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HEADQUARTERS

Second Battalion, Ninth Marines
Third Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO San Francisco California, 96602

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1 August 1968

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code AO3D)
Via: Commanding General, Third Marine Division
Subj: Command Chronology for Period 1 July to 31 July 1968.
Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8

Encl: (1) Second Battalion, Ninth 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).

R. E. Hensel

R. E. HENSEL
By direction

Copy to:

1-CO, First Marines
1-CO, Fourth Marines
1-CO, Ninth Marines
11-CG, Third Marine Division

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Second Battalion, Ninth Marines
Third Marine Division (Rein). FMF
FPO San Francisco California, 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

2 July 1968 to 31 July 1968

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Section I - Organizational Data

1. Designation/Location. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines, 31Jul68 Ca Lu and
Quang Tri
2. Period Covered by Report. 1-31 July 1968.
3. Name/Rank of Commanding Officer and Staff including T/O Billet
Assignments:

Commanding Officer	LtCol F. S. KNIGHT	1-31July
Executive Officer	Maj C. H. JOHNSON	1-31July
S-1	1STLT R. E. HENSEL	1-31July
S-2	Capt G. J. HOWE	1-31July
S-3	Maj R. M. LOSEE	1-21July
	Maj J. M. SMITH	22-31July
S-4	Capt M. E. RICH 1STLT J. M. G. MITCHELL	1-16July 16-31July
Comm Officer	Capt A. W. PAYNE Jr.	1-31July
MT Officer	2NDLT J. BORYCKI	19-31July
Supply Officer	1STLT C. A. THOMPSON	1-31July
Medical Officer	Lt J. H. KNIGHT	1-31July
Chaplain	LCDR R. C. FRANKLIN	1-31July
H&S Company	1STLT R. E. HENSEL	1-31July
Company "E"	Capt P. V. BARRA	1-31July
Company "F"	1STLT A. A. PIERCE	1-31July
Company "G"	Capt D. N. BUCKNER	1-31July
Company "H"	Capt R. W. ELLISON Capt D. F. WINECOFF	1-30July —31July

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Section II - S-1 Chronology

1. General. During the reporting period, the officer strength has increased but a shortage still exists in occupational field 03. 9 officers were joined and 6 were lost to this organization. The enlisted strength remained rather constant having joined 117 and dropped 136. A shortage still exists in SNOO ranks, primarily in the occupational field 03. The non-effectives at the end of the reporting period totals 4 officers and 200 enlisted. Losses for the month are expected to be 3 officers and 84 enlisted who rotate to conus.

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

USMC		USN	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
32	1065	2	57

Note: Percentage of T/O was about 92.5%

b. Losses.

	USMC		USN	
	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
Hostile	0	9	0	1
Non-Hostile	0	13	0	2
Admin	6	76	0	10

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

(1) Of the battle casualties, 5 were KIA, 2 DOW and 20 were WIA. The 20 were transferred by service record to Camp S.D. BUTLER.

(2) Of the administrative losses, 4 Officers rotated to CONUS and 1 was transferred intra-division plus one going to III MAF. 33 enlisted were transferred intra-division and 43 rotated to CONUS.

c. Administrative:

(1) State of Morale. Excellent.

(2) Significant Activities of Personal Service. None.

(3) Promotions. 1 Corporal was promoted to Sergeant meritorious. 10 Lance Corporals were promoted to Corporal, 26 Private First Class were promoted to Lance Corporal and 9 Privates were promoted to Private First Class.

(4) Discipline, Law and Order. 4 Summary court-martials were completed, 4 Special court martials were held and one person was awarded NJP by the Battalion Commander.

(5) Mail. Service has been satisfactory

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PART I-LANCASTER II

1. General. During this period from 1 to 31 July, the Second Battalion, Ninth Marines participated in three offensive operations against Communist Insurgent forces, under OPCON of the Ninth Marine Regiment and First Marine Regiment.

From 1 July to 6 July, this battalion's mission was security for Ca Lu Combat Base, LZ Stud, and several bridges along Route #9, plus saturation patrolling throughout the surrounding area.

2. Area. The operating area can generally described as the area surrounding Ca Lu (vic YD 0145). 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.

The terrain in this operating area falls into two distinct categories, the first of which is the generally rugged hills and mountains on either side of the Ba Long Valley and along the Da Krong River. Prominent in these areas are Dong Tonn (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 015442), Hill 445 (vic YD 014145) and Nui Sa Ban (vic YD 1236) are prominent. These land masses offer excellent observation over much of the operating area.

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.

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. 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.

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.

3. Weather. Weather conditions during the reporting period typified the summer heat.

Maximum Temperature	100
Minimum Temperature	82
Humidity	70%
Total Rainfall	Trace
Number of Days with Rain	2
Average Visibility	6 Miles
Average Winds	18 Knots

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~~UNCLASSIFIED~~~~4. Enemy Situation.~~

A. General. In the operating area the enemy maintained a defensive posture. Elements of the 304th NVA Division are still believed to be attempting to interdict Route #9; these elements are reinforced by an unknown unit of the 275 Regiment, 325C NVA Division and the 8th Battalion, 29th Regiment the latter has primarily the same mission on the northern side of the river.

B. Significant Enemy Activity: N/A.

5. NVA Casualties and Personnel Losses: N/A.

6. Enemy Equipment Destroyed or Captured: N/A.

7. VC/NVA Initiated Incidents: N/A.

8. Sources of Intelligence. Intelligence information during the period was gathered from the following sources: S-2 Ninth Marines, Battalion S-2 Scouts and ground forces working in the area.

9. Surveillance Devices. Thirteen small Starlight Scopes were employed during the period on ambushes, LP's and perimeter defense. In addition three NOD'S were used.

PART II - KENTUCKY

1. General. From 6 July 1968 to 17 July 1968, the Second Battalion, Ninth Marines participated in Operation KENTUCKY under OPCON of the Ninth Marines. The mission of this battalion was to sweep the area around Con Thien and destroy all enemy forces and installations.

2. Area. From 6 July to 17 July the operating area can generally be described as the area immediately surrounding Con Thien. The western boundary went to the 09 grid line, the 72 grid line was generally the northern boundary and as far east as the 17 grid line.

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 of operation 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). Also there is a very prominent ridgeline running east to west, north of the TRACE from (YD 180747) to (YD 163737). 12014 All of these features, with the exception of the lower portions of the TRACE afford excellent observation over the entire area.

