

HEADQUARTERS
2d Battalion, 9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO San Francisco 96602

UNCLASSIFIED

3:RML:amif
5750
10 Jan 1968
S&C 2/9 00768

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)
Via: (1) Commanding Officer, Third Marine Regiment
(2) Commanding General, Third Marine Division

Subj: Command Chronology For Period 1 Dec 1967 to 31 Dec 1967

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8

Encl: ✓(1) 2d Battalion, Ninth Marines Command Chronology

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

2. Downgraded to unclassified when Sections I, II, III, IV, V, VII and VIII are removed from enclosure (1).


W. E. CRYAN

Copy to:
9th Marine Regiment

UNCLASSIFIED

S & C FILES

3D MARINES

0042-68

53568

1/ELL/ell

5750

13 Jan 1968

FIRST ENDORSEMENT on CO, 2d Bn, 9th Mar ltr 3:RML;mmf 5750
of 10 Jan 68

From: Commanding Officer, 3d Marines
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)
Via: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF

Subj: Command Chronology for Period 1 Dec 1967 to 31 Dec 1967

1. Forwarded.

2. It is noted that the submission of the report is late
and incorrectly forwarded via this command. Corrective action
will be taken.

J. E. Lo Prete
J. E. LO PRETE

2ND BN/9TH MAR
CMD CHRON

DEC 1967

HEADQUARTERS
2d Battalion, 9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FME
FPO San Francisco 96602

UNCLASSIFIEDCOMMAND CHRONOLOGY1 December 1967 to 31 December 1967INDEX

Section I	-	Organizational Data
Section II	-	S-1 Chronology
Section III	-	S-2 Chronology
Section IV	-	S-3 Chronology
Section V	-	S-4 Chronology
Section VI	-	S-5 Chronology
Section VII	-	Communications Chronology
Section VIII	-	Medical Chronology
Section IX	-	Chaplain's Chronology

UNCLASSIFIED

Section I - Organizational Data

1. Designation/Location. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines, 31 December 1967, Camp Carroll.

2. Period Covered by Report. 1-31 December 1967.

3. Name/Rank of Commanding Officer and Staff including T/O Billet Assignments:

Commanding Officer	LtCol W. M. CRYAN	1-31 Dec
Executive Officer	Maj D. J. MURPHY	1-31 Dec
S-1	1stLt R. A. GRANT	1-31 Dec
S-2	1stLt D. J. HERNANDEZ	1-31 Dec
S-3	Maj J. R. SWEENEY	1-31 Dec
S-4	Capt R. W. KNIGHT Capt M. E. RICH	1-27 Dec 28-31 Dec
S-5	2dLt J. P. C. FLOYD	1-31 Dec
Comm Officer	Maj C. H. GREISEN Capt J. M. HARTNETT	1-27 Dec 28-31 Dec
MT Officer	1stLt E. M. MYERS	1-31 Dec
Supply Officer	1stLt S. K. CUTHBERT	1-31 Dec
Medical Officer	Lt R. D. MCARTOR	1-31 Dec
Chaplain	LtCdr J. F. SIEBERT	1-31 Dec
H&S Company	1stLt E. M. ELMORE Maj C. H. GREISEN Capt J. M. HARTNETT	1 Dec 2-27 Dec 28-31 Dec
Company "E"	Capt D. M. SAMS	1-31 Dec
Company "F"	Capt M. E. RICH Capt R. W. KNIGHT	1-27 Dec 28-31 Dec
Company "G"	Capt P. V. BARRA	1-31 Dec
Company "H"	Capt R. W. ELLISON	1-31 Dec

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Section II - S-1 Chronology

1. General. During this reporting period, the officer strength has increased. Ten officers were joined and seven were transferred. The enlisted strength has increased by 121, having joined 332 enlisted and dropped 211, but a critical shortage still exists in staff non-commissioned officers primarily in occupational field 03. There are only 21 on the rolls and there is an expected loss of nine during the month of January. Only 12 staff non-commissioned officers in occupational field 03 will remain in the battalion at the end of Jan 1968 out of a T/O of 34 if replacements are not forthcoming. The non-effectives at the end of the reporting period total 107 enlisted and no officers. Losses for the forthcoming month are expected to be three officers and 62 enlisted by rotation to CONUS.

a. Strength. The average monthly strength for the period ending 31 Dec 1967 was as follows:

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
45	1148	3	53

Note: Percentage of T/O was not quite 100%

b. Losses.

	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
Hostile	2	30	0	1
Non-hostile	1	8	0	0
Admin	4	173	0	0

Note: The above figures include only those personnel dropped from the rolls. For total casualties see the Medical Chronology.

(1) Of the battle casualties, two were KIA, and 31 were WIA. The 31 WIA were transferred by service record to Camp Snodley D. Butler, as were the nine non-hostile casualties listed above.

(2) Of the administrative losses, two officers were transferred intra-division, one officer rotated and one officer was transferred to Camp Butler by service record while on TAD. Thirty-one enlisted were transferred intra-division and 142 rotated to CONUS.

c. Administration.

(1) State of Morale. Morale remains outstanding.

(2) Significant Activities of Personnel Service. During the month of December the following articles were received and distributed to personnel: 1234 Red Cross Christmas bags, 1060 cigarette lighters, 1438 ball point pens, 1008 White Owl Cigar Gift Boxes and approximately 1500 Christmas packages from various organizations in the United States.

