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0059-68

3 8 HEADQUARTERS  
1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

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3/LAW/wre  
5750  
1 March 1968

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 1-29 February 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. H. Thompson*  
R. H. THOMPSON  
Major USMC  
Commanding

DOWN GRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS  
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SECURITY INFORMATION  
DECLASSIFIED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS  
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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY  
1 February 1968 to 29 February 1968

INDEX

PART I ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

PART II NARRATIVE SUMMARY

PART III SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

PART IV SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

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PART IORGANIZATIONAL DATA

<u>1. Designation</u>	<u>COMMANDER</u>
1st Battalion, 5th Marines	LTCOL R. P. WHALEN 1 February 1968
	MAJ P. A. WILSON Acting 1-2 February 1968
	MAJ R. H. THOMPSON 2-29 February 1968
H&S Company	CAPT E. B. BURROW 1-29 February
Company A	1STLT F. P. WILBOURNE III 1-12 February 1968
	CAPT J. J. BOWE 12-13 February 1968
	2NDLT D. U. SHERRIN 13-16 February 1968
	2NDLT P. D. POLK 16-26 February 1968
	CAPT R. C. RICH 26-29 February 1968
Company B	CAPT F. JENNINGS JR. 1-29 February 1968
Company C	1STLT S. A. NELSON 1-29 February 1968
Company D	CAPT M. C. HARRINGTON 1-29 February 1968

ATTACHED UNITS

Det, Btry D, 2ndBn, 11thMar	1STLT S. HOLMES 1-21 February 1968
	1STLT J. W. OELSNER 22-29 February 1968

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Det, 3rd Plt(Rein), Co A, 1stATBn	2NDLT B. C. MORTON 1-12 February 1968
Det, 1st Plt, Co B, 1stEngrBn	1STLT J. D. BRUNE 1-12 February 1968
Det, 2nd Plt, Co B, 1stSPBn	1STLT R. J. WILMES 1-12 February 1968
Det, 1stSect, 1st Plt, G Btry 29th Arty SLT	Sgt H. W. EPPERSON 1-12 February 1968
Det, 1st Plt, Co C 1stMotors	CPL D. A. ROLOFF 1-12 February 1968
Det, 13th IIT	CAPT L. R. DEANGELIS 1-12 February 1968
	S/SGT T. F. SINGLEY 13-29 February 1968
Det, Scout Sniper Plt	CPL G. R. FILYOW 1-29 February 1968

## 2. Locations.

1-11 February 1968 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein)  
Assombly Area located at Phu Loc, RVN (ZC 076985)

12-29 February 1968 1st Battalion, 5th Marinos (-) (Rein)  
participated in Operation "HUE CITY."

12-29 February 1968 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Rear located  
at Phu Bai, RVN. (YD 879139)

## 3. Staff Officers.

Executive Officer	MAJ P. A. WILSON 1-29 February 1968
S-1 Officer/Adjutant	1STLT W. P. VACCA 1-29 February 1968
Assistant S-1 Officer/Adjutant	1STLT T. E. HOWARD 1-29 February 1968

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S-2 Officer	1STLT G. L. ALVAREZ 1-29 February 1968
S-3 Officer	MAJ L. A. WUNDERLICH 1-29 February 1968
S-4 Officer	1STLT E. A. RAYMOND 1-29 February 1968
S-5 Officer	CAPT D. D. DROBNY 1-29 February 1968
Medical Officer	LT R. E. WORLEY (USNR) 1-29 February 1968
Supply Officer	1STLT L. MALL 1-29 February 1968
Communications Officer	1STLT L. E. FRIEDHAM JR. 1-29 February 1968
Motor Transport Officer	1STLT A. DESCHAMPS 1-29 February 1968
Assistant Adjutant/Legal Officer	1STLT R. C. YOUNG 1-29 February 1968
Chaplain	LT C. K. PARKER (USNR) 1-29 February 1968
Air Liaison Officer	MAJ R. E. JACOBS 1-18 February 1968
	1STLT C. A. CHASE 19-29 February 1968

4. Average Monthly Strength.

USMC		USN	
<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>
38	1175	3	51

ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY1. PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION

a. Strength. The battalion strength at the beginning of the month was 42 officers and 1228 enlisted. By mid-month the strength had dropped to 38 officers and 1132 enlisted, with 7 officers and over 400 enlisted hospitalized. These casualties were due primarily to Operation "HUE CITY" in which the Battalion participated. On 29 February 1968 the Battalion strength was 37 officers and 1249 enlisted, including 5 officers and 400 enlisted hospitalized. Replacements and additions numbered 13 officers and 382 enlisted.

b. Discipline, Law and Legal. During the month of February there were no courts-martial processed. One Article 32 Investigation was conducted and three investigations completed.

c. POW/Detainees. No POW were processed during the month of February.

d. Morale and Personal Services. Morale throughout the Battalion remained commendably high despite casualties suffered during Operation "HUE CITY." The men and officers of this Battalion who were actively committed to the Battle for Hue returned with that sense of pride and accomplishment reminiscent of past victories and achievements of this Battalion.

e. Postal. Postal service for personnel of the Battalion deteriorated during the month of February due to lack of qualified personnel for the Battalion Mail Room. This was caused by one postal clerk being wounded in action and medically evacuated and the other being on special leave.

A new postal clerk was given instructions and placed on the job training as a postal clerk. While on Operation "HUE CITY" mail was delivered regularly to personnel in the field.

f. Awards. After movement of the Battalion Rear to Phu Bai, the Regimental Commander presented one Silver Star and three Bronze Star Awards to members of this command at a battalion formation.

g. Interior Management. On 12 February 1968 the Battalion S-1 moved from Phu Loc, RVN to Phu Bai, RVN where it is presently located. The move required one day's time and administration continued with little time lost.

2. ENEMY, WEATHER AND TERRAIN.

a. Enemy.

(1) Activities. A very sharp rise of enemy initiated

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incidents to include platoon/company size engagements characterized enemy efforts early in this reporting period. At 010210H, CAP H5 and the Battalion Assembly Area came under heavy mortar fire. In addition, CAP H5 was assaulted by a ground attack with the enemy utilizing grenadiers, B-40 rocket squads and automatic and semi-automatic weapons gaining control of CAP H5 and Phu Loc village. In the early morning hours, Company A received approximately 15 B-40 rocket rounds along with automatic and semi-automatic weapons fire while set in in its night position. Company B received 45-50 rocket rounds and heavy small arms fire while at Phu Loc District Headquarters on 1 February. Blocking forces from the Battalion Assembly Area were sent to block enemy movement to the south from Phu Loc with reaction forces moving into Phu Loc to regain CAP H5. All met with stiff resistance from the enemy in the village upon securing CAP H5. The Battalion Assembly Area and units in the Phu Loc vicinity received sporadic mortar fire throughout the day.

Enemy resistance remained scattered throughout 2 February. Units near and within Phu Loc and the Battalion Assembly Area continued to receive sporadic mortar fire. During the early afternoon of 3 February Company D came under heavy fire from an estimated reinforced VC/NVA company on high ground while moving west along the MSR at (ZD 197009). After fighting stiff resistance, Company D maneuvered out of the area prior to the ambush being tightened. On 4 February Company A and Company B moved toward the area from the west and made contact with remnants of approximately 200 hard corps VC that had fled south upon the approach of friendly troops. Company B pursued the fleeing enemy as artillery fired blocking fires and a HULE gunship checked the area. Company D on the east met with stiff resistance at Thua Luu from an estimated company size enemy force holding high ground to both flanks at (ZD 198010), (ZD 205007) and (ZD 206011). The enemy could be heard using whistles to maneuver elements to cut off withdrawal routes as they used snipers, mortars and Claymore type mines against friendly lead elements. Company D maneuvered to a blocking position outside the ambush area supported by Naval Gunfire and artillery. Intelligence reports revealed the enemy moved out of the area to the south under the cover of darkness utilizing the villagers to carry their wounded.

On 7 February Company B came in frequent contact with the enemy during the day from (YD 967057), (YD 967053) and (YD 965057) as Company B participated in a battalion size operation in the vicinity of the Truoi River Bridge. The enemy utilized 60mm mortars, rockets, automatic and semi-automatic weapons from dug-in and entrenched positions. Enemy fire was suppressed

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by return fire, artillery and air support as the company continued the attack. On 9 February a two-company reconnaissance in the area southeast of the Battalion Assembly Area received mortar fire from (ZC 102977). 3rd Platoon, Company A in the area of the mortar fire maneuvered toward it and received small arms, rocket and mortar fire. A search of the area resulted in numerous blood trails being found in the vicinity of earlier prop fires. A large amount of communications wire was found in the immediate area indicating an extensive land line communication network. Further search revealed the enemy apparently fled south over the ridgeline.

