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HEADQUARTERS

1st Marines (-) (Rein)  
1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF  
MPO, San Francisco, 96602

141366

3/MWH/lrt

3400

7 April 1966

1ST MARINES SEC NO. 00139-66

COPY 1 OF 1 COPIES

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF

Subj: 1st Marines Command Chronology; submission of

Ref: (a) DivO 5750.1

Encl: (1) Command Chronology of the Regimental Headquarters  
see (2) Command Chronology of Headquarters Company  
orig cont'd (3) Command Chronology of Attached Companies  
reverse (4) Command Chronology of the 3d Battalion, 1st Marines and 2d  
Battalion, 4th Marines

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1), through (4) are submitted as the Command Chronology of the 1st Marine Regiment for the period 1-31 March 1966.

2. Significant events of the month included the participation of elements of 3d Battalion, 1st Marines; 1st Battalion, 4th Marines and 2d Battalion, 4th Marines in Operations UTAH and TEXAS. Operation MASSACHUSETTS was conducted 17-18 March by the 2d Battalion, 4th Marines reinforced by a rifle company from the 3d Battalion, 1st Marines. On the 23rd the VC launched a mortar attack on Company B, 1st Battalion, 7th Marines which were occupying defensive positions approximately 900 meters from the northwestern side of the Chu Lai Airfield runway within the 1st Marines TAOR.

a. Operation UTAH was conducted northwest of Quang Ngai in Tinh Quang Ngai Province vicinity of BS 54 - 58 and 80 + 85 during the period 4-8 March. Participating units from the 1st Marines were 3d Battalion, 1st Marines and 2d Battalion, 4th Marines.

b. Operation TEXAS was conducted 20-25 March by Marines with the cooperation of ARVN units in the southwestern Binh Son District and Central Son Tinh District. Units from the 1st Marine Regiment participating in the Operation were 2d Battalion, 4th Marines, Companies E, F; and Company D, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines under OPCON of Command Group Alpha from 2d Battalion, 4th Marines. Command Group Alpha, 3d Battalion, 1st Marines controlled Companies K and M, and an ARVN strike company.

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c. Operation MASSACHUSETTS, commenced primarily as a result of VC activity encountered by Reconnaissance Group Alpha in the RAOR west of the 1st Marines TAO. Planning for Operation MASSACHUSETTS commenced on the 16th. CG, 3d Mar Div 161445Z granted approval for the 1st Marines to conduct the operation outside of the 1st Marines TAO. Coordination with Quang Tin Province at Tam Ky was required and effected. The 2d Battalion, 4th Marines Command Group Alpha, Company I and Company I, 3d Battalion, 1st Marines were helilifted in four waves into Landing Zone Blue vicinity BT 3013 at 170745H. Concurrently, Company G was transported via motor vehicle, to vicinity BT 388165, advancing in a south-easterly direction where blocking positions were established at BT 378138. Command Group Alpha, Companies H and I commenced the Search and Destroy Operation from the landing zone along axis of advance Boston as depicted in 2d Battalion, 4th Marines Operation Order 103-66. At 172140H, Command Group Alpha, Companies H and I were located vicinity BT 362122. Patrols and ambushes were established throughout the night and a Flare Ship was on call if needed. Commencing at 180630H, the attack continued along axis of advance Boston until linkup was effected with Company G. Once contact was made with Company G, the attack continued to the Ong Bo Bridge where the Operation concluded on 181650H. As a result of the operation 14 VC were KIA, 4 VC KIA possible, 2 VC WIA's, 5 VC WIA possible, 2 VCC, 1 WCS and 7 weapons captured. Marine casualties were 1 KIA and 11 WIA's.

d. At 230215H, Company B, 1st Battalion, 7th Marines defensive positions at BT 525070, about 900 meters from the northwestern side of the Chu Lai airfield runway, received 21 rounds 60mm mortar fire accompanied by rifle grenades and heavy small arms fire. Simultaneously, the 3d 8 inch Howitzer Battery at BT 527070 received 6 rounds 60mm mortar fire. Marines returned approximately two hundred rounds small arms fire, resulting in one VC WIA, determined by evidence of blood found at the enemy position. The attack lasted five to ten minutes resulting in one Marine KIA and five WIA. Damage resulting from this attack was minor. Two vehicles in the 3d 8 inch Howitzer Battery site were slightly damaged. The wheel wash cart located at the northern end of the airfield runway was also slightly damaged.

e. At 101125H, the 1st Marines directed 1st Battalion, 4th Marines to be prepared for possible deployment to hue Phu Bai for a period of about three days. CG, 3d Ma Div 121315Z provided instructions for 1st Battalion, 4th Marines Command Group and two companies to be airlifted via fixed wing aircraft to hue Phu Bai, and upon arrival chop to Task Group Foxtrot. At 130945H, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines Command Group and two companies departed Chu Lai. The remaining Command Group and two companies remained at Chu Lai OPCON 1st Marines and participated in normal operations. On the 31st, Company G, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines completed airlift via fixed wing aircraft from Chu Lai arriving at Da Nang at 311500H and chopped to 3d Marines. Company D was scheduled to depart on 1 April for, hue Phu Bai. The remaining personnel are scheduled to depart on first available shipping.

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W. M. BLEDSOE  
W. M. BLEDSOE  
By direction

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**SECTION I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA**

1st Marines (-) (Rein)

CHU LAI, VIETNAM

Command Post (533081)

Commanding Officer	Colonel B. B. MITCHELL
Executive Officer	Lt Colonel W. M. BLEDSOE
S-1/Adjutant	Warrant Officer G. E. JONES
S-2 Officer	Major J. P. RISELEY
S-3 Officer	Major T. M. HAMLIN
S-4 Officer	Major C. R. VORGANG
Communications Officer	Major G. E. Mc BRIDE
Artillery Liaison Officer	Captain P. E. SUDEMAYER 1-14 March
	Major C. SOLOMON 15-31 March
Air Liaison Officer	Major G. J. WELKER
Regimental Surgeon	Lieutenant P. J. MULLANEY USNR
Chaplin	Lieutenant Commander HINDEHER USN
CO, Hq Co	Captain J. MURPHY
CO, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines	Lt Colonel R. E. SULLIVAN 1-29 March
CO, 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines	Lt Colonel P. A. KELLY
CO, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines	Lt Colonel J. R. YOUNG
CO, Co A (-) (Rein), 1st Engr Bn	Captain D. HINES 1-29 March
CO, Co A (-) (Rein), 1st Tank Bn	Captain J. D. SPARKS 1-29 March
CO, Co A (-) (Rein), 1st AmTrac Bn	Major P. M. HELSHER 1-23 March
CO, Co B (-) (Rein), 3d AT Bn	Captain R. F. LANPHIER 1-23 March

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SECTION II - ADMINISTRATION

1. Personnel

a. Average Monthly Strength. Task organization was as shown below during the period covered. The 1st Battalion, 4th Marines shifted ADCON from 1st Marine to the 4th Marines as of 281200H. (Authority CG 3dMarDiv msg 261230Z Mar66)

UNITE	USMC		USN	
	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
HqCo 1stMar	20	210	3	2
1stDn, 4thMar	32	876	2	51
2ndDn, 4thMar	28	842	3	49
3rdDn, 1stMar	32	861	3	40

b. Casualties

KIA	WIA	BATTLE			NON-BATTLE			TOTAL	
		DOW	MIA	Serious	Non-Serious	Death	CASUALTY		
91	138	1	0	0	42	0	272		

c. Rotation during month

USMC		USN		TOTAL
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL	
1	271	0	7	279

d. Replacements received

USMC		USN		TOTAL
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL	
3	285	0	0	288

e. Periodic Personnel Reports. Periodic Personnel Reports were submitted by this organization on 3 March 1966 and 18 March 1966.

f. Personnel Summary

(1) At the close of the reporting period the personnel strength of the 1st Marines remained below that authorized. The officer strength of the 1st Marines was 76% of authorized strength. The enlisted strength was 83% of authorized strength.

(2) The primary officer shortage is in OF 03 in the grades of Captain and Lieutenant.

3. Newspapers

a. This command receives the following newspapers:

- (1) Stars and Stripes - Daily
- (2) Observer - Weekly
- (3) Sea Tiger - Weekly

b. The newspapers listed above are received in sufficient quantity to assure adequate distribution to all units within this command.

4. Photographs. None

5. Journals. See enclosures (1) and (2)

6. Legal and Discipline

	HqCo	1/4	2/4	3/1	TOTAL
OH	2	2	16	4	24
SCM (Completed)	1	3			4
SCM (Pending)			1		1
SPCM (Completed)	1	3		3	7
SPCM (Pending)	1	4	1	10	16
GCM (Recommended)					0
Investigations (Completed)					0
Investigations (Pending)				4	4

7. Morale. The state of Morale is considered excellent.

a. The following factors have contributed to the high state of morale.

(1) The frequency of contact with the enemy has created a sense of accomplishment and purpose.

(2) Living conditions continue to improve.

(3) The 1st Marines Beach remains a significant factor in maintaining the high state of morale of troops billeted in and near the Regimental Command Post.

b. Unfavorable factors influencing morale are:

(1) Unavailability of soft drinks and beer.

8. Post Exchange. The Post Exchange previously located in the 4th Marines CP was re-located in the 1st Marines CP and opened for business on 31 March 1966.

9. Postal Service. The postal service remains unchanged. The volume of service for the month of March was as follows:

PERIOD	TOTAL MONEY ORDERS	VOLUME OF LETTER MAIL	VOLUME OF PARCEL POST
1-31Mar66	\$84,387.90	6,277 lbs	61,495 lbs

10. Disbursing. Disbursing support was rendered by the 1st Marine Division Disbursing office which was located in the 1st Marines CP until 25 March 1966 at which time the disbursing office moved to the 4th Marines CP.

