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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion (-), FMF  
c/o FPO San Francisco 96602

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43/KLT/fbm  
5750  
5 Apr 1966  
SERVO. 0019-66

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, First Marine Division (Division Field Historian, G-3)  
Subj: Command Chronology; submission of  
Ref: (a) DivO 5750.2  
Encl: (1) Command Chronology

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

  
A. W. SNELL  
Commanding

1-1  
L & "A" of known to have

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ENCLOSURE (6)

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5 Apr 1966

Command Chronology

1. Organizational Data.

First Tank Battalion (-)(Rein), First Marine Division, FMF, FPO, San Francisco 96602.

a. Location.

(1) H&S Company

- (a) 1Mar-21Mar66, Camp Hansen, Okinawa.
- (b) 22Mar-27Mar66, Enroute to RVN.
- (c) 28Mar-31Mar66, Chu Lai Enclave.

(2) Company A

- (a) 1Mar-28Mar66, attached to Third Tank Battalion, 3rd MarDiv, in D/S, 1st Marines.
- 29Mar-31Mar66, Reverted to support of 1st Tank Bn, 1st MarDiv, and placed in D/S of 1st Marines.

(3) Company B

- (a) 1Mar-28Mar66, attached to 3rd Tank Bn, 3rd MarDiv, in D/S, 7th Marines.
- 29Mar-31Mar66, Reverted to support of 1st Tank Bn, 1st MarDiv, and placed in D/S of 7th Marines.

(4) Company C

- (a) 1Mar-31Mar66, attached to 5th Marines.

b. Period covered by report 1Mar-31Mar66.

c. Name/Rank of Commanding Officer & Staff.

LtCol Albert W. SNELL  
Maj Lowell R. BURNETTE JR.  
SgtMaj Joseph A. WEISNEWSKI  
SgtMaj H. H. LEE  
2ndLt James E. LANCASTER  
1stLt Kenneth L. TOMCICH  
Capt Edward E. SMITH  
Maj Robert E. B. PALMER  
Capt Herbert J. L. REID  
Capt Billy WHITLEY  
Capt Edward J. HOYNES  
1stLt Carl R. LUDECKE

1Mar-31Mar66 Oo  
1Mar-31Mar66 XO  
1Mar-6Mar66 BnSgtMaj  
9Mar-31Mar66 BnSgtMaj  
1Mar-31Mar66 S-1/Adj  
1Mar-31Mar66 S-2 Off  
1Mar-31Mar66 S-3 Off  
1Mar-31Mar66 S-4 Off  
1Mar-31Mar66 BnSgtMaj  
1Mar-31Mar66 BnSgtMaj  
1Mar-31Mar66 BnSgtMaj  
1Mar-31Mar66 BnSgtMaj

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5750  
5 Apr 1966

Lt Brian E. KANE (CHC) USNR  
Lt Mark W. HARROLD (MC) USNR  
1stLt Justin J. DONNELLY  
1stLt Thomas W. KELLY  
Maj James G. COLLIER

1Mar-31Mar66 Chaplain  
1Mar-31Mar66 MedO  
1Mar-31Mar66 Legal/OAO  
1Mar-31Mar66 FlamePltComdr  
1Mar-31Mar66 H&SCo, Comdr

## 2. Commanders Narrative Summary of Events.

On 1 March, 1966, this Battalion had a strength of 22 Marine Corps Officers, 254 Marine Corps Enlisted, 2 Navy Officers and 7 Navy Enlisted. The beginning of the reporting period found First Tank Battalion returning from a combined Command Post and Logistical Field Exercise. Weapon safety classes were held on all Battalion T/O weapons. Logistically the Battalion was directing effort toward loading and embarkation for future deployment to RVN. Requisition fill rate greatly increased during this first half of the reporting period.

From 12 to 18 March, 1966, the Battalion staged supplies at Camp Hansen, Okinawa. From 18 to 20 March, 1966, staging was at White Beach on an around the clock operation.

21 March through 23 March, 1966, found the Battalion loading aboard 2 ships; USS CAVALIER (APA-37) and USS WHETSTONE. The rear echelon loaded aboard the USS WINSTON on 25 March, 1966, sailed 26 March and the USS VERNON COUNTY on 27 March and departed Okinawa, 28 March to rejoin the Battalion.

While underway from Okinawa to RVN shipboard training aboard each ship was standardized with the use of instructional packages which contained lesson plans and reference material.

During the latter part of the reporting period the Battalion landed and established the Battalion CP on Hill 43 (Vic BT 571041) within the Chu Lai Enclave (ref (a)). While H&S Company established the new CP, unloading of the USS CAVALIER continued. Cargo and equipment sustained minimum damage and loss, estimated to be less than 1%.

Immediately upon arriving ashore, liason was made with Companies A and B and action was taken to prepare to support these units and assume opcon as of 29 March - and apcon as of 1 April 66.

The close of this reporting period found 1st Tank Battalion with strength of 22 Marine Corps Officers, 253 Marine Corps Enlisted, 2 Navy Officers, and 8 Navy Enlisted.

## 3. Detailed description of significant events.

- 2 Mar 66 - End of Battalion Command Post and Logistical Exercise.
- 11 Mar 66 - BLT 3/4 was activated for operations, detaching Third Plt. (Rein), Co A, Third TkbN (ref(b)).
- 19 Mar 66 - Advance Party departed from Okinawa aboard USS COLONIAL (LSD-18).
- 21 Mar 66 - First Tank Battalion (-), began loading aboard USS CAVALIER (APA-37) (ref (c)).

ENCLOSURE (1)

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5 Apr 1966

- 23 Mar 66 - Advance Party arrived at Chu Lai Enclave.
- 23 Mar 66 - First Tank Battalion (-), departed from Okinawa.
- 27 Mar 66 - First Tank Battalion (-), arrived in RVN.
- 28 Mar 66 - First Tank Battalion (-) CP was established via BT 571041.
- 29 Mar 66 - As of 1500 1st Tank Battalion regained opoon of Companies A and B (ref (d)).

APPENDIX A - References  
APPENDIX B - Embarkation Order  
APPENDIX C - Operation Order  
APPENDIX D - Administrative Order

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References

- (a) Maps: Tri Binh, Vietnam 1:50,000 Sheet 6757 III Series L701, Edition 2-AMS
- (b) CG, First MarDiv msg 210645Z Feb 66
- (c) CG, First MarDiv msg 030555Z Mar 66
- (d) CG, Third MarDiv msg 271200Z Mar 66 and verbal order from G-3, First MarDiv.

Enclosure (1)

APPENDIX A

UNCLASSIFIED

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Classification change to

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By authority of OFFICER

SSgt Renno

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On 30/6/66 1st Tank Battalion (-), FTR

(Date) (Signature) (Rank) FPO San Francisco, 96602

Camp Hansen, Okinawa

Unit 1st Tank Battalion 1416001 March 1966

016-66

EMBARKATION ORDER 327-66 to Accompany Operation Order 327-66

- Ref: (a) CG, 1st MarDiv 030555Z Mar 66  
 (b) DivO P4600.1C  
 (c) FMFM 4-2  
 (d) BnO P4600.1A  
 (e) Embarkation Order 2-66 - Embark Group Echo of 11 Mar 66

Time Zone: I

1. ORGANIZATION FOR EMBARKATION

a. Troop Lists

- (1) Embark Team Echo - 1 Det, H&S Co (-), 1st Tank Battalion (-)
- (2) Embark Team Echo - 2 1st Tank Battalion (-)  
Det, H&S Co (-), 1st AT Bn
- (3) Embark Team Echo - 3 Det, H&S Co (-), 1st Tank Bn (-)
- (4) Embark Team Echo - 4 Det, H&S Co (-), 1st Tank Bn (-)

b. Assignment to Shipping

- (1) Embark Team Echo - 1 USS Whetstone (LSD-27)
- (2) Embark Team Echo - 2 USS Cavalier (APA-37)
- (3) Embark Team Echo - 3 USS Vernon County (IST-1161)
- (4) Embark Team Echo - 4 USS Winston (AKA-94)

c. Berthing and Loading Schedules. Annex A (Berthing and loading Schedules)

d. Advance Parties

- (1) Advance party Alfa, under control of 1st Tank Battalion Executive Officer, will proceed to RVN with Embarkation Group Charlie. Embark coordination will be accomplished by the Embark Officer of 1st Tank Battalion (-).
- (2) Advance party Bravo, under control of S-3 Officer, 1st Tank Battalion (-), will board the APA-37 at 1800, 20 Mar 1966. (Embarkation Team Echo-2)

Enclosure (1)  
APPENDIX B

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- (a) Following is a list of Officers in Advance Party Bravo and their assigned Embark duties:

Capt. E. E. STITH - OIC  
 1stLt D. A. TIDWELL - Team Embark Officer  
 1stLt K. L. TONCICH - Billoting Officer/Police Officer  
 1stLt W. J. ASHTON - Mess Officer  
 2ndLt I. R. SABLE - Comm Officer  
 2ndLt J. E. LANCASTER - Admin Officer  
 2ndLt D. S. GUISTO - Ship's Platoon Commander  
 1stLt J. W. EVANS - Security and Guard Officer  
 (Coordination will be through CCO and Team Embark Officer).

- (b) NCO assistants will be designated as required.  
 (c) Mess personnel will accompany the advance party.  
 (d) USS Cavalier INSTRUCTION 5400.3C pamphlets may be obtained from 1st Tank Battalion S-4. Limited number is available.  
 (e) Transportation requirements will be coordinated by Team Embark Officer for Advance Party Bravo.  
 (3) Detachments assigned to other Embark Teams will coordinate with Embark Team Echo-2 Embark Officer for advance requirements.

## 2. SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT TO BE EMBARKED.

- a. Organic equipment. Reference (a), para (4).  
 b. Types and amounts of supplies. Reference (a), para (4).  
 c. Preparation for embarkation  
 (1) In accordance with references (a) and (b).  
 (2) Palletization will be employed to maximum extent possible.  
 (3) The following additional instructions will be implemented by all sections:  
 (a) Tactical markings of vehicles will be concealed.  
 (b) All vehicles will be waterproofed in accordance with reference (d). Deep water Fording Kits will be installed.  
 (c) All vehicles will be marked on the hood/front slope and both sides as shown below for staging/loading:

SHIP - - - -VEHICLE - - - -HOLD#/DECK LEVEL  
 \* DESIGNATOR PRIORITY #

\*Lettering and numbering will be 3" in height.

SHIP DESIGNATORS	VEHICLE PRIORITY#	HOLD# / DECK LEVEL
LSD - D	From VS&PT of	From VS&PT of
APA - P	individual Ship's	individual Ship's
LST - T	Loading Plan.	Loading Plan.
AKA - K		

(1) Examples: D-37-2d = Vehicle with Priority# 37, loaded on Super Deck of LSD.

(2) P-28-LH3 = Vehicle with Priority# 28, loaded in lower hold #3 of APA.

d. Allocation of Supplies and Equipment.

(1) All bulk cargo will be embarked aboard APA-37.

(2) Designated vehicles/equipment are assigned to Embark Teams Echo - 1, 3, and 4 and are the responsibility of the senior Officer/SNCO of the respective detachments.

(3) Bulk cargo (LT Bn) and lumber (as required by Division) will be embarked by Embark Team Echo-2.

e. Movement of Supplies and Equipment to Embarkation Points

(1) Embark Officer, Echo - 2, is responsible for movement of Echo - 2 supplies, vehicles, equipment to White Beach Area.

(2) Vehicles, including tracked vehicles (minus TD-15), will be driven to POE's over routes to be announced. Annex A.

(3) All bulk cargo will be transported to White Beach "P" staging area from local staging area on 18 March 1966. Movement will commence at 0800.

3. EMBARKATION POINTS AND CARGO ASSEMBLY AREAS.

a. Assignment of Embarkation Points and Cargo Assembly Areas.

(1) All bulk cargo will be assembled in area across street from Building 2349, Camp Hansen, 0000. 17 Mar 1966.

(2) Embarkation points: Annex A

b. MHE. Requirements will be coordinated by Embark Team Echo - 2 Embark Officer.

4. CONTROL

a. Embarkation. Embark Officer, building 2217, extension 4771.

b. Traffic. Annex B - Movement



(1) Routes will be announced as required.

(2) Speed Limits

(a) Wheeled vehicles - as posted

(b) Tracked vehicles - 20 miles per hour (10 miles per hour through built up areas), or as posted.

(3) Convoys

(a) Wheeled vehicle convoys over 10 vehicles require RASP escorts.

(b) Tracked vehicles (convoy/individual) require RASP escorts.

(c) Convoys will be coordinated through respective Embark Team Officers.

(d) RASP requirements will be requested through respective Embark Team Officers.

c. Security Posts

(1) Posts will be established in all staging areas of cargo and equipment, locally and at POE's.

(2) Personnel will be assigned as required.

d. Communications (Annex C (Communications))

(1) To be maintained during POE staging by PRC-10's/MRC-83's.

(2) Security posts will report any discrepancy to Tank Battalion Officer of the Day, (Ext 4770) prior to securing of Tank Battalion CP (present location), 21 March 1966.

5. MOVEMENT AND EMBARKATION OF PERSONNEL

a. Movement/Embark schedule.

(1) Advance Party Alfa: as directed by host unit.

(2) Advance Party Bravo: To assemble in H&S Co., 1st Tank Battalion (-), parking lot, 1730, March 1966.

(3) Embark Team Echo - 1, 3, and 4 as directed by respective Embark Teams.

(4) Embark Team Echo - 2 main body: To assembly in H&S Co., 1st Tank Battalion (-), parking lot, 1730, 21 March 1966.

(5) Movements to POE's will be accomplished by cattle car/bus, to be arranged by S-4.

b. Uniform, Equipment, and Baggage.

(1) Uniform for all embarking troops will be utilities with normal arms and equipment, field transport packs, helmets with green side out.

(2) Baggage

(a) Officers/SNCO's: one footlocker and one val pak/suitcase.

(b) Sgts and below: One seabag.

6. MISCELLANEOUSa. Embark Rosters

(1) 1st Tank Battalion Adjutant will submit 30 copies of 1st Tank Battalion personnel by Embark Team to Battalion Embark Officer not later than 1200, 12 Mar 66.

(2) 1st Tank Battalion Embark Officer will submit team rosters to respective Team Embark Officers.

(3) Corrections to Embark rosters will be submitted to 1st Tank Battalion Adjutant.

(4) 1st Tank Battalion Embark Officer will insure sufficient copies of rosters are prepared to meet all requirements.

b. Commanding Officer of Troops of Embark Team Echo - 2 will be Lieutenant Colonel A. W. SNELL.

c. Officers of Team Echo - 2 will wear the KHAKI uniform for all meals aboard ship unless otherwise announced.

d. Ship's Platoon will consist of one officer, six NCO's and fifty men.

*A. W. Snell*  
A. W. SNELL

Lieutenant Colonel U. S. Marine Corps  
Commanding

Annexes:

- 1 - Berthing and Loading Schedules
- 2 - Movement Schedules
- 3 - Communications

DISTRIBUTION: Annex B (Distribution) to Operations Order 327-66

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1st Tank Battalion (-), FMF  
FPO San Francisco, 96602  
Camp Hansen, Okinawa  
1416001 March 1966

ANNEX A (Berthing and Loading Schedules) to Accompany Embarkation Order  
327-66

Time Zone: I

1. Cargo, equipment and vehicles of Embark Group Echo - will be staged on the listed dates in the assigned staging areas.

SHIP	STAGING DATES/AREA	LOADING DATES
USS Winston	22-24 March/White Beach "P"	25-26 March (Est)
USS Vernon County	27 March/Naha	28 March
USS Whetstone	19-20 March/White Beach "B"	21 March
USS Cavalier	18-20 March/White Beach "P"	21-22 March



A. W. SNELL  
Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps  
Commanding

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141600Z March 1966

Annex B (Movement) to EMBARKATION ORDER 327-66

TIME ZONE: I

1. Embark Team Echo- 1 (LSD-27)

- a. Vehicles will be staged in Tank Maintenance Area 0800, 19 March 1966.
- b. Serial designation will be established by Team Embark Officer(2ndLt. W. D. WESTER, 1st ATBn.)
- c. Movement from staging area will be directed by Team Embark Officer.

2. Embark Team Echo - 2 (APA-37)

- a. Vehicles will be staged in Tank Maintenance Area 1400, 19 March 1966, priorities determined by VS&PT.
- b. Certain vehicles to be used for staging/embark purposes, i.e., CO's M38A1, XO's (comm), LmbO's 3/4 ton, two MRC-83's, HTO's jeep, Ambulance, S-3's M38, one S-1 M38, will not be serialized. All other vehicles will proceed to White Beach "P" area by convoy 1500, 19 March 1966.
- c. Main body personnel will depart from assembly area, H&S Co. parking lot, at 1800, 21 March 1966.

3. Embark Team Echo - 3 (LST-1161)

- a. Vehicles will be staged in Tank Maintenance Area 0800, 26 March 1966.
- b. Serial designation will be established by Team Embark Officer(SSgt R.S. ORUSA, 3rd MTRAC Bn.)
- c. Movement from staging area will be as directed by Team Embark Officer.

4. Embark Team Echo -4 (AKA-94)

- a. Vehicles will be staged in Tank Maintenance Area 0800, 21 March 1966.
- b. Serial designation will be established by Team Embark Officer(Capt. K. H. SARGOLD, 1st MT Bn.)
- c. Movement from staging area will be as directed by Team Embark Officer.

*[Signature]*  
A. W. SMITH

Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps  
Commanding

Distribution

ANNEX - B - (Distribution) to Operations Order 327-66

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 Camp Hansen, Okinawa  
 149001, March 1966

Annex C (Communications-Electronics) to Embarkation Order 327-66

Ref: (a) CG 1st MarDiv msg #305554 Mar 66  
 (b) DivO P2000.1D  
 (c) BnO P2000.2C  
 (d) FMF 4-2  
 (e) FMFM 10-1

Time Zone: I

1. SITUATION.

- a. Enemy Forces. Current ISUMS
- b. Friendly Forces. See Operations Order 327-66
- c. Command Posts.

(1) Ashore.

1st Tank Bn (-)	Bldg. 2217, Camp Hansen
H&S Co (-), 1st Tank Bn (-)	Bldg. 2223, Camp Hansen

(2) Afloat.

1st Tank Bn	USS Cavalier, APA-37
H&S Co, 1st Tank Bn	USS Cavalier, APA-37

- 2. MISSION. Commencing 0800 18 March 66, 1st Tank Battalion Communications-Electronics elements provide communications and electronics support for the embarkation of the 1st Tank Battalion.

3. EXECUTION.

- a. Concept of Operations. Telephone will be the primary means of communications during embarkation. Radio circuits will be established during embarkation and will be used as the secondary means of communications.

b. Communication Section, 1st Tank Battalion.

- (1) Provide all required communications to embark 1st Tank Bn aboard the USS Cavalier, APA-37.

c. Coordinating Instructions

(1) Communications Center

- (a) Provide one message center man for assignment to advance party.

(2) Messenger Service.

- (a) Vehicular messenger service will be provided if required.

(3) Radio.

- (a) Commencing 0800 18 March 66, guard 1st Tank Bn Embark Command Net between Camp Hansen and Staging Area.
- (b) Be prepared to guard on order of Embarkation Officer, 1st Tank Bn Embarkation Control Net at POE.
- (c) Frequencies.

<u>Radio Net</u>	<u>Designation</u>	<u>Frequencies</u>
Bn Emb Cmd Net	3A3J	3190
Bn Emb Control Net	36F3	50.7 MCS

(d) Call signs.1 1st Tank Bn Embark Cmd Net

- a 1st Tank Bn CP will use call sign Happy Age on Bn Embark Cmd Net.
- b 1st Tank Bn Advance Party will use call sign Happy Age X-Ray at POE.

2 1st Tank Bn Embark Control Net.

- a Three (3) radio operators with equipment will be assigned to the Embarkation Officer for the establishment of the 1st Tank Bn Embark Control Net. Embarkation Officer will use call sign Happy Age and assign the following call signs to teams as required.

- (1) Happy Age Red  
(2) Happy Age Yellow  
(3) Happy Age Blue

(e) Installation Instructions.

- (1) 1st Tank Bn Embark Cmd Net will be remoted into Comm Center at Bn CP.

(f) Securing of Nets.

- (1) 1st Tank Bn Embark Cmd Net will be secured upon shift of command from Camp Hansen to USS Cavalier, APA-37.
- (2) 1st TANK BN Embark Control Net will be secured upon completion of embarkation.

(4) Wire.

- (a) Telephone service will be available during the embarkation phase.
- (b) 1st MARDIV Embarkation Control Tower telephone number is 9303.
- (c) USS Cavalier, APA-37, can be contacted by dialing 890 and asking operator for the USS Cavalier at Pier Bravo, White Beach.
- (d) All current Battalion telephone numbers remain effective during embarkation.

4. Administration and Logistics.

- a. See Administration Order 327-66
- b. Limited electronic repairs will be available at 1st Tank Bn Comm-Maint Shop during Embarkation.



A. W. SNELL  
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps  
Commanding

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Camp Hansen, Okinawa  
120800I Feb 1966  
014-66

OPERATION ORDER 327-66

- Ref: (a) Map: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Series L701, Sheet 3757 III  
(b) CG, 1stMarDiv 260317Z Feb 66  
(c) CG, 1stMarDiv 030555Z Mar 66  
(d) Embarkation Group Echo Embarkation Order 2-66  
(e) BnO 3010.2D  
(f) Division Order 03123.1  
(g) FMFPACO 003000.5  
(h) DivO P3000.1C  
(i) DivO 5750.2  
(j) NWP-22A

Classification change to

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By authority of COMMANDING OFFICER

On 30/2/66 W. H. Sturges  
(Date) (Signature) (Rank)

Unit 1ST TANK BN

Time Zone: I

1. SITUATION

a. Enemy Forces. Current Intelligence Summaries.

b. Friendly Forces

(1) 1stMarDiv embarks as established by reference (b) in assigned shipping, as designated by reference (c), for movement to RVN.

c. Attachments and Detachments

(1) Detachment, 1st Anti-Tank Bn attached for embarkation.

(2) Companies A, B, and C detached.

(3) Detachment, H&S Co, 1st Tank Bn detached to Embarkation Group Charlie for embarkation.

(4) Detachment, H&S Co, 1st Tank Bn detached to Embarkation Team Echo-1 for embarkation.

(5) Detachment, H&S Co, 1st Tank Bn detached to Embarkation Team Echo-3 for embarkation.

(6) Detachment, H&S Co, 1st Tank Bn detached to Embarkation Team Echo-4 for embarkation.

2. MISSION. 1st Tank Battalion (-) embarks on order in assigned shipping, deploys to the Republic of Vietnam and prepares to assume control of such units as may be directed upon landing.

3. EXECUTION

a. Concept of Operations. 1st Tank Battalion (-), Embarkation Team Echo-2, will embark on order for an administrative movement to RVN. Upon debarkation RVN be prepared to provide normal control and support of two tank companies which will be in direct support of the 1st and 7th Marines.

b. H&S Company (-), 1st Tank Battalion (-)

(1) Embark in assigned shipping.

(2) Embarkation Order 327-66.

Page 1 of 3 Pages

Enclosure (1)  
APPENDIX C

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(3) Upon arrival, continue to support 1st Tank Bn as directed.

c. Coordinating Instructions

(1) No public statements will be made in connection with this movement. Refer all inquiries to the Commanding Officer, 1st Tank Bn (-).

(2) Acts of actual or suspected espionage, sabotage, or subversion will be reported to this headquarters immediately.

(3) Time Zone I will be used during embarkation; Time Zone Hotel during debarkation.

(4) Due to the administrative nature of the landing, deviations from reference (c) are to be expected in the ship to shore movement.

(5) Shipboard training will be conducted in accordance with Annex C (Shipboard training syllabus) and a training schedule to be published separately.

(6) Reports

(a) Movement Reports in accordance with reference (f).

(b) SitReps will be submitted when directed by higher authority.

(c) Operational Readiness Reports will be submitted in accordance with reference (g).

(d) Other irregular reports will be submitted in accordance with reference (h).

(e) Command Chronology reports will be submitted in accordance with reference (i).

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS. Admin Order 327-66

5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRONICS

a. Command Relations. Reference (j).

b. Command Posts

(1) Present locations until embarkation.

(2) Afloat

(a) 1st Tank Battalion (-) - USS CAVALIER (APA-37)

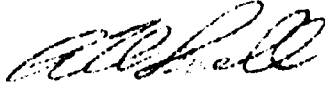
(b) H&S Company (-) - USS CAVALIER (APA-37)

(3) Ashore - To be announced

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(4) Movement of the Command Post ashore in accordance with reference  
(e).

c. Communications; Annex A (published seperately).



A. W. SNELL  
Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps  
Commanding

ANNEXES:

A-Communications (To be published)

B-Distribution

C-Shipboard Training Syllabus

DISTRIBUTION: ANNEX B (Distribution)

Page 3 of 3 Pages

Enclosure (1)  
APPENDIX 0

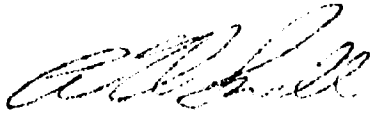
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 120800I Feb 1966

ANNEX B(Distribution) to Operation Order 327-66

	<u>OpOrder</u>	<u>AdminOrder</u>	<u>EmbarkOrder</u>
HQ, 1st Tank Bn	5	8	5
CO, 1stATBn			2
H&S Co, 1st Tank Bn	2	2	2
Co A, 1st Tank Bn (S&C Hold)	2	2	2
Co B, 1st Tank Bn (S&C Hold)	2	2	2
Supply Officer		1	1
Maint Officer		3	3
Medical Officer		1	1
Comm Officer	1	1	1
Electronic Maintenance		1	1
Motor Transport Officer		1	1
S & C Files	$\frac{3}{15}$	$\frac{3}{25}$	$\frac{3}{24}$

  
 A. W. SNELL  
 Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps  
 Commanding

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 APPENDIX 8

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 FPO San Francisco, 96602  
 120800I 21 MAR 1966

Annex B (MEDICAL) to Administrative Order 327-66.

Ref: (a) BuMed Inst., 6230.1D  
 (b) BuMed Inst., 6230.13A  
 (c) BuMed Inst., 6230.11D  
 (d) MCO 3040.1

# 1. MISSION

To provide medical support for the personnel of the 1st Tank Battalion during its deployment to and operations in RVN.

## 2. SANITATION & PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

- a. WATER: All water is contaminated and not fit for human consumption or use from other than U.S. Military sources. Individual purification of water should only be done under emergency conditions and then at triple tablet strength per canteen.
- b. FOOD: Due to the high incidence of dysentery, gastroenteritis and parasitic infestation in RVN. NO FOOD from indigenous sources will be procured or consumed. Galley and messen will be inspected on a meal to meal basis.
- c. PERSONAL HYGIENE: All individual's health, comfort and that of others in his unit will depend primarily on the routine and strict maintenance of a high standard of personal hygiene. Showers, frequent clothing changes and meticulous hand washing after head calls and before meals are absolute necessities.
- d. WASTE DISPOSAL: Heads will be established at the earliest possible time after arrival at the O.P. Their maintenance and location will be supervised by a Medical Sanitation Team. The disposal of waste from the galley shall be the responsibility of the Mess Sgt.
- e. IMMUNIZATIONS:
  - a. All personnel will be given Immunizations in accordance with references (a) and (b).
  - (1) Malaria: Control and prevention of malaria will be in accordance with reference (c).
- f. ACCLIMATIZATION:
  - a. Due to the extreme climatic conditions in the RVN, heat casualties may present a real threat to the combat effectiveness of our unit. This threat can be drastically reduced if certain precautionary measures are taken.
  - (1) Physical conditioning of all officers and enlisted personnel.

B-1.

