

DECLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS  
4th Marines (-) (Rein)  
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMI  
c/o, FPO San Francisco, California, 96601

3:CR:rdg  
003480  
7 June 1965

3d MARDIV (FWO)  
S+C, # 1053-65

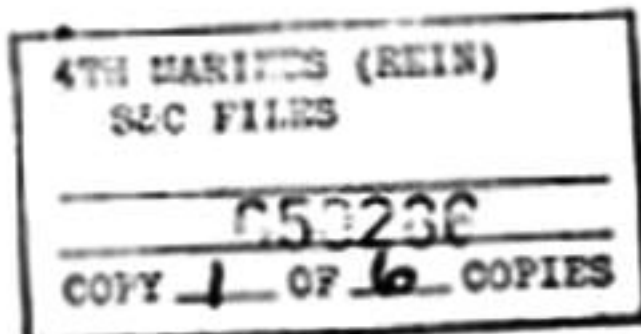
From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Fwd)

Subj: Command Diary for period 1-31 May 1965.  
Ref: (a) MCO 3480.1 w/ch 1  
(b) 3d Mar DivO 3100.1

- Encl: (1) Five copies of Command Diary for Headquarters, 4th Marines w/ enclosures.  
(2) Five copies of Command Diary of 1st Bn, 4th Marines w/ enclosures.  
(3) Five copies of Command Diary of 2d Bn, 4th Marines w/ enclosures.  
(4) Five copies of Command Diary of 3d Bn, 3d Marines w/ enclosures.  
(5) Five copies of Command Diary of 3d Bn, 12th Marines w/ enclosures.

1. In accordance with instructions set forth in reference (a) and (b), enclosures (1) through (5) are submitted as the Command Diary for 4th Marines (-) (Rein). The diary covers the period 1-31 May 1965, and comprised of enclosures indicated above.

*E. P. Dupas*  
E. P. DUPAS



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COMMAND DIARY

1 May through 31 May 1965

Part I Organizational Data Sheet

Part II Narrative Summary

Part III Supporting Documents

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PART I

1. Reporting Unit. 4th Marines (-) (Rein)
2. Period Covered. 1 May-31 May 1965
3. Date of Submission. 7 June 1965
4. Commanding Officer. Colonel E. P. DUPRAS
5. Command Post. Initially aboard USS HENRICO. APA 45. Command moved ashore 071500H at Chu Lai, Viet Nam in vicinity of coordinates 526046. Command Post for end of reporting period at coordinates 526042.
6. MAP: VIET NAM 1:50,000 SERIES L701 Sheets 6757II, 6757 III.
7. Subordinate Units.

Hq Co, 4th Marines (Rein)	1st Lt C. L. H. BAER
1st Bn, 4th Marines (Rein)	LtCol H..D. FREDERICKS
2d Bn, 4th Marines (Rein)	Lt Col J. R. FISHER
3d Bn, 3d Marines (Rein)	Lt Col W. D. HALL
3d Bn, 12th Marines (Rein)	LtCol A. B. SLACK
Co B 3d Recon Bn, (-) (Rein)	Capt J. M. COMPTON
Co C (-) (Rein), 3d Tank Bn	Capt J. P. SANDERS
Co B (-) (Rein), 3d Anti Tank Bn	Capt H. L. MILLS
Co A (-) (Rein), 3d AmTrac Bn	Major P. M. HELSHER
Co B (-) (Rein), 3d Shore Party	Major J. O. ELDER

PART II

1. Mission Assigned. Prior to reporting period RLT-4 was deployed on Okinawa with RLT-4 Headquarters located at Camp Schwab. Pursuant to instructions set forth in 3d MAB OP Order 301-65 RLT-4 Headquarters began planning for an amphibious landing over an uncovered beach at Chu Lai, Viet Nam. on 281200I April, RLT-4 Headquarters shifted aboard USS HENRICO APA-45 of Amphibious Squadron One for operations at Chu Lai, Viet Nam. While underway RLT-4 was directed to plan for a covered landing with ARVN forces of the 2d Infantry Division covering ashore. RLT-4 was directed to seize, occupy and control RLT-4 TAOR and to provide security during construction of BLTS site. Operations were conducted by aggressive day and night combat patrolling, ambushes, search and clearing of suspected Viet Cong villages. On 071500II May RLT-4 Headquarters came ashore at Chu Lai, Viet Nam. Command Post was established at coordinates 552046.
2. Movements Made. RLT-4 Headquarters and BLT's 1/4, 2/4 embarked aboard assigned shipping during period 27-29 April, and sailed for Chu Lai, Viet Nam. Commencing on D-Day, 7 May, RLT-4 off-loaded at Chu Lai, Viet Nam.
3. Terrain and Weather.
  - a. Weather precipitation and temperature throughout the month since landing have remained within the ranges expected based on study of past climatological data. Temperature maximums generally have been in the mid 90's with occasional extremes of 100 degrees and minimums in the low 70's. Precipitation has been light with infrequent periods of steady rain lasting less than one hour in duration. Rain usually occurred in the late afternoon and early evenings. Total accumulations for the period estimated at 2 inches. Thunderstorms occurred in the mountainous areas contiguous to the TAOR. There was one thunderstorm over the tactical area with high winds and heavy rainfall. Overall weather effect on operations was minimal. Visibility and cloud ceilings were within limits for helicopter operations. The significant effect of weather is the effect of sustained high temperature and humidity on individual Marines. With three weeks of acclimatization in this local, tolerance has been acquired and heat presents no severe limitations on normal operations. However, ample water and salt tablets must be available. Body armor has a severe limitation effect under these climatic conditions.
  - b. Terrain. The terrain in the eastern portion of the TAOR is flat lowlands with a two mile strip of deep sand from the beach to Rt # 1. Interspersed in this area are numerous rice paddies and streams. Trafficability to heavy wheeled vehicles are limited due to deep sands. To the west of Rt # 1 the hill country begins, with all the difficulties expected of such terrain. Our present TAOR west of Rt # 1 is dominated by Hills, 410, 385, and 237. The terrain is heavily overgrown with thick brush but trafficable by foot troops all areas.



