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HEADQUARTERS

2d Battalion, 26th Marines, BMF
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

3/DOB/mep
5750
8 Feb 1970
Ser: 003803970
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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, 26th Marine Regiment

Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1 January to 31 January 1970

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.1____
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8____
(c) DivO 5750.2____
(d) RegtO 5750.1____

Encl: (1) 2d Battalion, 26th Marines Command Chronology

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

D. L. Murphy
D. L. MURPHY

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2nd BN/26TH MAR

END CHRON

2 JAN 1970

HEADQUARTERS
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APO, San Francisco, 96602

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 January to 31 January

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

2d Battalion, 26th Marines	Lt Col	W.C. DRUMRIGHT	1-26 Jan
	Maj	D.L. HUMPHREY	26-31 Jan

SUBORDINATE UNITS

H&S Company	1stLt.	R. MACASKILL	1-31 Jan
E Company	Capt.	J.G. REYNAUD	1-18 Jan
	1stLt.	R.P. CHANGERY	18-22 Jan
	1stLt.	F.M. McDONOUGH	22-31 Jan
F Company	1stLt.	L.P. OAKES	1-31 Jan
G Company	1stLt.	S.T. WATNEY	1-28 Jan
	1stLt.	B.W. LOFTIN	28-31 Jan
H Company	Capt.	J.R. WRIGHT	1-18 Jan
	1stLt.	B.A. WARD	18-31 Jan

DIRECT SUPPORT UNITS

B Btry, 1st Bn, 13th Marines	Capt.	J.T. BOYER	1-31 Jan
Prov. Btry, 1st Bn, 13th Marines	1stLt.	R.F. ITNYRE	1-31 Jan

2. LOCATION

Bn Rear	1-31 Jan	(AT 942749)
Bn Command Post	1-31 Jan	(AT 944921)

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer	Major	D.H. LARSON	1-31 Jan
S-1/Adjutant	1stLt.	G.A. HOLT	1-31 Jan
Personnel Officer	2ndLt.	M.J. BEACHLER	1-31 Jan
S-2	2ndLt.	R.M. HERZFELD	1-22 Jan
	1stLt.	W.L. DENLEY	22-31 Jan
S-3	Major	E.O. BIERMAN	1-31 Jan

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ENCLOSURE (1)

S-4

Capt.
Capt.R.F. GORMAN
J.G. REYNAUD1-18 Jan
18-31 Jan

S-5

1stLt.
1stLt.
1stLt.A.J. LANKFORD III
W.F. LANGE
R.P. CHANGERY1-6 Jan
6-22 Jan
22-31 Jan4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTHUSMCOff

43

Enl

1030

Off

3

USNEnl

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the reporting period, the 2nd Battalion, 26th Marines was still established in the northernmost sector of the Division TAOR, the Area of Operations including HAI VAN PASS.

The Battalion Rear Command Post remained at the ROCKCRUSHER (AT 942747) throughout the period. The Battalion Forward Command Post remained at Hill 724 (AT 944920) overlooking HAI VAN PASS. Company E maintained its command post at LIEN CHIEU ESSO DEPOT (AT 937867). Company F maintained its command post at LANG CO BRIDGE (AT 886955). Company G colocated its command post with the Battalion Forward Command Post on Hill 724. Company H maintained its command post at Hill 88 (AU 807017).

The reporting period was marked by the completion of the Rifle Platoon Training Program and the return of four (4) full rifle companies to the field on 26 January. Increased ground activity was experienced as the enemy began probing and reconnoitering in preparation for his expected early February Lunar New Year Tet offensive. The DaNang-Hue train was derailed by command detonated mines on the 5th and 19th of January in harrassing actions.

The Battalion's activities, in furtherance of its defensive mission, were marked by continuous small-unit patrolling and ambushing. The Kingfisher package, a combined air-ground assault team directed against targets of opportunity in a chosen area of operations, was utilized by the Battalion on 25 January. While no enemy contact was experienced, the potential of the concept was easily recognized.

On 26 January, Major D.L. HUMPHREY relieved Lt. Col. DRUMRIGHT as Commanding Officer.

The close of the reporting period found the Battalion receiving increased activity around defensive positions. Organic resources were being redeployed to provide more close-in security for LOS BANOS FSB, LIEN CHIEU ESSO DEPOT and LANG CO BRIDGE, according to plan.

