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

0028-68

3/LAW/wre  
5750  
1 February 1968

~~0026-68~~ *sm*

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division  
Via: Commanding Officer, 5th Marines  
Commanding General, Task Force X-Ray

Subj: Command Chronology for Period 1-31 January 1968

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.

*R. P. Whalen for*  
R. P. WHALEN  
Lieutenant Colonel  
Commanding

DOWN GRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS  
DOD DR 5200.10

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

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY  
1 January 1968 to 31 January 1968

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## PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DesignationCommander

1st Battalion, 5th Marines

LTCOL O. W. VAN DEN BERG

1-7 January 1968

LTCOL R. P. WHALEN

8-31 January 1968

SUBORDINATE UNITS

H&amp;S Company

CAPT D. L. MCINTURFF  
1-31 January 1968

Company A

CAPT T. B. BAGLEY  
1-9 January 19681STLT F. P. WILBOURNE III  
10-31 January 1968

Company B

CAPT D. D. DROBNY  
1-29 January 1968CAPT F. JENNINGS JR.  
30-31 January 1968

Company C

CAPT E. B. BURROW  
1-31 January 1968

Company D

CAPT R. K. KIRKPATRICK  
1-29 January 1968CAPT M. C. HARRINGTON  
30-31 January 1968ATTACHED UNITS

Det, Btry D, 2ndBn, 11thMar

1STLT R. K. REDLIN  
1-10 January 19681STLT S. HOLMES  
10-31 January 1968

Det, 3rdPlt(Rein), Co A, 1stATBn

2NDLT B. C. MORTON  
1-31 January 1968

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Det, 1stPlt, Co B, 1stEngrBn

2NDLT R. D. CLEARFIELD  
1-18 January 19681STLT J. D. BRUNE  
18-31 January 1968

Det, 2ndPlt, Co B, 1stSPBn

1STLT C. B. KEPFORD  
1-2 January 19681STLT R. J. WILMES  
3-31 January 1968Det, 1stSect, 1stPlt, G Btry,  
29th Arty SLTSGT H. W. EPPERSON  
1-31 January 1968

Det, 1stPlt, Co C, 1stMotors

CPL T. J. OBERMAN  
1-19 January 1968CPL D. A. ROLOFF  
19-31 January 1968

Det, 1st Dental Co, FMF

LT J. C. BOND (USNR)  
1-8 January 1968

Det, 13th ITT

CAPT L. R. DEANGELIS  
1-31 January 1968

Det, Scout Sniper Plt

CPL G. R. FILYOW  
1-31 January 19682. Locations.1-31 January 1968 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein)  
Assembly Area located at Phu Loc, RVN (ZC 076985).12-31 January 1968 Companies A, B, C, and D commenced  
Main Supply Route Security Operation in accordance with 1st  
Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 1-68. See Tab A to  
Enclosure (1).3. Staff Officers.

Executive Officer

MAJ H. J. MCMULLEN  
1-20 January 1968MAJ P. D. WILSON  
20-31 January 1968

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S-1 Officer/Adjutant	1STLT W. P. VACCA 1-31 January 1968
Assistant S-1 Officer/Adjutant	1STLT W. A. THORNTON 1-31 January 1968
S-2 Officer	1STLT G. L. ALVAREZ 1-31 January 1968
S-3 Officer	MAJ L. A. WUNDERLICH 1-31 January 1968
S-4 Officer	1STLT E. A. RAYMOND 1-31 January 1968
S-5 Officer	1STLT J. D. JEWELL 1-31 January 1968
Medical Officer	LT J. E. PILON (USNR) 1-31 January 1968
Supply Officer	2NDLT L. MALL 1-31 January 1968
Communications Officer	CAPT H. G. DUNCAN 1-31 January 1968
Motor Transport Officer	1STLT A. DESCHAMPS 1-31 January 1968
Legal Officer	1STLT W. P. VACCA 1-31 January 1968
Chaplain	LT C. K. PARKER (USNR) 1-31 January 1968
Air Liaison Officer	MAJ R. E. JACOBS 1-31 January 1968

4. Average Monthly Strength.

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>
39	1150	3	49

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## PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY1. PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION

a. Strength. The on board strength climbed from a low of 39 officers and 1050 enlisted to a high of 42 officers and 1228 enlisted. Replacements and additions numbered 6 officers and 216 enlisted.

b. Discipline, Law and Legal. During the month of January one Special Court Martial and one Summary Court Martial were convened leaving two Specials and one Summary to be processed.

c. POW/Detainees. During the month of January two NVA POW were processed.

d. Morale and Personal Services. The Battalion received PX and Postal services on 22 January 1968.

e. Interior Management. The S-1 section initiated several new systems which have enhanced and improved the administrative flow. In addition the Company offices have been located in a central location adjacent to the S-1 for closer liaison and supervision.

2. ENEMY, WEATHER AND TERRAIN.a. Enemy.

(1) Activities. A sharp rise in enemy initiated incidents to include platoon/company size engagements characterized enemy efforts during this reporting period. Between 1 January and 7 January, the enemy increased his sabotage, mining and ambush activities along Highway 1. With increased frequency the enemy, in a series of coordinated incidents, successfully interdicted Highway 1 by blowing bridges during night hours, planting anti-personnel and anti-vehicular mines and with attacks against Marine engineering and mine sweep units. The enemy utilized command-detonated mines in conjunction with grenades and surprise heavy automatic weapons fire.

These incidents culminated with a series of coordinated attacks on the morning of 7 January. Commencing at approximately 0335H, the Phu Loc District Headquarters and CAP H5 (ZD 0800), CAP H6 (ZD 1400) and CAP H7 (ZD 2001) along Highway 1 were subjected to coordinated sapper and infantry assaults which the enemy supported with heavy mortar and B-40 rocket

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fire. Shortly thereafter, the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Command Post (ZC 076985) was subjected to heavy mortar and recoilless rifle fire.

The action continued through the night with the enemy maintaining pressure on the Battalion Command Post and on the Company D Command Post in an apparent attempt to prevent reinforcement. General assaults, meanwhile, were continued against CAP H6 and CAP H7, with both positions being overrun and largely destroyed. Three bridges were blown by the enemy during the course of this activity at (ZD 0800), (ZD 1501) and (ZD 2001).

Between 8 and 12 January the enemy persisted in his interdiction of Highway 1, utilizing 82mm and 60mm mortars in conjunction with automatic weapons fire and B-40 rockets in a series of ambushes against convoys, troops and positions on Highway 1. The enemy coupled these attacks with intermittent daylight and night harassing attacks by fire against the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Command Post and Company D Command Post utilizing 81mm mortars. CAP H5, CAP H6 and 1st Battalion, 5th Marines combat patrols were also subjected to harassing attacks by fire. In most instances the enemy utilized 60mm and 82mm mortars in conjunction with automatic weapons fire and B-40 rockets. These attacks were sporadic and usually of short duration. On 10 January, a Company A Combat Patrol successfully engaged and routed an enemy force of undetermined strength, capturing two NVA and one RPG-7 rocket launcher (B-50V).

The enemy's harassing tactics and interdiction of Highway 1 by fire continued through 23 January diminishing in persistence and frequency. During this period combat patrolling and night ambush activities of 1st Battalion, 5th Marines units soon detected and engaged on a daily basis, enemy demolition teams intent on interdicting Highway 1 by sabotage and mining. The frequency of enemy attacks against convoys, static positions and mining activity during daylight hours depreciated considerably by 25 January although the presence of enemy units throughout the TLOP were yet apparent, as 1st Battalion, 5th Marines patrols, reconnaissance inserts and AO sightings demonstrated.

Through 25 January the enemy, whenever possible, evaded contact with friendly units and indications were more evident that enemy units were engaged in screening activity, probably masking the transfer of selected elements to the west of the Battalion AO. The enemy coupled this screening activity by 27 January with sporadic mining along Highway 1 and the secondary route into the Battalion Command Post. A definite increase was also apparent in the enemy's use of booby traps which had heretofore been restricted in their employment to areas

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considered to be under operational responsibility of VC Local Force. During beginning of "Tet" Holiday season, enemy activity within the Battalion AO persisted and, in fact, showed a slight increase. Booby trapping, sabotage and rice collection were the enemy's principal activity at the close of this reporting period.

(2) Enemy Movements and Locations. At least four enemy NVA/Main Force battalions, one to three local force companies, an engineering company and a sabotage company were believed operating within the Battalion TAOR. During the peak of enemy activity recorded for this period, these units are believed to be under the operational control of the 4th NVA Regiment. Since the onset of reduced enemy activity, at least two main force battalions with elements of a third battalion, at least two local force companies, one sapper company and one engineering company are believed yet operating in the Battalion TAOR. The general disposition and identification of these units are reported as follows:

804th Main Force Bn	ZC 957936
1st Bn, 4th NVA Regt	ZC 034956
802nd Main Force Bn	ZC 125955
K4B Main Force Bn	ZC 172959
C118 Local Force Co	AU 836064
(2) U/ILF Co	AU 8303
(1) U/ILF Co(-)	ZD 1202
C-19 Engineer Co	ZC 095924
C-24 Sapper Co	ZC 108915

During the latter part of this reporting period persistent reports received from unrelated reporting sources of subordinate units and higher headquarters indicate that elements of one Main Force Battalion and at least two Local Force companies have displaced west from the Battalion AO.

b. Weather. The weather during the reporting period was cool and moist with an average high and low of 72 degrees and 59 degrees respectively. There were frequent showers as well as heavy fog during the entire reporting period with occasional clearing for periods of 3 or 4 days. Precipitation tapered off to a trace during the last week of the month. Air support during early and mid-January was hampered considerably due to low visibility caused by heavy fog and low cloud cover.

c. Terrain. No change.

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### 3. ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS

a. Organization. The organization of the battalion remained substantially the same throughout the month of January. There were no new attachments or detachments affected during this period. The following units were OPCON to the battalion as noted:

- (1) Company H, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines OPCON to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines from 121100H to 200900H January 1968.
- (2) Company F, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines OPCON to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines from 302200H to 310025H January 1968.

#### b. Operations.

(1) During the month the battalion conducted one battalion operation along route 1 from 12 to 31 January 1968 in accordance with 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 1-68.

(2) The battalion conducted numerous small unit operations and activities on a daily basis during the month of January as outlined below:

(a) Day activities for the month totalled 123 Fire Team activities, 390 Squad activities, 43 Platoon activities and 4 Company operations. In addition, Scout Sniper teams were employed during the month of January.

(b) Night activities totalled 200 Fire Team activities, 968 Squad activities, 5 Platoon activities and 4 Company operations.

#### c. Supporting Arms.

(1) Air. During the month air performed a major role in the defense of the Battalion Assembly Area and in keeping the portion of Highway 1 that lies within the Battalion AO open for convoy traffic. Ninety-six flights of TAGA/AO teams were used to keep the TAOR under aerial surveillance and to control flights of fixed wing aircraft against enemy mortars, positions, caves and other fortifications. Many secondary explosions, fires, and an unknown number of enemy dead were attained. Fifteen flights of gunships were used as security for our mine sweeps and TAGAs. 5 flareships were used to provide illumination while 3 "Spooky" aircraft were utilized against enemy positions. During the month, 56 medevacs were completed.

(2) Artillery. In the month of January, Delta

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Battery, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines was in direct support of 1st Battalion, 5th Marines. Lima Battery, 4th Battalion, 11th Marines was split into two 2-gun batteries, one supplying reinforcing fires at the Battalion Assembly Area and the other in direct support of Companies D and C at Company D's position. In addition, Naval gunfire was on station from the 7th of January.

Missions fired included extensive counter-mortar, intelligence targets and live targets. Surveillances included 1 KIA, 4 WIA confirmed and one secondary explosion for Delta Battery and 1 KIA and 2 secondary explosions for Naval gunfire. A total of 356 missions were fired, approximately 80 percent of these being counter-mortar. Missions were fired in support of CAP H units, ARVN units and units of the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines. In conjunction with 1st Battalion, 5th Marines organic fires, effectiveness of counter-mortar was indicated by the fact that in almost all instances, with particular exception to the mortar attack of 7 January, mortars were stopped within half an hour of the time they were initiated.

H&Is were fired in this TAOB against avenues of approach and egress, intelligence targets, likely mortar positions, and also in defense of bridges on Highway 1 and 1st Battalion, 5th Marines units which have been displaced along this route. Secondary explosions were reported, two by Naval gunfire and 1 by Delta Battery, while firing H&Is.

#### 4. TRAINING

a. As the battalion has been continuously deployed since 12 January, training has been necessarily decentralized to the Platoon and Squad level. Subjects have been those of immediate practical use such as conduct of ambushes, scouting and patrolling, individual weapons firing, care and cleaning, and safety. In addition, instruction and practical application in various field fortification techniques was continuously pursued throughout the month.

b. The battalion continued to utilize schools provided by higher headquarters. During the month, 15 members of the battalion attended schools in DaNang and Okinawa.

#### 5. LOGISTICS

##### a. Supply.

(1) In the last ten days, a great emphasis was placed

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on restoring control of stock records. In addition, a complete inventory was held to insure accuracy and accountability of these records.

