

**1ST BATTALION 9TH MARINES
COMMAND DIARY/CHRONOLGY**

JUNE 1966

PAGES 17 OF 17

NO OTHER DATA ON FILE

HEADQUARTERS
1st Battalion, 9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO San Francisco 96602

3/ERD/bhw
05750
2 Jul 1966

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, 9th Marines (Attn: S-3)
Subj: Command Chronology: 1-30 June 1966; submission of
Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
(b) DivO 5750.1
(c) RegtO 5750.1
Encl: (1) Command Chronology: 1-30 Jun 1966

1. In accordance with references (a) through (c), enclosure (1) is submitted herewith.

R. E. Jones
R. E. JONES

1/9

Jan 66

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10

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HEADQUARTERS
1st Battalion, 9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
APO San Francisco 96602

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
1-30 JULY 1966

PART I: ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

PART II: GENERAL CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS DURING REPORTING PERIOD

PART III: SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

PART IV: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

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PART I: ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Reporting Unit. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines.
2. Locations of Command Post. 010001H June 1966 to 302400H June 1966:
Vicinity Hill #55, DANANG TAOR, Coordinates (AT 966617).
3. Period Covered by Report. 1-30 June 1966.
4. Commanding Officer and Staff

Commanding Officer		Lt Col JONES
Executive Officer		Maj DAY
S-1	(1-7 Jun)	2dLt JEREMIAH
	(8-30 Jun)	2dLt PARKER
S-2		1stLt KING
S-3		Maj THATENHURST
S-4		Capt CUTCOMB
5. Principal Subordinate Units

H&S Company	(1-27 Jun)	Capt KEYS
	(28-30 Jun)	Capt CUTCOMB
Company "A"		Capt CHRISTY
Company "B"		Capt SPLEAN
Company "C"		Capt STONE
Company "D"	(1-28 Jun)	Capt HART
	(29-30 Jun)	Capt KEYS
Company "K", 3d Bn, 9th Marines (OpCon 1/9 1-30 Jun)		Capt PAVLOVSKIS
1st Plt, Company "B", 1st AmTrac Bn		2dLt SULLIVAN
H&S Company (-), 1st AmTrac Bn		Capt THAMES
4th Plt, Company "C", 3d AT Bn		1stLt CASWELL
3d Plt, Company "A", 3d Tank Bn (OpCon Co "B", 3d Tank Bn)		2dLt GARLAND
Company "B" (-) (Rein), 3d Tank Bn		Capt TUNGET
4th Plt, Company "C", 3d Engineer Bn		2dLt ARMSTRONG
6. Command Structure. 1-30 June 1966, OpCon 9th Marines with responsibility for right flank sector of the 9th Marines zone of action.
7. Average Strength for Month of June

Officers USMC:	28
Officers USN:	3
Enlisted USMC:	829
Enlisted USN:	55

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PART II: GENERAL CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS
DURING REPORTING PERIOD

During the reporting period, the Battalion was responsible for the right flank of the 9th Marines zone of action. This responsibility included the occupation and defense of the assigned sector from enemy attack; execution of offensive operations in the assigned sector; establishment and maintenance of a reconnaissance network in the assigned sector; preparation to execute offensive operations beyond the assigned sector; and the support of pacification programs as directed. This responsibility is being accomplished by means of saturation patrol and ambush activity, and platoon and company size search and clear operations throughout the assigned sector. Additionally, development and improvement of defensive positions assigned within the ZOA has been progressing steadily. Because of the basic mission and the almost continuous employment of all operational forces, the formal training effort was necessarily limited. At 070800 June 1966, 3d Marine Division Operation LIBERTY began with this Battalion in full participation. Three rifle companies have operated on a full time basis south of the SONG AI NGHIA since approximately 5 June. Two rifle companies operate basically north of the SONG AI NGHIA. The Battalion has conducted a closely controlled and coordinated, heavily supported offensive operation. All units are involved in a deliberate, detailed, systematic, and thorough clearing of VC forces and complete destruction of VC facilities and influence within the assigned ZOA. Primary emphasis was placed on the area south of the SONG AI NGHIA and north of the SONG THU BON. The operation was conducted as a conventional linear type attack of all forward units with adjacent units coordinating to push the front line forward from Phase Line BLUE (see supporting document, 1/9 OpOrder 5-66), with complete demolition and destruction of all actual or potential VC tactical locales. Phase Line AMBER was crossed on 17 June 1966, and Phase Line GREEN (LOA) was reached on 22 June 1966. Upon reaching Phase Line GREEN, forward units commenced consolidation of respective zones, and continued deliberate clearing operations. Companies not in the forward area conducted continuous search and clear operations north of Phase Line BLUE and in the areas south of Phase Line BLUE to the rear of forward units. These newly cleared areas will be consolidated in preparation for the coming monsoon season. Company "K", 3d Battalion, 9th Marines, was under OpCon of this Battalion at the commencement of the reporting period and has remained so throughout.

