

1ST BATTALION 9TH MARINES

COMMAND DIARY/CHRONOLGY

11-30 JUNE 1965

PAGES 20 OF 250

ON FILE BUT NOT INCLUDED:

S-2 JOURNAL (SIT REPS/LOGS)

S-3 JOURNAL (INCIDENTS/MESSAGES)

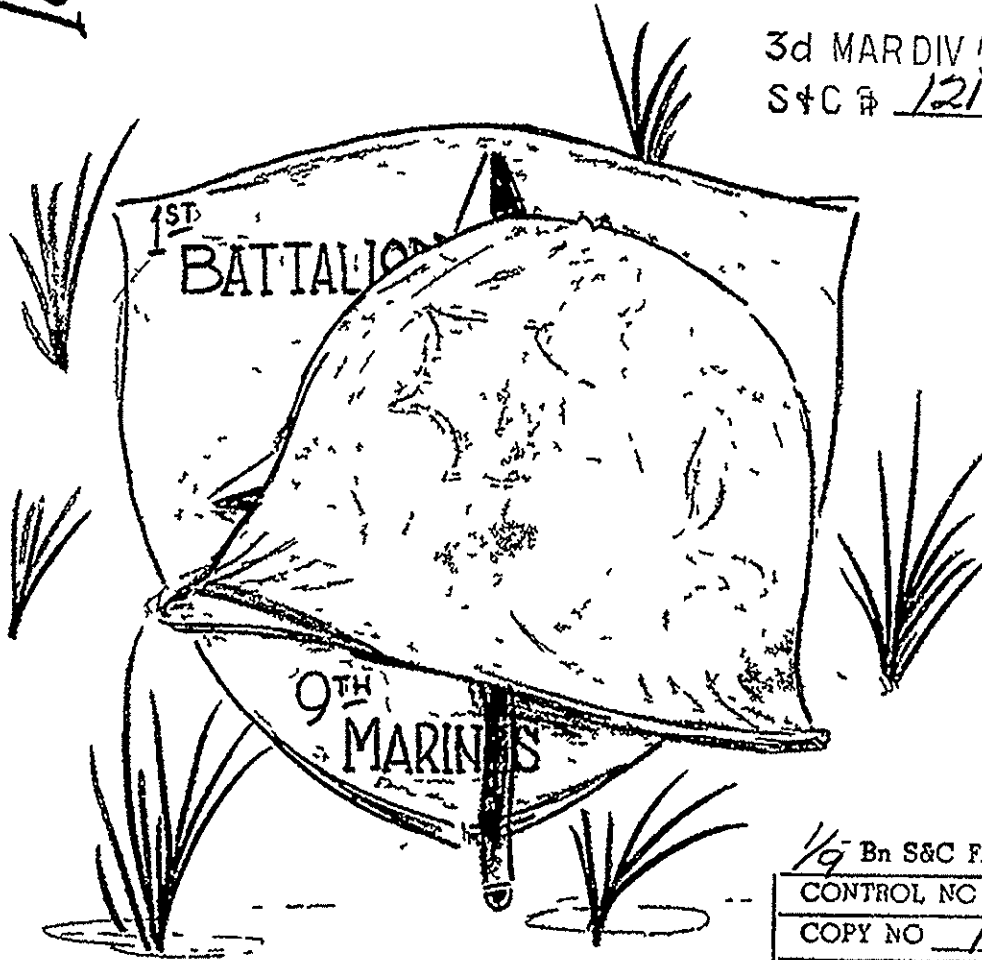
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11-30 JUNE 1965

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HEADQUARTERS
1st BATTALION, 9th Marines
Mailbox No. 24
c/o FPO, San Francisco 96601

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COMMAND DIARY

11 June through 30 June 1965

PART I - Organizational Data Sheet

PART II - Narrative Summary and Chronological Sequence of Events

PART III - Supporting Documents

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Enclosure (1)

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HEADQUARTERS
 1st Battalion, 9th Marines
 Marine No. 24
 c/o FPO, San Francisco 96601

3-JDS lpa
 03180
 4 July 1965

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding Officer, 3d Marines

Subj: Command Diary, 11-30 June 1965

Ref (a) MCO 3480.1
 (b) 3d Mar RegtO 3120.1

Encl (1) 1st Bn, 9th Marines Command Diary: 11-30 June 1965

In accordance with references (a) and (b), enclosure (1) is forwarded herewith.

Verle E. Ludwig
 VERLE E. LUDWIG

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ORGANIZATIONAL DATA SHEETPART I

1. Reporting Unit. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines
2. Period Covered. 11 June through 30 June 1965
3. Commanding Officer, 1st Bn, 9th Marines. LtCol Verle E. LUDWIG
4. Command Posts

11-15 June - USS OKANOGAN, APA-220
 15-23 June - Da NANG Air Base, RVN (GC002746)
 23-30 June - Vicinity DA NANG Air Base (GC973753)

5. Subordinate Units:

- a. 11-15 June - Transportation phase, Okinawa to RVN.

