

DECLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS
1st Battalion, 9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO San Francisco 96600

004067

3/JBB/rgs
005750
8 Feb 67

~~SECRET~~

From: Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 9th Marines
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)
Via: (1) Commanding Officer, Regimental Landing Team - 26
(2) Commanding General, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 July 66 to 31 Dec 66

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A
(b) FMFPACO 5750.8

Encl: (1) BLT 1/9 Command Chronology

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

J. L. Day
J. L. DAY

Copy to CMC 79.5

6/1

Jan - Dec 66

1st BN. 9th MAR
COPY 1 OF 24 COPIES
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HEADQUARTERS

1st Battalion, 9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO San Francisco 966023/JDB/tjl
005750

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 July 1966 to 31 December 1966

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Enclosure (1)

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ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

Commanding Officer

1Jul-24Sep LtCol JONES
25Sep-31Dec Maj DAYSUBORDINATE UNITS

H&S Company

1Jul-15Jul Capt CUTCOMB
 16Jul-25Sep Capt STONE
 26Sep-10Oct 2dLt MCCLOED
 11Oct-31Dec Capt SHAW
 1Jul-2Sep Capt VON HARTEN
 3Sep-6Oct 2dLt PACE
 7Oct-31Dec Capt FESTA
 1Jul-5Sep Capt SPLEAN
 6Sep-30Oct 2dLt MITCHELL
 31Oct-31Dec Capt SAYERS
 1Jul-15Jul Capt STONE
 16Jul-8Oct 1stLt CONNELL
 9Oct-31Dec Capt CURD
 1Jul-31Dec Capt KEYS

Company "A"

(OpCon 2d Bn, 9th Mar, 20-31 July 1966)

Company "B"

Company "C"

(OpCon 3d Bn, 9th Mar, 20 Aug 1966)

Company "D"

ATTACHED UNITS

Det, Hq Bn, 3d MarDiv

18Sep-31Dec 2dLt WALSH

Det, Disbursing Section

Det, Postal Section

Det, Photo Section

Det, Comm Co (Radio Relay)

Det H&S Co, 9th Mar (Radio Relay)

1Jul-31Jul Capt THAMES
 1Jul-31Jul 2dLt SULLIVAN
 1Aug-31Aug 2dLt HORVATICH
 1Sep-31Dec 2dLt HORVATICH
 1Jul-31Aug 2dLt HOOF
 1Sep-31Dec 2dLt RILEY
 1Jul-31Aug 2dLt GARLAND

H&S Company (-) 1st AmTrac Bn

1st Plt, Company "B", 1st AmTrac Bn

3d Plt, Company "B", 1st AmTrac Bn

3d Plt (Rein), Company "B", 1st AmTrac Bn

2d Plt, Company "C", 3d AT Bn

3d Plt (Rein), Company "C", 3d AT Bn

2d Plt, Company "A", 3d Tank Bn (OpCon

Company "B", 3d Tank Bn)

1st Plt, Company "B", 3d Tank Bn

3d Plt (Rein), Company "B", 3d Tank Bn

4th Plt, Company "C", 3d Eng Bn

1st Plt (Rein), Company "C", 3d Eng Bn

Det, H&S Company, 3d Eng Bn

Det, Eng Support Company, 3d Eng Bn

2d Plt, Company "D", 3d Recon Bn

Det, 1st Clearing Plt (-)(Rein), Company

"B", 3d Med Bn

1Jul-31Aug 2dLt NAGLE
 1Sep-31Dec 2dLt VOIGT
 1Jul-31Jul 2dLt ARMSTRONG
 1Aug-31Aug SSgt GROVE
 1Sep-31Dec WO JONES