(2) A program of cancellations of all requisitions made prior to 17 September 1967, that were held by Force Logistics Command and 3rd Force Service Regiment, was undertaken this month. The results of such a program were:

(a) A general updating of outstanding requisitions where those that remain pending was recently prepared or obligated. Any requisition that is older than four months is presently being held by an activity within CONUS.

(b) A reobligation of money can be made on all those requisitions cancelled by the program thus enabling the battalion to spend this money on items more in demand than previously obligated.

(c) Questions as to validity of those long outstanding requisitions were answered because they were automatically cancelled.

(3) Receipt of supplies was at an all-time high, considering a span of the last six months. Many critical items were received along with many items that would have, in the future, been critical if they had not been received.

b. Services. A great emphasis was placed on preparing fighting holes and living quarters underground. This detracted greatly from the maintaining of stock records and requisitional procedures during the first half of the month. Lack of mobile transportation also caused a considerable back-log of work that could not be accomplished due to limited transportation.

c. Medical/Dental.

(1) Civic Action. Medical and Dental Officers visited Cau Hai to determine needs for medical assistance. It was determined that a Vietnamese doctor was present at the Cau Hai Dispensary six days a week. After a four and one half period of observation it was determined that the medical facility adequately served the community and assistance is needed only in areas of supplies.

The Dental Officer treated nine patients at the Cau Hai Dispensary and 53 children at the orphanage at Cau Hai. On

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9 January, the Dental Officer was transferred from 1st Battalion, 5th Marines.

(2) Sanitation. A sanitation inspection of the combat base was held on 29 January. Results were graded as good and, defects are being corrected.

(3) Venereal Disease. There had been a considerable decrease in venereal disease since leaving the Hoi An area. Ten cases have been treated during the month of January.

(4) Malaria. There have not been any cases of malaria in the month of January.

#### 6. CIVIL AFFAIRS.

a. During this period a total of 138 people were treated at MED CAP and DENT CAP. The DENT CAP was held at the Catholic Orphanage in Cau Hai Hamlet (ZD 090004). During the major part of the month, people who sought medical attention were treated at the Battalion Aid Station, but a temporary MED CAP was held at (ZC 078986). At the present time, the village chief is in Hue for the Tet Holiday. Upon his return an inquiry will be made as to whether a more suitable site could be found.

b. Six Vietnamese civilians were medevaced to Phu Bai during this month. Four were injured during the mortar attack on Cau Hai and the other two were burned when a gas lamp exploded. The S-5 also aided 5 detainees in returning to Cau Hai after they had been brought in for interrogation and were later classified as innocent civilians.

c. General Walt Scholarship applications were turned over to the assistant village chief of Loc Tri who then gave them to one of the teachers at the elementary school. As soon as the children return from a fifteen day Tet vacation, the teacher will fill out the forms and submit them to the S-5.

d. During this past month, four carpenter kits were passed out to the laborers that work on the base. A farm kit was given to the owner of the small field within the perimeter. Clothing, toys and soap were distributed to the children at the Catholic Orphanage in Cau Hai Hamlet (ZD 090004). Tet gift envelopes, cookies, candy and toys were distributed to the companies for further distribution in their respective areas of responsibility. All these gifts are to be distributed

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during the Tet Holiday.

e. Project submittal sheets were turned over to the assistant village chief of Loc Tri. Those forms are to be filled out before the request for supplies can be submitted. The suggested projects are a well for the school and the repair of the school building.

f. All solatium payments that were pending in the Hoi An area have been paid by 5th Marines. The investigation concerning the alleged rape at Delta Company's position has been completed. A Vietnamese vehicle owned by the laundry concession at the Battalion Assembly Area was run off the road by a Marine Corps 2½ ton truck. The S-5 will handle payment for damages incurred.

g. Vietnamese personnel have been hired and are now working in the Battalion area. All necessary IRO work has been completed on these people. A new laundry has been set up and to date, their operation seems to be providing satisfactory service.

h. All necessary liaison has been made and the Civic Action Program should take full effect at the completion of the Tet Holiday.

#### 7. PSYCHOLOGICAL OPERATIONS.

a. Psy Ops leaflets have been distributed throughout the TAOR. Air broadcasts were also used. An HB team was in the area for a few days. They broadcasted various themes around the village of Loc Tri. Leaflets were made up on the mining of a Vietnamese bus in the TAOR and have been distributed throughout the area.

8. COMPTROLLER'S ACTIVITIES. The month was opened with \$101,085.14 and closed with \$16,586.16. The amount of \$117,177.27 was obligated for the purchase of GP tents, individual equipment, jungle clothing, office supplies, batteries and replenishment of T/E equipment. Much of the expenditures was a direct result of mortar attacks and the joining of over 200 personnel during the month who needed a complete issue of equipment.

#### 9. COMMUNICATIONS.

a. During the month of January, communications facilities were continuously improved. Overhead telephone cables

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were strung and all phones installed. A mortar attack on 7 January severely damaged overhead lines necessitating the underground installation of other cables. All phone cables are now underground and telephone service is back to normal.

Considerable interference from random friendly stations is being experienced on various radio nets. No set pattern exists, and such interference is considered to be a result of atmospheric conditions.

Wire/Radio Relay Communications is being maintained satisfactorily by use of AN/MRC-62, providing four voice and one teletype channel.

10. SIGNIFICANT CASUALTIES INFLICTED OR SUSTAINED; VC CAPTURED.

a. Friendly Casualties (USMC).

WIAE	98
WIANE	68
KIA	16
DOW	1
MBC	3

b. Enemy Casualties.

KIA Confirmed	31
POW	2
Detainees	6

11. SIGNIFICANT ENEMY ORDNANCE CAPTURED DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY 1968.

a. Weapons captured.

4 AK-47, type 56, 7.62mm Soviet Assault Rifles serial numbers, 7055P, UP 5574P, 281667L, and 10088356.

6 SKS, type 56, 7.62mm ChiCom Carbines, serial numbers, 7056021, 7056031, 7054334, 900214, 908798, and 7056489.

b. Ordnance captured.

1 RPG-7 Rocket Launcher, serial number BA 315

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12. SIGNIFICANT MUNITIONS CAPTURED/FOUND AND DESTROYED DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY 1968

- 2 RPG-7 rocket rounds
- 1 RPG-7 rocket booster
- 16 ChiCom grenades
- 3 M26 grenades
- 1 U/I mine
- 8 Z10 type mines AP
- 1 W/I concussion explosive device
- 2 blocks dynamite
- 1 AT TNT (25 pounds) mine
- 1 primer and charge for 155mm round
- 1 shaped charge
- 6 1/4-pound blocks of C4
- 11 pounds TNT (flaked)
- 7 blasting caps
- 185 rounds .30 caliber ammunition
- 432 rounds 7.62mm ammunition
- 9 75mm recoilless rifle shell casings

13. SIGNIFICANT ENEMY EQUIPMENT CAPTURED DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY 1968

- 1 ChiCom compass
- 1 Soviet watch
- 1 unknown type watch
- 1 ball, trip wire
- 3 AK-47 magazines
- 6 NVA cartridge belts
- 4 canteens
- 5 hand grenade pouches
- 1 green shirt
- 2 pair grey trousers (cotton)
- 7 ponchos
- 3 hammocks
- 2 sleeping bags
- 1 mosquito net
- 5 signalling devices
- 1 RPG-7 rocket carrying case
- 1 ammunition pouch
- 1 set, civilian clothes
- 1 RPG-7 rocket cover
- 1 magazine pouch
- 1 U.S. helmet with liner and cover
- 2 unidentified metal straps
- 1 section, battery
- 2 unknown type machine gun drums

1 bottle pills  
 1 M-16 bayonet  
 1 B-40 part  
 1 camouflaged helmet  
 1 rice pack  
 1 pair black trousers  
 1 cylinder cannister  
 8 82mm carrying cases  
 2 NVA belts  
 1 lamp  
 1 stove  
 1 lighter, cigarette  
 1 pair sandals  
 3 canteen covers  
 1 bamboo detonation device  
 1 AN/PRC-10 radio face  
 2 haversacks full of assorted clothing  
 2 VC stretchers  
 3 VC stretcher poles  
 150 foot comm wire  
 1 explosive container  
 10 battle dressings  
 1 bottle of medicine (broken)  
 4 rice packs w/rice (300 pounds)

14. SIGNIFICANT ENEMY CAVES, TUNNELS, BUILDINGS AND FORTIFICATIONS DESTROYED/DISCOVERED DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY 1968

34 fighting holes	(3)	ZD 054005
	(1)	ZC 085982
	(10)	ZC 098981 &
		ZC 094985
	(20)	ZC 065935
6 caves	(1)	AT 805985
	(3)	AT 798998
	(2)	AT 805985
6 mortar sites	(1)	AT 805985
	(1)	AT 816994
	(1)	ZC 065973
	(1)	AT 822995
	(1)	AT 804995
	(1)	ZC 063978
1 Harbor site		AT 814987



4 Trenches	(1)	ZD 107010
	(1)	AU 810008
	(1)	ZC 066995
	(1)	ZC 070977

## 3 French structures

Trench & fortification	(1)	ZD 174012
Bunker (Ruins)	(1)	ZC 093989
Bunker	(1)	ZC 017966

1 Fortified area		ZD 1705 &
		ZD 1706

6 Fortified positions	(1)	ZC 065973
	(1)	ZC 133968
	(1)	ZC 063978
	(1)	ZC 064979
	(1)	ZC 064975
	(1)	ZD 166051

15. SIGNIFICANT U.S. GOVERNMENT PROPERTY LOST DURING THE  
MONTH OF JANUARY 1968 WHILE ENGAGED IN COMBAT WITH THE  
ENEMY

1..45 caliber pistol, serial number 2025368

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## PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- (1) 1 January 1968 3rd Platoon, Company A provided security for the Song Dap Dinh bridges vicinity (YD 985048).
- (2) 1 January 1968 1st Battalion, 5th Marines continued to observe the New Year's truce which lasted until 020600H January 1968.
- (3) 011100H Commanding General, 1st Marine Division arrived at 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area and departed at 011300H.
- (4) 011130H Company A Platoon Reconnaissance Patrol at (ZC 073968) encountered 1 VC moving to the north who fired 10-15 rounds small arms fire. Point returned 5 rounds small arms fire killing VC. As patrol searched the area, another VC opened fire on the point and second VC was killed with return fire. Results: 2 VC KIA confirmed and 1 AK 47 rifle, serial number 7055K, 1 SKS 56 rifle, serial number 7056021, 1 ChiCom grenade, 2 magazines, 1 bayonet, and 1 cartridge belt captured. Equipment forwarded to 5th Marines S-2.
- (5) 020900H Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines and S-3 Operations Officer conducted aerial reconnaissance of the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines TAOR returning at 021030H.
- (6) 021640H ARVN 1st Corps Commanding General, General Trung, visited the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area from 021610H to 021640H.
- (7) 031025H Scout Snipers at sniper position at (ZC 081971) observed point man, armed with AK 47, of an estimated VC squad enter snipers' position. As Marine raised rifle to fire, VC fled into nearby cover. Marine fired 5 rounds small arms fire. As VC maneuvered into offensive positions, scout snipers rejoined friendly patrol. Upon rejoining the patrol, contact was made with 11 VC to the front and one to the rear of the patrol. Patrol received 12 rounds small arms fire and returned 100 rounds small arms fire and 8 M-79 rounds. Enemy broke contact leaving one utility cover behind. A further search of the area revealed negative results.
- (8) 031110H Squad Patrol, from Company A Platoon activity, at (ZC 073977) received 15-20 rounds small arms fire from 1 VC at (ZC 072978). Patrol returned 40-50 rounds small arms fire, 5 M-79 rounds and searched area with negative results.

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(9) 031210H Company B Patrol at (ZC 147967) observed 50-60 VC with individual weapons including 1 BAR, 1 heavy machine gun and 1 mortar. Company B fired an undetermined number of small arms fire, 35-40 rounds 60mm mortar fire and called for and received artillery mission consisting of 25 rounds 105mm HE. Observed VC carrying 7 bodies and 1 man limping. Search of area revealed several blood trails and drag marks.

(10) 4 January 1968 Air strikes were conducted on 7 of 9 TPQ-10 targets submitted by the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Air Liaison Officer.

(11) 4 January 1968 Company B continued to conduct company size Search and Clear operation southeast of the Battalion Assembly Area.

(12) 040800H Engineer mine sweep team discovered 3 culvert type bridges blown at (AT 887954), (AT 890953) and (AT 891953). Demolitions used by VC were equivalent to a 250-pound bomb. The areas around the destroyed structures were booby-trapped with ChiCom grenades and cement type mines.

(13) 040850H While conducting mine sweep, vehicle detonated mine at (AT 887953). Engineers estimated mine to be a 40-pound cement type mine. Medevac called and completed at 040915H. Results: 6 USMC WIAE and one M35 truck extensively damaged.

(14) 041915H Company B arrived at the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area terminating Search and Clear operation southeast of the Battalion Assembly Area.

(15) 042145H Company D at (AT 833998) received intelligence report placing 15-20 VC at (AU 853013) with a mission of emplacing mines and booby traps in that area. Company D conducted an 81mm mortar fire mission of 25 rounds HE on suspected enemy position. A secondary explosion was heard. A search of the area on 5 January revealed nothing significant.

(16) 5 January 1968 Air Liaison controlled a fixed wing strike at (ZC 066973), the site of a planned landing zone.

