

HEAD QUARTERS
Battalion Landing Team 3/26
9th Marine Amphibious Brigade
APO San Francisco 96302

DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

3/28/7/0no
3100
11 April 1969

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1-31 March 1969

Ref: (a) TEO 5750.2A
(b) MFP Pass 5750.2A
(c) BEO 5750.10

Incl: (1) Command Chronology for March 1969

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a), (b) and (c), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. This letter may be downgraded to unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

E. W. Smiling
E. W. SMILING

DESTRUCTION

- CG, 1st Div (7)
- CG, 9th MAB (15)
- CG, 25th MAB (1)
- AFM 1111 (2)
- NAF Bravo (10)
- CG, 5th MAB (1)
- CG, 7th MAB (1)

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BRT 3/26

Mar 1969

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HEADQUARTERS
Battalion Landing Team 3/26
9th Marine Amphibious Brigade
APO San Francisco 96302

3100
11 April 1969

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
1 March to 31 March 1969

- PART I ORGANIZATIONAL DATA
- PART II HISTORICAL SUMMARY
- PART III GLOSSARY LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT TERMS
- PART IV SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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11 April 1969

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PAGE 1
OPERATIONAL PLAN

DESIGNATION

DET 3/26

COMMANDER

1st Lt J.W.P. BUEBENOW
(1-31 Mar 69)
1st Lt L.W. MULLINS
(4-31 Mar 69)

SUBORDINATE UNITS

REG Company

Capt G.S. LILGAN
(1-31 Mar 69)
1st Lt L.R. MILLER
(12-26 Mar 69)
1st Lt W.P. FRITH
(27-31 Mar 69)

Company I

1st Lt R.J. HOWE
(1-10 Mar 69)
Capt G.D. LILGAN
(11-28 Mar 69)
Capt R. FURNACE
(29-31 Mar 69)

Company K

Capt R.D. BAIRD
(1-31 Mar 69)

Company L

1st Lt F.D. HILSON
(1-10 Mar 69)
1st Lt W.G. HEDGECOCK
(11-31 Mar 69)

Company M

Company N

1st Lt D.H. CRAMER
1-31 Mar 69)

ATTACHED UNITS

1st Plt (Rein), A Co, 5th SF Bn
2nd Plt (Rein), A Co, 5th SF Bn
3rd Plt A Co, 5th Recon Bn
3rd Plt C Co, 5th Recon Bn
3rd Plt (Rein), B Co, 5th Airborne Bn
3rd Plt A Co, 5th Airborne Bn
D.L. Hill, 5th Recon Bn
D.L. Hill, 26th Infantry
D.L. Hill, 26th Infantry
D.L. Hill, 26th Infantry
D.L. Hill, 26th Infantry
D.L. Hill, 26th Infantry
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11 April, 1969

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DELETION OF INFORMATION

1st Lt

1st Lt J. H. BOST
(1-31 Mar 69)

1st Lt (A) (A) (A) (A)

1st Lt D. D. VIGOR
(1-31 Mar 69)

Personnel Officer

1st Lt D. D. VIGOR
(1-31 Mar 69)

2nd Lt J. E. GILSON
(9-26 Mar 69)

1st Lt S. L. BROWN
(27-31 Mar 69)

1st Lt

1st Lt D. K. BURNETT
(1-31 Mar 69)

1st Lt

1st Lt J. D. BURNETT JR.
(1-4 Mar 69)

1st Lt L. B. LEBLANC
(5-31 Mar 69)

1st Lt

2nd Lt J. W. BURNS
(1-31 Mar 69)

1st Lt

Capt J. W. BURNETT
(1-31 Mar 69)

Comp O

1st Lt J. A. HODGSON
(1-31 Mar 69)

Comp O

Capt J. W. BURNETT
(1-31 Mar 69)

2nd Lt J. D. BURNETT
(20-31 Mar 69)

1st Lt

1st Lt J. W. BURNETT
(1-31 Mar 69)

1st Lt D. L. BURNETT
(1-31 Mar 69)

Company

1st Lt J. W. BURNETT
(1-31 Mar 69)

1st Lt J. W. BURNETT
(6-31 Mar 69)

AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

USG
OCT 1974
88 1799

USG
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ENCLOSURE (1)

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11 April 1969

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A. GENERAL (S) During the first eight days of March, BIF 3/26 was involved in Operation Taylor Gorman and was operating in the "Arizona Territory" A.O. west of An Hoa combat base. The majority of enemy activity during this period was located in the southern half of the A.O. and three companies (Middle, Kilo, and Lima) were designated to move into this area on a search and destroy mission, while Lima Company remained as C.P. security. All three sweeping companies found themselves in heavy contact as they moved further to the south. The reason for the enemy's tenacity soon became apparent as approximately 20 rocket, mortar and recoilless rifle sites were found in positions which allowed them to fire, line of sight, on An Hoa combat base. Upon the quantity of ammunition found, both small arms and mortars and recoilless rifle, it became obvious that the NVA force was withdrawing rapidly in front of the BIF.

On 08 March 1969, Operation Taylor Gorman came to an official close. The BIF's record for the operation was 295 VC/NVA KIA and 27 POW's with 33 missing KIA and 149 missing MIA.

From the eighth through the twenty-second of March, the BIF continued its mission in the Arizona A.O.; concentrating on the southern half of the A.O. On the thirteenth, the BIF 3rd along with the 61st Platoon displaced to a position closer to the companies in the lowlands. The companies maintained fairly static positions and conducted patrols and sweeps to secure this area of the A.O.

Contact during this period was limited to small scale ambushes and about nightly probes reported by mortars and recoilless rifles with one exception on the seventeenth Lima Company, while moving to its CPB came under intense small arms and mortar fire from an estimated NVA company in repeated positions in a U-shape approximately 700 meters in width. Air strikes, artillery and CI's were called in on the area which resulted in numerous casualties to the enemy as evidenced by the quantities of blood, body fragments, weapons and 7-8 cows found the next day by patrols in the area.

On the twentieth, Lima Company initiated a flip-flop between 2/5 Marine and BIF 3/26 in a helicopter movement which lifted them to An Hoa combat base. The balance of the BIF followed on the twenty-second of March.

On 23 March 1969, the BIF along with "C" Btry 1/13 and "F" Btry 1/13 were dropped from Opcon 5th Marines to Opcon 7th Marines and moved by sea way to Lang Vain and a seven day march period.

On 31 March 1969, the BIF helilifted into the "Charlie Ridge / Wagon Valley" area to commence Operation "Oklahoma Hills" along with units of the 7th Marines and 51st ARVN's.

B. ADMINISTRATIVE (S) During the period 1-23 March 1969, the BIF's administrative zone was located at An Hoa combat base; battalion supply was located at BIC An Dong. From 23-31 March 1969, the administrative zone was located at Lang Vain, INM 55 with battalion supply still located at BIC An Dong.

- Number of USMC officers joined.....(7)
- Number of USMC enlisted joined.....(15)
- Number of USMC officers transferred.....(24)
- Number of USMC enlisted transferred.....(179)
- Number of USMC officers joined.....(1)
- Number of USMC enlisted joined.....(1)
- Number of USMC officers transferred.....(1)
- Number of USMC enlisted transferred.....(6)

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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11 April 1969C. IRRAWADDI (S)

1. Enemy Situation: Enemy forces in the BIR 3/26 "Defiant Huesary/Taylor Corner" Arizona A.O. were estimated at 1100-1200 VC/LVA. This figure was based upon 7 LVA battalions and 2 local forces battalions: The 69th, 70th and 80th battalions of the 2nd LVA regiment, the Support battalion and the 1st Communications company.

2. Enemy Mission: The mission of the enemy in the Arizona A.O. was to harass allied forces in and around An Hoa and to support rocket attacks on An Hoa combat base. The enemy began the post-IMP offensive; the major targets during this period were large cities, provincial capitals and allied military bases. Due to the Paris peace talks the enemy was expected to protect his IMP offensive in order to reap maximum propaganda benefits.

3. Weather: The mean temperature was 77 degrees, with an average high of 83 degrees and low of 66 degrees. The relative humidity was 77% and precipitation totaled 1 inch. The winds were variable at an average of 6-10 knots.

4. Terrain: The terrain encountered was primarily dry rice paddies, some of which had been double cropped. There were areas that were overgrown with thick woods, brush and elephant grass. Soils in the area consisted of sand along the rivers, hard packed clay and dirt in the valley areas and solid rock in the mountainous and ridge areas. The entire A.O. had three lines that were generally around the villages and separating the rice paddies. Dominant features within the Arizona A.O. were: Hill 65 to the north, the Song Vu Gia river and the Song Thu Ben river that border the A.O., a mountain range to the west and a ridge line that runs from the west to east in the center of the A.O.

5. Avenues of Approach: In the Arizona A.O., the avenues of approach afforded the enemy were the Song Vu Gia river valley in the north-western portion of the A.O. and the Song Thu Ben river valley in the southeastern portion of the A.O. Limited access was afforded the enemy by the mountains in the western and southwestern portion of the A.O.

