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HEADQUARTERS  
2nd Battalion, 5th Marines  
1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
APO San Francisco, California 96602

3/CWL/jrp  
1 Aug 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, 5th Marines

Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1-31 July 1966

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2  
(b) DivO 5750.1  
(c) RegtO 5750.1A

Encl: (1) Organizational Data and Sequential Listing of Significant  
Events from 1-31 July 1966

1. In accordance with reference (a) through (c), enclosure (1) is  
submitted.

2/5

*Walter Moore*  
WALTER MOORE

5TH MAR S&C FILES

00426-66  
COPY NO. 2 OF 10

2nd BN 5th MAR  
SEC # 00239-66  
COPY 14 OF 15

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ENCLOSURE (4)

## COMMANDER'S NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the month of July the battalion was involved in a variety of activities within the TAOR as well as outside the TAOR.

An OP team was inserted on Hill 270 for a period of 360 hours with a total of 8 sightings. Additional OP's were inserted in the RAOR on Hill's 227 & 410, with negative results. A one half day on sweep of the KHUONG THO complex was conducted between Hills 69 & 35 and 76 VCS were apprehended, and forwarded to ITT.

Resupply of Co E located in THANH MY TRUNG (1) was conducted by LVT to ease the load on helicopter resupply missions. This proved successful and provided a show of force in the areas between Hill 69 & 76 and is continuing.

Co H on Hill 22 utilized LVT E1's with the live charges effectively in clearing field of fire & detonating possible mines and booby traps.

Continued progress was noted in the training and utilization of the Combined Action Squad in LY TIN, fam firing of weapons and marksmanship instruction was conducted plus the training of two PF Corpsman who have displayed a high degree of talent by test and performance. These two PF Corpsman will undergo two weeks OJT on the ward at 1st Med Bn then return to the Combined Action Squad.

The Command Group and two Flts. of Co G provided security for downed helicopters on 10 July and Co H (-) reacted to a Recon sighting in the PHUOC KHACH area, but had negative contact. In each of the above actions the reaction time by the units was very good. In fact upon Co H return the same UH-34's picked up the Co G group at the 2/5 LZ.

Increased patrol activity was continued within the TAOR, as were the use of ambushes, which resulted in denial of routes of communication to the VC. Co E's continued pacification of the THANH MY TRUNG complex has shown excellent results in that the school has been opened and more families have returned to the village. The continued joint effort with Mr. NOTO's PF's has increased the all round security of the hamlet area.

July saw a Battalion Command Group with Co G (-) report to the CLDC for air field security for a one week period.

Of note in the personnel aspect, was the joining of 55 Marines from other units within the Division with August and September RTD's. This really didn't help the personnel strength since the men would rotate within a 30-45 day period.

Lt. GRIGGS, of Co G represented the Division in the Counter-Mine/Booby trap study conducted by III MAF, the results of which will soon be forthcoming.

The Battalion has continued to effect improvements in the OP complex as follows:

- a. The new motor pool is completed and in use.
- b. The new shower is completed and in use.

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- c. The messhall is halfway completed and the final construction should be completed during August.
- d. Battalion Supply is now relocated.
- e. A wet weather road to Hill 69 has been completed as has improvement on the new LZ, plus several terracing projects to improve the Area for living area as well as to cope with the drainage problem.

Assistance from the 9th Eng Bn and MCB has been excellent in completing the above mentioned projects.

A double apron defensive wire complex is 90% completed plus reconstruction and relocation of defensive bunkers on Hill 69.

The Battalion Civil Affairs and Med Cap program continues to grow and the liaison with local officials has increased during the period covered by this report. Movies were shown in LY TIN and THANH MY TRUNG with excellent results and will be repeated monthly due to the fine acceptance.

The Battalion has completed the first session of a 5 day indoctrination course for new Marines joining the Battalion and from all reports and observations achieved the mission established with excellent results.

A change was made in the location of the sentry booth from the entrance to the Hill 69 area to the railroad track near Route 1. This precludes "tourists" from other units from creating problems at the back door of the Battalion and is working out very well.

Two USO type entertainment groups have appeared at the Battalion during July and were well received. Also American Red Cross ladies visited and conducted group entertainment.

In summation, the battalion shows a positive improvement in all areas of combat readiness, and unit esprit with continued command emphasis in all areas of improvement are being stressed.

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SECTION I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Location During Reporting Period
  - a. Chau Lai, Vietnam
2. Period Covered by Report
  - a. 1 July - 31 July 1966
3. Commanders Staff and Principal Subordinates

<u>Billet</u>	<u>Name</u>
Commanding Officer	Lt Col W. MOORE
Executive Officer	Maj. R.E. MAIDEN
S-1	1stLt J.J. COWART
S-2	Capt. R.D. HEMENEZ
S-3	Maj. L.E. WOOD
S-4	Capt. M.C. REASE
Communications Officer	1stLt J.L. REILLY
Supply Officer	2ndLt D.W. MONTANA
CO H&S Company	1stLt J.T. JENKINS
CO Company E	Capt. J.L. COOPER
CO Company F	1stLt G.S. BURGESS
CO Company G	Capt. J.M. GEMNER
CO Company H	Capt R.D. HUGHES

SECTION II - S-1

1. Personnel
  - a. Average monthly strength. Task Organization was as shown below during the period covered.

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
H&S	19	316	3	47
Co E	3	167		
Co F	3	163		
Co G	4	168		
Co H	3	165		

- b. Casualties

<u>KIA</u>	<u>WCA</u>	<u>BATTLE</u>		<u>NON-BATTLE</u>		<u>DEATH</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
		<u>DCW</u>	<u>MIA</u>	<u>SERIOUS</u>	<u>NON-SERIOUS</u>		
2	15	1	0	9	24	1	52

- c. The following number of personnel joined during the period covered.

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
1	191	0	3

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d. The following number of personnel were transferred during the period covered.