(3) Promotions. One-hundred one Lance Corporals were promoted to Corporal, 78 Privates First Class were promoted to Lance Corporal and 15 Privates were promoted to Private First Class.

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~

d. Discipline, Law and Order. Four Summary Courts-Martial were completed. Three personnel were awarded NJP by the Battalion Commander.

e. Mail. Mail service has been satisfactory. Even though the volume of mail has been enormous due to Christmas packages received, letter mail has arrived promptly.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Section III - S-2 Chronology

1. General. During the period 1 Dec to 31 Dec 1967, the 2d Battalion, 9th Marines participated in two offensive operations under OPCON of the Ninth Marines and the Third Marines.

From 1 Dec to 24 Dec 1967, the battalion participated in Operation KENTUCKY V under OPCON of the Ninth Marines. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines was assigned a mission to sweep north of the "Trace". Also included was the mission of providing security for the construction of A-3 vic (YD 175723). The latter was accomplished by constructing a perimeter north of A-3 at vic (YD 170730) which provided a base for aggressive patrolling to the north and northeast.

On 24 Dec 1967, the battalion reverted back to the control of the Third Marines and returned to Camp J. J. Carroll vic (YD 063552) to assume the missions of providing part of the perimeter defense at Camp J. J. Carroll and providing security at the Khe Gia Bridge vic (YD 026562) and "Delta-5" vic (YD 093513).

On 27 Dec 1967, Companies "G" and "F" moved to Cam Lo vic (YD 142614) under the operational control of the Ninth Marines with the mission of providing perimeter security at C-3 as well as security at the Cam Lo Bridge vic (YD 148604).

2. Area.

a. General. The area of operation from 1 to 24 Dec 1967 was located generally in the northeastern portion of the Ninth Marines AO. This area can best be described as piedmont, consisting of many large abandoned rice paddies and several areas of dense vegetation.

Prominent terrain features in this area include Hill 158 (Nui Con Thien) vic (YD 115702), the "Trace" running east from Con Thien to the artillery outpost at Gio Linh vic (YD 214743), Hill 31 vic (YD 170714), Hill 28 vic (YD 171730), and a very prominent ridge-line running east to west, north of the "Trace" from vic (YD 180747) to vic (YD 163737). All of these features, with the exception of the lower portions of the "Trace", afford excellent observation over the entire area.

The area of operation from 25 to 31 Dec 1967 centered in the vicinity of Camp J. J. Carroll vic (YD 063574). This operating area is bounded on the north by the southern boundary of the DMZ, on the east generally by the 09 north-south grid line, and on the west generally by the 00 north-south grid line as far south as Nui Ba Ho vic (YD 014510) where the boundary cuts east and south to the Dong Ngan area vic (YD 096449). The area generally north of Ba Long vic (YD 150400) serves as the southern boundary of the operating area.

Prominent terrain features in the area include Dong Ha Mountain at vic (YD 017594), which affords observation over the entire area. Cutting the operating area into two segments is the Cam Lo River, running east from vic (YD 000561) to vic (YD 090595). During periods of heavy precipitation, this river will be difficult to cross and will isolate the northern portion of the AO. In both segments, most of the operating area is rugged and mountainous; a 20' to 50' canopy exists in the higher regions. In the low rolling foothills, thick brush makes movement difficult. Also worthy of note in the operating area is the Cua Valley which contains over 90% of the civilians living in the area.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

On 27 December, Companies "G" and "F" moved to an operating area surrounding Cam Lo. This area is bounded by C-2 vic (YD 135645) on the north, generally by the 17 north-south grid line on the east, the 08 north-south grid line on the west, and the Cam Lo River on the south. Prominent in this area is the Cam Lo River, Hill 43 vic (YD 163634) in the northeast corner of the operating area, the MSR which is cleared of brush 100 to 300 meters back on either side, and Hill 52 vic (YD 132635), on the northern finger of which is positioned C-2. Dong Ha Mountain and Hill 162 vic (YD 070635) are also prominent in that they provide observation over the entire area. Throughout this operating area, low but extremely dense brush will be encountered with the exception of the open paddies in the populated areas along the river and a few dense treelines with 10' to 15' canopy in the vicinity of Hill 43.

b. Trafficability. Trafficability throughout the three operating areas ranges from good to excellent.

In the area of operation from 1 December to 24 December, located in the northeastern portion of the Ninth Marines' AO, difficulty in movement was encountered only in the heavily vegetated areas east of Phu Oc vic (YD 145695), the ridgeline north of the "Trace" vic (YD 153725), and in the prominent east-west ridgeline at the southern boundary of the DMZ running from vic (YD 182747) to vic (YD 163737); these areas are primarily on high ground. Another difficulty encountered throughout the area was the numerous flooded rice paddies. Avenues of approach into this area include the MSR running from Cam Lo to Con Thien, Route #1 running from Dong Ha Combat Base vic (YD 245594) to Gio Linh, and the prominent east-west trail running from Route #1 vic (YD 212696) to the MSR vic (YD 121688) passing through Phu Oc vic (YD 144697), Lac Son vic (YD 156701), and Phu Tho vic (YD 179699). The "Trace" also affords access into the northern portion of the operating area, as does Route #566 from Route #1 vic (YD 214726) to the forward outpost at A-3 vic (YD 175723). Enemy avenues of approach include a vast network of well-used trails and roads throughout the operating area. Route #561 running from the southern boundary of the DMZ vic (YD 158741) to the northern edge of the "Trace" at Hill 88 vic (YD 154741) is the primary access route. The north-south road running from Cam Son vic (YD 085754) to Xuan Hoa vic (YD 100700) is also worthy of note.