During the reporting period the enemy continued to set ambushes, mines and booby traps along the MSR. On 4 February a bridge was found destroyed at (ZD 129012) and three anti-vehicular mines were found buried one-half inch below the dirt where the road had been damaged at (ZD 118016), (ZD 122066) and (ZD 125013). On 5 February 40 to 50 pounds of TNT were command-detonated along the side of the road at (AU 805008) as Company D moved along the MSR. On 6 February a Mine Sweep Team was ambushed by small arms and rocket fire from either side of the road at (ZC 081993) and (ZC 084992). The unit observed the enemy emplacement and TNT charges not yet set above the road in front of the sweep. Company D also found one anti-tank mine in the road at (AT 845998) containing approximately 35 pounds of TNT. On February bridges at (AT 910948), (AT 906951) and (AT 931921) were reported blown or damaged. On 7 February a mine clearing unit detonated one anti-tank mine at (ZC 081992). Ten other such mines were cleared from the area during the day. All were booby-trapped and buried approximately six to twelve inches below the surface of the earth. On the same day a Claymore type mine and a concussion grenade were found as booby traps along the road in the same area. Another mine sweep reported that during the night of 8-9 February the VC blew a bridge at (AT 910948) with 8 charges of approximately 50 pounds TNT each.

(2) Enemy Movements and Locations. Enemy identifications and locations are believed to be the same as reported last month during the early reporting period of this month. Information gained from POW interrogations and captured documents indicated that elements of the following units had displaced to the vicinity of Hué City prior to 8 February.

- (a) 11th and 12th Companies of the 804th MFBn
- (b) 802nd MFBn
- (c) C-2 and C-3 companies (probably of the 1st Bn, 4th NVA Regt)
- (d) Headquarters, 4th NVA Regt
- (e) K4B MFBn

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Later reports indicated that the 802nd and 804th Battalions would infiltrate back to their home base by way of (YD 780250), (YD 780230), (YD 920220) and (YD 920200) and cross over in the vicinity of the Truoi River south of the mountains.

b. Weather. The weather during the reporting period was cool and moist with frequent showers as well as heavy fog and low overcast during most of the reporting period. Air support was hampered considerably due to the low visibility caused by the heavy fog and low cloud cover.

c. Terrain. No change.

### 3. ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS

a. Organization. The organization of the battalion remained substantially the same through 11 February. At 120930H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines became OPCON to 1st Marines for participation in Operation "HUE CITY" which continued throughout the remainder of the month. From 11 through 13 February the Battalion Rear displaced from Phu Loc, RVN to Phu Bai, RVN. The following units were chopped from 1st Battalion, 5th Marines upon completion of the Battalion's displacement:

- (1) 3rd Plt(Rein), Co A, 1st ATBn
- (2) 1st Plt, Co C, 1stMotors
- (3) 1st Plt, Co B, 1stEngrBn
- (4) 2nd Plt, Co B, 1stSPBn
- (5) 1st Sect, 1st Plt, G Btry, 29th Arty SLT

Company E, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines was OPCON to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines from 070930H to 081730H.

b. Operations.

(1) During the month the Battalion conducted a battalion operation along Bach Ma Road to Phu Loc Village and along Route 1, with another unit moving west from Phu Gia Fire Base and linking up with units moving east from 040745H to 061300H February 1968.

(2) The Battalion conducted a Search and Destroy operation from 071035H to 081730H in the vicinity of the Truoi River Bridge.

(3) The Battalion conducted numerous small unit operations and activities on a daily basis during the month of February as outlined below:

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(a) Day activities for the month totalled 42 Fire Team activities, 76 Squad activities, 18 Platoon activities and 3 Company operations.

(b) Night activities totalled 61 Fire Team activities, 128 Squad Activities, 7 Platoon activities and 3 Company operations.

c. Supporting Arms.

(1) Air. During the month through 11 February, air performed a major role in the defense of the Battalion Assembly Area and in keeping that portion of Highway 1 that lies within the Battalion AO open for convoy traffic. Twenty-three flights of TACA/AO teams were used to help keep the TAOR under aerial surveillance and to control flights of fixed wing aircraft. Two flareships were utilized to provide illumination.

(2) Artillery. From the first through the eleventh of February Delta Battery, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines was in direct support of 1st Battalion, 5th Marines with Lima Battery, 4th Battalion, 11th Marines providing reinforcing fires with 2 guns for units at the Battalion Assembly Area and 2 guns providing direct support for Companies C and D at the Phu Gia Fire Base.

In addition, Echo Battery, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines provided direct support for a small operation at the Truoi River Bridge for 1st Battalion, 5th Marines and also counter-mortar support for the Battalion Assembly Area.

Most fire missions were fired in support of 2 short Battalion(-) operations, one by the Truoi River Bridge and one east along Route 1, and one two-company operation in the canopy to the southeast of the Battalion Assembly Area. Other missions fired were mostly counter-mortar. There were no confirmed results for this period.

H&Is were fired in the TAOR against avenues of approach and egress, intelligence targets and primarily against possible mortar and rocket positions.

4. TRAINING

a. From 1 through 11 February the Battalion was deployed necessitating decentralized training on the Squad and Platoon level. With the battalion actively committed to Operation "HUE CITY" for the remainder of the month, training was limited to that given replacement personnel.

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b. The Battalion continued to utilize schools provided by higher headquarters. During the month, 12 members of the battalion attended schools in DaNang and Okinawa.

## 5. LOGISTICS

### a. Supply.

(1) With the move to Phu Bai, RVN on 13 February, the Battalion Supply has been assigned a complete Butler building in which to store perishable and T/E items as well as to maintain the Battalion Armory. Concentration of work was placed on supporting members of the Battalion in Huo during the operation. A forward logistics point was established enabling smoother resupply efforts for the Battalion. An inventory of all items has been initiated to enable stock records to reflect more accurately the amount of equipment on hand.

b. Medical/Dental. With the heavy enemy activity at Phu Loc and the Battalion's displacement to Phu Bai for participation in Operation "HUE CITY," there were no MED CAPs or DENT CAPs held. There were no cases of malaria or Venereal Disease reported for the month.

6. CIVIL AFFAIRS Civil affairs activities were not conducted for the month of February due to intense operational commitments.

7. PSYCHOLOGICAL OPERATIONS Psy Ops activities were also nullified during the month due to the operational commitments of the Battalion.

8. COMPTROLLERS ACTIVITIES The month was opened with \$15,093.6 and closed with \$7,981.23. A total of \$50,000.00 was allocated to the battalion for the purchase of replacement equipment indigenous to the Battalion. A total of \$57,112.39 was utilized to purchase such items as individual equipment, jungle clothing, repair parts for weapons, gas masks and flak jackets. A total of 400 replacement personnel required issuance of equipment.

## 9. COMMUNICATIONS.

a. During the month of February, communications facilities were continuously improved. Overhead telephone cables were restrung after damage incurred under mortar attacks.

Considerable interference from random friendly stations continued to exist due to atmospheric conditions.

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

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channel.

10. SIGNIFICANT CASUALTIES INFILCTED OR SUSTAINED; VC CAPTUREDa. Friendly Casualties (USMC).

WIAE	112
WIANE	104
KIA	26
DOW	0
NBC	0

b. Enemy Casualties.

KIA confirmed	178
POW	0
Detainees	2

11. SIGNIFICANT ENEMY ORDNANCE CAPTURED DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 1968a. Weapons captured.

7 AK-47, Type 56, 7.62mm Soviet Assault Rifles, serial numbers 10065322, 1271, 8559, 9474932, 10054206, 1107519, and 10082678  
 1 ChiCom Light Machine Gun, serial number 908783  
 2 U.S. Carbines, M1 serial numbers 908783 and 6290017  
 1 M-79 Grenade Launcher

b. Ordnance Captured.

