

~~SECRET~~ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Reporting Unit. 9th Marines (Rein), 3d Marine Division
2. Reporting Period. 1-31 December 1965
3. Date of Submission. 10 January 1966
4. Commanding Officer.

Colonel John E. GORMAN 1-31 December 1965

5. Location of Command Post During Reporting Period.
Coordinates (AT 994723).

6. Maps. AMS Series L701 Sheets 6658 I&IV, 6659 II&III

7. Staff Assignments.

a. Executive Officer	1-31 Dec 1965	LtCol P. G. TRAMMELL
b. S-1	1-31 Dec 1965	Capt H. B. WEST
c. S-2	1-31 Dec 1965	Maj C. WARD
e. S-3	1-31 Dec 1965	Maj L. N. ANGELO
f. S-4	1-27 Dec 1965	Capt C.A. RECKEWEL
g. S-4	28-31 Dec 1965	Maj R.E. EDISON

8. Subordinate Commanders

a. Headquarters Co	1-31 Dec 65	Capt L.D. DERRYBERRY
b. 1st Battalion, 9th Mar	1-31 Dec 65	LtCol V.E. LUDWIG
c. 2d Battalion, 9th Mar	1-31 Dec 65	LtCol W.F. DONAHUE
d. 3d Battalion, 9th Mar	1-31 Dec 65	LtCol W.W. TAYLOR
e. 3d Battalion, 3d Mar	1-31 Dec 65	LtCol J.W. DORSEY

9. Attachments.

a. Liaison Team, I Corps, RVN	1-31 Dec 1965
b. Interpreter Team, III MAF	1-31 Dec 1965

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~

10. Command and Control

- a. The 3d Bn, 9th Mar was under operational control of III MAF as the DANANG Air Base Defense Battalion during the reporting period of 1-31 Dec 1965.
- b. Units in direct support of 9th Marines
 - (1) 2d Bn (-) (Rein), 12th Marines 1-31 Dec 1965
 - (2) Co B, 3d Tank Bn 1-31 Dec 1965
 - (3) Co C, 3d AT Bn 1-31 Dec 1965
 - (4) 2d plt, Co B (-) 1st AMTRAC Bn 1-31 Dec 1965
 - (5) 3d plt, Co A, 3d MT Bn 1-31 Dec 1965

S-1 CHRONOLOGY1. Personnel

a. Monthly strengths (average)

<u>MC Off</u>	<u>MC Enl</u>	<u>Navy Off</u>	<u>Navy Enl</u>
147	4008	13	222

b. Battle CasualtiesNon-Battle Casualties

97

47

c. Rotation during month

<u>MC Off</u>	<u>MC Enl</u>	<u>Navy Off</u>	<u>Navy Enl</u>
5	426	0	10

d. Replacements received

<u>MC Off</u>	<u>MC Enl</u>	<u>Navy Off</u>	<u>Navy Enl</u>
8	467	0	0

e. Personnel Summary. There is a lack of replacements resulting in a personnel shortage throughout the Regiment.

f. Periodic Personnel Reports. None.

2. Staff Studies and Estimates. None.

3. Local News Papers. None.

4. Photographs. None.

5. Journal. None.

6. Discipline, Courts-Martials, Office Hours.

a. No unusual disciplinary problems.

b. Courts-Martial

1 Summary Court-Martial and 12
Special Courts-Martial Pending

Bn Cmdr OH

None

c. There were no Summary Courts-Martials or General Courts-Martial during the month of December.

UNCLASSIFIED

7. Morale, PX, Postal Affairs, Liberty, R&R

- a. Morale in this command is considered to be good.
- b. PX service is considered satisfactory.
- c. Mail service is very good.
- d. R&R quotas for Okinawa, Bangkok, Hong Kong, Saigon, Tokyo and Taipei are considered adequate.

8. Chaplain Support, Religious Services, Schedules.

- a. Conducted a total of 16 Sunday and Holy Day Catholic Services with an overall attendance of 546. Of these 6 services were held at the Regimental CP with an average attendance of 47.
- b. Four weekday Masses were celebrated with an attendance of 328. One Catholic and Protestant Memorial Service was held at 2/9 with an attendance of 235.
- c. Five Protestant Sunday Services were held at the Regimental CP by Chaplain Peter McLean of 3/9.
- d. Chaplain's assistant worked with Regimental Aid Station in weekly civic action program.
- e. Chaplain went out on one combat mission with 2/9.

9. Civil Affairs, Military Government, Community Relations, Results of CAP Progress, Supplies Distributed, Projects Completed and in Progress.

- a. For details of Bn Civil Affairs see the daily Civil Affairs Situation Reports for the month of Dec 65.

S-2 CHRONOLOGY1. AREA OF OPERATIONS.a. Location:

(1) The area of operations is located on the east coast of South Vietnam in the TOURANE Area, and includes the area between the sea coast (South China Sea) west to the secondary road which serves HIEU DUC District Headquarters, coordinates (AT 942689) to coordinates (AT 898545); the southern boundary generally follows the north shoreline of the SONG KY LAM trace (with the exception of the eastern portion where the boundary intersects the seacoast at coordinates (BT 131630); the northern boundary includes the peninsula and generally follows the trace of the SONG CAU DO.

(2) The area of operation does not include the city of DA NANG, DA NANG Airbase, or the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

b. Description of the Area.

(1) The area of operations is situated on a low sandy plain and occupies an area of approximately one hundred twenty nine square miles.

(2) The area of operations is generally flat, marshy (with light wooded areas), and with the heaviest population centers situated along the roads. Rice cultivation results in much of this area being continually flooded. Vegetation varies from areas of sparse vegetation along the coast to heavily vegetated areas found in the vicinity of the population centers. While much of the terrain is flat and open, elevated vantage points are few and observation is generally poor.

(3) The area of operations includes an estimated population of one hundred sixty thousand (note: This does not include the population of DA NANG City, which is not a part of the area of operation). Several areas and villages have only recently returned to GVN control or have been otherwise inaccessible, therefore there has not been an accurate census made in recent years, but this figure is believed to be reasonably accurate. The population includes several ethnic groups, with Vietnamese comprising 85% of the total population, Indonesian Tribal (not to be confused with Indonesian Nationals) 8%, Khmer, Cambodians, and Laotians 3%, Chinese 3%, and others 1%. Approximately 80% of the population are Buddhists, 9% are Catholic, and the remaining 11% is distributed within the various Protestants, Mohammedan, and Hindu sects.

(4) Ninety per cent of the people earn their living by farming. Family industries in addition to tilling the family plot, are the means of production. Although rice production is the chief commodity, antiquated farming methods, the influx of

large numbers of refugees, Viet Cong interference with transport, and "dual" (GVN and Viet Cong) taxation create hardships, and, at the present time, the area must import rice to feed the populace.

(5) National Highway #1 provides the main route through the area of operation, and extends north to south, running parallel to the South China Sea coast, at an average distance of four miles inland. National Highway #1 is two-lane except for the occurrence of several single lane bridges. The highway surface is all-weather and averages 4.4 meters in width. Highway #14, running east to west generally parallel to the SONG KY LAM, is the major secondary route within the area of operation, connecting HAI AN with the T M HO. population center. Secondary roads/trails connect the populated areas but usually will accommodate only foot traffic or small "combat" vehicles.

(6) Although the area of operations is traversed north to south by a narrow gauge railroad, Viet Cong destruction of overpasses and bridges, and removal of track, have rendered the line inoperable.

(7) The most important waterways which lay within the area of operations is the SONG CAU DO, the SONG VINH DIEN, the SONG YEN, and the SONG KY LAM. Minor waterways include the SONG CAM LE (RIVIERE DE TOURANE), the SONG THU BON, the SONG CUA DAI, the SONG BAU XAU, and the SONG LA THO. The waterways are considered navigable during all but the severest portion of the dry season, but flooded conditions during the monsoon season also serve to hinder navigation. The waterways provide a natural avenue for the movement of supplies, but Viet Cong abuses have led to the restriction of traffic in most river areas.

c. Weather.

(1) General. Although this reporting period coincided with the latter portion of the monsoon season, the influence of weather on the area of operations was not as pronounced as in the previous month (November). The abatement of the heavy rains resulted in a general improvement in trafficability and no major interferences were noted. Traffic along some roads/trails (most noticeably along the First Battalion MSR, where traffic below coordinates (BT 107655) was restricted to tracked vehicles) was curtailed, but major supply and communications routes operated unimpeded.

(2) Weather Summary.

Number of days with rain - 28
 Total rainfall - 11.93 inches
 Maximum rainfall in 24 hour period - 1.60 inches
 Maximum temperature during reporting period - 83 degrees
 Minimum temperature during reporting period - 64 degrees
 Average winds during reporting period - NE 8 knots
 Number of days with less than 5 miles visibility - 4 days.

2-2.

2. VIET CONG STRENGTHS, DISPOSITION AND TACTICS.

a. General. Unit identification and organization are the basic components of composition. The Viet Cong use of cover designations, which consists of assigning new new designations to units on an irregular, and often frequent, basis, designations which are not always made known to the members of the units concerned, creates a situation where a newly-confirmed designation does not necessarily mean a newly-arrived unit. Often a new designation is but a cover number for a unit already accepted as operating within the area. Companies whose designation would indicate a separate organization are, in fact, frequently found to be organic to an accepted battalion. The difficulties encountered in researching Viet Cong unit identifications, and the frequency with which Viet Cong units displace (captured documents indicate that company-sized forces operating in so-called "forward" areas must displace at least every three days, make it extremely difficult to identify and locate Viet Cong units with accuracy.

b. Order of Battle Intelligence.

(1) Information derived from prisoner interrogations, formalized intelligence sources, both U.S. and GVN, local officials and civilian reports, after-action reports, patrol de-briefings, and other sources indicate that the Viet Cong forces operating in the Ninth Marines TAOR during this reporting period consisted of the following:

Unit Designation	Estimated Strength	Location	Commanded By	Weapons	Validity
23d Bn	400	(AT 995606)	LE LUYEN	1-81mm Mort 2-60mm Mort 1-57mmRR 3-LMG's 15-AR's	Confirmed
U/I Bn (Possibly 7th)	300	(BT 1064)	NGUYEN CHU	1-81mmMort 1-60mmMort 1-57mmRR 27-AR's 27-BAR's 2-LMG's	Probable
44th PAVN Bn	400	(AT 9465)	LtCol DIEN	3-Mort(type 3-LMG's unk) 9-AR's 3-Rocket Launchers Small arms	Probable
344th Bn	UNK	(BT 0558)	HUNG SON	Unknown	Possible
H-40 DIEN BAN (LF) Co (AKA 215Co)	120	(BT 0362)	PHAN AN NAM	1-81mmMort 1-60mmMort 18-SMG's 1-57mmRR 3-LMG's 5-AR's	

343d(MF)Co	50	(AT 9562)	Sr. Capt TRAN CAT	1-57mmRR 2-60mmMort 6-AR's 2-81mmMort	Confirmed
345th(MF)Co	120	(AT 9863)	Maj. VC DE	1-60mmMort 1-57mmRR 2-LMG	Confir
H-41 HOA HIEN (LF)Co (AKA Q1600)	150	(BT 0770)	NGUYEN DCA	2-60mmMort 1-57mmRR 2-AR's 2-LMG's 30-SMG's	Probabl
U/I GUERRILLA C.	100	(BT 0665)	TUYEN	UNK	Pro
101st(LF)CO	UNK	(BT 115635)	AN	1-60mmMort 1-30CalMG	Possibl

(2) Of the total forces shown in sub-paragraph (1) the maximum Viet Cong strength (less local guerrilla forces) believed to have been operating at any one time in the Ninth Marines TAOR during this reporting period was approximately seventeen hundred men, which included elements of two battalions (seven hundred men) six separate companies (seven hundred fifty men) and several "special mission" units (two hundred fifty men)..

(3) Most of these Viet Cong units are believed to be of local origin and have been previously accepted as operating in this area. Reports were received from several sources indicating the influx of additional Viet Cong forces within the TAOR but it is believed that much of these reports but reflected the return of Viet Cong units to normal operating areas from "high ground" bases to west as the weather improved, and flooding subsided. It is probable however, that at least one additional local force Viet Cong company was formed by the re-organization of several smaller local forces (platoons/cells). The significance of such a re-organization is that it would usually be predicated on the receipt of additional weaponry and equipment which would provide the T/E required for the higher-echelon unit. Contact reports as well as other indications provide support to the belief that the Viet Cong have been able to introduce additional weapons to the area. While no new weapons-types or weapons escalation has been experienced, the small arms weapons utilized by the Viet Cong display a greater uniformity and a higher percentage of automatic weapons than here-to-fore experienced in this TAOR. There were no confirmed instances of the use of medium caliber mortars or artillery by the Viet Cong but several reports of 60mm and 81mm mortar firing were received.

(4) Local guerrilla forces, organized in irregular units up to company strength (60-120), continued to operate in many sections of the TAOR. There was no significant increase or decrease in guerrilla activity during the reporting period, and it is believed that

the guerrilla effort consisted primarily of sniping incidents, small unit contacts (predominately during the hours of darkness), and terrorist/proselyting activities. Reports were received which would attribute the recent increase of mining activities in the TAOR to guerrilla units, but it is believed that much of the mining would require specialized knowledge of the material and techniques employed, and it is doubtful if local guerrillas have these capabilities. What is more likely is that a Viet Cong "special mission" force of sappers were introduced into the area to conduct and direct the mining effort.

c. Tactics.

(1) One of the most significant Viet Cong efforts was not directed at USMC forces within the TAOR, but rather sought out GVN Regional Forces elements and People's Action Teams members participating in the NGU HAHN SON (Five Mountains) Rural-construction Program, underway in the villages of HOA DA, HOA PHUOC, HOA CHAU, HOA THAI, and HOA LOE. Viet Cong attacks commenced almost at the initiation of the program, with the first reported contact on 5 December. The attacks increased in frequency and intensity until, on 21 December, multiple attacks in the CAM NE and YEN NE complexes resulted in friendly (GVN) casualties of eleven KIA, three WIA, and three MIA. As the rural construction (pacification) program can progress only in a "secure" environment, the Viet Cong actions threatened the continuance of the program and Ninth Marines support was provided to counter the Viet Cong threat. The Viet Cong efforts are perhaps indicative of the importance that the Viet Cong attribute to this type of pacification program and its potential effectiveness.

(2) Sniping incidents and small unit contacts continued to inflict the major portion of Ninth Marines casualties. Casualties as the result of mining incidents decreased slightly, although the frequency of such incidents increased slightly. In addition, one tank was reported damaged beyond repair and one tank and two Landing Vehicles Tracked (LVT) received less serious damage.

(3) Only one contact involving a Viet Cong force in excess of one hundred men (one company) was reported during the period covered by this report. On 27 December, a Company B squad-sized patrol made contact with no Viet Cong in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 081 629) and (BT 084628). With the assistance of a reinforcing element including tanks and ONTOS, and the effectiveness of artillery and air support, the Marines inflicted a total of forty one Viet Cong KIA (by body count). Of especial significance in this engagement was that the first several friendly casualties were, in order, the radioman, platoon/patrol leader, corpsman, and a machine gunner, which attests to the Viet Cong effectiveness in seeking out key personnel as well as the vulnerability of their positions.

3. VIET CONG CASUALTIES.

a. During the period 9-18 December 1965, the Third Battalion, Third Marines directed a composite force which included two companies of the Second Battalion, Ninth Marines, in Operation HARVEST MOON, which was conducted outside the Ninth Marines TAOR. Although this battalion-sized force was a part of a special task force formed for this operation, the casualties inflicted by these Ninth Marines units are included in the below tally.

KIA (body count)	158
KIA (Probable)	140
VC Captured	17
VC Captured (WIA)	1
VC Suspects Apprehended	117

4. SOURCES OF INTELLIGENCE.

a. While reports of Viet Cong locations, displacements, strengths, and intentions were received with unabated frequency, usable information was the exception and the vagueness and inexactness of the majority of the reports denied confirmation. Reports of the influx of battalion and regimental-sized units continued to be received but could not be confirmed. Several reports were received of ARVN contacts with Viet Cong battalions in the areas to the south of the TAOR, and there is evidence of an increase in enemy strength in that area.

b. The most reliable source of usable intelligence information continued to be Marines in contact with the enemy. In addition to reports of Viet Cong strengths, weapons, locations, movement, and actions based on these contact, the Marines also recovered documents and other material of intelligence value.

5. ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE DEVICES

a. During December, the Regiment employed the following electronic surveillance devices, as indicated:

	<u>AN/TPS-21</u>	<u>SID-150</u>	<u>INTRA-RED SIGHTING DEV.</u>
Headquarters Co., 9th Mar	2	8	6
1st Battalion, 9th Mar	2	21	16
2nd Battalion, 9th Mar	2	45	15
3d Battalion, 9th Mar	2	20	17
3d Battalion, 3d Mar	2	21	16

6. PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE.

a. General. Statistical data for psy-war operations during this reporting period reflects a substantial increase in the number of presentations and the quantities of materials utilized.

Leaflets dropped:	225,000
Leaflets handed out:	7,000
Posters distributed	180
Audio Team Presentations	10

b. Damage to the 1st MAW Psy-war loudspeaker helicopter as the result of an accident temporarily curtailed the use of that technique but USAF U-10 (fixed-wing) aircraft were made available during the latter portion of the reporting period. The use of psy-war aircraft, to drop leaflets as well as to deliver an audio address, is perhaps the easiest means of communicating with those hamlets which are infrequently visited by Marine patrols, but the impersonal message delivered by this device has but limited acceptability. Face-to-face persuasion was increased due to the arrival of an additional four ARVN interpreters.

c. The effectiveness of individual psy-war actions is difficult to gauge. Although there were several instances during the reporting period of civilians providing information to Marines, there was little indication that the civilian's action was influenced by an overt psy-war effort. The continued presence of Marines in the locality, and the effectiveness of the security provided by the Marines, is undoubtedly the prime consideration in increased cooperation by the local inhabitants. An improved information system, so that ARVN and U.S. military successes and GVN governmental improvements, can be brought to the attention of the villagers, continues to be the most evident need.

APPENDIX 1

S-2 INTSUMS No. 146-176

S-3 CHRONOLOGY

1. NGU-HOANH-SON (Operation Five Mountains). The program of pacification continues in the Five Mountains area. Lt. Colonel LAM, 51st ARVN Regimental Commander, is assigned as the pacification campaign chief. Two companies of the 3d Bn 51st Regiment are deployed in the pacification area. The 9th Marines are providing security for about one-fourth of the pacification area and continue to support the campaign with limited medical, logistical, and tactical assistance. The program has been slowed due to the military and leadership changes occurring this month. See Appendix B of this enclosure for ARVN contacts.

2. Area of Operations. The 9th Marines operated within their assigned TAOR and as of 31 Dec 1965 occupied positions as shown in Appendix A (Original only).

3. Significant Events.

- 1 Dec M/3/9 conducted a S/C operation in GIANG DONG, QUANG GIANG (2) and NHON THO (1). M/3/9 was supported by a light section of tanks and I/3/9 acted as a blocking force. Results of this operation were negative.
- 2 Dec 2/B/1/9 provided security for a downed helicopter in 1/9 TAOR.
- 1-2 Dec A provisional rifle company was formed of personnel from Hq Co, 1st AMTRAC Bn and 3d Tank Bn, conducted a S/C operation through PHONG BAC.
- 3 Dec 2/9 assumed responsibility of the center portion of 9th Marines TAOR with 3/9 becoming the DANANG Air Base Defense Battalion.
- 3 Dec 3/3 under OPCON of 9th Marines, assumed responsibility of the western portion of the 9th Marines TAOR.
- 8 Dec 3/3 (-) (Rein) was chopped to TASK FORCE DELTA for Operation Harvest Moon.
- 9 Dec 9th Marines executed "SPREAD EAGLE."
- 11 Dec 1/9 conducted a Tk/LVT beach patrol resulting in nine VCS apprehended from boats near beach line.
- 11 Dec Senator JACKSON (WASH) visited 9th Marines CP.
- 13 Dec Congressmen SIKES (FLA), LISCOMB (CALIF), MINSHALL (OHIO), LONG (MD), JOELSON (NJ) visited 9th Marines CP.
- 17 Dec B/1/9 conducted S/C operation in the "Horseshoe Area".
- 19 Dec 3/3 (-) (Rein) chopped from OPCON TF DELTA.
- 21 Dec General THIEU RVN and LtGen HEINTGES (DEPCOMSMACV) visited 9th Marines CP.

- 22 Dec General WHEELER, USA, JCS, visited 9th Marines.
 23-25 Dec Admiral KELLY, USN, Chief of Chaplains Corps
 visited 1/9 and 2/9.
 26 Dec General JOHNSON USA, C/S visited 9th Marines.
 27 Dec 2/9 conducted S/D operation in their portion
 of 9th Marines TAO. No enemy contact.
 27 Dec A combat patrol of 17 Marines from B/1/9 encountered
 a VC unit of over 50. Combined infantry, tanks,
 ontos, mortars and armed helicopter fire accounted
 for 41 VC by body count.
 28 Dec M/3/9 conducted S/D operation of AN TRACH (1) to
 LE SON (3).

Appendix

- A - Operation Overlay (page 3-A-1)
 B - Operation Five Mountains ~~Contacts~~ (page 3-B-1)

SECRET

Appendix B (Operation Five Mountains Contacts)

- 4 Dec. Pacification Teams worked on brush clearing, house to house visits and medical treatments.
- 5-6 Dec. 59th Bn RF conducted a plt S&C operation in Hamlet of MAN QUAN (BT 0360). Results were one VC KIA, and two VCC in the MAN QUAN Area.
- 7 Dec. 59th RF Bn received approximately 20 rds S/A. One RF was KIA as a result of a booby trap prior to this contact.
- 10 Dec. 3d Co, 39th Ranger Bn now attached to the 59th BN RF in conjunction with Pacification Area.
- 11 Dec. Units of the 39th Ranger Bn attached to the 59th Bn RF conducted a S&C operation in the CAM NE complex and PHONG LE (1). Five VCS were apprehended.
- 20 Dec. 59th Bn units searched PHONG LE Hamlet with negative results.
- 21 Dec. A Pacification Platoon in QUA GIANG (1) received mortar fire with D/1/9 responding with 81mm fire on suspected VC positions. This platoon later was in S/A contact with the VC, resulting in one PAT KIA and one WIA. A later search was conducted with negative results.
- 25 Dec. LtCol LAP, Cdr 51st Inf Regt ARVN, held initial conference with CO, 9th Marines. LtCol LAP is the New Campaign Chief of Operation Five Mountains.
- 26 Dec. Pacification Cadre in THON TRUNG LUONG were attacked by unknown number of VC resulting in two PAT KIA and one PAT WIA. The cadre later ambushed VC west of the village which resulted in five VC KIA (PC S).

3-B-1

Enclosure (3)

SECRET

S-4 GLOSSARY

1. S-4 Journal. Attached as APPENDIX *delete class*

2. Supply. Priority 02 and 05 requisitions are being traced in accordance with current directives to the supply sources (last known holder) and are not being answered within the established time frame. A letter was sent (CO 9th Marines Lt 4/GAR/rc over 4400 dtd 11Dec65) to the CG, 3dMar Div informing Division Supply of the seriousness of our problem. The CG in turn has written to CO 3dFSR asking for a clarification of the problem.

3. Bunker for Operations Center. Received lumber and materials and a representative from Engineer Battalion to help construct this bunker. Bunker has been completed.

4. .50 Cal MG with sniper scope. One (1) .50 cal MG with Rifle Telescope 3X-9X attached was drawn from FLS of S-4 and taken to the range and fired. It was found to be accurate and a good sniper weapon, however a better scope is required. A new Unertl Scope was picked up the end of December and will be tested first part of January. With this new scope it is felt this gun will make an outstanding sniper weapon for the 9th Battalion.

5. New 250 Man modified Mess Hall. Regimental 9th Marines new mess hall is estimated to be completed by 10 January 1966.

6. Evacuation and Hospitalization of POW's. N/A.

7. Transportation. N/A.

Communications. Submitted separately by Regimental CommO.

9. Employment of Indigeneous Personnel. RVN civilian war widows are employed as laundry girls. In addition, the Officer Mess has hired ~~two~~ women as waitresses.

10. Embarkation. 9th Marines units are still short on mount-out boxes and sufficient paint to mark all mount-out gear. Regimental Headquarters does not have a school trained Embarkation Officer assigned and shortages still exists in the battalions.

APPENDIX "A" - Copies of S-4
Journal (Dec65)

SECRETAIR SUPPORT CHRONOLOGY1. Operational Highlights. None.

2. Facilities Provided. 9th Marines Landing Zone (LZ) continued to be utilized as a divert field for MAG-16 helicopters.

3. Personnel and Equipment

a. Problems arose from the constant switching of radio operators manning the TAR and TAD nets. Inexperienced TAC operators would not recognize improper request, therefore allowing same to reach higher echelons without Regimental approval or disapproval. A change to revert to the original trained TACP resulted in the orderly processing of mission requests.

b. MRC-87 radio jeeps continue in a constant "up-down" status. One of the two assigned remained in a down status for this month. The second remained in a 50% "up-down" status.

c. BB-451, remain in a low state of availability and generally inadequate.

d. The TACP's PRC-10 was in an "up-down" status during this month.

e. Three FAC teams were involved on "Operation Harvest Moon".

4. Helicopter Support

a. Transient helicopters traversing the 9th Marines TAOR continue to be a problem in that they pose a safety threat in regards to artillery fire. It is imperative that helicopters RIO with the DASC or Peepsite on an assigned frequency prior to entry to insure their safety and not to interfere with artillery missions in progress.

b. Helicopter support (general) was still a problem area. Due to bad weather and the ever present "higher mission" assignments by DASC, Wing, Div and MAF, scheduled daily support was intermittent. During the last week of the reporting period, support improved considerably.

SECRET5. Close Air Support

a. Pre-planned strikes arrive on station at requested times, but strip alert aircraft were unreliable in time of need. Of the several "scramble" requests initiated, none arrived in time to be of help. This is due to the misinterpretation of alert status time, i.e. "30 min strip alert" means from the time the pilot gets the word until he is on target, not the time the FAC request support to the time on target. The present scramble chain of command takes excessive time to promptly and properly be effective.

b. TPQ-10 missions were requested twice, but disapproved at Div FSCC. These missions were approved by Bn and Regt FSCC.

c. CAS strikes continue to be controlled by TAC(A)s and AO due to the small unit actions without the presence of an FAC team.

6. Miscellaneous

a. The quarterly TACP meeting was held at this headquarters. Battalion ALO's and FAC's attended with representatives from Wing, DASC and MAG present. Control problem areas and general support problems were discussed and partially to fully solved.

b. Regimental and Battalion ALO/FAC attended a special CAS study conference presided over by BGen M. E. CARL. Topic of interest was the report due for DOD evaluation of the present Marine Corps Concept of CAS vs the USAF Concept.

SECRETMEDICAL AND DENTAL CHRONOLOGY1. Significant events.

a. Due to the unavailability of a medical officer, Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 12th Marines utilized the services of the Regimental Surgeon.

b. Weekly sanitation inspections of the Ninth Marine GP Area were conducted and no major discrepancies were noted.

2. New Developments.

a. Regimental Surgeon received Temporary ~~Additional~~ Duty to "D" Company Third Medical Battalion to participate in Operation Harvest Moon from the period of 8 December to 20 December 1965.

b. Medical officer from Third Battalion, Ninth Marines was utilized during this period for treatment of patients within this command.

3. Problem areas.

a. None reported.

4. MEDCAP

a. Treatment of 485 civilian Vietnamese patients in the village of Then Bin accomplished by the medical section. The majority of complaints consisted of ulcerations, lacerations, skin disorders, upper respiratory infections, headaches, and vitamin deficiency.

b. Monthly requisition for MEDCAP supplies for use by the Ninth Marines submitted in accordance with current directives to III MAF Civil Affairs Officer. Upon receipt the medical supplies are distributed to the medical officers of the 1st, 2d and 3d Battalions according to their requirements.

5. Patient statistical data

a. Number of patients seen - 160

b. Referrals to "J" Co, 3d Med Bn - 5

SECRET

- c. Consultations to "C" Co, 3d Med Bn - 5
 - d. Dental referrals - 11
 - e. Majority of treatment included skin disorders, diarrhea, gastroenteritis, upper respiratory infections, injuries, and otitis media. However, these complaints have not impaired functional capacity of the unit.
 - f. Number of emergency treatments and type
 - (1) Lacerations - 9
 - (2) Burns - 2
 - (3) Contusions - 4
 - (4) Sprains - 2
6. Innoculations and prophylactic medicine administered.
- a. Immunizations - 346
 - b. Malaria prophylactic - 800

SECRETCOMMUNICATIONS CHRONOLOGY1. Significant Events. none.

2. Regimental Communications Equipment Pool. During this month each Infantry Battalion had 15 AN/PRC-10 radios replaced on an R+E programmed input. Due to recent special allowance requirements for additional AN/PRC-10 radios for in-country use, this Regiment has requested permission to establish a pool of 15 AN/PRC-10 radios to be assigned to battalions within the TAOR when tactical situation warrants such augmentation.

3. Wire Communications

a. Wire remains the primary communications link between unit headquarters except for the battalion located in vicinity of Marble Mountain.

b. Four additional wire lines were installed to higher headquarters which increased the number of main trunks to six. This has relieved the congestion through the Regimental switchboard to a marked degree.

4. Ground Surveillance Radar

a. Regimental Communication Platoon provides its two AN/TPS-21 Radars as a pool to back up battalion's assets while in a repair status.

b. The test equipment available at Regiment also provides battalion technicians with the capability of localizing troubles for quicker repair service.

SECRET1. Fire Support Coordination Chronologya. Significant Events. None.b. New Developments

(1) Rules of Engagement. In mid-November guiding principles were promulgated modifying the rules of engagement. The rules of engagement were modified to the extent that whenever a target of opportunity is present, and friendly forces are being fired upon by hostile forces, a fire mission can be conducted without prior clearance from Division FSOC. Clearance must be positive from the Battalion FSOC and Regimental FSOC, this includes air observers who are taken under fire by hostile elements. Illumination can also be fired without prior approval from Division FSOC. In all cases, Division FSOC must be notified as soon as possible that firing is in progress. This has proven to be a very advantageous procedure, and has facilitated rapid response to emergency fire requests. All pre-planned fires must still be approved by Division FSOC and cognizant ARVN authorities.

(2) The 9th Marines' MAOR has been expanded during this reporting period with the 3d Bn, 3d Marines responsible for the western sector of the MAOR, 2d Bn, 9th Marines in the center, and 1st Bn, 9th Marines in the eastern sector. Also the overall 9th Marines MAOR has been expanded to the SONG MU HLA vic (LT 900565) to (LT 941593), north along the SONG YEN from vic (LT 941593) to (LT 935613) and north along highway from coord (LT 935613) to approximate intersection with SONG TUY LOAN. Also in an easterly direction from coord (LT 900565) along the SONG MU HLA, SONG KY LAH River to vic (LT 040570), along the VINH DIEN River to (BT 050579) where it continues north-easterly (cutting north of ARVN camp in GS 0658) to the coast at coord (LT 127634).

(3) Naval Gunfire teams have been assigned to the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines and the 2d Battalion, 9th Marines. One NGF Liaison team is at each CP. The NGF spot teams are both assigned to 1/9 so that they can be rotated on Marble Mountain while performing the duties of heading the 2d Battalion, 12th Marines CP at that position. When necessary, the spot team organic to the NGF team at 2/9 will rejoin the NGF liaison team to form the complete Shore Fire Control Party as was done for LAM 50 BTL.

c. Problem Areas.

(1) The increase of the TAOR as described above has caused problems of fire support coordination in regard to answering requests for pre-planned fires from ARVN units. Requests from ARVN units for H&I fires often are plotted on populated areas. As the policy for restricted targets as published by the CG, 3d Marine Division states that no pre-planned fires will be fired into populated areas until the inhabitants have been given proper warning, it has often been necessary to refuse clearance on many requests from the ARVN units for H&I fires. Before the re-adjustment of the 9th Marines TAOR, the ARVN units had sole responsibility for the area south of the SONG VU GIA-SONG LA THO-SONG THANH QUIT and from approx coords (BT 055628) to (BT 127634). The area between this old 9th Marines' limit of their TAOR and the new TAOR is an area of disagreement at this time concerning locations of pre-planned fires that should be granted clearance.

(2) There are two possible solutions to the inconsistency in policies for clearance of fire missions on pre-planned targets in the area described.

(a) A meeting at the command level, could be held between the 3d Marine Division and the ARVN units from HOI AN, to arrive at a policy for appropriate targets that can be granted clearances for fires.

(b) The CG, 3d Marine Division could relieve the CG 9th Marines of responsibility for targets fired on at the request of ARVN units in the disputed area, by modifying the existing rules of engagement to the extent that we could answer calls for fire from the ARVN units on their clearance and with the understanding that the ARVN authorities would accept sole responsibility for such missions.

d. Number and type of missions fired during December 1966

H&I's	1919
Observed Missions	60
Unobserved Missions	21
Registrations	<u>133</u>
Total in supp of MAF	2233
Missions frd for ARVN	43

SECRET

- e. Number of rounds fired by organic units of 2d Battalion, 12th Marines

105mm Howitzer 5527

155mm Howitzer (SP) 1248

Total: 6775

- f. Fire missions, and surveillance for each mission, that were conducted from 1-31 December 1968 are shown in appendix I. Period shown is from 1800 to 1800 on dates indicated.

SECRET

Appendix A (Fire Missions and Surveillance 1-31 Dec 1965)

(1800 - 1800 Daily Includes Request by ARVN Units)

1 Dec

(AT 972604)	Susp VC Co	Unobs	Six rds no surv
(AT 971594)	Susp VC Co	Unobs	Six rds no surv
(AT 983597)	Susp VC Co	Unobs	Six rds no surv
(AT 946597)	Trench	Prec & Dest	32 rds, good effect
(BT 11106271)	Trench	Prec & Dest	35 rds, trench dm
(BT 06386494)	Sniper Pos	Obs	15 rds, good effect

2 Dec

Only Regis and H&I's Fired

3 Dec

(AT 962651)	VC in fox holes	Obs	6 rds frd. mission canc due to helos
-------------	-----------------	-----	---

4 Dec

Only Regis and H&I's.

5 Dec

(BT 055735)	Susp VC in boat illum		2 rds. boat beached, people dispersed.
-------------	-----------------------	--	---

6 Dec

(AT 963584)	Susp VC Co	Obs	44 rds. AO rpts bldg left burning, saw 3 VC KIA.
-------------	------------	-----	--

7 Dec

(AT 956586)	VC Co	Unobs Req by ARVN	42x105, 42x155, 2 KIA rptd by Div.
-------------	-------	----------------------	---------------------------------------

8 Dec

(BT 101656)	VC in treeline	Obs	24 rds HE. No surv
-------------	----------------	-----	--------------------

9 Dec

(BT 108649)	VC w/auto wpns	Obs	34 rds. VC dispersed
(AT 983578)	VC attack ARVN	Obs	42 rds. No surv
(AT 973578)	VC attack ARVN	Obs	12x105, 6x155, No surv.

10 Dec

Only Regis and H&I's.

SECRET11 Dec

(AT 982588)	Two VC Co's	Obs	8 rds in supp of ARVN
-------------	-------------	-----	--------------------------

12 Dec

(BT 060719)	VC swimming	Illum	8 rds frd on target,
	in river		well illum.
(BT 060719)	Susp VC movement	Illum	3 rds frd, target
			well illum

13 Dec

(BT 107636)	VC in bunker	Obs	80 rds HE. Army 40 rpts target dmgd
-------------	--------------	-----	--

14 Dec

(AT 963723)	Susp VC activ	Illum	6 rds, no VC obsrvd
(BT 064713)	Two sampans	Illum	3 rds, no surv

15 Dec

(BT 059785)	Susp VC	Illum	2 rds, good illum
(BT 059752)	Susp VC	Illum	2 rds, good illum
(BT 113647)	VC in treeline	Obs	4 rds, no surv
(AT 952648)	VC plt firing on patrol	Obs	69 rds excel effect on trgt, fire ceased

16 Dec

(BT 043702)	Amb by ARVN	Illum	8 rds, neg result
(AT 999631)	Auto wpns fire	Obs	38 rds, good effect on target
(BT 00036313)	Sniper fire	Obs	40 rds, good effect on target

17 Dec

(AT 987686)	Susp VC movement	Illum	3 rds neg results
-------------	------------------	-------	-------------------

18 Dec

(BT 105654)	Supp of Co att	Prep fires	116 rds HE
-------------	----------------	------------	------------

19 Dec

(BT 097655)	Auto wpns fire	Illum	5 rds, neg results
(BT 101659)	Auto wpns fire	Obs	6 rds HE, no surv
(BT 101659)	Auto wpns fire	Obs	12 rds HE

20 Dec

(AT 980578)	VC Co	Unobs	12 rds*
(AT 983578)	VC Co	For ARVN	12 rds*
(AT 987577)	VC Co	For ARVN	12 rds*

SECRET27 DEC
con't

(BT 050640)	VC in treeline	Obs	34 rds. No surv
(BT 047653) (AT 980603)	to 5 missions for escape route for D/3/A	Obs (AO)	30 rds HE
(AT 992635)	VC snipers	Obs	8 rds HE, 2 rds WP, No surv.
(AT 988602)	A/W	Un Obs	36 rds 155. No surv
(AT 977597)	A/W	Un Obs	19 rds " " "
(AT 987589)	A/W	Un Obs	19 rds " " "
(BT 087619)	20 VC in open	Obs	24 rds HE, 6 rds WP. One KIA, extensive damage to TGT area, good effect on TGT.
(AT 999609)	Heavy S/A's fire	Obs	88 rds HE. Exc. eff on TGT.
(BT 024579)	Hvy S/A fire from trenches	Obs	44 rds. AO repts Two KIA(POSS)

28 Dec

Only H&I's and Registration Fired.

29 Dec

(BT 039724)	Search for ARVN Illum (ARVN) KIA's And WIA's	11 rds Illum. ARVN WIA found
-------------	---	---------------------------------

30 Dec

(AT 970574)	2 VC Bn	Un Obs (ARVN)	6 rds 105. No surv
(AT 974574)	2 VC Bn	" " "	6 rds " " "
(AT 976574)	2 VC Bn	" " "	6 rds " " "
(2206328)	VC sqd	" " "	26 rds " " "
(BT 003628)	VC Co	" " "	30 rds " " "
(AT 976646)	VC Co	" " "	30 rds " " "
(BT 015619)	VC Co	" " "	30 rds " " "
(BT 003613)(?)	VC Bn CP	" " "	30 rds " " "

8-A-3

Appendix A
Enclosure (8)
SECRET

SECRET

(AT 974586)	VC Co	For ARVN	12 rds*
(AT 978587)	VC Co	For ARVN	12 rds*
(AT 976582)	VC Co	For ARVN	12 rds*
(AT 978577)	VC Co	For ARVN	10 rds*
(AT 971575)	VC Co	For ARVN	6 rds*

* Surv on all above missions fired for ARVN. ARVN advisor reports he spotted VC carrying 18 bodies from coord (AT 973597) through village after firing had ceased. Also spotted VC carrying six bodies through village at coord (AT 970573). Total 24 counted VC KIA from arty mission in support of ARVN.

20 Dec
con't

(AT 995578)	VC Co	Unobs	6 rds HE no surv
-------------	-------	-------	------------------

21 Dec

(AT 944578)	VC Bn	Unobs	For 51st ARVN Bn, 54x105 rds, 49x155 rds, 9 VC KIA conf. many more unconf. dest 1 VC prop BrdCst conf. surv recd fr 12th Mar hqs,
(AT 942577)			
(AT 945577)			

system

22 Dec

(AT 964673)	Susp VC	Illum	2 rds, neg res
(BT 064625)	VC troops	Obs	120 rds HE, four secondary expl, tgt well covered

23 Dec

(AT 983575)	Susp VC	Unobs(for ARVN)	12 rds HE, no surv
(AT 988567)	60-70 VC	Unobs(for ARVN)	12 rds HE, 18 rds WP, no surv

24 Dec

(BT 099651)	VC firing	Obs	18 rds, no surv
-------------	-----------	-----	-----------------

241800-
260001H

Cease fire in effect

26 Dec

(AT 962584)	2 VC Co's	Unobs(for ARVN)	21 rds HE, no surv
-------------	-----------	-----------------	--------------------

27 Dec

(BT 050640)	VC in treeline	Obs	34 rds, no surv
-------------	----------------	-----	-----------------

8-A-4

Appendix A
Enclosure (8)
SECRET

SECRET30 Dec
cont.

{04897171}	S/A fire	Obs	9 rds. No surv
{0416288}	VC A/W fire	Obs	15 rds HE, 23 WP. No surv.
{AT 906598}	Poss VC	Un Obs(ARVN)	40 rpts seven K...
{AT 908598}	" "	" " "	36 rds 155 fired
{AT 904597}	" "	" " "	36 rds 155 fired
{AT 900590}	VC Co	Obs	29 rds 155. No surv
{AT 902588}	VC Co	Obs	6 rds 155. No surv

31 Dec

{BT 109655}	Susp VC	Illum	2 rds. No VC sighted.
{BT 037627}	Susp VC Co	Un Obs	15 rds HE. No surv
{BT 035624}	" " "	Obs	14 rds HE. No surv
{AT 899592}	VC Co	Defense of (ARVN) Opn on 4 WP (155)	24 rds 155, 60 HE No surv.

Hill 65.

8-A-5

Appendix A
Enclosure (8)
SECRET

SECRETSUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

The following documents are submitted with the original copy of the Ninth Marines Command Chronology for December 1965:

- TAB
- | | | |
|------------------------|-----|---|
| <u>IN P.I.</u> | (1) | S-2 INTSUMS Numbers 146-176 |
| <u>IN P.II</u> | (2) | S-3 Journal 1-31 Dec 1965 |
| | (3) | S-4 Journal 1-31 Dec 1965 <i>25 DEC 65 NIF 28-30 DEC 65 NIF</i> |
| <i>Silence
ref</i> | (4) | 1st Bn, Command Chronology Dec 1965 |
| | (5) | 2d Bn Command Chronology Dec 1965 |
| | (6) | 3d Bn, 3d Marines Command Chronology Dec 1965 |
| | (7) | 9th Marines Frag Order 67-65 through 70-65 |
| | (8) | 9th Marines Op Order 355-65. |

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/GW/jda
3800
012400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #146, Period ending 012400H December 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>DAUT</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>DAUT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
2 Dec	0632	0655	1829	1852	1344	0117	1/2

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1st Bn, 2nd Mar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SOAG CAN DU (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708).

a. At 010837H, Battery D reported apprehending two Viet Cong Suspects when they were observed taking unusual interest in the battery's positions. The suspects were evacuated to the First Battalion Command Post for initial interrogation, and further transportation to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point.

b. At 010900H, a Company C patrol, operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 056653), reported discovering a plastic bag containing flash-light batteries (quantity not indicated), two khaki-colored ponchos, two pair khaki trousers, and two khaki shirts. The articles were recovered and evacuated to the Battalion Command Post for examination. Additional information will be provided when available.

PAGE 1 OF 5 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

c. At 011330H, a Company C patrol, operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 052656), reported receiving approximately five small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 053653). The Marines directed approximately fifty small arms rounds and one 40MM(M-79) round at the Viet Cong position and the enemy fire was not reported. The enemy position was not searched as it was located on the far side of a large, flooded field. No casualties were reported.

d. At 011505H, a Company B platoon (-) was dispatched to coordinates (BT 063710) to provide security for a helicopter which was disabled and forced to land. The security force will remain at this position until relieved. The cause of the helicopter's disability was not indicated.

e. At 011815H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from the HOA HAI Village Chief that one VO XU is a Viet Cong cadre operating in MAN QUAN hamlet, HOA LAN village. (The report did not indicate a particular hamlet in the LAN QUAN complex.) The Battalion S-2 did not rate this report. (S-2 rates it C-6).

(2) 3rd Bn, 9th Mar. Continued to occupy positions south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southwest portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the railroad bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998707). Company I provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of MIEU DUNG (1), coordinates (BT 017648). Company L, Third Battalion, Third Marines provided security for the FLSG ammunition dump, coordinates (AT 998733).

a. At 010900H, a Company I patrol, operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 016655), reported receiving four small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned in NHON THO (2) hamlet, coordinates (BT 017652). The Marines directed approximately one hundred small arms rounds and two 3.5 inch rocket rounds at the Viet Cong position and the enemy broke contact. A subsequent search of the hamlet provided negative results. No Marine casualties were reported.

b. At 011118H, Company L, Third Battalion, Third Marines (OPCON 3/9) relayed a report from a GVN Popular Force member (further identification not provided) that a Viet Cong platoon was enroute north from LA BONG (2) hamlet, coordinates (AT 972668). The report did not indicate how timely this report was or the basis of the report. The Battalion S-2 commented that the Battalion Intelligence Chief, participating in an aerial reconnaissance, investigated the report but observed no movement of suspicious persons or other unusual activity. Additional information will be provided when available.

c. At 011200H, Company M relayed a report from the Chief of QUA GIANG (2) hamlet, coordinates (BT 002669), that one Viet Cong company, equipped with two 60mm mortars, was located in NHON THO (1) hamlet, coordinates (BT 002658). In response to this report, two platoons plus blocking forces were dispatched to search the hamlets of GIANG DUNG, coordinates (AT 007678), QUA GIANG (2), coordinates (BT 002665), and NHON THO (1), coordinates (BT 002658). Eleven Viet Cong suspects were reported apprehended during the operation, and evacuated to the Third Marine Division Collection Point for investigation. No casualties were reported.

PAGE 2 OF 5 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

d. At 011734H, the Battalion S-3 reported that four Vietnamese civilians were apprehended at the checkpoint maintained by the National Police with USMC assistance at KIEU DUNG, when examination revealed they lacked adequate identification. The suspicious persons were evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

e. At 011820H, Company K reported apprehending one Vietnamese male Viet Cong Suspect at coordinates (AT 988658) when he and a companion were found hiding in a field. The second man escaped apprehension. The report added that a small quantity of rice was also found but did not provide additional details. The Viet Cong Suspect was evacuated to the Third Marine Division Collection Point for investigation.

f. At 011740H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from the American advisor to the local GVN Census Grievance Committee (further identification not provided) regarding the results of a joint Company M (Third Battalion, Third Marines) and ARVN Ranger Battalion operation conducted 17-18 November in the Third Battalion, Ninth Marines Zone of Action. The report stated that forty two Viet Cong were killed and twenty eight Viet Cong wounded in this operation. (S-2 comment: As the validity of this report can not be determined, and also because the cited operation was primarily an ARVN operation, the casualty figures are provided for information only and will not be claimed by this headquarters).

(3) 3rdBn, 3rdMar. Battalion Command Post is situated at coordinates (AT 973706). Company K provided security for the Battalion C.P.; Company M provided security for ASP #1, coordinates (AT 985733); and Companies I and L are OPCON Third Battalion, Ninth Marines.

a. At 010135H, Company L reported that two mines positioned as part of ASP #1 defenses, coordinates (AT 985733), detonated with no Marine casualties. The report indicated that the cause of the detonation could not be determined and may have been as the result of dog(s) wandering into the mined areas. A daylight examination of the site provided no additional information.

(4) Special Reports.

a. Late Report. At 302335H, the First Amphibious Tractor Battalion reported receiving three rounds of small arms fire from an undetermined number of Viet Cong positioned to the northeast of the Battalion Command Post, coordinates (AT 985712). The Marines directed twenty five to thirty rounds small arms fire at the suspected enemy position and the Viet Cong fire ceased. No Marine casualties were reported. Viet Cong casualties were not determined.

b. At 010150H, the Third Tank Battalion reported receiving an estimated twenty to twenty five rounds of what was described as carbine Battalion Command Post position, coordinates (AT 985713), from an estimated four Viet Cong positioned between the Battalion Command Post, and the Third Motor Transport Battalion Command Post, coordinates (AT 982729). The Marines directed thirty five to forty small arms rounds at the enemy positions and the Viet Cong fire ceased. No casualties were reported.

