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HEADQUARTERS

3d Battalion, 26th Marines
San Francisco, California 96602

3/26 SEC
39-67

3/WJW/waf
5750
10 February 1967

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF Pacific
Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 January to 31 January 1967.
Ref: (a) FMF PACO 5750.8
(b) DivO 5750.1A
Encl: (1) 3d Battalion, 26th Marines Command Chronology for period
1 January to 31 January 1967

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a) and (b),
Enclosure (1) is submitted.

K. L. Hoch
K. L. HOCH

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HEADQUARTERS

3d Battalion, 26th Marines
FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 January TO 31 January 1967

INDEX

PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY

PART III - SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- A. Combat Missions Assigned and Significant Operations Conducted
- B. Casualties
- C. Command Relations
- D. Communications-Electronics
- E. Fire Support
- F. Air Support
- G. Anti-tank Support
- H. Army Artillery Support
- I. Administration
- J. Personnel
- K. Intelligence
- L. Civil Affairs
- M. Psychological Warfare
- N. Logistics Support
- O. Engineer Support
- P. Medical-Dental
- Q. Training
- R. Chaplain Support

PART IV - SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- Filed
w/ 0128*
- ✓ A. Fourth Mar Frag 0 2-67
 - ✓ B. Fourth Mar Frag 0 3-67
 - ✓ C. Third MarDiv Frag 0 1-67
 - ✓ D. CG 3d MarDiv Message 140352Z Jan 67

Enclosure (1)

1.

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONSCOMMANDER

3d Battalion, 26th Marines

LtCol G. T. BEYERLE (1-17Jan67)

LtCol K. L. HOCH (18-31Jan67)

SUBORDINATE UNITS

F H&S Company

Capt R. F. ROLLER Jr. (1-15Jan67)

Company I

Capt R. J. SASEK (16-31Jan67)

Company K

Capt T. A. SILVEAR (1-24Jan67) (WIA)

Company L

Capt R. E. HINES (25-31Jan67)

Company M

Capt F. D. BYNUM (1-26Jan67)

1stLt A. L. SISCO (27-31Jan67)

Capt W. F. FARRELL III (1-15Jan67)

Capt R. F. ROLLER Jr. (16-31Jan67)

Capt R. J. SASEK (1-12Jan67)

Capt A. D. DEBONA (13-31Jan67)

SUPPORTING UNITS

BtryC, 1/13, 4thBn, 12th Mar

Capt T. J. BRACKMAN (1-31Jan67)

2d155mmProvHowBtry(TD)

Capt J. BUTLER (1-31Jan67)

Co B (-), 3dATBn

Capt S. L. CAMBY (1-31Jan67)

1stPlt Co B, 3dEngrBn

1stLt J. E. BISHOP (1-31Jan67)

1stPlt, Co A, 3dSPBn

1stLt N. F. PAYNE (1-6Jan67)

2dPlt, Co A, 3dMTBn

1stLt W. C. CAILE (7-31Jan67)

Capt R. L. MITCHELL (4-8Jan67)

Btry D, 1stBn, 44th Arty

2ndLt G. R. WADE (9-31Jan67)

1stLt R. S. RODRIGUEZ, USA (1-26Jan67)

Btry G, 2dBn, 65th Arty

1stLt G. H. KARSON, USA (26-31Jan67)

1stLt J. J. ENGEL, USA (1-20Jan67)

1stLt D. M. BOWIE, USA (22-31Jan67)

2. LOCATION: Co Bi Thanh Tan3. STAFF OFFICERS:

Executive Officer

Maj W. A. THOMPSON (1-19Jan67)

S-1

Maj D. J. FULHAM (20-31Jan67)

Personnel Officer

2ndLt R. D. SPENCER (1-31Jan67)

S-2

2ndLt L. R. THOMPSON (1-15Jan67)

S-3

2ndLt E. L. KNOX (16-31Jan67)

S-3A

1stLt L. G. KLEIN (1-5Jan67)

2ndLt T. A. BAILEY (1-31Jan67)

S-4

Maj W. J. WOODRING Jr. (1-31Jan67)

Capt R. E. HINES (1-24Jan67)

Capt W. F. FARRELL III (25-31Jan67)

Communications Officer

Capt A. D. DEBONA (1-31Jan67)

Supply Officer

1stLt M. A. KING (13-31Jan67)

Capt J. L. STEELE (1-31Jan67)

Motor Transport Officer

Capt G. A. RADNIECKI (1-31Jan67)

1stLt P. E. SULLIVAN (1-31Jan67)

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Medical Officer
 Assistant Medical Officer
 Chaplain

LT J. F. IPPOLITI, USN (1-31Jan67)
 LT J. C. NAUMAN, USN (1-31Jan67)
 LT B. WATTIGNY, USN (1-31Jan67)

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH: (Includes supporting units)

USMC		USN		OTHER	
Off	Enl	Off	Enl	Off	Enl
54	1385	3	54	4	52

SECRET

Medical Officer
 Assistant Medical Officer
 Chaplain

LT J. F. IPPOLITI, USN (1-31Jan67)
 LT J. C. NAUMAN, USN (1-31Jan67)
 LT B. WATTIGNY, USN (1-31Jan67)

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USMC		USN		OTHER	
Off	Enl	Off	Enl	Off	Enl
54	1385	3	54	4	52

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the month of January 1967, the 3d Battalion, 20th Marines was engaged in Operation CHINOOK, a search and destroy operation in PHONG DIEN District, THUA THIEN Province that began on 19 December 1966. The material covered in this part of the January Command Chronology is a continuation of Enclosure (4-B) Special Operations, to the 3/26 Command Chronology, period 19-31 December 1966.

010001 TO 012400 H January 1967

0925: A 6x6 Truck from 3d MT at YD 532318 detonated a mine approximately 15 feet off of the road resulting in eight friendly WIA's. All casualties except 1 were from 2/26. Right front side of truck severely damaged.

0935: 3-L-26 patrol at YD 570305 observed 6 to 8 VC heading east. The VC fired at 3-L-26 and broke contact when fire was returned. Area searched with no further contact.

1015: 3-L-26 patrol YD 577300 sighted 3 VC wearing light colored clothing, moving in an easterly direction. Fired arty concentration, but unable to observe results.

1020: Co I patrol at YD 515295 found one homemade grenade, not booby trapped. Destroyed in place.

1110: 3-L-26 patrol at YD 579293 found 30 punji traps. All destroyed in place.

1216: Co K patrol at YD 501326 found one booby trapped 105mm round and three punji traps. All destroyed in place. Co K moved to YD 499320 and observed 7 VC moving NW. Due to inclement weather and fog, unable to determine if armed or to distinguish uniform.

1330: Co M at YD 530327 found an object with an 81mm mortar fin assembly and protruding prong. Destroyed in place. Believed to be an 81mm mortar shell booby trapped. The patrol moved to YD 522335 and observed one VC wearing black shorts and straw hat moving north, approximately 1000 meters away. At 1620 they located a hole 12 inch in diameter extending down at a 45 degree angle. A grenade dropped into this hole made an echo when exploded.

020001 TO 022400 H January 1967

0730: Companies M and K commenced search and destroy SW down road bisecting AO toward village of DON O O. Will turn east, search through valley to YD 5527 and turn to the north over Hill 51 through the valley to combat bases.

0750: Co M found 3 hand grenades (US M-26) and one M-79 round, not booby trapped, at YD 529312. Blown in place.

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1025: Co K patrol found one M-79 dud at YD 512314. Destroyed in place.

1255: Co I found a bunker with punji trap enclosed with barbed wire at YD 521275. Destroyed.

1310: Co I apprehended 4 detainees, one woman and three children, at the village vic YD 525271. Detainees evacuated to District Headquarters.

1400: Co M found one 250 lb bomb located at YD 522267. Destroyed in place.

1405: Co I now has 18 detainees, 7 women and 11 children at YD 528272. Detainees were evacuated to District Headquarters. Continued on patrol, located a warm fire, foot prints of two people wearing sandals made out of tire casings, and one clip of M-1 ammo at YD 543270.

1545: Co M captured 12 detainees, 5 women and one 50 year old man and 6 children at YD 534265. All evacuated to District Headquarters.

1630: Co I found one dead VC wearing cartridge belt at YD 545270. Body bloated, clothing torn off.

1635: Co I apprehended 5 detainees, one old man, one woman and three children, and evacuated to District Headquarters.

1645: Co M received sporadic sniper fire from YD 560273.

030001 TO 032400 H January 1967

1640: Co I while moving to new location found a VC helmet with a plastic cover at YD 527311.

040001 TO 042400 H January 1967

1252: Co M sighted 1 VC at YD 558307 moving south.

1615: Co K sighted 25 VC at YD 578275. Called arty mission, platoon searched area, found 1 VC KIA.

050001 TO 052400 H January 1967

0945: Co K patrol found one 155mm round dud, not booby trapped. Destroyed in place.

1025: Two men walked into Co L lines with hands raised over their heads, wearing red shorts and green raincoats. Taken to POW Compound. Interrogators learned that they were ARVN escapees from VC POW Camp.

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1055: Co I patrol at YD 53288 found punji traps with 36 stakes. Trap was 3 ft square. Trap was destroyed.

1330: Co K patrol found 1000 lbs of rice at YD 59288. Turned over to District Headquarters.

1445: Co M patrol received sniper fire from 3 VC at YD 541294. Returned fire and searched the village, with no further contact.

1800: Co M apprehended a total of 127 detainees vic YD 555295, turned all over to District Headquarters.

060001 TO 062400 H January 1967

0945: Co K apprehended 74 detainees at YD 577223, turned all over to District Headquarters.

1015: Co M found 800 lbs of unhusked rice and turned over to District Headquarters.

1335: Co K at YD 553268 sighted 6 VC. Fired 81mm mortar mission. Women in area stated that 5 VC with weapons fled to the east. A total of 49 detainees apprehended at YD 553268. Also found a Russian pouch with ammo and some documents at YD 595264.

1615: Co M patrol received automatic weapons fire at YD 552292 from YD 552289. SAF was returned. Area was searched but no further contact was made.

070001 TO 072400 H January 1967. Co I found punji traps with 36 stakes. Trap was 3 ft square. Trap was destroyed.

0935: Co M patrol received 9 WIA when it detonated a mine at YD 551307. Two of the WIA were serious, and were med-evaced by helo. The mine was of the box type, consisting of at least 10 lbs with nuts and bolts for shrapnel. It was detonated by being stepped on, and had a bursting radius in excess of 30 meters. Co M at YD 541294. Returned fire and searched the village, with no further contact.

1045: Co M patrol found 2 US Bouncing Betty type mines 20 meters from the trail. Punji stakes were found directly across the trail. Mines were blown in place.

1330: Co K (-) while conducting search and destroy operations at YD 602279, apprehended 53 detainees, they included 44 women and children, 7 old men, and 2 young men about 35 years of age. All were delivered to District Headquarters.

1445: Co M (-) while conducting search and destroy operations at YD 559296 received 6 to 10 rounds of SAF from YD 559294 from two VC armed with semi-automatic rifles. Co M (-) returned M-79 and SAF and enemy fled to SE. Searched area, but no further contact. Women in area stated that 3 VC with weapons fled to the east. A total of 49 detainees apprehended at YD 553268. Also found a Russian pouch with ammo and some documents at YD 595264. Enclosure (1)

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1615: Co M patrol received automatic weapons fire at YD 552292 from YD 552289. SAF was returned. Area was searched but no further contact was made.

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1450: Co M (-) detonated a bouncing type AP mine at YD 589298, resulting in 2 friendly WIA. A second mine of similar type was found 20 meters away, and a third 100 meters ahead. An attempt to disarm one of these was abandoned as too dangerous, since the attached engineers had been wounded when the first mine exploded. The mines were not US type. They were destroyed in place.

1620: Co K (-) found a 105mm round rigged as a booby-trap at YD 580281. Round was destroyed in place.

1800: Co I moved to YD 535290, Co K to YD 577276, and Co M to YD 555304.

2025: Co I received 20 rounds of 60mm mortar at YD 532287. Observed flashes at YD 535285 and fired counter-mortar fire with 60mm mortar, artillery, and machine guns from tracked vehicles. Co I received two minor WIA who were taken to BAS.