SANITATION & PREVENTIVE MEDICINE Cont.

(2) Avoid intensive physical exercise during periods of extreme heat.

(3) The consumption of ample quantities of water and salt. Salt tablets will be available at all water points, messing areas and throughout the various sections.

(4) Recognition of early signs of heat stroke, heat exhaustion & heat cramps and there prompt reporting to medical personnel.

g. INSECT AND PEST CONTROL: Insect and Pest control will be the responsibility of the Medical Section in coordination with the various section leaders and the Division Preventive Medicine Team. An intensive rat, mosquito & fly control program will be initiated at the earliest possible time after arrival in the C.P. area.

Control methods include:

- a. Trapping, disinfecting and disposal of rats.
- b. Screening of galley, heads and sleeping areas.
- c. Air and ground spraying.
- d. The application of topical repellents.
- e. Careful management of waste disposal.
- f. Proper maintenance of heads.

h. DISEASES:

(1) Treatment of troops:

(a) Malaria- Chloroquin-Primaquine prophylaxis maintained on a weekly basis.

- (1) Control of mosquito population.
- (2) Use of mosquito netting.
- (3) Use of mosquito repellents.

(b) Gastroenteritis, dysentary and parasitic infestation.

- (1) Consumption of only approved water.
- (2) Control of fly population.
- (3) Good personal hygiene.
- (4) Screening of heads and galleys.
- (5) Inspection of messmen and galleys.

(c) Venereal Diseases.

(d) Viral Diseases and Fungal infections.

(2) Prevalent diseases in the indigenous population

- (a) Malaria.
- (b) Dysentary
- (c) Gastroenteritis
- (d) Parasitic infections
- (e) Hepatitis
- (f) Typhus
- (g) Plague
- (h) Cholera

CON

SANITATION & PREVENTIVE MEDICINE Cont.j. POISONOUS PLANTS AND SNAKES:

(1) There are 38 species of poisonous land snakes in the area and 21 species of poisonous sea snakes. The land snakes include the King Cobra, Indian Cobra, Kraits, Pit Vipers, Moccasins, and Bamboo snakes. In case of a snake bite seek medical help immediately. DO NOT move the victim. Kill the snake for identification. There are a few poisonous plants in the area, but do not pose a serious threat to the troops.

3. EVACUATION

## a. Movement phase

- (1) A corpsman from "C" Company, 1st Tank Battalion, with evacuation vehicle will be available at each embarkation area.
- (2) After departing port of embarkation, casualties aboard the ship which require care beyond the capability of the ship will be treated or transferred as designated by the Fleet Commander.
- (3) The health of all embarked personnel is the responsibility of the ship's senior Medical Officer.
- (4) The 1st Tank Battalion medical personnel will render all practicable assistance to the ship's medical personnel as regards medical service for embarked personnel.

## b. Debarkation phase

- (1) Ship to shore casualties occurring during ship to shore and movement to C.P. site will be treated within the B.A.S. capabilities and/or evacuated to "B" Co., 3rd Med.Bn.

## c. Operation phase- Casualties occurring during the operation will be treated within the B.A.S. capabilities and/or evacuated to "B" Co., 3rd Med.Bn.

## d. Air Evacuation

- (1) Helicopter evacuation from the C.P. area to "B" Co., 3rd Med.Bn., is available upon request.

## e. Evacuation Policy

- (1) M-170 Jeep Ambulance will be available 24 hours a day for evacuation of minor injuries.
- (2) All casualties occurring before the establishment of the B.A.S. will be evacuated directly to "B" Co., 3rd Med. Bn.
- (3) After establishment of the B.A.S. casualties will be treated within B.A.S. capabilities and/or evacuated to "B" Co., 3rd Med.Bn.
- (4) Civilian casualties will be evacuated in accordance with Appendix 1 (MEDICAL) to Annex D (Civil Action) to Administrative Order 327-66
- (5) POW casualties will be evacuated under Marine guard to "B" Co., 3rd Med.Bn.

4. HOSPITALIZATION

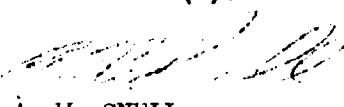
- a. Embarked phase- All casualties will be treated and/or evacuated within the capabilities of the ship and current directives.
- b. Debark phase- Casualties occurring during this phase will be treated within the B.A.S. capabilities and/or evacuated to "B" Co., 3rd Med.Bn.
- c. Operation phase- Same as in item 4-b, as noted above.
- d. Civilians- Will be treated and/or evacuated in accordance with Appendix 1 (MEDICAL) to Annex D (Civil Action) to Administrative Order 327-66.
- e. POW's- Will be treated within the capabilities of the B.A.S. and/or evacuated to "B" Co., 3rd Med.Bn. POW's will be under a Marine guard at all times during treatment or evacuation.

5. MEDICAL SUPPLIES

- a. Basic allowance (10 days) plus 20 days operating stocks.
- b. Mount-out operation stocks and bulk cargo will be transported in accordance with the embarkation plan.
- c. Resupply:
  - (1) Emergency- will be drawn from "B" Co., 3rd Med. Bn.
  - (2) Routine- will be drawn from Division Supply FLSF Chu Lai.
- d. Whole blood will be available through "B" Co., 3rd Med. Bn.

6. MEDICAL ADMINISTRATION

- a. Afloat and ashore- SOP
- b. Reports:
  - (1) Evacuation and casualty reports will be submitted in accordance with reference (d).

  
 A. W. SNELL  
 Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps  
 Commanding

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12 57

LST RAMP  
B 3  
FLSG  
BRAVO

CHU LAI ENCLAVE  
Scale 1:50,000  
Series L701  
Sheet 6756 III

03 45



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 FPO San Francisco, 96602  
 120800I March 1966

015-66

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 327-66 to Accompany Operation Order 327-66

Ref: (a) Maps: - Viet Nam 1:50,000, Series L701, Sheet 6757III  
 (b) BnO P4000.1B (Logistics SOP) Classification change to  
 (c) CG, 1st MarDiv msg 150747Z Feb  
 (d) 1st MarDiv msg 090400Z Oct 1965

TIME ZONE: I

1. SUPPLYa. General(1) Supply Sources

- (a) 3rd Force Service Regiment is the sole source of supply for all classes of supplies and higher echelon services and maintenance during mountout of the 1st Tank Battalion.
- (b) Force Logistics Support Unit is the source of supply for all classes of supplies and higher echelon services and maintenance in the Republic of Viet Nam.

(2) Prescribed Loads(a) All Units

1. Class I - 3 days MCI with fuel bar. All water containers full.
2. Class II
  - a. Type 1 - T/E Allowance
  - b. Type 2 - 30 days operating stock, 10 days medical operating stock.
3. Class III - All vehicles 3/4 full, tankers empty, 2 days MOGAS, 4 days diesel, 30 days operating stock of special oils and lubricants.
4. Class IV - Minimum prescribed by reference (c).
5. Class V
  - a. Basic allowance to be mobile loaded less D-1 issue which will be embarked aboard each ship separately as determined by the small arms density assigned to each ship.

UNCLASSIFIEDBy authority of COMMANDING OFFICEROn 20/3/66 [Signature] 1/LT  
(Date) (Signature) (Rank)Unit 1ST TANK BATT

## b. D-1 issue as follows:

7.62 ball per M-14 rifle - 98  
 7.62 tracer per M-14 rifle - 2  
 7.62 link (4-1) per M-60 MG - 1,000  
 Cal..50 link (4-1) per Cal..50 MG ground mount - 400  
 Cal..45 ball per Cal..45 pistol - 21  
 Cal..45 ball per SMG - 100

b. Supplies and Equipment to be Deployed(1) Class I - Prescribed load(2) Class II(a) Type 1

1. T/E and Encampment and Garrison allowance less items of organizational equipment listed in reference (d).

2. 30 days mountout stock.

(b) Type 2

1. 30 days mountout including repair parts.

2. 30 days batteries.

3. 30 days organizational clothing.

4. 30 days medical.

5. On hand operating stocks.

(3) Class III - Two days MOGAS; four days diesel; 30 days special oils and lubes.

(4) Class IV - Minimum prescribed by reference (c).

(5) Class V - Basic allowance.

(6) Water

(a) Two canteens per individual filled; all water containers filled.

(b) Location of water supply points to be published upon arrival RVN.

(c) Consumption of local non-potable water is prohibited.

c. Supplies in RVN

(1) All units will maintain prescribed loads as directed by this headquarters.

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- (2) One day Class V in Battalion dumps.

d. Control and Distribution.

- (1) The Battalion Supply Officer is responsible for the custody and control of Battalion supplies.
- (2) Supply point distribution effective upon arrival in RVN.

e. Resupply

- (1) Supply point distribution effective upon arrival RVN.
- (2) Resupply requests will be submitted to this headquarters (S-4) by 1800 daily. See Annex C (Request forms) for request forms.
- (3) Requests for emergency resupply will be submitted to this headquarters (S-4) by fastest available means.

2. EVACUATION AND HOSPITALIZATION

a. Evacuation

- (1) Initial casualties to be evacuated to Company "B", 3d Medical Battalion.
- (2) Annex B (Medical)

b. Hospitalization.

- (1) Location Company "B", 3d Medical Battalion see Annex A (Admin Overlay)
- (2) Annex B (Medical)

3. TRANSPORTATION

a. Highway

(1) Control Measures

- (a) CP locations to be published upon arrival RVN.
- (b) TAOR - 1st Marine Division

(2) Circulation

- (a) Division MSR's - Annex A (Administrative Overlay)

(3) Restrictions

- (a) Speed limits - As posted

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Reference (1)  
APPENDIX 3

- (b) Track-laying vehicles avoid use of roads where possible. Use of Highway #1 only upon express authority this headquarters.
- (4) All units/sections submit reports to this headquarters on condition of roads and bridges.
- (5) Movement from beach area to CP location will be by convoy. Vehicles within convoys will maintain 25 meter interval.
- (6) No wheeled vehicle will be operated ashore without an armed assistant driver or passenger.

#### 4. SERVICE

##### a. Functions

##### (1) Construction

##### (a) Priority of construction of facilities:

1. Fighting and protective positions.
2. Command Post facilities.
3. Mess facilities, heads.
4. Maintenance facilities.
5. Billeting facilities.

##### (2) Salvage

- (a) All units/sections will ensure the collection of all salvage within their units/sections and deliver salvagable items to the Battalion Supply Officer. No material will be discarded, destroyed or disposed of in any other manner.

##### b. Assignment of Responsibilities

##### (1) Maintenance

- (a) The Battalion Maintenance Officer is responsible for all 1st, 2nd and authorized 3rd echelon maintenance within the 1st Tank Battalion, less communications/electronics maintenance.
- (b) The Battalion Maintenance Officer will provide electrical power to the following sections/facilities within the Battalion CP:

CO/XO	BAS	Comm	S-2/S-3	Galley/Messhall
S-1	S-4	Chapel	Battalion Maintenance	

Officer's spaces will have a minimum of 4 lights, total wattage not to exceed 340 watts. 1

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- (a) The Battalion Communications Officer will provide all authorized echelons of maintenance as required for all Battalion Communications/Electronics equipment.

(3) Supply Platoon

- (a) The Battalion Supply Officer will provide supply support for the Battalion to include requisitioning, procurement and distribution of supplies.

(4) Motor Transport Platoon

- (a) The Battalion Motor Transport Officer will provide mobility to the Battalion by providing trucks and light weight vehicles as required.

(5) Medical Section

- (a) The Battalion Medical Officer will establish a Battalion Aid Station and provide preventative medicine support to the Battalion as required.

(b) Annex B (Medical)

5. PERSONNEL (Annex E(Personnel))

6. MISCELLANEOUS

a. Civil Affairs. Annex D(Civil Affairs)

b. Uniform and Equipment

(1) Embarkation

- (a) Regular Utility uniform (Sleeves of utility jackets will not be cut off).
- (b) Normal arms and equipment, helmet covers, green side out.
- (c) Field Transport Pack.

(2) Debarkation

- (a) Light weight (jungle) utility uniform.
- (b) Normal arms and equipment, helmet, green side out.
- (c) Basic allowance of ammunition, loaded in magazines. Magazines will NOT be inserted in weapons.


c. Reports

- (1) Logistical input to Unit Situation Report.
- (2) Company Equipment Deadline Report as of 0700 and 1800 daily.

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- (3) Required garrison reports.
- (4) As required by higher headquarters.

  
A. W. SNELL  
LIEUTENANT COLONEL, U. S. MARINE CORPS  
COMMANDING

ANNEXES:

- A - Administrative Overlay
- B - Medical
- C - Request Forms
- D - Civil Affairs
- E - Personnel

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Annex C (Request Forms) to Administrative Order 327-66

Time Zone: I

1. REQUISITIONS

- a. All requests for resupply of classes I, III, IV and V, special equipment and requests for motor transport assistance will be submitted to this headquarters (S-4) on appendices 1 and/or 2 as appropriate. Requisitioning of class II supplies remains unchanged.

  
A. W. SNELL

Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps  
Commanding

APPENDIX:

- 1 - Request for Field Operational Requirements
- 2 - Request for Ammunition

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APPENDIX 1 (Request for Field Operational Requirements) to Annex C (Request Forms) to Administrative Order 327-66

**COMPANY...**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Ref: (a) BnO P4000.1

[illegible]

TRANSPORTATION: TYPE	LOAD/ # TROOPS	REPORT TO	TIME/DATE

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURE**

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~~1st~~ ~~Tank~~ ~~Battalion~~ ~~(-)~~ ~~(Rein)~~, FMF  
FPO San Francisco, 96601

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

To: Battalion S-4

Ref: (a) BnO P4000.1\_

TYPE AMMO by DOD	AMOUNT #RDS	TIME/DATE	RANGE/COORD
---------------------	----------------	-----------	-------------

**SIGNATURE**

C-2-1.

**Enclosure (1)**  
**APPENDIX D**

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ANNEX - D - Civic Action to Administrative Order 327-66

- Ref (a) ANNEX - D - (Intelligence) To Operation Order 327-66  
 (b) FOR/NGCO 5080.1  
 (c) FM 27-10 (The Law of Land Warfare)  
 (d) FM 47-10 (Civil Affairs Operations)  
 (e) DivO 5080.2  
 (f) ICCI 5370.1

### 1. SITUATION

- a. Enemy Forces - Operations Order 327-66.
- b. Friendly forces - Operations Order 327-66.
- c. Attachments and detachments - Operations Order 327-66
- d. Area Intelligence - Current Intelligence Reports.

2. The mission of the Tank Battalion Civic Action Team in Vietnam will be twofold:

a. The primary mission of the Civic Action Team will be to assist in the recreation of a local governmental structure if one does not exist or the stabilization of the local governmental structure so as to cause the Vietnamese people to respect and have confidence in the government of the Republic of Vietnam.

b. Through the process of attaining the primary mission the Civic Action Team will seek to create respect and confidence in the people of Vietnam for U. S. Armed forces with the objective of gaining the cooperation and support of the people in the war against the Viet Cong. The support of the people is a vital ingredient to the achievement of the overall U. S. mission in Vietnam.

### 3. EXECUTION

a. On order of the Battalion Commander, the Battalion Civic Action Team will be activated. The first Tank Battalion Civic Action Team will:

- (1) Make liaison with adjacent and higher headquarters to determine the status of the Civic Action program in the area of operation.
- (2) Upon assignment of a specific village, hamlet, or geographic area of Civic Action Operations, the Battalion Civic Action Team will make liaison with the appropriate local governmental officials.
- (3) After the liaison directed in paragraphs (1) and (2) has been accomplished, the Battalion Civic Action Team will assess the area of operations to determine the most effective program which will accomplish the Civic Action mission of the Tank Battalion. Recommendations will be made to the Battalion Commander to include.

- (a) Possible medical and sanitation programs for the populace.
- (b) Sources and status of MEDCAP supplies.
- (c) Sources and status of Civic Action food, soap, and clothing supplies.

## (d) Possible repair or construction projects to include:

1. Repair and rehabilitation of schools, churches, etc..
2. Repair or construction of roads, paths, dikes.
3. Possible area of agricultural assistance

b. In the event that the assigned area of responsibility had been the subject of a previous Civic Action program, the Civic Action Team will seek to continue projects previously undertaken with a view to completing all projects.

c. Firm control must be exerted at all levels to insure positive identification of targets as hostile before they are taken under fire. Indiscriminate destruction of private property is prohibited, and care must be taken to insure that religious structures and graves are not violated.

## d. General guidelines for conduct of all personnel.

(1) All NCO's will be familiar with the guidelines set forth in 1st Marine Division's booklet "Civil Affairs Guidelines for small unit leaders".

(2) All personnel will have in their possession a copy of the "Nine Rules for Personnel of First Marine Division" and adhere to its directions. Furthermore the following rules of conduct will be an important step in accomplishing the Civic Action mission if followed:

- (a) Greet all Vietnamese in a friendly manner and when in doubt smile.
- (b) Shake hands when meeting people whether it be for the first time or upon subsequent meetings.
- (c) Respect graves, tombs, and other religious buildings or shrines.
- (d) Afford normal courtesies such as deference and respect to elders and respect for authority of the village and hamlet officers.
- (e) Give the right of way (on the road or path) whenever possible.
- (f) Treat women with politeness and respect.
- (g) Recognize that handholding among Vietnamese males is a custom of comradeship in South Vietnam and not an indication of homosexual tendencies subject to ridicule and mockery.
- (h) Keep your word. Be slow to make promises, but once made do your best to keep them. Never make a promise that involves the command without approval of the Commanding Officer.
- (i) Enter into the spirit of bartering without abuse, and respect the local methods for conducting business.
- (j) Return what you borrow, replace what you break and never liberate local items for your personal or units use.

(3) It is the responsibility of every member of this command to insure that the conduct of all Marine's is strictly in accordance with subpar (1) and (2)

## e. The Battalion Civic Action Team will be composed of:

First Lieutenant J. J. DONNELLY, C. A. Officer  
Staff Sergeant P. J. TUNNAHILL, C. A. Team Chief

Gunnery Sergeant B. J. McINROE, Security Officer  
 Sergeant B. G. BOWLING, Security NCO  
 CPO R. C. CATHILL, Medical Chief  
 HN2 G. R. HARRINGTON, Chief Corpsman  
 Lance Corporal D. W. LIPPARELLI, Administrative Man

- (a) The Civic Action Team possesses an elemental Vietnamese language speaking capability. However the various dialects will initially require the services of an interpreter.

f. General Civic Action Policy

- (a) Implementation of the Battalion Civic Action program is secondary to the successful accomplishment of the Tank Battalion tactical mission.  
 (b) No local civilians will be employed.

g. Coordinating Instructions

- (a) Normal command channels will be utilized on all Civic Action Matters.  
 (b) Report any difficulties with Civil Authorities to this Headquarters, (S-1).

4. Administration and Logistics. See Administrative Order 327-66

a. Submit special requirements for Civic Action supplies to this Headquarters (Attention S-1).

b. The Daily Civic Action report will be submitted with the format found in enclosure (1) of Ref (b) For/NCCO 5080.1

5. Communications - Electronics. See Operation Order 327-66

*[Signature]*  
 R. W. SNELL

Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps  
 Commanding

Appendix  
 1 Medical

Distribution:

ANNEX - D - (Distribution) to Operations Order 327-66

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APPENDIX 1 (MEDICAL) to Annex D (Civil Action) to Administrative  
Order 327-66

Time Zone: India

1. ORGANIZATION

Medical personnel of the Civil Action Team will consist  
of;

HMC R. G. CATHELL  
HM2 G. R. HARRINGTON

2. MISSION

To provide medical support to the Civilians of RVN in accordance  
with Annex A (Civil Action) to Administrative Order 327-66.

3. SANITATION

- a. Sanitary conditions will be established in each village  
in accordance with directives from the Civil Action Officer.
- b. Preventive Medicine:
  - (1) Immunizing agents will be administered as requested  
by the Civil Action Officer.
  - (2) Preventive measures will be taken as soon as possible  
to prevent spread of disease as requested by the Civil  
Action Officer.
  - (3) A training program will be initiated to train RVN  
personnel in medical and preventive medicine procedures  
as requested by the Village Chief, or the Civil Action  
Officer.

4. EVACUATION

Civilian personnel will be evacuated to "B" Co., 3rd Med.Bn.,  
or as directed by current directives.

5. MEDICAL SUPPLIES

- a. All supplies will be drawn through the MedCap supply system.
- b. Captured medical supplies will be used for RVN personnel  
when directed.

7. MEDICAL ADMINISTRATION

- a. A daily Medical Log will be maintained by the Civil Action  
Team.
  1. The log will contain the number treated and what Medical  
treatment was rendered.

D-1-1

MEDICAL ADMINISTRATION Cont.

- b. A log will be maintained on all personnel evacuated from the village for hospitalization.
- c. The number of all civilian personnel treated and/or evacuated will be submitted to the Civil Action Officer by 1800 daily.



A. W. SNELL  
Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps  
Commanding

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 Camp Hansen, Okinawa  
 120800I/Mar66

Annex -- (E) -- (Personnel) to Administrative Order -- (327-66)

Time Zone: I

1. STRENGTHS

- a. Embark at on-board strength
- b. All personnel must be eligible for deployment in accordance with the following criteria.
  - (1) Be physically qualified.
  - (2) Not have been twice wounded in the Republic of Vietnam in accordance with MCO 1300.21.
  - (3) Be eighteen years of age or older at time of embarkation.
  - (4) Must be qualified with an MOS above the basic level.
  - (5) Have a rotation tour date of April or later.
- c. Required strength reports (ATTN: S-1)
  - (1) Prior to deployment
    - (a) Name, rank, serial number, MOS and reason for all personnel becoming non-deployable after 7Mar66. Orders will be issued transferring these personnel to Sub Unit 2, HqCo, H&SBn FMFPac. Upon regaining deployment eligibility these personnel will rejoin this Battalion.
    - (b) Rank and MOS Recap of embarking personnel by 1300 18Mar66.
    - (c) 10 Copies of embarkation roster as soon as completed but no later than 1100 17Mar66. Corrections to be submitted as they occur.
  - (2) While embarked (Embark Team, Echo 2 only).
    - (a) Immediately upon embarkation provide S-1 with 30 corrected embark rosters.
    - (b) At least 4 hours prior to getting underway S-1 provide the CCO with 3 corrected embark rosters and Division Representatives with 10 Copies.
    - (c) Report of muster by 1700 daily consisting of number of Marine Corps Officers, Marine Corps Enlisted, Navy Officers, and Navy Enlisted.

## (3) Ashore

(a) PDS - by 0800 as of 2400

(b) Periodic Personnel Report using format contained in Form 13, USMC Staff Manual 1955 (NAVMC - 1110-A30F) required weekly on schedule to be announced.

(c) All currently required reports will continue to be submitted until the requirement is cancelled by this Headquarters.

2. REPLACEMENTS

a. Replacement input will be regulated by higher command and assigned by this Headquarters.

3. DISCIPLINE, LAW, AND ORDER

a. Military Justice: In accordance with Par 0101 b(3) JAG MANUAL, all matter requiring the imposition of non-judicial punishment should be referred as a matter of policy to the Commanding Officer of the ship for disposition. However the above reference does not preclude the OIC and the Ship's Commanding Officer from reaching an agreement whereby the OIC retains the authority to impose N.J.P. over his unit.

(1) An OIC is limited to those punishments available to a Captain or below.

b. The imposition of N.J.P. changes in two important respects for persons in the Navy and Marine Corps attached to or embarked on a vessel.

(1) The provisions of Article 15 of the Code relative to the right to demand trial by Courts-Martial do not apply.

(2) Confinement on bread and water or diminished rations for three days may be imposed on Marines E-3 and below. Relative to the above a Medical Officer must examine the prisoner and place of confinement and certify that the punishment would have no lasting effect.

(a) Diminished rations must provide the prisoner with 2100 calories per day.

(b) Bread and Water: All the bread and water the prisoner can eat.

c. Special and Summary Courts-Martial. In view of Par 0106 (B) of the JAG Manual which stipulates that such matters be referred to the Ship's Commanding Officer, OIC's are encouraged to avail themselves of Article 15's extensive punitive provisions.

(1) In the event that circumstances indicate a more severe degree of punishment in the judgement of the OIC, the matter should be referred to the Battalion Commander.



UCNFI

d. Untoward Incidents Involving Vietnamese Nationals

- (1) ICorps Coordinator Instruction 1610.1, promulgates specific instructions relative to any untoward incidents involving a Vietnamese National. As a consequence the commander exercising immediate Article 15 jurisdiction over anyone suspected of being involved in this type incident, must immediately commence a preliminary inquiry. It will be absolutely mandatory that the facts and circumstances surrounding any incident be discovered to the maximum extent possible. However ICorps Coordinator Instruction 5830.1 requires a written report to be submitted to MAF Headquarters within 24 hours of the incident. Consequently it is obvious that the inquiry may not be complete when the first written report is submitted. This does not in any way eliminate the requirement for meeting the reporting deadline. The format for this report is found in enclosure (6) of ICorps Coordinator Instruction 5830.1. The Battalion Legal Officer will assist the companies in preparation of this report. Further guidance will be furnished upon publication of a Division Directive relative to this subject.

4. PRISONERS OF WAR

- a. Handled in accordance with Chapter 7 of DivO P5000.1D and Battalion Order P3800.1C.
- b. ForceO 1060.1 requires that its contents be brought to the attention of all personnel including each replacement.

5. GRAVES REGISTRATION

- a. Unit Commanders will immediately notify this Headquarters of personnel killed in Action (KIA).
- b. Unit Commanders will forward to the S-1 within 48 hours, original and 4 Copies of a letter of condolence in accordance with Chapter 12 of MARCOR PERSMAN MCO P5000.3 and DivO P5000.1D for the Battalion Commander's signature.
- c. All military equipment of the deceased will be processed in accordance with DivO 4050.1A and CG, 1stMarDiv Mag 282330Z/Feb66.
- d. Personnel effects of the deceased will be processed in accordance with ForceO 4050.1, DivO 4050.1A and CG, 1stMarDiv Mag 282330Z/Feb66.
- e. Personnel will not be buried in-country unless evacuation cannot be accomplished and/or the body becomes a Medical hazard. Information as to the exact location of the grave (by coordinates) will be recorded on the Combat Casualty Card Item #23. The names and units of personnel who buried the body will be recorded in Item #24, and, if required, on the reverse side of the card a sketch map of the location of the grave will be forwarded with the Combat Casualty Card.

B-3-

f. Identification of the deceased will be determined by one or more of the following:

- (1) Statements of two witnesses who can identify the deceased.
- (2) Identification Tags or Card.
- (3) Geneva Convention Card.

g. Evacuation of deceased will be made through Company B, 3rd Medical Battalion phone Whale Bravo 16. Escorts for deceased personnel beyond the 3rd Medical Battalion will normally not be designated. Requests for exception to this policy will be referred to this Headquarters. Force Order 5360.1 and Force/Naval Component Command Order 5360.2 apply.

#### 6. MORALE AND PERSONNEL SERVICES

a. R&R - To be announced as promulgated by higher authority.

b. Leave - All leave requests will be forwarded to this Headquarters for approval.

c. Liberty - To be announced. When promulgated attention is invited to Force Order 1050.1A dealing with Force liberty Regulations and Standards of Personal Conduct.

d. Decorations, Medals, and Awards

(1) All recommendations for awards will be forwarded in accordance with SecNavInst P1650.10 (Navy and Marine Corps Awards Manual) FMFPac P1650.1A, CINCPACFLTINST 1650.1 and DivO 1650.4a for the Battalion Commanders signature.

(2) Unit Commanders attention is invited to the provisions of MCO 1650.16 and DivO 1650.3 which encourages the use of awards for recognizing exceptional performance of duty.

e. Postal Service. It is anticipated that Battalion will effect delivery of mail down to and including section level. It is most important that the "Simplified Personnel Mailing Address" be used. Until the above procedure are announced the provisions of BnO 2710.1G apply.

