

HEADQUARTERS
1st Antitank Battalion
1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

3:JJB:tjs
5750
4 Nov 1966

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF

Subj: Command Chronology

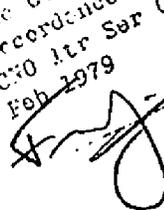
Ref: (a) DivO 5750.2A
(b) DivO 3480.1

Encl: (1) Command Chronology; October 1966

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


R. E. HARRIS

Declassified by the Director of
Marine Corps History and Museums
in accordance with the provisions
of CMO Mtr Ser 009D323/232096 of
21 Feb 1979

 Signature Date 7/1/97

1st A.T. Div

Oct 1966

5750
4 Nov 1966

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1. 1st Antitank Battalion, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF

- a. Location: Da Nang, Republic of Vietnam.
- b. Period Covered by Report: 1 - 31 October 1966.
- c. Name/Rank of Commanding Officer, Staff and Chief Subordinates:

(1) Major R. E. HARRIS	Commanding Officer
Major M. F. MANNING	Executive Officer
SgtMaj E. F. HUFFMAN	Sergeant Major

(2) Executive Staff

2ndLt M. L. ELL	S-1/Adjutant
Capt D. R. WEST	S-2
Major J. J. BURKE JR.	S-3
Capt G. R. VANHORN	S-4

(3) Special Staff

Capt K. S. FENDRICKSON	Supply Officer
1stLt D. B. SHIKER	Comm-Elect Officer
1stLt J. M. KELLY	Motor Transport Officer
Capt G. J. FORBES	Ordnance Maintenance Officer
Lt(MC) S. L. BIVENS JR. USNR	Medical Officer

(4) Subordinate Commanders

Capt D. M. HUTSON	- Company Commander Company A
Capt T. F. DEMPSEY	- Company Commander Company B
Capt R. J. ESPOSITO	- Company Commander Company C
Capt M. H. COLLIER	- Company Commander H&S Company

2. Commander's Narrative Summary of Significant Events.

a. Through-out the reporting period there occurred the displacement of the 1st Antitank Battalion from the Chu Lai TAOR to the Da Nang TAOR, Republic of Vietnam. See Reference (a).

b. The missions of the subordinate units of this Command were assigned as follows:

Company A (-)

1 - 10 October 1966 OPCON 3rd Marine Division, Direct Support
1st Marines.

5750
4 Nov 1966

11 - 31 October 1966 OPCON 1st Marine Division, Direct Support 1st Marines.

Company B (+)

1 - 5 October 1966 OPCON 1st Marine Division, Direct Support Chu Lai Defense Command.

6 - 17 October 1966 OPCON 1st Marine Division, Direct Support 5th Marines.

18 - 24 October 1966 OPCON 1st Marine Division, General Support 1st Marine Division.

25 - 31 October Company B (-) OPCON 1st Marine Division, Direct Support 4th Battalion 503 Infantry 173 Brigade USA.

Company C

1 - 17 October 1966 OPCON 1st Marine Division, Direct Support 7th Marines.

18 - 31 October 1966 Company C (+) OPCON 1st Marine Division, Direct Support 5th Marines and 7th Marines.

c. 1 - 17 October 1966. During this period the 1st Antitank Battalion was involved with numerous MED CAPS in AnTan Hamlet and Ky Min Village in the Chu Lai TAOR. Approximately 150 persons were treated by the Battalion Medical Officer and his corpsmen.

18 - 20 October 1966. 1st Antitank Battalion enroute from Chu Lai to Da Nang TAOR.

21 - 31 October 1966. 1st Antitank Battalion has been working jointly with 3rd Antitank Battalion in the Villages of Yen Bac and Cam Hoa plus some 9 Hamlets. Activities include two (2) schools, a pig farm, MED CAP, and well construction.

d. 1 - 31 October 1966. Throughout the month of October there was a general increase in the use of Ontos for H&I fires. Squad and Platoon sized patrols continued to use the Ontos in support of operations. See references (b) and (c).

e. Company C (+), 1st Antitank Battalion has submitted their Command Chronology to 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division for the period 1 - 31 October 1966.

5750
4 Nov 1966

Appendix i (List of References) to 1st Antitank Battalion Command
Chronology (October 1966).

1. The following references apply to paragraph 2 (Commander's
Narrative Summary of Significant Events).

Ref: (a) Unit Journal Extract, 1st Antitank Battalion
(b) Company A, 1stATBn Command Chronology
(c) Company B, 1stATBn Command Chronology

5750
4 Nov 1966

Appendix 2 (Documentation) to 1st Antitank Battalion Command Chronology
(October 1966),

1. Documentation for the 1st Antitank Battalion Command Chronology
for the period 1 - 31 October 1966 is provided by the Tabs to this
Appendix.

