

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS

Battalion Landing Team 2/9
 3rd Marine Division(-)(Rein), FMF
 FPO San Francisco, 96602

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3/GBB/dm
 5750
 19/ect69
 00263-69

UNCLASSIFY UPON REMOVAL
 OF ENCLOSURE (1)

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commandant of the Marine Corps
 Via: (1) Commanding Officer, 9th Marines
 (2) Commanding General, 3rd Marine Division
 (3) Commanding General, FMFPac

Subj: Command Chronology for period 01 November to 30 November 1969

Ref: (a) MOO 5750.2
 (b) FMFPacO 5750.84

Encl: (1) November 1969 Command Chronology (S)

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

John Van Elzen
 J. R. VAN DEN ELZEN

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GROUP 4

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
 DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
 LOD DIR 5200.1D

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HEADQUARTERS

Battalion Landing Team 2/9
3rd Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO San Francisco, 96602COMPANY CHRONOLOGY01 November 1969 to 30 November 1969INDEX

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DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
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Enclosure (1) BLT 2/9 ITR
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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. (S) Designation

Headquarters 2/9

Commander

LtCol J.H. VAN DEN ELZEN

Date

1-30Nov

Subordinate Units

"H&S" Company

1stLt D.C. WOOLLEY

1-3 Nov

"E" Company

Capt J.K. SHOCKEY, JR.

4-30Nov

"F" Company

Capt J.K. SHOCKEY, JR.

1-3 Nov

"G" Company

1stLt C.F. CALDWELL

4-30Nov

"H" Company

1stLt J.M. HOARK

1-30Nov

1stLt M.R. BRODERICK

1-11Nov

Capt H.B. WILHELM

15-30Nov

Capt R.C. NORRIS

1-30Nov

Direct Support Units

"E" Btry, (Rein), 2/12

Capt J.M. SMITH

1-30Nov

2ndPlt(Rein), CoC, 3rdEngrBn

2ndLt W.S. McCUE

1-30Nov

2ndPlt(Rein), CoC, 3rdReconBn

2ndLt J.C. TOMASELLO

1-30Nov

2ndPlt(Rein), CoC, 3rdMTBn

1stLt R.W. HUNER

1-30Nov

2ndPlt(Rein), CoC, 3rdSFBn

1stLt M.A. SMITH

1-30Nov

2ndPlt(Rein), CoB, 1stAmtracBn

1stLt J.E. COON

1-30Nov

1stPlt(Rein), CoA, 3rdTkBn

2ndLt S.W. BENVENUTO

1-30Nov

2ndClrPlt(Rein), CoB, 3rdMedBn

Lt. R.T. GAUACK

1-30Nov

LSU, Alfa

2ndLt H.T. GAUMARTIN, JR.

1-30Nov

Det, Disbursing

Wd. R.A. ROQUEMORE

1-30Nov

Det, Dental

Lt. R.C. ESQUIRE

1-30Nov

"W" Btry, 3/12

Capt S.H. WINEGARDNER

15-30Nov

2. (S) Location. Headquarters, Battalion Landing Team 2/9
Camp Schwab, Okinawa

3. (S) Staff Officers

XO

Major C.G. BRYAN

1-20Nov

S-1

Major R.C. MILLER

21-30Nov

S-2

Capt B.J. RAMSEY

1-11Nov

S-3

2ndLt J.A. LINDSAY

15-30Nov

S-4

1stLt J.B. SWARTZENBERG

1-30Nov

CommC

Major G.D. BRENNAN II

1-30Nov

SupplyO

Capt G.W. SACHTLBEN

1-30Nov

GySgt L.E. HOLSTON

1-2 Nov

CWO-2 R.S. LOMINGUEZ

3-30Nov

1stLt L.S. DRIEVER, JR.

1-5 Nov

1stLt J.O. WALLING

6-30Nov

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Chaplain
Medical Officer

2nd Lt J.D. HUME	1-27Nov
1st Lt S.G. MILLAR	28-30Nov
Lt (JG) W.L. PATRICK	1-30Nov
Lt. D.H. HAILE	1-27Nov
Lt. G.W. GOSSEMAN	28-30Nov

4. (S) Average Monthly Strength

USMC		USN		OTHER	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
62	1420	2	45	0	0

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PART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY

- 1.(S) During the month of November, BLT 2/9 continued to prepare for deployment with SLF ALFA. Supporting units were incorporated as much as possible into the battalion training program and live fire exercises. Most of the supporting units were relocated to Camp Schwab as well, and placed under the administrative control of H&S Company.
- 2.(S) The battalion continued Phase II training the first two weeks of November, completing live firing of all company and battalion organic weapons. Phase II training was completed on 15 November and the BLT concentrated on amphibious training from then until 30 November.
- 3.(S) A large turnover of personnel took place near the end of the month, preventing many of the new acquisitions from taking advantage of the specialized training.
- 4.(S) The equipment status of the BLT improved greatly in all areas and by the end of the month the command was fully ready logistically.

