The entrance was 4' X 5' X 50' and lead into a main room which measured 5' X 10' X 80'. Inside were 20 beds. Company K's Kit Carson Scout questioned the villagers learning that 30 VC had stayed in the cave the previous night and had headed south at 270600H. VC were armed with rifles, carbines and Thompson SMGs. 2000 pounds of rice were found just outside the cave. The cave and rice were destroyed.

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(5) At 271105H Company L reached the limit of search on its route of reconnaissance (route WINTER at BT 017430) with negative results.

(6) At 271115H Company K (BT 032398) spotted six VC wearing black and white PJs (BT 027397) running into a dirt cave or bunker. An artillery mission was called on the enemy position. A search of the area was conducted with negative results.

(7) At 271500H Company K (BT 038404) found two HLZs, each measuring 40 meters by 40 meters covered with 6' tall helicopter punji sticks. No booby traps were found. All punji sticks were taken down and burned.

(8) At 271845H Company K (BT 026408) spotted a column of 12 VC moving west into a treeline (BT 050395) where they were joining 7 more VC. At least one VC had a weapon. Three artillery missions were called in. A company K OP saw 6 VC being dragged away. Another VC crawled out of the bushes and collapsed. The artillery caused one large secondary explosion. Results were 7 VC KIA (probable).

(9) At nightfall all units were located as previously reported.

(10) At 272300H Company I (BT 015408) spotted 1 VC in black PJs moving in the stream bed at BT 014407. Company I fired 20 rounds of SA and two M-79 rounds. The area was searched with negative results.

c. 28 June 1967

(1) At first light all units initiated patrols to continue search of their assigned areas.

(2) At 281025H Company L (BT 034420) received approximately 50 rounds of automatic weapons fire from an estimated 2 VC (BT 031422) wearing black PJs. Company L's Scout-Sniper returned one round and 1 VC fell. Called in an artillery mission with excellent coverage of target. Results were 1 VC KIA (confirmed).

(3) At 281400H Company L searched three villages at the following coordinates: BT 046419, BT 044413, and BT 042413. In each, approximately 20 women and children and no men were found. The women stated that the men had left three days ago. Found ten VC gas masks, 1000 pounds of rice and some VC papers. The huts in which the above were found were burned and four secondary explosions occurred. Papers and gas masks were forwarded to the 5th Marines.

(4) At nightfall all unit CPs were located as previously reported. The limits of search for 28 June were as follows:

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9 July 1967

- (a) Company I - BT 002418
- (b) Company K - BT 022396
- (c) Company L - BT 049416

This completed the search mission of routes of reconnaissance FALL and WINTER plus thorough coverage of the area to the east.

f. 29 June 1967

- (1) At 290730H all units departed their patrol bases to conduct S&D operations enroute to the consolidation point at BT 022395.
- (2) At 201100H all units arrived at the consolidation point.
- (3) At 291330H all units moved out from the consolidation point to conduct S&D operations enroute to the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines' Combat Base.
- (4) At 291700H all units arrived at the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines' Combat Base, and established the following positions:

- (a) Command Group - BT 023346
- (b) Company I - BT 021345
- (c) Company K - BT 023345
- (d) Company L - BT 024347
- (e) Company M - BT 025345

g. 30 June 1967

- (1) All units conducted limited patrolling to secure the local area.
- (2) At nightfall all units were located as previously reported.

h. 1 July 1967

- (1) All units conducted limited patrolling to maintain security of the local area.

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9 July 1967

(2) At 010730H Company M heli-lifted to Thang Binh (BT 165413) to provide security for Battery F, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines. 5th Marines assumed OPCON of Company M.

(3) At 010830H Company K was heli-lifted to Hill #29 (BT 226320) to provide security for the 5th Marines CP and a detachment of the 9th Engineer Battalion repairing Highway #1. 5th Marines assumed OPCON of Company K.

(4) At 011200H Operation CALHOUN WAS secured.

11. Results

a. Enemy

(1) The following is an assessment of VC personnel casualties inflicted:

- (a) VC KIA (confirmed) - 4
- (b) VC KIA (probable) - 10
- (c) VCS - 3

(2) The following is a compilation of enemy equipment and material captured or destroyed:

- (a) Shotgun (captured) - 1
- (b) 75mm RR rounds - 20
- (c) 82mm mortar rounds - 18
- (d) Rounds of small arms ammunition - 75
- (e) Medical supplies - 27 lbs
- (f) Documents - 4 lbs
- (g) Rice - 4,452 lbs

b. Friendly

No combat casualties were sustained throughout the Operation.

