

1/5 STC

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

3/CMW/wkr
 5750
 5 November 1967

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From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division
 Via: Commanding Officer, 5th Marines
 Subj: Command Chronology for period 1-31 October 1967
 Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A
 (b) FMF PAC O 5750.8
 (c) DivO 5750.2B

Encl: ✓(1) 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Command Chronology.

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

O. W. Van den Berg
 O. W. VAN DEN BERG JR.

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

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
1 October 1967 to 31 October 1967

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

<u>1. Designation</u>	<u>Commander</u>
1st Battalion, 5th Marines	1-31 October 1967 LTCOL O. W. VAN DEN BEEG JR.
<u>SUBORDINATES</u>	
H&S Company	1-24 October 1967 CAPT. D. L. MCINTURFF
Company A	25-31 October 1967 CAPT. T. B. BAGLEY
Company B	1-31 October 1967 CAPT. D. D. DROBNY
Company C	1-12 October 1967 CAPT. H. L. JOHNSTON
Company D	12-31 October 1967 1STLT E. B. BURROW
	1-12 October 1967 CAPT. D. W. HINZ
	12-31 October 1967 CAPT. R. K. KIRKPATRICK
<u>ATTACHMENTS</u>	
Det, D Btry, 2ndBn, 11thMar	1STLT R. K. REDLIN
3rd Platoon, Co B, 3rd AmtracBn	SSGT E. B. SHAW
Det, Comm Plt, HQCo, 5thMar	CPL E. J. SWEGER
Det, 1st Dental Co, FMF	1STLT J. C. BOND
2nd Plt, Co B, 1stEngrBn	2NDLT R. D. CLEARFIELD
Det, 7th Separate Bulk Fuel Co	LCPL K. B. ORNDORFF

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Det, 13th ITT CAPT. L. R. DEANGELIS

Det, HQCo, 1st MPBn CPL R. M. LIPPERT

Det, Scout Sniper Plt, HQCo, 5th Mar LCPL C. L. BROWN

2nd Plt, Co D, 1st MTBn SGT D. F. LAUDENSLAGER

2nd Plt, Co C, 1st Tank Bn 2NDLT C. HILL

2. Locations.

1-2 October 1967, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) provided security for a mechanized march from Hill 51 (BT025343), Que Son, RVN to Hill 63 (BT133453).

2-15 October 1967, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) Combat Base located at Triem Trung (2) (BT104583), Hieu Nhon, RVN.

15-17 October 1967, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) participated in Operation ONSLOW.

17-31 October 1967, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) participated in an unnamed search and destroy mission.

3. Staff Officers.

Executive Officer 1-7 October 1967
LTCOL E. C. CHEATHAM, JR.

8-31 October 1967
MAJ. H. J. McMULLIN

S-1 Officer 1-20 October 1967
WO J. E. PERRY

21-31 October 1967
1STLT W. P. VACCA

S-2 Officer 1-12 October 1967
1STLT V. J. VENANZI

13-31 October 1967
CAPT. H. L. JOHNSTON

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S-3 Officer	1-25 October 1967 MAJ. C. H. BLACK
	26-31 October 1967 MAJ. L. A. WUNDERLICH
S-4 Officer	1-31 October 1967 CAPT. E. A. GRIMM
S-5 Officer	1-31 October 1967 1STLT J. D. JEWELL
Air Liaison Officer	1-31 October 1967 CAPT. R. E. JACOBS
Medical Officer	1-31 October 1967 LT J. E. PILON (USNR)
Supply Officer	1-31 October 1967 2NDLT L. MALL
Communications Officer	1-31 October 1967 CAPT. H. G. DUNCAN
Motor Transport Officer	1-31 October 1967 2NDLT A. DESHAMPES
Legal Officer/Adjutant	1-31 October 1967 1STLT W. P. VACCA
Chaplain	1-31 October 1967 LT C. K. PARKER (USNR)

4. Average Monthly Strength.

<u>USMC</u>	<u>USN</u>		
<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>
37	1073	3	55

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PART II
NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. Personnel and Administration.

a. Strengths. On board strength reached a high of 1085 Marine enlisted early in the month but declined steadily with normal rotations to 1033 on 31 October. Officer strength improved slightly with 38 Marine officers on board as of 31 October. Navy officers and enlisted strength remained constant.

b. Replacements. The flow of replacements into the battalion totaled 102 for the month, including 1 captain and 4 lieutenants. The number of joinings was higher than average, necessitated by the change in the system of computing rotation tour dates.

c. Discipline, Law and Order. During the month of October four Special Courts Martial and one Summary Court Martial were held. Six Special Courts Martial were pending as of 31 October. The principal offense was unauthorized absence. Most of the offenses had occurred prior to the battalion's displacement to Triem Trung (2).

d. POW/Detainees. During the month of October, 2 MPs were attached to manage the Battalion's POW compound. This has proved invaluable with the large number of detainees (38) processed during the month.

e. Morale and Personnel Services. The morale of the Battalion, which has been consistently high, improved to excellent during the month. Factors which contribute to the improved morale are improved postal services, daily availability of PX and club facilities, and daily piaster sales which enable troops to patronize the camp barber shop, laundry and gift shop.

f. Interior Management. The Battalion headquarters commenced displacement of its administrative echelons on 2 October. This was completed and all elements well established in their new office spaces on 5 October.

2. Enemy, Weather and Terrain.

a. Enemy. Enemy activity during the month was restricted mainly to sniping by individuals or small units and placing of mines and booby traps throughout the TAOR, especially in the northern area. However, an estimated local force of one to two platoons did probe the perimeter of CAP D-5 on three occasions and contact was made by a platoon of Company B on

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28 October with an estimated platoon of Viet Cong in the vicinity of BT 127607. Reports of the Q-15 Company in the northern, the Q-12 Company in the eastern and southoastern and a company of the T-85 Battalion in the northwestern portions of the TAOR were received. Although no positive contact with or identification of these units was made, activity and sightings within these areas partially support the presence of such units. Additionally, elements of the 70th Independent Battalion and the V-25 Battalion were reported to be operating in and to the south of the island complex in the southeastern area of the TAOR. Again, no positive contact or identification was made; but sightings of military structures, fighting positions, and enemy river traffic by airborne observers indicate the presence of enemy units in these areas.

Weather. The weather during the reporting period was warm and humid with an average high and low of 85 degrees and 73 degrees respectively. There were frequent afternoon and evening showers in the first half of the month and occasional showers in the latter half. One heavy rainstorm of approximately two days duration, 9-10 October, caused serious flooding in the western and southern portions of the TAOR. Though operations were only slightly affected, administrative and resupply traffic was halted completely for a period of two days due to a bridge being washed out at coordinates (BT100583) and route 538 being flooded from coordinates (BT090504) to (BT120572). The ability of the Battalion to react to contingencies at the province or District Headquarters, or combined action platoon positions would have been seriously hampered had the need arisen.

c. Terrain. The TAOR covers a flat coastal plain varying from two to ten meters in elevation. Rivers and other waterways surrounding and within the TAOR afford excellent lines of communications for the enemy. Highway #1 and route 538 are extremely vital as the only means by which wheeled vehicular traffic can move within the TAOR. Route #1 is an all weather bituminous road in fair to good repair. Route 538 is a limited all weather intermediate bituminous road in fair condition. Short term flooding can be expected along these roads during the rainy season.

Large rice paddies predominate in the western, eastern, and southern sectors of the TAOR and can be expected to be flooded during the monsoon. Troop movement through these areas will be difficult, but possible in most cases. The large open sandy area running northwest through the central portion of the TAOR affords good drainage and should retain good foot and tracked vehicle trafficability even during the rainy season. The island complex in the southeast is predominately paddy area with moderate undergrowth. This

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area presents very difficult movement during the monsoons. The northern portion of the TAOR is primarily a sandy area spotted with light to moderate treelines and paddies. This area is an excellent area of operation for snipers, a fact substantiated by the large concentration of sniper incidents occurring in this locale during the month.

3. Organization and Operations.

a. Organization.

(1) Early in the month of October, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines was relieved of responsibility for Hill 51 and the Que Son Valley TAOR by 2nd Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Air Cavalry Division. Turnover commenced on 2 October. OPCON passed at 021730 October; however, completion of the equipment Heli-lift and forward displacement of the rear echelon was not accomplished until 12 October due to restrictive weather conditions.

(2) AT the same time as the above change, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines relieved 1st Battalion, 1st Marines of responsibility for the Triem Trung (2) combat base, coordinates (BT104583), and the TAOR around Hoi An, covering the Hieu Nhon District and a portion of the Dien Ban District (See Part IV, Tab A). This relief commenced on 2 October with the arrival of the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Command Group, with companies A and B, who were immediately deployed to outlying company and platoon combat bases. Responsibility for the TAOR passed to 1/5 on 4 October.

(3) On 15 October, 1/5 commenced consolidating elements at the company combat bases, A and B, in order to reduce base security commitments, thus freeing allied forces for patrol activities, and enhancing reaction capabilities (See Part IV, Tab B). Consolidation was completed on 21 October.

(4) Significant changes in supporting units, resulting from the redeployment from Que Son to Triem Trung (2), were the loss of 3rd Platoon, Company A, 1st Anti Tank Battalion, the addition of 3rd Platoon, Company B, 3rd Amtrac Battalion, and the loss of 1st Platoon, Company B, 1st SP Battalion.

b. Operations.

(1) During the month of October, 1/5 executed three battalion operations.

(a) On 1 and 2 October 1/5 (-) conducted a

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foot/mechanized tactical march from Hill 51, Que Son, to Hill 63 in order to provide security for tracked vehicles displacing from Hill 51. There was no significant enemy contact during the march, however 65 refugees attached themselves to the column at Cong Dong (BT 045347) in order to take advantage of the column's security. The tracked vehicles bogged down repeatedly due to the primitive road and wet paddies throughout the area.

(b) On 15-17 October, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) conducted Operation ONSLOW (See Part IV, Tab C). Despite a lack of enemy contact, the operation was a valuable experience in that it provided an opportunity to become acquainted with the operating area, to appreciate the difficulties of maneuvering through flooded rice paddies, and to effect coordination with adjacent ARVN units.

(c) On 31 October, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein), conducted an unnamed, coordinated Battalion Search and Destroy Operation which included positioning company blocking forces by coordinated foot and mechanized marches along two separate axes, followed by the rapid insertion of a two-company search force by helicopter and an aggressive, thorough sweep towards the blocking forces. One company remained in the AO conducting detailed "hole hunting" operations. Results developed on 1 and 2 November and will be reported on next month's report.

(2) The Battalion conducted numerous company and smaller unit activities on a daily basis throughout the month. By operating from dispersed combat bases, extensive area coverage was achieved.

(a) Day activity totals for the month included 46 Fire Team Activities, 154 Squad Activities, 29 Platoon Activities and 5 Company Operations. Night activities included 284 Fire Team Activities, 452 Squad Activities and 3 Platoon Ambushes. The small unit activities of the Battalion supported Operations "Baxter" and "Tattoo," provided screening and security to the Battalion's combat bases, as well as provided companies opportunities for independent operations.

(b) The Battalion attached one squad to CAP (4) from 2 October through 31 October to provide assistance of an instructional and security nature. One platoon was detailed to provide security on the Cau Lau Bridge from 3 October to 15 October when relieved by Popular Force units. Thereafter, a squad was detailed on a daily basis for daylight security and to assist the engineer team sweeping Route 1 south of the Song Cau Lau for mines. The Battalion provided

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one Platoon to Headquarters Company, 5th Marines to augment the Regimental Command Post security from 5-21 October. Rough Rider platoons were committed from 18-22 October and from 26-30 October. In addition, one Platoon provided convoy security for the displacement of elements of L Battery, 4th Battalion, 11th Marines on 22 October. The Battalion provided companies to 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines from 30 September - 5 October, and to 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines from 18-21 October and 25-28 October. The Battalion also supplied the "Bald Eagle" reaction forces from 6-15 October.

c. Supporting Arms.

(1) Air. During the month this battalion used the TAC(A)/AO team to the maximum with excellent results. Using them with the companies in the field, they proved indispensable by providing excellent aerial observation of the enemy ahead of advancing patrols. They also controlled 20 flights of fixed wing aircraft and many artillery missions in support of the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines. UH-1 gunships were used for a number of missions, as escorts for the convoy from Hill 51 to Hill 63, and as escorts for 37 medevacs during which they were called upon to deliver ordnance to suppress hostile enemy fire.

(2) Artillery. During October, Battery D, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines was in direct support of 1st Battalion, 5th Marines. Over 257 fire missions were fired, including nightly H&I fires on suspected areas of enemy activity, fires in support of Combined Action Platoons within the battalion's TAOR, fires in reaction to intelligence reports, and fires requested by air observers on targets of opportunity. In addition, Battery D, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines registered the battery, 30 October, on grid (BT 021555) facilitating more accurate surprise fire in the future.

4. Training.

a. Training was conducted on Battalion and Company level with continuing emphasis on care and cleaning of the M16 rifle, familiarization firing, weapon safety, patrolling, fire discipline and commands, fire distribution, indoctrination of new personnel, mapreading and small unit tactics.

b. Special emphasis was placed on land mine warfare and a description of enemy mining/booby trapping techniques due to the characteristics of the new TAOR.

c. The Battalion continued to utilize schools provided by higher headquarters. During the month of October 1967, 24 Marines attended schools in DaNang, RVN and on Okinawa.

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c. The Battalion Medical Platoon initiated a training program for Corpsmen, consisting of two - 2 hour classes per week.

5. Logistics.

a. Supply. During the month of October, supply facilities at Triom Trung (2) were improved and consolidated. A hot locker was installed in the bakery for weapons storage, and the supply facility in the 11th Motors area was closed except for a small amount of semi-permanent storage of low usage items.

b. Medical/Dental.

(1) Preparations were made and supplies were received to conduct a field test of the new foot protective ointment. The program is to commence on 1 November.

(2) Improvements in base sanitation facilities continued throughout the month. A contact team from the Preventative Medicine Section, 1st Medical Battalion conducted a sanitation inspection, rating the base outstanding.

(3) A detachment from 1st Dental Company, FMF provided dental support to the Battalion throughout the month.

c. Transportation.

(1) A special allowance of eight boats with oars was received on 12 October.

(2) Highway 1 and 538 were closed by flooding and road and bridge washouts on 10 October. Repairs were completed and the roads opened to all traffic on 12 October.

d. Services.

(1) An FMFPAC Generator Contact Team visited on 17 October for the purpose of instructing and assisting the battalion's generator operators in operation and maintenance.

(2) Division Food Services Assistance Team inspected the battalion's mess facilities on 10 October.

(3) A contact team from MIG repaired the refrigerators at the battalion mess on 20 October.

(4) A new motor transport maintenance shed was completed on 30 October in preparation for the coming monsoons.

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(5) Engineers constructed 9 reinforced, covered defensive bunkers on the perimeter of the Battalion's combat base.

6. Civil Affairs.

a. MED CAP. During the month of October 821 Vietnamese civilians, mostly children, were treated at MED CAP at Triem Trung (2) (BT 102582). A shower unit was installed and arrangements made to provide water on a daily basis. Provisions were also made to obtain much needed soap.

b. Scholarships. A presentation of "General Walt Scholarships" was made to needy students from the area in a ceremony at Cam Ha school (BT 133578) on 27 October.

c. Other Assistance. 200 cannisters from expended 81mm mortar rounds were donated to the Quang Nam province chief for use as rat traps. In addition, lumber was obtained and work begun on building 12 cribs for the Catholic Orphanage in Hoi An. The first crib was delivered on 30 October; remainder are to be completed and delivered in November.

