

## Octobers' 1965 to 1970 - Marine Tanks & Ontos Action

### October 1966

#### **First Tanks:**

Commanding Officer: LtCol J.W. Clayborne

Executive Officer: Maj R.D. McKee

Operations Officers: Capt's R.G. McPherson & F.U. Salas

Logistics Officers: Maj T.M. Bryant & Capt G.E. Hooker

Location and Operations Summary: Battalion CP Da Nang (AT 998722)

In addition to support (of) the Chu Lai Defense Command during the month of October, a unit of this command participated in one major operation.

#### **Operation Lee (030710-121330)**

2nd Plt, Co C 1st Tank Bn

On 030710, the 2nd Platoon, Company C supported by 1 M51 VTR from Company B, departed the Battalion CP for participation in **Operation Lee** in support of the 2nd ROKMC Brigade.

H&S Company provided one rifle squad for participation in **Operation Lee**, and the assistant S-3 Officer was assigned to Headquarters, 2nd ROKMC Brigade as Tank Liaison Office.

On 041500, while moving south to join the 2nd ROKMC Brigade, 2nd Platoon, Company C received sniper fire from (BS 728894). 30 rounds caliber .50 were returned resulting in one VC KIA confirmed.

On 101600, 2nd Platoon, Company C secured from **Operation Lee** and returned to the Battalion CP at 121330.

#### LESSONS LEARNED:

During normal platoon size operations, the M51 VTR is not employed. Based on previous experience and information obtained via an aerial reconnaissance on 030915, which disclosed the remoteness of the area to be encountered, the decision was made to employ the VTR.

During **Operation Lee**, the VTR employed proved to be a tremendous asset to all tracked vehicles operation in the area. Of particular significance was its continued assistance to vehicles belonging to the 1st Anti-Tank Battalion.

Unfortunately, one of the lessons NOT learned was to write up the operation in a way that others can study it. Since the operation was with the ROKMC no organization above the company logged an After Action Report.

H&S C.O.: Maj J.P. McGill

Location and Operations Summary: Same as Bn CP

*H&S Company provided logistical and maintenance support for two gun companies until 220800 when it became Battalion rear echelon at (BT 515040). At 271130 additional elements of H&S Company arrived at Danang. H&S Company provided one rifle squad for security purposes to accompany 2nd Platoon, Company "C" during **Operation Lee**.*

*At 220800 the Battalion Headquarters Section, H&S Company (-) and Company "B" departed from the CP at (BT 515040) for the Sand Ramp at Chu Lai and embarked aboard the USS LITCHFIELD (LST 901) at 231530. These units sailed from Chu Lai at 240510 and arrived at Danang 241500. They proceeded to the Bridge Ramp in Danang and commenced unloading at 251110. These units arrived at the present site of the 1st Tank Battalion at 251330.*

C.O. Company "A": Capt C.R. Brabec

Location and Operations Summary: Chu Lai (BT 515040)

*Company "A (Rein) 1st Tank Battalion, is within the Chu Lai TAOR. This company has a strength of 5 Marine Officers, 113 Marine Enlisted and 2 Navy Enlisted. 1st Tank Battalion retains administrative control of Company "A".*

*During the month of October, 1966, Company "A" (-) remained in direct support of the 5th Marines until 220800 at which time it moved to (BT 515040), former site of the 1st Tank Battalion Headquarters. It now provides support for the Chu Lai Defense Command and the Chu Lai TAOR. One section of three flame tanks is attached to Company "A". 1st Platoon, Company "A" rejoined its parent company on 220800 and continues to support the Chu Lai Defense Command. Company "A" (Rein) remains under the operational control of Task Force Xray.*

On 4 October SSgt Roy T. Sabo earned the Silver Star Medal for heroism. His citation read:

"The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star Medal to Roy T. Sabo (1653906), Staff Sergeant, U.S. Marine Corps, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action while serving with Company A, 1st Tank Battalion, 1st Marine Division (Rein.), FMF, in connection with combat operations against the enemy in the Republic of Vietnam on October 4, 1966. By his courage, ahasingsgressive fighting spirit and steadfast devotion to duty in the face of extreme personal danger, Staff Sergeant Sabo upheld the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service."

Home Town: Flint, Michigan

C.O. Company "B": Capt L.E. Cherico

Location and Operations Summary: Da Nang (AT 945763)

*Company "B" (-) remained in direct support of the 7th Marines until 220800 when it joined the Battalion Headquarters Section for embarkation and movement to the 1st Tank Battalion present*

location. 3rd Platoon, Company "B" supported the Chu Lai Defense Command until 220800 when it rejoined its parent company for the move North. At 230559, 1st Platoon, Company B was placed in direct support of the 4th Battalion, 503rd Airborne Infantry, 173rd Brigade. Company "B" Headquarters and one platoon provides security for the area now occupied by Company "B". The transportation unit for the 173rd ABN BDE and the Army S/5 Civil Affairs Team for segments of the Danang area occupy the same area.

C.O.s Company "C": Capt F.U. Salas & 1stLt C.E. Barnett  
Location and Operations Summary: Da Nang (BT 066715)

Company "C" was under the operational control of the 3rd Tank Battalion until 260800 at which time it came under the operational control of the 1st Tank Battalion. 2nd Platoon, Company "C" supported the Chu Lai Defense Command and participated in Operation Lee (030710-121330) until 271130 at which time it rejoined its parent company. Company "C" (Rein) is in direct support, 1st Marines.

## **October 1967**

### **First Tanks:**

Commanding Officer: LtCol R.M. Taylor

Executive Officer: Maj V.J. Gentile

Operations Officer: Maj R.M. Croll

Logistics Officer: Maj J.A. Schuyler

Location and Operations Summary: Da Nang (AT 977723)

There were no major operations in which 1st Tank Battalion had a direct role. Companies "A", "B", and "C" conducted normal armored patrols, participated in numerous small unit sweeps, escorted convoys, provided on call and H&I fire, employed their tanks as parts of various bridge securities, and maintained their tanks as part of reaction forces throughout the month.

*The locations of the gun companies and their supported units were as follows:*

<i>Company "A" (-)</i>	<i>1st Tank Battalion (Danang)</i>
<i>2nd Platoon, Company "A"</i>	<i>D/S 2nd Bn, 5th Marines (An Hoa)</i>
<i>Company "B" (Rein)</i>	<i>D/S 7th Marines (Danang)</i>
<i>Company "C"</i>	<i>D/S 5th Marines (Danang)</i>

MSgt J.G. Farmer of Wallins, KY, was died on 9 Oct og non-hostile circumstances.

H&S C.O.: Capt C.R. Casey

Location: Da Nang (AT 997723) Same as Bn CP.

Other than local foot patrols and LP's there is no action of note during this reporting period

C.O. Company "A": Capt R.W. Maddox

Location and Operations Summary: Tam Ky (BT 133445) & Da Nang (977723)

*Company "A" (-) returned to the Tank battalion CP from the Que Bon area when the 5th Marines were withdrawn and the area turned over to Army units. Company "A" (-) was given the responsibility for the Cau Do and Tuy Loan Bridges located in the SSDC during the month.*

*The 2nd Platoon, Company "A" remained attached to Company "B" and in direct support of 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines at An Hoa.*

C.O. Company "B": Capt R.E. Roemer

Location and Operations Summary: Da Nang (AT 962621)

*Company "B" (Rein) remained in direct support of 7th Marines. Trafficability in their area of operations in deteriorating rapidly with the coming of the monsoon and will all but eliminate combined tank/infantry.*

C.O. Company "C": Capt R.D. Gunselman

Location and Operations Summary: Da Nang (BT074659)

*Company "C" remained in direct support of the 5th Marines in the Marble Mountain area. This terrain is mostly sand, therefore the tanks can operate better than in the paddy areas.*

## **October 1968**

### **First Tanks:**

Commanding Officer: LtCol M.C. Ashley, Jr

Executive Officer: Maj R.H. Graham

Operations Officers: Maj J.T. Garcia & Capt J.B. Terpak

Logistics Officer: Maj D.R. Sparks

Location and Operations Summary: CP (AT 997723)

*Although tank movement was greatly restricted by extensive rainfall during the month of October, the 1st Tank Battalion continued to support the 2nd Brigade, ROK Marine Corps and the infantry regiments of the 1st Marine Division. Tanks of the battalion participated in four major operations and numerous small unit operations, while providing security for road convoys, bridges and reinforcing perimeter defenses. Tanks within the division Area of Responsibility as well as within the Southern Sector Defense Command continued their role as direct counter mortar and rocket fire. Tanks and Ontos continued to provide mobility and fire power to reaction forces throughout the division.*

**The 4 major operations were:**

- Gerrard Bay. Co. "C" in support of 2/1**
- Mameluke Thrust. Co. "B"**
- Henderson Hill. Co. "B"**
- Maui Peak. Co. "B"**

A light section of Ontos supported elements of the 7th Marines on the Song Tuy Loan Bridge. Company A 1st AT Bn remained responsible for OP Panther and the Three Fingers Company Outpost within the Southern Sector Defense Command. One platoon from Company A remained in support of the I Corps Quick Reaction Mobile Task Force, Task Force Kilo. Throughout the month of October, Company A was reinforced by one Ontos platoon from SLF 2/7, placed under the operational control of 1st Tank Battalion.

## 2. Task Organization

*The task organization for the 1st Tank Battalion as of 31 October is:*

*Company A (-) (Rein): D/S 26th Marine Regiment*

*Company B (Rein):           2 platoons D/S 5th Marine Regiment  
                                  3 platoons D/S 7th Marine Regiment*

*Company C (Rein):           D/S 1st Marine Regiment  
                                  1 platoon D/S of 2nd ROKMC Brigade*

*Company A (Rein): 1st Antitank Bn: Co A (-) G/S 1st MarDiv  
  1 platoon D/S Task Force Kilo  
  Heavy Section D/S 3/1  
  Light Section D/S 1/7  
  11 platoon OPCON 1st Tank Bn*

H&S Company C.O.s : Capt's R.A. Doyle & J.K. Marlatt & Maj B.E. Davidson  
Location and Operations Summary: CP (AT 997723)

C.O. Company "A"(-)(Rein): Capt B.R. Montgomery  
Location and Operations Summary: CP (AT 936782)

*Company A (-) (Rein) remained in direct support of the 26th Marines with their company command post co-located with that of the 1st Battalion 26th Marines. The 2nd Platoon continued to provide security for Namu Bridge and provided counter mortar rocket fire from Hill 190. The 3rd Platoon remained in direct support of the 3rd Battalion 26th Marines, firing numerous H&I and aerial observer controlled fire missions.*

C.O.s Company "B" (Rein): Capt's D.G. Henderson & R.A. Doyle  
Location and Operations Summary: CP (AT 962621)

*Company B (Rein) remained in support of the 5th and 7th Marines with two platoons in support of each regiment. During October, tanks of Company B participated in **operations Mameluke Thrust, Henderson Hill and Maui Peak**. Company B was assigned operational control over the SLF tank platoon from SLF 2/7 to provide greater tank support to **Operation Maui Peak**. In addition to the aforementioned major operations, Company B took part in numerous small unit operations as well as provided security for road sweeps and convoys. Company B's Command Post remained co-located with that of the 7th Marines.*

### **Operation Mameluke Thrust**

18 May - 23 October 1968

This was a 1st Marine Division operation in central Quang Nam Province with the [2nd](#)

[Battalion, 5th Marines](#), [3rd Battalion, 5th Marines](#), and [2nd Battalion, 7th Marines](#) against the 308th NVA Division as a companion to [Operation ALLEN BROOK](#)

VC/NVA KIA's: 2,728

US KIA's: 175

[http://www.3rdmarines.net/Vietnam\\_Operations\\_by\\_Name.htm](http://www.3rdmarines.net/Vietnam_Operations_by_Name.htm)

"The Rise and Fall of an American Army: U.S. Ground Forces in Vietnam, 1965-1973" by Shelby L. Stanton

### **Operation Henderson Hill**

24 October – 6 December 1968

Quang Nam Province, I Corps, South Vietnam

The 5th Marines conducted this search and clear operation as a follow-up to MAMELUKE THRUST. Casualties: US 35 KIA\*, 231 WIA; enemy 700 KIA.

