

212068



HEADQUARTERS  
3d Battalion, 9th Marines  
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMP  
FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

3/LEB/rm  
5750  
7 May 1968

UNCLASSIFIED -- when removed Enclosure

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corp (Code A03D)  
Via: (1) Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMP  
(2) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force  
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 April to 30 April 1968

Ref: (a) VCO 5750.2A  
(b) FMFPACO 5750.8  
(c) DivO 5750.1A

Encl: (1) Command Chronology 1-30 April 1968

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a), (b) and (c), enclosure (1) is submitted.

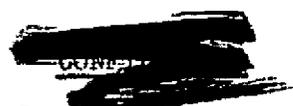
2. Downgraded at 3 year intervals, declassified after 12 years, DOD Ltr 5200.10.

*T. J. Power*  
T. J. POWER  
by direction

3 RDDBN/9THMAR

CMO CHRON

APR 1968



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HEADQUARTERS  
3d Battalion, 9th Marines  
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF  
APO, San Francisco, California 96602

Command Chronology  
1 April to 30 April 1968

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Enclosure (2)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~PART IORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

3d Battalion, 9th Marines

Lieutenant Colonel  
E. J. LA MONTAGNESUBORDINATE UNITS

H&amp;S Company

Captain J. R. CUNNINGHAM  
1-30 Apr 1968

Company I

1stLt J. W. THEISEN  
1-9 Apr 1968Captain W. A. CONGER  
1-30 Apr 1968

Company K

1stLt B. E. BRYAN, JR.  
1-30 Apr 1968

Company L

Captain T. A. SHELB  
1-30 Apr 1968

Company M

Captain R. A. O'NEIL  
1-30 April 1968ATTACHED UNITSCompany H, 2nd Battalion, 9th  
MarinesCaptain R. W. ELLISON  
27-28 AprilCompany F, 2d Battalion, 26th  
MarinesCaptain C. F. DIVELBISS  
30 April3d Platoon, Company A, 3d  
Engineer Battalion1stLt H. BROWN  
1-18 April2ndLt G. E. HAGENSEN  
12-30 April1st Platoon, Company A, 3d  
Tank Battalion1stLt T. MERO  
30 AprilCompany B, 1st Battalion, 9th  
MarinesCaptain J. P. WILLIAMS JR.  
30 April~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

2. LOCATION

1-30 April 1968 Battalion Command Post and four (4) rifle companies, operated from THON SON LAM, Quang Tri Province, Republic of Vietnam.

30 April 1968 Command Group "ALPHA" and three (3) rifle companies moved to the field for an operation in the 9th Marines Area of Operation, (Operation Kentucky Area). Command Group BRAVO and two (2) rifle companies remained at THON SON LAM.

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer	Major T. J. POWER 1-30 April 1968
S-1	1stLt H. DUGAS 1-26 April 1968
	1stLt E. H. MEYER JR. 27-30 April
S-2	1stLt T. A. MIX 1-30 April 1968
S-3	Major F. J. BRETH 1-30 April 1968
S-4	Captain J. S. ADAMS 1-30 April 1968
S-5	1stLt D. E. STEPP 1-30 April 1968

4. AVERAGE STRENGTHS

	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>
<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
38	1067	2	56

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Enclosure (1)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~PART 1NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the period 1-30 April 1968, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines continued the defense and occupation of THON SON LAM, (coord XD 98254). This included conducting security operations, denying access through the Battalion Area of Operation and conducting operations to destroy enemy forces and interdict enemy LOC's.

080930H April, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines passed OPCON of Company K to 3d Battalion, 1st Marines and assumed OPCON of Company L, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines from 3d Battalion, 1st Marines.

101105H April, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines passed OPCON of Company M to 3d Battalion, 1st Marines and assumed OPCON of Company K, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines from 3d Battalion, 1st Marines.

110001H April, assumed OPCON of Company M, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines from 3d Battalion, 1st Marines. 11 April, THON SON LAM received 32 rounds of enemy artillery in two attacks.

121015H April, commenced Operation CHARLTON as part of Operation LANCASTER II. THON SON LAM received an estimated 15 rounds of enemy artillery and 107mm rockets. 121800H, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines passed OPCON of Company I, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines to 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines.

140600H April, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines assumed OPCON of Company I, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines from 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines.

150001H April, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines passed OPCON of Company I, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines to 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines. THON SON LAM received 15 rounds of enemy 122mm rocket fire when convoy crowded into defense perimeter.

16 April, Company I, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines, (coord XD 978480) received nine (9) rounds of enemy 122mm rocket fire. 161200H, Operation CHARLTON ended. 161200H, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines assumed OPCON of Company I, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines from 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines.

17 April, THON SON LAM received 18 rounds of enemy 122mm rocket fire. 171330H, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines passed OPCON of Company L, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines to 3d Battalion, 1st Marines.

181230H April, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines assumed OPCON of Company L, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines from 3d Battalion, 1st Marines.

