

DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

9th Motor Transport Battalion

9th Motor Transport Battalion (-)  
3d Marine Division (-) (Rein) FMF  
San Francisco 96602

3D MAR DIV SEC FILE  
BT# 031570

3/BAR/cdw  
5700  
15 Jan 1970  
Serial 01-70

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)  
Via: (1) Commanding General, 3d Marine Division  
(2) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1 October to 31  
December 1969.

Ref: (a) MCO P5750.1A  
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8A  
(c) DivO 5750.1C  
(d) Div MSG 040627Z Dec 69

Encl: (1) 9th Motor Transport Battalion Command Chronology

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

H. H. RUHL, JR.  
H. H. RUHL, JR.

DECLASSIFIED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS  
DOD DIR 5200.10

COPY 1 OF 4 COPIES  
SER: \_\_\_\_\_

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

9th MT Bn  
(28,2700 - Dec 1969)

Oct-Dec 1969

CONFIDENTIAL

APP. I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

9th Motor Transport Battalion LT. COL. L. J. STEPHENSON (14 Nov 68)  
 Maj. L. D. DERRYBERRY (23 Oct 69)

SUBORDINATE UNITS

W S Company	1stLt. B. L. FRICKSON (3 Jul 69)
"A" Company	1stLt. M. L. BALLARD (8 Nov 69)
	1stLt. W. R. PRITCHETT (22 Apr 69)
"B" Company	1stLt. C. L. ADAMS (10 Dec 69)
	1stLt. S. W. MURPHY (22 Aug 69)
"C" Company	1stLt. R. J. WHITE (24 Sep 69)
Transport Company	1stLt. R. D. WELLS (4 Jul 69)
	1stLt. T. E. BARRETT (22 Aug 69)

2. LOCATION

1 Oct - 2 Nov, CHANG TRI, RVN  
 2 Nov - 17 Nov, Redeployment to Okinawa  
 17 Nov - 31 Dec, Camp Hansen, Okinawa

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer	Maj. L. D. DERRYBERRY (21 Sep 69)
S-3	Maj. H. H. RUHL (2 Dec 69)
Adjutant	1stLt. S. A. ROSE (11 Apr 69)
	1stLt. W. L. BALLARD (24 Sep 69)
	1stLt. S. W. MURPHY (6 Nov 69)
S-4	1stLt. P. G. KUYKENDALL (10 Nov 69)
	1stLt. T. D. BUCKLEY (1 Jun 69)
Medical	2ndLt. W. R. SALVANT (15 Oct 69)
	MSG J. F. TOMSEY (26 Sep 69)

4. Average Monthly Strength

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>ARVN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
19	245	0	0	0	1
November					
15	173	0	12	0	0
December					
20	205	0	10	0	0

ENCLOSURE (1)

1 CONFIDENTIAL

C O N F I D E N T I A L

## PART II

## NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. General Overview

a. 1 - 31 October, 9th Motor Transport Battalion, minus "A" Co. which redeployed to Okinawa on 14 August 1969 and "B" Co., which deployed to COMUS in support of the RLTF-3 on 1 October 1969, provided medium and heavy transportation support for the 3d Marine Division, FISC-B, and the ARVN. The medium transportation support was in the form of 40 M-54A2C, 5 ton, 6X6 cargo trucks. The heavy transportation was in the form of 29 M-52A2C, 5 ton tractors, 40 M-127 12 ton trailers, 10 M-198 dolly converters, 2 M-123, 10 ton tractors and 2 M-172, 25 ton trailers. During the entire month of October this Battalion participated in four hundred and ten (410) tactical movements and seventy-three (73) rough rider operations. During the same period of time this Battalion had driven 72,730 miles, transported 9,412 tons of supplies and 32,600 troops. The convoys covered a vast area in I Corps, ranging from Da Nang to Vandegrift Combat Base.

b. During the month of November, H&S Company and Transport Company (-), redeployed to Okinawa leaving "C" Company reinforced with a section from Transport Company to provide the needed medium and heavy transportation support required by the remaining portions of the 3d Marine Division. "C" Co. reinforced consisted of 31 M-54A2C, 5 ton, 6X6 cargo trucks, 15 M-127, 12 ton trailers, 6 M-52A2C, 5 ton tractors, and 9 M-198 dolly converters. After the 17th of November, which is the date "H&S" Co. and "T" Co. arrived on Okinawa and "A" Co. was returned OPCON/ADCON to 9th Motor Transport Battalion from 9th FAB, this Battalion including "C" Co. reinforced participated in one (1) tactical movement and fifty-one (51) rough rider operations. During the same period of time this Battalion had driven 10,475 miles, transported 1,480 tons of supplies and 9,165 troops.

c. During the month of December, "C" Co. reinforced was en route from Quang Tri, RVN to Okinawa arriving on 9 Dec 1969. The Battalion then consisted of "H&S" Co., "A" Co., "C" Co., and Transport Co.. During the month of December this Battalion drove 19,772 miles, transported 483 tons of supplies and 6,926 troops. On 20 December 1969, 1st Plt. "A" Co. entered the planning stage for the support of 1st Bn 4th Marines for deployment as SLP-B.

