

1ST BATTALION 9TH MARINES

COMMAND DIARY/CHRONOLOGY

APRIL 1969

PAGES 22 OF 150
(NO S-1 JOURNAL)

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128 PAGES OF MESSAGES

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MAR DIV S&C FILE
BT# 159769

HEAD BARRERS
1st Battalion, 9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), MIF
APO San Francisco 96302

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3/JL/lrl
001369
28 Apr 1969

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code M03D)
(1) Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein)
(2) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 April to 30 April 1969.

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2a
(b) MIFAcO 5750.8
(c) 3d MarDivO 5750.1A w/ch w1

Encl: ✓ (1) Command Chronology, April 1969

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a), (b) and (c) enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. The security classification of this document is downgraded at three (3) year intervals and declassified after twelve (12) years.

T. J. Curkin
T. J. CURKIN

1st BN. 9th MAR
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1/a
Apr 1969

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HEAD QUARTERS
1st Battalion, 9th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FIF
APO San Francisco 96302

COMBAT CHRONOLOGY

1 Apr to 30 Apr 1969

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Enclosure (1)



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PART I
ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Designation	Commander	Date
1st Battalion, 9th Marines	1st Col T. J. CUMMIE	1-30Apr69
Company "A"	Capt W. D. FOX	1-30Apr69
Company "B"	Capt K. M. JUMMIS JR.	1-30Apr69
Company "C"	Capt J. KELLY	1-30Apr69
✓ Company "D"	Capt L. F. CHAPMAN III	1-30Apr69
HEB Company	1st Lt T. J. COLEMAN	1-30Apr69
2. Location.		
From 1 through 30 April the Battalion was tasked with the Mai Loc and Cam Le FAC's, C-2 and A-4.		
3. Staff Officers.		
Executive Officer	Major G. D. FORSTAN	1-15Apr69
	Major J. W. GOODALE	16-30Apr69
S-1	Capt W. PALLID	1-30Apr69
S-3	Major J. E. MCNEILANS	1-30Apr69
S-3A	1st Lt J. H. HARRISON	1-30Apr69
Liaison Officer	2nd Lt E. J. WALTER	1-30Apr69
ASCC	1st Lt W. LAWLES	1-30Apr69
FAC	1st Lt F. W. DUMFREY	1-30Apr69
ALO	1st Lt W. R. LUNT	1-30Apr69
S-4	1st Lt R. FERRY	1-30Apr69
Comm	1st Lt T. G. JACKSON	1-30Apr69
Supply	2nd Lt W. L. STUBBS	1-30Apr69
LMC	1st Lt D. F. SULLIVAN	1-30Apr69
Chaplain	1st Lt R. E. EBY	
Medical Officer	1st Lt R. W. BASKIN	1-30Apr69

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4. Average Monthly Strength.

OFF.	USIC	OFF.	USIC	OFF.	USIC	OFF.	USIC
35		1148	2	45		0	0

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PART II

PARALLEL SQUARE

During the entire month of April, 1969 the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines was sporadically tasked with the security of and the conduct of combat operations around Rai Loc, C-2, A-4 and Cam Lo.

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PART III

SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS OF THE RECENT EVENTS

1. Combat Mission Assigned.

The mission of the Battalion during the month of April in and around Hai Loc, Can Lo, C-2 and A-4 was (1) security of fixed positions and locations, (2) search and destroy operation to eliminate enemy elements, (3) defense and pacification of populated areas, and (4) coordination and cooperation with indigenous forces.

a. 1st Bn., 9th Marines, Frag Order, 8-09, 10 April 1969.

Company A conduct search and destroy operations commencing at 050700 April 1969. Operate east to west from grid coordinates 130550 to grid coordinates 050700.

b. 9th Marines Directive; Boundary Change, 5 April 1969.

Effective 051050H April 1969 boundary of US Army elements operating to the north of 9th Marines AO is dissolved. Effective that time new boundary between 1st Bn., 9th Marines and 2nd Bn., 9th Marines from present common boundary at 060615 north along 09 north-south grid line to the DMZ.

c. 1st Bn., 9th Marines Directive; Boundary Change, 5 April 1969.

Be informed that 2nd AVM AO has been extended to include the 14 north-south grid line down to the 03 east-west line. This extension is effective for 24 hours.

d. 9th Marines Directive; Boundary Change, 6 April 1969.

Effective 070600H to 060600H western boundary from 130670 to 140670 north to DMZ.

e. 1st Bn., 9th Marines Directive; Boundary Change, 6 April 1969.

