

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

3D MARDIV S&C FILE
 BT# 616468

00370-68
 1 of 10

3:JMS:trt
 1 November 68

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

Encl: ✓(1) Second Battalion, Ninth Marines Command Chronology
 ✓TAB A- A/Rpt (Opn LANCASTER - TROUSDALE)

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).

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

Copy to:

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

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

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 October 1968 to 31 October 1968

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SECTION I - Organizational Data

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

Commanding Officer	Maj F. E. SISLEY	1-31 October
Executive Officer		
S-1	1stLt R. E. HENSEL	1-31 October
S-2	1stLt W. M. KERR	1-31 October
S-3	Maj J. M. SMITH	1-31 October
S-4	1stLt J. M. B. MITCHELL	1-31 October
Comm Officer	1stLt W. O. WELDON, Jr.	1-31 October
MT Officer		
Supply Officer	2dLt L. S. DRIEVER, Jr.	1-31 October
Medical Officer	Lt M. M. SHERMAN	1-13 October
	Lt T. S. POWERS	14-31 October
Chaplain	LCDR W. L. CHILDERS	1-31 October
"H&S" Company	1stLt A. A. PIERCE	1-31 October
Company "E"	Capt J. D. WARD	1-31 October
Company "F"	Capt R. H. SUTTON	1-31 October
Company "G"	Capt D. N. BUCKNER	1-31 October
Company "H"	Capt D. F. WINECOFF	1-31 October

SECTION II - S-1 Chronology

1. General. During the reporting period, the officer strength has remained constant. 7 officers were joined and 7 were lost to this organization. The enlisted strength also remained constant during the reporting period having joined 99 and dropping 126. The non-effectives at the end of the reporting period totals 3 officers and 140 enlisted. Losses for the month of November 1968 are expected to be 58 enlisted who rotate to CONUS and 1 officer who rotates to CONUS.

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

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
40	1169	2	49

Note: Percentage of T/O was about 100%.

b. Losses.

	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
Hostile	0	3	0	0
Non-Hostile	0	13	0	1
Admin	7	110	1	5

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

(1) Of the battle casualties, 2 were KIA and 1 was WIA. The 1 WIA was transferred by service records to Camp S. D. BUTLER.

(2) Of the administrative losses, 3 officers rotated to CONUS, 4 were transferred inter-division. 68 enlisted rotated to CONUS, 26 were transferred to other WESTPAC commands and 16 were transferred inter-division.

c. Administrative

(1) State of Morale. Excellent.

(2) Significant Activities of Personal Service. None

(3) Promotions. 2 Corporals were promoted to Sergeant meritoriously, 6 Lance Corporals were promoted to Corporal meritoriously and 10 Private First Class were promoted to Lance Corporal meritoriously. On the regular promotion basis 32 Lance Corporals were promoted to Corporal, 5 Private First Class were promoted to Lance Corporal and 3 Privates were promoted to Private First Class.

(4) Discipline, Law and Order. 4 Special court-martials were completed, 3 Summary court-martials were completed and 6 persons were awarded NJP by the Battalion Commander.

(5) Mail. Service has been satisfactory.

- b. OPERATION SCOTLAND-NANKING - NONE
- c. OPERATION SCOTLAND II-MOUNTAIN - NONE
- d. OPERATION SCOTLAND II-AFTON - KIA / WIA / POW / DEF
1 0 0 4

6. ENEMY FORTIFICATIONS DESTROYED/CAPTURED.

- a. OPERATION LANCASTER II-TROUSDALE - NONE

- b. OPERATION SCOTLAND-NANKING

Fighting Bunkers	20
Fighting Holes	4
Mortar Pits	2
Tunnels	1
	<u>27 total</u>

- c. OPERATION SCOTLAND II-MOUNTAIN - NONE

- d. OPERATION SCOTLAND II-AFTON -

Fighting Bunkers	6	Tunnels	2
Living Bunkers	149	Kitchens	7
Storage Bunkers	4	Fighting Holes	97
Straw Shelters	37	Heads	3
<u>TOTAL 305 structures</u>			

7. ENEMY EQUIPMENT DESTROYED/CAPTURED

- a. OPERATION LANCASTER II-TROUSDALE - NONE

- b. OPERATION SCOTLAND-NANKING -

Ordnance-	7.62mm rds	500
	82mm rds	15
	50cal rds	300
	60mm rds	2
	Claymores	3
	ChiCom grenades	5
	Mortar fuzes	7
		<u>832 total</u>

- c. OPERATION SCOTLAND II-MOUNTAIN - NONE

- d. OPERATION SCOTLAND II-AFTON -

Individual Weapons Capt'd

Crossbow	1
Sword	1
	<u>2 total</u>

Ordnance

Mortar rds	3
5.56 rds	250
ChiCom gren	1
500lb bomb	1
250lb bomb	1
	<u>256 items</u>

d. OPERATION SCOTLAND II-AFTON - NONE

9. SOURCES OF INTELLIGENCE. During all four operations the usual sources of intelligence were used. Information gathered by S-2 Scouts, ground troops and aerial observers coupled with intelligence disseminated from Ninth Marines, Fourth Marines and Task Force Hotel provided the intelligence used during the operations. During OPERATION SCOTLAND II-AFTON, members of the 17th ITT were utilized to interrogate the civilians encountered.

10. PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE OPERATIONS. There were no psychological operations employed during this report.

11. ITEMS OF INTELLIGENCE INTEREST. N/A

12. COMMENTS AND CONCLUSIONS. N/A

20 FEB

d. OPERATION SCOTLAND II-AFTON - NONE

9. SOURCES OF INTELLIGENCE. During all four operations the usual sources of intelligence were used. Information gathered by S-2 Scouts, ground troops and aerial observers coupled with intelligence disseminated from Ninth Marines, Fourth Marines and Task Force Hotel provided the intelligence used during the operations. During OPERATION SCOTLAND II-AFTON, members of the 17th ITT were utilized to interrogate the civilians encountered.

10. PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE OPERATIONS. There were no psychological operations employed during this report.

11. ITEMS OF INTELLIGENCE INTEREST. N/A

12. COMMENTS AND CONCLUSIONS. N/A

MEDICAL GEAR

Battle dressings	2
Ampoules	10
Tablets	6
Medical bag	1
Salve	1 (tube)
Stretchers	10
	<u>30 items</u>

TOOLS

Wrecking bar	1
Pick	1
E tools	3
File	1
Hammer	1
Hoe	1
Road grader (manual)	3
	<u>11 items</u>

FOODSTUFFS

Rice	3140 lbs
Grain	11 3/4
Rye	250
Peppers	1
Fresh Fish	3
Corn	42
Herbs	1/2
Prepared bamboo slices	1
C-rats (Hungarian)	1/2
	<u>3,449 3/4 lbs</u>

782 GEAR

ChiCom pouches	3
Helmets	3
Shoulder straps	1
Pack	1
.45 Holster	1
Canteens	5
Canteen pouch	1
Bayonet (USMC)	1
Gas mask cover	2
	<u>18</u>

CLOTHING

Raincoat (USMC)	2
T-shirt	1
Socks (USMC)	1
Soft cover (USMC)	1
Sneakers	4 pr
Sandals	12
Utility jacket (USMC)	1
	<u>22 items</u>

MISCELLANEOUS

Propaganda sheets	2
Smoking pipe	1
Gas can (5 gal)	1
Lamps (fuel)	2
Knives (domestic)	14
Razor (English)	1
Stove	1
Ladle	1
Floor mats	5
Soft drink bottles	10
Comm wire (6' section)	1
Chow pots	4
Tables	18
Baskets	62
Living platforms	1
Water jugs	34
Rice mallets	4
Dishes	7
Fishnet	1
Mosquito net	1
Pans	3
Canvas sack	1
Demo bag	2
AK 47 mag	1
Gardens (cultivated)	2
	<u>total 180 items</u>

8. ENEMY INITIATED INCIDENTS

- a. OPERATION LANCASTER II TROUSDALE - NONE
- b. OPERATION SCOTLAND-NANKING - There was one NVA initiated incident by mortar.
- c. OPERATION SCOTLAND II-MOUNTAIN - NONE

Section IV - S-3 Chronology

1. General. The Second Battalion, Ninth Marines participated in the following operations during the month of October 1968:

Operation LANCASTER II - TROUSDALE	1-2 October 1968
Operation SCOTLAND - NANKING	2-17 October 1968
Operation SCOTLAND II - MOUNTAIN	17-25 October 1968
Operation SCOTLAND II - AFTON	25-31 October 1968

The following map sheets were used in support of the above operations: 6342I, 6342II, 6342III and 6442III.

2. Company "E", Second Battalion, Ninth Marines.

a. Operation LANCASTER II - TROUSDALE. E/2/9 participated in this operation from 1 to 2 October as a part of a blocking force. The company's mission was to help furnish the blocking force in the positions assigned to the battalion, such positions being in the vicinity of Thon Bang Son (YD 091535) and Thon Doc Kinh (YD 099526).

b. Operation SCOTLAND - NANKING. E/2/9 participated in this operation during the period 2 to 19 October 1968. The company's mission was to furnish security for and develop Fire Support Base Hawk. In addition, the company conducted local security patrols and ambushes in the vic of Fire Support Base Hawk (XD 895406). On 9 October 1968 E/2/9 was chopped OPCON to the Third Battalion, Fourth Marines and remained with that battalion until 19 October 1968 at which time the company returned to OPCON of Second Battalion, Ninth Marines.

