

1<sup>ST</sup> BATTALION 9<sup>TH</sup> MARINES

COMMAND DIARY/CHRONOLOGY

JUNE 1969

PAGES 21 OF 120  
(NO S-1 JOURNAL)

\*\*\*\*\*

ON FILE BUT NOT INCLUDED

DAILY MESSAGES

OPERATION ORDERS

UNCLASSIFIED

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

3/JPM/em  
00226-9  
& July 1969

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)  
Via: (1) Commanding General; 3rd Marine Division (Rein)  
(2) Commanding General; III Marine Amphibious Force  
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 June to 30 June

Ref: (a) MCO P5750.1  
(b) FMFPACC 5750.8  
(c) 3rd MarDivO 5750.1c

Encl: (1) Command Chronology, June 1969

1. In accordance with 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. Culkin*  
T. J. CULKIN

1ST BN 9TH MAR  
Command Chron

1st BN, 9th MAR  
COPY: 1 OF 15 COPIES  
S & C: 00191-69

UNCLASSIFIED

Unclassified when enclosure (1) is removed.

JAN 1969

UNCLASSIFIED

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

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 June to 30 June 1969

Index

PART I.....ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

PART II.....NARRATIVE SUMMARY

PART III.....SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF  
SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

PART IV.....SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS  
DDP DIS 5900.10

UNCLASSIFIED

ENCLOSURE (1)

UNCLASSIFIED

## PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

<u>1. Designation</u>	<u>Commander</u>	<u>Date</u>
1st Battalion, 9th Marines	Lt. Col. CULKIN	1-30 June 69

SUBORDINATE UNITS

Company A	1st Lt. E.J. CONNELLY III	1-6 June 69
	1st Lt. A.C. BURROUGHS	7-30 June 69
Company B	Capt. K.E. JUNKINS	1-30 June 69
Company C	Capt. J.A. KELLY	1-30 June 69
Company D	Capt. L.F. CHAPMAN III	1-30 June 69
H&S Company	1st Lt. V.J. FORTE	1-30 June 69

ATTACHED UNITS

1st plt, Co. C, 3d Engr Bn.	2nd Lt. J. HENDERSON	1-30 June 69
Company H, 3d Bn, 4thMar	1st Lt. E. KELLEY	1-10 June 69
Company F, 2d Bn, 4thMar	1st Lt. J.A. BETTA	12-17 June 69
Company K, 3d Bn, 4thMar	Capt. R.L. MONJEAU	12-17 June 69

2. Location.

- a. 1-11 June: Battalion (-) at Razorback-Rockpile area, RVN.
- b. 12-23 June: Battalion (-) on Operation Uwah Mesa in southern portion of Khe Sanh Plain, RVN.
- c. 24-30 June: Vandegrift Combat Base, RVN.

3. Staff Officers.

Executive Officer	Major J. GOODWIN	1-30 June 69
S-1	Capt. W. PELTO	1-30 June 69
S-3	Major J.P. McWILLIAMS	1-30 June 69
S-3A	1st Lt. J.H. HARWOOD II	1-30 June 69

UNCLASSIFIED

3

UNCLASSIFIED

FSCC	1st Lt. W. LAWLIS	1-15 June 69
	2nd Lt. R. GLEASON	16-18 June 69
	1st Lt. W. COPELAND	19-30 June 69
FAC	1st Lt. T.J. BILLISON	1-30 June 69
ALO	1st Lt. M.D. OSBORNE	1-14 June 69
LnO	2nd Lt. V.L. RUTAN	9-30 June 69
S-4	1st Lt. R. PETRY	1-30 June 69
Comm O	1st Lt. P.K. STRAW	25-30 June 69
Supply	1st Lt. E.L. SUMMERS	1-30 June 69
MTG	1st Lt. D.P. SULLIVAN	1-30 June 69
Chaplain	Lt. J.E. SHEA	1-30 June 69
Medical Officer	Lt. D.R. HALE	1-30 June 69

4. Average Monthly Strength.

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>OTHER</u>	
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
32	115	2	46	0	0

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

## PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY1. General Overview of all Activities.

From 1 to 11 June the battalion (-) conducted search and destroy operations from company bases in the Razorback-Rockpile area while on Operation Herkimer Mountain.

From 12 to 23 June the battalion (-) participated in search and destroy operations on Operation Utah Mega in the southern portion of the Khe Sanh Plain.

From 24 to 30 June battalion returned to Vandegrift Combat Base to stand down prior to deployment to Okinawa in mid-July.

