

1st Marines Command Chronology

Jul-Dec 1965

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History and Training
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HEADQUARTERS

1st Marines, 1st Marine Division (A.M.), F.M.F.
c/o FPO San Francisco, California, 962

3/MWH/agv
8 Jan 66
Ser: 006-66

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (A.M.), F.M.F.
Subj: 1st Marines Command Chronology; submission of
Ref: (a) DivO 5750.2
Enclo: (1) Subject Report

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted as the Command Chronology of the 1st Marines for the period 1 July - 31 Dec 65.
2. Part I of this report covers the Organization Data/Attachments, period covered and a breakdown of Commanding Officers, Staff and Chief Subordinates. A Narrative Summary of Significant Events follows, which is designed to present the highlights of the period covered without delving into great detail. The detailed Chronology of Events depicts the day by day operations of the Regiment. Documentation of the presentation contained in Part I is contained in the following three attached appendixes.

Classification
a. Appendix A: Tabulated Documents
b. Appendix B: Unit directives, SOP's, Orders and Reports
c. Appendix C: Chronologies of:

July 1965 → { 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines
3rd Battalion, 1st Marines
- 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines (To be submitted separately)

3. This cover letter is declassified upon being detached from enclosure (1).

B. B. Mitchell
B. B. MITCHELL

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ENCLOSURE(6)

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I. Organization Data/Attachments:

a. Designation/Location

At the beginning of the reporting period the 1st Marine Regiment, First Marine Division (-) (Rein), was located at Camp San Mateo, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, California. At that time the Regiment was composed of Headquarters Company, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Battalions, 1st Marines. On 29 July, Regimental Landing Team-1 was activated for planning by the Commanding General, First Marine Division (-) (Rein). Orders were also received to prepare for overseas deployment. The Regimental Landing Team-1 consisting of Headquarters Company and Battalion Landing Teams 1/1 and 2/1 and other First Marine Division units embarked in Amphibious Squadron One shipping sailed from West Coast Ports on the 10th of August 1965. The 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines remained at Camp Pendleton and was activated as Battalion Landing Team 3/1 on 7 August 1965.

Sailing Orders for Regimental Landing Team-1 directed that Regimental Landing Team-1 minus Battalion Landing Team 1/1 proceed to Okinawa and report to the Commanding General, First Marine Division (FWD) for operational control. The Regimental Landing Team so reported on 27 August and disembarked in Okinawan ports on 28 August 1965. Battalion Landing Team 1/1 was in receipt of orders to sail to Viet Nam and report to the Commanding General, Third Marine Amphibious Force for Operational Control. Battalion Landing Team 1/1 was dissolved on 28 August and the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines landed at DANANG, VietNam on 28 August 1965.

Regimental Landing Team-1 Headquarters was established at Camp Hansen upon arrival Okinawa. The Regimental Landing Team was dissolved on 17 September 1965 and the 1st Marines remained at Camp Hansen until 11 November 1965 at which time the Headquarters was moved to Camp Schwab where the 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines had been located since arrival Okinawa.

The 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines was activated for operations as Battalion Landing Team 2/1 on 1 September 1965 and was committed to Special Landing Force Operations under operational control of CTF 79 on 1 September 1965. After completion of the Special Landing Force commitment, the 2nd Battalion, landed in VietNam on 10 December 1965 and was assigned to the Third Marine Division.

During the stay on Okinawa, the Regiment participated in rotation of Infantry Battalions to and from VietNam. The 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines was joined for operational control during the period 22 September - 12 November. The 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines was also joined during the period 29 November- 31 December.

On 21 December 1965, Regimental Landing Team-1 was once again activated for planning by the Commanding General, First Marine Division (Rein). Instructions were received to prepare for deployment to VietNam.

