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From:

Commending Officer

To.

Columniant of the Marine Corps (Code AO3D)

Via:

(1) Commending General, 3d Marine Division (Reinf), FMF

Δ

(2) Commanding General, III Marine 'mphibious Force (3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Proific

Subj: Comend Chronology for pariod 1 December to 31 December 1967

Ref:

(a) MGO 5750.2

(5) FMFT/CO 5750.8

Encl:

(1) Command Chronology 1-31 December 1967

2) S-2 Journel

√(3) S-3 Journal

1. In focordance with the provisions of references (a) and (b), enclosures (1) tixoura (3) ere submitted.

2. Do wareded at 3 year intervals, declassified after 12 years, DOD Dr. 5200.10.

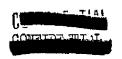
G. G. GOOK W.S -

3D BATTALICH 9TH MATKES

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TEADUARTERS
3d Battalion, 9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Reinf), FMF
FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

Command Chronology 1 December to 31 December 1967

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Enclosure (1)



PART I





ORGATIZ TION L D'T

1. DESIGN TION.

3d Baturlion, 9th Marines

Licutement Colonel G. C. COOM 1-31December 1967

SUBORDIN'TE UNITS

H&S Company

1stLt J. A. POPE 1-21 December 1967

Captain J. S. GR/BILL 22-31 December 1967

Coan my I

Captein W. A. COMGER 1-31 December 1967

Com ny K

Captain A. K. ARD 1-31 December 1967

Co. any L

Captein J. S. ADAMS 1-31 December 1967

Co. peny M

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Captain R. A. O'NTILL 1-31 December 1967

2. LCC TION.

1-11 December 1967 - THOY SOW L M, Owre Thi Province, Republic of Vietnam.

3. SI FT OFFICERS.

Executive Officer

Major R L. J M95 1-7 December 1967

Major J. P. CLIVIR.

s-1

1stLt R. E. POST'L WIT 1-15 December 1967

1stLt H. DUGAS 16-31 December 1967



2





1stLt B. E. BRY/N 1-31 December 1967

5-3

Major B. W. G'RDWER 1-31 December 1967

S-/

Major R. W. AUSTIN 1-4 December 1967

Captain J. L. TRUDEAU 5-31 December 1967

1stLt J. L. PETDL ND, JR.

S-5

1-31 December 1967

AVERACE STRENGTH.

USMC

USN

OFFIC IRS

anli sted

OFFICERS

TOTAL IST ID

12

1105

2

53

PART II

N PR TIVE SUMM RY

During the period 1-31 December 1967, this bettelion continued in the defense and occupation of THON SON L M (XD 982545) to include the mission of denying the enemy access through the "ROCKPILE" ares, conducting security operations on Route #9 in assigned AO, conducting oper t cas to interdict enemy locations and destroy enemy forces in 10, conductin convoys from THON SON L M to C/ LU, and maintaing a patrol base at CA LU (YD 012455) to deny access through CA LU and B' LONG " Velley.

In addition to the battelion's normal mission, the task of designing, and providing security for, the construction of the Combat Operating Base at C LU was added to our mission.

On 1912A2H December 1967, while resupplying the C' LU Combat Oper the Base, a resumply convoy was ambushed enroute on Route #9 at XD 980503. The ambush was immediately supressed and the convoy completed the resupply.

On 2513304 December 1967, Company K returned from Camp C'RROLL where they had been since 28 November 1967. Company K displaced to C/ LU Compat Operating Base on 26 December 1967. On 28 De

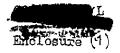


1967 Corrony I returned from the KL/ CHI/ Bridge (YD 027563 and Directive (YD 095515) where they had been sure & November 1967. Company K and I had relieved forces for participation in Operation KENTUCKY. The Brevo Command Group began coordinative all functions and activities in the C/ LU area on 27 December 1967

In addition, during the period 1-31 December 1967, the battalion conducted eltensive small unit patrols, ambushes, and IP's.

