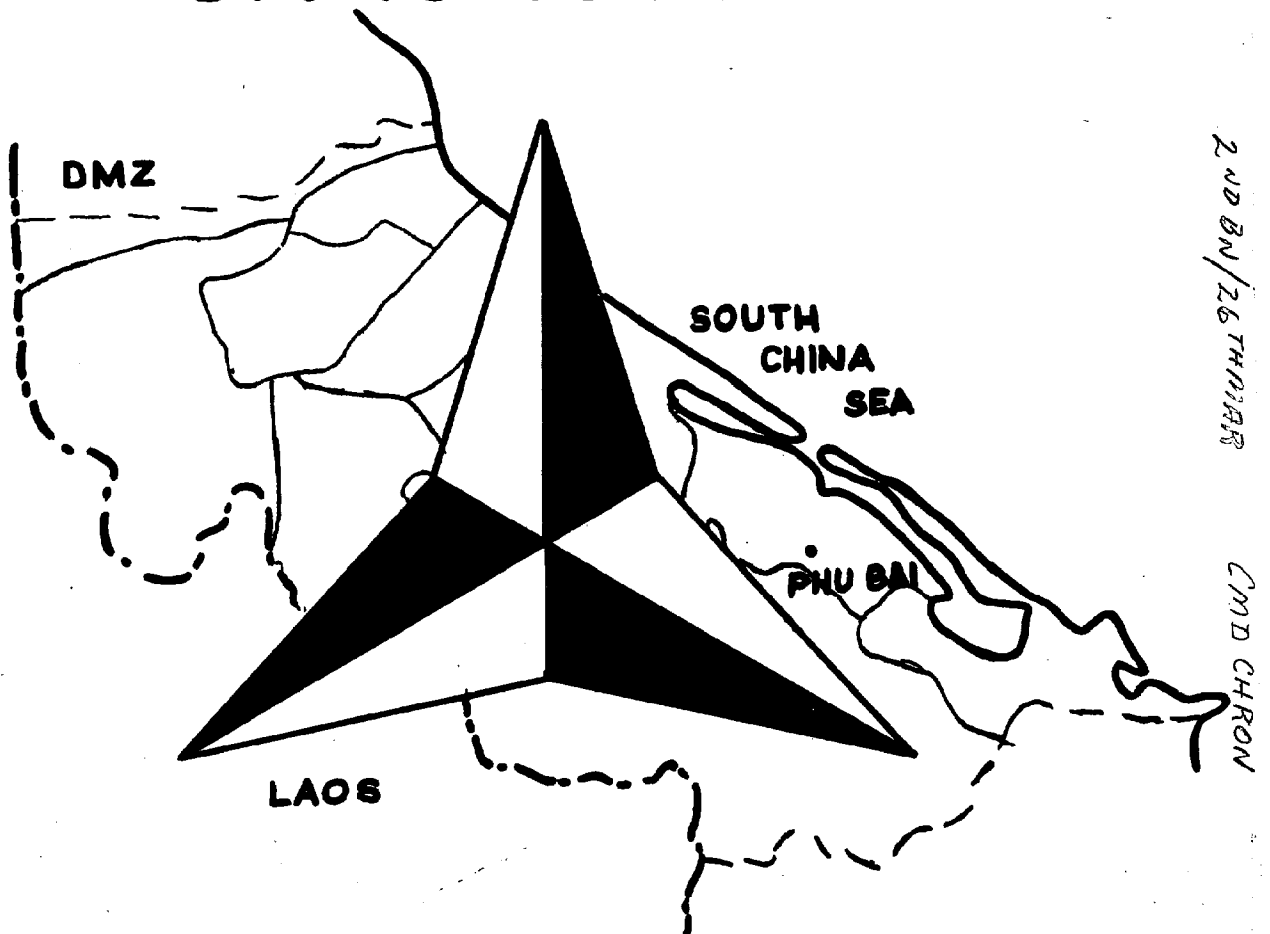


310868

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY



2nd Bn. 26th MAR
(Rein) FMF

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HEADQUARTERS
2d Battalion, 26th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein) FMF
FPO San Francisco 96602

Copy 1 of 12

3/GFK/ghr
5750
8 April 1968
Ser No: 00364-68

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03)
Via: (1) Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
(2) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1 March to 31 March 1968

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8
(c) DivO 5750.1A

Encl: (1) Command Chronology

1. In accordance with references (a) through (c), enclosure (1) is submitted.

F. J. Heath
F. J. HEATH

DISTRIBUTION: 7-CMC
1-S&C
2-S3

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

2d Battalion, 26th Marines

LtCol. F. J. HEATH 1-31Mar68

SUBORDINATE UNITS

H&S Co.

Capt S. M. HARTMAN 1-31Mar68

Co. E

Capt E. G. BREEDING 1-8 Mar68
1stLt J. R. MEERS 9-31Mar68

Co. F

Capt C. F. DIVELEBISS 1-31Mar68

Co. G

Capt L. R. OVERSTREET 1-31Mar68

Co. H.

Capt C. O. BROUGHTON 1-31Mar68

2. LOCATION

1-31Mar68: Khe Sanh, RVN

3. STAFF OFFICERSEXECUTIVE OFFICER

Maj R. L. BOND 1-31Mar68

S-1

1stLt R. J. GUSTAFSON 1-31Mar68

S-2

SSgt E. E. ROLAND 1-9Mar68
1stLt J. C. WAINIO 10-31Mar68

S-3

Maj G. F. KURTH 1-31Mar68

S-4

Capt E. J. MARTIKAE Jr. 1-18Mar68
Capt E. G. BREEDING 19-31Mar684. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

USMC	
OFF	ENL
38	1127

USN	
OFF	ENL
2	61

OTHER	
OFF	ENL
0	3

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the month of March the Battalion continued to occupy a defensive perimeter two miles northwest of the Khe Sanh Combat Base.

Three rifle companies comprised the main position which encompassed Hill 558 (XD 820451) while Company E conducted a perimeter defense on Hill 861A, (XD 813448) 1500 meters to the west of Hill 558 under the operational control of the 3d Battalion, 26th Marines.

Patrolling and ambushing was curtailed throughout the month by the 26th Marines, therefore emphasis was placed on improvement of the defensive positions. The patrols and ambushes that were executed served as security type activities to provide early warning of an enemy approach to the Battalion position.

Work continued on preparation of individual and crew served weapons positions, with each position being partially overhauled with runway matting and sandbags. A new COC bunker, dug ten feet into the ground and strongly overhauled, was also completed. Additional artificial obstacles including another triple concertina fence, a double apron fence, a large tank trap and several minofields were installed. Three new anti-personnel minofields were laid, one in front of each of the rifle companies in the Battalion (-) position. A total of 360 M-16 and M-16A1 AP mines were employed.

The defensive fire plan was finalized, reproduced and widely disseminated. Rehearsals of the Counterattack Plan were also conducted weekly by all reserve forces.

Numerous electronic early warning devices were incorporated into the defensive scheme. PPS 5's and 6's, Seismic Intrusion Devices, and Night Observation Devices were utilized and seemed to function quite well. Micro tails, a long range sensor monitoring device, were employed at Hill 558 position. The readings from these monitoring devices provided prompt and timely intelligence, which normally resulted in a fire mission being called on the suspected area.

There were no ground contacts with enemy forces, however the enemy did conduct sporadic artillery and mortar attacks on the perimeter. No casualties were suffered from those attacks. Casualties were sustained at the Battalion Administrative Rear at the Khe Sanh Combat Base during artillery, rocket and mortar attacks on the base.

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Mission. During the period 1 to 31 March the Battalion was assigned the following missions:
 - a. Establish defense positions vic XD 820450.
 - b. Prevent infiltration of enemy forces south through the valley running between Hill 861 (XD 803442) and Hill 950 (XD 844456).

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- c. Be prepared to reinforce Hills 861 and 950.
 d. Limit the extent of patrols and ambushes to that necessary to ensure the security of defensive obstacles and local security elements

2. Significant Events

01 Mar 68 At 1105H to 1140H AO observed 10 to 15 new bunkers at XD 803457 to XD 803458, deep caverns that are now and appear to have a lot of underground activity at XD 800470, 2 oil drums at XD 80844630, 7 new holes and logged bunkers in tree line are at XD 817464, 6 new bunkers at XD 803453 and extensive digging and tunnel networks at XD 817475. Air strikes and TPQ's conducted in area.

Ref: Journal No. 6

(Tab A to enclosure 1)

01 Mar 68 At 2005H observed troops with lights moving at XD 811463. Fired 61mm mortar mission with rounds on target. Lights scattered and went out. At 2057H miniarc light executed and observed one secondary explosion. Two small fires, either powder or gasoline burning. At 2110H one large fire, reaching the height of 40 meters, was also observed.

Ref: Journal No. 11

(Tab A to enclosure 1)

02 Mar 68 At 0145H to 0155H air and artillery strikes at XD 815458 resulted in two secondary explosions. At 0155 air strikes resulted in what was believed to be fire fed by fuel. At 0204H TPQ's resulted in two secondary explosions accompanied by a flame which shot up 5 meters into air. At 0215H small secondary explosions were heard which were underground.

Ref: Journal No. 14

(Tab A to enclosure 1)

020845H At 0845H to 0915H OP at XD 820451 observed 13 secondary explosions at XD 815465 XD 816454 XD 813462 caused by TPQ air strike. There was also several small arms secondary explosions.

Ref: Journal No. 19

(Tab A to enclosure 1)

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021615H At 1615H OP at XD 820451 observed 18 secondary explosions at XD 817462 after air strikes were conducted in area.

Ref: Journal No. 25

(Tab A to enclosure 1)

03 Mar 68 At 1340H to 1430H OP at XD 820451 observed 15 secondary explosions as the result of air strikes conducted at XD 817462.

Ref: Journal No. 34

(Tab A to enclosure 1)

05 Mar 68 At 1530 OP at XD 820451 observed one secondary explosion and 50 feet of trench line destroyed as a result of air strikes conducted at XD 820463.

Ref: Journal No. 57

(Tab A to enclosure 1)

06 Mar 68 At 1555H OP at XD 820451 observed 9 secondary explosions as a result of air strikes conducted at XD 815457 XD 815455. Planes reported taking some SA fire.

Ref: Journal No. 69

(Tab A to enclosure 1)

07 Mar 68 At 1600H air strikes were conducted at XD 815457. AO observed 100 meters trench line uncovered after foliage was burned off.

Ref: Journal No. 77

(Tab A to enclosure 1)

08 Mar 68 At 1252H 3 rounds of 122 rockets were received from vic XD 771471, one of which impacted within the perimeter. Two rounds of unknown caliber, containing what appeared to be CS gas impacted at 824453. Muzzle flashes from artillery were seen at XD 787488. Effects of the gas was a slight watering of the eyes. OP observed 5 artillery rounds impact at XD 813453, XD 819457, XD 805457, XD 815464, and XD 816457. The last round was an air burst. Air strikes conducted at XD 787488 resulted in one secondary explosion.

Ref: Journal No. 87

(Tab A to enclosure 1)

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09 Mar 68 At 1745H OP at XD 820451 spotted 4 NVA digging at XD 815473. OP called for 81mm marking round and fixed wing immediately hit enemy with napalm and bombs resulting in 100% coverage of target and 4 NVA confirmed KBA.