4. Training Conducted. Due to the mission assigned and the initial set up of a base of operations, training was limited and orientated toward functional instructions. This training included command post security, challenging procedures, first aid for heat casualties, driver indoctrination for wheeled and track vehicles, and familiarization firing of crew served weapons.

5. Morale and Discipline.

a. Morale.

- (1) No significant morale problems have been encountered and the morale of the regiment is very high.
- (2) Regular postal service has been provided since 14 May.
- (3) A gratuitous issue of health and comfort items were issued daily.
- (4) The regiment had one issue of beer and soft drinks.
- (5) A disbursing section has been established and one pay call held.
- (6) Organized swim calls are held frequently.
- (7) Since 17 May units of the regiment have been feeding "B" rations.
- (8) The commitment in action against Viet Cong had been most positive factor influencing the morale of this regiment.

b. Discipline.

- (1) There has been no major disciplinary problems during the month of May.
- (2) Three Marines have been awarded non-judicial punishment and one Marine has been awarded trial by Special Court-Martial during this period.
- (3) It is felt that the low rate of disciplinary problems is attributable to unit leaders effort in exercising initiative and imagination in keeping their troops gainfully occupied.

6. Summary of Events.

1-6 May. Embarked in shipping of Amphibious Squadron One, underway for Chu Lai, Viet Nam. RLT-4 Frag Order No 1 issued.

7 May.

In accordance with 3d Marine Expeditionary Brigade Operation Order 301-65 and RLT-4 Operation Order 301-65, operation ashore commenced at Chu Lai, Viet Nam. On D-1 Co K 3d Bn, 9th Marines helilifted from Da Nang to the objective area, mission was to coordinate with troops of the 2d Inf. Div.

(ARVN) in screening RLT-4 landing. At H-Hour, 0800H, assault companies of BLT's 1/4 and 2/4 began landing over Red Beach 1 and 2. At L-Hour 1030H assault companies of 1/4 (-) began landing by helicopter in landing zone Robin GC 5302. Both landings were unopposed and screened. By 1800H firing batteries and Headquarters of 3/12 were established ashore and ready for fire missions. RLT-4 headquarters came ashore at approximately 1500H and established Command Post in vicinity of coordinates 552046. By 1600H BLT 1/4 occupied LZ Hawk and part of RLT Objectives 4. By 1700H on D-Day RLT-4 forward positions were established on a line 1,000 meters west of Phase Line Beer. The beach support area under operational control of Shore Party Group B was operational and handled the BSA. There were no casualties from enemy action during this period. RLT Frag Order No 2 issued. LtGen THROCKMORTON Deputy COMUSMACV and MGen COLLINS, CG of III MAF observed the landing from Red Beach. Construction of the tactical airfield by NMCB-10 commenced.

#### 8 May.

RLT-4 continues to consolidate and expand the Regimental TAOR. RLT Frag Order No 3 issued. BLT 1/4 occupied RLT objective 3 and surveillance of TAOR # 1. ARVN forces of the 2d Division withdrew from the TAOR to the north. BLT 2/4 continues to consolidate and expand TAOR # 2 up to Phase Line Vodka. Company B, 3d Recon Bn screening the northern and southern boundaries of the TAOR. 3d Bn 12th Marines continues in the support of the RLT. RLT Headquarters remained unchanged. Supplies continue to be off-loaded over Red Beach 1 and 2. Approximately 2,000 tons received within past 24 hours.

#### 9 May.

RLT-4 Frag Order No 4 issued. BLT 1/4 established Liaison with Capt LONG District Chief of ARVN forces in BING SON. All supporting fire missions must be coordinated through District Chief of respective district. BLT 1/4 continues aggressive patrolling of TAOR # 1. During the night, three attempts were made to probe 1/4 CP at coordinates 541019. Viet Cong in groups of 3 and 4 fired small arms and automatic weapons, no casualties. BLT 2/4 conducted sweep of TAOR # 2 using heliborne reaction force during the afternoon. No sightings made. One small probe was attempted during the night of BLT 2/4 CP no casualties. At 2230H Company B Recon Bn engaged in a fire fight at coordinates 556017 with Viet Cong group estimated at 20 with small arms and automatic rifles, no known casualties. Liaison officer from RLT Headquarters established at 2d ARVN Division located at TAM KY. At 0200H approximately 25 VC attempted probe of 3/12 positions vicinity of coordinates 545045. No known casualties. Company B Recon Bn, established motorized patrol to assist in controlling local curfew in immediate beach area. Curfew hours set ~~from~~ <sup>from</sup> sunrise to sunset. RLT-4 Headquarters displaced to coordinates 526042.

