

S-3 SITREPS

32-59 FEB 66

431 NIF

TAB-B

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

3/VTB/rgm  
1500  
1 Feb, 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: CG, Third Marine Division

9th Marines SITREP Number 32 as of 011000Z February 1966

1. Operations

A. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 311800H a tank operating with the 2d platoon, Company A in the vicinity of (BT 093658) detonated a mine immobilizing itself and causing two minor USMC WIA. The platoon also received 15 rounds of automatic weapon small arms fire from (BT 093654) at this time. No fire was returned since a target was not visible. The disabled tank was towed to the Company CP; the two WIA'S were not evacuated.

(2) At 311800H the 1st platoon, Company B on a S/D mission encountered about ten men (BT 049703) armed and appeared to be carrying three mortars strapped to men's backs. The Marines directed about 600 rounds of 7.62, five 3.5 rounds and eight M-79 rounds at the enemy and physically pursued. The VC fled west and then north from the position returning about 200 rounds of small arms fire. The Marines inflicted four VC KIA (body count), two KIA (possible), one VCS WIA captured and evacuated to USNH. Captured equipment including three CHICM grenades, one belt, one notebook, documents and cardboard containers possibly used for mortar ammo. An extensive tunnel network was also located (BT 045704), searched and destroyed.

(3) At 311830H 3d platoon, Company A received sniper fire from the rear of their position (BT 093650); enemy located about 400 yards north-northeast vicinity (BT 093654) and fired about 25 rounds with automatic rifle. Marines returned about 80 rounds of 7.62, three rounds M-79 and searched the immediate area, VC casualties were not evident. Sustained two USMC WIA's (minor).

(4) At 311840H Company, 3d platoon patrol (BT 093658) received about six rounds of sniper fire from some 1000 yards range (west) across the [REDACTED] Fire was not returned because of distance and exact target not determined. No USMC casualties.

(5) At approximately 311845H a Company D FFB (BT 066629) received [REDACTED] rounds of sniper fire from undefined VC position east-northeast of [REDACTED]. Fire was not returned because the target was unknown, sustained one USMC WIA non evacuated (shoulder wound).

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(6) At 311900H the 3d platoon, Company D in PPB (BT 066629) received about 30 rounds of small arms fire from an estimated three VC in trench (BT 067827). The PPB fired eight rounds of small arms, four rounds of M-79 and one M-72 at the muzzle flashes and searched immediate area of the position with no sign of VC casualties.

(7) At 312000H the 1st platoon, Company A, moving into PPB (BT 120643) received one round incoming (estimated) 60mm mortar round; sustained one USMC WIA med evacuated. FO called fire mission on suspected position, fired 15 rounds of 81mm HE and noted secondary explosion in target area. Squad searched area with negative results.

(8) At 312104H the Company D PPB (BT 066629) received five rounds of sniper fire from the southeast. Fire was not returned due to darkness and location of VC unknown.

(9) At 312150H the FO (D3) reported observing from his location (BT 050680) twelve explosions he believed were 81mm mortars; they appeared to be possibly 3000 meters west of him, six air bursts and six ground bursts.

(10) At 312200H 2d platoon Company B PPB (BT 046704) observed about twenty VC along stream bed (BT 042706), some with helmets, mixed uniforms (green and khaki) and one believed carrying mortar on his back. Directed four rounds 3.5 HE and two rounds of 3.5 WP, 400 rounds 7.62 and called 81mm mortar concentration. VC did not return fire, but fled. VC casualties believed four KIA (possible) and six WIA (possible); continued search of area; negative results.

(11) At about 312200H the Company D PPB (BT 066629) received about 30 rounds of sniper fire from several hundred yards south of the position, fire included one automatic weapon. The Marines returned 50 rounds of small arms and fired four M-79 rounds at the vicinity of observed muzzle flashes. Search of immediate area proved negative.

(12) At 312220H the Company A 81mm mortar concentration (#128) was fired (BT 097634) with four rounds of HE. The impacting mortar rounds caused five secondary explosions. Four additional rounds were fired at the target without unusual effect.

(13) At 011420H one platoon from Company K (3/9) was helilifted to (BT 048703) to augment search and destroy forces in that area. Total of six platoons participated; three platoons from Company B, one from Company L (3/9), one from Company K (3/3) and the helilifted platoon (K/3/9). Negative contact as of reporting period.

#### B. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) At about 010800H an ARVN truck was fired upon by estimated four VC (BT 028644) with one AR and several carbines. A squad patrol was dispatched from Company E; search of area was negative; three women indicated the VC proceeded southwest.

(2) At 011050H a Company I squad patrol (Rein) with engineer team and two ontos actuated a booby trap vicinity (AT 985633) resulting in two WIA USMC (one med evacuated); patrol then continued on to HA DONG Bridge, met LVTE and returned to Hill 55.

(3) At 011130H platoon Company F (2/9) made contact with VC vicinity BICH NAM (AT 999638) sustaining one WIA (med evacuated); returned fire with 14 rounds of artillery mission (BT 003632) and an 81mm mortar mission (28 rounds HE, two rounds WP). Tanks were moved to support and Company K (3/2) reserve platoon alerted.

(4) At 011230H platoon Company F was in contact with estimated ten VC, receiving small arms fire and automatic weapons fire. Sustained one WIA (med evacuated). Directed 48 rounds WP and two rounds HE in artillery mission against VC position vicinity (BT 003633) with good effect; tank fired 69 rounds HE and 17 rounds WP 90mm (BT 003633) to (BT 003630). VC fire had ceased, detailed search of enemy positions underway at 1305H.

(5) At 011220H the Company E LVT river patrol (BT 003653) received about 20 rounds of small arms fire estimated three VC armed with carbines on east bank of SONG VINH DIEN. Squad on LVT returned 40 rounds of small arms, and the river block (BT 031648) fired three rounds of 106mm RR at the VC. When one VC attempted to drag another away, the 106mm RR fired another round which caused VC to fall. LVT moved to east bank, Marines search area. One VC KIA (body count), one VC WIA (possible).

(6) At 011550H 3d Battalion, 3d Marines requested Sparrow Hawk to reinforce friendly troops engaged with an estimated five to ten VC at (AT 970650) and (AT 967647). At 011615H Sparrow Hawk squad landed (AT 964643) after UH-1E's conducted airstrike. Sparrow Hawk retracted at 011706H.

## 2. Plans

A. A company search and destroy mission will be conducted in the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines' TAOR in the vicinity of grid square (BT 0662) on 2 Feb 1966.

B. Relief of lined between the 1st and 3d Battalions, 9th Marines has been postponed indefinitely.

C. Combined ARVN and 3d Battalion, 3d Marines S/D operation planned for 1 Feb from (BT 042623) to (BT 030620) will be executed at 1st light on 2 Feb.

## 3. Miscellaneous

A. At 011325H 2d platoon, Company I, (3/3) was moved into positions at ASP#1 relieving H&S Company of assigned duties.

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B. Company B CP(1/9) located (BT 048703).

C. Tank Firing Report (Hill 55)

<u>Coords</u>	<u>90mm expenditure</u>	<u>Target</u>
AT 967468	12 HE	Suspected enemy position
AT 982456	9 HE, 3 WP	Suspected enemy position
AT 947470	12 HE, 3 WP	Suspected supplies
AT 945465	15 HE, 3 WP	Rice storage area

4. Psy-War

A. It was noted by 3d Battalion, 3d Marines that school attendance at AN TRACH (1) increased from usual twenty to forty-four children on 31 Jan 1966; believed due to bridge opening.

B. Company B, 1st Battalion, 9th Marines will conduct an intensive face-to-face persuasion effort with leaflet distribution throughout the company's area of responsibility.

*V. T. Blaz*  
V. T. BLAZ  
By direction

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HEADQUARTERS  
9th Marines  
3d Marine Division, FMP  
FPO, San Francisco, 96601

3/EAH/jlt  
1500  
2 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: CG, 3d Marine Division

9th Marines SITREP Number 33 as of 021000Z February 1966

1. Operations

A. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) At 011842H the Company I CP (AT 967616) directed eight rounds of 90mm WP and 20 rounds of 90mm HE at eight VC observed running south into house across river (AT 974601); AO observed hits on target. Eight VC KIA (possible).

(2) At 011910H Company I reported they were holding one VCS, apprehended (LT 942650); evacuated to ITT.

(3) At 012135H a squad S/D patrol (BT 029644) from Company E (2/9) received about 400 rounds of small arms from unknown number of VC about 600 meters west vicinity AN TU (1) (BT 023643); sustained one Marine WIA. About 250 rounds of small arms were directed at the VC, 11 rounds of 81mm HE placed on target with good effect and four rounds of M-79; commenced area search. Med evac helo received 50 calibre machine gun fire, another squad and two ontos sent to reinforce the patrol. Fifty rounds of 81mm mortar HE directed at the machine gun position. No more movement or fire observed, search was continued, Company K reserve platoon alerted and positioned at Company E CP at 012240H for possible employment. Troops searched Grid Squares (BT 0264), (BT 0364), (BT 0263) and (BT 0363) until 020230H, negative results; reinforcing squad and ontos returned to Company E CP to prepare for daylight S/D Operation.

(4) At 020712H a Company I platoon patrol (AT 955604) received 50 rounds of small arms fire from estimated three VC (AT 953603). The patrol fired 400 rounds of small arms and two 3.5 WP, moved into area and conducted search. Negative results.

(5) At 020900H the Company E (2/9) river patrol consisting of two LVT's with a fire team in each, approached a 6' (diameter) round boat (BT 034655) on LONG VINH DIEN. When grappling hook attached to the boat, it moved & exploded. Found four more round boats on west side of river, each checked with negative results.

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(d) At 020854H a platoon from Company L (3/3) destroyed M-26 booby trap at (AT 954682).

(e) At 020915H a platoon from Company L (3/3) tripped a booby trap (AT 957690) resulting in three USMC WIA (two med evacuated; one being Company L's Commanding Officer).

(f) About 021208H a Marine from platoon of Company L tripped an M-26 booby trap at (AT 954682); second Marine grabbed spoon as pin was pulled. Platoon destroyed booby trap; no injuries.

(g) At 021216H Company L destroyed an M-26 grenade at (AT 954679).

(h) At 021220H booby trap (AT 953678) of 20 pounds of Vietnamese type TNT, initially reported as possible 105mm or 81mm round, with tension device was detonated by a ~~squad~~, Company L, resulting in one USMC DOW and five USMC WIA (med evacuated).

(i) At 021300H this operation terminated; units retracting at this time. Total casualties of this S/D operation were one USMC KIA, eight USMC WIA with three VCS captured and nine booby traps destroyed; one of WIA DOW.

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B. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) Late Report. At 011240H the 1st platoon Company A vicinity HA GIA (BT 112638) received 20 rounds S/A from VC position (BT 110637) about 300 meters to the southwest. The platoon returned fire with S/A and maneuvered to the VC position. A squad was dispatched by the 3d Platoon from Company A CP to reinforce and Sparrow Hawk was landed at 011300 vicinity (BT 110632). Squad blocks were established by the 1st platoon (BT 120634) and (BT 111639) with remainder of platoon and Sparrow Hawk conducting search (west to east) to vicinity block (BT 120634). Sparrow Hawk received S/A at 1522H during helo retraction (LZ) (BT 120634). Suspected VC position (BT 122630); searched with negative results. Twelve VCS were interrogated, one detained. Found empty cartridge casings in huts, one mil. jacket, bottle gun powder, papers, red star cluster (hand), forty .30 cal cartridges; all found at (BT 114648).

(2) At 012150H the 3d Platoon Company D PPB (BT 067629) heard drums beating vicinity PHONG HO (1) and (2) (BT 069629) and (BT 066627). The VC then fired about 100 rounds of S/A at the Marines and three explosion occurred at the base of their position, possible hand or rifle grenades. Fire was not returned because a Marine patrol had departed to the west and could have been in that general vicinity.

(3) At 020100H a squad patrol from L/3/9 via (BT 057728) received two rounds sniper fire several hundred meters southeast. The area was checked, VC positions not determined, no fire returned.

(4) Company D search and destroy operation 2 February 1966, four squads moving southeast crossed LCD vicinity (BT 061629) at 020800H; two tanks mobile block on left vicinity (BT 068628), Company D platoon blocks south and right flank vicinity (BT 066621).

(a) At 020630H the Company D blocking platoon (BT 068622) observed two VC leaving house about 100 meters north. Fired five rounds of S/A, heard one VC scream as they ran into treeline. Searchers heard moaning but only found some blood spots and a cartridge belt with one CHICOM grenade. Owner of house apprehended, no ID. One VC WIA (possible).

(b) At 021007H the Company D sweep force (BT 069617) received four rounds S/A fire from house (BT 070616); fire returned by USMC MG causing secondary explosion, house burned. Searched with negative results, one VC WIA (possible).

(c) At 021015H Company D sweeping force (BT 073619) received one round from sniper (BT 073618); small arms directed at one VC who appeared to be hit when entering tree line. VC casualty not confirmed by the search which followed; one VC WIA (possible).

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(d) At 021240H the 1st platoon, Company D (BT 060633) sighted one VC with weapon vicinity (BT 059634); fired two rounds S/A and pursued. Blood trail led to (BT 058635), no further contact. One VC WIA (possible).

(5) At 021200H the first man in squad patrol, Company C, contacted trip wire vicinity (BT 085668) setting off grenade on dike, two others exploded at middle and rear of patrol and small arms fire from about 200 meters southwest received at same time.. The patrol returned about 300 rounds S/A, two 3.5 HE. 15 rounds M79; a second squad reinforced with two tanks sent to area, fired one round 90mm at the VC position. Sustained two USMC WIA's, one medevac. VC casualties unknown. \*See footnote.

(6) Company B continued detailed search and destroy operation north of GL 69 (between GL's 04 and 08). With C/S, demolitions, smoke machine and engineer support, platoons concentrated on six hamlets, (BT 054698), (BT 058699), (BT 055705), (BT 050713), (BT 056713) and (BT 052717).

## 2. Plans

(A) Company I continues to clear Hill 55 of mines and build roads with LVT's, and construct LVT retraction sites on SONG YEN and SONG BAU XAU Rivers.

(B) First and 3d Platoons, Company K remain under operational control of 1st Battalion, 9th Marines until further notice.

(C) Company L will continue normal patrol, ambush and civic action operations in TAOR.

(D) Company M continues deliberate search and destroy operations in YEN NE (4) in addition to normal operations.

(E) Companies E and F continue normal operations. H&S Company Provisional Platoon conducts patrol and ambush activities in CAM NE (2), (3), (4), (5) and (6) complex.

(F) Aggressive patrols and ambushes, in addition to the six platoon search and destroy operations in the HAI AN Peninsula, will continue throughout the TAOR.

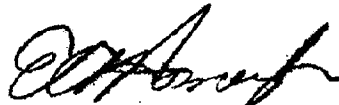
3. Miscellaneous. Thirty prisoner working party was sent to CAM NE (2) (AT 990668) from HOI AN at approximately 020800H. Security is provided by 2d Company, 3d Battalion, 51st ARVN Regiment, prisoners are locked up at HOA VANG overnight.

\*SPARROW HAWK requested; disapproved due to helo availability.

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4. Psy War. The I Corps Psy War Team conducted lectures, face-to-face persuasion, leaflet distribution, and medical treatment in TRA KHE (3) (BT 073667).

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V. T. BLAZ  
By direction

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

3/EAH/rgm  
1500  
3 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: CG, Third Marine Division

9th Marines SITREP Number 34 as of 031000Z February 1966

1. Operations

A. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 021906H a Company B squad located an ammo cache on top of pagoda vicinity KHUE DONG (1) (BT 055704). The cache consisted of: 10-loaded carbine magazines, 9-shotgun shells, 3-BAR empty magazines, 1-WP grenade (US made), 93 rounds .45 cal (include 25 tracers), 91 rounds 7.62 CHICOM, 7-M14 magazines (loaded), 1-magazine Thompson MG, 1-grenade pouch, 100- 7.62 rounds MG, 4-.30 cal rounds, and 395-7.62 mm loose.

(2) At 021915H a member of a Company C squad patrol (BT 035683) actuated a grenade booby trap resulting in three USMC WIA. Five rounds of small arms were received during med evacuation; the patrol returned 30 rounds of 7.62, 75 rounds of M-60 and three rounds of 40mm. Search for VC resulted in locating a second booby trap which was destroyed in place; no evidence of VC casualties.

(3) At 022215H an H&S Company squad, enroute to ambush site, chased a male VCS who was observing their movements. The VCS was apprehended in a house (BT 078711), returned to the En CP upon completion of mission and evacuated to HOA VANG District Headquarters.

(4) SPARROW HAWK. At 030825H the 3d platoon, Company A, on S/D patrol vicinity HA QUANG (4) (BT 107645) drew about 30 rounds of small arms from estimated two VC positioned about 200 meters south resulting in one USMC WIA (med evacuated). The platoon returned the fire with small arms, assaulted the VC position and SPARROW HAWK was requested. The VC fled south and SPARROW HAWK landed and established block vicinity (LZ) (BT 108639) at 030845H. The 3d platoon searched south to the E-W blocking position with negative results. SPARROW HAWK was retracted at 030934H.

(5) At 031220H as a Company D squad patrol (BT 074650) approached a man (BT 074646), the man started to run and would not halt when warned. Patrol then killed him. His ID indicated age as 29, from DIEN BAN District. One VC KIA.

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(6) At 031305H FO Delta called fire mission in support of Company D platoon S/D patrol; the Marines received small arms fire from an estimated six VC south of PHONG HO (1) (BT 067629). Artillery directed 26 rounds HE and 12 rounds of WP 105mm with excellent effect on target. Search of the immediate area produced no confirmation of VC casualties.

(7) At 031415H a 1st platoon, Company K, S/D patrol approached house (BT 045716) suspected to be booby trapped. Marine threw grenade in house resulting in fire which caused secondary explosion. One Marine WIA, med evacuated; negative contact.

(8) At 031430H platoon Company D found one dead VN male (estimated to be 38 years old) (BT 050648). Victim was cold and stiff and had small bore gunshot hole in chest.

(9) At 031450H a platoon, Company K (3/9), was searching area vicinity (BT 045716) when an explosion occurred of unknown origin. One USMC WIA, med evacuated.

B. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) At 021800H the 1st platoon CP, Company M, (AT 963659) received about four rounds of small arms rapid fire from west of the CP. Fire was not returned due to undefined target.

(2) At about 021815H the 1st platoon CP, Company M, (AT 963659) received approximately 20 rounds of small arms fire from some 700 meters southwest along SONG YEN. The platoon did not locate the enemy position; fire not returned.

(3) At 022025H a Company L LP observed movement (AT 953665), threw one M-26 grenade and fired one 81mm illumination round. A squad (-) checked immediate area; no evidence of VC casualties.

(4) At 022010H a Company F (2/9) squad enroute to ambush site, tripped an M-26 grenade booby trap vicinity HA DONG (AT 997644). Sustained one WIA USMC. Non medevac.

(5) At 022120H a Company F (2/9) squad ambush (AT 990656) fired on an estimated six man VC patrol, approaching from the east; platoon observed one VC fall to the ground. The VC withdrew, firing small arms at the Marine position. Estimate one VC WIA (possible), no Marine casualties reported. Area searched with negative results.

(6) At 022130H two Marines, Company M, investigating SID reading, fired 10 rounds of small arms at two men running vicinity AN TRACH (1) (AT 970663). Searched for VC casualties with negative results.

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(7) At 022255H the Company K squad at SONG CAU DO (AT 998705) heard sounds of movement (from two bunker positions) in rice paddy vicinity gully (AT 999705). Used one hand and one parachute illumination, two M-26 grenades and directed about 10 rounds M-14 into the gully area. No further movement heard and no sign of any VC casualties.

(8) At 022345H, the 3d platoon, Company K, (BT 046723) received sporadic small arms from VC located about 100 meters south across SONG VINH DIEN vicinity (BT 046722); exact location of VC could not be determined, fire was not returned. The VC fire killed one older male VN civilian. Marines carried sand across river on 3 February, at request of relatives, in order that he could be buried. A Vietnamese boy was wounded in arm in a similar shooting incident at 030800H, location of sniper approximately the same. Marine squad crossed river in LVT, searched with negative results. VN boy med evacuated.

(9) At 030001H a Company M squad ambush (AT 958653) in AN TRACH (1) hamlet; noted two VC passing to the west and two VC approaching the rear of ambush from the south. The Marines fired about 100 rounds of small arms at the two pairs of VC at this time. The VC did not return the fire and the thickly vegetated area was searched for casualties; evidence of VC casualties not found, nor were any confirmed with detailed search conducted at first light on 3 February. Estimated two VC WIA (possible).

(10) At 031000H a Company L squad patrol vicinity DUYEN SON (3) (AT 950656) had a grenade thrown at them by two VC. The Marines shot one VC apprehended one VCC; both delivered to IIT. One VC WIA captured, one VCC captured; no USMC casualties reported.

(11) At 031000H squad S/D Company I found a 155mm dud (AT 983636) and a cave 5' by 4' by 3' vicinity (AT 978639); both were destroyed.

(12) At about 031045H a squad S/D, Company L, located an old punji trap about one foot deep vicinity LA CHAU (2) (AT 946674); destroyed, filled in hole.

(13) SPARROW HAWK

(a). At 031130H Company L received heavy small arms fire from estimated 15 VC (AT 957663) vicinity DUYEN SON (2). Battery F (2/12) fired 16 rounds of HE 105mm; excellent effect on target.

(b) At 031158H SPARROW HAWK was activated; situation found estimated 10 VC with automatic weapons vicinity DUYEN SON (2) (AT 953663); LZ (AT 945650) about 1300 meters southwest, M-1/3/3 blocking on east bank of SONG YEN, L-3/3/3 (AT 962660) moving on enemy from river (east), L-2/3/3 moving on enemy from north (AT 956664), Company L tanks blocking west vicinity DUYEN SON (4) (AT 947662). Reserve platoon K-2/3/3 alerted for helilift.

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(c) At 031250H helilift of reserve platoon K-2/3/3 commenced, first elements landed (LZ) (AT 950645) south vicinity PHU SON (2) spreading block east to SONG YEN at 031255H. SPARROW HAWK squad meanwhile swept southwest to northeast. M-1/3/3 still blocking on east side of SONG YEN, had shifted block to cover about 700 meters of bank west of AN TRACH (2) and (3) (AT 965653).

(d) SPARROW HAWK 3 (Gunship) fired a mission in support of SPARROW HAWK squad prior to landing, a second mission in preparing LZ for K-2/3/3 and a third mission after UH-34's drew fire on the ground.

(e) By 031300H, with tanks still blocking west and M-2 blocking east, (helilifted) K-2/3/3 had moved southern blocking position north to E-W grid line (651). SPARROW HAWK squad and L-2/3/3 linked up and conducted detailed search south through the target area.

(f) At 031445H while searching the area the SPARROW HAWK squad received three WIA and one KIA, and 2d platoon, Company L one WIA from booby traps, five USMC med evacuated.

(g) Company L destroyed one 81mm dud at (AT 953659); further search of area produced negative results.

(h) SPARROW HAWK secured at 031555H.

## 2. Plans

A. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines. Will continue Operation Triangle (search for VC mortars/positions in KHUE DONG Forest (BT 0570)) area. Six platoons will continue search and destroy operation ~~where~~ the area will be combed for tunnels, fortifications and other similar enplacements which will be destroyed.

B. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines. Continues in support of Operation Double Eagle with the Battalion Command Group and two rifle companies.

C. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines. Continues patrol and ambush activities; extensive river patrols utilizing six LVT's with a maximum of one fire team per LVT. River patrols will be on SONG TUY LOAN (AT 9669), SONG VINH DIEN (AT 0472) and SONG BAU XAU (BT 0267).

## 3. Miscellaneous

A. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines reserve force is now one platoon (-) of Company F, 2d Battalion, 9th Marines.

B. 11th Ranger Battalion will conduct a search for 120mm mortar in Grid Squares (BT 0268), (BT 0269), (BT 0369) and (BT 0370) (West of river) on 4 February.

4. Psy War. No outstanding Psy War ops during this period.

*Approved for*  
V. T. BLAZ  
By direction

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

3/DCS/jlt  
1500  
4 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: CG, 3d Marine Division

9th Marines SITREP Number 35 as of 041000Z February 1966

1. Operations

A. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 032215H the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines reported that an ARVN Tourane River patrol (vedette) vicinity (BT 045740), with Marine communicators aboard, received small arms fire from the west bank of river. The vedette returned the fire, sustained two VN and one USMC WIA's and withdrew to its pier. The 1st Battalion determined through the 3d Battalion that a Marine patrol on the west bank had accidentally fired on a 25 foot launch and received fire. All casualties were minor. No hospitalization required.

(2) At 032015H a Company D squad patrol (BT 078642) reported hearing explosion similar to impacting 81mm mortar round southeast of its position; origin and exact nature unknown. Patrol checked area but could not ascertain any details of the incident.

(3) At 041230H a Company C squad patrol apprehended one VCS north of CAU HA (2) (BT 084661). The man attempted to avoid patrol and ran but halted when challenged. Returned to Bn CP for interrogation.

B. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) At 031820H an engineer team with Company L destroyed three mounds in place, one 81mm round (AT 953654), one 60mm round (AT 946662) and one M-26 grenade (AT 946664).

(2) As of 032125H, clearing operation vicinity Hill 55 had progressed to the south along river to (AT 974613) where two ramps have been constructed to permit LVT's easy access to the bank or river. Six line charges have been used and nine secondary explosions achieved, one of which was possibly a 155mm shell or larger. The VC mines were laid in triangular pattern on crests that might be used by vehicles. Plan to continue southwest, clear ridge (GS 9661) and crest (AT 968613).