11. Liberty. Commanding General III MAF message 120126Z March 66 cancelled liberty in the I Corps area.

12. Rest and Recreation. The R&R program for the month of March was as follows:

UNIT	SAIGON	BANGKOK	TOYKO	HONG KONG	TAIPEI	MANILA	OKINAWA	TOTAL
HqCo, 1stMar			1					1
1stBn, 4thMar	3	4	4	2		1	14	28
2ndBn, 4thMar	19	20	6	10	2	4	49	110
3rdBn, 1stMar	10	7	2	3	3	1	22	48
CoA, 1stAmTracBn	9	2	2	3		1	11	28
CoB, 3dATBn	2	3	2	2	1	1	9	20
CoA, 1stTkBn	2	3	1	1	1	1	9	19
CoA, 1stEngrBn	2			2		2	10	25
TOTAL	48	47	19	23	7	11	124	279

13. Chaplain Support

a. Protestant Worship services and Catholic Mass (by visiting Catholic Chaplain) were conducted each Sunday in the Regimental Chapel.

b. The Command provided a GP Tent with strongback liner for a Chapel. Furnishings consisting of Altar, Pulpit, Communion kneeler/rail, and benches have been constructed by Company "A," 1st Engineer Battalion. The Chapel will seat 64 men.

c. A daily Chapel Service and a Mid-week Bible Study class were conducted by the Regimental Chaplain.

d. The Regimental Chaplain served as coordinator for the beginning of a new Protestant church building in Chu Lai New Life Refugee Hamlet (BT 498138). Initial contribution of \$338.00 from 3d Marine Division Chapel Fund was presented to the Vietnamese congregation on 20 March 1966.

e. Protestant services and Catholic Masses were provided or arranged for by the Regimental Chaplain for the remaining units of 1/4.

f. The initial lecture on the Religions and Customs of Vietnam was presented by the Regimental Chaplain at the Staff briefings, in increments of about ten minutes each, on several different days.

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### SECTION III INTELLIGENCE

#### 1. General.

a. Intelligence processing and dissemination during March was generally the same as the preceding months. Briefings continued to be held as before, however, as new units arrived at the Chu Lai Enclave (MCB-3, Shore Party Bn, 7th MT Bn, and the G-2, 1st MarDiv) they were given briefings of a general nature and added to the S-2's distribution list for the Intelligence Summary.

#### 2. Administration and Reports.

a. Preparation of contingency plans continued as aerial photos were received. It was determined that a trained photo interpreter is needed at regimental level to assist the S-2 officer in the preparation of helicopter landing zones, terrain studies, and to scan hand held photography of an immediate nature.

b. The monthly report on Reward Funds was submitted to CG, 3d M.F with negative expenditures. Reward leaflets were distributed to battalions to be disseminated to the local populace where operations were being conducted.

c. A personnel status report was given to the CofS G-2, 1st Marine Division with recommendation that the regimental S-2 and battalions' S-2s be brought up to T/O as soon as possible.

d. National Agency Check and Background Investigation requests continued to levy an administrative load on the section. Certificates of Clearance as well as letters of denial are processed at the regiment, in accordance with Third MarDiv instructions, but on 1 April this will be delegated to the battalions.

#### 3. Weather, and Terrain

a. Weather. Weather during March was generally good with short periods of rain, early morning fog and low ceilings. These conditions forced cancellation of scheduled liaison runs to Quang Ngai and Tam Ky. No serious consequences resulted and the weather generally favored both friendly and enemy operations.

b. Terrain. Ground trafficability within the TAOR continued to improve as paddies were being drained for the spring rice harvest. Stream beds are low due to the small amount of precipitation received during the month. AC reports indicated a significant increase in bunkers and trenches being covered over, thus making an extensive tunnel system. After being covered, plant life is being placed over fortifications in an attempt to conceal them. The S-2 section is recording these as received and drafting overlays for distribution to battalions.

c. Climatology. The northeast monsoon began to weaken and flying conditions from the coast inland to the mountains were generally good. The Crachin condition decreased markedly over the month of February and the area had only 2.2 inches total rainfall with 25 days without precipitation. The average monthly temperature increased to 79°F at the Chu Lai Airfield.

4. Other.

a. A total of four (4) weapons were processed and returned to captors as war souvenirs. Intelligence Screening Certificates and War Trophy Certificates were completed by the section.

b. Liaison visits to Ly Tin District Headquarters and Tam Ky Provincial Headquarters were made by different members of the section. Liaison visits to Quang Ngai were aborted, except one, due to unavailability of aircraft.

Enclosures

- 1 - Statistics
- 2 - Journals
- 3 - Intelligence Summaries, # 39- 71

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Section IV Operations and Training

I. MISSION

a. Occupy and defend assigned sector of the Chu Lai TAOK to protect and defend the Chu Lai vital areas in sector; conduct unilateral search and destroy operations within assigned sector of Chu Lai TAOK; be prepared to provide one mobile reserve company for deployment as directed; conduct patrols and ambushes throughout assigned sector of the Chu Lai TAOK; be prepared to conduct unilateral and/or coordinated operations with GVN Armed Forces within and beyond the periphery of the Chu Lai TAOK; be prepared to conduct counterattacks to restore the integrity of the assigned sector of the Chu Lai TAOK; provide external security for the LAAM Battery located on Ky Hoa Island BF 5115.

II. OPERATIONS

a. During the month of March, 1st Marines (-) (Rein) continued to accomplish the above mission as directed by the Commanding General, 3d Marine Division. Operations conducted in support of this mission included 1 Battalion (-) size operation, 14 company (-) size operations, 40 platoon size actions, 1,204 small unit actions conducted jointly by the 1st Battalion, 4th Marines, 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines and 3d Battalion, 1st Marines.

b. The 1st Marines continued to provide security for the critical installations in the Chu Lai TAOK and aggressively sought to contact and destroy the Viet Cong. Counterguerrilla operations, including encirclement, sweeps, search and destroy missions, clearing, and ambushes, were conducted in and beyond the TAOK.

c. Reconnaissance Group Alpha was employed to conduct ground reconnaissance and observation in support of the Regiment's operations.

d. The Regiment continued to cooperate with Popular Force (PF) units in its TAOR and trained the PF's while conducting joint PF/USMC patrols and ambushes in the TAOK. The PF's acted as liaison between the Marines and Vietnamese people as well as providing additional security and conducting independent patrols and ambushes.

e. Use of supporting arms and in particular, air support, materially contributed to the destruction of Viet Cong field fortifications, supply installations and training bases in and out of the TAOK. Patrols, ambushes and listening posts saturated the TAOK during day and night. Key defensive positions maintained in the TAOK were the Hill 69 complex, Ky Hoa Air Facility, Chu Lai Airfield, An Tan Bridge and Hill 76.

f. At 011200H, the ADC directed CO, 1st Marines to place a Battalion Command Group and three companies on a six hour alert. 1st Marines msg 011250Z directed 3d Battalion, 1st Marines to assume a six hour alert posture.

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g. At 010800H, MAG-36 informed the 1st Marines that a helicopter was down 10 miles north of Highway One. At 010825H, the 1st Marines directed 1st Battalion, 4th Marines to be prepared to provide one platoon reinforced with a FAC team, one machine gun and one 3.5 rocket launcher to assist in the recovery of a downed helicopter at the Ba Bau Bridge.

h. In accordance with CG, 3d MarDiv msg 180148Z Jan and 011155Z Feb BLT 3/1 was deactivated and reported to the 1st Marines for OPCON/ADCON effective 011635d.

i. At 012030H, in accordance with verbal instructions from CO, 1st Marines, the 3d Battalion, 1st Marines Command Group and three companies were placed on a six hour alert status and one company on a two hour alert.

j. At 021830H, the 3d Battalion, 1st Marines acting in accordance with 1st Marines Operation Order 343-66 designated Company L, as the Regimental Reserve.

k. At 021300H, the 1st Marines issued Frag Order 3-66 directing 1st Battalion, 4th Marines to assume defense of the Ky Ha Peninsula and Chu Lai Airfield.

l. On 2 March the 1st Marines S-3 conducted a briefing for Brigadier General J. M. PLATT, ADC Chu Lai covering significant events taking place in the 1st Marines TACOM during the period 18-28 February.

m. At 030900H, the 3d Battalion, 1st Marines assumed responsibility for the defense of the Chu Lai Airfield with companies I and K occupying defensive positions.

n. The Regimental Psychological Warfare Officer made contact with the 27th Psychological Operations Detachment, USA, Quang Ngai on 3 March. Arrangements were made for the audio team, one U-10 aircraft and leaflets were ordered for use in support of an operation in which the 1st Battalion, 4th Marines were to participate on Doa Xuan Island.

o. ADC msg 031320Z directed 1st Marines to maintain one reinforced rifle squad, "Sparrow hawk" at the Ky Ha (MAG-36) Air Facility from 0700 until 1900 daily.

p. At 040800H, the 1st Marines received an initial report from the AO's that the road was cut at BT397157. CO, COA (-) (Rein), 1st Engr BN provided personnel to repair the road and one platoon, from 2d Battalion, 4th Marines provided security.

q. At 041000H, the ADC notified 1st Marines that there was a downed helicopter at SS538818; an estimated VC Battalion was at BT5482 and that the area was under heavy fire. The 1st Marines were directed to alert a Command Group and two companies for possible deployment. In response to the above, 1st Marines directed the 3d Battalion, 1st Marines to stand by for possible deployment. At 041010H, 3d Battalion, 1st Marines Command Group and two companies were ready for deployment for operation UTAH. As a result Company D, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines was designated Regimental Reserve. At 041107H, two additional companies from 3d Battalion, 1st Marines were ready for deployment.

