

HEADQUARTERS
2d Battalion, 3d Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
APO San Francisco 96602

3/DJM/jtp
5750
15 August 1969
S/N 233A0869

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(UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL FROM ENCL.)

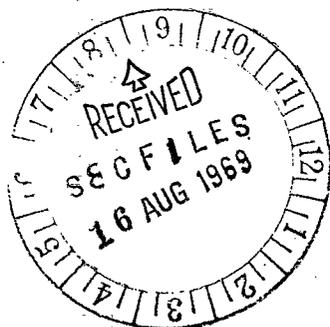
From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
Subj: Command Chronology, 1 through 31 July 1969

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A
(b) FMFAsO 5750.8A
(c) DivO 5750.1C

Encl: (1) 2d Battalion, 3d Marines Command Chronology for
01000H to 312400H July 69.

1. In accordance with the provisions of reference (a), (b) and (c), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. WP-4 downgraded at 3 year intervals, declassified after 12 years.

W. S. Daniels
W. S. DANIELS



2nd BN, 3rd MAR, S & G
CONTROL NO. 00244-69
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2ND BN, 3RD MAR

CMO CHRON

July 1969

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HEADQUARTERS
2d Battalion, 3d Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
APO San Francisco 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

0600H to 072000H July 1969

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

<u>1. DESIGNATION</u>	<u>COMMANDER</u>	<u>PERIOD</u>
2d Bn, 3d Mar	LtCol. J. J. MCMONAGLE	1-31 July 69

SUBORDINATE UNITS

H&S Company	1stLt. J. R. BOYAN	1-31 July 69
Company E	Capt. P. J. SLENOTT	1-31 July 69
Company F	1stLt. R. C. AYERS Capt. S. W. BEACH	1-3 July 69 4-31 July 69
Company G	Capt. J. M. HARGROVE	1-31 July 69
Company H	Capt. K. W. NISEWANER	1-31 July 69

2. MISSION

- (a) Operation Virginia Ridge, Cam Lo area, Quang Tri Province, RVN.
- (b) Operation Idaho Canyon, Cam Lo area, Quang Tri Province, RVN.

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer	Major J. R. GUTHEINZ Major A. L. VAIL	1-12 July 69 13-31 July 69
S-1/Adjutant	Capt. T. L. GARR	1-31 July 69
S-2	1stLt. J. R. BUCHER	1-31 July 69
S-3	Major D. J. MYERS	1-31 July 69
S-4	1stLt. W. C. HELLTON	1-31 July 69
CommO	1stLt. M. W. SMITH	1-31 July 69

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

OFF	USMC
38	

ENL
1132

OFF
2

USN

ENL

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. GENERAL OVERVIEW OF ALL ACTIVITIES

The battalion participated in Operation Virginia Ridge and Idaho Canyon during the past month, and in order to provide maximum coverage to area small units were employed. Each company established platoon patrol bases and sent out squad size patrols. In addition the platoons shifted position each day in order to attain maximum coverage and also reduce the mortar threat.

The enemy avoided contact and appeared to be moving around the battalion's AO. Even Route 9 activity decreased. Night and day patrols and ambushes reduced the mining incidents significantly. Route 9 is being widened and paved, and the Sea Bees have been able to accomplish their task with no interference from the enemy.

For the first time in several months the CP did not move with a unit in the field. Communications were such that the CP remained at either Khe Gio Bridge or Elliot Combat Base and from these locations controlled the companies.

Foot mobility continued to be the theme of the battalion. The companies were able to move rapidly since the loads continued to be small and they made use of local water.

2. MISSIONS ASSIGNED

The battalion conducted search and destroy operations in the AO and provided security for Route 9. On 11 July the battalion took responsibility for the area north of the Rockpile and companies were displaced by truck and helicopter. Golf remained at Elliot Combat Base providing security while the other companies operated in the field. A temporary COC was established at ECB. Operation Virginia Ridge was closed on 16 July and Idaho Canyon commenced. The latter part of the month Hotel was open to 3/3. Hotel returned to 2/3 29 July and a day later the CP displaced to the field.

3. INTELLIGENCE

Enemy activity for the month of July was extremely light as the enemy avoided contact. During the first part of the month the enemy's main purpose appeared to be the interdiction of Route 9 between Khe Gio Bridge and Elliot Combat Base.

When the battalion shifted west to its new AO enemy contact remained sporadic as the enemy moved in squad or smaller size units.

Weather for the month of July was marked by extremely hot days the first part of the month while high winds and rain prevailed in the latter part of the month. The average temperature was 92°.

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Terrain in the AO ranged from low rolling hills to steep ridgelines with vegetation varying from short elephant grass to thick jungle.

4. OPERATIONS

The battalion completed Operation Virginia Ridge the first part of July and commenced Operation Idaho Canyon. One company provided security for ELICOM Combat Base thus leaving three companies to conduct search and destroy operations.

Companies continued to operate from platoon size maneuver elements, not remaining static, and conducting extensive patrolling. In this manner it was possible to thoroughly search out the battalion's area of operation. Contact was very light and there were no major engagements. Enemy mortar attacks were almost nonexistent during the month.

5. RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

A. Casualties Inflicted on the Enemy

The enemy suffered a total of 19 KIA during the month of July. The number of enemy WIA can only be approximated, the number probably being considerably greater than the number of MIA. There was one NVA POW and no detainees during the month.

B. Casualties Sustained

The friendly KIA amounted to nine while the WIA total was seven.

C. Equipment and Weapons Captured

(1) Ammunition and Weapons

1700-- Rounds M-60 ammunition
 250-- AK-47 ammunition
 1-- Can 60mm increments
 1000-- Rounds M-16 ammunition
 3-- 60mm rounds
 61-- 82mm rounds
 3-- RPG rounds
 11-- LANS

(2) Mines and Explosives

100-- Feet time fuse
 1-- US claymore
 3-- Glixon grenades
 7-- Anti-tank mines
 23-- Pounds TNT
 2-- Pounds C-4
 2-- M-26 grenades

(3) Miscellaneous

4-- AK-47 magazines
 20-- M-16 magazines
 3-- M-16 rifles (partially destroyed)
 Assorted items 732 gear
 Assorted NVA propaganda leaflets and flags

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6. SUPPORTING ARMSA. Artillery Support

During July artillery continued to render effective close support to the battalion on Operation Virginia Ridge and Operation Idaho Canyon. Over 9,000 rounds were expended during the month, including, 3,042 rounds fired on 512 H & I targets. In addition, 523 rounds were expended on 28 S-2 targets. Mid-month saw a step-up in artillery activity, after a brief lull in the closing phase of Operation Virginia Ridge.