6. Totals: From 1-31 March:

VC/LVA	(87)
POW's	(2)
D. PRISONERS	(13)
CHINA POWS	(0)
ENG	(05)
USA	(00)
RIFLE	(20) lbs
MO. W.	(00)

D. Civil Actions: (U) The only civil affairs conducted in the Arizona A.O. were to those people within the A.O. who needed medical attention.

D. Psychological Operations: (G) None were conducted
of March. **DECLASSIFIED**

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11 April 1969

F. Fire Support: (3) During this period supporting arms were used extensively in all aspects of the operation. Special emphasis was given to day and night M41 fires. Whiskey Battery 1/13 and Charlie Battery were used in direct support while 2/11 was in general support. Reinforcing fires were fired by Gile Battery 4/13, Tango Battery 2/11 and 155 Platoon and 3rd 8" Platoon.

1. Total ammo expenditure for March:	
a. 105mm	11460
b. 155/0"	1765
c. 4.2"	5725
d. 81mm	6230
e. TAT	112
f. Prop fires	174

G. Air Support: (3)

(1) Air support was requested by the battalion A3/A10 through 5th Marines.

(2) During the month of March:

- a. 65 Medevacs were called.
- b. 22 F4U's were run on enemy positions.
- c. 50 a-1 attacks were run on enemy positions.
- d. 7 missions were run by Spooky gunships, on enemy positions.
- e. 7 Over-flights of the A-1J were utilized.

H. Logistics: (3)

(1) Logistical support was satisfactory. Transportation during this period was provided by helicopters operating from An Hoa to field units in the Anzong area and to rear units in DaNang. Transportation for supplies located at DaNang to An Hoa was provided by this unit.

(2) Maintenance support was provided by normal Marine Corps support facilities. Administrative and communications equipment was inspected and repaired by an office machinery and communications equipment repair team sent by 1st MAI.

I. Communications: (3)

1. Message Center: The 5th Marine Regiment maintained the communications and cax to ground, with courier delivery and pick-up provided by the BMT 3/26 message center. Upon arrival at Hill 55 on 23 March 69 the 7th Marine Regiment assumed the communications and cax to ground, with BMT 3/26 providing courier service for pick-up and delivery.

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2. Radio. All functional and tactical radio nets were guarded at the BLT C.P. A relay station was positioned on Hill 55 by SLT Bravo from 8 March 1969 until 20 March 1969. The BLT rear C.P. guarded the SLT TAC #1 covered until 20 March 1969, at which time HF radio communications were used on TAC #1 with no covered capabilities. Upon arriving at Hill 55 functional and tactical nets were established as required. On 29 March 1969 AMM net was established with SLT Bravo. On 20 March 1969, a four (4) man radio team was sent to RC BA HA to establish a relay site for the BLT TAC #2 and BLT logistics net in preparation for operation "Oldhorn Hills".

3. Wize/Relay Relays. Normal internal wize lines were established in the rear C.P. at An Son with two lines to 5th Marine Regiment and one to 2/5. No radio relay was employed. Upon arrival at Hill 55 normal internal wize communications was established with two lines to 7th Marine Regiment. On 30 March 1969 a hot line was installed from Hill 3/26 090 to 7th Marine Regiment 000.

4. Radio Repair. Radio repair was done at the rear C.P. up to 2nd echelon. All other was done at P.M.

J. Medical-Dental (C)

1. Personnel The Battalion AM Station has a total of 50 personnel; consisting of 6 corporals in a Medical status, 50 effective corporals, and 2 medical officers. In addition, 14 corporals were attached from supporting units.

2. Capabilities The medical department is capable of treating all medical and some surgical problems. The capabilities are limited since there was no running water, nor availability of diagnostic tests. Daily runs were made to 1st Med-Bn and NVA Hospital for consultations. Seriously wounded or ill medevacs were taken to DaNang for immediate and capable treatment.

3. Training Corporals in garrison received on-the-job training directly from the medical officer. Corporals in the field carried out their own lectures on first aid, buddy aid and field sanitation.

4. Dental Treatment on Hill 55 was available, but only in emergencies. Extensive dental work was arranged for at FLC and DaNang. Some dental problems were worked on by BLT Dental Officer on USS Valley Forge.

5. Malaria Prophylaxis Was supervised by the medical department.

6. Sanitation Shower facilities were available as were 2 four holers and 4 urinals. Daily cleaning was accomplished in each of these facilities on Hill 55.

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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11 April 19697. Statistics for the month of March are as follows:

DIAGNOSIS	ISS	INDIA	KILO	LEA	MIKE	TOTAL	LAST REPORT
Concussion	00	01	01	06	06	14	00
Stomach Problems	05	06	05	03	03	22	04
Lacerations	13	06	02	03	01	25	14
Diarrhea	05	04	04	00	03	16	05
Nose Problems	04	10	06	16	01	37	03
Eye Problems	07	06	01	02	07	23	00
Dental	10	11	17	10	04	60	09
Upper Resp Infection	05	00	00	01	02	16	05
Jaw Pain Origin	03	00	00	00	01	04	02
Leg Problems	10	02	09	01	03	25	05
Foot Problems	06	07	15	10	10	49	16
Arm Problems	06	05	09	04	02	26	07
Infection	48	21	19	26	13	127	04
Transmissions	704	343	335	331	350	2143	90
Venereal Disease	10	05	02	04	03	24	11
Shingles	39	37	10	33	61	210	27
Malaria	02	02	00	00	01	05	06
Diphtheria	01	02	00	05	01	09	02
Heart Abstruction	00	00	03	00	02	05	07
Religious Visits	33	19	26	15	15	110	130
Psychiatric Cases	02	02	05	03	01	13	03

8. Casualties (G)

1. KIA-----(29)
2. MIA-----(240)

9. Battalion Chaplain (U)

a. During the month of March, Chaplain Golic conducted 5 worship services in the field during Operation "Taylor Corson" and the period afterward through 31 March 1969.

b. There were 170 counseling sessions provided by the chaplain for the men of BLT 3/26.

c. Battalion Landing Team 3/26 Memorial Service was conducted for operations "Dole Harbor/Russell Beach" and "Defiant Measure/Taylor Corson" on 30 March 1969.

d. Hospital visits to wounded and sick members of BLT 3/26 were made as often as possible by the Battalion Chaplain.

e. Catholic Mass was conducted by Chaplain Bevins at Hill 52.

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11 April 1969

PART III

SUPPLEMENTAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

04 Nov 69
1000H

BL K came under heavy enemy fire from prepared positions while moving to relieve a KP. Enemy weapons included 12.7 cal MG and 20 cal MGs. After calling in a prep fire and assaulting the position, 09 NVA KIA were discovered inside bunkers and reinforced trench lines.

07 Nov 69
2200H

BL K spotted about 15 NVA in front of their position. BL K received incoming ChiCom and RPG's resulting in 03 USMC KIA. BL K returned fire with S/A and BL returned results of 02 NVA KIA.

1200H

BL I while conducting a search discovered 02 NVA KIA, 02 AK-47's, and 04 magazines with 120 rounds of ammunition.

1315H

BL I while conducting a search was taken under fire, with 5.5's ChiCom's, machine gun and sniper fire, resulting in 03 USMC KIA and 06 USMC KIA. BL India returned fire with all organic weapons and called in gunships and arty on enemy grids. Negative Results.

08 Nov 69
1000H

BL K-2 received fire from 05 NVA. BL K returned fire with S/A and called in arty on enemy positions. Negative Results.

07 Nov 69
0704H

BL I while sweeping, came under heavy enemy fire resulting in 01 USMC KIA and 01 KIA. Returned fire with S/A and searched area after completion of no-lover. Negative Results

1115H

BL I while firing upon enemy bunkers received heavy small arms and 20 rounds of 82mm fire, resulting in 03 USMC KIA. BL I called in arty missions on enemy positions. Negative Results

15 Nov 69

BL F-1 while conducting a search found 02 graves containing 05 NVA bodies death was caused from numerous bullet wounds inflicted by a 4.5mm caliber.

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11 April 1969

14 Mar 69
1045H

BL K-1 while sweeping found 20 2.75 rockets partly buried. Engineers blew in place.

16 Mar 69
2030H

BL L received 10 rounds of 60MM and M-79 also S/A and AR fire, resulting in 02 USMC KIA. BL L returned fire with M-79, 60MM and called in 81MM mission.

17 Mar 69
1130H

BL L-2 received enemy 30 cal and sniper fire, resulting in 04 USMC KIA and 05 USMC MIA. Returned fire killing 01 NVA wearing a flak jacket and helmet.

18 Mar 69
0245H

BL L received approximately 30 rounds incoming 60MM, small arms and automatic weapons fire from an estimated enemy sized platoon. BL L suffered 01 USMC KIA and 01 USMC MIA. Returned fire with all organic weapons, called in arty and 81MM mission with negative results.