In the area around Camp J. J. Carroll, trafficability is afforded by Route #9 and a vast network of lesser roads and numerous trails. Movement here is directly influenced by the weather. Prolonged heavy rains will swell streams hampering foot and vehicular traffic on secondary roads and occasionally on Route #9.

In the operating area around Cam Lo, trafficability is afforded principally by the MSR to Con Thien. Secondary roads and a vast network of trails exist throughout this area. In some sections of the operating area the density of the vegetation dictates that these trails be used by foot traffic.

c. Weather. Weather for the greater part of the reporting period followed the expected seasonal trend due to the presence of the Northeast Monsoon. A weather summary for the reporting period is as follows.

Maximum Temperature	82
Minimum Temperature	47
Total Rainfall (Inches)	19.63
Number of Days Without Rain	20
Visibility (Average)	5 Miles
Winds (Average)	12 Knots
Humidity (Average)	87%

UNCLASSIFIED

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~3. Enemy Situation.

a. General. Enemy units operating in the Ninth Marines AO during the reporting period were made up mainly of elements of the 803rd and 90th Regiments of the 324B NVA Division. Their area of operation stretches from the northeastern corner of the Third Marines AO along the northern portion of the Ninth Marines' AO, where forward positions are maintained from the northern edge of the "Trace" on into the DMZ. Captured documents indicate that the current mission of these units is to construct and maintain these forward positions. Making up these units are well-fed and well-clothed troops supplied with abundant small arms ammunition and adequate mortar and artillery support from farther north. Also worthy of note is the suspected presence of elements of the 27th Independent Battalion believed to be located on the northern side and in close proximity to Route #9. This unit is also believed to have a company working in the area east of C-2. The mission of the 27th Independent Battalion appears to be interdiction along the major supply routes (MSR, Route #9) utilizing mining tactics. The presence of a local force company is also suspected with a base of operations south of Route #9 in the Cam Lo area.

As previously noted, the NVA units working in the northern portion of the Third Marines' AO are of the same parent units as those in the Ninth Marines' AO with the possible addition of elements of the 812th Regiment in the northwest corner of the Third Marines' operating area. These elements maintain positions along the southern boundary of the DMZ. Principal local force units in the Third Marines operating area include a suspected company in and around the "Delta-5" area vic (YD 1052).

b. Significant Enemy Activity. In the Ninth Marines' AO, enemy activity continued at about the same level throughout the month. In the aftermath of the heavy contact on 30 November involving Second Battalion, Ninth Marines and an estimated battalion of NVA, the enemy activity changed mainly to the use of mortar, rocket, and artillery attacks on USMC units in the vicinity of A-3. Several other ground actions occurred, however. Of significance was Company "G's" contact with an estimated NVA platoon on 5 December at vic (YD 183742) and a sweep by ARVN units on 9 December north of the "Trace" to the Ben Hai River which resulted in a very heavy contact.

In the Third Marines' AO, enemy activity remained light. Significant activity revolved around intelligence reports of enemy local force movement and occasional sightings of small NVA units. Three contacts and four mining incidents were reported for the month.

4. VC/NVA Casualties.

VC/NVA KIA (C)	12
VC/NVA KIA (P)	6

5. Enemy Equipment Destroyed or Captured.

AK-47s	2
AK-47 rounds	1080
RPG rounds	6
ChiCom grenades	25
ChiCom claymore mines	7
7.62 rounds	400
ChiCom anti-tank mines	2
82mm mortar rds	6
60mm mortar rds	12

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

UNCLASSIFIED

5-2

82mm mortar primers	12
RPG primers	2
60mm mortar fuses	3
500 lb bombs (booby-trapped)	2
Blasting caps	15
RPG tool kit	1
C-4 (blocks)	2
NVA entrenching tools	4
NVA rain gear	4
NVA packs	6
NVA utilities	3
NVA gas masks	1
NVA helmets	2
Documents	1
Rice (pounds)	120
Bunkers	78
Mortar positions	2

6. VC/NVA Initiated Incidents. During the reporting period, VC/NVA initiated a total of (37) incidents in the Second Battalion, Ninth Marines area of operation. These incidents are broken down as follows:

Small Arms Contacts	5
Mortar, Rocket, Artillery	31
Mining and Booby-traps	1

7. Sources of Intelligence. Intelligence information for the reporting period was gathered from the following sources: S-2, 9th Marines; S-2, 3d Marines; 3d Force Recon Company; Company "G", 3d Recon Battalion; ground forces working in the area; and Kit Carson Scouts.

8. Surveillance Devices. Six Starlight Scopes were employed extensively during the reporting period on night ambushes, LPs, and perimeter defense. All scopes are in good working order. Also, four SIDs were employed around the defensive perimeter at Camp J. J. Carroll.

9. Comments and Conclusions. Enemy activity in the Ninth Marines area of operation continued throughout the reporting period at a steady rate. It is expected that enemy units operating north of the "Trace" will continue to take advantage of the inclement weather to construct positions in that area should the intensity of friendly activity decrease.