(17) 050700H Company A commenced company size Search and Clear operation south-southeast of the Battalion Assembly Area.

(18) 051045H Engineer sweep team with Squad Security from Company D at (ZC 901953), while returning from mine sweep, triggered VC ambush. Truck received 6 incoming grenades, 2 of which landed in bed of truck, and heavy automatic weapons fire from an estimated 25 VC. Driver accelerated to reach a safer position, but was killed by fire causing truck to run off steep incline where additional casualties were sustained. Remaining Marines regrouped and returned 300 rounds small arms fire and 4 M-79 rounds causing enemy to break contact. Dispatched 2 Ontos from the "D" Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area with 2 squads to ambush site to reinforce sweep team. Called for and received medevac. Searched area with negative results. Results: 1 USMC KIA, 16 USMC WIAE, and 3 USMC WIANE.

(19) 6 January 1968 Company A continued to conduct company Search and Clear operation south-southeast of the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area.

(20) 060730H Company C departed 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area via truck convoy to commence Search and Destroy operation in northeastern portion of the TAOR.

(21) 060805H Mine Sweep Team with Company D Security Squad at (AT 895954) found shape charge in road in the vicinity of recent mining incidents. Charge removed and destroyed.

(22) 060820H Ontos with convoy at (AT 894953) struck unknown type mine while crossing bridge causing vehicle to catch on fire. Ontos was completely destroyed and the driver was trapped inside. Other man was thrown clear. Results: 1 USMC KIA, 1 USMC WIAE and one Ontos destroyed.

(23) 061055H Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines and S-3 Operations Officer conducted aerial reconnaissance of Company C's area of operations vicinity (AU 845035) from 061035H to 061330H.

(24) 061100H Company D Squad Patrol at (AT 904945) received small arms fire from 3 VC at (AT 905945). Unit returned fire, pursued enemy and lost contact. Results: 1 USMC WIAE.

(25) 061255H As Company D Squad Patrol was searching for VC sniper (See Significant Event 061100H) at (AT 900955), unit moved into open where Marine saw what appeared to be a mine. As he began to check the object, an estimated 2 VC opened fire with 15-20 rounds small arms fire from (AT 899956). Squad assaulted through heavy vegetation firing approximately 50 rounds small arms fire and throwing 3 M26 grenades. Swept area. Enemy broke contact. Results: 1 USMC KIA.

(26) 061700H Member of Company D Squad Patrol at (AU 827053) tripped booby-trapped ChiCom grenade while walking uphill. Corpsman treated man for concussion. Results: 1 USMC WIAE.

(27) 061935H Company A Fire Team (+) Listening Post at (ZC 074961) observed 4 VC at (ZC 074958) sneaking up on Company A's position. Listening Post fired approximately 60 rounds small arms fire. Enemy fled area.

(28) 7 January 1968 Company A returned to the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area terminating company Search and Clear operation south-southeast of the Battalion Assembly Area.

(29) 7 January 1968 Company C continued to conduct company Search and Destroy operation in the northeastern portion of the TAOR.

(30) 7 January 1968 Construction of the Battalion Assembly Area continued with emphasis on the strengthening of defensive positions.

(31) 070335H At 070335H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines received radio message from 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Liaison Team at Phu Loc District Headquarters that their position was receiving mortar fire. Combined Action Group Headquarters also reported that CAP H5 was receiving mortar rounds and that they had lost communications with CAP's H6 and H7. At 070340H the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area at (ZC 076985) received 50-60 rounds 82mm mortar fire and 10-12 rounds 57mm recoilless rifle fire along with 50-60 rounds small arms fire. Enemy positions were placed in grid squares (ZC 0998), (ZC 1098) and (ZC 0797) and at coordinates (ZC 068970), (ZC 065985), (ZC 071987) and (ZC 066980). At 070340H counter-mortar and artillery fire was commenced. At 070355H Company A, south southeast of the Battalion Assembly Area, was notified to consolidate and to be prepared to move on order, to render assistance to the Battalion Assembly Area if necessary. At 070500H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Command Post received an additional 19 rounds 82mm mortar fire. Medevac was requested and completed at 070552H. Initial barrage wounded the Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines necessitating his medical evacuation. The Battalion Executive Officer assumed command of the Battalion at this time. At 070630H a Platoon sized relief force departed the Battalion Assembly Area to assist CAP H5 and CAP H6 and District Headquarters. As Platoon (-) entered District Headquarters, they observed several VC fleeing from rear of compound. They immediately took the VC under fire killing seven VC. Results: 18 USMC KIA, 1 USA KIA, 61 USMC WIAE,

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4 USA WIAE, 23 USMC WIANE, 4 USMC MIA, 7 VC KIA confirmed.

(32) 070500H and 070730H At 070500H Company D Company Assembly Area at (AT 833997) received 20 rounds 60mm mortar fire and 4 rounds 57mm recoilless rifle fire from undetermined number of enemy at (AT 817994). At 070730H an additional 7 rounds 60mm mortar fire and 6 rounds 57mm recoilless rifle fire were received. A total of 250 rounds 60mm HE, 500 rounds .50 caliber, 750 rounds 7.62mm, 42 rounds 81mm WP, 80 rounds 81mm HE and 20 rounds 155mm HE were returned. Four flights of fixed wing aircraft dropped 10 250-lb bombs, 15 napalm bombs and conducted 5 strafing runs with 20mm cannon fire on enemy location. 3 UH1E gunships rocketed enemy position before first light. Results: 2 USMC KIA, 2 USMC WIAE, and 4 USMC WIANE.

(33) 070840H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area received 15 rounds 82mm mortar fire from the southeast at (ZC 055970). Fired counter-mortar fire on suspected mortar positions. UH1E gunships also strafed area. Results: 15 USMC WIAE.

(34) 071030H Naval Gunfire Team arrived at 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area to effect liaison with supporting Naval arms.

(35) 071400H Lieutenant Colonel R. P. WHALEN arrived at the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area to assume command of 1st Battalion, 5th Marines as a result of Lieutenant Colonel VAN DEN BERG's being wounded in action and medevaced (See Significant Event 070335H).

(36) Company B Squad Combat Outpost at (ZC 081979) heard movement in front of position. Received 2 incoming grenades. Unit held position, did not return fire. Results: 1 USMC WIANE.

(37) 072315H CAP H5 at (ZD 087008) received 6 rounds 60mm mortar fire from unknown enemy position. Counter-mortar was fired on possible enemy positions from the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area. No casualties were incurred.

(38) 080800H Driver lost control of vehicle in convoy at (AT 848003) due to slippery roads and overturned. Company D unit aboard vehicle received 5 injuries. Medevac called and completed. Negligible damage to vehicle. Results: 2 USMC NBCE, 3 USMC NBCNE.

3-5

ENCLOSURE (1)

(39) 081600H Resupply chopper received 3-4 rounds small arms fire while attempting to land at the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area Landing Zone. Enemy position and strength were unknown. Directed aircraft to lift off and make another run. Aircraft landed without incident.

(40) 081610H Battalion S-3 Officer and Artillery Liaison Officer departed 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area at 081610H to visit the Phu Loc District Headquarters and returned at 081715H.

(41) 081620H Company C Platoon Patrol at (ZD 197011) received 3 incoming mortar rounds from (ZC 205999). Called artillery mission consisting of 18 rounds 105mm HE. Enemy fire ceased.

(42) 081645H Mighty Mite with convoy at (AU 890953) ran over unknown type mine. Called for and received medevac. Results: 2 USMC WIAE.

(43) 090650H CAP H6 at (ZD 141009) received 12-15 82mm mortar rounds and small arms fire from a distance of 600-800 meters. Also received 2 incoming grenades from unobserved VC. Called artillery mission consisting of 20 rounds 105mm HE. Enemy fire ceased.

(44) 091015H Civilian vehicle struck unknown type mine at (AT 925925). Corpsman from Company D treated injured civilians. Road was not badly damaged. Results: 15 Vietnamese civilians injured.

(45) 091130H Personnel from Company B at 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area observed 2 Vietnamese males wearing black and white clothing near the Battalion trash dump vicinity (ZC 074984). Vietnamese were apprehended only after Marine detail aimed rifles at them. Detainees were turned over to the Battalion S-2, interrogated and released as innocent civilians.

(46) 091300H Convoy with units of Company C at (ZD 198010) received 10-20 rounds small arms fire from possible .30 caliber machine gun position at (ZD 195008). Units returned 30 rounds small arms fire, 4 M-79 rounds and 3 LAAWs. Called artillery mission consisting of 16 rounds 105mm HE. Results: 1 Vietnamese civilian KIA as result of enemy fire.

(47) 091535H Company B Squad Patrol at (ZC 080997) apprehended 3 Vietnamese males while searching village. Detainees had what appeared to be false ID cards. Detainees forwarded to Battalion S-2 for interrogation and later released as innocent civilians.

~~3-6~~

ENCLOSURE (1)

(48) 092250H A counter-mortar drill was conducted to test status of supporting arms at the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area. 105s commenced firing 3 minutes 10 seconds after receipt of mission. 81s commenced firing 4 minutes 50 seconds after receipt of mission. Drill was considered satisfactory.

(49) 092300H Bridge outpost at (ZD 137011) manned by unit from CAP H6 received 4 60mm mortar rounds and small arms fire from an estimated 10 VC at (ZD 139016). Returned small arms fire and called artillery mission consisting of 26 rounds 105mm HE. Area was searched at first light with negative results.

(50) 100500H Bridge at (ZD 137011) outposted by unit from CAP H6 received approximately 500 rounds small arms fire and 6 rounds 82mm mortar fire. CAP H6 CP at (ZD 139009) simultaneously received 1 mortar round and undetermined amount of small arms fire. Enemy positions were placed at (ZD 138008) and (ZD 141005). Both units returned small arms fire and M-79 fire. Requested and received artillery illumination over area between bridge and CP. Also received 45 rounds 105mm HE mission on suspected enemy positions and on position of 30 VC observed under illumination while attacking bridge from south at a range of 100-200 meters. Artillery coverage on targets was good. Relief force dispatched from CAP H6 CP to resupply COP with ammunition. Company B Squad Ambush in the area was repositioned to reinforce CAP unit. Area was searched at first light with negative results. Results: 1 PF WIAHE.

(51) 100800H Company C Platoon Patrol at (ZD 198010) received 100-150 rounds small arms fire and 5 rounds 82mm mortar fire from an estimated 10-15 VC at (ZD 195011), (ZD 194011) and (ZD 194008). Platoon returned 300-350 rounds small arms fire, 200 rounds .50 caliber and called artillery mission consisting of 18 rounds 105mm HE. Searched area with negative results. Results: 1 USMC WIAE (evacuated to Company D position).

(52) 100855H Mine Sweep Team at (ZD 144011) received 6 60mm mortar rounds and 10-15 rounds small arms fire from unobserved VC at (ZD 153015). Called and received artillery mission consisting of 10 rounds 105mm HE. Observed 15 VC with 3 rifles and a mortar tube fleeing to treeline. Called for and received additional 30 rounds 105mm HE. Mine Sweep Team continued with mission. Unit from CAP H6 searched target area with negative results.



(53) 100930H Mine Sweep Team at (ZD 163011) received 20-30 rounds small arms fire and 6 rounds 60mm mortar fire from 10-15 VC at (ZD 183016). Unit maneuvered out of mortar impact area and returned 80-100 rounds small arms fire, 10 M-79 rounds, called for and received artillery mission consisting of 30 rounds 105mm HE. Reaction unit was dispatched from CAP H6 to search area as Mine Sweep Team continued mission. Area was searched with negative results.

(54) 101030H Point man, Company A Platoon Patrol at (ZC 065 973) received 1 round small arms fire from 2 VC directly to the front. Point fired 10 rounds small arms fire and moved off trail. VC fired 5 more rounds small arms fire and one rocket round. Point fire team and machine gun team deployed on sides of trail and assaulted VC position, apprehending 2 VC with weapons. VC were wearing green utilities, utility covers and sandals. Captured weapons included: one Russian made RPG-7U rocket launcher, serial number BA 315; 2 rocket rounds in canvas carrying case for rocket launcher; 1 Soviet SKS rifle, serial number 56031; and 1 cartridge belt with rice bowl, one ChiCom grenade, cartridge pouch and 30 rounds 7.62mm ammunition. Detainees were forwarded to Battalion S-2 for interrogation. Upon thorough interrogation, detainees were classified as NVA POWs and forwarded to 5th Marines S-2 for further disposition.

(55) 101100H Commanding General Task Force X-Ray and Division Chief of Staff arrived at the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area and departed at 101130H.

(56) 101315H Company B Platoon, while providing bridge security at (ZD 152011), received 3 60mm mortar rounds from unobserved VC at (ZD 159017). Called for and received artillery mission consisting of 25 rounds 105mm HE. Results: 4 Vietnamese civilians KIA, 5 Vietnamese civilians WIA as a result of enemy mortar fire.

(57) 101430H Company B Platoon, while providing bridge security at (ZD 152001) received 9 82mm mortar rounds. Called for and received artillery mission consisting of 20 rounds 105mm HE. Enemy fire ceased.

(58) 101530H Convoy at (AU 815008), while returning to Company D position, received 1 rocket round. Returned 850-900 rounds small arms fire, 50 rounds 60mm mortar fire, 40 rounds 81mm mortar fire and 10 LAAWs. Called for and received medevac. Results: 1 USMC WIAE.

