

12th MARINES
S&C FILES
LOCAL CONTROL
No. 358-66

HEADQUARTERS
3d Battalion, 12th Marines (Rein)
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
c/o FPO, San Francisco 96602

3/BNB/rr
5750

1 June 1966

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, 12th Marines

Subj: Command Chronology

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
(b) DivO 5750.1
(c) RegtO 5750.1
(d) Map: Vietnam, 1:50000 AMS Series L701 6460 I,
6461 II, 6559 I, IV, 6560 II, III.

Encl: (1) ✓ Organizational Data Sheet
(2) ✓ Daily Chronological Report of Significant Events
(3) ✓ S-1 Matters
(4) ✓ S-2 Matters (includes ISUM 23 - 410031, #28 & 36 NIF)
(5) ✓ S-3 Matters
(6) ✓ S-4 Matters
(7) ✓ Communications-Electronics Matters
(8) ✓ After Action Report; Operation VIRGINIA
(9) ✓ After Action Report; Operation CHEROKEE
(10) ✓ After Action Report; Operation WAYNE

1. In compliance with references (a) through (c), the 1966 May Command Chronology is hereby submitted as enclosures (1) through (10).

S. M. MORROW

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ENCLOSURE

S-1 MATTERS

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Encl (3)

1. Personnel & Administration

This Battalion has maintained an operating level of personnel at approximately 91% of its authorized T/O strength during the month of May. This figure breaks down as follows:

Officers 92%
Staff NCO's 94%
Enlisted 90%

Continued progress was made towards a redistribution of rotation dates during the months of July and September. The Battalion joined 59 personnel of varied rank and MOS while rotating 58 back to Conus.

2. Morale and Discipline

The state of morale of the unit remained at a high level consistent with the conditions under which the unit served. The R&R program again continued to be the most effective morale booster although meritorious promotion quotas received also helped to a marked degree.

Nightly movies were presented on a regular basis in the Battalion CP area and three clubs operated nightly.

Two Summary Court Martials were convened during the month, two special court martials still pending and six non-judicial punishments were administered.

Chaplain Support was adequate.

3. Civil Affairs

During May this Battalion continued with its med cap program at Phu-Long refugee village administering 453 patients. The Battalion has experienced considerable difficulty in acquiring replenishment of med cap supplies. However our stocks were adequate to enable the program to continue uninterrupted for the month of May.

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- (5) Battery M, 4th Battalion, 12th Marines
Captain W. J. FEIND 077904 USMC
- (6) Battery C, 1st Battalion, 12th Marines
Captain R. N. KOSTESKY 070455 USMC
Dropped ADCON 200900H to 1stBn, 12thMar
- (7) Battery B, 1st Battalion, 11th Marines
Captain F. S. CARR Jr. 072702 USMC
Dropped ADCON 250001H to 1stBn, 11thMar
- (8) 107mm Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 11th Marines
Captain R. J. GRAHAM 075335 USMC
Dropped ADCON 250001H to 1stBn, 11thMar
- (9) 107mm Mortar Battery, 3rd Battalion, 12th Marines
Captain R. A. FURTADO 077663 USMC
Joined ADCON 310600H

4. Average monthly Strength

56 Officers, 832 Enlisted

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~S-2 MATTERSINTELLIGENCE

There were 2 regimental-sized operations during May in which the S-2 section participated. These were Operations-CHEROKEE (5-7 May) and WAYNE (10-12 May).

During CHEROKEE the artillery air observer sighted and fired on 3 VC at coordinates YD 554259, killing 2 of them. Operation WAYNE yielded no intelligence from 3/12 sources.

The only other significant intelligence gathered by the section during the month consisted of surveillance from fire missions as reported in enclosure (2).

Due to the unstable political situation, the section was unable to attend the weekly intelligence briefings held by G-2, First ARVN Infantry Division. This will be resumed as soon as the city of Hue is put back on limits.

The section held 2 indoctrination lectures for newly arrived Marines, covering such topics as the nature of the Viet Cong and Vietnamese customs and tradition.

The daily intelligence summaries are included as TAB "A". The S-2 journal from Operation CHEROKEE is included as TAB "B". There was no journal kept for operation WAYNE, since nothing happened on the operation.

AERIAL OBSERVATION

During the month, the battalion had 1 air observer attached who flew in support of the 4th Marines as a part of their air observation section. Along with the 4th Marines air observer, the artillery AO supported operation CHEROKEE.

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ENCLOSURE (4)

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ORGANIZATIONAL DATA SHEET

ENCLOSURE (1)
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ORGANIZATIONAL DATA SHEET1. Designation and Location

Headquarters

3d Battalion, 12th Marines (-) (Rein)

3d Marine Division (Rein), FTF

Location: Coordinates YD 87631455. Phu Bai, Republic of Vietnam

2. Period Covered. 1 May 1966 to 31 May 19663. Battalion Commander and Staff

a. 3d Battalion, 12th Marines

(1) Lieutenant Colonel L. L. PAGE 018982 USMC
Battalion Commander(2) Major W. J. HALLISEY 056620 USMC
Battalion Executive Officer(3) 1stLt M. W. JOHNSON 088830 USMCR
S-1(4) 1stLt A. HARKNESS III 087710 USMCR
S-2(5) Major B. N. BITTNER 064637 USMC
S-3(6) Captain J. B. WAY 081103 USMCR
S-4b. Battery Commanders(1) Headquarters Battery, 3rd Battalion, 12th Marines
R. A. BECKER 071327 USMC 1 May 1966 to 20 May 1966
Captain W. H. PARKER III 065573 USMC 21 May 1966 to
31 May 1966(2) Battery G, 3rd Battalion, 12th Marines
Captain D. W. KIMMAD 072193 USMC-Joined Battery G
011845H-from 1stBn, 11thMars, 1st Marine Division(3) Battery H, 3rd Battalion, 12th Marines
Captain P. T. SUDMEYER 075679 USMC(4) Battery I, 3rd Battalion, 12th Marines
Captain B. T. CHAMBLESS 064290 USMC

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DAILY CHRONOLOGY

1 May

Battery "C" fired 30 rounds of 155mm (tow) HE at VC trench lines. No surveillance was given for this mission at location of coordinates YD 540255.

Throughout the morning Battery "I" supported an FO school by firing six practice missions. Planning for Operation CHEROKEE continued. At 0950H the three 105's of Battery "H" displaced from their forward position at YD 813157 and re-joined the remainder of the battery at coordinates YD 871140, the primary position. During the morning Battery "B" returned from Operation VIRGINIA and 1100H was in position at coordinates YD 889141 laid on azimuth 3763. Shortly thereafter the battery was registered.

At about 1700H the 4th Marines Regimental LNO called and briefed the S-3A of an ARVN operation to take place 2 May at 0630H. The LNO came to the battalion CP and briefed the S-3 on the problem. The battalion was asked to supply a LNO to the ARVN and to conduct preparation fires in the morning. During the evening the prep fires were computed; the LNO reported to the ARVN FSCC located at 750130. at approximately 1830H.

At 2025H the two 155mm howitzers of Battery "C" that had been sent in the last phase of Operation Virginia returned to their primary position at coordinates YD 550335.

2 May

At 0800H the Battalion Survey Section with battery commanders from "M", "H", and "M" Batteries went by vehicle to the area of operations where they were joined by the Battery "C" Commander. A ground reconnaissance of the area was conducted to define the exact battery centers, orienting stations, and end of orienting lines. The Survey Section remained in the area to complete the survey while the battery commanders returned to their units.

At 0930H Battery "E" brought its base piece into Battery "H's" position, and at 1000H both batteries conducted simultaneous registrations of their base pieces. A concurrent met was also run. This registration was conducted as there would be little or no time during the beginning phases of Operation Cherokee to register the batteries, and it was desirable to obtain as much useful information about the relative shooting strength of the batteries as possible.

ENCLOSURE (2)

4 May

The weather conditions continued to be poor throughout the day. Additional FDC drill was conducted. All sections took advantage of the 24 hour postponement and rechecked all preparations.

Battery "I" conducted practice fire missions for observers on OP Crow. At 1810H, Batteries "I" and "M" fired a total of 72 rounds on a reported target of 100 VC in the open. This mission was requested and observed by ARVN forces. Immediately surveillance reported 3 confirmed dead.

At 2000H the battalion was informed by the 4thMar FSCC that Operation CHEROKEE would be executed tomorrow regardless of weather conditions.

5-7 May

For a chronology of Operation CHEROKEE see enclosure (9).

During this period 3/12 (rear) consisted of Hq Btry (-), Battery "I", elements of Battery "M", and Mortar Battery under the command of the BnXO. Practice firing for FO's on OP Crow continued and Battery "I" registered on 5 May. Several concentrations were fired in on 4 and 5 May, and H&I fires continued.

At 1530H on 7 May the battalion returned to the CP area. Only Battery "C" remained north in position at coordinates YD 548324. All remaining batteries had returned, including the two 155mm How (towed) from Battery "C". The batteries occupied their primary positions as follows: Battery "H" at coordinates YD 871140, Battery "B" at coordinates YS 889141, and Battery "M" at coordinates YD 876144. The mortar battery remained at coordinates YD 810153, and Battery "I" at coordinates YD 872138.

Throughout the remainder of 7 May the battalion cleaned and stored equipment. Battery "B" and two 155 towed howitzers of Battery "M" prepared to move again on an ARVN operation schedules for 8 May.

8 May

Weather conditions remained poor. It was cool and heavy rain fell intermittently.

ENCLOSURE (2)

During the afternoon Batteries "H", "I", and "M" registered. Battery "B" did not register as the ARVN operation was still scheduled to commence at 1600H. However, by 1300 the Bn S-3 was informed that the ARVN operation had been postponed for 24 hours.

During the evening at 2000H, the 4thMarLNO reported to the CP area and briefed the S-3 and CO of a newly scheduled operation reportedly to take place on 10 May. The operation was as yet un-named, but was to operate in an area generally southwest of Phu Bai for a period of about 5 days.

Reportedly the 804th VC Bn was located around coordinates YC 980960. It was tentatively decided to use Batteries "I" and "H" along with Battery "M" as artillery support for the operation.

A Rough Rider convoy which was to bring Battery "G" from Da Nang to Phu Bai was scheduled for today but was cancelled due to weather and re-scheduled for tomorrow.

9 May

More information concerning the new operation became available as the 4thMarArtyLNO reported to the CP and briefed the Bn CO and S-3. Operation WAYNE, as it was to be known, would commence tomorrow and last from 3 to 5 days. The area of operations was 14k south of Phu Bai where the 804th VC Bn was reportedly bivouaced. Operation WAYNE was to be a regimental-sized problem. The elements of the battalion to participate were Btry "I", Btry "H", and Btry "M". HqBtry would provide command and control at the area of operations. For further information concerning Operation WAYNE, see enclosure (2).

At 0900H a representative of the 4thMar came to the battalion CP and requested that an FO school be arranged in conjunction with personnel attending a Regimental Sniper School. This responsibility was turned over to Mortar Btry 1/11 due to the employment of every unit of battalion except Btry "G". The Bn S-3 reconned an area with the battalion survey chief, selecting the OP's and impact area. Bn survey section initiated target area survey operations.

A liaison team was flown to Phu Loc in support of today's Rough Rider convoy. At 1100H the Rough Rider arrived with Btry "G". Btry "B" had not yet moved from its position at coordinates YD 889141 as the ARVN operation scheduled for today was to commence at 1600H. It was decided to move

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Btry "G" into Btry "B's" position. As Btry "B" staged for their operation, Btry "G" occupied the same position. By 1351H, Btry "G" was in position and laid on azimuth 3763.

At 1700H, Btry "B" and two 155mm howitzers (towed) of Btry "M" were on the road moving to their positions in support of the ARVN operation. These batteries arrived at PK 17, YD 6428, where they remained over-night. The ARVN operation would commence tomorrow.

10-12 May

Btry "B" and Btry "M" (-) left PK 17 at 0500H, and at 0700H were in position at YD 639251, laid on azimuth 3800.

The battalion began staging for Operation WAYNE early on the 10th. The convoy left at 0940H. At 0900H two M-109's of Btry "M" left the CP area to augment the two M-109's of Btry "M" (fwd) located at YD 858102.

3/12 (rear) consisted of Btry "C", Headquarters Battery (-) 3/12, and Btry "M" (rear).

Shortly after the departure of the battalion, Btry "C" registered. The registration was completed at 1100H.

Mortar Battery began setting up for their FO School in support of the 4th Marines Sniper School. On 10 May the Mortar Battery CO and Asst XO, who was to be primary instructor, reconned the target area. The mortar battery registered and several missions were fired.

Missions were fired by both Btry "C" and Btry "G" during the day. Btry "C" fired in five concentrations. From 1740H to 2115H Btry "G" fired five missions called in by ARVN advisors. These five missions were described as VC units ranging in size from a plt to a company. No surveillance was obtained for any of the missions. On 11 May the mortar battery began its FO School. During the morning formal school was held on the OP. Twenty-nine students participated. The afternoon was spent with students firing their first missions.

At 1610H a message was received from the 12th Marines which suspended a certain 105mm howitzer lot of fuzes. The lot was described as # EH-#3-19. This message was relayed to all 105mm batteries of the battalion.

Btry "G" fired three practice missions during the day and at 2010H Btry "C" fired its only mission of the day as 27 rounds were fired at a suspected VC position.

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On 12 May the mortar battery continued its FO school and fired nineteen missions.

The battalion returned from Operation WAYNE at 1330 and occupied their primary positions: Btry "I" at YD 872138 azimuth 4400, Btry "H" at YD 871140 azimuth 3550. The two M-109's of Btry "M" returned from the forward position to YD 876144 and laid on azimuth 3750.

At 2115, Btry "M" fired three missions called in by ARVN advisors. Btry "M" continued its support of these ARVN advisors by firing four more missions between 2250H and 0110H. No surveillance was obtained for any of these missions.

13 May

At 0520H Btry "B" reported two incoming rounds of unknown caliber. One very slightly WIA resulted. To date Btry "B" and Btry "M" (-) have not been called upon to provide artillery support for the operation.

At 1047H Btry "M" (-) fired 14 rounds at suspected VC activity adjusted by the AO. Surveillance was given as good effect on target, but no positive casualties were reported. At 2250H Btry "M" fired four more missions. These were called in by ARVN. The targets were described as VC harassing hamlets. No surveillance was given for these missions.

14 May

Btry "G" replaced Btry "C" in the 1stBn, 4th Marines AOR in the morning. By 0945H the exchange was complete. Btry "G" now was in position at YD 547324, laid on azimuth 3300. Btry "C" occupied the vacated position at YD 872138 and laid on azimuth 3763.

At noon the ARVN operation terminated. Two 155mm howitzers returned to their position in the 1stBn, 4th Marines AOR. These weapons occupied a position at YD 550325. One howitzer laid on azimuth 2800, the other 3600.

