

# THE PROUD WARRIOR

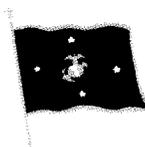


WORLD WAR II \* VIETNAM \* GULF WAR \* SOMALIA \* PEACE TIME

National Newsletter of the 1/9 Network, Inc.

FALL-2004 DECEMBER 2004

10 November 2004



## A Message From the Commandant of the Marine Corps

Two hundred and twenty-nine years ago, the Second Continental Congress established a Corps of Marines to fight for a democratic people's independence. Since then countless Marines have raised their hand and sworn to defend our Nation's freedoms and preserve its liberties. This year's anniversary again finds Marines engaged throughout the globe for the same noble purposes. The bravery, heroism and selflessness of all Marines wherever they are serving have added significantly to our rich legacy and measured up to the high standards that have come to epitomize all who wear the eagle, globe and anchor.

The current battlefields of the global war on terror are linked to the storied campaigns of our past by an unbroken tradition of proud and loyal service. At New Providence, Chapultepec, Belleau Wood, Tarawa, Iwo Jima, the Chosin Reservoir, Con Thien, Kuwait and now in places like Fallujah, Marines have consistently demonstrated a dedication to duty, a commitment to warfighting excellence, and a devotion to each other that has instilled a fierce determination to overcome seemingly impossible challenges. Our warrior ethos is and will continue to be the Corps' hallmark.

The fortitude and sacrifices of Marines and their families have been vital in protecting our Nation from those who would do us harm. Whether preparing and sustaining our agile force or engaged in battle, the esprit de corps, tireless energy, calm courage and inspired leadership of Marines continue to make a monumental difference in this world. Your unselfish dedication and significant accomplishments demonstrated repeatedly over this past year in numerous places such as the Anbar province of Iraq, Afghanistan, the Horn of Africa, Haiti and in the crucial job here at home supporting our deployed forces are deeply respected and valued by your fellow Americans.

Marines, as we celebrate with friends and families the founding of our beloved Corps, you should take pride in our long history of distinguished service to this great Nation and its citizens. I ask you to remember especially the sacrifices of our fallen and wounded comrades. Finally, rededicate yourselves to taking care of one another and ensuring we remain the finest warfighting organization in the world.

Happy Birthday, Marines. Semper Fidelis, and Keep Attacking!

M. W. Hagee  
General, U.S. Marine Corps

LEATHERNECK NOVEMBER 2004 [www.mca-marines.org/leatherneck](http://www.mca-marines.org/leatherneck)

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**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

William Hesse

I hope this newsletter find you all well. So far it's been a great Holiday Season here. On the 12<sup>th</sup> of November I held a Marine Corps Ball here in Connecticut. All the recruiters in New England were invited and showed up. I found the best band, the best place to have it, and the Prime rib was excellent. I then called 1/9er's in the area and asked if they'd like to get a table together. The response was terrific. Those who showed up were:

Bob Selleck and his wife Cathy, Frank and Barbara Healey, Ted and Carol Vdorick, John and Amanda Roth, Ben Baldwin and his date (sorry, Ben, I don't remember her

name), and Russ Lawler. We had a freak snow storm that evening 4 inches of slippery white mess; good thing we had a Limo for the night. The Marines present said that they had never been to such a beautiful Ball.

Thanksgiving was spent here at the house with family and friends along with more food than we could eat. After losing so much weight to fit into those Blues, it was great to sit and enjoy that meal.

The Network has been pretty quite this past month or so. I did receive some donations on the Marine Birthday, But, Marines, I'm here to tell you, they came nowhere near my expectations. Maybe it was my fault for not reminding you in the last newsletter. If it was then let me make amends here. We received from all the members of this network, enough money to mail out this newsletter. That's a little less than \$1000. I know you all want to continue hearing from each other, so please, take the time to send a contribution to the network. You contributions during the year help out so much. Don't get me wrong, we're in good shape financially, and we'll have enough money to do the things we need to do. But without your contributions, we'll have to use money earmarked for the next reunion. Thank you all who sent in something.

As the next holiday nears, my wife Joan and I want to wish you all the very best, I hope that you get a chance to visit with your families and enjoy the season.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.  
Semper Fi is Forever,  
Bill Hesse

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**1/9 REACTIVATION NOT DEAD YET!**

December 2004, no updates on the reactivation of the battalion. Maybe there will be some news next time.  
Editor

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**FROM THE EDITOR**

Happy Holidays to everyone! Another project is completed; the KIA list update. Next project will be to up finalize the roster. At some point in the future, the month journals of 1/9 action in Vietnam may be available. Look for a taste of it later in the newsletter. I'll try to include a month every quarter. Hey, what's the word on the PI mini for 2005? I see posting about book review on the 1/9 website, it would be good to get a few in the newsletter.

So long for now. Hey, it's a nice ride!  
Semper Fi!  
Dano out!

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## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"I sometimes think that the saving grace of America lies in the fact that the overwhelming majority of Americans are possessed of two great qualities- a sense of humor and a sense of proportion."

**Franklin D. Roosevelt**

*32nd president of US (1882 - 1945)*

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## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Well, it appears as though my resignation from the chaplain's position with the Network didn't get accepted. It has been requested that I continue to write my column for the newsletter and I know that it is better to have someone proclaiming God's word than it is to stomp my foot and prove my point about it being time for someone else to serve in this position.

Earlier this month I had the privilege of bringing the Veteran's Day Message at our church here in Rio Rico, Arizona. I'd like to share parts of that message because I believe it is a healing message for many who have served our country in time of war. Particularly those who have served on the point of the spear.

Somehow our society has decided that the warrior is no longer acceptable in our midst. We have gone so far in our schools that a high school whose mascot is the Minuteman had the flintlock rifle removed from the mascot's hands on the mural in the school entry way. A young student in Washington State was expelled from school for three days for bringing a G.I. Joe with a pistol in his hand (maybe a 1/2 inch long pistol) to school.

Pop psychology seems to be telling us that our children should strive to grow up to be "Nice" people. Now, I have nothing against nice people but honestly who among us dreamed of growing up to be nice guys. Didn't we, in our youth, have dreams of being knights in shining armor, cowboys, Indians, and police officers? Some of us even had dreams of being Marines. I know I did. I have to tell you those dreams were not of performing niceties but of battling those imagined enemies and of freeing the world of some perceived evil.

We were not wrong to have these dreams. In the Bible in the book of Genesis God tells us that we were, "created in His own image." In Exodus we learn that, "The Lord is a warrior." Job describes the heart of God as like that of, "a valiant war stallion." In fact in the Psalms David tells us that, "The Lord trains my hand for battle." If God would train a warrior's hand for battle surely He has a place for him in our society.

Well, you might say that was the God of the Old Testament, Jesus is a Shepard who always turns the other cheek. Jesus was a carpenter, his followers were fishermen, and he gained the admiration of battle hardened Roman Centurions, all hard strong men. In the book of Revelation

we are told that when He returns it will not be leading sheep but, "at the head of a dreadful company, mounted on a white horse, with a double edged sword, His robe dipped in blood."

We were chosen to be warriors and we have served both our nation and our God honorably. We are the Walking Dead. We are the United States Marine Corps.

Semper Fidelis and May God Bless You in All You Do.

**Blaine**

E-mail: magblaine@msn.com

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## A MARINE'S PRAYER

One of the most requested reprints of the Sarge's columns is the following Marine invocation, which has anonymously evolved throughout the years. So bow your heads while standing tall and share this with your fellow Marines:

O Lord, we have long known that prayer should include confession. Therefore, on behalf of the Marines and their guests here gathered, I confess their sins:

Lord, they're just not in step with today's society. They are unreasonable in clinging to old-fashioned ideas like patriotism, duty, honor and country. They hold radical ideas like believing that they are their brother's keeper and responsible for the Marine on their flank. They have been standing when colors pass, singing the national anthem at ballgames, and drinking toasts to fallen comrades.

