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HEADQUARTERS
Battalion Landing Team 1/26
9th Marine Amphibious Brigade, FMF
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

3/RCS/tad
5750
26 September 1969
003A26969

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade
Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 August to 31 August 1969

Ref: (a) MCO 5720.2A
(b) FMFPACO 5750.8
(c) BrigO 5750.C
(d) RegtO 5750.1

1/26

Encl: (1) Battalion Landing Team 1/26 Command Chronology

1. In accordance with provisions of reference (a), (b), (c), and (d) enclosure (1) is submitted herewith.

J. C. Goodin
J. C. GOODIN

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 August to 31 August 1969

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONBattalion Landing Team 1/26

LtCol. J. C. GOODIN 1-31 Aug 69

TASK ORGANIZATIONH&S Company (-) (Rein)Det. Hq. Bn., 5th Mar Div
Det. 15th Dent. Co., 9th MABCompany A (Rein)1st Lt. B. A. STEVENSON 1-20 Aug 69
1st Lt. M. J. ARENT 21-31 Aug 69Co. A
Det. H&S Co.FO Team
Det. Comm Plt.
Det. Med. Plt.
S-2 ScoutFO Team "A" Btry 1/13
Det. 1st Plt., Co. A, 5th Engr. Bn.
Det. 2nd Plt., Co. A, 5th SP Bn. (HST)Company B (Rein)

1stLt. J. E. HENNESSEY 1-31 Aug 69

Co. B
Det. H&S Co.FO Team
Det. Comm Plt.
Det. Med. Plt.
S-2 ScoutFO Team "A" Btry 1/13
Det. 1st Plt., Co. A, 5th Engr. Bn.
Det. 2nd Plt., Co. A, 5th SP Bn. (HST)Company C (Rein)

Capt. H. W. REED 1-31 Aug 69

Co. C
Det. H&S Co.FO Team
Det. Comm Plt.
Det. Med. Plt.
S-2 ScoutFO Team "A" Btry 1/13
Det. 1st Plt., Co A, 5th Engr. Bn.

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Det. 2nd Plt., Co. A, 5th SP Bn. (HST)

Company D (Rein)

Capt. E. J. LLOYD

1-31 Aug 69

Co. D
Det. H&S Co.FO Team
Det. Comm Plt.
Det. Med. Plt.
S-2 ScoutFO Team "A" Btry 1/13
Det. 1st Plt., Co. A, 5th Engr. Bn.
Det. 2nd Plt., Co. A, 5th SP Bn. (HST)81mm Mortar Plt. (-)1st Lt. E. P. ARNOLDS-PATRON 1-11 Aug 69
1st Lt. F. C. HAYES 12-31 Aug 69106mm RR Plt.

2nd Lt. L. F. NASON 1-31 Aug 69

"A" Btry 1/13 (-) (Rein)

Capt. J. B. GREEL Jr. 1-31 Aug 69

"W" Btry 1/11

1st Lt. C. A. BELLIS Jr. 1-31 Aug 69

1st Plt., Co. A, 5th Amtrac Bn. (Rein)

1st Lt. J. T. BARTEE 1-31 Aug 69

1st Plt., Co. A, 5th AT Bn. (Rein)

1st Lt. L. M. LEWIS Jr. 1-31 Aug 69

1st Plt., Co. A, 5th Engr. Bn. (-) (Rein)SSgt. T. G. HARRELSON 1-11 Aug 69
2nd Lt. J. S. HEYNE 12-31 Aug 691st Plt., Co. A, 5th MT Bn. (Rein)

1st Lt. J. M. YEAGER 1-31 Aug 69

1st Plt., Co. A, 5th Recon Bn. (Rein)

2nd Lt. J. C. MANCINI 1-31 Aug 69

2nd Plt., Co. A, 5th SP Bn. (-) (Rein)

GySgt. J. L. PARKER 1-31 Aug 69

1st Plt., Co. A, 5th TK Bn. (Rein)

1st Lt. C. S. CERTAIN 1-31 Aug 69

1st Clearing Plt., Co D, 5th Med. Bn. (-) (Rein) Lt (jg) R. P. KING 1-31 Aug 69LSU ONE

1st Lt. W. DOMKE 1-31 Aug 69

2. LOCATION

- a. 1-8 August - Quang Nam Province
- b. 9-29 August - USS Cleveland
- c. 29-31 August - USS Iwo Jima

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3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer

Maj. D. B. TOWNSEND 1-31 Aug 69

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S-1/Adjutant

S-2

S-3

S-3A

S-4

Capt. J. P. WILSON	1-3 Aug 69
1st Lt. M. B. GERITY	3-31 Aug 69
1st Lt. J. H. BARNEBEE	1-31 Aug 69
Maj. E. C. O'BYRNE	1-31 Aug 69
1st Lt. M. J. ARENT	1-20 Aug 69
1st Lt. R. C. SMITH	21-31 Aug 69
Capt. W. W. MOORHEAD	1-31 Aug 69

4. AVERAGE STRENGTH

	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	
63	1709	7	93	

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PART II

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UNCLASSIFIEDNARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. During the first week of this reporting period the BLF was continuing the defense of the 3/1 TAOR. This consisted of providing defense of the DaNang vital area and adjacent military installations, and providing security for assigned vital bridges and roads. Extensive daily patrols and ambushes were maintained to interdict enemy activity in the area. Gordon and search activities of several village areas were conducted.
2. On 8 August 1969 the BLF backloaded on SLF/ARG Alfa shipping where it remained throughout the remainder of the reporting period.

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PART III

LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. MISSIONS/OPERATIONS

- a. Major Operations. The Battalion Landing Team participated in no major operations during this reporting period.
- b. Command Relations.
- (1) From 1 August through 7 August inclusive the BLT was OpCon to 1st Marine Division for operations with the 1st Marine Regiment.
 - (2) From 8 August to the end of the reporting period the BLT was OpCon to CTG 79.4.
- c. Combat Missions Assigned. Defense of 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines TAOR.
- (1) Conduct unilateral, reinforced, and combined offensive operations within assigned TAOR to locate and destroy enemy forces and logistic installations with primary emphasis on those forces which pose the greatest threat to GVN control of important population and economic centers and to the security of military installations.
 - (2) Deploy forces throughout assigned TAOR to provide defense of Da-Nang vital area and military complex contiguous to that area; emphasis on routes of approach to probable rocket/mortar launching positions, to include waterway control.
 - (3) Be prepared to defend vital areas within assigned TAOR.
 - (4) Support Revolutionary Development Program within assigned TAOR.
 - (5) In cooperation/coordination with ARVN and District Headquarters conduct continuous Special Pacification Offensive to upgrade designated hamlets within TAOR. Be prepared to continue these operations during the RVN Pacification and Reconstruction Program which commenced February 1969.
 - (6) Provide security for Tu Cau (Copper) Bridge arranging for periodic inspection of structure.
 - (7) Be prepared to provide Alert/Rapid Reaction Forces on order.
 - (8) Secure lines of communications within TAOR.
 - (9) Be prepared on order, to provide a company size reaction force for the defense of SEA ANCHOR.
 - (10) Locate and interdict routes of infiltration in TAOR.
 - (11) Provide security for engineer road sweeps and other engineer projects as required.

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- (12) Be prepared on order to conduct offensive operations exterior to assigned TAOR.
- (13) Be prepared within 24 hours to be relieved of assigned TAOR and assume missions of any other Battalion, 1st Marines.
- (14) Be prepared to reembark on SLF/ARG Alfa Shipping within 24 hours.

d. Command Control.

- (1) During the defense of 3/1 TAOR, the Command Post was located at 3/1 cantonment. The Battalion rear was at Hill 34, the SLF in-country camp.
- (2) On 8 August the BLT CP was backloaded aboard SLF/ARG Alfa shipping.
- (3) On 29 August the BLT CP moved to the USS Iwo Jima where it remained until the end of the reporting period.

2. INTELLIGENCE (During operations in 3/1 TAOR, 1-8 Aug).

a. Enemy Situation.

- (1) The 3/1 area had long been under VC/NVA control and the enemy enjoyed full support of the civil populace. It is believed that most rocket fire received in the DaNang TAOR is fired from this area.

Recent intelligence reports (prior to 1 Aug. 69) had indicated approximately 520 enemy troops operated in and around the area from the following units; The R. 20th Local Battalion with an estimated strength of 165 men; the Q-82nd Company with an estimated strength of 105 men; the 92nd Special Action Sapper Company with 100 men. In addition to these organized units, a 200 man guerrilla force was believed to be operating within the area.

- (2) By the tactical deployment of BLT 1/26, enemy movement was hampered and enemy use of communication and supply routes was limited.

b. Enemy Initiated Incidents/Actions.

During this period, there were no significant incidents or actions initiated by the enemy against this BLT.

c. Enemy Losses.