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ENCLOSURE (1)

PART III

LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. MISSIONS/OPERATIONSa. Major Operations

The 2d Battalion, 26th Marines participated in no major combat operations during the reporting period.

b. Command Relations

During the reporting period, the Battalion was under operational and administrative control of the 1st Marine Division and the 26th Marine Regiment.

c. Combat Missions Assigned

Provide security for lines of communications in the assigned Area of Operations in cooperation and coordination with Regional Forces, LOS BANOS Fire Support Base, and the LIEN CHIEN ESSO DEPOT; and conduct Category I Operations in populated areas as part of the Accelerated Pacification Campaign.

d. Command and Control

(1) Location of Command Posts throughout reporting period:

Battalion Command Post (Forward)	HAI VAN PASS	AT 944920
Battalion Command Post (Rear)	ROCKCRUSHER	AT 942749
	(Near DAI LA PASS)	
Company E	LIENCHIEU ESSO DEPOT	AT 937867
Company F	LANG CO BRIDGE	AT 885955
Company G	HAI VAN PASS	AT 944920
Company H	Hill 88	AU 807017

(2) Operational security of command and control was enhanced by the introduction of secure radio equipment on the Battalion administrative net on 20 January 1970.

e. Organic Operations

During the reporting period, the Battalion conducted:

Listening posts
Observation posts
Ambushes
Patrols

f. NBC Warfare

No NBC devices were used by or against the Battalion during the reporting period.

2. INTELLIGENCEa. Enemy Situation

- (1) At the beginning of the reporting period the enemy situation was somewhat obscure because of the lack of activity. The enemy concentrated efforts on gathering rice and supplies for the upcoming offensive, and avoided contact.
- (2) By the end of the reporting period, the intensity of enemy activity increased somewhat with several harrassing-type enemy initiated incidents. The movement, repositioning and build-up of enemy troops became evident as reports by friendly activities, surveillance devices, reconnaissance teams, and friendly indigenous personnel became more frequent. By the end of the reporting period, a pattern had developed which showed the enemy to be positioning elements of the Phu Loc Armed Battalion, the K4-B Battalion, Hai Van Engineers Battalion, T-87 Sapper Battalion and the C-31st Co. (Independent) in and around the Battalion Area of Operations for the expected early February Tet Offensive. The total enemy strength of these units and elements within the AO was estimated at 300-450 men, with a maximum of 750 men possible.

b. Enemy Initiated Incidents

- (1) On 5 January, the DaNang-Hue railroad track was blown at coordinates AT 858949 by command detonated charge, leaving a hole 6' x 4' in the road bed. The charge blew under the first flat car, causing the engine and the following flat car to deraill. A fire mission was called for the pursuing Regional Forces in the direction of the enemy retreat with unknown results.
- (2) On 9 January, S-2 Scouts killed 1 NVA at coordinates AU 825075 as he was moving Southeast. He was alone and was later identified as the Loc Tu Village VCI property and training chief. 11,000 Piastros and several documents were found on the body. The Scouts also captured 1 caliber .45 pistol and some 782 gear.
- (3) On 13 January a Company H listening post in the vicinity of Los Banos Fire Support Base heard movements to their front. Following the sounds they heard Vietnamese yelling and shouting about twenty meters away, behind a small knoll. The next morning they found that a claymore mine in front of their position had been turned around and aimed at their position.

- (4) On 14 January, the S-2 Scouts killed 1 VC at coordinates AU 820089 as he dried seaweed. The Scouts recovered a USSR first aid kit, watch, hammock, pills, and a syringe.
- (5) On 19 January, the DaNang-Hue railroad track was blown at coordinates AT 833982. The front two wheels of the engine were derailed. The charge was command detonated by an enemy OP approximately 75 meters to the West.
- (6) On 19 January, Regional Forces found a mine buried under the railroad tracks at coordinates AT 835979. The charge was approximately 13 lbs. of TNT, armed by an electric blasting cap. Two civilian flashlight batteries were buried with the mine. Regional Forces disarmed the mine.
- (7) On 22 January, an ambush from Company H killed 1 NVA and wounded one, at coordinates AU 805002.
- (8) On 23 January, a patrol from Company E spotted two enemy at coordinates AT 912898. They lost the enemy but found five crude rocket launchers. The launchers were carved out of logs elevated by engineer stakes. They were destroyed.
- (9) On 24 January, two RPG rounds were fired at the DaNang-Hue train, both rounds missing. One security guard was wounded by small arms fire that had accompanied the rockets. Four enemy were seen fleeing the site.
- (10) On 26 January, at AU 844042, a patrol from Company G found 3 spider holes and one tunnel with medical supplies, food and bloody bandages.
- (11) On 31 January, Company H found 100 lbs. of rice and two fire sites that had been used in the last 72 hours.

c. Enemy Losses

- (1) Returnees 0
- (2) Casualties 2 VC KIA, 1 NVA KIA
- (3) Captured Equipment:
 - 1 AK-47
 - 1 Caliber .45 pistol
 - 11,000 Piastres
 - 1 first aid kit
 - 1 watch (USSR)
 - 1 Claymore mine