0702H

BL L during the night observed the back blast of a recoilless weapon. BL L fired on the site with all organic weapons and called in arty and 81MM missions. At first light BL L sent out a patrol to search area. The patrol found 10 NVA KIA, 02 AK-47's, 02 notebooks, numerous 702 gear and articles of miscellaneous clothing.

19 Mar 69
1600H

BL C.P. receive 06 rounds of 82MM incoming rounds, resulting in 02 USMC KIA and 05 USMC MIA. Returned fire with 81MM and called in arty missions with negative results.

23 Mar 69
1220H

BLT 3/26 departed 5th Marines A.O. to 7th Marines. Chopped Opcon to 7th Marines.

24 Mar 69

BLT 3/26 began a R&AB program on Hill 55. Companies conducted search and destroy operations in assigned A.O.'s.

27 Mar 69
1040H

GR II received 30 cal and AK-47 fire. Returned fire with S/A, M-79 and called in arty with negative results.

29 Mar 69
0005H

GR I received 30 cal fire, resulting in 02 USMC KIA.

31 Mar 69

Commenced Operation "Oklahoma Hills"

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11 April 1969

PART IV
Supporting Documents

1- CEC DIVISION MEMO RE SEVEN LOG 09 2345Z Nov 69 (8)

2- Ring 0 3-69

3- Combat Ops A/A Rpt, Opn SEFIANT MEASURE/TAYLOR COMMON (10 Oct - 8 Mar 69)
and Unnamed Opn (8-23 Mar 69)

Receipt of 17 Pages

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EXHIBIT (1)
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1. 1ST BRIG 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION
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HEADQUARTERS
Battalion Landing Team 3/26
9th Marine Amphibious Brigade
APO, San Francisco 69902

CONTROL No.
00199A-698

Serial No.
0313069

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Frag Order 3-69 (Operation DEFIANT MEASURE/TAYLOR COMMON)

- Ref: (a) TF YANKEE Frag Order
(b) MAPS: Vietnam, AMS Series L7014, Sheets 6540 I and 66401 V
(c) OTF 79.5 OP Plan 120-YR
(d) BLT 3/26 OP Plan L-69

Time Zone: Hotel

Task Organization: Annex A (Task Organization)

1. SITUATION

- a. Enemy Forces Current INPSUMS and PERIMTERPS
- b. Friendly Forces
- (1) Fifth and Seventh Marines conducts operations in adjacent AOA's.
 - (2) 2/11 provides general support.
 - (3) Two USMC gunships direct support during initial landing.
 - (4) Fixed wing A/C on strip alert.

2. MISSION Commencing L-Hour on D-Day BLT 3/26 (-) Rein lands in LZ (AT900556) and establishes defensive perimeter. Remainder BLT 3/26 land on D+1. On order conducts search, clear and destroy operations to the west, establishes FSB via AT 825535, and continues mission in AOA.

3. EXECUTION

- a. Concept of Operations. BLT 3/26 (-) Rein lands, commencing L-Hour in proscribed LZ in AOA, establishes FSB and conducts offensive operations to find, fix and destroy or capture enemy forces equipment and installations.
- b. Co I (Rein)
- (1) Assume Bald Eagle responsibility from L-Hour on D-Day until landed in AOA on Del

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- (2) On D+1 land in prescribed LZ.
- (3) Be prepared to conduct operations as directed.
- c. Co K (Rein)
 - (1) On D-Day land in prescribed LZ, establish northern portion of defensive perimeter.
 - (2) Be prepared on order to conduct operations as directed.
- d. Co M (Rein)
 - (1) Land in prescribed LZ on D+1
 - (2) Be prepared to conduct operations as directed.
- e. Co L (Rein)
 - (1) Commencing L-Hour land in prescribed LZ, establish northern portion of defensive perimeter.
 - (2) Be prepared to conduct operations as directed.
- f. OHM Mort Plt
 - (1) On D-Day land two sections in prescribed LZ.
 - (2) On D+1 land remainder plt.
 - (3) Provide general support BLT 3/26
- g. C Btry 1/13
 - (1) Land over Bridge Ramp and rehab equipment at FLC
 - (2) Move to firing positions via Liberty Bridge. Establish positions by 1600 on D+1
 - (3) Provide general support to BLT 3/26
- h. Mortar Btry 1/13
 - (1) On order move to firing positions via south side to Liberty Bridge by helicopter or surface means as designated.
- j. Coordinating Instructions.
 - (1) D-Day: 10 Feb 69 (Tentative)
 - (2) L-Hour: 0800 (Tentative)

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- (3) Duration: Three weeks (Approx)
 - (4) BLF mark LZ with air panels upon arrival in zone.
 - (5) Units be prepared to mark lines with air panels and/or smoke.
4. Administration and Logistics.
To be issued
5. Command and Communications Electronics.
To be issued

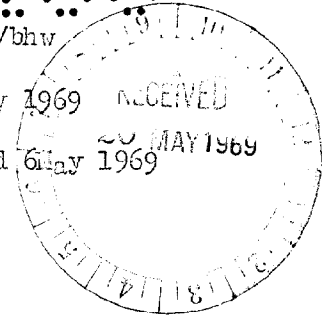
J. W. P. ROBERTSON
Lieutenant Colonel, US Marine Corps
Commanding

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[REDACTED]

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3/RFR/bhw
3100
17 May 1969



FIRST ENDORSEMENT on CO, BLT 3/26 rpt 3/CSSP/dno over 3100 dtd 6 May 1969

From: Commanding Officer, 5th Marines
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein), MTF
Subj: Combat Operations After Action Report

1. Forwarded.
2. Concur with recommendation 18a. The Arizona Area is too large to be effectively controlled by one battalion; however, additional forces were not available.
3. With regard to recommendation 18b, it would have been desirable to maintain all BLT supporting arms (4.2 Inch Mortar and 105mm Howitzer) at one centrally located FSB in the Arizona. However, this would have resulted in one entire company providing security for the FSB, leaving only three maneuver companies. The tactical situation at the time would not allow for this.

BLT 3/26

William J. Zaro
WILLIAM J. ZARO

HEADQUARTERS
1ST MARINE DIVISION
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HEADQUARTERS
Battalion Landing Team 3/26
9th Marine Amphibious Brigade
APO San Francisco 96602

SEC. No:
00313269

CONTROL No
0092-69

3/CSST/dmc
3100
6 May 1969

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division FMF
Subj: Combat Operations After Action Report

Ref: (a) MAPS; Vietnam Series L7014, Sheets 6640 LV, 6540 I
(b) CTF 79.5 OPlan 120--IR
(c) CTF 79.5 MSG 092545Z Feb 69

1. Code Name
Defiant Measure/Taylor Cannon (100800H Feb 69 - 080800H Mar 9)
and an Unnamed Operation (080800H Mar 69 - 231200H 69)
2. Dates of Operation
10 Feb 69 - 23 Mar 69)
3. Location
Dia Lac District, Quang Nam Province, RVN
4. Command Headquarters
Command Post Located at (vic) AF 835530 and (vic) AF 815483
5. Reporting Officer
Commanding Officer, BMT 3/26
6. Task Organization
BMT 3/25 (-) (Rein)

H&S Co (-)

LtCol	J. W. P. ROBERTSON	(10 Feb - 3 Mar 69)
LtCol	E. W. SHELLENG	(4 Mar - 23 Mar 69)
Capt	G. B. MEEGAN	(10 Feb - 11 Mar 69)
1stLt	W. P. FRIESE	(11 Mar - 23 Mar 69)

DET, Regt 26th Marines

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6 May 1969Task OrganizationCo L (Rein)

DEF Intelligence Sec
FOUO, "C" Btry, 1/13
FOUO, SMMI Mort Plt
HST
DEF, 3rd Plt, Co "A" 5th Engr Bn
FAC TH

1stLt G. ALLEN
(10 Feb - 28 Feb 69)
2ndLt J. D. REICH
(1 Mar - 10 Mar 69)
1stLt D. C. McBIRNEY
(11 Mar - 23 Mar 69)

Co K (Rein)

DEF Intelligence Sec
FOUO, "C" Btry, 1/13
FOUO, SMMI Mort Plt
HST
DEF, 3rd Plt, Co "A" 5th Engr Bn
FAC TH

Capt R. D. BARBA
(10 Feb - 23 Mar 69)

Co I (Rein)

DEF Intelligence Sec
FOUO, "C" Btry, 1/13
FOUO, SMMI Mort Plt
HST
DEF, 3rd Plt, Co "A" 5th Engr Bn
FAC TH

1stLt R. E. HOOVER
(10 Feb - 11 Mar 69)
Capt G. B. HEEGAN
(11 Mar - 23 Mar 69)

Co M (Rein)

DEF Intelligence Sec
FOUO, "C" Btry, 1/13
FOUO, SMMI Mort Plt
HST
DEF, 3rd Plt, Co "A" 5th Engr Bn
FAC TH
Interpreter

1stLt D. E. GRANFORD
(10 Feb - 23 Mar 69)

Supporting Units3rd Plt, Co "A" 5th Recon BnBtry "C", 1st Bn, 13th MarBtry "I", 1st Bn, 13th Mar

1stLt W. E. DEATHERAGE
(10 Feb - 23 Mar 69)
Capt M. E. POPELKA
(10 Feb - 23 Mar 69)
1stLt M. G. BUNTON
(10 Feb - 23 Mar 69)

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6 May 19697. SUPPORTING FORCESa. Artillery Support

(1) During both operations, the BLF was directly supported by "W" Btry 1/13 and "C" Btry 1/13. 2/11 was in general support with reinforcing fires fired by "K" Btry 4/13, "I" Btry 2/11, 33rd 155mm Platoon, and the 3rd 8" Platoon.