1Sep-31Dec 2dLt MURPHY
 1Sep-30Sep Lt OLIVER(USN)
 1Oct-31Dec Lt MCALLISTER
 (USN)
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Logistic Support Unit	1 Sep-30 Sep, Capt KENDIG
Det, 3d FSR	1 Oct-31 Dec 2dLt MOORE
Det, 3d Ser Bn	
LN Team "D" Btry, 3d Bn, 12th Mar	1 Aug-31 Aug 2dLt CAMPBELL
Company "C", 9th MT Bn (4 trucks)	1 Aug-31 Aug
2d Plt (Rein), Company "A", 3d MT Bn	1 Sep-31 Dec 2dLt DAVIS
Company "E", 2d Bn, 3d Mar (OpCon)	18 Aug-21 Aug 1stLt NUGENT
Company "I", 3d Bn, 9th Mar (OpCon)	17 Aug-18 Aug Capt NAVADELL
Company "L", 3d Bn, 9th Mar (OpCon)	17 Aug-18 Aug Capt PYLE
2d Troop, 4th Cav Regt (OpCon)	18 Aug-19 Aug
2d Plt (Rein), Company "G", 3d SP Bn	1 Sep-14 Nov 2dLt BLOXOM
Battery "D" (-)(Rein), 2d Bn, 12th Mar	15 Nov-31 Dec 2dLt DEGENNARO
107 Mortar Btry (Rein), 1st Bn, 12th Mar	1 Sep-31 Dec Capt GUNDLACH
Det, Battery "K", 4th Bn, 13th Mar	1 Sep-31 Dec Capt RICHEY
2d Plt, 1st Armored Amphib Plt	1 Dec-31 Dec 2dLt VOGT
	1 Dec-31 Dec 2dLt COTTE

2. LOCATION

During the reporting period the Command Post location was as follows: From 010001H July 1966 to 312400H August 1966, Vicinity Hill#55, Da Nang TAQR, coordinates (AT 966617). During the period 161800H August to 170600H August Command Post (Forward) was established at coordinates 925526. From 170900H August to 181300H August, the Command Post (Forward) was at coordinates 953548. At 181300H August, the Command Post (Forward) began moving back toward the Liberty bridge site and returned to Hill#55 at 181830H August. 010001H September to 281100H September 1966: Vicinity Hill#55, Da Nang TAQR, coordinates (AT 966617). From 281100H September to 031600I October 1966 the Command Post was located aboard the USS HENRICO (APA-45). From 031600I October 1966 to 022300I December 1966 Camp Schwab, Okinawa (Bldg 3527). From 022300I to 070900H December 1966 location was aboard the USS WINNAWEE (APA-195). From 070900H December 1966 to the end of the reporting period the Command Post was located aboard the USS IWO JIMA (LPH-2), with temporary occupancy at the SLF Camp, USNB, Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines.

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer

S-1	1 Jul-26 Sep Maj DAY
	27 Sep-31 Dec Maj HUBBARD
S-2	1 Jul-15 Sep 2dLt PARKER
S-3	16 Sep-30 Nov 1stLt RICKMON
S-4	1 Dec-31 Dec 2dLt RAMIREZ
	1 Jul-31 Aug 1stLt KING
	1 Sep-31 Dec 2dLt YAGGY
	1 Jul-15 Sep Maj THATENHURST
	16 Sep-31 Dec Maj VON HARTEN
	1 Jul-15 Sep Capt CUTCOMB
	16 Sep-26 Oct Capt SAYERS
	27 Oct-31 Dec Capt REED

S-1

S-2

S-3

S-4

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4. AVERAGE STRENGTH FOR BIMONTHLY PERIODJULY

USMC		USN	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
33	927	2	49

AUGUST

USMC		USN	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
33	955	3	53

SEPTEMBER

USMC		USN	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
38	1065	3	55

OCTOBER

USMC		USN	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
43	1012	3	40

NOVEMBER

USMC		USN	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
52	1210	3	50

DECEMBER

USMC		USN	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
70	1669	7	90

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PART II

OPERATIVE SUMMARY

During the reporting period, 1st Battalion, 9th Marines was involved in three distinctly different types of operations. From July through September the battalion was active in the Da Nang TAOR, South Vietnam. In conjunction with the battalion's normal mission to secure and pacify its ZOA, further responsibilities to block the Song Thu Bon (River) area from GS 9656 to GS 9055, provide security for the newly constructed MSR through the battalion's ZOA, and provide security for the northern landing site of the Song Thu Bon Ferry, Grid Coord. 926533 were added. The river block was accomplished by establishing two company positions along the Song Thu Bon. One CP was located at Grid Coord. 954556, the other at Grid Coord. 920547. The companies in turn established separate platoon positions within their ZOA in order to be spread enough to cover the assigned area. From the platoon positions extensive patrolling was conducted to prevent VC infiltration or movement through the ZOA. Security for the ferry site was accomplished in conjunction with the river block. A reinforced rifle platoon was set in around the ferry landing. The platoon, from its position, could defend the ferry site, watch the river, and conduct required patrol activity. Security for the MSR was attained by extensive patrolling near the road and by daily physical mine sweeps. The sweeps generally consisted of an engineer team of varying size escorted by one or two rifle squads. One check point was established on the MSR to count and keep track of passing civilians. A third rifle company was located at Grid Coord. 968586, a strategic point on the MSR. Road security was one of the company's missions. The securing and pacification of the battalion ZOA was carried out by all four rifle companies. From the three positions already mentioned, extensive patrolling of squad and platoon size was a daily occurrence. The fourth rifle company, a reserve element, also provided a rifle platoon for security in the northern sector of the battalion area. As a result, 10 rifle platoons were actively patrolling in the battalion ZOA when a special operation was not in progress. Frequent county fair operations were used in an attempt to ferret out VC in the area while various civic action programs were implemented. Two to four rifle platoons were usually used for the county fairs. In addition to the routine activities of the battalion, two battalion (-) operations were conducted and one company raid attempted. During the period contact was usually light. Squad patrols encountered light harassing action. Occasionally a platoon found the enemy willing to fight and two companies were mortared. The VC, however, chose to snipe and run during most of the reporting period. Booby traps and mines continued to be a problem to both troops and vehicles, particularly on and beside the MSR. Mine incidents accounted for a number of troop deaths and crippled tracked vehicles.

