

HEADQUARTERS

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

3/JCW/rge
05750
3 Sept 1966

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, 9th Marines (attn: S-3)

Subj: Command Chronology: 1-31 August 1966

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
(b) DivO 5750.1
(c) RegtO 5750.1

1. In accordance with references (a) through (c), enclosure (1) is submitted herewith.


R. E. JONES

Aug 66

DECLASSIFIED

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

3/JCW/rgs
05750
3 Sept 1966

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
1-31 August 1966

PART I: ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

PART II: GENERAL CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS DURING REPORTING PERIOD

PART III: SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

{ PART IV: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PART I: ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Reporting Unit. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines

2. Location of Command Post. 010001H August to 312400H August 1966: Vicinity Hill 55, DANANG TAOR, coordinates (AT 966617). During the period 161800H August to 170600 August, Command Post (Forward) was established at coordinates 925526. From 170900 August to 181300 August, the Command Post (Forward) was at coordinates 953548. At 181300 August, the Command Post (Forward) began moving back toward the Liberty bridge site and returned to Hill 55 at 181830 August.

3. Period Covered by report. 1-31 August 1966

4. Commanding Officer and Staff

Commanding Officer	LtCol JONES
Executive Officer	Maj DAY
S-1	2dLt PARKER
S-2	1stLt KING
S-3	Maj THATENHURST
S-4	Capt CUTCOMB

5. Principal Subordinate Units.

H&S Company	Capt STONE
Company "A"	Capt VONHARTEN
Company "B"	Capt SPLEAN
Company "C" (OnCon 3d Bn, 9th Mar 20 Aug 1966)	1stLt CONNELL
Company "D"	Capt KEYS
3d Plt; Company "B"; 1st Amtrac Bn.	2dLt HORVATICH
2d Plt; Company "C"; 3d AT Bn.	2dLt HOOF
2d Plt, Company "A", 3d Tank Bn. (OpCon Company "B", 3d Tank Bn)	2dLt GARLAND
1st Plt; Company "B"; 3d Tank Bn.	2dLt NAGLE
4th Plt, Company "C", 3d Eng Bn	SSgt GROVE
FO Team D Battery, 2d Battalion, 12th Marines	2dLt CAMPBELL
Company "C", 9th MT Battalion (4 Trucks)	
Company "E", 2d Battalion, 3d Marines (OpCon 18-21 Aug 1966)	1stLt NUGENT
Company "I"; 3d Bn; 9th Mar (OpCon 17-18 Aug 1966)	Capt NAVADEVIL
Company "L", 3d Bn, 9th Mar (OpCon 17 August)	Capt PYLE
2d Troop, 4th Cav Regt (OpCon 18-19 Aug 1966)	

6. Command Structure. 1-31 August 1966, OpCon 9th Marines with responsibility for Northern sector of the 9th Marines zone of Action.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

7. Average strength for Month of August.

Officers USMC: 33

Officers USN: 3

Enlisted USMC: 955

Enlisted USN: 53

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED**PART II: GENERAL CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS
DURING REPORTING PERIOD**

During the reporting period, the Battalion was responsible for the northern portion of the 9th Marines zone of action. This responsibility included the occupation, defense, and denial of VC influence into the area; establishment and maintenance of a reconnaissance network; offensive operations, both in and outside the Battalion area of responsibility; blocking and denying the use of the SONG THU BON to the VC in the 9th Marines zone of action; provided security for engineer construction units; provided security for bridge and water point on SONG AI NGHIA, ferrv site, and ICM beaching point on the SONG THU BON; maintained river traffic control points on the SONG AI NGHIA; maintained traffic control points at junction of Liberty road and Route 14; provided support of pacification programs as directed, and provided one company as Regimental reserve. This responsibility was accomplished by means of company and platoon size search and clear operations and aggressive patrol and ambush activity of platoon and squad size in an attempt to saturate the Battalion zone of action. The continued development and improvement of semi-permanent positions assigned within the zone of action has progressed steadily. Because of the basic mission and the almost continuous employment of all operational forces the formal training effort was necessarily limited. During the reporting period Company "D" was assigned as Battalion/Regimental reserve. Throughout the reporting period two rifle Companies operated in the area south of route 14 and north of the SONG THU BON while one rifle Company operated north of the SONG AI NGHIA in the Battalion zone of action. The area south of the SONG AI NGHIA and north of Route 14 normally covered by the fourth rifle company, due to operational commitments, was covered by one platoon for a total of 15 days. All units were involved in a deliberate and detailed clearing of VC forces and the complete destruction of VC fortifications, and influence within the assigned ZOA. Continued emphasis is placed on complete demolition and destruction of all actual or potential VC tactical locales with primary emphasis on reduction of VC trenches, tunnels, caves, and family type bunkers. On 3 August, Company "A" conducted a population sweep in Company "A" area of responsibility which resulted in the collection of 2000 Vietnamese, and the capture of 3 VCC females. On 031200H the boundary between this Battalion and 2d Battalion, 1st Marines was changed to include a slight addition to this Battalions zone of action on the eastern boundary. One platoon from Company "D" conducted blocking positions on the east side of the SONG YEN for Company "L", 3d Battalion, 3d Marines from 060700H-071800H. During the period 061700 to 071800 Company "A", supported by tanks and LVT'S, conducted a raid south of the SONG VU GIA vicinity GS (AT 9053) destroying VC forces, fortifications, facilities and influence in the area.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