#### 10 May.

RLT-4 Frag Order No. 5 issued. BLT 1/4 continues to consolidate TAOR # 1. At 0230 BLT 1/4 reported probing attempt in vicinity of coordinates 541019. BLT 2/4 continue to consolidate TAOR # 2 conducted aggressive combat and recon patrols, no contact reported. At 0445H a Marine of Company H was accidentally shot while walking post, his condition was not serious. At 0100H Company B



3d Recon Bn engaged in a fire fight with 3 Viet Cong vicinity coordinates 561028 and 563032. During period 0130H to 0300H sporadic fire fighting continued vicinity coordinates 557021, 559023 and 563028. No casualties reported.

#### 11 May.

Probing attempts by VC through regimental positions commenced shortly after darkness and continued throughout the night. Company B, 3d Recon Bn engaged in a fire fight with estimated 20 VC during the night in vicinity of 556017. No VC found at daylight but estimated enemy casualties at 2 KIA, 4 WIA. No casualties of friendly forces. All civilians in area bounded by coordinates 532080 southwest to Rt # 1 508058, and 579040 southwest to Rt # 1 560007. have been instructed that they must clear this area. This area has been bought and property owners paid. This purchase area and environs is the site of the tactical airfield. Received Third MAB Frag Order 5-65. Issued Regimental OP Order 327-65. BLT 3/3 Arrived at Chu Lai aboard the USS IWO JIMA.

#### 12 May.

The VC continue to conduct probes by small units during hours of darkness. The RLT CP was probed at 0400H, one Marine was wounded by suspected sniper fire. At 0800H companies K and M with Command Party of BLT 3/3 came ashore over Red Beach 1 and 2 and took up positions along phase line COGNAC. Location of BLT 3/3 CP at coordinates 545045. Operational control of BLT 3/3 assumed by CO RLT-4. The Chu Lai Amphibious Operation was terminated at 1200H. RLT-4 redesignated as 4th Marines (-) (Rein). control of 4th Marines was passed by COMSEVENFLT to CG III MAF. At 1200H 3d Recon Bn (-) OP Con passed to 3d Mar Div.

#### 13 May.

4th Marines to consolidate positions within TAOR. 3d Bn, 3d Marines assigned TAOR # 3 in accordance with Regt OP Order 327-65. Marine wounded previous night in Regimental CP area died of wounds aboard the USS IWO JIMA. Copy of COMUSMACV Letter of Instruction received. This LOI sets forth in general terms plans for expanded operations of present TAOR in three phases. Company K 3d Bn, 9th Marines operational control changed from 4th Marines and returned to operational control of 3d Marines, Company K 3/9 returned to Da Nang.

#### 14 May.

All Battalions continuing aggressive patrolling and establishing ambushes search and clear operations conducted in villages suspected in harboring VC. 1st Bn, 4th Marines engaged in fire fight with estimated 8-15 VC in vicinity of 525978. Viet Cong unit opened fire on patrol with carbines and automatic weapons. VC unit escaped through deep under growth and tunnels which were too small for Marines to enter. Vietnamese interpreters instructed civilians still living in the purchased land area that they must be out by 15 May.

15 May.

4th Marines continues aggressive patrolling and establishing of ambushes in TAOR. Sweeping operations conducted by 3d Bn, 3d Marines and 2d Bn, 4th Marines of civilians still occupying purchased land area. 2d Bn, 4th Marines CP displaced to coordinates 512042. Activities during the night characterized by small groups of VC attempting to probe the TAOR.

16 May.

1st Bn, 4th Marines conducted patrols and set ambushes in vicinity coordinates 489997 and 495201 with no contacts. 2d Bn, 4th Marines reported probe of southern sector of TAOR by 6-8 VC, when taken under fire contact was broken by VC. 3d Bn, 3d Marines conducted sweep of purchased area, and netted 300 civilians who were taken to the Regimental Civilian Collection Point, MGen STILWELL USA Deputy COMUSMACV for Plans and Operations visited 4th Marines.

17 May.

1st Bn, 4th Marines searched and cleared TRI BINH (3) and sighted 3 VC south of TAOR. 2d Bn 4th Marines conducted Helo sweep of TAOR and found it clear. Three established ambushes in TAOR had no contact. 3d Bn, 3d Marines swept TAOR and picked up 65 civilians still in the restricted land area. Two PF's wounded by sniper fire at coordinates 412020 and evacuated to USS TWO JIMA. Remaining personnel and equipment of 3d Bn, 3d Marines arrived in shipping and commenced off loading. LtGen V. H. KRULAK, CG FMF PAC and MGen COLLINS CG III MAF visited 4th Marines.

18 May.

1st Bn, 4th Marines conducted patrols and set ambushes in vicinity of coordinates 543994 and Hill 410 with negative results. 2d Bn, 4th Marines has reported several attempted infiltrators at coordinates 518043, 513027 and 507036. 3d Bn, 3d Marines continue sweeping Bn TAOR of civilians.

19 May.

1st Bn, 4th Marines searched and cleared villages in vicinity, of coordinates 520982 using flame throwers on caves in the vicinity. 2d Bn, 4th Marines patrols and ambushes had no contact or sightings. 3d Bn, 3d Marines completed off-loading at 1930H. Received 3d Mar Div OP Order 321-65.

20 May.

1st Bn, 4th Marines conducted patrols and ambushes within TAOR with no results. 2d Bn, 4th Marines captured suspected sniper in vicinity coordinates 523039 with use of AN/TPS-21. VCS turned over to Civilian Collection Point. VADM BLACKBURN COMSEVENFLT visited 4th Marines.