18 April, Company I moved to the field to conduct search and destroy operation, vicinity coord XD 966496.

22 April, Company L, (coord XD 995485) received six (6) enemy 122mm rocket fire.

24 April, Company L (-) provided convoy security from LZ STUD, (coord XD 995436) to KHE SANH (coord XD 850418).

25 April Company M air lifted from THON SON LAM to the field to conduct operations in the vicinity of coord XD 970479. Company I returned to THON SON LAM. Company L (-) provided convoy security from KHE SANH to landing zone STUD, and returned to THON SON LAM.

26 April, Company M (coord XD 967478) received six (6) rounds of enemy rocket fire.

271800H April, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines assumed OPCON of Company H, 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines, from 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines.

281700H April, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines passed OPCON of Company H, 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines to 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines.

301130H April, 4th Marines passed OPCON of Command Group ALPHA, Companies L, K, and M to 9th Marines. 301130H, Command Group BRAVO, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines assumed OPCON of Company F, 2nd Battalion, 26th Marines. 301500H Assumed OPCON of Company B, 1st Battalion, 9th Marines. 301900H Assumed OPCON 1st Platoon, Company A, 3d Tank Battalion.

### PART III

#### SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. FMF organization committed to combat.
  - a. Combat mission assigned
    - (1) Provide security for the THON SON LAM Operating Base.

(2) Co operations to maintain security of MSR Route #9 in AO.

(3) Conduct operations to interdict enemy LOC's and destroy enemy forces in assigned AO.

(4) Deny enemy access through THON SON LAM area.

(5) Provide reaction force for convoys on 15 minutes notice.

(6) Provide road sweep team with security element to sweep MSR, Route #9 within AO.

b. Significant operations conducted.

(1) Operation CHARLTON, as part of Operation LANCASTER II, 121015H - 161200H April.

(2) 301130H, 3d Battalion (-) began conducting a search and destroy operation 40000m northwest of DONG HA.

c. Casualties inflicted on the enemy.

KIA Confirmed	47
NVA POW	3

d. Casualties sustained.

(1) KIA	24
(2) KIA (NBC)	0
(3) DOW	1
(4) WIA	111
(5) WIA (NBC)	0
(6) MIA	1

e. New techniques employed. None.

f. Command relations. Command relations with all supporting units continued to be excellent. Coordination and assistance received on all levels of command functions has been excellent. During the period of 1-30 April, this unit remained under the OPCON of the 4th Marine Regiment. 301130H, 4th Marines passed OPCON of Command Group ALPHA, Companies K, L, and M to 9th Marines.

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g. Equipment. During this period there were no serious problems with equipment and normal Marine Corps issue was sufficient in all reports.

h. Logistics. Support received during the period was adequate to support operations.

i. Civic Action.

(1) 100 school kits given to the Ca Lu Quan Thue hamlet for the opening of their first school.

j. Administration. There were no administrative difficulties encountered during this period.

k. Personnel. Replacement personnel have been available in sufficient quantities to replace losses due to combat and rotation to CONUS.

l. Intelligence.

(1) Weather

(a) Temperature - the average high for the month was 80-90 degrees Fahrenheit. The mean minimum temperature ranged between 65-70 degrees Fahrenheit.

(b) Winds - during the month of April were mostly from the north-northwest at an average of 8 to 10 knots per hour.

(c) Precipitation - the precipitation was greatest during the last half of the month. The accumulated amount of rainfall during the month was 0.2 inches.

(d) Humidity - the relative humidity averaged 86%.

(e) Clouds - cloudiness increased after the first of the month. Clouds were broken to scattered at 500 feet. The weather was clear 3 out of 5 days. Ground fog occurred between 2400 - 0300 and usually cleared between 0000 - 0930.

(f) Visibility - visibility averaged 5 - 7 miles except during the early morning hours.

(2) Terrain

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Enclosure (1)

(a) 3d Battalion, 9th Marines observation post "Rockpile" (XD 979558), is the most dominant terrain feature in the area and provides the best observation of the AO. The other dominant terrain feature of the AO include the Razorback (XD 964575).

(b) The terrain of the AO is covered with heavy brush and undergrowth, some of which is secondary jungle. In the low valley areas, elephant grass is predominant from knee high to head high.

(c) The mountains and hills in the AO range from gradual sloping hills to sheer cliffs. Some of the mountains are so steep that fully combat loaded troops can not move up them.

(d) The dominant streams and rivers of the AO include the SONG CAM LO, TRINH HIN, and the RIVER DE QUANG TRI. There are numerous small seasonal streams in the AO which run fast and clear.

(e) Roads - The north-south road (XD 999564) to (XD 900436) is an all weather road and accurately marked on the map. (THON DON KINH, Sheets 63421 and 634211).

(f) Villages - All villages except those around CA LU (YD 013543) are destroyed but can be recognized as such. The villages to the east-southeast of CA LU are presently occupied.

(g) Observation and Fields of Fire - The thick brush and vines which cover the mountains severely hamper observation and fields of fire. The low grassy areas offer excellent observation and fields of fire. The lowlands are either covered with thick brush which limits observation or marshland or old rice paddies covered with knee high to waist high grass and permits excellent observation and fields of fire.

(h) Cover and Concealment - Concealment, except in the areas of low grass, is excellent to outstanding. There is excellent cover in the area.