Trafficability throughout the operating area ranges from good to excellent for both foot troops and track vehicles. The only difficulty in movement encountered was only in the heavily vegetated areas east of Phu Oc (vic YD 145695) and the ridgeline north of the TRACE.

Avenues of approach in this area are comprised of the MSR running from Cam Lo to Con Thien, Route 1 running from Dong Ha Combat Base to Gio Linh, and the prominent east-west trail running from Route 1 (vic YD 212696) to the MSR (vic YD 121688), and 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. Enemy avenues of approach include a vast network of well used trails and roads throughout the operating area.

The area west and north of Con Thien consists of large rice paddies with a few thick hedgerows. The area east of Con Thien is generally thick brush and trees.

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3. Weather. Weather conditions during the reporting period typified the summer heat.

Maximum Temperature	117
Minimum Temperature	85
Humidity	89%
Total Rainfall	1"
Number of Days with Rain	2
Average Visibility	7 Miles
Average Winds	7 Knots

4. Enemy Situation.

A. General. The enemy situation remained about the same. His trend is toward resupply and replenishing his troops for future offensive actions. Ground contact during this operating has been minimal and restricted to H&I fire and accidental troop contact where contact is broken quickly. He readily abandoned his bunkers and left numerous amounts of gear just to avoid contact.

B. Significant Enemy Activity. During Operation KENTUCKY, enemy activity consisted of maintaining forward positions from the edge of the trace on into the DMZ. On 090730H July, F/2/9 received 25 rounds of 82mm mortars from an unknown enemy position. An Artillery mission was called in with negative results. On 111830H July 2/9 received 8 130mm rounds of incoming while at vic (YD 135693). Our counter battery fire scored a direct hit and gun was destroyed. On 141005H July at vic (YD 178693), three NVA were spotted in a bunker. Enemy fled when fired upon. In one actual troop contact, the enemy broke contact as soon as friendly artillery mission was called in.

5. NVA Casualties and Personnel Losses.

VC/NVA KIA (s)	29
VC/NVA POW	1
Dolainees	0

6. Enemy Equipment Destroyed and Captured.

GI bayonets	1
CS Equipment	1
Books	1
AK-47 Magazines	3
Chi Com Grenades	27
Packs	11
7.62 Ammunition	50
82mm Rounds	284
60mm Rounds	27
Bicycles	3
60mm Tubes	1
Misc Documents	11
M-26	1
DM-10 Mines	1
Rice lbs	25
AK-47	2
Poncho	1
Hats	1
Canteens	3
E-tools	4
AK-47 Rounds	618
2.75 Rkt Rounds	2
82mm Rd Fuses	117
NVA Helmets	1
50 cal Ammunition	85

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Surveyor	1
B-40 Rockets	58
RPG Rounds	21
Cooking Utencils	12
Bunkers	1
Trenchlines	197
Fighting Holes	5
Tunnels	2
	5

7. NVA/VC Initiated Incidents. During the reporting period, the enemy initiated a total of 8 incidents against the Second Battalion, Ninth Marines. These incidents are broken down as follows:

Artillery	2
Mortar	2
Contacts	2
Minings	2

8. Sources of Intelligence. Intelligence information during the period was gathered from the following sources: Battalion S-2 Scouts, Ninth Marines S-2, ARVN interpreters and Ground Forces operating in the area.

9. Surveillance. Twelve starlight scopes were employed during Operation KENTUCKY on ambushes and perimeter security.

PART III - LANCASTER II

1. General. On 17 July to 28 July the Battalion participated in Operation LANCASTER II under OPCON of the Ninth Marine Regiment. The Battalions mission was to supply support for Ninth Marines in their AO.

2. Area. The northern boundary of the operating area can generally be described as the southern boundary of the DMZ. The 09 grid line was the eastern boundary and the 61 grid line to the south. The western boundary could be described as the 03 grid line.

The southern and eastern part of this area can best be described as piedmont and the northern and western portions are more mountainous. Prominent terrain features in this area of operation include Hill #174 vic (YD 053684), Dong Ha Mountain vic (YD 019595), Cao vic (YD 067593). A good portion of the northern sector of the operating area was barren as the result of extensive bombing.

There was no major problems with trafficability throughout the entire area. Around Hill #174 vic (YD 053684) trafficability was hindered slightly because of thicker vegetation.

The MSR is the main avenue of approach in this area running from Cam Lo to Con Thien. Also in the operating area there is a vast network of well used trails and roads.

The vegetation in the southern part of the area can generally be described as elephant grass and woods in the ravines. The northern section is comprised of thick, low brush and numerous trees.

3. Weather. Weather during the reporting period typified the summer heat.

Maximum Temperature	114
Minimum Temperature	83
Humidity	87%
Total Rainfall	0"
Number of Days with Rain	0
Average Visibility	6 Miles
Average Winds	7 Knots

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A. General. From documents found in bunkers, on enemy KIA, and other places, we been able to identify elements of units we have been in contact with. On Hill 174 elements of the 3rd and 9th Bn, 27th Regt. and of the 2d Regt. were dug in and had a very good resupply and logistics capability. But here also they choose to avoid heavy contact once friendly AIR and ARTY was called in. The enemy continues to follow his present trend of avoiding actual contact but using occasional mortar and rocket attacks to harass friendly positions. In the mean time he is supplying and re-plenishing his troops in the south. His capability in this area is being hampered by continuous Marine Corps operations along his resupply routes.

B. Significant Enemy Activity. During Operation Lancaster II, the most significant enemy contact occurred on Hill 174 (YD 053-687/ 062688). A company size patrol came upon a heavily built, cleverly camouflaged, enemy bunker complex. This complex was manned by units of the 27th NVA Regt. In the ensuing battle, friendly AIR, ARTY, and MORTARS were called in with deadly results for the enemy. Seemingly caught unaware, the enemy choose to retreat toward the refuge of the DMZ, where he was brought under fire by our A0's and FAC. After the battle, an examination of the area revealed many facts. The bunkers were all linked by comm wire to a central bunker built into the side of a 1,000 lb. bomb crater. Covered with sticks and pieces of log, the bunkers were invisible from the air and almost that effective from the ground. Examination of the NVA KIA showed that he was well armed and supplied. Fresh haircuts, new weapons and clothing bore this fact out. Also, from documents, we learned that the enemy had been monitoring our radio transmissions and sent a company size unit from just inside the DMZ to ambush a company on its way to aid the first company. Friendly AIR routed the enemy and prevented the ambush.