(3) At 032244H an H&S Company provisional platoon position, on CP perimeter (AT 962685), received six rounds of small arms automatic weapons fire. Exact source of the fire could not be determined. No fire was returned, no USMC casualties reported.

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(4) At 040150H the Company E (2/9) platoon at VINH DIEN riverblock (BT 031648) fired AR and M-79 at three VC tampering with cable. Observed one VC hit, two VC dragged him into the brush. VC did not return fire. Search at first light on 4 February produced no bodies. One VC WIA (1 as).

(5) At 041143H a Company L squad patrol northeast of PHU SON (2) (AT 951650) received small arms automatic fire from estimated three VC located (AT 953650) about 200 meters east, near the SONG YEN. The patrol returned the fire with small arms, called a 17 round 81mm mortar (WP) mission and then assaulted the position. A detailed search provided no evidence of VC casualties.

(6) At 041200H a squad LVT river patrol, Company E (2/9), received small arms and automatic fire from three VC on SONG VINH DIEN river bank (BT 041701). Returned fire with small arms and one round of M-79, killed one VC (body count) before the VC fled. Dead VC had cartridge belt and one CHICOM grenade on body, weapon fell in river.

(7) At 041420H ten VC sighted in open (AT 953656); Battery F (2/12) fired 105mm artillery mission of 36 HE (VT) and four HE (Q). One squad, Company L, searched for VC casualties with negative results.

(8) At 041430H Co L sqd LVT patrol (AT 962677) rec'd about 30 rds S/A from both sides SONG YEN. Returned S/A, 2-M79's, 1-81mm (WP) (not obs). LVT had maneuver problems. Two USMC WIA. Rec'd no more fire from VC; searched with negative results.

(9) One platoon (-), Company E (2/9), conducted S/D patrol through grid squares (BT 0265), (BT 0264), (BT 0263), (BT 0364), (BT 0363) and (BT 0362); one platoon, Company F (2/9), conducted S/D in grid squares (AT 9961), (AT 9962) and (AT 9963), a light section of tanks in support located (AT 981623). Operation commenced at 04730H and terminated 041600H.

## 2. Miscellaneous

A. At 031810H it was reported that the schoolhouse in AN TRACH (1) vicinity (AT 972662) was burned to the ground; desks, chairs and equipment were saved. It was believed the fire was a result of Vietnamese children playing with matches but further investigation of 4 February indicated a 10 year old boy may have received 100 Piasters for starting fire with promise of 900 Piasters after burning; boy to HOA VANG District Headquarters for questioning.

B. In the CAM NE complex vicinity (AT 980690) the 2d Company was replaced by the 3d Company, 3d Battalion, 5th Regiment ARVN as of 031855H.

C. IGen KRULAK CG, FMFPAC visited units of the 9th Marines today. The General presented awards and spoke to Marines at front line positions.

General KRULAK was accompanied by MGen McCUTCHEON CG 1st MAW, and Colonel GORMAN, CO, 9th Marines.

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C. The Bobby Rydell USO troupe entertained units of the 9th Marines from 1400H - 1500H at the Regimental Headquarters.

3. Plans A. 3d Bn. 3d Mar. Commencing at 040600H, in LA CHAU (1) (AT 944685), USMC elements will establish cordon around village prior to first light. VNAF forces will land by helicopter, and conduct thorough search of village area. In conjunction with VNAF forces, Company L will provide one squad with CS/CN and gas masks for search of reported caves in the village area. Task Organization consists of Command Group and two platoons of Company L from 3d Battalion, 3d Marines; one platoon of Company A, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines; one platoon of VNAF; elements of HIEU DUC District Headquarters. Company I will continue mine clearing operations utilizing LVTE's, and bunker construction on Hill 55. Company I will conduct one platoon (Rein) search and destroy operation in grid squares (AT 9361), (AT 9360), (AT 9461), (AT 9561) and (AT 9560). During initial patrol approach into area, one squad will drop off and move to effect an anvil block on later patrol route, with remainder of platoon continuing on patrol and effecting hammer. First and 3d platoons, Company K, remain under OPCON of 1st Battalion, 9th Marines. Second platoon, Company K, remains as 3d Battalion, 3d Marines and 2d Battalion, 9th Marines TAOR reserve force for exploitation of enemy contacts, and as security force 2d Battalion, 9th Marines CP area. Company M continues deliberate search and destroy operations in YEN NE (4), (AT 970670) in conjunction with pacification team and local villagers' participation. Seventy percent of the LA BONG (1) - YEN NE (4) complex has now been cleared, and 27 families have reoccupied LA BONG (1) (AT 972671) during the past month. Companies E and F conduct normal aggressive patrolling and ambush activities in assigned sectors. LVT patrols conduct reconnaissance for possible retraction and splash points to circumvent bridge at (AT 962660). Code name OPERATION SKULL.

D. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines. Will continue Operation Triangle (search for VC mortars/positions in KHUE DONG Forest (BT 0570) area. Six platoons will continue search and destroy operation where the area will be combed for tunnels, fortifications and other similar emplacements which will be destroyed. Aggressive patrols and ambushes and search and destroy operations will continue in 1st Battalion, 9th Marines' TAOR.

*V. T. Blaz*  
V. T. BLAZ  
By direction

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

3/EAH/rgm  
1500  
5 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: CG, Third Marine Division

9th Marines: SITREP Number 36 as of 051000Z February 1966

Operations

A. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines. At 051030H Company D platoon patrol sustained one WIA (Non battle) when Marine stepped into punji pit (BT 044657) while on S/D mission. Non-med evacuated.

B. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) At 041930H a Company M squad S/D reported completion of clearing 300 meters of bamboo vicinity YEN NE (4) (AT 976677); also destroyed 20 foot long (3'x3') tunnel (AT 975675), smoke machine was utilized revealing eight air holes in the tunnel prior to destruction by demolitions.

(2) At 042033H a Company K patrol reported that a Company C, 3d AT Bn, 3/4 PC overturned in lightning storm (AT 986671) along RR bed west of DUONG SON (3). One Marine (Company C, 3d AT Battalion) pinned under truck in paddy was reported DOA at C and C due to drowning.

(3) At 050015H a Company I tank-mounted spotlight revealed one VC west of Hill 55 (AT 964620). Marines directed small arms at the VC and 40 rounds of 60mm mortar fire searched and traversed the defilade area; a squad was dispatched and searched for VC casualties with negative results.

(4) Two platoons of Company L (3/3) and one platoon of Company A (1/1) established cordon around LA CHAU (1) (AT 944685) at first light. CS/CN, gas masks and two dog teams were utilized in search for tunnels. By 0855H the force had 110 reasons for ID check. Operation secured at 050945H with no enemy contact. VNAF intelligence team did not participate as planned. Reason unknown.

(5) At 0715H a Company I squad patrol vicinity CHAU S (3) southwest of Hill 55 (AT 954607) received about 100 rounds of small arms fire from several automatic weapons located some 400 meters to the west. The Marines returned fire with several hundred rounds of small arms, three rounds of 3.5 WP, six rounds of 106mm Ontos, two rounds of 90mm WP and five rounds of 90mm HE. A detailed search of the area provided no evidence of VC casualties.

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(6) At 050745H a Company I platoon patrol southwest of Hill 55 chased two VC toward SONG AI NGHIA (AT 952605). A short time later, the Marine OP (AT 963609) which had observed the chase and saw VC elude patrol, sighted two VC paddling a boat east (AT 963604), fired on the VC and received small arms fire from south of the river (AT 963603). A fire team and an Ontos sent to search, sighted two boats covered with bamboo (AT 966604) on the south side of river but had no contact and returned to the OP. Villagers from vicinity (AT 962605) brought a VN man to the OP with a gunshot wound in the arm; the man is believed to be one of the men who ran from the patrol and was seen on the river.

Classified as a VCS and

evacuated to C Med.

(7) At about 051330H AO reported that four armed VC in uniforms on SONG LA THO beached and joined three others vicinity (Y) (BT 019607), on southwest bank. To the east the AO observed seven VC in trenchline vicinity (BT 020605); artillery mission fired at (BT 020605) expending 30 HE (q) rounds and 35 HE (vt) 105mm. AO reports that rounds hit directly on target. AO estimated two VC KIA.

2. Plans. Company K (Rein), 3d Battalion, 3d Marines will conduct a company size operation in response to intelligence information that VC meeting is being held in a hamlet vicinity (GS 9557). Operation scheduled to commence 051730H and terminate at about 051930H. Insertion by helicopters. Retraction will be accomplished at first light 06 February if mission not completed by nightfall of 05 February.

(LATE ENTRY: The Operation postponed at last minute.)

3. Miscellaneous. The 1st and 3d platoons returned to Company K, 3d Battalion, 3d Marines from OPCON 1st Battalion, 9th Marines 051535H and the company is located in 2d Battalion, 9th Marines' CP (AT 992677).

#### 4. Psy-War.

A. Twenty-seven families moved back into YEN NE (4) (AT 976677) in the three weeks Marines and Pacification Teams have been working in the hamlet. Families have indicated others intend to return also. At a meeting in AN TRACH (1) (AT 972662), villagers indicated:

(1) desire that strategic hamlets be made of AN TRACH (1), YEN NE (4) and LA BONG (1) (AT 975675).

(2) that they plan barbed wire and bamboo fences around hamlets with controlled entrances.

(3) that they plan to organize a militia for protection against VC attacks.

(4) that they desired the Marine Corps provide 4600 feet of barbed wire to help build the fences.

B. The I Corps Psy-War Team will operate in TRA KHE (3) (BT 073669) on 06 February 1966.

V. T. BLAZ

2 By direction

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

3/DCS/jlt  
1500  
6 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: CG, 3d Marine Division

9th Marines SITREP Number 37 as of 061000Z February 1966

1. Operations

A. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) LATE ENTRY. At 051545H a Company A tank-mounted squad (platoon patrol), vicinity DONG THOI (BT 090626), observed four VC about 500 meters east near the river and another group of four VC about 900 meters west of Marine position. The Marines directed fire at near group (east) and pursued to treeline. One VC KIA (body cunt), one CHICOM grenade and one US hand illumination grenade recovered; one VCS apprehended, evacuated to ITT.

(2) At 052115H, an H&S Company squad ambush was positioned vicinity (BT 075689), fire team leader fired one round at crouched figure to rear (and moving past) his position. The shot resulted in accidental arm wound to squad leader; evacuated Marble Mountain Hospital.

B. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) At 052105H a squad river patrol (Co L) utilizing two LVT's heading north on SONG YEN, west of LA BONG (1) (AT 965672), received small arms automatic weapons fire from river bank (AT 967670). The rear LVT returned fire with small arms and M79's. The lead LVT, 200 meters forward, turned to support and received about 20 rounds small arms from second VC position (AT 963674); small arms and M79's directed at that VC position also. A total of 17-rounds M79 and several hundred rounds small arms were expended; squad patrol (Co L) diverted west of the river vicinity (AT 961670) for support; and squad patrol (Co M) deployed vicinity (AT 967670) to search the eastern bank of SONG YEN. The VC broke contact before squads ashore positioned; efforts to regain contact or locate VC casualties unsuccessful.

(2) At 052220H a Company M squad patrol, searching AN TRACH village (AT 968658) for reported five VC armed with one machine gun and two rifles, reported negative results their search. Villagers reportedly claimed VC fled south into cane field before Marines arrived but no evidence found to support or refute claim.

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(3) At 061115H a squad search and destroy (Co L) apprehended two VCS vicinity AN TRACH (AT 956659); both of military age, evasive to questions. Evac to ITT.

(4) At 061150H a Company I platoon on search and destroy mission vicinity (AT 960603), received about thirty rounds of small arms fire from unknown number of VC positioned 100 yards south across SONG AI NGHIA (AT 960602). The Marine platoon fired about 100 rounds small arms, three rounds 3.5 (WP) and three 106mm RR in brief engagement. The VC broke contact; the platoon did not search area due to contact being outside TAOR.

(5) At 061553H a Company I platoon S/D patrol destroyed a tunnel under bamboo tree line (AT 948608); tunnel was 15'x12'x10', entrance 1'x1', reinforced with 4x4's, two air holes. Smoke machine used but dogs failed to find any VC or weapons.

2. Plans

A. Prior to first light 7 February, a Company I (3/3) platoon (Rein) will cordon the village of XUAN DIEM (2) (AT 963628). After establishing the cordon, conduct a thorough and deliberate search and destroy mission within the village; two dog teams to be utilized.

B. Company I (3/3) and Company F (2/9) will conduct a coordinated LVT patrol (two LVT's and rifle security squad) commencing at 070900H, from vicinity HA DONG (AT 998641) to new LVT retraction point at (AT 973613), to Hill 55, and return.

C. Company K (3/3) will conduct:

(1) day and night LVT patrols along SONG YEN, SON TUY LOAN and SONG CAU DO.

(2) deliberate search and destroy operations in conjunction with platoon moving patrol bases (2d and 3d platoons) in the DUONG LAM, BO BAN, LA CHAU (3) and CAM NE (3), (4), and (5) complexes.

(3) A Company (-) search and destroy operation commencing at 070800H from north to south along both banks of the SONG YEN River, from vicinity (AT 963690) to (AT 964673). Two Company K squads will move to blocking positions on both sides of the SONG YEN River at the southern limit of the objective area prior to first light.

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D E. Company L (3/3) conducts company (-) search and destroy operation on morning of 7 February in grid squares (AT 9466), (AT 9566), (AT 9465), (AT 9565), (AT 9464) and (AT 9564). One platoon reinforced with light section of ontos moves south along east side of Highway 5 to (AT 943646), then east to SONG YEN River to block. Company M blocks on east side, Ontos on west side of SONG YEN River. Platoon (-) then searches and destroys south from (AT 957665) through objective area, utilizing two dog teams to assist in locating caves and tunnels.

E F. Company F conducts platoon (Rein) search and destroy operation in grid squares (AT 9863), (AT 9962) and (AT 9961), commencing 071000H. Company I provides one light section of tanks, plus rifle squad, to support with direct and indirect fire from vicinity (AT 981623).

F G. From 1300 to 1700 on 7 February, a 200 man ARVN force from HOA CAM Training Center will search and destroy on north side of SONG TUY LOAN and SONG CAU DO rivers from west to east from (AT 948702) to (AT 997705).

G H. LVT's will deliver bunker material to Hill 55 commencing 7 February, utilizing LVT ramp (AT 973613) completed 6 February. One additional LVT ramp is to be constructed vicinity (AT 953623). Engineers continue to prepare for river barrier construction (AT 973607).

### 3. Miscellaneous

A. The subdivision of the 9th Marines TAOR has been modified effective 060800H. The change constitutes an addition to the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines' TAOR, with new boundary running (NW) from (BT 060721) through coordinates (BT 049729), (BT 038736), southwest through (BT 028727), (BT 025720), southeast through (BT 033716), (BT 035713) to SONG VINH DIEN vicinity (BT 042710). The western boundary then runs south-southwest on the river through coordinates (BT 040700) and (BT 036693), along old SONG VINH DIEN boundary between the 1st and 2d Battalions.

B. All units attached to Company B, 1st Battalion, 9th Marines for triangle operation vicinity (GS 0570) have returned to parent OPCON; platoons of 3d Battalion, 9th Marines released effective 061500H, Company K, 3d Battalion, 3d Marines returned to 3d Battalion, 3d Marines (SITREP #35) effective 051200H.

C. At 061055H during Company B (1/9) S/D mission, a marine threw M-26 grenade into small bunker (BT 049712) resulting in accidental wounding of a (Company L, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines) marine positioned rear of the bunker. The Marine was treated by corpsman, med evacuated.

D. At 061200H Company L (3/3) registered 81mm night defensive fires vicinity Hill 22 (AT 954664) and (AT 949668); barrage registered (AT 956666).

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E. Effective 061700H in 3d Battalion, 3d Marines' area of responsibility.

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>MISSION</u>
1st platoon, Company K	(AT 992677)*	Res platoon (3/3 & 2/9 TAOR)
2d platoon, Company K	(AT 960686)	PPB, S/D
3d platoon, Company K	(AT 961685)	PPB, S/D

\* 2/9 CP

F. At 061340H a returning squad civil affairs patrol (Company D, 1st Battalion, 9th Marines) found 105mm dud (BT 065645) vicinity Company CP. Engineers dispatched, dud destroyed in place.

G. At 061700H Company K (3/3) assumed responsibility for LVT patrols along SONG YEN, TUY LOAN and CAU DO Rivers.

H. Company M (3/3) continued S/D operation 6 February vicinity YEN NE (4) (AT 975677) and providing pacification teams security vicinity AN TRACH (1) (AT 972662); registered 81mm concentration vicinity (AT 972651).

I. Effective 5 February 1966 Sparrow Hawk forces will be considered for employment only during hours 0600-1800.

J. At 061345H the 2d platoon, Company I (3/3) shot and killed two pigs that had wandered into minefield ASP# 1 vicinity (AT 988724).

#### 4. Psy-War

A. The 1st Battalion, 9th Marines continued with face to-face persuasion (Psy-War) efforts incorporated in patrol activities.

B. Psy-War efforts have been reduced due to the lack of helicopter support.

*V. T. Blaz*  
V. T. BLAZ  
By direction

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

3/DCS/jlt  
1500  
7 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: CG, 3d Marine Division

9th Marines SITREP Number 38 as of 071000Z February 1966

1. Operations

A. At 070910H a Company A platoon S/D patrol vicinity HA GIA (BT 108636) received four rounds of small arms fire from about 300 meters south vicinity HA BANG (BT 108633). Returned fire with small arms, pursuit hindered by neck deep water in paddy. Experienced communication failure in efforts to request (SPARROW HAWK) assistance. Sustained one Marine WIA, med evacuated.

B. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) At 061830H a Marine with platoon (Company K) on S/D mission, actuated booby trap of unknown type (AT 957679); resulted in two USMC WIA, med evacuated.

(2) At 062105H a TPS-21, vicinity Company L CP (AT 954667), indicated possible VC squad about 600 meters south of Hill 22 vicinity DUYEN SON (2) (AT 955662). After directing two rounds of 90mm, 14 rounds of 81mm mortars and about 50 rounds of M-60, TPS-21 still indicated enemy presence. Marines fired two rounds of 90mm, 20 rounds of M-60, 20 rounds of 81mm mortars and 22 rounds 105 (HE); TPS negative sighting. Squad search conducted through target area, VC casualties were not evident.

(3) At 070242H a Company K PPB (AT 959685) received about 20 rounds of small arms and two grenades from VC to the west of their position. The exact position was not determined, no fire was returned; no USMC casualties reported.

(4) At 070740H a Company I Marine, vicinity Hill 55 squad OP (AT 970620), stepped on a booby trapped 105mm round. One Marine WIA med evacuated.

(5) The Company K S/D crossed LOL at 070800H east of SONG YEN (AT 965689) and swept south, with a squad providing security on western side of SONG YEN, to a squad blocking position (AT 963672). At 071030H a booby trap (AT 959681) resulted in one USMC WIA, med evacuated to C Med. One booby trap destroyed (AT 950683); one spider trap blown (AT 959682); one tunnel destroyed (AT 958679), CS/CN used on tunnel prior to destruction. Platoon S/D terminated at 071130H.



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(6) The Company L (-) S/D crossed LOD vicinity (AT 947663) at approximately 070800H; onto on west, one platoon blocked south from (AT 943646) east to SONG YEN, one platoon of Company M blocked east along SONG YEN.

(a) At 071013H booby trapped CHICOM grenade destroyed in place (AT 956655).

(b) At 071039H found one rusty canteen and medical supplies (AT 955655).

(c) At 071220H elements linked up, secured operation and returned to CP; negative VC contact.

(7) A platoon S/D operation, Company F (2/9) commenced 071000H vicinity BICH BAC (GS 9863) and south of HA DONG Bridge along RR (GS 9962 and 9961).

(a) At 071133H fired destruction mission on VC prepared defensive positions at (AT 992628); fifty-eight rounds of 105mm HE and 54 rounds of WP were fired with good effect on target.

(b) At 071240H prep fires were fired on VC prepared defensive positions at (AT 992622) prior to platoon patrol moving into area, twenty-four rounds 105mm were fired with good effect on target.

(c) At 071410H a Company F Marine with the S/D force activated a booby trapped M-26 grenade (AT 994624); one WIA, med evacuated.

(d) At 071525H an LVT, in support Company F S/D, detonated a mine vicinity BICH BAC (AT 985637); disabled, towed to HA DONG Bridge (AT 990642); two Marines WIA, med evacuated.

## 2. Plans

### A. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) The 1st Battalion conducts LVT-Infantry patrols on the SCAG CAU BIEN. Ambushes will operate throughout TAOR with emphasis:

(a) Company B - THO TRUNG LUANG (BT 040724) and vicinity XOM TRUNG HOA (BT 052717);

(b) Company D - NGAN TRUNG - PHONG HO complex, grid squares (BT 0564), (BT 0663) and (BT 0662).

(2) In the 1st Battalion, Companies A, B and D operate with a company patrol base and two mobile platoons; Companies C and L (3/9) conduct patrol activities from eight semi-permanent locations.

CONFIDENTIALB. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) Commencing 7 February, the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines will conduct nightly tank-infantry patrol 2200-0100 along S China Sea Coast from AN TRA (1) (BT 087698) north to vicinity MON KY Mountain (BT 067814).

(2) Search and destroy operation originally scheduled for 7 February by Company I, 3d Battalion, 3d Marines (SITREP #37) postponed 24 hours due to LVT's moving bunker material for delivery to Hill 55. This operation will commence 8 February.

(3) Company I, 3d Battalion, 3d Marines will continue to make improvements on defensive positions at ASP# 1 with emphasis on barbed wire installation and three road block constructions at entrances to ASP# 1.

(4) Company K (-) will conduct deliberate search and destroy operations along both sides of the SONG YEN River from (AT 962685) and (AT 958685) northeast in the CAM NE (3) and (4) and BO BAN complexes.

(5) Company M will continue deliberate search and destroy operations in YEN NE (4).

(6) Commencing at first light on 8 February, Company E will participate in a combined search and destroy operation with ARVN and Popular Forces in the village of THANH QUIT (1) (BT 032620). By 080600H, one Regional Force platoon will establish blocking position south of SONG THANH QUIT River vicinity (BT 030617). One Regional Force platoon will establish road block vicinity (BT 023615). One popular force platoon will establish block on east vicinity (BT 036624). Two dog teams will be utilized by search forces to locate enemy and its positions.

C. Miscellaneous.

A. At 071050H a Marine of H&S Company (2/9) stepped on a mine (AT 994677) in the 2d Battalion CP; the wounded Marine was evacuated.

B. Operation Five Mountains

(1) The 51st ARVN Regimental CP, the 59th RF Battalion CP and the NGU HANH SON campaign headquarters moved to BO MUNG (BT 023658). Work on the New Life Hamlet vic (AT 985679) was temporarily halted because of numerous graves encountered in the area. The Hoa Vang District Headquarters Chief has instructed the people to remove the graves or he will take measures to do it. In CAM NE (AT 985690) the Ninth Marines supplied 300 lbs of demolition to support the ARVN Company working in that area.

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(2) Activities for the pacification cadre will continue much the same as last week with continued emphasis on forming youth groups and clearing brush.

C. At 071600H, Company I employed two line charges on Hill 55 vicinity (AT 969619), achieved seven secondary explosions; clearing operations continue.

4. Psy War

A. Report of 070928H indicates approximately 150 Vietnamese attended AN TRACH (1) market vicinity (AT 966664) on 6 February. The market was reestablished by elements of 3/3 in recent past; many utilizing were from LA CHAU villager west of SONG YEN, crossed river on USMC footbridge vicinity (AT 962660).

B. The I Corps Psy War Team conducted lectures with a question-and-answer session and distributed leaflets in the HOA LONG Village area between 070900H and 071500H.

  
V. T. BLAZ  
By direction

CONFIDENTIAL

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

3/EAH/rgm  
1500  
8 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: CG, Third MarDiv

9th Marines SITREP Number 39 as of 081000Z February 1966

1. Operations

A. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 072135H an H&S Company squad moving along route vicinity TRA KHE (2) to ambush position when point man detonated a booby trapped grenade (BT 074678); three Marines WIA, medevac.

B. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) At 071930H a Company L squad (wire team) apprehended two VCS vicinity DUYEN SON (AT 943664); one VCS had 26,500 piasters, the other had 17,700 piasters. Interpreter suspects they are VC supply men, evac ITT.

(2) At 071930H Company M positions (AT 972652) received about 30 rounds of small arms fire from (estimated) six VC approximately 400 meters southwest and northwest vicinity AN TRACH (2) (AT 971649) and (AT 969655). The Marines returned small arms fire and a squad was maneuvered into the area to search. At 071940H a Company M platoon CP (AT 971653) received about four rounds of small arms from a VC position across (west of) the SONG YEN. The Marines directed about fifty rounds of small arms and two rounds 81mm (HE) at the VC; two men were observed running south along the near (east) side of the river; not fired on because a Marine squad was searching in the area. Search for VC casualties met with negative results from both incidents.

(3) At 071935H Company I positions on Hill 55 vicinity (AT 970620) received ten rounds of carbine fire from the northwest, below XUAN DIEM (2) vicinity (AT 963624). Illuminated with tank searchlight; target not located, held fire.

(4) At about 072000H, the platoon positions (F/2/9) at HA DONG Bridge vicinity (AT 990642) received approximately six rounds of S/A fire from BICH BAC vicinity (AT 985637). The VC positions could not be located, fire was not returned.

