

CTG 79.4

0061-68

HEADQUARTERS
Battalion Landing Team 1/3
9th Marine Amphibious Brigade
FPO San Francisco 96602

0013990

3/MMM/lak
5750
SerNo: 0016-67
2 January 1968

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(Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1))

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commander, Task Group 79.4

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 December 1967 through
31 December 1967

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A
(b) FMF PAGO 5750.8
(c) BrigO 5750.1B

Encl: ✓ (1) Battalion Landing Team 1/3 Command Chronology

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

R. W. Goodale
R. W. GOODALE

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9th Marine Amphibious Brigade
FPO, San Francisco 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 December 1967 through 31 December 1967

INDEX

PART I	-ORGANIZATIONAL DATA
PART II	-NARRATIVE SUMMARY
PART III	-SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
PART IV	-SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Enclosure (1)
DECLASSIFIED

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

Battalion Landing Team 1/3

LtCol R. W. GOODALE
(1-31 December 1967)SUBORDINATE UNITS

H&S Company

Capt G. C. LARIMORE
(1-18 December 1967)
Capt D. H. CURRY
(19-20 December 1967)
Capt D. W. DADISMAN
(21-31 December 1967)

Company A

Capt D. HANCOCK
(1-31 December 1967)

Company B

Capt T. A. SCHEIB
(1-31 December 1967)

Company C

Capt W. H. OSGOOD
(1-31 December 1967)

Company D

Capt T. V. RICHARDSON
(1-9 December 1967)
Capt P. N. HENDRIX
(10-31 December 1967)ATTACHED UNITSDet, 9th MAB (Radio Relay)
Det, Disbursing Section Hq, Bn,
3d Mar Div

Capt L. M. ZWICK

Capt C. B. YELLIG
(1-7 December 1967)
WO R. C. REEDY
(8-31 December 1967)Det, Postal Section, Hq Bn,
3rd Mar Div
Det, Hq Co, 26th Mar (Radio Relay)
Det, Btry A, 1st Bn, 12th Mar
(Ln Tm)Sgt W. A. LEDFORD
Cpl J. M. MAGGILt R. C. JOHNSON
(1-9 December 1967)
Lt J. K. KALLSTROM
(10-31 December 1967)Det, Hq Btry, 1st Bn, 12th Mar
(NGF Ln Tm)
1st Clearing Plt, (Rein), Co B,
3rd Med Bn
Det, 15th Dental Co
1st Plt (-), Co B, 3rd Recon Bn

LtJG K. A. STARGER (USN)

Lt R. E. JONES (USN)
Lt H. E. OLIVER (USN)
Cpl B. D. KALAR
(1-19 December 1967)
Lt D. L. ANDERSON
(20-31 December 1967)

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Btry A (-) (Rein), 1st Bn, 12th Mar
 4.2nd Mortar Btry, 2nd Bn, 12th Mar
 2nd Plt (-) (Rein), Co A, 3rd Engr
 Bn
 1st Plt (Rein), Co B, 3rd MT Bn

Capt W. O. KENYON
 Capt A. M. PATTERSON Jr.

Lt G. D. GARDNER
 Lt D. M. BYSTEDT
 (1-15 December 1967)
 Capt W. P. BARCLAY
 (16-31 December 1967)

4th Plt (Rein), Co A, 5th AmTrac Bn
 3rd Plt (Rein), Co A, 3rd AT Bn

Lt T. W. KAUFMAN
 Lt C. M. BERTHOLF Jr.
 (1-14 December 1967)
 Lt B. BLACK

3rd Plt (Rein), Co C, 3rd Tank Bn
 2nd Plt (-) (Rein), Co B, 3rd SP Bn
 Det, LSU, 3rd Serv Bn

(14-31 December 1967)
 Lt J. L. SUCKLEY
 Lt W. H. WOOSLEY
 Lt J. V. KENNEY

2. LOCATION

a. 1-29 December 1967 - Operation KENTUCKY V, RVN

b. 30-31 December 1967 - Quang Tri Airfield Complex, RVN

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer

Major E. J. ROCHFORD Jr.

