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

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3/DJM/rcu
5750
15 September 1969
S/N 231A0969

(UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL FROM ENCL.)

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF

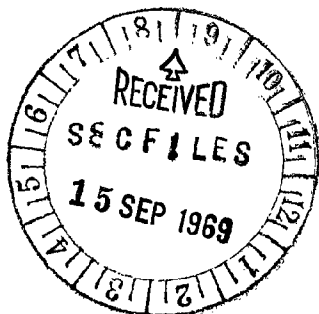
Subj: Command Chronology, 1 through 31 August 1969

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

Encl: (1) 2d Battalion, 3d Marines Command Chronology for
010001H to 312400H August 69.

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a), (b), and (c), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. GP-4 downgraded at 3 year intervals, declassified after 12 years.

W. S. Daniels
W. S. DANIELS



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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

010001H to 312400H August 1969

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

<u>1. DESIGNATION</u>	<u>COMMANDER</u>	<u>PERIOD</u>
2d Bn, 3d Mar	LtCol. J.J. MCMONAGLE LtCol. W.S. DANIELS	1-2 Aug 69 3-31 Aug 69
SUBORDINATE UNITS		
H&S Company	1stLt. J.R. BOWEN	1-31 Aug 69
Company E	Capt. P.J. SINNOTT Capt. J.B. SCURAS	1-12 Aug 69 13-31 Aug 69
Company F	Capt. S.W. LEACH	1-31 Aug 69
Company G	Capt. J.M. HARGROVE	1-31 Aug 69
Company H	Capt. K.W. NISEWANER	1-31 Aug 69

2. LOCATION

(a) Operation Idaho Canyon, Cam Lo area, Quang Tri Province, PVN,

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer	Major A.L. VAIL	1-31 Aug 69
S-1/Adjutant	Capt. T.L. CARR	1-31 Aug 69
S-2	1stLt. J.R. BUCHER	1-31 Aug 69
S-3	Major D.J. MYERS	1-31 Aug 69
S-4	1stLt. W.G. HELTON	1-31 Aug 69
S-5	1stLt. R.A. COMBS	1-31 Aug 69
CommO	1stLt. M.W. SMITH	1-31 Aug 69

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

USMC		USN	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
33	1165	2	48

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. GENERAL OVERVIEW OF ALL ACTIVITIES

Operation Idaho Canyon continued throughout the month. The area of operation was bounded by the 53 grid line on the south, the DMZ on the north, the 94 grid line on the west, and the 00 grid line on the east. This AO remained in effect with slight modifications, until 13 August 1969.

The enemy continued to avoid contact and moved in small units; therefore, the battalion established platoon patrol bases and conducted squad size patrols. In this manner contact was gained on several occasions.

The first week remained quiet, and units concentrated their search in the streams and draws. Hotel operated south of Mutter's Ridge, Echo moved in the northwest portion, Fox in the northeast, and Golf provided security for Elliot Combat Base. The battalion CP moved with a platoon from Fox and remained on the ridge line in order to maintain communications with both higher and subordinate headquarters. Early in the month the regiment established a patrol zone extending two kilometers south of the DMZ. This area could not be entered without permission from higher headquarters, and then only during daylight hours. As the activity in the western portion of the AO increased, Echo moved into that area to search.

On 7 August, Fox made contact with an estimated two companies of NVA in prepared positions. The company utilized supporting arms effectively, and attacked with two platoons. The NVA counterattacked and recaptured the lost ground prior to darkness. Fox continued to utilize supporting arms, and attempted to attack again; however, shortage of ammunition and casualties among key personnel prevented its success. Fox established night defensive positions, and prepared to attack the following day. A platoon from Alpha 1/3 was flown into a zone several kilometers to the rear of Fox in order to reinforce Fox company (-) in the morning.

On 8 August, the company resumed the attack, and against light resistance seized the high ground. Fox uncovered valuable intelligence information and accounted for numerous NVA dead. The remainder of the battalion continued to search its area, and contact remained sporadic within the AO.

At approximately 0400 on 10 August an estimated reinforced NVA company attacked Echo 3 and the attached 81mm mortar platoon(-). Communications were lost for about an hour, and artillery was reluctant to fire close support

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without direct communications. As a result, the supporting arms were slow to react. At 0615 Echo 1 came under a heavy ground and mortar attack. Alpha company(-) was chopped to the battalion and helo-lifted to assist Echo 3.

