



HEADQUARTERS
3rd Battalion, 9th Marines
3rd Marine Division (Rein), FMF
c/o FPO. San Francisco, California

3/IRP/jaz
05750
1 July 1966

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, 9th Marines

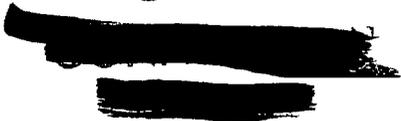
Ref: (a) DA 0 1750.1

- Encls: (1) Command Chronology 1-30 June 1966
 (2) S-1 Journal
 (3) S-2 Journal
 (4) Lessons Learned dtd 1 July 1966
 (5) *NIF* ~~Op 35-66~~
 (6) Op 323-66
 (7) Special Civil Affairs Report: COUNTY AIR 7 June 1966

In accordance with reference (a) enclosures (1) through (7) are submitted.

[Handwritten signature]
G. H. C. [unclear]

UNCLASSIFIED



DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS,
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
100-108-5200-10

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY 1-30 June 1966

1. Organizational Data

a. Designation/Location

- (1) 3d Battalion, 9th Marines
- (2) 1-30 June occupied Battalion CP vic (AT 877468) (An Hoa)

b. Period Covered. 1-30 June 1966

c. Commanding Officer, Staff and Principal Subordinates:

(1) Commanding Officer	1-22 June	LtCol P. C. TRAMMELL
	23-30 June	Major G. H. GRIMES
(2) Executive Officer	1-22 June	Major G. H. GRIMES
	23-30 June	Major W. D. HUBBARD
(3) S-3		Capt R. P. BROOKS
(4) S-2		1stLt J. L. BAZIS
(5) S-4		1stLt T. H. FITZPATRICK
(6) S-1/Adjutant		1stLt H. T. MACKLIN
(7) Co Cndr, Co "I"		1stLt T. A. MEGOWAN
(8) Co Cndr, Co "K"		Capt V. V. PAVLOVSKIS
(9) Co Cndr, Co "L"		Capt C. J. PYLE
(10) Co Cndr, Co "M"		Capt J. G. COOPER
(11) Co Cndr, I&S Co		1stLt J. A. RANK III

d. Average Monthly Strength

(1) Marine Officers	29
(2) Marine Enlisted	943
(3) Navy Officers	3
(4) Navy Enlisted	57

2. Significant Events

a. Personnel

(1) Wounded in Action	36	(21 med evacd by air; 5 treated and returned to duty)
(2) Killed in Action	2	
(3) Died of Wounds	2	
(4) Non-Battle Casualties	11	
(5) Missing in Action	0	
(6) Non-Battle Deaths	1	

b. Training. Training during this period was directed toward maintaining a high degree of proficiency in combat skills.

c. Communications-Electronics. Since 15 June there has been an increasing amount of interference on all FM radio circuits in the An Hoa area. These circuits were monitored by the Battalion Radio Section and it has been determined that very few instances of interference have been caused by the VC. The majority of interference has been caused by local ARVN units, not operating on assigned frequencies. The ARVN radios were calibrated and set on the assigned frequency.

d. Close Combat. Maintained defensive positions vic An Hoa Operating Base (AT 8746), conducted local patrols and ambushes to insure local security, conducted one combined force COUNTY FAIR operation.

1 June. Resupply helicopter lifting from LZ vic (AT 903502) received heavy small arms fire from (AT 910506). Simultaneously, Co I PPB vic (AT 907505) received 40-50 rounds small arms fire and one (1) 60mm mortar round from same location. Artillery mission resulted in four (4) VC KIA (prob). Co I platoon patrol vic (AT 903503) discovered and destroyed cache of three (3) M-26 grenades rigged with pull type firing devices. Co I Platoon patrol had one (1) USMC WIA from dead-fall punji trap vic (AT 900504).

