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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Radio Battalion (-) FMF  
III Marine Amphibious Force  
FPO San Francisco 96602

~~SECRET~~

3:DJH:gme  
5750  
Ser: 00131-69  
23 Sep 1969

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, period 1-31 August 1969

Ref: (a) MCO P5750.1A  
(b) FMFPACO 5750.8A

Encl: (1) Command Chronology, 1st Radio Battalion (-), FMF

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

*D. M. Hopkins*  
D. M. HOPKINS

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FIRST ENDORSEMENT on CO, 1st Radio Bn ltr 3:DJH:gmc over 5750Z  
00131-69 of 23 Sep 1969

From: Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Gede A03D)  
Via: Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific  
Subj: Command Chronology, period 1-31 August 1969 (U)

1. Forwarded.

*R. L. Reed*  
R. L. REED  
BY DIRECTION

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CO, 1st Radio Bn

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SECOND ENDORSEMENT on CO, 1st Radio Bn (ltr 3:DJH:gme over  
5750 Ser: 00131-69 dtd 23 September 1969

From: Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)

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

1. The subject chronology has been reviewed for completeness  
and is forwarded herewith.

  
R.D. WHITE  
By direction

Copy to:  
CO, 1st Radio Bn  
CG, III MAF

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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Radio Battalion (-) FMF  
III Marine Amphibious Force  
FPO San Francisco 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 August 1969 to 31 August 1969

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## PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

1st Radio Battalion (-), FMF

COMMANDERLtCol D. M. HOPKINS  
(1-31 August 1969)SUBORDINATE UNITS

Headquarters and Services Company

1stLt J. D. DELP  
(1-20 August 1969)  
Capt B. R. SEPULVEDA  
(21-31 August 1969)

Operations Company

Capt B. E. BASHAM  
(1-7 August 1969)  
Major E. C. BRINKLEY JR.  
(8-31 August 1969)2. LOCATION

1-31 August 1969 - Camp Horn, Danang RVN

1-31 August 1969 - Headquarters and Services Company, Camp Hoa Long,  
East Danang RVN

1-31 August 1969 - Operations Company, Dong Ha Combat Base, RVN

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer

Major R. L. OBRIEN  
(1-17 August 1969)  
Major D. J. HATCH  
(18-31 August 1969)

S-1 Officer

1stLt J. D. DELP  
(1-15 August 1969)  
GySgt G. W. WILLS II  
(16-26 August 1969)  
1stLt R. J. ANDERSON  
(27-31 August 1969)

S-2 Officer

Capt L. D. SHOVE  
(1-14 August 1969)  
1stLt R. F. GINGRAS  
(15-31 August 1969)

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S-3 Officer

Major R. L. OBRIEN  
(1-31 August 1969)

S-4 Officer

Capt H. C. RICHARDSON JR.  
(1-14 August 1969)  
Capt B. R. SEPULVEDA  
(15-31 August 1969)

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

USMC		USN	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
26	341	0	0

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## PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. (S) During the month of August a Radio Battalion Direct Support Team was utilized in support of combat operations with the 7th Marine Regiment at Landing Zone Baldy. The team was inserted on the 15th of August and they continued their support throughout the remainder of the month. The Battalion remained in general support of III MAF and the platoons provided direct support to combat operations both from their platoon positions and outlying sites. Operation Durham Peak was concluded on the 15th of the month. Operations continuing throughout the month were: Iroquois Grove, which began on 19 June; Arlington Canyon, that had commenced on 3 July; and Idaho Canyon and Georgia Tar, both of which began on 16 July. Each platoon in the Radio Battalion is configured to be able to provide maximum SIGINT support to the tactical unit, which it supports. At present the 1st Platoon at An Hoa has HF SIGINT collection and COMSEC capabilities, with a special communications circuit with CRS Danang (E). The 2d Platoon at Hill 327 and 5th Platoon at Con Thien are similarly configured; but they have the additional capability of providing VHF SIGINT collection. The 3d Platoon at Dong Ha is similarly configured to the 2d Platoon, with the addition of direction finding capabilities in the HF range, with sites located at Vinh Dai, C-1 and Con Thien. The 4th and 6th Platoons both possess HF and VHF SIGINT collection, HFDF and COMSEC capabilities as well as having a communications circuit to CRS Danang (E). The 4th Platoon's DF sites are located at Signal Hill, Dong Ha Mountain and Hill 950. Both Dong Ha Mountain and Hill 950 are also equipped for VHF SIGINT collection. The 6th Platoon's DF sites are located at Hoi An, Hill 37 and Hill 327. Thus, the Radio Battalion has covered both Northern and Southern I Corps Tactical Zones with ample SIGINT/Special Intelligence collection capabilities.

2. (C) Transmission Security Monitoring decreased in total hours from the previous month. There was a total of 879 hours devoted during the month. This decrease is attributed mainly to the reduction in forces in the Republic of Vietnam, which was marked by the withdrawal of the 9th Marine Regiment from the Northern I Corps Tactical Zone. A greater increase in daily violations was also reflected for this period, with a total of 519 for the month. The number of serious violations necessitating spot reports more than doubled from the previous reporting period, for a total of 44 for the month. The majority of daily violations for this reporting period included numerous procedural errors, which were not previously reported and are considered to be insignificant. The reporting of procedural errors will not be recorded in the future.