(i) Obstacles- The major obstacles for foot troops is thick brush, parts of which are almost impenetrable. The streams and rivers during and after rains become obstacles. Wheeled and tracked vehicles are restricted to road travel because of wet marshy lowlands and steep hills. Many types of explosive devices have been found in the area.

(j) Landing Zone - HLZ's are limited to low grassy areas, rice paddies, gentle sloping hills, or hill tops which are covered with grass.

(3) Enemy Situation - Intelligence reports indicate that the 8th Battalion, 29th Regiment is located in the vicinity of (XD 990493), Headquarters, 4th Battalion, 812th Regiment in the vicinity of (XD 900600), 64th Regimental Headquarters in the vicinity of (XD 998643), an unidentified company headquarters in the vicinity of (XD 968530), elements of an unidentified division in the vicinity of (XD 923474), and an estimated battalion (-) operating in grids (9247), (9347), (9447), (9547) and (9647).

(4) Enemy Activity - Enemy activity in the area of THON SON LAM increased compared to the month of March. On 11 April Camp ROCKPILE received incoming artillery and rockets from the vicinity of (XD 982576, XD 9861, YD 023738). On 12 April Camp ROCKPILE received incoming artillery and rockets from the vicinity of (XD 988602, 906588 and YD 012669). On 15 April Camp ROCKPILE received rockets from the vicinity of (XD 950534 and XD 934537). On 16 April Lima Company received incoming rockets from the vicinity of (XD 890533). On 17 April Camp ROCKPILE received incoming from the vicinity of (XD 895510, XD 935530 and XD 928547). On 22 April Lima Company received incoming rockets from the vicinity of (XD 986466). On 26 April Mike Company received incoming rockets from the vicinity of (XD 943490).

n. Communications. The Comm Platoon continued to provide support for the battalion with no difficulties encountered.

n. Fire Support

(1) Firing in direct support of the battalion was the 1st Battalion, 12th Marines.

(2) During the month of April there were 504 missions fired with a total of 4539 rounds. There were 90 unobserved and 408 observed missions with 12 illumination missions. Of the total rounds fired, 2343 rounds were IJ's and 60 rounds were illumination.

c. Air Support. A detailed breakdown by types of aircraft is listed below.

<u>TYP</u>	<u>REQUESTED</u>	<u>RECEIVED</u>
Medevac - Routine	13	13
Priority	21	21
Emergency	5	5
Resupply - Routine	0	0
Priority	0	0
Emergency	0	0
Helo Recon	5	5
Troop Lifts	4	4
Admin Lift	0	0
TACA (A.O.)	21	15
Helo Gunships	0	0
Fix Wing - CAS	5	5
DAS	0	0
TRQ	120	35
Helicopter	<u>SORTIES</u>	<u>NO. AIRCRAFT</u>
H-34	79	122
UH-46	62	124
CH-53	1	1
UH-1E	12	20
	10	

Enclosure (1)

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p. Chaplain

- (1) Divine Services - Protestant
  - (a) Number of services 28
  - (b) Total attendance 831
  - (c) Lay Leader services 3
  - (d) Lay Leader attendance 67
- (2) Divine Services - Roman Catholic
  - (a) Masses held by priest 5
  - (b) Total attendance 255
  - (c) Lay services held 6
  - (d) Lay services attendance 123
- (3) Other Activities
  - (a) 3 Memorial services with 130 total attendance.
  - (b) 3 choir rehearsals with 27 total attendance.
  - (c) 2 Indoctrination lectures with 55 total attendance
  - (d) 2 Hardship Board cases
  - (e) 12 boxes of Civic Action material delivered to S-5.
  - (f) Sign board received & delivered to battalion.
  - (g) 1100 Mother's Day cards delivered to battalion.
  - (h) 5 food boxes received and delivered to battalion.
  - (i) 40 condolence letters written to NOK
  - (j) 11 thank-you letters written on behalf of the battalion.
  - (k) Fixed thatch wall of Rockpile chapel entrance.
  - (l) Engineers braced sagging front of chapel

## g. Medical.

- (1) The medical status of the battalion is presently satisfactory.
- (2) There were 1207 visits to sick call this month 1145 Marines, 7 Navy, and 55 Army.
- (3) There were 12 clinical laboratory procedures performed this month.
- (4) The present strength of the aid station is 56 Hospital Corpsman and one (1) Medical Officer
- (5) Medical supply is adequate.
- (6) The sanitation of the battalion is good.
- (7) There have been 7 cases of venereal disease treated this month.

2/TAM/drb  
1000/1  
28 Apr 1968

From: S-2  
To: S-3

Subj Journal for period 010001 - 272400 April 1968

DTG INCIDENT

011123H OP BEN OBSERVED POSSIBLE ENEMY MOVEMENT UNDER CAMOFLAGE AT (XD 961539)

012115H OP EVE SPOTTED A PERSON OUTSIDE PERIMETER AT (XD 988545), PERSON DISSAPEARED INTO BRUSH.

021445H CONVOY RECEIVED 1-ROUND MORTAR FIRE FROM SUSPECTED MORTAR SITE AT (YD 063596).