c. Operation SCOTLAND II - MOUNTAIN. E/2/9 was assigned the mission of developing landing zones and mini fire support bases in the high ground immediately east of Vandegrift Combat Base (XD 990490) in the area of (XD 998515). On 22 October 1968 E/2/9 was helilifted into the designated area and commenced its assigned mission. On 24 October 1968 the company was helilifted back into Vandegrift Combat Base.

d. Operation SCOTLAND II - AFTON. E/2/9 participated in this operation during the period 25-31 October 1968. The company was assigned the mission of securing LZ Runway (XD 932281) and to provide security for the battalion center by preventing enemy movement through its assigned zone. On 26 October 1968 the company conducted a helilift to its assigned LZ.

3. Company "F", Second Battalion, Ninth Marines

a. Operation LANCASTER II - TROUSDALE. F/2/9 participated in this operation from 1 to 2 October 1968, as a part of the battalion blocking force. The company's mission was to help furnish the blocking force in the positions assigned to the battalion, such positions being in the vicinity of Thon Bang Son (YD 091535) and Thon Doc Kinh (YD 099526).

b. Operation SCOTLAND - NANKING. F/2/9 participated in this operation during the period 2 to 17 October 1968. The company's mission was to provide security for Hill #950 (XD 845455), develop and provide security for Fire Support Base Stormy (XD 944424) and provide security for Fire Support Base Sheppard (XD 937410). On 3 October 1968 F-1 was helilifted to Hill #950 and F-3 was helilifted to Fire Support Base Sheppard. F(-)2/9 was trucked to Fire Support Base Stormy and commenced its development. On 9 October 1968 Fire Support Base Stormy was evacuated and F(-) was helilifted to Fire Support Base Sheppard. On 17 October 1968 F(-)2/9 was helilifted to Vandegrift Combat Base and F-1 was chopped OPCON to Fourth Marines.

6. Operation SCOTLAND II - MOUNTAIN. F(-)2/9 participated in this operation from 17 to 25 October 1968. F(-) was assigned the mission of providing perimeter security on the western portion of the defensive lines of Vandegrift Combat Base. On 20 October 1968 F(-) was chopped OPCON of the First Battalion, Ninth Marines and remained OPCON to that unit until 25 October 1968.

7. Operation SCOTLAND II - AFTON. F/2/9 participated in this operation from 25 to 31 October 1968. F/2/9 was assigned the mission of seizing a battalion objective at (XD 931288) and to provide security to the battalion center by preventing enemy movement through its assigned zone. F/2/9 was helilifted in to LZ Runway vic (XD 932281) on 26 October 1968.

4. Company "G", Second Battalion, Ninth Marines

a. Operation LANCASTER II - TROUSDALE. G/2/9 participated in this operation from 1 to 2 October 1968 as part of the battalion blocking force. The company's mission was to provide a portion of the blocking force in the position assigned to the battalion, such positions being in the vicinity of Thon Bang Son (YD 091535) and Thon Doc Kinh (YD 099526).

b. Operation SCOTLAND - NANKING. G/2/9 participated in this operation during the period 2 to 16 October 1968. The mission of the company was to provide security for Hill #691 (XD 927443) and Fire Support Base Gates (XD 927437). On 3 October 1968 G-1 was helilifted to Hill #691 and G(-) was helilifted to Fire Support Base Gates. On 16 October 1968 G/2/9 was helilifted to Vandegrift Combat Base and chopped OPCON to Task Force Hotel.

c. Operation SCOTLAND II - MOUNTAIN. G/2/9 participated in this operation from 16 to 25 October 1968. On 17 October 1968 G/2/9 was chopped OPCON back to 2/9 and was assigned the mission of providing perimeter security for Vandegrift Combat Base, on the eastern portion. On 20 October 1968 G/2/9 was relieved of its portion of the Vandegrift Combat Base defensive lines and assigned the mission of developing LZ's and mini Fire Support Bases on the high ground in the immediate area east of Vandegrift Combat Base. G/2/9 was helilifted in to (XD 029479) on 22 October 1968. The company was returned to Vandegrift Combat Base on 25 October 1968.

d. Operation SCOTLAND II - AFTON. G/2/9 participated in this operation from 25 October to 31 October 1968. The company was assigned the mission of seizing the battalion objective vic (XD 902288) and to provide security for the battalion center by preventing enemy movement through its assigned zone. G/2/9 was helilifted into LZ Torch (XD 907278) on 26 October 1968.

