



Headquarters

3d Battalion, 7th Marines 1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF FPO, San Francisco, California 96602



3/PVR/lrd 5750 8 August 1969

From:

Commanding Officer

To:

Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF

Via:

Commanding Officer, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF

Subj:

Command Chronology for Period 1 July to 31 July 1969

Ref:

(a) MCO P5750.1

(b) FMFPACO 5750.8

(c) DivO 5750.2

Encl: (1) 1 July to 31 July Command Chronology

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

J. O. ALLISON

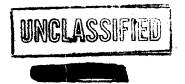
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3rd BM. 7th MAR. CONTROL NO.

COPY # 2 OF 12

SERIAL NO: 33-69







3d Battalion, 7th Marines 1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

> 3/PVR/1rd 5750 8 August 1969

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
1 July 1969 to 31 July 1969

IN DEX

PART I ORGANIZATIONAL DATA
PART II NARRATIVE SUMMARY
PART III SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF
SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
PART IV SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS







3/PVR/lrd 5750 8 August 1969

PART I ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

DESIGNATION

3d Battalion, 7th Marines

COMMANDER

LTCOL J. O. ALLISON

SUBORDINATE UNITS

H&S

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Capt G. J. OBERNDORFER

Capt P. W. MILES

1stLt T. B. EDWARDS

Capt J. K. RIDER

lstLt L. B. PIATT (1-4 July 69)

Capt C. W. J. STANAT (5-31 July 69)

LOCATION

1-31 July 1969, QUAN DAI LOC, Republic of Vietnam, Hill 37, AT916583

ATTACHED UNITS

Detachment Dog Plt, 3d MP Bn

Detachment Sniper Plt, 7th Marines

N/A

SGT D. R. HADA

STAFF OFFICERS

XO

S-1/Adj

S-2

S-3

S-3A

S-4

Maj A. A. SARDO

lstLt J. O. VAUGHN

1stLt R. W. RAMAGE

Maj D. WHITTINGHAM

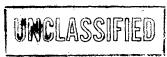
Capt P. K. VAN RIPER

Capt F. T. FAGAN

UNCLASSIFIED



S-5



S-5A

Supply Officer

Motor Transport Officer

Air Liaison Officer

Forward Air Control Officer

Battalion Chaplain

Battalion Surgeon

Asst Battalion Surgeon

AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH REPORT

USMC		<u>usn</u>		OTHER	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
40	1068	3	43	0	0



1stLt B. L. WEBER (1-22 July 69)

lstLt K. M. DOYLE (23-31 July 69)

1stLt B. L. WEBER (23-31 July 69)

1stLt K. J. WALKER

1stLt D. L. JACKSON

1stLt J. P. TEELE

latLt S. R. HODGSON (1-3 July 69)

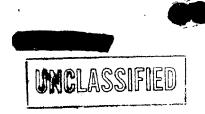
lstLt F. H. HOMEYCUTT (19-31 July 69)

LT S. C. SCOTT (CHC)

LT D. L. OLSON (MC)

LT K. W. KOLDYS







3/PVR/lrd -5750 8 August 1969

PART II NARRATIVE SUMMARY

General: The 3d Battalion, 7th Marines continued operating in their new Tactical Area of Responsibility (TAOR) during July 1969. Co I manned Hill 65 and had responsibility for patrolling the immediate area and for a distance approximately five kilometers west. In connection with this Co I worked closely with Regional Force Co 779. Co K returned to operational control of the 3d Battalion on 15 July and was assigned an area of operation immediately to the west of Co I. Co K operated in conjunction with Regional Force Co 117. Co L was tasked with providing one platoon as a Battalion reserve to react anywhere in the TAOR; to patrol northwest and southeast of Hill 37; and to be prepared to conduct company size operations as directed. Co L was employed twice in connection with opening, and providing security for sections of Route 4. Co M manned Golden Gate Bridge, patrolled the area surrounding Hill 55, and the Chau Son and Cam Van Villages. Operations in the Chau Sons were done in coordination with Regional Force Company 467 and an RD Cadre.