Not only that, they have been observed standing tall, taking charge, and wearing their hair unfashionably short. They have taken John Kennedy's words too seriously and are overly concerned with what they can do for their country instead of what this country can do for them.

They take the Pledge of Allegiance to heart and believe that the oath is to be honored. Forgive them, Lord, for being stubborn men and women who hold fast to such old-fashioned values. After all, what can you expect? They're Marines.

O Lord our God, bless our misguided ideals, continue to raise up in this nation strong leaders and deliver us from "me first" managers and "don't ask me" followers. Be our honored guest this day. Let it be a day of laughter, good food, good drink, and the telling of tall tales and legends that far exceed the truth.

Watch over and keep safe those who wear this nation's uniform with special attention to their families everywhere. Now through this day and all the days ahead, God bless this great nation and God bless the corps.

From the Internet

## 'Twas COUP DAY

(‘Twas THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS)

Written by John Granger and Volney Warner, Psychological Warfare Section, at the time of the coup. The version in the Lansdale collection is performed by John Muldoon and the Cosmos Tabernacle Choir.]

'was siesta on "coup" day and all through Saigon,  
Not a soldier was stirring, not even big Don.  
The plans were all checked by Minh with great care,  
In hopes that a victory they soon would declare.

The Nhus were all nestled so snug in their beds,  
While visions of power danced through their heads.  
With Diem in his nightshirt and Nhu in his cap,  
Both settled down for a hot sweaty nap.

When out on the roof there arose such a clatter,  
Diem rose from his bed to see what was the matter.  
Then what to his wondering eyes did appear,  
But 30s and 50s inspiring such fear.  
(Cause they were all shooting, not there but here.)

The tanks and the hows and the planes how they came,  
He started to think, "How short-lived is fame!"  
Then all of a sudden his phone gave a jingle,  
(This happened quite often since he was still single).

"Give up and live, or resist and die,  
We'll give you 'til six to say no or aye."  
He picked up his pants, down the staircase he flew,  
"If I hadn't listened to dear Madame Nhu,  
I'd still have control, instead of the coup.

"But now that it's here, I'd better get brother  
To come up with crack troops and put down another  
Attempt to take over the reigns of this realm,  
And let me get back to steering the helm."

So putting his fingers up to his nose,  
He gave them the sign that everyone knows;  
And moving the bookcase so grand and so tall,  
Uncovered a doorway into a hall.

This passage was secret, not even Nhu knew,  
That this was built in for such a coup.  
It led to an alley outside of the grounds,  
To a spot that was in back of the loud banging sounds.

"We made it," cried Nhu with a voice loud and clear,  
But Diem stated wisely, "We are still too near.  
So let's take that vehicle parked over there,  
I once drove an APC (It was a dare)."

They captured the driver and vehicle intact,  
And moved it out smartly, (The vehicle was tracked).  
Over the river and away from the coup,

Dash away, dash away, dash away Nhu.

And all you could hear as they drove out of sight,  
Was "Merci beaucoup, don't shoot all night."  
The next day we heard so few of the facts,  
The rumors were flying about many pacts.

But one thing we feel is essentially true,  
Some old is preserved, but there ain't no more Nhu.

From the internet: grunt.space.swri.edu

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### **FLINT OF AN IMPOSTOR CATCHES AGENT'S EYE AT MARINE'S FUNERAL BY JOHN P. MARTIN STAR-LEDGER STAFF**

Tom Cottone knows a thing or two about military heroes.

As the FBI's national case agent for investigations into the illegal wearing of military awards, he has handled more than 100 cases involving military impostors.

So when he attended Wednesday's funeral Mass for 2nd Lt. John T. Wroblewski, the first New Jersey Marine to die in combat in Operation Iraqi Freedom, it was natural that Cottone would notice Walter Carlson.

Carlson wore a Marine dress uniform and sported a captain's insignia as he arrived at Our Lady of the Mountain Church in Long Valley. Pinned to his chest were many of the nation's highest honors for bravery and valor, including the Navy Cross, two Silver Stars, two Bronze Stars, three Purple Hearts, a Distinguished Flying Cross and Vietnam medals.

Cottone approached Carlson, chatted him up, escorted him to a reception area at the parish center, confronted him, and then arrested him. Yesterday, the bureau charged Carlson, 58, of Summit, with illegally wearing unearned military awards and decorations.

"When he walked by me and I saw what he was wearing, I immediately greatly suspected he was an impostor," Cottone said yesterday.

The arrest was a fluke. Cottone typically investigates bank robberies and other violent crimes from the bureau's West Paterson office, and handles the occasional impostor case when it arises.

He attended the funeral because Our Lady of the Mountain is his home parish and out of respect for Wroblewski.

He didn't know the young Marine, but during 10 years of investigating military impostors, Cottone has become so close to the corps that he has been made an honorary Marine.

But even when he is off duty, he said, his investigative instincts are on.

"Every time I drive by a bank, I look," he said. "Every time I see someone wearing military awards, I look. It's force of habit at this point."

Carlson's awards covered his chest. Cottone said Carlson initially insisted he had earned the awards during three tours in Vietnam. But his story crumbled quickly when Cottone and a friend with him who was a decorated Vietnam veteran began quizzing Carlson, for details on his service.

Cottone said he was unsure why or where Carlson got the medals and uniform, but said knockoffs are readily available through catalogs or the Internet. He suspected that Carlson wore them to improve his own self-image.

Carlson did not return a call seeking comment last night. He is expected to appear this afternoon before a federal magistrate in Newark. The offense carries a maxi- ~ mum prison term of six months.

But the agent said the crime is significant. Cottone called the fraud a disservice to every soldier, sailor, airman or Marine who has earned such an honor. Like John Wroblewski.

"He paid with his life for a Purple Heart that he'll never see," Cottone said.

*John P. Martin covers federal courts and law enforcement. He can be reached at [jmarti@starledger.com](mailto:jmarti@starledger.com).*

*The article appeared in the April 24<sup>th</sup> edition of the Newark NJ Star Ledger*

**Submitted by member James Papaganeres**

## **NOTICES & REQUESTS**

### **1/9 PINS, T-SHIRTS ETC.**

Dave Demick has a whole catalog of 1/9 related items he is offering for sale. The catalog includes, 1/9 pins, T-shirts, hats, shadow boxes and a whole lot more. His catalog is posted on the 1/9 Website or you can contact Dave direct at:

Dave Demick  
35240 Perret Plantation Road  
Callahan FL 32011  
Email: [rebeldave1nine@alltel.net](mailto:rebeldave1nine@alltel.net)  
Or look for the catalog on the Firebase

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### **1/9 T-SHIRTS**

Frenchy Laverriere, has resurrected the "old style" 1/9 t-shirts with the original Grim Reaper look. The t-shirts are red, with the Grim Reaper inside a gold shield with a banner underneath that says "The Walking Dead". The shirts sell for:

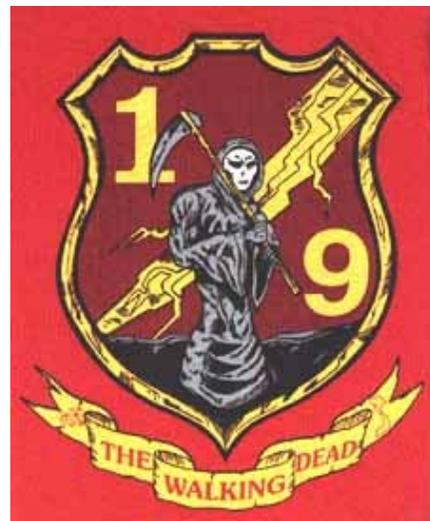
Med-XL	\$16.25 plus \$3.25 shipping
XXL	\$18.25 plus \$3.25 shipping
XXXL	\$22.00 plus \$3.25 shipping

If your ordering more than one shirt the shipping is only \$3.00 total.