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
2	76	0	3

Chargeable personnel strengths increased slightly during the period. However, approximately 50 of the personnel who joined came from the 1st Marines, and have less than 2 months to serve on their overseas tour. At the close of the period, critical personnel shortages are as follows:

- (1) 8 Lieutenants 0302
- (2) 2 Gunnery Sergeants 0369
- (3) 8 Staff Sergeants 0369

The critical shortage of Staff NCO's is compounded by a lack of Sergeants and Corporals to fill vacant billets. In addition, on 1 August we will lose an additional 12 Staff NCO's and Sergeants to the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines and in so doing will create additional critical shortages.

e. Problem Areas

(1) Although the overall strength appears adequate to fair, there is a distinct lack of experienced leaders filling fire team and squad leader billets. The replacement program of experienced NCO's is sorely deficient. This applies not only to the 03 MOS's but to administration as well.

(2) Personnel continue to arrive in country without having travel liquidated by the staging battalion or intermediate command.

(3) Many personnel arrive without Service or Health records.

(4) Administrative supplies have been insufficient to non-existent.

f. Discipline, Law and Order

(1) Courts-Martials tried: 2 Pending: 4

(2) Non-judicial punishment

(a) By Battalion Commanders: 4

(b) By Company Commanders: 9

g. Morale, PX and Postal Services

(1) Morale continues to be excellent.

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(2) Our branch PX has continued to provide good service to the troops, and is much patronized and appreciated.

(3) Postal Service during the majority of the period has been excellent; however, near the close of the period the airlines strike had far-reaching effects on the mail delivery.

(4) Battalion Special Services continues to support the troops with games and athletic equipment. During this period we were fortunate in having a Stateside Variety Show, and a local entertainment group here for shows. In addition we were visited by two Red Cross workers who organized and played games with the troops.

#### h. Chaplain's Activities

(1) In the month just completed, the Battalion Chaplain has held Catholic Mass on twenty (20) occasions (Sundays and weekdays) for a total of five hundred and sixty-nine (569) personnel. Said Masses were held in the Battalion area and with our troops in the field; plus providing Catholic coverage for the 5th Marines Regimental CP, 1/5 and twice at the First Medical Battalion Chapel.

(2) The regular Sunday Protestant Worship services were conducted each Sunday at the 2/5 Chapel by Chaplain G.M. HINDERER, the Regimental Chaplain.

(3) A Lutheran Communion Service is held each Thursday morning at 1130.

(4) Due to lack of response, the Tuesday afternoon Bible Study classes had to be discontinued.

(5) Three Memorial Services were held for deceased personnel of this Battalion; one (1) for a deceased member of 1/5.

(6) From 8 July through 22 July, the Battalion Chaplain was hospitalized at 1st Med Battalion with shigellosis.

(7) During his absence, Lt. M. ONDO, CHC, USNR fulfilled the three (3) regular Sunday commitments on 10 July 1966; Captain JOHN WISSING, CHC, USN, the Division Chaplain celebrated Mass the 2/5 Chapel on 17 July 1966.

## SECTION III - S-2

1. General

a. Routine intelligence processing during July was accomplished by compiling intelligence information received from 5th Marine Regiment, 1st CIT, 9th ITF, LY BINH District Headquarters, TAM KY District Headquarters and 1st MARDIV (G-2).

b. Patrol debriefing forms from 1st Recon Bn were also used.

c. Dissemination was made by spot report, daily intsum and briefings.

d. S-2 scouts manned various OP's throughout this report.

2. Briefing

a. Briefings were held daily at 0730. These are given by the intelligence Officer or intelligence chief and cover the intelligence matter during the 24 hour period.

3. Reports

a. Spot reports and daily intsum are submitted.

b. One report concerning reward money was submitted to Regiment.

c. The S-2 submitted a number of national agency checks, background investigations and certificates of clearances.

4. Statistics

a.	VC KIA (CONFIRMED)	13
b.	VC KIA (PROBABLE)	18
c.	VC WIA (CONFIRMED)	8
d.	VC WIA (PROBABLE)	13
e.	VC CAPTIVES	22
f.	VC SUSPECTS	143

1 - US M-1 RIFLE

1 - FRENCH MAT-49

2 - US CARBINE M-1

2 - CHICOM FRAG GRENADE

4 - US M-26 GRENADE

1 - US M-1 GRENADE

- 4 - BEAR TRAPS
- 1 - UNK TYPE OF BOOBY TRAP
- 1 - 105MM RD BOOBY TRAPPED
- 1 - ELECTRICAL FIRING DEVICE
- 2 - 81MM RPS BOOBY TRAPPED
- 1 - 155MM RD BOOBY TRAPPED
- 1 - BOUNCING BETTY
- 1 - CARBINE AMMO POUCH
- 5 - CARTRIDGES, CHICOM CARBINE
- 2 - MAGAZINE, CHICOM SMG W/51 RPS
- .45 CLIPS & 7.62 CASINGS
- GEAR SIMILAR TO FIRST AID POUCH



REFORM

## SECTION IV - S-3

1. General. The 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines continued to maintain its assigned TAOR in the CHU LAI Combat Base. During most of the reporting period one Company (rein) was OpCon to the CHU LAI Defense Command and one Company (rein) by one Platoon primarily assigned responsibility for the defense of the 5th Marine Regimental CP and 2nd Bn, 11th Marines artillery position in the Hill 35 area BT435078. Several outposts were established within the TAOR and on occasion several squads of this battalion provided security for Recon unit Outposts in the RAOR.

These commitments cut down considerably on 2/5's operational capabilities; but the battalion continued to patrol aggressively throughout its area of responsibility, establishing a Company Patrol Base in the Hamlet of THANH MY TRUNG (1) BT447029, which has proven to be highly successful in pacifying the area, as well as denying food, shelter, and information to the enemy.

Several innovations were initiated on a continuing basis and have proved successful. Among these are utilizing LVTs for resupply missions to our outlying units, and the use of the LVTC-1's communication capability as a mobile Command Post. Although no major operations were undertaken during the month of July, several Company size Search & Destroy missions were conducted in the TAOR (ref Chronological Sequence of Events).

A Combined Action Squad/Popular Forces unit was established at the beginning of this reporting period in the village of LY TIN BT466080. The CAS is comprised of one Marine Officer, thirteen enlisted Marines, one Navy Corpsman and 50 Popular Forces personnel. The Marines have provided formal training and instruction as well as practical application for the PFs. They have produced a capable force that has assumed the patrol responsibility for appropriate portion of the TAOR.