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r. At 041130H, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines was directed to provide two companies for defense of the Chu Lai Airfield. As a result of this 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines designated Company G as the Regimental Reserve.

s. At 041400H, 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines was directed by 1st Marines to be prepared to provide one company to act as a security element for Task Force Delta convoys. At 042145H, 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines was directed to provide a Command Group and two rifle companies for helicopter lift at 050800H for deployment with Task Force Delta in Operation UTAH.

t. At 041000H, Company B, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines and Company E, 2nd Battalion, 3d Marines arrived at Chu Lai as temporary replacements for the defense of the Chu Lai Airfield and chopped OPCON to 1st Battalion, 4th Marines.

u. At 050815H, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines was directed to provide one company for possible deployment with Task Force Delta.

v. Regimental Order 5400.1 was published on 6 March and provided instructions for establishment of the Provisional Regimental Rifle Company. The attached companies provide the personnel for this company.

w. At 070830H, the ADC directed the 1st Marines to chop OPCON Company B, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines and Company E, 2nd Battalion, 3d Marines to parent organizations. Both companies were assembled at the Chu Lai Airfield for pick-up and return to Da Nang via fixed wing aircraft. The airlift was completed at 071400H.

x. At 070940H, 3d Battalion, 1st Marines were directed to relieve the 1st Battalion, 4th Marines who were occupying defensive positions at the Chu Lai Airfield.

y. At 071300H, a Vietnamese bus carrying civilians, hit a landmine at BT 398151 resulting in six dead Vietnamese.

z. At 071450H, Companies K and I were in defensive positions at Chu Lai Airfield.

aa. At 071950H, all elements of 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines had returned to Hill 69 from Operation UTAH. At 072045H, all elements of 1st Battalion, 4th Marines had returned from Operation UTAH except for one platoon from Company C.

bb. 1st Marines Operation Order 364-66 assigned the mission of "SPARROW HJK" to 1st Battalion, 4th Marines.

cc. At 071200H, Co A (-) (Rein), 1st Engineer Battalion completed road repairs at BT 400147 which were caused by VC emplaced demolitions.

dd. At 071230H, one platoon from Company A, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines reinforced with a FAC team and an FO team departed by motor convoy from defensive positions at the Chu Lai Airfield to conduct a sweep in Grid Squares BT 5795, BT 5894, BT 5893 and BT 5992. Two VC companies were suspected of being in this

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area for the purpose of ambushing northbound convoys involved in operation UTAH.

cc. At 071530H, one squad of engineers from Company A (-) (Rein), 1st Engineer Battalion was helolifted to operation UTAH in support of Company M, 3d Battalion, 1st Marines.

ff. At 081155H, the first platoon of Company C, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines returned from Operation UTAH.

gg. At 081600H, 1st Marines received Task Force Delta msg 080705Z, which contained instructions for critique of Operation UTAH to be held at 4th Marines Command Post.

hh. At 090800H, 1st Marines directed the 1st Battalion, 4th Marines to assume the mission of the 3d Battalion, 1st Marines and vice versa. This action was prompted by the recent return of the 3d Battalion, 1st Marines from Operation Double Eagle and the resulting personnel and equipment status. The relief of sectors within the 1st Marines TAK was completed by 091800H.

ii. At 090800H, the 1st Marines issued change #1 to Operation Order 343-66 which directed 1st Battalion, 4th Marines and 3d Battalion, 1st Marines to exchange TAOR responsibilities.

jj. 1st Marines msg 021445Z March directed the 1st Battalion, 4th Marines to assume the status of the alert Battalion and place one company on a 2 hour alert status immediately. In accordance with ADC msg 020602Z Mar, Tanks, Engineers, Ontos, Recon and a 105 Howitzer Battery were also placed on a 6 hour alert status. 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines and 3d Battalion, 1st Marines were directed to be prepared to assume the mission of 1/4 in the 1st Marines TAOR.

kk. 1st Marines message 091352Z in response to CG, 3d MarDiv msg 090540Z provided information regarding Command Post locations.

ll. At 090930H, the Commanding Officers of the 1st Marines, 7th Marines, 11th Marines, MAG-12 and MAG-36 with representatives from DaSC, FLSU #1 and all Battalion Commanders and Executive Staff who participated in Operation UTAH, held a critique at the 4th Marines CP directed by the ADC. The theme of the critique was lessons learned and action required to improve reaction time for short notice operations.

mm. At 091330H, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines was designated to be the alert Battalion with Company D being on 2 hour alert.

nn. At 092000H, an exercise was conducted to determine the reaction time of the Regimental Reserve. The entire drill required thirty minutes and the results were considered excellent.

oo. At 101123H, the 1st Marines were directed by the ADC to provide one Battalion within one hour to be assembled for airlift from the Chu Lai Airfield. The 1st Battalion, 4th Marines, consisting of 30 Officers and 773 enlisted men was assigned the mission.

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pp. With the probable deployment of the 1st Battalion, 4th Marines the 3d Battalion, 1st Marines assumed the responsibility for the former Battalion's sector in addition to its regularly assigned sector. 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines designated Company G as the Regimental Reserve.

qq. At 101125H, 1st Marines directed 1st Battalion, 4th Marines to be prepared for possible deployment to Phu Bai for at least three days. At 101135H, the 3d Battalion, 1st Marines was directed to assume the defense of the Chu Lai Airfield Class V dump and the RMK compound.

rr. At 101615H, the ADC directed 1st Marines to place 1st Battalion, 4th Marines on a three hour alert and one company on a two hour alert. At 111242H, 1st Marines directed 3d Battalion, 1st Marines to assume 1st Battalion, 4th Marines defensive positions at the Chu Lai Airfield.

ss. At 111500H, 1st Marines directed 1st Battalion, 4th Marines to be prepared to be relieved by 3d Battalion, 1st Marines of its TAOR responsibilities, at 111547H, 3d Battalion, 1st Marines was directed to assume 1st Battalion, 4th Marines TAOR, relief was completed at 111800H. 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines designated Company G as the Regimental Reserve.

tt. At 111635H, in accordance with CG, 3d MarDiv msg 250218Z, 1st Marines set condition yellow.

uu. At 120825H, the ADC notified 1st Marines that 1st Battalion, 4th Marines was to be placed on a 6 hour alert status and one company placed on a 2 hour alert status.

vv. CG, 3d MarDiv msg 121315Z provided instruction for 1st Battalion, 4th Marines Command Group and two companies, to be airlifted via fixed wing aircraft to Phu Bai, and upon arrival chop to Task Group Foxtrot. 1st Battalion, 4th Marines msg 121510Z requested airlift requirements for 469 personnel from Chu Lai to Phu Bai.

ww. At 130810H, 3d Battalion, 1st Marines designated Company L as the Regimental Reserve.

xx. At 130945H, 1st Marines directed the remainder of the 1st Battalion, 4th Marines to relieve 3d Battalion, 1st Marines at Chu Lai Airfield, RMK compound and Class V dump.

yy. At 130945H, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines Command Group and two companies commenced departure from Chu Lai for Hu Phu Bai and upon arrival at Hu Phu Bai at 130630H chopped to Task Group Foxtrot. The remaining Command Group (Rear) and two companies remained at Chu Lai OPCON 1st Marines.

zz. On the 14th Brigadier General J. M. PLATT escorted Major General TILLISON USA through the 1st Marines TAOR and stopped at Hill 69 and Ky Xuan Island for a show and tell.

aaa. CG, 3d MarDiv msg 140930Z, directed 1st Battalion, 4th Marines to return to Chu Lai from Phu Bai via amphibious shipping on or about 23 March commensurate with the tactical situation.

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bbb. CG, 3d MarDiv msg 150235Z directed that the use of "Sparrow Hawk" squad be employed whenever possible and units should be more aggressive in the use of the "Sparrow Hawk" concept.

ccc. The 1st Marines issued ~~frag~~ Order 5-66 to ~~2nd~~ Battalion, 4th Marines to conduct a search and destroy operation vicinity BT 374147. Frag Ofder 5-66 also directed 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines to be prepared to conduct a larger size search and destroy operation at 170800H with a Command Group and two companies.

ddd. Operation Massachusetts commenced as a result of VC activity encountered by Recon Group Alpha, primarily on 15 March 1966.

(1) At 150815H vicinity BT 356108 fired on 3 VC dressed in black clothing, resulting in two VC killed and one caliber .45 pistol plus written documents were captured. At 150845H, two VC were ambushed vicinity BT 346115 resulting in one VC KIA and one VC WIA. At 151050H, one platoon received 5 rds of S/A fire during a resupply mission vicinity BT 358113. At 151300H, one platoon ambushed 7 VC vicinity BT 347115 resulting in one VC KIA and two VC WIA. At 151444H, vicinity BT 364133, thirty to forty VC fired on the company from ambush positions. Fire was returned and an artillery mission called resulting in three VC KIA and one USMC KIA. 2 Chicom grenades and assorted documents were captured.

eee. Planning for Operation Massachusetts commenced on the 16th with CO, 1st Marines and CO, 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines. CG, 3d MarDiv msg 161445Z, which granted approval for the 1st Marines to conduct Operation Massachusetts outside of the 1st Marines TAOR. Coordination with Quang Tin Province at Tam Ky was required and completed prior to commencing Operation Massachusetts.

fff. Operation Massachusetts commenced with the 2nd Battalion, 4 th Marines Command Group, Hotel Company and India Company 3d Battalion, 1st Marines being helilifted in four waves into Landing Zone Blue vicinity BT 3013 at 170745H.

ggg. Concurrently, Golf Company was transported via motor convoy to vicinity BT 388165 arriving at 170758H and commenced a search and destroy operation from dismount point at BT 388165, advancing in a southeasterly direction where blocking positions were established at BT 378138.

hhh. The Battalion Command Group, Hotel and India companies commenced the search and destroy operation from the LZ along axis of advance Boston. See Operation Order 103-66 submitted with 1st Marines SI/REP 54 as of 16 March 1966. The Command Group, Hotel and India companies were located vicinity BT 362122 at 172140H. Patrols and ambushes were established throughout the night and a Flare Ship was on call if needed. Commencing at 180630H, the Command Group, Hotel and India companies continued along axis advance Boston until linkup was effected with Golf Company. Once contact was made with Golf Company the Operation continued along axis of advance Boston to the Ong Bo Bridge. Operati

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Massachusetts was concluded at 181600H. Significant contact made during the day included: At 180330H, vicinity BT 378138 an estimated force of 12 VC probed company G position and was repulsed. As a result of this action four VC were killed and four weapons were captured. Golf Company sustained one KIA and two WIA's. At 181100H, Company I at BT 399122 was receiving automatic weapons fire and sporadic 60mm Mortar fire from BT 399144. Small arms fire was returned and artillery was called in and as a result of this action Company I sustained five WIA's. The Battalion continued its search and destroy mission with only minimum contacts encountered for the remainder of the operation. Total casualties for the VC were: 14 KIA, 4 KIA possible, 2 VC WIA's, 5 VC WIA possible and 2 VCG, 1 VCS and 7 weapons were captured: 1 M-14 rifle, 8 magazines, 1 grease gun M3A1, .45 cal, 2 Thompson sub.G 1 Chicom carbine model 53 7.62 cal and 1 K50 assault rifle 7.62 cal. Marine casualties were 1 KIA and 11 WIA's. At 181715H, Company I, 3/1 changed OPCON to 3d Battalion, 1st Marines upon completion of Operation Massachusetts.