2 June. Co I PPB vic (AT 890495) returned small arms fire of three (3) VC. Enemy casualties unknown.

3 June. Promulgated FragO 35-66 (see enclosure (5)). Co L platoon patrol vic (AT 90482) fired small arms at three (3) male VCS who began running when challenged. One (1) VCS WIA was apprehended. Co L platoon patrol vic (AT 903506) detonated one (1) M-26 grenade rigged with pull type firing device. Two (2) USMC WIA were medically evacuated. Co I platoon patrol destroyed one (1) M-16 mine employed in hedgerow vic (AT 886503). Co I platoon patrol vic (AT 886494) detonated unknown type explosive device resulting in two (2) USMC WIA and one (1) USN WIA. Patrol discovered and destroyed one (1) 60mm mortar round rigged with pressure type firing device in same vic. Co L platoon patrol vic (AT 919500) destroyed one (1) M-26 grenade with pressure-release firing device. Co I search team sighted two (2) VC hiding in brush vic (AT 885492). Team fired three (3) rounds small arms, resulting in one (1) VC WIA (prob). Co M established blocking position vic (AT 847463) for Operation COUNTY FAIR (see enclosure (5)).

4 June. Co L squad patrol vic (AT 921500) received small arms fire from east ten (10) VC. Squad returned small arms, mortar, and artillery fire resulting in two (2) VC KIA (prob), one (1) VC WIA (conf), and three (3) VC WIA (prob). Recon OP vic (AT 935453) observed thirteen (13) VC with small arms and packs. Artillery mission resulted in two (2) VC KIA (conf), seven (7) VC KIA (prob), and four (4) VC WIA (prob). Co L squad patrol vic (AT 903506) observed one (1) VC fleeing from patrol. Marine small arms fire resulted in one (1) VC KIA (conf). Same patrol apprehended one (1) male VCS vic (AT 898494). Recon OP vic (AT 935453) directed artillery on five (5) VC with weapons, resulting in three (3) VC KIA (conf). A second recon artillery mission on ten (10) VC with weapons and heavy packs, resulted in nine (9) VC KIA (conf) and one (1) VC WIA (conf). Co L squad patrol vic (AT 918501) returned small arms fire of east four (4) VC in tree line. Action resulted in one (1) USMC WIA and two (2) VC WIA (prob). Co B platoon OP vic (AT 903501) observed 15 VC with rifles. Artillery mission resulted in two (2) VC KIA (prob), and eight (8) VC WIA (prob). Co L platoon patrol vic (AT 900493) located and destroyed mine with acid type fuse in pocket book (purse). Co M blocking force vic (AT 844455) detonated one (1) unknown type explosive device resulting in one (1) USMC WIA.

Enclosure (1)

5 June. During (8) hour period, recon OP vic (AT 938460) observed six (6) VC vic (AT 946450), fifteen (15) VC vic (AT 946450), four (4) VC vic (AT 947460). Artillery fire missions resulted in two (2) VC KIA (conf), five (5) VC KIA (prob), five (5) VC WIA (conf). Operation COUNTY FAIR terminated at 051800H, resulting in identification of 48 VC sympathizers.

6 June. Recon OP vic (AT 947455) observed eight (8) VC with weapons and packs. Artillery mission resulted in one (1) VC KIA (prob).

7 June. Companies I, L, and M conducted ambushes and security patrols without enemy contact.

8 June. Co L plt patrol vic (AT 897485) fired small arms at two (2) VC, resulting in one (1) VC WIA (prob). Co L plt patrol vic (AT 892493) apprehended two (2) male VCS without ID cards. Co L squad OP vic (AT 888470) apprehended one (1) VCS who appeared to be making recon of Marine position.

9 June. Co M chopped OPCON 2d Bn, 9th Marines. Recon OP vic (AT 942400) observed four (4) VC with packs vic (AT 946455) and seven (7) VC with packs and weapons vic (AT 947456). Artillery missions resulted in three (3) VC KIA (conf) and six (6) VC KIA (prob).