Ref: Journal No. 99

(Tab A to enclosure 1)

10 Mar 68 At 0800H OP at XD 820451 observed 2 large and 8 small secondary explosions after arclight strike at XD 801459 to XD 813475.

Ref: Journal No. 202

(Tab A to enclosure 1)

15 Mar 68 At 0145H active mortar site was spotted at XD 802458. Artillery mission fired with excellent target coverage resulting in 5 secondary explosion.

Ref: Journal No. 159

(Tab A to enclosure 1)

15 Mar 68 At 1600H distribution made of ANNEX B (Intelligence), ANNEX C. (Fire Support Coordination) with Appendix 1 (Defensive Fire Plan), ANNEX D (Antimechanized Plan) with Appendix 1 (Barrier Plan), and ANNEX E (Comm-Electronics) with Appendix 1 (Radio Plan) and appendix 2 (Radio relay/wire plan) to Operation Order 5-68.

Ref: 2d Battalion, 26th Marines OPORD 5-68
(Tab B to enclosure 1)

16 Mar 68 At 1030H AO spotted fighting holes at XD 811457. AO fired marking rocket and stirred up ground movement. Fixed wing called with AO controlling, strikes resulted in 1 NVA confirmed KBA. Additional air strikes conducted resulting in 4 bunkers destroyed.

Ref: Journal No. 174 and 179

(Tab A to enclosure 1)

17 Mar 68 At 1010H AO spotted what appeared to be tank tracks heading towards shelter pit at XD 803460. Shelter pit

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was well logged and camouflaged on top and built with the front end elevated. New automatic weapons positions were located at XD 819466 and heavily fortified positions and bunkers at XD 823467. Air strikes were conducted at all above enemy coordinates with unknown results.

Ref: Journal No. 190

(Tab A to enclosure 1)

30 Mar 68 At 1240H OP at XD 820451 observed large secondary explosion and 1 large tunnel destroyed after air strike was conducted at XD 823456.

Ref: Journal No. 354

(Tab A to enclosure 1)

31 Mar 68 0800H Operation SCOTLAND terminated.

Ref: Journal No. 360

(Tab A to enclosure 1)

31 Mar 68 0801H Operation PEGASUS commences.

Ref: Journal No. 361

(Tab A to enclosure 1)

1-31 Mar Total number of patrols:	29
Total number of ambushes:	71
Total number of OP's:	245
Total number of LP's:	243

1-31 Mar Casualties inflicted upon the enemy:

a. NVA KIA Confirmed:	00
b. Weapons Captured:	00

3. Personnel Administration

a. Personnel

(1) Number of replacements received: 95

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(2) Number of personnel lost through rotation: 42

(3) Number of personnel lost through attrition other than rotation:

(a) KIA:	Officers	0	Enlisted	6
(1)	Hill 558	0		0
(2)	Hill 861A	0		0
(3)	Bn Rear Area	0		6
(b) DOW:	Officers	0	Enlisted	2
(1)	Hill 558	0		0
(2)	Hill 861A	0		1
(3)	Bn Rear Area	0		1
(c) WIA:	Officers	4	Enlisted	34 ModEvac
(1)	Hill 558	2		3
(2)	Hill 861A	1		11
(3)	Bn Rear Area	1		20
(d) WIA:	Officers	1	Enlisted	20 Minor
(1)	Hill 558	0		4
(2)	Hill 861A	1		3
(3)	Bn Rear Area	0		13
(e) MIA:	Officers	0	Enlisted	1
(1)	Hill 558	0		0
(2)	Hill 861A	0		0
(3)	Bn Rear Area	0		1

(f) Non-battle casualties: 17

(g) Intra-Division/Regiment transfers: 35

(4) R&R: A total of 80 personnel took R&R.

b. Administration

(1) Awards: none

(2) Personnel Accountings: The late submission of unit diaries continues to be a problem. The problem is not internal but rather is caused by guard mail delay from Khe Sanh to the South.

(3) Promotions:

(a) To Gunnery Sergeant:	1
(b) To Staff Sergeant:	1
(c) To Corporal:	50
(d) To Lance Corporal:	97
(e) To Private First Class:	6

(4) Postal Services: Incoming and outgoing mail continues to be delayed due to the tactical situation. A large uplift in the spirit and morale of the Battalion is always evidenced when mail is delivered to the Battalion forward position.

(5) Post Exchange: Post exchange facilities are limited to small personnel items but are available only at KSCB. However, SP packs, when available, provide the required tobacco, candy and toilet articles.

c. Special Services. Special Services activities were limited due to the combat situation. However, small games, writing supplies, magazines and newspapers were received when the tactical situation permitted.

4. Intelligencea. Enemy situation at the beginning of the period

(1) The threat of a multi-regiment ground attack supported by armored vehicles and large caliber supporting weapons against the Khe Sanh Combat Base and surrounding outposts remained high.

Due to limited friendly patrolling and ground reconnaissance coupled with weather conditions that limited aerial observation the enemy had the ability to launch such an attack at the time and place of his choosing. Despite this capability, no such attack was launched, however, several small probes occurred against the Southern portion of the defensive perimeter of the Khe Sanh Combat Base. The known enemy units within the Scotland AO were the 325 C and the 304th NVA Divisions.

(2) No direct contact with enemy forces occurred in the Battalion AO.

b. Enemy initiated incidents. Mortar/rocket/artillery attacks received during the reporting period: 20 60mm, 3 82mm mortar rounds, 3 122mm rocket rounds, 2 CS artillery rounds, and 14 high explosive artillery rounds. It should be noted that all of these incidents occurred during the first half of the reporting period with the last occurring on 15 March. Listed below are the known positions from which mortar, rocket, and artillery fire were received:

- (1) Known NVA mortar positions: XD 811458 and XD 8046.
- (2) Known NVA rocket positions: XD 771471.
- (3) Known NVA artillery positions: XD 787488 and XD 828443.

c. Summary of enemy casualties, POW's, and captured equipment.

- (1) KIA 00
- (2) POW's 00
- (3) Wpns Captured 00

d. Significant trends during the period. The cessation of mortar, rocket and artillery attacks on the Battalion AO coincided almost directly with the arrival of clear weather which allowed for increased visibility.

e. Enemy situation at the end of the reporting period. Although reduced somewhat by the arrival of good weather, the enemy still maintains the capability of launching a multi-regiment coordinated ground and supporting arms attack on the Khe Sanh Combat Base and surrounding outposts.

Enclosure (1)

Despite the lack of mortars, rocket, and artillery attacks and the lack of contact with enemy forces in the 2/26 AO, it is known that the enemy still maintains forces in the immediate area. This fact is confirmed by visual sightings by units of 2/26 and aerial observers and by numerous readings of enemy movement by our long range sensor devices.

f. Weather. During the reporting period the Operation SCOTLAND AO experienced steadily improving conditions. The first half of the period was characterized by heavy fog during the hours of darkness and morning which severely limited visual capabilities of friendly units. The second half of the reporting period was characterized by a predominance of clear weather with the exceptions being a small amount of precipitation and fog during hours of darkness.

5. Operations

a. Command Relations. The Battalion was under operational control of the 26th Marines and administrative control of the 3d MarDiv.

b. Major Operations Conducted. Participated in Operation Scotland 1-31Mar 1968.

c. New Techniques. None

d. Training

(1) The rifle companies took advantage of the opportunity afforded by the continued occupation of a static defensive position to conduct an extensive training program. A basic training plan with certain requirements was formulated by the S-3 and, in general, most of the training planned for the month was accomplished. Particular emphasis was placed on all phases of Offensive Combat with the culmination of the rifle companies training being a Platoon Field Exercise conducted within the defensive perimeter. All classes were periodically monitored by S-3 personnel with special emphasis being given to these classes on Offensive Combat.

(2) Additional training by the rifle companies was conducted in the following subjects:

Defensive Combat

Squad Tactics

Nomenclature, Care, and
Cleaning of the M-16

Radio Procedure

Patrolling, Ambush, and
Counter-Ambush Techniques

Camouflage

Map and Compass

Demolitions

Combat Formations and Signals

Field Sanitation

Terrain Appreciation

Leadership

(3) Each rifle company also placed special emphasis on all phases of weapons training (M-60 Machine Gun, 3.5 Rocket Launcher, 60mm Mortar, LAAW, and also the M-16 and M-79). Particular attention was paid to the actual employment of these weapons and extensive FAM firing was conducted throughout the month, including a competition Field Meet.

(4) A briefing was held by the S-3 for all platoon sergeants and squad leaders in the battalion on the defensive fire plan and the counter-attack plan.

(5) The 106 RR Platoon conducted the following training: care and cleaning, gun drill and fire commands, range estimation, leadership, camouflage, radio procedure, first aid, mine-field laying, recognition of military symbols, map and compass, M-60 and 3.5 familiarization, patrolling tips, handling of prisoners, technique of military instructions, and NBC warfare. On several occasions the platoon had the opportunity to engage actual targets.

(6) The 81mm Mortar Platoon conducted a training program in the following subjects: care and cleaning, gun drill, FO procedures, M-16 plotting board, radio procedure, types of ammo and fuzes, map and compass, camouflage, first aid, UCMJ, field fortifications, field sanitation, individual weapons (care and cleaning, inspection), and organized athletics. The platoon also conducted a training program for the 60mm mortar sections of the rifle companies to include: nomenclature and functioning; care and cleaning; range procedures and range cards; FO procedures; M-10 plotting board; tactical employment; and ammo, use and capabilities. Also, a FO school was held for all FO's, Platoon Commanders, Platoon Sergeants, and Squad Leaders in conjunction with a live fire exercise for the 81 platoon; over 100 rounds were fired during this exercise.

(7) The Communication Platoon conducted the following training: field wire techniques, transmission security, authentication procedures, AN/MRG 109 and KY-8 operations, trouble shooting field wire installations, camouflage of defensive position, small arms safety precautions, M-60 MG familiarization, close air support, FO procedures squad and platoon tactics, first aid, field sanitation and personnel hygiene, current events, voting procedures, and conditioning hikes.

(8) The provisional platoon from H&S Company continued its training with emphasis on the following subjects: offensive tactics, particularly immediate action drills, fire discipline and technique of fire; M-60 and 3.5 familiarization and FAM fire; leadership; and care and cleaning of individual weapons.

(9) School trained members of the S-2 section conducted periods of instruction for the rifle companies on the use and operation of several enemy detection devices received by the battalion during the past month. Among these were PPS 5's and PPS 6's; Seismic Intrusion Devices (SIDs); and Night Observation Devices (NODs).

(10) The mine-laying teams from the rifle companies which were assigned the mission of emplacing the additional minofields received extensive periods of instructions and conducted rehearsals prior to the laying of any minofield.

c. Fire Support

(1) During the month artillery support was provided by the 1st Battalion, 13th Marines.

(a) There were 41 HE missions fired in support of the Battalion.

(b) There were no illumination missions fired in support of the Battalion.

(c) There was 215 H&I targets attacked at the Battalion's request.

(d) There were 2 significant missions fired in support of the Battalion.

(1) At 012057H a TOT was fired at XD 816464. One secondary explosion and two small fires were observed.

(2) At 170700H the Battalion OP reported hearing movement at XD 824464. A mission was called in which resulted in good target coverage.