2. Command Relations. This Battalion minus "B" Co. remains OPCON/ADCON to the 3d Marine Division (Rein).

C O N F I D E N T I A L

3. Mission Assigned. To provide medium and heavy transportation support in reinforcing and augmenting the organic land transportation capabilities of the 3d Marine Division.

4. Intelligence. There were no significant intelligence operations to report for this period.

5. Operations

a. Operations remained within the scope of the assigned mission.

b. During the early part of this reporting period, 1-26 October, when "H" Co. and "I" Co. stood down from their assigned missions to prepare for redeployment, and from 1 October to 17 November when "G" Co. stood down for its redeployment, this Battalion provided support to the 3d Marine Division and FLSC-B who participated in the following operations:

Iroquois Grove  
Arlington Canyon  
Idaho Canyon  
Georgia Tar

c. Sequential Listing of Operations

1 Oct Twelve (12) vehicles participated in a tactical convoy to Vandegrift Combat Base in support of 3/4.

Thirteen (13) vehicles participated in a tactical convoy to Vandegrift Combat Base in support of 2/4.

2 Oct Fifteen (15) vehicles participated in a tactical convoy to Vandegrift Combat Base in support of 2/4.

Four (4) vehicles participated in a tactical convoy to Vandegrift Combat Base in support of Hq 4th Marines.

Eighteen (18) vehicles participated in a tactical convoy to Vandegrift Combat Base in support of Hq 4th Marines.

3 Oct Fifteen (15) vehicles participated in a tactical convoy to Vandegrift Combat Base in support of 1/4.

Fifteen (15) vehicles participated in a tactical convoy to Vandegrift Combat Base in support of Hq 4th Marines.

4 Oct Fifteen (15) vehicles participated in a tactical convoy to Vandegrift Combat Base in support of Hq 4th Marines.

- 4 Oct Seventeen (17) vehicles participated in a tactical convoy to Vandegrift Combat Base in support of Hq 4th Marines.
- 6 Oct Thirteen (13) vehicles participated in a tactical convoy to Quang Tri in support of "C" Co. 9th Motor Transport move.
- 6 Oct Four (4) vehicles participated in a tactical convoy to Vandegrift Combat Base in support of Hq 4th Marines.
- 10 Oct Three (3) vehicles participated in a tactical convoy to Quang Tri in support of 2/4.
- 11 Oct Eleven (11) vehicles participated in a tactical convoy to Vandegrift Combat Base in support of Hq 4th Marines.
- 12 Oct Five (5) vehicles participated in a tactical convoy to Vandegrift Combat Base in support of Hq 4th Marines.
- 13 Oct Thirteen (13) vehicles participated in a tactical convoy to Mia Loc in support of ARVN.
- 16 Oct Eight (8) vehicles participated in a tactical convoy to ECB in support of Hq 4th Marines.
- 19 Oct Four (4) vehicles participated in a tactical convoy to Da Nang in support of 1/4.
- 22 Oct Eleven (11) vehicles participated in a tactical convoy to Rock Pile in support of 2/4.

#### 6. Results of Operations.

- a. Casualties inflicted on the enemy - None
- b. Casualties sustained - None
- c. Equipment and Supplies captured/destroyed - None

#### 7. Supporting Arms.

- a. Air Support. The Battalion utilized the 3d Marine Division Airborne A.O.'s in the capacity of Air Security Coverage.
- b. The Battalion utilized F.O.'s from the Fourth Battalion Twelfth Marines for Convoy Artillery Coverage.
- c. Convoy Road Security. The Battalion received support from the First Battalion Forty Fourth Artillery, U.S. Army in the form of truck-mounted Quad-Cal. .50 machine guns.