At noon Btry "B" secured from the ARVN operation. Btry "B" occupied its position at YD 889141 and laid on azimuth 3763. This put Btry "B" and Btry "C" in the same position.

At 1500H Btry "C" registered. An hour later Btry "G" fired its first mission in the new position when a recon patrol called a fire mission on 20 VC. No surveillance was given. Between 1955H and 2015H Btry "G" fired two unobserved

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missions for 1stBn, 4thMar.

Btry "M" (fwd) fired two missions for ARVN units at 2240H. No surveillance was given.

15 May

Early on 15 May Btry "M" (fwd) fired seven unobserved missions for ARVN units on VC activity in the vicinity of YD 760110.

At 1000H, Btry "I" march ordered and displaced south of Phu Bai. Btry "I" was to support 3dBn, 4th Marines on an extended operation adjacent to the AOR of Operation WAYNE. At 1220H Btry "I" was in position at YD 930059, laid on azimuth 2800.

The movement of Btry "I" left a position area unoccupied. Btry "C" moved from its co-location with Btry "B" into Btry "I's" position at YD 872138. At 1330H Btry "C" was in position laid on azimuth 4400.

During the afternoon Btry "I" fired in several concentrations for companies of 3dBn, 4th Marines. Between 1310H and 1950H Btry "I" fired four missions at VC positions. Surveillance reported excellent effect on target, but no confirmed casualties were reported.

16 May

At 0154H Btry "I", operating with the 3dBn, 4th Marines, fired 36 mixed rounds as VC sprung an ambush. No surveillance was given.

Btry "G", operating with 1stBn, 4th Marines, illuminated the area YD 545267 at 0015H as suspected activity was reported. No activity was observed.

At 0300H the Bn S-2 Chief was informed that a platoon of ARVN had reinforced the roadblock on highway 1. This road block, at YD 820180, is adjacent to the access road leading to the battalion CP. The S-2 chief took the battalion interpreter to the roadblock. The interpreter determined that the ARVN soldiers expected an attack from VN Marines from Da Nang. The Bn XO and S-3 were notified, as were all battery commanders. A 100% alert was given for the battalion's perimeter defense. No further incidents occurred during the day concerning this matter.

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Both Btry "G" and Btry "I" fired daytime H&I's. Btry "G" fired 17 and Btry "I" 15. During the evening Btry "G" fired two missions, both at targets described as 25 VC in the open. These missions were fired at 1708H and 1855H. No surveillance was given.

17 May

At 0005H, Btry "I" reported VC activity to the front of their position at YD 930059. Several VC were observed, and 57 rounds of HE were fired direct fire. No attempt was made to attack the artillery position. Surveillance in the morning disclosed no VC casualties.

Btry "G" reported at 0210H that their position was under mortar, grenade, and small arms attack. This attack lasted until 0430H. During this period approximately 40 rounds of 81mm mortar rounds were fired at Btry "G" and the co-located Logistic Support Area (LSA); infiltrators threw TNT satchel charges at the gun positions. No weapons or equipment were damaged and no casualties resulted. Btry "G" fired 26 rounds of HE and WP direct fire, plus 9 rounds of illumination. In the morning one VC KIA was found in the defensive wire surrounding Btry "G". Btry "G" fired seven more missions at suspected VC activity from 0210H to 0520H.

At 0315H, Mortar Battery 1/11 left their position at YD 810152 to occupy a position at YD 783181 in support of an FO school. While passing through the DongDa Training Area the lead vehicle struck a mine. The incident occurred at 0912H at YD 855142. The vehicle, an M-35 truck, had the right front wheel blown off and the engine compartment battered. The driver was dazed but unhurt. The passenger, Capt R. C. GRAHAM, received a minor wound on the right elbow. Engineers were called and the remainder of the road swept. The battery proceeded to their position.

During the FO school approximately 50 rounds of harassing small arms fire was received on the OP from an undisclosed position. Action was taken to sweep the area suspected of concealing the originator of the fire; however results were negative.

The mortar battery continued its support of the FO school until 1700H at which time they returned to their primary position at YD 810152.

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From 1030H to 1830H Btry "I" fired 33 daytime H&I missions. Between 2035H to 2100H Btry "G" fired three unobserved missions at a suspected VC battalion. No surveillance was given. Beginning at 2130H and 2145H, Btry "M" fired three unobserved missions for ARVN. No surveillance was given for these missions.

18 May

At 0600H Btry "M" displaced two M-109's from YD 875152 and proceeded to a new position at YD 832147. At 0720H these two 155mm howitzers were in position, laid on azimuth 4250. Also at 0600H, the two M-109's of Btry "M" located at YD 896086. At 1000H these weapons were in that position laid on azimuth 4050. These moves were made to support two widely separated recon patrols.

Btry "G" received sniper fire at 1113H, coming from positions in the vicinity of YD 548278. Btry "G" returned fourteen rounds of direct fire. The snipers were silenced, but no surveillance would be obtained.

The two M-109's of Btry "M" located at YD 896086 fired a mission in support of recon at 1515H. Twenty-seven VC were reported to be in the vicinity of YD 893994. Twelve rounds of 155mm HE were fired. No surveillance was given.

At 1800H the two M-109's of Btry "M" at YD 832147 march ordered and returned to the Btry "M" primary position at YD 875142. By 1845H these howitzers were in position, laid on azimuth 3750.

ARVN reported a suspected VC Company in the vicinity of YD 478320 at 2014H. Btry "G" supported the request by firing 43 rounds of 105mm HE at this area. No surveillance was reported.

At 2145H another ARVN unit reported VC activity in the vicinity of YD 749119, 757115, 764116, and YD 773114. Btry "M" fired one volley on each of these unobserved locations.

19 May

Btry "G" registered between 1130H and 1325H.

At 1600H Btry "G" began a series of four fire missions that continued until after 1700H. The missions were requested

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by ARVN, each time described as a VC Bn. A total of 157 rounds of 105mm howitzer HE were fired. No surveillance was given for any of the missions.

Insertion of three reconnaissance patrols scheduled for 20 May required the displacement of two M-109's to cover the patrol routes. Btry "M" was issued a warning order at 1700H to be in position at YD 810152 laid on azimuth 3800 not later than 1800H on 20 May.

At 1800H 12th Marines' S-4 confirmed that Btry "C" would depart the Phu Bai area tomorrow for transfer to Danang. Transportation would be by LCU from Co. Coa Beach Causeway in the city of Hue.

Between 1800H and 1845H Btry "H" fired in three on-call concentrations, adjusted by the AO.

Between 1930H and 1940H one volley of HE was fired by Btry "G" on each of the four targets previously described as a VC battalion. No surveillance was reported.

Btry "I" took three VC under fire at 1725H. The AO adjusted the fire, and 3 VC confirmed KIA resulted. Sixteen rounds of HE were used on the mission.

20 May

At 0445H, Btry "G" began a series of nine fire missions that lasted until 0645H. The targets were described as small arms fire, suspected mortar positions, and escape routes. Sixty-six rounds of HE and fifty-five rounds of WP were expended during this period. No surveillance resulted from any of the missions. Btry "G" fired 30 daytime H&I's from 0730H to 2000H at the same general area of these nine missions.

At 0630H Btry "C" departed for Co Coa Beach. Loading aboard the LCU's commenced at 0730H. By 1230H all equipment and personnel were aboard. The LCU's departed the causeway for Da Nang.

With today being Ho Chi Minh's birthday, the Bn XO directed all batteries to increase their security to 100% alert between 2200-0400H.

At 1630H, Btry "M" displaced two M-109's from YD 876144 and were on the road to their new position. At 1710H the M-109's were in position at YD 810152, laid on azimuth 3800.

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At 1830H, one of the recon patrols was inserted as scheduled and met heavy resistance. The patrol was retracted and Btry "M" fired 25 unobserved rounds of 155mm HE into the landing zones area.

Batteries "B" and "H" fired on a reported platoon of VC between 1835H and 2145H. The platoon was reportedly in the vicinity of YD 9714. Each battery fired two missions. Thirty-two rounds of HE were fired, adjusted by ARVN. No surveillance was reported. At 2100H Btry "C" illuminated an area in the vicinity of YD 5226. Infantry supporting in the area killed one VC under the illumination with small arms fire. Btry "G" fired two unobserved missions in the same general area between 2117H and 2137H, firing eight rounds of HE at each location.

21 May

At 0935H recon patrol "GALLEON" requested fire on several VC moving along a trail at YD 788054. Btry "M" adjusted three rounds of WP, but no casualties were observed.

Btry "I" fired 72 rounds of HE in the vicinity of YC 960 995 at 1700H. The target was described as a VC squad by the AO. Four confirmed VC WIA's resulted from this action.

22 May

At 1310H, while observing the area in front of his position, the Battery Commander of Btry "I" observed 8 VC in the open in the vicinity of ZD 007006. Btry "I" took them under fire with 120 rounds of 105mm howitzer HE. The VC dispersed, and no positive surveillance resulted.

The platoon of M-109's of Btry "M" located at YD 896086 requested several defensive concentrations fired in around their position area. At 1705H Btry "B" fired in three concentrations, adjusted by the XO of Btry "M".

At 1907H recon patrol "PRIMNESS", operating in the vicinity of YD 7901, also requested a defensive concentration fired in. The platoon of M-109's located at YD 896086 fired in the concentration.

ARVN units operating in the vicinity of YD 7414 reported VC activity at 1925H. Fire was requested on three locations, described as a suspected VC battalion. The platoon of M-109's, located at YD 810152, fired 36 rounds of 155mm HE. No

ENCLOSURE (2)

surveillance followed. At 2030H the same observer reported suspected movements coming from the previously fired mission. Two 155mm howitzer illumination rounds were fired with negative results.

23 May

A recon patrol, operating in the vicinity of YD 7900 requested to fire in two defensive concentrations. Btry "M" fired these in at 0753H.

At 0945H the mortar battery displaced from its primary position at YD 810152 to a gun position at YD 837149 in order to support an FO school. The battery was in position and laid on azimuth 3600 at 1035H. The school was conducted by the 1/1 Liaison Officer for FO's and scout observers from 2/1. Recon Company members also participated. Seventeen missions were fired in support of the school.

At 1045H 21 VC were reported in the vicinity of YD 835090. The observer on Hill 225 (OP CROW) adjusted two volleys fired by Btry "H" before a cease fire was ordered by 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines. It was decided that the reported VC could be friendly wood-cutters. The mission was ended with no observed casualties.

At 1250H the recon patrol located at YD 7900 requested check rounds fired on two concentrations, and Btry "M" fired three rounds.

At about 1500H an army advisor and ARVN captain from the Dong Da Training Center, located adjacent to the battalion CP, came to the S-3 section. They requested this battalion aid them in a training exercise tentatively scheduled for 26 May. The request was that artillery provide a two-minute preparation fire to be initiated at a TOT and to be terminated by a volley of white phosphorous. After discussing the scheme of maneuver, the battalion S-3, Major BITTNER, went on a ground recon with the Dong Da representatives. During this recon the S-3 adjusted the center platoon of Btry "B" on the target area. The S-3 returned to the CP at 1700H.

The mortar battery finished firing for the FO school and by 1730H had occupied its primary position at YD 810152.

At 2100H an ARVN unit operating in the vicinity of YD 760 124 requested an illumination concentration be fired. Btry "M" fired three rounds of illumination before the ARVN unit ended the mission.

ENCLOSURE (2)

24 May

The observer on Hill 225 (OP CROW) requested to fire practice missions at 0918H. Two practice missions were fired for this observer by Btry "H".

Recon patrol "PRIMNESS", operating in the vicinity of YD 8101 requested to fire-in three pre-planned concentrations. Between 0950H and 1135H Btry "M" fired-in these concentrations.

Two other recon patrols, "LION", operating in the vicinity of YD 8694, and "NIGHT STICKER", operating in the vicinity of YD 7705, also requested concentrations be fired-in. Btry "M" fired in one concentration for "LION" at 1555H and one for "NIGHT STICKER" at 1810H.

At 2242H Btry "G" fired an unobserved mission at a suspected mortar position reported at YD 522265.

25 May

At 0810H recon patrol "PRIMNESS" requested a marking round. Btry "M" marked the requested location with a WP round. At 0910H "PRIMNESS" called for a fire mission on a target described as "VC cooking fire" at YD 805017. Btry "M" fired this mission. Surveillance reported was good effect on the target area, but the heavy canopy limited any surveillance of casualties.

At 0918H the observer on OP CROW requested to fire practice missions. Btry "B" fired four practice missions for this observer until 1207H.

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At 1000H Btry "I" took a VC rest area under fire with 68 rounds of WP. Five to six lean-to's were reported to be at YD 946025. The immediate surveillance reported was that these lean-to's were burning. Later surveillance determined one confirmed VC KIA also.

Recon patrol- "PRIMNESS" requested a concentration fired-in at YD 818014. Btry "M" fired this in at 1125H.

A precision registration was fired by Btry "M" at 1230H. The observer on OP CROW adjusted.

At 1647H "PRIMNESS" requested another concentration fired-in at YD 820025. Btry "M" fired this concentration also.

ARVN advisors operating in the vicinity of YD 7708 reported 200 VC located at YD 775088. Btry "M" and Btry "H" fired a total of 59 rounds of high explosive on this target at 2000H.

At about 2115H small arms fire, grenades, and the firing of hand flares commenced in front of Btry "H" permanent position at YD 871140 and the adjacent position occupied by the Btry "I" rear echelon. Small arms fire reportedly was being fired into both positions. Movement was also reported to the front of both positions. Btry "H" fired illumination rounds over the Btry "I" position, and Btry "B" fired illumination over the Btry "H" location. A reaction force consisting of

ENCLOSURE (2)

HqBtry Survey Section was activated and sent to the Btry "I" position. Firing ceased at about 2145H. The reaction force remained in position until 2330H at which time they returned to the CP area. All remained quiet after this time.

26 May

At 0600H Btry "G" fired a pre-planned preparation fire of 95 rounds of 105mm ammunition. This prep fire was in conjunction with an infantry sweep of an objective in the vicinity of YD 518219. Recon patrol "PRIMNESS", operating in the vicinity of YD 8694, called for check rounds to be fired on one of their concentrations at 1440H. Btry "M", who had fired the requested concentration in the previous day, fired two check rounds as requested.

At 1515H a series of four Frag Orders were originated by the S-3. Frag Order 21 directed Btry "M" to displace two M-109 howitzers from their present positions at YD 875144 to a position in the vicinity of YD 810152 and lay on azimuth 3900. This would provide deep artillery support for recon patrols not otherwise covered. Btry "M" was directed to be in position no later than 271700H.