5. NVA Casualties and Personnel Losses.

NVA/VC KIA (C)	33
NVA/VC POW	0
Detainees	0

6. Enemy Equipment Captured or Destroyed.

Gas Mask	56
Gas Mask Cannister	7
Cap Chi Com	2
Poncho	7
Book	1
Canteen	37
AK-47	7
Cannister W/8k681 Heat rd	2
Claymores	3
AK-47 Rd	201
Grenades Chi Com	46
E Tools	29
Packs	50
AK-47 Mag	21
M-16 Mag	1
82mm Rds	47
82mm Fuses	14
SKS	2
M60 Doc (lbs)	5

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~~UNCLASSIFIED~~Enemy Equipment Captured or Destroyed (Cont.).

M-26	1	Playing Cards	1
B-40 Rkt	1	Assorted Tools	10
Rice (lbs)	1300	Hammocks	2
Cooking Utens.	49	Pajama	11
7.62 Ammo	5,900	Water Cans	15
Binoculars	2	RPG Boosters	2
Medical Kit	3	Rain Hat	1
AK-47 Reciever	1	Sheath	4
12.7 Gun Barrel	1	Grenade pouches	1
107mm Rkt Rd	123	Pineapple Grenades (R)	11
140mm Rkt Rd	25	Rifle Kit	1
107mm Fuses	7	Rope Ladder	1
Grave Markers	15	Bunkers	551
130mm Arty Rd	13	Trench Lines	1
105mm Arty Rd	2	Fighting Holes	18
AK-50	1	Rocket Positions	88
Increments (ccms)	30		
Cartridgge Belt	1		
60mm Ammo	41		
L/Machine Gun	1		
RPG-7	1		
RPG-2	2		
Phone	1		
Headsets	1		
Picks	26		
Aiming Stakes	40		
120mm Mortars	2		
RPG-2 Rds	1		
Helmet NVA	20		
50 Cal. Rd	50		
12.7 Rds	1,000		
60mm Fuses	15		
Flare Pistol	1		
40mm Cannister	1		
C-4 (lbs)	30		
Shovels	4		

7. NVA/VC Initiated Incidents. During the reporting period, the enemy initiated a total of 5 incidents against the Second Battalion, Ninth Marines or subordinate units in this organizations area of operation. These incidents are broken down as follow:

Artillery/Rockets	1
Mortars	2
Contacts	2
Minings	0

8. Sources of Intelligence. Intelligence information during the period was gathered from the following sources: S-2 Ninth Marines, Battalion S-2, S-2 Scouts, and ground forces working in the area.

9. Surveillance Devices. N/A.

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PART IV - NAPOLEAN SALINE

1. General. On 26 July to 31 July, the battalion participated in Operation Napolean Saline CPCON to First Marine Regiment. The battalion's mission was to cordon the village Xuan Khanh (vic XD 313679) and to destroy enemy forces entering or leaving this village.

2. Area: The operating area for the last part of this period was around the village Xuan Khanh (vic XD 313679). This village is located on the northern side of the Cua Viet River across from the Cua Viet Facility.

The operating area was flat coastal terrain characterized by semi-fixed white sand dunes and typical rice paddy land. Also there are many rivers and streams in this area.

Trafficability in this area is excellent because of the lack of heavy vegetation. This provides for dispersion and easy control of troops.

Vegetation was minimal on the rice paddies except for small plots of wooded areas usually surrounding religious shrines or graveyards.

Avenues of approach in this area consists of the many streams and rivers. The enemy will use the sand dunes for movement due to the greater cover provided by the dune masses themselves.

3. Weather: Weather during the reporting period typified the summer heat.

Maximum Temperature	120
Minimum Temperature	80
Humidity	79%
Total Rainfall	0
Number of Days With Rain	0
Average Visibility	6 Miles
Average Winds	7-10 Knots

4. Enemy Situation.

A. General. The enemy KIA's could very possibly have been from either the 1st or the 2nd Battalion, or the 138th Regt. who are believed that the NVA are using the villages in this area as rest points and sources of food.

B. Enemy Significant Activities. During Operation Napolean Saline, three NVA were killed as they attempted to cross a cordon 2/9 had around the village of Xuan Khanh (vic XD 313679). Indications were that they were unaware of the cordon and were fleeing from an ambush set up by 1st Antracs. In the Cua Viet area the enemy has been mining the Cua Viet River and using H-1 mortar fire on the villages and installations in the area.

5. NVA/VC Casualties and Personnel Losses.

NVA KIA (C)	3
NVA POW	0
Detainees	0

6. Enemy Equipment Captured or Destroyed.

AK-47	3
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7. NVA/VC Initiated Incidents. N/A.

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8. Sources of Intelligence. Intelligence was received from the following sources: Battalion S-2 Scouts, ARVN interpreters, First Marine S-2 and ground forces in the area.