2 AK-47 magazines
40 AK-47 rounds
1 canteen cover
2 syringes
1 bottle of pills
1 bag of medical supplies
100 lbs. of rice
 $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. of cheese
1 NVA Demolition Medal
1 Paymaster Pouch
1 Chinese Battle Dressing
1 NVA cartridge belt

d. Enemy Trends

- (1) Other than avoiding contact during this period, the VC/NVA tried to strengthen their offensive posture by positioning forces and reconnaissance of friendly positions. They have demonstrated their ability to blow the train tracks and seem to do so for harassment to the Government of Viet Nam, instead of trying to obtain any tactical advantage in the area.

e. Weather Conditions

- (1) During the first and second week of January, weather conditions from friendly operational standpoint were poor due to low ceilings, high winds and heavy fog. In the last half of the month, the weather began to improve, enabling infantry and air support activities to become more active and effective.

3. SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- 1 January At 1845, 2nd Sqd, 2d Plat., Co. F received 30 rounds of small arms fire in vicinity grid coordinates AT 931872. An 81mm mortar fire mission was fired. The area was swept with negative results.
- 3 January At 1345, a Co. H patrol found one 500 lb. bomb dud vicinity AU 829056. An EOD team was requested to blow the dud in place.
- 3 January At 1420, 2d Sqd., 2d Plat., Co. G found a base camp area large enough to sleep 50-60 people at grid coordinates AU 848018. Housing area was built with elephant grass reinforced with sticks. Area was concealed with elephant grass overhead. A stream ran thru the area. A fire mission was called to destroy the area.
- 3 January At 2300, a Co. H bunker position at Los Banos FSB spotted blinking lights at grid AT 824985. The lights were taken under fire by cal. 50 machine gun and the lights went out. A sweep the next morning produced negative results.
- 3 January At 2300, a Co. H bunker position at Los Banos FSB spotted 3 enemy West of their position. A 60mm mortar mission was fired. Then 6 more enemy were observed thru the NOD in the same general area. They were taken under fire. A sweep in the morning produced negative results.
- 4 January At 0830, Battalion Scouts observed 2 VC walking along the beach at AU 827073. The Scouts took them under fire. They fled, dropping their equipment. Then 3 more VC were spotted heading up a trail in the same vicinity. A fire mission was called. The subsequent sweep produced empty vacuum cans left behind.
- 4 January At 1000, 3d Sqd., 3d Plat., Co. H found 2 U.S. AP mines removed and 3 mines exposed by probing in the mine field surrounding Los Banos FSB. Footprints and cut wire were found in the subsequent thorough patrol of the outer perimeter.
- 4 January At 1815, a Co. H defensive position at Los Banos FSB spotted 3 VC at AT 825996 headed Southwest. 2 carried weapons and the third a 4 ft. object on shoulder, possibly a rocket launcher. The activity pursued the 3 VC and spotted 2 more VC at AT 824999. All were taken under fire with negative results.

- 4 January At 1950, while patrolling from Los Banos FSB, 2d Sqd, 3d Plat., Co. H heard an explosion like a grenade 50 meters away at AT 831999. A figure was observed in the flash. A flashlight was then observed at AT 823995. It was taken under fire and disappeared.
- 5 January At 0945, the DaNang-Hue train had 2 cars and the engine derailed at AT 852952 by a command detonated mine. No one was injured and damage to the track and train was slight.
- 5 January At 1000, 1st Plat., Co. G found a cave and tunnel complex at AU 843057. Numerous household articles and 100 rounds of 7.62mm ammunition were found. The cave was sealed by explosives.
- 5 January At 1415, 2d Sqd., 2d Plat., Co G found numerous caves at AU 833067. Sizes varies from 10' x 10' to 10' x 5'. Pots and pans and miscellaneous non-ordnance military articles were found inside.
- 6 January At 1700, 1st Plat., of Co. G uncovered 4 bags of powdered CS, one case of green smoke grenades, and 1000 ft. of detonating cord at AU 838063. The ordnance was destroyed and the gas scattered.
- 8 January From 2030 - 2130, Co. H defensive positions around Los Banos FSB heard movement on several occasions. Grenades were thrown and enemy small arms fire was returned briefly. A sweep produced negative results.
- 9 January At 1500, the Battalion Scouts observed one VC at AU 826075 moving Southeast. He was taken under fire and killed. A search revealed 1 cal. .45 pistol, 11,000 piastros and various documents. An evaluation of the documents showed the VC to be local VCI Property and Training Chief. The documents also showed numerous names of local Vietnamese to whom payments had been made for rice.
- 10 January At 1105, 3d Sqd., 1st Plat., Co. H found six (6) fighting holes at AU 832001.
- 13 January At 1745, 1st Fireteam, 3d Sqd., 3d Plat., Co. E listening post heard movement at AT 941870. 2 VC were taken under fire with negative results.
- 14 January At 0920, Battalion Scouts found a freshly dug two-man cave at AU 823083.

