

HEADQUARTERS
4th Combined Action Group
III Marine Amphibious Force
FPO San Francisco 96602

3/HGD/hde
5700
4 May 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 to 31 March 1970

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.1A
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8B
(c) CAFO 5750.1

Encl: (1) 4th Combined Action Group Command Chronology

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

2. Downgraded at 3-year intervals, declassified after 12 years, DOD Dir 5200.10.

R. D. KING

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TAB(D)

HEADQUARTERS
4th Combined Action Group
III Marine Amphibious Force
FPO San Francisco 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 March to 31 March 1970

INDEX

PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA
PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY
PART III - SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
PART IV - SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

ENCLOSURE (1)

990910²

PART I

Organizational Data1. DesignationCommander

Headquarters
4th Combined Action Group
III Marine Amphibious Force
FPO San Francisco 96602

Major R. D. KING
1-31 March 1970

Subordinate Units

CAGO 4-1	Capt. J. T. LOFTUS	1-31 March 1970
CAGO 4-2	1stLt B. D. CAZORT	1-31 March 1970
CAGO 4-3	Capt. A. B. HINSON	1-31 March 1970

2. Location

Headquarters	1-31 March 1970	Quang Tri Combat Base
CAGO 4-1	1-31 March 1970	Dong Ha District
CAGO 4-2	1-31 March 1970	Hai Lang District
CAGO 4-3	1-31 March 1970	Trieu Phong District

3. Staff Officers

Executive Officer	Maj T. F. DEACHER	1-30 March 1970
	Maj W. D. LEDEBOER	31 March 1970
S-1 Officer	Capt J. E. RISER	1-31 March 1970
S-3 Officer	Maj W. D. LEDEBOER	1-25 March 1970
	Maj H. G. DUNCAN	26-31 March 1970
S-4 Officer	1stLt J. G. SHAW	1-6 March 1970
	CySgt K. D. TALCOTT	6-22 March 1970
	1stLt G. R. BROWN	23-31 March 1970

4. Average Monthly Strength

USMC		USN		Others	
Off	Enl	Off	Enl	Off	Enl
8	317	1	23	1	0

5. End-of-Month Unit Diary Strength

USMC		USN		Others	
Off	Enl	Off	Enl	Off	Enl
8	309	1	23	1	0

ENCLOSURE (1)

3
990970

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

COMMAND, OPERATIONS AND TRAINING

The month of February was devoted to normal operations in established Tactical Areas of Coordination.

Night operations continued to dominate the tactical scene. Patrols throughout each CAP TAOC and ambushes along suspected VC/NVA routes of communication were conducted daily. All activities were totally integrated with approximately two Popular Force (PF) soldiers for each Marine taking part.

The PF desire for a large command post continued to detract from the night activities as personnel shortages limit the number of PF Soldiers available for patrols and ambushes. This problem began to lessen toward the end of the month, however. On the job training of Popular Force soldiers continues to receive major emphasis.

Except for the first two weeks of the month, 4th CAG continued the Marksmanship Program and Immediate Action Drills for the individual Marine and PF. The program, which was started in January, prepares the Marine and PF for sudden encounters with the enemy. Experience dictates that contacts in nearly all cases are sudden, short and often so unexpected that the patrol leader does not have the opportunity to give orders. The drills are based on principles of simplicity, aggressiveness and speed.

A CAP is removed from its TAOC twice each week on Tuesday and Friday and brought to the 4th CAG compound. After a hot noon meal and a weapons inspection by the CAG armorer, the Marines and PF alike are instructed by means of an interpreter, on the correct handling of the rifle for quick kill measures. Upon completion of the two hours of formal instruction, the CAP moves out of the classroom for one hour of practical application. During the practical application phase, the Marines and PF are instructed on the correct carriage of the rifle to permit rapid action in any direction and to direct accurate fire from the shoulder, hip and stomach positions.

After a hot evening meal, the CAP is moved to the Quang Tri Combat Base range, where the Marine and PF rifles are zeroed. Upon completion of zeroing by triangulation, the CAP traverses a course of pop-up targets where the men are required to use quick kill methods.

The final phase of training for the day is a night firing exercise where the entire platoon is placed on a firing line and upon command by the CAP leader and Trung-Si, take under fire enemy troops in a bunker, in a column and in a skirmish line.

Upon returning to the CAG compound, the Marines and PF are treated to refreshments and a movie. The CAP personnel are billeted overnight and after immunizations and a hot breakfast, they are taken back to their TAOC.

Other formal training during the month included psychological operations, medevac procedures, map reading and compass, and ambush techniques.