During the period 101200H to 111700H this Battalion conducted operation WILCOX in accordance with Regimental Operation Order 401-66 in the area known as DUC KY in 1st Battalion, 9th Marines zone of action. Op Con of Company "I", 3d Battalion, 9th Marines was held from 101200H to 111520H; Company "E", 2d Battalion, 9th Marines from 102400H to 111100H for Operation WILCOX. During the Period 16 August-21 August the Battalion conducted a search and clear operation in conjunction with Operation SWANNEE in the area south of the SONG THU BON in accordance with Op Order 120-66. Op Con of Company "E", 2d Battalion, 3d Marines was held from 161125H to 211000H, Op Con Company "I", 3d Battalion, 9th Marines was held from 170400H to 180825H. Op Con Company "L", 3d Battalion, 9th Marines was held from 170400 to 171750H. Op Con Detachment, 2d Troop, 4th Calvary Regiment was held from 181830H to 191020H. Op Con ICM-8 was held from 180700H to 200600H. Chopped Op Con Company "C", 1st Battalion, 9th Marines to 3d Battalion, 9th Marines from 200600H to 202000H. Three County Fair operations 24, 25, and 26 have been conducted on a continuing basis since 23 August in the Battalions ZOA north of SONG AI NGHIA with Company "A" as cordon force and 2d Company, 4th Battalion, 51st ARVN Regiment as search element. During the reporting period one platoon of RF and one platoon of PF have operated with two forward Companies. They are rotated to DAI LOC on a weekly basis. These Combined operations have proven to be very satisfactory. From 3 August until the end of the reporting period, Scout Dogs, varying in number from two to eight, were employed with the rifle companies of this Battalion with very successful results. These Scout Dogs were obtained from the Scout Dog Platoon, 1st M. P. Battalion, 3rd Marine Division.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDPART III: SEQUENTIAL LISTING
OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Personnel. Detailed personnel data is contained in the S-1 Journal submitted as a supporting document. This Battalion had a slight increase in strength during this period. During this period there were 0 officers and 5 enlisted Marines KIA and 22 enlisted WIA. This Battalion rotated 0 officers and 18 enlisted Marines to CONUS, and 0 officers and 13 enlisted Marines transferred by Service Record. Replacements of 1 officer and 62 enlisted Marines were received. Sixty-three Marines were afforded the opportunity to R&R.

a. Three officers and Nine enlisted Navy replacements received; 3 officers and 3 enlisted Navy were lost due to transfers. Three Navy personnel were afforded opportunity for R&R. During the period there were 0 officers and 1 enlisted Navy WIA.

2. Administration. Nothing significant to report.

3. Intelligence. During the month of August, enemy activity in the ZOA was limited to harrassing tactics by less than squad size guerilla forces except for the following larger contacts:

a. On 14 August in the vicinity of (AT 974574), Company "C" made contact with 15-20 VC, killing 3 and capturing two weapons, web gear, grenades and uniforms.

b. On 25 August, Company "C" made contact with 15 VC at (AT 951557), resulting in one VC KIA confirmed and 5 KIA probables. Two weapons were captured and grenades, web gear and documents were recovered from the area of contact.

c. On Operation SWANEE, the following significant contacts were made:

(1) On 17 August, Company "C" made contact with an unknown number of VC at (AT 979530), killing 17 VC and recovering one weapon and several documents. In addition, an AO reported killing 20 VC in support of Company "C".