7. Psychological Operations.

a. A Psy Ops team accompanied the battalion on Operation ONSLOW, broadcasting 10.5 hours during the operation.

b. A Psy Ops team showed cartoons and movies of an educational and informative nature to audiences in Hoi An and Cam Ha. Attendance at the two showings exceeded a total of 3000 Vietnamese.

8. Comptrollers Activities.

a. The battalion began the month with a balance of \$103,945, and closed the month with \$57,016. Funds were obligated for batteries, embarkation equipment, rifle cleaning materials and magazines, POL, and monsoon preparations. The major obligation during the period, \$32,200, was to replace unserviceable individual equipment and clothing.

9. Communications.

a. Construction was begun on a 25 pair cable line to link the combat base at Triem Trung (2) with the 100 pair cable on Highway 1. Completion of this installation will provide

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more reliable telephone communications with regiment and higher echelons as well as the Combined Action Company and District Headquarters at Dien Ban. Construction was also begun on a 5 pair cable line to link the battalion with the Sector Advisor's Headquarters in Hoi An.

b. A courtesy inspection was held by representatives of the Division CEO on 27 October. Corrective action on noted discrepancies commenced immediately.

10. Significant Casualties Inflicted or Sustained; VC Captured.

a. Friendy Casualties (USMC).*

KIA	11
DOW	0
WIAE	36
WIAWE	4
NBC	4
NBD	0
MIA	0

b. Enemy Casualties. *

KIA Confirmed	10
KIA Probable	31
Detainees	38
Refugees	0
POW	2

11. Significant Enemy Ordnance Captured During the Month of October 1967.

a. Weapons Captured.

1 ChiCom Manufactured 7.62mm Carbine Ser# 7065476

b. Ordnance Equipment Captured.

2 M-26 grenades
1 ChiCom grenade

12. Significant Munitions Captured/Found and Destroyed During the Month of October.

1 ChiCom grenade
10 M-26 grenades
1 Anti-vehicular mine, unknown type

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3 105mm rounds
3 Anti-Tank mines
2 Box Type mines, 5lb blocks TNT
2 U. S. Claymore mines
1 155mm round

13. Significant Enemy Equipment Captured During the Month of October 1967.

3 Cartridge belts
1 Bundle Assorted Documents
1 Set medical supplies
1 Bundle propaganda documents

14. Significant Enemy Caves, Tunnels, Buildings and Fortifications Destroyed During the Month of October 1967.

None

15. Significant U. S. Government Property Lost During the Month of October 1967 while Engaged in Combat with the Enemy.

None

* Totals include Operation ONSLOW.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

(1) 010001H Company C continues OPCON 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines.

(2) 010705H Leading elements 1st Battalion, 5th Marines departed Combat Base at Hill 51, RVN for 5th Marines Command Post, Hill 63, RVN in compliance with a Regimental Oral Order. Overland movement included tracked vehicles under OPCON of 1st Battalion, 5th Marines.

(3) 010810H Tank retriever developed oil leak and threw a track at (BT034345). At 011050H Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines requested permission to abandon retriever and to continue movement to 5th Marines Command Post. Retriever's auxiliary engine was destroyed and communications equipment and weapons were forwarded to 5th Marines aboard another vehicle.

(4) 011130H Upon departing Cong Dong (4) at (BT045347), 65 Vietnamese civilians joined the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines convoy. The Vietnamese civilians accompanied 1st Battalion, 5th Marines to the 5th Marines Command Post.

(5) 011905H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines assumed OPCON of Company L, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines.

(6) 020145H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines established night defensive perimeter at (BT124437) to provide security for disabled tracked vehicles.

(7) 020700H First elements 1st Battalion, 5th Marines departed night position at (BT124437) for 5th Marines Command Post.

(8) 020720H Third tank in column struck a pressure-detonated mine at (BT127438) estimated to be a 30-pound powder charge. No casualties were incurred. Tank had track blown off and 2 bogie wheels destroyed.

(9) 020830H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines chopped 1st Platoon, Company L, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines to 5th Marines to provide security for disabled tank. See Significant Event (020720).

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(10) 020855H All tracked vehicles OPCON to 5th Marines, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines continued on to 5th Marines Command Post.

(11) 020900H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines arrived 5th Marine Command Post, Hill 63 (BT133453).

(12) 020910H Company L, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines chopped from 1st Battalion, 5th Marines to 5th Marines.

(13) 021530H Commanding Officer's group arrived Base Camp at (BT104583).

(14) 021730H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines relieved of responsibility for Hill 51, RVN.

(15) 021830H H&S Company, Company B and Company A arrived Base Camp at (BT104583).

(16) 021832H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines chopped to 1st Marines.

(17) 031210H Company B arrived Sand Dunes position, (BT135582).

(18) 031240H Company A departed the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Combat Base for position at Big Horseshoe at (BT119634).

(19) 031610H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines assumed responsibility of outlying combat bases in new TAOR.

(20) 040800H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines relieved 1st Battalion, 1st Marines of responsibilities of Combat Base at (BT103583).

(21) 041430H Company A, Squad Patrol 5A2 at (BT103628) received 20-30 rounds small arms fire from 5-6 unobserved VC at (BT098630). Patrol returned 50-60 rounds small arms fire, 5 M-79 rounds and searched area with negative results. Results: 1 USMC WIAE.

(22) 041600H All Company D units arrived 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Combat Base.

(23) 041610H As Company A, Squad Patrol 5A2 at (BT118635) was reentering Company A's perimeter, 4-5 rounds small arms fire were received from one unobserved VC at (BT114628). Patrol returned 25-30 rounds small arms fire and searched area with negative results. Results: 1 USMC KIA.

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(24) 042220H Company A at (BT119634) received 25-30 rounds small arms and automatic weapons fire from 5-6 VC at (BT103628), (BT115627), (BT125630) and (BT113635). Company A fired eight 60mm illumination rounds observing no enemy movement.

(25) 051030H 2nd Platoon, Company D chopped to 5th Marines to provide convoy security.

(26) 051200H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines chopped to 5th Marines.

(27) 061600H Company A, Squad Patrol 5A2 at (BT109627) received 20-40 rounds small arms fire from 5-6 unobserved VC at (BT107629). Patrol returned 150-200 rounds small arms fire, ten M-79 rounds and nine 60mm mortar rounds. Searched area with negative results.

(28) 051630H 5th Marines assumed OPCON of 1st Platoon, Company C.

(29) 051820H Wall at (BT114632) fell on a Vietnamese Kit Carson Scout with Squad Patrol 5A2. Kit Carson was brought to Combat Base and Med Evaced. Results of incident: 1 Vietnamese Kit Carson NBCE.

(30) 051820H Squad Patrol 5A2 at (BT114632) observed 5 VC wearing black clothing carrying weapons and moving in a westerly direction at (BT110633). Patrol fired 80-90 rounds small arms fire, three M-79 rounds and observed 2 VC fall. One VC crawled to treeline. Scout sniper fired an additional 5 rounds at fallen VC. Results: 1 VC KIA probable.

(31) 061600H Squad Security Patrol 5A3 at (BT111627) received 20 rounds small arms fire from 2 unobserved VC. Patrol returned 50 rounds small arms fire and three M-79 rounds. Searched area with negative results. Results: 1 USMC KIA.

(32) 061715H Helicopter, responding to medical evacuation request of Squad Security Patrol 5A3, received automatic weapons fire from (BT097627), several rounds hitting aircraft. Pilot flew disabled aircraft to LZ 411 at 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Combat Base.

(33) 061925H 1st Platoon, Company B at (BT135585) received 25-30 rounds small arms fire from 3-4 VC at (BT139594). Fired hand illumination flare, observing no enemy movement.

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(34) 071000H Major H. J. McMULLIN relieved LTCOL E. C. CHEATHAM JR. as Executive Officer of 1st Battalion, 5th Marines.

(35) 071100H Commanding Officer, 5th Marines visited 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Combat Base from 071100H to 071135H.

(36) 071100H Squad Patrol 5A3 at (BT127623) received 5 rounds small arms fire from 2 unobserved VC at (BT128623). Patrol returned 40 rounds small arms fire, two M-79 rounds and searched area with negative results.

(37) 071515H Bridge Security Platoon, 5A2, observed a spotter plane crash 1000 meters from the patrol's position, (BT103556). A patrol from CAP 4 in the area reported that pilots had been extracted by medical evacuation helicopter. Spotter plane was later extracted.

(38) 080600H Company D assumed Bald Eagle commitment.

(39) 080900H Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines departed Combat Base for 5th Marines Command Post, returned at 081300H.

(40) 081130H Squad Patrol 5A1 at (BT104646) observed 4 VC wearing ponchos and carrying weapons at (BT101649). Called for but did not receive artillery mission because of a friendly unit in the area of the enemy.

(41) 081255H Squad Patrol 5A3 at (BT118628) received 30 rounds automatic weapons fire from an estimated 10 VC at (BT121624). Patrol returned 50-60 rounds small arms fire, four M-79 rounds, ten 60mm mortar rounds and called artillery mission. Area searched with negative results. Results: 1 USMC WIAE.

(42) 081255H A member of Squad Patrol 5A3 at (BT118628) activated a booby trap with trip wire. Searched area for other booby traps with negative results. Results: 1 USMC WIANE.

(43) 081505H Company A at Combat Base (BT120634) observed 10-15 VC with weapons wearing black clothing at (BT122625). Company A fired 20, 60mm mortar rounds with excellent coverage. Dispatched patrol to search area finding several heavy blood trails and drag marks. Results: 5 VC KIA probable.

(44) 090600H Company D relieved of Bald Eagle commitment by Company G and commenced S&D operations with 2 platoons at 090830H.

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(45) 091020H Company D at (BT083612) received 3-4 rounds small arms fire from unobserved VC at (BT076613). Company D returned 10 rounds small arms fire and six M-79 rounds. Squad swept area with negative results.

(46) 091135H Company D at (BT085607) found an anti-vehicular mine. Marked location with air panel and planned patrol with engineer capability.

(47) 091146H Company C (-) arrived at 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Combat Base.

(48) 091220H Man from Squad Patrol 5A3 at (BT121627) detonated a booby-trapped 60mm HE mortar round. Marines were 15-20 meters apart at the time of detonation. Results: 2 USMC WIAE.

(49) 101055H Squad Patrol 5D1 at (BT105623) observed 1 Vietnamese male running from patrol at (BT105624). Patrol challenged man who failed to halt. Patrol fired 20 rounds small arms fire killing man. Results: 1 VC KIA confirmed.

(50) 101535H Squad Patrol 5A3 at (BT105638) apprehended 3 Vietnamese males wearing black and white clothing. 2 detainees were 50-55 years old, one was 30-35 years old, and none had ID cards. Detainees were interrogated and released as innocent civilians.

(51) 101700H Road 538 and highway #1 closed by flooding and washouts.

(52) 111500H Squad Patrol 5A32 at (BT109623) found punji pit with bamboo net covering. Patrol member lifted covering detonating booby-trapped M-26 grenade. Results: 3 USMC WIAE.

(53) 111625H Squad Patrol 5A32 at (BT123628) received 50-75 rounds small arms fire from estimated 6 VC at (BT124625) and (BT115628). Patrol returned 200 rounds small arms fire, 12 M-79 rounds, 20 60mm mortar rounds, 3 81mm mortar rounds, 3 106 RR rounds and called artillery mission of 8 105mm HE rounds. Searched area with negative results.

(54) 120630H A member of Squad Combat Patrol 5C2 at (BT096614) stepped on a box-type mine positioned 5 feet from tracked vehicle trail. Results: 1 USMC WIAE.

(55) 121425H Company D, Squad Combat Patrol at (BT099618) found an M-26 grenade booby-trapped with a trip wire. Grenade was destroyed in place.

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(56) 121615H Company D (-) terminated S&D operations.

(57) 121730H Road repairs completed on highway 538. Open to traffic.

(58) 130717H Company C (-) commenced S&D operations.

(59) 130830H Company C (-) at (BT101610) detonated an anti-vehicular mine. Results: 1 USMC KIA; 1 USMC WIAE.

(60) 130840H Squad Patrol 5B2 at (BT124611) found a 155mm dud which was destroyed in place.

(61) 130900H Squad Patrol 5B2 at (BT119598) found booby-trap consisting of 5 pounds TNT or C-4 with a lot #PA89627 time fuse M84. Mine was blown in place.

(62) 131030H Company C (-) while rear security element was crossing river at (BT125624), received 15-20 rounds small arms and automatic weapons fire from 3-4 VC at (BT127625). Returned 175-200 rounds small arms fire and 1 LAAW. Spotter plane on station fired 5 rockets on enemy position. Results: 1 USMC KIA and 1 USMC WIAE.

(63) 131115H Squad Patrol 5A10 at (BT113634) observed 4 VC wearing black clothing carrying 2 weapons at (BT108634). Squad called 81mm mortar mission of 2 rounds WP and 7 rounds HE. Search of area disclosed 1 VC KIA confirmed.

(64) 131130H Fire Team Security for 2nd Platoon, Company C at (BT096628) observed 3 VC wearing black clothing, one carrying weapon. Fire Team fired 25 rounds small arms fire. Search disclosed 2 VC KIA confirmed, a 20 year old female and the other a 15 year old male. Results: 2 VC KIA confirmed.

(65) 131600H Squad Combat Patrol 5A10 at (BT111634) observed 5 VC wearing black clothing carrying weapons at (BT107636). Patrol fired 45-50 rounds small arms fire and called 81mm mortar mission of 3 rounds WP and 10 rounds HE. Search of area disclosed 1 VC KIA confirmed and heavy blood trails and drag marks. Results: 1 VC KIA confirmed, 1 VC KIA probable.

(66) 131720H Company C (-) terminated S&D operations.

(67) 140755H First elements of Company F, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines arrived 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Combat Base for participation in Operation Onslow.

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(68) 141000H MEDCAP held at Triem Trung (2) (BT102582)
24 Vietnamese treated.

(69) 141445H Commanding Officer, 5th Marines visited
1st Battalion, 5th Marines Combat Base from 141445H to 141630H.

(70) 141510H Squad Patrol 5B1 at (BT137598) apprehended
1 Vietnamese male with questionable ID card. Detainee was
forwarded to 5th Marines S-2.

(71) 141530H Company A received word from Battalion S-2
about 2 VC in the area. Search disclosed one Vietnamese
female, age 49, with ID card and one Vietnamese male, age 14
without ID card. ID card of female matched picture sent
from Battalion S-2. Detainees were forwarded to 5th Marines
S-2.

(72) 141900H Company L, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines became
OPCON to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines.

(73) 151000H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines commenced Operation
ONSLOW in accordance with 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag
Order 130-67. See Tab (C) to part IV.

(74) 16 October 1967 1st Battalion, 5th Marines continued
to participate in Operation ONSLOW.

(75) 160930H MEDCAP held at (BT102582) 28 Vietnamese
treated.

(76) 161000H Squad Patrol 5A2 at (BT125630) found an anti-
personnel mine. Mine was destroyed in place with an M-26
grenade.

(77) 17 October 1967 1st Battalion, 5th Marines continued
to participate in Operation ONSLOW.

(78) 171000H MEDCAP held at (BT102582) 33 Vietnamese
treated.

(79) 171835H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines communications
vehicle with 3 USMC personnel aboard came upon an obstacle
in the road at (BT045614). As vehicle slowed, 30-35 rounds
small arms and automatic weapons fire were received from
3-4 VC. Driver of vehicle accelerated, leaving the area.
The incident was reported to a nearby CAP unit who stated
they would fire a 60mm mortar mission on suspected enemy
position.

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(80) 171400H Operation ONSLOW terminated.

(81) 171715H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines returned to Combat Base.

(82) 181000H MEDCAP held at (BT102582) 64 Vietnamese treated.

(83) 181310H Company F, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines chopped to 5th Marines.

(84) 181340H Squad Patrol 5A3 at (BT109629) found 2 booby-trapped M-26 grenades. Destroyed grenades in place.