- 14 January At 1200, Battalion Scouts spotted 1 VC at AU 820089 drying seaweed. He was taken under fire and killed. Several items of personal gear were found.
- 14 January At 1700, a Co. H patrol observed 3 VC at the base of Nui Phu Gia at AU 835015 headed East. A fire mission was called and the 3 VC fled.
- 19 January At 0950 the DaNang-Hue train had the front wheels of the engine derailed by a command detonated mine at AT 833982. Minimal damage occurred to train and track and no casualties were sustained.
- 19 January At 1730, Regional Forces Company 132 personnel located a mine buried under the railroad track tie at AT 835979. 13 lbs. of TNT, an electric blasting cap and 2 batteries were located, disarmed and evacuated.
- 21 January At 2030, 1st Fireteam, 3d Sqd., 1st Plat., Co. H ambush spotted 3 enemy moving east toward them. Unit opened up with small arms fire and received small arms fire from another direction. The unit blew its claymore mine in the direction of the fire. At the same time, the Battalion Scouts, 200 meters away, spotted 2 VC and took them under fire. The subsequent sweep produced negative results.
- 22 January At 0130, 2d Sqd., 3d Plat., Co. H ambush saw 2 enemy approaching their site. At 10 feet, the ambush was sprung. One NVA soldier was killed and the other wounded. One AK-47 rifle with magazines and numerous items of personal gear were captured. Blood marks were observed in the morning sweep.
- 23 January At 1300, 1st Sqd., 2d Plat., Co. E on patrol found 4 wooden and 1 metal rocket launcher stands at AT 912898, pointed on an azimuth toward Force Logistics Command. The launchers were destroyed.
- 23 January At 2310, a Co. H listening post observed 3 or 4 small craft floating off-shore near AU 804056. 3 boats landed on the beach. A fire mission was called on the beach. A Navy coastal surveillance boat called to observe, spotted 8 vessels in the area. They proved to be fishermen working in an unauthorized area.

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- 24 January At 1315, the DaNang-Hue railroad received two RPG rounds, one over and one short, at AT 832966. Enemy small arms fire from a reported 4 VC wounded one Vietnamese security guard. A fire mission was called and a sweep was conducted by Co. F unit with negative results.
- 25 January 0545-0945. A "Kingfisher" airborne platoon - aerial observation team conducted a brief operation in the area of the TAOR North of the 02 East-West grid line. 2d Plat., Co. G made landing at AU 949032 at 0730 and swept the area with negative results. They were retrieved and landed at AU 844042. They swept the area finding 3 spider holes, a small tunnel, some medical supplies, and food. While producing no enemy contact, the operation demonstrated the potential of the Kingfisher concept.
- 26 January At 1330, Major D.L. Humphrey relieved Lt. Col. W.C. Drumright as Battalion Commander.
- 26 January At 2120, while manning a listening post, a Co. F unit observed 1 VC/NVA thru the starlight scope at AT 885954. He was taken under small arms fire. A subsequent sweep produced negative results.
- 27 January At 0500, the Co. H command post observed one VC with a NOD in their defensive wire on Hill 88. The area was taken under fire with M-79. A subsequent search revealed a cut trip flare, bloody rags, and footprints.
- 27 January At 1400, a Co. H observation post observed one enemy at AU 802050. A fire mission was called and a reaction patrol was transported to the vicinity by amphibious assault vehicle. 2 more enemy were spotted at 700 meters range and taken under fire with cal. 50 machine gun. Subsequent sweep produced negative results.
- 27 January At 1950, the Co. H command post observed one enemy with a NOD at AU 807018 moving Northwest. He was taken under machine gun fire. A reaction squad swept under illumination with negative results.
- 28 January At 1830, Regimental Sniper Team spotted 3 small craft at AU 814058. 2 craft entered river mouth. The third craft left after dark. The 2 in the river remained until after dark. A search the next morning revealed footprints leading to an uninhabited village where a recent fire site and two bunkers were found.
- 30 January At 0700, 106mm recoilless rifle personnel on southwest corner of Hill 88 found one claymore mine had been turned around and aimed at friendly positions.

31 January At 0025, 1st Fireteam, 1st Sqd., 3d Plat., Co. F in ambush site heard movement of an estimated 4 VC within 20-50 meters. The ambush received two grenades incoming and called preplanned artillery mission with negative results. One marine was slightly wounded.

31 January At 1350, Regimental Sniper Team found 100 lbs. of rice in a partially burned crock and recently used fires at AU 800049.