Formal training in the battalion was held to a minimum due to the operational commitments, but training in the field as related to combat techniques was extensively conducted. A Troop Indoctrination Program was established for new personnel arriving from COMUS. The first class of 22 men received 30 hours of instruction and training (Ref: Chronological Sequence of Events).

The Combat Operations Center functioned effectively and efficiently during this period. Briefings on the operational, logistical, and personnel situation were presented at 0730 daily in the COC bunker with representatives of all companies, sections and attached units present. Patrols and ambushes were coordinated for the most aggressive and complete TAOR coverage possible. Future months will see active planning toward the end that the battalion's TAOR will be expanded in the fulfillment of our goal and mission.

REFORM

The following was the chronological sequence of events within the 2nd Battalion 5th Marines TAOR for the period from 010001H to 312400H July 1966:

010550H a fire team ambush from Co E, BT432042 observed 3 VC in OD uniforms w/helmets and weapons at BT431041 when they saw the Marines VC ran into brush. Ambush fired 2 M-79 rds and 30 s/a, resulting in 1 VC WIA. VC escaped into village of Ky Long (2) BT440045. Subsequent search disclosed blood stains, but contact could not be reestablished with the enemy.

012100H a reinforced fire team ambush from Co E, located BT420043 received 250 rds s/a and a/w fire, from vic BT428045. Ambush immediately returned fire with 1000 rds s/a and a/w fire and continued to engage the enemy. Two reinforced platoons were dispatched from Co E, CP to assist the ambush. VC estimated to be of company size (30 to 60 men) with s/a, a/w, and at least 2 MGs and radio, dressed in gray uniforms. When reinforcements arrived VC broke contact and fled in direction of Ky Long (1) BT430052. The 3rd Plt Co E, while moving forward counted 9 VC KIA and observed 11 more full. Approximately 2000 rds s/a a/w fire was expended. At 012354H artillery and mortar TOT was fired on area. 270 rds arty. and 196 81mm mortar rds were fired. At 020304H moved into area. During the night heard constant movement throughout the village and surrounding hills but was unable to reestablish contact with the enemy. At first light the area was intensively searched disclosing one badly mangled body dressed in khaki shorts. Numerous blood trails and indications of bodies being dragged into the hills were noticed. A thorough search of the area failed to disclose any more bodies; however, from the amount of blood and blood trails an estimate of 5 KIA and 12 WIA by artillery fire was made by the Co Commander on the spot. Overall coverage of village by artillery and mortar fire was excellent. Area was completely demolished and numerous fires were started. Continued to search area but no further contact was made.

021100H a reinforced fire team patrol from Co E, BT438038 received heavy s/a fire from estimated 5 to 10 VC. Patrol returned fire w/200 rds s/a and 12 M-79 rds; one M-79 rd was observed to hit VC. Enemy broke contact and patrol withdrew to secure LZ for Med Evac of 1 USMC WIA. Enemy losses estimated 1 VC KIA probable and 2 VC WIA probable.

021200H a platoon patrol from Co H BT412095 observed 2 VC carrying carbines going into hut at BT418092. Dispatched one fire team to intercept VC but VC saw Marines and fled into brush. Fired 15 rds at VC and searched area but was unable to establish contact.

020345H Elements of 2nd Battalion 5th Marines commenced a Search/Destroy mission in the Hamlets of Tien Xuan (1) and Tien Xuan (2) BT4109-BT4210 (ref: 2nd Bn, 5th Marines Frag Order 16-66). Co G, displaced from Hill 69 BT464074 at 020345. At 020440 Co H, from Hill 35 BT435073 proceeded into blocking positions BT420095 and BT423091. At 020630 Co H, after one

platoon Co G, moved into blocking position BT21105, the other platoon Co G, supported by tanks and ontos commenced sweep of Hamlets Tien Xuan (1-2). At 020640H the Battalion Command Group displaced from Hill 69 to BT426113 where it remained until termination of the operation. Approximately 35 VCS were picked up and screened, 16 VCS detained for interrogation at ITT. One USMC stepped on bear trap but was uninjured, bear trap returned to CP. A Med Cap was conducted in the area of operation treating approx. 200 women and children. No enemy contact was made during the operation, and it was terminated at 021415H.

022145H a fire team reinforced ambush from Co E enroute to ambush site activated what appeared to be a pressure type booby trapped 105mm arty rd at BT423022, resulting in 3 USMC MIAs; Med Evac to 1st Med Bn.

031135H a fire team (rein) on S&D mission from Co E, at BT438042 received 2rds s/a fire from vic BT438043. Patrol returned fire with 3rds M-79 and made sweep of area without establishing contact.

Subj: Weekly Training Report/Psy War Report

(1) Due to operational commitments during the week of 27 June-3 July 1966 no formal instruction was conducted.

(2) Loud speakers were used to direct and control local civilians in three hamlets during two company size operations.

(3) Division Scout Dog Teams were utilized during several village sweeps. Although no enemy contact was made it gave the units the opportunity to become familiar with the Scout Dog Team capability and how they can best be utilized in future operations.

Subj: CP Locations

Bn CP - BT464072  
Co E - BT447029  
Co F - BT464072  
Co G - BT464072  
Co H - BT435079

031300H Co E fire team (+) patrol apprehended 35 VCS who were armed with cane knives in vic BT428045. Suspects claimed to be local villagers. Patrol brought suspects to Co E CP where they were further screened and released.

031330H Co E fire team (+) S&D patrol received 2 rds sniper fire from vic BT438047. Patrol returned fire with 50 rds M-60 MG. Searched area, no contact.

031355H Co E fire team (+) S&D patrol at BT439043 received 1rd sniper fire from vic BT436045 resulting in 1 USMC MIA Med Evac at 031421H (Marine later DOW). While patrol secured LZ Med Evac Chopper received heavy a/w fire from vic Ky Long (2) BT436054. Patrol deployed to sweep Ky Long (2) and were taken under fire by an estimated 10-15 VC as they closed on hamlet. VC pulled back, disclosing extensive trench and underground bunker network. During sweep by patrol KLONDIKE aircraft flew over hamlet and was fired on from trench line 80 meters in front of Marine position at that time, Marines returned fire with M-14s and hand grenades. Heavy fire

was silenced but was unable to physically search enemy position due to wire obstacles and terrain. Patrol withdrew from hamlet. Called in 10 rds 81mm mortar, 8 106 rds on suspected VC a/w position, a large secondary explosion resulted. Patrol expended 400 rds s/a a/w fire, 500 rds M-60 machinegun, 40 M-79 rds, and three hand grenades.