CONFIDENTIAL

d. At 011754H, the Battalion S-3 reported that four Vietnamese civilians were apprehended at the checkpoint maintained by the National Police with USMC assistance at HIEU DONG, when examination revealed they lacked adequate identification. The suspicious persons were evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

e. At 011820H, Company K reported apprehending one Vietnamese male Viet Cong Suspect at coordinates (AT 988658) when he and a companion were found hiding in a field. The second man escaped apprehension. The report added that a small quantity of rice was also found but did not provide additional details. The Viet Cong Suspect was evacuated to the Third Marine Division Collection Point for investigation.

f. At 011740H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from the American advisor to the local GVN Census Grievance Committee (further identification not provided) regarding the results of a joint Company M (Third Battalion, Third Marines) and ARVN Ranger Battalion operation conducted 17-18 November in the Third Battalion, Ninth Marines Zone of Action. The report stated that forty two Viet Cong were killed and twenty eight Viet Cong wounded in this operation. (S-2 comment: As the validity of this report can not be determined, and also because the cited operation was primarily an ARVN operation, the casualty figures are provided for information only and will not be claimed by this headquarters).

(3) 3rdBn, 3rdMar. Battalion Command Post is situated at coordinates (AT 973706). Company K provided security for the Battalion C.P.; Company M provided security for ASP #1, coordinates (AT 985733); and Companies I and L are OPCON Third Battalion, Ninth Marines.

a. At 010135H, Company L reported that two mines positioned as part of ASP #1 defenses, coordinates (AT 985733), detonated with no Marine casualties. The report indicated that the cause of the detonation could not be determined and may have been as the result of dog(s) wandering into the mined areas. A daylight examination of the site provided no additional information.

(4) Special Reports.

a. Late Report. At 302335H, the First Amphibious Tractor Battalion reported receiving three rounds of small arms fire from an undetermined number of Viet Cong positioned to the northeast of the Battalion Command Post, coordinates (AT 985712). The Marines directed twenty five to thirty rounds small arms fire at the suspected enemy position and the Viet Cong fire ceased. No Marine casualties were reported. Viet Cong casualties were not determined.

b. At 010150H, the Third Tank Battalion reported receiving an estimated twenty to twenty five rounds of what was described as carbine Battalion Command Post positions, coordinates (BT 985713), from an estimated four Viet Cong positioned between the Battalion Command Post, and the Third Motor Transport Battalion Command Post, coordinates (AT 982729). The Marines directed thirty five to forty small arms rounds at the enemy positions and the Viet Cong fire ceased. No casualties were reported.

CONFIDENTIAL

c. At 010320H, the 9th Marines Operation Watch Officer (S-3) reported that a telephone call had been received at 010220H from an unidentified party who stated that patrol BRAVO-3 is without communications and is returning (presumably to its base). The unknown caller requested that the security unit of the bridge (further identification not provided) be notified. A subsequent check failed to reveal who made the initial telephone call. The operator at the Regimental switchboard monitored the call but could not ascertain its origin. (S-2 comment: The rash of reports of Viet Cong interfering with communication or originating spurious communications has served to alert personnel to the possibility of such occurrences and questionable communications are investigated. The origin or significance of this call could not be determined and the possibility that this was an innocent message still exists although the method of patrol identification (BRAVO-3) is not currently in use by this regiment).

d. At 011535H, the Aerial Observer reconnoitering the TAOR reported receiving an undetermined amount of small arms fire from the vicinity of coordinates (BT 017646). No casualties or damage to the aircraft were reported.

e. At 012120H, the USMC Liaison Officer at HOA VANG District Headquarters relayed a report from an unidentified agent that one Viet Cong company, commanded by one DE, had displaced from THANH THUY village, (coordinates not provided) to MAN QUAN hamlet area, coordinates (BT 035680). The report added that the specific mission of this Viet Cong unit was not known. HOA VANG District Headquarters rated this report B-2. (S-2 rates it F-3).

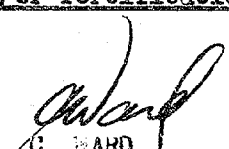
G. Reports of information of VC received directly from civilians. No reports were received during this reporting period.

D. <u>Viet Cong casualties:</u>	<u>For 24 Hour</u>	<u>Cumulative</u>
	<u>Reporting period:</u>	<u>Since 10 Jul 65:</u>
KIA (Confirmed)	0	248
KIA (Possible)	0	5
VC Captured	0	148
VC Captured (WIA)	0	2
VC Suspects	14	311

E. Destroyed and captured enemy material: The following material was captured by 3rdBn, 9thMar:

1-Sign (marker), Vietnamese language, (reported to be mine marker)
(AT 986636) (see 292130 entry INTSUM # 145)

F. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications. No reports were received during this reporting period.


C. WARD

By direction

CONFIDENTIAL

COPY TO:

III MAF	(1)
III MAF POLAD	(1)
G-2	(4)
3rdMar	(1)
1/9	(7)
2/9	(6)
3/9	(11)
3/3	(1)
2/12	(6)
S-3	(3)
S-2	(2)
FSCG	(1)
3dTnkBn	(1)
3dAtBn	(1)
1stAmTracBn	(1)
B Co, TnkBn	(1)
C Co, ATBn	(1)
CO	(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
APO, San Francisco 96601

ma
2/CW/jda
3800
022400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #147, Period ending 022400H December 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>FACT</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>EECT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
3 Dec	0633	0656	1829	1952	1425	0153	1/2

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1st Bn, 9th Mar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on BAN KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708).

a. Late Report. At 011330H, a Company C patrol reported apprehending three suspicious persons at coordinates (BT 048654) when routine examinations revealed they lacked adequate identification. The suspects were evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

b. Late Report. At 011500H, a Company A patrol reported apprehending one suspicious person at coordinates (BT 038688) when the suspect attempted to flee after being challenged by the Marines. The suspect was evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

c. At 021030H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from the HOA LAN Village Chief that one Viet Cong Main Force platoon, consisting of thirty five

CONFIDENTIAL

men, and armed with one 60MM mortar, is located in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 035680). The report stated that this Viet Cong unit is to be augmented by local guerrillas and their mission is to attack and disrupt pacification efforts in the HOA DA village, grid square (BT 0770). The report continued that the Viet Cong may try to direct H and I fires into the First Battalion C.P. (Battalion S-2 comment: Do not think the Viet Cong force is at these coordinates at the present time. However, it is felt that they are in the immediate area). Battalion S-2 rates this report C-3. (S-2 comment: Concur with Battalion S-2 comment that presence of Viet Cong unit in HOA DA Village area at this time is improbable due to GVN Regional Force presence in area. Sufficient evidence is lacking to rule out possibility and report is rated C-3. Report passed to GVN Regional Force Headquarters for appropriate action).

d. At 021031H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from the HOA PHUNG Village Chief that one Viet Cong Main Force company armed with eighteen BAR's, two caliber 30 machine guns, one caliber 50 machine gun, and two K-79's, has moved from the HOA DA village, grid square (BT 0770), across the SONG CAN BIEN (river) to the hamlet of KHUE DONG (1), coordinates (BT 050715). Battalion S-2 rates this report D-3. (S-2 comment: Presence of company-sized Viet Cong unit in pacification area possible but not probable. Rated D-3. Information passed to GVN Regional Force Headquarters for appropriate action.)

e. At 021035H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from the manager of the Leprosarium, coordinates (BT 099664), that a few days ago the Viet Cong in the area south of the leprosarium made the villagers dig holes, trenches, and prepare barbed wire fences (location not indicated). The report stated the Viet Cong took a group of young Vietnamese boys and girls and made them carry rice to an unknown location to the west. The report continued that when these children returned to the area, they were carrying weapons (type not indicated). Battalion S-2 rates this report D-3. (S-2 rates this report D-3).

f. At 021040H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from the manager of the leprosarium, coordinates (BT 099664), that on 19 November, the First Battalion operating in the area of the "HorseShoe", grid squares (BT 1064), (BT 1063), and (BT 1163), sufficiently upset Viet Cong plans so that the Viet Cong have postponed their planned attack (type, date, and location not reported) until a dark night in December. Battalion S-2 rates this report C-2. (S-2 rates this report D-3).

g. At 021115H, Company D reported that two wounded Vietnamese males were brought by unidentified villagers to the Company C.P., coordinates (BT 048670). The report indicated the Vietnamese, with shrapnel wounds from the waist down, stated they received the wounds as a result of Marines artillery fired in the area of TU CAN hamlet, coordinates (BT 050656). The report continued that a corpsman after examining the wounds stated the wounds came from a booby trap or a mine. The male was given medical treatment and evacuated to an ARVN hospital for further treatment and investigation.

PAGE 2 OF 5 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

h. At 021415H, a Company A patrol, operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 081696), reported receiving one round sniper fire from Viet Cong positioned in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 088694). The enemy fire was not repeated and the exact enemy position could not be determined. No casualties were reported.

i. At 021530H, a Company A patrol reported apprehending one Viet Cong Suspect, and four suspicious persons at coordinates (BT 090696). The Viet Cong Suspect was evacuated to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point for investigation. The report stated the Marines discovered approximately eight hundred pounds of rice in the same area which was turned over to the HOA HAI Village Chief for appropriate disposition.

j. At 021540H, a Company A patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 095663) reported receiving one round sniper fire from Viet Cong positioned in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 095661). The Marines directed small arms fire at the enemy position and the Viet Cong fire was not repeated. One USMC WIA was reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined.

k. At 021600H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from the HOA HAI Village Chief that there are two caves located in the hamlet of TUNG LAH, coordinates (BT 035703). The report stated one cave is located beneath the house of one DANG SANH, and the other beneath the house of one TRAM NGOC KHAI. (It is assumed the report meant to convey possible Viet Cong usage of the caves, and the report will be investigated.)

l. At 021750H, a Company D patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 052679) reported observing two armed Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 054678). The Marines directed approximately fifteen rounds small arms fire at the enemy position, and the Viet Cong fled. The Marines aggressively pursued the Viet Cong and again observed them occupying positions at coordinates (BT 056676). The Marines directed ten rounds small arms fire at the enemy position, and the Viet Cong again fled. A search of the area indicated one or more of the Viet Cong may have been wounded as the signs indicated one Viet Cong required assistance to displace to a new location. No blood traces were observed, however. No casualties were reported.

m. At 021800H, a Company D patrol reported discovering one wounded Vietnamese in a building at coordinates (BT 044667). The type of wound and origin was not indicated. The male was given medical treatment and will be evacuated to an ARVN hospital at first light on 3 December.

(2) 3rdBn, 9thMar. Continued to occupy positions south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southwest portion of the Regimental TAO, and provided security for the railroad bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998707). Company I provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of HIEU DONG (1), coordinates (BT 017668). Company M, Third Battalion, Third Marines provided security for the FLSC ammunition dump, coordinates (AT 998733).

CONFIDENTIAL

from Viet Cong positioned to the northwest. At the same time the Marines reported receiving small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned to the west. The Marines directed approximately fifty rounds small arms fire at the enemy position at which time the Marines reported receiving additional small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned to the east and south. The Marine patrol deployed and closed with the Viet Cong positioned to the north, directing approximately fifty rounds small arms fire at the enemy position and the Viet Cong fled their positions. The fire from the other enemy positions ceased and the Viet Cong broke contact. A search of the entire area provided negative results. No USMC casualties were reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined.

C. Reports of information of VC received directly from civilians. No reports were received during this reporting period.

D. <u>Viet Cong casualties:</u>	<u>For 24 Hour Reporting period:</u>	<u>Cumulative Since 10 Jul 65:</u>
KIA (Confirmed)	0	248
KIA (Possible)	0	5
VC Captured	0	148
VC Captured (WIA)	0	2
VC Suspects	4	815

E. Destroyed and captured enemy material: No reports were received during this reporting period.

F. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications. The following positions were destroyed by 3rdBn, 9thMar:

5 - Tunnels, total of 40 feet (BT 004657) (see 021600H entry this INTSUM)

C. Ward
C. WARD
By direction

COPY TO:

III MAF	(1)	3dTnkBn	(1)
III MAF POLAD	(1)	3dAtBn	(1)
G-2	(4)	1stAmtractBn	(1)
3rdMar	(1)	B Co, TnkBn	(1)
1/9	(7)	C Co, AtBn	(1)
2/9	(6)	CO	(1)
3/9	(11)		
3/3	(1)		
2/12	(6)		
S-3	(3)		
S-2	(2)		
FSGC	(1)		

CONFIDENTIAL

a. At 021600H, the Battalion S-2 provided additional information on a Search and Clear operation conducted by Company M on 1 December. The report indicated that five tunnels approximately twelve feet in length were discovered in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 004657) and were destroyed by demolitions. No USMC casualties were reported.

(3) 3rdBn. 3rdMar. Battalion Command Post is situated at coordinates (AT 973706). Company K provided security for the Battalion C.P.; Company A provided security for ASP #1, coordinates (AT 985733); and Companies I and L are OPCON Third Battalion, Ninth Marines. The battalion reported no Viet Cong contact during this reporting period.

(4) Special Reports.

a. At 020830H, an Aerial Observer reported observing a number of Vietnamese working on a trenchline at coordinates (BT 104645). The report indicated the Vietnamese took cover when the Aerial Observer made a low pass over the trench. The report continued that two 155mm rounds were directed at the target and the workers fled the area. Possible casualties were not indicated.

b. At 021425H, an Aerial Observer reported receiving approximately six rounds small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 967606). No casualties were reported.

c. At 021430H, the Third Tank Battalion reported apprehending one conscious male at coordinates (BT 029735), when a routine examination revealed the suspect was carrying a carbine rifle (without a stock) wrapped in a raincoat in addition to six carbine magazines (two which were loaded), one fragmentation grenade, twenty grenade safety pins, and a pack containing civilian clothes and one set of jungle utilities. The report stated that the suspect may have been a member of the GVN armed forces but he denied that he was a soldier and could not explain possessing the weapon or military equipment. The suspect and his equipment were evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

d. At 021600H, the Regimental S-2 provided information on a Headquarters Company Search and Destroy operation conducted between 020645H, and 021015H. The report indicated that three Viet Cong suspects were apprehended at coordinates (AT 988786), and evacuated to 3rd Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point for investigation. The report stated that parts of three maps of the Indo-Chinese Series were discovered at coordinates (AT 998714) and evacuated to the Third Tank Battalion for examination. The report continued that twenty rounds small arms ammunition (carbine) were found at coordinates (AT 995716), and that one bunker and two punji traps were discovered in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 997718) and marked for later destruction. No contact was made with Viet Cong, and no USMC casualties were reported.

(5) Late Reports.

a. At 021700H, a Company D patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 034679) reported receiving an estimated forty rounds small arms fire

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

S-3

2/CW/jda
3800
032400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #148, Period ending 032400H December 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>BMCT</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>EECT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
4 Dec	0634	0657	1830	1853	1502	1254	3/4

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1stBn, 9thMar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on HOI KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company B provides security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. Late Report. At 022030H a Company D patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 052679) reported observing a small group of Viet Cong positioned at close range. The Marines directed an undetermined amount of small arms fire at the enemy position, heard sounds described as "groaning" as if someone had been struck by the Marines fire. A search of the area revealed a trail of blood which was followed until it disappeared without renewing contact with the Viet Cong. No USMC casualties were reported. One possible Viet Cong casualty was reported.

b. At 030700H, a Company A patrol reported apprehending two suspicious males at coordinates (BT 093683), when routine examinations revealed they lacked adequate identification. The suspects were evacuated to HOA VAMC District Headquarters for investigation.

CONFIDENTIAL

c. At 031125H, a Company D patrol reported discovering a twenty three year old wounded Vietnamese male at coordinates (BT 046668). The Vietnamese youth, who had sustained a gunshot wound, stated he had been shot by the Viet Cong (time and location not given), and did not want to go to a military hospital or a DA NANG hospital for treatment. The man was apprehended, given medical treatment, and evacuated to an ARVN hospital as a Viet Cong Suspect.

(2) 2ndBn, 9thMar. Relieved by the Third Battalion as the Airbase Defense Battalion at 031600H, coming under OPCON, Ninth Marines. Assumed responsibility for the central sector of the new Ninth Marines TAOR.

a. At 031400H, a Company H patrol reported discovering a number of fighting holes at coordinates (BT 037641). Villagers in the area stated the Viet Cong had prepared the holes approximately ten days ago. Additional information will be provided when available.

(3) 3rdBn, 9thMar. At 031600H, relieved the Second Battalion as the Airbase Defense Battalion, becoming OPCON III MAF. The battalion reported no Viet Cong contact or incidents or information of intelligence value during this reporting period.

(4) 3rdBn, 3rdMar. Battalion Command Post is situated at coordinates (AT 973706). Company K provided security for the Battalion C.P.; Company M provided security for ASP #1, coordinates (AT 985733); and companies I and L have been returned OPCON to the Third Battalion, Third Marines and maintain positions throughout the Battalion TAOR.

a. At 030940H, a Company I patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 964644) reported receiving an estimated seven hundred fifty rounds small arms fire from approximately fifteen Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 969649). The Marines directed approximately two hundred fifty rounds small arms fire, twenty 155MM rounds, and fifteen 81MM mortar rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact. A search of the area revealed that trenchlines and fighting holes had been constructed, but no indication of enemy casualties could be discovered. One USMC KIA and three USMC WIA were reported.

(5) Special Reports.

a. At 031420H, an Aerial Observer reported observing one armed Viet Cong at coordinates (AT 960630). The report stated the Viet Cong fired at the aerial observer and then disappeared into a building. No casualties were reported.

b. At 031630H, an Aerial Observer reported observing a trenchline at coordinates (BT 104646). The report stated this same trenchline has been checked for the past three days, and each day it appears to have been worked on, and improved.

CONFIDENTIAL

C. Reports of information of VC received directly from civilians. No reports were received during this reporting period.

D. <u>Viet Cong casualties:</u>	<u>For 24 Hour Reporting period:</u>	<u>Cumulative Since 10 Jul 65:</u>
KIA (Confirmed)	0	248
KIA (Possible)	0	5
VC Captured	0	148
VC Captured (WIA)	0	2
VC Suspects	0	815

E. Destroyed and captured enemy material: No reports were received during this reporting period.

F. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications: No reports were received during this reporting period.

C. Ward
C. WARD
By direction

COPY TO:

III MAF	(1)
III MAF POLAD	(1)
G-2	(4)
3rdMar	(1)
1/9	(7)
2/9	(6)
3/9	(11)
3/3	(1)
2/12	(6)
S-3	(3)
S-2	(2)
FSOC	(1)
3dTnkBn	(1)
3dAtBn	(1)
1stAmtracBn	(1)
B Co, TnkBn	(1)
C Co, AtBn	(1)
CO	(1)

UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

1st LVT
2/CW/eb1
3800
042400H NOV 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF (Attn: C-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #149, Period ending 042400H November 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by
Regimental S-

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains
unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>FMCT</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>EECT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
5 Dec	0635	0658	1831	1853	1538	0330	3/4

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1st Bn, 9th Mar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company B provides security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. Late Report. At 031000H, a Company D patrol reported discovering Viet Cong propaganda (printed material) in a building at coordinates (BT 040670). The propaganda, printed in the English language, was evacuated to the Regimental S-2 for disposition.

b. Late Report. At 032030H, a Company A patrol reported apprehending three suspicious males at coordinates (BT 089693). The report stated that when apprehended, the suspects were in a concealed position and watching the movements of the patrol. The suspects were evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

PAGE 1 OF 5 PAGES

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

c. Late Report. At 032145H, Battery D, positioned at coordinates (BT 062680), reported receiving an estimated one hundred rounds automatic small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned to the east, south and west. The Marines directed an undetermined amount of small arms fire and one 105mm round at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact. A search of area revealed negative results. No casualties were reported.

d. At 040845H, a Company A patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 072676), reported receiving an estimated twenty rounds small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 072678). The Marines directed approximately one hundred fifty rounds small arms fire at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact. A search of the area revealed one CHICOM fragmentation grenade (not booby-trapped) which was returned to the Battalion S-2 for evaluation. No casualties were reported.

e. At 040900H, a Company D patrol discovered what was described as two batteries with wires attached, in a building at coordinates (BT 043688). The captured device was evacuated to the Regimental S-2 for disposition.

f. At 041115H, a Company D patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 035682) reported receiving two rounds sniper fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 035685). The Marines directed approximately twenty rounds small arms fire at the enemy position, and the Viet Cong broke contact. A search of the area revealed negative results. No casualties were reported.

g. At 041345H, a Company D patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 050657) reported receiving a heavy volume of automatic and semi automatic small arms fire from an estimated eight Viet Cong positioned in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 050650). The Marines directed an undetermined number of small arms fire at the enemy position, and requested aid from the Company D C.P., coordinates (BT 048667). Two squads reinforced with tanks was dispatched to aid the patrol but arrived after the Viet Cong broke contact. A search of the area revealed negative results. The Viet Cong observed during the engagement were seen dressed in camouflage utilities. Two USMC KIA were reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined.

h. At 041600H, the Battalion S-2 delivered to Regimental Command Post the material reported captured by a Company C patrol on 1 December. (see 010900H entry, INTSUM #146). The material was forwarded to G-2 for evaluation.

i. At 041625H, a Company D patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 054654) reported receiving an estimated three hundred rounds automatic and semi automatic small arms fire from an estimated five Viet Cong positioned to the front and flanks of the Marine position. The Marines directed approximately three hundred rounds small arms fire and five 40mm (M-79) rounds at the enemy positions and the Viet Cong attempted to break contact, withdrawing to the east with the Marines in pursuit. Another squad of Marines sent to assist, received sniper fire from an unknown location.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

A section of tanks were dispatched and upon arriving at the Marine position, fired four 90mm rounds at the suspected enemy position, and the Viet Cong broke contact. A search of the area revealed several punji stakes which were destroyed in place. No casualties were reported. Additional information will be provided when available.

(2) 2nd Bn, 9th Mar. Continued to defend the western portion of the new Regimental TAOR, from, but not including, the railroad track west to, but not including, the road passing HIEU DUC District Headquarters, coordinates (AT 942689). The battalion reported no Viet Cong contact or incidents or information of intelligence value during this reporting period.

(3) 3rd Bn, 3rd Mar. Continued to defend the central portion of the new Regimental TAOR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEM (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment.

SA a. Late Report. At 032145H, a Company K patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 955662) reported receiving an estimated twelve rounds small arms fire from two Viet Cong positioned at close range. The Marines directed approximately seventy five rounds small arms fire and both Viet Cong were seen falling. As the Marines advanced to search the two fallen Viet Cong, friendly illumination was fired and illuminated the area, at which time the Marines reported receiving an estimated one hundred rounds automatic and semi-automatic small arms fire from their front and flanks. The Marines then withdrew to the Company perimeter. No USMC casualties were reported. Two possible Viet Cong casualties were reported.

b. Late Report. At 032230H, a Company I patrol reported discovering Viet Cong propaganda (printed material) attached to a fence at coordinates (AT 966664). The propaganda, printed in the English language and the Vietnamese language, was evacuated to the Regimental S-2 for disposition.

c. At 041020H, Company K reported that two wounded Vietnamese females came to the Company C.P., coordinates (AT 959667) requesting medical assistance. The report stated that the one woman had sustained shrapnel wounds in the arms and legs, and the other woman had a gunshot wound in the leg. The women were given medical treatment and evacuated to an ARVN hospital. The origin of the wounds was not determined and ARVN authorities were requested to investigate the incident.

d. At 041200H, a Company K patrol reported apprehending one suspicious person at coordinates (AT 946663) when a routine examination revealed he lacked adequate identification. The suspect was evacuated to HIEU DUC District Headquarters for investigation.

SA e. At 041830H, a Company I patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 973663) reported receiving an estimated twenty five rounds small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 973661). The Marines directed an undetermined number of small arms fire at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact. A search of the area revealed negative results. No casualties were reported.

PAGE 3 OF 5 PAGES

UNCLASSIFIED

#149

①

UNCLASSIFIED

(4) Special Reports.

a. Late Report. At 032130H, G-2 relayed a report from an unidentified source that thirty local Viet Cong sympathizers, armed with one 60mm mortar and two automatic weapons, are located in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 002725). The report stated the mission of the Viet Cong sympathizers is to attack the HOA CAM Training Center, coordinates (AT 974717), as a diversionary measure for an attack on the DA NANG Airbase (no time or date of attack was indicated). G-2 rates this report F-6. (S-2 rates this report F-6).

C. Reports of information of VC received directly from civilians. At 042043H, the Third Battalion, Third Marines S-2 reported that Vietnamese villagers told a People's Action Team that on 3 December a twenty two year old Vietnamese girl was killed by the Marines. The report stated the villagers said the girl was a Viet Cong cadre and was participating in a fire fight. The report continued that the villagers buried the girl's body in LE SON (3) hamlet, coordinates (AT 974647). No additional information was provided.

D. <u>Viet Cong casualties:</u>	<u>For 24 Hour Reporting Period:</u>	<u>Cumulative Since 10 Jul 65:</u>
KIA (Confirmed)	0	248
KIA (Possible)	0	5
VC Captured	0	148
VC Captured (WIA)	0	2
VC Suspects	0	015

E. Disposition of captured personnel for the week of 1 to 4 December 1965.

(1) Total captives taken:	36
(2) Captives cleared as civilians:	0
(3) VCS delivered to HOA VANG Dist Hqs	18
(4) VCS delivered to ITT:	12
(5) VCC delivered to ITT:	0

F. Destroyed and captured enemy material: The following material was captured by 1stBn, 9thMar.

- 1 - Document, (BT 040670) (see 031000H entry this INTSUM)
- 1 - CHICOM grenade, (BT 072678) (not booby-trapped) (see 040845H entry this INTSUM)

PAGE 4 OF 5 PAGES

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

1 - Detonating device, (BT 043688) (see 040900H entry this INTSUM)

1 - 30 cal. round (expended) (BT 043688) (see 040900H entry this INTSUM)

The following material was captured by 3rdBn, 3rdMar:

2 - Leaflets, Propaganda (AT 966664) (see 032230H entry this INTSUM)

1 - Expended round (taken from helmet of Marine KIA) (AT 968649)

The following material was destroyed by 1stBn, 9thMar:

Punji stakes (undetermined amount) (BT 054654) (see 041625H entry this INTSUM)

G. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications: No reports were received during this reporting period.

C. Ward

C. WARD
By direction

COPY TO:	
III MAF	(1)
III MAF POLAD	(1)
G-2	(4)
3dMar	(1)
1/9	(7)
2/9	(6)
3/9	(11)
2/12	(6)
3/3	(1)
S-3	(3)
S-2	(2)
MSGC	(1)
3dTnkBn	(1)
3dAtBn	(1)
1stAmtracBn	(1)
B Co, TnkBn	(1)
C Co, AtBn	(1)
CO	(1)

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/CW/eb1
3800
052400H NOV 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #150, Period ending 052400H November 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>EMCT</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>EECT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
6 Dec	0635	0658	1831	1854	1617	0424	3/4

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1stBn, 9thMar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DU (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company B provides security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. Late Report. At 041900H, a Company A patrol, operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 093679), reported receiving an estimated four 60mm mortar rounds or rifle grenades from Viet Cong positioned in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 089676), (BT 088678), and (BT 087679). The Marines directed one 81mm mortar illumination round, and thirty one 81mm mortar rounds (HE light) at the suspected Viet Cong positions, and the fire ceased. A search of the area revealed negative results. No casualties were reported. (S-2 comment: The results of the crater analysis have not yet been made. Additional information will be provided when available).

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

b. At 050930H, a Company D patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 060655) reported observing two Vietnamese males approximately four hundred meters to the northwest of the Marines' position, coordinates (BT 058657). Upon sighting the Marine patrol, the Vietnamese attempted to flee in a westerly direction. A warning shot failed to halt the Viet Cong Suspects and the Marines directed fifteen rounds of small arms fire at the suspects, killing one (body count). The second suspect was seen entering the hamlet of TU CAU (3), coordinates (BT 052658), but eluded apprehension. No USMC casualties were reported. (S-2 comment: An examination of the suspect's body and clothing failed to reveal anything which would tend to prove or disprove that he was a Viet Cong. His flight and failure to heed the warning shot raised the presumption that he was a Viet Cong. Additional information will be provided when available.)

c. At 050930H, a Company A patrol reported apprehending eleven suspicious persons in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 090690) when routine examinations revealed they lacked adequate identification. The suspects were evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

d. At 051500H, a Company D patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 049661) reported observing one Viet Cong suspect hastily departing from KHAU TAY (3) hamlet, coordinates (BT 048667). A warning shot failed to halt the fleeing suspect and the Marines directed five rounds small arms fire and two 40mm(M-79) rounds at the fleeing suspect without causing him to halt. A search of the area revealed negative results. No USMC casualties were reported.

e. At 051600H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from the HOA HAI Village Chief that two platoons of Main Force Viet Cong, armed with sub-machine guns (number not indicated), and two light machine guns, are positioned between CAO DAI pagoda, coordinates (BT 068698), and the hamlet of TRA KHE (2), coordinates (BT 072632). The reported Viet Cong came from QUANG TRA (location unknown) and have collected approximately four hundred pounds of rice which has been equally divided for carrying. The report indicated the Viet Cong have six anti-tank mines and added that they may attack Company A, and the military installations in HOA LONG Village, grid square (0771) between now and 22 December. The Battalion S-2 rates this report C-3. (S-2 comment: Several recent reports of Viet Cong presence in the vicinity of TRA KHE Village complex would tend to establish this report as possibly true. The information is specific and detailed, and if timely, should allow appropriate exploitation. Additional information will be provided when available. Rated C-3 by S-2).

(2) 2nd Bn, 9th Mar. Continued to defend the central portion of the new Regimental TAOR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEN (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998707); and provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of LIEU DONG (1), coordinates (BT 017668).

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

a. Late Report. At 042125H, a Company H patrol reported that the trail was blocked by a fence and punji stakes at coordinates (BT 032641). The report indicated the Marines then heard movement to the front of their position, but 81mm illumination rounds directed at the suspected Viet Cong position revealed significant sightings. The Marines continued their mission displacing to the vicinity of coordinates (BT 033643) where the patrol reported receiving two rounds small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 030645). The Marines directed approximately two hundred rounds small arms fire, two 40mm(M-79) rounds, and nine 60mm mortar rounds at the Viet Cong position and moved rapidly through the position without contact. A search of the area revealed negative results. No casualties were reported.

b. At 050410H, Company G reported that a SID positioned at coordinates (AT 997675) detected movement to the front of the Marines' position. The Marines directed four rounds 60mm illumination at the suspected area but no significant sightings were made. At 050415H, the SID detected more movement to the front of the Marines' position and the Marines detonated a claymore mine, positioned to cover the suspected area. A subsequent search of the area provided negative results.

c. At 051050H, a Company E patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 043720) reported observing two armed Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 043720). The Viet Cong fired five rounds small arms fire in a direction away from the Marines at an unknown target and disappeared into a treeline. The Viet Cong did not reappear and the Marines failed to make contact. No casualties were reported.

d. At 051125H, a Company H patrol reported apprehending sixteen suspicious persons at coordinates (BT 032641). Fourteen were released after interrogation by the Battalion S-2, and two Viet Cong Suspects were evacuated to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point for investigation.

e. At 051425H, a Company H patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 022637) reported receiving an undetermined amount of automatic and semi-automatic small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 023637), resulting in several USMC casualties. The Marines directed small arms and 81mm mortar rounds at the enemy position and requested assistance. A platoon reinforced by a section of ONTOS was dispatched from the Company H C.P. to aid the engaged patrol. At coordinates (BT 032643) the reinforcing unit reported receiving an undetermined number of small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 032640). The Marines directed small arms fire and 40mm recoilless rifle fire at the enemy position. A total of eight USMC WIA were reported. Three Viet Cong KIA were reported (body count). One K-50 automatic rifle, two CHICOM grenades, one bilfold, and two K-50 magazines (with ammunition) were recovered from the dead Viet Cong. Additional information will be provided when available.

PAGE 3 OF 6 PAGES

UNCLASSIFIED

#150

①

UNCLASSIFIED

f. At 051645H, the Battalion S-2 reported that a mine was detonated on the HA DONG bridge, coordinates (AT 990642). One USMC MIA (presumed KIA) was reported. The report stated the Marine was blown off the bridge into the water, and his body has not yet been recovered. The report indicated the mine was attached to a bridge abutment, and was electrically detonated. The report continued that wire discovered in the area led in the direction of HA DONG hamlet, coordinates (AT 998642). A subsequent search of the hamlet was unproductive.

(3) 3rdBn, 3rdMar. Continued to defend the western portion of the new Regimental TAOR, from, but not including, the railroad tracks west to, but not including, the road passing HIEU DUC District Headquarters, coordinates (AT 942689). Company L provided security for ASP #1, coordinates (AT 985733).

a. Late Report. At 042145H, the Battalion S-2 reported an explosion at ASP #1, coordinates (AT 994738). An investigation revealed that a mine was accidentally detonated by a dog. No casualties were reported.

b. At 050215H, a Company K L.P. positioned at coordinates (AT 950668) reported receiving two rounds sniper fire from two Viet Cong positioned at close range. The Marines directed two rounds small arms fire and one 40mm (M-79) round at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact. No USMC casualties were reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined.

c. At 050835H, a Company I patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 971650) reported observing two Viet Cong in khaki uniforms positioned to the west of the Marines' position. The Marines directed an undetermined number of 81mm mortar rounds at the enemy position, and the Viet Cong fled their position. No casualties were reported.

d. At 050937H, a Company I patrol, operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 969649), reported receiving an estimated twelve rounds small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 969648). The Marines directed three 81mm mortar rounds, and six 60mm mortar rounds, and small arms fire at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact, fleeing to the south. The Marines pursued, but lost contact. A search of the area revealed negative results. No casualties were reported.

e. At 051037H, a Company I patrol reported discovering approximately four hundred pounds of rice at coordinates (AT 969650). At 051040H, as the rice was being turned over to the village chief for distribution, the Marines reported receiving an estimated five hundred rounds automatic and semi-automatic small arms fire from an estimated twenty Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 967649) and (AT 970643). The Marines directed approximately fifteen hundred rounds small arms fire, and fifteen 81mm mortar rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact. The Marines pursued the fleeing Viet Cong but lost contact. A search of the area revealed negative results. One USMC MIA was reported.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 4 OF 6 PAGES

#150

①

UNCLASSIFIED

f. At 051130H, a Company I patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 971648) reported receiving heavy automatic and semi automatic small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 969644). The Marines directed small arms fire and thirty 155mm artillery rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact. A search of the area revealed negative results. No casualties were reported.

g. At 051800H, a Company I patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 969649) reported receiving twelve rounds small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 965648). The Marines directed approximately fifty rounds small arms fire at the enemy position and the Viet Cong fire ceased. A search of the Viet Cong position provided negative results. No USMC casualties were reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined.

(4) Special Reports.

a. At 050845H, an Aerial Observer reported observing a long trenchline which extended from coordinates (BT 017607) west to the railroad tracks. The report stated another trenchline was located in the same area, extending from coordinates (BT 017607) to (BT 020608).

b. At 051850H, a Ninth Marines Liaison Officer attached to the Regional Force Headquarters at MIEU BONG reported that the Regional Force troops have completed their operation in the hamlet of MAN QUAN (1), coordinates (BT 032689). The report indicated one Viet Cong was captured at coordinates (BT 028688).

c. At 051930H, a Ninth Marines Liaison Officer attached to the Regional Force Headquarters at MIEU BONG, reported that the 594th Regional Force Company killed one Viet Cong and captured one Viet Cong at coordinates (AT 999 660). Additional information will be provided when available.

C. Reports of information of VC received directly from civilians. No reports were received during this reporting period.

D. <u>Viet Cong casualties:</u>	<u>For 24 Hour Reporting period:</u>	<u>Cumulative Since 10 Jul 65:</u>
KIA (Confirmed)	3	251
KIA (Possible)	0	5
VC Captured	0	148
VC Captured (WIA)	0	2
VC Suspects	2	817

E. Destroyed and captured enemy material: No reports were received during this reporting period.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

F. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications: No reports were received during this reporting period.

C. Ward
C. WARD
By direction

COPY TO:

III MAF	(1)
III MAF POLAD	(1)
G-2	(4)
3rdMar	(1)
1/9	(7)
2/9	(6)
3/9	(11)
3/3	(6)
2/12	(6)
S-3	(3)
S-2	(2)
FSCC	(1)
3dTnkBn	(1)
3dAtBn	(1)
1stAmtracBn	(1)
B Co, TnkBn	(1)
C Co, AtBn	(1)
CO	(1)

UNCLASSIFIED

5-3

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/CH/jda
3800

062400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #151, Period ending 062400H December 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>RCT</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>EECT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
7 Dec	0635	0658	1831	1854	1702	0520	3/4

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1stBn, 9thMar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company B provided security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. Late Report. At 052130H, a Company D patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 047650) reported observing three Viet Cong positioned approximately one hundred meters from the Marines' position. The Marines directed approximately thirty rounds small arms fire at the enemy position and the Viet Cong returned an estimated fifteen rounds small arms fire at the Marines, then fled to the south. The Marines pursued the Viet Cong who were seen entering the hamlet of TU CAU (4), coordinates (BT 035658). A search of the hamlet revealed negative results. No casualties were reported.

b. At 060830H, a Company B patrol reported apprehending two Viet Cong Suspects at coordinates (BT 058732). The suspects were evacuated to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point for investigation.

CONFIDENTIAL

c. At 061130H, a Company A patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 067663) reported observing three unidentified Vietnamese positioned in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 067664). When the three men sighted the Marines they attempted to flee. An ARVN soldier with the Marine patrol ordered the suspects to halt but they ignored the warnings and continued in a westerly direction. The Marines directed approximately twenty five rounds small arms fire at the suspects, wounding one. The Marines pursued the fleeing men and succeeded in capturing the one who was wounded. The remaining two men were able to evade capture. The report indicated that one CHICOM grenade was found in the vicinity of where the suspect was captured and may have been discarded by the captive. The suspect and grenade was evacuated to the Battalion S-2 for investigation. The captive was given medical treatment and evacuated to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point. No USMC casualties were reported.

d. At 061300H, a Company D patrol reported apprehending one suspicious person at coordinates (BT 061688) when a routine examination revealed he possessed documents which initial evaluation indicated may contain information about Viet Cong activities. The suspect was evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation. The documents were evacuated to the Battalion S-2 for evaluation.

e. At 061600H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from the HOA HAI Police Chief that ten Viet Cong, armed with two K-50's, one Thompson sub-machine gun, and four Russian carbines, are located at coordinates (BT 083689). The report continued that there is a communications trench from coordinates (BT 086681) to (BT 082687) to (BT 085696). This report is rated F-3 by the Battalion S-2. (The S-2 rates this report F-3).

(2) 2ndBn, 9thMar. Continued to defend the central portion of the new regimental TAOR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEN (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998707), and provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of MIEU DONG (1), coordinates (BT 017668).

a. Late Report. At 052148H, a Company H Listening Post positioned at coordinates (BT 025656) reported observing four Viet Cong positioned fifty meters to the front. The Marines directed four rounds small arms fire at the enemy position and the Viet Cong fled. No USMC casualties were reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined.

b. At 060930H, a Company F patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 985654) reported receiving two rounds sniper fire from an unknown location. The enemy fire was not repeated and the Viet Cong position could not be determined. No casualties were reported.

CONFIDENTIAL

c. At 061125H, a Company F patrol reported apprehending one Viet Cong Suspect at coordinates (AT 980660) when a routine examination revealed he lacked adequate identification. The suspect was evacuated to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point for investigation.

d. At 061225H, a Company F patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 982659) reported receiving an estimated three hundred rounds of automatic and semi-automatic small arms fire from an estimated fifteen Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 980655). The Marines directed approximately seven hundred fifty rounds small arms fire and three 3.5 inch W.P. rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact. A search of the area revealed negative results. No casualties were reported.

e. Additional Information. At 061600H, the Battalion S-2 provided additional information on a Company H patrol conducted on 5 December (see 051425H entry INTSUM #150). The report stated that five suspicious persons were apprehended by the patrol (time and place not indicated) and were evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

f. At 061710H, the Battalion S-2 reported that two Marines proceeding south on a vehicle - M274(mule) in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 990686) received one round sniper fire from Viet Cong positioned in the vicinity of CAM NE (2) hamlet, coordinates (AT 986688). The enemy fire was not repeated and the exact enemy position could not be determined. No casualties were reported.

g. At 061800H, a Company E patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 050712) reported receiving two rounds sniper fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 045705). The enemy fire was not repeated, and the exact enemy location could not be determined. No casualties were reported.

h. At 062010H, a Company H patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 993677) reported receiving one round sniper fire from the vicinity of coordinates (AT 997678). The enemy fire was not repeated and the exact enemy position could not be determined. No casualties were reported.

(3) 3rdBn, 3rdMar. Continued to defend the western portion of the new Regimental TAOR, from, but not including, the railroad tracks west to, but not including, the road passing HIEU DUC District Headquarters, coordinates (AT 942689). Company M provided security for ASP #1, coordinates (AT 985733).

a. Late Report. At 052335H, an H and S Company perimeter sentry positioned at coordinates (AT 975706) reported receiving one round sniper fire from Viet Cong positioned at close range. Upon firing several hand illumination flares, one Viet Cong was seen fleeing in an westerly direction. The Marines directed ten rounds small arms fire at the Viet Cong with unknown results. No casualties were reported.

CONFIDENTIAL

b. At 060800H, a Company I patrol reported discovering a tunnel system (size not indicated) at coordinates (AT 969644). The tunnel was destroyed with demolitions. Additional information will be provided when available.

c. At 060935H, a Company I patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 968654) reported receiving a heavy volume of automatic and semi-automatic small arms fire from an estimated twenty Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 965650). The Marines directed an undetermined amount of small arms fire, thirty 60mm mortar rounds, and sixteen 81mm mortar rounds at the enemy position and the enemy broke contact. Two Viet Cong were seen to fall as if struck by the Marines' fire. At 060940H, the patrol reported receiving small arms fire from four Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 966653). The Marines directed thirty 60mm mortar rounds at the enemy and quickly moved through the enemy position. Upon reaching the suspected Viet Cong position, the Marines found that the Viet Cong had withdrawn; however, pools of blood indicating that the Viet Cong had suffered several casualties were found. The report continued that at 061005H, the same patrol reported receiving automatic weapons fire from three Viet Cong positioned in a building at coordinates (AT 974653). The Marines directed small arms fire and 3.5 inch W.P. rounds at the structure, effectively destroying it. A search of the area and building however, revealed no signs of the Viet Cong. One USMC WIA was reported. The report added that the series of small engagements that this patrol participated in resulted in possibly ten Viet Cong casualties. (S-2 comment: Based on blood pools, two possible KIAs will be claimed in paragraph D of this INTSUM.)

d. At 061410H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from HIEU DUC District Headquarters that one of the Viet Cong killed by Marines on 4 December was one TRAN DIA, a Viet Cong guerrilla platoon commander. The report indicated the Viet Cong lost a K-50 during the same incident which has not been recovered.

e. At 061600H, the Battalion S-2 reported that the villagers of LA BONG (3), coordinates (AT 967675) led a Company I patrol to two Viet Cong booby traps at coordinates (AT 975688). Both booby traps consisted of grenades (one M-26, and one described as being homemade), rigged with a trip wire across the trail, and were destroyed in place.

f. At 061600H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from a female villager of LA BONG (1), coordinates (AT 973670) that an estimated eight Viet Cong, armed with one M-14 rifle, two K-50's, and other rifles (unidentified), entered LA BONG (1) during the night of 5 December, and left early on the morning of 6 December.

g. At 061600H, the Battalion S-2 provided additional information on a Company I patrol conducted on 5 December (see 051037H entry INTSUM #150). The report indicated that the rice cache discovered at coordinates

CONFIDENTIAL

(AT 969650) was destroyed, and was not turned over to the village chief.

(4) Special Reports.

a. At 061145H, G-2 relayed a report from the Naval Advisory Detachment that an undetermined number of Vietnamese fishing boats (junks) located at coordinates (BT 040860) were firing small arms fire in a north-easterly direction. A harbor patrol was dispatched to investigate but returned with negative results.

b. At 061415H, G-2 relayed a report from the HOA VANG Sub-Sector that a eighty man Main Force Viet Cong company, designated as the "Q-16-B" company, commanded by one PHUNG, and one TRAN, and armed with two 60mm mortars, eight BAR's, and individual weapons, is operating as follows: The second platoon is positioned in HOA LONG village (BT 0769), HOA HAI village (BT 0867), HOA LAN village (BT 0368), and HOA PHUNG village (BT 0469); the first platoon is positioned in HOA THUONG village (AT 8764) and HOA LONG village (BT 0769); and the third platoon, reinforced with the heavy weapons, (type and number not indicated) is positioned in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 820660). The report continued that the second platoon will move to HOA DONG village (BT 078695) to harass the NGU HANH SONG campaign (time of movement not indicated). G-2 rates this report F-3, S-2 rates this report F-3.

c. At 061420H, an Aerial Observer reported observing an expansion of a trenchline at coordinates (BT 104646).

d. At 061800H, the Ninth Marines FSCC reported the 51st ARVN Regiment requested artillery fire on a Viet Cong Company positioned at coordinates (AT 963584). The report stated that seventy 105mm rounds were fired. An Aerial Observer in the area reported two Viet Cong KIA as a result of the artillery fire. Additional information will be provided when available.

(5) Late Reports.

a. At 061825H, a Company D patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 047659) reported receiving three rounds sniper fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 044655). The Marines directed approximately thirty rounds small arms fire and two 3.5 inch W.P. rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact. One USMC WIA was reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined.

G. Reports of information of VC received directly from civilians.FIRST

a. At 061600H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from an unidentified villager from HOA HAI Village (no further identification reported) that there are seven Viet Cong with two weapons (type not indicated) living in straw houses at coordinates (BT 077665). The Battalion S-2 rates this report F-3. S-2 rates this report F-3.

CONFIDENTIAL

b. See 061600H, entry for Third Battalion, Third Marines paragraph e. this INTSUM.

c. See 061600H, entry for Third Battalion, Third Marines paragraph f. this INTSUM.

D. <u>Viet Cong casualties:</u>	<u>For 24 Hour</u>	<u>Cumulative</u>
	<u>Reporting period:</u>	<u>Since 10 Jul 65:</u>
KIA (Confirmed)	0	251
KIA (Possible)	2	7
VC Captured	0	148
VC Captured (WIA)	0	2
VC Suspects	4	821

E. Destroy and captured enemy material: The following material was destroyed by 1stBn, 9thMar:

- 1 - CHICOM fragmentation grenade (not booby trapped) (BT 067663)
(see 061130H entry this INTSUM.)

