

HEADQUARTERS, MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP-13
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
 FPO, San Francisco 96602

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From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing
 Subj: Command Chronology Period 1-30 September 1967

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A
 (b) WgO 5750.1C

Encl: ✓(1) MAG-13 Command Chronology Period 1-30 September 1967 *Fwd to General*
 ✓(2) H&MS-13 Command Chronology Period 1-30 September 1967 *Fwd to*
 ✓(3) MABS-13 Command Chronology Period 1-30 September 1967 *Fwd to*
 ✓(4) VMFA-542 Command Chronology Period 1-30 September 1967 *Fwd to*
 ✓(5) VMFA-323 Command Chronology Period 1-30 September 1967 *Fwd to*
 ✓(6) VMFA-115 Command Chronology Period 1-30 September 1967 *Fwd to*

1. In accordance with references (a) and (b), the subject report is submitted as enclosures (1) through (6).

2. Upon removal from the subject report this letter is downgraded to Unclassified.

MAG-13

CMD CHRON

Edward N Le Faivre
EDWARD N. LE FAIVRE

1st MAW S&C No.	Copy No.
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MAG-13	
S&C # 67-1553	
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MAG-13

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

FOR

1-30 SEPTEMBER 1967

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART ONE: ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. Commanders and Staff

a. Headquarters, MAG-13 (1-30 Sept)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>	
		T/O	ACTUAL
EDWARD N. LE FAIVRE	CO	COL	COL
LYNN F. WILLIAMS	XO	LTCOL	LTCOL
ALONZO B. MCCALL	ADJ	CAPT	2NDLT
JOSEPH P. KRATCOSKI	SGTMAJ	SGTMAJ	SGTMAJ
THOMAS K. BURK JR.	S-1	MAJ	MAJ
GEORGE W. BROKATE	S-2	MAJ	CAPT
HERBERT V. LUNDIN	S-3	LTCOL	LTCOL
PAUL L. SIEGMUND	S-4 (1-23 Sept)	LTCOL	LTCOL
LAURENCE A. CAMPBELL III	S-4 (23-30 Sept)	LTCOL	MAJ

b. H&MS-13 (1-30 Sept)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>	
		T/O	ACTUAL
JAMES E. MILLER	CO (1-22 Sept)	LTCOL	MAJ
PAUL SIEGMUND	CO (23-30 Sept)	LTCOL	LTCOL
HARRY E. TAYLOR	XO (23-30 Sept)	MAJ	MAJ
HARRY R. SMITH	ADMINO	LT	2NDLT
DANIEL H. CHARRON	A/C MAINTO	MAJ	MAJ

c. MABS-13 (1-30 Sept)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>	
		T/O	ACTUAL
RICHARD E. CAREY	CO	LTCOL	LTCOL
RAY B. STICE	XO	MAJ	MAJ
HAROLD E. WILSON	ADMINO	CAPT	CWO
CHARLES S. ESTERLINE	BASEOPSO	MAJ	MAJ
STEPHEN R. FOULGER	BASESERVO	MAJ	MAJ

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d. VMFA-542 (1-30 Sept)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>
		T/O ACTUAL
JOHN HUBNER	CO (1-14 Sept)	LTCOL MAJ
RICHARD C. MARSH	CO (15-30 Sept)	LTCOL LTCOL
CLARENCE B. MILLER JR.	XO (1-16 Sept)	MAJ MAJ
ROBERT N. HUTCHINSON	XO (17-30 Sept)	MAJ LTCOL
PAUL M. COLE	S-1 (1-25 Sept)	LT MAJ
JOHN F. SPENCER	S-1 (26-30 Sept)	LT CAPT
JOHN R. MCCORD	S-2	LT LT
HARVEY D. BRADSHAW	S-3 (1-16 Sept)	MAJ MAJ
CLARENCE B. MILLER JR.	S-3 (17-30 Sept)	MAJ MAJ
EVERRETT W. KRANTZ	S-4 (1-16 Sept)	WO LT
HARVEY D. BRADSHAW	S-4 (17-30 Sept)	WO MAJ
HARVEY D. BRADSHAW	A/C MAINTO	MAJ MAJ