9. Surveillance Devices. N/A.

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Section IV - S-3 Chronology

1. General. Second Battalion, Ninth Marines participated in Operation Lancaster II from 1 July, to 6 July, Operation Kentucky from 6 July, to 17 July, Operation Lancaster II from 17 July to 28 July and Operation Napolean Saline from 28 July to 31 July.
2. Company "E", Second Battalion, Ninth Marines. From 1 July to 6 July E/2/9 manned the perimeter at LZ Stud and occupied Signal Hill with 1 platoon (+). E/2/9 moved to the area southeast of Con Thien to participate in Operation Kentucky. From 17 July to 28 July E/2/9 participated in Operation Lancaster II and on 28 July E/2/9 chopped OPCON to First Marine Regiment for Operation Napolean Saline which lasted until the end of the month.
3. Company "F", Second Battalion, Ninth Marines. From 1 July to 6 July F/2/9 maintained a defensive position at Ca Lu Combat Base. On 6 July F/2/9 moved from Ca Lu Combat Base to the area southeast of Con Thien to participate in Operation Kentucky under OPCON Ninth Marines. On 17 July F/2/9 was helolifted to vic (YD 0665) to participate in Operation Lancaster II until 28 July. On 28 July F/2/9 was chopped OPCON to First Marines to participate in Operation Napolean Saline until the end of the month.
4. Company "G", Second Battalion, Ninth Marines. From 1 July to 6 July G/2/9 occupied and defended the bridges west of Ca Lu Combat Base. On 6 July G/2/9 moved to the area southeast of Con Thien to participate in Operation Kentucky. On 17 July G/2/9 was helolifted to vic (YD 0665) to participate in Operation Lancaster II. On 28 July G/2/9 was chopped OPCON to First Marines to participate in Operation Napolean Saline until the end of the month.
5. Company "H", Second Battalion, Ninth Marines. From 1 July to 6 July H/2/9 occupied and defended the bridges west of Ca Lu Combat Base plus provided 1 platoon (+) to man signal hill. On 6 July H/2/9 moved to area southeast of Con Thien to participate in Operation KENTUCKY under OPCON to the Ninth Marines. On 17 July H/2/9 was helolifted to vic (YD 0665) to participate in Operation LANCASTER II. On 28 July H/2/9 was chopped OPCON to First Marines to participate in Operation NAPOLEAN-SALINE until the end of the month.
6. H&S Company, Second Battalion, Ninth Marines. From 1 July to 6 July Alpha and Bravo Command Group operated at Ca Lu Combat Base. From 6 July to 17 July both Command Groups participated in Operation KENTUCKY under OPCON of the Ninth Marines. From 17 July to 28 July the Command Groups performed operational services for Operation LANCASTER II. On 28 July Alpha and Bravo Command Groups chopped OPCON to First Marines and participated in Operation NAPOLEAN-SALINE until the end of the month.
7. Close Combat. During the month of July 1968, Second Battalion, Ninth Marines conducted 11 Company, 34 Platoon and 17 Squad Size patrols. It also conducted 18 Squad Size ambushes and 37 fire team size listening posts.
8. Training. Due to operational commitments very little formal training was conducted. There were 122 replacement personnel received and given training in accordance with DIVO 1510.3B.

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9. Fire Support and Fire Support Coordination.

a. Second Battalion, Ninth Marines was provided direct support while at Ca Lu Combat Base by "E" battery Second Battalion, 12th Marines. Tactical Control was provided by 1st Battalion, 12th Marines and Technical control was provided by the individual batteries. From 6 July until 24 July "D" battery 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines provided direct support. Direct fire support for the rest of the month was provided by "F" 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines from 6 July to 28 July, "B" 1st Battalion, 13th Marines from 6 July to 16th July, "W" 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines from 6 July to 16 July and "W" 1st Battalion, 11th Marines from 6 July to 31 July. General Support for the month was provided by "K" 4th Battalion, 12th Marines from 9 July to 28 July with 12 Marines also providing additional general support. Additional tactical support was provided by 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines from 6 July to 28 July and by 1st Battalion, 11th Marines from 29 July to 31 July. Technical control was handled by 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines from 6 July to 28 July.

b. Second Battalion, Ninth Marines employment of artillery while at Ca Lu and on operations during the month resulted in the following round expenditure: 11,055 HE, 33 WP, 154 HC Smoke, 134 fire cracker and 32 Illumination. Nature of target included intensive prep fires, active artillery and mortar positions, troops in bunkers and in the open, burning missions, smoke screen, TOT's and H&I's.

c. The artillery support received during the month was considered satisfactory.

d. 81mm mortars provided organizational support for the battalion during the month. The following round expenditure resulted: 7153 HE and 11 illumination rounds.

10. Air Support.

a. Medevacs. A total of 126 personnel were medevaced during the month.

b. Command and Control. During the month of July four visual reconnaissance flights were performed.

c. Resupply. During the month of July, 400,000 pounds of supplies were lifted to 2/9 units in the field.

d. Troop Lifts. During the month of July, 5 troop lifts were employed moving a total of 3,250 personnel.

e. Fixed Wing. During the month of July, no fixed wing flights were controlled by this battalion. However, numerous flights were flown in support of Second Battalion, Ninth Marines.

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Section V - S-4 Chemistry

1. General. During the month of July, Second Battalion, Ninth Marines occupied positions at Ca Lu and LZ Stud. In addition, from 6 to 17 July the Battalion participated in Operation KENTUCKY and from 17 to 28 July participated in Operation LANCASTER II. Logistics problems were increased as a result. For Operation LANCASTER II, communication relay stations were set up at Camp J.J. CARROLL and C-2 and the S-4 was moved to LZ Stud to handle resupply to the troops in the field. Helicopter support provided by Task Force Hotel was very good and no serious problems were encountered during this operation.

a. Supply. The supply situation presents no major problems in carrying out the Battalion mission, however the following items were in short supply during this period:

Starters for M274A2	Gas Mask Med
Helmet Liners	Antenna Support AB-591
Air Mattresses	Vat Cans
Tire 700x16	Regulators for M151A1
Wrist Watches	BA 386s
Carburators for M151A1	Gas Mask Lg
S.P. Packs	Compasses

During this period no BA 386s were received. At present 1560 BA 386s are on order.

Items of significant importance received during the month are as follows:

Helmet Liners	50
PPS-6	6

b. Ordnance.

(1) The following items are on 3d echelon deadline.

60mm Base Plate	4
60mm Bipod	2
Starlight Scope	2
81mm Base Plate	1
81mm Sight	2
81mm Bipod	3
60mm Tube	2
M16E1	4

(2) The following Items are on 2d echelon deadline.

Pistol Cal. 45	2
M16E1	3
M60 barrels	2
M79 Grenade Launcher	1

c. Comm/Elect.

(1) The following items are on 3d echelon deadline.

PRC-25	1
MRC-83	1
MRC-87	1
TGC-11A	1
PRC-41	1

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(2) The following items are on 2d echelon deadline:

GRC-125	6
Radio Set AN/MRC-109	1

d. Motor Transport.

(1) Organic Motor Transport capabilities were considered barely satisfactory. Seventeen M274A2's vehicles are presently deadlined in need of starters and of the remaining thirteen, five are deadlined awaiting 3rd echelon maintenance.