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| (1) VC/NVA KIA - 0 | (4) IWC - 0 |
| (2) POW - 1 | (5) CSWC - 0 |

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- (3) Equipment Captured - four (4) M-26's, (6) Detainees - 17
400 rds. M16, 600 rds. .30 cal., 300
rds. AK-47, one (1) RPG head w/explosive,
five 107mm boosters and one (1) claymore
mine.

d. Enemy Trends.

In the 3/1 area, it would have been unusual for BLT 1/26 to have made contact with any sizable enemy forces as the enemy historically tends to rely on surprise firing devices (SFD's) to inflict casualties. The VC/NVA are well integrated with the local populace and most all villages and hamlets are known to be sympathetic to the enemy's cause and needs.

e. Meteorological.

The weather during this reporting period had little effect on operations or the area of operations. The winds of Laos persisted during this period causing a rapid rise in temperature and extreme evaporation along its path. The maximum temperature for this reporting period was 103 degrees and the minimum temperature was 74 degrees.

3. SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

a. 010001 to 012400 August 1969.

- (1) 011130 August 1969. Second Platoon, D Company tripped a booby trapped CHICOM grenade at grid BT 077685. Four (4) bunkers were found in the area. Results: one (1) USMC WIAE, bunkers destroyed.
- (2) 011230 August 1969. Second Platoon, B Company tripped a booby trapped 60mm round at grid BT 082675. Results: two (2) USMC WIAE.
- (3) 011530 August 1969. Two Companies reinforced by VN NPTF conducted cordon and search of Viem Tay at grid BT 040640, Communication Section, H&S Company tripped two (2) SFD's and found one (1) SFD. Results: nine (9) VC detainees, one (1) SFD blown in place and two (2) USMC WIAE.
- (4) 012000 August 1969. Third Platoon, B Company found a 60mm round SFD at grid BT 071643. Results: one (1) SFD blown in place.
- (5) 012050 August 1969. Second Squad, Second Platoon, D Company made contact with three (3) VC at grid BT 076684. Swept area. Results: negative.
- (6) 012130 August 1969. B Company received one (1) M-16 round from grid BT 060652. Results: one (1) USMC WIAE.

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- b. 020001 to 022400 August 1969.
- (1) 022145 August 1969. Third Platoon, B Company received 25-30 rounds of small arms fire and three (3) CHICOM's at grid BT 084641. Swept area. Results: negative.
- c. 030001 to 032400 August 1969.
- (1) 030700 August 1969. D Company reinforced with NFFF and PAT conducted cordon and search of An Tra (1) vic grid BT 077697. Results: nine (9) VC suspects detained.
- d. 040001 to 042400 August 1969.
- (1) 041000 August 1969. First Platoon, C Company found at grid BT 035662 two (2) CHICOM's, four (4) M-26 grenades, 400 rounds of M-16 ammo, 300 rounds .30 cal., one (1) RPG HE round, five (5) 107mm boosters and one (1) claymore mine. Results: ordnance was blown in place.
 - (2) 041230 August 1969. First Squad, Second Platoon, B Company tripped an SFD at grid BT 089658. A sweep of the area yielded three (3) SFD's, one (1) M-26 and one (1) 105mm. Results: one (1) USMC WIAE, ordnance was all blown in place.
 - (3) 041400 August 1969. While blowing an SFD, at grid BT 089658, First Squad, Second Platoon, B Company tripped another M-26 SFD. Results: one (1) USMC WIAE.
 - (4) 041415 August 1969. First Squad, Third Platoon, B Company found at grid 072638 one (1) bunker booby trapped with one (1) rock filled AP mine and one (1) 105 round. Results: all blown in place.
 - (5) 041530 August 1969. First Squad, Third Platoon, B Company received small arms fire and M-79 fire from grid BT 070638. Returned fire with small arms and mortars. Swept area and found one (1) SFD. Results: blown in place.
- e. 050001 August 69 052400 August 1969.
- (1) 051130 August 1969. First Platoon, B Company found at grid BT 090655 one (1) 81mm SFD. Results: Blown in place.
 - (2) 051730 August 1969. Second Squad, Third Platoon, B Company found two (2) SFD's at grid BT 097658. Results: blown in place.
- f. 060001 August to 062400 August 1969.
- (1) 060200 August 1969. Third Squad, First Platoon, B Company tripped an SFD of unknown type at grid 093644. Results: one (1) USMC WIAE.