080001 TO 082400 H January 1967

0325: Co L at YD 534318 received three incoming mortar rounds of unknown caliber, estimated to be larger than 60mm and coming from a northerly direction.

0947: Co K (-) at YD 576273 received 15 to 20 rounds of sniper fire from an estimated 5 VC at YD 573269. Returned SAF, M-79, 3.5, and artillery with unknown results. One friendly WIA was med-evaced by helo.

1450: Co I (-) at YD 535293 found an area 20 feet square with punji stakes sticking up from ground 1 1/2 feet apart at an angle of 30 degrees pointing north. On each side of the 20 foot area was a punji pit 3 ft square and 2 feet deep. All were destroyed.

1535: Co K (-) at YD 576263 received 10 to 15 rounds of SAF from vic YD 578263. Returned SAF, M-79, and fired artillery mission with unknown results. One friendly WIA was med-evaced by helo.

1620: Co K (-) at YD 575264 detonated unknown type of explosive device resulting in one friendly WIA (minor). Unit also received SAF and returned SAF, M-79, 3.5, and 81mm mortar.

1700: Co I (-) observed two VC at YD 530288. Fired 81mm mortar with unknown results.

1730: Co I moved to YD 537290; Co K to YD 579282; Co M to YD 556306.

1830: Co I at YD 537290 found one AT mine, believed to be an M-15, lying on top of the ground in rusted condition. Area marked and mine destroyed next day.

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1845: Co K (-) at YD 575268 received sniper fire at the rear point from across the river vic of YD 574286 by 3 VC. Co K returned SAF and called in artillery. Observed one man fall down and not move; the other two fled under fire and did not return. Earlier K Co discovered numerous fighting holes, punji pits, some covered, some uncovered, and the area near the river vic YD 575264 has a few bunkers dug down and covered with bamboo. Indications of spider holes in the area. The river at YD 575263 is 20 to 30 feet wide and 14 to 16 feet deep. Because earlier crossing had taken 1 1/2 hours for one platoon using 2 native boats, Co K did not return across river to retrieve body of VC they saw fall.

1925: Co I at YD 537290 using a TPS-21 detected a column of troops moving from YD 525280 to YD 534276. Movement was from one set of coordinates in a line to the other, from SE to NW. Engaged enemy with 81mm mortar and artillery, using zone fire. At 1935 the column moved south towards the village of DON O O vic YD 522266. At 1945 the TPS-21 reading was 234 degrees moving E to W, range 1900 meters vic YD 521278. First sighting was spread over a distance of about 500 meters and at one sighting the operator picked up 30 distinct persons. At 1955 the reading was 234 degrees, 1900 meters, and contact was lost due to hills masking the TPS-21 at vic YD 519278. The TPS-21 operator detected movement throughout the period of the mortar/artillery fire. First 10 rounds dispersed column. Persons moved in all directions, thereafter regrouped in a column, changed direction to south for about 300 meters, and then turned west. They appeared to remain in a column formation after first dispersion, and moved at a rapid rate of speed. Operator could detect about 30 persons at any time, up to and including the time that column was masked by a hill mass. Column continued to move during artillery.

1950: HQ, 4th Marines security element at YD 532325 detected movement 400 meters to the front. Estimated one VC. Fired SAF and flares, 81mm mortars fired illumination.

2115: C 1/13 at YD 537325 reported activity to their front at YD 537328. Detected what they thought was 2 VC when illumination was fired by 81mm mortars. Movement ceased.

090001 T0 092400 H January 1967

1030: Co M at YD 559286 observed one VC w/auto rifle at YD 559284. Fired on him w/SAF and VC fled to south.

1100: 3-M-26 at YD 560285 tripped explosive device consisting of M-26 grenade at YD 560285 while pursuing VC. Two friendly WIA's.

1035: Co K (-) at YD 598270 sighted 5 VC vic of YD 603268 moving SE toward village. Artillery fired mission; 2 enemy KIAP, 3 enemy fled south.

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1500: 3-M-26 located one burned-out hut vic YD 551291. A bomb shelter approximately 4 ft long, 3 ft high, 3 ft wide found inside hut. Shelter contained 2 mats, evidence of recent cooking/heating fires. Shelter was destroyed.

1730: (Follow-up on entry for 081925) Patrol report on surveillance of effect of mortar/artillery concentration fired on 30 VC at 1925. 3-I-26 encountered extreme difficulty in crossing swollen streams, which required swimming, and took most of the day to cover the 1500 to 1900 meters to area of VC sighting by TPS-21. Patrol found shell craters caused by mortar/artillery fires. Found many prints of bare feet moving E to W, estimated 20 to 30 VC footprints indicated rapid movement. Close surveillance found no bodies or equipment. Conclusive evidence that artillery and mortar fire covered area where enemy movement was sighted. Enemy was moving on a footpath, and had dispersed off the path on two occasions, and then regrouped on path. 3-I-26 followed trail west 1000 meters past artillery craters.

1730: Co I moved to YD 519285; Co M to YD 553303; Co K to YD 580273.

2235: Co L ambush at YD 543313 engaged 5 or 6 VC. Enemy returned SAF and 1 hand grenade at close range. Fired 81mm mortar illumination, and reaction squad dispatched to site.

100001 TO 102400 H January 1967

0915: 3-K-26 at YD 586263 received two or three rounds of sniper fire from one VC vic YD 585263. Returned SAF and 60mm mortar.

1245: Co I (-) at YD 560263 received 3 rounds of SAF from the eastern edge of DON O O vic YD 524264. Returned SAF, moved into village and conducted a thorough search, but observed no one. No further contact.

1705: Chopped Opcon of Co H to 2/26; Opcon Co E chopped to 3/26.

1730: Co I moved to YD 519285; Co K to YD 580274; Co L to YD 577299; Co M to YD 534314; Co E to YD 532318.

2035: Co M ambush patrol enroute to ambush site was fired upon at YD 529309 by 3 to 5 VC approximately 200 meters to the SW. The enemy fired 20 to 30 rounds of semi-automatic rifle fire and M-79. Area was illuminated and patrol maneuvered to area that VC fired from, but did not regain contact. After illumination ceased, patrol moved to a new ambush site at YD 528308.

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110001 TO 112400 H January 1967

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3-K-26 at YD 575278 discovered a 1/2 pound block of TNT with rocks piled on top. Device was rigged with trip wire. Engineers destroyed it.

1025: Sniper team at YD 584269 reported two separate sightings in vicinity of YD 588264. Fired two shots. One enemy KIAP.

1230: Co K CP at YD 584269 observed 3 VC at YD 588265. Sniper team employed. One VC shot 5 times, other was hit but crawled away. Third VC fled under fire. One searching area, body was not found, but a one meter area where VC fell was covered with fresh blood. A tunnel through the heavy underbrush was found, and fresh tracks leading through it through which a body had apparently been carried.

1700: Co I moved to YD 519288, K Co to YD 574276, and Co L to YD 577294.

120001 TO 122400 H January 1967

0015: Co I at YD 520287 received one round of incoming artillery resulting in one KIA.

1023: 3-K-26 located numerous punji pits in vie of YD 598267 on entering a village. Pits were destroyed. Also found two cigarette lighters, one marked 504, one with 403, also found 60 rounds of 7.62 linked ammo.

1030: 1-K-26 at YD 598265 received 50 to 60 rounds SAF from vic of YD 598261, resulting in one friendly WIA. Fire was returned with SAF, M-79, M-60, and 81mm mortar. Number of enemy not known. Unit presently attempting to cross swollen river.

1200: 3-K-26 at YD 597264 received one round sniper fire from YD 599261. 1-K-26 observed sniper and fired MG's and rifles. VC went down and did not move. Unable to cross river to get body.

1415: Co K (CP) at YD 576276 received 1 round of sniper fire from YD 575269. Returned mortar fire and pursued by rifle platoon.

1450: 1-L-26 at YD 556289 received 1 round sniper fire from YD 557291. Marine tripped explosive device consisting of a grenade in a "C" ration can that was detonated when trip wire pulled grenade out of can. One friendly WIA med-evaced.

1530: 1-L-26 at YD 566289 detonated 2 more explosive devices, but sustained no casualties. Both were grenades in "C" ration cans that had 7-8 second delay. They were pulled out of cans by trip wires.

1615: 1-L-26 at YD 563293 detonated another explosive device consisting of grenade in "C" ration can. One friendly WIA.

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1615: 1-K-26 at YD 573279 found 1 lb of TNT booby-trapped with trip wire. Destroyed in place.

1645: 1-L-26 found booby-trap at YD 565294. Tube 2 inches in diameter, 6 inches in length, trip wire attached, tied in a bush and wrapped in green plastic. Destroyed in place.

1700: Co I moved to YD 520287; co K to YD 577276; and Co L to YD 567298.

2035: Co L ambush patrol at YD 558295 observed blinking lights at YD 548295. Previous experience has demonstrated that each time lights were observed, some type of enemy activity followed. Lights are believed to be signals, but meaning is unknown. Arty was fired in area.

2045: Lights appeared again at YD 548295. Arty fired for effect, with good effect on target. Lights extinguished.

130001 TO 132400 H January 1967

0835: Co K patrol at YD 605275 reported 2 rifle shots fired vic YD 581269. Believe shots were fired at helo.

0945: Co K patrol at YD 603277 received 4 rds SAF from YD 605275. Returned fire w/SAF and 3.5. Sniper silenced. Also sighted approximately 100 people (old men, women, and children) run across RR tracks to NE, vic YD 599289.

1210: Co I at YD 520282 called arty mission on 6 VC at YD 549275, 6 enemy KIAP. 1-K-26 at YD 573279 found 1 lb of TNT booby-trapped with trip wire. Destroyed in place.

1315: 3-L-26 sighted one VC at YD 552293 wearing light brown clothing moving south toward village.

1325: 3-L-26 moved through village at YD 559299 and were fired on by enemy ambush containing one machine gun. One friendly WIA med-evaced by helo. Enemy at YD 558297 withdrew south under heavy fire.

1555: 3-L-26 received 9-10 rounds from 4 VC at YD 553302. Fire returned with SAF and M-79. VC ceased firing; no casualties.

1915: Co L ambush while moving into ambush site at YD 562302 observed 7 VC at YD 563303. Patrol fired SAF and 60mm mortars. Enemy withdrew under fire. Enemy were again contacted at YD 560299 and fired upon with SAF. Two VC were observed falling and search of area revealed one VC hat with bullet hole through it. One VC KIAP. VC fled to South. (NOTE: see entry for 141225)

140001 TO 142400 H January 1967

0930: Co K OP at YD 590266 observed two or three VC approaching their position from river at YD 591264. OP took them under fire, and one member of the OP, while maneuvering to bring fire on the enemy, detonated a booby-trapped grenade, heard it pop, and hit the deck near it, resulting in one WIA. 1-K-26 was dispatched to the area, and at YD 596286 a booby-trapped 155 round was detonated, resulting

in one KIA and 9 WIA, 4 serious. Seven were med-evaced by helo. During med-evac, 1-K-26 received about 25-30 rounds of SAF from across the river from YD 590260 to YD 600262. Air and helo gun ships ran strikes, returned fire with machine guns.

1225: 2-L-26 found two mounds of fresh earth that looked like graves. Investigation disclosed 2 bodies, male, no equipment, at YD 559299. Both killed by gunfire and shrapnel from M-79. These VC were killed in action the night of 13 Jan 67 (see entry for 13 1915). Change 1 enemy KIA to 2 enemy KIA.

1300: 2-L-26 at YD 558298 received SAF from sniper vic YD 558308. One friendly WIA was med-evaced by helo, but died enroute to A-Med.

1342: Co M at YD 548303 observed sniper fire at helicopter from YD 551306. Deployed platoon toward sniper. Platoon received 2 rounds SAF from another sniper located at YD 553295. Returned SAF, searched area, no further contact.