(2) I&I targets were selected on the basis of map reconnaissance, intelligence reports and positions of previous contact. I&I's were fired in an irregular pattern throughout day and night.

(3) Fires conducted of major importance:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| (a) Prop Fires | (147) |
| (b) TOT's | (93) |
| (c) Precision Destruction | (6) |

b. Air Support

(1) Air support was requested by the BLF FAC/ALG through 5th Marines.

(2) During the period 10 Feb - 23 Mar 1969:

- | | |
|-----|---|
| (a) | 108 Medevacs were called. |
| (b) | 1758 Troops were heli-lifted for tactical deployment. |
| (c) | 27 Detainees were heli-lifted to An Hoa combat base. |
| (d) | 22 TPQ's were run on enemy positions. |
| (e) | 73 Air strikes were run on enemy positions. |
| (f) | 7 Over-flights of the A.C. were utilized. |

8. INTELLIGENCE

a. The enemy forces during both operations in the Arizona A.O. were estimated at 1100-1200 VC/NVA. This figure was based upon 3 NVA battalions and 2 local force battalions. There were also four (4) units of unknown size and origin operating within the A.O.; the 60th, 70th and 80th battalions of the 21st NVA regiment, the 3rd Sapper battalion and the 1st Communications company.

b. Enemy Mission

The mission of the enemy in the Arizona A.O. was to harass allied forces in and around An Hoa and to support rocket attacks on An Hoa combat base. The enemy began the post-TET offensive; the major targets during this period were large cities, provincial capitals, and all military bases. Due to the Paris peace talks the enemy was expected to protract his TET offensive in order to achieve maximum propaganda benefits.

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6 May 1969c. Weather

The mean temperature was 77 degrees, with an average high of 83 degrees and an average low of 66 degrees. The relative humidity was 77% and precipitation totaled 1 inch. The winds were variable at an average of 8-10 knots.

d. Terrain

The terrain encountered was primarily dry rice paddy, some of which had been double cropped. There were areas that were over-grown with thick woods, brush and elephant grass. Soils in the area consisted of sand along the rivers, hard poked clay and dirt in the paddy areas and solid rock in the mountainous and ridge areas. The entire A.O. had tree lines that were generally around the villages and separating the rice paddies. Dominant features within the Arizona A.O. were: Hill 65 to the north, the Song Vu Gia river and the Song Thu Bon river that border the A.O., a mountain range to the west and a ridge line that runs from the west to east in the center of the A.O.

e. Avenues of Approach

In the Arizona A.O., the avenues of approach afforded the enemy were the Song Vu Gia river valley in the north-western portion of the A.O. and the Song Thu Bon river valley in the south-eastern portion of the A.O. Limited access was afforded the enemy by the mountains in the western and southwestern portion of the A.O.

9. CIVIC ACTION

The only civic action conducted in the Arizona A.O. was to those people within the A.O. who needed medical attention.

10. PSYCHOLOGICAL OPERATIONS

Psyops were conducted in the form of leaflet drops throughout the A.O. prior to H-Hour.

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6 May 196911. MISSION

Commencing at L-Hour on D-Day, BLT 3/26 (-) (Rein) conducts an helicopter-borne assault into an assigned AOA in the Arizona Territory to establish a FSB and conducts offensive operations to find, fix and destroy enemy forces, equipment and installations.

12. CONCEPT of OPERATION

BLT 3/26 (-) (Rein) lands with three rifle companies in LZ AT 900556 and establishes defensive perimeter. The remainder of BLT 3/26 lands on D+1. On order conducts search, clear and destroy operations to the west, establishes FSB vicinity (AT 823535) and continues mission in AOA.

13. EXECUTION

With the issuance of 5th Marines Working Order 2-69 BLT 3/26 commenced Operation "Defiant Locust/Taylor Cannon" and an Unnamed operation. The following is a chronological listing of significant events.

10 Feb 69

0900 BLT 3/26 was helilifted into the "Arizona Territory". C.P. was established at vicinity 825530. Commenced to search and clear immediate area with India, Kilo, Lima and Mike companies. 1020H Kilo found body killed by shrapnel, checked body for documents with negative results. Results 01 VC KIA.

11 Feb 69

0915H Mike company Marine tripped M-26 grenade booby trap placed along hedge row. Results 01 USMC KIA and 01 USMC med-evac. 1100H Kilo-1 stroll came across 05 VC. Took under fire with S/A. Results 02 VC POW. 1115H Kilo-1 made contact with a small number of VC. VC broke contact. Results 01 USMC med-evac. 1115H Marine from India-2 tripped M-26 grenade booby trap. Trap was set up in elephant grass, not on trail. Results 01 USMC med-evac. 1210H India-1 found 04 Vietnamese hiding in a hole with 02 bags of gear and 01 bag of AK-47 rounds. Results 04 POW's sent to rear. 1340H Mike-2 Marine tripped M-26 grenade booby trap. Results 01 USMC med-evac. 1345H India-2 Marine tripped booby trapped M-26 grenade. Results 02 USMC med-evac. 1347H India-2 tripped M-26 grenade booby trap. Results 02 USMC med-evac. 1500H Kilo came under .50 cal fire. Fire was coming from ARVN's position across river. Liaison was made to cease fire. ARVN's stated they had 07 Chien Hoi's, 05 of which were wounded. Chien Hoi's crossed river from our A.O. to ARVN A.O.

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1108 Kilo-1 found rocket pod dropped from chopper with 19 rockets still attached. Marked and notified DOD. 1135H Mike-3 Marine tripped M-26 grenade booby trap. Marine heard click of grenade and gave quick warning. Results 01 USMC WIA. 1345H Mike company Marine tripped M-26 grenade booby trap concealed in hedge row. Results engineers blew in place. 1025H Mike company resupply birds took intense small arms fire from enemy. Called in gun ships and laid down suppressing fires. Resulting in a complete resupply. 2123H India company resupply birds received intense enemy fire. 01 helicopter was hit and forced to land. India returned fire to enemy positions with S/A and 60MM. Results 01 USMC med-evaced. 2200H Mike company killer team spotted 20 VC moving in a southerly direction killer team sprung ambush. Results 03 VC KIA.

13 Feb 69

0245H India company was moving toward downed bird and came under fire from snipers. Returned fire with S/A and M-79's. Results 03 USMC WIA. 0355H India arrived at downed bird. Secured area around bird, set up a defensive position. 1545H Mike company while on sweep of a village came under heavy fire from trench line and bunker complex. Spotted 10-12 VC fleeing to the north. Commenced firing S/A and M-79's. Proceeded to assault enemy positions. Results 01 USMC WIA, 05 VC KIA 02 AK-47's magazines and ammo and two ChiComs. 1705H Mike company received incoming 60MM rounds. Resulting 03 USMC WIA, med-evaced. 2040H Mike company received incoming ChiComs into their lines. Returned fire with S/A and M-79's. Results 01 USMC WIA. 2055H DOD team checked out reported rocket pod by Kilo company. Blew in place along with a 750 lb bomb and 02 rounds.

14 Feb 69

0315H India received S/A fire and ChiComs. Returned fire with S/A and M-79's. Called in arty mission. Results 01 WIA. 0600H India took 03 M-79 rounds into their position. Returned fire with M-79's. Results 01 USMC med-evaced. 0600-1700 Kilo and India companies continuing sweep came across a number of bunkers and dud rounds. Bunkers and rounds were blown in place by engineers. 1725H India received 04 incoming 60MM rounds. Called in arty mission and 60MM's. Results 01 USMC WIA.

15 Feb 69

0600H Throughout the night all companies received harassing fire from the enemy. Results no casualties. 1000H Mike company called an air strike on 02 large enemy bunkers and 05 structures. 02 secondary explosions were observed.