Specific: Snipers with Co I at 1500 on 4 July shot and killed an NVA soldier in green utilities at AT864562.

At 1905 the same day four NVA soldiers with heavy packs and rifles were observed by personnel in the tower on Hill 37. The enemy were moving along a ridge from west to east at AT882627. A 105mm artillery fire mission was called with good coverage of the target.

On 5 July at 0610 Co I snipers located with a squad ambush observed one VC heading toward a treeline at AT873556 and fired one shot killing him.

Hill 37 received two incoming 122mm rockets at 1805 on 7 July. Both, impacted outside of wire slightly wounding two Vietnamese civilians. Fired 105mm artillery mission on possible launching sites.

At 0630 on 8 July sniper team with Co I patrol spotted one VC with rifle at AT879553 and fired one round killing the enemy guerrilla.

Tower on Hill 37 at 1930 on 8 July observed 25 NVA soldiers with packs and rifles moving west at AT876625. Called 105mm artillery fire mission with outstanding target coverage.

On 10 July the Battalion participated in an operation to open Route 4 through the TAOR to permit a convoy carrying food and other supplies to move from Dien Ban to Dai Loc. This was a significant event since the road had not been safe for travel during the previous five years.







At 1235 on 12 July Hill 37 received one incoming 122mm rocket which impacted outside of wire. Called in counter-rocket fire mission. Negative friendly casualties.

A Co L patrol found two packs at AT945571 on 12 July at 1310. The packs contained medical supplies, and NVA documents and money.

In the same area later that afternoon, Co L's patrol spotted one VC in an open field. He was told to move towards patrol but ran instead toward a treeline. A warning shot was fired and when the VC did not stop he was shot in the leg and taken prisoner. Checked treeline and found one bunker with three CHICOM grenades.

On 13 July Co L (Rein) conducted a cordon and search operation of Cam Van Village (AT955590). Five Vietnamese were detained, three as possible Civil Defendents and two as VCS. All detainees were turned over to Dai Loc District.

At 1845 on 13 July Tower on Hill 37 observed 12 heavily camouflaged NVA moving to the west at AT873625. Called 105mm arbillery fire mission with excellent target coverage.

On 14 July at 0430 a Co M ambush saw movement at AT925602 and opened fire killing one NVA and capturing one RPG with three rounds and two CHICOM grenades.

On 15 July at 1000 Co K returned to operational control of the 3d Battalion; H&S Co was chopped to OPCON 1st Battalion, 7th Marines.

Co I received eight incoming 82mm rounds at 0100 on 16 July at AT842562. Fired counter mortar fires. Negative friendly casualties.

At 0210 that same night Hill 37 received three 82mm mortar rounds. Counter mortar fire plan initiated. Two friendly casualties sustained.

At AT881630 Hill 37 observed 10 NVA moving west at 1925 on 16 July. A 105mm artillery fire mission was called with excellent target coverage. One body was spotted in area after fire mission.

Co K at 0115 on 17 July while set in position at AT809545 received 15 RPG rounds resulting in four AF soldiers being wounded. Returned fire and swept area. Found one VC KIA, assorted 782 gear and one RPG round.

At AT81,5518 a sniper team with Co I spotted an NVA soldier with rifle about 0630 on 17 July and fired one shot killing him. Five minutes later seven additional NVA appeared and the sniper team again fired killing another enemy.

At 1000 on 17 July CAP 2-2 at AT949589 came in contact with 12 VC who were pursued. Three enemy were trapped and killed in a bunker and one RPG launcher, two AK-47's, 15 CHICON grenades and numerous documents were captured.

UNCLASSIFIED







At 1125 on 17 July a Co K patrol fired on a raft in river at AT820550 destroying it and causing a large secondary explosion.

Co I at 1835 on 17 July saw six VC/NVA move into a treeline at AT846548 and called a 105mm artillery fire mission. One body was observed in target area after mission.