2 RPG-2 rocket launchers, serial numbers 102133 (other rocket launcher destroyed in field)  
 1 RPG-7 rocket launcher sight, serial number N15254

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

36 ChiCom grenades  
 4 M26 grenades  
 4 Flaked TNT concussion grenades  
 10 Demolition packs  
 20  $\frac{1}{4}$ -pound blocks of TNT  
 1 Stick of C4  
 50 pounds of TNT  
 1 AT mine with 35 pounds of TNT

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1 DH7 Claymore type mine  
 14 Anti-vehicular U.S. type 10-inch mines  
 10 60mm mortar rounds  
 18 B40 (RPG-2) rocket rounds  
 690 7.62mm short rounds

**13. SIGNIFICANT ENEMY EQUIPMENT CAPTURED DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 1968**

15 miscellaneous packs  
 4 NVA gas masks  
 1 cartridge belt  
 1 rain cape  
 9 AK-47 magazines  
 2 VC flags  
 1 M16 bipod  
 1 U.S. bayonet with scabbard  
 1 U.S. canteen with cover  
 2 rolls communications wire  
 3 cylindrical machine gun drums (7.62mm)  
 1 D-71 radio battery  
 310 pounds rice  
 Miscellaneous clothing and cooking utensils

**14. SIGNIFICANT ENEMY CAVES, TUNNELS, BUILDINGS AND FORTIFICATIONS CAPTURED/DISCOVERED DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 1968**

2 entrenchments	AU 965057
1 fighting hole	AU 963043
2 possible base areas	ZC 011964, ZC 179974
1 triangular defense position	ZC 013968, ZC 014966, ZC 013965
Mortar sites	ZC 170970, ZC 160989, ZC 084991 ZC 163963
Fighting holes and Bunkers	ZC 159987
Harboring sites	AU 857007
1 Secondary explosion	ZC 092972

ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART IIISEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

(1) 010210H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Command Post at (ZC 076985) and CAP H5 at (ZD 086008) came under heavy mortar attack. CAP H5 was also hit with rockets and ground forces. An estimated 80 82mm mortar rounds were received throughout the attack. Counter-mortar fire was fired on suspected enemy positions at (ZC 093981), (ZC 063973), (ZC 060993) and (ZC 103989). A total of 200 rounds 81mm HE and 100 rounds 105mm HE were fired. A relief force from Phu Loc District Headquarters was dispatched towards CAP H5 at 010630H. A second relief force was dispatched from the Battalion Assembly Area towards CAP H6. And Company A was dispatched to relieve Phu Loc. Cumulative results: 1 USMC KIA, 10 USMC WIAE. The counter-mortar radar unit and searchlight at the Battalion Assembly Area were knocked out, communications were disrupted but partially restored and an undetermined amount of tentage damage was incurred.

(2) 010800H to 011900H Company B Squad Patrol at (ZD 079008) came under heavy automatic weapons and sporadic 60mm mortar fire from an undetermined number of VC at (ZD 077003) and (ZD 083010). Squad fell back under command of platoon guide and set up defensive blocking position to await remainder of company which was sweeping from the east. At 1430H Squad observed enemy attempting to withdraw via boats at (ZD 084007). A direct hit from artillery mission called by squad was observed to strike 35-40 VC massed on boats. 7 VC attempting to maneuver to squad's north flank were killed by small arms fire from Squad. Another 12 VC were killed and 1 60mm mortar destroyed by artillery mission called by squad. At 1600H 3 Vietnamese National Policemen approached squad and informed them that VC remaining to squad's east were intent upon assaulting squad at nightfall. With this, squad and National Policemen withdrew to west and subsequently effected evacuation by boat via waterfront hamlet of Gia Luong (ZD 078013). At 1645H squad was picked up by US Navy Junk Force Patrol and evacuated to the Junk Force Patrol Base at (ZD 095090). Marines were flown to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area on the afternoon of 4 February 1968. Cumulative results: 3 USMC KIA, 4 USMC WIAE, 54 VC KIA confirmed and 1 60mm mortar destroyed.

(3) 010915H to 011600H At 010907H word was received at the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area that CAP H5 at (ZD 087008) was being overrun by NVA. At 0915H the Commanding Officer 1st Battalion, 5th Marines with an H&S Company Platoon(+) reaction force departed 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly

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Area for CAP H5. 200 meters north of the Battalion Assembly Area, the reaction force received 6 rounds 82mm mortar fire wounding, among others, the Battalion Commander. A second reaction platoon was dispatched to relieve/reinforce the first and to evacuate casualties to the Battalion Aid Station. Upon effecting medevacs, remaining units continued to advance and came under heavy small arms and rocket fire with intermittent 82mm mortar fire. Unit was unable to advance at this time. A third reaction platoon was then dispatched. All units were consolidated and under covering fire of 100 rounds 81mm HE, a blocking position was established at (ZC 084991) to prevent enemy egress from Phu Loc. An enemy force of approximately 150 NVA was observed at (ZC 084994) moving to the southeast. An 81mm mortar mission of 50 rounds HE was directed on this force with unknown results. Dangerously short of ammunition and without further enemy sightings or contact, unit returned to Battalion Assembly Area at 011600H. Results: 8 USMC KIA, 25 USMC WIAE, 21 USMC WIANE, 11 VC KIA confirmed; 1 M-79 grenade launcher, 1 cartridge belt, 2 ChiCom grenades and 1 rain cape captured.

(4) 011620H At 010630H while at Phu Loc District Headquarters (ZD 097006), Company B was dispatched to recapture CAP H5. At 011600H Company B met with heavy opposition from enemy receiving 45-50 B-40 rocket rounds and heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire while en route to Phu Loc. At approximately 1620H Company B accomplished mission by gaining control of and occupying Phu Loc and CAP H5. Positions were consolidated, resupply was received and medevacs were effected. Results: 5 USMC KIA, 8 USMC WIAE, 5 USMC WIANE, 25 VC KIA confirmed; 1 AK-47, serial number unknown, 16 B-40 rocket rounds, 2 B-40 rocket launchers, 1 M-1 carbine, serial numbers unknown, 10 demolition packs, 2 ChiCom grenades, 15 miscellaneous packs, 400 rounds 7.62mm for AK-47 captured.

(5) 020700H Company A Platoon Command Post at (ZD 092000) received 15 B-40 rocket rounds, and approximately 1000 rounds semi-automatic and automatic small arms fire from (ZC 088999). Platoon returned fire with 1800-2000 rounds small arms fire, 12 M-79 rounds, 4 LAWs. Maneuvered on enemy who had broken contact. Search of area revealed 2 NVA KIA confirmed. Results: 6 USMC WIAE, 9 USMC WIANE, 2 NVA KIA confirmed and 8 ChiCom grenades captured.

(6) 020700H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area at (ZC 076985) received approximately 100 rounds 82mm mortar fire from (ZC 090965) and (ZC 102982). Counter-mortar fired consisted of 36 rounds 105mm HE and 44 rounds 81mm HE. Enemy

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fire ceased at 020720H. Negative casualties or damage incurred.

(7) 020840H Commanding Officer, 5th Marines arrived at 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area and departed at 020905H.

(8) 020840H to 021400H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area at (ZC 076985) received approximately 42 rounds sporadic 82mm mortar fire throughout a five and one-half hour period. Counter-mortar fires were conducted on enemy positions at (ZC 054990) to (ZC 069460), (ZC 083970) to (ZC 110990) and (ZC 088998). Results: 1 USMC WIAE.

(9) 020845H Acting Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines and S-2 Officer departed Battalion Assembly Area to conduct aerial reconnaissance of area and returned at 020905H.

(10) 020900H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area at (ZC 076985) received 5-10 rounds 82mm mortar fire from (ZC 090965). Returned 30 rounds 81mm HE counter-mortar fire. Results: 1 USMC WIAE.

(11) 021030H Company B at (ZC 085997), while moving to relieve reinforce Company A Platoon (See Significant Event 020700H). received heavy automatic and semi-automatic weapons fire and intermittent B-40 rocket and 82mm mortar fire from an estimated NVA company at (ZC 086994). Company B returned 800-1000 rounds small arms fire, 24 rounds 60mm HE, 8 LAWs and called for and received 81mm mortar mission of 42 rounds HE. Forces were consolidated and defensive positions were established. Results: 1 USMC WIAE and 12 VC KIA confirmed.

(12) 021345H Personnel at 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area at (ZC 076985) observed flash and heard rounds leave tube of enemy mortar at (ZC 092972). Fired 12 rounds 105mm WP and 26 rounds 105mm HE observing secondary explosion. Enemy fire ceased.

(13) 021415H As helicopters were effecting resupply mission at 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Landing Zone 441, 5-10 rounds 82mm mortar fire were received from (ZC 092973). 1 round struck bunker where 2 Marines were awaiting helicopter transportation. HUE gunships fired rockets and machine gun fire on enemy position. Mortar fire ceased. Results: 2 USMC WIAE.

(14) 021600H Company B arrived at 1st Battalion, 5th Marines

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Assembly Area for resupply and briefing and departed at 021800H.