10 June. Recon OP vic (AT 957470) made three (3) sightings of small groups of VC. Artillery missions resulted in one (1) VC KIA (conf) and four (4) VC WIA (conf). Co L squad patrol vic (AT 907477) returned small arms fire of two (2) VC in treeline, resulting in one (1) VC WIA (conf).

11 June. Co L squad patrol initiated hasty ambush resulting in one (1) VC KIA (conf). Co I plt patrol vic (AT 873503) apprehended two (2) male VCS without ID cards. Co L PPB vic AT 905487 received small arms fire and observed ten (10) VC moving along treeline vic (AT 907492). Marines delivered small arms, mortars, and artillery fire, resulting in one (1) VC KIA (conf), five (5) VC KIA (prob), and three (3) VC WIA (prob).

12 June. Co I squad ambush vic (AT 877493) received three (3) rounds small arms fire, resulting in one (1) USMC WIA. Co I squad ambush vic (AT 876497) observed five (5) VC moving in treeline vic (AT 871502). Artillery mission resulted in one (1) VC KIA (prob) and two (2) VC WIA (prob). Co I plt patrol vic (AT 885499) observed 10-15 VC in green and brown uniforms moving NE in treeline (AT 899509). Artillery mission resulted in two (2) VC KIA (prob) and four (4) VC WIA (prob).

13 June. Companies I and L conducted ambushes and security patrols without enemy contact.

14 June. Co I squad ambush vic (AT 873456) observed 30-40 VC in small groups vic (AT 882446). Artillery mission resulted in one (1) VC KIA (conf), 5 VC WIA (prob), three (3) VC WIA (prob). Impact area was obscured by dense underbrush.

15 June. Promulgated OpO 323-66 (see enclosure (6)). Co I plt patrol destroyed one (1) ChiCon grenade vic (AT 873444).

16 June. Co L PPB vic (AT 901491) observed one (1) VC in treeline. No further movement observed after mortar fire mission.

17 June. Co L sqd patrol vic (AT 905492) fired small arms at two (2) VC in treeline. Action resulted in one (1) VC KIA (conf). Recon squad OP vic (AT 975480) received automatic small arms fire from east eight (8) VC vic (AT 977476). VC broke contact when Marines returned heavy volume of small arms fire. After extraction of recon squad, artillery mission was directed against VC positions. Results were not observed. Co L squad patrol vic (AT 905494) received heavy small arms fire from three (3) locations. Marine small arms and artillery fire resulted in six (6) VC KIA (conf) and three (3) WIA (prob). While searching enemy locations, squad sustained (1) USMC WIA from unknown type explosive device. Co L squad patrol vic (AT 900490) received small arms fire from east VC squad. Artillery mission resulted in three (3) VC KIA (prob) and two (2) VC WIA (prob).

18 June. Co L squad patrol retrieved bear trap set on trail vic (AT 904482). Co I squad patrol observed six (6) VC in green uniforms moving south on trail vic (AT 899501). VC returned Marine small arms fire and broke contact. Action resulted in two (2) VC KIA (conf) and two (2) VC WIA (conf).

19 June. Co L squad patrol vic (AT 903484) fired small arms at three (3) VC in a rice paddy, resulting in one (1) VC KIA (conf). Helicopters inserting recon squad received heavy small arms fire on approach to LZ. Insertion was cancelled and fixed wing escort aircraft engaged VC with rockets. MO observed five (5) VC with weapons vic (AT 941535). Artillery mission resulted in two (2) VC WIA (prob).

20 June. Co L squad patrol vic (AT 901491) destroyed one (1) 20mm round with pull type firing device.

21 June. Co I squad patrol vic (AT 882501) received small arms fire from estimated VC squad in treeline vic (AT 883504). Small arms and artillery fire resulted in two (2) VC KIA (conf), four (4) VC KIA (prob), one (1) VC WIA (conf), and one (1) VC WIA (prob).