P RT III

- 1. FMF organization committed to combat.
 - a. Combet missions assigned.
 - (1) Deny enemy access through "ROCKPILT"/THOM SOM L' Marea.
- (2) Conduct operations to maintain security of MSR Route #9 in AO.
- (3) Conduct operations to interdict enemy LOC's and destroy enemy forces in assigned /0.
 - (A) Conduct convoys from TION SON LAM to CA LU.
- (5) Provide security for the building of the C/ LU Combat Operating Base.
 - b Significant operations conducted. None.
 - c. Casualties inflicted on the enemy
 - (1) KIA Confirmed ---- 0
 - (2) KI/ Probable ----- 0
 - d. Cesualties sustained.
 - (1) KI ---- 0
 - (2) KIV (N3C) ----- O
 - (3) DOD -----
 - (2) '\(\mathbf{I}\) ----- \(\frac{7}{2}\)
 - (5) 1. (N3C) ---- 8
 - e New techniques employed. None.



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- f. Command relations. Command relations with all supporting units continued to be excellent. Coordination and insistence received on all levels of command functions has been excellent. During the period 1-31 December 1967 this battalion remained under the OPCON of the 3d Marine Regiment.
- g. Equipment. During this period there were no serious problems with equipment and normal Marine Corps issue was sufficient in all respects.

h. Loristics.

- (1) Supply and Redistribution.
- (a) The month of December was another busy period for the Supply Section. The Supply Issistance Term from III MF spent 25 days with the unit. The team pointed out problem preas, and gave helpful information on how to correct those areas.
- (b) The transportation problem which existed has now been resolved. The Supply Section now has its own vehicle and trailer. This enables a daily check to be made of the different maintenance sections and the flight lines for items turned in for repair and new supplies coming in.
- (c) Supplies have been coming in vary well this month but there has also been a large influx of new personnel. We have experienced difficulty in procuring sufficient individucal weapons and equipment. This has often caused some delay in sending replacement personnel to the field. This situation is expected to improve next month then other personnel are to rotate.
 - (2) Transports tion,
- (a) During the month of December most of our organic transportation has been off deadline.
- (b) Vehicles are being washed doily to compensate for the middy road conditions brought by the monsoon season.
- end the 1270/2 because of extremel pour rula conditions.
- (d) 9th Motor Transport Battalian recently assigned one truck for delly household use at Camp ROCKPILE.
 - () Miscellegnous.

(a) Pacymoly of a LU by convoy has caused manderable

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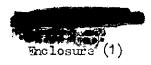


difficulty on several occasions because of extremely muddy roads within the C LU Combat Operating Base. These resupply convoys have often returned to DONG H/ just prior to disk. On one occasion a convoy had to remain at Camp ROCKPILE overnight and could not return to DONG H/ until approximately 1100 the following day. Helicopter resupply of C/ LU has proven to be nost effective when this support is available.

- (b) The non-availability of fork lifts at DONG H/ continues to cause delays in the loading of resupply vehicles.
- (c) This month the Logistics Section moved from DONG H/
 to Caip ROC. FILE. This enables the section to maintain closer contact
 with the units being supported and with the Logistics Section of
 the 3d Narines.

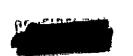
i. Clvic / ction.

- (1) The Bravo Command Group assumed control of MEDC/Pactivity at C/LU.
- (2) The food shortege in CY N RO Montagnerd Harlet has been allievinged considerably by the aquistion of approximately 5,000 pounds of wheat and cats for distribution to the villagers.
- (3) In S-5 Representative is presently located at C' LU to effect the distribution of the above food stuffs and to report on the progress of activities at that location.
- (4) In meetings with US ID representatives and CAM LO District Officials it was decided to consolidate CTAN RO Hamlet with LANG KHAT Hamlet at the latters location. It was also decided to relocate the population of Brather Vietnamese Hamlet in the Car LO Refugee Villine The consolidation of the two Montagnard Hamlets is being effected at present and the Vietnamese move will follow as soon as direction in received cron Frovince. Indications show 30 MH NH to have strong VC/MVA affiliation which would be severed by moving the meople to Cam LO. Such a move would additionally provide nore rice land to the Montagnards who are cooperative and lack sufficient sources of food. The relianary village, once consolidated, would have the advantage of increased security since the CL LU unit will be required to operate around only one village rather than three as has been the case.
- (5) The Division Personal Response Contact Team has been requested to make a presentation to this battalian.
- J drinistration. There were no administrative difficulties encountered during this period.