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(5) At 072115H a Company F (2/9) FT ambush (BT 003664) heard noises 150 meters north (approx); suspecting a VC ambush, the Marines displaced to the north, fired two claymore mines and about 80 rounds of 7.62mm at the position. The FT then searched, found a trench but VC casualties were not evident.

(6) At 072210H the Hq Co squad at bridge #2 (AT 997699) received two rounds of sniper fire from tree line several hundred meters west vicinity PHONG LE (1) (AT 997698). Fired about 200 rounds of small arms and one round of 81mm HE at the area; searched immediate area with negative results.

(7) At 080620H a Company I squad (AT 949609), within 100 meters of intended blocking position, received 15 rounds of small arms fire in four directions. The squad established a 360° perimeter defense and directed about 600 rounds of small arms and one 3.5 WP at the surrounding tree lines and foliage suspected of concealing the VC. After VC fire ceased and a hasty search of immediate area had revealed no sign of VC casualties, the squad continued on original mission establishing a block for S/D force north of CHAU SON (2) vicinity (AT 949608).

(8) At 080955H the (Company I) platoon S/D patrol vicinity CHAU SON (2) received about 15 rounds of small arms fire from (AT 948608); patrol returned small arms and on assaulting the position, received another 15 rounds of small arms from (AT 950608). Small arms were directed at the VC and the second position assaulted. The VC had fled and no sign of casualties found. Further search of the positions, utilizing dog teams, produced one notebook, forwarded to Bn S-2.

(9) At 081055H the Company E (2/9) squad VINH DIEN River block (BT 032648) received about 30 rounds of small arms fire from Pagoda vicinity (BT 033652) on the east side of river. The Marines returned fire with about 100 rounds of small arms and scored direct hit on Pagoda with one round LAW; dispatched one fire team on LVT to search pagoda and vicinity. Search produced no VC casualties; one VC WIA (possible).

(10) SPARROW HAWK. At 081210H elements of Company K received small arms and ~~AW~~ fire from vicinity LA CHAU (3) (AT 957678) while on sweep on both banks of SONG YEN (GS 9568). Sparrow Hawk Frag order was issued at 081220H; Sparrow Hawk was airborne at 1242H, landing 1252H at LZ (AT 963072). The 3d platoon (Company K) blocked on east side of river, as Sparrow Hawk moved into block at (AT 959677) at about 1305H; at 1310H the 2d platoon (Company K), moving south along west side of river, commenced sweep southeast through LA CHAU (3) toward Sparrow Hawk. The 2d platoon (Company K) located one booby trap (AT 960676), cautioned Sparrow Hawk about the high ground hazards in the village, and completed sweep at 1333H without further incident. Sparrow Hawk was retracted at 151556H from LZ (AT 957677).

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(11) At 081324H a squad patrol Company E, (2/9) (BT 013641) received ten rounds of small arms fire from a VC position about 200 meters southeast vicinity PHONG LUC (1) (BT 015640). The patrol returned about 50 rounds of small arms, four rounds of 81mm mortar WP and assaulted the VC position. The VC had withdrawn quickly and the patrol found no evidence of casualties.

(12) At 081330H a Company M squad patrol (AT 969655) vicinity AN TRACH (2) received two rounds of small arms fire from some 300 meters southwest. Small arms fire was directed at the VC and one squad with an Ontos assaulted and pursued, but lost VC in the foliage.

2. PlansA. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) Three LVT/Infantry patrols will be conducted along the SONG CAN BIEN.

(2) One tank/infantry patrol will run between MON KY Mountain (BT 067814) south to vicinity AN TRA (1) (BT 087698).

(3) On 9 February the 2d platoon of Company C will commence operations as a mobile platoon (PPE).

(4) Continues patrol/bush activities from seven mobile PPB's; special emphasis in the HAI AN and TRUNG LUANG peninsulas, the PHONG HO village complex and the horseshoe area.

(5) A PF platoon will be checking ID cards for draft dodgers (1/9 TAOR) 081900-082200H in vicinity (BT 004720), (BT 008712), (BT 010730) and (BT 011724).

(6) One Company 11th Rangers in coordination with one Company of the 39th Rangers conduct one day S/D operation commencing 090730H. Operation within (BT 032648), (BT 042624), (BT 056627), (BT 054640) and (BT 041648); two companies search east from Highway #1. First Battalion, 9th Marines provides two platoons to block; one at (BT 047...) to (BT 051644), second blocks (BT 056641) to (BT 056635).

B. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) Company I continues to clear Hill 55 of mines and duds, utilizing LVT's.

(2) Company I, in conjunction with Company conducts one platoon (main) search and destroy operation utilizing dogteams in villages of XUAN DIEN (2), XUAN DIEN (1), LE SON (3), and THAI CAM (1), (2) and (3). Company M provides blocking force vicinity (AT 972653).

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(3) Company K continues slow and deliberate search and destroy operations along the east and west banks of the SONG YEN River with two squads, reinforced with 60mm mortars and engineer teams. Primary emphasis on 9 February in areas of LA BONG (3) (AT 963677) and LA CHAU (3) (AT 961677). Company K provides one rifle squad as security for LVT river patrols along SONG TRY LOAN, SONG YEN and SONG CAU DO Rivers, and 1st Platoon as 2/9 CP security force and two battalion TAOR reserve to exploit enemy contacts.

(4) Company L leaves one platoon in vicinity of PHU SON (3) (AT 950640) for ambush activities on night of 8 February. On 9 February continues search and destroy operations with two platoons (rein) to south in PHU SON Complex in assigned TAOR. Two dog teams are being utilized by Company L to search out enemy, tunnels and caves in these search and destroy operations, and on patrols.

(5) H&S provisional platoon (-) reinforced Hill 22 to allow greater operational commitments for Company L units. H&S provisional platoon provides one squad as security on river block (AT 971698).

(6) Company M intends to execute large ambush on night of 8 February. Company M provides to serve as blocking force for Company I search and destroy operation vicinity (AT 972653). Continues deliberate search and destroy operations in YEN NE (4).

(7) Company E conducts combined search and destroy operation in THUNH QUIT (1), as originally scheduled for 7 February but postponed 24 hours by ARVN forces. Two ARVN platoons will block at (BT 025618) and (BT 033617) at 080600H. One PF platoon will block vicinity (BT 036624) at 080600H. Company E (-) will search and destroy from west to east into blocking force, commencing 080630H. Company E will utilize two dogteams during search and destroy mission to search out enemy, tunnels and caves.

(8) Company F will conduct normal aggressive patrolling and ambush activities. Company F will prepare to exploit enemy contact on eastern flank of joint Company I-Company M operation.

#### 2. Miscellaneous

(a) Effective 081400H, the Company C (1/9) CP located vicinity water point (BT 071701): the H&S Company (1/9) Provisional Rifle Platoon (106RR) occupy French Bunker vicinity (AT 081697) at AN TRA (1).

(b) In the 1st Battalion TAOR, the 2d ARVN Battalion conducted a search and destroy operation 080800H-081600H between Grid Lines (BT 665) and (BT 670) from the SONG VINH BIEN to the SONG CAN BIEN. Results have not been forwarded to this headquarters at the time of this report.

4. Psy War. Face-to-face persuasion and leaflet distribution continued units throughout TAOR.

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LATE ENTRY (1/9). At 081405H the 2d platoon, Company A, vicinity PHONG HA (BT 094638), sighted four armed VC and received 20 rounds of small arms fire from (BT 099638) about 450 meters east. The platoon returned the fire with small arms, pursued the VC and directed a 15 round 81mm HE mission at the position; one squad reinforced with two tanks set back (BT 105644). The platoon was unable to close with VC because of intervening body of water, but Marine squad with tanks did search area. One VC KIA (possible).

LATE ENTRY (3/3). At 081425H a squad patrol (Company E) made contact with estimated VC platoon vicinity (BT 015627); artillery fired mission and at 081435H a Sparrow Hawk Frag Order was issued; sighting report from (3/3) ALO indicated possible platoon of VC, in green uniforms with helmets, vicinity PHONG LUC (3) (BT 015626). Sparrow Hawk LZ (BT 014634); elements of Company E (2/9) at (BT 017626) and (BT 028640), all moving, no contact. At 081745H still no contact, preparing to retract Sparrow Hawk.

*V. T. Blaz*  
V. T. BLAZ  
By direction



UNCLASSIFIED

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

3/DCS/jlt  
1500  
9 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: CG, 3d Marine Division

9th Marines SITREP Number 40 as of 091000Z February 1966

1. Operations

A. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) At 081845H a Company L squad S/D patrol destroyed two M-26 grenade booby traps, vicinity LA CHAU (AT 957667), which villagers had shown the patrol; arranging money award for the aid.

(2) At 082000H a Company M squad patrol (AT 972657) received about 30 rounds of small arms fire from possible three weapons, including one AW, vicinity LE SON (AT 973658). The Marines attempted to circle the VC position with negative results; no Marine casualties reported.

(3) At 082147H a Company F squad (2/9) approaching their ambush position (AT 990658), received one grenade and observed three men running away. The squad fired small arms at them and pursued; observed one VC fall as though hit by fire but the VC managed to avoid capture in darkness and surrounding foliage. One VC WIA (possible).

(4) At 082345H the squad LVT patrol (Company K) on SONG YEN (AT 963692), received two rounds of sniper fire from west river bank vicinity (AT 962689). The patrol returned about 20 rounds of small arms fire and searched for VC casualties with negative results. Patrol sustained two minor WIA's (one USMC, one USN).

(5) At 091100H a Company E (2/9) patrol (BT 010644) vicinity HA TAY, received about eight rounds of AW fire from a VC some 300 meters west (BT 007645). The patrol called 81mm fire mission, 10 WP and five HE, and assaulted the position; located a network of caves and a tunnel (BT 000648), which have been destroyed. No further contact or evidence of VC casualties.

(6) At about 091145H a Company K platoon patrol sustained one Marine WIA from a booby trap of unknown composition vicinity LA CHAU (3) (AT 959678); did not require med evacuation.

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(7) At 091200H the Company K platoon patrol, while in same vicinity (AT 959677), tripped a booby trap on side of trail, also of unknown competition; three USMC WIA, med evacuated.

(8) At 091230H a Company E platoon on S/D mission (BT 010640) vicinity PHONG LUC (1), observed five VC in trench line some 600 meters south-southwest vicinity LA HO BAC (1) (BT 008634). The Marines directed small arms at the VC and closed on the position; one VC was hit, another seen dragging him away. Called 81mm mission on three VC seen in same area (10 rounds HE, four WP); another VC observed being dragged away. Directed two rounds of 3.5 WP and three rounds of M-79; laid base of fire and assaulted position. Found documents, maps and picture of HO CHI MINH (to Bn S-2). VC casualties not apprehended, no further contact. Two VC WIA.

B. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 081830H the 1st platoon (Company C) apprehended one male VCS vicinity KHAI TAY (1) (BT 048682); the man ran from patrol and appeared to be carrying a rifle. Point fired one round wounding VCS, no weapon found; med evacuated.

(2) At 090102H squad (Company B) heard drums from west end of village as they moved to ambush vicinity KHUE DONG (1), (BT 056704). A few moments later a grenade was received in the patrols vicinity. The Marines fired about 30 rounds of small arms at nearest suspected VC position, searched area with negative results. Conducted detailed search 9 February; filled 15 fighting holes, blew one tree resulting in secondary explosion; located four foot traps (BT 056706) with 30 rounds of carbine ammunition and nails used as firing pins. Also found many punji stakes with reinforced C-ration tin tips in the area. Negative VC contact.

(3) At 090830H the Company D blocking position (BT 056638), established east of SONG VINH DIEN in conjunction with ARVN operation west of river, reported an ARVN M-79 round overshot into village in the Marines vicinity; one VN child wounded in right arm, med evacuated.

(4) At 090835H, 3d platoon, Company A, vicinity HA QUANG (4) (BT 106645) sighted about seven armed VC several hundred meters southwest (BT 105644). The platoon established base of fire and one squad commenced assault; Sparrow Hawk Frag Order issued 090830H, airborne 090850H and at 090854H landed at LZ (BT 103642), receiving small arms on landing. A squad of 3d platoon (Company A) established block at (BT 105645) and Sparrow Hawk moved to vicinity (BT 106639) and searched north to the blocking position, apprehended one VCS with no further contact during search. Sparrow Hawk retracted at 091030H. One Marine was WIA, med evacuated.

(5) At 090910H, the 1st Battalion reported negative results on three day platoon (Company B) search and destroy mission vicinity AN TRA (BT 083698) to TRA KHE (BT 097670). Search initiated on basis intelligence reports of VC presence; numerous bunkers and fighting holes destroyed, negative contact.

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(6) At 091025H the 2d platoon, Company D, in block position vicinity TU CAU (4) (BT 048647), observed two VC several hundred meters northeast (BT 049649); the Marines directed 15 rounds of small arms fire at the VC. Searched immediate area with negative results.

## 2. Plans

### A. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) Company I conducts one platoon (Rein) search and destroy mission in BICH BAC (AT 986632). LOD at northern end of village; one squad drops off from platoon and blocks on southern edge. Squad remains in position until after platoon has departed area. Two dog teams will be employed by searching forces. One light section of tanks provides fire support from (AT 981624).

(2) Company K continues search and destroy operation in DUONG LAI (2) (3) and CAM NE (4), (5) and YEN NE (4); provides one squad as security for LVT patrols on SONG TUY LOAN, SONG YEN and SONG CAU DO rivers, one platoon as 2d Battalion, 9th Marines CP security and (TAOR) reserve force to exploit enemy contact.

(3) Companies L and F (2/9) conduct patrols and ambushes in assigned sectors of TAOR.

(4) Company E (2/9) conducts two combat patrols in grid squares (BT 0166), (BT 0163), (BT 0362) and (BT 0366); Company E provides two fire teams as security for LVT patrols on SONG VINH DIEN.

(5) Second platoon, Company I, continues work on road blocks ASP# 1; plans for construction of bunkers on high ground in northern sector of ASP# 1 perimeter.

### B. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) Eight mobile patrols conduct S/D operations and ambushes in the "Horseshoe", PHONG HO Complex, HAI AN and TRUNG LUANG peninsulas, and MAN QUAN area.

(2) Conduct three LVT/infantry day patrols on SONG CAN BIEN and one night patrol from (BT 089690) to MON KY Mountain.

## 3. Miscellaneous

A. Company C, 1st Battalion, 9th Marines CP (BT 071701).

B. Second H&S Company Provisional Rifle Platoon replaces 1st H&S Company Provisional Rifle Platoon at French Bunker (BT 081697).

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4. Psy-War. The I Corps Psy-War Team conducted lectures and question-and-answer sessions and distributed leaflets and magazines in TR. KHE (3) (BT 070673) between 090900H and 091200H. A medical team from 1st Battalion, 9th Marines also accompanied the Psy-War Team.

*V. T. Blaz*  
V. T. BLAZ  
By direction

UNCLASSIFIED

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

3/EAH/rgm  
1500  
10 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: CG, Third Marine Division

9th Marines SITREP Number 41 as of 101000Z February 1966

1. Operations

A. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) At 092140H squad LVT patrol on SONG YEN vicinity (AT 961677) received about 20 rounds small arms/automatic weapons fire from both sides of river. The patrol directed over 100 rounds of small arms at the VC positions as the LVT's moved from between the opposing fires. Enemy fire ceased; VC casualties could not be determined. No Marine casualties.

(2) At 100100H a TPS-21 on Company L perimeter (AT 953667) indicated possible VC movement about 250 meters south. The Marines fired about 100 rounds from tank machine gun, illuminated with six rounds 81mm, searched with infra-red device and dispatched squad to search; negative results.

(3) At 100120H, Company K CP received one round sniper fire (AT 961688); five rounds of small arms was directed at the VC sniper. Sustained one WIA USMC, medevac.

(4) At approximately 100800H a Company F squad patrol vicinity HA DONG tripped two booby trapped grenades, one WP (AT 996643) and one frag grenade (AT 997643), resulting in two WIA's USMC, medevac. The patrol apprehended two VCS in the vicinity (AT 996646), evac to Company F CP for interrogation.

(5) At 100912H a platoon on search and destroy mission (Company I) destroyed three spidertraps (AT 964687), (3'x4'x2), with 8 pounds C4.

(6) At 101320H a squad patrol (Company I) activated a booby trap of unknown composition vicinity BICH BAC (AT 985635) resulting in two WIA's USMC, medevac.

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B. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 091818H a platoon patrol (Company D), moving west vicinity (BT 047653), received about 50 rounds small arms fire from the west vicinity TU CAU (2). The forward elements returned the fire, at which time patrol received about 10 rounds small arms from estimated 10 VC southwest across SONG VINH DIEN and five rounds from the rear (east); patrol fired approximately 100 rounds of small arms and 10 M79's at the VC, searched for VC casualties with negative results. Sustained one WIA USMC, medevac.

(2) At 092030H the 2d Platoon (Company D), while moving into PPS, encountered a group of at least three VC vicinity TU CAU (BT 035662); the Marines fired 10 rounds small arms killing two VC, searched for additional VC with negative results. Recovered one .45 cal pistol (#433189) which was destroyed by rifle fire, two CHICOM grenades, one cartridge belt, some small arms ammo (uncounted), a flashlight, toilet articles, medical kit and a notebook; all sent to Battalion S-2.

(3) At 092335H a fire team LP (Company A), vicinity (BT 102656), received one grenade from an unidentified source; search of area proved negative and LP moved to new location. Sustained two WIA USMC.

2. PlansA. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) Company I establishes squad ambush (night) vicinity southern sector of XUAN DIEN (2) (AT 963624). One platoon (-) will link up with ambush squad at first light to cordon the village as other elements of the company utilizing two dog teams conduct search and destroy in XUAN DIEN (2).

(2) Company K continues search and destroy operations along east and west banks of SONG YEN and villages of CAM NE (3) and BO BAN (1).

(3) Company L establishes a moving platoon patrol base vicinity PHU SON (3) (AT 950640) for a period of three days to continue search and destroy operations to the south of Hill 22 in the PHU SON Complex.

(4) Company M establishes a squad ambush (night) in southern sector THAI CAM (1) (AT 967640). One platoon, reinforced with light section of Ontos joins up at first light with ambush squad in order to conduct S/D operations in AN TRACH (3), LE SON (3), (4) and THAI CAM (1).

(5) Company E conducts two combat patrols in GS (BT 0165), (BT 0265), (BT 0164), (BT 0264), (BT 0364), (BT 0163), (BT 0263), (BT 0363), (BT 0262) and (BT 0362).

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B. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) Continue to operate nine mobile rifle platoons to saturate frequent VC contact areas (SITREP #40).

(2) Continue Tank/Infantry patrol along coast and LVT/Infantry patrol on SONG CAN BIEN.

3. Miscellaneous

A. At 101200H Company L, 3d Battalion, 3d Marines, (less SPARROW HAWK squad) returned OPCON parent unit vice 1st Battalion. Sparrow Hawk squad rejoined parent unit 101800H. First Battalion assumed responsibility of providing Sparrow Hawk squad.

B. At 110900H there will be a one hour scout dog team demonstration at the 9th Marines CP (outdoor theater).

4. Psy-War. Company L (3/3) establishing a signal system with villagers of TUYEN SON and LA CHAU complexes, grid squares (AT 9466), (AT 9566) and (AT 9666). The signals are to be a means by which villagers can let Marines on Hill 22 know when VC are in the villages. This is the first time villagers have admitted that VC come into their villages.

LATE ENTRY. At 101030H Sparrow Hawk was launched to exploit contact made with VC by 1st platoon, Company A, 1st Battalion (BT 108633) at 101020H. Sparrow Hawk squad landed at HLZ (BT 099629) at 101050H; established a blocking position vicinity (BT 102628). Search of area conducted by 1st platoon produced negative results. Sparrow Hawk squad retracted 101140H. Two USMC WIA med evacuated during this encounter with VC.

LATE ENTRY. At 101150H Rosemont "A" (AO) controlled 105mm fire mission on five VC with weapons (BT 104628) AO reported good effect on target.

*V. T. Blaz*  
V. T. BLAZ  
By direction

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

3/EAH/jtl  
1500  
11 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: CG, Third Marine Division

9th Marines SITREP Number 42 as of 111000Z February 1966

I. Operations

A. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At about 191955H Company C, 2d Platoon PPB vicinity (BT 085634) sustained six WIA's as a result of three explosions, believed to be VC rifle grenades. The Marines directed about 200 rounds of small arms fire, a 105mm HE mission and two rounds 3.5 at the suspected VC position southwest of the PPB. A squad searched the area, negative results.

(2) At 111110H the 2d Platoon, Company A, vicinity HA QUANG (4) (BT 107647), observed four VC southwest at (BT 105645). Fired an 81mm mortar mission, and the 2d platoon conducted search of area. The VC eluded the platoon and were suspected fleeing east; Sparrow Hawk Frag Order issued 111123H, airborne 111140H, landed 111149H in LZ (BT 106647). One armed VC observed vicinity (BT 109645) was pursued with negative results. Sparrow Hawk retracted at 111234H.

B. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) At 110515H a squad, Company I, enroute to cordon position as part of platoon S/D mission, received about 20 rounds of small arms (AT 963626); VC strength estimated at ten men, positioned about 100 meters north of the squad vicinity XUAN DIEM (2) (AT 963627). The Marines returned the fire with small arms and, when VC fire ceased, checked area with negative results, then continued to cordon village.

(2) At 110755H the platoon (Company I) on S/D mission XUAN DIEM (2) grid square (AT 9662), had completed cordon of village. One squad with dog teams commenced search from south (AT 963626) to north; negative contact throughout.

(3) At 110830H a Company K squad S/D (AT 959678) located one M-26 booby trap with 10' monofilament line. Grenade found on trail tied to stick, one foot off paddy dike. Booby trap was blown in place. At 111110H (AT 961673) engineers with squad S/D found VC mine, 6"x3"x2" with friction type fuse. Mine seemed to have been discarded, no tri wire. Mine is being forwarded to Battalion S-2.



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(4) At 110850H a squad patrol (Company K) located and destroyed booby trapped M-26 grenade (AT 959678).

(5) At 110920H a platoon (Company M) on S/D mission vicinity THAI CAM (1), located (estimated) 2800 pounds of rice (AT 969643); half of rice left for twelve families in village, remainder marked for their future use and moved by Ontos to AN TRAC storage. (Further info, see Psy-War).

(6) At 111245H the 2d platoon, Company I, completed construction of three road blocks leading into ASP# 1 vicinity (AT 988724); also completed anti-mortar trenches.

(7) At 111400H FO Company F (2/9) controlled 105mm fire mission on squad VC with weapons (AT 959644), 38 rounds HE fired with good effect on target. Search of area produced no evidence of VC casualties.

(8) At 111405H Company L squad found and destroyed freshly dug man-size punji trap (AT 956664).

## 2. Plans

A. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines. Continued to exploit plans and operations as stated in SITREPS #40 and #41.

### B. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

#### (1) Company I

- a. Continues to clear Hill 55 of mines and duds.
- b. Installs additional concertina wire around ASP# 1.
- c. Platoon (Rein) conducts S/D operation in CHAU SON (2) (AT 947605). Tanks and one squad will support operation at (AT 957609).

#### (2) Company K

- a. Conducts S/D operations along east-west banks of SONG YEN near CAM NE (4) and BO BAN (2).
- b. Provides one squad as security for LVT patrol on SONG YEN, SONG TUY LOAN and SONG CAU DO.

(3) Company L conducts deliberate S/D operation in DONG PHU (1) (AT 949629).

(4) H&S Prov. Platoon (-) reinforces Company L on Hill 22 to allow Company L additional mobility south of Hill 22.

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3. Psy-War. There was approximately 2800 pounds of rice found in vicinity THAI CAM (AT 969643); half was left for the twelve families; half was evac for storage in AN TRACH (1) (AT 972662). Company M commander and pacification team explained to village leader that the rice was being held to keep the VC from confiscating it. Bags were marked in the presence of villagers for later reissue.

*V. T. Blaz*  
V. T. BLAZ  
By direction

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

3/DC jlt  
1500  
12 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: CG, 3d Marine Division

9th Marines SITREP Number 43 as of 121000Z February 1966

1. Operations

A. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines. At 121445H a Company D squad patrol vicinity (BT 051647) sighted three armed VC vicinity TU CAU (4) (BT 049647); directed small arms at the enemy killing one VC, joined by a second squad and searched for other two VC with negative results. One VC KIA (body count), one US Carbine and one cartridge belt.

B. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) At 111920H squad (E/2/9) on SONG VINH DIEN LVT patrol vicinity MIEU BONG (2) received about 20 rounds of small arms fire from east bank of river (BT 035683). The squad returned about 200 rounds of .30 calibre machine gun, 25 rounds of M-79 then beached and searched area; negative results, no USMC casualties reported.

(2) At 112110H a Company K fire team listening post (AT 961673) received one frag grenade from a (suspected) VC position southwest; returned one grenade, one M-79 and ten rounds of small arms; searched area with negative results, one Marine WIA nonevac.

(3) At 120615H a squad (Company I) on search and destroy mission found a home-made booby trap (AT 965625); destroyed in place.

(4) At 120800H a squad (E/2/9) on river block (BT 031648), received about three rounds of small arms fire from VC position east of SONG VINH DIEN vicinity (BT 034653). The squad returned small arms and three rounds of M-79 were directed at the VC position with unknown results; enemy fire ceased.

(5) Combined search and destroy mission commenced 120800H with one platoon (Rein), Company F and one platoon (Rein), Company E moving south from grid line (65) between grid lines (99) and (04); platoons about 1000 meters apart.