The following batteries fired in support of the battalion: A, B, and G 1/12, K 4/12, the 3rd 175 battery, the 1st 8 inch battery, and the Army's 175 battery A 8th of the 14th.

With the commencement of Operation Idaho Canyon field artillery was employed increasing in close support of Infantry maneuvers. This was accomplished by the extensive use of artillery to prep patrol routes. Fifty-one such preps were used, including 32 unobserved missions and 19 observed preps. Artillery was also utilized to provide counter mortar and blocking fires during enemy contact.

B. Alc Support

(1) The air support for the month of July was satisfactory.

(2) There was a total of 132 support missions flown for the battalion during the month. These included:

a. Med-evac.....	29
b. Visual Recon.....	12
c. Administration.....	18
d. Logistics.....	36
e. A/D.....	37

(3) There were a total of 26 flights of fixed wing requested and 17 executed for the battalion during the month of July.

7. LOGISTICSA. General

For the first eight days of the month units in the field received resupply and replacements from the LSA at Quang Tri. The remainder of the month replacements and Class II were trucked to VCB. Units were resupplied from the LSA at Vandegrift Combat Base.

There were no major problems encountered during the month.

B. Motor Transport

During the month the situation in Motor Transport remained about the same as in past months. With the move from Quang Tri to Dong Ha, the echelon maintenance on equipment decreased to a serious point.

The maintenance facilities which this section now has is a large improvement over past facilities since the battalion moved to a new area. The section was reinspected on the FMFPac inspection and received a grade of satisfactory with minor discrepancies.

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8. PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION

A. Awards

Cross of Gallantry	3	
Purple Heart	6	
Nav Ach Medal	2	
Bronze Star	1	
	<u>12</u>	Total Awards

B. Promotions

PFC	6	
L/OPL	35	
OF1	3	
SG1	5	
SSGT	1	
MSG1	1	
	<u>45</u>	Total Promotions

C. A total of 83 R&R quotas were utilized during the month of July.

D. Personnel Losses and Gains

USMC				USN			
OFF	EML	OFF	EML	OFF	EML	OFF	EML
Join	Drop	Join	Drop	Join	Drop	Join	Drop
4	2	200	189	0	1	14	10

E. Legal and Discipline

A total of twelve Non-Judicial Punishments were awarded during the month.

F. Pay and Allowances

Monetary services have been satisfactory. Pay was issued in the most expedient manner possible, depending on the situation. Again there has been a close liaison between the battalion administrative chief and the disbursing chief.

G. Postal

The postal service remains average. It is still difficult to get mail to the troops in the field due to the unavailability of helicopters.

H. Post Exchange

Exchange facilities in Quang Tri and Dong Ha were available to the battalion rear. Supplementary packs were obtained through supply channels for personnel in the field.

I. Religious Services

Catholic services were conducted by the Battalion Chaplain whenever possible. Protestant services were held by visiting Chaplains when available. Rear echelon personnel attended services in the Quang Tri and Dong Ha complexes.

9. EQUIPMENT

The overall supply situation remained satisfactory during this

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reporting period, with resupplies being provided to the companies in the field via the Vandegrift Combat Base. The Battalion Supply Rear was moved from Quang Tri Combat Base on 24 July, and is currently operating out of Dong Ha Combat Base.

Items of significant importance received during this reporting period were seven M9-7 Flame Throwers which satisfied a T/E deficiency within this unit. The situation on crew-served weapons and individual equipment was satisfactory during this past month.

An item that is still considered critical for the second month in a row is Cushion Sole Socks, much needed for resupplies and new replacements reporting. A total of 2200 pair are currently backordered for this battalion at FLSG-Bravo Clothing Retail outlet.

A total of 120 hours of technical training was conducted during the month.

10. COMMUNICATIONS

During the month of July, the Communications Platoon continued to support the battalion throughout their movements and operations. With the battalion CP remaining in the field for the start of a new operation, communications were maintained at Vandegrift Combat Base. Relay sites and stations were maintained to preserve communications consistent with the tactical situation. At the end of July, the battalion rear moved from Quang Tri to Dong Ha and communications were also established at Dong Ha.

The Communications Platoon experienced minimal problems during the month of July. Due to tactical commitments and the shortage of 2531/2533 personnel, the Communications Platoon substituted numerous 2511's for 2531/2533 radio operators.

Throughout the month the technicians repaired and maintained 22 RT-535's, 2 PRR-4's, 2 PRR-9's, 2 AN/PSR-1's, 2 SB-22/PT switchboards, 2 C-2328A's, 9 PRC-47's, and 1 TM-221/PT. One technician remained with the battalion CP to repair all faulty AN/PRC-26 radios that came in from the field.

The Communications Platoon received two 2531 radio operators and one 2511 wireman as replacements.

During the latter part of July, the Communications Platoon was reinspected by CG Br/McDill. The results of that inspection were satisfactory with minor discrepancies.

11. TRAINING

Due to tactical commitments companies were unable to conduct organized training. New troops continued to take part in the Command Orientation Training Program before going to the field. During the month the battalion filled the following quotas:

NSO School-- 4 CPLD, 1 RCPLS
 SNCO School-- 1 SAR, 1 CSBT
 Land Mine Detachment-- 1 PMS
 Language School-- 1 PMS

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12. SERVICESA. Messing

The only messhall maintained and operated by the battalion for this reporting period were the regimental messhalls at Quang Tri and Dong Ha. A temporary mess facility was maintained at Elliot Combat Base for the CP and Golf Company. Hot chow was also provided for troops in the field on occasion. This chow consisted of meat, bread and juices.

B. Showers

Showers were provided for the troops in the rear. The CP and Golf also had access to showers at ECB.

C. Maintenance

All third echelon maintenance was performed by FLSG-Bravo, Dong Ha. Minimal problems were encountered and services were rendered satisfactorily.

13. MEDICAL

A. Medical care was provided by the hospital corpsmen assigned to the line companies. They were equipped to hold routine sick call and provide emergency treatment for casualties. There was a shortage of corpsmen and at times the rifle companies had only three or four corpsmen.