5. Company "H", Second Battalion, Ninth Marines.

a. Operation LANCASTER II - TROUSDALE. H/2/9 participated in this operation from 1 to 2 October 1968 as part of the battalion blocking force. The company's mission was to provide a portion of the blocking force in the position assigned to the battalion, such positions being in the vicinity of Thon Bang Son (YD 091535) and Thon Doc Kinh (YD 099526).

b. Operation SCOTLAND - NANKING. H/2/9 participated in this operation during the period of 2 to 16 October 1968. The company's mission was to provide security for Fire Support Base Quantico (XD 871428). On 2 October 1968 the company was helilifted into Fire Support Base Quantico. On 16 October 1968 H/2/9 was helilifted into Vandegrift Combat Base and was chopped OPCON to Ninth Marines and Task Force Hotel simultaneously.

c. Operation SCOTLAND II - MOUNTAIN. H/2/9 participated in this operation during the period 17 to 20 October and 24 to 25 October 1968. H/2/9 was chopped OPCON to 2/9 on 17 October 1968 and was assigned the mission of being the Vandegrift Combat Base reaction force.

On 21 October 1968 H/2/9 was chopped OPCON to the Ninth Marines and departed Vandegrift Combat Base by truck to Dong Ha (XD 240590). The company returned to 2/9 on 24 October 1968.

d. Operation SCOTLAND II - AFTON. H/2/9 participated in this operation from 25 to 31 October 1968. The company was assigned the mission of securing LZ ~~March~~ (XD 907278), provide security for the Battalion Command Post, provide security for Engineer personnel as they accomplished their assigned mission and to provide security for the battalion center by preventing enemy movement through its assigned zone.

6. H&S Company, Second Battalion, Ninth Marines.

a. Operation LANCASTER II - TROUSDALE. H&S Company furnished the equipment and the required personnel to man the Battalion Command Post so that the command post could provide effective control of the battalion units during the period 1 to 2 October 1968.

b. Operation SCOTLAND - NANKING. H&S Company furnished the necessary men and equipment to provide effective control of the battalion units during the period 2 to 17 October 1968. The Battalion Command Group was helilifted into Fire Support Base Sheppard (XD 937410) on 3 October 1968. The Battalion Command Group assumed OPCON of A/1/4, B/1/4 and C/1/4 on 16 October 1968, the battalion units were disposed as described above. On 17 October 1968 the Battalion Command Group was helilifted to Vandegrift Combat Base chopping A/1/4, B/1/4 and C/1/4 OPCON to 1st Battalion, Fourth Marines.

c. Operation SCOTLAND II - MOUNTAIN. H&S Company furnished the necessary men and equipment to provide effective control of the battalion units during the period 17 to 25 October 1968. On 17 October 1968 the Battalion Command Group assumed responsibility for the defense of Vandegrift Combat Base and OPCON of G/2/9, H/2/9, B/1/9 and A/1/9. Other battalion units were disposed as described above. On 20 October 1968 2/9 was relieved of the responsibility of the defense of Vandegrift Combat Base by 1/9 and 2/9 at this time chopped OPCON of A/1/9, B/1/9 and F(-)2/9 to 1/9, other battalion units were disposed as described above.

d. Operation SCOTLAND II - AFTON. H&S Company furnished the necessary men and equipment to provide control of the battalion during the period 25 to 31 October 1968. The battalion assumed OPCON of M/3/9 on 25 October 1968. On 26 October 1968 the Battalion Command Group was helilifted into LZ ~~March~~ (XD 907278) and exercised control of the battalion units.

7. Close Combat. During the month of October Second Battalion, Ninth Marines conducted 5 company, 67 platoon and 91 squad size patrols. There was also 1 platoon and 15 squad size ambushes conducted.

8. Training. Due to operational commitments very little formal training was conducted. There were 85 replacement personnel who received training in accordance with Division Order 1510.3B.

9. Fire Support and Fire Support Coordination

a. Second Battalion, Ninth Marines was provided with direct fire support for the month of October by 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines batteries "P" and "W" and 3rd Battalion, 12th Marines batteries "G", "H", "I", and "W". General support was provided by 1st Battalion, 11th Marines battery "E" and 4th Battalion, 12th Marines battery "L". Tactical and technical control was provided by 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines.

b. Second Battalion, Ninth Marines employment of artillery for the month of October resulted in the following round expenditure: 3286 HE, 173 WP, 1 Illumination, 46 Firecracker and 18 Smoke. Nature of targets included active mortar and rocket sites,

suspected enemy positions, night defensive fires, TOT's, harrassing fires, mortar suppressive fires, covering fires, infiltration routes, prep fires and interdiction fires.

2. The artillery fire support for the month of October was considered satisfactory.

10. Air Support

a. Medevacs. A total of 24 personnel were medevaced during the month of October.

b. Command and Control. During the month of October 4 visual reconnaissance flights were performed.

c. Resupply. During the month of October 301,200 pounds of supplies were delivered to units in the field.

d. Troop Lifts. During the month of October 9 troop lifts were employed.

e. Fixed Wing. No fixed wing flights were controlled by Second Battalion, Ninth Marines during the month of October.