Thanks

Billy "FRENCHY" Laverriere

Send your order and check to: Billy Laverriere, 5 Celia Circle, Methuen, MA 08144 His phone number is. I hear they are selling fast!



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**Got items for sale? Let the Editor know what you have.**

# IN MEMORIAM

These names will be added to the First Battalion Ninth Marines Casualty list Republic Viet Nam 1965-1969.

## FIRST BATTALION NINTH MARINES RVN

<u>FIRST/MIDDLE</u>	<u>LAST</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PANEL</u>	<u>ROW</u>	<u>COMPANY</u>
Alvin Carver	Forney	CPL	09/01/65	2E	71	Charlie
George Stephen	Balazy	PFC	09/12/65	2E	81	H&S
William Martin	Savoren	LCPL	11/25/65	3E	114	Alpha
William Michael	Meglio	Jr. PFC	12/06/65	3E	135	Delta
Robert Fred	Guthrie	HM3	01/31/66	4E	123	H&S
Michael James	McKinson	CPL	01/02/66	4E	48	Bravo
Joseph George	Sercovich	CPL	01/17/66	4E	77	Alpha
James P.	LaClear	PFC	05/12/66	7E	53	Bravo
Gary Nels	Nelson	CPL	06/04/66	8E	7	Delta
John Darrell	Smith	LCPL	06/04/66	8E	8	Alpha
Fred Otis	Baugh	Jr. LCPL	07/23/66	9E	61	Charlie
Gary Lynn	Williams	PFC	08/07/66	9E	110	H&S
David Ross	Faulconer	PFC	09/12/66	10E	88	Delta
Timothy James	Meeker	CPL	10/19/66	11E	127	Bravo
Robert Wayne	Cooper	LCPL	01/10/67	14E	8	Bravo
Donald Radford	Roberson	PFC	01/09/67	14E	2	Bravo
Morris Craig	Wheeler	LCPL	01/10/67	14E	7	Bravo
Willard	Brookens	Jr LCPL	04/05/67	17E	101	Charlie
Thomas Eugene	Combs	LCPL	04/05/67	17E	102	Charlie
Leonard Wayne	Elie	PFC	04/05/67	17E	103	Charlie
James Harrel	Fowler	PFC	04/05/67	17E	104	Charlie
Harold Leroy	Carver	PFC	04/05/67	17E	102	Charlie
Larry	Greer	PFC	04/21/67	18E	59	H&S
Jerry Dean	Hatcher	LCPL	04/08/67	17E	123	Alpha
Daniel Joseph	Heffernan	PFC	04/24/67	18E	80	Bravo
Alfred George	Lira	PFC	04/05/67	17E	105	Charlie
Jerry Wayne	Manning	PFC	04/05/67	17E	103	Charlie
Phillip Reginal	Mattracion	HM2	04/05/67	17E	106	H&S
C.L.	Salter	CPL	04/05/67	17E	107	Charlie
Phillip Howard	Sauer	1LT	04/24/67	18E	81	Bravo-3DAT -ONTOS
Robert Michael	Wainz	LCPL	04/24/67	18E	83	Bravo
Dean Edward	Armstrong	GSGT	05/13/67	19E	103	Charlie
Steven Andre	Broquist	2LT	05/14/67	19E	115	Delta
Richard	Brown	Sgt	05/28/67	21E	3	Delta
Michael Frank	Buckley	CPL	05/13/67	19E	104	Alpha
Glen George	Burt	CPL	05/13/67	19E	106	Delta
James Edward	Chadwick	PFC	05/15/67	19E	128	Delta
Raymond M.	Chasser	PFC	05/15/67	19E	126	Delta
Jaime	Esquivel	PFC	05/13/67	19E	105	Alpha
John Michael	Farmer	LCPL	05/03/67	19E	24	Bravo
Donald Kelcey	Halvorsen	PFC	05/14/67	19E	118	Delta
Kenneth Lewis	Hirst	LCPL	05/13/67	19E	107	Alpha
Joseph Timothy	Keesee	LCPL	05/15/67	19E	128	Delta
Garry	Klein	D. PFC	05/27/67	21E	1	Alpha
Robert Arnold	Mettert	CPL	05/07/67	19E	53	Bravo

Edward K	Meyer		PFC	05/15/67	20E	1	Bravo
Robert Edward	Monohan		LCPL	05/28/67	21E	6	Delta
Reinaldo Salvador	Ortiz		CPL	05/15/67	20E	3	Bravo
Lloyd Vernon	Roberts		PFC	05/24/67	20E	98	Bravo
Forrest Montgome	Stafford		HM1	05/14/67	19E	122	H&S
J. H.	Waller		SGT	05/13/67	19E	114	Alpha
Milligan Rudolph	Williams		PFC	05/14/67	19E	124	Delta
Neil Wayne	Aldridge		PFC	06/06/67	21E	60	Delta
Michael O.	Crossen		LCPL	06/15/67	21E	104	Bravo
Charles Richard	Mullan	Jr	HN	06/28/67	22E	80	H&S
John R.	Van Norman	III	LCPL	06/14/67	21E	103	Charlie
Herbert Alvin	Warner	Jr	PFC	06/14/67	21E	103	Charlie
Medford Adarine	Chrysler		PFC	07/02/67	22E	108	Alpha
Frank	Davila		CPL	07/02/67	22E	99	H&S
Allen Lee	Diedrickson		SGT	07/02/67	22E	100	Alpha
Warren Harvey	Grant	Jr	PFC	07/02/67	22E	102	Alpha
General Fird	James Jr.	Jr	SGT	07/02/67	22E	105	Alpha
Thomas W	McMahon	Jr	LCPL	07/02/67	22E	111	Alpha
Steven James	Powers		PVT	07/02/67	22E	112	Charlie
Alex Leon	Quiroga		HM2	07/02/67	22E	113	H&S
William Luther	Stevenson		PFC	07/02/67	22E	115	Alpha
T. M.	Thompson		CPL	07/02/67	22E	117	H&S
Bruce Allen	Yoder		PFC	07/02/67	22E	119	Alpha
Terri Liegh	Hines		PFC	07/07/67	22E	104	Alpha
Joel	Williams	Jr.	SGT	07/07/67	23E	33	H&S
Frank Morris	Streeks	Jr.	PFC	09/22/67	27E	2	Delta
Michael Van	Murray		PFC	01/31/68	36E	26	Alpha
Sandy Lee	Shull		LCPL	02/16/68	39E	66	H&S
Randall Carl	Phelps		PFC	04/08/68	48E	54	C-ENG 3/AD
Robert Helm	Wood		CPL	04/09/68	49E	7	H&S DOG HANDLER
Gregory Valentine	Maynard		CPL	05/19/68	63E	13	Delta
Riley David	Raulston		LCPL	05/15/68	61E	2	Delta
Patrick Allen	Connelly		PFC	06/19/68	56W	32	Alpha
James Cornel	Heard		LCPL	06/18/68	56W	22	H&S
Clayton Henry	Johnson		LCPL	06/18/68	56W	23	Bravo
Litael	Jordan Jr		PFC	06/18/68	56W	23	Charlie
Anthony Ray	Love		PVT	06/18/68	56W	24	Charlie
David Joseph	Marsh		LCPL	06/18/68	56W	25	Charlie
Randy Lee	Mathias		LCPL	06/18/68	56W	25	Charlie
Robert A	Mc Loughlin	Jr	CPL	06/19/68	56W	37	H&S
Charles Daniel	Smith		LCPL	06/15/68	56W	31	Delta
Ernest Lamar	Wesley		PFC	06/07/68	59W	29	Delta
Donald Emery	Whiters		LCPL	06/18/68	56W	30	Charlie
William Fidelis	Reilly		2NDLT	07/17/68	52W	41	B FO 2/12
David Allan	Ballou		PFC	08/22/68	47W	25	Bravo
Eddie Stephen	Brown		LCPL	08/31/68	45W	12	H&S
Harold Lee	Cheadle, Jr.		1STLT	08/23/68	47W	39	Delta
Clarence James	Jackson		PFC	08/03/68	49W	5	Alpha
David Alfred	McAfee		PFC	08/22/68	47W	30	Bravo
Eddie Lee	McMillan	Jr	PFC	08/23/68	47W	50	Charlie
Roy Jack	Rector		PFC	08/21/68	47W	21	Bravo
James Michael	Richards		LCPL	08/22/68	47W	31	Bravo
Pedro Juan	Rodriguez		LCPL	08/22/68	47W	31	Bravo