e. VMFA-323 (1-30 Sept)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>
		T/O ACTUAL
EDISON W. MILLER	CO	LTCOL LTCOL
JOHN L. THATCHER	XO	MAJ MAJ
DAVE G. DREWELOW	S-1	LT CAPT
WILLIAM I. NORTHLICH	S-2	LT LT
JOSEPH B. WUERTZ	S-3 (1-20 Sept)	MAJ MAJ
LEE T. LASSETER	S-3 (21-30 Sept)	MAJ MAJ
WILLIAM W. MACKEY	S-4 (1-6 Sept)	WO MAJ
HENRY D. FAGERSKOG	S-4 (7-30 Sept)	WO MAJ
CHARLES W. BROWN	A/C MAINTO	MAJ MAJ

f. VMFA-115 (1-30 Sept)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>
		T/O ACTUAL
KENNY C. PALMER	CO	LTCOL LTCOL
LEROY A. MADERA	XO	MAJ MAJ
CHARLES S. CAHASKIE	S-1	LT CAPT
ROGER A. CURLEY	S-2	LT CAPT
CARL L. BATTISTONE	S-3	MAJ MAJ
JAMES A. GORDON	S-4	WO CAPT
CHARLES L. ZANGAS	A/C MAINTO	MAJ MAJ

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2. Task Organization and Unit Location

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Commanding Officer</u>	<u>Date of Office</u>
MAG-13	CHU LAI, RVN	COL EDWARD N. LE FAIVRE	1-30 SEPT
H&MS-13	CHU LAI, RVN	MAJ JAMES E. MILLER	1-23 SEPT
H&MS-13	CHU LAI, RVN	LTCOL PAUL L. SIEGMUND	23-30 SEPT
MABS-13	CHU LAI, RVN	LTCOL RICHARD E. CAREY	1-30 SEPT
VMFA-542	CHU LAI, RVN	MAJ JOHN HUBNER	1-14 SEPT
VMFA-542	CHU LAI, RVN	LTCOL RICHARD C. MARSH	15-30 SEPT
VMFA-323	CHU LAI, RVN	LTCOL EDISON W. MILLER	1-30 SEPT
VMFA-115	CHU LAI, RVN	LTCOL KENNY C. PALMER	1-30 SEPT

3. Average Monthly Strength

Squadron	USMC			USN		
	NA	NFO	AG	ENLISTED	OFFICERS	ENLISTED
H&MS-13	13*	5	22	336	0	0
MABS-13	5	1	13	556	4	27
VMFA-542	20	14	3	258	1	0
VMFA-323	18	18	4	290	2	4
VMFA-115	17	19	3	268	1	0

* This figure includes 2 NAP's - MGySgt J. J. QUINN
MGySgt J. A. CONROY

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PART TWO: NARRATIVE SUMMARY

Marine Aircraft Group-13 continued to play a large part in the war effort flying 1855 sorties and expending 3568.5 tons of ordnance during the month of September. Combat hours flown by MAG-13 aircraft totaled 2216.5. The C-117D flew 67 combat support sorties for 58 hours flight time.

Most of the combat operations were directed at blocking enemy infiltration through the Ashau Valley and neutralizing NVA artillery near the DMZ. Operations supported included Neutralize, Wheeler, Ashau Barrier, Kingfisher, Cumberland, Fremont, Ardmore, Swift, Cook, Dragon Fire, Ballistic Charge, Shelby, Shelbyville, and Fortress Sentry.

Significant BDA included 145 KBA confirmed, 431 KBA probable, 6 artillery positions, 103 secondary explosions and 4 AAA weapons (complete list Part Three para 9).

Aircrewmen exceeding 300 missions were Captains J. P. FAULKNER and V. M. RUSSILLO, and First Lieutenant P. A. GEIGER.

During the month of September MAG-13 lost 4 aircraft. One officer, First Lieutenant H. J. MOE, was Killed in Action, and 3 other officers received injuries, all sustained during ejection. Dates of losses are:

8 Sept - VMFA-323 - Direct Enemy Action
26 Sept - VMFA-542 - Direct Enemy Action
29 Sept - VMFA-115 - Direct Enemy Action
30 Sept - VMFA-115 - Operational Loss

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PART THREE: SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Personnel. During the month of September, Marine Aircraft Group-13 had a loss of seventeen (17) officers and two-hundred and twenty one (221) enlisted personnel due to rotation and transfers. During the same period, twenty-four (24) officers and twenty-four (24) enlisted personnel reported to the Group for duty.
2. Administration. During the reporting period over 615 enlisted men were promoted. By 30 September MAG-13 had obtained a percentage of 87.2% participation in the Savings Bond program.
3. Awards. There were two hundred and ten (210) Air Medals and stars in lieu of medals awarded to members of this Group during the month of September.
4. Casualties

Non-hostile Casualties

a. Total for September.....	36
b. Total returned to duty.....	18
c. Total MedEvac out of RVN.....	4
d. Total number of man days lost.....	274

Hostile Casualties

a. Killed in Action.....	1
b. Wounded in Action.....	3

The one KIA was First Lieutenant Harold J. MOE, which occurred while conducting a Tally Ho mission against an automatic weapons position. The aircraft received battle damage and the crew was forced to eject. Major Paul M. COLE sustained back injuries and 1stLt MOE was killed when apparently his seat malfunctioned and he did not get a chute.