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At the close of the reporting period the 1st Marines was composed of Headquarters Company and the 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines. Plans and preparations were being made for the deployment of Regimental Landing Team-1 to VietNam.

b. Period Covered:

1 July - 31 December 1965

c. Name/Rank of Commanding Officer, Staff and Chief Subordinates

HEADQUARTERS, FIRST MARINES:

| | |
|----------------|--|
| CO | Col MITCHELL |
| XO | LtCol BLEDSOE |
| SgtMaj | SgtMaj VICKERS |
| S-1 | Capt WOODWARD (1 Jul-19 Sept) Capt DUPONT(20 Sept- |
| Adj | Capt WOODWARD (1 Jul-19 Sept) Capt DUPONT(20 Sept- |
| S-2 | Maj RISELEY |
| S-3 | Maj HOPKINS (1 Jul-6 Nov) Maj WELKER (7 Nov-29 Dec) Maj HAMLIN (29 Dec- |
| Air Officer | Maj WELKER |
| S-4 | Maj VORGANG |
| CommO | LtCol NASTASI(1 Jul-20 Dec) Maj McBRIDE(21 Dec- |
| CO HqCo | 1stLt JENNINGS (1 Jul-6 Aug) Capt MURPHY(7 Aug- |
| Chaplain | LCDR HINDERER |
| Regt'l Surgeon | Lt MULLANNEY |

1st Bn, 1st Marines

2nd Bn, 1st Marines

1 Jul - 28 Aug 65

1 Jul - 6 Sept 65

| | | | |
|--------|-----------------|--------|--|
| CO | LtCol McCLOSKEY | CO | LtCol HANIFIN |
| XO | Maj GEORGE | XO | Maj SAUNDERS(1 Jul-18 Oct) Maj WICKHAM(19 Oct |
| SgtMaj | NONE | SgtMaj | SgtMaj MOORE |
| S-1 | 1stLt KEELEY | S-1 | 1stLt CHAMBERS |
| Adj | 1stLt KEELEY | Adj | 1stLt GURROLA |
| S-2 | 1stLt WILSON | S-2 | Capt LAVAN |
| S-3 | Capt WOODROW | S-3 | Capt PAGE (1 Jul-8 Aug) Maj WICKHAM(9 Aug- 18 Oct) Maj HAVILAND(19 Oct- |
| S-4 | Capt MARSH | S-4 | Capt LARSEN |
| CommO | 1stLt GRIFFIN | CommO | Capt REED |
| H&S Co | 1stLt SARAFIELD | H&S Co | Capt LINDAUER |
| A Co | Capt MAXWELL | E Co | Capt HAMMOND |
| B Co | Capt HART | F Co | Capt MIXSON (1 Jul-8 Aug) Capt PAGE(9 Aug- |
| C Co | Capt CARTWRIGHT | G Co | Capt SIBLEY |
| D Co | Capt DRAKE | H Co | Capt CARTY |

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3rd Bn, 1st Marines

1 Jul - 31 Dec 65

| | |
|--------|----------------|
| CO | LtCol YOUNG |
| XO | Maj JOHNSON |
| SgtMaj | SgtMaj EELVIN |
| S-1 | 1stLt HUNTER |
| Adj | 2ndLt KING |
| S-2 | Capt BAGGETT |
| S-3 | Maj FILIMORE |
| S-4 | Capt GONZALES |
| CommO | Maj McCOURY |
| H&S Co | Capt STCLAIR |
| I Co | Capt LECKY |
| K Co | Capt PEASE |
| L Co | Capt SCHULSTER |
| M Co | Capt LATTING |

d. Narrative Summary of Significant Events.

On 28 June, Colonel B. B. MITCHELL assumed command of the 1st Marine Regiment, First Marine Division, Camp Pendleton, California. Shortly thereafter on 10 July, Commanding Officer, 1st Marines was advised that the 1st Marine Regiment was on a ten day alert status for possible deployment. Normal increased readiness measures were placed into effect immediately. Regimental Landing Team-1 was activated for planning by Commanding General, First Marine Division msg 290031Z Jul. Planning conferences were held in the days to come for all units concerned. An assumed sailing date of 15 September was soon changed to 10 August. Through a series of messages and other appropriate reporting procedures embarkation problems were resolved. Shipping assigned from COMPHIBRON-ONE included the USS HENRICO, APA-45; USS LENAWEE, APA-195; USS BEXAR, APA-237; USS UNION, AKA-106; USS GUNSTON HALL, LSD-5 and USS WEXFORD COUNTY, LST-1165. Regimental Headquarters Company sailed on USS HENRICO APA-45; other elements of 1st Battalion, 1st Marines were aboard the USS WEXFORD COUNTY, LST-1165; Battalion Landing Team 2/1 sailed on USS BEXAR, APA-237, USS UNION, AKA-106 and USS GUNSTON HALL, LSD-5.