12. Administration

a. Resupply

(1) Resupply was accomplished from the Logistical Support Area at Tam Ky.

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(2) Normal resupply was accomplished every other day. Emergency resupply was accomplished when requested.

(3) The HST net was used as a logistical, administrative and helicopter control net.

(4) Availability of helicopters was a controlling factor but overall support was excellent.

b. Maintenance. Maintenance of equipment was accomplished in the field where possible. Replacement of defective equipment was accomplished through the LSA.

c. Treatment of casualties, evacuation and hospitalization

(1) Evacuation of personnel was accomplished smoothly and usually ~~in~~ a minimum of time. Again, availability of helicopters was a determining factor.

(2) Evacuees were removed expediently from the field and excellent care was received throughout the evacuation chain.

d. Transportation. No problems were encountered with transportation. Replacement and special supplies were transported by truck to the LSA. All resupplies and replacements were delivered to the field by helicopter from the LSA.

e. Communications

(1) The AN/PRC-25 is outstanding FM radio equipment. Except for the AN/PRC-41 used by the ALO and FAC teams, battalion communications were accomplished with the AN/PRC-25.

(2) The RC-292, less AB-125, was used in poor terrain to extend the range and power of the AN/PRC-25. It proved to be quite adequate.

f. Medical Evacuation

(1) Total number of medical evacuees	- 7
(2) Killed in Action	- 0
(3) Wounded in Action	- 0
(4) Wounded in Action non-evac	- 0
(5) Non-Combat deaths	- 0

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UNCLASSIFIED (6) Non-Combat injuries - 7

13. Special Equipment and Techniques

a. Scout sniper teams again proved to be a valuable asset when used to engage the enemy at long ranges.

b. The Kit Carson Scouts was most effective in finding hidden VC ammunition, rice, and equipment during this Operation. Their knowledge of VC methods and cache marking were invaluable in uncovering concealed positions.

c. The shaped charge is not as effective in blowing cave complexes as is the cratering charge; both were used during the Operation.

14. Commander's Analysis. Operation CALHOUN was relatively successful in finding a variety of small hidden Viet Cong havens and caches. Enough time was given to accomplish a detailed search and destroy mission and the results evidenced this time allowance. All of the searching was tedious and executed under very hot climatic conditions and in rugged terrain. Base area 116 (3/5 sector) did not produce any large enemy findings and an obvious lack of enemy troop activity was evident throughout this Operation which may have been the result of a previous week's Operation through the same vicinity. Most of the findings were at the lower mountain levels, predominantly in ravines and gulleys. Rice growing in the area was located at high elevations, terraced and well cultivated indicating probable cultivation by local VC. The mission given was accomplished and effective denial of harboring sites in the area of operations was accomplished as well as destruction of moderate quantities of enemy ammunition, food, and equipment.

15. Recommendations. That this type operation be instituted following a fast pursuit or sweep type operation through areas where large enemy emplacements and caches are known to exist and where deliberate searches have hitherto been unfeasible.

  
C. B. WEBSTER

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9 July 1967Operation Description for Operation CALHOUN

1. The concept of Operation CALHOUN was for the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines to establish a series of company patrol bases and then thoroughly search out two routes of reconnaissance named FALL and WINTER. FALL extended from BT 023410 up the draw to the North and then along the trail to BT 005426. Winter extended from BT 005426 SE to BT 021403.

2. The 1st Battalion, 5th Marines was operating to the Southwest of a line extending from BT 014398 to AT 987418. The 1st ARVN Rangers were operating in the valley in the vicinity of AT 910380. The 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines was operating to the Northwest over the mountain range. Elements of the 1st and 7th Marines were operating to the North across the mountains. The SLF (2nd Bn, 3rd Marines) was operating to the Northeast.

3. The mission for WINTER was accomplished a day early. Permission was requested and granted to conduct S&D operations to the east of WINTER to and including the valley in the vicinity of BT 018415.

4. While FALL and WINTER were being thoroughly searched, a company (--) was dispatched each day to conduct S&D operations between the 410 E-W grid line and the 395 E-W grid line and between the 020 and 050 N-S grid lines.

5. Operation CALHOUN was designed to reconnoiter and uncover Viet Cong arms and supply caches in the area known as Base area 116. In this respect, operations of this Command within assigned zone were successful.

ENCLOSURE (1)

~~REF ID: A6292~~