(a) At about 120900H the (Company F) platoon (BT 006633) received about 20 rounds of small arms fire from the south (BT 006631); returned about 100 rounds of small arms, enemy fire ceased. Searched area with negative results.

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(b) At 121025H the (Company F) platoon received small arms fire; artillery fired 22 rounds HE and 20 rounds of WP 105mm at (BT 010624). A second mission was directed at VC position (BT 019625), consisting of 31 rounds HE 105mm. Results not observed.

(c) At 121125H an artillery mission of 22 rounds HE 105mm was directed at (BT 010627) when elements of the search and destroy force reported receiving small arms fire from that position.

(d) At 121144H the search and destroy force reported observing a group of VC moving south below PHONG LUC (3) vicinity (BT 002619); called an artillery mission of 60 rounds HE 105mm; FO report indicated at least one VC KIA (possible).

(6) At 120930H a VC surrendered at Company M CP (AT 972662). The "rallier" was evacuated to Regimental S-2 and ITT for processing at 121230H; the "rallier" who surrendered on 10 February was evacuated at the same time.

(7) At 121253H a Company L platoon PPB received one round of small arms fire from (AT 954631). Patrol returned six rounds of 7.62, two LAW and five M-79, observing two VC falling. One VC KIA. Body on other side of river. One USMC WIA med evacuated.

(8) At 121325H a Company L squad (AT 956659) squad apprehended one VC armed with CHICOM grenade. Evacuated to Battalion CP.

(9) At 121340H a Company L platoon PPB (AT 953629) received two rounds of small arms fire from vicinity (AT 955633); small arms fire returned by USMC with no further contact.

(10) At 121345H a Company L squad located VC log books and medical supplies (AT 956659); delivered to Battalion CP.

## 2. Plans.

### A. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines.

(1) Continue to operate with the four rifle companies forward and the 3d platoon, Company B in reserve.

(2) Seven rifle platoons continue to retain a mobile (PPB) status, frequently shifting positions and saturating frequent contact areas with a maximum number of squad patrols and ambushes.

(3) H&S Company platoon continues local security patrols and ambushes.

(4) H&S Company 106th Provisional Rifle Platoon occupies the ground surrounding the French Bunker (BT 081696) and a third H&S Company Provisional Rifle Platoon remains in reserve.

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4. Psy-War. The I Corps Psy-War Team conducted leaflet distribution, face-to-face persuasion, and a question and answer session in TRA KHE (3) (BT 073669) between 120930H and 121200H. A 1st Battalion, 9th Marines medical team accompanied the Psy-War Team and held sick call for the villagers.

*V. T. Blaz*  
V. T. BLAZ  
By direction

CONFIDENTIALB. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

## (1) Company I

(a) At first light 13 February, one platoon reinforced with tanks conducts search and destroy patrol in grid squares (AT 9461), (AT 9460), (AT 9561) and (AT 9560).

(b) One squad will provide security for engineers construction river block (AT 973611).

## (2) Company K

(a) Conducts two squad (Rein) search and destroy patrols in LA BONG (3) (AT 963677) and LA CHAU (3) (AT 960677).

(b) Provides one squad for LVT patrols along OC YEN, SONG TUY LOAN and SONG CHU DO.

(c) One platoon (Rein) acts as 2d Battalion, 9th Marines and 3d Battalion, 3d Marines Battalion reserve and 2d Battalion, 9th Marines CP security.

(3) Company L conducts liaison with village officials for construction of schoolhouse in LA CHAU complex.

(4) Company M continues deliberate search and destroy operations in YEN NE (4).

## (5) Company E

(a) Continues deliberate search and destroy operations in grid squares (BT 0064), (BT 0163), (BT 0164), (BT 0165), (BT 0263), (BT 0264), and (BT 0265).

(b) One squad will provide security for LVT patrol on SONG VINH DIEN.

3. Miscellaneous. At 120015H, the ARVN river patrol with 1st Battalion, 9th Marines liaison communicators aboard, observed three boats carrying 10 persons across the TOURANE River from east to west at (BT 044750). The boats failed to stop despite warning shots and the personnel aboard the patrol craft fired 20 rounds of .50 caliber, 40 rounds of 7.62mm, and 20 rounds of .30 caliber carbine. The ten occupants went underwater and two of the boats were captured and taken into DA NANG by the ARVN. The Army advisors at DA NANG Special Sector requested and obtained a flareship and UH-1E's and dispatched a foot patrol to search the river bank; results of the search are not known by this headquarters.

CONFIDENTIAL

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

3/DCS/jlt  
1500  
13 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: CG, 3d Marine Division

9th Marines SITREP Number 44 as of 131000Z February 1966

1. Operations

A. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines.

(1) At 130130H a Company L (3/9) LP (BT 060758) received about 30 rounds of small arms fire and four fragmentation grenades from a class VC position to the southeast (BT 061757). The LP returned about 40 rounds of small arms and VC fire ceased; the Marines maneuvered into the VC position but made no further contact and found no evidence of VC casualties. One US WIA, medevac.

(2) At 130920H one VCS (BT 060634) ignored warning, attempted to run from Company D squad patrol; patrol shot and killed him. Age about 28, no ID, black shirt with grey trousers and black undershorts; papers on body being forwarded via Battalion S-2.

B. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) LATE ENTRY: Refers to two-platoon search and destroy operation conducted 12 February (Companies E & F/2/9); SITREP #43 (para 1.B (5));

(a) Villagers of LA THO BAC (1) (BT 006631) reported that about 60 VC occupied ambush positions (BT 006632) from which initial fire was received.

(b) Enemy contacts were made at coordinates: (BT 006632), (BT 004629), (BT 018625), (BT 007623), (AT 996632) and (BT 015623).

(c) Nine artillery missions were fired in objective area; additional missions (AO) against 6-8 VC in trench (BT 009608) south of SONG LA THO; also an artillery and UH-1E mission was directed (AO) against a building (BT 016605) in which an estimated 20 VC had congregated.

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## (d) Enemy casualties include:

3-KIA, confirmed (2-S/A, 1-arty)  
 2-WIA, confirmed  
 12 KIA, possible (7-air, 5-arty)  
 37 -WIA, possible (15-air, 22-arty)  
 1-VCS apprehended PHONG LUC (2), wounded, evac.

## (e) Enemy fortifications and equipment destroyed included:

6- Bunkers 4'x4' (BT 011617)  
 3- Tunnels, vicinity (BT 016618); secondary explosion  
 2- Boats, vicinity (BT 008608)

## (f) Friendly casualties sustained:

1-WIA, USMC (gunshot, left shoulder), condition good  
 1-WIA, USMC (punji trap), not evacuated  
 2-WIA, USMC (shrapnel in tunnel demolition)

(g) Observations: VC encountered in operation were dressed in either khaki uniforms or khaki and black; no enemy machine gun fire encountered, unusual for this area; actual enemy strength in the area based on operation was one VC company.

(2) At 121823H Company E (2/9) PPB positions vicinity PHONG LUC (1) (BT 007637) received heavy sniper fire from southwest vicinity (BT 003631). Artillery mission consisting of 30 rounds HE and 26 rounds WP was directed at the VC; FO reported two VC WIA observed and five buildings destroyed. Squad patrol searched area with negative results.

(3) At 122005H the 1st platoon, Company K, reported receiving one grenade thrown in a forward position (AT 961673) that was unoccupied. The Marines fired about 20 rounds of small arms fire and two M-79's with unknown results.

(4) At 122130H a squad patrol (Company K), vicinity LA CHAU (3) (AT 955678), was fired upon by estimated six VC in bamboo area vicinity (AT 956678); the patrol directed small arms fire, three grenades and four shotgun blasts at the VC. Search proved negative; VC apparently fled; believed there may have been an ambush awaiting LVT patrol. Reported one VC WIA (possible). Further search 130700H resulted in one M-26 grenade and expended M-14 cartridges (BT 956678).

(5) At 130830H a Company I squad patrol located and destroyed one 15'x2'x2' tunnel reinforced with bamboo (AT 957603) and two punji traps (AT 957605).



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(6) At 131015H a Company E squad patrol vicinity PHONG LUC (1) (BT 020639) saw three VC run into village (BT 017639); villagers then ran from village with animals; called 81mm mortar mission (seven rounds HE) and conducted search of area; no sign of any VC casualties.

(7) On 13 February Company M conducted a platoon search for fighting holes, trenches and tunnels in vicinity of "no name" village (AT 968677); the company had no enemy contact during the search.

(8) At 131400H a Company I OP (AT 963609) received about three rounds of sniper fire from southwest of Hill 55 vicinity (AT 961608). A fire team was dispatched to search, apprehended one male VCS who had an ID card but had not been seen in the area before; also located two tunnels vicinity (AT 961608). The VCS was evacuated to Battalion S-2 for interrogation; CS/CN and demolitions sent to clear and destroy tunnels.

(9) At 131445H Company L reported that a squad search and destroy patrol filled in 63 holes on 13 February vicinity PHU SON (3) (AT 952644); no hostile contact.

## 2. Plans

### A. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) HAYDAY will be executed throughout the 1st Battalions TAOR with maximum number of ambushes established in the Horseshoe area, PHONG HO Complex, HAI AN (2) and TRA LO areas, and TRUNG LUANG and TRUNG HOA peninsulas.

(2) LVT/Infantry patrols to continue on the SONG CAU RIFN.

### B. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) HAYDAY will be executed throughout the 3d Battalion, 3d Marines TAOR with maximum emphasis on ambushes.

(2) Company K, at the request of HIEU DUC District Chief, will conduct combined search and destroy operation with RF and PF Forces. Details will be forwarded after additional coordination has been effected.

(3) Company I conducts one platoon (Rein) search and destroy mission in XUAN-DIEM (2) (AT 963626), XUAN DIEM (1) (AT 967638), LE SON (4) (AT 960647), THAI CAM (1) (AT 969644), THAI CAM (2) (AT 972635) and THAI CAM (3) (AT 975627). One squad will drop off and act as anvil at AT 968638).

(4) Company M operates to the north of Company I with one platoon (-) reinforced with Ontos on search and destroy operation vicinity (AT 959653), (AT 965645) and (AT 979650).

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(5) Company K mission remains as stated in SITREP #43.

(6) Company L, see Psy-War (para 4).

(7) Company E operates with ARVN Rangers on combat day patrols in vicinity AN TU (1 and 2), (BT 025638), VIEN TAY (2 and 3), (BT 028643) and NHO THO (2) (BT 014656).

(8) Company F conducts normal aggressive patrols and ambushes in the BICH NAM (AT 995635) and TIN HANH (BT 003658) complexes.

3. Miscellaneous. Clearance vicinity Hill 55 continues; recap of line charges employed (1/3/3) as follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CLEARED</u>	<u>LINE CHGS USED</u>	<u>SECONDARY EXPLOSION</u>
2 Feb	(AT 969617, 974614)	6	8
4 Feb	(AT 967614, 968613)	1	3
6 Feb	(AT 970621, 969623)	2	8
7 Feb	(AT 967616, 970620)	3	11
8 Feb	(AT 968617, 971620)	2	3
9 Feb	(AT 959612, 964611)	1	6
10 Feb	(AT 963610, 962612)	3	10
11 Feb	(AT 962612, 959612)	2	2
	(AT 964611, 962612)	1	2

4. Psy-War

A. Company L (3/3) is currently attempting to organize a school with villagers for LA CHAU-DUYEN SON Complex vicinity grid square (AT 9566); have school kits for 100 children and one building which villagers and Marines have cleaned up. Plan to conduct three hours daily instruction on arithmetic, writing and personal hygiene; LEOCAP daily and Psy-Way Team weekly.

B. Face-to-face persuasion and leaflet distribution was conducted by daylight search and destroy units throughout the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines TAOR.

LATE ENTRY: At 131330H Company E squad saw one man 25-28 years old running into village, searched village house by house; negative results. Squad found 18 rounds of carbine ammo and cave at (BT 014653); cave destroyed with 10 pounds of C-4.

V. T. BLAZ  
By direction

CONFIDENTIAL

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

3/EAH/rgm  
1500  
14 Feb 1966 /

From: Commanding Officer  
To: CG, 3d MarDiv

9th Marines SITREP Number 45 as of 141000Z February 1966

1. Operations

A. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 131930H an explosion occurred within a Company C PFB vicinity (BT 039669); composition of device unknown, suspected booby trap of approximately 10 lb charge with electric type mechanism since troops were not moving about at the time. Sustained three WIA USMC, minor (concussion), non evac.

(2) At 132130H a Company B squad patrol apprehended one male VCS vicinity KHUE DONG (1) (BT 056705); had a cigarette lighter with "403" marking in his possession.

(3) At 140815H a Company D squad patrol tripped a CHICOM grenade booby trap (BT 043665) north of TU CAU (1); sustained two WIA USMC, non evac.

B. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) At 131813H the mine clearing detail vicinity Hill 55 (AT 967618) detonated three line charges (AT 964623) to (AT 969623) which achieved twelve secondary explosions.

(2) At 132055H a Company E squad vicinity PHONG LUC (2) (BT 011634), ambushed three VC, killing two (body count); searched for third VC with negative results.

(3) At about 140300H, in vicinity Company L CP (AT 953667), SID indicated movement vicinity LA CHAU (4) (AT 950667); fired 81mm illumination and six rounds M79. Searched area with tank light and fired eight rounds 105mm HE (AT 947667); apprehended one VCS (AT 947667) without ID. Found no evidence of VC casualties.

(4) At 140920H a Company I platoon on search and destroy mission, located a booby trapped 105mm shell vicinity XUAN DIEM (1) (AT 967637); ARVN dog team smelled trip wire and would not move; shell checked and disarmed by engineers, destroyed in place.

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CONFIDENTIAL

(3)

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(5) At 140945H the Platoon search and destroy (Company I) vicinity LE SON (5) (AT 960639) received sniper fire from a VC positioned some 700 meters north vicinity LE SON (4) (AT 960646); patrol fired one round 3.5, VC ceased fire and apparently fled. No VC casualties were found on search of the position.

(6) At 141005H elements of Company E (2/9) (BT 030635) received small arms fire from vicinity PHONG LUC (1) (BT 025634); returned fire with 27 rounds small arms, 15 M79's, 2 LAW and artillery FO called fire mission; 15 rounds HE and 12 rounds WP. Effect of artillery fire not determined as FO was unable to adequately observe and VC casualties were not evident in search that was conducted.

(7) At 141010H a Company F (2/9) platoon patrol vicinity TAN HAI (AT 996656) located and destroyed a concussion-type grenade. The patrol also experienced a large explosion in the same vicinity, believed to be an electrically detonated booby trap or mine that may have been activated prematurely. There were no USMC casualties reported. Twelve punji traps, two man traps, and 2 tunnels 5'x10' were destroyed during this operation.

(8) At 141045H Company I platoon on search and destroy mission vicinity LE SON (5) (AT 959639), received one round of sniper fire from the northwest vicinity (AT 958644); the sniper's exact location could not be determined, fire was not repeated. At 141100H the patrol apprehended one male VCS loitering in paddy; conducted helo evac vicinity (AT 958638). The patrol destroyed a tunnel (AT 964644) that was 2'x2'x4'.

## 2. Plans

### A. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) Liaison personnel have been exchanged with 3d Battalion, 9th Marines for coordination of the relief of lines commencing 16 February.

(2) LVT/Infantry patrols continue along SONG CAN BIEN and SONG VIHN DIEN.

### B. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

#### (1) Company I.

(a) Conducts platoon (rein) search and destroy patrol in LE SON (1), (2), and (3) vicinity GS (AT 9461, 9460, 9560).

(b) Continues to clear Hill 55 of mines and duds, provides one squad for engineer's security at river block (AT 973611) and continues improvement on defenses at ASP #1.

CONFIDENTIAL(2) Company K.

(a) Maintains PPB in LA CHAU (3) (AT 955678) and LA BONG (3), (AT 963677).

(b) Provides one squad for LVT river patrols.

(c) Third platoon relieves 2d platoon as TAOR reserve.

3. MiscellaneousA. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) Company M assisted villagers at LA BONG (1) and YEN NE (4) in construction and renovation of strategic hamlets and school house at AN TRACH (1).

(2) Company I, 3d Battalion 3d Marines provided security for Mr MAI, Director of Public Works, TINH QUANG NAM Special Sector, at the foot bridge at (AT 962660). Mr MAI was researching problems of constructing a vehicular bridge at the same coordinates.

4. Psy War

A. Company L provided a security squad for I Corps Psy War Team in village of LA CHAU (4) (AT 951669). Theme of the presentation was "Why Marines are in RVN and the Allied victory is inevitable". Leaflets and books were handed out to 10 adults and 20 children present.

B. About 126 villagers worked in AN TRACH (1) (AT 966664) on February 14th clearing brush, working on school.

C. School attendance at AN TRACH (1) was up to 53 students on 14 Feb; villagers of LA BONG (1) (AT 973671) indicated desire to start a (3d) school next week in area.

D. About 200 villagers came to AN TRACH today to get wire for fence construction around strategic hamlets.

LATE ENTRY. At 141500H a Marine (A/1/9) in vicinity of PPB (BT 105646), tripped elec-pressure type booby trap causing explosion equal to about 40 lbs TNT, resulted in a 5'x5'x3' crater; one USMC WIA, medevac. Remains of device found in vicinity sent to Battalion CP.

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LATE ENTRY. Company (-) search and destroy conducted 140530H-141030H.

A. Combined cordon and search K/3/3 with HIEU DUC District PF and RF forces; established platoon blocks by 140530H at (AT 964671) to (AT 963678) and (AT 959682) to (AT 962687).

B. Commenced at first light, searched LA CHAU (3) (AT 962673), BO BAN (1) (AT 959685) and BO BAN (2) (AT 967698).

C. Contacts:

(1) At 140530H the 3d Platoon, Company K (AT 959682) received about 30 rounds small arms from west of SONG YEN; fire was not returned due to friendly troops working in area.

(2) At 140830H the 3d Platoon, Company K received about 15 rounds small arms fire from (AT 957682); did not return fire, area thoroughly searched by RF and PF with negative results.

(3) The 3d Platoon, Company K located and destroyed an M26 grenade (AT 959682).

D. Results of operation: Nine VCS apprehended, evac ITT; two caves destroyed (AT 962689) and (AT 956678).

V. T. Blaz  
V. T. BLAZ  
By direction

CONFIDENTIAL

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

3/EAH/rgm  
1500  
15 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division

9. Marines SITREP Number 46 as of 151000Z February 1966

1. Regimental Highlights. A formal change of command ceremony was conducted 151500H Feb 1966 at the 9th Marines CP; Colonel John E. GORMAN was relieved by Colonel Edwin H. SIMMONS as Commanding Officer.

2. Operations.

A. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines. No enemy contact during this reporting period.

B. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines. At about 151300H, elements were returning to TAOR from Operation Double Eagle (OPCON Task Force Delta) for events within TAOR during period, see following paragraph, 3d Battalion, 3d Marines (OPCON Companies E and F).

C. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) At about 141800H the Company I CP (AT 967616) observed a VC squad swimming SONG YEN (AT 948618) followed by a boat which they proceeded to unload on south bank into tree line; AO observed OD-colored packs in boat, directed artillery missions (42-rounds VT, 2 rounds WP, 15-rounds HE 105mm); tank directed 10 rounds 90mm and observed artillery fire through BC scope; one round 105mm hit within 10 feet of two VC running in open. Mortars also fired 14 rounds 81mm HE from Hill 55. Two VC KIA.

(2) At 142100H Company F squad vicinity LE SON (1) (AT 983658), moving to ambush position, received one hand grenade from a nearby VC position to the south. The Marines returned fire with about 100 rounds small arms and four M79's; in pursuit, received about ten rounds of small arms carbine fire before losing contact with the VC. No Marine casualties reported.

(3) A squad from Company F (2/9), vicinity TAN HANH (AT 993655):

(a) At about 142145H, tripped a grenade-type booby trap (AT 993655), no casualties reported.

CONFIDENTIAL

(b) At about 142155H, upon establishing ambush (AT 993655) detected movement in bushes about 10 meters away; fired about 35 rounds of small arms and received one VC grenade. Small arms and automatic weapons fire were directed at the VC, then the Marines searched the area with negative results. No Marine casualties.

(c) At about 142225H, in an alternate position (AT 993655) same vicinity, the squad sighted an armed VC leaving a trench about 20 meters away; fired about 30 rounds of small arms at the VC; searched the area but found no evidence of VC casualties.

(4) At 142200H a Company L squad patrol vicinity DU YEN SON (2) (AT 955666), experienced one grenade explosion near their formation; called in two rounds 81mm illumination and used one hand illumination. Directed two fragmentation grenades at a suspected VC position. Searched the area with negative results. No Marine casualties reported.

(5) At 150530H a Company I squad, west of XUAN DIEM (2) and Hill 55 (AT 958626), while returning from ambush position, received about ten rounds small arms fire and one hand grenade from "no name" village to the south vicinity (AT 958625). The Marines directed about 20 rounds of small arms at the VC position and heard signal drums in the village while approaching on search; no further contact made and VC casualties were not evident.

(6) At 150900H a member of Company I squad patrol vicinity CHAU SON (3) (AT 956604), southwest of Hill 55, sustained minor injuries when he stepped into a punji trap; trap destroyed, continued patrol.

(7) At about 150915H Company K platoon on search and destroy sustained one non-battle casualty vicinity LA CHAU (3) (AT 961676) as a result of a blasting cap explosion, medevac.

(8) At about 150935H a platoon (Company I) on search and destroy mission vicinity CHAU SON (3) (AT 955604), southwest of Hill 55, located and destroyed ten newly implanted punji stakes.

### 3. Plans

A. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines. The scheduled relief of lines with the 3d Battalion, 9th Marines will begin 16 February. By 161800H approximately half of the battalion will have moved to DANANG Air Base and assume responsibility for their assigned areas. Throughout the move, a maximum possible number of ambushes and patrols, including infantry/ART patrols on the river, will be conducted in order to maintain pressure on the VC and insure the highest possible level of security.



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B. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines.

(1) Company E will continue patrolling in area bounded by GS (BT 0165), (BT 0265), (BT 0063), (BT 0163), and (BT 0263); one patrol will be a combined S&D operation employing a squad of Vietnamese Rangers; Company E prepared to return OPCON 2d Battalion, 9th Marines on order.

(2) Company F will concentrate patrol activity in deliberate S&D the area eastward in the company sector to the SONG BAU XAU; Company F prepared to return OPCON 2d Battalion, 9th Marines on order.

C. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) Company I will execute a two pronged platoon (rein) patrol commencing 16Feb prior to first light; search and destroy in hamlets GS (AT 9459), (AT 9460), (AT 9560); continue efforts to clear Hill 55 of mines and provide security for engineers constructing river barrier across SONG BAU XAU; will assume OPCON of 2d platoon upon completion of the relief as security for ASP#1 on 17Feb66. On 16Feb Company I will move one squad with scout-sniper attached to a position on Hill 42 (AT 948598); scout-sniper and squad will provide a blocking force for platoon S&D.

(2) Company K continues patrol activity on the east and west side of SONG YEN and provides one squad for the LVT river patrol; the 3d platoon will commence relief of the 2d platoon, Company I, at 160800H as security for ASP#1.

(3) Company L continues patrol activity vicinity Hill 22 with emphasis on a search and destroy in LA CHAU (2) GS (AT 9467); continues with assistance on the schoolhouse project AN TRACH (1) (AT 944644).

(4) Company M continues patrolling of assigned sector; provides security for the villagers clearing brush and bamboo in AN TRACH (1); provides security and assistance in construction of strategic hamlets LA BONG (1) (AT 968670) and YEN NE (4) (AT 973677)

A. P. 1

DET

V. T. BLAZ  
V. T. BLAZ  
By direction

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

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

3/EAH/rgm  
1500  
16 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division

9th Marines SITREP Number 47 as of 161000Z February 1966

1. Regimental Highlights. At 151800H 2d Battalion, 9th Marines assumed responsibility of the central portion of the TACR. Companies and F reverted to OPCON of parent battalion.

2. Operations

A. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 151845H, Company D PFB and CP, vicinity QUANG HA (1) (BT 079633), received about 20 rounds small arms fire causing one USMC WIA. One squad, dispatched from PFB to vicinity PHONG HO (1) (BT 072632), directed 75 rounds of small arms and six M79's at eight armed VC in camouflaged uniforms and helmets; the VC fled southwest with the Marine patrol observing one VC WIA by initial volley of fire. Contact was lost southwest of PHONG HO (1).

(2) At 161305H, a tank, with Company D squad patrol, vicinity PHONG HO (1) (BT 062633), detonated an explosive charge of about 30-40 pounds; tank was not damaged and no injuries were reported.

B. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 152015H, approximately four VC walked into a Company F squad ambush southeast of TAN HANH (BT 004652); the squad fired about 40 rounds of small arms killing one VC and possibly wounding another. Two bloodstained hats were found; an ambush was set near the dead VC but no further contact was made. No weapons recovered and no friendly casualties reported.

(2) Between 152235H and 2255H, several squad positions in the Company F perimeter, west of DUONG SON (3) vicinity (AT 992672), received about 50 rounds of small arms fire and several hand grenades. The Marines returned 200 rounds of small arms. A Company G squad (rein) was moved from the Battalion CP (AT 993678) to the east and then south in an attempt to intercept the VC withdrawal. One USMC WIA was sustained; minor facial wounds, nonevac.