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Toward the end of September when the Battalion was in preparation to leave the Da Nang IACB, mine and booby trap contacts increased slightly. Throughout the months of July, August, and September the battalion continued to build new and improve old semi-permanent positions. Construction was carried out at battalion, company and platoon level. From October to November the battalion refurbished and trained on Okinawa. Administrative matters which suffered in the combat zone were brought completely up to par. Medical and dental routine matters were brought up to date. The battalion departed Okinawa with fresh trained troops and new or rehabilitated gear. During the month of December the battalion engaged in training and rehearsal for special operations, with the SLF. An amphibious exercise (Mud Puppy II) was conducted on Mindoro Island, Republic of the Philippines. The unfavorable terrain interlaced with unfordable watercourse obstacles, proved highly satisfactory for indoctrination of the BLT in problem areas to be expected in special operations with the SLF. The reporting period ended with BLT 1/9 embarked on board assigned shipping bound for special operations (Deckhouse V) in the Republic of Vietnam.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. FMC Organizations Coordinated By Combat And The SLF

a. Combat Missions Assisted. In the Da Nang TAOR, 1/9 provided a block on the Song Thu Bon (River) area, provided security for the MSR cutting through the ZOA and provided security for the northern landing site of the Song Thu Bon Ferry. As the SLF, the battalion was a mobile reserve force, prepared to be employed on command.

b. Significant Operations Conducted. While three operations, Wilcox, a company raid, and Swanee were conducted during this reporting period, only Swanee was significant. The others yeilded nothing of significance for reporting purposes. Operation Swanee conducted from 16 Aug-21 Aug, was multi-battalion escort of a landing craft M8, up the Song Thu Bon River. The M8 made an hydrographic survey of the river while the battalions secured the river banks to insure safe passage. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines, escorted the M8 from grid square 9954 to grid square 9253. The job was accomplished using two rifle companies supported by a tank platoon and four amtracs. An initial search and clear was made south of the Song Thu Bon River, followed by one company moving along the river beside the landing craft, while the other continued to search inland a short distance. The operation met with only light resistance. On 17 August, a platoon of Co "C", made contact with an unknown number of VC at (AT 979530) killing 17 VC. A UH-1E gunship in support, killed approximately 20 more VC. Company "A", on 19 August, in position at (AT 967548) received 81mm and 60mm mortar fire in addition to heavy small arms fire. Co "A", returned fire on both occasions. The combined VC kills came to a probable 25. On 20 August, Company "C", after completing a river crossing at (AT 901545) received heavy incoming mortar and small arms fire. In the return of small arms and mortar fire a probable 5 VC were KIA.

c. Casualties Inflicted On The Enemy. During the three months in which the battalion was in contact with the enemy 299 KIA and 41 WIA were suffered by the VC. In addition, 38 VC were captured.

d. Casualties Sustained. Twenty-Three (23) enlisted marines were killed in action during the reporting period. Three (3) officers and one hundred and six (106) enlisted marines were wounded in action. In this same period four (4) navy enlisted men and one (1) officer were wounded in action. On 24 September 1966, Lt Col JONES, the Battalion Commander, received a gunshot wound through the left thigh as he was returning from an inspection tour of frontline positions. The Colonel was med-evaced.