(2) The below listed items of combat essential equipment is on 3rd echelon maintenance:

Radio Set AN/MRC 87	1
Trk. Tank M107A1	1
Trk. M274A2	5

(3) The below listed items are on 2d echelon maintenance:

Trk. M274A2	17
Trk. M151A1	3
Radio Set AN/MRC 109	1

(4) Non Organic transportation support was provided by 3d Motor Transport Battalion and was considered satisfactory. Daily resupply of Class II and other items not available at LZ Stud was made from Dong Ha by convoy with trucks from 3rd Motors.

(5) Other Logistics Support. Class II, III, IV and V were provided by FLSG-B at LZ Stud and Dong Ha. The ice situation has improved somewhat during the period. Ice was provided by FLSG-B at LZ Stud and Helo-Lifted to the troops in the field. Overall support from LZ Stud facility during the period was excellent. Cold milk, ice, fresh bread and fruit were sent to the Battalion in the field on a regular basis.

2. Operations. See S-3 Chronology.

3. Logistical Lifts.

(1) Helicopter. Helicopters were used to supply the Battalion on operations KENTUCKY and LANCASTER JULY. The majority of lifts were made with H-46 helicopters from Dong Ha and LZ Stud. The status of lifts are as follows:

LIFTS	CARGO	PERSONNEL
262	400,000 lbs	2,565

(2) Vehicular. Vehicular support included seven ARVN APC's which were used to transport food and water to the troops during Operation KENTUCKY, near Con Thien. Five ton trucks were used to transport supplies to Con Thien base and from there the supplies were transported to the field via ARVN APC's. The status of lifts are as follows:

LIFTS	CARGO	PERSONNEL
80	85,000	200

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5. Ammunition Expenditure for the Month of JULY 1968.

<u>DODAC</u>	<u>NOmenCLATURE</u>	<u>EXPENDED</u>
A127	7.62 Link	20,000
A475	45 cal. Ball	1,000
B632	40mm HE	6,000
B568	60mm HE	6,000
BG30	60mm WP	500
B627	60mm Illum	500
C256	81mm HE	8,500
C226	81mm Illum	3,600
C230	81mm WP	600
C650	106mm HE	600
C651	106mm HEPT	785
C940	Gren Hand	600
H555	Rkt 66mm HE LAW	652
G940	Grn Smk Green	200
G945	Grn Smk Yellow	400
K143	Mine AP-M18A1	1,000
I314	Sig Illum Wht Para	600
L315	Sig Grn Star Clust	600
L316	Sig Wht Star Clust	600
I498	Flare, Surface Trip	0
M032	Chg Block TNT lb	300
A071	5.56	10,000
M756	C-4 Demo Kit	2,000

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Section VI - S-5 Chronology

1. General. Due to Operational commitments and tactical deployment, Civic Actions were curtailed. No medcaps were conducted but steps are being taken through the S-5 to begin projects as soon as Operational commitments allow.

~~SECRET~~Section VII - Communication Chronology

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1. General. Normal communications support was provided this Battalion on Operation Kentucky from 6 July to 17 July, Lancaster II from 17 July to 28 July, and Napolcan Saline from 28 July to 31 July. Communications support for administration and logistics was provided from Dong Ha and Quang Tri and LZ Stud. Relay stations were established at Camp Carroll and C-2.

2. Wire. Normal wire support was provided for the Battalion rear at Quang Tri. Wire was used on Operations Napolcan Saline tying the companies to Battalion on a loop.

3. Radio. Normal radio support was provided to the Battalion in the field and in the rear. A special allowance of one PRC-77 and one KY-38 was employed for test and evaluation with excellent results thus far.

4. Message Center. The message center processed 875 incoming messages and 12 outgoings. Message center delivered shackles and brevity codes to the field every five days.

5. Difficulties. Due to the Battalion moving around so much, many radio interference problems arose. Temporary frequencies were obtained from Division to help out this problem.

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Section VIII - Medical Chronology

1. General. During the month of July 1968, the BAS held sick call for 597 Marine Corps personnel. There was no medical civil action program held this month.

2. Sanitation. Routine daily inspection were made of the battalion rear area.

3. Disease, Injuries and Treatment in General. Other than hostile casualties, patients with fever of undetermined origin and malaria continue to constitute the major medical problem within the battalion. 29 patients with FUO were medevaced during the month of July compared with 69 in June and 33 in May. Of the total cases medevaced during the past three months, follow-up diagnoses are available for 85% of the cases. 85% of the patients have proved to have malaria and 87% of the patients with malaria have had Falciparum. Since it was felt that Chloroquine-Primaquine, Anti-Malarial Chemoprophylaxis might not prove effective against Falciparum, the battalion was placed on daily Dapsone anti-malarials in addition to the weekly Chloroquine-Primaquine tablets. This additional measure in addition to better malaria discipline has probably contributed to the decline in incidence of FUO's in the battalion.

4. Casualties and Hospitalization. There were 6 KIA's, 2 DOW's, 54 WIA's and 33 NBC's evacuated from the field. Numerous heat casualties were evacuated to the rear battalion area-the majority were held one to two days. Outpatient treatment consisted of 160 shrapnel wounds, 8 FUO, 2 psychiatric disorders, 32 urology infections and 395 miscellaneous injuries.

5. Training. Orientation lectures were given to 55 new personnel. The subject matter included personal hygiene, self and buddy aid, venereal disease, care of the foot and the snake problem in Vietnam. On the job training and lectures were given periodically for the corpormen.

6. Complement. At the close of the month, the BAS had a complement of one Medical Officer and 55 Navy Hospital Corpsmen. There are 3 SNCO's attached with 15 new personnel joined and 12 men transferred. There were 26 non-effectives during the month.

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Section IX - Chaplain's Chronology

1. General. During the month of July, the Battalion Chaplain provided Catholic Divine Services both in the rear and forward positions. Protestant Divine Services were conducted in the field utilizing Protestant Lay Leaders in lieu of a Chaplain. Memorial services and pre-operational devotional services were conducted for companies where feasible by the Battalion Chaplain.

A permanent schedule of Protestant and Catholic Divine Services was inaugurated for the rear elements of the Regiment at the Quang Tri C/P and arrangements were made by the Regimental Chaplain to relocate the Dong Ha Memorial Chapel in this area.