TAB

A - Unit Journal Extract 1st Antitank Battalion

B - Company A Command Chronology 1 - 31 Oct 66

C - Company B Command Chronology

5750
4 Nov 1966

TAB A (Movement of 1st Antitank Battalion from Chu Lai to Da Nang)
to Appendix 2 (Documentation) to 1st Antitank Battalion Command
Chronology (October 1966)

"E X T R A C T"

180001 Oct66 182400 Oct66
" 1000 CO's Group departed Battalion CP to go to Sand Ramp.
1400 CO's Group and advance party loaded aboard LST#1150 Sutter County.
1900 Main party departed Hill #43.
1945 Main party arrived at sand ramp.
190001 Oct66 192400 Oct66
1050 CO's Group and Advance party departed Chu Lai on board LST #1150 Sutter County to go to Da Nang.
1810 Arrived at Da Nang.
2300 Main party loaded LST #1066 New London County.
200001 Oct66 202400 Oct66
0800 Advance party started disembarking at Da Nang.
0845 Disembarkation completed.
1100 Arrived at 3rdATBn CP (Advance party).
1200 Main party departed Chu Lai to go to Da Nang.
210001 Oct66 212400 Oct66
1030 Main party arrived at Da Nang.
1800 Main party disembarked completely.
1845 Main party arrived at 3rdATBn CP."

COMPANY A
1st Antitank Battalion
1st Marine Division(Rein), FMF
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

DMH:soe
5750
4 Nov 1966

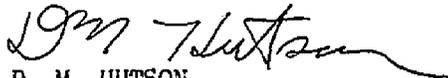
From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, 1st Antitank Battalion

Subj: Command Chronology

Ref: (a) 1st Marine Division Order 5750.2A

Encl: (1) Command Chronology

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


D. M. HUTSON

Q "O" 1st AT B

21-31 Oct 66

TAB - B

CONFIDENTIAL

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

Period Covered: 210001 to 312400 October 1966

Company A, 1st Antitank Battalion

Commanding Officer	Capt D. M. HUTSON
Executive Officer	1stLt F. S. ROE
1st Plt Comdr	2ndLt B. H. BAILEY
2nd Plt Comdr	SSgt E. WALKER
3rd Plt Comdr	SSgt J. S. PANDAVELLA
1st Plt "C" Co, 3rd ATBn	2ndLt F. E. RIVERA

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>GRID LOC</u>	<u>MISSION</u>	<u>UNIT SUPPORTED</u>
Co A (Rein)	AT992675	D/S	1st MarRegt CP
1st Plt	AT069711	D/S	3/1
2nd Plt	AT015632	D/S	2/1
3rd Plt	AT105584	D/S	1/1
1st Plt "C" Co, 3dAT	AT015632	D/S	2/1

1. OPERATIONS

a. No operations were conducted during this reporting period.

b. SUMMARY OF PLATOON ACTIONS

(1) 1st Platoon. The 1st platoon commenced the reporting period with three Ontos in support of M/3/1 at 084696. The Ontos continued to carry out H and I missions through out the reporting period. 26 106mm rounds were expended in H and I missions. On 30 October the Ontos bunker at Hill 10 at AT083697 was struck by two M-79 rounds resulting in three USMC WIA. One Marine was MEDEVAC. On 31 October the 1st platoon PC struck a mine at AT084696 resulting in one USMC WIANE.

(2) 2nd Platoon. The 2nd platoon became OPCON this command on 26 October 1966. On 28 October the 2nd platoon relieved the 1st platoon "C" Company, 3rd AT Bn at the 2/1 CP. The 2nd platoon did not participate in any actions during the reporting period.

(3) 3rd Platoon. The 3rd platoon did not participate in any action or conduct any fire missions during the reporting period.

(4) 1st Platoon "C" Company, 3rd AT Bn. The 1st Platoon "C" Co reverted to the OPCON 3rd AT Bn on 28Oct66.

CONFIDENTIAL

c. STATISTICS

- (1) OPERATIONS: None
- (2) PATROLS: None
- (3) FRIENDLY CASUALTIES: Five
- (4) ENEMY CASUALTIES: None
- (5) WEAPONS OR EQUIPMENT LOST OR EVACUATED: None
- (6) DESTROYED OR CAPTURED MATERIAL: None
- (7) ONTOS: Fired 26 rounds of 106mm, 7 rounds of .50 Cal Spotter-Tracer

d. TERRAIN LIMITATIONS: No Change

e. NOTEWORTHY ACHIEVEMENTS BY MEMBERS OF THIS COMMAND: No Comment

2. TRAINING

- (1) Two hours weapons training
- (2) Two hours motor transport training
- (3) On-the-job training

COMPANY B
1st Antitank Battalion
1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

RRT/fac
3000
1 November 1966

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, 1st Antitank Battalion (Attn: S-3)

Subj: Command Chronology

Ref: (a) BnO 3480.1

Encl: (1) Command Chronology; October 1966

1. In accordance with instructions contained in reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.

T. F. Dempsey
T. F. DEMPSEY

Co "B", 1st AT Bn

Oct 66

TAB - C

RRT/fac
1 November 1966

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY, OCTOBER 1966

1. Organizational Data

- a. Location. Danang, Republic of Vietnam
- b. Period Covered by Report. 1 - 31 October 1966
- c. Name/Rank of Commanding Officer, Staff and Chief Subordinates.

