HEADQUARTERS
1st Combined Action Group
III Marine Amphibious Force
FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

Command Chronology
Unit: /= CaG
Date&Page: 7/69
Chronology
Chronology

6/JEH/djm 5700 Ser: 020-69 14 Aug 1969

(Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1))

From: Commanding Officer

To: Gommandant of the Marine Corps (Code AO3D)

Via: (1) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force

(2) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1 July 1969 to 31 July 1969

Ref: (a) MGO P5750 LLA

(b) FMFPacO 5750.8A

Eacl: (1) lat Combined Action Group, III Marine Amphibious Force
Command Chronology

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

2. Downgraded at 3-year intervals, declassified after 12 years, DOD Dir 5200.10.

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8 July

#### DECLASSIFIED

# Command Chronology Unit: /-3-2 +9 Date&Page: 7/69 p.TIT-4

New Life Hemlet and moved to that area where civilians and RD codremen stated 4 VC, dresse in ARVII uniforms and wearing 2d ARVII Division patches, had entered the hamlet and opened fire on the RDs. The RDs returned fire and the 4 VC broke contact and withdrew SV. RESULTS: 1 RD VIAM.

CAP 1-3-2. A VN civilian brought a 105mm round and a brngalore torpedo to CAP at BS 577905. The CAP destroyed the ordnance and made a VIP payment. RESULTS: 1 105mm round and 1 bangalore torpedo destroyed.

CAP 1-3-2 2 105mm rounds were delivered to CAP at BS 577885 by a VN nale civilism. The rounds were destroyed and a VIP payment nade. RESULTS: 2 105mm rounds destroyed.

CAP 1-4-3. I female and 3 male Hoi Chanhs turned themselves in to CAP at BS 768827. The Hoi Chanhs reported they had been operating in the vicinity of BS 595866 but had been driven E by airstrikes. The Hoi Chanhs also reported to the CAP that VC live in large tunnels at BS 777836. Further interrogation is being conducted by VN officials. CAP swept the area of the reported tunnels on 8 July 1969 with negative findings. RESULTS: 4 Hoi Chanhs.

CAP 1-1-4. CAP received SAF and 1 60mm mortar round from approx 6 VC in a tree line at BT 262203. The CAP returned organic weapons fire and called an artillery mission, causing the VC to flee SW. A sweep of the area found 4 VC KIA. RESULTS: 4 VC KIA.

CAP 1-3-5. CP in the hamlet at BS 712973 \*\*\*
received approx 400 rounds of SAF from an \*\*\*
USET at grid BS 708966. The CAP element \*\*
returned fire with organic weapons, illuminations.

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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14 July

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ing. The Hoi Chanh was delivered to Binh Son District Headquarters for further interrogation. RESULTS: 1 Hoi Chanh, 1 HVA/VC KIA, 500 lbs of rice and foodstuffs, 2 chicon grenades, 1 NVA pack, and 3 ponchos

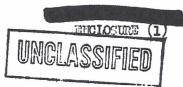
CAP (1-3-9) A patrol apprehended 2 VM femile: at grid BS 513876, after it was determined they had information concerning VC activitie in the area. The suspects were turned over to the DIOCC for interrogation. RESULTS: 2 VCS.

CAP 1-4-2. 1 VC Hoi Chanh, age 44, and 2 boys agos 10 and 7, surrendered to CAP at BS 777858. They informed the CAP of on unknown number of enemy at grids BS 732893, 695898, and 7285 and reported tunnels and bunkers in grid DS 7289. The enemy was alleged to be from the 48th Regiment commanded by LE\_THO. Weapons were reported to consist of 2 81mm mortars, 2 60m mortars, 8 M-79s, 3 50mm (NFI), 15 M-16s, a number of AK-47s, 8 B-40 rocket launchers (NTI), a quantity of AP mines, and one 90rm RR. The Hoi Chanh stated the enemy had been in t'oso locations for about one week and that they were to stay there for another week. The TAOR commandor was notified. RESULTS: 1 Hoi Chanh and 2 boys.

CACO 1-3. Reported that Binh Son District Hoadquartors at BS 602922 received 5 incoming 82mm mortar rounds from grid BS 628938; causing negative casualties or damage. Artillery was called on the energy gun position and a first light swoop of the erea was conducted by CAP 1-3-7. RESULTS: Nogativo.