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1.(C) Training. In addition to normal GMS classroom instructions and Camp Duty, the BLT concentrated on live firing of weapons and specialized training for deployment.

a. During the first week of November, "G" and "H" Companies each had a day of live firing for all their weapons. The 106mm Recoilless Rifle Platoon also had a separate day of live firing. 2nd Platoon, "C" Company, 3rd Engrs gave classes to each company in demolitions, minelaying, and mine detection and gave a day of specialized training to the rocket sections of each company. Also, thirty personnel from the battalion attended guerilla training at Camp Hardy with the Army Special Forces. Ninety-nine personnel completed rifle qualification with 44 firing expert; 34, sharpshooter; and 21, marksman; for 100% qualification.

b. The second week of November was devoted to amphibious training and water survival. Classes in boat team organization, proper wearing of equipment, lashing and lowering of crew-served weapons, debarkation stations, shipboard life, and a dry net exercise were given at Camp Schwab to E,F,G,H,H&S Companies plus attachments from "E" Btry, LSU, SF, Tanks, Recon, and Engineers. Drown-proofing instruction was held for E,F,G,H, and H&S Companies. The 81mm Mortar Platoon had a live firing exercise on 13 November. The General Military Subjects Proficiency Test was administered to 746 personnel during the week with the following results: Pvt thru LCpl--350 passed, 350 failed; Cpl and Sgt--37 passed, 9 failed. The results showed improvement over similiar testing in September 1969.

c. From 17 to 21 November, Amtrac training was held for all the companies and attachments including "E" Btry, 2/12, Clr Plt, MT, and SP. Training included capabilities and limitations of Amtracs, safety procedures, land and surf driving and an amphibious assault. Live fire exercises were also held for "E" Btry, Clearing Platoon, MT Platoon, and Amtrac Platoon personnel throughout the week. The Helicopter Support Teams from Shore Party received training in their specialty with the Air Liaison Officer and Forward Air Controller. On 20 November, Operation Plan 120-(YR) was published.

d. The last week of November was devoted to pre-embarkation matters for the most part. The 68 man Advance Party for BLT 2/9 departed for Subic Bay on 25 November. Two days were set aside for personnel going afloat to zero their individual weapons and the Forward Air Controller conducted training for his personnel on 26 November utilizing an OV-10.

e. Throughout the month, physical training was stressed with frequent conditioning hikes and daily physical training periods. "H" Company administered the Physical Fitness Test with 90% qualifying.

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2.(U) Education. Group Study MCI courses were requested and received for the period afloat. Formal schools attended were: NCO School--9, Career Planning--3, Basic Infantry Weapons--2, Embarkation School--3.

3.(U) Special Events. On 7 November, "H" Company provided the color company at MCAS, Futenma, for the arrival of the advance elements of Headquarters, 3rd Marine Division and CG, 3rd Marine Division, Major General W. K. JONES. On 10 November, the battalion participated in a Regimental Marine Corps Birthday Ceremony with the Assistant 3rd Marine Division Commander, BrigGen CARNEY in attendance. From 12 November through 22 November, Command Inspections were held of all BLT supporting units by the BLT Commander and inspecting teams. On 25 November, the Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, General L. W. WALT, visited Camp Schwab to speak to the men of BLT 2/9 and witness training. On 28 November, an Appointment and Relief Ceremony was held for outgoing BLT Sgt Major, Sgt Major G. D. MILLS, and incoming BLT Sgt Major, First Sgt E. E. MUELLER, with Assistant Division Commander, 3rd Marine Division in attendance.

4.(S) Equipment

a. The month of November for the battalion was largely devoted to preparation for deployment as Battalion Landing Team 2/9. The supply section, working in conjunction with the 9th MAB Supply Officer, I MEF Supply Officer and 3rd Marine Division Logistics personnel, established procedures for picking up equipment from other 3rd Marine Division units. In addition, procedures were promulgated for the invoicing of equipment from attached units to BLT 2/9. The fill rate of requisitions during November was unsatisfactory, but most of the equipment needed was acquired from other sources in the Division. Most of the equipment turned into 3rd FSR for repair was returned in time for embarkation.

b. At the end of the month, BLT shortages of major items of Combat Essential Equipment were as follows:

COMM-ELECT	AUTH	O/H	O/R	REPAIR	ON ORDER
MRC-87	1	0	0	0	1
T/S-21/PPS-6	2	0	0	0	2
AN/PCC-1	10	0	0	0	10
AN/VCC-2	3	0	0	0	3

5.(C) Logistics

a. Supply and Distribution. Third Force Service Regiment was the primary source of supply and maintenance for the Battalion Landing Team.

b. Transportation

(1) All BLT vehicles were operational as of 30 November.

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(2) The 2nd Plt (Rein) "C" Company, 3rd Motor Transport Battalion was attached to and provided direct support for BLT 2/9.