31 January At 1955, a Co. H defensive position at Los Bancos FSB, spotted one enemy just beyond the wire. A grenade was thrown at the enemy. Additional movement was heard below the first. Area was fired on with M-79. Wire was checked with negative results.

31 January At 2000, a Co. H unit on ambush observed 2 enemy at AU 827071. A fireteam sweep under illumination produced negative results.

4. ARTILLERY FIRE SUPPORT

a. "B" Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines

- (1) During the reporting period there were 1246 fire missions shot.
- (2) Of the above fire missions 45 were observed and 1201 were unobserved.
- (3) Ammunition expenditures were:
 - (a) 8719 HE
 - (b) 72 WP
 - (c) 333 ILL
 - (d) 0 Smoke

b. Provisional Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines

- (1) 155mm Howitzers
 - (a) During the reporting period there were 594 missions shot.
 - (b) Of the above fire missions 5 were observed and 589 were unobserved.
 - (c) Ammunition expenditures were:

1	2881 HE
2	8 WP
3	25 ILL
4	0 Smoke

(2) 107mm Mortars

- (a) During the reporting period there were 173 fire missions shot.
- (b) Of the above fire missions 9 were observed and 164 were unobserved.
- (c) Ammunition expenditures were:
 - 1 938 HE
 - 2 23 WP
 - 3 6 Ill
 - 4 0 Smoke

c. X Detachment, W Battery, 1st Battalion, 11th Marines

- (1) During the reporting period there were 499 fire missions shot.
- (2) Of the above fire missions 3 were observed and 496 were unobserved.
- (3) Ammunition expenditures were:
 - (a) 1672 HE
 - (b) 15 WP
 - (c) 1 Ill
 - (d) 0 Smoke

d. General Support

- (1) During the reporting period there were 31 fire missions shot by Naval Gunfire.
- (2) Of the above fire missions 0 were observed and 31 were unobserved.
- (3) Ammunition expenditures were:
 - (a) 113 HE
 - (b) 0 WP
 - (c) 0 Ill
 - (d) 0 Smoke

5. AIR SUPPORT

a. Units providing air support were from 3d Marine Aircraft Wing.

b. Missions

- (1) Resupply and transport
 - (a) Number of missions - 7

- (b) Number of troops transported - 89
- (c) Weight of cargo transported - 6,250 pounds
- (2) Close Air Support Confirmed missions - 52 Completed - 23
- (a) type and number of missions
- 1 A-6 Beacon - 9
 - 2 F-4, A-4 CAS - 14
- (b) Type and weight of ordnance
- 1 Bombs - 191,500 pounds
 - 2 Napalm - 25,500 pounds
 - 3 2.75 inch rockets - 68
- (3) TPQ's
- (a) Number of missions - 8
- (b) Weight of ordnance - 34,500 pounds
- (4) Flare Support - None
- (5) Observation
- (a) Number of missions - 4
- (b) Number of observers - 20
- (6) Medevacs
- (a) Emergency Total number - 5
- | | | |
|-----------|------------|--------------|
| | <u>Day</u> | <u>Night</u> |
| Avg. time | 35 min. | 47 min. |
| Number | 2 | 3 |
- (b) Priority Total number - 8
- (c) Routine Total number - 1
- (7) Significant events

The most significant event was execution of a Kingfisher operation, the code name for an airborne reaction force supported by armed helicopters and an aerial observer.

The four (4) hour operation on 25 Jan 1970 placed the airborne platoon on the ground at two likely sites of enemy activity for quick searches. The aerial observer saw several signs of enemy activity but no physical contact was made.

6. PERSONNEL

a. Combat losses

	USMC		USN	
	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
WIA	0	2	0	0
KIA	0	0	0	0
WIA	0	0	0	0

b. Non-Combat Losses

	USMC		USN	
	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
Killed	0	0	0	0
Injured	0	10	0	0

c. WIA's returned to duty

Off - 0
Enl - 1

d. Personnel Rotated (PCS) - 139

Off - 6
Enl - 133

e. R&R - 93

Off - 2
Enl - 91

f. Replacements Received - 140

Off - 11
Enl - 129

7. ADMINISTRATION

a. Personnel Accounting

During the reporting period, all Company and Battalion Administrative Offices were located at the Battalion rear area in the vicinity of the Rockcrusher (AT 942749).

b. Awards

Purple Heart - 3
 Navy Commendation - 1
 Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry - 1

c. Promotions

Lance Corporal - 74
 Private First Class - 4

8. LOGISTICSa. Supply/Resupply

During the period 1 - 31 January, all company supply/resupply, with the exception of deployed platoons, was accomplished by truck. Deployed platoons were resupplied by helicopter. However, each time helicopter support was requested, it was usually 2 to 5 hours late, causing a loss of man hours and the delaying of needed supplies to deployed rifle platoons.