CAP 1-3-3. An element was moving into . . position vicinity BS 665960 to act as a .... blocking force for an RF sweep when it. received 62mm mortar, AV, abd SAF from 2010. ostinated 50 enemy located in fortified po-sitions. 1 PF was KIA in the initial contact. The CAP element returned fire, re-... quested artillery and gunship support, and colled the romainder of the CAP as reinforcoments. CAP 1-3-3 moved to BS 664973

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HEADQUARTERS
1st Combined Action Group

III Marine Amphibious Force FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

6/JEH/glc 5700 Ser: 024-69 10Sep69

TIME (Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1))

From: Commanding Officer

To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)

Via: (1) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force (2) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1 August 1969 to 31 August 1969

Ref: (a) MCO P5750.11A

(b) FMFPacO 5750.8A

Encl: (1) 1st Combined Action Group, III Marine Amphibious Force Command Chronology

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

2. Downgraded at 3-year intervals, declassified after 12 years, DOD Dir 5200.10

J. E. HENNEGAN

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Command Chronology
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(h) CACO 1-3 experienced the greatest mount of many activity with fourty-eight significant contacts. The enemy continues to use the fong Tra Dong River and surrounding valley as a primary infiltration route into Quang Rgri Province. The enemy usually tries to navigate around the areas controlled by the CAP's but due to aggressive patrolling and ambushing he is frequency intercepted. The Popular Forces are gaining self confidence by successfully engaging the enemy with the CAP's.

1-3-9,2+8

- (5) CACO 1-h established two new CAP's caring the period; CAP 1-h-5 and CAP 1-h-6 seven kilometers south of the Catengan Penninsula. Based on the number of enemy sighting in the area, it appears that these new CAP's will be very productive in the coming months. Contact was relatively light in CACO 1-h's area with only seven significant contacts for the period. The Company received two Hoi Chambs, captured eight VCS during the month and accounted for one (1) enomy. ELA.
- (6) The following statistics are the results of 1st CAG's operations and activities for the month of August:
  - (a) Friendly Activities

Night Petrols 85 Day Patrols 826 Ambushes 1495

(b) Enemy Casualties/Losses

KTA FON DETATIONES CHIEU HOT'S/HOT CHANN'S

(c) Weapons and Ordnance Captured

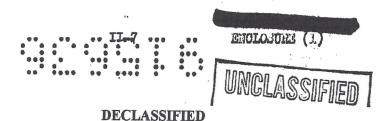
INC CSWC

(d) Friendly Casualties Sustained

	KIA	WIAS	WIAH	MILA	POW
USMC	6	3		0	0
TUSET	0	1	0	0	0
1 <b>T</b>	2	9	1.	Ω	0

#### c. Training

- (1) General. Formal training covered the subjects of General Military Subjects, Leadership, Small Unit Tastics, Infantry Weapons and Supporting Arms. Fersonal Response and Vietnamese Language was included for USEC personnel only.
- (2) CAI Training. The individual CAP's conducted daily classes as directed by the Group training schedule which is propulgated weekly for the coming week. Each CAP leader returns the schedule at the completion of the training





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16 Aug

17 Aug

18 Aug

CAP 1-4-2. 2 VN civilians received VIP payments for informing CAP of the location of 1 40mm round and 75 rounds of 30 cal. ammunition, at DS 777858. The ordnance wnd destroyed. RESULTS: 1 40mm round and 75 rounds of 30 cal. ammunition destroyed.

CAP 1-3-9. OP called an artillery mission on an astimated plateon of VC at BS 473863. A sweep of the area produced negative results. RESULTS: Norativo.

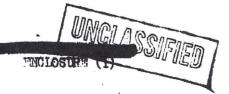
CAP 1-4-4. After receiving 5 groundes from on USEF, and roturning organic weapons fire, CAF 1-4-4 was informed by RD's of a large VC force present in a village at BS 758819. The CAP proceeded to the village and initiated organic weapons fire on an USEF spotted leaving the village. The enemy returned SAF and the CAP called for artillory and gunship support. A sweep of the area produced 1 M-33 and 1 M-26 granade, and ovidence that a platoon size or larger VC unit had been present in the village. RESULTS: 1 M-33 and 1 M-26 granedes captured.