2. Command Relations.

- a. 1-11 June The battalion (-) was opcon to the 4th Marines.  
12-23 June The battalion (-) was opcon to the 1st Brigade of the 5th Infantry Division (Mech).  
24-30 June The battalion was opcon to the 3d Marine Division.

- b. 1-17 June Company A was opcon to 3d Bn., 4th Marines.  
1-11 June Company B was opcon to 3d Bn., 4th Marines.  
7 & 9-11 June Company C was opcon to 3d Bn., 4th Marines.  
16-23 June Company D was opcon to Squadron B, 1st Brigade of the 5th Infantry Division (Mech).

- c. 1-10 June. The battalion had opcon of Company M, 3d Bn., 4th Marines.  
12-17 June. The battalion had opcon of Company F, 2d Bn., 4th Marines, and of Company K, 3d Bn., 4th Marines.

3. Missions Assigned.

1-11 June The battalion had the mission of conducting search and destroy operations in the Rockpile-Razorback area, with one company on a four hour standby alert and one company on a six hour alert. Road sweep operations were to be conducted from Elliot Combat Base to Cam Lo.

12-23 June The battalion had the mission to assault, land, seize, occupy and defend LZ 715 (XD 942476). Simultaneously, to land one company in a covered helicopterborne landing at FSB CATES. From 715 and CATES to conduct search and destroy operations in zone and seize, occupy and defend LZ HAWK (XD 896407) to cover passage of armored elements on Route 9 and to serve as a covered LZ for further operations to the west. On order to deploy west via Route 9 to the Khe Sanh Plain for joint-combined armor and/or infantry operation. On order to attack in zone to seize, occupy and defend Task Force Hotel Objectives 2 and A. To clear and

UNCLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

preserve security of Route 9 from VCB to LZ HAWK and LZ STORMY as directed.

15-17 June One company to act as a one hour reaction force from Cates.

16-23 June After a change in AO, the battalion was assigned the mission:

- (a) To continue operations in AO ALICE. On 17 June 69 airlift Companies B and C to LZ HEDGEHOG and conduct search and destroy operation in AO CATBY. Eastern boundary will be the present boundary between Joint Task Group Guadalcanal and 9th Regiment until further notice.
- (b) Orient initially on objectives B, J, and D. Search stream line and all possible cache locations. Recon Obj. D for possible use as a fire base for a 105mm support battery.
- (c) Be prepared to conduct extensive search operations in Obj. "V" and/or Obj. "M". Obj. "V" is of primary interest. (See TAB A to Annex D: Operation Overlay to 1/9 Frag Order 19-69).

24-30 June The battalion was assigned the mission to

- (a) Stand down from tactical operations, prepare for embarkation and deploy to Okinawa in accordance with Annex B to 9th Marines Operation Order 6-69.
- (b) Supervise and coordinate the embarkation of Embarkation Unit A-1.

4. Intelligence. From the Utah Mesa Operation area readout JAL/r1b of 13 June 69, prepared by the 3d Marine Division G-2, it was known that 3 battalions of the 577th Regiment, 304th Division, with unidentified support companies, were operating in the Khe Sanh Plateau area. From 17 to 23 June, the battalion made numerous contacts with small enemy forces of less than company size and discovered a well dug-in bunker complex in grid square XD 8625. The area was searched thoroughly. On 18 June, H&S Company captured a wounded NVA at XD 900909. The POW was interrogated by a sub-team from the 15th ITT and it was discovered both that the prisoner had been a rice carrier and that his training in North Vietnam had been limited. The POW died of shock before he could be medevac'd.

#### 5. Operations.

1-11 June The battalion was on Operation Herkimer Mountain.

12-23 June The battalion was on Operation Utah Mesa.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

6. Results of Operations.

	Herkimer Mountain	Utah Mesa
a. Enemy KIA.	0	67
b. USMC KIA.	1	12
USMC WIAE	7	31
USMC WIANE	4	4

