

208967

HEADQUARTERS
 3d Motor Transport Battalion
 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
 FPO San Francisco 96602

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 5750
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 5 June 1967

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From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code AO3D)
 Via: (1) Commanding General, 3d Marine Division, FMF
 (2) Commanding General, III MAF
 (3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Pacific
 Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1-31 May 1967 (U)

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A
 (b) FMFPACO 5750.8

Encl: (1) Part I, Organizational Data
 (2) Part II, Narrative Summary
 (3) Part III, Sequential Listing of Significant Events

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a) and (b), enclosures (1), (2) and (3) are submitted.
2. Upon removal of enclosures (1), (2) and (3), this letter is unclassified.

R. F. Armstrong
 R. F. ARMSTRONG

3RD MTBN CMD CHRON

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PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

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1. Units and Locationsa. Phu-Bai Vital Area (3dMTBn Hq)

H&SCo (-)
 Co"A" (-)
 Co"B" (Rein)
 2d Plt (-), Co"B", 9thMTBn (OPCON)
 Co"C" (-)

b. Phong Dien (Operations BIG HORN and CHOCTAW)

2d Plt, Co"A" (OPCON 4th Marines)

c. Dong Ha Combat Base

Det, H&SCo (2 Otters) and 2d Plt, Co "C" (OPCON 9thMTBn)

2. Commanding Officer and Staff

Major R. F. ARMSTRONG	Commanding Officer
Capt P. H. WEBERLING	Executive Officer
2dLt V. I. HEAP	S-1/Adjutant
1stLt R. M. THACHER	S-3
1stLt J. T. KEEL	S-4
2dLt G. R. WADE	Co Cmdr, H&SCo
1stLt E. H. DUPREE III	Co Cmdr, Co"A"
1stLt W. E. THOMPSON (through 25May67)	Co Cmdr, Co"B"
1stLt G. I. STOCKSTILL (effective 26May67)	Co Cmdr, Co"B"
Capt P. E. SULLIVAN	Co Cmdr, Co"B"
SgtMaj H. C. MURRAY (through 8May67)	BnSgtMaj
SgtMaj R. C. BROWN (effective 9May67)	BnSgtMaj

3. Average Monthly Strength

- a. 13 Officers, 389 enlisted, 6 USN enlisted.
- b. 9 Enlisted OPCON from 2d Plt (-) Co"B", 9thMTBn

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART II--NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. Operations.

a. Principal activity centered around Operation HICKORY in the DMZ portion of Vietnam. One truck platoon was attached to 9th Motor Transport Battalion at Dong Ha, and a Composite Transportation Unit (CTU) was formed for the express purpose of moving displaced families and providing transportation for the Civil Affairs phase of the Operation. The CTU consisted of 21 cargo trucks; personnel were drawn from all companies with the majority being supplied by the Otter Platoon of H & S Company.

b. During the month a total of 24 Road Runner resupply convoys were conducted to the Phong Dien Operating Area.

c. 6 Rough Rider convoys were conducted

d. Daily commitments for the month averaged 70 percent of on hand task vehicles.

(1) 133,357 miles were driven

(2) 8,316 tons of cargo were transported

(3) 47,461 personnel were transported

e. Ten incidents involving enemy action occurred. These incidents resulted in 3 members of the Battalion being wounded and loss or damage to 4 vehicles.

2. Maintenance.

a. As the new M-35A2C cargo trucks were placed in service it became apparent that a high incidence of rivet failures would occur in the rivets that attach the number 2 frame crossmember to the frame siderail. During the month there were 37 rivet failures. All were repaired by replacing the broken rivet with a nut and bolt.

b. The average daily availability of task vehicles for the month was 89 percent (a deadline rate of 11 percent).

c. With the receipt of 107 sections of Otter track it has been possible to place a total of 14 Otters in serviceable condition. All Otters are presently being held on administrative deadline as a means of conserving them for the urgent requirements of the monsoon season.