CAP 1-1-4. Elements on a sweep tripped a hooby trapped M-26 granade at III 260170. causing 1 USIC WIAM. EMEULAS: 1 USIC TAM.

CAP 1-4-4. 2 VN boys were rewarded for reporting the lecation of ordnesse to C.P. One for reporting the location of a booby trapped 105mm round at BS 749814, the. other for reporting a 60mm dud at DS 746813. The ordnance was blown in place. RESULTS: I booby trapped round and I dud 60mm round dostroyod.

CAP 1-3-8 Porsonnol, while holping RDs propose fields of fire vicinity BS 582924. recuived one incoming grande wounding 1 USMC. The CAP CP at BS 582923 opened fire on suspected anamy positions and received approximately 50 small arms rounds from an ostimated 20 VC who immediately aveded to the SW. Artillery was employed on possible withdrawnl routes and a sweep was conducted with negative further contact. RESULTS: 1 USMO VIAT.





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1st Combined Action Group
III Marine Amphibious Force
FPO, San Francisco, California.96602

#### COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 September 1969 to 30 September 1969

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DOWNGRADED AT 3-YEAR INTERVALS DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12-YEARS

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ENCLOSURE (1)



## 2. Intelligence

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#### a. General

- (1) The month began with a continuation of the previous month's lull in enemy initiated activity. Once again, the majority of contact was centered around the Third Company's TACC in Quang Ngai Province. This month however, the Third Company capitalized on the enemy's presence by leading the four companies in total kills for the month. The Second Company, in the area of Ly Tin District, conducted at least two productive ambushes that resulted in two VC KIA and one crow-served weapon captured. Although they received the least contact of all the CACO's, they continued to influence the people to support the GVN, and received one Chicu Hoi for their efforts. The majority of the kills were produced between the 13th and the 28th of the month, as the enemy attempted to use this period of negligible mechlight to conduct his night activities. Third and Fourth companies received the largest amount of contact, and claimed 140 kills during the month.
- (2) First Combined Action Company, the hotbed of contact in recent months experienced fewer kills than in the past. During the month; they claimed 8 enery kills and one individual weapon captured. Recently, the CAPs in the northwest partions of the TAOC (including 1-1-4, 1-1-6, and 1-1-7) have been plagued by the presence of a large amount of mines and booby-traps. Procutions are being taken to mark the mined areas as well as collect and destroy the ordnance. The CACC suffered 7 Marines WIA and 5 IT soldiers WIA, as well as 3 PF soldiers killed, the najority of which were casualties of mines and booby-traps.
- (3) The Second Combined Action Company continued in its role of security for the Ly Tin area. Enemy activity consisted of mortar attack on the Ly Tin District headquarters. The mortars did slight damage to an Army vehicle. Other highpoints included two successful arbushes that resulted in 2 VC KIA and one crow-served weapon captured.
- (4) The Third Cerbined Action Company, historically the center of centered in the Group, proved their worth on the 13th of the month, they killed 116 MVA soldiers in one night. The 6th Battalian, 21st Regiment, NVA infiltrated the village and thoughted to eliminate the CAT 1-3-9. Their objective was to central the village of An Phong for two days. They were unsuccessful due to the determined efforts of the CAP. In the morning, an additional reaction force was sent from First CAG Headquarters that included the CO and S-3 Officer. Later that day, the CO was WTA minor, and not evacuated. The results of the bettle, from the CAP with the help of it's support were 116 NVA KIA. In additation to destroying almost half of the village, the energy killed a number of civilians. Activity during the remainder of the month was limited to hardss.
- (5) The Fourth Company had frequent contact throughout the month. CAPs 1-4-5 and 1-4-6 were confronted with the 48th Bn. The company had 24 enemy kills, and collected 19 POW's. During one airstrike, numbers of the CAP

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team observed a vehicle itternal of avoid the bombs by racing for about 60 meters in the open from one truling to another. This evasion woved effective, as the foreward air controller failed to spot the vehicle. Although the CACO failed to produce its usual big number of Chicu Hois, the CAP was successful in the apprehension of 19 POWs.