During the reporting period, the Battalion was responsible for the right flank of the 9th Marines zone of action. This responsibility included the occupation and defense of the assigned sector from enemy attack; execution of offensive operations in the assigned sector; establishment and maintenance of a reconnaissance network in the assigned sector; preparation to execute offensive operations beyond the assigned sector; and the support of pacification programs as directed. This responsibility is being accomplished by means of saturation patrol and ambush activity, and platoon and company size search and clear operations throughout the assigned sector. Additionally, development and improvement of defensive positions assigned within the ZOA has been progressing steadily. Because of the basic mission and the almost continuous employment of all operational forces, the formal training effort was necessarily limited. At 070800 June 1966, 3d Marine Division Operation LIBERTY began with this Battalion in full participation. Three rifle companies have operated on a full time basis south of the SONG AI NGHIA since approximately 5 June. Two rifle companies operate basically north of the SONG AI NGHIA. The Battalion has conducted a closely controlled and coordinated, heavily supported offensive operation. All units are involved in a deliberate, detailed, systematic, and thorough clearing of VC forces and complete destruction of VC facilities and influence within the assigned ZOA. Primary emphasis was placed on the area south of the SONG AI NGHIA and north of the SONG THU BON. The operation was conducted as a conventional

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10. Fire Support and Fire Support Coordination. Artillery was employed on targets of opportunity, in preparation for the attack and seizure of company size objectives, on known enemy minefields, on counter-mortar battery positions, and in the restriction of enemy movement at night through harassment and interdiction fires. On-call defensive fires were provided each unit both in static and moving situations, and registration of these concentrations was stressed.

a. Artillery fired 113 actual fire missions during the reporting period and received credit for 28 VC KIA by body count, and 8 VC KIA probable. Artillery was also credited with destroying approximately 21 stone buildings and had seven occasions where secondary explosions were observed after a fire mission.

b. 81mm mortar fire support was provided each company size maneuver unit. Each company was assigned a section of 81's for the purpose of firing H&I's or any combat mission required.

11. Logistics. During the reporting period, combined logistics continued to be extensive. Seventy-one tons of equipment and supplies were delivered by air and 17 tons of equipment and supplies were delivered via surface modes to field based units. Seventeen bunkers were constructed on Hill #55 during the reporting period. Construction on a new main supply route, which when completed will span the 1 3/4 miles from Hill #55 to Highway #14 in the 1/9 ZOA, was commenced and is half completed at this time.

12. Air Defense. Nothing significant.

13. Combat Air Support. Air support was used by this command during the reporting period in support of ground units. A total of two combat sorties of fixed wing were flown on 11 June and 12 combat sorties of fixed wing were flown on 18 June. The total ordnance dropped was eight 5000 pound napalm canisters, twenty-three 500 pound G. P. bombs, twenty 250 pound G. P. bombs, sixteen five inch zuni rockets, and approximately seven hundred rounds of 20mm. UH-1E gunships were used on many occasions as strike aircraft, cover aircraft, and medevacs. On 18 June, five UH-1E's were used as strike aircraft firing forty-two 2.75 inch rockets. Airborne observers on Ol-E's were used extensively for controlling artillery and airstrikes and for ground observation. Resupply of the individual companies was provided by UH-34's and CH-46's on a daily basis.

14. Medical and Dental Support. Nothing significant.

15. Chaplain Support. During the month of June, 21 worship services were held with a total of 432 men in attendance. Hospital visits were made to C Med and NSA. Religious literature was distributed to all companies. Catholic services were held each week on Hill #55.

a. Chaplain recorded 23 counseling cases and seven Red Cross cases.

b. Abandoned children were taken from the 1/9 ZOA and relocated with relatives in DANANG.