(85) 181340H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines chopped Company D to 5th Marines.

(86) 181350H Squad Patrol 5A3 at (BT118623) found a booby-trapped M-26 grenade. Destroyed grenade in place.

(87) 181410H Company D chopped to 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines from 5th Marines.

(88) 181810H 2nd Platoon, Company A chopped to 5th Marines for Rough Rider security.

(89) 191000H MED CAP held at (BT102582) by H&S Company medical section. 61 Vietnamese civilians were treated.

(90) 191215H Squad (+) COP 5A1 at (BT108635) observed 20 VC wearing black clothing carrying weapons at (BT108636). COP fired 100-150 rounds small arms fire and 5 M-79 rounds. Called 81mm mortar mission of 3 rounds WP and 16 rounds HE which was delivered with excellent coverage. Area searched with negative results.

(91) 191430H Squad Patrol 5B2 at (BT127597) received 8 rounds small arms fire from 1 VC at (BT127593). No fire was returned due to sand dune in front of VC. Area was searched disclosing foot prints leading away to the northwest. Patrol continued on mission.

(92) 191700H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines courier vehicle at (BT044618) received 5-7 rounds automatic weapons fire from 1 unobserved VC at (BT046619). As vehicle slowed for obstacle in road, vehicle received 2 rounds in windshield. Personnel in vehicle took cover and returned 40-50 rounds small arms fire. Incident reported to nearby CAP unit number 6 who dispatched a patrol. Results of patrol were not reported.

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(93) 201000 MEDCAP held at (BT102582) by H&S Company medical section. 80 Vietnamese civilians were treated.

(94) 201230H 4th Battalion, 11th Marines personnel in vehicle at (BT095584) received 3-4 rounds small arms fire from 1 VC at (BT095587). Personnel returned fire and proceeded to 4th Battalion, 11th Marines Combat Base adjacent to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Combat Base. Results: 1 USMC WIAE.

(95) 201300H Squad Security Patrol 5A2 at (BT113620) apprehended 3 Vietnamese; 1 male, age 63, one female, age 52, and 1 female, age 18. Females were released as innocent civilians by Company A. Male was released after further interrogation by 13th ITT at 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Combat Base.

(96) 201715H A Vietnamese boy detonated a booby trap 150 meters from the perimeter lines of Battery L, 4th Battalion, 11th Marines at (BT104584). Boy was med evaced. Results of incident: 1 Vietnamese civilian WIAE.

(97) 201925H Squad (+) Ambush 5B5 at (BT139601) observed 5 craft on river at (BT139603) with a total of 8-10 persons aboard. Squad fired 300 rounds small arms fire and 3 LAWS. 3 craft were sunk and 2 were heavily damaged and listing. Unable to determine number of probable enemy kills.

(98) 202100H Dispatched 3rd Platoon, Company C to reinforce CAP 5.

(99) 210515H Lead truck in column of vehicles moving to pick up the 3rd Platoon, Company C struck a mine at (BT175583). Heavy damage was inflicted upon the vehicle. Search of area disclosed no indication of command detonation. Results: 4 USMC KIA, 1 USMC WIAE.

(100) 210700H Company D (Rein) chopped to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines and commenced search and destroy/security operation to provide security for polling places in support of Operation BAXTER.

(101) 210800H Company C (-) helilifted from combat base and commenced search and destroy/security operation in support of Operation BAXTER in the north central portion of supplementary AO.

(102) 211000H 2nd Platoon, Company A chopped to 5th Marines for Rough Rider.

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(103) 211000H MED CAP held at (BT102582) by H&S Company medical section. 56 Vietnamese civilians were treated.

(104) 211020H Point Platoon, Company C (-) at (BT055545) received heavy automatic weapons fire from 2 entrenched enemy positions at (BT054544). Rear of unit simultaneously received sporadic small arms fire. AO reported seeing 50 VC running to southwest. Company C returned 300 rounds small arms fire, 60mm mortar and 81mm mortar fire. One secondary explosion was noticed. Search of area disclosed 9 VC KIA confirmed. Results: 1 USMC KIA, 9 VC KIA confirmed.

(105) 211400H Requested assistance of 2nd Troop, 4th Cavalry Squadron, ARVN in extracting Company C (-) from search and destroy operation.

(106) 211515H 2nd Troop, 4th Cavalry Squadron, ARVN departed to extract Company C (-).

(107) 211600 1st Platoon, Company C chopped from 5th Marines to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines.

(108) 211830H Company C returned to combat base terminating search and destroy operation.

(109) 220855H 2nd Platoon, Company A returned to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines combat base from Rough Rider Security for 5th Marines.

(110) 220932H 2nd Platoon, Company A departed for Company A's position.

(111) 221205H 3rd Platoon, Company C departed 1st Battalion, 5th Marines combat base for 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines position acting as security for convoy moving elements of Battery L, 4th Battalion, 11th Marines.

(112) 221345H Squad Patrol 5A1 at (BT116625) apprehended a Vietnamese male, age 14 with ID card wearing black and white clothing. Detainee forwarded to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines S-2, interrogated by 13th ITT and released as an innocent civilian.

(113) 221900H 3rd Platoon, Company C returned to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines combat base.

(114) 231000H MED CAP held at (BT102582) by H&S Medical Section. 52 Vietnamese civilians were treated.

(115) 231115H Squad Patrol 5A3 at (BT113632) observed 30 VC carrying weapons, wearing black clothing and heading north at (BT092637). Patrol alerted 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines of enemy disposition.

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(116) 231145H COP 5A2 at (BT105621) observed 5 VC with weapons wearing black clothing and heading north at (BT109628). COP fired 20 rounds small arms fire, 6 M-79 rounds and observed 1 VC fall from small arms round. Results: 1 VC KIA probable.

(117) 231815H At the request of the Commanding Officer, Company A, an air strike was conducted at (BT099627), on area from which Company A has received fire since its arrival in this TAOR. Battle damage assessment at the completion of the air strike included the destruction of 14 structures and the damaging of 8 structures. From 241130H to 241830H, Platoon Patrol 5A3 searched the area of the air strike apprehending 4 Vietnamese males, ages 60-67. Detainees stated air strike killed approximately 25 VC. Based on information from detainees, 25 VC KIA probable were claimed. Detainees forwarded to 1st Battalion S-2 and were released upon interrogation by 13th ITT. Results: 25 VC KIA probable.

(118) 240950H Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines departed combat base for DaNang, RVN to include hospital visitation. Commanding Officer returned 241545H.

(119) 251000H MED CAP held at (BT102582). 56 Vietnamese treated.

(120) 241300H Squad Patrol 5A5 at (BT106627) received 30 rounds small arms fire from 4-5 VC. Squad returned 300 rounds small arms fire and 6 M-79 rounds. Enemy fled to southwest. Searched area with negative results. Results: 1 USMC WIAE.

(121) 250910H Company C (Rein) commenced search and destroy operations.

(122) 251000H MED CAP held at Triom Trung (2) hamlet at (BT102582). 53 Vietnamese civilians were treated.

(123) 251230H Company C (Rein) at (BT074605) found a booby trapped M-26 grenade which was destroyed in place.

(124) 251520H Roar elements, Company C (Rein) at (BT077604) received 4-5 rounds small arms fire from (BT070605). Company C called artillery mission of 3 rounds WP and 9 rounds HE. Did not search area due to distance of enemy and direction of prescribed patrol route.

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(125) 251550H 1st Platoon, Company D chopped to 1st Marine Division for Rough Rider security.

(126) 251620H Company C (Rein) returned to combat base terminating search and destroy operation.

(127) 251900H Battalion S-5 team showed movies in Hoi An to an estimated audience of 1500-2000 Vietnamese civilians.

(128) 260900H Company C chopped to ~~3rd~~ Battalion, 5th Marines

(129) 261000H MED CAP conducted in Triem Trung (2) at (BT102582). 67 Vietnamese civilians were treated.

(130) 261100H Squad Patrol, Company B was dispatched to destroy dud 250 lb bomb discovered earlier by friendly units at (BT164594). Bomb was destroyed in place by engineers.

(131) 261800H Personnel at Company A combat base (BT118627) observed 7 VC with weapons at (BT120635). Company fired 200 rounds small arms fire and one 106 RR round. Called for and received air strike consisting of 12 250 pound bombs and 8 Napalm bombs. Area of air strike was searched the following morning producing negative results.

(132) 261900H S-5 Team showed movies at Cam Ha (BT131568). Estimated audience 1000 to 1500 Vietnamese.

(133) 270840H Member of Platoon Patrol 5A6 at (BT120630) detonated a booby-trapped 105mm HE round. Platoon called medevac and then returned to Company A combat base. Results: 1 USMC KIA.

(134) 270900H Platoon Patrol 5A6 at (BT119624) apprehended 1 Vietnamese woman, age 55, wearing black clothing and carrying infant. Detainee had no ID card and states her husband is a VC and was in the area of the air strike the previous evening. Detainee and child were later released as innocent civilians upon interrogation.

(135) 270955H 2nd Platoon, Company D chopped to 5th Marines for Rough Rider security.

(136) 271000H MED CAP held at (BT102582). 69 Vietnamese treated.

(137) 271325H Squad Patrol 5A1 at (BT112628) apprehended 2 Vietnamese males, age 27-37 wearing black and white clothing without ID cards. Detainees were released as innocent civilians upon interrogation by 13th ITT.

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(138) 271350H Squad (+) Patrol 5A3 at (BT128624) found assorted medical supplies including penicillin and tetracycline in a routine search of a hut. Medical supplies were forwarded to 5th Marines S-2.

(139) 271415H Squad Patrol (+) 5A1 at (BT102628) observed 4 VC wearing black clothing & carrying weapons at (BT101626). Squad fired 350-400 rounds small arms fire and 5 M-79 rounds observing 1 VC fall off bridge into water and two others stagger as if hit. VC returned 20-25 rounds small arms fire. Search of area disclosed 2 VC KIA confirmed, ages 29, 2 cartridge belts, 4 M-26 grenades and assorted documents. Captured equipment was forwarded to 5th Marines S-2. Results: 2 VC KIA confirmed, 1 VC KIA probable.

(140) 271500H Squad (*) Patrol 5A1 at (BT101626) apprehended 1 Vietnamese male, age 25-30, wearing white clothing without ID card. Detainee was forwarded to Battalion S-2, interrogated by 13th ITT and released as innocent civilian.

(141) 271715H Company A perimeter at (BT119634) received 8-10 rounds small arms fire from unobserved VC at (BT124631). Unit returned 30-40 rounds small arms fire and 5 M-79 rounds. Squad was dispatched and searched area with negative results.

(142) 271830H Platoon Patrol 5A2 at (BT110625) observed 15 VC with weapons wearing green and black clothing at (BT103621). Patrol fired 100-150 rounds small arms fire and 2 M-79 rounds. Enemy broke contact to the west, search not conducted due to distance and darkness. Platoon continued on assigned route.

(143) 280910H OPCON of Company C returned to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines

(144) 280930H MED CAP held at (BT102582). 55 Vietnamese treated.

(145) 280945H Company C returned to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines combat base.

(146) 281000H Squad Patrol 5B1 at (BT172583) found a box-type booby trap with trip wire attached. Booby trap was blown in place.

(147) 281140H Member of Squad Patrol 5B1 at (BT101642) detonated a booby-trapped M-26 grenade wounding 2 Marines. Results: 2 USMC WIAE.

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(148) 282040H Squad, ambush from Platoon Patrol 5B2 at (BT128604), while on route to ambush site, came under fire from an estimated platoon (-) enemy force at (BT127607). Squad returned 800 rounds small arms fire and 18 M-79 rounds. Squad broke contact and returned to patrol base. Platoon consolidated all units and called for illumination and artillery mission. Two artillery missions were fired on suspected enemy position. Area was searched the following morning revealing 9 indentations where bodies had been lain. Blood spots and heavy drag marks were also found. Results: 4 USMC WIAE, 9 VC KIA probable.

(149) 290700H Company C commenced search and destroy operation.

(150) 291858H Squad Patrol from Platoon Patrol 5D3 at (BT072608) received 25-30 rounds automatic weapons fire from 4-5 unobserved VC at (BT071609). Squad returned 50 rounds small arms fire and 4 M-79 rounds. Continued to move to ambush site and received an additional 4 rounds small arms fire. Squad called 81mm mortar mission of 8 rounds HE. Moved to select new ambush site and registered 1 artillery round. Area was searched at first light with negative results.

(151) 30 October 1967 Battalion S-5 completed and delivered one crib for the Catholic Orphanage at Hoi An.

(152) 30 October 1967 2nd Platoon, Company D continued to conduct search and destroy operation in the northwest sector of the TAOR.

(153) 300900H Security element for Company C discovered camouflaged 3-lb TNT mine with unattached trip wire. Mine was destroyed in place. Size of explosion indicated sympathetic detonation of a much larger charge.

(154) 301000H MED CAP held at (BT102582). 62 Vietnamese treated.

(155) 301040H Squad Patrol 5A3 at (BT113627) found a canteen half filled with black powder partially buried in antrac trail. Pressure release device was buried under canteen. Mine was blown in place.

(156) 301400H Company I, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines chopped to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines on arrival at combat base.

(157) 310700H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) commenced search and destroy operation in the northeast sector of the TAOR.

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(158) 311000H MED CAP held at (BT102582). 63 Vietnamese treated.

(159) 311330H Mine sweep detail with 1 squad, Company B as security element, found two TNT mines, one at (BT118491) and one at (BT105505). Each mine contained 40-45 pounds TNT. Engineers displaced mines from road and destroyed them.

(160) 311330H Company B, Squad Security with mine sweep detail at (BT104515) received small arms and automatic weapons fire from 4-5 VC at (BT103515). Squad returned 150 rounds small arms fire, 6 M-79 rounds and searched the area with negative results.

(161) 311730H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines returned to combat base terminating search and destroy operation.

(162) 311800H Company I, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines returned to combat base.

(163) 31 October 1967 1st Platoon, Company D remained OPCON to 1st Marine Division.

~~SECRET~~PART IVSUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- ✓ Tab A Overlay, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines TAOR and Combat Bases, Hieu Nhon and Dien Ban Districts, Quang Nam province 4-15 October 1967.
- ✓ Tab B Overlay, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines TAOR and Combat Bases, Hieu Nhon and Dien Ban Districts, Quang Nam province 16-31 October 1967.
- ✓ Tab C 1st Battalion, 5th Marines After Action Report to Operation ONSLOW.
- ✓ Tab D 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 131-67.