21 May.

1st Bn, 4th Marines conducted day and night patrols, and set ambushes in vicinity of coordinates 509997, 529000 with no results. 2d Bn, 4th Marines reported



V6 troops at coordinates 483043. Artillery fire called in with a reported 4-VC KIA, 3 VC probable KIA and 4 VC probable WIA. 3d Bn, 3d Marines conducted night surveillance of village coordinates 578023 with no contact. LtGen THROCKMORTON, Deputy COMUSMACV visited 4th Marines.

22 May.

1st Bn, 4th Marines apprehended 5 VCS at ambush set at coordinates 538998. 2d Bn, 4th Marines sent out night patrols in TAOR but had no contact. 3d Bn, 3d Marines probed by 5-10 VCS there were no casualties.

23 May.

1st Bn, 4th Marines patrol picked up civilians inside of TAOR without ID cards and turned them over to Collection Point. Other battalion patrols had negative results.

24 May.

1st Bn, 4th Marines patrolled around Hill 410 and set ambushes vicinity of coordinates 529991 and 514004, there was no contact. 2d Bn, 4th Marines night patrols had no contact. 3d Bn, 3d Marines had negative results on ambush and patrols within TAOR & 3.

25 May.

1st Bn, 4th Marines continue to patrol vicinity of Hill 410. Blocking point at village TRI BINH (2) coordinates 529983 netted 2 VC KIA and 1 suspected WIA. 2d Bn, 4th Marines patrols within TAOR had negative results. 3d Bn, 3d Marines had 1 M-14 rifle stolen from fighting hole, search of a nearby village proved negative.

26 May.

1st Bn, 4th Marines patrolled in vicinity of coordinates 481003, 489999 and 509997 with negative results. 2d Bn, 4th Marines picked up 20 civilians in sweep through purchased land area. 3d Bn, 4th Marines received sniper fire on road-block coordinates 563999 but had no casualties. General WESTMORELAND, COMUSMACV visited 4th Marines.

27 May.

1st Bn, 4th Marines set ambush at coordinates 479988 and patrolled in vicinity of coordinates 474997 and 525982 with no contact. Marines of 2d Bn, 4th Marines fired at 3 VC approaching their positions from the south, killing one VC carrying nine hand fashioned grenades and a sketch of Company H defensive positions. 3d Bn 3d Marines conducted search and destruction missions in purchased land area destroying over 100 straw structures.

28 May.

1st Bn, 4th Marines patrolled in vicinity of coordinates 495001 and set ambush vicinity of coordinates 531995 with no results. 2d Bn, 4th Marines

area attacked from the north during the night by 15 VC in assault and 5 minutes of fire. Attack results are 5 VC KIA and indications of several more. One Marine was KIA and 11 Marines WIA. Large amount of weapons, ammo, and arms were captured. In an ambush set by 3d Bn, 3d Marines, one Marine was WIA and three suspected VC casualties. In this action, rifle stolen by VC on the 27th was recovered from VC by wounded Marine.

#### 29 May.

1st Bn, 4th Marines sent platoon size combat patrol in vicinity of coordinates 549985, 509997 and 529000. There was no contact. Harrassing sniper fires were recieved all night in 2d Bn, 4th Marines area. Also several VC probes were attempted but repelled. Two Marines from 3d Bn, 3d Marines were accidentally injured by M-79 grenadier who failed to get the word of a friendly fire team in front of lines. Neither Marines were injured seriously.

#### 30 May.

1st Bn, 4th Marines sent out daylight patrols of platoon size in vicinity coordinates 532995, 538000 and 509983. There was no enemy contact. Recon patrol on Hill 410 suprised 5 VC in an ambush eating C-rations this resulted in 4 VC KIA and 1 WIA who escaped. An M-14 rifle and three French bolt-action rifles were recovered. 2d Bn, 4th Marines conducted a sweep of KY XUAN island in combined operations with Vietnamese Popular Forces. Twenty-six VCS were captured, three VC KIA and one WIA who escaped. 3d Bn, 3d Marines picked up seven VCS in village near coordinates 564997. Suspect did not have ID cards and one had grenades. Suspects were delivered to Collection Point and turned over to ARVN forces. Received Division Warning Order 311356Z for possible movement to QUANG NGAI in blocking positions. BGen De Puy, J-3 COMUSMACV visited 4th Marines. accompanied by MGen COLLINS CG III MAF.

#### 31 May.

1st Bn, 4th Marines sent out daylight patrols in vicinity coordinates 521971 and 529000. Patrols reported no enemy contact. 3d Bn, 3d Marines had several attempts of probes during the night.

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3. RLT\_4 OPERATION ORDER 327-65

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4th Marines, 3d Marine Amphibious Force  
c/o P.O. Box San Francisco, Calif

From: RLT-4  
To: BLT Three Slash Three

OPERATION ORDER 327-65

a. My OP Order 301-65

1. SITUATION.

a. Enemy.

b. Friendly.

1. RVN Units North and South of RLT TAOR conduct counter guerrilla operations against Viet Cong Units.
2. III MAF furnishes and coordinates liaison effort between units of RLT-4 and ARVN.
3. Upon departure of THIRD MAB, RLT-4 reverts to op con THIRD MAR DIV.
4. RLT-4 continues to consolidate RLT TAOR, provides security for construction and support units and conducts aggressive counter guerrilla operations within TAOR.

2. MISSION. Commencing 0800 12 May BLT 3/3 lands by helicopter in landing zone CARDINAL. Commencing 0800 12 May elements of 3/3 land over Beach Red 1 and occupy positions on Phase Line COGNAC to protect southern flank of RLT TAOR.