d. On 19 August Company "A", in defensive positions at (AT 967548) received 81mm and 60mm mortar fire and heavy small arms fire. Ten VC were reported KIA (Prob).

e. On 20 August, Company "A" in defensive positions (AT 957550) received two mortars and heavy small arms fire from 50 VC, resulting in 15 VC KIA probable.

f. Also on 20 August, Company "C" made contact with an estimated VC company at (AT 901545). They received heavy small arms fire and 60mm mortar fire. Company "C" reported 5 VC KIA (Prob). Small arms harrassing incidents continued to occur frequently in the blocking positions along the SONG THU BON. Mining incidents on the MSR also continued with a slight increase noted near the end of the month. Several County Fairs were conducted during August and they proved to be very successful.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Large tunnels and caves were found and destroyed in LE SON (5), CHAU SON (1), and DUC KY (1). A total of 13 VC were killed on these operations. There were two instances of VC terror tactics in our ZOA during the month of August. On the 5th of August, the VC entered the village of CAM VAN, murdered 13 Vietnamese civilians and wounded 3. Later in the month the VC entered the Hamlet of TRUNG AN (2), and burned 80 homes and killed one PF soldier.

4. Psychological Warfare. The general theme for the month of August was to explain the inevitable defeat of the VC and to appeal to the VC to rally to the GVN side. The theme was expounded by the following means:

(1) The I Corps Psv-Ops field detachment audio team conducted operations from Hill 55, Liberty Road and Route 14. They also assisted in the Psv-War portion of the County Fairs.

(2) The Regimental sound system was used to broadcast the truth to Viet Nationals about the US mission in VN, employing the Battalion and Regimental Interpreters.

(3) County Fair Operations were conducted in LE SON (5), CHAU SON (1), and DUC KY (1). The village Chiefs from these villages conducted Psv-War speeches and reintroduced GVN control to the area.

(4) Face-to-Face Persuasion was conducted by the Companies in the field, and the Battalion CP during the month of August.

i. Employment of the AN/TPS-21 SID/150 and the Infrared Sighting Device.

(1) AN/TPS-21. The Battalion has only one AN/TPS-21 and it was employed in reserve near the Battalion CP during the month of August.

(2) SID/150. The Battalion utilized 30 SID/150's during the month of August. Ten were employed by the rifle companies in their CP perimeters and twenty were held in Battalion reserve. No contacts were reported during this period.

(3) Infrared Sighting Device. Fifteen sniper scopes were on hand in the Battalion during the month of August. All of the scopes were available for use by the rifle companies. No contacts were reported.

4. Training. All units received periodic instructions concerning the mission and role of US Forces in the Republic of Vietnam, the rules of engagement, and the handling of prisoners. Additionally, on-the-job training was conducted for all ranks and MOS's. One man attended NCO school in Okinawa, one man to Field Communication Operators school, and one man attended the water safety course in Saigon. The sixty-two replacements were given 5 days indoctrination prior to being sent to the companies.

5. Special Operations. Nothing significant.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

6. Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Warfare. Nothing significant.

7. Command and Control. Nothing significant.

8. Communications and Electronics. During the reporting period, the Battalion received 63 AN/FRT-25's and distribution was made to the companies.

9. Close Combat. Nothing significant.

10. Fire Support and Fire Support Coordination. Artillery was employed on targets of opportunity, on known enemy minefields, on counter-mortar battery positions and in the restriction of enemy movement at night through harassment and interdiction fires. One, time on target mission was fired on a suspected enemy assembly area with negative results. On-call defensive fires were provided each unit in static and moving situations and registration of these concentrations was stressed. Permanent defensive fires were provided units in semi-permanent positions and the registration of these fires completed.

a. Artillery fired 120 fire missions during the reporting period with credit given for at least 6 VC KIA and 19 VC WIA. A breakdown of the type of missions fired and the ammo expended follows:

Targets of opportunity	55
Concentration registration	20
Minefields	12
Time on Target	1
Aerial observer	5
Counter-mortar	3
H and I	33
Total	120
Ammo expended:	
105 How.	3,038
155 How.	924
155 Gun	22
"8"inch	0
Total	3,984

b. The 81mm support was provided to each company by a section of 81mm mortars. The 81mm platoon fired 65 combat missions and received credit for 15 VC KIA and one 60mm mortar (Prob). Ammo expended is as follows:

	HE/L	HE/M	ILL	WP
H and I fires	192	3623	41	2775
Combat Missions	192	1785	88	1079
	5408	129		3854

11. Logistics. During the reporting period, combined logistics continued to be extensive. Six tons of equipment and supplies were

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

delivered by air and 70 tons of equipment and supplies were delivered via surface modes to field based units. Also seven ammunition bunkers (12' x 12') were constructed out of 22,400 sandbags. During this period, the amount of miles traveled by Battalion vehicles totaled 26,348. Total hours: 1,420.