4-1

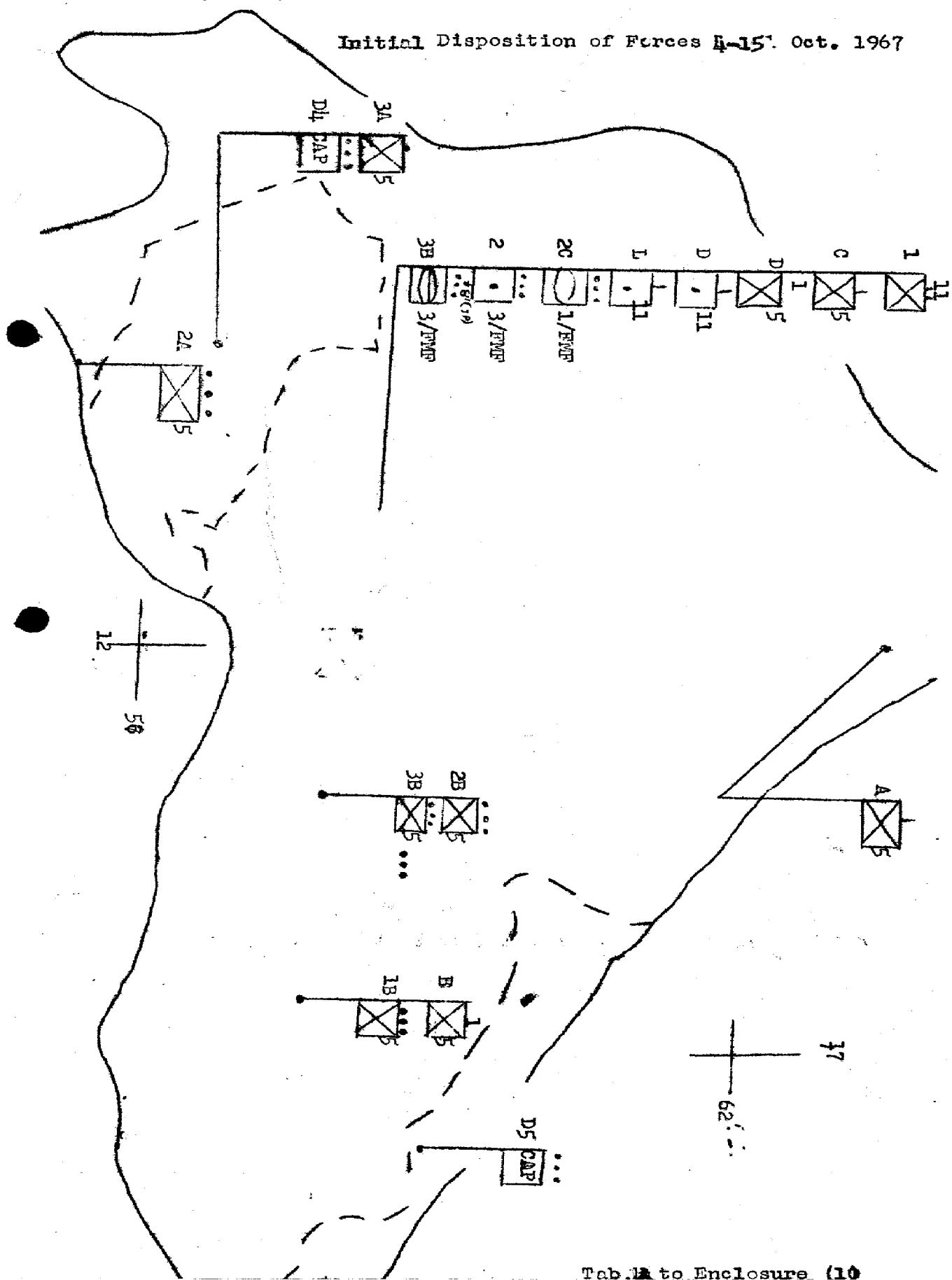
ENCLOSURE (1)

~~SECRET~~

SECRET

(Ref) RVN; 1:50,000 Series L7014, Sheets 6640 I

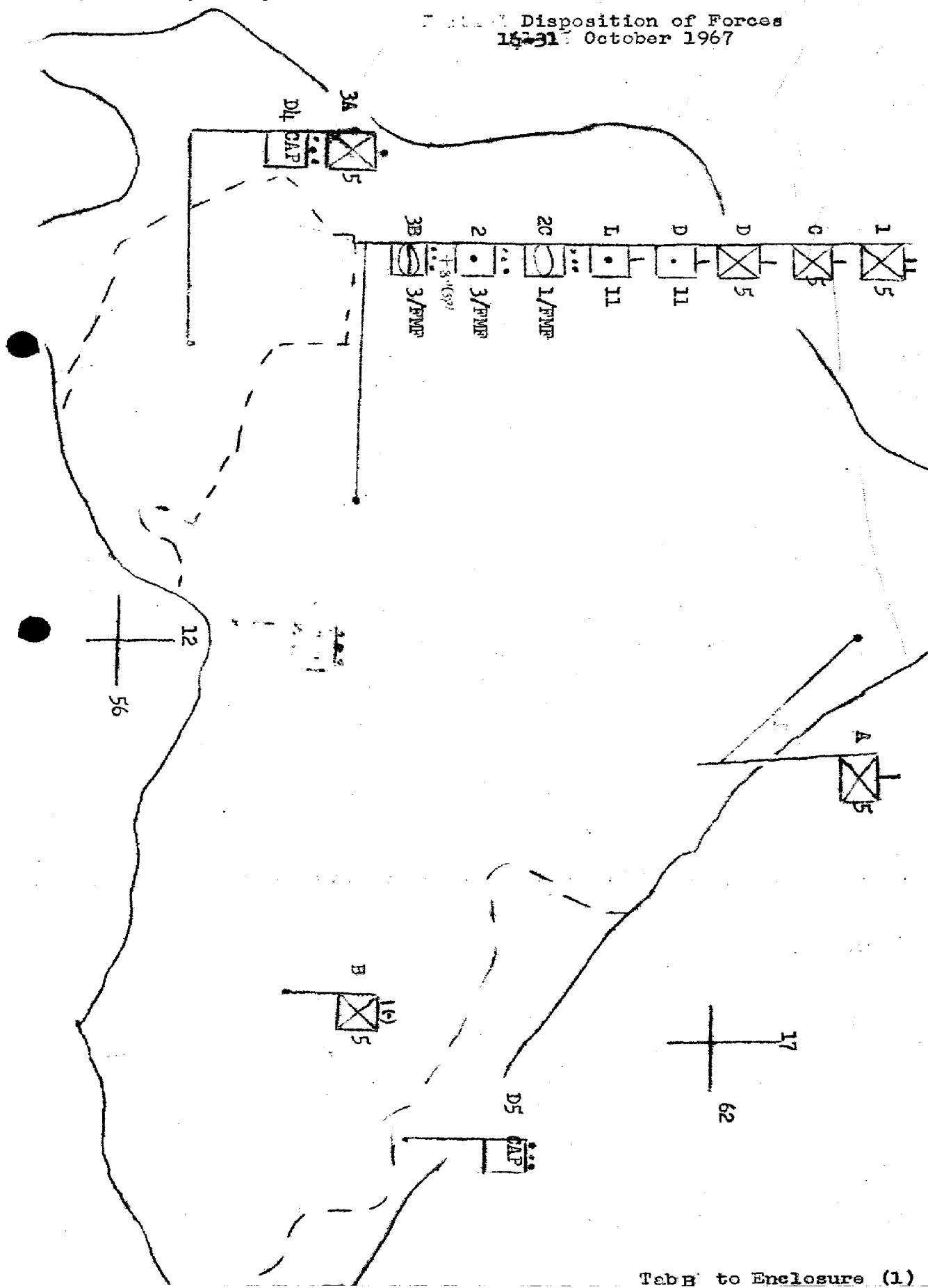
Initial Disposition of Forces 4-15 Oct. 1967



SECRET

(Ref) RVN; 1:50,000 Series L7014, Sheets 6640

Disposition of Forces
16-31 October 1967



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1ST MILITARY POLICE, F.M.
64 4530

3:NEB:kgb
3480.1
Ser: 00467-67
41 NOV 1967

~~ENCLOSURE~~ — Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1)

From: Commanding General
To: Commander, U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (Attn: MACV
343) APO, U.S. Forces 96222
Via: Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force
Subj: Combat After Action Report, Operation CANNON
Ref: (a) MACV Dir No. 335-8
 (b) FMFPacD 3000.4
Incl: (1) Subject Report

1. In accordance with references (a) and (b) enclosure (1) is forwarded herewith.
2. Operation OREGON was a search and destroy operation in the southern portion of the DIEN BAN District of QUANG BIN Province to disrupt enemy anti-election activities and capture or destroy enemy forces, supplies and facilities. Contact was very light during the operation.
3. There is no evidence on record to substantiate the assumption that is contained in paragraph 12e(2) of enclosure (1). There is no record of any Cold Weather Batteries for PDU-25 being issued to the 1st Marine Division. Standard type radio batteries are rotated through PDC cold storage facilities to extend the shelf life of the items.
4. The problem associated with serial broadcasts as stated in paragraph 13(5) enclosure (1) has been a recurring problem.
 - a. The 14th Air Commando Wing Operating Instructions of 11 July 1967 state that the normal altitude of planes while broadcasting is 3000 feet. However, if the aircraft briefer tells the pilot he is going into a "High Threat Area", or the pilot expects "Intense Ground Fire" he may use 4000 feet as a minimum altitude.

DECLASSIFIED AT 3 YEAR INTERVAL
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DDP DIR 5200.10

DECLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~

b. The broadcasts for Operation CANDLE were requested between 0800-1400 on 16, 17 and 18 October. The broadcasts were made but records do not reveal the specific times of each run.

5. The serial leaflet drops referred to in paragraph 13(6) were cancelled due to weather. A follow-up procedure has been initiated to provide notification to units when their requests have been denied, cancelled or postponed.

H. J. WOESSNER
Chief of Staff

~~SECRET~~

HEADQUARTERS

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

3/LAW/wkr
 3480
 18 October 1967
 00296-67

Copy 12 of 12 copies

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF
 Via: Commanding Officer, 5th Marines
 Subj: Combat After Action Report; Operation "ONSLOW"
 Ref: (a) 5th Marines Frag Order 1-67 (Operation Onslow)
 (b) 5th Marines Frag Order 2-67 (Operation Onslow)
 Encl: ✓(1) 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 130-67
 ✓(2) Day Movement, and Night Disposition Overlay D-Day
 ✓(3) Day Movement and Night Disposition Overlay D+1
 ✓(4) Day Movement, Overlay D+2

1. Code Name.

Operation "ONSLOW" (Search and Destroy)

2. Dates.

From 151000H October 1967 to 171400H October 1967.

3. Location. 1st Battalion, 5th Marines participated in Operation "ONSLOW" in the south portion of Dien Ban District of Quang Nam province within an area bounded on the west by Route 1, on the north and east by the Song Cau Lau, and on the south by the Song Ba Ron.

4. Control and Command Headquarters.

1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) LTCOL O. W. VANDENBERG

1st Battalion, 5th Marines Rear MAJ. H. J. McMULLEN

H&S Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines 1STLT D. L. MCINTURFF

Company C, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines 1STLT E. BURROW

Company D, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines 1STLT R. KIRKPATRICK

Company F, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines CAPT. M. DOWNS

DECLASSIFIED AT 13 YEARS
 DOD DIR 5200.10

DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.

TAB

C for ENCLOSURE (1)

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5. Task Organization.

1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) IF COL C. W. VANDENBERG

H&S Company (-) 1STLT MCINTURFF
 Det, 81 Mortar Plat
 Det, 106 RR Plat
 Det, Comm Plat
 Det, Med Plat
 TACP
 ARVN Ln Off
 Dot, Co. B, 1stEngrBn
 Dot, Co. B, 1stSPEBn
 Det, Btry D, 2ndBn 11thMar
 Det, HqBn, 1stMarDiv (13th ITT Tm)

Company C (-) (Rein) 1STLT BURROW
 Company C (-)
 2nd Plt, Co. A
 Det, Co. B, 1stSPEBn
 Det, Co. B, 1stEngrBn
 Det, Btry D, 2ndBn, 11thMar
 Det, H&S Company
 Det, 81 Mortar Plat (FO)
 Det, Comm Plat
 Det, Med Plat
 FAC Tm
 S-2 Scout
 Kit Carson Tm

Company D (Rein) 1STLT KIRKPATRICK
 Company D
 Det, Co. B, 1stSPEBn
 Det, Co. B, 1stEngrBn
 Det, Btry D, 2ndBn, 11thMar
 Det, H&S Company
 Det, 81 Mortar Plat
 Det, Comm Plat
 Det, Med Plat
 FAC Tm
 S-2 Scout
 Kit Carson Tm

3rd Plat, Co. B, 3rd AmTracBn SSGT SHAW

Company L, 3rdBn, 5thMar (-) (Rein) CAPT NIODOIS
 Company L (-)
 Det, Co. B, 1stEngrBn
 Det, H&S Company
 FAC Tm
 Arty FO
 81 FO
 Scout Sniper
 Interpreter
 Kit Carson Tm
 S-2 Scout

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Battalion Reserve: Company F (main), 2ndBn, Capt DOWNS
 5thMar

Company F

Det, Co. B, 1stEngrBn
 Det, Btry E, 2ndBn, 11thMar
 Det, H&S Company
 Det, 81 Mortar Plat
 Det, Comm Plat
 Det, Med Plat
 FAC Tm

6. Supporting Forcesa. Air

During Operation ONSLOW the Battalion Air Liaison Officer moved with the Battalion CP. Each company had Close Air Support capability via TAC (A). The air support listed below was provided:

- (1) 15 October 1967 - Airborne Observer on station from 1300 to 1900 controlled two flights of A-4's against (BT 135507) Bomb Damage Assessment on first flight, one structure destroyed and one structure damaged. No BDA available on second flight. AO also controlled mortar fire for Delta Company and artillery fire from Delta Battery.
- (2) 16 October 1967 - AO's on station all day.
- (3) 17 October 1967 - AO's on station all day.

b. Artillery

(1) During Operation ONSLOW, the Artillery liaison officer moved with the battalion CP and each participating company had forward observer capabilities.

(2) Delta Battery, Second Battalion, Eleventh Marines was in direct support of the First Battalion, Fifth Marines while Lima Battery, Fourth Battalion, Eleventh Marines was in general support.

(3) On Call Fires were planned for the support of the battalion; however, the extent of the enemy activity did not merit use of these fires.

(4) Although there were no fire missions on targets of opportunity, several HC smoke missions and illumination missions were fired for map location and perimeter defenses.

(5) During the operation, H&I's were fired nightly on possible avenues of approach, supply routes and possible escape routes.

7. Intelligence

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

(2) Provide one squad to assist 3rd Platoon, Company B, 1st Amtrac Battalion with right flank security.

(3) Be prepared to continue attack on order conducting detailed search and destroy operations.

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

C. Company D.

(1) At H-Hour on D-Day depart Combat Base aboard trucks proceed to debark point, dismount and be ready to immediately cross the LOD and attack in zone of action to secure Regimental Objective A. Conduct further detailed search and destroy operations on the objective.

(2) Be prepared to continue the attack on order conducting detailed search and destroy operations in zone of action.

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

D. Company L, 3rdBn, 5thMar.

(1) At H-Hour on D-Day depart Combat Base as part of motor march, proceed to company debark point vicinity (BT093544) to (BT093548), dismount, conduct immediate detailed search and destroy of that portion Long Chau (1) east of Route #1, (BT 092542) to (BT 097550).

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

E. H&S Company.

(1) General Support.

(2) At H-Hour on D-Day depart Combat Base aboard trucks, proceed to debarkation point, and be ready to follow in general trace of attacking companies on order.

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

F. 3rd Platoon, Company B, 1st AmtracBn.

(1) At H-Hour-30 minutes depart Combat Base proceed to arrive at junction of Route #1 and Song Ba Ren River at same time as first element motor march arrives at debarkation

Enclosure (1)
UNCLASSIFIED

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8. Mission. Commencing H-Hour on D-Day, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-)(Rein) conducts search and destroy operation within AO bounded on west by Route #1, on the north and east by Song Cau Lau and on the south by the Song Ba Ren to disrupt Viet Cong anti-election activities and capture or destroy enemy forces, supplies and facilities.

9. Concept. At H-Hour on D-Day, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-)(Rein) commences meter march to vicinity south of road junction Route #1 and Route #537 and north of junction Route #1 and Song Ba Ren River, dismounts and with two companies abreast conducts a sweep in zone to secure Regimental Objective A and Battalion Objective 1; upon securing objectives, conducts detailed search and destroy operations for a duration of about 72 hours to the confluence of the Song Cau Lau and the Song Ba Ren then north to vicinity of Then Tay (2), then northwest to the vicinity Long Chau (2).

10. Execution

a. D-2 13 October 1967.