3. EXECUTION.

a. Concept of Operation. Upon arrival in area of operations, BLT 3/3 comes under operational control of RLT-4 and conducts helicopterborne and surface landings in TAOR #1 and prepares to assume control of TAOR #3 on order.

b. BLT 3/3.

1. Commencing 0700 12 May 1965, land by surface means over Beach Red 1 and by helicopterborne means in Landing Zone CARDINAL and move to Phase Line COGNAC to occupy positions between coordinates 569999 and 583030. (See Operation Overlay #1)
2. On order assume control of TAOR 3 to include RLT objectives 5, 6, 7 and 8. (See Operation Overlay #2)
3. On order to occupy TAOR 3, assume responsibility for BSA and provide one company for BSA defense under control of SHORE PARTY Commander who is responsible to BLT 3/3.

4. Be prepared to provide one company to constitute AIF Reserve.
5. In order to occupy Task 2, establish roadblock vicinity coordinates 575 7'.
6. Conduct surveillance of seaward approaches to assigned area and all possible counterlandings and to prevent entry of infiltrators.
7. Be prepared to conduct observation and surveillance of villages in assigned TAOR.
8. Be prepared to conduct counterinsurgency operations as directed.
9. Be prepared to conduct helicopterborne patrols within and adjacent to assigned TAOR.

c. Coordinating Instructions.

1. Upon landing over Beach Red 1 and in Landing Zone 2400114, coordinate 4th BLI 1/4 for movement to combat positions on Phase Line 020NAC.
2. Upon order to occupy Task 3, guides will be provided from the units previously occupying portions of TAOR.
3. Direct liaison between subordinate units and with naval counter parts is authorized. Keep this headquarters informed of substantive matters involving policy, doctrine or conflict with the plan.
4. Pursuit of Viet Cong Forces or suspected forces into adjacent IVZ, must be coordinated through this headquarters.
5. Place particular emphasis at all levels on military and physical security, and rear area security in accordance with guidance set forth in Annex J. (Air Base and Rear Area Security).
6. Nuclear, Biological and Chemical weapons will not be employed unless directed by this headquarters. NBC warfare accordance with Annex I (Nuclear, Biological, Chemical Defence).
7. Subordinate commanders may employ non-toxic smoke and riot control agents in suppressing civil disturbances if approved by this headquarters. The use of tear gas against guerrillas or in the defense of an activity or installation is authorized.
8. The highest order of host/guest relations for all to be maintained in front of Viet Cong. Guidance for conduct of personnel of the 4th is contained in Appendix 1 (Guidance for Conduct of Troops) to Annex (Civil Affairs) to Administrative Plan 202-65.
9. Avoid unnecessary destruction of civilian life and property.
10. Intimate details...

and design supporting plan to facilitate transition from coordinated to joint operation.

11. Report situation with respect to R&N military and paramilitary forces in respective Areas of responsibility as soon as possible after landing and on a continuing basis thereafter. Include strength, composition, disposition, combat effectiveness and key personalities.
12. In the planning for, and conduct of, counterguerrilla operations particular attention is directed to references (e) and (f) of order 301-6.
13. Particular attention is directed to Annex M (Reports).
14. Operation overlay Annex C (Operation Overlay).
15. Fire Support Coordination. Moral, except that all missions must be cleared by SACC/MLT FSCC prior to firing. Silence is not consent. Actual clearance must be granted before a mission can be fired.
16. Annex K (Antimechanized).
17. Annex P (Ground Rules of Engagement).
18. All units be prepared to provide working parties to shore arty on order.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS. See Administrative Order 301-65.

5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS ELECTRONICS.

- a. RegtG - 2000.14
- b. Annex K (Communications Electronics) to Operation Plan 301-65.
- c. Command Posts. See Operation Overlay #2 to this Frag Order.
- d. Upon arrival in area of operations coordinate communications with this headquarters.

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT

#### APPENDICES

1. Operation Overlay #1
2. Operation Overlay #2

**DEBRAS**  
 Colonel U. S. Marine Corps  
 Commanding



65 5151

12. LOGISTIC SUMMARY

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*Emel 12*

LOGISTICS1. RLT-4 LOGISTIC SUPPORT ORGANIZATION

Co. B (-), 3d Shore Party Bn

Det. 3d Service Bn

Det. 3d Force Service Regiment

MP Plt, MP Co, HqBn, 3dMarDiv

Co. C (-)(Rein), 3d MT Bn

Plat. Co B, 3d MT Bn

Plat. Co C, 9th MT Bn

Co. B (-)(Rein), 3d Med Bn

Det. Co. B, 3d Engr Bn

Det. NBG-1

SUMMARY OF LOGISTIC OPERATIONS

1. RLT-4 commenced landing at 070800H May 1965 over beach red, Chu Lai, RVN. The landing of all on call and non-scheduled serials completed on morning of 8 May and general unloading commenced at 081030H May.

2. Unloading was hindered by poor trafficability in the beach area and the absence of any road network in the TAOR. A route was established from the vicinity of the BSA, GS 5505 to Highway 1, vicinity coord 521044 which traversed over deep, shifting sand causing many of the preloaded vehicles to become bogged down.

3. All units landed with their prescribed loads of Class I, II, III, IV and V as prescribed in RLT-4 Administrative Plan 202-65. Once ashore all units are maintaining the following minimum levels of supply.

a. Class I - 1 day

b. Class II - minimum essential required.

c. Class III - 1 day

d. Class IV fortification material - as required.

e. Class V - Basic Allowance.