031715H Co H S&D patrol picked up 3 VCS in vic BT416097-BT416091, VCS were turned into Regt. CP.

031800H Four concentrations HE Quick and two concentrations 155 delay fuse fired on Ky Long (2) in preparation for Co E, sweep of hamlet BT436045. Ref: 031355H, entry

031834H Co E. (-) Commenced sweep of Ky Long (2) vic BT432043, found extensive trench and fighting holes which had been mostly destroyed by 81mm mortar and arty prep fires. One VCS picked up and forwarded to ITT.

032115H While part of Co E swept westward through Ky Long (2), 3rd pl Co E received approx 25 rds s/a fire from an estimated 3 VC located by muzzle flashes at BT431044. Platoon returned fire with s/a and 14 rds 81mm mortars. Under illumination in what the Company Commander described as "the most perfect fire mission he has ever seen" 3 VC KIA (prob). Unable to search area because of distance and mission of the company.

032210H 3rd platoon Co E securing BT435079 received 20 rds s/a from unknown number of VC. Platoon returned fire with 30-35 rds s/a and a fire team (noise) was sent to search area without contact.

041200H Fire team patrol from Co E observed 4 men walking down trail BT434044 in Ky Long (2), attempted to hide when Marines approached. Men were carrying cane knives and dressed in regular clothing. Patrol apprehended them and forwarded to ITT.

041400H Co E Company Commander was approached by Hamlet Chief who identified VCS (ref: 041200H entry) as local villagers, VCS were released to custody of PFs to gain favor of Hamlet Chief and avoid incident.

041300H A squad size ambush moving into ambush site at BT420024 observed 10 VC with machine gun, setting up an ambush at BT422023. Squad maneuvered to within 50 meters of the VC and fired 150 rds mg, 200 rds s/a and 10 M-79 rds. VC returned fire and fled into brush. An additional squad from Co E was sent to reinforce and search out area. While this sqd was searching area received 50 rds machine gun fire. Sqd returned fire with 150 rds mg, 150 rds s/a and 10 M-79 rds, estimated 3 VC KIA (prob), 3 VC WIA (prob). Unable to search area due to heavy undergrowth and poor night light. Search revealed nothing.

051715H Fire team patrol from Co H BT425091 tripped a booby trapped hand grenade, resulting in 1 USMC WIA, Med Evac.

052000H Two VC set off fire flare at BT420023. The flare was in a defensive position directly in front of the VC. The flare was lit and the VC fled into the brush.

and searched area, no further contact.

052200H The 1st plt from Co E BT459023 observed 8 VC at BT459022. Plt opened fire on VC with 200 rds MG, 180 s/a and 5 M-79 rds. Enemy returned fire with heavy MG and a/w fire, contact lasting 10 min. VC broke contact running into heavy brush. Conducted limited search of area and called for 81mm mortar support but 81's unable to reach area. At first light searched area, discovered two large pools of blood, and other blood signs. Estimated 2 VC KIA and 2 VC WIA.

060710H A plt of Co H on S&D mission BT412095 received 4 rds s/a fire from vic BT410097. Fire team dispatched to check area, no contact.

060814H A plt S&D from Co H observed 2 VC in ambush site BT407102. Plt opened fire, 2 VC KIA, captured M-1 rifle, French Sub-MG, hand grenades, and other articles. Bodies and captured material returned to Bn CP.

060615H A plt pat from Co H burned hut believed to be VC classroom. At BT415095 burning resulted in large secondary explosion.

061630H Platoon pat Co H on S&D mission in vic BT424202, BT409097 apprehended 27 Vietnamese during operation for screening. 8 VCS were detained and forwarded to ITT. Three of these believed to belong to Farmers Association. Other Vietnamese released after screening.

061800H Ly Tin District Headquarters reported the following intelligence information (reliability not stated): One VC Company located vicinity BT357144. This information passed to 1/5 S-2.

062030H Platoon perimeter Co E BT425091, LVT activated unk explosive device, possibly 105mm shell placed as anti mechanized mine. 1 USMC WIA, 1 USN WIA. Med Evac completed at 062110H.

062100H Co E Bt448029, acting on intelligence information passed from Regt CP. Fired a 81mm mortar mission on suspected location of Local Force Co K-35. Heard one large secondary explosion. Area searched in daylight no signs of any enemy force.

070200H Co E plt perimeter BT448033 observed a trip flare go off 200 meters from position. Fired 3 60mm mortar rds on area. No enemy sighted.

070815H Co E sqd at Ky Phu (2) reported that the local Popular Forces Commander had permanently displaced from Ky Phu (2) for unk location. District Chief, Ly Tin Dist HQ notified. He advised Marine squad be withdrawn permanently from Ky Phu (2). At 071625H, Squad was directed to leave the PF base at Ky Phu (2) and rejoin Co E at BT448029.

072215H A fire team (rain) ambush/patrol from Co E (enroute to ambush site at BT423093, heard movement to their rear, set up hasty ambush. 2 VC were observed coming down trail, ambush opened fire. VC returned fire 2-4 additional VC opened fire from a position approx. 100 meters in back of ambush. Marines engaged new target. VC broke contact. Limited search was conducted found M-1 casings but no further contact made. At first light area was searched again with negative results.

080440H a LVT used in the 2nd Bn CP perimeter defence at BT467072 received 4 rds S/A fire from an undetermined source. 1 rd 81mm illumination was fired but unable to locate any VC.

081200H 2nd plt S&D from Co H fired 4 line charges from LVTs at BT422072 and BT423070 in a mine clearing operation on suspected areas. Three secondary explosions were observed.

091645H Co E CP observed 10 VC at BT423048 called in 50 rds 81mm mortar fire. VC fired 1 white parachute flare when first round landed. Unable to physically search area due to distance. Estimated 5 VC WIA probable.