B. More extensive care was provided by the battalion aid station which consisted of one unit whose location was fixed during this month. The battalion aid station at Quang Tri, and Dong Ha as of 24 July, provided administrative and medical support.

C. Medical support was also provided by the following units:

3rd Medical Battalion, Quang Tri
NSA Hospital, Da Nang
USNH USS Repose
USNH USS Sanctuary

D. Breakdown of important treatments

URI	13	DERMATOLOGY	70	BURNS	3
FUO	67	RODENT BITES	4	EENT	22
GI	11	ORTHOPELICS	22	S/W	36
NP	4	LACERATIONS	28	MISC	6
		VD	7		

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10 July 69

Company G 2/3 chopped opcon to 2/4.

101710H

Company E 2/3 (YD 021564) while on a mine sweep from Khe Gio Bridge to EGB a man in the security squad detonated a claymore, resulting in one USMC WIA.

11 July 69

Company G 2/3, Company G 2/4 pass to opcon of 2/3. Company F 2/3 chopped to opcon of 1/3.

131730H

Company F 2/3 (XD 937528) while working for Company F an aerial observer spotted four NVA at YD 938631. An artillery mission and two flights of fixed wing were called on the grid. A search of the area revealed four old bunkers partially destroyed.

12 July 69

Company G 2/4 passes from opcon of 2/3 to opcon of 2/4.

121750H

Company F 2/3 (XD 949627) discovered two bunkers under construction. Tools and logs tied in bundles were present. A further search was conducted with negative results.

121800H

Company E 2/3 (XD 989576) found a sleeping area for about four people and a trail from above grid to YD 992576 and from east to YD 994578.

131000H

Company F 2/3 (XD 931654) received six rounds of 62mm incoming. Artillery was fired on suspected enemy position and an A/O was on station.

131015H

Company F 2/3 (XD 95632) patrol discovered five graves. The skeletons wore green uniforms with no identification. At YD 956634 the patrol found eight old bunkers, two cooking positions and five NVA canteens.

131600H

Company F 2/3 (XD 945643) patrol discovered tracks of an estimated platoon of NVA, made since last rain (11 July).

141350H

Company G 2/3 (XD 977545) found six AT mines. While placing charge on mines, booby trap was detonated causing no damage. The demolitions were reset and mines were destroyed.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

022100H Company F 2/3 (YD 177570) ambush heard and saw movement and fired small arms. A search revealed four dead cows.

0222100 Company E 2/3 (YD 008565) while moving toward ambush location patrol spotted movement and established a hasty ambush, opened fire with small arms and M-79. Enemy returned fire with small arms and Chicoms. An 81mm mission was fired on possible escape routes and at first light the area was searched with negative results.

030930H Company F 2/3 (YD 067602) found 40 82mm rounds in bomb crater. Rounds were destroyed and the area searched with negative findings.

040830H Company F 2/3 (YD 050814) found 40 one half pound blocks of TNT. The explosives were destroyed in place.

050515H Company M 3/4 (YD 050615) while conducting a mine sweep in the AO of Company E 2/3, a man detonated an AT mine resulting in one USMC KIA.

051040H Company E 2/3 (YD 018565) reported a truck hit an AT mine. The area was reswept with no more mines being found.

051220H Company E 2/3 (YD 018565) reported a wrecker detonated an AT mine. The area was reswept with negative results.

052400H Company E 2/3 (YD 030563) ambush heard digging along road to their west, moved toward digging and spotted approximately four enemy. The ambush opened fire and the enemy ran off. A search at first light revealed one plastic type mine, which was blown in place.

080615H Company F 2/3 (YD 063550) patrol found four rounds 90mm tank ammunition. The rounds were blown in place.

091030H Company E 2/3 (YD 018563) patrol found one 82mm round which was blown in place.

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141755H

Company F 2/3 (YD 954640) while moving toward its position a squad size ambush was ambushed. Fire was returned, and a flare ship and artillery mission were called in allowing the Marines to pull back. A search the next day produced two NVA packs, one with blood on it, one bloody battle dressing, one 40mm gas round, three Chicoms, three AK magazines with ammunition and three pounds of TNT.

142140H

Company F 2/3 (YD 966640) while moving toward their position, a squad ambush spotted movement. A hasty ambush was established. The Marines opened fire and killed two NVA.

161515H

Company F 2/3 (YD 954643) heard mortar pop (the round was apparently a dud). An A/O was fraged to observe an artillery mission which destroyed the mortar pit.

161700H

Company F 2/3 (YD 967633) patrol found five old bunkers, two mortar pits with an adjoining trench line, two NVA canteens, two used mortar fuze boxes and a well used trail on ridge line.

171400H

Company F 2/3 (YD 975676) received 18-20 rounds of 60mm mortar fire. An artillery mission was fired on the suspected mortar position.

190930

Company F 2/3 (YD 972647) patrol discovered 60mm mortar position, one NVA E-tool, one open can 60mm increments, well covers and fuzes.

201530H

Company E 2/3 (YD 983606) found four old bunkers along trail with fresh tracks of about three or four NVA. The bunkers were destroyed and the area searched with negative additional findings.

210945H

Company F 2/3 (YD 993654) patrol discovered tracks of an estimated platoon. The patrol continued to search and found heavy trails along stream bed.

221020H

Company F 2/3 (YD 964627) patrol found and destroyed nine old bunkers.

240600H

Company G 2/3 (YD 002515) patrol spotted movement and heard voices at the above coordinates. The area was checked immediately and again at first light. The findings were one large NVA flag, several small NVA flags and propaganda leaflets.

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240815H Company E 2/3 (YD 974616) found two LAAWS, one 60mm illumination round, three USMC helmets, one NVA battle dressing, 200 rounds AK ammo, two sticks C-4, one NVA helmet, two NVA E-tools, one NVA pack, two rice bowls, one AK-47 magazine with ammo, 200 rounds M-60 ammo, one pair utility trousers with one half body inside. All usable gear was retrieved the rest was destroyed.

241100H Company E 2/3 (YD 989616) found 1500 M-60 rounds, one US claymore, three M-16 barrels, one M-16 stock, six US gas masks, 11 LAAWS, 1000 rounds M-16 ammo, 100 feet of time fuze, two pop ups, 20 M-16 magazines, seven 81mm illumination rounds, five 81mm WP rounds, three 60mm HE rounds, two NVA E-tools, one USMC helmet, two M-26 grenades, one 175mm dud. All unserviceable gear was destroyed.

