

1st Battalion, 3rd Marines in Viet Nam 21Dec66 – 11Dec67)
Sergeant Oscar De La Garza, Jr. USMC (Company D and H&S)

21Dec66: 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines in Khe Sanh occupying and defending, and participating in Operation "Prairie" as needed. A Truce over Christmas and New Years continued light enemy contact. 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines sustained 3 WIA and No KIA with 2 VCS-KIA probable and 1 VCS-WIA probable for the month of December.

13Jan67: CoA - Squad patrol/enemy contact/6-VC/incoming small-arms 2-WIA

26Jan67: CoA - Sparrow Hawk platoon inserted to rescue a Force Reconnaissance unit under enemy fire with casualties, CH-46 Helicopter went down unknown reason, during insertion of Company A. Air-strikes and Flare Ship on station through-out the night/enemy contact light. Extraction was successful the next morning 1-KIA and 9-WIA (including 2-wounded Reconnaissance Marines)

27Jan67: KIA/Fallen – [PFC Steve A. Srsen](#) Co “A” *NAVY CROSS Posthumously*

31Jan67: 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines continued to develop, maintain, and man perimeter defensive positions around Khe Sanh Airstrip and facilities for the month. Twice during the month a thirty-man SPARROW HAWK was inserted to assist Force Reconnaissance Elements needing help. The end of the month was preparing for rotation to Battalion Landing Team (BLT) and Deployment from Khe Sanh, to Da Nang, and out of Republic of Viet Nam to Okinawa.

1st Battalion, 3rd Marines sustained 17 WIA and 1 KIA while the enemy count was 15 VCS-KIA and 15 VCS-KIA (probable) for the month of January.

31Jan67: The Battalion processed monthly Activity Reports from December 1965 (When the Battalion returned to Vietnam) till the end of January 1967. These reports show how busy the Battalion was for this 14 month period, and the following:

PATROLS (including Ambushes): Squad size - 6,314; Platoon size - 453; Company size - 12

SEARCH AND DESTROY OPERATIONS: Platoon size – 18; Company size – 30; Battalion size - 8

COMBINED WITH OTHER UNITS: - 8 for the period.

Vietnam (Mar 1965) to (Jan 1967): 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines had sustained: 60-KIA, 188-WIA, and 3 who died from their wounds.

1st Battalion, 3rd Marines claimed 149-VC/KIA's (confirmed), 34-VC/KIA (probable), 59-VC/WIA (probable), 270 VCS had been captured.

01Feb67: KIA/Fallen – [PFC Gordon W. Russell](#) Co “B”

Feb 67 to Apr 67: 1st Battalion 3rd Marines to Okinawa and Philippines to regroup and retrain as BLT-26, for assignment to SPECIAL LANDING FORCE - ALPHA. The first part of the month of April was spent training for “Special Operations” on Okinawa. The remainder of the month was

devoted to Counter-Guerrilla Warfare School, Demolition-Landmine Training, and Jungle Lane/Trap line Indoctrination. The BLT then went to NB Subic Bay, Philippines for an additional three days training.

28Feb67: Most of 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines) transferred from Khe Sahn to Da Nang via fixed wing aircraft on the 1st and 2nd of February. Company B remained at Khe Sahn, and was flown to Da Nang on the 6th. 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines assisted 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines in the security of the Marble Mountain Complex and on the 7th began loading (embarking) on ships for transfer to Okinawa. With embarkation completed on the 8th, the ships (USS Carter Hall (LSD-3), USS Henrico (APA-45) (Delta Company - Vietnam to Okinawa), and USS Washburn (AKA-108) headed for Okinawa. 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines was designated Battalion Landing Team (BLT) - 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines during its transfer to Okinawa. Arriving and disembarking between the 13th and 16th of February at Okinawa, and was re-designated from BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines back to 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines. 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines was transported via trucks to Camp Schwab to re-group and re-train. 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines received many replacements; and was trained at the Counter-Guerrilla Warfare School, the Demolition-Landmine Warfare School, and the Jungle Lane/Trap Lane Indoctrination School at NTA (Northern Training Area) till the end of February.

31Mar67: For the month of March 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines continued Training and receiving more replacements. Training was conducted at Squad, Platoon, Company, and Battalion levels; with emphasis placed on unit tactics and field work. Continued training at the NTA Schools, and 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines members were issued the M-16 Rifles on the 20th (supposedly the first Marines to be issued M-16's for combat in Vietnam). 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines was also trained and indoctrinated in Helicopters (CH-34's), Tank Infantry Training, Wet Net, and Landing Vehicle Tracked (LVT) training through the end of March. 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines was re-designated BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines Operational Control 9th MAB. Command RLT-26 later to Special Landing Force-ALPHA. The Battalion was at almost full strength with 68-Officers (both USMC and USN) and 1,750-Enlisted (both USMC and USN-Corpsmen).

MEDAL: REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM MERITORIOUS UNIT CITATION, (Gallantry Cross Medal Color with Palm) issued to First Battalion, Third Marines for period of 04Apr67 to 20Sep69.

MEDAL: PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION, First Battalion Third Marines Regiment, (SLF-A) from 25Apr67 to 17May67 (Operation Beaver Cage/Union)

06Apr67: KIA/Fallen – [LCpl Ernest L. Gutierrez](#) Co “A”

07Apr67: KIA/Fallen – [Sgt Jack C. Duff, Jr](#) Co “H&S”

27Apr67: 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines continued training and started to embark on the ships of the SLF on the 3rd of April. Training continued on board the ships, with Special Operations Training for future RVN activity. A large Battalion Size- Learning Exercise (LEX) was conducted in the area of Kin Village (Camp Hansen), on the 6th and 7th, then BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines back loaded on board the ships of TG 76.4. USS Okinawa-LPH-3 with Squadron of Helicopters from HMM-263 (Delta Company – Subic Bay Philippines to Viet Nam), USS Bayfield- APA-33 (Delta Company – Okinawa to Subic Bay, Philippines), USS Point Defiance-LSD-31, and USS Seminole-AKA-104).

BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines continued to sail towards NB Subic Bay, Philippines for additional Special Operations. Training. The BLT was ordered to proceed to land further west of the Philippines, and entered the combat waters of RVN on the 17th. Two days later (the 19th), the BLT was headed back to NB Subic Bay, for additional training. From the 20th to the 23rd the BLT was at the SLF Camp, Subic Bay training. BLT 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines was back in the territorial waters of the Republic of Vietnam on the 25th of April awaiting further orders, with Operation "BEAVER CAGE" to start on the 28th of April. Our prior two days in the waters of Vietnam, could have been for the Battle of Hill 881 by Khe Sahn, which was being reported heavily in the newspapers and TV at home in the States at that time. BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines was at full strength with 68-officers and 1,750- enlisted including Navy Doctors and Corpsmen.

KIA/Fallen: Below listed Marines lost their lives off-shore, South Vietnam, Non-Hostile, Helicopter-Non crew air loss, crash at sea – Bodies were not recovered.

[LCpl James A. Benton](#) Co "D"
[Sgt Reinaldo L. Castro](#) Co "D"
[LCpl Blenn C. Dyer](#) Co "D"
[PFC Samuel W. Osborne](#) Co "D"
[LCpl Ronald K. Pennington](#) Co "D"

28Apr67 to 12May67: BEAVER CAGE (UNION) Provinces: Quang Nam, Quang Tin and Tam Ky-Que Son Valley, 25 miles south of Da Nang, north of Chu Lia.(Also in Quan Que Son and Quan Thang Bin Provinces too).

Units: 1st Mar Div (HQ), 1/1, 2/1, 1/5, 3/5, and 1st ARVN Ranger Group. SLF-A 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines (BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines) portion of operation Union called Beaver Cage.

Object: Three Marine and Three Army of the Republic of Viet Nam (ARVN) Battalions conduct Sweeps 30 miles south of Da Nang. Operation Union had started 20Apr67. SLF-ALPHA landing in Que Son Valley. BLT 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines and HMM 263 sweep area through 12 May. SLF Alpha's landing in April on operation BEAVER CAGE signaled a drastic increase in the operational tempo.

The combat days went from 12 per month, to 16.5 in April and to 22 in May. The remainder of the year reflected a much heavier reliance on the SLF. Not only did the number of combat days increase, but the number of operations more than doubled.

28Apr67: Co "C" company secured Landing Zone (LZ) Oriole in the Que Son Valley at 0711.

At 1435 3,000 pounds of rice were discovered and destroyed.
At 1600 two VC were captured and an additional two at 1715.

30Apr67: At 1155 10 Viet Cong (VC) were spotted in a rice paddy and artillery was called in, 5 possible VC KIA. On the 30th Co "C" Marines were airlifted to LZ Buzzard at 2200. The first two days heat caused more casualties than the enemy.

02May67: Co "C" Marines received sniper fire, fired on and killed a VC woman running from the advance party and an enemy force of at least a platoon attacked Co "C" as it dug in for the night. The company came under 82mm Mortar, 57 recoilless rifle, and automatic weapons and small arms fire. "Puff the Dragon" USAF AC-47 gunship and "Spooky" flare planes along with Marine Artillery, 105 and 107 mm, and the BLT's own supporting arms pounded the suspected communist positions, the enemy fled.

05May67: The enemy fought back, and hit BLT headquarters and support elements with mortar and small arms fire as they evacuated a landing zone. A huge tunnel complex was discovered by Co "C", lights and demolitions were requested.

06May67: Two WIA from sniper fire, returned fire with 60mm mortars.

07May67: All personnel turned in flak jackets to decrease load. In-coming mortar fire was also received.

08May67: 5 VC were detained by C Company, and additional mortar fire was received.

09May67: 1st Battalion, 5th Marines and BLT joined in a sweep to the east.

10May67: Companies "B" and "C" engaged the enemy in a day-long action, including the insertion of a 40 man "Sparrow Hawk" unit to attack a sizeable VC force. Additional units from 1/5 were moved in to help cut-off the enemy's movement into or out of the battle area. Four air strikes by fixed wing and five by Klondike Gunship assisted the company.

Company "C" was pinned down by fire from a village, moved into trench line and are receiving heavy fire, pinned down again. Heavy contact continues.

12May67: The LZ was secured by elements of 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines and Co "C" Marines were extracted from LZ Magpie and Quail

Cost:

SLF-USMC- 55 KIA and 151 WIA.
Enemy 181 communist KIA and 66 POW

Operation Union:

USMC: 110 KIA and 473 WIA.
Enemy: 865 KIA with 173 Captured.

1st Marine Division Operation:

US: 53 KIA
Enemy: 965 KIA.

BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines Operation:

55-KIA and 201-WIA, with 5 additional deaths due to loss of helicopter in transferring personnel between ships.

181-VC/NVA KIA, 136-VC/NVA KIA (probable), and 66-VCS captured and detained.