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e. New Techniques Employed. Operation Mud Puppy II, conducted on Mindoro Island, Republic of the Philippines, provided the training vehicle to introduce the new techniques of riverine operations and the use of light plastic assault boats with outboard motors. These techniques were soon to be employed in special operations in the Republic of Vietnam.

f. Command Relations. On 1 July 1966, 1/9 was OPCON 9th Marines. This relationship continued until 3 October when the battalion entered a training and rehabilitation phase, OPCON RLT-26 at Camp Schwab, Okinawa. On 2 December 1966 the battalion was committed to the SLF; OPCON TG 79.5 through the remainder of the reporting period.

g. Equipment. Three new items of equipment have been integrated into the battalion, they are the AN/PRC-25 radio, the Starlight Scope, and the Light Plastic Assault Boats with outboard motors.

h. Logistics. During the reporting period logistics support included delivery of supplies and equipment by surface and air means. During the battalion's rehabilitation phase, logistic support included the coordination and assistance in the repair and resupply of combat essential equipment/supplies. All debarkation and embarkation procedures were directed and assisted by the S-4 staff.

i. Civic Action. During the period in which 1/9 was operating in the Da Nang TAOR an active civic action program was in effect, Primary methods used included medical assistance provided by navy corpsmen, county fair operations including Psy-Ops warfare teams, and individual effort on the company level. No further civic action in Vietnam was undertaken. During the BLT stay in the Republic of the Philippines, a civil affairs team visited the village of Nagiba and provided medical treatment as well as gifts of dolls, salt, soap, and vitamins. Between 1 July and 31 December 1966, 2400 indigenous persons received medical treatment and 68 were med-evacuated.

j. Administration. Nothing significant to report.

k. Personnel. Detailed personnel data is contained in the S-1 journals submitted with monthly Command Chronologies during the reporting period. In the six months covered by this report 11 officers and 366 enlisted marines were dropped, while 29 officers and 733 enlisted marines were joined.

l. Intelligence. During the reporting period a continuing effort was made in psychological warfare. The efforts included, the I Corps Psy-Ops Field Detachment broadcasts, aircraft broadcast over the ZOA, broadcast by battalion and regimental interpreters, and speeches to the people by the village chiefs and ralliers from the hamlets.

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Face-to-face persuasion was conducted by companies in the field. While operating in the 9th Mar. Regt. ZOA, mines continued to be the biggest U. S. casualty producer. There were two incidents of VC terrorists activity within the ZOA. Thirteen civilians were killed and one village was burned in these incidents. One rallier surrendered to the battalion. While the battalion was committed to the SLF, intelligence efforts were directed towards the gathering and dissemination of information concerning planned operations in RVN.

m. Communications. During the reporting period the battalion employed wire, radio and radio relay without difficulty. New radio operators were trained in use of equipment and procedures to be used in the battalion.

n. Weather. While operating in the 9th Marine Regt. TAOR the weather was typical of the geographic location and season, extremely hot, humid and subject to occasional cloudbursts.

o. Fire Support. Artillery was employed on targets of opportunity, in the preparation of the attack, and seizure of company size objectives, on known enemy mine fields, on counter-mortar missions, and in the restriction of enemy movement at night through harassment and interdiction fires. Each unit in the battalion was provided with "on call" fires and the registration of these was encouraged. Every opportunity was taken to assess and refine methods of coordination with SACC and all FSCC operations. Due to the SLF commitment, special attention was given to problem areas unique to amphibious operations. Of interest during the reporting period was the employment of a 105mm howitzer of battery "D", in a direct fire mission in support of operations located within the battalion CP complex. These direct fire missions were characterized by an intense volume of fire directed on targets with an increased degree of accuracy. The direct fire was employed within 35 meters of friendly troops and all types of fuzes and shells were used. No friendly casualties were incurred.

p. Air Support. Air support during this period was characterized by extensive use of helicopter medevacs, the use of airborne observers in O1-E's and UH-1E's, and the use of helicopters to transport and resupply troops. In addition, a limited number of fixed wing airstrikes were conducted. C-47 Dragon Ships were used to provide illumination and fire support on two occasions.

q. Activations/Deactivation/Redesignations. The task organization for a BLT was designated and on 28 September 1966, BLT 1/9 was activated and embarked on assigned shipping bound for Okinawa.