The following material was captured by 2ndBn, 9thMar:

- 1 - K-50 Sub-machine gun (BT 022636) (see 051425H, entry INTSUM #150)
- VC documents (BT 022636) (see 051425H, entry INTSUM #150)
- 2 - Belts (BT 022636) (see 051425H, entry INTSUM #150)
- 3 - K-50 Magazines (BT 022636) (see 051425H, entry INTSUM #150)
- 1 - Billfold (BT 022636) (see 051425H, entry INTSUM #150)

The following material was destroyed by 3rdBn, 3rdMar:

- 1 - M-26 grenade (booby trapped) (AT 975688) (see 061600H, entry this INTSUM)
- 1 - VC homemade grenade (booby trapped) (AT 975688) (see 061600H, entry this INTSUM)
- Rice cache (AT 969650) (see 061600H entry this INTSUM)

F. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications: The following positions was destroyed by 3rdBn, 3rdMar:

- 1 - Tunnel (extent not indicated) (AT 969644) (see 060800H entry this INTSUM)

C. Ward
C. WARD
By direction

CONFIDENTIAL

COPY TO:	(1)
III MAF	(1)
III MAF POLAD	(1)
G-2	(4)
3rdMar	(1)
1/9	(7)
2/9	(6)
3/9	(11)
3/3	(6)
2/12	(6)
FSGC	(1)
S-3	(3)
S-2	(2)
3dTnkBn	(1)
3dAtBn	(1)
1stAmtracBn	(1)
B Co, TnkBn	(1)
C Co, AtBn	(1)
CO	(1)

CO / P
XO / A

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), PMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/CW/jda
3800
072400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), PMF (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #152, Period ending 072400H December 1965
encl: Special Rpts from HUEH DUC District HQ
1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operations.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>EMCT</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>EECT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
8 Dec	0636	0659	1831	1854	1754	0622	FULL

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1st Bn, 9th Mar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063 850), the USAF Troposcatter site on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 060853), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company B provided security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. Late Report. At 062330H, a Company D ambush element positioned at coordinates (BT 049658) reported receiving four rounds sniper fire from Viet Cong positioned approximately one hundred fifty meters northeast of the Marines' position. The Marines directed small arms fire, two 40mm (M-79) rounds, and two 60mm mortar illumination rounds at the enemy position at which time ten Viet Cong were observed moving toward the ambush site. The Marines then reported receiving three rounds small arms fire, and one hand grenade. The Marines again directed small arms fire and four hand grenades at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact. No USMC casualties were reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined.

PAGE 1 OF 6 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

#152

(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

b. At 070900H, a Company C patrol reported apprehending three suspicious females at coordinates (BT 075708) when routine examinations revealed they lacked adequate identification. The suspects were evacuated to the Battalion C.P. where they were properly identified by the HOA HAI Village Chief and released.

c. At 070945H, a Company B patrol reported apprehending eight suspicious people at coordinates (BT 050730) when routine examinations revealed they lacked adequate identification. The suspects were evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

d. At 071230H, a Company D patrol reported discovering a booby trapped grenade (no other description provided) at coordinates (BT 049648) which was destroyed in place. At 071245H, this same patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 056647) reported receiving two rounds sniper fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 056646). The enemy fire was not repeated and the exact enemy position could not be determined. A search of the area revealed two 3.5 inch rounds (not booby trapped) which were destroyed in place. One USMC MIA was reported.

e. At 071230H, a Company D patrol reported finding a punji trap in NGAN TRUNG (1) hamlet, coordinates (BT 055646) which was destroyed in place.

f. At 071520H, a Company A patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 098660) reported receiving an estimated four hundred rounds automatic and semi-automatic small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned to the southeast of the Marines' position, coordinates (BT 099640). The Marines directed approximately four hundred rounds small arms fire and five 40mm (M-79) rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong ceased firing and withdrew to the south. The Marines pursued but lost contact. A search of the area from which the Viet Cong had fired revealed negative results. No casualties were reported.

g. At 071600H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from the HOA HAI Village Chief that twenty Viet Cong arrived in HOA LAN village, coordinates (BT 0367), at 061400H. The report indicated that six of the Viet Cong, identified as HUYNH CUONG, HUYNH TRANG, HUYNH MAT, HUYNH CHOI, HUYNH CUU, and LE CHOI, are considered important personalities to the Viet Cong and are hiding in a tunnel located in one Mr. HUYNH MUU's yard. The report stated there are two females, HUYNH THI HOA and HUYNH THI NGULEN, who live in HOA LAN village and who provide information to the Viet Cong. The Battalion S-2 rates this report F-2. (S-2 rates this report C-3).

h. At 071600H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a listing of Viet Cong personalities provided by the Police Chief Leader of HOA LONG, HOA LAN, and HOA HAI villages. This document, identified as the "black list", stated that one TEN CHIEU is the HOA VANG District Political Leader; that one HAI HOA QUY is the Political Leader of HOA LON, HOA LONG, HOA HAI, and HOA PHUNG villages;

CONFIDENTIAL

that one NGO MAN is the Viet Cong hamlet defense organizer; that one NAI HUNG DI is responsible for district security; that one TEN THANH is in charge of economy of DA NANG City, and that one TEN CUU is in charge of administration of DA NANG City. The report stated that the hamlets of DA MAN, TUNG LAL (HOA PHUNG), LY THI, and NAI NAL (DA NANG) are called the "district three" by the Viet Cong. The report continued that there is one squad of Main Force Viet Cong that operate in the area of the "district three", commanded by one MUOI.

(2) 2nd Bn. 9th Lar. Continued to defend the central portion of the new Regimental TAOR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEN (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998707); and provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of NIEU DONG(1), coordinates (BT 017668).

a. Late Report. At 061940H, a Company H patrol reported discovering one French magneto, and approximately seventy five feet of communication wire at coordinates (BT 027639). The capture material was evacuated to the Battalion S-2 for evaluation.

b. Late Report. At 062015H, the Battalion C.P., coordinates (AT 993677), reported receiving one round sniper fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 997678). A patrol was dispatched to investigate but returned with negative results.

c. Late Report. At 062250H, a Company H patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 026654) reported receiving one grenade from Viet Cong positioned at close range. The Marines directed small arms fire at the Viet Cong position and the Viet Cong attempted to break contact. The Marines pursued the Viet Cong but could not maintain the contact. One USMC WIA was reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined.

d. At 070040H, a Company E ambush element positioned at coordinates (BT 044722) reported observing a small boat approaching their position on the bank of the SONG VINH DIEN, carrying three Viet Cong. The Marines directed two 81mm mortar illumination rounds at the approaching boat at which time the Viet Cong tried to paddle to shore. Observing one rifle in the boat, the Marines directed small arms fire and two 40mm (M-79) rounds at the Viet Cong, sinking the boat. The report stated that there were no signs of the Viet Cong, and the three Viet Cong were probably KIA. No USMC casualties were reported.

e. At 070800H, Company E reported one USMC MIA (presumed drowned) when a Marine patrol boat overturned at coordinates (BT 056724). A rescue team remained in the area seeking the body but by the end of the reporting period of this LITSUM reported negative results. Additional information will be provided when available.

f. At 071320H, a Company F patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 003663) reported observing approximately sixty five Vietnamese

CONFIDENTIAL

civilians carrying their personal belongings, leaving the hamlet of NHON THO (1), coordinates (BT 003663) heading south toward the hamlet of HA DONG, coordinates (AT 998643). Additional information will be provided when available.

g. At 071920H, a Company II patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 041643) reported receiving an estimated eight rounds small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 041643). The Marines directed small arms fire and four 81mm mortar rounds at the enemy position, and the Viet Cong broke contact. No USMC casualties were reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined.

(3) 3rdBn, 3rdMar. Continued to defend the western portion of the new Regimental TAOR, from, but not including, the railroad tracks west to, but not including, the road passing HLEU DUC District Headquarters, coordinates (AT 942689). Company M provided security for ASP #1, coordinates (AT 985733).

a. Late Report. At 062030H, the Battalion C.P., coordinates (AT 975706), reported receiving an estimated fifteen rounds of automatic small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 957663). The Marines directed three 40mm(M-79) rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact. No USMC casualties were reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined.

b. At 071805H, a Company I ambush element positioned at coordinates (AT 971658) reported observing seven Viet Cong positioned forty meters from the Marines' position. The Marines directed small arms fire at the enemy position and observed two Viet Cong falling as if hit by the Marines fire. The Marines pursued the enemy and upon arriving at the enemy position found large quantities of blood. The trail of blood was followed to a cane field where the Marines observed two Viet Cong with weapons carrying two other Viet Cong. The Marines continued to pursue the enemy but were unable to maintain contact. No USMC casualties were reported. (S-2 comment: This engagement resulted in two probable Viet Cong WIA and are claimed as such in paragraph D, this INTSUM).

(4) Special Reports.

a. At 070100H, G-2 relayed a report from the HOA VANG Sub Sector that a platoon of Popular Forces and six policemen killed the Viet Cong Mayor of DA NANG, and the Viet Cong District Chief of HOA VANG on 29 November in the NAI NAM hamlet of HOA CUONG village. The report continued that two pistols (type not indicated), one K-50 sub-machine gun, one mine (type not indicated), two grenades (type not indicated), and documents were captured. (S-2 comment: The report added "nineteen CIA, one secretary, one liaison, and one assassination leader" but the significance of this portion of the report is not known. Inquiry at G-2 indicated that they also could not decipher the meaning of this part of the report.)

CONFIDENTIAL

b. At 071115H, G-2 relayed a report from HOA VANG District secret agent that fifteen Viet Cong guerrillas operating in the KIEN LIEN hamlet, coordinates (AT 920865) have moved to the vicinity of coordinates (AT 890870). The report indicated that twenty guerrillas from the villages of HOI THAI and HOA LOI are located in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 945655). The report stated that in the hamlets of LA CHAU and AN TRACH, the Viet Cong are using the children who help the Marines load helicopters and wash clothes, to set up mines and explosives in USMC installations. This report is unevaluated by G-2. (S-2 rates this report F-6).

c. At 071930H, G-2 relayed a report from the Third CIT that Buddhists are planning to stage a demonstration in the city of DA NANG. The report stated the reason for the demonstration is to protest the failure of the United States to pay for damages inflicted on a pagoda. Time and date of the demonstration was not given.

d. At 072022H, a Ninth Marines liaison officer attached to the Regional Force District Headquarters at HIEU DUNG reported that at 071830H, one Vietnamese member of the People's Action Team was killed when he detonated a booby trap at coordinates (AT 981682).

(5) Late Reports.

a. At 071145H, a Company C, First Battalion, Ninth Marines patrol reported apprehending one suspicious person at coordinates (BT 072704) when the HOA HAI Village Chief indicated he was a Viet Cong. The suspect was evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

b. At 071600H, the Third Battalion, Third Marines S-2 relayed a series of intelligence reports from HIEU DUC District Headquarters, which are shown in this INTSUM as enclosure (1).

C. Reports of information of VC received directly from civilians. No reports were received during this reporting period.

D. <u>Viet Cong casualties:</u>	For 24 Hour <u>Reporting period:</u>	Cumulative <u>Since 10 Jul 65:</u>
KIA (Confirmed)	0	251
KIA (Possible)	3	10
VC Captured	0	148
VC Captured (WIA)	0	2
VC WIA (Possible)	2	2
VC Suspects	0	821

E. Destroyed and captured enemy material: The following material was captured by 1stBn, 9thMar.

1 - Grenade (booby-trapped) (BT 049648) (see 071230H entry this INTSUM)

CONFIDENTIAL

2 - 3.5 inch W.P. rounds (not booby-trapped) (BT 055647) (see 071230H entry this INTSUM)

1 - Punji trap (BT 055648) (see 071230H entry this INTSUM)

The following material was captured by 2ndBn, 9thMar:

1 - French magneto (for detonating mines) (BT 027639) (see 061940H entry this INTSUM)

F. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications: No reports were received during this reporting period.

C. Ward
C. WARD
By direction

COPY TO:

III MAF	(1)
III MAF POLAD	(1)
G-2	(4)
3rdMar	(1)
1/9	(7)
2/9	(6)
3/9	(11)
3/3	(6)
2/12	(6)
S-3	(3)
S-2	(2)
FSCC	(1)
3dAtBn	(1)
3dTnkBn	(1)
1stAmtracBn	(1)
B Co, TnkBn	(1)
C Co, AtBn	(1)
CO	(1)

CONFIDENTIALSpecial Reports received from HIEU DUC District Headquarters

(a) At 050900H, a DIEN BAN Agent (rated C-3) reports that one Viet Cong Company of approximately one hundred men, and armed with one 60mm mortar, and five automatic rifles, is located in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 043547). (JNSS G-2 Comment: probably the H-55 Company, previously reported in this area and in the GO NOI Area, coordinates (BT 010540). The H-55 Company AKA H-35, H-40, H-15, or 104th Company, is a DIEN BAN Local Force Company.

(b) On 4 December 65 the HOA VANG District Headquarters relayed a report from the ^{SAU} THANH SON GUN Pacification Program (rated C-3), that an unknown number of Viet Cong operating in vicinity of THANH TROUNG coordinates (BT 030630) are gathering laborers with intent to sabotage Highway #1 from coordinates (BT 047630) to (BT 028653). A propaganda unit will accompany this group. (JNSS G-2 Comment: Very Probable). SIA Comment: Highway #1 is vulnerable to Viet Cong ambush, sniping and sabotage between THANH QUIT Bridge coordinates (BT 043621) and QUA GIANG Bridge coordinates (BT 017675).

(c) On 4 December 65 a DIA LOC District Headquarters Agent (rated C-3) reports two Viet Cong Companies moved from coordinates (AT 908630) to coordinates (AT 970630) on 4 December 65. Equipment includes one 57mm RR and two LMG. (JNSS G-2 Comment: Information received indicates units are 345th Main Force Company with guerrillas attached, and are operational in this area.

ENCLOSURE (1)

CONFIDENTIAL

D/

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FME
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/GW/eb1
3800
082400H NOV 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #153, Period ending 082400H, December 1965

I. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>EMCT</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>EMCT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
9 Dec	0536	0659	1832	1855	1851	0725	FULL

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1stBn, 9thMar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), the USAF Troposcatter site on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 068853), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071703). Company B provided security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. Late Report. At 070630H, a Company D patrol reported apprehending one suspicious male at coordinates (BT 045650). Upon a routine examination revealed he lacked adequate identification. The suspect was evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

b. Late Report. At 071335H, a Company D patrol reported apprehending one suspicious male at coordinates (BT 072648). The suspect was evacuated to the HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

CONFIDENTIAL

c. Late Report. At 071500H, a Company A patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 096664) reported receiving an estimated twenty five rounds small arms fire from six Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 098662). The Marines directed small arms fire at the enemy position, and observed two Viet Cong fall as if hit by the Marines fire. The Marines pursued the fleeing Viet Cong but were unable to maintain contact. One USMC WIA was reported. Two Viet Cong probable WIA were reported.

d. Late Report. At 071520H, a Company A patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 096660) reported receiving five rounds sniper fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 094659) and (BT 100658). The Marines directed approximately thirty rounds small arms fire and eighteen 155mm artillery rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact. A search of the area revealed negative results. No casualties were reported.

e. Late Report. At 071700H, a Company A patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 082658) reported observing seven Viet Cong to the northwest of the Marines position. The Marines directed approximately thirty one rounds small arms fire, and twenty two 40mm (M-79) rounds at the enemy position, and the Viet Cong broke contact, fleeing to the south. No Marine casualties were reported. Enemy casualties were not determined.

f. Late Report. At 072005H, a Company A patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 079694) reported an explosion approximately twenty meters to their rear. The Marines directed approximately ninety rounds small arms fire at what was suspected to be a Viet Cong position. A search of the area revealed negative results. The explosion was described as that of a grenade or a tripped booby trap. No casualties were reported.

g. Late Report. At 072015H, a Company C patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 071701) reported receiving an estimated twelve rounds small arms fire and one grenade from Viet Cong positioned to the south-east of the Marines position at close range. The Marines directed fifteen rounds small arms fire and five 81mm mortar illumination rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong fire ceased. No USMC casualties were reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined.

h. Late Report. At 072015H, a Company C patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 071695) reported receiving thirty rounds small arms fire from five Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 072694). The Marines directed small arms fire at the enemy position and observed one Viet Cong fall as if hit by the Marines fire. Upon reaching the enemy position, one Viet Cong was observed running in a easterly direction. The Marines directed small arms fire at the fleeing Viet Cong, wounding him. No USMC casualties were reported. The report stated that one Viet Cong was probably KIA and the wounded man who was captured was most likely a Viet Cong. The wounded Viet Cong was evacuated to the USMC hospital for treatment and later turned over to ITT for investigation.

CONFIDENTIAL

(S-2 comment: Claiming the captive as a Viet Cong will be postponed awaiting ITT confirmation of his status).

i. Late Report. At 072100H, a Company A ambush element positioned at coordinates (BT 077688) reported observing flashing lights from two boats, each containing two Viet Cong, heading south on the SONG CAN BIEN (river) at coordinates (BT 078689). The Marines directed approximately seventy rounds small arms fire at the enemy, sinking both boats. No USMC casualties were reported. Four probable Viet Cong KIA were reported.

j. Late Report. At 072345H, a Company A patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 081696) reported observing one boat moving south on the SONG CAN BIEN (river) at coordinates (BT 080684). The Marines directed approximately twenty five rounds small arms fire, and eight 81mm mortar illumination rounds at the enemy position, but the boat (sampan) eluded capture. No casualties were reported.

k. At 080015H, a Company A ambush element positioned at coordinates (BT 081696) reported observing two boats (sampans) each containing two Viet Cong, heading south on the SONG CAN BIEN (river) at coordinates (BT 078688). The Marines directed eight 81mm mortar illumination rounds and seventy rounds small arms fire at the enemy craft, sinking one boat. No USMC casualties were reported. Two probable Viet Cong KIA were reported.

l. At 080020H, a Company C patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 073702) reported observing one Viet Cong positioned to the northeast at close range. The Marines directed three rounds small arms fire, one 40mm (M-79) round and one grenade at the enemy position and the Viet Cong fled. No casualties were reported.

m. At 080710H, a Company A patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 093667) reported observing one armed Viet Cong at close range. The Marines challenged the Viet Cong, who attempted to flee. The Marines directed small arms fire killing the Viet Cong (body count). One CHICOM carbine rifle, two M-26 grenades, one billfold, and various documents were taken from the dead Viet Cong, and evacuated to the Battalion S-2. No USMC casualties were reported. (S-2 comment: The initial report received indicated that children in the area attracted the attention of the Marines by what was described as "howling". This led to the discovery and death of the Viet Cong. The Battalion S-2 is investigating to determine if the children deliberately disclosed the Viet Cong's presence).

n. At 080815H, a Company B patrol reported apprehending one suspicious male at coordinates (BT 049753). The suspect was evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

o. At 080840H, a Company B patrol reported apprehending two suspicious males at coordinates (BT 049758). The suspects were evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

CONFIDENTIAL

p. At 081010H, a Company A patrol reported apprehending one suspicious female at coordinates (BT 100667) when a routine examination revealed she lacked adequate identification. The suspect was evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

q. At 081800H, a Company A patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 100644) reported receiving what was believed to be two 60mm mortar rounds from Viet Cong positioned in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 100659). The Marines dispersed and pursued the enemy. In the vicinity of coordinates (BT 113649), the Marines reported receiving an estimated twenty five rounds small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 110652). The Marines directed four 155mm artillery rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact. No casualties were reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined.

(2) 2ndBn, 9thMar. Continued to defend the central portion of the new Regimental TAQR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEN (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998707); and provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of MIEU DONG (1), coordinates (BT 017668).

a. Late Report. At 071920H, a Company H patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 032643) reported seeing lights and hearing what was described as the clicking together of sticks or wooden boards which was coming from coordinates (BT 037646). As the Marines proceeded to investigate they separated receiving an estimated sixty automatic and semi automatic small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 037646). The Marines directed small arms fire at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact. No USMC casualties were reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined.

b. At 080556H, a Company F patrol reported discovering a possible Viet Cong minefield at coordinates (AT 992662). A detachment of Engineers was dispatched to investigate. A search of the area revealed one cylinder described as being ten inches long, six inches in diameter, and filled with what was described as black powder, which was destroyed in place. No casualties were reported. (S-2 Comment: A subsequent report indicated that a thorough search of the area failed to disclose any mines or other suspicious devices).

c. At 080930H, Company F relayed a report from two Popular Force soldiers stationed in YEN NE (1), coordinates (AT 988662), that the Viet Cong in the area are moving to an unknown location south of Route #14. This report is rated F-6 by the Battalion S-2. (S-2 rates this report F-6. S-2 Comment: Although the report itself is not specific and lacks clarity, MIEU BONG District Headquarters was notified to seek confirmation of this report through their Peoples Action Team. A report received from MIEU BONG states a secret agent in YEN NE (1) confirmed the report).

CONFIDENTIAL

d. At 081520H, a Company F patrol reported discovering a tunnel containing food and clothing (description or amount not reported) at coordinates (AT 994642) which was destroyed by two 90mm rounds. The report indicated that the Marines directed three 90mm rounds at a building at coordinates (AT 993637) which resulted in a large secondary explosion throwing debris approximately two hundred meters in the air, and that a bunker (description not reported) was destroyed at coordinates (AT 996628) as a result of two 90mm rounds. The report stated that one of the tanks attached to the Marine patrol spotted (through tank sight) two armed Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 995620). The Marines directed two 90mm W.P. rounds at the enemy position scoring what was described as direct hits on the two Viet Cong. The report continued that the one USMC MIA since approximately 051700H as a result of a mine detonation at coordinates (AT 990642), (see 051645H entry, INTSUM #150) was found KIA on the north bank of the SONG BAU KAU (river) approximately seventy five meters east of the HA DONG bridge, coordinates (AT 990641). No USMC casualties were reported. Two Viet Cong probable KIA were reported.

e. At 081700H, the Battalion S-3 reported that a Peoples Action Team discovered one mine described as being made of wood, one inch high, eight inch square, grey with yellow markings, handle on top, and containing a shaped charge. Since there was no interpreters present, additional information on the mine could not be obtained. Additional information will be provided when available.

(3) 3rdBn, 9thMar. Continued to defend the western portion of the new Regimental TAOR, from, but not including, the railroad tracks west to, but not including, the road passing HIEU DUC District Headquarters, coordinates (AT 942 689). Company M provided security for ASP #1, coordinates (AT 985733).

a. At 081225H, Company I reported that a helicopter making a re-supply run in the Company I C.P., coordinates (AT 972663), received three rounds small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 971656). A patrol was dispatched to pursue the enemy, but a search of the area revealed negative results. No casualties were reported.

b. At 081600H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from HIEU DUC District Headquarters that one Viet Cong company of approximately one hundred ten men, armed with one 60mm mortar and one light machine gun, has moved from coordinates (AT 889601) to the vicinity of coordinates (AT 947625). The report stated the Viet Cong company is commanded by one NGO CHAU HOANG. (Battalion S-2 comment: Same unit that hit Company A, First Battalion, First Marines on 30 October. This is normal operating area of D-62 Main Force Company. This report is unevaluated by the Battalion S-2). (S-2 rates this report F-6).

c. At 081720H, Company I relayed a report from the pacification team in the hamlet of AM TRAC (1), coordinates (AT 967664), that one hundred fifty Viet Cong are located at coordinates (AT 965665). The report stated there was a lot of activity (no further description provided) in the hamlets of LA

CONFIDENTIAL

BONG (1), coordinates (AT 975672), and YEN NE (4), coordinates (AT 975677). Company I dispatched a patrol to investigate but by the end of the reporting period covered by this INTSUM reported negative results. Additional information will be provided when available.

d. At 081825H, a Company I patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 973663) reported receiving seven rounds small arms fire from two Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 965659). The Marines directed approximately forty rounds small arms fire at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact. No USMC casualties were reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined.

e. At 081930H, a Company I patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 970663) reported receiving one round sniper fire from one Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 968665). The Marines directed five rounds small arms fire and two 40mm (M-79) rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact. A search of the area revealed negative results. One USMC WIA was reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined.

f. At 082024H, a Company I patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 970665) reported receiving an estimated ten rounds automatic small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned to the south of the Marines' position. The Marines directed one 40mm (M-79) round at the enemy position and the enemy fire ceased. A search of the area revealed negative results. No casualties were reported.

(4) Special Reports.

a. Late Report. At 072130H, G-2 relayed an agent report from the HIEU DUC District Headquarters regarding the two Viet Cong companies reported on 041700H (Third Marine INTSUM #170. Para 1b and 2b) has disappeared, and one Viet Cong company commanded by one VO XUAN LAM, has moved to the vicinity of coordinates (AT 865655). G-2 comment: VO XUAN LAM reported in two different locations as commander of the D-61 Main Force Company, which G-2 carries as a confirmed Viet Cong Main Force Company. This report is unevaluated by G-2. (S-2 rates this report F-3).

b. At 080745H, an Aerial Observer reported observing a freshly dug trench line approximately one hundred fifty meters long at coordinates (AT 991635). The report continued that new caves and fox holes were observed at coordinates (AT 993609).

c. At 080800H, an Aerial Observer reported observing four large road cuts at coordinates (AT 004566). The report continued that the cuts would stop all vehicular traffic.

CONFIDENTIAL

d. At 081514H, a Ninth Marines Liaison Officer attached to the Regional Force Headquarters at MIEU BONG relayed a report from a defector from BAN QUAN (1) coordinates (BT 033688) that the Q-16 Viet Cong Main Force company of eighty men, commanded by one PHUNG NRU, and armed with one 60mm mortar and numerous small arms, has one platoon located at coordinates (BT 070685), one platoon located at coordinates (AT 030687). The company has the mission of harassing USMC units, villagers, and the pacification program in the Marble Mountain area. (S-2 rates this report F-6.)

e. At 081816H, a Ninth Marines Liaison Officer attached to the Regional Force Headquarters at MIEU BONG relayed a report from a pacification team that there is one Viet Cong company in the hamlet of AN TRAC (1) coordinates (AT 968665), and that one Viet Cong platoon is located in LA BONG (1), coordinates (AT 973671). The report continued that the pacification team is supposed to be showing the Marines the location of the Viet Cong units. (S-2 rates this report F-6.)

f. At 082115H, G-2 relayed a report from HOA VANG District Headquarters (received from an unknown source) that the DIEN BAN District Headquarters will be attacked tonight (8 December) by one Viet Cong battalion. The report indicated that the Viet Cong battalion is located at coordinates (BT 168546). This report is unevaluated by G-2. (S-2 rates this report F-6.)

C. Reports of information of VC received directly from civilians.

a. At 082000H, Company I relayed a report from the villagers of LA BONG (1) hamlet, coordinates (AT 977672) that fifteen Viet Cong had been in the hamlet up until the early afternoon when they left heading south.

D. <u>Viet Cong casualties:</u>	<u>For 24 Hour</u> <u>Reporting period:</u>	<u>Cumulative</u> <u>Since 10 Jul 65:</u>
KIA (Confirmed)	1	252
KIA (Possible)	9	19
VC Captured	0	148
VC Captured (WIA)	0	2
VC WIA (Possible)	2	4
VC Suspects	0	821

E. Destroyed and captured enemy material: The following material was destroyed by 2ndBn, 9thMar:

1 - Cylinder (19" long, 6" diameter) (AT 992662) (see 080556H entry this INTSUM)

CONFIDENTIAL

F. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications. The following position was destroyed by 2ndBn, 9thMar:

- 1 - Tunnel (with food and clothing) (size of tunnel, amount of food, and type of clothing not indicated) (AT 994642) (see 081520H entry this INTSUM)

C. Ward
C. WARD
By direction

COPY TO:

III MAF	(1)
III MAF POLAD	(1)
G-2	(4)
3dMar	(1)
1/9	(7)
2/9	(6)
3/9	(11)
3/3	(6)
2/12	(1)
FSCG	(1)
S-3	(3)
S-2	(3)
3dAtBn	(1)
3dTnkBn	(1)
1stAmtracBn	(1)
B Co, TnkBn	(1)
C Co, AtBn	(1)
CO	(1)

UNCLASSIFIED

8-3 FILE 3

a

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/CW/jda
3800
092400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #154, Period ending 092400H, December 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>BLCT</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>EECT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
10 Dec	0637	0700	1832	1855	1953	0830	FULL

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1stBn, 9thMar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), the USAF Troposcatter site on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 068853), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company B provided security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. Late Report. At 081830H, an H and S Company patrol reported discovering the one Marine missing since 070800H (see 070800H entry INTSUM #152). The Marine was found dead in shallow water at coordinates (BT 044723).

b. At 090845H, a Company A patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 112652) reported receiving an estimated sixty five automatic and semi-automatic rounds small arms fire from five Viet Cong positioned behind a barricade at coordinates (BT 111649). The Marines directed small arms fire at the enemy position, and the Viet Cong broke contact withdrawing to the hamlet of HA QUANG (4), coordinates (BT 112649). A search of the area revealed negative results. The Viet Cong barricade (no further description provided) was destroyed in place. One USMC WIA was reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined.

#154

PAGE 1 OF 6 PAGES

UNCLASSIFIED

①

UNCLASSIFIED

c. At 091140H, a Company D patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 035685) reported receiving an estimated seventy five rounds automatic and semi-automatic small arms fire from six Viet Cong positioned to the front, left flank, and right rear of the Marines' position. The Marines deployed and engaged the Viet Cong positioned to their front returning approximately one hundred fifty rounds small arms, and the Viet Cong broke contact. One USMC WIA was reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined.

d. At 091230H, a Company D patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 033664) reported receiving an estimated ten rounds small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 033662) and (BT 035662). The Marines pursued the enemy directing small arms fire, three 40mm (M-79) rounds, and eight M-26 grenades killing one Viet Cong (body count). One CHICOM sub-machine gun, and unidentified documents were recovered from the dead Viet Cong and evacuated to the Battalion S-2. Two USMC WIA were reported.

e. At 091500H, a Company D patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 047657) reported receiving two rounds sniper fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 048655). The Marines directed one M-72 (light anti tank weapon) round and three 40mm (M-79) rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact. A search of the area revealed negative results. No casualties were reported.

f. At 091600H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from the HOA HAI Village Chief that there is one Viet Cong battalion of three hundred men located at coordinates (BT 085664), (BT 094657), and (BT 092654). The report continued that some of these Viet Cong speak with what was described as a Montagnard dialect. (S-2 Comment: This is the first report received of a battalion-sized Viet Cong unit moving into this area in some time. The area had been the operating area of what was sometimes identified as the "101st Battalion" which reportedly displaced to the west to train for an unidentified operation which is presumed to be an effort against the USMC air facilities. The Battalion S-2 did not rate this report. S-2 rates it C-6 and will seek additional information).

g. At 092000H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from the HOA LONG Village Chief that the Viet Cong have assassination teams who will try and kill Marines in public places. The report stated that there is one Viet Cong platoon located in the village of HOA PHUNG, coordinates (BT 0507), armed with one 60mm mortar, and one light machine gun, that keeps moving all the time. The report continued that there are seven Viet Cong located near the CAO DAI Pagoda at 091730H. The Battalion S-2 rates this report C-2. (S-2 rates this report C-3).

h. At 0920005H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from a Company A patrol which indicated there are four small arms firing positions at coordinates (BT 088678) and (BT 093666). The report indicated that an additional five camouflaged positions were discovered from coordinates (BT 095663) to (BT 097667). The report stated that a barbed wire fence was discovered at coordinates

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

(BT 112655) extending to coordinates (BT 106651) behind which was a trench two feet deep and the same length as the fence. The report continued that thirty meters behind this trench is a second trench eight feet wide and five feet deep and as long as the barbed wire fence, behind which is a barrier made of brush, bamboo, logs, and dirt. The report concluded that there are two other trenches at coordinates (BT 112655) that run north to south. (Battalion S-2 comment: Could be a Viet Cong battalion C.P. This information has been given to the Battalion S-3 for action).

i. At 092015H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from the HOA HAI Village Chief that one Main Force battalion of three hundred fifty men, some of which speak with the Montagnard dialect, has moved to VIEU DONG hamlet, coordinates (BT 082665) from North Viet Nam or Laos. The report indicated that two Viet Cong platoons have moved from the hamlet of TU CAU (1), (BT 035667), to the hamlet of KHUE DONG (1), (BT 056706) along the SONG VINH DIEM (river). The report continued that as a result of this move, there is now a company in KHUE DONG (1), equipped with four machine guns, and possibly a battalion C.P. to retrieve heavy weapons from the "Horse Shoe" area, coordinates (BT 1064), (BT 1063), and (BT 1163). The report continued that the Viet Cong have sent many women, children, and old men to the HOA LONG village to gather information on USMC units in the area, and to demonstrate if the Marines shot at any pagodas. (Battalion S-2 comment: The Viet Cong make extensive use of pagodas as firing positions. The Battalion S-2 rates this report C-2). (S-2 comment: It is noted that this report of a battalion-sized unit displacing to this area is also received from the same source as the previous report of a similar-sized unit displacing to the vicinity of coordinates (BT 085664), (BT 094137), and (BT 092654) (see 091600H entry, this INTSUM). The presence of two battalion-sized units in this portion of the TAOR is unlikely but, if true, would indicate an imminent major endeavor on the part of the Viet Cong against installations in the area. The report is rated C-4, pending additional information).

(2) 2ndBn, 9thMar. Continued to defend the central portion of the new Regimental TAOR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEM (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998707); and provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of HIEU DONG (1), coordinates (BT 017668). For the reporting period of this INTSUM, Companies I, K, and M, of the Third Battalion, Third Marines were OPCON to the Second Battalion, Ninth Marines.

a. Late Report. At 081030H, the Battalion S-2 reported the Battalion C.P., coordinates (AT 993677), received two rounds sniper fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 993676). The enemy fire was not repeated and the exact enemy position could not be determined. No casualties were reported.

b. Late Report. At 081945H, a Company H patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 034634) reported observing two people walking north on National Highway #1 who attempted to flee upon spotting the Marines. The Marines directed small arms fire and three rounds 40mm(4-79) rounds and the

PAGE 3 OF 6 PAGES

UNCLASSIFIED

#154

①

UNCLASSIFIED

two Viet Cong were seen falling as if hit by the Marines' fire, but succeeded in eluding capture. At 081955H, the patrol reported ten more people in the same vicinity heading north. The Marines directed small arms fire at the Viet Cong, at which time the Marines reported receiving an estimated seventy five rounds small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 033638) and (BT 032639). The Marines directed small arms fire and six 81mm mortar rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact. No USMC casualties were reported. Two Viet Cong probable WIA were reported.

c. At 090930H, Company I, reported that a group of Vietnamese villagers brought four dead Vietnamese to the Company I C.P., coordinates (AT 972663) and stated that the four Vietnamese were killed in the hamlet of XUAN DIEM (2), coordinates (AT 963627) at last light on 8 December by shell fragmentation. A check with the FSOC revealed no firing was conducted in the area on 8 December. Additional information will be provided when available.

d. At 091155H, a Company F patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 989645) reported receiving ten rounds small arms fire from the east. The enemy fire was not repeated and the exact enemy location could not be determined. No casualties were reported.

e. At 091215H, Company I patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 995664) reported that the road between the hamlet of LE SON (1), coordinates (AT 991658) and AN TRACH (1), coordinates (AT 967660) has been freshly dug up and rendered impassable. A detachment of Engineers was dispatched to check the area for mines and repair the road. A search of the area revealed no mines.

f. At 091221H, a Company I patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 971660) reported receiving one round sniper fire from Viet Cong positioned to the east. The enemy fire was not repeated and the exact enemy position could not be determined. No casualties were reported.

g. At 091330H, the Battalion S-3 provided information on a Company I patrol conducted between 081600H and 082030H. The report indicated that at 081600H one suspicious person and one Viet Cong Suspect were apprehended at coordinates (AT 947674) when routine examination revealed they lacked adequate identification. The suspicious person was identified and released, and the Viet Cong Suspect was evacuated to ITT for investigation. The report stated that at 081555H, a suspected Viet Cong minefield was discovered at coordinates (AT 953651). An Engineer detachment will be dispatched on 10 December to investigate. The report continued that at 082030H, the patrol reported receiving an estimated fifteen rounds automatic small arms fire from the south. The enemy fire was not repeated and the exact enemy location could not be determined. No casualties were reported. Additional information will be provided when available.

h. At 091345H, a Company I patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 975673) relayed a report from a Peoples Action Team who claimed to have killed one Viet Cong at coordinates (AT 963678). The Marines did not see the Viet Cong body but were given a pair of sandals which the Peoples Action Team claimed to have taken from the dead Viet Cong. The Marines evacuated the sandals

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

to the Battalion S-2 for evaluation. Additional information will be provided when available.

i. At 091750H, a Company F patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 990642) reported observing two boats containing four Viet Cong heading north on the SONG BAU XAU (river) at coordinates (AT 991640). The Marines directed small arms fire in front of the boats which time the Viet Cong attempted to flee. The Marines directed additional small arms fire sinking both boats and all four are believed to have been killed. The report continued that the Marines received one grenade at coordinates (AT 995642). A search of the suspected Viet Cong position revealed negative results. No USAF casualties were reported. Four probable Viet Cong KIA were reported.

(3) Special Reports.

a. At 090900H, the U.S. Advisor to the QUANG NAM Census Grievance Studies Center relayed a report that one Viet Cong platoon consisting of twenty six men, armed with two K-44 sub-machine guns, one MAS 36, two 38 sub-machine guns and one thompson sub-machine gun, and commanded by one LAI XE, are located at coordinates (BT 127605), and (BT 133561). The report indicated that LAI XE, and his assistant one BUI CU are gathering at CAM HAI village (BT 1163). The report continued that a three man Viet Cong team are in CAM HAI with the mission to lay mines and destroyed the CAM HAI Township Office. (S-2 rates this report F-6).

b. At 091528H, a Ninth Marines Liaison Officer attached to the Regional Force Headquarters at HIEU BUNG relayed a report from the HOA VANG Sub-Sector that the 101st Viet Cong company, equipped with one 60mm mortar, and one cal .30 machine gun, and augmented by seventy local guerrillas is hiding at coordinates (BT 000620) and (BT 005615). The report continued that one Viet Cong is QUE who is the DIEN BAN District Chief. (S-2 rates this report F-3).

c. At 091905H, the S-2 of HC CAM Training Center relayed a report from the QUANG NAM Special Sector that the B-916 Viet Cong Company of eighty men, commanded by one PHUNG, and armed with one 60mm mortar, and one BAR, has one platoon located at coordinates (BT 170685), one platoon at coordinates (BT 030 678), and one platoon at (AT 830660). The report indicated that the Viet Cong are recruiting young males throughout HOA VANG District. The report stated that one Viet Cong battalion consisting of the D-61 Viet Cong Company and one local force Viet Cong company armed with one 81 mm mortar, two 60mm mortars, two light machine guns, one AN/PRC 10 radio, and commanded by one VO TRUNG, and one NAM QUANG are located at coordinates (AT 872707), (AT 887700), and (AT 877695). S-2 rates this report F-6.

C. Reports of information of VC received directly from civilians. No reports were received during this reporting period.

D. <u>Viet Cong casualties:</u>	For 24 Hour	Cumulative
	<u>Reporting period</u>	<u>Since 10 Jul 65:</u>
KIA (Confirmed)	1	253

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

KIA (Possible)	4	23
VC Captured	0	143
VC Captured (WIA)	0	2
VC WIA (Possible)	2	6
VC Suspects	1	822

E. Destroyed and captured enemy material: No report was received during this reporting period.

F. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications: The following position was destroyed by 1stBn, 9thMar:

1 - Barricade (type not indicated) (BT 111649) (see 090845H entry this INTSUM)

C. Ward
C. WARD
By direction

COPY TO:	
III MAF	(1)
III MAF POLAD	(1)
G-2	(4)
3dMar	(1)
1/9	(7)
2/9	(6)
3/9	(6)
3/3	(6)
2/12	(1)
FSOC	(1)
S-3	(3)
S-2	(3)
1stAmtracBn	(1)
3dTrkBn	(1)
3dAtBn	(1)
C Co, AtBn	(1)
B Co, TrkBn	(1)
CO	(1)

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

CO/for
XU

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/CW/eb1
3800
102400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #155, Period ending 102400H December 1965
Encl: Special Intelligence Report

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>RACET</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>ECET</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
11 Dec	0637	0700	1833	1856	2100	0933	3/4

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1stBn, 9thMar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), the USAF Troposcatter site on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 068853), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company B provides security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. At 101320H, a Company C patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 072675) reported receiving an estimated fifty rounds automatic and semi-automatic small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned to the northeast of the Marines' position. The enemy fire was not repeated, and the exact enemy position could not be determined. No casualties were reported.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

b. At 101600H, the Battalion S-2 provided additional information on a Company D patrol conducted on 5 December (see 051500H entry, INTSUM #150). The report indicated that a search of a building at coordinates (BT 048667) revealed one GVN National ID^{card} without a picture. The ID card will be forwarded to G-2 for evaluation. (S-2 comment: The recovery of the document was only now reported to the Battalion S-2 who immediately effected its evacuation to higher headquarters.)

(2) 2ndBn, 9thMar. Continued to defend the central portion of the new Regimental TAOR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEM (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998707); and provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of HIEU DONG (1), coordinates (BT 017668). For the reporting period of this INTSUM, Companies I, K, and M, of the Third Battalion, Third Marines were OPCON to the Second Battalion, Ninth Marines.

4. Late Report. At 091730H, a Company II scout sniper team positioned at coordinates (BT 017646) reported observing one Viet Cong dressed in camouflaged utilities positioned in a hedgerow at coordinates (BT 018639). The Marines directed one round small arms fire at the enemy position and observed the Viet Cong falling as if hit by the Marines' fire. However, confirmation by body count was not accomplished. At 091750H, the Marines observed a Vietnamese female come to the position of the probable Viet Cong casualty and evidently retrieve something (not determined what) and disappear into a treeline at coordinates (BT 020638). No USMC casualties were reported.

b. At 101305H, a Company K patrol reported detonating a booby-trapped grenade (no further description provided) at coordinates (AT 955664). A search of the area revealed one suspicious person who attempted to flee from the Marine patrol. The suspect was apprehended and evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

c. At 101345H, a Company I patrol reported apprehending one Viet Cong Suspect at coordinates (AT 996664). The suspect was evacuated to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point for investigation.

d. At 101535H, a Company I patrol relayed a report from a Peoples Action Team in LA BONG (3), coordinates (AT 963677), that there are four Viet Cong dressed like ARVN soldiers but (SIC) in short trousers, hiding in a spider hole in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 997674). The report stated that the Viet Cong have placed two booby traps in the area of the spider hole. A search of the area revealed four empty spider holes, each large enough to contain four people. The holes will be destroyed at first light on 11 December. A search of the area for the two booby traps revealed negative results.

e. At 101735H, a Company H patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 994674) reported receiving two rounds sniper fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 995675). The enemy fire was not repeated and the exact enemy location could not be determined. No casualties were reported.

PAGE 2 OF 4 PAGES

UNCLASSIFIED

#155

①

UNCLASSIFIED

f. At 101835H, a Company F patrol reported discovering five tunnels (description not given) in the hamlet of NHON THO (1), coordinates (BT 003657) which were destroyed with demolitions. The report indicated that the destruction of one tunnel resulted in a large secondary explosion possibly indicating a storage of TNT. The report stated the destruction of a second tunnel resulted in a small secondary explosion possibly indicating a storage of grenades and/or mines. The report continued that, in the area, two spider traps and one fence (believed booby trapped) were also destroyed. No casualties were reported.

(3) Special Reports.

a. Late Report. At 092200H, G-2 relayed a report from a source identified as the ARVN, that children and old people will be paid by the Viet Cong to destroy unattended USMC vehicles, steal weapons, and leave explosives near friendly billeting areas. The report indicated this will take place during the next forty eight hours. This report is unevaluated by G-2. (S-2 rates this report F-6).

b. At 101130H, G-2 relayed a message from the HOA VANG District Headquarters that at the present time in the villages of HOA LONG, grid square (BT 0769), and HOA HAI, grid square (BT 0867), the Viet Cong are using children to carry TNT and other explosives to use against USMC installations. The report indicated that the children congregate at the USMC installations to follow Marine activities, and to sabotage Marine installations. The report is unevaluated by G-2. (S-2 comment: The latter portion of this report is similar to the report from ARVN source shown in this LITSUB as entry 092200H).

c. At 101135H, a Ninth Marines Liaison Officer attached to the Regional Force Headquarters at BIEU BONG relayed a report from the Staff Headquarters that the Viet Cong are using a new grenade to inflict casualties on friendly units. The report indicated that the grenade, with a red top and blue handle (spoon), will detonate when the handle (spoon) is held in place by anyone picking the grenade up. The report stated that the Viet Cong place the grenades on the ground to be picked up by friendly units. (S-2 rates this report F-6).

d. At 101925H, MCB-9, coordinates (BT 059738), reported receiving four rounds sniper fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 060728). The enemy fire was not repeated and the exact enemy location could not be determined. No casualties were reported.

G. Reports of information of VC received directly from civilians. No reports were received during this reporting period.

D. <u>Viet Cong casualties:</u>	For 24 Hour <u>Reporting period:</u>	Cumulative <u>Since 10 Jul 65:</u>
KIA (Confirmed)	0	253
KIA (Possible)	0	23
VC Captured	0	148
VC Captured (WIA)	0	2
VC WIA (Possible)	1	7
VC Suspects	1	823

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

E. Destroyed and captured enemy material: The following material was captured by 1stBn, 9thMar:

- 1 - GVN National Identification Card (without a picture) (BT 048667)
(see 101600H entry this INTSUM)

The following material was destroyed by 2ndBn, 9thMar:

- 1 - Fence(believed to be booby trapped) (size and extent not indicated)
(BT 003657) (see 101835H entry this INTSUM)

F. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications: The following positions were destroyed by 2ndBn, 9thMar:

- 5 - Tunnels (size and extent not indicated) (BT 003657) (see 101835H entry this INTSUM)
- 2 - Spider traps (BT 003657) (see 101835H entry this INTSUM)
(size and extent not indicated)

[Signature]
C. .ARD
By direction

COPY TO:	
III MAF	(1)
III MAF POLAD	(1)
G-2	(4)
3dMar	(1)
1/9	(7)
2/9	(6)
3/9	(6)
3/3	(6)
2/12	(6)
S-3	(3)
S-2	(3)
FSCC	(1)
1stAmtrac Bn	(1)
3dTnkBn	(1)
3dAtBn	(1)
C Co, AtBn	(1)
B Co, TnkBn	(1)
CO	(1)

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

To: Ninth Marines S-2
 From: First Battalion, Ninth Marines S-2

Subj: Special Intelligence Report

1. Recent activities in our TAOR indicate that the Viet Cong have a large (battalion reinforced) force operating here.
2. Intelligence reports from village officials indicate that this battalion (reinforced) may try to attack the First Battalion C.P., coordinates (BT 068715), within the next week.
3. The current situation follows:
 - a. That the Viet Cong have two companies near BINH KY (1), coordinates (BT 054668), and KHUE DONG (1), coordinates (BT 057706).
 - b. That they have an additional company somewhere to the south of the above two hamlets.
 - c. That they have two Main Force companies in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 123624)/
 - d. That the present Viet Cong plans are to cross the SONG CAN BIEU (river), coordinates (BT 066703), and attack the First Battalion C.P. from the west.
 - e. That the plans include an additional force which will cross the SONG CAN BIEU (river) at about coordinates (BT 077697) with the mission of attacking the First Battalion, Ninth Marines C.P. from the east.
 - f. That the Seabee camps and Marble Mountain Airfield will be attacked simultaneously; however, the attacks will be secondary to the main attack on the First Battalion, Ninth Marines C.P.
 - g. That mortars will be used to hit all facilities in the HOA LONG village complex, coordinates (BT 0771).
 - h. That the roads and bridges will be heavily interdicted with mines.
4. Additional Special Intelligence Reports will follow as more information becomes available. Rated C-3.

UNCLASSIFIED

ENCLOSURE (1)

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/CW/jda
3800
112400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #156, Period ending 112400H, December 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>RACI</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>EECT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
12 Dec	0628	0701	1833	1856	2212	1034	3/4

B. Enemy Military Situation. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), the USAF Treposcatter site on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 068853), and the Battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company B provided security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. At 110030H, a Company C patrol reported apprehending one Viet Cong Suspect and eight suspicious persons at coordinates (BT 070810) when routine examinations revealed they lacked adequate identification. The Viet Cong Suspect was evacuated to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point, and the suspects were evacuated to ICA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

b. At 111200H, a Company D patrol reported apprehending one Viet Cong Suspect at coordinates (BT 043654). The report indicated an investigation revealed that the suspect's name appears on the Third Battalion, Ninth Marines "wanted list" of known Viet Cong, dated November 1965. The suspect was evacuated to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point for investigation.

