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HEADQUARTERS
1st Tank Battalion, FMF
APO San Francisco 96602

2/DH/rjd
7 Aug 1967

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF
Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 July 1967 to 31 July 1967
Ref: (a) MGO 5750.2
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8
(c) DivO 5750.2B
Encl: ✓(1) 1st Tank Battalion Command Chronology

R M Taylor
R. M. TAYLOR

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

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1ST TANK BN
CMD
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July 1967

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1. 1st Tank Battalion

Lt. Colonel R. M. TAYLOR

SUBORDINATE UNITS

H&S Company, 1st Tank Battalion, FMF
 Company "A", 1st Tank Battalion, FMF
 Company "B", 1st Tank Battalion, FMF
 Company "C", 1st Tank Battalion, FMF
 Company "C", 1st Tank Battalion, FMF

Captain R. E. ROEMER
 Captain W. J. BRITTON
 Captain J. O. WINTHER
 Captain P. S. WEIGAND
 (1Jul-13Jul67)
 1stLt. C. E. OBRIEN
 (13Jul-31Jul67)

2. Location

Headquarters, 1st Tank Battalion, FMF
 H&S Company, 1st Tank Battalion, FMF
 Company "A", 1st Tank Battalion, FMF
 Company "B", 1st Tank Battalion, FMF
 Company "C", 1st Tank Battalion, FMF

(AT 977723)
 (AT 977723)
 (AT 133445)
 (AT 962621)
 (BT 074659)

3. Staff Officers

Battalion Executive Officer

Major E. P. TRADER Jr.
 (1Jul-5Jul67)

Battalion Executive Officer

Major R. M. CROLL
 (5Jul-31Jul67)

Battalion Adjutant

WO-1 C. O. CARL Jr.
 (1Jul-15Jul67)

Battalion Adjutant

WO-1 W. A. AKAHOSHI
 (15Jul-31Jul67)

Battalion S-2 Officer

Capt. D. HOWE

Battalion S-3 Officer

Major C. R. BRABEC

Battalion S-4 Officer

Major D. B. CRUDUP

Battalion S-5/Civil Affairs Officer

1stLt J. M. RAY

4. Average Monthly Strength

USMC		USN	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
32	698	2	14

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a. Operation Pecos. The 1st platoon, Company B, located at AT 787550 supported 1st Battalion, 7th Marines by indirect fire on 222200H. The tanks fired 11 rounds 90mm HE. The command group of 1st Battalion, 7th Marines was located at coordinates ZC152662. This was the first occasion that 1st Tank Battalion fired an indirect fire mission in Vietnam.

II. Anti-Tank Activities

a. Mines. During the month of July 1967, there were 9 mine incidents. There were 8 tanks which required organizational maintenance repair and one which required field maintenance repair prior to its subsequent coding out as a combat loss. The mined vehicles were under repair for an average of 5 days, the longest being 9 days and the shortest being 3 days. Four tanks are as yet unrepaired. Personal casualties included 1 KIA, 5 WIA med-evac, and 3 WIA non-evac. The 1 KIA was killed as he proceeded on foot to a previously mined tank and detonated another mine.

b. Recoilless Rifle. During the month of July there were no recoilless rifle incidents.

c. AP mines. 3 AP mines were detonated by tanks in July. Two were M26 grenades and one was a 60mm mortar. No casualties were incurred by any tank crewmen and damage to the tanks was minimal.

III. Southern Defense Sector

a. The combat operations center of 1st Tank Battalion continued to initiate, control and coordinate defensive activities within the Southern Sector. There were 713 tenant unit activities conducted. 1st Tank Battalion conducted 65 patrols and ambushes and responded with 6 special security patrols ranging from squad to company size when intelligence information warranted them.

b. A total of 10 detainees were captured during July. Captured weapons and documents included 2 M-1's, 4 chicom grenades, 2 M26's, 64 .30 cal. rounds, 1 roll of trip wire, and assorted documents. A total of 2 Viet Cong were wounded. Their heavy blood trails indicated 2 KIA's probable. One cave was also destroyed.

c. 4 significant incidents occurred in the Southern Sector during the month of July. At 150041H, the tank at outpost 47 fired a total of 17 HE and 3 WP rounds at rocket sites during the rocket attack on the Danang Air Base. Results were inconclusive due to the fact that targets were out of the Southern Sector and no search could be made.