Effective immediately, eastern boundary change of Hai Loc AO to 12 north-south grid.

f. 1st Bn., 9th Marines Directive; Boundary Change, 7 April 1969.

Your nighttime AO is as follows:

West boundary: 09 line.

East boundary: 12 line.

North boundary: 62 line.

South boundary: stream.

DMZ is east of 12 line. 6

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g. 9th Marines Directive: Boundary Change, 8 April 1969.

Effective 080300 121 Loc temporary east boundary west to 15 north-south grid line.

h. 9th Marines Directive: Boundary Change, 10 April 1969.

Effective 107700Z present 1/9 - 3/9 boundary modified as follows: from present boundary at 054575 to road at 050567 to trail at 050500, south-east along trail to 053555, south to present boundary at 054530.

i. 9th Marines Directive: Boundary Change, 11 April 1969.

Temporary boundary change in eastern 121 Loc AC (north-south 12 grid line) remains in effect until further notice.

j. 9th Marines Directive: Boundary Change, 12 April 1969.

Effective 121600 April 69 boundary change from present boundary vicinity 060590 south to vicinity 060630 southwest to present boundary vicinity 054574 to include forward slope of Hill 152.

k. 9th Marines Directive: Change in Operational Control, 13 April 1969.

Assume Op Com 3rd of 5th until time to be designated. Anticipate 3rd Mar Div to assume Opcom of 3rd of the 5th on 14 April 69. Assign then AC north of 1st Bn., 9th Marines to include C-2 and C-4.

l. 1st Bn., 9th Marines Flag Order 9-69, 13 April 1969.

Company D establish an initial company patrol base vicinity 11 064496 to conduct combat patrols and employ hunter-killer teams in AC. Boundary of AC is 121 Loc road east on 07 line.

m. 9th Marines Directive: Boundary change, 14 April 1969.

Effective 141200Z April boundary change between 1st Bn., 9th Marines, 2nd Bn., 9th Marines and 1st Mech Brigade of 5th Army Division. New boundary traces following grids east to west respectively:

A. 157630	H. 080521
B. 128620	F. 066535
C. 125624	G. 045643
D. 100620	I. 029635

n. 9th Marines Directive: Boundary Change, 14 April 1969.

Effective 141500 boundary between 1st Bn., 9th Marines and 2nd of the 5th Army follows: current boundary east to 08 grid line then north to 01 grid line east of 01 grid line to present AC boundary.

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- o. 9th Marines Directive: Change in Operation Control, 14 April 1969.
Effective earliest this date drop 1 Company (Company C) to 5th of 5th.
- p. 9th Marines Directive: Boundary Change, 16 April 1969.
Effective 161100Z present temporary boundary along 61 grid line east to west in 1st B., 9th Marines AO becomes permanent. Boundary extension from 0061 to 045642 grid effective same day time group.
- q. 9th Marines Directive: Change in Operational Control, 19 April 1969.
Effective 190600Z 9th Marines assumed Opcon of 1 Company from 1st Bn., 9th Marines and passes Opcon to 3rd MarDiv to be further passed to 3rd Tank Bn., for 48 hours employment in a tank/infantry operation.
- r. 9th Marines Directive: Boundary Change, 19 April 1969.
Effective 191200Z temporary boundary along 07 north-south grid in 1st Bn. AO dissolved.
- s. 9th Marines Directive: Boundary Change, 20 April 1969.
Effective 201330 1st Bn., 9th Marines common boundary of AO south temporarily modified to coincide 08 north-south grid. 1st Bn., 9th Marines chop and forces within 2nd Bn., 9th Marines new AO to 2nd Bn., 9th Marines plus all forces now being dispatched to the assist.
- t. 9th Marines Directive: Change in Operation Control, 21 April 1969.
Effective 1200 Company A from 1st Bn., 9th Marines chopped back to 1/9 from 3rd Tank Bn.
- u. 9th Marines Directive: Boundary Change, 21 April 1969.
The following boundary assigned to ARVN forces effective AM 22 April 69. From south boundary of DMZ, south along 98 north-south grid line, to ED 980610 then to ED 985602 then north-east to ED 022615 paralleling district boundary to stream at ED 025611 along stream to ED 077613 then south-east to ED 000610 then north to ED 102620 then north to ED 103630, then north to ED 105640, then north to 108650 following west trace of stream north-east to ED 116660 then north-west to ED 108670 to 100677 to 098680, to ED 091687 then north-west to the DMZ boundary at ED 085689. Boundary between 1st Bn. 9th Marines and 1st Brigade dissolved at 221600Z. **DECLASSIFIED**
- v. 9th Marines Directive: Boundary Change, 21 April 1969.
The temporary boundary between 1st Bn., 9th Marines and 2nd Bn., 9th Marines 08 north-south grid line remains in effect.

