

HEADQUARTERS
3rd Battalion, 11th Marines
1st Marine Division, (Rein) FMP
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

3/11 Control 0025-67
Copy 4 of 20
3/JAL/wwm
1 Aug 67

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, 11th Marines (Rein), 1st Marine Division (Rein) FMP
Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 July to 31 July

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8
(c) DivO 5720.2B

Encl: (1) 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines Command Chronology

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

George T. Balzer
GEORGE T. BALZER

30082/11th Mar
Cmd Chron

July 1967

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS,
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

AB (G)

HEADQUARTERS
3rd Battalion, 11th Marines
1st Marine Division, (Rein) FMF
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

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1 Aug. 67

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 July 1967 to 31 July 1967

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

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Enclosure (1)

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PART I
ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. DESIGNATION

3rd Battalion, 11th Marines

COMMANDER

LtCol G. T. BALZER

SUBORDINATE UNITS

Headquarters Battery

Capt J. D. JONES
1-31 July

Battery "G"

Capt P. G. SCHARF
1-17 July

Battery "H"

1stLt S. G. ROYEN
18-31 July

Battery "I"

Capt H. F. GOTARD
1-31 July

107mm Mortar Battery

Capt J. H. DILLON
1-31 July

Capt R. A. HEATH
1-31 July

2. LOCATION

1-31 July: Da Nang, Quang Nam, Republic of Vietnam

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Battalion Executive Officer

Major O. K. JOHNSON, JR.
1-31 July

Battalion Liaison Officer

Major J. A. LIVINGSTONE
1-26 July

S-1/Personnel Officer

Capt P. G. SCHARF
27-31 July

S-2

WO J. D. CURLEW
1-31 July

S-3

1stLt M. W. HOWE
1-31 July

S-3A

Major M. D. JULIAN
1-31 July

S-4/Ordnance Officer

Capt P. J. MORGAN
1-20 July

S-4

S-4A

Major J. A. LIVINGSTONE
27-31 July

1stLt D. P. BURNS
1-17 July

Capt J. M. LUTTON, JR.
18-31 July

1stLt D. P. BURNS
18-28 July

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Survey/Metro Officer

Supply Officer

Motor Transport Officer

Communications Officer

Medical Officer

Regimental Naval Gunfire LNO

Battalion Naval Gunfire LNO

Lt R. W. KEELER USN
1-11 July
1stLt M. W. HOWE
12-31 July
2ndLt K. E. FITCHER
1-3 July
GrSet R. I. RIMMERT
4-31 July
2ndLt S. P. RYAN
1-31 July
1stLt J. W. EVANS
1-31 July
Capt L. K. RUSSELL
1-31 July
Lt. M. I. FIALCO USNR
1-30 July
Lt L. V. ANGIOLETTI USNR
30 July
Lt W. LONG USN
1-31 July
Lt J. A. WELLS USNR
1-31 July

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>OTHER</u>	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
38	551	3	10	0	0

