

00926-108

1 of 10

ENCLOSURE

Dav.

HEADQUARTERS

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

294368

3:RML:strt
5750
1 June 1968

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)
 Via: Commanding General, Third Marine Division
 Subj: Command Chronology for Period 1 May 1968 to 31 May 1968
 Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
 (b) FMFPacO 5750.8

Encl: ✓(1) 2d Battalion, 9th Marines Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of reference (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).

FS Knight
F. S. KNIGHT

Copy to:
 1-CO, 4th Marines
 1-CO, 9th Marines
 11-CG, 3rd Marine Division

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
 DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS

2ND BATTALION
9TH MAR

CMD CHRON

MAY 1968

UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS

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

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY1 May 1968 to 31 May 1968INDEX

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Section I - Organizational Data

1. Designation/Location. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines, 31 May 68
 Camp Carroll, Ca Lu, and Quang Tri.

2. Period Covered by Report. 1-31 May 1968.

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

Commanding Officer	LtCol W. M. CRYAN LtCol F. S. KNIGHT	1-13 May 14-31 May
Executive Officer	Maj C. H. JOHNSON	1-31 May
S-1	1stLt R. E. HENSEL	1-31 May
S-2	1stLt J. P. C. FLOYD	1-31 May
S-3	Maj R. M. LOSEE	1-31 May
S-4	Capt M. E. RICH	1-31 May
S-5	1stLt J. L. BURGOYNE	1-31 May
Comm Officer	Capt A. W. PAYNE JR	1-31 May
MT Officer	2dLt J. M. G. MITCHELL	1-31 May
Supply Officer	1stLt C. A. THOMPSON	1-31 May
Medical Officer	Lt J. H. KNIGHT	1-31 May
Chaplain	LtCdr J. F. SIEBERT Lt C. A. TEA JR.	1-10 May 11-31 May
H&S Company	1stLt R. E. HENSEL	1-31 May
Company "E"	Capt D. M. SAMS	1-31 May
Company "F"	Capt R. W. KNIGHT 1stLt A. A. PIERCE	1-20 May 21-31 May
Company "G"	Capt W. S. MACK Capt D. N. BUCKNER	1-18 May 19-31 May
Company "H"	Capt R. W. ELLISON	1-31 May

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Section II - S-1 Chronology

1. General. During the reporting period, the officer strength has decreased and a shortage exists primarily in the occupational field 03. Three officers were joined and six were lost to this organization. The enlisted strength remained rather constant having joined 70 enlisted and dropped 53, and a shortage still exists in staff non-commissioned officers ranks, primarily in the occupational field 03. The non-effectives at the end of the reporting period totals 5 officers and 151 enlisted. Losses for the forthcoming month are expected to be 23 enlisted by rotation to CONUS and 3 officers by intra-division transfer.

a. Strength. The average monthly strength for the period ending 31 May 1968 was as follows:

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
35	1064	2	57

Note: Percentage of T/O was about 92.3%.

b. Losses.

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
Hostile 0	10	0	2
Non-Hostile 0	1	0	0
Admin 6	42	1	6

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

(1) Of the battle casualties, 3 were KIA and 7 were WIA. The 7 were transferred by service record to Camp S.D. BUTLER. Of the non-hostile casualties, 1 died of Malaria complicated by pneumonia.

(2) Of the administrative losses, 3 officers rotated to CONUS and 3 were transferred intra-division, 20 enlisted were transferred intra-division and 22 rotated to CONUS.

c. Administrative:

(1) State of Morale. Excellent.

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(2) Significant Activities of Personal Service. None.

(3) Promotions. Two corporals were promoted to Sergeant meritorious. 39 Lance Corporals were promoted to Corporal, 60 Privates First Class were promoted to Lance Corporal and 6 Privates were promoted to Private First Class.

(4) Discipline, Law and Order. One Summary Court-Martial was completed, 6 persons were awarded NJP by the Battalion Commander.

(5) Mail. Service has been satisfactory.