1410: Co I CP at YD 533239 sighted 6 armed VC at YD 535284. Engaged with SAF, and requested artillery mission. Searched area and found 3 VC KIA, one being a woman with a weapon. Recovered one French 9mm Submachine gun M1949 (MAT-49), 1 Soviet 7.62mm assault rifle AK-47 (ChiCom 7.62mm assault rifle type 56) wooden stock, 1 US caliber .30 carbine M-1.

1545: Co K at YD 577276 received 2 rounds of sniper fire from vic YD 575274. Returned SAF. 3-K-26 swept area, but made no further contact.

1800: Co K moved to YD 582272, Co L to YD 570300, and Co I to YD 521288.

1855: Co L at YD 570300 observed smoke vic of YD 551291. Fired artillery concentration, with good coverage of area.

150001 TO 152400 H January 1967

0830: Co L ambush at YD 555291 received 3-4 SAF from vic YD 552291. Returned SAF and M-79. Two VC fled south under fire.

0920: 2-K-26 at YD 591268 received 10 to 15 rounds SAF from automatic weapons vic of YD 595273. Returned SAF and 81mm mortar. On maneuvering towards VC, further SAF was received from YD 501266. Shifted 81's to these coordinates and continued pursuit. Footprints found at YD 595273 led to footbridge at YD 591264. Bridge was made of steel railroad rails and bamboo.

1025: Co M patrol at YD 541311 received SAF from 3-4 VC vic YD 543313. Estimated 1 automatic weapon and 3 rifles. Patrol returned fire, getting 1 VC KIA. Recovered 1 French Submachine gun 9mm M1949 and 2 magazines.

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1230: Co M at YD 538303 patrol found 18 81mm mortar rounds with pins removed. Deployed engineer team to patrol. All rounds destroyed.

1300: Co K patrol at YD 578282 located one dud 60mm mortar round. Destroyed in place.

2400: Co L ambushes at YD 553292 and YD 562299 reported 3 camp fires at YD 554297 and one at YD 559301. Artillery fired on target with good effect. Fires extinguished.

160001 TO 162400 H January 1967

1330: 3-L-26 observed 20 VC vic YD 549312 digging in area. 81mm mortars fired mission and VC dispersed. Searched area with no further contact.

1420: Co I OP #3 sighted 2 VC with weapons vic YD 545291. OP fired on VC and Co I sent reinforced squad to investigate.

1452: Co M Mighty Mite hit M-16 AP mine vic YD 533294. Mite damaged in rear, 3 friendly WIA. Two WIA med-evaced by helo, 3rd WIA minor.

1607: Co I reinforced squad (see 161420 entry) found homemade VC grenade at YD 544287. While crossing bridge at same location, received 4 rounds SAF. Returned fire, searched area, no further contact made.

2140: Security detachment H&S Co, 4th Marines reported movement to their front and one incoming grenade. Returned grenades and requested illumination. No further contact.

170001 TO 172400 H January 1967

0850: Chopped Opcon of CO E 2/26 to 2/26.

0900: LtCol K. L. HOCH assumed command of 3/26.

1040: 2-M-26 at YD 547289 received 3 rounds sniper fire from YD 547285. No VC observed. Returned SAF and searched area with no contact.

1201: 3-L-26 at YD 549301 located a Bouncing Betty type mine. Destroyed mine in place.

1212: 3-L-26 at YD 549300 found grave containing one male VC body, age 18-30 with 4 gunshot wounds.

1255: 2-M-26 at YD 543288 received 5 rounds sniper fire from vic YD 548286. Area searched with no further contact.

UNCLASSIFIED
Enclosure (1)

1358: 3-L-26 at YD 547296 located tunnel which was 6 ft by 6 ft. Tunnel opening had good field of fire to east. Further search produced one coolie hat with blood stains, a box containing 3 fuzes for mines, 30 rounds caliber .30 ammo, and 6 coolie hats, 2 of which had blood stains. Tunnel destroyed.

1450: 3-L-26 found 2 native boats at YD 550295. Boats were destroyed.

1520: Co M at YD 521292 received one sniper round from vic YD 515290. Returned SAF and searched area with no further contact.

1545: 3-L-26 at YD 555295 fired on 5 VC with SAF. They fled area as unit approached. Further search produced one pack and BAR cartridge belt in village at same coordinates.

2100: 1-L-26 at YD 517316 reported receiving 10 rounds 60mm mortar landing outside their perimeter at YD 521315. Estimated mortar position at YD 517327. 81's and 105's fired counter-mortar fire.

2150: 1-L-26 reported 3 more rounds mortar fire landing vic YD 521318. Estimated position in vic YD 514328. 81's and 105's continued suppressing fires. (see entry for 181317)

2212: Artillery security element at YD 539324 reported a trip flare set off vic 538325. Continued observation of area, but observed no movement.

180001 TO 182400 H January 1967

1106: 2-M-26 at YD 515312 observed 12-15 VC vic YD 515328. VC fled when observing patrol. 81's and 105's fired mission. Unit checked area, with no further contact.

1200: 1-M-26 at YD 547295 found one booby-trapped LAW, M-72. Used electrical firing device, powered by batteries, and below ground surface. Delivered to S-2.

1317: 2-M-26 at YD 511326 found previous enemy mortar position. Baseplate imprint indicated azimuth 135 degrees mag. Found 2 ChiCom 60mm mortar rounds. 3 81mm mortar craters observed in close proximity to position, believed to be from previous nights counter-mortar fire (see entries for 172100 and 172150.)

1205: 1-M-26 at YD 545295 found one Claymore mine. Man tripped tripwire, firing device activated, but mine failed to explode. Delivered to S-2.

UNCLASSIFIED

1853: 3-L-26 at YD 560302 found ChiCom grenade in center of perimeter. Destroyed at first light.

2015: 3 - L-26 patrol at YD 556300 while moving to ambush position was fired on by an estimated 10 VC in vicinity YD 554300. VC fired approximately 10 to 15 rounds SAF. Patrol returned fire and maneuvered toward enemy, but enemy broke contact. Patrol proceeded to ambush position.

190001 TO 192400 H January 1967

0208: Co K ambush at YD 525307 had two-man security element 30-40 meters to rear. Security element observed one man between themselves and ambush, then two more to their rear. The VC spoke in Vietnamese, whereupon the element fired first on the single man, saw him drop, then fired on the other two. Two moved in NW direction, while ambush searched area under illumination, enemy fired on ambush, then on 2-M-26 position, and were observed moving NW. Ambush fired on enemy, then withdrew to perimeter. 81mm H&I fires plotted to prevent retrieval of third man, and on trail running NW to village at YD 5032. Area searched in morning, but no body found.

0230: Co K LP at YD 543314 reported noise and possible movement N&S of position. No visual sightings.

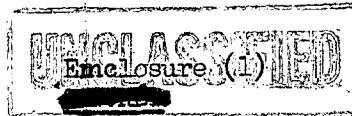
0815: Co M OP sighted 25 VC on patrol at YD 528282. 105 mission fired with good effect. Results 1 VC KIA.

1202: 2-L-26 via YD 549295 located 3 bunkers 12 ft by 12 ft with two rooms, 4 ft by 4 ft inside. One had a tunnel which led to a third room 3 ft by 3 ft. Bunkers were destroyed. Also in the same area, an ARVN type helmet and liner, one pair of utility trousers, and one US gas can with holes in it were found. All items taken to S-2.

1212: 2-L-26 at YD 549294 received 10 to 15 rounds SAF from estimated 1 VC in vic YD 549293. Unit returned SAF and M-79. Blocking force from 2-K-26 was positioned at YD 548295. 2-L-26 searched area with no further contact.

1340: 2-L-26 at YD 542302 apprehended 3 detainees. Delivered to District Headquarters.

1415: 3-M-26 via YD 518276 reported finding 2 ChiCom grenades with trip wires attached. Also found numerous punji traps 2 ft by 2 ft by 6-7 inches deep. Punji pits were covered with leaves and dirt and appeared to have been in place for a long time. All were destroyed in place. At YD 518274, 3-M-26 found a piece of plastic similar to a poncho that was soaked with blood. Further search of the area produced no further evidence.



1530: 1-L-26 at YD 556310 apprehended 20 detainees: 15 females, of which 2 were between the ages of 30 and 50, the others were children; and 12 males, of which 2 were between ages of 40 and 50 and the rest children. All were turned over to District headquarters.

1950: Co M sighted a light 2000 meters distant on an azimuth of 140 degrees, at YD 527270. Fired artillery mission. Light extinguished.

2115: Co K patrol enroute to ambush site at YD 543311 received 2 hand grenades when approximately 50 meters from destination. No casualties, no further contact. Moved ambush site approximately 50 meters from original location.

200001 TO 202400 H January 1967

0030: Co L OP at YD 569299 fired at suspected enemy movement at YD 570298. No further movement observed. Returned to Co CP.

0730: 3/26 assumed operational control of CHINOOK AO IAW Third MarDiv Frag 0 1-67 (Operation CHINOOK).

1050: 1-L-26 at YD 576295 found one South Vietnamese flag 6 ft by 6 ft, two buttons in a small glass jar, two bunkers 8 ft by 6 ft by 4 ft high, with entrances 2 ft by 3 ft. One bunker had 2 separate rooms with candles in each and warm ashes where a fire had been. A 5-lb bag of rice was also found in one bunker. Bunkers were destroyed and rice brought in for examination.

1130: 1-M-26 at YD 537276 received 15 rounds of sniper fire from YD 540275. 1-M-26 returned SAF. Called in artillery fire mission and searched area with no further contact.

1220: Co L at YD 561299 tripped a booby-trapped grenade, resulting in 2 friendly WIA's. Men were evaced by helo. The grenade had a delayed activating device. A cord was tied to a wire on the grenade, stretched across the trail, and tied to a branch.

1245: 1-M-26 at YD 534267 received 6 rounds SAF from vic YD 530265. Unit returned SAF and called in artillery. Area searched with no further contact.

1405: 1-M-26 at YD 527268 received 4 rounds SAF from vic YD 537263. 1-M-26 returned SAF and called in artillery. Area searched, no further contact.

1440: 1-M-26 at YD 527269 found one black shirt with metal fragments in it.

1510: 1-M-26 at YD 521274 received sniper fire from semi-automatic weapon from vic YD 523274. 1-M-26 returned fire and searched area with no further contact.

Enclosure (1)

16

UNCLASSIFIED

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 1355-2245. At 1355 3rd MarDiv G-2 reported info from VC rallier who was with 3rd Co, 802nd Bn on the night of 19 Jan 1967. Rallier gave locations of following units: 6th Regimental HQ with attached units at YD 570203; 802nd Bn CP with CO at YD 574244; company-sized unit at YD 570219. Reported a company-sized unit moved from vic YD 5721 to YD 5136 for food, and returned to vic YD 5721 on night of 19 Jan 67. Upon receipt of full information, TPS's were requested and H&I's were plotted on suspect positions and avenues of approach. At approximately 2000 PK-17 alerted this command of above information and alerted command that additional information from rallier indicated a possible battalion-sized attack on this position and on PHONG DIEN District HQ; requested this unit to plot artillery on call missions in preparation for defense of their of their position against possible battalion-sized attack based on identical intelligence. Coordination was made. 3/26 units alerted LP's and ambushes remained in position. Co K (-) to maintain reaction force and AT to maintain internal reaction platoon on 15 minute alert.

2300: Co L ambush observed 2 lights at YD 573294. Fired artillery mission and lights were extinguished.

2318: Co L LP at YD 5722300 detected noise and lights in woodline vic YD 565301 to YD 566307. Fired mortars and noise ceased and lights were extinguished.

210001 TO 212400 H January 1967

0940: Co K OP at YD 543312 observed 8 VCS at YD 547315. Unit proceeded to that vic to investigate and found a total of 22 VCS, who they apprehended. 10 were females, 5 were children, and 7 were males ranging in age from 20 to 50. All were turned over to District Headquarters.

1207: Co M at YD 533276 located a 60mm mortar round rigged with a trip wire. The round was buried with the nose showing.

1336: Co L at YD 559302 observed 3 VC dressed in green utility type uniforms at YD 550302. Noise had been detected at 1100 coming from this same general vicinity. Co L fired SAF and M-60 machinegun fire at 3 VC and dispatched unit to check area. No further contact or sightings were made.

