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HEADQUARTERS  
3d Combined Action Group  
Combined Action Force  
III Marine Amphibious Force  
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

1/OWD/omb  
5700  
17 April 1970

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From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (CODE HD)  
Via: (1) Commanding Officer, Combined Action Force  
(2) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force  
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 March 1970 to 31 March 1970

Ref: (a) MQQ 5750.1A  
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8B

Encl: (1) 3d Combined Action Group Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a) and (b), enclosure (1) is submitted.

2. Downgraded at three year intervals. Declassified after 12 year interval in accordance with DOD Directive 5200.10.

*C. M. Daniels*  
C. M. DANIELS

TAB (C)  
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FPO San Francisco, California 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 March 1970 to 31 March 1970

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 PART I  
 ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

3d Combined Action Group  
 Combined Action Force  
 III Marine Amphibious Force

ItCol Claude M. DANIELS, USMC  
 1 Mar 1970-31 Mar 1970

SUBORDINATE UNITS

Combined Action Company 3-1

Capt Donald K. SHOCKEY, USMC  
 1 Mar 1970-12 Mar 1970  
 Capt John J. MCNAMARA, USMC  
 13 Mar 1970-31 Mar 1970

Combined Action Company 3-2

Capt Phillip E. TUCKER, USMC  
 1 Mar 1970-31 Mar 1970

Combined Action Company 3-3

Capt Gary E. CARLSON, USMC  
 1 Mar 1970-24 Mar 1970  
 Capt Frank H. MCCARTHY, USMC  
 25 Mar 1970-31 Mar 1970

Combined Action Company 3-4

Capt Thomas M. CARPENTER, USMC  
 1 Mar 1970-31 Mar 1970

Combined Action Company 3-5

1stLt Larry W. RIVERS, USMC  
 1 Mar 1970-31 Mar 1970

2. LOCATION

Headquarters 1-31Mar70

Phu Bai Combat Base, Huong Thuy District, Thua Thien Province

CACO 3-1 1-31Mar70

Huong Thuy District Headquarters, Thua Thien Province

CACO 3-2 1-31Mar70

Phu Loc District Headquarters, Thua Thien Province

CACO 3-3 1-31Mar70

Phu Thu District Headquarters, Thua Thien Province

CACO 3-4 1-31Mar70

Huong Tra District Headquarters, Thua Thien Province

CACO 3-5 1-31Mar70

Trapi Bridge Headquarters, Phu Loc District, Thua Thien Province

ENCLOSURE (1)  
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~CONFIDENTIAL~~3. STAFF OFFICERS~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
Executive OfficerMajor Walter N. COMBSON Jr, USMC  
1 Mar 1970-31 Mar 1970

S-1

Capt William N. JUSICE Jr, USMC  
1 Mar 1970-30 Mar 1970  
1stLt Michael W. BASSLER, USMCR  
31 Mar 1970

S-2/3

Major William J. LANNES III, USMC  
1 Mar 1970-31 Mar 1970

S-4

Capt Roger D. ZORENS, USMC  
1 Mar 1970-31 Mar 1970

Chaplain

LCDR Dewey V. PAGE, USN  
1 Mar 1970-31 Mar 19704. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>ARVN (Attached)</u>	
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
11	502	1	31	1	5

5. End-of-Month Unit Diary Strength

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>OTHERS</u>	
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
10	456	1	31	0	0

Enclosure (1)

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## NARRATIVE SUMMARY

I. COMMAND, OPERATIONS, AND TRAINING

A. Enemy activity decreased significantly throughout the 3d Combined Action Group's TAOG during this reporting period as evidenced by the number of enemy contacts and casualties.

B. The extensive loss of personnel during March due to Phase III redeployment has adversely affected the operations of this Command, both tactically and administratively. During the latter part of this reporting period, most of the companies had to rotate personnel each night to maintain the minimum of nine Marines per CAP required for night activities; in addition to purging their headquarters, already manned on an austere basis, of personnel to meet the minimum personnel requirements of the CAPs.