PAGE 1 OF 6 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

#156

CONFIDENTIAL

(2) 2nd Bn. 9th Mar. Continued to defend the central portion of the new Regimental TAOR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEM (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998707); and provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of MIEU DONG (1), coordinates (BT 017668). For the reporting period of this INTSUM, Companies I, K, and M, of the Third Battalion, Third Marines were OPCON to the Second Battalion, Ninth Marines.

a. At 110840H, Company I reported an explosion outside of their Company I C.P. A patrol was dispatched and a search of the area revealed two wounded Vietnamese who said they had tripped a booby trap at coordinates (AT 970659). The Marines discovered a second booby trapped grenade (no further description provided) in the same location, was destroyed in place. The Vietnamese were given medical treatment and released. No USMC casualties were reported.

b. At 111100H, a Company K patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 957657) reported receiving five rounds small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 955657). The Marines directed small arms fire, two 40mm (M-79) rounds, and one 3.5 inch round at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact. One USMC WIA was reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined.

c. At 111150H, Company I reported receiving an estimated twenty rounds small arms fire in the Company I C.P., coordinates (AT 972662) from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 972660). A patrol was dispatched and a search of the area revealed negative results. No casualties were reported.

d. At 111315H, a H&S Company patrol reported apprehending one suspicious person at coordinates (AT 999673) when a routine examination revealed he lacked adequate identification. The suspect was evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

e. At 111435H, the Battalion S-2 provided additional information on the suspected Viet Cong minefield discovered on 9 December (see 091330H entry, INTSUM #15). The report indicated that a Company K patrol reinforced by a detachment of Engineers was dispatched to investigate the possible minefield. The report stated that upon reaching the area the minedetector was broken, but firing into the suspected area (thirty five yards by thirty five yards) with 40mm (M-79) rounds resulted in a second explosion. Another patrol will be dispatched at first light on 12 December to continue destruction of the suspected minefield. No casualties were reported. Additional information will be provided when available.

f. At 111442H, a Company F patrol reported discovering one cave (description not provided) at coordinates (BT 000661), which was destroyed by demolitions. No casualties were reported.

(3) Special Reports.

a. At 110950H, G-2 relayed a report from NAD that one Viet Cong company has moved into the village of HOA LAN, coordinates (BT 0468). The report indicated that the Viet Cong company consists of seventy men, and is armed with one 60mm mortar. This report is unevgluated by G-2. (S-2 rates this report F-3).

CONFIDENTIAL

b. At 111815H, G-2 relayed a report from a secret agent of HOA VANG District Headquarters that fifteen Viet Cong guerrillas positioned at coordinates (AT 975687) will move to the hamlet of LA BONG (1), coordinates (AT 976673) on 11 December with the mission of kidnaping the villagers who have been helping the pacification cadre. The report indicated that these villagers will be sent to the mountains for training (presumably propaganda training). The report stated that one Main Force Viet Cong platoon commanded by one MAI CONG, is located at coordinates (BT 085670) with the mission of working with the Viet Cong guerrillas of the HOA HAI village, and to gather information on the activities of friendly units in the HOA LONG and HOA LOI villages. The report continued that one Main Force Viet Cong company is located in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 935601). This report is unevaluated by G-2. (S-2 rates this report F-3).

(4) Late Reports.

FIRST

a. At 112100H, the Battalion S-3 reported that approximately forty Viet Cong were observed crossing the SONG VINH DIEN (river) at coordinates (BT 059 719). The Marines directed nine 90mm rounds and small arms fire at the Viet Cong, causing them to disperse. At 112135H, the Battalion S-3 reported that the western sector of the Battalion C.P. received an estimated seven rounds small arms fire and one grenade from Viet Cong positioned to the west. The Marines directed small arms fire, and five Viet Cong were seen running to the north. No USMC casualties were reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined. Additional information will be provided when available.

C. Reports of information of VC received directly from civilians.

a. At 111435H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from two Vietnamese civilians that two Viet Cong had been in the hamlet of AN TU (1), coordinates (BT 024640) attempting to turn the villagers against the Americans, but were unsuccessful. The report indicated that the Viet Cong left the hamlet upon the arrival of a GVN People's Action Team. The report continued that the Viet Cong displaced to the hamlet of VIEM TAY (2), coordinates (BT 031643).

D. <u>Viet Cong casualties:</u>	<u>For 24 Hour</u> <u>Reporting period:</u>	<u>Cumulative</u> <u>Since 10 Jul 65:</u>
KIA (Confirmed)	0	253
KIA (Possible)	0	23
VC Captured	0	*161
VC Captured(WIA)	0	2
VC WIA(Possibly)	0	6
VC Suspects	2	82

*Increase of thirteen Viet Cong based on ITT prisoner Interrogation Reports as follows:

CONFIDENTIAL

ITT report dated 29 Nov 65.

Name: NGUYEN NHAN
Age: 41
Status: VC Guard, DIANG DUNG, Sent to I Corps.
Captured by K-3-9 on 29 Nov 65

ITT report dated 29 Nov 65.

Name: NGUYEN THO
Age: 47
Status: Former member VC Farmers' Ass'n, HIA DONG. Sent to DIEM
BAN District Headquarters.
Captured by K-3-9 on 29 Nov 65.

ITT report dated 29 Nov 65.

Name: NGUYEN THIA
Age: 62
Status: VC Guard, GIANG DONG. Sent to HOA VANG District Headquarters.
Captured by N-3-9 on 29 Nov 65.

ITT report dated 29 Nov 65.

Name: HUYNH HUYNH
Age: 48
Status: VC Guard, KHAI DONG. Sent to HOA VANG District Headquarters.
Captured by C-1-9 on 29 Nov 65.

ITT report dated 29 Nov 65.

Name: NGUYEN HUU
Age: 51
Status: Member VC Old Men's Ass'n., GIANG DONG. Sent to HOA VANG
District Headquarters.
Captured by 9th Marines on 29 Nov 65.

ITT report dated 29 Nov 65

Name: TRAN EM
Age: 29
Status: VC Guard, GIANG DONG. Sent to HOA VANG District Headquarters.
Captured by K-3-9 on 29 Nov 65.

ITT report dated 1 Dec 65.

Name: LUU NGO
Age: 46
Status: VC Guard, THAI CAN. Sent to DIEM BAN District Headquarters.
Captured by K-3-9 on 30 Nov 65.

CONFIDENTIAL

ITT report dated 1 Dec 65

Name: VO HANG
Age: 28
Status: VC Guard, NGAN CAU. Sent to DIEN BAN District Headquarters.
Captured by C-1-9 on 30 Nov 65.

ITT report dated 1 Dec 65.

Name: NGUYEN HA (AKA) DONG
Age: 58
Status: Former member VC Old Mens Ass'n., HA DONG. Sent to DIEN BAN District Headquarters.
Captured by M-3-9 on 1 Dec 65.

ITT report dated 29 Nov 65

Name: VAN DIEN
Age: 33
Status: VC Guard, TAI CAM. Sent to QUANG NAM Special Sector.
Captured by K-3-9 on 28 Nov 65.

ITT report dated 29 Nov 65

Name: MAI NHAN
Age: 35
Status: VC Guard, THAI CAM. Sent to 1 Corps.
Captured by K-3-9 on 28 Nov 65.

ITT report dated 29 Nov 65.

Name: VO XANG (THUA)
Age: 50
Status: VC Guard, CAM SON. Sent to QUANG NAM Special Sector.
Captured by K-3-9 on 28 Nov 65.

ITT report dated 29 Nov 65.

Name: DOAN THIN
Age: 35
Status: VC Guard, THOI CAM. Sent to QUANG NAM Special Sector.
Captured by K-3-9 on 28 Nov 65.

3. Disposition of captured personnel for week of 5 to 11 Dec 65.

(1) Total captives taken:	58
(2) Captives cleared as civilians:	16

CONFIDENTIAL

(3) VCS delivered to HOA VANG District HQS:	32
(4) VCS delivered to ITT:	10
(5) VCS delivered to ITT:	0

F. Destroyed and captured enemy material. The following material was captured by 1stBn, 9thMar.

- Assorted documents (BT 054681), (BT 057710), (BT 046700)

The following material was destroyed by 2ndBn, 9thMar.

1 - Grenade (booby-trapped) (type not indicated) (AT 970659) (see 110840H entry this INTSUM)

G. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications. The following position was destroyed by 2ndBn, 9thMar.

1 - Cave (size and extent not indicated) (BT 000661) (see 111442H entry this INTSUM)

C. Ward
C. WARD
By direction

COPY TO:

III AF	(1)
III AF POLAD	(1)
G-2	(4)
3d Mar	(1)
1/9	(7)
2/9	(6)
3/9	(6)
3/3	(6)
2/12	(6)
S-3	(3)
S-2	(3)
FSOC	(1)
3dTrkBn	(1)
3dAtBn	(1)
1stAmtracBn	(1)
B Co, TrkBn	(1)
C Co, AtBn	(1)
CO	(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/CW/eb1
3800
122400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #157, Period ending 122400H December 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>MOON</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>ECCT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
13 Dec	0638	0701	1833	1856	2308	1126	3/4

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1stBn, 9thMar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), and the USAF Troposcatter site on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 068853), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company B provided security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. At 120035H, a Company D ambush element positioned at coordinates (BT 055698) reported observing one Viet Cong, dressed in a khaki uniform and armed with a sub-machine gun at close range. The Marines directed ten rounds small arms fire and one 40mm (M-79) round at the enemy, and the Viet Cong fled in a southerly direction. No casualties were reported.

b. At 121237H, the Battalion S-2 reported that what was believed to be an anti-personnel mine was discovered at coordinates (BT 072673) by the

CONFIDENTIAL

personnel of a section of attached ONTUS. The mine (description not reported) was destroyed in place by a grenade. The report indicated the secondary explosion was greater than that of the grenade. No casualties were reported.

c. At 121530H, a Company B patrol reported detonating a booby trap (description not provided) at coordinates (BT 104656). Two USMC WIA were reported. Additional information will be provided when available.

(2) 2ndBn, 9thMar. Continued to defend the central portion of the Regimental TAOR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEN (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998707); and provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of MIEN DONG (1), coordinates (BT 017668). For the reporting period of this INTSUM, Companies L, K, and N, of the Third Battalion, Third Marines were OPCON to the Second Battalion, Ninth Marines.

a. Late Report. At 112300H, a Company I listening post positioned at coordinates (AT 9973661) reported observing two Viet Cong approaching their position. The Marines directed ten rounds small arms fire and two grenades at the approaching enemy and the Viet Cong fled. A search of the area revealed negative results. No casualties were reported.

b. At 120026H, a Company F security element positioned at coordinates (AT 998706) reported observing two Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 997706). One 81mm illumination round was directed at the enemy position and the Viet Cong fled. The Marines directed four rounds small arms fire at the fleeing Viet Cong with negative results. No casualties were reported.

c. At 121025H, Company H reported an explosion outside the Company C.P. area, coordinates (BT 032634). A check with the Second Battalion FSCC revealed no friendly fire in the Company H C.P. area. A search of the area revealed negative results. Additional information will be provided when available.

d. At 121100H, an H and S Company patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 995677) reported receiving six rounds small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned in the hamlet of DUONG SON (2), coordinates (AT 997677). The Marines directed small arms fire at the enemy position and entered the area in pursuit of the Viet Cong. A search of DUONG SON (2) revealed two suspicious persons who were released after questioning. No casualties were reported.

e. At 121100H, a Company F patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 987647) reported receiving an estimated thirty ^{rounds} automatic and semi-automatic small arms fire from an estimated three Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 002642). The Marines directed approximately three hundred rounds small arms fire and twenty 60mm mortar rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong fire ceased. A search of the area that the Viet Cong had occupied provided negative results. The report continued that the patrol discovered one tunnel (description not reported) at coordinates (AT 998643) which was destroyed. No USMC casualties were reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined.

CONFIDENTIAL

f. At 121420H, a Company I patrol reported discovering one spider trap (four feet by four feet), and what was described as a "T" marker at coordinates (AT 968674). The report stated that a bunker (description not reported) was discovered at coordinates (AT 974660). All three were destroyed by demolitions. No casualties were reported.

(3) Special Reports.

a. At 121630H, G-2 relayed an agent report from HOA VANG District Headquarters that unidentified villagers of TRUNG LUNG, coordinates (BT 041721) have found what appears to be a 3.5 inch rocket launcher, or parts of a 3.5 inch launcher. The report continued that the village Chief will be in the village on 13 December to assist in recovering the weapon.

b. At 122100H, G-2 relayed a report from QUANG NAM Special Sector that one Viet Cong company, commanded by one KHIET, is located at coordinates (AT 968560). The report indicated the Viet Cong are forcing villagers to dig communications trenches. QUANG NAM Special Sector comment: Could be a company size guerrilla unit from BO NOI, vicinity of coordinates (BT 010540). (G-2 comment: This commander was reported once before as the commanding officer of two Main Force Viet Cong companies on 2 September. Could be the Q-15 Local Force company. Rated F-3). (S-2 rates this report F-3).

c. At 122100H, G-2 relayed a report from the QUANG NAM Police Service that one Viet Cong company, commanded by one VO VAN DAP, is located at coordinates (BT 076605). QUANG NAM Special Sector comment: Could be the Q-15 Local Force Viet Cong company of DIEN BAN District. (G-2 comment: No information on this commander. Rated F-3). (S-2 rates this report F-3).

C. Reports of information of VC received directly from civilians. No reports were received during this reporting period.

D. <u>Viet Cong casualties:</u>	<u>For 24 Hour Reporting period:</u>	<u>Cumulative Since 10 Jul 65:</u>
KIA (Confirmed)	0	253
KIA (Possible)	0	23
VC Captured	0	161
VC Captured (WIA)	0	2
VC WIA (Possible)	0	6
VC Suspects	0	825

E. Destroyed and captured enemy material: The following material was captured by 1stBn, 9thMar:

- 2 - Documents (no coordinates)
- 1 - Map, SONG CAU East (no coordinates)

The following material was destroyed by 1stBn, 9thMar:

- 1 - Mine (believed to be Anti-personnel) (BT 072673) (see 121257H entry this INESUM)

CONFIDENTIAL

The following material was captured by 1stBn, 9thMar:

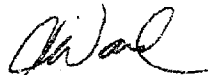
- 1 - Watch
- 1 - Battery (No coordinates)
- 2 - Documents
- 1 - Cartridge

The following material was captured by 3rdBn, 3rdMar:

- 2 - Documents (AT 975675)

F. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications. The following position was destroyed by 2ndBn, 9thMar:

- 1 - Tunnel (size and extent not indicated) (AT 998643) (see 121100H entry this INTSUM)



G. WARD
By direction

COPY TO:

III MAF	(1)
III MAF POLAD	(1)
G-2	(4)
3dMar	(1)
1/9	(7)
2/9	(6)
3/9	(6)
3/3	(6)
2/12	(6)
S-3	(3)
S-2	(9)
PSCC	(1)
1stAmtracBn	(1)
3dTrkBn	(1)
3dAtBn	(1)
B Co, TrkBn	(1)
C Co, AtBn	(1)
CO	(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/CW/jda
3800
132400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #158, Period ending 132400H, December 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>FMCT</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>EECT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
14 Dec	0639	0702	1834	1857	- -	1222	1/2

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1st Bn. 9th Mar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), the USAF Troposcatter site on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 068853), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company provided security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. Late Report. At 121100H, a Company C patrol reported discovering various documents and papers hidden in a building at coordinates (BT 074680). The documents were forwarded to G-2 for evaluation.

b. Late Report. At 122000H, a Company D patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 044688) reported observing three Viet Cong positioned at close range. The Marines directed small arms fire at the enemy position, wounding one. The Viet Cong fled with the Marines in pursuit. The Viet Cong who was wounded was found by the Marines. The captured Viet Cong was given medical treatment and detained in the forward position until evacuation was arranged at 130900H. The wounded Viet Cong was evacuated to an ARVN hospital. No equipment was found on the Viet Cong WIA. No USMC casualties were reported.

PAGE 1 OF 5 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

*158

①

CONFIDENTIAL

Subsequent investigation discloses suspect, identified by National Identification Card as one HUYNH CHINH, age 37, was evacuated to ARVN (military) Hospital. Regimental Intelligence Officer attempted to interrogate suspect at ARVN Hospital but reported suspect could not be located. Suspect was finally located at civilian hospital in DA NANG, registered under name of one NGUYEN MIT, age 51. Interrogation of medical personnel at ARVN Hospital indicates subsequent identification as one NGUYEN MIT was based on document which served as identification as what was described as a special province agent. This document could not be, or was not, produced by the ARVN personnel at the military hospital and officials at the civilian hospital deny knowledge of same. I Corps Advisory personnel who were responsible for finally locating the suspect, will continue to investigate this matter. Interrogation of the suspect was not accomplished due to serious nature of wounds. Medical prognosis of suspect's condition is critical.

c. At 130830H, a Company B patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 081657) reported receiving an estimated forty rounds automatic and semi-automatic small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 083657). The Marines directed approximately one hundred rounds small arms fire and five 3.5 inch rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact, fleeing to the south. The Marines pursued the fleeing enemy but were unable to maintain contact. No casualties were reported.

d. At 130900H, a Company B patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 090661) reported observing four armed Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 088658). The Marines directed small arms fire at the enemy position and observed one Viet Cong fall as if hit by the Marines' fire. The Marines pursued the fleeing enemy, and upon reaching the Viet Cong's initial position, observed signs of at least one person being dragged away. No USMC casualties were reported. One Viet Cong probable WIA was reported.

e. At 130915H, a Company D patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 044685) reported observing one Vietnamese female positioned at coordinates (BT 044684). Upon sighting the Marine patrol, the suspect attempted to flee in a southerly direction. The Marines fired one warning shot but the suspect ignored the warning. The Marines then directed small arms fire at the suspect, who was hit and killed. No USMC casualties were reported.

f. At 131315H, a Company D patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 035675) reported observing one Viet Cong at close range who attempted to flee when spotting the approaching Marines. The Marines fired one warning shot but failed to halt the fleeing enemy. The Marines directed one 40mm (M-79) round at the suspect, killing the Viet Cong. Two CHICOM grenades, one cartridge belt, and documents were found on the Viet Cong KIA and evacuated to the Battalion S-2 for evaluation.

g. At 131650H, a Company D patrol reported observing six young Vietnamese boys making foot traps (no further description reported) at coordinates (BT 046686). The report indicated that the two oldest Vietnamese boys were apprehended and evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation. The report continued that the foot traps were destroyed in place. No casualties were reported.

CONFIDENTIAL

(2) 2ndBn, 9thMar. Continued to defend the central portion of the Regimental TAOR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEN (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998707); and provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of MIEU DONG (1), coordinates (BT 017668). For the reporting period of this INTSUM, Companies I, K, and M, of the Third Battalion, Third Marines were OPCON to the Second Battalion, Ninth Marines.

a. Late Report. At 122200H the Company E C.P. reported receiving two rounds sniper fire from Viet Cong positioned to the southwest. The Marines directed small arms fire at the Viet Cong position and the enemy fire ceased. No casualties were reported.

b. At 131100H, a Company I patrol reported that a Peoples Action Team brought two Vietnamese females to their position at coordinates (AT 967667). The report stated that the females indicated their husbands and one son are Viet Cong, and that they assisted in the collection of taxes from the villagers for the Viet Cong. The report stated the women were willing to lead the Marines to two Viet Cong hiding in the same vicinity. A fire team patrol was dispatched, but a search of the area revealed negative results. The two suspects were retained by the Peoples Action Team.

c. At 131205H, a Company F patrol reported detonating a booby-trapped grenade (no further description reported) at coordinates (AT 986644). Three USMC WIA were reported. The report indicated that, while the Marines were conducting a medical evacuation at coordinates (AT 988644), a second explosion occurred at coordinates (AT 989643). A search of the area revealed large segments (size not indicated) of metal indicating the explosive could have been a 105mm round. The report also stated that the patrol leader believed that the explosion could have been electrically detonated but did not indicate the basis for this belief. No casualties were reported.

d. At 131725H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a secret agent report from the Third Marines that one Viet Cong company armed with five BAR's, one 81mm mortar, five light machine guns and individual weapons, has one platoon positioned at the hamlet of LA CHAU (3), coordinates (AT 957677), one platoon positioned at CAM NE (3), coordinates (AT 963684), and one platoon positioned at coordinates (AT 9170). The report stated the mission of the Viet Cong is to attack the bridge at coordinates (AT 946700), Hill #22, Hill #41, and a district headquarters located in grid square (AT 9368). (S-2 rates this report F-6).

(3) Special Reports.

a. At 131530H, G-2 relayed a report from the First Battalion, Twelfth Marines that while inspecting a computer line, a wireman found that unknown persons had cut a wire without cutting the insulation. The report continued that after cutting the wires, the insulation was stretched so the ends of the wire would not come together, rendering the line inoperable, but concealing the source of difficulty.

CONFIDENTIAL

b. At 132115H, G-2 relayed a report from the First Battalion, Third Marines that one Viet Cong company is located at coordinates (AT 840862). The report indicated that one Viet Cong battalion, commanded by one NGUYEN BA THAC, is located in the vicinity of grid square (AT 8385). The report stated that one Viet Cong battalion is located in the area bounded by grid squares (AT 9958), (AT 9762), (BT 0064), and (BT 0462), and is identified as a "Peoples Army of Viet Nam" unit commanded by one DONG QUANG TRUNG. The report continued that

one Viet Cong battalion located in grid square (AT 8385) has the mission to attack the LIEN CHIEN area, coordinates (AT 929865) while another unit (size not reported) attacks the DA NANG Airbase (time not reported). G-2 comment: Commander THAC could be the possible overall commander in the DA NANG area. THAC has been referred to in most all reports pertaining to attacks on the DA NANG airfield. G-2 rates the Viet Cong battalion in grid squares (AT 9958), (AT 9762), (BT 0064), and (BT 0462) F-3. G-2 rates the Viet Cong battalion in grid square (AT 8385) F-2. (S-2 rates this report F-3).

c. At 132130H, G-2 relayed an agent report from the Third Marines that one Viet Cong platoon (position not reported) is ready to attack either the bridge at coordinates (AT 947700), Hill #22, grid square (AT 9566), or Hill #41, grid square (AT 9366). The report stated that there are an estimated two to three hundred Viet Cong in the hamlet of LA CHAU (5), coordinates (AT 965666). G-2 rates this report F-3. (S-2 rates this report F-3).

(4) Late Reports.

a. At 132120H, the southwest portion of the First Battalion's perimeter reported receiving two rounds sniper fire from Viet Cong positioned to the west. The Marines directed 81mm illumination rounds at the enemy position and observed ten Viet Cong moving in a northerly direction. The Marines directed small arms fire at the enemy with unknown results. The report stated that, at 132155H, the western portion of the battalion perimeter reported observing what appeared to be muzzle flashes from a building approximately two hundred fifty meters to the west. A search of the area with a sniper scope revealed negative results. The report continued that at 132230H, a battalion security element, positioned at coordinates (AT 068711), reported observing a boat (sampan) on the SONG CAN BIEP (river) at coordinates (BT 064708). The Marines directed small arms fire at the boat with unknown results. No USMC casualties were reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined. Additional information will be provided when available.

b. At 132300H, the Second Battalion S-2 reported that a battalion security element positioned at coordinates (AT 992680) reported observing three Viet Cong attempting to get through the tactical wire at coordinates (AT 993681). Three 81mm illumination rounds, and five rounds small arms fire were directed at the enemy position and the Viet Cong fled. No casualties were reported.

c. Reports of information of VC received directly from civilians. No reports were received during this reporting period.

CONFIDENTIAL

D. <u>Viet Cong casualties:</u>	<u>For 24 Hour</u> <u>Reporting period:</u>	<u>Cumulative</u> <u>Since 10 Jul 65:</u>
KIA (Confirmed)	1	254
KIA (Possible)	0	23
VC Captured	0	161
VC Captured(WIA)	1	3
VC WIA(Possible)	1	7
VC Suspects	0	825

E. Destroyed and captured enemy material: The following material was captured by 1stBn, 9thMar.

Assorted papers and documents (BT 074680) (see 121100H entry, this INTSUM)

F. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications: No reports were received during this reporting period.

C. Ward
C. WARD
By direction

COPY TO:

III MAF	(1)
III MAF POLAD	(1)
G-2	(4)
3dMar	(1)
1/9	(7)
2/9	(6)
2/9	(6)
3/3	(6)
2/12	(6)
FSCC	(1)
S-2	(3)
S-3	(3)
1stAmtracBn	(1)
3dTnkBn	(1)
3dAtBn	(1)
C Co, AtBn	(1)
B Co, TnkBn	(1)
CO	(1)

PAGE 5 OF 5 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/CW/jda
3800
142400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), (Attn: G-2)

Subj: Intelligence Summary #159, Period ending 142400H, December 1965

Encl: (1) M-1 Report of 13 December 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>FACT</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>EECT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
15 Dec	0639	0702	1834	1857	0009	1256	1/2

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1stBn, 9thMar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA LANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), the USAF Troposcatter site on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 068853), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company B provided security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. At 140420H, the Battalion S-3 provided information regarding a series of incidents which occurred in the Battalion Zone of Action and surrounding areas which included the sighting of and firing on boats and suspected Viet Cong. The report stated that, at 140215H, personnel of MCB-8 observed one boat (type and size not specified) moving south on the SONG CAN BIEN (river) in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 062718). At 140230H, MCB-8 reported that one boat (the report did not indicate that it was the same craft previously spotted) had pulled to the shore on the east bank of the river at coordinates (BT 063716). The report stated that the number of personnel who had disembarked from the boat was unknown. The area was illuminated by 81mm mortar illumination rounds and a tank/infantry squad was dispatched to investigate. The report continued that the tank directed two 90mm rounds at the debark point on the probability that the intruders who had arrived on the boat may have taken to cover in the immediate

CONFIDENTIAL

area. The result of the firing was not determined. The report added that at 140300H, two boats were observed in the river in close proximity to the west bank at coordinates (BT 062716). Tanks directed three 90mm rounds at the boats and both craft were reported sunk. Personnel aboard the craft were not observed and casualties, if any, were not determined. At 140320H, one additional boat was observed with one occupant, positioned to the rear of a fishing weir which was located some two hundred meters to the north of the position where the two boats were recently sunk by tank fire. The boat was taken under fire by caliber 30 machine guns. Illumination provided by artillery illumination rounds revealed that the boat was no longer occupied. The status or location of the occupant previously observed was not determined. The artillery illumination also revealed two additional boats in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 063714). The report did not indicate whether the craft were adrift or beached. No occupants were observed on the boats. Caliber 30 machine gun fire and 90mm HE fire was directed by the tanks and the boats were sunk. The report stated that two Viet Cong were probably KIA but in the opinion of the S-2 the wording of the report does not provide sufficient substantiation for the claim. Four boats were reported sunk.

b. At 140830H, a Company B platoon reported that one critically wounded old man and two youths who suffered lesser wounds approached the Marines' positions at coordinates (BT 095668) and sought medical assistance. The injured persons had all sustained fragmentation wounds and stated that they had received their injuries as the result of artillery fires in the vicinity of the AN TRA village complex. The exact locations or time the injuries were sustained were not indicated. The wounded trio was evacuated to the USOM hospital at DA NANG.

c. At 141030H, Company D reported that a young wounded Vietnamese girl had been carried to the company C.P. by a woman believed to have been the girl's mother. The woman stated that the girl had been directing a small herd of cows through a rice paddy when an explosion which the woman believed to have been a gunshot was heard. The report indicated that the incident occurred in the vicinity of NGAN CAU (1) or (2) hamlets, but the exact location was not determined. Medical personnel who provided emergency treatment at the company C.P. position opined that the wound appeared to be of the type more commonly caused by a grenade fragment. The Battalion S-2 stated that the girl was probably injured by a booby-trapped grenade positioned by the Viet Cong. The girl was evacuated to a civilian medical facility for additional treatment.

d. At 141300H, a Company D patrol reported finding one CHICOM fragmentation grenade laying on the side of the path at coordinates (BT 044658). The grenade did not appear to be booby-trapped but was destroyed in place to preclude accidents.

e. At 141350H, Company D reported that two wounded Vietnamese boys approximately ten to twelve years of age were carried to the company C.P. position by members of the boys' family who claimed that the boys were injured

CONFIDENTIAL

by an explosion which took place at the time helicopters or airplanes passed overhead. The family spokesman stated that the boys had just returned from the rice paddy area and were sitting in their home when the explosion occurred. A Navy corpsman who administered medical assistance commented that the wounds were primarily on the legs, crotch, hands, and arms. The Battalion S-2 opined that the boys had probably found some type of explosive device in the field and were examining it in their home when the device detonated. The report added that the boys are from THANH THUY village, grid square (BT 0664), and the explosion was believed to have occurred approximately 141000H. The injured boys were evacuated to an unnamed medical facility.

f. At 141935H, the Battalion S-2 relayed an NAD report that stated that the 334th Viet Cong Battalion is deployed as follows:

First Company- Located at MINH TRUNG village area (no specific locations indicated)- commanded by one NGUYEN DOA.

Second Company- Located at HOA HAI village area (no specific locations indicated)- commanded by one HUYNH NHAN.

Third Company- Located at HOA PHAI and HOA LOI village areas (no specific locations indicated)- commanded by one TRAN BUNG.

Fourth Company- Located at CAM HA village area (no specific locations indicated)- commanded by one MAI DO.

The report added that this battalion is equipped with the following weapons: Four 81mm mortars, four 60mm mortars, and two 57mm Recoilless Rifles. NAD rating of the report was not indicated. The Battalion S-2 rated the report as D-3. (S-2 rates it F-6).

g. At 141830H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from the HOA HAI Village Chief that one Viet Cong battalion command post (command group?) and four Main Force companies have displaced to VIEN DUNG village area, coordinates (BT 082665), from NGAN TRUNG village, coordinates (BT 057640). The report stated that this battalion is armed with a large quantity of Anti-personnel mines. The report added that one Main Force platoon is located at TRA KHE (2) hamlet, coordinates (BT 075680), and two additional platoons are located at BA TUNG (1) hamlet, coordinates (BT 049701). The Battalion S-2 rated the report C-6. (S-2 rates it D-6).

h. At 141935H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from QUANG NAM Special Sector that one Main Force platoon is located at MAN QUANG village area, grid squares (BT 0368) and (BT 0468). The report added that this platoon is equipped with three automatic rifles. QUANG NAM Special Sector did not rate this report. Battalion S-2 rated it D-3. (S-2 rates it F-3).

i. At 141935H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from QUANG NAM Special Sector that the Viet Cong are expected to incite the villagers in the Marble Mountain area to demonstrate in the vicinity of Highway #13. The report

CONFIDENTIAL

did not indicate the purported cause for the demonstration but it is assumed to be anti-government or anti-USMC in nature. QUANG NAM Special Sector did not rate this report. Battalion S-2 rated the report D-2. (S-2 rates it F-6).

(2) 2nd Bn, 9th Mar. Continued to defend the western portion of the Regimental TAOR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEN (river), west to, and including, the SONG KEN (river), and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998707); and provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of MIEU DONG (1), coordinates (BT 017668). For the reporting period of this INTSUM, Companies I, K, and M, of the Third Battalion, Third Marines were OPCON to the Second Battalion, Ninth Marines.

a. At 140035H, Company F reported that a Vietnamese male was carried into the company C.P. positions after having sustained fragmentation wounds of the abdomen. The source of the injuries and the location where the injuries occurred were not known. Because of the possibility that the wounds were incurred during the curfew period and that therefore the wounded man may have been out of his house when wounded, the man was tagged as a suspicious person and evacuated to an ARVN medical facility.

b. At 140120H, the Battalion S-3 reported that Marines manning the C.P. perimeter in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 993677) observed one man at approximately one hundred fifty meters distance to the northeast, coordinates (AT 993679), in the vicinity of where claymore mines had been positioned. The Marines illuminated the area by one 81mm illumination round and fired five small arms rounds at the intruder, who was observed falling as if struck by the Marines' fire. A patrol dispatched to search the area reported negative results.

c. At 141900H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report believed to have originated at GVN Regional Force Headquarters at MIEU BONG that fifteen Viet Cong are in hiding at MAN QUANG (1) hamlet, coordinates (BT 033687). The report stated that these Viet Cong are part of a Viet Cong group identified as the DA NANG element and are armed with one automatic rifle and an undetermined amount of small arms. The report added that this Viet Cong group is augmented by an undetermined number of local guerrillas and may displace so as to harass USMC units. The Battalion S-2 rated this report B-2. (S-2 comment: 141935H entry, this INTSUM for a similar report issued by QUANG NAM Special Sector. S-2 rates this report F-3).

d. At 141915H, Company I reported receiving fifteen to twenty small arms rounds from Viet Cong armed with at least one automatic weapon in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 962677). The Marines directed approximately twenty small arms rounds at the Viet Cong position and the Viet Cong fire ceased. No casualties were reported.

e. At 141900H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from GVN Regional Force Headquarters at MIEU BONG that one Viet Cong company composed of one hundred fifty men is located in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 997645) to (BT 004648).

CONFIDENTIAL

The report stated that this Viet Cong company is armed with one 60mm mortar, five automatic rifles, and is wearing gray and black uniforms. The report added that this company is commanded by one KIAM LAM and has a mission to attack USMC units at DUNG SON, coordinates (AT 994669) and (BT 003668). The report stated that this company was observed operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 960645) (time of observation was not indicated), and will approach the USMC positions via TAN HANH, grid square (AT 9965). The report was rated C-3. (S-2 rates it F-3).

(3) Special Reports.

a. At 140845H, the Aerial Observer operating in the vicinity of the TAOR reported observing two large groups of people (numbers not indicated) moving west along Highway #14 in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 046580). The Aerial Observer added that the people were dressed in black pajamas or utility uniforms, wore helmets and cartridge belts, and were armed. A subsequent report presumed to have originated at G-3 identified the group as GVN Popular Force personnel.

b. At 141550H, DIEN BAN District Headquarters reported that one Viet Cong battalion, with an estimated strength of four hundred thirty men and commanded by one LEUYEN, is dispersed in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 964602), (AT 975605), and (BT 004605). The report added that one LUYEN, (AKA LE LUYEN), has been previously reported as the commander of a Viet Cong battalion operational in KY MANH and THANH SON villages (northwest portion of DIEN BAN District). The report added that this is the operational area of the 345th Main Force company and it may have been combined with guerrilla units. DIEN BAN rated the report as C-2. (S-2 rates it as F-3).

c. At 141800H, the Aerial Observer operating in the vicinity of the TAOR reported observing a trenchline positioned parallel to the trail at coordinates (BT 096651). The Aerial Observer report continued that "V" shape trenches and a bunker (size and type not indicated) was located at coordinates (BT 096640). The report added that a Viet Cong company was suspected to be positioned at grid squares (BT 0876), (BT 0766), (BT 0876), (BT 0966), (BT 0865), and (BT 0965), but did not indicate the source of this portion of the report.

d. At 141940H, the 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines S-2 reported that a GVN Popular Forces squad leader, identified as one TUNG, stated that two squads of Local Force Viet Cong came to CAM NE village, coordinates (AT 991689), for the purpose of establishing ambushes and patrolling the area. The report continued that each Viet Cong squad was composed of ten men, who wear what was described as peasant-type clothing. The Viet Cong were said to be armed with two automatic rifles, two sub machine guns, and small arms, but that not all of the Viet Cong possessed weapons. The report stated that the Viet Cong departed CAM NE at daylight and proceeded to YEN NE (2) hamlet, coordinates (AT 996682), where they hid during the day in heavy bamboo cover. The report added that these Viet Cong periodically travel to DA NANG under the guise of students, using passes for this purpose. (The report stated that this would indicate that the Viet Cong are probably of school age.) The report added that the GVN Popular Forces did not utilize this information and attack the Viet Cong squads because the Popular Forces lacked the necessary personnel. The report was not rated. (S-2 rates it F-6).

CONFIDENTIAL

e. At 142045H, the USMC Liaison Officer at HOA VANG District Headquarters reported that one Viet Cong battalion, designated as the 344th, has displaced from QUANG TIN province to the vicinity of coordinates (BT 043680), (BT 077666), and (BT 057645). The report added that the specific mission of this Viet Cong unit is not known. This report was rated C-3. (S-2 comment: See 141935H entry, this INTSUM for an NAD report relayed by 1st Battalion, 9th Marines which provides similar information. It has not been determined whether both reports originated from the same source. S-2 rates the report as F-6).

f. At 142230H, G-2 relayed a report from the 1st Battalion, 12th Marines that a civilian in DA SAN village, coordinates (AT 961765) has stated that many Viet Cong have infiltrated the hamlet of PHONG LE (1), coordinates (AT 995699), for the purpose of initiating a demonstration in PHONG LE which will spread to DA NANG. The report added that it is expected that friendly civilians will advise the Marines of the date and time. G-2 commented that the same information was independently received from a female rice planter from PHONG LE (1) hamlet, (no further identification provided). This report was rated C-3 by the 1st Battalion, 12th Marines, and by G-2. (S-2 rates it as F-6).

g. The Regimental S-2 has gathered additional information regarding the Viet Cong reported wounded and captured by the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines on 12 December, (see 122000H entry, INTSUM #158). With the assistance of ARVN G-2 personnel from I Corps headquarters, the wounded Viet Cong, one HUYNH CHINH, was located in a civilian hospital in DA NANG at approximately 141700H. Two Vietnamese males who were visiting CHINH were apprehended as Viet Cong suspects. The two suspects and the wounded Viet Cong were evacuated to the ARVN medical facility where they will be confined and made available for interrogation. Additional information will be provided when available.

C. Reports of information of VC received directly from civilians. No reports were received during this reporting period.

<u>Viet Cong casualties:</u>	<u>For 24 Hour Reporting period:</u>	<u>Cumulative Since 10 Jul 65:</u>
KIA (Confirmed)	0	254
KIA (Possible)	0	23
VC Captured	0	161
VC Captured (WIA)	0	3
VC WIA (Possible)	0	7
VC Suspects	0	825

E. Destroyed and captured enemy material: The following material was destroyed by 1stBn, 9thMar:

1 - CHICOM fragmentation grenade (believe to be booby trapped) (BT 044658) (see 141300H entry this INTSUM)

2 - Boats (type and description not indicated) (BT 062716) (BT 063714) (see 140420H entry this INTSUM)

CONFIDENTIAL

F. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications: No reports were received during this reporting period.

G. Ward
G. WARD
By direction

COPY TO:

III MAF	(1)
III MAF POLAD	(1)
G-2	(1)
3dMar	(1)
1/9	(7)
2/9	(6)
3/9	(6)
3/3	(6)
2/12	(6)
S-3	(1)
S-2	(8)
FSOC	(1)
1stAmtrac Bn	(1)
3dTnkBn	(1)
3dAtBn	(1)
C Co, AtBn	(1)
B Co, TnkBn	(1)
CO	(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Counterintelligence
To: S-2 Ninth Marines

Subj: M-1 Report of 13 December 1965

1. The Commando troops of MAI HUNG DI (PHI HUNG or HOANG THANH CHUNG) are divided into three teams. The first team will move from KHUE DONG to pass NUOC MAN to BO QUAN dam by boats. If they see the American forces are alert they will pass the river to MY THI, BA DA. When this team reaches BA DA, coordinates (BT 044 757), they will walk along the hedge where there are many bushes, then reach the white dune and turn at the new life hamlet gate toward the Catholic sister's house. Then they will go to the pine tree garden and the coconut garden at the north end of MY THI Airbase. They will wear camouflage and green uniforms in order to disguise themselves when they reach the airbase. They will divide into two cells. One cell will cut the fence with explosives and will go to every plane and throw hand grenades and explosives (TNT). At this time the second team from DONG HAI hamlet and SON THUY will attack the First Battalion, Ninth Marines C.P. and artillery company with grenades and explosives. The purpose of this squad is to create a diversion so the Americans will think that they are being shelled by artillery and will not pay attention to the airbase. The third squad will divide into three cells of three men and use grenades to attack the sensitive points at Marble Mountain bridge. The second cell will attack the Engineer unit with grenades. This squad can cut the fence and go into the US Engineer unit at MY THI. There are District regular forces and village regular forces supporting them. There are about one hundred people who were forced by Viet Cong into the People Proselyting section to carry dead bodies or equipment such as weapons, ammunition, etc. They also set up 80mm mortar at KHUE DONG to shell the units around Marble Mountain and the airbase. The 20th of December is the day Viet Cong set up the South Viet Nam Liberation Front. But don't forget to take precaution for DA NANG Airbase.

2. The explosive (TNT) is kept in two places (unknown). These explosives (TNT) were moved up here about one month ago and kept at HOA HAI village and some of it was moved to KHUE DONG. Every man has six hand grenades and three explosive charges in order to destroy the fence.

3. MAI HUNG DI (PHI HUNG, HOANG THANH CHUNG) is living at NAM hamlet and TAN LUU hamlet, HOA MAI village. Sometimes he stays at NAM hamlet and sometimes he stays at TAN LUU hamlet.

CIT NOTE: The route described does in fact exist. It comes from the river east to the road where the gate is north of the orphanage, passes south by a single building west of the orphanage and then across the fields north of the airbase. The weakest defensive positions at this point are those nearest the beach. If access is gained to the base, a small unit could cross to the parking area with little trouble. The source of this information is unknown (F), and it is considered doubtful that this much detail would be known about the raid without knowledge of the location of explosives and weapons. Information regarding time of 20 December is evaluated at (4).

ENCLOSURE (1)

CONFIDENTIAL

UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FME
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/GW/jaa
3800
152400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #160, Period ending 152400H, December 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	BLOT	SUNRISE	SUNSET	EECT	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOON PHASE
16 Dec	0640	0703	1835	1858	0104	1336	1/2

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1stBn, 9thMar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), the USAF Tropo-scatter site on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 068853), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company B provided security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. At 150630H, Company B reported apprehending two suspicious Vietnamese males at coordinates (BT 090691) when the HOA HAI Village Chief identified the duo as Viet Cong. The suspects were evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

b. At 150730H, a Company B squad-sized patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 112652) reported observing one armed Viet Cong at close range. The Marines directed small

PAGE 1 OF 7 PAGES

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

arms fire at the Viet Cong and were immediately taken under fire by an estimated Viet Cong platoon positioned in a trenchline on the high ground to the south at coordinates (BT 112649). The Marines returned the fire and a tank was dispatched to provide assistance. With the support of the tank, the Marines moved against the Viet Cong positions, but the Viet Cong broke contact, withdrawing to the south and southeast before the Marines could fix them in position. One Marine was wounded by the enemy fire. Total Viet Cong casualties were not determined but the report reflected at least one Viet Cong casualty who was observed falling as if struck by the Marines' fire and was carried off by his comrades. The report added that five bunkers discovered in the area were destroyed by the Marines.

c. At 151030H, a Company D squad-sized patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 035657) reported receiving fire from two Viet Cong snipers positioned in a building at coordinates (BT 038658). The patrol leader dispatched one fireteam to envelop the enemy position by maneuvering through a tree line while the balance of the squad fixed the Viet Cong in place by fire. The enveloping element received fire from at least an additional one automatic and two semi-automatic weapons which triggered the enveloping fire team to attempt an assault of the Viet Cong position. The fire team detonated what was believed to have been an anti-personnel mine, wounding three Marines, effectively halting the envelopment. The patrol established a perimeter security while awaiting the evacuation of the casualties. When additional Marines, dispatched to the site to assist, arrived, the Marines searched the area but the Viet Cong had withdrawn. TU CAU(1) hamlet, coordinates (BT 043663), was searched, and one Viet Cong Suspect was apprehended. (The reason for apprehension and disposition of the suspect was not indicated).

d. At 152035H, Company B, Third Tank Battalion, supporting the First Battalion, Ninth Marines, reported observing five to seven men moving in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 059717). Illumination was provided and the Marine tankers directed four 90mm E rounds and approximately two hundred caliber .30 machine gun rounds at the intruders, who quickly dispersed and fled the area. Enemy casualties were not determined.

PAGE 2 OF 7 PAGES

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

(2) 2nd Bn, 9th Mar. Continued to defend the central portion of the Regimental TACR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEM (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998 707); and provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of HIEU DONG (1), coordinates (BT 017668). Companies I, K, and M, of the Third Battalion, Third Marines were under OPCON of the Second Battalion, Ninth Marines for this reporting period, and defended the western portion of the TACR to the road passing HIEU DUC District Headquarters, coordinates (AT 942 689). Company M provided security for ASP #1, coordinates (AT 985 733).

a. Late Report. At 142115H, Company K (Third Battalion, Third Marines) reported receiving small arms fire and one grenade in the company C.P. positions at coordinates (AT 954609), from an undetermined number of Viet Cong who had maneuvered close in to the southeast portion of the C.P. perimeter. The Marines returned six small arms rounds at the suspected area and the Viet Cong fire was not repeated. No casualties were reported.

b. At 151025H, a Company K (Third Battalion, Third Marines) squad-sized patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 953651) reported receiving an estimated twenty small arms rounds from an estimated five Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 953648). The Marines returned the fire and deployed to engage the enemy but the Viet Cong broke contact. No casualties were reported.

c. At 151100H, Company I (Third Battalion, Third Marines) reported receiving ten small arms rounds in the company C.P. position, coordinates (AT 971663) from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 971659). The Marines directed fifteen small arms rounds and one 40mm (M-79) round at the enemy position and the Viet Cong fire was not repeated. A patrol dispatched to search the area reported negative results. No casualties were reported.

d. At 151200H, a Company F squad-sized patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 996646) reported receiving an estimated fifty small arms rounds and one grenade from approximately ten Viet Cong armed with at least three automatic weapons, deployed in an area extending to the vicinity of coordinates (AT 998645). The Marines directed approximately two hundred small arms rounds and seven 81mm mortar rounds at the Viet Cong positions, and the enemy broke contact. The report indicated that at least two Viet Cong were observed falling as if struck by the Marines' fire, but casualties could not be confirmed. No Marine casualties were reported.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

e. At 151230H, a Company K (Third Battalion, Third Marines) squad-sized patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 948653) reported receiving a heavy volume of small arms fire from a Viet Cong force of undetermined strength deployed in a wide area but primarily in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 945648). Three Marines were WIA by the enemy fire and a platoon-sized force was dispatched aboard OTTERS to assist the patrol. At 151300H, forty six 105mm HE rounds were directed at the Viet Cong positions and the Viet Cong broke contact. At 151435H, an additional platoon-sized force of Marines was helo-lifted to the vicinity of coordinates (AT 939641), to search the area while the original platoon-sized reinforcing element established a blocking position in the vicinity of grid squares (AT 9566) and (AT 9666). Contact could not be re-established and the search of the area provided negative results. Viet Cong casualties were not determined.

f. At 151515H, a Company F patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 993647) reported that one Marine sustained facial and chest wounds from what is believed to have been a booby-trapped grenade rigged in a tree at about head height. (S-2 comment: The initial report and S-3 SITREP #160 indicated that an electrically detonated mine had exploded but subsequent investigation by the Battalion S-2 modified the report).

g. At 151540H, a Company I (Third Battalion, Third Marines) patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 961655) reported receiving six small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 957651). The Marines directed fifteen small arms rounds at the Viet Cong position and the enemy fire was not repeated. No casualties were reported.

h. At 151700H, a Company F patrol operating in the vicinity of THANH HANH hamlet, coordinates (AT 997654), reported that an explosion believed to have been as the result of the detonation of a booby-trapped grenade, wounded one Marine and one Vietnamese youth (further identification not provided).

(3) Special Reports.

a. At 150330H, G-2 relayed a report from the USMC Liaison Officer at HOA VANG District Headquarters that a defector (further identification not provided) stated that one Viet Cong Main Force platoon, designated as 1/C, with an estimated strength of thirty men and armed with three automatic rifles and small arms, is deployed with one squad at NAN QUANG hamlet, coordinates (BT 030685), one squad at KHAI TAY hamlet, coordinates (BT 045685), and one squad at AN LUU hamlet, coordinates (BT 034675). G-2 did not rate the report. HOA VANG District Headquarters rated the report as C-3. (S-2 rates it as F-3).