25 July 69 Company H 2/3 chopped opcon to 3/3.

261130H Company E 2/3 (YD 985627) found one dead NVA wearing green utilities apparently killed by small arms.

261215H Company F 2/3 (964616) patrol found one old Chicom claymore facing downhill along a trail. Mine was blown in place.

262030H Company F 2/3 (967652) spotted light and small fires while in their night position. Artillery was called in resulting in two secondary explosions.

271300H Company F 2/3 (YD 937611) while on patrol, squad received small arms from approximately four NVA. Enemy fled to the southwest when fire was returned. Artillery was called in and the area was searched. Found were 20 old bunkers, two pith helmets, one one AK-47 magazine with ammo, one gas mask and miscellaneous 782 gear.

29 July 69 Company H 2/3 returned to opcon 2/3.

300930H Company F 2/3 (YD 982627) while in night position was bombed by beacon hop that was scheduled for YD 937612. There were five USMC KIA and three WIA.

301500H Company F 2/3 excepts 3F which displaced from .
ECB (YD 975613)

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PART IV
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- ✓ TAB A STAFF LOG
- ✓ TAB B ORIGINATED MESSAGES
- ✓ TAB C OPERATIONAL ORDERS

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STAFF LOG

A. REGIMENTAL FRAG ORDER EXCERPTS

Frag Order #80-69

3. 2/3

- a. Continue assigned missions in AO.
- b. Provide (1) company for reaction force to be utilized in A-4, 3-2 area in event of large enemy contact. Insure company in within (1) hour closing time of preplanned assembly and LZ area.
- c. Notify this headquarters of assembly/LZ position at your earliest.

Frag Order #81-69

3. 2/3

- a. Continue assigned mission.
- b. Extend operations in Rao Vang area based on slippage of Eaton Lake.
- c. Submit to this HQ asap a listing of all tenants at A-4 to include their title, parent unit and mission. Also, any pros and cons regarding tactical significance, on your level, of the possible closing of A-4.

Frag Order #82-69

3. 2/3

- a. Continue present mission.
- b. Be prepared on 9 July to commence thorough search of the following areas:
 - (1) NW corner of Mai Loc TACR (West of 06 grid line and North of 49 grid line).
 - (2) UL 0656, UL 0654, UR 1056 and LR 1054.

Frag Order #83-69

3. 2/3

- a. Upon relief by 1/3 of security for FSB Fuller assume new AO, relocate forces to maintain road security and search out areas designated in reference (b).
- b. Be prepared to shift forces to West into proposed new AO on 48- hour notice.

Frag Order #84-69

3. 2/3

- a. Conduct a vehicular lift at 101200H of one unit to relieve Fox 2/9 of security for ECB. Third Marines security platoon will provide convoy security prior to pick up and return trip.
- b. Assure responsibility of new AO at 102400H (OPNS overlay).
- c. Conduct zippo at 101500H of LZ's for helo-assault on 11 July (brief at Third Marines CP).

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TAB A TO PART IV

STAFF LOG

- ✓ A. REGIMENTAL FRAG ORDER EXCERPTS
- ✓ B. REGIMENTAL BOUNDARY CHANGES
- ✓ C. THREAT POINT CHANGES

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- d. On 11 July displace Bn(-) into new AO by helo and truck and commence multi-platoon, mutually supported patrolling to locate and destroy enemy forces and supplies.

Frag Order #85-69

3. 2/3

- a. Conduct helo-assault and tip into Mutter's Ridge, vicinity LZ Sierra, and commence mutually supporting platoon patrols throughout AO.
- b. Continue to provide security for ECB and Route #9 in AO; 100% day and night surveillance of road from ECB to your eastern boundary.
- c. Provide security for Sea Bee road construction from ECB east to boundary.
- d. Provide security for mine sweeps emanating from ECB.

Frag Order #86-69

3. 2/3

- a. There remains a strong possibility that today's prolonged rocket attacks on A-1 and U-2 (32 122mm rockets fired from Q83CH to MLOEH) were used to cover a large enemy movement from NE to SW: From vicinity Hill 366 (YD 0064) toward and east of LZ Mack and continuing SW passing the razorback to the north and the west. The movement may be continuing. This generally duplicates a recent move by the 3d Bn, 270th Regt. In light of this it is felt your H and E Companies would be more properly employed north of the 59 grid line.
- a. You are directed to deploy these companies north of the 59 grid line where they can search for and possibly block this suspected move or possible future moves. Their mode of operations can remain that of mutually supporting patrols.

Frag Order #87-69

3. 2/3

- a. Continue present mission.
- b. Continue to block routes noted in para. L, A (1).
- c. Be prepared for a rapid redeployment of one company by helo to area north of Cam Lo populated region or Leatherneck Square by 201600H. Notify this HQ of proposed LZ pick up by 1600H. Unit on three-hour alert.

Frag Order #88-69

3. 2/3 Continue assigned missions in reference (A) and (B).

Frag Order #89-69

3. 2/3 Continue assigned missions in AO.

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Frag Order #90-69

3. 2/3 Continue to conduct assigned missions in AO.

Frag Order #91-69

3. 2/3

- a. Continue assigned mission in AO.
 b. Upon completion of airdrop of one section 81mm mortars on 25 July, commence overland move of one company to the closest main supply route for redeployment via truck to eastern portion of Third Reflex AO. Be prepared to chop to 2d Battalion, on order 25 July.

Frag Order #92-69

3. 2/3 Continue assigned missions in AO.

Frag Order #93-69

3. 2/3

- a. Commencing on 28 July, 1st Coy moves eastward as 1/3 moves to the south. Complete redeployment into AO extension in close coordination with 1/3 prior to 30 July. Upon redeployment, conduct 1/3 operations with emphasis toward maintaining pressure against the 1/1A boundary to the east.
 b. Continue to provide security for ECB and Route #9 in AO. 100% day and night surveillance of road from ECB to boundary.
 c. Provide security for road construction east from ECB in AO.
 d. Provide security for mine sweeps commencing from ECB.

Frag Order #94-69

3. 2/3 Commencing 31 July, in coordination with 1/3, begin movement east into new AO extension as per Ref (B).