b. Food/Water

During the reporting period, three messhalls were in operation, one each at Hai Van Pass, Dai La Pass and the Esso Depot. All Messhalls served two hot meals daily and one hot meal was trucked to units not having access to messhalls. Supplementary rations of MCI's, "B" Rations, and fruit juices were supplied to units not having access to messhalls. Although some improvement was noted, water delivery continued to be a problem at Hai Van Pass. The 2000 gallons of water delivered was insufficient for the needs of that contention.

c. Maintenance

During the period 1-31 January, all first/second echelon maintenance was completed by personnel of this command. Third/fourth echelon maintenance on equipment/vehicles was done by Force Logistics Command.

d. Camp Facilities

On 19 January, the Battalion Command Group (Forward) occupied a new 20' x 32' Combat Operations Center bunker at Hai Van Pass. Concurrently, the commanding officer occupied new sea-hut quarters at Hai Van Pass. Normal maintenance was accomplished on other existing facilities.

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9. NEW TECHNIQUES

While not new to the Division, the Kingfisher - type operation was conducted by this Battalion for the first time on 25 January. The Kingfisher package consisted of 3 CH-46 transport helicopters carrying a rifle platoon, 4 helicopter gunships, a command and control helicopter, and one OV-10E observation aircraft. The operation began shortly after first light with a quick pass over the entire specified area of operations to observe any unsuspecting enemy activity. When none was sighted, the platoon was landed at preselcted target areas to conduct brief searches. A reaction platoon was standing by for immediate reinforcement of the committed platoon had contact been made. Command was retained by the ground commander in the command and control helicopter, working in close coordination with the air commander. While the 4 hour operation netted no enemy contact, the technique has proven valid, particularly over wide areas where enemy units work with more freedom.

10. TRAINING

- a. The last four rifle platoons received instruction under the Battalion's Rifle Platoon Training Program. On 26 January, the program was completed. The syllabus remained unchanged.
- b. Technical training was conducted at the platoon level in the 81mm Mortar Platoon, 106mm Recoilless Rifle Platoon, Communications Platoon, Service Platoon, and Flame Section.
- c. A total of 140 newly joined personnel received the Battalion Orientation Training.

11. CIVIC ACTION/PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFAREa. Civil Affairs

- (1) In the area of Civil Affairs S-5 continued to improve relations with the civilians by meeting with them and their leaders substantially more frequently, a total of 18 times. The effect of this increased interest was obviously impressive to the Vietnamese.
- (2) In a regularly scheduled Civil Affairs program, 12 Medcaps were conducted, treating a total of 554 patients and 33 dental patients. Also scheduled twice weekly were two (2) English classes held in the hamlet of Loan Ly. English was taught to the Catholic Nuns who head the orphanage there. These classes are proving very successful in both teaching English and improving our relations with the populace.

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- (3) In various meetings with different Village Chiefs the Civil Affairs Officer has planned the following list of projects for February:

- (a) Repairing the school at Kim Lien
- (b) Building a well at Kim Lien
- (c) Building a well at An Cu Dong
- (d) Finishing the milk house at Loc Hai
- (e) Supplying 150 ammo boxes for the Nuns at Loan Ly for desks.
- (f) Repairing the Buddhist Church at An Co Dong
- (g) Building hamlet offices in Dong Duong and Loan Ly.
- (h) In addition, the Civil Affairs Officer intends to supply school kits and medical supplies to the appropriate places.

- (4) In the area of education, the General Walt Scholarships has been promoted at the local high schools in the Battalion Area of Operation. At this time 21 applications from the school at Loc Hai are ready for submission.

b. Personal Response

Personal Response was limited to the classes given to new personnel just arriving in Viet Nam as part of the Battalion Orientation Training.

c. Psychological Operations

- (1) During the reporting period, psychological operations ranged from leaflet drops to employment of an armed propaganda team. Leaflet drops this month dealt mainly with fish and food denial, Chieu Hoi Program, and Rice Denial Program. At the approaching of Tet, leaflet drops began to emphasize the "Return Home" theme.
- (2) On 29 December, a booby trap was set off in the village of Thon Tho Son by a young boy on a water buffalo. The boy was killed and the villagers were very disturbed at this time. The incident was immediately exploited by bringing in an Armed Propaganda Team. This team worked in this village, and two others, Thon Phuoc An and Nui Thon Son

for two days. They were equipped for broadcasting statements, showing movies, holding Medcaps, and they also had a large supply of various leaflets. In the field of Medcaps, a total of 87 people were treated in the two days. A total of 5000 leaflets and newspapers were also distributed in the area. S-5 went into these villages and talked to the Village Chief and was able to obtain a quantity of information from them about the VC activities in that area.