Many problems were encountered during consolidation of Echo 3 and its link-up with Alpha. Med-evac aircraft suffered mechanical difficulties requiring them to return to base. Accompanying gunships ran out of fuel and had to leave station prior to the arrival of back-up med-evac aircraft. This prolonged the extraction of the casualties, and thus prevented any exploitation of this contact by the infantry.

The helo-lift of Alpha 1/3 had commenced at 1015. Its completion was delayed and landing zones shifted repeatedly due to incoming mortar rounds. Aircraft ran out of fuel and departed to refuel prior to the completion of the lift. Not until 1615 did the final man from Alpha arrive on the ground in the objective area.

During this time Echo 2 linked up with Echo 1. Echo company (-) and Alpha(-), with remnants of Echo 3 and the attached 81 mortar platoon, established night defensive positions in preparation for a coordinated attack in the morning.

Orders to withdraw were received and executed by the battalion after dark. Police of the battlefield was incomplete, although Alpha Company(-) reinforced spent the next day evacuating dead who had not been extracted on 10 August.

On 11 August, Echo flew from the AO to Cua Viet for reorganization, rest, training, and subsequent security operations in that area under opcon of the 1st Brigade 5th Mechanized Division. Hotel and Alpha companies continued to move south by foot until they closed on Route 9. At that time Alpha reverted to the control of its parent unit, and Hotel moved by truck to a new AO west of Cam Lo.

The battalion assumed the role of Division reaction force while concurrently providing security for various units and fixed positions throughout the Cam Lo district.

There was no enemy contact made after the battalion left the Mutter's Ridge area. Training was accomplished to upgrade the effectiveness of all units. In addition, all weapons and equipment received technical inspections. The companies continued to patrol the area and establish numerous ambushes daily.

2. INTELLIGENCE

Enemy activity during the early part of the month was heavy. Fox company made contact with an estimated

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two companies of NVA in prepared positions. Captured documents indicated that the NVA were assigned to the 1st and 3rd Battalions of the 9th NVA regiment. The weapons and equipment of the enemy were all new. Echo company had two of its platoons attacked by large NVA elements who were also from the 9th NVA regiment. A complete read-out of all documents captured has not yet been received.

Terrain varied from steep ridgelines in the west and low rolling hills in the east. Vegetation was very thick in the draws and along stream beds, with barren hill tops. During the latter part of the month the area of operation consisted of low rolling hills and rice paddies.

3. OPERATIONS

The battalion participated in Operation Idaho Canyon throughout the month. Until 13 Aug, the area of operation was Mutter's Ridge and north of the Rockpile. Since that time the battalion has operated in the Cam Lo area.

4. RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

A. Casualties Inflicted on the Enemy

The enemy suffered a total of 96 KIA during the month of August. The number of enemy WIA can only be approximated, the number probably being considerably greater than the number of KIA. There were no NVA POW's and no detainees during the month.

B. Casualties Sustained

The battalion suffered 27 KIA and 95 WIA.

C. Equipment and Weapons Captured

Ammunition and weapons:

- 7 - AK-47 Assault rifles
- 2 - RPD-56 Light machine gun
- 1 - RPG 7
- 1 - US M-60 Machine gun
- 1 - US M-16 Rifle
- 21 - Rifle grenades
- 54 - 82mm Mortar rounds
- 54 - AK magazines (loaded)
- 274 - Chicom grenades
- 2590 - AK-47 rounds

Mines and explosives:

- 3 - Antitank mines
- 268 - Blocks of TNT

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Miscellaneous:

- 1 - Chicom radio
- 1 - Chicom binoculars
- 2 - 82mm Mortar sights
- 700 - pounds of rice
- Assorted 782 gear, documents, and medical supplies

5. SUPPORTING ARMSA. Artillery Support

During the first half of the month, artillery support was measured by the number of rounds expended, which reached record levels. In the four day period 9-12 August, 7,691 rounds were expended in support of the battalion. This included a one day total of 2,113 rounds on the 10th of the month.

Air/artillery support was credited with 25-30 kills in support of Fox company on 7-8 August. In addition, close-in support by A 1/12 and B 1/12 was credited with helping to break a savage predawn attack on a platoon position of Echo company by an estimated company of NVA.