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PART II
NARRATIVE SUMMARY

On 4 July the 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines was in direct support of the 7th Marines in that portion of the Da Nang TAOR occupied by its Battalions. 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines' units were located as follows: Headquarters Battery at coordinates AT 988652; Battery "G" at coordinates AT 966619; Battery "F" at coordinates AT 882580; Battery "H" at coordinates AT 921795; Mortar Battery at coordinates AT 988652. Two 4.2 inch mortars were located at coordinates AT 815382, reinforcing Battery "E", 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines. At 032345H July 1967, the Nong Son combat base and the associated 4.2" mortar position at AT 815382 was attacked by a V.C. sapper force. As a result of this action, the detachment, 4.2" Mortar Battery sustained the following casualties: 3 KIA, 12 WIA MPD-E-VAC and 8 WIA non-EVAC. One 4.2" mortar was destroyed by mortar section personnel to preclude capture by enemy, and one damaged. Miscellaneous communications and other organic equipment was also damaged. From 5 to 6 July, Battery "G" supported Operation ELLIOT from its combat base. On 6 July, a section of LVTH-6 became operational in Battery "H" combat base, replacing two 105mm How which had been directed by 11th Marines to displace to Ai Van Pass (coordinates 941918) to support an MCB unit involved in bridge repair at coordinates AT 866956. On 9 July, the two 105mm How returned to Battery "H" combat base and the section of LVTH-6 returned to its parent command. At 132315H, the BSSO Refining Company and "E" Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines came under rocket attack. Battery "H" fired counter-rocket fire commencing at 132320H. After completing counter-rocket fires, Battery "H" delivered blocking fires at possible enemy escape routes. At 150025H, Da Nang Airbase sustained an enemy rocket attack. Units of 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines fired counter-rocket/mortar fires commencing within 5 minutes of the first reported flashes. There were no follow up surveillances of these fires. Detachment Battery "M" and 3rd Platoon, 3rd 155 Gun Battery moved to Battery "K" combat base on 11 July. Battery "K", Detachment Battery "M" and 3rd Platoon, 3rd 155 Gun Battery provided reinforcing fires for Operation GEM. Section, 1st Armored Amphibian Tractor Company moved to Battery "I" combat base where Battery "I" and this section provided supporting fires for Operation GEM. Operation GEM commenced at 110600H and terminated at 171400H. On 18 July, Battery "K" Group, consisting of the following units: Section, 2nd Platoon, 1st Armored Amphibian Tractor Company; Section, Company "B", 1st Tank Battalion; 2nd Platoon, 3rd 8" Howitzer Battery and Battery "K" (-) moved to coordinates AT 787552, becoming operational at 181745H to support Operation PECOS. Detachment, Battery "K" and Detachment, Battery "M", each consisting of two 155mm How (SP), supported the southern sector of 7th Marines TAOR, from Battery "K" normal combat base. Detachment, Headquarters Battery, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines (Command Group) displaced from its normal combat base to 7th Marines Command Post to provide tactical fire direction for Operation PECOS, becoming operational at 181030H. On 19 July 1st Platoon, 1st Armored Amphibian Tractor Company moved from its combat base to Battery "G" combat base to relieve Battery "G" of its mission of fire support in the 1st Battalion, 7th Marines TAOR. On the night of 19 July,

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Battery "G" prepared to heli-lift into the PECOS operational area. Heli-lift of Battery "G" was accomplished on 20 July. Battery "G" again became operational at 201545H and assumed the mission of direct support for 1st Battalion, 7th Marines and reconnaissance inserts in the operational area. Battery "G" was extracted from the PECOS operational area on 26 July by heli-lift to a rendezvous area. Battery "K" Group, Detachment, Battery "M", Detachment, Battery "K" and 3rd Platoon, 3rd 155 Guns continued to fire saturation fires into the PECOS operational area until 280600H. On 26 July, Battery "G" moved from the rendezvous point by motor convoy to coordinates AT 934666 to support Operation STOCKTON. Operation STOCKTON commenced at 270800H and terminated at 291300H. Battery "G" returned to its combat base at this time. On 29 July, an M35, 2½ ton truck from Battery "I" detonated a mine in the vicinity of coordinates AT 949584. This incident resulted in one truck destroyed, 1 Marine WIA, and 1 Navy (Corpsman) WIA.

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MISSIONS FIRED IN DA NANG COMBAT AREA

TOTAL MISSIONS FIRED-----	6,283
Targets of Opportunity-----	243
Harassing and Interdiction-----	5,297
Registrations-----	119
Defensive Fires-----	123
Fire for Effect Missions-----	401
Prep Fires-----	34
Counter Rocket Fires-----	39
FO School-----	27
TOTAL AMMUNITION EXPENDED-----	31,092

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PART III
SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

a. Personnel and Administration

Losses	USMC		USN	
	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
Battle	0	10	0	0
Non-battle	1	0	0	0
Administrative	4	69	1	2
Replacements	10	36	1	2
Prisoners of War	None			

Morale and Personnel Service. Morale remains at a high level. Mail service is good and movies are shown seven nights a week.

Promotions.

to 1st Sgt	1
to Sgt	4
to Cpl	43
to LCpl	69

Awards and Decorations.

Bronze Star	1
Purple Heart	11
Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry	1

Discipline.