(1) <u>BIT 1/9</u>	LtCol LUDWIG
<u>*1st Bn, 9th Mar (-) (Rein)</u>	LtCol LUDWIG
<u>H&S Co (-) (Rein)</u>	Capt DEMARTINO
<u>Det, 3d Dental Co, FMF</u>	Lt SECK (USN)
<u>Det, 3d SP Bn, 3d MarDiv</u>	1stLt SHANAHAN
<u>Company "A" (Rein)</u>	Capt DRIVER
<u>Company "B" (Rein)</u>	Capt WELSH
<u>Company "C" (Rein)</u>	Capt MARADA
<u>Company "D" (Rein)</u>	Capt WEST
<u>Battery "U", 2d Bn, 12th Mar</u>	Capt WHIPPLE
<u>3d MI Bn (-)</u>	Capt WHALEN
<u>1st Plat (Rein), Co "B", 3d Tk Bn, FMF</u>	2dLt FORNEY
<u>1st Plat (Rein), Co "C", 3d AT Bn</u>	2dLt L'HUREUX
<u>4th Plat (Rein), Co "B", 1st AmTrac Bn, FMF</u>	2dLt KENNEDY
<u>1st Plat (Rein), Co "C", 3d Eng Bn</u>	2dLt STRALEY

- b. 16-30 June

(1) <u>*1st Bn, 9th Marines (-)</u>	LtCol LUDWIG
<u>H&S Company (-)</u>	Capt DEMARTINO
<u>Company "A"</u>	Capt DRIVER
<u>Company "B"</u>	Capt WELSH
<u>Company "C"</u>	Capt MARADA
<u>Company "D"</u>	Capt WEST
<u>Company "G", 2d Bn, 3d Mar (OPCON 1/9</u>	Capt ANGUS
<u>27 Turco only)</u>	2dLt FORNEY
<u>1st Plat, Co "B", 3d Tk Bn, FMF (OPCON only)</u>	2dLt L'HUREUX
<u>1st Plat, Co "C", 3d AT Bn (OPCON only)</u>	

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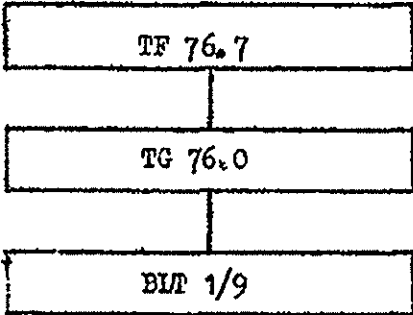
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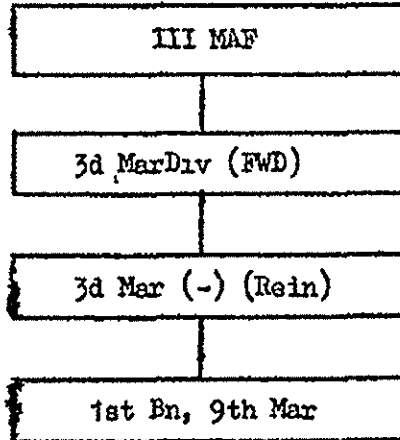
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6. Command Structure

11-15 June



16-30 June



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1. Mission Assigned. On 10 and 11 June 1965, embark on assigned shipping at Okinawa and proceed to Da Nang, RVN. Upon debarkation, effect relief of 3d Bn, 9th Marines. Upon relief of 31 Battalion, 9th Marines, defend the assigned sector of Da Nang Airfield perimeter with a minimum of two (2) rifle companies plus appropriate element of FIAI, FLSG, and Headquarters Battalion, 3d Marine Division (FWD). Other missions in connection with Da Nang Airfield defense consisted of assuming operational control of all IIT MAF units assigned airfield defense responsibilities, coordinating airfield defense plan with tenant units at the airbase, preparation of defense and counterattack plans, maintaining required quick-reaction units; and conducting daylight reconnaissance patrols in vicinity of Da Nang Airfield. A mission of constructing platoon defensive positions along an assigned sector of the Regimental FEBa south of Da Nang Airfield was initially assigned, but during the period of this report, authority to execute this mission has not been given.

On 14 June, a mission was assigned to provide one (1) rifle company to OpCon 2d Bn, 3d Marines on 15 June for a period of about five (5) days, and to provide one (1) rifle company as a quick reaction force for possible assignment to OpCon 2d Bn, 3d Marines.

On 21 June, a mission was given to conduct area clearance operations north of Song Cau Do with one (1) reinforced rifle company, in coordination with 1st Bn (-), 4th Regiment I Corps, ARVN, who would execute a similar mission south of the area.

On 24 June, the battalion was given a mission to conduct a three (3) company search and destroy mission in the MY SON/ROA MY area of the 3d Marines TACR. This operation to be conducted by helicopter on 27 June, with one (1) rifle company of 2d Bn, 3d Marines OpCon 1st Bn, 9th Marines, and other element of 2d Bn, 3d Marines providing blocking forces.

Other missions throughout this period were assigned such as providing a regimental Reflex company on one (1) hour alert, during specified periods, providing special security details to Headquarters, 3d Marines, FLSG, Engineer Battalion, and Naval Component Headquarters, DA NANG; and providing working parties for cargo and ammunition handling.