(15) 021615H Major R. H. THOMPSON arrived at the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area assuming command of the Battalion.

(16) 021630H 1st Platoon, Company C and Commanding Officer, Company C arrived at the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area to bolster the defense of the Assembly Area and to provide a reactionary force if necessary.

(17) 021700H Company A arrived 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area for resupply and departed at 021750H.

(18) 021945H Company A at (ZC 085002), while en route to night position, received 1 short 105mm HE round fired as prep fire. Fire was checked. Results: 1 USMC WIAE and 1 USMC WIANE.

(19) 030745H Company B, while conducting detailed search of area at (ZD 074007), found 3 freshly dug graves, 1 roll of communications wire, miscellaneous clothing and medical supplies. Graves produced 3 VC KIA, ages 25 to 30, wearing shorts. All three had died from multiple gunshot and fragmentation wounds. Results: 3 VC KIA confirmed.

(20) 030915H Company B at (ZC 082994) observed 1 Vietnamese male emerge from hut and then flee upon seeing Marines. When man failed to halt on command, Marines fired 10 rounds small arms fire killing man. Man was 28 to 30 years old and had a ChiCom grenade in his possession. Results: 1 VC KIA confirmed.

(21) 031125H Company D(--) commenced reconnaissance in force along MSR to west of Company D position at (AT 833998).

(22) 031125H Company A, while on detailed "hole-hunting" mission at (ZD 089005), found one US carbine, serial number 6290017, 20 one-quarter pound blocks of TNT, 1 stick of C4, 1 ChiCom grenade, 3 M-26 grenades, 1 M-16 bayonet with scabbard, 4 bamboo-wrapped packets of cooked rice and 1 US canteen with cover. All explosive items were destroyed by engineers. Remainder was forwarded to 5th Marines S-2.

(23) 031230H Company D moving west on road at (ZD 208011) received 15-20 mixed 60mm and 82mm mortar rounds, 12 rocket rounds, 4 75mm recoilless rifle rounds and 1800-2000 rounds

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small arms fire from an estimated reinforced NVA/VC company from (ZD 197009). Company D returned 4500-5000 rounds small arms fire, 100 M-79 rounds, 32 LAAs and 46 rounds 60mm HE. When enemy strength and well-fortified positions became apparent, Company D requested and received permission to withdraw to Company Assembly Area at (AT 833998). Results: 10 USMC WIAE, 4 USMC WIAME and 12 VC KIA confirmed.

(24) 031550H 2nd Platoon, Company A, while conducting search of village at (ZC 094994), received 10-15 rounds small arms fire, 3 rocket rounds and 12 60mm mortar rounds from (ZC 098980). Platoon returned 500 rounds small arms fire, 20 M-79 rounds. Enemy broke contact. As platoon moved forward to (ZC 093989), 2 to 3 VC were observed running south. Called for and received artillery mission of 20 rounds 105mm HE and HULE gunships. Enemy mortar was silenced. Results: 4 USMC WIAE, 7 USMC WIAME and 1 NVA KIA confirmed.

(25) 031950H Company B machine gunner, while on night defensive position at (ZC 084991), rolled over and tripped either a land mine or a booby-trapped grenade. Area was searched at first light with negative additional results. Results: 1 USMC KIA and 2 USMC WIAE.

(26) 040200H Company B Fire Team LP at (ZC 084990) received 1 incoming grenade. Fire Team pulled back and a second LP was positioned 100 meters east of LP site. Results: 3 USMC WIAE, and 1 USMC WIAME.

(27) 040745H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) departed 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area to commence Search and Destroy operation in north-central portion of the TAOR in accordance with 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 2-68. See Tab A to Enclosure (1).

(28) 041300H Lead elements 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) found 3 pressure-detonated anti-vehicular mines on road at (ZD 118016), (ZD 122066) and (ZD 125013). Mines were of US make buried one-half inch below deck where road had been damaged and repaired. Engineers disarmed and destroyed mines.

(29) 041330H Company A at (ZD 135013) and Company B at (ZD 135007) received heavy automatic and semi-automatic small arms fire and sporadic 82mm mortar fire from an estimated platoon sized enemy force at (ZD 141008). Artillery mission of 28 rounds 105mm HE was called on enemy position. Enemy broke

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contact to the south. Two platoons, Company B pursued. While in pursuit, Company B units burned hut containing small arms ammunition and 300 pounds of rice which villagers admitted was stored for VC. Two Vietnamese males, ages 25-30 with pack strap marks on shoulders were apprehended and forwarded to 5th Marines S-2. Search of area revealed 2 VC KIA confirmed, 2 Soviet AK-47 assault rifles, serial numbers 10054206 and 9474932, and 3 30-round banana magazines. Results: 2 USMC KIA, 4 USMC WIAE, 17 USMC WIAME and 2 VC KIA confirmed.

(30) 041545H Company D at (ZD 207008), while advancing from blocking position, received 200-250 rounds small arms fire and 25-30 82mm mortar rounds from an estimated enemy company positioned at (ZD 198010), (ZD 205007) and (ZD 206011). Company D fell back to blocking position and returned 20 rounds 60mm HE, 6000-7000 rounds small arms fire. Artillery mission called for and received consisting of 120 rounds 155mm HE, 150 rounds 81mm HE and 40 rounds 5-inch Naval Gunfire. Results: 3 USMC WIAE, 4 USMC WIAME and 11 VC KIA confirmed.

(31) 041555H CAP H6 at (ZD 139009) received 100-150 rounds small arms fire from (ZD 095004). Called for and received artillery mission of 10 rounds 105mm HE. Enemy fire ceased. Negative casualties incurred.

(32) 041620H Point Squad, Company A, while crossing stream at (ZC 154997), received 4 B-40 rocket rounds, 250-300 rounds small arms fire, 5 60mm mortar rounds and 8 grenades from 8-12 VC ambush on opposite bank of stream. Squad returned 500 rounds small arms fire, 8-10 M-79 rounds and called for and received artillery mission of 15 rounds 105mm HE. Squad rejoined company and continued to night position. Results: 1 USMC WIAE and 2 USMC WIAME.

(33) 050800H Member of Company C Squad Ambush at (AT 889951) tripped booby trap set by squad during ambush mission. Called for and received medevac. Results: 1 USMC WIAE.

(34) 051005H Company B at (ZC 154995) received 6 rounds 82mm mortar fire from (ZC 163983). Called for and received artillery mission of 4 rounds 105mm HE and 2 rounds 105mm WP. Results: 1 USMC WIAE.

(35) 051240H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area at (ZC 076985) began receiving sporadic 82mm mortar fire from (ZC 097963). A total of 20-25 rounds were received over a 50

(36) 051245H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines terminated Frag Order 3-68 and promulgated Frag Order 4-68. See Tab 6 to ENCLOSURE (1).

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minute period. Counter-mortar fired consisting of 15 rounds 81mm HE, 10 rounds 105mm HE and 15 rounds 155mm HE. Enemy fire ceased at 051330H. Results: 3 USMC WIAE.

(37) 051400H Company A at (ZD 197010) received 6 rounds 60mm mortar fire and 50 rounds small arms fire from (ZD 199010). Returned 300 rounds small arms fire, 6-8 rounds 60mm HE and called for and received artillery mission of 24 rounds 105mm HE. Results: 2 USMC WIANE.

(38) 051415H Man with Company D at (AU 805008) detonated booby trap believed to have been 40-50 pounds of TNT emplaced in an embankment along road. Called for and received medevac. Results: 1 USMC KIA, 4 USMC WIAE and 1 USMC WIANE.

(39) 051745H 2nd Platoon, Company C OPCON to 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines.

(40) 060645H Company B at (ZD 144010) found 1 dead 30 year old Vietnamese male lying in road with hands tied behind back. VC apparently had killed man earlier. Results: 1 Vietnamese civilian KILLED.

(41) 060805H Mine Sweep Team at (ZC 083993) received 150-200 rounds small arms fire and 1 B-40 rocket round from estimated 10-15 VC at (ZC 081993) and (ZC 084992). Team observed enemy emplaced TNT charges on either side of road 50 meters farther down road. Charges had not yet been set. Security elements returned fire with 300-350 rounds small arms fire, 10-12 M-79 rounds and called for and received 81mm mission of 67 rounds HE. Unit observed 1 VC KIA from M-79 round and good target coverage with 81mm mission. Unit consolidated and returned to Battalion Assembly Area at 060840H. Results: 1 USN KIA, 1 USMC WIAE and 1 VC KIA confirmed.