7 Spl CM	Article violation 113	(All guilty)
2 Spl CM	Article violation 91	(Guilty)
2 Spl CM	Article violation 113	(Not guilty)
1 Sum CM	Article violation 86 & 52	(Guilty)
1 Sum CM	Article violation 108	(Guilty)
1 CO's NJP	Article violation 121 (UCMJ)	

b. Intelligence. Nothing significant to report.

c. Organization and Operations. Operation ELLIOT was supported by Battery "G" from its normal position from 050600H July to 061800 July. Operation GEM was supported by Battery "I", Section, ALVT, Battery "K" and 1 platoon of Battery "M" from 110600H to 171400H. (See After Action Report Tab E to Part IV)

Operation PECOS was supported by Detachment, Headquarters Battery (Command Group) Battery "K", 3rd Platoon, 155 Guns, Section, 2nd Plt, 1st ALVT, Detachment, Company "B", 1st Tanks, 2nd Platoon, 3rd 8" Howitzer Battery, Battery "G" and Detachment, Battery "M". Operation PECOS commenced at 200700H and terminated at 270700H. (See After Action Report Tab F Part IV)

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Battery "G" supported Operation STOCKTON from coordinates AT 934663 from 270000H to 291300H. (See After Action Report Tab G to Part IV)

d. Training. Training in NBC warfare was conducted by units of this Battalion. 12 NCO's from 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines attended 7th Marine Regiment NCO School.

e. Supply, Motor Transport and Logistics. Nothing significant to report.

f. Medical, Messing and Other Services. Nothing significant to report.

g. Civil Affairs and Civic Action. The Battalion continues to support the Le Dong School of 60 children, ages to 10 years. These children come primarily from the Le Son village. (AT 9865) The teacher is paid 24\$ VN per month. 60 notebooks were procured for the students during July. The teacher's salary and the notebooks both were paid from troop contributions. MedCaps are conducted at the Battalion CP three times per week and draw from the hamlets of Bich Bac and Ha Dong, at AT 993652 and AT 998643 respectively. A combined patrol consisting of one squad from the 51st ARVN Regt and a squad from this Battalion visits these hamlets twice monthly to maintain rapport with the people and discuss any items of mutual concern. The Civil Affairs program of this unit has been considerably handicapped by the loss of the interpreter this month.

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3 July 67PART IV
DOCUMENTATION TO COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 July 1967 to 31 July 1967

- ✓ Tab (A) S-1 Journal
- ✓ Tab (B) S-2 Journal
- ✓ Tab (C) S-3 Journal
- ✓ Tab (D) S-4 Journal
- ✓ Tab (E) After Action Report -- Operation GEM/BINH QUANG 6
- ✓ Tab (F) After Action Report -- Operation PECOS
- ✓ Tab (G) After Action Report -- Operation STOCKTON

S-1, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines
 Da Nang Combat Area
 010001H July 1967 to 312400H July 1967

JOURNAL

010001H Journal opened
 010122H Dp LtCol RUGGIERO, CONUS
 040800H 3 KIA's, 20 WIA's, 107mm Mortar Battery; Dp 2ndLt PITCHER
 070800H Dp 1stLt GRIMM, CONUS
 100800H Received 11 Purple Heart Awards
 111600H Jd 2ndLt MUCKIEROY
 141600H Dp 2ndLt MEANS, Camp BUTLER; Jd 2ndLt EVASICK
 151300H Received 1 Bronze Star
 161530H 1 WIA, Btry "G"
 171600H Jd Capt LUTTON, 2ndLt WRIGHT
 210800H Dp Capt MORGAN, CONUS
 220800H Jd 2ndLt SHAVER, 2ndLt WESTERGARD
 230800H Jd 2ndLt ANDERSON
 271600H Jd Lt(MC) ANGIOLETTI, 2ndLt BURROWS, 2ndLt DAVIS,
 Capt SEIWAY
 281300H Awarded Capt DILLON Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry
 291545H 2 WIA's, Btry "I"
 310800H Lt(MC) FIALCO, 1st MedBn
 312400H Journal Closed

S-2, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines
 Da Nang Combat Area
 010001H July 67 to 312400H July 67

JOURNAL

010001H Journal opened for month of July 1967.

010001H Challenge and passwords promulgated.

040000H WX/3/11 (AT 815380) W/Nong Son Bn was attacked. 1-4.2" mortar destroyed, 1 ammo bunker destroyed, 1-4.2" mortar damaged. 3 Mar KIA, 20 Mar WIA (12 MedEvac, 8 minor).

052125H WX/3/11 (AT 813382) Rec approx 50 rds small arms fire from approx 75 mtrs south of position. Area around LZ rec 15 rds small arms fire. Adjacent units returned fire. Enemy retreated south.