3. (S) A total of 3,305 direction finding fixes this month consisted of 243 from SRDF and 3,062 from the airborne platforms. It is noted that both SRDF and ARDF fixes increased over the previous reporting period. A total of 804 of the aforementioned fixes were identified. No significant increase in identifications was noted for this reporting period. The VHF direction finding capability of the battalion is still down pending receipt of repair parts for the AN/GRA-94 equipment, which have been ordered from GNC.

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PART III  
SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. (S) Operations supported by the 1st Radio Battalion during the period 1-31 August were:

<u>Operation</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Supported Unit</u>	<u>Supporting Unit</u>
Durham Peak	1-15 August	5th Marines	1st, 6th Platoons
Idaho Canyon	1-31 August	3d Marines	3d, 4th, 5th Platoons
Arlington Canyon	1-31 August	4th Marines	4th Platoon
Georgia Tar	1-31 August	4th Marines	3d, 4th Platoons
Iroquois Grove	1-31 August	1st Bde, 5th Mech	5th Platoon

2. (S) Physical location of Radio Battalion Platoons for the month of August 1969:

1st Platoon	AT 873 476	w/no outlying sites
2nd Platoon	AT 971 738	"
6th Platoon	AT 970 619	Hoi An BT 097 582
		Hill 327 AT 971 738
		Hill 37 AT 917 581
Direct Support Team (LZ Baldy)		BT 136 452
3d Platoon	YD 229 597	Vinh Dai YD 171 588
		C-1 YD 211 673
		Con Thien YD 116 701
4th Platoon	YD 986 476	Dong Ha Mt. YD 019 593
		Signal Hill XD 969 479
		Hill 950 XD 845 456
5th Platoon	YD 115 705	w/no outlying sites

3. (U) Upon recomputation of the Battalion's T/E shortages and deadlined equipment, it was determined that the battalion should be in a C-2 status in both areas. On 22 August a report was submitted declaring the Battalion to be in a C-2 status in supplies and equipment on hand and equipment readiness.

4. (U) Command Relations.

a. LtCol HOPKINS and Major OBRIEN and other operations personnel received an operational briefing at the 138th Aviation Company on 4 August. Arrangements were made to have one analyst attend their weekly briefing for the pilots of the company.

b. Col EUBANK, USAF, Chief JSFC and Capt PURKINS, USAF visited Radio Battalion on 8 August to discuss JSFC relationships and support to the Service Cryptologic Agencies in Vietnam.

c. An operational briefing was given to Lt WESTWOOD, USNR and Lt(jg) WELCH, USNR, Det B, VQ-1, Danang on 11 August.

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d. Major WILLIAMS, USA and Major RESCH, USA, 509th RR Gp Saigon visited Radio Battalion on 13 August to discuss project "CIRCUS ACT".

e. Mr. FOX, DOD SpecRep, Saigon visited RadBn 13-14 August to discuss project "CONDOR".

f. On 18 August MajGen THRASH, Col ORR and 1stLt KNORR of 1stMAW were briefed on RadBn's role in ARDF.

g. LtCol GAMMEL, USAF, OpsO, NRV(C), GS-11 KOESTER, GS-11 KILLOUGH and GS-9 CARROL visited RadBn on 20-21 August for a briefing and analytical discussions.

h. On 20, 21 and 22 August GS-13 MINAHAN and GS-12 HARRIS visited RadBn Hdqtrs, OpsCo at Dong Ha and the 4th Platoon at Vandergrift Combat Base for site location in conjunction with Project "ABOVE BOARD".

i. LtCol HOPKINS, Major HATCH and SgtMaj MARTIN visited XXIV Corps (G-2 Col PATTON), the 8th RRFlDSta (LtCol COYKENDAL) and "L" Co, MarSuppBn (Major NOWAK) on 23 August for operational briefings and orientation visits. On 24 August LtCol HOPKINS and party continued on to Dong Ha Combat Base for a visit to Operations Company and the 3rd Platoon; from there they continued on to Vandergrift Combat Base and the 4th Platoon and thence to Con Thien and the 5th Platoon. While at Operations Company and its platoons, LtCol HOPKINS and party were briefed on the respective company and platoon operations.

j. On 26 August Cdr BARBER and Cdr JACKSON, the outgoing and incoming NAVFAC Commanding Officers, respectively, received an operational briefing.

k. On 27 August Major GARDNER, USA, the new Commanding Officer of the 138th AvnCo and Major LOGUE, USA, Operations Officer were briefed by 1st RadBn and then visited the 2nd Platoon operating spaces on Hill 327.

l. LtCol HOPKINS, Major OBRIEN and SgtMaj MARTIN attended the change of command ceremonies on 28 August at NAVFAC Danang, Camp Tien Sha.

