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10770 P812 of 12 October 1971.

*P.B. V. [Signature]* 3/10/77

Signature/date

*Command Chronology*

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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Military Police Battalion, FMP  
Marine Corps Base  
Camp Pendleton, California 92055

PGS-djd  
3000  
2 Feb 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, California  
Subj: Command Chronology, 1st MP Bn.

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2  
(b) BO 5750.1  
(c) CMC msg 081410Z Nov 65

Encl: (1) Command Chronology  
(2) Assumption of Command  
(3) Training Syllabus

1. In accordance with reference (a) and (b), the following report is submitted.
2. This organization was activated in accordance with reference (c) on 1 Dec 1965. This first month was used to prepare the battalion for its personnel readiness date of 1 Feb 1966. This included administration, formulation of training syllabus and preparation of the budget.
3. It is recommended that formal school training peculiar to the mission of the unit be given cadre personnel prior to the activation date.
4. Because of the short period of time covered in this report an additional Command Chronology will be submitted upon termination of this unit's current status and will include embarkation for deployment.

*P. G. Stavrdis*  
P. G. STAVRIDIS

ENCLOSURE (16)

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## I. Chronology of 1st Military Police Battalion.

a. The 1st MP Bn. is located in the 15 area Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton.

b. The period covered is 1 December 1965, (the activation date) to 31 December 1965.

c. The Commanding Officer is LtCol P. G. STAVRIDIS, the remainder of the Staff is as follows:

ExO Maj H. S. DENNIS  
Adj/S-1 CWO-2 J. L. RHODES  
S-2 1stLt D. J. HERRMANN  
S-3 Capt J. W. BEACH  
S-4/SupplyO 1stLt L. T. HANLEY

d. The strength of the battalion was 8 officers and 61 enlisted. This included only the H&S Company at this time.

## II. Chronological listing:

a. Personnel. The initial organization of 8 officers and 61 enlisted was the complete H&S Company and was ordered in to set up the initial formation of the Battalion. It is interesting to note that this follows the T/O to the man.

b. Administration. The administration for this period consisted of compiling orders and SOP's and setting up file and directive systems.

c. Training. This period was used for preparation of training schedules and formulation of lesson plans and training syllabus (See enclosure 3). This time was also used to take initial action on formal school training for Battalion personnel, for example: Vietnamese Language School, Embarkation, Supply and Administrative Schools. The Commanding Officer made a liaison visit to FMF PAC Hq to discuss probable employment of the unit in order to better prepare a more realistic training syllabus. This visit was used also to discuss changes to the T/E. Liaison was also established with the Army MP School at Fort Gordon, Ga.

d. Special projects. Reviewed T/O and T/E and prepared recommended changes that were deemed appropriate. The budget was submitted for the remainder of FY-66, to include initial issue.

e. Activation. "A" Company was activated on 22 December 1965, with one officer and two enlisted.

f. Community relations. N/A.

ENCLOSURE (1)

- g. Ceremonies. No ceremonies were held during this period.
- h. Modifications to plant and facilities. Prepared billeting spaces for the planned input of the remainder of the battalion personnel.
- i. New programs. N/A
- j. Command relations. Command relations was established with, MCB, Camp Pendleton, 1st Marine Division (rear) and the 15 area commander.

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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Military Police Battalion, FMF  
Marine Corps Base  
Camp Pendleton, California 92055

BnO 1301.1  
PGS:jrm  
1 Dec 1965

BATTALION ORDER 1301.1

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Distribution List

Subj: Assumption of Command

Ref: (a) Navy Regulations, Art 0503  
(b) BO 5400.11

1. Purpose. To publish an Assumption of Command as required by reference (a).
2. Directive. I have assumed the duties as Battalion Commander, 1st Military Police Battalion, FMF, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, California this date, as directed by reference (b).

*P. G. Stavrdis*  
P. G. STAVRIDIS

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Plus MCB A-3  
B-3

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ENCLOSURE (2)

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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Military Police Battalion, FMF  
Marine Corps Base  
Camp Pendleton, California 92055

1st Military Police Battalion, FMF  
8 WEEK TRAINING SYLLABUS

SUBJECTS:

COMPANIES  
H&S A B C D

	<u>Hours of Training</u>				
Gas Chamber	4	4	4	4	4
Weapons Training	12	32	32	32	32
Punitive Articles	2	8	8	8	8
Attitudes & Devious Methods of Communist POW's	1	4	4	4	4
Riot Control Formations	4	12	12	12	12
Black Market Activities	1	2	2	2	2
Geneva Convention	1	4	4	4	4
Use of Chemicals, NBC Training	4	15	15	15	15
Inspections	8	8	8	8	8
Uniform & Equipment	2	3	3	3	3
Organization, Facilities & Capabilities	2	4	4	4	4
Jurisdiction & Authority	3	8	8	8	8
Relations & Service	2	4	4	4	4
Patrols & Fixed Posts	2	10	10	10	10
Crime Prevention	2	8	8	8	8
Apprehension Restraint and Detention	3	10	10	10	10
Police Reports	2	8	8	8	8
Assisting MP Investigators	2	4	4	4	4
Investigating Incidents	2	8	8	8	8
Witness in Court	2	2	2	2	2
MP Traffic Control	4	20	20	20	20
Straggler & Circulation Control	2	4	4	4	4
Handling Enemy Personnel, Displaced Persons & Refugees	4	20	20	20	20
Physical Security & Protection of Persons	4	12	12	12	12
Disturbances & Disasters	2	8	8	8	8
Handling Military Prisoners	3	8	8	8	8
Unarmed Defense	4	12	12	12	12
Communications, Voice Procedure	8	15	15	15	15
Physical Training	20	20	20	20	20
FAM FIRING					
(a) Shot Gun	2	2	2	2	2
(b) Pistol	2	2	2	2	2
(c) M-14	2	2	2	2	2
(d) M-60	2	2	2	2	2
(e) 50 Cal M.G.	2	2	2	2	2
Battalion Field Exercise	48	48	48	48	48
V.C Mines & Booby Traps	3	3	3	3	3
Nature of the Enemy	2	2	2	2	2
Ambushes	2	4	4	4	4
Theater Orientation	3	3	3	3	3
GMST	32	32	32	32	32
Civic Action	1	2	2	2	2

TOTAL

213 371 371 371 371

ENCLOSURE (3)

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1st Marine Corps Scout Dog Platoon  
MILITARY POLICE COMPANY  
HEADQUARTERS BATTALION  
3d Marine Division, FMP

RWw:jfp  
10 May 1966

From: 1st Lt. Robert V. Wilder, 089527, Platoon Commander, 1st Marine  
Corps Scout Dog Platoon  
To: Commanding General, III MAF

Subj: Monthly Report of activities (March and April)

1. The 1st element of the 1st Marine Corps Scout Dog Platoon arrived in the Republic of Viet Nam on 1 March 1966. The remainder of the Platoon arrived on 4 March 1966. We set up temporary kennels just inside the perimeter of the 3d Shore Party Battalion.

The entire month of March was spent in getting the dogs acclimatized to the climate. After one month most of the dogs were acclimatized to some degree, however, to this date some dogs have not gotten used to the heat.

2. While the dogs were getting acclimatized, liaison was established between the 1st Scout Dog Platoon and most of the units in the area. Arrangements were made for our new and permanent area (across from Ninth Motors). The new area was Reconnoitered and plans were established for the billets and kennels. Thick and unnecessary brush was cut down and a drainage system was made. The wire was put in and mortar shelters and bunkers were built.

3. On 22 March we moved to our new area. There was much work to be done and no time was wasted as we worked night and day.

Some dogs were ready to go to work at this time. The word was passed that Scout Dogs were ready for deployment.

4. During the month of April the 1st Scout Dog Platoon received 15 commitments. These dogs were deployed to the following units: Bulk Fuel, 3-7, 1-9, 2-9, 3-9, 1-3, 2-3, 3-3, Hq. Bn. Scout Dogs were used for daylight and nighttime patrols, both reconnaissance and combat. They were also employed on Listening Posts, and most of the time in searching villages and tunnels. Some of the dogs have been used to intimidate VCS with great success. The people are really afraid of the dogs. Thus far Scout Dogs have brought home excellent results. They have found nearly one-hundred VCS in tunnels and a great deal of rice and clothing. They have also found nearly 50 booby traps of all varieties and several weapons. They have found batteries with electrical wire which are used for detonating claymore mines and other booby traps.

5. Scout Dogs were deployed for no more than 5 days at a time so that the Veterinarian could keep a close check on them initially. Two dogs died of heat stroke so far but these dogs were easily excitable and would not remain calm during the heat of the day as most of the other dogs.

ENCLOSURE (4)

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EW:jfp  
10 May 1966

5. Other than heat problems, no great health threat was encountered. The sooner the dogs are put in cement type kennels and off the ground, the greater chance they'll have in their everlasting battle with parasites that habitat in the dirt in the Republic of Viet Nam. When permanent kennels are built they will increase the dogs efficiency 60% and their chances of contracting common diseases from insects and parisites will be reduced by about 80%.