(1) 131520H received 5th Marines Frag Order 1-67 (Operation ONSLOW). (See reference (a)).

b. D-1

(1) 140755H First elements Company F, 2ndBn, 5th Mar arrived 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Combat Base.

(2) 141100H Company F, 2ndBn, 5thMar aboard 1st Battalion, 5th Marines combat base, OPCON to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines.

(3) 141235H Received Regimental Frag Order 2-67. See reference (b).

(4) 141835H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 130-67 was promulgated to all subordinate units. See enclosure (1).

(5) 141900H Company L, 3rdBn, 5thMar arrived 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, OPCON to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines.

(6) 141915H Forty-five trucks arrived combat base for troop transportation for Operation ONSLOW.

c. D-Day 15 August 1967.

(1) 150800H Troop truck embarkation briefing conducted for all unit commanders.

(2) 150920H LVT's departed 1stBn, 5thMar combat base.

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(3) 151000H Operation ONSAW initiated as 1st Bn, 5thMarines (-)(Rein) departed combat base on motor march to debarkation point. See enclosure (2).

(4) 151030H Det. MTV Company (Otters) joined motor convoy at 059583 as scheduled. See enclosure (2).

(5) 151045H LVT's experiencing difficulty getting out of Song Cau Lau at (093550). See enclosure (2).

(6) 151100H Motor march held up at (081558) due to impassible road. Battalion disembarked to continue march on foot. See enclosure (2).

(7) 151215H First elements arrived at previously planned vehicle debarkation point. See enclosure (2).

(8) 151240H Final elements arrived in position along LOD, LVT's still bogged down in river mud, L Company, 3rdBn, 5th Marines moving into blocking position at 095545.

(9) 151320H Air Observer reported sighting of two Viet Cong with weapons moving northeast. Requested and received 60mm mission from Company D consisting of 3 HE and 3 WP with good target coverage. Area searched by advancing units. Results: 1 Viet Cong KIA probable.

(10) 151330H Attacking units crossed LOD, began sweep to Regimental Objective A and Battalion Objective 1. Company L, 3rdBn, 5th Marines occupying blocking position. See enclosure (2).

(11) 151500H Dispatched Det, MTV Company to transfer supplies from bogged down LVT's to Otter's and join Battalion at night defensive position. Platoon Commander LVT's instructed to continue efforts to free vehicles from sand bar and coordinate security with Company L, 3rdBn, 5thMar.

(12) 151545H Regimental Objective A and Battalion Objective 1 secured.

(13) 151600H Company F, 2ndBn, 5thMar moved out from reserve position to establish blocking force at (BT 140526). See enclosure (2).

(14) 151615H Company C and Company D continued the attack to the west to link up with blocking force. See enclosure (2).

(15) 151745H Company F, 2ndBn, 5thMar instructed to dispatch a platoon to guide Otter's to Battalion night position.

(16) 151930H Battalion night defensive perimeter established. See enclosure (3).

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(17) 151940H Company L, 3rdDn, 5thMar LP observed 5 Viet Cong with at least 3 weapons approaching position from east. When Viet Cong were within 75 yards LP fired illumination and 25 rounds small arms, broke contact and returned to perimeter. Results: 3 Viet Cong KIA probable. Search conducted at first light. Negative results.

(18) 152015H Final instructions for night activities promulgated. See enclosure (2). Platoon patrol routes for morning of 16 October outlined. See enclosure (3).

d. D+1 16 October 1967.

(1) 160800H Companies dispatched platoon size patrols to conduct detailed search of area 1000 to 1500 meters south, east and north of night defensive position. See enclosure (3).

(2) 160840H Ground PsyOps broadcasts conducted on the Chieu Hoi Program, Don't Run From Marines, Don't Harbor the Viet Cong, Point out Mines and Booby Traps, Vote for a Better Vietnam and The Reason Tracked Vehicles Must Drive Through your Fields.

(3) 160915H Regimental Commanding Officer, S-3 and S-2 arrived CP position.

(4) 160925H Otter on resupply run hit pressure type anti-vehicular mine vicinity (BT 115530). Results: 8 USMC WIAE, 1 USN WIAE evac requested and completed.

(5) 160945H Dispatched Otter and security squad to assist in towing disabled Otter to secure area and to continue resupply mission.

(6) 161030H Regimental Commanding Officer and party departed CP.

(7) S-2 apprehended Vietnamese male, age 50, with ID card, vicinity (BT 132522). Detainee was carrying 6000 P's, stated he was merchant and had documents to account for money. Turned over to ITT. Detainee indicated desire to return to government controlled area. Referred to Refugee Center by ITT.

(8) 161115H Oral order for afternoon movement issued. See enclosure (3).

(9) 161145H All platoon patrols returned to perimeter.

(10) 161200H Company C commenced move to blocking position vicinity (BT 112550). See enclosure (3).

(11) 161230H Lead elements moved out on Search and Destroy to link up with Company C blocking force. See enclosure (3).

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(12) Received instructions from Regiment to tow disabled Otter to (BT 080547) here it is to be left without security.

(13) 161805H Link up with Company C blocking force effected. See enclosure (3).

(14) 161900H Night defensive perimeter established and instructions for night activities promulgated. See enclosure (4).

c. D+2 17 October 1967.

(1) 170730H Received oral instructions to move to Company L, 3rdBn, 5thMar blocking position and await further instructions. Be prepared to terminate operation on order.

(2) 170830H Lead Companies departed night position to conduct detailed search and destroy to Company L, 3rdBn, 5thMar position. See enclosure (4).

(3) 170915H Lead element Company D observed Vietnamese male entering rice paddy from left flank, challenged and failed to halt. Fired 25 rds small arms fire and one M-79. Area Searched. Found one Viet Cong KIA, age about 30, black clothing, no ID card. Results: 1 Viet Cong KIA confirmed.

(4) 171030H LVT's clear of sand bar. Instructed to return to combat base.

(5) 171115H Lead companies link up with Company L, 3rdBn, 5thMar. See enclosure (4).

(6) 171230H Received oral instructions from Regiment to depart position 171400H and conduct foot march to vicinity (BT 083557) to meet trucks for transportation to combat base.

(7) 171255H LVT's arrived 1stBn, 5thMar combat base.

(8) 171400H Commenced movement to meet vehicles. See enclosure (4).

(9) 171400H Operation ONSLOW terminated.

(10) 171545H Trucks arrived embarkation area. Embarkation commenced.

(11) 171555H Company L, 3rdBn, 5thMar OPCON 3rdBn 5thMar

(12) 171715H All units returned to combat base.

(13) 181400H Final helilift Company F, 2ndBn, 5thMar personnel departed 1stBn, 5thMar combat base. OPCON to 2ndBn, 5thMar.

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KIA	0
WIA	9
WIA/NE	0
MIA	0
MDC	0

b. Friendly Equipment Losses.

NONE

c. Enemy Casualties.

KIA Confirmed	1
KIA Probable	4
Detainees	0
POW	0

d. Captured Enemy Weapons.

NONE

e. Captured Enemy Ammunitions.

NONE

f. Captured Enemy Documents.

1 Bundle of approximately 25 VC propaganda documents.

g. Destroyed Enemy Equipment.

NONE

h. Destroyed Enemy Ordnance.

NONE

12. Administrative Matters.a. Supply.

(1) Due to the limited duration of the operation, provisions were made to carry all necessary resupply items in

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the LVI's. When those vehicles were unable to traverse the terrain coming out of the Song Cau Lau River provisions were made to transfer priority items to the Others. This proved to be practical and most expedient. Due to the early termination of the operation, the Other was not given a true test of its logistical capabilities. One helicopter mission consisting of one aircraft for an emergency resupply of batteries for PRC-25's was required on D+1.

(2) Initially 6 RCI's were carried by each individual. This made necessary the requirement for issue of only one meal per person on D+2. A basic allowance of ammunition and three canteens of water were carried by each individual. No ammunition resupply was required. Water presented no difficulty although sources were roiled by recent storms. In addition to individual weapons, Machine guns, 60mm mortars and 82mm mortars were carried on the operation as well as B-6 launchers (G3).

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 operation.

c. Casualties.

(1) Casualties were restricted to one anti-vehicular mine incident. These casualties were immediately evacuated to the first Medical Battalion, DaNang, RVN by helicopter.

(2) Despite continual prolonged exposure to terrain where keeping ones feet dry was an impossibility, the Battalion suffered no casualties of Immersion foot category. This is attributed to attention at all levels of command in ensuring that individuals give proper attention to care of their feet.

d. Transportation.

(1) The only transportation utilized during the operation was the 45 trucks used to transport the Battalion to a position on Route #1 just north of the bridge over the Song Cau Lau where the Battalion was forced to debark due to impassable road conditions. Twenty seven trucks again transported the Battalion from this point to the Combat Base when the operation was secured.

e. Communications.

(1) VHF communications in the field: Communications with all units by use of PRC-25 is considered to have been marginal. The RC-292 antenna was erected on the second night with some improvement in reception and transmission.

(2) Cold Weather Batteries for PRC-25: This Battalion has been receiving cold storage batteries for PRC-25 (BA-386) for some time. On resupply in the field, six cases (72 batteries) were de-

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livered. It is a common assumption that the cold batteries will not function properly for periods normally expected of PRC-25 batteries. No substantial evidence of this was developed. Longevity tests are to be conducted on the cold storage batteries to determine feasibility of their use.

(3) Covered Voice Circuit in the Field: Regimental Frag Order 1-67 (Operation ONSLOW) directed this battalion to be prepared to operate a covered voice circuit utilizing the KY-8 cryptographic device. Since this device must have a source of supply, Plans were made to install the device in an LVT, but wiring difficulties in the vehicle precluded this. Use of a wheeled vehicle (MRC-109) was out of the question due to the terrain.

13. PSYCHOLOGICAL OPERATIONS

(1) Ground broadcasts were made by a Psyops team from the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines on the following subjects: (1) General Chieu Hoi Information, (2) Don't Harbor VC, (3) Assist Marines by Putting Out Booby Traps and Mines, (4) Tracked Vehicles Would Not Have To Drive Over the Rice paddies if The People would Report VC Activities, (5) Vote for a Better Vietnam, and (6) Marines Are Here to Help The People of South Vietnam So Don't Run From the Marines.

(2) The ground broadcasts were made in the following areas: (BT 095140) and (BT 539560).

(3) Total broadcast time was approximately 10½ hours.

(4) At (BT 133525), 161130H a Vietnamese major from the operational area came to the Battalion CP and told Psyops Personnel that he had heard the broadcasts about Don't Run From Marines. He said the reason that the people in the area ran was because the VC had told them that the Marines would bring harm to them. Thereafter the people seemed more receptive to the Marines.

(5) Aerial broadcasts were made in the operational area but they were ineffective because of the aircrafts high altitude. In addition the broadcasts were not at the scheduled times.

(6) An aerial leaflet drop was scheduled in the operational area but was not made for reasons unknown.

14. Special Equipment and Techniques.

a. LVT's were programmed for use in the Song Ba Ron River as flank security and to deny enemy egress from the AO to the south and to provide logistical support where required. The inability of these vehicles to traverse beyond the Song Cau Lau due to recent flooding conditions and resultant soft sand/mud bars notably affected the battalions ability to interdict the enemy's principle course of egress south across the Song Ba Ron.

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b. The Otters attached for this operation proved themselves capable of traversing terrain considered untraversable by both tanks and armored. Had the Marines not been held up in the Song Cau Lou area, they undoubtedly would have proven valuable for resupply and just destruction purposes, had the operation not been terminated or had the battalion made substantial contact. The Otter, despite excellent wet land capabilities, was unable to traverse dense bamboo and tree groves which comprise the periphery of the area and operations.

15. Commanders Comments:

a. The operating area for OMEOW was almost completely inundated. Though this presented some difficulty in movement, it did not seriously restrict the battalion's maneuver ability.

b. The leading commander demonstrated an entirely satisfactory capability to maintain contact and alignment on a broad front despite heavy ground and extended formation.

c. Immediate return of small arms fire in an enemy encounter was excellent. Prompt dispatch of a maneuver element and effective use of supporting arms need training and practice. This will be accomplished.

d. The LVT's in support of the operation could not negotiate the initial obstacles. They were stranded on a sand bar during the entire operation and there was no opportunity to evaluate their usefulness.

e. The M-76 marginal terrain vehicles (Otters) performed well and displayed an ability to travel in this type of terrain and wet weather. Though movement was restricted by heavy vegetation in boundary areas, it appears that the Otter will be extremely useful during the Monsoon season.

f. Communications frequently continue to be disrupted in heavy vegetation. The use of 292 antennas and relay stations should alleviate this problem. Certain problems might have been caused by the cold weather batteries, but this could not be substantiated.

g. There were no cases of immersion foot; however, this was a short operation and it is apparent that command attention to fundamentals of foot care will be essential.

h. There were no cases of malfunctioning of M16 rifles. This can be attributed to the program of pre-operation fam firing and inspections and the daily cleaning period scheduled in the field. Additionally, there was very little contact, thus offering little opportunity for malfunctions.

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15. Recommendation. NONE.

O. W. van den Berg
O. W. VAN DEN BERG JR.

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1st Battalion, 5th Marines
 Hoi An, RVN
 14 October 1967
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Frag Order 130-67

Ref: (a) Maps: RVN; 1:50,000; Series L7014, Sheet 6640 I
 (b) 5th Marines Frag Order 1-67 Operation CNSLOW

Time Zone: Task Organization

1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) LTCOL O. W. VAN DEN BERG

H&S Company (-) (Rein) 1STLT MCINTURFF

H&S Company (-)
 Det, 81 Mortar Plat
 Det, 106 RR Plat
 Det, Comm Plat
 Det, Med Plat
 TACP
 ARVN Ln Off
 Det, Co B, 1stEngrBn
 Det, Co B, 1stSPBn
 Det, Btry D, 2ndBn, 11thMar
 Det, HqBn, 1stMarDiv (13th ITT Tm)

Company C (-) (Rein) 1STLT BURROW

Company C (-)
 Plat, Co B.
 Det, Co B, 1stSPBn
 Det, Co B, 1stEngrBn
 Det, Btry D, 2ndBn, 11thMar
 Det, H&S Company
 Det, 81 Mortar Plat (FO)
 Det, Comm Plat
 Det, Med Plat
 FAC Tm
 S-2 Scout
 Kit Carson Tm

Company D (Rein) 1STLT KIRKPATRICK

Company D

Enclosure (1)

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Det, Co B, 1stSPEn
 Det, Co B, 1stEngrBn
 Det, Btry D, 2ndBn, 11thMar
 Det, H&S Company
 Det, 81 Mortar Plat
 Det, Comm Plat
 Det, Med Plat
 FAC Tm
 S-2 Scout
 Kit Carson Tm

3rd Plat, Co E, 3rd AmFracBn

SSGT SPAW

Company L, 2ndBn, 5thMar (-)(Rein)

CAPT NICDOIS

Company L (-)
 Det, Co B, 1stEngrBn
 Det, H&S Company
 FAC Tm
 Arty FO
 81 FO
 Scout Sniper
 Interpreter
 Kit Carson Tm
 S-2 Scout

Battalion Reserve: Company F (Rein), 2ndBn, 5thMar CAPT DOWNS

Company F
 Det, Co B, 1stEngrBn
 Det, Btry E, 2ndBn, 11thMar
 Det, H&S Company
 Det, 81 Mortar Plat
 Det, Comm Plat
 Det, Med Plat
 FAC Tm

1. SITUATION.

A. Enemy Forces.

(1) Enemy forces currently believed to be located in the vicinity of the Onslow AO are listed below:

(a) V-25Bn: Strength 350; Weapons B40 rockets, 81mm mortars, 60mm mortars, 57mm RR. LF. Onslow AO General OP Area.