1205: Co I at YD 534314 observed one VCS at YD 543326 walking in close proximity to Bn perimeter position. He was apprehended and turned over to District Headquarters.

1750: Co L apprehended one VCS at YD 548308. He was between ages of 40 and 50, dressed in white cotton. VCS was proceeding north on trail carrying farming implements and roots for food. A water buffalo tended by children 100 meters to his rear. VCS claimed to be heading home. He was turned over to District Headquarters.

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~
 Enclosure (1)

220001 TO 222400 H January 1967

0900: 2-M-26 at YD 546291 received 5 rounds SAF from estimated 1-VC vic YD 548285. Artillery mission fired and area searched with no further contact.

1000: 2-L-26 at YD 550303 found 3 L-shaped bunkers measuring 8 ft by 8 ft with passageways measuring 2 ft by 2 1/2 ft. Another bunker of same dimensions was found 1000 meters away and a fresh grave nearby. Bunkers were destroyed.

1050: 2-M-26 at YD 553275 detonated explosive device resulting in one friendly WIA. Man was med-evaced by helo. Explosive device was a grenade of unknown type attached to the floor of a hut. When door was opened, device detonated.

1240: 2-L-26 apprehended 3 male Vietnamese at YD 551308. Detainees were between ages of 30 and 45. They were interrogated and turned over to District Headquarters.

1430: 2-L-26 found a Vietnamese boat at YD 556295. Boat was 12 ft long and 3 ft wide. Boat was destroyed.

2330: ARVN units to north of Hwy #1 in contact with VC. Artillery from this unit fired 24 missions in support. All units alerted.

230001 TO 232400 H January 1967

0010: Co K LP at YD 541318 detected movement to their front vic YD 542318. LP threw grenade and movement ceased.

0200: (Information obtained concerning action of ARVN units between 2230-0200 from monitoring radio net). ARVN unit (Black Panther) in contact with VC vic YD 570340 moving south. 3/26 supported unit with continuous illumination. At 2316 a second ARVN unit engaged VC moving south vic YD 581312.

At 2335 1/7 Armed Cavalry was moving NW toward YD 560320 to support.

At 2355 ARVN lost contact and suspected enemy movement toward 3/26 AO. 3/26 initiated H&I's on suspected routes of withdrawal, zone fire on suspected destinations, and requested TPQ on YD 572243.

At 0050 ARVN units moved into position on line from YD 551329 to YD 570325.

At 0130 1/7 Armed Cavalry encountered 2-4 VC YD 553328.

At 0200 vic YD 552335 ARVN sighted several VC. Shortly thereafter all contact was lost with no fix on enemy direction of movement.

Earlier, on afternoon of 22 Jan 67, VC unit was observed vic YD 581422. Believed to be support for rice carriers.

At 2245 a VC lieutenant was captured vic YD 565346. He identified his unit as 3rd Co, 802nd Bn. Prisoner said 40-45 men moved from CO BI THANH TAN Valley through 3/26 AO of engagement that night. Prisoner had not eaten in two days. Reported areas of rice pickup vic YD 5044 and YD 5543. On 21 Jan, prisoner was at YD 572243. Came down from the north one month ago.

Enclosure (1)

0200: (cont) 3/26 support consisted of continuous illumination for 30-45 minutes beginning at 2324, interdicting fires on likely routes of withdrawal, zone fires vic YD 565245, and units positioned as follows: Co L (-) ambush at YD 550305; Co M (-) ambush at YD 545312. 3/26 units had no contact.

VC believed to have crossed National Hwy #1 vic YD 578310.

Results of ARVN engagement: 1 captured VC lieutenant; 1 bag of rice vic YD 581310; 5 individual weapons; 20-30 estimated enemy KIA.

ARVN planning sweep north of Hwy #1 at 0700. 3/26 will search south of Hwy in A0.

0900: 2-M-26 at YD 544280 received four rounds SAF from estimated four VC at YD 543271. Returned SAF and artillery. 3 VC fled under fire on an azimuth of 140 degrees magnetic. Unit continued on mission of searching area.

1055: 2-M-26 at YD 548270 received 7 rounds automatic SAF from one VC at YD 546277. Returned SAF and arty fire. VC fled south under fire.

1135: 2-M-26 at YD 546264 detonated explosive device resulting in one friendly WIA. Device was ChiCom grenade rigged with fishing line strung across trail. WIA was med-evaced by helo.

1430: 2-M-26 at YD 547280 received SAF from village at YD 544283 as medevac helo was attempting to extract 2 friendly WIA's. SAF initially directed at helo by VC and then a civilian in village, resulting in one small child being wounded. She was evacuated with friendly WIA. Seven other civilians were in village. Detainees turned over to District Headquarters.

1615: 2-L-26 at YD 580270 apprehended 1 female detainee age about 25.

1800: Co L at YD 573300; Co M at YD 535295.

1801: 2-M-26 at YD 547280 received 3 rounds SAF from YD 544283. Returned SAF, observed 3 VC running into woodline. One returning SAF observed one VC fall. Area searched, heavy bloodstains found.

1830: Co L resupply vehicle (mule) with 4 marines and 1 VCS aboard, while proceeding from YD 564303 (Co CP) to YD 581309 for rendezvous with 2 1/2 ton truck and another mule was ambushed by 5 VC. Upon hearing SAF, Co L sent a platoon to investigate. Found 2 friendly KIA, 2 friendly WIA, and the vehicle. The VCS had escaped. The VCS was blindfolded with hands tied behind back. No further contact. Truck and mule returned to Bn CP without incident. Two WIA and two KIA returned to Bn CP.

1940: TPS-21 at YD 534325 reported two sightings of movement. First sighting estimated at YD 531331, and second sighting at YD 544326. Movement North to Southeast. Size estimated 3-5 persons.

240001 TO 242400 H January 1967

0830: Co M (-) at YD 545291 received anti and anti weapons wire from estimated 45 enemy dressed in green uniforms and straw hats at YD 545290. After initial firefight, enemy broke contact and fled to south. Co M in pursuit. Four friendly WIA, four VC KIA.

0900: Co M (-) found 10 freshly dug foxholes at YD 545286, and 3 enemy mortar positions and 5 rounds of 60mm ChiCom mortars at YD 543286.

0920: Co M (-) at YD 542276 sighted 10 VC in open at YD 539267. Arty mission fired.

1005: Co M (-) at YD 541273 received 3 rounds of 60mm mortars from vic YD 539267. Counter-mortar fires called, and enemy mortars ceased.

1100: Co M at YD 537264 tripped ChiCom grenade rigged with trip wire pull device across path, 2 friendly WIA.

1130: Co M (-) at YD 537264 set off pressure type device identified as 155mm round 1 friendly KIA.

1317: Co I at YD 542312 found explosive device in brush. Device was ChiCom rocket, similar to US 3.5" rocket with monofilament line strung from base to a peg in ground. Area had many bare footprints. I-6 believed device set up just prior to his reaching position. When engineers detonated device, secondary explosion occurred, believed to be 81mm round.

1328: Co I at YD 545264 detonated explosive device believed to be ChiCom grenade with trip wire, hidden in brush. One friendly WIA medevaced by helo.

1334: Co M at YD 545264 detonated explosive device. One friendly WIA medevaced.

1403: Co M at YD 548261 detonated explosive device. Believed to be 81mm cannister filled with TNT, detonated by pressure device. One friendly WIA, medevaced by helo.

1509: Co M at YD 545270 received 15 rounds SAF from undetermined number of VC at YD 548264. Returned SAF, arty mission fired.

1527: Co M at YD 547276 detonated explosive device resulting in 2 WIA. Device was ChiCom grenade in can, trip wire attached, instantaneous fuse. Medevaced by helo.

1530: Co I at YD 545291 found ChiCom grenade with trip wire attached on footbridge. Removed grenade.

20

UNCLASSIFIED

Enclosure (1)

UNCLASSIFIED

1540: Co M at YD 547270 detonated explosive device, resulting in 1 WIA. Device was ChiCom grenade. In rem, trip wire attached. Instantaneous fuse. Medevaced by helo at 1600.

1646: Co M received auto SAF from one VC at YD 552278. Returned fire, man fled east.

17121 Co I at YD 547291 had 60mm mortar round explode just out of tube. Seven WIA, 5 from I, 2 from M. Mortar was firing on sniper at YD 552278 (see entry immediately preceding). WIA's included Co I Commander: medevaced by helo.

1800: Summary of recon activity for period: sighted 4 groups of VC, total 39 people. Fire missions called at each sighting. Four KIAP.

2156: Co I LP at YD 552283 reported suspected enemy activity to northeast. Fired 2 rounds M-79. No further contact. No enemy observed with sniperscope.

250001 TO 252400H January 1967

1050: Co K at YD 575285 discovered a land mine which appeared to be an improvised mine measuring 10 inches in diameter. Also in the same vicinity were numerous punji pits measuring 1ft by 1ft. The mine and punji pits were destroyed.

1145: Dual 40's at YD 585283 observed. 3 VC at YD 587285. Dual 40's brought VC under fire and observed one fall. 1-K-26 searched area and found heavy blood stains. 1 VC KIAP. Searching unit received 3-4 rounds SAF from 2 VC in vic YD 590289. Unit returned SAF, M-60 MG, and 2 M-79 rounds. Searched area with no further contact.

1145: 2-I-26 at YD 540291 found 2 sticks utilized as a trail marker. Sticks were 10 inches high on west side of trail, 5 meters apart. Markers were removed.

1600: Recon unit operating in support of Operation CHINOOK called artillery fire on 6 VC at YD 429333. 2 VC KIAP.

260001 TO 262400H January 1967

1205: Co I at YD 544288 observed 5 VC wearing black pajamas and straw hats at YD 551305. 81mm mortar fire mission called. VC withdrew to west.

1250: Co K at YD 578281 found 250 lb bomb with pull-pressure type device attached to 2 stakes by nylon cord. Stakes located in punji pit 1 1/2 ft by 2 ft. Bomb located in hole 1 ft below surface of ground. EOD sent to area and exploded bomb in place at 1720.

UNCLASSIFIED
Enclosure (1)

1550: 1-I-26 found punji trap at YD 554284. Trap was 12 in. by 14 in. and 12 in. deep. Trap was destroyed by grenade.

1130-1700: Summary of recon activity for period. 2 recon teams at YD 553234 received SAF from 10-20 VC 40 meters to their east, resulting in 1 friendly KIA and 1 friendly WIA. Requested Sparrow Hawk Force which landed at YD 545231, linked with recon teams, searched area, returned to YD 545231, and all personnel were picked up by helo at that location. 2 VC KIA.

2150: PK-17 reported 2 battalions of VC at YD 601255 moving north along the river. 105 battery fired 161 rounds of zone fire, shifting north, from 2150 to 2155.

270001 TO 272400 H January 1967

1000: Co K (-) at YD 560288 observed 2 persons in treeline at YD 565271. Could not observe uniform or equipment. Area search with no further contact.

1045: Co K (-) at YD 558288 pull-release detonated one M-26 grenade, resulting in 1 friendly WIA. Man was med-evaced by helo. Found one M-26 grenade at same location that had previously been pull-released without detonating; grenade destroyed in place.

1140: 2-I-26 at YD 554285 found 1 bunker 5 ft by 4 ft covered with fresh camouflage. A 4" bamboo beam supporting roof. A room 3 ft by 2 ft was dug in the side of the bunker. Bunker was destroyed.

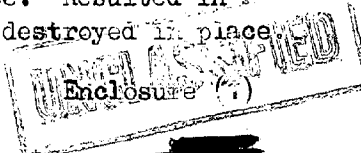
1140: Co K (-) at YD 558288 found 2 pull-release wired M-26 grenades on trail. Grenades were marked with rocks. One marker consisted of 5 to 6 rocks in a pile 5 meters from grenade. Other marker consisted of 4 rocks in squares approx. 2-3 inches apart located 5 meters from grenades. Grenades destroyed in place.

1150: Co K (-) at YD 555290 found pull-release wire M-26 grenade on trail. Marked by pile of 5-6 rocks on trail 75 meters before grenade. Destroyed in place.

