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10770 P942 of 12 October 1971.

P. B. Velling 3/10/77
Signature/date

1st Amphibious
Command Chronology

~~SECRET~~
NSC-310-2 1969

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HEADQUARTERS
1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion
9th Marine Amphibious Brigade FMF
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

0017249

3/WAG/jtm
Ser: 003A21369
1 August 1969

SECRET - Declassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade

Subj: Command Chronology for period 14 July to 31 July 1969

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8A
(c) BrigO 5750.1C

Encl: (1) 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion Command Chronology

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

W. A. Grubbs
W. A. GRUBBS

1st AMTRAC BN
14-51440 69

GROUP - 4
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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion (C)

Maj W. A. GRUBBS
14-31 July 1969SUBORDINATE UNITS

H and S Company

1stLt E. L. BARLOW
14-28 July 1969
1stLt J. L. HARNEY
29-31 July 1969ATTACHED UNITS

C Company, 3d Tank Battalion (C)

1stLt R. M. FLICK
14-31 July 1969

A Company, 3d Anti-Tank Battalion (C)

1stLt J. W. JACKSON
14-31 July 1969

1st Armored Amphibian Tractor Company (C)

1stLt L. E. ALLEN
15-31 July 19692. LOCATION

1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion, 14-31 July 1969;
Camp Schwab, Okinawa
C Company, 3d Tank Battalion (C), 14-31 July 1969;
Camp Hansen, Okinawa
A Company, 3d Anti-Tank Battalion (C), 14-31 July 1969;
Camp Hansen, Okinawa
1st Armored Amphibian Tractor Company, 15-31 July 1969;
Camp Schwab, Okinawa

3. STAFF OFFICERS

S-1

1stLt J. H. BENZ JR
14-31 July 1969

S-2/S-3

1stLt M. I. PETERSON
14-31 July 1969

S-4

1stLt K. L. T'KINDT
14-31 July 1969**SECRET**

SECRET

Communication Officer

CWO2 R. E. JOHNSTONBAUGH
14-31 July 1969

Supply Officer

1stLt K. L. T'KINDT
14-31 July 1969

Maintenance Officer

1stLt R. L. SPENCE
14-31 July 19694. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
12	248	0	3

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. General Overview of all Activities. During this reporting period, 14-31 July 1969, 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion went under the Administrative Control of the 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade (ref CG, 3d Mar Div msg 180352Z July 69). Operational Control of the Battalion was maintained by the 3d Marine Division. Administrative Control of 1st Armored Amphibian Tractor Company and CoC, 3d Tank Battalion was passed to 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion on 15 and 13 July 1969 respectively (ref CG, 9th MAB msg 230210Z July 1969 (S)). All control minus operational control of CoA, 3d Anti-Tank Battalion was passed to 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion effective 14 July 1969 (ref CG, 9th MAB msg 270130Z July 1969 (S)). The final increment of 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion arrived at Camp Schwab on 18 July 1969. 1st Armored Amphibian Tractor Company arrived at Camp Schwab on 21 July 1969. Liaison with 9th MAB Staff sections was initiated and the Battalion entered Phase I Training. In addition to the training requirements, the Battalion began the rehabilitation of vehicles and equipment in accordance with 3d FSR0 P4440.36.
2. Command Relations. Coordination and liaison with 9th MAB was initiated and continuous throughout the reporting period. Coordination and cooperation with adjacent units i.e., 9th Marine Regiment, MACS 8 and RLT 26 Rear was also continuous.
3. Mission Assigned. The Battalion had a dual mission during this reporting period. Upon the redeployment of the Battalion from the Republic of Vietnam, the Battalion entered an intensive rehabilitation program of vehicles and equipment in order to place one company in a C-2 status (ref CG, FMFPAC msg 212049Z June 69 and Admin, 9th MAB msg 270012Z June 69). In addition, the Battalion began Phase I Training for redeploying forces (ref Brig0 1500.15).
4. Intelligence. Liaison was conducted with 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade G-2 and was continuous throughout the reporting period.
5. Logistics. On 13 July 1969, the remainder of 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion boarded the USS Vernon County, LST 1161, and arrived at Kin Red Beach on 18 July 1969. Upon arrival, this unit assumed operational control of the 1st Armored Amphibian Company, CoC, 3d Tank Battalion and CoA, 3d Anti-Tank Battalion. LTI Teams have been requested for all wheeled and tracked vehicles, communication and ordnance equipment. All support to date, by 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade, PSB and FSR has been excellent and no problem areas can be foreseen at this time.
6. Communication and Electronics. Preventive maintenance was performed on all communication equipment and LTI Teams have been requested.

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9. VIP Visits. BrigGen R. B. CARNEY Jr., CG, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade, reviewed a static display of 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion on 28 July 1969 and LtGen H. W. BUSE Jr., CG, FMFPAC, reviewed a static display of 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion on 31 July 1969.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

14 July 1969	No entry
15 July 1969	Six enlisted personnel, two M48A3's and one Blade Tank from Company "C", 3d Tank Battalion loaded aboard the USS Snohorish County at Cua Viet, RVN. 1st Armored Amphibian Tractor Company staged all wheeled vehicles at the Tinh Chau ramp. Loaded aboard LSD USS Belle Grove.
16 July 1969	No entry
17 July 1969	No entry
18 July 1969	The last element of 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion debarked from the USS Vernon County, LST 1161. Redeployment from the Republic of Vietnam completed this date.
19 July 1969	Two officers and fifty-one enlisted, fourteen M48A3's, five M51A1E's, three 105's, three M100's, three M151's, one M101, one M149 and one high pressure lube unit from Company "C", 3d Tank Battalion arrived aboard the USS Litchfield County at Kin Red Beach, Okinawa.
20 July 1969	Company "C", 3d Tank Battalion debarked from USS Litchfield County at Kin Red Beach, Okinawa.
21 July 1969	Six enlisted personnel, two M48A3's and one Blade Tank from Company "C", 3d Tank Battalion debarked from USS Snohorish County at Kin Red Beach, Okinawa. 1st Armored Amphibian Company with twelve LVTH6's, three LVTP5's, one LVTRL1A1 and one LVTP5 (CMD) arrived at the LST Ramp at Oran-Wan Bay, Camp Schwab. Staging of vehicles was completed and the Company commenced unloading palletized cargo and wheeled vehicles from LSD USS Belle Grove at White Beach, Okinawa. Unloading completed by 1800.
22 July 1969	No entry

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23 July 1969

Received CG, 9th MAB msg 230210Z July 69, passing command of Company "C", 3d Tank Bn (C) to 1st Amphibian Tractor Bn as of 131600H July 69. Also 9th MAB passed command of 1st Armored Amphibian Tractor Company to 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion as of 151800H July 69.

24 July 1969

No entry

25 July 1969

No entry

26 July 1969

No entry

27 July 1969

No entry

28 July 1969

Received CG, 9th MAB msg 270130Z July 69, passing command less OpCon of 3d Anti-Tank Bn to 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion effective date 140001H July 69.

1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion conducted a static display for BrigGen R. B. Carney Jr and Staff.

29 July 1969

No entry

30 July 1969

No entry

31 July 1969

1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion conducted a static display for LtGen H. W. Buse Jr and Staff.

