

HEADQUARTERS
1st Tank Battalion, FMF
APO San Francisco 96602

2/RAH/rjd
5 June 1967

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division, (Rein), FMF
Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 May 1967 to 31 May 1967
Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8
(c) DivO 5750.2B
Encl: (1) 1st Tank Battalion Command Chronology

R M Taylor
R. M. TAYLOR

1ST TANK BATTALION

S & C FILES
HEADQUARTERS
1ST MARINE DIVISION, FMF

67 2309

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JUN 11 1967

1st TANK BATTALION, FMF

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Part I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. 1st Tank Battalion

Lt. Colonel R. M. TAYLOR
Commanding Officer

SUBORDINATE UNITS

H&S Company, 1st Tank Battalion	Captain J. C. WINTHER
Company "A", 1st Tank Battalion	Captain W. J. BRITTON
Company "B", 1st Tank Battalion	Captain E. B. FABLE
Company "C", 1st Tank Battalion	Captain P. S. WEIGAND

2. Location

Headquarters, 1st Tank Battalion, Danang, RVN at (AT 997723)
 H&S Company, 1st Tank Battalion, Danang, RVN at (AT 997723)
 Company "A", 1st Tank Battalion, Danang, RVN at (AT 997723)
 Company "B", 1st Tank Battalion, Danang, RVN at (AT 961608)
 Company "C", 1st Tank Battalion, Danang, RVN at (BT 074658)

3. Staff Officers

Battalion Executive Officer	Major E. P. TRADEN Jr.
Battalion Adjutant, S-1 Legal Officer	WO-1 C. C. CARL
Battalion S-2 Officer	1stLt R. A. HENDERSON
Battalion S-3 Officer	Major C. R. BRABEC
Battalion S-4 Officer	Major D. B. CRUDUP
Battalion S-5/Civil Affairs Officer	1stLt J. M. RAY

4. Average Monthly Strength

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
28	714	1	10

"ENCLOSURE (1)"

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Command Chronology

S-3 1st Tk Bn, FME

May, 1967

Operations and Training

I Operations

(a) Operation Webster. The 1st platoon, Company B (Rein) supported the 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines during the period 16-18 May 1967 during Operation Webster.

II Anti-Tank Activities

(a) Mines. During the month of May 1967 this battalion experienced thirteen (13) mine incidents. All incidents involved the mining of tanks. As best that can be determined at this time all mines consisted of a substantial quantity of TNT and were detonated by a pressure type device. Damage to the tanks ranged from moderate to extensive. Eight of the 13 mined tanks were evacuated as a result to damage to the vehicle's hulls. Eleven personnel casualties were sustained from these mine incidents.

(b) Booby Traps. On 6 May, a tank from Company "A" was hit by a command detonated 81mm mortar round set at turret height in a group of trees. One crewman was killed and four crewmen were wounded. Minor damage was inflicted on the vehicle.

III Southern Defense Sector

(a) The Combat Operations Center of this battalion continued to initiate, direct, and coordinate defensive activities within the Southern Sector, 1st Division Rear Area with the following results:

(1) This battalion furnished sixty-two (62) patrols and ambushes and ran 10 special security patrols in response to intelligence information furnished to the sector or for protection of the Civic Action MED CAP teams.

(2) Seven hundred and twenty-four (724) tenent unit activities were coordinated by the tank battalion during the month of May within the sector.

(3) On 14 May "C" Battery 1st LAAM Bn was attacked by a sapper team causing extensive damage to their cantonement. This Combat Operation Center of this battalion, coordinated the illumination and fire fighting equipment support in response to the LAAM Bn's requests for assistance.

"ENCLOSURE (1)"

IV Training

(a) Training emphasis for the month of May was centered on tank gunnery for all crewmen. General Military Subjects training continued with emphasis on First Aid, NBC Warfare, and Mines and Booby-Traps.

A special instruction team from FMFPAC provided a one day school for twenty-five (25) men of the battalion on the M-16 rifle. Utilizing these 25 personnel as instructors, the battalion's M-16 Rifle indoctrination program was initiated in all companies.