In the Third Marines' AO, the enemy will again take advantage of the inclement weather to infiltrate small NVA elements through the area and to give added cover to local force unit operations.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Section IV. - S-3 Chronology

1. General. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines participated in Operation KENTUCKY under OPCON of the 9th Marines from 1 Dec 1967 to 24 Dec 1967. From 25 Dec to 31 Dec 1967, 2d Battalion, 9th Marines participated in Operation LANCASTER under OPCON of the 3d Marines. On 1 Dec 1967, 2d Battalion, 9th Marines was at vic (YD 150725) being resupplied and consolidating the position after a heavy enemy contact the previous day. On 2 Dec 1967, the battalion moved to a position at vic (YD 170731) IAW 9th Marines FragO #7 (Operation KENTUCKY), with the mission of securing and defending that position. The battalion remained in this position until 9 Dec 1967, conducting extensive patrolling and ambushing. On 9 Dec 1967, the battalion moved to vic (YD 162737) and occupied a blocking position for an ARVN operation to the east. The battalion returned to vic (YD 170731) on the same day, and resumed its patrolling and ambushing activities. The battalion remained in this position until 24 Dec 1967, when 3d Marines assumed OPCON of the battalion and 2d Battalion, 9th Marines moved to Camp J. J. Carroll by motor march. On 25 Dec 1967, the battalion assumed responsibility for a portion of the 3d Marines' perimeter at Camp J. J. Carroll. On 28 Dec 1967, the battalion also assumed responsibility for the defense of the Khe Gia Bridge vic (YD 026561) and "D-5" vic (YD 094514) and OPCON of CAP-5 vic (YD 098523). The battalion continued these responsibilities until 31 Dec 1967. On 29 Dec 1967, Co "F", Co "G", and Command Group "D" reported for OPCON to the 9th Marines and moved to the Cam Lo artillery position vic (YD 143614) to provide security for that position and the Cam Lo Bridge vic (YD 148604). They stayed at these positions through 31 Dec 1967.

2. Company "E". 2d Battalion, 9th Marines. On 1 Dec 1967, Company "E" occupied part of the battalion perimeter at vic (YD 150725) and conducted security patrols. On 2 Dec 1967, Company "E" moved to vic (YD 170731) with the rest of the battalion and manned a sector of the defensive perimeter at that position. From 2 Dec to 9 Dec 1967, Company "E" conducted patrols and ambushes from that position. On 9 Dec 1967, Company "E" moved with the rest of the battalion to vic (YD 162737) as part of a battalion blocking force, and returned to vic (YD 170731) on the same day. From 10 Dec to 20 Dec 1967, Company "E" conducted patrols and ambushes from this position. On 20 Dec 1967, Company "E" reported for OPCON to 1st Battalion, 3d Marines to provide security for the position at "A-3" vic (YD 177720). On 24 Dec 1967, Company "E" reported for OPCON back to 2d Battalion, 9th Marines and moved to Camp J. J. Carroll with the remainder of the battalion. Company "E" conducted security patrols until 28 Dec 1967, when two platoons went to "D-5" vic (YD 094514) and one platoon went to the Khe Gia Bridge vic (YD 026561) to provide security for those positions. The company remained in these two positions until 31 Dec 1967.

3. Company "F". 2d Battalion, 9th Marines. On 1 Dec 1967, Company "F" occupied part of the battalion perimeter at vic (YD 150725) and conducted security patrols. On 2 Dec 1967, Company "F" moved to vic (YD 170731) with the battalion and manned a sector of the defensive perimeter at that position. From 2 Dec to 9 Dec 1967, Company "F" conducted patrols and ambushes from that position. On 9 Dec 1967, Company "F" moved with the rest of the battalion to vic (YD 162737) as part of a battalion blocking force, and then returned to vic (YD 170731) on the same day. From 10 Dec to 24 Dec 1967, Company "F" conducted patrols and ambushes from this position. On 24 Dec 1967, Company "F" moved to Camp J. J. Carroll with the other units of the battalion. From 25 Dec to 29 Dec 1967, Company "F" manned a portion of the 3d Marines' perimeter at Camp J. J. Carroll and provided a daily road sweep security. On 29 Dec 1967, Company "F" moved to the Cam Lo artillery position vic (YD 143614) with Company "G" and Command Group "D" and manned the perimeter at that position until 31 Dec 1967.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

4. Company "G", 2d Battalion, 9th Marines. On 1 Dec 1967, Company "G" occupied part of the battalion perimeter at vic (YD 150725) and conducted security patrols. On 2 Dec 1967, Company "G" moved to vic (YD 170731) with the other units of the battalion and manned a sector of the defensive perimeter at that position. From 2 Dec to 9 Dec 1967, Company "G" conducted patrols and ambushes from that position. On 9 Dec 1967, Company "G" moved with the remainder of the battalion to vic (YD 162737) as part of a battalion blocking force, and then returned to vic (YD 170731) on the same day. From 10 Dec to 24 Dec 1967, Company "G" conducted patrols and ambushes from this position. On 24 Dec 1967, Company "G" moved to Camp J. J. Carroll with the rest of the battalion and conducted security patrols until 29 Dec 1967. On that day, Company "G (-)" moved to the Cam Lo Bridge vic (YD 148604) and provided security for that position. One platoon moved to the Cam Lo artillery position vic (YD 143614) with Company "F" and Command Group "B" and manned part of the defensive perimeter at that position. Company "G" remained at these two positions until 31 Dec 1967.