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HEADQUARTERS
 Second Battalion, Ninth Marines
 Third Marine Division (Rein), FMF
 FPO San Francisco California, 96602

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3:JMS:trt
 7 August 1968

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding Officer, 9th Marines

7th Mar. Regt.
 Attn: No. 00423-68
 2 of 13

Subj: Operation LANCASTER II After Action Report

Ref: (a) DIVO 3100.1D
 (b) Ninth Marines Operation Order 7-68

1. Code Name, Operation LANCASTER II.

2. Dates of Operation. Second Battalion, Ninth Marines (+) participated in Operation LANCASTER II under OPCON of the Ninth Marine Regiment from 170700 July 1968 to 280800H July 1968.

3. Location. Cam Lo District, Quang Tri Province, Republic of South Vietnam.

4. Task Organization.

Second Battalion, Ninth Marines

Company "E"	17 July to 28 July
Company "F"	17 July to 28 July
Company "G"	17 July to 28 July
Company "H"	17 July to 28 July
Command Groups "A" & "B"	17 July to 28 July
Det., Co. "C" 3rd Engr. Bn.	17 July to 28 July
Det., HST, 3rd Shore Party Bn.	17 July to 28 July

5. Supporting Forces.a. Artillery.

- (1) From 17 July until 24 July "D" 2/12 was in direct support.
- (2) From 17 July until 28 July "E" and "F" 2/12 were in direct support of Second Battalion, Ninth Marines.
- (3) Targets of opportunity included active artillery and mortar positions, troops in bunkers and troops in the open, burning missions and H&I's.
- (4) Total round expenditure for Operation LANCASTER II was 3902 HE and 21 Illumination.

b. Air Support.

- (1) Medevacs. A total of 39 medevacs were evacuated by helicopter during Operation LANCASTER II.
- (2) Command and Control. Commanding Officer and Assistant Operations Officer made three visual reconnaissance missions using UH1E helicopters.
- (3) Resupply. A total of 135,000 pounds of resupplies was helilifted to the battalion by Helicopter.
- (4) Troop Lifts. A total of one troop lift was accomplished moving 800 troops.
- (5) Fixed Wing. No fixed wing flights were controlled by Second Battalion, Ninth Marines but numerous flights were flown in support.

TAB-A

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6. Intelligence.

a. General Description of the Operation Area. During the reporting period of 17 July to 28 July, Second Battalion, Ninth Marines were Opcon to Ninth Marine Regiment.

The northern boundary of the operating area can generally be described as the southern boundary of the DMZ. The 09 grid line was the eastern boundary and the 61 grid line to the south. The western boundary can be described as the 03 grid line.

b. Terrain Features. The southern and eastern part of this area can best be described as piedmont and the northern and western portion are mountains. Prominent terrain features in this area of operation include Hill #174 vic (YD 053684), Dong Ha Mountain vic (YD 019595) and About Cao vic (YD 067593). A good portion of the northern sector of the operating area was barren as the result of extensive bombing.

c. Trafficability. There was no major problems with trafficability throughout the entire area. Around Hill #174 vic (YD 053684) trafficability was hindered slightly because of thicker vegetation than the rest of the operating area.

d. Avenues of Approach. The MSR is the main avenue of approach in this area running from Cam Lo to Con Thien. Also in the operating area there is a vast network of well used trails.

e. Vegetation. The vegetation in the southern portion of the operating area can generally be described as having elephant grass on the hills and woods in the ravines. Also in this sector there are rice paddies and meadowland which meet the hilly brush country. Farther north the vegetation can be described as thick low brush and numerous medium size trees.

g. Road and Trail Conditions. The trail and road conditions in this area were excellent. Most of the trails would be considered large footpaths and a few of the trails were large enough to accommodate a jeep. The MSR is the only road in the area and is an all weather road.

h. Helicopter Landing Zones. There were two helicopter landing zones used on this operation. The first was LZ Carol vic (YD 056619) which could accommodate all types of helicopters. The other LZ was LZ Wren vic (YD 061661). This LZ could also handle all types and size of helicopters.

i. Enemy Forces Encountered. From documents found in bunkers on enemy KIA and other places it was possible to identify elements of the 3rd and 9th Battalions of the 27th Regiment and parts of the 2nd Regiment. On Hill #174 these elements were dug in and had a very good resupply and logistics capability. Examination of the NVA KIA showed that he was well armed and supplied. Fresh haircuts, new weapons and clothing bore out this fact. The enemy choose to avoid heavy contact once friendly Air and Arty were called in. The enemy continued to follow that present trend of avoiding actual contact but using occasional mortar and rocket attacks to harass friendly positions. The NVA capability in this area is being hampered by continuous Marine Corps operations along his resupply routes.

During Operation LANCASTER II, the most significant enemy contact occurred on Hill #174 vic (YD 053687/062688). A company size patrol came upon a heavily built, cleverly camouflaged, enemy bunker complex. This complex was manned by units of the

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(2) Enemy Contacts and Significant Events

181030H - G/2/9 at (YD 063667) found 11 bunkers, one 107mm rocket round, one 140mm rocket round and a rocket site not in use. Bunkers and rounds were blown.

181030H - F/2/9 at (YD 061651) observed 3 NVA moving northeast with packs and weapons. Called in artillery mission.

181915H - G/2/9 at (YD 056675) spotted 5 NVA moving down a trail. Called 81mm mortar mission with unknown results.

c. 19 July 1968.(1) Disposition of Forces.

E/2/9 - Continued assigned mission.

F/2/9 - Continued assigned mission.

G/2/9 - Continued assigned mission.

H/2/9 - Continued assigned mission.

(2) Enemy Contacts and Significant Events.

190820H - H/2/9 at (YD 062670) found one enemy bunker with fighting hole. Engineers blew.

190845H - F/2/9 at (YD 061672) found 19 enemy bunkers that were well camouflaged with concrete reinforced logs. Blew all bunkers.

191000H - F/2/9 at (YD 054674) found 11 graves with 11 bodies. Also found 2 82mm rounds. Blew rounds and bunkers.

191330H - H/2/9 at (YD 064673) found 12 enemy bunkers. Blew bunkers before leaving.

191430H - F/2/9 at (YD 058679) found possible rocket site with 18 fighting holes and one command bunker. Blew bunkers.

d. 20 July 1968.(1) Disposition of Forces.

E/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Moved to vic (YD 052676).

F/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Moved to vic (YD 051675).

G/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Moved to vic (YD 056684).

H/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Moved to vic (YD 065674).

OP - Continued assigned mission. Moved to vic (YD 058665).