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HEADQUARTERS
1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion
9th Marine Amphibious Brigade FMF
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

3/WAG/jtm
Ser: 003A24469
1 September 1969

SECRET - Declassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade
Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 August to 31 August 1969
Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8A
(c) BrigO 5750.1C

Encl: (1) 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion Command Chronology

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


W. A. GRUBBS

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Aug 1969

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HEADQUARTERS
1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion
9th Marine Amphibious Brigade FMF
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

3/WAG/jtm
Ser: 003A24469
1 September 1969

SECRET

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 August 1969 to 31 August 1969

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PART IV - SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

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ENCLOSURE (1)

SECRET

PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion

Maj W. A. GRUBBS
1 - 31 August 1969SUBORDINATE UNITS

H and S Company

1stLt J. L. HARNEY
1-31 August 1969ATTACHED UNITS

C Company, 3d Tank Battalion (C)

1stLt R. M. FLICK
1-3 August 1969
Capt F. T. KLABOUGH
4-31 August 1969

A Company, 3d Anti-Tank Battalion (C)

1stLt J. W. JACKSON
1-24 August 1969
1stLt R. J. MIDLO
25-31 August 1969

1st Armored Amphibian Tractor Company

1stLt L. E. ALLEN
1-31 August 19692. LOCATION

1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion, 1-31 August 1969;

Camp Schwab, Okinawa

C Company, 3d Tank Battalion, 1-31 August 1969;

Camp Hansen, Okinawa

A Company, 3d Anti-Tank Battalion, 1-31 August 1969;

Camp Hansen, Okinawa

1st Armored Amphibian Tractor Company, 1-31 August 1969;

Camp Schwab, Okinawa

3. STAFF OFFICERS

S-1

1stLt J. H. BENZ JR
1-8 August 1969
1stLt R. C. BOOKWALTER
9-31 August 1969

S-2

1stLt M. I. PETERSON
1-20 August 1969
1stLt T. G. HAXTON
21-31 August 1969

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SECRET

S-3

1stLt M. I. PETERSON
1-31 August 1969

S-4

1stLt K. L. T'KINDT
1-31 August 1969

Communication Officer

CWO2 R. E. JOHNSTONBAUGH
1-31 August 1969

Supply Officer

1stLt K. L. T'KINDT
1-31 August 1969

Maintenance Officer

1stLt R. L. SPENCE
1-31 August 19694. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
16	270	0	4

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. General Overview of all Activities. During this reporting period, 1-31 August 1969, 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion was under the administrative control of the 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade (ref CG, 3d MarDiv msg 180352Z July 1969). Operational Control of the Battalion went to CTF 79 upon receipt of COMSEVENTHFLT msg 042230Z August 1969. During this reporting period, Phase I Training was successfully completed and Phase II Training initiated. In addition to training requirements, the Battalion continued the rehabilitation of vehicles and equipment in accordance with 3d FSR0 P4440.36.
2. Command Relations. Coordination and liaison with 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade was continuous throughout this period. Coordination and cooperation with adjacent units, i.e., 9th Marine Regiment and MACS 8 was also continuous.
3. Mission Assigned. The Battalion had a dual mission during this reporting period. The Battalion is under an intensive rehabilitation program of vehicles and equipment in order to place one company in a C-2 Status (ref CG, FMFPAC msg 212049Z June 1969 and Admin, 9th MAB msg 270012Z June 1969). In addition, the Battalion completed Phase I Training for redeploying forces (ref BrigO 1500.15).
4. Intelligence. Liaison was conducted with 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade G-2 and was continuous throughout this reporting period.
5. Logistics. LTI's have been completed on 90% of all combat essential equipment. The 10% of LTI's still pending are seven motor transport vehicles, seven tracked vehicles, one hundred and fifteen infantry weapons and ten artillery weapons. LTI's are still required on non-combat essential equipment such as tents, optical equipment, general supply items and field messing equipment. LTI teams have been requested to complete LTI's on combat essential and non-combat essential equipment.
6. Communication and Electronics. LTI's have been completed on 96% of communication and electronic equipment. There is 4% of the communication and electronic equipment pending LTI's by 3d FSR. Preventive maintenance on equipment, not in daily use, is in progress. There is a small amount of communication and electronic equipment pending 3d FSR work.
7. Equipment. Rehabilitation on all combat essential equipment is progressing well. At the present time there has been 90% of combat essential equipment and 96% of communication and electronic equipment LTI'd and TERO's submitted where required.

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8. Personnel and Administration. The Battalion joined 4 officers and 64 enlisted and dropped 2 officers and 48 enlisted. The overall average strength of the Battalion was 16 officers and 270 enlisted.

9. VIP Visits. Gen Leonard F. CHAPMAN, Commandant of the Marine Corps, visited 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion on 5 August 1969 for a tour of 1st Amtrac Bn area and an up to date briefing. A static display was conducted by 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion for the Commandant. On 22 August 1969, Maj THROM from Marine Corps Supply Activity, Philadelphia, discussed with the Battalion Commander the battalion's supply and maintenance problems and the R&E program.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1 August 1969	No entry
2 August 1969	1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion conducted a static display at Camp Sukiran. One LVTP5A1 and one Ontos were used in the display.
3 August 1969	No entry
4 August 1969	No entry
5 August 1969	Gen Leonard F. CHAPMAN, Commandant of the Marine Corps, visited 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion for an up to date briefing and a tour of the Battalion area. 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion conducted a static display for the Commandant.
6 August 1969	No entry
7 August 1969	No entry
8 August 1969	No entry
9 August 1969	No entry
10 August 1969	No entry
11 August 1969	Operational Control of the Battalion went to CTF 79 upon receipt of COMSEVENTHFLT msg 042230Z August 1969.
12 August 1969	No entry
13 August 1969	No entry
14 August 1969	Received CTF msg 122325Z August 1969, passing OpCon of CoA, 3d Anti-Tank Bn, CoC, 3d Tank Bn and 1st Armored Amphibian Company to 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion with effective date being 042230Z August 1969.
15 August 1969	No entry
16 August 1969	No entry
17 August 1969	No entry
18 August 1969	No entry

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19 August 1969	1st Armored Amphibian Company conducted land and water operation at Oura-Wan Bay.
20 August 1969	No entry
21 August 1969	1st Armored Amphibian Tractor Company conducted land and water operation at Oura-Wan Bay.
22 August 1969	Maj THROM from Marine Corps Supply Activity, Philadelphia, discussed with the Battalion Commander the battalion's supply and maintenance problems and the R&E program.
23 August 1969	No entry
24 August 1969	No entry
25 August 1969	No entry
26 August 1969	1st Armored Amphibian Company conducted land and water operation at Oura-Wan Bay.
27 August 1969	SgtMaj J. BANKOVICH was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal by Col E. F. DANOWITZ, Camp Commander, Camp Schwab, Okinawa.
28 August 1969	No entry
29 August 1969	No entry
30 August 1969	No entry
31 August 1969	No entry

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

NONE

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HEADQUARTERS
 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion
 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade, FMF
 FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

BnBul 1610
 1/RCB/ksa
 25 Sep 1969

BATTALION BULLETIN 1610

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Distribution List

Subj: Meritorious Mast; case of Private First Class Roger A. DEMERS
 249 70 90/0353 USMC

Ref: (a) MCO P5000.3, MARCORPERSMAN, par 8052
 (b) MCO P1070.8, IRAM

1. Purpose. To publish the proceedings of a Meritorious Mast awarded to Private First Class DEMERS, USMC, Company "A", 3d Anti-Tank Battalion, 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade, FMF, as required by reference (a).