Tower on Hill 37 spotted 20 NVA with packs and rifles and one mortar tube or rocket moving east at AT828625 about 1925 on 17 July. Called 105mm artillery fire mission with excellent coverage.

Hill 37 received two 82mm mortar rounds impacting outside of wire at 2050 on 17 July. Negative friendly casualties. Counter mortar fires were fired.

At 0115 on 18 July five more 82mm mortar rounds impacted outside of Hill 37 wire. Fired counter mortar fire again. Negative friendly casualties.

Tower on Hill 65 observed seven VC in open field at AT862549 at 1030 on 18 July and called 105mm artillery mission. One enemy was killed and five more were seen carrying him into a bootch. Fire was adjusted on to the bootch destroying it.

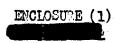
At 1330 on 18 July the Tower on Hill 37 observed 25 heavily camouflaged NVA soldiers with packs and rifles carrying two rockets or 82mm mortar tubes moving east. Called 105mm artillery mission with excellent coverage.

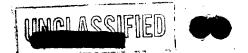
At 1330 on 18 July Co L squad patrol received three RPG rounds and 60 to 90 AK-h7 rounds from treelines at AT9h2562. Returned fire, called artillery fire mission and swept area finding 300 pounds of hidden rice. Received additional small arms fire from south. Remainder of Co L linked-up with squad and commenced sweep south with tanks and AMTRACS. Regained contact with estimated platoon of VC in treeline. Called artillery and air support and assaulted position killing six enemy and capturing one AK-h7, and six chi com grenades. Two friendly WIA's incurred. Detailed search of area revealed one ton of rice in underground vats and four fighting bunkers.

A squad patrol from Co M saw lights in a hootch at AT983605 at 2130 on 18 July. A squad moved into area and discovered five NVA behind the hootch. The squad took NVA under fire killing two and capturing one AK-47. Detained three VN civilians in hootch and returned them to Hill 55 for questioning.

Sniper team with Co I on 19 July at 0915 spotted three VC at AT888555 with large backs and fired killing one. Remaining two VC ran into treeline.

At 1935 on 19 July while conducting beacon air strike at AT945562 personnel in Tower on Hill 37 saw four NVA soldiers run west to clear







impact area of first bombs. Requested pilot ripple his next run and observed nine 500 pound bombs impact on enemy.

On 20 July at 1430 a Co I patrol spotted one VC coming out of a treeline south of Hill 65 and shot and killed him.

At AT 885557 Co M scout snipers saw two VC move out of a treeline about 1530 on 20 July. They fired five shots from a distance of 1000 meters killing one enemy.

Co I patrol saw one VC come out of a treeline about 0730 on 21 July at AT844543 and fired one round killing enemy.

On 21 July H&S company, 3d Battalion, 7th Marines was returned to OPCON of 3d Battalion and H&S Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Marines was chopped back to the 1st Battalion.

At 2130 on 21 July at AT804556 a Co K ambush opened fire as a small group of enemy approached their position killing one NVA soldier.

Three VC were seen digging at AT861556 by Co I personnel in tower on Hill 65 at 1315 on 22 July. An artillery fire mission was called killing two.

A RF patrol working with Co I at AT833567 killed one VC and captured an AK-47 at 0030 on 23 July.

A Co K patrol spotted six VC/NVA 600 meters to their north at AT819556 on 23 July at 2020 and opened fire with a machine gum. A subsequent search of the area revealed one enemy KIA.

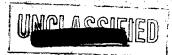
On 24 July at 0830 four enemy mortar rounds landed in Co K's CP at AT823538 resulting in seven friendly casualties. Fired counter mortar fire. Only two casualties required medevac.

A Co L squad patrol surprised 10 NVA and VC holding a meeting at AT901591 on 24 July at 1245 and assaulted the position. The result was five enemy KIA, two enemy captured, and two AK-47's, one M-1 carbine and five bags of documents captured.