(3) Additional MT support came from Regimental and Division resources as needed.

c. Engineer Support. The 2nd Plt (Rein) "C" Company, 3rd Engineer Battalion was attached to and provided direct support for the BLT.

d. Service Situation. Service provided this Battalion during November was adequate.

e. Supply Situation

(1) Statistical data of priority 02 requisitions

- (a) 32 priority requisitions unfilled at end of October.
- (b) 9 priority requisitions of (a) above unfilled during November.
- (c) 16 priority requisitions submitted during November.
- (d) 11 priority requisitions completed during November.
- (e) 14 priority requisitions unfilled at the end of November.

(2) Priority 02 requisitions unfilled during November consists of the following category: Communications

f. Medical

(1) Sick call census:

Company census	815
BAS census	1105
Admissions	49
Total	2269

(2) Cases of Malaria: 27

(3) Cases of Venereal Disease:

Gonorrhea	34
Chancroid	0
Syphilis	0
NSU	9
Total	43

(4) Lecture subjects covered by corpsmen with the Marines:

Venereal Disease.

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NBC Warfare.Artificial Resuscitation.
First Aid on Fractures.
First Aid on Bullet and Shrapnel Wounds.
First Aid on Burns.**6.(C) Personnel and Administration****a. Personnel****(1) Enlisted MOS Shortages**

MOS	RANK	SHORTAGES
0369	E-6/E-7/E-8	7
3052	E-3	2
5711	E-5	1
5931	E-5	1

(2) Rotation during the month (CONUS)

MC OFF	MC ENL	NAVY OFF	NAVY ENL
1	26	0	3

(3) Replacements received during the month

MC OFF	MC ENL	NAVY OFF	NAVY ENL
1	270	2	15

(4) Casualties: 50 NBC**(5) Promotions:**

SgtMaj	1stSgt	MSgt	GySgt	SSgt	Sgt	Cpl	LCpl	PFC
0	1	1	0	0	0	247	52	2

(6) Awards: None**b. Administration**

(1) Special Services. The Special Services Section held an inventory of all equipment. This was the first inventory held since the battalion left RVN and the records were updated. Old equipment and equipment not being taken afloat was turned in. A new supply of special services gear was drawn from 3rd Marine Division Special Services, which gave each man a 3rd Marine Division sweatshirt, writing gear, and Christmas cards. Each company was given recreation gear for use during the period aboard ship. A sum of \$1484.74 was turned over to the Custodian of Recreation Fund for use while afloat.

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DECLASSIFIED(2) Discipline

(a) Courts-Martial:	<u>Completed</u>	<u>Pending</u>
GCM	0	0
SPCM	4	0
SCM	12	0

(b) Battalion Commander's Office Hours: 15

(c) Company Commander's Office Hours: 52

(3) Marine EX and Postal Affairs(a) EX. Facilities are considered adequate.(b) Postal Facilities. Postal Facilities are considered adequate.(4) Chaplain Services. During the month of November, Battalion Landing Team 2/9 participated in divine services in the Camp Schwab Chapel.7. (C) Intelligence. During the month of November, the S-2 implemented several new procedures to support the BLT more effectively. The most significant of these was a system for auditing Service Record Books for the ENTNAC entries.

During this period, the S-2 Scouts were given training on the basic subjects required in the performance of their duties. These subjects included handling of POW's, documents and material, collection and reporting of intelligence information, Scouts jobs, map reading and photo reading.

On 16 November, a Staff Sergeant, 0239, reported aboard and filled the billet of S-2 Chief.

On 26 November, the battalion S-2 Officer and S-2 Chief presented a classified briefing for all BLT Officers. The briefing encompassed eight different countries and their current political/military situations.

6. (C) Communications/Electronics

a. General. During the month of November, the Communications Platoon continued to provide Communications support to the Battalion. Liaison with the CEO office of I MEF was established for coordination in planning for the up-coming deployment of BLT 2/9. Equipment status at the time had improved as provisions had been made by CEO I MEF to obtain needed equipment from on-island assets. A second echelon maintenance program began for the attached units and a COMMEX was held on the 20th of November with I MEF CEO, LtCol DEEM, and Assistant I MEF CEO, Major SCHUMAN, attending. Near the end of the month, key rank and MOS shortages were filled in the platoon. During the last few days of the month, emphasis was placed on embarkation. The message center boarded the USS Tripoli LPH-10 on 28 November to establish a troop message center.

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b. Radio. In addition to the normal preventive maintenance program, equipment was made ready for embarkation. Normal radio support to the companies was maintained.

c. Wire. Normal preventive maintenance and training was performed and equipment was made ready for embarkation.

d. Message Center. Training of personnel was the main theme during the month. All general files were brought up to date. New COMTAC publications were obtained for the library. The message center processed 48 outgoing and 539 incoming messages.

e. Radio-Relay. The detachments from Radio-Relay, 7th Comm Battalion, (Three men and an MRC-62 w/trailer) and HQ Co, 9th Marines (Three men and two TRC-27's) joined the BLT in early November.

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