Enclosure (1)

SECRET

(b) R-2CBs: Strength 125; Weapons: 3-82mm mortars, 3 60mm mortars, 1-57mm RR, 2 MG, 5-BAR. Located (BT 140538), (BT 161533).

(c) 70th Independent Battalion: Strength 425; Weapons: 3-82mm mortars, 4-60mm mortars, 4-57mm RR, 5-MG, MF. Located (BT 162538), (BT 1705), (BT 149556).

(d) Hamlet Guerrilla Strength: 60-80, weapons unknown.

(2) Enemy located immediately south of Onslow AO listed below:

(a) VC VCBs: Strength 400; Weapons: Mortars, MG's, B-40 rockets, individual weapons. Located vicinity (BT 133500), (BT 137505), and (BT 148500).

B. Friendy.

(1) 1st Battalion, 51st ARVN Regiment conducts search and destroy operations on the island complex northeast of the AO and establishes blocking positions (See Annex A: Operation Overlay) to deny enemy forces access from the AO to the northwest.

2. MISSION: Commencing H-Hour on D-Day, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-)(Rein) conducts search and destroy operation within AO bounded on west by Route #1 on north and east by Son Cau Lau and on the south by the Song Ba Ren to disrupt VC anti-election activities and capture or destroy enemy forces, supplies and facilities. (See Annex A: Operation Overlay).

3. EXECUTION.

A. Concept: At H-Hour on D-Day 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-)(Rein) commences motor march to vicinity south of road junction Route #1 and Route #537 and north of junction Route #1 and Song Ba Ren River, dismounts, and with two companies abreast conducts a sweep in zone to secure Regimental Objective A and Battalion Objective 1; upon securing Objectives conducts detailed search and destroy operations for a duration of about 72 hours to the confluence of the Song Cau Lau and Song Ba Ren then north to vicinity of Thang Tay (2), then northwest to the vicinity Long Chau (2).

B. Company C.

(1) At H-Hour on D-Day depart Combat Base aboard trucks, proceed to debarkation point and be ready to immediately cross the LOD and attack in zone of action to secure Battalion Objective 1. Conduct further detailed search and destroy operations on the objective.

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- (2) Provide one squad as a detail for liaison, Company B, 1st Amtrack Battalion with right flank security.
- (3) Be prepared to continue attack on order conducting detailed search and destroy operations.
- (4) Be prepared to assume other missions on order.

C. Company D.

- (1) At H-Hour on D-Day depart Combat Base aboard trucks, proceed to debark point, dismount and be ready to immediately cross the LCD and attack in zone of action to secure Regimental Objective A. Conduct further detailed search and destroy operations on the objective.
- (2) Be prepared to continue the attack on order conducting detailed search and destroy operations in zone of action.
- (3) Be prepared to assume other missions on order.

D. Company E, 2nd Bn, 5th Mar.

- (1) At H-Hour on D-Day depart Combat Base as part of motor march, proceed to company debark point vicinity (BT 093544) to (BT 093548), dismount, conduct immediate detailed search and destroy of that portion Long Chau (1) east of Route #1, set in a blocking position generally along a line from (BT 092542) to (BT 097550).
- (2) Be prepared to assume other missions on order.

E. H&S Company.

- (1) General Support.
- (2) At H-Hour on D-Day depart Combat Base aboard trucks, proceed to debarkation point, and be ready to follow in general trace of attacking companies on order.
- (3) Be prepared to assume other missions on order.

F. 3rd Platoon, Company B, 1st AmtrackBn.

- (1) At H-Hour-30 minutes depart Combat Base proceed to arrive at junction of Route #1 and Song Ba Ren River at same

Enclosure (1)

G. 3rd Platoon, Company B, 1st AmtrackBn.

SECRET

- (1) At H-Hour on D-Day depart Combat Base aboard trucks, proceed to debarkation point, and be ready to follow in general trace of attacking companies on order.

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time as first element motor march arrives at debarkation point, be ready to cross LOD on order, coordinate movement to maintain position abreast of advancing companies.

(2) Provide right flank security utilizing additional weapons and troops mounted on amphibious tractor hulls.

(3) Be prepared to provide personnel and logistic transportation support on order.

(4) Be prepared to support attacking companies by fire on order.

(5) Be prepared to destroy enemy sampans fleeing the AO or attempting to ferry VC from the AO.

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

G. Platoon MTV Company.

(1) General Support.

(2) At H-Hour+10 minutes join Motor March column at junction of Route #1 and Route #530 proceed to troop debarkation point. On order cross LOD in general trace of H&S Company.

(3) Be prepared to provide resupply support on order.

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

H. Company F, 2ndBn, 5thMar.

(1) Battalion Reserve.

(2) At H-Hour on D-Day, depart Combat Base and proceed as portion of motor march column to debark point, cross LOD on order, follow in general trace of Battalion Command Element and MTV Company.

(3) Provide flank security for Battalion Command Group.

(4) Provide rear security.

(5) Be prepared to assume missions of either attacking company on order.

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

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I. Coordinating Instructions.

- (1) H-Hour 1000 D-Day 15 October 1967.
- (2) Be loaded on trucks by 0945H.
- (3) Be ready to jump off into the attack within 10 minutes after arrival of last unit at debarkation point.
- (4) Contact left to right.
- (5) Be alert for mines and boobytraps.
- (6) Rules of engagement apply.
- (7) Initial boundary between leading companies, stream midway between limits of debarkation area, running between grid coordinates (BT 103528) and (BT 113532). Company D is responsible for stream. (See Annex A: Operation Overlay).
- (8) LOD-Route #1.
- (9) See Annex A (Operation Overlay).
- (10) CA may be used if wind is out of northeast, east, or southeast only on order of Battalion Commander.
- (11) All units will be embarked maintaining tactical integrity. The order of march for the convoy will be Company C, H&S Company, Det, MTV Company, Company D, Company F, Company L, 3rdBn, 5thMar. For vehicle loading plan see Annex B (Embarkation Annex).
- (12) The Battalion (left) boundary along a line which affords unobstructed observation and fields of fire to north (left) flank of company attacking on the left.
- (13) All supporting fires will be on call.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS.

A. Prescribed Load-Initial Deployment.

- (1) 6 MCI's per man.
- (2) 3 canteens per man.
- (3) 6 days supply of salt and halizone per man.
- (4) Each man wear flak jacket.

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- (5) Each man carry field protective masks.
- (6) Insect repellent as required.
- (7) Five days weapons cleaning gear.
- (8) Basic allowance of ammunition to constitute:
 - (a) 240 rounds 5.56 or 7.62mm ball per rifle as appropriate.
 - (b) 21 rounds 45 caliber ball per pistol.
 - (c) 1000 rounds 7.62 linked per M60 machine gun.
 - (d) 12 rounds 40mm per M-79.
 - (e) 10 rounds 81mm HE per tube.
 - (f) 5 rounds 81mm WP per tube.
 - (g) 3 rounds 81mm illumination per tube.
 - (h) 25 rounds 60mm HE per tube.
 - (i) 5 rounds 60mm WP per tube.
 - (j) 35 rounds 106mm HEFT per recoilless rifle.
 - (k) 3 rounds 106mm Beehive per recoilless rifle.
- (9) Following supply and equipage per rifle squad:
 - (a) Two air panels.
 - (b) Six yellow smoke grenades.
 - (c) Four LAAW's.
 - (d) Three WP grenades.
 - (e) Four M-26 fragmentation grenades.
 - (f) Three hand illumination, green star clusters.
 - (g) Fifty feet of one-half inch rope.
- (10) Special Equipment:
 - (a) Two E-8 gas dispensers per rifle company.
 - (b) Each engineer carry one demolitions kit.

B. Resupply.

- (1) LVTP-5's will carry the following supplies:
 - (a) Class I- Two days MCI's for unit.
 - (b) Class II-Three days supply batteries, two extra AN/PRC-25 radio and antennas; one RC-292 antenna.
 - (c) Class III-Full tank plus two drums MO-gas per tractor.
 - (d) Class IV- Not applicable.
 - (e) Class V- Basic allowance for the 106mm Recoilless rifles as well as 10,000 rounds 5.56mm
5,000 rounds 7.62mm

SECRET

1,640 rounds 7.62mm linked
 48 M-26 Fragmentation grenades
 2 E-8 gas dispensers
 36 rounds 81mm HE
 3 rounds 81mm WP
 3 rounds 81mm Illum

(2) M76 Otters to be prepared to assume resupply role on order.

C. Evacuation and Hospitalization.

(1) Helicopter medical evacuation by UH-34D where possible, helicopter support teams attached.

(2) Secondary means of medical evaucations to Battalion CP by LVTR-5 or M76.

(3) Casualty reporting IAW Division Order P3040.1B.

D. Transportation.

(1) Forty-five M35 trucks to arrive at combat base at 1800 on D-1 to provide transportation to debarkation point, upon dismount three trucks to return to combat base for further support of operation the remainder to continue to Hill 63.

(2) Six M76 Otters rendezvous with motor column at H+10 minutes at intersection route 538 and Highway #1 vicinity (BT 059583) and proceed down highway #1.

E. Unit Commanders will:

- (1) Ensure all weapons are cleaned and inspected daily.
- (2) Supervise the consumption of salt tablets.
- (3) Require and supervise purification of water.
- (4) Ensure each man takes a malaria pill on D-1.

5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS.

A. Communications.

- (1) Radio.

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(a) Establish Radio Communications in accordance with Annex C (Radio Frequency/Call Signs) distributed separately.
 (b) Establish KY-8 Cover Circuit in Command Tractor on Regimental Tactical #1.
 (c) Activate all Radio Circuits at 150700H October 1967.

(2) Radio Relay.

(a) Establish additional (COB) circuit between First Battalion, Fifth Marines COB and Fifth Marines COB utilizing Channel-8 over AN/TRC-27.

(3) Communications Aids.

(a) AUTHENTICATION: Effective edition KAC-QX-9.
 (b) CALL SIGNS: In accordance with Annex C (Radio Frequency/Call Signs).

(4) Resupply and repair of communication equipment.

(a) All units carry three days supply of batteries.
 (b) Electronics repair facilities available at 1stBn, 5thMar Combat Base.

B. Command.

(1) Position report each hour 10 minutes before the hour

(2) Display air panels on packs, minimum of two per squad.

(3) Yellow or green smoke used to mark: helo landing points as required. Front line positions marked by colored smoke as directed. Air targets will be marked/ WP as directed.

Annex A: Operation Overlay
 B: Embarkation
 C: Radio Frequency/Call Sign

O. W. VAN DEN BERG
 Lieutenant Colonel
 Commanding

OFFICIAL

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

1st Battalion, 5th Marines
Hoi-An, RVN
14 October 1967

Annex B: (Embarcation Plan) to Frag Order 130-67

Ref: (NONE)

Time Zone: H

VEHICLE ASSIGNMENTS

Company C	1-8
H&S Company	9-13
Company D	14-21
Company F, 2/5	22-28
Company I, 3/5	29-37

C. W. VAN DEN BERG
Lieutenant Colonel
Commanding

OFFICIAL

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

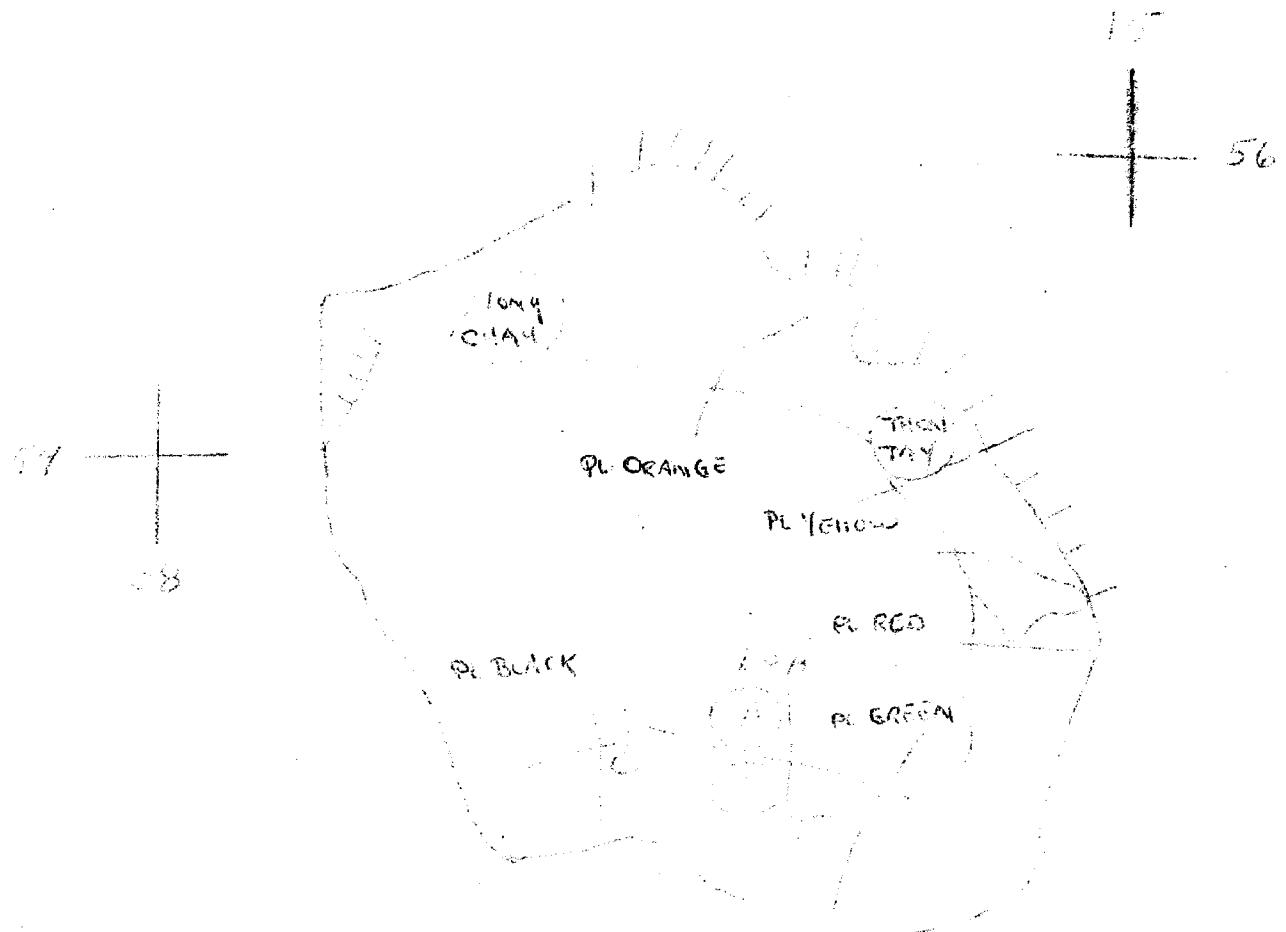
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Enclosure (1)

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Annex A: Operation Overlay to Frag Order 130-67

Ref: (a) Maps: RVN; 1:50,000; Series L7014. Sheet 6640 I



O. W. VAN DEN BERG JR.
Lieutenant Colonel
Commanding

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Major, USMC
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Enclosure (1)

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1st Battalion, 5th Marines
Hoi An, RVN
140800H October 1967

Annex C (Radio Frequency/Call Signs) to Operation Order

Ref: (a) Division Order P02000.2C

Time Zone: Hotel

LEGEND:

O-NET CONTROL
X-GUARD
O-BE PREPARED TO
GUARD

UNITS	DESIG				FREQ	CIRCUIT	CALL SIGNS
	M-266	(P)52-40	1ST TAC #1	M-278			
5TH MARINES	C	C	C	M-235	63-20	BN TAC 2 (FIELD)	OFFSPRING
1ST BN 5TH MARINES	X	O	O	M-247	48-80	TACP LOC/1	NAILBRUSH
1ST BN 5TH MARINES REAR	X	O	X O X	M-655	283-0	TAD #2	
"C" CO 1/5				M-122	61-95	"O" CO TAC	
"D" CO 1/5				M-388	60-30	"L" CO TAC	
"F" CO 2/5				M-419	63-35	"P" CO TAC	
81 MORT PLAT 1/5				M-477	64-65	81 MORT COF	
3RD PLAT CO "C"				M-588	68-55	3RD PLAT AMTRAC	
3RD AMTRAC BN				M-438	62-75	71N BTRY COF	
"D" BTRY 2/11 FO'S				M-431	57-95	51ST ARVN REGT	
"D" BTRY 2/11				M-216	67-95	"L" CO 1/5	
51ST ARVN REGT							
1/5 LNO TO 51ST ARVN							
"L" CO 3/5							

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Lieutenant Colonel
Commanding

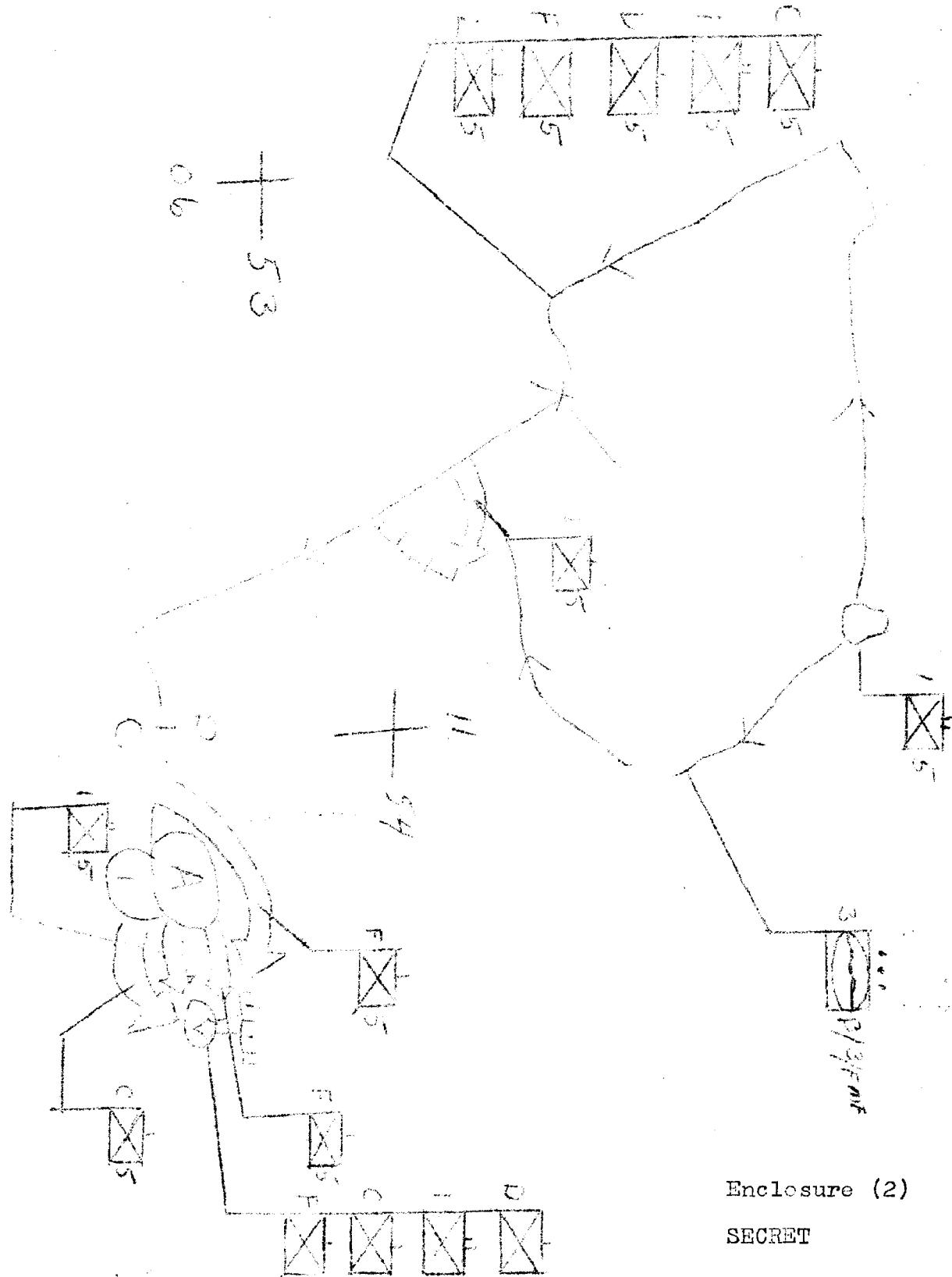
Enclosure (1)

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Day Movement Overlay D-Day

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



Enclosure (2)

SECRET

SECRET

Night Disposition Overlay D-Day

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

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D											
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F											
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O2											

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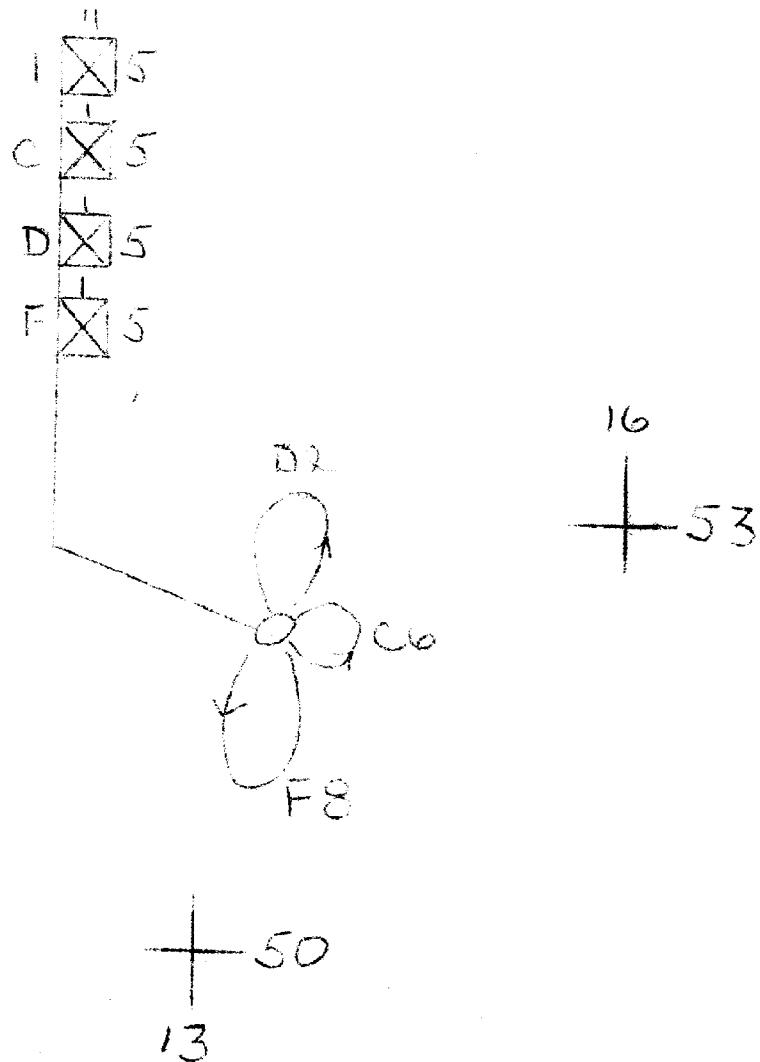
Enclosure (2)

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Day Activities D+1

Ref: (a) Map, RVN; 1:50,000; Series L7014, Sheet 664011



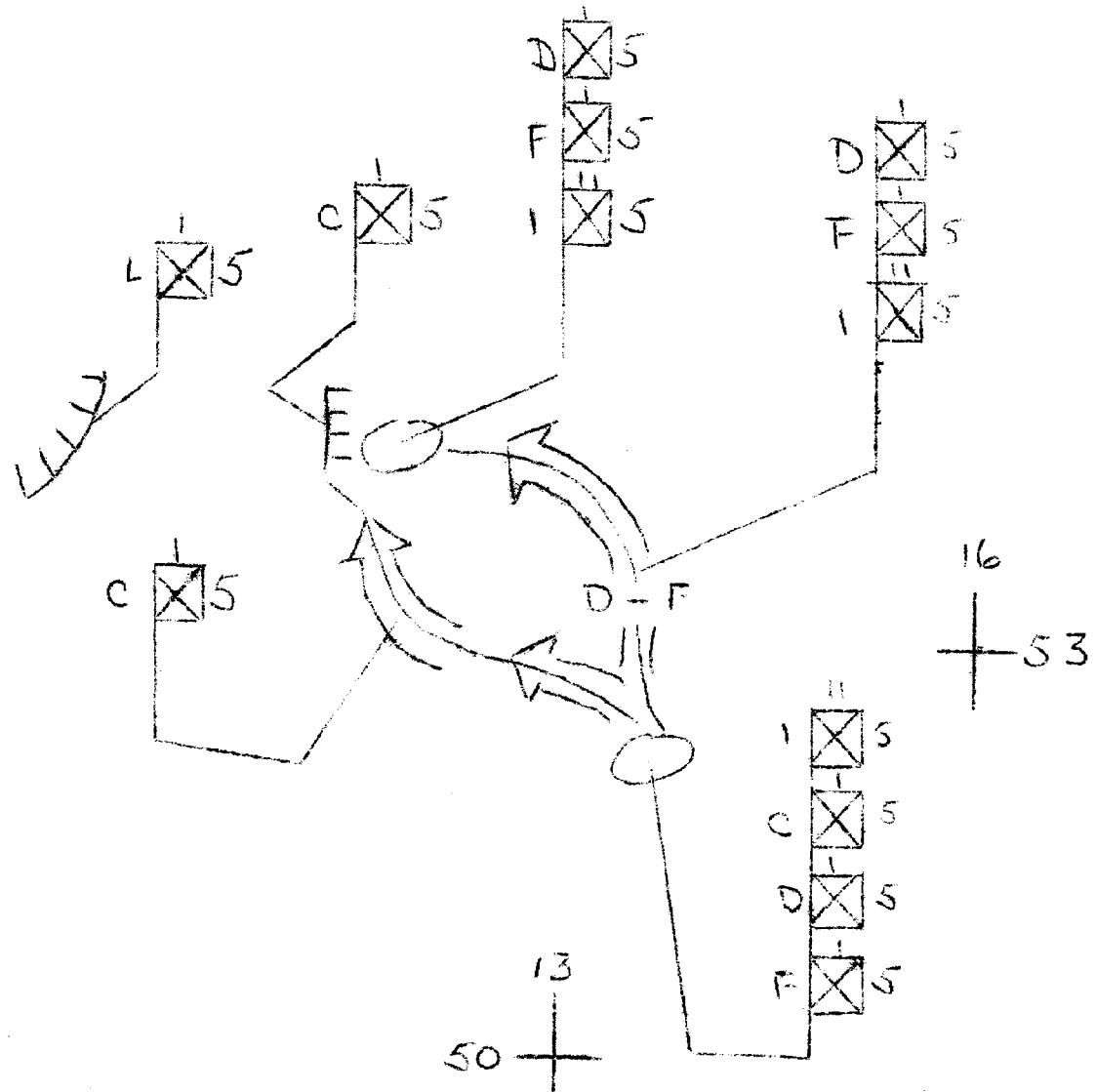
Enclosure (3)

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Day Movement Overlay Det

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



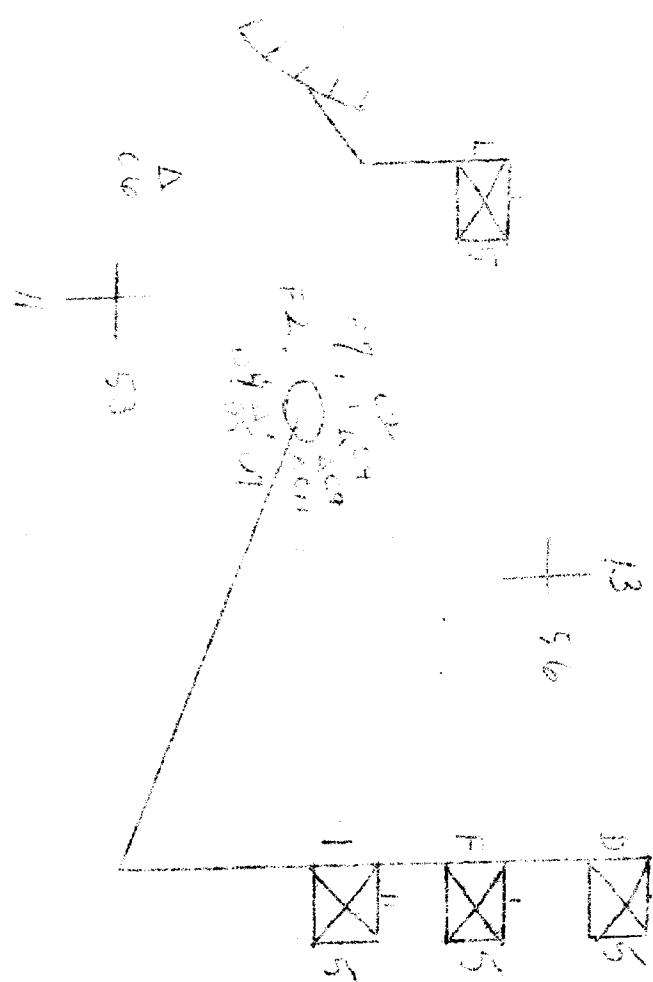
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Night Disposition Overlay D+1

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



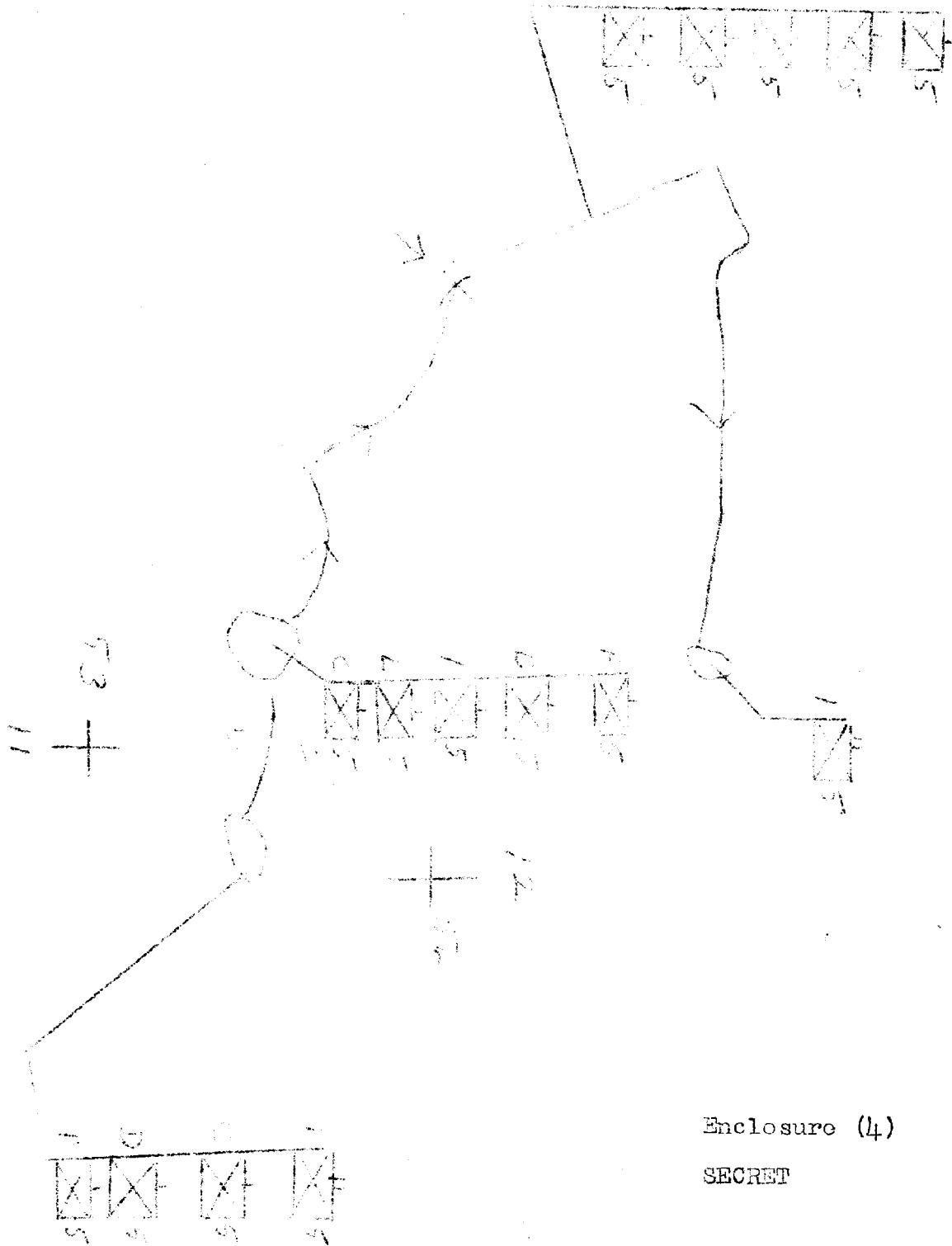
Enclosure (3)