A special training session was conducted on 19 February for all Marines armed with the M-16/Starlight scope weapon. The exclusion of the starlight scope in contacts evidenced a lack of confidence in the weapon and in many cases it was found that the Marines so armed did not know how to operate the scope. The Marines were transported out of the field and brought to the 4th CAG compound. The first two hours of classroom instruction covered the capabilities, limitations, operation, care and employment of the M-16/Starlight scope weapon. All scopes were then mounted on the M-16 rifles under the supervision of the CAG armorer, and after a hot evening meal, the men were transported to the range to zero their weapons. After zeroing their weapons, the Marines conducted live fire without illumination at targets out to a range of 300 meters and recorded a high percentage of hits.

Enemy activity continued to increase during the month of February with continued emphasis on terrorism and propaganda and proselyting activities directed toward pro-GVN and indigenous personnel in the lowlands of the Province. Mine and booby trap incidents continued to increase during the month as enemy forces attempted to harass friendly forces and to interdict lines of communication.

Due to extensive friendly ambushes and rice denial operations, NVA and VC Main Force units to the southwest of Quang Tri City turned more and more to resupply of rice and food from North Vietnam.

During the month reports continued to state that the Viet Cong Infrastructure is continuing to strengthen and reorganize after being almost completely decimated the previous year. Due to the extensive pro-GVN influence in the area, the Viet Cong's attempts have continued to be thwarted.

Agent reports, POWs and captured documents show that some elements of the 812th NVA Regt have moved into the Province to reinforce 7th Front units in the south central portion of the Province.

Rocket and mortar attacks, combined with unconfirmed reports, show that the enemy may return to guerrilla and economy of force tactics in lieu of major offensive action.

Results of the PSYOPS effort for the month:

VIP Payments:	7,900\$ VN
Total Leaflets Distributed:	7,550
Total Posters Distributed:	1,000
Total MEDCAPs:	667
Number of People Treated:	15,360
Total MEDCAP Hours:	801
Movie Van Operations:	7
Movie Van Employment Hours:	17
Movie Attendance:	1,195

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

The month of March was devoted to normal operations in established Tactical Areas of Coordination.

The tactical scene continues to be one of primarily night activities, with ambushes being set within the CAP TAOs along suspected and known avenues of approach and enemy lines of communication. In these activities, Marines were integrated with the Popular Force soldiers serving with the CAPs.

Contact with the enemy was minimal. During the month there were six contacts initiated by the CAPs and three initiated by the enemy, most producing negative results.

Cooperation of the villagers in locating and turning over to the CAPs various items of ordnance continues to be good. The volunteering of intelligence by the villagers is not appreciable, however.

Training of the CAP PF Platoons continued during the month to place emphasis on marksmanship and weaponry. The program of bringing two CAPs per week to the CAG Headquarters for a day and night of this training continues, and has been most effective.

The villagers continue to come to the CAPs for medical assistance, resulting in numerous Medcap treatments and a total of nine medevacs.

March activities produced several enemy shelter bunkers located in or near CAP TAOs. A total of 12 such bunkers were located and destroyed during March.

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4
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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Operations Summary

a. Nighttime activities

- (1) 1 Mar 1970. A CAP 4-3-7 night Patrol Base received 40 to 50 rounds of automatic fire from an USEF to the Northeast at a range of approximately 50 meters. The CAP returned small arms fire which caused the USEF to break contact and flee to the Northwest. One PF was wounded and evacuated by DMZ Dustoff to 18th Surgical Hospital. A sweep of the area under 60mm Mortar Illum was non-productive.
- (2) 17 Mar 1970. A CAP 4-3-2 ambush observed three VC moving north at a range of approximately 100 meters. The ambush opened fire with small arms. The VC fled to the north without returning fire. A search of the area produced one cloth bag containing potatoes, peas, flour and a bottle of pepper. A further search at first light was non-productive. There were no friendly casualties.
- (3) 22 Mar 1970. A CAP 4-1-2 patrol returning to the night Patrol Base was approaching the Perimeter when a PF on perimeter watch detonated a claymore mine, killing one PF and injuring two PFs. The patrol, consisting of 8 PFs and 6 Marines, had informed the Patrol Base of their return and all personnel on watch were advised. The PF who fired the claymore, however, had dozed off to sleep after being told of the expected return. He awoke when he heard them, and the sudden appearance of the men startled him and caused him to fire the claymore. The wounded PFs were medevaced to 18th Surgical Hospital.