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v. 9th Marines Frag Order 0-69, 21 April 1969.

1st Bn., 9th Marines continue present mission, and on 22 April give up northern portion of present AO, assume responsibility for AO vicinity of A-4, C-2, and be prepared to provide, company exploitation force for coordination and cooperation with ARVN forces.

x. 9th Marines Directive: Change in Operational Control 22 April 1969.

Effective 221600Z 3rd Bn., 9th Marines assume Opcon of Company C 1st Bn., 9th Marines and pass Opcon to 1st Bn., 9th Marines same DTG.

y. 9th Marines Frag Order 21-69, 22 April 1969.

1st Bn., 9th Marines continue present mission and remain prepared to exploit 2nd ARVN contact on order. Commence support of rice denial Op in AO IAW Div Oper Order 16-69.

z. 1st Bn., 9th Marines Frag Order 10-69, 24 April 1969.

Two platoons of Company D accompanied by four tanks, make a tank infantry thrust to a limiting line paralleling the 12 north south line. Moved from present pos at 250700 to vicinity from 12642 to 124648 and return on order.

aa. 1st Bn., 9th Marines Frag Order 10-69, 24 April 1969.

Company D commence tank-infantry move from present pos. at 250700 to vicinity from 250700 to 124648 and return on order.

bb. 9th Marines Directive: Boundary Change, 27 April 1969.

Effective 251800 boundary between 2nd ARVN and Mai Loc is modified from present boundary at 120510, east along the 51 grid line, to 1D 160510, north along the 16 grid line to present 9th Marines boundary at 160560.

cc. 9th Marines Directive: Concept of Operation, 28 April 1969.

On 1 May 2/3 (-) relieves 2/9 and 1/9 at 6 positions. 1/9 and 2/9 to VCB commencing 1 May. On 3 May 3/3 (-) relieved by 1/9 (-) in vicinity of NSE GAUCHO (1D 098241).

dd. 9th Marines Frag Order 24-69, 29 April 1969.

1/9 be prepared to be relieved by 2/3 on 1 May.

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2. Operations.

01 APR At 1145H Company C encountered 32 Vietnamese gathering tea leaves at ID 127709. A patrol from Company C assembled the Vietnamese and forced them to leave the area, which is closed to them. At 1245H a Company C patrol sighted 2 enemy wearing black uniforms and running east at ID 127728, took them under fire with negative results, but checked the area and found a destroyed bunker complex, 2 bowls of cooked rice and a bird trap. At 1805H Company C found a piece of TNT and a skeleton outside the wire at Con Thien.

02 APR There were no significant events on this day.

03 APR At 1130H Company B patrol received 3 sniper rounds from ID 151689 and a burst of 10 rounds from ID 154613. The grids were checked out with negative results.

04 APR At 1305H Company D at C-2 observed 18 rounds of 122mm rockets impact at ID 137650. Radar devices determined that the rounds were fired from ID 05606678, and counterbattery was fired with 155mm artillery.

05 APR At 0845H a Company B road sweep at ID 132640 was ambushed by an estimated 7 to 8 enemy using small arms and RPG's. The road sweep suffered 1 MIA and returned fire with unknown results. One AK47 rifle was captured. At 1500H one of the LCB units reported finding 9 holes at ID 075582. At 1415H Company D found a canopied observation post site with paddled down grass within it at ID 109629.

06 APR There were no significant events on this day.

07 APR At 1050H a Company D road sweep found and destroyed one anti-tank mine, possibly with TNT under it, at ID 073575.

08 APR There were no significant events on this day.

09 APR At 0810H Company B received small arms fire from 4 Vietnamese at ID 102540. Three of the 4 who were apprehended were determined to be Popular Forces troops who had been shooting at chickens. They were interrogated by the MACV team at the Cam Lo District Headquarters, and they said that they did not know that they were not permitted to enter that area. At 1400H the Company B position at the Cam Lo Bridge had 5 rounds of small arms, fired from ID 148304, pass overhead. MACV was requested to exercise a firmer control over indigenous forces in the area. At 1600H a killer team from Company A made contact with an estimated enemy squad at ID 087605, suffered 3 MIA while inflicting and estimated 3 enemy killed, probable. The enemy was wearing green utilities and shrill whistles were heard from enemy position. At 2205H radar units at C-2 identified movement at ID 133656, and Company D fired 60mm and 81mm mortars in response to the readings. At 1930H a killer team from Company A ambushed 5 NVA, moved out of the area and returned in the morning to find drag marks and blood evidencing 2 enemy killed, probable.