\* Another source puts the KIA's at 110 which is questionable

### **Operation Maui Peak**

6 October – 19 October 1968

Quang Nam Province, I Corps

Location, Thuong Duc SF Camp

*Description: 2/5, 3/5 ( conducted sweeps on the high ground overlooking the camp) and 2/7 joined with two battalions from the 51st ARVN Regt in this operation to relieve the enemy pressure on the Thuong Duc SF Camp. The ARVN operation was named HUNG QUANG 174. Casualties: US 28 KIA, 100 WIA; enemy 353 KIA.*

C.O. Company "C" (Rein): Capt R.T. Hopkins

Location and Operations Summary: CP (BT 078663)

*Company C (Rein) remained in direct support of the 1st Marines. The Company Command Post was co-located with that of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines. The 1st Platoon remained in support of the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines and at month's end remained on 2-hour standby to support 1/1 in the Dai Loc Pass area. The 2nd Platoon remained at the 2nd ROKMC Brigade Command Post and participated in several small unit operations. The 3rd Platoon supported the 2nd Battalion 1st Marines, providing road sweep security, perimeter defense and participated in **Operation Garrard Bay**.*

C.O.s Company "A", 1st AT Bn: 1st G.B. Search & Capt F.P. Briseno

Location and Operations Summary: CP (AT997723)

*Company A (Rein) , 1st Anti-Tank Battalion remained within the Southern Sector Defense Command providing security for the Song Cau Do and Song Tuy Loan Bridges together with infantry elements of the 1st and 7th Marines, respectively. One heavy section of Ontos remained in support of elements of the 1st Marines at the Song Cau Do.*

## **October 1969**

### **First Tanks:**

Commanding Officer: LtCol L.R. Butler

Executive Officer: Maj R.D. Becker

Operations Officer: Maj J.P. Senik  
Logistics Officer: Maj G.E. Berbaum  
Location and Operations Summary: Da Nang (AT 997723)

*1. Operations. During the month of October the 1st Tank Battalion continued to support the infantry regiments of the 1st Marine Division and the 2nd Brigade ROKMC throughout the Southern I Corps by providing close direct fire support to infantry search and clear and search and destroy operations as well as road sweeps and convoy security, counter-rocket and mortar fire, perimeter defense and armored mobile reaction operations.*

*2. Task Organization. The task organization of the 1st Tank Battalion as of 31 October 1969 was:*

<i>Company A (-):</i>	<i>Cadre</i>
<i>Company B (Rein):</i>	<i>2 Platoons and Company Headquarters D/S 1st Marines 2 Platoons and forward Command Post, D/S 5th Marines</i>
<i>Company C (Rein):</i>	<i>2 platoons and Company Headquarters, D/S 7th Marines 1 platoon, D/S 2nd Brigade ROKMC</i>
<i>Company A 1st AT Bn:</i>	<i>Cadre</i>
<i>Company A 5th Tk Bn:</i>	<i>2 platoons D/S 26th Marines 1 platoon 1st Tank Bn CP for maintenance</i>

H&S C.O.: Maj H.G. Duncan  
Location and Operations Summary: Da Nang (AT 997723) Same as Bn CP

*The tanks of H&S Company have been used to provide counter rocket fire, and to provide General Support to the 1st Marine Division as a tank reserve. One section landed with the ROKMC on Barrier Island in support of **Operation Victory Dragon 16-52.***

Here again there are no details to report on the operation provided by the Command  
Chronology

C.O. Company "A" (-): 1stLt P.H. McMath  
Location and Operations Summary: CP (AT 997723)

*Company A remained in a cadre status. One (1) M51 VTR continued as a table of equipment deficiency. The Company A Command Post continued to be co-located with that of the 1st Tank Battalion.*

C.O. Company "B" (Rein): 1st Lt J.M. Lidyard  
Location and Operations Summary: CP (AT 962621)

*Company B (Rein) continued direct support of the 1st and 5th Marine Regiments. The Company Command Post is co-located with that of the 1st Marines with a forward Command Post co-located with the 5th Marines. The two platoons supporting the 1st Marines continued to be employed*

*in Hills 37 and 55 and the Pipestone Canyon area. The two platoons with the 5th Marines provided security and a reaction force at Phu Loc (6) and the An Hoa Basin complex.*

C.O.'s Company "C" (Rein): Capt's J.K. Marlatt & T.W. Kelly  
Location and Operations Summary: CP (BT 135454)

*Company C (Rein) continued direct support of the 7th Marines and the ROKMC. Company C provided support to the 7th Marines with one platoon and the Company Headquarters at LZ Baldy and one platoon at fire Support Base ROSS. One platoon from Company C supported the ROKMC in **Operation Victory Dragon 16-52** and upon completion of the operation continued to operate out of the ROKMC Brigade Command Post.*

C.O.s Company "A" (Rein), 1st AT Bn: 1stLt's B.J. Bethel & R.B. Goodrich  
Location and Operations Summary: CP (AT 997723)

*Company A (Rein), 1st Anti-Tank Battalion remained in a cadre status. The Company Command Post remained co-located with that of the 1st Tank Battalion.*

C.O. Company "A" (-), 5th Tank Bn: Capt M.F. Shisler  
Location and Operations Summary: CP (AT 997723)

*Company A, (-) 5th Tank Battalion became ADCOM/OPCON to the 1st Tank Battalion during October with two platoons in Direct Support of the 26th Marines at Hill 190 and Namu Bridge. One platoon was brought into the 1st Tank Battalion area for maintenance. Company Headquarters C.P is co-located with that of the 1st Tank Battalion.*

## **October 1965**

### **First Antitanks:**

Commanding Officer: LtCol W. Moore

Executive Officer: Maj R.E. Harris

Operations Officer: Maj A.J. Eagan

Logistics Officer: Maj J.J. Keefe

Location & Operations Summary: Camp Pendleton, CA

H&S Company C.O.: Capt J.W. Schroeder

Location: Camp Pendleton, CA

C.O. Company "A", 1st AT Bn: 1stLt B.J. Bethel

C.O. Company "B", 1st AT Bn: 2ndLt F.S. Roe

C.O. Company "C" 1st AT Bn: 1stLt W.F. Snyder

Note: The month of October is included in the un-formatted "Command Chronology - July thru December 1965". The document is a narrative with no specific, format making it difficult to summarize. However, the narrative style is quite comprehensive and covers much more detail than the formatted CC. Plus the chain of command includes the platoon leaders which is largely absent from the norm for CC's. For those interested in details of this period of 1st

AT you are encouraged to access the Foundation's web site at <http://www.mcvthf.org>, go to the command chronologies page and follow the prompts to the applicable chronology.

## **October 1966**

### **First Antitanks:**

Commanding Officer: Maj R.E. Harris

Executive Officer: Maj M.F. Manning

Operations Officer: Maj J.J. Burke, Jr.

Logistics Officer: Capt C.R. Vanhorn

Location & Operations Summary:

Note: To attempt to summarize the Command Chronology of 1st AT's is an injustice. The Ontos were everywhere! There was no job too large or too small for the Ontos to be involved. The command chronologies are detailed down to names of crews. This level of detail is found nowhere else in the archives of command chronologies. If you want to research further into the actions of Ontos you are encouraged to read the complete command chronologies, accessed through the Foundation's web site. Tank CCs are up to 400+ pages much of which is of slight interest (being generous) to most. However, the Ontos CCs are 13+ pages long and they are action filled and detailed. To complicate reporting, the Ontos Battalions were phased out halfway through the war and their actions strained through the sieve of the supporting respective Tank Battalions. From that point on, Tank's CCs mostly mentioned the attached Ontos in passing and very little of what the Ontos did was reported in any great detail.

a. Throughout the reporting period there occurred the displacement of the 1st Antitank Battalion from the Chu Lai TAOR to the Da Nang TAOR, Republic of Vietnam.

H&S Company C.O.: 1stLt M.H. Collier

Location & Operations Summary: Camp Pendleton, CA

*C.O. Company "A"(-): Capt D.M. Hutson  
Company A (-)*

*1-10 October 1966 OPCON 3rd Marine Division, Direct Support 1st Marines*

*11-31 October 1966 OPCON 1st Marine Division, Direct Support 1st Marines*

*C.O. Company "B" (Rein): Capt T.F. Dempsey  
Company B (+)*

*1-5 October 1966 OPCON 1st Marine Division, Direct Support Chu Lai DC*

*6-17 October 1966 OPCON 1st Marine Division, Direct Support 5th Marines.*

*18-24 October 1966 OPCON 1st Marine Division, General Support 1st MarDiv*

*25-31 October Company B (-) OPCON 1st Marine Division, Direct Support 4th  
Battalion 503 Infantry 173 Brigade USA.*

*C.O. Company "C": Capt R.J. Esposito  
Company C*

*1-17 October 1966 OPCON 1st Marine Division, Direct Support 7th Marines*

*18-31 October 1966 Company C (+) OPCON 1st Marine Division, Direct Support 5th*

*Marines and 7th Marines.*

## **October 1967**

### **First Antitanks:**

Commanding Officer: LtCol P.D. Reissner, Jr.

Executive Officers: Maj's P.S. Galligan & P.G. Padke

Operations Officer: Cpat G.K. Robinson, Jr.

Logistics Officer: 1stLt V.C. Davis

### **Location & Operations Summary:**

*Company B was assigned in direct support of 5th Marines and Company C was assigned in direct support of 7th Marines during the entire reporting period. Company A (-) was attached to 1st Marines on 2Oct67 and continued in this posture throughout the reporting period.*

*1-31 October 1967. During the month of October, the stand down on the Ontos mounted 106mm Recoilless Rifle remained in effect for units OPCON to the 1stMarDiv. A Co (-) was permitted to fire in support of the infantry upon request of the supported unit commander. The remainder of the Battalion fired on training ranges for the purpose of maintaining gunnery skills and safety procedures.*

Note: Unique to the Ontos Battalion was its approach to producing the monthly command chronologies. First, they are more narrative and reader friendly. Second, the companies submit their command chronologies and they appear in whole as annexes to the battalion's.

H&S Company C.O.: Cap B.A. Vredeveld

### **Location and Operations Summary:**

C.O. Company "A"(-): Capt C.E. Woods

### **Location and Operations Summary: Quang Tri**

- 1. Throughout the reporting period, subordinate units of this command were assigned missions as follows:*
- 2. Company A, 1st Antitank Battalion Attached to 1st Marine Regiment*
  - 1st Platoon, GS 1st Battalion, First Marines*
  - 2nd Platoon, GS 2nd Battalion, First Marines*

2. 1-31 October 1967.      *The Ontos were attached to the 1st Marine Regiment. Company A continued to provide Ontos for mine sweeps, mechanized patrols, blocking and sweeping forces and defensive positions. Company A participated in Operation MADINA (sic) and Second Platoon (-) participated in Operation GRANITE.*

[OP FILE, OPERATION GRANITE, 1 -7 APR 1967 - dated 26-Oct-67 Document No. 1201064093](#)

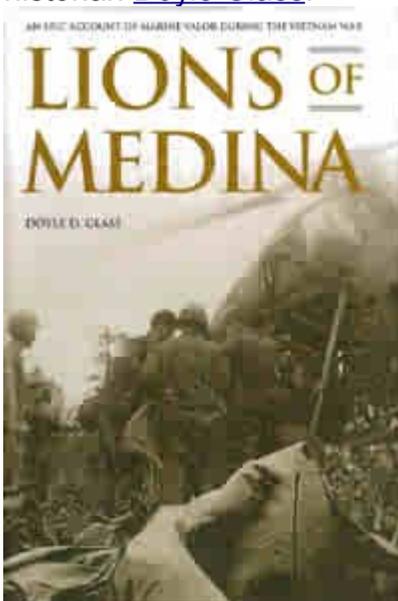
**Operation Medina** was a search and destroy operation conducted in the Hai Lang Forest Reserve of South Vietnam in the autumn of 1967. Conducted by 1/1, 2/1, 1/3 the First and two battalions of the First ARVN Division, the objective of the operation was to locate and annihilate any North Vietnamese (NVA) forces found in the forest reserve.

One specific enemy base that the Marines sought to eliminate was known as Base Area 101. Base Area 101 was an NVA staging area, a place where the NVA felt safe enough to build up personnel and supplies. The base was a launching point for possible attacks by the Fifth and Sixth NVA Regiments against the Marine bases at Con Thien, Khe Sahn, Dong Ha and Phu Bai.

10 October - 20 October 1967. The operation obtained partial success. Even though the NVA were not driven out of the Hai Lang Forest Reserve, significant losses were inflicted upon them by the Marine and ARVN forces.

[OP FILE, OPERATION MEDINA, 23 FEB-7 MAR 1967 - dated 11-Oct-67 Document No. 1201064089](#)

**Note:** The Marines and Navy Corpsmen of Charlie Company 1st Marines, 1st Marine Division are the subject of [Lions of Medina](#), an award winning and critically acclaimed book by historian [Doyle Glass](#).