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Section III - S-2 Chronology

1. General. During the reporting period from 1 May to 31 May the 2nd Battalion, Ninth Marines participated in Operations LANCASTER II and NAPOLEON-SALINE under opcon of the Fourth and Third Marine Regiments. Concurrently, the battalions mission consisted in the first instance of security for Ca Lu Combat Base, LZ Cameo and bridges along Route #9 with saturation patrolling and in the second instance of an offensive operation on the coastal plains southeast of Gio Linh.

Part I - LANCASTER II

General Area. The operating area surrounds Ca Lu vic (YD 01145). The major part of this area is roughly defined by the north and south ridgelines encompassing the Ba Long Valley. On the northern side of the valley this boundary follows an arbitrary line generally southeast from Nui Ba Ho vic (YD 0150) to Dong Ngon vic (YD 0944). Likewise, on the south side of the valley the boundary follows the first prominent ridgeline roughly extending northwest from Hill 410 vic (YD 151411) to its intersection with Route #9. The 50 grid line provides a rough northern boundary and the eastern end is generally defined by the 10 grid line. On 17 May 1968 the operating area was significantly extended to the east as far as the 20 grid line, to the south as far as the Da Krong River and as far west as the 03 grid line.

Terrain. The terrain in this operating area falls into two distinct categories, the first of which is the rugged hills and mountains on either side of the Ba Long Valley and along the Da Krong River. Prominent in these areas are Dong Toan vic (YD 0944) and Dong Ngon vic (YD 0944) as well as the ridgeline of which they are a part. On the south side of the Ba Long Valley, Hill 186 vic (YD 015412), Hill 445 vic (YD 041415) and Nui Sa Ban vic (YD 1236) are prominent. These land masses offer excellent observation over much of the operating area.

Vegetation. Vegetation in this rugged mountainous area is generally a double and/or triple canopy with heavy secondary growth offering excellent concealment to enemy forces harbored there. Some slopes and high ground is covered with tall elephant grass growing to heights of eight to ten feet.

Trafficability. Extremely poor trafficability will be encountered in this portion of the operating area due to the vegetation and steep gradient of land masses. Man made trails are limited to Route #558 which enters the Ba Long Valley at vic (YD 1042) from the Cua Valley to the north and several lesser footpaths. Other means of access, while being tactically unorthodox, are the smaller water courses that flow into the Quang Tri River Catchment. One such stream enters the valley at vic (YD 998446) and another at vic (YD 173424). Foot troops attempting to move through this terrain other than on these access routes will find movement extremely hazardous and at times impossible. Trafficability in the Ba Long Valley itself is excellent with populated villages and cornfields the only slight obstacles.

Avenues of Approach. The principle avenue of approach into and out of Ca Lu is route #9 running north and west. The Quang Tri River running east to west is a riverine avenue of approach except during the seasonal rains. An old French road runs east from Ca Lu into the Ba Long Valley and various lesser footpaths offer varying quality movement.

Weather. Weather conditions during the reporting period typified the end of the transitional period between monsoon and summer months. The first portion of the period was marked by unseasonably heavy daily rains which gradually tapered off and were replaced by expected higher temperatures. A list of weather statistics for the period is as follows

Maximum Temperature	102
Minimum Temperature	68
Humidity	92%
Total Rainfall	5.26 Inches
Number of Days with Rain	15
Average Visibility	6 Miles
Average Winds	7 West

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ENEMY SITUATION. There were a significant number of NVA forces harbored in the Northwestern portion of the operating area. South of the Quang Tri River elements of the 304th Division are still believed to be attempting to interdict Route #9, these elements reinforced by an unknown unit of the 270th Regiment. The latter operates primarily on the northern side of the river and shares a similar mission with the 304th Division. Characteristic of these NVA units is well supplied ground forces supported by such weapons as 107 and 122mm rockets, heavy anti-aircraft weapons, including 37mm guns, plus an abundance of 60mm and 82mm mortars and ammunition.

The village complexes southeast of Ca Lu Combat Base are known to harbor a local force unit of undetermined size. The mission of this unit is the support of transient NVA units by providing foodstuffs, guides and medical attention. Further east in the Ba Long Valley it is believed that there is another unit with a primarily non-combatant mission of guiding transient NVA units south from the Gua Valley into the Ba Long Valley. This unit works in a similar manner to and in close conjunction with the 27th Independent Battalion in the Gua Valley.