PFC Joe D. BLOW 2353478 USMC

1st Tank Battalion

(S-1 Section)

FPO San Francisco, 96602

In place of postage for mail to the U.S. write the word FREE in the upper right hand corner of the envelope.

v.

(1) Personnel desiring to purchase Postal Money Orders will be required to read Force/NCC/SAI Corps 2740.1. Copies of this order are located in the Co Office, Bn Mail Room and S-1 Section.

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## f. Exchange Service.

- (1) Aboard Ship - Ship facilities Non-Sat 0900-1100, 1400-1600, 1800-1900, Sunday 1300-1500.
- (2) Ship Fountain - 1400-1500 and 1900-2200 daily.
- (3) Ashore - It will be limited at all times. A recommended list of items to be taken was distributed by this Headquarters on 5Mar66. Platoon Leaders should insure that personnel have requisite health and comfort items.

## g. Pay

- (1) Pay call will continue to be held on the 1st and 16th of each month.
- (2) Advance Pay is not authorized.
- (3) All 2ndLt and above will be required to file with the Disbursing Officer an Income Tax Exclusion Certificate for duty in Combat Zone. This provides for your election to have one of the following courses of action taken with regard to income tax deductions.
  - (a) Adjusted rate to reflect the \$200 authorized exclusion.
  - (b) Current rate remain in effect.
  - (c) No deduction be effected.
  - (d) Other amount to be deducted.
- (4) For/NCC 7220.1 and Force/NCC/SAI Corps O 2740.1 contains Monetary Control regulations to include Control of Postal Money Orders. See paragraph 6.e(1) above. Unit Commanders will schedule instructions on this subject prior to or while embarked aboard ship. An embossed plate impression signed by each individual will be entered on page 11 of the SRB certifying to his understanding of the regulations.
- (5) Hostile Fire Pay. Upon arrival in-country Unit Commanders will cause Unit Diary entries to be made for all enlisted personnel as follows "Gr HFP condition 1 from       (date)      ". Hostile Fire Pay commencement in the case of Officers will be by submission of a DD Form 114.

## h. Religious Activities

- (1) Divine services to be announced.
- (2) Battalion Chaplain is available for counseling.
- (3) When the Chaplain is not available maximum use of Lay Leaders is desired.

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(1)  
 (2)  
 (3)

- (4) Unit Commanders submit names of Protestant and Catholic Lay-Leaders to S-1 prior to 1300 15Mar66 and as changes occur.

i. Special Services

- (1) Special Services athletic and recreational equipment will be available during the Battalions deployment. Only Company Special Services Officers and NCO's will be authorized to draw material and/or equipment from the Battalion Special Services Officer. The below listed items are available for issue:

- (a) Softball equipment
- (b) Volleyball equipment
- (c) Fishing Rods and Reels
- (d) Skin Diving equipment
- (e) Archery equipment
- (f) Horseshoe equipment
- (g) Playing cards
- (h) Assorted Games.

j. Welfare Services. To be announced.

7. CIVIL AFFAIRS-MILITARY GOVERNMENT

See Annex (D)

8. PERSONNEL PROCEDURES

- a. Procurement. Emphasis will continue to be placed on retention of personnel through reenlistment or extension. Doubtful cases will be referred to this Headquarters prior to denying either reenlistment or extension.
- b. Classification and reclassification - Requests for reclassification should be held to a minimum consistent with the needs of the service.
- c. Assignment. Proper assignment and utilization of personnel will be essential. Personnel will not be assigned to other than T/O billets or to billets outside their MOS without prior approval of this Headquarters.
- d. Personnel Accounting
  - (1) Submit sailing diary and debarkation diary in compliance with paragraph 12, Chapter 16 MARCORPERSMAN MCO P5000.3.
  - (2) Hostile Fire Pay - See instructions under paragraph 6.g (5) above.
- e. Unit Commanders ensure that all Record of Emergency Data pages are audited with the individual prior to depakation.

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9. INTERIOR MANAGEMENT

- a. Aboard Ship. S-1 and Company Headquarters be prepared to perform such administration as may be required. S-1 will allocate office space as required. Requirements for office space to be submitted by 1300 15Mar66.
- b. In-Country in accordance with Battalion Order 3010.2D.

10. CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES. To be announced.11. MISCELLANEOUS.

- a. Combat Casualty Reporting (Appendix 1).
- b. Geneva Convention Cards will be distributed aboard ship. Cards for those personnel embarking on ships other than that containing the main body will be given to the OIC or NCOIC for distribution aboard ship.
- c. Identification Tags (2) will be in the possession of all personnel being deployed, and will be worn by all hands at all times.
- d. Directives disposition
  - (1) All orders, bulletins, publications and such other directives published by Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein), Commanding General III MAF and this Headquarters will be retained.
  - (2) USARYIS (Joint), Camp Butler and Camp Hansen directives will be sorted by holders and returned to S-1 by 14Mar66.
- e. Uniform regulations and standards of personal appearance. As directed in ForceO 1020.1C and For/NCCBul 1020 of 7Feb66 except sleeves will not be cut off the utility coat.



A. W. SNELL

Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps  
Commanding

APPENDIX

## 1. Combat Casualty Reporting

DISTRIBUTION: Annex B to Operations Order 327-66

CC [REDACTED]

Copy \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ Copies  
 1st Tank Battalion(-), FMF  
 Camp Hansen, Okinawa  
 120800I/Mar66

Appendix 1 (Combat Casualty Reporting) to Annex E(Personnel) to AdminOrder 327-66

1. Combat Casualty reporting

- a. The Battalion Medical Officer will submit a card on all casualties passing through the Battalion Aid Station in the following instances:
  - (1) When initially admitted for treatment.
  - (2) When treated and simultaneously returned to duty.
  - (3) When treated (processed) and evacuated.
  - (4) When returned to duty after admission, treatment, or hospitalization.
  - (5) When evacuated.
  - (6) When death occurs after admission.
  - (7) Upon all KIA's
  - (8) Whenever the status of the casualty changes other than noted above (injury, wound, or death occurring subsequent to initial report).
- b. Since not all casualties are evacuated through the Battalion Aid Station, Unit Commanders will submit a combat casualty card on the following occasions:
  - (1) When personnel are known to be missing, or missing in action.
  - (2) When personnel are known to be captured.
  - (3) When personnel are known to be killed in action and their bodies are not recovered.
  - (4) When personnel are known to have received superficial wounds in action which do not result in their loss to the unit.
  - (5) When personnel are known to have been buried in temporary or isolated graves.
  - (6) When personnel are lost to the unit as a result of being injured or ill in a non-hostile status.
  - (7) Whenever the status of casualty is known to change i.e., missing to KIA, etc.
- c. The Battalion Adjutant is designated as the Combat Casualty Control Office and will coordinate with the medical facilities ashore/afloat to ensure that combat casualty cards are received on those personnel who are evacuated directly to another medical facility and who did not pass through the Battalion Aid Station. He will ensure that a Medical Officer's signature

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is obtained on each casualty.

- d. Combat Casualty Cards, as outlined in paragraph (1) and (2) above will be forwarded to the Combat Casualty Control Officer (S-1).
- e. Combat Casualty Cards are self-explanatory, however, detailed instructions on their use can be found in MCO 3040.1 and DivO 3040.1A. The two digit code for this organization is 25.
- f. All Combat Casualty Cards will be marked with the unit designation in all upper right hand corners, i.e. H&S, A, B, C, 1st Tn Bn.
- g. It is emphasized that timely and accurate reporting is essential. Submission of casualty cards should not be delayed at any echelon. S-1, BAS and Company Headquarters should maintain close liaison with each other to insure that all concerned are aware of all casualties.
- h. All seriously wounded and all evacuated patients will be reported by name, rank, service number, MOS and brief description of the circumstances by the most expeditious means to this Headquarters (Adj).
- i. The BAS and Unit Commanders will embark with casualty cards and imprinter device.



A. W. SNELL

Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps  
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION: Annex B to AdminO 327-66

SECRET

COMPANY A  
1st Tank Battalion, FMF  
FPO San Francisco, 96602

AEB:mmj  
5750  
5Apr66

1. Organizational Data

a. Designation/Location. At the beginning of the reporting period Company A, 1st Tank Battalion was located at Chu Lai, Vietnam. At that time the company was composed of Company Headquarters and two tank platoons.

b. Period Covered. 1 March - 29 March 1966

c. Name/Rank of Commanding Officer, Staff and principal subordinates, T/Q billet assignments.

CO	Capt J. D. SPARKS
XO	Capt S. D. TURNER
1stPltLdr	2ndLt J. J. FLYNN
2ndPltLdr	1stLt A. E. BURNS
3dPltLdr	CySgt L. RAMOS
1st Sergeant	1stSgt B. R. DILLARD
Tank Leader	MSgt C. J. MOSS

d. Average monthly strength during the period.

	USMC	USN
Officers	5	0
Enlisted	105	1

2. Sequential listing of significant events, as they relate to:

a. Personnel. On 2 March 1966 one tank platoon was joined from Battalion Landing Team 3/1. The personnel strength of this platoon was one officer and twenty-four enlisted. This brought the company to full strength with a full headquarters and three tank platoons.

b. Administration. The administrative situation remained the same during the reporting period.

c. Intelligence. Tank Recon/Liaison personnel accompanied several 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines reconnaissance patrols in the Hill 69 area to determine tank trafficability and locate tank routes into the high ground to the west. These patrols covered the areas generally from BT 4707 to BT 4310 and from BT 4707 to BT 4406. Trafficability was found to be good in the low ground, exclusive of rice paddy areas. Several possible routes into the high ground were found. Some engineer assistance would be necessary to cross the relatively small rice paddy areas immediately adjacent to the high ground. It is felt that this effort would be extremely worthwhile since it would permit direct tank support of operations throughout the area from BT 4506 to at least BT 3714 and BT 4015.

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d. Operations and Training. The company provided tank support throughout the 1st Marines TAOR with the exception of the islands in the northeastern portion. The company maintained one platoon at the Hill 69 complex in direct support of 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines and supported the defense of the MAG 12 airfield with one and at times two platoons. Both of the latter platoons were also available for employment in most areas of the 1st Marines TAOR.

On 1 March 3d Platoon fired twelve rounds 90mm HE and two rounds 90mm WP from Hill 69 (BT 473073) at a suspected V.C. trail. Soc Sitrep #39-66, Enclosure(2).

On 23 March the Airfield defense was attacked by V.C. with small arms, rifle grenades and mortars. The V.C. did not penetrate the defenses to physically assault the airfield and no aircraft were damaged. It is believed that the unexpected presence of tanks may have deterred an assault of the airfield. Follow-up sweeps by tank-infantry teams captured two VCS. See Sitrep #61-66, Enclosure(2).

Xenon infrared surveillance was conducted nightly at the airfield and at Hill 69, with white light illumination on call. With the exception of the action on 23 March no enemy contact resulted.

A total of 37 hours of training was conducted during the reporting period with emphasis on gunnery, communications and map reading.

e. Problems encountered and lessons learned.

(1) Tanks were not utilized on any of the major operations during the reporting period. Considering the nature of the forces and fortified positions encountered it is felt that tanks would have been extremely valuable.

(2) Tanks are available to support operations on the islands in the 1st Marines TAOR. At present there are not sufficient landing craft in the Chu Lai area to support this type of operation. It is necessary to request landing craft support from NSA Da Nang which increases reaction time considerably. If at least two LCM-8's, or one LCU, were available continuously in the Chu Lai area tanks could be rapidly moved to support operations on the islands.

Enclosures

- (1) Detailed Chronology
- (2) Situation Reports (-61-#39)

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#61-66

ALPHA: Happy Age Alpha  
BRAVO: 222400H to 232200H

1. Company Headquarters located at BT 533080 continued logistical support of three tank platoons. Three(3) posts in the 1st Marines Command Post were manned during hours of darkness. The normal three(3) posts were augmented from 0230 till 0500 with three M60 machine gun squads in the northern portion of the C.P. perimeter defense. No enemy contact during this reporting period.

2. 1st Platoon: Provides direct support to 1/4. The platoon moves from normal daytime positions at the platoon C.P. BT 529071 to positions on the defensive perimeter around the MAG 12 airfield at BT 528078 - 548058. At 0225, the platoon reported the defensive perimeter and interior C.P. area was under mortar and small arms attack. The platoon received an estimated 5 rounds 60mm mortar and 25 rounds small arms at this time from unknown directions, and distance. The platoon received estimated two rifle grenades on one tank and two small arms rounds on the same tank. The platoon's tents were damaged by small arms and one round was received through the windshield of the platoon M38A1. No casualties were incurred by this unit. XENON infrared surveillance was conducted at intervals during hours of darkness. No enemy sighted during this reporting period.

3. 2nd Platoon: Provides direct support to 1/4. The platoon remains at the Company C.P. BT 533080. The platoon moved from the Company C.P. BT 533080 at 0245 to defensive positions at the MAG 12 airfield. At 0440, a heavy section with one(1) infantry squad attached was further deployed to blocking positions at BT 538040. At 0510, the heavy section observed one(1) VCS female running from the vicinity. One tank and fire team moved out and apprehended one(1) VCS female and one child. An attached fire team flushed two(2) VCS from area to front running west at 530040 approximately 300-400 meters away. The VCS were challenged, warning shots were fired over head and at failure to respond one(1) VCS was shot. The VCS female and child were turned over to Regimental S-2 personnel. The wounded VCS was evacuated to Company B, 3d Medical Battalion. The platoon further moved to defensive blocking positions at 530055 where they remained until 1100 when they returned to defensive positions at the MAG 12 airfield BT 545055.

4. 3d Platoon: Provides direct support to 2/4. The platoon occupies defensive positions on the hill 69 complex. XENON infrared surveillance was conducted at intervals during hours of darkness. No enemy contact reported during this period.

Enclosure: (2)

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DETAILED CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

- 1 March - 3d Platoon fired 12 round 90mm H.E. and 2 rounds 90mm W.P. from Hill 69 (BT 473073) at suspected V.C. trail. 1st and 2nd Platoons in Company C.P. (BT 533080)
- 3 March - 2nd Platoon moves from daytime positions in the Company C.P. to defensive positions at M/G 12 airfield.
- 4 March - One section of 1st Platoon moves to night defensive positions at BT 528109 and BT 528101.
- 5 March - 1st Platoon moves from Company C.P. to defensive positions at the airfield at night. One section of 2nd Platoon moves to night defensive positions at BT 528109 and BT 528101.
- 9 March - One section of 1st Platoon moves from Company C.P. to night defensive at BT 528109 and BT 528101. 2nd Platoon moves to night defensive positions at the airfield.
- 11 March - 1st Platoon moves to night defensive positions at the airfield. 2nd Platoon moves to night reserve position at the airfield as a reaction force.
- 13 March - 1st Platoon remains in Company C.P., available as reaction force. 2nd Platoon moves from daylight positions at the Platoon C.P. BT 530065 to night positions on the airfield perimeter, BT 528078 to BT 548058.
- 21 March - 1st Platoon moves from daylight positions at the Platoon C.P. BT 530065 to night positions on the airfield perimeter, BT 528078 to BT 548058. 2nd Platoon remains in Company C.P., available as a reaction force.
- 23 March - Airfield attacked at 0225 with small arms, rifle grenades and mortars. One 1st Platoon tank hit by two rifle grenades and two rounds small arms. No damage or casualties. 2nd Platoon moved to reserve positions at airfield. At 0440 a heavy section and a squad of infantry moved to a blocking position at BT 538040. This action resulted in 2 VCS captured.
- 24 March - 1st Platoon daytime C.P. at BT 529071, night positions on airfield perimeter at BT 528078 to 548058. 2nd Platoon daytime C.P. at BT 545060, night positions on airfield at BT 545005 to BT 535085.

Enclosure: (1)

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#39-66

ALPHA: Happy Age Alpha  
BRAVO: 281200H to 011200H

1. Company Headquarters located at BT 533080, continues logistical support of two tank platoons.
2. 1st Platoon, 3d Battalion, 1st Marines: Vehicles and personnel remain at the Company Command Post BT 533080.
3. 2nd Platoon: Direct support of 1/4. The platoon is located at Company Headquarters BT 533080. No enemy contact during reporting period.
4. 3d Platoon: Direct support of 1/4. The platoon is located at Hill 6- BT 473073. From the platoon C.P. position, one tank fired 12 rounds of 90mm H.E. and 2 rounds of 90mm W.P. at a suspected VC trail located at BT 419034. The firing was conducted at intervals between 281200H and 010100H. KENON infrared surveillance was conducted at intervals during hours of darkness. No enemy contact during reporting period.
5. Deadline: 1-M54 1-M38

J. D. SPARKS

Enclosure: (2)

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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion (-), FMF  
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

SER-NO 0026-66  
2/JHW/bgb  
5 May 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Division Field  
Historian, G-3)  
Subj: Command Chronology; submission of (Report Symbol 1stMarDiv 5750-6)  
Ref: (a) DivO 5750.2A  
Encl: (1) Command Chronology  
1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is hereby submitted.

  
A. W. SNELL

S & C FILES  
HEADQUARTERS  
1ST MARINE DIVISION, FMF

661088

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Apr 66

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY1. Organizational Data

First Tank Battalion (1st), First Marine Division, FMF, FPO, San Francisco, California 96602.

a. Location(1) H&S Company

(a) 1 Apr-30 Apr 66, Chu Lai Combat Base

(2) Company "A"

(a) 1 Apr-30 Apr 66, Chu Lai Combat Base

In direct support of 1st Marines.

(3) Company "B"

(a) 1 Apr-30 Apr 66, Chu Lai Combat Base

In direct support of 7th Marines.

(4) Company "C"

(a) 1 Apr-30 Apr 66, attached to 5th Marines.

(b) On 14 Apr 1966, 1st Platoon detached from BLT 2/5 and attached to Company "A", 1st Tank Bn.

b. Period covered by this report 1 Apr-30 Apr 66.

c. Name/Rank of Commanding Officers and Staff

LtCol Albert W. SNELL	1 Apr-30 Apr 66	CO
Maj Lowell R. BURNETTE, Jr.	1 Apr-30 Apr 66	XO
SgtMaj Horace H. LEE	1 Apr-30 Apr 66	Bn SgtMaj
2dLt James E. LANCASTER	1 Apr-30 Apr 66	S-1/Adj
1stLt Kenneth L. TOMCICH	1 Apr-20 Apr 66	S-2 Off

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1stLt John W. WARNER	21 Apr-30 Apr 66	S-2 Off
Capt Edward E. STITH	1 Apr-10 Apr 66	S-3 Off
Maj James G. COLLIER	11 Apr-30 Apr 66	S-3 Off
Maj Herbert J. L. REID	1 Apr-30 Apr 66	BnSupO
Capt Billy WHITLEY	1 Apr-30 Apr 66	BnMaintO
Capt Edward J. HOYNES	1 Apr-30 Apr 66	BnCommO
1stLt Carl R. LUDECKE	1 Apr-30 Apr 66	BnMTO
Lt Brian E. KANE (CHC) USNR	1 Apr-5 Apr 66	Chaplain
Lt Mark W. HARROLD (MC) USNR	1 Apr-30 Apr 66	MedO
1stLt Justin J. DONNELLY	1 Apr-30 Apr 66	Legal/CAO
1stLt T. W. KELLY	1 Apr-30 Apr 66	Flame Plt Odr
Maj Herbert J. L. REID	11 Apr-30 Apr 66	H&S Co Odr
Maj James G. COLLIER	1 Apr-10 Apr 66	H&S Co Odr
Capt James D. SPARKS	1 Apr-30 Apr 66	Co "A" Odr
Capt Horace A. BERTRAND	1 Apr-21 Apr 66	Co "B" Odr
Capt Edward E. STITH	22 Apr-30 Apr 66	Co "B" Odr

## 2. Commanders Narrative Summary of Events

On 1 April 1966, this Battalion had a strength of 33 Marine Corps Officers, 475 Marine Corps Enlisted, 2 Navy Officers, and 10 Navy Enlisted. (Ref 19). The beginning of this reporting period found the Battalion CP established on Hill 43 (BT 571041) within the Chu Lai Combat Base.

On 1 April 1966, this Battalion assumed AdCon of Companies "A" and "B". (Ref 21). These companies remain in direct support of 1st and 7th Marines respectively. On 14 April 1966, 1st Platoon, Company "C", arrived at Chu Lai. OpCon/AdCon of this unit was assigned to Company "A" as directed by the Commanding Officer, 1st Tank Battalion. (Ref 16 and 17)

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On 8 April 1966, a 2 tank section from Company "A" participated in Operation Iowa in support of 1st Marines. No significant contact. (Ref 1) On 14 April 1966, a 17 man Recon unit headed by the Battalion Executive Officer reconnoitered Route 1 from BS 576965 to BS 633801 in order to determine the extent of engineer work necessary to make that portion of Route 1 trafficable by tanks. Contact with estimated enemy squad - no casualties. (Ref 3). A report was forwarded to Division G-2. (Ref 18). On 12 April 1966, a provisional rifle company headquarters and one rifle platoon were furnished in accordance with DivOpPlan 305-66. (Ref 2 & 14). These units assumed positions within the 2/7 TAOR during Operation Nevada, 12-16 April. On 18 April 1966, 4 tanks from 3rd Platoon, Company "B", established indirect fire positions on OP 39 (BS667962) and on 20 April 1966, conducted precision indirect fire registration from these positions. (Ref 4 & 5). On 23 and 24 April 1966, 1st Platoon (Rein), Company "A", conducted precision indirect fire registration from position on Hill 69 (BT469069). (Ref 7 & 8). On 21 April 1966, this Battalion again furnished a provisional rifle company headquarters and one rifle platoon to defensive positions with H/2/7 TAOR in support of Operation Hot Springs. (Ref 6). On 20 and 21 April 1966, 3rd Platoon, Company "B" fired 90 rounds of 90mm HE in indirect fire for landing zone prep fire for Operation Hot Springs. (Ref 6). On 26 April 1966, 1st Platoon, Company "A", moved from Hill 69 (BT469069) to Hill 54 (BT 396145) in support of 2/5 during Operation Wyoming. Light Small Arms fire from estimated enemy squad on return from Hill 54. No casualties. (Ref 9 thru 13).

During two periods this month, 1st Tank Battalion simultaneously provided an infantry company headquarters and a reinforced rifle platoon committed as infantry in defensive positions in the 2/7 TAOR; 2 tank platoons functioning as 4 gun artillery batteries firing indirect fire under fire direction of 11th Marines, while carrying out all normal Battalion missions and functions.

On 30 April 1966, this Battalion had a strength of 32 Marine Corps Officers, 524 Marine Corps Enlisted, 1 Navy Officer, and 10 Navy Enlisted. (Ref 20)

### 3. Detailed Description of Significant Events

#### a. Civil Affairs

During the month of April, the Battalion Civil Affairs Team prepared for operations. Liaison with other civil affairs teams, the Ly Tien District Chief, and several hamlet chiefs was conducted. A recon of the populated areas within the combat base was conducted so that a recommendation could be made regarding the area of civil affairs responsibility desired. All available items to be used in the program were collected at the Battalion CP. On 30 April 1966, verbal assignment of Tich Tay (BT 498048) was made

ENCLOSURE (1)

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by Division and permission was granted to initiate the Battalion's Civic Action Program.

b. Fire Support

The 3rd Platoon (-), Company "B", and the 2d Platoon, Company "A", presently occupy indirect firing positions within the combat base so as to provide reinforcing fires to the 11th Marines Regiment. (Ref 15). Both units have conducted precision indirect fire registration and the 3rd Platoon (-) participated in landing zone prep fire for Operation Hot Springs. Target acquisition is through normal channels and fire adjustment is accomplished through the artillery FDC's at the respective firing positions.

c. Logistics

During reporting period supply operations have accomplished the following tasks:

a. Consolidation of mount-out and operations stocks.

b. Invoicing of all Class II Type I Mount-out items to FLSG-B. In addition, the following has been started and will be accomplished during May:

a. Pick up Company "A" and Company "B" supplies.

b. Pick up on the Stock Record Cards all supplies received on Okinawa during the staging of this Battalion.

Heavy requirements have been placed upon both the tank and motor transport maintenance sections due to the deferred maintenance services on the tracked vehicles and motor transport vehicles of Company "B", which has been in country nine (9) months. This maintenance backlog should be completed within 45 days providing all necessary spare parts are readily available.

With the assignment of the indirect fire mission, the usage rate of 90mm gun tubes and the related seal assembly will increase. If these items are not stockpiled in sufficient quantity by FLSG-B for timely replacement, present indirect fire missions will necessarily be halted until replacement tubes are available. A recommendation for such stockage has been forwarded to FLSG-B.

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## APPENDIX A(List of References)

1. ✓ 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 8 Apr 1966
2. ✓ 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 12 Apr 1966
3. ✓ 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 14 Apr 1966
4. ✓ 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 18 Apr 1966
5. ✓ 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 20 Apr 1966
6. ✓ 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 21 Apr 1966
7. ✓ 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 23 Apr 1966
8. ✓ 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 24 Apr 1966
9. ✓ 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 26 Apr 1966
10. ✓ 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 27 Apr 1966
11. ✓ 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 28 Apr 1966
12. ✓ 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 29 Apr 1966
13. ✓ 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 30 Apr 1966
14. CG, 1stMarDiv msg 210031Z (April)
15. CG, 1stMarDiv msg 180750Z (April)
16. CG, 1stMarDiv msg 080607Z (April)
17. ✓ CG, 1st Tank Bn msg 160101Z (April)
18. ✓ Road Reconnaissance Patrol Report
19. ✓ Personnel Daily Summary No. 1-66
20. ✓ Personnel Daily Summary No. 30-66
21. CG, 1stMarDiv msg 310559Z (March)

*NOTE: References marked with ✓ were also enclosed.*

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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion (-), FMF  
FPO San Francisco 96602

3/EES/bgb  
8 Apr 1966

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

My SITREP 012 for period 080001H to 082400H Apr 1966

1. Unit Operations

a. Operation Iowa. two tanks from 3rd Platoon, Company A, supported by 3 tanks, 1 dozer tank, 1 recovery vehicle, and 2 provisional infantry squads from 1st Tank Bn, moved across the Song Tram, via BT531099, and the Song Khou Yen, via BT423102. The initial ford of the Song Khou Yen via BT423102, proved unpassable and the tanks then crossed via BT531099 with assistance from a dozer tank. At 080910H, 3 rounds AW fire were received from via BT423102. At 080930H 10 rounds AW fire were received from via BT419103. Fire was not returned in either case due to lack of defined targets and presence of women and children in the area. Numerous punji pits and several new fighting holes were encountered via BT419103. Sporadic long range sniper fire was received via BT431099 from via BT428092. No casualties. After the fording operation the supporting vehicles returned via BT431099.

b. Villagers in Diem Pho (3) voluntarily assisted in locating a route to Highway 1.

2. Total Casualties. None

3. Artillery Box Score. None

4. Recap Battalion Operations

a. Companies A (-) and B (-) continue in direct support of 1st and 7th Marines respectively.

b. 2nd Platoon, Company A and 2nd Platoon, Company B, remain in direct support of Chu Lai Defense Command.

c. 3 M67 Flame Tanks attached to Company A remain at Hill 69 complex.

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5. Contacts

<u>Province/Coord</u>	<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Action/Size/Type</u>	<u>From Unit Location</u>	<u>Enemy Reaction</u>	<u>Initiated By</u>
a. Quang Tin BT423101	080910H	Sniper Fire	3rd Plt Co A 1st Tn Bn None	Unk None	VC
b. Quang Tin BT419103	080930H	AW fire (10Rds)	3rd Plt Co A 1st Tn Bn None	Unk None	VC
c. Quang Tin BT431099	081200H	Sniper Fire	3rd Plt Co A 1st Tn Bn	None	VC

6. Recap Battalion Plans

a. Flame Section on Hill 69 complex will return to Tank Bn CP 9 Apr providing operation Iowa completed by that time.

b. 1st Tank Bn will furnish 2 provisional squads of infantry to provide for retraction of 2 tanks across Song Kheu Yen and Song Trau rivers tomorrow morning. One Engineer Team will accompany tanks.

