

HEADQUARTERS  
 Brigade Artillery Group  
 9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade  
 San Francisco 96601

KJK:jep  
 31 Mar 1965

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding General, Ninth Marine Expeditionary Brigade  
 Subj: Command diary

Ref: (a) MCO 3480.1  
 (b) Divo 3480.1 w/ch 1/2

Encl: (1) AMS Maps Indochina, 1:25,000, Phuoc Tuong/Tourane.  
 (2) Aerial Photo Battery "A" area  
 (3) Aerial Photo Battery "F" area

1. General

In accordance with reference (a) and (b) the following report is submitted for this command covering the period 8 March 1965 - 31 March 1965.

2. Organizational Data

- (1) Unit: 9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade Artillery Group
- (2) Period covered: 8 March 1965 - 31 March 1965
- (3) Commanding Officer: Captain Myron J. KANDRA USMC
- (4) Location 31 March 1965: 0048/7392 Alt. 5m. Enclosure I refers.
- (5) Subordinate Units:
  - Btry "A" 1stBn 12thMar 3dMarDiv  
 Captain Myron J. KANDRA commanding
  - Btry "F" 2ndBn 12thMar 3dMarDiv  
 Captain Robert C. MCPARLANE commanding
  - Counter-Mortar Radar Sect HqBtry 1stBn 12thMar 3dMarDiv  
 SSgt Jerome R. HELVIK NCOIC
  - Det Meteorological Sect HqBtry 1stBn 12thMar 3dMarDiv  
 Sgt Lindsay MC INTOSH NCOIC

3. Narrative Summary

a. 8 March 1965

Battery "F" landed in accordance with BLT 3/9 OP Plan 60-65 on Red Beach 2 Da Nang, Republic of Viet Nam as directed by CG 9th MEB. Moved to firing position at coordinates 0040/7442 and prepared for operations in support of BLT 3/9. Assigned the mission of direct support. Battalion assigned the mission of defending the airfield Da Nang, Republic of Viet Nam. Laid on Az 4605. Commenced improvement of position area, establishment of communications, vehicle maintenance, and extensive target area survey.

ENCLOSURE (6)

o teams deployed with rifle companies of BLT 3/9. Established with 9th MEB and fire support coordination center.

b. 10 March 1965

Battery "A" 1stBn 12thMar airlifted with BLT 1/3 from Okinawa to Da Nang, Republic of Viet Nam. Assigned mission of direct support BLT 1/3 in airfield security operations. Occupied position vicinity 0049/7392 laid on Az 5000 and commenced position improvement. Accomplished position area survey. Net section Battery "A" 1stBn 12thMar attached. CMS section Battery 1stBn 12thMar in position Da Nang airfield placed under operational control of CG 9th MEB, SSgt Jerome R. HELVIK NCOIC

c. 11 March 1965

9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade Artillery Group organized as per paragraph 2 above as directed by CG 9th MEB.  
 Commanding Officer: Captain Myron J. KANDRA  
 Executive Officer: Captain Robert C. McFARLANE  
 Battery "A" assigned mission of general support/reinforcing.  
 Battery "F" assigned mission of direct support of BLT 3/9.

3. Registrations were commenced in BLT 3/9 zone of action. Net messages were run at 4 hour intervals. Up to date GPT settings were used to keep data current for all night defensive fires requested. Registrations were conducted in high and low angle fire using precision impact, highburst, and/or center of impact techniques throughout. Occasional illumination missions were fired by both batteries as requested by rifle company FO's for suspected enemy activity. Forward observers accompanied reconnaissance patrols throughout the zone of action. Night defensive fires coordinated by the BLT 3/9 F300 were planned in support of all line units daily. Total rounds fired:

	HE	Ill
Battery "A"	195	20
Battery "F"	220	19

Total Meteorological messages obtained: 117

#### 4. Supporting Documents

Documents in support of paragraph 2 above are submitted as enclosures (1), (2) and (3). For data substantiating firing see Journal at 9th MEB F300.

M. J. KANDRA

HEADQUARTERS  
Brigade Engineer Group  
9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade  
FPO, San Francisco, California 96601

WGB/JEA/hab  
5750  
31 Mar 1965

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade  
Subj: Command Diary for period 1 March - 31 March 1965  
Ref: (a) MCO 3480.1  
(b) BrigO 5750.1  
Encl: (1) Command Diary for Brigade Engineer Group

1. In accordance with the provisions of reference (a) and in compliance with reference (b), the subject report is submitted herewith.