12. Air Defense. Nothing significant.

13. Combat Air Support. Air support was used when necessary by this command during this reporting period. A total of 41 medevacs were flown bringing 56 casualties to immediate medical aid. Airborne observers in O1-E's and UH-1E's were used for ground observation and support of ground units. "Buff the Magic Dragon" was used on the 19th and 20th for illumination and support. This type aircraft ability to illuminate it's own targets and bring to bear enormous fire power aided substantially in repulsing an enemy attack on Company "A" on the 10th. Resupply of the individual companies was provided by UH-34's and UH-37's on a limited basis to relieve the load on our remaining track vehicles.

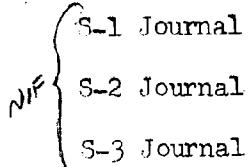
14. Medical and Dental Support. Nothing significant.

15. Chaplain Support. During the month of August, Sunday divine services were conducted on Hill 55 and Hill 5 for Catholics and Protestants. Weekly church services were also held in each company. Hospital visits were made to CHARLIE MED and NSA. The chaplain recorded 10 counselling and 5 Red Cross cases. Roman Catholic Mass was said for Vietnamese of AN TRACH village. Catholic coverage was also provided for 2/1 CP, 2/12 CP, 1/11 CP, ERATO BATTERY, and Company "E" at HA DONG bridge.

16. Civil Affairs. During the month of August, the Battalion concentrated it's civil action efforts to Hill 55 complex, BICH BAC Hamlet, and the several County Fair operations conducted by the Battalion. Daily Med-Cap was given on Hill 55 and BICH BAC by the BAS corpsman. Over 1100 civilians were treated during this period. Clothing, soap, rice, and towels were distributed in various areas within the ZO. A total of 16 civilians were med-evacuated during the month of August.

UNCLASSIFIED

PART IV: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

NI 
S-1 Journal
S-2 Journal
S-3 Journal

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

3/SGF/1rl
10 November 1966

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein) FMF
Subj: Command Chronology 1-30 September 1966 for 1st Battalion,
9th Marines, late submission
Ref: (a) MC0 5750.2
(b) Div0 5750.1
(c) Regt0 5750.1

Encl: (1) 1st Battalion, 9th Marines Command Chronology

1. In accordance with references (a) through (c), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. Late submission of enclosure (1) due to deployment out of country.

G. C. Nelson
A. A. NELSON
By direction

0347 - 66

HEADQUARTERS
 1st Battalion, 9th Marines
 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMP

3/JCW/rps
 05750
 4 Oct 1964

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding Officer, 9th Marines (Attn: S-3)

Subj: Command Chronology: 1-30 Sept 1966

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
 (b) DIVO 5750.1
 (c) ReptO 5750.1

1. In accordance with references (a) through (c), enclosure (1) is submitted herewith.

J. L. Day
 J. L. DAY

CONFIDENTIAL
 9th Mar. Regt.
 Control No. 0814-66
 Copy No. 2 of 6

151 BATTALION 9th MARINES
 S & C 0347-66 COPY 2 OF 6

DECLASSIFIED

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

3/JCW/tjl
05750
4 Oct 1966

[REDACTED] COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
1-30 September 1966

PART I: ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

PART II: GENERAL CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS DURING REPORTING PERIOD

PART III: SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

PART IV: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

[REDACTED]
DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDPART I: ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. Reporting Unit. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines2. Location of Command Post. 010001H Sept to 281100H Sept: Vicinity Hill #55, DANANG TAOR, coordinates (AT 966617). From 281100H Sept to 302400H Sept the Command Post was located aboard the USS HENRICO (APA-45).3. Period Covered by Report: 1-30 Sept 19664. Commanding Officer and Staff.