CONFIDENTIALC. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) At 160007H, a Company L platoon position, vicinity LA CHAU (5) (AT 957667), detected movement (AT 964667) and fired ten rounds of small arms; a search of the area found no evidence of VC casualties.

(2) At 160830H, a Company K squad, returning from search and destroy patrol, detonated a booby trap vicinity LA CHAU (3) (AT 961676); no injuries sustained.

(3) At about 161000H, an engineer team, sent on a booby trap clearing mission, set off a large explosive of unknown composition vicinity LA CHAU (3) (AT 959676); though the Marines were 35 meters apart, three USMC WIA's were sustained, medevac.

3. PlansA. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines(1) Company I.

(a) Continues clearing Hill 55 area (AT 970620) of mines and booby traps.

(b) Continues construction of riverblock (AT 973611).

(c) Displaces one squad from ASP#1 to Hill 55 to serve as security for riverblock (AT 973611).

(d) Conducts aggressive day and night patrolling north and south of Hill 55.

(2) Company K

(a) Third platoon will relieve 2d platoon, Company I, as security for ASP#1.

(b) Two platoon mobile patrol bases continue slow and deliberate search and destroy operations on east and west sides of SONG YEN vicinity LA CHAU (3) and LA DONG (3).

(3) Company L

(a) Conducts patrols along western edge of TAOR in grid squares (AT 9466), (AT 9465) and (AT 9464).

CONFIDENTIAL(4) Company M


(a) Continues to assist and to provide security for fence construction for hamlets of YEN NE (4) and LA DONG (1) GS (AT 9767).

(b) Conducts aggressive patrolling and ambushes in GS (AT 9665), (AT 9666), (AT 9667), (AT 9765), (AT 9766) and (AT 9767).

(c) Continues slow and deliberate search and destroy mission in LA DONG (1) (AT 978673).

(5) Company K. Commencing 171230H, two LVT's with a Fire Team in each will patrol the SONG CAU DO River between (AT 971698) and (AT 998707) in combined search and destroy operation with 3d Tank Battalion and 3d AT Battalion.

4. Miscellaneous. At approximately 161220H a small boy and a water buffalo were killed by a booby trap southwest of Company L (3/3) CP vicinity DUYEN SON (4) (AT 945662).

  
E. H. SIMMONS

CONFIDENTIAL

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

3/EAH/jlt  
1500  
17 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division

9th Marines SITREP Number 48 as of 171000Z February 1966

1. Regimental Highlights. At 171400H, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines assumed responsibility for the eastern portion of the 9th Marines TAOR; 1st Battalion, 9th Marines assigned as DANANG Air Base Defense Battalion.

2. Operations

A. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines. No contacts during the reporting period.

B. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 162120H, a Company F fire team LP, vicinity DUONG SON (3) (AT 993669), had received small arms fire from about 100 meters southwest (AT 992668). The fire team returned approximately 16 rounds of automatic fire and received six rounds of carbine fire from the VC; three rounds of M-79 were directed at the VC position. The Marines heard moaning and conducted a search of the area; VC casualties were not confirmed.

(2) At 171000H, member of a Company F platoon patrol detonated an anti-personnel mine (AT 999637), med evacuated. One USMC WIA.

(3) At 171000H, a Company F platoon patrol (BT 012642) received two rounds of small arms fire from unknown number of VC (BT 011641). Platoon returned 15 rounds of 7.62 and assaulted the VC position. Search of area resulted in no evidence of VC casualties, Anti-US propaganda leaflets were found in the immediate area.

(4) At 171230H, a Company F platoon patrol discovered and destroyed one 60mm booby-trapped dud (CHICOM) (BT 032645).

C. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) At 161900H, the Company I OP on Hill 55 (AT 970620) sighted a camouflaged raft being handled by an undetermined number of VC personnel, presumably VC, on bank of SONG BAU XAU vicinity (AT 981621); one tank and infantry squad dispatched to vicinity (AT 981623). Tank directed 500 rounds .30 caliber at the raft and the adjacent treeline. Raft destroyed; undetermined number of VC casualties.

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(2) At 162024H, a Company L squad ambush, vicinity Hill 22 and LA CHAU (4) (AT 951670), noted movement to its front on a SID-150. The Marines requested two rounds of 81mm illumination, threw two hand grenades and pursued two fleeing VC. Contact lost. Twenty-five rounds of small arms fire expended at enemy. Area searched; negative results.

(3) At 162050H, a Company K squad, west of SONG YEN (AT 956682), received one grenade while enroute to its ambush position. The squad returned 20 rounds of automatic fire and pursued three VC heading north; contact was lost near BO BAN (1) (AT 956686) in thick vegetation. The VC apparently had no weapons other than grenades since no fire was returned. No confirmed VC casualties. No USMC casualties.

(4) At 170800H, the 3d platoon, Company K, assumed responsibility for ASP# 1.

(5) Commencing 171230H, one squad, Company K, aboard two LVT's patrolled along SONG CAU DO between (AT 971698) and (AT 998707) in conjunction with search and clear operation being conducted by 3d Tank Battalion and 3d AT Battalion in GS (AT 9770), (AT 9870) and (AT 9970).

(6) At 171300H, a Company I platoon on search and destroy mission located and destroyed two mortar duds: one 81mm and one 60mm vicinity (AT 983630).

(7) At 171430H, a Company K squad, on search and destroy mission, found VC directives on the operational aspects of mines and booby-traps; also 500 cc of blood plasma (AT 953686). Further search of the area produced one female VCS; evacuated to HIEU DUC Headquarters.

### 3. Plans

A. Company I (3/3) conducts one tank/infantry platoon (Rein) combat patrol on search and destroy mission in grid squares (AT 9563), (AT 9562), (AT 9663) and (AT 9662). Secondary mission will be to determine trafficability of subject canefield areas for tanks.

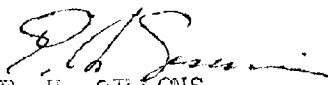
B. Company M (3/3) will operate in conjunction with Company I to the immediate north of patrol to exploit enemy contact.

C. Company K (3/3) provides one squad (Rein) for DA NANG-CRU LAM engineer convoy.

D. Company M (3/3) conducts slow and deliberate search and destroy operations in LA DONG (2) (AT 967668).

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E. Company M (3/3) in conjunction with Company I, who will be operating to the immediate south, conducts one squad (Rein) combat patrol in grid squares (AT 9666), (AT 9665), (AT 9664), (AT 9765) and (AT 9764); maintains one rifle squad moving patrol base with pacification team in YBN NE (4) (AT 975677).

  
E. H. SILTONS

LATE ENTRY. At 171245H, Company L patrol located and destroyed a booby trapped grenade vicinity (BT 120635).

CONFIDENTIAL

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

3/DCS/jlt  
1500  
18 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division

9th Marines SITREP Number 49 as of 181000Z February 1966

1. Operations

A. 3d Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 171845H, a Company K squad patrol located in the vicinity of coordinates (BT 053715) reported observing one armed Viet Cong who exited a building at coordinates (BT 057716) and headed in an easterly direction. The Marines directed four small arms rounds at the fleeing enemy. The Marines physically pursued the fleeing Viet Cong until contact was lost. No Marine casualties were reported. Enemy casualties were not determined.

(2) At 171846H, a Company I squad patrol reported apprehending one suspicious person at coordinates (BT 054642). The report stated that the suspect was apprehended when he could not adequately explain his presence in the area. The report stated that the suspect was released after interrogation by the Battalion S-2.

(3) At 181100H, a Company L squad patrol, vicinity CAM SA (2) (BT 093643), received approximately four rounds of small arms fire from one VC (BT 092642); the patrol pursued and fired ten rounds of small arms, killing the VC. One M-26 grenade was recovered from the body. Area searched for rifle; negative results.

(4) At 181300H, a Company I squad patrol, vicinity BU CAU (2) (BT 034650), found one VN woman wounded from unknown causes in arm, legs and chest; med evacuated.

(5) At 181345H, a Company L platoon patrol, vicinity HA QUANG (4) (BT 105645), sustained two USMC WIA (med evacuated) from explosion of 81mm mortar round which had been modified to serve as a mine.

B. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 171835H, a Company F squad/LVT patrol on SONG VINH DIEN (BT 033658), received approximately 600 rounds of small arms fire; one round apparently from a recoilless rifle of undetermined caliber, which landed in the water near the two LVT's.

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The patrol returned 200 rounds of small arms, 20 rounds of 81mm mortar (HE) and 72 rounds of 105mm (HE) at the suspected VC position, vicinity (BT 035658). The VC reportedly fled northeast to vicinity TU CAU (1) (BT 036664); an additional 40 rounds of 81mm (HE) and 36 rounds of 105mm (HE) were directed at them. Five Marines sustained minor wounds from shell fragments and small arms fire. Two Marines were from the 1st AMTrac Bn, three were from Company E. Three of the WIA's were med evacuated. One remained in "C" med, two were returned to duty.

C. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) At 171925H, a tank crew with Company I, OP# 5, Hill 55 (AT 963609), sighted two male VC in a boat (one with rifle) on SONG AI B. LA (AT 958603); the tank fired three rounds 90mm HE (direct hits); the VC KIA.

(2) At 180930H, a Company I platoon on search and destroy mission, vicinity LE SON (5) (AT 956639), received ten rounds of small arms fire from the east (AT 967638); the Marines returned sixty rounds of small arms and conducted a search for VC in the immediate area. Negative results.

2. PlansA. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) Company I conducts platoon size search and destroy operation in GS (AT 9562), (AT 9563), (AT 9662), and (AT 9663) commencing 190415H.

(2) Company L conducts a platoon search and destroy operation in GS (AT 9565) and (AT 9566).

(3) Company M

(a) Conducts platoon search and destroy operation in LA LONG (2) (AT 967668)

(b) Conducts combat patrols in grid squares (AT 9667), (AT 9767), (AT 9666), (AT 9766), (AT 9665) (AT 9664) and (AT 9764).

B. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines. Companies E and F plus the Battalion command group will depart for CHU LAI at about 190700H. The Battalion will provide convoy escort for Operation Rough Rider.

3. Miscellaneous. Major General Robert H. YORK, USA, Commanding General, Infantry Center, Fort Benning, Ga visited the 9th Marines area (1400 to 1530).

  
E. H. SIMMONS

CONFIDENTIAL

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

3/EMH/jlt  
1500  
19 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division

9th Marines SITREP Number 50 as of 191000Z February 1966

1. Regimental Highlights. At 190630H, 2d Battalion, 9th Marines (-) consisting of two rifle companies (E and F) with Command Group Alpha departed the 9th Marines Zone of Action to participate in Operation Double Eagle as a unit under Task Force Delta. Concurrently, the Battalion provided security for the convoy which transported it to its destination (Operation Rough Rider). The Battalion reached its destination at about 191350H, at which point OPCON of the convoy was chopped to the Commanding Officer, 3d Motor Transport Battalion per CG, 3d Marine Division message 017355Z (ROUGH RIDER SOUTH).

2. Operations

A. 3d Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 182150H, a Company M squad patrol vicinity TRA KHE (2) (BT 076683), received 20 rounds semi-automatic small arms fire and three grenades from estimated three VC at close range southwest of its position. The patrol directed 70 rounds of small arms fire, six rounds M-79 and three grenades at the VC, hostile fire ceased. Initial search was negative. At 190110H, the Marine patrol located one body 400 meters west of the site of the incident (BT 072683); two COMCOM grenades and one .45 caliber sub machine gun recovered. One VC KIA. No USMC casualties.

(2) At 191200H, a Company L platoon patrol (BT 103647) observed two VC vicinity HA QUANG (4) (BT 105645); patrol in pursuit actuated an 81mm mortar functioning as a mine, sustained two WIA. Med evacuated (DOW). Contact broken.

B. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) No enemy contacts during this reporting period.

(2) The Battalion Command Group with Companies E and F departed 190630H to participate in Operation Double Eagle, Phase II.

CONFIDENTIALC. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) LATE ENTRY. At 181745H, a scout-dog was seriously wounded vicinity (AT 955684) when a device of unknown composition exploded; dog DOW.

(2) At 181830H, a Company M platoon CP (AT 963659) received two small arms rounds of harassing fire from the southwest (AT 962656); the platoon returned ten rounds small arms fire, 60mm mortar and one round 146 mm RR. A squad searched for VC casualties with negative results. No friendly casualties reported.

(3) At 181955H, the Company I squad CP on Hill 55 (AT 963603), using tank spotlight, sighted one armed VC on a small boat on SONG AI NGHIA vicinity (AT 965605). The Marines killed him with ten rounds of .50 cal machine gun fire and twenty rounds of .30 cal. Boat sank. Body left in river.

(4) At 190700H, a squad block (AT 963625) for Company I platoon search and destroy directed 10 rounds small arms fire at three VC (wearing black pajamas) vicinity XUAN DIEM (2) (AT 965628); one VC KIA and a second appeared to be hit while moving into treeline. Searched area; recovered one M-14 rifle (mod), ser # 138495, four loaded magazines, one cartridge belt and one CHICOM grenade. Followed VC blood trail through cane field, lost trail in rice paddy. One VC KIA. One VC WIA.

(5) At 190745H, a Company I platoon apprehended 14 VCS vicinity XUAN DIEM (2) (AT 964627); evac to Battalion collection point for screening.

3. PlansA. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) Company I. At 201100H, commences platoon (rein) search and destroy mission in the CHAU SON (1), (2), (3) complexes (AT 9461, 9560 and 9560). One squad with light section of tanks will block at (AT 952616).

(2) Company M. Conducts platoon (-) search and destroy operation in LA BONG (2) (AT 967667).

  
E. H. SIMMONS

CONFIDENTIAL

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

3/EAH/rgm  
1500  
21 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division

9th Marines SITREP Number 52 as of 211000Z February 1966

1. Operations

A. 3d Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 201600H, Company I squad patrol apprehended 10 male VCS vicinity NGAN TRUNG (1) (BT 055645). VCS attempted to elude the patrol.

(2) At 202225H, Company I reported two explosions similar to impacting 81mm vicinity NGAN TRUNG (3) (BT 062645). No USMC casualties. Undetermined origin. Search of area failed to reveal craters which could be analyzed.

(3) At 211500H, Company M platoon apprehended 2 VCS (BT 055673) attempting to evade patrol. Improper identification. Evacuated for interrogation.

B. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 210130H, the battalion CP, vicinity DUONG SON (2) (AT 992677), received 90 rounds small arms, one grenade and eight rounds 60mm mortar. At approximately the same time, E Btry (2/12), vicinity (AT 988671), received approximately 25 rounds 60mm mortar and sporadic small arms fire inflicting 1 KIA and 8 WIA (MedEvac). Seven of the WIA were returned to duty. One 105mm Howitzer and one GP tent slightly damaged. Both Marine installations returned about 300-400 rounds small arms fire, fired 60 rounds arty illumination and 65 rounds 81mm illumination. Two squad patrols from 2/9 were dispatched to intercept VC who were suspected to be in YEN NE (1) (AT 9866). Adjacent units notified to cover possible VC withdrawal routes. (See 12th Marines SITREP for additional details).

(2) At about 210150H, a squad patrol from H&S Company, 2/9, vicinity DUONG SON (3) (AT 995671), reported fighting about 15 VC northwest of its position against a treeline at a distance of about 350 meters. The patrol fired at the VC who took advantage of the vegetation and darkness to break contact. No friendly casualties from this encounter; no confirmed VC casualties.

(3) At 211530H, 2/9 assumed OPCON of one rifle platoon from 3/3 for employment as perimeter security/mobile reserve.

CONFIDENTIALC. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) LATE ENTRY. At 201700H, Company I OP on Hill 55 (AT 970620), using BC scope, sighted four VC south of SONG LA THO vicinity CHAU LAU (AT 985601) and directed five rounds 90mm HE which were on target. Results: four VC KIA (possible).

(2) At 201945H, one member Company M squad patrol activated a subterranean 81mm mortar explosive device vicinity (AT 971660); thr WIA, MedEvac.

(3) At 210007H, a Company I squad ambush (AT 942647), aided by 81mm illumination, observed four VC in treeline (AT 944649). Marines illuminated area and fired 100 rounds small arms and four 40mm rounds. Area searched. Blood stains noted in area. Two VC WIA (possible).

(4) At 210215H, the Company I squad river block (AT 973612) received two rounds harassing fire from south of SONG LA THO vicinity (AT 975616). Squad directed two rounds 40mm at the VC. Results unknown.

(5) At 210700H, a Company I platoon, northeast of Hill 55, apprehended four VCS vicinity BICH BAC (AT 987634) and one VCS vicinity THAI CAM (3) (AT 974627); delivered to ITT.

(6) At 211140H, a fire team from Company I shot two VC in two boats on SONG AI NGHIA (AT 973611). VC had ignored warning shots and attempted to escape. Results: one VC KIA, one VC WIA (MedEvac), one boat sunk, one boat captured.

2. Plans

A. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines. Continue deliberate and extensive search within its zone of action for VC mortar positions.

B. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) Company I conducts a platoon search and destroy operation in GS (AT 9661, 9660, 9560, 9460, 9360) commencing at first light.

(2) Company L conducts squad size search and destroy operations in GS (AT 9466, 9467, 9566, 9465, 9464, 9463, 9563, 9564, 9565) commencing 220800H.

CONFIDENTIAL(3) Company M

a. Conducts squad size search and destroy operations in GS (AT 9666, 9766, 9767, 9665, 9765) commencing at first light.

b. Conducts search and destroy operation in LA BONG (2) (AT 968668) commencing at 220700H.

3. Command Post LocationsA. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

- |                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| (1) Battalion CP | (BT 068713) |
| (2) Company I    | (BT 062644) |
| (3) Company K    | (BT 045719) |
| (4) Company L    | (BT 095658) |
| (5) Company M    | (BT 072702) |

B. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines

- |                   |                        |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| (1) Battalion CP  | (AT 993678)            |
| (2) Company E & F | Operation Double Eagle |
| (3) Company G     | (AT 993661)            |
| (4) Company H     | (BT 023657)            |

C. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

- |                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| (1) Battalion CP | (AT 975706) |
| (2) Company I    | (AT 993677) |
| (3) Company K    | (AT 975706) |
| (4) Company L    | (AT 953666) |
| (5) Company M    | (AT 972662) |

*E. H. Simmons*  
E. H. SIMMONS

CONFIDENTIAL

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

3/EAH/jlt  
-1500  
22 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division

9th Marines SITREP Number 53 as of 22 February 1966

1. Operations

A. 3d Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 211700H, a Company I platoon patrol, vicinity (BT 081654), killed one male VC who disregarded challenges in English and Vietnamese and attempted to escape across paddy dike. Apprehended one male VCS found under haystack, and another who tried to evade patrol. Results: one VC KIA, two VCS to ITT; one uniform, khaki shirt, two flashlight batteries and assorted documents sent to Battalion S-2.

(2) At 220830H, a Company I squad patrol apprehended one 64 year old male VCS (BT 041702) for lack of ID; taken to HOA VANG.

(3) At 220900H, a Company I squad patrol apprehended one 46 year old male VCS (BT 043704) for lack of ID; taken to ITT.

(4) At 220930H, a Company I squad patrol destroyed an AP mine of unknown composition (BT 071655); no US casualties.

(5) At 221130H, a H&S Company squad patrol apprehended one 18 year old female VCS and two older men (BT 071708) for lack of ID; three VCS taken to HOA VANG.  
(SEE LATE ENTRY).

B. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 211915H, a security squad (HQ CO, 9th Marines), vicinity RR bridge (AT 993684), received three rounds of small arms fire from a building, vicinity DUONG SON (1) (AT 998686). VC position in doubt, no fire returned. No casualties.

(2) At 212040H, the 81mm mortar platoon fired missions in support of 594th RF Company; directed 34 HE rounds and four rounds illumination vicinity GIANG DONG (BT 008679) and MIEU DONG (BT 013678). Effect of fire unknown.

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(3) At 220335H, Battalion CP perimeter positions (AT 991679) directed 15 rounds of small arms fire at undetermined number of VC 50 meters northwest of CP; effects of fire unknown, no evidence of casualties found on search of area.

(SEE LATE ENTRY)

C. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) LATE ENTRY. At 211530H, villagers informed Company M of VC installing mines, vicinity AN TRACH (2) (AT 968657). Two squads searched both sides of SONG YEN NE. Received approximately 25 rounds of small arms fire from three positions south of river vicinity (AT 969648), (AT 966648) and (AT 962653); squads responded with 250 rounds of small arms fire. Negative results.

(2) At 212300H, a Company I platoon patrol (AT 940613) received four rounds of small arms fire from southeast, vicinity (AT 941611); exact VC location unknown. Established three ambushes in area, no further contact. No US casualties.

(3) At 220020H, a Company I squad ambush (AT 944608) received 12 rounds of small arms fire from (AT 949607); squad fired 250 rounds of small arms and three rounds of 40mm. Search of area revealed no evidence of VC casualties.

(4) At 220700H, member of Company I squad, returning from ambush site, fell into punji stake man trap, 6'x5'x3' vicinity CHAU SON (1) (AT 942614). Results: one USMC WIA MedEvac; one man trap destroyed.

(5) At 220800H, a Company I fire team, vicinity CHAU SON (1) (AT 943608), received 25 rounds of small arms fire from VC located 300 meters south (AT 943605). Fire team responded with 200 rounds of small arms fire forcing the VC to cease fire and withdraw. Extent of VC casualties unknown, no US casualties.

(6) At 221230H, a Company L squad patrol, vicinity PHU SON (4) (AT 944633), apprehended one male VCS, whom villagers pointed out as being a VC guerrilla; also, apprehended female VCS (no ID) reported as having medical supplies. Two VCS taken to ITT.

2. Plans. Third Battalion, 3d Marines, commencing 230800H, executes a company (-) (Company I) search and destroy operation in grid squares (AT 9564), (AT 9664), (AT 9764), (AT 9563), (AT 9663), (AT 9763), (AT 9562), and (AT 9762). Company L (-) provides screening force west of SONG YEN between grid lines 63 and 65. Company M provides blocking positions to the north along grid line 65, between grid lines 96 and 98.



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3d Battalion, 9th Marines. (LATE ENTRY). At 220400H, an estimated two VC companies attacked a GVN platoon in the vicinity of the BINH LONG Bridge (BT 013568). The 11th Ranger Battalion (-) was sent as a relief column to the bridge. By 221000H, the Rangers had made contact with the battalion. Two Vietnamese APC's were reported destroyed. At 1110H, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines was alerted to provide one rifle company to be deployed in coordinated search and destroy operation with the 11th Rangers. By 1308H, Company M, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines had completed its helolift to DIEN BAN (BT 065583). Company M commenced a search and destroy operation along an axis of advance from (BT 051596) to (BT 036593). By 1415H, the 3d Battalion, 9th Marines command group with one 81mm mortar arrived at (BT 065583). At 1610H, Company M, reported receiving fire to its front and on both flanks. One Marine was wounded and Med Evac. No VC casualties were reported. At 1640H, Company M and Battalion Command Group were ordered to discontinue offensive operations and return to the LZ (BT 065583) for further movement to its defensive sector on the eastern flank of the 9th Marines Zone of Action.

2d Battalion, 9th Marines (LATE ENTRY)

1. At about 221600H, Division G-3 reported that four provisional platoons from combat support battalions will be made available at 221830H. to provide security for battalion and company perimeters thus making organic battalion personnel available for patrol and ambush activities.

2. At about 221700H, Division G-3 reported that the 2d Battalion, 9th Marines Command Group and Companies E and F will arrive at the DANANG Air Base at approximately 221830H.

*E. H. SIMMONS*  
E. H. SIMMONS

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

3/DCS/dcs  
1500  
23 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division

9th Marines SITREP Number 54 as of 23 February 1966

1. Regimental Highlights

A. 3d Battalion, 9th Marines. Command group and Company M returned from coordinated S&D operation with GVN forces, vicinity DIEN BAN (BT 065523) and closed CP at 221925H.

B. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines. Command group and Companies E & F returned from Operation Double Eagle, closed battalion CP at 222130H and reverted OPCON 9th Marines.

2. Operations

A. 3d Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) LATE ENTRY. At 221630H, a Company L squad patrol, vicinity CAM SA (1) (BT 083644), found one WP grenade with trip wires; destroyed in place.

(2) At 231045H, one UH-34 in support of 3d Battalion received 5-6 rounds SA fire while distributing PsyWar leaflets vicinity (BT 1362). Results: Four SA rounds struck helicopter; no casualties.

B. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 222135H, the HQ Company security squad, vicinity Bridge #2 (AT 999699), observed a truck convoy halt approximately 80 meters from bridge and directed 2 bursts of MG fire at two VC revealed by tank spotlight in bridge vicinity. The VC fled, effect of fire unknown.

(2) At 222205H, H&S Company squad patrol, vicinity DUONG SON (1) (AT 996687), received 20 rounds SA fire from an indeterminate VC position vicinity (AT 999687); patrol established a defensive perimeter and maintained surveillance of the area. No further contact.

(3) At 222315H, a fire team position heard noise, vicinity F&C perimeter (AT 994689). Area illuminated, directed two 40mm rounds at suspected VC position 100 meters north (AT 994690); VC casualties were not evident on search of immediate area.

(4) At 230030H, a H&S Company squad ambush, east of F&C vicinity

CONFIDENTIAL

(AT 995679), directed 75 rounds SA fire and one grenade at three VC 100 meters south of its position (AT 995678). One VC observed falling as if hit by fire. Squad suspected VC ambush; did not pursue. Search of area at daylight revealed no evidence of VC casualties. One VC WIA (possible).