<http://www.thenorthwestern.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?>

2006-09-20

OP FILE - OP MEDINA - 11 - 20 OCT 1967

OP FILE - OP GRANITE - 26 OCT - 6 NOV

C.O. Company "B" (Rein): Capt A.R. Green, Jr.

Location and Operations Summary: Hill 63, Quang Tin & Duong Son

*Throughout the reporting period, platoons of this Company were assigned missions as follows:*

*1st Platoon – Direct Support Fifth Marine Regiment*

*2nd Platoon – Direct Support Second Battalion, Fifth Marine Regiment*

*3rd Platoon – Direct Support Fifth Marine Regiment*

C.O. Company "C": Capt W.E Nelson

Location and Operations Summary: Da Nang

*The Ontos of Company C, continued in direct support of the 7th Marine Regiment. The Ontos traveled 1,427 miles in support of infantry units while conducting mechanized patrols, road escorts and establishing perimeter defenses.*

- a. *1st Plt (+) in DS of 1st Bn, 7th Marines*
- b. *2nd Plt (-) (1-12 Oct 67) in DS of 2nd Bn 7th Marines.  
(13-31 Oct 67) in DS of 1st Bn 7th Marines.*
- c. *3rd Plt in DS of 3rd Bn 7th Marines*

## **October 1965**

### **Third Tanks**

Commanding Officer: LtCol M.L. Raphael

Executive Officer: Maj J.G. Doss, Jr.

Operations Officers: Capt J.B. Donovan, Jr. & Maj H.L. Maxwell

Logistics Officer: Maj F.W. Coates

Location & Operations Summary: DaNang (AT 991710)

*Personnel reporting over the period may be characterized as being somewhat untimely; however, this is primarily the result of the time and space factor which exercises much influence on the transmittal of reports and records under present operating conditions. This command is now deployed over four enclaves encompassing some 270 kilometers and for this reason the flow of paperwork cannot be handled as expeditiously as in a garrison environment with subordinate units closely satellite around their battalion headquarters. The accuracy of personnel reports and other administration continues to be satisfactory.*

23 October PFC R.E. Peters died due to non-hostile causes.

H&S Company C.O.: Capt H.A. Bertrand Jr.

Location: Da Nang (AT 991710)

*During October 1965 elements from Headquarters and Service Company conducted frequent patrols up to eight hundred meters in all directions from the Battalion Command Post. In addition, on 2 October the Battalion provided a twenty-eight man blocking force for a sweep and clear operation by the Vietnamese 11th Ranger Battalion along the northern bank of the Song Cau Do river. Listening posts and ambushes were also established as part of the Battalions perimeter defense.*

C.O. Company "A": Capt F.W. Jarnot

Location: Da Nang (AT 946762)

*A Company remained in direct support of the Third Marines occupying strong points along the MLR and providing rapid reaction alert forces. Since the situation in the Third Marines TAOR was relatively stable tanks were committed on only three occasions. A two tank patrol was conducted to the most southwesterly sector of the TAOR to the hamlet of An My (3). No enemy activity was noted. On 30 October 1965 at 0200 a large attack against A Company, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines located at Hill 22 (AT 953667) was launched by the Viet Cong. The tank located on this position was slightly damaged by two 57mm recoilless rounds and a direct hit from a mortar shell. The tank remained operational, fired nineteen major caliber rounds, and killed between six and eight Viet Cong. Concurrently the tank in support of M Company, 4d Battalion, 4th Marines on Hill 41 (AT 934663) directed ten rounds of 90mm High Explosive ammunition, at a range of 1200-1500 meters, against two confirmed enemy mortar positions neutralizing their fire completely. At 2200 on 30 October a tank reaction force at the 2d Battalion, 3d Marines was committed against a substantial probe being launched near the Battalion's Command Post. Three 90mm canister rounds were directed against the enemy and contact was broken. The 3d Platoon, A Company, attached to the 3d Battalion, 4th Marines at Phu Bai conducted a two day mechanized patrol to the western portion of the TAOR on 5-6 October. There was no enemy activity during this action. During the remainder of the month the platoon provided blocking forces along Highway 1.*

C.O. Company "B": Capt A.E. Lee

Location: Da Nang (AT 067710)

C.O.s Company "C": 1stLt J.D. Sparks & Capt E.L. Erickson

Location: Chu Lai (BT 531094)

*C Company, attached to the 4th Marines, continued to maintain defensive positions at strong points along the Regimental MLR and to provide one tank platoon as part of the alert force near the Chu Lai Airfield. On 18-19 October one platoon was used as a convoy escort and reserve security force during Operation Triple Play in the far northeastern portion of the Chu Lai enclave. During the enemy infiltration of the airfield on the night of 27-28 October the reaction force was committed for a search and clear operation which resulted in two enemy killed.*

C.O. Company "B", 1st Tanks: Capt A.L. Lamb

Location: Chu Lai (BT 548060)

*B Company, 1st Tank Battalion, attached to the 7th Marines supported sweep and clear operations within the TAOR and continued to provide tanks at the southern roadblock on Highway 1 during the hours of darkness. Arrangements were completed to conduct indirect fire into the high ground in the southwestern portion of the Regimental TAOR. Initial fire missions will be conducted in early November 1965. The 2d Platoon, B Company, 1st Tank Battalion remained on detached duty with Field Forces, Vietnam at Qui Nhon in the II Corps tactical zone.*

## **October 1966**

### **Third Tanks**

Commanding Officer: LtCol W.R. Corson

Executive Officers: Maj's J.G. Doss, Jr. & E.R. Larson

Operations Officers: Maj's Maj E.R. Larson & E.L. Tunget

Logistics Officers: Capt R.E. Downard & 2ndLt R.J. Bright

Location & Operations Summary: DaNang (AT 989708)

*Tank combat operations during the month of October were in support of two major operations, Macon and Prairie, and other operations in the TAOR's. These operations accounted for 60 VC KBGF confirmed, 40 VC KBGF probable, 1 VC WBGF confirmed, 2 VC WBGF probable, 9 VCC and 12 VCS apprehended. Additionally, tank action was responsible for the sinking of 4 boats.*

*Tank mobility was greatly reduced during October 1966 because of heavy rains. Certain areas in both the Da Nang and Prairie TAOR's became completely impassable for tanks for several days due to flooding, deep mud and washed out river and stream fords.*

H&S Company C.O.s: 1stLt's M.F. Beirne IV & R.D. McDaniel

Location & Operations Summary: DaNang (AT 989708)

C.O.s Company "A": Capt A.W. Facklam Jr.

Location & Operations Summary: Prairie (YD 063544)

### COMPANY "A"

1 October 1966: *From 010645H to 010755H, while in support of elements of 2/3, tanks provided security for engineers conducting a road sweep from (AT 877575) to (AT 919599). The sweep was completed without incident.*

*At 011300H while in support of elements of 2/26, tanks provided security for an engineer road sweep at (AT 937667). The sweep was completed without incident.*

*At 012005H while in support of elements of 2/26 located at (AT 950727) tanks and infantry received sniper fire from (AT 950724). The tanks returned fire with 90mm Canister resulting in 1 VC KBGF probable.*

2 October 1966: *From 020650H to 020820H, while in support of elements of 2/3, tanks provided security for engineers conducting a road sweep from (AT 877575) to (AT 919559). The sweep was completed without incident.*

3 October 1966: From 030630H to 030830H while in support of elements of 2/3, tanks conducted a road sweep from (AT 877575) to (AT 925608). The sweep was completed without incident.

4 October 1966: From 040630H to 040830H while in support of elements of 2/3, tanks conducted a road sweep from (AT 877575) to (AT 877575) to (AT 925608). The sweep was completed without incident.

From 041945H to 042325H while in support of elements of the 3d Marines located at (AT 914597), tanks fired 90mm H&I fires. Results unknown as all fires were unobserved.

At 042130H, 042230H and 042330H while in support of elements of 2/3 located at (AT 877575), tanks fired 90mm H&I fire into enemy positions at (AT 819565) with undetermined results.

From 6 October 1966 to the end of October 1966, Company "A" was deployed in the Prairie TAOR conducting operations in support of 3d Marine elements in that area. Significant operational events are recorded under Operation Prairie.

12 October 1966: At 120730H Company "A" tanks while in support of elements of 2/5 departed Cam Lo Area (YD 146603) for 2/5 CP vicinity of grid square (YD 1269). While en route, the tanks and supporting infantry were ambushed at (YD 126666). A heavy volume of small arms and anti-tank fire was received. The tanks and infantry deployed and the tanks returned a heavy volume of 90mm fire, (Canister and HE), and cal .30 and cal .50 machine gun fire into the enemy positions. Artillery fire was called by an AO on station. The attack came from the left rear as the tanks were leaving a fording site. Three tanks were penetrated by AT weapons, probably RPG rounds. At 121345H a platoon of tanks from Company "C" were dispatched from Cam Lo (YD 146603) to support the ambushed tanks and infantry. The link up was made at 121415H and all units proceeded to 2/5 CP located at (YD 115701). One tank platoon leader was KIA and 4 tank crewmen were WIA non MedEvac. Results of the tank fire were 8 VC KBGF confirmed and 15 VC KBGF probable.

KIA was 1stLt D.W. Rohleder of Baltimore, MD

16 October 1966: At 161930H Company "A" tanks in support of elements of 2/5 at (XD 978585) fired 90mm rounds in H&I missions into (XD 965614). Results unknown as fires were unobserved.

At 211800H Company "A" tanks while in support of elements of 3/4 (XD 987548) fired H&I missions at close range with the 90mm gun. Results of fire unknown as the area was not searched.

25 October 1966: From 252000H to 260500H Company "A" tanks in support of elements of the 3d Marines at (XD 981543) fired 90mm H&I missions into (XD 987538) and (XD 975539). Results of fire unknown as the areas were not searched.

26 October 1966: From 261800H to 261855H Company "A" tanks while in support of elements of the 3d Marines located at (XD 983583) and (C+XD 979568) fired 90mm rounds in H&I missions into (XD 988583) and XD 973584). Results of fire unknown as the area was not searched.

27 October 1966: From 270800H to 271700H Company "A" tanks while in support of elements of the 3d Marines located at (XD 983545), (XD 983543), (XD 984543) fired H&I missions with 90mm rounds into (XD 978538), (XD 988542), (XD 975537), (XD 985541), and (XD 975537). Results of the firing unknown as the areas were not searched.

From 271900H to 280600H Company "A" tanks while in support of elements of 2/9 and 3/4 at (XD 977565) and (XD 976569) fired H&I missions with the 90mm gun into GS (XD 9855), (XD 9856), (XD 9857), (XD 9860). Results of fires undetermined as the areas were no searched.

28 October 1966: From 280340H to 280800H Company "A" tanks while in support of elements of 2/9 and 3/4 at (XD 983544) and (XD 984574) fired H&I missions with the 90mm gun into (XD 989538), (XD 987547), (XD 988542), (XD 989543) and (XD 970540). Results of fires undetermined as the areas were not searched.

From 281930H to 290600H Company "A" tanks while in support of elements of 3/4 at (XD 984543) and (XD 984544) fired H&I missions with the 90mm gun at (XD 978538), (XD 988539), (XD 985541), and (XD 989540). Results of fires undetermined as the areas were not searched.

29 October 1966: At 291800H Company "A" tanks while in support of elements of the 3d Marines at (XD 983544) fired 90mm rounds into vicinity of (XD 989539). Results of firing was undetermined as the area was not searched.

From 291930H to 300001H Company "A" tanks wile in support of elements of the 3d Marines at (XD 982544) fired 90mm rounds in H&I missions into area at (XD 987538), (XD 990541), (XD 988539) and (XD 985541). Results of fires undetermined as the areas were not searched.

From 292100H to 300830H Company "A" tanks in support of elements of 3d Marines at (XD 977559) fired 90mm rounds in H&I mission into vicinity of grid square (XD 9660 and (XD 9760). Results of fires undetermined as the areas were no searched.

30 October 1966: At 300845H Company "A" tanks in support of elements f the 3d Marines at (XD 986548) fired the 90mm gun in support of infantry into the vicinity of (XD 989539). Results of firing were unknown as the area was not searched.

From 301930H to 310600H Company "A" tanks while in support of elements of the 3d Marines at (XD 986543) fired the 90mm gun in H&I missions into (XD 989541), (XD 989545), and (XD 970540). Results of firing unknown, as the areas were not searched.