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- (2) 061945 August 1969. First Platoon, D Company made contact with two (2) enemy, believed to have automatic weapons at grid BT 083685. Enemy was taken under fire. Results: Unknown.
- (3) 062000 August 1969. First Squad, First Platoon, C Company received small arms fire from grid BT 037650. Results: one (1) USMC KIA.
- g. 070001 August to 072400 August 1969.
- (1) 070600 August 1969. D Company searched and cleared area from grid BT 083687 to grid BT 068676 finding the following: two (2) new, well constructed bunkers, three (3) 82mm HE, one (1) 155 canister packed with C-4, one (1) mine of unknown type, three (3) 60mm SFD's and assorted small arms ammo. Results: ordnance blown in place, bunker destroyed.
- (2) 071950 August 1969. Second Platoon, A Company spotted six (6) enemy with weapons digging on the south side of the road intersection at grid BT 066655. Fired 81mm mortars on area. Results: unknown.
- h. 080001 August to 082400 August 1969. The BLT backloaded aboard SLF/ARG Alfa shipping.
- i. 090001 August to 312400 August 1969. During this period the BLT was aboard SLF/ARG Alfa shipping. Extensive training and administrative tasks were conducted in addition to equipment maintenance and repair.

4. FIRE SUPPORT COORDINATION

- a. Artillery. A Btry 1/13 and W Btry 1/11 spent the first eight days of August under the operational control of 1st Bn 11th Marines. Although W Btry 1/11 was unable to provide the BLT reinforcing fires, A Btry 1/13 was located within the BLT cantonment in ~~the area of grid BT 1/20~~ with excellent supporting fires. The types of fire support employed; prep fires, harrassing and interdicting fires, counter-mortar fires, and called fire on targets of opportunity.
- (1) A Battery 1/13. During the month of August A Btry 1/13 fired 947 rounds. (Type ammo breakdown not available).
- (2) W Battery 1/11. During the month of August W Btry 1/11 fired 1255 rounds.

HE - 1191

WP - 64

- b. 81mm Mortar Platoon. During the month of August, the 81 Platoon fired 3335 rounds:

HE - 2705

WP - 146

Illum - 484

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 c. Naval Gunfire. No NGF was fired during August in support of BLT 1/26.

5. PERSONNEL

a. Combat Losses.

	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
WIA		
Evac	0	4
Minor	0	0
KIA	0	1

b. Non-Combat Losses.

	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
Injured		
Evac	0	0
Minor	0	10
Killed	0	0

c. WIA's Returned to Duty - Seven (7)

d. R&R Trips - 112

e. Personnel Rotated PCS - Seven (7) OFF, 128 ENL

f. Replacements Received - Seven (7) OFF, 206 ENL

6. ADMINISTRATION

a. Personal Accounting.

On 8 August 1969, the BLT S-1 along with all company/battery administrative sections and supply elements for the BLT moved aboard SLP/ARG Alfa shipping as part of the backload phase of the current afloat phase for the BLT. The move was completed on the afternoon of the 8 Aug. Company/Battery administration remained intact with close supervision from BLT S-1. The entire administration of the BLT was centrally located to expedite administration.

b. Awards.

1 - Bronze Star
 3 - Navy Achievement
 82 - Purple Hearts

c. Promotions.

1 to Sergeant
 72 to Corporal
 53 to Lance Corporal
 10 to Private First Class

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No other significant events noted.

7. LOGISTICSa. Supply/Resupply.

The DLT operating stocks were located at Hill 34 and the DSA at LZ 413 1-8 August. Resupply of subordinate units was made by helicopter, trucks, and LVT, with ground transportation predominating. The only major problem encountered was the decreasing effectiveness of the Truck Platoon due to heavy work loads and lack of available spare parts, causing excessive deadline rates. Appropriate relief was requested and supplied by the 1st Marine Division.

b. Food/Water.

All food and water consumed came from the DSA or local in-country supply sources. Hot meals were transported through the DSA to outlying units in the field, and with a few exceptions, all units received at least one (1) "A" ration per day. Unit use of local messhalls adjacent to the rear and forward command posts was in direct relation to their proximity to these facilities.

c. Maintenance.

1st FSR provided this DLT with maintenance/repair support. Equipment on deadline FSR was repaired or replaced, within a reasonable time consistent with the work schedule and availability of parts. Continuous close liaison and spontaneous turn-in and pick-up enabled this DLT to remain in a C-1 state of operational readiness.

d. Embarkation.

On 8 August 1969, the DLT started backload to SLE/ARG Alfa shipping. The backload was not completed until 12 August 1969 due to the late arrival of some ships.

e. Camp Facilities Development.