Larry Eugene	Richardson		CPL	09/17/68	43W	21	Charlie
George Albert	Carter		CPL	09/27/68	42W	27	Delta
Blaine Staney	Miles Jr		LCPL	09/27/68	42W	31	Delta
Edward Phillip	Turner	Jr	PFC	09/29/68	42W	43	Alpha
Douglas Wayne	Devoe		PFC	10/05/68	41W	15	Charlie
Edward John	Stankevich		PFC	12/27/68	36W	82	Charlie
Abrael	Maldonado		PFC	02/19/69	32W	60	Delta
Lawrence P	Otoole	II	2LT	02/22/69	32W	81	B FO-2/12
Robert Earl	Pugh		PFC	03/28/69	28W	74	Alpha
Michael David	Boyer		PFC	06/18/69	22W	72	Charlie
Edward William	Charles		LCPL	06/18/69	22W	73	Charlie
Frank	Cruz		LCPL	06/18/69	22W	74	Charlie
Robert	Drak		PFC	06/06/69	23W	85	Delta
Malcolm Francis	Leger		PFC	06/08/69	23W	112	H&S
Enrique	Miramontez		CPL	06/18/69	22W	81	Charlie
Thomas Daniel	Naughton	Jr	HN	06/18/69	22W	81	H&S
Paul Allen	Rezendes		HM3	06/18/69	22W	82	H&S
Gary Wayne	Letson		2LT	06/18/69	22W	79	Charlie

The names that appear above were not apart of the First Battalion Ninth Marines Casualty Reports (KIA List)list prior to October 2004. With acquisition of the CD's from the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation and the Rosters, more Marines have been identified that died in Vietnam while serving with 1/9. I wish to thank those that have sent information or have given me names. I believe there are 16 to 20 Marines still to be identified. The lack of good records, omissions and the condition of the rosters has made it difficult to identify the remaining 16 to 20 Marines. After a couple of months break, I intend to look for those names one more time.

The next step will be to have volunteers to make a trip to The Wall and make rubbings of these Marines names and the 20 or so previously identified Marines. These names should be added to our 1/9 Memorial Box. If anyone can handle this duty or wish to volunteer, call our President Bill Hesse.

Also, Larry Gugle will update the Casualty list and post the update on the Network Website. Larry is also working on the electronic version of the roster of all Marines who served in 1/9. Larry and I have discussed finalizing this project in 2005. Contact Larry or myself if you have names of Forward Air Controllers, Engineers, Artillery FO's and the like for addition to the roster. These Marines do not appear in the rosters as do the Corpsmen.

Dan Beckham, Editor

PS – in my searches I came across many memorial messages on the different sites from loved ones, old friends and comrades in arms. The following was especially touching.

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**PFC JAMES EDWARD CHADWICK from Upper Sandusky Ohio, Killed in Action May 15, 1967, Panel 19E, Row 120 Delta Company First Battalion Ninth Marines**

Submitted by Lawrence Maurer, [larryinpitchin@aol.com](mailto:larryinpitchin@aol.com) (not a member Friend

I flew out of Columbus, Ohio on Feb. 9th, 1966 with Jim to go to Marine Corps boot camp. We went thru all the training together and although we were in different companies, we were always in the same battalion, both 3/26 & 1/9. In May of 1967 outside of Con Thien, Jim took a direct hit from an 82 MM mortar. He was in his hole where he was supposed to be, but the mortar must have had eyes. 33 years now and I still think about it. Hang in there Jim. I'm 57 now and it won't be too much longer 'til I'll be able to spell you of some of that guard duty. You may have to put a good word for me in with St. Pete though. I hear he runs a tight ship! I can't remember ever seeing Jim Chadwick that he didn't have some kind of a smile on his face and I think that says it all. Semper Fi Jim. Friday, August 11, 2000

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# MEMORIES

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Date & Time: 22 October, 1965; approx. 2200 Hrs.      Location:      Vicinity of Ha Quang (4)  
Intelligence:      Large contingent of Viet Cong with North Vietnamese elements operating in area.  
Mission:      Search & destroy patrol with nighttime ambush position over looking village.  
Patrol size:      Squad size re-enforced (guns & rockets).

## NOW YOU SEE `EM NOW YOU DON'T!

It was the 3rd squad's time in the bucket! Our company patrol base ('A' company) had been established for some time. As the squad leader I had been called up for my briefing with Lt. Pete Laqueur. It had been our company's mission for some time now to run squad and platoon sized search & destroy patrols out of our position. Tonight, I would be moving to the south per my intelligence overlay. We would move along the divide between the sand dunes and the rice paddies. Another squad would be moving east towards the China Sea.

Intelligence was telling us that a large contingent of Viet Cong with possible North Vietnamese elements was operating in the area. We had encountered a similar group of NVA regulars on 9 September in this very area. I could still recall seeing a squad size force of NVA running out across the rice paddies away from the ambush that had been initiated with intense mortar fire. We had taken several casualties. There were snipers everywhere. I therefore knew that this so called "intelligence" was a bit of a no-brainer. I also recalled that during that action it was the first time I had actually wet my pants and didn't know it! Soon enough, it would happen again!

During the briefing I noted two civilian types. They had been introduced as reporters from the New York Times. They had been cleared to actually accompany a combat patrol this very night. The last thing I wanted was to have two untrained, undisciplined civilians along when the crap hit the fan. I was therefore greatly relieved when these two decided to go out with the patrol headed east towards the ocean.

As squad sized patrols go, this was a large one. I had some nineteen bodies. My regular guys had been supplemented with a machine gun crew (M-60) and a 3.5 rocket team. The `powers to be' wanted us to be prepared. That was good.

We moved out in the light of day. We had been out in this TAOR for some time and all the guys knew the score. We had the benefit of training together for some two years prior to our deployment. I still credit that fact with the reason most of us made it back with our faculties and most of our limbs. Many other units had not been as fortunate. Everyone also understood the effects of incoming and knew well what a round sounded like as it cracked over your melon!

It was twilight as we moved up the hill from the north. I began to set people in their positions around the circumference of the hill in a 360 degree defensive position. Aiming stakes were set and fields of fire delineated. Our position over looked a small village. Defensively, we were in a great location. Only problem, of course, was that everyone around knew exactly where we were and how we were set in. There was always a reason when you were out on patrol during the day or evening and you saw no people. They, of course, were there all along, watching.

I, of course, had no intention of remaining in this daylight ambush position once the sun set. All of the demonstrative, placement antics had been for the benefit of those unseen but watchful eyes we knew existed out there.

After making a show of our intention regarding this ambush position, we set in, presumably for the night. We were 100% tactical and probably very convincing.