PAGE 4 OF 7 PAGES

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

b. At 151800H, the Ninth Marines Liaison Officer assigned to GVN Regional Force Headquarters at HIEU BONG relayed a report from what was identified as the QUANG NAM NORTH Sub-sector Headquarters that twenty Viet Cong guerrillas are located at HOA THAI and HOA LOI village areas. The report continued that the Viet Cong have organized a number of children to ostensibly provide laundry service for Marines at LA CHAU and AN TRACH village areas, but to secrete mines and explosives into the USMC compounds and to observe helicopter operations. The report added that one Viet Cong company, designated as RBC, and augmented by seventy Viet Cong guerrillas, is in hiding at coordinates (BT 000620), and (BT 005615). With this company is one QUY, identified as the VC Commander for DIEN BAN District. The report also stated that a Viet Cong battalion is operating in the THANH TRUNG zone of DIEN BAN District (generally in the vicinity of grid square BT 0162). This report was rated B-2. (S-2 rates it F-6).

c. At 151855H, HOA CAM Training Center relayed a report from what was described as a fairly reliable Vietnamese source (further identification not provided) that, at 151600H, two Viet Cong companies displaced from HOA LUONG village area, grid square (AT 9564) to the HOA NINH village area, coordinates (AT 875725). The report stated that these two companies had a total strength of approximately three hundred men, and were armed with one 57mm recoilless rifle, one 81mm mortar, and two machine guns. The report added that these companies may be planning to attack USMC installations and the HIEU DUC District Headquarters. The report continued that at 150500H, two Viet Cong, armed with two AT mines, were observed at coordinates (AT 970703) moving to coordinates (AT 974705). The report was unrated. (S-2 rates it as F-6).

d. At 152015H, Battery D, Second Battalion, Twelfth Marines, reported that a SID positioned approximately seventy five meters to the northeast of the C.P., coordinates (BT 062680), detected movement. The area was illuminated and the movement ceased, without disclosing the intruder. When the illumination waned, the movement was again detected by the SID, and one 40mm (M-79) round was directed at the suspicious area. No further contact was reported.

(4) Late Report.

a. At 151551H, a Company F patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 001643) reported receiving an estimated two hundred small arms rounds from at least five Viet Cong positioned on the far (east) bank of the SONG DAU XAU (river), coordinates (BT 002641). The Marines requested support, and ten 81mm HE rounds were directed at the enemy position, resulting in undetermined casualties and two secondary explosions (described

PAGE 5 OF 7 PAGES

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

as bright orange flashes which produced a heavy volume of black smoke). In addition, approximately four hundred small arms rounds, twenty 40mm(M-79) rounds, two 3.5 inch HE rocket rounds, and one 3.5 inch W.P. rocket round was directed at the Viet Cong positions. No Marine casualties were reported and enemy casualties were not determined.

G. Reports of information received directly from civilians.
No reports were received during this reporting period.

D. <u>Viet Cong casualties:</u>	<u>For 24 Hour Reporting period:</u>	<u>Cumulative Since 10 Jul 65</u>
KIA(Confirmed)	0	254
KIA(Possible)	0	23
VC Captured	0	*165
VC Captured(WIA)	0	3
VC WIA(Possible)	3	10
VC Suspects	0	825

*Increase of four Viet Cong based on ITT prisoner Interrogation Reports as follows:

ITT Report dated 11 Dec 65

Name: HUYNH CUONG

Age: 40

Status: VC Guard, THI AN. Sent to QUANG NAM Special Sector.
Captured by D-1-9, 111200H Dec.

ITT Report dated 7 Dec 65

Name: TRAN CANH

Age: 22

Status: VC Worker, THON TU. Sent to ARVN hospital.
Captured by A-1-9, (NO time).

ITT Report dated 7 Dec 65

Name: VO CUONG

Age: 33

Status: VC Guard, THANH THUY. Sent to QUANG NAM Special Sector.

Captured by 1stBn, 9thMar., 061320H Dec 65.

ITT Report dated 14 Dec 65

Name: NGUYEN THI MAI

Age: 22

Status: VC Guerrilla, PHU DUC. Sent to I Corps.
Captured by E-2-9, 121100H Dec 65.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

E. Destroyed and captured enemy material: No reports were received during this reporting period.

F. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications: The following fortifications were destroyed by 1stBn, 9thMar.

5 - Bunkers (Size and extent not indicated) (BT 112649)
(See 150730H entry, this INTSUM).

Paul
C. WARD
By direction

COPY TO:	
III MAF	(1)
III MAF POLAD	(1)
G-2	(4)
3dMar	(1)
1/9	(7)
2/9	(6)
3/9	(6)
3/3	(6)
2/12	(6)
S-3	(3)
S-2	(3)
FSOC	(1)
1stAmtracBn	(1)
3dTnkBn	(1)
3dAtBn	(1)
B Co, TnkBn	(1)
C Co, AtBn.	(1)
GO	(1)

PAGE 7 OF 7 PAGES

UNCLASSIFIED

#160

①

UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/CW/jda
3800
162400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #161, Period ending 162400H, December 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	BMCT	SUNRISE	SUNSET	EECT	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOON PHASE
17 Dec	0640	0703	1835	1858	0158	1415	1/2

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1stBn, 9thMar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the south-east portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), the USAF Troposcatter site on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 068853), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company B provided security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. At 160730H, Company B reported observing a detonation at coordinates (BT 112646). An analysis of the crater caused by the explosion indicated that an 81mm mortar round had impacted, delivered along an azimuth of 4600mils. No casualties were reported. The source of the round was not determined, although initial investigation indicated that no friendly firing was in progress at the time of the detonation. Additional information will be provided when available.

b. At 161030H, a Company B patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 117637) reported observing two armed Viet Cong

PAGE 2. OF 5 PAGES

UNCLASSIFIED

#161

UNCLASSIFIED

approximately one thousand meters to the south, coordinates (BT 117 627), moving in a southwest direction. The Marines directed small arms fire at the Viet Cong at extreme range with negative results.

c. At 161117H, Company B, operating in the vicinity of the "Horse shoe" area, grid squares (BT 1063), (BT 1064), and (BT 1163), reported that a female villager (further identification not provided) stated that approximately four hundred Viet Cong had occupied HA QUANG (4) hamlet area, coordinates (BT 113648), departing two days ago (14 December) headed in a south and southwest direction. The report contained no additional information regarding this situation, but added that Company B was presently engaged in destroying trench lines and barricades in the area south of HA QUANG (4) hamlet.

(2) ~~2ndBn, 9thMar.~~ Continued to defend the central portion of the Regimental TAOR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEN (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998707); and provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of MIEU DONG (1), coordinates (BT 017668). Companies I, K, L, and M, of the Third Battalion, Third Marines were under OPCON of the Second Battalion, Ninth Marines for this reporting period, and defended the western portion of the TAOR to the road passing HIEU DUC District Headquarters, coordinates (AT 942689). Company M provided security for ASP #1, coordinates (AT 985733).

a. At 161130H, Company M (Third Battalion, Third Marines) reported that a squad-sized patrol in conjunction with a platoon from the 59th ARVN Battalion conducted a search of PHONG LE (1) hamlet area, coordinates (AT 995698), to determine the presence of Viet Cong infiltrators reportedly in the area planning a demonstration (see 142230H entry, LITSUM #159). The villagers were questioned and the area searched with negative results.

b. At 161215H, a Company X patrol (Third Battalion, Third Marines) operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 950633) reported receiving fifteen small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned on the far (east) side of the SONG YEN (river), at coordinates (AT 952633), resulting in one Marine KIA. The Marines directed approximately twenty small arms rounds and five 60mm mortar rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong fire ceased. Enemy casualties were not determined.

c. At 161800H, Company F reported finding a total of ten fighting holes in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 999653). The report added that when the fighting holes were destroyed with demolitions, two secondary explosions occurred (described as a detonation twice as loud as a grenade explosion and accompanied by a

PAGE 2 OF 5 PAGES

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

quantity of black smoke). The report also stated that five gates were destroyed by demolitions, in the vicinity of grid squares (AT 9965) and (BT 0065), resulting in the detonation of what was believed to have been a grenade rigged on a gate as a booby-trap.

d. At 161830H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from the commander of the GVN Regional Force unit located in YEN NE (2), coordinates (AT 991683), that fifteen Viet Cong are presently located in the CAM NE village complex. The report did not indicate a more specific location nor provide information about the armament or mission of this Viet Cong group. The report was unrated. (S-2 rates it F-3).

e. At 161830H, a Company K (Third Battalion, Third Marines) platoon-sized patrol reported finding two bear-traps at coordinates (AT 949634). The traps were retrieved and evacuated to the Third Battalion, Ninth Marines C.P. for examination.

f. At 162040H, Company I (Third Battalion, Third Marines) reported that a SID positioned at coordinates (AT 963677) detected movement in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 961675). Five men were observed and taken under fire with 60mm mortar and small arms rounds. The intruders dispersed and fled the area. No casualties were reported.

g. At 162140H, the Battalion S-2 reported that an ARVN listening post positioned at coordinates (AT 986682) reported that a Viet Cong squad was "possibly" located at coordinates (AT 987686), and requested illumination of the area. Four illumination rounds (caliber or type not indicated) were directed into the area, but the report did not indicated results.

(C) Special Reports.

a. At 161033H, G-2 relayed a report from the Twelfth Marines (DGC 151915H), that a GVN Popular Force soldier at DA SON Village, coordinates (AT 9676) (further identification not provided) stated that members of the Buddhist community would conduct demonstrations in protest against USMC destruction (sic) of Buddhist temples in the Marble Mountain area. The report stated that the Viet Cong were encouraging the Buddhists to demonstrate but that planned demonstrations had been curtailed because of negotiations presently underway between the Commander (CG?) of I CORPS and the leaders of the Buddhist group. (G-2 commented that it has been confirmed that the I CORPS Commander and the Buddhist Leaders have been negotiating this problem). The report added that a GVN Popular Force sergeant (further identification not provided and the report did not indicate whether this source was the same as for the first part of the report) stated that the hamlet of PHONG LE (1), coordinates (AT 995696), CAM NE (1),

PAGE 3 OF 5 PAGES

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

coordinates (AT 991692), and YUN NG (2), coordinates (AT 987683), are occupied by what was termed "many" Viet Cong guerrillas. The report added that this information came from women from the above villages who came to DA SON area to plant rice and, free of Viet Cong scrutiny, talk freely of Viet Cong activities. The report also stated that the ARVN forces attempt to control the pacification area during the daylight hours, but that they consolidate their positions at nightfall as protection against the Viet Cong, therefore allowing the Viet Cong to re-enter the pacification area for Viet Cong purposes. The report was rated F-3. (S-2 rates it F-6).

b. At 161510H, the Aerial Observer operating in the TAOR reported receiving small arms automatic weapons fire from ground positions, coordinates (BT 001631). The report indicated that no casualties were sustained nor damage incurred by the aircraft. In response to the Aerial Observer report, fixed wing aircraft directed aerial rockets at the target, reporting the destruction of two huts from which the Viet Cong fire was believed to have originated. In addition, thirty eight 105mm VT artillery rounds were directed into the area with excellent coverage of the target. At 161730H, an Aerial Observer (report implies a different Aerial Observer from the one involved in the earlier incident) operating in the TAOR received small arms fire from ground positions at coordinates (BT 002630), in close proximity to the area from which the earlier fire was received. Forty 105mm artillery rounds were directed at the target area and the enemy fire was not repeated.

c. At 161619H, G-2 relayed a report which appeared in the III MAF INTSUM (number and date not specified but believed to have been INTSUM for 15 December), that a Viet Cong-directed students' organization (further identification not provided) plans to foment agitation (demonstrations?) in DA NANG on 22 December 1965. The report stated that the agitation (sic) will include placement of Viet Cong banners and flags and the distribution of Viet Cong propaganda leaflets in assigned areas. The report added that the Viet Cong plan terrorist attacks to be directed against three targets in the DA NANG area at about the same date (22 December). The targets specified by the report were Headquarters, Navy Support Activity (DA NANG), the Non-commissioned officers' BEQ (location not indicated but presumably in DA NANG), and the Military Police Headquarters (presumably also in DA NANG). The report was rated C-3. (S-2 rates this report F-6).

d. At 161831H, G-2 relayed a report from the USMC Liaison Officer at HIEU DUC District Headquarters that one Viet Cong Battalion (designation not indicated) is located at AN TRACH (2) hamlet, coordinates (AT 969654). The report stated that this battalion has a strength of approximately three hundred fifty men and is equipped with one 81mm mortar and one 60mm mortar in addition to normal small arms. The report added that the mission of this battalion

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 4 OF 5 PAGES

#161

①

UNCLASSIFIED

may be to attack Hill 22, coordinates (AT 995668). This report was rated B-2 by HIEU DUC District Headquarters. G-2 rated it F-3.

e. At 162000H, the USMC Liaison Officer assigned to HOA VANG District Headquarters (AN TRACH (2) is located in HOA VANG District) reported that there were indications that a Viet Cong company had moved into AN TRACH (2) hamlet during the past twenty four hour period. HOA VANG District Headquarters rated this report as B-2. (S-2 comment: Although both reports were received from local GVN district headquarters (HIEU DUC and HOA VANG) indications are that original sources of the reports were dissimilar. Because of the frequency of recent reports locating Viet Cong units (confirmed as to existence if not to location) to the south and southeast of the AN TRACH area, S-2 rates this report as C-2).

C. Reports of information received directly from civilians: No reports were received during this reporting period.

D. <u>Viet Cong casualties:</u>	<u>For 24 Hour Reporting period:</u>	<u>Cumulative Since 10 Jul 65</u>
KIA(Confirmed)	0	254
KIA(Possible)	0	23
VC Captured	0	165
VC Captured (WIA)	0	3
VC WIA(Possible)	0	10
VC Suspects	0	825

E. Destroyed and captured enemy material: The following material was captured by 3dBn, 3dMar.
 1 - Identification Card (AT 953645)
 2 - Documents (AT 953645)

F. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications: The following positions were destroyed by 2ndBn, 9thMar.
 10 - Fighting holes (AT 999653) (see 161800H entry, this INTSUM)
 5 - Gates (1 booby-trapped) (AT 9965) (BT 0065) (see 161800H entry, this INTSUM)

C. Ward
 C. WARD
 By direction

COPY TO:

III MAF	(1)
III MAF POLAD	(1)
G-2	(4)
3dMar	(1)
1/9	(7)
2/9	(6)
3/9	(6)
3/3	(6)

2/12	(6)
S-3	(3)
S-2	(3)
FSOC	(1)
1stAmtracBn	(1)
3dTnkBn	(1)
3dAtBn	(1)
B Co, TnkBn	(1)
C Co, AtBn	(1)
CC	(1)

UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/CW/jda
3800
172400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division(Rein), (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #162, Period ending 172400H, December 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period.

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trailshas deteriorated as the result of heavy rains but MSR traffic has not been materially affected.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>BMCT</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>EECT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
18 Dec	0641	0704	1835	1858	0252	1453	1/4

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1stBn, 9thMar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the south-east portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), the USAF Tropo-scatter site on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 068853), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company C provided security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. At 170830H, the third platoon of Company B occupying a blocking position in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 095641) reported receiving an estimated ten small arms rounds from three Viet Cong positioned approximately three hundred fifty meters to the northwest, at coordinates (BT 092642). The Marines directed approximately thirty small arms rounds at the Viet Cong position, and the Viet Cong broke contact, withdrawing to the northwest. One Viet Cong was killed by the Marines' fire (body count), and another Viet Cong was observed falling as if struck by the Marines'

PAGE 1 OF 4 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

#162

①

CONFIDENTIAL

fire but he succeeded in eluding the pursuing Marines. The two Viet Cong who escaped were observed entering into CAM SA (1) hamlet, coordinates (BT 081642) but a search of the area produced negative results. The report added that the weapon of the dead Viet Cong was believed to have been recovered by one of the Viet Cong who eluded capture. Four 9mm cartridges were found on the body of the Viet Cong KIA and retrieved. No Marine casualties were reported.

b. At 170930H, a Company B patrol reported that four Marines were WIA when what was believed to have been a grenade rigged as a booby-trap detonated at coordinates (BT 115635). The report stated that the Marines were proceeding on their route after having destroyed a gate similarly rigged with a booby-trapped grenade when the second explosion occurred. The report indicated that the second grenade was positioned on the ground and was detonated by a trip-wire device.

(2) 2ndBn, 9thMar. Continued to defend the central portion of the Regimental TAOR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEN (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998707); and provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of MIEU DONG (1), coordinates (BT 017668). Companies I, K, L, and M, of the Third Battalion, Third Marines were under OPCON of the Second Battalion, Ninth Marines for this reporting period, and defended the western portion of the TAOR to the road passing HIEU DUC District Headquarters, coordinates (AT 942689). Company M provided security for ASP #1, coordinates (AT 985733).

a. At 171005H, a Company F squad-sized patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 993645) reported receiving twelve small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned on the far (south) side of the SONG BAU XAU (river), at coordinates (AT 993640). Nine 81mm mortar rounds were directed at the enemy position and the Viet Cong fire ceased. Enemy casualties were not determined. No Marine casualties were reported.

b. At 1110H, a Company I (Third Battalion, Third Marines) squad-sized patrol (with two dog teams) operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 965653) reported receiving three small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 965652). The Marines directed three 40mm (M-79) rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong fire ceased. No casualties were reported.

c. At 171130H, a Company F patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 998643) reported receiving three small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 993640). The Marines directed eighteen 81mm mortar rounds and five 106mm recoilless rifle rounds at the Viet Cong position and the Viet Cong fire was not repeated. No casualties were reported. The report

CONFIDENTIAL

added that four gates were destroyed by the Marines at coordinates (AT 998643); two of which were booby-trapped with what was believed to have been grenades.

(3) Special Reports.

a. At 171335H, G-2 relayed a report from the First Battalion, First Marines that one Viet Cong company from the battalion previously reported as being located in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 969654) (see 161831H entry, INTSUM #161) is engaged in checking (examining?) people from DAI LOC. The report added that the Viet Cong are preparing graves in an area identified only as being south of Hill 41, (Hill 41 is located at grid square (AT 9366)), which the report stated could indicate that the Viet Cong are planning an attack. The First Battalion, First Marines evaluated this report as F-3. (S-2 comment: That portion of the report pertaining to the Viet Cong checking (sic) people from DAI LOC is unclear as DAI LOC (District Headquarters) is located at coordinates (AT 918578), and the area indicated as the location of the Viet Cong unit is approximately eight thousand meters to the north and separated by at least one major waterway. The limits of DAI LOC district are in closer proximity but are still relatively distant. It is doubtful that there is much travel between the DAI LOC area and the locale given as the location of the Viet Cong force. S-2 rates this report as F-4).

C. Reports of information received directly from civilians: No reports were received during this reporting period.

D. <u>Viet Cong casualties:</u>	For 24 Hour Reporting period:	Cumulative Since 10 Jul 65
KIA (Confirmed)	1	255
KIA (Possible)	0	23
VC Captured	0	165
VC Captured (WIA)	0	3
VC WIA (Possible)	1	11
VC Suspects	0	825

E. Destroyed and captured enemy material: The following material was captured by 2ndBn, 9thMar.

2 - Beartraps (AT 949634) (See 161830H, entry INTSUM #161).

The following material was destroyed by 1stBn, 9thMar.

1 - Gate (booby-trapped) (BT 115635) (See 170930H, entry this INTSUM)

C. Ward
C. WARD
By direction

CONFIDENTIAL

COPY TO:

III MAF

(1)

III MAF POLAD

(1)

G-2

(4)

3dMar

(1)

1/9

(7)

2/9

(6)

3/9

(6)

3/3

(6)

2/12

(6)

S-2

(3)

S-3

(1)

FSCC

(1)

1stAmtracBn

(1)

3dTnkBn

(1)

3dAtBn

(1)

B Co, TnkBn

(1)

C Co, AtBn

(1)

CO

(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/CW/jda
3800
182400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division(Rein), (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #163, Period ending 182400H, December 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period.

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails throughout the TAOR continues to deteriorate as the result of heavy rains. MSR traffic continues unimpeded except for that portion of the First Battalion MSR south of coordinates (BT 069680), where traffic is restricted to foot troops and tracked vehicles. Bridges and bridge approaches remain operable. Rainfall for the past 24 hours in this area totalled 1.6 inches. No change is anticipated in weather conditions for the next 48 hours.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>BMCT</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>ECT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
19 Dec	0641	0704	1835	1857	0345	1534	1/4

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1stBn, 9thMar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), the USAF Troposcatter site on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 068853), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company C provided security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. At 180715H, a Company D platoon in a blocking position at a stream bed at coordinates (BT 053649) reported observing a woman leave a hut located in close proximity to the

PAGE 1 OF 8 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

#163

(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

platoon's position and proceed to the mouth of the stream. The report stated that the woman appeared to be scrutinizing the area but failed to detect the Marines. A few minutes later, the sound of tanks approaching from the north was heard, and four men ran from the hut. One of the men was carrying a weapon (not identified) and the Marines fired at the fleeing men. The Viet Cong carrying the weapon was hit and killed by the Marines' fire (body count), but the weapon was retrieved by another of the fleeing Viet Cong. (The report noted that the stream interfered with the Marines' pursuit). The three Viet Cong succeeded in eluding the Marines. The report added that a Vietnamese boy who attempted to flee the area was also fired at by the Marines, and apprehended after receiving a minor wound (finger). A second Viet Cong Suspect was also apprehended as part of this incident but the details of the apprehension were not provided. (S-2 comment: A subsequent report indicated that both suspects were evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters as suspicious persons after initial interrogations by the Battalion S-2).

b. At 180930H, Company D reported that engineers examining a proposed C.P. site at coordinates (BT 059652) discovered one CHICOM grenade (reported rigged as a booby-trap), punji stakes, one 2.75 unexploded (aerial) rocket (dud), and one unexploded 40mm (M-79) round (reported rigged as a booby-trap). With the exception of the grenade (which was evacuated to Battalion for examination), all the material was destroyed by the engineers.

c. At 181030H, a Company D squad-sized unit operating in the vicinity of TU CAU (4) hamlet, coordinates (BT 047 647), reported observing three armed Viet Cong at close range who attempted to flee to the north. The Marines directed small arms fire at the fleeing Viet Cong who appeared to escape unscathed and who disappeared from sight in an undiscovered hiding place. The report stated that a notebook believed to have been dropped by one of the fleeing Viet Cong was discovered by the Marines and evacuated to Battalion for evaluation. The report added the Marines apprehended a Vietnamese male when he was observed hurriedly dressing in what was described as the robes of a priest. The suspect was later identified and cleared by the Village Chief and released.

d. At 181100H, a Company D patrol operating in the vicinity of PHONG HO (2) hamlet, coordinates (BT 067628), reported receiving fire from Viet Cong armed with at least four automatic and five semi-automatic weapons, and positioned on a slight rise in close proximity to the Marines' position. The Marines returned the fire and, assisted by a tank, assaulted the enemy positions, but the Viet Cong broke contact, fleeing through the hamlet. The Marines searched the buildings in the area but the

PAGE 2 OF 8 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Viet Cong eluded apprehension. The report added that the Marines destroyed four fortifications (further identification not provided), four dirt bunker, and ten firing positions.

e. At 181100H, a Company D patrol operating in the vicinity of TU CAU (3) hamlet, coordinates (BT 054654), reported observing one Vietnamese male slide down a pole from what was described as the attic area of a building and quickly assume the pose of one sleeping. Upon questioning, the suspect indicated the presence of another Vietnamese male in an adjoining house, who was apprehended when found hiding in what was described as a large straw basket. The suspects were evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

f. At 182015H, Company B, positioned in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 099661), reported receiving an estimated two hundred small arms rounds from an estimated ten to fifteen Viet Cong positioned in widely separated positions to the north, south, and west of the Marines' location. The report stated that the Viet Cong, positioned at from two hundred to four hundred meters range, were armed with at least one machine gun, one automatic carbine, and additional semi-automatic weapons. The Marines illuminated the area with five 105mm illumination rounds and directed eighteen 105mm H&B artillery rounds as well as a heavy volume of small arms at the enemy positions, and the Viet Cong broke contact. No Marine casualties were reported. Viet Cong casualties were not determined.

(2) 2nd Bn, 9th Mar. Continued to defend the central portion of the Regimental TAOR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEN (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998 707); and provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of MIEU DONG (1), coordinates (BT 017668). Companies I, K, L, and M, of the Third Battalion, Third Marines were under OPCON of the Second Battalion, Ninth Marines for this reporting period, and defended the western portion of the TAOR to to the road passing MIEU DUC District Headquarters, coordinates (AT 942689). Company M provided security for ASP #1, coordinates (AT 985733).

a. At 181000H, a Company K (Third Battalion, Third Marines) platoon (reinforced) patrol operating along the west bank of the SONG YEN (river), in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 952 651) reported receiving ten small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned on the far (east) shore of the river in the vicinity of LE SON (4) hamlet, coordinates (AT 958654). One Marine was WIA by the Viet Cong fire. The Marines directed approximately twenty small arms rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong fire ceased.

CONFIDENTIAL

b. At 181140H, the Company K patrol mentioned previously continuing its route along the west bank of the SONG YEN (river), in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 954650) reported receiving small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned on the far (east) side of the river at coordinates (AT 956648). The Marines directed four 40mm (M-79) rounds and fifteen small arms rounds at the Viet Cong and the Viet Cong attempted to break contact. One Viet Cong was believed killed by a 40mm round which appeared to have detonated against his chest. The Viet Cong casualty could not be confirmed as the Marines were not able to cross the SONG YEN (river). The other Viet Cong eluded capture with undetermined casualties. No Marine casualties were reported. The report added that the Marines found a wounded Vietnamese female in the area, who had sustained a gunshot wound of the foot. The report indicated that the origin of the wound could not be determined.

c. At 181600H, a Company F patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 015656) reported observing six armed Viet Cong (type of weapons could not be determined) at approximately one thousand meters range in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 013648) moving in a southeasterly direction. The patrol moved to the area in which the Viet Cong had been seen and apprehended two Viet Cong Suspects. (The details of apprehension were not indicated). The report added that the two Viet Cong Suspects would be evacuated to ITT on 19 December.

d. At 181600H, a Company I (Third Battalion, Third Marines) patrol operating in the vicinity of AN TRACH (1) hamlet, coordinates (AT 972663), reported receiving an estimated twenty five small arms rounds from two Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 972660) and two additional Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 969663). The Marines directed small arms fire at the Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 972660) and the Viet Cong fire ceased from that position. Because of the proximity of friendly villagers to the second Viet Cong position, the Marines did not fire but deployed so as to physically engage the Viet Cong. The Viet Cong fled the position however, and eluded the Marines. No casualties were reported.

e. At 181943H, Company I (Third Battalion, Third Marines) reported receiving one grenade in position at coordinates (AT 972661). The report stated no casualties were received and the origin of the grenade could not be determined. Additional information will be provided when available.

f. At 182030H, the Battalion S-3 reported that a SID-150 positioned as part of the Battalion C-P defenses detected movement at coordinates (AT 989678). The Marines illuminated the area, disclosing an undetermined number of people moving in

CONFIDENTIAL

the vicinity of coordinates (AT 992681). The report stated that the Marines fired one tracer (small arms) round at the intruders, who moved into YEN NE (2) hamlet area, coordinates (AT 993683). The report added that two small arms rounds were then received from the direction of coordinates (AT 995681). The Marines continued to illuminate the area and directed small arms fire at the suspected enemy position, but the Viet Cong fire was not repeated. No casualties were reported. Additional information will be provided when available.

g. At 182240H, the Battalion S-3 reported that two small arms rounds were received in the Battalion O.P. area, coordinates (AT 994677) from the direction of coordinates (AT 993676). Illumination was provided by 81mm mortar illumination rounds but the enemy fire was not repeated and the Viet Cong position could not be discovered. No casualties were reported.

(3) Special Reports.

a. At 181420H, G-2 relayed a report from the USMC Liaison Officer at HOA VANG District Headquarters that one Viet Cong company had displaced from the direction of THANH THUY village (coordinates not indicated) to the area in the vicinity of HAI AN hamlet, coordinates (BT 077665). The report stated that this Viet Cong company is armed with one 60mm mortar, machine guns, sub-machine guns, and numerous rifles. The report continued that another Viet Cong company is in hiding at HA THANH hamlet, THANH TRUNG Village, DIEN BAN District (coordinates not provided and hamlet name does not appear in available listing of local hamlets). The report added that the mission of these units had not been determined. G-2 rated this report F-3. (S-2 comment: Evaluation of this report is difficult because of inability to identify the locations indicated. S-2 rates it F-6).

b. At 181645H, G-2 relayed a CIT report (dated 15 December) that LA THO DAC (3) hamlet, coordinates (BT 002618) is utilized by the Viet Cong as a shelter for the wounded and a rest area for Viet Cong troops. The report stated that a Viet Cong company, augmented by local guerrillas, provided security for the hamlet and the hamlet is closed to the villagers. The report added that approximately two thousand kilos of rice are cached in the hamlet in the homes of TRAN TO, TRAN THIEU, and PHAN KHAM. G-2 rated the report F-6. (S-2 rates it F-6).

c. At 181770H, G-2 relayed a CIT agent report (dated 15 December) that the Viet Cong plan to attack LA CHAU (3) hamlet, coordinates (AT 955676). The report continued that the Viet Cong will mount this attack because the presence of Marines in this locale interdicts Viet Cong supply lines connecting Viet Cong units in the lowland plains with the Viet Cong bases in the mountain

CONFIDENTIAL

areas, identified as SON GA, coordinates (AT 882613) and DONG NGHE, coordinates (AT 882653). The report added that there are large rice storage facilities located in this area (LA CHAU (3) or mountain area?). G-2 rated this report as F-3. (S-2 rates it as F-6).

d. At 182100H, G-2 relayed a report purported to have originated from the village chiefs of HOA HAI and HOA LONG that during the night of 17 December, a Viet Cong force of undetermined strength moved into MY THI hamlet, coordinates (BT 052742), to a position within five hundred meters of the base (Marble Mountain Air Facility?). The report continued that this Viet Cong group is armed with four 60mm mortars, one 81mm mortar, four 57mm recoilless rifles, and small arms. The report added that the Viet Cong will harass USMC units in this area. (S-2 comment: When this matter was referred to the HOA HAI Village Chief for additional information, he disclaimed knowledge of the report. S-2 will withhold evaluation pending clarification as to source).

C. Reports of information received directly from civilians: No reports were received during this reporting period.

D. <u>Viet Cong casualties:</u>	<u>For 24 Hour Reporting period:</u>	<u>Cumulative Since 10 Jul 65</u>
KIA(Confirmed)	1	256
KIA(Possible)	1	24
VC Captured	0	165
VC Captured (WIA)	0	3
VC WIA(Possible)	0	11
VC Suspects	2	827

E. Disposition of captured personnel for week of 12 to 18 Dec 65

(1) Total captives taken:	14
(2) Captives cleared as civilians:	3
(3) VCS delivered to HOA VANG District Hqs:	8
(4) VCS delivered to ITT:	2
(5) VCS delivered to ARVN Medical Facility:	1

F. Destroyed and captured enemy material: The following material was captured by 1stBn, 9thMar.

1 - CHICOM grenade (booby-trapped) (BT 059652) (see 180930H entry this INTS)

CONFIDENTIAL

1 - Scarecrow (BT 059652)

1 - Deadfall (BT 047627)

1 - Notebook (type not indicated) (BT 047647) (see 181030H entry, this INTSUM)

The following material was destroyed by 1stBn, 9thMar.

1 - 2.75 rocket (dud) (not booby-trapped) (BT 059652)
(see 180930H entry this INTSUM)

1 - 40mm (M-79) (booby-trapped) (BT 059652) (see 180930H entry this INTSUM)

Undetermined amount of punji stakes (BT 059652) (see 180930H entry this INTSUM)

The following material was captured by 2ndBn, 9thMar.

1 - Book (Believed to contain Viet Cong poetry) (AT 949634)

G. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications: The following positions and fortifications were destroyed by 1stBn, 9thMar.

4 - Fortifications (type and size not indicated) (BT 067628)
(see 181100H entry, this INTSUM)

4 - Dirt bunkers (size and extent not indicated) (BT 067628)
(see 181100H entry, this INTSUM)

10 - Fighting positions (type and size not indicated)
(BT 067628) (see 181100H entry, this INTSUM)

C. Ward
C. WARD
By direction

CONFIDENTIAL

COPY TO:

III MAF

(1)

III MAF POLAD

(1)

G-2

(4)

3dMar

(1)

1/9

(7)

2/9

(6)

3/9

(6)

3/3

(6)

2/12

(6)

S-2

(3)

S-3

(1)

FSOG

(1)

1stAmtracBn

(1)

3d TnkBn

(1)

3dAtBn

(1)

B Co, TnkBn

(1)

C Co, At Bn

(1)

CO

PAGE 8 OF 8 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/GW/jda
3800
192400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #164, Period ending 192400H, December 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period.

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>FACT</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>EGRT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
20 Dec	0641	0705	1836	1857	0439	1617	1/4

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1stBn, 9thMar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), the USAF Troposcatter site on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 068853), the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company C provided security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. At 192045H, Company B reported receiving an estimated twenty rounds of what was described as automatic carbine fire in the company C.P. position, coordinates (BT 099664), from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 098654). When the area was illuminated, two Viet Cong were revealed. The Marines directed approximately fifty small arms rounds at the Viet Cong, and one was observed falling as if struck by the Marines' fire. The report stated that two additional Viet Cong were observed in the area proceeding towards the point where the one Viet Cong casualty was believed located. A patrol was dispatched to maintain the contact, and were continuing their efforts at the end of this reporting period. No Marine casualties were reported. (S-2 comment: The coordinates given indicate an exchange of small arms fire at approximately one thousand meters range. While this is believed to be erroneous, correction had not been received prior to the end of this reporting period. Additional information will be provided when available).

PAGE 1 OF 3 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

#164

(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

(2) 2nd Bn. 9th Mar. Continued to defend the central portion of the Regimental TAOR from, and including, the SONG VIEN DIEN (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998707); and provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of MIEU DONG (1), coordinates (BT 017668). Companies I, K, L, and M, Third Battalion, Third Marines which had been operating OPCON of the Second Battalion were returned to the operational control of Third Battalion, Third Marines at 181700H.

a. Late Report. At 182300H, Headquarters and Service Company reported receiving three small arms rounds in the C.P. area, coordinates (AT 993676), from the area vicinity of coordinates (AT 995674). The Viet Cong position could not be discerned and the fire was not returned. No casualties were reported.

b. Late Report. At 182355H, a fire team-sized patrol dispatched by the same company to investigate the area reported observing one man described as "crouching in the underbrush" at close range, coordinates (AT 996677). The Marines threw three grenades and directed four small arms rounds at the intruder who took cover in the brush. The Marines had the area illuminated with 81mm mortar illumination, and searched the area with negative results. No Marine casualties were reported.

c. At 190030H, sentinels manning the perimeter defenses of the battalion C.P. area, coordinates (AT 991677), reported observing one man in a rice paddy at coordinates (AT 988676). When hand illumination was provided, the intruder disappeared from sight. 81mm mortar illumination was requested, and the Marines directed twelve small arms rounds at the suspected area, with negative results. No casualties were reported.

(3) 3d Bn. 3d Mar. At 181700H, Companies I, K, L, and M came under OPCON Third Battalion, Third Marines and defends the western portion of the Regimental TAOR, from, but not including, the railroad tracks west to, but not including, the road passing MIEU DUC District Headquarters, coordinates (AT 942 689). Company M provided security for ASP #1, coordinates (AT 985733).

a. At 191520H, a Company I patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 963658) reported observing five Viet Cong dressed in dark uniforms (no further description provided) positioned to the southeast of the Marine position, in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 964673). The Marines directed small arms fire and twenty five 81mm mortar rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong returned an estimated thirty rounds automatic and semi-automatic small arms fire. The Marines pursued the Viet Cong to the vicinity of coordinates (AT 966656) where contact was lost. No USMC casualties were reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined.

(4) Special Reports.

a. At 192320H, the Ninth Marines Liaison Officer assigned to GVN Regional Force Headquarters at MIEU DONG relayed a special agent report (additional identification not provided) that the Viet Cong will urge the villagers of HOI THAI and HOA LOI villages to initiate claims for damages to property caused by U.S.

CONFIDENTIAL

military units. The report added that the villagers are to voice their claims on 20 December (the anniversary of the founding of the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam). The Liaison Officer stated that this report is rated B-2. (S-2 rates it F-6).

C. Reports of information received directly from civilians: No reports were received during this reporting period.

D. <u>Viet Cong casualties:</u>	For 24 Hour Reporting period:	Cumulative Since 10 Jul 65:
KIA(Confirmed)	0	256
KIA(Possible)	1	25
VC Captured	0	165
VC Captured (WIA)	0	3
VC WIA(Possible)	0	11
VC Suspects	0	827

E. Destroyed and captured enemy material. The following material was captured by 1stBn, 9thMar.

Documents(undetermined amount) (BT 121639)

F. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications: No reports were received during this reporting period.

C. Ward
C. WARD
By direction

COPY TO:	
III MAF	(1)
III MAF POLAD	(1)
G-2	(4)
3dMar	(1)
1/9	(7)
2/9	(6)
3/9	(6)
3/3	(6)
2/12	(6)
S-3	(1)
S-2	(9)
1stAmtracBn	(1)
3dTnkBn	(1)
3dAtBn	(1)
B Co, TnkBn	(1)
C Co, AtBn	(1)
CO	(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/CW/jda
3800
202400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #165, Period ending 202400H, December 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period.

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>BMCT</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>EECT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
21 Dec	0642	0705	1837	1900	- - -	- - -	NEW

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1stBn, 9thMar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), the USAF Tropo-scatter site on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 068353), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company C provided security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. At 200645H, a Company B patrol enroute to an ambush site in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 081600), reported apprehending one Viet Cong Suspect. The report stated that the suspect, accompanied by another unidentified male, was observed moving south along a trail in the direction of the Marine patrol. The suspect attracted the attention of the Marines because he was wearing what was described as a grey military-type uniform. When the Marines approached, the second male turned and quickly ran back down the trail. The Marines fired approximately ten small arms rounds at the fleeing suspect and physically pursued him for some

PAGE 1 OF 7 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

#165

CONFIDENTIAL

distance but the Vietnamese male eluded capture. The report stated that the male dressed in the grey uniform was apprehended before he could flee. An examination revealed that he lacked an identification card. The report added that the suspect several times attempted to discard a grey shirt which he was carrying when apprehended. The Viet Cong Suspect was evacuated to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point for investigation.

b. At 200815H, engineers attached to the battalion reported finding what was described as a "shoebox" mine buried four inches under the road surface at a point approximately six hundred meters south of the bridge, coordinates (BT 071700). The report stated that the box was fabricated of wood, and had a depression at the top which would have served to cause the mine to act as a "shaped charge". The explosive charge was believed to be flaked TNT (quantity not indicated). The report added that the firing device was of the pull-release type, and had the numerals "74" inscribed on the body. The mine included a booster charge, believed to have been a charge supplement of TNT for an artillery shell. The mine was disarmed and recovered by the engineers and presumably evacuated to Third Engineer Battalion Headquarters for examination.

c. At 200830H, the engineers reported finding a Viet Cong flag and banner strung between two poles at coordinates (BT 070694). An examination of the material and site revealed that a grenade was affixed by trip wire to one of the pole supports. The report stated that the grenade had been inserted in a tin can with the safety wire withdrawn but the safety handle held in place by the interior surface of the can. When the wire was disturbed, the grenade would be dislodged from the can and the grenade would detonate. The report did not indicate disposition of the grenade, flag or banner.

d. At 200900H, a Company B patrol reported apprehending a suspicious male at coordinates (BT 085665), when the suspect was observed apparently shouting a warning into a building when the Marines approached and then attempting to flee. The suspect was apprehended and the building searched, disclosing no occupants but one roll of wire (type not indicated) was found. The suspicious male was evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

e. At 200930H, an engineer team (see b. above) reported locating an undisclosed length of time fuze buried eight inches under the road surface at coordinates (BT 083697). Disposition of the fuze length was not indicated.

f. At 201030H, a Company B patrol reported finding

CONFIDENTIAL

a banner, described as white with red paper letters affixed, fourteen inches by fifty five inches, and a Viet Cong flag, thirty two inches by thirty four inches, stretched across a trail junction at coordinates (BT 076675). The banner was not translated but was believed to display Viet Cong propaganda. The banner was retrieved and evacuated to battalion for examination.

g. At 201815H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from a Mr. VINH, identified as the Police Chief leader of HOA HAI Village, that the Viet Cong have advised the villagers that they should deposit their money with the Viet Cong for safe keeping, as the USMC will steal their money. Mr. VINH stated that what he described as "many" of the people have succumbed to the Viet Cong propaganda and have turned over to the Viet Cong money in return for "receipts from Viet Cong banks". The report continued that the Viet Cong have brought many AP and AT mines into the Ninth Marines TAOR. The report added that a cave was located at coordinates (BT 077684). (The Battalion S-2 commented that a patrol was dispatched to investigate this cave and reported destroying the cave with demolitions. Contents of the cave, if any, were not indicated). Mr. VINH also reported that two thousand pounds of rice was located at coordinates (BT 085683). (The Battalion S-2 commented that a patrol was dispatched to search this area with negative results).

h. At 202000H, the Battalion S-3 reported the results of a Company B patrol conducted during the period 201500H - 201800H, in the vicinity of grid squares (BT 0864) and (BT 0863). The report stated that the patrol received sporadic sniper fire during its patrol but that no casualties were sustained. The report continued that at approximately 201700H, the patrol received what was described as automatic weapons (including one machine gun) fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 095672). (The report did not indicate the patrol's location at the time of this encounter). The Marines directed three 3.5 inch rocket rounds and approximately fifty small arms rounds at the Viet Cong position. The report added that a squad-sized Marine force with two tanks were dispatched to assist the patrol. No Marine casualties were reported. The report stated that two Viet Cong were probably KIA but did not indicate the basis for this claim.

(2) 2nd Bn. 9th Mar. Continued to defend the central portion of the Regimental TAOR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEN (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998 707); and provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of MIEU DONG (1), coordinates (BT 017668).

a. Late Report. At 191605H, a Company F patrol reported finding two gates which were rigged as booby-traps with fragmentation

CONFIDENTIAL

grenades at coordinates (AT 998643). The grenades and gates were destroyed in place with demolitions. No casualties were reported.

b. At 200900H, Company F reported finding one Viet Cong flag at coordinates (AT 995696). The flag was recovered and will be retained as a trophy by the Marine who discovered it.

c. At 201013H, Company F reported discovering what was described as a Viet Cong banner positioned at the HA DONG bridge, coordinates (AT 990642). The banner was recovered and evacuated to battalion for examination.

d. At 201810H, Company E reported receiving fifteen to twenty rounds of what was described as carbine fire in the company G.P. position, coordinates (AT 992678), from Viet Cong positioned in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 993674). The Marines did not return the fire as friendly units were believed to be operating in the area. No casualties were reported.

(3) 3d Bn, 3d Mar. Continued to defend the western portion of the Regimental TAOR, from, but not including, the railroad tracks west to, but not including, the road passing HIEU DUC District Headquarters, coordinates (AT 942689). Company M provided security for ASP #1, coordinates (AT 985733).

a. At 200805H, a Company K patrol reported detonating a booby-trap at coordinates (AT 955664). The explosive was described as possibly a 60mm mortar round rigged with a trip wire across the trail. A search of the area revealed two trail markers consisting of a piece of cardboard, with Vietnamese writing attached to a bamboo pole, a tail fin from a 60mm mortar round, and several pieces of metal fragments, all of which were evacuated to the Ninth Marines S-2 for evaluation. One USMC KIA and one USMC WIA were reported.

b. At 201505H, a Company I patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 974655) reported receiving ten rounds small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 970657). The Marines directed approximately twenty five rounds small arms fire at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact. No USMC casualties were reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined.

c. At 202030H, a Company K patrol enroute to an ambush site reported that aerial flares dropped from a plane illuminated their position in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 955664). The report stated that, in attempting to take concealment from the light of the flares, one Marine tripped and accidentally discharged his rifle (wounding his foot). A short time thereafter, the patrol

CONFIDENTIAL

received an estimated one hundred fifty small arms rounds from three automatic and two semi-automatic weapons from Viet Cong positioned at close range. The Marines returned the fire and requested illumination. A total of forty 81mm mortar illumination rounds were provided, and the Marines returned the enemy fire with approximately two hundred fifty small arms rounds. Forty 81mm HE rounds and twenty nine 60mm mortar HE rounds were directed at the Viet Cong positions and the Viet Cong fire ceased. No Marine casualties were reported. Enemy casualties were not determined.

(4) Special Reports.

a. At 200030H, G-2 relayed a report from HOI AN Special Sector that Viet Cong headquarters at HOA AIEN SON (coordinates not known) will be gathering guerrillas from the hamlet of DONG BICH (AT 895682) for operations east of Hill 42, across the river from HOA VANG District Headquarters. The report added that the date and time of these future operations is not known. HOI AN Special Sector rated this report as C-3. G-2 rated it F-4. (S-2 also rates it F-4).

b. At 200755H, the Aerial Observer operating in the TAOR reported receiving small arms fire from the direction of coordinates (BT 031643). No casualties or damage to the aircraft was reported.

c. At 201010H, a report attributed to DA NANG Garrison (sic) was received, stating that a group (unidentified) is expected to demonstrate sometime today (20 December) at IE SON (1) hamlet, coordinates (AT 983659), and YEN NE (1) hamlet, coordinates (AT 988668), to demand reimbursement for damage (presumably for personal and property damage as the result of military operations). (The Second Battalion, Ninth Marines S-2 commented at 201930H, that the reported demonstration did not take place).

d. At 201112H, the Third Marines relayed a report from an unidentified agent that at 170400H, the 44th PAVN Battalion displaced to the vicinity of GIAC THANH DONG, coordinates (AT 955587), GIAO AN, coordinates (AT 955570), (AT 947598), and (AT 943590). The report continued that this Viet Cong battalion is presently constructing foxholes and other fortifications. The report stated that this battalion's strength is four hundred men and equipped with three mortars (type-caliber not indicated), three machine guns, nine automatic rifles, and three rocket launchers (described as approximately three meters long and carried on shoulder?). The report continued that this battalion is a subordinate unit of an unidentified PAVN regiment, and is commanded by one LAM DEN, who is described as a part VIETNAMESE, part INDIAN Lieutenant Colonel. The report added that the agent who provided this report stated

PAGE 5 OF 7 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

that he withdrew from the area because he anticipated that the Marines would shell the locale with mortars. G-2 rated the report as F-3. (S-2 comment: An Aerial Observer dispatched to reconnoiter this area reported observing extensive trenching in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 947607) to (AT 957604). The observer stated that a trench running approximately four hundred meters north and south of coordinates (AT 955647) was being improved. The Aerial Observer commented that workers observed in the vicinity of the fortifications appeared to be civilians but the diggings had military significance. S-2 rates the reported presence of a Viet Cong battalion in the locations indicated as F-3. The designation as the 44th PAVN Battalion is rated F-6 as the designation does not appear on this Headquarters current Order of Battle listings).

e. At 201250H, G-2 relayed a CI report that a demonstration was then in progress in the vicinity of Marble Mountain. At 201440H, I CORPS G-2 reported that people were assembling at the Marble Mountain area for a demonstration. (S-2 comment: In response to both reports, the First Battalion investigated and report no assemblage or demonstration was in progress).

f. At 201830H, G-2 relayed a report from the USMC Liaison Officer at HIEU DUC District Headquarters that two Viet Cong companies, armed with one 81mm mortar and one 60mm mortar, have displaced from DAI LOO District to the vicinity of grid square (AT 9463). The report stated that some of the Viet Cong are natives of the DAI LOO area and are prohibiting the villagers from leaving the district. The report added that the Viet Cong are concentrating their strength to attack Hill 41 or Hill 22, and to harass USMC units in those areas. The report was rated B-3. The First Battalion, First Marines S-2 commented that Company I, First Battalion, First Marines made contact with an undetermined number of Viet Cong in close proximity to the area of the reported location of the Viet Cong units, 201020H. (S-2 rates this report as F-3).

g. At 202045H, the Ninth Marines Liaison Officer at GVN Regional Force Headquarters reported that what was believed to have been Viet Cong positioned at two locations, coordinates (AT 981680) and (AT 985687), fire ten to twelve small arms rounds at no specific targets in what was believed to have been an attempt to generate an exchange of fire between USMC and ARVN forces operating in the area. No casualties were reported and the Viet Cong tactic was unsuccessful.