1215: Co K (-) at YD 555290 found pull-release wired ChiCom grenade on trail. No markers found. Grenade destroyed in place.

1231: Co K (-) at YD 556291 detonated an explosive device smaller than a ChiCom grenade. Explosive device was marked with 3 rocks approx. 20 meters away. One friendly WIA (minor, no medevac required).

1239: Co K (-) at YD 556291 detonated explosive device of unknown type. At same time explosive device detonated a US 81mm mortar round popped into air, but failed to detonate. Device was marked by a 6 ft piece of bamboo 15 meters away pointing toward device. Resulted in 1 friendly WIA who was medevaced and 81mm round was destroyed in place.



1515: Co I (-) at YD 545282 found punji pit 15 ft by 2 ft. Pit was destroyed in place.

1515: Recon Team at YD 461254 observed 7 VC wearing khakis and green utilities at YD 473268 moving SE. Arty called with good coverage. AO reported 3 VC KIA.

1645: Recon Team at YD 463255 observed 42 VC at YD 454258 moving north and carrying mortars. Every 7th man was carrying heavy equipment. Air and arty called on target. AO reported 20 VC KIA, 15 VC KIAP and 10 VC WIA.

1800: K Co at YD 578281 observed 1 mortar round land at YD 583290. No further activity.

1815: Co K at YD 578281 observed 3 VC at YD 592273. Took VC under fire with M-50-A1's and M-42's with good effect on target. Three VC KIAP.

1910: Recon Team at YD 463255 observed at YD 458261. Eight KIA and 4 VC WIA by airstrikes.

1845-2230: Co M lifted in 3 waves from LZ at YD 531319 as reaction force to search YD 4626 and 4526 for 28 enemy confirmed KIA and several other VC observed in area. 1st wave landed at 1845 at YD 457267, 600 meters from LZ, 2nd wave landed at 1931 at YD 482272, 1100 meters from LZ. Illumination support provided by one 155 howitzer at PHO TRACH with 19 rounds. Flare ship requested and arrived on station at 2100, but majority of flares streamed and landed on ground. Co M consolidated at 2230 at YD 485274.

2245: Recon Team at YD 461254 observed one light at YD 455274 moving north to south. Also reported several small lights moving north to south in column, which were extinguished at YD 447272. Fire mission called.

280001 TO 282400 H January 1967

0735: Co M at YD 471261 found 4 ChiCom grenades and 5 81mm mortar rounds. Ordnance destroyed in place.

0845: AO observed at YD 477325 raft and possible bridge construction. Air strike called. AO reports 75% coverage of area.

0850: Recon at YD 461254 reported 2 VC at YD 473269 moving into hut. VC wearing khaki shirts, green trousers. Air strike called. Recon reports 2 VC KIAP.

0955: Co K OP at YD 581269 observed 3 VC at YD 568258 carrying weapons. Air strike called with 100% coverage on target. AO reports 1 VC KIAP.

1000: Recon Team at YD 461254 reported secondary explosion larger than 250 lb. bomb from air strike at YD 475275.

1014: 3-K-26 at YD 568289 found 3 bomb shelter type tunnels 3 ft by 7 ft by 2 ft. Shelters destroyed in place.

1500: CG 3rd MarDiv visited 3/26 at 1400 and departed at 1500.

1650: Co M brought from YD 4726 a total of 5 81mm rounds, 1 magazine for AK-47, 2 ChiCom web gear in area of YD 4726.

1740: Huey gunship reported dropping 40mm rocket pod at YD 604308 with 7 live rounds. Reaction squad dispatched to recover same. The pod was found and destroyed in place. Evidence showed that the VC had already started to take fuses, and take the pod apart, but fled before the squad arrived. While squad was recovering the pod, it received 10-12 rounds of sniper fire from unknown coordinates. Six of the 7 fuses and some of the power from the rockets had been removed.

1840: AO received SAF from YD 539413. PK-17 notified, but could not cover with arty.

2120: Co K at YD 578282 and Co I at YD 548282 spotted a light which was plotted at YD 558297. Arty fired, light extinguished, no further surveillance.

2140: Co I at YD 548282, approx. 5-6 lights of flashlight intensity on ridge line at YD 554230. Arty fired, light extinguished.

290001 TO 292400 H January 1967

0845: Co K at YD 581272 observed 8 VC at YD 561262 digging into position. VC wearing light khaki clothing. Artillery fired VT, no more movement observed. Six VC KIA.

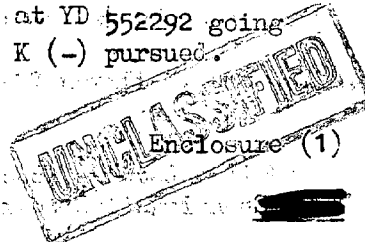
0915: H&S Co 106's at YD 539319 received 10 rounds SAF from YD 545325. 106's searched area. No further contact.

1026: Co K (-) at YD 559298 received 10 rounds automatic fire from YD 557297. Co K (-) returned SA, MG, and M-79 fire. 1-I-26 blocking force moved to YD 545294. Co K (-) pursued VC.

1044: 2-I-26 at YD 548282 observed 2 VC at YD 534287 moving south into trees carrying heavy packs; MG and SAF fired at VC. 1-I-26 checked area with no further contact.

1101: Co K (-) at YD 581272 observed 5 VC at YD 552292 going into tree line. VC were wearing no shirts. Co K (-) pursued. 1-I-26 blocking force in position.

2121: Co I at YD 548282 at 2124 H. Co I at YD 548282 which reported a VC at YD 558297, no further contact.



1203: Co K (-) and 1-I-26 converged at YD 548293. Searched area with no contact.

1500: Recon Team at YD 595235 spotted 5 VC turning out of house hit by air strike at YD 594258. One VC was dragging an unidentified object. VC were wearing black uniforms. Arty mission fired, resulting in 1 VC KIAP.

1510: Recon Team YD 595235 spotted 5 VC at YD 578246 moving west on road. VC wearing black uniforms and large packs. Called air strikes. AO reported 2 VC KIAC and 1 VC KIAP.

1555: Recon Team at YD 461257 spotted 7 VC w/weapons moving north on trail at YD 448262. Arty fired and Recon reported 4 VC KIAP.

1555: Recon at YD 595235 spotted 12 VC moving north on trail at YD 585246. Air strikes were called, with artillery firing between strikes. Recon fired SA at 3 VC who fled into treeline at YD 547247. Total VC casualties: 2 VC KIAC and 3 VC KIAP.

1745: Co K at YD 578282 observed 9 VC at YD 566298 moving north between 2 treelines. Artillery fired with excellent effect on target, resulting in 8 VC KIAP.

1805: Co I at YD 552290 fired on one VC at YD 554292 VC fled NE into thick brush. Equipment which VC left behind and was recovered by Co I included 2 ChiCom hand grenades, 4 clips of M-1 ammo, and a bag of rice and clothing.

2010: Co I spotted 2-4 lights at YD 555296 moving east to west. Fired arty, lights extinguished.

2130: Co I spotted one light at YD 555296. Arty fired, light extinguished.

300001 TO 302400 H January 1967

0955: 2-K-26 at YD 599278 received 12 rounds sniper fire from YD 605279. Returned SA and MG fire. 2-K-26 moved to OP at YD 594273 while ARVN in area searched area. No further contact was made.

1120: Co I at YD 553290 found punji trap 2 ft by 3 ft by 3 ft with 25 stakes 2 ft long. At YD 553291 found 2 more punji traps 16" long, 12" wide, 20" deep with 30 stakes 16" long. All 3 traps were destroyed.

1145: Co I at YD 553291 found 2 punji traps 16" long, 12" wide, and 20" deep with 30 bamboo stakes 10" long. Also found following VC gear at same location: 2 packs, one 5-gallon and one 1-gallon container of rice, 1 USMC canteen, 1 USMC spoon, VC bandage, 10" length of rubber, 1 USMC air mattress, 2 USMC trousers, USMC socks, 1 VC shirt, 1 coat, 1 hammock, 1 VC plastic rain cover, and dried fish.

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1316: 3-I-26 at YD 559298 found 19 fighting holes, each hole big enough for only one man. Also found 4 bunkers, each 10 ft by 12 ft with 4" bamboo beam supporting roof. One ChiCom rifle grenade was also found. Bunkers and fighting holes destroyed, grenade was blown in place.

1355: 1-M-26 at YD 495325 had 1 VC throw a hand grenade, turn and run. 1-M-26 engage VC with SAF, resulting in 1 VC KIA and 1 VCS. VCS and clothes and equipment of KIA were returned for examination.

1345: Recon Team at YD 595235 fired 105 mission at 8 VC moving NE at YD 578248 with good coverage of area. 2 VC KIA.

1445: 1-M-26 at YD 498327 found 1 grave containing 1 male body. Body was mangled, apparently killed by artillery. No equipment or clothes found in grave. 1 VC KIA.

1520: Recon Team at YD 595235 observed 7 VC with packs at YD 580249. Fired 105 mission resulting in 2 VC KIA.

1600: Co I at YD 548282 observed 1 VC running south at YD 540261. M-55's and arty fired on VC. No further movement observed.

1650: Recon Team at YD 597234 observed 13 VC moving east at YD 594243 with 2 weapons and packs. Arty fired mission, result in 5 VC KIA.

1750: H&S Co at YD 538318 received 20 rounds auto fire from YD 548325. Returned fire with SA & MG. Searched area with no further contact.

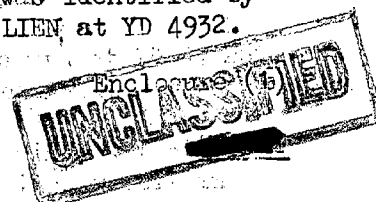
310001 TO 312400 H January 1967

1040: Co K at YD 559299 found 7 punji pits 2 ft by 2 ft, 3 fighting holes, and 2 shelter bunkers, 5 ft long, 1 1/2 inches wide and covered with bamboo poles supporting 3-4 inches of earth. Fighting holes and punji pits destroyed.

1106: Co I at YD 562266 received one round SAF from vic YD 564267. Co I returned fire with one 3.5 round, 7 M-79 rounds, and 20-30 rounds SAF. Co I searched area and found fresh footprints heading into village from W to E. Fired arty, continued search of area, but made no further contact.

1110: Co L at YD 523312 received 1 round 81mm mortar at YD 524314. Searched area, and no further contact.

1155: (refer to entry for 301355 H) 1 VC KIA was identified by District HQ as being VC hamlet chief of THON HUYNH LIEN at YD 4932.



1237: Co I at YD 565266 found an M-79 round, rigged with a pull-released detonating device marked by 3 stakes in a tripod. Device was found under a concrete block. M-79 round was destroyed.

1340: Co K at YD 559299 dug up 3 graves containing 2 children that had been dead for approx. 5 days. Also 1 man in mid-20's clothed in light green uniform. Man had heavy shrapnel wounds in leg and arms with 2 fingers of right hand blown off. Man had been dead for approx. 48 hours. Children were also killed by shrapnel wounds. Co K at YD 555296 also found 1 grave containing a badly burned and decapitated body. Two VC KIA.

1413: 2-I-26 at YD 576271 observed 2 VC running south from YD 576269. 2-I-26 also received SAF from same vicinity. Searched area with no further contact.

2122: Co I ambush at YD 552281 enroute to ambush site observed one light at YD 560269, type of light unknown. Artillery called. Light extinguished.

2205: Co I ambush at YD 552281 observed lights moving south at YD 567261. Called arty fire mission, lights extinguished.

1237

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Enclosure (7)

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

A. COMBAT MISSIONS ASSIGNED AND SIGNIFICANT OPERATIONS CONDUCTED

During January, 3d Battalion, 26th Marines continued to conduct Operation CHINOOK, a search and destroy operation in the sector of PHONG DIEN District, THUA THIEN Province that lies to the south of National Highway #1. From 1 January until 20 January the Fourth Marines had operational control of the operation, and 3 companies of 2/26 were also employed in the operation. From 20 January until 31 January, 3/26 had overall control of the operation.