Once it got dark, it got dark! There was no moon and no ambient light. It was certainly dark enough to make our move to the real ambush position, some 200 meters to the south, on another hill.

On a pre-arranged signal, I was able to get everyone on their feet and assembled. We moved down the back side of the hill we had initially come up. My intent was to proceed to a gully that connected the first and second hills, again, some 200 meters apart. We would move up the second hill, again from the north, and set in for the night. This, too, would be an excellent ambush position. Of course, no one would see us setting up on this one!

We moved extremely slow through the gully. This, for two reasons, firstly stealth, we wanted to be absolutely sure we were not seen or heard. Secondly, it was so dark, that we had to hold on to the man's cartridge belt ahead of us. To even see the man ahead was damn near impossible. The darkness was great for concealment, but posed a problem just being able to see where you were going!

As the patrol leader I had positioned myself as the number two man in the column. I knew it would be slow going moving up into this second position. I turned around briefly to see if I could possibly see the column's progress behind me. As I did, I lost the grip of my point man's belt! Even though I knew the point, Ken Lavier, was directly in front of me, I could not see him! I heard him whisper back towards me in a hushed, but concerned tone      "Lange!"

It was at that instant that the entire hill above us, our intended ambush site, opened up! Semi and automatic rifle fire erupted feet above our heads! But it was not coming down on us! It was being directed on our daylight ambush position! The VC had heard Lavier, and thinking we were still in the original position, opened fire on the other hill! This, then, was the second time I wet my pants! A fact I did not share with the others at the time!

Seconds seemed like long minutes. Everyone was no doubt in shock and probably imitating my 'potty' routine! I let loose an M79 round on the hill and saw an automatic weapon with bi-pods go up in a ball of fire. Everyone else then opened up. I have no doubt that there were a few VC who also were acting like they had not been properly 'potty' trained!

Of course, the M60 jammed after the first round went through the barrel! A problem we had for some time. However, the squad had no problem getting on line and taking the hill without one casualty! What was left of the VC had been hauled off by their comrades. The closest anyone got to being hit was when an errant VC round went through Lavier's backpack!

Later, while being debriefed. I was informed that the two reporters from the New York Times ended up diving into the sand and burying their heads when they observed our tracers and heard the firefight some distance away. Some things never change!

Tom Lange

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### CHRISTMAS 1966

The operation is called Sierra, south of An Hoa, I Corps, Republic of South Vietnam.

Grunts move softly through the jungle and the tree lines, weapons at the ready. They carry no machine guns, no rocket launchers. Most are armed with M-14s and shotguns. They wear soft covers instead of helmets; they do not wear flak jackets. The rain has been steady and dreary, and has been so for many days and many nights. Everything rots and molds and mildews, rotting toes and the flesh that bears the weight of bullet belts and water bottles. Their chow is cold C-rations and brackish water from canteens.

Four-deuce mortars up on the hill throw an occasional illumination round up into the night sky, doing, most of these Marines agree, more harm than good. The half-light cast by these illumination rounds creates weird shadows, playing tricks of imaginary gooks moving against them through the trees.

Cloud cover is so low that medevacs can only land with difficulty, causing concern among the Grunts. It's one thing to get hurt out here; it's another thing entirely if whoever's hurt can't get out. This, more than anything else, causes morale to plummet. Don't mind throwing hands, they say; just don't wanna get f... 'd up doing it. There it is...

The rain stops. The clouds part. Most of the Marines do not recognize the phenomenon for what it is: Their misery is so complete that the rain has become part of them, part of their psyche. They are soaked to the bone, chilled to their very souls.

They reach the crest of a small hill and pause. The squad leader frets, afraid to move his people over the top, afraid the moon will expose his people-- *The moon!*

The squad leader turns and signals his people to go to ground. The squad obeys without question, facing outboard. They wonder at what the squad leader has seen, but they know he will tell them, soon enough. The squad leader, a young man of 19, backs up, faces his team leaders. The moon, he whispers. They do not understand the squad leader's words, and then they do. The moon! The rain has stopped!

Team leaders pass the word behind them. The moon! Young faces turn upward, not wanting to believe; afraid to believe. They see stars in the heavens above them. Bright, shiny, million-year-old stars shine down at them; just for them. Their jungle utilities are soaking wet, drenched beyond redemption. They feel as if their blood has frozen in their veins. Most of them are so cold, they believe they can never again be warm.

They stare up at the stars and feel, impossibly, the warmth of those stars above them begin to dry their clothing, dry their bones, warm their souls.

What the f..k?, one of them wonders.

God's face, says another. God's face. Merry Christmas, man. Oh, yeah, agrees the first one. Oh, yeah, he says again, believing again.... Renewed, recharged, relieved, the squad resumes its patrol of the Arizona Territory.

Story by Michael W. Rodriguez via the Internet [www.vietvets.org](http://www.vietvets.org)

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# BROTHERS

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Swollen, boggy tender nose with steady stream of blood coming from the left nostril. Several abrasions on the forehead. Point tenderness of second metacarpel of a big, black, right hand.

"I don't care what he called you, buddy," as I put a pack in his nose, " we don't have time for you guys beating up on each other."

"Nobody calls me a nigger without getting stomped."

"It's not worth it, buddy. Look, you've got a bloody nose and probably a broken hand. Move your fingers, open and close." I palpated the bones of his hand. "Does that hurt?"

"Ow, yes!! Damn, yes!!!"

"And your friend there probably has a broken jaw." I pointed to his opponent on the next litter. "He's got a missing tooth and the jaw is still swelling. So what have you gained?"

"He won't be calling me nigger again."

"That's cause his jaw's too swollen. If you guys would just." The noise of the approaching helicopter made it impossible to carry on. I continued to examine the two fist fighters in silence.

Three litters were rushed in from the chopper. Just as one was carried by me, the patient's femoral artery broke open and blood spurted to the ceiling and all over the litter. I ran to the wounded Marine's side and stuck my fingers in the hole in his thigh. We bought some time with pressure dressings and two liters of fluids. "Let's go to the OR.!" I yelled to get people moving."NOW!!!"

"No more 0-negative blood, sir He's 0-negative." "How can you be out of blood? Find some! We need ten units. Find some now!" said the corpsman from the lab. "We could chopper some in from the hospital ship if they have it. We could look for donors. Half an hour at the least, if we're lucky." "I don't care where it comes from. Just get it!" "Yes, sir."

The patient went to X-ray on his way to the operating room. Jim Vessar went with him. I turned back to finish up with my fist fighters. They were gone. Probably back behind triage fighting again, I thought to myself. I helped with the other two casualties from the most recent chopper until they were stable and ready for transport south.

The black Marine with the broken hand walked up to me. His nose was still bleeding. "Come here quick, Sir." he said. I walked to the triage door where I was surprised to see thirty or more Marines in a single line outside the door. More were still coming and joining the line.

"Will this be enough, Sir?" said the big Marine wiping the blood off his upper lip with his sleeve. "These guys all want to give blood. We can get more if you want."

I looked at the first guy in line. "What's your blood type?" I asked. He couldn't answer. By now his jaw was too swollen.

