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

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A3:RES:vwl  
5750  
Ser: 00428-70  
29 March 1970

SECRET

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code HD)  
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 5750.8B

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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**Ser:**

11 April 1970

0030070

FIRST ENDORSEMENT on CO, 1st Radio Bn ltr A3:RES:vwl over 5750  
Ser: 00428-70 dtd 29 March 1970

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

Subj: Command Chronology, 1st Radio Battalion (-) FMF;  
period 1 - 28 February 1970

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

H. L. WILKERSON  
By direction

Copy to:  
CC, 1st Radio Bn

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APR 21 1970

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SECOND ENDORSEMENT on CO, 1st Radio Bn lte A3:RES:vw1 over  
5750 Ser: 00428-70 dtd 29Mar70

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

Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1 - 28 February 1970

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

*[Signature]*  
R. D. WHITE  
By direction

Copy to:  
CO, 1st Radio Bn

HD  
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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

INDEX

PART I - Organizational Data

PART II - Narrative Summary

PART III - Sequential Listing of Significant Events

PART IV - Chronology of Subordinate  
Commands and Supporting Documents

Page 1 of 14 Pages

DECLASSIFIED

ENCLOSURE (1)  
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## PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

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1. Designation

First Radio Battalion (-) FMF

CommanderLtCol D. M. HOPKINS  
(1-28 February 1970)Subordinate Units

Headquarters and Service Company

Capt G. E. SMITH  
(1-28 February 1970)

Operations Company

Maj S. C. WIGGINS  
(1-19 February 1970)Detachment, Headquarters and Service  
CompanyMaj S. C. WIGGINS  
(20-28 February 1970)2. Location

1-28 February 1970 - Headquarters, Camp Horn, Da Nang, RVN

1-28 February 1970 - Headquarters and Service Company, Camp Hoa  
Long, East Da Nang, RVN

1-19 February 1970 - Operations Company, Dong Ha Combat Base, RVN

20-28 February 1970 - Detachment, Headquarters and Service Company,  
Dong Ha Combat Base, RVN3. Staff Officers

Executive Officer

Maj D. J. HATCH  
(1-28 February 1970)

S-1 Officer

1stLt R. J. ANDERSON  
(1-28 February 1970)

S-2 Officer

Capt R. E. SCHLAPFER  
(1-28 February 1970)

S-3 Officer

Maj R. L. O'BRIEN  
(1-28 February 1970)

S-4 Officer

Capt G. E. SMITH  
(1-28 February 1970)Page 2 of 14 PagesENCLOSURE (1)  
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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>
25	355	0	2	0	24

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## PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. (S) First Radio Battalion's platoons, deployed throughout the Southern I Corps Tactical Zone, continued their direct support to the regiments of the 1st Marine Division and general support to the whole of the III Marine Amphibious Force. The direct support role was highlighted by the timely provision of intelligence information which aided in the launching of successful helicopter-borne assault missions, fire missions, ambushes, counter-ambushes, and also provided warnings of impending attacks upon Marine and other friendly forces. The end result of the above actions has been not only the loss of equipment and personnel by the enemy, it has also denied him freedom of movement to his forward base areas and has prevented him from obtaining local provisions and supplies.

In the Northern I Corps Tactical Zone, the Joint Tactical Processing Center continued its successful provision of timely intelligence information to tactical commanders and the provision of general intelligence support to the III Marine Amphibious Force. During February, elements of the 407th Radio Research Detachment, USASA, relieved the 4th Platoon on Dong Ha Mountain and the 5th Platoon at Con Thien as the First Radio Battalion began phase-down operations in the north. With the withdrawal of the 4th and 5th Platoons, Marine SRDF and ARDF operations were also deactivated in the north. Plans for the deactivation of the JTPC and Operations Company and the assumption of their missions by elements of the 407th RRD continued through February. The AN/TSQ-88 continued its successful operation at Dong Ha and, with the imminent withdrawal and deactivation of Operations Company, plans were formulated to deploy the AN/TSQ-88 to a location in Southern ICTZ.

The search for suitable locations for the expansion of the SRDF Net within the 1st Marine Division TAOR continued throughout February. Such an expansion will facilitate more accurate fixing of targets for fire and Helicopter assault missions.