ENCLOSURE (2)

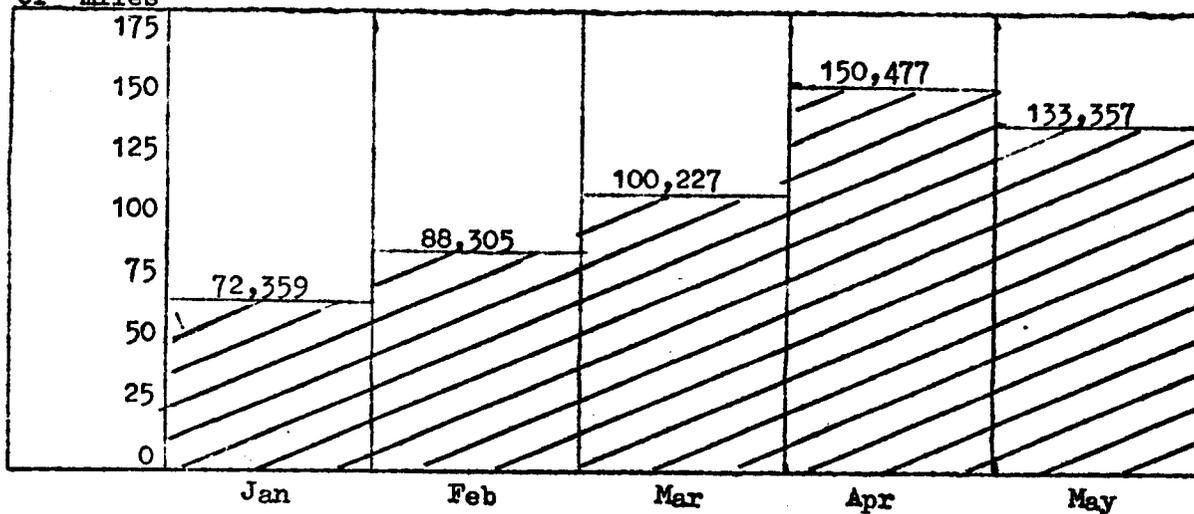
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3. The following graphs reflect significant operational and maintenance data for the first five months of 1967.