Co "C" sustained 13-KIA and 57-WIA during this operation.

28Apr67: BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines commenced Operation "Beaver Cage". The first four days were in support of Operation "Union". D Company with tanks made an Amphibious Landing on the beach area referred as Red Beach, and Companies A, B, and C with the BLT command element operated inland, approximately 27 miles SE of Da Nang AB. During this time only light enemy contact was made, however the BLT suffered Heat Casualties and more than 100 personnel were med-evacuated during this period. The temperature during this operation was hot and humid with temperatures well over 100 degrees during the day and approximately 75 degrees at night with only one day of rain. After four days the BLT shifted 5 miles north and set up Headquarters in vicinity of LZ Cardinal Que Son district. The Companies were assigned individual Tactical Area of Responsibility (TAOR) and enemy contact began to increase in size and frequency.

30Apr67: CoB - Receiving Small Arms Fire (SAF) during lift out from LZ in helicopters 1-WIA.

02May67: CoC - Attacked by estimated reinforced platoon of VC with 82mm mortars, 57mm Recoilless Rifle fire, Automatic and small arms fire while digging in for the night. Artillery, Air strikes, Huey Gunship, Flare ship, and PUFF assisted throughout the night.

KIA/Fallen: [2ndLt Thomas W. Mallon](#) Co "C"
[PFC Phillip D. Munday](#) Co "C"
[PFC Chester J. Simmons](#) Co "C"
[LCpl Gene Vaughn](#) Co "H&S"

03May67: Medical-Evacuation and re-supply commenced at daybreak 0630 hours. 4 KIA and 20 WIA.

CoA- Early evening water-run patrol contacted 2-VC then attacked by unknown number of VC. Four squads committed to assist the water patrol ran into heavy automatic and small arms fire (ambushed), artillery and Huey Gunship called in, with support immediately available and used it throughout the area. The men (patrols) outside the perimeter, returned with the WIA, but 14 men were still cut off from the rest. The cut off squad returned with their WIA. Artillery missions continued through the night. At first light, the squads returned to the battle area, observed 60-70 VC, and called in more Artillery. After everything was secured, bodies recovered (morning of the 4th) 14 KIA and 9-WIA.

KIA/Fallen: [HN James I. Balch](#) Co "A"
[PFC James D. Borawski](#) Co "A"

[PFC Monty D. Button](#) Co "A"
[LCpl Troy M. Carnline](#) Co "A"
[PFC Tommy E. Dickerson](#) Co "A"
[PFC Donald W. Falwell](#) Co "A"
[PFC Ricky M. Gilbertson](#) Co "A"
[PFC Joseph R. La Rose](#) Co "A"
[LCpl Eugene Murry](#) Co "A"
[Cpl Luciano P. Plesakov](#) Co "A"
[PFC Robert J. Rose](#) Co "A"
[LCpl Eugene D. Spicer](#) Co "A"
[PFC John E. Sweesy](#) Co "A"
[Cpl John W. Urick](#) Co "A"
[PFC David Verbilla](#) Co "A"

04May67: CoD - 20 VC in village/firefight 1-WIA
CoD - Receiving mortars and small arms fire 2-WIA
CoC - Sniper fire 1-WIA.

CoD - While crossing a valley east of Hill 65, encountered intensive enemy resistance and had elements pinned down by 50 VC in fortified positions. Air and artillery called in and supported by CoC which had moved to Hill 65. Heavy fighting ensued, fighting continued throughout the night. Company D elements in contact with the enemy withdrew to Hill 65 under cover of darkness with all KIA extracted from the Battle Zone at 2325 hrs. One M-60 machine gun with firing mechanism removed, one .45 Cal pistol, and one M-16 rifles lost in action. 11 KIA and 26 WIA were evacuated on morning of the 5th.

KIA/Fallen: [LCpl Melvin L. Allen](#) Co "D" "Silver Star Posthumously"
[LCpl Jose M. Gomez](#) Co "D"
[PFC David A. Hickman](#) Co "D"
[PFC Don R. Hollingsworth](#) Co "D"
[Cpl Frederick A. McMahon](#) Co "D"
[Cpl Don W. Minton](#) Co "D"
[Cpl Henry L. Turn](#) Co "D"
[HM3 Elwood C. Sovey Jr](#) Co "D"

05May67: CoB - Booby Trap 1-WIA

KIA/Fallen: [Cpl Martin Cavazos](#) Co "D"
[PFC Harry L. Hissong](#) Co "D"
[PFC Dennis J. Mannion](#) Co "D"

06May67: CoC - Sniper fire 2-WIA
CoB - Sniper fire/small arms fire 2-WIA.

07May67: CoD- Mortar attack 1-KIA and 6-WIA

KIA/Fallen: [Sgt Milton L. Hall](#) Co "D"

08May67: CoD - Mortar attack 3-WIA.
CoC - Mortar attack 3-KIA and 10-WIA.

KIA/Fallen: [LCpl James E. Lakey](#) Co "H&S"
[PFC David L. Rowell](#) Co "C"
[LCpl William M. Shaw, Jr.](#) Co "C"

09May67: CoC - Mortar attack 1-WIA.

10May67: Co B, C, and D: Co B and C were sweeping east, with CoD in trace moving down the center of the valley. CoB received small arms fire and automatic weapons fire from Hill 110.

CoC mortars firing on Hill 110, CoB reports 1-WIA and VC moving towards them, and requests Co C to check out and assist. CoD reports Co "C" 1st Battalion, 5th Marines is 300 meters west of Hill 110 moving east. CoB reports taking heavy sniper fire and that 20 VC moving east. Co C moving 3rd Platoon to left flank of Co B. Co B and C receiving mortar fire, CoB pinned down by heavy fire suffering unknown number KIA and WIA.

Requesting Close Air Support, Co C was attempting to envelope with one platoon to stop enemy fire from the village. The enveloping platoon of Co C reports receiving mortars, and Co B requests Co C and D to link up on left and right flanks respectfully. Co B reports one company of VC wearing green uniforms and helmets, well camouflaged and entrenched on Hill 110.

C/1/5 to sweep area to east after Air strikes on Hill 110. Co C has one platoon pinned down by heavy fire from village and air strikes called in. Co C needs help on left flank; withdrawing platoon from right flank to assist pinned down platoon on left. Co C has VC in trench line directly in front of position delivering heavy fire, and units are still pinned down. Heavy contact continues and more air strikes called in.

Co B reports approximately 6-KIA and 23-WIA, all friendly, in Co C's Zone. A SPARROW HAWK 40-man unit arrived in Zone at 1300 hrs, and almost immediately suffered 5-WIA and were pinned down in the LZ area. Heavy contact with enemy continues, more air strikes, and contact finally started to lessen with enemy fleeing to east.

Co B, C, and D under command/control 1st Battalion 5th Marines established a perimeter for the night.

Causalities reported for the day long battle were:

22-KIA and 88-WIA and 86 VC/NVA KIA (confirmed).

The Operation ended two days later, with no more enemy contact, and 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines being transported by helicopter back aboard the ships of BLT.

KIA/Fallen: [LCpl Delancy D. Tolbert](#) Co "A"

[SSgt Elpidio A. Arquero](#) Co “B” *NAVY CROSS Posthumously*
[PFC Allan F. Berweger](#) Co “B”
[PFC Thomas L. Foy](#) Co “B”
[PFC Randall R. Grueber](#) Co “B”
[PFC Brian C. Hewitt](#) Co “B”
[Sgt Dannie D. Jacobs](#) Co “B”
[PFC Kenneth W. McGee](#) Co “B”
[PFC Russel P. Miller](#) Co “B”
[PFC Donald A. Pittenger](#) Co “B”
[PFC James C. Riley](#) Co “B”
[Cpl Sterling S. Woods](#) Co “B”
[LCpl James M. Bishop](#) Co “C”
[Pvt Alfred L. Brown](#) Co “C”
[PFC James R. Cooper](#) Co “C”
[PFC Albert J. Darling III](#) Co “C”
[LCpl David M. Hart](#) Co “C”
[Cpl John M. Reid](#) Co “C” *NAVY CROSS Posthumously*
[Cpl Thomas Sanders](#) Co “C” *NAVY CROSS Posthumously*
[PFC Frank. X. Cuzzo](#) Co “D”
[HN Steven D. Chambers](#) Co “H&S”

18May67 to 26May67: HICKORY/BEAU CHARGER:

Provinces: Tinh Quang and Quang Tri- just below the Ben Hoi river in southern half of DMZ.

Units: Hickory-3rd Mar Div (HQ), 1/9, 2/9, 3/9, 1/4, 3/4, 2/26; SLF- Alpha (BLT 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines and HMM-263 on operation Beau Charger); SLF-Bravo (BLT 2/3 and HMM-164 on operation Belt Tight); and the 5th ARVN Regiment on operation Lam Son 54.

Object: Marine forces launch three simultaneous operations, first sweep through southern half of DMZ. SLF-A lands under code name Beau Charger, along the coast. 2/26, 2/9, 3/9, and 3/4 begin sweep around Con Thien under Hickory. Two days later, the SLF-B lands N/E of Con Thien under code name Belt Tight. The operation ends 26th of May. Hickory started 16May67 and ended 28th. Because of enemy buildup in the DMZ, General Westmoreland authorized the entry of forces into the DMZ just south of the Ben Hoi River. The first of these operations was named HICKORY for the 3rd Marine Division, BEAU CHARGER for SLF-Alpha, BELT TIGHT for SLF-Bravo, and LAM SON 54 for the South Vietnamese forces. The scheme of the operation was to get all units on the Ben Hoi River and sweep south destroying all enemy units and installations in their path. A free fire zone was established and the Vietnamese Police removed 10,000 non-combatants from the area. The first helo of the first wave, CoA, into the operation (Beau Charger) was raked with gunfire, the co-pilot, crew chief, gunner, and three grunts were all wounded. Another grunt fell out of the helo and was killed. Four other UH-34's two UH-1E's also suffered damage in the assault. Fighting was fierce, the Marines engaged the enemy in hand-to-hand fighting and eleven jets came in to provide close air support. On the 18th at 1430 CoC landed at LZ Owl. At 1830, 43 non-combatants were removed from the DMZ and one VC was KIA by CoC. On the 19th, 20 rounds of 82mm, 68 rounds 60mm, and 40 rounds of 85mm were incoming causing 4 CoC WIA. On the 26th all units were extracted from “White Beach”.

Cost:

USMC: 142 KIA and 896 WIA

Enemy: 447 KIA. (This is the total of all three operations).

3rd Marines operations:

Operation Hickory I:

USMC: Unknown losses

Enemy: 367 KIA

BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines:

Operation Beau Charger:

USMC: 23 KIA and 99 WIA

Enemy: 85 VC/NVA KIA (confirmed), 84 VC/NVA KIA (probable), and 6-VCS/POW captured (one Died of Wounds). 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines also evacuated approximately 536 friendlies out of the DMZ.