4. The construction of a water point was accorded high priority due to the high consumption rate. The establishment of a water point in the BSA on 8 May permitted the timely resupply of all units without resorting to resupply of water from ships of the Amphibious Task Force.

(encl 6a)

5. Construction of an MSR was planned to commence ASAP however the commitment of engineer assets to the construction of the SATS site and other high priority projects such as construction of water points in the vicinity of the BLTs and providing engineer assistance in the BSA delayed the commencement of improvements to the MSR, until the afternoon of D+1. At this time the Engineer Company graded the MSR with unsatisfactory results, due to the lack of soil stability.
6. LVTP5's were particularly suited for operations in this terrain and performed a variety of tasks, ranging from routine resupply of forward elements, to anchoring causeway sections and clearing the beach and exit routes of stuck vehicles. On 8 May a shortage of MOGAS for LVTs was experienced, however this was resolved by refueling from THOMASTON (LSD-28).
7. On D+2, Shore Party Group BRAVO was unloading supplies over the beach at a rate of 1700 S/T per day. This was 500 S/T more than had been anticipated.
8. Erection of a berm around the area purchased for construction of the airfield commenced on 13 May. This barrier extends from the beach in vicinity coord. 533082 to Highway 1 at coord. 508057, then along East side of Highway 1 to BINH DUONG TIN province boundary, then along province boundary line to beach. A strand of barb wire was placed along the berm with appropriate signs in Vietnamese and English indicating a restricted area.
9. Co. B, 3d Engr Bn provided engineer assistance to NMCB-10 in the construction of the airfield during the period 7 May to 27 May 1965.
10. Shore Party Group BRAVO provided engineer assistance to NMCB-10 in the construction of the airfield during the period 7 May to 27 May 1965.
11. Weekly Logistics Summary Report for period ending 15 May 1965.
  - a. Supplies unloaded - 7509.05 S/T. Unloading of RLT-4 shipping completed on 12 May. NMCB-10 and MAG-12 shipping continues to be unloaded.
  - b. Number of vehicles - 972.
  - c. Logistic Support Group established on the beach and to date has processed 374 work orders of comm-elect, engr, MT and ordnance items.
  - d. Logistic support to BLTs is provided by M35s and LVTP5. Lvt's are particularly suited for this purpose due to the very poor trafficability as a result of deep shifting sand. This terrain is also well suited for the operation of tanks, ontos and other tracked vehicles.
  - e. Rifle companies in 1/4 TAOR must be resupplied by helo due to inaccessibility of their positions. This normally requires 14 trips per day.



Emergency evacuation flights average 5 per day. This is in addition to tactical requirements. The engineers are in the process of constructing a road to permit road resupply by truck.

f. Two rifle companies in 2/4 TAOR require helo resupply daily which amounts to approximately 8000 lbs daily. The engineers are in the process of clearing a road to forward company areas to permit resupply by truck.

g. Serving of "B" rations will commence with breakfast on 16 May.

h. MSR continues in poor condition. In order to stabilize the deep sand, laterite will have to be hauled from the mountains located inland. This requires dump trucks which at present are much in demand due to priority of effort being directed to construction of the SATS site.

## 12. Logistics situation, 17 May.

a. Shower units established in BSA, RLT CP, and BLT 1/4 CP. Plans provide for same service to BLT 2/4 and BLT 3/3 ASAP.

b. All available RLT-4 dump trucks and TD-18s have been diverted to the airfield construction effort.

c. Laundry unit established in BSA. At this time, capacity is limited to two sets of dungarees per man, on a rotating basis by unit.

d. Unloading operations continuing.

e. A shortage of fortification material exists, particularly sand bags. At present, no sand bags are on hand - 100,000 are on requisition.

## 13. Logistics situation, 18 May.

a. Major RLT-4 engineer effort still being directed to airfield construction.

b. Continuing to improve camp sites and facilities with priority assigned to messhalls and medical facilities. These camp sites are located in the BSA, the RLT CP, BLT 1/4, BLT 2/4, BLT 3/3 and 3d Bn, 12th Marines CP.

c. Deadlined equipment continues to be low, however it is anticipated that due to continued operation in deep sand, failures will increase in cooling systems, drive belts, clutches, transmissions, differentials, U-Joints and sprag units.

14. Logistics Situation, 19 May 1965.

- a. Improvement of dump sites in progress.

15. Weekly logistics summary report for period ending 220000H May.

- a. All units involved in establishment of maintenance and supply installations, and inventory of supplies and equipment.

- b. Commenced laying laterite on MSR exit from beach and road parallel to air strip.

- c. Maximum engineer equipment assistance being provided to airfield construction. This includes operators, and shot-gun riders during hours of darkness.

- d. Strongbacking, decking and screening of medical and mess tents.

- e. Water points established at RLT-4, BLT 1/4, BLT 2/4 and BLT 3/3 in addition to the BSA.

- f. Began fill work for Class II, III and V dumps in BSA.

- g. One laundry unit began operations on 17 May. Two laundry units with dryers arrived on 21 May.

- h. Problem areas.

(1) A requirement exists for cold storage of batteries. Presently, the life of batteries is being greatly reduced due to exposure to heat. This may create a shortage in the near future.

(2) A shortage of 10 wt. oil exists. Requisitions have been submitted to Force Logistics Support Group at DaNang.

(3) Primer, percussion DODAC 1390/N525 for 155mm Howitzer. Requirement for additional 5000 are on order.