021513H CONVOY RECEIVED 7-ROUNDS MORTAR FIRE FROM (YD 0658).

040130H 1-GRENADE EXPLODED IN CREEK AND TRIP FLARE WAS DETONATED AT (ZD 983532).

041925H OP BEN OBSERVED 1-BRIGHT LIGHT IN TREE LINE AT (XD 936535), LIGHT STAYED ON APPROX 40 SECONDS.

051250H ARMY OBSERVATION HELICOPTER OBSERVED ENEMY .50 CAL GUN PITS AT (XD 923514).

051253H ARMY OBSERVATION HELICOPTER OBSERVED 2-NVA IN TREE LINE AT (XD 915506).

051730H OP SUE FOUND 1-AT MINE IN STREAM BED 50 METERS NORTH OF TRAIL INTERSECTION AT (XD 983535), MINE HAD FLAT BASE 8" in DIAMETER, WITH LARGE SPRING AND BLUE CAP.

060134H OP WYN (XD 974538) HEARD MOVEMENT WEST OF THEIR POSITION.

062345H OP BEN DETECTED MOVEMENT ON (SID) AT (XD 997541), THEIR WIRE WAS CUT IN 12-15 PLACES AND 3-4 FIGURES WERE SEEN ON WIRE.

072315H OP WYN OBSERVED LIGHTS AT (XD 957518).

080005H OP WYN OBSERVED LIGHTS MOVING IN A SOUTH-EAST DIRECTION FROM (XD 967538).

082010H OP BEN REPORTED SUSPECTED ENEMY POSITION AT (XD 949538).

*Tab A*

DTGINCIDENT

091610H ARMY OBSERVATION HELICOPTER REPORTED THAT SAPLINGS WERE IMPLACED ON HIGH GROUND AT (XD 926517), (XD 925512), and (XD 924517). THESE SAPLINGS ARE NOT NATURAL AND ARE BELIEVED TO BE AIMING STAKES FOR ARTY/RKT's.

9APR A.O. OBSERVED A BUNKER COMPLEX AND WEAPONS POSITIONS POSITIONS IN LINE FROM (XD 912494) to (XD 922489). POSITIONS WERE CAMOFLAGED RECENTLY, NO PEOPLE WERE OBSERVED.

090330H OP BEN OBSERVED 1-LIGHT AT (XD 928547).

110715H M Co ROAD SWEEP TEAM RECEIVED SPORADIC SNIPER FIRE FROM 2-3 SNIPERS AT (YD 034576).

110930H M/3 AT (YD 033573) RECEIVED SPORADIC SNIPER FIRE FROM UNKNOWN POSITION.

111133H 3/9 RECEIVED 17-ROUNDS INCOMING ARTY FIRE FROM (XD 982576) AND (XD 9861). ANALYSIS SHOWS 105mm OR LARGER ARTY DUE TO ROTATING BANDS. DIRECTION OF INCOMING WAS 6400 MILLS FROM ROCKPILE OP, POSSIBLY 2-FIRING POSITIONS.

111350H 3/9 RECEIVED 15-ROUNDS INCOMING ARTY. AO OBSERVED SMOKE AT (YD 023738).

11APR SUSPECTED ARTY POSITION AT (XD 982576). SMOKE OBSERVED AT (XD 990585). SMALL ARMS FIRE RECEIVED FROM (YD 036576). SUSPECTED ARTY POSITION, AND SMOKE WAS SEE BY ROCKPILE OP AT (XD 988614). OBSERVED SMOKE DURING ATTACK ON ROCKPILE AT (YD 023736). GRS REPORTED SIGHTING U/1 ENEMY UNIT AT (YD 123641).

120730H M/2 RECEIVED 15-ROUNDS SMIPER FIRE FROM (YD 044573).

121201H 3/9 RECEIVED APPROX 15-ROUNDS ARTY AND 107mm RKT's in 4 to 6 ROUND BARRAGES AT A TIME, FROM (XD 988602) AND (XD 986588). CONVOY WAS PASSING THROUGH THIS POSIT DURING ATTACK. EACH FIN ASSEMBLY ON RKT's WERE NUMBERED DIFFERENTLY. EXPLOSIVE HEADS OF ROCKETS WERE SIERATED TO BREAK UP INTO FRAGMENTS OF ABOUT 1/2" SQUARES. COUNTER# MORTAR RADAR LOCATED ENEMY POSITION AT (YD 01256698). CRATER ANALYSIS SHOWS ROUNDS CAME FROM 0400 10 0500 MILLS.

121455H OP EVE OBSERVED 2-ENEMY F.O.'s AND MANY CAVES AT (XD 986565).

DTGINCIDENT

122110H OP's WYN, BEN AND SUE OBSERVED LIGHTS AT (XD 969562).

130345H RL HEARD CANS RATTLE, 1-RIP FLARE AND 1-SHOT FIRED FROM (XD 979558).

131025H M/3 FOUND STUMP OF CUT TREES IN 50 METER RADIOUS OF (YD 048558). ALSO 4-BURNT OUT CAMP FIRES LESS THAN -3-WEEKS OLD. CUT TREES WERE 3" to 5" IN DIAMETER AND COULD NOT BE FOUND.