18May67: From HAMMOND - Vietnam Conflict Map, states that U. S. Marines and ARVN units FIRST enter the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ). BLT 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines and the other Marine Battalions along with ARVN units participated in the First Operations into the Southern half of the DMZ. Up to the Ben Hoi River and possibly across it. This may have been our first time in the DMZ, but WE will be back many more TIMES, in the future months and years.

CoA - Assault elements landed at LZ Goose, and immediately came under intense enemy fire, while CoD was making an amphibious landing with tanks at Green Beach. The second wave of CoA via helicopters landed at LZ Owl, not under enemy fire. One platoon from Co D and a light section of tanks, joined Co A at LZ Owl, followed by the rest of Co A and Co B too. Co A and tanks linked up with elements of Co A at LZ Goose. Co A and B involved in heavy fighting with three reinforced enemy rifle companies near LZ Goose during the day. Co C landed at LZ Owl, after a Command Group had already arrived. A total of 43 non-combatants were evacuated from the DMZ this date.

BLT 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines:

USMC: sustained 19 KIA and 43 WIA.

KIA/Fallen: [PFC Charles L. Anderson](#) Co "B"
[LCpl Kenneth N. Cheek](#) Co "A"
[Pvt Edward J. Christensen](#) Co "A"
[PFC Mark A. Dalglish](#) Co "B"
[1stLt Louis D. Dobbin II](#) Co "B"
[LCpl Paul F. Doyon](#) Co "A"
[Cpl Stanley M. Godwin](#) Co "B"
[LCpl Franklin G. Hazzard](#) Co "C"
[Cpl Russell F. Keck](#) Co "A" **NAVY CROSS Posthumously**
[PFC Dennis D. Kramer](#) Co "B"
[Cpl Richard L. Land](#) Co "B"

[Cpl Orrie E. Macomb, Jr.](#) Co “B”
[ESN John W. McCormick, Jr.](#) Co “B”
[2ndLt Joseph T. McKeon, Jr.](#) Co “B”
[Cpl Clyde U. Mitchell](#) Co “B”
[LCpl John J. Nemchik, Jr.](#) Co “A”
[HM3 Michael F. Smith](#) Co “B”
[PFC John T. Wilson](#) Co “A”

19May67: CoD - With A/1/12 and W/1/12(Artillery Batteries), and BLT 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines Command elements at Green Beach received three volleys of 85mm fire (approximately 132 rounds total), which caused 3-KIA and 8-WIA.

Co. B and C - Received approximately 20 rounds 82mm mortars, 68 rounds 60mm mortars, and 40 rounds of 85mm fire, with 4-WIA's.

BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines - Evacuated a total of 274 non-combatants from the DMZ this date.

KIA/Fallen: [PFC Willie L. Brown](#) Co “D”
[Cpl Reynaldo S. Fernandez](#) Co “1st Battalion, 3rd Marines”
[Cpl Henry M. Sarmento](#) Co “B”
[Cpl John C. Stecker](#) Co “B”
[PFC Willie J. Mitchell Jr.](#) Co “C”

20May67: CoD- A units at Green Beach received 30 rounds of 85mm fire from North Vietnam, sustaining 1-KIA and 2-WIA.

BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines - Evacuated another 135 non-combatants from the DMZ this date.

KIA/Fallen: [PFC Reginald Flack](#) Co “B”

21May67: BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines - Evacuated 84 non-combatants from DMZ.

23May67: BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines - Units observed a twenty-four hour Truce in honor of Buddha's birthday, with no incidents reported.

25May67: BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines - Prepared for Phase III of Operation Beau Charger, the Amphibious Withdrawal from the DMZ. At 2000 hrs, the units started their movement to the coast at White Beach, stopping for periods of time, and moving at night.

26May67: Co D was last to withdraw at 1010 hours, ending the operation.

27May67: Personnel, supplies, and equipments were transferred from the USS Bayfield-APA-33 which was relieved by the USS Duluth- LDP-6.

01Jun67: Vietnam Service Medal. Vietnamese Counteroffensive, Phase II, starts 01Jun67 to 29Jan68.

02Jun67 to 05Jun67 BEAR BITE:

Provinces: Thian Quang Tri & Tinh Thua Thien- 40 clicks south of DMZ, Street without Joy area.

Unit: BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines

Object: Probing and destroying unoccupied enemy positions. This was an Amphibious and Heli-borne assault in southern Quang Tri northern Thua Thien Province.

Cost:

BLT 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines: No casualties

Enemy: 2 communist KIA, 9 POW.KIA (confirmed), 9-KIA (probable), and captured 9-VCS on the enemy.

02Jun67: Snipers and a stuck Marine tank were the only casualties on this operation. CoC landed at LZ Starling with no contact. Bunkers and Punji pits were found and destroyed. Small arms fire was received with no casualties. Re-supply helos received sniper fire, CoC sent out patrols to engage.

03Jun67: KIA/Fallen: [PFC Curtis L. Tremaine](#) Co "B"

04Jun67: Two fire fights were fought with CoC having 1 VC KIA, and one VC WIA.

05Jun67: The Battalion was airlifted 4th Marines area.

07Jun67 to 11Jun67 COLGATE:

Provinces: Quang Phu Vang & Thua Thien

Units: 4th Mar (HQ), BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines, 2/26, 3/26, 3/12-Artillery.

Object: was to be a blocking force for Co B, D and A. Airlifted into LZ Eagle and Hawk. Two VC were captured hiding in the water, and 4 VC were engaged by CoC and UH-1 helos. Company C was operational-control to 4th Marines during the period 11-20 June on Operation CUMBERLAND.

Helo-lifted into area 7 miles east of Phu Bia. The first day Co A and B made heavy contact with an intense enemy force. The last four days were light contact.

1st Battalion, 3rd Marines sustained

3-KIA and 29-WIA, while inflicting 24-VC/KIA (confirmed) 15-VC/KIA's (probable), and capturing 58-VCS. Later a village Chief indicated the Enemy had suffered 125-150 KIA that first day of the operation. 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines had control and command of operation, and were assisted by units H/2/26 and K/3/26.

07Jun67: CoA - Armed Huey reported two VC in area. One squad sent to location, taken under fire immediately by small arms, and 9- 12 rounds of 60mm mortar fire. Requested air, artillery, and 81mm mortar fire, on estimated one company of enemy in area well dug in. 2-KIA, 12-WIA and 1-ARVN-WIA.

CoB - Moving up in support of A Co., made heavy contact with enemy, and received heavy small arms and 82mm mortar fire. 1-KIA and 1-WIA.

CoB - Element moving to left flank of fortified position detonated a large mine or an 81mm mortar dud. 7-WIA.

KIA/Fallen: [LCpl Jimmy W. Hall](#) Co "A"
[LCpl Fletcher D. Whips](#) Co "A"
[LCpl Jackie R. Baird](#) Co "B"

08Jun67: CoB - Night patrol made contact with enemy, fire fight ensued, 1-WIA.

11Jun67: The Battalion was airlifted to Phu Bai, and was trucked to 4th Marine area.

13Jun67: CoA - Discovered 50 punji traps both foot and man size, well camouflaged. Two men fell into man size trap. 1-WIA.

13Jun67: CoA - Booby trap, 1-WIA.

15Jun67 to 23Jun67 CHOCTAW:

Provinces: Tinh Quang Tri & Tinh Thien

Units: 4th Mar (HQ), BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines, 1/4, 2/4, 3/12-Artillery.

Object: Search and destroy. Tedious sweeps west of Route 9, along the Thac Mai River. CoC was returned to BLT 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines from Operation CUMBERLAND on the 20th. The operation was limited to sniper and small arms harassing fire. CoC uncovered 200 pounds rice, ammo cans and ammo, flack jackets, det cord, medical supplies, comm wire, and 2 booby traps. A boat and tunnel were also found. VCs were found in the tunnel, 2 VC KIA Punji pits and stakes were uncovered and destroyed. 2 VC and 3 VCs were apprehended.

Cost:

USMC: 9 WIA

Enemy: 9 communist KIA and 15 POW.

Choctaw initially consisted of several smaller unit missions and commitments assigned to the 4th Marines in the Three Rivers Area, starting on the 13th of June. On the night of the 21st, a Battalion Sweep back in the "Bear Bite" area, characterized by a Night Foot movement to area to start sweep, ending with limited action and enemy contact.

BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines sustained No KIA, and 17- WIA while inflicting 9-VC/KIA's (confirmed), 20-VC/KIA's (probable), and capturing 15-VCS.

15Jun67: CoA - While searching area one Marine stepped on mine, 2-WIA's.

16Jun67: CoA - Received 5 rounds 60mm mortars into LZ as three Helo's landing. No damage to Helo's, 2-WIA.

17Jun67: CoA - Booby trap mine, 1-WIA.

19Jun67: CoC - Booby trapped grenade, 3-WIA.

21Jun67: CoB - Enemy contact, Fire fight received automatic weapons fire, 2-WIA

CoC - Foot punji trap stepped into, 1-WIA.

CoB - Night patrol received small arms and grenades (possible M-79 rounds). 1-WIA.

25Jun67 to 28Jun67 MARYLAND:

Province: Thau Thien

Units: 4th Mar (HQ), BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines.

Object: Search and destroy. CoC found 2 VCs in spider holes and they were captured. 2 VC and 2 VCs females were also detained. The BLT killed 7 communist, took 35 prisoners, and salvaged almost 9 tons of rice at cost of 3 Marines wounded.

Cost:

USMC: WIA

Enemy: 9 KIA and 35 POW.

BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines back to Phu Bia, in command and control for operation Maryland, assisted by F/2/26. Helolifted back into area of prior "Colgate" operation, back into LZ's Hawk and Eagle. Search and destroy forcing the VC into ARVN units. Light contact for us, but Heavy contact for ARVN units with enemy losses over 100 VC/KIA (confirmed). BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines sustained No KIA and 4-WIA while inflicting 7-VC/KIA's (confirmed), 5-VC/KIA's (probable), and capturing 35-VCS. After operation to COL CO Island and back aboard the ships of BLT.

26Jun67: CoD - A 1st platoon night ambush received small arms fire from a hut in their vicinity. 2-WIA

28Jun67: CoD - Friendly fire incident, while walking his relief for a radio watch at night. 1-WIA

30Jun67: For the month of June BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines had participated in four Operations, mostly operating in the 4th Marines area, and sustaining a total of 6-KIA and 48-WIA. During the month 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines was credited with 49-VC/KIA's (confirmed), 49-VC/KIA (probable), and capturing 117-VCS.

03Jul67 to 13Jul67 BEAR CLAW / BUFFALO:

Province: Quang Tri- Op was initially set for this area but when 1/9 & 3/9 got ambushed it changed to the area around Con Thien South of the DMZ.