(2) During the month the 81mm Mortar Platoon remained in general support of the Battalion.

(a) There were 10 HE missions fired in support of the Battalion.

(b) There was 1 illumination mission fired in support of the Battalion.

(c) There were 27 H&I targets attacked in support of the Battalion.

(d) There were no significant missions fired in support of the Battalion.

(3) During the month the 106mm Recoilless Rifle Platoon remained in direct support of the Battalion.

(a) There were 2 missions fired in support of the Battalion.

(b) There were no H&I's fired in support of the Battalion

(c) There was one significant mission fired in support of the Battalion.

(1) At 220950 a mission fired at a bunker complex, at XD 810454 target coverage was excellent with bunkers destroyed.

f. Air Support. During the month of March the Battalion received the following air support.

(1) Resupply: 340,000 pounds of supplies and equipment by helicopter.

(2) DAS/CAS: 43 flights of fixed wing were flown in support of the Battalion.

(3) TPQ: A total of 36 TPQ missions were conducted.

(4) Medevacs: 40 routine, 18 priority, and 3 emergency medevacs were requested and flown.

6. Logistics

a. Supply. The supply support for this Battalion has greatly improved during the reporting period to the point that is now satisfactory.

The Battalion continues to be supplied by helicopter with all supplies except Class II being flown in direct from Dong Ha. Some minor difficulties were experienced at the beginning of the month as it relates to priorities, however, this problem was solved as adequate stocks level were attained. The Battalion continues to experience minor problems in obtaining some items of Class II however, the overall supply situation is satisfactory.

b. Maintenance. The Battalion continues to experience difficulties in obtaining 1st and 2d Echelon repair parts. This continues to be primarily the result of the long and complex routes of supply. The 2d Echelon of all CE and MT equipment remains at the Battalion Rear at KSCB which requires the evacuation of all equipment via helicopter. Extensive damage to the MT equipment was inflicted by enemy artillery and extensive maintenance will be required when this Battalion leaves Khe Sanh to bring its MT equipment up to acceptable condition.

c. Food Service. The Battalion continued to subsist on two meals a day throughout the month. This presented no particular problems in that limited supplies of Bravo rations canned fruits, juices and SP packages provided adequately. Fresh apples and oranges were received on several occasions in the latter part of the reporting period. Additionally HMM 263 delivered 1 quart of ice cream per man to the Battalion on 31 March. The receipt of the fresh fruit and ice cream was a major boost for the morale of the Battalion and a very pleasant supplement to the "C" ration diet.

d. Transportation. Only limited motor vehicle transportation is required. The major units of the Battalion are entirely dependent upon helicopter transportation for all logistic support and transportation between the tactical units and the Administrative rear at KSCB: One M-109 and 2 M274 are the only MT equipment in the Battalion forward area. All of the remaining MT equipment is located at KSCB and at Phu Bai. As indicated in the maintenance subparagraph, extensive battle damage to MT equipment will become a major problem if and when MT becomes the primary source of transportation.

e. Water. The water supply for the Khe Sanh Combat Base continues to be marginal. Sufficient water has been available for eating and cooking, however insufficient water for personal hygiene is available.

This involves about 100 personnel of the Battalion Administrative Rear. Company "E" is OPCON to 3d Bn, 26thMar and is provided with water via helicopter. The remainder of the Battalion obtains water from the two streams adjacent to Hill 558.

f. Medical, Hospitalization and Evacuation. The BAS is located within the defensive perimeter at Hill 558 and provides initial treatment of casualties. Personnel requiring evacuation are medevaced via helicopter to either Co "C", 3d Med Bn at Kho Sanh or direct to Co "D", 3d Med Bn at Dong Ha. The only trends during the month has been a slight increase in non specific gastro-enteritis within the Battalion.

7. Civil Affairs. No Civil Affairs activity was conducted during this period.

8. Communications. A communications annex to the current Battalion Operations Order 5-68 was published with a radio and wire plan appendixes.

a. Wire. Wire communications continued constant in both forward and rear elements of the Battalion. Outages were a direct result of hostile fire. Reestablishment of wire communication was accomplished in a minimum of time. There has been no change in wire plans since last month's report. Wire teams have installed and maintained several lines to SID's around the Battalion perimeter.

b. Radio. Radio communication has also remained constant with higher adjacent, and supporting units. All previously reported nets remain operational.

c. Radio Relay. Problems encountered with radio relay have not been as paramount as last month; for the most part this is due to the increase of repair parts on hand by the radio relay team.

d. Message Center. No change is functioning since previous report.

e. Maintenance Supply. The implementation of a field battery shop has greatly increased the Battalion's flexibility both operationally and logistically. It was no longer necessary to limit operation time on the AN/PRC-41 due to the short supply of operational BB-451's. A limited quantity of the BB-451 were kept on hand in the field and charged on a rotating basis. It is no longer necessary to depend on air resupply measures to provide Battalion forward with charged BB-451's. The battery shop is also used to provide support for the PPS-6.

9. Religious Services

a. Sunday Services:

Conducted: 16
Conducted for other Commands 5
Total Attendance: 567
Total Communicants: 191

b. Weekday Services:

Conducted for other Commands: 7
Total Attendance: 90
Total Communicants: 76

c. Batismal Services:

Batismal Services Conducted: 1
Attendance: 18
Baptized: 6

d. Bible Classes:

Conducted: 21
Attendance: 168

e. Religious Instructions:

Conducted: 10
Attendance: 83

f. Miscellaneous Services:

- (1) Professional Counselling Cases: 32
- (2) American Red Cross Cases: 5
- (3) Navy Relief Cases: 2

g. Catholic Chaplain from the 1st Battalion, 26th Marines conducted 4 Masses and heard confessions for the Battalion.

h. A "swap" library was established in the Battalion with

approximately 300 paperback books obtained. At the current rate of exchange the monthly turnover will be over 700 books.

i. Approximately 60 New Testaments and religious pamphlets have been distributed among the Battalion.

PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

✓ TAB A to enclosure (1)

✓ TAB B to enclosure (1)

Unit Journal

ANNEX B (Intelligence)
ANNEX C (Fire Support
Coordination) with
Appendix 1 (Defensive
Fire Plan), ANNEX D
Antimechanized Plan)
with Appendix 1 (Bar-
rier Plan), ANNEX E
(Comm-Electronics) with
Appendix 1 (Radio Plan)
and Appendix 2 (Radio
relay) wire plan to
Operation Order 5-68

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2d Bn, 26th Marines 000LN to 2400H
JOURNAL 01 Mar. to 01 Mar.

Tab A

TIME IN	OUT	SERIAL#	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
0310		1	010310H	114 to HFL4; Have sling and net ready for external lift 2 Mar.	FS
	0500	2	010500H	HF to I: SITREP 134.	FR
	0900	3	010900H	HF to HFX: On position and expenditure report.	FX
	1100	4	011100H	HF to I: SITREP 135.	FR
	1215	5	011045H	HF to I: Day and night activities for 01 Mar.	FR
	1224	6	011105H	Spot report: AO observed 10-15 new bunkers at XD803457-803458, deep caverns at 800470, 2 oil drums at 808463, 7 holes at 817 464, 6 bunkers at 806453 and extensive digging and tunnels at 817475. Requesting Air Strikes and additional TPQ's in area.	FSR
	1455	7	011403H	HF to I: OPSTAT 029 as of 010800Z Mar 68.	FR
	1703	8	011700H	HF to I: SITREP 136.	FR
	1734	9	011730H	HF to I: INTSUM 60.	FR
	2030	10	011915H	Spot report: Spotted 1 NVA at XD818452, fired 1 M-79 rd with unknown results.	FR
	2048	11	012015H	Spot report: Observed troops with lights moving at XD811463. Fired Arty and 81's in conjunction with a Mini-Arclight, scattering lights and starting several small and 1 large fire.	FSR

TAB A

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2d Bn, 25th Marines 0001H

to 2400H

JOURNAL

01 Mar. to 02 Mar.

TIME		SERIAL#	DRI	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
IN	OUT				
2235		12	012235H	I2 to HF: Med. movement at XD807463	FST
	2300	13	012300H	HF to I: SITREP 137.	FR
	0213	14	020145H	Spot report: Air and Arty strikes in vicinity of XD815458	FSR
				resulted in 4 large and several small secondaries and 2 fires	
	0340	15	020300H	HF to I: Spot report; Received 1 unknown caliber rd at vic	FSRT
				XD825445, crater analysis will be conducted at 1st light.	
	0517	16	020500H	HF to I: SITREP 138.	FR
	1055	17	021040 H	HF to I: Day and night activities for 02 Mar.	FR
	1110	18	021110H	HF to HFX: Resupply for 03 Mar.	FX
	1119	19	020845H	Spot report: Observed 13 secondary explosions at XD815465	FSR
				816454, and 813462 caused by TPQ. Also several SA secondaries.	
	1210	20	021100H	Spot report: Observed by AO, well used trails at XD820461	FSR
				and XD826459, also OP at XD818462.	
	1215	21	021100H	HF to I: SITREP 139.	FR
1407		22	021407H	I to HF: Code for 02 Mar is 54.	FST
	1555	23	021400H	Spot report: Found possible NVA ambush site at XD822443	FSR
				ambush is planned for tonight.	

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2d Bn, 26th Marines 0001H

to 2400H

JOURNAL

02 Mar. to 03 Mar.

TIME		SERIAL #	DOC	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
IN	OUT				
	1558	24	021515H	Spot report; Sniper team at XD820451 fired on 1 NVA wearing pack and carrying rifle at XD817462 with unknown results.	FRB
	1651	25	021615H	Spot report; Air strike run on XD817462 resulted in 18 secondary explosions.	FSR
	1730	26	021718H	HF to I: INTSUM 61.	FR
	1731	27	021700H	HF to I: SITREP 140.	FR
	2300	28	022300H	HF to I: SITREP 141	FR
	0500	29	030500H	HF to I: SITREP 142	FR
	1115	30	031056H	HF to I: Night Acts for 03 Mar. and Day Acts for 04 Mar.	FR
	1203	31	031200H	HF to I: SITREP 143.	FR
	1256	32	031256H	I to HF: Code for 03 Mar. is 76.	FST
	1430	33	031430H	DC to HF: Clearance for HF to run airstrikes from XD00438, to XD810457.	FST
	1555	34	031340H	Spot report; OP observed 15 secondary explosions resulting from Air strikes conducted at XD817462. OP will continue to observe and will utilize fixed wing when available.	FSR

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IN . OUT .	SERIAL	TIME	LOCATION, ASSIGNED, GROUP	ACTION
1640	35	031630H	HE to I. INTSUM #62.	FR
1700	36	041700H	HE to I. STREP #144.	FR
1820	37	031810H	HE to 16. Invitation to marksmanship field meet 04 Mar 68.	FR
1840	38	031835H	HE to HE1. Resupply request.	FR
2030	39	031915H	X to HE1. Mes. from RB. H24 reports NVA offensive will commence tonight.	
			widely spread and intense interdict of base w/Arty and ground troops. EST	
2300	40	032300H	HE to I. STREP #145.	FR
0200	41	040200H	I to HE1. Heavy enemy movement at XD807163.	FS
0500	42	040500H	HE to I. STREP #146.	FR
1100	43	041100H	HE to I. STREP #147.	FR
1127	44	041104H	HE to I. Night activities of 04 Mar. and day activities for 05 Mar.	FR
1513	45	041504H	HE to I. Observed 1 vehicle, until it disappeared in heavy brush at XD824173. (Appeared to be small truck.) Requested AO.	FR
1700	46	041700H	HE to I. STREP #148.	FR
1720	47	041715H	HE to I. INTSUM #63.	FR
1730	48	041730H	HE to HE1. Received diesel but no gas. Need gas.	FR
1920	49	041915H	HE to HE1. Resupplies received today.	FR
2300	50	042300H	HE to I. STREP #149.	FR

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From 05 Mar. to 06 Mar.

