

HEADQUARTERS BATTALION
3d Marine Division (Rein)FMF
APO San Francisco 96602

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8 Mar 1969

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code 4020)
Via: (1) Commanding General, 3d Marine Division(Rein)FMF
(2) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology, for period 1 February to 28 February 1969

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8A

Encl: (1) Headquarters Battalion, 3d Marine Division(Rein)FMF, Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of reference (a) and (b), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. Upon detachment of enclosure (1) this letter will be unclassified.

M.A. Kelly
M. A. Kelly

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Hqs 3d Marine Div

CMD CHRON

FEB 1969

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 February to 28 February 1969

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. DESIGNATION

Headquarters Battalion
3d Marine Division(Rein)FMF

COMMANDER

Col M. A. WEBB

SUBORDINATE UNITS

Headquarters Company

Capt D. L. GILCOTE

Service Company

Capt T. M. GARBOWSKI

Military Police Company

Major E. L. ROTTSOLK

Communications Company

Major F. C. MULLEN

2. LOCATION

1 - 28 February 1969 Quang Tri, Republic of Vietnam (Less Communica-
tions Company, Dong Ha, RVN)

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer

Major R. D. STUCKEY

S-1/Adjutant

CWO R. T. POWELL Jr.

S-1/Assistant Adjutant

CWO D. A. DE BARGE

Operations/Logistics Officer

Major R. T. CARNEY

Motor Transport Officer

1stLt M. P. MCBRIDE

Supply Officer

Capt W. W. HOBBS Jr.

Surgeon Officer

Lt S. M. COHEN

Chaplain

Lt J. D. ALLEN

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

USMC	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
277	1730

USN	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
9	21

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

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1. Headquarters Battalion elements were positioned throughout the 3d Marine Division area of operations during the period. Location of major elements were as follows:

Quang Tri

Headquarters Company (-)
 Service Company (-)
 Military Police Company (-)

Dong Ha

Communications Company (-)

2. Unit Activities and Eventsa. Headquarters Battalion

Headquarters Battalion continued to support the Command Orientation and Troops Indoctrination Program, processing 98 Marines. The Battalion improved its existing capabilities by utilizing various out of country schools. An awards ceremony was conducted by the Battalion at which Brigadier General R. B. CARNEY Jr., Assistant Division Commander presented awards to five members of this Battalion.

b. Headquarters Company

During the month of February 1969, this unit was commanded by Captain David L. CHILCOOTE. The average monthly strength was 234 Officers and 887 Enlisted. There were 22 Officers joined and 25 dropped; there were 89 Enlisted joined and 70 dropped. Security Platoon, employing Kit Carson Scouts, was employed in four patrols, one long range patrol of a duration of eight days. For a four day period, Security Platoon was supporting three sectors of Quang Tri Combat Base Perimeter.

c. Communications Company

The majority of the Company remains with the Company Headquarters at Dong Ha Combat Base. Detachments are currently located at the following locations: Quang Tri Combat Base; Vandegrift Combat Base; Cua Viet; FSB Cunningham; Headquarters, 2nd ARVN Regiment; Hill 819 (YD 096377); Dong Ha Mountain. In addition, during the month, a detachment was at Con Thien. Communications Center operations continued in support of the Division Headquarters, subordinate and supporting units. The Division Radio Network continues to operate with 100% reliability. A Naval Gunfire Spot Team was located at Con Thien 16-22 February 1969 to spot the fire of the USS New Jersey.

d. Service Company

During the month of February 1969 this unit continued to satisfactorily perform its support mission. The Maintenance Section continues to accomplish all tasks with available material. This Company has as a secondary mission, the responsibility to provide a reaction force, on call, to the Quang Tri Base Defense Coordinator.

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e. Military Police Company

During the period covered by this report, this unit has conducted operations that fall into four categories: traffic control, criminal investigations and apprehension, POW facilities and base security. Traffic violations totaled 358 for the period as compared with 251 last month. The increase is due largely to the augmentation furnished by Division Roadmasters in the apprehension of traffic violators. A total of 27 traffic accidents were reported, resulting in one Vietnamese civilian fatality. A total of 134 Class I offenses and 77 Class II offenses were committed during this period. Eleven investigations were carried over from the previous period and 49 new cases were opened. A daily average of three prisoners have been detained in the POW facility at Dong Ha. This unit continues to defend Sector "C" of the Base Perimeter. During the hours of darkness, four new posts have been established on the quarters of the Commanding General and Assistant Division Commander.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Combat Missions Assigned

a. Maintain perimeter defense of Quang Tri Combat Base

- (1) Headquarters Company - "A" Sector
- (2) Service Company - "A" Sector
- (3) Security Platoon - "F" Sector
- (4) Military Police Company - "C" Sector

(5) Communications Company maintains perimeter reaction companies for employment as required.

b. Significant Operations Conducted

a. Security Platoon conducted three daylight recon patrols on the 3rd, 5th and 7th of February 1969. On 13 February 1969 a long range patrol commenced and terminated on 21 February 1969. No contact with the enemy was made.

b. On 18 February the Service Company Reaction Force was committed outside Bravo Sector in a sweep operation as a result of suspected enemy intrusion. The Force deployed approximately 0100 hours and returned at 0600. No contact was made.

c. 26-28 Feb 1969 - Communications Company provided a reinforced rifle squad as security for the road sweep team along Route 9 from Dong Ha Combat Base to Cam Lo.