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Stationary units distributed to men in forward areas.

Civil Affairs. During the month of June, the battalion concentrated its civil action effort around the Hill #55 complex and the nearby village of BICH BAC. Daily MedCap was given on Hill #55 by the Battalion Aid Station company and several civilians were medevaced to the ARVN and USOM Hospitals in DANANG. Approximately 400 civilians received medical assistance. Clothing, soap, educational materials, and toys were distributed in various areas with 1,500 school kits being given to the school children of DAI LOC. School kits were also given to the children of BICH BAC.

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PART III: SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF
SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Personnel. Detailed personnel data is contained in the S-1 journal submitted as a supporting document. This Battalion had a slight decrease in strength during this period. During this period there were no officers and 30 enlisted Marines KIA and 5 officers and 141 enlisted WIA. This Battalion rotated 4 officers and 42 enlisted Marines to CONUS, and 1 officer and 69 enlisted Marine transferred by Service Record. Replacements of 2 officers and 120 enlisted Marines were received. Sixty-three Marines were afforded the opportunity to R&R.

a. Eight Navy replacements received, 12 were lost due to transfers. Five Navy personnel were afforded opportunity for R&R. During the period there were no Navy enlisted KIA and 10 WIA.

2. Administration. Nothing significant.

3. Intelligence. The entire month of June was conspicuously absent of any solid VC contact. Once again, mining and booby-trap incidents were frequent, especially during the first two weeks of the month and most of the casualties taken by the battalion were a result of such activities. The M16A1 "bounding mine" was the leading producer of casualties. Mining incidents on the MSR were greatly reduced over the previous month. On 1 June, a woman from BICH BAC informed the Marines of two mines on the road, both of which were found and destroyed by the engineers. Since that time no mines have been encountered on the MSR. During this month's activities, the companies in the field destroyed extensive tunnels, caves, and trench works, both around Hill #55 and in the southern half of our ZOA. It was reported on or about 15 June that a VC company was operating in the portion of our ZOA north of Hill #55. Company "K", operating in that area, however, failed to make any significant contact with the VC. Reports were also received of two companies to a battalion size VC force operating in the southern half of our ZOA, but once again no contact was made to confirm those reports. From 18 June to 21 June sporadic mortar fire was received by the companies operating in the southern half of our ZOA. It is believed this was for casualty producing and harassing effect to slow the advance of 1/9 and aid in the VC retraction of forces, equipment, and supplies.

a. Psychological Warfare

(1) The general theme for the month of June was to explain the U. S. role in the war and to explain the new offensive policy adopted by the 3d Marine Division. The theme was expounded by the following means:

(a) The I Corps 1st Psy-Ops field detachment audio team conducted operations from Hill #55 using the sound system to broadcast propaganda to the villagers.

(b) The regimental sound system was also used to broadcast propaganda, employing the battalion and regimental interpreters.

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(c) Leaflet drops were made in support of the June theme. However, many of the leaflets requested to support the theme were not delivered by higher headquarters.

(d) Face-to-face persuasion and leaflet distribution was conducted by the companies in the field. This was hindered by a lack of qualified interpreters.

b. Special Operations. None.

c. Employment of AN/TPS-21, SID/150, Infrared Sighting Device, and Night Observation Device

(1) AN/TPS-21. The battalion has only one AN/TPS-21 and it was employed in reserve in the Battalion CP.

(2) SID/150. The battalion utilized 30 SID/150's during the month of June. Ten were employed by the rifle companies on their CP perimeters and twenty were held in battalion reserve. No contacts were made during the reporting period.

(3) Infrared Sighting Device. Fifteen sniper-scopes were on hand in the battalion during June, but they were not used until 16 June when the battalion obtained the electro-lyte needed to charge the batteries. For the remaining part of the month, five were used by the rifle companies and ten were held in battalion reserve.

(4) Night Observation Device. The Night Observation Device was returned to the battalion from division on 5 June and was employed on the battalion perimeter until 7 June when it became unserviceable due to the lack of mercury batteries which are unavailable in VIETNAM. No contacts were made during the two days of employment.