2. Information. While the mast was conducted the following remarks were directed to Private First Class DEMERS.

"While serving as a member of Company "A", 3d Anti-Tank Battalion during the period 26 June 1969 to 25 September 1969, you have performed your duties in an outstanding manner and have displayed all the qualities desired of an outstanding individual Marine. In your capacity as Ontos crewman, you have demonstrated qualities of judgment, industriousness and knowledgeability rarely exhibited in a Marine of your rank and experience. You were then assigned duties with the Company Office as a File Clerk. With no experience in administration, you immediately applied yourself diligently to learning the Marine Corps directives system, filing, requisitioning and proper maintenance of authorized publications. Notable improvement in your area of responsibility became rapidly apparent and was accomplished with a minimum of supervision and a degree of proficiency seldom achieved by a Marine of your rank and experience. Your contributions to the accomplishment of the mission of your unit were significant. Your conscientious and professional efforts were in the best tradition of the United States Marine Corps."

3. Action. By copy hereof, the Commanding Officer, Company "A", 3d Anti-Tank Battalion is directed to make an appropriate entry in Private First Class DEMERS' service record in accordance with the provisions of reference (b).

4. Self-cancellation. 31 January 1970.


 W. A. GRUBBS

DISTRIBUTION: "A" & "B"

HEADQUARTERS

1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion
9th Marine Amphibious Brigade FMF
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

9th MAB S&C

017732

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
3/CED/jtm
Ser: 03A27469
1 October 1969


~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Declassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade
Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 September to 30 September 1969

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8A
(c) BrigO 5750.1C

Encl: (1) 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion Command Chronology

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


C. E. DELANO

1st AMTRAC
S&C CONTROL # 0101-69
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1st AMTRAC BN

Sep 69

HEADQUARTERS
1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion
9th Marine Amphibious Brigade FMF
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

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3/CED/jtm
Ser: 03A27469
1 October 1969

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 September 1969 to 30 September 1969

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GROUP - 4
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ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion

Maj W. A. GRUBBS
1-30 September 1969SUBORDINATE UNITS

H and S Company

1stLt J. L. HARNEY
1-21 September 1969
1stLt D. L. MIERZWA
22-30 September 1969ATTACHED UNITS

C Company, 3d Tank Battalion (C)

Capt F. T. KLABOUGH
1-30 September 1969

A Company, 3d Anti-Tank Battalion (C)

1stLt R. J. MIDLO
1-30 September 1969

1st Armored Amphibian Tractor Company

1stLt L. E. ALLEN
1-30 September 19692. LOCATION

1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion, 1-30 September 1969;

Camp Schwab, Okinawa

C Company, 3d Tank Battalion, 1-30 September 1969;

Camp Hansen, Okinawa

A Company, 3d Anti-Tank Battalion, 1-30 September 1969;

Camp Hansen, Okinawa

1st Armored Amphibian Tractor Company, 1-30 September 1969;

Camp Schwab, Okinawa

3. STAFF OFFICERS

S-1

1stLt R. C. BOOKWALTER
1-30 September 1969

S-2

1stLt T. G. HAXTON
1-28 September 1969
1stLt E. L. BARLOW
29-30 September 1969

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S-3

1stLt M. I. PETERSON
 1-4 September 1969
 1stLt J. J. SHEEHAN
 5-30 September 1969

S-4

1stLt K. L. T'KINDT
 1-4 September 1969
 1stLt R. L. SPENCE
 5-30 September 1969

Communication Officer

CWO2 R. E. JOHNSTONBAUGH
 1-30 September 1969

Supply Officer

1stLt K. L. T'KINDT
 1-30 September 1969

Maintenance Officer

1stLt R. L. SPENCE
 1-4 September 1969
 1stLt J. T. TERRELL
 5-30 September 1969

Motor Transport Officer

2ndLt C. F. CONNEELY
 12-30 September 1969

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
19	382	0	6

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. General Overview of all Activities. During this reporting period, 1-30 September 1969, 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion was under the administrative control of the 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade. Operational control was retained by CTF 79. During this period, Phase II Training was carried out. In addition, the Battalion continued the rehabilitation of vehicles and equipment in accordance with 3d FSRO P4440.36.

2. Command Relations. Coordination and liaison with 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade was continuous throughout this period. Coordination and cooperation with adjacent units, i.e., 9th Marine Regiment and MAC's 8 was also continuous.

3. Mission Assigned. The primary mission of the 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion was the rehabilitation of vehicles and equipment. The rehabilitation program is designed to place one company in a C-2 Status (ref CG, FMFPac msg 212049Z June 1969 and Admin, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade msg 270012Z June 1969). In addition, the Battalion continued Phase II Training for redeploying forces (ref Brigo 1500.15).

4. Training. Presently, each unit has a nucleus of trained personnel capable of performing their duties efficiently. However, if we were to deploy a platoon of LVT's, Tank's or Anti-Tank's, each man would have to be thoroughly trained in order to make each one of these units an effective combat readiness unit. Since we are presently in a cadre status, we have not been allotted a training allowance for 90mm, 105mm, 106mm or .50 caliber ammunition. The problem that lies here is that it is necessary to have this ammunition so that we can fully qualify our personnel in the effective use of the crew-served weapons. Another one of our major problems is the lack of suitable training areas. There is no indirect firing ranges. Driving areas are inaccessible due to lack of trafficable access routes. These conditions seriously hamper our training program.

5. Intelligence. Liaison was conducted with 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade G-2 and was continuous throughout this reporting period.

6. Logistics. Recoverable Items Reports were received on twenty-seven amphibian tractors and these were dropped from our records, leaving a total of sixty-six amphibian tractors. Four new tractors were received and acceptance LTI's were completed on them. Code letters were received on two M151 jeeps, allowing us to reorder new vehicles and two M35 trucks were received. A P.S.B. Team performed LTI's on all vehicles remaining of those brought from Vietnam to determine their eligibility for code H classification. With the deactivation of Sub-Unit Two, 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion Supply picked up all 5th Marine Division assets belonging to CoA, 5th Amtrac's, CoA, 5th Tanks' and CoA, 5th Anti-Tank's (ref Admin, 9th MAB msg 291011Z Aug 1969). Property accounts were reconciled and excesses were determined for

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turn-in. Equipment to be stored continued to be sorted, inventoried and assigned to locator cards.

7. Communication and Electronics. The rehabilitation of the communication section progressed well during the month of September. Assets belonging to 5th Marine Division units were consolidated with our communication equipment. Some T/E deficiencies were filled and excesses were determined. An inventory of all T/E equipment was held and completed.