2. Movements Made. In addition to the embarkation phase at Okinawa and debarkation at Da Nang, RVN, the battalion (-) displaced from Da Nang Airfield to a location approximately 2½ nautical miles southwest of the airfield. Two (2) rifle companies with supporting 81mm Mortars and service elements of H&S Company remained in position at the airfield for security.

3. Exercise Participation. None.

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4. Training Conducted.a. Shipboard, 11-14 June

	SUBJECTS	HOURS INSTRUCTION/		UNITS
			APPLICATION	
(1)	Physical Training	4		All
(2)	Map reading	2		-do-
(3)	Fire Commands	1		-do-
(4)	Information program (Vietnam)	3		-do-
(5)	Camouflage	1		-do-
(6)	Five Paragraph Orders	1		-do-
(7)	Defensive Fires	1		-do-
(8)	IA Drills	1		-do-
(9)	Retrol Orders	1		-do-
(10)	Radio Procedures	1		-do-
(11)	POW Handling	1		-do-
(12)	Challenging Procedures	1		-do-
(13)	Combat Formations	1		-do-

b. 15-30 June

	SUBJECTS	HOURS INSTRUCTION/		UNITS
			APPLICATION	
(1)	U. S. Rifle, M-14 (FAM)	4		Co "A"
(2)	U. S. Pistol, M1911A1 (FAM)	4		-do-
(3)	M-60/3.5 mkt/M-79 (FAM)	4		-do-
(4)	Recognition of VC Grenades & Landmines	1		-do-
(5)	Defensive Positions	1		-do-
(6)	Conduct of Area Sweeps	1		Co "B"
(7)	Rules of Engagement	1		Co "C"
(8)	Tactical Wire	1		-do-
(9)	Radio Procedures	1		All
(10)	Care & Cleaning, M-14	1		Co "C"
(11)	Night Illumination Drills	3		Co "D"
(12)	Village Search & Seizure	1		-do-
(13)	IA Drills	1		-do-
(14)	Flamethrower MREX	8		H&S Co (Flame Sect)
(15)	Operation of the FDC	2		H&S Co (81 Plat)
(16)	FO Procedures	1		-do-

5. Terrain and Weather. Generally no adverse affect on operations during the period, which materially affected the accomplishment of the assigned missions. A acclimation period was required for troops because of extreme heat. Difficulty with heat, swampy lowlands, and dense ground cover was experienced in the operation on 27 June 1965, although heat casualties were minimal. Density of ground cover caused much difficulty in moving, especially with radios and related equipment, with subsequent

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numerous losses of radio contact between elements deployed. Approximately five (5) days of moderate to heavy rain occurred during the period, and caused no adverse effects on operations.

6. Narrative Summary of Events (11-30 June)

a. 11 June. Embarkation of BLT 1/9 personnel commenced at 0800 when the initial elements of the BLT departed Camp Hansen, Okinawa for White Beach. Loading began at 0915 and was completed at 1515. Shipping was assigned as follows: USS OKANOGAN, APA-220; USS MATTHEWS, AKA-96; and USS POINT DEFIANCE, LSD-31. Loading of BLT equipment was completed on 11 June, having commenced on 9 June. TG 76.7 sailed from Okinawa at 1800 enroute to Da Nang, RVN. At 1030 on 11 June one (1) man fell from the embarkation net while loading on the OKANOGAN and was evacuated by air to Kue Army Hospital at 1330 with back injuries.

b. 11-14 June, Enroute. During the transit phase, training was conducted on a small unit level. Subjects covered are listed in paragraph 4. above. Ship's crews conducted abandon ship drills for all members of BLT 1/9, and additional instructions in life boat control and handling were given to NCO's of the BLT.

c. 15 June. Day was spent in readying and inspecting personnel and equipment for debarkation on 16 June. 3d Marines Frag Order No. 15-65 was delivered to the 1/9 advance party at the 3/9 CP, directing 1/9 to assign two (2) rifle companies OpCon 2/3 on 16 June, for a planned operation. Companies "B" and "D" were designated by the Battalion Executive Officer. As of 1600 ETA of BLT 1/9 at Da Nang was 0600, 16 June. Major MOORE, S-3 of 2/3 arrived 3/9 CP at 1645 to coordinate details of operation planned for 16 June with 1/9 advance party. At 2230, 1/9 S-2 Officer proceeded to 3d Marines Headquarters to receive briefing on enemy situation in proposed area of operations for 16 June.

d. 16 June. At 0400, 1/9 Operation Order 324-65 and Frag Order No. 1 were published for execution on 16 June. S-2 Officer departed 3/9 CP at 0500 to meet CO, BLT 1/9 upon arrival at Tien Sha. TF 76.0 arrived at anchorage at approximately 0645. Unloading began at 0810 with the Shore Party detachment. III MAF Embarkation had overall coordination of offloading of BLT 1/9. Elements of 1/9 were debarked and began arriving at 3/9 CP at 1005. ETA of Company "B" for purposes of deployment to OpCon 2/3 was 1200. By 1750 all troops were offloaded except for ship's platoon. Helilift of Company "B" was started at 1400 and completed at 1500. Company "D" was not deployed initially, but was placed in a one (1) hour alert for possible OpCon to 2/3. Operational Control of Company "B" shifted to 2/3 at 1400. The CO of 1/9 arrived at the 3/9 CP at 1345 and command shifted from the USS OKANOGAN to a CP ashore at Da Nang Airfield. The remainder of the day was spent in establishing the CP, coordinating with 3/9 for relief on 17 June, and in orientation of unit commanders. Personnel of 1/9 manned positions on the airfield perimeter with 3/9 personnel during the night.