iii. Effective 171600H, the 1st, 2nd and 4th platoons of Co A (-) (Rein), 1st AT/Reco Bn, the 2nd and 3d platoons of Co B (-), 3d AT Bn and the 1st platoon of Co A (-), 3d AT Bn were OPCON, 1st Marines in accordance with CG, 3d MarDiv msg 161945Z.

jjj. Lieutenant General V. H. KRULAK CG, FMFPAC visited 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines from 170935H to 170955H at Hill 69.

kkk. CG, 3d MarDiv msg 190704Z directed 1st Battalion, 4th Marines to remain in Hu Phu Bai until such time as the 3d Battalion, 4th Marines landed and was operationally ready.

lll. 7th Mar msg 191932Z directed 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines to be prepared for helilift commencing 201100H for Operation Texas.

mmm. The 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines Command Group, Companies E and F were helicopter lifted from Hill 69 at 210830H for employment in Operation Texas. Company D, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines joined 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines in the Landing Zone at 210930H, vicinity BT 4982. This force then commenced a search and destroy from the Landing Zone BT 4883 to highway #1. The original scheme of maneuver was changed once the Operation commenced.

nnn. Company B, 1st Battalion, 7th Marines relieved Company D, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines at the Chu Lai Airfield at 211000H.

ooo. At 211115H, the 3d Battalion, 1st Marines were directed to provide a Command Group and two companies ready for immediate deployment for Operation Texas. The Battalion was lifted from MAG-36 helicopter pad commencing at 211300H and the lift was completed at 211615H.

ppp. At 210900H, Lieutenant Colonel WEBSTER representative from III MAF conducted a 30 minute briefing on the Popular Forces organization, missions and functions. A total of 17 officers were in attendance.

qqq. At 230215H, the Bravo company, 1/7 positions at BT 52510705, about 900 meters from the northeastern side of the Chu Lai Airfield runway, within the 1st Marines TAOR received 21 rounds of 60mm Mortar, six rifle grenades and 200 rounds of small arms fire from an estimated force of 25 VC vicinity BT 5245.

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The company immediately returned 200 rounds of small arms fire and expended 99 rounds of 81mm illumination. At the same time 6 rounds 60mm Mortar fire hit positions of the 3d 8 inch How Btry 52720703. The attack lasted five to ten minutes. Approximately 8 VC penetrated the outer wire and one was probably wounded while penetrative the inner wire. Friendly casualties sustained were one KIA from B, 1/7 (caused by S/A) and five WL from the 3d 8 inch Howitzer Battery (SP) (caused by Mortars). One M49 van and one 5 ton truck received light damage (caused by Mortars).

xxx. Patrols and ambushee in the vicinity of the suspected enemy positions were immediately reinforced and all 1st Marine units were placed on a 100% alert. One Tank platoon reinforced with a rifle squad was immediately dispatched to the northeastern sector of the airfield to block a probable withdrawal route. At first light, three platoon size patrols conducted search and destroy operations in the area adjacent to the airfield perimeter. By 241000H, two platoons had completed their sweep and reported negative contact. The third platoon apprehended seven VCS during the sweep and found fifteen 60mm Mortar rounds that appeared to be misfires, two Chicom rifle grenades, three Chicom concussion grenades, one pair of wire cutters, and two 1 pound blocks of TNT with a pull type fuze within 300 meters of the perimeter wire. Close examination of the suspected position and crater analysis indicates the possibility of two Mortars firing simultaneously from separate locations at BT 523069 and BT 523066. It is believed that the Mortar on the North was directed into the artillery position and the one on the South was covering the penetrating force. Fifteen 60mm Mortar rounds were found at the Northern site.

sss. Company B, 1st Battalion, 7th Marines remained under OPCON 1st Battalion, 4th Marines while occupying defensive positions at the Chu Lai airfield.

ttt. At 241330H, the 3d Battalion, 1st Marines Command Group and Companies K and M returned from Operation Texes. Company K was designated as the Regimental Reserve.

uuu. At 241830H, the 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines Command Group, Companies E, F and Company D, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines returned from Operation Texes.

vvv. At 242050H, the 1st Battalion, 11th Marines vicinity BT 520055 received one possible rifle grenade and observed and heard small arms fire to the northeast of their position. The Com and was immediately placed on a 100% alert.

www. At 242100H, vicinity BT 523073 a fire team size patrol proceeding to its ambush position, received 20 to 50 rounds of S/A and one hand grenade from 4 to 5 VC vicinity BT 522072. The patrol immediately returned fire with 200 rounds of S/A fire, two M79 grenades and was supported with 25 rounds of 81mm illumination. One Marine received a slight fragment wound during the encounter: did not require evacuation. The VC broke contact and reportedly withdrew to the south. The fire team reinforced with an additional fire team operating in the same vicinity aggressively pursued and again made contact at 242140H vicinity BT 522070. The VC were taken under fire with 50 rounds of S/A with support of 81mm illumination. The VC were observed dragging a body and the patrol located blood stains in the same area the VC had been observed dragging the body

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indicating one VC WLR. At 242205H a heavy section of tanks reinforced with a rifle squad moved to a blocking position adjacent to a possible withdrawal route vicinity BT 532048. All other withdrawal routes were immediately covered and 1st Marine units were placed on a 100 per cent alert.

xxx. On 25 March three platoon size sweeps were conducted within the TAOR in the immediate area adjacent to the Chu Lai Airfield. This action was prompted by the VC mortar attack at 230215H, on the Company B, 1st Battalion, 7th Marines positions at BT 52510705 about 900 meters from the northwestern side of the Chu Lai Airfield runway.

yyy. 1st Mar msg 250950Z provided supplemental information on the VC attack at Chu Lai at 230215H. A report from Commanding Officer, 3d 8 inch How Btry (SP) indicated that the initial area of impact was to the north of his position. The Mortar then appeared to traverse right (south) at which time four rounds impacted just east of the Btry Motor Park. The Mortars then appeared to be reduced in range and six rounds impacted in the Battery billeting area west of the Motor Park. Five rounds then impacted near the tactical wire west of the Btry position. The pattern appeared to be a search and traverse of the 3d 8inch How Btry (SP). The four rounds east of the Motor Park impacted approximately 250 meters from the Chu Lai Runway.

zzz. The wheel wash cart located on the northern end of the airfield was damaged. The window of the cart which faced the source of enemy small arms fire was penetrated by a missile which exited through the tin sheeting directly opposite the point of entry. The wash house is located approximately three hundred meters from the nearest known crater. MuG-12 further reported finding 60mm fragments on the parking apron. Approximately 325 meters from the closest known crater and 975 meters from the perimeter wire.

aaaa. Company B, 1st Battalion, 7th Marines returned to OPCON parent organization at 251500H.

bbbb. In accordance with ADC msg 260046Z a critique of Operation Texas was held at 271330H at the old Fourth Marines Combat Operation Center. The Commanding Officer, 1st Marines, Commanding Officer, 3d Battalion, 1st Marines and Commanding Officer, 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines attended.

cccc. 1st Marines OP PLAN 369-66 (Golden Fleeces) was distributed 271600H.

dddd. In accordance with CG, 3d MarDiv 271210Z, Commanding Officer, 1st Marines in his message 291233H, reported for OPCON to CG, 1st Marine Division (Rein), effective 291500H. Task Organization as follows:

1st Marines (-) (Rein)  
Hq Company (-), 1st Marines  
2nd Battalion, 4th Marines  
3d Battalion, 1st Marines  
Det M&S Company, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines

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cccc. At 290630H, 3d Battalion, 1st Marines Command Group Bravo, Company I and Company F, 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines commenced movement to 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines CP and completed movement prior to 290910H. This temporary change in the disposition of forces within the 1st Marines TAOR was necessitated by commitment of 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines for Operation Indiana.

At 301300H, 3d Battalion, 1st Marines Command Group Bravo, Company I and Company F, 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines after being relieved of responsibility for 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines TAOR, returned to their respective Command Posts.

ffff. CG, 3d MarDiv msg 300310Z requested that 1st Battalion, 4th Marines (Rein) be chopped to OPCON 3d MarDiv effective 310800H.

gggg. At 311400H, the Chu Lai Defense Command assumed responsibility for the defense of the Chu Lai Airfield and the vital areas on the Ky Ha Peninsula, relieving the 1st Marines of that responsibility. At 311439H, Company C, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines had completed airlift via fixed wing aircraft to Da Nang. Company D, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines departed Chu Lai via fixed wing aircraft for Phu Bai at 010730H April.

## III. Training

a. Training in all MDS's was accomplished primarily through OJT during the conduct of operations.

b. All personnel continued to receive instruction in the Troop Indoctrination Program upon joining and leaving the Regiment.

c. At 121000H, a roster of trained snipers in the Regiment was submitted to Division.

d. On 28 March the 3d Marine Division contact team for AN/PRS-1 conducted school for the 1st Marines.

e. 162 Marines attended the Land Mine Warfare School.

f. The Regimental Headquarters Provisional Platoon continued to be employed frequently throughout the month. This provided excellent training and a ready force if permanent employment was necessary.

g. Subjects covered during the month included; Field Fortifications, Mine Warfare School, M-14 rifle, Formations and Signals, Hand and Arm Signals, M-72, NBC, Buddy Aid, Preventive Maintenance, fire control and range determination, 90mm, 30 cal, 50 cal MG, Weapons firing, Boresighting Tank Weapons, Communications First Aid, Interior Guard, Hand Grenades, Mapping, Counterguerrilla Warfare, protective measures, tactics, hygiene and sanitation.

NOTE: See S-3 Section, rear of file

Added: Operation 369-66

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Detailed Chronology of Events

1 March - ADC Chu Lai directed the 1st Marines to activate a Command Group and two companies on a six hour alert. 1st Marines msg 011250Z directed 3d Battalion, 1st Marines to assume a six hour alert posture.

1 March - M-6-36 notified 1st Marines that a helicopter was down 10 miles north of Highway One. 1st Battalion, 4th Marines were prepared to provide one platoon reinforced to assist in the recovery of the downed helicopter at the Bau Bau Bridge.

1 March - RLT 3/1 reported to the 1st Marines for OPCON/ADCON effective 011635Z in accordance with CG, 3d MarDiv 180148Z end 011155Z.