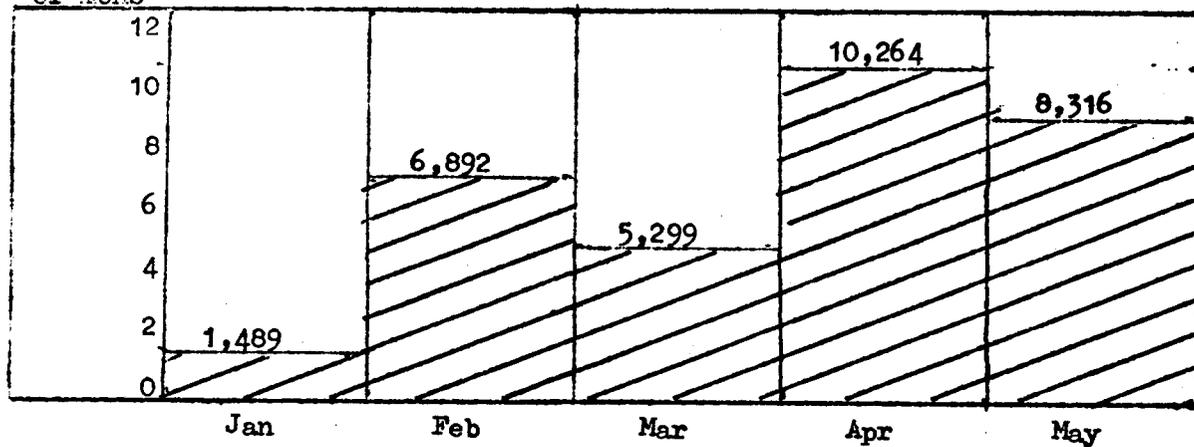
MILES TRAVELED

Thousands of miles



TONNAGE TRANSPORTED

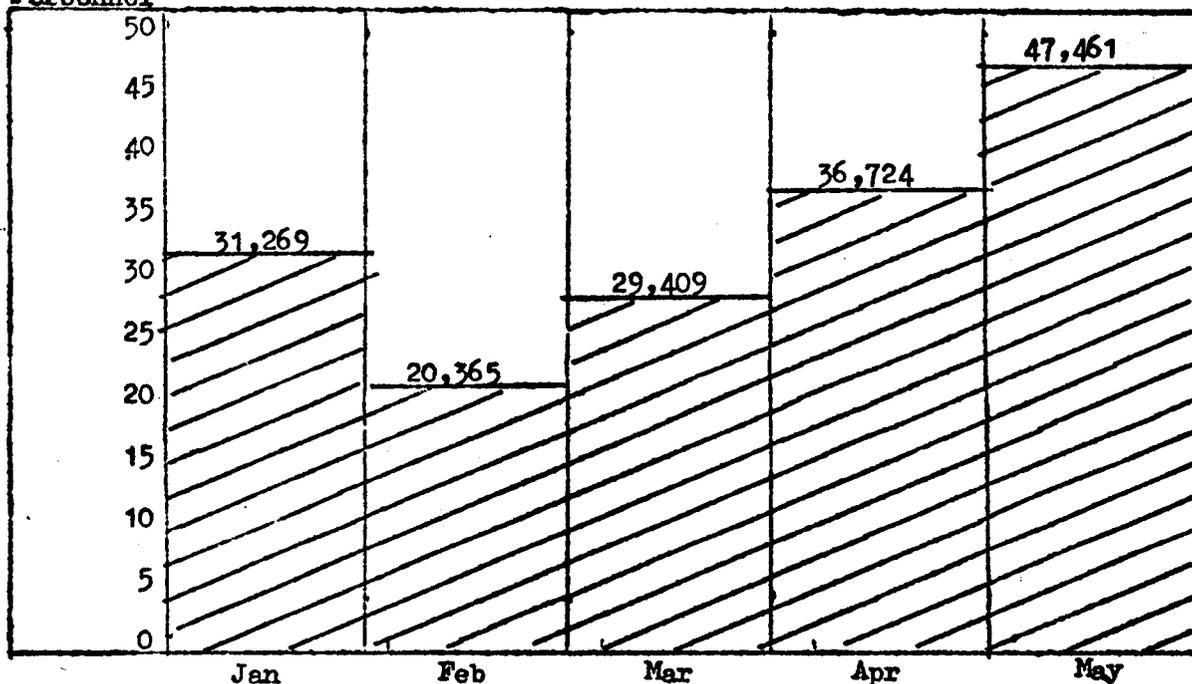
Thousands of tons



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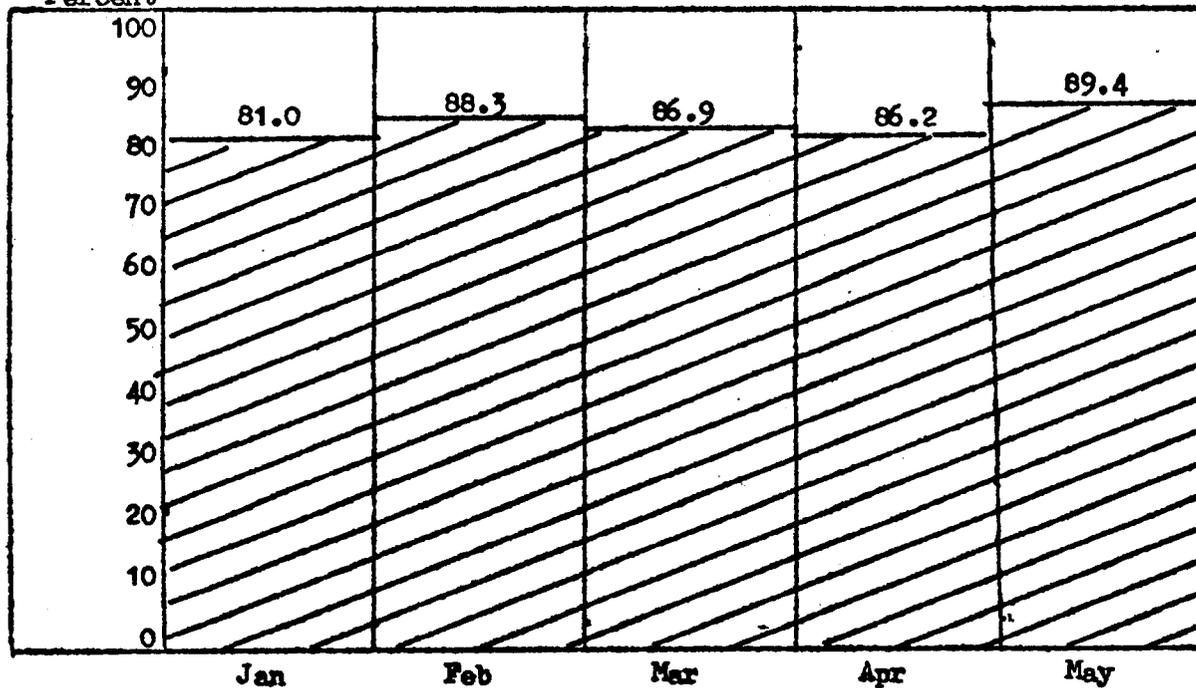
PERSONNEL TRANSPORTED