- (6) In retrespect, the month saw only one large ground attack, which was in the Binh Son area, at CAP 1-3-9. The attack, as teld by a POV taken from the action, was primarily for political reasons. First of all, it was to show the people of An Phong that the GVN is unable to protect them. The attack was timed to disrupt the elections which were slated for the following day. The idea was to held the village for two days and then retire back into the mountains.
- (7) With the First Company being hampered by booby-traps, and the Second Company relatively quiet, the only other fighting occured in the area nertheast of Quang Ngai City, where the two new TACC's of the Fourth Company coincide with the reported location of the VC 48th MF Bn. The future of the two new CAPs rosts with their ability to force the 48th Bn out of their TACC, or destroy them completely. The presence of a vehicle in the hands of the 48th Bn tends to demonstrate that they are well established and will be difficult to move out. Intelligence sources point to an increase in energy activity in Quang Ngai for the coming menth.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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assignment of a liaison officer from the proximate battalion (1/6) to the PII-7District advisory staff has proven extremely helpful and greatly reduced coordination problems. The increase in enemy activity in CAGO 1-2's TAGO resulted in two (2) enemy KIA for the period.

- (4) During the reporting period CACO 1-3 came to the foreground with the largest number of enemy kills as a result of the battle of An Phong (1) on 13 Setember when the 6th Battalion, 21st Regiment NVA infiltrated the village and attempted to annihilate the CAF and capture the village. Due to the support of the people in protecting the CAP Marines and the aggressive fighting spirit of the Marines the enemy failed and lost one hundred sixteen (116) soldiers in the battle. CACO 1-3 continued to participate in numerous combined operations with the Regional Forces in Binh Son District. One such operation of particular note was one involving CAP's 1-3-1, 1-3-3 and 1-3-4 and an RF Company in the vicinity of the Dong Le hamlets. The RF's were met with a heavy volume of automatic weapons fire from the surrounding high ground. CAF 1-3-3 lost their corpsman KIA during the one day operation. The Dong Le's have been targeted by the District Chief as an intensive pacifications area and plans are underway to relocate CAP 1-3-4 into that area. Indications are that an increase in the enemy activity in CACO 1-3's area is forthcoming.
- (5) CACO 1-4 experienced a moderate amount of activity with CAP's 1-4-4, 1-4-5 and 1-4-6 providing the bulk of the contacts and sightings. The mnewy continues to maintain sizeable forces in the area north, northwest of CAP 1-4-5 and 1-4-6. CACO 1-4 participated in a total of twenty seven (27) cobined operations, most of which were to protect the rice harvesting operations of the villagers. Indications are that CACO 1-4 can expect and increase in enemy activity along with CACO 1-3.
- (6) The following statistics are the results of 1st CAG's operations and activities for the month of September:
  - (a) Friendly Activities

Might Patrols 932 Day Patrols 1643 Ambushos

(b) Enemy Casualties/Losses

KIA CHIEU HOI'S/HOI CHANH'S DETAILEES POW 151 20

Weapons and Ordnance Captured

INC 78



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#### 11 Sept 69

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P-7/1-3

CAP 1-2-3. An embush initiated erganic weapons fire on 4 VC moving N at BT 440907. The enemy fled NN and NE. One VC escaped through a dual entrance bunker which the CAP subsequently destroyed. The sweep of the area disclosed 1 VC KIA, 1 RPG, 3 B-40 rounds, 3 chicom grenades and miscellaneous individual equipment. RESULTS: 1 VC KIA, 1 CSVC, 3 B-40 rounds and 3 chicom grenades destroyed; and miscellaneous individual equipment captured.

CAP 1-3-6. Acting on information from a KCS, the CAP detained 3 VCS at BS 574937. 1 VCS was in possession of 2 dissimilar ID cards. The VCS were turned over to Binh Son District Headquarters for interrogation. RESULTS: 3 VCS.

## 12 Sept 69

CAP 1-2-4. A patrol received SAF from approximately 10 VC in spider holes at 3F 448072. The CAP returned organic weapons fire and were reinforced by NF's and RD's. The VC fled in an unknown direction, 1 USHC was NTA(E) in the contact. A sweep of the area disclosed several spider holes, a small tunnel and 1 VC canteen. RESULLS: 1 USHC WIA(E).