Officers and Staff Non Commissioned Officers School continued with the initiation of a weekly Friday night briefing to all members of the H&S Company. The briefings included current intelligence, tactical operations, personnel administration facts, logistical trends, Civic Action, and other current items of information related to the Da Nang TAOR and the Southern Defense Sector.

V Ground Based Defoliant Report

During the month of March, flame tanks assigned to the gun companies expended a total of 1750 gallons of napalm mix, in executing assigned fire missions.

VI Viet Cong Box Score for May

VC KIA Confirmed	30
VC KIA Probable	20
VC WIA Probable	8
VCS Detainees	15

ENCLOSURE (1)

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Part III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT DATA

- A. Significant Operations Conducted
- B. Casualties Sustained
- C. Civic Action
- D. Administration
- E. Personnel
- F. Intelligence
- G. Logistics

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CASUALTIES SUSTAINED

During the month of May this Battalion sustained 33 casualties, 7 of which were medically evacuated. During the month of May this Battalion had one Marine medically evacuated for non-battle reasons.

"ENCLOSURE (1)"

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SECRETCIVIC ACTION

On 5 May the hamlet of Phong-Bao formally opened a Market Place that was declared "on limits" to U. S. Military personnel by the 1st Tank Battalion. The Market Place consists of 9 stalls, most of which are occupied by two merchants. The merchants have brought in a variety of merchandise ranging from foot lockers to souvenirs. The Market Place has been successful from an economic viewpoint. Estimates of the income generated by the Market Place are unavailable but it seems to be substantial as evidenced by the increased offerings of merchandise for sale. On the negative side however, is the fact that the concentration of money in the Market Place area has attracted undesirable elements such as prostitutes and persons dealing in Black Market. The Civic Action Team has taken steps to combat these activities by keeping members of the team in and around the Market Place area during the hours it is open.

On 7 May Lt. General KRULAK, Major General NICKERSON, and Major General CUSHMAN visited the Pig Breeding Farm which is sponsored by the 1st Tank Battalion. The visitors were received by the Commanding Officer and were guided around the farm and given a briefing on the purpose and goals of the project by the Civil Affairs Officer.

In conjunction with the Civil Affairs program, the battalion has established a policy of hiring Vietnamese housemaids and other native labor from within our CAACOR. On 7 May, six housemaids were hired and on 28 May, three more were hired.

On 15 May, General BOWEN, a reserve Marine General, visited the Pig Breeding Farm. The Commanding Officer and the Civil Affairs Officer conducted a tour of the farm explaining the various aspects of the breeding program.

On 22 May, SSgt LAC, the 1st Tank Battalion interpreter was shot while at the Phong-Bao schoolhouse. The details of the shooting are still not completely clear. There is some indication that he was wounded by a P.F. His condition is good and he should be released from the 1st Medical Battalion in about two weeks.

On 24 May, a team from NBC television arrived at the Pig Breeding Farm. The purpose of their visit was to interview members of the Civic Action Team and take pictures of the farm for a documentary they are doing on the pacification effort in the I Corps.

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During the month of May the attendance at Medcap was increased by almost one-half. The Medcap Team treated 342 women, 188 men and 669 children, a total of 1,199 patients. This is compared with 713 patients treated during the preceding month. The marked increase is due to two factors:

1. Mimeographed Medcap schedules have been widely disseminated in the hamlet.
2. The frequency of Medcap was increased from 3 days a week to four days a week. On the 19th of May this was further increased to a 5 day a week schedule in order to accommodate the additional patients.

During May the Civic Action Office distributed the following materials for self-help projects:

1. Fourteen bags of cement for a community well at the Four Corners.
2. Sixty-five stakes and forty rolls of barbed wire for a fence around the Pagoda at the Four Corners.
3. Twenty-four bags of cement, four truck loads of lumber and twenty-five sheets of tin for the Market Place shed.
4. Fifteen bags of cement for the public school at the Four Corners.
5. Ten bags of cement for the rebuilding of an existing well behind the Pagoda at the Four Corners.
6. One-half load of lumber, ten bags of cement and six sheets of tin for Pig Farm #7.
7. Approximately 13,000 pounds of garbage was distributed to be used as feed for the Pig Breeding Farm and individual pig farms.