082300H WX/3/11 (AT 813382) At southern end of Hill 300 rec 3 or 4 incoming mortar rds. At same time rec sporadic small arms fire from 3 or 4 locations. Btry E/2/11 and WX/3/11 fired counter mortar fire.

142305H 3/11 Tower (AT 988651) Reported seeing a grenade go off inside of village (AT 986656). Heard 3 outgoing rds from village. Informed 51st ARVN.

150025H G/3/11 Observed rockets firing from direction 6000 (AT 96566179). Observed 60 to 80 fired toward NE. Reported direction to ^{3/11} Lachen at 0025. Rec fire mission from ^{3/11} Lachen at 0030. Had guns prepared to fire, rec auto small arms fire from village, right front and suspected position on left. Est 10 to 15 VC firing sporadic firing. Returned 100 rds 7.62mm. Fire mission was continued.

291230H I/3/11 1 truck damaged when it ran over mine. 2 WIA MedEvac to BAS on Hill 55. 3/11 notified to send wrecker and complied. WIA restored to unit. Other sent to Med Bn for X-Rays.

301330H Received challenge and passwords for month of Aug 67.

312400H Journal closed.

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S-3, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines
 Da Nang Combat Area
 010001H July 67 to 312400H July 67

010001H	Opened journal
020001H	Fired 154 missions expending 518 rounds
030001H	Fired 109 missions expending 377 rounds
040001H	Fired 107 missions expending 856 rounds
042400H	Fired 142 missions expending 483 rounds
052400H	Fired 106 missions expending 643 rounds
062400H	Fired 158 missions expending 965 rounds
072400H	Fired 148 missions expending 919 rounds
082400H	Fired 160 missions expending 726 rounds
092400H	Fired 162 missions expending 639 rounds
102400H	Fired 173 missions expending 753 rounds
112400H	Fired 175 missions expending 572 rounds
122400H	Fired 217 missions expending 1575 rounds
132400H	Fired 222 missions expending 986 rounds
142400H	Fired 181 missions expending 1186 rounds
152400H	Fired 252 missions expending 2235 rounds
162400H	Fired 235 missions expending 629 rounds
172400H	Fired 172 missions expending 1090 rounds
182400H	Fired 198 missions expending 991 rounds
192400H	Fired 265 missions expending 1105 rounds
202400H	Fired 250 missions expending 1314 rounds
212400H	Fired 260 missions expending 1254 rounds
222400H	Fired 274 missions expending 1436 rounds
232400H	Fired 270 missions expending 1404 rounds

S-3, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines
Da Nang Combat Area
010001H July 67 to 312400H July 67

██████████
240000H
250000H
260000H
270000H
282400H
292400H
302400H
312400H

Fired 278 missions expending 1123 rounds
Fired 255 missions expending 1120 rounds
Fired 265 missions expending 1685 rounds
Fired 226 missions expending 1012 rounds
Fired 185 missions expending 773 rounds
Fired 232 missions expending 835 rounds
Fired 185 missions expending 782 rounds
Fired 245 missions expending 1106 rounds

S-4, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines
Da Nang Combat Area
010001H July 67 to 312400H July 67

020000H Helicopter Recon, Happy Valley.

060000H Heli-lifted 4 men & 200 lbs of gear to Hill 300.

080000H Heli-lifted 1 man & 2000 lbs to Hill 300 and returned.

120000H Heli-lifted 10 men and 1000 lbs of gear to Hill 300 and returned.

150000H Ammo Convoy to Hill 65 & 52.

200800H Bn Command Group departed for Operation PECOS.

281000H Heli-lifted 12 men and 1000 lbs of gear to Hill 300 and returned.

281700H Bn Command Group returned from Operation PECOS.

HEADQUARTERS
 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines
 1st Marine Division, (Rein) FMF
 FPO San Francisco, California 96602

3/11 Control
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 31 July 1967

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding Officer, 7th Marines
 Via: Commanding Officer, 11th Marines