22 June. Recon OP vic (AT 934455) observed five (5) VC with two rifles moving NE on trail. Artillery mission resulted in two (2) VC KIA (conf) and three (3) VC KIA (prob). Co I squad patrol vic (AT 885496) destroyed one (1) 81mm mortar round rigged with pressure type firing device. Co I squad patrol vic (AT 889506) observed three (3) VC fleeing from patrol. Artillery mission resulted in two (2) VC KIA (prob). Marines in Co L PPB vic (AT 900486) detonated M-26 grenade with pull type firing device, resulting in two (2) USMC WIA.

23 June. [redacted] on squad OP vic (AT 938461) observed seven (7) VC vic (AT 946474). Effect of artillery mission could not be observed.

24 June. Co L PPB vic (AT 890457) returned small arms fire of est VC squad. Co L squad ambush observed ten (10) VC breaking contact with Co L PPB. Artillery mission resulted in three (3) VC KIA (prob), five (5) WIA (prob), and one (1) VC WIA (conf). Co L platoon patrol vic (AT 90493) destroyed one (1) 3.5 rocket with pull type firing device. Recon squad OP (AT 996462) directed artillery at six (6) VC, resulting in one (1) VC KIA (prob). Recon OP vic (AT 996462) directed artillery at seven (7) VC in hut, resulting in three (3) VC KIA (conf) and two (2) VC KIA (prob). Co L squad patrol vic AT 900409 destroyed one (1) M-16 mine on trail leading to a well and apprehended two (2) VCS observing area of mine.

25 June. Co I squad patrol vic (AT 899480) fired small arms at 6-8 VC with weapons, resulting in one (1) VC KIA (prob).

26 June. Co I PPB vic (AT 878500) returned small arms fire of est five (5) VC, resulting in one (1) VC WIA (prob).

27 June. 271100H June 1966 chopped OPCON Co B (-), 1st AmTrac Bn to parent organization. 2d Plt, Co B, 1st AmTrac Bn remain OPCON this battalion. Co I platoon patrol vic (AT 870494) directed artillery on fifteen (15) VC vic (AT 880515). Artillery mission had good coverage. Enemy casualties unobserved. Co L Marine detonated an unknown type explosive device vic (AT 877477) when lifting a sandbag near his position on the Bn CP perimeter. Casualty was medically evacuated.

28 June. AO received small arms from est VC squad vic (AT 907484). Artillery mission had good coverage. Casualties could not be determined.

29 June. Companies I and L conducted ambushes and security patrols without enemy contact.

30 June. 1st Bn, 9th Marines chopped OPCON of Co K, 3d Bn, 9th Marines assumed OPCON 300800. Companies I and L conducted ambushes and security patrols without enemy contact.

e. Logistics

(1) Supply and Distribution

(a) During the period 1-30 June, the 3d Bn, 9th Marines continued to utilize an LSA for logistic support. Classes I, III, and V were initiated by the LSA; Classes II and IV, by 3d Battalion organic supply activities. On 24 June, control of the LSA was turned over to elements of FLSG by Co B (-), 3d Shore Party Bn.

(b) Established stock levels are maintained by daily, fixed-wing (C-123) deliveries, the only feasible mode of supply to the An Hoa area.

DECLASSIFIED
Enclosure (1)

f. Civil Affairs

(1) MEDCAP. Corpsmen treated 64 women, 518 men, and 1117 children. Eight (8) Vietnamese were medically evacuated. Medical supplies were given to the An Hoa Complex Dispensary and the Duc Duc District Dispensary on an as required basis. Surgical and diagnostic cases were accepted when referred by local medical personnel.

(2) Commodity Distribution. The following items were distributed to refugees, Popular Force recruits, and on Operation COUNTY FAIR: 7,200 lbs food; 200 lbs clothing; 100 pr shoes; 1975 bars soap; 626 boxes candy; 700 CARE School Kits; 1 CARE Textile Kit.