SECRET

ITEM	QTY
Compressor/for Flame Thrower	1
100mm Rifle	2

*The above compressor has been in FLSC-B since 5 September 1968. The second compressor is alleged to have too many parts missing and therefore FLSC-B will not accept the item for repair. As a result of the lack of operational compressors this battalion's Flame Section is inoperative.

c. There is no ordnance type Combat Essential Equipment on 3rd Echelon maintenance.

d. The following items of ordnance type Combat Essential Equipment are on order:

ITEM	DOCUMENT NUMBER	QTY
Pistol Cal. 45	8116-1557	65

4. Comm/Elect

a. Because of the equipment in 3rd echelon maintenance and the non availability of spare parts the Communications Section was considered barely satisfactory.

b. The following items of Comm/Elect Combat Essential Equipment are on 3rd Echelon Maintenance:

ITEM	QTY
Switch board telephone M58-22PV	1

PRC-41 has been in 3rd echelon maintenance since 11 September 68. PRC-47 has been in 3rd echelon maintenance since 11 November 68. KY-8 has been in 3rd echelon maintenance since 11 November 68.

d. The following items of Comm/Elect Combat Essential Equipment are on order:

ITEM	DOCUMENT NUMBER	QTY
------	-----------------	-----

Rec Radio AN/URR23	7308-0002	1
Battery for PRC-47	8169-2154	80
PRC-47	8179-2275	1
PRC-25	8171-2204	2
PRC-47	8221-0522	1
PRC-25	8175-2210	1
XMod Cable/for KY-8	8162-2210	4

5. Motor Transport.

a. 16 M274A2's are on 2nd echelon maintenance for the lack of starters (FSN 2920-570-3057). The situation on the M274A2's remain critical, as it has been for the past 6 months.

b. The below listed items of organic Motor Transport Combat Essential Equipment are on 3rd echelon maintenance:

ITEM	QTY
------	-----

Trk Cargo M37	1
Trk Platform M274A2	2

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SECRET

The M37 and one of the M274A2's have been in 3rd Echelon Repair since April 1968.

The below listed items of Organic Motor Transport Combat Essential Equipment are on 2nd Echelon Maintenance:

ITEM	QTY
M274A2	16

The following items of Organic Motor Transport Combat Essential Equipment are on order:

ITEM	DOCUMENT NUMBER	QTY
Starters for M274A2	8079-0969	1
" " "	8086-1086	1
" " "	8128-1681	6
" " "	8206-0309	5
Regulator for M151A1	8023-0220	1
" " "	8171-2165	5
" " "	8179-2287	5

a. Non Organic Transportation was considered satisfactory during the month. The 2 1/2 ton vehicle assigned to the battalion from Third Motors was deadlined at times due to various mechanical problems and was no use for considerable periods of time. Repair time seemed excessive but toward the latter part of the month improvement was noted. The 9th Marines Regiment at Vandegrift Combat Base provided the battalion with a backup vehicle during critical period.

6. Other Logistical Support. N/A.

7. Operations. See S-3 Chronology.

8. Logistical Lifts

a. Primary means of resupply was by CH-46 and CH-53 helicopters. The status of lifts are as follows:

LIFTS	CARGO	PERSONNEL
116	301,200 lbs	400

b. Vehicular Support. No comment.

The status of lifts are as follows:

LIFTS	CARGO	PERSONNEL
28	120,000 lbs	312

9. Ammunition expenditure for the month of October:

DODAC	NOMENCLATURE	QTY	UNITS OF ISSUE
A127	7.62 link	19,200rds	24 cases
A475	45 cal. ball	5,000rds	24 cases
B632	40mm HE	1,872rds	26 cases
B568	60mm HE	2,640rds	264 cases
B630	60mm WP	477rds	53 cases
B627	60mm Illum	321rds	36 cases
C256	81mm HE	1,620rds	540 cases
C226	81mm Illum	54rds	18 cases

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BCDAC	NOMENCLATURE	QTY	UNIT OF ISSUE
0230	81mm WP	216rds	72 cases
0250	106mm HE	50rds	25 cases
0251	106mm HEPT	30rds	15 cases
0240	Grenade Hand	420rds	14 cases
0255	Rkt 60mm (LAAW)	150rds	10 cases
0240	Green Smk	64rds	4 cases
0245	Yellow Smk	160rds	10 cases
0213	Mine AP M18A	17	1 case
0214	Sig Illum white para	15	1 case
0215	Sig Grn Star Clust	12	1 case
0216	Sig Wht Star Clust	12	1 case
0208	Flare, Surface Trp	96rds	3 cases
0032	Chg Block TNT lb. 1,650		35 cases
0071	5.56 Ball	113,160rds	69 cases
M756	Demo kit lbs	70kits	35 cases
A068	5.56 tracer	1,680rds	1 case
M420	Shape charge	75	75 cases
M139	Cratering charge	50	50 cases
M670	Time fuse	800ft	13/5 cans
M456	Det Cord	6,500ft	13 cans
A935	Hand WP	32rds	2 cases
M131	Blasting caps	1,250caps	25 boxes
K143	Claymores	54rds	9 cases