B. REGIMENTAL BOUNDARY CHANGES

042400H The following permanent boundary change is effective: from present boundary at 000580 SW along stream to 999568 SE on a straight line to stream at 004561 S along stream to 005554 SE to present boundary at 014551.

051000H The following boundary change is effective between 1/3 and 2/3: from western boundary at 990597 NE in a straight line to 015606 E to 022605 NE to 039612 NE to close on permanent boundary at 052622.

091800H From NW 150712 S along 15 N/S grid line to 150680 S along road to 190680 S along 19 grid line to 190634 SW to present boundary at 159618.

101200H Boundary change between 1/3 and 2/3 is effective from present boundary at 050578 SE in a straight line to 060565 E in a straight line to present boundary at 075565.

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300600H

All previous thrust points are cancelled and the following are effective:

Office Equipment	8385
Garden Tools	8582
State Capital	8587
Camera Equipment	9954
Sporting Goods	9264
Liquor	0257
Furniture	0460
Cigarettes	1563
Months	0859
Jewelry	0857
Dances	1167
Comodiana	1070
R&D Centers	1361
Card Games	1565
Hotels	1781
Canned Goods	1758

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- 111700H The following boundary is in effect upon receipt from present boundary 015530 SW on a straight line to 003529 SW to 991525 west to 981525 west on a straight line to 942530 N to 943530 N to 941558 N to 943577 NE to 945586 NW to 942592 NW to close at 931607.
- 171502H The following boundary change between 2/3 and 1/3 is effective from 1/3-2/3 boundary at 000534 S along 00 N/S grid line to 000527.
- 251900H New boundaries become effective from the present boundary at 1007 east to 1267 S along 12 grid line to 1261 and diagonally SW to present boundary at 100596.

G. THRUST POINT CHANGES

- 270600H June 69 All previous thrust points are canceled and the following are effective:
- | | |
|-----------------|------|
| Airlines | 1173 |
| Prisons | 1174 |
| Fruit | 1184 |
| Animals | 0987 |
| Waters | 0768 |
| Garden Tools | 0334 |
| Motocycles | 0261 |
| Feems | 1149 |
| Cigarettes | 0780 |
| Baseball Teams | 1158 |
| Home Appliances | 0457 |
| Islands | 1137 |
| Coins | 1254 |
| Cowboys | 0365 |
| Trees | 0755 |
| Holidays | 1164 |
- 150600H July 69 All previous thrust points are canceled and the following are effective:
- | | |
|-------------------|------|
| Civil War Battles | 0666 |
| Postcards | 9960 |
| Ships | 0164 |
| Ice Cream | 0656 |
| Chain Stores | 0164 |
| Fish | 0175 |
| Cars | 0166 |
| Flowers | 1164 |
| Hardy Plants | 0766 |

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TAB B TO PART I.

SIGNATURE MESSAGES.

BATTALION FRAG ORDERS

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BATTALION FRAG ORDERS

Frag Order #46-69

1. Situation - N/A
2. Mission - 2/3 conducts S/D operation in zone to destroy enemy and equipment. Provide security for Khe Gio Bridge and Route 9 in zone.
3. Execution
 - A. Concept - 2/3 conducts S/D with 3 companies and secures Khe Gio Bridge with 1 company.
 - B. Echo - P/B
 - C. Fox
 1. 0930 move to new AO and establish PPB's.
 2. Secure IE at Camp Carroll for use of Hotel by 0700.
 - D. Golf
 1. Upon relief in place by unit from 1/3 move into new AO and conduct S/D operation.
 2. Maintain road block vicinity Hill 37 until relieved by 1/3.
 3. Establish PPB's in new AO.
 - E. Hotel
 1. Be prepared for relief in place by unit from 1/3 about 0700.
 2. Conduct helo lift into LZ at Camp Carroll.
 3. Move into new AO and establish PPB's.
 4. 81mm squad detached.
 - F. 81mm Platoon
 1. Squad helo lift from FSB Fuller to Khe Gio Bridge.
 2. Platoon general support.
 - G. Coordinating Instruction
 1. Duration of operation 3 days.
 2. Continue to make maximum use of streams for drinking.
 3. Boundary change effective on order 9 July.
 4. Hotel AO east boundary.
 5. All units have responsibility for portion of Route 9 in zone.

Frag Order #47-69

1. Situation - Enemy generally moves in small groups on both low and high ground. Bivouac areas are booby trapped. He has utilized the ambush when units establish a pattern or do not use security.
2. Mission - 2/3 provides security for Elliot Combat Base and at 102400H assume responsibility for new AO to conduct S/D operations to destroy the enemy and his supplies.
3. Execution
 - A. 2/3 provides security for ECB with 1 company, conduct helo assault with 1 company and conduct overland movements with two companies into new AO. Priority of fires to Fox.

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4. Provide security for 81mm Platoon.
- F. 81mm Platoon
 1. On order about 0800 on 19 July platoon(-) helilift to Hotel's position.
 2. One squad remains at ECB.
 3. One platoon remain in general support.
 4. Maintain communications on Tac net.
- G. Coordinating Instructions
 1. Make maximum use of supporting arms, minimum of one on call per patrol.
 2. Continue to move slowly with security.
 3. Make maximum use of streams for drinking.

Frag Order #49-69

1. Situation
 - A. Enemy activity in 3/3's area is increasing. Over all activity in 3rd Marine AO very light.
2. Mission - N/C
3. Execution
 - A. Echo
 1. Continue to conduct squad size patrols from PPB's.
 2. Be prepared to receive 81's at 0800 in Echo 3's position.
 3. Continue to operate in NE of AO while shifting position each day.
 - B. Fox
 1. Continue to conduct squad size patrols in NW AO.
 2. Be prepared to remain in present position for 3 days and then possibly move to the S.
 - C. Golf - N/C
 - D. Hotel
 1. Be prepared for either helo lift or land march to Route 9.
 2. 81mm Platoon helo lift from your pos 0800.
 - E. 81mm Platoon
 1. Helo lift at 0800 from Hotel.
 2. General support.
 - F. Coordinating Instructions
 1. Echo and Fox be prepared on order to receive Recon Teams. You will have no responsibility except to provide a secure zone.
 2. All units make maximum use of supporting arms. Schedule on call observed preps. The situation will dictate but plan your fires. Continue to make use of streams.