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6 May 1969

1300H Mike company stroll spotted 03 NVA digging in along tree line. Took under fire with S/A, M-79's and 60MM's. Enemy returned fire with 30 cal machine gun fire and AK-47 fire. Results 01 USMC KIA 03 USMC WIA, 04 NVA KIA. 1340H India while on sweep to objective "E" received 02 incoming M-79 rounds. Returned fire with M-79's and 3.5 rockets. Results 02 USMC WIA. 1445H AO on station spotted 04 NVA in open rice paddy. AO strafed NVA with 04 NVA KIA confirmed. 1500H Mike company searching area where air strikes were run earlier found 04 NVA KBA. Results 04 NVA KBA. 1815H India company making a detailed search of area uncovered a large cache of polished rice totaling 22 100 lbs bags of rice. 1900-16000H companies received harassing fires and probes. No casualties.

16 Feb 69

0800H India company continuing a search found large enemy cache consisting of 4,100 lbs of rice, 01 ChiCom, 01 NVA canteen, 01 can of cosmoline, 06 NVA bolts with star insignias, 01 portable radio, clothing digging tools, 06 bolts of black silk, 01 bolt of shark skin cloth, and AK-47 ammo. 1000H Lima company stroll found 05 82MM rounds. Rounds were sent to company G.P. Engineers blew. 1030H Mike company spotted 02 VC hiding in bushes approximately 75 meters from their position. VC were observing Mike's lines. Stroll was sent out. Results 02 VC POW's. 1210H Lima-2 spotted 1 VC setting booby trap. Lima-3 tried to capture VC but he resisted and fled. Results 01 VC KIA. 1215H Lima-1 Marine tripped M-26 grenade booby trap. Results no casualties. 1335H Mike company spotted 01 VC who was wounded badly. Med-evaced to rear. Results 01 POW. 1400H Mike-2 while searching area found 06 fresh graves. Graves were dug up and 06 25-30 yr old males in black clothing were discovered. Results 06 VC KBA. 1730H Mike company with AO on station observed several NVA running into bunker complex. Air strike was called and 250 & 500 lb bombs employed on bunkers. 01 small secondary and 01 large secondary explosion were observed. 1840H Mike-3 observed 01 VC hiding in a rice paddy. Opened fire with S/A and M-79's. AO on station observed fire and made a strafing run. Resulting in 01 VC KBA.

17 Feb 69

0900H Mike company checking area where air strike was run on bunker complex found 04 NVA KBA. Results 04 NVA KBA. 1200 Lima company while setting in 60MM's, 01 Marine tripped 105 Booby trap. Results 01 USMC med-evaced. 1315H Lima company found 04 booby traps rigged with 60MM WP rounds and 01 rigged with 105 round. Engineers blew all booby traps in place

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0930H Lima company received S/A fire. AO was on station and called in fixed wing air strikes. Results 01 NVA KIA. 1115H Lima company received S/A and automatic weapons fire. Returned fire with S/A machine guns and called SIMI mission. Results 01 USMC KIA, 01 USMC WIA. 1140H India-2 while sweeping area where they previously received sniper fire found 01 Vietnamese, thought to be V.C. Sent to the rear to S-2. Results 01 VC suspect. 1215H Mike company spotted 03 VC suspects attempting to draw Mike-3 into ambush. Interpreter was convinced suspects were part of VC infrastructure. Suspects sent to S-2 in rear. Results 03 VC POW's. 1220H Mike company with AO on station observed 04 NVA running from area. AO made 03 strafing runs on the fleeing enemy. Results 01 NVA KIA. 1500H India-2 stroll spotted 08 NVA wearing flak jackets, helmets with peaks and weapons. Opened fire and engaged in fire fight. Resulting in 02 USMC WIA. 1700H Lima-3 sweeping area off assigned A.O. found 02 NVA KIA. Enemy died of wounds resulting from SIMI mission. Results 02 NVA KIA. 1845H Mike company received heavy AK fire, M-79's and 60 mortar fire. Returned fire with S/A, M-79's machine guns, 60MM's and called SIMI mission. Results 04 USMC WIA, 01 NVA KIA.

19 Feb 69

0920H India-1 while awaiting med-evac chopper received sniper fire. Returned fire with 60MM's. Results 01 USMC WIA. 1230H Lima-2 received heavy S/A fire, M-79's rounds and automatic weapons fire. Returned fire with S/A and called arty mission. Results 07 USMC KIA, 02 NVA KIA. 1845H Mike-2 spotted 01 NVA coming into lines with hands in the air. NVA stated he wanted to Chieu Hoi. Results 01 NVA POW. 2020H India-2 killer team received 02 rounds incoming 82MM's. Returned fire with SIMI mission. Results 02 USMC WIA.

20 Feb 69

0900H Lima company while sweeping area found 01 NVA body. NVA apparently killed by arty. Results 01 NVA KIA. 1015H India company received incoming M-79's. Resulting in 01 USMC WIA. 1225H Lima-1 while sweeping found 02 fresh graves with 02 bodies. Persons were males approx 20 yrs old. Cause of death was by shrapnel and napalm. Results 02 NVA KIA. 1400H India company exploded 01 dud bomb which produced 03 secondaries. Resulting in 02 USMC WIA.

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21 Feb 69

0015H India company received 05 incoming ChiCom grenades. Returned fire with S/A. Results 03 USMC KIA. 0920H India company on a sweep made contact with undetermined number of enemy troops. Called 811H mission. Enemy broke contact leaving 02 NVA helmets and packs behind. 1120H India-2 received S/A fire and M-79 rounds from 05 NVA. Returned fire and called arty mission. Search of enemy area produced 03 NVA packs. 1130H Recon platoon had 01 NVA ChiCom HoI at their position. Returned to S-2. Results 01 NVA POW. 1600H Mike-3 while on stroll spotted 01 NVA dressed in khaki and carrying weapons grouped around a well. Called in arty mission which was on target observed 04 NVA being blown into the air, the rest retreated into tree line. Results 04 NVA KIA. 1800H India company while setting into a night position found 5,500 lbs of rice. Result 5,500 lbs of rice sent to rear. 2035H Mike Killer Team observed 10-15 NVA moving toward their position. NVA had a 03 man point out which walked directly into the killing zone. Killer Team engaged with 02 claymores and small arms. Enemy broke contact Results 05 NVA KIA.

22 Feb 69

0930H Lima company received 03 round incoming 82MM's. 811H and arty were called on suspected enemy positions. Results 01 USMC KIA. 1300H India company relieved Kilo company as C.P. security. Kilo company moved out on a sweep to the northeast.

23 Feb 69

0815H Undetermined number of VC penetrated Indian companies lines into the BN C.P. area. Hand to hand combat resulted in a quick brief struggle. Enemy broke contact and fled. Results 01 USMC KIA 04 USMC KIA, 05 NVA KIA. 60 rounds of ChiCom grenades captured. 0830H Kilo company while sweeping through tree line tripped booby trap set with ChiCom grenade. Results 03 USMC KIA. 1030H Kilo company found 01 105 and booby trapped with trip wire. Engineers blow in place. 1145H Lima company received 02 105 III rounds both produced an air burst. Called in 811H mission on suspected enemy positions. Results neg casualties. 1200H Mike company sent stroll to suspected enemy position where Lima received incoming 105 rounds. Found launching site in an old 250 pound bomb crater with a platform. Bombs were launched by an explosive charge of some type. 1430H Lima company Marine tripped M-26 grenade booby trap. Results 01 USMC KIA. 1800 - 230600H Kilo and Lima company received harassing fires and small probes throughout the night. Resulting in no casualties.

24 Feb 69

1030H Mike-3 while on patrol observed 02 NVA hiding in a bunker. Engaged with small arms, NVA returned fire with AK and M-79's. Neg results.

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1200H Mike company again made contact with NVA seen earlier. Called in arty mission and air strikes. Results 01 USMC KIA, 01 NVA KIA. 1300H Lima company came across villager who pointed out 02 60MM booby traps. Villager was paid 500 piasters. Engineers blew booby traps in place. 1405H Kilo-2 while on patrol spotted 01 NVA zipping towards tunnel. Kilo-2 threw 01 M-26 grenade into tunnel. Results 01 NVA KIA. 1630H Lima company received 01 incoming 105 round. Round was an airburst. Results negative casualties. 1700H Mike company's resupply chopper dropped its load outside of lines. Reason for ditching load was unknown. Mike-2 moved out to retrieve supplies and ran into 05 NVA. Exchanged fire with enemy who broke contact. All supplies but 03 cases of chow was retrieved. Results negative casualties. 2100H Mike company moved out in a night move south towards Kilo's position. Kilo was receiving incoming ChiComs and automatic fire. Mike company's move concerning four clicks was completed at 0330 without incident.

25 Feb 69

0530H Lima company received S/A fire, ChiCom grenades and RPG rounds continually to 0630. Returned fire with all organic weapons and called in arty and SHT mission. Results 01 USMC KIA, 04 USMC KIA, 04 NVA KIA. 1045H Lima company spotted 03 VC crossing rice paddy into tree line. Called arty mission. Results 02 VC KIA. 1820H Mike company setting in for the night received heavy AK-47 fire and 30 local machine gun fire. Returned fire with S/A and 60MM's. Results 01 USMC KIA and 01 NVA KIA. 1830H Mike company received 03 rounds 60MM mortar while completing med-evac at landing zone. Called arty mission and air strikes. Results 01 USMC KIA and 03 NVA KIA.