During the month of May, the following projects were completed:

1. Market Place stalls.
2. Cement floor and shed at Market Place to be used by villagers selling fish and produce.
3. Community well at the Four Corners for the resettled families from Dong-Be.
4. Community well already in existence was rebuilt.
5. Fence around the Pagoda.
6. Well at the Pig Breeding Farm.
7. Pig Farm #7.

During the Month of May, greater emphasis was placed on the distribution of PYSOPS material. The bulk of these leaflets and TU-DO newspapers were disseminated during the Medcaps. There are four bulletin boards in existence in the hamlet and these are used for posting PYSOPS material and notices of interest to the public. Movies have been scheduled and plans are being made to show them on a regularly scheduled basis.

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ADMINISTRATION

All companies are within the Da Nang Tactical Area of Responsibility. The 1st Tank Battalion retains administrative control of all companies.

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The 1st Tank Battalion is currently in personnel category C-1 with a chargeable strength of 27 Marine Officers, 692 Marine Enlisted, one Navy Officer, and ten Navy Enlisted.

During the month of May, the Battalion joined one Marine Officer and 57 Marine Enlisted. Two Marine Officers and 30 Marine Enlisted were transferred.

The following MOS's are considered critical:

<u>MOS</u>	<u>M/L</u>	<u>ON BOARD</u>
3510	01	00
2867	01	00
* 2822	00	00

* Not rated on manning level, but have equipment on hand and is in use at present time.

Three Breaches of discipline occurred during the month of May resulting in one Special Court-Martial.

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SECRETINTELLIGENCE

Weather During the month of May Southwest monsoonal flow aloft created excellent weather conditions, late afternoon cumulus buildup and thundershower activity prevailed in the mountains. Visibility averaged 7 miles, and wind averaged 5 knots within the Da Nang area.

Tractability Of interest during the end of May. The rice paddies were flooded for the first rice crop of the year, cutting down on our cross country capabilities.

Incidents The incidents decreased slightly for the month of May. 94 incidents costing the enemy 30 KIA confirmed, 20 KIA probable and 3 captives.

Mines Again AT mining continued at a high rate. Thirteen tank detonating mines from 20 to 75 pounds. All mines were in the Southern Sector of the T4OR, with the majority on or near highway 4.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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HEADQUARTERS
1st Tank Battalion, FMF
FPO San Francisco 96602

4/DBC/tjo
4000
1 Jun 1967

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF
(Attn: G-4)

Subj: Logistics Summary Report

Ref: (a) DivO 4400.19A
(b) CG, 1st MarDiv msg 171053Z May 1967

Encl: ✓(1) List of supply items declared to be in a critical status
✓(2) List of potentially critical items in accordance with reference (b)

1. The following report covering the month of May 1967 is submitted in accordance with references (a) and (b).

SUPPLY

2. Supply Situation. Supply response has been relatively slow during the past month due to milstrip conversion undertaken by Stock Account. There are vital repair parts required for track and wheel vehicles with little or no supply response noted. These include bulbs for 18" searchlights, left hand torsion bars, pneumatic tubes 1100 X 20 of which this command holds requirements for 161. No supply response has been taken on pneumatic tubes 1100 X 20 in the past 6 months. Acetylene and sulfuric acid electrolyte are very critical with no relief seen in the future. Sandbags are becoming critical due to requirements not being filled. No problem areas are foreseen at the present time for class I, III and V. Blank forms are still in short supply. Due to the heavy turnover of personnel, both officer and enlisted fitness reports (NAVMC 10147-DD and NAVMC 10233-DD) have become very limited. A similar situation also exists for Record of Emergency Data (NAVMC 10526-DD) and Promotion Warrants (DD-216)

3. Critical Items.

a. List of supply items declared to be in a critical status - see enclosure (1).

b. List of potentially critical items to be reported in accordance with reference (b) - see enclosure (2).