C.O.s Company "B": Capt E.L. Tunget & 1stLt D.B. Garner  
Location & Operations Summary: DaNang (AT 9262611)

#### Company "B"

6 October 1966: From 061600H to 061930H, while in support of 1/26 located at (AT 975595), tanks went to the assistance of infantry who had entered an enemy minefield and were receiving heavy

*automatic weapons fire from enemy positions at (AT 976591). The tanks fired 90mm and .50 caliber machinegun fire resulting in 2 VC KBGF probable.*

8 October 1966: *At 080932H while in support of 1/26 located at (AT 967582) a tank received 10 rounds automatic fire and 50 rounds small arms fire from (AT 974582), (AT 980587), and (AT 974589). The tank returned fire with 90mm rounds. The area was searched with negative results.*

10 October 1966: *At 101500H while in support of 1/26 located at (AT 947565), a tank responded to a fire mission request from the infantry who had been receiving sniper fire from (AT 944568). The tank fired 90mm HE at the area from which the sniper fire had been received. The area was searched with negative results.*

12 October 1966: *At 120900H while in support of elements of 1/26, a tank detonated an AT mine at (AT 904545) resulting in moderated damage to the suspension system. 2 tank crewmen were WIA, non MedEvac.*

14 October 1966: *At 141350H while in support of elements of 2/3 at (AT 877574) tanks fired 90mm rounds at a boat crossing in the Song Vu Gia at (AT 850552). The boat was destroyed and there were 3 VC KBGF confirmed.*

*At 141715H while in support of elements of 2/26 at (AT 970595), tanks returned .30 and .50 caliber machinegun fire at a sniper who was firing at a road construction crew. Results of the fire was undetermined as the area was not searched.*

15 October 1966: *At 151215H while in support of elements of 1/26, tanks and infantry received a heavy volume of sniper fire from (AT 977585). The tanks fired 90mm rounds into the area with both the infantry and tanks observing direct hits on target. A search of the area revealed evidence of 8 VC KBGF probable.*

16 October 1966: *At 161300H while in support of elements of 1/26 at (AT 963612) and (AT 959602) tanks and infantry received fire from (AT 959604) and (AT 960605). The tanks fired 90mm rounds into the areas. Infantry searched the areas with negative results.*

17 October 1966: *At 170720H while in support of elements of 1/26 at (AT 965612) tanks and infantry received sniper fire from (AT 971598). The tanks returned fire with 90mm rounds. Results of the fire unknown as the area was not searched.*

*At 171905H while in support of elements of 1/26 at (AT 877574) tanks spotted 2 boats with VC and equipment on the Song Vu Gia at (AT 855555) and (AT 855553). The tanks fired 90mm rounds. Results of fire: 2 boats destroyed, 3 VC KBGF confirmed.*

18 October 1966: *At 180720H while in support of elements of 2/3 at (AT 965612) tanks fired 90mm rounds in support of infantry who were receiving small arms fire from (AT 971598). The area was searched with negative results.*

*At 180945H while in support of 2/3, tanks went to the assistance of 1 squad from "F" 2/3 at (AT 877574) which was receiving heavy enemy fire from (AT 873566). The tanks fired 90mm rounds into the enemy position. Results of the tank fire was not determined due to an intervening river.*

*19 October 1966: At 191215H while in support of elements of 2/3 at (AT 876573) tanks fired 90mm rounds at an enemy supply train at (AT 848557). Results of the fire was undetermined, as the area was not searched.*

*At 191500H while in support of elements of 2/3 at (AT 876573) tanks fired 90mm rounds at an enemy supply train at (AT 848555). Results of the fire undetermined as the area was not searched.*

*At 192210H while in support of elements of 1/26 at (AT 919546), tanks delivered 90mm and .30 caliber machinegun fire at a light 100 meters south of the friendly position. Results of the fire was undetermined as the area was not searched, but the light was extinguished.*

*20 October 1966: At 201700H while in support of elements of 1/26 at (AT 901549) tanks received automatic weapon fire from (AT 902548). The tanks delivered 90mm, .30 &.50 caliber machinegun fire into the area. Results of the fire was undetermined. The area was not searched.*

*21 October 1966: At 211500H while in support of elements of 1/26 at (AT 968583) tanks and infantry received sniper fire from an enemy position at (AT 965587). The tanks delivered 90mm, .30 &.50 caliber machinegun fire into the area. Results unknown as the area was not searched.*

*22 October 1966: At 221415H while in support of elements of 1/26 and while on a sweep at (AT 968594) tanks and infantry received sniper fire from (AT 968604). The tanks returned fire with 90mm, .30 & .50 caliber machinegun fire. Results of fire: 1 VC KBGF confirmed*

*23 October 1966: At 231615H while in support of elements of 1/26 at (AT 965612) and (AT 967605) tanks and infantry received a heavy volume of small arms fire from (AT 973613) and (AT 961602). The tanks returned fire with 90mm and .30 caliber machinegun fire. Results of fire unknown as the area was not searched.*

*30 October 1966: At 302000H while in support of elements of 1/26 at (AT 967605) tanks received 60 rounds small arms fire from an estimated 2 automatic weapons at (AT 969605). The tanks returned fire with .30 caliber machineguns. Results of firing were undetermined as the area was not searched.*

*31 October 1966: At 311800H while in support of elements of 2/3 at (AT 878576) tanks fired 90mm rounds at 2 VC with rifles by infantry with a 20 power telescope. These VC were believed to be part of a sniper squad operating in the area. Direct hits were observed on the target. The area was not searched due to the intervening river. The tanks were credited with 2 VC KBGF probable.*

#### OPERATION MACON

*The 2d Platoon of Company "B" remained in direct support of 3/9 throughout the month of October on Operation Macon. Although the tanks were actively engaged, enemy contacts were negligible with no known enemy casualties inflicted through tank action.*

[OP FILE, OPERATION MACON, 4JUL-29OCT1966 - dated 7/8/1966 Document No. 1201063074](#)

OPERATION MACON

*2nd Platoon Company "B", 3d Tank Battalion*

3 October 1966: *At 031030H while in support of elements of the 3d Battalion, tanks located at (AT 875507) fired at 2 VC moving through brush along the river bank at (AT 874510). Results if fires unknown as the area was not searched.*

*At 031210H while in support of elements of the 9th Marines, infantry and tanks located at (AT 866496) received 15 to 20 rounds small arms fire from enemy located at (AT 864499). The tanks returned fire into the enemy location. Results of the fire were unknown as the area was not searched.*

*At 031830H while in support of elements of 3/9, tanks and infantry located at (AT 926527) received 1 round sniper fire from enemy located at (AT 927525). The tanks returned fire into the enemy location. The area was searched by infantry with negative results.*

23 October 1966: *At 231800H while in support of elements of "M" Company, 3/9 at (AT 925528) tanks were ordered to fire into (AT 917541). The tanks fired 90mm rounds into the area, but results of the fire were undetermined.*

30 October 1966: *From 302000H to 310145H while in support of Company "M" 3/9 at (AT 926527), tanks fired 90mm rounds in H&I mission into (AT 932522), (AT 933525), and (AT 938513). Results of fires were unknown as the area was not searched.*

C.O. Company "C": Capt P.F. Lassard  
Location & Operations Summary: Prairie (YD 246599)  
*All activities are recorded under Operation Prairie.*

OPERATION PRAIRIE

[OP FILE, OPERATION BUILD-UP IN PRAIRIE AREA, 22JUL- 16OCT1966 - dated 7/26/1966 Document No. 1201064003](#)

[OP FILE, OPERATION PRAIRIE COMMAND CHRONOLOGY, 1-Aug-66 - dated 8/3/1966 Document No. 1201064006](#)

OP FILE, OPERATION PRAIRIE, 3AUG-1 DEC 1966 - dated 8/4/1966 Document No. 1201064007

*Company "C", 3d Tank Bn, remained in direct support of the 4th Marines Regiment on Operation Prairie. On 6 October 1966, Company "A" commenced deployment from the Da Nang TAOR to the Prairie TAOR. Deployment was completed on 9 October 1966 and operations were*

conducted during the remained of the month in support of elements of the 3d Marine Division on Operation Prairie.

## Gibson Recalls a Day in Vietnam

by Gary Gibson



It was either September or October, 1966; I was serving with Charlie Co., 3rd Tanks Battalion. The Operation might have been *Hastings* or *Prairie*, time has taken its toll on those kind of details.

Sgt. Timothy Tews was the tank commander and I was his driver. We had just received two new Marines who were serving as gunner and loader. They had very little experience. Apparently they had both been drafted; and as a result, for a while there was some grumbling. Sgt. Tews was experienced enough to handle the loader and the gunner. I was a Lance Corporal and had begun my first six month extension in country.

Capt. Paul F. Lessard was the senior tank officer. We were working with the grunts doing a sweep and broke trail to our operational area. Nothing happened during the sweep until we turned to go back to the rear area.

It was getting late, so we gathered all the grunts on the tanks, and began retracing our tracks. I had to keep our tracks just to the right of our old tracks. We were the lead tank; I was worried about mines. Suddenly, the ground gave way and the nose of the tank dropped into a tank trap that was approximately, 15 ft. wide, 8 ft. deep, and 20 ft. long. It is amazing what fast reflexes one gets when he knows he's in the shit. I slammed the tank into reverse and stomped on the accelerator. As the tank hit bottom it roared straight back up and out of the tank trap and bounced to a stop about 6 ft. from the tank trap. Rifles, helmets and Marines went flying from the tank as we hit bottom. I stood up in the driver's seat to look into the hole. There was a pile of Marines in the hole, including Sgt. Tews and our new loader. By this time, the entire column had stopped. The word came down that the Marine grunts would not ride on the tanks on the return to the rear area.

While command was reorganizing the column, I noticed piles of dirt about 20 yards on our right. I asked Sgt. Tews if he could see any movement from his vantage point. Sgt. Tews looked and immediately yelled: "Ambush right." Sgt. Tews said to haul ass and get out of there. Just then the NVA (North Vietnamese Army) volleyed R.P.G's (Rocket Propelled Grenades) at the column. One R.P.G hit the front of the Company Gunny's tank killing the driver. The dead driver's foot froze on the accelerator causing their tank's gun tube to ram into the gypsy rack of the tank directly in front. This collision blocked the entire column. Sgt. Tews directed me out of the 'Kill Zone' then gave me two hard right turns which put us in line with the NVA assault force that was pouring out of the ravine directly in front of us. Sgt. Tews fired off a canister round into the NVA flank. As a result of our main gun tube hitting bottom in the tank trap, the gun would not return to battery. Then, the coaxial.30 caliber machine gun jammed. Tews told me to keep the Gooks off the tank and he went down into the turret to attempt to get both weapons working.

I had an M1 Garand loaded with 7.62mm. I had purchased the weapon recently from a SeaBee. I kept the M1 behind the right headlight along with a hand full of 8 round clips. From my position I was able to take out 4 or 5 NVA before they noticed me. Once spotted, 2 NVA began firing at me. I used my last clip on those two and then jumped out of the tank to retrieve two empty clips that had ejected and hit the ground. I reloaded the clips and resumed firing from my driver's seat. Believe me, I was attempting to make every shot count. Through my comm helmet, I heard Tactical Net say that 2 Phantoms were rolling in to drop Napalm on the NVA. This was my cue to haul ass.

The entire column was behind us, so we were in the open and all alone. As a result, we were being hit by a lot of small arms friendly fire. I dropped the gear shift into low and tried to do a hard right, that's when the left track broke. It had probably been damaged in the plunge into the tank trap earlier. I yelled "Air Strike, Abandon Tank!". I grabbed my rifle and headed for the rear of the tank. The loader was almost out when his holster hung up upon something. As he was struggling to get loose, I yanked him so hard his holster tore off his pistol belt as I threw him from the tank.

After the action was over, our track was repaired. For the remainder of the road march back to the rear area, we remained tactical with Grunts in a column file on the left and Tanks in column on the right, guns facing outboard.

#### OPERATION PRAIRIE

1 October 1966: At 011910H Company "C" tanks while in support of elements of 4th Marines at (XD 962619) fired a heavy volume of 90mm fire in H&I missions into suspected VC positions at (XD 973616). Results of fire were undetermined as the area was not searched.

2 October 1966: From 020800H to 021600H Company "C" tanks while in support of elements of the 4th Marine Regiment, located at (XD 974565), fired a heavy volume of indirect fire with the 90mm gun. Fire was delivered into grid squares (XD 9656), (XD 9661), (XD 9455). Results unknown as fires were not observed.

At 021855H while in support of elements of the 4th Marines, and while providing security for engineers on a road sweep at (YD 025562), tanks fired H&I missions into grid squares (YD 0552) and (YD 0652). Results unknown as fires were not observed. The road sweep was completed without incident.

3 October 1966: From 030630H to 030900H Company "C" tanks while in support of elements of the 4th Marines, provided security for engineers on a road sweep from (YD 061550) to (YD 033561). The sweep was completed without incident.