The last two weeks in February witnessed the preparation of a detachment of 20 personnel and 42 pieces of rolling stock loaded with equipment for a retrograde movement by ship to Hawaii. By 28 February, all preparations for embarkation were completed with personnel and equipment staged to go aboard ship.

General upkeep and maintenance of the individual Platoons and Company areas continued throughout February. Improvements were made to defenses of the various areas and work continues on projects dealing with immediate operational necessity or health and welfare of the personnel.

2. (C) During the month of February a decrease was noted in the number of hours of monitoring of Marine Tactical Circuits by the Transmission Security Elements of First Radio Battalion. Four TRANSEC monitoring positions were in operation. A total of 498.4 hours, 82.1 hours less than the total for January, were logged for February. Total transmissions monitored was 46,205,

Page 4 of 14 Pages

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an increase of 2,900 over January. Violations warranting issuance of a spot report numbered 44 as opposed to 71 for January, a significant decrease attributable to the active transmission security program in force by the III Marine Amphibious Force and its subordinate units.

3. (S) Enemy activity as reflected through the number of Direction Finding fixes showed a slight decline in February. The total number of fixes was 3,499. 160 of these fixes were obtained from the organic ground-used Short Range system of First Radio Battalion. 3,339 of these fixes were obtained from airborne resources. 1,021 of the aggregate number of fixes were identified. Fixes used as a basis for fire missions totaled 77.

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Page 5 of 14 Pages

ENCLOSURE (1)

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## PART III

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**DECLASSIFIED**SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. (G) There were no major operations conducted in the I Corps Tactical Zone during this reporting period. Operating platoons of the First Radio Battalion continued their direct support of tactical commanders in the Southern I Corps Tactical Zone while providing general support to the III Marine Amphibious Force. Operations Company provided general and joint support to the III Marine Amphibious Force and its subordinate tactical commanders in the Northern I Corps Tactical Zone.

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

1st Platoon	AT 873 476	An Hoa Combat Base
2nd Platoon	AT 971 738	Hill 327
Site	BT 015 626	1st Bn, 1st Marines
Site	BT 099 584	Hoi An
Site	AT 970 620	Hill 55 (Camp Muir)
Site	AT 916 581	Hill 37
Site	AT 879 576	Hill 65
Site	AT 873 476	An Hoa Combat Base
Site	AT 856 495	Hill 10
3rd Platoon	YD 229 597	Dong Ha Combat Base
Site	YD 062 551	Camp Carroll
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	Hill 55 (Camp Muir)
Det Alpha	BT 156 452	Fire Support Base Baldy

3. (S) Chronological listing of events: Input source code; - Plt=P, OpsCo=O, H&SCo=H, S-1=1, S-2=2, S-3=3, S-4=4, Command=6, Comm=C.

Date      Event

1 Feb      Daily practice of newly implemented Operations Company Emergency Reaction Plan began in preparation for possible TET attacks. (O)  
Intelligence information provided by 1st Platoon initiated ambush by E/2/5 wherein 2 NVA were KIA and 2 AK-47 rifles were captured. (P)  
Additional information provided by 1st Platoon resulted in G/2/5 spotting 70 NVA apparently preparing to attack E/2/5. A fire mission called by G/2/5 resulted in 25 NVA being KIA. (P)  
Capt SNEARLY relieved Capt GARNAKO as Platoon Commander of the 3rd/4th Platoon. (O)