8. Equipment. Rehabilitation of combat essential equipment was hampered by the lack of personnel to perform the necessary work. The Battalion remained in a C-4 Status. The highest number of tractors to come off deadline was nineteen. Motor Transport assets available for use remained limited. One M151 jeep was operational, two M35 trucks and four M37 3/4 ton trucks were operational. Fifty-seven machineguns, M1919A1 were turned in for repairs and the majority were classified as code H items due to worn trunnion blocks.

At this time, CoC, 3d Tank Bn is progressing at a satisfactory level. It is estimated that 60% of the rehabilitation program for CoC, 3d Tanks is completed. Equipment and supplies that are not authorized have been declared as T/E excess. Overall, the company is now operating with approximately 95% of equipment authorized.

All of the LVTHAL's are deadlined due to the lack of available M101C direct fire sights. Although 3d FSR has the responsibility to supply five sights and order seven, none have been received. The company is waiting for replacements and evacuation vehicles from FSR.

CoA, 3d Anti-Tank Bn has reached a level of eight ontos in the up status, six remaining down for guns only and one remaining down mechanically.

9. Personnel and Administration. During the month of September, the personnel situation was bolstered by the addition of CoA, 5th Amtracs, CoA, 5th Tanks and CoA, 5th Anti-Tanks. However, a shortage of the occupational fields: 1833, 1811, 2142, 2141 and 2149 existed and continues to exist. The Battalion joined 8 officers and 201 enlisted personnel, of the 8 officers and 201 enlisted personnel joined, 3 officers and 88 enlisted personnel came from the 5th Marine Division assets. The overall average strength of the Battalion was 19 officers and 382 enlisted personnel.

10. VIP Visits. Col H. S. WILSON, Prospective Chief of Staff, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade, visited 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion for an up to date briefing and a tour of the area.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1 September 1969	No entry
2 September 1969	No entry
3 September 1969	SgtMaj J. BANKOVICH was awarded the Bronze Star with the Combat "V" by Col E. F. DANOWITZ, Camp Commander, Camp Schwab.
4 September 1969	No entry
5 September 1969	No entry
6 September 1969	No entry
7 September 1969	No entry
8 September 1969	No entry
9 September 1969	No entry
10 September 1969	Col H. S. WILSON, Prospective Chief of Staff, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade, visited 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion for an up to date briefing and a tour of the area.
11 September 1969	No entry
12 September 1969	No entry
13 September 1969	No entry
14 September 1969	No entry
15 September 1969	No entry
16 September 1969	No entry
17 September 1969	No entry
18 September 1969	No entry
19 September 1969	No entry
20 September 1969	No entry
21 September 1969	No entry

UNCLASSIFIED

22 September 1969	No entry
23 September 1969	No entry
24 September 1969	No entry
25 September 1969	No entry
26 September 1969	No entry
27 September 1969	No entry
28 September 1969	No entry
29 September 1969	No entry
30 September 1969	No entry

DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

NONE

DECLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~

HEADQUARTERS
 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion
 3rd Marine Division (-) (Rein), FMF
 FPO San Francisco, California 96602

3/JHA/ded
 Ser: 0153-69
 15 January 1970

SECRET-- downgraded upon removal of enclosure (1)

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding General, 3rd Marine Division (Rein), FMF,
 FPO San Francisco, California, 96602
 Subj: Command Chronology for period of 1 November to 31 December 1969
 Ref: (a) DivO 5750.1C
 (b) CO, 1stAmTracBn ltr 3/CED/jtm, serial 0030569 of 1Nov69

Encl: ✓(1) 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion Command Chronology

1. Enclosure (1) is submitted as required by reference (a).
2. The Command Chronology for October, reference (b), was submitted to CG, 9th MAB.

A. W. Lamb
 A. W. LAMB

1st AMTRAC

S & C CONTROL # 0153-69

SECRET

GROUP-4 COPY 1 OF 3 COPIES

Downgraded at 3 year intervals;
 Declassified after 12 years

~~SECRET~~

1st AMTRAC BN

CND CHRON

NOV-DEC 1969

HEADQUARTERS
1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion
3rd Marine Division (-) (Rein), FMF
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

3/JHA/ded
Ser: 0153-69
15Jan70

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 November to 31 December 1969

INDEX

PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA
PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY
PART III - SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF
SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
PART IV - SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Enclosure (1)

GROUP-4
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Declassified after 12 years

UNCLASSIFIED

PART I.

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. DESIGNATION.

FIRST AMPHIBIAN TRACTOR BATTALION
THIRD MARINE DIVISION (-) (REIN), FMF

COMMANDER

MAJ. C.E. DELANO
1Nov69-14Nov69
MAJ. J.H. ALEXANDER
14Nov69-11Dec69
LT.COL. A.W. LAMB
11Dec69-31Dec69

SUBORDINATE UNITS

HEADQUARTERS AND SERVICE COMPANY

1stLT. D.H. HATTAWAY
1Nov69-12Nov69
CAPT. G.F. TASONIS
12Nov69-31Dec69

COMPANY "B"

CAPT. D.L. MIERZWA
1Nov69-31Dec69

COMPANY "C"

MAJ. C.E. DELANO
15Dec69-31Dec69

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

ATTACHED UNITS

NONE.

2. LOCATION.

CAMP SCHWAB, OKINAWA

1Nov69-31Dec69

3. STAFF OFFICERS.

S-1

2ndLT. M.B. KENNEDY
1Nov69-31Dec69

S-2

1stLT. J.L. HARNEY
1Nov69-31Dec69

S-3

1stLT. J.J. SHEEHAN
1Nov69-14Nov69
1stLT. J.G. PETTAZZONI
14Nov69-11Dec69
MAJ. J.H. ALEXANDER
11Dec69-31Dec69

S-4

1stLT. J.R. BRETZ
1Nov69-31Dec69

PERSONNEL OFFICER

1stLT. R.C. BOOKWALTER
1Nov69-14Nov69
2ndLT. M.B. KENNEDY
14Nov69-31Dec69

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

CWO2 R.E. JOHNSTONBAUGH
1Nov69-31Dec69

SUPPLY OFFICER

1stLT. H.W. LENTZ
1Nov69-31Dec69

MAINTENANCE OFFICER

CWO4 R.W. DANCEY
1Nov69-4Dec69
1stLT. M. PARKER III
4Dec69-31Dec69

UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH.

	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>
<u>OFF</u>		<u>ENL</u>	
23*		331*	
<u>OFF</u>		<u>ENL</u>	
0		8*	

*Note: Figures do not include personnel attached to afloat BLTs.

PART II.

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During this period the Battalion emerged from a cadre status and made considerable progress towards overall combat readiness. A second line company was activated, thereby providing a total of six LVT platoons. The Battalion's mission was defined as one of providing an amphibious, ship-to-shore assault capability to the 3rd Marine Division. Two reinforced LVT platoons went afloat with BLTs of the Special Landing Forces during this period.

After four years of protracted land combat operations the proficiency of our LVT crewmen was found to be significantly deficient. This factor was evident in the sinking of an LVTP5A1 near the reef at Oura-Wan Bay on 1 November 1969 in which crew inexperience was a major contributing cause. Since then a comprehensive training program has been initiated. During December the Battalion accomplished an extensive amount of practical application of the techniques of waterborne assault operations. As a result, operational readiness in the training category improved to C-3 by the end of the month.