The other two WIA's were a result of injuries received during ejection involving two different aircraft.

5. Civic Action

Captain John S. DAY JR. was appointed Civil Affairs Officer replacing Captain L. P. KLIPP.

On 18 September a Youth Festival Day was held at the village of Long Phu. Marines handed out favors and joined in the games with the people. Colonel E. N. IE FAIVRE, Commanding Officer, MAG-13 presented four General WALT Scholarships.

On 23 September the first MEDCAP to Long Phu was held and 44 people were treated. A second MEDCAP was conducted on the 26th of September and 36 people were treated.

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On 24 September a Brunch was held for the leaders of Chu Lai.

The MAG-13 Commanding Officer visited the Headquarters and school building of Ky Lien Village on 29 September.

6. Intelligence

On 7 September CWO BRANDT, U.S. Army, Criminal Investigation Division, gave a lecture to the Group Guard and to all Staff NCO's on the subject of narcotics and its promotion by Communist forces.

Briefing and Debriefing of aircrews, and orientation lectures to new aircrews were conducted. The weekly S-2 "Tactical Brief" was published (See Supporting Documents, Part Four).

7. Industrial Relations

On 15 September, Captain John S. DAY JR. was appointed Industrial Relations Officer.

MAG-13 employs 40 LNC's of which 34 are MARCOR funded and 6 are AIR funded.

8. Airfield Operations

a. The West Runway was closed from 3 September to 21 September for repairs and installation of centerline lighting. Recovery of F-4's was on the Crosswind Runway (SATS) utilizing the M21 Morest gear. A total of 1,092 aircraft were recovered during this period on the SATS.

b. The Visiting Aircraft Line (VAL) handled approximately 50 transit aircraft per day.

9. Combat Operations

<u>Squadron</u>	<u>Sorties</u>	<u>Hours</u>
H&MS-13 TF-9J	60	99.8
	67	57.6
VMFA-323 F-4B	595	685.3
VMFA-542 F-4B	625	749.0
VMFA-115 F-4B	575	682.4
	—	—
Total	1922	2274.1

Operations Supported:

Neutralize	Ashau Barrier	Kingfisher
Wheeler	Cumberland	Fremont
Ardmore	Swift	Cook
Dragon Fire	Ballistic Charge	Shelby
Shelbyville	Fortress Sentry	

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Significant Bomb Damage Assessment:

KBA (Confirmed).....	145
KBA (Probable).....	431
Structures (Destroyed).....	1316
Structures (Damaged).....	285
Bridges (Destroyed).....	6
Bridges (Damaged).....	1
Bunkers (Destroyed).....	166
Bunkers (Damaged).....	32
Caves (Destroyed).....	7
Foxholes (Destroyed).....	90
Foxholes (Damaged).....	15
Trucks (Destroyed).....	1
Trucks (Damaged).....	1
Secondary Explosions.....	103
Secondary Fires.....	50
Artillery Positions (Destroyed).....	6
Artillery Positions (Damaged).....	2
Automatic Weapons Positions (Destroyed).....	9
Automatic Weapons Positions (Damaged).....	1
Rocket Positions (Destroyed).....	40
Mortar Positions (Destroyed).....	5
AAA Weapons (Destroyed).....	4
AAA Positions (Destroyed).....	4
Storage Areas (Destroyed).....	5
Road Cuts.....	40

10. Base Development

a. The West Field was repaired and centerline lighting installed. Work was completed on 21 September.

11. Morale/Welfare

Services in the new Chapel began 3 September. Enthusiasm has been high and Chapel attendance has increased between 50 and 75%. (See Supporting Documents for picture of New Chapel).

12. Training

Several Schools were held by Contact Teams visiting the Group. The Schools included NBC, Operation of the Rough Terrain Forklift, Communications Waterproofing, the 3M System and Wheeled Vehicle Waterproofing.

