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

A3:DCL:dcl
5750
Ser 00163-69
14 Dec 1969

~~SECRET~~

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code AO3D)
Via: (1) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force
(2) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

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

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

INDEXED BY [unclear]
SERIALIZED BY [unclear]
DEC 17 1969

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~~TOP SECRET~~ (Unclassified upon removal from the basic letter)

FIRST ENDORSEMENT on CO, 1stRadBn ltr A3:DCL:dcl over 5750
Ser 00163-69 of 14Dec69

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

Subj: Command Chronology, 1st Radio Battalion (-) FMF;
Month of November 1969

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



Copy to:
CO, 1stRADBn

L.E. McClellan

BY DIRECTION

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~~SECRET~~ (Unclassified upon removal from the basic letter)

SECOND ENDORSEMENT on CO, 1stRadBn ltr A3:DCL:dcl over 5750
Ser: 00163-69 of 14Dec69

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

Subj: Command Chronology, 1stRadBn (-) FMF; Month of November
1969

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


R. D. WHITE
By direction

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CO, 1stRadBn

PERMANENT RETENTION
Report Destruction to HQ Classified Files Sect. (Code ABQ)

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1st Rad Bn

Nov 1969

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1st Radio Battalion (-) FMF
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FPO San Francisco 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

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Commands and Supporting Documents

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Designation Commander
 1st Radio Battalion (-) FMF LtCol D. M. HOPKINS
(1-30 November 1969)

Subordinate Units

Headquarters and Service Company Capt B. R. SEPULVEDA
(1-30 November 1969)
 Operations Company Maj E. C. BRINKLEY Jr.
(1-30 November 1969)

2. Location

1-30 November 1969 - Headquarters, Camp Horn, Da Nang, RVN
 1-30 November 1969 - Headquarters and Service Company, Camp Hoa Long, East Da Nang, RVN
 1-30 November 1969 - Operations Company, Dong Ha Combat Base, RVN

3. Staff Officers

Executive Officer Maj D. J. HATCH
(1-30 November 1969)
 S-1 Officer 1st Lt R. J. ANDERSON
(1-30 November 1969)
 S-2 Officer 1st Lt R. L. GINGRAS
(1-11 November 1969)
Capt R. E. SCHLAPFER
(11-30 November 1969)
 S-3 Officer Maj R. L. O'BRIEN
(1-30 November 1969)
 S-4 Officer Capt B. R. SEPULVEDA
(1-30 November 1969)

4. Average Monthly Strength

USMC		USMC(Attached)		USN(Attached)	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
27	335	0	2	0	18

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. (S) During the month of November, the remainder of elements of the 3rd Marine Division departed country. The majority of the service elements which formerly provided services to Operations Company departed concurrently with the 3rd Marine Division. New arrangements were negotiated for messing, postal services, and disbursing services. Postal services are now rendered by the Army Post Office, Quang Tri, RVN. Pay records are now handled by III MAF Disbursing Office. Maintenance Support is being provided by the 63rd Maintenance Battalion. Messing is provided by the Provisional Mess. Early in the period, Operations Company completed its relocation to the Third Platoon Area and site of the Joint Tactical Processing Center (JTTC). Also during this time frame the perimeter of Dong Ha Combat Base was further redefined. Immediate and extensive defensive preparations were necessitated as a result of this redefinition. Construction of a guard tower above the operations bunker with a night observation device, fighting holes, and additional wire obstacles of concertina and tanglefoot were also installed. Bunkers are being renovated and strengthened with additional sandbags, two machinegun positions have been built and trip flares added to the defensive preparations. Additional guards have been placed on the perimeter.

Operations Company, the JTTC and the Northern Platoons continued to provide vital and timely SIGINT input to III MAF and the Tactical Commanders of Northern I Corps. An orientation was conducted for Col CARTWRIGHT, USA, the Commander of the 108th Artillery Group and the senior artillery commander in the Dong Ha Area. Near the end of the period, 5th Platoon was visited by the Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Lewis W. WALT. Although the General could not visit the internal spaces of the Platoon due to uncleared members in his party, he told the 5th Platoon Commander, Lt COOK, that 1st Radio Battalion was doing an excellent job and wished us continued success in the conduct of our operation. There were no major operations conducted by friendly forces in Northern I Corps Tactical Zone and most of the tactical support provided to Tactical Unit Commanders in the Northern Area consisted of SIGINT Locations of enemy units.