Also during this period the massive task of segregating, inventorying, inspecting and rehabilitating the supplies and equipment brought out of Vietnam was eventually accomplished. The usual growing pains were experienced as the Battalion sought storage, maintenance, and billeting space for its expanding components, but by the end of December these problems were largely solved. Combat readiness in the categories of equipment on hand and equipment availability increased to C-2 and C-3 respectively.

The factor which had the most effect in limiting the attainment of higher levels of combat readiness was the shortage of personnel, particularly in the SNCO ranks and in the 1833 and 2142 fields. These shortages also had detrimental effects on training and maintenance programs.

SECRET

SECRET

2. Command Relations. Operational control of the Battalion passed from the 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade to the 3rd Marine Division on 7 November 1969. On 10 December the Commanding General and certain members of his Staff visited the Battalion for a briefing on problem areas and corrective programs.

3. Mission Assigned. To provide an amphibious, ship-to-shore assault capability to the 3rd Marine Division. Specifically, the Battalion can provide a lift capability of 2,040 boat spaces, enough to land the assault elements of two RLTs.

4. Equipment. During this period a total of 37 LVTs were evacuated to CONUS for depot maintenance. These were the last of the vehicles brought out of Vietnam in a Code "Y" or "Z" condition. They were replaced by vehicles from the 5thAmTracBn which was deactivated during this time.

5. Personnel. In addition to the critical problems in this area described above, the Battalion suffered a shocking loss when the Battalion Maintenance Officer, CWO-4 R.W. Dancey, died of leukemia.

SECRET

SECRET

PART III.

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Significant events during or in direct relation to combat operations: none.
2. Other significant events:
 - 1Nov69: 1st Platoon, Company "B", 1stAmTracBn, went afloat with BLT 1/9. In the process an LVTP5A1 sank near the reef at Oura-Wan Bay. All hands were recovered.
 - 7Nov69: 3rd Marine Division assumed operational control of 1stAmTracBn vice 9th MAB.
 - 14Nov69: Change of Command ceremony conducted at Camp Schwab. Major J. H. Alexander relieved Major C. E. Delano.
 - 1Dec69: 2nd Platoon, Company "B", 1stAmTracBn, went afloat with BLT 2/9.
 - 2Dec69: Comprehensive waterborne training for LVT crewmen began.
 - 5Dec69: CG, 3rd MarDiv message 050810ZDec directed activation of Company "C" and stated that both companies would consist of three platoons each.
 - 10Dec69: MGen Jones and staff visited Battalion CP for briefing.
 - 11Dec69: Change of Command ceremony conducted at Camp Schwab. Lt.Col. A. W. Lamb relieved Major J. H. Alexander.

PART IV.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

NONE.

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HEADQUARTERS
1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion
3rd Marine Division (-) (Rein), FMF
PPO San Francisco, California 96602

3/RM/tew
5750
Ser: 03A25770
14 Sep 1970

CONFIDENTIAL - Unclassified when enclosure (1) is removed.

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code RD)
Via: (1) Commanding General, 3rd Marine Division (-) (Rein), FMF
PPO San Francisco, California 96602
(2) Commanding General, I Marine Amphibious Force, FMF
PPO San Francisco, California 96602
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific
PPO San Francisco, California 96602

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1Dec69-31Dec69

Ref: (a) HCO P5750.1A
(b) FMFPacO 5750.80
(c) Divo P5750.1D
(d) FMFPac msg SVC 0368

Encl: (1) 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion Command Chronology, 1Dec69-31Dec69
31Dec69 (C)

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

A. . DISTRICH
By direction

Group-4
Downgraded At 3 Year Intervals;
Declassified after 12 Years
DOD Dir 5200.10

1st AMTRAC

S&C CONTROL # 0318-70

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03A25770

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1ST AMPHIBIAN TRACTOR BATTALION COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1Dec69-31Dec69

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- Part I Organisational Data
- Part II Narrative Summary
- Part III Sequential Listing of Significant Events

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PART IORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. Designation

1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion
3rd Marine Division (-) (Rein), FMF

Commander

LtCol A. S. LAMB
1Dec69-31Dec69

SUBORDINATE UNITS

H&S Company

Capt E. L. TONGICH
1Dec69-31Dec69

"B" Company

Capt D. L. MIERZNA
1Dec69-31Dec69

"C" Company

Maj C. E. DELAEO
15Dec69-31Dec69

2. Location

1Dec69-31Dec69 - Camp Schwab, Okinawa

3. Staff Officers

Commanding Officer

LtCol A. S. LAMB

Executive Officer

NONE

S-1 Officer

2dLt M. B. KENNEDY

S-2 Officer

1stLt J. L. HARNBY

S-3 Officer

Maj J. H. ALEXANDER

S-4 Officer

1stLt BRETZ

Battalion Communications

1stLt J. KARBOHNIT

Battalion Maintenance

1stLt M. PARKER

Battalion Motor Transport

2dLt C. F. CONNERLY

Battalion Supply

2dLt H. W. LENTZ

ENCLOSURE (1)

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CONFIDENTIAL

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CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

4. Average Monthly Strength

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>OTHER</u>	
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
21	350	0	9	0	0

ENCLOSURE (1)

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CONFIDENTIAL

PART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY1. General Overview of Activities

a. During this period, the 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion supported the 3rd Marine Division in all phases of amphibian operations, including SLF commitments.

b. A concerted emphasis was placed on maintaining a standard of readiness in the Battalion, commensurate with that of the 3rd Marine Division during this period. Both water and land training areas were utilized extensively to further upgrade the overall proficiency of the personnel of this Organization.

2. Personnel and Administration. During the month of December the Battalion stood at approximately 55% of manning level.

3. Intelligence. During this period the Battalion's overall security posture was highly satisfactory with no discrepancies.

4. Training. Emphasis on training for the period was mainly in the areas of maintaining and improving combat material readiness and the individual technical knowledge of members of the Command. A syllabus for waterborne training was published in connection with a program of comprehensive LVT Technical Training for the 3d quarter of FY70.

5. Special Operations/DeploymentsSupporting UnitUnit Supported

1st AmTrac Bn

3rd MarDiv

Co B, 1st AmTrac Bn

9th Mar Regt

3d Plt, Co B

1st Bn, 9th Mar Regt
(2 Dec -)6. Equipment

a. Ordnance. The combat vehicle readiness of the Battalion improved this reporting period.

b. Motor Transport. A high rate of personnel turnover combined with a large excess of equipment precluded the first echelon maintenance from being brought up to a more favorable standard. Measures for alleviating

ENCLOSURE (1)

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this situation are being put into effect by disposing of the excess vehicles.

c. Excess Equipment. A large excess of equipment has burdened the Battalion throughout this reporting period. Due to a lack of personnel to properly maintain the equipment, a maintenance problem has developed affecting the overall readiness of the equipment. Efforts to effect proper redistribution are being made and should help to alleviate the maintenance problem.

7. Logistics

a. Supply. Large quantities of excess supplies retrograded from RVN are being reduced.

b. Facilities

(1) LVT Parking Area. This area remains a problem with the only area available consisting of clay soil. The inadequate drainage in this area causes extremely difficult working conditions to exist during rainy periods. Coordination with the Camp Butler Engineers and the 3rd Marine Division Engineers will alleviate this situation somewhat in the near future.