13. Electronic Countermeasures. The installation of the "Shoehorn" ECM/Warning Equipment continued during the month of September.

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PART FOUR: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

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MAG-13 S-2 TACTICAL BRIEF

10 September 1967

ARVN VICTORY AT TAM KY

On the morning of 6 September, ARVN forces in Tam Ky, 18 miles north of Chu Lai, on Route 1, repulsed simultaneous attacks on the police station, jail, communication center, army barracks, and District Headquarters. The attack was by the 70th and 72nd Viet Cong Main Force Battalions (reinforced). The VC fired 15-20 mortar rounds and an unknown number of RPG-2 rocket rounds, which are about the same as our 3.5" rockets. The ARVNs killed 157 VC (confirmed by body count) and captured eight more. The friendlies also captured 72 individual weapons and several crew served weapons. Fifty-One ARVNs were killed. The only American support was one Dragonship, which participated in the latter stages.

VC ATROCITIES

On 26 August, 12 VC entered a hamlet four miles west of Chu Lai and assassinated one civilian and kidnapped three others.

During the night of 1 September, as a part of the pre-election terrorism, a VC platoon entered a hamlet 15 miles SW of Chu Lai and kidnapped the hamlet chief, 12 subchiefs, and 52 civilian residents. They are probably being used as slave laborers in an enemy base camp.

LOCAL TUNNELS AND GRAVES

On 27 August, an Army patrol located and destroyed 50 tunnels leading from a partially destroyed village seven miles south of Chu Lai.

Two weeks ago, a Combined Action Platoon, discovered 100 camouflaged empty graves six miles SE of MAG-13. Before a planned attack, the VC dig camouflaged graves to hide their casualties as they withdraw. These graves were in range of 122mm rockets, of the type used on the 15 July Danang attack. The VC want to be buried by their own, and this is a definite morale factor with them. They also believe that reducing our number of confirmed kills will eventually cause the US to lose heart and leave RVN.

MORTAR ATTACK

At 0115, on 4 September, an Infantry CP located two miles NW of MAG-13 received 30-35 rounds of 82 MM mortar fire. There were no US casualties.

AMBUSH

At 2100 on 8 September, an Army ambush was fired on just across

Highway 1 from MAG-13 by approximately eight VC. The ambush returned fire and was reinforced by an Armored Personnel Carrier, and artillery support. Blood trails indicated at least one VC probably KIA.

ANTI-AIRCRAFT SCHOOL

Reports have been received which indicate that the VC have opened a military training center in the mountains west of Quang Ngai city, where the VC are being trained in the use of anti-aircraft and anti-tank rockets. They are allegedly being trained by North Vietnamese instructors.

DANANG ROCKET ATTACK

On 1 September, at 0200, Danang Air Base received four or five rounds of estimated 140 mm rocket fire in the vicinity of the air strip.

Danang Air Base received two rounds of 140 mm rocket fire at 0008 on 9 September. A Marine patrol found seven 140 mm rocket launchers, two of which had been fired.

YOUTH FESTIVAL

On 18 September the Vietnamese villages and U. S. Forces throughout I Corps are holding a "Youth Festival". Anyone wishing to participate in Long Phu, MAG-13's Civic Action village should contact the MAG-13 Civic Action officer at the Group Legal office. The Personal Response and Civic Action Programs enable MAG-13 personnel to carry the battle to the enemy on the ground as well as in the air.

MORTAR BASE PLATES

On 4 September, two 60 mm mortar base plates were found just outside a small hamlet seven miles west of Chu Lai. Also on 4 September, an Army patrol located a camouflaged 82 mm mortar base plate six miles south off MAG-13. On 3 September, an infantry company located what appeared to be aiming stakes constructed from tree branches and pointing in the direction of the company's battalion base camp area. The VC often move up their ammo, base plates, and aiming stakes and conceal them before a planned attack. On the night of the attack, only the tubes have to be carried in.

BOOBY TRAP

On 3 September, an Army patrol located and destroyed one booby trapped grenade, rigged with a trip wire, just west of Long Phu, our Civic Action village, located across Highway 1.

EXPLOSIVE DEVICES

The VC have booby-trapped items such as cigarette lighters, fountain pens, aspirin bottles, candy bars, oil cans, and alarm clocks. These have been distributed in areas where Marines will buy them. The VC have also been giving away Vietnamese matchboxes filled with C-4 which have an eight-meter bursting radius. Do your buying at the PX, so the Vietnamese economy won't be dependent on our presence.