5. Company "H", 2d Battalion, 9th Marines. On 1 Dec 1967, Company "H" occupied part of the battalion perimeter at vic (YD 150725) and conducted security patrols. On 2 Dec 1967, Company "H" moved to vic (YD 170731) with the rest of the battalion and manned a sector of the defensive perimeter at that position. From 2 Dec to 9 Dec 1967, Company "H" conducted patrols and ambushes from that position. On 9 Dec 1967, Company "H" moved with the remainder of the battalion to vic (YD 162737) as part of a battalion blocking force, and then returned to vic (YD 170731) on the same day. From 10 Dec to 24 Dec 1967, Company "H" conducted patrols and ambushes from this position. On 24 Dec 1967, Company "H" moved to Camp J. J. Carroll with the rest of the battalion. On 25 Dec 1967, Company "H" assumed responsibility for a portion of the perimeter at Camp J. J. Carroll. Company "H" continued to man a portion of that perimeter until 31 Dec 1967. From 29 Dec to 31 Dec 1967, Company "H" also provided a daily road sweep security.

6. H&S Company, 2d Battalion, 9th Marines. From 1 Dec to 24 Dec 1967, H&S Company provided 2 separate command groups for the battalion in the field, and provided normal services and support from the battalion "rear" at Camp J. J. Carroll to the battalion in the field. From 24 Dec 1967 until 29 Dec 1967, H&S Company provided normal services to the battalion at Camp J. J. Carroll. On 29 Dec 1967, approximately one half of H&S Company moved to the Cam Lo artillery position to support Company "F" and Company "G". H&S Company remained displaced in this manner until 31 Dec 1967.

7. Close Combat. During the month of December 1967, 2d Battalion, 9th Marines conducted 12 company, 32 platoon, and 46 squad patrols; 78 squad ambushes; and 30 squad or fire team listening posts and combat outposts.

8. Training. Due to operational commitments and the fact that the battalion was in the field during most of the month, very little formal training was conducted. However, the Artillery Liaison Officer did conduct classes on FO procedures for most of the squad leaders in the battalion to include calling in practice fire missions. 328 replacement personnel received training in accordance with DivO 1510.3B.

9. Fire Support and Support Coordination.

a. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines was provided direct artillery support by Battery "E", 2d Battalion, 12th Marines from 1 Dec to 17 Dec 1967; by Battery "F", 2d Battalion, 12th Marines from 17 Dec to 31 Dec 1967; and from Battery "D", 2d Battalion, 12th Marines from

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

24 Dec to 31 Dec 1967. The 12th Marines provided general support. Tactical and technical fire direction was provided and supervised by Headquarters, 2d Battalion, 12th Marines.

b. Artillery rounds fired during the period 1 Dec to 31 Dec 1967 consisted of 3,953 HE, 336 WP, and 265 illumination rounds fired on targets of opportunity, counter-mortar and preparation fires.

c. From 1 Dec to 31 Dec, 81mm mortars provided organizational support for the battalion firing a total of 8,638 HE, 346 WP and 4 illumination rounds.

d. During the reporting period a training program to familiarize small unit leaders with the techniques of fire adjustment was continued. Three rifle companies participated, having squad leaders calling and adjusting practice fire missions.

e. Artillery support from all supporting batteries was considered satisfactory.

10. Air Support.

a. Medevac. Medevac missions were flown by UH-34 helicopters with UH-1E gunships providing protection. Reaction time was good. Many medevacs were completed in inclement weather which had forced all other helicopters out of the area. Twenty-nine casualties were evacuated from the field. Of that number, three were emergency, eight were priority cases, and sixteen were routine medevacs with an additional two KIAs also carried.

b. Command and Control. Key battalion personnel flew three visual reconnaissance flights in connection with Operation KENTUCKY V.

c. Resupply. UH-34 and UH-46 helicopters flew 112 missions carrying 206,810 pounds of cargo in support of the battalion. There was one emergency resupply mission flown to replace consumed mortar ammunition and medical supplies.

d. Troop Lifts. No helicopter-borne assaults were conducted; however, 195 personnel were carried between Dong Ha and the operational position by resupply helicopters.

e. Fixed Wing.

(1) Marine Air Observers in Marine and Army Ol-C aircraft provided outstanding support. The AO activities included spotting enemy movement and fortified positions, warning Marine patrols of enemy ambushes, and spotting and destroying enemy mortar, rocket, and artillery positions. The AO used fixed wing attack aircraft when available, observed and directed heavy artillery, and observed and directed battalion 81mm mortar missions.

(2) Numerous air strikes were controlled by AOs in support of the battalion. Many of the air strikes were of mutual benefit to this and other battalions in the area. The majority of the strikes were scrambled by the AOs to hit targets of opportunity rather than being fraggged by the battalion to hit suspected areas.