Commanding Officer	1-26 Sept	LtCol JONES
	26-30 Sept	Maj DAY
Executive Officer	1-26 Sept	Maj DAY
	27-30 Sept	Maj HUBBARD
S-1	1-15 Sept	2dLt PARKER
	15-30 Sept	1stLt RICKMON
S-2		2dLt YAGGEY
S-3	1-15 Sept	Maj THATENHURST
	15-30 Sept	Capt VONHARTEN
S-4	1-15 Sept	Capt CUTCOMB
	15-30 Sept	Capt SAYERS

5. Principal Subordinate Units.

H&S Company	1-25 Sept	Capt STONE
	25-30 Sept	2dLt MCCLEOD
Company "A"	1-2 Sept	Capt VONHARTEN
	2-30 Sept	2dLt PACE
Company "B"	1-5 Sept	Capt SPLEAN
	5-30 Sept	2dLt MITCHELL
Company "C"		1stLt CONNELL
Company "D"		Capt KEYS
Det, Hq Bn, 3dMarDiv	18-30 Sept	
Det, Disbursing Section		2dLt WALSH
Det, Postal Section		
Det, Photo Section		
Det, Comm Co (Radio Relay)		
Det, H&S Company, 9th Marines (Radio Relay)		
3d Plt (Rein), Company "B", 1st AmTrac Bn		2dLt HORVATICH
3d Plt (Rein), Company "C", 3d AT Bn		2dLt RILEY
3d Plt (Rein), Company "B", 3d Tank Bn		2dLt VOIGT
1st Plt (Rein), Company "C", 3d Eng Bn		WO JONES
Det, H&S Company, 3d Eng Bn		
Det, Eng Support Company, 3d Eng Bn		
2d Plt, Company "D", 3d Recon Bn		2dLt MURPHY
Det, 1st Clearing Plt, (-)(Rein) Company "B",		Lt OLIVER (USN)
3d Med Bn		

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Logistics Support Unit

Det, 3d FSA

Det, 3d Ser Bn

2d Plt (Rein), Company "A", 3d MT Bn

2d Plt (Rein), Company "C", 3d SP Bn

2d Plt (Rein), Company "D" (-), 2d Bn, 12th Mar

107mm Howitzer Battery (Rein), 1st Bn, 12th Mar

Capt KENDIG

2d Lt DAVIS

2d Lt BLOXOM

Capt GUNDLACH

Capt RICHEY

6. Command Structure. 1-29 September 1966, Op-Con 9th Marines with responsibility for Northern sector of the 9th Marines Zone of Action. 291000H-30 September 1966, Op-Con CTF 79 while embarked aboard the USS HENRICO (APA-45).

7. Average Strength for Month of September.

Officers USMC: 38

Officers USN: 3

Enlisted USMC: 1063

Enlisted USN: 55

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIEDPART II: GENERAL CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS
DURING REPORTING PERIOD

During the reporting period, the Battalion was responsible for the northern portion of the 9th Marines zone of action. This responsibility included the occupation, defense, and denial of VC influence into the area; establishment and maintenance of a reconnaissance network; offensive operations within the Battalion area of responsibility, blocking and denying the use of the SONG THU BON to the VC in the 9th Marines zone of action; provided security for engineer construction units; provided security for bridge and water point on SONG AI NGHIA, ferry site, and LCM beaching point on the SONG THU BON; maintained river traffic control points on the SONG AI NGHIA; maintained traffic control points at the junction of Liberty Road and Route 14; provided support of pacification programs as directed, and provided one company as Regimental reserve. This responsibility was accomplished by means of aggressive patrol and ambush activity of platoon and squad size in an attempt to saturate the Battalion Zone of Action. The continued development and improvement of semi-permanent positions assigned within the zone of action has progressed steadily. Due to the almost continuous employment of all operational forces, the formal training effort was very limited. A Combined Action Company, consisting of 18 Marines and 32 Popular Force Soldiers from DAI LOC, was formed on 11 September 1966. This CAC unit remained Op-Con to this battalion until 9th Marine Regiment assumed Op-Con on 18 September 1966. The Combined Action Company was positioned in the village of AI DONG (AT 922566), the site of a new relocation and resettlement village for Vietnamese civilians. Two "County Fair" operations were held on 3 September 1966 and 22 September 1966, with Company "A" as cordon force and 2nd Company, 4th Battalion, 51st ARVN Regiment as search element. Throughout the reporting period, one platoon of RF and one platoon of PF have operated with two forward companies. During the reporting period, preparation continued for the scheduled relief by BLT 1/26 and this Battalion's return to Okinawa. The relief was accomplished on 28 September and BLT 1/26 assumed responsibility for the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines Zone of Action. The Battalion embarked aboard assigned shipping and departed Vietnam 291000H.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED**PART III: SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF
SIGNIFICANT EVENTS**