S-1

Lt E. W. STERLING
 (1-9 December 1967)
 Lt R. J. BARNES
 (9-31 December 1967)

S-2

Capt D. H. CURRY
 (1-14 December 1967)
 GySgt R. C. KUNSAITIS
 (14-16 December 1967)
 Lt G. D. DOCKENDORFF
 (16-31 December 1967)

S-3

Major P. M. DUFFY
 (1-9 December 1967)
 Capt T. V. RICHARDSON
 (9-21 December 1967)
 Major R. C. MCCORMICK
 (21-31 December 1967)

S-4

Capt P. N. HENDRIX
 (1-9 December 1967)
 Capt B. H. LANDES Jr
 (10-31 December 1967)

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4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>OTHER</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
66	1416	9	84	NONE	NONE

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

At the beginning of this reporting period, BLT 1/3 was in the third day of Operation KENTUCKY V. During the two preceding days, the BLT moved from an attack position at coordinates 122685 to Regimental Objective 3. The BLT remained at Objective 3 until 2 December, at which time they moved to A-3 and assumed the mission of providing security and engineer support for the construction effort at that site.

During the period 2-29 December a concerted effort was made to complete the construction at A-3. Upon the departure of BLT 1/3 on 29 December, the defensive wire and mine field was completed. The bunker complex was near completion with the exception of cutting firing ports and back filling some bunkers.

Contact with the enemy during the stay at A-3 was very light. Initially Company D was probed from the south, but these probes ceased on 11 December when an estimated platoon of NVA/VC were taken under heavy artillery and tank fire while attempting to move into an assault position shortly after midnight. Normal day and night activities were conducted but a determined effort was not made to penetrate grid square 1770 to the south due to a large concentration of mines and surprise firing devices in that area.

- The greatest deterrent to the engineer effort was enemy artillery, rocket, and mortar fire. Five hundred and seventy-eight rounds were fired into A-3 during the period 2-29 December.

Operation KENTUCKY V was concluded on 29 December with a combined tactical foot and motor march to the Quang Tri Airfield Complex. The remaining two days of this reporting period were spent preparing to relieve the 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. Combat Missions Assigned.

To support the assault to the northeast as the Regimental Reserve, 9th Marine Regiment, and to assist in the construction effort of A-3, and to provide security for the engineers at A-3 and the engineers sweeping Road 566 daily.

2. Significant Operation Conducted.

Operation KENTUCKY V (Part IV-Supporting Documents)

3. Casualties Inflicted on the Enemy.

1-12 Dec 2 KIA Confirmed 12 KIA Probable

13-31 Dec None

4. Command Relations.a. Operational Control.

1-29 December - 9th Marines
30-31 December - 1st Marines

b. Administrative Control.

1-31 December - RLT-26 (Rear) 9th MAB

5. Logistics.

a. Supply. During this period 238 requisitions were submitted to FSR with a 30 percent completion rate. Supplies were obtained from the LSA at Dong Ha and from ARG Alpha. Supplies were obtained in satisfactory quantities.

b. Maintenance. Third echelon maintenance was performed by FLSU-1 at Dong Ha and 3rd and 4th echelon maintenance support was provided by FLC, Da Nang.

6. Administration.

Due to the extended separation of the administrative rear, off-loading of the BLT and relocation of the administrative rear twice, accomplishment of routine administration was difficult. The overall administration during this period was considered satisfactory.

7. Personnel.a. Replacements.

21 UCMC officers

24 USN enlisted

b. Casualties.

10 USMC KIA 70 USMC WIA

c. Awards.