(3) Numerous TPQ targets were submitted in coordination with FSCC.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Section V - S-4 Chronology

1. General. The logistical support has been adequate to meet the needs of the battalion. There are still problem areas in Supply, Motor Transport, Comm-Elect and Ordnance.

a. Supply. Significant shortages are, (365) Air Mattresses, (83) Wrist Watches and (568) First Aid Kits.

b. Ordnance. Currently the following ordnance items are dead-lined: (1) Mount for 106MM Rifle; (1) Flamethrower Portable M9-7; (4) Shotgun, 12 Gauge; and (2) M-60 Machine Guns. The following ordnance items are on order on priority 02: (1) Complete 106MM Rifle; (4) Flamethrower, Portable M9-7; (5) Shotguns, 12 Gauge; (10) Launcher, Grenade, M-79; and (2) M-60 Machine Guns.

c. Motor Transport. At present there are no vehicles dead-lined for 2d or 3d echelon maintenance. Truck Utility (M422A1): (11) are operational, and (9) are Code X and on order Priority 02. Trailer 1/4 Ton M416B1: (18) are operational. Truck Platform (M274A2): (30) are operational. Truck Cargo (M37B1): All (4) are operational. Difficulty is being experienced in obtaining bearings and spark plugs for the M422A1.

d. Comm-Elect. Critical shortage for the AN/PRC-41 and AN/PRC-47 are BB-451 batteries. Comm-Elect rates (24) BB-451s, but only have (8) operational due to the lack of menoblocks, which have been on order since 13 August 1967. Also a shortage of AN/PRC-25 long antenna bases, and short antennas. AN/PRC-25 modules, particularly the A-2, A-10, A-17, A-18, A-20, and A-22, are required to bring the 2d echelon spare parts to operating level. Shortage for the AN/PRC-47 are battery adapters which have been on order since 4 May 1967 and 23 October 1967.

e. Supporting Units.

- (1) FLSU-1 provided the bulk of the logistical support.
- (2) EOD support was provided by the 11th Engineers.
- (3) Engineer support came from the 11th Engineers.
- (4) Truck support was provided by the 9th Motor Transport Battalion and was coordinated through them.
- (5) Helicopter support was received from MAG-16 and was coordinated through the 9th Marines during this reporting period.

2. Camp Development. During this reporting period, space heaters were installed in company warming tents, company offices, and staff section offices. The battalion mess hall is still awaiting construction.

3. Operations. The battalion took part in Operation KENTUCKY V during part of this reporting period and in Operation LANCASTER during part.

4. Troop Movement. During this reporting period, 84 trucks moved 1,483 troops in 4 lifts.

5. Logistical Lifts. During this reporting period, 206,810 pounds of supplies were moved by helicopters in 112 lifts. Also, during this reporting period, 61 trucks moved 183,000 pounds of supplies in 31 lifts and 93 track vehicles moved 129,500 pounds in 28 lifts.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

6. Armo Expenditure for the Month of December.

<u>NOMENCLATURE</u>	<u>EXPENDED</u>
7.62mm Linked	10,400
Cal .45 Ball	215
5.56mm Ball	35,370
40mm HE	2,158
60mm HE	602
60mm Illum	10
60mm WP	113
81mm HE	8,392
81mm WP	336
81mm Illum	2
Grenade, Hand Frag M26	424
Grenade, Hand Smoke, WP	10
Rocket, 66mm HEAT	95
Rocket, 3.5 HEAT	2
Demo, C-4 M37 Kits	57
Flares, Surface Trip	56
Cap, Blasting, Non-Elect	35
Signal Illum, Ground, Green Star Cluster	407
Signal Illum, Ground, Red Star Para	304
Signal Illum, Ground, White Star Para	346
Grenade, Hand Tear Gas	7

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Section VI - S-5 Chronology1. Civil Affairs.

a. General. During the first 24 days of December, control of the battalion's civil affairs program was assumed by the S-5, Third Marine Regiment, due to operational commitments of the 2d Battalion, 9th Marines. The battalion's primary concern is the twin village of Cam Chinh/Cam Nghia vic (YD 1053), population 4,000. The villages contain a total of four hamlets, two of which are primarily resettlement hamlets. The people of these hamlets farm a very fertile area in the Cua Valley, and grow most of their own foodstuffs. Medical assistance is available from the corpsmen in CAP-5 at daily MEDCAPs and once a week from the battalion surgeon when the battalion is at Camp J. J. Carroll. Access to the area is the biggest problem, since the road is easily washed out by seasonal rains and occasionally mired, as it was 6 Dec 1967.

b. Civic Action Projects. All attention was directed and continues to be directed towards the reconstruction of a large school building which has been vacant since a day three years ago when it was partially destroyed by VC mortar fire. The villagers have completed rebuilding the cement walls and building the heavy wooden framework for the roof. The roof has been half-covered with galvanized steel sheeting. The school grounds have been weeded and cleaned up, and soon it is our hope that classes will resume in this building. The villagers have all the material needed for work on the school and its completion should be seen soon. Projects in the future are a village bulletin board, a Tet party, the rebuilding of the market place, and improvement of the village dispensary.

c. MEDCAPs. There were no MEDCAPs this month due to operational commitments.

d. Solatum. There were no solatium payments necessary this month.

2. Psychological Warfare. The battalion made several efforts in this field while on Operation KENTUCKY V. We requested and received several Chieu Hoi leaflet drops. Our own Chieu Hoi conducted an energetic campaign to reach the NVA in the field with their message. Personal notes to the enemy from our Chieu Hoi were left on patrols all around the area and after contacts. An HB team (Broadcast) was requested and received on 19 Dec 1967. It was utilized by our ARVN Interpreter and Chieu Hoi, who speak live over the loudspeaker to the enemy. The tapes provided in the team were not used due to inflexibility and poor sound quality. Messages appropriate to different tactical situations were drafted and read when the situation called for them. An example is a direct Chieu Hoi appeal to enemy mortarmen which was broadcast whenever our position was mortared. Broadcasts were made primarily at night, due to higher enemy activity, better sound carrying quality, and greater psychological impact. Unfortunately, due to several failures in the equipment, cumulative broadcast time was only five hours.