Units: 3rd Mar (HQ), 3/3, 3/4, 1/9, 2/9, 3/9, SLF-A (BLT 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines), SLF-B (BLT 2/3), 9th Mars (HQ).

Object: Major elements of the 304B NVA Battalion and the 90th NVA Regiment were in the area. 1/9 conducts sweep north of Con Thien and makes heavy contact. Both SLF-Alpha (1st Battalion, 3rd Marines), Bravo (2/3), and 3/9 move into reinforce. Battle dies out 14th July. B/1/9 acquired name "The Walking Dead". The original operation was called BEAR CLAW, but when 1/9 got into trouble when it encountered two battalions of the NVA 90th Regiment when they were sweeping around Con Thien. SLF-Alpha was committed to assist them on July 3rd. The first wave of helicopters landed 2,500 meters south of the designated LZ. By the time 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines had picked up its units and linked up with 3/9 on the right flank the fighting had waned. A UH-34 was "down" in the CoC area, CH53 lifted it out two days later. The 5th of July opened with a mortar barrage on companies A and C. Exchanges of mortar and artillery punctuated the next day.

03Jul67: CoB - Contact with NVA, fire fight 1-WIA

04Jul67: CoA - 20 Incoming Rockets 1-WIA, but were able to recover 3-USMC KIA from 1/9.

CoB - Received unknown number of Rocket rounds, 1-WIA.

BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines Alpha Command- Received 20 rounds incoming Rockets 1-WIA.

CoA - Two Bombs, one a dud landed inside company position/ Close Air Support/Friendly Fire incident, 9-WIA.

CoC - CH34 Helicopter down inside company area, non -hostile, apparent mechanical.

05Jul67: CoA - Received 100 rounds of incoming mortars, 60mm and 82mm, 5-WIA

CoC - Received additional 100 rounds of mortar fire at same time CoA, 1-WIA.

CoA - Recovered 8-USMC KIA from 1/9, assisted by Tanks from Alpha Co/3rd Tank Bn, Bodies sent to rear on the tanks. (Pictures of the Bodies on the Tanks, made the Stars and Stripes Newspaper, and possibly additional Newspapers at Home in the States.)

CoA - Night patrol checking area of Artillery mission, contact 1-WIA

06Jul67: Gas Agents were used against CoC by the NVA; incoming mortar rounds also killed 4 and wounded 3 CoC men.

07Jul67: A Marine tank was hit and the fighting was so savage that BLT 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines did not reach the tank to recover the bodies until the next day. Continues air strikes and artillery were fired, over 200 KIA NVA were spotted by aircraft, and (this was in addition to the immediate battlefield KIA CoC Marines saw.

08Jul67: In the morning, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines was ordered to withdraw. Complications were that it was daylight, 600 meters of open terrain had to be crossed, the battalion was in contact, two of the attached tanks were crippled, and the battalion had just received a much needed but cumbersome re-supply. The withdrawal was successful. The next four days, the battalion swept the perimeter of Con Thien, recovered the 11 bodies of 1/9, but paid in Marine casualties. With Buffalo nearing an end, Military Assistance Command Viet Nam (MACV) directed 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines join forces with 1/4 and do a southward sweep of the DMZ, operation HICKORY II was initiated.

Cost:

SLF424 communist confirmed KIA, 8 Marines KIA, 179 WIA. 1066 tons of bombs fell, 40,000 rounds of arty, 1,500 rounds of naval 8" gun ammo fired. Total cost of operation including SLF, USMC- 159 KIA and 345 WIA.

Enemy losses 1,290 People's Army of Viet Nam (PAVN) KIA. (This to defend Con Thien Combat Firebase and search and destroy area).

Per 3rd Marines-operations:

Bear Claw was 3rd Mar Div operation in Quang Tri Province vicinity of Con Thien, SLF part of operation Buffalo with 424 Enemy KIA and 29 U.S. KIA.

Operation Buffalo, totals with SLF were 1281 Enemy KIA and U.S. 125 KIA. BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines sustained 8-KIA's and 179-WIA's during the operation, while inflicting on the Enemy 424-NVA/KIA confirmed), 65-NVA/KIA (probable), and 2-POW/VCS.

06Jul67: CoC - Day Patrol received 10 rounds of mortar fire and small arms fire. 4-KIA and 3-WIA

CoA - Received incoming mortars (75 rounds throughout battalion area) 5-WIA

CoC - Involved in firefight. Believed to have 57mm Recoilless Rifle, lost one tank, two KIA not recovered.

CoB - Received unknown number of mortar rounds, 2-WIA.

CoB - Assisted by Companies A and D, and units from 3/9, approximately. Three NVA Companies of Infantry approaching from the north and east, reported to their front (some NVA wearing USMC uniforms including flack jackets and jungle boots), heavy incoming of mortars and rockets. Numerous air and artillery called in, also Klondike's on station. CoB reports Tear Gas from mortar rounds, and the NVA infantry are repelled. Night illumination is up. All secure with tentative casualty count 3-KIA and 19-WIA

KIA/Fallen: [SSgt Gilberto Caballero, Jr.](#) Co "H&S"

[PFC Verne M. Greeley](#) Co "B"

[HN Thomas L. McCarter](#) Co "H&S"

[Sgt Randall K. Russell](#) Co "H&S"

[SSgt John J. Malloy](#) Co "C"

[Sgt Donald C. Pike](#) Co "C"

07Jul67: CoB - Patrol out searching for bodies not recovered from fire fight yesterday, reached the burned out tank. No bodies, but 1-M-60 MG and 1- M-16 Rifle recovered. Monitored Air Operation Net, that 200 dead NVA forward of our positions.

08Jul67: 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines Recon - Found missing KIA, withdrawing, the area to be peppered with air artillery, and then a platoon from CoC will go in.

BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines - Ordered to withdraw from positions by 3/9, pulled back, and tied in with elements of 3/9, south of the Trace, for the night. The Missing KIA was recovered.

11Jul67: CoB - Patrol located a NVA Base Camp previously used, and found approx. 200 Dead NVA, in area not previously reported by AO.

14Jul67 to 16July67 HICKORY II:

Province: Quang Tri near DMZ.

Units: 9th Mar (HQ), BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines, 1/4.

Object: Search and Destroy operation, which was really a time-distance rapid sweep maneuver. The BLT received orders to move approximately 1500 meters in a day. Although the battalion remained prepared to engage the enemy, the speed required to make the move prevented the battalion from making a detailed search of the area.

Cost: 17 communist POW. BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines sustained no casualties, and captured 17-VCS.

16Jul67 to 18Jul67 KINGFISHER:

Province: Quang Tri around Dong Ha and Cam Lo area.

Units: 9th Mar (HQ), BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines, 2/3, 3/3, 2/4, 3/4, 1/9, 2/9, 3/9, 3/26, 3rd Mar (HQ), 3/3, 1/9, 2/9, 3/9.

Object: SLF-Alpha only spent the first two days starting the operation, and moved on. Operation Kingfisher lasted through 31Oct67 with 9th and 3rd Marines doing sweeps around Dong Ha and Cam Lo.

Cost:

Total operation USMC: 340 KIA and 1,462 WIA.

Enemy: 1,117 PAVN KIA.

Per 3rd Marines-Operations 3rd Mar Div operations in DMZ the losses were 1,117 Enemy KIA and 955 U.S. KIA.

20Jul67: KIA/Fallen: [PFC Ronald R. Barcalow](#) Co "A"

21Jul67 to 30Jul67 BEACON GUIDE:

Province: Thua Thien 18 miles S/E of Hue.

Unit: BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines

Object: Starting with surface and helicopter assault, BEACON GUIDE was a search and destroys operation. The sweep was part of III MAF's continuing plan to maintain pressure on the VC/NVA in the I Corps coastal area. C co came into LZ Quail at 0744. Company captured four VCs. An NVA base camp with ammo and other incidentals was uncovered. Lifted out from LZ Oriole on the 29th and into LZ Sparrow. This operation was conducted in three phases:

Phase I- Amphibious and Helo-borne Assault in Phu Loc District, assisted by G/2/26 as Blocking Force.

Phase II- Helo-borne Assault in Mountainous terrain with double canopy overhead in altitudes up to 482 meters.

Phase III- Helo-borne Assault from Mountains into Phu Tu Area to conduct thorough Search and Destroy operations. Light enemy contact. BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines sustained only 5-WIA, and had 3-VC KIA (probable) while capturing 22-VCS.

23Jul67: CoB - Found 10,000 lbs of rice, recovered.

25Jul67: CoB and D- Re-supply Helicopter down, mechanical, no casualties. Recovered on the 27th.

28Jul67: CoB - Patrol hit Booby Trap. 2-WIA
CoB - Patrol hit another Booby Trap. 1-WIA

29Jul67: CoB - Platoon member stepped into Punji Foot Trap, 10 additional found and destroyed. 1-WIA
CoA - Booby Trapped Grenade. 1-WIA

KIA/Fallen: [PFC Eric M. Dewey](#) Co "A"

31Jul67: BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines for the month of July participated in three Operations. Sustained 8-KIA and 188-WIA, while inflicting 424-VC/NVA KIA (confirmed), 68-VC/NVA KIA (probable), and capturing 41- VCS (POW) on the Enemy. Mostly during Operation Buffalo up at the DMZ.

07Aug67 to10Aug67 BEACON GATE:

Provinces: Quang Tin & Quang Nam- S/E of Hoi An.

Unit: BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines

Object: This was our only Amphibious Landing, C co Marines were aboard the USS Duluth for this assault. C co Marines landed along the coast at Blue Beach. Intelligence reports fixed elements of the V25 Local Force Battalion and other smaller VC units in the area of operation. During the four-day sweep the Marines were under constant sniper fire, and numerous VC were detained. The UH-1E gun ships were used extensively to suppress the snipers.

Cost: 12 communist KIA, 1 Marine KIA, 10 WIA.

BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines sustained 1-KIA and 12-WIA, while inflicting 12-VC KIA (confirmed) 4-VC KIA (probable), and capturing 26- VCS.

07Aug67: CoB - Small arms fire two flanks, 2-WIA

08Aug67: CoC - Patrol received heavy Sniper fire, 2-WIA

KIA/Fallen: [LCpl John L. Moreland](#) Co "C"

09Aug67: CoA - Received heavy sniper fire at night, 2-WIA

CoC - Spotted 2-VC on perimeter, small arms fire exchanged 1-WIA (This was at night/early morning and probably when PFC J. P. Bradford was wounded).

CoA - Marine stepped into Punji Pit, 1-WIA

10Aug67: CoA- Sniper fire, 1-WIA

CoB - Forward elements flushed 2-VC from tunnel complex, 1 VC threw Grenade, 2-WIA

11Aug67 to 29Aug67 COCHISE:

Province: Quang Tin- 7 miles east of Que Son.