. OUT .	SERIAL # .	DTG . . .	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	ACTION
0450	51	050450H	Spot report: Received one incoming rd of unknown large cal. at XD821449. Reports are rd came from Khe Sanh Combat Base.	FR
0502	52	050502H	HT to I: SITREP #150.	FR
1000	53	050930H	HT to I: Night activities for 05 Mar. and day activities for 06 Mar.	FR
1112	54	051112H	HT to I: SITREP # 151.	FR
1206	55	051206H	HT to I: Spot report: F3P received 1 82mm rd via XD814454 from unknown direction.	FR
1508	56	051412H	Spot report: Received 1 rd 60mm at XD820451 from XD814458. Arty fired with unknown results.	FR
1611	57	051530H	Spot report: Airstrike at XD820463 resulted in 1 secondary and 50 feet of trenchline destroyed.	FR
1635	58	051600H	Spot report: Received 1 rd 60mm at XD820451 from approx 8046. WH11 keep under observation.	FR
1650	59	051650H	HT to I: INTSUM #64.	FR
1710	60	051700H	HT to I: SITREP # 152.	FR
2300	61	052300H	HT to I: SITREP # 153.	FR
0505	62	060500H	HT to I: SITREP # 154.	FR
0949	63	060940H	HT to HFX: G-6094, G Co, Hademar to "CU Med ASAP. Rt Inguinal hernia conditions and prognosis good, non-hostile.	FX

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From 06 Mar. to 07 Mar.

IN	OUT	SIGNAL	REF	REMARKS, ASSAULTS, OTHERS.	ACTION
	1139	64	061130H	HP to I. Night activities from 06 Mar. and day activities from 07 Mar. FR	
	1235	65	061235H	HP2 to HES. Request for sent to the Geny. For transfer to Lengue	
				school	FR
1305		66	061305H	I to HP. Code for 06 Mar. to 17	FR
1535		67	061530H	HP to I. HP616. tomorrow's so supply	FR
1650		68	061650H	HP to I. HP616 #156	FR
1700		69	061555H	Spot report. Air activities at 061545 and 061547. seconded in 9	
				secondaries. Also two 500lb bombs were down	FR
1850		70	061847H	HP to I. INSUN #65	FR
2300		71	062300H	HP to I. STREP #154	FR
0500		72	070500H	HP to I. STREP #168	FR
0530		73	071530H	I to HP. Int reported many people, bunkers and a rocket site at	
				061547, 061545 and 061549 observed via infra-red. Army fired	
				on 01159 and 015127 while 8mm. action was fired on 015159, all	
				with unknown results. (missions were controlled by HP)	FR
0915		74	070915H	HP to I. 1st. Will be clearing ground from 0930 to 1500 in vicinity	FR
				of 061924H.	

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From 07 Mar. to 08 Mar.

IN	OUT	SERIAL #	DO	INCIDENTS, RESOURCES, OBSERV.	ACTION
	1108	75	071107H	HP to I, high activities for 07 Mar; activities for 08 Mar.	FR
	1132	76	071100H	HP to I, STRENGTH # 1450.	FR
	1155	77	071055H	Spot report, activities at KB815457 uncovered 100 meters trench line.	FR
1105		78	071100H	I to HP, 0600 for the day is 10.	FSI
	1225	79	071200H	HP to I, STRENGTH # 1460.	FR
	2300	80	072300H	HP to I, STRENGTH # 1461.	FR
	0505	81	080500H	HP to I, STRENGTH # 1462.	FR
	0825	82	080820H	HP to I, 1st will be clearing grass from 0730 to 1500 in vicinity of KB828446.	FR
	0935	83	080910H	Spot report, 08 reports describe at KB826457 resulted in one secondary explosion; will continue observation.	FR
0957		84	080957H	I to HP, started by 08 reports describing between 100 and 1000.	FSI
	1100	85	081059H	HP to I, high activities for 08 Mar; day activities for 09 Mar.	FR
	1310	86	081352H	Spot report, 0800-0900 the day 3 60mm rds and 2 unknown caliber rds at KB822448 were fired; the unknown type rds continued CS and reported 3000 yards of this position. 10 called every line on KD771471 with unknown results.	FR

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IN	OUT	SERIAL #	REMARKS, ORDERS.	ACTION
	1534	07	081222H spot report, follow-up to 081025Z. 2 arty. rds. impacted at XM818XX and XM021155Z. Artillery strike at XM787498 resulting in 1 secondary	FR
	1534	08	001526H spot report, strike at XM805465 resulted in 2 secondary planes received extensive weapons and 50 cal. W. fire.	FR
	1652	09	001050H HF to I: STRENGTH # 163. all stations:	FR
1655	90	001000H	I to M: possibility of a battalion ahead attack origin- ating in the 08080125. No time or target available.	FR
	1710	91	081100H HF to I: IMPACT #07.	FR
	2300	92	082300H HF to I: STRENGTH # 164.	FR
	0500	93	090500H HF to I: STRENGTH # 165.	FR
	1105	94	091100H HF to I: Night activities for 09 MPT. Day activities for 10 MPT.	FR
	1110	95	091100H HF to I: STRENGTH # 166.	FR
	1525	96	091515H HF to MPT. Casualty report: A-2802, R.S. Co. Stevens-Johnson syndrome, condition good. prognosis good; to "C" Med.	FX
	1635	97	091630H HF to I: IMPACT # 68.	FR
	1700	98	091700H HF to I: STRENGTH # 167.	FR
1801	99	091715H	Spot report, strike at XM815172 resulted in 1 KM16 and 5	

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From 09 Mar. to 10 Mar.

IN	OUT	SERIAL #	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS.	ACTION
	2300	169	092300H REF 1	HF to Lt. STUBBS # 168.	FR
	0500	161	100500H	HF to Lt. STUBBS # 169.	FR
	0846	162	100800H	Spot. reports. CR at XD820151 observed aircraft at XD801159 to XD813175 and reports 2 large and 8 small secondaries.	FR
	1100	163	101100H	HF to Lt. STUBBS # 170.	FR
	1100	164	101030H	HF to Lt. STUBBS activities for 10 Mar. & day activities for 11 Mar. FR	FR
	1405	165	101345H	Spot. reports. CR at XD828146 observed 2 NVA at XD835148 moving North. Placed 2 M-16 rds and NVA moved out of sight. will continue observation of area.	FR
	1106	166	101105H	I to HF. Note for 10 Mar. is 98.	FR
	1650	167	101650H	I to HF. Advise the Arty attack approx 2100. take precautions.	FR
	1652	168	101610H	HF to Lt. STUBBS # 70.	FR
	1653	169	101653H	HF to Lt. STUBBS # 171.	FR
	1830	170	101600H	Spot. reports. CR at XD801 stepped on warning devices; treated and returned to duty.	FR

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From 10 Mar to 11 Mar.

IN	OUT	SERIAL #	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS.	ACTION
2030		111	102030H	I to HF; Password compromised, alternate in effect.	EST
	2300	112	102300H	HF to I; SITREP # 172.	FR
	0500	113	110500H	HF to I; SITREP # 173.	FR
	0535	114	110415H	Spot report: H2 at XN821444 observed lights at XN821445; fired several rds SAF with unknown results.	FR
	0810	115	110750H	Spot report: OP at XN812452 observed 1 secondary explosion at XN821481 as a result of an Arc-light.	FR
	0847	116	110847H	HF to I; 1 plt will be clearing grass at XN821443 from 0930 to 1500.	FR
	1100	117	111100H	HF to I; SITREP # 174.	FR
	1110	118	111040H	HF to I; Night activities for 11 Mar; day activities for 12 Mar.	FR
1215	1200	119	111213H	I to HF; Code for 11 Mar is 20.	FR
	1248	120	111245H	HF to HFX; Casualty report: P-1458, 4th Co, severe wound (Lumbo Sacral) condition good; prognosis good; non-hostile; P medevac to C Med.	FR

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15	1200	101	1200/50	Spec report, P-1/58, UNCLASSIFIED, 1200/50, a severe back sprain.	FR
				at 1082/151, man trapped at MAS and will be redeposited to 400 Med.	FR
	1705	102	111700H	HF to I, INSUM # 71	FR
	1710	103	111700H	HF to I, STEEP # 175	FR
	1720	104	111700H	HF to I, STEEP # 176	FR
	1730	105	111700H	HF to I, STEEP # 177	FR
	1740	106	111700H	HF to I, STEEP # 178	FR
	1750	107	111700H	HF to I, night activities for 12 May; day activities for 13 May.	FR
155	1800	108	111700H	I to HF, Code for 12 May, 1200/50, 85.	FST
	1700	109	111700H	HF to I, STEEP # 179	FR
	1710	110	111700H	HF to I, INSUM # 72.	FR
2015	181	1200/50	I to HF, UNO reports possible heavy Arty incoming at 2100; also		
			suspect battalion sized ground attack.		FST
	1900	112	121300H	HF to I, STEEP # 180.	FR
0230	113	120300H	(VIA HQ) I S-2 notified HF of medium movement at XD8031/935 and		
			XD80/2/917; Arty will be fired.		FST

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IN	OUT	SERIAL #	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	ACTION
	0500	134	130500H	HF to I. Sitrep # 181	FR
	0830	135	130830H	HF to HFX. Casualty Rept: R-0790 G Co poss. torsion of left testes, cond. fair, prog. good, treated by BAS forward.	FX
	0901	136	130915H	HF to HFX. Casualty Rept: S-2291 H Co poss. appendicitis, cond. fair, prog. good, medevac to D Med.	FX
	1050	137	131030H	HF to I. site acts 13 March & day acts 14 March.	FR
	1235	138	131100H	HF to I. Sitrep # 182	FR
	1250	139	131110H	HF to I. H3P found tunnel at 020443 which appears recently dug. Contains substance resembling cement. Search continues	FR
	1410	140	131100H	HF to HFX. Casualty Rept: R-0773 G Co gunshot wound left foot. prog. good, cond. good, medevac to C Med.	FX
	1420	141	131115H	HF to I. H3P terminated and continues to search tunnel	FR
	1532	142	131100H	HF to I. Spt Rept: 2 USMC wounded by accidental firing of .45 pistol. 1 man was returned to duty. 1 man medevaced to C Med.	FR
	1700	143	131200H	HF to I. Insum # 73	FR
	1705	144	131200H	HF to I. Sitrep # 183	FR

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IN	OUT	SERIAL #	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS.	ACTION
	2300	145	112300H	HF to I: Sitrep #184	FR
	0500	146	110500H	HF to I: Sitrep # 185	FR
	1002	147	111000H	HF to HFX: Casualty Rept: M-9281 H Co cellulitis right leg, cond. & prog. good, medevaced to C-Med.	FR
	1100	148	112300H	HF to I: Night & day acts 14 & 15 March	FR
1115		149	111115H	I2 to HF: med. movement detected at 802459, 823464	FS
1315		150	111240H	I2 to HF: heavy movement at 823464	FS
1325n		151	111320H	I2 to HF: heavy movement at 802459	FS
	1410	152	111400H	HF to HFX: Casualty Rept: W-9061 F Co. poss fracture right ankle. cond & prog. good. medevac to C Med	FX
	1700	153	111700H	HF to I: Sitrep 186	FR
	1704	154	111700H	HF to I: Intsum # 74	FR
	1820	155	111100H	HF to I: AO saw 2 mortar pos at 805455. H&Is req.	FR
	2110	156	112050H	HF to I: Spt Rept: AO obsd large fire at 814457. 81s called in	FR
	2255	157	112250H	HF to I: Sitrep # 187	FR
0149		158	150145H	I to HF: heavy troop movement at 7750 & 7850	FS

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From 15 Mar. to 15 Mar.