Frag Order #50-69

1. Situation
 - A. 1/3 and 3/3 have made contact with small enemy units.
 - B. 3rd Marines assumes opcon of 1/11 Infantry.

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B. Echo

1. About 1100 be prepared for relief in place by Bravo 1/3.
2. Upon relief move overland into new AO and establish PPB's to locate and destroy enemy in zone.

C. Fox

1. L Hour conduct helo assault on LZA with company(-).
2. L Hour plus 30 conduct relief in place on LZB.
3. Upon completion of lifts establish PPB's to locate and destroy enemy in zone.

D. Golf

1. Provide security for ECB and Route 9 in zone.
2. Provide infantry security for road sweep in zone.
3. On order be prepared to assist passage of Hotel.

E. Hotel

1. Attack to the west to destroy enemy in zone.
2. Upon closing on ECB be prepared to move into AO.

F. 81mm Platoon - General support at ECB.

G. Coordinating Instructions:

1. LZA 940506, LZB 953621, LZC 974616.
2. L Hour 0745.
3. Schedule of events.
 - a. L Hour -53/4 to L Hour -13/4 artillery prep.
 - b. L Hour -1 1/2 aerial observer on station.
 - c. L Hour -1 1/4 to L Hour - 1/2 air prep.
 - d. L Hour -20 Fox pickup.
 - e. L Hour -15 CAP on station.
 - f. L Hour -15 to L Hour final artillery prep.
 - g. L Hour.
4. Keep patrols short and maintain security.
5. CF will displace to ECB approximately 1200.

Frag Order #418-69

1. Situation - N/C
2. Mission - N/C
3. Execution

A. Concept - 2/3 continue to conduct S/D with 3 companies and provide security for ECB with 1 company. Priority of fires to Fox.

B. Echo

1. Conduct squad size patrols from present location.
2. On order be prepared to move north about 19 July.

C. Fox

1. Conduct squad size patrols from present location.
2. Continue to change positions daily and move east maintaining sufficient force on high ground to cover patrol movement.

D. Golf - N/C

E. Hotel

1. Conduct squad size patrols from present location.
2. On order be prepared to move east on 19 July.
3. On 19 July be prepared to receive 81mm platoon(-).

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2. Mission - N/C

3. Execution

A. 2/3 continues to conduct S/D from PPB's and shifts to the east with 2 companies. One company remains in the area to the south.

B. Echo

1. Continue present mission.
2. On order commence sweep to east maintaining PPB's.

C. Fox

1. Continue move east.
2. On order commence sweep to east maintaining PPB's.
3. On order about 1430 30 July be prepared to receive CP at Fox 2 location.

D. Golf - N/C

E. Hotel

1. Conduct sweep to north but remain in valley. yj.
2. On order be prepared to receive mortars and provide security for same.
3. Establish PPB's, check draws and stream beds.

F. Slim Platoon - N/C

G. Coordinating Instructions

1. Boundary change on order 30 July.
2. Shallow Shells 1/11 Infantry.
3. Continue to make maximum use of supporting fire.
4. Fox and Echo shift position each day.

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TAB C TO PART IV

REGIMENTAL OPERATION ORDER 8-69 EXTRACTS

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EXTRACTS FROM OPERATION ORDER 8-69

Operation Order 8-69 (Idaho Canyon)

Ref: (a) Map: Vietnam 1:50,000, Series L 7014, Sheets 6342 I,
6342 II, 6342 III and 6342 IV
(b) 3d Mar Div Op Order 2L-69

Code Name: Idaho Canyon

Time Zone: X

3. EXECUTION

a. Concept of Operations.

(1) One battalion in the west will conduct multiple, mutually supporting, platoon patrols to search valleys and ridge lines for enemy routes and caches. Maximum use will be made of ambushes to destroy enemy forces infiltrating through the AO. Primary fire support will be DS artillery, 60mm mortars and 81mm mortars if within range. Patrols will be prepared to mass if the enemy situation so dictates.

(2) One battalion in the central portion of the AO will institute a "Denial Stingray" operation; employing maximum use of CS gas, sensors, and artillery in a three KM wide belt. Stingray patrols will be conducted on the periphery to destroy any groups able to penetrate the denial area.

(3) One battalion in the eastern portion of the AO will defend with minimum forces the fixed patrol fire support bases. Platoon sized patrols of several days duration will seek out enemy infiltration groups. Upon contact with any sizeable force, the unit will react with tanks and infantry, held in reserve, along Route 561.

c. Second Battalion.

(1) Commence mutually supporting platoon patrols to the north of ECB to locate enemy routes and caches.

(2) Continue to provide security for ECB and Route 9 in AO; 100% day and night surveillance of road from Elliot Combat Base east to boundary.

(3) Provide security for road construction east from ECB in AO.

(4) Provide security for mine sweeps emanating from Elliot Combat Base.

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BATTALION FRAG ORDERS

Frag Order #51-69 (022233H Aug 69)

1. Situation - Enemy activity to the east. No contact in this AO.
2. Mission - N/C
3. Execution
 - A. Echo
 1. Continue to conduct S/D to the east.
 2. Establish PPB in different location each day.
 - B. Fox
 1. Continue to conduct S/D to the east.
 2. On order be prepared to shift emphasis to the west.
 3. On order be prepared to relieve Golf at ECB.
 - C. Golf - N/C
 - D. Hotel
 1. Continue to conduct S/D south of Mutter's Ridge.
 2. Maintain PPB's.
 - E. 81 Platoon - General support.
 - F. Coordinating Instructions
 1. Echo and Fox move each day.
 2. Make maximum use of streams.
 3. Maintain emphasis for search in streams and draws.

Frag Order #52-69 (081910H Aug 69)

1. Situation
 - A. Enemy, Fox made contact with estimated two NVA companies on 7 August. Echo and Hotel had contact with small groups of NVA. No mortars have been employed by the enemy.
 - B. 1/3 continues to operate to the east. The 4th Marines to the west.
2. Mission - N/C
3. Execution
 - A. Echo
 1. Continue to search present area.
 2. Be prepared on order about 11 August to sweep to the south to the valley floor to destroy enemy in zone.
 3. Establish PPB's in valley in order to provide maximum coverage.
 - B. Fox
 1. Continue to search objective area.
 2. Send advance party to ECB on 9 August.
 3. Be prepared about 10 August for helo-lift to ECB to assume responsibility for same.
 4. Insure that you are thoroughly briefed on assets and responsibilities for ECB and Route 9.
 - C. Golf
 1. Continue present mission.
 2. Be prepared to brief Fox advance party on mission, assets, and requirements for ECB and Route 9.
 3. Be prepared about 10 August for relief in place by Fox.
 4. Upon relief conduct helo-lift into Fox present location for S/D missions to the north.