C. The lack of personnel has also affected the Command's capability to conduct training. The normal 2½ day refresher training could not be accomplished because the companies had insufficient personnel to replace the men who would be undergoing the 2½ day training program. In order to continue training, 3d CAG sent a training team (Lt THUC and Sgt PILKENTON) to the CAPs. This afforded the opportunity for formal training for the PFs with minimum interference to CAP operations. Seven CAPs received two hours of instruction from the training team, with 64 Marines and 82 Popular Force soldiers in attendance for these classes. Also during this period, 4 Marines and 1 PF attended the 1st Marine Division's NCO Leadership Course, and 5 Marines attended CAF Language School in Danang.

D. During the month of March, the Commanding Officer, 3d Combined Action Group, initiated a program in conjunction with Major CHAO, G-5, Thua Thien Province, of conducting periodic visits to the CAPs for the purpose of promoting better understanding between the PFs and Marines. Major CHAO accompanied the Commanding Officer on three different occasions. Major CHAO has since been transferred and replaced by Captain HUNG, who will continue the program.

E. During this period, the S-3 Officer began coordinating, to include attending daily briefings, with the 2nd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (AMBL). On 1 April 1970, the 2nd Brigade will assume responsibility for all of the area in which this Command operates.

F. Emphasis on Civic Action increased under the guidance of Chaplain PAGE. A considerable amount of materials was obtained and made available for issue to the CAPs.

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G. Summary of activity by CACO is as follows:

1. CACO 3-1

a. On 13 March 1970, Captain McNAMARA assumed command of CACO 3-1. Captain SHOCKEY departed for duty in Philadelphia.

b. CACO 3-1 has re-emphasized its company training and continues to have selected PFs attend special training. The CACO is making good use of the company interpreter for these classes.

2. CACO 3-2

a. This company has increased training efforts with the PSIDS and as a result the CAPs are reporting very favorable utilization of these devices.

b. On 28 March 1970, CAP 3-2-4 made contact with four NVA resulting in two NVA KIA and two individual weapons captured.

3. CACO 3-3

a. On 25 March 1970, Captain McCARTHY assumed command of CACO 3-3. Captain CARLSON was transferred to San Francisco.

b. PF participation in this company continues to be low and the new Company Commander has approached the District Chief on this problem.

c. CACO 3-3 continued to encounter numerous booby traps within its TAOC. CAP 3-3-1 initiated a vigorous VIP program and this effort is the primary reason that VIP Fund expenditures increased considerably during this period.

4. CACO 3-4

a. On 21 March 1970, CAP 3-4-1 made contact with four VC/NVA resulting in one VC KIA and one AK47 captured.

5. CACO 3-5

a. On 14 March 1970, CAP 3-5-4 made contact with four NVA resulting in one NVA KIA and one AK47 captured.

H. On 15 March 1970, 3D CAG was visited by Lt. General MCCUTCHEON, Commanding General, III MAF, and Col. METZGER, Commanding Officer, CAF. General MCCUTCHEON was briefed on 3D CAG operations by the Commanding Officer, 3D CAG.

I. During this period, LCDR D. V. PAGE, 3D CAG Chaplain, conducted 51 religious services. In addition, Chaplain PAGE counseled 25 Marines and assisted 15 Marines in coordination with the Red Cross. There was one memorial service held in 3D CAG during March.

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J. The totals for this month's activities are as follows:

DAY PATROLS  
1030

NIGHT PATROLS  
1790

AMBUSHES  
1697

ENEMY CASUALTIES

VC/NVA KIA  
1 3

VC/NVA POW  
0 0

DET  
0

VCS  
6

IWC  
9

CWC  
0

CHIEU HOI  
0

FRIENDLY CASUALTIES

USMC: KIA  
1

WIA(E)  
5

WIA(M)  
3

MIA  
0

POW  
0

NHC  
4(INJ)

PF: KIA  
0

WIA(E)  
0

WIA(M)  
2

MIA  
0

VIP PAYMENTS

79,200\$VN paid to Vietnamese Nationals for ordnance or information.