CAP 1-1-7. An ambush observed 1 mortar round hit a friendly village at EE 297287. The mortar, later determined to be 82mm, resulted in 7 VN civilians MIA(E). RESULES: 7 VN civilian MIA(E).

CAP 1-3-4. A Noi Chanh turned himself over to PF's at BS 622008. The Hoi Chanh surrendered 2 chicom grenades which the CAP destroyed. The Hoi Chanh was delivered to District Headquarters for interrogation. RESULTS: 1 Hoi Chanh, 2 chicom grenades destroyed.

CAPs 1-4-5 and 1-4-6, and a platoon of RF's from the 380 RF Company conducted 2 all day search and clear operation in the vicinity of BS 704792. 9 VCS without ID Cards were detained. As the sweep continued, CAP 1-4-6 called an artillery mission on 7 VC spotted at BS 703794. The CAP received heavy SAF in return from the 7 VC and an USEF at BS 705794. Airstrikes requested by the CAP silenced the enemy at both positions. A sweep of the area was nonproductive. RESULTS: 9 VCS.

# 13 Sept 69

CAF 1-1-7. Thile CAP was participating in a sweep with Biot Hop forces, a booby trap (NFI) was tripped wounding one USN and one Biet Lop. As the booby trap exploded, an USEF at BF 278282 initiated SAF. The joint forces returned SAF and called an artillery mission causing the enemy to flee in an unknown direction. A sweep of the area was nonproductive. RESULTS: 1 USN TIA(M), 1 Biet Lop TIA(M).

CAP 1-3-9. An estimated 2 NVA Companies attacked the village of An Phong at BS 473877, in an attempt to overrum CAP 1-3-9. The NVA used satchel charges, granades, SA, AN, RPG, and mortar fire during the assault. The CAP returned organic weapons fire and was supported by artillery, speckies, and flareships. The CAP was reinforced at 0930 by an RF Company and at 1130 by A 1/52 USA. Present count of enemy toll is 60 KIA. Numerous weapons have been captured. 1 USMC and 1 USM

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were KIA. Fight PF's were KIA. 2 USNC and 1 USN were wounded. N'SSULTS: "(NOT FINAL) 60 NVA KIA, numerous weapons captured, 1 USNC KIA, 1 USN KIA, 8 PF's KIA, 1 USNC WIA(E), 1 USNC VIA(M), 1 USN UIA(M).

CAP 1-1-5. Quang Tin Province Headquarters received 2 122mm rockets at ET 298221. A patrol at ET 312175 heard the rockets launched from the vicinity of ET 304170. The CAP patrol reported the suspected launch site and remained in position. A subsequent sweep of the suspected rocket launch site turned up a SFD composed of an M-16 rifle ammunition can filled with explosive and right with a trip wire firing device. The SFD was blown in place. RTS UUTS: 1 SFD destroyed.

# 14 Sept 69

CAP 1-3-9. MD's who reinforced CAP took 1 NVA prisoner. He is reportedly a PFC from the 10th Company, 6th Battalion, 21st Regiment, 2nd NVA Division. The prisoner is still undergoing interrogation. The latest count of NVA KIA is 116. Seventy TV and CSV were captured. Friendly casualties remain unchanged. RESULES: (To be added to results of item #21 of CAP OPSUM of 13 SEPTEMBER 1969) an additional 56 NVA KIA, 70 IV and CSV captured, 1 POV (NOT CAP).

CAP 1-3-6. Acting on information from the village chief, CAP detained 2 VCS at ES 574937. The VCS were taken to District Headquarters for interrogation. RESULES: 2 VCS.

CAP 1-4-5. An ambush received 13-15 rounds of 60mm mortar fire from an USIFF in the vicinity of BS 765824 and BS 761825. The CAP called artillery on both locations silencing the mortars. A CAP 1-4-4 sweep of the area found 2 VC KIA, 1 AK-50 and 1 M-72 LAAV. RESULTS: 2 VC KIA, 2 TWC.