(1) Commanding Officer and Staff

Capt T. F. DEMPSEY	Commanding Officer
1stLt R. R. TIMBERG	Executive Officer
1stSgt J. M. REID	First Sergeant
GySgt V. K. WALKER	Gunnery Sergeant

(2) Subordinates Commanders

2ndLt A. F. TRAYNOR	2nd Platoon Commander
SSgt D. R. PRIDEMORE	3rd Platoon Commander

2. Commanders Narrative Summary of Significant Events

a. At the commencement of the reporting period Company "B" had operational and administrative control of its three organic platoons and of the 2nd Platoon, Company "A", 1st Antitank Battalion. Three platoons and one heavy section were supporting the 5th Marines while one light section (3rd Platoon) remained in Sector I of the Chu Lai Defense Command.

b. On 2 October, 2ndLt A. F. HOLMAN, Platoon Commander, 2nd Platoon, Company "A" rotated to CONUS. Lt HOLMAN had served in this capacity since April of this year.

c. The light section of the 3rd Platoon was released by the Chu Lai Defense Command on 5 October and placed in direct support of the 5th Marines. Four full Antitank platoons now supported the 5th Marines.

d. During the first week in October the Battalion Commander directed Company "B" to make preparations for displacement to the Danang Combat Base. Subsequent orders developed a Company "equivalent" task organization for the displacement as follows:

- Headquarters, Company B
- 2nd Platoon, Company B
- 3rd Platoon, Company B
- 2nd Platoon, Company A

ENCLOSURE (1)

RRT/fac
1 November 1966

The 1st Platoon was to remain in Chu Lai and CHOP to Company "C" this Battalion, upon embarkation of Headquarters, Company "B". Company "C" (Rein) was to assume the operational commitments of Company "B" in the Chu Lai Combat Base.

e. 1stLt W. L. BUCHANAN was transferred from Company "B" to the 5th Marines on 15 October. Lt BUCHANAN had served as 3rd Platoon Commander since November, 1965, taking the platoon from Camp Pendleton to Okinawa and then into Vietnam.

f. On 16 October Company "B" units were relieved in place by Company "C" throughout the 5th Marines sector of the TAOR.

g. Company "B" mobile loaded all supplies and equipment on 17 October and awaited the order to commence movement to the staging area.

h. On 18 October Company "B" staged at the Chu Lai Sand Ramp. During the night of 19-20 October Company "B" embarked aboard the USS New London County (LST-1066). The New London County got underway for Danang on the morning of 20 October. The 1st Platoon shifted OPCON to Company "C".

i. Company "B" debarked in Danang on the morning of 21 October. The 2nd Platoon, Company "A" reported to the Command post of its parent organization although this Company maintained ADCON/OPCON. Following debarkation the Company Commander lead a recon in force through the 9th Marines sector of the TAOR. That night and the following two days were spent in the new Battalion Command Post. The Ontos platoons provided perimeter security during this period.

j. On 24 October, Company B, with its two organic platoons, was placed in direct support of the 4th Battalion, 503rd Airborne. The Company Headquarters displaced to the 4/503rd (Abn) Command Post, on this date. The Antitank platoons remained in place at the Battalion Command Post pending a reconaissance by the Company Commander.

k. On the afternoon of 24 October the Company Commander made a helicopter reconaissance of the 4/503rd (Abn) sector of the TAOR. Positions for the Antitank platoons were selected. A frag order was issued directing the platoons to displace the following morning.

ENCLOSURE (1)

RRT/fac
1 November 1966

l. On 25 October the two platoons displaced to the positions selected the previous day by the Company Commander. The 2nd Platoon was placed in support of Company A, 4/503rd (Abn). Two section positions were occupied both commanding the Hai Van Pass and the northern mountain approaches into the Danang Combat Base. The 3rd Platoon was placed in support of Company C, 4/503rd (Abn). One section occupied positions on the eastern finger of Hill 190 overlooking the Song Cau De. From these positions interdiction fires could be placed up and down the river as well as on the high ground to the north and west. The other section supported a platoon combat base in the western position of the TAOR. One Ontos from the 3rd Platoon reinforced a roadblock on a bridge located at the point where the Song Cau De flows into the Bay of Danang.

m. The positions occupied by this command are stated below:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
Company CP	AT 942784
2nd Platoon CP	AT 944919
Hvy Sect, 2nd Platoon	AT 944919
Lt.Sect, 2nd Platoon	AT 931885
3rd Platoon CP	AT 897821
Hvy Sect(-), 3rd Platoon	AT 897821
Lt.Sect., 3rd Platoon	AT 892772
1 Ontos, 3rd Platoon	AT 929841

n. On 25 October the 2nd Platoon Company A CHOP to its parent unit.

o. During the period 25 - 31 October the Antitank platoons have delivered heavy H&I fires as directed by their respective supported unit Commanders. An average of 60 major caliber rounds per night have been expended.

p. On 30 October the 3rd Platoon supported a sweep of the village of Hoa Lac on the northern bank of the Song Cau De by elements of Company "C", 4/503rd (Abn). The Ontos placed neutralization fire on the key terrain to the northwest of the village, expending a total of 15 major caliber rounds.

ENCLOSURE (1)