6. The dogs are best employed at night when it is cool and all their senses are sharper. However, there seems to be a reluctance on the part of infantry units to conduct night security patrols due to the number of booby traps found accidentally and tragically at night. Scout Dogs are now being trained on trip wire and other types of booby traps, however, this is a slow process since 50% are deployed most of the time and are not available for training (They receive a degree of O.J.T. on booby traps in the field). When all dogs are familiar with booby traps I would like to see the dogs used almost exclusively on night security patrols since this is when the VC are out and this is when the dogs work best.

*Robert V. Wilder*  
Robert V. Wilder  
Lt. USMC

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1st Marine Corps Scout Dog Platoon  
MILITARY POLICE COMPANY  
HEADQUARTERS BATTALION  
3d Marine Division, FMF

RVW:jfp  
31 May 1966

From: 1stLt. Robert V. Wilder, Platoon Commander, 1st Marine Corps Scout Dog Platoon  
To: Commanding General, III MAF  
Via: Commanding Officer, Military Police Company, Headquarters Battalion 3d Marine Division, FMF  
Subj: Monthly Report of Activities for May 1966

1. During the month of May 1966 The First Marine Corps Scout Dog Platoon had thirteen commitments which involved deployment of Forty Scout Dogs. These dogs were used in the following capacities: Listening Posts, Search and Clear operations which involved chiefly finding tunnels and searching them, Night Ambush Patrols, Guarding VCS, and finding booby traps and gear such as ammo, clothes, weapons, food, and documents.

2. Results of these operations attributed to the Scout Dogs include the following: Four VCC

- Approximately Thirty VCS
- One .30 cal. rifle, Two .50 cal. emplacements
- Six barrels of rice
- Over 300 tunnels searched
- One box 20mm ammo
- One box .30 cal. ammo
- Some shotgun shells
- Three dead bodies
- Several booby traps

Most of the VCC and VCS and equipment were found in tunnels which dog alerted on.

3. Some of the lessons learned in the month of May were:

a. That there are hardly any tunnels in a village itself. There are bomb shelters in all the villages but mostly all of the tunnels are found in hedgerows surrounding the villages. The covers to these tunnels are so well emplaced that a dog will alert on the air holes rather than the entrances.

b. That walking 2000 meters to an ambush site does not impair the efficiency of most Scout Dogs as an early warning device on a night ambush patrol but a distance greater than this does have a tendency to reduce his effectiveness.

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c. That a Scout Dog can not work at his peak efficiency for a period exceeding ten days. After ten days they get disinterested due to being in the same area for that length of time. Also due to the Sanitation standards which are unavoidable out in the field. Many dogs will just get runned down. The quality of food available is also a health hazzard for the dogs. (C-Rations and Prime)

d. Most booby traps are not rigged with trip wires but rather vines and natural vegetation. The dogs will alert on grenades but not on natural vegetation.

e. A Scout Dog is employed to his greatest capacity on night time operations. Many more night time operations could be conducted with the help of Scout Dogs.

f. Dog Handlers should be armed with a more self-protecting weapon than the .45 cal pistol.

4. During the month of May we have made progress in developing our camp site. Plans for the permanent kennels were finished and they should be laying the concrete by the end of the month. Electricity was established thanks to the generosity of the 9th Motor Transport Battalion. The 7th Engineer Battalion has built up the area west of us for the 1st MP Battalion, which should move in around the 1st of June 1966. The 7th Engineer Battalion has also established a site for a well which, they assured me, will be dug in a short time.

5. The permanent type kennels will make a much healthier environment for the dogs. Therefore their alertness and efficiency will be greatly increased along with their availability. Health problems that were encountered during this month include.

Three dogs had heartworms. They are presently being treated in Saigon. Many dogs have skin fungi and some even have fleas. Ninety percent of the skin-fungi and fleas will be eradicated when the dogs move into the permanent kennels. Flea powder must be made available. The Army Area Veterinarian is unable to obtain any. Rectal thermometers should be made available since this is the primary means of detecting heat exhaustion. Due to the unavoidable sanitary conditions and quality of food in the field (C-Rations & Prime) dogs should not be deployed for longer than ten days. Dogs must be exercised daily or their degree of acclimation will be reduced.

*Robert V. Wilder*  
Robert V. Wilder  
Lt. USMC

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