(4) Primer, percussion and Elect MK15 Mod 3 for 8" Howitzer. 64 on hand. 1008 on order.

(5) Requirement still exists for improvement of MSR with laterite.

- i. RLT-4 turnaround shipping commenced to arrive on 21 May.

16. Logistics Situation, 23 May.

a. Continuing with projects to improve camp sites, with priority accorded to messhalls and medical facilities, dump sites, water points and MOR and beach exits.

17. Logistics Situation, 24 May.

a. Shortages.

(1) Three general mechanics tool kits. Requirement generated by the additional engineer equipment engaged in airfield construction. Requisitions submitted to FLSG, DaNang.

(2) Require one additional shower unit.

(3) Require one additional water purification unit.

(4) Requisition submitted to FLSG, DaNang for 1000 lbs of lime.

(5) Requirement exists for 100,000 feet of pierced steel planking. Requisition being submitted to FLSG, DaNang.

(6) Sundries packs expended this date.

b. Continuing with projects previously reported.

18. Logistics Situation, 25 May.

a. Submitted requirement for ice cream plant and bakery plant with attendant personnel and equipment for positioning at LSG, Chu Lai. As an interim measure, it is desired that bakery and ice cream products be provided to Chu Lai from DaNang.

19. Logistic Situation, 26 May.

a. Commenced pumping JP4 into fuel farm at a rate of 400 GPM.

20. Logistics Situation, 27 May.

a. 480,000 gallons of JP4 in fuel farm.

b. Det. SvcBn and Bulk Fuel Platoon detached from control of SP Group BRAVO and designated as Logistic Support Group, effective 270800H May.



## 21. Logistic Situation, 28 May.

- a. 600,000 gallons of JP4 in fuel farm.
- b. Continuing with projects previously reported.
- c. CO, 4thMar ltr 5:DNM:jab, 4000 of 28May65 to CG 3dMarDiv set forth a requirement for fencing of the Chu Lai Airfield complex.

## 22. Logistic Situation, 29 May.

- a. Supported strength for the Chu Lai area reached a total of 6960, broken down as follows:

RLT-4	5526
HNCS-10	524
NAG-12	910

- b. Problem supply items.

(1) Adapters for weapons-sight infra-red. 56 are on priority 2 requisition.

(2) Indications are that the following parts will become problem areas with the M-422.

Universal joint assembly	2520-765-4799
Propeller shafts	2520-724-3069
Cone and roller	3110-606-1841

- c. Construction.

(1) Laying of laterite from highway 1 towards the BSA has commenced, with an estimated 25% completed.

(2) Fuel farm 90% completed.

(3) Berm and single strand wire around purchased land, 100% completed.

(4) Strong-backing of medical and messhall tents continuing.

## 23. Logistic Situation, 30 May.

- a. Problem areas include 782 gear, rifle oils, electrical wire and accessories for camp lighting system, brake fluid, SAE-10 motor oil and night firing devices for 81mm mortars. Requisitions have been submitted.

b. A shortage exists for upright and ridge poles for GP tents and lumber, to include material for strongbacking tents. Engineers fabricated a number of upright and ridge poles from available material.

24. Logistic Situation, 31 May.

a. Requisitions bearing priority designator of 2 and 5 have been submitted since arrival in Chu Lai and to date no significant response to any requisitioning has been realized.

b. An undetermined amount of organizational property including mount-out repair parts have been reported missing by units. The unit's rear area supply dump personnel are continually engaged in locating and identifying unit supplies.

MESSAGE NR		DATE/TIME GROUP (OCT)		PRECEDENCE	FLASH	EMERGENCY	OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE	PRIORITY	ROUTINE	DEFERRED
				ACTION						
				INFO						

FROM: BLT 4  
 TO: BLT 1/4, 2/4, RECON BN, MARS 12, MCB 10, REGT ARTY GROUP, C CO. 3RD TKS, SHORE  
 FRAG ORDER #5 PARTY, AT. CO., A CO. 1ST AMTRACS

1. GENERAL. THE PLAN CALLS FOR BLT'S CONTROLLING THEIR TAOR'S RESPONSIBLE FOR SECURITY OF AREAS NOT OCCUPIED BY SERVICE OR SUPPORT UNITS. BLT'S WILL COORDINATE ALL DEFENSIVE PLANS AND FIRE SUPPORT OF ALL UNITS WITHIN THEIR TAOR.
2. EXECUTION.
  - A. BLT 1/4 RESPONSIBLE FOR SECURITY AND COORDINATION OF ALL DEFENSIVE EFFORTS WITHIN TAOR #1.
  - B. BLT 2/4 RESPONSIBLE FOR SECURITY AND COORDINATION OF ALL DEFENSIVE EFFORTS WITHIN TAOR #2.
  - C. MCB-10 - PROVIDES SECURITY FOR OWN AREA COORDINATES WITH LUCKY BAG BLT 2/4 TO ENSURE MUTUAL SUPPORT.
  - D. MAB-12 PROVIDES SECURITY OF OWN AREA COORDINATES WITH BLT 2/4 TO ENSURE MUTUAL SUPPORT.
  - E. BSA. PROVIDES SECURITY OF OWN AREA USING K CO 3/9 AS A DEFENSIVE FORCE. DEVELOPS ALTERNATE PLANS TO PROVIDE FOR SECURITY OF THE BSA WITHOUT K CO 3/9.
  - F. REGT ARTY GROUP. PROVIDES FOR OWN SECURITY. BE PREPARED TO AUGMENT BSA SECURITY. BE PREPARED TO SUPPORT BY FIRE THE DEFENSIVE AND COUNTERATTACK PLANS OF ALL RLT-4 UNITS. DEVELOPE A FIRE PLAN TO COVER KNOWN AVENUES OF APPROACH OR GROSS ROUTE USED BY THE VC. PLOT CONCENTRATIONS, BARRAGES, ~~DANGER~~ AND BOXES TO SUPPORT DEFENSIVE RLT AND BLT PLANS AND ALSO IN KNOWN POSITIONS OR SUSPECTED POSITIONS THAT ARE OCCUPIED AT NIGHT.
  - G. 3rd RECON BN. CONTINUE TO PROVIDE SCREENING OF LEFT PLANK OPCOM OF BLT 1/4. ~~GENERAL SUPPORT OF BLT 1/4~~. BE PREPARED TO CONDUCT LONG RANGE RECON PATROLS WITHIN AND ADJACENT TO RLT TAOR ON ORDER AFTER 3/3-05TS