On the morning of 10 August, Regimental Landing Team-1 less Battalion Landing Team 3/1 "chopped" to OPCON Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Pacific by its msg 101730Z Aug (MOVREP). Battalion Landing Team 3/1 remained at Camp Pendleton under OPCON, Commanding General, First Marine Division (-) (Rein) until 23 August 1965. After sailing from Long Beach, Battalion Landing Team 3/1 reported to Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Pacific for OPCON effective 232100Z Aug.

Commanding Officer, Regimental Landing Team-1 msg 241232Z Aug directed Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines to report to Commanding General, Third Marine Amphibious Force for OPCON upon arrival DANANG. It further directed Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines to direct former Battalion Landing Team 1/1 attachments aboard USS LENAWEE to report

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to Commanding Officer, Regimental Landing Team-1 for OPCON upon arrival Okinawa. The 1st Battalion, 1st Marines, "chopped" to OPCON Commanding General, Third Marine Amphibious Force effective 260246Z Aug. Commanding Officer, Regimental Landing Team-1 reported for OPCON to Commanding General, First Marine Division (-) (Rein) (FWD) in his msg 270615Z Aug.

Unloading at White Beach commenced at 0830 on the 18th of August 1965. The Regimental Headquarters Company and Battalion Landing Team 2/1, moved into Camp Hansen. Commanding Officer, 1st Marines was designated as Camp Commander Camp Hansen and was charged with the operations safety and security of the Camp.

Commanding Officer, Regimental Landing Team-1 msg 130904Z Sept revised the Task Organization of Regimental Landing Team-1. Regimental Landing Team-1 was deactivated by Commanding General, First Marine Division msg 160130Z Sept effective 170001I Sept. The 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines arrived on Okinawa 22 September and was redesignated 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines in accordance with Commanding General, First Marine Division msg 200715Z Sept.

Battalion Landing Team 2/1 "chopped" to OPCON CTG 78.5 on 7 September and was designated as TU 78.5.2, by CTF 79 msg 010503Z Sept. The Special Landing Force (SLF) was embarked in assigned shipping of T.G. 76.5 aboard USS IWO JIMA, LPH-2; USS POINT DEFENCE, LSD-31 and USS TALLADEGA, APA-208 and departed Okinawa 7 September 1965.

In early October a situation developed in Indonesia which caused the activation of Battalion Landing Teams 3/1 and 1/3 and required that they remain in an alert status for deployment. This action was directed by Commanding General, First Marine Division (Rein) msg 020537Z Oct. Commanding General First Marine Division (Rein) msg 020537Z Oct and 020538Z Oct activated Battalion Landing Teams 3/1 and 1/3 respectively. On 4 October, the Commanding General, First Marine Division by his message 040747Z Oct relaxed the alert status and normal training was resumed.

The Commanding Officer, 1st Marines was directed by the Commanding General, First Marine Division to establish a training vehicle capable of qualifying 541 basic Marines for MOS's in occupational field 0300. This mission was assigned to ensure adequate MOS training of MFPAC replacement personnel prior to their assignment to a Combat Zone. Therefore, a comprehensive, short training program had to be established. A Provisional Basic Training Unit was established on 22 October and training commenced on 23 October to comply with Commanding General, First Marine Division msg 000550Z Oct. Major J. P. RISELEY was designated as Officer-in-Charge. This training function continued throughout the remainder of the reporting period.

On 20 October the Commanding Officer, 1st Marine Regiment accompanied the Commanding General, First Marine Division on a four day trip to Fuji Training Area Fuji, Japan. On 26 October the Commanding Officer, 1st Marine Regiment again accompanied the Commanding General, First Marine Division on a two day trip to Subic Bay to visit Battalion Landing Team 2/1.

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From 23 October to the close of the reporting period the 1st Marines assisted in the refresher training of Infantry Battalions that were rotated to Okinawa from VietNam. During the rotation battalion training cycle special emphasis was placed on firing exercises, counterguerrilla warfare school and landmine warfare demolitions and booby trap training. Individual training included: Formal training for field radio operators, wiremen, drivers, mechanics, weapons repair, NBC defense, Language and embarkation.