1. Personnel. Detailed personnel data is contained in the S-1 journal submitted as a supporting document. This Battalion had a slight decrease in strength during this period. During this period there were no officers and 11 enlisted Marines KIA and 1 officer and 43 enlisted WIA. This Battalion rotated 1 officer and 34 enlisted Marines to CONUS, and no officers and 34 enlisted Marines transferred by Service Record. Replacements of 1 officer and 6 enlisted Marines were received. No quotas were received for R&R due to this Battalions move to Okinawa.

2. Administration. Nothing significant.

3. Intelligence. During the month of September, enemy activity was again limited to harassing tactics by less than squad size guerrilla forces, except for the following larger contacts:

a. On 4 September, a Company "C" patrol made contact with 25-30 VC in civilian clothes at (AT 954591). A search of the area produced negative results, although the local civilians indicated the VC fled with unknown number of casualties.

b. On 24 September, Hill#55, a Company "D" security unit at the water point and a Company "A" PPB received heavy fire from approximately 20 VC from 9 different locations in GS's (AT 9560, 9559, 9660), fire included 3-4 rounds of 57mm RR fire. VC casualties were 4 KIA (CONF) and 8 KIA (PROB).

c. Two County Fair Operations were held during the month:

(1) On 3 September County Fair conducted at CHAU SON (2) located (AT 946603) resulted in 8 VC KIA (CONF), 2 VCC and 3 weapons captured.

(2) The second County Fair was held on 22 September at CAM VAN (1) located (AT 959591) with 1 VC KIA (CONF) and 1 VCC.

d. Mines continued to be the biggest US casualty producer, with a noticeable increase in mining incidents over the month of August.

e. Psychological Warfare. The general themes were to persuade VC to rally to the Allies and explain the US part in aid to the Vietnamese Government and people. The themes were expounded by the following means:

(1) The I Corps Psy-Ops field detachment conducted broadcasts from Hill#55 and the immediate area.

(2) A U-10 aircraft broadcasted over the ZOA.

(3) The 9th Marines sound system was used to broadcast the themes using the Battalion and Regimental interpreters.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

(4) During the 2 County Fairs the village chiefs and ralliers from the hamlets spoke to the people and the chiefs began the reintroduction of GVN control to those areas.

(5) Face-to-Face Persuasion was conducted by the companies in the field.

f. Special Operations. None

g. Employment of the AN/TPS-21, SID/150, the Infrared Sighting Device, and Star Light Scope.

(1) AN/TPS-21. The Battalion has only one AN/TPS-21 and it was employed in reserve near the Battalion CP.

(2) SID/150. The Battalion had 30 SID/150's on hand during the month. Ten were employed by the companies and twenty were held in Battalion reserve. No contacts were reported.

(3) Infrared Sighting Devices. Of the fifteen scopes on hand, two were utilized this month. No contacts were reported.

(4) Star Light Scope. The one Star Light Scope in the Battalion was utilized until 16 September. A lack of battery replacements prevented its further use. Several contacts were reported with undetermined results.

4. Training. All units received periodic instructions concerning the mission and role of US Forces in the Republic of Vietnam, the rules of engagement, and the handling of prisoners. Additionally, on-the-job training was conducted for all ranks and MOS's.

5. Special Operations. Nothing significant

6. Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Warfare. Nothing significant

7. Command and Control. Nothing significant

8. Communications and Electronica. Nothing significant

9. Close Combat. Nothing significant

10. Fire Support and Fire Support Coordination.

a. Artillery was employed in 1/9 TAOR during this reporting period on targets of opportunity, on enemy mortar positions, and in the harassment and interdiction of enemy movement at night. Each permanent company location was provided with permanent night defensive fires as well as the Battalion CP. Each maneuver unit was provided with "On Call" fires and the registration of these was encouraged.