1 March - CO, 1st Marines issued verbal instructions to 3d Battalion, 1st Marines to place a Command Group and three companies on a six hour alert and one company on a two hour alert.

2 March - 3d Battalion, 1st Marines designated Company L as Regimental Reserve in accordance with 1st Marines Operation Order 343-66.

2 March - 1st Marines issued Fng Order 3-66 directing 1st Battalion, 4th Marin to assume defense of the Ky Ha Peninsula and Chu Lai Airfield.

2 March - 1st Marines conducted a briefing for Brigadier General J. M. PLATT.

3 March - ADC msg 031320Z directed 1st Marines to maintain one reinforced rifle squad for "Sparrow Hawk" at the Ky Ha Air Facility.

4 March - 1st Marines were directed by the ADC Chu Lai to alert a Command Group and two companies for possible deployment. 3d Battalion, 1st Marines was directed to provide this force. 1st Battalion, 4th Marines designated Company D, as the Regimental Reserve.

4 March - 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines were directed to provide a Command Group and two companies for possible deployment in Operation UTAH.

5 March - 1st Battalion, 4th Marines were directed to provide one company for possible deployment with Task Force Delta.

7 March - 3d Battalion, 1st Marines, and 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines returned from Operation UTAH.

7 March - 1st Marines Operation Order 364-66 assigned the mission of "Sparrow Hawk" to 1st Battalion, 4th Marines.

9 March - 1st Marines issued change #1 to Operation Order 343-66 which directed 1st Battalion, 4th Marines and 3d Battalion, 1st Marines to exchange TAU responsibilities.

9 March - 1st Battalion, 4th Marines were designated as the alert Battalion.

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10 March - 1st Battalion, 4th Marines were directed by CO, 1st Marines to be prepared for possible deployment to Hué Phu Bai for at least three days. 3d Battalion, 1st Marines assumed defense of the Chu Lai Airfield and Class V dump.

12 March - CG, 3d MarDiv 121315Z provided instructions for 1st Battalion, 4th Marines airlift to Hué Phu Bai.

13 March - 1st Battalion, 4th Marines Command Group and two companies departed Chu Lai Airfield via fixed wing aircraft at 0945H.

15 March - 1st Marines issued Frag Order 5-66 to 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines.

17 March - 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines commenced operation UPAH.

17 March - LtGeneral V. H. KRUEGER, CG, FMFPAC visited 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines.

19 March - 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines alerted for deployment in Operation TEXAS.

21 March - Company D, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines deployed to Operation TEXAS.

21 March - 3d Battalion, 1st Marines alerted for deployment in Operation TEXAS, Command Group Alpha and two companies.

23 March - Company B, 1st Battalion, 7th Marines received Mortar attack close to Chu Lai Airfield.

24 March - 3d Battalion, 1st Marines, 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines and Company D, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines returned from Operation TEXAS.

27 March - 1st Marines OP Plan 369-66 (Golden Fleece) was distributed at 1600H.

29 March - 3d Battalion, 1st Marines Command Group Bravo, Company I and 3d Battalion, 1st Marines and Company F from 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines occupied positions in 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines TdOR, relieving 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines for Operation INDIANA.

31 March - Chu Lai Defense Command assumed responsibility for the Chu Lai Airfield and vital areas on the Ky Ha Peninsula.

31 March - Company C, 1/4 was airlifted to Da Nang, OPCON 3d Marines.

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SECTION V - LOGISTICS

1. Logistics Summary

a. The logistical highlight during the period of this chronology was the coordination and support of 3d Battalion, 1st Marines and 1st Battalion, 4th Marines in their change of Command Posts and TAOR's. This move necessitated the movement of their organic supplies and equipment. Engineer support also furnished both units, refurbishing and reorganizing their new Command Posts. The move was completed in six days. An equitable exchange of tentage and strongbacks was accomplished for the two Battalions.

b. One major fixed wing airlift was undertaken and expeditiously accomplished. A Battalion Command Group, two rifle companies, and certain attachments from 1st Battalion, 4th Marines were airlifted from the Chu Lai Airfield to Phu Bai by C-130's.

c. Logistical support for units of the Regiment was normal. An exception was specified and items of equipment furnished on an emergency basis to Battalions participating in operations "Utah" and "Texas."

d. Proper logistical support is progressing. However, operational commitments outside the TAOR ("Utah" and "Texas") have placed an increased demand on the Supply System to maintain the required operational level of supplies.

e. The deadlined combat essential list remains basically stable. An exception is the increased number of Engineer Equipment items on deadline. This increased deadline of Engineer Equipment has a diminishing effect upon the amount of Engineer Support available.

2. Problem Areas Determined from Logistics Status Report.

a. 1/4 - A critical shortage of electrolyte kits for the BB-451 battery exists. These items are in high demand, but resupply has been continuously short.

b. 2/4 - BA-279 batteries are in short supply and present a problem to this unit. Pri 02 requisitions for BA-279's are not being filled. This unit is also experiencing problems with the BB-451 due to the terminal assemblies.

c. Company "A", 1st ArTracBn. This unit reports that there is a continuing lack of repair parts for the LVT track suspension system; primarily, road wheels, torsion arms and track. As of the end of this report there are 24 Priority 02 and 128 Priority 05 requisitions still outstanding for these items.

d. Company "A", 1st Engr. Bn. The equipment deadline has increased. Part 7b below lists the equipment on deadline.

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3. Fiscal.

a. As of 29 March 1966, the 1st Marines had utilized approximately \$1,021,754 as requisitional authority since deploying from CONUS on 10 August 1965.

4. Fiscal Problems Encountered.

a. No fiscal problems were encountered during this period.

5. Embarcation. Nothing to report for this period.

6. Rations.

a. The percentage of rations by type utilized by Hq. Co., 1st Marines for this period is as follows:

A. - 90%

B. - 10%

7. Deadlined Equipment by type as of 29 March 1966 for the 1st Marines: (to include, Hq. Co., 1/4, 2/4, 3/1, Co. "A", 1st Tks, Co. "A" 1st Engrs., Co. "A", 1st Antiacs, Co. "B", 3d AT's).

a. Comm-Elec.

14-PRC-6  
5-PRC-10  
2-PU-348  
1-AN/MRC-87  
1-AN/PRC-25  
3-AN/TPS-21  
3-TRC-27  
1-PU-587

b. Engineers.

1-TD-18  
2-TD-15  
2-Chain Saws  
3-55 GPM Pump  
3-AN/PRS-3 Doctoctors  
1-Water Purification Unit

c. Motor Transport.

12-M-274  
2-M-422  
1-M-51 Dump

d. Ordnance.

4-M-79  
3-81mm Mortar  
8-3.5 Rocket Launcher  
2-M48A3  
1-LVT A1 (Cmd)

CHRONOLOGICAL SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

4 Mar 66 CG, 3d MarDiv msg 030019Z requested an MCI Ration Report be submitted on all MCI's received, issued, consumed, and on hand. The report for Feb. was submitted as 1st Mar msg 041210Z.

5 Mar 66 CG, 3d MarDiv msg 031220Z gives references on the procedures and instructions for the preparation and submission of initial inventory and monthly updating of Controlled Items Report.

6 Mar 66 Capt. Snodgrass, FLSU, called at 0215 and requested four H-33 hand sets, one 81mm mortar sight, one large and one small base plate for AN/PRC-25 antenna. 1st Mar Comm furnished hand sets and antenna base plates and 1st Bn., 4th Mar furnished the mortar sight. The equipment was delivered to FLSU for use in Operation "Utah."

Sgt. Duffy, FLSU, called at 1505 requesting two H-33 hand sets for Operation "Utah." Hand sets furnished by 1st Mar Comm and delivered to FLSU.

Sgt. Duffy, FLSU, called at 2310 requesting one PRC-6, and two PRC-10's for Operation "Utah." Equipment furnished by 1st Mar Comm and delivered to FLSU.

7 Mar 66 Maj. Williams, FLSU, called at 0010 requesting four H-33 hand sets. 1st Mar Comm furnished hand sets and they were delivered to FLSU.

CG, 3d MarDiv msg 060157Z directed all 3d MarDiv units to include the "Unit of Issue" on all requisitions. All 1st Mar units contacted to ensure they comply.

CG, 3d MarDiv msg 050910Z requested listing of Traffic Control Points within our TAOR, to include their hours of operation, map coordinates, and if GVN representatives are currently present. Report was submitted 13 Mar 66 as CO, 1st Mar msg 130455Z.

8 Mar 66 CO, 1st Mar ltr 4/CRV/ng 4441 of 3 Mar 66 to CG, 3d MarDiv are comments concerning special allowances request for Life Presorvos as requested by CG, 3d MarDiv ltr 21/ERT/jdr 4441 of 21 Feb 66.

9 Mar 66 CG, 3d MarDiv msg 071229Z requested all Division units include major command code "J" on all requisitions submitted. Hq. Co., will continue to use major command code "A". For fiscal purposes Hq. Co., is still under 1st MarDiv.

CO, 1st Mar ltr 4/LCM/rja 4000 of 9 Mar 66 is a report of excess property submitted IAW DivBul 4570 of 12 Feb 66. One hundred M-14 rifles and two 3.5 rocket launchers were reported as excess.

10 Mar 66 CG, 3d MarDiv msg 071225Z requests Division units to turn in all unserviceable typewriters on hand to FLSU for repair. Battalions notified to comply with the message.

11 Mar 66 CG, 3d MarDiv msg 100817Z advised that units having a water shortage may requisition disposable mess gear. All units notified of this availability. Disposable mess gear is not authorized for use in established mess halls, such as Eq. Co., 1st Marines Mess hall.

13 Mar 66 1st Mar msg 120520Z to CG, 1st MarDiv is the financial status to date - \$976,242.

FLSU-1 msg 120543 requested units report estimated monthly usage of disposable mess gear and submit PRI '77 requisitions on estimated needs. All units submitted report except Hq. Co., which is not authorized disposable mess gear.

CO, 1st Mar msg 130455Z to CG, 3d MarDiv is a report on CG, 3d MarDiv msg 050910Z concerning GVN representatives at Traffic Control Points.

15 Mar 66 CG, 3d MarDiv msg 140221Z stated that all personnel transferred within the Division will retain their individual equipment, individual weapon, accessories and lightweight utilities. The retained items are to be invoiced to the new unit within 3 days after transfer. All 1st Mar units will comply.