Btry "G" was issued Frag Order 22-66. Btry "G" was directed, after an in-place relief by Btry "H", to return to the battalion CP area and occupy a position in the vicinity of YD 870141. This displacement was to be accomplished no later than 301600H.

ENCLOSURE (2)

DECLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Frag Order 23-66 directed Btry "H" to effect an in-place relief of Btry "G" by 301000H. Btry "H" was given the mission of direct support of 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines.

Frag Order 24-66 directed Btry "B" to displace from its present position at YD 889141 and occupy a position in the vicinity of YD 870141. Btry "B" was to accomplish this move no later than 291600H.

At 1945H Btry "G" fired 12 rounds of 105mm howitzer HE at 6 VC. The VC were in the vicinity of YD 513260. Immediate surveillance was not given for this mission.

Btry "G" informed the S-3 at 2100H that they had been directed to displace their position tomorrow. Since Btry "H" would be occupying the new position, the CO of Btry "G" requested a representative from Btry "H" be present to help select the new position area. Also, the Bn Survey Section was requested to survey the new position area. The CO of Btry "G" was advised that previous commitments of both Btry "H" and the Survey Section precluded either from being available, but both would be provided the following day, 27May66.

27 May

At 0025H Btry "B" illuminated an area in the vicinity of YD 858125. Suspected movements had been reported. Three rounds of illumination disclosed no movement and the mission was ended.

The prep fire demonstration requested by the ARVN's Dong Da National Training Center was scheduled for 1430H today. Btry "H" had been selected to fire the mission. At 0845H the Bn S-3 met with the ARVN advisor charged with the demonstration. Both officers went to the demonstration area for a final recon and to adjust Btry "H" on the objective area. At 0925H the S-3 adjusted each weapon of Btry "H" on the desired location. Twenty-nine rounds of HE and three colored smoke were expended.

The 12th Marines Regimental Commander, Col J. M. CALLENDER, and party visited the battalion CP at 0850H. Col CALLENDER and his staff visited the area for two hours and then returned to Da Nang by helicopter.

At 1155H an AO, working in the vicinity of YD 5225, observed a platoon of VC in trenches at YD 525257. The AO requested a fire mission on this target. Btry "G" fired the

ENCLOSURE (2)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

mission, expending 32 rounds of 105mm howitzer HE. The AO reported fire for effect on target, but could not determine any casualties.

At 1200H, Btry "B" displaced from its position at YD 889141 and moved to a position at YD 808160. This move was in conjunction with a one-day operation by the 1stBn, 1st Marines. By 1227H Btry "B" was in position ready to fire, laid on azimuth 3800.

Forward observer, Hotel-One reported VC sniper fire coming from YD 530291 at 1235H and requested artillery fire. Btry "G" fired this mission, expending 30 rounds of HE and one round of WP ammunition. The sniper fire was silenced. No report of casualties was given.

Recon patrol "KELSO", operating in the vicinity of YD 8597 requested to fire-in a concentration, expending 8 rounds of 155mm HE.

The demonstration for ARVN went off smoothly at 1430H. Btry "G" fired 63 rounds of 105mm HE during the two minute preparation. A round of yellow smoke at 1432H signalled termination of the prep fire. Effect on target was described as excellent by the Bn S-3 who had observed the demonstration.

Recon patrol- "GALLEON", operating in the vicinity of YD 5221, observed VC at 1541H. "GALLEON" requested fire at YD 522217. Btry "G" expended four rounds of 105mm HE. No surveillance was reported.

The platoon of M-109's of Btry "M" disected to displace to YD 810152 left the CP area at 1615H. By 1700H the platoon was in position ready to fire, laid on azimuth 3900.

At 1932H recon patrol- "IRONHORSE", operating in the vicinity of YD 7309, requested to fire-in a concentration.

28 May

At 0800H the battery commander of Btry "B" left for the 1stBn, 1stMar area in order to support the search and destroy operation scheduled for the 1stBn, 1st Marines. Btry "H" was scheduled to relieve Btry "G" in position on 30 May. Btry "G" displaced to a new position on 28 May, and the battery commander of Btry "G" requested Btry "H" help select the new gun position. The battery move began at 1400H. By 1537H Btry "G" and the two 155mm howitzers (towed) of Btry "M" (north) attached were co-located in a position at YD 530310.

ENCLOSURE (2)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Btry "G" laid on azimuth 3300 and Btry "M" (north) on 3500.

At 1725H Btry "I" began a precision destruction mission of a stone house located by FO- INDIA-3. Sixty-one rounds of 105mm HE were expended. The house was destroyed and one secondary explosion observed while the mission was in progress.

The one-day operation scheduled for the 1stBn, 1st Marines had been postponed for 48 hours. Accordingly Btry "B" was ordered to displace from its present position to a new position at YD 872138. At 1956H Btry "B" was in position, laid on azimuth 4400.

Throughout the past few weeks small arms fire and suspected movements had been reported in front of the 3/12 CP area by personnel of Btry "H" and the rear echelon of Btry "I". The Bn commander decided to put-out an ambush in the vicinity of this activity at YD 873123. An ambush consisting of the survey/metro officer, Lt PORTER, and nine of his men left for the ambush site at 2230H.

29 May

The HqBtry ambush, set-out yesterday, returned at 0400H. No contact or sightings were observed.

At 0800H the bn commander, LtCol PAGE, and Major S. M. MORROW visited Btry "G".

Recon patrol- "IRONHORSE", operating in the vicinity of YD 7205, called-in a fire mission at 0935H. "IRONHORSE" described his initial target as "Six men with packs, rifles and wearing khaki." Btry "M" fired six rounds of 155mm howitzer HE. Immediate surveillance reported 4 VC KIA and several more WIA.

At 0938H Btry "G" took a VC ambush under fire. Thirty-three rounds of 105mm howitzer WP and 6 rounds of HE were expended on this target. No surveillance was given.

"IRONHORSE" requested another fire mission at 1020H as the patrol maintained VC contact. Btry "M" fired 8 rounds of HE at coordinates YD 732848. Surveillance indicated 3-4 WIA. At 1038H another mission at the same coordinates resulted in 2-3 more WIA as Btry "M" expended 29 rounds of HE and 2 WP.

The Bn Commander and Major MORROW returned to the CP area at 1500H.

ENCLOSURE (2)

At about 2000H information was received from the 4thMar FSCC that a 105mm howitzer battery would be required to support an operation scheduled in the vicinity of the city of Dong Ha, YD 2461. It was decided to postpone the relief of Btry "G" and send Btry "H" to Dong Ha. Frag Order-25 was issued to Btry "H" directing them to displace to Dong Ha on 30 May. Btry "H" was to march order at 1000H road march to Dong Ha and report to LtCol P. X. KELLY, USMC, Commanding Officer, 2d Battalion, 4th Marines who would arrive on the morning of 30 May at Dong Ha.

Btry "G" was informed of the postponement of their relief. Since the position they were now occupying was not surveyed, Btry "G" requested that the bn survey section survey in the position area. The survey officer was informed of the requirement. The survey section would join the Btry "H" convoy and drop-off at the Btry "G" position.

30 May

At 0943H Btry "H" march ordered in preparation for their movement to Dong Ha. By 1000H Btry "H" was on the road. Added to the convoy was the battalion survey section which was being sent to the new position of Btry "G". The surveyors dropped off at the Btry "G" position as the rest of the convoy proceeded on north.

Btry "G" took 4 VC under fire at 1000H. This target was observed by recon patrol "GALEON" who reported their location at YD 525265. GALLEON reported all 4 VC were killed as a result of the mission.

A series of 3 registrations were begun at 1030H. Btry "B" and the 2 deployed plts of Btry "M" were registered by the observer on Hill 225 (OP CROW).

At 1800H a message from the 12th Marines was received, informing the battalion that a Rough Rider would be initiated from Da Nang to Phu Bai tomorrow. Part of the convoy would be Mortar Battery, 3/12 which was to relieve Mortar Battery, 1/11 on 1 June. A liaison team was informed that they would fly to Phu Loc tomorrow to support the Rough Rider.

Recon patrol "LION", operating in the vicinity of YD 7408, requested to fire-in a concentration. The plt of M-109's of Btry "M" located at YD 810152 fired in the concentration as requested.

ENCLOSURE (2)

31 May

The Phu Loc liaison team left the CP at 0700H and was in position at 0720H. The Rough Rider convoy departed Da Nang on schedule at 0800H.

At 0830H Btry "B" registered. The observer on OP CROW adjusted the mission.

A VC sniper was taken under fire by Btry "G" at 0915H. The mission was requested by FO H1, operating with Co "E", 2ndBn, 1stMar. Sixteen rounds of 105mm HE were expended on YD 517275. Surveillance reported 1 probable KIA.

Recon patrol "LION", operating in the vicinity of YD 7306 requested a mission at 0940H. "LION" described the target as a suspected enemy position. Six rounds of 155mm HE were expended by the plt of M-109's of Btry "M" located at YD 810152. No surveillance was given for this mission.

At 1000H LtCol L. L. PAGE turned command of 3dBn, 12th Marines over to Major S. M. MORROW. A formal change of command ceremony was held. A team of the 3dMarDiv Drum and Bugle Corps and all available batteries participated.

Btry "G" took several VC under fire at 1025H. These VC were located at YD 535264. Eighty-six rounds of 105mm HE were expended, resulting in 2 confirmed VC KIA plus an additional two more probable KIA.

At about 1030H the Rough Rider arrived in the Phu Loc area. Mortar Battery, 3/12 arrived as part of the convoy and immediately occupied a position at YD 810152, laid on azimuth 3200. Mortar Battery, 1/11 was co-located in the same position.

At 1030H the plt of M-109's located at YD 810152 registered. The observer on OP CROW adjusted the mission.

ENCLOSURE (2)

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NAVAL MESSAGE
 OPNAV FORM 2110-26 (REV. 3-61)

RELEASED BY		DRAFTED BY SSGT D. F. GIBSON		PHONE EXT. NR.	PAGE	PAGES
DATE 1 MAY 1966	TOR/TOD	ROUTED BY		CHECKED BY	OF	
MESSAGE NR.	DATE/TIME GROUP (GCT)	PRECEDENCE	FLASH	EMERGENCY	OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE	PRIORITY
		ACTION				
		INFO				
						X

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM: 3/12

TO: 4th MARINES (ATTN: S-2)

1. TINGE ISUM NO.23
2. PRD ENDING 010800H MAY 66
3. AT 301900H A/O REPORTED A/W's IN TREE LINE AT COORD YD 547294. 120 RDS HE FIRED BY "C" BTRY, 6 VC KIA, WPN's SILENCED. AT 302000H A/O REPORTED TROOPS IN TREE LINE AT COORD YD 547294, 62 WP RDS FIRED BY "C" BTRY, AREA LEVELED. AT 302135H "C" BTRY FIRED PREP FIRES FOR ARVN IN COORD YD 613285. IN LATER SURVEILLANCE 2 VC KIA
4. 8 VC KIA
5. NONE
6. NONE
7. NONE
8. NONE
9. NONE
10. NO CHANGE
11. NONE
12. NONE

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TAB "A" ENCLOSURE 4

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NAVAL MESSAGE (SHORT FORM)

OPNAV FORM 2110-29 (10-58)

Reorder from FPSO Cag. "I" Stock Pot

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

CONFIDENTIAL

DRAFTED BY

SSGT. D.F. GIBSON

PRECEDENCE

ROUTINE

DATE/TIME GROUP

MESSAGE NR.

FROM:

3/12

TO:

4th MARINES (ATTN: S-2)

INFO:

1. TINGE ISUM NO. 24

2. PRD ENDING 020800H MAY 66

3. AT 011300H A/O SIGHTED 10-15 FOXHOLES BELIEVED TO BE OCCUPIED BY
VC AT COORD YD 540255. PROV.BTRY FIRED 30 RDS HE. MISSION UNOBSERVED.

4. NONE

8. NONE

12. NONE

5. NONE

9. NONE

6. NONE

10. NO CHANGE

7. NONE

11. NONE

TOR 020812Z CONFIDENTIAL

RELEASE

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	DATE/TIME GROUP
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SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

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TAB "A" ENCLOSURE 4

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NAVAL MESSAGE

OPNAV FORM 2110-28 (REV. 3-61)

RELEASED BY		DRAFTED BY		PHONE EXT. NR.	PAGE	PAGES
DATE	TOR/TOD	ROUTED BY		CHECKED BY	OF	
5 MAY 1966						
MESSAGE NR.	DATE/TIME GROUP (GCT)	PRECEDENCE	FLASH	EMERGENCY	OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE	PRIORITY
		ACTION				
		INFO				

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM: 3/12

TO: 4th MARINES (ATTN S-2)

1. 3/12 1500 25

2. PRD ENDING 060800H MAY 1966

3. AT 051315H "B" BTRY FIRED 36 RDS HE AT 3 VC IN BUSHES. COORD YD554259. MISSION CALLED FOR BY AO. 2 VC KIA.

AT 051650 "B" BTRY FIRED 36 RDS HE, WP ON SUSPECTED MORTAR POS. COORD YD514283. MISSION UNOBSERVED.