(2) Enemy Contacts and Significant Events.

200830H - G/2/9 at (YD 058681) found 7 bunkers. Blew all bunkers.

8. Concept of Operation. On 17 July 1968, Second Battalion, Ninth Marines was helilifted to vic (YD 061657) to conduct a search and destroy operation. On 22 July 1968 conducted a search and destroy patrol on Hill #174 vic (YD 052682). On 23 July the battalion moved to vic (YD 058622). On 28 July the battalion was helilifted out of the area after having conducted a search and destroy mission of the area.

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9. Execution.

a. 17 July 1968.

(1) Disposition of Forces.

E/2/9 - Began Operation LANCASTER II at 170800H July 1968. Continued assigned mission.

F/2/9 - Began Operation LANCASTER II at 170800H July 1968. Continued assigned mission.

G/2/9 - Began Operation LANCASTER II at 170800H July 1968. Continued assigned mission.

H/2/9 - Began Operation LANCASTER II at 170800H July 1968. Continued assigned mission.

2/9 Command Group "A" began Operation LANCASTER II.

2/9 Command Group "B" began Operation LANCASTER II.

(2) Enemy Contacts and Significant Events.

171045H - E/2/9 at (YD 058665) found 7 enemy bunkers. Bunkers were destroyed.

171115H - H/2/9 at (YD 058665) had one man receive bullet wound in stomach. Man was medevaced.

171200H - H/2/9 at (YD 058665) had one man shot in leg from stray round. Man was medevaced.

171200H - H/2/9 at (YD 058666) found one bunker that engineers blew.

171315H - H/2/9 at (YD 062667) found a suspected 107mm rocket position. Destroyed position.

171745H - G/2/9 at (YD 062669) found a possible enemy rocket site with four bunkers around it. Also found one 107mm rocket, one 140mm rocket, one fuse for 107mm rocket and four canvas ponchos. Engineers blew in place.

172130H - F/2/9 at (YD 061657) heard movement. Threw 3 M-33 grenades, movement ceased.

b. 18 July 1968.

(1) Disposition of Forces.

E/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Conducted one platoon size patrol.

F/2/9 - Continued assigned mission.

G/2/9 - Continued assigned mission.

H/2/9 - Continued assigned mission.

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27th NVA Regiment. In the ensuing battle, friendly air and artillery along with mortars was called in with deadly results on the enemy. Seemingly caught unaware, the enemy choose to retreat toward the refuge of the DMZ, where he was brought under fire by the AO's and FAC. After the battle and examination of the area revealed numerous valuable facts. The bunkers were all linked by comm wire to a central bunker built into the side of a 1,000 pound bomb crater. Covered with sticks and pieces of log the bunkers were invisible from the air and almost that effective from the ground. From documents captured we learned that the enemy had been monitoring our radio transmissions and sent a company size unit from just inside the DMZ to ambush a company on its way to aid the first company. Friendly air routed the enemy and prevented the ambush.

- j. Enemy Installations Encountered.

Bunkers	551
Trenchlines	1
Fighting Holes	18
Rocket Positions	88

k. Enemy Losses, Personnel and Equipment.

NVA/VC KIA (c)	33	107mm Rkt rd.	123
Gas masks	56	140mm Rkt rd	25
Gas Mask Cannister	7	107mm Rkt fuses	7
Poncho	7	Grave markers	15
Canteen	37	130mm arty rd	13
Claymores	3	60mm Ammo	41
AK-47 rds	201	RPG-7	1
Grenades Chi Com	46	RPG-2	2
E Tools	29	Picks	26
Packs	50	Aiming Stakes	40
AK-47 mag.	21	NVA Helmets	20
82mm rds.	47	50 cal	50
82mm fuses	14	12.7 rds	1,000
Documents (lbs)	5	60mm Fuses	15
Rice lbs.	1,300	C-4 lbs	30
Cooking Utin.	49	Shovels	4
7.62 Ammo	5,900	Tools	10
Medical Kits	3	Water Cans	15
Grenade Pouches	7	Pineapple Grenades(R)	11

l. Psychological Civic Operations.

No psychological or Civic operations were conducted during Operation LANCASTER II.

m. Miscellaneous Remarks.

(1) Weather.

High	117
Low	85
Total Rainfall	1"
Number of Days with Rain	2
Visibility	7 Miles
Winds (avg)	7 Knots
Humidity	89%

7. Mission. At L-H-Hour on D-Day, 9th Marines conducts a coordinated heliborne/ground attack in the northeast LANCASTER II AO to find, fix, and destroy enemy forces, supply/logistic caches and interdict infiltration routes in zone of action.

200925H - 3/2/9 at (YD 055684) received 6 rounds of unknown artillery.

201100H - E/2/9 at (YD 050685) found bunker complex consisting of 60 bunkers. Destroyed bunkers.

201130H - 201530H - G/2/9 at (YD 056685) found an extensive bunker complex. Bunkers had been used in last 24 hours. Enemy was 50-75 meters to the west and took G/2/9 under fire. Pulled back to employ air and arty. AO on station saw 15-20 NVA to west. AO also spotted 50 - 60 NVA at (YD 057688) and directed air strike. Sent platoon back into area and received fire from NVA once again. Retrieved 2MIA and one KIA and found 3 KIA NVA and one AK-50.

e. 21 July 1968.

(1) Disposition of Forces.

E/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Moved to vic (YD 057667).

F/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Moved to vic (YD 053686).

G/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Moved to vic (YD 053686).

H/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Moved to vic (YD 057684).

OP - Continued assigned mission. Moved to vic (YD 057684).

(2) Enemy Contacts and Significant Events.

210930H - H/2/9 at (YD 068663) found 2 bunkers. Bunkers were blown.

211050H - G/2/9 at (YD 053685) found 4 NVA killed by small arms fire, 3 AK-47, 2 gas masks, assorted personnel gear and documents.

211330H - Battalion at (YD 052685) received 6 incoming 82mm mortar rounds. One WIA re devac.

211335H - F/2/9 at (YD 054683) spotted 25 NVA and called in 81's, 60's and air strikes. Results unknown.

211440H - H/2/9 at (YD 054683) found 5 82mm rounds and 4 can increments. Engineers blew them in place.