140900H RECON REPORTED 1-HARBOR SITE, NOT USED FOR 3 to 4 MONTHS. EXSTREAMLY THICK VEGETATION AND CANOPY IN AREA OF (YD 005550) to (YD 005543).

142200H URS REPORT ENEMY ACIVITy DURING PAST 48-HOURS AT (YD 0860), (YD 0961), AND (YD 0962).

150247H 3/9 RECEIVED 15-ROUNDS 122mm RKT's FROM WESTERLY DIREC-TION (XD 950534) AND (XD 934537), WHEN CONVOY BUNCHED UP AT THIS POSIt.

151518H URS REPORT U/I ENEMY UNIt LOCATED 900 METERS FROM (YD 005665).

151518H URS REPORT U/I ENEMY UNIt LOCATED 700 METERS FROM (XD 998685).

151514H URS REPORt U/I ENEMt UNITS WITHIN 1000 METERS OF (YD 151431, 2000 METERS OF (YD 080614) AND 1300 METERS OF (XD 993689).

151714H M Co HEARD GRENADES AND SMALL ARMS FIRE FROM (YD 017575).

151720H F.O. REPORTED POSSIBLE ENEMY ROCKET SITE AT (XD 9034 5283).

161030H A.O. SIGHTED A BARREL, BLACK IN COLOR WITH SLIT IN TOP AT (XD 925572) AND A HOOCH MADE OF TIMBER IRREGULARY SET AT (XD 924570). THESE ARE POSSIBLE SIGHTING DEVICES.

161540H L Co RECEIVED 9-122mm ROCKETS FROM (XD 890533).

162147H OP BEN OBSERVED A DIM LIGHT AT(XD 962359).

170415H BRAVO COMMAND RECEIVED 6-ROUNDS OF UNKNOWN CAL FROM 1000 METERS WEST OF (XD 990468).

DTG INCIDENT

170425H OP EVE OBSERVED LIGHTS AT (YD 002617).

17APR RECON OBSERVED 15-NVA APPROX 1500 METERS FROM (XD 966500).

170910H M Co FOUND CAVES  $\frac{1}{2}$ ' DEEP  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ' IN DIAMETER THAT APPEARED TO GO UNDER STREAM BED, AT (YD 017556).

171315H 1-RIFLE SHOT WAS RECEIVED WHILE 2-VEHICLES WERE PASSING THROUGH MIKE Co's POSITION AT (YD 018563).

171322H 3/9 RECEIVED INCOMING ROCKETS FROM (XD 895510) AND (XD 935530). ENEMY F O. ESTEMATED TO BE AT (XD 928547). TOTAL ROUNDS RECEIVED 18)

172010H OP ADAM AND EVE OBSERVED LIGHTS AT (YD 000585).

181410H RECON FOUND A BOTTLE OF U/1 LIQUID AT (XD 991544), and a TRAIL NOT RECENTLY USED, APPROX 100 METERS BEYOND OP EVE TO (YD 002544).

191120H I Co FOUND 3-OHIO CLAYMORES, A FIGHTING HOLE 5'X4'X4' COVERED WITH 6" OF LOGS AND A LAYER OF DIRT, APPROX 2-MONTHS OLD. NVA TYPE C-RATION CANS, APPROX 15-METERS FROM THE FIRST, AND 1-ENEMY SUN CAP AT (XD 966496).

191215H I Co. SECURITY PLATOON HIT TRIP WIRE, SETTING OFF UNKNOWN EXPLOSIVE DEVICE, SEVERAL OTHERS WERE FOUND IN THIS AREA (XD 967407).

192105H L Co SPOTTED STEADY BURNING LIGHTS AT (YD 016507).

200750H L Co WHILE PUTTING OUT OP ON HIGH GROUND WAS JUMPED BY 4 TO 6 NVA FIRING SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT AUTOMATIC WEAPONS, FOLLOWED BY 60mm MORTARS, AT (XD 967432).

200911H I Co FOUND A WELL USED TRAIL RUNNING SOUTH-WEST FOR 100 METERS TO WATER POINT, FOUND 1-PAIR JUNGLE BOOT PRINTS AND 1-PAIR SANDLE PRINTS APPROX 1-WEEK OLD, AT (XD 971495).

200919H I Co FOUND BOOT PRINTS, 3-JUNGLE, 1-SNEAKER, 1-UTILITY COVER. BOOT PRINTS HEADING DUE WEST. AT (XD 957497).

201000H I co FOUND FIGHTING HOLES 4'X2'X2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' APPROX 1-MONTH OLD. 1-BUNKER 4'X4'X3' WITH LOGS ON TWO SIDES AND A DIRT LAYER ON TOP, APPROX 1-MONTH OLD. AT (XD 973494).