4. 2 KIA

5. NONE

6. NONE

7. NONE

8. NONE

9. NONE

10. NO CHANGE

11. NONE

12. NONE

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NAVAL MESSAGE

OPNAV FORM 2110-26 (REV. 3-61)

RELEASED BY		DRAFTED BY SSgt. D.F. GIBSON		PHONE EXT. NR.	PAGE	PAGES
DATE 8 May 1966	TOR/TOD	ROUTED BY		CHECKED BY	OF	
MESSAGE NR. 324	DATE/TIME GROUP (GCT) U	PRECEDENCE	FLASH	EMERGENCY	OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE	PRIORITY
		ACTION				
		INFO				
						ROUTINE
						DEFERRED

CONFIDENTIAL

From: 3/12

To: 4th Marines (Attn:S-2)

1. TINGE ISUM NO. 26
2. PRD ENDING 080800H MAY 66
3. AT 070950H A/O REPORTED BOAT IN RIVER LOADED WITH EQUIP. AT COORD YD 584200. NEG. EFFECT ON TGT. AT 071050H RECON CALLED MISSION ON VC OP AT COORD YD 489255. "B" BTRY FIRED 8 RDS HE, 2 VC KIA (CONF) 6 VC KIA (POSS).
4. 2 VC KIA (CONF) 6 VC KIA (POSS).
5. NONE
6. NONE
7. NONE
8. NONE
9. NONE
10. NO CHANGE
11. NONE
12. NONE

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NAVAL MESSAGE

OPNAV FORM 2110-28 (REV. 3-61)

RELEASED BY		DRAFTED BY SSGT.D.F. GINSON		PHONE EXT NR		PAGE		PAGES	
DATE 19 MAY 1966		TOR/TOD		ROUTED BY		CHECKED BY		OF	
MESSAGE NR	DATE/TIME GROUP (GCT)	PRECEDENCE	RASH	EMERGENCY	OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE	PRIORITY	ROUTINE	DEFERRED	
	170232Z	ACTION					I		
		INFO							

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM: 3/12

TO: 4th MARINES (ATTN: S-2)

1. 3/12 ISUM NO 27
2. PED ENDING 190800H MAY 66
3. AT 181507H RECON REPORTED 27 VC AT COORD. YD 893994. "M" FWD FIRED 12 RDS RE, MISSION UNOBSERVED.
4. NONE
5. NONE
6. NONE
7. NONE
8. NONE
9. NONE
10. NO CHANGE
11. NONE
12. NONE

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170232Z

NAVAL MESSAGE
 OPNAV FORM 2110-28 (REV. 3-61)

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DATE 20 May 1966	TOR/TOD	ROUTED BY	CHECKED BY	OF		
MESSAGE NR	DATE/TIME GROUP (GCT)	PRECEDENCE	FLASH	EMERGENCY	OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE	PRIORITY
		ACTION				ROUTINE
		INFO				DEFERRED

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM: 3/12

TO: 4th MARINES (ATTN:S-2)

1. 3/12 ISUM NO. 29
2. PRD ENDING 200800H MAY 66
3. AT 191600H "G" BTRY FIRED 157 RDS HE FOR DIST.ADV. ON VC BW IN VIC YD 473315- YD 480327- YD 476320- YD 477323. MISSION UNOBSERVED. MISSION WAS FIRED AGAIN FOR 1/4 AT 191930H WITH 24 RDS HE. UNOBSERVED.
4. NONE
5. NONE
6. NONE
7. NONE
8. NONE
9. NONE
10. NO CHANGE
11. NONE
12. NONE

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NAVAL MESSAGE
 OPNAV FORM 2110-23 (REV. 3-61)

RELEASED BY		DRAFTED BY SSGT.D. F. GIBSON		PHONE EXT. NR		PAGE		PAGES	
DATE 21 May 1966		TOR TOD		ROUTED BY		CHECKED BY		OF	
MESSAGE NR	DATE/TIME GROUP (GCT)		PRECEDENCE	FLASH	EMERGENCY	OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE	PRIORITY	ROUTINE	DEFERRED
			ACTION					X	
			INFO						

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM: 3/12

TO: 4th Marines (Attn:S-2)

1. 3/12 ISUM NO. 30

2. PRD ENDING 210800H MAY 66

 3. AT 200445H 1/4 CALLED FIRE MISSION ON VC MORTAR POS AT COORD.
 YD 555255-YD 545237- YD 563268- YD 565243- YD 570245.

"G" BTRY FIRED 33 RDS HE, 1 RD ILL, 30 RDS WP. UNOBSERVED.

at 200558H "G" BTRY FIRED 21 RDS HE, 15 RDS WP FOR 1/4 ON

 VC SNIPER AT COORD YD 522265. UNOBSERVED. AT 201835H "B" BTRY
 FIRED 18 RDS HE FOR ARVN ON VC PLT. AT COORD YD 974148.

 UNOBSERVED. AT 202005H "H" BTRY FIRED 4 RDS HE FOR ARVN
 ON SUSP VC PLT. AT COORD YD 925185, UNOBSERVED.

4. NONE

10. NO CHANGE

5. NONE

11. NONE

6. NONE

12. NONE

7. NONE

8. NONE

9. NONE

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OPNAV FORM 2110-28 (REV. 3-61)

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DATE 22 May 1966	TOR/TOD	ROUTED BY	CHECKED BY	OF		
MESSAGE NR	DATE/TIME GROUP (GCT)	PRECEDENCE	FLASH	EMERGENCY	OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE	PRIORITY
		ACTION				
		INFO				
						ROUTINE
						DEFERRED

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM: 3/12

TO: 4th MARINES (ATTN: S-2)

1. 3/12 ISUM NO 31

2. PRD ENDING 220800H MAY 1966

3. AT 210935H "M" BTRY FIRED 3 RDS WP FOR RECON AT VC ON TRAIL AT
COORD. YD 788054. RESULTS NOT REPORTED. AT 211700H "I" BTRY FIRED
MISSION FOR 3/4 ON 7-9 VC MOVING E. ALONG RIVER AT COORD YD 964994.
VC WERE WEARING CAMOUFLAGE CLOTHING AND WEARING PACKS, 72 RDS HE
WERE FIRED RESULTING IN 4 WIA. AT 212306H "M" BTRY FIRED 2 ILL
RDS ON VC IN OPEN AT COORD YD 774123. NO FURTHER REPORT.

4. VC WIA

5. NONE

6. NONE

7. NONE

8. NONE

9. NONE

10. NO CHANGE

11. NONE

12. NONE

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 OPNAV FORM 2110-28 (REV. 3-61)

RELEASED BY		DRAFTED BY SSGT. D.F. GIBSON		PHONE EXT. NR.		PAGE		PAGES	
DATE 23 MAY 1966		TOR TOD		ROUTED BY		CHECKED BY		OF	
MESSAGE NR		DATE/TIME GROUP (GCT)		PRECEDENCE		FLASH		EMERGENCY	
				ACTION					
				INFO					
						OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE		PRIORITY	
								ROUTINE	
								DEFERRED	

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM: 3/12

TO: 4th MARINES (ATTN: S-2)

1. 3/12 ISUM NO. 32
2. PRD ENDING 230800H MAY 1966
3. AT 221310H 3/4 CALLED FOR FIRE MISSION ON 8 VC IN OPEN AT
COORD. ZD 007006. "I" BTRY FIRED 120 RDS HE. NO FURTHER REPORT.
AT 212116H ARVN ADVISOR REPORTED VC BN AT COORD. YD 746140,
YD 744138, YD 750137, YD 751143. NO FURTHER REPORT.
4. NONE
5. NONE
6. NONE
7. NONE
8. NONE
9. NONE
10. NO CHANGE
11. NONE
12. NONE

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NAVAL MESSAGE
OPNAV FORM 2110-28 (REV. 3-61)

RELEASED BY		DRAFTED BY CPL. M.T. FERGUSON		PHONE EXT NR	PAGE	PAGES
DATE 24 MAY 1966		TOR/TOD		ROUTED BY	CHECKED BY	OF
MESSAGE NR	DATE/TIME GROUP (GCT)	PRECEDENCE	FLASH	EMERGENCY	OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE	PRIORITY
		ACTION				ROUTINE
		INFO				DEFERRED

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM: 3/12

TO: 4th MARINES (ATTN: S#2)

1. 3/12 ISUM 33

2. PRD ENDING 240800H MAY 1966

3. AT 231045H 2/1 CALLED FIRE MISSION ON 21 VC IN OPEN.

COORDYD 835090. "H" BTRY FIRED 4 RDS HE. NO FURTHER REPORT.

AT 232110H ARVN CALLED FDR MISSION ON VC BN. AT COORD.YD 750120,

754119, 765118. "M" BTRY FIRED 6 RDS HE. NO FURTHER REPORT.

4. NONE

5. NONE

6. NONE

7. NONE

8. NONE

9. NONE

10. NO CHANGE

11. NONE

12. NONE

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NAVAL MESSAGE

OPNAV FORM 2110-28 (REV. 3-61)

RELEASED BY		DRAFTED BY CPL. W. T. P. B. C. 1307		PHONE EXT. NR.		PAGE		PAGES	
DATE 25 MAY 1966		TOR/TOD		ROUTED BY		CHECKED BY		OF	
MESSAGE NR		DATE/TIME GROUP (GCT)		PRECEDENCE		FLASH		EMERGENCY	
				ACTION				OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE	
				INFO				PRIORITY	
								ROUTINE	
								DEFERRED	

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM: 3/12

TO: 4th MARINES (ATTN: S-2)

1. 3/12 ISUM 34

2. PRD ENDING 250000H MAY 1966

3. AT 232105H 3/4 CALLED FOR FIRE MISSION ON A VC SQUAD IN OPEN. COORD YD937038. "I" BTRY FIRED 9 RDS ILL. NO FURTHER REPORT.

AT 232242H 1/4 CALLED FOR FIRE MISSION ON SUSPECTED MORTAR POSITION. COORD YD522265. "G" BTRY FIRED 10 RDS HE. UNOBSERVED

4. NONE

5. NONE

6. NONE

7. NONE

8. NONE

9. NONE

10. NO CHANGE

11. NONE

12. NONE

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DATE/TIME GROUP (GCT)

TAB "A" ENCLOSURE 4

DECLASSIFIED

NAVAL MESSAGE (SHORT FORM)

OPNAV FORM 2110-29 (10-58)

Reorder from FPSO Cag "I" Stock Points

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

CONFIDENTIAL

DRAFTED BY	PRECEDENCE ROUTINE	DATE/TIME GROUP 267-507	MESSAGE NR.
------------	------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-------------

FROM:

3/12
TO:

4TH MARINES (ATTN: S-2)

INFO:

1. 3/12 ISUM 35.
2. PRD ENDING 260800H MAY 1966.
3. AT 251000H 3/4 CALLED FOR FIRE MISSION ON VC REST AREA. COORD YD 946025 "I" BTRY FIRED 68 RDS WP. REST AREA BURNING TARGET NEUTRALIZED. AT 250910H RECON CALLED FOR FIRE MISSION ON VC COOKING FIRES. COORD YD 805017. "M" BTRY FIRED 12 RDS HE. GOOD EFFECT ON TARGET. AT 251936H "M" FWD, REAR, AND "N" BTRYS FIRED 59 RDS HE AT COORD YD 775 088. TARGET REPORTED BY ARVN ON 200 VC. NO FURTHER REPORT.

NONE.

10. NO CHANGE.

5. NONE.

11. NONE.

6. NONE.

12. NONE.

7. NONE.

8. NONE.

9. NONE.

HAS BEEN SENT

RELEASE								TOR				TOD				CWO				WO				DATE			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	DATE/TIME GROUP 267-507			

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

#35

TAB "A" ENCLOSURE 4

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

NAVAL MESSAGE (SHORT FORM)
OPNAV FORM 2110-29 (10-58)
Reorder from FPSO Cog "J" Stock Points

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
CONFIDENTIAL

DRAFTED BY CPL. M.T. FERGUSON	PRECEDENCE ROUTINE	DATE/TIME GROUP 270507Z	MESSAGE NR
---	------------------------------	-----------------------------------	------------

FROM:

3/12

TO:

4th MARINES (Attn:S-2)

INFO:

CONFIDENTIAL

1. 3/12 ISUM NO. 38
2. PRD ENDING 260800H MAY 66
3. LATE REPORT: AT 251945H 1/4 CALLED FOR FIRE MISSION ON 6 VC IN OPEN AT COORD. YD 513260. "G" BTRY FIRED 12 RDS HE, MISSION UNOBSERVED. NEG REPORT FOR THIS PERIOD.
4. NONE
5. NONE
6. NONE
7. NONE
8. NONE
9. NONE
10. NO CHANGE
11. NONE
12. NONE

CONFIDENTIAL

RELEASE								TOR				TOD				CWO				WO				DATE			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	DATE/TIME GROUP			
																								270507Z			

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

#36

TAB "A" ENCLOSURE 4

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

NAVAL MESSAGE (SHORT FORM)

OPNAV FORM 2110-29 (10-58)
Reorder from FPSO Cug "1" Stock Points

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

CONFIDENTIAL

DRAFTED BY C. L. M. T. FERGUSON	PRECEDENCE ROUTINE	DATE/TIME GROUP 280205Z	MESSAGE NR
---	------------------------------	-----------------------------------	------------

FROM:

3/12

TO:

4th M. RINGS (ATTN: 0-2)

INFO:

CONFIDENTIAL

1. 3/12 ISUM NO. 38
2. PRD ENDING 280800H MAY 1966
3. AT 271155H A A/O RE-GET D A FLT. OF VC IN TRENCHES AND BUNKERS.
COORD YD525257. "G" BTRY FIRED 32 RDS HD. RDS ON TARGET
4. NONE
5. NONE
6. NONE
7. NONE
8. NONE
9. NONE
10. NO CHANGE
11. NONE
12. NONE

RELEASE								TOR				TOD				CWO				WO				DATE			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	DATE/TIME GROUP 280205Z			

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

#38

TAB "A" ENCLOSURE 4

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

NAVAL MESSAGE (SHORT FORM)
OPNAV FORM 2110-29 (10-58)
Reorder from FPSO Cag "1" Stock Points

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
CONFIDENTIAL

DRAFTED BY Cpl. M.T. FERGUSON	PRECEDENCE ROUTINE	DATE/TIME GROUP	MESSAGE NR
---	------------------------------	-----------------	------------

FROM:

3/12

TO:

4th MARINES (ATTN: S-2)

INFO:

CONFIDENTIAL

1. 3/12 ISUM NO. 39
2. PRD ENDING 300800H MAY 1966
3. AT 290935H "M" BTRY FIRED MISSION FOR RECON ON 6 VC WITH RIFLES AND PACKS. COORD YD720085. 4VC KIA, 6 POSS. WIA.
AT 291020H "M" BTRY FIRED MISSION FOR RECON ON 6-8 VC AT COORD YD732084. 3-4 VC WIA POSS, MISSION WAS CALLED IN SAME AREA ON VC RETRIEVING BODIES, 2-3 MORE VC WIA POSS. TOTAL RDS FIRED FOR ALL THREE MISSIONS, 4SHE, 2 WP.
4. 4 KIA CONF.
7 WIA POSS.
5. NONE
6. NONE
7. NONE
8. NONE
9. NONE
10. NO CHANGE
11. NONE
12. NONE

RELEASE												TOR				TOD				CWO				WO				DATE			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	DATE/TIME GROUP							

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

39

TAB "A" ENCLOSURE 4

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

NAVAL MESSAGE (SHORT FORM)
OPNAV FORM 2110-29 (10-58)
Reorder from FPSO Cag "I" Stock Point

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
CONFIDENTIAL

DRAFTED BY CPL. M.T. FERGUSON	PRECEDENCE ROUTINE	DATE/TIME GROUP 310015Z	MESSAGE NR 531
---	------------------------------	-----------------------------------	--------------------------

FROM:

3/12

CONFIDENTIAL

TO:

4th MARINES (ATTN: S-2)

INFO:

CONFIDENTIAL

1. 3/12 ISUM NO. 40
2. PRD ENDING 310800H MAY 1966
3. AT 301000H "G" BTRY FIRED 2RDS HE, 8 RDS WP FOR RECON AT 4 VC IN OPEN. COORD YD525265.
4. 4 KIA (POSS)
5. NONE
6. NONE
7. NONE
8. NONE
9. NONE
10. NO CHANGE
11. NONE
12. NONE

Long 2 Short
FILE 1979765

HAS BEEN SENT

RELEASE								TOR				TOD 31/0930H				CWO				WO				DATE			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	DATE/TIME GROUP			

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

#40

CONFIDENTIAL

TAB "A" ENCLOSURE ^R L

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

NAVAL MESSAGE (SHORT FORM)
OPNAV FORM 2110-29 (10-58)
Reorder from FPSO Cag. "I" Stock Points

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
CONFIDENTIAL

DRAFTED BY	PRECEDENCE	DATE/TIME GROUP	MESSAGE NR
CPL. H.T. FERGUSON	ROUTINE	034035	
FROM:			
3/12			
TO:			
4th MARINES (ATTN 9-2)			
INFO:			

1. 3/12 ISUM A1
2. PRD ENDING 030800H JUNE 1966
3. AT 021941H "N" BTRY FIRED 17 RDS HE AT 15 VC IN OPEN. COORD YC993999
MISSION CALLED FOR BY 3/4. EXCELLENT EFFECT ON TARGET.
AT 021840H "I" BTRY FIRED 302 RDS HE AT 35 VC IN OPEN. COORD
YD994003. MISSION CALLED FOR BY 3/4. 17 KIA 18 MIA
4. 17 KIA 18 MIA
5. NONE
6. NONE
7. NONE
8. NONE
9. NONE
10. NO CHANGE
11. NONE
12. NONE

RELEASE								TOR		TOD				CWO				WO				DATE			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	DATE/TIME GROUP	
																								034035	

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TAB "A" ENCLOSURE 4

DECLASSIFIED

NAVMC 219-GS (REV. 5-63)
SUPERSEDES 2-52 AND 8-56 EDITIONS WHICH WILL BE USED

S-2

OPERATION CHEROKEE

TO (Date and hour)

7 May 1966

(Classification) **CONFIDENTIAL**

(See reverse side for instructions)

PAGE NO.