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REF ID: A65125
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r. Training Conducted While Not Committed to Combat. During the months of October and November emphasis was placed upon training and rehabilitation of the battalion. General Military Subject Proficiency Tests, Physical Readiness Tests, and Swimming Qualification Tests were conducted during the reporting period. Weapon's training included familiarization firing of all individual weapons, extensive training, and firing of all crew served weapons except the 60mm Mortar. No training ammunition was available for the 60mm Mortar. Throughout the reporting period a concentrated effort was made toward small unit tactics and specialty training such as: Counter Guerrilla Warfare, Demolitions, Land Mine Warfare, Jungle Lane, and Trap Line. In addition to the above training, Companies "A" & "B", received instruction in Amphibious Raid Techniques while Companies "C" & "D", received introductory type training in the use of rubber assault boats. Formal school training was attended by 103 enlisted and 8 officer personnel.

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. Journals of the staff sections for the period covered by the semi-annual Command Chronology have been submitted with the monthly chronologies of the period.
2. Dai Loc Map, Sheet number 6640 IV

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. Journals of the staff sections for the period covered by the semi-annual Command Chronology have been submitted with the monthly chronologies of the period.
2. Dai Loc Map, Sheet number 6640 IV

Added - ✓3 PART (OPN WILCOX)

" ✓4 Message 09100 (OP ORDER-401-66)

Enclosure (1)

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AFTER ACTION

REPORT FILED

8/18/66

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HEADQUARTERS

9TH Marines

3d Marine Division (Rein) FMF

c/o FPO San Francisco, California 96602

A

S+C

3/VVP/krc

16 August 1966

022960 - G-3 S+C
SER. NO.

From: Commanding Officer

To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division

Subj: After Action Report, Operation WILCOX

Ref: (a) DivO 3100.1A

Encl: (1) After Action Report Operation WILCOX

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is forwarded.



D. J. BARRETT JR.

1/9

A/A RPT (opn in: LCOX)

11 AUG 1966

CONFIDENTIAL14 Jul 66
IV. TAB-3

31666

HEADQUARTERS
 1st Battalion, 9th Marines
 3rd Marine Division (Rein), FMF
 FPO San Francisco 96602

3:KDT:rgs
 03100
 13 Aug 1966

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 9th Marines
 To: Commanding Officer, 9th Marines

Subj: Combat Operations After Action Report

Ref: Regimental Operations Order 401-66

Encl: Commanders Narrative and Analysis

1. Code Name. Operation WILCOX

2. Dates of Operation. 11 August 1966

3. Location. Area known as DUC KY in 1st Battalion, 9th Marines ZOA. Bounded on northeast by SONG AI NGHIA, on the south by the SONG LA THO, and on the east by railroad track approximately GS 9861.

4. Control or Command Headquarters.

a. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines (-)	LtCol JONES
b. Company "A" (-) 1st Bn, 9th Marines	Capt VON HARTEN
c. Company "D", 1st Bn, 9th Marines	Capt KEYES
d. Company "I" (-), 3rd Bn, 9th Marines	Capt NAVADELL
e. Company "E", 2d Bn, 9th Marines	1stLt MERDOCK

5. Task Organization.

2d Battalion, 12th Marines
 Detachment 3rd ITT
 Detachment 3rd CIT
 Detachment U. S. A. PsyWar Team
 Section of Scout Dog Company

6. Intelligence. Prior to the operation, it was believed that approximately 25 VC guerrillas and many VC cadre and sympathizers were living in the operating area. The area was also suspected of being a safe area and storage area. We were unable to patrol it as much as desired and necessary, due to troop commitments in other areas. The operation netted 7 VC confirmed and 12 VCS, many of which were reported to be VC cadre and local guerrillas.

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It is believed the reason more VC were not captured was because the people in the area reportedly had advance warning of the operation. No equipment, weapons, or documents were captured. The people, from the objective area, were collected into an assembly area and subjected to intensive Psy-War indoctrination. They had explained the reason for the operation, the reason for U. S. units in the area, and the inevitable defeat of the Viet Cong was stressed.

7. Mission. At 110630H August, attack in ZOA to search out and destroy elements of VC main force and local force units, their positions, bunkers and tunnel complexes.

8. Concept of Operation. DELTA TANGO Plt, and 1st Plt, Company "I", 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines, block on SONG AI NGHIA. Company "A" to block on SONG LA THO. Company "D", 1st Battalion, 9th Marines and Company "E" 2d Battalion, 9th Marines to first cordon, then, on order sweep west through DUC KY area. All units to be positioned during the hours of darkness and by 110530H.