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At 210700H, at coordinates AT990704 a cave was discovered which yielded 2 M-1's, 2 Chicom grenades, 1 M26 grenade, 64 .30 caliber rounds, 1 roll of trip wire and assorted documents. The information as to the location of the cave was received previously from reliable intelligence sources. At 220150H, a squad size patrol from H&S Company, 1st Tank Battalion fired on a fleeing VC. Blood trails indicated one VC KIA probable. At 210545H, at coordinates AT980703, a blocking force consisting of 1st Tank Battalion and PF personnel observed a VC with a weapon. The VC was challenged in Vietnamese and was shot as he ran from the friendly positions. Heavy blood trails indicated one VC KIA probable.

IV. Training

a. For the month of July training centered on the M16, weapons safety and communications procedure, with concurrent training on indirect fire procedures necessitated by tank participation in Operation Pecos. Instruction was provided by 4/11 and 1st Armored LVT personnel. A total of 238 man hours of training were conducted on indirect fire. 1170 man hours of training on weapons safety and 2250 hours on the M-16.

b. Officer and Staff Non Commissioned Officer training consisted primarily of a weekly briefing which recounted the week's activities, allowed discussion on the current intelligence situation, and brought to light any lessons learned. Each Staff section customarily offered constructive suggestions and criticism during the course of the meeting.

V. Ground Based Defoliants Report

a. During July 1967 flame tanks assigned to the gun companies expended a total of 720 gallons of napalm mix in execution of assigned fire missions.

VI. Viet Cong Box Score for July 1967

VC KIA Confirmed	11
VC KIA Probable	12
VC WIA Probable	0
VC Detainees	0

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1. At 011655H, a section of tanks from the 3rd platoon, Company A, located at BT082602 on a tank and infantry patrol, spotted 2 VC running across a rice paddy. The tank fired 5 rounds of 90mm canister, 1 round 90mm HE, and 250 rounds 30 cal. There was 1 VC KIA confirmed by body count.
2. At 020715H, a tank from the 3rd platoon, Company C, enroute to the 1/1 C.P. hit a pressure type mine containing approximately 40lbs of TNT at BT115616. The explosion left a crater 6 feet in diameter and 4 feet deep. The tank was moderately damaged.
3. At 030945H, a tank from the 1st platoon, Company A, was escorting a supply convoy when the tank detonated a pressure type mine of approximately 50 lbs TNT at AT924574. The tank was moderately damaged. The explosion left a crater 5 feet deep and 10 feet in diameter. One tank crewman received a minor wound and was not med-evacuated.
4. At 031410H, a tank from the headquarters section, Company A, on patrol with infantry troops at BT159287, found bunker at BT155282. The tank destroyed the bunker on request of the infantry leader. The tank fired 2 rounds of 90mm HE.
5. At 040930H, a tank from the 2nd platoon, Company A, at BT087672 spotted 5 VC running. The tank fired 3 rounds of 90mm HE. They saw 1 man fall and captured 1 VCS woman at BT088668. There was 1 VC KIA Probable and 1 VCS captured.
6. At 051515H, a section of tanks from the 3rd platoon, Company A, returning to the 3/1 C.P., detonated a pressure type mine consisting of approximately 40 lbs TNT at BT045667. The tank was moderately damaged. The explosion left a crater 6 feet in diameter and 4 feet deep.
7. At 080830H, a headquarters section, Company B tank, located at AT971525, observed 1 VC firing at a re-supply helicopter from AT971526. The tank fired 2 rounds 90mm canister. A search of the area revealed 1 VC KIA confirmed by body count.
8. At 081600H, a tank from the headquarters section, Company A, located at AT969531, observed a re-supply helicopter receive small arms sniper fire from AT972533. The tank fired 2 rounds 90mm canister, 350 rounds 30 cal., and 500 rounds 50 cal. A search of the area revealed 1 VC KIA confirmed by body count.
9. At 101620H, a section of tanks from the 1st platoon, Company A, were called out as an element of an infantry reaction force. Aerial observers had spotted a large force of VC at BT282267. Infantry requested tanks located at BT282263 to fire on the enemy position. The tanks fired 12 rounds of 90mm WP and 3 rounds of 90mm HE. They observed secondary ex-

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plosions. A search of the area revealed 1 VC KIA confirmed and 1 VC KIA probable.