With the rotation of the battalion to the Cam Lo area, the level of artillery fires subsided considerably. This occurred for the following reasons: (1) the area is a populated no fire zone, (2) one company of the battalion was placed under the operational control of the Army in the Cua Viet area, and (3) the remainder of the battalion assumed static, position type assignments. Nevertheless, just over 12,000 rounds were expended for the month in support of the battalion. This included 302 observed missions for 7,649 rounds.

Artillery units firing in support of the battalion included: A/1/12, B/1/12, K/4/12, 2nd Provisional Battery 1/12, two platoons of 1st 8" Battery, 1st 175 Battery, W Battery (4.2 mortars), and B 8/4 (Army).

B. Air Support

- (1) The air support for the month was satisfactory.
- (2) There was a total of 250 support missions flown during the month. These included:

a. Med-evac.....	27
b. Visual Recon.....	7
c. Administration.....	18
d. Logistics.....	43
e. A/O.....	45

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- (3) A total of 22 flights of fixed wing were requested, and 96 flights were run during this month.

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(4) The battalion had four troop lifts during the month. Each lift proceeded with a minimum amount of confusion and maximum cooperation from the helicopters.

(5) During the period Echo and Fox companies were in contact, air support performed well. Aerial observers and adequate sorties of fixed wing were made available. The Spooky gunship had a long reaction time but the quality of their support was excellent. Since the Spooky is located at such a great distance from the Northern I Corps units, it is recommended that several Spookies be located at Dong Ha, assuming that from Dong Ha they would be able to react more rapidly.

(6) There is a need for improved helicopter support capability in the fields of C&C, med-evac and resupply. The pilots and squadrons are doing their best with the available helicopters; however, med-evac and resupply missions suffer due to the lack of aircraft (both CH-46's and Huey Gunbirds). During contact the need for C&C aircraft is increased, primarily for the purpose of giving the commander the opportunity to influence the action by his presence, and for timely and reliable retrograde of critical intelligence material when operating in thick and mountainous jungle terrain.

6. LOGISTICS

A. General

For the first 13 days of the month units in the field received resupply and replacements from the LSA at Vandergrift Combat Base. For the remainder of the month three companies and the CP group received all resupply and replacements by truck from Dong Ha. One company at Cua Viet, opcon to the 1st of the 11th (US Army), received class II and replacements by "M" boats from the Dong Ha boat ramp. There were no major problems encountered during the month.

B. Motor Transport

During the month the Motor Transport Section resumed normal operations following the move to Dong Ha. The motor pool area has completely established the status of the vehicles kept at the highest standards. During the first two weeks of the month the deadline rate dropped to less than 5%. The last week in August saw a 100% availability of vehicles in the Motor Transport Section in 151A1's. The deadline rate of M-37's was also decreased considerably. With the expected delivery of another 151A1, the availability of vehicles should increase.

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~~SECRET~~7. PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION

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A. Awards

Cross of Galantry.....12
Purple Heart.....35
Navy Ach Medal.....6

B. Promotions

PFC.....37
L/CPL.....37
CPL.....40

- C. A total of 89 R&R quotas were utilized during the month.

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D. Personnel Losses and Gains

USMC				USN			
OFF		ENL		OFF		ENL	
Join	Drop	Join	Drop	Join	Drop	Join	Drop
10	12	225	203	0	0	9	12

E. Legal and Discipline

A total of 21 Non-Judicial Punishments and two Court Martials were awarded during the month.

F. Pay and Allowances

Monetary services have been satisfactory. Troops were paid in the most expedient manner possible, depending on the situation.

G. Postal

Postal service remains marginally satisfactory. Mail service is irregular.

H. Post Exchange

Exchange facilities in Dong Ha were available to the battalion rear. Supplementary packs were obtained through supply channels for personnel in the field.

I. Religious Services

Catholic services were held by the battalion Chaplain whenever possible. In addition, the Chaplain conducted memorial services for Fox and Hotel companies and the 81mm mortar platoon. The casualties at 3rd Medical Battalion and aboard the USS Sanctuary were visited on 16 August. The Chaplain also counseled numerous personnel throughout the month. Protestant services were held in the rear and by visiting Chaplains in the field when available.

8. EQUIPMENT

The overall supply situation remained satisfactory during the month, with resupplies being provided to the companies in the field via Vandergrift Combat Base and Dong Ha Combat Base.

Items of significant importance received during this reporting period were three 60mm mortar tubes and 50 M-16 rifles.

An item that has been considered critical and was received during this reporting period was all sizes of cushion sole socks. A total of 6000 pair were received.