- D. Hotel
 - 1. Continue to search present area.
 - 2. Be prepared about 10 August to helo-lift Hotel 2 to vicinity of YD 988614, for CP security.
 - 3. Be prepared about 11 August to conduct sweep to the north in accordance with oral instructions.
- E. 81 Platoon
 - 1. One squad remain at ECB.
 - 2. Platoon(-) general support.
- F. Coordinating Instructions
 - 1. Make maximum use of concealment on the move and at PPB.
 - 2. Do not occupy previously occupied positions if possible.
 - 3. Hotel and Echo maintain close coordination when sweep commences.
 - 4. Companies are getting heavy again, get rid of excess gear by evac.

Frag Order #53-69 (122330H Aug 69)

- 1. Situation
 - A. Enemy activity at high level in AO. Fox and Echo had contact with two NVA companies. Enemy appears ready to mass if a target is available.
- 2. Mission
 - A. 2/3 assumes role as regimental reaction force and prepares for offensive operations in AO. Also, provides security for C-3 Bridge and Route 9 in zone, and engineer security on Route 558 and on order conduct joint operations with RF/PF forces.
- 3. Execution
 - A. Concept
 - 1. 2/3 conducts helo lift with one company, foot marches with two companies, and motor march with one company into new AO in preparation for offensive operation.
 - a. Fires
 - (1) Mortars separation from 0500 to 0700. Fixed wing on station. Priority of fires to Fox.
 - B. Echo
 - 1. Upon completion of rehab and on order be prepared to conduct offensive operations with the Army.
 - 2. On order be prepared to assume mission of Fox, Golf, or Hotel.
 - C. Fox
 - 1. 0730 conduct helo lift with Fox(-) at IZ at 992612, and 089579.
 - 2. 0730 conduct helo lift with 2/3 CP and Fox 3 at 997613.
 - 3. On order be prepared for helo lift reaction within four hour notice.
 - 4. On order be prepared to relieve Golf of its mission.
 - D. Golf
 - 1. Upon relief in place move by truck to following positions: one platoon C-3 Bridge, one platoon on Route

SECRET

- 558, one platoon at Cam Lo District Headquarters, assume responsibility for same.
2. On order be prepared for relief in place by Fox.
 3. Provide security for mine sweep in zone.
- E. Hotel
1. 0800 move by foot to truck pick up point in vicinity of 993558 and from there by truck to vicinity of 072568.
 2. Upon arrival at new area be prepared within three hour notice for helo lift into any portion of AO.
- F. Alpha 1/3
1. 0800 move by foot to vicinity 992578 for truck pickup.
 2. Upon arrival of trucks chopped opcon to 1/3.
- G. 81 Platoon
1. Upon completion of rehab move to Cam Lo for general support and intensive training period.
- H. Coordinating Instructions
1. All units check and inspect to insure that nothing is left behind.
 2. Hotel and Alpha maintain wide disposition while waiting for trucks.
 3. All units conduct training as time permits in new position.

Frag Order #54-69 (172140H Aug 69)

1. Situation - N/C
2. Mission - N/C
3. Execution
 - A. Fox
 1. Continue S/D in present AO.
 2. Be prepared within three hour notice to move by helo or surface means as reaction force.
 - B. Golf
 1. On 17 August be prepared for relief in place by Hotel at Cam Lo District Headquarters and C-3 Bridge.
 2. Upon relief in place and after a thorough briefing of Hotel 6 move by foot into new AO.
 3. Continue to provide security for engineers on Route 558.
 4. Conduct small unit patrols in AO.
 5. On order 17 August one platoon trucks from Cam Lo to LZ Pete.
 6. Be prepared within four hours to move by helo or surface means as reaction force.
 - C. Hotel
 1. 180700H August move to conduct relief in place of Golf at C-3 Bridge and Cam Lo.
 2. Upon relief in place provide security for C-3 Bridge and Cam Lo District Headquarters.
 3. Provide security for mine sweeps from Cam Lo.
 4. Shift emphasis to training.
 - D. 81 Platoon
 1. General support Cam Lo District Headquarters.

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- 2. Emphasis on training.
- E. 106 Platoon
 - 1. One section in general support of Hotel at C-3 Bridge.
 - 2. Platoon(-) provide general support at Cam Lo.
- F. Coordinating Instructions
 - 1. All units use available time for training.
 - 2. Boundary change effective 18 August, from present boundary at 094575 east along Route 9 to boundary at 140580. Hotel responsible for Route 9 in zone.
 - 3. Reports must be timely, strength and casualty, etc.

Frag Order #55-69 (2921100H Aug 69)

- 1. Situation - N/C
- 2. Mission - N/C
- 3. Execution
 - A. Echo
 - 1. Provide security for FSB Myers.
 - 2. Provide security for engineers on Route 558.
 - 3. On order be prepared to establish blocking positions in new AO.
 - B. Fox
 - Open to the 1st of the 5th (US Army).
 - C. Golf
 - 1. Establish platoon size blocking force positions.
 - 2. On order be prepared to shift position.
 - D. Hotel
 - 1. Provide security for C-3 Bridge, Cam Lo District Headquarters, and convoys to VCB from Dong Ha.
 - 2. Assist engineers in construction of trash dump and C-3.
 - 3. Be prepared for return of Hotel 2 on 1 September.
 - E. 81 Platoon - General support.
 - F. 106 Platoon
 - 1. 30 August assemble entire platoon at FSB Myers.
 - 2. Conduct extensive training. Submit requirements to S-3.
 - G. Coordinating Instructions
 - 1. The 106 platoon will not be used for working parties during the day, but will assist in the night defensive positions.

PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

✓ TAB A STAFF LOG

✓ TAB B ORIGINATED MESSAGES

TAB A to PART IV

STAFF LOG

- ✓ A. REGIMENTAL FRAG ORDER EXCERPTS
- ✓ B. REGIMENTAL BOUNDARY CHANGES
- ✓ C. THRUST POINT CHANGES

STAFF LOG

A. REGIMENTAL FRAG ORDER EXCERPTS

Frag Order #95-69 (011835H Aug 69)

3. 2/8

a. Continue assigned missions in AO with special emphasis to trails discussed with you by S-2.

Frag Order #96-69 (130200H Aug 69)

3. 2/3

- a. Commencing on D-Day conduct helicopter and surface movement to assigned AO.
- b. On order assume responsibility for new AO and commence S/D operations.
- c. Provide security for C-3 Bridge, Route 9, and road sweeps within AO.
- d. Assume responsibility for security of construction crew and equipment on Route 558 from Cam Lo to Mai Loc.
- e. Coordinate and conduct combined operations with RF's and PF's in AO.
- f. Be prepared to move by helicopters or surface means to conduct operations anywhere within the 3rd Marine Division AO within the following time frame: one company in three hours, two companies in four hours, and the remainder of the battalion(-) in five hours.

Frag Order #97-69 (141500H Aug 69)

3. 2/3

- a. On 15 August, move a two company force overland to conduct recon of grid squares YD 0756, 0856, 0956, 1056, 1156, 0855, 0955.
- b. Ensure occupation of company size night positions.
- c. Timely execution is essential.
- d. Report company locations upon arrival in recon area.

Frag Order #98-69 (172300H Aug 69)

3. 2/3

- a. Continue previously assigned missions.
- b. On 18 August, provide one platoon to the 3rd Battalion for security of FSB Pete.
- c. Provide one company on a two hour alert for regimental reserve.

Frag Order #99-69 (181700H Aug 69)

3. 2/3

- a. Continue previously assigned missions.

Frag Order #100-69 (212000H Aug 69)

3. 2/3

- a. Continue previously assigned missions.
- b. On order 24 August 69, assume opcon of first platoon Company G from 3rd Battalion.
- c. Commence 24 August, provide a minimum of one platoon (rein) for security of B 1/12.

B. REGIMENTAL BOUNDARY CHANGES

- 101030H The following temporary boundary change will go into effect at 110800H. From the DMZ at 018655 south to 018649; southwest 013664; southeast to 015640; southwest to 010630; southeast to present boundary at 010664.
- 151135H Temporary boundary change was approved. South along east-west grid 55.
- 201910H Temporary boundary change between 1/3 and 2/3 will be modified as follows and be effective 211100H: from present boundary at 060580; along 58 EW grid line to 050580; south along 05 NS grid line to present boundary at 050530. Boundary will remain until further notice.
- 251120H Boundary change effective 251200H. 2/3 northern boundary modified as follows, from present 2/3 boundary at 150617 SW to 131607, south to 131601, then west to present boundary at 080597.

C. THRUST POINT CHANGES

300600H July 69 All previous thrust points are canceled and the following are effective:

Office Equipment	9865
Garden Tools	9562
State Capitals	9657
Camera Equipment	9954
Sporting Goods	0264
Liquor	0257
Furniture	0460
Cigarettes	0563
Months	0759
Jewelry	0863
Dances	1167
Comedians	1070
R&R Centers	1361
Card Games	1565
Hotels	1773
Canned Goods	1758

060600H Aug 69 All previous thrust points are canceled and the following are effective:

Magazines	1356
Coffee	1568
Dogs	1674
Male Singers	1271
782 Gear	1069
Sporting Goods	0966
Famous Baseball Sluggers	1465
Newspapers	9664
Lakes	0363
C Rations	0967
Cigarettes	9869
Famous Golfers	1261
Pastries	0560
Candy Bars	1658
Famous Boxers	0557
Kitchen Utensils	0059
Types of Math	9559
WW II Battles	9952
Hotels	0856
Vietnamese Cities	0814

221200H Aug 69 All previous thrust points are canceled and the following are effective:

Nuts	9663
Auto Parts	0062
Generals	0361
Ships	0760
CCD Commands	9659
Mixed Drinks	9462
Resort Areas	9761
Colleges	0160
Rock Groups	1460
Greek Gods	0459
Female Singers	0058
Pies	9557
Mouth Wash	1257
Weapons	1756
Silver Ware	0753
Shakespearean Plays	0454
Pro Quarterbacks	9856
Planets	0153
Occupations	9954

251400H Aug 69 Effective immediately the following thrust points are no longer effective:

Auto Parts	0062
Colleges	0160
Ships	0760
Generals	0361

251400H Aug 69 The following additional thrust points are effective immediately:

Golf Equipment	0162
Dances	9962
Railroads	0861
Vegetables	0460

TAB B TO PART IV

ORIGINATED MESSAGES

BATTALION FRAG ORDERS

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PROPOSED C&S OPERATIONS

<u>PRIORITY</u>	<u>LENGTH</u>	<u>HANDSETS</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>POPULATION</u>	<u>FORCES CORDON/SEARCH</u>
(1)	3to4days	THUAT TRANG	2059	400	2 Co 1 Co
(2)	3to4days	TAN MY VAN QUAT XA	1058 1158	173 426 253	2 Co 1 Co
(3)	5days	AN MY TAN HEIP	1460 1560	252 852 400	3 Co 1 Co
(4)	5to6days	PHUOC TUYEN AN HUNG	1259	233 1219 986	3 Co 1 Co
(5)	2to3days	TAN TRUC NGHIA HI	1358 1457	114 229 115	3Co 1 Co
(6)	6to7days	CAM LO BACH BINH	1359/1459 1360	2416	4 Co 1 Co
(7)	7to8days	NAI LOC AREA	0953 1053 0952	2500	4 Co 2 Co
(8)	2to3days	PHAN XA	1257	216	2 Co 1 Co
(9)	7days	BICH GIANG THACH DAU VINH AN	1560 to 1760	723 228 1508 557	4 Co 1 Co
(10)	3days	QUAT XA	0959	497	2 Co 1 Co
(11)	6to7days	VINH DAI	1759	1604	3 Co 1 Co
(12)	10to11days	MONTAGHARD REFUGEE AREA	0851	5000+	4 Co 2 Co
(13)	10to12days	CAM LO REFUGEE VILLAGE	0957 to 1057 0956 to 1056	13000+	8 Co 2 Co

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