On preparation for deployment to VietNam, Battalion Landing Team 1/3 was activated for operations by Commanding General, First Marine Division msg 010730Z Nov effective 030001I Nov. Battalion Landing Team 1/3 sailed from Okinawa on 12 November 1965.

On 3 and 4 November, Mr. HANSEN BALDWIN, military editor of the New York Times, Major General S. S. WADE, Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Pacific forward/Commanding General, First Amphibious Corps, Brigadier General F. M. PLATT Jr., Third Marine Division Assistant Division Commander designate and Lieutenant General A. WATSON II, United States Army, High Commissioner Ryukyan Islands visited rifle companies of Battalion Landing Team 1/3 and 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines to observe training.

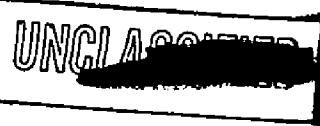
On 11 November, the Regimental Headquarters moved to Camp Schwab where the 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines was located since arrival Okinawa. Colonel B. B. MITCHELL was designated as Camp Commander, Camp Schwab.

The Fleet Marine Force Pacific Inspection Team inspected the 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines on 26 November.

Battalion Landing Team 3/1 was activated for planning, effective 090001I Nov, by Commanding General, First Marine Division msg 050530Z Nov. Battalion Landing Team 3/1 was activated for operations on 080007I Dec and directed to prepare to assume the mission of relieving Battalion Landing Team 2/1 of the Special Landing Force role on 13 December 1965. However, Battalion Landing Team 2/1 was committed to Combat Operations in VietNam which caused a change in plans for its return to Okinawa. Battalion Landing Team 3/1's Task Organization was modified to reflect prospective deployment to VietNam and training continued.

On 3 December the Commanding General, First Marine Division inspected Battalion Landing Team 3/1. During this inspection the Under Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable R. BALDWIN visited the Battalion, accompanied the Commanding General during part of the inspection and addressed the Landing Team prior to his departure.

Rear Admiral J. W. KELLY, USN, Chief of Chaplains made an inspection tour of Camp Schwab, Marine Chapel and observed training in the Northern Training Area on 16 December 1965. The Regimental/Camp Commander and Camp Chaplain entertained him at a luncheon. Accompanying Rear Admiral KELLY was Captain John WISSING, First Marine Division Chaplain and Commander L. S. DARKOWSKI, CHC, USN from the Chaplains Division.



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Commanding General, First Marine Division msg 180240Z Dec effective 200001I, activated Battalion Landing Team 2/3 for operations for subsequent assignment as the Special Landing Force.

Regimental Landing Team-1 was activated for planning by Commanding General, First Marine Division msg 210420Z Dec, effective 220001I Dec. Commanding General, First Marine Division msg 222200Z Dec established 6 January 1966 as the Readiness Deployment Date for Regimental Landing Team-1 and the expected deployment date of Regimental Landing Team-1 as approximately 11 January 1966. Commanding Officer, Regimental Landing Team-1 was designated as Embarkation Group Commander/Commanding Officer, of Embarked Troops in accordance with Commanding General, First Marine Division msg 230711Z Dec.

On Christmas Day Staff NCO's under the supervision of the Regimental Sergeant Major held a Christmas party for 62 children 6 to 7 years of age from Henoko.

Commanding General, First Marine Division msg 270600Z Dec assigned shipping to Battalion Landing Team 2/3. Ships included USS VALLEY FORGE, LPH-8; USS MONTROSE, APA-212; USS MONTICELLO, LSD-35. The Landing Team embarked and departed Okinawa on 3 January to carry out assigned Special Landing Force mission.

At 1400, 28 December Commanding Officer, Regimental Landing Team-1 held a planning conference with representatives of all supporting units attached to Regimental Landing Team-1.

During that portion of the reporting period while on Okinawa, the Regiment actively participated in the People to People program as follows: Assistance in the procurement of a building for the Mayor of Kin Village, helped rebuild playgrounds for schools, arranged for road improvement, participated in social and athletic events, and assisted in the distribution of Handclasps Materials. Under the supervision of the Camp Chaplain English classes were conducted twice a week for interested Okinawans and school Children.

The 1st Marine Regimental Commander accompanied the Commanding General, First Marine Division on a trip to VietNam 31 December. Appropriate Staff Officers from Division and Regimental Staff accompanied them.