CG, 3d MarDiv msg 140220Z required a report from all organic and attached units of the amount of acetylene in cubic feet, required for 30 day supply. Report submitted as CO, 1st Mar msg 160210Z.

16 Mar 66 CO, 1st Mar msg 160210Z to CG, 3d MarDiv is the report on acetylene requirements as requested by CG, 3d MarDiv msg 140220Z.

18 Mar 66 CO, 1st Mar ltr 4/CRV/mg 4000 of 18 Mar 66 to G-4, ADC is the status of Comm-Mec equipment after Operations "Double Eagle" and "Utah."

19 Mar 66 CG, 3d MarDiv msg 180236Z requested a report of all equipment in excess of T/E or T/A received after 1 Sept 65 and on hand for 90 days or more. Report submitted 22 Mar 66 as CO, 1st Mar ltr 4/LCM/rja 4000 of 22 Mar 66.

CG, 3d MarDiv msg 181123Z related that sufficient assets of green underclothing and towels are now on hand to be issued as Class II organizational items. FLSU will notify Chu Lai units when they are available for distribution.

CG, 3d MarDiv msg 181320Z requested a report of all off shore procured items on hand. A negative report for 1st Marines was submitted to CG, 3d MarDiv as CO, 1st Mar msg 210445Z.

20 Mar 66 CO, 1st Mar ltr 4/BBM/mg 4400 of 20 Mar 66 to CO, 3/1 instructed that an investigation be completed by 261200 Mar 66 into the alleged loss of Camp Butler Government Property missing from Camp Schwab, Okinawa.

1st Mar msg 201100Z to CG, 1st MarDiv is financial status to date - \$997,983.

22 Mar 66 CG, 3d MarDiv msg 210202Z required all units to submit an inventory of all garrison property within their command and to recommend suggested allowances of garrison property to CG, 3d MarDiv by 10 April 66.

Loaned two M-60 machine guns to FLSG-B for Operation "Texas." CO, 1st Mar ltr 4/LCM/rje 4000 of 22 Mar 66 is the report of excess T/E equipment as requested by CG, 3d MarDiv msg 180236Z.

24 Mar 66 CG, 3d MarDiv msg 230055Z requested a report of all outstanding typewriter requisitions to include FSN, DOC NR, DDD, PRI and QTY so that FMEPC can arrange for sufficient assets to be airlifted to West Pac to meet that requirements.

25 Mar 66 CO, 1st Mar msg 250225Z is report on typewriter status submitted to CG, 3d MarDiv msg 230055Z.

27 Mar 66 CG, 3d MarDiv msg 261411Z directed all units to submit a listing of M13 filter elements for gas masks on hand. Report submitted as CO, 1st Mar msg 290746Z.

CG, 3d MarDiv msg 241410Z directed all units to refrain from submitting requisitions for repair/spare parts and components for radio sets AN/PRC-25 and AN/PRC-125 until advised otherwise.

29 Mar 66 CR-COM changed from 3d MarDiv to 1st MarDiv, 1500.

CO, 1st Mar msg 290746Z is the report of M13 filter elements on hand as requested by CG, 3d MarDiv msg 261411Z.

31 Mar 66 CG, 1st MarDiv msg 301311Z stated that M-274's will not be used for administrative runs.

FLSG-B courtesy inspection team, requested by CO, 1st Marines inspected M.T., Comm. Engr and Ordnance. Results of the inspection were satisfactory, minor discrepancies were noted.

CG, 1st MarDiv msg 301310Z directed all units to submit a physical inventory of all garrison property on hand and to submit recommended allowances of garrison property to include justification for the recommended allowances.

CO, 1st Mar ltr 4/LCM/rje of 31 Mar 66 to CG, 3d MarDiv is a negative report of a search for Plant Account Property as requested by CG, 3d MarDiv ltr 21/GLW/cy 4000.1 of 20 Mar 66.

SECTION VI - COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRONICS

1. Operations.

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a. General.

(1) The 1st Marines Communications Platoon, on 1 March 1966, activated all radio nets, teletype circuits, and wire communications in the 1st Marines Command Post and discontinued operations in the ADC Command Post.

(2) An Army Corps team led by Captains Criggs and Wyatt and accompanied by the ADC Communications-Electronics Officer, visited this command post seeking approval for a site to install a tropo-scatter radio relay system. The selected location was in the 3d Battalion 1st Marines area and, with their concurrence, was approved. Construction will begin in July with completion scheduled for September 1966.

(3) On 19 March 1966, the CG 3d Marine Division placed a requirement on ADC Command Group Chu Lai to provide security and communications for a Hydro Survey Party operating in the Danang-Chu Lai area. The ADC, in turn, directed the 1st Marines to contribute a radio operator with a AN/PRC-47 radio and necessary supplies to this endeavor.

(4) On 28 March 1966 a conference of Communications Officers was called by the 1st Marine Division CEO. Plans were discussed for the assumption of control by the 1st Marine Division. Effective 291500H March 1966 the 1st Marine Division assumed OPCON of the 1st Marines. All communications between the 1st Marines and the 3d Marine Division were discontinued and contact was established with the 1st Marine Division by radio, teletype, and wire lines. A new 1st MarDiv Communication-Electronics Operating Instructions was published which changed callsigns and frequencies for some units.

2. Equipment.

a. On 31 March the communications platoon was inspected by a Comm-Elect team from FLSG-B. They found all records and equipment satisfactory. At the same time an FMFPAC contact instruction team held class on the AN/PRC-25 and other new PRC series of radios expected in the system in the near future.

b. Five additional AN/PRC-25 radios requisitioned on 24 February 1966 were received on 24 March. Equipment on deadline of a combat essential nature: PE-75, FU-587, 2 AN/TPS-21, AN/GRC-7, AN/MRC-38, AN/MRC-87, 3 RT-252, 6 PU-278, TT-297/UG.

3. Personnel. No change.

Enclosure:

(1) Journal File

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SECTION VII  
FIRE SUPPORT COORDINATION AND NAVAL GUNFIRE

1. Significant Events and Developments

a. At 0100H March, the FSCC commenced operating from the present CP. Communications were established with supporting artillery, and the FSCC of senior and subordinate headquarters. The FSCC experienced no difficulties in maintaining communications in a variety of situations. Fire Support Coordination was effective and continuous during operations within the TAOR and ROCR.

b. Major Charles SOLomon (Headquarters Battery, First Battalion, 11th Marines) was assigned as Fire Support Coordinator on 150800H March.

c. FSCC personnel assisted with crater analysis performed after the 60mm mortar attack (27 March) on the 3d 8" Howitzer Battery (SP) located within the First Marines' TAOR. A detailed account of this incident is contained in Section X of this chronology.

2. Problem Areas

a. The firing of mortars in close proximity to and into existing airfield approach patterns requires a high degree of safety and coordination. Extensive use of air sorties and rapid reporting of firing to DASC proved to be adequate to insure aircraft safety.

b. The firing of mortar illumination in close proximity to fuel storage areas and medium artillery positions located near the Chu Lai Airfield presented an unacceptable safety risk to friendly troops. Units defending the Airfield made more extensive use of tank searchlights and illumination concentrations were meticulously positioned to avoid the safety hazard.

c. The firing of mortars in close proximity to headquarters and service installations which are densely populated requires extreme care to assure that illumination shell casings do not fall on friendly forces.

## Section VIII - Air Support and Defense

### 1. General

a. Air Operations. The month of March was a very active period, marked by exploration, vigilance, and quick reaction. Rifle companies have continually been on the alert for transportation by surface vehicles, Helo lift and/or fixed wing movements.

The flexibility of operations, ground and air, was well demonstrated during this period. Operations were planned and cancelled, new operations were planned and completed.

Operation Massachusetts was a fine example of the Vertical Assault Operation.

The coordination, timing and professional skill of both pilots and troops were gratifyingly demonstrated in the execution of the troop lift, landing zone prep and the use of supporting arms subsequent to the landing.

During the planning phase for Operation Massachusetts there were a number of lessons learned that should do much to aid in the planning for future operations.

This was especially true in the establishment of proper liaison between the 1st Marines and MAG-36 concerning selection of Landing Zones and troop lift requirements.

b. Target Scheduling. During this reporting period there was an increase in targets selected for the day's bombing. This was the result of two factors: (1) A direct requirement from higher authority to select at least fifteen targets each day, and (2) Intelligence and reconnaissance reports indicating a substantial increase in enemy activity within and adjacent to the TAOR.

2. Support Hawk. The Sparrow Hawk squad maintained in compliance with 3d Marine Division Operation Order 364-56 was launched to act as a blocking force in support of Company I, 2d Battalion, 1st Marines.

3. Tactical Air Control Parties. Because of the increase in activity and the alert status of numerous rifle companies there was a demand for additional Air Officers. Requests for additional Air Officers were made to the Air Officer, 3d Marine Division. Two Air Officers from the ANGLO Team were made available to the 1st Marines.

4. Air Support Summary. Missions flown in support of 1st Marine Regiment

Detailed Chronology of Events

1 March - At 1800H, 1st Marines Combat Operations Center was moved from the 4th Marines area to the 1st Marines CP area.

2 March - At 1900H, H-36 reported downed helicopter located approximately on the 100' initial to ridge of the Phu Bai. Standby platoon was alerted and helo lift coordination was completed. A report was received the downed helo had been fired by VC. Helo lift was cancelled.

3 March - At 1000H, "A" flight from MiG-17 downed at coordinates BT 387228. 1st Mariner (S-3) alerted to be prepared to deploy demolition team and kill platoon to destroy downed aircraft.

11 March - Special ABIN flight for Operations planning was arranged. Commanding Officer, Logistics Officer, Operations Officer and Intelligence Officer of 1st Battalion, 4th Marines to Huu Phu Bai.

12 March - Requested Fixed Wing Aircraft to airlift personnel of 1st Battalion, 4th Marines from the Lai Gia Huu Phu Bai.

13 March - Sparrow Group and two companies, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines departed Phu Bai at 0945H, destination Huu Phu Bai.

15 March - Commanding Officer, operations officer of 1st Marines accompanied by 1st Recon Company flew aerial observation mission to view selected area of operation and select a Landing Zone for Operation "Assault."