Excerpt from the book, A Doctor's Year In Vietnam, by John A. Parrish, E. P. Dutton & Co., Inc., New York, New York, 1972, pp 289-291

Thanks to Mike Walker for this story

# 1/9 IN VIETNAM DECEMBER 1967

## HEADQUARTERS 1ST BATTALION 9TH MARINES COMMAND CHRONOLOGY FOR PERIOD 1 DECEMBER – 31 DECEMBER 1967

### ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

#### 1. DESIGNATION

#### COMMANDERS

1st Battalion 9th Marines LtCol. J. F. MITCHELL 1-31 Dec 1967

Company H&S 1st Lt. R. A. CROWE 1-6 Dec 67, Capt. J. W CARGILE, 7-31 Dec 1967

|                                              |                                         |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Co. A Capt. H., J. M. RADCLIFFE, 1-31 Dec 67 | Co. C Capt. C B. HARTZELL, 1-31 Dec 67  |
| Co. B Capt. R. T. BRUNER, 1-31 Dec 67        | Co. D Capt. F. L. SCHAFFER, 1-31 Dec 67 |

2. Battalion was located at Camp Evans from 1-31 December 1967.

#### 3. STAFF OFFICERS

|                                                 |                                         |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Exec. Officer Major J. A. DONNELLY, 1-31 Dec 67 | S-3 Major J. J. PAGANELLI, 1-31 Dec 67  |
| S-1 1st Lt. P. A. WOOG 1-31 Dec 67              | S-4 1st Lt. J. M. GEORGI, 1-31 Dec 67   |
| S-2 1st Lt. R. J. ARBOLEDA, 1-31 Dec 67         | S-5 1st Lt. R. J. ARBOLEDA, 1-31 Dec 67 |

4. Average Monthly Strength. USMC – OFF 42, ENL 1147, USN – OFF 2, ENL 64.

### NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the period 1-31 December 1967 the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines was located at Camp Evans, RVN as the Resident Infantry Battalion. The mission of the Battalion was to provide for the security of Camp Evans and its ancillary facilities at PK-17 (YD652280), an ARVN Artillery Position; Hill #51 (YD549281), a Rifle Platoon (Rein) strong point; and Hill #674 (YD516219), a Rifle Platoon (Rein) strongpoint/Radio Relay Station. In addition to the defense of Camp Evans and its ancillary facilities, the Battalion was also required to place one Rifle Company (Rein) under operational control of the 2d Battalion, 26th Marines as security for a "Rock Crusher" operated by the Seabees at Nam Hoa (YD744133). The Battalion was further required to provide available personnel for saturation patrolling and ambushing in known avenues of approach within 5000 meters of the Camp Evans perimeter. Various additional commitments within the 4th Marines AO were also assigned to the Battalion during the period 1-31 December 1967.

On 1 December the Battalion was located at Camp Evans participating in Operation Neosho. At this time the Battalion Command Group the Battalion Rear, H&S Company, Company "A" and Company "C" were located within the Camp Evans perimeter, Company "B" was located at Nam Hoa (YD744133) under operational control of the 2d Battalion, 26th Marines and Company "D" was occupying three Platoon (Rein) strong points at PK-17 (YD652280), Hill #51 (YD549281) and Hill #674 (YD516219). The companies located within Camp Evans perimeter were required to provide personnel to stand lines, conduct patrols, ambushes and listening posts and to meet additional manpower needs as they arose.

From 1-4 December there were no significant occurrences within the 4th Marines AO. Units from the battalion conducted routine daylight and night activities to include patrols, ambushes and listening posts in the Camp Evans vicinity.

On 5 December a daylight OP at YD513282 observed approximately fifteen VC at YD503277. The personnel of the OP took the VC under fire. A sweep of the area later revealed three VC KIA (Conf), and four VC KIA (Prob). Assorted equipment was found during the search of the area. The equipment was forwarded to the Battalion S-2.

On 6 December a Platoon (Rein) from Company "D" at Hill #51 (YD513282) received one Vietnamese male under the Chieu Hoi Program. The individual concerned turned himself in under a white flag. The Chieu Hoi carried assorted equipment and wore green shorts and shirt. The Chieu Hoi and equipment were forwarded to the Battalion S-2.

At 1840 on 6 December Company "B" at Nam Hoa (YD744133) received –approximately thirty-five rounds of enemy 82mm mortar fire. All the rounds landed within the Company's perimeter causing six WIA and eight KIA (one KIA was a Kit Carson Scout). Counter mortar fire was fired with 81mm mortars, with unobserved results.

The period 7-13 December was uneventful with no significant occurrences for the Battalion. During this period routine daylight and night activities to include patrols, ambushes, OP's and LP's were conducted by the battalion.

On 14 December Company "B" (Rein) and Company "D" (Rein) switched AO's using motor vehicles and helicopter transportation. The new locations of the companies placed Company "D" (Rein) at Nam Hoa (YD744133) under the

operational control of the 2d Battalion 26th Marines while Company "B" occupied the three platoon (Rein) strongpoint at PK-17 (YD652280), Hill #51 (YD549281) and Hill #674 (YD516219).

On 15 December a platoon (Rein) patrol from Company "A" received two rounds of friendly artillery fire at YD508302. The incoming rounds inflicted four casualties on the patrol of which three required medical evacuation. One of the evacuated casualties later died as a result of his wounds.

During the period 16-17 December the Battalion employed its routine daylight and night activities to include patrols, ambushes, OP's and LP's. There were no significant occurrences within the 4th Marines AO.

On 18 December Company "C" moved to the vicinity of YD485415 to establish a blocking position in connection with a joint Marine/ARVN Airborne Operation in the area of the "Street Without Joy". Company "C" departed Camp Evans on 18 December and moved via motorized march to the vicinity of YD460400 where they disembarked from vehicles and set out by foot on the north side of the Thoc Ma River. At the same time two "Boston Whaler" type boats with outboard motors moved up the Thoc Ma River, abreast of Company "C". In the vicinity of YD473417, Company "C" using their boats, crossed the river to their assigned blocking position in the vicinity of YD485415.

At 1745H on 18 December Company "C" received two rounds of 60mm mortar fire from an enemy position at YD482423. Due to the proximity of the enemy position, M-79 grenade launchers were used to counter the enemy fires. At 2245H on 18 December a squad (rein) ambush from Company "C" made contact with four VC in the vicinity of YD477422. Upon springing their ambush, the squad (rein) began receiving automatic weapons fire from four different enemy positions around the ambush site. The squad (rein) broke contact with the enemy and returned to the company's perimeter. The action resulted in one VC-KIA (Prob).

On 19 December Company "C" maintained their blocking position, conducting patrols, ambushes and LP's. At 1145H on 19 December one member of a patrol from Company "C" detonated a surprise explosive device while entering a gate into a small hamlet at YD477427. The resulting explosion caused one USMC casualty who was evacuated. At 2010H on 19 December Company "C" received three rounds of 60mm mortar fire from an enemy position at YD480430. The incoming rounds caused three USMC casualties, all minor. Counter mortar fire was shot with artillery.

On 20 December Company "C" departed its blocking position in conjunction with the completion of the operation. As the Company was crossing the Thoc Ma River at YD473417, one boat began taking water and capsized. All personnel made it safely to the shore but considerable equipment was lost. The boat was up righted and brought ashore. At this time the second boat was dispatched to pick up a Recon/Scuba Team at the My Chanh Bridge where the Thoc Ma River meets National Highway 1. When the divers returned to the area, security was set up on both sides of the river and the lost equipment was recovered. Just as the divers had recovered the last of the equipment, they began receiving heavy automatic weapons fire. The security forces returned fire and reported observing two VC fall resulting in two VC KIA (Prob). A squad was dispatched to search the enemy firing positions but again, automatic weapons fire began, prohibiting the search force from completing their mission. As the firing ceased, the remainder of Company "C" retrieved equipment, the Scuba Team and the boats began their movement southwest to reach National Highway #1. In the vicinity of Ap Phuoc Phu, the company again was taken under heavy automatic-weapons fire. The company immediately returned fire until the enemy broke contact. The contact resulted in six VC KIA (Prob). The remainder of Company "C's" movement to National Highway #1 was secure. Upon reaching the highway, the company returned to Camp Evans via motorized march. The remainder of the Battalion reported no significant occurrences during the period 18-20 December.