PSYOPS

Leaflets/Handouts Distributed  
1,435

Posters Distributed  
245

Newspapers Distributed  
0

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A. Personnel Transactions During the month of March the following personnel transactions were completed:

1. Joined

USMC	
Off	Enl
3	56

2. Rotated CONUS

USMC	
Off	Enl
3	74

3. Reassignment Within WestPac

USMC	
Off	Enl
0	52

4. Transferred by Service Records While Sick (out of country hospital)

USMC	
Off	Enl
0	8

5. Extension of WestPac Tour Effected

USMC	
Off	Enl
0	

B. PROMOTIONS: During the month of March the following promotions were effected:

To PFC	1	To SSgt	0
To LCpl	7	To GySgt	0
To Cpl	2	To 1stSgt/MSgt	0
To Sgt	6	To SgtMaj/MGySgt	0

C. LEGAL MATTERS1. Courts held

GCM	0
SpCM	3
SCM	1

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2. Article 32 Investigations completed: 0

3. NJP: 16

4. JAG-Type Investigations: 8 Completed: 7

D. AWARD RECOMMENDATIONS.

SSM 0

BSM 0

NCM 0

NAM 0

PH 13

E. CONGRINTS/SPLINTS/WEIRREPS

The Command has responded to:

1 CONGRINT

0 SPLINTS

3 WEIRREPS

F. MORALE AND WELFARE

1. R&amp;R. The Command has utilized the following number of quotas to the R&amp;R areas listed.

a.	Hong Kong	8	Japan	1
	Taipei	4	Bangkok	12
	Hawaii	9	Sydney	10
	Okinawa	2	Manila	1

b. In Country

15

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2. Mail. Daily average bags of mail processed:

Incoming

12

Outgoing

3

3. Hospital Visitations.

21 Visits

87 Patients

G<sup>2</sup>. CAREER PLANNING

Re-enlistments: 0

Extensions: 0

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MEDICAL

A. On 4 March 1970 until 8 March 1970, Doctor MCGONIGLE from III Marine Amphibious Force visited 3rd CAG and investigated the increase in cases of gastroenteritis and diarrhea in several CAPs. He determined these illnesses were caused by the large number of flies in the areas. Control measures were instituted to eliminate the fly problem.

B. During the reporting period, 21 hospital visits were made, and 87 patients were visited.

C. Monthly totals are as follows: WIA(E)-5; WIA(M)-3; KIA-1; NHC-4; FUO-5; Malaria-0; MedCap treatments - 13,697.

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## IV LOGISTICS/SUPPLY

A. Significant Events

1. Of all excesses, 95% have been turned in to Force Logistics Command, Danang.

B. Damage to Weapons Due to Enemy Action

1. A negative report was submitted for the month of March.

C. Motor Transport

1. Motor Transport vehicles averaged 38,500 miles during the month. Cargo transported consisted of 68 tons of Class I and Class V in support of the Combined Action Platoons in the field.

D. Food Service

1. The Food Service Department, 26th General Support Group, Phu Bai, provided adequate support to this Command during the reporting period.

E. Ordnance

1. ASP continued satisfactory support during the reporting period.
2. The following is a breakdown of repairs made and repairs pending.