A total of 10 hours of technical training was conducted during the month.

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9. COMMUNICATIONS

The communications platoon continued to support the battalion CP throughout its movements and operations. With the battalion CP remaining in the field at the beginning of the month, fixed communications were maintained at Undergrift. On 13 August the battalion CP moved to Cam Lo and communications were established there.

Platoon technicians repaired and maintained one TA-221/PT, two TA 1/PT's, four C 2329A's, eight AN/PRSL's, 21 RT 505's, 57 AN/PRTH's, 68 AN/PRT9's. No new personnel reported to the tech shop during the month, but one 5931 departed. One technician remained with the CP to repair faulty radios.

During the month personnel joined were: one 2511 wireman, two 2531 radio operators, one 2533 radio operator, and two 2542 message center men.

10. TRAINING

The companies were able to conduct extensive training programs while in semi-static positions. Emphasis was placed on fire team, squad, and platoon tactics, individual weapons, and the employment of crew served weapons organic to the battalion. During the month, individual companies completed the following training:

Echo	Combat Techniques.....4 hours
	M-16.....4 hours
	M-60.....4 hours
	Weapons Safety.....5 hours
	Personal Hygiene.....3 hours
Fox	Combat Technique.....5 hours
	M-16.....4 hours
	M-60.....4 hours
	Weapons Safety.....4 hours
	60mm Mortar.....3 hours
	Vietnamese History.....2 hours
Golf	Combat Techniques.....4 hours
	M-16.....3 hours
	M-60.....4 hours
	Weapons Safety.....3 hours
Hotel	Combat Techniques.....4 hours
	M-16.....4 hours
	M-60.....3 hours
	M-79.....3 hours
	Weapons Safety.....5 hours
	Personal Hygiene.....2 hours

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81mm Mortar	Nomenclature.....	6 hours
	Gun Drill.....	6 hours
	Miss Fire.....	5 hours
	Map and Compass.....	3 hours
	Plotting board.....	9 hours
	Search and Traverse.....	4 hours
	Direct Laying.....	2 hours
	New Sight M-53.....	4 hours
	Live Fire Exercise.....	6 hours
	Gun pits.....	8 hours
	Fuses and Settings.....	4 hours

New troops continue to be instructed in such items as weapons safety, immediate action, hygiene in the field, and marksmanship. The battalion also filled the following school quotas:

Basic Ammo Tech.....	2 L/CPL's
Basic Infantry Weapons Repair.....	1 PFC
Embarkation School.....	2 PFC
Staff NCO School.....	1 SGT
NCO School.....	1 CPL

11. SERVICES

The only messhall maintained and operated throughout this reporting period was the messhall at Dong Ha. A temporary facility was maintained at Elliot Combat Base for Golf company. Also, a temporary facility was maintained for the CP and supporting companies at Cam Lo District Headquarters. Hot chow was provided regularly to the troops in the field in so far as operations and commitments permitted.

Showers were provided for the troops in the rear and the CP at Cam Lo.

All third echelon maintenance was performed by FLSG Bravo. Minimal problems were encountered and services were rendered satisfactorily.

12. MEDICAL

Medical care was provided by the hospital corpsman assigned to the line companies. They were equipped to hold routine sick call and provide emergency treatment for casualties. More extensive care was provided by the battalion aid station located at Dong Ha and a sub-station located at Cam Lo. The battalion aid station at Dong Ha provided administrative and medical supply service.

Medical support was also provided by the following units:

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Bravo Co 3rd Medical Battalion, Quang Tri
 Delta Co 3rd Medical Battalion, Dong Ha
 1st Medical Battalion, Da Nang
 USNH USS Repose
 USNH Sanctuary

Statistics:

Total outpatients seen.....1,357
 Total immunizations.....209
 Prescriptions.....1,002

Breakdown of Important Treatments:

URI....7	Limited Services....109
FUO....43	Heat Exhaustion.....11
VD....9	Pneumonia.....1

13. CIVIL ACTION

During the period 20 August through 31 August emphasis was placed on short range, high impact projects. The battalion commander participated in the dedication of the Cam Phu Elementary School on 21 August 1969. Materials for this school were donated by the 3rd Marines.

Coordination was made with CO 1/12 to obtain artillery ammunition boxes. One hundred and fifty boxes were subsequently delivered to Vinh Dai Village Council to be made into school desks by local labor.