091715H Hamlet Chief brought a villager to Co E CP. Villager stated he had been captured by VC and questioned at BT440013. Villager pointed out location of VC camp; fired 100 rds 81mm mortar on suspect area. Unable to physically search area because of distance.

092230H a fire team ambush fired on 2 men walking down trail at BT458037 searched area and found 1 VCS WIA and 1 unharmed VCS, Med Evac VCS WIA and other VCS retained at Co E CP.

092315H a fireteam LP from Co H BT433088 received 2 rds S/A fire unknown source, fired illumination but unable to locate any VC.

092320H a squad size ambush Co F BT420096 heard extensive movement in banana grove at BT424094, fired 45 rds 81mm mortar with unknown results. Shortly after completion of mortar mission ambush received 1 hand grenade thrown into position from 30 meters NE. Patrol opened fire on area and expended 60 rds S/A, 15 rds MG, and 20 rds M-79. Search of area at first light revealed no signs of enemy activity.

100715H security plt at AN TAN Bridge, apprehended 1 VCS attempting to cross bridge without ID Card. VCS was screened and taken to TTT.

101415H personnel of H&S Co MT section discovered 1 M-26 hand grenade booby-trapped in C ration can at BT468071. Personnel disarmed and destroyed grenade.

Subj: Weekly Training Report/Psy War Report

a. During the period 2-10 July 1966, 14 1/2 hours of formal instruction was held by Co C, Stand By Company.

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>TIME</u>
FAM firing (all organic weapons)	1 hr.
Handling POW	1 "
Current Events	3 "
Sanitation/Hygiene	1 "
Arm/Hand Signals	1/2 "
Civil Affairs	1 "
Inspections	2 "

Subj: CP Locations

Bn CP - BT464072

Co H - BT422072

Co E - BT423048

Co G - BT464072  
Co H - BT435079

102330H LVT used on Bn CP perimeter defense BT466074 observed movement vic BT467075, fired 5 rds MG, observed VC running, fired 5 more rds MG and 2 rds ill. No further contact resulted.

110840H Co G (-) providing security for downed helicopter BT288107 received 5 rds s/a fire from vic BT288097, returned fire with 10 rds s/a and 10 rds 60mm mortar. Enemy fire ceased.

110930H A sqd patrol S&D Co H BT414092 observed a VC with Carbine climbing from a well, fired 15 rds MG at VC. VC fled into brush, patrol pursued VC. Captured what appeared to be the same man but without weapon, searched area without finding weapon, picked up 1 VCS female. Sent both VCS to ITT.

110940H Two H-34s on station over Co G at BT288107. (ref: 110840H entry), One H-34 shot down by enemy s/a fire while trying to lift tail section of downed helicopter. Enemy fire coming from vic BT278109. Co G returned enemy fire while other H-34 picked up downed crew.

111000H Co G perimeter around downed chopper BT288107 received sporadic s/a fire from enemy vic BT278109. Air Strike called in on enemy position firing ceased.

111300H A sqd S&D Co E observed 3 VC w/rifles moving on ridge line vic BT439037. Patrol opened fire to pin VC down, while a sqd from 1st Flt Co E was sent to flank VC. VC captured but unable to find weapons. Suspects Helo Evac to ITT.

#### Late Entry

101340H Two Platoons Co H, and Co H Comd Gp were Helicopter-lifted to vic BT375050 to check on suspected VC locations reported by Recon Team.

101415H Platoon Co H conducting sweep of suspect valley BT377053 discovered several caves and huts, 1 M-26 grenade rigged with a pressure type triggering device, mine destroyed in place. Huts and Caves cleared,

101440H Cakewalk (Recon unit), spotted 12 VC crossing rice fields, directing Hules on target. 101530H reported results of Hule strike: VC dispersed, no reported casualties.

101515H Platoon S&D Co H apprehended a total of 15 VCS these were screened and 1 male, 5 female, and 3 Children evacuated to ITT. During continuing sweep of Co H platoons numerous punji stakes, fresh digging, and 1 cave were discovered in vic BT364063. Cave and punji stakes destroyed. 1 pair black pajamas and VC first aid pouch were picked up and returned to Bn S-2, 1 bear trap picked up and returned in vic BT366055. Apparent VC harboring site discovered vic BT378051 appeared to have been recently used, area marked for B&I fires.

101830H All units Co H, Helicopter-lifted from area and returned to Co H CP.

101830H An Air Bridge security BT467057 picked up 1 VCS  
VCS taken to ITT.

101905H Co G was helilifted from Hill 69 to LZ vic BT288107 to provide security for downed helicopter due to mechanical failure.

101935H All units Co G established inside defense perimeter around downed chopper.

131940H Another chopper down due to enemy fire 200 meters from Co G position BT288107. Crew evacuated, helicopter burned completely. Artillery fire requested on suspected enemy position.

111155H 1 USMC WIA Co G, by friendly air strike vic 288107, WIA Med Evac.

111200H Co G sweeping area of air strikes apprehended 2 VCS BT290104, 1 VCS WIA by frag grenade used to clear cave he was hiding in. 2VCS helo evac to Bn BAS and ITT.

111400H Co G picked up several items of equipment and documents; material sent to Bn S-2. Items located vic BT290104-PT 297106.

111602H All units Co G returned to Bn CP.

112345H Fire team ambush Co E BT442037 received 40 rds s/a fire from 4 VC PT442038. Ambush returned fire with 50 rds MG, 50 rds s/a, and 5 M-79 rds, searched area no further contact.

120320H Fire team ambush from N/S Co BT478055 observed VC moving in tree line approx 50 meters from ambush site. Fired 10 rds s/a at VC, enemy fled; unable to establish contact.

120435H Fire team ambush from N/S Co BT478055 received s/a and a/w fire, Patrol broke contact after returning fire with s/a and M-79 rds, withdrew a short distance. Patrol returned to ambush site 1/2 hour later, found evidence of 3 bodies having been dragged away; estimated 3 VC WIA.

120800H Sqd patrol Co H located a 106mm rd rigged with a pressure type firing device at BT428088, Mine blown in place.