10. At 102130H, a section of tanks from the 3rd platoon, Company A, located at BT027343, were requested by infantry to fire H&I direct fire with Xenon illumination at BT005372 & BT028373. The tanks fired 4 rounds of 90mm WP. Point target hits were attained.

11. At 131620H, a tank from the 1st platoon and a tank from the headquarters section of Company C, while on a patrol with the infantry located at AT993548 spotted 6 VC running across a bridge. The tanks fired 12 rounds of 90mm HE, 2 rounds 90mm canister, and 1000 rounds 30 cal. There were 2 VC KIA confirmed by the infantry leader.

12. At 140910H, a section of tanks from the 3rd platoon, Company A, located at AT988354 observed approximately 20 VCS run into a village at AT983347. The tanks fired 5 rounds 90mm WP and 5 rounds 90mm HE. They deployed to search the area and received approximately 50 rounds small arms automatic and semi-automatic weapons fire. They returned the fire with 200 rounds 30 cal., 50 rounds 5.56mm, and 10 M-79 rounds. 1 VC KIA was confirmed.

13. At 151705H, a tank from the 2nd platoon, Company B, escorting a convoy to An Hoa, hit a command detonated mine of approximately 40 lbs TNT at AT906495. The tank was moderately damaged. There were two (2) tankers WIA non-evac.

14. At 152045H, a tank from the 3rd platoon, Company A, located at BT027343 was requested by infantry to fire at a suspected enemy position located at AT905368. The tank fired 3 rounds 90mm HE and had 1 secondary explosion. Infantry then requested H&I fire on the same enemy position. The tank fired 12 rounds 90mm HE and 7 rounds 90mm WP.

15. At 161615H, a tank from the 1st platoon, Company C, detonated a mine at BT005575. There were no casualties.

16. At 171430H, a section of tanks from the 1st platoon, Company C, was on patrol with the infantry when the lead tank detonated a mine at BT003573. The tank was moderately damaged. The tank commander of the second tank stepped off the tank to go to the lead tank to notify the company commander. While walking in the tracks left by the lead tank he detonated a second mine. There was 1 tanker KIA and 2 tankers WIA med-evac.

17. At 171950H, a tank from the 2nd platoon, Company C, while in support of the infantry sweeping a small hill, detonated an anti-personnel booby trap at BT094663 which was believed to be an M-26 grenade. No damage was done to the tank.

18. At 180830H, a tank from the 3rd platoon, Company C, moving to a blocking position at BT062624 observed 12 VC running at BT054624. The

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tank fired a warning shot, and the VC continued to run. The tank fired 4 rounds 90mm HE, 3 rounds 90mm canister and 250 rounds 30 cal. A search of the area revealed 2 VC KIA confirmed by body count.

19. At 181000H, a flame tank from Company C, in support of infantry, detonated a small booby trap mine at BT082621. The tank was not damaged.

20. At 201330H, a section of tanks from Company C, on patrol with the infantry at BT122623, were requested by the infantry to fire at a sniper position at BT126624. The tank could not fire the main gun due to friendly troops. The tank pursued the sniper with the weapon into a tree line. There was 1 VCS captured.

21. At 271900H, a section of tanks from the 2nd platoon, Company C, were on a mechanized patrol at BT101601 when one detonated a mine of approximately 40 lbs. The tank received moderate damage. There were no casualties.

22. At 291030H, the Company B tank park, located at AT960612, received approximately 10 rounds small arms sniper fire from AT959607. A tank crewman working on his tank was WIA and med-evaced. The infantry sent a reaction force to the enemy position at AT959607.

23. At 301550H, a tank from the 2nd platoon, Company B, detonated a pressure type mine of approximately 30 lbs TNT at AT908500. There was 1 tanker WIA non-evac.

24. At 311515H, a tank from the 1st platoon, Company C, enroute to an infantry C.P. detonated a mine of approximately 25 lbs at BT089626. The tank was moderately damaged.