During January, 3/26's CP was located at YD 535319. One or two companies would remain on the battalion perimeter, while the other two or three would operate from independent positions elsewhere in the AO. During the day, platoon and company-size search and destroy patrolling was conducted throughout the AO. OP's were maintained by all units, and the sniper teams that were available were generally employed with the OP's. At night, squad and platoon-sized ambushes were established to block likely enemy routes of movement through the AO. Listening posts were maintained by all units, and sniper-scopes, starlight scopes, and TPS-21's were employed.

During the first 3 weeks of January, mobility was greatly impeded by terrain and weather. Foot and vehicular movement was hampered by swollen streams and muddy ground, while aerial operations were limited to medevacs and emergency resupply runs by poor observation and low ceilings.

As the monsoon season drew to a close, the Battalion was able to operate more freely. On 27 January, the Battalion conducted its first large movement of marines by helicopter, as Co M was helilifted in 3 waves to YD 4526 and 4525 to search for 28 VC KIA that were reported by Recon. The clearing in weather also permitted increased use of tracked vehicles, and on 24, 27, 30, and 31 January, mechanized search and destroy patrols were conducted with Ontos. With the improvement in weather, fixed-wing aircraft began to make air-strikes during the day.

B. CASUALTIES

1. Friendly Casualties (1-31 January 1967)

Killed	7
Died of Wounds	1
Wounded	<u>91</u>
TOTAL	99

2. Enemy Casualties (1-31 January 1967)

KIAC	143
KIAP	221

Enclosure (1)

C. COMMAND RELATIONS

1. With Higher Units: From 1-20 January, 3/26 was under the operational control of the 4th Marines. When the 4th Marines left on 20 January, Opcon was chopped to the 3d MarDiv. No unusual problems were encountered in command relations.
2. With Other Marine Units: From 1-20 January 2/26 was also engaged in Operation CHINOOK. During this period, one company of 2/26 was under the operational control of 3/26. No unusual problems were encountered in command relations.
3. With ARVN Units: Throughout January, close liaison was maintained with the PHONG DIEN District Headquarters at PHO TRACH, and the Third ARVN Regimental Headquarters at PK-17. Information was exchanged daily regarding operations, and important intelligence information was exchanged as soon as it was available. 3/26 conducted several operations in conjunction with ARVN forces, notably the ambush operations during the nights of 21-22 January, and 22-23 January. 3/26, PHO TRACH, and PK-17 also maintained close liaison in artillery and provided mutual support to each other in their artillery fires.

D. COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRON

1. While under Opcon of the 3rd MarDiv the battalion maintains contact with Division Headquarters on a HF radio net, an FM covered net, and a radio relay shot. Radio relay provides two commonly used lines: a hot line to the S-3, and one to the FSCC. Teletype is superimposed.

2. Contact has been adequate with one exception. Teletype was down for twelve hours due to generator failure.

E. FIRE SUPPORT

1. During the month of January the FSCC was concerned with the normal coordinating, clearing and planning of artillery and air missions.
2. From January 1st until January 20th the 3rd Bn, 12th Marines controlled the fires of all units in the 3/26 perimeter except the Bn 81mm mortars. Calls for fire went to the 3/12 FDC and were cleared to fire by the 3/26 FSCC. Normal search and destroy missions were carried out during this period with no special fire support problem areas.

A vigorous H&I program was carried out in the CHINOOK area of operations during this period (1-20 Jan). All H&I fires were submitted to the 4th Rgt FSCC for approval, then the approved H&I plan was sent to 3/12 FDC.

3/26 FDC and 4th Rgt FSCC operated with a telephone "hot line" to 3/26 FSCC. This wire plan proved to be invaluable when fire coordination was required.

The counter mortar plan for the 3/26 CP was found to be very effective on 17 January. The 81mm mortars fired the basic mortar plan reinforced by the firing units of 3/12. Information was received in FSCC from a forward platoon. FSCC initiated fire with the 81's based upon this info and 3/12 was notified to reinforce. The mortars were silenced and fires were ceased. Then based upon a map inspection and the probable routes of withdrawal open to the enemy, additional fires were planned and executed. The results were mortars silence, shell crater on either side of base plate impression in the deck, 60mm mortar rounds and two fuse boxes with 3 live fuses found abandoned, blood stains and pieces of black clothing.

3. At 0730 on 20 January control of fires in the Operations Area returned to the 3/26 FSCC. The fire support means available of this time were Battery C-1-13 with 6, 155mm howitzers, the Bn 81mm mortar platoon with 8 mortars. On the 26th of January the 155 How Battery displaced by echelon to PK-17.

During the remainder of the month the FSCC operated in a routine manner with no major difficulties.

It is noteworthy to mention that Reconnaissance Teams operating in the mountains on the southern boundry of 3/26's AO, called many missions on VC with air and artillery. FSCC was able to react to these missions with speed, due to the liaison team located in the CP/FSCC. Liaison was also affected with the Air LnO, and Recon was able to mark targets with artillery for air observers of Air Controllers Airborne. Also the Liaison team informed the FSC when a large target appeared and air or massed artillery fires could be arranged expeditiously.

Artillery missions fired by the AO were almost always controlled in FSCC by the Air LnO and the FSC. This came about because the AO could not raise the Battery FDC on FM radio. High frequency contact was maintained with the AO by the Air LnO and calls for fire were passed to the FSC, who relayed the transmission to the Battery by telephone "hot line". Because the Air LnO was in close proximity to the FSC no appreciable time was lost in processing calls for fire.

The ARVN Artillery units at PHO TRACH have been used to reinforce the fires of Battery C and their 155mm howitzers were able to support our units when they moved out of the 105's range. Liaison between PHO TRACH and FSCC is good and Battery C and the Bn 81's are prepared to support the ARVN perimeter with illumination or HE fires.

A. AIR SUPPORT

I. Air Defense: No enemy aerial activity of any type was encountered.

II. Air Support.

a. Medivacs

1. 34 total missions were flown.
2. 79 WIA's and 2 KIA's were evacuated.

b. Fixed Wing Air Support

1. 102 sorties were flown in our support, 98 of them during the period from 26-29 Jan. The fixed wing struck sighted VC, reporting 24 enemy KIA confirmed and 9 enemy probable KIA. They also struck VC rally areas and suspected tunnel complexes.

c. Resupply

1. 18 total sorties were flown during the period 26-30 Jan in support of this command.

d. Command and Control (Recon Flights)

1. 20 sorties were flown in support of this command for reconnaissance purposes.

III. Summary: Fixed wing support was valuable in that the command was able to destroy pinpoint built-up areas, which were VC hiding places and possible tunnel areas. They also were on station for sighted VC.

Air resupply missions were utilized due to un-trafficability of the terrain the command units were operating in.

Medical evacuation flights were generally flown in all types of weather and completed in about 40 minutes.

Command and control (Recon) missions were extremely valuable to the commander in maintaining surveillance of this AO and control of units.

GFC ANTI-TANK SUPPORT

1. Operations.

Bravo Co (-) continued in D/S of 3/26 through the month of Jan. One platoon supported the Battalion perimeter on the perimeter, while the other platoon served in a Reaction-Force capacity.

On 2 Jan, the company had one section with 3/26 on a Battalion S&D operation

On 6 Jan a Heavy Section accompanied a motorized S&D operation through YD 520294, firing 51 rounds 106mm as recon by fire.

On 24 Jan a Heavy Section was attached to Co K, firing 25 rounds on S&D patrols as recon by fire.

On 27, 30, and 31 Jan platoons accompanied Co M and on S&D patrols Co L. A total of 336 rounds 106mm and 1500 rounds .30 caliber were expended as recon by fire, resulting in several buildings destroyed or damaged, and one secondary explosion.

H. ARMY ARTILLERY SUPPORT

1. QUAD-50's (4th Section, G Battery, 65th Artillery, US Army)

1-31 Jan: The primary functions of the quad-50's during January were convoy security and fire support on the Battalion perimeter.

26 Jan: On this date, the quad-50's received the additional mission of firing night-time H&I fires. The quad continued with this mission for the remainder of the month, firing approximately 35,000 rounds in H&I firing. These fires were up to 5500 meters.

28 Jan: One quad-50 was detached from vehicle and was helilifted to Hill 51 (YD 549281) to support Co I. Enemy targets were engaged, and H&I's were fired nightly. This was the first time one of the quads was used with a company outside the Battalion perimeter.

2. TWIN-40's (1st and 2nd Platoons, D Battery, 1st Bn (AW) (SP) 44th Arty, US Army)

1-22 Jan: During this period, 3 sections of twin-40's were employed on Operation CHINOOK. The primary mission was support of Battalion perimeter.

16-23 Jan: One section of M42's left the Bn perimeter to support Co M in its operations in Hill 76 (YD 503308).

23 Jan: On this date, 3 sections of the 2nd Platoon, D Battery were replaced on the Battalion perimeter by 2 sections of the 1st Platoon, D Battery. One section of M42's left the Battalion perimeter to support Co K in its operations in the Hill 56 area (vic YD 578281). The other section retained its mission of supporting the Battalion perimeter.

29 Jan: At this date, the M-42's assumed the additional mission of firing night-time H&I fires, engaging likely targets up to 4700 meters.

3 sections of twin-40's were employed
as stated
Enclosure (1)

I. ADMINISTRATION

1. The one major administrative problem encountered during the month of January involved the handling and reporting of casualties sustained. All injured personnel were evacuated to Phu Bai for treatment and with the administrative rear echelon located in Dong Ha, many hours were consumed trying to confirm the types of injuries and obtain accurate condition and prognosis prior to submitting reports to higher echelon. All reporting of casualties was accomplished by telephone due to the distance between the Medical Clearing facility and the administrative echelon of the Battalion. Transportation from the rear echelon to the "Chinook" area of operations was also a problem when trying to meet the deadline imposed for submission of condolence letters on personnel killed in action. On many cases, air transportation was not available and a delay of 1 to 2 days was encountered. Had the rear echelon been located in Phu Bai, or had the casualties been evacuated to the medical facility at Dong Ha, it is believed that the reporting and processing of casualties could have been handled much more efficiently.

Enclosure (1)

J. PERSONNEL

1. During the period covered by this report, the Battalion joined 2 officers and 135 enlisted personnel, while 1 officer and 93 enlisted personnel were transferred to other units. 5 enlisted were returned to CONUS for discharge/release from active duty and 2 officers, 38 enlisted were transferred by service records after being evacuated out of Vietnam as a result of injuries received.

K. INTELLIGENCE

1. Significant factors concerning intelligence during period.

a. Enemy movement through AO is characterized by an established pattern of routes and times. Platoon size units are suspected to be moving frequently from vic YD 565245 through AO to food collection points north of Highway #1 and returning. Movement begins at approximately 1700 hours and via the same route units return prior to 0500 hours. The enemy is also moving out of the mountains after 1700 and returning prior to first light.

b. Avenues of enemy movement include the KHE VAC AM River Valley, alternate trails east from Hill 51, railroad, SONG BO River and SONG O LAU River. Local guerrilla units provide guides for larger units.

c. Since 25 January 1967 an increased number of sighting of daylight movement have been reported. Also units have been reported moving in larger units-company and battalion size.

d. On 21 and 25 January 1967 ARVN sources reported 802nd Bn located vic YD 5724. On 23 Jan 67 a regimental HQ (probably 6th Regt) was reported vic 5322.

e. Mines and boobytraps are a major part of the enemy's activity. Co M on 24 January 1967 encountered the VC tactic of withdrawing from contact on a pre-planned route fortified with mines and boobytraps. Explosive devices are being rigged in trace of friendly units and are encountered either when units return through the area or when a unit moves along the same route at a later date. Areas searched just 24 hours previous can be expected to be mined or boobytrapped.

f. On 24 January 1967 Co M engaged the enemy entrenched in excellent fighting holes on a hill unoccupied the previous afternoon.

2. Weather and Terrain.

a. Weather-cloudy skies prevailed 27 of 31 days with associated light and heavy tropical showers. There were 18 days with precipitation during the period. The weather was the greatest single factor affecting operations during the period.

b. Terrain-the numerous small hamlets surrounded by thick hedges of shrubs and trees provided enemy snipers and OP's with excellent concealment. Streams swollen up to three times normal width and depth and impassable rice paddies were major obstacles and channelized troop movement enabling the enemy to capitalize on mines and sniper activity.