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(59) 101645H Company D Platoon Patrol, while at water point at (AT 894953), received 1 round small arms fire from (AT 894950) wounding a 10 year old Vietnamese boy. Returned 150 rounds small arms fire and 5 M-79 rounds. Called for emergency medevac but boy died before medevac could arrive. Area was searched with negative results. Results: 1 Vietnamese civilian KIA.

(60) 101843H Company D Assembly Area at (AT 834998) received 10 rounds mixed recoilless rifle fire and mortar fire from (AT 822995). Returned 20 rounds 60mm mortar HE, 100 rounds 81mm HE, 20 rounds 155mm HE, 150 rounds .50 caliber and 1000 rounds small arms fire. Observed one large and 2 small secondary explosions. Believed at least 1 enemy weapon and large supply of ammunition destroyed. Results: 14 USMC WIAE.

(61) 102235H Western perimeter of 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area at (ZC 076985) received 6 rounds 82mm mortar fire from (ZC 073987). 3 rounds fell 75-100 feet short of perimeter while 3 rounds fell within perimeter. Returned fire with 100-150 rounds small arms fire, 30 rounds 81mm HE and 55 rounds 105mm HE. Negative casualties or damage incurred.

(62) 110730H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area at (ZC 076985) received 2 82mm mortar rounds from (ZC 068988). Returned fire with 450-500 rounds .50 caliber. Negative casualties or damage incurred.

(63) 110820H Company C Platoon Bridge Security at (ZD 198010) received 3 60mm mortar rounds from (ZD 202007). Called artillery mission consisting of 18 rounds 105mm HE. Enemy fire ceased.

(64) 111000H Company A Squad Patrol at (ZC 065998) observed 2 VC running from patrol at (ZC 064998). Patrol fired 200-250 rounds small arms fire killing 1 female VC, age 23, wearing black and white clothing. Results: 1 VC KIA confirmed.

(65) 111230H Company C Platoon Bridge Security at (ZD 198010) received 15 60mm mortar rounds from (ZD 202007). Called artillery mission of 24 rounds 105mm HE. Results: 7 USMC WIAE.

(66) 111420H One Vietnamese male unknowingly entered scout snipers' position at (ZC 082998). Man turned and ran upon sighting Marines. Snipers ordered man to halt in Vietnamese. When man failed to halt, snipers fired 1 round small arms fire killing man. Results: 1 VC KIA confirmed, age 23-25.

(67) 111500H Company C Platoon Bridge Security at (ZC 198 010) received 3 rounds 82mm mortar fire from (ZC 202007). Called artillery mission consisting of 19 rounds 105mm HE. Results: 2 USMC WIAE.

(68) 111600H Vehicle with resupply convoy with Company B Squad Security hit mine believed to be an anti-tank mine, at (ZD 123016). Troops dismounted, surveyed damage and called medevac. Results: 1 USMC KIA, 1 USMC WIAE, 3 USMC WIANE.

(69) 111700H CAP H9 personnel at (AT 872990) stopped and searched civilian vehicle apprehending Vietnamese male, age 21, who had no ID card, hiding in back of vehicle. Detainee claimed he was an ARVN. Detainee had in his possession 16,000 piasters and several papers written in Chinese. PFs said he is definitely an NVA. Detainee was forwarded to 5th Marines S-2 for interrogation.

(70) 112020H Company C Platoon Bridge Security at (ZD 198010) received 7 60mm mortar rounds from (ZD 202007). Called artillery mission consisting of 16 rounds 105mm HE. Enemy fire ceased. Negative casualties or damage incurred.

(71) 112202H Western perimeter of 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area received 6 82mm mortar rounds and 25-50 rounds semi-automatic and automatic weapons fire from (ZC 058987). 5 mortar rounds fell 75-100 foot short of perimeter and 1 round fell within perimeter. Counter-mortar fired consisting of 20 rounds 105mm HE and 30 rounds 81mm HE. Negative casualties or damage incurred.

(72) 112225H CAP H5 at (ZD 086007) received approximately 4 rounds recoilless rifle or rocket fire and 4-5 bursts of automatic weapons fire from (ZD 087006) and (ZD 085005). Artillery mission called consisting of 25 rounds 81mm HE and 18 rounds 105mm HE. Area was searched at first light with negative results.

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(73) 120230H Company D Squad Ambush at (AT 885954) observed 7 VC moving towards ambush site. As VC closed to a distance of 50 meters squad fired 50 rounds of small arms fire. VC returned 1 round and broke contact. Area searched at first light with negative results.

(74) 120300H Company B Squad ambush at (AU 139010) received 12 60mm mortar rounds and 1 rocket round from (AT 148998). Ambush was recalled and an artillery mission of 16 rounds 105mm HE was fired on suspected enemy position. En route to Command Post, squad received 1 incoming grenade. Results: 1 USMC WIAE.

(75) 120230H to 120430H CAP H5 and bridge at (ZD 086007) came under attack receiving approximately 20 mixed 60mm mortar rounds, 18 M-79 rounds and 6 rocket rounds over a 2 hour period, resulting in moderate damage to the galley and 3 bunkers. A fire mission was requested on (ZD 085007) and (ZD 088006), the enemy locations where muzzle flashes were observed. Phu Loc District Chief withheld clearance of fire missions because targets were in populated areas. Results: 1 PF WIAE.

(76) 120640H Company B Platoon Bridge security at (ZD 139009) received 6-8 rounds 60mm mortar fire, 4 rocket rounds, small arms and M-79 fire. Called and received artillery mission of 18 rounds 105mm HE on suspected firing position. Enemy fire ceased. No casualties incurred.

(77) 121030H An AN/MPQ 411 counter-mortar radar unit arrived at the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area and was installed to hasten the reaction time and accuracy for counter mortar fire.

(78) 121100H The 1st Battalion, 5th Marines assumed OpCom Company H, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines.

(79) 121345H Company A Platoon patrol at (ZC 066974) received 200-250 rounds automatic weapons fire from undetermined number of VC. Patrol suppressed small arms fire and while maneuvering to search an enemy bunker, they received 6-8 grenades. Called artillery mission of 18 rounds 105mm HE and 4 rounds 105mm WP. Fixed wing and rotary aircraft conducted air strikes on enemy positions after platoon was withdrawn from contact due to other priority mission. Results: 5 USMC WIAE, 2 USMC WIAE.

3-11

ENCLOSURE (1)

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(80) 121450H A 4 vehicle convoy at (AU 805009) received 1 rocket round and 4 60mm rounds from unobserved VC at (AT 806991) as convoy slowed to negotiate bridge. Security unit returned 100 rounds small arms fire and 70 rounds .50 caliber machine gun fire. Results: 2 USMC KIA, 3 USMC WIAE and one M35 truck moderately damaged.

(81) 121600H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 1-68 was promulgated. See Tab (A) to Enclosure (1).

(82) 121630H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Battalion Assembly Area at (ZC 076985) received 20-25 rounds 60mm and 82mm mortar fire from (ZC 084972). Commenced counter-mortar fire consisting of 42 rounds 81mm HE and 72 rounds 105mm HE. Enemy fire ceased at 121710H. Results: 2 USMC WIAE. Negative surveillance on counter-mortar mission.

(83) 122010H Company D Platoon patrol at (AT 897995) found 8 canvas carrying cases for 82mm mortar rounds, 9 expended 75mm RR casings, 1 unknown type spent projectile measuring 18mm in diameter and 1 1/2 inches in length. Carrying cases had Chinese marking on sides. 1 carrying case and 1 expended RR casing forwarded to 5th Marines S-2. Remainder destroyed.

(84) 130002H Company H, 2d Battalion, 5th Marines Squad ambush at (ZD 010026) observed 5 VC in tree line at (ZD 008025). Squad fired 150-175 rounds small arms fire. VC returned 3 rounds small arms fire. Ambush was repositioned to (ZD 009028). Area was searched at first light finding 1 M-16 bipod.

(85) 130900H Intelligence man near CAP H9 at (AT 874989) apprehended a Vietnamese woman at Binh-An. Local civilians say detainee is known VC and is in the area to buy food and to pick up money. Detainee was forwarded to Phu Loc District Headquarters for processing.

(86) 131420H Mine Sweep Team at (ZD 177010) found 2 booby trapped M-26 grenades, 1 small mine, 3 booby-trapped Chi-Com grenades and 1 explosive concussion device. All devices were removed from road and destroyed.

(87) 131515H Phu Loc District Headquarters at (ZD 095007) received 9 rounds 82mm mortar fire from (ZD 105006). Rounds failed to hit District Headquarters position. Called artillery mission of 30 rounds 81mm HE and 40 rounds 105mm HE. Negative casualties or damage incurred. Negative surveillance on counter-mortar mission.

3-12

ENCLOSURE (1)

UNCLASSIFIED

(88) 131730H Convoy with Company B Platoon Security at (AU 806009) received 6-8 rounds 60mm mortar fire and 50-75 rounds small arms fire from (AT 808998) and (AT 805997). Platoon returned 150-200 rounds small arms fire, 12 M-79 rounds and called artillery mission of 20 rounds of 105mm HE. Platoon set up defensive positions and sent out local activities for the night as several trucks would require minor repair before convoy could continue the following morning.

(89) 131930H Company A Squad Ambush, while on route to ambush site, at (ZD 082008) received 50-75 rounds small arms fire from an estimated 20 VC deployed on either flank of Marines. Squad returned 250-300 rounds small arms fire, 1 M-79 round, gathered forces and swept area with negative results. During ensuing fire fight, 3 Vietnamese civilians, 1 male, age 60-70, 1 female, age 7, and 1 female age 18 months, received minor wounds from stray rounds. Vietnamese were treated by Corpman. Results: 3 Vietnamese civilians wounded.

(90) 132130H Company H 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines Squad Ambush at (ZD 014027) observed 2 NVA with weapons at (ZD 015028). Squad took enemy under fire with 50-75 rounds small arms fire. Search of area at first light disclosed 2 NVA KIA confirmed, 1 AK-47, Serial number 5574P; 1 Soviet SKS w/bayonet, Serial number 7054334; 2 AK-47 magazines with 10 rounds; 2 SKS magazines with ammunition in magazine pouches, 3 Chi-Com grenades, 1 C-4 pull-type charge, 3 battle dressings, 2 ponchos, 2 NVA belts, 1 lamp, 5 plasters, 1 stove, 1 lighter and key chain and 1 USMC helmet. Captured items were forwarded to 5th Marines S-2.

(91) 140940H Vehicle in convoy at (AU 814008) struck a command detonated mine. Landing Zone was established and Med-evac called. Results: 4 USMC WIAE, 3 USMC WIANE.

(92) 141033H Company H, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines Squad Patrol at (ZD 026022) observed explosion on road at (ZD 025026). Vietnamese civilians were observed moving away from road. Squad moved to road to assist Vietnamese civilians who were passengers in vehicle which struck a command detonated mine. Med-evac called and received. Results: 1 Vietnamese civilian killed, 14 Vietnamese civilians wounded (evacuated), 4 Vietnamese civilians wounded (Non-evac).

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(93) 141810H Company C and Company D Platoon road security at (AT 886954) received 5-6 rounds 82mm mortar fire from (AT 888943). Called artillery mission of 15 rounds 155mm HE. No casualties or damage incurred. No surveillance of counter-mortar fire.

(94) 142030H Company B Squad ambush at (AU 804008), while setting in at ambush site, received 1 round 60mm mortar fire, 7 M-79 rounds and 50-75 rounds small arms fire from (AU 804003). Squad returned 100-125 rounds small arms fire, called artillery and Naval Gunfire. Enemy fire ceased. Search of area the following morning disclosed 1 NVA KIA, identified as such by Battalion S-2, 1 Soviet SKS, Serial number 900214, 1 entrenching tool and parts of B-40 rocket. Results: 3 USMC WIAE, and 1 NVA KIA.

(95) 142200H Company B Squad ambush at (ZD 183010) heard voices at (ZD 182010). Squad fired 25-30 rounds small arms fire. VC returned 1 rocket round and 10 rounds small arms fire. Squad then returned 175-200 rounds small arms fire and throw 3 M-26 grenades. Initial search of area disclosed 1 pair sandals. Thorough search of area the following morning revealed 2 blasting caps, 2 blocks dynamite, 1 section of radio battery, 1 bottle of pills, 1 M-16 bayonet, expended 7.62mm cartridges and links and 1 bamboo section used to detonate mines.

(96) 142315H Company D Platoon Patrol Base at (AT 894945) received 5 rounds 82mm mortar fire from (AT 896945). Rounds fell to flank of Patrol Base. Called artillery and Naval Gunfire mission consisting of 18 rounds 105mm HE and 10-15 rounds Naval Gunfire. Enemy fire ceased. No damage or injuries incurred. No surveillance of counter-mortar mission.

(97) 150940H Mine Sweep Team at (AU 806008) received a total of 30 rounds 82mm mortar fire from (AU 805995) over a 2½ hour period. Initial barrage was 8 rounds. Called artillery mission of 10 rounds 155mm HE. 4 flights of fixed wing aircraft conducted air strikes on enemy position. Area was later searched with negative results. Results: 4 USMC KIA, 5 USMC WIAE.

(98) 151005H Naval Gunfire Team departed 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area for duty at 5th Marine Regiment.