3RD BN 11TH MARINES
 S&C FILES

Subj: Combat Operations After Action Report

00 22-67
Copy No 6 of 20

Ref: DivO 3480.1

1. Code Name. Search and Destroy Operation GEM/BINH QUANG 6
2. Dates of Operation. 120600H July 67 to 171400H July 67.
3. Location. Quang Nam Province, RVN
 Maps Vietnam 1:50,000 Series L7014 Sheets 6640 IV, 6540 I.
4. Command and Control. Headquarters, 7th Marines
5. Reporting Officer. LtCol GEORGE T. BALZER
 Commanding Officer
 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines
6. Task Organization. Battery "I", 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines
 Capt J. H. DILLON
7. Supporting Forces. Battery "K", 4th Battalion, 11th Marines
 Det Battery "M", 4th Battalion, 11th Marines
 Det 2nd Plt, 1st Armored Amphibian Company
8. Intelligence. 7th Marines ISUMS
9. Mission. Provide artillery support to the coordinated operations of the 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines and Quang Da Special Sector Forces.
10. Concept of Operations. The Commanding Officer, 11th Marines directed 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines to provide artillery support to the deployed forces in the area of operations.
11. Execution. At 111036H, detachment Battery "M" displaced from its normal combat base to Battery "K" combat base becoming operational at 111255H. Detachment Battery "M" and Battery "K" combined forces to provide general support/reinforcing fires for the operation. At 111430H, one section 2nd Plt ALVT displaced from its normal combat base to Battery "I"'s combat base becoming operational at 112000H. Battery "I" and detachment ALVT provided direct support for the operation. First call for fires was at 121325H. At 151800H,

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3d Battalion, 7th Marines was released from the operation. The name of the operation became Binh Quang-6, at this time, via GEM/Binh Quang-6. The Quang Da Special Sector forces continued the operation with Marine artillery support. Operation Binh Quang-6 terminated at 171400H JUL 67.

MISSIONS FIRED		AMMUNITION EXPENDED	
Targets of Opportunity	28	HE	1016
H&I Fires	128	ILL	182
Defensive Concentrations	0	WP	212
Prep Fires	10	Total	1330
Total	166		

12. Results. 14 Probable KIA's.

13. Administrative Matters. Administrative Plan 301-66 applied to this operation.

- a. Supplies. All supplies were provided through normal channels.
- b. Maintenance. Only first and second echelon maintenance were available in the positions.
- c. Transportation. Resupply was made by organic vehicles.
- d. Treatment of Casualties. Corpsmen were available in firing positions. Med-E-Vac was available through normal channels.
- e. Communications. Nothing significant to report.

14. Special Equipment. Nothing significant to report.

15. Commander's Analysis. The operation provided valuable experience in the following:

- a. Close coordination of artillery fires in support of a multinational force.
- b. The intergration of two weapons systems into a single unit. One firing unit was composed of two LVTH-6's and six 105mm Howitzers and functioned as a battery (reinforced).

George T. Balzer
 GEORGE T. BALZER

HEADQUARTERS
 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines
 1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF
 FPO San Francisco, California 96602

3/11 Control 0023-67
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 1 August 1967

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding Officer, 7th Marines
 Via: Commanding Officer, 11th Marines

Subj: Combat Operations After Action Report

Ref: Divo 3480.1

1. Code Name. Search and destroy operation PECOS.
2. Date of Operation. 200700H July 67 to 270700H July 67
3. Location. Quang Nam Province, RVN
 Maps Vietnam 1:50,000 AMS Series L7014 Sheets 6540I, 6640IV
4. Command and Control. Headquarters, 7th Marines.
5. Reporting Officer. LtCol GEORGE T. BALZER
 Commanding Officer
 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines
6. Task Organization. Det Headquarters Battery, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines
 LtCol GEORGE T. BALZER
 Battery "G", 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines
 1st Lt BOWEN
7. Supporting Forces. Battery "K" (-), 4th Battalion, 11th Marines
 2nd Plt, 3rd 8" Howitzer Battery
 Section, 2nd Plt, 1st Armored Amphibian Company
 3rd Plt, 3rd 155 Gun Battery
 Section, Company "B", 1st Tank Battalion
8. Intelligence. 7th Marines ISUMS.

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9. Mission. Provide artillery fire support to USMC forces in the area of operations.

10. Concept of Operations. The Commanding Officer, 11th Marines directed the 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines to provide artillery support to deployed forces in the area of operations.