The period 21-22 December showed the 4th Marines AO to be quiet with no significant occurrences. Routine daylight and night activities were conducted by the battalion.

On 23 December in the vicinity of YD582298, a Platoon (Rein) patrol from Company "A" received approximately forty rounds of friendly, artillery fire on their defensive perimeter. The Platoon (Rein) was set in for the night when the rounds, with no prior warning, began falling near their perimeter. The incident resulted in two USMC casualties, both evacuated by helicopter on 24 December.

On 24 December a large artillery mission was fired on VC in the open in the vicinity of YD525246. On 25 December Company "C" was helilifted to the above coordinates to conduct a search of the area in hopes of finding evidence of enemy activity in the area. The search disclosed no evidence of enemy activity in the area and Company "C" returned to Camp Evans late in the afternoon on 25 December.

On 26 December, Company "A" was helilifted into a landing zone at YD515424 in the vicinity of the "Street Without Joy". Their mission was to occupy a blocking, position at YD508442 in conjunction with an amphibious operation being conducted by the SLF. Upon occupying the landing zone, suspected enemy movement was observed in the area. Search of a swamp adjacent to the landing zone resulted in the capture of one VC (Conf). As the company swept north from the landing zone to the blocking position, steady enemy resistance in the form of sniper fire developed into small fire fights but the enemy consistently broke contact to avoid a full engagement. At nightfall Company "A" assumed their defensive position at YD508442.

On 27 December Company "A" conducted search and destroy operations in the vicinity of their blocking position. Enemy sniper fire was encountered throughout the day, but major fire fights failed to develop. The search of numerous hamlets in the area turned up many bunkers and fighting holes, some of which required the use of demolitions to destroy. At nightfall Company "A" returned to its blocking position in the vicinity of YD508142.

On 28 December Company "A" continued search and destroy operations in the vicinity of their blocking position. Platoons (Rein) were employed as blocking and sweeping forces as the area was systematically searched. Once again, numerous bunkers and fighting positions were found throughout the hamlets in the area. Enemy sniper fire continued during the day. An air observer on station assisted the ground forces in locating an enemy position at YD334440. Fixed wing air strikes and artillery were fired at the enemy position. Late in the afternoon on 28 December, Company "D" 1st Battalion, 1st Marines came under the operational control of the 1st Battalion 9th Marines and was helilifted into the vicinity of YD520450 to reinforce Company "A". The evening of 28 December found Company "A" and Company "D" occupying defensive positions in the vicinity of the original blocking position. Company "A" received three rounds of 60mm mortar fire within their defensive position during the night, counter battery was fired.

On 29 December both Companies held their blocking positions and conducted squad (rein) and Platoon (Rein) patrols in the area.

On 30 December in conjunction with their return to Camp Evans, Company "D" established a blocking position at YD510430 while Company "A" located at YD513449, swept southeast into the blocking position. Heavy sniper fire was encountered, developing into several fire fights. The enemy also employed 60mm mortars against both Companies. At 1100H on 30 December an armored convoy of seven Otters and fourteen Armored Personnel Carriers left Camp Evans to rendezvous with the two companies. Since time was of the essence the armored convoy moved to YD513425 to expedite the movement of the two Companies and at the same time support them if necessary. At approximately 1400H, Company "A" passed through Company "D's" blocking position, was loaded and dispatched to Camp Evans. Company "D" then withdrew from their blocking position, in trace of the vehicles, and established a strongpoint at YD538408 to await the return of the armored vehicles. At 1630H the armored vehicles, after shuttling Company "A" to Camp Evans, returned to the strongpoint, picked up Company "D" and returned to Camp Evans. The entire operation from 26-31 December resulted in fourteen VC-KIA (Conf), seventeen VC KIA (Prob) and one POW. Friendly casualties amounted to three KIA of which one was a Kit Carson Scout and twenty WIA. The remainder of the Battalion conducted routine daylight and night activities during the period 26-31 December.

### PART III

#### SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS FMF

##### 1. FMF Organizations committed to combat and the SLF.

- A. Combat Missions Assigned.** The Battalion (-) was employed in Operation Neosho during the entire period.  
(1) **Operation Neosho.** 1st Battalion, 9th Marines directs and coordinates at Camp Evans, all missions to be accomplished for security of the Camp Evans perimeter and its ancillary facilities by establishing ambush sites in known avenues of approach and aggressive daylight patrolling out to 5000 meters with maximum forces available.
- B. Significant Operations Conducted.** The Battalion continued to carry out its primary mission of defending Camp Evans and its ancillary facilities as a part of Operation Neosho. In addition, the Battalion participated in a joint ARVN Airborne/Marine Search and Destroy Operation in the vicinity of the "Street Without Joy". From 26-31 December 1967 the Battalion participated in a Search and Destroy Operation with the SLF, again in the area of the "Street Without Joy".
- C. Casualties Inflicted on the Enemy.** 17 VC KIA (Conf), 26 VC KIA (Prob), 2 VC POW
- D. Casualties Sustained:** USMC-KIA 9, WIA 27 USN-KIA 1, WIA 1
- E. New Techniques Employed:** \*None
- F. Command Relations.** During the period 1-31 December 1967 the Battalion less one Rifle Company (Rein) was under operational control of the 4th Marines. From 1-14 December Company "B" (Rein) was under operational control of the 2d Battalion, 26th Marines. On 24 December Company "B" (Rein) was relieved by Company "D" (Rein) who then came under operational control of the 2nd Battalion, 26th Marines.
- G. Equipment.** During this reporting period organic motor transport has been engaged in household, administration and supply runs for the Battalion. The rotor transport situation has improved slightly in the case of the M422A1. The lack of M122A1's is still serious (six on hand out of a T/E of twenty) but the 3d and 4th echelon service organizations are showing complete cooperation in the rapid repair/replacement of these vehicles. The M274A2 has become the principle means of motor transport in the Battalion due to the lack of M422A1's, and is substituting quite well for household/resupply runs.