4 October 1966: From 040900H to 041900H Company "C" tanks while in support of 3d Battalion, 4th Marines, fired a heavy volume of 90mm HE and WP rounds from (XD 975569) to (XD 968617) at a bunker. Two probable secondary explosions were observed. Other results were unknown as area was not searched.

From 040630H to 040900H Company "C" tanks while in support of elements of the 4th Marines, conducted a road sweep from (YD 061543) to (YD 055562) without incident.

*From 042000H to 050602H Company "C" tanks while in support of 3/4, fired 90mm H&I missions into enemy positions on Hill 484 at (XD 967617). Results were unknown as the fires were unobserved.*

5 October 1966: *From 050900H to 051700H Company "C" tanks while in support of the 3d Battalion, 4th Marines, provided direct fire from (XD 974569) to (XD 5617) with 90mm fire. Hill 484 at (XD 965617) was secured by 3/4 with the assistance of covering tank fire.*

6 October 1966: *At 061830H Company "C" tanks while in support of elements of the 4th Marines conducted a road sweep from (YD 061543) to (YD 055562) without incident.*

*At 061830H while in support of elements of the 4th Marines, tanks and infantry received one mortar round, the type believed to be 120mm. Also, the round appeared to be a registration round as it landed in the center of the CP.*

13 October 1966: *At 131100H Company "C" tanks were in support of elements of 2/5 on a sweep operation when a tank detonated an AT mine at (YD 134719). The tank received moderate damage to the suspension system.*

*At 131645H Company "C" tanks while in support of elements of 2/5 at (YD 118718) received mortar and small arms fire from VC encircling their perimeter. The tanks fired a heavy volume of 90mm and .30 caliber machinegun fire into the enemy positions. The infantry searched the area and discovered 15 VC KBGF confirmed.*

*At 131930H while in support of elements of 2/5, Company "C" tanks and infantry were ambushed by a VC platoon dug in at (YD 188718). The tanks returned 90mm fire and a large volume of machinegun fire. Results of the fire were 4 VC KBGF confirmed and 4 individual weapons captured. One tank crewman was WIA non-MedEvac.*

14 October 1966: *At 141400H Company "C" tanks while in support of elements of the 4th Marines at (YD 133959) observed NVA's setting up gun positions at (YD 220717) and (YD 177724). The tanks fired into both positions with 90mm rounds. Results of the fire were unknown as the area was not searched.*

21 October 1966: *At 211500H Company "C" tanks while in support of elements of the 4th Marines at (YD 148604) received approximately 4 rounds of mortars of undetermined size from an unknown enemy position. The tanks attempted to observe further mortar tube flashes with negative results.*

**Con Thien:** The persistent enemy attacks during September appeared to be a desperate bid for a military victory, with its attendant propaganda value, before the fall monsoon hit. Failing in attacks from three different directions, the NVA resorted to a massive attack by fire against Con Thien. During the period 19-27 September, more than 3,000 mortar, artillery, and rocket rounds blasted the position. The Americans retaliated by massing one of the greatest concentrations of firepower in support of a single division in the history of the Vietnam War. III MAF artillery units fired 12,577 rounds at known and suspected enemy positions in the region, while ships of the Seventh Fleet fired 6,148 rounds at the same area. Marine and Air Force fighter pilots flew more than 5,200 close air support sorties and B-52 bombers of the

Strategic Air Command dropped tons of ordnance on the enemy in and north of the DMZ. The Con Thien garrison applauded the results; North Vietnamese pressure on the outpost subsided as September drew to a close.

## **October 1967**

During early October the Marines continued to find bunkers, but by then these were usually unoccupied and just as well for the NVA. As bunkers and bunker complexes were uncovered, the tanks were often called upon to reduce them to a state of unusable rubble and inhabitable by the enemy.

### **Third Tanks**

Commanding Officer: LtCol F.D. Chapman

Executive Officer: Maj B.M. MacLaren

Operations Officers: Capt C.L. Sale & Maj C.J. Samulesen

Logistics Officer: Maj R.E. Finney

Location & Operations Summary: Phu Bai

### *OPERATIONS AND TRAINING*

*The 3d Tank Battalion was engaged in four operations during the month of October; however, poor conditions of trafficability resulting from heavy rains in late September and early October, reduced the role played by tanks.*

*Operation Kingfisher. This operation continued throughout the month. It encompasses the area which included Gio Linh, Con Thien, and Cam Lo. (In the western part of Leatherneck Square) Platoons of Company "A", of this Battalion were in direct support of 1st and 3d Battalions of the 9th Marine Regiment, and 2nd and 3d Battalions of the 4th Marine Regiment and the 3d Battalion of the 3d Marine Regiment. During the month units were primarily involved in counter battery fire against Communist Artillery. In the direct fire role, A-41 fired at an enemy 57 millimeter recoilless rifle position with the result of probable destruction. A-21 fired at an enemy O.P., destroying it.*

*Tanks of Company "B" also were engaged in Operation Kingfisher in support of the 1st and 3d Battalions of the 9th Marine Regiment. The Company "B" units were primarily involved in the indirect fire role.*

<b>Date</b>	16 July – 31 October 1967
<b>Location</b>	<a href="#"><u>Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam</u></a>
<b>Result</b>	Both sides claim victory <sup>14</sup>
<b>Belligerents</b>	

 <u>United States</u>	 <u>North Vietnam</u>
<b>Commanders and leaders</b>	
<u>Robert E. Cushman, Jr.</u> Col. George E. Jerue, 9th Marines Commander (until 13 September) Col. Richard B. Smith	<u>Vo Nguyen Giap</u>
<b>Strength</b>	
5 Marine Battalions 4,000 to 5,000	<u>324B NVA Division</u> 10,000 to 12,000
<b>Casualties and losses</b>	
340 killed 1,500 to 3,000 wounded	<b>US claim:</b> 1,117 killed 5 POW

[OP FILE, OPERATION KINGFISHER I, 22JUL- 16OCT1966 - dated 16-Jul-67 Document No. 1201064061](#)

[OP FILE, OPERATION KINGFISHER II, 26-29JUL1966 - dated 16-Jul-67 Document No. 1201064062](#)

At 01:25 on 14 Oct NVA artillery hit 2/4's position around *Washout Bridge* between the C-2 Strongpoint and the Con Thien CB. A night-ambush squad reported that a large NVA unit was moving past its position towards the bridge. Marine snipers using starlight scopes saw the NVA massing in front of H/2/4's position for an attack. The Marines opened fire first with **tanks** and machine guns causing the NVA to attack prematurely. The NVA failed to penetrate the companies wire and withdrew. At 02:30 the NVA attacked Golf Company, by destroying 2 machine gun position with RPG's. The NVA penetrated the wire and overran the Company (CP) killing the C.O. Capt. Jack W. Phillips, his forward observer (FO) and 3 Platoon leaders; these young 2nd lieutenants had just arrived in country. Capt. James W. McCarter was ordered to take over command of Company, but he was killed by NVA fire before he could reach the C.P. F/2/4 was ordered to support G/2/4 and sweep through the area and drive the NVA out. The Marines were also supported by [AC-47](#); the Marines called them "Puffs". Finally the NVA was forced to withdraw by 04:30. The Marines had lost 21 KIA & 23 WIA. SGT [Paul H. Foster](#) was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions in the battle. The NVA had lost 24 KIA The bridge was renamed "Bastards Bridge".

On 25 October 2/4 Marines began a sweep north along Route 561, there was no enemy contact but progress was slowed by heavy undergrowth and the unit set up a night position. That night NVA rockets hit the 2/4 position killing the X.O., Maj. John Lawendowski and wounding the C.O. LtCol. James Hammond and two others of the command group who were evacuated by helicopter. The regimental Operations Officer (S-3) LtCol. John C. Studt was flown in to take over command of 2/4.

On 26 October, 2/4 Marines, less Fox Company, which remained at the night position to guard a stock of ammunition, moved north and secured the objective by 13:00. The Battalion then came under NVA mortar and small arms fire. A UH-34D helicopter of HMM-363 was shot down as it attempted pick up casualties, killing the pilot and door gunner, another UH-34 attempted to land but was damaged and made a forced landing at the C-2 Strongpoint. LtCol Studt called for reinforcements and Fox Company moved north to the Battalion position, while two Companies from 3/3 Marines moved north from the C-2 Strongpoint arriving at the 2/4 position at dusk. The NVA probed the Marine position with direct and indirect fire and ground attacks before withdrawing around 02:00 on 27 October. The following morning the Marines counted 19 NVA dead but were unable to police the area due to NVA mortar and artillery fire. The Marines had lost 8 KIA and 45 WIA in the period from 25–27 October. 2/4 started this operation with 952 field Marines and by the end (6weeks) of the operation they had only about 300 Marines fit for duty.

Operation Kingfisher concluded on 31 October, the Marines had suffered 340 dead and 1,461 wounded, while the NVA had suffered 1,117 killed and 5 captured. Tactical victories were claimed by both sides. Operation Kingfisher was followed immediately by [Operation Kentucky](#)

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*Operation Granite. The 1st and 3d Platoons of Company "C" participated in this operation in support of the 1st Battalion 4th Marine Regiment. The tanks were used for fire support in the indirect role. Two tanks of the 3d Platoon accompanied infantry units on a daylight sweep in the operation; however, no contact was made with the enemy.*

*Operation Ardmore. Tank 90-millimeter guns fired indirect and H&I fires with inconclusive results. These tanks of the 3d Platoon, Company "B" continued in support of the 26th Marine Regiment in Khe Sanh.*

## **Operation Ardmore**

## Quang Tri Province

Began in the Khe Sanh area as a 26th Marines operation (a continuation of CROCKETT) to deny the enemy access to the area and terminated on 31 October.

Gio Linh. Tanks of the 3d Platoon, Company "A" remained in well-emplaced positions and fired counter-battery missions against Communist artillery in and north of the D.M.Z. while reinforcing 12th Composite Artillery Battalion.

*The locations of the gun companies and their support units were as follows:*

Company "A" (Rein) (-)                      D/S 9th MarRegt (Dong Ha)

On 2 Oct Kenneth P. Bores received his 3rd Purple Heart and John P. Waicak his 2nd at Quang Tri.

Company "B" (Rein) (-)                      D/S 3d MarRegt (Camp Carroll)

On 5 October Gerald R. Clark received his 2nd Purple Heart and John P. Waicak his 3rd at Quang Tri.

3d Platoon, Company "B"                      D/S 26th MarRegt (Khe Sanh)

Company "C" (Rein)                          D/S 4th MarRegt (Camp Evans)

*The 3d Tank Battalion began the application of an active psychological operations program during the month of October. As with the implementation of any active program, the progress is slow in the beginning.*

H&S Company C.O.: 1stLt A.W. Hauser  
Location & Operations Summary: Phu Bai

C.O.s Company "A": Capt's G.G. Jacobsen & G.W. Baker  
Location & Operations Summary: Dong Ha

2 October 1967: "A"-41 fired (6) 90mm W.P. & (1,000) .30 cal at enemy outside of perimeter, w/negative results.

12 October 1967: "A"-41 fired (9) 90mm W.P. at 57 RR position, 1-57 RR probably destroyed.

13 October 1967: "A"-21 fired (10) 90mm H.E., (2) 90mm H.E.A.T. and "A"-25 fired (10) 90 H.E on request of 2/4 at enemy O.P. Results- O.P. destroyed.

13 October 1967: "A"-21 fired (4000) .30 cal, "A"-25 fired (500) .50 cal. at possible enemy C.P. with possible destruction of C.P.

14 October 1967: "A"-21 and "A"-25 fired (6890) .30 cal and (312) .50 cal each at enemy probing lines of 2/4. Results were negative.

14 October 1967: "A"-21 fired (1) 90mm H.E., (3) 90mm can, (1200) .30 cal at enemy troops in heavy brush with unknown results.

14 October 1967: "A"-21 and "A"-25 fired (5) 90mm W.P. and (6) 90mm H.E prep fire for sweep with negative results.

16 October 1967: "A"-24 fired (4) 90mm H.E. on preplanned targets that were suspected enemy approach routes on request from 12th Mar. Prov. Arty. Bn. With negative results.

16 October 1967: "A"-22 forward fired (4) 90mm H.E. in area to be covered by patrol on request from 3/3 with negative results.

17 October LCpl P.A. Penfold of Oceanside, CA was KIA

18 October 1967: "A"-21 fired (3) 90mm H.E., (2) W.P. and "A"-25 fired (5) 90mm W.P. counter mortar fire with negative results.