A med-cap was held in the Dinh Xa hamlet. The medical team consisted of Navy Corpsmen organic to the 2nd Battalion, MACV personnel and a Vietnamese team from Cam Lo District Headquarters. The corpsmen treated 80 people for minor infections, coughs, etc. MACV provided medicines and the Vietnamese team provided dental assistance.

A flag was donated by the battalion to the Thach Dau School.

Materials for a school to be constructed by the Vietnamese were acquired from the Regimental S-5. These materials consisted of tin, 2x4's, and 1x6's. They will be delivered in September.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

010930H Company F 2/3 (YD 001626) patrol found fresh footprints of approximately three NVA along a well used trail. The patrol continued to follow the direction of the trail and other patrols in the area were notified to be on the alert for enemy moving toward them.

011205H Company F 2/3 (YD 001627) patrol heard movement and brush cracking to their rear. Patrol opened fire on the general area and moved forward where they encountered heavy CS gas from an unknown origin. The Marines returned to their base location. Artillery was fired into the area and an A/O was on station. Another patrol was dispatched to check the area. The patrol found 12 old bunkers being reconstructed and 12 fighting holes with fields of fire cleared facing down into a draw. Each bunker was large enough to accommodate three men and had an over head cover two feet thick. A small kitchen was also found in the complex. Numerous C-ration cans were strewn around. The area was completely searched and the bunkers were destroyed.

011300H Fox 2 had enemy employ gas against it.

011400H Chaplin held memorial services with Fox 3 in the field.

021500H CP displaced to vicinity of hill 362.

031105H Company F 2/3 (YD 004626) while on patrol discovered three old bunkers with over head covering. The bunkers showed no sign of recent use and were destroyed.

031430H Company E 2/3 (YD 988629) found nine fighting and four sleeping holes capable of accommodating four. The structures appeared to be approximately two weeks old. Two old Marine positions and LZ's were nearby. Also found were 11 81mm HE mortar rounds. The mortar rounds and bunkers were blown in place.

031500H CP displaced to new location.

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040900H Change of command ceremony held for new battalion commander, Lt. Col. William S. Daniels.

041200H CP displaced to the east.

051030H Company F 2/3 (YD 011631) patrol found seven bunkers approximately six months old. The area was searched thoroughly and the bunkers were destroyed.

051230H Company F 2/3 (YD 012633) found two bunkers, one AP mine, 15 pounds of rice, two Chicom grenades, 720 rounds of AK ammunition, and sign of recent use. All gear was destroyed after a search of the area.

051400H CP displaced to the east.

051745H Company F 2/3 (YD 009634) while moving found six sleeping hootches built into the side of a bark. Grass cut for the floor of the structure was very fresh. A trail with fresh sand-all tracks was nearby. The hootches were destroyed.

052300H Company F 2/3 (YD 011632) while in night position spotted lights which appeared to be moving at (YD 015628) and (YD 020626). Artillery was fired on the positions resulting in five secondary explosions.

061100H Company E 2/3 (YD 944614) while on patrol discovered 18 old bunkers and two mortar pits. The area showed no recent use and the bunkers were destroyed.

061230H Company E 2/3 (YD 940636) found 50 rounds of 82mm mortar ammunition. The rounds were destroyed.

061730H Company F 2/3 (YD 002634) while conducting a security patrol made contact with five NVA. The patrol was reinforced and the NVA fled to the southwest into a draw. Artillery and OV 10 ordnance were fired into the draw. A search of the immediate area disclosed one green NVA pith helmet with a red square on the front, two lead pencils made in Hanoi with 100m increments marked off on them. A large amount

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of blood was also found. At first light the next morning, Company F began to search the same area when they made contact with an estimated NVA platoon. Artillery and air were called in and Fox maneuvered their 1st platoon on the west and the 2nd platoon on the east as the Marines continued to move. With the assistance of fixed wing and artillery Fox 1 and 2 seized the high ground at (YD 998634) and (YD 002632). The NVA counter attacked each position with reinforced platoons supported by another company. Fox 1 and 2 were forced to withdraw. More artillery and air were called in but the Marines were unable to retake the high ground. Napalm started a fire which drove Fox 2 from its position, it was forced to move to an area with no LZ; as a result some of the casualties could not be evacuated until the following day. In addition, resupply could not be brought in to the platoon. A platoon from Alpha 1/3 was flown into an LZ to the south to reinforce Fox prior to dusk. At dawn on 8 August, Fox began maneuvering forces into attack positions. The attack went as planned and at dusk Fox retook it's objective. The NVA suffered innumerable losses. Approximately 50-60 bodies were found. Marine casualties were four KIA and 32 WIA.