## c. Equipment, ordnance, and supplies captured or destroyed:

- Herkimer Mt.: (1) Equipment: 1 camouflage parachute, 1 plastic bag, 1 pair khaki shorts, 1 pair green tennis shoes, 1 bandage, 1 hammock, 1 spoon with inscription: KY2 NIEM-KHE/SANH.
- (2) Supplies: 10 powdered food packets, 1 canteen (USMC) full of cooked rice, 1 bottle fish oil.
- Utah Mesa: (1) Equipment: 4 AK-47 rifles, 1 SKS rifle, 2 AK-50 machineguns, 1 grenade pouch, 6 mess kits, 7 gas masks with cannisters, 1 small pouch, 8 canvas covers (grey-green), 3 rolls rubber seals, 1 wash cloth, 2 green shirts, 24 brown shirts, 7 green T-shirts, 1 rainsuit, 2 helmets, 1 poncho liner, 2 batteries for demolition charges, 6 coils communication wire, 8 first aid kits, 3 canteens, 1 E-tool, 3 bowls, 6 rope lengths, 1 handset (US), 1 headset (Communist), 1 pair earphones, 1 ground cable, 23 pieces of surgical gear, 2 hypodermic needles of unknown size, 1 broken syringe, 5 intravenous sets, 1 box medical needles, 2 survival kit saws, 1 pair grey trousers, 2½ sets green utilities, 3 flash lights, 5 WP bags, 1 unused wallet, 4 pair socks, 4 communist battle dressings, 8 mosquito nets, 1 test light, 1 box radio gear, 1 green belt, 1 pair overalls, 1 medical book, 16 ampules, 1 box needles, 1 pair thermostats, 1 catheter, 14 packs, 1 enema set up, 2 poncho, 2 uniform caps, 2 knives, 1 rifle cleaning kit, 1 K-13 AR, 2 rifle grenade attachments.
- (2) Ordnance: 34 Chicom grenades, 48 RPG rounds, 1 82mm mortar round, 1 box 12.7mm ammunition, 12 Bangalore torpedoes, 6 Soviet plastic anti-tank mines, 9 rifle grenades, 5 82mm primers, 7 rifle grenades, 77 lbs. TNT, 5 unknown shotgun shells.

DECLASSIFIED



UNCLASSIFIED

- (3) Supplies: 1 bottle unknown tablets, 2 unused rice bags, 1 bag of beans, 4 50 lb. bags of rice, 1 bottle unknown pills (USSR), 1 bottle saturated cotton balls, 3 bottles of yellow injection fluid, 4 bottles of white injection fluid, 1 tube unknown salve, 9 propane penicillin-dry, 5 bottles streptomycin, 1 bottle unknown substance.

7. Supporting Arms.

a. Artillery.

- (1) Artillery support during Operation Herkimer Mountain consisted of H&I missions and counterbattery fires.
- (2) During Operation Utah Mesa artillery support consisted of many preparation fires, several missions on enemy troops in the open, and two contact missions. Preparation fires were shot almost daily over large areas where there were known NVA elements operating. Approximately 2000 rounds of HE were fired on observed missions and 660 rounds HE on H&I and high volume fires.
- (3) Significant Events.

13 June Company B received 12-15 rounds of 105mm howitzer fire resulting in 13 WIA's when rocket suppression fire was shot without the battalion's clearance.

18 June Company C fired 425 rounds in a contact mission resulting in 15 NVA KIA's. The 81mm mortar platoon found 1 NVA with shrapnel wounds in his legs and back due to artillery fire.

19 June Company D fired 90 rounds in a contact mission killing 1 NVA.

b. Air.

- (1) Fixed Wing Support. During the month of June 1969, the following fixed wing support was used by the battalion:

<u>Date</u>	<u>No. Flts.</u>	<u>Coord.</u>	<u>EDA</u>	<u>AO Support</u>
12 June	3	XD 943476	90/90 prep strike	Smitty India
14 June	1	XD 850374	100/100 enemy base camp	Smitty Oscar
15 June	1	XD 885362	TPQ enemy bunker	
		XD 900360	rocket position	N/A
18 June	1	XD 868360	100/100 3 secondary explosions	Cloudy Sky "C"

DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

19 June	2	XD 8636	100/100 enemy position	Cloudy Sky "B"
	1	XD 860357	100/100 3 bunkers destroyed	Barky 17
20 June	4	XD 859359	2 possible KBA	Cloudy Sky "2" Seaworthy 98-14 98-10 98-4
	1	XD 859357	100/100 unknown	Cloudy Sky "B"
	1	XD 858352	95/95 2 secondary fires	Cloudy Sky "M"
	1	XD 858354	100/100 secondary fires	Cloudy Sky "M"
21 June	1	XD 8535	70/70 unknown	Barky 15
23 June	1	XD 858353	100/100 3 enemy bunkers	Barky 15

(2) AO Support

<u>Date</u>	<u>No. of Flights</u>	<u>Hrs.</u>	<u>Work Done</u>
1 June	1	1	VR for C/1/9 & D/1/9
2 June	2	1	VR for C/1/9
3 June	1	1	VR for C/1/9
4 June	3	1½	VR for C/1/9
5 June	1	½	VR for C/1/9
12 June	3	3	Troop lift of 1/9 and preparatory air strike
14 June	2	2	VR for D/1/9
	2	1	Air strike enemy Base Camp
17 June	2	2	Troop lift for 1/9
18 June	2	2	VR for D/1/9
	1	½	VR for C/1/9
	2	2	Air strikes enemy position and bunker
19 June	3	2½	Air strikes enemy position
20 June	1	2	VR for 1/9
	3	2	Air strikes enemy position
21 June	2	1½	Air strikes enemy position
22 June	2	2	Air strikes enemy position and bunkers
23 June	1	3	Troop lift for 1/9