(5) At 230140H, a Company G squad patrol, vicinity HA DONG (AT 99704), sustained one WIA as result of explosive device of unknown composition; patrol withdrew to HA DONG bridge (AT 990642), one WIA MedEvac.

(6) At 230515H, a Company H squad ambush, vicinity NHON THO (2) (BT 020654), observed three VC approximately 100 meters south (BT 020654); the squad directed 30 rounds SA fire at the VC who fled without returning fire. Search of ambush site gave no evidence of VC casualties.

C. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) LATE ENTRY. At 221630H, as Company L squad patrol moving north east, vicinity THU SON (1) (AT 950650), observed one VC (AT 953653) jump and run east. When the VC ignored challenge and warning shots, the patrol fired four rounds SA at the VC, and saw him fall. Patrol sustained one WIA in pursuit as result CHICOM grenade device rigged as a mine (AT 953652). Trail of blood led to VC body in stream (AT 954651). Results: One VC KD (body count), one USMC WIA MedEvac.

(2) At 222000H, a Company L squad enroute ambush position, vicinity Hill 22 (AT 955669), received small arms fire from north, vicinity LA CHAU (3) (AT 955678). Squad returned small arms fire, 40mm and directed an 81mm mortar mission of 22 HE and two WP rounds. Search provided no VC casualties, continued mission.

(3) At 230750H, a Company L squad on search and destroy mission, vicinity DUYEN SON (3) GS (AT 9565), destroyed two punji pits booby trapped with grenades (AT 952651) and (AT 954653); no US casualties.

(4) At 230923H, one Marine on Company I search and destroy operation activated a 105mm dud rigged as a mine (AT 956655). Results: one USMC KD MedEvac.

(5) At 231035H, a Company L squad patrol apprehended three male VC, vicinity (AT 944664). One VCS detained after interrogation at Company G, released to ITT.

(6) At 231155H, Company I (-) on search and destroy mission, vicinity THU SON (5) (AT 970648), received two rounds of small arms fire from 100 meters east (AT 969648) and 20 rounds of small arms from 250 meters southwest (AT 969646); returned 100 rounds of small arms fire and two rounds of 40mm. Search of area produced no evidence of VC casualties.

CONFIDENTIAL3. Plans

A. Company K, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines will conduct a search and destroy operation on 24 February in MAN QUAN (1) (BT 035683). One platoon Company K will act as blocking force south of MAN QUAN (1) vicinity (BT 035683). Commencing 0715H, one platoon will search the village from north to south while one platoon, in conjunction with LVT's, conducts a search of the eastern bank of SONG VINH DIEN. Scout dogs will be used in the search operation.

B. Company I, 3d Battalion, 3d Marines platoon (Rein), prior to first light on 24 February, cordons village of THAI CAM (2) (AT 975635); conducts slow and deliberate and destroy operation within village.

C. Company K (-) (Rein), 3d Battalion, 3d Marines, commences Operation County Fair at 240300H; prior to first light, establishes cordon of PHONG BAC area (AT 991708). GVN forces then conduct search and establish identification and registration operations within village for period of about two days.

4. Miscellaneous. At 231000H, 2d Battalion, 9th Marines chop OPCON three provisional platoons from combat support battalions to parent organizations. Effective 231230H, chopped OPCON Hq Co provisional platoon to parent organization.

  
E. H. SIMMONS

CONFIDENTIAL

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

3/HAL/jlt  
1500  
24 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division

9th Marines SITREP Number 55 as of 241800H February 1966

1. Operations

A. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) At 240015H, the 1st platoon, Company L received one round of small arms fire from (AT 965668); returned 20 rounds of small arms and four rounds of 40mm, searched area with no evidence of VC casualties found.

(2) At 240124H, movement heard from (AT 965667) by 1st platoon, Company L; one hand grenade thrown at suspected VC position resulted in one round of small arms fire from VC. Marines threw three more grenades and searched area but found no sign of VC casualties.

(3) At 240940H, a Company I squad patrol, vicinity THAI CAM (2) (AT 972607), apprehended one male VCS departing village at dawn, no ID; evacuated to ITT.

(4) At 241010H, a H&S Company squad patrol apprehended one female VCS hiding on stream bank, vicinity bridge #2 (AT 998698); taken to HOA VANG collection point.

(5) At 241130H, a Company M platoon patrol completing search and destroy operation, vicinity LE SON (4) (AT 966647), received eight rounds of small arms fire from a building 200 meters east (AT 968647); patrol returned approximately 200 rounds of small arms and four rounds 40mm, two rounds WP and three rounds of HE 3.5; a 81mm mission of six rounds HE was also directed at the target. VC casualties not evident in search conducted throughout area.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIALB. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 240900H, Company E crossed HA DONG bridge enroute to patrol base on search and destroy mission; at 240930H, along RR south of HA DONG bridge (AT 992637), received 10 rounds of small arms fire from VC positioned 300 meters south, vicinity BICH NAM (1) (AT 993634). The company returned small arms and 60mm mortar fire, and fired artillery mission of 14 rounds WP; VC fire ceased and company continued on mission. (See Plans).

(2) At 241030H, Company E (BT 002629) received small arms fire from cane field 200 meters to southeast (BT 003628); directed 105mm artillery fire mission of one round HE and 25 rounds of WP with good effect on target. VC fire ceased, continued on mission. No casualties.

(3) At 241045H, a U. S. Army light observation aircraft escorting convoy on Route #1, reportedly had mechanical failure and was forced to land southeast of BO MUNG (2) (BT 031649) on west side SONG VINH DIEN. Pilot and observer apparently not injured, picked up by HU-1E; one squad, Company H, provided security for aircraft until retrieved.

C. 3d Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 231900H, a Company I platoon patrol, vicinity NGAN TRUNG (3) (BT 058635), received approximately 120 rounds of small arms fire from an estimated 10 VC positioned 600 meters south, vicinity PHONG HO (1) (BT 060629). The patrol returned heavy small arms fire and six rounds 81mm WP; VC fire ceased, no evidence of VC casualties found on search of area.

(2) At 240745H, the H&S Company security squad at battalion check point (BT 071708) apprehended one male VCS, no ID; evacuated to Division Collection Point.

(3) At 240800H, a Company L squad patrol located and destroyed a brick and cement tunnel 30'x3'x2' at (BT 091652); utilized 15 lbs composition B.

(4) At 241015H, the H&S Company security squad at battalion check point (BT 071708) apprehended one male VCS, improper ID; evac to HOA VANG District Headquarters.

CONFIDENTIAL2. PlansA. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) Commencing at 250415H, Company I platoon (Rein) moves two squads to vicinity (AT 975648) and (AT 978649), and one squad to block vicinity (AT 978640). At first light, platoon (-) conducts slow and deliberate search and destroy mission from north to south, through village of THAI CAM (1) into squad block.

(2) Company M, one hour following Company I platoon's retraction from THAI CAM (1), Company M platoon (-) will enter southern sector of THAI CAM (1), and conduct a second search of village from south to north.

(3) Company M also conducts one platoon (-) search and destroy mission in villages of LE SON (2), (AT 973657) and LE SON (3) (AT 969645).

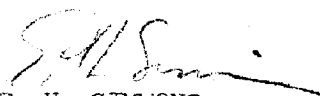
(4) Company K (-) (Rein) continues to execute operation County Fair with two platoons in cordon around village of PHONG BAC (1) (AT 995707) until about 251700H.

B. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) Company E (Rein) deployed south of HA DONG bridge; will conduct search and destroy operations in grid squares (BT 0063) and (BT 0162). Will maintain company size patrol base, vicinity LA THO BAC (1) (BT 005633). Patrols extensively GS (BT 0062) & (BT 0162).

(2) Company F moved into DUONG SON (1) (AT 998687); will conduct deliberate search and destroy operation that area next 24 hours.

C. 3d Battalion, 9th Marines. Conducts search & destroy operation on 25 Feb in area bounded by SONG VINH DIEN on west, east to (BT 063660), north to (BT 050685) and west to SONG VINH DIEN. Company I (Rein) will be search & destroy force with blocks provided by Company M with heavy section of tanks attached, vicinity (BT 059654) north to (BT 073677), and by Company K(-) at (BT 034683) east to (BT 071678). In addition, 2d Bn, 9th Marines provides blocking forces (BT 026670), (BT 032659), (BT 031648) and two at (BT 027676). H-Hour is 250700H.

  
E. H. SIMMONS

CONFIDENTIAL

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

3/HA/jlt  
1500  
24 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division

9th Marines SITREP Number 55 as of 241800H February 1966

1. Operations

A. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) At 240015H, the 1st platoon, Company L received one round of small arms fire from (AT 965668); returned 20 rounds of small arms and four rounds of 40mm, searched area with no evidence of VC casualties found.

(2) At 240124H, movement heard from (AT 965667) by 1st platoon, Company L; one hand grenade thrown at suspected VC position resulted in one round of small arms fire from VC. Marines threw three more grenades and searched area but found no sign of VC casualties.

(3) At 240940H, a Company I squad patrol, vicr y THAI CAM (2) (AT 972635), apprehended one male VCS departing village at dawn, no ID; evacuated to ITT.

(4) At 241010H, a H&S Company squad patrol apprehended one female VCS hiding on stream bank, vicinity bridge #2 (AT 998698); taken to HOA VANG collection point.

(5) At 241130H, a Company M platoon patrol completing search and destroy operation, vicinity LE SON (4) (AT 966647), received eight rounds of small arms fire from a building 200 meters east (AT 968647); patrol returned approximately 200 rounds of small arms and four rounds 40mm, two rounds WP and three rounds of HE 3.5; a 81mm mission of six rounds HE was also directed at the target. VC casualties not evident in search conducted throughout area.



CONFIDENTIALB. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 240900H, Company E crossed HA DONG bridge enroute to patrol base on search and destroy mission; at 240930H, along RR south of HA DONG bridge (AT 992637), received 10 rounds of small arms fire from VC positioned 300 meters south, vicinity BICH NAM (1) (AT 993634). The company returned small arms and 60mm mortar fire, and fired artillery mission of 14 rounds WP; VC fire ceased and company continued on mission. (See Plans).

(2) At 241030H, Company E (BT 002629) received small arms fire from cane field 200 meters to southeast (BT 003628); directed 105mm artillery fire mission of one round HE and 25 rounds of WP with good effect on target. VC fire ceased, continued on mission. No casualties.

(3) At 241045H, a U. S. Army light observation aircraft escorting convoy on Route #1, reportedly had mechanical failure and was forced to land southeast of BO MUNG (2) (BT 031649) on west side SONG VINH DIEN. Pilot and observer apparently not injured, picked up by HU-1E; one squad, Company H, provided security for aircraft until retrieved.

C. 3d Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 231900H, a Company I platoon patrol, vicinity NGAN TRUNG (3) (BT 058635), received approximately 120 rounds of small arms fire from an estimated 10 VC positioned 600 meters south, vicinity PHONG HO (1) (BT 060629). The patrol returned heavy small arms fire and six rounds 81mm WP; VC fire ceased, no evidence of VC casualties found on search of area.

(2) At 240745H, the H&S Company security squad at battalion check point (BT 071708) apprehended one male VCS, no ID; evacuated to Division Collection Point.

(3) At 240800H, a Company L squad patrol located and destroyed a brick and cement tunnel 30'x3'x2' at (BT 091652); utilized 15 lbs composition B.

(4) At 241015H, the H&S Company security squad at battalion check point (BT 071708) apprehended one male VCS, improper ID; evac to HOA VANG District Headquarters.

CONFIDENTIAL2. PlansA. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) Commencing at 250415H, Company I platoon (Rein) moves two squads to vicinity (AT 975648) and (AT 978649), and one squad to block vicinity (AT 978640). At first light, platoon (-) conducts slow and deliberate search and destroy mission from north to south, through village of THAI CAM (1) into squad block.

(2) ~~Company M~~, One hour following Company I platoon's retraction from THAI CAM (1), Company M platoon (-) will enter southern sector of THAI CAM (1), and conduct a second search of village from south to north.

(3) Company M also conducts one platoon (-) search and destroy mission in villages of LE SON (2), (AT 973657) and LE SON (3) (AT 969645).

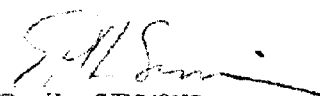
(4) Company K (-) (Rein) continues to execute operation County Fair with two platoons in cordon around village of PHONG BAC (1) (AT 995707) until about 251700H.

B. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) Company E (Rein) deployed south of HA DONG bridge; will conduct search and destroy operations in grid squares (BT 0063) and (BT 0162). Will maintain company size patrol base, vicinity LA THO BAC (1) (BT 005633). Patrols extensively GS (BT 0062) & (BT 0162).

(2) Company F moved into DUONG SON (1) (AT 998687); will conduct deliberate search and destroy operation that area next 24 hours.

C. 3d Battalion, 9th Marines. Conducts search & destroy operation on 25 Feb in area bounded by SONG VINH DIEN on west, east to (BT 063660), north to (BT 050685) and west to SONG VINH DIEN. Company I (Rein) will be search & destroy force with blocks provided by Company M with heavy section of tanks attached, vicinity (BT 059654) north to (BT 073677), and by Company K (-) at (BT 034683) east to (BT 071678). In addition, 2d Bn, 9th Marines provides blocking forces (BT 026670), (BT 032659), (BT 031644) and two at (BT 027676). H-Hour is 250700H.

  
E. H. SIMMONS

CONFIDENTIAL

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

3/HAL/sab  
1500  
25 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 3rd Marine Division

9th Marines SITREP Number 56 as of 251800H February 1966

1. Operations

A. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) At 242145H, tank with Co I on Hill 55 (AT 967617) sighted one VC to northwest with spotlight illumination, vic XUAN DIEM (AT 963625). VC appeared to be carrying rifle; directed three rounds 90mm at VC, squad searched area, found no trace of VC or weapon.

(2) At 250730H, Co I platoon on S&D vic LE SON (2) (AT 977649) disarmed two CHICOM grenade booby traps, one WP grenade booby trap; apprehended one male VCS (AT 978645) and located possible container for claymore type mine (AT 972636); all evac Battalion S-2.

B. 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 242015H, Co E (-) patrol base vic LA THO BAC (1) (BT 006633), received 200 rds SA fire, three hand grenades and approx six rounds 60mm mortar fire from three directions, vic (BT 010634), (BT 005630) and (001635). Patrol base returned approx 1300 rounds SA fire, 52 rounds 40mm, nine rounds 60 mm and one round 3.5 WP; squad search for VC positions, negative results. No USMC casualties.

(2) At 242325H, Co F bridge security squad (AT 994686) received rds SA fire from DUONG SON (1) (AT 997688). Squad at bridge #2 (AT 998698) received 10 rounds SA fire from CAM NE (2) (AT 990688). Security squads not respond, friendly units in vicinity.

(3) At 250220H, H&S Co squad patrol, vic DUONG SON(1) (AT 994678), received one round SA fire from indeterminate VC position; no casualties or further contact; continued on mission.

(4) At 250900H, Co H platoon, blocking vic (BT 025673) for 3d Lt 9th Mar S&D operation east of SONG VINH DIEN, received three rounds SA fire from northwest approx 400 meters (BT 022674); platoon responded with SA fire. VC fire ceased. No USMC casualties.

CONFIDENTIAL

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(5) At 250600H Co E (-) commenced S&D operation from LOD (BT 024621) to objective (BT 015628).

(a) At 250735H vic DONG TIEN (BT 0161) received 5 rds SA fire from vic (BT 013617). VC fire ceased when 8 rds 40mm fire returned.

(b) At 250800H, Co E (-) vic (BT 005620) engaged by estimated 30 VC with SA and 60mm mortar fire from vic (BT 010609). Co E returned fire with 81mm, arty, HUI-E, and fixed wing air strike. SPARROW HAWK requested and helilifted into LZ (BT 018603) at 0845H. Between 0930H and 1100H, one platoon Co E, Co HQ and three platoons Co F helilifted to LZ's west of VC positions (BT 004608) and (AT 993609).

(c) At 251200H all major units involved linked up at (BT 005608) and (BT 000606). Total of 11 VC KIA (body Count)  
1 - Russian carbine, 6 packs, 2 mines, miscellaneous grenades and SA ammo recovered, 38 - 105mm WP, 41 - 81mm WP, and 10 - 61mm HE expended.

C. 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 241800H, Co M fire team, investigating explosion. found bloody shirt, vic (BT 057670), saturated with brains and skull parts, shovel and six rounds SA ammo; indications VC had accidental explosion while laying mine. One VC KIA.

(2) At 250700H Co I (Rein) commenced S&D operation in area bounded by SONG VINH DIEN on west, east to (BT 063660), north to (BT 050685) and west to SONG VINH DIEN. Block forces provided by Co M and Co K (-) 3/9 and Co H (-) 2/9. At 1300H a 20 to 25 year old male resisted apprehension, was shot and killed at (BT 039660). Rice caches were found at (BT 037667) and (BT 035666). totaling 1700 pounds. Results: 1 VC KIA, 3 VCS.

(3) At 250900, H&S Co security squad apprehended one male VCS on bus for lack of ID at check point (BT 072712).

(4) At 251100H, Co M platoon patrol sustained one WIA when a frag grenade, rigged as mine, detonated (BT 083674); Med Evac.

2. Miscellaneous

A. At 242110H, 59th RF Battalion sustained one KIA, one WIA in 9th Marines ZOA, vic CAM LE bridge (BT 015716), as result two VC AW (loss MG) firing on jeep enroute bridge from MLEU DONG (BT 016680).

B. At 241850H, VN woman brought to Co I 3/9 (BT 06145) with wound left side chest, unknown source; Med Evac ARVN hospital.

C. At 251310H, Vietnamese woman (age 38) with two girls (ages seven and nine) came to Co I 3/9 (BT 098659) with minor leg wounds; stated wounds result mortars from unknown source hitting building, vic THANH QUIT (3) (BT 054641). Woman claimed mortar killed father (age 60), husband (age 40) and son (age 10).

*E. H. Simmons*  
E. H. SIMMONS

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

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

3/HAL/jlt  
1500  
26 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division

9th Marines SITREP Number 57 as of 261800H February 1966

1. Highlights. At 260700H, Co K/3/3 and Co F/2/9 commenced airlift from DANANG TAOR to PHU BAI for operations under OPCON 2/1. Co K/3/9 deploys with command group 2/1. Co F/2/9 occupies defensive positions PHU BAI TAOR.

2. Operations

A. 3d Bn, 9th Marines

(1) At 251855H, Co M security squad vic (BT 084698) received 12 rounds SA fire resulting in 1 WIA. Patrol returned fire with 25 rounds SA and 2 rounds 40mm. A Co M squad searched area and apprehended 1 VCS vic (BT 086696). While returning to CP patrol detonated mine (two frag grenades) vic (BT 086695). Resulted in additional 3 WIA and 1 VCS WIA.

(2) At 261135H, Co L platoon patrol observed 1-15 VC (BT 108632). Co L blocked at (BT 110639). Sparrow Hawk squad inserted vic (BT 108628) at 261245H. Sparrow Hawk squad killed 1 VC (body count) and apprehended 17 VCS vic (BT 108629). No other contact. Three USMC WIA.

(3) At 261335H, Co K squad patrol searching (BT 033675) for VC firing on aircraft killed one female VC and apprehended one male VCS who tried to evade patrol.

B. 3d Bn, 3d Marines

(1) At 252000H, Co M bunker (AT 971661) received 30 rounds SA fire from (AT 971659). Returned 100 rounds SA fire and five rounds 40mm. Area searched. Negative results.

(2) At 260400H, Co I squad (AT 973612) received grenade in position resulting in 1 WIA. Med Evac helo received two rounds SA fire vic (AT 967617). Sixty rounds SA and 8 rounds 40mm fire directed at VC. Area searched. Negative results.

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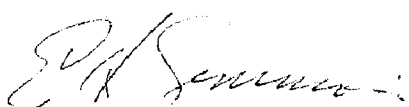
(3) At 260830H, Co M squad patrol vic (AT 963646) pursued two VC into canefield. Discovered spider hole. Smoke and frag grenades used to clear and destroy hole. Two VC KIA (body count).

(4) At 260830H, Co M squad patrol (AT 972657) sustained 3 WIA as result detonation M26 grenade rigged with tripwire. Med Evac.

Plans. Commencing 270600H, 3d Bn, 9th Marines conducts S/D operation using three rifle companies (Rein) in area bounded by (BT 053644), (BT 066644), (BT 072600) and (BT 083614). Second Bn, 9th Marines provides blocking forces from (BT 054632) to (BT 054612).

4. Miscellaneous

A. At 252130H, a Co G/2/9 post vic (AT 991640) heard noise to his front. Illuminated area. Negative sighting. Area illuminated a second time which silhouetted a figure which was taken under fire. Search revealed one Marine WIA (chest and leg wounds). Investigation being conducted.

  
E. H. SIMMONS

CONFIDENTIAL

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

3/HAL/jlt  
1500  
27 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division

9th Marines SITREP Number 58 as of 271800 February 1966

1. Operations

A. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) At 261945H, a Co L squad (AT 953684) received one round SA fire from (AT 953685) while enroute ambush site. Directed 90 rounds SA, 2 rounds 40mm and assaulted VC position. Area searched. Negative results.

(2) At 261945H, Co M CP perimeter (AT 972663) received 10 rounds SA fire from (AT 972657). Returned 2 rounds 40mm. VC fire ceased. Area searched. Negative results.

(3) At 262048H, a Co L squad patrol (AT 957685) fired 2 rounds 40mm at VC in treeline (AT 955683). Illuminated and searched village. Negative results.

(4) At 270100H, a Co L squad patrol (AT 953676) enroute ambush site, sustained 3 WIA as result detonation M26 grenade rigged as mine. Med Evac.

(5) At 270700H, a Co I platoon on S&D (AT 988623) observed one VC run from house into canefield (AT 980625). Area searched. Negative results.

B. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 261930H, E Btry/2/12 (AT 988672) received 30 to 40 rounds SA fire from (AT 985681). Returned 5 rounds SA and 5 rounds .50 caliber MG fire. VC fire ceased. Searched area. Negative results.

(2) At 261937H, 2/9 CP perimeter (AT 990678) received 25 rounds SA fire from (AT 984680). Directed 50 rounds SA fire at VC. Area searched. Negative results.

CONFIDENTIAL

(3) At 271142H, a Co H squad blocking vic (BT 052640) for 3/9 S&D received approx 80 rounds SA fire from (BT 052643). Returned SA fire and one round 3.5 WP. VC fire ceased. VC casualties unknown

(4) At 261235H, Co H squad blocking vic (BT 052640) received one round SA fire unknown source. Sustained one KIA Med Evac.

C. 3d Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 261830H, D Btry/2/12 apprehended one male VCS, (BT 067680).

(2) At 271025H, an H&S Co squad apprehended one female VCS at checkpoint (BT 071708). No ID. Sent to HQ VANG.

(3) At 270600H, 3/9 (-) (Rain) commenced three company S&D operation within area bounded by (BT 053644), (BT 066644), (BT 072607) and (BT 083614).

(a) At 270855H, Co I directed 36 rounds 105mm RL at 50 VC observed in open at (BT 058615). Surveillance indicated target well covered. VC casualties unknown.

(b) At 270950H, Co K on S&D operation vic (BT 066633) sustained one KIA as result detonation of unknown type device. Med Evac.

(c) At 271500H, 3/9 reported total 9 VC KIA, 3 VCO, 16 VCS apprehended, 131 bunkers destroyed vic (BT 070620). VCO dressed in green shorts and shirts with grenades and cartridge belt.

(d) At 271512H, Co L apprehended one wounded VC observed by AO (BT 067613). VC shot in leg. Evac USNH DANANG. No weapons or documents.

  
E. H. SIMMONS



HEADQUARTERS  
9th Marines  
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF  
c/o FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

3/HAL/sab  
1500  
28 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General 3d Marine Division

SITREP #39

1. Operations

A. 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

(1) At 280800H, a Co I Marine on platoon patrol fell into punji trap vic (AT 967635). 155mm rnd in trap rigged as mine exploded as Marine left area. No casualties.

(2) At 281030H, Co L platoon patrol vic (AT 953652) received SA fire from (AT 950652). Returned SA fire. Searched area. Negative results. Sustained one KIA (DOW). Med Evac.

(3) At 281140H, Co L platoon sustained two WIA (AT 955653) result detonation grenade type mine. Med Evac.

B. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 272310H, Co G squad ambush (AT 993655) directed 10 rnds fire at intruder. Captured one VCS (WIA). Med Evac.

C. 3d Battalion, 9th Marines

(1) At 280800H, Co I platoon patrol at (BT 069625) received 3 rnds SA fire from (BT 068627). Returned 25 rnds SA fire. Searched area. Negative results.

(2) At 281345H, Co M fire team patrol (BT 090693) received 8 rounds SA fire from (BT 091689). Patrol returned 40 rnd SA fire. Searched area. Negative results. Sustained two WIA. Med Evac.

(3) At 281440H, Co M fire team patrol detonated mine (BT 083674). Sustained two WIA. Med Evac.

(4) At 281530H, Co I platoon blocking (BT 075621) ARVN S&D, received 7 rnds SA fire from (BT 073621). Returned 25 rnds SA and one round 3.5. Pursued and searched. Negative results.

2. Plans

A. Commencing 010445, Co I/3/3 platoon cordons CHAU SON (1) (AT 943614). Conducts S&D operation in hamlet.

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B. Commencing 010300H, Co G/2/9 conducts Company (-) patrol to assembly area (AT 005616). Conducts S&D operation to SCHE LA THO from (AT 981612) to (BT 008608).