(3) Commodity and Price Control. A list of authorized commodities and maximum prices was established through the combined efforts of the 3d Bn, 9th Marines, the An Hoa Industrial Complex, and Duc Duc District. A market for Vietnamese commodities and services has been established adjacent to the 3d Battalion, 9th Marines CP.

(4) Operation COUNTY FAIR. (See enclosures (5) and (7)). Twelve-hundred-sixty (1260) civilians were given food and shelter; and political indoctrination and entertainment was presented at the civilian collection point. Operation resulted in the identification of 48 VC sympathizers and the election of 11 lien gia truong (family group leaders).

(5) Troop Information. The 3d Battalion, 9th Marines Chaplain conducted five classes on oriental religions for all personnel of the battalion who were present at An Hoa.

g. Psychological Warfare

(1) Primary Themes

- (a) Inevitability of VC defeat.
- (b) VC Cadre mislead villagers.
- (c) USMC is in Vietnam to help GVN in its fight against the VC.

(2) Means of Dissemination

- (a) Land broadcasts: 1 occasion
- (b) Air broadcasts: 2 occasions
- (c) Helo-drops: 155,000 leaflets
- (d) Manual distribution: 720 magazines
- (e) Motion pictures: 3 occasions
- (f) Commodity distribution by cadre: 1 occasion
- (g) Vietnamese Cultural Team: 1 occasion

Enclosure (1)

h. Intelligence(1) Situation

(a) During the month of June, enemy activity consisted of small unit (5-15 men) harrassing, small arms engagements throughout present patrol area. Mining and booby trapping continue with U.S., Ch. Co., as well as homemade explosive devices being used by the VC. Enemy activity as observed by reconnaissance units working in the mountains to the south of GL 19 continued to observe small units (4-8) of VC moving north and south through the mountains to the south of An Hoa. Reconnaissance sightings confirm the portage of large heavy packs from south to north. On June 11, a steady flow of VC/Porters were observed moving north out of the mountains south of An Hoa. During this time of increased VC movement in the mountains, there was no significant increase in VC activity in the 3d Battalion, 9th Marines ZOA. However, several VC mortar attacks on friendly units to the north may have been related to the observed increase VC movement.

(b) On two occasions, reconnaissance units have been forced to make emergency extractions after encountering VC platoons in the extreme southeast of the 3d Battalion, 9th Marines ZOA. This activity and numerous SFA reports combine to indicate the continuing presence of at least one (1) Main Force Battalion vic (AT 97-50).

(c) Vietnamese intelligence sources continue to locate two (2) MF units (possibly V25 and R20) in the area immediately west of the Thu Bon River (AT 88-51). Air observers have noted the presence of newly dug trenches and fighting holes in the same area.

(d) Previous reports of the existence of a VC Political Indoctrination/POW Camp, First Aid Station and large rice cache believed in vic (AT 19-51) and (AT 19-50) have been confirmed by two (2) USMC escapees, Sgt J. S. DOBSON and LCpl W. W. L. C. L. S., who returned to U.S. control when they reported to 3/9 BAS at 1430 on 20 June 1966.

(2) Enemy losses

(a) Personnel:

VC KIA	45 (conf)	54 (prob)
VC WIA	12 (conf)	47 (prob)
VCS	12	
VCC	1	

(b) Weapons captured:

U. S. Carbine	1
U. S. Thompson SMG	3

(c) Fortifications Destroyed:

Bunkers 24
Tunnels 450 feet
Fighting Holes 15

1. Chaplain(1) Religious Services(a) Protestant

1. No. services: 11
2. Total attendance: 280

(b) Catholic

1. No. services: 5
2. Total Attendance: 142

(2) Significant Events. A regular schedule has been established for Protestant and Catholic services. Protestant services are conducted on Sundays by the Battalion Chaplain, and Catholic services on Tuesdays.