10 APR There were no significant events on this day.

11 APR From 1430H to 1800H a killer team from Company C adjusted artillery on movement coming out of the Demilitarized Zone reported by sensor readings. There were 37 secondaries observed. Numerous large mortar parts of 122mm fuses, and the exploded head of an RPG-7 were found by a reinforced patrol the next day. At 1130H Company A found and skinned a waist-high booby-trap made of a M-26 at ID 086599.

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12 APR At 0900H a Company A road sweep discovered a home-made anti-tank mine, made from a #10 can, and blew it in place at ID 134622. At 0630H a Company A killer team found spider traps with communications wire connecting them at ID 095604.

13 APR At 0900H Company A found at ID 092599 some green, aluminum poles that were hollow and possibly used as torches or signals. At 1245H Company A found 1 AK47 rifle, 1 AK47 magazine, 2 chicom grenades, 1 poncho and 1 poncho liner. At 0900H a Company B roadsweep received 1 round of sniper fire from ID 119576 and 2 rounds from ID 119577. At 1500H Company B found a trail heading southwest at ID 103627, which appeared to have been used by 7 to 8 persons the previous morning. At 1915H Company B received 10 rounds of 60mm mortar fire from ID 083605 and called for 81mm mortar and artillery missions in counterbattery.

14 APR At 0715H Company A found 1 60mm mortar round and 1 poncho covered with blood at ID 084608, evidencing 1 probable enemy killed by the previous night's counterbattery. At 1510H Company B received 5 to 7 small arms rounds overhead, probably fired by birdhunters, from ID 144602.

15 APR There were no significant events on this day.

16 APR At 1630H a Company B patrol heard 3 small arms rounds fire from ID 095545 and sighted a Vietnamese moving away on a motor bike. At 1700H Company D found a very old campsite for about 10 men at ID 052491. At 1800H a Company B patrol received 5 small arms rounds from ID 114542, swept toward the grid and heard a motorbike moving away in the distance.

17 APR At 2015H a Company A ambush received fire from 2 or more automatic weapons at ID 085605, and returned fire with unknown results. At 2235H a Company A killer team observed 10-15 artillery rounds impacting 500-600 meters due north of them, at ID 094615. It was determined that no friendly force fired the rounds.

18 APR At 0035H 3 artillery rounds were reported to have landed in grid square ID 1461 and were determined to have been of hostile origin.

19 APR At 1135H a truck moving south at ID 150608 received 4 sniper rounds from ID 144608, one hitting the truck. At 1915H Company D received 8-10 mortar rounds from 092612, and counterbattery was fired by 81mm and 60mm mortars and artillery. At 2045H Company B at Mai Loc received small arms fire from ID 090515 and fired illumination and high explosive fire missions in return. At 1245H trucks received sniper fire from ID 144808. Company B checked out the area with negative results.

20 APR At 0900H a Company B road sweep found the bridge on route 9 at ID 073571 completely destroyed and began taking mortars and small arms. At 1155H a cluster with the road sweep hit an anti-tank mine at ID 073571 and suffered 3 army WIA. The road sweep also found 2 other anti-tank mines at that time and grid. At 1230H the road sweep made contact with an estimated 5 enemy at the same grid, and killed 2 enemy while suffering 1 KIA and 1 WIA. At 1305 the road sweep found an additional 8 anti-tank mines in the road from ID 077571 to ID 075571. At 1400H one platoon of Company A and a platoon of Company A, 3d Tank Battalion were sent to ID 088578 to be in a maneuvering position to reinforce the road sweep if necessary. At 1502H Company B at the Cam Lo Bridge received 1 round of 179 fire from ID 143608. The round landed 30 feet from the compound,

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and a squad investigating learned that a group of 3 negroes had fired the round. At 1515H 2 squads of Company B at Mai Loc and 2 tanks were sent to reinforce CIDG forces, reported in contact at ED 136534. There was no contact when the reinforcements arrived. At 1530H the Company B road sweep found an additional 5 anti-tank mines in Route 9.