18 October 1967: "A"-31 and "A"-32 went out as a relief column with a unit of infantry on request of a patrol which took one WIA. No contact

20 October 1967: "A"-22 fired (3) 90mm H.E., (100) .30 cal., (50) .50 cal., and "A"-24 fire (7) 90mm H.E., (300) .30 cal., (14) .50 cal., as prep fired requested by 3/3-"M" for sweep. Negative results.

20 October 1967: "A"-11 and "A"-51 moved from Con Thien to C-2 (LTA-1 pos) and returned to 1000 M south of Con Thien providing security for mine sweep and infantry. Negative contact.

21 October 1967: "A"-21, 25 moved from "A"-2 position to "A"-1 position in support of India 3/4. Negative contact.

22 October 1967: "A"-22, 24 moved with 11 Engineers to provide security for crew working on road. No enemy contact.

23 October 1967: "A"-22 and "A"-24 sent by 3/3 with 11th Engineers to provide security for Engineers on road construction from 221015H to 231653H. "A"-22, 24 are back behind wire. Had negative contact.

25 October 1967: "A"-42 fired (69)90mm H.E. on request of 1/9 at active enemy gun emplacements and observed three secondary explosives. Also fired (10) 90mm W.P.

26 October 1967: "C"-31 went on road sweep in support of 1/4. Negative enemy contact.

26 October 1967: Two tanks from "A" Co, and one squad of infantry used as reserve for blocking force fro 1/9. Negative enemy contact.

26 October 1967: "A"-13 while in defensive positions, received 5 rds rockets, LTA-1 sustained 2 minor W.I.A.

27 October 1967: Two tanks from Con Thien on road sweep to A-1 position with 1 plt infantry, 1 team engineers. Negative results.

C.O. Company "B": Capt E.J. Kline  
Location & Operations Summary: Camp J.J. Carroll

## A Load of Plywood By Lloyd G. "Pappy" Reynolds

Fairy Tales always start out with "Once upon a time," and sea stories usually start out with "This is no shit". Well this is no shit, really. Besides the statute of limitations has run out (I hope), all the evidence has been destroyed (although there are a few witnesses still around), I feel free to tell this story.

Sometime in October 1967 at a position called the "Rockpile" in Vietnam. I was with the 1st Platoon, Bravo Company, 3rd Tank Battalion, 3rd Marine Division. Well the monsoon season was just starting and it was raining like Noah wouldn't believe. Our living hooch was a large hole in the ground. Loosely surrounded by sandbags with some boards tossed across the top and a large canvas tarp thrown over it, supposedly to keep us dry. It wasn't a proper bunker because if anything happened we were supposed to be on our tanks. So why build a solid bunker?

Anyway, this night it was raining to beat the band and we had two Marines on watch on the tanks and the rest were taking turns with sticks pushing up the sagging spots in the tarp to get the water to run off. I don't know who said "the hell with it" and went to sleep (maybe Sgt. "Wild Bill" Nelson or me). But about 0300 the whole thing collapsed. Well we all spent the rest of the night on the tanks trying to stay dry and warm.



Digging out after a night of heavy rain.

The next day, after it stopped raining and we were assessing the damage, salvaging what we could and trying to repair our wonderful abode. I had an idea (this in its self was a rare moment) stating, "Let's get some plywood and build a decent domicile to spend our time in". I (A lowly Lance Corporal at that time\*) talked with our Platoon Sergeant, Staff Sergeant "TJ" Wharton. Then we went to the Platoon Leader, 2nd Lieutenant Harris Himes and I don't remember exactly how but I got a ride on the mail run jeep to out "Rear Area" at Dong Ha. I looked up an acquaintance at 7th Motor Transport Battalion and arranged for a truck (6x6) and a driver. Then we went to the 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines where I acquired a six-Marine working party of some new in country replacements. Somewhere along the line I also picked up a set of Master Sergeant chevrons. Now with my newly acquired promotion, a truck, driver and a working party I told the driver to go to the SeaBee compound up the road. On the way I looked in the truck's glove compartment and got an "official" looking document (found an old trip ticket).

Arriving at the gate to the SeaBee compound I asked the guard, "Who's in charge?". He said, "Captain So in so". I asked where the office was and he told me. Then I asked where the plywood dump was, and he told me. Then I told the driver to go to the plywood dump. By now the driver has this all figured out and he's starting to get into it. So we drive over to the dump and back up to a load of plywood. I tell the working party to start loading plywood. Then this young Ensign comes over and says "Can I help you top?". I told him "No thank you I got my own working party and 'Captain So and so' is getting the paper work processed now". He says "OK, looks like you got everything under control". I salute him and off he goes. We load enough plywood to build a small house. Then I say, "Let's go". At the gate I wave my "official" looking paper at the guard say "Thank you" and we're off.

I then had the driver take the working party back to the 9th Marines, said my thank yous, and then I had to go convince my acquaintance at 7th motors to let me take the truck and driver up to the "Rockpile". That cost me a few sheets of plywood. We had to wait at Dong Ha for a convoy with an escort to form up. After awhile one did (going to "Payable") we fell in and peeled off at the "Rockpile" turn. By the time we got the plywood unloaded it was too late for the truck to return to Dong Ha, so the driver had to spend the night with us. He didn't mind but the C.O. of the Grunt Company we were attached to was a little pissed at having a truck on his hill. A few sheets of plywood seemed to make him see reason.

The next day the driver picked up a returning convoy and we built a proper dwelling. We even had some plywood left over, which we donated to the grunt-housing fund.

Unfortunately this was just the start of the Monsoon season and within a month the river rose at the base of our hill, the bridge washed out and we were stranded there for a few days. We even drowned a tank in the river trying to ford it. (But that's another story). The powers that be decided that our position was insupportable and we had to abandon it and move to "Payable" astride Highway 9 (the road to Khe Sanh). We had to leave most of the plywood behind. But we managed to take some with us for our new home.

Inside and outside our "New" bunker.



\*I had been in the Marine Corps before 59-62, out for three years then back in. I was infantry and tanks on my first cruise. Some of my contemporaries that had stayed in were now Staff NCO's.

*29 October 1967: "B" Co reports "B"-23 fired (17) 90mm Can, (1) Beehive, (1500) .30 cal, BF-22 fired 60 second rod, while escorting convoy at suspected enemy ambush site with negative results.*

31 October 1967: "B"-32 was dispatched to support recon patrol with 18" Xenon while light. Negative results.

C.O. Company "C": Capt W.J. O'Buch  
Location & Operations Summary: Phong Dien

29 October 1967: "C" -31 and "C"-33 fired a total of (8) 90mm Canister at possible enemy positions while on sweep in support of 1/4 with negative results.

Note: The "Sequential Listing of Significant Events" is presented here in its entirety. The Command Chronology for this period has shortened the entries and, as an alternative has supplied the S-3 Journal reference for more detail. You are encouraged to access the CC at the Foundation web site <http://www.mcvthf.org> for more detail.

## **October 1968**

### **Third Tanks**

Commanding Officer: LtCol G.E. Hayward  
Executive Officers: Maj's C.J. Samuelsen & J.P. Souders  
Operations Officers: Maj's J.P. Souders & H.L. Bauknight  
Logistics Officer: Maj W.A. Grubbs  
Location & Operations Summary: Quang Tri

### SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF EVENTS

- 02 October 1968* Company C at My Loc received mortar and sniper fire, dispatched reaction squad with negative results. Night ambush reported signal light beyond their site. Reaction squad dispatched and swept area after arty fire missions on suspected enemy position. One secondary explosion reported. Patrol returned with negative results.
- 04 October 1968* A MEDCAP conducted this date in the Quang Tri area treating 45 children and 15 adults.
- 07 October 1968* C15 and C41, in support of the 1st AmTrac Bn fired at 5 NVA in the open along the beach at Oceanview. Results unknown.
- 13 October 1968* C21 at My Loc struck a mine while backing out of a night position. Minor suspension damage, no casualties.
- 15 October 1968* C41 and C11, in support of the 1st AmTrac Bn, at Oceanview, fired at enemy bunker complex. Results unknown.

*15 October 1968 A MEDCAP was conducted in the Quang Tri area. 45 children and 15 adults were treated.*

*16 October 1968 B31 and B35 in support of L/3/3 at FSB Poto fired at suspected enemy positions after a patrol received enemy small arms fired. Results unknown.*

*17 October 1968 C23, while participating on a sweep south of Oceanview, struck a mined 8" round. One set of road wheels completely blown off the right side. No casualties.*

*19 October 1968 A MEDCAP was conducted in the Quang Tri area treating 40 children and 21 adults.*

*19 October 1968 C11 and C41, in support of the 1st Amtrac Bn. at Oceanview fired at 8 NVA crossing dessert. Results unknown.*

*19 October 1968 Received an R&E M48A3 Tank replacing A13.*

*20 October 1968 C32, 34, and 35 acted as escorts for the 1st AmTrac Bn. during a resettlement operation south of Qua Viet.*

*22 October 1968 A MEDCAP was conducted in the Quang Tri area treating 60 children and 10 adults.*

*23 October 1968 A Co. conducting a sweep with the 2nd ARVN Div, made heavy contact with the enemy north of A-1 to the Bon Hai River. Tanks credited with 63 NVA KIA's (C) for this day.*

*24 October 1968 C32 at My Loc partially detonated a 22 lb. anti-tank mine. Negative damage to tank or crew.*

*24 October 1968 A Co. secured from operation with 2nd ARVN Div. and returned to Don Ha.*

*25 October 1968 A MEDCAP was conducted in the Quang Tri area treating 34 children and 16 adults.*

*27 October 1968 B Co. in support of the 4th Marines at the Rock Pile fired into the Razorback at suspected enemy positions. Results unknown.*

*28 October 1968 C32 and 35 were sent to Cua Viet to act as additional security for the CAP unit in the eastern sector.*

*29 October 1968 A MEDCAP was conducted in the Quang Tri area treating 18 children and 4 adults.*

*30 October 1968 One platoon from A Co. was assigned convoy escort duty for 3/3 moving from Cam Lo to A-4.*

H&S Company C.O.: Capt J.A. Rumbley  
Location & Operations Summary: Quang Tri

On 3 October both Pat "Frenchie" Canulette and Carl H. Fleischmann received their 3rd Purple Hearts.

*Battalion Headquarters.* The battalion Headquarters continued to defend its assigned sector of the Quang Tri Combat Base, employing ambushes, patrols and listening posts in front of the positions on the perimeter.

C.O. Company "A": Capt R.J. Patterson  
Location & Operations Summary: Dong Ha

*Company A.* Company A remained in general support of the 3d Marine Division and continued to operate from Dong Ha Combat Base. During the month of October Company A supported the 2nd ARVN Regiment, the 3d RECON Battalion and the 1st Battalion, 77th Armored Regiment, 1st Brigade, 5th Infantry Division (MECH). Operations were conducted in the Kentucky AO, the RECON Battalion AO and the Demilitarized Zone.

On 2 October 1968 the hour (4) tanks providing security for the Cam Lo District Headquarters were released by the 1st Battalion, 77th Armored Regiment and returned to the Company A CO at Dong Ha.

On 6 October 1968 three (3) M48A3 tanks and two (2) flame tanks supported elements of the 3d RECON Battalion in their AO Southwest of Quang Tri Combat Base in the vicinity of hill 58. There was no contact with the enemy, however, several old bunkers and emplacements were destroyed.

On 23 October 1968 Company A (-) participated in Operation Lam-Son 271 with the 2nd ARVN Regiment and elements of the 1st Battalion, 44th Artillery, U.S. Army. During the morning the company led two armored columns into the DMZ up to the Bon Hai River. Heavy damage was inflicted on the enemy by the tanks with machine gun and main gun fire. The tanks were credited with 63 NVA KIA's (C) and destroyed several emplacements and bunkers. There was no tank damage during the operation.

On 28 October 1968, the First Platoon, reinforced with one (1) M67 Flame Tank and elements of the 3d RECON Battalion, provided fire support and an armored reaction force for the 3d RECON Battalion which was engaged in a clearing operation in and along the Song Vinh Phuoc River northwest of the Quang Tri Combat Base. No contact was made with the enemy, however, the RECON Battalion was able to destroy several underwater cave entrances in the river.