(Classification)

TAB "B" ENCLOSURE 4

DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

S-3 MATTERS

TAB A: DAILY JOURNAL

TAB B: MISSION AND AMMUNITION BREAKDOWN

ENCLOSURE (5)
CONFIDENTIAL

022400H/May66

(Classification)

(Classification)

DECLASSIFIED

S-3, 3dBn, 12th Mar

Phu Bai

FROM (Date and hour)

TO (Date and hour)

030001H/May66

032400H/May66

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(Classification)

TIME		SERIAL NO.	DATE TIME GROUP	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN	
IN	OUT				M-Maps S-Staff	T-Troops F-File
0001		1		Journal for 3May66 opened.		
0130		2	03130H	Fr CG, 3dMarDiv to 4thMar. Planning Directive 1-66 (OpCon&AdCon).		File, S-3.
	0600	3		Opsum to 4thMar FSOC.		File.
	0601	4		Mustang to 12thMar.		File
0810		5		Patrol overlays (night&day) rec'd fr 3May.		FDO
	1410	6		Msg to Btry "C" req info regarding personnel injuries in Btry "M" (north).		File
1510		7	031340H	Msg fr Btry "C": neg casualties in Btry "M" (north).		File
	2100	8		All btrys notified Operation CHEROKEE postponed 24 hours.		File
2210		9		Opsum & mustang rpts rec'd fr Seabrook X-Ray. Btry "C"		File
	2400	10		Journal for 3May66 closed.		

(See reverse side for instructions)

PAGE NO.

(Classification)

CONFIDENTIAL

5.A

072400H/May66

(Classification).

(Classification)

-5. A

JOURNAL

NAVMC 219-GS (REV. 5-63)
SUPERSEDES 2-52 AND 8-56 EDITIONS WHICH WILL BE USED

UNIT OR SECTION

S-3, 3dBn, 12th Mar

PLACE

Phu Bai

FROM (Date and hour)

TO (Date and hour)

080001H/May66

082400H/May66

CONFIDENTIAL

(Classification)

[illegible]

(See reverse side for instructions)

PAGE NO.

(Classification)

CONFIDENTIAL

JOURNAL

NAVMC 219-GS (REV. 5-63)
SUPERSEDES 2-52 AND 8-56 EDITIONS WHICH WILL BE USED

UNIT OR SECTION

S-3, 3dBn, 12th Mar

PLACE

Phu Bai

FROM (Date and hour)

120001H/May66

TO (Date and hour),

122400H/May66

CONFIDENTIAL

(Classification)

[illegible]

(See reverse side for instructions)

PAGE NO.

(Classification)

CONFIDENTIAL

142400H/May66

(Classification)

5.9

162400H/May66

(Classification)

5A

172400H/May66

(Classification)

(See reverse side for instructions)

PAGE NO.

(Classification)

CONFIDENTIAL

5.A

JOURNAL

NAVMC 219-GS (REV. 5-63)
SUPERSEDES 2-52 AND 8-56 EDITIONS WHICH WILL BE USED

UNIT OR SECTION

S-3, 3dBn, 12th Mar

PLACE

Phu Bai

FROM (Date and hour)

180001H/May66

TO (Date and hour)

182400H/May66

CONFIDENTIAL

(Classification)

TIME		SERIAL NO.	DATE TIME GROUP	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN	
IN.	OUT				M-Maps S-Staff	T-Troops F-File
0001		1		Journal for 18May66 opened.		
	0600	2		Opsum to 4thMar.		File
		3		Mustang to 12thMar.		File
0640		4	180635H	Fir rep fr Btry "G". 135 rds expended on tgt reported by Ln0 1/4.		
				No surveillance.		File
0750		5		No fire zone fr Recon.		FDO, File
1140		6		Fir rep fr Btry "G". 8trds expended on sniper. Coord 548278.		
				Sniper silenced.		File
	1406	7	181406H	S-3, 3/12 to btrys "G" & "I". Guidelines for submission of fir reps, sit reps, & spot reps.		File
1700		8		Ln0 w/2/1 req AO 191700H.		Ln0, S-3
1706		9		Ammo lot # fr Btry "I".		FDO, File
1935		10	181900H	Msg to Btry "I" denoting recon operating area.		File
1940		11		All H&I's cleared by FSCC 4thMar.		FDO, File
	2200	12		Opsum to 4thMar.		File
	2220	13		Fir rep fr Btry "G". 43 rds fired at suspected VC co. Coord 478320.		
				No surveillance.		File
	2400	14		Journal for 18May66 closed.		

(See reverse side for instructions)

PAGE NO.

(Classification)

(Classification)
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25A

192400H/May66

(Classification)

(Classification)

5A

212400H/May66

(Classification)

(Classification)

DECLASSIFIED

JOURNAL

NAVMC 219-GS (REV. 5-63)
SUPERSEDES 2-52 AND 8-56 EDITIONS WHICH WILL BE USED

UNIT OR SECTION

S-3, 3dBn, 12th Mar

PLACE

Phu Bai

FROM (Date and hour)

230001H/May66

TO (Date and hour)

232400H/May66

CONFIDENTIAL

(Classification)

TIME		SERIAL NO.	DATE TIME GROUP	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN	
IN	OUT				M-Maps S-Staff	T-Troops F-File
0001		1		Journal for 23May66 opened.		
0020		2		Call fr 4thMar FSCC. VC activity GS 7613. Btry "H" Btry "M", & 107mm mortar Btry laid on area.	FDO, File	
0105		3		Call fr 4thMar FSCC. Cease fire on GS 7613 until further notice.	FDO, File	
	0600	4		Opsum to 4thMar.	FDO, File	
		5		Mustang to 12thMar.	File	
0905		6		Supply route to Btry "M" (12) rec 106mm RR fire.	FDO	
0910		7		107mm mortar btry notified not to fire in following GS: 8313, 8312, & 8311 until notified.	FDO, File	
	1335	8	231335H	Msg fr S-3, 3/12 to Btrys "G", "I", & 107mm Mortar Battery regarding opsums & mustangs.	File	
2135		9		Fir rep fr Btry "I". 9 illum rds fired on VC. Coord 937038. Inf will sweep first light.	File	
	2200	10		Opsum to 4thMar.	File	
	2400	11		Journal for 23May66 closed.		

(See reverse side for instructions)

PAGE NO.

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262400H/May66

(Classification)

(Classification)

DECLASSIFIED

JOURNAL

NAVMC 219-GS (REV. 5-63)
SUPERSEDES 2-52 AND 8-56 EDITIONS WHICH WILL BE USED

UNIT OR SECTION

S-3, 3dBn, 12th Mar

PLACE

Phu Bai

FROM (Date and hour)

TO (Date and hour)

270001H/May66

272400H/May66

CONFIDENTIAL

(Classification)

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PAGE NO.

(Classification)

CONFIDENTIAL

5. A

JOURNAL

NAVMC 219-GS (REV. 5-63)
SUPERSEDES 2-52 AND 8-56 EDITIONS WHICH WILL BE USED

UNIT OR SECTION

S-3, 3dBn, 12th Mar

PLACE

Phu Bai

FROM (Date and hour)

280001H/May66

TO (Date and hour)

282400H/May66

CONFIDENTIAL

(Classification)

TIME		SERIAL NO.	DATE TIME GROUP	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN	
IN	OUT				M-Maps S-Staff	T-Troops F-File
0001		1		Journal for 28May66 opened.		
	0600	2		Opsum to 4thMar FSCC.		File
		3		Mustang to 12thMar.		File
1120		4		Rec'd met msg.		File
1600		5		Fire cap fr Btry "G". Coord GS 5305 3100. Fire cap fr Btry "M" (north). Coord 529309.		EDO, File
1735		6		Rec'd met msg.		File
1745		7		Btry "B" returned bn position.		File
1925		8		Fire caps for Btry "B". Coord 872 138.		File
1956		9		Btry "G" fire rep. 61 rds expended. Coord 979002. Bldg destroyed w/secondary explosions.		File
	2200	10		Opsum to 4thMar FSCC.		File
	2400	11		Journal for 28May66 closed.		

(See reverse side for instructions)

PAGE NO.

(Classification)

CONFIDENTIAL

5.A

JOURNAL

NAVMC 219-GS (REV. 5-63)
SUPERSEDES 2-52 AND 8-56 EDITIONS WHICH WILL BE USED

UNIT OR SECTION

S-3, 3dBn, 12th Mar

PLACE

Phu Bai

FROM (Date and hour)

300001H/May66

TO (Date and hour)

302400H/May66

CONFIDENTIAL

(Classification).

[illegible]

(See reverse side for instructions)

PAGE NO.

(Classification)

CONFIDENTIAL

INSTRUCTIONS FOR KEEPING JOURNAL

1. Heading:

a. Unit or Section:

- (1) Enter designation of unit if this is a unit journal for regiment, air group, or smaller unit.
- (2) Enter designation of section if this is a section journal maintained by a general staff section.

b. Place: Enter coordinates or name of locality.

c. From: Enter date, time, and time zone that journal is opened.

d. To: Enter date, time, and time zone that journal is closed.

2. Body:

a. Time In:

(1) Unit Journal. Enter time information is received within unit. In most instances this would be TOR at unit communication center.

(2) Section Journal. Enter time information is received within section.

b. Time Out:

(1) Unit Journal. Enter time outgoing information is delivered to addressee. In most instances this would be TOD by unit communication center.

(2) Section Journal. Enter time outgoing message is delivered to originator's communication center for transmittal, or time information is transmitted by releasing section.

c. Serial No.: Number each entry consecutively as information is received by keeper of journal.

d. DTG: Enter date/time group of radio message.

e. Incidents, Messages, Orders:

(1) Important incidents, messages and orders are recorded as they are made known.

(2) Although brief, entries must include all vital elements of information, such as what, where, when, how, and who.

(3) Original entries should not be altered, but should be supplemented or corrected by later entries when necessary.

(4) A synopsis of written or oral messages is entered in the journal, leaving the full account for the journal file and other supporting documents.

(5) Oral messages are reduced to writing and processed like written messages.

f. Action Taken: This column is used to indicate administrative action taken, such as, routing to cognizant unit staff officer(s), dissemination of pertinent information and/or filing of message. Some of the more common symbols used to indicate action taken are: "M", posted on situation map; "S", circulated to unit staff; "T", information disseminated to troops or subordinate units; "F", filed in journal file.

3. Ending:

a. Summary: A brief summary of major activities, with reasons underlying decisions, is entered in the journal at the close of each day. This is written in narrative form under the column entitled "Incidents, Messages, Orders."

b. Closing: Journals are closed daily or at the end of periods or phases prescribed by higher authority.

4. Journal File:

Journal file is considered a part of the journal. It contains messages, orders, records of conversation, and other documents supporting journal entries.

CONFIDENTIAL

TAB B

MISSION BREAKDOWN AMMUNITION EXPENDITURES

TAB B
ENCLOSURE (5)
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

MISSIONS FIRED	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
Prep Fires		21				
H&I's	75	66	58	52	18	19
FRE	1	2	1		1	
TOTAL UNOBS	76	89	59	52	19	19
Tgt of Opp	6	4	7	1	11	5
Regis		2		2		
Def Conc				1	1	
TOTAL OBS	6	6	7	4	12	5
GRAND TOTAL	82	95	66	56	31	24

AMMO EXP

107HE			7			
ILL						
WP						
105HE	177	229	114	205	120	66
ILL		2	2			4
WP		33	6		1	
135HE	57	117	35	89	10	16
ILL			1			
WP		10	165			5
TOTAL	234	391	330	294	131	91

MISSIONS IN SUPPORT

1/1	25		32	1		
2/1		14	28	20	30	24
1/4	32	49	1	33		
3/4						
4th	16	2				
Recon	9	9	5		1	
RVN		21		2		
CAC						
TOTAL	82	95	66	56	31	24

SURVEILLANCE

KIA				3		
WIA						

TAB B
ENCLOSURE (5)
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

MISSIONS FIRED	13th	14th	15th	16th	17th	18th
Prep Fires						1
H&I's	85	10	27	110	132	109
FPE		2			19	5
TOTAL UNOBS	85	12	27	110	151	115
Tgt of Opp	10	4	10	5	21	2
Regis		1				
Def Conc		2				
TOTAL OBS	10	7	10	5	21	2
GRAND TOTAL	95	19				

AMMO EXP

107HE				36	195	
ILL						
WP					36	
105HE	179	86	340	260	574	691
ILL	17		3	6	13	
WP		2		77	62	40
155HE	27	8	52	30	116	63
ILL		8			2	
WP	14			3	2	
TOTAL	237	104	395	412	996	794

MISSIONS IN SUPPORT

1/1	2	2	6	3	21	51
2/1	84	10	20	15	25	29
1/4		2		22	67	
3/4				45	48	36
4th	1	2				
Recon		1	4		8	1
RVN	8	2	7		8	
CAC						
TOTAL	95	19	37	115	172	117