The DLT had personnel living in five (5) permanent or semi-permanent camps and worked to maintain and improve facilities within its capability. Continuous command attention to field sanitation, special services, and self-help improvements enabled the DLT to offer the best conditions commensurate with the short occupation of each.

8. PSYCHOLOGICAL OPERATIONS Not applicable to this reporting period.

9. NEW TECHNIQUES Not applicable to this reporting period.

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- a. A total of 101 newly joined personnel attended indoctrination class.
- b. A total of eight (8) personnel attended NCO Leadership School - Camp Hansen, Okinawa.
- c. The above is in addition to the weekly training schedule conducted on company level. One training handout was distributed to the companies.
- d. On 22 and 23 August 1969 a "Quick Kill" Team from Division Schools conducted classes throughout all companies. A total of (550) personnel attended.
- e. From 14 through 20 August 1969, a CID class was conducted by the U.S. Army at Hoa-Cam. A total of (12) personnel attended.
- f. 9th MAB Lawyers conducted classes for Officers and SNCO's on search procedures on 24 August 1969 at Camp USF Cleveland.

11. COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Radio.
 - (1) The BLT rear CP located at Hill 34 maintained one radio on the "Southern Sector Defense" circuit and one radio on the Dn LOG/ADMIN circuit.
 - (2) The primary Command Post located at the 3/1 cantonment maintained the following: 1st Marines Regiment TAC, both covered and uncovered, Dn. TAC, TAC/LOG, LOG/ADMIN, FSCC, NGF, and a liaison radio to 51st Bn, ARVN.
- b. Radio Relay. No organic radio relay was installed, however the 3/1 Radio Relay supplied the BLT with telephone and teletype circuits to 1st Marines.
- c. Wire.
 - (1) The BLT rear CP had the normal telephones installed to all administrative sections and company headquarters, also one (1) trunk line through the 1st Recon Co's switch board and into the 1st Marine Division Telephone System.
 - (2) The Primary Command Post had telephones into all units/sections at the 3/1 cantonment plus a trunk line through the 3/1 Switch Board into the 1st Marines Switch Board, and thereby entry into the 1st Marine Division Telephone System. A hot line was established between the BLT COG and 1st Marines COG.
- d. Message Center. Control was established at Hill 34 with comm/crypto traffic guarded by the 1st Tank Battalion. Scheduled message runs

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were made with on-call runs for special or high priority messages. AT 081200H August 1969 comm/crypto guard was shifted from 1st Tank Bn. to the USS Cleveland.

- e. Maintenance Supply. Limited second echelon maintenance was conducted at the 3/1 cantonment with direct exchange of some radio's. Second and limited third echelon maintenance was located at Hill 34.
- f. Significant Events. At two different times a COC went forward with one company. Guard was maintained on the Dn TAC, Regiment TAC, TACP Local. No radio problems were encountered.

12. MEDICAL/DENTAL SUPPORT

a. Medical.

- (1) Location of the BAS: 01 August 69 to 08 August 69, Hill 34
09 August 69 to 31 August 69, USS Iwo Jima
- (2) Number of Doctors/Corpsmen: 01 Dental Officer
02 Doctors
73 Corpsmen
01 Dental Technician
- (3) Casualties/injuries treated:
 - (a) Combat: 04
 - (b) Non-Combat: 485

b. Dental.

- (1) Location of Dental Clinic: 1 Aug to 8 Aug through 1st Marine Division channels.
- (2) Number of personnel treated: 267

e. Significant Events: None.

13. RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

a. Personnel in Section.

- (1) Lt (CNC) USN William A. WILL, 685115
- (2) L/Cpl T. V. WILSON, 2421863

b. Activities.

(1) Worship Services.

- (a) Regular Sunday services - seven (7); 192 attendees

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- (b) Communion given - 180
- (c) Memorial Services - two (2); 1600 attendees
- (2) Brig/Hospital Visits.
 - (a) Brig visits - two (2); three (3) prisoners visited
 - (b) Hospital visits - four (4); five (5) patient contacts
- (3) Counselling.
 - (a) Pre-marital - three (3)
 - (b) Marital - twelve (12)
 - (c) Personal - 61
 - (d) Religious - one (1)
- (4) Other items.
 - (a) Condolance letters written - nine (9)
 - (b) Letters of inquiry answered - eleven (11)
 - (c) "Thank you" letters written - four (4)
 - (d) Pocket books distributed - 1000
 - (e) Gift packets distributed - 480

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PART IV
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. Unit Journal

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