131745H A villager reported to Marines at Co E CP, that he had observed 4 VC vic BT429012, Vc were spotted by Marines and 12 106mm rds fired at the enemy. Searched area at first light with negative results.

141305H Sqd S&P from Co E observed 7 uniformed VC BT429044, fired 11 rds 106mm, 80 rds HE, and 25 rds WP from 81mm mortars. Checked area apprehended 2VCS, no other contact was made.

141250H Sqd S&P Co E discovered unk type of booby trap on trail, BT439045 Called for EOD team, that discovered additional booby traps consisting of a ChiCom grenade, 105mm rd within 20 meters of 1 US hand grenade. All destroyed in place by EOD team.

On this date 4 July 1966 2nd Bn 5th Marines commenced to utilize LVTs in a resupply mission to out-lying units of the battalion. The mission was a success and LVT will be used to augment helo resupply of the battalion in the future.

150915H and 150940H 1 squad S&P patrol Co H discovered 2 81mm mortar shells with s/a firing devices at BT445062 and BT445063. Both rds destroyed.



161035H Bn CP perimeter BT465074 received 5 rds s/a fire from unk source, patrol searched area with negative results.

During a 2 Company (-) sweep conducted between the hours 0900-1300, 16 July 1966 in the vic Khuong Tho (1) BT452075, a total of 87 VCS were apprehended and screened. 76 of these were forwarded to ITT for interrogation. 1 tunnel BT444073 4 by 14 meters was destroyed by Co G, 1 8 inch bear trap and a C ration can rigged as a possible warning device BT458075 were picked up and returned to Bn CP. A LVT Command tractor was effectively utilized by the Comd Grp as a mobile CP for the above operation.

161505H A column of LVTs on resupply mission from Hill 76 BT451038 to Hill 35 BT435076 detonated a small mine of unk type at BT442056. No damage or injuries were sustained.

170025H The perimeter defense of Co H BT433089, received four 10-15 rd bursts from an a/w and approx 20 frag grenades from an estimated 4 VC, resulting in 3 USMC WIAs. Marines returned fire 50 rds s/a and 15 hand grenades. 1 sqd from Hill 22 BT429091 launched counterattack after being carried to the area by LVTP5. Area was searched but VC broke contact. Found 1 cover, 2 MK II frag grenades, 2 mags/w ammo for GTECOM submachinegun 3 c:ra cartridges, and large amounts of blood; estimated 1 VC KIA (prob) 2 VC WIA (prob).

170730H Sqd pro from Co H checking area of last nights activities BT431091 picked up 3 VCS in hut that appeared to have been abandoned. VCS forwarded to ITT.

171015H Sqd S&D Co E apprehended 2 VCS BT449018. VCS later released when Hamlet Chief indentified them as loyal Vietnamese.

Subj: Training Report

(1) Due to operational commitment during the period 10-17 July 1966 no formal instructions were held.

(2) The Combined Action Squad located in the Ly Tin Dist village continued to hold formal instruction with Popular Forces personnel attached to them.

Subj: CP Locations

Bn CP - BT464072  
Co E - BT447029  
Co F - BT525086  
Co G - BT464072  
Co H - BT435076

180825H A vehicle from HQ 5th Marines traveling North on Route 1 BT480075 stopped on the side of the road, 2-3 rds s/a fire was received from vic BT481076 resulting in 1 USMC WIA. Vehicle turned around and went to AN TAN Bridge where WIA was evacuated. Area from where fire was received was then searched out by a sqd from 3rd plt Co G. No contact was made.

180900H Local Vietnamese advised Ly Tin Dist HQ that a wounded VC was located at BT442097 with weapons. The Chief checked area and no body.

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 of VC without weapon, identified as member Khuong Hung Hamlet BT433105 Dist Chief, said VC had died of multiple grenade fragmentation wounds sustained in Red Hill fight right before (ref: 170025H entry) 1 VC KIA (conf).

182000H A fire team sec patrol Co G BT465075 apprehended 2 VCS, 1 male, 1 female, male had U.S. submachinegun. VCS released after Ly Tin Dist HQ identified male as a PF.

182045H A fire team ambush of Co H enroute to ambush site received 10-15 rds s/a fire, and 1 hand grenade from an estimated 2 VC BT423093. Returned fire with 30 rds s/a. VC broke contact, area searched with no results.

182100H A fire team sec patrol Co G observed a man in doorway of hut at BT455065 with weapon. Man ran away when fire team reached hut, occupants appeared nervous. Apprehended 1 suspect. VCS forwarded to ITT.

182250H The Combined Action Squad BT461085 observed 1 VC near the Bn CP defensive perimeter. Fired 8 rds s/a fire at VC. VC returned fire with 2 rds and fled. Area searched at first light with no results.

190140H The perimeter defense Co H BT434088. Observed movement in front of position, fired 9 rds mg and 2 frag grenades. VC ran away, area searched at first light with out results.

190745H A wounded Vietnamese boy was brought to Co E CP BT447029, boy had been wounded by unk type mine at BT 438044; boy Med Evac to 1st Med.

201600H A Plt patrol Co H BT44066 apprehended 2VCS carrying rice into hills. VCS forwarded to ITT.

201300H 1st Plt Co H in night defensive positions observed 2 VCS looking over Marine position, apprehended and forwarded to ITT.

201850H The perimeter defense of Co H BT425092 received 6 rds s/a fire from vic BT423093. Squad patrol sent out to check area. No contact made.

202300H Squad (-) CP on Hill 270 BT425049 received 6 rds s/a fire from vic BT416050. Arty fire mission called on suspect area with good coverage of the target. Estimated 1 or more VC WIA. Area searched at first light with-out results.

211015H A tank patrol from Co H moving through under-brush at BT442043, detonated a boobytrapped M-26 hand grenade rigged with trip wire resulting in 1 USMC WIA-Non-Evac from the security patrol Co H with the tanks.

211935H 1 USMC Med Evac due to illness from fire team security Co E on Hill 270 BT 421047.

211750H USG Co Bn CP perimeter defense BT467071 received 4 rds s/a fire from 1 VC vic BT468073. Perimeter returned fire with 5 rds s/a and sent fire team after enemy who disappeared in a NW direction, believe VC threw weapon in tree lines but search of area revealed 1 female VCS picked up and sent to ITT.