25. At 311515H, a section of tanks from Company B, located at AT953537, received an unknown number of automatic small arms sniper fire and two unidentified rockets from an enemy employment at AT951534. The tanks fired 34 rounds 90mm. A search of the area revealed 2 VC KIA confirmed, 10 VC KIA probable. There was 1 tanker WIA non-evac.

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During the month of July this Battalion sustained 15 casualties, three of which were medically evacuated.

During the same period there was one Marine medically evacuated for a non-battle reason.

One Marine died of wounds received during the month of June.

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E. CIVIC ACTION

On 13 July the CAO took Mr. THOUNG and Mr. LEAN, both officers of the Farmers CO-OP, to two pig farms run by Vietnamese in the Da Nang area. The purpose of the visit was to show them an example of how American pigs are to be fed and cared for. The owner told the chairman that he makes a profit of about 60,000\$ VN a year off of the litters from one sow. He then went into detail explaining how and what the pigs were fed and how to care for them. The chairman seemed very impressed with the man's success with Yorkshires.

On 14 July, the Phong Bao Farmers Cooperative held a meeting and discussed the Pig Project. The CAO went into detail explaining the duties of each officer and the membership. The CAO spoke of a hypothetical case of one female pig and her brood. Also discussed was the possibility of selling 4 fattened, castrated pigs in order to generate working capital to run the farm. A discussion was also held on the subject of reimbursement for the family which has been managing the farm for the last six months. After the meeting was over, the members were trucked down to the farm and given a tour of the area. They were given a briefing on the present state of affairs and what was involved in managing and providing for the farm. Emphasis was placed on the fact that other arrangements for feed were going to have to be provided for. The members were all impressed and it is felt that constant gentle prodding for the next few weeks will produce a unified COOP that will actively supervise and manage the farm.

On 18 July the CAO went to Hoi An to contact Mr. BILL COOK of OCO on the subject of seed corn for planting. Mr. COOK is the Province Agricultural representative for OCO in Quang Nam. The CAO was introduced to Mr. GIAP, who is the agricultural chief for Quang Nam Province. On 19 July, Mr. COOK and Mr. GIAP attended a CO-OP meeting in Phong Bao to check into the feasibility of growing corn there. The session was largely academic because of the fact that corn planting season will not begin until October or November. Mr. COOK suggested that consideration be given to planting sweet potato until the corn season came in. The CO-OP agreed to look into it and the GVN people from Hoi An made arrangements to come to Phong Bao and give some demonstrations.

On 21 July, the CA team picked up four pigs at FLC that had been bought in Saigon. All of the pigs are females and when they breed, should expedite the program. They were given all of their shots and have been put into pens at the breeding farm.

On 22 July COLONEL DONAHOE, the incoming Headquarters Battalion CO, was given a briefing on the Civil Affairs program of this organization. He was given a tour of the Breeding Farm and one of the individual pig farms.

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On 23 July, a culture and drama team from Hoi An entertained the people of Phong Bao at the outdoor theater. There was around 300 persons in the audience, most of whom were adults. The entertainment was well received by those in attendance.

During the month of June the attendance at Medoap continued to be high. The Medoap team treated 44 people at the 1st Tank Battalion aid station, 405 at Cam Hoa, 263 at the Hoa Cam Training Center Dependents' Housing and 923 at Phong Bao; a total of 1635 patients. This is compared with 713 in April, 1,199 in May and 1600 in June.

During the month the CA team distributed the following materials for self-help projects.

1. One hundred-fifty bags of cement, fifteen loads of sand and 46 steel rods for the Buddhist School.
2. Three loads of scrap lumber were distributed to persons in the hamlet for firewood.
3. Approximately 20,500lbs of garbage was distributed to the Breeding Farm and the individual farms to be used as feed.

During the month of July the outdoor theater was completed. Films continued to be shown on Monday nights. During the month the attendance of the theater totaled approximately 3,000 people.

During the month the Buddhist school was begun. The CA team drew 225 bags of cement, 40 sheets of tin and 46 pieces of reinforcing steel from the USAID warehouse for the project. In addition this unit is providing transportation for the sand runs. By the end of the month the bricks for the walls had been made and the foundation is well under way. The progress of the project will depend primarily upon the availability of transportation. The completion target is 1 September.