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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion (-), FMF  
FPO San Francisco 96602

3/JGC/hgp  
12 Apr 1966

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

My SITREP 016 for period 120001H to 122400H Apr 1966

1. Unit Operations

a. 1st Tank Battalion received a warning order from 1st MarDiv G-3 to be prepared to provide an additional provisional rifle platoon reinforced on call.

b. From 122030H to 122130H Bn CP received 3 incoming fragmentation grenades on side of Hill 43 (BS514042). Grenades were interspersed with rocks and dirt clods. Twelve fragmentation grenades returned with negative results. Area will be searched at first light.

2. Total Casualties. None

3. Artillery Box Score. None

4. Recap Battalion Operations

a. Companies A (-) and B continue in direct support of 1st and 7th Marines respectively.

b. Two (2) Headquarters tanks from Company A in direct support of the Chu Lai Defense Command.

c. 1st and 2nd Platoons of Company A in direct support of the Chu Lai Defense Command.

5. Contacts. See par 1.B.

6. Recap Battalion Plans.

a. At 140700H Apr 1966, if approved 1st Tank Battalion will conduct a route Recon on Highway 1 from via BS576965 to via BS635801 to determine bridging and bypass capacities and terrain trafficability for future tank Infantry operations in the area adjacent to either side of Route 1.

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APPENDIX B  
REF(2)

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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion (-), PMF  
FPO San Francisco 96602

3/JGC/sms  
14 Apr 1966

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

My SITREP 018 for the period 140001H to 142400H Apr 1966

1. Unit Operations

a. At 140840H a 17 man Recon unit headed by the Battalion Executive Officer departed Dong Binh (BS576965) to reconnoiter bridging and bypass capabilities and terrain trafficability along Highway 1 to Road Junction BS633801. At 141055H via BS609904 the unit received approximately 8 to 10 rounds small arms fire from via BS628902. Fifty rounds small arms fire were returned with unknown results. The Binh San subsector adviser called in 4 rounds 105mm on position with unknown results. The Reconnaissance continued as planned and was completed at 141530H without further incidents. The Reconnaissance Report of this unit indicates that bridges at coordinates BS568978, BS602917, and BS623865 are structurally weak and in marginal condition. Booby passes exist at these points. Should these bridges be destroyed by enemy action or collapse would effectively sever Highway 1. Detailed reconnaissance report follows.

b. 1st Tank Battalion dispatched two local search and secure patrols. The first patrol via BT303047 found five vietnamese males of military age. Three Vietnamese males ran from the patrol. Due of the proximity of civilians in the area, the patrol was unable to fire. The second patrol conducting a search outside the perimeter wire found two fresh diggings capable of holding 60mm mortars. One Vietnamese male of military age ran when patrol closed in. Patrol unable to fire because of other Vietnamese civilians in the area. Further search of houses in area produced negative results. A Vietnamese civilian male when questioned indicated VC at Hill 43 (BT320041) and at Hill (BT503041).

2. Total Casualties. None

3. Artillery Box Score. None

4. Recap Battalion Operations

a. Companies A (Rein) and B continue in direct support of 1st and 7th Marines respectively.

b. Headquarters Tank Section and 1st and 2nd Platoons Company A in direct support of the Chu Lai Defense Command.

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c. Provisional Rifle Company Headquarters and one Rifle platoon reinforced opcon 3/7 for defense of 7th Marines TAOR.

d. 1st Platoon, Company C, 1st Tank Bn, was detached from opcon BLT 2/5 and attached opcon Companies A, 1st Tank Bn.

5. Contacts. See Aa and 1b.

6. Recap Battalion Plans

a. Companies A and B are conducting refresher training in indirect fire procedures in preparation for fire missions expected to commence on or about 18 April 1966. Firing positions are being prepared at Hill 69 (BT468069) and at Op 39 (B8570965).

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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion (-), FMF  
FPO San Francisco 96602

3/JOC/fbm  
18 Apr 1966

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

My SITREP 022 for the period 180001H to 182400H Apr 1966

1. Unit Operations

a. At 180815H a platoon of 6 tanks from Company A moved to Hill 69, BT468068, and set up defensive position. Upon completion of an Artillery Survey, the platoon will be prepared to fire indirect fire missions.

b. At 181000H a section of 3 tanks from Company A accompanied F/2/5 to a combat base BT457100 and will remain overnight. At 181645H an infantry squad located at BT 409047 requested fire support. One tank fired 4 rds HE and 1 rd WP from combat base position. Results unknown.

c. A section of 2 tanks from Company B moved into position at OP 39 BT 567962 for indirect fire.

d. A section of 3 tanks from Company B moved to BT523998 in support of 3/7

2. Total Casualties. None

3. Artillery Box Score. None

4. Recap of Battalion Operations

a. Company A (-)(Rein) and Company B remain in direct support of 1st and 7th Marines respectively.

b. First and 3rd Platoons, Company A remain in direct support to 2/5.

c. HqTc Sec and 2nd Plt, Company A and 1st Plt, Co C, are in direct support to Chu Lai Defense Command.

5. Contacts. None

6. Battalion Plans

a. The platoon of 6 tanks from Company A, located on Hill 69, BT468068, are prepared for indirect fire missions on or about 20 April.

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b. Four tanks from 3rd Plt, Company B, located at OP 39 BT567962 are prepared for fire missions on or about 20 April.

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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion (-), FMF  
FPO San Francisco 96602

3/JGC/fm  
20 Apr 1966

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

My SITREP 024 for the period 200001H to 202400H Apr 1966

1. Unit Operations

a. At 200730H a section of 2 tanks from A Co, moved to reinforce the section of 2 tanks at the F/2/5 combat base located BT437100. At 200810H approximately 5 rounds of SA fire was received at the combat base from vic BT433092. Fire was not returned due to lack of identifiable target. No casualties. At 201130H one tank section returned to Hill 69 BT468068 leaving one section in the F/2/5 5 combat base. No further contact.

b. At 201900H 3rd Platoon, Company B completed precision registration firing from indirect fire positions on OP 39 BS567962 under the control of 3rd 8" HowBry (SP) and airborne AO with good control of secured firing at 201900H.

2. Total Casualties. None

3. Artillery Box Score. None

4. Recap of Battalion Operations

a. Company A (-)(Rein) and Company B remain in direct support of 1st and 7th Marines respectively.

b. 2nd Platoon, Company A and 1st Platoon, Company C remain in direct support of Chu Lai Defense Command.

c. 1st Platoon (Rein), Company A, remain in direct support of 2/5.

5. Contacts

<u>Prov/Coord</u>	<u>DTG</u>	<u>Action</u> <u>Size/Type</u>	<u>Frnd Unit</u> <u>Losses</u>	<u>Enemy Unit</u> <u>Losses</u>	<u>Initiated</u> <u>By</u>
Quang Tin BT437100	200810H	Tank Supp	2 Tk Sect/none	Unk	VO

6. Battalion Plans

a. At 210630H Apr 1st TkBn will dispatch one squad on a reconnaissance patrol in the area surrounding Hill 43 BT518040.

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b. Indirect fire registration for 1st Platoon, Co A, located on Hill 69 will commence upon conclusion of present 45 operation.

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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion (-), FMF  
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

3/JGC/sms  
21 Apr 1966

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

My SitRep 025 for the period 210001H to 212400H A r 1966

1. Unit Operations

a. 1st Platoon, Company "A" provided direct support to 2/5. At 211300H the section at Company "F" combat base located at BT437100, returned to Hill 69. All 1st Platoon, Company "A" vehicles now located on Hill 69 complex.

b. In accordance with CG, 1stMarDiv msg 110020Z a provisional rifle company headquarters and reinforced rifle platoon was provided to OpCon 7th Marines at 210700H. It assumed responsibility for the left half of 2/7 TAOR in grid squares 5100, 5101, and 5102.

c. From 201730H to 210700H, 3rd Platoon, Company "B" fired 90 rounds of 90mm HE unobserved and I fires.

d. 1stTkbN reconnaissance scheduled to depart at 210630H and patrol area surrounding Hill 43 BT518040, was cancelled in order to comply with CG, 1stMarDiv 110020Z.

2. Total Casualties. None

3. Artillery Box Score

	Number of Missions			
	Obs	Unobs	H&I	Total
90mm Gun	0	Unk	Unk	Unk

	Rounds Expended		
	HE	Illum.	WP
90mm Gun	90	0	0

4. Recap of Battalion Operations

a. Company "A" (-) (Rein) and Company "B" remain in direct support of 1st and 7th Marines respectively.

b. 2d Platoon, Company "A", and 1st Platoon, Company "C", remain in direct support of Chu Lai Defense Command.

c. 1st Platoon (Rein), Company "A" remains in direct support of 2/5

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5. Battalion Plans

a. Precision registration of 3rd Platoon, Company "B" will commence 22 April 1966.

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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion (-), FMF  
c/o FPO, San Francisco, 9602

3/DAT/bgb  
23 Apr 1966

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

My SitRep 027 for period 230001H to 232400H Apr 1966

1. Unit Operations

a. 1st Platoon, Company "A", provided direct support to 2/5. At 22225H, an ambush vicinity BT460079 received incoming grenades and SA fire. The ambush withdrew and A-11 moved to vicinity BT461077 to support the withdrawal. A-11 fired three (3) rounds of cannister and fire ceased. The area was searched at first light with negative results.

b. At 230800H three (3) tanks from 1st Platoon, Company "A", moved with infantry to vicinity BT432097 and deployed as a blocking force in a search and destroy operation. There was no enemy contact and the section returned to Hill 69 at 231500H.

c. At 231400H, registration for indirect fire was conducted by three (3) tanks from 1st Platoon, Company "A", with good results.

2. Total Casualties. None

3. Artillery Box Score. None

4. Recap of Battalion Operations

a. Company "A" (-) (Rein) and Company "B" remain in direct support of 1st and 7th Marines respectively.

b. 2d Platoon, Company "A", and 1st Platoon, Company "S", remain in direct support of Chu Lai Defense Command.

c. 1st Platoon (Rein), Company "A", remains in direct support of 2/5.

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5. Battalion Plans

a. At 241430H the Battalion Command Group will make an aerial reconnaissance paralleling Route 1 from Ong Bo Bridge (BT430109) to Tam Ky (BT330210).

b. Further registration for indirect firing will be conducted by the remainder of 1st Platoon, Company "A", on 24 Apr 1966.

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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion (-), (Rein), FMF  
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

3/JHW/wpa  
24 Apr 1966

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

My SitRep 028 for period 240001H to 242400H Apr 1966

1. Unit Operations

a. At 240900H 3 tanks from 1st Platoon, Company "A" conducted precision indirect fire registration from position on Hill 69.

b. At 241430H, the CO of Company "A" made an aerial reconnaissance paralleling route 1 from On Bo Bridge (BT430109) to Tam Ky (BT530210).

c. At 240600H and 241100H respectively 2 tanks from 1st Platoon, Company "B", conducted H&I missions consisting of 4 rds 90mm HE per mission from BS628991 to BS629984. Results of firing unknown.

2. Total Casualties. None

3. Artillery Box Score. None

4. Recap of Battalion Operations

a. Company "A" (-) (Rein), and Company "B" remain in direct support of 1st and 7th Marines.

b. 2d Platoon, Company "A", and 1st Platoon, Company "C", remain in direct support of Chu Lai Defense Command.

c. 1st Platoon (Rein), Company "A", remains in direct support of 2/5.

5. Battalion Plans

a. Pending availability of aircraft the Battalion Command Group will make an aerial reconnaissance along the TraBong Valley west from Binh Son on 25 April 1966.

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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion (-), FMF  
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

3/JOC/bgb  
26 Apr 1966

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

My SitRep 030 for period 260001H to 262400H Apr 1966

1. Unit Operations

a. 1st Platoon, Company "A", in direct support of 2/5 on Hill 69 (BT469069), occupied defensive positions until 260810H. At that time the platoon with two squads from B/1/7 and an engineer team from Company "A", 1st Engineer Bn, commenced move to Hill 54 (Bt396145). At 260907H, the engineer team located an anti-tank mine consisting of 3 105mm artillery rounds laid side by side and rigged with a pressure detonator at BT431098. The detonator consisted of bamboo with uninsulated wire rigged so that the bare wires would touch when pressure was applied. Electrical current was supplied by BA30's. The mine was detonated in place with O4 without damage to equipment or casualties. The ford at Song Trau (Bt431098) was successfully crossed at 260925H. At 2 0927H, the platoon received 6 rounds of small arms fire from the vicinity of BT424103. The accompanying infantry returned 20 rounds of small arms fire with unknown results. At 260935H, 4 rounds of small arms fire was received from the vicinity of BT427103. Tanks returned 30 rounds of Cal. .30 with unknown results. At 261115H fording at Song Kheu Yen (BT422102) was completed. At this time 3 rounds of small arms fire was received from the vicinity of BT422103. Tanks returned 30 rounds of Cal. .30 fire with unknown results. The Platoon continued mission arriving at Hill 54 at 261225H, after having dropped infantry from B/1/7. The platoon now occupies defensive positions on Hill 54 with a platoon from E/2/5.

b. 2d Platoon, Company "A", provided direct support to 2/5 on Hill 69 (BT469069) throughout the period. No contact.

c. 3rd Platoon, Company "A", and 1st Platoon, Company "C" provided direct support to the Chu Lai Defense Command throughout the period. No contact.

d. 3rd Platoon, Company "B", provided direct and indirect fire support to 3/7 and 8" Howitzer units on OP39 (BS571965) throughout the period. Non contact.

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f. Two flame tanks attached to Company "B" provided direct support to 2/7 throughout the period. Non contact.

2. Total Casualties. None

3. Artillery Box Score. None

4. Recap of Battalion Operations

a. Company "A" (-) (Rein) and Company "B" (Rein) remain in direct support of 1st and 7th Marines respectively.

b. 3rd Platoon, Company "A", and 1st Platoon, Company "C", remain in direct support of the Chu Lai Defense Command.

c. 1st and 2d Platoons, Company "A", remain in direct support of 2/5.

5. Battalion Plans

a. 1st and 2d Platoons, Company "A", will continue to support division elements in Operation Wyoming.

b. 3rd Platoon, Company "B", will continue to support 3/7 by direct fire and to reinforce a platoon, 3rd 8" Howitzer Battery with indirect fire.

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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion (-), FMF  
FPO San Francisco 96602

3/JGO/sms  
27 Apr 1966

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

My SITREP 031 for period 270001H to 282400H Apr 1966

1. Unit Operations

a. 1st Platoon, Company A, occupied defensive positions on Hill 54 (BT396145) in support of E/2/5 throughout the period. No contact.

b. 2nd Platoon, Company A, occupied defensive positions on Hill 69 (BT469069) in support of 2/5 throughout the period. No contact.

c. 3rd Platoon, Company A and 1st Platoon, Company C, provided direct support to the Chu Lai Defense Command throughout the period. No contact.

d. 3rd Platoon, Company B, provided direct fire support to 3/7 and indirect fire support to 3rd 8" Howitzer units on OP 39 (BS571965). At 61915H, the platoon fired 2 rounds WP and 4 rounds HE in support of PF units at targets in vicinity of (BS582950). Results unknown. At 270230H, the platoon fired 21 rounds of HE H and I fires at targets in vicinity of (BS575964). Results unknown.

e. Two flame tanks attached to Company B provided direct support to 2/7 throughout the period. No contact.

f. 1st Platoon, Company B provided direct support to 1/7 throughout the period. No contact.

2. Total Casualties. None

3. Artillery Box Score.

	Number of missions			
	obs	unobs	M&L	Total
90mmGun	0	0	1	1

	Rounds expended		
	HE	101mm	WP
90mmGun	21	0	0

	Supporting		
	MAF	ARVN	Other
90mmGun	1	0	0

4. Recap of Battalion Operations

a. Company A (-)(Rein) and Company B (Rein) remain in direct support of

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7th Marine s respectively.

b. 3rd Platoon, Company "A", and 1st Platoon, Company "C", remain in direct support of the Chu Lai Defense Command.

c. 1st and 2d Platoons, Company "A", remain in direct support of 2/5

5. Battalion Plans

a. 1st and 2d Platoons, Company "A", will continue to support division elements in Operation Wyoming.

b. 3rd Platoon, Company "B", will continue to support 3/7, by direct fire and to reinforce a platoon from 3rd 8" Howitzer Battery with indirect fire.

c. At 280800H, 2d Section, Flame Platoon, will be detached from Company "B", and revert to the Flame Platoon, H&S Company. Two tanks from the 3rd Section, Flame Platoon, Will continue to support Company B and 2/7.

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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion (-), FMF  
FPO San Francisco 96602

3/JOC/fbm  
28 Apr 1966

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

My SITREP 032 for period 280001H to 2824001H Apr 1966

1. Unit Operations

a. 1st Platoon, Company A, occupied defensive positions on Hill 54 (BT396145) in support of E/2/5 throughout the period. No contact.

b. 2nd Platoon, Company A, occupied defensive position on Hill 69 (BT469069) in support of 2/5 throughout the period. No contact.

c. 3rd Platoon, Company A and 1st Platoon, Company C provided direct support to the Chu Lai Defense Command throughout the period. No contact.

d. 3rd Platoon, Company B, provided direct fire support to 3/7 and indirect fire support to 3rd 8" Howitzer units on OP 39 (BS571965). No contact.

e. Two flame tanks attached to Company B, provided direct support to 2/7 throughout the period. No contact.

f. 1st Platoon, Company B provided direct support to 1/7 throughout the period. No contact.

2. Total Casualties. None

3. Artillery Box Score. None

4. Recap of Battalion Operation

a. Company A (-)(Rein) and Company B (Rein) remain in direct support of 1st and 7th Marines respectively.

b. 3rd Platoon, Company A and 1st Platoon, Company C remain in direct support of the Chu Lai Defense Command.

c. 1st and 2nd Platoons, Company A remain in direct support 2/5.

5. Battalion Plans.

a. 1st and 2nd Platoons, Company A will continue to support division

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b. 3rd Platoon, Company B will continue to support 3/7 by direct fire and to reinforce a platoon from 3rd 8" Howitzer Battery with indirect fire.

c. At 290900H the Headquarters Tank Section of H&SCo will zero/calibrate 90mm guns, cal.50, and cal.30 machine guns from Hill 49 (BT489037).

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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion (-), FMF  
FPO San Francisco 96602

3/JGQ/bgb  
29 Apr 1966

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

My SITREP 035 for period 29240001H to 292400H Apr 1966

1. Unit Operations

a. 1st Platoon, Company A, moved out with Company E, 2/5, at 291000H in support of S & D operations in GS 3715, 3815, and 3816. They established night positions at BT401144. NonContact.

b. 2d Platoon, Company A, occupied defensive positions on Hill 69 (BT469069) in support of 2/5 throughout the period. No contact.

c. 3rd Platoon, Company A, and 1st Platoon, Company C, provided direct support to the Chu Lai Defense Command throughout the period. No contact.

d. 3rd Platoon, Company B, provided direct support to 3/7 and indirect support to 3rd 8" Howitzer units on OP39 (BT571965). No contact.

e. Two flame tanks attached to Company B, provided direct support to 2/7 throughout the period. No contact.

f. 1st Platoon, Company B, provided direct support 1/7 throughout the period. No contact.

g. From 290920H to 291120H, the Headquarters Tank Section of H&S Company zeroed their 90mm guns, .50 Cal. Machineguns from Hill 49 (BT489037).

2. Total Casualties. None

3. Artillery Box Score. None

4. Recap of Battalion Operations

a. Company A(-)(Rein) and Company B (Rein) remain in direct support of 1st and 7th Marines respectively.

b. 3rd Platoon, Company A, and 1st Platoon, Company C remain in direct support of the Chu Lai Defense Command.

c. 1st and 2nd Platoons, Company A, remain in direct support of 2/5.

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a. 1st and 2nd Platoons, Company A, will continue to support Division units in Operations Wyoming. Upon completion of operation, one platoon will return to the Company CP (BT539074).

b. 3rd Platoon, Company B, will continue to support 3/7 by direct fire and to reinforce a platoon from 3rd 8" Howitzer Battery with indirect fire.

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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion (-), FMF  
FPO San Francisco 96602

3/JGO/dwl  
30 April 1966

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

My SITREP 034 for period 300001H to 302400H Apr 1966

1. Unit Operations

a. 1st Platoon, Company A moved from night defensive positions at (BT401144) at 300000H in support of Company E, 2/5 Search and Destroy operations. At 301035H, Tanks at (BT402130) received 10 to 20 rounds small arms fire. Platoon returned 200 rounds .30 caliber with negative results. At 301450H while preparing to ford the Song Khou Yen at (BT424101) 100 rounds small arms and 5 rifle grenades were received. Tanks and infantry returned heavy small arms fire. Infantry searched area and found blood stains and drag marks. Two (2) wounded Viet Cong (possible). Platoon returned to Hill 69.

b. 2nd Platoon, Company A, occupied defensive positions on Hill 69 (BT469069) in support of 2/5. At 301045H 2 tanks, dozer tank, and retriever moved to ford site (BT431099) to provide assistance. All vehicles returned to Hill 69.

c. 3rd Platoon, Company A, and 1st Platoon, Company C provided direct support to the Chu Lai Defense Command throughout the period. No contact.

d. 3rd Platoon, Company B, provided direct fire support to 3/7 and indirect fire support to 3rd 8" Howitzer units on OP39 (BT571965). No contact.

e. Two Flame Tanks attached to Company B, provided direct support to 2/7 throughout the period. No contact.

f. 1st Platoon, Company B, provided direct support to 1/7 throughout the period. No contact.

2. Total Casualties. Two (2) Viet Cong wounded (possible).

3. Artillery Box Score. None

4. Recap of Battalion Operations

a. Company A (-)(Rein) and Company B (Rein) remain in direct support of 1st and 7th Marines, respectively.

APPENDIX B  
REF (12)

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b. 3rd Platoon, Company A, and 1st Platoon, Company C, remain in direct support of the Chu Lai Defense Command.

c. 1st and 2nd Platoons, Company A, remain in direct support of 2/5.

5. Contact

<u>Prev/Coord</u>	<u>DTC</u>	<u>Action</u> <u>Size/Type</u>	<u>FriendlUnit</u> <u>Losses</u>	<u>Enemy Unit</u> <u>Losses</u>	<u>Initiated</u> <u>By</u>
BT402130	301035H	Tank/Infantry	None	2 WIA (Poss)	VC
BT424101	301450H	Support			

6. Battalion Plans

a. One platoon, Company A will continue to support 2/5 on Hill 69 (BT464072).

On 2 May 1966, 1st Platoon, Company C will be released from OpCon Company A and transferred to OpCon Company B.

b. 3rd Platoon, Company B, will continue to support 3/7 by direct fire and to reinforce a platoon from 3rd 8" Howitzer Battery with direct fire.

A. W. SNELL

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## NAVAL MESSA

OPNAV FORM 2110-28A (REV. 8-61)

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RELEASED BY <b>A. W. SNELL</b>		DRAFTED BY <b>J. G. COLLIER</b>		PHONE EXT. NR.	PAGE <b>1</b>	PAGES <b>1</b>
DATE <b>15 Apr 1966</b>		TOR/TOD		ROUTED BY	CHECKED BY	
MESSAGE NR <b>288</b>	DATE/TIME GROUP (GCT) <b>16 01 01Z</b>		PRECEDENCE	<del>XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX</del>	ROUTINE	<del>XXXXXX</del>
			ACTION		<del>XXXXXX</del>	
			INFO		<del>XXXXXX</del>	

FM: FIRST TANK BN  
TO: "A" CO, FIRST TANK BN

INFO: FIRST MARINES  
SECOND BN, FIFTH MARINES

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A. CG, FIRST MARDIV 140630Z  
B. CG, FIRST MARDIV 080607Z

1. EFFECTIVE 140600H, COMPANY "A", FIRST TANK BN, ASSUMES ADCON/OPCON FIRST PLATOON, COMPANY "C", FIRST TANK BN.

2. THIS CONFIRMS CO, FIRST TANK BN VERBAL ORDER OF 14 APR.

GP-4

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APPENDIX B  
REF (17)

DATE/TIME GROUP (GCT)

16 01 01Z

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1. Reconnaissance (R) Data Reconnaissance Report

2. **MAP CORRECTIONS:** These noted. At BT 597915 map indicates road under Rail-  
road bridge. Map actually crosses bridge to north of the trestle. Also Hill  
marked BT 597914, elevation 15 meters which isn't depicted on map. Numerous  
small concrete obiverte which were noted on overlay are not on map.

3. **TERRAIN:** The terrain covered by this reconnaissance was noted to be pocked  
by numerous small puddles at the present time. However, further to the east and  
west of Highway 400 there was observed even rolling terrain which appeared to  
allow excellent maneuverability for tanks and tracked vehicles. The present  
condition is hot and dry resulting in a low water table. This is also confirmed  
by the cracking of walls which are drying up in this area. Rain has been neg-  
ligible for approximately the last 45 days.

4. **ARMED FORCES:** A popular force unit is located at Vei Ngheun  
at 11 miles.

5. **REQ. STATE TO ASSIST OTHER PATROLS IN ACCOMPLISHING SIMILAR MISSIONS**  
WILL BE MADE TO NAME. Necessary liaison be made with the 1st Son subsector  
Military Advisor Capt. Haver G.I.H.C.

(Signature)

(Rank)

(Name)

(Print)

1st Tank Bn FMTF

(Unit)

NO REPLY

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100-100000-100000

Deposited 1/10/60

Slab Culvert - 1 2/10 miles, From S.P., See enclosure (1)

Check Point # 2 - Concrete Slab steel reinforced, BS 567985  
Bridge is passable to wheeled vehicles. By pass west side of bridge. Good approach to bypass. River has mud and sand bottom. Definite bypass when dry, possible difficult when wet. See Enclosure (1)

Check Point # 3 - BS568978  
Cement Slab Culvert. Bypass impossible. Road south of Ch.P # 3 is good Bituminous road. Truck and wheeled vehicles passable. See enclosure (1)

Check Point # 4 - BS577664  
Steel girder bridge. Covering is approximately one half bench matting. By pass to east side of bridge, passable to wheeled and tracked vehicles. One mile south this position road is blocked. One and two tenths miles south this position is a possible concrete culvert, passable to trucks and tanks.

Check Point # 5 - BS593953  
Consisting of prestressed concrete slab stringer bridge. Passable to wheeled and tracked vehicles. By pass to east side of bridge. Excellent for wheeled and tracked vehicles. Three tenths of a mile south of this position an excellent bituminous road surface is reached. See Enclosure (1)

Check Point # 6 - Song Kha Long - Bridge BS596926  
Reinforced concrete slab cable reinforced, 9 stringer bridge approximately 730'6" long and 24' wide. Passable to all wheeled and tracked vehicles. There are no evident bypasses. See Enclosure (1)

Check Point # 7 - BS602917  
Concrete slab wood covered bridge, total width is 10'6" wide. Actual width due to breakage of concrete is 10'. Passable to trucks and not tanks. Possible location for a bypass is located 500 feet before the bridge but would require engineering support to construct crossing of river approximately 20 feet wide. See Enclosure (1).

Check Point # 8 - BS609904  
Steel girder wood reinforced bridge. Not passable by tracked vehicles. By pass located to east of bridge. However, engineering effort would be required for use by trucks. Party received 7 to 8 rounds sniper fire BS609904 with at last check point observed good rolling country. Six tenths mile south was a concrete abutment which is passable by tracked and wheeled vehicles. One tenth of a mile further a culvert 73'12" wide was observed. It is passable to trucks and wheeled vehicles. However, the west side of the culvert may in the future need to be reinforced. See Enclosure (1).