In the South, construction and area improvement continued throughout the reporting period. At the Second Platoon, the site for the main bunker was leveled and construction of the bunker framework was completed by the middle of the period. The reinforcement with sandbags was completed on the 25th of the month. The First Platoon completed the move into the new bunker in the 5th Marines Command Post and commenced operations from the new location with minimal loss of operating time. Shortly after being established in the new bunker, a High Frequency Position was activated for search and test purposes. The capabilities of the First Platoon are recapped as follows: 1 HF, 1 VHF, 1 CommSec, 1 Rad Bn Common (covered voice) and 1 KW-7 Teletype Circuit. An extension was added to the main bunker to accommodate living and working spaces for the ARVN Linguist assigned to the Platoon. Other construction completed during the month was a generator shed. Additional power requirements became evident and

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power sources were provided to the Detachment at Fire Support Base Baldy and Second Platoon. Electronic, Motor Transport and Engineering Equipment Contact Teams started their circuit of the Battalion with the Platoons and detachments in the Southern Area, terminating in the middle of the coming month. Visiting each site, the team provides a courtesy inspection, maintenance instruction and a review of records. Supply personnel also accompanied the contact team to assist in reviewing supply records and requisitioning procedures. During this period, a separate embarkation section was established in the S-4 Office with one officer, one SNCO, and one NCO. Both of the NCOs completed the thirty day embarkation course on Okinawa. Late in the period this team commenced a circuit of the Battalion to ascertain preliminary embarkation requirements and to assist in the implementation of provisions of the Battalion Embarkation SOP.

Hearability tests were conducted at Fire Support Base Baldy, Hoi An, Fire Support Base Rider and Monkey Mountain. As a result of these tests, a permanent detachment has been established at FSB Baldy with a team at FSB Rider. The test at Monkey Mountain was conducted to determine if the site would be an acceptable location to place a detachment when III MAF resources are redeployed. The results of this test were satisfactory.

In the event Radio Battalion Marines are phased out of the Northern Area, present intentions are to augment these new sites.

In the Headquarters and Service Area of the Battalion, work progressed steadily on improvements despite poor weather for the last two weeks of November. The recreation area in the Barracks at Camp Hoa Long was completed. With the approval of the AIC Fund and the receipt of 60,000 Piasters, civilian laborers were hired to work on the Motor Transport Area and the conversion of existing structures to a maintenance shop, a warehouse and dispatcher's offices.

SIGINT provided by elements in the Southern Area was instrumental in the successful conduct of several rice denial operations and also the discovery of a team attempting to infiltrate the Hill 55 Compound.

All members of this Battalion properly observed the One Hundred Ninety Fourth Anniversary of the founding of the Marine Corps. Our observance of this day extended from vigilance over the Northwestern Corner of Northern I Corps to the Northeastern Corner overlooking the South China Sea. Other elements observed the celebration facing West in the Central Region of I Corps, while still others observed the day in the southern reaches of the Marine TACR in I Corps.

2. (C) The second subsequent significant decrease in Transmission Security Monitoring is reported for the month of November. There was an overall drop of 36 percent in the total hours monitored due to the securing of the remainder of the 3rd Marine Division Tactical Voice Circuits. The Communication Security Position located at the Third Platoon was secured on 27 November 1969. The total number of hours monitored was 367.8. A 35 percent drop in the total number of violations is also reported, numbering 64 for the period. Of this total, 23 of the violations were of such a nature as to warrant a spot report being issued. No TransSec Lectures were given during this period.

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3. (S) Relative enemy inactivity continued to be reflected in the number of direction finding fixes obtained during the month of November. Total fixes for the month were: 3016 and further broken down as follows: Airborne Radio Direction Finding, 2803 and Short Range Direction Finding, 213. Of the overall total, 842 of the fixes were identified to area and entity. A total of 34 of the fixes were taken under fire.