b. Daytime activities

- (1) 1 Mar 1970. A Marine from CAP 4-3-2 found a SFD consisting of one ChiCom Grenade rigged with trip wire and friction type fuse. This SFD was about 75 meters from the Patrol Base occupied by the CAP. The SFD was rusty and appeared to be several months old. The SFD was destroyed. A search of the area was non-productive. There were no friendly casualties.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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- (2) 1 Mar 1970. A Vietnamese boy reported to CAP 4-1-1 that he had found a mine. He led the Marines to the site and uncovered one M-16 anti-personnel mine without a fuze. Mine was laying on the ground and although rusty, appeared to have been recently set. Mine was moved to a safe location and destroyed.
- (3) 2 Mar 1970. CAP 4-3-7 was on a day patrol when a Marine member of this patrol stepped into a hole measuring about one foot square. He tripped a wire attached to a SFD which failed to detonate. SFD was an 8 oz can filled with an unknown type explosive with a pull-type fuze. The SFD was set in a brushy area near a graveyard. It appeared to have been set during the previous night. The SFD was destroyed. Further search of the area was non-productive. There were no friendly casualties.
- (4) 3 Mar 1970. A Vietnamese woman turned over to the CACO 4-1 Commander one M-72 LAAW which she found buried near her house located about four miles south of Quang Tri City. The area around her house was searched for other hidden weapons with negative results.
- (5) 8 Mar 1970. CAPs 4-3-5 and 4-3-7 on a multi-CAP operation found a tripod for a ChiCom Anti-Aircraft Heavy Machine Gun. The tripod was submerged in water and covered with a thick coating of grease and paint. It appeared to have been hidden in water for past two to four weeks but showed no signs of deterioration. The area was searched further with negative results. The tripod was turned over to District Headquarters.
- (6) 9 Mar 1970. A patrol from CAP 4-1-1 accompanied some Vietnamese children to a location where they had found some mines. The mines were two M-16 Anti-personnel mines and two ChiCom mini-mines lying on the surface of a bridge embankment. All mines appeared to have been there for some time. The two M-16 mines and one mini-mine were badly rusted and were blown in place. The second mini-mine, which was in good shape, was taken by EOD personnel. A further search of the area was non-productive.
- (7) 10 Mar 1970. A patrol from CAP 4-3-2 discovered five metal containers buried in the sand near a graveyard. Four of the containers measured 6"x4"x4" and

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ENCLOSURE (1)

contained a total of 18 B-40 detonators. The fifth container measured 1"x4"x3" and held 10 detonators of an unknown type. All containers were rusty, but well sealed with the contents in excellent condition. Containers appeared to have been placed during the past three months. They were positioned in a straight line about four inches apart. The detonators were turned over to District Headquarters.

- (8) 14 Mar 1970. CAP 4-3-2, acting on information provided by a VC POW captured by Army personnel earlier in the day in Hai Lang District, dispatched a patrol to assist District Army Advisors in a search for a bunker, the location of which was provided by the POW. Upon locating the bunker, the CAP leader from CAP 4-3-2 stuck his head inside to search the interior. As he did so, he was grabbed by a VC from the inside. The CAP Leader pulled away and backed off to cover. The VC then emerged from the bunker firing an AK-47. The patrol returned fire with small arms and M-26 grenades. A second VC (female) emerged from the bunker during the firing. Both VC were wounded and evacuated. The results of this encounter were two VC POWs and one AK-47; one M-26 hand grenade, 2 parachute flares, and one NVA canteen captured. The captured equipment was turned over to the District Headquarters. There were no friendly casualties. Both POWs later died of wounds.
- (9) 18 Mar 1970. CAP 4-1-2 completed relocation to a new AO Southeast of Quang Tri City. No problems were encountered in this relocation.
- (10) 21 Mar 1970. A patrol from CAP 4-1-1 observed an unfamiliar Vietnamese male apparently attempting to steal a cow belonging to a PF member of the patrol. When the individual was confronted by the PF, the patrol was taken under fire with AK-47 and 2 B-40 rounds by an unknown number of VC from a woodline 150 meters away. Patrol took cover and returned fire with small arms and 17 rounds of M-79. The VC broke contact and fled to the south out of the CAP AO. CAP pursued the VC and notified the adjacent ARVN unit of this action. ARVN Troops picked up the VC trail and continued pursuit. The patrol returned to the AO and conducted a sweep of the area, producing one B-40 rocket and propaganda leaflets on racism. One PF was a WIA(M) in the contact and was treated by the CAP Corpsman for a small fragmentation wound to the left arm pit.

c. Multi-CAP Operations

(1) See paragraph 1b(5) above..

d. Combined Operations

(1) 20 Mar 1970. CAPs 4-3-5, 4-3-6, and 4-3-7 combined with several non-CAP PF Platoons to sweep the area near the coastline in Trieu Phong District. This sweep resulted in the location of ten enemy shelter bunkers. The CAPs destroyed the bunkers. There were no casualties.

e. Significant operations conducted: None.