ENCLOSURE (1)

4. Significant Problem Areas. A trend still exists toward the nonavailability of certain motor transport and track vehicle repair parts. Supply response is improving at a slow pace. The urgency of need for these parts continues to be inflated due to now-receipt of stock replenishment orders.

MAINTENANCE

5. Maintenance Situation. The maintenance effort has been able to respond to the needs for operational commitments. Progress has been hampered, but to a lesser degree than the previous month, by extensive battle damage and the criticality of certain repair parts. During this reporting period, mine damage was sustained on 10 M-48A3 tanks and 2 M-67A2 flame tanks.

6. Major Items of Equipment.

TA#	ITEM	WITH	O/H	OPER. READY	WCRS	NORM
MOTOR TRANSPORT						
51480	Truck, Tanker M-49	7	7	6		1
51570	Truck, Utility M-38A1	21	18	18		
22052	AN/MRC - 109	1	1	1		
TRACKED VEHICLES						
61280	M-51 VTR	4	4	3		1
MAJOR WEAPONS						
61810	M-48A3, Tank	53	47	33		14
61820	M-67A2, Flame Tank	9	8	7		1
ENGINEER/CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT						
31700	TD-15 Tractor	1	1			1
31980	Welding Mach IM 62-300 AMP	1	1	1		
COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT						
22040	AN/MRC-83	2	2	2		
22770	AN/GGC-3A	1	1	1		
GENERATORS						
20945	FU-482	1	1	1		

7. Significant Maintenance Problem Areas. No change.

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SERVICES

8. Services Situation. No change.

TRANSPORTATION

9. Significant Transportation Problem areas.

MISCELLANEOUS

10. Other Items of Interest. During this period all outstanding requisitions for lumber were cancelled by direction from higher authority. Construction requirements ordinarily originate from higher authority through management inspections, i.e., additional mess hall facilities, embarkation requirements, bunker construction, security cage construction for publications and supplies, hot locker construction, maintenance of hard stand areas, medical requirements, communications security, etc.

R. M. TAYLOR

"ENCLOSURE (1)"

CRITICAL ITEMS LIST

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RUC	FSN	NOUN NAME	QTY	DOC#	DDD	FRI	HOLDER	LATEST STATUS
21410	6830-264-6755	Gas, Acetylene	2052	35342	071	02	02	J1-7 Barstow
21410	6830-169-0800	Gas, Oxygen	2200	51616	080	05	02	J1-6
21410	6830-245-0199	Gas, Carbon Dioxide	643	51019	065	05	02	First Tracer to C-2 on 12 Apr 67
21410	6240-752-2570	Lamp, F/18" Searchlight	5	51254	070	02	02	C02 Pass to C-2
21410	6810-249-9354	Acid, Sulfuric Electrolyte	11	51459	078	05	01	J1-4
21410	4940-014-0496	Cleaner, Steam	1	51108	103	05	02	Issue Doc Cut 24 Mar J1-Blank
21410	4110-289-7966	Refrigerator, 100 CUFT	1	43811	227	02	02	MGSC Barstow passed demand to CMC No Status

ENCLOSURE (1)

"ENCLOSURE (1)"

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ITEM	FSN	SHORT	NOT SHORT	IMPACT
Pistol Cal.45	1005-673-7965		X	Minimal
Concentrine	5660-371-9494	X		
Stake, Barbed Wire	5660-262-9914		X	
Battery B.A 386	6135-858-5712		X	
Battery 6TN	6140-057-2754		X	
Wire WD 1/TT	6140-160-7795		X	Minimal
Wire WD 1/TT	6145-226-8812		X	
Wire WD 1/TT	6145-243-8466		X	
Lamp Incandescent	6240-635-9800		Not Applicable	
Armor Body Upper	8470-576-4193		X	
Armor Body Upper	8470-576-4194		X	
Armor Body Upper	8470-576-4195		X	
Green Towel	7210-227-1524	X		Minimal
Green Underclothes	All Sizes	X		Minimal
Tent G. F.	8340-543-7787	X		Minimal
Nitrogen	6830-264-9086		X	Minimal
Acetylene	6830-264-6755	X		Critical
Oxygen	6830-1690800	X		Critical
Hydrogen Technical	6830-292-0132		X	
Helmet Covers	8415-261-6833		X	
Grenade Carriers	8465-261-5001	X		Minimal
Lightweight Utilities	All Sizes		Not Applicable	
Tires 1100 X 20	2610-540-4724		Not Applicable	
Tires 900 X 20	2610-20404008		Not Applicable	
Spare Parts F/Refrig.			X	
Chlordane	6840-270-8262	X		Minimal