4. (U) Renovation and expansion of the Communication Center continued throughout the month. The installation of the new automatic equipment progressed satisfactorily. The Strawhat Project, a high speed digital system, was cancelled for the Battalion. Preparations were effected for the tempest inspection and communication center acceptance in the coming month.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

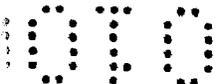
1. (C) There were no major named operations conducted in I Corps during the reporting period. Elements of the Battalion continued in direct support of tactical commanders and general support of III Marine Amphibious Force in the Southern Area. Battalion resources remained in general and joint support of III MAF and subordinate commanders in Northern ICTZ.

2. (C) Physical locations of Radio Battalion Platoons and Detachments:

1st Platoon	AT 873 476	An Hoa
2nd Platoon	AT 971 738	Hill 327
3rd Platoon	YD 229 597	Dong Ha Combat Base
Site	YD 211 673	C-1
Site	YD 132 645	C-2
Site	YD 116 701	Con Thien
Site	YD 019 593	Dong Ha Mountain
4th Platoon	YD 019 593	Dong Ha Mountain
5th Platoon	YD 116 701	Con Thien
6th Platoon	AT 970 619	Camp Muir (Hill 55)
Det Alfa	BT 136 452	FSB Baldy
Site	BT 097 582	Hoi An
Site	AT 917 581	Hill 37

3. (S) Chronological listing of events: Input Source Code P-Plt, C-Ops Co, H-H&S Co, 1-S-1, 2-S-2, 3-S-3, 4-S-4, 6-Omd, C-Comm:

Date	Event
1 Nov	Main Bunker site leveled by engineers at Hill 327 (F) Platoons commenced station designator usage vice Platoon numbers on communication circuits (C/3)
2 Nov	1st Platoon moved into new bunker and operationally activated the new site. 1 HF Position established at 1st Plt. (P)
3 Nov	Project Strawhat cancelled (C) Operations Company completed move to 3rd Platoon Area (O)
5 Nov	Hearability Test commenced at Hoi An (3) Commanding Officer departed for visit to the Northern Area (6)
6 Nov	Bunker extension completed by the 1st Platoon (p)
7 Nov	LtCol CHANDLER visited Operations Company, RON with 5th Platoon (O)
8 Nov	2 Generator Sets, PU-661 sent to FSB Baldy for Det A power source (P) 1300 this date, 5th Platoon took 1 round u/i rocket fire (P)
9 Nov	0100 this date, 5th Platoon took 1 round u/i rocket fire and the rocket impacted outside of the perimeter. No casualties in either instance. (P) Armorer completed condition coding all M-16 Weapons in the Battalion (4) Hearability Test commenced at Fire Support Base Rider (3)



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- 10 Nov One Hundred Ninety Fourth Anniversary of the founding of the Marine Corps observed. LtCol HOPKINS cut the cake and presided over the ceremony at Camp Hoa Long, RVN (6)
30 KW Generator augmentation provided to 2nd Platoon (4)
- 11 Nov A briefing on the Operation of the JTPC was conducted for the G-2 of XXIV Corps (0)
- 13 Nov AIK Funds received in the amount of 60,000 Piasters (4)
Maj Gen SIMPSON, Commanding General, 1st Marine Division visited 6th Platoon and was given an operational orientation and a situation briefing. (P)
- 14 Nov Hearability Test at Hoi An secured (3)
- 15 Nov Main Bunker completed at 2nd Platoon (P)
- 17 Nov Two NCOs returned from a 4 week embarkation course on Okinawa (3)
Four men attended a generator operator course at China Beach and were licensed to operate generators up to 250 KW, (4)
Col CARTWRIGHT, USA, Commanding Officer, 108th Artillery Group was given an operational orientation and briefing on the JTPC (0)
Budget ceiling was reduced this date (4)
- 18 Nov Hearability Test commenced on Monkey Mountain (3)
- 19 Nov Received additional repair parts for AN/GRA-94 from CMC (4)
Supply Officer to Operations Company for courtesy inspection and supply matters (4)
Requested special allowance of ten M-79 Grenade Launchers (4)
- 20 Nov Col QUILLIAN, G-2 HQMC, visited Operations Company (0)
Received the remainder of 330 Cubic Meters of crushed rock for Motor Transport hardstand area (4)
- 21 Nov Bulldozer leveled area and crushed rock spread in Motor Pool Project (4)
Generator shed completed at 1st Platoon (P)
- 22 Nov Maintenance Contact Team visited 2nd Platoon at Hill 327 (P)
Submitted budget for AIK Funds (4)
Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps visited 5th Platoon at Con Thien (P)
Communication Circuits to the Northern Area were rechanneled (C)
- 24 Nov Armory broken into and one pistol, Cal .45 stolen (4)
Maintenance Contact Team visited 6th Platoon at Hill 55 (P)
- 28 Nov Communication Security Position at 3rd Platoon secured (P)
Defensive positions at Operations Company/3rd Platoon completed (0)
Hearability Test on Monkey Mountain secured (3)
- 29 Nov Budget Committee met (6)
- 30 Nov Air Conditioner installation at Headquarters/Operations Building completed and operating (4)