1 Bronze Star Medal

2 Navy Commendation Medals

8. Intelligence.

The enemy employed 85mm and 130mm artillery, 102mm and 140mm rockets, 82mm mortars, and recoilless rifle fire against the A-3 position. During the period 3-19 December 578 rounds of mixed artillery, mortars and rockets were fired into A-3 and two rounds were received on 27 December. The enemy probed from the south with platoon size and smaller units during the first ten days. Enemy casualties resulting from these probes were two confirmed KIA's and 12 probable KIA's. Numerous surprise firing devices were employed to prevent BLT 1/3 patrols from entering the abandoned villages to the south of A-3 and anti-tank mines were employed on Route 566 between A-3 and Highway 1. On Route 566 one anti-tank mine was discovered by a sweep team and one anti-tank mine was detonated by a truck.

9. Fire Support.

A total of 4,643 rounds were fired in support of BLT 1/3 during 965 missions. Fire support was given by Battery A, 1/12, Battery E, 2/12, Battery F, 2/12 and Battery K, 4/12.

10. Air Support.

During this period, 12 sorties of fixed wing aircraft were flown in support of BLT 1/3 resulting in 2 secondary explosions, the destruction of 28 small bunkers, 4 large bunkers and 15 meters of trench line. Air observers were utilized on ten occasions to control the fixed wing aircraft. Twenty-three medical evacuation missions were conducted, evacuating 30 emergency, 31 priority and 30 routine casualties

11. Embarkation.

3 December USS WASHTENAW COUNTY (LST-1166) was relieved by USS TULARE (AKA-112). All personnel, equipment, vehicles and personal baggage was transferred.

18-19 December USS TULARE (AKA-112) carried out a practical off load of BLT 1/3 vehicles, organic equipment and personnel at Hue Ramp.

19 December USS CLEVELAND (LPD-7) off loaded the remaining elements of W 2/12 and A 1/12 at Dong Ha ramp. USS IWO JIMA (LPH-2) transferred all BLT 1/3 vehicles, personnel, organic equipment and personal baggage to USS CLEVELAND (LPD-7).

20-21 December USS CLEVELAND (LPD-7) completed its off-load of BLT 1/3 gear and personnel at Hue Ramp.

22 December All BLT 1/3 personnel, vehicles, personal baggage and organic equipment was staged in country with the exception of HMM-163 and certain vehicles remaining aboard for the new SLF.

12. Sequential Listing of Events.

16 December 1967 Company C, BLT 1/3, chopped OPCON to the 1st Amtrac Bn.

20 December 1967 Company E, 2nd Bn, 9th Mar chopped OPCON BLT 1/3.

20 December 1967 Company A, BLT 1/3 chopped OPCON to the 1st AmTrac Bn.

24 December 1967 Company E, 2nd Bn, 9th Mar chopped OPCON from BLT 1/3 to 2nd Bn, 9th Mar.

24 December 1967 Company A, 1st Bn, 4th Mar chopped OPCON BLT 1/3.

26 December 1967 Company A, 1st Bn, 4th Mar chopped OPCON from BLT 1/3 to 1st Bn, 4th Mar.

26 December 1967 Company I, 3rd Bn, 4th Mar chopped OPCON BLT 1/3.

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- .27 December 1967 Company I, 3rd Bn, 4th Mar chopped OPCON from BLT 1/3 to 3rd Bn, 4th Mar.
- 27 December 1967 Company K, 3rd Bn, 4th Mar chopped OPCON BLT 1/3
- 29 December 1967 Company K, 3rd Bn, 4th Mar chopped OPCON from BLT 1/3 to 3rd Bn, 4th Mar.
- 29 December 1967 Operation KENTUCKY V terminated for BLT1/3. BLT 1/3 displaced to Quang Tri Airfield Complex and chopped OPCON from the 9th Mar to the 1st Marines.

PART IV

CHRONOLOGY OF SUBORDINATE COMMANDS
AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. Combat Operations After Action Report--Operation KENTUCKY V (Appendix I) *NIE*