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e. Official relief of 3/9 was accomplished at 0900 when the Commanding Officer of 1/9 assumed the responsibility for all missions assigned to 3/9. General unloading of BLP 1/9 equipment and cargo continued through 16 and 17 June and was completed at approximately 0745. Companies "A" and "C" assumed the security of the airfield perimeter. Company "D" remained in alert status for possible employment with 2/3, and Company "B" remained OpCon 2/3. Companies "A" and "C" began detailed survey of perimeter and positions to plan improvements. Airfield perimeter reports consisted of normal flare sightings, and sounds of small arms fire.

f. 18 June. Work on Battalion CP and airfield perimeter continued. Company "D" was designated as Regimental reflex company effective at 0800. Companies "A" and "C" commenced local patrols outside the perimeter for people-to-people projects (medical) and general area orientation. No enemy contact was made by patrols, and numerous Vietnamese children were treated by Corpsmen for various ailments. Normal activities, small arms fire, and distant explosions were reported by perimeter positions. Work on improvement of perimeter positions continued. At 2345, a message was received that Company "B" had suffered one (1) KIA (PFC Leroy BOUPGEOIS, 2081549 USMC).

g. 19-20 June. There was an unusual amount of incidents reported along the airfield perimeter during this period, ranging from several shots being fired at the perimeter, to personnel approaching the tactical wire on several occasions and running when sentries attempted to investigate. Strange lights, appearing to be some kind of signal device were observed at 0100 southeast of the airfield. Tracer rounds were fired from outside of the perimeter in this same area at 0140, and flares were seen there at 0245. Although this area may have been used for ARVN training, this could not be confirmed. Companies "A" and "C" continued local airfield patrols with negative enemy contact. Company "B" remained OpCon to 2/3 on 18 June. An attempt to apprehend an individual (probably an ARVN soldier) who crossed the perimeter wire between Post Nos. 13 and 14 on the airfield at 1835 was unsuccessful. At 2140, a sentry observed a local civilian apparently attempting to cut barbed wire on the southern end of the airfield. The individual ran when approached by the sentry. Rocks were thrown at sentries by children on several occasions during the period, and rifle shots were heard in close proximity to the perimeter. A USMC vehicle, M422 was abandoned in the vicinity of Post No. 1 (eastern side of airfield) at about 0305 by two (2) unidentified personnel. At 0430, small blinking lights were observed outside the northwestern perimeter of the airfield. The burning of foliage along the northern end of the airfield was started, using flamethrowers. Company "B" was released to OpCon of 1/9 and returned to 1/9 CP at 1955 on 20 June 1965. At 2135 a "line of 75" was apprehended while climbing over the perimeter fence at the northern end of the airfield and released to his unit. Illumination was used several times along the perimeter to check suspected movement, all with negative results.

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h. 21-22 June. Usual activity continued on the airfield perimeter during this period. There were eight (8) separate reports of small arms fire heard from perimeter position, and several reports of flare sightings. Much of the small arms fire and flares is believed to emanate from the Hoa Cam ARVN Training Camp located approximately 2½ miles southwest of the airfield. At its closest point, the training area is just over 1,000 meters distant from the southern sector of the airfield and rifle fire can be easily heard, especially at night. Local patrols, including patrols south to the Song Cau River, were continued. The patrols had negative enemy contact, and continued to provide limited medical aid to local populace. Recon patrols were made to the vicinity of Hoa Cam Training Center to check the assigned defensive sector for future occupation. Liaison was effected through the U. S. Army Advisory Team at Hoa Cam. (A defensive sector was assigned to 1/9 by 3d Marines Frag Order No. 15-65.)

Chemical defoliation of mined areas on the southern sector of the airfield was commenced on 21 June and was scheduled to be completed about 23 or 24 June. Technical assistance, sprayers, and chemicals were provided by the U. S. Army Advisory Officer with VNAF. At 2310 on 21 June a sentry observed a gathering of people in the village of TONG VU SU listening to a Vietnamese unit, a microphone. Area was illuminated with flood lights and the group dispersed in a few minutes without further incident. Several instances of indigenous personnel approaching the perimeter wire after the hours of darkness occurred, and each time they were approached by a sentry, they fled. There has been no evidence of actual attempted entry. An anti-personnel mine was detonated by a dog on the southern perimeter of the airfield at 1655 on 21 June. There were no casualties. An unidentified individual threw an illumination grenade into the perimeter on the northwestern sector of the perimeter at 2315, 21 June and ran away. No damage was done. The Commanding Officer, 1/9 made daily and nightly inspection tours of the airfield perimeter. At 1300 on 22 June Company "D" was alerted to provide a reaction platoon on ten (10) minute alert for possible use in connection with a vehicle striking a mine to the northwest of Hill 278. At approximately 1800, 22 June, Commanding Officer, 1/9 ordered unit to prepare to displace CP from airfield to new CP site, the move to commence at 0500, 23 June because 1/9 had to clear airfield area for use of FLOG. A CO/Staff meeting was called at 2000 and plans for the move were completed. Company "D" was relieved of the ten (10) minute platoon mission at 1805. The usual small arms fire and flare sightings were reported the night of 22 June. At 2215, one (1) squad of Company "D" was provided to 3d Engineer Battalion for security at the construction site of the new FLOG ammunition storage area. A aeral order was received at 1930 on 21 June from 3d, 3d Marines, to commence planning for an area clearance operation to be conducted south of the airfield. This operation will be in conjunction with 1 Corps, RVN, on 24 June.