Thousands
of
Personnel



TASK VEHICLE AVAILABILITY RATE

Percent



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4. Civil Affairs

a. Construction of the new school in the Hamlet progressed from 40% to 60% completed during the month of May. It is anticipated the school will be completed by mid July.

b. Arrangements are being made to provide scholarships for 10 children to attend trade schools in Hue.

c. Approximately 20 additional new refugee homes were built during May with USAID materials. Approximately 20% of the lumber used for the frames was donated by this Organization.

d. The regular english language classes in connection with the academic school year ended with the closing of the school for the summer. However, a summer program of three classes per week for adults was started on 31 May.

5. Psychological Warfare Program. Payment of \$300VN was made to a Vietnamese boy for delivering a cache of enemy small arms ammunition. This transaction occurred in the DMZ area while the CTU was moving displaced Vietnamese civilians, and represents the first reward payment since the Battalion began its Rewards Program.

6. Administration

a. The Battalion's 250 man mess hall has been completed by MCB-62. Members of the Battalion are constructing an officers' and staff NCO wing and storage facilities.

b. Two Marines who completed the Vietnamese Language School at Monterey, California were joined by the Battalion and assigned duties that will permit them to develop their speaking ability.

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PART III--SEQUENTIAL LISTING

- 1 May- 25 additional M-35A2C cargo trucks were received. The vehicles were transported from DaNang to Phu-Bai via a 1st Marine Division Rough Rider. All transported rice to Hue as part of the III MAF sponsored rice program.
- 2 May- After the daily road mine clearance detail (OPCON 3/26) had completed sweeping a section of roadway in the vicinity of Phu-Loc, the M-35A2C that was transporting the security detail passed over the area and detonated a mine. The sweep team found an additional 3 mines in the same general area. There were no casualties. The vehicle was damaged beyond economical repair.
- 8 May- "Rough Rider" 49-67 was conducted from Phu-Bai to Dong Ha to relocate a Battery of the 12th Marines. 196 personnel and 188 tons of cargo were transported. The convoy consisted of 61 vehicles and was commanded by Capt. P. E. SULLIVAN.
- 9 May- "Rough Rider" 50-67 was conducted from Dong Ha to Phu-Bai to move elements of the 3d Engineer Battalion. 140 personnel and 59 tons of cargo were transported. The convoy consisted of 35 vehicles and was commanded by Capt. P. E. SULLIVAN.
- 9 May- During "Rough Rider" 50-67 the sixth vehicle in line, a M-36 transporting bridging equipment, detonated a mine that resulted in minor damage to the vehicle and minor injuries to the driver and assistant driver.
- 10 May- SSgt W. L. DOWER, the Battalion Career Advisory NCO, attended a 3 day Civil Affairs school conducted by III MAF in DaNang.
- 11 May- The "Road Runner" sweep team discovered a mine near the C6 Bi Tân Thanh area. The mine was destroyed in place.
- 12 May- As the "Road Runner" was proceeding to the SHAWNEE Operating Area, an M-35A2C, the fifth vehicle in the column, detonated a mine. This resulted in major damage to the vehicle and injuries to 3 Marines who were evacuated by helicopter.
- 15 May- In order to accomplish a variety of missions, a "Red Ram" convoy (tactical troop movement) departed Phu-Bai at 0700 for Phong Dien. In the C6 Bi Tân Thanh area the mine sweep team discovered a 250 lb. bomb that was rigged with a pressure detonation device. The mine was concealed under the rampway of a bridge. Attached EOD personnel disarmed the bomb/mine. The "Red Ram" moved G/2/9 to Nam Hoa, the CUMBERLAND Operating area.
- 15 May- "Rough Rider" 51-67 was conducted from Phu-Bai to Dong Ha to move elements of 2/9 from Phong Dien to Dong Ha. 1,213 personnel and 85 tons of cargo were moved. The convoy consisted of 91 vehicles and was commanded by Capt. P. E. SULLIVAN.