16 March - At 1100H, Regimental Asst Officer and 1st Lt of 2d Battalion, 4th Marines boarded H-36 and A-1H of Helicopter Company and Communications for "per son on the ground."

17 March - At 0745H, orders for Operation "Assault."

20 March - Commanding Officer, 2d Battalion, 4th Marines to Binh Son for planning of Operation "Terror."

23 March - Submitted request for fixed wing transportation for 42 members of the 3d Marine Division Land, Phu Bai to Da Nang.

30 March - At 1100H, a squad patrol from Company A, 2d Battalion, 4th Marines received 300 rounds of small arms fire from an estimated 15 Viet Cong at 1M 32W74. As a result of this action, the Sparrow Hawk was launched at 1130H and landed at 1205H in vicinity of BT 447077 to act as a blocking force.

a. <u>Helicopter</u>	<u>Missions Completed</u>
(1) Troop Lift	20
(2) Logistics	28
(3) Admin	26
(4) Air Spot/cls	6
(5) Med Evac	10
(6) Recon	10
(7) Other	3
b. <u>Fixed Wings</u>	<u>Missions Completed</u>
(1) Tactical Air Requests	2
(2) Mine ships	0
(3) PIMA WING	1
c. <u>WPAFB</u>	<u>333 Targets</u>
	<u>210.3 Tons of Ordnance Dropped</u>

4. Air Defense, passive Air Defense was in effect throughout the reporting period in accordance with operations COB.

## SECTION IX Medical and Dental

### 1. Camp Sanitation

- a. Throughout the month, the sanitation of the messing facilities was maintained at the previous high level.
- b. All head facilities were re-screened to insure the fly proof status previously noted.
- c. Hand washing facilities were established at all heads.

### 2. Medical Civilian Aid Program

- a. One liaison trip was made to Danang to establish contact with the Division Surgeon of the Third Marine Division.
- b. On the liaison trip to Danang a large quantity of professional samples of drugs was located. In the following week, one hospital corpsman and one of the personnel in Regimental Supply were sent to Danang to prepare the samples for transportation. The supplies were brought to Chu Lai without incident. The shipment amounted to over eleven hundred pounds. These drugs were distributed to battalions and attachments.
- c. Orders for the usual medical supplies for this program were recapitulated and submitted to the Civil Affairs Officer.

### 3. Medical Care Provided

- a. Approximately fifteen patients were seen daily at this facility. There were seven medical emergencies and three referrals to "B" Medical Company, 3d Medical Battalion. Three patients were referred to 3d Dental Company for definitive dental care. During the month two hundred and eighty immunizations were administered and five cases of Urethritis were treated.
- b. The Regimental Surgeon assisted in the treatment of casualties sustained on the operations conducted this month.
- c. One ARVN was treated at this facility and returned to duty.

Section X - Civil Affairs

1. Significant events

- a. On the first day of the month the Civil Affairs Officer, District Chief, and representatives from "A" Company, 1st Engineers inspected the site of a possible road and dike from Long Binh to An Tay.
- b. An informal investigation was convened on 2 March to determine the facts surrounding the disappearance of two pallets of corrugated tin roofing earmarked for distribution to the hamlet of Hoa My. The investigation was conducted by 1st Lt URBANS of FLSU-1.
- c. On 2 March the village chief of Ky Nien was hospitalized at "B" Med and on 3 March was evacuated to Quang Ngai for an internal stomach disorder.
- d. A two room school was opened at Khuong Ngu (1) on 3 March. The school was built entirely with funds raised in the village of Ky Khuong and was constructed by Vietnamese. A full time teacher was hired.
- e. A pig farm project to be initiated in Ky Khuong village was discussed by the District Chief at by Tin District Headquarters with the Province Animal Husbandry team, Province USAID representative, I Corps Agricultural Advisor, the Sub-sector Advisor and the 1st Marines (1) on 4 March.
- f. On 5 March the C4O and LtJg HOLLIFIELD, USA, MCH-4 inspected the site of the Hoa Long New Life Hamlet to analyze the requirements for ditching and dike construction. Water samples were taken from newly constructed wells and were delivered to "B" Med for analysis.
- g. On 8 March the District Chief, Ly Tin District, was the guest of the Commanding Officer, 1st Marines for dinner after which the Chief and several 1st Marines officers discussed the social, economic, and military aspects of the war in Vietnam.
- h. Marine transportation was made available on 9 March to transport the District Chief to DaNang.
- i. On 9 March 41 members of a 90 man Vietnamese Regional Forces Company deserted at the An Bia bridge of which 30 later returned.
- j. Phase II of the construction of the Hoa Long New Life Hamlet began with the assignment of an ARVN Civil Affairs team to the island of Ky Hoa on 10 March. On the same day, 3d Battalion, 1st Marines assumed a CAAOR.
- k. The body of Ngo Tan MINH from Khuong Ngu was returned on 11 March from the Seventh Day Adventist Hospital in Saigon where he died following berelip surgery. Doctor Colin FREEMAN travelled to Saigon on 12 March to investigate the cause of death.

l. On 13 March the Regimental Commander and Staff Sections briefed the Headquarters, Marine Corps, Human Science Research Team on the 1st Marines' CAAOR and CA activities therein. The team was accompanied to Ap Tan Sinh Hoa Long where they observed the construction of a refugee hamlet.

m. The Commanding Officer, 3d Battalion, 1st Marines and the Regimental Civil Affairs Officer escorted Major General TILJIS, USA, and General PLATT on a tour of Ky Xuan on 14 March. On the same day the CoO began instruction in the JUSDAO/MACV Advisor's Orientation Course.

n. Lights were installed in the village council hall on Ky Xuan on 19 March.

o. On 20 March, nine Marines and three Navy Chaplains presented 40,000 \$VN from 3d Marine Division Protestant Chapel Funds to the congregation of the Vietnamese Protestant Evangelical Church in Chu Lai New Life Hamlet. 21 members of the congregation were present to accept the gift which was given in behalf of the Marines in the Chu Lai Enclave. The money is to be used to build the first Protestant Evangelical Church in the Chu Lai Enclave. An additional 30,000 \$VN was pledged from the Protestant Chapel Fund to further assist in construction.

p. Two Vietnamese from the hamlet of An Tar appeared as witnesses on 20 March in a court-martial pertaining to the alleged assault on one of the Vietnamese by a Marine.

q. The 3d Marine Division Band played to between 600 and 700 Vietnamese at Ky Ma Village headquarters and to 350 Vietnamese at An Tan on 24 March. Both concerts were enthusiastically received.

r. An Agricultural Forum was held on the morning of 25 March at Ly Tin District headquarters. In attendance were approximately forty village and hamlet farmers and government representatives, ADC G-5, III MAF USAID advisor, Province USAID representative, I Corps Agricultural Advisor, and GVN Province Agricultural, Fishery, and Animal Husbandry Chiefs. Topics discussed were dike construction at Ky Xuong and Ky Xuen, increased pig and chicken production, curfew hours, proper use of fertilizer and fertilizer supply. The forum was chaired by the District Chief. A pre-forum conference of government officials was held in the office of the Sub-sector advisor.

s. At 0600 on the morning of 25 March the Commander of the Chu Lai area Junk Fleet was killed by a booby trap. It was later discovered that six members of the Junk Fleet had deserted.

t. The Province Drama Team gave performances to 200 people at Ky Phu (1) and to 500 persons at An Tan on 25 March. On 26 March performances were given to 100 Vietnamese and U. S. Marines at the An Bia bridge and to 150 Marines at 1st Marines CP.

u. On 26 March the people of Ly Tin District began to assemble construction materials at the site of the planned District High School with the arrival by river boat of ten truck loads of sand.

v. Construction of a fish hatchery by the Vietnamese government was completed in An Tan and was signed for on 28 March by the District Chief.

## 2. Projects initiated and in progress

a. Construction of a road from Long Binh along the path of the present trail to An Thuy (2) began on 4 March. When completed this road will link the village to Ky Hoa, Nguon and improve the communication network within the District internally. The plan is to construct the road in such a manner to permit it to serve additionally as a dike to prevent salt water from entering the low-lying areas nearby. Men and equipment from "A" Company, 1st Engineers along with Vietnamese workers whom the District Chief will assign when needed are working on this project which has a projected completion date of 15 April. The project has had a very favorable impact on villagers in the Ky Hoa area.

b. One six year old Vietnamese boy afflicted with a double harelip was transported to Saigon for surgery under Operation "Flap-it" on 5 March along with his expectant mother. A harelip and a cleft-cup nose were returned to their hosts of Bien Hoa and Phu Nhieu (2) the same day.

c. Sub-dike construction began throughout the District on March 17th with the arrival of USAID cement. Ten walls are progressing on Ky Hoa, two at An Tan, one in Ky Su, and six along Route #1 in Ky Nguong.

d. Work began on the District High School on 30 March with foundation excavation.

e. A forty-two year old woman from Xirong Binh was admitted for eye surgery in Saigon on 31 March. Mr. Pham KJ from An Tan was returned this date from the U. S. Naval Hospital, Saigon after cataract surgery conducted last month.

## 3. Projects completed

a. On 6 March, trucks and labor supplied by the 1st Battalion, 11th Marines repaired the bridge approach near Long Binh. The old approach was washed away in the flood of last year and the bridge has been unusable since. That day's Marine vehicle traffic was the first to traverse the bridge in months.

b. Phase I construction of the New Village Shanty at Hiep Long was completed on 9 March when 54 families moved into their new homes.

c. Construction of new walls at Ap Tan Sinh Hoa Long was completed on 12 March.

## 4. New developments

a. An OF 0141 Corporal was assigned to the Civil Affairs Office on 1 March to increase the CAO staff to one officer and two enlisted.

b. 1st Battalion, 4th Marines was removed from ThOR responsibility on 13 March. 1/4's old CAO was assigned to 3d Battalion, 1st Marines.

c. The CAG staff increased by one Sergeant on 22 March.

d. Administrative control of the 1st Battalion, 4th Marines shifted to Phu Bai on 26 March.