Significant Enemy Activity. Heavy enemy activity during the reporting period has generally been confined to the adjacent western area. In conjunction with their mission of interdicting of Route #9 NVA forces continued small actions typified by sniping at convoys and utilizing anti-aircraft weapons against friendly aircraft above Route #9. During the early part of the period there were several rocket attacks on Ca Lu Combat Base utilizing the comparatively new Chicom 107mm rocket. Those attacks originated from the area east of Hill #715 vic (YD 9547).

Enemy Casualties and Personnel Losses.

VC/NVA KIA (C)	N/A
VC/NVA POW	N/A
Detainees	21

Enemy Equipment Destroyed or Captured.

- 10 Bunkers
- 16 Fighting Holes
- 12 60mm Booby Traps
- 1 Chicom Grenade
- 1 Pair NVA Tennis Shoes
- 1 82mm Container for (3) Rounds
- 1 NVA Medical Kit with Extensive Morphine
- 1 NVA Poncho
- 1 NVA Cover

VC/NVA Initiated Incidents. During the reporting period the enemy initiated a total of 13 incidents against the 2nd Battalion, Ninth Marines or subordinate units in the area of operation for LANCASTER II. These incidents are broken down as follows:

- Mortars--3
- Rockets and Artillery--4
- Contacts--1
- Sniping--4
- Mining/Booby Traps--1

Part II - NAPOLEON-SALINE

General Area. The operating area was flat coastal terrain characterized by semi-fixed white sand dunes and typical rice paddy land.

Terrain Features. Terrain features in the area include two large strips of sand dunes running NW-SE which embrace a three thousand meter wide length of rice paddy which is itself generally bisected by "Jones Creek" a meandering stream. The resulting NW-SE corridor is the prominent terrain feature in the entire area. Hill 31, an ARVN position vic (YD 268733), is easily recognized from any position in the area, as is Gio Linh vic (YD 214743), a combined Marine and ARVN position. A resect from these two terrain features will give an accurate fix at any time. Within the rice paddies there are occasional graveyards on slightly elevated and vegetated terrain which are satisfactory defensive positions. Dispersed villages are generally good defensive terrain because of higher elevation and greater concealment provided.

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Trafficability. Trafficability during the operation was outstanding. The lack of heavy vegetation allowed maximum dispersion and easy control of troops.

Vegetation. Vegetation was minimal on the rice paddies except for small plots of wooded areas usually surrounding religious shrines or graveyards. Vegetation on the sand dunes was deceiving however, since the brush weed which seemed spotty from the air massed together considerably on the horizontal line of sight, providing the enemy with fair concealment.

Avenues of Approach. Concurrent with the overall corridor configuration of the terrain in the operating area, the elongated NW-SE rice paddies provided a heavily used avenue of approach for both friendly and enemy troops. The sand dunes on either side of the corridor are less likely avenues due to the decreased traction and lack of any water. The NVA, however, will use the sand dunes for movement due to the greater cover provided by the dune masses themselves.

Weather. Weather during the operation was seasonal transition from Monsoon to summer. Late afternoon showers occurred over two of the four afternoons during the operation. Showers ceased generally at nightfall. Morning heat was extremely high and heat casualties were common.

Maximum Temperature	128
Minimum Temperature	61
Humidity	91%
Number of Days with Rain	2
Average Visibility	12 Miles
Average Winds	7 West

Enemy Situation. The coastal area is a major infiltration route for NVA units. The flat, open terrain provides minimum concealment but maximum speed and ease of movement for rapid large unit infiltration south. A unit could easily move from the DMZ along the corridor south to Dong Ha in one night. There is little small unit activity in this area due to the fact that a large massing of troops will be the only successful method of engagement with American forces on this terrain.