Enclosure (2)

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There are good assembly points in this area to the east of the road. One and two tent a miles a series of wooden gates were noted. The approximate width is twelve feet. Four tenths of a mile further was a concrete culvert. One tenth of a mile further another wooden gate of approximately the same width as the first. One tenth of a mile further a third wooden gate of the same dimensions as the prior two gates. One tenth of a mile further is the Suoi Loc River Bridge. See enclosure (1).

Check Point # 10 - Suoi Loc Bridge - B3623865

Beach matting weak iron girdered bridge. Capable of supporting at the maximum 15 tons. Passable to wheeled but not tracked vehicles. However, there is a good possibility of developing a fording site approximately 50 meters to the west of the bridge. One tenth of a mile south is a wooden gate approximately 12 feet wide. One tenth of a mile further is a concrete culvert. Five tenths of a mile beyond this point is another gateway of the same dimensions as the prior gates. Two tenths of a mile beyond the gate is located another culvert capable of passing wheeled and tracked vehicles. The next tenth of a mile is a series of wooden gateways twelve feet wide. See enclosure (1).

Check Point # 11 - B3622845 - Nui Vo

From top of out post excellent terrain was observed for tank in all directions. A popular force unit was located in Nui Nghanh Hill Mass B35379. One and four tenths miles is located a series of gateways. On both sides of the roads there are plowed, tilled rice paddies. Five tenths of a mile further south a series of five or six road cuts were noticed. Three tenths of a mile further south excellent bituminous road surface resumed. Three tenths of a mile further south a culvert was observed passable to tracked and wheeled vehicles. Terrain on both sides of the road was rolling and excellent trafficability for tanks. See enclosure (1).

Check Point # 12 - B3633811

The bridge has been destroyed and the north abutment is damaged. Impassable to wheeled and tracked vehicles. There is presently one bypass on the west side of the bridge capable of traversing trucks and limited tracked vehicles. Slight engineer effort in widening it would mostly improve its usage for tanks. On the east side of the bridge there is a ford which has poor approaches to the river but could be used by tracked vehicles in an emergency. The water level is approximately twelve inches deep and has a solid base approximately 6 inches below the sandy bottom. See enclosure (1).

Check point # 13 - B3633801 - Road Junction

The road junction located 633801 runs in a westerly direction, the road base is firm covered with sand, 16 feet wide, and capable of handling wheeled and tracked vehicles. See enclosure (1).

Enclosure (1)

# HASTY BRIDGE RECONNAISSANCE REPORT

MAPS: VIETNAM 1:50,000 SHEETS 6756 I, HUY LOI; 6757 III, TRI BINH

DATE: 14 APRIL 1966

ADDITIONAL BRIDGE INFORMATION  
(OVERALL length, width, bypass information)

## ESSENTIAL BRIDGE INFORMATION

No.	LOCATION	CLEARANCE		No. of SPANS	TYPE OF SPANS	MATERIAL	SPAN LENGTH	STRINGERS NO. MATERIAL	SIZE		CONDITION SPAN	Road width	Bypass	REMARKS
		HORIZ CLEAR	UNDER CLEAR						M	W				
2	567985	∞	—	1	Slab	CONCRETE	36'	4 CONCRETE	2'2"	6"	Good	10'6"	EASY	Good approaches to bypass
3	568978	∞	—	2	REINFORCED CONCRETE	CONCRETE	33'1"	4 CONCRETE	14"	8"	Good	23'	Difficult	
4	577664	∞	—	2	STEEL GIRDER	STEEL	89'6"	15 STEEL	12"	7"	Good	12'5"	EASY	Beach matting covers 1/2 of bridge
5	593933	∞	—	1	STEEL CONCRETE REINFORCED	CONCRETE	82'	5 CONCRETE	36"	36" 6" thick	Good	15'7"	EASY	
6	596926	29'	—	9	STEEL CONCRETE REINFORCED	CONCRETE	730'6"	9 CONCRETE	36"	36" 6" thick	Good	24'	Impossible	There are no bypasses. Excellent bridge construction 1963-64
7	602917	∞	—	—	Slab	CONCRETE	32'7"	2 CONCRETE	12"	6"	Fair	12'6" Actual 10'	Difficult	There are no bypasses
8	09904	∞	—	1	STEEL GIRDER	STEEL	97'6"	2 STEEL	12"	7"	Fair	15'	EASY	Good approaches to ford
10	623868	∞	—	1	STEEL GIRDER	STEEL	109'10"	2 STEEL	12"	7"	Fair	12'5"	Difficult	Possibility of fording 50 meters west of bridge
12	633811	∞	—	1	STEEL GIRDER	STEEL	—	2 STEEL	12"	7"	Poor	—	EASY	Bridge is destroyed and north abutment destroyed

END (2)

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Head Reconnaissance Patrol - Order 328-66  
 DESIGNATION OF PATROL (# of PATROL)

*file*  
 14 Apr 66

To: Commanding Officer, 1st Tank Battalion(..). FMF

Maps: Vietnam, 1:50,000 Sheets 6756I, My Lai; 6757III, Tri Binh Sector L 701

A. SIZE & COMPOSITION OF PATROL Name, Rank & Billet

1. BURNETTE, Maj Patrol Command Party
2. BERTRAM, Capt Co B, Recon Party
3. SALS, 1st Lt Hq Recon Party
4. Rodger, GySgt Security Party

B. TASK (Mission) To conduct a bridge and route reconnaissance of Route #1 from N  
 via Dong Binh Temple 565000 to R. J. at 635802.

C. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 140730H

D. TIME OF RETURN: 141530H

E. ROUTES: (Give Azimuth & Distance):

1. OUT TO OBJECTIVE: Highway One from Dong Binh Temple to R.J. 633001 -  
 Thirteen and seven tenths miles (13 7/10)

2. BACK FROM OBJECTIVE: Highway One - Same as 1

F. ENEMY

S. One V. C. Squad

A. Small arms fire

L. BS618902

U. (Unit) Unknown

T. 141055H

E. Rifles

G. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTER WITH ENEMY: Returned 50 rounds small arms fire and four  
 rounds 105mm called by Capt BRAUN U.S.M.C. Sub-sector military advisor.

H. CONDITION OF PATROL INCLUDING LOCATION OF DEAD AND/OR WOUNDED: No Marine  
 Casualties

I. BEST POSITION TO OBSERVE OBJECTIVE: Not applicable

J. BEST POSITION FROM WHICH TO ATTACK OBJECTIVES: Not applicable

APPENDIX B  
 REF (18)



HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion (-), FMF  
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

1/BEB/beb  
1080

APPENDIX B  
REF (19)

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF (Attn: AC/S G-1)

Subj: Personnel Daily Summary No. 1-66

Ref: (a) DivAdminOrd 301-66

1. In accordance with reference (a) the following personnel data as of 2359 1 APR 66 is submitted:

a. <u>Organization/ Unit</u>	Chargeable Strength				Availability *				Location	Remarks		
	USMC		USN		USMC		USN					
	Off	Enl	Off	Enl	Off	Enl	Off	Enl				
H&S Co, 1stTkBn	22	253	2	8	20	223	2	8	CHULAI	SC		
Co A, 1stTkBn	6	105	0	1	5	100	0	0	CHULAI			
Co B, 1stTkBn	5	117	0	1	5	112	0	1	CHULAI			
TOTAL	33	475	2	10	30	435	2	9				

b. Attachments

NONE

TOTAL ATTACHMENTS

c. Detachments

NONE

TOTAL DETACHMENTS

NONE

d. Additional Information. Required only with report ending 2359 each Thursday.

(1) Arrivals	Date	Strength			
		USMC		USN	
		Off	Enl	Off	Enl

(2) Departures

\* Includes only those personnel physically present for duty. Personnel hospitalized, TAD, UA, on leave, R&R, etc. will not be included.

J. E. LANCASTER  
By direction

HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion (-), FMF  
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

1/BEB/beb  
1080

APPENDIX B  
REF (20)

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF (Attn: AC/S G-1)

Subj: Personnel Daily Summary No. 30-66

Ref: (a) DivAdminOrd 301-66

1. In accordance with reference (a) the following personnel data as of 2359 30 APR 66 is submitted:

a. Organization/ Unit	Chargeable Strength				Availability*				Location	Remarks		
	USMC		USN		USMC		USN					
	Off	Enl	Off	Enl	Off	Enl	Off	Enl				
H&S Co, 1stTkBn	20	278	1	9	20	275	1	9	CHULAI			
Co A, 1stTkBn	7	135	0	2	6	134	0	1	CHULAI			
Co B, 1stTkBn	5	112	0	1	5	112	0	1	CHULAI			
TOTAL	32	525	1	12	31	521	1	11				

b. Attachments

NONE

TOTAL ATTACHMENTS

c. Detachments

NONE

TOTAL DETACHMENTS NONE

d. Additional Information. Required only with report ending 2359 each Thursday.

(1) Arrivals	Date	Strength			
		USMC		USN	
		Off	Enl	Off	Enl

(2) Departures.

\* Includes only those personnel physically present for duty. Personnel hospitalized, TAD, UA, on leave, R&R, etc. will not be included.

J. E. LANCASTER  
By direction

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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion (-), FMF  
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

2/DAT/crj  
5750-6  
5 June 1966  
SERNO: 0029-66

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Division Field  
Historian, G-3)

Subj: Command Chronology; submission of (Report Symbol 1stMarDiv 5750-6)

Ref: (a) DivO 5750.2A

Encl: (1) Command Chronology

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

*A. W. SNELL*  
A. W. SNELL

S & C FILES  
HEADQUARTERS  
1ST MARINE DIVISION, FMF

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1st TANK BATTALION, FMF

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~~SECRET~~COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

5750-6

1. Organizational Data

First Tank Battalion, First Marine Division, FMF, FPO San Francisco, 96602

a. Location(1) H&S Company

(a) 1 May-31 May 66, Chu Lai Combat Base

(2) Company A

(a) 1 May-31 May 66, Chu Lai Combat Base

In direct support of 1st Marines.

(3) Company B

(a) 1 May-31 May 66, Chu Lai Combat Base

In direct support of 7th Marines.

(4) Company C

(a) 1 May-26 May 66, Attached to 5th Marines.

(b) 27 May 66 chopped Adoon/Opoon to 1st Tank Battalion.

(c) 30 May-31 May 66, direct support Chu Lai Defense Command with two (2) tank platoons.

b. Period covered by this report 1 May-31 May 66.

## c. Name/Rank of Commanding Officers and Staff

LtCol Albert W. SNELL	1 May-31 May 66	CO
Maj Lowell R. BURNETTE Jr.	1 May-31 May 66	XO
SgtMaj Horace H. LEE	1 May-31 May 66	BnSgtMaj
2ndLt James E. LANCASTER	1 May-31 May 66	S-1/Adj

1.

Enclosure (1)

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1stLt John H. WARNER	1 May-31 May 66	S-2 Off
Major James G. COLLIER	1 May-31 May 66	S-3 Off
Maj Robert E. B. PALMER	1 May-31 May 66	S-4 Off
Maj Herbert J. L. REID	1 May-31 May 66	BnSupO
Capt Billy L. WHITLEY	1 May-31 May 66	BnMaintO
Capt Edward J. HOYNES	1 May-31 May 66	BnCommO
1stLt Carl R. LUDECKE	1 May-31 May 66	BnMTO
Lt Mark W. HARROLD (MC) USNR	1 May-31 May 66	MedO
1stLt Justin J. DONNELLY	1 May-31 May 66	Legal/CAO
1stLt Thomas W. KELLEY	1 May-31 May 66	Flame Plt Cndr
Maj Herbert J. L. REID	1 May-31 May 66	H&S CoCdr
Capt James D. SPARKS	1 May-31 May 66	Co "A" Cdr
Capt Edward E. STITH	1 May-31 May 66	Co "B" Cdr
Capt Francisco U. SALAS	27 May-31 May 66	Co "C" Cdr

## 2. Commander's Narrative Summary of Events.

On 1 May 1966, this Battalion had a strength of 32 Marine Corps Officers, 523 Marine Corps enlisted, 1 Navy Officer, and 13 Navy enlisted, reference (22). The beginning of the reporting period found the Battalion CP still established on Hill 43 (BT 571041) within the Chu Lai Combat Base.

On 1 May companies "A" and "B" remained in direct support of 1st and 7th Marines respectively. The 1st Platoon, Company "C" remained Opcon/Adcon of Company "A" until 2 May, at which time it was transferred to Company "B", reference (1). On 6 May BLT 1/5 arrived at Chu Lai. At 060800H Opcon/Adcon of 3rd Platoon, Company "C", was chopped to 1st Tank Battalion which in turn assigned the platoon to Company "A", reference (3). On 22 May Company "C" (-), attached to RLT-5 arrived at Chu Lai, reference (4). The company remained under Opcon/Adcon of RLT-5 until 270530H at which time 1st Tank Battalion assumed Opcon/Adcon, reference (19). Company "C" established its CP on Hill 43 in conjunction with the Battalion CP. On 30 May Company "C" regained Opcon/Adcon of its two platoons previously attached to Companies "A" and "B",

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5750-6

reference (20).

On 30 May Company "C" relieved Company "A" of its mission to support the Chu Lai Defense Command; Company "C" tank platoons are presently occupying positions within the Defense Command area of responsibility, reference (20).

At the close of the reporting period the 1st Tank Battalion has Opcon/Adcon of all its organic units with the exception of the 2nd Platoon, Company "C", which is presently with the SLF, reference (21).

On 2 May the 1st Tank Battalion received word of a planning conference to be held at 021500H at the 7th Marines CP for Operation Montgomery. The meeting was attended by the 1st Tank Battalion CO, XO, S-2, S-3, and S-4 and the recommended plan for a mechanized Task Force was submitted. On 3 May the Battalion XO and S-2, and the CO "B" Co went to Binh Son to select an assembly area and coordinate with the ARVN concerning the construction of a suitable bypass at BS 602917, reference (1). On 4 May coordination training was conducted with all elements of the mechanized Task Force; Company "B", 1st Tank Battalion, 4th Platoon, Company "A", 3rd ~~1st~~ Battalion, and Company "H", 2/7, reference (2). On 7 May a Battalion Command Group which included the CO and S-3 displaced to the 7th Marines CP (forward), BS660756, reference (4). On 7 May it began to rain with an excess of two inches falling in two days resulting in the cancellation of the mechanized Task Force portion of Operation Montgomery. On 9 May due to inundation of the operation area, reference (5). The Command Group returned on 10 May to Hill 43, BT 571041, reference (6). On 17 May the 3rd Platoon, Company "A", fired 18 rounds of 90 mm HE as prep fire in support of Operation Striker, reference (10). On 19 May coordination training was conducted by Company "B" with an ARVN Recon Company from the 2nd ARVN Division in preparation for Operation Morgan, reference (11). Company "B" (-)(Rein) moved out at 200800H and found the terrain impassable due to rain and were forced to secure from the operation at 201200H, reference (12).

On 4 May, two tank section in support of 1/7 at BS641978 observed 10 VC at BS645965. The tanks fired 19 rounds of HE and 7 rounds of WP, resulting in 2 VC KIA (CONF) and 8 WIA (PROB), reference (2). On 20 May 2 tanks from 3rd platoon, Company "A", while in support of a C/1/5 patrol, received approximately 60 rounds automatic weapon fire from BT 379143. The tanks returned 7 rounds 90 mm HE resulting in 2 VC KIA (PROB), reference (12). On 23 May 2 tanks from the 1st Platoon, Company "A", which occupied defensive positions within the 1/11 CP (BT 447080) received 4 rifle grenades and an unknown amount of small arms fire. The tanks illuminated the area and returned 30 rounds of 90 mm HE resulting in 2 VC KIA (POSS), reference (15). On 26 May the 3rd Platoon, Company "A" fired 4 rounds of 90 mm HE and 1 round of 90 mm WP from Hill 54 (BT 397146) at 3 VC in the open (BT 382115) resulting in 3 VC KIA (PROB), reference (17).



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55750-6

During the reporting period, the 1st Tank Battalion suffered a total of 4 WIA, 2 of which were evacuated. These occurred on two occasions, both incidents occurring while Company "B" was having personnel transported across the Song Tra Bong by boat to the 1/7 Combat Outpost (BS624991). On 15 May 40 rounds of small arms fire were received, (BS618008), resulting in 3 WIA (1 EVAC), reference (9), and on 21 May 8-10 rounds of small arms fire were received (BS618000) resulting in 1 WIA (EVAC), reference (13).

On four occasions during May the 1st Tank Battalion furnished a provisional rifle platoon to the 7th Marines to support their operations. The platoon was provided to act as convoy security during Operation Montgomery on 10, 12, and 14 May, references (6), (7), and (8). From 251130H until 270900H the platoon occupied positions within the 2/7 TAOR during Operation Mobile, references (16) and (18).

Due to the unusual amount of rain experienced during May (highest recorded for month of May in 34 years) tank operations as such were greatly hindered. However, the planning and coordination training that went into the preparation for operations will be of great value for future operations.

The 1st Tank Battalion once again proved its flexibility in supporting the 1st Marine Division during the reporting period by continuing to occupy indirect firing positions on OP39 (BS574965), by providing provisional infantry units when required, and by continuing to maintain and fulfill its primary mission.

On 31 May 1966 this Battalion had a strength of 34 Marine Corps Officers, 569 Marine Corps enlisted, 1 Navy Officer, and 13 Navy enlisted, reference (23).

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5750-6

### 3. Detailed description of Significant Events

#### a. Civil Affairs

On 1 May the Battalion's Civil Affairs program began in earnest. All necessary liason and much preliminary preparation had previously been completed and on 1 May the Battalion was officially assigned the Hamlet of Tich Tay (General vicinity BT496056). From 2 to 4 May the Battalion's TD-15 completed a road approximately 1.5 miles in length through the Hamlet. Thereby making, for the first time, the Hamlet accessible to wheeled vehicles. Over 100 people of the Hamlet assisted in the construction of the road by clearing the right of way, including the moving of 5 graves.

On 6 and 13 May the Civil Affairs Team showed movies to approximately 500 villagers on Agriculture, World News and America. The films were obtained from the Psy-War Selection of G-5. The reaction to the films was enthusiastic.

On 16 May regular sick call commenced in the Hamlet with over 500 people being treated by the end of the reporting period. On 15 May the people of the Hamlet began construction of a dispensary to facilitate sick call in all types of weather. During some sick calls two Vietnamese girls were given some medical training and assisted the Battalion Medical Team.

On 27 May the Hamlet Chief (following a recommendation from the Battalion Civil Affairs Officer) submitted a bid to build the SNOO Club for the Hill 43 complex. On 28 May he received the contract and will utilize Hamlet Laborers in the construction.

During May the Hamlet received scrap lumber to use as firewood, 26 gallons of paint for the school and dispensary, 20 bags of cement to improve the floor of the school and to improve the Hamlet's wells and 150 lbs of clothes and 400 bars of soap for health and sanitation purposes.

Overall to date the Civil Affairs Program has met with great success. The people are taking a very active part in all area of endeavors and their local government is functioning effectively. The friendship demonstrated by these people and their efforts toward self-improvement are encouraging.

#### b. Fire Support

At the beginning of the reporting period, the 3rd Platoon, Company "B", provided indirect reinforcing fire to 3rd 8" Howitzer Units on OP39. This platoon was relieved on 2 May by 1st Platoon, Company "C".

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5750-6

On 14 May the 1st Platoon, Company "B" relieved the Company "C" platoon and continues to provide indirect reinforcing fires to 3rd 8" Howitzer Units on OP39.

c. Logistics

During the reporting period Company C (-) rejoined the Battalion. Both the formal and informal accounts of two of the platoons were picked up on the Battalion account.

Tanks on 3rd echelon deadline at FLSG-B are remaining on deadline for extended periods of time due to non-receipt of repair parts. Some tanks have been on deadline approaching 60 days due to lack of repair parts.

ENCLOSURE (1)  
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5750-6

## APPENDIX A (List of References)

- (1) 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 2 May 1966
- (2) 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 4 May 1966
- (3) 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 6 May 1966
- (4) 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 7 May 1966
- (5) 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 9 May 1966
- (6) 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 10 May 1966
- (7) 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 12 May 1966
- (8) 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 14 May 1966
- (9) 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 15 May 1966
- (10) 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 17 May 1966
- (11) 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 19 May 1966
- (12) 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 20 May 1966
- (13) 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 21 May 1966
- (14) 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 22 May 1966
- (15) 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 23 May 1966
- (16) 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 25 May 1966
- (17) 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 26 May 1966
- (18) 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 27 May 1966
- (19) 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 28 May 1966
- (20) 1st Tank Battalion SitRep of 30 May 1966
- (21) 1st Tank Battalion OPSTAT 001 as of 011500Z Jun66.
- (22) Personnel Daily Summary No 31-66.
- (23) Personnel Daily Summary No 61-66.

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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion, FMF  
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

2/AAH/crj  
5750-6  
5 July 1966  
REFNO: 0038-66

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division  
(Division Field Historian, G-3)

Subj: Command Chronology: Submission of (Report Symbol, 1st  
Marine Division 5750-6)

Ref: (a) DivO 5750.2A

Encl: (1) Command Chronology

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is hereby sub-  
mitted.

  
L. R. BURNETTE, Jr.

1st TANK BATTALION, FMF

S & C FILE NO. 0038-66

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5750-6

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY1. Organizational Data

First Tank Battalion, First Marine Division, FMF, FPO, San Francisco  
96602

a. Location(1) H&S Company

(a) 1-30 June 1966 Chu Lai Combat Base

(2) Company A

(a) 1-30 June 1966 Chu Lai Combat Base. 01-031200H June, in direct support of 1st Marines; 031201H June - 30 June in direct support of 5th Marines. 18-30 June, 2nd Platoon in direct support of Chu Lai Defense Command.

(3) Company B

(a) 1-30 June 1966, Chu Lai Combat Base. In direct support of 7th Marines. 18-30 June, 1st Platoon in direct support of Chu Lai Defense Command.

(4) Company C

(a) 1-18 June. In direct support of Chu Lai Defense Command, with two (2) tank platoons. 19 June, embarked for Danang aboard LST 1096. Arrived Danang 19 June - ADCON 1st Tcs OPCON 3rd Marine Division. 19-30 June, in direct support of 1st Marines, Danang TAOR. 1-30 June, 2nd Platoon, Company C remains on SLF.

(b) Period covered by this report: 1-30 June 1966

(c) Name/Rank of Commanding Officers and Staff

LtCol A. W. SNELL	1 June-10 June 1966	CO
Maj L. R. BURNETTE, Jr.	1 June-10 June 1966	XO
Maj L. R. BURNETTE, Jr.	11 June-30 June 1966	CO
Maj R. E. B. PALMER	11 June-30 June 1966	XO
SgtMaj H. H. LEE	1 June-30 June 1966	BnSgtMaj
1stLt J. E. LANCASTER	1 June-30 June 1966	S-1/Adj

5750-6

1stLt J. H. WARNER	1 June	S/2
1stLt D. A. TIDWELL	2 June-20 June 1966	S/2
2ndLt A. A. HUBBARD	21 June-30 June 1966	S/2
Maj J. G. COLLIER	1 June-30 June 1966	S/3
Maj R. E. B. PALMER	1 June-10 June 1966	S/4
Maj H. J. L. REID	11 June-30 June 1966	S/4
Maj H. J. L. REID	1 June-30 June 1966	SupplyO
Capt E. J. HOYNES	1 June-30 June 1966	CommO
Lt M. W. HARROLD USNR(MC)	1 June-30 June 1966	MedO
1stLt T. W. KELLY	1 June-8 June 1966	FlamePltCdr
SSgt A. E. WENTS	9 June-29 June 1966	FlamePltCdr
1stLt K. L. TOMCICH	30 June 1966	FlamePltCdr
Capt B. L. WHITLEY	1 June-30 June 1966	MaintO
1stLt C. R. LUDECKE	1 June-5 June 1966	MTO
2ndLt D. S. GIUSTO	6 June-30 June 1966	MTO
1stLt J. J. DONNELLY	1 June-10 June 1966	CAO/LegalO
SSgt H. G. PARROTT	11 June-30 June 1966	CAO/LegalO
Maj H. J. L. REID	1 June-10 June 1966	CO, H&S
Capt E. J. HOYNES	11 June-30 June 1966	CO, H&S
Capt J. D. SPARKS	1 June-2 June 1966	CO, Co A
Capt J. C. GREENE, Jr.	3 June-30 June 1966	CO, Co A
Capt E. E. STEPH	1 June-30 June 1966	CO, Co B
Capt F. U. SALAS	1 June-30 June 1966	CO, Co C

## 2. Commanders Narrative Summary of Events

On 1 June 1966, this Battalion had a strength of 34 Marine Corps Officers, 569 Marine Corps E1-E4, 1 Navy Officer, 13 Navy E1-E4,

5750-6

reference (a).

On 30 June 1966, this Battalion had a strength of 31 Marine Corps Officers, 541 Marine Corps Enlisted, 1 Navy Officer, and 11 Navy Enlisted, reference (b).

The Battalion CP remains on Hill 43 (BT 571041) within the Chu Lai Combat Base.

On 1 June 1966, Companies A and B remained in direct support of 5th and 7th Marines respectively; Company C in direct support of the Chu Lai Defense Command with two (2) tank platoons, reference (c). On 18 June, Company C was replaced at Chu Lai Defense Command by 1st platoon, Company B, and 2nd platoon, Company A, reference (d). Company C embarked aboard LST 1096 and departed for Danang at 190915H, reference (d). ADCOM of Company C remains with 1st Tank Battalion; OPCOM was transferred to 3rd Marine Division, Danang, reference (e). At the close of the reporting period, 1st Tank Battalion has OPCOM/ADCOM of all remaining organic units. 2nd Platoon, Company C is assigned to the SLF, reference (f).

During the reporting period, 1st Tank Battalion suffered six (6) casualties. At 030710H June 1966, an accidental discharge of a 106mm round injured the Tank Commander of G-51, reference (g). At 202200H, 2 Marines in the Provisional Rifle Platoon were wounded by an incoming grenade. They were treated at 1st Recon Aid Station and returned to duty. At 230001H, members of 3rd Platoon, Company A, accompanied a squad of infantry from C/1/5 which established an CP vicinity of (BT 386153). At 231045H, sniper fire was received resulting in one (1) Company A Marine WIA. (Med evac. to 1st Med Bn.), reference (h). At 242300H, Company A positions received 2 mortar rounds resulting in two (2) WIA to Company A personnel (One (1) Med evac; One (1) Non-evac). Rounds were determined to have been fired by 2/11, reference (i).

Tank operations were conducted by Company A and Company B with the 5th Marines and 7th Marines respectively. Company A supported 5th Marines on seven sweeps, the most significant operation being on 17 June, reference (j). (See detailed descriptions). Company B operated with 7th Marine Units in two Search and Destroy Missions.

Trafficability information was obtained by a variety of incidents. On 6 June, Company B tanks and two antiaircraft accompanied I Company, 3/7 on a reconnaissance patrol from OP 39 (BS 574962) to Thanh Tra (BS 53494). Terrain was trafficable - with difficult soft areas at (BS 543952), reference (k). On 9 June, a section of 2nd Platoon, Company B, moved to Hill 49 with Company B, 1/7. The peninsula area (East of the Song Tra Bong), affords armor good ground for movement. On 22 June the Executive Officer and S/3 conducted an aerial reconnaissance of route #1 to the South, and the roadway West from Binh Son to the Tra Bong Special



5750-6

Ferree Camp. Trafficability along the Tra Bong River was poor - due to extensive bridge, culvert, and road destruction, reference (1). On 22 June, Company A assisted in the recovery of a disabled 155SP Gun (BT 292240). The recovery operation disclosed that tanks can operate in the Tam Ky area, reference (1).