ENCLOSURE (1)  
CONFIDENTIAL

C O N F I D E N T I A L8. Logistics.

a. General Supplies and Embarkation. The supply section commenced to process all general supplies on 15 Oct 1969 for redeployment from Quang Tri Combat Base, RVN to Camp Hansen, Okinawa. All general supplies were packed and mobile loaded aboard organic vehicles and on 2 Nov 1969, the convoy departed Quang Tri Combat Base, RVN for Da Nang, RVN, Port of Entry for final wash down processing. The 3d and 4th of Nov 1969 was spent at the Da Nang Bridge Ramp for final wash down procedures and staging of vehicles and supplies. On 4 Nov 1969, all of "G" Co. and the 2nd Plt. of "T" Co. started loading vehicles and equipment aboard LST 1161, Vernon County, which sailed 5 Nov 1969 and arrived at Camp Hansen, Okinawa on 17 Nov 1969. The 1st Plt. of "T" Co. started loading vehicles and equipment aboard LST 1167, Westchester County, which sailed on 5 Nov 1969 and arrived at Camp Hansen, Okinawa on 11 Nov 1969. Upon arrival sufficient warehousing was not available and general supplies were staged in the open on a portion of the motor pool lot. "C" Co. (Rein) was the last remaining company in RVN and departed Quang Tri Combat Base, RVN on 19 Nov 1969. They embarked aboard the LST, USS Hampshire County and LST, USS Terrell and arrived on Okinawa 5 Dec 1969 and 9 Dec 1969.

b. Ordnance. All Table of Equipment weapons were used for convoy security to Da Nang, RVN. Disposition of all ammo and explosives was accomplished prior to 2 Nov 1969, except for 40 rounds of 5.56 mm per man and one box of linked ammo for each of five Cal..50 machine guns which were used for security of the convoy enroute to Da Nang. A collection point was established at Bridge Ramp Da Nang, and remaining ammo was turned in for disposition.

c. Motor Transport Supplies. All motor transport supplies on hand were packed on vehicles and brought to Camp Hansen, Okinawa.

9. Communications and Electronics.

a. Radio Equipment, Wire and Tech Shop. Since October, the wire and maintenance sections have been without personnel in the 2511 or 2847 MOS's, therefore the work in these areas has not been as active as the needs of the Battalion require. Field radio operators were utilized for 1st echelon work on the wire equipment. The radio section boxed and crated all equipment in preparation for the redeployment on 2 Nov 1969. After arriving in Okinawa the radio section instigated a vigorous and extensive preventative maintenance program in conjunction with the rehabilitation program. The need of rehabilitation was evidenced in the fact that 1 AN/PRC 83,

C O N F I D E N T I A L

1 AN/MRC 110 and 3 AN/MRC 109's were submitted for repair and painting.

b. Communications Personnel: Critical shortages of qualified personnel in the 2511, 2847, 2531 and 2533 occupational fields throughout the entire reporting period have seriously limited the communications capabilities of the Battalion.

# 10. Equipment

a. During the portion of this reporting period prior to leaving RVN, this Battalion returned to the 3d Marine Division for re-distribution excess or special allowance equipment consisting of 2 M-54A2C, 5 ton 6X6 cargo truck, 1 M-170 ambulance, and 1 M-543 wrecker. The Battalion received from the redistribution of excess equipment 1 M-151A1, 1 AN/MRC 110, 3 PU-239 generators, 2 55 GPM pumps, 2 M-149 water trailers to fill T/E shortages. Prior to redeployment this unit released its two operable M-123, 10 ton tractors to other units remaining in country and received one inoperable M-123, 10 ton tractor in return.

b. From 17 Nov 1969 to 31 December 1969, this Battalion has conducted a comprehensive and vigorous equipment repair and rehabilitation program. Of the equipment sent to 3d echelon repair facilities one M-127, 12 ton trailer, one M-198 dolly converter, one M-416, 1/4 ton cargo trailer, two M-107 water trailers, and eight M-105 cargo trailers have been assigned condition Code "H". One 15-CFM luber and 27 M-54A2C, 5 ton cargo trucks, were turned in on the FY 70 R&E program and 27 M-54A2C, 5 ton cargo trucks were received under the FY 70 R&E program.

c. The results achieved by the vehicle body repair and painting program via 3d FSR were very regarding. As of the end of the reporting period the Battalion had turned in to 3d FSR 47% of its rolling stock needing repairs and had received from 3d FSR 75% of the equipment turned in for rehabilitation.

# 11. Civic Action

a. Approximately 850 patients were treated at dispensaries operated as the MedCap portion of the Battalion Civil Affairs Program. These dispensaries were located at Tri Buu, Thach Han and Thach Mon.

b. Four members of the Battalion taught approximately 300 students at the Phuoc Non High School in Quang Tri City, as part of the Education and Schools program.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

c. Prior to redeployment, liaison was established with the 1st Brigade of the 5th Mechanized Division, U.S. Army, to continue those Civic Action program that this Battalion had initiated.