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IN	OUT	SERIAL#	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS.	ACTION
	0215	159	150145H	HF to I: SPOT REPORT: Mortar site at XD802458; Arty fired w/5 secondaries. FR	FR
	0500	160	150500H	HF to I: SITREP # 188.	FR
	1050	161	151050H	HF to I: Night activities for 15 Mar; day activities for 16 Mar.	FR
	1100	162	151100H	HF to I: SITREP # 189.	FR
	1600	163	151600H	Distribution made of ANNEX B (Intelligence), ANNEX C (Fire Support Coord. w/ Appendix 1 (Defensive Fire Plan), ANNEX D (Antimechanized plan) w/Appendix 1 (Barrier Plan), and ANNEX E (Comm-Electronics) w/Appendix 1 (Radio Plan) to Operation Order 5-68.	FST
	1640	164	151615H	HF to I: Received 5 incoming Arty rds at XD828443.	FR
	1700	165	151700H	HF to I: SITREP # 190.	FR
	1715	166	151700H	HF to I: Change in night activities.	FSR
	1720	167	151615H	HF to I: Received 5 more Arty rds at XD828443.	FR
	1825	168	151820H	HF to I: INTSUM # 75.	FR
	2015	169	152000H	HF to I: Change in day activities for 16 March.	FR
	2045	170	151930H	Spot report: Continued digging at XD828443, depth of 30 ft. LP and A set. FR	FR
	2300	171	152300H	HF to I: SITREP # 191.	FR
	2355	172	152335H	HF to I: Received info of 10 vehicles at XD809452; will maintain surveillance. FR	FR

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From 16 Mar. to 16 Mar.

IN	OUT	SERIAL #	DDO	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS.	ACTION
	0500	173	160500H	HF to I: SITREP # 192.	FR
	1055	174	161030H	Spot report; AO spotted fighting holes at XD811457; directed air-strikes resulting in 1 NVA KBA (C). Area will be kept under observation.	FR
	1100	175	161100H	HF to I: SITREP # 193.	FR
	1103	176	161103H	HF to I: Night activities for 16 Mar; day activities for 17 Mar.	FR
	1315	177	161230H	Spot report; patrol found 3 holes 8" in diameter caused by rockets fired by enemy yesterday afternoon (Ref: Spt Rpt Dtg 151615H). Rds are buried from 5 to 8 feet underground. Area has been marked.	FR
	1517	178	161410H	Spot report; S-8141 received shrapnel in left leg during air-strike conducted at XD818451. Treated at BAS and will be medevaced to 3d Med on a routine basis.	FRX
	1540	179	161030H	Spot report; Additional air-strikes were run at XD811457 resulting in 4 bunkers destroyed.	FR
	1700	180	161700H	HF to I: SITREP # 194.	FR
	1705	181	161700H	HF to I: INTSUM # 76.	FR
2220		182	162220H	I to All Stations; Indications of heavy activity in vic 8046 & 6849 in last 24 hours along route 9.	FS

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From 16 Mar. to 17 Mar.

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IN	OUT	SERIALS	REQ	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	ACTION
	2305	183	162300H	HF to I: SITREP #195.	FR
0138		184	170138H	I to HF via LL: S-2 reports 4 vehicles at XD78884887 moving in a southerly direction.	EST
0150		185	170150H	OP reports movement at XD816457. will continue observation.	FS
	0500	186	170500H	HF to I: SITREP # 196.	FR
	1020	187	171012H	HF to I: H3P is continuing work on the tunnel at XD827443.	FR
	1050	188	171045H	HF to I: Night activities for 17 Mar; day activities for 18 Mar.	FR
	1108	189	171100H	HF to I: SITREP # 197.	FR
	1200	190	171010H	Spot report: A0 spotted tank tracks at XD808460. XD819446 and XD823461; ran air-strike with unknown results.	FR
	1236	191	171235H	HF2 to HF5: Have 3 interpreters desire to know if you want them at your posit.	FX
1249		192	171249H	HF5 to HF2: Send 1 interpreter to HFE and keep the other 2.	FS
1510		193	171510H	I2 to HF:(via LL) Troop movement back and forth between XD799462 and XD823464.	FS
	1700	194	171700H	HF to I: SITREP # 198.	FR

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From 17 Mar. to 18 Mar.

IN	OUT	SERIAL #	MSG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS.	ACTION
	1710	195	171700H	HF to I: INSURE # 17.	PR
	1930	196	171920H	HF to I: Detected 1 rocket fired at Kue Sam from 5000 miles.	PR
2115		197	172115H	I to all stations: Assuming completion rec.	FSI
	2300	198	172300H	HF to I: SINK # 199.	PR
2352		199	172352H	I to all stations: URGENT alert.	FSI
0230		200	180230H	I to HF via HF FSC: Heavy troop movement to your front at 180230H to 3	FS
				request army clearance.	FS
	0500	201	180500H	HF to I: SINK # 200.	PR
0510		202	180510H	I to all stations: FSC alert.	FSI
0615		203	180615H	I to all stations: URGENT alert.	FSI
0625		204	180625H	I to HF: Medium troop movement at 180625H.	FSI
0640		205	180640H	I to HF: Heavy movement indicated via 180640H at 0600. Request	FSI
				27mm for H&MF. (Conversation via DN)	FSI
	1217	206	181217H	HF to I: Night activities for 18 Mar, day activities for 19 Mar.	PR
	1425	207	181425H	HF to I: SINK # 201.	PR
	1430	208	181430H	HF to I: Conversation concerning JPRS-6's.	PR

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From 18 Mar. to 19 Mar.

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IN	OUT	SERIAL#	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS.	ACTION
	1700	209	181700H	HF to I: SITREP # 202.	FR
	1705	210	181655H	Spot report; 2 NVA spotted at Xd825454. Sniper fired 5 rds with negative results.	FR
	1710	211	181700H	HF to I; INTSUM # 78.	FR
1715		212	181715H	IL4 to HF14: Slow Roll down 4.0 PM.	FS
	2055	213	182023H	Spot report: HFF received 8 incoming mortar rds. at XD827447.	FR
2200		214	182200H	I to all stations: Heavy incoming expected tonight and tomorrow.	FST
	2240	215	182130H	H ^F to I: Ref. to Spt Rpt 182023H, mortar rds from Dunbar County.	FR
	2300	216	182300H	H ^F to I: SITREP # 203.	FR
	0500	217	190500H	HF to I: SITREP # 204.	FR
	0955	218	190952H	HF to HFX: Casualty report.	FX
	1058	219	191050H	HF to I: Night activities for 19 Mar; day activities for 20 Mar.	FR
	1105	220	191100H	HF to I: SITREP # 205.	FR
	1200	221	191140H	Spot report: OP reported light to medium activity at XD802459.	
				Fired 3 rds Arty w/ 2 rds on target. No further activity noted.	FR
1215		222	191150H	I2 to HF: Have the Maj. working with the 2 watch 1021. 3 vehicles moving S. at 20 KPH. Request the Major's presence back at Saigon A341.	FS

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From 19 Mar to 21 Mar.

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IN	OUT	SERIALS	TIME	IN. MESSAGE, MESSAGE, ORDER.	ACTION
1720	223	191700H	HF to I: SITREP # 206.	FR	
1743	224	192700H	HF to I: INTSUM # 79.	FR	
2300	225	192300H	HF to I: SITREP # 207.	FR	
0010	226	192100H	HF to HFX: Resuonics received 19 Mar.	FX	
0105	227	200105H	I2 to HF: (via LL) medium sensor readings from 0508 and 1025.	FST	
0500	228	200500H	HF to I: SITREP # 208.	FR	
1110	229	201100H	HF to I: SITREP # 209.	FR	
1135	230	201130H	HF to I: Night activities for 20 Mar; and day activities for 21 Mar.	FR	
1140	231	201138H	HF to I: Ref Spt rpt 191100H: checked area with negative results.	FR	
1700	232	201700H	HF to I: SITREP # 210.	FR	
1710	233	201700H	HF to I: INTSUM # 80.	FR	
2133	234	202128H	HF to I: Subj: intent to lay minefields at XD821444.	FR	
2300	235	202300H	HF to I: SITREP # 211.	FR	
2355	236	202335H	Spot report: OP spotted 15 to 20 lights at XD813453 moving N-S. H&I's will be fired.	FR	
0210	237	210152H	Spot report: Ref 202335H: Arty H&I's fired w/good target coverage.	FR	
			No lights observed at this time.	FR	

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From 21 Mar. to 22 Mar.

IN	OUT	SERIAL	FR	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS.	ACTION
	0500	238	210500H	HF to I: SITREP # 212.	FR
	0608	239	210550H	Spot report: OP reported heavy movement at XD809453, arty mission fired w/good target coverage.	FR
	1105	240	211100H	HF3 to I3: Commencing mine fields.	FR
	1117	241	211115H	HF to I: Night activities for 21 Mar; day activities for 22 Mar.	FR
	1120	242	211117H	HF to I: SITREP # 213.	FR
	1435	243	211430H	HF 3 to I3: Minefield at XD821444 was completed at 211400H.	FR
1700		244	211700H	I to all stations: Heavy Arty expected 22 Mar.	FST
	1705	245	211700H	HF to I: SITREP # 214.	FR
	1715	246	211700H	HF to I: INTSUM # 81.	FR
2135		247	212135H	OP detected medium movement with sensor devices at XD783493 and XD771496.	FS
	2300	248	212300H	HF to I: SITREP # 215.	FR
	0315	249	220240H	Spot report: Spotted red lights at XD823424, Arty fired w/excellent target coverage. Will continue to observe.	FR
0315		250	220315H	I FSCC to HF FSCC: Troop movement detected at XD838448, Fired Arty w/good target coverage.	FSR

2d Bn, 26th Marines Journal

From 22 Mar. to 22 Mar.