DTGINCIDENT

- 201047H I Co FOUND 5-LIVING HOOCHES 10'X12' MADE OF BAMBOO AND TREES, APPROX ONE YEAR OLD. 2-TRAILS FROM HOOCHES LEADING WEST. AT (XD 963485).
- 201116H I Co FOUND BUNKER COMPLEX WITH 3-LARGE BUNKERS 5'X4'X4' WELL FORTIFIED WITH 6" OF LOGS, 3" OF BAMBOO, 12" OF DIRT, 6" OF ROCKS AND WITH BAMBOO FLOORS. NET CAMOUFLAGED. AT (XD 968492).
- 201200H I Co FOUND 9-FIGHTING HOLES 3'X2'X2½', 1-NVA RATION CAN, 3-DISHES, 12' OF ROPE STRETCHED BETWEEN 2-TREES, 5' OFF THE DECK, PARALLEL WITH A STREAM ON AN AZIMUTH OF 3800 MILS. APPROX ONE MONTH OLD, AT (XD 967491).
- 201335H I Co FOUND BUNKER COMPLEX WITH 13-BUNKERS 5'X4'X4', CONTAINING BAMBOO RACKS AND CAPABLE OF ACCOMADATING 30 PEOPLE, BANDAGES, TENNIE SHOES, STRAW HAT, TIN COOKING POT 1' IN DIAMETER AND 6" DEEP, 1-NVA HAVERSACK. APPROX ONE MONTH OLD, AT (XD 968490).
- 220200H OBSERVED LIGHTS AT (XD 993573).
- 221140H L Co RECEIVED 6-INCOMING ROCKETS AT (XD 986466).
- 230825H U/I NVA/VC UNIT REPORTED 1000 METERS FROM (XD 991680) AND U/1 ENEMY HQ WITHIN 2900 METERS OF (XD 968537).
- 231115H I Co FOUND 1-SPIDER HOLE 1'X2'X3' APPROX ONE WEEK OLD, REINFORCED WITH LOGS AND CAMOUFLAGED WITH UNDERBRUSH, 25-FIGHTING HOLES, BUNKERS WITH TUNNEL 4' LONG LEADING TO TRENCH LINE ON SOUTHWEST SIDE OF HILL, AND 1-SIGN WITH THE WRITING (CHI-68) AT (XD 970478).
- 231135H I Co FOUND AIMING STAKES 10' LONG WITH ELEPHANT GRASS TIED 2' FROM TOP FACING EAST-WEST DIRECTION ON AZIMUTH OF 80° AND 260° RESPECTIVELY AT (XD 949503). ALSO 1-AIMING STAKE ACCESSORY PACK WITH ALUMINUM FOIL TURNED INSIDE OUT FACING SOUTH ON AZIMUTH OF 175°.
- 240307H F. O. ON ROCKPILLE OBSERVED LIGHT AT (XD 973572)
- 242233H OPSUE OBSERVED 1-LIGHT AT (XD 993515).























JOURNAL

NAVMC 219 GS (REV 5 63)  
SUPERSEDES 2-52 AND 8-56 EDITIONS WHICH WILL BE USED

(Classification)

UNIT OR SECTION 3d Battalion, 9th Marines	
PLACE THON SON LAM, RVN	
FROM (Date and hour) 110001H	TO (Date and hour) 112400 April 1968

TIME		SERIAL NO	DATE TIME GROUP	INCIDENTS MESSAGES ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN M- Maps 1- Troops S- Staff 1- File
IN	OUT				
		1	110001H	3d Battalion, 9th Marines assumed OPCON Company M 3d Battalion, 9th Marines	S-F, 4th Mar
		2	110715H	Company M, road sweep (coord YD 041566) received small arms harrasing fire from an estimated two (2) to three (3) enemy located coord YD 047570. Enemy fire was suppressed with 324 rounds M-79 fire with unknown enemy casualties One USMC WIA (minor)	S-F, 4th Mar
		3	110800H	Company I, 3d Battalion, 9th Marines chop OPCON to 4th Marines	S-F, 4th Mar
		4	110930H	Company M, 3d Platoon (coord YD 041567) received small arms harrasing fire from enemy estimated to be located coord YD 040570. 81mm mortar fire mission and 17 rounds 106mm RR was fired Air observer requested Enemy casualties are unknown	S-F, 4th Mar
		5	111133H	THON SON LAM (coord XD 982545) received 17 rounds incoming enemy artillery Initial crater analysis indicated enemy rounds were 105mm or larger. Artillery rotating band fragments found with shell fragments Direction of enemy fire was from 6400 mills as observed from ROCKPILE OP (coord XD 982545) with range in doubt Possible enemy locations are XD 982576 and XD 9861. Requested air observer. Returned fire with 81mm mortars, 106mm RR, and artillery. Emergency TPQ-10 missions requested on enemy targets. Two (2) USMC WIA (minor) and two (2) U S. Army WIA and medevaced. Shell fragments forwarded to 4th Marines S-2.	S-F, 4th Mar

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NAVMC 219 GS (REV 5 63)  
SUPERSEDES 2-52 AND 8-56 EDITIONS WHICH WILL BE USED

UNIT OR SECTION 3d Battalion, 9th Marines	
PLACE THON SON LAM, RVN	
FROM (Date and hour) 120001H	TO (Date and hour) 122400H April 1968

(Classification)