UNCLASSIFIED

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~Medical and Dental Support.

a. Two "County Fairs" were held with R.A. Gioffre, Lt MC USNR and two enlisted hospital corpsmen holding Med-Cap at each fair. Approximately 60 patients including children were attended. Medical problems encountered were as follows:

- (1) Skin dermatological conditions, variety of
- (2) Breast Carcinoma
- (3) Hare lip
- (4) Wounds and infections
- (5) Penetrating wounds of Viet Cong personnel
- (6) Ophthalmological infections

b. On 26 September LtCol Jones, Battalion Commander, and another Marine (his driver) were given emergency treatment at the forward Battalion Aid Station. The Colonel sustained a through and through penetrating wound of the left thigh with involvement of the Sciatic nerve. LCpl Ferrebee sustained through and through bullet wound of both legs. Both patients were sent by emergency med-evac to C-Med accompanied by one hospital corpsman, HM-3 Hebdon.

c. On 26 September, eleven Vietnamese patients were given emergency medical treatment for second degree burns suffered from napalm. They were all med-evaced.

d. On 27 September, 13 additional Vietnamese patients were treated for second degree burns and they were also med-evaced. One patient underwent a traumatic amputation of the distal phalanx of her 5th finger. This patient was treated in our forward Battalion Aid Station.

e. Also during the month of September, Med-Cap was held each day and approximately 30 to 40 patients were treated. The usual Sick Call was held twice daily.

f. On September 28th the medical team of the 1st Battalion, 26th Marines were given the necessary instructions in regards to the supply of GAC, Med-Cap, and location of forward Battalion Aid Station facilities.

g. All companies were given the necessary vaccines prior to embarkation for Okinawa.

15. Chaplain Support. During the month of September, Sunday divine services were held on Hill #55 for Catholics and Protestants. Weekly church services were also held in each company area. Hospital visits were made to "C" Med and NSA. The Chaplain recorded 7 counselling and 4 Red Cross cases. Roman Catholic Mass was held for the Vietnamese in the village of AN TRACH. Catholic coverage was also provided for 2/1 CP, 2/12 CP, 1/11 CP, "B" Battery, and Company "E" at HA DONG bridge.

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

UNCLASSIFIED

Of interest during this 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 with no friendly casualties reported. In four missions fired, 5 buildings were destroyed, one trenchline was caved in, and numerous treelines were rendered incapable of providing effective cover for enemy troops. The Battery was able to displace the weapon to the desired location with a great degree of efficiency and speed. All types of fuzes and shells were used with HEP-T and HE Quick being used on treelines and trenches and fuze time in open and exposed areas. Shell WP was also used to mark an area for an air strike.

c. A breakdown of the missions fired and the ammunition expended is as follows:

	<u>Ammo Expended</u>
Targets of Opportunity	27
Minefield	0
Counter-mortar	1
AO	2
Prep fires	1
Concentration Registration. 15	
H and I	30
Total	76
105mm	1486
155mm	697
155G	20
8 inch	19
Total ...	2232.

d. An 81mm mortar section was provided each company and was credited with the following missions and ammunition expenditure.

Combat missions ... 5	Ammo for combat missions 736
<u>H and I missions</u> .. 30	<u>Ammo for H and I's</u> 978
Total 35	Total 1714

11. Logistics. During the reporting period, combined logistics continued to be extensive. Six tons of equipment and supplies were delivered by air and 70 tons of equipment and supplies were delivered via surface mode to field based units. During this period, the Battalion vehicles traveled a total of 25,978 miles. Total hours 1,437.

12. Air Defense. Nothing significant

13. Combat Air Support. Air support was used by this command when necessary during this reporting period. A total of 57 medevacs were flown bringing 69 US and ARVN casualties and 46 civilian casualties to immediate medical aid. Airborne observers in O1-E's and UH-1E's were used for ground observation in support of ground units. For a period of two weeks UH-34's were used to transport troops and resupply the forward companies. On 25 September there were two fixed wing airstrikes of four sorties dropping eleven 500 pound napalm bombs and six 250 pound bombs. On 27 September there was a preplanned airstrike of four sorties dropping sixteen 500 pound napalm bombs.

[REDACTED]

16. Civil Affairs. During the month, the Civic Action program was conducted in the Hill #55 area, BICH BAC Hamlet, and two County Fairs. Daily Med-Cap was conducted on Hill #55 by the Battalion Surgeon and BAS Corpsman, and the company corpsman in the field. Over 600 civilians were treated during this period, with a total of 35 civilians being med-evacuated. Clothing, soap, rice, and toys were distributed within the ZOA.

[REDACTED]

PART IV: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

S-1 Journal

S-2 Journal

S-3 Journal

1st Battalion, 9th Marines Operation Order 6-66