(42) 060810H Shortly after Mine Sweep Team was ambushed and counter-mortar fire was initiated, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area at (ZC 076985) received 51 rounds 82mm mortar fire from (ZC 095995). Returned counter-mortar fire with 82 rounds 105mm HE and 10 rounds 81mm HE. Enemy fire ceased at 060823H. Results: 1 USMC WIAE and 3 USMC WIANE.

(43) 061115H Company D Fire Team wire security element, while conducting patrol of 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area perimeter wire, found an anti-tank mine containing 35 pounds TNT at (ZC 845998). Engineers destroyed mine in place.

(44) 061215H ARVN personnel at (ZD 085005) turned over captured

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RPG-7B (B-50) rocket launcher sight to S-2 scout with Company B. Sight was found at (ZC 099991) along with 2 VC KIA confirmed, on 4 February 1968. Sight was forwarded to 5th Marines S-2. Results: 2 VC KIA confirmed.

(45) 061300H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) returned to Battalion Assembly Area terminating Search and Destroy operation in accordance with 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 4-68. See Tab C to Enclosure (1).

(46) 070930H Company E, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines OPCON to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines.

(47) 071035H Company E, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines at (YD 966063) observed 2 VC at (YD 968064) and fired 20-25 rounds small arms fire. VC fled to north leaving behind one battery, about the size of an old May battery with D-71 written on its side. Battery was forwarded to 5th Marines S-2.

(48) 071035H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) departed Battalion Assembly Area to commence Search and Destroy operation in vicinity of the Truoi Bridge in accordance with 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 5-68. See Tab D to Enclosure (1).

(49) 071150H Company B at (YD 971057) received heavy small arms automatic weapons and 82mm mortar fire from (YD 967057). Returned 500-600 rounds small arms fire, 8 LAAs, 12-15 M-79 rounds and called for and received artillery mission of 20 rounds 155mm HE. Results: 2 USMC KIA, 1 VC KIA confirmed.

(50) 071345H to 071430H Company B at (YD 968054) received heavy small arms, automatic weapons and B-40 rocket fire from an estimated NVA company. Company B returned 800-1000 rounds small arms fire, 15 M-79 rounds, 8-10 LAAs, 15-20 rounds 60mm mortar fire and called for and received 105mm mission of 6 rounds HE. Results: 3 USMC WIAE, 1 VC KIA confirmed; 2 AK-47 rifles, serial numbers 10082678 and unknown, captured.

(51) 071405H Company B at (ZC 081981), while clearing road, found one DM-7 mine. Mine was disarmed and forwarded to 5th Marines S-2.

(52) 071425H A TD20 tracked vehicle, being utilized by engineers to clear brush along Bach Ma Road at (ZC 082989), struck an anti-tank mine. Search of area revealed a second mine which was destroyed in place. Vehicle was towed to Battalion Assembly Area for repair. Negative casualties incurred.

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(53) 071615H 2nd Platoon, Company B at (YD 967048) received 350-400 rounds automatic weapons fire from two entrenched machine gun positions at (YD 965057). Platoon returned 600-700 rounds small arms fire, 8 M-79 rounds and called for and received artillery mission of 15 rounds 105mm HE. Platoon continued attack upon completion of medevac. Results: 5 USMC WIAE and 8 USMC WIANE.

(54) 071615H Company A at (YD 963043) observed 1 VC exit from fighting position and attempt to flee. Fired 10 rounds small arms fire killing VC. Search of area disclosed 10 60mm mortar rounds and 2 B40 rocket rounds. Ammunition was destroyed in place. Results: 1 VC KIA confirmed.

(55) 071615H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area at (ZC 076985) received 3 rounds 82mm mortar fire from (ZC 101965). Returned 24 rounds 105mm HE and 10 rounds 81mm HE. Enemy fire ceased. Results: 2 USMC WIANE.

(56) 071800H Engineers at (ZC 081992) found 9 U.S. anti-tank mines which were blown in place.

(57) 081730H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) returned to Battalion Assembly Area terminating Search and Destroy operation in accordance with 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 4-68. See Tab C to Enclosure (1).

(58) 090045H Company D Assembly Area at (AT 833997) received 15-20 rounds small arms fire from two VC at (AT 833998). 100 rounds small arms fire were returned. VC fled to the north. Area was searched at first light with negative results. Results: 1 USMC WIAE and 1 USMC WIANE.

(59) 090800H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) commenced S&D operations in accordance with Frag Order 5-68. See Tab D to Enclosure (1).

(60) 090900H Mine Sweep Team at (ZC 083993) observed 2 Vietnamese males running towards a hut. Security elements searched area finding assorted medical supplies which were later forwarded to 5th Marines S-2.

(61) 091010H While advancing in trace of artillery preparation fires at (ZC 099989), Company A received 1 short round wounding 1 Marine and 1 Corpsman. Results: 1 USMC WIAE and 1 USN WIAE.

(62) 091130H Company A at (ZC 099980) observed 6 VC at (ZC 103976). Company A fired 75 round small arms fire and called for and received 81mm mortar mission of 26 rounds HE. Area was searched with negative results.

(63) 091310H 2nd Platoon, Company A at (ZC 102982) received

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(1) 091300H Company A departed 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (Rear) for Phu Bai, 101400H. (61)

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3 rounds 82mm mortar fire and 10-15 rounds small arms fire from (ZC 099970). The 3rd Platoon, Company A was in the general area of mortar fire. The 3rd Platoon, while maneuvering toward the enemy position, received 200-250 rounds small arms fire and automatic weapons fire, 5-6 rocket rounds and 15-20 rounds 82mm mortar fire from (ZC 102977). 3rd Platoon, Company A called for and received artillery mission of 24 rounds 105mm HE and 38 rounds 81mm HE. Units were consolidated, medevacs were effected and the area was searched disclosing numerous blood trails and communication wire. Results: 2 USMC KIA, 4 USMC WIA and 2 USMC WIANE.

(64) 091400H 2nd Platoon, Company C departed from 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, 101400H. (62)

(65) 091805H Company A at (ZC 087986) received 12 rounds 60mm mortar fire from (ZC 096980). Called for and received 24 rounds 81mm HE. Negative casualties sustained. Company A continued toward Battalion Assembly Area. (63) 100000H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (Rear) returned to Battalion Assembly Area terminating S&amp;D operation in accordance with 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 5-68. See Tab D to Enclosure (1).

(67) 092258H 5th Marines Frag Order 12-68 promulgated to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines.

(68) 100730H Marine with Company B at (ZC 082990) grabbed another's rifle to enable second Marine to climb out of ditch. Rifle discharged wounding Marine in stomach. Man was medevaced. An investigating officer was appointed. Results: 1 USMC NBCE.

(69) 100830H Mine Sweep Team, while searching church at (ZC 082995), found 2 AK-47 magazines, 3 cylindrical machine gun magazines, 2 with 100 rounds each, 4 flake TNT concussion grenades, 1 bag of rice and green utilities. All gear was covered with blood. Items were forwarded to 5th Marines S-2. Grenades were later destroyed by engineers.

(70) 100845H Company A departed 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area for Regimental Command Post at Phu Bai.

(71) 101400H 1st Marines assumed OPCON Company A, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines.

(72) 101430H Company A departed 1st Marines Command Post (Rear) at Phu Bai for Hue.

(73) 101715H 2 Platoons, Company B departed 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area for 5th Marines CP arriving 101800H.

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(74) 102338H to 110020H At 102338H Phu Loc District Headquarters began receiving rocket and mortar fire totalling approximately 75 mortar rounds and 15 rocket rounds. Also received 250-300 rounds small arms and .50 caliber fire. As counter-mortar fire was initiated at 102341H, the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area began receiving 82mm mortar fire totalling 48 rounds. Counter-mortar fires included 140 rounds 105mm HE, 12 106mm recoilless rifle rounds and 120 rounds 81mm HE. Flareship was called for and received for District Headquarters. Enemy fire ceased at 110020H. Results: 1 USMC WIAE, 10 USMC WIANE, 1 USN WIANE, and 1 USA WIAE. Counter-mortar radar unit was knocked out and 1 radio jeep was hit.

(75) 102345H 1st Platoon, Company D at (ZD 094013) received 40-50 rounds mixed rocket and 82mm mortar fire and 100-150 rounds small arms fire. Returned 50-75 rounds 81mm mortar fire. Enemy fire ceased. Negative casualties incurred.

(76) 11 February 1968 1st Battalion, 5th Marines rear elements commenced displacement from Phu Loc, RVN to Phu Bai, RVN, via convoy.