Page 6 of 14 Pages

**DECLASSIFIED**  
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- 6th Platoon presented a TRANSEC lecture to D/1/1. (P)  
 6th Platoon conducted emergency destruction practice using  
 thermite grenades. (P)
- 3 Feb Request for modification of allowances was submitted to CG, III  
 MAF. Requested permanent addition of certain items under T/E  
 4960 to regular T/E. (4)
- 4 Feb SRDF Operation Building completed on Hill 327. Capt Fred PARRY,  
 assigned to DOD SPECREP Thailand, visited 2nd Platoon for orien-  
 tation briefing. (P)  
 First Radio Battalion S-4 met with 5th Comm Battalion S-4 to  
 arrange billeting space for First Radio Battalion personnel being  
 displaced from Camp Horn by the incoming XXIV Corps. (4)
- 5 Feb 5th Comm Battalion S-4 has agreed to provide one SEA Hut for First  
 Radio Battalion use, beginning 7 February. Additional huts are  
 pending. (4)
- 6 Feb H&S Company joined 10 Motor Transport personnel from FLC. (4)  
 LtCol HOPKINS and SgtMaj HARRIS arrived at Operations Company for  
 a 3-day visit, to include trips to Camp Carroll and the 407th RRD  
 in Quang Tri. (O)
- 8 Feb 1st Platoon conducted a TRANSEC lecture to personnel of 5th Marines.  
 (P)
- 9 Feb 1stLt GINGRAS assumed duties as Platoon Commander of the 2nd Platoon.  
 (P)  
 Mr. KACHMAR, assigned to DOD SPECREP, Saigon, visited 2nd Platoon  
 and was briefed on ARDF operations. (P)
- 10 Feb 4th Platoon secured operations at Dong Ha Mountain. (O)  
 Direct Teletype circuit established between Det Alpha, 6th Platoon  
 and CRS, DaNang East. (C)  
 Det Alpha, 6th Platoon constructed a new SRDF Operations Building  
 and rebuilt a dry storage building. (P)  
 Mr. KACHMAR, assigned to DOD SPECREP, Saigon, visited Operations  
 Company. (O)
- 11 Feb 4th Platoon deactivated at Operations Company. (3)  
 Arrangements made with Force Engineer Office for 3rd MCB to lay  
 concrete foundation for SI operations "bubble" (S-106 shelter) at  
 Camp Haskins. (4)  
 Sgt F. J. LEONARD recieved the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat  
 V. Presentation was by Maj HATCH at ceremony conducted at 2nd  
 Platoon. (P)
- 12 Feb Det Alpha, 6th Platoon, was redesignated the 4th Platoon. (3)  
 Timely intelligence information provided by 2nd Platoon was part-  
 ially responsible for the capture of 3 POW's and an undetermined  
 number of KIA's. (P)  
 Acquired two PU-239 Generators. (4)

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- SRDF Teams secured at Con Thien, Camp Carroll and Dong Ha Combat Base. (O)
- 13 Feb 2nd Platoon Commander, 1stLt GINGRAS, conducted a site survey at Hill 10. (P)
- 14 Feb SRDF Team personnel and equipment from Operations Company returned to First Radio Battalion Headquarters for reassignment. (O)
- 15 Feb S-4 attended embarkation meeting on Phase III redeployment. (4)  
1st Platoon held TRANSEC lectures for personnel of 5th Marines. (P)  
6th Platoon held TRANSEC lecture for C/1/1. (P)
- 16 Feb Construction completed by First Radio Battalion personnel on two-stall motor transport shed at Camp Hoa Long. (4)
- 18 Feb Maj O'BRIEN (S-3), Capt G. E. SMITH (S-4) and MGySgt VAN LEHN (Ops Chief) visited Operations Company at Dong Ha Combat Base to coordinate redeployment operations and logistic support. (4)  
2nd Platoon Commander and SRDF Chief made site survey of Hills 41 and 65. (P)  
6th Platoon held a TRANSEC lecture for E/2/1. (P)
- 19 Feb Foundation for SI Operations "bubble" (S-106 shelter) at Camp Haskins completed. (4)  
III MAF G-4 authorized construction of 4 SEA huts by 7th Engineers at Camp Hoa Long for First Radio Battalion. (4)  
Operations Company deactivated at Dong Ha Combat Base. (O)  
A deck was constructed in the 2nd Platoon Main Bunker. (P)
- 20 Feb Submitted message request for construction of four SEA huts at Camp Hoa Long. (4)  
Det Alpha, Headquarters and Service Company activated at Dong Ha Combat Base. (H)  
5th Platoon deactivated and secured operations 0800H. Platoon mountout was completed in 8 hours, with exception of 5-man police detail. (O)  
6th Platoon held a TRANSEC lecture for L/3/1. (P)
- 21 Feb 5-man police detail departed Con Thien, being the last Marines to depart the immediate DMZ area. (P)  
4th Platoon held TRANSEC lecture for personnel from 7th Marines TACP and Comm Sections, plus Comm Chiefs from 2/7 and 3/7. (P)
- 22 Feb SI Operations "bubble" (S-106 shelter) erected at Camp Haskins. (4)
- 23 Feb Received M38A1 from JACAD to be turned in to FLC. (4)  
Information provided by 1st Platoon resulted in Helicopter Assault in which 1 NVA was killed and 2 packs, 12 60mm mortar rounds, 68 pressure detonators and 70 blasting caps were captured. (P)
- 24 Feb Submitted letter to III MAF requesting relief from requirement to provide vehicle to JACAD. (4)  
Requested authorization to place PU-718's in service on 10 March. (4)  
2nd Platoon Commander and SRDF Chief made SRDF site survey at Hill 364. (P)