SURVEILLANCE

KIA				1	3	
WIA	1					

TAB B
ENCLOSURE (5)
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

MISSIONS FIRED	25th	26th	27th	28th	29th	30th
Prep Fires		2	2		23	2
H&I's	121	159	168	130	103	197
FFE						
TOTAL UNOBS	121	161	170	130	126	199
Tgt of Opp	5	7	14	20	12	7
Regis			1			3
Def Conc						1
TOTAL OBS	5	7	15	20	12	11
GRAND TOTAL	126	168	185	150	138	210

AMMO EXP

107HE	36	41	52	80	69	41
ILL					4	
WP				8	13	7
105HE	293	493	553	374	389	274
ILL	4	15	3	7	4	
WP	162	10	33	95	52	97
155HE	66	43		16	60	68
ILL		1				
WP	5		2		7	
TOTAL	566	603	689	580	608	487

MISSIONS IN SUPPORT

1/1	10	11	13	13	14	9
2/1		20	88	60	63	107
1/4	49	66	14	7	14	12
3/4	60	66	55	65	44	70
4th	2		8			15
Recon	5	4	5	5	3	2
RVN		1				
CAC						
TOTAL	126	168	185	150	138	210

SURVEILLANCE

KIA	1				4	4
WIA					6	

TAB B
ENCLOSURE (5)
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

MISSIONS FIRED	31st	TOTAL
Prep Fires	8	77
H&I's	129	2946
FFE		41
TOTAL UNOBS	129	3084
Tgt of Opp	21	1660
Regis	2	80
Def Conc		14
TOTAL OBS	23	1694
GRAND TOAL	152	4758

AMMO EXP

107HE	41	1269
ILL		4
WP		113
105HE	813	10107
ILL		145
WP	100	969
155HE	51	1380
ILL		63
WP	1	233
TOTAL	1006	14283

MISSIONS IN SUPPORT

1/1	15	452
2/1	49	990
1/4	15	1564
3/4	70	1336
4th	2	57
Recon	1	80
RVN		279
CAC		
TOTAL	152	4758

SURVEILLANCE

KIA	2	19
WIA		11

TAB B
ENCLOSURE (5)
CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET

S-4 MATTERS

ENCLOSURE (6)

SECRET

SECRET1. Logistics

a. Supply. The percentage of filled to submitted requisitions during the past month was 76%. Operating spare parts are currently 80% of operating level except for the M-109 SP, 155 Howitzer. This Battalion currently has 41 priority 02 and 157 priority 05 requisitions outstanding in excess of 60 days.

b. Maintenance. Overall maintenance is satisfactory. Motor transport deadline is presently 6%. Relief has been experienced in M-109 spare parts during the reporting period, consequently, weapon reliability has improved. Maximum emphasis continues to be placed on the fabrication of M-109 repair parts where possible. Of the 46 major ordnance pieces in the Battalion, one M-109 SP, 155 Howitzer is deadlined for third echelon repair.

c. Food Services. Of total meals served by this Battalion, 50% were "A" rations.

d. Contonement. During the reporting period construction was completed on the Battalion Fire Direction Center. Plans are currently made for the construction of a Battalion Comm Center bunker and a new Hq Btry galley.

e. N/A

f. N/A

g. Water. This command obtains potable water from 8th RRU and FLSU # 2 water point.

h. Motor Transport. Twenty-one M422's remain to be replaced by A1's. Good weather and firm roads continue; therefore, reducing maintenance requirements for organic vehicles. Motor transport deadline continues to decline.

i. Embarkation. Embarkation data for each battery is compiled and held on the battalion level. Encampment garrison is included in the present data.

j. Hospitalization and Evacuation.

(1) There were 533 treatments rendered by the Battalion Aid Station, and 43 patients referred to "A" Company, 3d Medical Battalion.

(2) Three WIA's during the reporting period were, John J. JUDZIEWICZ, PFC 2108921 USMC, "I" Btry, 3d Bn, 12th Marines, of

ENCLOSURE (6)

SECRET

SECRET

shrapnel wounds from booby trapped 105mm round on 3May66. Robert J. GRAHAM, Capt USMC 075535, Mortar Btry, 1st Bn, 11th Marines, of land mine frag wound 0915H of 17May66, and Caston WILSON, LCPL USMC 2054624, Mortar Btry, 1st Bn, 11th Marines, of contusion from land mine explosion 0915H, 17May66.

(3) The Battalion has good health and few medical problems of a serious nature.

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Communication- Electronics1. General

May was an active month for the communication section. Two field operations provided the opportunity to get in the field and test the adequacy of current operating procedures. As a result of the experiences gained and lessons learned on the subject operations, certain changes are being made to the standing operating procedures.

Operation CHEROKEE (5-7 May) was the first battalion-size operation for this command in the Phu Bai enclave. With three direct support batteries and one general support battery, it allowed the communications section to exercise the full range of communication requirements. The proximity of the firing batteries to one another and to the battalion headquarters placed a heavy reliance on wire communications. With the exception of several outages caused by tracked vehicles cutting the wire, wire communication proved quite effective and reliable. Again, because of the proximity of the artillery units to one another, and to the supported infantry units, radio communications were highly effective and served as a ready back-up for the wire communication system.

Operation WAYNE (10-12 May) involved only two direct support batteries and a section of general support artillery. This operation, following close on the heels of Operation CHEROKEE, allowed this battalion to refine, still further, lessons learned from Operation CHEROKEE.

It was learned that it was not necessary to establish and operate two telephone switchboards on operations of short duration. It was adequate to hot-line all phones into the FDC and to bring all other lines to a single admin switchboard.

During the month of May the battalion altered communications arrangements slightly as a result of a change in the assignments of direct support batteries. "C" Battery, 1/12 was returned to its parent battalion; "G" Battery, 3/12 has been returned to its parent battalion.

2. Radio

FM communications continued to operate successfully during this reporting period. The battalion received ten new AN/PRC-9A's in exchange for the same number of the older

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model AN/PRC-9. The new radios have been distributed to the batteries and the battalion overall readiness posture has been increased. Additional AN/PRC-9A's are anticipated in the near future.

The 3d Marine Division CEO has re-allocated the AN/PRC-25/GRC-125's assets with the division. The new allocation for this battalion is five AN/PRC-25's and nine AN/GRC-125's. This new family of radios has proven itself highly successful and is greatly preferred to any other FM radio equipment in the current inventory.

The 3d Marine Division had a complete change of radio call-signs on 20 May. The division CEO promulgated two separate lists of callsigns for all units within the division. These lists are designated as list A and list B. On 20 May all units assumed their new callsigns from list A. In the event a callsign change becomes necessary in the future, an implementing directive will be issued by division directing all units to switch to call signs designated in list B. All radio operators were properly informed of the callsign change scheduled for 20 May, and all units of this command made the change.

3. Wire

Wire communications continued to carry the bulk of all administrative and operational traffic for the command. Wire lines installed within the CP and along the MSR were maintained with relative ease and a minimum of maintenance. Wire lines installed cross-country and through remote areas continued to cost us many man-hours and material to maintain. Of particular concern is the telephone line laid to the 1/1 area. The line is laid for a distance of approximately seven miles, most of which runs cross-country and through areas which have been frequented by the Viet Cong. The line is disrupted on the average of 2 to 3 times a week. The average repair time is four hours. A local security requirement dictates that the repair party will consist of a minimum of eight personnel and two vehicles. It becomes readily apparent that the maintenance of this line places a heavy burden on the wire section.

During this reporting period, the wire section has completed overheading all of the telephone lines within our CP. The prior occupants of our CP (4th Bn, 12th Marines) had installed all their CP lines underground. Re-routing and

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repair of these lines became impractical. Therefore, all of the existing lines were re-placed and overheaded on P02 poles. The new system greatly facilitates the repair of lines, the addition of new lines, and the re-routing of existing lines.

4. Communications Security

The communications section is now the recipient of a weekly COMSEC report initiated by Sub-Unit One, 1st Radio Bn, FMF. The ComSec team from 1st Radio Bn is positioned in the 4th Marines CP and is charged with the responsibility of monitoring friendly traffic emanating from the Phu Bai enclave. The ComSec team monitors approximately 20% of all traffic sent by Marine units in the enclave. As a result of this ComSec report it is possible to detect not only actual ComSec violations, but to spot potential trouble areas. Remedial action can then be taken to correct potential troubles before they occur. This ComSec report has provided a starting point for operator training and is proving to be of great benefit to units in this enclave.

5. Supply and Maintenance

Supply and maintenance procedures became more uniform and standardized within the battalion. Close liaison with the supply section has enabled supply procedures to improve.

Two inspections were conducted during this reporting period. The first consisted of a contact team from FLSU#2. This team inspected maintenance facilities and maintenance records. The result was satisfactory with some corrective measures necessary to up-date our maintenance records. The second inspection was conducted by a team from the 4th Marines. This inspection was directed at equipment and operator maintenance procedures. The results were satisfactory with noteworthy comments on the appearance of some equipments and on the maintenance of operator maintenance logs.

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AFTER ACTION REPORT-OPERATION VIRGINIA

ENCLOSURE (8)

[REDACTED]

1. Missions fired	1/1
a. Prep fires	3
b. H&I	495
c. FFE	
d. Total unob	498
e. Tgt of opp	62
f. Registration	6
g. Def conc	4
h. Total obs	72
i. Grand total	570

2. Ammunition expended

a. 105 HE	987
ILLUM	5
WP	402
b. 107 HE	457
WP	83
c. 155 HE	34
ILLUM	5
WP	9

ENCLOSURE (3)
[REDACTED]

JOURNAL

Unit- Btry "B" 3dBn, 12thMar

Place- Khe Sanh

From- 0001H 17Apr66 To- 2400H 30Apr66

IN OUT SERIAL# INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS

17 Apr

0001		1	Journal opened.
1100		2	Departed Phu Bai Airport.
1125		3	Arrived w/BP at Khe Sanh Btry center coord's 8440 4180 az of fire 6400m.
	2400	4	Journal closed.

18 Apr

0001		1	Journal opened.
	1615	2	Sent 107mm mortar Btry & Btry "B" firicap to 3/12.
1900		3	Rec'd 4 additional on-call missions fr Bound Baily.
	2100	4	Fircaps, cadillac rpts, & mustang rpt taken over to 1/1 S-3 radio operator to be relayed to Payable.
	2400	5	Closed journal.

19 Apr

0001		1	Journal opened.
	0445	2	Sent to 3/12 MustangRpt, msg- mustang re- mains unchanged.
0715		3	Operation delayed for 3 hours fr FSCC.
	0855	4	Mortar Btry departed (CSMO) for new area.
	1240	5	Rec'd H&I missions fr 1/1 FSCC; they have been cleared.
	2400	6	Journal closed.

ENCLOSURE (X)

IN OUT SERIAL# INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS

20 Apr

0001		1	Journal opened.
0430		2	Rec'd mustang & cadillac rpts fr 107mmBtry.
	0500	3	Sent combined mustang rpt to 3/12.
1105		4	Rec'd rpt fr BiA R.7 up 2.2 fr TL"B" neg contact.
1110		5	Rec'd rpt fr B2 R 4.8 down .2 TLA neg contact.
	1150	6	Sent OPSUM to 3/12. Rec'd H&I's fr Baily.
	2400	7	Journal closed.

21 Apr

0001		1	Journal opened.
0445		2	Rec'd mustang & cadillac rpts fr "W".
	0500	3	Sent combined mustang & cadillac rpts to 3/12.
	1200	4	Sent OPSUM to 3/12.
	2100	5	Sent cad rpt to CO Btry "B".
2140		6	Msg fr CO Btry "B" add to mustang rpt. No further ammo resupply req at this time. Also send Cad rpt to 3/12.
1950 (Late)		7	Rec'd H&I's sent to Btry at 2130.
	2400	8	Journal closed.

22 Apr

0001		1	Journal opened.
	0515	2	Sent mustang & cadillac rpts to 3/12. Also inform no ammo resupply req.

ENCLOSURE (8)

IN OUT SERIAL# INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS

1015 3 Radio call-sign changed.

1100 4 Sent OPSUM to 3/12.

2400 5 Journal closed.

23 Apr

0001 1 Journal opened.

0500 2 Mustang rpt sent to 3/12.

0905 3 Rec'd fir cap fr "W".

1100 4 OPSUM & "W" fircap to 3/12.

2400 5 Journal closed.

24 Apr

0001 1 Journal opened.

0500 2 Sent mustang rpt to 3/12.
Sent cadillac to 3/12.

1100 3 Sent OPSUM to 3/12.

2400 4 Journal closed.

25 Apr

0001 1 Journal opened.

0500 2 Sent mustang & cadillac rpts to 3/12.

2300 3 Sent OPSUM to 3/12.

2400 4 Journal closed.

26 Apr

0001 1 Journal opened.

0730 2 CSMO to air field fr Khe Sanh.

ENCLOSURE (8)

IN OUT SERIAL# INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS

1200 3 Btry is laid to fire.

2300 4 Sent OPSUM to 3/12.

2400 5 Journal closed.

27 Apr

0001 1 Journal opened.

0500 2 Sent mustang & cadillac rpts to 3/12.

1100 3 Sent OPSUM to 107mm Mortar Btry. To relay to 3/12.

1400 4 1/1 began to arrive this position.

2400 5 Journal closed.

28 Apr

0001 1 Journal opened.

0500 2 Sent mustang rpt to 3/12.

1100 3 OPSUM sent to 3/12.

1518 4 1 rd WP burst approximately 15 ft fr tube & cont'd approximately 3,000 yds. Believe to be cracked rd. No casualties. Rpt sent to 3/12 lot# RD32-140X. Suspended fr fire at this pos. No damage to equip.

2400 5 Journal closed.

29 Apr

0001 1 Journal opened.

0300 2 Rec'd H&I's fr FSCC.

0345 3 1/1 departed this position.

0430 4 Commenced H&I's.

1130 5 Sent OPSUM to 3/12.

1600 6 Direct fire tng (trng) held for Btry "B" (fwd)

ENCLOSURE (8)

IN OUT SERIAL# INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS

2400 7 Closed journal.

30 Apr

0001 1 Journal opened.

2400 2 Journal closed.

ENCLOSURE (8)

HEADQUARTERS
 3d Battalion, 12th Marines (Rein)
 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
 c/o FPO, San Francisco 96602

3/BNB/rr
 15 May 1966
 SerNo. _____

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From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding Officer, 4th Marines

Subj: Combat After Action Report (Operation CHEROKEE)

Ref: (a) 4thMarOpOrder 301-66
 (b) 4thMarOpOrder 302-66 (Operation CHEROKEE)

Encl: (1) Daily Chronology of Events
 (2) Table of Ammunition Expenditures, Types of Missions Fired, and Damage and Casualty Assessments
 (3) S-3 Journal

1. In compliance with references (a) and (b), the following Combat After Action Report is submitted for the 3d Battalion, 12th Marines (-) (Rein).