(77) 110810H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Command Group and remaining platoon, Company B departed Battalion Assembly Area, arriving at 5th Marines Command Post at 110930H.

(78) 110930H 1st Marines assumed OPCON of 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) (Forward).

(79) 111545H Battalion Command Group and 1st Platoon, Company B departed 5th Marines Command Post arriving at Hue MACV compound (YD 772219) at 111830H.

(80) 12 February 1968 1st Battalion, 5th Marines rear elements continued displacement to Phu Bai, RVN.

(81) 120845H 1st Marines Frag Order 19 was promulgated to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines for Operation "HUE CITY."

(82) 121410H Company D OPCON to 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines.

(83) 121445H 1st Marines Frag Order 20 was promulgated to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines.

(84) 122115H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 6-68 (Operation "HUE CITY") was promulgated.

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(85) 121700H 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Command Group and Companies B and C arrived northern Hué via LCU for participation in Operation "HUE CITY."

(86) 13 February 1968 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) continued to participate in Operation "HUE CITY."

(87) 13 February 1968 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (Rear) completed displacement to Phu Bai, RVN.

(88) 14 February 1968 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) continued to participate in Operation "HUE CITY."

(89) 140800H Company D chopped from 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines.

(90) 15 February 1968 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) continued to participate in Operation "HUE CITY."

(91) 151100H to 151205H Commanding Officer, 5th Marines inspected 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Rear area.

(92) 16 February 1968 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) continued to participate in Operation "HUE CITY."

(93) 17 February 1968 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) continued to participate in Operation "HUE CITY."

(94) 18 February 1968 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) continued to participate in Operation "HUE CITY."

(95) 19 February 1968 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) continued to participate in Operation "HUE CITY."

(96) 20 February 1968 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) continued to participate in Operation "HUE CITY."

(97) 21 February 1968 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) continued to participate in Operation "HUE CITY."

(98) 22 February 1968 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) continued to participate in Operation "HUE CITY."

(99) 221230H Company B chopped from 1st Marines to 5th Marines.

(100) 23 February 1968 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) continued to participate in Operation "HUE CITY."

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(101) 24 February 1968 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) continued to participate in Operation "HUE CITY."

(102) 25 February 1968 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) continued to participate in Operation "HUE CITY."

(103) 26 February 1968 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) continued to participate in Operation "HUE CITY."

(104) 27 February 1968 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) continued to participate in Operation "HUE CITY."

(105) 28 February 1968 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) continued to participate in Operation "HUE CITY."

(106) 29 February 1968 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) continued to participate in Operation "HUE CITY."

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
 Phu Loc, RVN  
 4 February 1968

Frag Order 2-68

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

Time Zone: H

1. SITUATION.a. Enemy.

(1) Interrogation of detainees and intelligence reports indicate enemy has intentions of reoccupying Phu Loc in the early hours of 3 February 1968

b. Friendly.

(1) 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) to conduct attack south along axis of Bach Ma Road, continue search and destroy operations to kill or capture enemy in vicinity of Phu Loc village and District Headquarters. Establish two company saturation ambushes on the periphery of the built-up area.

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

(3) Artillery.

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

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

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

2. MISSION. 1st Battalion, 5th Marines conducts S&D operations sweeping both sides of Bach Ma Road, searching and clearing all built-up areas in the vicinity of Phu Loc. Conduct search and screening of population. Establish two company saturation ambushes. To continue on new mission when directed.

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3. EXECUTION.

a. Concept. Annex A Operation Overlay. At H-Hour on D-Day 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) conducts S&D operation to gain and maintain control of Bach Ma Road and Phu Loc. Upon gaining control of Phu Loc village, establish security for District Headquarters and critical terrain along MSR.

b. Company A(-) (Rein)

Det, H&S Company  
 81 FO Tm  
 FAC Tm  
 Det, Comm Plt  
 Det, Med Plt  
 S-2 Scout  
 Kit Carson Scout (1 Tm)  
 Det, Co B, 1st EngrBn  
 Det, Btry D, 2ndBn, 11thMar

(1) At H-Hour conduct attack on a frontage to secure that portion of village left of road.

(2) Be prepared to establish ambushes as directed.

c. Company B(-) (Rein)

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

(1) At H-Hour conduct attack on a frontage to secure that portion of the village right of and including the road.

(2) Be prepared to establish ambushes as directed.

d. Coordinating Instructions

- (1) H-Hour 0730, D-Day 4 Feb 68
- (2) LOD - Route 1
- (3) LOA and Fire Coordinatio lines - 99 grid line

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(4) Contact from left to right. Company B coordinates movement.

**4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS.**

a. In accordance with Battalion SOP

**5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS.**

a. Command. Battalion Command Post forward and Battalion Assembly Area.

b. Communications. Battalion CEOI and SOP.

*R. H. Thompson*  
R. H. THOMPSON  
Major USMC  
Commanding

Annex A: Operation Overlay

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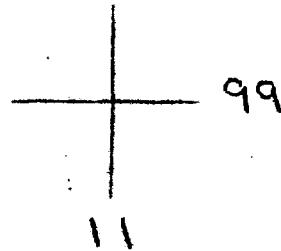
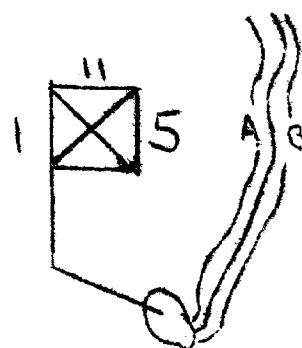
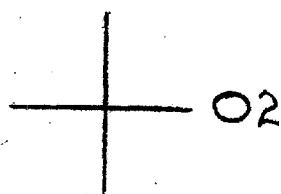
L. A. WUNDERLICH  
Major, USMC  
S-3

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## ANNEX A Operation Overlay to Frag Order 2-68

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

07



R. H. Thompson  
R. H. THOMPSON  
R. H. THOMPSON  
MAJOR USMC  
Commanding

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L. A. WUNDERLICH  
Major, USMC  
S-3

1

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1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
Phu Loc, RVN  
4 February 1968

Frag Order 3-68

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

Time Zone: H

1. SITUATION.a. Enemy.

(1) Intelligence indicates that an estimated 200 VC/NVA forces are operating in the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines AO.

b. Friendly.

(1) 1st Battalion, 5th Marines conducts S&amp;D operation to kill or capture enemy, to capture weapons and to clear critical terrain features along MSR where enemy is believed to be. Link up with Company D(-) and return to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area.

c. Supporting Arms.(1) Air. 1st Marine Air Wing provides rotary and fixed wing aircraft on request.(2) Artillery.

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

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

2. MISSION. 1st Battalion, 5th Marines conducts S&D operation to kill or capture enemy, weapons and to keep MSR in assigned TAOR open.3. EXECUTION.a. Concept. (See Annex A - Operation overlay). Conduct a Battalion(-) (Roin) attack along axis of Highway 1 vicinity (ZD 084008) and (AU 833000) to thoroughly search area and kill1 Tab B to ENCLOSURE (1)  
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or capture enemy in the area, link up with Company D(-).

b. Company A.

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

(1) At H-Hour commence attack in column initially from Phu Loc east vicinity (ZD 085007).

c. Company B.

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

(1) At H-Hour commence attack in van with Company A in trace from Phu Loc east vicinity (ZD 085007).

c. Company D(-).

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

(1) At H-Hour commence attack in a westerly direction from Phu Gia to link up with Companies A and B.

PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- ✓ Tab A 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 2-68
- ✓ Tab B 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 3-68
- ✓ Tab C 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 4-68
- ✓ Tab D 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Frag Order 5-68

4-1

ENCLOSURE (1)

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d. H&S Company (Forward Command Group)

(1) General support

(2) Located behind Company B initially

e. Battalion Reserve.

(1) 2nd Platoon, Company C

(2) Will constitute helo reaction force.

(3) Be prepared to reinforce or assume mission of one of the platoons from Companies A, B, or D.

f. Coordinating Instructions.

(1) H-Hour - 0800H; D-Day - 5Feb68

(2) Line of departure - (ZD 082990)

(3) Fire coordination line - 18 grid line

(4) Road mine sweep from 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Assembly Area to Highway 1 at first light.

(5) Company B cross LOD when uncovered by sweep team

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS.

a. In accordance with Battalion SOP.

5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS.a. Command. Battalion Command Post forward and Battalion Assembly Area.