(99) 151015H Company H, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines Squad Patrol at (ZD 006025) observed enemy movement at (ZD 004014). Called artillery mission of 8 rounds 105mm HE. Searched area with negative results.

3-11 ENCLOSURE (1)

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(100) 151020H Convoy at (AT 910948) was hit by command detonated claymore type device from bank along road. Results: 5 USMC WIAE and moderate damage to one M37 Personnel Carrier Vehicle.

(101) 151100H Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines departed Battalion Assembly Area to ambush site (See Significant event 150940H) and returned at 151545H.

(102) 151215H Personnel at 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area (ZC 076985) observed 5-6 VC, moving uphill at (ZC 067981). Fired 9 rounds 155mm HE direct fire and 46 rounds 106mm RR fire. Obtained outstanding coverage from both weapons. Area searched with negative results.

(103) 151420H Member of Company H, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines Squad patrol at (YD 988040) tripped booby-trapped grenade. Area searched with negative results. Results: 1 USMC WIAE.

(104) 160445H Company B Squad ambush at (ZD 163010) observed 3 VC at (ZD 163009). Squad fired 100 rounds small arms fire and 3 M-79 rounds. Search of area at first light revealed 1 VC KIA confirmed, 1 Soviet S&S carbine, Serial number 08798, 3 Chi-Com grenades, 2 canteens with canteen pouches, 20 rounds 7.62mm. 3 Chi-Com grenades destroyed. Remainder of captured equipment forwarded to 5th Marines S-2.

(105) 160715H Vehicle with mine sweep team at (AT 855000) triggered pressure-detonated mine. Results: 2 USMC WIAE and 1 M35 truck lightly damaged.

(106) 161330H Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines departed Battalion Assembly Area for Company D at (AT 833998) and returned at 171210H.

(107) 161330H Company C (-) departed 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area commencing operations in accordance with Frag Order 1-68 in eastern portion of TAOR. (See Tab A to Enclosure (1)).

(108) 161730H Company A Squad (+) Patrol at (ZC 085985) observed 30-50 VC wearing black and khaki clothing and carrying one mortar tube at (ZC 085998) and (ZC 089989). VC were moving to the north in two groups. 5 81mm mortar fire missions were fired consisting of 120 rounds HE. Area was later searched with negative results.

3-15

ENCLOSURE (1)



(109) 162100H Company B Squad Ambush at (ZD 165010) observed 4 VC near bridge at (ZD 165009). Squad fired 25-50 rounds small arms fire. In the process, squad received 50-75 rounds small arms fire and 3 B-40 rocket rounds from their right flank at (ZD 164010). Three other Company B squad ambushes in the vicinity maneuvered elements on position of enemy fire. Enemy fire ceased. Results: 1 USMC KIA, 2 USMC WIAE, 2 USMC WIANE, 4 VC KIA confirmed: 1 AK-47, Serial number 1667L, 5 blocks demolitions, 1 helmet, 1 poncho, 3 AK-47 magazines, 90 loose rounds 7.62mm, 100 rounds 7.62mm linked in cylindrical canister and one signal light captured. All captured items sent to 5th Marines S-2.

(110) 171000H Marine with Company D at (AT 833998) negligently discharged his weapon wounding himself in the toe. Investigation in progress. Results: 1 USMC NBCNE.

(111) 172000H Company B Platoon patrol at (ZD 170010) observed 15-20 VC moving along railroad tracks at (ZD 169010). Squad fired 100-150 rounds small arms fire and, in turn, received 100 rounds small arms fire and 3 B-40 Rocket rounds. Squad then returned 150 rounds small arms fire, 2 LAWS and 10-15 M-79 rounds suppressing enemy fire. Artillery mission of 20 rounds 105mm HE was conducted on enemy routes of egress. Search of area revealed 2 VC stretchers and 3 stretcher poles.

(112) 172310H Company C Fire Team (+) COP at (AT 908948) observed and brought under fire 5-6 VC at (AT 907944) who turned out to be lead elements of an estimated 20-25 VC. With this, the fire team pulled back, receiving 75-100 rounds small arms fire from enemy in pursuit. Fire team continued to return fire until enemy broke contact. Med-evac helicopter went down at (AT 904978) due to engine failure while attempting to effect med-evac. A squad from 2d Platoon, Company C Patrol Base was dispatched to render assistance to fire team and helicopter crew. Med-evac was made at (AT 895958). Search of area revealed 1 ChiCom plastic covered explosive container, 2 small chunks of flake TNT, 1 7.62mm round, 1 spent 7.62mm casing, comm wire bloody poncho and shrapnel. Results: 2 USMC KIA (as result of helicopter crash), 4 USMC WIAE and 1 USMC WIANE.

(113) 180755H Mine Sweep Team at (ZD 125013) received 4 grenades and 2 command detonated claymore type mine blasts as engineers were inspecting bridge for booby-traps and/or mines. Unit returned 250-300 rounds small arms fire and 75-100 rounds .50 caliber. Enemy broke contact. Unable to determine direction enemy fled due to heavy underbrush.

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Area was not searched as unit immediately returned to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area with casualties. Results: 2 USMC KIA, 6 USMC WIAE.

(114) 181200H Commanding Officer, 5th Marines visited the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area and departed at 181310H.

(115) 182015H Company H, 2d Battalion, 5th Marines Squad Ambush at (YD 979053) observed 1 VC running across road into treeline at (YD 984052). Squad fired 5 rounds small arms fire and 2 M-79 rounds. Area searched at 1st light with negative results.

(116) 182045H Company D Squad Ambush at (AU 825010) received 50-75 rounds small arms fire while en route to ambush site. Returned 100 rounds small arms fire, 10 M-79 rounds and 3 M-26 grenades. Moved into ambush site, and searched area with negative results.

(117) 190815H Mine Sweep Team at (ZD 185010) found an anti-vehicular mine, pressure detonated. Mine was buried in road. Mine was removed from road and destroyed.

(118) 191045H Scout Sniper Team at (ZC 088989) observed 2 rounds of enemy mortar fire impact near bridge at (ZD 099006). Fire came from vicinity (ZC 107993). An 81mm mortar mission was conducted consisting of 20 HE rounds, with negative surveillance of area.

(119) 191100H Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines departed 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area to visit Phu Loc District Headquarters, CAP H6, Company A, Company C and Company D positions, returning at 191545H.

(120) 191335H Scout Sniper team at (ZC 088992) and Company B 14 Operator at (ZD 104003) heard 4 mortar rounds leave tube in vicinity (ZC 095987) impacting at Phu Loc District Headquarters at (ZD 103003). An 81mm mortar mission of 50 rounds HE was fired on suspected enemy position. Area was searched with negative results. Results: 1 USMC WIAE.

(121) 191345H Vehicle with mine sweep team at (AF 924925) struck a mine. Unit simultaneously received automatic and semi-automatic weapons fire and 1 B-40 rocket round which struck second vehicle. Unit returned 200-250 rounds small arms fire and sent maneuvering element to search area at

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ENCLOSURE (1)

(AT 923925) from where fire was received. Air strike was conducted on possible enemy routes of egress with good coverage. Results: 2 USMC KIA and 1 M37 Personnel Carrier and 1 M35 A2C truck moderately damaged.

(122) 192200H Received 5th Marines Frag Order 4-68.

(123) 192335H Company B Squad Ambush at (ZD 106016) observed 3 VC on railroad tracks at (ZD 105016). Squad fired 10 rounds small arms fire and searched area at first light with negative results. VC fled to south.

(124) 200530H Company B (-) while on Search and Destroy mission at (ZD 097007) received 5 rounds 82mm mortar fire from (ZC 119997). Called artillery mission of 8 rounds 105mm HE. Enemy fire ceased. Negative surveillance of fire mission. Negative friendly casualties.

(125) 200900H OPCON of Company E, 2d Battalion, 5th Marines returned to 2d Battalion, 5th Marines.

(126) 200950H Company B Command Post at (ZD 095007) received 8 rounds 82mm mortar fire from (ZC 112992). Called 81mm mortar mission of 35 rounds HE. Area searched with negative results.

(127) 201100H Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines departed 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area for Company E, 2d Battalion, 5th Marines position and returned at 201215H.

(128) 201200H Company A Platoon Bridge Security at (ZD 144010) received 7-10 rounds 82mm mortar fire from (ZD 163042). Called 81mm mortar mission of 25-30 rounds HE. Patrol from CAP H6 was dispatched and searched area with negative results.

(129) 201500H Member of Company D Squad Patrol at (AU 851026) tripped booby-trapped Chi-Com grenade. Corpman treated casualties for minor wounds and patrol continued on mission. Results: 3 USMC WIAE.

(130) 201530H Commanding Officer, 5th Marines arrived at 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area and departed at 201545H.

(131) 210905H Mine Sweep Team at (ZD 197010) found 2 culverts blown by enemy, 10 lbs. flake TNT and 2 expended blasting caps. Engineers repaired culverts, destroyed TNT and continued on mission.

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UNCLASSIFIED

(132) 210930H Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines and S-3 Officer departed 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Command Post for 5th Marines Command Post and returned at 211500H.

(133) 211015H As Bridge Party convoy was traveling through pass at (ZD 125015) a Claymore type mine was detonated from the bank along the road. Convoy continued to 3d Platoon, Company A's position to effect medevac. Results:  
3 USMC WIAE.

(134) 211310H Company A Squad patrol at (ZD 121019) found charge with 155mm primer, 4 blasting caps, 3 small holes approximately 5 days old and 100-150 feet of comm wire.

(135) 211135H Bridge party convoy at (ZD 197010) received 6 rounds 60mm mortar fire from unknown enemy position. Convoy escort gunships were requested to survey area. At appearance of gunships, mortar fire ceased. Results:  
1 USMC WIAE and 6 Vietnamese civilians wounded (evacuated to Phu Loc District Headquarters).

(136) 211515H Company B Squad Patrol at (ZC 091907) received 7 rounds 60mm mortar fire from (ZC 105985). Called 61mm mortar mission of 23 rounds HE. Enemy fire ceased. Patrol continued on assigned mission. Negative surveillance of fire mission.

(137) 212000H Company B, Commanding Officer reports that bridge at (ZD 099066) was completely aflame. He further reported that the District Chief had stated that the PF's had requested to use gas for heating their food and had apparently spilled some causing the fire to spread. Fire was extinguished early in A.M. of 23 January 1968.

(138) 220915H to 221300H Company B Platoon Bridge Security at (ZD 098006) received 15 rounds 82mm mortar fire from (ZC 107997) throughout a 3 hour period. Counter-mortar fire during this period included 24 rounds 105mm HE and 30 rounds 61mm HE. Results: 1 USMC WIAE and 1 USMC WIANE. Platoon Patrol dispatched to Check area. Observed negative results.

(139) 221030H Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines departed Battalion Assembly Area for Phu Loc to survey damage incurred to bridge which was accidentally set afire by PF's the previous night. The Commanding Officer returned at 221130H.

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ENCLOSURE (1)

(140) 221130H Commanding Officer, 5th Marines and Regimental S-3 Operations Officer arrived at the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area at 221130H and departed at 221215H.

(141) 221130H 2 USMC from CAP H7 who were MIA since 7 January 1968 arrived at the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area after escaping from the NVA. The two marines were given medical treatment, new clothes and were flown to 5th Marines Command Post.

(142) 221600H Company C Squad Patrol at (AT 896950) received 150 rounds small arms fire and 1 B-40 rocket round from undetermined number of enemy at (AT 895946) and (AT 901948). Squad returned 450-500 rounds small arms fire, 8 M-79 rounds, 3 LAWS and called air strike which was directed at (AT 895946). Patrol searched area with negative results.

(143) 221935H Company B Squad ambush, while setting in at ambush site, at (ZD 103013), received 2 incoming grenades. Squad returned 8 rounds small arms fire and 2 M 26 grenades. Enemy fire ceased. Area was searched at first light with negative results. Results: 1 USMC WIAE.

(144) 222045H Company A Squad Ambush at (ZD 192007) observed 5 VC moving on road. Squad fired 150 rounds small arms fire and received 25 rounds small arms fire in return. Search of area disclosed 1 VC KIA confirmed and 1 captured AK-47 rifle, serial number 222125. Results: 1VC KIA confirmed.

(145) 230010H Company A Squad Ambush at (ZD 181011) observed 3 VC moving toward bridge at (ZD 182011). Squad fired 50-75 rounds small arms fire. With this, an estimated 6-7 VC returned 150-200 rounds small arms fire from (ZD 183011). Squad returned fire with 300 rounds small arms fire and 14 M-79 rounds. Called for and received flareship. Approximately 10 minutes later squad received 8-10 rounds 82mm mortar fire. Called for and received "Spooky" gunship which fired on suspected enemy positions at (ZC 1898) and (ZC 1798). "Spooky" observed 2 secondary explosions. Area was searched the following morning with negative results.

(146) 230100H 5th Marines Frag Order 5-68 was promulgated to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines.

(147) 230730H Vehicle with Mine Sweep Team at (ZC 083992) was struck by a command detonated directional mine, possibly an HD10. Search of area revealed 120 feet of electrical cord. Results: 1 USMC KIA, 2 USMC WIAE, 5 USMC WIAE.

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(148) 230930H Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines departed Battalion Assembly Area to visit Company C and Company D positions and returned at 231430H.