During the month of July there were three instances of weapons or strategic materials being turned in to the CA team. The net results for the month included sixty M-14 rounds with magazines, twelve PRG-25 batteries, and one hand grenade. There was a total of 550\$VN paid from the rewards fund for the turn-ins. On one occasion, the man turning in the hand grenade refused a reward, saying that it was his duty as a citizen to turn in dangerous items that could harm children or be used by the VC.

Intelligence was received during the month which specified the Rewards Fund as a program in the Southern Sector. In conjunction with the intelligence, an intensified Rewards Program is being planned for the immediate future.

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All companies are within the Danang TACR, with the exception of Company A (-) (Rein) which is located in the 5th Marines operational area. The 1st Tank Battalion retains administrative control of all companies.

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The 1st Tank Battalion is currently in personnel category C-1 with a chargeable strength of: 737

32 Marine Officers
698 Marine Enlisted
02 Navy Officers
14 Navy Enlisted

During the month of July, the Battalion joined eight Marine Officers, thirty-one Marine Enlisted and one Navy Officer. Ten Marine Officers and 48 Marine Enlisted were transferred.

The following MOS's are considered critical:

<u>MOS</u>	<u>SHORTAGE</u>	<u>ML</u>
0231	Sgt 1	1
0239	SSgt 1	1
0431	Cpl 1	1
1341	Cpl 1	1
1345	Cpl 1	1
1441	LCpl 1	1
1811	MGySgt 1	1
2151	Cpl 4	4
2192	MGySgt 1	1
2531	Sgt 2 PFC 4	4
2867	SSgt 1	1
3371	LCpl 9	14
9999	SgtMaj 1	1
2847	LCpl 1	1
5591	PFC 1	1
*2822		0

* Not rated on manning level, but have equipment on hand and in use at the present time.

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Incidents. There were a total of 70 incidents reported this month which involved tanks. This was a decrease in incidents from the previous month. However, tank activity accounted for 11 VC KIA confirmed and 12 VC KIA probable.

Mines. This month 9 tanks hit mines. All mines were of the wooden box type and all but one was pressure detonated. One is believed to have been command detonated. Estimated sizes of the explosive charges was between 20 and 60 lbs. The retriever from Company C uncovered a box type mine while on a recovery mission. Although the mine was damaged beyond repair it was a good example of the type of mine currently being encountered by tanks. The explosive looked like it was mixed with concrete and then poured into the box and allowed to harden. It was detonated by a blasting cap.

Intelligence Information. The amount of intelligence information received increased over last month. One report resulted in the discovery of a small weapons cache and the capture of several documents.

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I. LOGISTIC SUMMARY REPORT

1. Supply Situation. The month of July has reflected little change in the fill rate over the previous month. The repair parts flow for tracked vehicle suspension systems remains slow and inadequate. Some supplies ordered for monsoon preparations have begun to arrive. No major problems are anticipated for Class I, II, and V supplies.

2. Critical Items.

- a. Supply items declared to be in a critical status-page 15.
- b. Potentially critical items-page 16.
- c. Major T/E deficiencies-page 17.

3. Significant Problem Areas. The IX program has been unable to provide satisfactory support for tracked vehicle generators and truck radiators. The need for this support is becoming increasingly critical. Blank forms continue to be in short supply. There is no change in the supply of left hand torsion bars of 782 gear. The compressor requirement for flame tanks has not improved and no supply advice has been received on the new M-5 compressor.

4. Maintenance Situation. No significant change. During this period a total of nine (9) tanks sustained mine damage. One (1) flame tank and one (1) dozer tank were evacuated due to submergence.

5. Major Items of Equipment.

ITEM	QTY	AUTH	C/H	CR	NCRS	NCRM
<u>MOTOR TRANSPORT</u>						
M-49	7		7	6	0	1,2d Eoh
M-54	38		38	38	2	38,2d Eoh
M-38A1	21		17	16	0	1,3d Eoh
<u>TRACKED VEHICLES</u>						
M-51 VTR	4		4	2		2,3d Eoh
M-48A3	53		47	37	2	8,2d&3d Eoh
M-67A2	9		8	4	1	
<u>ENGINEER/CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT</u>						
TD-15 Tractor	1		1	1		
Generator FU-482	1		1	0		4,3d Eoh

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6. Significant Maintenance Problem Areas. No change except as reported above with respect to the DK program.
7. Services Situation. No change.
8. Significant Transportation Problem Areas. None, except as reported above.
9. Other Items of Interest. No change.