4. (C) Command Relations.

a. LtCol CHANDLER, USA, NRW(C) Operations Officer, visited 1st Rad Bn 5 through 8 November for general orientation and visited 2nd, 6th, 3rd, 5th, Platoons and Operations Company.

b. Lt Col HOPKINS visited the Northern Area from 4 through 7 November remaining over night with the 4th Platoon, Operations Company and 5th Platoon.

c. Mr FOX (GS-13) NRV(C) visited 1st Rad Bn for technical and analytical coordination on 13 November.

d. LtCol HOPKINS visited Naval Facility Da Nang 13 and 14 November to coordinate Hearability Test to be conducted from the Monkey Mountain Naval Site.

e. Maj JACOBS, USAF, Operations Officer 6924th AFSS Sqn, Mrs MINAHAN and HARRIS (GS-13 and 12 respectively) NRV(C) visited for technical assistance and coordination on projected balloon test to be conducted on Monkey Mountain.

f. Maj DORMAN, S-2, 1st Marines visited 1st Rad Bn on 22 November for general orientation and an operational briefing.

5. (U) Personnel and Equipment Casualties. None.

6. (U) Equipment and Logistics.

a. The Battalion continues in a C-2 readiness status with 71.5 percent of equipment in service and a total of 41 pieces of Combat Essential Equipment in a deadline status. Totally, 22 pieces of the above are in a NORS Status, 11 in a NORM status and 8 pieces in transit.

b. As of 30 November, 110 GA Cards have been submitted, 46 completed and four cancelled documents.

c. The average of completed documents is as follows:
67 Days from date of document
31 Days from date of GA submission

7. (U) Fiscal Matters.

a. CG FLC 260222Z November 1969 contained budget call for Phase I FY-70 with a due date of 5 December 1969.

b. On 17 November 1969, the fund ceiling for the 3rd and 4th Quarters FY-70/71 was reduced to 40,400 and 34,900 Dollars from the recommended 66,058 and 66,058 Dollars respectively for those quarters.

8. (U) New Equipment.

a. During the reporting period, the following new equipments were received:

- (1) One Truck, Cargo, M35A2C
- (2) Two Trailers, Water M-149
- (3) One Trailer, Cargo M-100
- (4) Two Teletypewriter Test Sets AN/UGM-5



9. (U) Other Equipment.

a. The following equipment was received from Sub Unit #2, 1st Radio Battalion:

- (1) Three Office Supply Sets w/ Typewriter, 11 inch.

10. (U) Maintenance and Service.

a. Projects completed
 (1) Installation of air-conditioning for Headquarters/Operations Building, Camp Horn.
 (2) Rock for the motor pool received and leveled.

- b. Projects in progress
 (1) Communication Center expansion continues.
 (2) Relocation of Motor Transport Facilities.