4. Training. All units received periodic instruction concerning the mission and role of U. S. Forces in the Republic of VIETNAM, the rules of engagement, and treatment of prisoners. Additionally, continuous on-the-job training was conducted for all ranks and MOS's. Twenty enlisted men attended the VC Mines and Booby Trap Course at the 3d Engineer Battalion. One enlisted man attended a 10 day course of instruction on the Chemical Mine Detector at FLSG, DANANG Air Base, RVN. One enlisted man attended a 15 day course of instruction in Basic Infantry Weapons Repair in OKINAWA.

5. Special Operations. Nothing significant.

6. Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Warfare. Nothing significant.

7. Command and Control. Nothing significant.

9. Close Combat. Nothing significant.

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PART IV: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- NIF { S-1 Journal
S-2 Journal
S-3 Journal
1st Battalion, 9th Marines Operation Order 5-66

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1st Battalion, 9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
APO San Francisco 96602

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, 9th Marines (Attn: S-3)

Subj: Command Chronology: 1-31 July 1966

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
(b) DivO 5750.1
(c) RegtO 5750.1

Encl: (1) Command Chronology: 1-31 July 1966

1. In accordance with references (a) through (c), enclosure (1) is submitted herewith.


R. E. JONES

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Jul 66

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HEADQUARTERS
1st Battalion, 9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
APO San Francisco 96602

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
1-31 JULY 1966

PART I: ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

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PART I: ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Reporting Unit. 1st Battalion, 9th Marines
2. Location of Command Post. 0100C1H July 1966 to 312400H July 1966. Vicinity Hill #55, DAMNANG TACH, Coordinates (AT 966617).
3. Period covered by report. 1-31 July 1966.
4. Commanding Officer and Staff.

Commanding Officer	LtCol JONES
Executive Officer	Maj DAY
S-1	2dLt PARKER
S-2	1stLt KING
S-3	Maj THATENHURST
S-4	Capt CUTCOMB
5. Principal Subordinate Units.

H & S Company (1-15 July)	Capt CUTCOMB
(16-31 July)	Capt STONE
Company "A" (OPCON 2d Bn 9th Mar 20-31 July 1966)	Capt VONHARTEN
Company "B"	Capt SPIEAN
Company "C" (1-15 July)	Capt STONE
(16-31 July)	1stLt CONNELL
Company "D"	Capt KEYS
H & S Company (-) 1st AMTRAC Bn	Capt THAMES
1st Plt, Company "B", 1st AMTRAC Bn	2dLt SULLIVAN
2d Plt, Company "C"; 3rd AT Bn	2dLt HOOF
2d Plt, Company "A", 3rd TANK Bn (OPCON Company "B"	2dLt GARLAND
3rd TANK Bn)	
1st Plt, Company "B"; 3rd TANK Bn	2dLt NAGLE
4th Plt, Company "C", 3rd ENCB Bn	2dLt ARMSTRONG
6. Command Structure. 1-31 July 1966, OpCon 9th Marines with responsibility for right flank sector of the 9th Marines zone of action.
7. Average Strength for Month of July.

Officers USMC: 33
Officers USN: 2
Enlisted USMC: 927
Enlisted USN: 49

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PART II: GENERAL CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS
DURING REPORTING PERIOD