061905H

Company E 2/3 (YD 941625) while set up in their night defensive position observed what appeared to be one NVA. Fire was brought upon the figure with small arms, M-79, and 60mm mortars. The area was searched at first light with negative results.

070700H

Company E 2/3 (YD 939637) received chicombs and RPG's inside the perimeter resulting in one USMC KIA. Four NVA were spotted and fired upon with small arms and M-60. Three more enemy opened fire from the east with small arms. Air and 60mm mortars were fired on the NVA. A patrol was sent out to sweep through the area. The sweep team found 10 bunkers at (YD 943625) and a freshly cut trail leading to the north, also found were four living/fighting bunkers. At (YD 937628) an old mortar pit ready for use, with aiming stakes pointing northeast, was found.

070730H

Battalion commander flew to regiment for briefing.

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070755H Fox 2 in contact

071125H Company E 2/3 (YD 940613) local patrol spotted six to eight NVA moving in a northerly direction. The patrol opened fire and the NVA fled into the thick brush.

071400H Hotel 1 in contact.

071500H CO returned.

071730H Company H 2/3 (YD 937606) patrol moving west stopped to rest and heard movement. Eight to 10 NVA started to set up an ambush but the patrol initiated contact first. A brush fire separated the squad and the two elements maneuvered away from the fire. Another squad joined to assist. Artillery was called in to the west while the Marines moved back to their position. The action resulted in five NVA killed and one USMC KIA.

071830H Squad from Fox 3 secured an LZ for a platoon from Alpha 1/3 to land.

071830H Alpha 2 chopped opcon to 2/3.

07----- Total assists used for the day included five med-evacs, 11 flights of fixed wing, eight flights of gunships, 18 AO's, one AC-46, and one AC-119.

080630H Alpha 2 closing toward Fox.

080915H Resupply of Fox 2 completed.

080930H Company E 2/3 (YD 944625) while on local security patrol, platoon had a satchel charge and chicombs thrown at them. The patrol returned fire with small arms and the NVA fled in a northerly direction down into a draw. The draw was prepped with 81's and then thoroughly searched with negative results.

081000H Company E 2/3 (YD 946630) found one burned NVA body with no identification, approximately three days old, killed by air or artillery.

081008H Air strike of CS gas conducted in vicinity of (YD 000638).

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081010H Fox attacks.

091025H Resupply birds received 50 cal. fire going into an LZ for Fox company.

091035H Company F 2/3 (YD 998640) resupply bird received 50 cal. fire from (YD 001653). Artillery and fixed wing were fired on the area and an AO reported one NVA killed by air and several bunkers destroyed.

091300H Company E 2/3 (YD 942638) while on patrol found the following gear: seven chicoms, one gasmask, one pair of ear plugs, one canteen, one belt, one ammo pouch with 20 AK-47 rounds, one poncho with blood stains, one roll of comm wire, and two helmets. The gear was destroyed.

091330H Company F 2/3 (YD 996633) patrol heard movement to the rear and were hit with chicoms. Fire was returned and the area swept through with no further contact.

091330H Company E 2/3 (YD 946639) patrol heard movement and set up a hasty ambush killing one NVA as he walked into the killing zone.

092200H Company E 2/3 (YD 937627) LP was approached by four NVA who opened up with small arms fire. The LP returned fire with small arms and frags causing the enemy to flee. The lines then spotted 10 NVA. The Marines opened fire with small arms, M-60, and M-79 and received return fire with chicoms, satchel charges, and small arms. Negative results.

10----- Starting on the night of the 9th, the battalion had one Spooky gunship and one flare-ship. On the morning of the 10th, it had continuous AO coverage and ran 11 flights of fixed wing during the course of the day. Alpha company was lifted into Echo's position in the afternoon. The med-evac birds worked all day. The battalion also used six flights of UH 1E gun birds. On the night of the 10th a spooky gunship and flareship stayed on station all night but were not needed.

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100415H Company E 2/3 (YD 946630) an unidentified number of NVA formed on line and attacked Echo 3 from the north with chicoms, satchel charges, and small arms fire. Shortly thereafter, the Marines were attacked from all sides. A portion of the perimeter where 81's were located was penetrated. At 0505H all radio contact was lost with the platoon. Communications were regained about 0600. The Marines fought viciously against overwhelming odds. Artillery was used to completely box the platoon in and an A0 came on station and dropped flares. At 0705 the original perimeter was re-established. Marine casualties were 13 KIA and 58 WIA. Within the perimeter, 17 NVA were killed.