11. Execution. On 16 July, 3rd Platoon, 155 Gun Battery; Section, 2nd Platoon, 1st Armored Amphibian Company, and 2nd Platoon, 3rd 8" Howitzer Battery moved to the vicinity of coordinates AT 970621 (Hill 55). These units remained overnight at this combat base. 2nd Platoon, 3rd 8" howitzer Battery became operational in this position to support the 7th Marines TAOR. On 17 July 1967, 3rd Platoon, 3rd 155 Gun Battery; Section, 2nd Platoon, 1st Armored Amphibian Company; Section, Company "B", 1st Tank Battalion and 2nd Platoon, 3rd 8" Howitzer Battery moved from vicinity coordinates AT 970621 (Hill 55) to the vicinity of coordinates AT 879578 (Hill 65); the Battery "K" combat base. At 181245 July 1967, Section, 2nd Platoon, 1st Armored Amphibian Company; Section, Company "B", 1st Tank Battalion; 2nd Platoon, 3rd 8" Howitzer Battery and Battery "K" (-) (four (4) 155 How (SP)) displaced from Hill 65 to the vicinity of coordinates ZC 214553 (Hill 52) and became operational as Battery "K" Group at 181745H July 1967, reinforcing 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines. All weapons were laid on an azimuth to the southwest to deceive the enemy as to the area of operations, but were prepared to shift fires into the PECOS area as required to support reconnaissance elements, if such support were approved by the Commanding Officer, 7th Marines. Detachment Battery "K" (two (2) 155 How (SP)) and detachment Battery "M" (two 155 How (SP)) remained on Hill 65 with a functional FDC to provide reinforcing fires in the southern sector of the 7th Marines TAOR. Detachment Headquarters Battery, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines displaced from its normal combat base to the command post of the 7th Marines at AT 970621 (Hill 55), becoming operational at 181030H July 1967. Commencing at 190800H additional reconnaissance elements were heli-lifted into the operational area and a radio relay site was heli-lifted and established at Ba Na, coordinates ZC 206703. 3rd Platoon, 155 Gun Battery at Hill 65 was prepared to fire in support of the radio relay site if approved by Commanding Officer, 7th Marines. Deceptive H&I fires were delivered by the Battery "K" Group and 3rd Platoon, 3rd 155 Gun Battery into the southern portion of 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines SOR during the nights of 18 and 19 July 1967. 1st Platoon, 1st Armored Amphibian Company displaced from its normal combat base and proceeded to vicinity coordinates AT 970621 (Hill 55), the Battery "G" combat base, becoming operational at 191740H and assuming the "G" Battery mission of providing supporting fires to the 1st Battalion, 7th Marines sector of responsibility. Battery "G" was relieved of its mission at 191800H to prepare for heli-lift into the PECOS operational area. From 200530 to 200545, deceptive prep fires were delivered by the Battery "K" Group at coordinates AT 807482, in the southern portion of the 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines sector of responsibility. At 200700H, Battery "K" Group assumed the mission of providing fire to support 1st Battalion, 7th Marines, in preparation for the heli-lift of that battalion into the operating area. At 200800H, L-Hour was executed by the 1st Battalion,

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7th Marines. Accompanying the 1st wave were artillery reconnaissance parties from Battery "G" and 4.2 inch Mortar Battery, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines. The 4.2 Mortar Battery was on a one hour standby for heli-lift into the operating area by CH-46 in the event the TAC(A) determined not to commit the CH-53's required for a 105mm howitzer heli-lift. Upon arrival in the landing zones, the artillery reconnaissance parties, reinforced by engineer elements, blasted trees and dense brush in the vicinity of coordinates ZC 151661, cleared and prepared gun positions and blasted out holes to be improved into ammunition bunkers. The decision to commit CH-53's was made at 201100H, and heli-lift of Battery "G" commenced at 201300H. The 4.2 Mortar Battery reconnaissance party was extracted by helicopter, returning to Hill 55 at 201300H. At this time the 4.2 Mortar Battery was relieved from the one hour stand-by for commitment to the operation. The heli-lift of Battery "G" was completed at 201545. At 201715H, Battery "G" became operational and assumed the mission of direct support 1st Battalion, 7th Marines. Simultaneously the Battery "K" Group was relieved of its temporary role of answering fire requests from 1st Battalion, 7th Marines and resumed its mission of reinforcing 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines.