23 June. The move to the new CP location to the northwest of Hill 268 was started at 0515. Company "D" was relocated to Company "C" position at the southern end of the airfield. Companies "B", "D", and H&S (-) were in their new CP location vicinity of coordinates 973753 by 1800. At 1820 command shifted to the new CP location. Local patrols were sent out by Company "D" in the immediate vicinity of the new Battalion CP location.

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These patrols reported the area to be secure. A light section of M48 tanks were deployed in the vicinity of Post No. 16 at the airfield and will continue to man these positions each night until further notice. The movement of tanks was directed by S-3 3d Marines. The usual reports of activity seen by airfield perimeter positions were submitted. Of significance was a report of several men in civilian clothing entering a house near the eastern sector of the airfield. One of the men carried a rifle. The men came out of the house several minutes later and dispersed, apparently without the rifle. The matter was referred to 3d Marines. Between 0900 and 0930 on 23 June several air bursts were seen approximately 2,000 meters south of the airfield at an estimated altitude of 500 feet. No aircraft were seen in the immediate area and the source of the fire could not be determined.

Operation Order 324A-65 was issued at 2200 for execution at 0700, 24 June.

J. 24 June. At 0015 S-3, 3d Marines, reported that an unreliable source reported two (2) VC platoons in vicinity of MY KHE, approximately 3½ miles northeast of Da Nang Airfield. The reflex company (Co "D") was alerted for possible deployment. Several 81mm mortar illumination missions were fired during the early hours of 24 June in support of suspected penetration attempts of the Battalion CP perimeter. Illumination of perimeter proved negative in each case. Several reports of small arms fire in vicinity of airfield perimeter were reported. At 0245 a sentry on the southern end of the airstrip observed tracer rounds being fired by an aircraft taking off to the south. The rounds appeared to be coming from approximately 600 meters south of the strip.

Company "B" departed the Battalion CP at 0545 by truck to commence the combined operation south of the airfield. Communication difficulties caused a delay in crossing the LOD, and Company "B" crossed at 0822. The forward command group departed the CP at 0705 to establish an OP vicinity of Hoa Cam Training Center. Company "B" reached Phase Line WHITE at 1030 and had taken 13 VC suspects who were turned over to Popular Force troops with Company "B". The operation continued at 1135 when ARVN troops south of Song Cam River reached Phase Line WHITE, and crossed Phase Line Blue at 1230. The operation concluded at 1300 and Company "B" returned by truck. The forward command group returned to the Battalion CP at 1340. Company "D" conducted three (3) local security patrols in the vicinity of the Battalion CP perimeter between 1630 and 1740. No enemy contact was made, but all patrols reported the local inhabitants appeared to be unfriendly toward them.

At 2115, a Company "B" sentry on the western portion of the CP perimeter observed two (2) men walking toward his position about 25 to 30 meters distance away. The sentry illuminated the area, and saw two (2) men in civilian clothes with rifles. Both men ran away from the position and the sentry fired at them. Joint use of illumination was provided while a search party went out to check the area. There were negative results although the sentry was certain he had rounded one of the men. This incident marks the first probable contact with VC by this unit.

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At 2245 a post on the western side of the airfield reported that four (4) men abandoned a truck near his post. At the same time an adjacent post saw three (3) men in the fence near his post. When the tank searchlight illuminated the area, they ran. At about 2330, MP's investigating the abandoned truck incident apprehended five (5) marines who had stolen an Air Force truck.

k. 25-26 June. This period was relatively uneventful, with the usual incidents and events related to the airfield perimeter. Sentries on the Battalion CP perimeter reported suspected movement to their front, and 81mm mortar illumination was provided each time, and with negative results. Several more instances of individuals approaching the outer wire of the perimeter were reported during the hours of darkness. Most of these instances are believed to be local civilians attempting to cut and take wire, and in some cases, ARVN or USMC personnel attempting to re-enter the base. Security of the FLSG bulk fuel line from Red Beach to the air base was provided by a squad of Company "G" on 25 and 26 June. Company "D" provided one (1) squad for night security of engineers constructing the new FLSG ammunition storage area northwest of Hall 327.