During the reporting period, the Battalion was responsible for the right flank of the 9th Marines ZOA. This responsibility included the occupation and defense and the denial of VC influence into the area; execution of offensive operations; establishment and maintenance of a reconnaissance network; to block the southern boundary of 1/9 ZOA; provide security for engineer construction units; provide security for bridges and water points; maintain river traffic control points; support of pacification programs as directed; and provide one company as regimental reserve. This responsibility is being accomplished by means of platoon size search and clear operations and aggressive patrol and ambush activity of platoon and squad size, in an attempt to saturate the area. The continued development and improvement of semi-permanent positions assigned within the ZOA has been progressing steadily. Because of the tactical mission and the almost continuous employment of all operational forces, the formal training effort was necessarily limited. During the period 041500H to 312400H companies "B" and "C" maintained blocking positions along the north bank of the SONG THU BON in support of operation MACON. This Battalion, learning the importance of tracked vehicles in Operation LIBERTY, had reconned the SONG THU BON for a fording site prior to Operation MACON. Then, on 7 & 8 July, assumed responsibility and covered the tracked vehicle convoy across the SONG THU BON for insertion into the MACON operation area. County Fair 2I was held at LE SON 3 on 15 July with elements of the 51st ARVN Ranger Regiment. Results were considered highly successful. At 161600H Company "C" relieved Company "A" as battalion/regimental reserve. Three rifle companies operated on a full time basis south of the SONG AI NGHIA from 1 July to 20 July. Two rifle companies, plus one platoon from "C" company operated on a full time basis from 20 July to present. One rifle company operated north of the SONG AI NGHIA. All units are involved in a deliberate and detailed clearing of VC forces and complete destruction of VC facilities and influence within the assigned ZOA. Emphasis was placed on complete demolition and destruction of all actual or potential VC tactical locales with primary emphasis on reduction of VC trenches, fortifications, and family type bunkers. Company "A" was chopped to Op-Con 2d Battalion, 9th Marines and assumed the duties of battalion defense and BAI EAGLE Company at 201000H. Close liaison is maintained with US Army liaison officer and DAI LOC district chief at DAI LOC. A County Fair type operation was conducted on 250600H with one platoon each from B, C, and D as cordon force and two platoons of PF troops as search element. Since 041000H one platoon of BF and one platoon of PF have operated with two forward companies. They are rotated to DAI LOC on a weekly basis. These combined operations have proven to be very satisfactory. Company "A" was returned to our Op-Con 311000H.

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OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Personnel. Detailed personnel data is contained in the S-1 Journal submitted as a supporting document. This Battalion had a slight increase in strength during this period. There were 0 officers and 7 enlisted Marines KIA and 2 officers and 41 enlisted WIA. This Battalion rotated 4 officers and 46 enlisted Marines to CONUS, and 0 officers and 35 enlisted Marines transferred by Service Record. Replacements of 10 officers and 145 enlisted Marines were received. Sixty-nine Marines were afforded the opportunity to R&R.

a. Six Navy replacements were received and six lost due to transfer. Three Navy personnel were afforded the opportunity for R&R. During this period there were 1 officer and 4 enlisted Navy WIA.

2. Administration. Nothing significant.

3. Intelligence. During the month of July, the Viet Cong chose not to make any solid contact with the Marines. Rather than engage USMC units in force, the VC elected to wait and attack targets of opportunity within the ZOA. A few examples of this tactic are as follows:

a. On 25 July 1966, two men from "E" Battery wandered alone into DUC KY hamlet and were ambushed and killed by the VC.

b. On 25 July 1966, a patrol from H&S Company was taken under fire by a superior VC force in the LE SON (3) area resulting in one USMC KIA.

c. Small arms harassing incidents occurred most frequently in the OP blocking positions along the SONG THU BON. Most of this fire originated from across the river. Significant harassing fire also occurred north of Hill 55.

d. Mining incidents were quite frequent along Route 14 and Liberty Road. These incidents involved both AP mines along the side of the roads and anti-vehicle mines on the road itself. Several VC equipment and supply caches were found by Company "B" on 7 July 1966. More than 300 concussion grenades and 18 claymore mines were found buried beneath the foundation of an abandoned house. Another significant find was made on 23 July 1966 when the engineer road sweep found over 10,000 rounds of M-1 ammo and 5,000 rounds of .30 caliber carbine ammo buried in a mud dike.

e. One rallier surrendered himself to the Battalion on 1 July 1966. He was a member of the R20 Battalion now located to the southwest of our ZOA.

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f. Psychological Warfare. The general theme for the month of July was to explain the inevitable defeat of the VC and appeal to the VC to rally to the GVN side. The theme was expounded by the following means:

(1) The I Corps Psy-Cps field detachment audio team conducted operations from Hill 55, Liberty Road, and Route 14.

(2) The regimental sound system was also used to broadcast propaganda, employing the Battalion and Regimental interpreters.

(3) Leaflet drops were made in support of the July theme.

(4) Face-to-face persuasion and leaflet distribution was conducted by the companies in the field. This was hindered by a lack of qualified interpreters.

(5) A "County Fair" operation was conducted in the LE SON (3) area. The Psy-War and propaganda teams from HOA VANG District spoke to the people and reintroduced GVN control to the area.

g. Special Operations. None.

h. Employment of the AN/TPS-21, SID/150, Infrared Sighting Device, and Night Observation Device.