2. Name of Operation. CHEROKEE.

3. Inclusive Dates of the Operation. 5-7 May 1966.

4. Location. Operation CHEROKEE was conducted in the Co Bi Thanh Tan area. The tactical area of operations was generally defined as being bounded by northing grid line YD 28 (gently rolling foothills) on the North; easting grid line YD 61 (Song Bo River) on the East; northing grid line YD 24 (piedmont) on the South; and easting grid line YD 52 on the West.

5. Command Headquarters. 4th Marines (-) (Rein).

6. Task Organization and Reporting Officers.

- a. 3d Battalion, 12th Marines (-) (Rein)- LtCol L. L. PAGE
- b. Hq Battery (-) (Rein) - Capt R. A. BECKER
- c. Battery "H" - Capt P. D. SUDMEYER
- d. Battery "B" 1/11 - Capt F. S. CARR
- e. Battery "C" 1/12 - Capt R. M. KOSTESKY

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f. Battery "M" 4/12 (-) (155mm How towed) - Capt W. J. FIEND

7. Intelligence. The mission of the operation was to find, fix, and destroy the 812th VC Main Force Battalion reportedly located in the vicinity of YD 5624. Several additional units were located about the periphery of the operational area, including the K-105 VC Local Force Company (YD 4020), the 800th VC Main Force Battalion (YD 4030), and 806th VC Main Force Battalion (YD 3833). Fortifications, intrenchments, and defensive positions had been reported by aerial observation, especially in and around the towns of Co Bi (YD 590257) and Thanh Tan (YD 564247).

On D-Day, the 812th Bn was found to be no longer in the objective area. Interrogation of refugees revealed that they had moved out of the area a few days before the combined US and ARVN forces moved into the area.

8. Concept of Operation. To accomplish the mission units were deployed with an ARVN regiment (-) blocking to north (along the foothills) and east along the Song Bo River. 3d Battalion, 4th Marines (-) blocked along the piedmont with 1st Battalion, 4th Marines and 1st Battalion, 1st Marines sweeping from west to east accomplishing a hammer and anvil action. To support this scheme of maneuver 3d Battalion, 12th Marines was assigned a direct support mission. A battalion position area in the western end of the area of operations was selected in the vicinity of YD 5230.

9. Fire Planning. Prior to this operation the only preparation fires were for the 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines landing zone and 1st Battalion, 4th Marines initial objective (Hill 51). The only prep fires called for were those for 1st Battalion, 4th Marines.

Concentration fire planning was continuous by all echelons during the operation. However, excessive concentrations were accumulated due to the fact that very few were cancelled when no longer of any value. This volume of concentrations held by the battalion FDC would have tended to degrade the responsiveness of the preplanned fires.

Companies, initially, did not request barrages as part of their final protective fires. After prompting by the battalion S-3, companies finally did submit requests for barrages. However the barrages requested varied in dimension

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from the normal 105mm howitzer barrage of ^{100x50}~~150x30~~ meters to one that measured 1100x200 meters.

10. Transportation. Organic transportation was used by all elements of the battalion. Three serials were formed and integrated into one battalion march unit. Battery "B" composed the first serial, Battalion Headquarters the second, and Battery "H" the third. The convoy was controlled by an overall Regimental Convoy Control Net and the battalion serials internally by the Bn Command Net. Coordination and control was excellent throughout the movement.

A low boy loaded with a TD15 started originally as an integrated part of the battalions first serial. As this serial passed through the city of Hue the low boy and an escort turned off to pass over a larger capacity bridge, as had been previously planned. This maneuver worked smoothly as the low boy rejoined the convoy exactly as planned.

Movement to the objective area commenced at 050345H and was conducted with headlights on. Due to the lack of civilian traffic on the highway at this hour, movement was executed expeditiously and without incident.

As the convoy approached the access road leading to the position areas, blackout conditions were set.

11. Registrations. The concept of operations allowed the artillery battalion to mass fires with maximum accuracy due to the fact that the battery position areas were on a common grid. To insure maximum accuracy registration data on a common point was necessary. Since no time was available to do this between the battalions arrival in position and H-hour, advance preparations were done as much as possible at Phu Bai.

On 3 May Battery "B" sent its base piece to the Battery "H" position. A dual registration was conducted which resulted in the following data:

<u>Battery</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Range</u>	<u>Adjusted El</u>	<u>Df Correction</u>
H	7	7360	298	L4
B	7	7360	302	L5

Batteries "C" and "M" had been in the objective area for over two weeks and already had valid GFT settings for the area. Upon arrival in the objective area it was necessary to obtain comparative registration data between the newly arrived Phu Bai artillery and the objective area

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artillery. This was done by firing check rounds on the registration point.

Met data was furnished daily at 0900, 1300, 1700, and 2300. GFT settings were updated at each of these times.

12. Counter-Mortar Radar (CMR).

The battalion CMR section was employed during Operation CHEROKEE. A position was selected and surveyed at the same time as the battery positions.

CMR moved early on 5 May with Battery "C" and was in position and operating by 0730H that morning. Late in the afternoon of 5 May two single rounds were tracked although no incoming mortar fire was reported. One location plotted in a village from which friendly civilians were being evacuated and no counter-mortar fire was undertaken. The other plotted in an area where VC activity was suspected and counter-mortar fire was initiated immediately. No surveillance of this mission was available.

Late on 6 May and during 7 May heavy rain fell, minimizing the ability of the CMR to operate. During several periods of the heaviest rain the CMR was shut down as a result of shorting circuits.

13. Thrust Lines. Each infantry battalion originated and used its own thrust lines. Battalion thrust line positions were not transmitted to the Bn FDC except in the case of 3d Battalion, 4th Marines. Position reporting by FO's could not be deciphered and therefore was of no value.

14. Communications. Operation CHEROKEE provided an excellent opportunity to test and evaluate communications procedures required by a direct support artillery battalion in the field. As a result of this operation, certain changes and modifications will be made to the existing communications SOP (e.g. deletion of FDC switchboard, etc).

Radio communications were established early and maintained without difficulty throughout the operation. Some problems were encountered with the AN/PRC-25. Since remote equipments for this radio have not been made available it is necessary to operate the radios within the FDC. The increased power output of the AN/PRC-25 (as apposed to the AN/PRC-9) is

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causing an unacceptable amount of natural interference between sets operating in proximity to one another. This problem should be alleviated once the remote equipment becomes available. Additional difficulty was experienced because FO's (or radio operators attached to FO's) were not using short phrase, repeat back procedure. Lengthy, continuous transmissions made verification of information difficult and also precluded the early termination of a low priority mission in favor of one of higher precedence.

Communications security continued to be a problem on this operation. It is obvious that some method of authentication and number shackling system be made available to all forward observers and liaison officers.

Heavy emphasis and reliance was placed on wire communications, due to the proximity of the batteries to the battalion and the artillery battalion to the supported infantry regiment. Wire lines were installed promptly and maintained with relative ease. The only difficulty encountered was experienced as a result of tracked vehicles which traveled the road between the battalion CP and the 4th Marines CP and cut the wire in many places. The distance between the battalion CP and the regimental CP was considered excessive for either overheading or burying of wire lines, particularly in light of the expected short duration of the operation. Consequently, lines to regiment were laid off the side of the road. All wire crossing the road, however, was buried at a sufficient depth.

Heretofore, it has been a general practice to install two telephone switchboards, one in the FDC and the normal administrative board. As a result of this operation it was determined that the FDC switchboard was not necessary for operations of this duration. Total wire requirements for the FDC have been reduced to computer (hot) lines to each battery, a hot line to the regimental artillery liaison officer, and an FDO/operations line into the admin switchboard. This arrangement accomplished two purposes: it eliminates the requirement for an additional switchboard and the attendant switchboard operators and it also precludes many undesired incoming calls which interrupt FDC operations.

A new, ultra light weight wire was tested during this operation and it was determined to be unsatisfactory in almost all applications. It became obvious that strength and durability had been sacrificed to achieve the desired light

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weight. The wire was easily broken by personnel stumbling or tripping over it. The physical properties of the wire preclude the construction of splices which meet the requirements of good electrical connections. A hasty field wire splice and a western union splice were tried, and in both cases it was found that the wire was not flexible enough to allow it to be pulled into a tight knot (necessary for a good electrical connection). The light weight wire was replaced with the standard WD-1/TT wire and no further problems were encountered.

Existing authentication devices are not acceptable for FO requirements (i.e. cumbersome to carry, awkward to operate, possibility of compromise through loss of keying material (KAA-60), etc. Ideally, what is needed is a small, compact, handheld, mechanical device- capable of being operated with one hand- no external light required- equipped with an instant zeroing device in event of possible capture- keying material which could be transmitted to the operator in the event the operator exceeded his extracted key list.

L. L. PAGE

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OPERATION CHEROKEE

Daily Summary of Events

30 April

At 1530H the Battalion CO and S-3 attended a briefing at the 4th Marines where the concept of operations for Operation CHEROKEE was presented. Immediately after this briefing a briefing was given to the battalion staff and battery commanders so that planning could commence immediately.

1 May

At 1300H the Battalion CO, S-3, and Survey Officer flew to the area of operations and conducted an aerial and ground reconnaissance of the possible position areas for the battalion.

2 May

At 0800H the Battalion Survey Section with battery commanders from "B", "H", and "M" Batteries went by vehicle to the area of operations where they were joined by the Battery "C" Commander. A ground reconnaissance of the area was conducted to define the exact battery centers, orienting stations, and end of orienting lines. The Survey Section remained in the area to complete the survey while the battery commanders returned to their present units.

At 1300H the Battalion Commander flew to Da Nang as part of a 4th Marines' briefing team to brief the Division Commander on the concept of operations and scheme of maneuver.

At 1400H the Battalion S-3, S-2, and 4th Marines Artillery Liaison Officer conducted a briefing concerning Operation CHEROKEE for all infantry battalion liaison officers and forward observers.

3 May

The battalion POC section spent approximately three hours practicing battalion mass and TOT missions. Trucks were loaded in preparation for D-Day which was to be 4 May. Throughout the day it rained heavily; the ceiling was low, and visibility poor.

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4 May

The wather continued to be poor throughout the day. Additional FDC drill was conducted. At 2000H the word was received that the operation would commence as scheduled regardless of weather.

5 May

Reveille was held at 0200H, and the serials of the battalion convoy began staging at 0315H. The convoy departed at 0345H. Battery "I" positioned at YD 872138 was directed to lay on azimuth 5600 to cover the convoy's movement through the city of Hue.

Battery "C" displaced from its position at YD 550324 at 0400H and occupied a position at YD 524306 prior to the arrival of the battalion. The convoy arrived at 0510H. Batteries "B" and "H" immediately occupied their positions, and Hq Battery set up the battalion CP. At 0545H all batteries were laid, and the Bn FDC was in operation.

1st Battalion, 4th Marines sent in several concentrations to be used as prep fires, and at 0720H Batteries "C" and "M" fired on these concentrations to begin artillery support.

Registrations of Batteries "B" and "H" were conducted by the AO at 0750H. Check rounds were fired by Batteries "C" and "M", and the battalion was ready to mass its fires since comparative shooting strengths were now known.

Several missions were fired during the morning; on targets such as trench lines, suspected assembly areas, and suspected enemy movement. Surveillance was reported as having good effect on target.

Battery "B" was credited with the first VC KIA's of the operation at 1315H as they fired 40 rounds adjusted by the AO at 3 VC. Two confirmed KIA's resulted.

Throughout the afternoon several missions were fired at suspected enemy positions. Concentrations were fired in for several FO's. During the night H&I fires were conducted.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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6 May

Between 0300H and 0637H Battery "B" fired at snipers and Batteries "C" and "M" at mortars firing. In both cases the VC fire was silenced. No further surveillance was given for these missions.

Throughout the day only six missions were fired. Battery "H" fired at a cave entrance; Battery "B" fired at 8 men on a trail with negative results. And four suspected VC positions were fired on by the battalion. No surveillance was given for these last four missions.

7 May

During the early morning hours rain began to fall heavily, making the entire battalion area a sea of mud and water holes.

Thirteen separate missions were fired by various batteries. Only one of these was against personnel; Battery "B" fired the mission. This mission was called in by a Recon patrol and resulted in two confirmed VC KIA with up to six more possible KIA.

High angle fire as well as battalion mass missions were fired. Observers reported good to excellent effect on target for all missions fired.

Operation CHEROKEE secured at 1250H. The return to Phu Bai was accomplished without incident, and the battalion arrived at the CP at 1430H. Battery "C" remained in the objective area as before with the 1st Battalion, 4th Marines.

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*1. Missions fired for	1/4	3/4	4thMar	Recon	Total
a. Prep fires	2				2
b. H&I's	24	22	52	11	109
c. FFE		3	5	2	10
d. Total Unobs	26	25	57	13	121
e. Tgt of Opp	4	8	4	1	17
f. Registration			3		3
g. Def Conc		4			4
h. Total Obs	4	12	7	1	24
i. Grand Total	30	37	64	14	145

2. Ammunition Expended					
a. 105 HE	181	282	254	114	831
Illum		43			43
WP		49			49
b. 155 HE	35	18	60		113
WP		4			4
Total	216	396	314	114	1040

*No missions were fired in support of 1/1.

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ENCLOSURE (2)

JOURNAL

Unit- S-3, 3dBn, 12thMar

Place- Phu Bai

From- 301530HApr66 To-071255HMay66

<u>IN</u>	<u>OUT</u>	<u>SERIAL#</u>	<u>INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS</u>
1530			Journal for Operation CHEROKEE opened at 301530HApr66.
1530		1	S-3 attended conference w/4thMar on Operation CHEROKEE.
1630		2	S-3 conducted briefing for staff officers.
1830		3	S-3 gave special briefing for BnCO & XO.
1930		4	S-3 briefed Btry Commanders along w/special staff.
			1 May 1966
0900		1	S-3 attended conference w/4thMar S-3 & ArtyLnO.
1300		2	BnCO, S-3, Btry "C" CO, & SurveyO recon'd Bn posit area by helicopter & vehicle.
1715		3	S-3 briefed staff officers.
1800		4	S-3 briefed Btry CO's.
			2 May 1966
0800		1	SurveyO w/Survey Team & Btry CO's recon'd Bn area for Btry positions.
1230		2	BnCO w/4thMar briefing team departed for Da Nang to brief CG.
1400		3	S-3, S-2, 4thMarArtyLnO briefed all LnO's & FO's concerning operation.
2300		4	Rec'd planning directive 1-66.
			3 May 1966
	0800	1	Issued Frag Order 19-66.
	0916	2	Directed Btry "I" to lay on action right front not before 0300H & NLT 0400H & ans

ENCLOSURE (3)

IN OUT SERIAL# INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS

calls for fire fr 4thMarRegt convoy march units. BnComm/FDC Net to be used as COF Net for all units during convoy movement.