CONFIDENTIAL

IN	OUT	SERIAL#	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGE, ORDERS.	ACTION
	0400	251	220316H	Spot report; OP detected enemy movement at XD823464, Arty fired and enemy activity increased considerably; Spooky called on station.	FR
	0500	252	220500H	HF to I: SITREP # 216.	FR
	0525	253	220430H	Spot report; Ref to 220316H; prior to arrival of Spooky, message received from I FSCC indicated troop movement at XD817467, simultaneously HF OP indicated enemy movement continued to increase.	FR
	0531	254	220515H	Spot report; Ref to 22040H; No further lights observed.	FR
	0617	255	220445H	Spot report; Received 1 enemy rd believed to be 82mm. G-5100 suffered slight shrapnel wounds of the left knee and left forearm. Man will be taken to BAS at first light. Will continue to observe area.	FR
	0625	256	220545H	Spot report; Ref to 220430H; Spooky returned to area for B&I fires. OP observed good target coverage.	FR
	1103	257	221100H	HF to I: Night activities for 22 Mar; day activities for 23 Mar.	FR
	1109	258	221105H	HF to I: SITREP # 217.	FR
	1126	259	221117H	Spot report; OP observed 2 camouflaged holes, possibly tunnel entrance or cave, at XD812453. 106 fired 1 rd. Target destroyed.	FR
1210		260	221204H	OP reported activity at XD823464. 81's alerted for possible mission.	FR

2d BN, 25th Marines Journal

From 22 Mar to 23 Mar.

CONFIDENTIAL

IN	OUT	SERIAL	TIME	INCIDENTS, MESSAGE, ORDERS.	ACTION
	1240	261	221210H	HF to I: Addition to day activities.	FR
	1330	262	221250H	HF to I: OP-4 observed 6 persons wearing helmets at XD836433, will keep area under observation.	FR
	1700	263	221700H	HF to I: SITREP # 218.	FR
	1715	264	221700H	HF to I: INTSUM # 82.	FR
1838		265	221838H	I to HF: Password codes.	FST
2107		266	222107H	I to all stations: Ground attack on Khe Sanh Combat Base probable, heavy action reported in front of ARNN position. Recommend alert.	FST
	2254	267	222215H	Spot report: OP observed lights at XD809441; fired 1 rd 106, light extinguished.	FR
	2300	268	222215H	Spot report: Sensor detected movement at XD823464, Arty fired with good coverage of target.	FR
	2308	269	222300H	HF to I: SITREP # 219.	FR
	2326	270	222310H	Spot report: OP reported sensor detected heavy movement at XD827467.	FR
0330		271	230300H	I to all stations: Secret Intelligence report # 5.	FS
	0500	272	230500H	HF to I: SITREP # 220.	FR
	1124	273	231100H	HF to I: SITREP # 221.	FR

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2d Bn, 26th Marines Journal

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From 23 Mar. to 24 Mar.

IN	OUT	SERIAL#	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS.	ACTION
	1124	274	231123H	Spot report: Marine was burned by gasoling, investigation will be conducted.	FR
	1135	275	231130H	HF to I: Night activities for 23 Mar; day activities for 24 Mar.	FR
	1205	276	231150H	HF to I: AO observed trench at XD815455.	FR
	1228	277	231145H	HF to HFX: Casualty report; E-3584 has 2d degree burns from gasoline. FI	
	1430	278	231335H	Spot report: OP observed 2 small secondaries and 1 large secondary caused by arc-lights from XD800458 to XD813474.	FR
	1700	279	231700H	HF to I: SITREP # 222.	FR
	1705	280	231700H	HF to I: INTSUM # 83.	FR
	2130	281	232114H	HF to I: Will commence to lay minefields at 240730H at XD827444, 125 X 40 meters. Estimate completion at 251400H.	FR
	2300	282	232300H	HF to I: SITREP # 223.	FR
	0500	283	240500H	HF to I: SITREP # 224.	FR
	0610	284	240545H	Spot report: Sensors picked up movement at XD802459. Arty fired with good target coverage.	FR
	1120	285	241100H	HF to I: SITREP # 225.	FR

2d Bn, 26th Marine Journal

From 24 Mar. to 25 Mar.

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IN	OUT	SERIALS	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS.	ACTION
	1121	286	241100H	HF to I: Night activities for 24 Mar; day activities for 25 Mar.	FR
	1122	287	241109H	HF to I: Commencement of minefield.	FR
	1625	288	241610H	Spot report: 2 NVA seen at XD812464. Airstrike run with unknown results.	FR
	1715	289	241700H 26	HF to I: INTSUM # 84.	FR
1845		290	241843H	I to HF: Anticipate Arty during night of 24 Mar.	FST
	1847	291	241700H	HF to I: SITREP # 226.	FR
2215		292	242215H	I to HF: L/3/26 patrol cancelled for 25 March 68, 1/9 activities remain the same as 23 March 68.	FS
	2220	293	242205H	HF to I: OP observed light moving SE at XD793464.	FR
	2300	294	242300H	HF to I: SITREP # 227.	FR
	0150	295	250130H	Spot report: OP at XD820451 detected medium to heavy movement at XD801197. Fired Arty mission with good target coverage.	FR
0236		296	250230H	I to HF: Medium troop movement reported at 8246 by I2.	FST
	0511	297	250500H	HF to I: SITREP # 228.	FR
	1115	298	251100H	HF to I: SITREP # 229.	FR

2d Bn, 26th Marines

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IN	OUT	SERIAL#	DIG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGE, ORDER.	ACTION
	1140	299	251100H	HF to I: night acts for 25 March & day acts for 26 March	FR
	1311H	300	251311H	HF to I: Minefield completed at XD 827444.	FR
1420		301	251322H	I to HF: 8 vehicles moving north at 190457	FS
	1700	302	251700H	HF to I: Sitrep # 230	FR
	1705	303	251700H	HF to I: Intsum 85	FR
	1945	304	251935H	HF to IP Spt Rept: Sensor detected movement at 002459 & 005456.	FR
				Arty man fired with unkn. results.	
	2300	305	252300H	HF to I: Sitrep # 231	FR
	2331	306	252300H	HF to I: Spt Rept: Sensors detected movement at 002459.	FR
	0502	307	260500H	HF to I: Sitrep # 232.	FR
0950		308	260930H	I to HF: Recommend increased alertness due to repts indicating Arty attack.	FS
	1045	309	261045H	HF to I: night acts 26 March and day acts for 27 March	FR
	1105	310	261100H	HF to I: Sitrep # 233	FR
	1150	311	261113H	HF to HFX: Cadillac Rept	FR

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24 BM, 26th Marines

IN	OUT	SERIAL	MSG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGE, ORDER.	ACTION
1700	312	262700H	HP to I- Sitrep # 234		FR
1705	313	262700H	HP to I- Sitrep # 86		FR
2115	314	262700H	HP to I- Sit Reptr GP detected movement at 802150, 805157, & 808154. Fired arty men with good coverage.		FR
2125	315	262730H	HP to I- Sit Reptr GP detected movement at 802164. Arty men fired with good coverage.		FR
2300	316	262730H	HP to I- Sitrep # 235		FR
0457	317	260457H	HP to I- Sitrep # 236		FR
1113	318	271100H	HP to I- night note for 27 March & day note for 28 March		FR
1115	319	271100H	HP to I- Sitrep # 237		FR
1700	320	271700H	HP to I- Sitrep # 238		FR
1705	321	271700H	HP to I- Sitrep # 87		FR
1815	322	271815H	I to HP warning of possible attack		FR
2251	323	272230H	HP to I. Spt Reptr GP detected movement at 800160. Arty fired resulted in 1 secondary explosion.		FR

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From 27 Mar. to 28 Mar.

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IN	OUT	SERIAL#	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS.	ACTION
	2300	324	272300H	HF to I: SITREP # 239.	FR
0218		325	280213H	I to HF: Spotlight report; 5X tracked vehicle at XD77765008 at 271729H.	
				AO and flareship on station. SLAR aircraft requested.	FS
	0337	326	280335H	Spot report; OP detected movement at XD808454. Arty was fired with	
				good target coverage.	FSR
	0502	327	280500H	HF to I: SITREP # 240.	FR
	1055	328	281050H	HF to I: Night activities for 28 Mar; day activities for 29 Mar.	FR
	1140	329	281100H	HF to I: SITREP # 241.	FR
	1140	330	281130H	Spot report; Observed external load dropped from chopper in vic of	
				XD813444.	FR
	1403	331	281236H	Spot report; OP observed 2 secondary explosions resulting from air	
				strikes at XD815468.	FRS
	1700	332	281700H	HF to I: SITREP # 242.	FR
	1705	333	281700H	HF to I: INTSUM # 88.	FR
	2312	334	282300H	HF to I: SITREP # 243.	FR
	2320	335	282250H	Spot report; OP at XD820451 detected movement at XD803494. Arty was	
				fired with good target coverage.	FR

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From 29 Mar. to 29 Mar.

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IN	OUT	SERIAL	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	ACTION
	0502	336	290500H	HF to I: SITREP # 244.	FR
	0730	337	290604H	Spot report: Received 7 high velocity rds at XD827448. Muzzle flashes observed in vic of XD836458. Arty fired with unknown results.	FR
	0945	338	290604H	Spot report: Ref Spot Rpt DTG 290604H: results of crater analysis: found several pieces of shrapnel, impact indicated a high velocity direct fire round from the north.	FRS
	1045	339	291045H	HF to HFX: Cadillac report.	FX
	1050	340	291000H	Spot report: Found 2 strands of wire had been cut at XD818450. will utilize Starlight Scope next few nights.	FR
	1115	341	291100H	HF to I: SITREP # 245.	FR
	1130	342	291100H	HF to I: Night activities for 29 Mar; day activities for 30 Mar.	FR
	1315	343	291145H	HF to I: Casualty report: G-5100 Roll off waterfall while on water run injured left knee, priority medevac to C Med. Prognosis good, condition good.	FRX
	1700	344	291700H	HF to I: SITREP # 246.	FR
	1710	345	291700H	HF to I: INTSUM # 89.	FR

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From 29 Mar. to 30 Mar.

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IN	OUT	SERIAL#	DIG	INCIDENTS MESSAGES, ORDERS.	ACTION
	2301	346	292245H	Spot Report: OP at XD820451 detected movement at XD805457, Arty fired with good target coverage.	FR
	2305	347	292300H	HF to I: SITREP # 247.	FR
0630		348	200630H	I to HF: Additional frequencies for SID's to read in 106mm and 81mm frequencies.	FS
	0632	349	300500H	HF to I: SITREP # 248.	FR
1000		350	301000H	I to all stations: By 311200H all Plt CO's and Plt Sgt's will be able to call in and adjust Arty fire. All units notify HQ when above has been accomplished.	FST
	1025	351	301015H	HF to I: Night activities for 30 Mar; day activities for 31 Mar.	FR
	1100	352	301100H	HF to I: SITREP # 249.	FR
	1230	353	301230H	HF to I: In ref to msg DTG 301000H; this has been accomplished by this battalion.	FR
	1302	354	301240H	Spot Report: OP observed fizzle, like burning powder followed by a large secondary explosion, also large tunnel or cave was caved in due to airstrike at XD823456. More air requested.	FR
	1555	355	301555H	HF to I: Msg regarding patrol.	FR

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IN	OUT	SERIAL#	MO	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS.	ACTION
	1715	356	301700H	HF to I: Sitrep # 250	FR
	2300	357	302300H	HF to I: Sitrep # 251	FR
0348		358	310347H	I2 to HF: general offensive expected throughout Vietnam. (Via LL)	FS
	0503	359	310500H	HF to I: Sitrep # 252	FR
0800		360	310800H	Operation SCOTLAND terminated	FS
0801		361	310800H	Operation PEGASUS commences	FS
	1100	362	311100H	HF to I: Sitrep # 253	FR
1130		363	311130H	HFX to HF: Battalion count of USMC and USN.	FS
	1150	364	311150H	HF to I: night acts for 31 Mar. day acts for 1 April	FR
	1255	365	311250H	HF to I: Reg codes.	FR
	1330	366	311300H	HF to I: Task Organization.	FR
	1331	367	311300H	HF to I: OPSTAT 30	FR
	1445	368	311445H	HF to I: 3 rds received from friendly aircraft at XD 824452.	FR
	1500	369	311500H	HF to I: Sitrep # 254	FR
	1700	370	311700H	HF to I: Intsum # 91	FR

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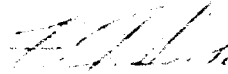
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b. Command Posts

- (1) Battalion CP: XD 822118.
- (2) Report company command post locations and any changes at they occur.