21 APR At 1700H Company B at the Cao Lo Bridge received 8 sniper rounds from ED 143606. Three rounds hit a bunker, and the armored personnel carrier at the bridge returned fire. At 1500H Company B found a year-old cache, consisting of 4 anti-tank mines, 2 cans of 61mm mortar fuses, 2 cans of 61mm mortar increments, 10 lbs of TNT, and 1 bag of 10 lbs of wheat.

22 APR There were no significant events on this day.

23 APR At 1335H a Company B patrol leader was wounded by a M26 booby trap at ED 112536, and movement was sighted at ED 117536. Small arms, tanks and 61mm mortars were fired at the movement with unknown results.

24 APR There were no significant events on this day.

25 APR At 2250H a Company B patrol sighted 1 NVA/VC at ED 107517 and took him under small arms fire, 60mm mortar, and 81mm mortar fire with unknown results.

26 APR At 0900H a Company B patrol found 2 61mm rounds at ED 115525 and blew them in place.

27 APR At 1702H, Company D received 12 122mm rockets. Rockets impacted at ED 132645 and were fired 2 to 3 at a time at about five minute intervals. Counterbattery was returned with artillery. At 1845H a Company B patrol observed 7 to 10 personnel armed and dressed in green utilities at ED 112518. The patrol fired and maneuvered with unknown results.

28-30 APR There were no significant events on these days.

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3. Casualties and damage inflicted on the enemy.

The following personnel and gear were captured, destroyed, or killed by 1st Battalion, 9th Marines during the month of April.

M147's ----- 2
 S.M.S. ----- 1
 M147 mag ----- 5
 (M147) ----- 4
 M147 (M147) ----- 1
 M147 (M147) ----- 1
 M147 (M147) ----- 1
 M147 (M147) ----- 1
 M147 (M147) ----- 11
 M147 (M147) ----- 20
 M147 (M147) ----- 10 lbs, 1 mag
 M147 (M147) ----- 1
 M147 (M147) ----- 3
 M147 (M147) ----- 1
 M147 (M147) ----- 2
 M147 (M147) ----- 1
 M147 (M147) ----- 1
 M147 (M147) ----- 10 lbs
 Cans of 6mm fuses ----- 2

5. New techniques employed. None.

6. Equipment.

a. The following is a report of the readiness of major items of combat essential equipment.

(1) Motor Transport

	<u>AVAILABLE</u>	<u>ON</u>	<u>OPERATIONAL</u>
M-151	20	18	18
M-416B1	16	15	16
M-37B1	4	3	2
M101A1	4	3	2
M27A2	30	32	23
M.C.109	2	1	0
M.C.83	2	1	1
M.C.87	1	1	1
M-12	1	1	0
M-250	1	1	1
HPCU	1	1	0
(M-107 M-149)	5	4	4
M-170	1	1	0

(2) Communications

	<u>AVAILABLE</u>	<u>ON</u>	<u>OPERATIONAL</u>
M-43/T	3	2	2

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AM/PPS-6	0	10	6
AM/PPS-39	12	9	7
AM/PRC-125	7	7	6
AM/PRC-83	2	1	1
AM/PRC-87	1	1	1
AM/PRC-109	2	1	0
AM/PRC-25	75	71	70
AM/PRC-41	3	3	3
AM/PRC-47	5	5	3
AM/PRC-77	19	1	1
AM/PRC-88	180	PRT-4 105 PRT-9 180	105
AM/ERR 23A	1	1	1
SM-22/PT	5	5	5
AM/TCC-14	3	3	3
TA-1/PT	94	40	40
TA-312/PT	35	34	32
AM/TCC-14	2	1	1
RL-8	3	3	2
RY-38	22	22	20
FU-348	1	0	0

- b. Major end items previously evacuated to higher echelon maintenance facilities that have not been returned.

(1) Motor Transport

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>QTY</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
M-37B1	1	FLSG-B
M-274A2	1	FLSG-(1) Evac 1st FSR
M-109	1	FLSG-B
M-12	1	FLSG-B

(2) Communications

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>QTY</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
FU-348	1	3rd FSR
PRC-25's	2	FLSG-B
TA-312/PT	2	FLSG-B
AM/PRC-109	1	FLSG-B

- c. Battle losses not replaced.