The night of 25-26 June was unusually quiet with no significant events reported. Planning was started on 25 June for a search and destroy operation to be conducted on 27 June by 1/9, reinforced by elements of 2/3 and 3d Tank Battalion (3d Marines Frag Order No. 17-65). 1/9 Operation Order 324B-65 was published at 0800, 26 June, and final coordination and planning was completed at a conference with MAG-16, artillery, and other representatives, held about 1300, 26 June.

at 1500 on 26 June, a Vietnamese boy approached a sentry at the side of the airfield and indicated by his motions that there were 12 men (sentry interpreted the men to be VC's) in a treeline to the right front of his post and that they had rifles and hand grenades. The sentry could observe two (2) men, one on the ground and one climbing a tree approximately 225 meters from the post.

Two (2) local security patrols were conducted around the Battalion CP with negative results.

Tracer rounds were observed in the vicinity of the northeast sector of the airfield at about 2035 and 2040. An 81mm mortar illumination mission was fired for Co "B", 3d Tank Bn, and one mission was fired for Battalion CP security.

1. 27 June. In connection with a three (3) company search and destroy operation conducted on this date it was found necessary to make two (2) separate journals, one at the Battalion CP (Rear), and one at the Regimental OP (Forward). The Battalion Commander and his command group accompanied Company "B" during the operation.

The early morning hours of 27 June were relatively quiet. At 0515, Companies "B" and "D" and the command group moved by truck to MAG-16 flight

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line at the airfield for ball-lift. Company "G", 2/3 was preparing for the lift from their Battalion CP location. The Battalion Commander was airborne in a "free" helicopter at 0600 to observe the artillery prep fires in the LZ's and to make final determination as to LZ's. Prep fires in the LZ's appeared to be very effective, and all three (3) companies landed simultaneously in the LZ's at 0635. Forty-five (45) helicopters were employed in the troop lift. No opposition was met in the LZ's and by 0710 they were secured, with all troops in. An air strike was called on enemy activity west of LZ BRAVO at 0737. Companies began movement to Phase Line GREEN by 0720.

Company "D" captured two (2) VC suspects just after 0800 in the southern portion of the zone. Villages were searched by Companies "D" and "B" and several sightings of VC suspects were reported by the Regimental OP. Counter-action by companies failed to encounter the VCS reported. The majority of the activity during the operation occurred in the Company "D" sector, resulting in a total of eleven (11) VC suspects being captured, seven (7) of which were confirmed VC's. Company "B" discovered a VC hut containing morphine, rice, clothing, and ammunition. The clothing and hut were burned and the remaining items turned in to S-2. Company "G" had negative contact in their sector. Three (3) heat casualties were evacuated throughout the day, and one (1) man was evacuated because of numerous hornet stings. The morning of the 27th was partially cloudy, which helps account for the minimum of heat casualties.

Three (3) men of the Command Group security element were temporarily lost when they became separated in the dense ground cover. They were later located by helicopter, and returned to the Battalion CP.

By approximately 1430, all companies had reached Phase Line PINK, and were ordered to continue to the LOA. Company "G" reached the LE MY MSR at 1600, Company "D" at approximately 1700, and Company "B" at 1730. All units were returned to the Battalion CP by 1830. Company "G" was returned to OpCon 2/3 upon arrival at LE MY MSR.

Popular Forces personnel who accompanied each company were invaluable for interrogation and handling of prisoners, and for searches of villages.

Company "A", 3d Tank Battalion (Rein) did not participate in the operation. This unit was relieved of the mission on 26 June. Artillery fires were planned to cover the positions originally planned for the tank unit.

At 0830, permission was requested from Regimental S-3 to send a patrol unit to approximately 700 meters from the southeastern end of the airfield to investigate the report of the 26th concerning VC with hand grenades in the area. The patrol departed at 1300 and returned at 1520 with negative results. There were many reports of small arms fire in the vicinity of the airfield both during the hours of darkness and during the day of the 27th. There were several flare sightings and one report of a Vietnamese using a loudspeaker in the vicinity of TONG VU SU, adjacent to the field to the west. At 2250, a sentry on the southern end of the field reported hearing

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approximately fifteen (15) small arms shots and hearing women and children screaming.

On 28-29 June. The early morning hours of 28 June were unusually quiet with one incident of hearing small arms fire, and that at 0550. More small arms fire was reported during the day. Company "A" conducted one patrol south of the airfield with negative results. The evening hours of 28 June were also quiet and the only significant activity being suspected enemy movement in front of Company "B" on the Battalion CP perimeter. 81mm mortar illumination was fired with negative results.

At 0030, 29 June, six (6) rounds of 81mm mortar illumination were fired for the 3d Marines CP security.

At C140, Post No. 6, located at the north end of the air strip, received one (1) incoming round of small arms fire which struck the top of his bunker. The sentry returned fire at the muzzle blast and then illuminated the area. He believes the man who fired was 30-50 meters from his bunker and that after firing, he ran toward a group of houses to the left front of the post. Permission was granted to dispatch a squad to the vicinity where the man was last seen. The patrol departed at approximately 0200 and returned at 0300, having found nothing. The remainder of the evening produced little activity. Company "A" conducted one patrol south of the airfield during the afternoon of 29 June with negative results.