2. Neutralization of Enemy Forces

a. NVA KIA - None

b. VC KIA - None

c. NVA POW - None

d. VC POW - Two (later DOW)

e. VCI POW - None

f. HCl CHANHs - None

3. Battle Casualties Sustained

a. USMC KIA - None

b. USMC WIA(E) - None

c. USMC WIA(M) - None

d. USMC MIA - None

e. USN KIA - None

f. USN WIA(E) - None

g. USN WIA(M) - None

h. USN MIA - None

i. CAP PF KIA - None

Non-battle Casualties Sustained

a. USMC - 2 NBCW(E), 2 NBCW(M)

b. USN - None

c. PF - 1 NBCK, 3 NBCW(E)

990910

ENCLOSURE (1)

- j. CAP PF WIA(E) -- 1
- k. CAP PF WIA(M) -- 1
- l. CAP PF MIA -- None
- 4. New Techniques Employed -- None
- 5. Command Relationships
 - a. CAPs continue to be under the operational control of the various District Chiefs. Administrative control of U.S. personnel and KCS is maintained by the 4th Combined Action Group.
 - b. 4th Combined Action Group is provided limited logistical support by the 1st Brigade, 5th Infantry Division (Mech) in areas of Class I supplies and in maintenance of motor transport and electronics. A close liaison with the Advisors on District and Province levels enhances CAP operations, planning and execution.
 - c. Significant Problem Areas -- None
- 6. Significant Accomplishments of Attachments -- None
- 7. Lessons Learned -- None
- 8. Logistics
 - a. Significant events
 - (1) Mess Hall skullery completed
 - (2) Perimeter lighting installed
 - b. Supply
 - (1) Delivery of supplies to the Companies is now the responsibility of the Organic Supply Section. In the past, each company requisitioned and picked up its own supplies. Delivery of supplies to the CAPs continues to be accomplished by the Companies.
 - (2) \$16,005.83 was obligated this month, bringing the total obligation for the first nine months of fiscal year 1970 to \$194,048.30 with an available balance of \$69,151.70.

9
990910

ENCLOSURE (1)

(3) An inventory of all physical organic assets was conducted. Records were screened to determine excesses and shortages. Adjustments were made accordingly.

c. Maintenance - Nothing significant.

d. Motor Transport - Vehicles of the Group logged 28,338 miles in the month of March.

e. Miscellaneous - Embarkation records, including the Unit Cargo Manifest and the Unit Personnel and Tonnage Tables, were reviewed, updated and resubmitted in accordance with existing directives.

9. Civic Action. During the month of March, Civic Action activities were limited primarily to MEDCAP efforts. 4th Combined Action Group Corpsmen provided 753 man hours and treated 16,307 Vietnamese Nationals at MEDCAPs, and gave 23 dental treatments. Eighteen adults and 15 children were evacuated to Quang Tri Provincial Hospital and to the 18th Surgical Hospital for more intensive care. Thirty-four Vietnamese Health workers received training by working with CAP Corpsmen on MEDCAPs. In addition, 55 personal hygiene/sanitation classes were held with an attendance of 556.

Commodity distribution during the month amounted to 59 pounds of soap, 50 school kits, and 1 sewing kit.

The following is a breakdown of man hours contributed by the 4th CAG Marines during the reporting period:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Hours</u>
Economic Development	35
Transportation (Includes Road Improvement)	26
Refugee Assistance	129
Assistance Provided to Orphanages	10
Education	95

In addition to the above, 37 English classes were conducted with a total attendance of 160.

Civic Action projects presently under construction or completed during the month of March are as follows:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>CAP</u>	<u>% Compl</u>
Replace door on school	Dong Ha Dist	4-1-4	100
Install blackboard in school	Dong Ha Dist	4-1-5	100
Construction of dispensary	Dong Ha Dist	4-1-5	25
Assist in school construction	Hai Lang Dist	4-2-4	65
Construction of dispensary	Hai Lang Dist	4-2-5	85
Construction of foot bridge	Hai Lang Dist	4-2-6	50

Road improvement	Trieu Phong Dist 4-3-3	100
Construction of dispensary	Trieu Phong Dist 4-3-6	25
Construction of well	Trieu Phong Dist 4-3-1	20
Construction of well	Trieu Phong Dist 4-3-1	75
Construction of hamlet store	Trieu Phong Dist 4-3-1	25
Road improvement	Trieu Phong Dist 4-3-5	10
Brush clearing	Trieu Phong Dist 4-3-4	100