- (1) TA-1/PT lost not reported last month.
 (2) PRC-25's lost not reported last month.
 (2) PRC-25's lost this month.

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7. Logistics.a. Supply and Distribution.

- (1) Primary source of supply for battalion is FLSG-B.
- (2) Significant items in short supply: 5 gal water cans, canteens.
- (3) Unit distribution was used by the battalion.

b. Resupply.

- (1) Resupply figures, (by class) to the companies in the battalion.

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>NUMBER POUNDS</u>
I	231,640
II	5,940
III	
IV	
V	38,660

- (2) Total resupply figures for companies in the Battalion.

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>NUMBER POUNDS</u>
NCS	23,680
A	56,945
B	62,420
C	70,205
D	62,990

c. Transportation.

- (1) Battalion vehicles were used between Quang Tri, Dong Ha, Mai Loc, Cam Lo, Hill 37, Cam Lo Bridge, C-2 and Con Thien.
- (2) The following vehicles have been Code "H". (1) M-2742 (2) M-416B1 (1) M-101A1 (1) M-151A1. The overall condition of the vehicles as far as 1st and 2nd echelon maintenance is good.
- (3) Helicopters during the month were provided by MAG-36 and MAG-39.
- (4) No resupply was moved by helicopter during the month.

- d. Engineer Support. First Platoon, Company G, 3d Engineer Battalion with attachments from other Company G platoons and from Company B supported the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines in April by conducting roadsweeps and supervising bunker building. Roadsweeps were run between Con Thien, Cam Lo, Mai Loc, and halfway from Cam Lo to the Khe Gia Bridge.

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~~SECRET~~e. Services Situation.

- (1) Bakery, ice and laundry facilities at Dong Ha were employed by the battalion during April.

f. Medical.

- (1) A total of 929 patients were treated during the month. There were 352 patients treated at Quang Tri B/S and 92 patients were treated at VCB B/S. A third B/S was established at Cam Lo. A total of 485 patients were treated.
- (2) The Dental facilities of 3rd Dental Battalion and 3rd Medical Battalion saw 71 patients 1st Battalion, 9th Marines.
- (3) During the month of April 3rd Medical Battalion treated 14 hostile battle casualties and 41 non-hostile casualties. The hospital ships treated 2 hostile casualties and 11 non-hostile casualties of this total 16 required medivac to Pacific Area hospitals.
- (4) The immunization of the battalion was begun in April. A total of 437 individuals were immunized in the field. The total number of immunizing inoculations was 1457. This will be continued through May. The main difficulty encountered was adequate troop participation.

8. Personnel and Administration.a. Personnel.(1) Enlisted MOS Shortages

<u>MOS</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>SHORTAGE</u>
0122	Cpl	1
0141	Sgt	3
0239	CySgt	1
0311	Sgt	31
	Cpl	63
0331	Sgt	10
	Cpl	21
0341	Sgt	4
	Cpl	16
	Pvt&PFC	7
0351	Sgt	6
	Cpl	13
0369	ICpl	13
	SSgt	5

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<u>NOB</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>STRENGTH</u>
0431	FTC	1
0441	Cpl	1
0848	CySgt	1
1341	LCpl	1
1441	LCpl	1
2111	Cpl	1
2311	Cpl	1
	LCpl	1
2511	Sgt	1
2531	Pvt@FTC	1
2533	Pvt@FTC	10
2542	LCpl	2
2549	SSgt	1
2811	LCpl	1
2867	SSgt	1
3041	Cpl	2
3051	LCpl	1
3571	Pvt@FTC	1
	Sgt	1
	LCpl	8
3581	CySgt	1
3586	Cpl	1
3591	Cpl	1
5591	Pvt@FTC	4
5711	Sgt	1
5931	Sgt	2
6001	Cpl	1

(2) Rotations during the month (JCMR).

<u>RC OFF</u>	<u>RC ENL</u>	<u>NAV OFF</u>	<u>NAV ENL</u>
0	3	0	3

(3) Enlistments received during the month.

<u>RC OFF</u>	<u>RC ENL</u>	<u>NAV OFF</u>	<u>NAV ENL</u>
2	06	0	5

(4) Casualties. KIA 1 WIA 4 UELNE 2 DON 0

(5) Promotions.

- 1stlt - 1
- CySgt - 1
- SSgt - 3
- Sgt - 4
- Cpl - 2
- LCpl - 75
- FTC - 2

(6) Awards.