*R. H. Thompson*  
 R. H. THOMPSON  
 Major USMC  
 Commanding

ANNEX A: Operation Overlay

OFFICIAL
 L. A. WUNDERLICH  
 Major, USMC

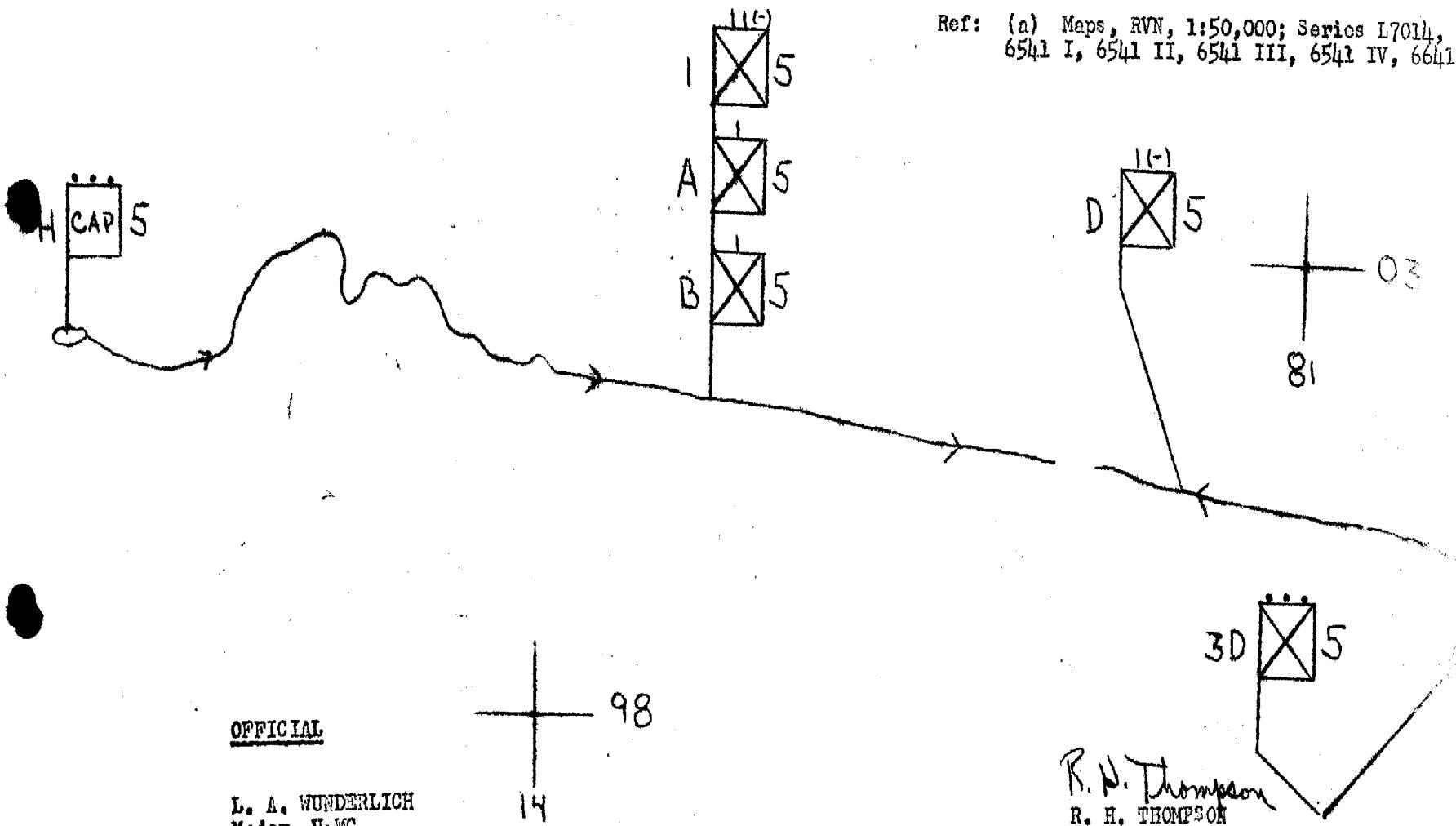
S-3

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Tab B to ENCLOSURE (1)  
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## ANNEX A Operation Overlay to Frag Order 3-68

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

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L. A. WUNDERLICH  
Major, USMC  
S-3

R. H. Thompson  
R. H. THOMPSON  
Major USMC  
Commanding

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1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
Phu Loc, RVN  
6 February 1968

Frag Order 4-68

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

Time Zone: H

1. SITUATION.a. Enemy.

(1) An estimated force of at least platoon size reported in a possible fortified village at (YD 966048) and an estimated NVA company at (YD 966035).

2. MISSION. 1st Battalion, 5th Marines conducts S&D operations to kill or capture VC and weapons, destroy fortifications and seize Objective 10.

3. EXECUTION.

a. Concept. Conduct S&D operation via convoy to vicinity (YD 9804). Move to attack position with two rifle companies to seize Regimental Objective 10 vicinity (YD 966035) utilizing one company (Rein) as a blocking force south and east of Objective 10, one company as Battalion Reserve at Truoi Bridge.

b. Company B.

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

(1) At H-Hour commence attack in zone of action to seize that portion of Regimental Objective 10.

(2) Be prepared to revert to Battalion Reserve on order.

1 Tab C to ENCLOSURE (1)  
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c. Company A.

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

(1) At H-Hour commence attack in zone of action to seize that portion of Regimental Objective 10.

(2) Platoon, Company A establish blocking position vicinity (YD 973033).

(3) Be prepared to revert to Battalion Reserve on order.

d. Company E, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines.

(1) Provide blocking force vicinity (YD 965017)

e. Company D.

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

(1) At H-Hour commence move in trace of Companies A and B.

(2) Be prepared to assume mission of either attacking company.

(3) Be prepared to revert to Battalion Reserve on order.

f. Coordinating Instructions.

(1) D-Day 7 February 1968

(2) Time of attack on arrival at LOD.

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- (3) Depart Battalion Assembly Area 0830H
- (4) Regimental Objective 10 (YD 966035)
- (5) LOD Highway 1
- (6) E/2/5 will furnish FO Liaison Tm to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines CP and will monitor 1/5 Net commencing 070100H

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS.

- a. Basic load of ammunition and sufficient M-79s and LAWs
- b. 2 MCIs per man
- c. 292 antenna

5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS.

- a. Command. Command group initially behind Company B
- b. Communications. No change.

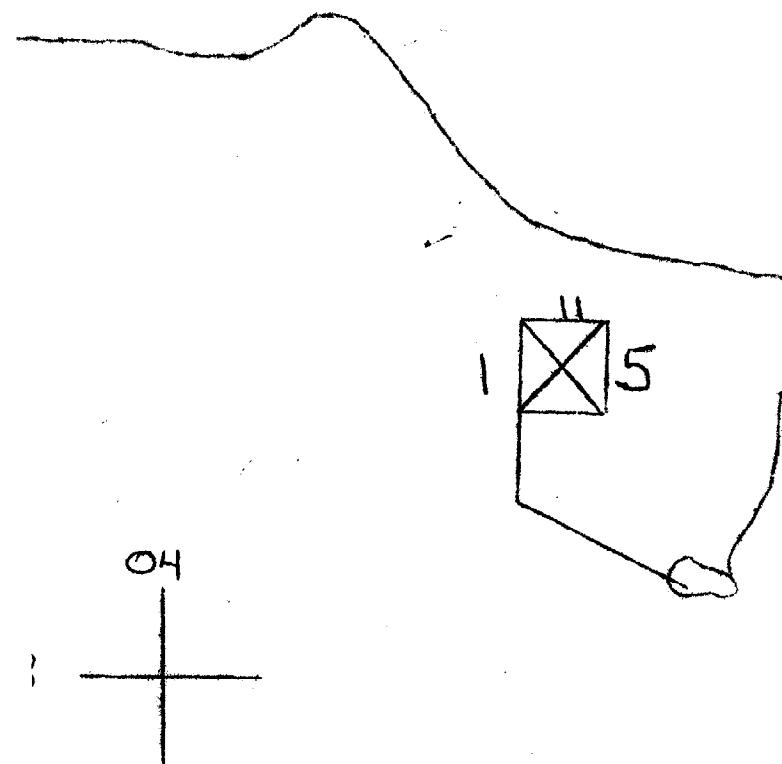
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R. H. THOMPSON  
Major USMC  
Commanding

Annex A: Operation Overlay

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Major, USMC  
S-3

A Operation Overlay to Frag Order 4-68  
(a) Maps, RVN, 1:50,000; Series L7014, Sheets 6541 I, 6541 II,  
6541 III, 6541 IV, 6641 IV



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R. H. T.  
Major  
Commanding

COMINT

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1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
Phu Loc, RVN  
8 February 1968

Frag Order 5-68

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

Time Zone: H

1. SITUATION.

- a. Enemy. See current IOUMS and PERINTREPS.
- b. Friendly. No change.