212030H Fire team (+) CP Co E at BT421047 received 2 rds s/a and 1 grenade from unknown number of VC vic BT421047. Returned fire with 5 rds s/a and arty.

Search of the area at first light revealed no signs of the enemy.

212215H Platoon defense perimeter Co H BT434078 received 1 incoming grenade from vic BT434078 resulting in 1 USMC KIA. Fired ill and searched area with no contact.

220040H Platoon defense perimeter Co H BT432089 1 USMC bitten by snake (VC type) evacuated to Regt Aid Station.

221015H Co G plt security patrol received 2 USMC heat casualties, Med Evac to 1st Med Evac.

221155H Platoon SPT from Co H picked up 54 VCS for screening, 9 VCS detained for delivery to IIT.

221537H Fire team sec patrol apprehended 1 female VCS at BT457053, VCS forwarded to IIT.

221813H 1 USMC broke his hand while on patrol from 3rd plt Co G, enroute to Hill 270 BT421047. Med Evac to 1st Med.

230800H 1 USMC 1st plt Co G received fragment wound on nose, aboard helicopter enroute to downed chopper BT334103.

231635H 1 USMC Co E BT447029 Med Evac to 1st Med due to illness.

Subj: Training Report

(1) During the period 18-24 July 1966, a Troop Indoctrination Program for new arrivals to this Command was established on a continuing basis, (ref: Battalion Order 1500.1 July 1966). The initial program consisted of 22 personnel who were given 24 hours of the following instruction and training:

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
Why we are in Vietnam	1
Civil Affairs Program	1
Handling POWS/Captured Documents	1
Lessons Learned (Trng Tips)	1
FAM Firing of Wpns organic to the Rifle Co	9
Battle heat casualties and Malaria Prevention	1
Ambush Techniques/Conduct of Patrols	3
Supply Discipline/Care, Maint, of Clothing/Equipment	1
Religions/Customs of South Vietnam	1
Visit to Popular Forces/Combined Action Squad Training	1 1/2
Observe typical village layout (Ly Tin)	1
Orientation and information of the 2/5 TAOR-HILL 69 CP	1 1/2
Mine and Dooby Trap School	8

Subj: CP Locations

Bn CP - BT464072  
 Co E - BT447029  
 Co F - BT464072  
 Co G - BT525086  
 Co H - BT435076

241945H Squad sec patrol Co H with LVTs discovered 155mm rd beside road at BT434064. Destroyed in place.

251345H Sqd OP on Hill 270 BT421047 observed 6 VC w/weapons at BT428036. Sqd opened fire w/3rds s/a at the VC. Enemy fled to tree line. Co E, sent a reaction plt. to search area. Apprehended 1 VCS, no other contact was made with the enemy. VCS returned to Co E CP for screening by the Hamlet Chief. VCS released after screening.

251745H AN Tan Bridge security plt, reported 1 USMC shot by accidental discharge of another USMC'S M-14 rifle. Wounded Marine Med Evac completed at 251812H. USMC POW. Investigation being conducted.

262025H Sqd ambush Co E enroute to ambush site BT441051 observed 3 VC moving off trail into hedge row at BT439051. Sqd opened fire w/100 s/a and MG fire at the VC, enemy returned fire w/10rds s/a and disappeared. Search of the area disclosed no sign of the enemy.

261630H (Late entry) 4 Marines from Co E observed a Vietnamese boy trying to steal a Marine pack BT447029. A Marine threw a stick at the boy, injuring him. Boy was Med Evac to 1st Med Bn.

271345H A sqd sec patrol Co E at BT460062 received 5 rds a/w fire from vic BT461063. Patrol returned fire w/16 rds s/a fire and searched area but made no contact.

291115H An LVT on resupply mission detonated unk type mine at BT436047 resulting in a blown track and wheel, no casualties. Temporary repairs were made in the field. After several hours delay, mission continued.

291700H LVT on resupply mission detonated small unk mine, possible A/P type at BT435059. Mine blew rubber off road wheel. No other damage. LVT continued mission.

291935H 2 USMC from Co E BT447029. Med Evac to B Med due to illness, one w/temperature of 104, the other w/convulsions, cause unk.

292210H A sqd ambush Co H, in ambush position BT408093 opened fire on 4 VC w/20 rds s/a. VC returned fire w/5 rds carbine fire, 1 grenade. 1 USMC WIA, non evac. VC broke contact, patrol searched area found 1 VC KIA w/carbine, cart belt, papers, and ID Card. Blood trails in the area indicated 1 VC WIA (poss).

300840H Sqd sec patrol Co E discovered 1 antitank mine at BT441039. Mine was homemade w/explosives packed in truck wheel approx 1 foot in diameter w/pressure type fuze, and was partially covered on trail used by LVT on resupply missions. Mine was destroyed in place by the patrol.

At 310700 a patrol from Co H apprehended 1 VCS (female) at BT425096. She had been picked up by Marines on 29 July 1966. Screened and released, she was picked up again this date after her picture had been found among documents taken from a VC KIA on 29 July 1966. At time of second pickup female was carrying anti US propaganda, VCS forwarded to ITT.

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During the period 25-31 July 1966: 22 hours of formal training and instruction was conducted for new personnel. (Ref: Troop Indoctrination Program BnO 1500.1, July 1966.)

Subj: CP Locations

Bn CP - BT464072  
Co E - BT447029  
Co F - BT464072  
Co G - BT464072  
Co H - BT435076

312400H July 1966 End of Chronological Sequence.

## SECTION V - S-4 &amp; SUPPLY

1. General

a. During the month of July, Battalion Supply was relocated and a new indoor shower facility was put into operation. Resupply on a daily basis was conducted to "E" Company by helicopters alternating with Amtracs. During the month of July, 378 requisitions were submitted and 1,026 invoices for excess material were completed and the material delivered to FLSG-B.

2. Problems. In general, our problem areas are, M-14 weapons, web gear, insecticides, rodent control supplies and lumber. Twenty per cent of the weapons received from FLSG-B on the last consignment had to be returned as unserviceable.