11. (U) Electronic Maintenance.

a. A total of 22 Tactical Equipment Repair Orders were received.
 b. A total of 33 Tactical Equipment Repair Orders were completed.
 c. Twelve pieces of test equipment have been evacuated for tolerance check and calibration.

d. The lack of qualified technicians continues to hamper the maintenance effort. The transfer of a MSgt 5931 without replacement leaves the Battalion without a qualified technician to maintain TSQ-46 and TLQ-19. During this period, a Sergeant 2841 was transferred without replacement.

12. (U) Motor Transport.

a. The following is a recap of the Tactical Equipment Repair Orders for the month of November:

- (1) Quarterly preventive maintenance - 28
 (2) Annual preventive maintenance - 6
 (3) General repair - 6
 (4) Tactical Equipment Repair Orders completed - 55
 (5) Evacuated to 3rd/4th Echelon - 4
 (6) Returned from 3rd/4th Echelon - 3

b. Ten Trucks, Cargo, M35 were turned in as excess due to the receipt of replacement M35A2C Trucks.

- c. The following monthly statistical information is provided:
 (a) Monthly mileage - 33,908 M
 (b) Tonnage hauled - 134.4 T
 (c) Personnel transported - 6,126

d. There were three minor accidents during the reporting period, none required investigation.



13. (U) Engineer Maintenance.

- a. A total of 26 Tactical Equipment Repair Orders were initiated.
- b. A total of 15 Tactical Equipment Repair Orders were completed.
- c. Two pieces of equipment were evacuated to higher echelon.
- d. One piece of equipment (PU-239) was returned from higher echelon.

14. (U) Supply.

- a. Requisition status for the reporting period is as follows:

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Completed</u>	<u>Follow-ups</u>
02	70	21	43
05	125	60	7
12	264	90	12
17	6	3	0

- b. No equipment was classified as a combat loss during the period.
- c. The Armory was broken into and one pistol, Cal .45 Serial No 1800663 was stolen. This occurred on the night of 24 November 1969. An investigation into the circumstances was conducted.

15. (C) Intelligence and Security.

- a. Courier Missions numbered 117 for the reporting period.
- b. Security Clearance Administration:
 - (1) Updates -5
 - (2) Admin process - 9 Incoming, 10 Outgoing
- c. Registered Publications effected 7 draws from the Registered Publications Sub Issuing Office. Twenty eight separate inter-Battalion transactions were effected.
- d. One COMUS Pad reported unaccounted for. An investigation was conducted into the circumstances.

16. (C) Communications: During the reporting period, a total of 59,585 messages consisting of approximately 17,485,675 groups were processed by the Da Nang Criticomm Relay Station.

- a. Nine circuits were operated half-duplex.
- b. Five circuits were operated full-duplex.
- c. Ten covered voice circuits were operated in ICTZ by 1st Radio Battalion using organic assets of KY-8 and KY-38 Equipments.

17. (U) Personnel and Administration.
- a. Joined 1 Officer and 12 Enlisted.
 - b. Detached 16 Enlisted.
 - c. Overseas Extensions: 5 for a period of 6 months.
 - d. Reenlistments: 2 Career
 - e. Off-duty Education:
 - (1) 108 Marine Corps Institute
 - (2) 7 United States Armed Forces Institute
 - f. Approximately 67 percent of the command participated in the Savings Bond Program and 54 percent participated in the Savings Deposit Program.
 - g. Leave and R&R
 - (1) Emergency Leave 1
 - (2) Annual Leave 1
 - (3) Special Leave 4
 - (4) R&R 38
 - h. Two personnel were hospitalized (non-combat).
 - i. Personal Award Nominations
 - (1) Navy Achievement Medal 4
 - (2) Navy Commendation Medal 3
 - j. There were 19 enlisted personnel promoted during the month.
 - k. Postal services are provided by the 1st Marine Air Wing, 1st Marine Division and the Army Post Office at Quang Tri. Average mail delivery time is 5-6 days.
 - l. There were 5 Non-judicial Punishments administered in November.
 - m. Disbursing services are provided by III Marine Amphibious Force.
 - n. Morale is good.



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PART IV

CHRONOLOGY OF SUBORDINATE COMMANDS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. (U) Chronology of subordinate units is not required.
2. (U) Supporting documents are of a higher classification, require special access and are transmitted separately as part of 1st Radio Battalion Historical File.

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