NOMENCLATURE

QTY

UNIT

81mm WP

216rds

72 cases

106mm HE

50rds

25 cases

106mm HEPT

30rds

15 cases

Grenade Hand

420rds

14 cases

Rkt 60mm (LAAW)

150rds

10 cases

Green Smk

64rds

4 cases

Yellow Smk

160rds

10 cases

Mine AP M18A

17

1 case

Sig Illum white para

15

1 case

Sig Grn Star Clust

12

1 case

Sig Wht Star Clust

12

1 case

Flare, surface trp

96rds

3 cases

Chg Block TNT lb. 1,650

35 cases

5.56 Ball

113,160rds

69 cases

Demo kit lbs

70kits

35 cases

5.56 tracer

1,680rds

1 case

Shape charge

75

75 cases

Cratering charge

50

50 cases

Time fuse

800ft

13/5 cans

Det Cord

6,500ft

13 cans

Hand WP

32rds

2 cases

Blasting caps

1,250caps

25 boxes

Claymores

54rds

9 cases

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED

SECRET

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 S-5 to begin projects as soon as Operational commitments allow.

Section VI - S-5

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

SECRET

SECRET

Section VII - Communication Chronology

1. General. The communication platoon was divided into three sections during the month of October. The rear section consisting of approximately (20) men, provided radio, wire, message center and repair support at Quang Tri. From 8 to 10 men supported the 3rd at Vandegrift Combat Base. The remainder of the platoon provided normal communication support to the battalion in the field on the following operations:

OPERATIONDATE

MANCASTER II - TROUSDALE	1 October	- 2 October
SCOTLAND - NANKING	2 October	- 17 October
SCOTLAND - MOUNTAIN	17 October	- 25 October
SCOTLAND - AFTON	25 October	- 31 October

2. Wire. Normal wire was used at Quang Tri and Vandegrift Combat Base. Wire was also used in the field on Operation SCOTLAND - NANKING to establish perimeter defense communication on the Fire Support Bases.

3. Radio. Normal radio communications was established at all battalion locations. A field expedient half rhombic antenna was used on Operation SCOTLAND - AFTON with excellent results.

4. Message Center. The message center processed (478) incoming and 26 outgoing messages during the month of October. Normal shackles and brevity codes were delivered to the field.

1. General. The communication platoon was divided into three sections during the month of October. The rear section consisting of approximately (20) men, provided radio, wire, message center and repair support at Quang Tri. From 8 to 10 men supported the 3rd at Vandegrift Combat Base. The remainder of the platoon provided normal communication support to the battalion in the field on the following operations:

OPERATIONDATE

MANCASTER II - TROUSDALE	1 October	- 2 October
SCOTLAND - NANKING	2 October	- 17 October
SCOTLAND - MOUNTAIN	17 October	- 25 October
SCOTLAND - AFTON	25 October	- 31 October

2. Wire. Normal wire was used at Quang Tri and Vandegrift Combat Base. Wire was also used in the field on Operation SCOTLAND - NANKING to establish perimeter defense communication on the Fire Support Bases.

3. Radio. Normal radio communications was established at all battalion locations. A field expedient half rhombic antenna was used on Operation SCOTLAND - AFTON with excellent results.

4. Message Center. The message center processed (478) incoming and 26 outgoing messages during the month of October. Normal shackles and brevity codes were delivered to the field.

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1. General. During the month of October, the BAS held sick call for 551 Marine Corps personnel. No medical civic action program was conducted.

3. Disease, Injuries and Treatment in General. There was a sharp drop in malaria incidence this month due to seasonal variation and improved malaria education. There was also a drop in incidence of G.C.

4. Casualties and Hospitalization. There were 2 KIA's, 1 WIA, 1 WIA NE, 49 NBC's and 1 DAI. Outpatient treatment consisted of: 10 shrapnel wounds, 20 PUO, 189 dermatology conditions, 23 G.U. infections, 34 BENT, 248 missl, 7 psychiatric cases and 20 diarrhea conditions.

6. Complement of BAS. At the close of the month, the BAS had a complement of 1 Medical Officer and 49 Hospital Corpsmen. There were 3 SNCO's attached, 9 personnel joined, 8 transferred and 2 non-effectives in the battalion.