26 Feb 69

0750H Kilo company found 01 U.S. anti-tank mine setting half buried on trail inside village. Engineers blew in place. 0855H Kilo company found 01 fresh grave. Grave produced 01 NVA in green dungarees. Results 01 NVA KIA. 1115H Dn C.P. observed 01 NVA flag flying from bamboo staff on Hill 29, air strike called on hill resulting in several secondary explosions indicating numerous booby traps in that area. Flag was destroyed by A.C.'s rockets. 1015H Lima company received S/A fire and M-79 fire. Called air strike, arty, and 81 missions. Results 02 NVA KIA. 1230H Mike-1 spotted 03 NVA moving west across dry stream bed, 01 was a female carrying a AR-15 combat weapon. Mike-1 opened fire. Results 01 NVA KIA. 1815H Mike company received 06 rounds of M-79. Returned fire with M-79's and called arty mission. Results 01 USMC KIA.

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5 May 1969

1300H Lima company while moving in the attack received heavy S/A fire and M-79 rounds. Assaulted enemy position with a frontal assault capturing the enemy position and destroying two A A sites. Enemy broke contact and fled. Called arty, 81MM mortars and air strikes in support. Results 84 NVA KIA, of which 75 were from supporting fires. Friendly casualties 06 USMC KIA 29 USMC WIA. 1600H Lima company had med-evac helicopter come into their position. Helicopter came under fire and was forced to land. Another helicopter arrived and med-evac was completed. Downed helicopter was protected by squad from Lima company. 1845H Mike company received 03 ChiCom grenades. Returned fire with S/A and M-79 fire. Results 01 USMC WIA. 1745H India-3 moved from Bn C.P. area to relative Lima company of responsibility of downed bird. Relieved Lima's squad at 1900 and set up security around downed helicopter.

27 Feb 69

0330H Lima company received 01 RPG round. Called arty mission on suspected enemy launch area. Results 01 USMC WIA. 0530H Lima company received 20 rounds of incoming mortar fire. Called 81MM mission and arty on suspected enemy positions. Results 03 USMC WIA. 0940H Mike while searching area found 3,000 rounds of 5.56 ammo in bandoliers. Ammo was blown by engineers. 1000H Mike-1 tripped M-26 grenade booby trap. Resulting in 03 USMC WIA. 1314 Kilo company while conducting sweep and clear mission received sniper fire. Returned fire with S/A and called arty mission. Results 01 USMC KIA, 02 USMC WIA. 1345H Lima-1 received sniper fire from 03 enemy. Returned fire with S/A and called 81MM mission. Results 01 USMC KIA 01 USMC WIA. 1530H Kilo company started to move to consolidate its lines. The NVA opened fire with automatic weapons from 03 bunkers to their front. Suppressed enemy with small arms fire and called artillery mission and air support. Results 02 USMC KIA, 08 USMC WIA. 1650H A.O. on station for Kilo company observed 01 NVA body in front of their lines. Result 01 NVA KIA. 1800H Kilo sent patrol to bunkers where they received fire from in the A.M. Bunkers were destroyed and 03 NVA KIA were found. Results 03 NVA KIA.

28 Feb 69

0330H Lima company received 30 to 50 rounds of incoming mortars and RPG rounds. Returned fire with all organic weapons. called 81MM mission and "spooky". Results 02 USMC WIA. 0600H Kilo company received 01 RPG round. Called arty mission on suspected enemy position. Results 01 USMC WIA. 0655H Lima company found 01 NVA body with documents, uniform, AK-47 and assorted 782 gear. Weapons and documents turned over to S-2 representative. Results 01 NVA KIA.

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1045H Lima-1 Marine tripped 01 booby trap. Results 01 USMC KIA. 1055H Mike-3 received automatic fire from front and left flank. Returned fire with S/A and M-79's. A.O. on station worked area over with rocket strafing. Result 01 USMC KIA. 1130H Lima-1 found 01 fresh grave less than 48 hours old. Grave produced 01 NVA KIA in uniform. Results 01 NVA KIA. 1355H Lima company Marine tripped M-26 grenade booby trap. Results 01 USMC KIA. 1600H Kilo company while on sweep received S/A fire. Returned fire with S/A's and M-79's. Results 01 NVA KIA. 1630H Kilo company in heavy contact received automatic machine gun fire from 02 positions. Called arty and 81MM mission. Results 01 USMC KIA. 1700H Mike-3 destroyed 17 bunkers using cratering charges. 01 Female suspect found in one of the bunkers. Female was between 20-25 years of age. Bloody clothing was also found in bunkers. Results 01 Female VC suspect. 1730H Kilo company moving out with two platoons up and one back came under fire from bunkers located to their left front. Bunker was taken under fire with S/A M-79's and LAM's. Bunker was destroyed. At that time Kilo company's rear element came under heavy 50 cal machine gun fire from their left flank and rear. Called arty on 50 cal site. Consolidated the company into a 360° defensive perimeter. Continued to call arty mission on enemy positions. Results 03 USMC KIA, 15 USMC KIA, 09 NVA KIA. 2200H Bn C.P. received 6 rounds incoming 82MM mortars. Negative casualties.

1 May 69

0120H Mike-3 while moving as point spotted 03 NVA moving along trail. NVA all had weapons. Mike-3 immediately opened fire at close range killing all 3 NVA. Results 03 NVA KIA. 0700H Mike-1 spotted 03 NVA moving south along trail, all 03 were carrying AK-47's. Mike-1 opened fire at close range. Results 03 NVA KIA. 03 USMC KIA. 0830H Kilo company had 01 NVA walk into their position unaware that Kilo was set in. Opened fire resulting in 01 NVA KIA. 1000 Mike-3 spotted 15 to 20 NVA dug in a defensive position. Opened fire with S/A, M-79's, LAM's and 3.5 rockets. Enemy fled to west and north. Pursued by fire. Results 02 NVA KIA. 1030H Lima-3 while conducting search of contact area found 01 NVA body with cartridge belt. Result 01 NVA KIA. 1245H Mike-3 while sweeping area after air strikes were run found 11 NVA KIA, numerous items of equipment and weapons were found. Results 11 NVA KIA. 1330H Kilo company observed approximately 10 NVA heading in a north-west direction. Called arty mission. Checked area and found 01 NVA KIA. Results 01 NVA KIA. 1600H Mike-1 while searching area spotted 03 NVA on a village island. Surrounded area and opened fire. Search of area resulted in 03 NVA KIA. Results 01 USMC KIA, 03 NVA KIA. 1600H Mike company continuing to search area found bunker complex, 04 NVA KIA were in one of the bunkers. Results 04 NVA KIA. 1600H Mike-1 continuing search of area found additional 02 NVA KIA from M-26 grenade. Results 01 USMC KIA 02 NVA KIA.

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6 May 1969

0820H In C.F. spotted large enemy force in the open rice paddies. Air and arty were called on target. Results 47 NVA KIA. 1630H India 2 spotted 02 NVA moving towards their position. Opened fire with S/A and M-79's. Results 02 NVA KIA and 01 NVA POW. 1830H Lima company spotted 06 NVA moving to the north. Called arty and GMI mission. Results 05 NVA KIA.

2 Mar 69

0950H Kilo company received ChiCom grenades inside their lines. Returned fire with S/A and 60MM mortars. Results 03 USMC KIA. 0230H Lima company received incoming Chi Com grenades mortar fire and RPG's with heavy small arms from all sides. Returned fire with organic weapons and called arty mission. Results 01 USMC KIA 08 KIA, 18 NVA KIA. 1000H Mike-2 searching area found 02 NVA bodies lying in area of yesterday's air strikes. Results 02 NVA KIA.

3 Mar 69

1340H Kilo company with A.O. on station observed 02 NVA in open A.O. straddled enemy with machine guns. Results 01 NVA KIA. 1350H Kilo company patrol spotted 25 VC moving in a northwest direction. Patrol took enemy under fire with S/A and M-79's. Enemy broke contact and fled. Results 02 NVA KIA.

4 Mar 69

0500H Kilo -3 spotted 01 NVA walking down trail towards their position. Opened fire with S/A. Results 01 NVA KIA. 0815H Kilo company received heavy 60MM and 82MM mortar fire also RPG and machine gun fire. Returned fire with arty mission and fired S/A and M-79's. Results 02 USMC KIA, 10 USMC WIA. 0815H India company received incoming 60 and 82MM mortars, S/A and M-79's. Called arty mission. Results 10 USMC KIA. 0600H Mike-2 while searching area of night activity found 04 NVA KIA with weapons. Results 04 NVA KIA. 0700H Kilo company received sniper fire from their front. Returned fire with S/A and M-79 rounds. Results 02 NVA KIA. 1000H Kilo moved up to area of earlier contact. Received heavy small arms fire. Returned fire with S/A and called arty mission. Results 02 USMC KIA 05 USMC WIA 09 NVA KIA. 1230H Mike company commencing to pullback ran into 04 NVA. Opened fire with S/A and machine guns. Results 03 NVA KIA.