211447H - F/2/9 at (YD 054683) spotted 35-40 NVA moving NW carrying RPG'S and automatic weapons. Opened fire with small arms and called artillery in on enemy. 12 NVA KIA and one AK-47.

211700H - G/2/9 at (YD 054686) found one NVA KIA. Also found 3 60mm rounds and 5 chicom grenades.

211730H - F/2/9 at (YD 054697) observed NVA near mortar pit. Fired M-60 machinegun and called in AO. 6 NVA KIA.

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f. 22 July 1968(1) Disposition of Forces.

E/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Conducted one platoon size patrol.

F/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Conducted one platoon size patrol.

G/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Conducted one platoon size patrol.

H/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Conducted one platoon size patrol.

(2) Enemy Contacts and Significant Events.

220730H - H/2/9 at (YD 054680) found 4 bunkers. Blew bunkers.

220845H - G/2/9 at (YD 052686) found 7 bunkers.

220947H - E/2/9 at (YD 062666) found 2 living bunkers. Bunkers blown.

221030H - E/2/9 at (YD 067669) found 6 enemy bunkers.

221110H - F/2/9 at (YD 059688) searched area and found misc. NVA gear.

221300H - G/2/9 at (YD 052681) found 7 bunkers and one mortar pit. Blew all emplacements.

222015H - G/2/9 at (YD 050681) spotted 2 NVA in open at the same coordinates. Fired arty and 81's.

g. 23 July 1968.(1) Disposition of Forces.

E/2/9 - Continued assigned mission.

F/2/9 - Continued assigned mission.

G/2/9 - Continued assigned mission.

H/2/9 - Continued assigned mission.

(2) Enemy Contacts and Significant Events.

231145H - H/2/9 at (YD 055676) found 3 bunkers and had them blown in place.

231545H - E/2/9 at (YD 052618) found 5 bunkers containing 36 rounds of 107mm rockets and 21 rounds of 110mm rockets. Blew in place.

231645H - G/2/9 at (YD 056618) found 2 bunkers.

231650H - F/2/9 at (YD 056617) found 3 107mm rockets, two bundles of aiming stakes and building material.

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h. 24 July 1968.(1) Disposition of Forces.

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E/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Conducted one platoon size patrol.

F/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Conducted one platoon size patrol.

G/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Conducted one platoon size patrol.

H/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Conducted one platoon size patrol.

(2) Enemy Contacts and Significant Events.

241130H - F/2/9 at (YD 057612) found 15 bunkers and misc. Gear. Blew all in place.

241130H - G/2/9 at (YD 055674) found 50 bunkers varying in size. Blew bunkers and rounds in place.

241150H - E/2/9 at (YD 052615) found 96 graves 3 to 4 months old. 96 NVA confirmed.

241255H - E/2/9 at (YD 055677) found 10 living bunkers and one tunnel. Found 9 82mm mortar fuses, one gas mask, 157 AK-47 rounds and 150 7.62 rounds. Blew all in place.

241430H - G/2/9 at (YD 155624) found 4 bunkers.

241430H - E/2/9 at (YD 158626) received 15 rounds small arms fire from enemy straggler in bunker. Returned fire and checked area with negative results.

i. 25 July 1968.(1) Disposition of Forces.

E/2/9 - Continued assigned mission.

F/2/9 - Continued assigned mission.

G/2/9 - Continued assigned mission.

H/2/9 - Continued assigned mission.

(2) Enemy Contacts and Significant Events.

250930H - G/2/9 at (YD 067623) found 15 bunkers. Also found 1 AK-47 and 100 AK-47 rounds. Blew in place.

251335H - G/2/9 at (YD 068623) found 40 enemy bunkers. Also found 1 canteen, 1 fibre pistol, 9 AK-47 rounds and 3 gas masks.

251330H - E/2/9 at (YD 034631) found rocket launching site consisting of 65 launching mounds with stakes. Also found 3 140mm rocket rounds and 34 107mm rocket rounds and one 122mm rocket round.

251600H - E/2/9 at (YD 057627) found total of 57 bunkers. All bunkers destroyed.

j. 26 July 1968.

(1) Disposition of Forces.

E/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Conducted one platoon size patrol.

F/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Conducted one platoon size patrol.

G/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Conducted one platoon size patrol.

H/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Conducted one platoon size patrol.

(2) Enemy Contacts and Significant Events.

260930H - G/2/9 at (YD 069625) found 30 bunkers also found 13-100lb bags of rice.

261100H - E/2/9 at (YD 032632) found 7 bunkers, 7 107mm rocket rounds, 2 140mm rocket rounds and 782 gear.

261100H - E/2/9 at (YD 035636) found 4 bunkers. Destroyed them all.

261830H - G/2/9 at (YD 080626) found 13 bunkers. Also found misc. 782 gear. Destroyed bunkers and brought in gear.

k. 27 July 1968.

(1) Disposition of Forces.

E/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Conducted 3 platoon size patrols and one company size patrol.

F/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Conducted 2 platoon size patrols.

G/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Conducted 2 platoon size patrols and one company size patrol.

H/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Conducted one platoon size patrol and one company size patrol.

(2) Enemy Contacts and Significant Events.

271035H - H/2/9 at (YD 053676) found 2 bunkers. Destroyed same.

271035H - G/2/9 at (YD 079625) found 20 bunkers. Destroyed same. Found numerous articles of 782 gear and NVA ammunition.

271115H - H/2/9 at (YD 057595) found 20 bunkers. Blew same.

271315H - G/2/9 at (YD 064634) found 28 bunkers and 4 mortar pits. Several articles of NVA 782 gear were also found. Bunkers were blown by engineers.

l. 28 July 1968.

(1) Disposition of Forces.

E/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Chopped OPCON to First Marines at 280800H July 1968.

F/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Chopped OPCON to First Marines at 280800H July 1968.

G/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Chopped OPCON to First Marines at 280800H July 1968.

H/2/9 - Continued assigned mission. Chopped OPCON to First Marines at 280800H July 1968.

(2) Enemy Contacts and Significant Events. N/A.

10. Results.

- a. Friendly Personnel Losses. 4 KIA and 1 DOW.
- b. Enemy Losses. (See Intelligence Portion of the report.)

11. Administrative matters. Water, Food and ammunition were helilifted to the battalion on daily resupply lifts from 17 July to 28 July 1968.

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R. E. Hensel
R. E. HENSEL
By direction