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DATE-TIME GROUP (OCT)
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5-12-62-51



MESSAGE NR		DATE/TIME GROUP (GCT)		PRECEDENCE	FLASH	EMERGENCY	OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE	PRIORITY	ROUTINE	DEFERRED
				ACTION						
				INFO						

HERE.

- H. CO C 3D TANK BN. BE PREPARED TO PROVIDE 1 PLATOON OF TANKS TO BE USED WITH RLT RESERVE.
- I. CO A 3D ANTRAC BN. BE PREPARED TO FURNISH LVT'S TO TRANSPORT RLT RESERVE TO BLOCKING POSITIONS WITHIN TAOR.
- J. CO B 3D AT BN. BE PREPARED TO PROVIDE ONE PLATOON TO RLT RESERVE (AT'S BEING USED IN BSA)
- K. RLT RESERVE. CO H, 2/4 IS DESIGNATED RLT RESERVE, DEVELOPES DETAILED PLANS AND CONDUCTS REHEARSALS TO
  - (1) BE ABLE TO MOVE OUT AS A COMPANY REINFORCED WITH LVT'S, ONTOS AND TANKS.
  - (2) BE FAMILIAR WITH MAIN C COUNTERATTACK ROUTE WHICH IS ROUTE 1 AND ALTERNATE ROUTE ~~XXXXXXXX~~ COORDINATED WITH BLTS.
  - (3) BE PREPARED TO ESTABLISH BLOCKING POSITIONS VICINITY OC 550019 OR 506058 ~~OR~~ FOR FURTHER COMMITMENT FROM THESE BLOCKING POSITIONS.
  - (4) BE PREPARED TO MOVE TO BLOCKING POSITIONS EITHER FLANK OF BSA.

### 3. COORDINATING INSTRUCTIONS.

- A. SUBMIT COPIES OF DEFENSIVE AND COUNTER ATTACK PLANS TO THIS HEADQUARTERS.
- B. BLT'S ESTABLISH AMBUSHES OVER KNOWN VC ROUTES. SUBMIT AMBUSH PLANS TO THIS HEADQUARTER. PRIOR TO 1700, DAILY
- C. ALL UNITS BE PREPARED TO COME UP ON COMMON RADIO NET.
- D. LIAISON OFFICERS BRIEF 1700 DAILY.

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DATE/TIME GROUP (GCT)
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FLT-4  
CAMP SCHWAB, OKINAWA  
272400I Apr11 1965

Annex U (Distribution) to Operation Plan 202-65.

Ref: None

Time: H (Effective on arrival in area of operation)

<u>UNIT AND ACTIVITY</u>	<u>COPIES</u>
CMC	2
CG, FMFPAC	2
CG, 2ND MARDIV	10
CTF-7/CG 3D MEF	8
CG, 3RD MEB	10
CG, 9TH MEB	2
CG, 1ST MARBRIG	2
COMPHEBRON ONE	2
FLT-4	12
CO, 1ST CO, 4TH MAR	2
CO, LHM 161	12
CO, BLT 1/4	12
CO, BLT 2/4	12
CO, BLT 3/4	2
CO, 3D BN, 3D MAR	1
CO, HQ BN, 3D MARDIV	1
CO, 3D BN, 12TH MAR	5
CO, 3D RECON BN	5
CO, Co B, 3D ENGR BN	2
CO, Co C, 3D TK BN	2
CO, Co B, 3D AT BN	2
CO, Co A, 3D AMTRAC BN	2
CO, Co C, 3D MT BN	2
CO, SHORE PARTY GROUP	4
USS PRINCETON (LPH-5)	1
USS HENRICO (APA-45)	10
USS LENAWEE (APA-195)	4
USS BEXAR (APA-237)	1
USS UNION (AKA-106)	1
USS WASHBURN (AKA-108)	1
USS THOMASTON (LSD-28)	1
USS COMSTOCK (LSD-19)	1
USS WHITFIELD COUNTY (LST-1169)	1
USS WASHOE COUNTY (LST-1165)	1
USS VERNON COUNTY (LST-1161)	1
USS WESTCHESTER COUNTY (LST-1167)	1
NMCB (10)	4

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BY COMMAND OF COLONEL SUPRAS

D. N. McDOWELL  
Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps  
Executive Officer

DISTRIBUTION: Annex U (Distribution) to Operation Plan 202-65.

OFFICIAL:

*R. L. Trevino*  
R. L. TREVINO  
Major, U. S. Marine Corps  
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