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5 May 1969

1545H Kilo company spotted 02 VC observing their position. Called arty mission. Results 01 VC KIA. 1615H Mike company received 10 wounds incoming 60mm mortars, AK-47 fire and machine gun fire. Air strike was run on enemy positions. Results 01 50 coal site destroyed and 10 NVA KIA.

5 May 69

1700H Mike-3 while setting in their night positions observed 10-15 NVA approximately 300 meters from their position. Called arty mission. Results 01 NVA KIA.

6 May 69

0730H India-2 found 01 NVA body inside bunker complex. Bunker had been hit by friendly arty. Results 01 NVA KIA. 0800H Mike-2 checked area of last night's activities, and found 01 NVA wounded, 05 NVA KIA and 03 AK-47's, 01 ~~AK-47's~~ machine gun, 01 M-14 rifle, numbers of Chi Com grenades and VC gear. Results 05 NVA KIA, 01 NVA KIA. 2200H Kilo company Killer team spotted 15 NVA in front of their position. Killer team received incoming Chi Com grenades and S/A fire. Returned fire with S/A. Results 03 USMC KIA, 02 NVA KIA. 2300H India company received 20 mixed wounds of 60mm, 82mm mortars and RPG rounds. Called arty mission on suspected enemy positions. Results 07 USMC KIA.

7 May 69

0620E India-2 found 02 badly wounded NVA in their area. POW was sent to rear and turned over to the S-2. Results 01 NVA POW, 0800H Mike-3 while searching immediate area found 01 fresh grave containing body of 01 NVA. Results 01 NVA KIA. 1000H India-2 found 01 NVA body as they swept forward. Results 01 NVA KIA. 1000H Kilo company lead element came under fire from the west. Returned fire with S/A and M-79's. Results 04 NVA KIA. 1220H Mike company while continuing search forward found 02 NVA KIA, 02 AK-47's with 04 magazines and ammo. Results 02 NVA KIA. 1315H India company took incoming Chi Com grenades, machine gun fire and S/A fire. Returned fire with all organic weapons and called arty mission. Results 03 USMC KIA, 06 USMC KIA.

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6 May 1969

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1 Mar 69

0600H operation "Defiant Measure/Saylor Common terminated. Conducting search and clear operations in same A.O. under an unamed operation. 1630H Hike-2 while in defensive positions took sniper fire from tree line. Returned fire with 6/A and M-79's. Results 01 USMC KIA.

2 Mar 69

0905 H Hike company received 06 rounds 60MM mortar fire. Called A.O. on station who adjusted arty mission on enemy positions. Results 03 USMC KIA. 1130H Recon platoon while on patrol found (24) 8.75 rocket warheads and 12 launchers. 2000 blow ordnance in place.

10 Mar 69

1500H Hike company patrol found 01 male Vietnamese in hootch with 02 armed booby trapped M-16's. Man was apprehended. Also spotted 01 Vietnamese following patrol, he was also apprehended. Results 02 VC suspects.

11 Mar 69

Kilo-1 found 02 Chicom grenades booby trapped on 01 NVA body. Booby traps were blown in place. Results 01 NVA KIA.

12 Mar 69

1030H Kilo-2 while on patrol found 240 pounds of rice and 20 120 rocket cartridges. Engines destroyed in place. 1710H Kilo-1 while on patrol found 03 20 pound satchel charges hid in a bunch of bushes. Charges were blown in place. 1730H Whiskey Btry displaced from FEB to An Hoa. Recon Platoon chopped OPCON to 5th Hikecom.

13 Mar 69

0900 Bn C.P. displaced to new C.P. located at 815483 by helicopter. Kilo company while on sweep spotted 01 Vietnamese observing company from tree line. 01 other male Vietnamese was found in hootch with 03 satchel charges. Both Vietnamese sent to 8-2 rear as VC suspects. 1500H Kilo-2 conducting a patrol found 08 homemade satchel charges in hills. Sent charges to rear for 8-2 to study.

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6 May 196914 Mar 69

0930H Lima-2 Marine tripped M-26 grenade booby trap. Results 03 USMC WIAE. 1045H Kilo company while sweeping found 20 2.75 rockets partially buried. Engineers blew in place. 1530H Lima-3 Marine tripped M-26 grenade booby trap. Results 02 USMC WIAE. 1715H Lima-2 Marine tripped M-26 grenade booby trap. Results 01 USMC WIAE.

15 Mar 69

1000H Lima company Marine tripped M-26 grenade booby trap. Results 01 USMC WIAE. 1000H Because of Bn C.P. location local villagers had to be collected and put into a collection point. Results 285 detainees. 1645 Kilo company came across 02 female Vietnamese who were wounded. Treated by compassion and evacuated to An Hoa. 2030H Lima company received 10 rounds of incoming 60MM mortars and S/A M-79 fire. Called 8MM mortar mission. Results 02 USMC WIAE.

16 Mar 69

0530H Kilo company received 02 82MM mortar rounds inside their perimeter. Results 02 USMC WIAE. 1200H Kilo company while on patrol found one booby trap malastion whip. Engineers blew in place. 1500H Lima-2 received S/A and M-79 fire. Returned fire with S/A and machine guns. Called arty mission. Results 01 USMC WIAE and 02 NVA KIA. 1800H Lima company received S/A and M-79 fire. Returned fire with S/A, M-79'S and called arty mission. Results 04 USMC WIAE.

17 Mar 69

1130H India-3 received fire from enemy .30 cal machine gun and small arms. Returned fire with S/A, M-79'S and 60MM mortars. Results 01 USMC KIA, 01 USMC WIAE, 01 NVA KIA and 01 .30 cal machine gun destroyed. 1945H Lima company received S/A and M-79 fire along with 01 RPG round. Returned fire and called arty mission. Results 01 USMC WIAE.

18 Mar 69

Kilo company received approximately 05 rounds incoming 82MM mortar fire. Counter fired with 60MM mortars and called 8MM mortar mission. Results 06 USMC WIAE. 1130H Bn C.P. received approximately 08 incoming rounds of 82MM mortar fire. Returned fire with 82MM mortars and called arty mission. Results 02 USMC KIA 11 WIAE. 1220H India-3 moved to area of yesterday contact to recover Marines body who was KIA. Came under heavy fire and was unable to recover body. Returned fire and pulled back for cover. Called arty mission. Results 01 NVA KIA.

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1300 India-2 again moved out to try and recover Marines body. Recovered body and ran into small arms fire. Returned fire with S/A and machine guns. Results 01 USMC body recovered 01 NVA KIA. 1045H Mike company and Bn C.P. received sever 1 82MM mortar rounds incoming. Called 82MM mortar mission and arty mission on suspected enemy mortar site. Results 04 USMC WIA 06 USMC WIA. 2400H India company received 20 incoming grenades throughout the night. Called 82MM mortars and arty fire on suspected enemy position. Results 01 USMC WIA.

19 Mar 69

0530H India-1 had 01 NVA trip a trip-flare approximately 05 meters in front of claymore. Detonated claymore with results of 01 NVA KIA.

20 Mar 69

India-1 observed 3 enemy dressed in black carrying weapons coming out of a tree line heading toward village. Opened fire with S/A and M-79 rounds. Results 01 NVA KIA. 1000H Mike company chopped to An Hoa 2nd Bn, 5th Marines A.O.

21 Mar 69

1040H Kilo company observed 03 NVA with weapons moving across rice paddy heading west. Opened fire with M-60 machine guns hitting 01 NVA. Results 01 NVA KIA.

22 Mar 69

Bn C.P., companies India, Kilo and Mike displaced to 1st Bn 5th Marines A.O. by helicopter. Battalion defensive position set up. No contacts throughout the day.

23 Mar 69

BLT 3/26 chopped from 5th Marines to 7th Marines. Battalion displaced to Hill 55.

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6 May 196914. RESULTS

Personnel and equipment losses both friendly and enemy:

a. <u>FRIENDLY</u>		<u>ENEMY</u>	
KIA's	(61)	VC/NVA KIA	(382)
WIA	(262)	POW's	(28)
WLANE	(192)	CHIEU HOI's	(02)
IBC	(69)	DETAINEES	(311)

b. EQUIPMENT

<u>Friendly</u>		<u>Enemy</u>	
5 PRM-25's		IVC	(38)
4 Field Telephones EA-1		CSWC	(04)
		RICE	(10,476) lbs

Numerous pieces of enemy 782 gear destroyed.