3. Enemy Personnel and Equipment Losses from 1 to 31 January 1967

a. KIA's (c) 143

b. KIA's (p) 221

c. Detainees 210

d. Approximately 75 pounds individual web equipment and uniforms

Individual weapons 6

Total 6

L. CIVIL AFFAIRS

1. During the period from 1 to 31 January 1967 a close liaison was established and maintained with the District Chief of PHONE DIEN (D). The primary target of our efforts has been the refugees in and around PHO TRACH, who were displaced from the CO BI TAHN TAN Valley, during Operation CHINOOK.
2. Under the direction of the Platoon Commander, 1st AA Platoon, 29th CA Company, all materials have been made available to the District Chief for the construction of a refugee village vic YD 530350 to house over 200 families. The land is being cleared by the refugees, and local civilians will provide the labor force necessary to complete construction. The beginning of TET is the target date for the completion of the first major phase of construction. A bulldozer has been made available by 3/26 to the District Chief for use in clearing the land where necessary.
3. Coordination is being made by 3/26 doctors to continue the bi-weekly visits to the refugee camps established by the Regimental Surgeon, 4th Marines.
4. On 31 January 1967 the Battalion Chaplain visited the refugee hamlet of TAN NGUYEN, PHONE DIEN (D) and delivered 100# soap, 500# canned goods and 100# candy for distribution during TET.
5. On 5 January 1967 2500 lbs of US rice was captured and turned over to ARVN for redistribution.

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14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100

41.

Enclosure (1)

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M. PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE

1. On 29 January 1967 coordination was made with the Psy Ops Liaison Officer, 3rd MarDiv, to launch a program of psychological warfare to exploit our immediate tactical situation.

a. Leaflet drops commenced 30 January 1967 with primary emphasis on influencing the enemy to rally by explaining why, how and where to rally. This is in direct support of the Chieu Hoi Program.

b. Aerial broadcasts will be conducted simultaneously with leaflet drops throughout AO.

2. On 29 January 1967 a 4 1/2 minute tape was cut by a Chieu Hoi at the Battalion CP and forwarded to 3rd MarDiv for immediate aerial broadcast over CHINOOK AO. The Chieu Hoi had rallied from this area on or about 24 January 1967.

3. In conjunction with Psy Ops in this AO a "Rewards Program for Intelligence Information" is being initiated. Leaflets, broadcasts and posters are being used to publicize the program to indigenous personnel.

SECRET

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Enclosure (1)

N. LOGISTICS SUPPORT

31 Jan 1967: 5 days of all classes of supplies on hand at ISA

New Developments

1. Helicopters were made available for resupply missions.
2. The Battalion has been unable to obtain spark plugs for M274/A2 (Male).

O. ENGINEER SUPPORT

The following is an account of the major engineer effort during the period of 1-31 January 1967 by 1st Platoon, B Company, 3rd Engineer Battalion.

1. Teams of 2-4 men have been attached to each platoon or company for support on sweeps and search and destroy operations.

2. One team of 6 engineers has been employed each day for the mine sweep of the access road to Hwy #1.

On 2 January 1967 a deliberate sweep was conducted south along the road from YD 532315 to YD 519297 in connection with the sweep made of the CO BI THANH TAN Valley.

3. On 7 January 1967 the engineer platoon suffered 3 WIA's who were attached to M Company. All wounds were the result of booby traps.

4. On 14 January one box type mine was found at 547326 containing approximately 7 pounds of explosive, was destroyed in place. On the same day 1 VC hand grenade containing 1-2 pounds of explosive was destroyed at YD 547327.

5. On 23 January 1 engineer was killed in action while on a resupply run to L Company.

6. On 25 January construction was started on 2 decks for the sickbay tents. Decks were completed on 27 January.

7. On 30 January 5 scrub tables were constructed, one for each company.

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P. MEDICAL-DENTAL

1. Personnel: At present time the total personnel at the BAS is 45. This includes 2 doctors and 43 hospital corpsmen. There are 14 hospital corpsmen at the BAS and 29 with the 4 Companies. During the month of January HMC STARR was assigned to the BAS and HMC STUDEMAN and HMC EGLEHOFF were transferred outside of this command. The BAS is currently 10 hospital corpsmen short of T. O.

2. Capabilities: The BAS at the present time has established two wards with a total holding facility for approximately 30 to 35 patients. We are capable of treating routine medical problems and of performing minor surgical procedures.

3. Supply: The BAS receives its supplies in one of three ways. Most of our supplies are obtained directly from FLSU-2 or from the 3rd Medical Battalion at PHU BAI. It is also possible to obtain supplies by sending an emergency dispatch to DA NANG. At present the supply system is adequate.

4. Training: Hospital corpsmen receive on the job training under the supervision of the doctors. To facilitate our training program we are now in the process of obtaining training aids from Battalion rear.

5. Dental: There are no dental facilities at the BAS at this time. Dental emergencies are evacuated to the 3rd Medical Battalion at PHU BAI.

6. Foot Care: During the month of January a foot clinic was established for the purpose of preventing immersion foot. Companies were rotated through the clinic. At the clinic, feet were washed and then inspected by a medical officer. The marines were given silicon ointment and taught how to apply it and how to use it. They were also given a new pair of socks at this time.

7. Sanitation: Daily inspections of head and the mess hall are made. Specific recommendations have been made in the monthly sanitation report. They are also made verbally daily to the proper authorities.

8. Malaria Prophylaxis: Chloroquine-primaquine tablets are to be taken weekly. The dosage is one tablet taken on Sunday after a meal. To this date the Battalion has had two confirmed cases of malaria. Insect repellent is available as an adjunct to the program.

9. Medcap: A Medcap program involving a nearby orphanage currently being established. Further details will be available after the medical needs of the people are appraised. At present the supply system is adequate.

4. Training: Hospital corpsmen receive on the job training under the supervision of the doctors. To facilitate our training program we are now in the process of obtaining training aids from Battalion rear.

5. Dental: There are no dental facilities at the BAS at this time. Dental emergencies are evacuated to the 3rd Medical Battalion at PHU BAI.

Enclosure (1)

10. Statistics: The following is a list of all patients seen at the BAS during the month of January. Included are those casualties resulting from missile wounds, hostile and self inflicted, seen at the BAS. Those casualties directly evacuated to rear areas are listed in the report of the Battalion S-1.

	H&S	I	K	L	M	TOTAL
Immersion Foot	8	94	17	17	61	197
Burns	43	15	2	6	5	71
Skin Infections	49	38	25	32	19	163
Lacerations	19	3	0	0	0	22
Hostile Missile Wounds	5	6	8	20	12	51
Gastroenteritis	81	85	13	17	32	228
Evacuations	18	13	8	10	12	61
KIA	1	0	0	2	0	3
Other Diseases	27	35	12	17	25	116
Dental Problems	9	2	11	0	3	25
Self Inflicted Wounds	0	3	1	0	2	6
TOTAL	260	294	97	121	171	943

Several Points May Be Emphasized:

1. H&S Company total include all of attached units such as 3rd Engineers.

2. H&S Company has no corpsmen and therefore patients are not screened prior to coming to the BAS. These two facts account in part for the large number of patients seen from H&S Company at the BAS.

3. One factor in the total of patients seen from a Company is the medical acumen of the senior corpsman of that company. His ability to screen and treat patients accounts in part for these differences in company totals. In this regard HM2 DICKSON of Company K is to be praised for his overall performance of his duties.

4. Total patients evacuated from the BAS was 61. This is 6.5% of the total patients seen at the BAS. If the number of hostile missile wounds requiring evacuation and the number of dental problems requiring evacuation is subtracted from this total it will be noted that the percentage of patients evacuated is very low. 25 dental patients and 24 missile wounds were evacuated. Therefore only 12 other patients or 1.3% of the total patients were evacuated. Included in these patients was one case of malaria and one case of infectious mononucleosis. Most of these evacuations occurred prior to the completion of the two new BAS wards and the improvement of facilities at the BAS.

Several Points May Be Emphasized:

1. H&S Company total include all of attached units such as 3rd Engineers.

46.

2. H&S Company has no corpsmen and therefore patients are not

Q. TRAINING

The following training was given to the designated personnel during January.

1. Orientation: All personnel joined as replacements during January 1967 received an orientation to the Battalion from the Commanding Officer and the Battalion Staff. Personnel also received orientations at the company level from their assigned Company Commanders.

2. Safety Regulations and FAM Firing: All personnel joined during January were instructed in proper procedures regarding weapons and ammunition, namely, regulations pertaining to chambering rounds in weapons, proper handling of grenades, and ammunition handling.

Before joining companies all personnel FAM fired their weapons and established battle sights on the range at the edge of the Battalion perimeter.

3. Preventive Maintenance for PU-422 Generator: The Battalion S-2 scouts received approximately 30 hours of instruction on preventive maintenance of the PU-422 generator from communications personnel on January 7, 8, 9, and 17. This generator is used with the AN/TTS-21, the operation of which has been a primary function of the scouts in Operation CHINOOK.

4. Seismic Intrusion Device: During January, all the Battalion S-2 scouts, and selected personnel from each of its rifle companies received approximately 3 hours of instruction on the seismic intrusion device.

R. CHAPLAIN SUPPORT

1 January (New Years Day): Divine Services were held in Battalion CP. No Services to the Line Companies. During the rest of the week the usual daily 1700 services were held in the CP. On 7, January Chaplain was called to the scene of a grenade explosion in the I Co Billeting area. The Chaplain administered conditional last rites, to several serious cases and assisted in getting the wounded airlifted to PHU BAI.

8 January - Provisions made for Protestant Services in the CP. Chaplain from 2/26 held an Episcopal Service, followed by Episcopal Communion. This same Sunday, Catholic services provided by having one Mass in the CP; one Mass for 2/26 CP; and a third Mass for Charlie and Bravo Batteries. Regular schedule of evening Catholic Services during the rest of the week.

15 January - Provisions made for Protestant Services in 3/26 CP. Chaplain from 2/26 conducted Episcopal Services, followed by Episcopal Communion. This same Sunday, Catholic services provided by having one Mass in 3/26 CP; one at 2/26 CP, and one at Charlie and Bravo Batteries. Regular schedule of evening Catholic Services rest of the week. On 20 January, provided for Protestant Services again in 3/26 CP - Chaplain from 1SA held the Service.

22 January - Provisions for Catholic Services this Sunday as follows: One Mass in CP area; one at K Co. CP; one at I Co. CP, and a fourth Mass at Charlie Battery CP area. On 23 January, Chaplain along with Regimental Photographer and Civil Affairs Personnel visited the Refugee Catholic Mission at PHONG DIEN. This was an introductory meeting between the Catholic Missionary and the Military of 3/26. Regular schedule of evening Catholic Services rest of the week.

29 January - Provisions made for Protestant Services in 3/26 CP area. Chaplain from PHU BAI arrived on 1000 Chopper and conducted one Service in CP area and another at Charlie Battery area. Catholic Services held as follows: 0900 3/26; 1000 L Co CP; 1100 M Co CP; 1200 Charlie Battery CP. Regular schedule of evening Services for Catholics in 3/26 CP area, rest of week. On 31 January, a People-to-People program launched. Chaplain, Senior Medical Officer, two corpsmen, and Comm O visited the Catholic Refugee Mission at PHONG DIEN. Arrangements made by S-2. Do to lack of Communications, the Missionary was not at home. At suggestion of the Command and their approval, goodies were brought to the Missionary for use at the Camp Mission. Chaplain also had several cartons of Medical supplies and clothing sent to him from the States which were also presented to the Refugee Mission. Because the Missionary was not available, it was impossible for the Doctor to communicate and assist in checking the children for sickness and minor treatment. It is expected this will be remedied by next visit.

rest of the week. On 2 January, provided for Protestant Services again in 3/26 CP - Chaplain from 1SA held the Service.

Enclosure (1)

48.