Units: 1st Mar Div (HQ), Task Force X-ray, BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines, 1/5, 3/5, 2/11-Arty.

Object: This operation was approx 20 miles inland in the Que Son Mountains, to far inland for fixed artillery or naval gunfire support. Two companies of Marines (1st Battalion, 3rd Marines) were to be Helo in at the same time, with only Fixed Wing Aircraft and Helicopter Gun ships (ALL available from Da Nang and Chu Lia) for support. To land on the Ho Chi Minh Trail at the 3rd NVA Regimental Headquarters. Once a perimeter was set, a 4.2" (four-duce) mortar battery was to be brought in for support. The Briefing the night before advised every time recon went into area, they were chased out with a QUAD-50 (four 50 Cal Machineguns mounted together). Also that the enemy had every weapon C Co Marines had, plus their own.

11Aug676: BLT 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines was put under operational control of TASK FORCE X-RAY. The battalion was put in place at LZ GROUSE and received sniper fire. CoC Marines was a blocking force for the 5th Marines sweeping east. On the 16th during a sweep with elements of the 5th Marines, the BLT made HEAVY contact. Five Marine WIA could not be med-evaced out because of enemy fire. Arty and fixed wing came in to suppress. Four Marine KIA bodies could not be recovered for a day due to intense fire. When recovered the bodies were completely striped of gear and

clothes. Tanks were used extensively. On the 19th the company was airlifted to LZ Hawk to continue the sweep. Two VC were taken prisoner at the LZ. An NVA Officer, captured by 1/5, was turned over to C co and led us to 2 tons of rice. One detainee escaped in the C co perimeter, and when he could not be caught, he was shot. The enemy broke off contact that night, and the next day was punctuated with sniper fire. The BLT continued the sweep from Hiep Duc to Que Son, uncovering rice caches and receiving continued sniper fire.

12Aug67: CoB - Called in artillery mission, short round, and friendly fire incident. 1-WIA
CoB - Fire fight with 10 VC. 1-WIA

CoB - Contact with night listening post, fire fight, rounds into perimeter of
Company lines from VC. 1-KIA

KIA/Fallen: [LCpl Joseph A. Listorti](#) Co "B"

16Aug67: CoA - 20 2-lbs sticks of TNT found and destroyed in tunnel. The Company Commander entered tunnel to check out the situation, and was over come by lack of oxygen. He was medevaced. 1-Injury (possibly).

CoC - Squad Ambushed from Village and tree line, heavy fire fight, artillery and air strikes called in, too hot for Medivac's, Continued for approx 6-7 hours(till darkness), a Patrol sent to recover the bodies. 4-KIA and 7-WIA

KIA/Fallen: [PFC Raymond Harvey](#) Co "C"
[PFC Marvin D. Hawthorne](#) Co "C"
[Sgt John H. Jones](#) Co "C"

17Aug67: CoB - Night outpost got hit hard by automatic weapons fire and infantry, and was partially over-run. Outpost regained, but two friendlies unaccounted for. Company Commander estimated outpost attacked by probable platoon size enemy force. Unknown number of wounded Medevaced during the night. At first light area of outpost searched, all members accounted for, and had 13 NVA dead throughout, with numerous blood trails also. 1-KIA and 13-WIA total for the night.

KIA/Fallen: [Cpl Robert F. White](#) Co "C"
[HN John C. Burden](#) Co "H&S"
[LCpl David M. Calabrias](#) Co "B"

20Aug67: CoB - Booby Trap, 1-WIA

24Aug67: CoB - Booby Trap, 1-WIA

KIA/Fallen: [LCpl Frank E. Petrick](#) Co "D"

25Aug67: CoA - Sniper fire, 1-WIA

26Aug67: CoA - Sniper fire, 1-KIA
CoB - Sniper fire, 1-WIA

KIA/Fallen: [PFC Robert C. Smith](#) Co “A”

27Aug67: CoC - Booby Trap, 1-WIA

28Aug67: With the conclusion of the operation C/1st Battalion, 3rd Marines was transported to Chu Lia for the night and beer. Cost: SLF 9 Marines KIA and 51 WIA. 59 communist KIA, 65 POW. (SEE BOOK "PAYBACK" by Joe Klein, section payback- Operation Cochise-Que Son Valley- August 16, 1967. This is account of C/1st Battalion, 3rd Marines 2nd Platoon and the described action that day).

This operation consisted of three phases, Blocking Force, Helo-lifted inland, and Search and Destroy Operations from Hiep Duc to Que Son.

BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines sustained 8-KIA and 39-WIA, while inflicting 43- VC/NVA KIA (confirmed) 76- VC/NVA KIA (probable), and capturing 53- VCS/POW.

31Aug67: BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines participated in two operations, and sustained 9-KIA and 51-WIA, while inflicting 55- VC/NVA KIA (confirmed), 80- VC/NVA KIA (probable), and capturing 79- VCS/POW's for the month of August.

01Sep67 to 05Sep67 BEACON POINT:

Province: Thua Thien - Street without Joy again!

Units: 4th Marine Regiment, BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines.

Object: On September 1st, SLF-Alpha landed in the Thua Thien Province. for a southerly sweep of the by-now all too familiar "Street without Joy". Three airborne and one waterborne company. Snipers and booby traps were the only resistance encountered. CoC Marines landed at LZ Sparrow. CoC Marines lost 1 Marine to a booby trap and 5 WIA on the second day. A short round caused a Marine to be wounded on the 4th. Another was wounded by a booby trap, trip wire.

Cost: 2 Marine KIA, 34 WIA. 2 VC KIA, 25 POW.

BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines was slowed during the sweep south through the Street without Joy, having found a total of 71,500 lbs of RICE. 41,500 lbs of Rice was evacuated, and the remaining 30,000 lbs Destroyed. BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines also sustained the cost above, with 1-VC KIA (probable).

01Sep67: CoD - Sniper fire, 1-WIA
CoD - Sniper fire again, 1-WIA

KIA/Fallen: [Cpl Donald W. Keenan](#) Co “B”

02Sep67: CoD - Booby Trap, 2-WIA
CoC - Booby Trapped M-16 AP Mine, 1-KIA and 6-WIA

CoC - Another Booby Trap, 1-WIA
H&SCo - Received 2 incoming 60mm Mortar rounds, 4-WIA

KIA/Fallen: [LCpl George E. Norbut](#) Co "C"

03Sep67: CoD - Night LP received Sniper and Automatic Weapons fire, 1-WIA

04Sep67: CoC- Received one incoming friendly 105mm High Explosive round, possible short round of Harassing & Interdicting fire at night. Friendly Fire. 1-WIA

CoD - Lead elements hit Booby Trap, 2-WIA
CoD - Booby Trapped ChiCom Grenade, 1-WIA
CoD - Another Booby Trapped Grenade, 1-WIA
CoC - Booby Trap, 1-WIA
CoA - Booby Trap, 1-WIA

KIA/Fallen: [LCpl Johnnie W. Kelley](#) Co "D"

05Sep67: CoA Night fire fight with 1-VC on lines, 1-WIA
CoC Marines conducted a foot movement to the Camp Evans area.

06Sep67 to 09Sep67 FREMONT:

Provinces: Quang Tri & Thua Thien- south of Quang Tri.

Units: 4th Mar, 3rd Mar Div (HQ), BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines, 2/3, 1/4, 2/4, 3/26.

Object: HMM163, and UH-34d squadron reported aboard the USS Okinawa. The SLF-Alpha battalion trucked into a blocking position for a sweep by the 4th Marines. Snipers were the only active resistance. CoC Marines was transported by truck to our jump-off area.

05May67: 35 VC were spotted and 99 rounds of 105mm and 38 rounds of 155mm were fired in support.

07Sep67: CoB- Booby Trapped Grenade, 1-WIA

08Sep67: CoB - Punji Stake, 1-WIA
CoA - Booby Trapped Grenade, 1-WIA

09Sep67: CoC Marines were by trucked to COLCO RAMP for loading onto the ship. Operation Fremont had started the 7th of July and continued through October 31st for the 4th Marines and participating units. BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines was blocking force south of Quang Tri. 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines sustained no KIA and 3-WIA (Booby Traps), and did not make any contact with the enemy forces.

14Sep67: **KIA/Fallen:** [PFC Donald B. Dray](#) Co "A"

16Sep67 to 21Sep67 BALLISTIC CHARGE:

Provinces: Quang Nam & Quang Tin- 4 miles S/W of Dai Loc.

Unit: BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines Object: CoC was helo'd into LZ GOOSE; one "Doc" got shot while in the helo. Three other companies made a waterborne assault. The operation consisted of a rapid sweep to the north followed by a detailed search and destroy sweep to the south of Hoi An. A lot of incoming sniper fire, 2 VCs were detained and 1,000 punji stakes and about 1,000 pounds of rice were uncovered and destroyed.

Cost: 3 POW, 25 KIA, 55 detainees. 2 Marine KIA, 20 WIA BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines sustained the cost above for this operation.

16Sep67: CoC - Sniper fire into LZ into Helicopter, 1-WIA (Corpsman)
CoC - Sniper fire, 1-WIA
CoA - Sniper fire, 1-WIA
CoC - Punji pit, 1-WIA
CoB - Received unknown incoming rounds at night, large caliber 1-WIA

17Sep67: CoA - Received unknown large caliber rounds, 2-WIA'

18Sep67: CoD - Received incoming Mortar round, 2-WIA
CoC - Night Listening Post received SAF, 1-WIA
CoD - A Shrapnel injury (unknown type), 1-WIA
CoC - Marines spotted numerous VC and called in an Arial AO. He called in arty when he was fired on, 135 probable KIA. On the 19th, VC were spotted carrying what appeared to be a mortar, naval guns were called in with excellent coverage. Right after that the company was ambushed on three sides, arty was called in. Booby traps killed 1 from C co and 2 Engineers.

19Sep67: CoC- Attacked at night on three sides by VC, unknown number, fire fight. 4-WIA

BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines - Mortar Battery 2/12 attached to Alpha Command. A High-Explosive round exploded seconds after leaving the tube and was due to faulty fuse. Friendly fire incident, possibly in support of CoC being attacked above. 1-WIA

20Sep67: CoC - Booby Trap, 1-WIA
1st Battalion, 3rd Marines - Recon- Fire fight with 3-VC, 1-WIA

21Sep67: BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines - LVT attached to Battalion- Stray Sniper round, 1-WIA

CoC - Booby Trap, 1-WIA
CoC - Engineers attached to Company, probing a Mine with combat knives when it detonated. 2-KIA
CoC Marines were helo'd to 1st Marines area.

KIA/Fallen: [Cpl Ronald R. King](#) Co "H&S"

22Sep67 to 28Sep67 SHELBYVILLE:

Province: Quang Nam- 4 miles S/E of Dai Loc.