Company "A" reported at 1400 that their squad providing security of the flexible fuel line from Red Beach was fired on by a sniper in the vicinity of Unit HQs, one-half (1/2) mile northwest of the airfield. Headquarters, 3d Marines, notified and indicated they would initiate further investigation.

Activity at the southern portion of the airfield increased considerably at approximately 2030 with reported flares and rifle fire. Movement, lights, and noise was reported in the vicinity of Posts 5 and 6 on the southeast corner of the perimeter. At 2112, PLSG reported a man firing on one of the positions at the south end of the strip. At 2116 Regimental S-3 authorized Company "C" to send a patrol outside the wire to investigate the firing. 3d Marines personnel were dispatched to Company "C" to accompany the patrol. The patrol returned at 2245 with negative results.

Activity outside the CP perimeter occurred at 2109 (3-4 rounds of small arms fire to the northeast), 2150 (suspected movement), 2350 (suspected movement), and at 0004 when a single round of small arms was fired from the vicinity of Hill 268.

At 2230 Company "C" reported a man caught in the wire at Post No. 18 on the northwest corner of the field. Permission to fire 81mm mortar illumination was not granted, but a searchlight tank from Post No. 15 was sent. By the time the tank arrived, the man had extricated himself and fled.

On 30 June. The early morning of 30 June was quiet. At 0100, Company "B" requested illumination of the Battalion CP perimeter because of suspected movement. It received negative results.

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At 1000, a B-57 Canberra of the 8th Bomber Squadron (USAF) crashed on take-off at the southern end of the airfield. Two (2) men of Company "C" assisted the crew members in evacuating the area. Live aircraft ordnance was scattered over a large area and the aircraft was burning. Both the pilot and co-pilot were taken to the Company "C" CP a few hundred yards distant, and they seemed not to be injured seriously.

Company "A" dispatched one patrol north of the airfield at 0930. The patrol returned at 1130 with negative contact.

The evening of 30 June was very quiet at the airfield. Posts 11 and 13 on the western side of the field each threw an illumination grenade at 2340 when they thought they heard movement in front of their positions.

The Battalion CP perimeter was probed at 2025 by a single individual. Two (2) rounds of small arms were fired and illumination indicated negative results.

At 2110 an estimated seven (7) persons were seen approaching the perimeter from the northeast. They were challenged and then they separated into three (3) groups and turned and ran in various directions away from the perimeter. Several rounds of M-79 were fired as was the M-60 with 10-12 rounds. The area was illuminated continuously for approximately 25 minutes while a search party went out. Negative results on the search, but several deep ditches in the area would afford protection from fire and routes of escape. One (1) man was probably wounded. No fire was received in the perimeter, although they were believed to have weapons. A total of 40 rounds of 81mm mortar illumination was fired. One man of the 81mm mortar platoon suffered a broken ear drum during the mission.

o. Miscellaneous. The initial landing, debarkation, and relief of 3/9 of their tactical mission was accomplished with very little difficulty. The short period of contact prior to relief, particularly with regard to those companies assigned to the airfield perimeter, caused some minor problems. An advanced party of 1/9 had arrived at 3/9 on 4 June, approximately two (2) weeks prior to arrival of 1/9. The advance party included members of each of the 1/9 companies. These personnel accompanied the rifle companies of 3/9 on patrols in the vicinity of the airfield and in the western T&OR. The experience gained in this manner was very beneficial for the battalion as a whole, and to the rifle companies in particular. Representatives of each of the 1/9 staff sections were also included in the advanced party and worked with their counterparts in 3/9 prior to the arrival of 1/9.

Initial efforts on the airfield perimeter consisted of improvement of perimeter positions, clearing brush and growth from the tactical wire. A detailed survey of required improvements along the perimeter was made during the period of 18-19 June and action was initiated to repair tactical wire, clear fields of observation and fire, and to repair and improve existing communications, particularly field wire.

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General military training was conducted as time was available. Rewriting of the Airfield Defense Plan was begun on 20 June and is continuing.

General WALT spoke to members of the battalion on 17 June and briefed them on the job ahead and what is to be expected from them.

On 24 June, Company "B" provided a two (2) platoon III MAF honor guard for General THI, Commander, I Corps, ARVN.

Planning has been continuous throughout June for eventual occupation of the assigned sector of the Regimental FEBA south of the airfield. Several recon groups entered the area, including an LVT recon along the Song Cau River on 29 June.

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SECRETSUPPORTING DOCUMENTSPART III

- Encl*
- 1 - S-1 Journal - 161005 through 301700H June 1965
 - 2 ✓ S-2 Journal - 171700 through 301700H June 1965
 - 3 ✓ S-3 Journal - 151200 through 302400H June 1965
 - 4 - Battalion Order 03100.1
 - 5 - 1st Bn, 9th Mar Operation Order 324-65 w/Change 1
 - 6 ✓ 1st Bn, 9th Mar Frag Order No. 1-65
 - 7 ✓ 1st Bn, 9th Mar Frag Order No. 2-65 w/Change 1
 - 8 ✓ 1st Bn, 9th Mar Frag Order No. 3-65 w/Change 1
 - 9 - 1st Bn, 9th Mar Frag Order No. 4-65 w/Change 1
 - 10 ✓ 1st Bn, 9th Mar Operation Order 324A-65
 - 11 ✓ 1st Bn, 9th Mar Operation Order 324B-65
 - 12 - Weekly Operations Overlay Report for periods:
 - 12-1 - 17-19 June 1965
 - 12-2 - 20-26 June 1965 - overlay NIF
- Added
- #13 - BLT 1/9 Operation Plan 201-65 (Surface), 7 Jun 65
- #14 - BLT 1/9 Administrative Plan 201-65 (Surface), 7 Jun 65