100615H Company E 2/3 (YD 93562) Echo I was hit by an NVA unit from the west with a heavy ground and mortar attack. The platoon returned fire and called in arty and air. The Marines held their positions and killed 19 NVA. The Marine casualties were six KIA and 17 WIA. ✓

100616H The enemy broke contact with Echo 3.

100830H Echo 3 requested tactical emergency med-evac.

100835H Echo 1 received sniper fire.

100840H Hotel reported incoming RPG landing outside of the perimeter.

100920H Company F 2/3 (YD 001633) patrol found two bunkers containing: documents, 22 packs 14 RPG rounds, one pair of binoculars, 105 chicoms, 120 pounds of TNT, 100 pounds of rice, 10 hammocks, 1,000 rounds of AK ammo, one satchel charge, 21 compasses, one telegraph key with booster, assorted medical gear, three flashlights, eight K-bars, 10 E-tools, three picks, three hacksaws, five insect head covers, 23 RPG boosters, two boxes of battle dressings, one med-evac book, 10 gasmasks, 22 ponchos, four Ho Chi Minh sandals, 142 blasting caps. The documents and important gear were sent to the rear; bunkers and unusable gear were destroyed.

100930H 946630 Alpha lift commenced.

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101025H Echo 3 received incoming while evacuating casualties. Med-evac birds were fired upon.

101055H Alpha company has approximately 84 people at Echo 3's position.

101100H Echo's tactical emergency med-evacs completed.

101205H Company F 2/3(YD 001632) patrol found 15 bunkers containing: one US M-60 machine gun, one US M-16 rifle, 600 pounds of rice, 160 chicoms, five RPG's, eight large rifle grenades, 23 K-bars, 32packs, 148 blocks of TNT, 43 E-tools, 28 picks, 59 RPG boosters, 49 AK-47 magazines, 850 rounds of AK ammo, assorted military papers, one map, nine graves, six to 10 one gallon pots, two sights of an 82mm mortar, one radio, and two batteries. All weapons were med-evaced; the bunkers and other gear were destroyed.

101305H 991635 Fox patrol in contact.

101410H Lift resumed for the remainder of Alpha (-).

101435H 935643 One 82mm mortar tube and two NVA were destroyed by an air strike.

101445H Helicopter lift completed.

101446H LZ Sierra received incoming.

101500H Alpha joins Echo 3 and 81 mm mortar platoon.

101605H Echo 3 med-evac complete except for permanent routine.

101610H Echo 1 and 2 link up as a company (-).

101625H Company F 2/3 (YD 988612) spotted three NVA with binoculars at (YD 968613). Artillery was called in with good coverage of the area. Assessment of the damage was not possible.

101730H Echo (-) and Alpha (-) established separate night defensive perimeters.

101900H Regiment directed the battalion to withdraw.

101930H All units on the move including CP.

110745H Received word to be prepared for the CO to be picked up by helicopter for a briefing at 0800.

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110745H Received word for the CO to be picked up immediately.

110748H Spotted five NVA approximately 200 meters west of CP position. Called in artillery and took them under fire with small arms.

110750H Company F 2/3 (YD 988612) spotted five NVA, wearing ponchos, packs, helmets, and natural camouflage, moving down a trail. The Marines took them under fire with small arms and called in artillery. The area was searched and a heavily used trail was located, but no NVA were found.

110830H Issued warning orders to companies E, F, G, H, and A for operation.

110930H CO picked up by chopper.

110945H Requested the helolift of Echo for 1600.

111000H Received word from regiment that Fox and Golf relief in place was postponed indefinitely.

111005H Received order that Echo would be lifted by helicopter to Cua Viet, also Alpha would establish a night defensive position at FSB Pete. Recommended that Hotel move to FSB Pete and Alpha occupy a position at the vicinity of Hotel company's present position.

111145H Alpha reported two possible MIA's and one permanent routine on LZ Sierra (hill 461).

111232H Fox received sniper fire (AO 1242).

111355H Med-evac for Fox completed.

111400H Echo company troop lift commenced.

111600H Echo displacement to Cua Viet completed; Alpha's commenced. Memorial service for Echo at Cua Viet. Change of command ceremony for Captain Scuras at Cua Viet.