TIME		SERIAL NO	DATE TIME GROUP	INCIDENTS MESSAGES ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN	
IN	OUT				M- Maps S- Staff	I- Troops I- Ide
0747		1	120747H	Company M, road sweep (coord YD 045569) received 15 rounds small arms harrassing fire from coord YD 044573. Returned fire with quad .50 Cal Machine Gun and continued sweep		S-F, 4th Mar
1342		2	121202H	THON SON LAM received an estimated 15 rounds of artillery and 107mm rockets. Enemy firing position was YD 01256698 and was located by counter mortar radar. Most of the enemy rounds landed in the vicinity of the 175mm gun positions, coord XD 983543, with one jeep and trailer destroyed. Counter artillery fires were fired with 71 rounds 106mm RR, 289 rounds HE 81mm mortar, artillery missions and one (1) emergency TPQ-10 bomb drop 277 rounds WP 81mm mortar were used to lay a smoke screen to the north and west to cover convoys passing through THON SON LAM.		S-F, 4th Mar
1400		3	121300	Resupply convoy passed through 3d Battalion 9th Marines AO west along Route #9.		S-F, 4th Mar
1600		4	121445H	H&S Company, OP EVE (coord XD 998546) observed what appeared to be two (2) enemy FO's (coord XD 986565). 81mm mortar and 106mm RR missions were fired into escape routes. A platoon reinforced with two (2) tanks and two (2) 40mm AA guns were sent to search the area. Area was searched with negative results.		S-F, 4th Mar
2137		5	122110H	OP WYN, (coord XD 974538) observed lights (coord XD 969562). A 105mm artillery mission of two (2) rounds WP, and 11 rounds HE were fired with good coverage on target. Lights were extinguished.		S-F, 4th Mar

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SUPERSEDES 2-52 AND 8-56 EDITIONS WHICH WILL BE USED

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UNIT OR SECTION 3d Battalion, 9th Marines	
PLACE THON SON LAM, RVN	
FROM (Date and hour) 200001H	TO (Date and hour) 202400H April 1968

TIME		SERIAL NO	DATE TIME GROUP	INCIDENTS MESSAGES ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN M-Maps T-Troops S-Staff F-File
IN	OUT				
1030		1	200911H	Company I, squad patrol (coord XD 971495) found well used trail running southwest with jungle boot print by water point.	S-F, 4th Mar
1055		2	201000H	Company I, squad patrol (coord XD 973494) found several fighting holes 4X2X2½ ft. and one bunker 4X4X3 ft reinforced with logs and dirt Position was about one (1) month old Enemy position destroyed.	S-F, 4th Mar
1137		3	201047H	Company I, squad patrol (coord XD 963485) found five (5) living houses 10X12 ft. and two (2) fighting holes estimated to be one (1) year old Houses destroyed by burning.	S-F, 4th Mar
1200		4	201116H	Company I, squad patrol (coord XD 968492) found three (3) bunkers 5X4X4 ft. reinforced with six (6) inch logs, three (3) inch bamboo, 12 inch earth, and six (6) inch rock. Bunkers had bamboo decks and net camouflage Also found three (3) cooking holes and a large quantity of NVA ration cans Bunkers and cans appeared to be one (1) month old. Bunkers were destroyed.	S-F, 4th Mar
1215		5	201200H	Company I, squad patrol, (coord XD 967491) found nine (9) fighting holes 3X2X2½ ft., NVA ration cans, and three (3) dishes, estimated to be one (1) month old. Also found 12 ft rope between two (2) trees running parallel to stream on an azimuth of 3800 mills Holes and rope were destroyed	S-F, 4th Mar
1404		6	201355H	Company I, squad patrol, found bunker complex between coord XD 968490 and XD 969485. There were 13 bunkers 5X4X4 ft well built with bamboo racks inside and would hold about 30 men. Bunkers were about one (1) month old Also found	

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NAVMC 219 GS (REV 5 63)  
 SUPERSEDES 2-52 AND 8-56 EDITIONS WHICH WILL BE USED

(Classification)

UNIT OR SECTION 3d Battalion, 9th Marines	
PLACE THON SON LAM, RVN	
FROM (Date and hour) 260001H	TO (Date and hour) 262400H April 1968

TIME		SERIAL NO	DATE TIME GROUP	INCIDENTS MESSAGES ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN	
IN	OUT				M-Maps S-Staff	T-Troops F-File
0540		1	260500H	Company K, defensive position (coord XD 981545) heard movement near their position. Fired one (1) M-79 round. Searched area with negative results.		S-F, 4th Mar
0950		2	260847H	Company M, squad patrol (coord XD 964467) found a section of a tunnel that had been exposed by a bomb crater. Artillery fire mission fired on area with negative results.		S-F, 4th Mar
1040		3	260930H	Company M, (coord XD 952476) and CA LU Combat Operating Base received incoming enemy explosive shells or rockets. There were no casualties or damage within Company M's area. Enemy position was estimated to be coord XD 968471.		S-F, 4th Mar
1045		4	261005H	Company M, squad patrol, (coord XD 966488) found well used trail about one (1) month old, running from east to west.		S-F, 4th Mar
1405		5	261345H	Company M, squad patrol (coord XD 966477) found two (2) well fortified and camouflaged bunkers 6X3X4 ft. Bunkers were reinforced with four (4) inch logs and one (1) ft. of rocks and dirt. Inside of bunkers were 30 ft. of electric wire, two (2) blasting caps, enemy type safety pins, part of a grey poncho, and cord that could have been used as trip wire. Also found what appeared to be a rocket assembly and could possibly be used as a command detonated explosive device. Bunkers and equipment were destroyed with C-4.		S-F, 4th Mar
1557		6	261550H	Company M, (coord XD 967478) received six (6) rounds of enemy rockets from coord XD 943490. Fired counter-rocket fires of 81mm mortars and artillery missions. Requested emergency TPQ-10 bomb drop. Enemy damage assessment not available.		S-F, 4th Mar