C. Reports of information received directly from civilians: No reports were received during this reporting period.

CONFIDENTIAL

<u>D. Viet Cong casualties:</u>	<u>For 24 Hour Reporting period:</u>	<u>Cumulative Since 10 Jul 65:</u>
KIA(Confirmed)	0	256
KIA(Possible)	0	25
VC Captured	0	165
VC Captured(WIA)	0	3
VC WIA(Possible)	0	11
VC Suspects	1	828

E. Destroyed and captured enemy material: The following material was captured by 1stBn, 9thMar.

1 - "Shoebox" mine (BT 071700) (see 200815H entry, this INTSUM)

The following material was destroyed by 1stBn, 9thMar.

1 - Grenade(booby-trapped) (BT 070694) (see 200830H entry, this INTSUM)

The following material was destroyed by 2ndBn, 9thMar.

2 - Gates(booby-trapped) (AT 998643) (see 191605H entry this INTSUM)

The following material was captured by 3dBn, 3dMar.

2 - Signs(have not been translated but believed to be minefield markers). (AT 955664) (see 200805H entry, this INTSUM)

F. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications: No reports were received during this reporting period.

Ward
C. WARD
By direction

COPY TO:
III MAF
III MAF POLAD
G-2
3dMar
1/9
2/9
3/9
3/3
2/12
S-2
S-3
FSCC

(1)
(1)
(4)
(1)
(7)
(6)
(6)
(6)
(9)
(1)
(1)

1stAmtracBn (1)
3dTnkBn (1)
3dAtBn (1)
B Co, TnkBn (1)
C Co, AtBn (1)
CO (1)

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/CW/jda
3800
212400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #166, Period ending 212400H, December 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period.

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) The abatement of the heavy rains has resulted in a general improvement in the trafficability of trails and roads throughout the TAOR, but other than tracked vehicles are still restricted to travel on the MSR. In the First Battalion area, traffic on that portion of the MSR south of coordinates (BT 063680) is open only to foot troops and tracked vehicles.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>R-CT</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>E-CT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
22 Dec	0642	0706	1837	1900	- - -	- - -	NEW

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1stBn, 9thMar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), the USAF Troposcatter site on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 068853), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company C provided security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. Late Report. At 202200H, a Company A ambush element positioned at coordinates (BT 063714) reported observing one Viet Cong who emerged from a bamboo clump approximately forty five meters away from the ambush site. The Viet Cong sighted the Marines and attempted to flee and the Marines directed twelve small arms rounds at him with negative results.

b. At 210130H, the Battalion S-3 reported that five small arms rounds were received in the battalion Command Post position, coordinates (BT 066715), from Viet Cong located approximately two hundred meters to the west, coordinates (BT 064715). The report stated that the area was illuminated by tank searchlights and

CONFIDENTIAL

approximately one hundred small arms rounds were directed at the suspected area and the enemy fire was not repeated. No Marine casualties were reported. Viet Cong casualties were not determined.

c. At 210800, a Company B squad-sized patrol reported apprehending three male Viet Cong suspects in the vicinity of VIEH DONG village area, coordinates (BT 094655) and (BT 093658). The suspects were evacuated to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point for investigation. The report added that male villagers are conspicuously absent in the VIEH DONG area.

d. At 210830H, a Company A patrol reported apprehending two suspicious males in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 060674). The report did not indicate the circumstances of apprehension but noted that the suspects appeared to be of military age. The suspects were evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

e. At 210900H, a Company B patrol reported finding a mine consisting of two unexploded 105mm artillery rounds rigged as a booby-trap at coordinates (BT 098659). The report added that the mine was destroyed. No casualties were reported.

f. At 210915H, a Company B patrol reported finding a suitcase containing what was described as a packet of documents and what was identified as an ARVN field uniform at coordinates (BT 060678). The report did not provide additional details but added that the material would be evacuated to the G-2 for evaluation.

g. At 211115H, a Company D patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 064652) reported receiving two rounds of small arms sniper fire from Viet Cong positioned to the northwest, in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 063653). The Marines directed approximately thirty small arms rounds at the suspected area and the Viet Cong fire was not repeated. A patrol dispatched to search the area reported negative results. No casualties were reported.

h. Late Report. At 211900H, the Battalion S-2 reported that, at 191030H, a Company D patrol discovered a document in a building at coordinates (BT 048648). The report stated that a translation provided by an ARVN interpreter indicated that the document appears to be a Viet Cong receipt for one ang (approximately fifteen pounds) of rice and for forty piastres. The receipt was evacuated to regiment for inspection and will be delivered to G-2.

i. At 211630H, a Company B patrol reported finding a Viet Cong flag and banner at coordinates (BT 078674). The report continued that the patrol discovered a recently constructed trenchline (dimensions not indicated) at coordinates (BT 074664). The patrol also reported finding medical supplies (quantities and types not indicated) hidden in a building at coordinates (BT 077659). The report added that one Viet Cong suspect was apprehended in the building in which the medical supplies were found hidden. The Viet Cong suspect was evacuated to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point and the material was evacuated to battalion headquarters for examination.

CONFIDENTIAL

j. At 212000H, a Company A patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 072698) reported receiving one fragmentation grenade and four small arms rounds from an estimated two or three Viet Cong positioned approximately seventy five meters to the southeast. The Marines returned the fire with approximately ninety small arms rounds and the Viet Cong broke contact. One marine was WIA. Enemy casualties were not indicated.

k. At 212045H, a Company A security element positioned at the bridge, coordinates (BT 072702), reported receiving what was described as two rounds of carbine fire from Viet Cong positioned in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 070699). The Viet Cong position could not be discerned and the Marines did not return the fire. No casualties were reported. The report added that a patrol will be dispatched to search the area.

l. At 212100H, a Company A security element positioned at the French bunker, coordinates (BT 083697), reported observing two or three persons moving in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 082693). The area was illuminated with 81mm mortar illumination and approximately one hundred small arms rounds were directed at the intruders who fled to the west. No casualties were reported.

m. At 212235H, a Company A ambush element positioned at coordinates (BT 080713) reported receiving three rounds of what was described as carbine fire from Viet Cong positioned to the northeast at close range. As the Marines deployed and maneuvered towards the sniper position, they received three additional small arms rounds from the direction of coordinates (BT 076714). The report continued that at this time additional small arms fire began to impact in the Marines' location which was believed to have originated from the battalion C.P. perimeter. The patrol leader fired a pyrotechnic device (green star cluster) to identify his unit and the patrol then received what was believed to have been a 40mm(M-79) round. The report stated that this round appeared to have originated from the direction of ARVN positions to the northeast. The patrol was directed to return to the C.P. area to search out Viet Cong snipers believed positioned in that locale. The report stated that the Marines directed a total of four 40mm(M-79) rounds and forty small arms rounds at suspected Viet Cong positions with negative results. No Marine casualties were reported.

(2) 2ndBn, 9thMar. Continued to defend the central portion of the Regimental TAOR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEN (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998707); and provided one squad's man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of MIEU DONG (1), coordinates (BT 017668).

a. At 212145H, the Battalion S-2 reported that an ARVN lieutenant (further identification not provided) at bridge #1, coordinates (AT 998707), relayed what was purported to be a DA NANG Special Intelligence Service report that Viet Cong will demolish bridge #1 sometime during the period 21 - 26 December. The Battalion S-2 did not evaluate the report. (S-2 rates it F-6).

PAGE 3 OF 7 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

b. At 212140H, a Company E security element positioned at bridge #1, coordinates (AT 998707), reported finding what was described as two bamboo trees fastened together with Viet Cong propaganda streamers floating on the river surface. The report added that the propaganda material was retrieved and will be evacuated to regiment for examination.

(3) 3dBn, 3dMar. Continued to defend the western portion of the Regimental TAOR, from, but not including, the railroad tracks west to, but not including, the road passing HIEU DUC District Headquarters, coordinates (AT 942689). Company M provided security for ASP #1, coordinates (AT 985733).

a. Late Report. At 202115H, a Company I platoon positioned at coordinates (AT 904474) reported hearing movement to the front of their position. Illumination (HAND) was provided, revealing one Viet Cong at close range. The Marines directed twenty four rounds small arms fire at the enemy and the Viet Cong fled. No casualties were reported.

b. At 211925H, a Company I patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 972659), reported receiving thirty small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned at close range. The Marines directed three 40mm(M-79) rounds and approximately one hundred small arms rounds at the Viet Cong position and the Viet Cong fire ceased. The Marines had the area illuminated and searched with negative results. No casualties were reported.

(4) Special Reports.

a. At 211750H, the Ninth Marine Liaison Officer assigned to the GVN Regional Force Battalion Headquarters at HIEU BONG relayed what was identified as an agent report that, as of 21 December, two Viet Cong companies of the 305th Viet Cong Battalion, commanded by one NQO THANH, are located in the vicinity of DIEM SON hamlet, coordinates (AT 960645). (S-2 comment: Does not appear on current operational map). The report stated that these Viet Cong units are equipped with four machine guns, fifteen automatic rifles, and numerous small arms. The report continued that five Viet Cong nurses plus numerous stretcher bearers are accompanying the Viet Cong companies. The report added that the Viet Cong are constructing trenchlines in the area from CAM DIEM SON to AN TRACH, and will attack US units in this region. The GVN Regional Force Battalion S-2 rated this report as B-1. (S-2 rates it F-3).

b. At 212345H, G-2 relayed a report from the USMC Liaison Officer at HIEU DUC District Headquarters that the Viet Cong are organizing what was described as a large number of children in the vicinity of HOA LUONG, coordinates (AT 925665), HOA LOI, coordinates (AT 970663), and HOA THAI, grid square (AT 9967), to gain access to Marine positions under the guise of picking up laundry, so as to place what was described as plastic explosives in the positions as well as gather information that the Viet Cong can utilize. HIEU DUC District Headquarters rated this report as C-2. (S-2 comment: Several similar reports have been received recently of the Viet Cong organizing children for this purpose, although no instance of actual attempts by children has been reported. S-2 rates this report F-3).

CONFIDENTIAL

c. Special Report of GVN Regional Force operations as part of Operation Five Mountain (Rural Construction). (The following report was compiled from several sources, principally the Ninth Marines Liaison Officer assigned to the 59th GVN Regional Force Battalion Headquarters at BIEU BONG).

At 210230H, a platoon of GVN People's Action Team forces positioned at QUA GIANG (1) hamlet, coordinates (BT 015664) reported receiving ten to twelve mortar rounds (caliber and type not indicated) in position. No casualties were reported as the result of this fire. (Second Battalion, Ninth Marines directed 81mm mortar fire at suspected Viet Cong positions at coordinates (BT 014663) in response to the People's Action Team's request for assistance). At 210300H, the platoon positioned at QUA GIANG (1) reported that a squad occupying separate positions at coordinates (BT 015664) received small arms fire, which resulted in four friendly KIA, and one WIA. One automatic rifle, one U. S. rifle, caliber .30 M-1, and one sub-machine gun were reported captured by the Viet Cong. The report indicated that the Viet Cong force consisted of two platoons. Viet Cong casualties were not determined. At 210400H, the 59th GVN Regional Force Company reported making contact with an estimated one Viet Cong platoon in the vicinity of DUONG SON (3) hamlet, coordinates (AT 992670). The report indicated that three Viet Cong were killed. No friendly casualties were reported. (The Second Battalion, Ninth Marines supported this engagement by providing 81mm mortar illumination). The report added that at the termination of the firefight, the villagers in the area commenced what was described as a demonstration, but it was broken up by GVN Regional Force troop units. At 210300H, a woman, identified as a group leader in a "People's Club", in DUONG SON (1) hamlet, coordinates (AT 997687) was assassinated by the Viet Cong. The report did not provide additional details. During the period 211500H to 211630H, a company of the 11th ARVN Ranger Battalion searched the area in the vicinity of TAN HANH hamlet, coordinates (AT 998654), NHON THO hamlet, coordinates (BT 003658), and QUA GIANG (2) hamlet, coordinates (BT 003663), with negative results. Commencing approximately 211800H, soldiers of the 593d GVN Regional Force Company and members of the People's Action Teams came to the Second Battalion, Ninth Marines Command Post, coordinates (AT 992678), reporting that two Viet Cong companies had attacked their positions at YEN NE (2) hamlet, coordinates (AT 982682) and CAM NE (2) hamlet, coordinates (AT 984688) and had over-run the GVN positions. The report stated that the major portion of the Viet Cong force were now located at the school house, coordinates (AT 980687). The report continued that additional GVN arrivals at the Second Battalion, Ninth Marines C.P. brought the total Regional Force and People's Action Team members who had sought refuge to approximately forty five. At approximately the same time, the Third Battalion, Third Marines reported that a platoon of the GVN 593d Regional Force company, plus a number of People's Action Team members, who had been positioned at CAM NE (4) hamlet, coordinates (AT 969695), arrived at the Marines' position at the river barrier, coordinates (AT 971699), after having crossed the SONG TUY LOAN (river), and claimed they had to vacate their positions because of Viet Cong mortar fire received in CAM NE (4) hamlet. At 212000H, an ARVN force consisting of a Regional Force company and a platoon from the 11th Ranger Battalion, was reported to have moved towards the school house, coordinates (AT 980687) to renew the contact with the Viet Cong and to locate missing members of the GVN Regional Force company. The report indicated that Company H, Second Battalion, Ninth Marines was positioned so as to exploit any contact made with the Viet Cong. At 212325H, a Second Battalion, Ninth Marines platoon reported being in position at the school

CONFIDENTIAL

house and finding four GVN KIA and one WIA. A subsequent report indicated that GVN casualties totalled seven KIA, two WIA, and three MIA. Viet Cong casualties were not indicated. The report added that the Viet Cong force was estimated to have totalled two Viet Cong platoons and that GVN survivors stated that approximately fifty of the Viet Cong had withdrawn to the vicinity of LA BUNG.

C. Reports of information received directly from civilians: No reports were received during this reporting period.

D. <u>Viet Cong casualties:</u>	For 24 Hour <u>Reporting period:</u>	Cumulative <u>Since 10 Jul 65</u>
KIA(Confirmed)	0	256
KIA(Possible)	0	25
VC Captured	0	165
VC Captured(WIA)	0	3
VC WIA(Possible)	0	11
VC Suspects	4	832

E. Destroyed and capture enemy material: The following material was captured by 1stBn, 9thMar.

Documents - (BT 060678) (see 210915H entry, this INTSUM)

1 - VC Receipt(for food and money) (BT 048648) (see 211900H entry, this INTSUM)

1 - 223 caliber round (BT 066629)

The following material was destroyed by 1stBn, 9thMar.

2 - 105mm rounds (booby-trapped) (BT 098659) (see 210900H entry, this INTSUM)

The following material was captured by 3dBn, 3dMar.

2 - Banners (AT 973699)

F. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications: No reports were received during this reporting period.


C. WARD
By direction

CONFIDENTIAL

COPY TO:

III MAF
III MAF PDLAD
G-2
3dMar
1/9
2/9
3/3
2/12
FSCC
S-2
S-3
1stAmtracBn
3dTnkBn
3dAtBn
B Co, TnkBn
C Co, AtBn
CO

(1)
(1)
(4)
(1)
(7)
(6)
(7)
(6)
(1)
(9)
(1)
(1)
(1)
(1)
(1)
(1)
(1)
(1)

PAGE 7 OF 7 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

#166

①

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/GW/jda
3800
222400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #167, Period ending 222400H, December 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period.

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-4.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>HMCT</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>ECT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
23 Dec	0643	0706	1838	1901	- - -	- - -	NEW

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1st Bn, 9th Mar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), the USAF Troposcatter site on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 068853), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company C provided security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. Late Report. At 212245H, a Company A ambush element positioned at coordinates (BT 063713) observed a man running in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 063714). When illumination was provided, the Marines observed that the man was armed (type of weapon not indicated) and they directed one 40mm (M-79) round and approximately sixty small arms rounds at him with negative results.

b. At 220800H, a Company D platoon in blocking position at coordinates (BT 056637) observed one Viet Cong partially hidden in a hedge-row in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 056636). When the Viet Cong sighted the Marines, he attempted to flee, running in a southerly direction. The Marines fired three small arms rounds at the fleeing Viet Cong, killing him (body count). The report added that three CHICO fragmentation grenades and miscellaneous papers were recovered from the body of the dead Viet Cong, (disposition of this material was not indicated).

PAGE 1 OF 6 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

#166

(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

c. At 220930H, the Battalion S-3 reported that when two tanks and two LVTs were enroute to a blocking position, the lead tank detonated a mine at coordinates (BT 085658). The second tank and one LVT proceeded to Company B Command Post to pick up additional security elements, and while returning to the disabled tank, the second tank detonated a mine at coordinates (BT 090657). The report indicated that no casualties were sustained and damage to the tanks was minor. The report added that the mines were believed to have consisted of approximately 20-25 pounds of TNT contained in a hollow bamboo log, and were buried in the roadbed and covered with bricks. The firing mechanism utilized could not be determined.

d. At 221145H, the First AMTRAC Battalion S-3 reported that an LVT supporting Company D detonated a mine at coordinates (BT 048658). The report indicated that the vehicle sustained major damage but no casualties resulted from the incident. The mine was described as consisting of from 20-35 pounds of TNT but information about the firing mechanism and additional details were not provided.

e. At 221300H, Company D reported receiving six 105mm artillery rounds in position at coordinates (BT 065632), resulting in two Marines WIA. The report stated that the rounds were believed to have been fired by ARVN forces operating to the south. (S-2 comment: Subsequent investigation indicated that the rounds were fired by the ARVN and directed at an area north of the No Fire Line, east-west grid line 63).

f. At 221300H, Company D, in blocking position at coordinates (BT 072634), reported observing what the report identified as ten Viet Cong attempting to circumvent the blockade. The Marines pursued the Viet Cong aboard tanks but lost contact in the vicinity of QUANG HA (1) hamlet, coordinates (BT 075639). The report added that while searching QUANG HA hamlet, the Marines found a wounded Vietnamese male. The man was apprehended as a Viet Cong Suspect and evacuated to the Battalion Command Post when he could not provide an adequate explanation for his wounds.

g. At 221445H, Company D reported apprehending two Viet Cong Suspects in a building at coordinates (BT 064624). The report stated that the suspects attempted to wrest away the Marines' rifles and tried to flee and were fired at and wounded by the Marines. The Viet Cong Suspects were evacuated to an ARVN hospital for medical treatment and investigation.

h. At 221605H, Company B reported that an LVT detonated an explosive charge at coordinates (BT 089642), resulting in minor damage to the LVT. The report stated that the type and size of the explosive device was not known. No casualties were reported. (The report indicates a relatively small device, possibly a grenade, may have been detonated).

i. At 221630H, Company D, operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 058634), reported receiving two small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned

CONFIDENTIAL

approximately two hundred meters to the south, coordinates (BT 058632). One Marine was WIA. The Viet Cong fire was not repeated. The Marines searched the area with negative results.

j. At 222115H, the Battalion S-2 reported that, at 221315H, Battery D directed one hundred thirty six 105mm artillery rounds at the area, coordinates (BT 065622) to (BT 065624). The report stated that ARVN units operating in the area requested the mission and that FO Delta (Company D, First Battalion, Forward Observer) adjusted the fire. The report added that a subsequent surveillance report indicated that nine Viet Cong were KIA (unconfirmed) and that nine secondary explosions resulted, destroying four ammunition bunkers and probably destroying five additional ammunition bunkers. (S-2 comment: The basis for the report of Viet Cong casualties and ammunition bunker destruction could not be ascertained).

(2) 2nd Bn, 9th Mar. Continued to defend the central portion of the Regimental TAOR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEN (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998707); and provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of MIEU DUNG (?), coordinates (BT 017668).

a. At 221120H, the Platoon Leader of the 106mm recoilless rifle platoon reported observing a Viet Cong flag on a pole at coordinates (BT 032643). The report stated that the flag was not recovered or destroyed. The report added that shortly thereafter, one small arms round impacted in the vicinity of this same Marine, which he believed came from the direction of coordinates (BT 038645).

b. At 221355H, a Company E squad-sized patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 052719) reported receiving nine small arms rounds from an estimated three Viet Cong positioned in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 052717). The report stated that after firing at the Marines, the Viet Cong quickly withdrew into XOM TRUNG HOA hamlet, coordinates (BT 052716). The Marines searched the area with negative results. No casualties were reported. (S-2 comment: GVN People's Action Team leader and a GVN Popular Force platoon commander operating in this area have reported that XOM TRUNG HOA hamlet is controlled by the Viet Cong infra-structure and the hamlet harbors Viet Cong guerrilla troops. A subsequent report from Company E stated that a People's Action Team representative (no additional identification provided) has reported that the 344th Viet Cong battalion was observed moving into this hamlet at an unspecified time this afternoon. S-2 rates this report as F-4 as Company E Marines are very much in evidence in the area indicated and the influx of a sizeable group without Marines' detection is improbable).

c. At 222245H, a Company E ambush element positioned at coordinates (BT 044724) reported observing what was described as a large amount of debris floating nearby on the surface of the SONG VINH DIEN (river). The Marines fired one 40mm (M-79) round at the suspicious material, and the resultant secondary explosion wounded a member of the ambush group. The report stated that the secondary explosion was of a force greater than that of a grenade but provided no additional details.

CONFIDENTIAL

(3) 2d Bn, 3d Mar. Continued to defend the western portion of the Regimental TAOR from, but not including, the railroad tracks west to, but not including, the road passing HIEU DUC District Headquarters, coordinates (AT 942 689). Company K provided security for ASP #1, coordinates (AT 985733).

a. Late Report. At 211743H, Company L security element positioned at the river block at coordinates (AT 971699) reported receiving an estimated thirty rounds small arms fire and what was believed to have been one 60mm mortar round (landed in river) from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 979693). The Marines directed small arms fire at the enemy position and observed one Viet Cong fall as if struck by the Marines' fire. Because of their mission, the Marines were unable to pursue the enemy. No USMC casualties were reported. One Viet Cong KIA (Possible) was reported.

b. Late Report. At 211945H, Company I reported receiving thirty rounds automatic and semi-automatic small arms fire in the company C.P. position, coordinates (AT 972662) from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 972659). The Marines directed small arms fire at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact. A search of the area revealed negative results. No casualties were reported.

c. At 221740H, Company I reported that Marine snipers (scout-sniper team?) positioned in the vicinity of AN TRACH (2) hamlet, coordinates (AT 974 656), observed two men who appeared to be enroute to the local market place. The report stated that, when the men sighted the Marines, they turned about and quickly withdrew in separate directions. The Marines observed one of the men discard an object as he withdrew, which, when retrieved by the Marines, turned out to be an M-26 fragmentation grenade. The report stated that the Marines attempted to pursue the two men but they had disappeared from sight.

(4) Special Reports.

a. At 221730H, the Ninth Marines Liaison Officer assigned to the 59th GVN Regional Force Battalion Headquarters at HIEU BONG relayed a report which originated at HOA VANG District Headquarters that one Viet Cong platoon is located in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 034678). The report stated that this Viet Cong platoon is believed to be preparing to attack HOA DA village (specific objective was not indicated) tonight. The report continued that one Viet Cong company is located along the west bank of the SONG YEN (river), coordinates (AT 953 645) to (AT 965665). The report added that this Viet Cong company is believed to be the same unit that infiltrated CAM NE (2) hamlet last night (see Special Reports, para. 4.c, INTSUM #166). (S-2 rates this report as F-3).

b. At 221800H, the S-3 relayed a report from what was identified as the "North Sector, QUANG NAM Sector", that one Viet Cong battalion is presently located in the DIEN BAN area, coordinates (AT 970655). The report stated that this battalion, designation and commander unknown, has a strength of three hundred men, and is equipped with mortars, automatic rifles, and individual weapons. The report added that this battalion will attack USMC forces at coordinates

CONFIDENTIAL

(AT 953667) and (AT 934663). The report was rated B-2. (S-2 rates it F-6).

c. At 221820H, the Aerial Observer operating in the TAOR directed an aerial strike by two fixed-wing aircraft at what was identified as a bunker at coordinates (BT 106642). A subsequent assessment report indicated that the strike resulted in damage to the bunker and one additional building. The report added that no KIA or WIA were observed.

d. At 221955H, the USMC Liaison Officer assigned to HOA VANG District Headquarters reported that the ARVN 39th Rangers (specific designation or unit size not indicated) made contact with an estimated two Viet Cong companies in the vicinity of the THANH QUIT bridge (specific location was not indicated). The report stated that the ARVN force had sustained four KIA, and the Viet Cong units were moving in a northwesterly direction towards Ninth Marines positions. A subsequent report from G-2, received at 222130H, stated that ARVN forces (designation not provided) aboard one 3/4 ton and one 1/4 ton "jeep" vehicle were ambushed by an estimated Viet Cong squad at coordinates (BT 025657) at 221740H, resulting in four ARVN KIA. This later report added that this action appears to have been the basis of the earlier (erroneous) report.

e. At 222230H, the Ninth Marines Liaison Officer assigned to 59th GVN Regional Force Battalion Headquarters at MIEU BONG relayed a report from HOA VANG District Headquarters that one Viet Cong company is located in the vicinity of VIEN TAY (4) hamlet, coordinates (BT 010645); two Viet Cong squads are located at LE BONG (1) hamlet, coordinates (AT 970668), (the report added that these squads have the mission of attacking GVN pacification cadre); one Viet Cong platoon is located at MAN QUANG (1) hamlet, coordinates (BT 036688); one Viet Cong company is located in HOA DA village area, grid square (BT 0269). (The report added that this company has the mission of monitoring activity in this locale). (S-2 rates this report as F-3).

f. At 222359H, G-2 relayed a report from HOA VANG District Headquarters that an (unidentified) intelligence agent warns USMC and ARVN units to be extra careful during the period 20 December to 1 January as the Viet Cong will increase their activities in villages and hamlets. The report added that this agent believes that the Viet Cong will attack HIEU DUC District Headquarters during the period 20 December to 1 January. The report was rated G-2 by HOA VANG District Headquarters, and F-3 by G-2. (S-2 rates it F-3).

C. Reports of information received directly from civilians: No reports were received during this reporting period.

D. <u>Viet Cong casualties:</u>	<u>For 24 Hour Reporting period:</u>	<u>Cumulative Since 10 Jul 65:</u>
KIA (Confirmed)	1	257
KIA(Possible)	1	26
VC Captured	0	165
VC Captured(WIA)	0	3
VC WIA(Possible)	0	11
VC Suspects	2	834

CONFIDENTIAL

E. Destroyed and captured enemy material: (Material shown in this INTSUM as "captured" will be claimed when actually turned in to G-2 for evaluation).

F. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications: No reports were received during this reporting period.

C. Ward
C. WARD
By direction

COPY TO:

III MAF	(1)
III MAF POLAD	(1)
G-2	(4)
3dMar	(1)
1/9	(7)
2/9	(6)
3/3	(7)
2/12	(6)
FSOC	(1)
S-2	(9)
S-3	(1)
1stAmtracBn	(1)
3dTnkBn	(1)
3dAtBn	(1)
B Co, TnkBn	(1)
C Co, AtBn	(1)
G	(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/CW/jda
3800
232400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #168, Period ending 232400H, December 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period.

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>EMCT</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>ECT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
24 Dec	0643	0707	1838	1901	- - -	- - -	NEW

B. Enemy Military Situation

(1) 1st Bn, 9th Mar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), the USAF Troposcatter site on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 068853), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company D provided security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. Late Report. At 221930, a Company B patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 105641) reported making contact with an estimated four Viet Cong at close range. In the resultant exchange of fire the Viet Cong directed an estimated twenty small arms rounds at the Marines, who returned the fire with approximately one hundred fifty small arms rounds. The report added that the Viet Cong broke contact, withdrawing to the south. No casualties were reported.

b. At 231540H, a Company B patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 112632) reported receiving one round of small arms sniper fire

PAGE 1 OF 5 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

#168

①

CONFIDENTIAL

from Viet Cong positioned at close range. The Marines directed four small arms rounds at the Viet Cong and reported observing him fall, as if struck by the Marines' fire. The Marines searched the area but reported that the Viet Cong escaped capture. The report added that one Vietnamese male was apprehended in the area and evacuated to Battalion Command Post for investigation. Status and disposition of the suspect was not indicated. No Marine casualties were reported.

c. At 231830H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from the HOA HAI Village Chief that the Viet Cong have positioned four AT mines in the TRA KE (3) hamlet area, vicinity coordinates (BT 070670). (S-2 comment: The report indicated that these four mines are all that the Viet Cong in the area presently possess). The report continued that the majority of the Viet Cong who have been operating in the First Battalion, Ninth Marines ZOA, have displaced to the northern portion of DIEN BAN District. The report added that one platoon of Main Force Viet Cong are located in MAU QUAN (1) hamlet area, vicinity of coordinates (BT 035688). The Battalion S-2 rated this report as C-3 (S-2 rates it as C-3).

d. At 232210H, a Company A security element positioned at the bridge, coordinates (BT 071702) reported receiving one grenade from Viet Cong who had maneuvered to within close range. The Marines threw one grenade at the suspected enemy location with undetermined results. When the area was illuminated by 81mm mortar illumination, the area appeared clear. No casualties were reported.

(2) 2ndBn, 9thMar. Continued to defend the central portion of the Regimental TAOR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEN (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998707); and provided one squad to man check-point on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of MIEU DONG (1), coordinates (BT 017668).

a. At 231630H, a Company H patrol reported finding one CHICOM grenade and one 40mm(M-79) round at coordinates (AT 980688). The report did not indicate whether the explosives were positioned or rigged to detonate. The report added that the material was destroyed in place.

b. At 231845H, Company G reported that Marines equipped with a sniper rifle positioned at the OP at HA DONG bridge, coordinates (AT 991641), observed one armed Viet Cong at coordinates (AT 994635). The Marines fired two rounds with the sniper rifle at the Viet Cong with negative results. The report continued that, shortly afterwards, the Marines observed one armed Viet Cong in the vicinity of HA DONG village, coordinates (AT 997641). The Marines fired two sniper rounds at the Viet Cong, with negative results. The report added that as the Marines were displacing from the OP position, they received two small arms rounds from the direction of TAN HANH village, coordinates (AT 992652). The Marines directed ten 40mm(M-79) rounds and forty small arms

CONFIDENTIAL

rounds at the Viet Cong position, with negative results.

(3) 3dBn, 3dMar. Continued to defend the western portion of the Regimental TAOR from, but not including, the railroad tracks west to, but not including, the road passing HIEU DUC District Headquarters, coordinates (AT 942 689). Company M provided security for ASP #1, coordinates (AT 985733).

a. Late Report. At 221935H, a Company I security element maintaining the river block at coordinates (AT 963660) reported receiving an estimated one hundred twenty five small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 963658), (AT 960652), and (AT 956657). The Marines directed approximately one hundred fifty small arms rounds at the Viet Cong positions and the Viet Cong broke contact. No USMC casualties were reported. Viet Cong casualties were not determined.

b. At 231310H, a Company I security element positioned at coordinates (AT 963660) reported receiving two rounds sniper fire from Viet Cong located in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 959658). The Marines directed small arms fire at the Viet Cong position and the enemy fire ceased. One USMC WIA was reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined.

c. At 231620H, the Battalion S-3 reported that a helicopter resupplying Company I at coordinates (AT 961650) received an estimated thirty to fifty small arms rounds from an automatic weapon positioned at coordinates (AT 959651). The Marines directed ten 81mm HE rounds at the suspected enemy position and the Viet Cong fire was not repeated. No Marine casualties or damage to the aircraft was reported. Viet Cong casualties were not determined.

(4) Special Reports.

a. At 230955H, the Ninth Marines Liaison Officer assigned to the 59th GVN Regional Force Battalion Headquarters at MIEU BONG relayed a report from an unidentified agent that the 305th Viet Cong Battalion is moving into the area identified as the DIEM SON village area, coordinates (AT 960615), (S-2 comment: Does not appear on current operational maps), with a mission to ambush Marines and to direct mortar fire at USMC positions. The report stated that the Viet Cong battalion, commanded by one THAN, is equipped with mortars (caliber/type not indicated) and automatic rifles, and the troops are clad in black and gray uniforms. This portion of the report was rated B-1. (S-2 comment: The 305th Viet Cong Battalion was previously reported on 16 December and 21 December as operating in the same general area as shown on this report. The source of all three reports however, appears to be identical and the presence of this force still lacks confirmation. S-2 rates this report F-6). The report continued that during the night of 21 December, Viet Cong burned down what was identified as the market place at AN TRACH, coordinates (AT 968668). The report added that the Viet Cong forbade the villagers to use the market and warned the villagers that Viet Cong will attack and occupy USMC positions at LE SON and LA CHAU village areas. This portion of the report was rated B-2. (S-2 comment: USMC unit in the vicinity of AN TRACH reports that one building was set afire on 21 December. S-2 rates the report as F-2).

CONFIDENTIAL

b. At 231045H, G-2 reported that the 51st Regiment had received information from villagers that fifty to seventy five Viet Cong had occupied villages at coordinates (AT 988567), (AT 986565), (AT 990568), (AT 991563), and (AT 994564). At 231045H, Battery E directed twelve HE and eighteen WP 105mm artillery rounds at the area but reports received indicated that after adjustment, the target proved to be beyond the effective range of this battery. At 231145H, G-2 reported that the ARVN forces had discovered explosives and documents (presumably in the locations indicated above) which identified the Viet Cong unit in this area as the 10th Viet Cong Engineers (Battalion?).

c. At 231505H, G-2 relayed a report from HOA VANG District Headquarters that one Viet Cong platoon is in hiding at MAN QUAN (1) hamlet, coordinates (BT 036688), with the mission of observing the activities of friendly units in the area. The report added that the Viet Cong platoon is digging in this area (presumably constructing fortifications). The report was rated B-2 by HOA VANG District Headquarters and F-3 by G-2. (S-2 comment: There have been no reports of recent excavations or construction observed by friendly units in this area. The presence of a Viet Cong platoon in the MAN QUAN village complex area is possible. S-2 rates the report as F-3).

d. At 231605H, G-2 relayed a report from HOA VANG District Headquarters that one Viet Cong company is located in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 010645). The report continued that two Viet Cong squads are located in the vicinity of LE BONG (1) hamlet, coordinates (AT 967670), with the mission of attacking the headquarters of the GVN pacification cadre at LE BONG (1) hamlet with mortars. The report added that one Viet Cong platoon is located at MAN QUAN (1) hamlet, coordinates (BT 036688) (S-2 comment: see 231505H entry, this INTSUM). G-2 rated this report F-3. (S-2 rates it F-3).

e. At 231710H, G-2 relayed a report from HOA VANG District Headquarters that one guerrilla company is in hiding at coordinates (AT 962699), (AT 951635), and (AT 917658). The report continued that one HO GIAO, identified as a Viet Cong committee chief, is with this unit. The report added that the Viet Cong are constructing combat trenches, and are dispatching women and children into USMC positions in these areas under the guise of beverage sellers, with the missions to spy, steal equipment, position mines, and deliver sniper fire. The report was rated F-3 by G-2. (S-2 comment: Aside from the specifics of the report itself, the wide dispersion indicated for this Viet Cong company makes this report doubtful. S-2 rates it F-4).

f. At 231652H, the Aerial Observer operating in the TAOR reported observing what was identified as Viet Cong troops (number not indicated) in a trenchline at coordinates (BT 004627). Battery E directed forty 105mm HE artillery rounds at the target and damage assessment by the aerial observer indicated that one building was destroyed and that casualties could not be determined due to heavy vegetation. The report added that one secondary explosion, accompanied by a pall of white smoke, was observed. Additional information will be provided when received.

g. At 232006H, the Ninth Marines Liaison Officer assigned to the 59th Regional Force Battalion Headquarters at MIEU BONG reported that GVN Regional Force troops (designation not indicated) made contact with Viet Cong at coordinates (BT 015661). The report added that two Viet Cong were killed and one carbine recovered. (A subsequent report added that one GVN Regional Force soldier was WIA). Additional information will be provided when available.

CONFIDENTIAL

C. Reports of information received directly from civilians: No reports were received during this reporting period.

D. <u>Viet Cong casualties:</u>	For 24 Hour Reporting period:	Cumulative Since 10 Jul 65:
KIA(Confirmed)	0	257
KIA(Possible)	0	26
VC Captured	0	165
VC Captured (WIA)	0	3
VC WIA(Possible)	0	11
VC Suspects	0	834

E. Destroyed and captured enemy material: The following material was captured by 1stBn, 9thMar.

Documents (undetermined amount) (BT 058641) (see 220800H entry, INTSUM #167)

Billfold (with pictures) (BT 058641) (see 220800H entry, INTSUM #167)

The following material was destroyed by 2ndBn, 9thMar.

1 - CHICOM grenade (not booby-trapped) (AT 980688) (see 231630H entry this INTSUM)

1 - 40mm(M-79) round(not booby-trapped) (AT 980688) (see 231630H entry this INTSUM)

The following material was captured by 3dBn, 3dMar.

Documents (undetermined amount) (AT 960640)

F. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortification: The following position was destroyed by E Battery.

1 - Building (type not indicated) (BT 004627) (see 231652H entry, this INTSUM)

C. Ward
C. WARD
By direction

COPY TO:

III MAF

III MAF POLAD

G-2

3dMar

1/9

2/9

3/3

2/12

S-2

S-3

FSCC

1stAmtracBn

3dInfBn

3dAtBn

B Co, TnkBn

C Co, AtBn

CO

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/CW/jda
3800
242400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #169, Period ending 242400H, December 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period.

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>BMCT</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>RECT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
25 Dec	0644	0707	1839	1902	- - - -	- - - -	NEW

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1stBn, 9thMar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 03850), the USAF Troposcatter site on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 068853), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company D provided security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. Late Report. At 231645H, a Company C patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 034684) reported receiving three small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 036686). The Marines returned the fire with undetermined results. A short time thereafter, when the patrol reached coordinates (BT 035688), they received an additional two small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 035686). The Marines again returned the fire and the Viet Cong broke contact. The report stated that the Marines fired a total of three 40mm(M-79) rounds and fifty small arms rounds at the Viet Cong positions. A search of the enemy positions disclosed three 7.62mm cartridge cases (expended). (S-2 comment: The report did not indicate whether cartridge case was of US type). The report added that the Marines destroyed what was described as a "firing position" and two "bomb shelters" at coordinates (BT 035688). No casualties were reported.

PAGE 1 OF 6 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

#169

DECLASSIFIED

①

CONFIDENTIAL

b. Late Report. At 231800H, a Company B ambush element positioned at coordinates (BT 121630) reported receiving approximately eighty small arms rounds from an estimated ten Viet Cong positioned in a wood line at coordinates (BT 122630). The Marines requested artillery support and twenty two 105mm rounds were delivered on the enemy position. The Marines directed approximately two hundred fifty small arms rounds and six 40mm(M-79) rounds at the Viet Cong position and the Viet Cong broke contact, withdrawing from their position. A search of the area did not disclose indications of Viet Cong casualties. No Marine casualties were reported. The report added that the Viet Cong appeared to be well organized and directed and utilized whistle and voice commands for fire control.

c. Late Report. At 232100H, a Company B ambush element positioned at coordinates (BT 093602) reported observing a boat with two occupants in a flooded rice paddy area. The Marines directed two 40mm(M-79) rounds at the intruders, sinking the boat, but the occupants were not found. The report added that a subsequent examination of the area (on 24 December) disclosed blood stains.

d. At 240730H, a Company B patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 121631) reported observing twelve Viet Cong on the high ground at coordinates (BT 122630). The Marines deployed and took the Viet Cong under fire and the Viet Cong withdrew to the southwest. The Marines pursued the Viet Cong and in the vicinity of a graveyard, coordinates (BT 120628), killed one Viet Cong (body count). The other Viet Cong continued withdrawal to the south, and the Marines lost contact. The report added that one weapon, identified as a Russian carbine, a cartridge belt, and twenty five rounds of 7.62mm ammunition were recovered from the body of the Viet Cong. No Marine casualties were reported. (S-2 comment: The captured material has not yet been received at Regimental Headquarters, and will be forwarded to G-2 after examination and identification. The material will be listed as "captured enemy material" in a future INTSUM after identification has been accomplished).

e. At 240900H, a Company B patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 113637) reported observing four Viet Cong moving towards the southwest in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 108638). The report stated that the Viet Cong were armed (weapons not identified) and were wearing black pajama-type clothing. The Marines directed small arms fire at the Viet Cong and reported observing one Viet Cong falling as if struck by the Marines' fire. The report added that the Marines had to discontinue pursuit because of an intervening body of water (flooded rice paddy with high water level). No Marine casualties were reported.

f. At 241015H, a Company C patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 053653) reported receiving two rounds of sniper fire from the direction of coordinates (BT 051650). The Marines directed approximately fifty small arms rounds at the Viet Cong position and the enemy fire was not repeated. No casualties were reported.

CONFIDENTIAL

g. At 241130H, engineers attached to Company C reported locating a mine at coordinates (BT 068687). The report stated that the mine was of the pressure type, and consisted of approximately five to six pounds of TNT within a cylindrical steel container. The firing device consisted of a non-electrical blasting cap in a fixture screwed on to the mine body. The report added that the mine was located six inches below the road surface, and, when removed, revealed an additional ten pound charge of TNT positioned underneath the mine. The engineers disarmed the mine and evacuated the components (presumably to Engineer Battalion Headquarters).

(2) 2nd Bn, 9th Mar. Continued to defend the central portion of the Regimental TAOR from, and including, the SOANG VINH DIEM (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998707); and provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of MIEU DONG (1), coordinates (BT 017668).

a. Late Report. At 232310H, a Headquarters and Service Company squad-sized patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 997677) reported hearing movement at close range. The Marines threw one fragmentation grenade and fired five small arms rounds at the suspected area. Although the report indicated that sounds described as "moaning" were heard, a search of the area provided negative results.

b. At 240830H, Company H reported that GVN Popular Forces soldiers positioned in YEN NE (2) hamlet, coordinates (AT 980685) apprehended two Viet Cong Suspects. The report stated that the Popular Force soldiers turned the suspects over to Company H Marines in the area. The suspects were interrogated and evacuated to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point for investigation. The report added that the Popular Force soldiers in YEN NE (2) hamlet stated that the suspects were Viet Cong.

c. At 241055H, a Company F squad-sized patrol operating in the vicinity of BICH BAC hamlet, coordinates (AT 986632), reported receiving an estimated fifteen small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 989635). The Marines directed nine 60mm mortar rounds and approximately sixty small arms rounds at the Viet Cong position and the enemy fire ceased. No casualties were reported. The report added that this patrol destroyed five boats (approximately ten feet in length), three bunkers (described as being constructed of dirt and bamboo), one cave and one tunnel entrance (no additional descriptive information provided).

d. At 241115H, a Company H patrol reported apprehending one suspicious male in a building in CAM NE (2) hamlet, coordinates (AT 983687), when a routine examination revealed he lacked adequate identification papers. The suspect was evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

e. At 241415H, a Company F patrol operating in the vicinity of HOA PHUOC village area reported destroying five gates, three fences, and three tunnels. (The report did not state, but demolitions were presumably utilized).

CONFIDENTIAL

The report added that the destruction of a fence at coordinates (BT 004655) was accompanied by a secondary explosion, described as similar to the detonation of approximately five pounds of TNT.

f. At 241730H, a Company F patrol operating in the vicinity of YEN NE (1) hamlet, reported destroying a tunnel, described as approximately twenty feet in length and equipped with a trap-door entrance, at coordinates (AT 989660). The report added that the tunnel was destroyed with demolitions.

g. At 241803H, Company F reported receiving one round of small arms fire in position at coordinates (AT 989658). The Viet Cong position could not be discerned and the fire was not returned. No casualties were reported.

(3) 3d Bn, 3d Mar. Continued to defend the western portion of the Regional TAOR from, but not including, the railroad tracks west to, but not including, the road passing HIEU DUC District Headquarters, coordinates (AT 942689). Company M provided security for ASP #1, coordinates (AT 985733).

a. At 240940H, Company I relayed a report from a member of a Recce Action Team (further identification not provided) that the Viet Cong told the villagers in CAM NE (4), coordinates (AT 968694), that they would be returning to CAM NE(4) at 241700H. The report indicated there are ~~four~~ Viet Cong in the group, equipped with at least one machine gun and several automatic weapons. The report stated this information was received from more than one villager. Battalion S-2 rates this report F-3. (S-2 rates it F-3).

b. At 241115H, a Company I patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 963667) reported detonating a 40mm (M-79) round (dud). The report stated that the incident occurred when a Marine, helping a Vietnamese civilian dig a well, struck the round, which was buried approximately one foot underground. The round detonated, causing one USMC WIA.

c. At 241906H, Company I reported receiving two small arms rounds in position, coordinates (AT 973660). The report indicated that the Viet Cong were in close range but the Marines did not return the fire due to the no-fire in effect. No casualties were reported.

d. At 242130H, Company I reported that a SID-150 positioned at coordinates (AT 964675) detected movement. When the Marines illuminated the area, three small arms rounds were received. The Marines directed three small arms rounds at the suspected area. The report added that the area was searched with negative results.

e. At 242350H, Company L reported observing seven men in a rice paddy at coordinates (AT 957670). When the area was illuminated, the intruders took cover in the brush. Contact was broken with no fire being exchanged. (No fire in effect).

CONFIDENTIAL

f. At 212350H, Company I reported that an SID-150 positioned at coordinates (AT 953664) detected movement. The area was searched, with negative results.

g. During the period 9-18 December 1965, the battalion participated in Operation HARVEST MOON. Viet Cong casualties credited to the battalion for that period are as follows:

VC KIA(body count)	- 101
VC KIA(Possible)	- 120
VC Suspects	- 79

The above figures will be included in the Ninth Marines totals shown in paragraph D, this INTSUM.

C. Reports of information received directly from civilians: No reports were received during this reporting period.

D. <u>Viet Cong casualties:</u>	For 24 Hour Reporting period:	Cumulative Since 10 Jul 65
KIA(Confirmed)	1	*339
KIA(Possible)	0	*148
VC Captured	0	165
VC Captured(WIA)	0	3
VC WIA(Possible)	0	11
VC Supects	2	*913

* Note- Includes increases as shown in paragraph 3g, this INTSUM.

E. Destroyed and captured enemy material: The following material was captured by 1stBn, 9thMar.

3 - Propaganda leaflets (BT 108645)

The following material was destroyed by 1stBn, 9thMar.

1 - Mine(type not indicated) (BT 068688) (see 241130H entry, this INTSUM).

1 - Boat(type not indicated) (BT 093662) (see 232100H entry, this INTSUM).

The following material was destroyed by 2ndBn, 9thMar.

5 - Boats(ten feet long) (AT 989635) (see 241055H, entry this INTSUM).

5 - Gates (type not indicated) (BT 004665) (see 241415H entry, this INTSUM)

3 - Fences(type not indicated) (BT 004665) (see 241415H entry, this INTSUM)

CONFIDENTIAL

F. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications: The following positions were destroyed by 1stBn, 9thMar.

- 1 - Firing position(size and extent not indicated) (BT 035688) (see 231645H entry, this INTSUM)
- 2 - Bamboo shelters(size and extent not indicated) (BT 035688) (see 231645H entry, this INTSUM)

The following positions were destroyed by 2ndBn, 9thMar.