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LIST OF CRITICAL ITEMS

<u>RUC</u>	<u>FSN</u>	<u>NOUN NAME</u>	<u>QTY</u>	<u>DDD</u>	<u>DOC#</u>	<u>PRI</u>	<u>HOLDER</u>	<u>LATEST STATUS</u>
21410	6240-752-2570	Lamp, F/18" Searchlight	2	7060	0713	05	MC1	Reinstated at MC1
21410	4940-014-0496	Cleaner, Steam	1	7103	0108	05	MR1	Req for ship status By CG 1st MarDiv 290209Z Jun67
21410	2610-051-9450	Tubes, Pneumatic 1100x20	3 25	7138 7102	0031 0208	02 05	MR1 MR1	Passed to MR1 29 Jun67 BB at MR1, Follow-up on 8 Jul 67
21410	2930-737-5656	Radiator, M-54	2	7105	0215	05	MR1	BB at MR1 on 7131

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LIST OF POTENTIALLY CRITICAL ITEMS

<u>FSN</u>	<u>ITEM NAME</u>	<u>NOT SHORT</u>	<u>SHORT</u>	<u>IMPACT</u>
5965-892-2972	Handset H-138		X	Critical
5660-262-9914	Stake, Barbed Wire	X		
6135-858-5712	Battery, BA-386		X	Minimal
6140-057-2554	Battery, 6TN		X	Minimal
6140-160-7795	Wire WD 1/TT		X	Critical
6145-226-8812	Wire WD 1/TT	X		
6145-243-8466	Wire WD 1/TT		X	Critical
6810-249-9354	Electrolyte, Acid		X	Minimal
2610-204-3198	Patch Tire, Vulcanizing	X		
6605-846-7618	Compass, Magnetic		X	Minimal
6655-903-0932	Seismic Intrusion Device		X	Minimal
6240-635-9800	Lamp Incandescent			Not Applicable
8470-576-4193	Body Armor, Upper		X	Minimal
8470-576-4194	Body Armor, Upper		X	Minimal
7210-227-1524	Green Towel		X	Minimal
All Sizes	Green Underclothing		X	Minimal
6830-264-6755	Acetylene		X	Minimal
6830-169-0800	Oxygen	X		
6830-292-0132	Hydrogen Technical	X		
6840-270-8262	Chlordane		X	Minimal
2610-540-4724	Tires, 1100x20	X		
2610-205-4008	Tires, 900x20	X		
2610-569-0815	Tires, 750x10	X		
All Sizes	Lightweight Utilities		X	Minimal
N/A	Spare Parts, M-16		*X	Not applicable
N/A	Spare Parts, Refrigeration	X		

* This Command has 25 subject rifles at present for training purposes. No spare parts on hand.

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ITEM NAME	QTY	DOC NO	FRI	STATUS & LXH
TEST SET, AN/GRM-55 6625-973-2117	1	7130- 0003	02	AF1 to M01 23 Jun 67
HELMET, OVC W/MK 1039G 8415-926-9991	65	7137- 0029	02	AF1 to MR1 7 Jul 67
HELMET, OVC W/MK 1039G 8415-926-9992	256	7137- 0030	02	AF1 to MR1 7 Jul 67
MIXING & TRANSFER UNIT 1040-339-1615	1	7243- 0030	05	BB Fm M01 on 11 Jul 67
TRUCK, CARGO, M37 5120-542-4636	1	7184- 0094	05	Passed to MR1 on 7205
TRUCK, UTILITY, M-38A1 2320-835-8319	2	7130- 0002	05	BA Fm M01 on 24 Jul 67
		7174- 0075	05	To M01 no Status
WELDING MACHINE 3431-255-8864	1	7188- 0052	05	To M01 no Status
CLEANER, STEAM Trlr Mtd 4940-014-0496	1	7068- 0108	05	To M01 no Status

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