(3) Helicopter Support. During the month of June the following helicopter support was used by 1/9.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Units Lifted</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>A/C Utilized</u>
12 June	Co. C; Co. B	VCB	Hill 715	6 CH-46's; 2 UH1-E's
13 June	Co. D; H&S Co.	VCB	FSB CATES	6 CH-46's; 2 UH1-E's
17 June	Co. B; Co. D; H&S Co.	FSB CATES	XD 862398	5 CH-46's; 2 UH1-E's
23 June	Co. A; Co. B; Co. C; H&S Co.	XD 8635	VCB	6 CH-46's; 2 UH1-E's

DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

- (4) Personnel. The air section of the battalion consisted of 2 officers and 6 enlisted men during this month. In conjunction, 4 HST teams were also employed.
- (5) Equipment. The air section utilized the PRC-25 for all communications during the month.

8. Logistics.

a. Supply and Distribution.

- (1) The primary source of supply for the battalion is FLSG-B.
- (2) Significant items in short supply are water cans and entrenching tools.
- (3) The battalion employs unit distribution.

b. Resupply.

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

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>NUMBER POUNDS</u>
I	116,200
II	110,830
III	
IV	
V	56,941

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

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>NUMBER POUNDS</u>
H&S	63,199
"A"	29,600
"B"	38,233
"C"	82,810
"D"	69,529

- (3) The battalion had hot meals every day while at VCB.

c. Transportation.

- (1) Vehicles made administrative, troop moving, and resupply trips between Quang Tri and VCB.
- (2) The following vehicles have been coded "H": (1) M-151A1, (1) M-101A1. The overall condition of the vehicles as far as 1st and 2nd echelon maintenance is good.
- (3) Helicopters during the month were provided by MCG-39.
- (4) 283,971 pounds of supplies were moved by helicopter during the month.

DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

9. Communications-Electronics.

- a. General: Normal communications were maintained at VCB from 1 to 11 June. From 12 to 23 June communications resupply was adequate during Operation Utah Mesa. Normal communications at VCB were resumed and maintained during the stand down from 23 to 30 June.
- b. Message Center: The message center functioned as per standard operating procedure. One man was utilized as a courier during Operation Utah Mesa and two men were cross-trained in radio operation.
- c. Wire: All wire lines and cables were completely elevated on poles in the battalion area at VCB. A very small amount of additional wire was required for this task.
- d. Radio: During Operation Utah Mesa radio communication was excellent. While the battalion CP was located at FSB CATES, loud and clear communications were maintained with the battalion rear at Quang Tri and with VCB. On 16 June a relay was sent to Hill 950 which provided excellent radio communications with Quang Tri and VCB when the CP moved into the south Khe Sanh Plain.
- e. Radio Relay: Radio Relay communications were not utilized by the battalion during the month of June.

10. Equipment.

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

(1) <u>MOTOR TRANSPORT</u>	<u>ALLOWANCE</u>	<u>OH</u>	<u>OP-READY</u>
M-154A1	20	17	16
M-37B1	4	5	2
MRC-109	2	1	0
MRC-83	2	1	1
MRC-37	1	1	1
M-170	1	1	1
M-274A2	30	31	30
M-107	5	4	4
M-149	5	4	4
M-416B1	18	16	16
HPCU	1	1	0
M-250	1	1	1
M-12	1	1	0
M-101A1	4	1	1

DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

(2)	<u>COMMUNICATION</u>	<u>ALLOWANCE</u>	<u>OH</u>	<u>OP-RE/DY</u>
	PP-4567/U A0090	5	2	2
	PP-388/U A1240	1	1	1
	PP-2953 A1260	1	1	1
	AN/PPS-6 A1420	10	6	6
	AN/CRA-39 A1730	12	12	11
	AN/MRC-125 A1300	7	7	7
	AN/MRC-83 A1900	2	1	1
	AN/MRC-87 A1910	1	1	1
	AN/MRC-109 A1920	2	1	0
	AN/PRC-25 A1930	75	70	65
	AN/PRC-41 A2010	3	3	3
	AN/PRC-47 A2020	5	3	2
	AN/PRC-77 A2050	19	1	1
	AN/PRC-88 A2055	180	100	100
	AN/URR-23A A2230	1	1	1
	SB-22/PT A2480	5	5	5

DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

AN/TGC-14 A2530	3	3	2
TA-3/FT A2640	94	33	33
TA-312/PT A2650	35	35	34
AN/GGC-3 A2660	1	1	1
AN/TGC-14 A2670	2	1	1
KY-8	3	3	3
KY-38	22	22	22
PU-348 B0370	1	1	0

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

(1) <u>MOTOR TRANSPORT</u>	<u>QTY</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
M-97B1	2	(1) FLSG-B (1) 1st FSR
M-101A1	1	FLSG-B
M-151A1	1	1st FSR
M-12	1	Evac 3rd FSR
M-274A2	1	Evac 1st FSR
MRC 109	1	Evac 3rd FSR

11. Personnel and Administration.

a. Personnel.

(1) Enlisted MOS Shortages

<u>MOS</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>SHORTAGE</u>
0121	Cpl	1
0141	Sgt	1
	LCpl	5
	PFC	2
0231	SSgt	1
0239	GrSgt	1

DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

0311	Sgt	36
	Cpl	49
0331	Sgt	11
	Cpl	12
0341	Sgt	7
	Cpl	5
0351	Sgt	5
	LCpl	38
0369	GySgt	1
	SSgt	6
0431	Sgt	1
0441	SSgt	1
0848	GySgt	1
1341	LCpl	1
1441	LCpl	1
2111	Cpl	1
2511	Cpl	1
	PFC	10
2523	Cpl	1
	LCpl	3
2542	Cpl	2
2549	SSgt	1
3041	Sgt	1
	Cpl	1
3051	LCpl	1
	PFC	1
3371	SSgt	1
	Cpl	1
	LCpl	6
3516	LCpl	1
3521	LCpl	3
5521	PFC	1
5711	Sgt	1
5931	Sgt	2

(2) Officer MOS Shortages

0202	Capt	1
0302	Capt	2
	Lt	8
0402	Capt	1
2502	Capt	1
3002	Lt	1
3502	Lt	1
9910	Lt	1

(3) Rotations during Month (CONUS)

<u>MC OFF</u>	<u>MC ENL</u>	<u>NAV OFF</u>	<u>NAV ENL</u>
8	64	0	12

DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

(4) Replacements received during the month.

<u>MC OFF</u>	<u>MC ENL</u>	<u>NAV OFF</u>	<u>NAV ENL</u>
4	107	0	12

(5) Casualties

KIA	- 12
WIAE	- 31
WI/NE	- 8
DOD	- 2
NBC	- 14

(6) Promotions.

Sergeants	- 5
Corporals	- 36
Lance Corporal	- 86
PFC	- 26

(7) Awards.

Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry	- 99
Navy Commendation Medal	- 2
Silver Star	- 5
Navy Achievement Medal	- 3

b. Administration.(1) Discipline.

(a) Art. 86, 90, 91		
(b) Courts-Martial	<u>Completed</u>	<u>Pending</u>
GCM	0	2
SpCM	3	3
SCM	0	0

(c) Battalion Commander's Office Hours - 3  
 (d) Company Commander's Office Hours - 5

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

(a) P.X. is available at VCB.  
 (b) Postal facilities are available at VCB.  
 (c) R&R Quotas.

Bangkok	-17
Hawaii	-18

DECLASSIFIED



UNCLASSIFIED

R&R Quotas (cont.)

Hong Kong	- 12
Kuala Lumpur	- 3
Singapore	- 5
Taipei	- 9
Tokyo	- 6
Sydney	- 15
Manila	- 2
Okinawa	- 3

(3) Chaplain Services

(a) Protestant	- 9
(b) Catholic	- 33
(c) Memorial Services	- 1

12. Training. During the month of June the following schools quotas were filled:

- a. Staff NCO School - 3
- b. NCO School - 2
- c. Land Mine, Bobby Trap, and Demolition School - 2

DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

## PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. Significant Events during or in direct relation to combat operations.

1 JUNE At 0100H at XD 960565, Company D received 2 82mm mortar rounds approximately 60 meters from their position. There were no casualties. At 1430 the battalion AO was changed to provide better coverage of Route 9 north of VCB. (Ref: Spot Rep. 010100H June 69).

2 JUNE At 1800H Company C received approximately 10 rounds of 60mm mortar fire XD 966589 and observed 3 enemy at XD 969593. The company fired 60mm mortars and artillery in counterbattery and at the enemy, claiming 2 probables. The company sustained 9 WIA's. (Ref: Spot Rep. 021915H June 69).