- 1 - Bronze Star
- 5 - Navy Commendation Medal
- 16 - Navy Achievement

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b. Administration.(1) Disciplin.

- a. Problems if any: None
- b. Courts Martials. Completed Pending
- | | | |
|------|---|----|
| SPCM | 0 | 10 |
|------|---|----|
- c. Battalion Commanders Officer Hours. 10
- d. Company Commanders Officer Hours. 14

(2) Marine P.X., Postal Affairs and R&T.

- a. P.X. is available at VCB.
- b. Postal facilities are available at VCB.
- c. R&T Centers.

Bangkok -16
 Hawaii -20
 Hong Kong -10
 Kuala Lumpur -2
 Singapore -3
 Sydney -15
 Taipei -7
 Tokyo -6
 Manila -2
 Okinawa -3
 TOTAL .. 84

(3) Chaplain Services.

Protestant - 12
 Catholic - 10

c. Civil Affairs.

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During the month of April 1st Battalion, 9th Marines conducted 3 med-camps at the following grids: YD 096517 and YD 117536. The med-camps treated a total of 110 adults and 225 children, before running out of medical supplies.

The mission of S-5 is to train a group of people in this area and to equip them with adequate medical supplies to treat their own people, instead of waiting for U.S. or Allied forces to conduct a med-camp in the area. This would solve two problems: (1) people in the area would be able to help themselves; (2) U.S. and Allied forces could use their med-camp personnel for operations against the enemy.

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9. Intelligence.

On 1 April 1st Battalion, 9th Marines continued their assigned mission in the Con Thien, Cam Lo, and Mai Loc area.

During the month of April, the battalion has been plagued with civilian activities between C-2, C-3 Bridge, and the bridge near Will 37, where Company A is located. The activities have endangered the security of the battalion's positions, since it is nearly impossible to tell whether VC/VA observers are among the civilians. CJT and JTT have been assisting the battalion to rid a portion of such activity but is unable to fully control the direction and flow of the civilians; since the population in this area is so great. Because of this hazard, 1st Battalion, 9th Marines found many mines planted along Route 9: a bridge was blown near Company A's position; there has been a constant flow of VC/VA into villages; the companies have received incoming rounds in and around their positions, and sporadic sniper fire throughout the TAO.

During the first period of April Company B received sporadic sniper fire from YD 153610, 151609, and 154613. Company B also received small arms fire with 60mm mortar rounds at YD 131640. Company D received mainly incoming 82mm mortars from YD 155665 and 18 rounds of 122mm rockets from YD 05604678. Companies C and D found a total of 2 anti-tank mines and 1 booby trap at YD 073575 and 110696. The mine found by Company C was detonated. Company E also found a bag of TET. Company A made contact twice with an estimated sound at YD 087605 and 092607 resulting in 2 enemy kills. Companies A and B received small arms fire from local PF's shooting holes at YD 146604 and 085603.

During the middle of April Company A received a total of 20 rounds of 60mm, 82mm mortars, and artillery, plus automatic rifle fire from the following grid: YD 093603, 083605 and 085605. Company A also found a total of (1) M-26, spider hole with communications wire, (1) AK-47 magazine, 2 sniper grenades, 2 poncho, 1 poncho liner, and (1) 61mm mortar round. Company B received sniper fire from YD 150608 and 144608, and small arms fire from YD 114542 and 095545 from a phantom motorcycle. Company C found parts of 122mm rockets and a heavily used trail at YD 907025, which was later destroyed by air.

During the end of April the enemy increased their minings, snipers, and contacts with the U.S. and Allied Forces in the battalion's TAO. On 21 April a total of 16 anti-tank mines were found by Company B at YD 080571, 077571, 077571, 064571, 066571, and 096603. (1) mine was detonated by a duster. Company B also received small arms fire and mortars and returned fire with organic weapons resulting in 2 enemy kills and capture of (1) AK-47, (1) SRS, (1) AK-47 magazine, 4 cans of M&A, 10 primers, 10 lbs. of TET, 1 bag of wheat, and 10 bunkers. Company B also found the bridge at YD 078571 destroyed. The way in which the bridge was destroyed indicates the use of a sapper team. On 21 and 23 April Company B received 8 rounds of sniper fire from YD 146606 and tripped (1) M-26 booby trap at YD 112538. Company A captured 2 BVA/VC killine 2 and capturing 1 BVA rocket (1) M-26 and (3) AK-47 magazines, and 2 Chicom grenades.