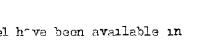
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k. Personnel. Replace tent personnel have been available in sufficient quantities to replace losses due to combat and rotation to CO.WS.

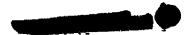
1. Intelligence.

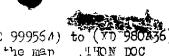
(1) 'esther.

- (a) Temperature the average high for the month was 80 degrees fahrenheit. The mosh minimum temperature ranged between 67 72 degrees fahrenheit.
- (b) Winds during the month of December the winds were mostly from the north or northerst at an avarage of 8 to 9 knots per hour.
- (c) Prec_pitation + the precepitation was greatest during the first half of the month. The accumiated amount of minfall during the month was 12.15 inches.
 - (d) Humidity the relative humidity averaged 80%.
- (e) Clouds cloudiness decreased after the tenth of the month. Clouds were broken to scattered at 2,000 feet. The sun shown throw's 8 out of 10 days. Ground for occurred between 2400 0200 hours
- (f) Visibility visibility averaged 7 10 miles during the rion: .

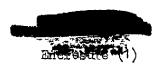
(2) Termin.

- (a) USMC observation post, ROCK ILT (7D979558) is the most doulant terrain feature in the area and provides the bost observation of the O. The other domin at terrain features in the AO include the Rozer Back (D %4573) and Fill 504 (XD 966467).
- (b) The terrain in the 'O is beevy brush and undergrowth, some of alica is secondary jumples. In the low valley areas, element grass is redominant from knee high to bead high.
- (c) The mountains and hills in the 10 range from gradual slopin hills to sheer cliffs. The nountains are not so steep that troops an not move up then fully combat loaded.
- (d) The dominant streams and rivers in the /O include the SOIG C'I LO, SONG TRIM PIN, and the RIVERE DE OUNG TRI. There are nu prous small seasonal streams in the /O which run fast and clear.

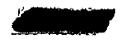




- (VD 999564) to (XD) (e) Roads - the rorth author JUN DOC is on all weather road and accurately me to the map KTOWH, Shoots 63421 and 6342_1
- (f) Villages ail vilitges except those around C LU (YD 013543) are destroyed but can be recognized as such. The villages ground C. LU are presently occupied
- (g) Observations and Fields of Fire the thick brush and vines fuch cover the mountains severely homper observation and fields of fire The low grassy eress offer excellent observation and fields of fire. The lowlands are either covered which ance brush which limits observation severely or is marshland or old rice paddies covered with knee Air to wa st high gress and permits excellent observation and fields of fire.
- (h) Cover and Concealment conceal ant, except in the areas of law ress, is excellent to outstanding. There is excellent cover in the area.
- (i) Obstacles the major obstacles for foot troops is thick brush, parts of which are almost a penetratable. The streams and rivers during and riter rains become obstacles. The all and track vehicles are restricted to road travel because of wet marshy lowlands and steep hills
- (j) Landing Zones HLT's are limited to low grassy areas, rice p dlies, gentle sloping hills, or hill tops which are covered in grass
- (3) Enemy Situstion from reports received, it is believed that all units of the 101st Regiment is locat test VD 920500. Elements of the 18th Regiment at VD 670570, and fortified positions along the valley extending from 4D 870620 to XD 878617.
- (4) Enemy / ctivity enemy activity in the eree of the "ROCCPILE" and C: LU has been considerably light. However, a resupply convoy is alibushed at XD 982508 on 19 December lso, C/ LU received 6 rounds of 60mm morth right outside the perimeter. / total of five sightings occurred during the month. Functions fighting holes have been found in the /O. In one instance a new trail was found with bamboo and rock trail markers, trees anto whate painted rings and fresh NV boot rints. patrol received small arms fire. the convey ambush, 20 figiting holes were found along with one TMT block at blesting caps, tail section of a RPG round, one RPG booster, and numerous bloody bandages.