As of 31 December 1965, the Provisional Basic Training unit which was established on 22 October, joined a total of 930 basic Marines. Training of 507 of these Basics was completed by the year end and appropriate MOS's were assigned. This 1st Marine Training function was terminated 31 December as the responsibility for the Basic training was assigned to the 1st Reconnaissance Battalion.

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E. Detailed Chronology of Events

15 July - CO, 1st Mar advised by CG, 1stMarDiv that, 1st MarRegt was on a 10 day alert for deployment, CG, FIFPAC msg 220533Z July (not held this command) advised CG, 1st MarDiv to activate an additional RLT.

24 July - CO, 1st Mar reported its status of deployable personnel to CG, 1st MarDiv.

29 July - CG, 1st MarDiv msg 290031Z July activated RLT-1 for planning. (See Appendix A Tab 2).

30 July - CO, RLT-1 was advised by telephone that the Service Bn attachments would not be available for deployment with RLT-1. At 1500, CO, RLT-1 held a planning conference for the attached units, to advise them of the current status, confirm their capabilities to support, issue a tentative RLT Task Organization and discuss problems. For Task Organization, (See Appendix B Tab 3).

2 Aug - CO, RLT-1 issued his tentative Operation Order to BLT's 1/1 and 2/1 on 020800 Aug. (See Appendix B Tab 1).

4 Aug - USS WEXFORD COUNTY and USS GUNNISON HALL commenced loading at DEL MAR and SAN DIEGO and sailed on 6 August.

6 Aug - CO, RLT-1 issued his Operation Order (7322-65) at 060800T Aug, (See Appendix B Tab 2). CG, 1stMarDiv msg 080613Z Aug confirmed embarkation instructions. (See Appendix A Tab 6). CG, 1st MarDiv msg 110121Z Aug contained instructions for deployment. (See Appendix A Tab 7).

9 Aug - The main elements of RLT-1 (less units aboard the GUNNISON HALL and the WEXFORD COUNTY) staged from CAMP PENDLETON to LONG BEACH and SAN DIEGO on 9 August.

10 Aug - The ships sailed on the morning of 10 August when RLT-1 (less BLT 3/1) "chopped" to CG, FIFPAC, by BLT 3/1 msg 101730Z Aug (NOVREP). (See Appendix A Tab 8).

11 Aug - CO, BLT 3/1 assumed duties as CO, RLT-1 (Rear) and reported to CG, 1st MarDiv (-) (Rein) for OPCON, BLT 3/1 msg 112239Z Aug. (not held this command).

15 Aug - Advance Party RLT-1 departed EL TORO, received FIFPAC briefing at PEARL HARBOR and arrived Okinawa 18 Aug.

19 Aug - CO, RLT-1 msg 190910Z Aug requested information and guidance from CG, FIFPAC on the Special Landing Force to be provided by BLT 2/1 (See Appendix A Tab 9).

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21 Aug - CTF.79 msg 210626Z AUG (not held this command) while not answering CO, RLT-1 msg 190910Z Aug, provided the designations, units (BLT 2/1 and HMM-163) and established conference schedules and responsibilities. (See Appendix A Tab 9)

24 Aug - CO, RLT-1 msg 241232Z Aug (See Appendix A Tab 10) directed CO, BLT 1/1 to report to CG, 3d MAF for OPCON upon arrival DANANG. It further directed CO, BLT 1/1 to direct former BLT 1/1 attachments aboard LENAWEE, to report to CO, RLT-1 for OPCON upon arrival Okinawa.

25 Aug - CO, RLT-1 msg 250956Z Aug (See Appendix A Tab 11) requested information concerning the unloading of ships on Okinawa. CG, 1st MarDiv (FWD) msg 250440Z Aug (not held this command) provided debarkation instructions and indicated the major portion of RLT-1 would be located at Camp Hansen and that the 1st MarDiv C.P. would be located at Camp Courtney.

27 Aug - CO, RLT-1 reported for OPCON to CO, 1st MarDiv in its msg 270615Z Aug. (See Appendix A Tab 12). Unloading at White Beach commenced at 0830 on the 28th, the RLT Headquarters; BLT 2/1; 1st Bn, 11th Mar; Co A, 1st Tk Bn; Co A, 1st AT Bn and Co A, 1st Med Bn moved to Camp Hansen. CO, 1st Mar assumed the duties as Camp Commander, Camp Hansen.