- 1 - Tunnel(twenty feet long) (AT 989660) (see 241730H entry, this INTSUM)
- 1 - Tunnel (size and extent not indicated) (AT 989635) (see 241055H entry, this INTSUM)
- 1 - Cave(size and extent not indicated) (AT 989635) (see 241055H entry, this INTSUM)
- 3 - Bunkers(size and extent not indicated) (made of bamboo and dirt) (AT 989635) (see 241055H entry, this INTSUM)
- 3 - Tunnels (size and extent not indicated) (BT 004635) (see 241415H entry this INTSUM)

C. Ward
C. WARD
By direction

COPY TO:

III MAF	(1)
III MAF POLAD	(1)
G-2	(4)
3dMar	(1)
1/9	(7)
2/9	(6)
3/9	(6)
3/3	(7)
2/12	(6)
FSCC	(1)
3-2	(9)
S-3	(1)
1stAmtrakBn	(1)
3dInkBn	(1)
3dAtBn	(1)
B Co, TnkBn	(1)
C Co, AtBn	(1)
GO	(1)

PAGE 6 OF 6 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMP
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/CW/jda
3800
252400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #170, Period ending 252400H, December 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period.

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by
Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>BECT</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>EECT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
26 Dec	0644	0707	1839	1902	1000	2120	1/4

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1stBn, 9thMar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), the USAF Troposcatter site on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 068853), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company D provided security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. At 251535H, a Company C squad-sized patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 047660) reported receiving twelve small arms rounds from three Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 047662). The Marines directed approximately one hundred seventy five small arms rounds at the enemy position, and the Viet Cong broke contact. The report stated two Marines were WIA. Viet Cong casualties were not determined.

b. At 251700H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from the HOA HAI Village Chief that one Viet Cong platoon is located at BA TUNG (3) hamlet, coordinates (BT 045700), and one Viet Cong platoon is located at LAN QUAN (1) hamlet, coordinates (BT 035688). The Battalion S-2 rated this report C-3. (S-2 rates it C-3).

PAGE 1 OF 5 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

c. At 251800H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from the HOA HAI Village Chief that six what was identified as "Viet Cong Political V.I.P.s" are presently located at TRA KHE (2), coordinates (BT 072683), and TRA KHE (3) hamlet, coordinates (BT 070673). The report provided the names of two of these individuals; one HUYNH DUC THAO, and one HUYNH CU. The report added that a Viet Cong battalion, designated the "volunteer battalion" has dispersed within the Ninth Marines TAOR in the area between east-west grid line 63 and HOI AN. The Battalion S-2 rated this report C-3. (S-2 rated it C-3).

d. At 251610H, a Company C patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 047663) reported receiving ten small arms rounds from Viet Cong deployed in three separate positions located in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 047662). The Marines directed eight 40mm(M-79) rounds, one LAW(M-72) round, and approximately two hundred fifty small arms rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact, withdrawing from their positions. Two Marines were WIA. Viet Cong casualties were not indicated.

e. At 251825H, a Company B patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 093642) reported receiving five rounds of small arms sniper fire from an estimated three Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 092644). The Marines directed one 3.5 inch W.P. rocket round and twenty five small arms rounds at the enemy position, and the Viet Cong broke contact, withdrawing to the south-southwest. No casualties were reported.

f. At 251730H, a Company C platoon-sized patrol, embarked aboard tanks in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 044659), reported receiving approximately one hundred small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned to the north, north-northwest, and northwest directions, at a range of approximately five hundred meters. The Marines directed five 3.5 inch rocket rounds, three LAW(M-72) rounds, ten 40mm(M-79) rounds, and approximately one thousand small arms rounds at the Viet Cong positions. The report stated that before the Viet Cong broke contact, three Viet Cong were observed falling, as if struck by the Marines' fire. During a search of the area, friendly villagers directed the Marines to a blood trail, which led to a wounded Vietnamese male, at coordinates (BT 045659). The report continued that the villagers informed the Marines that the wounded male was a stranger to this village (TU CAU (1) hamlet). A search disclosed that the male did not possess an identification card and he was evacuated to Third Medical Battalion as a wounded Viet Cong (captive). The report added that there were indications that the Viet Cong were preparing a mine field in the area, as a sign described as a "mine warning" was found. The report implied that other (unspecified) indications that the Viet Cong were preparing a mine field were also observed. Recently positioned panji traps and "green" bamboo stakes were also found. No Marine casualties were reported. (S-2 comment: Initial interrogation of the wounded Vietnamese male conducted at Third Medical Battalion provided no usable information of an intelligence nature and served neither to confirm nor deny his status as a Viet Cong (captive). The captive will be tentatively identified in paragraph D as a Viet Cong Suspect until his status is established).

(2) 2ndBn, 9thMar. Continued to defend the central portion of the Regimental TAOR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEN (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998707); and provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of MIEU DONG (1), coordinates (BT 017668).

CONFIDENTIAL

a. At 251115H, a Company F patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 986662) reported receiving one round of small arms sniper fire from Viet Cong positioned in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 981660). No casualties were reported. Surveillance was maintained on the suspected area, but the fire was not returned ("no fire" in effect).

b. At 251510H, the Ninth Marines Liaison Officer assigned to the 59th GVN Regional Force Battalion Headquarters at HIEU BONG reported that a truck believed to be from an ARVN Ranger unit detonated a mine at coordinates (BT 041624). The report stated no additional information is presently available regarding this incident (S-2 comment: At 252215H, G-2 reported that, at 251420H, a bridge located at coordinates (BT 040624) was destroyed by the Viet Cong. This report added that additional details were not available. It is not known whether the two incidents are related but the reported locations are almost identical).

c. At 251853H, Company F reported receiving eight small arms rounds in the company C.P. position, coordinates (AT 984659), from the direction of coordinates (AT 992657). No casualties were reported. The Marines did not return the fire ("no fire" in effect).

d. At 252150H, the Battalion S-3 reported that three what was described as carbine rounds were received in the battalion C.P. position, coordinates (AT 991678) from the direction of coordinates (AT 986680). No marine casualties were reported. The Marines did not return the fire ("no fire" in effect).

(3) 3d Bn, 3d Mar. Continued to defend the western portion of the Regimental TAOR from, but not including, the railroad tracks west to, but not including, the road passing HIEU DUC District Headquarters, coordinates (AT 942689). Company M provided security for ASP #1, coordinates (AT 985733).

a. At 251140H, a Company I security element located at a blocking position on the SONG YEN (river), coordinates (AT 963661), reported receiving an estimated seventy rounds small arms fire from an estimated four Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 965658). The Marines directed three 81mm mortar rounds at the enemy position and the fire ceased. A search of the area provided negative results. No casualties were reported.

b. At 251201H, Company L reported receiving three rounds sniper fire in position at coordinates (AT 955666) from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 959657). The enemy fire was not repeated and the exact enemy location could not be determined. No casualties were reported.

c. At 251653H, a Company I security element located in a blocking position on the SONG YEN (river) at coordinates (AT 963661), reported receiving twelve small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 960655). The Marines directed two small arms rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong fire ceased. No casualties were reported.

d. At 251800H, Company L reported that an unknown explosive device, tentatively identified as a booby-trap, detonated at coordinates (AT 953670), killing

CONFIDENTIAL

one Vietnamese child and wounding a Vietnamese adult (woman) and another child. The wounded were evacuated to a GVN medical facility for treatment. The report added that additional information regarding the type of detonating device employed must await further investigation on 26 December.

(4) Special reports.

a. At 251025H, the Aerial Observer operating in the TAOR reported a trenchline under construction in close proximity to the railroad embankment, at coordinates (AT 995626). The report continued that a trench was also under construction in the vicinity of Hill 55, coordinates (AT 99604). The report did not provide the dimensions of the trenches but indicated that construction of the positions was but recently initiated.

b. At 251000H, G-2 reported that one what was described as a "complete" cut, and three partial cuts were sighted on Highway #14 in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 027575) by an aerial observer. The report added that a road block, consisting of brush and lumber, was sighted at coordinates (AT 961584).

c. At 252215H, G-2 relayed a report from the USMC Liaison Officer assigned to HOA VANG District Headquarters that, at 251412H, the Viet Cong destroyed a bridge at coordinates (BT 039628). The report stated that an ARVN vehicle was also destroyed. (Although the report did not so state, the implication was that the bridge and vehicle were destroyed during the same incident). The report added that ARVN personnel are presently repairing the bridge. (S-2 comment: Reports were previously received from separate sources regarding a damaged or destroyed bridge at the coordinates indicated, but the reports were incomplete and inconclusive. The above G-2 report is believed to be the corrected account of the incident).

d. At 251741H, the Ninth Marines Liaison Officer assigned to the 59th GVN Regional Force Battalion Headquarters at NLU BONG relayed an intelligence report from members of the Pacification cadre in HOI THANH (HOA THANH?) village that the Viet Cong units which attacked the schoolhouse in CAH NE (2) hamlet, coordinates (AT 989688), (see paragraph 4c, INTSUX #166), consisted of one company plus two platoons from the LA CHAU and AN TACHN areas. The report continued that these units are believed to be presently located in the LA CHAU village complex area. The report added that four Viet Cong were killed and two wounded during the attack on the pacification cadre and GVN Regional Force soldiers in CAH NE (2) on 21 December. The report was rated B-2. (S-2 comment: The presence of one Viet Cong company plus two Viet Cong platoons in the LA CHAU village complex area is doubtful. S-2 rates this report F-4).

C. Reports of information received directly from civilians: (See 251730H entry, this INTSUX).

CONFIDENTIAL

<u>D. Viet Cong casualties:</u>	<u>For 24 Hour Reporting period:</u>	<u>Cumulative Since 10 Jul 65</u>
KIA(Confirmed)	0	359
KIA(Possible)	0	146
VC Captured	0	165
VC Captured(WIA)	0	3
VC WIA(Possible)	3 (see 251730H entry)	14
VC Suspects	1	914

E. Disposition of captured personnel for week of 19 to 25 Dec 65.

(1) Total captives taken:	93
(2) Captives cleared as civilians:	0
(3) VCS delivered to HOA VANG District HQS:	0
(4) VCS delivered to ITT:	90
(5) VCC delivered to ITT:	0

F. Destroyed and captured enemy material: The following material was destroyed by 1stBn, 9thMar.

Panji stakes (undetermined amount) (BT 045659) (see 251730H entry, this INTSUM)

Green bamboo stakes (undetermined amount) (BT 045659) (see 251730H entry, this INTSUM)

G. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications: No reports were received during this reporting period.

Ward
C. WARD
By direction

COPY TO:

III MAF	(1)
III MAF POLAD	(1)
G-2	(4)
3dMar	(1)
1/9	(7)
2/9	(6)
3/9	(6)
3/3	(7)
2/12	(6)
FSCC	(1)
S-2	(9)
S-3	(1)

1stAmtracBn	(1)
3dTnkBn	(1)
3dAtBn	(1)
B Co, TnkBn	(1)
C Co, AtBn	(1)
CO	(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/CW/jda
3800
262400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #171, Period ending 262400H, December 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period.

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

- (a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.
- (b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TACR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	BMGT	SUNRISE	SUNSET	MEGT	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOON PHASE
27 Dec	0645	0708	1840	1903	1844	2210	1/4

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1stBn, 9thMar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TACR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 068850), the USAF Troposcatter site on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 068853), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company D provided security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. At 260915H, a Company C patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 043659) reported receiving five small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned in the vicinity of a treeline at coordinates (BT 043661). The report stated that at the time the Marines received the enemy fire, they were searching what was identified as a Viet Cong firing position (The report added that one caliber .30 cartridge case and one unexpended (misfired) caliber .30 cartridge was found in the position). The Marines directed approximately fifty small arms rounds at the enemy position, and observed one man (described as wearing a khaki shirt) vacate the suspected area and run into a small hut located in TU CAU (1) hamlet, coordinates (BT 043661). The Marines directed two 3.5 inch rocket rounds at the hut (the report did not indicate the effectiveness of the rocket fire) and dispatched a squad-sized unit to search the area. The report stated that five Viet Cong

PAGE 1 OF 8 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

#171

(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

Suspects were apprehended in the locale. The search also disclosed one khaki uniform (additional identification not provided). The report added that a villager, described as an old woman, informed the Marines that six Viet Cong had been in the area but had departed in the morning, moving in a southerly direction. No Marine casualties were reported. Viet Cong casualties were not determined. The five Viet Cong Suspects were to be evacuated to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point for investigation.

b. At 261130H, a Company C patrol reported apprehending three Viet Cong Suspects at coordinates (BT 044661). The report stated that the suspects attracted the attention of the Marines by their nervous mannerisms and an examination indicated that they were of military age. (The report did not indicate whether the suspects possessed identification cards). The Viet Cong Suspects will be evacuated to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point for investigation.

c. At 261210H, a Company C patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 043661) reported receiving ten small arms rounds from Viet Cong believed to be positioned in what was described as a small hut, located in the vicinity of TU CAU (1) hamlet, coordinates (BT 043659). The Marines directed approximately one hundred small arms rounds, one 3.5 inch HEAT rocket round, and four 40mm (M-79) rounds at the hut. The report stated that secondary explosions occurred within the hut and that two adjoining structures caught fire. All three huts were destroyed. The report added that a search of the area produced approximately two thousand rounds of what was identified as caliber .32 ammunition. (S-2 comment: The report indicated that the ammunition was destroyed by the Marines, but the unit was quickly notified to attempt recovery of a quantity of the ammunition for technical evaluation). No Marine casualties were reported. Viet Cong casualties were not estimated.

d. At 261345H, a Company B patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 093642), reported receiving sporadic small arms fire from two or three Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 095644) (total Viet Cong fire approximately ten rounds). The Marines directed five 40mm (M-79) rounds and approximately one hundred small arms rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong fire ceased. A search of the vacated Viet Cong position produced negative results. One USN WIA was reported. Viet Cong casualties were not indicated.

e. At 261445H, a Company B patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 093642), reported receiving a heavy volume of small arms fire from Viet Cong located in two separate positions. The report stated that an estimated ten Viet Cong, positioned at coordinates (BT 101642), fired approximately twenty small arms rounds, and five Viet Cong, positioned at coordinates (BT 103644), fired an estimated fourteen small arms rounds, resulting in three Marines WIA. The Marines directed a total of eighty small arms rounds at the Viet Cong positions. Twelve 81mm mortar rounds were fired at the Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 103644). The report stated that the Viet Cong broke contact, withdrawing to the northeast. The report added that a search of the area indicated that the Viet Cong were armed with 9mm and 7.62 weapons (as indicated by cartridge cases found at the vacated positions). The Viet Cong were described as wearing khaki uniforms (one khaki jacket

CONFIDENTIAL

was found and retrieved). The report added that this patrol apprehended three Viet Cong Suspects (one of whom was wounded) in CAN SA (2) hamlet, coordinates (BT 094644), and evacuated them to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point for investigation.

(2) 2ndBn, 9thMar. Continued to defend the central portion of the Regimental TAOR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEN (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998707); and provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of HIEU DONG (1), coordinates (BT 017668).

a. At 261615H, a Company G squad-sized patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 031660) reported receiving five small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 036649) (S-2 comment: Coordinates indicate range of approximately twelve hundred meters, which is improbable. Coordinates may have been misunderstood when transmitted). The report stated that the Marines did not return the fire. No casualties were reported.

b. At 261700H, the Battalion S-3 reported that two DVT(E)s fired line charges in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 990643), resulting in two secondary explosions described as similar in effect to that of the detonation of ten and fifty pound charges of TNT.

c. At 262040H, a Company F patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 990643) reported receiving seven small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 992639). The Marines directed one 90mm (tank) round, and ten caliber .50 rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong fire ceased. The report added that when the patrol reached the area in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 986664) they received an additional fifteen small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 990657). The Marines did not return the fire and the Viet Cong fire was not repeated. No casualties were reported.

(3) 3dBn, 3dMar. Continued to defend the western portion of the Regimental TAOR from, but not including, the railroad tracks west to, but not including, the road passing HIEU DUC District Headquarters, coordinates (AT 942689). Company I provided security for ASP #1, coordinates (AT 985733).

a. At 260950H, a Company L patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 952650) reported receiving an estimated seventy rounds automatic small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned at close range. The Marines directed small arms fire at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact. One USMC MIA was reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined.

b. At 261045H, a Company I patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 962665) reported receiving seventy five rounds automatic and semi-automatic small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 964661). The Marines directed a heavy volume of small arms rounds, 40mm (M-79) rounds (quantity not

CONFIDENTIAL

indicated), and four 81mm mortar rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact. No casualties were reported.

e. At 261530H, the Battalion S-2 reported that one male Viet Cong Suspect was apprehended at coordinates (AT 966709) when Marines in the area observed that he was walking down the road with an M-26 (fragmentation) grenade in his hand. The suspect, who was wearing what was identified as a utility jacket and a helmet liner, claimed he was a member of a GVN Regional Force unit located on outpost #10 (location unknown), but was evacuated to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point for investigation.

e. At 261630H, a Company L patrol reported apprehending one Viet Cong Suspect at coordinates (AT 954655) when a routine examination revealed he lacked adequate identification. The suspect was evacuated to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point for investigation.

f. At 261915H, Company M reported receiving approximately ten small arms rounds in the company C.P. position, coordinates (AT 972664) from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 969661). The report stated that the Viet Cong fire was not repeated and the Marines did not return the fire. No casualties were reported.

g. At 261935H, a Company M patrol located at coordinates (AT 963660) reported receiving an estimated forty to fifty small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 962665). The Marines directed approximately ninety five small arms rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact. No casualties were reported.

h. At 262000H, the Battalion S-3 reported that the Third Platoon, Company L received an estimated forty five rounds of automatic weapons fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 959657) (The report did not indicate whether the platoon was in position or on patrol); The Marines directed two 40mm (M-79) rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong fire ceased. No casualties were reported.

i. At 262230H, a Company M ambush element positioned at coordinates (AT 973660) reported making contact with an estimated five Viet Cong at close range. The report indicated that two Viet Cong were KIA (bodies were observed). No Marine casualties were reported. The report added that the Marines would displace to an alternate position and maintain surveillance over the Viet Cong bodies. A subsequent report (262300H) stated that, while displacing, the Marines received a heavy volume of small arms fire from an estimated six Viet Cong who had maneuvered within close range. One Marine was WIA. The Marines returned the fire and the Viet Cong broke contact. The report added that the Marine ambush element would vacate the position and evacuate the Marine WIA to the company C.P. position. Additional information will be provided when available.

CONFIDENTIAL(A) Special Reports.

a. At 261320H, the Regimental FSCG relayed a report from the ARVN 51st Battalion Headquarters that two Viet Cong companies were located along Highway #14, in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 962589), and were engaged in what was described as "digging in". Battery 2 delivered twenty one 105mm (VT) artillery rounds on the reported position, with undetermined results. (S-2 comment: Although the report did not so state, it appears that the presence of two Viet Cong companies at this location was predicated on an (intelligence) agent's report that stated they were observed "digging in". This report has not yet been confirmed).

b. At 261650H, the Ninth Marines Liaison Officer assigned to the 59th GVN Regional Force Battalion Headquarters at KIEU BONG relayed a report attributed to the "Intelligence Team of PHONG THU" (sic) that one Viet Cong Battalion (designation not indicated) is dispersed in the area, coordinates (AT 974601), (AT 977607), (AT 975601), and (AT 982603). The report was not evaluated. (For S-2 rating see 262300H entry, below).

c. At 261850H, G-2 relayed a report from the First Battalion, First Marines, that one Viet Cong battalion, including MONTAGNARD tribesmen and Chinese advisors, is located in the vicinity of grid squares (AT 9362), (AT 9463), and (AT 9462). The report added that the battalion is equipped with two 81mm mortars, one 57mm Recoilless Rifle as well as normal small arms. G-2 did not evaluate the report but brought attention to a previous (9 December) report from NPS (unknown agency) that a similarly constituted Viet Cong battalion is located at coordinates (AT 834547). This report was rated G-1 by NPS and F-2 by G-2. (S-2 comment: The presence of a Viet Cong unit of company size or larger in this general area has been reported on at least nine separate occasions since 1 December. Although many of these reports may have had a common origin, the presence of at least one Viet Cong company in the area is accepted. S-2 rates the reported presence of a Viet Cong battalion as F-3; the presence of a Viet Cong company is rated F-2).

d. At 262215H, G-2 relayed a report from DIEN BAN District Headquarters that two Viet Cong companies are located in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 032622) and (BT 046633). The report was not evaluated. (S-2 comment: The area indicated has been previously reported as the locale for the 23d Viet Cong battalion. S-2 rates this report F-3).

e. At 262300H, G-2 relayed a report from HOI AN Special Sector that one Viet Cong Main Force Battalion (designation not indicated) is now located within the Ninth Marines TAOR and is dispersed with the C.P. located at coordinates (AT 995605), one company located in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 012586), one company located in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 978607), and one company located in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 004607). The report was rated G-2 by HOI AN Special Sector and F-3 by G-2. (S-2 comment: The presence of a Viet Cong unit of company-size or larger in this general area has been previously reported at least six times since 1 December, including a report earlier this date (see 261650H entry, this INTSUM). Although many of these reports may have a common origin

CONFIDENTIAL

frequent ARVN-Viet Cong contacts in this area lend credibility to these reports. S-2 rates the presence of a Viet Cong company in the area F-2. The presence of a Viet Cong battalion is rated F-3).

e. Special Reports. Reports received from the Aerial Observer operating in the TAOR on 26 December were as follows:

- 260807H Checked railroad embankment and adjoining area from coordinates (AT 994605) south to (AT 993559). No new eaves, trenches observed.
- 260820H Reconnoitered area vicinity grid squares (BT 0259) and (BT 0260). Observed what appeared to be newly-constructed trenches within the village areas. Indications are that tunnels have been constructed leading from the trenchlines.
- 260855H Sighted three new trenches at coordinates (BT 095645). Position identified as automatic weapons position located at north end. Positions have been camouflaged.
- 261613H Reconnoitered Highway #1 from coordinates (BT 055589) north to (BT 015687). Road open with no obstructions. No unusual activity observed.
- 261618H Reconnoitered area Hill #55, grid square (AT 9762). Observed field work in progress; no recent trenches or positions.
- 261623H Reconnoitered area coordinates (AT 991626) (trail leading to railroad embankment). Sighted new trenches in area; believed to have been excavated during last 24 hour period.
- 261635H Reconnoitered railroad embankment from coordinates (AT 990640) south to Highway #14.
- 261650H Observed automatic weapons position at coordinates (AT 987599). Extensive trenchline (AO requested air strike on position but was refused), coordinates (AT 992578). No unusual activity observed. At coordinates (AT 995625), sighted automatic weapons position (unoccupied), circular position with gun pedestal.
- 261659H Reconnoitered Highway #14, from coordinates (AT 914578) east to junction of Highway #1, coordinates (BT 055589). Highway west of north-south grid line 98 appeared to be open to foot traffic only. No vehicles observed in this area. Balance of highway appeared open; no obstructions.
- 261742H Checked area along creek running north-south of CHAU LAU village, coordinates (AT 985602). Sighted recently constructed trenchline on west bank of creek area. Appeared to be covered over so as to resemble old trenches.

CONFIDENTIAL

261750H Observed one swimmer (unidentified) in river, coordinates (BT 032654). Swimmer received small arms fire from unidentified forces located on east bank of river and the swimmer appeared to have been hit. Disappeared from sight and presumed killed. (see 262235H entry, this INTSUM, for account of this engagement).

(5) Late Reports.

a. At 262235H, the First Battalion, Ninth Marines S-2 provided details of a Company C patrol engagement which occurred during the period 261500H-262000H, in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 039652) and (BT 042652). The report stated that a Company C patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 039652) received small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned to the northeast, south, and southeast. The Marines directed approximately five hundred small arms rounds, two LAW (M-72) rounds, and two 3.5 inch rocket rounds at one Viet Cong position, which was identified as a building, coordinates (BT 039653). The Viet Cong fire ceased from the building. The Viet Cong fire ceased from the other positions and the patrol resumed its route. At 261645H, while engaged in destroying trenchlines and tunnels in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 042652), the Marines received one sniper round, which wounded one Marine. Immediately afterwards, approximately fifty rounds small arms were received from Viet Cong positioned to the north, northeast, and southeast. The Marines returned the fire with approximately four hundred small arms rounds and five 40mm (M-79) rounds, which resulted in the Viet Cong fire reducing in intensity. The Marines attempted to evacuate the two casualties by helicopter, but the pilot of the helicopter was also wounded by the Viet Cong fire. Under the direction of an Aerial Observer, artillery support was requested, and a total of thirty six 105mm HE artillery rounds were fired at the Viet Cong positions. The Aerial Observer reported receiving small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned on the west bank of the river, (coordinates not indicated) and engaged this target with aerial rockets. The Viet Cong broke contact and withdrew to the north and east. The patrol returned to the company C.P. at 262000H. Viet Cong casualties were not determined.

C. Reports of information received directly from civilians: (See 260915H entry, this INTSUM).

D. Viet Cong casualties:

	<u>For 24 Hour Reporting period:</u>	<u>Cumulative Since 10 Jul 65:</u>
KIA (Confirmed)	2	361
KIA (Possible)	0	146
VC Captured	0	165
VC Captured (WIA)	0	3
VC WIA (Possible)	0	14
VC Suspects	13	927

CONFIDENTIAL

E. Destroyed and captured enemy material: The following material was destroyed by 1stBn, 9thMar.

2,000 .32 caliber rounds (BT 043661) (see 261210H entry, this INTSUM)

F. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications: The following positions were destroyed by 1stBn, 9thMar.

3 - Huts(type not indicated) (BT 043661) (see 261210H entry, this INTSUM)

C. Ward
C. WARD
By direction

COPY TO:

III MAF	(1)
III MAF POLAD	(1)
G-2	(4)
3dMar	(1)
1/9	(7)
2/9	(6)
3/9	(6)
3/3	(7)
2/12	(6)
FSCC	(1)
S-2	(9)
S-3	(1)
1stAmtracBn	(1)
3dTnkBn	(1)
3dAtBn	(1)
B Co, TnkBn	(1)
C Co, AtBn	(1)
CO	(1)

PAGE 8 OF 8 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/CW/jda
3800
272400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), (Attn: G-2)

Subj: Intelligence Summary #172, Period ending 272400H, December 1965

Encl: (1) ✓ Special report of Company B, 1stBn, 9thMar, patrol
(2) Special report of 2ndBn, 9thMar. operation

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period.

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>BMCT</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>EECT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
28 Dec	0645	0705	1340	1903	1112	2258	1/4

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1stBn, 9thMar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), the USAF Troposcatter site on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 068853), and the Battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company D provided security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. At 271025H, a Company C patrol reported apprehending two suspicious males at coordinates (BT 051668) and (BT 052667). The report indicated that the suspects would be interrogated at the Battalion C.P. and evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters or the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point, as appropriate.

b. At 271100H, a Company C patrol reported apprehending two Viet Cong Suspects at coordinates (BT 064665). The report noted that the suspects were uncooperative and that they would be evacuated to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point for investigation. The report added that a notebook containing what was tentatively identified as (printed) articles of a military nature was found on one of the suspects.

PAGE 1 OF 5 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

#172

(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

c. At 271200H, the Battalion S-2 reported that an LVT proceeding north in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 096679) received ten what was described as carbine rounds from Viet Cong believed to have been positioned less than one hundred meters to the west. One Marine was WIA. The enemy position could not be discerned and the Marines did not return the fire.

d. At 271336H, a Company B patrol operating in the vicinity of QUANG HA (1) hamlet, coordinates (BT 084631), reported making contact with a Viet Cong force and sustaining one Marine KIA and six WIA. An after-action report providing details of this engagement was prepared by the Battalion S-2 and is shown in this INTSUM as enclosure (1).

e. At 271910H, the Battalion S-3 reported that a tank enroute to Company B Command Post detonated what was described as a large explosive device at coordinates (BT 102668). The report stated that no casualties were incurred and damage to the tank was negligible. The report did not provide details of the type of explosive device encountered or information regarding fuze assembly etc. Additional information will be provided when available.

(2) 2ndBn, 9thMar. Continued to defend the central portion of the Regimental TAOR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEN (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998707); and provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of MIEU DONG (1), coordinates (BT 017668).

a. At 270415H, the battalion commenced a search and destroy operation in the area bounded generally by the confluence of the SONG LA THO (river) and SONG BAU XAU (river) and National Highway #1. A report providing details of this action was prepared by the Battalion S-3 and is shown in this INTSUM as enclosure (2).

b. At 272100H, the Battalion S-2 reported that Company F, positioned at coordinates (AT 995688), and an ARVN unit (designation not indicated) positioned at coordinates (AT 995687), received fragmentation grenades and an estimated one hundred small arms rounds from Viet Cong who were located in widely dispersed positions in the area, coordinates (AT 996687) and (AT 997689). The report stated that the Marines directed five 40mm (M-79) rounds and approximately two hundred fifty small arms rounds at the Viet Cong positions. The report stated that the ARVN unit was also returning the Viet Cong fire but no estimate of the volume of the ARVN fire was provided. The Viet Cong fire ceased with no report of friendly casualties. Viet Cong casualties were not indicated.

c. At 272225H, Company F reported receiving twenty five small arms rounds in position, coordinates (AT 995688), from the direction of coordinates (AT 996687). The suspected area was illuminated with one 81mm mortar illumination round, and thirty small arms rounds were directed at the Viet Cong position. The report stated that the Viet Cong broke contact. No casualties were reported.

(3) 3dBn, 3dMar. Continued to defend the western portion of the Regimental TAOR from, but not including, the railroad tracks west to, but not including, the road passing HIEU DUC District Headquarters, coordinates (AT 942689). Company I provided security for ASP #1, coordinates (AT 985733).

CONFIDENTIAL

a. At 270730H, Company K, occupying a blocking position at coordinates (AT 986632) in support of a Second Battalion search and destroy operation, reported receiving six small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 933633). The Marines directed small arms fire at the suspected area, but the Viet Cong fire was not repeated. No casualties were reported.

b. At 270700H, a Headquarters and Service Company platoon occupying a river block at coordinates (AT 970700) reported that a Vietnamese male approached the Marines and declared that he had been captured by two Viet Cong, bound, and forced to lay throughout the night in a rice paddy. The male stated that the Viet Cong had released him in the morning. The man was evacuated to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point where his story could be evaluated and he could be interrogated for possible information of intelligence value.

c. At 271235H, Company L personnel occupying OP #4, coordinates (AT 95468), reported sighting villagers hurriedly departing from LA CHAU (3) hamlet, coordinates (AT 956676) and what appeared to be two armed men, dressed in white jackets, black trousers, and what was described as helmets, within the hamlet. A patrol was dispatched to investigate the hamlet, but reported negative results.

d. At 271400H, a Company L patrol reported apprehending one Viet Cong Suspect at coordinates (AT 956678) when a routine examination revealed he lacked adequate identification. The suspect was evacuated to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point for investigation.

(4) Special Reports.

a. At 270700H, the Ninth Marines FSCC reported that ARVN forces operating in the vicinity of Highway #14, had reported that a Viet Cong platoon, armed with automatic weapons, was positioned at coordinates (AT 987589). (The report did not state whether the ARVN force was in contact with this Viet Cong platoon). The ARVN unit requested artillery support and nineteen 105mm HE artillery rounds were delivered on the target, with unknown results. (A subsequent report added eighteen 155mm artillery rounds at one Viet Cong platoon armed with automatic weapons at coordinates (AT 988605) but the details were insufficient to determine whether this was a separate or related mission).

b. At 270715H, the Ninth Marines FSCC reported that ARVN forces operating in the vicinity of Highway #14 were receiving fire from automatic weapons (quantity and type not indicated) positioned at coordinates (AT 977597). Eighteen 155mm artillery rounds were directed at the target with unknown results.

c. At 271122H, the Aerial Observer operating in the TAOR reported that a fixed-wing air strike had destroyed a hut at coordinates (AT 947597). The report stated that a total of eight aerial rocket, two tanks of napalm, and four hundred 20mm rounds were directed at the target (the report did not further identify the nature of the target). (At 271230H, a similar report of an air strike directed at coordinates (AT 947597) was received from the Aerial Observer. This second report stated five tanks of napalm were employed and a Viet Cong supply (?) was destroyed.

CONFIDENTIAL

Details were insufficient to establish whether one or two air strikes had occurred).

d. At 271245H, G-2 relayed a report from QUANG NAM Special Sector that one Viet Cong Battalion (designation not indicated), with a strength of three hundred men, is located at coordinates (AT 950640). (S-2 comment: Several recent reports have located a Viet Cong battalion, sometimes designated as the 305th Battalion, in this locale. Whereas the presence of a Viet Cong battalion at the location given is not probable, the presence of a company-sized force is rated F-2).

e. At 271725H, the Aerial Observer operating in the TAOR reported receiving heavy automatic weapons fire from Viet Cong in a trench at coordinates (BT 024 597). Artillery support was requested and forty four 105mm artillery rounds were directed at the target. The Aerial Observer reported excellent results, with a direct hit observed on the emplacement and two Viet Cong bodies sighted. The report added that the trench was extensively damaged.

f. At 272050H, G-2 reported that a GVN Popular Forces squad at coordinates (AT 946692) was attacked by an estimated Viet Cong platoon. The report stated that the Popular Forces unit sustained one KIA and three WIA. The report continued that illumination (type not indicated) was provided and a fire mission was requested. The report added that the Viet Cong broke contact. No additional details were provided.

g. At 272045H, the Ninth Marines Liaison Officer assigned to the 59th GVN Regional Forces Battalion Headquarters at MIEU BONG reported that a platoon from the 591st Company made contact with an estimated Viet Cong squad at coordinates (AT 996689). The report stated that the Viet Cong were armed with sub-machine guns and grenades. No casualties were reported. (The report added that the Second Battalion, Ninth Marines provided 81mm mortar illumination).

C. Reports of information received directly from civilians: At 270855H, Company E reported that villagers in LA THO BAC (3) hamlet, coordinates (BT 007618) (further identification not provided), informed the Marines that two hundred Viet Cong had been in the area, but had departed four days ago.

D. <u>Viet Cong casualties:</u>	For 24 Hour Reporting period:	Cumulative Since 10 Jul 65:
KIA(Confirmed)	46	408
KIA(Possible)	10	156
VC Captured	0	165
VC Captured(WIA)	0	3
VC WIA(Possible)	0	14
VC Suspects	13	985

E. Destroyed and captured enemy material: The following material was captured by 1stBn, 9thMar.

- 3 - BAR magazines (BT 084629) (see 271245 entry, this INTSUM) (Enclosure #1)
- 1 - US Sub-machine gun magazine (BT 084629) (see Enclosure #1)
- 1 - GVN National Identification Card (BT 084629) (see Enclosure #1)
- 1 - Poncho (BT 084629) (see Enclosure #1)
- 2 - Hats (BT 084629) (see Enclosure #1)
- 2 - Cigarette lighter (BT 084629) (see Enclosure #1)

CONFIDENTIAL

- 1 - Billfold (BT 084629) (see Enclosure #1)
- 1 - Neckscarf (BT 084629) (see Enclosure #1)
- 1 - Utility jacket (BT 084629) (see Enclosure #1)
- 1 - Belt, cartridge, with canvas pouch (BT 084629) (see Enclosure #1)
- 1 - CHICOM 7.62mm carbine (type-53) (BT 120628) (see 240730H entry, INTSUM #169)
- 1 - Belt with leather pouch (BT 120628) (see 240730H entry, INTSUM #169)
- 25 - 7.62mm ammunition (BT 120628) (see 240730H entry, INTSUM #169)

F. Destroyed enemy position and/or fortifications: Positions and fortifications destroyed by 2ndBn, 9thMar will be claimed in INTSUM #173, ending at 282400H,

C. Ward
C. WARD
By direction

COPY TO:

III MAF	(1)
III MAF POLAD	(1)
G-2	(4)
3dMar	(1)
1/9	(7)
2/9	(6)
3/9	(6)
3/3	(7)
2/12	(6)
FSCC	(1)
S-2	(9)
S-3	(1)
1stAmtraoBn	(1)
3dTnkBn	(1)
3dAtBn	(1)
B Co, TnkBn	(1)
Co, AtBn	(1)
CO	(1)

CONFIDENTIALSpecial Report of Company B, 1st Battalion Patrol in vicinity of QUANG HA (1)Hamlet on 27 December 1965

At 271245H, a Company B squad-sized patrol moving south in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 084629) received a heavy volume of small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 081629) and (BT 084628). The Viet Cong were dressed in green uniforms with what was described as "natural foliage camouflage" or in black and white field clothing (pajama-type). The Viet Cong weapons included an estimated fifteen to twenty automatic weapons. The patrol deployed, returned the fire, and were maneuvering in the direction of the enemy when they observed approximately twenty Viet Cong who were moving on the flank so as to outflank the Marines. The patrol took this Viet Cong group under fire but the Marines' forward movement was halted. The total Viet Cong forces estimated to be engaged at this time was estimated as sixty to seventy five. One of the first casualties sustained by the Marines was the radioman, and the Viet Cong fire also put the radio out of commission. Two Marines were dispatched from the patrol's position to inform nearby friendly units of the situation, and they contacted a force consisting of two Marine squads, two tanks, and two ONTOS, which had been enroute to the area in response to the sounds of heavy firing. The relief force maneuvered to a position on the edge of a grouping of buildings at coordinates (BT 082631), from where they could block the Viet Cong movement and support the Marine patrol still positioned at coordinates (BT 084630). The Marines directed three 90mm (tank) W.P. rounds, twelve 106mm (ONTOS) rounds, and approximately three hundred small arms rounds at the Viet Cong, who attempted to break contact and withdraw from the area. Marine casualties at this time totalled one KIA and six WIA, and helicopter evacuation was requested. Escort helicopters (armed HU-1E) maneuvered into the area to assist in securing the landing zone and directed a heavy volume of fire into a tree line occupied by Viet Cong. The enemy fire slackened, then ceased, as the Viet Cong force withdrew from the area. The Marines pursuing the withdrawing Viet Cong report that they observed a total of at least forty Viet Cong KIA (body count). The reports indicate that fifteen Viet Cong were killed by the Marines' small arms and machine gun fire, sixteen were believed killed by the tank and ONTOS heavy weapons (90mm and 106mm) fire, and nine Viet Cong killed by the fire of the armed helicopter escort aircraft. At approximately 271315H, while the medical evacuation was being completed, an aerial observer reported observing what was initially believed to be approximately one platoon of Marines at coordinates (BT 087619). A check with friendly units in the area indicated that this force was Viet Cong who were moving to the south and southwest. The Aerial Observer requested artillery fire at the Viet Cong platoon-sized force, and thirty 105mm artillery rounds were delivered on target. The aerial observer reported sighting what appeared to be one Viet Cong KIA, and estimated an additional seven casualties. The remnants of the Viet Cong force dispersed, pursued by the Marines, and contact was eventually lost. The Marines recovered three BAR magazines, one U.S. Sub-machine gun (THOMPSON) magazine, one GVN National Identification Card, one poncho, two hats (unidentified), and a notebook containing Vietnamese writing. The Marines reported that, immediately upon termination of the fire-fight, villagers moved into the battle area to recover the bodies (which may indicate that the Viet Cong engaged were members of a "local force" unit, with Headquarters nearby), and were so engaged when the Marine force returned from pursuing

CONFIDENTIAL

the fleeing Viet Cong. The Marines also reported that, during the engagement, Viet Cong were observed dragging casualties into the tree line and brush with a "hand-chisel" type implement. While the possibility exists that the local villagers succeeded in retrieving Viet Cong weapons from the site of the action, the Marines' comments indicate that the Viet Cong engaged succeeded in carrying off the weapons of the casualties.

Total Viet Cong casualties:

VC KIA (body count)	41
VC KIA (estimated)	7

PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES

ENCLOSURE (1)

CONFIDENTIAL

P 272022Z

FM SECOND BN NINTH MARINES
TO NINTH MARINES

BT

CONFIDENTIAL

1. SPECIAL REPORT FOR OPERATION GOLDEN SPIKE COVERING PERIOD
270400H TO 271900H DEC 19.

2. E CO

AT 0545H FOUND THREE OBSTACLES BLOCKING TRAIL AT 50 METER INTERVALS
AT (BT 026637). OBSTACLES BY PASSED APPEARED TO BE MADE OF BAMBOO
AND WERE CYLINDRICAL - 4 FT IN DIAMETER. 0615H POINT KILLED ONE VC
WHO TRIED TO FLEE WHEN MARINES APPROACHED. NO WEAPON. (BT 026637).
0645H RECEIVED SPORADIC FIRE FROM TREE LINE TO THE EAST WHILE
CROSSING RICE PADDIES AT (BT 017620). ONE MARINE WAS WOUNDED IN THE

LEG BUT IT IS BELIEVED THAT HIS WOUND WAS SUSTAINED FROM BOOBY
TRAPPED RIFLE CARTRIDGE. WOUNDED MAN MED EVACUATED TO CAC. 0800H
APPROACHED TWO VIETNAMESE MALES AT (BT 007618) AND CHALLENGED THEM.
RECEIVED ONE ROUND OF RIFLE FIRE AND RETURNED A 10 RD. BURST OF
AUTOMATIC RIFLE FIRE, STRIKING BOTH MEN. A F40G GRENADE WAS
THROWN INTO THE AREA AND ONE BODY WAS RECOVERED IN THICK BUSHES
ALONG WITH A FRENCH RIFLE AND FIVE PDS OF AMMO. DESTROYED CHICOM
GRENADE AT (BT 010620). 0830H TOOK ONE PRISONER AT 006618).
540H APPREHENDED THREE VCS AT (BT 008618). ARMED.

VCHAD BEEN SEEN FLEEING THIS AREA PREVIOUSLY. 091430H
FOUND MALE VCHIDING IN BOMB SHELTER AT (BT 000617). HE POSSESSED VC
DOCUMENTS THAT WERE DELIVERED TO S-2 VCS PREVIOUSLY APPREHENDED WERE
EVACUATED BY HELICOPTER. 1500H SEVERAL TUNNELS (APPROXIMATELY 4X4 AND UP
TO 500 METERS LONG WERE DESTROYED IN LAI THO BAC (3) AT (BT 0061).
ONE VC KILLED WHILE RUNNING OUT OF TUNNEL. 1605H ONE MARINE WAS KIA
WHEN HIT BY BURST OF AUTOMATIC WEAPON SNIPER FIRE FROM (AT 008607).
ARTILLERY FIRE WAS DIRECTED AT ENEMY POSITION AND AERIAL OBSERVER
ON STATION REPORTED SEEING TWO BODIES BEING BLOWN FROM TRENCH
AT THAT LOCATION. 1730H RECEIVED FIRE FROM VILLAGE AT (AT 00613)
WHILE MOVING FROM LAI THO BAC (3) TO RAILROAD TRACK. ALSO

0810: 2/2

272020Z/DEC-68

CONFIDENTIAL

P-1-3

OBSERVED THREE VIETNAMESE MALES PUNNING THROUGH PADDY AT (AT 994617) ONE MAN WAS CARRYING A CABINE. THE THREE WERE TAKEN UNDER FIRE AND ALL WENT DOWN.

3. G CO

A. CROSSED LOD AT 0600H. AT 270830H REACHED OBJECTIVE "A" (BICH NAM (2) BT 000639) CONDUCTED SEARCH AND DESTROY OPERATION. PROCEEDED TO BICH NAM (1) (1) (AT 996635). AND CONTINUED WITH SEARCH AND DESTROY OPNS. DISPATCHED SQUAD TO (AT 993637) TO LAY WIRE FOR SASMATIC INTRUSION DETECTORS. CONTINUED SEARCH AND DESTROY TO LA THO BAC (1) (BT 005633) AND QUANG DONG (2) (BT 000627).

B. FOUND AND DESTROYED

- (1) 155 PD WP
- (2) ONE (1) HE PD 30" DIAMETER, 21/2 FT LONG, NO FUSE ASSY.
- (3) 75 METERS OF TUNNEL
- (4) ONE (1) OUTDOOR CLASSROOM, W/BLACKBOARD ON WHICH WAS WRITTEN ANTI-AMERICAN SLOGANS
- (5) SIX (6) AUTO WPNS POSITIONS
- (6) 24 FIGHTING HOLES
- (7) 13 ANTI-AMERICAN SLOGAN BOOKS IN WHICH WAS PRINTED "TWO MARINE BATTALIONS DESTROYED IN HARVEST MOON"
- (8) ONE (1) HELICOPTER OBSTACLE-WIRE ON BAMBOO STAKES

C. FOUND UNABLE TO DESTROY- 500 METERS OF NEW TRENCH FROM (BT 000628) TO (BT 005628). FOUND ON (1) HOME MADE PISTOL (T S-2.) FOUND ONE (1) MAP ONC-H-10 IN HOUSE AT (BT 004630)

D. PEOPLE: NO YOUNG MEN FOUND, MANY YOUNG WOMEN FOUND. MANY SMALL CHILDREN. VERY FEW OLD MEN AND WOMEN. ALL WOMEN WORE WHITE BAPBS IN THEIR HAIR. ALL PEOPLE HAD ID CARDS 833CARDS (AUTHENTIC).

E. FOOD: ONLY FAMILY ALLOWANCES - NO HIDDEN CACHES

F. TERRAIN: MUDDY BUT PASSABLE BY FOOT, TREE LINES THICK, VILLAGES LIKE ISLANDS IN RICE PADDIES.

G. BUILDINGS: MUCH DAMAGE TO BRICK TYPE HUS EEE HOUSES, STRAW HOUSES WELL MAINTAINED.

H. DEFENSES: VERY LITTLE OLD DEFENSIVE POSITIONS- NEW TUNNELS AND HOLES UNDER CONSTRUCTIONS (BT 005627).

I. ENEMY CONTACT: REC'D 2 PD CABINE FROM 100 METER DISTANCE.

J. NUMBER OF FAMILIES INTERROGATED 28. 6 CIVILIAN TREATED BY COMSMAN. PEOPLES ATTITUDE - UNFRIENDLY AND AFRAID.

K. EXPENDED: 4 60MM MORTARS, 105 LBS OF TNT, 60 LBS C-4.

A. H CO

A. CROSSED LOD AT 0410H (BT 033644)..

ORIG: 2/8

272020Z/DEC-65

CONFIDENTIAL

04212

172

B. MOVEMENT DOWN TRAIL WAS UNEVENTFUL. 3 BARBERS WERE ENCOUNTERED PASSING THEM ON TO (BT 021637) WHICH CONSIDERABLY DELAYED THE MOVEMENT.

C. COLUMN MOVED SOUTH VICINITY OF (BT 021637) AND IN THIS VICINITY AT APPROXIMATELY 0600H RECEIVED 2 ROUNDS OF SNIPER FIRE FROM THE WEST.

DETAINED FIRE WITH SMALL ARMS AND 3 PDS 60MM.
D. CROSSED RAILROAD BED AT (AT 905613) AND WAS IN POSITION TO SWEEP QUANG LONG (L) BY 0800H.

E. INITIAL SWE WAS IN A WHEEPLY DIRECTION UPON THE RAILROAD BED TO THE SONG BAN XAU, ON A 1000 METER FRONT USING THE SONG LA THO AS THE LEFT BOUNDARY. THE WEE SWEEP WAS UNEVEN. THERE WERE NUMEROUS FIGHTING HOLS AND COVERED TRENCHES ALL OF WHICH WERE OLD. APPROXIMATELY

ESTIMATED 20 VC VICINITY (AT 978609) FIRED ON MARINES ON NORTH BANK OF THE RIVER. THE FIRE WAS RETURNED AND ONE VC WAS SEEN TO BE KNOCKED DOWN. AT APPROXIMATELY 1132H MARINES FROM 3/3 DIRECTED OUR ATTENTION TO A LARGE GROUP OF VC MARCHING SOUTH FROM (BT 974611) 18 ROUNDS OF 60MM AND 15 ROUNDS OF 3.5 WP WERE DIRECTED AT THE AREA. 3/3 REPORTED THAT IT IMPACTED IN THE CORRECT VICINITY.