(2) Armories. The three separate armories maintained by the Battalion are considered to provide adequate security for the Battalion weapons. Lack of qualified armory personnel (MOS 2111) tends to reduce the efficiency of this armory system.

(3) Billeting and Office Space. The Battalion is not in a consolidated area at this time, which is detrimental to the overall functioning and control of personnel within the Battalion.

c. Medical. During this period, the Battalion Aid Station functioned under the supervision of a Chief Petty Officer. No Medical Officer is assigned to the Battalion.

8. Communications-Electronics. Emphasis during this reporting period was mainly upon the determination of material shortages, disposing of material excesses, and maintaining all equipment present.

9. Activations/Deactivations/Redesignations. On 15Dec69, Company C, 1st Amtrac Bn, was activated and initially manned by 5 officers and 34 enlisted men.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>
2Dec69	Co B	Plt Deployed with 1st Bn, 9th Mar Regt
3Dec69	Co B	Water Operations at Ora-Wan Bay
-4-	H&S Co	Water Survival at Ora-Wan Bay
4Dec69	Co B	Water Survival at Ora-Wan Bay
-4-	H&S Co	Water Operations at Ora-Wan Bay
5Dec69	Co B	Beach Landings at Sedake Beach
-4-	H&S Co	Beach Landings at Sedake Beach
15Dec69	Co C	Activated this date
20Dec69	1st Air Tracn	Syllabus published for LVT Waterborne Training
21Dec69	Co B	Night Water Operations at Ora-Wan Bay
22Dec69	H&S Co	Night Water Operations at Ora-Wan Bay
24Dec69	Co B	Comm Procedures for LVT's
-4-	H&S Co	Comm Procedures for LVT's
25Dec69	Co B	Water Driving at Ora-Wan Bay
-4-	H&S Co	Water Driving at Ora-Wan Bay
29Dec69	Co B	Safety of Embarked Troops
-4-	H&S Co	Safety of Embarked Troops
30Dec69	Co B	Cargo Loading Procedures
-4-	H&S Co	Cargo Loading Procedures

ENCLOSURE (1)

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COMPANY A (-) (Rein)
1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion
5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade, FMF
Camp Pendleton, California 92055

ROJ/akm
5750
26 Nov 69

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code 403D), Headquarters U. S. Marine Corps, Washington, D. C. 20380
Via: (1) Commanding Officer, 3rd Marine Regiment (-), 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade, FMF, Camp Pendleton, California 92055
(2) Commanding General, 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade, FMF, Camp Pendleton, California 92055
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, FPO San Francisco 96602
Subj: Command Chronology for the period 15 October 1969 to 26 November 1969
Ref: (a) MCO 5755.2A
(b) FMFPMCO 5750.8
(c) 5th MEBG 5750.2A
Encl: (1) Company A (-) (Rein), 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion Command Chronology
1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a), (b), and (c) enclosure (1) is submitted.

R. G. JONES

ENCLOSURE (2)

File Co "A", 1st AMTRAC BN
Long file Co "C", 5th AMTRAC BN

(1-26 Nov 69)

COMPANY A (-)(Rein)
1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion
9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade, FMF
Camp Pendleton, California 90603

COMMAND CHRONOLOG

15 October 1969 to 26 November 1969

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- PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA
- PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY
- PART III - SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
- PART IV - SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

ENCLOSURE (1)

1

ENCLOSURE (2)

PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

a. Company C (-)(Rein)
 5th Amphibian Tractor Battalion (-)
 5th Marine Division (-)(Rein), FMF
 Camp Pendleton, California 92055
 (15 October 1969 through 31 October 1969)

Major R. G. JONES

b. Company A (-)(Rein)
 5th Amphibian Tractor Battalion
 5th Marine Division (-)(Rein), FMF
 Camp Pendleton, California, 92055
 (1 November 1969 to 26 November 1969)

Major R. G. JONES

2. PRINCIPLE SUBORDINATION

Executive Officer	E. E. COX,	1stLt	15 Oct 69 - 26 Nov 69
First Sergeant	C. E. WHISSE,	1stSgt	15 Oct 69 - 26 Nov 69
First Platoon Commander	B. E. BELROSE,	2ndLt	15 Oct 69 - 26 Nov 69
Second Platoon Commander	G. M. POULOS,	2ndLt	15 Oct 69 - 26 Nov 69
Third Platoon Commander	C. W. BRINDLE,	1stLt	15 Oct 69 - 26 Nov 69
Maintenance Officer	L. P. JOHNSON,	CWO-2	15 Oct 69 - 26 Nov 69

3. LOCATION

15 October 1969 to 26 November 1969, Camp Pendleton, California,
 coordinates 627762, map reference Oceanwide, 1:50,000, Sheet 2550 III,
 Series V795

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY EFFORT

<u>Month</u>	<u>UNMC</u>		<u>USM</u>		<u>OTHER</u>	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>NIL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>NIL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>NIL</u>
OCT	22	531	1	10	0	0

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

As of 1600, 15 October 1969, Company C (-)(Rein), 5th Amphibian Tractor
 Battalion (-), 5th Marine Division (-)(Rein), FMF, Camp Pendleton, California

ENCLOSURE (1)

ENCLOSURE (2)

was detached from its parent Battalion, 5th Amphibian Tractor Battalion (-), which was deactivated on that date, and placed under the Administrative and Operational control of the 26th Marine Regiment, 5th Marine Division (-) (Rein), FMF Camp Pendleton, California. The company was formed minus one (1) platoon with all other organic assets at 99% T/S including the augmentation of six (6) personnel to the T/O from Headquarters & Service Company, 5th Amphibian Tractor Battalion (-), 5th Marine Division (-) (Rein), FMF, Camp Pendleton, California. With detachment and deactivation of the parent Battalion came inherent problems as listed below:

a. Assumption of all personnel not senior to the present Company Commander which in turn placed the Company more than 400% T/O in officer strength and over 150% in enlisted strength.

b. The assumption of a Brigade area messhall and accompanying burden of administrative control.

c. The inability, due to lack of individual equipment and hardware, to adequately accomplish MOS and Regulatory Training of new personnel.

d. The care and maintenance of all facilities, not returned to Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, previously occupied by 5th Amphibian Tractor Battalion, whether occupied by the company or not.

e. The assumption of all previous training commitments and reports submission to higher authority previously assigned to the 5th Amphibian Tractor Battalion.

On 1 November 1969 in accordance with CMC msg 031530Z Oct69 and 5th Marine Division Order 5450.5, this unit was redesignated as Company A (-) (Rein), 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion, 5th Marine Division (-) (Rein), FMF, Camp Pendleton, California 92035 (as noted in Part I, subparagraph 1) with the same T/O, T/S structure and mission as previously assigned. Thus with the aforementioned redesignation, elements of 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion returned to the Continental Limits of the United States after an absence of over nineteen (19) years of deployment in the Pacific.