C.O.'s Company "B": 1stLt J.T. Miller  
Location & Operations Summary: Camp J.J. Carroll

COMPANY B. *Company B continued to operate in the Lancaster and Scotland II area in direct support of the 3d and 4th Marine Regiments. This support consisted primarily of fire missions at suspected enemy positions and movements, and road security for the Engineer units.*

*During the month the tanks located at Fire Support Base Poto fired numerous missions on the Razorback enemy positions. Results of those missions were unknown.*

*On 27 October 1968 two (2) tanks provided support for an Engineer sweep/survey team on Highway 558 to Mai Loc and northwest from Mai Loc up to Camp Carroll.*

**C.O. Company "C": Capt L.C. Kutchma**  
**Location & Operations Summary: Hai Xa Tei**

COMPANY C. *Company C remained in direct support of the 1st AmTrac Battalion. The tanks were located at My Loc, C-4, Oceanview and Cua Viet in the Napoleon/Saline AO>*

*Because of the lack of infantry units in the AO the "tankers" continued to conduct day and night foot patrols, ambushes, observation posts and listening posts.*

*Aided by night observation devices and radar, the tanks at Ocean view fired at numerous NVA along the beach and coastal sand dunes. The results of most of those firings were unknown.*

*On 13 October 1968 C21 hit a mine at My Loc while backing out of a night defensive position. The vehicle sustained damage to the suspension system.*

*On 17 October 1968 Company C (-) gave armored support to elements of 2/26 and AmTracs in the northern Napoleon/Saline AO. C23 struck a mined 8" dud resulting in suspension damage to the vehicle and one WIA (E).*

*On 20 October 1968 three (3) tanks escorted AmTracs to a resettlement village to the south of Qua Viet as a show of force.*

*On 24 and 28 October 1968 two (2) tanks were dispatched to support a CAP unit east of My Loc in night defensive positions.*

*On 30 October 1968 two (2) tanks were used as convoy escorts to the south of Cua Viet. The operation is expected to last approximately five (5) days.*

**C.O. Company "A", 3rdATBn: 1stLt F. Gypin Jr.**  
**Location & Operations Summary: Quang Tri**

COMPANY A 3d AT's. *Company A continued to operate throughout the Division Area. Two (2) platoons operated with Company B, 3d Tanks. One of these platoons was in direct support of the 3d Marines and the other in direct support of the 4th Marines. The 4th platoon remained with Company C, 3d Tanks and is in direct support of the 1st AmTrac Battalion. The remaining platoon is in general support of the Division.*

## **October 1969**

### **Third Tanks**

Commanding Officers: LtCol's W.S. Rump & R.W. Martin, Jr.

Executive Officers: Maj's J.R. Bathis & A.E. Lee

Operations Officers: Capt's L.V. Yanda & F.T. Klabaugh

Logistics Officer: Capt M.H. Collier & Maj J.R. Balthis

Location & Operations Summary: Quang Tri

#### *General Overview of All Activities.*

*The Third tank Battalion (-) was in general support of the 3rd Marine Division (-) (Rein). during the period 1 October through 19 October Company "A" was maintained in a ready reaction status and during the period 1 October through 5 November Company "B" was maintained in a ready reaction status. The Battalion minus Companies "B" and "C" redeployed to Okinawa on 20 October. On 27 October, the Battalion assumed administrative and operational control of Company "C" from 1st AMTRAC Battalion. (ref CG 9th MAB Msg P230050Z Oct69) Company "B" redeployed to Okinawa during the period 5-6 November. The remainder of the quarter was spent in the rehabilitation of equipment and transitioning from a combat posture to a garrison posture. In addition to the above, the Battalion supplied two platoons for deployment; 1st Plt Company C deployed with 1st Battalion 9th Marines (ref CTF 79 Msg P230440Z Oct69 (s)). 1st Plt Company "A" deployed with 2nd Battalion 9th Marines (ref CTF 70 Msg P230440A Oct69 (s)).*

#### *COMMAND RELATIONS.*

*During the period 1Oct69 to 31Dec69, the Battalion was deployed as follows:*

<i>3d Tank Battalion</i>	<i>G/S 3d Marine Division</i>	<i>1-24Oct69</i>
	<i>G/S 9th MAB</i>	<i>25Oct-6Nov69</i>
	<i>G/S 3d Marine Division</i>	<i>7Nov-31Dec69</i>
<i>Company "A"</i>	<i>D/S 4th Marines</i>	<i>1-6Oct69</i>
<i>Platoon</i>	<i>D/S 2nd Bn 9th Marines</i>	<i>1-31Dec69</i>
<i>Company "B"</i>	<i>G/S 3d Marine Division</i>	<i>1Oct6Nov69</i>
<i>Platoon</i>	<i>D/S 2d Bn 4th Marines</i>	<i>1-7Oct69</i>
<i>Platoon</i>	<i>D/S 1st Bn 4th Marines</i>	<i>5-31Dec69</i>
<i>Company "C" Platoon</i>	<i>D/S Bn 9th Marines</i>	<i>27Oct-31Dec69</i>

#### *Significant Events During or in Direct Relation to Combat Operations*

*1 October 1969 A MEDCAP was conducted at Chieu Hoi Lang Hamlet. Treating 9 adults and 36 children.*

*2 October 1969 1st Platoon Company "A" relocated to ECB in DS of 2/4 ; 2d Platoon Company "A" relocated to VCB in DS 4th Marine Regt.; 1st Platoon, Company "B" relocated to Vinh Dai in GS of 3d Marine Division.*

*4 October 1969 2d Platoon Company "B" relocated to ECB in DS of 2/4; H&I fire 10rds 90mm HE.*

*5 October 1969 2d Platoon Company "B" fired H&I fire 10rds 90mm HE from ECB.*

*6 October 1969 Company "A" relocated to QTCB in GS 3d Marine Division; 2d Platoon Company "C" fired H&I fire, 18rds 90mm HE from ECB.*

*7 October 1969 2d Platoon Company "B" relocated to Vinh Dai in GS of 3d Marine Division.*

*10 October 1969 Advance Party commanded by Major J.R. BALTHIS departed RVN and arrived on Okinawa to establish the Battalion Command Post.*

*14 October 1969 Two (2) Officers and twenty (20) enlisted from H&S Company TAD to Company "B" as support augmentation.*

*20 October 1969 H&S Company (-) and Company "A" embarked aboard LSD-5, USS Gunston Hall and sailed from Cua Viet, RVN; Detachment H&S Company embarked aboard LST-1073, USS Outagamie County at Cua Viet, RVN.*

*22 October 1969 Detachment, H&S Company aboard LST-1073 sailed from CUA Viet RVN.*

*25 October 1969 H&S Company (-) and Company "A" disembarked at Kin Red Beach; Relocated to Camp Hansen, Okinawa; 3d Tank Battalion(-). OpCon 9th MAB.*

*27 October 1969 Company "C", 3d Tank Battalion from OpCon/AdCon 1st AmTrac Battalion to OpCon/AdCon 3d Tank Battalion.*

*31 October 1969 1st Platoon, Company "A" OpCon To 2/9 for deployment with SLF "A".*

H&S Company C.O.s: Capt M.H. Collier & 1stLt G.L. Rivera  
Location & Operations Summary: Vin Dai/En route to Camp Hansen, Okinawa

C.O. Company "A" (-)(Rein): Capt C.E. Hobbs  
Location & Operations Summary: VCB/Quang Tri/En route to Camp Hansen, Okinawa

*Company A (-) remained in direct support of the 4th Marine Regiment, operating from Vandergrift Combat Base until 6 October, occupying positions on the defensive perimeter; one (1) platoon remained in direct support of 2nd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment operating from Elliot Combat Base until 6 October. On 6 October, Company A (Rein) was placed in General Support of 3d Marine Division operating from Quang Tri. On 20 October Company "A" embarked and sailed for Okinawa. On 1 December one (1) platoon Company A sailed with SLF "A".*

C.O.s Company "B" (-)(Rein): Capt's W.N. Crafton & L.V. Yanda  
Location & Operations Summary: Vinh Dai/Dong Ha/Cua Viet/En route to Okinawa

*Company "B" (-) remained in general support of 3d Marine Division operating from Vinh Dai until 6 November. On 6 November Company B (-) embarked and sailed for Okinawa. One (1) platoon Company B remained in direct support of Dong Ha Combat Base until 3 October. On 4 October one (1) platoon Company "B" was placed in direct support of 2nd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, operating from Elliot Combat Base until 7 October one (1) platoon embarked for Okinawa 9 November 1969.*

Company "C": Camp Hansen, Okinawa

## **October 1965**

### **Third Antitanks**

Commanding Officer: LtCol B.A. Heflin  
Executive Officer: Capt O.R. Edmondson  
Operations Office: Capt V.A Vernay  
Logistics Officer: Capt S.R. Stewart  
Location & Operations Summary: (AT 987711)

H&S Company Commandants.: 1stLt's J.C. Rooney & D.B. House  
Location & Operations Summary: DaNang TAOR (AT 987711)

*(a) H&S Company (-). During the reporting period, a major portion of the camp cantonment project was completed. The maintenance section received and repaired seven ONTOS vehicles. The company provided a blocking force for an ARVN sweep of the village of Phong Bac (AT 993705). (Note SITREP DTG 011800H/021800H Oct65). The company also conducted one reconnaissance/civil affairs patrol (Note SITREPDTG 021800H/031800H Oct65). The company reaction squad was dispatched once to investigate a possible infiltration of Viet Cong into the local village of YEN BAC (AT 985708) (Note SITREP number 112). The Battalion was visited by the Honorable Daniel B. BREWSTER, Senator from the state of Maryland; he was accompanied by Brigadier General HENDERSON. A briefing and tour of the Battalion Command Post area was conducted by the personnel of H&S Company.*

Company "A" C.O. (-) (Rein): Capt K.E. Sharff  
Location & Operations Summary: (Da Nang TAOR/Hue Phu Bais TAOR)

Company "A" (-) (Rein) in direct support of the 3d Marine Regiment (-)

1st Platoon, Co "A" in direct support of the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines

2nd Platoon, Co "A" in direct support of the 2nd Battalion, 3d Marines

3d Platoon, Co "A" attached to the 3d Battalion, 4th Marines

*(b) Company "A" (-) (Rein) supported two infantry Company operations, one infantry platoon operation, one infantry platoon ONTOS/Tank patrol and one infantry squad/ONTOS patrol. On 300210H Oct65, an ONTOS vehicle from the First Platoon was hit by a VC 57mm recoilless rifle when it was supporting Company "A", 1st Battalion, 1st Marines. The VC assault on the infantry company, with the ONTOS vehicle manning their MLR, caused the first seriously damaged ONTOS as a result of enemy gunfire in the Vietnam operation. (Note SITREP number 111). The ONTOS were used extensively as a night perimeter security/mobile reaction force. Two H&I fires missions were conducted during the month, expending 12-106mm HEAT rounds; 181-106mmHEP-T rounds; 338-.50 caliber spotting rounds and 1000-.30 caliber rounds (machine gun). For details see enclosure (1) SITREP DTG 021800H/031800H Oct65 and SITREP numbers 92, 97, 105 and 112 with attached weekly summary.*

*(a) Third Platoon, Company "A". During the month of October, the platoon was attached to the Third Battalion, Fourth Marines. Their primary role was that of bolstering the Battalion's Defensive position by manning the MLR during the hours of darkness. For details see "3d Platoon" in Company "A" weekly operational summaries.*

Company "B" C.O. (Rein): 1st Lt M.H. Chang  
Location & Operations Summary: (Chu Lai TAOR)

Company "B" (Rein) attached to the 4th Marine Regiment

1st Platoon, Co "B" in direct support of the 1st Battalion, 4th Marines

2nd Platoon, Co "B" in direct support of the 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines

3rd Platoon, Co "B" in direct support of the 3d Battalion, 3d Marines

*(a) Company "B", (Rein) supported one platoon size combat patrol and conducted numerous motorized escort and blocking missions. On 290530H Oct65, an ONTOS vehicle from the second platoon hit a mine at (BT 44350961). Major damage to the vehicle was sustained. (Note SITREP number 111 as 291800H Oct 65, with photographs). The ONTOS were used primarily as a night perimeter security/mobile reaction force. No major caliber rounds were expended due to operations. For details see enclosure (1) SITREP numbers 92, 97, 105, and 112 with attached weekly summary.*

Company "C" C.O. (Rein): 1stLt A.G. Anderson II  
Location & Operations Summary: (Da Nang TAOR)

Company "C" (Rein) in direct support of the 9th Marine Regiment (-)

1st Platoon, Co "C" in direct support of the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines

2nd Platoon, Co "C" in direct support of the 9th Marines (-)

3rd Platoon, Co "C" in direct support of the 3d Battalion, 9th Marines

(c) Company "C" (Rein) supported three two-company size search and clear operations; five company size search and clear operations; one marine/ARVN search and clear operation, and three operations as a blocking force or part of a blocking force. Security for two reconnaissance patrols was also provided. The ONTOS were used extensively as a night perimeter security/mobile reaction force. No major caliber rounds were expended due to operations during the reporting period. For details see enclosure (1) SITREP DTG 011800H/021800H Oct65 and SITREP numbers 92, 97, 105 and 112 with attached weekly summary.