Significant Enemy Activity. During the operation, elements of the Second Battalion, Ninth Marines made contact with two enemy units. The first unit was entrenched in a hastily prepared defensive position along the eastern portion of the western strip of sand dunes. The mission of this unit was undetermined. Prisoners of war generally agreed that the unit had been in the area approximately three days, and it had been infiltrating south. It is suspected that this unit was at least a two company sized element of the 52nd Regiment of the 320th Division, operating generally SE of Gio Linh. The second unit the battalion made contact with was an unknown number of enemy infiltrating at night along "Jones Creek". A friendly LP observed the enemy movement and opened fire. A sweep of the area revealed a heavy machinegun, an M-16, a 3.5 rocket launcher and two 3.5 rocket rounds, indicating a good sized unit. This unit obviously had no knowledge of the battalions presence in the area, which means that it must have moved from a great distance in a short time.

Enemy Casualties and Personnel Losses.

VC/NVA KIA (C)	8
VC/NVA POW	1
Detainees	None

Enemy Equipment Destroyed or Captured.

1 Typo 43 Russian Heavy Machinegun
1 US M-16 Rifle
1 US 3.5 Rocket Launcher
1 US 60mm Illumination Round
2 Typo 56 Drum Magazines
1 Chicom M-59 NBC Detector

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VC/NVA Initiated Incidents. During the reporting period the enemy initiated a total of 6 incidents against the 2nd Battalion, Ninth Marines or subordinate units in the area of operation NAPOLEON-SALINE. These incidents are broken down as follows:

Mortars	1
Rockets and Artillery	1
Contacts	1
Sniping	1
Mine Booby Traps	2

Sources of Intelligence. Intelligence information during the period was gathered from the following sources: S-2, 4th Marines, 3rd Force Recon Battalion, CIT, ITT, Kit Carson Scouts, S-2 Third Marines, Battalion S-2 Scouts and organic ground forces.

Surveillance Devices. Nineteen small starlight scopes were employed extensively during the period on ambushes, LP's and perimeter defense. In addition, 6 PPS-6's were utilized on the perimeter at Ca Lu Combat Base and at LZ Cameo, plus 3 NOD's.

Training. During the reporting period the Intelligence section was called upon four times to train newly joined Marines in enemy tactics, field intelligence, terrain, weather and enemy situation order of battle in our operating area. In addition several classes were conducted by Intelligence personnel on the capabilities of enemy ordnance and ambush tactics.

Comments and Conclusions.

During the reporting period the Second Battalion, Ninth Marines met enemy forces in two different operating areas. In the Ca Lu area, enemy activity is peripheral with little impact on the combat base itself. The enemy maintains a continuing capability to harass and/or interdict traffic along route #9 west of Ca Lu at any time. The enemy can harass Ca Lu or LZ Stud with rockets at any time. The Napoleon-Saline area, because of its high trafficability, is a major infiltration route for large NVA units. It is also a fruitful area for large unit confrontation with conventional warfare techniques for the same reason.

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1. General. 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines participated in Operation LANCASTER II from 1 May until 26 May and Napoleon-Saline from 26 May until 31 May 1968.

2. Company "E", 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines. From 1 May to 26 May E/2/9 was responsible for defending the northern half of the perimeter at Landing Zone Cameo vic (YD 998480). E/2/9 also had its first platoon occupying and defending a radio relay station at vic (YD 997480). E/2/9 also provided security by conducting daily squad size patrols, ambushes and roadsweeps. Continuous progress was made at LZ Cameo by improving the perimeter wire and fighting holes. On 26 May E/2/9 chopped to 3rd Battalion, Ninth Marines at 0900 and then was helilifted to vic (YD 273667) chopping back to 2nd Battalion, Ninth Marines at 1200 for an offensive operation in the Napoleon-Saline area.

3. Company "F", 2nd Battalion, Ninth Marines. From 1 May to 26 May, F/2/9 was responsible for defending and improving the western half of the Ca Lu perimeter vic (YD 014455). It provided close in security of Route #9 by conducting daily squad sized patrols, ambushes and road sweeps. On 20 May, F/2/9 conducted a cordon and search operation southeast of Ca Lu. On 26 May F/2/9 took over perimeter defense of LZ Cameo until 31 May 1968.