Since 1 November 1969 gradual losses by attrition and transfer of personnel has reduced our enlisted strength from a high of 542 to the present figure of 421 enlisted personnel. Present officer strength is still 300% in excess of T/O and reflected within this total are seven (7) 180's (Basic Tank/Amphibian Tractor Officer) who remain to be certified as 180's (Armored Amphibian & Amphibian Tractor Officer).

ENCLOSURE (1)

ENCLOSURE (2)

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. Significant Eventsa. Personnel.

(1) During the period the company joined 15 Marine Officers, 194 Marine Enlisted, 1 Navy Officer, and 11 Navy Enlisted; and dropped 3 Marine Officers, 225 Marine Enlisted, 0 Navy Officers, and 5 Navy Enlisted.

(2) Present strength of the company is 22 Marine Officers and 421 Marine Enlisted, 1 Navy Officer and 10 Navy Enlisted.

b. Administration. Although an excess of three (3) O141's were available, all aspects of normal administration procedures were heavily tasked. These functions, normally performed by the battalion, became the responsibility of the company. In order to alleviate the problems of these additional responsibilities an order writing section, legal clerk, training and operations clerk, as well as the Assistant Unit Diary clerk were established.

c. Training. Training continued in individual unit and MOS training with emphasis placed on unit readiness. Continued emphasis on Civil Disturbance Training was maintained. Training throughout the period was marked with continuous streamlining practice application to, machine gun FIREX, PEX's, support of the Navy Shore Guide Training Course, ship to shore movement, factor controlled landings and refresher training support for the Amphibious Fleet. The salient features of training were as follows:

16Oct69	-	10 LVT's Shore Guide Training, Blue Beach
16Oct69	-	MOO Presentation to all MOO strongpoints, 11 Area Theater
20-31Oct69	-	25 man Range Detail, Range 116
22Oct69	-	10 LVT's high speed delivery, Blue Beach, USS Denver
23Oct69	-	8 LVT's machine gun FIREX, Range 407A
27Oct69	-	10 LVT's high speed delivery, Blue Beach, USS Denver
27-29Oct69	-	Commandation Limited Technical Inspection held by 5th Service Battalion
27-30Oct69	-	4 man, B-16 School, Range 106
28Oct69	-	10 LVT's high speed delivery, Blue Beach, USS Denver
30Oct69	-	10 LVT's pre-awn landing, Blue Beach, USS Denver
1-Nov69	-	12 man, B-16 School, Range 106
3-Nov69	-	Commanding Officer's inspection of 1st Plt LVT's
4Nov69	-	10 LVT's PEX and Plt Officer II Area, Headquarters Plt Agreements
5Nov69	-	Machine Gun FIREX and Plt LVT's, Range 407A
12-14Nov69	-	12 man, B-16 School, Range 106
12-14Nov69	-	Commanding Officer's inspection of 2nd Platoon LVT's
12Nov69	-	2nd Battalion, 28th Marine Regiment indoctrination training 1st Plt LVT's

ENCLOSURE (1)

4

ENCLOSURE (2)

- 10-14Nov69 - Range Detail Snap-in
- 17Nov69 - "C" Battery 1st Battalion, 12th Marines indoctrination training 2nd Plt LVT's
- 17Nov69 - 10 LVT's high speed delivery, USS Junco, Blue Beach, 1st Plt LVT's
- 17-20Nov69 - 12 men, M-16 School, Range 106
- 17-21Nov69 - Commanding Officer's inspection of 3rd Plt LVT's
- 17-21Nov69 - 25 men Range Detail, Range 214
- 18Nov69 - 10 LVT's high speed delivery, USS Junco, Blue Beach, 1st LVT's
- 19Nov69 - 15 LVT's Embarkation Layout Study, USS Junco, (Headquarters & 2nd Plt), Blue Beach
- 20Nov69 - 10 LVT's high speed delivery, USS Monticello, Blue Beach (3rd Plt LVT's)
- 30Nov69 - 10 LVT's board USS Junco at 1600 for pre-dawn landing on 21Nov69
- 26Nov69 - 132 men parade, 11 area parade field, Deactivation of the 5th Marine Division, Activation of the 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade

d. Command Relations. As stated previously, Administrative and Operational control of this unit was assigned to the 20th Marine Regiment, however those matters pertaining to administration, i.e., reductions, promotions, and court-martials were assigned to the Commanding Officer, 5th Service Battalion. Additionally, administrative functions of a routine nature to include quota assignment and submission of administrative action forms were handled through direct liaison with 5th Marine Division personnel section. Requisitioning authority and fiscal budget control were assumed by the Commanding Officer, 3rd Battalion 13 Marine Regiment which was subsequently redesignated as 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment. Appropriate higher echelons of maintenance support were handled directly with the Commanding Officer, 5th Force Service Regiment, M.F.A.G.-8 via Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion 12th Marine Regiment.

e. Equipment. This unit, on 16 October 1969, upon detachment from its parent organization, went under operational control of 20th Marine Regiment with sixty-five (65) of its sixty-six (66) Major Items of Equipment initial inventory, not including those items in S.A.G. III, we were at 100% T/R. Significant only was the lack of one (1) Lubrication and Service Unit, a motor transport item, which was acquired from 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment on 14 November 1969 bringing us to 100% of T/R in all areas of Major Items of Equipment.

ENCLOSURE (1)

5

ENCLOSURE (2)

f. Communications.

(1) The communications section was reinforced from the normal T/O with a 2531 Lance Corporal from Headquarters A Service Company, 5th Amphibian Tractor Battalion (-). Subsequent review of the T/O revealed the need to vacate this billet in favor of one 2511 Lance Corporal with the addition of a Staff EOC - 2539, as recommended by the Communication Electronics Officer of 28th Marine Regiment.

(2) Results of a Limited Technical Inspection conducted from 27 October to 29 October 1969 by 5th Service Battalion revealed only minor discrepancies in the communication assets of this unit.

(3) Twenty (20) of the thirty-eight (38) LVT family of vehicles assigned to this unit possess the AN GRC-7 series of radio. As of this date 5th Force Service Regiment is prepared to modify these vehicles with the AN VRC-46 series radio. Kits are presently on hand to modify all GVC helmets making them compatible with this modification.

g. Activation/Deactivation/Redesignation. As reflected previously, this organization was redesignated from Company C (-)(Rein), 5th Amphibian Tractor Battalion (-), 5th Marine Division(-)(Rein), FMF, Camp Pendleton, California 92055 to Company A (-)(Rein), 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion 5th Marine Division (-)(Rein), FMF, Camp Pendleton, California 92055 on 1 November 1969.

h. Logistics. Through support of higher echelon, ample fiscal allotment plus operational stocks retained, this unit is in an excellent logistical posture. Maintenance support from higher echelon as well as the aforementioned has been instrumental in a minimal downtime ratio in view of our training commitments.

ENCLOSURE (1)

ENCLOSURE (2)

PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. NEGATIVE REPORT

ENCLOSURE (2)

COMPANY A (-)(Rein)
1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion
5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade, FMF
Camp Pendleton, California 92055

RGJ/dkm
5750
2 Jan 1970

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code HD), Headquarters
U. S. Marine Corps, Washington, D. C. 20380
Via: (1) Commanding Officer, 3rd Marine Regiment (-), 5th
Marine Expeditionary Brigade, FMF, Camp Pendle-
ton, California 92055
(2) Commanding General, 5th Marine Expeditionary Brig-
ade, FMF, Camp Pendleton, California 92055
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific,
FPO San Francisco 96602

Subj: Command Chronology for the period 27 November 1969 to
31 December 1969.