5. Supplies Distributed

a. 3 March ~ 750 school books for all primary grades to Ly Tin District Headquarters, 100 pounds of corn, 1000 pounds of wheat, 6 cases of candy, and 600 pounds of dehydrated milk given to District Headquarters.

b. 6 March ~ 75 pounds of clothing, 200 bars of soap to Long Binh and An Tan (2 on 18 by Lien village). Five thousand pounds of rice to District Headquarters for redistribution.

c. 7 March ~ Started distributing rice, five blacksmith kits, five school kits, five masonry kits and three hundred sewing kits to Ly Tin Headquarters. On the same date the District Chief redistributed sixteen blankets to Ky Khung, six blankets to Ky Lien of families, fifty-four blankets to turned out families in Ly Tan and sixty pounds of clothing to Khuong Lai.

d. 8 March ~ 250 bars of soap to Khuong Mai

e. 9 March ~ 95 bars of soap to Khuon Quang, 200 bars to Long Binh

f. 14 March ~ 520 school books and an outboard motor to Ly Tin District

g. 22 March ~ One hundred pounds of candy through Quang Vinh Deputy Province Chief to Ten Ky Catholic Orphanage

h. 23 March ~ 400 pounds of wheat to Ap Tin Sinh Hoa Long

i. 17 March ~ Twenty-five bags of USAID cement through the District Chief to Ky Hoa

j. 18 March ~ 100 CAFS woodworking kits and 100 CAFS mason kits to Ly Tin District Headquarters

k. 23 March ~ 30 bags of USAID cement to Ky Lien, 30 bags of cement to Ky Ha (all cement intended for well construction), and 4 mason kits to Ly Tin District Headquarters

l. 20 March ~ 2500 pounds of corn meal to District Headquarters to feed workers constructing the District high school

m. 24 March ~ 200 bars of soap to Ky Khung, 60 pounds of clothing through District Chief to Long Phu (2) and (1), 75 pounds of clothing to District Headquarters.

n. 24 March ~ 65 bags of cement to Ly Tin District Headquarters for well construction along route 40

o. 27 March ~ 450 pounds of clothing to An Tan and Khuong My

1 p. 28 March - 600 sheets of corrugated roofing tin to 40 bombed out families on Ky Xuan

6. MEDCAP Progress and Dental

During the reporting period 9,117 Vietnamese were treated by MEDCAP teams from 1st and 2d Battalions, 4th Marines, and 3d Battalion, 1st Marines, compared with 9,333 receiving medical assistance within the same area the month before. 60 dental patients were treated throughout the month.

7. Problem Areas and Local Government

It has been proposed that the most intelligent and effective approach to Civic Action is one based on the theory that units work with and through the established governmental systems to meet the needs of the local area and its citizenry. However, often times the established government does not have a staff sufficiently trained to accomplish these needed projects either at all or within the necessary time frame. Supervision and follow through are not valued skills of the local administrator. It is, therefore, incumbent that Marine units exercise a degree of patience in dealing with local officials and that the executive ability within these units be made available when practical to train local executive personnel.

Because of the unique advisory position enjoyed by the Sub-sector Advisory team with the local district officials it follows that a concerted effort should be made by Marine units to establish and maintain a high degree of rapport and cordial working relationship with the MACV advisory team. One of the first steps in accomplishing this end involves the attempt on the part of the Marine Commander to understand the mission of the Sub-sector advisor and the difficulties which arise in attempting to accomplish this mission within a predominately U. S. military controlled area.

As a result of the increased density of the Marine Corps population within the 1st Marines TAOR, more Marine commanders are attempting to involve their units in Civic Action. MEDCAP coverage, for example, of this unit's AOR has increased to the point of saturation. Over 9,000 patients were seen by 1st Marines MEDCAP teams in each of the last two months alone. In addition to our own coverage many other units are performing MEDCAP's within our TAOR. The problems resultant by this increased unit input to a practical, functional and well balanced civic action program are compounded. As much, in fact, more harm to the goals of the concept of Revolutionary Development can be done through over participation in the field of civic action. Assignment of individual battalions to separate units to develop as command projects creates problems of proper government functioning and would involve an unnecessary duplication of services provided. Hamlet chiefs would learn quickly to turn to their adopted Marine units for assistance, phasing out completely the local village and district governments. Additionally, Marine tactical units operating within their own TAOR's would find their areas of responsibility continually filled with personnel from several support units intent on carrying out their Cu mission. The importance of proper balance (the healthy growth of all functions of economic, governmental and social activity) in community development can never be overemphasized. Our eventual goal in revolutionary development is to be able to phase out our own participation in support of government functioning. Over-involvement in

local areas by U. S. military and civilian personnel represents a backward step in this evolution.

#### 8. Applying information.

This reporting period has been characterized by a major increase in the density of the Marine Corps population within the 1st Marine MACR and the introduction of new units into active Civic Action participation in the MACR. As a result of these new influences, coordination on all levels of command and staff has been and will continue to be essential. The assignment of new MACRs within the First Marine MACR has required close supervision of field units by the CAO and a continuing program of instruction to include methods of implementation of civic action theories.

Particulars:

- (1) Detailed Chronology of Events

Detailed Chronology of Events

3 March - A two room school was open at Khoung Eaip (1). First six cases of school books were brought from Sam Ky by helicopter.

4 March - Work begin today on the road and dike between Long Binh and An Tay.

6 March - Trucks and labor supplied by the 1st Battalion 11th Marines repaired the bridge approach road Long Binh.

8 March - The District Chief, Ky Tin District was the guest of the Commanding Officer, 1st Marines for dinner.

9 March - Forty-one RF soldiers deserted near the An Bou Bridge. Thirty later returned.

10 March - 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines assumed a CAAOR.

13 March - The Human Science Research Team from Headquarters Marine Corps was briefed by the GIC and Staff Sections.

14 March - Major General Tillis and Brigadier General Platt toured Ky Xuan.

17 March - Cement for wells were distributed to Hoa Long, Hoa My, An Tan, and Ky Khoung.

18 March - CARE woodworking and masonry kits distributed to Ky Tin District Headquarters.

20 March - 40,000 VN\$ were presented by Marines an 1st Marines Chaplin to the senior elder of the Vietnamese Protestant Evangelical Church in Chu Lai New Life Hamlet.

24 March - The 3rd Marine Division Band played two concerts within the 1st Marines CAAOR.

25 March - Agricultural forum held at District Headquarters.

26 March - The Province Drama Team performed for Vietnamese and Marines.

28 March - Construction for a fish hatchery by the Vietnamese government was completed.

29 March - Cataract case delivered to Siagon as part of operation "Fix-it".

31 March - Construction of Ky Tin District High School began.

Enclosure. (1)

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Section XI - Psychological Warfare

1. During the month, Psychological Warfare Operations conducted within the 1st Marine Regiment were limited due to elements of the 1st Marines participating in operations Utah, Massachusetts, and Texas.
2. Psychological Warfare Operations conducted by the Regiment consisted of a leaflet drop and a limited tape broadcast over the northwestern corner of the Regimental TAOR from U-10 aircraft. In addition approximately 5,000 leaflets were hand distributed by the 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines during operations. These leaflets were obtained for the operations from the Regimental Psychological Warfare Officer. A copy of the leaflet and its translation is contained in enclosure (1). Copies of the leaflet were distributed as follows:
  - a. 10 March approximately 500 leaflets were distributed by members of Company E, in the vicinity of Thanh My Trung (2) at BT 4603.
  - b. Approximately 2000 leaflets were distributed by members of 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines during operation Texas 21-24 March vicinity of BT 6380.
  - c. While on operation Massachusetts 17-18 March 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines distributed approximately 2500 leaflets in the vicinity of BT 3212.

Enclosure:

- (1) Detailed Chronology
- (2) Leaflet and Message used on 19 March Operation
- (3) Leaflet and Message Distributed during March by Marines of 1st Battalion, 4th Marines

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Detailed Chronology

1 March - The Psychological Operations Officer from 1st Battalion, 4th Marines requested special leaflets, an audio team, U-10 aircraft, tapes for broadcasting, educational films and mural magazines, all for use in conjunction with a proposed operation on Hoa Xuan Island. He emphasized that the proposed operation would present an excellent opportunity in which to employ Psychological Operations, as the area is pro-VC.

10 March - Due to VC mine and road-cutting incidents, a request was submitted to Quang Ngai for a special leaflet to be produced and dropped in the vicinity in which those incidents had occurred. In addition a tape denouncing such activity was requested to be broadcast from U-10 aircraft in conjunction with the leaflet drop. Prior to this operation, liaison was made by telecon with Tan Ky concerning appropriate themes and areas to be covered.

12 March - Conference was held with the 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines Psychological Operations Officer. Topics discussed were:

1. In the past, broadcasts made in the Chu Lui Enclave from U-10 aircraft have been delivered in a dialect other than that spoken in the Quang Tin Province. This must be avoided in the future.
2. There are several Chiou Hoi's located with the PF Company in Ky Sanh (BP 4505). These Chiou Hoi's were received during the monsoon season and are currently working with the PF Company. It would be desirable to obtain, print and distribute a personal letter from one of them describing the improvements in living conditions, etc., they have experienced since turning themselves over to the CVM.

16 March - A conference with 1st MarDiv Psychological Operations Officer to discuss 1st Marines Psychological Operations SUP.

18 March - A MACV publication Serial No. 1858 (National Psychological Operations Plan) was received by 1st Marines (S-3).

19 March - Information regarding Psychological Operations conducted within 1st Marines TAUK for the period 13-19 March was furnished to the 3d Marine Division Psychological Operations Officer upon his request. The 224th Psychological Operations Company was contacted requesting information concerning the 1st Marines request of 10 March for a leaflet-tape presentation regarding VC mine and road-cutting incidents. At this time it was learned that 100,000 leaflets were dropped on 15 March via BP 400146. In conjunction with this leaflet drop, a tape with the same general message was broadcast over the area for a period of one and one half hours. The leaflet and its message are contained in enclosure (2).

20 March - 1st Marines received about 2 million assorted leaflets from the 1st MarDiv Psychological Operations Officer. These leaflets were left behind by the 4th Marine Regiment when it left the Enclave.

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Enclosure (1)

31 March - During a liaison visit to the 244th Psychological Operations Company in Muang Ngai the following topics were discussed:

1. In the future, the 244th Psychological Operations Company has agreed to submit detailed reports following all operations conducted at the request of Marine units.

2. Approximately 10,000 curfew leaflets were obtained by 1st Marine. These leaflets are currently being held by this Regiment.

31 March - Contact was made with Psychological Warfare Officer, 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines regarding the possibility of exploiting the presence of the Chieu Hoi's with the PF Company at Ky Sanh.