F. AT 1932H THE COMPANY DEPLOYED ALONG THE TRAIL FROM (AT 977634) TO

(AT 993612) AND SWEEP IN A NORTHERLY DIRECTION TO DU HA DONG RAILROAD BRIDGE. AT APPROXIMATELY 1500H 1 ROUND OF SNIPER FIRE WAS RECEIVED FROM VIC (AT 904617) NUMEROUS FORTIFICATIONS (NONE NEW) WERE SEEN AND THE LARGEST WERE DESTROYED. ALL OF THE VILLAGES WERE BURN AND VILLAGES WERE SEMI DESERTED. 5 SEPARATE REPORTS WERE RECEIVED FROM VILLAGES THAT 100 VC WERE IN THE AREA ON 25 DECEMBER AT WHICH TIME THEY HELD MEETINGS AND TOLD THE INHABITANTS THAT THEY WERE

AT DAWN THE 25TH. THEY WERE REPORTED TO HAVE HELD PROPAGANDA MEETINGS AND TO HAVE EXPECTED NUMEROUS

SIGNS PROCLAIMING THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NLF. AT LEAST ONE OF SAID SIGNS WAS FOUND OVER THE ENTRANCE OF EACH HAMLET ENTERED.

G. EXPENDED: 240LBS TNT, 60LBS C-4 WERE USED TO DESTROY 100 METERS OF TRENCH AND 911 CAVES.
BT

TO: 0535H/2810055/IN-970 & 971/AM TTY/ROB

ORIG: 2/9

272020Z/DEC-65

CONFIDENTIAL P-3-3

COPY OF COPIES

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/CW/jda
3800
282400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #173, Period ending 282400H, December 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period.

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>BMCT</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>EECT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
29 Dec	0646	0709	1841	1904	1140	2346	1/4

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1stBn, 9thMar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), the USAF Troposcatter site on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 068853), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company D provided security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. At 281000H, a Company B patrol reported apprehending one suspicious male at coordinates (BT 074663). The report stated that what was identified as an ARVN field uniform was discovered within a hut occupied by the suspect. The suspect was evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation when he could not account for his possession of the uniform.

b. At 281030H, Company B reported finding two Vietnamese adults (one man and one woman) in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 099664) who had apparently sustained injuries during 60mm mortar preparation fires directed at coordinates (BT 105651) at 281000H. The report stated that the man had received fragmentation wounds and the woman appeared to be suffering from shock. The report indicated that the two wounded Vietnamese were classified as suspicious persons when examination revealed they lacked adequate identification. The wounded man was evacuated

PAGE 1 OF 6 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

#173

①

CONFIDENTIAL

to Third Medical Battalion and the woman was evacuated to an ARVN medical facility for treatment and investigation.

c. At 281200H, Company B reported apprehending one suspicious male at coordinates (BT 073670) when it was observed he was taking what was described as unusual interest in activities within the Company C.P. position. The suspect was evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

d. At 281410H, a Company B squad-sized patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 105647) reported making contact with an estimated fifteen to twenty Viet Cong positioned in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 092649), (BT 107648), and (BT 105646). One Marine was WIA. Two squads and two tanks were dispatched from the company C.P. to assist the patrol. The Marines directed sixteen 81mm mortar rounds, six 90mm (tank) rounds and approximately one thousand small arms rounds at the enemy positions and the Viet Cong broke contact, withdrawing to the southwest. The report stated that the Viet Cong fire was estimated as five hundred small arms rounds. Viet Cong casualties were estimated as two possible WIA. (The report indicated that the Marines assaulted the Viet Cong positions, but the chronology was not clear, as it appeared that the assault was initiated prior to the arrival of the reinforcing element).

e. At 281430H, a Company D patrol reported apprehending one suspicious male at coordinates (BT 069697) when a routine examination revealed he lacked adequate identification. The suspect was evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

f. At 281830H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from the HOA HAI Village Chief regarding the presence of elements of a Viet Cong battalion in the zone of action. The report stated that two Main Force companies are located at coordinates (BT 094657); one Main Force company is located at TU CA (1) hamlet, grid squares (BT 0765) and (BT 0565); and two Main Force platoons are located at QUANG DANG (1) hamlet, grid square (BT 0965) (does not appear on current operation map), and BA TUNG (1) hamlet, grid square (BT 0570). The report indicated that the two platoons arrived at the locations shown above at 280600H. The report added that these units are elements of what was designated as the 1st Volunteer Battalion. The Battalion S-2 rated the report as B-3. (S-2 rates it C-3).

g. At 281650H, a Company C platoon reported receiving fifteen small arms rounds in the platoon patrol base positions, coordinates (BT 039669) from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 039667). The Marines directed four 40mm (M-79) rounds, three 3.5 inch rocket rounds, four 60mm mortar rounds, and forty small arms rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong fire ceased. A patrol dispatched to search the area reported negative results. No casualties were reported.

h. At 281730H, a Company C patrol reported apprehending four suspicious males at coordinates (BT 036672) when they were observed taking what was considered undue interest in the activities of the patrol. The report added that the members of the patrol, who recognize most of the local inhabitants, believed the four suspects to be strangers to the area. The suspects were evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

CONFIDENTIAL

1. At 281530H, a Company B patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 107650) reported receiving four or five what was believed to be 40mm(M-79) rounds in close proximity to the Marines' location. No casualties were incurred by this fire. When the fire was not repeated, the Marines searched the area and found two 40mm(M-79) cartridge cases (expended), in an area in close proximity to the patrol's position. (The report did not indicate whether it could be determined if the rounds had recently been fired). Additional information will be provided when available.

(2) 2ndBn, 9thMar. Continued to defend the central portion of the Regimental TAOR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEN (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998707); and provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of MIEU DONG (1), coordinates (BT 017668).

a. Late Report-Additional Information. The Battalion S-3 provided additional information regarding a Company F action at 272100H, in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 995688). The later report added that three separate sounds described as "screams" were heard emanating from the area where 40mm(M-79) rounds impacted, possibly indicating that the Viet Cong had suffered at least three casualties.

b. At 280030H, a Company F security element positioned at bridge #3, coordinates (AT 995688), reported receiving an estimated fifty small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 996687). The Marines directed approximately two hundred small arms rounds and four 40mm(M-79) rounds at the enemy positions and the Viet Cong broke contact, withdrawing from their positions. No casualties were reported.

c. At 282230H, a Company F platoon positioned in the vicinity of the bridge at HA DONG, coordinates (AT 990641) reported receiving fifteen small arms rounds from Viet Cong located in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 991637). The Marines directed five 60mm mortar rounds and thirty small arms rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong fire ceased. No casualties were reported.

(3) 3dBn, 3dMar. Continued to defend the western portion of the Regimental TAOR from, but not including, the railroad tracks west to, but not including, the road passing HIEU DUC District Headquarters, coordinates (AT 942689). Company I provided security for ASP #1, coordinates (AT 985733).

a. Late Report-Additional Information. The Battalion S-3 provided additional information regarding Company K activities while participating in a search and destroy operation on 27 December (See 270730H entry, INTSUM #172). This later report added that, at 271040H, Company K observed Viet Cong in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 975613) and fired two small arms rounds, killing one Viet Cong. (The report added that the body could be observed but the Company K Marines could not retrieve it because of an intervening body of water. Company K notified Company H, who was operating on opposite side of the river, but there are no indications that Company H was able to investigate the body). (S-2 comment: Previous reports indicated that the Company K blocking position was in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 971614)

CONFIDENTIAL

to (AT 987638). The position of the Company K element who inflicted this casualty could not be determined from the report).

b. At 281232H, Company K, withdrawing from LE SON (3) hamlet, coordinates (AT 978643), reported that the rear security elements received approximately forty small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned with THAI CAM (1) hamlet, coordinates (AT 975645). The Marines directed approximately seventy small arms rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong fire ceased. No casualties were reported.

c. At 281305H, Company L reported finding what was identified as a US AP mine, M-16 (bouncing-betty), at coordinates (AT 954664). The report did not indicate whether the mine was armed or how it was positioned. The report added that the mine was destroyed in place.

d. At 281552H, a Company L patrol reported apprehending one Viet Cong suspect at coordinates (AT 954652). The suspect was evacuated to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point for investigation.

(4) Special Reports.

a. At 281040H, the Aerial Observer reported that a target (further identification not provided) located at coordinates (AT 946597) was destroyed by twenty four 500 pound bombs, fourteen 100 pound bombs, eight tanks of Napalm, and twenty 20mm rounds. The report added that few trenches were left undamaged but that no bodies were observed. (S-2 comment: It appears that fixed-wing aircraft returning to base with unexpended ordnance requested a suitable target and an area from which considerable Viet Cong fire had been received during the last several days was recommended).

b. At 281145H, G-2 relayed a report from HOA VANG District Headquarters that one Viet Cong battalion is located in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 095655) and (BT 095640). The report stated that the battalion is equipped with mortars, machine guns, and normal arms. The report added that this battalion made contact with Marines at 271200H, in the vicinity of THANH THUY Village (see 271336H entry, INTSUM #172 for the engagement which the report may be referring to). The report was rated B-2 (S-2 comment: See 281830H entry, this INTSUM, for a similar report. S-2 rates this report C-3).

c. At 281550H, the Ninth Marines Liaison Officer assigned to the 59th GVN Regional Force Battalion Headquarters at MIEU BONG reported that a Viet Cong Suspect, identified as one NGUYEN TINH, apprehended by the GVN Regional Forces, stated that his son, who he identified as an employee of Marine Wing Headquarters Group #1, is a Viet Cong agent. The report added that the suspect provided the numerals 24, as his son's identification number, presumably for his employment with MWHG-1. (This report was relayed to the appropriate activities for action).

d. At 281100H, the Ninth Marines Liaison Officer assigned to the GVN Regional Forces Battalion Headquarters at MIEU BONG relayed a HIEU DUC sub-sector intelligence report that one Viet Cong battalion is located in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 950640). The report added that this battalion has a strength of approximately three hundred men, and is armed with one 57mm recoilless rifle, automatic rifles, and small arms. The report was rated C-3. (S-2 comment: See

CONFIDENTIAL

2271245H entry, INTSUM #172, for identical report which was provided by QUANG NAM Special Sector. The source of both reports may be identical. S-2 rates the report F-3).

e. At 281715H, the Ninth Marines Liaison Officer assigned to the GVN Regional Forces Battalion at MIEU BONG reported that one member of the People's Action Team was killed by Viet Cong sniper fire at coordinates (BT 037704). The report stated that the Viet Cong fire was believed to have emanated from the vicinity of coordinates (BT 040705). No additional details were provided.

f. At 282210H, G-2 relayed a report from HIEU DUC District Headquarters that, at 281930H, a GVN Regional Force squad-sized ambush element positioned at coordinates (AT 950690) made contact with an undetermined number of Viet Cong, located at coordinates (AT 951689). The report stated that in the resultant firefight, five Viet Cong were possibly killed. No friendly casualties were reported.

g. At 281900H, the Ninth Marines Liaison Officer assigned to the GVN Regional Forces Battalion at MIEU BONG reported that GVN People's Action Team members located at THON TRUNG LUONG hamlet, coordinates (BT 045723), were attacked by an undetermined number of Viet Cong resulting in two KIA, one WIA, and two MIA. The report continued that two U.S. carbines and one pistol were believed to have been captured by the Viet Cong. The report added that the People's Action Team unit which was attacked was under instructions to displace to CON DAU hamlet, coordinates (BT 035725), where security would be provided by GVN Popular Forces soldiers, but the members had failed to obey the instructions. Enemy casualties were not indicated.

h. At 282130H, G-2 provided information regarding an USMC Aerial Observer reported KIA while supporting Third Battalion, Third Marines at 281130H. The report stated that the Aerial Observer aircraft, (HU-34 helicopter) was struck by small arms fire as it was reconnoitering THAI CAM (2 hamlet, coordinates (AT 978636). (A subsequent report indicated that the enemy fire originated at coordinates (AT 971628).

C. Reports of information received directly from civilians: No reports were received during this reporting period.

D. <u>Viet Cong casualties:</u>	<u>For 24 Hour Reporting period:</u>	<u>Cumulative Since 10 Jul 65:</u>
KIA(Confirmed)	1	408
KIA(Possible)	0	156
VC Captured	20	165
VC Captured(WIA)	0	3
VC WIA(Possible)	5	139
VC Suspects	1	936

CONFIDENTIAL

E. Destroyed and captured enemy material: The following material was captured by 1stBn, 9thMar.

1 - Notebook, ARVN (BT 064665) (See 271100H entry, INTSUM #172, Enclosure #1)

1 - Notebook, VC (BT 084629) (See 271130H entry, INTSUM #172, Enclosure #1)

The following material was captured by 2ndBn, 9thMar.

Documents-VC (BT 000614) (See 271350H entry, INTSUM #172, Enclosure #2)

The following material was destroyed by 2ndBn, 9thMar.

1 - Grenade, CHICOM fragmentation (BT 010620) (See INTSUM #172, Enclosure #2)

1 - Shell, Artillery, 155mm(dud) (See INTSUM #172, Enclosure #2)

1 - Shell, Artillery, HE(dud) (not indicated, but believed to have been 105mm) (See INTSUM #172, Enclosure #2)

13 - Books(the report stated they contained what was believed to be Anti-American propaganda material) (See INTSUM #172, Enclosure #2)

1 - Obstacle(not described)identified as a possible helicopter obstacle (See INTSUM #172, Enclosure #2)

F. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications: The following positions were destroyed by 2ndBn, 9thMar.

1 - Facility,(open air),(report stated may possibly have been utilized by VC as an outdoor classroom) (See INTSUM #172, Enclosure #2)

6 - Positions(identified as possible automatic weapons positions)(See INTSUM #172, Enclosure #2)

Trenchlines: totalling approximately 1,000 meters in length were reported destroyed within the area of the search and destroy operation on 27 Dec (See 270415H entry, INTSUM #172)

C. Ward
C. WARD
By direction

COPY TO:

III MAF
III MAF POLAD
G-2
3dMaz
1/9
2/9
3/9
3/3
2/12
FSCG

(1)
(1)
(4)
(1)
(7)
(6)
(6)
(7)
(6)
(1)

S-2 (9)
S-3 (1)
1stAmtracBn (1)
3dTnkBn (1)
3dAtBn (1)
B Co, TnkBn (1)
C Co, AtBn (1)
CO

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/CW/jda
3800
292400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #174, Period ending 292400H, December 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period.

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>BMCT</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>EECT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
30 Dec	0646	0709	1841	1904	1222	- - -	1/2

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1stBn, 9thMar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), the USAF Troposcatter site on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 068853), and the Battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company D provided security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. At 290900H, a Company C patrol reported apprehending one suspicious male at coordinates (BT 047657). The report stated that the suspect attracted the attention of the Marines by his nervous and evasive attitude, and, during interrogation, produced a photograph purported to indicate that he was an ARVN soldier. The suspect was evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters as a possible ARVN deserter.

b. At 091130H, Company D reported apprehending two Vietnamese males at coordinates (BT 071702) when the Village Chief of HOA HAI pointed them out to the Marines as Viet Cong. During an interrogation, a document identified as a

PAGE 1 OF 5 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

#174

①

CONFIDENTIAL

receipt annotated with the printed legend "Liberation of South Vietnam" for a sewing machine (presumably issued by the Viet Cong) was found in the possession of one of the suspects. This suspect was evacuated to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point for investigation. The second suspect, identified as a fifteen year old boy, was evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters for investigation.

c. At 291215H, a Company B ambush element positioned at coordinates (BT 089683) reported receiving an estimated twenty five rounds of automatic weapons fire from three to four Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 089685). The Marines directed a total of one hundred fifty small arms rounds and four 40mm(M-79) rounds at the Viet Cong positions. A reinforcing element consisting of one squad and two tanks, were dispatched to assist the Marines but the Viet Cong broke contact, withdrawing to the north and northwest. Two Marines were WIA. The report indicated that an estimated two Viet Cong were WIA.

d. Late Report-Additional information. The Battalion 3 provided additional information regarding the four 40mm(M-79) rounds reported impacting in the proximity to a Company B patrol on 28 December in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 107656). (See 281530H entry, INTSUM #473). This later report stated that the rounds impacted within forty meters of the patrol's location, but the patrol was unsure of the point of origin. While searching the area, the patrol came upon what was described as a camouflaged firing position at coordinates (BT 107650). Two 40mm(M-79) cartridge cases (expended) were discovered with the position. The report stated that the cases appeared to have been but recently fired and the firing position gave evidence of recent occupancy. The report added that the cases were initially retrieved but were later discarded. A subsequent attempt to recover the cases was unproductive.

(2) 2ndBn, 9thMar. Continued to defend the central portion of the Regimental TAOR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEN (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998707); and provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of MIEU DONG (1), coordinates (BT 017668)

a. At 291100H, Company F reported that a Marine was WIA at coordinates (AT 990677) as the result of what was identified as a booby-trapped M-26 fragmentation grenade. The report stated that the Marine was engaged in filling in a trench when the detonation occurred. The method by which the grenade was booby-trapped was not indicated.

b. At 292100H, a Company E squad-sized patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 039718) reported receiving eight small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (BT 039724). The enemy fire was not repeated and the Marines did not return the fire as friendly units were believed operating in the area. No casualties were reported.

c. At 292151, Company E reported receiving two small arms rounds in position at coordinates (BT 039725). The report stated that the fire was not repeated and the Viet Cong position could not be discerned. No casualties were reported.

CONFIDENTIAL

d. At 292240H, Company E reported receiving sporadic small arms fire in position, coordinates (BT 039724) (see 292155H entry, this INTSUM for previous report) from Viet Cong positioned in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 045 718). No casualties were reported. Artillery support was requested and nine 105mm artillery HE rounds were directed at the enemy position, and the Viet Cong fire ceased. (S-2 comment: A patrol was dispatched to search the area but had not reported results as of the end of the reporting period covered by this INTSUM).

(3) 3d Bn, 3d Mar. Continued to defend the western portion of the Regimental TAOR from, but not including, the railroad tracks west to, but not including, the road passing HIEU DUC District Headquarters, coordinates (AT 942689). Company I provided security for ASP #1, coordinates (AT 985733).

a. At 290900H, Company M, conducting a search and destroy operation in the area from AN TRACH (1) hamlet, coordinates (AT 972662) to LE SON (3) hamlet, coordinates (AT 974646), reported that a platoon moving in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 969646) received an estimated thirty small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 968643). The Marines returned the fire with four 81mm (M-79) rounds and approximately one hundred sixty small arms rounds. At 290913H, a second platoon, moving in a parallel trace in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 970647) received an estimated seventy five rounds of what was described as carbine fire from five Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 964650), resulting in one Marine WIA. The Marines directed approximately two hundred small arms rounds at the Viet Cong position and the Viet Cong attempted to break contact. The Viet Cong were observed fleeing into an extensive canefield and fixed-wing aircraft support was requested. Twelve tanks of napalm and one hundred fifty two 2.5 inch aerial rockets were delivered into the area, coordinates (AT 966650), (AT 977653), (AT 973650), (AT 962641), (AT 973642), and (AT 965655). A search of the area revealed two 1 pound blocks of TNT, (which were destroyed in place) and extensive blood traces and what was believed to be the residue of human entrails which would indicate Viet Cong casualties. Based on this evidence, one Viet Cong KIA and three probable Viet Cong KIA are shown in paragraph D of this INTSUM.

b. At 291200H, a Company M patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 965645) reported receiving two rounds of small arms sniper fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 960654). The Marines directed five 81mm mortar rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong broke contact. No casualties were reported.

c. At 291200H, a Company L platoon positioned at coordinates (AT 962 660) reported receiving an estimated twenty rounds automatic and semi-automatic small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 960659). The Marines directed five small arms rounds at the enemy position and the enemy fire ceased. At 291215H, this same platoon reported receiving an estimated nine rounds small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 956664). The enemy fire was not repeated and the exact enemy location could not be determined. No USMC casualties were reported. Enemy casualties could not be determined.

d. At 292040H, Company M reported receiving what was tentatively identified as one 81mm mortar HE round in the company C.P. position, coordinates (AT 967662). No casualties were reported. The report stated that a crater analysis will be conducted on 30 December to establish the identity of the explosive. Additional information will be provided when available.

CONFIDENTIAL(4) Special Reports.

a. At 291930H, Division FSGC relayed a request from a U.S. Army advisor (radio call sign "Antenna Whip 41A") assigned to the 51st ARVN Regiment that artillery fire be directed at areas reported by local villagers to be occupied by two Viet Cong battalions. The report stated that the battalion was dispersed in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 970574), (AT 974574), and (AT 976574). Twelve 105mm artillery HE rounds and six 155mm artillery HE rounds were directed at the reported areas with undetermined results. (S-2 comment: The initial report received indicated that the presence of the Viet Cong force was confirmed. A subsequent report from G-2 indicated that the information originated from local villagers and that actual contact with the Viet Cong battalions had not been established although ARVN units have had frequent contacts with unidentified Viet Cong in these areas. G-2 evaluated the information as F-3. (S-2 rates it as F-3)).

b. At 292205H, G-2 relayed a report from HOI AN District Headquarters that a Viet Cong battalion (designation not provided) was located within the TAOR and requested that the Viet Cong force be taken under fire by USMC artillery. The report stated that one company of this battalion, commanded by one DO THANH, was located in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 976646); one company, commanded by one QUOC, was located in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 003628); one company, commanded by one MUA, was located in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 015619); and the battalion C.P. was located at coordinates (BT 003613). HOI AN rated the report B-3. G-2 rated it F-3. In response to this request, a total of one hundred twenty 105mm artillery rounds were directed at the reported Viet Cong positions with undetermined results. (S-2 comment: The company commanders, DO THANH and QUOC, have been previously reported as commanding companies operating in this locale, and Viet Cong battalions have previously been reported in the areas indicated. Although a battalion-sized search and destroy operation conducted in this same area on 27 December failed to produce a major contact, S-2 rates this report as F-3))

(5) Special Reports.

a. At 292145H, the Regimental FSGC received a report from Forward Observer D-2, assigned to Company B, First Battalion, Ninth Marines, that one Viet Cong squad was observed at coordinates (BT 120635) and that artillery fire was requested to be directed at that location. In response to this request, twenty six 105mm artillery rounds were fired at the reported Viet Cong location. At the conclusion of the artillery mission, the observer reported that the Viet Cong squad had been dispersed. No casualties were reported. (S-2 comment: Additional details regarding this action were still lacking at the termination of the reporting period covered by this INTSUM. More information will be provided when available.

c. Reports of information received directly from civilians: No reports were received during this reporting period.

CONFIDENTIALD. Viet Cong casualties:

	<u>For 24 Hour Reporting period:</u>	<u>Cumulative Since 10 Jul 65:</u>
KIA(Confirmed)	1	409
KIA(Possible)	3	159
VC Captured	0	165
VC Captured(WIA)	0	3
VC WIA(Possible)	2	21
VC Suspects	1	937

E. Destroyed and captured enemy material: The following material was destroyed by 2ndBn, 9thMar.

2 - TNT, 1 pound blocks (See 290900H entry, this INTSUM)

F. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications: No reports were received during this reporting period.

C. Ward
C. WARD
By direction

COPY TO:

III MAF	(1)
III MAF POLAD	(1)
G-2	(4)
3dMar	(1)
1/9	(7)
2/9	(6)
3/9	(6)
3/3	(7)
2/12	(6)
FSCC	(1)
S-2	(9)
S-3	(1)
1stAmtracBn	(1)
3dTnkBn	(1)
3dAtBn	(1)
B Co, TnkBn	(1)
C Co, AtBn	(1)
CO	(1)

PAGE 5 OF 5 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

#174

①

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/CW/jda
3800
302400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #175, Period ending 302400H, December 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period.

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	<u>BMCT</u>	<u>SUNRISE</u>	<u>SUNSET</u>	<u>EECT</u>	<u>MOONRISE</u>	<u>MOONSET</u>	<u>MOON PHASE</u>
31 Dec	0647	0710	1842	1905	1255	0031	1/2

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1stBn, 9thMar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), the USAF Troposcatter site on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 068853), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company D provided security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. At 300930H, a Company B patrol reported apprehending three suspicious persons at coordinates (BT 113648). The report stated that the patrol was investigating an area in which frequent Viet Cong contact has occurred when the suspects were sighted by the Marines. During routine investigation, it was noticed that one of the suspects had several scars on his chest which appeared to have been the result of fragmentation wounds. The suspects were apprehended when the suspect could not (or would not) provide an explanation for the scars. The report added that although the suspects were classified as suspicious persons (not as Viet Cong Suspects) it was necessary to evacuate them to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point as HOA VANG District Headquarters refused to accept them for investigation because they were apprehended in DIEN BAN District. (S-2 comment: The evacuation of the suspects to DIEN BAN District Headquarters by surface route would provide unnecessary hazard. Under the circumstances, suspects must be evacuated to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point or released).

CONFIDENTIAL

b. At 301100H, the Battalion S-2 reported that engineers searching for mines detected a metallic mass at coordinates (BT 067682). When the material was unearthed, it was found to consist of a (partially emptied) can of oil thinner and a wheel hub. The Battalion S-2 commented that, on 27 December, engineers unearthed a similar cache at coordinates (BT 068689). Both caches were buried approximately six inches below the surface of a well-frequented trail. The Battalion S-2 suggested that perhaps the material was deliberately planted by the Viet Cong to determine the Marines' mine-clearing techniques or to cloak mining operations in the future.

c. At 301100H, Company C reported that a villager of MAN QUAN (1) hamlet, coordinates (BT 035687) (identified only as an "old man"), reported to the Commander of the second platoon, that fifty Viet Cong are establishing positions across the SONG VINH DIEN (river) in the vicinity of LINH LAC (1) hamlet, coordinates (BT 028684) and MIEU DONG (2) hamlet, coordinates (BT 028681). The Battalion rated the report F-6. (S-2 rates it F-6).

d. At 301130H, a Company B patrol operating in the vicinity of [redacted] hamlet, reported sighting movement in a trenchline at coordinates (BT 088673). Marines deployed and maneuvered close enough to the trenchline to deliver a [redacted] tation grenade into that portion in which movement was noticed. The report stated that, almost immediately upon throwing the grenade, the Marines received one [redacted] from the suspected area. The Marines directed approximately two hundred small [redacted] rounds into the area in, and around, the trench. A search of the trenchline produced negative results. When the search was extended to include the nearby hamlet, the Marines found a fence that was booby-trapped with an M-26 grenade, but contact was not renewed. The report added that the Viet Cong encountered was believed to have totalled three men, but did not indicate the basis for this estimation. No casualties were reported.

e. At 301855H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from the HOA LAM Village Chief that one Main Force Viet Cong squad, identified as an "intelligence squad", is located in MY THI hamlet, coordinates (BT 072709), and NUOC MAN hamlet coordinates (BT 076706) (neither hamlet appears on current operational map). The report stated that all members of this squad are armed with automatic weapons (type not indicated). The report continued that one Main Force Viet Cong company is located at TRA KHE (2) hamlet, coordinates (BT 073670). The report identified one NGUYEN DOA as the commander of this company. The report also stated that two Main Force Viet Cong platoons are located in HOA PHUNG, KRUE DONG, BA TUNG, and BINH KY village complex areas (all locations are situated to the west of Marble Mountain in the area delineated by the SONG VINH DIEN and SONG CAN BIEN (rivers)). The report added that one Viet Cong platoon is located at MAN QUAN (1) hamlet, coordinates (BT 034688). This unit is equipped with one 60mm mortar. The Battalion S-2 rated this report C-3. (S-2 rates it C-3).

(2) 2ndBn, 9thMar. Continued to defend the central portion of the Regimental TAOR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEN (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (AT 998707); and provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of MIEU DONG (1) hamlet, coordinates (BT 017668).

CONFIDENTIAL

a. At 301005H, Company F reported that two Vietnamese males from LE SON (3) hamlet, coordinates (AT 969648) approached the company C.P. position, coordinates (AT 986661), seeking medical assistance. The villagers received first-aid treatment, and, while waiting evacuation to a medical facility, informed the Marines that the Viet Cong who had been occupying LE SON (3) hamlet had withdrawn from the hamlet at the commencement of the Marines' search and destroy operation (27 December) and proceeded in the direction of the BO BO mountains. The villagers stated that the Viet Cong force consisted of approximately one hundred men, and was armed with mortars (number or type not indicated), machine guns, sub-machine guns, and rifles. The villagers' report added that the Viet Cong were dressed in khaki shirts and shorts. The report continued that, upon the termination of the Marines' operation in the area of LE SON, the Viet Cong returned. The Viet Cong enter LE SON (3) during the night, and spend the daylight hours in the vicinity of DUYEN SON (2) hamlet, coordinates (AT 960660). The villagers stated that the current Viet Cong strength is not known, as they occupy bunkers in the hamlet and thus escape observation. The villagers stated that the Viet Cong return to DUYEN SON (2) hamlet each morning (the Battalion S-2 commented that this may indicate the presence of an underwater bridge or boat crossing as the hamlets are separated by the SONG YEN). The villagers' report added that fear of the Viet Cong reprisals, not fear of the Marines, is responsible for the villagers attitude towards the Marines. The wounded villagers were evacuated to the USOM hospital in DA NANG. The Battalion S-2 rated the information received from the two villagers as F-6. (S-2 rates it as F-6, but believes that additional conversation with the two Vietnamese males during their stay in the hospital may be productive).

b. At 301115H, a Company F squad-sized patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 996635) reported receiving a heavy volume of automatic and semi-automatic fire from an estimated fifteen Viet Cong located in three separate positions in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 001635). The report indicated that the Viet Cong fire approximated four hundred fifty rounds. The Marines directed five LAW(M-72) rounds, three 3.5 inch rocket rounds, twelve 40mm(M-79) rounds, and approximately one thousand small arms rounds at the enemy positions. When the Viet Cong fire persisted, artillery support was requested and forty 105mm artillery rounds were delivered in the target area and the Viet Cong broke contact. An Aerial Observer reconnoitered the site but could not observe indications of enemy casualties. The report however, stated that two Viet Cong were believed to have been casualties of the Marines' fire. No Marine casualties were reported.

c. At 301440H, Company F reported that a local policeman who had been working with the Marines for some time was apprehended while in the act of stealing a grenade and food from a Marine bunker. The report stated that the policeman had also been observed leaving the company area daily between 0400-0500 and that previous thefts may also have been committed by him. The report continued that the policeman was evacuated to MIEU BONG Barracks, for further transfer to DIEN BAN District Headquarters. The report did not indicate whether a formal complaint would be presented to the GVN authorities at DIEN BAN.

d. At 301745H, a Company F patrol reported finding an assortment of explosives at coordinates (AT 997642) when a metal punji stake was uprooted from the earth. Discovered hidden beneath the stake was a quantity of explosive (identified as C-4) and one 40mm(M-79) shell. The report indicated that this cache was not rigged to detonate or booby-trapped. The report stated that this patrol also discovered one

CONFIDENTIAL

M-26 grenade at coordinates (AT 996636) and a second M-26 grenade at coordinates (AT 995642). The report added that all the explosives were destroyed in place by demolitions.

e. At 301850H, the Battalion S-2 forwarded to Regiment an intelligence report originally received by Company H from an unidentified GVN Popular Force soldier who delivered the document to the company C.P. The report stated that a Viet Cong battalion (designation not provided), equipped with mortars and machine guns and wearing dress(?) uniforms, is located in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 976646), (BT 003628), (BT 015619), and (BT 003613). The report stated that the Viet Cong are constructing fortifications and requiring the local villagers to provide food for the Viet Cong soldiers. The report added that this Viet Cong battalion had ordered the local guerrillas to mine Highway #1 in the area between BO MUNG, coordinates (BT 025 656), south to BICH TRAN (not indicated on current operational maps), and to waylay busses travelling the highway so as to capture GVN cadre. The report was dated 29 December and was not rated. (S-2 comment: A similar report was received 292205H from HOI AN District Headquarters. It is probable that both reports originated from the same source. S-2 rated it F-3).

(3) 3dBn, 3dMar. Continued to defend the western portion of the Regimental TAOR from, but not including, the railroad tracks west to, but not including, the road passing HIEU DUC District Headquarters, coordinates (AT 942689). Company I provided security for ASP #1, coordinates (AT 985733).

a. At 301100H, a Company K patrol operating in the vicinity of CAM NE (2) hamlet, coordinates (AT 973688), reported observing two Vietnamese males within the hamlet engaged in what appeared to be leaflet distribution. The report stated that, when the men sighted the Marines' approach, they attempted to flee. The Marines ordered them to halt, then fired at the duo, initially wounding one. The wounded man and his companion continued their flight until additional firing again struck the wounded man, and this time killing him. The report added however, that prior to receiving the additional hits, the wounded man succeeded in tossing what was identified as a pistol into the waters of a nearby rice paddy. The second man ceased running and was captured by the Marines. The report stated that examination of the body of the dead man disclosed Viet Cong propaganda leaflets, documents, and equipment (including an M-26 grenade, cartridge belt, and first aid packet), which established that he was a Viet Cong. Various documents were also found which were believed to be related to Viet Cong activities in the area. The second man was not armed, and the report did not indicate whether any documents or equipment was found on his person. The captive was evacuated to the Third Marine Division Prisoner Collection Point as a Viet Cong Suspect and the documents, leaflets and equipment delivered to ITT for evaluation. The report added that the pistol that the Viet Cong discarded into the waters of the rice paddy could not be recovered.

b. At 301200H, a Company L patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 955645) reported receiving an estimated fifteen rounds small arms fire from Viet Cong positioned at coordinates (AT 953647). The Marines directed approximately thirty rounds small arms fire at the enemy position, and the Viet Cong broke contact. No casualties were reported.

CONFIDENTIAL

c. At 301910H, Company M reported receiving an estimated three hundred small arms rounds in the company C.P. position, coordinates (AT 971663) from an estimated ten Viet Cong armed with automatic (including one machine gun) and semi-automatic weapons positioned in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 969665) and (AT 965665). The area was illuminated with 81mm mortar illumination rounds and the Marines directed approximately two hundred fifty small arms rounds at the enemy positions and the Viet Cong broke contact. A patrol dispatched to renew the contact reported negative results. No Marine casualties were reported. Enemy casualties were not determined.

(4) Special Reports.

a. At 300645, G-2 reported that, at 300520H, DAI LOC District Headquarters, coordinates (AT 915579) and ARVN forces located at Hill #65, coordinates (AT 879577) were attacked by an estimated Viet Cong Battalion, armed with mortars and small arms. The report stated that communications between the District Headquarters and ARVN personnel on Hill #65 was interrupted. The report added that artillery concentrations were fired in defense of the beleaguered positions and that a flare ship provided illumination. No additional information was provided.

b. At 301815H, the Ninth Marines Liaison Officer assigned to the 59th GVN Regional Forces Battalion Headquarters at MIEU BONG relayed a report from HOA VANG District Headquarters that a Viet Cong battalion, commanded by one LEY SON, is displacing to the vicinity of coordinates (AT 957680) and (AT 964690). The report stated that the mission of this battalion is to interfere with the pacification program. The report was rated B-2. (S-2 comment: The presence of a Viet Cong battalion in the areas indicated is doubtful. The presence of several platoon-sized units or one company is possible. S-2 rates the report F-4).

c. At 301920H, the Ninth Marines Liaison Officer assigned to the 59th GVN Regional Forces Battalion at MIEU BONG reported that villagers from CAM NE complex, coordinates (AT 979686), moved into YEN NE (3) hamlet, coordinates (AT 979679) and informed People's Action Team members in that hamlet that many Viet Cong (number not indicated) are presently located in CAM NE (1) hamlet, coordinates (AT 985692) and CAM NE (2) hamlet, coordinates (AT 988688). The report did not provide additional information and was not rated. (S-2 rates it as F-3).

d. At 302245H, G-2 relayed a report from an unidentified U.S. advisor assigned to GVN Popular Forces and Regional Forces unit(s) at DAI LOC that Viet Cong have established a headquarters in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 880571). The report stated that villagers who reside in this location have evacuated to other areas. The report continued that the Viet Cong have positioned a radio apparatus at this location and are presently transmitting (CW) traffic. G-2 added that the unit (headquarters?) is confirmed. (S-2 comment: The coordinates indicated are for Hill #65. An earlier report indicated that a Viet Cong battalion was attacking Hill #65 and DAI LOC District Headquarters (see 300645H entry, this INTSUM). The headquarters denoted in this report may therefore be a battalion headquarters. G-2's comment that this is a confirmed unit may refer only to the headquarters unit or may intend to confirm the presence of the battalion. S-2 will rate this report F-6 while awaiting additional details).

CONFIDENTIALC. Reports of information received directly from civilians:

a. See 301100H entry, this INTSUM.

b. See 301005H entry, this INTSUM.

D. Viet Cong casualties:

	For 24 Hour Reporting period:	Cumulative Since 10 Jul 65:
KIA(Confirmed)	1	410
KIA(Possible)	0	159
VC Captured	0	165
VC Captured(WIA)	0	3
VC WIA(Possible)	2	23
VCS Suspects	1	938

E. Destroyed and captured enemy material: The following material was destroyed by 1stBn, 9thMar.

- 1 - Fence(size and extent not indicated)(booby-trapped) (BT 088673)
(See 301130H entry, this INTSUM)

The following material was destroyed by 2ndBn, 9thMar.

- 1 - Punji stake, metal (AT 997642) (See 301745H entry, this INTSUM)

- 1 - Round, 40mm(M-79) (AT 997642) (See 301745H entry, this INTSUM)

Explosive, C-4 (undetermined amount) (AT 997642) (See 301745H entry, this INTSUM)

- 1 - Grenade, M-26 (AT 996636) (See 301745H entry, this INTSUM)

- 1 - Grenade, M-26 (AT 995642) (See 301745H entry, this INTSUM)

The following material was captured by 3dBn, 3dMar.

- 1 - Tube,(pipe), metallic, approximately nine inches in length, with flared base and 3/4 inch threaded portion on opposite end, (Residue within the tube appears to be from dry chemical compound).(AT 958645)

F. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications: No reports were received during this reporting period.

C. Ward
C. WARD

By direction

CONFIDENTIAL

COPY TO:

III MAF	(1)
III MAF POLAD	(1)
G-2	(4)
3dMar	(1)
1/9	(7)
2/9	(6)
3/9	(6)
3/3	(7)
2/12	(6)
FSCC	(1)
S-2	(9)
S-3	(1)
1stAmtraoBn	(1)
3dTnkBn	(1)
3dAtBn	(1)
B Co, TnkBn	(1)
C Co, AtBn	(1)
CO	(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96601

2/CW/jda
3800
312400H DEC 1965

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), (Attn: G-2)
Subj: Intelligence Summary #176, Period ending 312400H December, 1965

1. Summary of the Enemy Situation for the period.

A. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Weather.

(a) A forecast is promulgated every twelve (12) hours by Regimental S-2.

(b) Trafficability of roads/trails within the TAOR remains unchanged.

(2) Astronomical Data.

	BMCT	SUNRISE	SUNSET	EECT	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOON PHASE
1 Jan	0652	0715	1826	1309	1352	0120	1/2

B. Enemy Military Situation.

(1) 1stBn, 9thMar. Continued to occupy positions south of the DA NANG Airbase and south of the SONG CAU DO (river) in the southeast portion of the Regimental TAOR, and provided security for the bridge and water point at coordinates (BT 071700), and the radar station on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 063850), the USAF Troposcatter site on MON KY mountain, coordinates (BT 068853), and the battalion supply point at coordinates (BT 071708). Company D provided security for the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. At 311700H, the Battalion S-2 relayed a report from the HOA HAI Village Chief that one Main Force Viet Cong company is located at TRA KHE (2) hamlet, coordinates (BT 072681), and TRA KHE (3) hamlet, coordinates (BT 070670). The report stated that two Main Force Viet Cong companies, one of which who had recently displaced from VIEM DONG, is now located at TU CAU (1) hamlet, coordinates (BT 038663), and TU CAU (3) hamlet, coordinates (BT 052657). The report continued that two Viet Cong platoons are located at KHUE DONG hamlet, coordinates (BT 050715), and one Viet Cong platoon is at MAN QUAN (1) hamlet, coordinates (BT 035688). According to this report a total of four Viet Cong companies are presently located within the battalion's area, and the mission of these units is to attack US units in the TAOR during the period 1-21 January 1966. The report added that Local Force

PAGE 1 OF 5 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

#176

CONFIDENTIAL

Viet Cong are being utilized as scouts, guides, porters, and to perform similar functions. The Battalion S-2 commented that these Viet Cong will likely attack in this area soon after the Third Battalion replaces the First Battalion. The Battalion S-2 rated this report as C-3. (S-2 comment: The majority of units and locations indicated above have been previously reported by the same and other sources, and it is accepted that the general locales indicated are operational areas for Viet Cong units. Providing current locations for these units is difficult and transitory as frequent displacement within a general operational area is the normal practice. S-2 rates the presence of four companies within the battalion ZOA as C-3).

(2) 2ndBn, 9thMar. Continued to defend the central portion of the Regional TAOR from, and including, the SONG VINH DIEM (river), west to, and including, the railroad embankment, and provided security for the bridge and waterpoint at coordinates (AT 998707); and provided one squad to man checkpoint on National Highway #1, in the vicinity of MIEU DONG (1), coordinates (BT 017668).

a. At 310555H, Company E reported that a Vietnamese national (further identification not provided) provided the Marines with what was purportedly an ARVN intelligence report that the area south of bridge #1, coordinates (AT 998707), along Highway #1 or the railroad embankment, was possibly mined. The intelligence report provided no additional details, but the battalion had both routes examined for possible mines, with negative results.

b. At 311105H, the Battalion S-3 reported that one small arms round was received within the Battalion C.P. position, coordinates (AT 991678), from an undetermined location. A patrol was dispatched to search the area and establish contact, but reported negative results. The report added that ARVN soldiers, who were operating in the area, may have been the source of the round. No casualties were reported.

c. At 311440H, the Battalion S-2, participating in an aerial reconnaissance (by helicopter) of the ZOA reported observing an estimated one hundred one hundred fifty persons wearing what was described as black clothing with white "coolie-type" hats, congregating in the vicinity of the trail junction at VIEU DONG hamlet, coordinates (BT 092652). The report stated that the reason for the assemblage was not known and that surveillance of the area would be maintained. Nothing additional was reported about this incident. (S-2 comment: The current operational map for the area indicates that a church is located at that spot, which may account for the gathering).

d. At 312110H, a Company F patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 990642) reported receiving three small arms sniper rounds from the direction of coordinates (AT 995642), and an additional three small arms rounds from the direction of coordinates (AT 994636). The Marines directed twelve small arms rounds and five 40mm (M-79) rounds at the Viet Cong position. In addition, twenty 60mm mortar rounds and three 90mm (tank) rounds were fired at the enemy locations and the fire was not repeated. No casualties were reported. (The report did not state whether the patrol searched the enemy positions).

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(3) 3dBn, 3dMar. Continued to defend the western portion of the Regimental TAOR from, but not including, the railroad tracks west to, but not including, the road passing HIEU DUC District Headquarters, coordinates (AT 942689). Company I provided security for ASP #1, coordinates (AT 985733).

a. Late Report. At 302336H, a Company L ambush element positioned at coordinates (AT 954655) reported receiving what was tentatively identified as two 60mm mortar rounds and several small arms rounds which appeared to originate in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 955654). The suspected area was illuminated with 81mm mortar illumination and approximately thirty small arms rounds were directed at the position and the enemy fire was not repeated. No casualties were reported. (S-2 comment: Attempts to locate the impact area of the reported two 60mm mortar rounds have so far been unproductive).

b. Late Report. At 302359H, a Company L ambush element positioned at coordinates (AT 957658) reported receiving eight small arms rounds from Viet Cong positioned in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 959657). The Marines directed twenty five small arms rounds at the enemy position and the Viet Cong fire ceased. NO casualties were reported.

c. At 311115H, a Company L ambush element positioned at coordinates (AT 952644) reported receiving approximately fifty rounds from Viet Cong armed with at least one automatic weapon positioned at coordinates (AT 952639). The Marines directed six 81mm mortar rounds and approximately one hundred small arms rounds at the Viet Cong position and the Viet Cong fire ceased. The area was searched with negative results. No casualties were reported.

d. At 311115H, a Company L patrol operating in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 957661) reported receiving ten small arms rounds which did not inflict any casualties. The enemy position could not be discerned and the Viet Cong fire was not returned.

(4) Special Reports.

a. At 310835H, G-3 reported that GVN forces positioned at the THANH QUIT bridge area, coordinates (BT 043621) received nine 60mm mortar rounds and small arms rounds. (The enemy location was not indicated). The report stated that no friendly casualties were incurred. The report added that QUANG NAM Special Sector requested that that portion of Highway #1 in the vicinity of THANH QUIT bridge not be travelled until authorities had the opportunity to search the area for mines. (S-2 comment: At 311224H, G-2 reported that the THANH QUIT bridge was open to traffic).

b. At 310445H, the Regimental FSCC reported that a Viet Cong company, armed with 60mm mortars, is located at coordinates (BT 037627) and (BT 035624). The FSCC did not indicate whether this report was based on a friendly contact, a sighting, or intelligence information. Eighteen 105mm artillery rounds were directed at the reported positions with unknown results. No additional information was provided.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNCLASSIFIED

c. At 311840, G-2 relayed a report that appeared to have originated with the 51st ARVN Regiment that a Viet Cong battalion was located in the vicinity of coordinates (AT 945560). The report stated that an air strike was directed against the area and the pilots reported receiving small arms automatic weapons fire as they approached the target area. The report added that the results of the air strike could not be discerned but that possible heavy-weapons positions were uncovered. No additional information was provided.

d. At 312020H, G-2 relayed a report from HOI AN District Headquarters that an estimated two hundred Viet Cong were located in an area eight hundred to one thousand meters north-northwest of HOI AN (coordinates not provided). The report stated that GVN artillery units positioned at the junction of Highway #1 and #15 is firing at the Viet Cong location. The report added that ARVN troops enroute to the area aboard Armored Personnel Carriers were under attack. (S-2 comment: At 312255H, G-2 reported that the contact had been broken. No additional information provided).

(5) Late Reports.

a. At 312105H, a Company B ambush element positioned at coordinates (BT 072673) reported observing three to four Viet Cong moving to the west along a dike in close proximity to the Marines' position. The Marines directed eighty small arms rounds at the Viet Cong and the Viet Cong fled. The area was illuminated with 60mm mortar and hand-held illumination, and the Marines searched the area, with negative results. No Marine casualties were reported. Viet Cong casualties were not determined.

c. Reports of information received directly from civilians: No reports were received during this reporting period.

<u>D. Viet Cong casualties:</u>	<u>For 24 Hour Reporting period:</u>	<u>Cumulative Since 10 Jul 65:</u>
KIA(Confirmed)	0	410
KIA(Possible)	0	159
VC Captured	0	165
VC Captured(WIA)	0	3
VC WIA(Possible)	0	23
VC Suspects	0	1938

E. Disposition of captured personnel for month of December:

- (1) Total captives taken: 224
- (2) Captives cleared as civilians: 16
- (3) VCS delivered to HOA VANG District HQS: 66
- (4) VCS delivered to ITT: 142
- (5) VCC delivered to ITT: 0

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

F. Destroyed and captured enemy material: No reports were received during this reporting period.

G. Destroyed enemy positions and/or fortifications: No reports were received during this reporting period.

C. Ward
C. WARD
By direction

COPY TO:

III MAF	(1)
III MAF POLAD	(1)
G-2	(4)
3dMar	(1)
1/9	(7)
2/9	(6)
3/9	(6)
3/3	(7)
2/12	(5)
FSCC	(1)
S-2	(9)
S-3	(1)
1stAt traobn	(1)
3dTnkBn	(1)
3dAtBn	(1)
B Co, TnkBn	(1)
C Co, AtBn	(1)
CO	(1)

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 5 OF 5 PAGES

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~