Company "C" C.O. (-) (Rein), 1stATBn: 1stLt W.P. Snyder  
Location & Operations Summary: (Qui Nhon Headquarters)

Company "C" (-) (Rein) 1st Antitank Battalion attached to Regiment (-)

1st Platoon, Co "C" in direct support of the 1st Battalion, 7th Marines

2nd Platoon, Co "C" attached to the 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines

3rd Platoon, Co "C" in direct support of the 3d Battalion, 7th Marines

(b) Company "C", 1st Antitank Battalion (-) (Rein) 1st platoon Company "C" supported two daily mechanized patrols behind the 1st Battalion, 7th Marines MLR. The company also provided escort for truck convoys and covered an infantry platoon search and clear operation. The ONTOS were used extensively as a night perimeter security/mobile reaction force. No major caliber rounds were expended due to operations. . For details see enclosure (1) SITREP DTG 011800H/021800H Oct65 and SITREP numbers 92, 97, 105 and 112 with attached weekly summary.

## **October 1966**

### **Third Antitanks**

Commanding Officers: LtCol D.E. Newton & Maj C.R. Stiffler

Executive Officer: Capt D.C. Satcher

Operations Officers: WO C.C. Harris & 1stLt J.C. Debilio

Logistics Officer: Capt D.C. Satcher

Location & Operations Summary: (Da Nang TAOR)

H&S Company C.O.: 1stLt D.K. Caswell

Location & Operations Summary: (Da Nang TAOR)

(a) H&S Company. During the month of October the company continued the normal functions of providing administrative and logistical support for the ONTOS companies. The reaction force continued to conduct ambushes and patrols within the Battalion's Patrol area of responsibility. Work on the improvements of the CP defensive perimeter continued.

C.O. Company "A"(-)(Rein): Capt A.A. Compton

Location & Operations Summary: (Phu Bai TAOR)

(b) Company "A" continued in direct support of the 3rd Marine Division. On 100800H this Company started displacement from DANANG to DONG HA. The First Platoon continued in support of the 2nd Bn, 3d Marines. The heavy section was located on Hill 65 in support of F/2/3. The light section was located in support of G/2/3. On 8 Oct the light section accompanied a Company size sweep west of Hill 65 with no enemy contact. The Plt expended 13 major rounds (106MM Recoilless Rifle HEP-T) on H&I fire missions with unknown results. On 111300H the 1st Plt embarked aboard an LCU at DANANG and arrived at DONG HA at 121300H. On 16 Oct they were assigned the mission of supporting K, L, and M3/4 in defense of Camp J.J. CARROL. The Second Platoon continued in direct support of D/1/3 at positions near LE MY. On 4 Oct this Plt fired 12 major rounds at 12 VCS with unknown results. On 6 Oct the 173d Airborne assumed responsibility for the 1/3 TAOR> This Plt fired a total of 579 major rounds on H&I fire missions in support of 1/3. On 111300H the 2nd Plt embarked aboard an LCU at DANANG arrived at DONG HA on 121300H. On 17 Oct the light section moved to (YD 026561) in support of I/3/4. The heavy section remained at Camp CARROL in support of H&S 3/4. This Plt fired a total of 187 major rounds on H&I fire missions in support of 3/4. The Third Platoon continued in support of 2/26. The light section was located on Hill 20 (AT 925691) in support of G/2/26 on Hills 22 and 41 with a single ONTOS on each hill. The 3d ONTOS from the heavy section remained at the Plt CP in support of H/2/26. On 7 Oct the light section accompanied a Company size sweep with no enemy contact. This Platoon fired a total of 106 major rounds on H&I fire missions in support of 2/26. On 101300H the 3d Plt embarked aboard an LCU at DANANG and arrived at DONG HA on 111300H. From 12 to 15 Oct this platoon supported 3/4 in defense of Camp J.J. CARROL.

On 16 Oct the 3d Plt moved to the Rock Piles (XD 977567) in support of 2/9. On 24 Oct 3/4 relieved 2/9 and the 3d Plt continued in support of K/3/4 and M/3/4. On 22 Oct the 3d Plt fired 12 major rounds at a squad of NVA with unknown results. This Plt fired 1,137 major rounds on H&I fire missions in support 2/9 and 3/4.

C.O. Company "B": 1stLt S.L. Camby

Location & Operations Summary: (Phu Bai TAOR)

(c) Company "B" continued in direct support of the 3d Marine Division with the Co CP at HUE PHU BAI. The First Platoon began this period in direct support of 2/4. It was employed as security for mine sweeps and security for a medical infirmary at JA LAY. One section remained in defensive positions along Route 14. On 7 Oct one VC grenade was thrown into this position. There were no USMC casualties. One major round was fired at VC with undetermined results. On 8 Oct this platoon returned to HUE PHU BAI and occupied defensive positions in support of 2/4. The Second Platoon continued in direct support of the Fourth Marine Regiment. The light section remained in direct support of 2/9 at the ROCK PILE (XD 979568). On 13 Oct the light section participated in a Company size sweep with no enemy contact. On 20 Oct the light section was relieved by the 3d Plt Co "A" 2d ATBn. On 21 Oct the light section joined the heavy section in defense of DONG HA Air Strip in support of 2/4 with no further enemy contact. The Third Platoon continued to support the Co CP at PHU BAI. On 8 Oct the platoon relieved the 1st Plt and assumed support of 2/4. The heavy section provided security for the JA LAY Medical Facilities in the morning and occupied defensive positions at the Co CP at night. This section fired 35 Cal 30 MG rounds at VC snipers with negative results. On 8 Oct the light section maintained defensive positions at the artillery position on Route 14 and remained there through the reporting period.

C.O. Company "C"(-): Capt S.T. Flynn  
Location & Operations Summary: (Phu Bai TAOR)

*(d) Company "C" continued in direct support of the 9th Marines. The First Platoon continued OPCON of the 1st Antitank Bn until Oct 24 when the Platoon returned to Parent Organizational Control. On 28 Oct the First Plt moved one section to (AT 914597) in support of G/2/3 and one section to (AT 878576) in support of F/2/3. This Plt expended 10 major rounds on H&I fire missions with unknown results. The Second Platoon continued in support of the 3d Bn 9th Marines. The light section in support of L/3/9 provided security for mine sweeps of Highway 14 for the entire period with no enemy contact. The heavy section in support of H&S/3/9 was deployed in defensive positions along the AN HOA Airstrip for the entire reporting period with no enemy contact. The Third Platoon continued in support of I/26. The light section was located at (AT 968575) in support of A/1/26. The heavy section (minus) was located at the ferry crossing at (AT 925535) in support of B/1/26. One ONTOS remained at the Co CP (AT 967617) as an element of a reaction force. On 4 Oct the heavy section observed 12 VC crossing the river in boats. Ten major rounds were expended resulting in 2 VC KIA confirmed. On 14 Oct the light section received sniper fire and returned 2 major rounds with undetermined results. On 17 Oct the light section in support of A/1/26 expended 6 major rounds at a VC tunnel complex with undetermined results. On the 24th of Oct the heavy section (minus) moved to Hill 37 to support F/2/3 (AT 878576) and the light section moved to (AT 914597) to support G/2/3.*

*The light section in support of G/2/3 fired 29 major rounds on H&I fire missions. On 30 Oct the 3d Plt returned to the Company CP.*

C.O. Company "A" (-)(Rein), 1st ATBn (OpCon 3rd ATBn): Capt D.M. Hutson  
Location & Operations Summary: (Da Nang TAOR)

*(e) Company "A" (-) (Rein) 1st ATBn (OPCON 3d ATBn) did not participate in any major operations but continued to support the 1st Marine Regiment on squad and platoon size patrols and provided a mechanized reaction force for units of the 1st Marines. The 1st Platoon in direct support of K/3/1 on 7 Oct expended five major rounds at VC positions with undetermined results. On the 13th, 14th, and 16th of Oct the plt expended eight major rounds, 780 Cal 30 machinegun and 50 spotting rifle rounds at VC snipers with unknown results. On the 17th of Oct 2 major rounds were fired at VC snipers with results of three VN civilians wounded. During this period the Plt fired 34 major rounds on H&I fire missions. The Third Platoon in support of I/1 took part in blocking force and a sweeping operation with no VC contact. The First Platoon Co "C" 3d ATBn (OPCON Co "A" (-) 1st ATBn) in direct support of 2/1 expended 10 major, 110 spotter, and 800 Cal 30 machinegun rounds with unknown results. There was no further contact. On 24 Oct OPCON was dropped to Co "C" 3d ATBn. Company "A" 1st ATBn OPCON was dropped on 232400H Oct66.*

## **October 1967**

### **Third Antitanks**

Commanding Officer: LtCol G.M. McCain

Executive Officer: Maj R.M. Jordan

Operations Officer: Capt J.O. Lee

Logistics Officer: Capt B. Hastings

Location & Operations Summary: Gia Le CB

H&S Company C.O.: Capt A.W. Hoof  
Location & Operations Summary: Gia Le CB

*4. H&S Company. The Battalion security platoon conducted 27 night patrols/ambushes and 7 day patrols. In addition, listening posts were utilized on 14 occasions. On 20 October 1967, one Marine was WIA by grenade shrapnel when a patrol made contact with an estimated 12 VC at (YD 818157). Enemy casualties were unknown. The Battalion C.P. defensive posture was strengthened through improvement of the defensive wire network, bunkers, 106MM Recoilless Rifle pits and emplacement of 8 fougasses. One squad continued to provide security for elements of MCB-3 working on Highway #1. On 17 October 1967, H&S Company was relieved of the above responsibility.*

Company "A" (-) C.O.: Capt R.C. McInteer  
Location & Operations Summary: Khe Sanh CB

*Company "A" participated in Operation Ardmore in direct support of 26th Marines.*

*1. Company "A". Company "A" (-) participated in Operation Ardmore during the reporting period. On 1 October 1967 the 1st platoon located at Camp Carroll was transferred to "C" Company this Battalion. Light sections were employed offensively in recon extraction and company sweep roles. Company "A"'s ONTOS are mainly employed in a defensive role. All requests for fire support are approved by 26th Marine prior to firing.*

Company "B" (Fwd) (-) & (Rear) C.O.: 1stLt A.U. Schultes  
Location & Operations Summary: Camp Evans & Gia Le CB

*b. Company "B" participated in Operations Fremont, Cumberland, and Granite in direct support of 4th Marines.*

*2. Company "B". Company "B" (-) remained in direct support of 4th Marines while the 1st platoon supported the 1st Bn. 3rd Regt. 1st ARVN Division. Company "B" (-) participated in Operations Fremont, Cumberland and Granite. On 15 October 1967 a M-35 struck an enemy explosive device of unknown size at (YD 690234) resulting in friendly casualties of (1) KIA and (2) WIA. The M-35 was part of a resupply convoy dispatched to the 1st platoons position. It struck the explosive device while the resupply convoy was returning to the battalion C.P. Sections from the 2nd platoon located at Camp Evans participated in the operations during the reporting period. The sections provided fire support and security services to 1/4. On the night of 25 October 1967, a VC unit probed an outpost near the 1st Platoon position. The ARVN Battalion Commander requested a fire mission which resulted in (2) VC KIA (C).*

[OP FILE, OPERATION CUMBERLAND, 17 APR- 10 MAY 1966 - dated 3-Jun-67 Document No. 1201064052](#)

[OP FILE, OPERATION CUMBERLAND II, 1-Aug-66 - dated 17-Jul-67 Document No. 1201064063](#)

[OP FILE, OPERATION FREMONT, 8JUL-4AUG 1966 - dated 10-Jul-67 Document No. 1201064059](#)

Company "C" (Rein) C.O.: Capt T.J. Solak  
Location & Operations Summary: Dong Ha TAOR

*c. Company "C" participated in Operation Kingfisher and Liberty II in direct support of 9th Marines.*

*3. Company "C". Company "C" (Rein) remained in direct support of 9th Marines; and participated in Operations Kingfisher and Liberty II. Throughout the reporting period, elements occupied defensive positions at Con Thien, C-2, Cam Lo and Gio Linh. Company units were employed in convoy security, road sweep security, blocking force and defensive position security missions. The 1st platoon of "A" Company, located at Camp Carroll, was transferred to "C" Company on 1 October 1967; this platoon was designated 5th platoon Company "C". During the reporting period, friendly losses were (6) WIANE.*

[OP FILE, OPERATION KINGFISHER I, 22JUL- 16OCT1966 - dated 16-Jul-67 Document No. 1201064061](#)

[OP FILE, OPERATION KINGFISHER II, 26-29JUL1966 - dated 16-Jul-67 Document No. 1201064062](#)