Units: 1st Mar (HQ), 2/1, BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines, 3/5, 1/11-Artillery.

Object: CoC Marines were airlifted into LZ HAWK 4 miles South East of Dai Loc. 2/1 occupied a blocking force to the east, and 3/5 blocked to the south. BLT 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines sweeps the operational area in an easterly direction. Sniper fire was the only enemy response.

Cost: 10 VC KIA, 7 possible KIA. 4 USMC KIA, 28 WIA, 13 KIA. BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines sustained the above cost for the operation. 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines also captured 28-VCS

20Sep67: 17 Vietnamese women and children were found in a village, most wounded. They stated the VC took them out of their bunker so the VC could use it and were hit by air strikes. 5 were KIA. They were med-evaced for treatment. Significant contact was made on the 26th by a VC company. Air and arty were called in with a number of VC KIA.

22Sep67: CoD- Punji Trap, 1-WIA
CoD - Punji Trap, again, 1-WIA
CoA - Punji Trap, 1-WIA

23Sep67: CoD - Incoming small arms fire into company lines during early morning hours, 1-WIA
CoD - Anti-personnel mine detonated, 3-WIA
CoA - Punji Trap with steel spike, 1-WIA
CoA - Punji Trap again, 2-WIA.
CoA - Night listening post received 15 rounds of automatic weapons fire, 1-KIA

KIA/Fallen: [PFC Otis L. Bush](#) Co “A”

24Sep67: H&SCo - Corpsman stepped into Punji Trap, 1-WIA

26Sep67: CoC - Booby Trapped Chico Grenade, 4-WIA's
CoD - Incoming Mortar rounds, 2-WIA
BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines - Alpha Command Group- Received 20 rounds of 81mm Mortar Fire Incoming, 1-KIA and 1-WIA (including one corpsman).
CoD - More Incoming Mortar rounds, 3-WIA's
CoA - While assisting Company B, who was under heavy enemy fire, attacked by the enemy with small arms fire and artillery weapons fire, 4-WIA
CoC - Booby Trapped Grenade, 3-WIA's

KIA/Fallen: [HN Paul W. Hill](#) Co “H&S”
[Cpl Henry P. Jackowiak](#) Co “H&S”

28Sep67: CoA - Booby Trap, 1-KIA and 4-WIA's
CoC Marines foot marched to LIBERTY BRIDGE for loading back aboard ship.

KIA/Fallen: [Cpl Donald R. Wood](#) Co "A"

30Sep67: BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines participated in four Operations for the month of September, sustaining 6-KIA and 107-WIA. 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines also inflicted 26- VC/KIA (confirmed), 19- VC/KIA (probable), and captured total of 111-VCS/POW's for the month. NOTE: Beach Party at China Beach between 1-9 Oct.

10Oct67 to 20Oct67 BASTION HILL/MEDINA:

Provinces: Quang Tri & Thau Thien - in the Hai Lang National Forest.

Units: 1st Mar (HQ), 1/1, 2/1, BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines, 1/4, 1/11(1st Battalion, 3rd Marines Bastion Hill).

Object: C/1st Battalion, 3rd Marines with battalion had gone into area to set up a blocking force in the mountains on October 10th, the day before the operation was to start.

Cost: 35 Marine KIA and 174 WIA. 64 communist KIA. The operation started with a heliborne assault into the area, and moving into the blocking positions. BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines sustained 10-KIA's and 48-WIA's while inflicting 8-VC/NVA KIA (confirmed), 25-VC/NVA KIA (probable), and capturing 8-VCS/POW's on the enemy.

10Oct67: CoD- Booby Trap, 1-WIA
BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines - Attached Btry A/1/12- Booby Trapped Mine, 1-WIA

11Oct67: CoC - Early morning incoming Artillery rounds, believed Friendly Fire (possible HARASSING & INTERDICTING fire-Short rounds), 2-WIA

CoC - Lines attacked and left flank OVER-RAN by estimated 25 to 50 man enemy force at approx.0400 hrs, 7-KIA's and 18-WIA's(including Captain-WIA and XO-KIA).

CoA - Patrol while searching area after C Co. Over-ran, fire fight, received SAF and Grenades, 2-WIA

At approximately, 0400 hours C/1st Battalion, 3rd Marines was over-run with lots of casualties including the Captain and XO both KIA. (Captain survived-WIA). SLF-Alpha's mission in the operation was to serve as a blocking force for the 1st Marines, on the eastern edge of the operational area. The Hai Lang forest contained the communist base Area 101, and elements of the 5th and 6th NVA Regiments. Except for a fierce action between company C and a company of NVA early on the 11th, the battalion's contact with the enemy involved scattered firefights, incoming mortar rounds, and booby traps.

CoD - Patrol received Sniper fire, 1-WIA
CoD - Incoming Grenade on lines, 1-WIA
CoC - Night Listening Post, incoming grenade or small satchel charge, 3-WIA's
and a radio damaged

KIA/Fallen: [LCpl James E. Flickinger](#) Co "C"
[PFC Vernon L. Hartman, Jr.](#) Co "C"
[Cpl Reese A. Jones](#) Co "C"
[Capt William H. Neuss](#) Co "C"
[Cpl William V. Penny](#) Co "C"
[LCpl David J. Ucker](#) Co "C"
[LCpl Jerry D Varner](#) Co "C"
[2ndLt Abram J. Welker](#) Co "C"

12Oct67: CoD - Patrol Ambushed, received artillery weapons fire, 1-KIA and 2-WIA sustained.

CoD - Booby Trap, 1-WIA
CoD - Night Ambush received artillery weapons fire, 1-WIA.

KIA/Fallen: [Cpl Frank N. Holsomback](#) Co "D"

13Oct67: CoD - Booby Trapped Grenade, 1-WIA

15Oct67: CoC - Night listening post heard movement, and they an outpost from Company A threw Grenades and fired M-79 rounds, possible Friendly Fire incident, 3-WIA.

CoD - Booby Trapped Grenade, 1-WIA.
CoC - Listening Post (early evening) received an incoming Grenade, 2-WIA.

Fallen: [LCpl Patrick L. Doyle](#) Co "D" (ACCIDENTAL HOMICIDE)

16Oct67: CoB - Night 81mm Mortar HARASSING & INTERDICTING Short round inside company perimeter, Friendly fire incident, 5-WIA

17Oct67: **KIA/Fallen:** [LCpl Peter A. Penfold](#) Co "1st Battalion, 3rd Marines"

12 to 15 VC were spotted through the Starlight scope, 60mm mortars were fired. On the 19th C co Marines moved by trucked to another area to start a sweep.

18Oct67: CoD - Early morning patrol, detonated Booby Trapped grenade, 1-WIA.

CoA - Accident, when the safety pin slipped from a grenade being set as a booby trap, friendly fire incident. 1-WIA.

20Oct67 to 23Oct67 LIBERTY II / FREMONT:

Province: Tinh Quang Tri, Quan Hai Lang sector

Units: 4th Mar (HQ), BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines.

Object: BLT moved by truck to a new blocking position west of Route 1 and the railroad between Hai Lang and Phong Dien. This operation was intended to prevent the Communist from disrupting the South Vietnamese National Assembly elections. BLT activity during the next 3 days involved squad and fire team patrols and encounters with the enemy. BLT 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines was trucked to Camp EVANS to await the next assignment. One of the major logistical considerations during this period was to get the Marines of 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines an extra poncho and liner, winter had come to Vietnam.

Cost: .BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines sustained No KIA and only 3 WIA, while inflicting 1-VC KIA(confirmed), 1-VC KIA (probable), and capturing 10-VCS/POW's during operation.

20Oct67: CoB - Night Ambush, contact with unknown number of VC with light MG or BAR, Fire fight, 1-WIA.

CoC - Booby Trapped Grenade, 1-WIA.

23Oct67: CoD - Booby Trapped Chicom Grenade, 1-WIA.

26Oct67 to 04Nov67 GRANITE:

Province: Tinh Thua Thien- Hai Lang forest again.

Units: 4th Mar (HQ), BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines, 1/4, ARVN

Object: A dawn helicopter assault into the Hai Lang forest started the operation for BLT 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines. The operation was a two battalion sweep into communist Base 114. 1/4 and BLT were under the operational control of the 4th Marines. The enemy consistently harassed the BLT, staying within a few hundred meters, and making night probes with a consistency not normally experienced. A friendly fire air strike wounded two marines, a "short" 60mm mortar round wounded another and an artillery round wounded yet another. The operation appeared jinxed. The Base Camp 114 was never located. The BLT returned to Camp Evans.

Cost: SLF-17 communist KIA. 3 Marines KIA and 17 WIA. 652 arty missions called 59 F4 sorties. BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines sustained 3-KIA and 24-WIA while inflicting 17-NVA /VC KIA (confirmed) and 28-NVA/VC KIA (probable) on the enemy during this operation.

27Oct67: BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines Recon- Patrol received SAF, 1-WIA.

28Oct67: CoD - Platoon Ambushed with artillery weapons fire, 1-KIA and 6-WIA.

KIA/Fallen: [Cpl Teddy L. Hisaw](#) Co "D"

29Oct67: CoB - Received artillery weapons fire, 2-WIA. *****

CoD - Fire fight with 10-VC, 2-WIA's.

30Oct67: CoA - Patrol in Fire fight with 4-VC, 1-KIA.

BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines - In other Actions, the BLT sustained 3-WIA. One of the wounded was from Company B, when a Friendly Aircraft was making a strafing run on a hill across the valley from BLT positions, and was struck by one of many falling shell casings (20mm Cannon Fire Casing) and his injury was non-emergency WIA.

KIA/Fallen: [LCpl Robert F. Renshaw](#) Co "A"

31Oct67: CoA - Received Artillery weapons fire, 2-WIA.
CoD - Ambushed, received artillery weapons fire, 2-WIA
CoD - Incoming 60mm Mortars, small arms fire, 1-WIA.
CoB - Contact with NVA patrol, Fire fight SAF, 4-WIA.

Operation "Granite" was still in progress at the end of reporting period, which included two other Operations. BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines sustained 14-KIA's and 70-WIA's while inflicting 11-NVA/VC KIA (confirmed), 24-NVA/VC KIA (probable), 1-NVA/VC WIA (probable), and capturing 14-VCS/POW for the month of October.

02Nov67: CoB - Received 8 rounds of 60mm Mortar fire, 1-WIA.

03Nov67: BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines Recon - Patrol screening the rear of BLT, was hit with artillery weapons fire, 1-KIA.

KIA/Fallen: [Cpl Edmund L. Palczewski](#) Co "H&S"

MEDAL: MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines (Reinforced) from 16Dec67 to 27Jan68.