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT
F. J. HEATHLieutenant Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps
Commanding

ANNEXES:

- ~~A-~~ Operation Overlay
- ✓B- Intelligence
- ✓C- Fire Support Coordination
- ✓D- Antismchanized Plan
- ✓E- Communication-Electronics

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TAB-13

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 2d Battalion, 26th Marines
 KHE SANH, Vietnam
 131325H March 1968

Annex B (Intelligence) to Operation Order 5-68

- Ref: (a) Map: VIETNAM, AMS Series L7014, Sheet 6342 I
 (b) Map: VIETNAM, AMS Series L7014, Sheet 6342 II
 (c) Map: VIETNAM, AMS Series L7014, Sheet 6342 III
 (d) OO, 26th Mar ltr 02/JEN/twy over 3821 dtd 02 Feb 68 ser 00101-68
 (e) Bno 3800 (Intelligence SOP)

Time Zone: H

1. SUMMARY OF ENEMY SITUATION

- a. See current intelligence estimate, reference (d).
- b. See intelligence summaries (INTSUM) and periodic and special intelligence reports as published.

2. ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION

- a. Determine what sized enemy forces are located within 2/26's AO. What are their unit designations? What is the current disposition of these units?
- b. Determine if the enemy will reinforce elements now located in 2/26's AO. If so, when? In what strength? What is the reinforcing time? From which direction will the reinforcing element(s) come?
- c. Determine if the 2d Battalion, 26th Marines is threatened by a ground attack. If so, when can this attack be expected? From what direction will the attack come from? Will the attack be supported by armor? If so, in what strength?
- d. Determine the enemy assembly areas, avenues of approach and trail networks. How does the enemy conceal them? Where are they located?
- e. Determine the nature of the enemy defensive positions. What material does he use in the construction of his bunker and tunnel complexes?
- f. Determine the type warning devices, trail markers and booby trap markers used by the enemy forces. How are they designed? Where are they located?

B-1

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To: B. B. B.

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3. INTELLIGENCE ACQUISITION TASKS

a. Orders to subordinate and attached units.

(1) Infantry companies

- (a) As directed, conduct limited reconnaissance patrols within each company zone of action.
- (b) Provide personnel for training in the operation of the PP3-6, Seismic Intrusion Device (SID) and/or any other sensor devices received by this Command.
- (c) Provide this Headquarters (Attn: S-2), on a continuing basis, recommended methods of employment of the devices mentioned in paragraph (b), above.
- (d) Maximum efforts should be made at all times to take prisoners.
- (e) Discovery of a bunker or tunnel complex will result in a complete report concerning same, to include a diagram with dimensions, construction material and any other item of significance.
- (f) Submit all scout/sniper reports to this Headquarters (Attn: S-2).

(2) Attached units

- (a) Artillery forward observers at all times, when the tactical situation permits, will conduct a crater analysis of enemy mortar, artillery and rocket fire.
- (b) Scout/snipers when recording either a confirmed or probable kill, will submit to the company that they are attached, a verbal report. The report will include a full account of the incident with a list of witnesses.

b. Requests to higher, adjacent and supporting units.

(1) Commander, 26th Marines

- (a) Provide aerial photography as requested.
- (b) Provide, on a daily basis a current weather forecast.
- (c) Provide a monthly astronomical data sheet.
- (d) On an as required basis, provide and arrange for aerial visual reconnaissance.

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- (e) Furnish information concerning all enemy movement with particular emphasis on vehicular traffic, when obtained.
- (f) Provide all information concerning the enemy forces which could affect the mission of the 2d Battalion, 26th Marines.

4. MEASURES FOR HANDLING PERSONNEL, DOCUMENTS AND MATERIAL.

- a. Prisoners of war, deserters, detainees and any other indigenous personnel shall be handled in accordance with reference (e).
- b. Captured documents and material shall be handled in accordance with reference (e).

5. DOCUMENTS AND/OR EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

- a. References (a), (b) and (c) are designated as the standard maps for this operation.
- b. Maps and charts will be issued as available in accordance with the standard distribution, as set forth in reference (e).
- c. Aerial photography will be provided and requested in accordance with reference (e).

6. COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

- a. Reference (e) applies.
- b. All units shall safeguard the challenge and password.

7. REPORTS AND DISTRIBUTION

- a. Intelligence summaries (INTSUMS) will be submitted on a 24 hour basis, e.g., 011700H to 021700H.
- b. Other intelligence reports will be submitted as the situation dictates.

8. MISCELLANEOUS INSTRUCTIONS

- a. All units should, on a continuing basis, make every attempt to capture a prisoner.
- b. Tactical units should report all instances when weather and/or terrain affects the accomplishment of their mission.

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- c. Companies on a minimum of twice daily should conduct a defensive wire check within the boundaries of their zone of action.
- d. During the course of a normal helicopter resupply, troops on the lines should be alerted to be watchful for muzzle flashes.
- e. Caution should be exercised when an unknown type explosive and/or warning device is found. Report location to the S-2 and mark the round.

F. J. Heath
F. J. HEATH
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps
Commanding

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KHE SANH, Vietnam
131325H March 1968

Annex C (Fire Support Coordination) to Operation Order 5-68

Ref: (a) Map: VIETNAM 1:50,000 Series 17014 Sheet 6342 III

- (b) Rules of Engagement
- (c) FMFM 7-1

Time Zone: H

Task Organization

FSCC

Lt MOREY

FSCC Section, "B" Btry, 1st Bn 13th Mar
Det H&S Co
Det Comm Plat (TACP)
FSCC Section, 81mm Mortar Plat
ALO and FAC

1. SITUATION

a. Enemy Forces. (See current INTSOMS and SITREPS)

b. Friendly Forces

- (1) Artillery. 1st Battalion 13th Marines and 1st Provisional 155 Howitzer Btry, 3d Bn, 12th Marines G.S.
- (2) Air. 1st MAW provides fixed wing and helicopter support.
- (3) 81mm Mortar Platoon. General Support
- (4) 106mm Recoilless Rifle Platoon. Direct Support.
- (5) 50 Caliber M.G. Direct Support.

2. MISSION

The Battalion fire support coordination center (FSCC) will exercise overall responsibility for planning, coordinating, and controlling all fires supporting the elements of the Battalion, thereby ensuring maximum effective fire support and troop safety to all units throughout the operating area.

3. EXECUTION

a. Concept of Operations. Fire Support coordination will be in accordance with reference (c).

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Tab B provided

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- b. FSCC Section, "B" Btry, 1st Bn 13th Marines. Assume responsibility for coordination of all supporting fires within the Battalion's zone of action. Be prepared to coordinate firing into adjacent unit's zones of action and targets of opportunity and suspected targets affecting the safety of the Battalion.
- c. FSCC Section 81mm Mortar Platoon. Control all fires from 81mm Mortar Platoon under cognizance of the fire support coordinator.
- d. ALO and FAC. Control all fixed wing and helicopter support under cognizance of the fire support coordinator.

4. TARGET INFORMATION

- a. Target List. A target list will be maintained by the Battalion Intelligence Officer. This list will be utilized in the planning of H and I fires for the Battalion.
- b. Restricted Targets. Specific restricted targets, if any, will be designated on the Battalion S-2 target list.

5. AIRCRAFT SAFETY

- a. Air Sentries and Lookouts
 - (1) Air sentries will be positioned at 81mm mortar and 50 caliber firing areas, and will check fire when friendly aircraft are observed approaching danger areas.
 - (2) Artillery and 81mm mortar forward observers will check fire when it appears that the trajectories of artillery and mortar fires will endanger friendly aircraft.
- b. Flak Suppression Fires. As required flak suppression fires will be planned to be fired by the 106mm Recoilless Rifle Platoon and the 50 Caliber machine gun.
- c. Restrictive Fire Plan. There is no restrictive fire plan in effect in the Khe Sanh area.

6. Defensive Fire Plan. See appendix (1)

7. Safety of Ground Forces

- (a) No-Fire Line. No-fire lines are delineated by the boundaries of adjacent units.

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8. COMMAND and COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRONICS

- (a) (1) Annex B (Communications-Electronics).
- (2) Artillery missions will be called on the artillery COF net.
- (3) 81mm mortar missions will be called in on the 81mm mortar COF net.
- (4) Air support will be run on the TACP local net.
- (5) 106 Recoilless Rifle and 50 caliber MG support will be run on the Battalion tac net or wire communication.
- (b) Command posts. The command post will be located in the battalion CP;
XB 822448

F. J. HEATH
Lt Col, U.S. Marine Corps
Commanding

Appendices:

1 - Defensive Fire Plan

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C-3

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KHE SANH, Vietnam
151000H March 1968

Annex D (Antimechanized Plan) to Operation Order 5-68

Ref: (a) Hqpt: VIETNAM 1:50,000 Sheet 6342 III
(b) CO Third MARDIV 170511Z Feb 68
(c) CO Third MARDIV 190723Z Feb 68

Time Zone: H

1. SITUATION

a. Enemy Forces

- (1) Hqpt and REINFORCEMENTS as issued.
- (2) The NVA Order of Battle shows two Armored Regiments. The 202nd has approximately forty (40) T-34/85 and forty (40) PT-76 vehicles, and the 203rd which has a like number of T-34/85 and T-54 vehicles. Present location of the enemy Armored Regiments is unknown.
- (3) The enemy has the capability of employing his entire force or any part of it against the units in and around the KSCB. His advantage in employing this capability appears to be most noticeably in areas where he could mass a sufficient number of the vehicles, secretly, to overrun friendly outposts.

b. Friendly Forces. Operation Order 5-68

2. MISSION. 2d Battalion, 26th Marines (Rein) exert maximum effort to detect, delay and destroy enemy mechanized forces. Prevent enemy penetration of the Battalion perimeter.

3. EXECUTION

a. Concept of operation

- (1) Antimechanized defenses are planned to cover likely avenues of armor approach. The enemy also has the capability to employ mechanized forces over less than ideal terrain.
- (2) Early detection of enemy mechanized units is essential. All ground ops conduct continuous surveillance of the avenues of approach in their sector of the defensive perimeter in order to detect enemy mechanized forces.
- (3) Maximum use will be made of natural and artificial obstacles to facilitate the delay and/or destruction of enemy mechanized forces by canalizing them into fields of fire of antimechanized weapons.