On 25 July at 0300 Co K CP located with an RF Co at AT805550 was hit by an estimated two platoons of enemy who prep-fired with 60mm mortar rounds and about 20 RPG rounds. The RF Co and Co K returned small arms fire and called in mortars, artillery, and a Spookie gunship. There were no friendly casualties. A search of the area at first light revealed 12 NVA soldiers killed. One RPG rocket with ten rounds, five AK-47's, 15 60mm mortar rounds, and 30 CHICOM grenades were captured.

A sniper team with Co I spotted one VC/NVA soldier at AT815576 on 25 July about 1300 and fired one shot killing the enemy.

ENCLOSURE







At AT877625 on 25 July at 1925 the tower on Hill 37 observed 10 NVA moving west. Fired 105mm artillery mission with excellent coverage of target.

A Co M platoon patrol observed movement at AT936576 about 1545 on 25 July and closed on the area. They discovered and killed two NVA soldiers in a spider hole and captured medical equipment, a hammer and sickle Communist flag, and assorted documents.

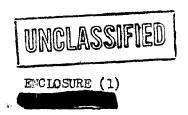
At 2115 on 25 July a squad patrol from Co K saw six VC/NVA at AT807560 moving west to east at a distance of 200 meters. The squad opened fire killing one enemy soldier and they captured one AK-47.

The same night at 2150 another squad patrol from Co K observed two enemy crossing river at ZC205543 and opened fire killing one.

On 27 July at 0715 sniper team attached to Co K spotted one VC/NVA carrying a pack and rifle at AT842548. The team fired one round killing the enemy soldier. They observed the body for one hour. When another enemy soldier attempted to retrieve the rifle and gear, the snipers fired again killing the second enemy soldier.

At AT938610 a reconnaissance patrol from Co M found one 11,0mm rocket on 28 July about 1600.

A Co K squad ambush at AT814563 observed a small group of enemy moving near their position on 28 July at 2130 and opened fire. A sweep of the area revealed one NVA soldier killed and one AK-47 was captured.







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PART III SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Topics

- a. Mission Assigned. Occupy and defend Battalian Area of Operations (AO); conduct unilateral offensive operations and aggressive day/night patrolling and ambushing throughout the AO. Conduct combined and coordinated operations with GVN forces emphasizing Civic Action and Revolutionary Development; coordinate with GVN officials to train, advise and, as necessary, provide skilled combat leadership to Regional and Popular Forces; be prepared to provide alert forces and convoy escorts from squad to company size; maintain security of vital line of communications in coordination with GVN forces within AO.
 - b. Administration. Administrative support was satisfactory.
- c. Personnel. The Battalion's category of readiness was C-1 for personnel. The total end of month strength was 36 Marine Officers, 1069 Marine Enlisted, 3 Navy Officers, and 48 Navy Enlisted. Total 1156.
 - (1) <u>Casualties Sustained</u>. (1-31 July 1969)

U.S.	KIA	$\overline{ ext{MIV}}$	WIANE	NBC	KNBC
H&cS	0	4	4	3	0
n Iu	0	5	2	1	0
n Ku	1	14	10	6	0
$u\mathbf{T_{ii}}$	1	9	7	2	0
nMu	1	10	_3_	<u>t</u>	0
TOTAL	3	42	26	16	0

d. Enemy Situation

(1) During the month the 3d Battalion conducted a variety of activities in accordance with its mission. The sightings in the Charlie Ridge area and the numerous surprise firing devices encountered throughout the TAOR indicate the enemy's continued activity and infiltration within this area.

enclosure (1)







From 4-18 July the tower on Hill 37 sighted more than 15 enemy personnel on four different occasions in the Charlie Ridge area, vicinity of Hill 423 (AT880626). An artillery fire mission was fired on all the sightings with unknown results.

On 24 July Lima Company engaged WC who were conducting a meeting in the vicinity of AT901591. Results of the encounter were five WC KIA, one VC POW WIA (female), three weapons, numerous documents and miscellaneous 782 gear captured.