9. Execution.

100105H Received Operations Order 401-66

101200H Issued Frag Order

101200H Assumed Op Con Company "I", 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines

102400H Assumed Op Con Company "E", 2d Battalion, 9th Marines

100400H All units on move into cordon positions.

110550H All units in positions cordon complete. Holding sweep for Psy-War Team. ~~and team~~

110650H Company "D", 1st Battalion, 9th Marines, and Company "E", 2d Battalion, 9th Marines crossed line of departure.

111100H Company "E", 2d Battalion, 9th Marines, having been pinched out of sweep, was chopped to parent organization.

111140H Company "D", 1st Battalion, 9th Marines resupplied with 400 pounds C-4 by foot (helicopters not immediately available).

111520H Company "D", 1st Battalion, 9th Marines arrived at final phase with approximately 250 civilian stragglers.

111630H All Vietnamese released to return to their respective living areas. Sweep completed.

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111700H All Marine units returned to preassigned areas.

121200H Operation Wilcox ended officially.

121520H Company "I" was chopped to parent organization.

10. Results.

a. Friendly Personnel Losses.

(1) Two men WIA minor (1-surprise firing device, M-26 and 1-punji stake)

b. Enemy Losses.

(1) Total number Vietnamese at collection point, approximately 850.

(2) VC WIA (confirmed) captured-3.

(3) VCC captured-4.

(4) VCS detained-12.

Total-19.

c. Installations and fortifications destroyed.

(1) Bunkers 123

(2) Tunnels 2 over 10 foot long

(3) Fighting Holes 12

(4) Punji traps 2 with secondary explosion and 19 others.

(5) Mines and booby traps 2

11. Ammo and Demo expended.

In sweep area: 1140 pounds C-4 and TNT

In support of blocking forces: 110 rounds 105mm

118 rounds 155mm

360 rounds 81mm

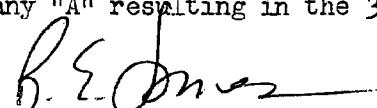
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575 rounds 7.62

550 rounds M-60

60 rounds M-79

(Some 25 to 30 rounds small arms and 1 M-79 (40mm) round was expended into sweep area by Company "A" resulting in the 3 VCC wounded)


R. E. JONES

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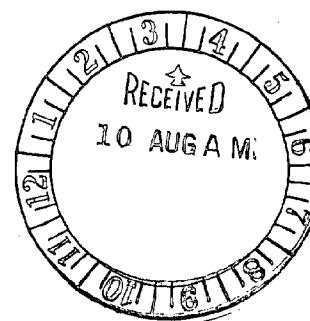
12. Commander's Analysis. At 0550 all units were in position to cordon the village of DUC KY, with Company "D" and Company "E" in the eastern position and prepared to search and clear on order from east to west. All units were ordered to hold until the Psychological Helicopter arrived and had passed the word for all villagers to move west toward Hill 55 and cross foot bridge in that vicinity. The helicopter was late, then flew at an altitude so great that he could not be heard from the ground. That portion of the Psychological War effort was secured, and the sweep forces were ordered to commence the sweep at 0650. Their orders were to search out and destroy all VC forces, facilities and fortifications to include family type bunkers, trench and tunnel systems, punji pits, mines, and booby traps. Two houses were booby trapped and were pointed out to the troops by Vietnamese in the area. Some six to seven hundred civilians voluntarily came across the foot bridge, while approximately 200 were forced across by the sweeping forces. All Vietnamese civilians were assembled at the collection point. Med-Cap was performed by the Battalion Surgeon and his Staff. One hundred children, 50 females and 25 males were treated. Over 800 pounds of rice was distributed to the people along with 5 boxes of soap, 1 box of canned goods, 2 boxes of toys, 1 box of clothing and 1 box of candy. A Psychological War program was conducted by the 1st Corp Army Psychological War team and Vietnamese government officials from THANH SON and KY MINH villages. The theme stressed was the inevitable defeat of the Viet Cong and the return of RVN influence to the area. At 1630H, all Vietnamese were allowed to return to their village. During the operation, two Marines were slightly wounded. One stepped on a steel punji stake and one tripped an M-26 frag grenade rigged with a trip wire. Though no action or no contact was made by the sweep force, Company "A", while moving into its blocking position, encountered some resistance in the form of harrassing and sniper fire. During daylight hours, while in their block, a total of seven artillery missions and six 81mm mortar missions were fired during the 24 hour period. AO was requested and upon arrival searched several GS south and reported several groups of 10 to 20 all were moving south but was unable to identify any weapons. One difficulty encountered was that the detachment from ITT and CIT secured about 1430H and were not available when the sweep force brought in some 200 stragglers. However, the Battalion S-2, Regimental Interpreter and local village chiefs screened, and were able to find, 2 VCS in this particular group. Although the number of identified VC picked up was small, they were identified because of positive sources, and in 7 instances, admitted immediately their VC affiliation. The area searched and cleared has been a source of considerable harrassment to the Hill 55 complex, as well as a suspected VC haven. The operation is considered to have been successful, aside from the VC and VC suspects apprehended, in that we demonstrated to the local villagers that no area is "safe" or a "haven" for VC forces.