15. ADMINISTRATION

a. Supply. LSA was set up in An Hoa. All resupply was done by helicopters. Assault troops carried a combat load of three days rations in their packs and 500 rounds of 5.56 rifle ammo in addition to four canteens of water.

b. Maintenance. Provided by normal Marine Corps support facilities. Administrative and communications equipment was inspected and repaired by an office machinery and communications equipment repair team sent by 1st FSB.

c. Treatment of Casualties and Evaluation and Hospitalization.
The medical department was capable of treating all medical and some surgical problems. The capabilities were limited since there was no running water, nor availability of diagnostic tests. Daily runs were made to 1st Med Bn and HSA hospital for consultation. Seriously wounded or ill med-evacs were taken to DaNang for immediate and capable treatment.

d. Transportation. Provided by helicopters operating from An Hoa to field units in the Arizona area and to rear units in DaNang. Transportation for supplies located at DaNang to An Hoa was provided by this unit's organic truck platoon.

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6 FEB 1969

80 Communications(1) Radio

All internal BLT radio nets were established and maintained at the base C.P. A rear C.P. established in 5th Marine Regiment C.P. in An Hoa area maintained radios of Bn TAC #1 and Bn TAC #2. Bn TAC #2 was utilized for admin traffic and passing of casualty reports, spot reports etc. External nets were established with: (A) SLF Bravo on their primary TAC through relay at Hill 55 to ship until 18 Feb 1969. Re-established relay with SLF Bravo on or about 6 March 1969, (B) Auditing on TAC #1 covered and TAC #2 uncovered between An Hoa and fire base C.P.

(2) Message Center

Communications and crypto guard was passed to and maintained by Task Force Yankee during this period, with courier delivery and pick-up by the BLT message center and Task Force Yankee.

(3) Wire/Radio Relay

Normal internal wire lines were established in rear C.P. and three external lines installed, one to 2/5 and two to 5th Marine Regiment. No radio relay was established during the operation.

(4) General

Equipment maintenance was performed mostly at the rear C.P. area in An Hoa, with limited maintenance of radio PRC-25 and handsets done in fire base C.P. Evacuation of equipment was managed through use of helicopter through our rear C.P. at An Hoa from all companies and fire base C.P.

(5) Problems and Solutions

The frequency interference from Army units and other friendly units and a lack of additional spare frequencies to change to. Better frequency assignments and more spare frequencies should be assigned to BLT for operational use.

Time allotted between operations was in no way sufficient for complete inspection and rehabilitation of communication gear. This means that problems will accumulate over successive operations and poor condition of communication gear affords less than adequate support of units in the field. At least five days should be allowed between operations for complete rehab of all communication gear.

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3106
6 May 1969MEDICAL SUPPLY USAGE DATA

FPM	ITEM DESCRIPTION	UNIT OF ISSUE	QUANTITY USED	
			FROM IOL	FROM USA
6510-203-0448	Sponge, 4x8	Pg		6
6505-770-8343	Ampicillin	Bt		6
6505-130-1960	Pyrocain	Jr		2
6505-116-1750	Phisohex Soap	Gl		2
6505-153-8480	Hydrogen Peroxide	Bt		2
6515-303-8250	Applicators, cotton	Pg		9
6505-299-8183	Benzalkonium Chloride	Bt		66
6505-159-6625	Dactinoin Oint	Tu		52
6515-660-0011	Surgical Bl des #10	Pg		4
6510-200-2400	4" Ace Wrap	Pg		1
6510-200-2200	3" Ace Wrap	Pg		1
6505-926-2241	Tinnotin	Bt		24
6505-890-2554	Cordran Cream	Tu		16
6510-597-7469	Band-aids (100's)	Bz		6
6505-299-8279	Gamma Benzoin	Tu		4
6510-526-1062	1" Tape	Rl		40
6510-203-5000	3" Tape	Rl		16
6515-383-0565	Tourniquet	Ca		20
6505-111-1200	Calamine Lotion	Bt		6
6505-299-8615	Ringers Lactate	Bt		14
6515-289-7448	Cutter Sets	Ca		12
6505-926-9033	Dapsone	Bt		18
6505-753-5043	Chloroquine Painsquin	Bt		6
6545-957-7650	Surgical set, Individ	Ca		2
6510-201-7435	Battle Dressings Sm	Bz		288
6505-286-7302	Tetracycline Red.	Bt		2
6505-687-4482	ETHI	Bt		14
6505-074-4702	Lenotil	Bt		6
6505-782-6510	Griseofulvin	Bt		2
6505-784-4976	Darvon Comp. 65	Bz		2
6506-116-8350	Bondryl 100's	Bt		4
6505-890-1420	Ornade	Bt		2
6515-890-1540	2 1/2 cc Syringe	Ysc		1
6505-558-1289	Gelusil Tabs	Bz		10
6505-153-8018	Tetracaine Oph. Oint	Tu		6
6505-962-4576	Viasno Eye Solution	Bt		2
6505-856-1610	Composine Inj.	Amp		10
6505-664-4814	Desenex Oint	Tu		24
6505-890-0601	Composine Caps, (250's)	Bt		2
6505-656-162	Penicillin V * K	Bt		4
6505-100-9985	ASA (100's)	Bt		10

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6 May 1969

FMS	DESCRIPTION	UNIT OF ISSUE	QUANTITY USED	
			FROM IOL	FROM ISA
6505-660-1601	Robaxin (250's)	Bt		1
6505-129-5518	Morphine Syrettes 5's	Pg		5
6505-753-9605	Actifed	Bt		4
6530-783-7510	Litter, Nylon Poleless	Ea		24
6515-660-0046	Airway, Pharyngeal	Ea		6
6505-064-8765	Robitussin Cough Syrup	Bt		20
6505-153-8816	Tetraocaine Oint	Tu		36
6510-200-3120	Bandage, Gauze	Rl		72

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6 May 196916. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES

a. Ground Surveillance Radar FPS-6's were used around the fire base and in several instances gave advanced warning of enemy movement during the hours of darkness.

b. Air - Ground Marking System SOP use of pyrotechnic smoke, air panels and strobe lights.

17. CONTAINERS ANALYSIS

a. Operation "Defiant Measure/Taylor Cannon" and the Unnamed Operation were conceived to deny the enemy a strategic staging area used in his attacks against An Hoa combat base and Hill 65. The duration of both operations prevented the enemy from mounting large scale offensive operations in the area.

b. In these operations, BLT 3/26 was provided with its first opportunity to meet a large, aggressive, well-trained and equipped NVA unit. The heavy contact achieved served as a proving ground for all of the units and unit leaders. The results built a confidence in the BLT and its supporting arms, as well as high over-all morale and fighting spirit.

c. The net result of these operations was the denial of a previously relative secure strategically located staging area to the enemy. After routing the bulk of the enemy forces in the area, it is felt that at least two battalion size units should continue to conduct sweeping operations throughout the Arizona A.O. in order to keep the enemy from moving freely throughout the area.

18. RECOMMENDATIONS

a. It is felt that the A.O. assigned BLT 3/26 was extremely large and could not effectively be controlled by one (1) battalion. The size of the Arizona area dictates no less than two (2) battalions to effectively control the A.O.

b. When operating in terrain such as the Arizona Territory, the supporting arms organic to the B.T should be maintained at a centralized located F.B. This provides the most effective fire support to the nonconverging elements in addition to a better communication capability, both of which contribute greatly to the combat effectiveness of the BLT.

E. W. Shelling
E. W. SHELLING

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Operation Order 1-69 (Operation OK ATOMIA TUMES).

- Ref: (a) Regs: VERMONT, 1:50,000 AMS Series L701A, Sheets 6540 I, 6541 II, 6540 III, 6541 IV.
- (b) Seventh Marines Operation Order 1-69
- (c) Seventh Marines Admin Order 1-69
- (d) Intelligence Training Team 5/26 (Operation Plan 1-69)

Tactic: Organizational - Attack (Attack Organization)

1. SITUATION

a. Enemy Forces - Seventh B (Intelligence)

b. Friendly Forces

(1) Commencing on D-Day, 51st AVN Lt Col (-) conducts coordinated search and destroy operations in S.W. part of A.O. to find, fix and destroy enemy forces.

(2) Air Support - Seventh B (Air Support Element)

(3) Air Support - Air Cavalry (Attack Helicopters) as required. Assault (Air Support)

(4) 1st Bn of Engineers Battalion direct support 7th Marines; improve Route 4 from HILL 69 to HILL 52; perform combat engineer tasks to establish BREACHWAYS; in support to establish combat operating bases (COBs)/fire support bases (FSBs) in North-Central Ridge area.

(5) 1st Bn of Engineers conducts reconnaissance and surveillance operations in the west, north, and northeast portions of the A.O. to discover enemy infiltration and to provide warning of air reinforcing A.O.

(6) Co A 1st Bn of Engineers direct support 7th Marines; conducts reconnaissance and search operations in assigned area to locate the enemy and his major tank vehicles.

2. MISSION

On D-Day at 1400z HHT 3/26 (-) (Rain) lands by helicopter in western Happy Valley, (via ZC 133655), establishes FSB France and conducts reconnaissance in search operations in the western portion of the Happy Valley Charlie Ridge area to intercept enemy infiltration and exfiltration.

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