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- 26 Feb 1stLt COOK assumed duties as 3rd Platoon Commander. (P)  
6th Platoon held TRANSEC class for L/3/1. Instruction on use of shackle and authentication was also conducted. (P)  
6th Platoon began preparations for displacement to new 1st Marines CP at Camp Perdue. (P)
- 27 Feb 2nd Platoon relocated SRDF sites from Hill 37 to Hill 65 and from Hoi An to An Hoa. (P)
- 28 Feb Equipment for the Phase III deployment to Hawaii staged at piers and ready to load. (4)  
2nd Platoon established supplementary ARDF positions at Hills 10, 37 and 65. (P)  
4th Platoon constructed 16'x 16' building and leveled ground for construction of a second SEA hut to be used as living quarters. (P)  
SSgt Chester V. HARRIS was awarded the Air Medal (first award). (H)

## 4. (S) Command Relations

- a. Maj WIGGINS and Capt SNEARLY attended a change of command ceremony at 108th Artillery Group, Dong Ha Combat Base, on 1 February.
- b. Col M. E. KEY, Co, 108th Artillery Group, was given an orientation briefing on the operation of JTPC at Operations Company on 15 February. The XO and S-2 of the 108th Artillery Group also attended.
- c. LtCol G. M. DIRKX, CO, 8th RRFS; LtCol J. D. HOWARD, XO, 509th RRGp and LtCol KOENIG, USASA, Korea, were given a briefing on the JTPC at Operations Company on 17 February.
- d. Col F. C. WESTERNDORF, DCO, 509th RRGp, and his party were given a briefing on the JTPC at Operations Company on 23 February. Members of the party included: LtCol DIRKX; LtCol FREEZE, CO, 303rd RRBn; LtCol VERNAU, Chief J-21 MACV and LtCol CHANDLER, NRV.

5. (U) Personnel and Equipment Casualties. None6. (U) Equipment and Logistics. MARES

- a. First Radio Battalion continues in a C-2 Readiness Status with 78.82% of equipment combat ready and a total of 33 pieces of Combat Essential Equipment in a deadline status. Totally, 24 pieces of the above are in a NORS, 4 in a NORM and 11 are in transit.
- b. As of 28 February, a total of 177 GA cards have been submitted. 98 have been completed and 18 have been cancelled.
- c. The average of completed documents is as follows:

69 days from date of document

35 days from date of GA submission

Page 9 of 14 Pages**DECLASSIFIED**  
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7. (U) Fiscal. Received Budget Call Letter for Phase II FY-70, 71 and 72 budget submission.

8. (U) New Equipment.

a. The following new equipment was received during this report period:

- (1) 2 - Radio Set, AN/MRC-110
- (2) 7 - Generator Set, PU-718/G
- (3) 12 - Generator Set, PU-719/G
- (4) 17 - Generator Set, PU-670
- (5) 2 - Generator Set, PU-239

9. (U) Maintenance and Service.

a. Projects Pending.

- (1) Request for purchase of rock with AIK Funds - approved by Force Engineer. Project held pending possible relocation of Battalion elements.
- (2) Request for indigenous food packets - pending approval of Project 31 Funds.
- (3) Relocation of S-106 shelter to Camp Haskins - to be completed 3 March.
- (4) Four SEA huts to be completed by 3 March.

b. Projects Completed.