3. Transportation. Remains adequate to support normal operations.

## SECTION VI - MEDICAL AND DENTAL

1. Significant Events. No unusual medical problems during this last month.

2. New Developments. No new developments during this last month.

3. Problem Areas. None.

4. Average daily number of patients seen. 18

a. Total number of patients seen for this month. 554

5. Number of referrals to 1st Medical Battalion. 57

6. Routine Medical Complaints.

a. Diarrhea 22

b. URI 24

c. Dermatitis 103

d. Ear Disorders 22

e. Stomach Disorders 33

7. Significant diseases to the area.

a. Malaria:

(1) Vivax Malaria 05

(2) Falciparum Malaria 07

## 8. Number of emergencies: Treatment and type:

a. Amputations 1 Evacuated

b. Missile	1	First Aid	0	Evacuated	1
c. Lacerations	7	First Aid	7	Evacuated	0
d. Burns	5	First Aid	0	Evacuated	0
9. Dental referrals			155		

## SECTION VII - COMMUNICATIONS

1. On 10 July the 2nd Bn, 5th Marines Communications Platoon, with the aid of the Airborne Retransmission Team from Comm. Co., HQ Bn., 1st MarDiv provided a vitally needed radio circuit to Golf Company, 2/5. Golf Company was guarding two downed helicopters that were disabled in a valley too far away from the C.P. to be reached by organic communication equipment.
2. On 16 July the Battalion Command Group "A" set up a mobile command post in an LVT Command Antrac using the communications equipment organic to the command tractor to control Operation "Backdoor".
3. On 23 July the Division CEO's inspection team came to 2/5. The inspectors commended the Message Center, run by Staff Sergeant Edick for being the best in the Division. The overall inspection was a good one. The grade was satisfactory with minor discrepancies.
4. On 27 July the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines became the proud owner of two M-109 radio jeeps. This radio, when operated in high power, produces approximately 12 times the power out of the PRC-25. The vehicles are presently administratively deadlined but all tests show it to be an outstanding piece of equipment.
5. General: All radio equipment continues to be in optimum use. Continued emphasis on maintenance cannot, therefore, be overstressed.

## SECTION VIII - SUPPORT/AIR SUPPORT

1. Artillery/81mm Mortars
  - a. The Battalion was supported by the 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines.
  - b. Offensive preparation fires were used for helicopter landing zones on 10 July 1966.
  - c. A Regimental TOT was fired on 1 July 1966.
  - d. Statistical Summary.
    - (1) Total number missions fired.
      - (a) Artillery - 1307
      - (b) 81mm Mortar - 136
    - (2) Types of missions

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- (a) Unobserved
1. Artillery - 3
  2. 81mm Mortar - 0
- (b) Observed
1. Artillery - 95
  2. 81mm Mortar - 79
- (c) H&I Fire
1. Artillery - 1187
  2. 81mm Mortar - 40
- (d) Registrations
1. Artillery - 22
  2. 81mm Mortar - 17
- (3) Rounds Expended.

	<u>HE</u>	<u>WF</u>	<u>ILL</u>
(a) Artillery	6697	100	279
(b) 81mm Mortar	1793	697	119
(c) Total	8490	797	398

(3) Artillery support for 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines is increasing in volume of missions fired and rounds expended each month. 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines has given very good support in the month of July.

## 2. Air support and defence.

a. The following is a tabulation of the air operations in support of 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines during the month of July 1966.

- (1) Close-air support
- (a) TAR Missions 2
  - (b) LZ Drop Missions 1
  - (c) Flareship Missions 1
- (2) Helicopter support
- (a) HoLo Missions 750
  - (b) Med. Evacs 20
  - (c) Total Cargo 90,900
  - (d) Total Troops 492

(3) During the month of July, the air support continued to be outstanding. Closer coordination with the Helicopter squadrons has helped bring about this.

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## SECTION IX - CIVIL AFFAIRS

1. General. During this reporting period the Civil Affairs/Civic Action program of this Battalion has continued to be a vital companion to the combat operations being conducted within the Tactical Area of Responsibility, notwithstanding the general shortage of medical supplies. This has necessarily resulted in de-emphasis of Medical Civic Action Patrols (MEDCAP) and increased emphasis on other aspects of the Civil Affairs/Civic Action program. Consequently the people have continuously been gaining more confidence in United States forces as well as in their own Central, Provincial, District and Village governments, and have expended even more effort towards their own self-improvement.

2. Medical and Dental. Medical Civic Action Patrols (MEDCAP) have continued though on a much reduced scale. The receipt of supplies on 25 and 26 July made it possible to resume a vigorous medical and dental program. Patrols have been concentrated in the KY SANH Village complex due to its virtual isolation from the remainder of Ly Tin District. Patrol activity in KY KHUONG Village has been primarily provided by medical personnel made available by the 1st Hospital Company and by the 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines, due to the concentration of people along National Route 1, and hence easy accessibility to them by vehicle. Medical and dental treatment has been provided by the medical personnel of this Battalion as follows:

	<u>Medical</u>	<u>Dental</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Men	840	53	893
Women	1014	72	1086
Children	1860	19	1879
Totals	3714	144	3858

3. Personal Assistance. The results of this phase of the Civil Affairs/Civic Action program are as follows: Approximately 5,000 pounds of garbage has been delivered to the Assistant Village Chief of KY KHUONG Village, for utilization as food by pigs owned by a member of villagers; 8,250 bars of soap have been distributed to the people of both villages; thirty pounds of childrens clothing was distributed to needy families.

4. Evacuation Assistance. Six adults and five children have received medical attention at facilities other than those available within this Battalion. This medical attention was primarily surgical in nature.

5. English Language Classes. The English Language Class which commenced on 20 June, has, since 25 July, been expanded to three one-hour classes per day, Monday through Friday, 1700 to 2000. An average of twenty-five persons attend each class. Retention rates are improving rapidly now that classes are being held every day. Both military and civilian personnel have been taking advantage of this educational opportunity.

6. Construction Projects. Construction continues on the high school in KY KHUONG Village. The feasibility of constructing a bridge across the An Tan River near the hamlet of AN PHU (3) located within the village of KY SANH, is dependent upon the availability of materials.