On 24 July Lima Company apprehended one NVA Lieutenant who was from the 2nd Battalion, lillst Regiment. The NVA was later classified as a Chieu Hoi.

On 25 July Kilo Company repelled a ground attack from an estimated two WC platoons. This action resulted in 12 VC KIA.

(2) Enemy Weapons, Equipment and Supplies Destroyed/Captured

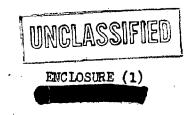
Weapons

14 AK-47 2 RPG-2's

1 US Carbine (Cal .30)

Equipment and Supplies - Numerous 782 gear and clothing, and 2,600 pounds of rice.

- (3) Enemy Personnel Losses
 - (a) VC/NVA KIA in TAOR 61
 - (b) VC/NVA KIA by 3/7 43
 - (c) WC/NVA KIA by Arty 11
 - (d) VC/NVA KIA by Air 5
 - (e) VC/NVA KIA by CAP and ARVN 12
 - (f) Detainees 46
 - (g) Chieu Hoi 1
 - (h) Refugees evacuated = 0









e. Weather

(1) Rainfall for the month was considerably higher than had been anticipated, however, general weather conditions in all of the areas 3/7 worked in continued to be favorable for military operations and logistical supports

(2) Statistics

- (a) Maximum temperature 100
- (b) Minimum temperature 70
- (c) Mean temperature 86
- (d) Average humidity 75%
- (e) Rainfall 6.11 inches
- f. Terrain. The terrain in the various areas was generally flat with mountains to the West and irregular tree lines. Streams were fordable. Prominent terrain features were Hills 65, 52, 55 and 37. Movement and trafficability for mechanized vehicles was good.

g. Organization and Operations

- (1) Command and Control. The 3d Battalion, 7th Marines remained under the operational and administrative control of the 7th Marines.
 - (2) Significant Operations Conducted. None
 - (3) Artillery Support
- (a) The 3d Battalion, 11th Marines remained in direct support of the 7th Marine Regiment.
- (b) Battery G, 3d Battalion, 11th Marines located on Hill 65 gave priority of fires to 3/7.
- (c) Batteries K and M, 4th Battalion, 11th Marines were in general support, reinforcing 3d Battalion.
- (d) Additional support was received from 2nd Platoon, 3rd 8 inch Howitzer Battery and Whiskey Battery 3d Battalion, 11th Marines located on Hill 55.

(4) Air Support

(a) Number of fix wing missions flown:







- (b) Number of AO and Recon missions: 76
 Total number of hours: 59
- (c) Helicopter missions flown were as follows:
 - 1 Medical Evacuations: 54 missions
 - a 46 USMC
 - b 9 ARVN
 - c 24 CIVILIANS
 - ·2 Logistical
 - a Cargo 2000 pounds
 - b Troops 100
 - 3 Firefly negative missions
- (d) Number of Flereship missions: 17

 Total number of hours: 53 hrs 55 mins
- (e) Number of Spooky missions flown: 4

 Total number of hours: 4 hrs 30 mins
- (f) KBA (Confirmed): 5

h. Formal Training

- (1) Orientation. All personnel joining the Battalion received a five day extensive orientation and indoctrination course, which included instructions in care, maintenance, safe handling, familiarization and firing of the M-16 rifle on both day and night firing ranges. They also fired the M-79 and M-60 for familiarization on the day range and received three hours of instruction in the detection, types, and employment of enemy and friendly mines and surprise firing devices.
- (2) Marines of the Battalion attended the following schools during the past month:
 - (a) Mine and Booby Trap School

25

(b) Regimental Drivers School

9









(c)	Basic Infantry Wons Repair	1
(d)	Basic Ammo Tech	1
(e)	Vietnamese Language School	1
(f)	SNCO Leadership Course	1
(g)	NCO Leadership Course	8
(h)	Officers Leadership Course	2
(i)	KY-28/38 Maintenance Training Course	2
(1)	Embarkation School	1

- (3) In addition to formal schools attended, this Battalion requested and received contact teams for instruction in the following subjects:
- (a) Mines and Booby Traps on 10 July and 28 July 1969 with a total attendance of 65 Marines and 5 Navy Corpsman.
- (b) No other formal schooling was conducted on the battalion level due to operational commitments.