4. Company "G", 2nd Battalion, Ninth Marines. From 1 May to 26 May, G/2/9 provided security for the northwestern portion of the Ca Lu perimeter, OP Texas vic (YD 005461) and the two bridges at vic (YD 005470) and (YD 008465). It provided close in security by conducting squad sized ambushes and patrols. On 26 May G/2/9 was helilifted to vic (YD 273667) to participate in Operation Napoleon-Saline.

5. Company "H", 2nd Battalion, Ninth Marines. From 1 May until 26 May, H/2/9 was responsible for the defense of the southern half of LZ Cameo. It provided close in security by conducting squad sized patrols, ambushes and road sweeps. On 20 May, H/2/9 assisted F/2/9 in a cordon and search operation southeast of Ca Lu. On 26 May H/2/9 was helilifted to vic (YD 273667) to participate in Operation Napoleon-Saline.

6. H&S Company, 2nd Battalion, Ninth Marines. From 1 May to 31 May, H&S/2/9 provided normal service for the battalion operating out of Ca Lu and LZ Cameo. Command Group "A" also participated in Operation Napoleon-Saline from 26-31 May. Command Group "B" remained at LZ Cameo.

7. Close Combat. On 20 May a two company cordon and search operation in a Vietnamese village southeast of Ca Lu netted 21 detainees, some of which have been identified as confirmed VC. On 26 May Command Group "A" and Companies "E", "G" and "H" participated in Operation Napoleon-Saline, attacking north from vic (YD 273667) to vic of (YD 257710) where the battalion came under intense enemy small arms, mortars and artillery fire and sustained moderate casualties. Maintaining a battalion perimeter and protecting the rear and flanks of 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines as it continued the attack the battalion remained at (YD 257710) until 31 May.

8. Training. Due to operational commitments very little formal training was conducted. 39 replacement personnel received training in accordance with DIVO 1510.3B.

9. Fire Support and Fire Support Coordination.

a. Second Battalion, Ninth Marines was provided direct artillery support in the Fourth Marine area by First Battalion, 12th Marines

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from 1 May to 26 May and 31 May. The following batteries were under the operational control of First Battalion, 12th Marines and furnished fire support to Second Battalion, Ninth Marines while at Ca Lu: Whiskey Battery First Battalion, 13th Marines (1 May to 31 May), Whiskey Battery Second Battalion, 11th Marines (12 May to 26 May and 31 May), 155mm Provisional Battery, Third Battalion, 12th Marines (1 May to 17 May) and an 8" platoon from 12th Marines provided reinforcing fire (1 May to 26 May). Both tactical and technical control were provided by First Battalion, 12th Marines except for those batteries at Ca Lu who provided their own technical control.

b. Second Battalion, Ninth Marines employment of Artillery in the Fourth Marines area resulted in the following round expenditure: 2165 HE, 169 WP, 81 Illumination and 6 Smoke. Nature of targets included prep fires, counter-rocket fires, night defensive fires and practice missions.

c. Second Battalion, Ninth Marines was provided direct artillery support in the Third Marines area by Battery "H", Third Battalion, 12th Marines from 26 May to 31 May. Battery "I", Third Battalion, 12th Marines and Battery "B", First Battalion, 13th Marines furnished general support during this period. The utilization of artillery resulted in the following round expenditure: 337 HE and 36 WP. Tactical control was provided by Third Battalion, 12th Marines and technical control was provided by the batteries. Nature of targets included prep fires and NVA in the open.

d. The employment of the artillery in the Fourth Marines area was considered satisfactory. However, the fire support in the Third Marines area was considered unsatisfactory due to the excessive delay (20 to 30 Minutes) encountered while awaiting the initial rounds of each mission.

e. Organizational support was provided by 81mm mortars during the month. The following round expenditure resulted: 2362 HE, 156 WP and 268 Illumination in the Fourth Marines area; and 825 HE and 15 Illumination in the Third Marines area. When called upon the 81mm mortar platoon reacted quickly and effectively.