C. 3d Bn, 9th Marines executes "ROUGH RIDER" South to vic CHU LAI commencing 010700H.

### 3. Miscellaneous

#### A. CP Locations:

BN CP 3/3	AT 975706
Co I/3/3	AT 967617
Co K/3/3	(OPCON 2/1)
Co L/3/3	AT 953666
Co M/3/3	AT 972662

Bn CP 3/9	BT 068713
Co I/3/9	BT 062644
Co K/3/9	BT 045719
Co L/3/9	BT 095658
Co M/3/9	BT 072702
(1st Plt, Co M/3/9, ASP# 1, (AT 988724)	

Bn CP 2/9	AT 993678
Co E (Bn Res)	AT 993678
Co F/2/9	(OPCON 2/1)
Co G/2/9	AT 999643
Co H/2/9	AT 023658

B. At 271821H, Co G/2/9 sustained one non-battle casualty in platoon CP (AT 994673) result M-14 discharge being cleaned. Med Evac.

C. At 272030H, Co M/3/3 fire team patrol vic (AT 971656) sustained one non-battle casualty result friendly SA fire. Med Evac.

D. At 272215H, PF squad ambush (AT 948692) received SA fire from (AT 953692). PF squad at bridge (AT 947699) received one grenade. Returned SA fire. Report one VC KIA. No friendly casualties.

  
E. H. SIMMONS

S-4 JOURNAL

1-28 FEB 66

TAB-c

*9th Marines*  
S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP) 1 Feb 1966

(C)  
 TAB -

TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
010830H		115		1/9 malfunction of ammo report	Copy 8000 file
	011115H	116		MT is setting up 6x6's for 1/9 and 3/9 for their move 5-tol/9 on 3-4&5 Feb 3-to 3/9 on 3-4& 5 Feb	report to respection S-4's at 0700 each morning will be secured 1830 daily
	011530H	117		Called all Bns for their 6x6 availability.	HqCO-4; 1/9-7; 2/9-8 3/9-6; 3/3-6

DECLASSIFIED

S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP) 2 Feb 1966

②

TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
	020830H	118		Submitted deadline combat equipment report to Div.	copy in 4000.5
	021300H	119		Submitted engineer generator report to Div	copy in 4000.2
	021525H	120		Submitted Equipment Density report to Div.	copy in 4000.3

DECLASSIFIED

## S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP) 3 Feb. 1966

C

TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
L.	OUT				
030930H		121		Fwd 1/9 ltr on high usage items to Div G-4	copy in 4000
	031525H	122		Called all Bns for their 6x6 availability.	HqCO-4; 1/9-8; 2/9-8 3/9-6; 3/3-6

S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP) 4 Feb. 1966

TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
031635H		123		1/9's Request for Otters.	Copy in 11240
	031645H	123		Submitted LOGSUM #12 to Div.	Copy in 4000.1
	041530H	124		Called all bns for their 6x6 availability.	HqCo-3; 1/9-8; 2/9-8 3/9-6; 3/3-6
	041530H	125		Submitted Ammo report to Div	copy in 8000.1

S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP)

6 FEB 1966

C

TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
	060830H	126		Picked up demolitions for Lt Buse 2/9 Liaison.	Delivered to Lt Buse
	061130H	127		2-LVT's for 3/3 to move bunker materials from Ha Dung Bridge AT9964 to Hill 55.	report to bridge at 0900 7Feb66. 3/3 will furnish working party.
	161515H	128		Called all Bn's for 6X6's availability.	HqCo-3; 1/9-8; 2/9-8; 3/9-6; 3/3-6,



## S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP) 7 Feb. 1966

C

TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
	070900H	129		In formed 3/3 to pick up 4600 ft of single strand barbed wire for use in Pacification program	S-4 Cord. 3/3
	071030H	130		Submitted trained embarkation personnel report to Div.	Copy in 4600
071250H		131		1/9 requires EOD team for 3-81 mm duds	EOD report to 1/9 S-4
	071455H	132		Submitted SID-150 Maintenance Report to MAF	Copy in 4000
	071530H	133		Called all Bns for their 6x6 availability.	HqCo-5; 1/9-8; 2/9-7 3/9-6; 3/3-6

DECLASSIFIED

S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP)

8 FEB 1966

②

TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
	081530H	134		Called all Bn's for their 6X6 availability.	HqCo-3; 1/9-6; 2/9-8; 3/9-6; 3/3-6

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## S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP)

9 FEB 1966

②

TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
091115H		135		3/9 request for special allowance for Bath Unit for Da Nang airfield.	Copy 4441
	091530H	136		Called all Bn's for their 6X6 availability.	HqCo-4; 1/9-6; 2/9-7; 3/9-6; 3/3-6.

S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP) 10 Feb 1966

TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
100910H		137		3/3 Request for two (2) additional M-79 on temp loan for river patrols.	copy 4000 folder
	101545H	138		called all bns for their 6x6 availability.	HqCo-3; 1/9-8; 2/9-7 3/9-6; 3/3-6

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## S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP) 11 Feb. 1966

(2)

TIME		SER. NO.	D.I.	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
110925H		139		EOD Team for 1/9	Rept to 1/9-S-4
	110940H	140		Submitted Ammo Expenditure report to Div Ord.	Copy in 8000.1
	111530H	141		Called all Bns for their 6x6 availability.	HqCo-4; 1/9-8 2/9- 8; 3/9-8; 3/3-6

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*9th Marines*  
S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP)

12 Feb 1966

(2)

TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
121140H		142		DaNang Ferry will be closed from 0900 to 1300 12Feb66.	Div G-4 called.
121400H		143		Representative from NCC came aboard to lay out Supply and MT Butler Buildings.	S-4 Coord.
	121530H	144		Called all Bns for their 6X6 availability.	HqCo-4; 1/9-8; 2/9-8; 3/9-8; 3/3-6,

S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP)

13 Feb 1966

TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
130900H		145		3/3's request for 3 squad bunkers for hill 55	Copy 4000
130905H		146		3/3's request for materials for schoolhouse hill 22	Copy 4000
	130955H	147		Request for special allowance for life preservers.	Copy 4441
	131530H	148		Called all Bns for their 6x6 availability.	HqCo-4; 1/9-8 2/9-7; 3/9-7; 3/3-6

S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP)

14 FEB 1966

②

TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
	141530H	148A		Called all Bn's for 6X6 availability.	HqCo-4; 1/9-7; 2/9-8; 3/9-7; 3/3-6.



S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP)

15 Feb 1966

©

TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
	151530H	149		Called all Bns for their 6x6 availability.	HqCo-4; 1/9-7 2/9-8; 3/9-7; 3/3-6

S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP) 16 Feb. 1966

2

TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
	161105H	150		Ltr to Div requesting guidance in giving barbed wire to VN villages.	Copy in 4000
	161530H	151		Called all Bns for their 6x6 availability.	HqCo-4; 1/9-7; 2/9-8; 3/9-7; 3/3-6

S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP) 17 FEB 1966

TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
	171415H	152		Submitted 3/3's ltr for additional 10 strong backs for GP tents.	Copy 4000.
	171530H	153		Called all Bn's on 6x6 availability.	HqCo-4; 1/9-7; 2/9-8; 3/9-7; 3/3-6.

## S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP) 18 Feb 1966

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TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
	180845H	154		Sent ltr to 3/9 on Logistic Support of Combined Action Company.	Copy 4000
	181530H	155		Called all Bn's on 6X6 availability.	HqCo-4; 1/9-7; 2/9-8; 3/9-7 & 3/3-6.
	181630H	156		Submitted Ammo Expenditure Report to Div Ord.	Copy 8000.1

## S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP) 19 Feb 1966

TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
	191530H	157		Called all Bns for their 6x6 availability.	HqCo-4; 1/9-8 2/9-8; 3/9-6; 3/3-6

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## S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP) 20 Feb 1966

C

TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
	201525H	158		Called all Bns for their 6x6 availability.	HqCO-4; 1/9-6 2/9-8; 3/9-6; 3/3-6

DECLASSIFIED

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C-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP) 21 Feb 1966

(c)

TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
	211515H	159		Called All <sup>D</sup> ns for their 6x6 availability.	HqCO-4; 1/9-8 2/9-8; 3/9-7; 3/3-6

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## S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP) 22 Feb 1966

C

TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
	221630H	160		Called all Bns for their 6x6 availability.	HqCo-4; 1/9-6; 2/9-8; 3/9-7; 3/3-6



*9th Marine*  
S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP) 23 Feb 1966

TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
	231510H	161		Called all Bns for their 6x6 availability.  Arranged with 3d Eng for TD-18 to 2/9 for Tank and Bunker positions at Ho Dong Bridge and for TD-18 for Hill 22 for Tank and Ontos positions.	HqCo-3; 1/9-7; 2/9-7; 3/9-8; 3/3-6

S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP) 24 Feb 1966

2

TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
	241515H	162		Submitted shortages of M-422 to Div MT. Called all Bns for their 6x6 availability.	1/9-(6), 3/9-(5), 3/3-(8) HqCo-4; 1/9-6; 2/9-4; 3/9-7; 3/3-6

DECLASSIFIED

## S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP) 25 Feb 1966

C

TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
	251600H	163		Called all Bns for their 6x6 availability.	HqCo-4; 1/9-7; 2/9-7 3/9-8; 3/3-6
	251700H	164		Submitted Ammo report to Div Ord.	Copy in 8000.1

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S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP)

26 Feb 1966

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TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
	261515H	165		Called all Bns for their 6x6 availability.	HqCo-4; 1/9-7; 2/9-7; 3/9-6; 3/3-6

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S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP) 27 Feb 1966

2

TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
	271520H	166		Called all Bns for their 6x6 availability. Regt. MTO to provide 19 6x6's 0800, 28 Feb, to pick up returning companies from PHU BAI at Air Freight. Transport troops to 2/9 and 3/3.	HqCo-4; 1/9-7; 2/9-7; 3/9-8; 3/3-6 S-4 coord.

DECLASSIFIED

*9th Marines*  
S-4 STAFF JOURNAL (SITREP) 28 Feb 1966

(C)

TIME		SER. NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, REPORTS, ETC.	REMARKS
IN	OUT				
	281520H	167		Called all Bns for their 6x6 availability.	HqCo-4; 1/9-7; 2/9-7; 3/9-8; 3/3-6

DECLASSIFIED

9<sup>TH</sup> MARINES FRAG

ORDERS 6-9-66

53-59-66

TAB-1

14 0930 FEB 66

FEB 14 1966

**CONFIDENTIAL**

R 120831Z  
FM NINTH MARINES  
TO ZEN/FIRST BN, NINTH MARINES  
ZEN/THIRD BN, NINTH MARINES  
INFO CG III MAF  
CG THIRD MARDIV  
THIRD MARINES  
ZEN/THIRD BN, THIRD MARINES  
ZEN/SECOND BN, NINTH MARINES  
ZEN/SECOND BN, TWELFTH MARINES  
ZEN/THIRD TANK BN  
ZEN/CO B, THIRD TANK BN  
ZEN/CO B, FIRST AMPAC BN  
ZEN/CO C, THIRD AT BN  
ZEN/CO A, THIRD MT BN  
BT

RELEASES: V.T.BLAZ MAJOR

DRAFTER: V.T.BLAZ MAJOR

**HAS BEEN SENT****CONFIDENTIAL**

FRAG ORDER 6-66

A. MAPS, SERIES 1301, SHEETS 6658 I, IV AND 6659 II AND III

B. DIVOP ORDER 343-65

C. CHAPTER 18 DIVO P3000-1P

D. RETL ORDER 3100-1B

1. SITUATION

A. ENEMY FORCES. CURRENT INCUMS

B. FRIENDLY FORCES. UNITS IN DIRECT SUPPORT OF NINTH MARINES  
(1) SECOND BN (-), TWELFTH MARINES

(2) CO B, THIRD TANK BATTALION

(3) CO C, THIRD AT BATTALION

(4) SECOND PLATOON, CO B(-); FIRST AMPAC BATTALION

(5) THIRD PLATOON, CO A, THIRD MT BATTALION

2. MISSION. TO EFFECT A CONTACT RELIEF OF FIRST BATTALION, NINTH MARINES BY THIRD BATTALION, NINTH MARINES.

3. EXECUTION

A. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS. NINTH MARINES ACCOMPLISHES ITS ASSIGNED MISSION WITH THREE BATTALIONS FORWARD AND ONE ASSIGNED AS AIR DEFENSE BATTALION UNDER OPCON III MAF. FIRST BATTALION CURRENTLY IN THE EASTERN SECTOR IS RELIEVED BY THIRD BATTALION; ASSUMES RESPONSIBILITY FOR AIR-BASE DEFENSE.

B. FIRST BATTALION

(1) EFFECT CONTACT RELIEF AND, ON-ORDER, ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR DANANG AIR BASE DEFENSE UNDER OPCON III MAF, RELIEVING THIRD BATTALION, NINTH MARINES.

C. THIRD -55-189, NINTH MARINES

(1) COMMENCING 16 FEBRUARY 1966, COMMENCE CONTACT RELIEF OF FIRST BATTALION, NINTH MARINES, ASSUMING RESPONSIBILITY FOR EASTERN

ORIG: NINTH MARINES

120831Z/FEB66 CONFIDENTIAL P-1-2

**CONFIDENTIAL**



**CONFIDENTIAL****HAS BEEN SENT**

PORTION OF NINTH MARINES TAOB.

## D. COORDINATING INSTRUCTIONS

(1) 1/9-3/9 RELIEF COMMENCES 16 FEBRUARY 1966 AND WILL BE COMPLETED 18 FEB 1966.

(2) REFERENCE (B) OUTLINES RULES OF ENGAGEMENT.

(3) REFERENCE (C) SPECIFIES RELIEF OF LINES PROCEDURES.

## (4) REPORTS:

(A) UPON COMMENCING AND UPON COMPLETING.

(B) AS REQUIRED BY REFERENCE (D).

(C) CONTACT RIGHT TO LEFT.

(5) ARVN LIAISON TEAMS WILL ACCOMPANY BATTALIONS.

(6) RF/PF FORCES WILL REMAIN IN PLACE.

## 4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

A. PARA 1805, REFERENCE (C).

## B. TRANSPORTATION

(1) STRUCTURAL LIMITATION OF 22,000 POUNDS GROSS WEIGHT OVER THE TOURANE BRIDGE TO DANANG EAST. RELIEVING BATTALIONS WILL BE AUGMENTED BY FOURTEEN (14) M-35 2 1/2 TON TRUCKS TO PERMIT TRANSFER VIA TOURANE BRIDGE.

(2) THE DANANG FERRY MUST BE USED FOR CROSSING RIVERS.

## 5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATION-ELECTRONICS

A. PARA 1804 REFERENCE (C).

B. ALL WIRE TRUNKS WILL REMAIN IN PLACE, TO INCLUDE COMPANY LOCAL LINES. TEMPORARY LINES MAY BE RETRIEVED AFTER COORDINATION WITH RELIEVING COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER AND NINTH MARINES COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER.

GP-4  
BT

TOD: 0705Z/13FEB66/OUT-125/DIV-TTY/MRW

ORIG: NINTH MARINES

120831Z/FEB66 CONFIDENTIAL P-2-2

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**CONFIDENTIAL**

*X-6*

140930 FEB 66

SECRET

FEB 14 1966

PP 121405Z  
FM NINTH MARINES  
TO ZEN/FIRST BN, NINTH MARINES  
ZEN/SECOND BN, NINTH MARINES  
ZEN/THIRD BN, THIRD MARINES  
INFO CG THIRD MARIYU  
ZEN/THIRD BN, NINTH MARINES

RELEASER: V.T. BLAZ MAJOR

DRAFTER: V.T. BLAZ MAJOR

SECRET

TRAC ORDER 7-66

1. JTV OP ORDER 343-63

2. NINTH MAR OP ORDER 328-63

3. SITUATION

A. ENEMY FORCES: SEE PUMC AC REQUEST

B. FRIENDLY FORCES: SEE REF A.

2. MISSION: IN FURTHERANCE NINTH MARINES MISSION OUTLINED IN REF B, NINTH MARINES DESTROY VC PERSONNEL IN UMC DEFENSIVE POSITIONS SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED TO LURE, TRAP AND ANNIHILATE HIM.

HAS BEEN SENT

## 3. EXECUTION

A. CONCEPT OF OPERATION: EACH BATTALION PREPARES A SQUAD DEFENSIVE POSITION 500-1000 METERS FORWARD OF ITS HLR; SQUAD OCCUPIES THE POSITION, CONSTRUCTS A BUNKER, Digs FOXHOLES, AND REMAINS IN AREA FOR ABOUT TWO DAYS; WITHDRAWN AT PREDETERMINED TIME; SENSITIVE INTERRUPTOR DEVICE SIGNALS APPROACH OF VC INTO AREA; AN ARTILLERY HIT IS FIRED FOLLOWED BY DETONATION OF PRE-PLANTED REMOTELY IN THE BUNKER AND BY AN INFANTRY ASSAULT ON THE POSITION.

B. BATTALIONS ON HLR: EACH BATTALION WILL MAINTAIN AT LEAST ONE BUNKER FOR USE IN OPERATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS ORDER.

## C. COORDINATION INSTRUCTIONS

(1) ALL BATTALIONS WILL REPORT LOCATIONS OF COMPLETED BUNKER POSITIONS.

(2) DURING DAYLIGHT OPERATIONS, VISUAL CONFIRMATION OF THE PRESENCE OF VC WILL BE MADE, IF POSSIBLE, BEFORE THE TARGET IS DESTROYED.

(3) UNCLASSIFIED NINTH MARINES CODE NAME: MOUSE-TRAP.

4. ADMIN/LOGISTICS: OMITTED

5. COMMAND/COMM-ELECT: OMITTED.

GP-4

BT

TNC: 1644Z/13FEB66/OUT-142/DIV-TTY/AJM

ORIG: NINTH MARINES

121405Z/FEB-66

SECRET

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SECRET

R-7

140930 FEB 66

**SECRET****FEB 14 1966**

P 130932Z

FM NINTH MARINES

DRAFTER: V.T. BLAZ MAJOR

TO ZEN/1ST BN NINTH MARINES

RELEASER: V.T. BLAZ MAJOR

ZEN/ 2ND BN NINTH MARINES

ZEN/ 3RD BN NINTH MARINES

ZEN/ 4TH BN NINTH MARINES

ZEN/ 5TH BN NINTH MARINES

ZEN/ 6TH BN NINTH MARINES

MAW

MAG ONE SIX

MAG TWO

BT

~~SECRET SECTION~~

PDAG ORDER 8-66

A. DIV OP ORDER 343-65

B. DIV OP ORDER 364-66

1. SITUATION

A. ENEMY FORCES. SEE SCHEME AS ISSUED.

B. FRIENDLY FORCES

(1) DEF A

(2) MAG-16 PROVIDES THREE UH-34D AND TWO UH-1F (ADMET) HELICOPTERS ON STBY ALERT FOR SUPPORT.

**HAS BEEN SENT**

2. MISSION. IN SUPPORT OF BASIC MISSION OUTLINED DEF A AND DEF B, 8TH MARINES MAINTAIN REINFORCED RIFLE SQUAD AT MAPLE MOUNTAIN AFB FACILITY ON A 12 HOUR READY STATUS FOR IMMEDIATE DEPLOYMENT BY HELICOPTER WITHIN REGIMENTAL TAO OR AREA ADJACENT TO ASSIGNED SECTOR OF DANANG TAO AS A SEPARATE MANEUVER ELEMENT IN SUPPORT OF A GROUND FORCE IN CONTACT WITH VC.

3. EXECUTION

A. CONCEPT OF OPERATION. ONE REINFORCED RIFLE SQUAD AT MAPLE MOUNTAIN AFB FACILITY INSERTED BY HELICOPTER ANYWHERE IN 8TH MARINES TAO IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST BY ANY BATTALION COMMANDER; LAND-ON DEAD OR ON ENEMY'S FLANK; IF IN ADDITION TO, AND NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR, REINFORCING ELEMENTS ON THE GROUND; ENGAGE ENEMY; RETRACT AND PREPARE FOR DEPLOYMENT ELSEWHERE IN TAO.

B. 1ST BATTALION, 8TH MARINES

(1) PROVIDE ONE REINFORCED SQUAD OF APPROXIMATELY 22 MEN AS INFANTRY PORTION OF HELIBORNE FORCE ON A 12-HOUR READY STATUS (0600-1800) FOR IMMEDIATE DEPLOYMENT ANYWHERE IN 8TH MARINES TAO; AUGMENT REINFORCED SQUAD WITH FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT:

(A) FOUR M-72 LIGHT ANTITANK WEAPONS

(B) ONE M-60 LIGHT MACHINE GUN

ORIG: NINTH MARINES

130932Z/FEB-66

SECRET P-1-3

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

HAS BEEN SENT

(C) ONE 3.5 ROCKET LAUNCHER

(D) ONE 60MM MORTAR

(E) ONE AN/PRC 25

(2) BE PREPARED TO REQUEST EMPLOYMENT THIS SQUAD WHEN TACTICAL SITUATION DICTATES.

C. 2D BATTALION, 9TH MARINE

(1) BE PREPARED TO REQUEST EMPLOYMENT THIS SQUAD WHEN TACTICAL SITUATION DICTATES.

(2) ON ORDER, BE PREPARED TO PROVIDE REINFORCED SQUAD EQUIPPED AS DESCRIBED IN PARA 3 B (1) FOR EMPLOYMENT 2D BN, 9TH MAR AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY.

D. 3D BATTALION, 3D MARINE

(1) BE PREPARED TO REQUEST EMPLOYMENT THIS SQUAD WHEN TACTICAL SITUATION DICTATES.

(2) ON ORDER BE PREPARED TO PROVIDE REINFORCED SQUAD EQUIPPED AS DESCRIBED IN PARA 3B (1) FOR EMPLOYMENT 3D BN, 3D MAR AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY.

E. COORDINATING INSTRUCTIONS

(1) UNCLASSIFIED CODE NAME "SPARROW HAWK."

(2) MAINTAIN LOG OF SPARROW HAWK ACTIVITIES TO INCLUDE

## FOLLOWING INFORMATION. -

(A) TIME MISSION WAS REQUESTED.

(B) TIME SPARROW HAWK AIRBORNE.

(C) TIME SPARROW HAWK LANDS.

(D) LZ COORDINATES.

(E) DESCRIPTION OF TARGET.

(F) RESULTS.

(G) TIME OF RETRACTION.

(3) NOTIFY THE HEADQUARTERS IMMEDIATELY UPON SUBMISSION REQUEST FOR SPARROW HAWK MISSION.

(4) EMPLOY SPARROW HAWK FORCE INTELLIGENTLY, AGGRESSIVELY AND IMAGINATIVELY.

(5) AVOID STEREOTYPED TACTICS TO KEEP VC OFF BALANCE WITH REGARD TO EMPLOYMENT OF THE SPARROW HAWK FORCE.

(6) SPARROW HAWK SQUAD UNDER ORDER OF REQUESTING BATTALION COMMANDED UPON LANDING IN HIS AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY.

(7) REQUEST FOR A SPARROW HAWK MISSION WILL BE SUBMITTED DIRECTLY TO THE DIRECT AIR SUPPORT CENTER (DASC).

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS. OMITTED.

5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATION-ELECTRONICS

ORIG: NINTH MARINES

130932Z/FEB-66

SECRET P-2-3

**SECRET**  
2-2

HAS BEEN SENT

SECRET

A. REQUEST FOR SPARROW HAWK-THROUGH TACTICAL AIR  
REQUEST NET (TAP NO 1) FURNISHING  
FOLLOWING INFORMATION INITIALLY:

- (1) LZ COORDINATE-----
- (2) ENEMY LOCATION-----
- (3) FRIENDLY LOCATION-----
- (4) ACTION TO BE TAKEN-----
- (5) FREQUENCY AND CALL SIGN OF CONTROLLING AGENCY: (FY)---

(UHF)-----

- (6) OTHER INSTRUCTIONS-----

B. CONTACT-BETWEEN SPARROW HAWK FORCE THROUGH TACTICAL NET OF  
REQUESTING UNIT. CALL SIGNS:

- (1) SPARROW HAWK 1 (VNF UNIT)
- (2) SPARROW HAWK 2 (UH-34's)
- (3) SPARROW HAWK 3 (UH-1F's)

C. PYROTECHNICS

- (1) RED SMOKE: RECEIVING ENEMY FIRE
- (2) GREEN SMOKE: LT SECURE/REQUEST FOR MEDEVAC
- (3) WHITE PHOSPHORUS: ENEMY POSITION
- (4) GREEN STAP CLUSTER: FRIENDLY POSITION

GP-4

BT

TOO: 1841Z/13FEB66/OUT-142/DIV-TTY/AJM

ORIG: NINTH MARINES

130932Z/FEB-66

SECRET P-3-3

COPY 4 OF 14 COPIES

SECRET

4-8

181500 FEB 66

chronology FILE

FEB 18 1966

**SECRET**

P 171405Z  
FM NINTH MARINES  
TO ZEN/THIRD BN THIRD MARINES  
ZEN/SECOND BN NINTH MARINES  
ZEN/FLSG  
ZEN/SEVENTH ENGR BN  
ZEN/TWELFTH MARINES  
ZEN/THIRD MT BN  
THIRD ENGR BN  
ZEN/ADC COMMAND GROUP  
INFO RUMNAW/ CG FMAW  
ZEN/ CG III MAF  
ZEN/CG THIRD MARDIV  
BT

DRAFTER: V.T. BLAZ, MAJ.  
RELEASER: E.H. SIMMONS, COL.