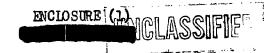
i. Logistics, Equipment and Supply

(1) Logistics

- (a) The laundry unit remains inoperable.
- (b) One Engineer Assistance request was submitted to clean mess hall drains by 1st Battalion, 7th Marines and turned over to this Battalion.
- (2) Equipment and Supply. Overall, supply support remains good. Repair parts for most Motor Transport vehicles, particularly the M274A2, and many communication replacement items or spare parts are extremely hard to obtain and thus cause excessive deadline time for these items of equipment. However, it is not considered critical at this time.

j. Civil Affairs

- (1) Med Caps/Dent Caps. During the month of July, the battalion Medcaps Team treated 511 people for minor illnesses and injuries, while the Dent Cap Team treated 23 people.
 - (2) Projects. None due to recent movement to the new AO.









- (3) Commodities Distributed. This month the battalion distributed 360 bar of soap while on Medcaps.
 - (4) Serious Incidents. None

k. Psychological Efforts

- (1) Air Drops. This month the battalion requested 26 air drops: seven were executed, one was cancelled, and 18 drops are waiting confirmation. Themes used were Chieu Hoi, Weapon Rewards and PRO-GVN.
- (2) <u>Hand Distribution</u>. This month the battalion distributed 540 Ban Tin Newspaper (PRO-GVN), 394 Weapon Rewards, 250 Rpt VC Cadre and 118 Safety.
- (3) HB Team. This month the battalion utilized the GB Team once on 3 July 1969.
- (h) HE Team. The battalion requested the HE Team twice but was utilized once in which two movies were shown at the First Church of Christ with an attendance of 80 people.

1. Communications

- (1) Communications for the month of July were satisfactory in general. Radio communications were hampered throughout the month by strong overrides on several of our assigned frequencies. This problem was partially solved by trading frequencies with Regiment cr Division.
- (2) On 16 July a team from the Division Communication-Electronic Office held an inspection on the Communication Platoon and found it satisfactory.
- (3) On 21 July the Communication platoon finished displacing to Hill 37. Extensive work has been done on the existing wire system and improvement in the service is increasing.
- m. Chaplain. The Battalion Chaplain performed the following in support of the Battalion:
- (1) Sunday Services were conducted by the Battalion Chaplain on 14 occasions. Attendance: 227. Communicants: 139.
- (2) Weekday Services were conducted on two occasions with 125 in attendance and 74 Communicants.
- (3) One Memorial Service was held for the Battalion at the Company level with 150 in attendance.

UNCLASSIFIED ENCLOSURE (1)







- (4) 11 Hospital visits were made with the total of 86 patients visited.
 - (5) Three Brig visits were made to 19 prisoners.
- (6) American Red Cross messages sent or received through this office numbered 13.
 - (7) Counseling interviews numbered 43.
- (8) Indoctrination Classes were held with the Chaplain's Lecture given on three occasions with 107 present.

n. Medical

- (1) General. The health of the Marines in the Battalion continues to be satisfactory.
- (2) Evacuations. Casualty evacuations continue to be satisfactory.
 - (3) Supply. Medical supplies are adequate.
 - (4) Malaria cases. O
 - (5) Fever Unknown Origin. 0
 - (6) V.D. Cases. 9

Five cases contracted in-country. Four cases contracted on Ra.

- (7) Sanitation. Sanitation of the Battalion on Hill 37 is satisfactory.
- (8) BAS. The BAS at present is inadequate but plans are being made to improve it.