Battery "G" was heli-lifted from the operational area commencing at 260700H to a rendezvous position at coordinates AT 920621 (Hill 55). The Battery "K" Group simultaneously assumed a mission of providing fires upon request of 1st Battalion, 7th Marines. Battery "G", upon arrival in the rendezvous position, prepared to move out by motor march in support of Operation STOCKTON. Operation PECOS terminated at 270700H upon commencement of the heli-lift of 1st Battalion, 7th Marines from the PECOS operational area. Battery "K" Group and 3rd Platoon, 3rd 155 Gun Battery remained in position in support of the operational area, firing saturation fires into the operational area to interdict the area and prevent immediate enemy assumption of the areas previously occupied by friendly forces. These fires continued throughout the day of 27 July and were followed by H&I fires delivered by these units during the night of 27-28 July 1967. Battery "K" Group units displaced to return to their parent commands at 281136H July. 3rd Platoon, 3rd 155 Gun Battery displaced to return to its parent command at 281050 H July 1967.

The Artillery Command Group (Detachment Headquarters Battery, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines) deactivated and displaced to its normal combat base at 281700H.

MISSIONS FIRED	AMMUNITION EXPENDED
Targets of Opportunity----- 61	HE-----2229
H&I Fires-----270	ILL----- 28
Defensive Fires----- 31	WP----- 563
Prep Fires----- 3	TOTAL-----2820
TOTAL-----363	Tanks 90mm-----12 HE

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12. Results. Nothing significant to report.

13. Administrative Matters. Administrative Plan 301-66 applied to this operation.

a. Supplies.

(1) All classes of supplies were provided to Battery "G" from LSA established at Hill 55 and lifted by helicopter into the operational area.

(2) All other units were supplied through normal channels.

b. Maintenance. Maintenance facilities other than 1st and 2nd echelon were not available in the position areas.

c. Transportation. Extensive resupply convoys were required to supply Battery "K" Group. In view of enemy activity, a requirement existed for 2 tanks as escort vehicles as well as engineer sweep teams to clear mines from the road between Hill 65 (AT 879578) and Hill 52 (ZC 214553).

d. Treatment of Casualties. Corpsmen were available in each battery area. Medical evacuation was available as required through the Artillery Liaison Officer at the 7th Marines Command Post.

e. Communications

(1) Automatic Retransmission. An automatic retransmission site was installed and maintained on Hill 1467 (Ba Na), on 20 July, through and including 27 July.

The automatic retransmission unit was not in constant operation until 21 July. Commencing at this time communications through automatic retransmission functioned well; however, throughout the 7½ day operation it was necessary to tune and adjust continually both the primary and trigger frequencies to maintain communications. However, communications functioned well in a duplex mode, i.e., transmitting on the primary frequency from Hill 55 to Happy Valley, some 24,000 meters away and receiving the reply on both the primary as well as the trigger frequency. In addition, the units on both Hill 65 and 52 were able to monitor calls from Happy Valley through the retransmission station.

(2) Radio Relay. The two radio relay shots from Hill 55 to Hill 65 were reliable overall. Two problem areas in radio relay were the generator breakdowns and tube failures, specifically the planar triode and the pencil triode tubes of the AN/TRC-27 and 27B.

14. Special Equipment and Techniques

a. Radio Relay was employed in this operation.

b. Automatic retransmission was employed in this operation.

c. Tanks were utilized to fire indirect harassing & interdiction fires.

15. Commander's Analysis. The operation provided valuable experience in the following areas:

- a. Tactical employment of light, medium and heavy artillery.
- b. Limited use of the 90mm tank in the indirect fire role.
- c. Planning and execution of saturation missions.
- d. Planning and execution in the conduct of deception fires.
- e. The movement of an entire artillery battery by helicopter into a remote area.

g. Recommendations

(1) Some of the problems that occurred at the beginning of the operation with the logistic lift and development of position areas in vicinity of Hill 52 could have been circumvented if one headquarters had been placed in charge at an early date. In this case the Regimental Headquarters, Headquarters 4th Battalion, 11th Marines, Headquarters 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines and Battery "K" Headquarters were all attempting to plan and coordinate with the result of misinterpretation, misunderstanding and an apparent lack of coordination. It is recommended that during future operations the artillery headquarters responsible for supporting the infantry unit be provided with the necessary artillery assets and then be responsible for the logistics, communications and tactical employment of the assigned units.

(2) The successful displacement of artillery by helicopter requires that helicopters be provided on a timely basis. During this operation the lift of the artillery battery was interrupted while the pilots of the CH-53's took a one and one-half hour lunch break. This delay occurred at a time when weather conditions in Happy Valley were worsening with thunderheads and possible associated showers threatening. Had the thunderstorms materialized, but they did not, the lift of Battery "G" might have been precluded. This break denied the infantry possible artillery support for the period indicated. It is recommended that in future operations, once a helicopter lift has commenced that it not be stopped until completed.