- H. Logistics.** Logistic activities for the entire reporting period centered on maintaining a minimum of twenty days and a maximum of thirty days of Class I, II, III and V supplies at Hill #51 and Hill #671+H-138 and H-139 handsets are still in short supply although thirty four H-189 handsets were forced for to the Battalion. In order to equip each AN/PRC-25 radio and associated equipment with handsets, eleven more are needed. Because of the critical shortage of AN/PRC-25 radios, sixteen have been put on Red Ball requisition in accordance with – FMFPac0 4400.7B,
- I. Civic Action.** The only Civic Action Project during December was a self help project in which the Vietnamese refugees filled sandbags for the Marine positions at Camp Evans, The Vietnamese were paid in commodities which amounted to 350 Piastras for every 400 sandbags filled and loaded on trucks.
- J. Administration.** Nothing Significant to report.
- K. Personnel.** Personnel transferred **from** this Command - USMC – OFF 5, ENL 104 USN – OFF 1, ENL 1  
Personnel **joining** this Command - USMC – OFF 6, ENL 251 USN – OFF 1, ENL 13
- L. Intelligence.** The Northern Front Headquarters and the 6th NVA Regiment were assigned the mission of keeping the supply routes open and providing security for transportation units moving from the rich rice growing coastal lowlands to Base Area 114. The 6th NVA Regiment has attempted to accomplish their mission by employing surprise explosive devices, mines, and occasionally sniping at patrols. Saturation patrolling up to 5000 meters outside the Camp Evans Perimeter by platoon sized patrols has restricted enemy movement and reduced immeasurably the number of enemy explosive devices/mines that could be deployed. The saturation patrolling has uncovered thirty-four surprise explosive devices with only two WIA's. Most of the surprise explosive devices were M-26 grenades rigged with a trip wire. A few 105mm artillery rounds and TNT charges were found rigged with a detonator and trip wire. Most of the explosive devices were placed on trails or along avenues of approach. The S-2 Rewards Program expended 25,930 Vietnamese dollars during December. Ordnance turned in by the civilians at Phong Dien included small arms ammunition, grenades, mortar rounds and TNT.
- M. Weather.** Heavy rainfall was received in the Camp Evans area during the first-two weeks of December, causing limited visibility. During the last two weeks of December almost no rainfall was received and skies were mainly clear with good visibility. Temperatures ranged from the mid-70's during the day to the mid-50's at night. During the first half of the month temperatures were somewhat cooler than the latter half.
- N. Communication.** Communications for the month of December were reliable with only minor problems encountered. During the rainy spells it was necessary to wipe off daily the internal parts of the individual phones in order to keep the condensation within the phones at a minimum and the reception clear. Maximum water proofing was given to the switchboard and terminal boards in order to keep cross talk at a minimum, two incidents of frequency interferences were encountered during the month. One incident of interference was due to atmospheric conditions on the Artillery Conduct of Fire Net. This interference lasted three hours and caused no significant problems. The other incident of interference last twenty-four hours and was due to a five hundredth megacycle frequency separation of a friendly unit operating in our A0~. Although this <sup>trade</sup> communications difficult for that day, the frequencies were still usable.
- O. Artillery.** Artillery was fired on enemy sightings, suspected troop locations and active mortars. A total of 241 (105mm) rounds were fired (204 HE, 28 WP, 6 Prop, & 3 Ill). A total of 129 (155mm) rounds were fired (112 HE & 17 WP). As part of the Battalion Operation Order 1-67 (Defense of Camp Evans), the FSCC wrote the Fire Support Plan to include a defensive fire plan for artillery, 81 mm mortars and direct fire weapons. Finally, as a result of the heavy helicopter traffic in the Camp Evans area, a helicopter watch was established at a location where all landing zones could be observed. Radio communication from the watch to the 81mm mortar FDC was set up resulting in increased aircraft safety and more rapid clearances
- P. Air Support** Helicopters were used extensively for troop lifts, resupply and medical evacuation during the period 1-31 December 1967. One fixed wing air strike was conducted by the Battalion TACP using an AO in the vicinity of the "Street Without Joy". On 14 December, CH-46 helicopters were used to affect an interchange of positions between Company "B" (Rein) at Nam Hop and Company "D" (Rein) at the three platoon (Rein) strong points. The tactical helilift of Company "A" (Rein) to the area of the "Street without Joy" was completed by CH-46 Helicopters. Twenty-nine medical evacuation requests were completed for the Battalion during this reporting period.
- Q. Activation/deactivation/Redesignations.** None

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## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

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### VACATION

A man, his wife and mother-in-law went on vacation to the Holy Land. While they were there the mother-in-law passed away. The undertaker told them, you can have her shipped home for \$5,000, or you can bury her here in the Holy Land for \$150.00."

The man thought about it and told him he would just have her shipped home. The undertaker asked, "Why?" Why would you spend \$5,000 to ship your mother-in-law home, when it would be wonderful to be buried here and spend only \$150.00?"

The man said, "A man died here 2000 years ago, he was buried here and three days later he rose from the dead. I can't take that chance

### SUBJECT: WORMS

A minister decided that a visual demonstration would add emphasis to his Sunday sermon. He put four worms into four separate jars.

The first worm was put into a jar of wine.

The second worm was put into a jar of chocolate.

The third worm was put into a jar of semen.

The fourth worm was put into a jar of good, clean soil.

At the conclusion of the sermon, the minister reported the following results:

The worm in wine -- dead.

The worm in chocolate-- dead.

The worm in semen -- dead.

the worm in good clean soil -- Alive.

The minister asked the congregation - "What can we learn from this demonstration?"

A little old woman in the back quickly raised her hand and said; "As long as you drink, eat chocolate and have sex, you won't have worms

### THE PASSING OF LARRY LAPRISE

With all the sadness and trauma going on in the world at the moment, it is worth reflecting on the death of a very important person which almost went unnoticed last week.

Larry LaPrise, the man who wrote "The Hokey Pokey", died peacefully at age 93. The most traumatic part for his family was getting him into the coffin. They put his left leg in.....and then the trouble started.

SHUT UP. You know it's funny.

### CIRCUMCISION

A teacher noticed that a little boy at the back of the class was squirming around, scratching his crotch and not paying attention.

She went back to find out what was going on. He was quite embarrassed and whispered that he had just recently been circumcised and he was quite itchy.

The teacher told him to go down to the principal's office. He was to phone his mother and ask her what he should do about it. He did it and returned to his class.

Suddenly, there was a commotion at the back of the room the teacher went back to investigate only to find the little boy sitting at his desk with his penis hanging out.

"I thought I told you to call your mom." she screamed. "I did," he said," And she told me that if I could stick it out till noon, she'd come and pick me up from school."

### DEAR JOHN

You have to like this marine's style!

A Marine stationed in Afghanistan recently received a "Dear John" letter from his girlfriend back home. It read as follows:

Dear Ricky,

I can no longer continue our relationship. The distance between us is just too great. I must admit that I have cheated on you twice, since you've been gone, and it's not fair to either of us. I'm sorry. Please return the picture of me that I sent to you.

Love, Becky

The Marine, with hurt feelings, asked his fellow Marines for any Snapshots they could spare of their girlfriends, sisters, ex-girlfriends, aunts, cousins etc. In addition to the picture of Becky, Ricky included all the other pictures of the pretty gals he had collected from his buddies.

There were 57 photos in that envelope, along with this note.

Dear Becky,

I'm so sorry, but I can't quite remember who the hell you are! Please take your picture from the pile, and send the rest back to me.

Take Care, Ricky

From: Danny McWain

## MEMBERS PASSED AWAY

(None were reported at publishing time)

## NEW MEMBERS

The names submitted to the Network should not be reproduced and given to other sources for commercial use. Please respect the privacy of our Brothers and their families.

### ABLE/ALPHA COMPANY

|        |    |        |                       |       |  |  |
|--------|----|--------|-----------------------|-------|--|--|
| Donald | C. | Porter | 2 <sup>nd</sup> /1Sqd | 93-94 |  |  |
|        |    |        |                       |       |  |  |

### CHARLIE COMPANY

|             |       |                      |                                    |                |  |  |
|-------------|-------|----------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|--|--|
| Ronald Paul | J.    | Lisinski (Ski)       | Unk                                | 66-67          |  |  |
| Grover John | C. F. | Blissard III<br>Holm | 3 <sup>rd</sup><br>2 <sup>nd</sup> | 66-67<br>68-69 |  |  |

### HEADQUARTERS & SERVICE COMPANY

|         |    |              |           |       |  |  |
|---------|----|--------------|-----------|-------|--|--|
| Michael | P. | Braun        | Bn RO     | 68-69 |  |  |
| Richard | J. | Gehrke (Doc) | CAC       | 65-66 |  |  |
| Larry   | L. | McMurrey     | Unk       | 66-67 |  |  |
| Richard | .  | Purdy        | S3 & 81's | 66-67 |  |  |
| William | M  | Taft         | 106's     | 65-66 |  |  |
|         |    |              |           |       |  |  |

### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

|         |    |                |            |  |  |  |
|---------|----|----------------|------------|--|--|--|
| Kathy   |    | Chase          | Wife       |  |  |  |
| Darlene | B. | McGuigan       | Assoc      |  |  |  |
| Dennis  | A. | Smith (Smitty) | Jan Feb 68 |  |  |  |
|         |    | Alpha Co       | FAC D2/12  |  |  |  |

# Happy Holidays Marines!