28 Aug - CO, BLT 1/1 msg 280246Z Aug (See Appendix A Tab 13) "chopped" to CG, 3d MAF and detached its attachments, effective 280246Z Aug.

1 Sept - CTF.79 msg 260637Z Aug (See Appendix A Tab 14) activated BLT 2/1 as the SLF for planning. CTF.79 msg 010503Z Sept (See Appendix A Tab 15) activated BLT 2/1 (TU 78.5.2) for operations with (TG 78.5) effective 011000I Sept. After completion of a six day training program, BLT 2/1 embarked as the (SLF) aboard the USS IWO JIMA, LPF-2; USS TALLADEGA, APA-208; and USS POINT DEFLIANCE, LSD-31 at 1600I on 7 September with HMM-163. Task Organization for BLT 2/1 (See Appendix A Tab 16).

12 Sept - BLT 3/1 arrived on Okinawa. 3/1 moved into Camp Schwab. The attached units moved into areas occupied by their parent organization. All units attached to BLT 1/1 completed arrival on Okinawa.

13 Sept - CO, RLT-1 msg 130904Z Sept (See Appendix A Tab 17) revised the Task Organization of RLT-1; for revised Task Organization (See Appendix A Tab 18).

14 Sept - CG, 1st MarDiv msg 140400Z Sept (See Appendix A Tab 19) assigned 1st Bn, 3rd Mar to Operational Control of RLT-1 effective 130800I Sept.

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16 Sept - BLT-1 was deactivated by CG, 1st MarDiv msg 160630Z Sept (See Appendix A Tab 20) effective 170001Z Sept. 1st Mar (-) (Rein) consisted of; HqCo, 1st Mar; 2nd Bn, 1st Mar; 3rd Bn, 1st Mar; 1st Bn, 3rd Mar; CG, 1st MarDiv msg 200607Z Sept. (See Appendix A Tab 21) indicated BLT 2/1 as the SLF and noted OPCON CTG 73.5 ADCON remains with 1st MarDiv.

22 Sept - The 3rd Bn, 5th Mar (LtCol R. R. DICKEY) arrived on Okinawa 22 September was redesignated 1st Bn, 3rd Mar by CG, FFPAC msg 010357Z Sept (not held this command) and moved into Camp Hansen to begin a 5 week training program.

27 Sept - BLT 1/3 was activated for planning, effective 270001I Sept, by CG, 1st MarDiv msg 250740Z Sept (See Appendix A Tab 22). Task Organization (See Appendix A Tab 23).

2 Oct - CG, 1st MarDiv msg 020539Z Oct (See Appendix A Tab 24) alerted 2 BLTs 3/1 and 1/3 for possible deployment by sea and/or air to Indonesia for assistance in the evacuation of U. S. Nationals as a result of the confusion caused by the attempted coup against President SUKARNO, CG, 1st MarDiv msg 020537Z Oct (See Appendix A Tab 25) and 020538Z Oct (See Appendix A Tab 26) activated BLTs 1/1 and 3/1 respectively for operations.

4 Oct - CG, 1st MarDiv msg 040747Z Oct (See Appendix A Tab 27) relaxed the situation, deactivated BLT 3/1 and reduced the status of BLT 1/3 to that of a BLT for planning purposes only.

20 Oct - CG, 1st MarDiv msg 200650Z Oct (See Appendix A Tab 28) required 1st Mar to qualify approximately 541 basic Marines in Occupational Field 0300. A Provisional Basic Training Unit was established on 22 October to comply. Regimental Bulletin 1500 of 22 October prescribed a four week program to train 433 riflemen (0311), 54 Machine-gunners (0331), 27 Mortarmen (0341) and 27 AT Assault men (0351). By the end of October, 142 basic Marines were training in 3 platoons.

21 Oct - All rifle companies of the 1st Bn, 3rd Mar had completed 6 days counterguerrilla warfare training in the northern training area.