3 JUNE At 0835H at YD 018565, Company M, 3d Bn, 4th Marines, opcon to the battalion, reported that a duster hit a land mine on Road Sweep 309 of Route 9 after crossing a bridge. The duster was unable to move under its own power, but there were no casualties. Civilians in the immediate area were detained and interrogated by an IPT team, then released. Company M kept the road from Elliot Combat Base to Khe Gio Bridge closed until it could be swept completely. The duster was evacuated by its own unit. (Ref: Spot Reps 030845H June 69 and 031015H June 69).

4 JUNE At 1045H, Company M, 3/4, reported that 2 enemy snipers 100 meters from north gate of Elliot Combat Base fired on a vehicle in the area. The number of rounds and enemy grid were undetermined. There were no casualties; the vehicle reported the incident to its unit. At 1050H, Company M, 3/4, sighted 15 civilians at YD 010592. Upon checking their identification and belongings, the company found 4 M-26 grenades. Three civilians were taken to the national police and the grenades were confiscated (Ref: Spot Reps 041045H June 69 and 041330H June 69).

5 JUNE There were no significant events during this day.

6 JUNE At 0345H the entire 4th Marines, to whom the battalion was opcon was placed on 100% alert by 3rd Marine Division Headquarters and by Task Force Hotel. At 0905H the battalion received 2 volleys of 107mm rockets from suspected enemy position at XD 9424485, 4 rockets on the 1st volley, 2 in the second, resulting in 1 KIA and 7 WIA's. Counterbattery fire was called in on 6 grids with unknown results. At 0875H, Company M, 3/4, reported enemy at XD 977555. Sign of recent enemy activity in the area indicated its use as a sleeping area. (Ref: Spot Reps 060345H June 69, 060945H June 69 and 060916H June 69).

7 JUNE At 0700H, Company A became opcon to 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines. The company was trucked to Ca Lu and conducted a tactical march to FSB SHEPHERD to provide fire base security. At 1615H, the battalion AO was extended (see message 071615H June 69) as a platoon of Company D was sent to XD 997495 to search for rockets. At 1720H, in response to an increase in enemy activity,

DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

the battalion had Companies D and M, 3/4, orient their search and destroy operations to seize the most defensible terrain in grid squares XD 9450 and XD 9550. At 1830H, Company D, at XD 947543 heard movement and pursued the enemy until dark. The enemy discarded the following gear, which the company captured: 1 camouflaged parachute, 10 powdered food packets, 1 bag precooked chow, 1 plastic bag, 1 pair khaki shorts, 1 pair green tennis shoes, 1 canteen (USMC) full of cooked rice, 1 bandage, 1 bottle of fish oil, 1 hammock, and a spoon with the inscription: KY 2 NIEM-KHE/SANH. 81mm and 60mm mortar fires were also called in with unknown results. (Ref: Frag 0 16-69 and Spot Rep. 072030H June 69).

8 JUNE At 2145H, the recon relay station at ECB, using a PPS-6, detected 1 vehicle and 5 enemy at XD 930562. 81 mortar and artillery missions were called in, with unknown results. (Ref: Spot Rep. 080720H June 69).

9 JUNE There were no significant events this day.

10 JUNE At 2010H, at XD 999565, Company M, 3/4, found a downed CH-46 helicopter. The crew had already been helilifted out. The cause of the downing seemed to be .50 cal. fire as evidenced by holes in the plane. A squad was left behind as security until a recovery team arrived. At 2130H the battalion AO, along with Company M, 3/4, was chopped to 3rd Bn., 4th Marines. (Ref: Spot Rep. 102030H June 69 and Message 102140H June 69).

11 JUNE At 0615H, a frag order from 3rd Bn., 4th Marines had Company D (-) helilift to LZ R/M to maintain a 24-hour alert. At 1800H, the battalion became opcon to Task Force Hotel. At 1845H, Companies K, 3/4, and F, 3/4, became opcon to the battalion. (Ref: Messages 111545H June 69 and 111825H June 69).

12 JUNE At 1000H the battalion (-) lifted from VCB, Company D and H&S Company going to FSB CATES, Companies C and B going to Hill 715. At 2215H at XD 920420, Company D, in setting up an ambush, exploded a booby-trap hung in the trees and suffered 2 KIA's and 4 NIA's (Ref: Spot Rep. 130850H June 69).

13 JUNE At 1000H, Company B received 12-18 rounds of 105mm artillery and suffered 13 WIA's. At 1530H, Company C heard mortar rounds impacting at XD 914396. It appeared that the enemy was registering fires on Route 9. Artillery was called in on XD 880288 where the tubes were determined to be and the fire ceased. (Ref: Spot Reps 131145H June 69 and 131605H June 69).