(149) 231405H Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, while returning to Battalion Assembly Area from Company D position, came upon vehicle that had been damaged by an anti-vehicular mine at (ZD 123014). Medevacs were being effected at the time and the convoy was encouraged to continue. Results: 15 ARVN WIAE.

(150) 231700H Red Alert drill was conducted at the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area from 231700H to 231755H with satisfactory results.

(151) 232015H Company D Squad Ambush at (AU 805009), while moving to ambush site, received 15-20 rounds small arms fire 50 meters from squad's right flank. Squad returned 100 rounds small arms fire, 5 M-79 rounds and 2 M26 grenades. Called for and received medevac. Searched area with negative results. Results: 1 USMC KIA, 4 USMC WIAE.

(152) 231930H Company A Squad Ambush at (ZD 145008), while en route to ambush site, observed Vietnamese civilians hurrying away as Marines approached village. Search of area disclosed a large amount of medical supplies including battle dressings, antibiotics, pills, syringes, intravenous fluid and gauzes. Medical supplies were forwarded to Battalion S-2. Area was searched further at first light with negative results.

(153) 232203H Member of Company D Squad Ambush at (AU 827006), while en route to ambush site, tripped unknown type booby trap. Squad simultaneously received automatic weapons fire from (AU 828003). Squad returned fire with 300 rounds small arms fire and 2 LAAGs. Searched area with negative results. Results: 2 USMC WIAE.

(154) 240800H Vehicle in convoy with Company A Squad Security struck a pressure-detonated mine at (ZD 169011) estimated to have contained 10 pounds of TNT. Results: 1 M35 truck moderately damaged necessitating a wrecker. Truck was later towed to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area.

(155) 240955H Commanding Officer, 5th Marines, Regimental Operations Officer and Commanding Officer, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines arrived at 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area and departed at 241145H.

(156) 241245H Vehicle in convoy at (AT 863996) struck an unknown type mine estimated to have contained 10-15 pounds explosives. Results: 3 USMC WIAE and 1 M35 truck moderately damaged.

(157) 242130H Company A Squad Ambush at (ZD 174012) observed 15 VC at (ZD 175012). Squad fired 30 rounds small arms fire. Enemy broke contact. Search of area revealed 2 blood trails near trench line.

(158) 250930H Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines departed Battalion Assembly Area for Company A, Company C and Company D positions and returned at 251515H.

(159) 251130H Company D Platoon Patrol at (AU 845025) received 10 rounds small arms fire from (AU 834027). Platoon returned 50 rounds small arms fire, 2 M-79 rounds and 1 LAAW. Called and received 2 UH1E gunships which conducted fire missions on enemy location. Squad was dispatched and searched area with negative results.

(160) 260640H Company A Squad Ambush at (ZD 169010) heard 2-3 VC tampering with metal bridge and digging on road 80 meters south of ambush site. Called for and received 3 rounds 81mm illumination. Squad fired 25 rounds small arms fire, 7-8 rounds M-79 fire and maneuvered toward enemy. VC returned 1 fragmentation grenade and fled area. Search of area disclosed a small, freshly dug hole in the road. Results: 1 USMC WIAE.

(161) 260930H Commanding Officer, 5th Marines and Regimental S-2 Officer arrived at 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area. At 261030H the Regimental Commander, the Regimental S-2 Officer and the Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines departed the Battalion Assembly Area for Companies A, B and C's positions. Commanding Officer, 5th Marines and Regimental S-2 Officer departed Company C's position at 261330H. Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines returned to the Battalion Assembly Area at 261530H.

(162) 261045H Marine with Company A at (ZD 140009), while in the process of igniting trash that had been saturated in gasoline, suffered second degree burns on the upper torso and face. Company A called for and received medevac. Results: 1 USMC NBCE.

(163) 261600H Member of Company A Platoon Patrol at (ZC 180996) detonated explosive device which appeared to have

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ENCLOSURE (1)

been emplaced for a long period of time. Called for and received medevac. Search of area disclosed an additional three such Soviet made, French designed devices. Devices were disarmed and forwarded to Battalion S-2 Results: 2 USMC WIAE.

(164) 271200H Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines departed Battalion Assembly Area for Company B(-) position and Phu Bai, returning at 271600H.

(165) 271245H Company D Platoon Patrol at (AT 845957) observed 12 VC moving in a column in a westerly direction at (AT 846947). Platoon fired 1300 rounds small arms fire, 17 60mm mortar HE rounds and 10 M-79 rounds. Called for and received 9 rounds 105mm HE and Naval Gunfire. Search of area revealed 1 VC KIA confirmed, 1 Soviet SKS carbine, serial number 56489, 3 cartridge belts, 2 canteens, 3 ponchos, 52 rounds 7.62mm short, 1 pair sandals, 2 ChiCom grenades, 1 M26 grenade, 1 unknown type booby trap, 2 packs with assorted health and comfort items, medicinal supplies, aspirins and battle dressings. Grenades and booby trap were destroyed. Captured items were forwarded to 5th Marines S-2. Results: 1 VC KIA confirmed.

(166) 271300H Company A Platoon Patrol at (ZC 193991) found a freshly dug grave in a small grave yard. Further examination disclosed 1 NVA KIA confirmed dressed in green uniform with NVA belt and buckle. Corpse was approximately 6 feet tall and had apparently been killed 3-5 days earlier by multiple gunshot wounds and either grenade or M-79 fragmentation. A 1-pound TNT charge had been placed underground 2 inches above the corpse. Results: 1 NVA KIA confirmed.

(167) 272100H Company A Squad Ambush at (ZD 169009) observed 2-3 VC moving in a northerly direction at (ZD 168008). Squad fired 30-40 rounds small arms fire and 4 M-79 rounds observing 1 secondary explosion. Dispatched a fire team to search area. En route to area, an adjacent Marine Squad Ambush mistook fire team as enemy in the darkness and fired 10-15 rounds small arms fire wounding 1 Marine. Search of area at first light revealed a crater left by the secondary explosion which was apparently the result of an enemy emplaced mine. Results: 1 USMC WIAE.

(168) 272115H Personnel at Company A Command Post at (ZD 140009) observed what appeared to be an enemy signal light at (ZD 162048). Company A called for and received 105mm mission consisting of 1 WP round and 11 HE rounds. Light was no longer seen.

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ENCLOSURE (1)



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(169) 280900H Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines and S-3 Operations Officer departed Battalion Assembly Area for Planning Conference at 5th Marines Command Post. At 281130H the Regimental Commander, Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines and S-3 Operations Officer departed the 5th Marines Command Post for Phu Loc District Headquarters for "Tet" luncheon with the Phu Loc District Chief. Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines and Operations Officer returned to the Battalion Assembly Area at 281515H.

(170) 281500H Engineer at 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area at (ZC 076985) was destroying blasting cap from Soviet made, French designed anti-personnel mine when device exploded inflicting fragmentation wounds in man's legs. Medovac called for and received. Results: 1 USMC WIAE.

(171) 281830H Company D Squad Combat Outpost at (AU 801009), while en route to outpost site, found 1 VC KIA dressed in black and khaki clothing. Man appeared to have died as a result of multiple shrapnel wounds inflicted either by artillery fire or by a booby trap. A ChiCom grenade was found near body. Results: 1 VC KIA confirmed.

(172) 290950H Commanding General, 1st Marine Division arrived at 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area and departed at 291035H.

(173) 291050H Company B Squad Patrol at (ZC 087986) found 4 French type mines. Mines were destroyed in place by engineers.

(174) 291315H Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, S-3 Operations Officer and S-2 Officer departed 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area to conduct aerial reconnaissance and returned at 291415H.

(175) 291840H Company A Squad Ambush at (ZD 194010), while en route to ambush site, received 1 grenade from 2 VC. Squad pursued VC and returned 50-60 rounds small arms fire and 10 M-79 rounds. Enemy broke contact. Results: 2 USMC WIAE.

(176) 292135H Company A Squad Ambush at (ZD 176010) observed approximately 50 Vietnamese moving east along highway at (ZD 175010) then northeast towards village at (ZD 183021). Squad could not determine if Vietnamese were armed. Squad did not fire as instructions had been given to make positive identification of enemy before firing.

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(177) 292345H Company A Squad Ambush at (ZD 175010) observed approximately 25 VC with packs and weapons moving south across railroad tracks at (ZD 174010). Company Commander, Company A believed enemy to have been carrying rice from region to the north. Squad fired 100 rounds small arms fire and 6 M-79 rounds. Enemy fled to south. Called for and received 155mm mission of 20 rounds HE and 10 rounds illumination. Search of area at first light revealed 6 bags of rock salt and 2 bags of rice, each weighing 75-100 pounds and having carrying straps. Squad also found 4-5 drag marks, numerous blood trails and 1 piece of mutilated human flesh, either a buttock or a thigh, near a 155mm howitzer crater.

(178) 300140H Battery A, 8th LAAM Battalion site at (AT 945921) received approximately 30 rounds 60mm and 82mm mortar fire and 5 rocket rounds from (AT 915911) and (AT 933910). Called for and received artillery mission of 155mm HE and 5-inch Naval Gunfire. Enemy fire slackened and then ceased. Results: 3 USMC WIAE.

(179) 300830H Member of Company C Squad COP at (AT 903953), while en route to outpost site, detonated an anti-personnel mine. Hoovevac called for and received. Results: 1 USMC WIAE.

(180) 301130H Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines departed Assembly Area at 301130H to visit Companies A, B, C and D positions returning at 301530H.

(181) 301400H Mine Sweep Team with Company C Squad(+) security at (AT 914941) received 50-75 rounds small arms fire from 3-4 VC at (AT 911940). Squad returned 100-150 rounds small arms fire and called for and received artillery mission of 9 rounds 105mm HE and 2 rounds 105mm WP. Results: 2 USMC WIAE.

(182) 301700H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines conducted Red Alert drill at 301700H and secured at (301725H with satisfactory results.

(183) 301800H Company C Squad(+) Patrol at (AT 888952) received 5 rounds 60mm mortar fire from (AT 897939). Called for and received artillery mission of 12 rounds 155mm HE and 3 rounds 155mm WP. UH1E gunship on station was unable to observe enemy or effect of artillery mission.

(184) 301700H Recon insert "Pearl Chest" sprung an ambush at (ZC 096974) killing 15 NVA. Enemy company maneuvered to surround insert team. Team requested and received 55 rounds 105mm HE, 2 rounds 105mm illumination and 6 rounds 81mm HE. Also received 2 fixed wing missions and 1 UH1E mission.

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(185) 301930H Company B(-) was dispatched to relieve recon insert team.

(186) 302135H Company B(-) surprised two NVA on trail in front of company. Fired 10-20 rounds small arms fire. Search of area revealed two NVA KIA and two AK-47 rifles, serial numbers, 9474932 and 10065322, with ammunition pouch and cartridge belt. Captured items to be forwarded to 5th Marines S-2. Results: 2 NVA KIA confirmed.

(187) 302200H Company F, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines OPCON to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines and dispatched to provide security for District Headquarters.

(188) 302300H Company F, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, while moving along MSR to Phu Loc District Headquarters, received 100-150 rounds small arms fire from railroad tracks to the north in vicinity (ZD 060013). Results: 1 USMC KIA and 3 USMC WIAE.

(189) 302400H Company B was instructed to return to Phu Loc District Headquarters and resume normal operations. Recon insert was no longer in trouble.

(190) 310025H Company F, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines OPCON returned to 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines.

(191) 310230H Company B arrived Phu Loc District Headquarters and resumed normal operations.

(192) 310515H Company D Command Post at (AT 833998) received approximately 12 rounds 82mm mortar fire from (AT 817995). Returned counter-mortar fire consisting of 500 rounds .50 caliber, 20 rounds 81mm HE, 40 rounds 60mm HE and 20 5-inch Naval gunfire rounds. Enemy fire ceased. Results: 1 USMC WIAE.

(193) 310800H Marine at Company A Command Post, while cleaning rifle upon being relieved from bunker watch, accidentally discharged weapon wounding himself in left leg. Investigating Officer was appointed. Result of incident: 1 USMC NBCE.

(194) 310745H As Company A Squad Ambush was returning from ambush site, received 50-60 rounds small arms fire from 2-3 VC from undetermined direction. Squad deployed to locate enemy who was observed fleeing to the northwest. Squad fired 160 rounds small arms fire and 6 M-79 rounds. Called for and

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received medevac and artillery mission on 10 fleeing VC. Searched area with negative results. Results: 1 USMC WIAE.

(195) 311000H Vehicle with Mine Sweep Team at (ZD 131011) hit mine believed to have been an anti-tank mine. Explosion blew off right rear dual wheel. Results: 3 USMC WIAE.

(196) 311045H Company B Platoon Patrol at (ZD 071011) heard explosion on road at (ZD 076013) and observed 1 Vietnamese male fleeing area. Apprehended Vietnamese, who wore white clothing and had ID card, and forwarded him to Battalion S-2. Sea Bee truck had been blown off road but was still able to proceed under own power. Detainee was later interrogated by 13th ITT and released as an innocent civilian.

(197) 311245H Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines departed Battalion Assembly Area for scene of blown bridge near Company C's position. The Commanding Officer returned at 311630H.