23 Oct - A meeting was held at the 1st MarDiv CP to discuss rotation of BLTs from Vietnam and Okinawa. Tentative agreements included:

- (1) Future SLF force will relieve on Okinawa.
- (2) Advance parties of 50 to 60 personnel should precede the rotating BLTs by about 2 weeks.
- (3) Future SLF Task Organization may be revised to better suit "DAGGER THRUST" requirements.

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30 Oct - A building from Camp Hansen was donated to the Mayor of KinSon to be used for a school.

31 Oct - The Regimental Communications platoon conducted tests, with Naval Communication Station, Philippines, on the FMFMobile Command Circuit. Utilizing equipment organic to the Regiment and an On-Line Cryptographic Radio Teletype Circuit was established with varying degrees of success.

1 Nov - Liaison Party headed by Major C. R. VORGANG visited 2/3 for purpose of BLT rotation.

2 Nov - 10 men from PBTU donated blood for a 10 year old Okinawan girl.

2-4 Nov - Mr. Hansen BALDWIN, military editor of the New York Times, Major General S. S. WADE, CG, FMFPAC forward/CG, 1st Amphibious Corps, Brigadier General F. M. PLATT Jr. USMC, 3d MarDiv ADC designate and LtGeneral A. WATSON II USA, High Commissioner Ryukyan Islands visited 1/3 and 3/1 to observe training.

3 Nov - BLT 1/3 was activated for operations by CG, 1st MarDiv msg 010730Z Nov (Not held this command) effective 030001I Nov. CG, 1st MarDiv msg 040721Z Nov (See Appendix A Tab 29) ordered deployment to Viet Nam. CG, 1st MarDiv msg 050720Z Nov (not held this command) ordered embarkation 10 to 12 November. Task Organization (See Appendix A Tab 30).

8 Nov - Regt HqCo moved from Camp Hansen to Camp Schwab. Colonel B. B. MITCHELL assumed the duties as Camp Commander effective, 0800, 11 November.

9 Nov - BLT 3/1 was activated for planning effective 090001I Nov, by CG, 1st MarDiv msg 050530Z Nov (See Appendix A Tab 31) and for further assignment as the SLF. For Task Organization (See Appendix A Tab 32).

10 Nov - The traditional Marine Corps Birthday Ceremony was held throughout the Island. During the evening hours various cake cutting ceremonies were celebrated at respective clubs.

10 Nov - Loading of BLT 1/3 equipment commenced on 10 November and was completed on 12 November. BLT 1/3 embarked aboard USS SKAGIT, AKA-105 USS MAGOFFIN, APA-199; USS OAK HILL, LSD-5 and departed Okinawa 12 November.

15 Nov - The Advance Party 2/3 arrived Okinawa. Immediate preparation was under taken to receive the remainder of the Battalion.

19 Nov - Tactical Air Control Parties from Regt HqCo, 3rd Bn, 1st Mar participated in Close Air Support Training at N.T.A. All Weather Squadron (VMFAW-314) provided air-craft and Marine Air Control Squadron - Six acted as a provisional Direct Air Support Center.

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21 Nov - 3rd Bn, 1st Marines completed Counterguerrilla Warfare Training. Raid Training was completed 24 November.

23 Nov - CG, 1st MarDiv msg 230220Z Nov deactivated BLT 2/3 for operations and remains activated for planning only. (See Appendix A Tab 33).

26 Nov - The FMFPAC Inspection Team inspected 3rd Bn, 1st Mar.

28 Nov - The Advance Party, 3rd Bn, 4th Mar arrived to discuss details of the Battalions relief in VietNam.

1 Dec - CO, 1st Marines conducted a clothing and equipment inspection of 3rd Bn, 1st Mar in preparation for the CG's Inspection.

3 Dec - CG, 1st MarDiv msg 261310Z Dec (See Appendix A Tab 34), provided for a pre-embarkation inspection of BLT 3/1. The Under Secretary of the Navy, Honorable R. BALDWIN accompanied the CG on the Inspection.

5 Dec - CG, FMFPAC arrived Okinawa 050800I. Visited 2nd Bn, 3rd Mar and lunched with the Officers.

7 Dec - CG, 1st MarDiv msg 060745Z Dec (See Appendix A Tab 35) activated BLT 3/1 for operations and deployment. Task Organization (See Appendix A Tab 32).