22 January - Provisions for Catholic Services this Sunday

PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

A. FOURTH MAR FRAG O 2-67

- COPY -

"From: Fourth Marines

To: HQ Co, 4th Marines; Third Bn, 26th Mar; Arty HQ Group, Third Bn,
Twelfth Mar; Co B(-), Third AT Bn; Co A(-) Third SP Bn

Info: CG Third MarDiv, Third MarDiv (FWD)

BT

SECRET

Subj: Frag O 2-67 (Operation CHINOOK)

Ref: (a) 4th Mar Frag O 188-66

1. Situation. Ref (a)2. Mission. Ref (a)3. Execution.

A. Concept of Operation

(1) Ref (a)

(2) Boundary change between battalions as reflected on operation overlay to this order issued separately.

B. HQ CO Fourth Mar continue assigned mission.

C. Second Bn, Twenty Sixth Mar

(1) Continue assigned mission.

(2) Commencing at 101200H, pass Opcon of E/2/26 to 3/26 and reassume Opcon of H/2/26.

D. Third Bn, Twenty Sixth Mar

(1) Continue assigned mission.

(2) Commencing at 101200H, assume Opcon of E/2/26 and pass Opcon of H 2/26 back to 2/26.

(3) Commencing 100800H, provide one platoon (rein) with the capability of being assembled and moved on 15 minutes notice and remainder of company on 30 minutes notice. Mode of transportation by foot, truck, helo, or any combination. Possible missions: counter attack, relief, reinforce, or reaction force.

Enclosure (1)

E. Coordinating instructions

- (1) Ref (a)
 - (2) Cancel my Frag O 189-66 and 1-67
 - (3) This order effective commencing 100800H.
4. Administration and Logistics. Ref (a)
 5. Command and Communication-Electronics. Ref (a)

Enclosure (1)

B. FOURTH MAR FRAG O 3-67

- COPY -

"From: Fourth Mar
To: HQ Co, 4th Mar; 2nd Bn, 26th Mar; 3rd Bn, 26th Marines; Arty
HQ Group, 3rd Bn, 12th Marines; Co B(-), 3rd AT Bn; Co A(-)
3rd SP Bn

Info: CG 3rd MarDiv, 3rd MarDiv (Fwd)

BT
SECRET

Subj: Frag O 3-67 (Operation CHINOOK)

Ref: (a) 4th Mar Frag O 188-66
(b) CG 3rd MarDiv 141307Z Jan 67

TASK ORGANIZATION: No change except delete 2nd Bn, 26th Mar and plt (Rein)
3rd Engn on arrival PHU BAI

1. Situation.

A. Enemy forces. Ref (a) and current ISUMS and intelligence briefings.

B. Friendly forces. Ref (a)

C. Attachments and detachments. See Task Organization.

2. Mission. Ref (a)

3. Execution.

A. Concept of operations. No change

B. HQ Co, 4th Mar Ref (a).

C. 2nd Bn, 26th Mar

(1) Continue assigned mission.

(2) Commencing on or about 191100H. Move one company and command group to PHU BAI via Rough Rider convoy. Chop Opcon to CG Third MarDiv.

(3) Commencing on or about 160800H. Move remainder of Battalion to PHU BAI via Rough Rider convoy. Chop Opcon on arriving to CG 3rd MarDiv.

(4) Carry out that mission as assigned by Ref (b).

(5) Submit to this HQ NLT 221200H Jan 67. Operation CHINOOK after action reports IAW 3rd MarDiv 3100.18

Enclosure (1)

D. 3rd Bn, 26th Mar

(1) On order on or about 160700H assume control of entire CHINOOK operating area and continue assigned mission as set forth in Ref (a)

E. Coordinating Instructions

(1) Ref (a)

(2) On or about 160700H and on order 3rd Bn, 26th Marines will assume control of entire CHINOOK operating area. Delete boundary designating separate battalion operating areas.

4. Administration and Logistics. Ref (a)

5. Command and Communication-Electronics. Ref (a)"

C. THIRD MARDIV FRAG O 1-67

- COPY -

"From: CG Third MarDiv

To: Third MarDiv (Fwd); Fourth Marines; Third Bn, 26th Marines;
Twelfth Marines; Fourth Bn, Twelfth Marines; Third Eng Bn;
HQ Bn Third MarDiv; Co A, Third Med Bn; Third MT Bn; Third
SP Bn; Third Recon Bn; First Bn, Forty-fourth Arty.

Info: CG, 1st MAW; GC, FLC; 220th ARVN Co; 131st ARVN Co; 1st ARVN Co;
2nd Bn, 9th Marines; Third Med Bn; CG, First MarDiv; HMM-163;
Btry D, 1st Bn, 44th Arty.

BT

SECRET

Section 1 of 11 Section

Subj: Frag Order 1-67 (Operation CHINOOK)

Time Zone: H

Ref: (a) Third MarDiv OpO 416-66
(b) Third MarDiv OpO 377-66
(c) Third MarDiv O 3100.1
(d) Third MarDiv Admin O 377-66
(e) Third MarDiv O P02000-2E (COI)

TASK ORGANIZATION: Third Bn (Rein); 26th Marines; 2nd Bn, 26th Mar;
HQ Bn, 3rd MarDiv (RR); 3rd Recon Bn; 2 Sects
Btry D, 1st Bn, 44th Arty (USA) (4 dual 40's);
Sect Btry G, 65th Arty (USA) (4 quad 50's); Plt
(Rein), Co B, 3rd MT Bn; Btry C, 1st Bn, 13th Mar;
Co B(-), 3rd AT Bn.

1. Situation.A. Enemy forces. Current ~~INBIMS~~ and ~~PERINTERETS~~.

B. Friendly forces.

(1) FMAW-Provides cas and helo support as required.

(2) 1st ARVN Div

(3) FLSU-2

(4) 220th ARVN Co, AO

(5) 131st ARVN Co, AO

C. Attachments and detachments. Effective 200730H Jan 1967.

2. Mission. Commencing 20 Jan 67, 3rd Bn (Rein), 26th Marines conducts operations in assigned AO to search out and destroy enemy forces operating in the area. Deny the enemy access to populated lowland area and secure lines of communication within the operation area.

Enclosure (1)

3. Execution.

A. Concept of operation. Commencing 20Jan67 the 3rd Bn (rein), 26th Marines conducts search and destroy operation in assigned area of operation to locate and destroy enemy forces, interdict routes of egress from the highlands to deny the enemy access to the food producing and populated coastal areas and secure LOC'S within AO. Psychological operations will be conducted in conjunction with all phases of the operation.

B. 3rd MarDiv (Fwd)

(1) Conduct Rough Rider on 20Jan67 to return those forces not assigned to continue Operation CHINOOK to DONG HA.

(2) Assume Opcon all forces returning to DONG HA commencing 200730H.

(3) On order deploy HQ 4th Marines to PHU BAI Combat Base.

C. 4th Marines(-) (Rein)

(1) At 200730H Jan 67 pass Opcon Operation CHINOOK and designated forces to 3rd Bn (Rein), 26th Marines.

(2) Commencing 20 Jan 67 deploy 4th Mar Cnd Group and forces not continuing Operation CHINOOK to DONG HA via Rough Rider.

(3) Upon arrival at DONG HA commence planning for deployment of HQ, 4th Mar to PHU BAI Combat Base during Feb 67.

D. 3rd Bn (Rein), 26th Marines

(1) At 200730H assume control of Operation CHINOOK and continue to conduct search and destroy operations in assigned AO.

(2) Interdict enemy lines of communications to deny the enemy access to food producing and populated areas.

(3) Secure LOC'S within AO.

(4) Conduct extensive psychological operations.

E. 12th Mar (-) (Rein)

(1) At 200730H chop Opcon one D/S Btry and one medium artillery btry from 3rd Bn, 12th Mar to 4th Bn, 12th Mar.

F. 4th Bn(-) (Rein) 12th Mar

Enclosure (1)

(1) Commencing 20Jan67 provide D/S Btry in support 3rd Bn(Rein) 26th Marines

(2) Commencing 20Jan67 rein D/S btry with one medium artillery Btry

G. 3rd Recon Bn

(1) One platoon general support 3rd Bn (Rein), 26th Marines.

(2) Attach Ln team to 3rd Bn (Rein), 26th Marines.

H. 1st Bn(-) (Rein), 44th Arty

(1) Attach 2 sections M-42 to 3rd Bn (Rein), 26th Marines

I. 3rd Engr Bn

(1) Attach one platoon to 3rd Bn (Rein), 26th Marines.

J. 3rd MT Bn

(1) Attach 1 truck platoon to 3rd Bn (Rein), 26th Marines.

K. 3rd SP Bn

(1) Attach HST and LSU to 3rd Bn (Rein), 26th Marines.

L. Hq Bn

(1) Attach Det RR to 3rd Bn (Rein), 26th Marines

(2) Attach Det 1st CIT to 3rd Bn (Rein), 26th Marines

M. Co B(-) 3rd AT Bn

(1) Co B (-) D/S, 3rd Bn (Rein), 26th Marines

N. Coordinating instructions

(1) Cancel CG 3rd MarDiv Frag Orders 430-66 and 433-66 effective 200730H Jan 67.

(2) Unclass code name CHINOOK.

(3) DIRLAUTH ALCON.

(4) Duration indefinite

(5) Operation overlay no change

(6) Rules of engagement Ref (c)

Enclosure (1)

(7) Rough Riders Ref (a)

(8) RCA authorized.

(9) Minimize use of helo

(10) Fire support and coordination Ref (b)

(11) Reports Ref (c)

(12) Air support

(a) Preplanned - req 24 hr in advance

(b) Emergency - TAR net

4. Administration and Logistics.

A. Ref (d)

B. Dump levels for all classes will be maintained at five days.

C. FLSU-2 (PHU BAI) primary source of supply.

D. Supply point distribution for LSA from FLSU-2 or HUE ramp as directed.

E. Div MT assets PHU BAI augments attached MT as required.

F. Submit dump status reports to this HQ by 1800H as of 1200H daily. Utilize priority message or telephone Shove 4.

(1) Class I - Meals/DOS

(2) Class II - Rpt critical shortages only.

(3) Class III

(a) MoGas - gals/DOS

(b) Diesel - gals/DOS

(c) Lubes and greases - DOS

(4) Class IV - Rpt critical shortages only

(5) Class V - Rpt by DODAC items less than 3 days.

G. Minimize use of helicopters for resupply. Submit requests for emergency resupply this HQ (COC)

H. Medical evac to Co A, 3rd Med Bn (PHU BAI)

Enclosure (1)

5. Command Communications-Electronics.

A. Ref (b)

B. Ref (e)

C. Radio activate nets as follows:

- (1) Div TAC no 1 (M15)
- (2) Div TAC no 2 (M742)
- (3) KY-8 secure voice operations on request or when directed by NDS on M 724. Contents of KAG-27A apply.
- (4) Freqs, call signs and key list Ref (e).

D. Radio relay

(1) Be prepared to receive and establish radio relay terminal AN/MRC-62. Channelization as follows:

- (a) Channel 1 - CU/V
- (b) Channel 2 - CU/V
- (c) Channel 3 - SU/COC/S-3
- (d) Channel 4 - SU/FSCC/SUPERIMPOSED TT COMCEN (covered)

E. Liaison DIRLAUTH with US advisors, 1st ARVN Div and ARVN Forces in vicinity of AO for communications coordination.

G. Communication Equipment and Personnel. Emergency requests to HQ 3rd MarDiv.

H. Command Posts

- (1) Division YD 883134
- (2) Report CP location when established."

Enclosure (1)

D. CG 3d MARDIV MESSAGE 140352Z Jan 67

- COPY -

"From: CG 3rd MarDiv
To: 3rd Bn, 26th Marines

Info: 3rd MarDiv (Fwd)

BT

UNCLASS

1. Reassign the following officers

LtCol K. L. HOCH 039151/0302 from HQ Bn to 3rd Bn, 26th Marines for duty as CO effective 15 Jan 67.

LtCol G. T. BEYERLE 0503079/0302 from 3rd Bn, 26th Marines for duty with HQ Bn (PHU BAI) effective 17 Jan 67.

2. Cite this msg as auth and furnish this HQ with BNSO (SC-7B)"

Enclosure (1)

58.