06Nov67 to 16Nov67 KENTUCKY:

Province: Quang Tri- Con Thien area of DMZ.

Units: 3rd Mar Div (HQ), 1/1, 2/1, BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines, 2/3, 3/3, 1/4, 2/4, 3/4, 1/9, 2/9, 3/9, 1/26, 2/26, 3rd Tank battalion, 1st Brig 5th Infantry (US Army).

Object: CoC helo'd into CAM LO, sniper and mortar rounds were incoming into the company area. Operation KENTUCKY included the area between Cam Lo, Dong ha, and Con Thien.

Cost: 14 VC KIA, 7 KIA pos, 1 NVA POW. 3 Marines KIA, 12 WIA, 4 WIAne. Total operation-USMC-52 KIA and 3079 WIA. Enemy losses 3921 KIA. Per 3rdmarines-operations lists 107 U.S. KIA (Marines). BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines was in defensive positions in the vicinity of C-3 from the 6th-9th of November, assisting the 9th Marines in Phase II of Operation "Kentucky". Once the objectives were searched, units returned to C-3, and onto Dong Ha. On the 14th of November, Phase III of Operation "Kentucky" had started, with the Battalion being the 3rd Marine Division Reserve unit, at Dong Ha. BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines sustained 3-KIA and 16-WIA, while inflicting 14-VC/NVA KIA (confirmed) 7-VC/NVA KIA (probable), and capturing 1-NVA-POW on the enemy during the Operation.

10Nov67: The Battalion moved north to attack positions just short of the Trace, and began Attack north of the Trace on the 11th to seize different objectives.

CoC Marines moved out into the field to act as blocking force for 9th Mar.

CoA - Incoming Short round of artillery, friendly fire incident, 1-WIA.

11Nov67: CoD - Company while attacking regimental objective-B was taken under heavy fire at point blank range by automatic and semi-automatic SAF. The NVA were in well concealed bunkers and numbered approximately one platoon. Elements of the company returned fire on the enemy. 1 KIA and 15 WIA.

CoD - Company while attacking through objective-D made contact with an estimated squad of NVA well dug in. Elements physically assaulted the NVA positions. 1 KIA and 1 WIA.

KIA/Fallen: [PFC Dennis L. ODell](#) Co "D"
[LCPI Michael H. Yartymyk](#) Co "D"
[PFC William G. Davidson](#) Co "D"

12Nov67: CoC Marines walked into C3 and then helo'd to Dong Ha. Though BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines only participated in operation for 10 days, the original start of the operation was November 1st, 1967 and went till February 28, 1969.

24Nov67 to 27Nov67 BALLISTIC ARCH:

Province: Quang Tri- 7 clicks from the DMZ.

Unit: BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines

Object: The operation was a combined helicopter and surface assault of the Viet Cong held villages on the northern coast of Quang Tri. The operation targeted Communist sympathizers around the village of Mai Xa Thi. The expected contact did not occur, due to what was determined to be "poor intelligence". C co Marines landed at LZ ROBIN at 0700. After sweeping the AO, taking a little sniper fire, C co Marines went to the North of the Cua Viet River and an amphibious withdrawal from White Beach to Dong Ha.

Cost: 1 VC POW. BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines made limited contact with the enemy during the operation. There were no mining incidents or the enemy harassing activities, as the enemy chose to avoid contact and apparently moved out of the area. No fighting holes, bunkers, or fortifications of any kind were uncovered during the operation. The Battalion did not sustain any causality, and captured 1-VC/POW.

24Nov67: CoB or A - During the Amphibious Assault on Green Beach the seas were rough (surf conditions were considered hazardous), and water was knee deep in some of the LVT. Two Marines were sweep from the top on one of the LVT into the sea. Fortunately they were RESCUED.

30Nov67: BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines participated in three Operations (continued and finished Granite, both Phases II and III of Kentucky, and started Operation "Kentucky V") during the

month of November. BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines sustained 4-KIA and 17-WIA while inflicting 25-VC/NVA KIA (confirmed), 23-VC/NVA KIA (probable), and capturing 2-POW on the enemy.

29Nov67 to 29Dec67 KENTUCKY V:

Province: Quang Tri- between Con Thien and Gio Linh at A-3 fire base.

Unit: BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines. Object: BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines provided security at the NEW Fire Base A-3, as Marine Engineers built the bunkers and command post. Artillery three times daily, 0800 hrs, 1200 hrs, and 1600 hrs- set your watch to it. Rain and mud. On the 17th of December C/1st Battalion, 3rd Marines went to C-4 Fire Base, and had a major fight with the enemy north of C-4. That day a lot of our friends were burned with Napalm (our Napalm- friendly fire accident). C/1st Battalion, 3rd Marines was assigned to C-4 the remainder of the year, and till after TET was over. BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines while providing security for the Engineers to build A-3, had very little contact with the enemy. The Battalion was not to penetrate grid square 1770 to the south, due to a large concentration of Mines and Booby Traps. Between the 3rd and 19th of December, the enemy employed 85mm and 130mm Artillery, 102mm and 140mm Rockets, 82mm Mortars, and 57mm Recoilless Rifle Fire while Firing 578 Rounds into the A-3 area. 2 additional rounds were received at A-3 on the 27th. On the 29th, the operation ended with combined tactical foot and motor march to the Quang Tri Airfield Complex.

- 02Dec67:** KIA/Fallen: [LCpl Larry G. Williams](#) Co "C"
- 04Dec67:** KIA/Fallen: [Cpl Donald S. Riggs](#) Co "D"
- 05Dec67:** KIA/Fallen: [Cpl Damon E. Billingslea](#) Co "D"
- 06Dec67:** KIA/Fallen: [LCpl Micheal J. Pastva](#) Co "C"
- 09Dec67:** KIA/Fallen: [Maj Patrick E. Duffy](#) Co "H&S"
- 10Dec67:** KIA/Fallen: [Cpl Larry W. Birch](#) Co "H&S"
[HM3 Bruce L. Howard](#) Co "H&S"

11Dec67: CoC - On patrol south of A-3, the Company walked into a Mine Field. After hitting the 3rd Mine (apparent AP Mine), the Company backtracked out of the mine field, and returned to A-3. 1 KIA and 9 WIA.

KIA/Fallen: [Cpl Dennis M. Stevens](#) Co "C"
[Cpl Samuel Gray](#) Co "D"

16Dec67: CoC - The Company was ordered OPCON to the 1st AMTRAC BN., to C-4 Complex.

17Dec67: CoC - Moving to and patrolling north of C-4, made heavy contact with the NVA. During the Fire fight unknown number of friendly casualties (at least 1-KIA, and approximately 8-9 injured/wounded /burned by Napalm from Friendly Aircraft).

20Dec67: CoA - The Company was ordered OPCON to the 1st Amtrak Bn., and returned back to BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines on 01Jan68.

31Dec67: BLT-1st Battalion, 3rd Marines sustained 10-KIA's and 70-WIA's, while inflicting 2-VC/NVA KIA (confirmed), and 12-VC/NVA KIA (probable) on the enemy during the month of December.

MEDALS: Presidential Unit Citation, issued to Third Marine Division (Reinforced) for action against the North Vietnamese Army and Viet Cong Forces in the Republic of Vietnam from 8 March 1965 to 15 September 1967.

Presidential Unit Citation, issued to First Battalion, Third Marines Regiment, (SLF-A) from 25 April 1967 to 17 May 1967 (Operation Beaver Cage/Union).

Meritorious Unit Commendation issued to Third Marine Division (Reinforced) for heroic achievement in connection with operations against the enemy in the Republic of Vietnam from 29 November 1967 to 12 January 1968 and 16 December 1967 to 27 January 1968.

Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation, (Civil Action Medal, 1st Class Color with Palm), issued to First Battalion, Third Marines for period of 4 April 1967 to 20 September 1969.

Vietnam Service Medal. Personnel are authorized one bronze campaign star for each qualifying campaign with a silver star worn in lieu of five bronze stars.

1. Vietnam Advisory Campaign (15 March 1962- 7 March 1965)
2. Vietnam Defense Campaign (8 March-24 December 1965)
3. Vietnamese Counteroffensive (25 December 1965- 30 June 1966)
4. Vietnamese Counteroffensive (1 July 1966-31 May 1967) Phase II
5. Vietnamese Counteroffensive (1 June 1967-29 January 1968) Phase III
6. Tet Counteroffensive (30 January-1 April 1968)
7. Vietnamese Counteroffensive (2 April-30 June 1968) Phase IV
8. Vietnamese Counteroffensive (1 July-1 November 1968) Phase V
9. Vietnamese Counteroffensive (2 Nov 1968- 22 February 1969) Phase VI
10. Tet 69/Counteroffensive (23 February-8 June 1969)
11. Vietnam Summer-Fall 1969 (9 June-31 October 1969)
12. Vietnam Winter-Spring 1970 (1 November 1969-30 April 1970)
13. Sanctuary Counteroffensive (1 May-30 June 1970)
14. Vietnamese Counteroffensive (1 July 1970-30 June 1971) Phase VII
15. Consolidation I (1 Jul 1971 - 30 Nov 1971)
16. Consolidation II (1 Dec 1971 - 29 Mar 1972)

17. Vietnam Ceasefire Campaign (30 Mar 1972 - 28 Jan 1973)

Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation. U.S. Military units were individually cited for award of the Republic of Vietnam (RVN) Gallantry Cross; however, the Vietnamese Government issued the award to all units subordinate to Military Assistance Command (MACV) during the period 8 February 1962 and 28 March 1973 and to U.S. Army Vietnam and its subordinate units for the period 20 July 1965 to 28 March 1973. This permits all personnel who served in Vietnam to wear the RVN Gallantry Cross unit citation.

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal is awarded to personnel who meet one of the following requirements:

- a. Served in the Republic of Vietnam for six months during the period of 1 March 1961 and 28 March 1973.
- b. Served outside the geographical limits of the Republic of Vietnam and contributed direct combat support to the Republic of Vietnam and Armed Forces for six months. Such individuals must meet the criteria established for the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (for Vietnam) or the Vietnam Service Medal, to qualify for the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.
- c. Six months service is not required for individuals who were wounded by hostile forces; killed in action or otherwise in line of duty; or captured by hostile forces.

Combat Action Ribbon. Awarded to members in the grade of captain/colonel and junior thereto, who have actively participated in ground or surface combat?