**HAS BEEN SENT.****SECRET**

FRAG ORDER 9-66 (ROUGH RIDER)  
A. THIRD MARDIV OP ORDER 343-65  
B. THIRD MARDIV OP ORDER 361-66  
C. THIRD MARDIV 161240Z  
D. THIRD MARDIV ORDER P3000.5, CHAPTER 19  
TASK ORGANIZATION  
NINTH MARINES COL SYMONS  
SECOND BN NINTH MARINES (-) (REIN) LT COL DONOHUE  
EOD TEAM FLSG

- DET, THIRD ENGR BN  
DET, SEVENTH ENGR BN  
DET, THIRD MOTOR TRANSPORT BN
1. SITUATION
    - A. ENEMY FORCES
    - B. FRIENDLY FORCES. ANNEX A (INTELLIGENCE) TO REF B AND ISUMS AS ISSUED.
      - (1) REFERENCE (B).
      - (2) ARVN FORCES PROVIDE TRAFFIC CONTROL AT BRIDGE SITES, CROSSINGS AND VILLAGE/ HAMLET COMPLEXES; PROVIDE MILITARY ASSISTANCE IN THE EVENT OF ENEMY ATTACKS; PROVIDE ARTILLERY SUPPORT.
      - (3) FMAW PROVIDES AERIAL OBSERVATION AIRCRAFT AND CONVOY COVER; PROVIDES CLOSE AIR SUPPORT AIRCRAFT ON CONDITION THREE GROUND ALERT; PROVIDES EMERGENCY RESUPPLY AND EVACUATION AIRCRAFT, AS REQUIRED.
      - (4) U.S. NAVY TASK GROUP 70.8 PROVIDES A NAVAL GUNFIRE SUPPORT SHIP.
      - (5) FLSG PROVIDES EOD TEAM.
      - (6) SEVENTH ENGR BN PROVIDES PORTABLE BRIDGING AND EQUIPMENT.
      - (7) TWELFTH MARINES PROVIDES ARTILLERY SUPPORT.
      - (8) THIRD MOTOR TRANSPORT BATTALION PROVIDES REQUIRED NUMBER OF HARDENED 1 1/2 TON TRUCKS WITH DRIVERS FOR CONVOY; PROVIDE

ORIG: NINTH MARINES

171405Z/FEB-66

**SECRET** P-1-3

K-9

# SECRET

CALIBER MACHINE GUN WITH RING AND GROUND MOUNTS FOR EVERY THIRD TRUCK;  
ASSIGNS ONE OFFICER TO ACCOMPANY EACH CONVOY.

(9) THIRD ENGINEER BATTALION: CONDUCTS AERIAL ENGINEER RECONNAISSANCE OF HIGHWAY NR 1 NO EARLIER THAN 24 HOURS BEFORE DEPARTURE TIME; PROVIDES ENGINEER CONVOY SUPPORT TEAM TO EACH CONVOY TO PROVIDE ENGINEER ROUTES OF COMMUNICATION SUPPORT, PREPARED TO DESTROY VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT TO PREVENT CAPTURE.

(10) ADC COMMAND GROUP: PROVIDES LOGISTICAL, ENGINEER AND TACTICAL SUPPORT FROM THE CHU LAI TAOR TO FACILITATE MOVEMENT AND INSURE SAFETY OF THE CONVOY.

2. MISSION: COMMENCING AT 190000H FEB 9TH MARINES SUPPORTS THIRD MARDIV MISSION TO OPEN NATIONAL ROUTE NR FOR MILITARY CONVOY MOVEMENT BETWEEN DA NANG AND CHU LAI TAORS; CONDUCTS VISUAL RECONNAISSANCE OF HIGHWAY AND SURROUNDING AREAS ENROUTE; DESTROYS ENEMY FORCES ENCOUNTERED; DEMONSTRATES CAPABILITY TO UTILIZE HIGHWAY AND PROTECTS MILITARY CONVOYS FROM VC ATTACKS.

3. EXECUTION.

A. CONCEPT OF OPERATION, ON 190000H FEBRUARY, 9TH MARINES PROVIDES INFANTRY ESCORT AND CONVOY RESERVE FOR MILITARY CONVOY BETWEEN DANANG AND CHU LAI TO DEMONSTRATE 3D MARDIV CAPABILITY TO UTILIZE NATIONAL

HIGHWAY NR1; COORDINATES PLANNING AND EXECUTION OF CONVOY AND ITS GROUND, AIR, AND NAVAL GUNFIRE SUPPORT; CONDUCTS VISUAL RECONNAISSANCE OF SUPPORTING AREAS FOR ENEMY ACTIVITIES; ATTACKS AND DESTROYS ENEMY ENCOUNTERED.

B. SECOND BN NINTH MARINES (-) (REYN)

(1) PROVIDE A BATTALION COMMAND GROUP AND TWO COMPANIES AS CONVOY ESCORT.

(2) COORDINATE PLANNING AND EXECUTION OF ASSIGNED CONVOY TO CHU LAI.

(3) ON ORDER, ASSUME OPCON CONVOY RESERVE.

C. THIRD BN THIRD MARINES

(1) PROVIDE ONE INFANTRY PLATOON TO ACCOMPANY 2D BN, 9TH MARINES TO CHU LAI AND TO SERVE AS CONVOY ESCORT ON RETURN TRIP.

(2) DESIGNATE ONE INFANTRY PLATOON ON 30-MINUTE ALERT AS CONVOY RESERVE FOR HELIBORNE MOVEMENT TO CONVOY LOCATION IN THE EVENT OF AN ATTACK.

(3) ON ORDER, CHOP OPCON CONVOY RESERVE TO 2D BN, 9TH MARINES.

D. CONVOY RESERVE, BE PREPARED TO EXECUTE MISSIONS AS ASSIGNED BY THE CONVOY COMMANDER.

E. COORDINATION INSTRUCTIONS

(1) CONVOY WILL SERVE AS MEANS OF TRANSPORTING 2D BN, 9TH MARINES

ORIG: NINTH MARINES

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(1)-(REIN) TO CHU LAI.

(2) REPORT LOCATION OF CONVOY AT LEAST ONCE EVERY HOUR USING CHECK POINTS (ANNEX C TO REFERENCE B) AS POINT OF REFERENCE.

(3) REFERENCE (D) PROVIDES GUIDANCE FOR THE CONDUCT OF MOTOR TRANSPORT OPERATIONS IN A GUERRILLA WARFARE ENVIRONMENT; ADHERENCE TO PRINCIPLES OUTLINED THEREIN IS MANDATORY.

(4) DESTRUCTION OF VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT WILL BE ON AUTHORITY 3D MARDIV ONLY; REQUEST AUTHORITY VIA THIS HEADQUARTERS.

(5) DIRECT LIAISON BETWEEN PARTICIPATING UNITS AUTHORIZED.

(6) RULES OF ENGAGEMENT. SEE REFERENCE (A).

(7) UNCLASSIFIED CODE NAME: ROUGH RIDER.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS. REFERENCE (A).

5. COMMAND AND ELECTRONICS

A. COMMAND

(1) COMMANDING OFFICER, 2D BATTALION, 9TH MARINES DESIGNATED CONVOY COMMANDER AND WILL ASSUME OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF ENTIRE OPERATION.

(2) MOTOR TRANSPORT OFFICER DESIGNATED ASSISTANT CONVOY COMMANDER.

(3) UPON CLOSING CHU LAI TAOR, OPCON 2D BN, 9TH MARINES CROPPED TO

TASK FORCE DELTA: ASSISTANT CONVOY COMMANDER ASSUMES OPCON FOR RETURN TRIP TO DANANG TAOR.

B. COMMAND-ELECTRONICS. ANNEX E TO REFERENCE B.  
ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT.

GP-4

BT

REF G: CG THIRD MARDIV 161240Z....TF DELTA TASK ORGN

TAG: 1830Z/17FEB66/OUT-184/DIV-TTY/RGB

ORIG: NINTH MARINES

171405Z/FEB-66

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FM NINTH MARINES  
TO ZEN/ SECOND BN NINTH MARINES  
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ZEN/ THIRD BN THIRD MARINES  
ZEN/ HQ CO NINTH MARINES  
INFO CG THIRD MARDIV  
ZEN/FIRST BN NINTH MARINES  
BT

RELEASER: E.H. SIMMONS COLONEL

DRAFTER: V.T. BLAZ MAJOR

S E C R E T

FRAG ORDER 53-66

1. GENERAL INFORMATION. SECOND BN, 9TH MARINES COMMAND GROUP AND COMPANIES E AND H RETURNED FROM OPERATION DOUBLE EAGLE AND CLOSED BATTALION CP AT 222130H AND REVERTED TO OPCON 9TH MARINES. THIRD BN, 9TH MARINES COMMAND GROUP AND COMPANY M RETURNED FROM COORDINATED SEARCH AND DESTROY OPERATION WITH GVN FORCES VICINITY DIEN VAN (BT 065583) AND CLOSED BATTALION CP AT 221925H.

2. ACTION

A. 3D BN, 9TH MARINES. PLACE ONE RIFLE COMPANY ON SIX-HOUR

ALERT STATUS FOR POSSIBLE COMMITMENT OUTSIDE 9TH MARINES ZONE OF ACTION.

B. 2D BN, 9TH MARINES

(1) ASSUME OPCON FOUR PROVISIONAL PLATOONS FROM COMBAT SUPPORT BATTALIONS EFFECTIVE 221830H. UTILIZE PROVISIONAL PLATOONS IN BATTALION/COMPANY PERIMETER SECURITY POSITIONS.

(2) EFFECTIVE 231200H, CHOP OPCON RIFLE PLATOON FROM COMPANY K, 3D BN, 3D MARINES TO PARENT ORGANIZATION.

(3) EFFECTIVE 231200H, CHOP OPCON PROVISIONAL PLATOON FROM HQ CO TO PARENT ORGANIZATION.

C. 3D BN, 3D MARINES. RESUME OPCON COMPANY K RIFLE PLATOON EFFECTIVE 231200H.

D. HQ CO. RESUME OPCON PROVISIONAL PLATOON EFFECTIVE 231200H.

E. COORDINATING INSTRUCTION. INSURE VISITING KOREAN MARINE CORPS OFFICERS ARE DELIVERED TO REGIMENTAL CP NLT 231100H.

GP-4

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TOD: 1643Z/22FEB66/OUT-246/DIV-TTY/AJM

ORIG: NINTH MARINES

221513Z/FEB-66

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O 231301Z  
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 TO SECOND BN NINTH MARINES  
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 SECOND BN TWELFTH MARINES  
 THIRD AT BN  
 THIRD TANK BN  
 FIRST AMTRAC BN  
 THIRD MOTOR TRANSPORT BN  
 BT

S E C R E T

FRAG ORDER 54-66

A. MY 201259Z (OP ORDER 103-66)

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

A. REGIMENTAL FRAG ORDER WILL BE PUBLISHED BY 1800 DAILY. ORDERS WILL BE NUMBERED ACCORDING TO THE JULIAN CALENDAR.

B. AT 231000H. 2D BN. 9TH MARINES CHOPPED OPCON OF THREE PROVISIONAL PLATOONS FROM COMBAT SUPPORT BATTALIONS TO PARENT ORGANIZATIONS. EFFECTIVE 231230H. 2D BN. 9TH MARINES CHOPPED OPCON HQ CO PROVISIONAL PLATOON TO PARENT ORGANIZATION.

C. PSY-WAR HELICOPTER RETURNED TO OPERATIONAL STATUS. AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

D. ARMED UH-1ES ARE AVAILABLE FOR SPARROW HAWK MISSIONS FOLLOWING TEMPORARY UNAVAILABILITY BECAUSE OF OTHER OPERATIONAL COMMITMENTS.

2. ACTION

A. 3D BN. 9TH MARINES. CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN ONE RIFLE COMPANY ON SIX-HOUR STATUS FOR POSSIBLE EMPLOYMENT OUTSIDE 9TH MARINES ZONE OF ACTION.

B. 2D BN. 9TH MARINES. SUBMIT DISPOSITION OF FORCES OVERLAY NLT 240700H.

C. 3D BN. 3D MARINES. CONDUCT OPERATION COUNTY FAIR IN ACCORDANCE WITH REFERENCE A.

D. COORDINATING INSTRUCTIONS.

(1) OPERATION COUNTY FAIR SCHEDULED TO COMMENCE 240400H. TERMINATES 251700H.

(2) ACTION ADEES NOMINATE ON OFFICER/NGO TO ATTEND VIETNAMESE LANGUAGE TRAINING AT OKINAWA. MUST HAVE MINIMUM 6 MONTHS REMAINING ON RVN TOUR AS OF 7 MARCH.

(3) CONDUCT AGGRESSIVE PATROL AND AMBUSH ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT ZONE OF ACTION.

GP-4

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TOD : 1345Z/23FEB66/OUT-253/DIV-RTY/CG

ORIG: NINTH MARINES

231301Z/FEB-66

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A-54

O 240920Z  
FM NINTH MARINES  
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ZEN/FIRST BN NINTH MARINES  
ZEN/SECOND BN TWELFTH MARINES  
ZEN/THIRD AT BN  
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ZEN/FIRST AMTRAC BN  
ZEN/THIRD MT BN  
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S E C R E T

FRAG ORDER 55-66

A. MY 130932Z (FRAG ORDER 8-66)

B. CG THIRD MARDIV 230905Z (OP PLAN 379-66)

C. MY 240302Z

D. MY 201259Z (OP ORDER 103-66)

1. INFORMATION 1ST BN, 9TH MARINES RELIEVED OF REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE SPARROW HAWK SQUAD ON 17FEB66. AT WHICH TIME 3D BN, 9TH MARINE ASSUMED THAT MISSION AS 9TH MARINES EAST FLANK BATTALION.
2. ACTION

**FEB 25 1966**

A. 3D BN, 9TH MARINES

(1) CONTINUE TO PLACE ONE RIFLE COMPANY ON SIX HOUR ALERT STATUS IN ACCORDANCE WITH REF 3. REF C DESIGNATED COMPANY M VICE COMPANY I.

(2) CONDUCT ONE DAY SEARCH AND DESTROY OPERATION WITH TWO RIFLE COMPANIES IN AREA BOUNDED BY (BT 042650). (BT 058655). (BT 050687)

AND (BT 034683) COMMENCING 250700H. COMPANY K BLOCKS ON NORTH. COMPANY I ADVANCES TO NORTHWEST FROM SOUTH, MECHANIZED BLOCKING FORCE CONSISTING OF TWO TANKS AND PLATOON (-) BLOCKS ON EAST. AND PLATOON OF COMPANY H, 2D BN, 9TH MARINES OCCUPIES BLOCKING POSITIONS ON WEST BANK OF SONG VINH DIEM AT (BT 025671). (BT 032659) AND (BT 031650).

B. 2D BN, 9TH MARINES. NO CHANGE

C. 3D BN, 9TH MARINES. CONTINUE OPERATION. COUNTY FAIR IN ACCORDANCE WITH REF D.

D. GENERAL/COORDINATING INSTRUCTIONS

(1) REPORTS

(A) COMMAND CHRONOLOGIES DUE THIS HQS 5MAR66.

(B) REDOPS REPORTS DUE 3MAR66. COMMANDERS COMMENTS REQUIRED FOR CATEGORIES BELOW C-2.

(C) SUBMIT TASK ORGANIZATIONS BY 1MAR AS OF 28FEB66.

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TOB: 1036Z/24FEB66/OUT-269/DIV-TTY/BAW

ORIG: CG NINTH MARINES

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O 252040Z

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SECOND BN NINTH MARINES

THIRD BN NINTH MARINES

THIRD THIRD MARINES

HQ CO NINTH MARINES

INFO CG THIRD MARDIV

SECOND BN TWELFTH MARINES

THIRD AT BN

THIRD TANK BN

FIRST AMTRAC BN

THIRD MT BN

BT

S E C R E T

FRAG ORDER 56-66

A. 9TH MARINES MSG 252035Z (OP ORDER 105-66) (NOTAL)

B. 3D MARDIV ORDER 3590.3

1. INFORMATION

A. COMPANY K/3/3 AND COMPANY F/2/9 SCHEDULED TO DEPART DANANG AIR BASE BY FIXED WING AIRCRAFT FOR HUE-PHU BAI TAOR. UPON ARRIVAL THEREAT, COMPANY K WILL BE DEPLOYED WITH 2/1 COMMAND GROUP. COMPANY F WILL ASSUME DEFENSIVE POSITIONS IN THE TAOR. REFERENCE A.

B. TWO RIFLE COMPANIES OF THE 39TH RANGERS WILL CONDUCT A TWO-DAY SEARCH AND DESTROY OPERATION IN AREA BOUNDED BY COORDINATES BY 19655 BT 011641, AT 996636, AT 989649 AND BT 000665. COMMENCE AT 260700H; TERMINATE 271700H.

2. ACTION

A. ACTION ADDEES SUBMIT NOMINEES FOR SNIPER PLATOON. SEE REFERENCE B FOR DETAILS. HQ CO QUOTA (5). EACH BN SUBMIT (10) NOMINEES.

NOMINATIONS (NAME, GRADE, SERIAL NUMBER) TO ARRIVE THIS HQS NOT 031300H MARCH.

B. BATTALION COMMANDERS ATTEND MEETING AT REGIMENTAL CP 271000 FEB

GP-4

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TOD: 2325Z/25FEB66/AUT-283/D V-TT/AJM

ORIG: NINTH MAR

252040Z/FEB-66

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FIRST BN NINTH MARINES

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FRAG ORDER 57-66  
A. 9TH MARINES 252035Z NOTAL  
P. THIRD MARDIV 240310Z  
1. SITUATION

A. ENEMY FORCES. OMITTED.  
P. FRIENDLY FORCES. TWO RIFLE COMPANIES FROM 35TH RANGERS WILL  
CONTINUE SEARCH AND DESTROY OPERATION IN AREA BOUNDED BY  
COORDINATES BT 219655, BT 211641, AT 966636, AT 985649 AND

AND BT 000665. TERMINATES ABOUT 271700H  
2. MISSION. NO CHANGE  
3. EXECUTION

A. 3D BN, 9TH MARINES  
(1) EFFECTIVE 261600H, CHOP OPCON ONE INFANTRY PLATOON TO  
3D BN 3D MARINES.  
(2) COMMENCING 270800H, CONDUCT ONE DAY SEARCH AND DESTROY  
OPERATION IN AREA BOUNDED BY (BT 053644), (BT 066644), (BT 072687),  
AND (BT 073614) WITH ELEMENTS FROM COMPANIES I, M, AND L.  
(3) COMMENCE DISPLACING TO NEW CP LOCATION ON 27 FEB  
P. 2D BN, 9TH MARINES. SUPPORT 3UD BN. 9TH MARINES SEARCH AND  
DESTROY OPERATION BY OCCUPYING BLOCKING POSITIONS ON WESTERN  
BANK OF SONG VINH DIEN.

C. 3D BN, 3D MARINES  
(1) EFFECTIVE 261600H, ASSUME OPCON RIFLE PLATOON FROM 3D BN  
9TH MARINES  
(2) EMPLOS 3D BN, 9TH MARINES PLATOON TO PROVIDE SECURITY AT  
ASP NR 1.

D. COORDINATING INSTRUCTIONS  
(1) CONTINUE AGGRESSIVE PATROL AND AMBUSH ACTIVITIES  
THROUGHOUT ZONE OF ACTION

ORIG: NINTH MARINES 261458Z/FEB-66

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57-66 **SECRET**

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## 4. ADMINISTRATION/LOGISTICS

A. THE FOLLOWING WILL ATTEND MUMMS PRESENTATIONS AT THE 1ST MAW THEATER.

(1) 0800 - 1200 28 FEB. CO'S, XO'S AND S-4 OFFICERS

(2) 1300 - 1700 28 FEB AND 0800 - 1200 1 MARCH, SUPPLY OFFICERS AND SUPPLY CHIEFS.

(3) 0800 - 1200 3 MAR. SUPPLY CHIEFS AND AS MANY SUPPLY CLERKS AS POSSIBLE. ATTENDEES WILL BE PREPARED TO TAKE NOTES.

5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRONICS. CO K/3/3 AND CO F/2/9 DEPARTED DANANG AIR BASE ABOUT 261020H FEB. OPCON CHOPPED TO 2/1 UPON ARRIVAL HUE-FU BAI TAOR. EXPECTED PERIOD OF EMPLOYMENT: SIX DAYS

GP-4

TOD: 1525Z/26FEB-66/OUT-290/DIV-TTY/PDH

ORIG: NINTH MARINES

2611458Z/FEB-66

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 ZEN/THIRD MT BN  
 ZEN/FIRST BN NINTH MAR  
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# 4

C O N F I D E N T I A L  
 FRAG ORDER 58-66  
 A. 3D MARDIV OP ORDER 358-65  
 1. SITUATION

A. ENEMY FORCES. 9TH MARINES ISUM 58-66  
 B. FRIENDLY FORCES

(1) ADVANCE PARTY 1/1 ARRIVED 3/9 CP EVENING 26 FEB.  
 DISPLACEMENT OF 1/1 CONTINUES.

(2) TWO COMPANIES 39TH RANGERS COMPLETED SEARCH AND  
 DESTROY OPERATION 2/9 ZONE OF ACTION. FOUR VC KIA. ONE RANGER KIA  
 ORIG: NINTH MARINES 271140Z/FEB66

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~CORRECTED TO  
READ 55 at 2330-27 Feb  
A3

AND FIVE RANGER WIA. 55

(3) TWELFTH MARINES WILL DISPLACE ONE 107MM MORTAR (HOWTAR) BATTERY TO HILL (PT) ABOUT 1 MARCH TO PROVIDE DEPTH TO ARTILLERY SUPPORT IN THAT AREA.

2. MISSION. NO CHANGE.

3. EXECUTION

A. 3D BN, 9TH MARINES

(1) CONTINUE DISPLACING TO NEW CP.

(2) RESUME OPCON COMPANY K PLATOON UPON RELEASE BY 3/3 FROM ASP 1.

(3) SUBMIT WEEKLY REPORT ON STATUS OF PF PLATOON 041.

REFERENCE A.

P. 2D BN, 9TH MARINES. RESUME OPCON COMPANY F UPON CLOSING DANANG AIR BASE FROM PHU BAI AT ABOUT 280900H.

C. 3D BN, 3D MARINES

(1) RESUME OPCON COMPANY K UPON CLOSING DANANG AIR BASE FROM PHU PAI AT ABOUT 280900H.

(2) CHOP OPCON COMPANY K/3/9 PLATOON ASAP AFTER ARRIVAL COMPANY K/3/3 YOUR CP.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

A. ADMINISTRATION. TWENTY-FIVE KOREAN MARINE CORPS OFFICERS EXPECTED TO VISIT 9TH MARINES UNITS DURING PERIOD 1-3 MARCH. ADDITIONAL DETAILS TO BE PUBLISHED AS AVAILABLE.

5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATION-ELECTRONICS. OMITTED.

GP-4

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TOD: 1350Z/27FEB66/OUT-303/01V-TTY/CBC

ORIG: NINTH MARINES

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 ZEN/FIRST AMTRAC BN  
 ZEN/THIRD MT BN  
 ZEN/FIRST BN NINTH MAR  
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RELEASER: E.H. SIMMONS, COLONEL

DRAFTER: V.T. BLAZ, MAJOR

SECRET

FRAG ORDER 59-66

A. DIV BUL 5041 OF JAN 66

B. DIVO 5041.1J

C. MY 281140Z (OPORDER 106-66) (ROUGH RIDER)

1. SITUATION

A. ENEMY FORCES. 9TH MAR ISUM 59-66

B. FRIENDLY FORCES. ARVN FORCES WILL CONDUCT TWO - COMPANY SEARCH AND DESTROY OPERATION AREA BOUNDED BY (BT 110590), (BT 180590), (BT 110570), AND (BT 180570). COMMENCE 010600H; TERMINATE 011700H.

2. MISSION. NO CHANGE

3. EXECUTION.

A. 3D BN 9TH MAR

(1) CONTINUE CP DISPLACEMENT.

(2) CONDUCT OPERATION ROUGH RIDER SOUTH IN ACCORDANCE WITH REF C.

B. 2D BN 9TH MAR.

(1) PROVIDE CONVOY RESERVE CONSISTING OF ONE RIFLE PLATOON IN SUPPORT OPERATION ROUGH RIDER SOUTH. REF C.

(2) CONDUCT CO (-) SEARCH AND DESTROY OPERATION TO SONG LA THO FROM (AT 981612) TO (BT 008600) COMMENCING 010300H; SECURE AT 011700H.

C. 3D BN 3D MAR. CONDUCT ONE-DAY PLATOON SEARCH AND DESTROY OPERATION IN CHAU SON (1) (AT 943614) COMMENCING 010445H.

D. COORDINATING INSTRUCTIONS. ALL BN'S CONTINUE AGGRESSIVE PATROL AND AMBUSH ACTIVITIES.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS.

A. ADMINISTRATION.

(1) THE REGT HEADQUARTERS, ALL BN'S AND THE HEADQUARTERS COMPANY OF THIS REGT WILL UNDERGO A COMMAND INSPECTION DURING THE PERIOD 22-28 MARCH. REF'S A AND B.

(2) THIRTEEN OFFICERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA ARMED FORCES WILL VISIT THE 9TH MARINES DURING PERIOD 021145H TO 021400H LUNCH

AT 9TH MARINES CP (5 GEN, 6 COL, 1 LTCOL, 1 CAPT).

5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATION-ELECTRONICS. OMITTED.  
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TOD: 1549Z/28FEB66/OUT-310/DIV-TTY/D S A

ORIG: NINTH MARINES

281350Z/FEB-66

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