## A. Weapons Repaired by 3rd CAG Armory

M-16 Rifle	26	.45 Cal Pistol	7
M-60 Machinegun	18	Shotgun	3
M-79 Grenade Launcher	15	Starlight Scope	8

## B. Weapons Sent to Danang for Repair

M-16 Rifle	8
Starlight Scope	4
60mm Mortar	3

## C. Weapons Still Pending Repair at Danang

M-16 Rifle	8
Starlight Scope	3
60mm Mortar	3

F. Miscellaneous Service

1. Public Works has responded satisfactorily to all routine work requests.

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G. Supply

1. During the reporting period, one degreaser and thirty-one blasting cap crimpers were received.

2. Reconciliation of the financial records has been made with Fiscal, Force Logistics Command.

H. Communications

1. This Command received satisfactory support from 2d Maintenance Battalion, XXIV Corps, during the reporting period.

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PART III

## SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. On 2 March 1970, CAP 3-3-6 was in its day position at YD902188 when VN boys brought one 105MM HE round,, one 175MM HE round, two claymores, four 82MM HE rounds, ten M79 HE rounds, three M26 grenades, one M72 (LAAW), two M34 WP grenades, three M6A1 anti-personnel mines, two pounds of C-4 explosive, and one 60MM illumination round to the CAP. The ordnance was destroyed and VIP payments were effected.
2. On 4 March 1970, a CAP 3-3-6 day patrol discovered an inter-comm set hidden in a bunker at coord YD938198. The set consisted of a transmitter, a speaker, two hand microphones, one battery, and 200 feet of comm wire. The set was turned in to the PHU THU DIOCC for evaluation.
3. On 10 March 1970, while CAP 3-3-6 was conducting a day patrol in the vicinity of YD922192, a Marine tripped a SED resulting in one USMC KIA.
4. On 14 March 1970, CAP 3-5-4 was set in an ambush at YD992050. Utilizing a Starlight Scope, the CAP observed four NVA about 500 meters to the north. An ambush team was dispatched to YD990054. The ambush team initiated contact with the NVA at five meters, killing one NVA and capturing one AK47 rifle.
5. On 21 March 1970, CAP 3-4-1 was set in an ambush at YD708222, when members of the ambush team spotted four VC about 400 meters to the north entering the village. The CAP ambush team opened fire at 50 meters with claymores and small arms fire. One VC was killed and one AK47 rifle was captured.
6. On 22 March 1970, acting on intelligence received from the PFs, CAP 3-4-2 located a bunker/tunnel complex with seven underground tunnels in the vicinity of coord YD694227. The bunker complex was deserted, but appeared to have been used as a storage area. The CAP destroyed the complex.
7. On 23 March 1970, a CAP 3-5-1 day patrol discovered 32 sandbags filled with rice and hidden in a hay stack at coord YD918095. Two VN females were apprehended as VCS.
8. On 23 March 1970, CAP 3-4-1, 3-4-2, and 3-4-3 participated in a combined search and screen operation with Vietnamese RF and PF units. One VCS was apprehended at coord YD700214 and turned over to VN officials.
9. On 24 March 1970, a CAP 3-3-6 day patrol discovered three AK47 rifles hidden in a well at coord YD952185. The weapons were in good condition and were turned over to VN officials.

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10. On 28 March 1970, CAP 3-2-4 was set in a night ambush at coord ZD 206024. Four NVA approached the ambush. CAP 3-2-4 initiated contact at 10 meters with claymores, M16 rifles, and M79 grenade launchers. Two NVA were killed and two AK47s, w/eight magazines and 180 AK47 rounds, were captured.

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

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1. The following is a list of the Supporting Documents contained in this report.

- 16-17 a. Monthly Operations Report covering period of 1-31 March 1970.
- 18 b. Control, Turn in and Disposal of Captured Enemy Weapons Report for month of March 1970.