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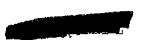
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in Communications. The Communications attors Piathon continued to provide normal support for the battel on. The first and Lonel support was invited:

- (1) Radio Section furnished supplementary midio equipment for Colombia I to operate on the Regimental Tratical Let at the KHT CHI Brid e Position. During the puriod 1 thru 10 December, the section movided the Commanding Officer with a KY-8 expability at the C. LU Combat Operating Brids. It also provided reasonnel, three (3) AJ/FRC-25's and two (2) LC 292's for the Brayo Command Group equablished to coordinate activities at the C. LU Combat Operating Break in additional frequency was obtained from the 3d Marines and was alotted to the Brayo Command for its own Brayo Tactical Jet.
- (2) Lessare (citer Section assumed to due s of processing, distributing, and fill a recommendes. This is coulted in a more centralized and efficient currol of all companies.
- (3) Communications Supply reved from DCIG 4 to Comp ROCYPILE New collustrations supply instructions were published to concretize the turn-in, making up evaluation, repair, and accountability of all communications equipment.
- (4) The operation of two (2) Combat Operation Bases has required complicat augmentation. The following augmentation equipion by a been requested
 - (e) Ten (10) M/PRC-25's
 - (b) Five (5) erch T'-1/PT T 312/PI, -nd 35 8
 - (c) (ne (1) N/TRC-27
 - (d) One (1) RT 524
 - (e) Two (2) 473-6 for W-8 overetions
 - n Fire Surport.
- (1) Units in direct support of this bettelion during the month of Diction were
 - (a) 1st Bettalion, 12th Merines
 - (b) A Bettery, 1st Bettolion, AOth / rtillery, US
 - (c) B Battery, 1st Battalion, AOth rtillery, US







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- (2) During the month of Decomb a, those were a total of 433 missions fixed in surport of whise with a Thora were 150 unobserved missions, 275 observed missions are 8 in which then this ions fixed.
- (3) The total artillery rounds fixed during this period were 10,729 rounds.
- o. ir Support. detailed brokkdown by type of fireraft is listed polov

TYFE	RE UESPED	RECEIVED
MEDIV C - Routine Prior by Flor ency	2 8 7	2 8 7
Helo Resumply - Pout: Frior Tweet	ъ у О	2 0 0
Helo Guasano	0	0
/dmin Lift	10	9
T C' (0)	9	7
Helo Recon	0	0
Fixed Al - DS CS TPO	0 0 310	<u>п</u> мк О

- p Coolin.
 - (1) Divine Services Protestant.
 - (a) Number of Services: 15.
 - (b) Total ttendence 531.
 - (c) Number receiving Tolr Communion 98.
 - (d) Choir reherrsels 2.
 - (e) Lay leader services 3.
 - (2) Divine Services Catholic.

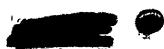


(a) Number of S rvices 5

10

Enclosure (1)

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- (b) Total 'ttendance's 260.
- (c) Lay leader s rvices A.
- (3) Significant Events.
 - (a) Dispensary visits daily: 1.
 - (b) Lest Rites 1.
 - (c) Letters written for troops 17.
 - (d) Thank you letters for gifts 28.
 - (c) Private Communion 2.
 - (f) Thris mas has received and distributed 238.
 - (") Marcotic inventory was taken for month of December:
- (h) Christm's decorations were solicited and distributed at C' LU and RECYPIL?
 - q. Ledicil.
 - (1) The medical status of this battelian is presently satisfactory
- (2) There were 507 visits to suck call this month, 488 Marines, 7 May, and 12 army.
- (7) There were 11 clinical laboratory procedures performed this month.
- (') The present strength of the model 1 deportment is one (1) doctor and 53 Hospital Corpsmen.
 - (5) Medical supply is satisfactory.
 - (6) There were 321 Vistmanese civilians treated this a st month
 - (7) Semitation conditions are satisfactory.