(1) AN/TPS-21. The Battalion has only one AN/TPS-21 and it was employed in reserve near the Battalion CP during the month of July.

(2) SID/150. The Battalion utilized 30 SID/150's during the month of July. Ten were employed by the rifle companies in their CP perimeters and twenty were held in Battalion reserve. No contacts were made during the reporting period.

(3) Infrared Sighting Device. Fifteen sniper-scopes were on hand in the Battalion during July. All of the scopes were available for used by the rifle companies. No contact was reported during this period.

(4) Night Observation Device. The Night Observation Device was not employed during this period due to the lack of mercury batteries, which are unavailable in VIETNAM.

4. Training. All units received periodic instruction concerning the mission and role of U. S. Forces in the Republic of VIETNAM, the rules of engagement, and the handling of prisoners. Additionally, on-the-job training was conducted for all ranks and MOS's. Twenty enlisted men attended the VC Mine and Booby-Trap course at the 3d Engineer Battalion. Three enlisted Marines attended the Basic Infantry Weapons Repair course in OKINAWA, one enlisted Marine attended the NCO school in OKINAWA, and one Marine officer attended the Crypto Security course in JAPAN.

5. Special Operations. Nothing significant.

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6. Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Warfare. Nothing significant.
7. Command and Control. Nothing significant.
8. Communications and Electronics. Nothing significant.
9. Close Combat. Nothing significant.
10. Fire Support and Fire Support Coordination. Artillery was employed on targets of opportunity, in the preparation of the attack and seizure of company size objectives, on known enemy minefields, on counter-mortar battery positions, and in the restriction of enemy movement at night through harassment and interdiction fires. On call defensive fires were provided each unit in static and moving situations, and registration of these concentrations was stressed. Permanent defensive fires were provided companies in semi-permanent positions and the registration of these completed.
- a. Artillery fired 97 fire missions during the reporting period. Artillery received credit for three VC KIA confirmed and 14 VC KIA probable. Two boats and two fortified emplacements were also credited to artillery.
- b. 81mm mortar fire support was provided each company size maneuver unit. Each company was assigned a section of 81's for the purpose of firing H&I's or any combat mission required.
11. Logistics. During the reporting period, combined logistics continued to be extensive. Six tons of equipment and supplies were delivered by air and 75 tons of equipment and supplies were delivered via surface modes to field based units. During this period, the amount of miles traveled by Battalion vehicles total 20469. Total hours: 870.
12. Air Defense. Nothing significant.
13. Combat Air Support. Air support was used by this command during the reporting period in support of ground units. A total of 43 Medovacs were flown bringing 73 casualties to immediate medical aid. Airborne observers in OL-E's and UH-1E's were used for ground observation. Resupply of the individual companies was provided by UH-34's and CH-46's on a very limited basis. No fixed wing sorties were flown during this period.
14. Medical and Dental Support. Nothing significant.
15. Chaplain Support. In relation to primary mission the Chaplain conducted 29 worship services, 6 memorial services, and 1 baptismal service. Total attendance at worship services was 520, with 180 receiving communion. Red Cross and inquiries total 16 and personal counseling and interviews totaled 62. Catholic coverage for Hill 55 and the forward companies was made available by the Catholic Chaplains from 9th Marine Regiment and 2d Battalion, 9th Marines. All men in 1st Battalion had the opportunity to attend a Mass during the month of July. The 1/9 Chaplain also covered 2/9 for Protestant personnel. Throughout the month religious literature was

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distributed and well received. A New Testament was made available to every Marine. Along with religious literature other materials, such as paper back books, athletic gear, writing portfolios, cards, etc., were distributed. Services on Hill 55 were moved into hardtop messhall with good results. With the beginning of a worship service on Hill 5 for engineers and tanks, the Chaplain now has four firm Sunday commitments each week.

16. Civil Affairs. During the month of July, the Battalion concentrated its civil action efforts to the Hill 55 complex and BICH BAC Hamlet. Daily Med-Cap was given on HILL 55 by the Battalion Aid Station corpsman. Over 650 civilians were treated during this period and 17 civilians were evacuated to the ARVN and USOM Hospitals in DANANG. Clothing, soap, rice, and toys were distributed in various areas within the ZOA.

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