(3) The utilization of automatic retransmission left something to be desired during the operation. Although it was checked out the day prior to the operation, it failed to operate at L-Hour on D-Day during a very critical stage of the operation. From that point on it worked only intermittently. It is recommended that prior to installing remotely located retransmission units for future operations, all component parts be checked out extensively and that sufficient spare parts be available at the installation site to minimize interruptions in service.


GEORGE T. BALZER

HEADQUARTERS

3d Battalion, 11th Marines
 1st Marine Division, (Rein) FMF
 APO, San Francisco, California, 96602

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From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding Officer, 7th Marines
 Via: Commanding Officer, 11th Marines

Subj: Combat Operations After Action Report

Ref: DivC 3480.J

1. Code Name. Search and destroy Operation STOCKTON.
2. Dates of Operation. 270800H to 291300H July 1967.
3. Location. Quang Nam Province, RVN
 Maps Vietnam 1:50,000 AMS Series L7014 Sheets 6640IV,
 6641 III.
4. Command and Control. Headquarters, 7th Marines
5. Reporting Officer. LtCol GEORGE T. BALZER
 Commanding Officer, 3d Battalion, 11th Marines
 APO, San Francisco, California, 96602
6. Task Organization. Det Headquarters Battery, 3d Battalion, 11th Marines
 LtCol GEORGE T. BALZER
 Battery "G", 3d Battalion, 11th Marines
 1st Lt BOWEN
7. Supporting Forces. 3d Battalion, 11th Marines prepared to provide supporting fires from organic and reinforcing units in their normal combat bases.
8. Intelligence. 7th Marines ISUMS
9. Mission. Provide artillery fire support to USMC forces in the area of operations.
10. Concept of Operation. The Commanding Officer, 11th Marines directed 3d Battalion, 11th Marines to provide artillery support to the deployed forces in the area of operations.

Location: Quang Nam Province, RVN
 Maps Vietnam 1:50,000 AMS Series L7014 Sheets 6640IV,
 6641 III.

IV-G-1

Commanding Officer, Headquarters, 7th Marines

11. Execution. Commencing at 260700H Battery "G" was heli-lifted from its position in the Operation PECOS area (ZC 151661) to a rendezvous position at Hill 55 (AT 970621). At 261256H, Battery "G" had reorganized for motor march and displaced to a position area in the vicinity of Hill 41 (AT 934663) becoming operational at 261715H in support of the central portion of the 7th Marines TAOR and prepared to commence support of 1st Battalion, 7th Marines at 270700H. At 270700H, the troop heli-lift of 1st Battalion, 7th Marines commenced and at 270800H L-Hour for Operation STOCKTON was executed. Battery "G" assumed a mission of direct support of 1st Battalion, 7th Marines at this time. First call for fires was at 271115H. Operation STOCKTON terminated at 291300H July 1967. At this time, Battery "G" displaced from Hill 41 and returned to its normal combat base at Hill 55, reverting to a mission of direct support of 7th Marines TAOR.

MISSIONS FIRED	AMMO EXPENDED
Targets of Opportunity----- 1	HE----- 201
H&I Fires----- 89	WP----- 17
Defensive Fires----- 7	Ill----- 85
Prep Fires----- 0	Total----- 303
Totals----- 97	

12. Results. Nothing significant to report.

13. Administrative Matters. Administrative Plan 301-66 applied to this operation.

14. Special Equipment and Techniques. Nothing significant to report.

15. Commander's Analysis. A facet of operation STOCKTON considered worthy of mention is that Battery "G" was committed to the operation from a rendezvous position at Hill 55-AT 960621. The Battery arrived at the rendezvous position by heli-lift, joined with previously staged vehicles and equipment, reorganized for motor march and displaced to Hill 41-AT 934667. This transition was effected smoothly and without incident. Heli-lift of 1st Battalion, 7th Marines commenced and at 270800H L-Hour for Operation STOCKTON was executed. Battery "G" assumed a mission of direct support of 1st Battalion, 7th Marines at this time. First call for fires was at 271115H. Operation STOCKTON terminated at 291300H July 1967. At this time, Battery "G" displaced from Hill 41 and returned to its normal combat base at Hill 55, reverting to a mission of direct support of 7th Marines TAOR.

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