- (1) Installation of overhead fan in barracks at Camp Hoa Long cancelled by Public Works.
- (2) Improvements to Motor Transport building and grounds - a two-stall maintenance shed completed - improvements to grounds to continue.

10. (U) Electronic Maintenance.

- a. A total of 26 Tactical Equipment Repair Orders were received.
- b. A total of 15 Tactical Equipment Repair Orders were completed.
- c. Eight pieces of equipment were evacuated for calibration.

11. (U) Motor Transport.

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

Page 10 of 14 Pages

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- (1) Initiated.....49
- (2) Completed.....53
- (3) Open.....4
- (a) Quarterly PM.....19
- (b) Annual PM.....7
- (c) General Repair.....19
- (d) Acceptance Check.....4

b. The following statistical information is provided for February:

- (1) Mileage 32,656
- (2) Tonnage hauled 139.7
- (3) Personnel transported.....6,741

c. There were two minor accidents during February, with no injuries to personnel.

12. (U) Engineer Equipment.

- a. 34 Tactical Equipment Repair Orders initiated.
- b. 20 Tactical Equipment Repair Orders completed.
- c. 10 Tactical Equipment Repair Orders are outstanding.
- d. 4 pieces of equipment were evacuated for repair by higher echelon.

13. (U) Supply.

- a. No equipment was classified as a combat loss during February.
- b. Total requisitions submitted for February:

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Completed</u>	<u>Follow-up</u>
02	92	27	0
05	77	6	0
12	100	2	0
17	0	0	0

- c. The following items were turned in as excess:

- (1) 2 - Radio Set, AN/MRC-109
- (2) 2 - Trailer, Tank, Water, M-107A1

Page 11 of 14 Pages

~~DECLASSIFIED~~  
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- a. Courier missions for February numbered 70.
- b. Security Clearance Administration:
  - (1) Updates - 4
  - (2) Administrative Processing - 29 incoming, 39 outgoing.
- c. There were 5 Registered Publications Service draws from RPIO, Honolulu and 77 inter-Battalion transfers.
- d. There were no losses or compromises of classified material in February.

15. (C) Communications.

- a. 89,265 messages were handled - 57,255 transmitted, 32,010 received.
- b. Groups processed totaled 24,479,568.
- c. 9 circuits were operated half-duplex.
- d. 6 circuits were operated full-duplex.
- e. 10 covered voice circuits were operated, using organic KY-8 and KY-38 equipment.

16. (U) Personnel and Administration.

- a. Joined 1 officer and 64 enlisted.
- b. Detached 2 officers and 24 enlisted.
- c. Overseas Extensions:
  - (1) 6 months - 8
  - (2) 3 months - 1
- d. Reenlistments - 2 career and 0 first term.
- e. Off-duty Education Completed:
  - (1) MCI - 7
  - (2) USAFI - 6
  - (3) University of Maryland (tuition) - 0

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f. Savings Bond and Savings Deposit Programs. Approximately 67% of the command participated in the Savings Bond Program and 47% in the Savings Deposit Program.

g. Leaves and R&R.

- (1) Emergency Leave - 4
- (2) Annual Leave - 1
- (3) Special Leave - 1
- (4) R&R - 26

h. Hospitalization. No combat and 3 non-combat.

i. Personal Awards Nominations

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

j. Promotions. 15 enlisted personnel were promoted during February.

k. Postal services are provided by 1st Marine Aircraft Wing and 1st Marine Division. Average mail delivery is 6 days.

l. Legal.

- (1) Special Courts-Martial - 1
- (2) Summary Courts-Martial - 0
- (3) Non-judicial punishment (BnCO) - 1

m. Disbursing services are provided by the III Marine Amphibious Force Disbursing Office.

n. Morale is good.

Page 13 of 14 Pages

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PART IV

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CHRONOLOGY OF SUBORDINATE COMMANDS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. (U) Chronology of subordinate units is not required.
2. (C) Supporting documentation is of a higher classification and requires special access. It is provided on a daily basis in a daily summary, on a weekly basis in an operations summary, and in a bi-annual historical update.

Page 14 of 14 Pages

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