1st Battalion, 3th Marines - KIA - Vietnam

Link to www.no-quarter.org - They made official US Government information on the casualties of the Vietnam War available to the general public

Last Name	First Name	Date of Death	Wall Location		Company
			Panel	Row	
Allen	Melvin L.	KIA May 4, 1967	19E	34	D-1-3
Allen	Billie A.	KIA Nov 2, 1966	12E	9	B-1-3
Anderson	Charles L.	KIA May 18, 1967	20E	24	B-1-3
Baird	Jackie R.	KIA June 07, 1967	21E	64	B-1-3
Balch	James I.	KIA May 3, 1967	19E	21	A-1-3
Benton	James A.	KIA April 27, 1967	18E	100	D-1-3
Berweger	Allan F.	KIA May10,1967	19E	77	B-1-3
Bishop	James M.	KIA May 10, 1967	19E	77	C-1-3
Borawski	James D.	KIA May 3, 1967	19E	22	A-1-3
Brown	Willie L.	KIA May19, 1967	20E	40	D-1-3
Brown	Steven A.	KIA July 4, 1967	22E	123	D-1-3
Button	Monty D.	KIA May 3, 1967	19E	22	A-1-3
Caballero	Gilberto	KIA July 7, 1967	23E	17	H&S-1-3
Carline	Troy M.	KIA May 3, 1967	19E	22	A-1-3
Castro	Reinaldo L.	KIA April 27,1967	18E	100	D-1-3
Cavazos	Martin	KIA May 5, 1967	19E	42	D-1-3
Cheek	Kenneth N.	KIA May 18, 1967	20E	22	A-1-3
Christensen	Edward J.	KIA May 18, 1967	20E	23	A-1-3
Cooper	James R.	KIA May 10, 1967	19E	79	C-1-3
Cuozzo	Frank X.	KIA May 10, 1967	19E	79	D-1-3
Dalgliesh	Mark A.	KIA May 18, 1967	20E	24	B-1-3
Darling	Albert J.	KIA May 10, 1967	19E	80	C-1-3
Dickerson	Tommy E.	KIA May 3,1967	19E	24	A-1-3
Dobbin	Louis D. II	KIA May 18, 1967	20E	24	B-1-3
Doyon	Paul F.	KIA May 18, 1967	20E	24	A-1-3
Duffy	Patrick E.	KIA Dec 9, 1967	31E	68	HQ-1-3
Dyer	Blenn C.	KIA April 27, 1967	18E	103	D-1-3
Falwell	Donald W.	KIA May 3, 1967	19E	24	A-1-3
Flack	Reginald	KIA May 20, 1967	20E	58	B-1-3
Foy	Thomas L.	KIA May 10, 1967	19E	80	B-1-3
Gilbertson	Ricky M.	KIA May 3, 1967	19E	25	A-1-3
Godwin	Stanley M.	KIA May 18, 1967	20E	27	B-1-3
Gomez	Jose M.	KIA May 4, 1967	19E	37	D-1-3
Greeley	Verne M.	KIA July 6, 1967	23E	18	B-1-3
Gutierrez	Ernest L.	KIA April 6, 1967	17E	109	A-1-3
Hall	Milton L.	KIA May 7, 1967	19E	53	D-1-3
Harvey	Raymond	KIA Aug 16, 1967	24E	117	C-1-3
Hawthorne	Marvin D	KIA Aug 16, 1967	24E	117	C-1-3
Hazzard	Frankin G.	KIA May 18, 1967	20E	28	B-1-3
Hickman	David A.	KIA May 4, 1967	19E	37	D-1-3
Hissong	Harry L.	KIA May 5, 1967	19E	43	D-1-3
Hollingsworth	Donald R.	KIA May 4, 1967	19E	37	D-1-3
Holsomback	Frank N.	KIA Oct 12, 1967	27E	95	D-1-3
Jones	John H	KIA Aug 16, 1967	25E	1	C-1-3
Jones	Reese A.	KIA Oct 11, 1967	27E	90	C-1-3
Keck	Russell F.	KIA May 18,1967	20E	30	A-1-3

Kelley	Johnnie W.	KIA Sept 4, 1967	25E	102	D-1-3
Kramer	Dennis D.	KIA May 18, 1967	20E	31	B-1-3
Land	Richard L.	KIA May 18, 1967	20E	31	B-1-3
Lar Rose	Joseph R.	KIA May 3, 1967	19E	28	A-1-3
Leonard	James S.	KIA May 18, 1967	20E	32	D-1-3
Macomb	Orrie	KIA May 18, 1967	20E	32	B-1-3
Mallon	Thomas J.	KIA Mar 3, 1967	19E	12	B-1-3
Mallon	Thomas W.	KIA May 2, 1967	19E	15	C-1-3
Malloy	John J	KIA July 6, 1967	23E	20	C-1-3
Mannion	Dennis J.	KIA May 5, 1967	19E	43	D-1-3
Mantooth	Jimmie	KIA June 67	21E	83	B-1-3
McKeon	Joseph T	KIA May 18, 1967	20E	32	B-1-3
McMahon	Fredrick A.	KIA May 4, 1967	19E	39	D-1-3
Minton	Donald W.	KIA May 4, 1967	19E	39	D-1-3
Mitchell	Clyde U.	KIA May 18, 1967	20E	32	B-1-3
Mitchell	Willie J. Jr	KIA May 19, 1967	20E	46	A-1-3
Moreland	John	KIA Aug 8, 1967	24E	90	C-1-3
Murry	Eugene	KIA May 3, 1967	19E	30	A-1-3
Neuss	William H	KIA Oct 11, 1967	27E	91	C-1-3
Norbut	George	KIA Sep 2, 1967	25E	88	C-1-3
Osborne	Samuel W.	KIA April 27, 1967	05E	14	D-1-3
Penfold	Peter A.	KIA Nov 17, 1967	28E	29	1/3
Pennington	Ronald K.	KIA April 27, 1967	18E	104	D-1-3
Penny	William V	KIA Oct 11, 1967	27E	91	C-1-3
Peterson	John A.	KIA May 28, 1967	21E	6	D-1-3
Petrick	Frank E.	KIA Aug 24, 1967	25E	40	A-1-3
Pike	Donald C.	KIA July 6, 1967	23E	22	C-1-3
Pittenger	Donald	KIA May 10 1967	19E	88	B-1-3
Plesakov	Luciano P.	KIA May 3, 1967	19E	30	A-1-3
Price	Barry C.	KIA May 20, 1967	20E	65	B-1-3
Reid	John M.	KIA May 10, 1967	19E	85	C-1-3
Remer Jr.	Charles B.	KIA May 2, 1968	54E	15	B-1-3
Rose	Robert J.	KIA May 3, 1967	19E	31	A-1-3
Russell	Randall K.	KIA July 6, 1967	23E	22	H&S
Russell	Gordon W.	KIA Feb1, 1967	14E	106	B-1-3
Sanders	Thomas	KIA May 10, 1967	19E	86	C-1-3
Sarmiento	Henry M.	KIA May 18, 1967	20E	49	B-1-3
Smith	Marvin	KIA Dec 17, 1967	32E	15	C-1-3
Sovey	Edward C. Jr.	KIA May 5, 1967	19E	40	D-1-3
Spicer	Eugene D.	KIA May 3, 1967	19E	32	A-1-3
Srsen	Steve A.	KIA January 27, 1967	14E	89	A-1-3
Stecker	John C.	KIA May 1, 1967	20E	50	B-1-3
Sweesy	John E.	KIA May 3, 1967	19E	33	A-1-3
Tremaine	Curtis L.	KIA June 3, 1967	21E	53	B-1-3
Turn	Henry L	KIA MAY 4, 1967	19E	41	D-1-3
Ucker	David	KIA Oct 11, 1967	27E	92	C-1-3
Urick	John W.	KIA May 3, 1967	19E	34	A-1-3
Varner	Jerry D.	KIA Oct 11, 1967	27E	92	C-1-3
Verbilla	David	KIA May 3, 1967	19E	33	A-1-3
Welker	Abram J.	KIA Oct 11, 1967	27E	92	C-1-3
Wilson	John T.	KIA May 18, 1967	20E	38	A-1-3
Woods	Sterling S	KIA May 10, 1967	33W	23	B-1-3

Yartmyk	Michael H	KIA Nov 11, 1967	29E	79	D-1-3
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Statistics – 21Dec66 – 11Dec67

Statistics - Date		Statistics - Date	
Date	KIA	Date	KIA
27-Jan-67	1	1-Sep-67	1
1-Feb-67	1	2-Sep-67	1
6-Apr-67	1	4-Sep-67	1
7-Apr-67	1	14-Sep-67	1
27-Apr-67	5	21-Sep-67	2
2-May-67	4	23-Sep-67	1
3-May-67	15	26-Sep-67	2
4-May-67	8	28-Sep-67	1
5-May-67	3	11-Oct-67	8
7-May-67	1	12-Oct-67	1
8-May-67	3	15-Oct-67	1
10-May-67	21	17-Oct-67	1
18-May-67	18	28-Oct-67	1
19-May-67	5	30-Oct-67	1
20-May-67	1	3-Nov-67	1
3-Jun-67	1	11-Nov-67	3
7-Jun-67	3	2-Dec-67	1
6-Jul-67	6	4-Dec-67	1
20-Jul-67	1	5-Dec-67	1
29-Jul-67	1	6-Dec-67	1
8-Aug-67	1	9-Dec-67	1
12-Aug-67	1	10-Dec-67	2
16-Aug-67	3	11-Dec-67	2
17-Aug-67	3		
24-Aug-67	1		
26-Aug-67	1		

Statistics - Company	
Company	KIA
1/3	2
A	33
B	32
C	33
D	30
H&S	16
Total:	146

Statistics - Operation	
Operation	KIA
Ballistic Charge	2
Bastion Hill/Medina	11
Beacon Gate	1
Beacon Guide	1
Beacon Point	3
Bear Bite	1
Bear Claw/Buffalo	6
Beaver Cage (Union)	55
Cochise	9
Colgate	3
Fremont	1
Granite	3
Hickory/Beau Charger	24
Kentucky	3
Kentucky V	9
Kingfisher	1
Shelbyville	4
Vietnam	9

Statistics - Rank	
Rank	KIA
Pvt	2
PFC	49
LCpl	38
Cpl	32
Sgt	7
SSgt	3
1stLt	1
2ndLt	3
Capt	1
Maj	1
ESN	1
HN	5
HN3	2



**50,000 NAMES
(Carved in the Wall)**

There's teddy bears and high school rings

And old photographs that Mamas bring, Of Daddies with their young boys, playing ball.

There's combat boots that he used to wear, When he was sent over there. There's 50,000 names carved in the wall.

There's cigarettes and there's cans of beer, And notes that say I miss you dear;

And children who don't say anything at all.

There's Purple Hearts and packs of gum,

And fatherless daughters and fatherless sons; And there's 50,000 names carved in the wall.

They come from all across this land, In pickup trucks and minivans; Searching for a boy from long ago.

They scan the wall and find his name, The teardrops fall like falling rain; And silently they leave a gift and go.

There's Stars of David and Rosary Beads,

And Crucifixion figurines,

And flowers of all colors, large and small.

There's a Boy Scout badge and a merit pin,

Little American Flags waving in the wind;

And there's 50,000 names carved in the wall.