DAY 01 - 31 MONTH DECEMBER YEAR 1967

ime entered	DATE/TIME GLOUP	JOUINAL	ACTION
2194 <i>5</i> H	021915н	Recon observed lights at XD 969564 and XD 974562 - Arty and 81mm missic called - lights extinguished.	n
51300H	051230Н	L-1 patrol found one 82mm mortar pit at XD 995468.	
71950H	071920Н	OP Wyn observed lights at XD 974537 81mm mission called - lights out.	
B1415H	081400Н	M Co patrol found fresh NVA boot print headed east to west at XD 962543.	
81 520H	081500H	M Co patrol found fresh mortar pits and trail w/stone markers on trail at XD 968537.	
82400H	082345Н	Twin 40mm observed secondary explosion while firing H&I's - mission repeated in area - XD 987566.	lon d
11050H	111030Н	M Co patrol found 20 one man fightinholes at XD 922 mx 971520 - estimate 60 days old.	
31100н	131045Н >	L Co patrol found 7 fighting holes at XD 995470 - estimate 2 weeks old	
2 2300H	122200H	Reliable source states that a base camp; troops and command element w/extensive bunker & cave complex is located at XD 863533.	•
3 2030н	132000Н	M Co observed 3 figures open gate at XD 982532 - fired small arms - checked area w/negative results.	
41245H	141200H	Recon observed VC/NVA at YD 023503 Arty mission called - 10 Enemy KTA	(F)
41330н	141300Н	H&S Co patrol found bamboo trail markers, trees w/white paineed rings beside trail at XD 993541.	,
41450H	141400H	H&S Co patrol found aiming stakes at XD 984549.	
	3		The state of the state of





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CDATE ALT	DATE/TIME GLOUP	JOURNAL	ACTION
142215H	142145Н	L Co, using Starlight Scope, spetted lights - believed to be from infrared scope at YD 006446.	
1 62000H	162000日	3rd Marines reported magic dot from XD 8752 to XD 9252.	
70145H	170130н	L Co ambush at YD 002453 observed 2 enemy - threw frag - received SAF checked area with negative results.	
170745н	170730н	L Co patrol checking area of preivor nights ambush received 3 rounds snip firem Checked area with negative results.	s er
151555н	171545Н	Recon saw 8 VC/NVA (3 in boat) at XD 988569 - arty mission called - 1 VC/NVA KIA (C), 4 VC/NVA KIA (P)	
181900H	181900H	3rd Marines reported magic dot at XD 943561.	
82310H	182245H	M Co observed one trip flare set of at XD 986544 - seen one person - fired small arms - checked area with negative results.	
1821 <i>5</i> 0H	182120H	M Co OP using Starlight Scope observa- 3-4 persons on road at XD 979524. 81mm mission called.	red
191 245 H	191245Н	Resupply convoy going to Ca Lu was ambushed at XD 982508.	
192150н	19 22 30H	OP Sue observed lights at XD 989528 81mm mission called - lights out.	
X)2245H	202215Н	Recon observed rocket launched from XD 968589 - arty mission fired - secondary explosion.	
220050H	220030Н	M Co patrol observed 6-8 people 40-45 meters from ambush site - checked area with negative results.	
231400H	2 3 1345H	L Co received 6 rounds 60mm mortar outside perimeter at XD 987453.	HUL
			ENCI







TUNFIVERTIA	D/A	MINOM HINOM	
TIME ENTERED	DATE/TIME GLOUP	JOURNAL	ACTION
241040Н	241030Н	M Co patrol found 20 fighting holes 29 981521. Also found 2 - 60mm morters and 2 grenades.	
252015н	251955н	OP Texas spotted lights at XD 995450 81mm mission fired - lights out.	
270650н	270645Н	Recom spotted lights near XD 985567 arty mission fired - lights out.	
282245Н	282215Н	L Co observed moving lights at YD 002447 - 81mm mission fired - searched area with negative results.	
			1
		1	Frictosuri (