12. COMMUNICATIONS

a. Radio

- (1) During the reporting period, the radio section provided communications personnel and equipment for the two (2) Battalion Command Posts, forward and rear. Communications personnel and equipment were provided for the four (4) rifle companies of the Battalion and for the 81mm Mortar Platoon.
- (2) Nestor equipment was activated on the Battalion administrative net on 20 January 1970.

b. Wire

- (1) The wire section continued to maintain wire communications for both Battalion Command Posts, forward and rear.
- (2) On 3 January 1970, two (2) dial lines were activated at the Battalion Rear Command Post switchboard, and one (1) dial line was terminated at the Commanding Officer/Executive Officer office in the Rear Command Post.

c. Message Center

Twenty Six Marines continued to maintain guard for this Battalion. The message center continued to make three (3) courier runs daily to Twenty Six Marines.

d. Supply/Maintenance

- (1) Supply continued to function in accordance with current directives.
- (2) The maintenance section maintained normal operations throughout the period.

e. Significant Events

- (1) 3 January, two dial lines were activated at the Battalion Rear Command Post.
- (2) 7 January, the Division Command Material Management inspection team conducted a communications technical inspection. The overall rating of satisfactory with minor discrepancies was assigned with several noteworthy areas receiving commendations.
- (3) 20 January, Nestor equipment activated on the Battalion administrative net.

13. MEDICAL/DENTALa. Medical

- (1) Medical Aid Station administration was handled by the administrative section at the Battalion Rear Command Post at the ROCKCRUSHER (AT942749) along with a Forward Aid Station at HAI VAN PASS (AT944920) during the reporting period
- (a) Sick Call at the Battalion Rear Command Post was handled one Medical Officer and six Hospital Corpsmen.
- (b) Sick Call at the Forward Command Post was handled by one Medical Officer and three Hospital Corpsmen.

(2) Personnel

- (a) Two Medical Officers were assigned to the 2nd Battalion 26th Marines.
- (b) Corpsmen were assigned as follows:
- 1 Corpman, Chief Petty Officer
 - 8 Each Rifle Company
 - 2 81mm Mortar Platoon
 - 1 TAD to RAS 26th Marines
 - 2 Administration
 - 3 Medical Records
 - 3 Supply
 - 4 Sanitation

(3) Casualties/Injuries Treated

WIA	02
KIA	00
Combat Casualties Total	02
Non-Combat Injuries	16
Non-Combat Deaths	00

b. Dental

Dental patients were treated at 1st Dental Company, 11th Motor Transport Battalion and the 26th Marine Regiment.

- c. During the reporting period security improvements outside the medical bunker were made.

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14. RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

(a) Personnel

(1) Lt. John J. PIERCE, CHC, USNR reported to 2nd Battalion, 26th Marines on 15 January 1970. He replaced Lt. Albert FIORINO, CHC, USNR.

(2) Cpl. John G. MALONEY, USMC was assigned as assistant and driver for the Chaplain.

(b) Services Conducted

(1) Sunday and Holyday Catholic Masses - 20 - with 264 in attendance and 237 receiving communion.

(2) Weekday Catholic Masses - 36 - with 331 attending and 297 receiving communion.

(3) Sunday and weekday Protestant Services are provided in all 2nd Battalion areas by Chaplain Richard BAREISS, 26th Marines Regimental Chaplain.

(c) Facilities

(1) There is a Chapel in the rear Battalion area.

(2) Transportation is available each day for travel throughout the entire Battalion area of operation.

(d) Counseling. Sixty seven men were privately counseled.

(e) Significant Events

(1) Catholic Mass was offered in Sacred Heart Church, Lang Co Hamlet, with 23 Marines and 31 Vietnamese present.

(2) Foods and other consumables were provided for Vietnamese Hamlets on two occasions.

(f) Other Activities. Chaplain J. PIERCE serves on the executive board of the Battalion leadership committee. The committee's purpose is to aid the Commanding Officer in the solution of racial, ethnic, and other problems.

