

HEADQUARTERS

3d Battalion, 9th Marines, Marine #20
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
c/o FPO, San Francisco, California

3/PAB/jaz
5750
3 Jan 1966

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force

Subj: Command Chronology, 1-31 December 1965

Ref: (a) DivO 5750.1

Encl: (1) Command Chronology, 1-31 December 1965
(2) S-2/S-3 Journal
(3) 3/9 OpO 329-65
(4) Popular Forces Training Report, 7-13 Dec 1965
(5) Popular Forces Training Report, 14-20 Dec 1965
(6) Popular Forces Training Report, 21-27 Dec 1965

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (6) are submitted.

W. W. Taylor
W. W. TAYLOR

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY 1-31 DEC 19651. Organizational Dataa. Designations/Locations

- (1) 3d Battalion, 9th Marines
- (2) 1-2 December 1965, occupied positions South of Da Nang from (AT 9965) to (BT 0365).
- (3) 3-31 December 1965, occupied defensive positions on Da Nang Air Base.

b. Period Covered: 1-31 December 1965c. Commanding Officer, Staff and Principal Subordinates

- (1) Commanding Officer - LtCol W. W. TAYLOR
- (2) Executive Officer - Major T. R. KELLY
- (3) S-3 Officer
 - (a) 1-27 December - Major R. E. EIDSON
 - (b) 28-31 December - Major W. J. THOMAS
- (4) S-4 Officer - Capt R. K. WIER
- (5) S-2 Officer - 1stLt D. G. RICHARDSON
- (6) S-1/Adjutant - 1stLt J. T. MACKIN
- (7) Company "I", Company Commander - Capt D. S. RILLING
- (8) Company "K", Company Commander - Capt R. P. BROOKS
- (9) Company "L", Company Commander - Capt D. D. COLCOMBE
- (10) Company "M", Company Commander
 - (a) 1 - 25 December - 1stLt R. J. CRAIG
 - (b) 26 - 31 December - Capt G. R. GRIGGS
- (11) H&S Company, Company Commander - 1stLt C. C. PIERPOINT III

d. Average Monthly Strength

- (1) Marine Officer - 32
- (2) Marine Enlisted - 962
- (3) Navy Officer - 3
- (4) Navy Enlisted - 54

2. Significant Events

a. Personnel

- (1) Wounded in Action - 1
- (2) Killed in Action - 1
- (3) Died of Wounds - 0
- (4) Non-battle Casualties - 19

b. Training

(1) Training during this period was directed toward proficiency in FO Procedures, booby-traps and mines, patrolling, immediate action drills and security of communications. In addition, 350 Marines fired for familiarization with M14 rifles, .45 Cal pistols and shotguns.

(2) Popular Forces trained jointly with units of this Battalion. See enclosures (4) through (6).

c. Communications-Electronics

(1) During the month of December, Comm Platoon participated in the displacement of the Bn Headquarters and the four rifle companies, by establishing and monitoring uninterrupted communications. Taking advantage of the lull in activities, all T/E equipment was given a thorough first echelon maintenance. Classes were held for new radio operators on the operation of organic radios and also tactical air control party procedures. H&S Company and the four rifle companies received 1½ hours of classes on Communications Security. In addition, the rifle companies received two hours of class on operation of the AN/PRC-10 and procedures.

(2) One AN/PRC-10 and one AN/PRC-47 were lost during Operation "Harvest Moon" while in support of an ARVN Battalion.

d. Close Combat

(1) 1 December - Company "M" conducted a S&B of Giang Dong (BT 007678) and (via Giang (2) (BT 002565)). Company "K" provided a blocking force via (BT 003665). Ten VCS were apprehended and 60 foot of tunnels were destroyed.

(2) 2 December - Relief of 3/9 by 2/9 commenced. See enclosure (2).

(3) 3 December - Relief of 3/9 by 2/9 was completed. 3/9 came under OPCON of III MAF and assumed defense of Da Nang Air Base at 1600.