On 15 June, 1st Tank Battalion provided a Provisional Rifle Company HQ and rein-forced Rifle Platoon to the Chu Lai Defense Command for duty in sector V, reference (m). On 22 June, Provisional Rifle Platoon released from OPCON CLDC and returned to Battalion GP, reference (1). On 26 June, the Chu Lai Defense Command was again provided with a Provisional Rifle Platoon. As of 30 June, this platoon remains with the Chu Lai Defense Command, reference (n).

1st Tank Battalion was inspected by FSAO 8 June 1966 on their scheduled tour of Republic of Viet-Nam Units. Inspection of the formal account revealed no errors. A wall to wall inventory was conducted during the period 13-17 June. In the process, Mount-Out Stocks consolidated with Operating Stocks. Multiple locations were discovered and corrected. Eleven hundred line items were excessed during the month of June. During the reporting period there has been an increase in torsion bar failure. The rate is over one per day with a ratio of 1.6 right bar to left bar failures. One (1) VTR (Tank Retriever) has been deadlined since 23 April for engine and transmission repair (3rd echelon). Parts for the retriever have been placed on red ball.

### 3. Detailed Description of Significant Events

a. Mines: Units of Company A encountered Anti-Tank mines on four occasions during the reporting period. On 5 June and 27 June, mines were detected at BT 430100 and BT 430099 by engineer teams with the tanks, and were blown in place. On 9 June, A-14 struck a mine at BT 425089; there was negligible damage to the vehicle. On 17 June A-41 struck a large mine believed to have been 75-100 pounds of explosives at BT 409129. This mine caused heavy damage to the tank's right suspension system, but no serious injuries to crewman or infantry. It is expected that there will be increased use of mines by the VC forces.

b. Rapid Reaction Operations: On 17 June 1966, Company A participated in an operation which was characterized by rapid reaction to timely intelligence. Tanks were utilized extensively, both in blocking positions and in sweeping elements. Normally the VC will avoid contact with tanks, but since the tanks converged on them from three directions along straight and rapid routes, they could not. The VC left the West side of the village as the tanks and infantry, sweeping, entered from the East. Simultaneously the blocking tanks to the South moved into position and took the VC under fire. Had these tanks arrived earlier, the VC might have seen or heard them and attempted to hide or leave by another route. The same operation has been conducted several other times with negative results. Two factors in the

5750-6

17 June operation which contributed to success were good intelligence and rapid reaction.

c. Mass Employment of Flame Tanks: Flames are effective in uncovering caves and traps and have a severe shock action when employed against enemy positions. The Flame Platoon was committed on 29 June with Company A Gun Tanks in support of 2/5. The tank flamethrowers set off numerous secondary explosions. This use of flames in platoon strength was demonstrated to be effective by extending the burning time on a given area, and should be considered in future large scale Search and Destroy Missions.

d. Civil Affairs: On 3 June, 1st Tank Battalion presented the villages of Tich Tay a shower unit constructed by the maintenance platoon. The unit is located near the Dispensary, and will aid the MedCap section in their work.

On 13 June, 20 lbs. of children<sup>CLOTHING</sup> and 15 lbs. of adult clothing were distributed to the villagers of Tich Tay. On the 21st, 150 lbs. of clothes were given to the chief of the local PF for distribution.

(13) During the reporting period the Civil Affairs Team has continued their program in the villages of Tich Tay II and III. Significant achievements have been the completion of a dispensary and the instigation of English language classes for students in the surrounding area.

The dispensary, which is a permanent type structure, was completed on 29 June and operations began the following day. It is noteworthy, that the entire structure was erected by the villagers, using scrap materials provided by the 1st Tank Bn. Immediately a vast improvement in the efficiency and orderliness of daily sickcall was noticed. With the new dispensary one patient is seen at a time, his problem diagnosed, and treatment is accomplished without the usual interruption that previously existed. In addition, the locked building provides a secure place to store bulky and expendable items, not to include medications. With the dispensary complete, it is planned to embark on a village immunization program for cholera, plague, typhus, typhoid, tetanus, and smallpox. Daily sickcall continues to average 40-45 patients per day.

Throughout the last two weeks in June, members of the Civil Affairs Team have met with some teenaged students twice weekly to aid them in written and conversational English. The classes, which are held in the schoolhouse, run two hours and deal primarily with pronunciation and sentence structure. The initial attendance was fourteen, but now has increased to twenty-six. The students come on a voluntary basis and include many from neighboring villages.

The village operates a laundry service for the battalion. The laundry is collected daily at a central point by persons designated by

5750-6

the village chief. The laundry is then distributed to the families. When completed the laundry is returned to the central point and the families are paid. A ten per cent tax is collected by the village chief. Their money will be distributed to the poorer families to enable their children to go to school on a full time basis. Currently, only forty percent of the student participate as full time students. Complete records of all transactions are kept by the village chief.

5750-6

## APPENDIX A (List of References)

- (a) 1st Tank Bn Personnel Daily Summary No. 62-66
- (b) 1st Tank Bn Personnel Daily Summary No. 91-66
- (c) 1st Tank Bn SITREP of 30 May 1966
- (d) 1st Tank Bn SITREP of 18 June 1966
- (e) 1st Tank Bn Msg to CG, 1stMarDiv 210200Z June 1966
- (f) 1st Tank Bn OPSTAT 001 as of 011500Z June 1966
- (g) 1st Tank Bn SITREP of 3 June 1966
- (h) 1st Tank Bn SITREP of 23 June 1966
- (i) 1st Tank Bn SITREP of 25 June 1966
- (j) 1st Tank Bn SITREP of 17 June 1966
- (k) 1st Tank Bn SITREP of 6 June 1966
- (l) 1st Tank Bn SITREP of 22 June 1966
- (m) 1st Tank Bn SITREP of 15 June 1966
- (n) 1st Tank Bn SITREP of 26 June 1966

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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion, FMF  
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

2/AAH/crj  
5750-6  
5 August 1966  
SERNO: 0040-66

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division  
(Division Field Historian, G-3)

Subj: Command Chronology: Submission of (Report Symbol, 1st Marine  
Division 5750-6)

Ref: (a) DivO 5750-2A

Encl: (1) Command Chronology

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

*R. E. B. Palmer*  
R. E. B. PALMER

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HEADQUARTERS  
1ST MARINE DIVISION, FMF  
662048  
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1st TANK BATTALION, FMF

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.  
DOD DIR 8200.10

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Command Chronology1. Organizational Data

First Tank Battalion, First Marine Division, FMF, FPO, San Francisco 96602

## a. Location

## (1) H&amp;S Company

(a) 1-31 July 1966, Chu Lai Combat Base.

## (2) Company A

(a) 1-31 July 1966, Chu Lai Combat Base in direct support of 5th Marines with two gun platoons. 1-14 July, 2nd Platoon in direct support of the Chu Lai Defense Command; 15-31 July, 3rd Platoon in direct support of the Chu Lai Defense Command.

## (3) Company B

(a) 1-31 July 1966, Chu Lai Combat Base in direct support of 7th Marines. 1-31 July, 1st Platoon in direct support of the Chu Lai Defense Command.

## (4) Company C

(a) 1-31 July 1966; Danang TAOR in direct support of 1st Marines. ADCON, 1st Tank Battalion, OPCON 3rd Marine Division. 1-31 July, 2nd Platoon remains with the SLF.

## b. Period covered by report 1 July - 31 July 1966.

## c. Name/Rank of Commanding Officer and Staff.

Maj L. R. BURNETTE, JR.	1 July-11 July 1966	CO
Maj R. E. B. PALMER	1 July-11 July 1966	XO
Maj R. E. B. PALMER	12 July-31 July 1966	CO
Maj J. W. CLAYBORNE	12 July-31 July 1966	XO
SgtMaj H. H. LEE	1 July-31 July 1966	BnSgtMaj
1stLt J. E. LANCASTER	1 July-31 July 1966	S-1/Adj
WO-1 C. C. CARL, JR.	6 July-31 July 1966	PersO
2ndLt A. A. HUBBARD	1 July-31 July 1966	S-2
Maj J. C. COLLIER	1 July-3 July 1966	S-3

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Maj R. D. MCKEE	4 July-31 July 1966	S-3
Maj H. J. L. REID	1 July-31 July 1966	S-4
Maj H. J. L. REID	1 July-31 July 1966	SupplyO
Capt E. J. HOYNES	1 July-31 July 1966	CommO
Lt M. W. HARROLD USNR(MC)	1 July-31 July 1966	MedO
1stLt K. L. TOMCICH	1 July-31 July 1966	FlamePltOdr
Capt B. L. WHITLEY	1 July-2 July 1966	MaintO
CWO-4 C. C. WAUGH	3 July-14 July 1966	MaintO
2ndLt H. G. PARROTT	15 July-31 July 1966	MaintO
2ndLt D. S. GIUSTO	1 July-31 July 1966	MFO
SSgt H. G. PARROTT	1 July-5 July 1966	LegalO
WO-1 C. C. CARL, JR.	6 July-31 July 1966	LegalO
SSgt H. G. PARROTT	1 July- 15 July 1966	CAO
2ndLt A. A. HUBBARD	16 July-31 July 1966	CAO
Capt E. J. HOYNES	1 July-27 July 1966	CO, H&S Co
Maj J. P. MCGILL	28 July-31 July 1966	CO, H&S Co
Capt J. C. GREENE, JR.	1 July-31 July 1966	CO, A Co
Capt E. E. STITH	1 July-31 July 1966	CO, B Co
Capt F. U. SALAS	1 July-31 July 1966	CO, C Co

## 2. Commander's Narrative Summary of Events

On 1 July 1966, this Battalion had a strength of 31 Marine Corps Officers, 544 Marine Corps Enlisted, 1 Navy Officer and 11 Navy Enlisted (reference (a)).

On 31 July 1966, this Battalion had a strength of 34 Marine Corps Officers, 551 Marine Corps Enlisted, 1 Navy Officer and 12 Navy Enlisted (reference (b)).

The Battalion CP remains on Hill 43 (BT 571041) within the Chu Lai Combat Base.

ENCLOSURE (1)  
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During the reporting period, Companies A and B remained in direct support of the 5th and 7th Marines respectively; 2nd Platoon, Company A supported the Chu Lai Defense Command during 1-14 July; 3rd Platoon, Company B supported the Chu Lai Defense Command during the entire period (reference (d)). Company C, with two gun platoons, remains with 3rd Marine Division, Danang, TAOR (reference (e)), and the 2nd Platoon with the SLF (reference (f)).

Company A and B conducted operations with the 5th Marines and 7th Marines respectively. The primary effort of Company A was reconnaissance from BT 425090 to BT 375060 in an attempt to open a tank route to the Phuoc Khach area (BT 375055). On 25 July a tank-ontos-infantry patrol proceeded along the road from Tien Xuan (1) (BT 408090) to Phuoc Khach. Tanks were able to proceed as far as BT 3878 but were halted due to the narrow road; ontos and infantry proceeded to the high ground overlooking Phuoc Khach (BT 37662). With minimal engineer effort (blade tank), it should be possible to move tanks to Phuoc Khach.

Company B operations consisted primarily of tank-infantry sweeps by the 2nd Platoon in support D/1/7 on the peninsula area South of the Song Tra Bong. 2nd Platoon, with elements of Company Headquarters and Battalion Headquarters tanks, participated in Operation Franklin from 26 through 28 July. The tanks supported D/1/7 in blocking positions to the North while the 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines swept from Route #1 South of Binh Son to the sea at the Batangan Peninsula (BS 7686) (reference (h)).

During the month of July, two tanks were damaged by mines. Both incidents occurred while supporting D/1/7 sweeps. On 18 July, a flame tank with 2nd Platoon, Company B in support of D/1/7 struck a mine near BS 673939, incurring extensive damage to the left front suspension (Reference (i)). On 26 July a tank of 2nd Platoon, Company B, participating in Operation Franklin, detonated a mine near BS 674960, incurring extensive damage to the left track and suspension system (reference (h)). No Marine were injured in either incident.

A Provisional Rifle Platoon which had reported to the Chu Lai Defense Command on 26 June was returned to OPOON of the 1st Tank Bn on 041600H July (reference (j)). On 24 July, H&S Company provided the Chu Lai Defense Command with a Provisional Rifle Platoon and Company Headquarters (reference (k)). As of 31 July, the Provisional Rifle Platoon and Company Headquarters remain with the Chu Lai Defense Command.

1st Tank Battalion Supply was inspected by a team from F&AO on 28, 29, and 30 July for pyramiding of obligations. One hundred-nineteen (119) documents were checked; eighteen errors were found and corrected. Inspection results were considered to be satisfactory. During the month of July, three hundred (300) line items of supply were turned in to F&A-2 as excess. A Command Supply Inspection of H&S Company, Company A, and Company B was conducted during the month of July. Minor discrepancies were corrected; overall results were good.

ENCLOSURE (1)  
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### 3. Detailed Description of Significant Events

a. Mines. On 2 July, 3rd Platoon of Company A, operating with infantry and engineers, detected an AT mine in an old tank track near BT 425107. Engineers believed the mine to be of Russian shape-charge design, with an antenna type fuse. The AT mine was booby trapped with a "Bouncing Betty" AP mine. Engineers destroyed both mines in place. This is the first known incident of VC use of manufactured AT mines. The two mines which damaged tanks in the D/1/7 peninsula area are believed to have been locally fabricated from explosives and dud 105 - 155 projectiles. The mine struck on 18 July, vicinity BS 673969, was a pressure detonated type. A piece of solid wire, filed to a sharp point, and metal scraps found in the crater indicate that that VC may have used a bamboo crush-type electrical contact fuse to detonate the mine. The mine struck on 26 July is believed to have been several 105 - 155 projectiles, detonated by a point detonating fuse which was used as the activator. All AT mines encountered have been placed along routes previously used by tanks, and in areas where traffic is necessarily canalized by terrain features.

b. Civil Affairs. During the month of July, 650 bars of soap, 30 pounds of clothing and 200 boxes of bubble bath were donated to the Citizens of Tich Tay. 15 bags of cement were provided so that the villagers can repair damaged and decayed walls. The dispensary, completed in June, was formally dedicated on 19 July; and at that ceremony, the District Chief announced that he would request that the building be incorporated into the governmental program, and that the Vietnamese nurse be provided medicine and paid a salary by the RVN Government.

On 30 July, school was opened for enrollment, and preparations were made for classes to begin on 1 August. The Civil Affairs Team is working with the teacher and village elders to see that all necessary supplies are provided, and that no children are prevented from attending school because they lack the money to pay tuition.

Counterintelligence informed the Civil Affairs Team that two youths from Tich Tay may be involved in passing military information to the VC. The team is aware of parties involved, and is attempting to discover additional information as to the activities of these people. The team works directly with Counterintelligence and G-2 in matters involving VC activity within the village.

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## APPENDIX A (List of References)

- (a) 1st Tank Bn Personnel Daily Summary No. 92-66
- (b) 1st Tank Bn Personnel Daily Summary No. 122-66
- (c) 1st Tank Bn SITREP of 14 July 1966
- (d) 1st Tank Bn SITREP of 18 June 1966
- (e) 1st Tank Bn Msg to CG 1stMarDiv 210200 1 June 1966
- (f) 1st Tank Bn OPSTAT 001 as of 011500H June 1966
- (g) 1st Tank Bn SITREP of 25 July 1966
- (h) 1st Tank Bn SITREP of 26 July 1966
- (i) 1st Tank Bn SITREP of 18 July 1966
- (j) 1st Tank Bn SITREP of 4 July 1966
- (k) 1st Tank Bn SITREP of 24 July 1966

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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion, FMF  
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

2/AH/crj  
5750  
5 September 1966  
SERNO:

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Division Field Historian, G-3)  
Subj: Command Chronology; submission of (Report Symbol, 1st Marine Division  
5750-6)  
Ref: (a) DivO 5750.2A  
Encl: (1) Command Chronology

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

*J. W. GLAYBORNE*  
J. W. GLAYBORNE

1st TANK BATTALION, FMF

C FILE NO. 45-66

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TAB (9)

TO 1st MARINE DIV

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SECRETCommand Chronology1. Organizational Data

1st Tank Battalion, 1st Marine Division, FMF, FPO, San Francisco, 96602.

## a. Location

## (1) H&amp;S Company

(a) 1-31 August 1966 Chu Lai Combat Base

## (2) Company A

(a) 1-31 August 1966, Chu Lai Combat Base in direct support of 5th Marines. 1-2 August 1966, 3rd Platoon in direct support of the Chu Lai Defense Command.

## (3) Company B

(a) 1-31 August 1966, Chu Lai Combat Base in direct support of 7th Marines. 1-31 August 1966, 2nd Platoon in direct support of the Chu Lai Defense Command.

## (4) Company C

(a) 1-31 August 1966, Da Nang TAOR in direct support of 1st Marines. ADCON, 1st Tank Battalion, OPCON 3rd Marine Division. 2nd Platoon returned from the SLF and replaced 3rd Platoon, Company A at the Chu Lai Defense Command on 3 August 1966. 3-31 August 1966, 2nd Platoon in direct support of the Chu Lai Defense Command.

## b. Periods covered by report: 1 August - 31 August 1966

## c. Name/Rank of Commanding Officer and Staff

Maj R. E. B. PALMER	1 - 31 August 1966	CO
Maj J. W. CLAYBORNE	1 - 31 August 1966	XO
1stLt J. E. LANCASTER	1 - 31 August 1966	S-1/AAJ
WO-1 C. C. CARL, JR.	1 - 31 August 1966	PersO
2ndLt A. A. HUBBARD	1 - 31 August 1966	S-2
Maj R. D. MCKEE	1 - 31 August 1966	S-3
Maj H. J. L. REID	1 - 31 August 1966	S-4
Maj H. J. L. REID	1 - 31 August 1966	SupplyO

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Capt E. J. HOYNES	1 - 31 August 1966	CommO
Lt M. W. HARROLD MC, USNR	1 - 8 August 1966	MedO
Lt D. A. LAWRENCE MC, USNR	9 - 31 August 1966	MedO
1stLt K. L. TOMCICH	1 - 22 August 1966	FlamePltCdr
2ndLt D. R. BENNETT	23 - 31 August 1966	FlamePltCdr
2ndLt H. G. PARROTT	1 - 31 August 1966	MaintO
2ndLt D. S. GUISTO	1 - 31 August 1966	MFO
WO-1 C. C. CARL, JR.	1 - 31 August 1966	LegalO
2ndLt A. A. HUBBARD	1 - 31 August 1966	CAO
Maj J. P. MCGILL	1 - 31 August 1966	CO, H&S Co
Capt J. C. GREENE, JR.	1 - 31 August 1966	CO, Co A
Capt E. E. STITH	1 - 31 August 1966	CO, Co B
Capt F. U. SALAS	1 - 31 August 1966	CO, Co C

## 2. Commanders Narrative Summary of Events

On 1 August 1966, this battalion's strength <sup>42</sup> was 34 Marine Corps Officers, 549 Marine Corps Enlisted, 1 Navy Officer, and 11 Navy Enlisted, (reference (a)).

On 31 August 1966, this battalion's strength was 32 Marine Corps Officers, 522 Marine Corps Enlisted, 1 Navy Officer, and 12 Navy Enlisted, (reference (b)).

The Battalion CP remains on Hill 43 (BT 57104) within the Chu Lai Combat Base.

During the reporting period, Companies A and B remained in direct support of the 5th and 7th Marines respectively, (reference (c)). On 1 August 1966, 2nd Platoon, Company B, and 3rd Platoon, Company A continued to support the Chu Lai Defense Command. On 3 August 1966, 2nd Platoon, Company C, returned from the SLF, replaced 3rd Platoon, Company A at the Chu Lai Defense Command (reference (d)). Company C, with two gun platoons, remains with 3rd Marine Division, Da Nang TAOR (reference (e)). A provisional rifle platoon and company headquarters, provided to the Chu Lai Defense Command on 24 July 1966, remain with the Chu Lai Defense Command as of 31 August 1966, (reference (f)).

Company A supported the 5th Marines during the reporting period and, reinforced by the Battalion Flame Platoon and other headquarters elements, participated in Operation Colorado from 7 August ~~to~~ 21 August 1966. On

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that operation tanks were used for CP security, (reference (g)). Company B supported the 7th Marines with two gun platoons. 1st Platoon supported 1st Battalion operations on the peninsula area South of the Song Tra Bong; 3rd Platoon supported 3rd Battalion positions west of Route #1. Company B Headquarters and 3rd Platoon, with 3rd Platoon, Company A, Battalion Flame Platoon, and the Battalion Headquarters Tank Section attached, participated in Operation Jackson from 27 to 29 August 1966, (reference (h)).

During the month of August, 1st Tank Battalion suffered fourteen casualties; thirteen WIA, one KIA (reference (i)). On 22 August 1966, an M54 truck with an M107 trailer returning from a resupply run to 3rd Platoon tanks on Tien Dao Hill detonated a mine vicinity BS 588935. The truck was destroyed, two Marines WIA, one KIA, (reference (j)).

On 26 August 1966, at a 1st Tank Battalion Awards Ceremony, Brigadier General STILES presented the Navy Commendation Medal with combat V to Staff Sergeant UNRUH and Purple Heart Medals to Staff Sergeant SABLE, Corporal BURSHELL, Lance Corporal HALL, Lance Corporal SILVER, Lance Corporal VANLIEU, Lance Corporal WASNEWSKI, Private first class CURRIE.

### 3. Detailed Description of Significant Events

a. Civic Affairs. School opened the first week of August with 60 students in regular attendance. The Civil Affairs Team works with the teacher to see that necessary school supplies and equipment are provided. Aid to the school has included paint, writing materials and lumber.

The MEDCAP Team is attempting to supervise rather than conduct sick call at the dispensary so that the two nurses will become proficient to operate independently.

On 7 August and 14 August the Civic Action Team showed motion picture films in the village. The films shown on 7 August were Vietnamese and covered personal hygiene, world information, agricultural developments, and a feature movie of a young man's escape from VC tyranny. The program on the 14th was a Jerry Lewis film followed by 80 slides of Tich Tay Village taken by members of the Civic Action Team. The motion picture media seems to be an excellent means of communication with the villagers and a valuable aid in the support of revolutionary development.

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## APPENDIX A (List of references)

- (a) 1st Tank Bn Personnel Daily Summary/23-66
- (b) 1st Tank Bn Personnel Daily Summary 153-66
- (c) 1st Tank Bn SITREP 126 for 1 August 1966
- (d) 1st Tank Bn SITREP 128 for 3 August 1966
- (e) 1st Tank Bn Msg to CG 1stMarDiv 210200H June 1966
- (f) 1st Tank Bn SITREP of 24 July 1966
- (g) Co A 1st Tank Bn After Action Report 002-66
- (h) 1st Tank Bn SITREP 152 of 28 August 1966
- (i) 1st Tank Bn Report of Casualties File
- (j) 1st Tank Bn SITREP for 22 August 1966

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**SECRET**

HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion, FMF  
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

2/AAH/mrh  
5750  
5 October 1966  
SERNO:

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Division Field Historian, G-3)  
Subj: Command Chronology; submission of (Report Symbol, 1st Marine Division  
5750-6)  
Ref: (a) DivO 5750.2A  
Encl: (1) Command Chronology

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

*J. W. Clayborne*  
J. W. CLAYBORNE

1st TANK BATTALION, FMF

0046-66

1 OF 9 COPIES

Tab (9) to Appendix (A) to Enclosure (1)  
to 1st Mar Div ltr Ser: 00245-66

**DECLASSIFIED**

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**SECRET**Command Chronology1. Organizational Data

1st Tank Battalion, 1st Marine Division, FMF, FPO, San Francisco, 96602.

a. Location

## (1) H&amp;S Company

(a) 1-30 September 1966, Chu Lai Combat Base

## (2) Company A

(a) 1-30 September 1966, Chu Lai Combat Base in direct support of 5th Marines. 19-30 September 1966, 1st Platoon in direct support of the Chu Lai Defense Command.

## (3) Company B

(a) 1-30 September 1966, Chu Lai Combat Base in direct support of 7th Marines. 1-5 September 1966, 2nd Platoon in direct support of the Chu Lai Defense Command. 6-30 September 1966, 3rd Platoon in direct support of the Chu Lai Defense Command.

## (4) Company C

(a) 1-30 September 1966, Da Nang TAOR in direct support of 1st Marines. ADCON 1st Tank Battalion, OPCON 3rd Marine Division. 1-18 September 1966, 2nd Platoon in direct support of the Chu Lai Defense Command.

b. Period covered by reports: 1 September-30 September 1966.c. Name/Rank of Commanding Officer and Staff

Maj R. E. B. PALMER	1 September 1966	CO
Maj J. W. CLAYBORNE	2 - 30 September 1966	CO
Maj J. W. CLAYBORNE	1 September 1966	XO
Maj R. D. MCKEE	2 - 30 September 1966	XO
WO-1 C. C. CARL JR.	1 - 30 September 1966	S-1/Adj
WO-1 C. C. CARL JR.	1 - 30 September 1966	PersO
2ndLt A. A. HUBBARD	1 - 30 September 1966	S-2
Maj R. D. MCKEE	1 September 1966	S-3

**UNCLASSIFIED**

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Capt R. G. McPHERSON	2 - 30 September 1966	S-3
Maj T.M. BYRANT	1 - 28 September 1966	S-4
Capt G. E. HOOKER	29 - 30 September 1966	S-4
Capt G. E. HOOKER	1 - 30 September 1966	SupplyO
2dLt I. R. SABLE	1 - 23 September 1966	CommO
Capt G. R. HICKS	24 - 30 September 1966	CommO
Lt. D. A. LAWRENCE MC, USNR	1 - 30 September 1966	MedO
2ndLt D. R. BENNETT	1 - 30 September 1966	FlamePltOdr
2ndLt H. G. PARROTT	1 - 30 September 1966	MaintO
2ndLt D. S. GUISTO	1 - 30 September 1966	MTO
WO-1 C. C. CARL JR.	1 - 30 September 1966	LegalO
2ndLt A. A. HUBBARD	1 - 30 September 1966	CAO
Maj J. P. MCGILL	1 - 30 September 1966	CO, H&S Co
Capt J. C. GREENE JR.	1 - 15 September 1966	CO, Co A
Capt C. R. BRABEC	16 - 30 September 1966	CO, Co A
Capt E. E. STITH	1 - 2 September 1966	CO, Co B
Capt L. E. CHERICO	3 - 30 September 1966	CO, Co B
Capt F. U. SALAS	1 - 30 September 1966	CO, Co C

## 2. Commanders Narrative Summary of Events

On 1 September 1966 this Battalion's strength was 32 Marine Corps Officers, 569 Marine Corps Enlisted, 1 Navy Officer, and 13 Navy Enlisted, (reference (a)).

On 30 September 1966, this Battalion's strength was 27 Marine Corps Officers, 481 Marine Corps Enlisted, 1 Navy Officer, and 13 Navy Enlisted, (reference (b)).

During the month of September the Battalion joined 5 Marine Corps Officers and 83 Marine Corps Enlisted, and dropped 12 Marine Corps Officers and 172 Marine Corps enlisted.

A breakdown of critical shortages is as follows: 1802-4 Lts., 0121-1Sgt., 0141-3Sgts, 0441-1QySgt, 1141-1Sgt, 1811-11Sgts, 2025-1WO, 2002-1Capt, 2151-3Opl's and 2Sgt's, 2311-1SSgt, 2531/33-8, 3531-12Opls, 3371-7. The above listed shortages are the most critical, and affect the Battalion's ability to perform its mission.

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R&R trips, organized beach parties, and excellent mail service continue to be major factors in maintaining high morale.