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b. Co E (Rein)
OPCON 1/26c. Co F (Rein)

- (1) Control anti-tank fires within zone of action.
- (2) Establish anti-tank minefield at XD 822152. See Appendix 1 (Barrier Plan).
- (3) Establish antimechanized defense in assigned defensive sector.
- (4) Construct additional artificial antimechanized obstacles in assigned sector of the defensive perimeter as required.
- (5) Be prepared to assist in repelling antimechanized attacks in other sectors of the defensive perimeter, on order.

d. Co G (Rein)

- (1) Control anti-tank fires within zone of action.
- (2) Establish antimechanized defense in assigned defensive sector.
- (3) Construct additional artificial antimechanized obstacles in assigned sector of the defensive perimeter as required.
- (4) Be prepared to assist in repelling antimechanized attacks in other sectors of the defensive perimeter, on order.

e. Co H (Rein)

- (1) Control anti-tank fires within zone of action.
- (2) Establish anti-tank minefield at XD 825144. See Appendix 1 (Barrier Plan).
- (3) Improve large bomb craters, within a range of 100 meters from the front lines, into tank traps. Use C-4 and duds for improving existing craters.
- (4) Establish antimechanized defense in assigned defensive sector.
- (5) Construct additional artificial antimechanized obstacles in assigned sector of the defensive perimeter as required.
- (6) Be prepared to assist in repelling antimechanized attacks in other sectors of the defensive perimeter, on order.

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f. 106 mm Platoon

- (1) Establish gun positions as follows:

No. 1	81924502	No. 4	82304449
No. 2	82004486	No. 5	82154505
No. 3	82274450	No. 6	82314451

Maintain guns 7 and 8 in reserve to replace damaged weapons or be employed as directed.

- (2) Gun numbers 4 and 6 cover the armored approach from the south, while guns 1 and 5 cover the avenue of approach from the north. Gun 2 and 3 be prepared to engage armor approaching from the south on order.
 - (3) Direct Support of rifle companies.
 - (4) Be prepared to engage targets as assigned by COC.
 - (5) Orient each weapon toward the major avenue of armored approach within sector of fire.
 - (6) Conduct extensive training and gun drill to improve proficiency. Actual live fire training will be based on ammunition availability.
- g. Bn Reserve. Be prepared to assist in antimechanized defense operation in any sector, on order.

h. Coordinating Instructions

- (1) Each rifle company will maintain surveillance over all avenues of approach within assigned sector for possible enemy armored attacks.
- (2) A training program on the use of the LAAM and 3.5 Rocket Launcher will be conducted within each company, including the Provisional Platoon.
- (3) Enemy armor will be engaged as soon as it is within range of the 106mm RE.
- (4) Submit recommendations for anti-tank minefields on request of the S-3.
- (5) The early warning signal for the approach of enemy armor will be one full minute of clanging on a metal rim. The all clear will be passed by land line or radio.

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(6) Antiaircraft warning (Tank Alert) conditions are contained in ref (b) and will be promulgated separately.

(7) This plan effective for planning upon receipt, execution on order.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS. Operation Order 5-68.

5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRONICS. Annex B (Comm-Elect).

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F. J. HEATH
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps
Commanding

Appendixes:

✓ 1 - Barrier Plan

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Appendix 1 (Barrier Plan) to Annex D (Antimechanized Plan) to Operation Order 5-68

Ref: (a) Map: VIETNAM 1:50,000 Sheet 6342 III
 (b) FMFM 6-5, Marine Rifle Squad
 (c) FMFM 6-4, Marine Rifle Company/Platoon

1. GENERAL

- a. This appendix contains instruction for construction of a coordinated series of obstacles forward of the defensive perimeter to delay or canalize enemy movement; within the perimeter area to limit penetrations; to provide a degree of flank protection; and to canalize the enemy into areas favorable to the defender. The intent is to slow or stop enemy movements in order to hold him in planned fields of fire for maximum periods of time.
- b. All grass will be cleared and burned before any of the below obstacles are installed.
- c. All obstacles will be covered by fire, and closely coordinated with the defensive fire plan.

2. BARBED WIRE

- a. Barbed wire obstacles will be constructed within each company's sector of the perimeter. Protective wire obstacles will be constructed first, in accordance with below instructions. Tactical and supplementary wire may be laid, upon approval of the Company Wire Plan, based on availability of materials.
- b. A series of protective fences will be constructed.
 - (1) The first protective obstacle will be a triple concertina fence constructed approximately 30 meters from from line positions. Ensure straight wire is utilized through the concertina wire in order to reduce crushing action on the wire.
 - (2) The second protective obstacle will be a combination obstacle. It will consist of a double apron fence with a German standing fence in between. Punji pits and tangle wire can be placed in the cells of the German standing fence in order to improve the effectiveness of the obstacle. This obstacle should be placed approximately 10 meters beyond the initial concertina fence.

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- (3) The third protective obstacle will be a triple concertina fence. It will be so located as to allow minefields and other obstacles to be placed between it and the combination fence. This obstacle may be improved with additional concertina and/or a double apron fence on both sides of the concertina.
- (4) Additional wire obstacles will be constructed as materials become available.
- c. Adequate openings will be left in all barbed wire obstacles in order to allow movement of security elements and patrols outside the perimeter.
- d. Tactical and supplementary wire may be laid upon approval of the operations officer, based on availability of materials.
- e. Internal protective wire in the form of triple concertina wire will be established southeast of the primary LZ, behind the BAS, COC and CO's bunkers. The CO, H&S Company will have the responsibility of laying this obstacle.

3. MINEFIELDS

- a. Each company will train and provide personnel for laying AT and AP minefields. References (b) and (c) should be used for training personnel. Minefield record forms will be turned in to the Battalion S-3 and subsequently forwarded to higher HQ.
- b. The following AP minefields will be laid:

Emplacing unit	Location	Size
Co F	822452	40 x 25 meters *
Co F	822451	100 x 30 meters
Co F	820453	100 x 30 meters
Co G	819448	50 x 30 meters
Co G	820447	60 x 30 meters
Co G	822446	50 x 30 meters
Co H	824444	100 x 30 meters
Co H	827443	150 x 60 meters *

* indicates AT mines included.

- c. Company Commanders will be prepared to recommend locations for new AP or AP and AT minefields upon request of the operations officer. New minefields will be established as mines become available.

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4. ELECTRONICS DEVICES

- a. Seismic intrusion devices (SID's) will be emplaced at XD 819445 and XD 823442. Locations for other SID's will be based on recommendation of the company commanders to the S-2/S-3, when the devices become available.
- b. The three personnel surveillance radar sets (PPS-6) will be located at XD 82324520; 82154475; 8244443. Additional sets will be utilized when available based on recommendations from company commanders to the S-2 and S-3.
- c. Personnel previously trained in the functioning of the above devices will be used to operate, as well as train additional personnel operation of the equipment.

5. OTHER EQUIPMENT

- a. Gasoline and barbed wire explosive devices will be prepared by the engineers and placed as follows:
 - (1) Gasoline device: XD 819448; 822447; 822444; 827447; 825448; 822452.
 - (2) Barbed wire device: XD 820448; 827444; 822451; 823451.
 - (3) Detonation of these devices is delegated to the company commander in whose area they are located. Additional devices of this type will be employed based on availability of material.
- b. Riot Control gas dispensers will be placed along the defensive perimeter as part of the defensive barrier. The authority to use riot control gas will remain with the Battalion Commander.
- c. A line marker system utilizing aircraft flares and half a 55 gallon drum, dirt and a combination of gasoline and diesel fuel will be established. At least two drums, and two aircraft flares will be placed along the front lines of each rifle platoon. Instructions for placing and ignition of the aircraft flares are available upon request from Lt. Riordan, the S-3 Liaison officer.

6. TANK OBSTACLES

- a. A series of tank ditches will be constructed in the Company H defensive sector by either improving bomb craters or blasting new holes. These holes will be improved into proper tank ditches. The first of these ditches will be located at XD 824444.

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- b. Anti-tank minefields will be located at XD 822452 and 825444. Additional AT minefields will be established as mines become available.
- c. Artificial antimechanized obstacles will be constructed as desired. Report locations of artificial obstacles to the Bn S-3.

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031525H March 1968

Annex E (Communications-Electronics) to Operation Order 5-68

Ref: (a) DIVO P2000.4G Comm SOP 3d MARDIV
(b) DIVO PO 2000.2 COI 3d MARDIV
(c) KAC-QX

Time Zone: H

1. SITUATION

- a. Enemy Forces. Operation Order 5-68
- b. Friendly Forces. Operation Order 5-68
- c. Attachments and Detachments.

(1) On 19 Jan 68 attach radio relay team from 26th Marines.

2. MISSION

To provide continuous communication within the Battalion, between Regiment and Battalion, and between supporting arms and the Battalion.

3. EXECUTION.

- a. Communications Platoon, HES Company, 2d Battalion, 26th Marines.

- (1) On 181200H Jan 68 provide adequate personnel for the establishment of internal and external CP communications in proximity of Hill 558.
- (2) Provide adequate personnel for installation and operation of communications in Battalion rear.
- (3) Be prepared initially to establish and maintain Radio communications.
- (4) Be prepared on order to lay internal and external communication wire lines and establish switching centrals.
- (5) On order be prepared to provide voice secure communications with Regiment and the Battalion Rear.
- (6) Furnish forward air controllers as required to separate companies.

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b. Radio Relay Team

- (1) Provide gear and operators to establish 4 channels of communication between this Battalion and Regiment.

c. Coordinating Instructions**(1) Communication Center**

- (a) Cryptographic Instruction. No change.
- (b) Authentication in accordance with reference (c).
- (c) Formal records and logs will be maintained with message center in Battalion Rear.
- (d) Traffic pickup will be made daily at Regiment.
- (e) Message traffic will be delivered from Rear to Forward by courier.

(2) Messenger Service

- (a) Letter companies will provide messengers as required.

(3) Radio

- (a) Tactical radio call signs in accordance with reference (b).
- (b) Assigned frequencies will be adhered to.
- (c) Interference will be reported immediately to Battalion Communication Officer.
- (d) Appendix 1 (Radio Plan).

(4) Wire

- (a) Appendix 2 (Wire-Radio Relay Plan)

(5) Wire-Radio Relay

- (a) Appendix 2 (Wire-Radio Relay Plan)

(6) Visual and Sound. No change.

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- (7) Complaints arising will be brought to the attention of the Communication Officer and not to the operators.
- (8) Resupply of Batteries and/or accessories will be handled on a one for one basis through the communication platoon.
- (9) A call must be broken down by the initiating party at the conclusion of the conversation.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

A. Operation Order 5-68



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Appendixes:

- ✓ 1 - Radio Plan
- ✓ 2 - Wire-Radio Relay Plan

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Appendix 1 (Radio Plan) to Annex E (Communications-Electronics) to Operation Order 5-68

Ref: (a) Divo P2000.4C Comm SOP 3d MAR 68
(b) Divo P02000.2 COI 3d MAR 68

1. GENERAL

- a. This appendix contains information pertaining to the various nets and the using units within the Battalion.
- b. Also included are the current frequencies, mike designators, and stations required on nets.
- c. Since the above information contains secret information, it will be propagated separately.

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