UNCLASSIFIEDSection VII. - Communications Chronology

1. General. The communication platoon furnished radio, wire, message center, repair and maintenance support for the battalion during the month of December. The battalion moved from Camp J. J. Carroll for part of Operation KENTUCKY V, so the platoon maintained communications between the battalion forward and the battalion rear by radio. Electric power for the battalion rear was supplied by the 11th Engineer Battalion.

2. Support. The communications platoon supported the 3d Battalion 9th Marines with one RC-292 and one remote AN/GRA-39. This battalion supported "E" Battery, 12th Marines with two AN/PRC-25s and 2d echelon repair and batteries. The message center supported the battalion and company CP groups by providing courier service of shackle sheets.

3. Wire Communications. The wire section supported the battalion with wire communications in the field and in the rear. While on Operation KENTUCKY V this section maintained a switchboard with phones to each of the companies, 8ls, COC, and FSOC. Also, the section provided phone service for the battalion rear.

4. Training. Formal instruction was given on proper radio procedure, use of shackles, preventative maintenance and proper procedure for the switchboard.

5. Difficulties. A critical shortage of repair parts for the AN/PRC-25 continues. The inability of FLSU-1 to provide a more rapid repair service for equipment has meant the battalion has had (7) seven AN/PRC-25s in for repair since 21 Aug 1967.

UNCLASSIFIED

Section VIII - Medical Chronology

1. General. During the month of December, the BAS held military sick call for 708 Marine Corps personnel. MEDCAP was not held during the month due to operational commitments. The battalion was absent from Camp J. J. Carroll for 24 days in December.
2. Sanitation. Routine sanitation inspections of the battalion area were made. Some problems with trash collection were encountered during the month due to lack of a truck for hauling trash, but this problem has been corrected. There is a rat problem at present at D-5, but steps are being taken to poison and/or trap the rats. Spraying of heads and the mess hall was done on a weekly basis. There was no fly problem during the month.
3. Disease, Injuries and Treatments in General. The BAS continues to maintain a ten bed ward for minor injuries. This ward enables the BAS to render more effective treatment for minor injuries that require a short period of bed rest. Personnel requiring more extensive treatment are referred to 3d Medical Battalion for hospitalization, treatment, and for possible further evacuation. Most of the ill's treated at the BAS for the month of December were of a routine nature. There were no new cases of malaria. The battalion remains on a weekly Primaquine-Chloroquine tablet as a preventive against malaria, plus utilization of insect repellent. Most diseases treated were diarrhea, colds, and a variety of skin infections.
4. Casualties and Hospitalization. There were 23 personnel from the battalion hospitalized at the BAS during December. There were 2 KIAs, and 29 WIAs during the month. Outpatient treatment consisted of 150 fungal infections, 5 fever unknown origin, 131 diarrhea, 4 hyperventilation, 13 cellulitis, 29 miscellaneous contusion injuries, and 78 colds.
5. Training. Orientation lectures were given to newly-joined personnel. The subject matter included personal hygiene, self-aid and buddy-aid, venereal disease prevention, and care and protection of the feet. Five hours of in-service training was given to Hospital Corps personnel during the month. Subjects included lab procedures, general sick call indoctrination, immunizations, and use of serum albumin.
6. Complement of BAS. At the close of the month, the BAS had a complement of 1 medical officer and 63 hospital corpsmen. There are 4 petty officers attached to the BAS at this time. There were 27 hospital corpsmen joined during the month.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Section IX - Chaplain's Chronology

1. During the month of December, general prayer was offered with all hands in the field while the battalion was out on Operation KENTUCKY V near the DMZ. Lieutenant Commander FOGARTY, 9th Marines Regimental Chaplain, visited one Saturday to give absolution and Communion to all Roman Catholic personnel. Upon returning from the field to Camp J. J. Carroll, the 2d Battalion, 9th Marines held divine Christmas Services for both Roman Catholic and Protestant personnel. Lieutenant Commander MCMORROW of 1st Battalion, 12th Marines held Christmas Mass, while the battalion chaplain conducted the Protestant Christmas Service. Christmas gifts, cards and letters were received and distributed by the battalion chaplain to all hands. On Sunday, 31 December, Divine Services were held for both Catholic and Protestant personnel.