W. C. BATES

ENCLOSURE (4)

WGB/JSA/hab  
31 Mar 1965

COMMAND DIARY

Part I

Designation

Brigade Engineer Group  
9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade

1 March 1965 through 31 March 1965  
Submitted on 1 April 1965

Commanding Officer

Major William G. BATES

Location

Located at 9th MEB Headquarters in the Marine Compound on the northwest side of the Danang Air Field.

Subordinate Units

- a. Company "C", 7th Engineer Battalion  
3rd Engineer Battalion (-)(Rein)  
3rd Marine Division (Rein), FMF
- b. First Platoon, Company "A"  
3rd Engineer Battalion (-)(Rein)  
3rd Marine Division (Rein), FMF
- c. Third Platoon, Company "C"  
3rd Engineer Battalion (-)(Rein)  
3rd Marine Division (Rein), FMF

Narrative Statement

Co "C" 7th Engr Bn sailed from Naha Port Okinawa on verbal orders from Major General COLLINS at 0300 14 February 1965 aboard LST-1161 USS VERNON COUNTY. The Company landed at Tien Sha Beach, Danang, Republic of Vietnam on 18 February 1965. Camp was established on the Danang Air Base that day and operations in support of 1st LAAM Bn commenced on 20 February 1965.

At the time the 9th MEB staged their landing at the city of Danang in the Country of South Vietnam on 8 March 1965, subordinate unit Co "C" 7th Engr Bn, was preparing to work on the road up Hill 327 and the installations of "B" Btry, 1st LAAM Bn on the same hill.

ENCLOSURE (1)

ACE/JEA/hab  
31 Mar 1965

Narrative Summary (Con't)

A tent camp was being strong-backed and the renovation of an old French Compound consisting of numerous buildings was being accomplished by Co "C" 7th Engr Bn for 1st LAAM Bn.

Company "C" 7th Engineers came under the operational control of the Brigade Engineer Group on 12 March 1965.

The Third Platoon of Co "C" 3rd Engineer Bn and the First Platoon of "A" Company 3rd Engineer Bn were attached to Co "C" 7th Engr Bn on 11 Mar 65.

The Brigade Engineer Group consisted of a Headquarters section of one Major, Major H. G. BATES and one company, Co "C" 7th Engr Bn, 3rd Engr Bn with the attached platoons from "A" and "C" Company, 3rd Engineer Bn.

The Utilities platoon headed by Sergeant H. H. BROWN commenced producing potable water and showers for the Brigade on 10 Mar 65 after establishing the water point near the helicopter flight line. The First Platoon of Co "C" 7th Engr Bn led by 1st Lt M. C. HARRIS, continued to work in the French Compound completing it on 15 Mar 65. The Second Platoon of Co "C" 7th Engr Bn led by 1st Lt J. J. WALKER had completed the strong-backing for Hdq & "A" Btry, 1st LAAM Bn. On 9 March 1965, the Equip Plt of Co "C" 7th Engr Bn under CWO-2 B. GARRIS and the second platoon commenced work on the road and drainage on Hill 327.

ENCLOSURE (1)

WG/JBA/hab  
31 Mar 1965

# Narrative Summary (Con't)

This project was completed on 23Mar65. 1stLt WALKER rotated to Okinawa on this date and was replaced by 2dLt Douglas DENATTI on 25Mar65. During this period 9Mar65 through 1Apr65, all units were involved of general support of the 9th MAB. EquipPlt with equipment help from 115th RVN Engineers cleared and leveled areas for the BLSC of 9th MAB and Artillery and Medical Units. Second Lieutenant HACKSHAN of First Plt, "A" Company, 3rdIngrBn worked 60 continuous hours partitioning and preparing the MAB CP, then assisted BLT 1/3 in setting up. Second Lieutenant LANGLEY of Third Plt "C" Co, 3rdIngrBn assisted 3/9, then started two construction jobs for MAG-16.

With Hill 327 completed, the Equip-Plt of Co"C"7thIngrBn began constructing the road to Hill 327. The culverting work on the project was then assigned to 1stLt WALKER's First Plt of Co"C"7thIngrBn.

The Second Plt forms the Construction Plt and accomplished the many sign, desk, bookcase, mapboard and other wise projects required by all echelons of command in the MAB.

# Supporting Documents

- (1) Map of Military Compound, Danang, Air Base, Republic of South Vietnam.

ENCLOSURE (1)

DECLASSIFIED

1/12 Command Chronology, Apr 1965

NOT RECEIVED

DECLASSIFIED