6-7 Dec - A Tactical Air Control Party training exercise was conducted at N. T. A. Marine Air Control Squadron-Six acted as a provisional Direct Air Support Center. The F-105 aircraft, carrying simulated ordnance were from the 18th Tactical Fighter Wing, 313th Division, the following units participated; HqCo, 1st Mar, 3rd Bn, 1st Mar, Force Reconnaissance Company, 1st Recon Bn and representatives from Division Air.

9 Dec - CG, 1st MarDiv msg 090455Z Dec (See Appendix A Tab 36) indicated that delay in availability of shipping had caused slippage in schedule of departure dates for deployment of BLT 3/1. BLT 3/1 will commence a 10 day training program designed to maintain personnel and equipment in a satisfactory deployable status.

10 Dec - CO, USS VALLEY FORGE msg 091730Z Dec (See Appendix A Tab 37) requested that BLT 2/1 return to Okinawa after completion of operations in VietNam.

13 Dec - CG, 1st MarDiv msg 110640Z Dec (See Appendix A Tab 38) directed BLT 2/1 to direct operational needs to appropriate III MAF Headquarters; that request to return to Okinawa was beyond purview of CG, 1st MarDiv.

13 Dec - Liaison parties from Regt'l HqCo departed for VietNam. LtColonel BL'DSOE, Maj WELKER, Captain MORRISON, 1stLt JURNEY.

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16 Dec - A second liaison party from Regt'l HqCo departed for VietNam.

16 Dec - Rear Admiral James W. KELLY, USN, Chief of Chaplains made an inspection tour of the Camp Schwab Marine Chapel and was entertained at a luncheon by the Regimental/Camp Commander and Camp Chaplains on 16 December 1965. Accompanying RADM KELLY was Captain John WISSELE, 1st Marine Division Chaplain and CDR L. S. DARKOWSKI, CHC USN from the Chaplains Division.

20 Dec - CG, 1st MarDiv msg 180241Z Dec (See Appendix A Tab 39), effective 200001I Dec, activated BLT 3/1 for operations. Task Organization modified to reflect prospective assignment to VietNam vice SLR.

21 Dec - Tactical Air Control Parties from HqCo, 1st Mar, 3rd Bn, 1st Mar; and 2nd Bn, 3rd; Mar conducted a training exercise at N.F.A. Support aircraft (F-105's) from the Air Force carried simulated ordnance loads. 4 sorties were flown and 22 runs were controlled in support; MACS-6 participated as the DASC.

22 Dec - CG, 1st MarDiv msg 210420Z Dec (See Appendix A Tab 41) activated RLF-1 Headquarters and supporting units for planning effective 220001I Dec. For Task Organization (See Appendix A Tab 41).

23 Dec - CG, 1st MarDiv msg 230711Z Dec (See Appendix A Tab 42) designated CO, RLF-1 as Embarkation Group Commander/CO, of embarked troops for RLF-1.

25 Dec - The Regimental Sergeant Major supervised a Christmas party for 62 Okinawans school children ages 6-7 from Henoko.

27 Dec - CG, 1st MarDiv ms., 270600Z Dec (See Appendix A Tab 43) assigned shipping to BLT 2/3. CG, 1st MarDiv msg 271340Z Dec (See Appendix A Tab 44) deactivated BLT 3/4 for operations, remains activated for planning.

28 Dec - At 1400, CO, RLF-1 held a planning conference for the attached units listed (See Appendix A Tab 41) to advise them of the current status confirm their capabilities to support and discuss problems.

31 Dec - The Regiment actively participated in the People to People program as follows: Donation of a building to the Mayor of Kin Village, helped rebuild playgrounds for schools, arranged for road improvements, participated in social and athletic events, assisted in the distribution of Handclasps materials. Under the supervision of the Camp Chaplain English class were conducted twice a week for interested Okinawans and school children.

31 Dec - The CO, 1st Mar accompanied the CG, 1st MarDiv on a trip to VietNam. Appropriate Staff Officers from Division and Regimental Staff accompanied them.

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31 Dec - As of 31 Dec 1965, the Provisional Basic Training unit which was established on 22 October, joined a total of 930 Basic Marines. Training of 507 of these Basics was completed by the year end and appropriate MCS's were assigned. This 1st Marine training function was terminated 31 December as the responsibility for the Basic training was assigned to the 1st Reconnaissance Battalion.