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Section IX - Chaplain's Chronology

1. General. During the month of October Protestant, Catholic and Jewish services were provided for the men of the Battalion.
2. Protestant. Protestant services were conducted by the Battalion Chaplain. The wide spread unit dispersion necessitated that the services be conducted for each individual company.
3. Catholic. Catholic services were provided by various Catholic Chaplains in the neighborhood of the Battalion units; in the absence of the Chaplain, services were conducted by unit layleaders.
4. Jewish. Jewish services were conducted whenever a Chaplain of the Jewish faith was available.
5. Personal Services. The Battalion Chaplain conducted such interviews and counselling services as requested by individuals of the Battalion.

SECRET

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3. Catholic. Catholic services were provided by various Catholic Chaplains in the neighborhood of the Battalion units; in the absence of the Chaplain, services were conducted by unit layleaders.
4. Jewish. Jewish services were conducted whenever a Chaplain of the Jewish faith was available.
5. Personal Services. The Battalion Chaplain conducted such interviews and counselling services as requested by individuals of the Battalion.

UNCLASSIFIED

Section III - S-2 ChronologyPart I

1. GENERAL INFORMATION. During the reporting period Second Battalion Ninth Marines participated in four operations. On 1 and 2 October the battalion participated in OPERATION LANCASTER II-TROUSDALE while OPCON to Ninth Marines. From 2-17 October, the Battalion participated in OPERATION SCOTLAND-NANKING while OPCON to Fourth Marines. From 17-25 October, the Battalion participated in OPERATION SCOTLAND II-MOUNTAIN while OPCON to Ninth Marines. From 25-31 October, the Battalion participated in OPERATION SCOTLAND II-AFTON while OPCON to Ninth Marines.

2. DESCRIPTION OF OPERATING AREA'S

a. During OPERATION LANCASTER II-TROUSDALE, the battalion set up a blocking force around three villages, Thon Doc Kinh vic (YD 099526), Thon Bong Son vic (YD 091535), and Thon Mai Loc vic (YD 113512). This area can best be described as rolling grazing land, large rice paddies, and wooded villages. Prominent terrain features in the area include Hill 158 vic (YD 092561) and the Camp J.J. CARROLL Plateau vic (YD 0654). Avenues of approach include Provincial Rt 558 running south from Cam Lo vic (YD 145495), the access road connecting Camp J.J. CARROLL with the Popular Forces Camp at Delta-5 vic (YD 094515) and additional well used trails running in all directions in this area. Enemy avenues of approach include Provincial Rt 558 running north from the Ba Long Valley vic (YD 0942), the stream bed of the Khe Tro Do Stream running eastward from the Thon Dong Son Village complex and the numerous trails frequented by indigenous personnel leading east and south east. Trafficability in this area is excellent for both ground troops and vehicles. Open pastures dotted with small bushes and sectioned off by thin hedgerows or single strand barbed wire offer no impediment. Streams in the area are of insufficient size to hamper either foot or vehicular traffic. Provincial Rt 558 has all weather capabilities in most places. The Delta-5 access road has limited fair weather capabilities, but will accommodate all sizes of vehicles when dry. Helicopter landing zones are numerous in this area because the terrain consists of flat, open, unobstructed fields capable of handling many helicopters of any size. (Ref: AMS sheet 6342 I)

b. During OPERATION SCOTLAND-NANKING, the battalion occupied and defended fire support bases between Khe Sanh vic (XD 850415) and Ca Lu vic (YD 006457). This area is characterized by rugged hills, two of which (Hill 691 vic (YD 926443) and Hill 950 vic (XD 845456), dominated the area and offered commanding views. The Quang Tri River is the only waterway in the area. The dense vegetation in the area limited traffic to existing trails. Route 9 was used as a resupply route for Fire Support Base Stormy vic (YD 947422). The vegetation consisted of medium to large size trees, thick undergrowth and dense bamboo forests. Friendly avenues of approach would include Route 9 west of Ca Lu to FSB Stormy and all the helicopter landing zones. Enemy avenues of approach include Route 9 west of Khe Sanh and a well developed trail complex running through the area. Route 9 west of Ca Lu is in poor condition and many of the bridges have been destroyed. The trails in the area are numerous and in good condition. Many of the trails have been improved with logs to protect them from the rains. Helicopter landing zones in the area include FSB Cates vic (XD 928438), FSB Stormy vic (YD 947422), FSB H. vic (XD 895408), FSB Quantico vic (XD 871428), FSB Shepard vic (XD 935410), Hill 691 and Hill 950. (Ref: AMS sheets 6342 III & 6442 IV)