HEADQUARTERS
 2d Battalion, 9th Marines
 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
 FPO San Francisco 96602

1/HES/hdn
 1080
2 Dec 1967

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF (Attn: SC-1)
 Subj: Personnel ^{DAILY} Weekly Summary

1. The below information is correct for the period ending 2400, 1 Dec 1967

	ON HAND STRENGTH				NON*EFFECTIVES			
	USMC		USN		USMC		USN	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
H&S	18	273	2	47	2	17	0	6
"E"	5	188	0	0	0	30	0	0
"F"	4	192	0	0	0	47	0	0
"G"	5	190	0	0	0	54	0	0
"H"	5	193	0	0	2	57	0	0
TOTAL	37	1036	2	47	4	205	0	6

ATTACHMENTS:

TOTAL ATTACHMENTS:

DETACHMENTS:

TOTAL DETACHMENTS:

By direction

HEADQUARTERS
 2d Battalion, 9th Marines
 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
 FPO San Francisco 96602

1/HES/hdn
 1080
8 Dec 1967

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF (Attn: SC-1)
 Subj: Personnel ^{DAILY} Weekly Summary

1. The below information is correct for the period ending 2400, 7 Dec 1967

	ON HAND STRENGTH				NON-EFFECTIVES			
	USMC		USN		USMC		USN	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
H&S	18	275	2	50	3	24	0	5
"E"	5	189	0	0	0	29	0	0
"F"	5	202	0	0	0	46	0	0
"G"	5	204	0	0	0	49	0	0
"H"	6	195	0	0	2	32	0	0
TOTAL								
ATTACHMENTS:	39	1065	2	50	5	180	0	5
TOTAL ATTACHMENTS:								
DETACHMENTS:								
TOTAL DETACHMENTS:								

By direction

HEADQUARTERS
 2d Battalion, 9th Marines
 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
 FPO San Francisco 96602

1/HES/hdn
 1080

15 Dec 1967

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF (Attn: SC-1)
 Subj: Personnel ^{DAILY} Weekly Summary

1. The below information is correct for the period ending 2400, 14 Dec 1967

	ON HAND STRENGTH				NON-EFFECTIVES			
	USMC		USN		USMC		USN	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
H&S	18	278	2	52	2	21	0	6
"E"	6	198	0	0	1	50	0	0
"F"	6	218	0	0	0	43	0	0
"G"	6	211	0	0	1	47	0	0
"H"	6	201	0	0	0	32	0	0
TOTAL	42	1106	2	52	4	193	0	6

ATTACHMENTS:

TOTAL ATTACHMENTS:

DETACHMENTS:

TOTAL DETACHMENTS:

By direction

HEADQUARTERS
 2d Battalion, 9th Marines
 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
 FPO San Francisco 96602

1/HES/hdn
 1080

22 December 1967

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF (Attn: SC-1)
 Subj: Personnel ^{DAILY} Weekly Summary

1. The below information is correct for the period ending 2400, 21 December 1967

	ON HAND STRENGTH				NON-EFFECTIVES			
	USMC		USN		USMC		USN	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
H&S	18	286	2	62	1	29	0	6
"E"	6	218	0	0	0	57	0	0
"F"	6	228	0	0	1	43	0	0
"G"	6	226	0	0	0	50	0	0
"H"	<u>6</u>	<u>215</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	42	1173	2	62	2	217	0	6

ATTACHMENTS:

TOTAL ATTACHMENTS:

DETACHMENTS:

TOTAL DETACHMENTS:

By direction

HEADQUARTERS
 2d Battalion, 9th Marines
 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
 FPO San Francisco 96602

1/HES/hdn
 1080
26 Dec 1967

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF (Attn: SC-1)
~~DAILY~~
 Subj: Personnel Weekly Summary

1. The below information is correct for the period ending 2400, 25 Dec 1967

	ON HAND STRENGTH				NON-EFFECTIVES			
	USMC		USN		USMC		USN	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
H&S	17	281	2	63	0	18	0	6
"E"	6	223	0	0	0	28	0	0
"F"	6	229	0	0	1	44	0	0
"G"	6	229	0	0	0	56	0	0
"H"	6	224	0	0	0	40	0	0
TOTAL	41	1186	2	63	1	186	0	6

ATTACHMENTS:

TOTAL ATTACHMENTS:

DETACHMENTS:

TOTAL DETACHMENTS:

By direction

HEADQUARTERS
 2d Battalion, 9th Marines
 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
 FPO San Francisco 96602

1/HES/hdn
 1080
29 Dec 1967

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF (Attn: SC-1)
 Subj: Personnel ^{DAILY} Weekly Summary

1. The below information is correct for the period ending 2400, 28 Dec 1967

	ON HAND STRENGTH				NON-EFFECTIVES			
	USMC		USN		USMC		USN	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
H&S	18	283	2	63	0	22	0	7
"E"	6	219	0	0	0	40	0	0
"F"	6	225	0	0	1	39	0	0
"G"	6	226	0	0	0	45	0	0
"H"	<u>5</u>	<u>218</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	41	1171	2	63	1	179	0	7

ATTACHMENTS:

TOTAL ATTACHMENTS:

DETACHMENTS:

TOTAL DETACHMENTS:

By direction

HEADQUARTERS
2d Battalion, 9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO San Francisco 96602

1/HES/hdn
1080

1 Jan 68

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF (Attn: SC-1)
Subj: Personnel ^{DAILY}~~Weekly~~ Summary

1. The below information is correct for the period ending 2400, 31 Dec 67

	ON HAND STRENGTH				NON-EFFECTIVES			
	USMC		USN		USMC		USN	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
H&S	18	289	2	63	2	22	0	5
"E"	6	221	0	0	1	46	0	0
"F"	5	223	0	0	0	31	0	0
"G"	6	226	0	0	1	34	0	0
"H"	6	217	0	0	1	26	0	0
TOTAL	41	1176	2	63	5	159	0	5

ATTACHMENTS:

TOTAL ATTACHMENTS:

DETACHMENTS:

TOTAL DETACHMENTS:

By direction