(4) 4-31 December - aggressive patrolling and improvement of defensive positions continued. No enemy contact was established.

e. Logistics(1) Supply and Distribution

(a) This battalion commenced displacement by increments to the Da Nang Air Base on 2 December. Displacement of the battalion was terminated on 5 December 1965.

(b) Supply point distribution was in effect for all classes of supply, except Alfa and Bravo rations commencing on 5 December 1965.

(2) Evacuation

(1) <u>Casualties</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Method</u>
KIA	1	Air
WIA	1	Air
DOW	0	
Non-battle	1	Air

(3) Mess. On 5 December, company messes were established at Kilo and Mike Company CP's. Alfa and Bravo rations are resupplied to these two companies by the Battalion Mess Section on a daily basis. Lima Company personnel are subsisting at the MAG-11 mess, and India Company personnel are subsisting at the Battalion Mess with H&S Company. A limited amount of C-Rations are being used by those personnel occupying perimeter positions during meal time.

(4) Construction Projects

(a) Fifteen 8'x8'x8' (squad size) bunkers have been erected on the perimeter of the Da Nang Air Base by personnel of this battalion and supervisory personnel from 7th Engineers. Thirteen of these bunkers were erected in the "Oscar Sector" one in each the "Uniform Sector" and "Victor Sector".

(b) Defensive positions have been improved by erecting the above bunkers and utilizing barbed wire and concertina wire along the perimeter as well as by the relocation of claymore mines.

f. Chaplain Report

(1) Chaplain Support. Battalion Chaplain conducted 19 services for the Battalion during month, for a total attendance of 581.

(2) During the month, Battalion Chaplain provided 8 Protestant services for 2/9 and 1/11. He also celebrated 7 services for Episcopal personnel at 3d Marine Division CP and III MAF CP.

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Enclosure (1)

(3) Roman Catholic services for the period were provided by Chaplain DILLON (MAG-11) and Chaplain GIBSON (FMSG) on a weekly basis. No attendance figures available.

(4) Battalion Chaplain acted as distributor of Christmas Cards and letters, 47 boxes of cookies, and 25 Christmas gift boxes. Appropriate thank you letters were sent whenever possible.

(5) Battalion Chaplain received over 25 boxes of toys and soap from individuals and churches in CONUS in support of Battalion Civil Affairs program.

g. Civil Affairs

(1) The 3d Battalion, 9th Marines Civic Action Program continued Marine orientation to the goals and techniques of civic action as well as participation in short-term, high impact projects.

(2) Commodity Distribution. Clothing, vitamins, soap, and toys have been distributed at the Hoa Cuong Buddhist Refugee Camp (BT 033755) and at the Hoa Vang District School (BT 015726). Patrols distributed three hundred packages of candy to Vietnamese children.

(3) Medical Assistance. Patrols and MEDCAP Teams rendered 145 treatments to Vietnamese women, 68 to men, and 797 to children. On seventeen occasions a Battalion doctor and four Corpsmen rendered medical assistance, including minor surgery, to Vietnamese patients of the USOM Hospital in Da Nang.

(4) Continuing Contacts. Seventy-four Popular Forces personnel were attached for a one week training program. During attachment, each trainee was assigned to an enlisted Marine "buddy".

(5) Training. The Battalion Civil Affairs Officer conducted a Civic Action/Psychological Warfare Seminar for Officers and NCO's from the staff sections and companies. The seminar was designed to allow participants to vent their criticism, to provide an opportunity for suggestions as to revision of current techniques, and to disseminate information on Da Nang East vicinity, prospective 3d Battalion sector. Major COLLIA, Civil Affairs Officer, 3d Marine Division, participated in discussion and briefly outlined "The Big Picture" in Civic Action. Identical sessions were held 22 and 24 December, allowing 22 S/NCO's and 16 Officers to attend.