10. Air Support.

a. Medevacs. 111 medevacs were transported to rear areas by helicopters.

b. Command and Control. None.

c. Resupply. 115,258 pounds of supplies were lifted into forward areas by rotary wing aircraft.

d. Troop Lifts. Helicopter and transport aircraft were used to move 3 companies and command groups.

e. Fixed Wing. No fixed wing was controlled by this command but many strikes were flown in our support utilizing airborne control.

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Section V - S-4 Chronology

1. General. The overall supply situation improved during this period. Maintenance on the M122A1 was restricted by lack of repair parts. During the month of May transportation support was unsatisfactory.

a. Supply. Significant shortages are (600) Air Mattress, (500) Protective Mask M17, (600) First Aid Kits and (80) Wrist Watches.

b. Ordnance.

(1) Currently the following items are on 3d echelon deadline:

- (6) M79 Grenade Launchers
- (2) M60 Machine Guns
- (2) 3.5 Rocket Launchers
- (1) 60mm Mortar Sight
- (1) 60mm Mortar Tube
- (1) 60mm Mortar Base Plate
- (1) 60mm Mortar Bipod
- (2) 81mm Mortar Sights
- (1) 81mm Mortar Base Plate
- (1) Shotgun

(2) Items on 2d echelon deadline include:

- (1) Flame Thrower
- (1) 106 Recoiless Rifle

(3) The Class V situation has been excellent for this period.

c. Comm/Elect.

(1) (1) Radio Set AN/MRC-83 (1) Radio Set AN/PRC-47 (5) Radios Sets AN/GRC-125 (3) Radio Sets AN/PRC-25 are on deadline.

(2) (1) Radio Set AN/MRC-109 is on order.

d. Motor Transport.

(1) There are still (7) M274A2s on deadline, (5) for starters and (2) 3d echelon.

(2) During the month of May all M122A1s were replaced by M151A1.

e. Supporting Units.

(1) FLSG-B provides the bulk of the logistical support.

(2) Engineer Support is provided by 3d and 11th Engineers.

(3) Truck Support at Ca Lu-LZ Cameo is provided by 4th Marines with trucks attached from 9th Motor Transport Battalion. This Battalion has (2) trucks attached from 9th Motor Transport Battalion.

2. Camp Development. 2nd Bn 9th Marines moved out of Camp J.J. CARROLL to Ca Lu-LZ Cameo. Movement of the Battalion Rear to Quang Tri is being attempted.

3. Operation. See S-3 Chronology.

4. Logistical Lifts.

(1) Vehicular. During this period (21) trucks and (21) trailers moved (123) men and (31,070) pounds of supplies in (29) lifts.

(2) Helicopter/Fixed Wing. During this period (115,258) pounds of supplies and (2,035) men were moved utilizing UH-1G helicopters and USAF C123 in 104 lifts.

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1. General. During the month of May weekly MEDCAPS were conducted in the village complex at Ca Lu. A census is being conducted at Ca Lu which will aid in the determination of future projects which will be initiated. MEDCAPS were temporarily halted at the end of May as this unit shifted its tactical responsibilities in the Ca Lu area. Medcaps on a weekly basis will be conducted in the near future.

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Section VII - Communications Chronology

1. General. During the period 1-26 May communication support was provided to Alpha Command Group at Ca Lu and Bravo Command Group at LZ Cameo. Logistic and repair support was provided from the Battalion Rear at Camp J.J. CARROLL. From 26-31 May communication support was provided for the Alpha Command Group and 3 companies on Operation Napoleon-Saline, Bravo Command Group remained at LZ Cameo with normal communication support. On 26 May the Battalion Rear Communications Section moved to Quang Tri and established operation and support of the administrative rear.
2. Radio. During Operation Napoleon-Saline it became necessary to establish a relay station at Cua-Viet to relay logistic traffic.
3. Message Center. During the month of May the message center processed 720 incoming messages and 19 outgoing.
4. Wire. Wire section serviced and maintained approximately 15 miles of wire in three positions.
5. Technical Shop. The technical shop repaired 4 TA-312, 14 PRC-25, 3 EE-8 and 2 SB-22's during the month.
6. Training. No formal training was conducted.
7. Difficulties. Continued shortage of repair parts for PRC-25's.