|| Psy War
|| Ops

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MESSAGE FORM MAISSECRET
3d MarDiv H-2100 MARDIV

CG FMAW
FIRST MARINES
THIRD MARINES
TWELFTH MARINES
THIRD AMRRAC BN
THIRD TANK BN
THIRD AT BN
THIRD ENGR BN



ZNYSSSS

008 091700Z AUG 66

FM NINTH MARINES

TO ZEN/FIRST BN NINTH MARINES
ZEN/SECOND BN NINTH MARINES
ZEN4/THIRD BN NINTH MARINES
INFO CG III MAF
THIRD MARDIV
CG FMAW
FIRST MARINES
THIRD MARINES
TWELFTH MARINES
ZWN/SECOND BN TWELFTH MARINES
THIRD AMRRAC BN
THIRD TANK BN
THIRD AT BN
THIRD ENGR BN
BR

S E C R E T

OF ORDER 401-66

A. DIV OF ORDER 343-65

Return to CUC

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B. REGTL ORDER 3000.2C

C. MAP: VIETNAM ICEE 1:50,000 SERIES L 7014 SHEETS 6640 IV

TASK ORGANIZATION

COMMAND GOUPE FIRST BN NINTH MARINES
D RIFLE CO 1ST BN 9TH MARINES
A RIFLE CO (-) 1ST BN 9TH MARINES
E RIFLE CO 2ND BN 9TH MARINES
I RIFLE CO 3D BN 9TH MARINES
CO B (-)

D AMTRAC BN (DS)

CO B (-) 3D TK BN (DS)

1ST PLT CO C 3D ENGR BN (DS)

DET ITT TEAM (DS)

PLT CO C AT BN (DSS). SITUATION

A. ENEMY FORCES. SEE CURRENT INTSUMS AND PIR'S

B. FRIENDLY FORCES

(1) 2D BN 12TH MARINES DJR SPT. LIBRY 4TH BN 2TH MARINES

GEN SPT REIN WEE IAW REF (A)

(2) 1ST MAW PROVIDE MEDEVAC/ARMED OBSERVATION, P

AIRCRAFT. COMMAND HELICOPTER GROUP AS REQUIREMENT

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19 Jul 1966

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REQUESTED.

(3) DETACHMENT D INTERROGATOR-TRANSLATOR TEAM, ASSIST IN SCREENING VIETNAMESE CIVILIANS AT CONNECTION POINT.

(4) H DETACHMENT 3D COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE TEAM, EXPLOIT ON THE SPOT INTELLIGENCE SOURCES, EG VCC, VCS

2. MISSION. AT 110630H V ~~AUGUST ATTACK IN ZOA~~ TO SEARCH OUT AND DESTROY ELEMENTS OF VC MAIN FORCE AND LOCAL FORCE UNITS, THEIR POSITIONS BUNKERS AND TUNNEL COMPLEXES.

3. EXECUTION

A. CONCEPT OF OPERATION. PRIOR TO FIRST O LIGHT POSITION ATTACKING FORCES AND BLOCKING FORCES AS HOWEE SHOWN IN (ANNEX A) OPERATIONS OVERLAY. AT FIRST LIGHT PSY WAR AIRCRAFT WILL ANNOUNCE THOROUGHOUT THE AREA OF OPERATIONS THE COLLECTION POINT FOR ALL CIVILIANS IN AREA. AT 110630H AUG 1ST BN 9TH MARINES ATTACKS TO WEST WITH 2 RIFLE COMPANIES IN ASSIGNED ZOA TO DESTROY ENEMY AND POSITIONS THEREIN.

B. 1ST BN 9TH MARINES

(1) PROVIDE ONE RIFLE COMPANY (REINF) ONE RIFLE COMPNY (-) REINF AND A COMMAND GROUP IN EXECUTION THIS ORDER.