The Battalion CP remains on Hill 43 (BT 515042) within the Chu Lai Combat Base.

During the reporting period, Companies A and B remained in direct support of the 5th and 7th Marines respectively, (reference (o) ). On 1 September 1966, 2nd Platoon Company B, and 2nd Platoon Company C continued to support the Chu Lai Defense Command. On 5 September 1966, 3rd Platoon Company B replaced 2nd Platoon Company B in direct support of the Chu Lai Defense Command (reference (d) ). On 18 September 1966, 1st Platoon Company A replace 2nd Platoon Company C in direct support of the Chu Lai Defense Command (reference (e) ). Company C, with two gun platoons, remains with 3rd Marine Division, Da Nang TAOR (reference (f) ). On 1 September 1966 a provisional rifle platoon and company headquarters provided to the Chu Lai Defense Command on 29 July 1966, remained with the Chu Lai Defense Command, (reference (o) ). On 7 September the provisional company headquarters was returned to 1st Tank Battalion (reference (g) ). On 29 September 1966, the provisional rifle platoon was returned to 1st Tank Bn from the Chu Lai Defense Command (reference (h) ).

During the month of September, 1st Tank Battalion suffered four non battle casualties. On 16 September a Marine from H&S company with the provisional rifle platoon was killed by the accidental discharge of an M-14 rifle of another Marine. On 19 September, in the Company B maintenance area, the accidental detonation of a WP grenade wounded three Company B Marines; One of those wounded died on 24 September.

### 3. Detailed Description of Significant Events

a. Mines. On 7 September, a tank/LVT resupply convoy moving to BT 452038 was halted when an LVT detonated a mine at BT 454054. A tank of 2nd Platoon Company A, leading the column, had already passed over the same spot where the LVT activated the mine. Fragments and other scrap indicated that the mine was composed of several large artillery projectiles, and activated by a pressure/electrical type detonation assembly. The LVT was completely destroyed by the initial explosion and the ensuing fire from the vehicle's ruptured fuel cells. This mine was similar to others encountered in past months in the Chu Lai area.

b. Civil Affairs. During the month of September, the people of Tich Tay (2) Completed one well, and installed  $\frac{1}{2}$  basketball court at the school; the people of Tich Tay (6) constructed one large well, which was formally dedicated by the village chief and hamlet chief in a ceremony recorded on film by the Civil Affairs Office. The people of Tich Tay (3) made some progress on the improvement of the road between their hamlet and Tich Tay (2) by constructing three road culverts from materials provided by the Civil Affairs Team. The children at Tich Tay School were given school kit refills (CARE) and "Tee" shirts from 1st Marine Division G-5 Supplies. MEDCAP treated 131 people at regular sick call, and the nurse in training is taking a more active role in the treatment of patients.

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On 29 September, on request of the Village Chief, the Civil Affairs Team added to the Village program celebrating the Mid Autumn Festival for children. With much support from various 1st Tank Battalion Sections, the Civil Affairs Team put up a supply tent in the party area; provided a loudspeaker system, a guitar and drum combo, a color movie, hot dogs and french bread, cookies, and doughnuts, and from G-5, toys for the children. About 275 school children and about 150 other children were treated at the festival. The village chief indicated that this was the best festival the people have ever celebrated.

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DECLASSIFIED

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## APPENDIX A ( List of references)

- (a) 1st Tank Battalion Personnel Daily Summary 154-66
- (b) 1st Tank Battalion Personnel Daily Summary 183-66
- (c) 1st Tank Bn SITREP 156 for 1 September 1966
- (d) 1st Tank Bn SITREP 160 for 5 September 1966
- (e) 1st Tank Bn SITREP 173 for 18 September 1966
- (f) 1st Tank Bn MSg to CG 1st MARDIV 210200H June 1966
- (g) 1st Tank Bn SITREP 162 for 7 September 1966
- (h) 1st Tank Bn SITREP 184 for 29 September 1966

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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion, FMF  
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

2/JHC/orj  
5750  
3 November 1966  
SERNO: 0048-66  
10F8

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF  
(Attn: G-3)  
Subj: Command Chronology for October 1966 (Report Symbol, 1st Marine  
Division 5750)

Ref: (a) DivO 5750.1

Encl: (1) Organizational Data  
(2) Personnel and Administration  
(3) Intelligence  
(4) Tank Combat Operations  
(5) Special Operations  
(6) Training  
(7) Command and Control  
(8) Communications-Electronics  
(9) Civil Affairs

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (9) are submitted.
2. Downgraded to unclassified upon removal of enclosures (1) through (9).

*J. W. CLAYBORN*  
J. W. CLAYBORN

Tab (10) to [redacted] (1)  
to 1st Marine Div 0048-66.  
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Organizational Data

Designation: 1st Tank Battalion, FMF, 1st Marine Division  
 Location: AT 998722

Headquarters, 1st Tank Battalion	Danang	AT 998722
H&S Company, 1st Tank Battalion	Danang	AT 998722
Company A, 1st Tank Battalion	Thu Lai	BT 515040
Company B, 1st Tank Battalion	Danang	AT 945763
Company C, 1st Tank Battalion	Danang	BT 066715

Period covered by report: 1-31 October 1966  
 Commanding Officer: Lieutenant Colonel J. W. CLAYBORNE

Subordinate Commanders:

H&S Company, 1st Tank Battalion	Major J. P. MCGILL
Company A, 1st Tank Battalion	Captain C. R. BRABCO
Company B, 1st Tank Battalion	Captain L. E. CHERICO
Company C, 1st Tank Battalion	Captain F. U. SALAS
	(1-2 October 1966)
	1stLt C. E. BARNETT
	(3-31 October 1966)

Principal Staff Officers:

Battalion Executive Officer	Major R. D. MCKEE
Battalion Adjutant S-1/Legal Officer	WO-1 C. C. CARL, JR.
Battalion S-2	2ndLt A. A. HUBBARD
	(1-3 October 1966)
	Captain J. H. COWMAN
	(4-31 October 1966)
Battalion S-3	Captain R. G. MCPHERSON
	(1-3 October 1966)
	Captain F. U. SALAS
	(4-31 October 1966)
Battalion S-4	Major T. M. BRYANT
	(1-10 October 1966)
	Captain G. E. HOOKER, JR.
	(10-31 October 1966)

Average Monthly Strength:

Marine Officers	29
Marine Enlisted	502
Navy Officers	1
Navy Enlisted	11

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Personnel Administration

This Battalion is currently in Personnel Category C-2 with a chargeable strength of 28 Marine Officers, 515 Marine Enlisted, 1 Navy Officer and 11 Navy Enlisted as compared to an authorized manning level of 36 Marine Officers, 598 Marine Enlisted, 1 Navy Officer and 14 Navy Enlisted.

During the month of October the Battalion joined 2 Marine Officers and 63 Marine Enlisted and dropped 1 Marine Officer and 32 Marine Enlisted.

The following MOS's are considered critical:

<u>MOS</u>	<u>M/L</u>	<u>ON BOARD</u>
3510	1	0
2151	7	3
2543	3	1
2861	1	0

Company "A" (Rein) 1st Tank Battalion, is within the Chu Lai TAOR. This company has a strength of 5 Marine Officers, 113 Marine Enlisted and 2 Navy Enlisted. 1st Tank Battalion retains administrative control of Company "A".

One breach of discipline occurred during the month resulting in a Special Court Martial.

Morale continues to remain excellent. Temporary Additional Duty in connection with R&R and beach parties are the major factors in maintaining morale.

During the month of October this Battalion had 1 Marine Officer and 4 Marine Enlisted medically evacuated for non-battle reasons. This Battalion had no battle casualties.

During the month of October, this Battalion reenlisted one 1st Term Marine and three Career Marines. Three Marines extended their enlistment for six months.

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**UNCLASSIFIED**

Intelligence

On 030915, the Commanding Officer, 1st Tank Battalion, conducted an aerial reconnaissance of the area to be traversed during "Operation Lee." Personal liaison with Headquarters, 2nd ROKMO Brigade was established at this time.

On 061600, the Commanding Officer, 1st Tank Battalion and the S-3 Officer conducted an aerial reconnaissance of the coastal area from BT 4417 to BT 4220.

On 070800 the Battalion Executive Officer and the S-3 Officer conducted a ground reconnaissance in the vicinity of Tam Ky, BT 2824.

**UNCLASSIFIED**

ENCLOSURE (3)

DECLASSIFIED

**UNCLASSIFIED**Tank Combat Operations

In addition to supporting the Chu Lai Defense Command during the month of October, a unit of this command participated in one major operation.

Operation Lee (030710-121330)

2nd Plt, Co C, 1st Tank Bn

On 030710, the 2nd Platoon, Company C, supported by 1 M51 VTR from Company B, departed the Battalion CP for participation in Operation Lee in support of the 2nd ROKMC Brigade.

H&S Company provided one rifle squad for participation in Operation Lee, and the assistant S-3 Officer was assigned to Headquarters, 2nd ROKMC Brigade as Tank Liaison Officer.

On 041500, while moving south to join the 2nd ROKMC Brigade, 2nd Platoon, Company C received sniper fire from BS 728894. 30 rounds caliber .50 were returned resulting in one VC KIA confirmed.

On 101600, 2nd Platoon, Company C secured from Operation Lee and returned to the Battalion CP at 121330.

**LESSONS LEARNED:**

During normal platoon size operations, the M51 VTR is not employed. Based on previous experience and information obtained via an aerial reconnaissance on 030915, which disclosed the remoteness of the area to be encountered, the decision was made to employ the VTR.

During Operation Lee, the VTR employed proved to be a tremendous asset to all tracked vehicles operating in the area. Of particular significance was its continued assistance to vehicles belonging to the 1st Anti-Tank Battalion.

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Special Operations

At 142000, a 16-man ambush patrol departed from the Battalion CP for positions located West of Tich Tay (2) (BT 499047). This patrol returned to the CP at 150630. There was no enemy contact.

At 150900, a section of two tanks and one squad of infantry from M/3/7 proceeded to BS 588944 to provide security for vehicles which had detonated a mine. There was no enemy contact. The tanks returned to the CP at 151030.

At 160400, a security patrol departed from the 1st Tank Battalion CP for a sweep of the area South of Hill 43. The patrol returned at 160530. There was no enemy contact.

At 030630, 3 flame tanks departed from the 1st Tank Battalion CP for burn operations in the M/3/7 area.

At 211345, 3 flame tanks departed from the 1st Tank Battalion CP for burn operations at BT 434080.

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Training

Formal school training consisted of 2 enlisted attending the 1st Marine Division "Multi-Fuel Engine" course presented by the multi-fuel vehicle mobile training team; 1 enlisted attending Embarkation School on Okinawa and one enlisted attending a Basic Ammunition Technicians Course.

Tank training sub-caliber firing was conducted by individual units of this command. Operations and Intelligence briefings were conducted weekly for Officers and Staff in the Battalion CP.

1

~~SECRET~~

ENCLOSURE (6)

DECLASSIFIED

**SECRET**Command and Control

During the month of October, 1966, Company "A" (-) remained in direct support of the 5th Marines until 220800 at which time it moved to BT 515040, former site of the 1st Tank Battalion Headquarters. It now provides support for the Chu Lai Defense Command and the Chu Lai TAOR. One section of three flame tanks is attached to Company "A". 1st Platoon, Company "A" rejoined its parent company on 220800 and continues to support the Chu Lai Defense Command. Company "A" (rein) remains under the operational control of Task Force Xray.

Company "B" (-) remained in direct support of the 7th Marines until 220800 when it joined the Battalion Headquarters Section for embarkation and movement to the 1st Tank Battalion present location. 3rd Platoon, Company "B" supported the Chu Lai Defense Command until 220800 when it rejoined its parent company for the move North. At 230559, 1st Platoon, Company B was placed in direct support of the 4th Battalion, 503rd Airborne Infantry, 173rd Brigade. Company "B" Headquarters and one platoon provides security for the area now occupied by Company "B". The transportation unit for the 173rd ABN BDE and the Army S/5 Civil Affairs Team for segments of the Danang area occupy the same area.

Company "C" was under the operational control of the 3rd Tank Battalion until 260800 at which time it came under the operational control of the 1st Tank Battalion. 2nd Platoon, Company "C" supported the Chu Lai Defense Command and participated in Operation Lee (030710-121330) until 271130 at which time it rejoined its parent company. Company "C" (rein) is in direct support, 1st Marines.

H&S Company provided logistical and maintenance support for two gun companies until 220800 when it became Battalion rear echelon at BT 515040. At 271130 additional elements of H&S Company arrived at Danang. H&S Company provided one rifle squad for security purposes to accompany 2nd Platoon, Company "C" during Operation Lee.

At 220800 the Battalion Headquarters Section, H&S Company (-) and Company "B" departed from the Gr at BT 515040 for the Sand Ramp at Chu Lai and embarked aboard the USS LITCHFIELD (LST 901) at 231530. These units sailed from Chu Lai at 240510 and arrived at Danang 241500. They proceeded to the Bridge Ramp in Danang and commenced unloading at 251110. These units arrived at the present site of the 1st Tank Battalion at 251330.

**CLASSIFIED**

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~Communications-Electronics

On 10 October the new family radios were authorized for use by Division Headquarters. These radios have been very effective over distances up to 60 miles for the MRC-109/110 series and for about 15 miles with the PRC-25 series. The 1st Tank Battalion is now operating the command net on the new equipment and reliable communications have been continual.

The companies have successfully employed the PRC-25 in Platoon Commanders Vehicles (utilizing the antenna for the RT-70) and communications with parent and infantry units have improved considerably.

A shortage of wiremen during the movement to Danang necessitated the use of all personnel in occupational field 2500 as wireman to lay in the new CP. Time delays in embarkation of different elements seriously impaired the ability of this command to maintain radios at the highest level of maintenance.

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SECRET~~Civil Affairs Command Chronology-October 1966

On October 5, Major R. D. MCKEE, Battalion Executive Officer, Captain J. H. COWMAN, Battalion Civil Affairs Officer and 2ndLt A. A. HUBBARD, outgoing Battalion Civil Affairs Officer, were guests of honor at a Pagoda Dedication Ceremony in the village of Tich Tay. This unit had supplied some of the materials utilized in the Pagoda construction. Most of the village elders were present and all personnel attending enjoyed a fine afternoon meal provided by the villagers.

Road construction and improvement of the village street continued throughout the month. Sick call was held daily at the village dispensary with the nurse in-training continuing to show professional improvement. Several movies were shown to the villagers during the month and continue to be well attended and one of our most effective methods of contacting the people.

Civil Affairs material obtained through Division G-5 was distributed through the village chief to the people during the month. This material included requested carpenter kits, sewing kits, school supplies and recreational equipment, clothing and paint.

Paper towels and soap were distributed through the dispensary. In most cases, children were requested to wash before treatment and mothers were asked to bathe babies before treatment. With the towels, soap and washing facilities provided the villagers did not hesitate to participate.

A village work bee was scheduled for screening and painting the village dispensary. In spite of inclement weather, sufficient villagers participated to completely repaint the dispensary interior. Division ISO personnel attended this work bee and several photographs were taken for distribution.

On 21 October, the Civil Affairs Team from 9th Engineer Battalion relieved the Civil Affairs Team from 1st Tank Battalion and assumed complete civil affairs jurisdiction concerning the Tich Tay Village complex. The 9th Engineer Civil Affairs Officer was completely briefed on projects within the village, was conducted on several tours through the villages and met the village chief. This unit's medical personnel conducted a similar briefing for medical personnel of the 9th Engineer Battalion. Village responsibility was shifted to 9th Engineer Battalion when this unit displaced North. This unit's Civil Affairs Team is currently awaiting assignment within its new area of responsibility.

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ENCLOSURE (9)

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UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion, FMF  
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

2/JHO/orj  
5750  
3 December 1966  
0044-66  
10F8

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF  
(Attn: G-3)

Subj: Command Chronology for November 1966 (Report Symbol, 1st Marine Division 5750)

Ref: (a) DivO 5750.1

Encl: (1) Organizational Data  
(2) Personnel and Administration  
(3) Intelligence  
(4) Training  
(5) Command and Control  
(6) Civil Affairs  
(7) Supply  
(8) Motor Transport  
(9) Maintenance  
(10) Special Operations

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) through (10) are submitted.

2. Downgraded to unclassified upon removal of enclosures (1) through (10).

*J. W. Clayborne*  
J. W. CLAYBORNE

1st Tank Bn

UNCLASSIFIED

Nov 1966

DECLASSIFIED



~~SECRET~~Organizational Data

Designation: 1st Tank Battalion, FMF, 1st Marine Division  
 Location: AT 998722

Headquarters, 1st Tank Battalion	Danang	AT 998722
HAS Company, 1st Tank Battalion	Danang	AT 998722
Company A, 1st Tank Battalion	Chm Lai	BT 515040
Company B, 1st Tank Battalion	Danang	AT 945763
Company C, 1st Tank Battalion	Danang	BT 066715

Period covered by report: 1-30 November 1966  
 Commanding Officer: Lieutenant Colonel J. W. CLAYBORNE

Subordinate Commanders:

HAS Company, 1st Tank Battalion	Major J. P. MCGILL
Company A, 1st Tank Battalion	Captain C. R. HARRIS
Company B, 1st Tank Battalion	Captain L. E. CHERICO
Company C, 1st Tank Battalion	1st Lt C. E. BARNETT
	(1-23 November 1966)
	Captain P. S. WEIGAND
	(24-30 November 1966)

Principle Staff Officers:

Battalion Executive Officer	Major R. D. MCKEE
Battalion Adjutant S-1/Legal Officer	WO-1 C. C. CARL, JR.
Battalion S-2	Captain J. H. COMMAN
Battalion S-3	Captain F. J. SALAS
Battalion S-4	Captain G. E. HOOKER, JR.

Average Monthly Strength:

Marine Officers	32
Marine Enlisted	542
Navy Officer	1
Navy Enlisted	11

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~~CLASSIFIED~~Personnel Administration

The 1st Tank Battalion is currently in Personnel Category C-1 with a chargeable strength of 32 Marine Officers, 551 Marine Enlisted, 1 Navy Officer, and 14 Navy Enlisted. This is compared to an authorized manning level of 36 Marine Officers, 598 Marine Enlisted, 1 Navy Officer, and 14 Navy Enlisted.

During the month of November the Battalion joined 3 Marine Officers and 48 Marine Enlisted. 1 Marine Officer and 18 Marine Enlisted were dropped.

The following MOS's are considered critical:

<u>MOS</u>	<u>M/L</u>	<u>ON BOARD</u>
3510	1	0
2151	7	3
2861	1	0
0141-Sgts	4	1

Company "A" (Rein), 1st Tank Battalion, is within the Chu Lai tactical area of responsibility. This company has a strength of 5 Marine Officers, 117 Marine Enlisted, and 2 Navy Enlisted. The 1st Tank Battalion retains administrative control of Company "A".

One breach of discipline occurred during the month resulting in a Special Court-Martial.

Morale is good. Temporary Additional Duty in connection with R&R, beach parties, and excellent mail service are the major factors in maintaining morale.

During the month of November, this Battalion had 2 Marines medically evacuated for combat wounds and 2 Marines evacuated for non-battle reasons.

The 1st Tank Battalion reenlisted 1 Career Marine during November.

The Commanding General, 1st Marine Division, presented one (1) Bronze Star and five (5) Purple Hearts to Marines of the 1st Tank Battalion during an Awards Ceremony conducted on 7 November.

The 191st Birthday of the United States Marine Corps was observed with the traditional ceremony and celebration which is considered appropriate for this festive occasion.

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

ENCLOSURE (2)

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~Intelligence

During the month of November the 1st Tank Battalion G-2 section conducted five intelligence patrols. These patrols covered the Battalion's tactical area of responsibility and area of influence. Information gathered during these patrols was furnished to the Camp Commander for utilization in planning the camp's defensive perimeter. The information was also given to the G-3 for operational planning. The patrols also provided this unit with a group of Marines who are familiar with the tactical area of responsibility.

The 1st Tank Battalion received 54 rounds of incoming small arms sniper fire during November. Additionally, 5 hand grenades and 1 automatic weapon incident harassed the Battalion's defensive perimeter.

The Battalion G-2 section maintained a map plot of the time, the amount, the type, and the direction of each incoming type of ordnance. The purpose of the plot was to determine if any pattern materialized concerning a time frame or specific location which the sniper's preferred.

Once a pattern materialized, an infrared weaponsight was obtained and the best shooters in the 1st Tank Battalion were trained with the weaponsight. The weaponsight is now utilized every evening, weather permitting, in an attempt to erase the source of harassing sniper fire. The telescope assembly is compatible with the xenon searchlight mounted on the tank, combat, M48A3. Future plans call for combining the weapons for more effective range and visibility.

Each time the defensive perimeter received incoming grenades, explosive ordnance disposal personnel were contacted to determine the exact type of grenade employed. Indications are that one of the grenades received was of a rifle grenade variety and was fired at maximum range. Four other grenade-like detonations occurred but lack of specific evidence resulted in no positive identification of the type of grenade.

At 091400H, a Company "B" ammunition resupply truck detonated a mine at AT 899611. The explosion left a crater 9 feet long and 4 feet deep. The mine was estimated at 40 pounds of explosive. 6 Marines were injured. 4 wounded in action were medically evacuated and 2 wounded in action were not evacuated and continued on their mission. The vehicle sustained moderate damage.

At 300830H, a tank from Company "C" detonated an unknown type of mine at BT 081701. The explosion left a crater 3 feet wide and 18 inches deep. The mine was estimated at 15 pounds of explosive. There were no injuries to personnel and the vehicle received light track and suspension damage.

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

**UNCLASSIFIED**Training

Formal school training consisted of one (1) enlisted attending Embarkation School; 1 enlisted attending the Vietnamese Language School; and 1 enlisted attending a 5-day orientation course on the Marine Corps Unified Military Management System.

An extensive Battalion Weapons Training Program was conducted for all personnel on the following weapons: M-14 Rifle, 30 cal. MG, 50 cal. MG, M-60 MG, and the M-26 hand grenade. Also included were demonstrations on the M-79 grenade launcher and the 12 gauge shotgun.

Operations and intelligence briefings were conducted for unit commanders, executive and special staff officers.

**UNCLASSIFIED**

ENCLOSURE (4)

**UNCLASSIFIED**Command and Control

During the month of November 1966, Company "A" (Rein) remained under the operational control of Task Force X-ray and supported the Chu Lai Defense Command.

Company "B" remained in direct support of 4th Battalion, 503rd Airborne Infantry, 173rd Brigade. On 8 Nov 1966, Company "B" provided 2 tanks in direct support of Company "F", 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines, at AT 935664 and AT 954666, relieving 2 tanks from Company "G", 1st Tank Battalion.

Company "C" remained in direct support of the 1st Marines. The 3rd Platoon furnished 2 tanks in direct support of Company "F", 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines, from 1 - 8 November 1966.

H&S Company provided logistical and maintenance support for two gun companies. H&S Company provided one rifle squad nightly as additional security for the Naval Supply Activity Petroleum, Oil, and Lubricants Dump at AT 987732. In addition, a ten man security detail was assigned on a temporary additional duty basis to Ammunition Supply Point number one. This commitment was changed to one officer and four enlisted on 29 Nov 1966.

**UNCLASSIFIED**

ENCLOSURE (5)

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~Civil Affairs Command Chronology

Major E. H. HOLTHUS, assigned to the inspection section, Division G-5, visited the 1st Tank Battalion on 4 November. The purpose of his visit was to discuss any problem areas we had concerning Civil Affairs. Several problem areas were discussed and before the month was over these problems were solved.

On 5 November, the 1st Tank Battalion Civil Affairs Officer was requested to investigate a "Backlash" situation that involved the village of PHU HOA. Several incoming 4.2 mortar rounds had impacted in the village and injured two children. One live 4.2 round was found in a rice paddy in the village. The following morning the Civil Affairs Team, accompanied by explosive ordnance disposal personnel, visited the village. The Civil Affairs Corpsman administered first aid to the injured villagers and the explosive ordnance disposal personnel detonated, in place, one live 4.2 round. The required reports were submitted to Division G-5 for appropriate action.

Mr. ONG VAN PHI, government identification card number 405164, claims to own the land the 1st Tank Battalion camp is situated on. On 8 November, the Civil Affairs Officer and Mr. PHI made a verbal agreement concerning use of the land. For one can of refuse per day, Mr. PHI will let 1st Tank Battalion use the land concerned as it sees fit.

On 20 November, the 1st Tank Battalion was assigned its Civil Affairs Village. The village is HOA AN, coordinates AT 988755, and its population is estimated from 7,000-10,000. HOA AN is considered an excellent area for Civil Affairs opportunities. This village was assigned to the 1st Tank Battalion Civil Affairs Team because of the interest shown by team members when this unit arrived from Chu Lai. On 21 November, Civil Affairs personnel from the 1st Tank Battalion made their first visit and initial contacts in the village of HOA AN.

A Civil Affairs Seminar was conducted by Division G-5 personnel on 26 November. The seminar was held at Division Headquarters and the Civil Affairs Officer from 1st Tank Battalion attended. The seminar was considered an outstanding success by all who attended and a considerable amount of important information was available for those interested. All Civil Affairs personnel from this unit received a briefing concerning the information discussed at the seminar.

In addition to the time and effort spent in the village of HOA AN, the Civil Affairs Team from 1st Tank Battalion is assisting in Civil Affairs work in the village of DONG BE, AT 993724, population 300. This village is within the 1st Tank Battalion's tactical area of responsibility and area of influence. DONG BE is assigned to the 3rd Tank Battalion for Civil Affairs jurisdiction. However, because of DONG BE's proximity to the 1st Tank Battalion area, the 3rd Tank Battalion's Civil Affairs Team has indicated they have no objection to the 1st Tank Battalion Civil Affairs personnel operating in the area.

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~  
~~SECRET~~

ENCLOSURE (6)

**UNCLASSIFIED**

In November, 1st Tank Battalion Civil Affairs personnel made six visits to DONG BE and have instituted a nurse-in-training program. Three fifteen year old women have volunteered for the program and are receiving rudimentary medical and first aid instruction twice a week. It is hoped that as a result of this limited program, relations with the village will improve.

Operation Keysertown, initiated in Chu Lai in September of this year, has grown into a major people-to-people program. It all began when Staff Sergeant W. F. KEYSER of the 1st Tank Battalion's Civil Affairs Team wrote his home town of Waukegan, Illinois and asked for some assistance to give a Christmas party for the Civil Affairs Village. Since then the project has grown and the city of Waukegan has provided the 1st Tank Battalion with a considerable supply of needed materials for distribution to less fortunate villagers. It is anticipated that the majority of the material will be distributed in HOA AN and DONG BE through the proper village channels and at appropriate times.

On 29 November, members of the 1st Tank Battalion Civil Affairs Team remained in HOA AN Village as overnight guests of the Combined Action Company personnel assigned to the area. The purpose of this visit was to determine the exact patrol procedure utilized by the Combined Action Company personnel and also to establish rapport with these personnel. It is noted that Combined Action Company personnel are primarily responsible for tactical operations within a village and conduct only very limited civil affairs work.

**UNCLASSIFIED**

ENCLOSURE (6)

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~Supply

Due to a combination of factors, supply support has been considerably affected. Some of the areas of supply support were considered as problem areas previously, and some of the problems have arisen as a result of the move from Chu Lai to Danang; however, comparatively speaking, supply support has, for a combination of reasons, not been up to previous standards.

The displacement of the 1st Tank Battalion from Chu Lai to Danang alleviated the necessity for making extensive preparations for the monsoon season. The camp site at Chu Lai was dirt and the billeting and working spaces were in strongback tents. The camp-site at Danang is laterite and most of the billeting and working spaces are in tin-roofed strongback huts. General improvements to the entire camp continues with emphasis placed on improving fighting bunkers.