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Day Movement Overlay D+2

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



Enclosure (4)

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1st Battalion, 5th Marines
 Hoi An, RVN
 30 October 1967

Frag Order 131-67

Ref: (a) Maps: RVN 1:50,000; Series L7014, Sheet 6640I
 (b) 5th Marines Operation Plan 1-67

Time Zone: H

Task Organization

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

LTCOL O. W. VAN DEN BORG

Company C (Rein)

1STLT BURROW

Company C
 Det, Co B, 1st Engr Bn
 Det, Btry D, 2nd Bn, 11th Mar
 Det, H&S Company
 Det, 81 Mortar Plt (FO)
 Det, Comm Plt
 Det, Med Plt
 FAC Tm
 S-2 Scout
 Kit Carson Tm

Company A (-) (Rein)

CAPT GIERDANI TK

Company A (-)
 Det, Co B, 1st Engr Bn
 Det, Btry D, 2nd Bn, 11th Mar
 Det, H&S Company
 Det, 81 Mortar Plt (FO)
 Det, Comm Plt
 Det, Med Plt
 FAC Tm
 S-2 Scout
 Kit Carson Tm

Company D (Rein)

CAPT KIRKPATRICK

Company D
 Det, Co B, 1st Engr Bn
 Det, Btry D, 2nd Bn, 11th Mar
 Det, H&S Company
 Det, 81 Mortar Plt (FO)
 Det, Comm Plt
 Det, Med Plt
 FAC Tm
 S-2 Scout
 Kit Carson Tm

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Company I (Rein) 3rd Bn, 5th Mar

CPT SPICER

Company I (Rein) .
 Det, Co B, 1st Engr Bn
 Det, Btry F, 2nd Bn, 11th Mar
 Det, H&S Company
 Det, 81 Mortar Plt (FO)
 Det, Comm Plt
 Det, Med Plt
 FAC Tm
 S-2 Scout
 Kit Carson Tm

H&S Company (-) (Rein)

CPT BAGLEY

H&S Company (-)
 Det, Comm Plt
 Det, Med Plt.
 TACP
 Det, Co B, 1st Engr Bn
 Det, Btry D, 2nd Bn, 11th Mar
 Det, Hq Bn, 1st Mar Div (13th MTT)

3rd Plt, Co C, 1st Tank Bn

LT HILL

3rd Plt, Co B, 3rd AmTrac Bn

S/SGT SHAW

1. SITUATION. See current ISUMS and PERINTREPS.

2. MISSION: Commencing at H-hour, D-Day, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines will conduct Search and Destroy operation within AO 2 emphasizing three step principle of first quickly isolating area and enemy within; secondly segregate and remove enemy infrastructure and finally conduct intensive detailed "Hole Hunting" operation to uncover enemy cache sites and logistical installations. (See operation overlay).

3. EXECUTION.

A. Concept: At H-Hour on D-Day 1st Battalion, 5th Marines commences a multi-directional closely coordinated movement utilizing mechanized and helicopter troop transportation means to quickly and simultaneously seal off area of Operation 2 (See operation overlay). Upon securing blocking positions at Objectives 1 and 2, conducts a rapid two company sweep of area of Operation followed by a detailed company search and destroy, "Hole Hunting" operation of undetermined duration.

B. Company C.

(1) At H-hour on D-Day depart combat base aboard tracked vehicles, conduct rapid sweep along an axis of advance to north, on order wheel to the right and continue mounted sweep to secure Battalion Objective 1. Establish blocking positions thereat and deny enemy egress from AO 2 through your position.

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- (2) Be prepared to conduct activities as directed.
- (3) Be prepared to assume other missions on order.
- (4) Be prepared to commence return movement to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines combat base on order.

C. Company A

(1) At H-hour cross Line of Departure in zone conduct rapid sweep to the south to secure Battalion Objective 2, establish blocking force thereat and deny enemy egress from AO 2 through your positions.

- (2) Be prepared to conduct activities as directed.
- (3) Be prepared to commence return movement to your combat base on order.

D. Company D

(1) At H-hour plus 45 minutes commence helilift to LZ Blue, debark and prepare to cross Line of Departure in zone to secure Battalion Objective 3 on order.

- (2) Upon securing of Battalion Objective 3 be prepared to commence detailed Search and Destroy "Hole hunting" activities on order.
- (3) Be prepared to assume other missions on order.

E. Company I, 3rd Bn, 5th Mar.

(1) At H-hour plus 1 hour, 45 minutes commence helilift to LZ Blue, debark and prepare to cross Line of Departure in zone to link up with Company A blocking force in vicinity Objective 2.

- (2) Be prepared to assume mission of Company A on reaching Objective 2.
- (3) Be prepared to conduct detailed Search and Destroy in north-eastern portion of AO 2 on order.
- (4) Be prepared to assume other missions on order.

(5) Be prepared to commence return movement to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines combat base on order.

F. H&S Company

- (1) General Support.

SECRET

- (2) Move as part of vehicular column to Battalion Objective 1.
- (3) Be prepared to assume other missions on order.
- (4) Be prepared to commence return movement to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines combat base on order.

G. 3rd Platoon, Company C, 1st Tank Battalion.

- (1) General support.
- (2) Provide vehicular transportation for elements of Company C as assigned. (See operation overlay).
- (3) Be prepared to assume other missions on order.
- (4) Be prepared to commence return movement to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines combat base on order.

H. 3rd Platoon, Company B, 3rd Trac Battalion.

- (1) General Support.
- (2) Provide vehicular transportation for elements of Company C and H&S Company as assigned.
- (3) Be prepared to assume other missions on order.
- (4) Be prepared to commence return movement to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines combat base on order.

I. Coordinating Instructions.

- (1) ~~h-hour~~ 0700 D-Day 31 October 1967 ~~L-hour~~ 0745.
- (2) Company C and CP be loaded on vehicles by 0645.
- (3) Helilifted forces contact right to left.
- (4) Be alert for booby traps.
- (5) Rules of engagement apply.
- (6) See Annex A (Operation Overlay).
- (7) RCA may be used only on order of Battalion Commander.
- (8) Tracked vehicle loading plan (see operation overlay).
- (9) Engineer detachment - be prepared to conduct mine sweep of channelized areas.

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(10) All supporting fires will be on call.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS.

A. Prescribed Load

- (1) All companies carry demolitions materials.
- (2) 3 MUs per man except Company D to carry 6 MCIs per man.
- (3) 3 canteens per man.
- (4) 2 days' supply salt and halizone except Company D to carry 6 days' supply of each.

- (5) Every man wear flak jacket.
- (6) Every man carry field protective mask.
- (7) Every man carry weapons cleaning gear.
- (8) Basic allowance of ammunition.
 - a. 240 rounds 5.56 or 7.62 ball per rifle.
 - b. 21 rounds .45 caliber ball per pistol.
 - c. 1000 rounds 7.62 linked per M-60 machine gun.
 - d. 12 rounds per M-79.
 - e. 25 rounds 60mm HE per tube.
 - f. 5 rounds 60mm WP per tube.
 - g. Tanks and LVTs carry basic load.

(9) Following supply and equipage per squad:

- a. Two air panels.
- b. 6 yellow smoke grenades.
- c. 4 LAWs.
- d. 3 WP grenades.
- e. 4 M-26 fragmentation grenades.
- f. One hand illumination, green star cluster.
- g. 50 feet of one-half inch rope.
- h. Demolition materials.

(10) Special equipment:

- a. Each engineer carry one demolition kit.

B. Resupply.

- (1) As required by LVTP-5.
- (2) Emergency resupply by UH-34D when possible.

C. Evacuation and hospitalization.

- (1) Helicopter evacuation when possible.
- (2) Secondary evacuation by LVTP-5.
- (3) Casualty reporting in accordance with DivO 3040.1B.

D. Transportation.

- (1) Seven LVTP-5s
- (2) Four 48A1 Tanks

MISSION

SECURE

B. Unit Commanders will:

- (1) Insure all weapons are cleaned daily.
- (2) Supervise the consumption of salt tablets.
- (3) Require and supervise purification of water.
- (4) Supervise care of feet.

5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS.

A. COMMAND.

- (1) Command Post with Company C.
- (2) Position reports every hour.
- (3) Display air panels, 2 per squad/mark forward blocking positions.
- (4) Yellow smoke to mark helo zones.

B. COMMUNICATIONS. See Annex B (Radio Frequency/call signs).

O. W. VAN DEN BERG
Lieutenant Colonel
Commanding

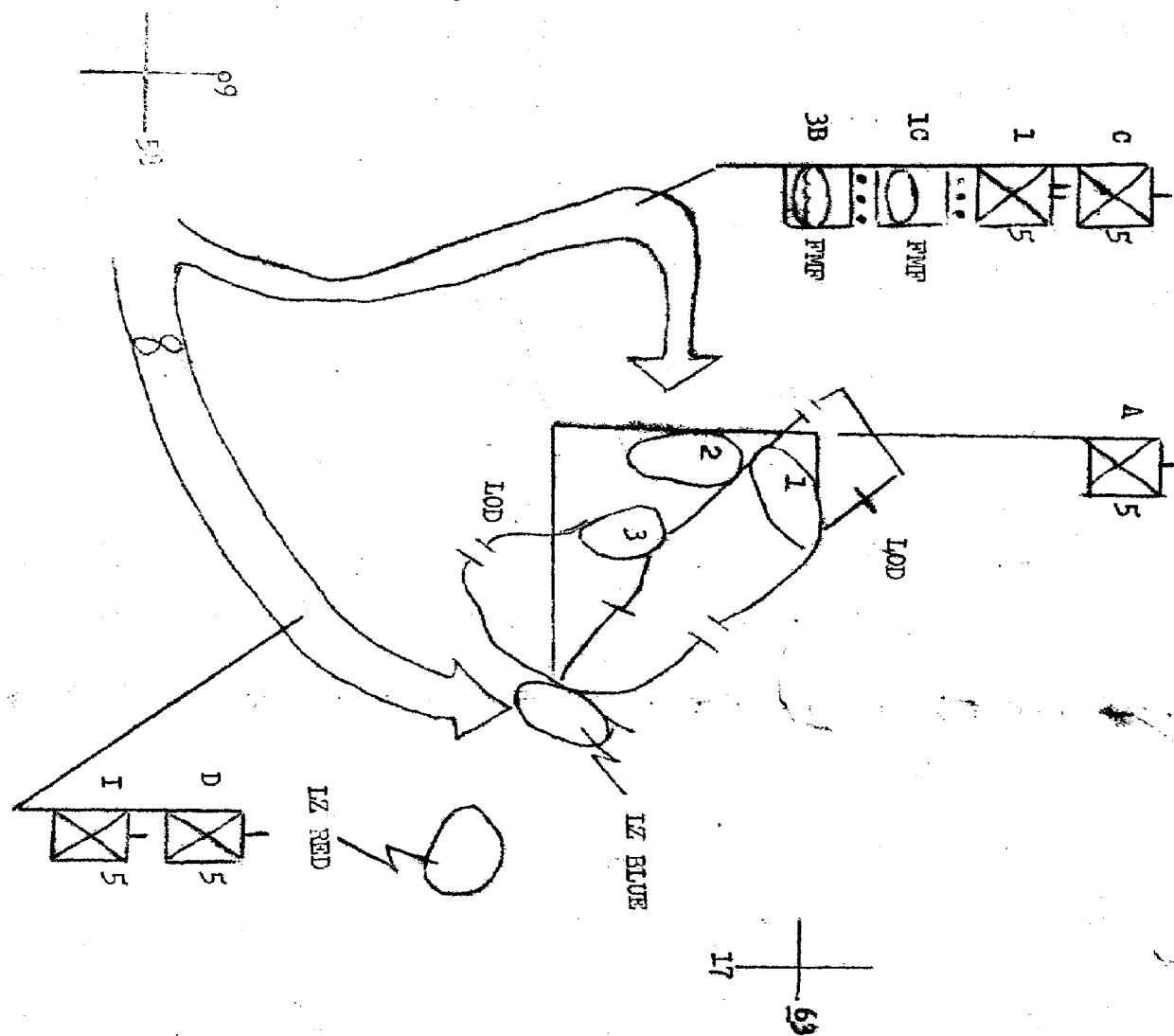
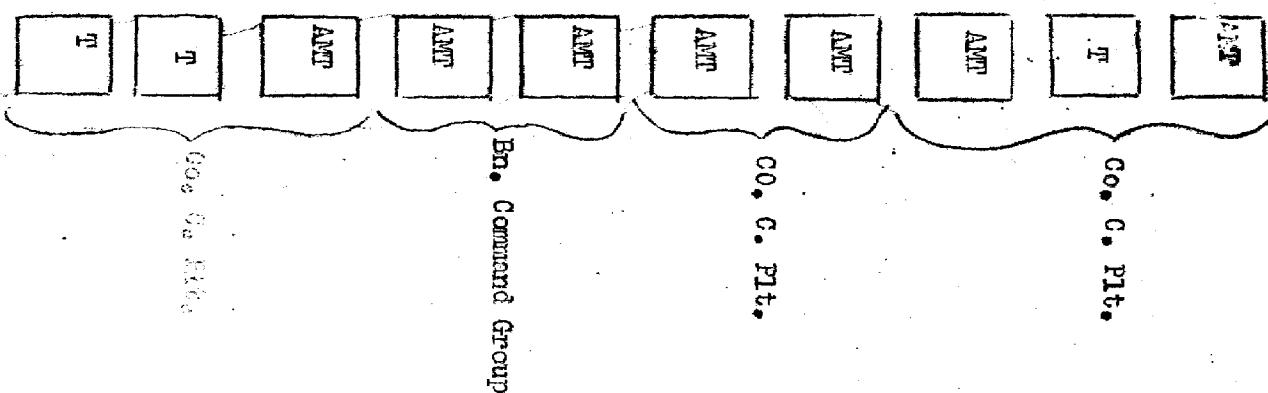
Annex A: Operation Overlay
B: Radio Frequency/Call signs

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L. A. Wundrich
L. A. WUNDRICH
Major, USMC
S-3

Enc (D) to enclosure (1)

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Annex A: Operation Overlay to Frag Order 1-67
Ref: RVN; 1:50,000 Series L7014, Sheets 6640 ITab D to Enclosure #1
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