SECURITY MAY BE THE STORY OF YOUR LIFE

In all your communication, keep in mind the basic rule: "Does he have a real need to know?" The enemy pieces together seemingly unrelated trivial items of information. In town don't discuss where you work or anything else about the military. When writing home, follow the rule of "wait until you read it in 'Stars and Stripes'."

BOMB DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

The following Bomb Damage Assessment was reported by both ground and airborne Forward Air Controllers for MAG-13 aircraft during the week of 1 - 7 September: 8 VC KBA (Confirmed), 27 VC KBA (Probable), 193 military structures destroyed and 80 damaged, 8 tunnels destroyed and 3 damaged, 37 rocket positions destroyed and 1 damaged, 1 artillery position destroyed, 1 mortar position destroyed, 4 automatic weapons positions destroyed and 1 damaged, 1 truck destroyed, 9 road cuts, 3 secondary explosions, and 21 secondary fires. Of course, these figures show only that BDA which was actually reported by FACs and does not include damage inflicted by our numerous day and night radar drops, and other unobserved and unreported casualties and damage.

PRE-ELECTION TERRORISM

In the week before the Vietnamese Presidential Election there were almost 900 civilian casualties as a result of Viet Cong terrorism. Four persons were killed and eight wounded when a group of VC attacked a military dependents' camp and government posts in Tam Ky. In the seven days preceding the election, terrorist attacks killed at least 190 civilians, wounded 426, and kidnapped 237. Civilian casualties for the entire month of August were 549 killed, 990 wounded, and 579 kidnapped, nearly five times the losses of August of last year.

Even with all the terrorist activity, 83.1% of the eligible voters in Vietnam turned out to the polls. In the Ly Tin district (the one Chu Lai is located in) an amazing 96% showed up to vote.

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MAG-13 S-2 TACTICAL BRIEF

25 SEPTEMBER 1967

SECURITY OF DOCUMENTS

1st MAW Order 5511.7A states: "All official correspondence, rough drafts, etc., regardless of classification, will be destroyed by burning at authorized burn sites. Personnel assigned to burn details will remain at the incinerator until all residue has been consumed by fire. All personnel are cautioned to destroy or safely secure private correspondence, as it provides the enemy's agents within the United States with information on the individual's wife, parents, and relatives, their addresses and backgrounds, as well as order of battle. This information may be the needed data required by the enemy to successfully wage propaganda campaigns as well as providing source material to exploit U. S. captives."

The rule is: If it is on paper, destroy by burning. This includes the shipping manifests, Natops manuals, and other non-classified, yet useful items found recently in the An Tan dump.

One 20 mm cannon shell and a loaded M-14 magazine, as well as numerous used 782 gear items have also been found in trash barrels. Each round of ammo you drop from your cartridge belt, in a jeep or anywhere else is a potential sniper's bullet or booby trap. Any items which have any conceivable usefulness for the enemy, including liquor bottles and batteries, must be broken open before being discarded. Poisoned liquor has been sold, and batteries are used to trigger booby traps.

ENEMY ACTIVITY

Task Force Oregon units in Operation Wheeler, ten miles northwest of Tam Ky, have reported light contact in the past week. Total enemy kills so far for Operation Wheeler are: 190 confirmed, 13 probable. It appears that the 2nd NVA Division is withdrawing from this area, due to aggressive Allied operations, and is attempting to avoid contact.

In Quang Ngai Province, the primary action was generated by friendly operations. Korean Marines in Operation Dragon Fire, underway on the Bataangan Peninsula, 30 miles southeast of Chu Lai, reported light to moderate contact.

The enemy is expected to refrain from major ground action for the immediate future while resupplying and reorganizing in preparation for the coming rainy season. The main enemy effort in the near future is expected to be limited to minings and harassing fire, with possible attacks on vital installations, using both rockets and mortars.

CHU LAI

On 17 September, C/4/31 Infantry, located and destroyed one mortar position and six aiming stakes 50 meters outside the Chu Lai Defense Command fence at the south end of the runway. This position was near the mortar site used in the 30 August attack.

At 2220 on 20 September, several rounds of small arms and three M-79 grenades were fired at a bunker near the 196th Light Infantry Brigade's CP, which is the large tin-roofed complex across Highway 1 southwest of MAG-13. The Army returned fire and called for gunships. Simultaneously, two tracer rounds were seen impacting on the MAG-13 runway near Morest. There were no casualties in either incident.