In a general summarization, the logistic function for this period has been characterized by an increased workload in all areas. This increased requirement is being countered by increased efforts in all areas.

Several problem areas are existant within the area of supply. Some of these problems are of a continuing nature and some are as a result or are related to the move of the Battalion from Chu Lai to Danang. In the first category, problems of a continuing nature would include the non-availability of certain items, or in more general terms, the lack of adequate supply response to lower priority (stock replenishment) requisitions. Items which are and have been difficult to obtain would include the general areas of bottled gasses (i.e., oxygen, nitrogen, argon, etc.), vehicular batteries and electrolyte, and certain tracked vehicle repair parts. The nonavailability of these items or lack of response to lower priority requisitions for routine stock replenishments ultimately results in submission of high priority requisitions and dead-lining of combat essential equipment.

Supply response has been substandard since arrival in the Danang TAC. Since the arrival of the Battalion we have submitted a total of 1,127 requisitions to Force Logistic Support Group-4. Of this total, 110 of these requisitions have been completed, or a completion rate of less than 10% for the reporting period. Battalion supply has additionally processed 9 fuel requisitions which were completed, and 14 ammunition requisitions which were also completed. Liaison with the Fleet Stock Account AN C-2 indicates that the problem is basically down-time of the Electronic Accounting Machines and that the problem is resolved as the machines have been since repaired. Assuming that FSA C-2 experiences no more problems with their machines, support in this area should be improved; however, this problem has had an affect in the supply and maintenance areas of operation for this reporting period.

This organization is faced with another problem area relating to the move from Chu Lai to Danang. Requisitions which were outstanding and which were passed or obligated by FLSB-3 at Chu Lai are not being received by this organization.

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

ENCLOSURE (7)



~~SECRET~~

The pre-planning prior to the Battalion moving was that since all material destined for Chu Lai was off-loaded and reshipped from Danang, it would be a relatively simple process to divert material marked for Reporting Unit Code #21410 (1st Tank Battalion) at the Shipping and Receiving facility of Force Logistic Support Group-A. In theory, this is an ideal solution; however, in practice, it has not worked out. It is not clear whether the problem is rooted in system failure, due to the tremendous work load imposed upon Force Logistic Support Group-A, or simply whether there is no incoming material scheduled for this organization. In any event, we have received a disproportionately small amount of material for this reporting period. Another part of this problem is that at present, our requisitions through the month of October which were obligated at Force Logistic Support Group-B, will have to be transhipped back to Danang as material is received and processed by Force Logistic Support Group-B. This creates a situation of receiving and processing supplies at Danang (Force Logistic Support Group-A) for further shipment and processing to Chu Lai (Force Logistic Support Group-B) and then shipment back to Danang for Reporting Unit Code #21410. A solution to the problem would be to transfer obligations from Force Logistic Support Group-B to Force Logistic Support Group-A if this could be done with no subsequent loss of lead-time.

Action taken to improve or eliminate these problems include close liaison with Division Supply and Force Logistic Support Group-A, (Fleet Stock Account C-2 and Shipping and Receiving). The current status is as reflected in this report, and at this time a "get-well" date can not be accurately projected.

~~DECLASSIFIED~~ ENCLOSURE (7)

DECLASSIFIED

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~  
~~SECRET~~

Motor Transport Command Chronology

During November, extremely poor road conditions resulted in two unusual maintenance problems concerning wheeled vehicles. An increased amount of debris on local roads accounted for a 50% increase over the normal monthly punctured tire statistic. Poor road conditions also caused excessive breakage of radiator inlet connections.

Motor Transport Maintenance personnel conducted an inspection of Company B vehicles during November. 33% of Company B vehicles were deadlined for maintenance defects.

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~  
~~SECRET~~

ENCLOSURE (8)

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

MAINTENANCE

During the month of November the maintenance concept was shifted from a centralized battalion maintenance operation to the utilization of the contact team method of operation. This change has thus far proved extremely satisfactory and the disadvantage has been the time involved in transporting contact teams and equipment to on-site maintenance areas. This disadvantage is contrasted to the advantages of not having to move tracked vehicles over long distances for routine maintenance services and closer maintenance supervision and assistance at the organizational levels. Battalion maintenance continues to provide second echelon services and repairs and the general status is good. In spite of an increased tempo of operations and a shortage of repair parts in some cases, the dead-line rate has remained comparatively low.

UNCLASSIFIED

ENCLOSURE (9)

DECLASSIFIED

Special Operations

On 1 November the 2nd Platoon, Company B, fired 46 rounds of harassing and interdiction fire in support of the 4th Battalion, 503rd Airborne Infantry. The rounds were fired from platoon positions at BT 895821 and AT 892771.

At 051400H a section of two tanks from Company C participated in a search and destroy operation with elements of the 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines. The tank section was credited with two Viet Cong killed at BT 038664 confirmed by the infantry unit.

On 16 November, the M57A2 Flame Tanks from Company B conducted a firepower demonstration for some 500 villagers. The villagers were from HQA IAO and HQA TANH Hamlets, both of which are near the area in which a truck detonated a mine on 9 November. An interpreter from the 29th Combined Action Company spoke to the people and warned them of the dangers in allowing the Viet Cong to plant mines. As a result, mine and booby trap activity in the area has decreased.

On 18 November, a dozer tank from Company B conducted mine sweeping operations near the DaNang Airfield. The dozer tank utilized a locally-constructed mine-exploding device. Eleven M-16 and 89 M-14 anti-personnel mines were destroyed.

At 200330H, the 1st Tank Battalion provided a rifle platoon to the Southern Sector Area Defense Coordinator for participation in "OPERATION BALTIMORE." The rifle platoon assumed blocking positions at the North (AT 994728) and South (AT 993715) entrances to PHONG BAO Hamlet. The operation concluded at 201545H and the results were four Viet Cong captured.

At 241810H, a fireteam sized outpost manned by 7th Engineer Battalion personnel was attacked by an estimated squad of Viet Cong. The outpost, located in the vicinity of BT 936767, placed a call for assistance over the Zone B Defensive Net. Company B, 1st Tank Battalion, monitors this net and immediately upon hearing the call for assistance Company B activated its reaction squad and two tanks. As soon as the 11th Marine Regiment granted permission the reaction squad and tanks were dispatched to assist the outmanned fireteam. The reaction squad was successful in driving off the Viet Cong and as they did so another relief unit managed to contact the outpost. The Company B reaction squad received no casualties and was commended for its prompt and efficient response.

At 251215H, a section of three tanks from the 3rd Platoon, Company C, established a blocking position at BT 094613. This section, in support of Company D, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines, fired upon four Viet Cong as they fled from the sweeping force. A search of the area resulted in one Viet Cong killed in action confirmed.

At 261100H, a section of three tanks from the 1st Platoon, Company C, participated in a sweep operation with elements of Company K, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines. One Viet Cong was observed running toward a bridge at BT 106638. The Viet Cong was fired upon and a search revealed one Viet Cong killed in action confirmed.

UNCLASSIFIED

ENCLOSURE (10)

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

At 291000H, a section of three tanks from the 3rd Platoon, Company C, participated in a sweep operation with elements of Company K, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines. At BT 080620, the section observed and fired upon several Viet Cong fleeing across a rice paddy. A search revealed one Viet Cong killed in action confirmed.

At 291300H, a section of three tanks from the 1st Platoon, Company C, was in position at BT 095660 supporting Company K, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines. Several Viet Cong were observed running into a treeline at BT 093662. The section fired upon the Viet Cong and a search revealed three Viet Cong killed in action confirmed.

As directed by the Battalion S-3, the Battalion's tactical area of responsibility was under constant surveillance by patrol and ambush activity. During the month of November seven combat patrols, five intelligence patrols, and seven ambushes penetrated the area. At 162320H an ambush at AT 994717 established the only enemy contact. The ambush team expended 120 rounds of small arms ammunition. The ambush site was searched at first light with negative results.

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ENCLOSURE (0)

DECLASSIFIED

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion, FMF  
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

2/JHO/js  
5750  
6 January 1967

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)  
Via: (1) Commanding General, 1st Marine Division, FMF  
(2) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 December 1966 to 31 December 1966

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2  
(b) FMFPACO 5750.8

Encl: (1) 1st Tank Battalion Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of reference (a) and (b) enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. This letter is downgraded to Unclassified upon removal of the enclosures.

*J. W. Clayborne*  
J. W. CLAYBORNE

1st TANK BATTALION, FMF

S & C FILE NO. 001-67

COPY NO. 1 OF 8 COPIES

ENCLOSURE ( )

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS  
1st Tank Battalion, FMF  
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

Command Chronology

1 Dec 66 to 31 Dec 66

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Part I	Organizational Data
Part II	Narrative Summary
Part III	Sequential Listing of Significant Events

ENCLOSURE (1)

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

## Part I

## Organizational Data

1. 1st Tank Battalion  
Fleet Marine Force  
1st Marine Division

J. W. CLAYBORNE  
Lieutenant Colonel  
Commanding Officer

Subordinate Units

H&S Company, 1st Tank Battalion

Major J. P. MCGILL  
(1-20 Dec 66)  
Captain J. C. WINTHER  
(21-31 Dec 1966)  
Captain C. R. BRABEC  
Captain L. E. CHERICO  
Captain P. S. WEIGAND

Company A, 1st Tank Battalion  
Company B, 1st Tank Battalion  
Company C, 1st Tank Battalion

2. Location

Headquarters, 1st Tank Battalion  
H&S Company, 1st Tank Battalion  
Company A, 1st Tank Battalion  
Company B, 1st Tank Battalion  
Company C, 1st Tank Battalion

Danang RVN AT 998722  
Danang RVN AT 998722  
Chu Lai RVN BT 515040  
Danang RVN AT 945763  
Danang RVN BT 066715

3. Staff Officers

Battalion Executive Officer  
Battalion Adjutant S-1/Legal Officer  
Battalion S-2/Civil Affairs  
Battalion S-3  
Battalion S-4

Major R. D. MCKEE  
WO-1 C. C. CARL JR.  
Captain J. H. COWMAN  
Captain F. U. SALAS  
Captain G. E. HOOKER

4. Average Monthly StrengthUSMC

<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
32	587

USN

<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
1	14

ENCLOSURE (1)

DECLASSIFIED



## Part II

## Narrative Summary

The month of December found the 1st Tank Battalion in basically the same positions as the preceding month. H&S Company, in addition to providing the logistical and maintenance support for two gun companies, spent considerable time and effort improving the Battalion cantonment area and defensive posture.

Company "A" remained in Chu Lai under the operational control of Task Force X-Ray and supported the Chu Lai Defense Command.

Company "B" remained in direct support of the 4th Battalion, 503rd Airborne Infantry, 173rd Brigade until 060249H. On that date Company "B" was placed in directed support of the 9th Marines.

Company "C" remained in direct support of the 1st Marines.

The Battalion's defensive perimeter received only four minor outbreaks of harassing small arms fire during December. This was a considerable decrease from the amount received during November, and may be attributed to the improved defensive positions and the employment of an infrared weaponsight for night firing.

During the month of December elements of Company "C" participated in "Operation Glenn". Elements of Company "B" participated in "Operation Sterling" and H&S Company provided personnel support to the 3rd Tank Battalion for County Fair operations.

This reporting period found the Battalion C-1 in personnel, equipment, and supply.

Morale is excellent. Temporary Additional Duty in connection with R&R, excellent mail service and beach parties are the major factors in maintaining morale.

The 1st Tank Battalion's area of responsibility was well covered with a total of 15 night ambushes, six daylight security patrols, and seven night security patrols. On 27 December, this Battalion's area of responsibility was altered and a comparatively new region was available. This new area will also demand constant, aggressive patrolling.

A comprehensive troop indoctrination and instruction program has been implemented within the Battalion. All incoming personnel are subjected to this program prior to assignment. This indoctrination program includes regulations relevant to military organizations located in Viet Nam, as well as history and tradition concerning the country and its people. Familiarization and safety of organic weapons is included and receives specific emphasis.

ENCLOSURE (UNCLASSIFIED)

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[REDACTED]

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- A. Significant Operations Conducted.
- B. Casualties Inflicted on the Enemy.
- C. Casualties Sustained.
- D. Logistics.
- E. Civic Action.
- F. Administration
- G. Personnel.
- H. Intelligence.

ENCLOSURE (1) UNCLASSIFIED  
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**A. Significant Operations Conducted.**

At 012000H, a section of two tanks of the 2nd Platoon, Company "C", in position at AT 998708, fired at a light on the south bank of the Song Cau Do River in the vicinity of BT 000705. The tanks expended 50 rounds of .30 caliber MG and one round HE. A search conducted at first light revealed two Viet Cong killed.

At 021020H, a section of three tanks from the 1st Platoon, Company "C", in position at BT 065630 in support of Company "K", 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, observed several Viet Cong running toward a treeline in the vicinity of BT 078625. The tanks fired seven rounds HE. The results were unknown as no search was conducted.

At 041230H, a section of three tanks of the 1st Platoon, Company "C", supporting Company "K", 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, in position at BT 055644, observed one Viet Cong run into a house in vicinity of BT 053649. Tank C-11 fired one round WP. One body was observed being carried away. Infantry conducted a search of area with negative results.

At 041235H, a section of three tanks of the 1st Platoon, Company "C", supporting Company "K", 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, in position at BT 058661, observed 10 Viet Cong running through a village into a hedgerow in the vicinity of BT 064665. Tank C-11 fired five rounds HE. Infantry searched area with negative results.

At 041235H, a section of three tanks of the 1st Platoon, Company "C", supporting Company "K", 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, in position at BT 058662, observed several VC running into the treeline at BT 065665. Tank C-13 fired four rounds HE and one round WP. Infantry searched area and found one Viet Cong killed in action confirmed.

On 5 December, a section of two tanks of the 2nd Platoon, Company "B", in position at AT 893772, fired 17 rounds HE harassing and interdiction fire in support of the 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines.

At 041735H, one tank of the 1st Platoon, Company "B", in position at AT 933632, in support of Company "L", 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines, received three rounds of small arms fire from vicinity of AT 934634. Tank B-14 fired three rounds HE. The area was not searched due to darkness.

During the hours of 1200H to 1500H on 4 December 1966, the 3rd Platoon, Company "C", in position at BT 203570, fired 99 rounds HE and 26 rounds WP at targets of opportunity in vicinity of BT 199563. Fire was directed by units of the Junk Fleet operating in the area. The results of the firing are unknown. No search was conducted due to a river barrier.

At 041815H, a section of three tanks of the 1st Platoon, Company "C", moved from the Command Post of Company "M", 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, to position at BT 045533 to support infantry receiving heavy small arms fire. Tanks fired one round canister, seven rounds HE, 300 rounds caliber .50 MG, and 250 rounds caliber .30 MG at Viet Cong position in vicinity BT 036658. Infantry was extracted from area and no search was conducted.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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At 051430H, a section of two tanks of the 1st Platoon, Company "C", moved to positions at BT 057637 to support Company "M", 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines. Tanks fired 12 rounds HE, two rounds canister, 250 rounds caliber .50 MG. A search by infantry revealed three Viet Cong killed.

At 051540H, one tank of the 3rd Platoon, Company "C", supporting 1st Battalion, 1st Marines, in blocking position at BT 077624, observed six Viet Cong attempting to flee from the infantry in vicinity BT 074630. Tank C-32 fired six rounds HE. Tank crewmen observed three Viet Cong drop. Infantry continued sweep and did not search the area. Three Viet Cong killed in action probable.

On 4 December 1966, tanks of the 3rd Platoon, Company "C", fired 125 rounds 90mm at targets of opportunity in vicinity of BT 199563, resulting in two Viet Cong killed and five bunkers destroyed.

On 6 Dec 1966, Company "B" was placed in direct support of the 9th Marines.

On 9 December 1966, at 1810H, the 1st Platoon, Company "C", in support of 1st Battalion, 1st Marines in position at BT 119628, observed three small boats moving downstream in the Song Ha Xan River in vicinity BT 117031. Upon spotting the tanks, the boats hastily retreated toward the north bank. Tank C-11 fired four rounds HE. The results were unknown. No search was conducted due to darkness and a water barrier.

At 092005H, a section of two tanks of the 2nd Platoon, Company "C", in position at the Highway Bridge at AT 998708, sighted a small boat moving downstream in the Song Cau Do River toward the bridge. Two Viet Cong in the boat fired several rounds of small arms at the tanks. The tanks returned one round HE and sank the boat. One Viet Cong was observed swept under by the current. The other Viet Cong was observed attempting to swim to the south bank of the river. The tanks swept the area with caliber .30 MG fire and observed rounds striking the Viet Cong. One Viet Cong killed in action confirmed.

On 10 December at 1400H, the 1st Platoon, Company "C", in support of Company "K", 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, in blocking positions at BT 098659, observed several Viet Cong running across a rice paddy in the vicinity of BT 094663. The tanks fired four rounds HE and 200 rounds of caliber .50 MG. The infantry searched the area and confirmed one Viet Cong killed and one captured.

At 111030H, the 1st Platoon, Company "C", in support of Company "K", 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, in position at BT 102638, observed two Viet Cong running across a rice paddy in the vicinity of BT 106637. Tanks fired three rounds of canister, two rounds of HE, and 100 rounds of caliber .30 MG. Infantry continued sweep and did not search area.

At 111100H, the 1st Platoon, Company "C", in position at BT 118638, observed three Viet Cong running across an open area in the vicinity of BT 115634. Tank C-24 fired two rounds of HE. Infantry searched the area resulting in one Viet Cong killed in action confirmed.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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On 11 December at 2130H, a section of two tanks of the 1st Platoon, Company "B", in support of Company "L", 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines, in position on Hill 41 at AT 934663, received 20 rounds small arms fire from vicinity of AT 935668. Tanks fired six rounds of HE. No search was conducted due to darkness.

At 121100H, a section of tanks of the 1st Platoon, Company "B", at AT 956664 fired three rounds HE in support of elements of Company "L", 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines, which were receiving heavy fire from vicinity AT 959663. Results are unknown. Infantry did not search.

On 12 December, two flame tanks from Company "B" were assigned the mission of burning and clearing avenues of approach and fields of fire on the ridge line behind the 1st Marine Division Command Post. The flame tanks expended approximately 9000 gal. of fuel accomplishing this task.

On the morning of 16 December, the 2nd and 3rd Platoons, Company "C", in support of 1st Battalion, 1st Marines, in position at BT 188589 and BT 203569, fired 56 rounds of HE preparatory fires at Viet Cong positions prior to landing of 1st Battalion, 1st Marine units.

On 17 December at 1930H, a section of two tanks of the 1st Platoon, Company "C", in support of 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, in positions at BT 053665, received small arms and automatic weapons fire from a house in the vicinity of BT 050667. A round ricocheted off the tank and injured a crewman. Tanks returned fire resulting in one Viet Cong killed. One Marine was wounded and was evacuated to the 3rd Medical Battalion.

On the afternoon of 18 December, a section of two tanks of the 3rd Platoon, Company "C", in firing positions at BT 209577, fired 79 rounds of HE at Viet Cong bunkers and fortifications located on the south bank of the Song Cau Bai River in the vicinity of BT 213566 to BT 216569. The Junk Fleet patrolling the river received fire from these positions and requested tank support to reduce Viet Cong positions. No search was conducted due to a water barrier.

At 182115H, a section of two tanks of the 1st Platoon of Company "C", in position at the Song Cau Bo Highway Bridge observed two objects floating downstream toward the bridge. Both objects appeared to have Viet Cong flags mounted. Tanks fired at the objects sinking them both. Secondary explosions were observed from both floats.

At 181605H, the 1st Platoon, Company "C", in support of 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, in blocking position at BT 060628, observed two Viet Cong attempting to flee from blocking forces in the vicinity of BT 058621. Tanks fired four rounds HE with inconclusive results. No search was conducted due to river barrier.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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~~SECRET~~

At 191830H, a section of two tanks of the 1st Platoon, Company "B", in position on Hill 22, observed two Viet Cong with weapons running west across rice paddy in vicinity of AT 952659. Tanks fired 50 rounds caliber .30 MG with inconclusive results. No search was conducted due to darkness.

On 23 December at 2115H, a section of two tanks of the 1st Platoon, Company "C", in response to request of 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, moved to position BT 071708 to support infantry receiving fire from the French fort at BT 071708. Tanks fired three rounds HEAT, nine rounds HE, and five rounds WP. No search was conducted due to darkness.

ENCLOSURE (1) ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

B. Casualties Inflicted on the Enemy.

During the month of December this Battalion received credit for 10 confirmed Viet Cong killed in action.

ENCLOSURE (1)

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

**SECRET****C. Casualties Sustained.**

During the month of December this Battalion sustained 3 casualties. On 11 December a crewman from Company "C" received a minor wound from small arms fire and was evacuated.

On 21 December two crewmen from Company "B" received minor wounds when their tank detonated a mine. Both Marines were treated at the company aid station prior to returning to duty.

ENCLOSURE (1)

**UNCLASSIFIED**



D. Logistics.

Significant highlights for the period covered include an increased tempo of operations in the logistics function. This increased tempo was especially noticeable in all areas of maintenance, to include both Motor Transport and Ordnance, as well as camp maintenance. The results of this accelerated maintenance have been demonstrated most notably in a declining deadline and a greatly improved state of camp maintenance.

A general summation of significant problem areas is, as has been in the past, centered around shortages of certain repair parts in the area of motor transport (batteries and electrolyte, 1100x20 tires), of ordnance (tracked vehicle suspension parts) and the general area of bottled gases. Supply support has improved considerably; however, it is still considered below standard as evidenced by the continually increasing quantity of priority O2 requisitions outstanding.

Battalion maintenance continues to provide second echelon services and repairs and general status is reflected in continuing improvements. The contact team concept of maintenance operations continues to prove itself to be of great value. The continuing factors of increased tempo of operations and certain repair parts shortages has been multiplied by the effects of combat operations to impose an additional burden for this reporting period. During the period, four M-48A3 tanks sustained substantial mine damage. Three were repaired locally and one is being evacuated for fifth echelon rebuild under the R&E program. Additionally, two M-48A3 tanks were lost through submergence and are being evacuated and replaced from R&E assets. One additional M-48A3 sustained damages as a result of a fire in the driver's compartment. This vehicle is presently in the third echelon shop (FLSG-B) for determination and evaluation of damage.

With the construction of eight additional tin roof huts by MCB-10, the problem of troop quartering and messing has been greatly alleviated. Two of the additional huts were utilized as mess facilities, thus eliminating a major problem in the mess operations of overcrowding and lack of adequate space. Of particular significance was the utilization of one tin roof hut on a concrete base as a generator bank. This structure has particularly demonstrated its value during the recent period of inclement weather.

Advanced planning currently includes concentrated efforts in all areas of the logistics function, with particular emphasis in the areas of maintenance and supply.

ENCLOSURE (1)

E. Civic Action.Civic Affairs Command Chronology

During the month of December, Civil Affairs MedCap activities continued in Hoa An and Dong Be on a daily basis. In both villages the nurse-in-training programs are progressing with the trainees displaying a growing interest and efficiency in their work.

Several meetings with Hoa An Village officials were held during the month. These meetings were considered to be successful because of the amount of village official participation at each session. At each meeting various festivals, village projects, and problem areas were discussed and probable solutions suggested. It is apparent that the failure to receive prompt response to requests submitted through the administrative channels of the Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam is a major problem. This problem area is being countered by submitting an identical request through Division G-5 channels so that each request is monitored until action is taken.

Operation Keysertown concluded with a successful Christmas party given for the Villagers of Tich Tay. A total of 1,181 lbs. of clothing, medical supplies, and toys were flown to Chu Lai for distribution. The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel J. W. CLAYBORNE, the Civic Action Officer, Captain J. H. COWMAN, and the Civic Action Chief, SSgt W. KEYSER were present at the party. Village Officials played a prominent role in the festivities and the party received a considerable amount of newspaper and television publicity. The party, given on 22 December, rendered appropriate honors to Village Officials and was conducted in an orderly fashion. Operation Keysertown gifts continued to arrive after the party and will be appropriately distributed at a later date.

Civil Affairs personnel participated in County Fair operations conducted by the 3rd Tank Battalion and volunteered their services when a Flying Tiger cargo plane crashed into a Vietnamese village near this unit's command post on 24 December.

A combined effort between this unit's civil affairs personnel and dental personnel from the 3rd Medical Battalion has resulted in the establishment of a dental program for the school system in Hoa An. A portion of Operation Keysertown medical materials was utilized for this project.

ENCLOSURE (1)

Company "A" (Rein), 1st Tank Battalion, is within the Chu Lai Tactical Area of Responsibility. This company has a strength of five Marine Officers, 123 Marine Enlisted, and two Navy Enlisted. The 1st Tank Battalion retains administrative control of Company "A".

During the month of December the 1st Tank Battalion's administrative and legal sections were inspected by Division personnel. The inspection resulted in a rating of satisfactory.

UNCLASSIFIED

ENCLOSURE (1)

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~~SECRET~~G. Personnel.

The 1st Tank Battalion is currently in Personnel Category C-1, with a chargeable strength of 33 Marine Officers, 641 Marine Enlisted, one Navy Officer, and 13 Navy Enlisted. This is compared to an authorized manning level of 36 Marine Officers, 598 Marine Enlisted, one Navy Officer, and 14 Navy Enlisted.

During the month of December the Battalion joined 2 Marine Officers and 132 Marine Enlisted. 35 Enlisted were transferred.

The following MOS's are considered critical:

<u>MOS</u>	<u>M/L</u>	<u>On Board</u>
3510	01	00
2151	07	03
2543	03	02
2867	01	00
0141	04	01

Two breaches of discipline occurred during the month resulting in Special Court Martials.

During the month of December, this Battalion had two Marines medically evacuated for non-battle reasons and one Marine evacuated for wounds suffered in combat.

The 1st Tank Battalion reenlisted two Career Marines during December.

UNCLASSIFIED

ENCLOSURE (1) ~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

# M. Intelligence.

The Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, conducted an inspection of the 1st Tank Battalion S-2 Section on 14 December. The results of the inspection are considered to be satisfactory, except for stated discrepancies.

The S-2 Section has the capability of providing instructors for a Vietnamese language school and a course of instruction on the weaponsight, infrared. The Battalion S-3 Section has plans underway to establish both courses of instruction.

At 062015H a Company "B" tank enroute to Hill 41 (AT 934663), detonated a mine at AT 938664. The mine consisted of 20 lbs. composition C-4 in a wooden box and was placed in the center of a 14 ft. roadway. The mine was at a depth of approximately eight inches. The roadway was constructed of dirt and was muddy. The tank sustained damage to two sets of roadwheels and five track blocks. The crew suffered no injuries.

At 111115H a Company "C" tank detonated a mine at BT 118638. The mine consisted of approximately 80 lbs. of TNT and created a crater six ft. long and four ft. deep. The crew was not injured. The damage to the tank consisted of two sets of roadwheels, a roadwheel arm housing torn loose from the hull, two torsion bars and six sections of track block.

At 161715H a Company "C" tank in support of 3/1 observed one VC running away from another section of tanks at BT 064630. Tank C-11 pursued and captured the VC who was turned over to 3/1. Interrogation revealed the prisoner was a confirmed VC.

At 210730H a Company "B" tank detonated a mine at AT 952664. Composition and size of the mine remains unknown, however it did create a crater 12 ft. wide and six ft. deep. The crew received minor injuries and were treated at the company aid station prior to returning to duty. The tank had both tracks, five sets of roadwheels and arm assemblies, and three return rollers blown off.

At 210945H a Company "C" tank detonated a mine at BT 072702. The mine was estimated at 60 lbs. of TNT and created a crater five feet wide and four ft. deep. The crew was not injured. Damage to the tank consisted of two sets of roadwheels and arm assemblies and the air cleaner and fender being blown off the right side.

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ENCLOSURE (1)

~~SECRET~~