(2) CONDUCT OPERATIONS IAW ANNEX A OPERATION OVERLAY.

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(3) ASSUME OPCON ONE (1) RIFLE CO 3D BN 9TH MARINES AT 101200H AUGUST

(4) ASSUME OPCON ONE (1) RIFLE CO 2D BN 9TH MARINES AT 102400H AUGUST.

(5) PROVIDE SECURITY ELEMENT FOR CONDUCT OF PSY WAR OPERATIONS AT CIV COLLECTION POINT.

(6) ESTABLISH AID STATION FOR CIVILIANS COOP COLLECTION PTS BY 0630H

(7) REQUEST AIR SUPPORT IAW REF (A).

(8) CHOP UNITS TO PARENT ORGANIZATION ON COMPLETION OF OPERATION VV (9) REPORT COMPLETION OCCUPATION ATTACK AND BLOCKING POSITIONS THIS HQ.

(10) REPORT CROSSING LOD

(11) MAKE HOURLY SIT REPORTS THIS HQ; SPOT REPORTS AS REQUIRED.

C. 2D BN 9TH MARINES

(1) AT 10433 102400 AUG CHOP 1 RIFLE COMPANY OPCON TO 1ST BN 9TH MARINES

D. 3D BN 9TH MARINES

(1) AT 101200H AUGUST CHOP ONE RIFLE COMPANY OPCON TO 1ST BN 9TH MARINES

E. COORDINATING INSTRUCTIONS

(1) DIRECT LIAISON ~~COPY~~ AUTHORIZED BETWEEN ORGANIZATIONS~~SECRET~~

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THIS COMMAND.

(2) PSY WAR EFFORT IN SUPPORT THIS OPERATION CONDUCTED THIS HQ. HELO BROADCASTS TO BE CONDUCTED FROM 110615H O. TO 110630H AUGUST. SUBSEQUENTLY PSY WAR INDOCTRINATION CONDUCT AT CIVCOLLECTION POINT LOCATION SHOWN ON ANNEX A OPERATIONS OVERLAY.

(3) THIS OPERATION EXPECTED TO BE ONE AEE DAY DURATION.

(4) RULES OF ENGAGEMENT IAW REF A(A)

(5) INSURE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE MAINTAINED.

(6) DIRECT SUPPORT UNITS PROVIDE SUPPORT AS REQUESTED.

7. (7) FIRE SUPPORT COORDINATION

A. RESTRICTIVE FIRE ZONE WILL BE UNDER THE CONTROL OF FSCC 1ST BN 9TH MARINES

B. FCL ESTABLISHED AS SHOWN (ANNEX A) OPERATIONOVERLAY

C. ON CALL FIRES PLANNED IN CONJUNCTION WITH CONCEPT OF OPERATION.

D. 2D BN 12TH MARINES PROVIDES ARTILLERY SUPPORT REQUESTS BRTY L, 4TH BN, 12TH MARINES SUPPORT OPERATION

E. 1ST BN 9TH MARINES FO'S SEND FIRE REQUESTS TO 2D BN 12TH MARINES BRTY L MONITOR M326 FOR FIRE REQUESTS.

5. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS.

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A9; & LOGISTIC SUPPORT FOR TACTICAL UNITS THROUGH 1ST BN 9TH MARINES

B. SHELTER TENTS) FOR REFUGEES PROVIDED BY THIS HEADQUARTERS

C. REFUGEE RATIONS PROVIDED BY THIS HEADQUARTERS

D. WATER FOR REFUGEES PROVIDED BY 1ST BN 9TH MARINES

E. REFUGEES TO BE NOTIFIED BY BROADCAST TO SUPPLY COOKING FACILITIES.

F.

MEDICAL TREATMENT FACILITIES FOR REFUGEES PROVIDED BY 1

1ST BN 9TH MARINES.

G. MEDICAL EVACUATION - NO CHANGE

5. COMMAND - COMMUNICATIONS ELECTRONICS

A9 IAW REF ((B)

B. UNIT OPCON TO 1/9 FROM 2/9 ENTER 1/9 TAC NET AT 102400H AUG

C. THIS ORDER EFFECTIVE FOR PLANNING UPON RECEIPT AND EXECUUUTIIOON AAS PROVIDED HEREIN
ANNEX:

A. ANNEX A (OPERATION OVERLAY) ISSUED SEPERATELY

B

GP-4

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C - 3/9cc SD and FSCC

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