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JOURNAL

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1stBn, 9thMar, 3dMarDiv (Rein) FAF

Circuit 20.100

16 June 1965

30 June 1965

Open

Closed

(CLASSIFICATION)

TIME		SLR NO	INCIDENTS, MESSAGE, ORDERS, ETC	ACTION TAKEN
IN	OUT	DTG		I, E, T, F
1005		161005	OPENED JOURNAL	
1145		161145	Joined 1stLt LEWIS, G. M to H&S Company 1stBn, 9thMar for du	
2345		182345	PFC BOURGEOIS, Leroy A, 2081549 USMC Company "B" 1stBn, 9thMar was KIA	
1445		191445	LCpl BOYD, David to TAD HqBn 3dMarDiv	
1447		191447	Joined SSgt LANCE, R A. fr sk, Sub Unit #1 to H&SCo for du	
1447		191447	Joined Sgt NEWSOM, N F. fr sk, Sub Unit #1 to "E" Co for du	
1447		191447	Joined PFC CURRY, N. F. fr sk, Sub Unit #1 to "A" Co for du	
1447		191447	Joined PFC OSTROWSKI, J. W. Jr., fr sk Sub Unit #1 to H&SCo for du	
1447		191447	Joined HM3 BAUME, A. H. to H&SCo for du	
1630		201630	PFC COKLEY, D.C. 2104666/0311 departed on leave for Humanitarian reasons granted 20 days leave	
1450		211450	PFC ROBERTS, K. G. H&SCo reduced to Private by BnCo at BnOH	
1300		211300	Sgt HERROD, E. G. transferred fr 1stBn 9thMar, 3dMarDiv to 3d MarDivRear FFT to CONUS for discharge	
1115		231115	Joined LCpl BOYD, David fr TAD comm Marine Corps Matters TAD term to "B" Company	
1115		231115	Joined LCpl STOKES, J. E. fr Sub Unit #1 H&SCo, 1stBn, 9thMar for du to "B" Company	

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1stBn, 9thMar, 3dMarDiv (Rein), EME

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16 June 1965

30 June 1965

Open

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(CLASSIFICATION)

TIME		SLIP NO	INCIDENTS, MESSAGE, ORDERS, ETC	ACTION TAKEN I, S, T, F
IN	OUT	DTG		
1115		231115	Joined LCpl RAEL, J. R. fr Sub Unit #1 H&SCo, 1stBn, 9thMar for du to "B" Co	
1115		231115	Joined PFC GABIE, S. R. Jr. fr Sub Unit #1 H&SCo, 1stBn, 9thMar for du to H&SCo	
1115		231115	Joined CPL ANDREWS, H. D. fr Sub Unit #1 H&SCo, 1stBn, 9thMar for du to "C" Co	
1115		231115	Joined CPL UPZINGER, S. C. fr Sub Unit #1 H&SCo, 1stBn, 9thMar for du to "D" Co	
1115		231115	Joined LCpl HARTEN, R. O. fr Sub Unit #1 H&SCo, 1stBn, 9thMar for du to "D" Co	
0900		240900	1stLt MAUGHAM, J. M. to TAD 1st MAJ ICAS Iwakuni Japan comm Air Matters	
1300		251300	PFC HANSON, S. L. NonJudicial Punishment imposed under Art 15 UCMJ awarded forfeiture of \$20.00 at CoOH	
1900		261900	Joined HN EUE, W. C. III to H&SCo for du	
1400		271400	Pvt FISHER, W L. to sk	
1400		281400	PFC PARKER, J. E. Jr. reduced to Private by BnCO at BnOH	
1600		281600	PFC DUNCAN, C. L. Nonjudicial punishment imposed under Art 15 UCMJ and forfeiture of pay for 1 mo (21.00)	
1600		281600	Capt AVERA, B L. reassigned fr H&SCo to du with Senior Advisor I Corps Security Detachment	Erroneous entry.
1600		281600	SSgt MAINS, J. G reassigned fr "B" Company to "A" Company for du	
1600		281600	Capt AVERA, B L. reassigned fr H&SCo to du with Senior Advisor I Corps Security Detachment	

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Time		SLR NO	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGE, ORDERS, ETC	ACTION TAKEN H S, T, F
IN	OUT				
1600			281600	SSgt WINTERS, G. L. reassigned fr "A" Company to du with Senior Advisor I Corps Security Detachment	
1900			281900	Pvt FISHER, W. L. fr sk	
0900			290900	Joined SSgt ARMSTRONG, D. E. to " C" Company, 1stBn, 9thMar for du	
1700			301700	CLOSED JOURNAL	

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