(198) 311430H A command-detonated mine was detonated at (AT 864995) between two jeeps carrying the Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, his radio operators and the Battalion Sgt/Major, while en route to Company D's position at (AT 833998). Vehicles were 100 meters apart at the time of the explosion. Group continued toward destination as negative casualties or damages were incurred.

(199) 312020H Company B Squad Ambush at (ZC 101992) observed 6-10 VC 30 meters to southeast of ambush site. Squad fired 15-20 rounds small arms fire. Enemy broke contact. Search of area revealed 1 VC KIA confirmed, 1 AK-47, serial number unknown, 1 rice bag, 1 AK-47 magazine, 1 poncho, 1 signalling device, 1 small roll of communications wire, 1 set of green utilities and what was believed to be a military radio. Captured items forwarded to 5th Marines S-2. Results: 1 VC KIA confirmed.

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1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
Phu Loc, RVN  
12 January 1968

Frag Order 1-68

Ref: (a) Maps, RVN, 1:50,000; Series L7014, Sheets 6541 I,  
6541 II, 6541 III, 6541 IV, 6641 IV.

Time Zone: H

Task Organization: Annex A (Task Organization)1. SITUATION.

a. Enemy. See Annex B (Intelligence) to Operation Plan 3-67. See current ISUMS and PERINTREPS.

b. Friendly.

(1) 5th Marine Regiment continues relocation to Phu Bai area and commences operations to the northwest of TAOR.

(2) 7th Marine Regiment conducts operations in TAOR to the south of the Battalion TAOR.

(3) 1st ARVN Division coordinates with 1st Battalion, 5th Marines and conducts operations within Battalion TAOR.

(4) CAC H conducts activities in coordination with subordinate units of 1st Battalion, 5th Marines operating in respective areas.

(5) Artillery.

(a) Delta Battery, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines Direct Support.

(b) Lima Battery, 4th Battalion, 11th Marines General Support.

(6) Air. First Marine Air Wing provides rotary and fixed wing aircraft on request.

(7) Naval Gunfire Team and DD USS FRANK EVANS provides direct support on request. Other ships as available.

(8) Annex B (Operations Overlay)

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TAB A to Enclosure (1)

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2. MISSION. To keep MSR along route one in assigned TAOR open. In conjunction with friendly forces, protect US and GVN installations, overpasses, bridges, vehicles, equipment and personnel by destroying threatening enemy forces.

3. EXECUTION.

a. Concept. At H-Hour on D-Day 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, in coordination with other friendly forces operating in the TAOR, commences decentralization movement of subordinate units to gain and maintain control of critical terrain along the MSR. Upon establishment in respective AO, subordinate units conduct multiple offensive small unit patrols and ambushes with emphasis on night activities, to deny the enemy use of routes of approach to the MSR, its bridges and US and GVN installations adjacent thereto.

b. Company D, Company C, Company B, Company H, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines.

(1) At H-Hour on D-Day commence decentralization of subordinate units within assigned AO.

(2) Upon decentralization, employ numerous small unit patrols and ambushes along the routes of approach to the MSR and friendly forces' installations in AO.

(3) Be prepared to provide relief/reaction forces to friendly US and GVN installations within AO as required.

(4) Be prepared to assume Battalion Reserve missions on order.

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

c. H&S Company.

(1) Provide general support for rifle companies as required.

(2) Provide forces for security of the Battalion Assembly Area.

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

d. Battalion Reserve, Company C.

(1) Provide supplemental assistance to H&S Company for security of the Battalion Assembly Area as directed.

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(2) Conduct activities in areas adjacent to Battalion Assembly Area as directed.

(3) Be prepared to assume missions of units operating in each Area of Operation on order.

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

e. Coordinating Instructions.

(1) Annex A (Operation Overlay)

(2) D-Day - 12 January 1968

(3) H-Hour - 1600

(4) Emphasize night ambushes and patrols.

(5) Judicious use of booby traps in conjunction with ambushes authorized. Insure every device is collected upon securing the ambush.

(6) Maximum utilization of available supporting arms to complement ambushes and patrols.

(7) Coordinate closely with US and GVN forces operating in assigned AO.

(8) Make maximum utilization of populated areas for daylight rest periods.

(9) Maintain stringent control of personnel to insure dealings with local populace are of a nature to be beneficial to friendly forces operations.

(10) Make maximum utilization of camouflage and night movement techniques.

(11) Rules of engagement apply.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS.

a. Battalion SOP for Administration and Logistics.

b. Resupply by truck and helicopter every other day. Emergency resupply on request.

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5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS.

a. Command. Battalion Command Post will remain at the Battalion Assembly Area.

b. Communications. Annex C (Comm-Elect Plan)

*R. P. Whalen for*  
R. P. WHALEN  
Lieutenant Colonel  
Commanding

Annexes.

- A. Task Organization
- B. Areas of Operation Overlay
- C. (Comm-Elect Plan)

OFFICIAL:

*L. A. Wunderlich for*  
L. A. WUNDERLICH  
Major, USMC  
S-3



Time Zone: Hotel

**LEGEND:**

C - Net Control  
X - Guard  
O - Guard as Rec

## UNIT

## BALL SIGNS

UNIT		DESIG	FREQ	NET	DESIG	FREQ	NET
Marines		C	M-810	4066	Rest C-1	(P)	
1st BN, 5th MAR		O	M-1012	11427	-do-	(S)	
A Co 1/5		X	M-526	54.2	Rest F-1	(P)	
B Co 1/5		X	M-474	57.0	1/5 Bn F-2	(P)	
C Co 1/5		X	M-573	66.05	A Co F-3		
D Co 1/5		X	M-42	59.95	B Co F-4		
E Co 2/5		X	M-50	61.95	C Co F-5		
Glamm Mort 1/5		X	M-327	60.30	D Co F-6		
ATFP 1/5		X	M-31	65.60	1/2/5 Co F-7		
D Btry 2/11		X	M-472	64.65	Glamm Mort C-1		
1 Btry 4/11		X	M-249	40.60	TRAC Local		
Arty InC 1/5		X	M-216	62.75	1/2/11 C-2		
Co B 1st Eng		X	M-714	66.15	1/2/11 C-3		
D Btry FOGs		X	M-526	68.35	1/2/11 C-4		
STDP 11th Mar		X	M-653	48.25	STG Spot		
PSY/LZ Control		X	M-527	69.60	HQ/LZ Control		

1. All Operators carry two spare batteries. Resupply made by request to Battalion.
2. Med Ewac request will be made through Battalion TACP.
3. Current Shackle and Authentication sheets will be carried by operators. Renewal of these sheets is responsibility of Communications Officer.
4. It is emphasized that should contact be lost on any frequencies, use of other frequencies is authorized, particularly in emergency situations.

U. B. WHAKEN  
Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps  
Commanding

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**SECRET**

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1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
Phu Loc, RVN  
12 January 1968

ANNEX A (Task Organization) to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
Frag Order 1-68

Time Zone: H

Task Organization

1st Battalion, 5th Marines (Rein)

LTCOL R. P. WHALEN

Company A (Rein)

1STLT F. P. WILBOURNE

Company A  
Det, Co B, 1stEngrBn  
Det, Btry D, 2ndBn, 11th Mar  
Det, Co B, 1stSPBn (HST)  
Det, H&S Company  
Det, FO Tm  
Det, Med Plt  
FAC Tm  
Kit Carson Tm

Company B (Rein)

CAPT D. D. DROBNY

Company B  
Det, Co B, 1stSPBn (HST)  
Det, Co B, 1stEngrBn  
Det, Btry D, 2ndBn, 11thMar  
Det, H&S Company  
Det, FO Tm  
Det, Med Plt  
Det, Comm Plt  
FAC Tm  
Kit Carson Tm

Company C (Rein)

CAPT E. B. BURROW

Company C  
Det, Btry D, 2ndBn, 11thMar  
Det, Co B, 1stEngrBn  
Det, Co B, 1stSPBn (HST)  
Det, H&S Company  
Det, FO Tm  
Det, Med Plt  
Det, Comm Plt  
FAC Tm  
Kit Carson Tm

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Company D (Rein)

CAPT R. H. KIRKPATRICK

Company D  
 Det, Co B, 1st Engr Bn  
 Det, Btry D, 2nd Bn, 11th Mar  
 3rd Plt, Co C, 1st Bn, 5th Mar  
 Det, H&S Company  
   Det, FO Tm  
   Det, Med Plt  
   Det, Comm Plt  
   FAC Tm  
   Kit Carson Tm

H&S Company (Rein)

CAPT D. L. MCINTURFF

H&S Company  
 Det, Co B, 1st Engr Bn  
 Det, Btry D, 2nd Bn, 11th Mar  
 Det, Hq Co, 5th Mar (Sniper Tm)  
 Det, 7th Comm (Radio Relay Tm)

3rd Plt (Rein), Co A, 1st AT Bn

2NDLT B. C. MORTON

1st Plt, Co C, 1st MT Bn

CPL T. J. OBERMAN

2nd Plt, Co B, 1st SP Bn

1STLT C. B. KEPFORD

1st Sect, 1st Plt, G Btry, 29th  
Artillery SLT

SGT H. W. EPPERSON

R. P. WHALEN  
 Lieutenant Colonel  
 Commanding

DISTRIBUTION: Special

H&S Co  
 Co A  
 Co B  
 Co C  
 Co D  
 3rd Plt(+), Co A, 1st AT Bn  
 1st Plt, Co C, 1st MT Bn  
 2nd Plt, Co B, 1st SP Bn  
 1st Sect, 1st Plt, G Btry, 29th Arty SLT  
 5th Mar

ANNEX B Operation Overlay (Areas of Operation) to Frag Order :  
1-68

Ref: (a) Maps, RVN, 1:50,000: Series L7014, Sheets 6541I,  
6541III, 6541IIII, 5641 LV, 6641 IV