ENCLOSURE (2)

ENCLOSURE (1)

SIGNIFICANT OPERATIONS CONDUCTED

At 012000H, tanks from 3rd platoon, Company B, located at AT 994559 received heavy volume of small arms fire from enemy located in the vicinity of AT 991543. Tanks fired 31 rounds of 90mm HE and 1200 rounds of .30 caliber resulting in 2 VC KIA confirmed and 4 VC KIA probable.

At 020915H, a tank from 3rd platoon, Company C located at BT 091654 detonated an anti-tank mine of approximately 75 lbs TNT resulting in moderate damage to the tank and one crewman WIA, not medi-evacted.

At 031200H, tanks from 1st platoon, Company A, located at AT 952628 captured 3 VC, 1 French submachine gun and 2 chicom grenades, after running over a cave containing the VC.

At 040900H, a tank from 1st platoon, Company A, while on patrol, detonated an anti-personnel mine (81mm mortar) at AT 914668 resulting in one tank crewman being wounded, non medi-evacted. One VC suspect was picked up.

At 041840H, an 81mm mortar, short round landed in C/1/1 CP resulting in two tank crewmen KIA and two tank crewmen WIA, medi-evacted.

At 042030H, a tank from 1st platoon Company B, located at AT 788552 observed two VC in vicinity of AT 792534 by illuminating the area. The tank fired 3 rounds of 90mm HE and 250 rounds .30 caliber resulting in 2 VC KIA confirmed.

At 050930H, a tank from 1st platoon, Company B located at AT 789553, detonated a 155mm shell, resulting in heavy damage to the tank and 2 WIA, medi-evacted.

At 061015H, a tank from 1st platoon at Company A, located at AT 895675 was hit by a 81mm mortar round, suspended in the overhanging bamboo. The round, command detonated, resulted in one tank crewman KIA and three tank crewmen WIA, medi-evacted.

At 070940H, a tank from 3rd platoon, Company B located at AT 994556 detonated an anti-tank mine of approximately 20-30 lbs of TNT resulting in moderate damage to the vehicle.

At 071330H, tanks from 2nd platoon, Company B, located at AT 927504, received small arms fire from enemy located in the vicinity of AT 935497. Tanks fired 11 rounds 90mm HE and 7 rounds 90mm WP resulting in 4 VC KIA confirmed and 6 VC KIA probable.

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At 071630H, tanks from 3rd platoon, Company C located at BT 072684 observed 15 VC with weapons in the vicinity of BT 075684. Tanks fired 2 rounds of 90mm HE resulting in 3 VC KIA confirmed and one .38 caliber pistol, hand grenades and assorted 782 gear captured.

At 071845H, tanks from 1st platoon, Company B located at AT 787553 were requested by A/O to fire on observed enemy located in vicinity of AT 803537. Tank fire was adjusted on to target by A/O. Tanks fired a total of 38 rounds of 90mm HE resulting in 6 VC KIA probables.

AT 081045H, a tank from 1st platoon, Company A located at AT 949664 detonated an anti-tank mine of approximately 30 lbs TNT resulting in moderate damage to tank and two tank crewmen WIA, non-evacted.

At 081330H, a tank from 2nd platoon, Company B, located at AT 916570 observed five enemy in the vicinity of AT 918494. The tank fired 20 rounds .30 caliber resulting in 1 VC KIA confirmed.