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.1A
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8B
(c) 5th MEBO 5750.2

Encl: (1) Company A (-)(Rein), 1st Amphibian Tractor Battal-
ion, Command Chronology

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


R. G. JONES

LA "A", 1st AMTRAC BN

27 Nov - 31 Dec 1969

COMPANY A (-)(Rein)
1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion
5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade, FMF
Camp Pendleton, California 92055

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

27 November 1969 to 31 December 1969

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ENCLOSURE (1)

PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

Company A (-)(Rein)
 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion
 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade, FMF
 Camp Pendleton, California 92055

COMMANDER

R. G. JONES,
 Major

SUBORDINATE UNITS

NONE

ATTACHED UNITS

NONE

2. LOCATION

27 November 1969 to 31 December 1969, Camp Pendleton, California, coordinates 627762, Map Reference Oceanside, 1:50, 000, Sheet 2550 III, Series V795

3. STAFF OFFICERS - NONE4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

MONTH	USMC		USN		OTHERS	
	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
NOV	22	457	1	7	0	0
DEC	17	285	1	4	0	0

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

On 27 November in accordance with CMC msg 031530Z dated Oct69 and 5th MarDivO 5450.5 this unit was redesignated as Company A (-)(Rein), 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion, 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade, FMF, Camp Pendleton, California 92055 vice Company A (-)(Rein), 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion, 5th Marine Division (-)(Rein), FMF, Camp Pendleton, California 92055, thus completing the redesignation initiated on 1 November 1969 as reported in the previous submission. This reporting period was characterized by continual decreases in officer and enlisted

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personnel strength due to quotas assigned by higher headquarters. Personnel transferred were to duty stations throughout the Marine Corps. At the end of this period, the Company still remained with 263 enlisted personnel and 15 officers as opposed to the 199 enlisted and 6 officers recommended. Personnel inputs during this period from WestPac and from other resources as Schools Battalion, MCB, Camp Pendleton, were 50 enlisted.

As stated in the previous submission the many excess personnel on hand created a burden in the adequate training of those personnel, because only enough organic and personal items of equipment were retained to support a Company minus. No change in that problem occurred during this period except that the reduction of personnel as stated above reduced proportionality the inability to effectively accomplish the MOS and regulatory training. Significant also was the fact that on 31 December 1969 this Company did not have an approved Table of Organization, an approved Table of Equipment, nor a stated mission beyond that given to all amphibian tractor letter companies by T/O M4653.

Highlighting December was the support of Third Battalion, Third Marines on a PHIBLEX during 1-5 December. During the same dates, one platoon was committed to supporting Second Battalion, Third Marines in a RAIDEX Exercise. The remainder of December, 1969, was committed to regulatory and mandatory MOS, GMS, and individual training with less emphasis on field work within the unit specialty. The end of the Second Quarter FY-70 found the Company still in a C-1 Readiness posture with an overall deadline rate of only 5% of the major items of rated equipment, and with a marked improvement in the overall proficiency of the LVT's and crews.

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

a. Personnel

(1) During the period the Company joined 0 Marine Officers, 50 Marine Enlisted, 0 Navy Officers, and 0 Navy Enlisted; and dropped 5 Marine Officers, 198 Marine Enlisted, 1 Navy Officer, and 2 Navy Enlisted.

(2) Present strength of the Company is 15 Marine Officers and 263 Marine Enlisted, 0 Navy Officers, and 4 Navy Enlisted.

(3) Events

7 Dec 1969- LT W. M. HUCABEE, 715334 (CHC) USNR was

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awarded the Navy Achievement Medal for Meritorious Service, awarded with Combat "V"
 8 Dec 1969 - Commanding Officer and 24 men participated in Regimental Change of Command Ceremony

b. Administration. Those functions previously reported, i.e., order writing, legal administration, training and operation sections have continued in operation. Additionally during this period an S&C section was established. A Human Relations Council was established in accordance with Brigade Order 5850.1. With membership composed of representatives from each Brigade unit in the Camp Delmar (21) Area, this council is to provide a forum whereby enlisted personnel may pose problems and seek solutions to grievances which they consider important to their personal or group welfare, but not of sufficient importance to warrant a request mast. A main goal of this council is to identify the existence of real or potential problem areas in racial relations.

c. Training. Training continued in individual, unit, and MOS training with emphasis on increasing overall proficiency and unit readiness. Training during this period was highlighted by a displacement of the Company CP during 1 to 5 December 1969 to coordinate support of Second Battalion, Third Marines in a RAIDEX Exercise, and two platoons in support of Third Battalion, Third Marines in PHIBLEX 4-69. Main weakness of the Company was in the area of training while aboard ship and the routine of ship board life. Noticeable improvement was reflected in the area of Communications. In all, two LSD's and 1 LPD were used during this period in amphibious operations. The salient features of training by date were as follows:

- 1-5 Dec69 - Second and Third Platoons and detachment of Headquarters Section in support of PHIBLEX 4-69
 First platoon operated aboard USS Juneau in support of RAIDEX, Second Battalion, Third Marines
- 8-9 Dec69 - Dangerous Drug Lecture, 21 Area Theatre, 250 men
- 11 Dec69 - Gas Chamber - 200 men
- 15-19 Dec69 - Rifle range detail fired ranges 115 and 116
- 16 Dec69 - RVN Lecture, 21 Area Theatre, 150 men
- 23 Dec69 - Battle sights fired, 26 men, range 212A

d. Equipment. As stated in the Narrative Summary, no approved Table of Equipment has been received based on the proposed and recommended submission previous to this reporting period. This unit held 66 of 66 major end items of equip-

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ment. The combat deadline for these items ranged from a high of 12% during early December 1969, to a low of 5% as of 31 December 1969. No significant problems regarding equipment has been encountered to date.

e. Communications. At the beginning of this period, only 18 of the 38 LVTP family of vehicles organic to this unit were modified with the AN/VRC-46 series radio. Implementation of the modification was begun by the 5th Force Service Regiment during the month of December. By 31 December 1969 only 6 LVT P5A-1's remain to be modified, and these are scheduled for completion during January 1970. All CVC helmets have been modified concurrently with the LVTP5's, as required to make them compatible with the new system.

f. Activation/Deactivation/Redesignation. On 27 November 1969 this unit was redesignated from Company A (-)(Rein), 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion, 5th Marine Division (-)(Rein), FMF, to Company A (-)(Rein), 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion, 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade, FMF.

g. Logistics. Logistical support from higher echelons remain excellent with rapid response to out needs. An inspection held by the Material Management Unit of the 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade during 15-17 December 1969 revealed a lack of a published Allowance List for Mount-Out held. All other aspects relating to mount-out, i.e., stocks, locator deck, and 708 card annotation were rated excellent. Problems of allowances, again, are related to the lack of an approved T/E. The discrepancies noted were corrected by publication of an Allowance List subject to further review and change.

PART IV
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

NONE

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