111617H Hotel moved to the south to close on FSB Pete.

111730H Last casualties evacuated. Received all present or accounted for from all companies.

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111745H Company F 2/3 (YD 997614) spotted one NVA wearing black uniform moving to the southwest, fired 60mm mortars and had gun ship fire into the area. The gun ship received automatic weapons fire.

111800H CP displaced.

121100H CO helo-lifted to a briefing at regiment.

121500H CO returned from regiment.

121830H Informed by S-1 that one body had not been recovered.

121920H Company A 1/3 (YD 986593) found one box of 82mm mortar increments.

130730H CP displaced to Cam Lo district headquarters.

130750H Fox lift completed to 069574.

131200H Hotel closed on route 9.

131400H Alpha reverted to control of parent unit.

140715H Regimental commander arrived at CP.

140730H Regimental commander and battalion commander left for a meeting at division.

1411400H Battalion commander returned.

151000H Regiment ordered a company to be moved near Camp Carroll area.

160900H CO and S-3 visited regiment.

161500H CO and S-3 returned to CP.

171300H CO visited Echo at Cua Viet.

171545H CO returned to CP.

180845H CO went to regiment for briefing.

181040H CO departed for Dong Ha to inspect the rear area.

181700H CO returned.

191020H CO departed for Cua Viet to inspect Echo company.

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191030H Truck hit mine west of hill 37 and north of route 9.

191030H Mine sweep (YD 062573) truck detonated a mine and five minutes later a grader hit another mine about 200 meters down the road. There was one WIA who was med-evaced and then the road was reswept.

191230H CO returned.

19----- Announcement that Echo company was operationally ready for commencement of security action in AO at Cua Viet.

200945H CO departed for regimental CP.

201045H Road sweep #307 (YD 062571) while sweeping the road found one plastic anti-tank mine. The mine was blown in place.

201100H CO returned.

201245H Truck hit mine in grid 0556.

201240H Company H (YD 057567 and 052568) Sea Bee truck hit anti-tank mine on access road (YD 057567). Engineers resweeping the area found another mine at (YD 052568). The mine was blown in place. There were no casualties.

210945H CO went to school dedication in the resettlement village.

211045H CO returned to the CP.

211135H B-3 sweep team (YD 052568) found anti-tank mine rigged with pressure release device. The mine was blown in place and the area was reswept.

211240H CO departed for Mai Loc for visit.

211540H CO returned.

211940H Company G (YD 156578) platoon received three unknown size rounds from (YD 1457). The rounds landed 600 meters outside the perimeter and they were believed to be friendly.

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212000H Company G (YD 156578) received several bursts of automatic weapons fire, presumably from Popular Forces occupying position (YD 143577).

220840H Regimental commander arrived at 2/3 CP.

220859H Division commander arrived at 2/3 CP.

220900H Presentation of awards ceremony.

221150H Division commander and regimental commander departed.

221150H CO left to visit CO of 1st of the 11th.

221400H CO returned.

231110H CO departed to visit companies.

231145H CO returned.

231540H CO departed for regiment.

231730H CO returned.

241345H Company G (YD 106544) Army convoy consisting of four vehicles, two of which were armed, was moving north on route 558, when it came under fire receiving three RPG's. Company G sent a reinforced squad to sweep through estimated enemy position at (YD 112544) with negative results. There was one US Army WIA who was treated by a corpsman.

261015H CG 3rd. Marine Division arrived.

261045H CG 3rd. Marine Division departed.

261300H CO left to inspect the rear.

261500H Scheduled troop lift of Echo and Fox for 27th postponed.

262240H 2/3 CP (Cam Lo district headquarters) fragmentation grenade presumed thrown from a school house on the east wall detonated in the wire. Spotted a figure leaving the school house heading east. Checked area with negative results.

271205H CO departed for Dong Ha.

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271655H CO returned.

280830H 81 mortar platoon departed for live fire exercise.

281120H CO departed for Fox company.

281145H Representative from Division Ordnance went to 81 mortar live fire.

281740H CO returned.

290715H Helo lift of Echo and Fox commenced.

290805H Helo lift completed.

300815H CO visited regiment.

300940H CO returned.

301025H CO visited 2nd ARVN.

301100H CO returned

301515H CO departed for Mai Loc.

301132H Co returned.

311200H CO visited regiment.

311120H CO returned.