14 JUNE At 0715H at XD 900404, Company D observed 2 volleys of 82mm mortar fire, the second volley being adjusted towards their position. The rounds impacted 400 meters from the company and the tube was determined to be 4300 meters away. Artillery was adjusted on the enemy position. At 1730H the battalion issued a frag order to prepare for the second stage of the operation: a 2-pronged armor and/or infantry attack across the Khe Sanh Plain. (Ref: Spot Rep 140945H June 69 and Frag 0 18-69).

15 JUNE There were no significant events this day.

DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

16 JUNE At 0655H, Company A was chopped open to the 1st Brigade of the 5th Infantry Division (Mech). At 1045H, Company D was also chopped to the 1st of the 5th. At 1200, the battalion received a frag order from Joint Task Group Guadalcanal in which 1/9 was to lift Companies B and C into LZ HEDGEHOG, XD 855386, and conduct search and destroy operations in AO CATHY (see TAB A to ANNEX D); The companies were to orient initially on objectives B, J, and D, and were to be prepared to conduct extensive search operations in Objective "V" or "M". (Ref: Messages 161030H June 69, 161000H June 69, and 161200H June 69)

17 JUNE At 0700H, Company A chopped back to 1/9 and at 1700H Companies F, 2/4, and K 3/4, chopped back to their parent units. (Ref: Messages 161945H June 69 and 170645H June 69).

18 JUNE At 0400H at XD 861869 an ambush set by Company C was approached on 2 sides by an estimated 6-10 enemy. The ambush threw grenades at the noise of the enemy approach and the enemy withdrew. Numerous fresh trails were found in the area. At 0700H, Companies A and D received small arms fire at XD 883383 and suffered 1 KIA and 6 WIA's. Fire was returned with M-16's and hand thrown grenades, killing 6 enemy. The area was searched and the following weapons and equipment were found: 2 AK-47 magazines; 12 Chicom grenades, 2 RFG rounds; 1 billfold with identification papers; 1 JSMC gas mask bag; 1 bag of rice; a hammock; a shaving kit; and a list of men reporting to the enemy battalion (2nd Company, 6th Battalion of the 26th Regiment). At 1130H at XD 867367, the 81mm mortar platoon came upon a wounded NVA who had been carried in a litter. The litterbearers had fled at the battalion's approach. The POW was interrogated by an ITT team. He died of exposure and shock at 1430H. At 1200H, Company A found 2 large bowls of fried rice, still warm, and checked out all possible enemy positions. At 1030H, Company C encountered a well-entrenched enemy .50 cal. machine-gun position with automatic weapons and suffered 9 KIA's and 14 WIA's. The company assaulted and secured the position and directed air strikes on the enemy situated on the high ground. Artillery was called in as the enemy moved into a draw. A total of 35 enemy were killed. Four AK-47 rifles and 16 Chicom grenades were captured. (Ref: Spot Reps. 181452H, 180815H, 180825H, 182120H, and 181200H June 69).

19 JUNE From 1000H to 1800H at XD 864351 Company C found and searched out an enemy bunker complex of 60-70 bunkers with extensive trail networks and communications lines. Many bunkers had been destroyed by the air and artillery strikes of 18 June; there was a great deal of blood on trees and trails. Additional movement was sighted and air and artillery missions were called in, resulting in 7 enemy KIA's. Captured weapons and equipment were: 1 SKS rifle; 9 Chicom grenades; 4 AK-47 magazines; 7 rifle grenades; 100 rounds 12.7mm ammunition; 18 RFG rounds; 1 82mm mortar round; 1 K-13 AR; 1 R-13 round; 2 rifle grenade attachments; 77 lbs TNT; 12 Bangalore torpedoes; 3 flash lights; 3 first aid kits; 3

DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

canteens; 5 WP bags; 1 E-tool; 3 bowls; 1 un-used wallet; 5 unknown shot gun shells; 4 pair socks; 4 Communist battle dressings; 1 cloth pouch; 8 mosquito nets; 6 lengths rope; 1 bottle insect repellent (U.S.); 1 hand set (U.S.); 1 head-set (Communist); 1 pair ear phones with mike; 7 gas masks (with cannisters of varied types); 1 small pouch; 8 canvas covers (green-gray); 3 rolls rubber seals; 1 wash cloth; 1 comb; 1 unused rice bag, 1 enema set; 1 tooth brush; 1 tube ointment; 3 plastic bags; 2 ponchos; 2 green shirts; 4 brown shirts; 7 green T-shirts; 1 cigarette lighter; 1 bag beans; 1 fountain pen; 2 ball point refills; miscellaneous stamrs; various pictures; 1 handkerchief; unmailed letters; 1 rain suit; 2 helmets mosquito nets; 1 poncho liner; 4 50lb bags of rice; 2 batteries for demolition charges; 6 large coils communication wire; 10 miscellaneous papers; 1 ground cable; 1 test light; 1 box radio gear; 1 green shirt, 1 belt green; 1 pair overalls brown (light weight); miscellaneous surgical gear (new stainless steel); 2 surgical plastic (green); 1 book medical (medevacs); 1 20cc syringe; 5 #8 needles; 2 unknown size needles; 1 broken syringe; 9 propane penicillin dry; 1 5cc syringe (glass); 1 2cc syringe (plastic); 1 bottle pills (USMC), 5 intravenous sets; 3 medical manuals; 1 roll gauze, 1 small roll camouflage tape, 16 ampules; 1 box needles (3 types); 1 50cc syringe (glass); 1 pack large ampules; 1 bottle saturated cotton; 5 bottles streptomycin; 3 packages roller gauze; 3 tourniquets, 1 pair thermostats; 1 catheter; 1 tube salve; 1 bottle unknown pills; 1 bottle unknown substance; 2 survival kit saws; 1 pair grey trousers; 2 1/2 sets green utilities; 1 pouch; 14 packs; 2 caps; 2 knives; 1 rifle cleaning kit; 1 bottle unknown tablets; 1 grenade pouch; 3 bottles of yellow injection fluid; 4 bottles of white injection fluid. After finding this bunker complex, the battalion directed that 2 companies conduct extensive search and destroy operations in the area while one company remained as a reaction force. (Ref: Spot Rep. 191945H June and Frag Order 20-69).

20 JUNE At 1000H Companies B and C received small arms fire from XD 857354. UH-1E gunships and 81mm mortar fire was called in, killing 4 enemy. Company C pursued the enemy to XD 868353. OV-10's and fixed wing were called in, killing one enemy. At 1400H, UH-1E gunships received automatic weapons fire at XD 853354 and fixed wing strikes killed 4 enemy. One friendly WIA was reported by Company B. Company C, at XD 853352, found an estimated 47 heavily reinforced bunkers and directed fixed wing air strikes onto them. At 1845H, a fixed wing air strike on a bunker complex at XD 858352 produced 2 secondary explosions. At 2100H at XD 866382 Company B reported movement towards their lines estimated to be 10-20 enemy. The lines fired one burst of small arms fire and threw grenades at the suspected enemy positions, killing one enemy but without drawing return fire. Inspection showed many new trails in the area. In Frag Order 21-69, the battalion directed that Companies A and C conduct a 2-pronged operation into the bunker complex to further check it out. (Ref: Spot Reps 201000H, 201830H, and 20 1845H June 69).

DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

21 JUNE At 1500H at XD 854354, Company C found an old enemy position and captured 6 anti-tank mines (plastic) and 9 RPG rounds. Two mines and 8 RPG rounds were destroyed. From 2100H until 0400H the next morning, Company B had heavy movement at XD 866361 from 2 groups of 15-20 enemy. Company B threw grenades and fired 60mm and 81mm mortars with negative results. (Ref: Spot Reps 211500H June 69).

22 JUNE At 1830H, Company C observed 3 enemy crossing a stream. Artillery was adjusted in, killing 2 of the enemy. The battalion commander was informed verbally by the C.O. of the 1st Brigade of the 5th Infantry Division (Mech) and by the C.O., 9th Marines, that 1/9 would be embarking within a month for Okinawa. (Ref: 221830H June 69).

23 JUNE The battalion helilifted back to VCB to begin preparations for the stand-down and embarkation.

2. Other Significant Events.

23 JUNE 1825H the battalion became opcon to 9th Marines.

24 JUNE There were no significant events during this day.

25 JUNE At 0800H, the battalion became opcon to the 3rd MarDiv.

26 JUNE There were no significant events during this day.

27 JUNE At 0945H, at VCB, the battalion received one suspected 107mm rocket in Company A's area, resulting in 10 WIA's. The fact was reported to base defense.

28-29 JUNE At approximately 1000-1200 on each of these days, 3 to 5 rockets impacted near the battalion area. There were no casualties.

28 JUNE The battalion received the 9th Marine Operation Order 6-69 effecting stand down and embarkation to Okinawa.

29-30 JUNE There were no significant events during this period.

DECLASSIFIED