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c. During OPERATION SCOTLAND II-MOUNTAIN, the Battalion occupied and defended helicopter landing zones in the mountains to the east of Vandegrift Combat Base vic (YD 995490). The terrain in this area falls into the category of rugged hill and mountains. The prominent terrain feature in the area is Dong Toan vic (YD 0944) and the ridgeline of which it is part. Extremely poor trafficability is encountered in this area because of the thick vegetation and the steep gradient of the land masses. Friendly avenues of approach would include all HLZ's in the area and Route 9 running southwest and south from Cam Lo into Vandegrift Combat Base. Vegetation consists of dense forests, heavy under brush and elephant grass growing to heights of eight to ten feet. Route 9 is an all weather road capable of handling all types of traffic. The trails in the area are restricted to group troops. (Ref: AMS sheet 6442 III)

d. During OPERATION SCOTLAND II-AFTON, the battalion operated in an area 20,000 meters south west of Vandegrift Combat Base, in close proximity to the Laotian border. Generally speaking, the terrain is rough. The hills are steep but the ridgelines are wide enough for troop movement. A prominent terrain feature in the area is Co Yan vic (XD 941311). Friendly avenues of approach would include all HLZ's in the area. Enemy avenues of approach would include all the trails in the area and a man made road running east from Laos in South Viet Nam. Vegetation in the area consists of tall trees, large amounts of underbrush and sections covered with thick, tall elephant grass. There are many small streams in the area, but they are of insufficient size to hamper movement. Trails in the area are few but in good condition although they are not reinforced as other trails have been. The road running east from Laos is ten meters wide and seemed capable of handling heavy vehicles up to and including tanks during the dry season. Helicopter Landing Zones in the area include LZ Robin vic (XD 907278), LZ Runway vic (XD 932281) and LZ Torch vic (XD 905278). (Ref: AMS sheet 6442 III)

3. WEATHER. During this reporting period, 1-31 October 1968, there was 20-28 inches of rain during 24 days of precipitation in the operating areas. Temperatures ranged from the high 50's to the low 80's. Average cloudiness totaled approximately 58% with about 6 days with minimal or non-existent cloud cover.

4. ENEMY SITUATION

a. OPERATION LANCASTER II-TROUSDALE - During this operation there were no contacts or significant enemy activity.

b. OPERATION SCOTLAND-NANKING - During this operation, the enemy chose to avoid any contact with friendly forces. The only significant incident initiated by the enemy was a mortar attack on friendly forces at FSB Quantico.

c. OPERATION SCOTLAND II-MOUNTAIN - There were no enemy contacts or significant events during this operation.

d. OPERATION SCOTLAND II-AFTON - During this operation, the enemy again chose to avoid any large contact with friendly forces. Except for a few brief sightings of enemy troops, there were no significant activity.

5. NVA/VC CASUALTIES AND PERSONNEL LOSSES

a. OPERATION LANCASTER II-TROUSDALE - NONE

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Section V - 3-4 Chronology

1. General. Resupply, air and ground, was hampered by inclement weather during the month of October 1968. However, no major problems were encountered. A limited number of rainsuits were received, however, not enough were received for issue of one suit to each man in the Battalion. The battalion's 81mm mortar and 100mm recoilless rifles were inspected by a Contact Team furnished by PLSG-B, necessary repairs were initiated. The Vandegrift Combat Base ASP continued to experience difficulties in that on several instances "bad" lots of ammunition were issued to the Battalion units. Starters for M274AL vehicles remained NIS. These starters have not been available for a period in excess of six months, thus directly affecting the battalion's operational efficiency. Miscellaneous problems encountered included the difficulty in the air movement of passenger and mail between Vandegrift Combat Base and the Battalion units. The mail has been delayed in excess of two or three days.

2. Supply.

a. The supply situation presented no major problems. However, the listed items were in short supply during the month:

Compasses	Canteens
8 x 10 Tables (paper)	Poncho's
E-tools	Suspender Straps
M-16 Magazines	Bond paper
.45 cal. Magazines	Mimeograph paper
BA 386's	Duplicating paper
Helmet liners	Carbon Flimsies
Starters for M274AL	BA 30's
Electrolyte	Backorder cards
Pneumatic mattress	Trip Tickets
Typewriters	Manila folders
Haversacks	Envelopes
.45 cal. pistols	Fitness Reports
Dapzone	Memo books
Plastic knives, forks and spoons	AA Forms
WD-40	IMR Cards
LSA	.45 cal. Holsters
Black Jackets	.45 cal slide stops
Canteen Covers	

b. During the month of October BA 386's continued to be in short supply. 720 BA 386's were received and at present 1229 BA 386's are on order. The situation remains critical.

c. Items of significant importance received:

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>QTY</u>
Handset H189	12
Rainsuits	868
Camouflage Utility Trousers	1178
Camouflage Utility Shirts	40
Undershirts	100

3. Ordnance.

a. The battalion has a deficit of 65 pistols cal. 45 which are on order.

b. The following items of Ordnance type Combat Essential Equipment are on 3rd echelon maintenance:

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