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On 27 April Company D received 12 rounds of 122mm rockets at UD 132645. Company D also observed (1) personnel carrier receive (1) BFC or mortar round at UD 133663.

The first part of April to the end of April shows a significant increase of enemy movement, sightings, and contacts, which possibly suggests that the enemy is attempting a new offensive or trying to lure more U.S. and Allied Forces from other areas. An agent report that 1st Battalion, 9th Marines received also suggests this possibility. The battalion has also received other agent reports of infiltration routes at UD 099600 and 079592. The reports also stated that Ba Thung and Bac Binh have been VC/NVA hiding places.

The weather throughout April was unrestricted with winds 4-8 knots and temperatures varied from 100 to 85 degrees.

10. Air Support.

- a. Fixed Wing Support: During the month of April 1969 the following fixed wing support was utilized by 1/9.

<u>Date</u>	<u>No. of Flights</u>	<u>Grid</u>	<u>ED Results</u>	<u>A/O Support</u>
20 April	1	088611	100/100, 1 bunker dest. 5 bunkers damaged	Noon Match "B"
20 April	2	055585 059583	100/100 for all	Noon Match "C"
21 April	3	057586	95/95, 9 Secondaries	Noon Match "B"

- b. Helicopter Support: During the month of April helicopters were utilized only for medical evacuation and C&C missions. No helo-lifts were conducted during April.

c. Personnel and Equipment.

Personnel: The air section of 1/9 consisted of two (2) officers and six (6) enlisted for this month. No U.S.T. teams were attached.

Equipment: The only equipment utilized was the F4C-25 and the PFC-21.

11. Fire Support Artillery.

- a. General: Artillery fire support for the month of April consisted primarily of fire missions on targets of opportunity and defensive targets. Due to multiple classroom problems, not as many F&I target fires were conducted as would have been desired.
- b. Significant Events: On the 12th of April, Company A conducted a fire mission on a active enemy mortar tube. It was not determined whether or not the tube was knocked out.

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On the 14th of April, the Army sensing device indicated the presence of 12 PW in the open. A fire mission was called on the indicated grid, C92712, with undetermined results.

On the 15th of April, company C conducted a fire mission on an active enemy mortar tube. One tube was silenced shortly after the mission was initiated.

On the 28th of April, the mobile construction battalion spotted 30 PW through their night observation device. 81mm mortar fire was brought to bear on the target apparently resulting in several wounded PW. Two artillery missions were initiated with adjustments being relayed by the personnel in the ICB observation tower. Before these missions could be brought to the fire for effect stage, the PW were sighted moving into the nearby friendly village and the fire missions were given end of mission.

<u>a. Fire missions fired:</u>	<u>Rounds</u>	<u>Missions</u>
Observed	536	54
Unobserved	120	6
HCI	11,617	901

<u>c. Number of rounds fired:</u>	
105	11,060
155	1,413
107	32

e. Significant Surveillances:

Bunkers Destroyed - 2
Secondary Explosions - 11

13. Communications/Electronics:

- a. General: In April the battalion remained in the Cam Lo, A-4, C-2 and Hai Loc areas and the communications section continued making improvements in communications between and within these areas. Little variation from standard procedures was necessary. Back-up means of communications were implemented in certain cases as normally reliable means proved only semi-reliable at times.
- b. Forward Center: The close proximity and easy accessibility to the battalion rear area from Cam Lo allowed a forward message center to be established and maintained at Cam Lo. A hinderance to this was the lack of an area secure enough to maintain more than a limited amount of classified material.
- c. Wires: The existing wire lines at both C-2 and A-4 were heavily expanded to provide better service. Switchboards were utilized at both positions. Additional wire was laid at ~~Cam Lo~~ employing OED's.

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- d. Radio: Radio communications in this area continued to prove erratic on VHF nets. Directional antennas were maintained at Hai Loc, Cam Lo, Sung Tai and VCB, to improve communications in these areas 292's proved adequate in other areas. Different combinations of 292's and directional antennas were utilized with best results between two vertically polarized directionals and between a vertically polarized directional and a 292. HF equipment was employed as a back up for the administrative net. N1C-68's were employed during the latter portions of the month. There has not been sufficient time to judge their overall performance.
- e. Radio Relay. The radio relay shot was altered slightly to seek a better level of performance. The Cam Lo end continued to be furnished by 9th Marines. The Dong Ha terminal was shifted from 3rd Marines to 3rd Marine Division. This move provided two lines directly into the division switchboard.

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