On 21 September four VC tunnels were found one mile south of the 196th CP.

At 1030 on 22 September the MAG-13 EOD team, while detonating some ordnance two miles south of the airfield, received about 30 rounds from an automatic weapons. There were no casualties.

A JOB WELL DONE

The following is an excerpt from a congratulatory message from the Commanding General of the 1st Marine Division to the Commanding General of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing and all MAG's concerning Operation Swift:

"The excellent fixed-wing tactical air support by elements of your command during Operation Swift materially enhanced the ability of committed Marine forces to defeat, in successive battles, numerically superior enemy forces."

MARIJUANA MAILED BY SERVICEMENT IN VIETNAM

Customs agents at Philadelphia International Airport have uncovered quantities of marijuana mailed home by servicemen in Vietnam. Authorities reported that one package from Vietnam contained nine pounds of marijuana; another contained a pillowcase stuffed with Flower Power. The marijuana was uncovered during stepped-up search-and-investigative procedures initiated by agents at the airport. This program is being called "Operation Second Effort" by airport officials.

DON'T BE TWO CURIOUS

When a bomb explodes accidentally on the Flight Line, at the Bomb Dump, or near the working and living areas, don't run out to see what happened. An exploding bomb sends fragments hundreds of feet into the air. Those return to earth after one or two minutes, travelling at a great rate of speed. Recently, the MAG-13 EOD team detonated a 500-lb bomb to destroy it. A member of the team, standing 3/4 of a mile away behind a truck was struck by a foot-long piece of shrapnel which ripped six inches into his hip. He said that he could hear the fragment whistling as it fell to the ground. If it had not rebounded off the cab of the truck, the fragment would have decapitated him.

SLEEPING ON POST

Be on guard against sleeping on post. A few minutes sleep isn't worth a court martial. The infantry has used the technique of staying on your knees. You can fall asleep standing up, but you can't fall asleep on your knees; you will fall over before you fall asleep. You can put some sandbags up to the aperture, kneel on them, and you'll avoid a court martial, and all subsequent consequences in the military, in civilian life, and in obtaining an education.

In the October 10, 1965 attack on MAG-12 by eight sappers, the enemy oiled themselves and rolled in the sand, so they would blend into the terrain. In other attacks they have covered their heads and shoulders with oiled, sand covered tarps as they crawled to their objectives. Their approach is almost imperceptible using this technique, especially if you are "almost but not quite asleep." With your transistor radio up to your ear in your bunker, you may not hear that first shot or whistle very clearly.

REVOLUTIONARY DEVELOPMENT

Revolutionary Development (RD) is the Government of Vietnam's program to defeat the Viet Cong and to rebuild the country. The aims of the 59 man teams are to bring security to the countryside and a better way of life to the people.

The general scheme of RD can be seen by comparing it to a 3-ring target. In the outer ring are USMC and ARVN forces which are seeking out VC/NVA main force units. The units in the middle ring, USMC, ARVN, and Regional (District) Forces (RF) and Popular (Village) Forces (PF) have the mission of establishing and maintaining security in the populated areas. The saturation patrolling, ambushes, company sweeps, and battalion operations within and near the TAOR's fulfill this mission. In the center of the target is the RD team. This team serves as the link between the GVN and the hamlets. The Team is protected by RF or PF units located within the same hamlet as the Team or in the immediate area. The outer and middle rings are bringing security to the countryside; the center ring, the RD Team, is working to bring a better way of life to the people.

The RD program is aimed at the people in the hamlets. RD Teams are assigned to hamlets, and when the goals established for a hamlet have been reached, the Team will move on to another hamlet in the same general area. RD Teams have recently moved into the areas controlled by the Marine Combined Action Platoons. The Teams are considered to be prime VC targets, as they are actively demonstrating to the villagers that they indeed have a Republic which is oriented toward helping people learn to help themselves. The RD concept is one of the important keys to victory in Vietnam.

OUR ALLIES

Recently, a Vietnamese Marine came to the main Chu Lai gate to try to get a flight to Quang Ngai. He had an emergency leave from Ly Tin District Headquarters to return home to see his dying father. Two MAG-13 Marines took him to Air Freight and to Helo units to try to get him a hop, but no flights were going to Quang Ngai. The Marines next took him to the bus station in An Tan. They offered him money to pay for the trip, but the Vietnamese Marine politely refused and thanked them warmly for their help.