## 12. Administration and Personnel

a. During the period 1 October to 30 October 1969, the Battalion maintained its normal administrative posture. In addition, temporary administrative functions incident to redeployment of the Battalion to Okinawa were instituted during this period to include reduction in force through transfers, termination reports, administrative guidance for use aboard ship, promulgation of interim policies to be put into effect upon arrival in Okinawa, etc.. From 1 Nov 1969, all administrative functions within the Battalion were directed toward preparing the Battalion for movement to POE and embarkation. On 5 Nov 1969, the Battalion embarked aboard ship and administrative functions were limited to movement reporting and administrative requirement incident to control and welfare of personnel embarked. The Battalion debarked on 17 Nov and entered a garrison situation which called for major readjustments in many areas of administration. To this end, work hours were extended to facilitate as expeditious a change-over as possible. By 1 Dec 1969, the administrative posture of the Battalion was considered to be responsive to directives from higher units. The entire month of December 1969, was devoted to further sophistication of all administrative functions normally inherent in garrison situations. Although a number of problem areas remained at the close of the calendar year 1969, overall administration within the Battalion was functioning satisfactorily.

b. Personnel levels through 30 October 1969, were satisfactory; however, numerous transfers of personnel to units remaining in RVN reduced overall Battalion strength significantly. Critical MOS shortages in OF's 01, 25 & 35 remain a matter of concern and have prompted internal measures to help alleviate shortages through self-help programs. It is anticipated that further relief will be forthcoming as the current WesPac personnel situation stabilizes during the coming calendar quarter.

## 13. Training

a. From 1-25 October the Battalion conducted its normal training program for the Second Quarter FY 70 which, as outlined, was in accordance with all Marine Corps Orders, FMF PacO P1500.3D and Division Orders P1500.2 and 1510.3D. On 26 October the Battalion stood down from its assigned



CONFIDENTIAL

mission to prepare for redeployment and in accordance with C.G. memo 06/WKJ/dr 17 October 1969, revised the Second Quarter training program to meet the indoctrination requirements demanded of all units preparing for duty in Okinawa. The revised schedule called for 20 hours of training while aboard ship enroute to Okinawa and 106 hours after the entire unit arrived aboard Okinawa.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

## PART III

## SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- 1 Oct - "B" Company embarked from Cua Viet, RVN for CONUS as a supporting unit to the 3d RLT.
- 23 Oct - Change of the Battalion Commanding Officer, LT. COL. L. J. TREMBLAY relinquished command to Major L. D. DERRYBERRY.
- 26 Oct - "H&S" Co and "T" Co (-) stood down from its assigned mission to prepare for its redeployment.
- 29 Oct - "B" Co debarked at Camp Pendleton, Calif.
- 2 Nov - "H&S" Co and "T" Co (-) departed Quang Tri for their POE in Da Nang.
- 4 Nov - "H&S" Co and 1st Plt. "T" Co embarked aboard the LST 1161, USS Vernon County, for Okinawa.
- 6 Nov - "T" Co (-) embarked aboard the LST 1167, USS Westchester County, for Okinawa.
- 10 Nov - The LST 1167, USS Vernon County with "H&S" Co and 1st Plt. "T" Co aboard put into US Naval Station Subic Bay, Philippine Islands, for emergency repairs. The embarked troops were given on-base liberty.
- 11 Nov - "T" Co (-) debarked from the LST, USS Westchester County at Kin Red Beach, Okinawa.
- 14 Nov - The LST, USS Vernon County with "H&S" Co and 1st Plt. "T" Co departed the US Naval Station Subic Bay, Philippines for Okinawa with repairs completed.
- 17 Nov - "H&S" Co and 1st Plt. "T" Co debarked the LST, USS Vernon County at Kin Red Beach, Okinawa.  
           "C" Co (Rein) stood down from their assigned mission to prepare for their redeployment.
- 19 Nov - "C" Co (Rein) departed Quang Tri, RVN for their POE at Da Nang.
- 22 Nov - "C" Co embarked aboard the LST, USS Hampshire County, for Okinawa.
- 30 Nov - Major L. D. DERRYBERRY departed for CONUS on emergency leave.

ENCLOSURE (1)  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

- 1 Dec - 2nd Plt. "C" Co embarked aboard the LST, USS Terrell County.  
Major H. H. RUHL reported aboard for duty as Executive Officer of 9th Motor Transport Battalion.
- 5 Dec - "C" Co (-) debarked at Kin Red Beach, Okinawa.
- 9 Dec - 2nd Plt. "C" Co debarked at Kin Red Beach, Okinawa.
- 21 Dec - Major L. D. DERRYBERRY returned from emergency leave.