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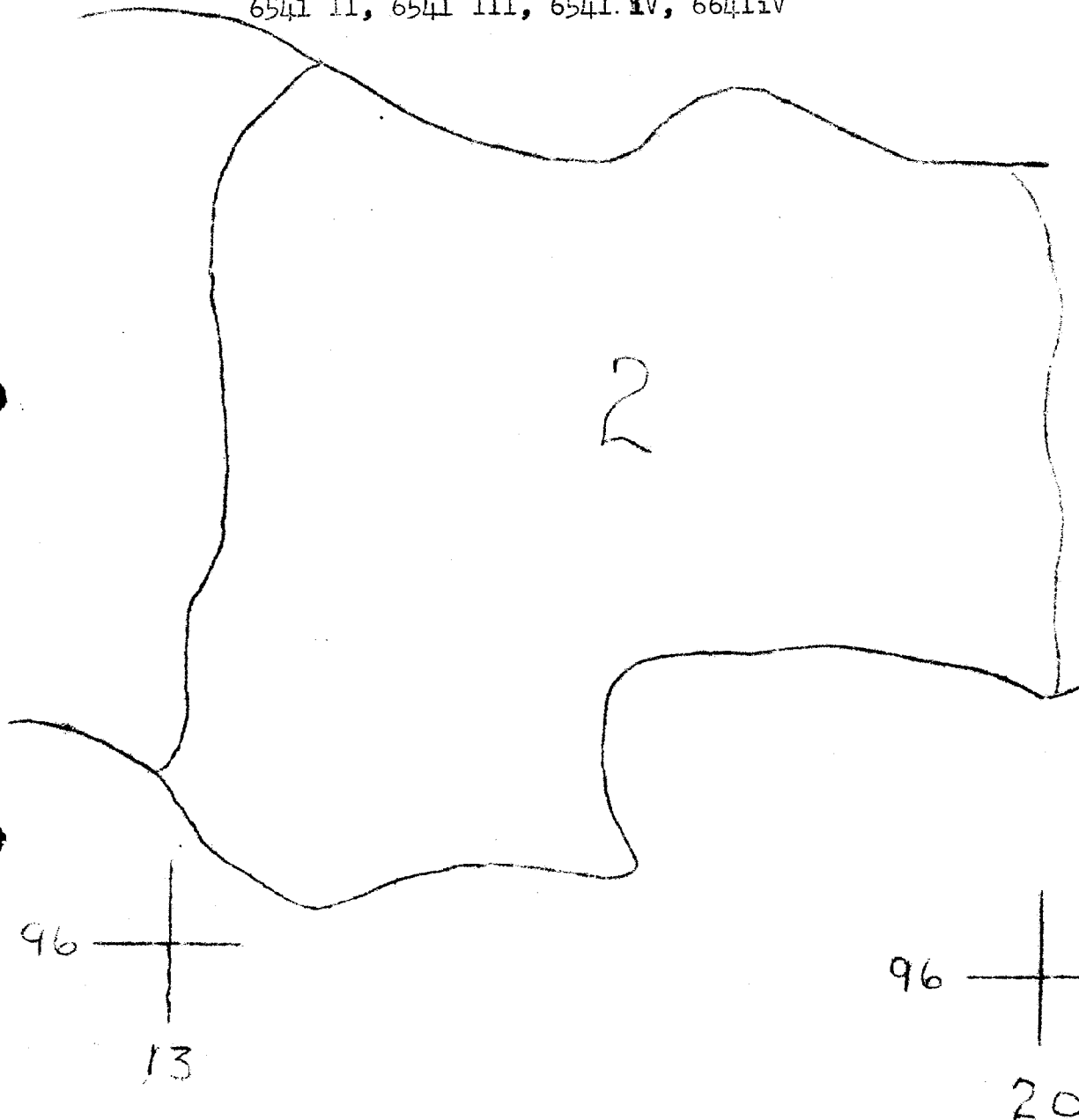
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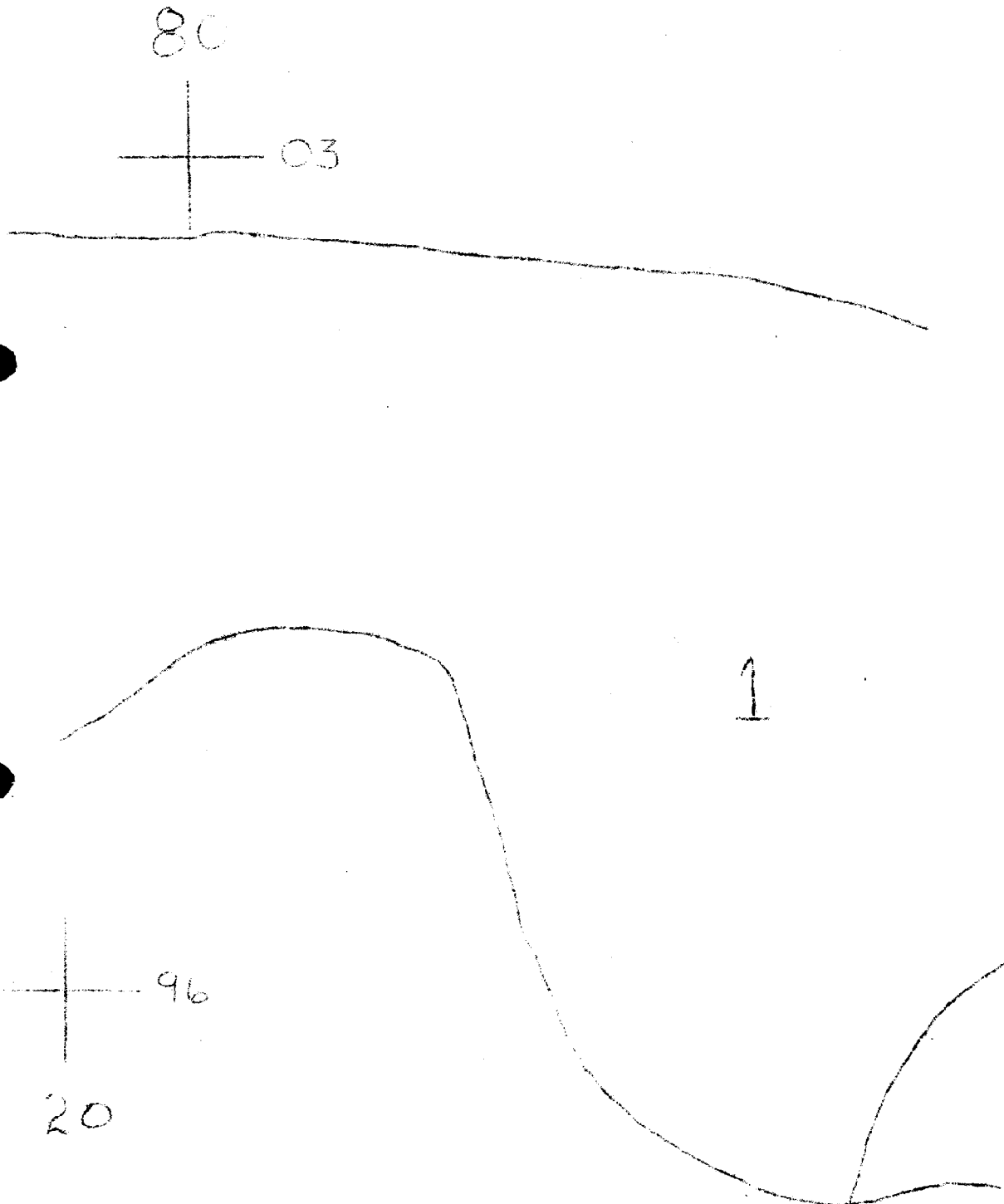
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ANNEX B Operation Overlay (Areas of Operation) to Frag Order  
1-68

Ref: (a) Maps, RVN, 1:50,000; Series L7014, Sheets 6541 I,  
6541 II, 6541 III, 6541 IV, 6641 IV



ANNEX B Operation Overlay (Areas of Operation) to Frag Order  
1-68Ref: (a) Maps, RVN, 1:50,000; Series L7014, Sheets 6541 I,  
6541 II, 6541 III, 6541 IV, 6641 IV

ANNEX B Operation Overlay (Areas of Operation) to Frag  
Order 1-68

Ref: (a) Maps, RVN, 1:50,000; Series L7014, Sheets  
6541 I, 6541 II, 6541 III, 6541 IV, 6641 IV

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OFFICIAL

*for*  
L. A. WUNDERLICH  
Major USMC  
S-3

R. P. WHALEN  
Lieutenant Colonel  
Commanding

-4-

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
Phu Loc, RVN  
22 January 1968

ANNEX A (Task Organization) to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
Operation Plan 2-68

Time Zone: H

Task Organization

1st Battalion, 5th Marines (Rein)

LTCOL R. P. WHALEN

Company A (Rein)

1STLT F. P. SILBOURNE III

## Company A

Det, Co B, 1stEngrBn  
Det, Btry D, 2ndBn, 11th Mar  
Det, Co B, 1stSPBn (HST)  
Det, H&S Company  
Det, FO Tm  
Det, Med Plt  
FAC Tm  
Kit Carson Tm

Company B (Rein)

CAPT D. D. DROBNY

## Company B

Det, Co B, 1stSPBn (HST)  
Det, Co B, 1stEngrBn  
Det, Btry D, 2ndBn, 11thMar  
Det, H&S Company  
Det, FP Tm  
Det, Med Plt  
Det, Comm Plt  
FAC Tm  
Kit Carson Tm

Company C (Rein)

CAPT E. B. BURROW

## Company C

Det, Btry D, 2ndBn, 11thMar  
Det, Co B, 1stEngrBn  
Det, Co B, 1stSPBn (HST)  
Det, H&S Company  
Det, FO Tm  
Det, Med Plt  
Det, Comm Plt  
FAC Tm  
Dit Carson Tm



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Company D (Rein)

CAPT R. H. KIRKPATRICK

Company D  
 Det, Co B, 1st Engr Bn  
 Det, Btry D, 2nd Bn, 11th Mar  
 3rd Plt, Co C, 1st Bn, 5th Mar  
 Det H&S Company  
 Det, FO Tm  
 Det, Med Plt  
 Det, Comm Plt  
 FAC Tm  
 Kit Carson Tm

H&S Company (Rein)

CAPT D. L. MCINTURFF

H&S Company  
 Det, Co B, 1st Engr Bn  
 Det, Btry D, 2nd Bn, 11th Mar  
 Det, Hq Co, 5th Mar (Sniper Tm)  
 Det, 7th Comm (Radio Relay Tm)

3rd Plt (Rein), Co A, 1st ATBn

2NDLT B. C. MORTON

1st Plt, Co C, 1st MTBn

CPL D. A. ROLOFF

2nd Plt, Co B, 1st SPBn

1STLT R. J. WILMES

1st Sect, 1st Plt, G Btry, 29th  
Artillery SLT

SGT H. W. EPPERSON

*R. P. Whalen for*  
 R. P. WHALEN  
 Lieutenant Colonel  
 Commanding

DISTRIBUTION: Special

H&S Co  
 Co A  
 Co B  
 Co C  
 Co D  
 3rd Plt (+), Co A, 1st ATBn  
 1st Plt, Co C, 1st MTBn  
 2nd Plt, Co B, 1st SPBn  
 1st Sect, 1st Plt, G Btry, 29th Arty SLT  
 5th Mar

SECRET

PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- ✓ Tab A 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 1-68.
- ✓ Tab B 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Operation Plan 2-68.

*File in  
C-1000*

4-1

ENCLOSURE (1)

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1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
Phu Loc, RVN  
22 January 1968

Operation Plan 2-68

Ref: (a) Maps, RVN, 1:50,000; Series L7014, Sheets 6541 I,  
6541 II, 6541 III, 6541 IV, 6641 IV

(b) 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 5-68

Time Zone: H

Task Organization: Annex A (Task Organization)

1. SITUATION.

a. Enemy Forces. No perceptible change in strength or disposition, however, the enemy is expected to concentrate his efforts against four major objectives within the TAOR. These are from south to north; the Lang Co bridge, Phu Ghia Fire Base, Phu Loc and the Song Troi bridge.

b. Friendly Forces.

(1) 5th Marines conducts operations within Regimental TAOR to contact and destroy threatening enemy forces in assigned Area of Operation by engaging and attacking approaching enemy columns in decisive combat and by fire from designated holding positions.

(2) 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines conducts operations in area adjacent to battalion TAOR to the northwest by establishing a mobile holding position south of Song Truoi bridge and a two company maneuver force at Cao-Doi Peninsula.

(3) 7th Marine Regiment conducts operations to the south of the battalion TAOR.

(4) CAC H platoons conduct activities within assigned Areas of Operation in coordination with battalion forces operating therein. CAPs H 5 and 6 respectively to revert to OPCON of company operating in their area on order.

(5) RF and PF units provide security for selected bridges within the battalion Area of Operation.

(6) Artillery.

(a) Delta Battery, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines direct support.

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TAS TO ENCLOSURE (1)

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(b) Lima Battery, 4th Battalion, 11th Marines general support.

(7) Air. 1st Marine Air Wing provides rotary and fixed wing support on request.

(8) Naval Gunfire. As available on request.

c. Attachments. No change

d. Assumptions.

(1) That the enemy intends to initiate a large scale effort in this area just prior to or immediately following the Lunar New Year (Tet).

(2) That the principle targets for such an attack are:

(a) The Lang Co bridge

(b) The Song Truoi bridge

(c) Phu Loc District Headquarters

(d) Phu Ghia Fire Support Base

(e) Phu Loc Battalion Assembly Area

(3) That any of the above not receiving a ground assault can expect to be fixed by fire.

(4) That other friendly US or GVN installations/units within the Area of Operations can expect to be fixed by fire.

2. MISSION. On order deploy forces as directed to contact and destroy threatening enemy forces in assigned AO by engaging and attacking approaching enemy columns in decisive combat and by fire from designated holding positions.

### 3. EXECUTION.

a. Concept. On order, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines commences movement to rapidly consolidate forces to establish units as outlined below. Subordinate units relieve and assume OPCON of CAP H sub-units as directed.

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- (1) Two company maneuver forces vicinity of Phu Loc.
- (2) A company holding position south bank of Lang Co bridge.
- (3) A company holding position Phu Ghia Fire Support Base.
- (4) An integrated holding position at Phu Loc combat base. Upon consolidation, units maneuver/hold as directed to engage and destroy attacking enemy forces.

b. Company B.

- (1) On order immediately commence movement to consolidate positions of subordinate units.
- (2) Be prepared to direct and coordinate their employment against the flanks and rear of the attacking enemy.
- (3) Be prepared to relieve and assume OPCON of CAP H5 on order.
- (4) Be prepared to assume other missions on order.

c. Company A.

- (1) On order immediately commence movement to consolidate position.
- (2) Upon consolidation conduct a forced march to seize and occupy Objective 1.
- (3) Be prepared to relieve and assume OPCON of CAP H6 en route to Objective 1.
- (4) Be prepared to assume other missions as directed.

d. Company D.

- (1) On order consolidate position to hold Phu Ghia Fire Base against attacking enemy.
- (2) Be prepared to assume other missions on order.

e. Company C.

- (1) Establish two platoons vicinity of south bank of Lang Co bridge.

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(2) On order consolidate remaining unit and move immediately to relieve/reinforce platoon defending Lang Co bridge.

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

f. Units located at Battalion Assembly Area.

(1) Defend Battalion Assembly Area against enemy attack.

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

g. Coordinating Instructions.

(1) Execution - On order of Battalion Commander.

(2) Commanders plan maximum use of supporting arms.

(3) Objective 1 vicinity (ZD 112005).

(4) Insure nightly assignment of rally and reassembly points for quick consolidation of unit.

(5) CAPs H5 and H6 will revert to OPCON unit operating in their area at same time order to execute this plan is promulgated.

(6) Make continuing liaison with CAP units within AO to insure smooth transfer of OPCON upon execution.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS. No change

5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS.

a. Command. Battalion Command Post will initially be located at Battalion Assembly Area.

b. Communications. No change. Annex C to Battalion Frag Order 1-68 except:

(1) Add CAC H TAC Net (Freq. 52.00) call sign Reappoint, Reappoint 5, Reappoint 6, Reappoint 9 as appropriate.

(2) CAP H5 and 6 will come up on TAC Net of company assuming OPCON when order to execute is received.

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(3) Companies utilize pyrotechnic signal as supplementary signal to reassemble.

*R. P. Whalen for*  
R. P. WHALEN  
Lieutenant Colonel  
Commanding

ANNEXES:

A. Task Organization

DISTRIBUTION: Special

H&S Co  
Co A  
Co B  
Co C  
Co D

OFFICIAL:

*L. A. Wunderlich for*  
L. A. WUNDERLICH  
Major, USMC  
S-3