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NAVMC 219 (REV 5 63)

UNIT OR SECTION 3d Battalion, 9th Marines	
PLACE THON SON LAM, RVN	
FROM (Date and hour) 270001H	TO (Date and hour) 272400H April 1968

(Classification)

TIME		SERIAL NO	DATE TIME GROUP	INCIDENTS MESSAGES ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN	
IN	OUT				M-Maps S-Staff	F-Troops F-File
0800		1	270750H	Company M, squad patrol (coord XD 966480) found grass and bamboo house. House was 8X6X5 ft. and appears to have been abandoned about four (4) months ago. House was destroyed.		S-F, 4th Mar
1030		2	270935H	Company M, (coord XD 969473) found elephant tracks 10 inches in diameter and six (6) inches deep. Also found shower shoe track about two (2) weeks old. Tracks were going southwest.		S-F, 4th Mar
1155		3	271055H	Aerial recon observed four (4) NVA in tree line (coord XD 923514). Artillery mission fired on enemy position with unobserved results.		S-F, 4th Mar
1157		4	271056H	Company M, squad patrol (coord XD 969475) found fresh tennis shoe tracks of several persons and elephant tracks not more than 12 hours old. Tracks were along trail moving in a south southwest direction.		S-F, 4th Mar
1230		5	271230H	Resupply convoy passed through 3d Battalion 9th Marines AO along Route #9.		S-F, 4th Mar
1300		6	271250H	Resupply convoy passed through 3d Battalion 9th Marines AO along Route #9.		S-F, 4th Mar
1329		7	271320H	Company I (-) departed LZ STUD (coord XD 995484) as convoy security to KHE SANH.		S-F, 4th Mar
1350		8	271350H	Company M, squad patrol (coord XD 966467) found two (2) white star clusters, one (1) raversack, two (2) E-tool covers, two (2) canteen covers, one (1) bayonet scabbard, one (1) rifle sling, one (1) machette case, one (1) magazine pouch M-16 type, six (6) full bandoleers 5.56mm ammo, one (1) canteen cup, five (5) sets utilities, one (1) poncho, and one (1) red smoke grenade. All gear was US type, and appeared to have been abandoned about three (3) weeks. Also found one (1) NVA pack. Unserviceable gear destroyed, serviceable gear returned to CP.		S-F, 4th Mar

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JOURNAL (3480)  
NAVMC 219 (REV 5 63)

UNIT OR SECTION	
3d Battalion, 9th Marines	
PLACE	
THON SON LAM, RVN	
FROM (Date and hour)	TO (Date and hour)
280001H	282400H April 1968

(Classification)

TIME		SERIAL NO	DATE TIME GROUP	INCIDENTS MESSAGES ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN	
IN	OUT				M-Maps S-Staff	T-Troops F-File
0940		1	280810H	Company M, company sweep (coord XD 966495). Air observer on station reported observing three (3) bunkers and fresh fighting holes (coord XD 967500). One (1) bunker and 15 fighting holes are possibly still in use. A 105mm artillery mission was fired on enemy position. Damage assessment was not available.		S-F, 4th Mar
1000		2	280930H	Company M reports air observers observed three (3) NVA, (coord XD 949495). Air observer ran fixed wing air strike with unknown results.		S-F, 4th Mar
1010		3	280955H	Company M, company sweep (coord XD 971488) found four (4) fighting holes, imprint of 82mm mortar base plate, three (3) containers for mortar fuses, 10 mortar fuse plugs, one (1) NVA pack with blood stains, numerous empty US C-ration cans, 16X18 inch aluminum foil bag and .50 cal machine gun position. Position appears to be two (2) to three (3) weeks old. S-2 collected items of intelligence value. Position was destroyed.		S-F, 4th Mar
1100		4	281020H	Company M, squad patrol (coord XD 963488) found well used trail running from east to west. Found one (1) foot print made by tennis shoe estimated to be five (5) days old.		S-F, 4th Mar
1330		5	281100H	Company M, squad patrol (coord XD 971488) found five (5) bunkers 4X6X3 ft. made with U.S. 60mm mortar boxes, reinforced with logs and bamboo. One (1) bunker was water proofed with a U.S. poncho and a air mattress. Found .50 Cal machine gun position with 30 shell casings, one (1) NVA pack, two (2) shovels, one (1) U.S. type pack, U.S. type utilities and one (1) helmet. Bunkers and unserviceable equipment were destroyed.		S-F, 4th Mar

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