#### 15 Sept 69

CAP 1-3-9. Of the 70 weapons coptured by CAN 1-3-9 on 13 Sept 69, 68 were IV and 2 were CSW. RESUMES: 68 INC. 2 CSMC.

CAP 1-4-6. A patrol initiated SAF on 1 VC spotted at BS 717787. The VC was KIA. A search of his body revealed a document indicating the individual had been a VC for 1 year. RESULTS: 1 VC KIA, document captured.

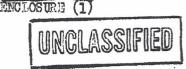
CAP 1-3-3. While at CP, 1 USMC was UTA(E) by a sniper in the vicinity of ES 675985. The CAP did not return fire due to friendlies in the area. RUSUMES: 1 USMC WIA(E).

# 16 Sept 69

CAP 1-1-3. An ambush initiated organic weapons fire on the point element of an estimated VC Company at HP 351172. The enemy returned fire on the CAP who requested and received spocky support. The VC fled to the SV. A sweep of the area revealed 4 VC KIA and 3 AK-47 magazines. 1 PF was KIA and 1 PF was VIA(E) in the

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16 Sept 69

contact. RESULTS: 1 FF KIA, 1 FF WIA(E), 4 VC KIA.

CAP 1-3-9 CP sew 3 60mm morter rounds hit in the hamlet of An Phong (1) at BS 473863. The CAP called an artillery mission on a suspected mortar position at HS 457870, silencing the mortars. 5 VH civilians were KIA and 35 VN civilians were wounded. No damage to property was recorded. RESULES: 5 VN civilians KIA, 22 VN civilians WIA(E), 13 VN civilians WIA(M).

## 18 Sept 69

CAP 1-4-6. A Hoi Chanh turned himself in to CAP at BS 719788. The Hoi Chanh was delivered to District Headquarters for interrogation. RMSULTS: 1 Hoi Chanh.

CAP 1-3-5. CAP went mobile and effected relocation in the form of a major enlargement of its TACC. The gaographic center of the new TACC is at BS 71.0956. The Vietnamese element of the CAP is composed of PF platoons 180, 184, and 132.

CAPs 1-4-5 and 1-4-6. While participating in a joint operation with RF units, CAP 1-4-5 and RF Company 199 received approximately 10 rounds of 60mm mortar fire and SAF from on USOF in the vicinity of BS 709795. The CAP and RF's returned organic weapons fire and called an artillery mission causing the enemy to flee in an unknown direction. 3 RF's were KIA and 4 RF's were wounded in the contact. A sweep of the area was nonproductive. During the same operation airstrikes were called on an estimated 30 VC in the vicinity of BS 697795. A sweep of the area revecled 2 VC KIA. RESULES: 3 RF's KIA (Not CAP), 4 RF's TA(E) (Not CAP), 2 VC KIA (Not CAP).

# 20 Sept 69

CAP 1-1-1. CAP and RF Company 172 in NDP a received 60mm morter rounds from an USEF in the vicinity of BT 288188. CAP 1-1-5 fired morter illumination in support of CAF 1-1-1 and RF Company. 2 RD's were KIA, 3 RD's were VIA(E) and 8 RF's were WIA(F) in the morter attack. A davlight sweep of the contact area was nonproductive. RESUITS: 2 RD's KIA, \* RD's MIA(E), and 8 RF's WIA(E).

While participating in a joint operation with RF companies 380 and 932, CAP 1-4-5 and the RF companies received heavy SAF from an USEF in the vicinity of BS 732775. The CAP and RF's returned organic weepons fire and called airstrikes on the enemy causing them to flee in an unknown direction. During a sweep of the area, the EM units found 1 NVA KIA and captured 3 VC, 1 M-1 carbine, various documents, and medical supplies. One Hoi Chanh turned himself in to the RF's. RESULTS: 1 NVA KIR (Not CAP), 3 VC POV (Not CAP), 1 Hoi Chanh (Not CAP), 1 TXC (Not CAP), miscelleneous documents and medical supplies captured (Not CAP).

#### 22 Sept 69

CAF 1-1-7. One IF was KIA and 1 PF was WIA(E) when an M-26 granade booby trap was tripped during a patrol in the vicinity of BT 309291. As the booby trap exploded the CAP patrol received SAF from an USEF at 30 305297. The CAP

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