5. (U) Personnel and equipment casualties. At approximately 0220 hours on the morning of 19 August 1969, Corporal George S. HUDDLESTON, 2366023 USMC and Corporal Terry J. WHEELER, 2351315 USMC both received shrapnel wounds of the lower extremities while participating in a defensive fire fight within the 1stPlt sector at An Hoa Combat Base. Both men were treated for their wounds at the 5th Marine Regimental Aid Station and returned to duty.

6. (U) Equipment and Logistics

a. As stated above, recomputation of the equipment readiness in the battalion determined that only 71% of the equipment was not deadlined. Thus, a C-2 status was reported on 22 August. Concurrently, the supplies and equipment on hand was 87% and a C-2 status was also reported in this area.

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b. Upon declaring the battalion in a C-2 status, 6 GA cards were submitted for 30 combat essential T/E shortages. Further, 4 GA cards were submitted for parts deadlining combat essential equipment.

7. (U) Construction. There were no construction projects requested and none completed during August; although there are several that are outstanding.

8. (U) New equipment. During August the Battalion received 1 decontaminating apparatus, M-12.

9. (U) Maintenance.

a. Electronics. A determined attempt to improve the combat readiness status of the Battalion resulted in 27 tactical equipment repair orders (TERO's) being turned in to electronic maintenance. Thirteen were completed, 7 were held awaiting parts and 5 were evacuated to higher echelon. 3 of these were passed to Motor Transport Maintenance and 1 piece to Engineer Maintenance.

b. Engineer. There were 43 TERO's submitted and 43 completed with 4 evacuated to higher echelon. 29 TERO's were for general repairs and the others were scheduled maintenance.

c. Motor Transport. 6,024 personnel were transported and 76 tons of cargo hauled as the Battalion continued to support the 6 platoons and outlying sites. In doing so, the motor transport section traveled 30,126 miles. Meanwhile 71 TERO's were submitted and 68 completed with 3 evacuated to higher echelon. 37 of these were general repairs with the remainder scheduled maintenance except for 4 acceptance checks.

10. (U) Supply.

a. There were no significant supply procedures conducted during the month.

b. No equipment was classified as a combat loss.

c. Total requisitions submitted and completed by priority were:

<u>PRIORITY</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>COMPLETED</u>	<u>FOLLOW-UPS</u>
02	91	85	0
05	122	108	0
12	439	316	0
17	183	126	0

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d. As of 31 August there were 95 priority 02 requisitions outstanding with the oldest one 8264-0027. There were 116 priority 05 requisitions outstanding with the oldest one of them 8251-G009.

11. (C) Courier. There were 152 courier runs made by the S-2 Section to the platoons and outlying sites of the Battalion.

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12. (S) Communications. An increase in manpower this month raised the total figure to 71 with 21 at the platoons, 9 USN and 2 USMC personnel attached TAD and five assigned to maintenance. With this input of personnel, however, the incoming/outgoing messages increased to 11,164. Locally originated messages were broken down as follows:

Precedence	Flash	Immediate	Priority	Routine	Total
Number of msgs	399	2124	804	348	3713
Total routing indicators	3,217	21,603	2622	1083	28,525

Incoming messages totaled 7,451 and accounted for 2,592,948 groups. An August typhoon and heavy rains were primarily responsible for a lower circuit reliability; varying from 84% (1stMarDiv-1stRadBn) to 100% (San Miguel-1stRadBn). Further, due to circuit outage and overload during this time, 2,409 outgoing messages were delivered by courier. 1,366 of these were to 1st Marine Air Wing due to circuit overload. The reliability on the 1stMAW-1stRadBn circuit was 89%.

13. (U) Personnel

a. Joined: 5 officers and 43 enlisted.

b. Detached: 9 officers and 33 enlisted.

c. Overseas Extensions:

- (1) 6 months: 8
- (2) 3 months: 3

d. Reenlistments: 0 career and 1 1st Term.

e. Off-duty Education:

- (1) MGI: 107
- (2) USAFI: 2
- (3) University of Maryland (tuition): 0

f. Savings Bonds and Savings Participation: Approximately 82 percent of the command participated in the bond program and 5 percent in the Savings Deposit Program.

g. Leaves and R&R:

- (1) Emergency Leave: 1
- (2) Annual Leave: 2
- (3) Special Leave: 12
- (4) R&R: 11

h. Hospitalization: 5 non-combat

i. Personal Awards Nominations:

- (1) Navy Achievement Medal: 8
- (2) Navy Commendation Medal: 16
- (3) Bronze Star Medal: 3

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14. (U) Miscellaneous

a. Postal. Postal service is provided by 1st Marine Division, 3rd Marine Division and 1st Marine Air Wing. Average mail delivery time is five days.

b. Legal:

- (1) Special Courts-Martial: 0
- (2) Summary Courts-Martial: 0
- (3) Non-judicial Punishment: 0

c. Disbursing. Disbursing support is provided by the III Marine Amphibious Force, 1st Marine Division and 3rd Marine Division.

d. Morale. Morale is good.

PART IV

CHRONOLOGY OF SUBORDINATE COMMANDS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. (U) Chronology of subordinate commands are not required.
2. (U) Supporting documents are of a higher classification and passed separately as a part of the 1st Radio Battalion Historical File.

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