ENCLOSURE (3)

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- 15 May- "Rough Rider" 51-67 served as the vehicle to relocate the 2nd Plt, C Co (SSgt DELANEY), the CTU (see paragraph 1.a, Part II) and two sections (10 M-36 cargo trucks) of the 2d Plt, B Co, 9th MT Bn to Dong Ha. The C Co Plt and the CTU are OPCON to 9thMTBn for Operation HICKORY. The 9thMTBn Plt is returning to its parent unit.
- 16 May- "Rough Rider" 52-67 was conducted from Phu-Bai to Dong Ha to transport personnel and equipment of 2/9. 962 personnel and 18 tons of cargo were transported. The convoy consisted of 77 vehicles and was commanded by Lt. W. E. THOMPSON. While the convoy was enroute it received approximately 35 rounds of small arms fire. Fire was returned with undeterminable results.
- 17 May- "Rough Rider" 53-67 was conducted from Dong Ha to Phu-Bai to return the vehicles that were used during "Rough Rider" 52-67. 170 personnel and 30 tons of cargo were transported. The convoy consisted of 66 vehicles and was commanded by Lt. W. E. THOMPSON.
- 18 May- "Rough Rider" 54-67 was conducted from Phu-Bai to Dong Ha to move elements of E/2/12 and 3d Engineers. 277 personnel and 85 tons of cargo were transported. The convoy consisted of 58 vehicles and was commanded by Capt. P. E. SULLIVAN. While enroute the convoy received 5 rounds of sniper fire which resulted in no damages or casualties.
- 18 May- While enroute to Phong-Dien, the "Road Runner" received 100 rounds of small arms and automatic weapons fire. Fire was returned with undeterminable results.
- 19 May- "Rough Rider" 55-67 was conducted from Dong Ha to Phu-Bai to transport retrograde cargo to FLSG-A. 123 personnel and 10 tons of cargo were transported. The convoy consisted of 30 vehicles and was commanded by Capt. P. E. SULLIVAN. Due to a late departure, the convoy remained over-night at Phong Dien.
- 20 May- A two man instruction team from the 3d Division G-3 Section conducted 8 hours of instruction on the XM-16 rifle for selected members of the Battalion. The men will be used to instruct other members of the Battalion as additional rifles are received and issued.
- 23 May- While conducting a routine mine clearance operation in the vicinity of Thon Bat Son, the M-35A2C that was transporting the security detail detonated a mine. The explosion resulted in 1 KIA, 7 WIA and rendered the vehicle beyond economical repair.
- 23 May- "Rough Rider" 56-67 was conducted from Phu-Bai to Dong Ha to transport elements of 2/9. 225 personnel and 145 tons of cargo were transported. There were 69 vehicles in the convoy which was commanded by Capt. P. E. SULLIVAN.

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2

ENCLOSURE (3)

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- 24 May- A 3d Engineer Battalion wrecker that was accompanying the "Road Runner" detonated a mine resulting in negligible damage to the vehicle.
- 25 May- "Rough Rider" 57-67 was conducted from Dong Ha to Phu-Bai to transport E/2/4. 343 personnel were transported. The convoy consisted of 53 vehicles and was commanded by Capt. P. E. SULLIVAN.
- 25 May- A 10 vehicle "Red Ram" was conducted to transport 150 Civilian Irregular Defense Group members and their advisors from Phu-Bai Air Freight to Thon Ben Tau. The vehicle used on this move were completely covered to provide concealment for the CIDG's. Lt. G. I. STOCKSTILL was convoy commander.
- 27 May- The "Road Runner" came upon 1 dead female and 3 injured male Vietnamese who had been injured by a mine explosion. The attached corpsman administered first aid to the injured.
- 30 May- "Rough Riders" 58-67 and 59-67 were conducted from Phu-Bai to Da Nang and return. The mission was to convey B Co, 7thMTBn and 25 other vehicles from DaNang to Phu-Bai. The engineer mine sweep team discovered and destroyed 3 mines. The return trip consisted of 75 vehicles. Major R. F. ARMSTRONG was convoy commander.
- 30 May- The "Road Runner" sweep team found two AT mines in the roadway in the vicinity of C8 Bi Tân Thanh. The mines were destroyed in place.
- 30 May- A "Red Ram" convoy was conducted to move elements of 3/26 to Phu Loc. The convoy consisted of 14 vehicles and was commanded by 2dLt. G. R. WADE.