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~Section VIII - Medical Chronology

1. General. During the month of May 1968, the BAS held sick call for 520 Marine Corps personnel. The medical civil action program rendered 139 treatments at Ca Lu.

2. Sanitation. Routine daily sanitation inspections were made of the battalion area.

3. Disease, Injuries, and General Treatment. Due to the tactical situation, the BAS did not maintain a ward during this reporting period. Patients were held for 24 hours observation and then evacuated or returned to duty. Patients with fever of undetermined origin and gastro-enteritis represented a major problem during the reporting period. Although the diagnosis remains undetermined in several of the patients with FUO, a large proportion have proved to be malaria.

4. Casualties and Hospitalization. There were 6 KIA's, 1 DOW, 1 death from malaria and 89 WIA's. In addition, there were numerous heat casualties evacuated from the field during the period of 26 May to 31 May. Outpatients treatment consisted of 87 shrapnel wounds, 458 miscellaneous injuries, 68 FUO, 15 psychiatric disorders, and 22 urology infections.

5. Training. Orientation lectures were given to newly joined personnel. The subject matter included personal hygiene, self aid and buddy aid, venereal disease, care and protection of the feet, cellulitis, and the snake problem in Vietnam. Considerable on the job training was given in suturing under close supervision for corpsmen as well as medical lectures for their training.

6. Complement of BAS. At the close of the month, the BAS had a complement of 1 Medical Officer and 56 Hospital Corpsmen. There are 5 SNCO's attached to the BAS at this time. There were 9 new personnel joined during the month. There were 15 non-effectives during the month.

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Services were held each Sunday during the month of May for all companies at Ca Lu. In addition, Roman Catholic coverage was provided during the week for the battalion by a Chaplain from Camp J.J. CARROL. Also, a service of Holy Communion was held on Ascension Day by the Battalion Chaplain at the "straw chapel" at Ca Lu.

While at Ca Lu the Chaplain stayed at the BAS with the Battalion Surgeon and Corpsmen, thus giving him an opportunity to see the sick and wounded as they were brought in.

When the Battalion moved to Cua Viet for an operation on 26 May, the Chaplain moved to the battalion rear with the Battalion Surgeon, where battalion casualties were seen at "D" Med in Dong Ha.

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5. Movement to Quang Tri. The movement of the Battalion Rear from Camp J.J. CARROLL to Quang Tri has not yet been completed. 3d Marine Division has provided thus far a grand total of (4) stake-bed trucks, one lift apiece. This is totally unsatisfactory and has resulted in the Battalion Rear being split between Camp J.J. CARROLL and Quang Tri for two weeks with no improvement in sight.

6. Ammunition Expenditure for the Month of May 1968.

<u>DODAC</u>	<u>NOMENCLATURE</u>	<u>EXPENDED</u>
A124	7.62 Tracer	10,220
A127	7.62 Link	51,980
A475	45 Cal Ball	945
A574	50 Cal Tracer	500
B632	40mm HE	2,956
B568	60mm HE	1,850
B627	60mm Illumination	1,107
B630	60mm WP	98
C256	81mm HE	4,800
C226	81mm Illumination	2,500
C230	81mm WP	500
C650	106mm Heat	800
C651	106mm HEPT	1,000
G890	Gren Hand	151
G940	Gren Smk Grn	600
H555	Rkt 66mm HEAT	213
G945	Gren Smk Yellow	800
H600	Rkt. 3.5 Heat	12
H602	Rkt. 3.5 WP	6
K113	Mine AP-M18A1	180
L314	Sig Illum Wht Para	0
L314	Sig Grn Star Clust	50
L316	Sig Wht Star Clust	40
L498	Flare, surface trip	50
M032	Chg Block TNT 1b	80
M131	Cap Blast Non Elect	80
M420	Chg Shape 15lb	4
M670	Fuse Blasting Time	160
M680	Ignition Cyl Flame	10
M746	Demo Kit C-4	30
M766	Igniter for Time Fuse	80
A071	5.56 Ball	28,512

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~