1420 3 Rec'd survey data for all Btry's.
2130 4 Rec'd word fr RegtFSCC that Operation CHEROKEE was delayed for 24 hours due to weather conditions

5 May 1966

0345 1 Bn departs CP for Operation area.
0555 2 Bn arrived at Operation area.
0600 3 "B" Exec report.
0640 4 FDC operational.
0650 5 Exec report fr "H", "C", & "M" Btry's.
0950 6 Rec'd met msg.
1215 7 Rec'd "I" 1 on call request.
1235 8 BnCO departs for Btry "C" and 4thMar.
1320 9 Rec'd "I" 2 def conc.
1350 10 Rec'd "I" 3 def conc.
1410 11 BnCO returned to CP.
1525 12 Checked Bn sheaf. Results are "B" & "H" on target. "C" over 50 meters. "M" 80 meters right.
1610 13 Rec'd "I" FO's posit & on calls fr "I" 3 and "I" 4.
1655 14 CMR plotted mortars at 51492831. Btry "B" fired 2 volleys counter mortar fire.

ENCLOSURE (3)

<u>IN</u>	<u>OUT</u>	<u>SERIAL#</u>	<u>INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS</u>
1730		15	Rec'd 3/4 H&I's.
2120		16	Rec'd met msg.
2320		17	Cancell all H&I's south of grid line 23 until 0100.
			6 May 1966
0050		1	Clnr to fire all H&I's.
0115		2	Rec'd met msg. did not compute.
	0720	3	OpSum to 4thMarFSCC.
0750		4	Mort Rep fr 3/4 22.
0916		5	Rec'd met msg.
1300		6	Rec'd 03 H&I's.
1315		7	Rec'd met msg.
1450		8	Rec'd 3/4's H&I's.
			7 May 1966
0430		1	CMR down.
0445		2	1/4 22 cancelled H&I's #6,7,8, & 9.
0505		3	1/4 22 rptd rd landed in C4 CP.
	0505	4	Cease fire all H&I's.
	0650	5	OpSum to 4thMarFSCC.
0945		6	"M" (north) and "C" firecap.
1125		7	Fired mission for Recon at coord 491244 OP surv 2 KIA's & 6 KIA possible.
	1247	8	Notified "M" (north) to CSMO. Return to CP w/3/12 convoy.
1250		9	Mike CSMO.
	1255	10	Bn CSMO.

HEADQUARTERS
 3d Battalion, 12th Marines (Rein)
 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
 c/o FPO, San Francisco 96602

3/BNB/rr
 18 May 1966
 SerNo. _____

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From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding Officer, 4th Marines

Subj: Combat After Action Report (Operation WAYNE)

Ref: (a) 4thMar OpO 301-66
 (b) 4thMar FragO 5-66

Encl: (1) Daily Chronology of Events
 (2) Table of Ammunition Expenditures, Types of
 Missions Fired
 (3) S-3 Journal

1. In compliance with references (a) and (b), the following Combat After Action Report is submitted for the 3d Battalion, 12th Marines (-) (Rein).

2. Name of Operation. WAYNE.

3. Inclusive Dates of the Operation. 10-12 May 1966.

4. Location. The area of operations was generally defined as being bounded on the North by northing grid line 05, on the West by Highway 14, on the East by the Song Truoi River, and to the South by north grid line 97.

5. Command Headquarters. 4th Marines (-) (Rein).

6. Task Organization and Reporting Officers.

a. 3dBn, 12thMar(-)(Rein)- LtCol L. L. PAGE

b. HqBtry- Capt R. A. BECKER

c. Btry "H" - Capt P. D. SUDMEYER

d. Btry "I" - Capt B. T. CHAMBLESS

e. Btry "M" 4thBn, 12thMar- Capt W. J. FIEND

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
 ENCLOSURE (10)

7. Intelligence. The mission of the operation was to find, fix, and destroy the 804th VC Main Force Battalion, reportedly located in the vicinity of YD 9894. Additionally, a local force screening company was reportedly operating with the 804th.

The intelligence was obtained from interrogation of a VCC who was a member of the 804th Bn. This captive also indicated that the VC District Chief made his headquarters in the area of operations.

8. Concept of Operations. To accomplish the mission units were deployed in three separate TAOR's. One infantry battalion swept from north to south to destroy enemy in their zone. One infantry battalion landed by helicopter and swept east and north to destroy enemy in their zone. One company was landed by helicopter and established a blocking position to prevent enemy withdrawal to the east.

To support this scheme of maneuver, 3dBn, 12th Marines was assigned a direct support mission. The battalion located two 105mm how batteries in the vicinity of YD 925055 and one 155mm battery (-) in the vicinity of YD 838102.

9. Transportation. Organic transportation was used by all elements of the battalion. Three serials were formed and integrated into one battalion motor march unit. Battery "I" composed the first serial, Battalion Headquarters the second, and Battery "H" the third. The convoy was controlled by an overall Regimental Convoy Control Net and the battalion serials internally by the Bn Command Net. The battalion was instructed to cross the initial point (YD 897132) at H-20, and arrive in position by H&20. Coordination and control was excellent throughout the movement.

10. Fire Planning. Prior to this operation preparation fires were planned for the landing zones of 1stBn, 1st Marines and "G" Company, 2ndBn, 1st Marines, and on the initial objective of 3d Bn, 4th Marines (Hill 227). None of these on call prep fires were requested. Each battalion did use these preplanned fires later as concentrations, and several were fired in for each battalion.

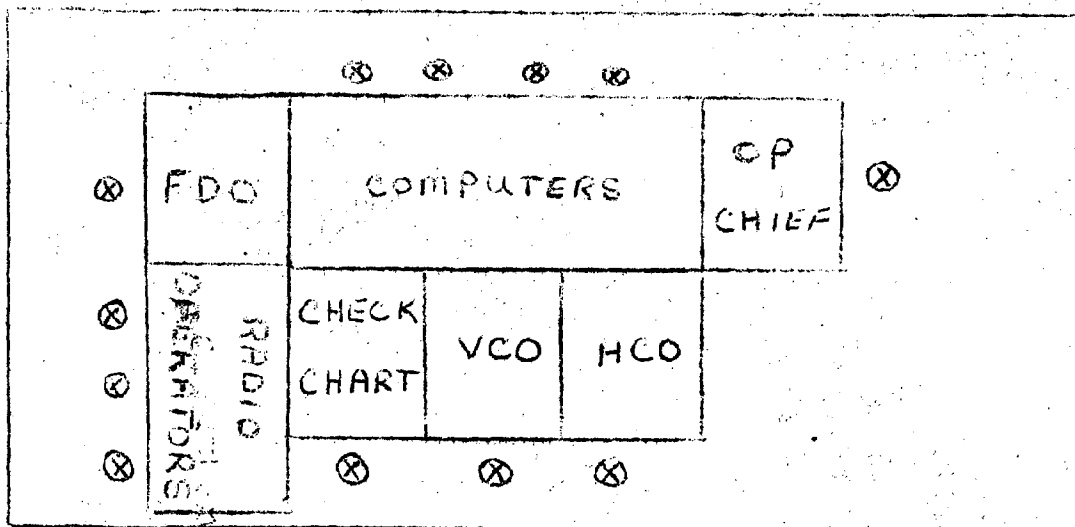
Concentration fire planning was continuous throughout the operation. Additionally, barrages were planned as units stopped for extended periods of time. The entire fire planning cycle was much improved over previous operations. Concentrations were regularly cancelled and barrages properly requested.

11. Registrations. No time was available for registrations between occupation of position and H-hour. Also, the nature of the terrain in the area of operations limited selection of registration points. Consequently, experience VE corrections were used. This allowed met plus VE/GFT settings to be used throughout the operation. Met data was furnished daily at 0800, 1200, 1600, and 2200. GFT settings were updated at these times. Several check rounds were fired each day to validate the GFT settings.

12. Counter-Mortar Radar CMR. The battalion CMR moved from the Phu Bai area as an element of the Battalion Headquarters serial. The CMR was located between the two 105mm howitzer battery positions and began operations at 1100H on 10 May.

On 11 May operating difficulties with the set began. During the afternoon the NCOIC shut down the CMR due to in-operative rheostat controls.

13. Bn FDC. Based upon experience gained from previous operations internal arrangement of the Bn FDC was as diagrammed below:



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Advantages of this arrangement are as follows:

a. The chart operators and computers are close together and facing each other. This simplified internal voice transmissions of firing data and minimizes repeat-backs of data lost during periods of loud external noises.

b. The operations chief is located where he can move quickly to the chart operators or computers. The operations chief's primary duty is to supervise the computers during the conduct of a fire mission.

c. The FDO is located next to the radio operators, yet can supervise processing of fire missions. Location next to the radio nets is considered particularly desirable as the FDO is often able to monitor all radio transmissions and is better able to stay abreast of the situation.

Concurrent with the arrangement described, specific duties are delegated as follows:

a. The FDO has a battle map with all battery positions, indicies, and fire caps plotted. The FDO determines altitude and checks action, range, and deflection as it is read. The FDO checks elevation and quadrant for the adjusting battery in a battalion mission, or for the adjusting platoon for a battery mission.

b. The operations chief determines and checks site for all batteries, initiates the SAV-A-PLANE, and supervises the computers throughout the duration of the mission. He ensures the computer records are properly filled-out.

c. The radio operator(s) who are actually handling a mission(s) stand behind their radio(s) and fill-out a large conduct of fire board as the mission progresses.

14. Communications. Considerable radio interference was noted on a battalion conduct of fire net (37.8 mcs). It appeared, initially, that the interference might have been intentional jamming. Closer monitoring revealed that the interference was probably not intentional. The interference consisted of male and female voices (non-Vietnamese), music, and a strong carrier signal which seemed to be activated and deactivated in rhythm with the radio operator as he keyed and released his handset. The net continued to operate through the interference; however, there were a few times when it was not possible to pass traffic.

L. L. Page
L. L. PAGE

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(10)

Daily Chronology of Events

10 May

The battalion motor march departed the CP at 0940H and arrived in the objective area YD 9205 at 1010H.

At 0930H Btry "M" reported the two additional M-109's had reached the forward position at YD 858102 and the battery laid on azimuth 2600.

At 1030H Btry "I" was in position and laid at YD 923054 azimuth 3200; at 1045 Btry "H" reported laid on azimuth 3400.

At 1300H the battalion began its artillery support as Btry "H" fired in a concentration. Btry "H" fired unobserved blocking fires at 1350H.

At 1400H Btry "I", "H", and "M" fired check rounds. This was done to verify the Metplus VETGFT settings in use. The check rounds were on target.

Between 1458H and 1825H Btry "I" fired in three concentrations and Btry "H", employing decentralized fire direction fired another unobserved mission. Btry "M" fired at 6 VC on a trail at 1915H. This mission was requested by a recon patrol. No surveillance was given.

H&I fires were extensive during the evening. Btry "H" fired a total of 308 rounds of 38 separate missions. Btry "I" fired 348 rounds on 13 missions. This large expenditure particularly for Btry "I" resulted from a 4th Marines request to not only harass and interdict, but to provide blocking fires in areas. The first day's expenditure totaled 874 rounds of various type and caliber.

11 May 1966

Btry "I" fired two unobserved concentrations at 0600H and 0752H. At 1632H 4thMar FSCC requested a battalion time on target on coordinates YD 854984. Eight minutes later, at 1641H, the Bn fired the TOT. The AO on station reported excellent effect on the target, which had been described as a VC resting area. No other surveillance was obtained.

The AO continued recon of the area, and at 1652H requested a precision destruction mission of a footbridge. Btry "I" fired 31 rounds before the mission was cancelled. Due to the

ENCLOSURE (1)

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extreme range, small target size, and large range probable error, effect on target was extremely difficult to obtain.

H&I fires began at 2030H and continued throughout the evening. At 0103H the Battery Commanders of Btrys "H" and "I" reported movement behind their positions. Btry "M" provided illumination and an outpost of Btry "I" fired at three persons. The illumination was difficult to adjust due to safety consideration. Btry "H" then turned a 105 mm howitzer around and fired several illumination rounds over Btry "I's" position. No further contact or sightings were reported. Surveillance in the morning disclosed no evidence of any persons having been hit by the outpost.

A total of 116 rounds were fired on 11 May.

12 May 1966

At 1200H Operation WAYNE secured. The battalion march ordered and returned to the CP at 1300H without incident.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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1. Missions fired for

	1/1	2/1	3/4	4th	Recon	Total
a. H&I	6		2	69		77
b. FFE	1	1	1	1	1	5
c. Total unobs	7	1	3	70	1	82
d. Tgt of opp			3	2	1	6
e. Def conc	8		7			15
f. Total obs	8		10	2	1	21
g. Grand total	15	1	13	72	2	103

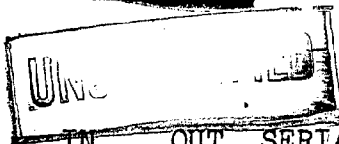
2. Ammunition expended

a. 105 HE	160	2	203	555		920
Illum				2		2
WP	12		4	31		47
b. 155 HE			3	8	6	17
Illum				2		2
WP			2			2

ENCLOSURE (2)

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S-3, 3d Bn, 12th Mar
Phu Bai (south)



S-3 JOURNAL

IN OUT SERIAL# INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS

10 May

0920	1	Bn departs CP.
1000	2	Mike laid in position.
1010	3	Bn arrived area of operations.
1030	4	Btry "I" laid.
1045	5	Btry "H" laid.
1315	6	Fircaps to Click via Seabrook for Seabrook "H" & Seabrook "I".
1600	7	Cease fire all btrys. CG departing area.
1616	8	Resume fire.
1725	9	Cease fire. Held resupply.
1755	10	Resume fire. Resupply completed.

11 May

0530	1	H&I's completed.
1420	2	Cease fire 4th Mar FSCC.
1505	3	Cease fire lifted.
1815	4	FragO Operation WAYNE rec'd.
1840	5	Cease fire choppers in the area.
1848	6	Cease fire lifted.
1900	7	Cease fire rounds landing near 1/1 positions. Conc CX012 cancelled.

ENCLOSURE (3)

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IN OUT SERIAL# INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS

12 May

0115	1	Btry "I" outpost fired at VC patrol w/SA.
0755	2	Btry "M"(fwd) ordered to displace. Two (2) how to rear pos at 121200.
1000	3	Notified 3/12 (rear) to assume tactical control of "M" (fwd).
1100	4	Btrys "H" & "I" assumed tactical control of respective btrys.
1200	5	CSMO Operation WAYNE secured.

ENCLOSURE (3)

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