At 081630H, a tank from 1st platoon, Company C located at AT 988585 detonated an anti-tank mine of approximately 20-30 lbs TNT resulting in moderate damage to the vehicle.

At 101430H, a tank from 1st platoon, Company C located at BT 023596 observed four enemy with packs in the vicinity of BT 024596. The tank fired 250 rounds of .30 caliber resulting in one VC KIA confirmed.

At 140015H, a tank from 2nd platoon, Company A located at AT 970735 observed 7-10 enemy within the perimeter who had just previously used satchle charges to destroy 3 hawk missile launchers. The tank fired 150 rounds of .30 caliber and 50 rounds of .50 caliber resulting in 1 VC KIA probable.

At 141915H, a tank from 3rd platoon, Company C located at BT 098658 detonated an anti-tank mine of approximately 60 lbs TNT resulting in moderate damage to tank and wounding one tank crewman, non-evacted.

At 150430H, a flame tank from Company C located at BT 001576, detonated an anti-tank mine of approximately 20 lbs TNT resulting in moderate damage to the vehicle.

At 160745H, a tank from 3rd platoon, Company B located at AT 815549, detonated an anti-tank mine of approximately 40 lbs TNT resulting in extensive damage to the vehicle and wounding three tank crewmen, non-evacted.

At 191115H, a tank from 1st platoon, Company A, located at AT 952682 detonated an anti-tank mine of approximately 50 lbs TNT resulting in extensive damage to the vehicle.

ENCLOSURE (1)

SECRET

At 200800H, tanks from 3rd platoon, Company A located at AT 863468 accounted for 2 VC KIA confirmed as a result of H&I fires the previous night.

At 201815H, tanks from 3rd platoon, Company C located at BT 064647 fired at suspected enemy positions in vicinity of BT 058643. Tanks fired 8 rounds 90mm HE resulting in 2 VC KIA confirmed.

At 210945H, tanks from 1st platoon Company A located at AT 977568 observed 17 enemy in green and gray uniforms in the vicinity of AT 968542. Tanks fired 1 round of 90mm WP and 7 rounds of 90mm HE resulting in 6 VC KIA confirmed.

At 211235H, tanks from 1st platoon, Company A located at AT 982542 received small arms fire from enemy in the vicinity of AT 980542. Tanks fired one round 90mm cannister, 4 rounds of 90mm HE and 1200 rounds of .30 caliber resulting in 2 VC KIA confirmed.

At 221030H, a tank from Company C located at BT 090616 detonated an anti-tank mine of approximately 60 lbs TNT resulting in moderate damage to the vehicle.

At 240900H, a tank from Company C located at BT 014594, detonated an anti-tank mine of approximately 50 lbs TNT resulting in moderate damage to the vehicle.

At 251445H, a tank from 1st platoon, Company C, located at AT 993585, detonated an anti-tank mine of approximately 50 lbs TNT. Upon being towed to company CP the same tank at 251900H detonated a second mine at BT 00574 of approximately 60 lbs TNT, both mines, combined, resulted in heavy damage to the vehicle and wounded two tank crewmen, one of which was medi-evacted.

At 271215H, tanks from 2nd platoon, Company A, located at AT 970620, observed six enemy with weapons in the vicinity of AT 941501. Tanks fired 20 rounds of 90mm HE resulting in 4 VC KIA confirmed and 2 VC KIA probable.

At 301700H, a flame tank from Company A located at AT 982584, detonated an anti-tank mine of approximately 40 lbs TNT resulting in moderate damage to the vehicle and wounding two crewmen, one of which was medi-evacted.

At 310800H, a tank from 1st platoon, Company A, located at AT 984583, detonated an anti-personnel mine of approximately 10 lbs TNT resulting in very light damage to the vehicle.

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At 311400H, a tank from 3rd platoon, Company C, located at BT 076597, observed one enemy in vicinity of BT 070602. The tank fired one round of 90mm HE resulting in 1 VC KIA confirmed plus grenades and cartridge belt.

ENCLOSURE (1)