2. MISSION. 1st Battalion, 5th Marines continues security missions at Phu Gia, Lang Co, provides Seabee construction security Hai Van Pass area, and conducts operations vicinity combat base to recon in force access and egress routes to Phu Loc and avenues of approach from the south.

3. EXECUTION.

a. Concept. Security missions will be accomplished by forces normally assigned. Recon in force in Phu Loc Combat Base area will be conducted by three rifle companies.

b. Company A.

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

(1) Conduct recon in force in assigned zone to cover likely access/egress routes Phu Loc and to destroy enemy therein (See Overlay).

c. Company D(-).

Det, H&S Company  
81 FO Tm  
FAC Tm

1 Tab D to ENCLOSURE (1)  
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Det, Med Plt  
 Det, Comm Plt  
 S-2 Scout  
 Kit Carson Tm  
 Det, Co B, 1stEngrBn  
 Det, Btry D, 2ndBn, 11thMar

(1) Conduct recon in force in assigned zone to cover likely access/egress routes Phu Loc and to destroy enemy therein (See Overlay).

d. Company C(-).

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

(1) Continue security mission Lang Co Bridge. Provide one platoon patrol from combat base to arrive Hai Van Pass 1300. Subsequently, platoon patrol will provide security for Seabees bridge construction unit from Hai Van pass to Lang Co Bridge area.

e. 2nd Platoon, Company D.

(1) Continues security mission Phu Gia area.

f. Battalion Reserve/Reaction Force.

(1) Company B(-) (Rein) and 2nd Platoon, Company C.

(2) Provide Battalion reserve/reaction force in combat base. Be prepared to assume mission as assigned.

g. 3rd Platoon, Company B.

(1) On order, conduct recon/combat patrols south of base camp to periodically establish ambushes, observe valley floor, recon suspected mortar site and destroy enemy encountered. (See Overlay).

h. Coordinating Instructions.

(1) Time of attack, Company A and Company D 0800H.

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- (2) Priority of fires initially to Company A.
- (3) Position reports on the hour.
- (4) Patrol report arrival at check points and position of ambushes.
- (5) Highest priority to capture of prisoners and weapons/equipment.

#### 4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS.

- a. One meal and prescribed load of ammunition. Go light. Resupply can be expected at Combat Base late afternoon.

#### 5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS.

- a. Battalion Command Post will remain COC.

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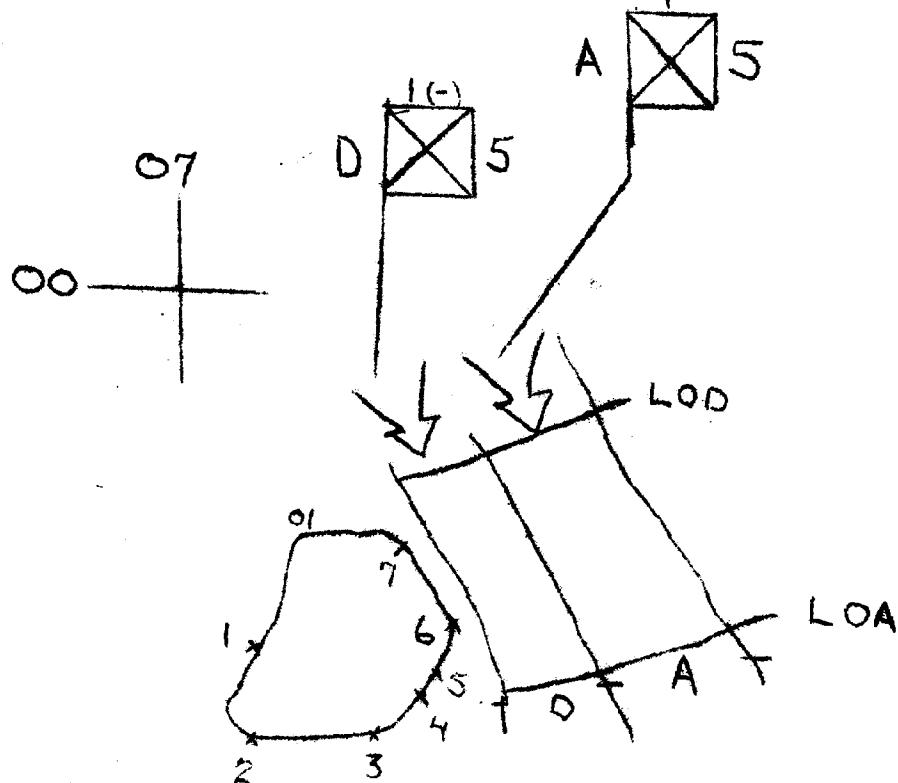
Annex A: Operation Overlay

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ANNEX A: Operation Overlay to Frag Order 5-68 ~  
Ref: (a) Maps, RVN, 1:50,000; Series L7014, Sheets 66541 I,  
6541 II, 6541 III, 6541 IV, 6641 IV



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- (1) Be prepared to be relieved of assigned missions by elements of 1/327, 101st Airborne Division USA on order.
- (2) Upon relief on order displace to 5th Marines Regimental Area Phu Bai utilizing transportation as assigned.
- (3) Be prepared to participate in operations in and near Huo City on order.
- (4) Be prepared to assume other missions on order.

e. Other elements and attachments.

- (1) Be prepared to displace from Phu Loc to Phu Bai on order.
- (2) Support and reinforce rifle companies as directed.

f. Coordinating Instructions.

- (1) H-Hour on order.
- (2) D-Day on order.
- (3) Roville 100430H February 1968.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS.

- a. All personal gear will be taken to be staged at Regimental Area Phu Bai.
- b. Three NCIs per man.
- c. Take salt tablets.
- d. Basic allowance of ammunition per man.

5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS. No change.

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
Phu Loc, RVN  
9 February 1968

Frag Order 6-68

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

Time Zone: H

1. SITUATION.a. Enemy. Current ISUMS and PIR/PREPSb. Friendly.

(1) 5th Marine Regiment ( ) participates in free world forces effort to dislodge enemy forces occupying portions of the city of Hue and adjacent areas.

(2) Artillery. Lima Battery, 4th Battalion, 11th Marines continues to provide general support for Battalion elements remaining in the Phu Loc area of operations.(3) Air. First Marine Air Wing provides rotary and fixed wing on request.2. MISSION. (To be assigned) To displace from Phu Loc area to the Phu Bai area and participate in operations in the Hue-Phu Bai area as directed.3. EXECUTION.a. Concept. Upon completion of mine sweep between Phu Loc and Battalion Assembly Area and Song Truc on 10 February, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines commences displacement of all units to the Hue/Phu Bai area of operations for initial movement of one company to participate in operations against VC/EVA units occupying Hue City and adjacent areas. On D+1 second company and Battalion Command Group displaces on order, rear echelon, equipment and supplies, remaining units displace as transportation becomes available and relieving unit becomes available to assume responsibility for Phu Loc TAOR.b. Company A (-) (Rein)Det, H&S Company  
C1 FO TM

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FAC Tm  
 Det, Comm Plt  
 Det, Mod Plt  
 S-2 Scout  
 Kit Carson Tm  
 Det, Co B, 1st EngrBn  
 Det, Btry D, 2ndBn, 11thMar

(1) On order commence motorized movement from Phu Loc Battalion Assembly Area to 5th Marines Command Post at Phu Bai

(2) Chopped to 5th Marines on arrival Phu Bai on order for further chopping to the 1st Marine Regiment to reinforce forces engaged near Huo.

c. Company B(-) (Rein)

Det, H&S Company  
 81 FO Tm  
 FAC Tm  
 Det, Mod Plt  
 Det, Comm Plt  
 S-2 Scout  
 Kit Carson Tm  
 Det, Co B, 1stEngrBn  
 Det, Btry D, 2ndBn, 11thMar

(1) On order on D+1 conduct motorized movement in conjunction with Battalion Command Group from Phu Loc to 5th Marine Regimental area at Phu Bai.

(2) Be prepared to participate in operations in the Huo City area.

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

d. Companies C and D(-) (Rein)

Det, H&S Company  
 81 FO Tm  
 FAC Tm  
 Det, Mod Plt  
 Det, Comm Plt  
 S-2 Scout  
 Kit Carson Tm  
 Det, Co B, 1stEngrBn  
 Det, Btry D, 2ndBn, 11thMar

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