3. Casualties inflicted on the enemy

KIA: None

4. Casualties Sustained

KIA		WIA		INJURY		DEATH		MIA		BATTLE INJURY	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
0	0	0	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0

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The VHF-FM radio set AN/MRC-110 was substituted for the HF radio set AN/MRC-83 on the Division convoy control net. By using set control AN/GRA-6 the density of antennas at the Division CCC was reduced to avoid possible interference.

6. Command Relations

Satisfactory

7. Equipment

Tactical generators continue to be the primary problem with communications equipment.

8. Logistics

a. Headquarters Battalion continues to support Task Force Hotel at Vandegrift Combat Base with personnel, material and equipment.

b. Headquarters Battalion Supply continues to exhibit progress in preparation for 6 March 1969, 3d Marine Division Supply reinspection. Headquarters Battalion Embarkation readiness continues to improve.

9. Civic Action

a. Two visits to the Third Marine Division's Children's Hospital were made to distribute Tet gifts to the patients. Many Vietnamese civilian employees have been hired to work in the Battalion Messhalls. The Headquarters Battalion Brick Factory produced 11,544 bricks during the month of February. Production total ending this reporting period is 60,253 bricks. A weekly class in the English language was held at Tribuu Convent, Quang Tri City. Approximately 30 nuns attended this class.

10. 19 Feb 1969 - Awards ceremony was conducted, with decorations being presented by Brigadier General R. B. CARNEY Jr., Assistant Division Commander.

11. Personnel

a. No significant occurrences.

b. Shortages of personnel exists in MOS 1161, 1141, 1121, 3531, and 5711.

c. Casualties

(1) WIA ENLISTED - Corporal Marshall C. PATTERSON 2344812/

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4631 USMC ServCo HqBn 2200 24 Feb 1969 vicinity of Quang Tri Province Recd shrapnel wounds to lower thigh of left leg, shin, and mid ankle while engaged in action against hostile forces while being attached with 3dBn9thMar K Co. Treated at 3dMedBn, Cond and Prog good.

- (2) WIA ENLISTED - Lance Corporal Charles E. SICKLER 2399187/4631 USMC ServCo HqBn 25 Feb 1969 vicinity of Quang Tri Province Recd shrapnel wounds to skull with depressed fracture right Parietal Lobe; shrapnel wounds to face and neck received from incoming mortars while participating against hostile forces while being attached as a photographer with 3dBn9thMar K Co. Cond serious, prog guarded placed on serious list. Present location USS Repose.

12. Intelligence

Nothing significant

13. Communications

a. Communications Company continues to provide radio and multi-channel radio communication for the widely dispersed Third Marine Division. An AN/TRC-97 shot from Vandegrift Combat Base to Fire Support Base Cunningham was established in support of the 9th Marines on Operation DEWEY CANYON. Due to an outage on the Dong Ha - Quang Tri cable a radio set AN/TRC-27 was used to provide communications 5-21 Feb 1969.

14. Weather

Nothing significant

15. Fire Support

None

16. Air Support

None

17. Activity/Deactivation/Redesignation

None

18. Personnel Services

a. Postal - Approximately 17,490 pounds of mail were processed during the period of this report.

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b. Special Services - Continued to provide games and amusement to the troops in a satisfactory manner.

19. Chaplain

a. Lt John D. ALLEN, CHC, USNR relieved LCDR E. J. GRECO on 24 February 1969 as the Battalion Chaplain.

b. Additional religious worship services were conducted by Chaplain John FOLLER and Chaplain Hollis BOND, Division Chaplain and Assistant Division Chaplain respectively.

c. Chaplain GRECO provided weekly masses for the following units at Quang Tri Combat Base:

4th Marines (Rear)
9th Marines (Rear)
12th Marines
492nd Army Support Group

d. Catholic services for Headquarters Battalion have been conducted by Chaplain MIGNONE, Assistant Division Chaplain, since the departure of Chaplain GRECO.

20. Medical

Nothing significant

21. Miscellaneous

a. On 17 February 1969 2 Officers and 11 Enlisted personnel of Headquarters Battalion completed a 3-credit hour college level course in Business Enterprise conducted at Quang Tri Combat Base under sponsorship of the Far East Division of the University of Maryland. The class had convened 6 hours per week for a two month period.

b. As the month ended, 7 Headquarters Battalion Officers and Enlisted were enrolled in 3-credit hour courses in Personnel Management and/or Business Law being offered locally by the University of Maryland, Far East Division.

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