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3d Combined Action Group  
 Combined Action Force  
 III Marine Amphibious Force  
 FPO, San Francisco, California 90602

3/CMD/cg  
 3121  
 3 April 1970

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force  
 Via: Commanding Officer, Combined Action Force

Subj: Monthly Operations Report

Ref: (a) ForO 3121.4B

1. In accordance with reference (a), the following report is submitted for the month of March 1970.

a. Location and Strength

Designation	PF Plt No	Strength				PF	Location
		USMC		USN			
		Off	Enl	Off	Enl		
3rd CAG		5	40	1	2		Phu Bai Base
3-1 CAGO		1	8		0	0	YD 847127
3-1-1	83		9		1	33	YD 7716
3-1-2	159		9		0	31	YD 7922
3-1-3	91		8		1	34	YD 9111
3-1-4	85		8		1	32	YD 8417
3-1-5	158		10		1	33	YD 8218
3-1-6	79		9		1	33	YD 7823
3-1-7	94		9		1	33	YD 8019
3-1-8	165		8		1	34	YD 8223
3-2 CAGO		1	6		0	0	ZD 097008
3-2-1	135		10		1	20	ZD 0800
3-2-2	130		10		0	25	ZD 1402
3-2-3	140		10		1	22	ZD 1901
3-2-4	163		10		1	34	AU 8001
3-2-5	139		11		0	23	ZD 1601
3-2-6	138		10		1	22	ZD 1400
3-3 CAGO		1	6		0	0	YD 896188
3-3-1	102		8		1	25	YD 9519
3-3-2	160		9		1	22	YD 8823
3-3-3	100		9		1	29	YD 8924
3-3-4	105		9		1	26	YD 8921
3-3-5	161		9		1	30	YD 9221
3-3-6	104		10		1	25	YD 9318

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Designation	PF	Rt	No	Strength				Location
				USMC	USN	Enl	PF	
3-4 CACO				1	7	0	0	YD 754252
3-4-1	47,46,48				9	1	22	YD 7122
3-4-2	53				9	1	22	YD 6824
3-4-3	61,60,147				9	1	44	YD 7018
3-4-4	52				9	1	22	YD 6827
3-4-5	35,37,38				9	0	30	YD 7030
3-4-6	59				9	0	22	YD 6227
3-5 CACO				1	7	0	0	YD 967063
3-5-1	129				9	1	26	YD 9210
3-5-2	162				9	1	28	YD 9505
3-5-3	136				10	1	24	YD 9607
3-5-4	132				8	1	20	YD 9806
3-5-5	133				11	1	20	YD 9705

b. ActivitiesDay Patrols

1030

Night Patrols

1790

Ambushes

1697

c. Enemy Casualties

VC/NVA KIA	VC/NVA POW	DET	VCS	IWC	CWC	CHIEU HOI
1 3	0 0	0	6	9	0	0

d. Friendly Casualties

USMC:	KIA	WIA(E)	WIA(M)	MIA	POW	NHC
	1	5	3	0	0	4
PF:	KIA	WIA(E)	WIA(M)			
	0	0	2			

*W. N. Collison, Jr.*  
W. N. COLLISON, Jr.  
Acting

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3d Combined Action Group  
Combined Action Force  
III Marine Amphibious Force  
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

3/CMD/gsl  
3460  
3 April 1970

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force (Attn: G-4)

Subj: Control, Turn-in and Disposal of Captured Enemy Weapons

Ref: (a) ForO 3460.4C

1. In accordance with reference (a) the following information is provided for the month of March 1970.

a. Captured	IW	<u>9</u>	CS	<u>0</u>
b. Destroyed by Capturing Unit	IW	<u>0</u>	CS	<u>0</u>
c. Turned in to sub-collection points	IW	<u>7</u>	CS	<u>0</u>
d. Received at Corps level collection points	IW	<u>0</u>	CS	<u>0</u>
e. Turned in to CMEC by Corps level collection points	IW	<u>0</u>	CS	<u>0</u>
f. Retained in Museums or Exhibits	IW	<u>0</u>	CS	<u>0</u>
g. Retained as War Trophies	IW	<u>2</u>	CS	<u>0</u>
h. Recaptured and Returned to USA, PF, or RVNAF control	IW	<u>0</u>	CS	<u>0</u>
i. Other (with appropriate explanations)	IW	<u>0</u>	CS	<u>0</u>

*W N Collison Jr*  
W. N. COLLISON JR  
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Copy to:  
CO, CAF

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