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. Operations Journal

ENCLOSURE (1)

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4-1

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2/26 SAC FILES
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TAB-A

2d Battalion, 26th Marines, FMF
JOURNAL

2d Battalion, 16th Marine, RVN
JOURNAL

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2d Battalion, 26th Marines, FMF
JOURNAL

JNL#	DTG	IN	OUT	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES&ORDERS	ACTION
0/1	030800H	0800		Weather Report	
0/2	030800H	0800	0810	Bridges Open Road Condition Good	F/S/H
0/3	032300H	2300	0130?	H, Bunker Obs 6 VC Fired 60mm III Fired M79 & 81mm III Sweep in AM with neg/res.	
0/4	030850	0130		Spt Rep. Beacon Xray spotted 3 to 4 VC at 203016 Swept area w/neg res	F/S/H
0/5	030845	0130		Spt Rep. Snardtiles2 spotted 3 VC, Fired small arms with neg results	F/S/H
0/6	030130	0145		Express 24 change in A O	F/S/H
0/7	031245	1245		H Co FD. a possible mine or booby trap sign checked area W/neg res.	F/S/H
0/8	0313145	1420		H Co FD. 1 500 lb bomb vic of AU 829056	F/S/H
0/9	031420	1630		G 2-2 Fd tunnels and housing area swept with neg results	F/S/H
10	032300	2300		Hotel spotted blinking lights at 828998 F/50 cal light out sweep AM	F/S/H

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2d Battalion, 26th Marines, FMF
JOURNAL

JNL#	DTG	IN	OUT	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES&ORDERS	ACTION
0/1	250630H			Weather report.	F/S/
0/2	250800H			Road opened.	F/S/
0/3	250545H			G-2 Helolifted into vicinity of 844042 grid. Swept area and found	
				3 spider holes, tunnel, medical supplies and bloody bandages, $\frac{1}{2}$	
				rice and cheese, and fire wood. Further search produced Neg. Res.	F/S/H
0/4	251735H		251824H	Motor has been extracted.	F/S/H
0/5	251200H			Hamlet Chief of Phnoc An reported that 25 VC/NVA entered hamlet	
				and paid 5000 Ps. for 1 pair of trousers and 11 bags of rice. VC/NVA	
				all carried AK 47 rifles.	F/S/H

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2d Battalion, 26th Marines, FMF
JOURNAL

JNL#	DTG	IN	OUT	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES&ORDERS	ACTION
0/1	270610H			Weather report.	F/S/H
0/2	270800H			Road opened.	F/S/H
0/3	270500H		1220	"DB" NOD observed 1 enemy in rocks vicinity of 807017. Fired M-79 and searched area. Trip wire cut and blood marks on white cloth.	
				Further search produced neg. res.	F/S/H
0/4	271100H		1130	Arty fire mission called after enemy spotted at 802050. Patrol swept area with neg. res.	F/S/H
0/5	271950H		2035	"DB" NOD obs. enemy in vicinity of 807018 moving NE Fired S/A and A/W under illum. Searched with neg. res.	F/S/H
0/6	272335H		2345	Recieved 2 rds. air burst at 944920. It is unknown where rds. came from.	F/S/H

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JNL#	DTG	IN	OUT	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES&ORDERS	ACTION
0/1	290615H			Weather report.	F/S/
0/2	290800H			Road open.	F/S/
0/3	291212H		291215H	Army AO extension to go into effect from 29 Jan. to 12 Feb.	F/S/H
0/4	291420H		291435H	Terrapin has been extracted.	F/S/H
0/5	291520H		291522H	Terrapin debrief indicates rocket sites at 838908.	F/S/H
0/6	291445H		291550H	Request clearance for Quiz Master Haven.	F/S/H
0/7	291450H		291552H	Request extension for clearance for Terrapin to 021800H.	F/S/H
0/8	291615H			Request clearance of temporary boundary extension for 101st Airbourn.	F/S/H
0/9	291830H		291840H	Hotel reaction force obs. 3 small craft vic. 814058. Two entered river and one stayed out. Swift boat called. Searched with neg. res.	F/S/H
10/10	292045H		292055H	Quiz Master Haven will be at 8988 to at 9186 to at 8984 to at 8786	
				Duration from 020600H to 021800H	F/S/H

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JNL#	DTG	IN	OUT	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES&ORDERS	ACTION
O/1	310025H		0025	F 3-1-1 heard movement at 993048. Recd. (2) M-26 Grenades resulting in 1 USMC WIA (minor). Fired 60mm FM. Search of area produced neg. res.	F/S/H
O/2	310800H			Weather report.	F/S/H
O/3	310800H		0800	Bridges and road opened. Condition good.	F/S/H
O/4	312000H		2230	Hotel Co. Sqd. Amb. obs. 2 NVA/VC at 827071. Called arty illum mission and checked area with neg. res.	F/S/H
O/5	311350H		1350	H BS found the following at 800049. 100 lbs. of rice and 2 fires that had been used in the last 72 hrs. Rice was destroyed.	F/S/H
O/6	311955H		312215	H Co Def Position. At 1955H Obs one En Vic AU 807017 Fired S/A, and threw M-26 Grend. NOD Obs additional movement down hill	
				fired M-79, Called Arty FM. Swept area W/ neg res.	F/S/H

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