10. Personnel Administration

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

(1) Joined

USMC	
OFF	ENL
2	45

(2) Rotated CONUS

USMC	
OFF	ENL
0	36

(3) Reassignment within WestPac

USMC	
OFF	ENL
0	38

(4) Transferred by Service Records While Sick (Out of country Hospital)

USMC	
OFF	ENL
0	4

(5) Extension of WestPac Tour Effected

USMC	
OFF	ENL
0	1

b. Promotions: During the month of March the following promotions were effected:

To PFC 0
 To LCpl 16
 To Cpl 0
 To Sgt 3

To SSgt 0
 To GySgt 0
 To 1st Sgt/Magt 0
 To SgtMaj/MGySgt 0

To Captain 1

c. Legal Matters

(1) Courts held: GCM 0
 SpCM 3
 SCM 0

(2) Article 32 Investigations: None

ENCLOSURE (1)

(3) NJP: 23

(4) JAG-Type Investigations Completed: 1

d. Award Recommendations

SSM - 0
BSM - 1 (By US Army)
NCM - 1
NAM - 2
PH - 7

e. CONGRINTS/SPLINTS/WELREPS

CONGRINTS - 1
SPLINTS - 0
WELREPS - 5

f. Morale and Welfare

(1) R&R. The command has utilized the following number of quotas to the R&R areas listed.

(a) Hong Kong (5)	Japan (2)
Taipei (1)	Bangkok (8)
Hawaii (9)	Sydney (7)
Okinawa (0)	Manila (2)

(b) In country (1)

(2) Mail. Daily average bags of mail processed:

<u>Incoming</u>	<u>Outgoing</u>
1	$\frac{1}{2}$

(3) Hospital Visitations. Personnel of this command listed as patients in the 18th Surgical Hospital are visited very frequently by officers and staff NCOs from the CAG. Upon evacuation to hospitals in the Danang area, visits are made to coincide with official visits and trips to the Danang area.

g. Career Planning

Reenlistment: One reenlistment for two years was effected in March.

Extensions: One extension for three months was effected in March.

990910
12

ENCLOSURE (1)

11. Intelligence

Enemy activity remained at a relatively low level during the month of March, with emphasis being placed on propaganda and proselyting activity. Mines and body-trap incidents continued to increase during the month as enemy forces attempted to harass friendly forces and to interdict lines of communication.

There have been continuing indications of enemy infiltration and logistical activity across Western Quang Tri Province. Routes 926 and 616 remain the main enemy vehicular LOCs from Laos to Quang Tri interior, probably supporting the 7th Front and the 812 Regiment. Ground reconnaissance around Khe Sanh sighted and contacted several enemy elements, and captured documents identifying support units of the 304th NVA Division, the 15th Engineer Battalion and the 17th Truck Transport Battalion. The redeployment of elements of the 304th NVA Division into western Quang Tri indicates further enemy development of his forces in the northwestern sector of the Province.

There continues to be a satisfactory degree of cooperation by villagers in locating and reporting various types of ordnance.

12. Communications

No significant changes or problems.

13. Fire Support

Fire support is available from several sources, and responds with satisfactory speed.

14. Air Support

Other than helicopters used for medevacs and occasional resupply, there has been no request for air support initiated by this command during the month of March.

Medevacs are provided by DMZ Dustoff (237th Medical Detachment) with a most satisfactory speed of response.

A helicopter attached to Province Advisory Team 19 is available and is used on occasions for resupply of operating CAPs during periods when they are operating beyond the reach of vehicles or during inclement weather.

15. Activations, Deactivations, Resignations, Relocations of CAPs

CAP 4-1-2 was relocated to an AO southeast of Quang Tri City. This relocation was completed on 18 March with no problems encountered.

990910
13

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16. Combined Action Force School

During the month of March, 4th CAG sent 24 Marines to the Combined Action Force School.

17. Combined Action Force Vietnamese Language School

During March, 6 Marines from this CAG completed the Vietnamese Language School operated by the Combined Action Force Headquarters.

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. ✓ Map of CAP TAOCs
2. ✓ Group Order 1700.1A dated 1 Mar 1970. Subj: Request Mast
3. ✓ Group Order 8093.1 dated 18 Mar 1970. Subj: Control and Accountability of HE Ordnance
4. ✓ Group Order 3574.1 dated 21 Mar 1970. Subj: Distribution, Issue and Accountability of Individual and Crew Served Weapons
5. ✓ Group Order 5041.1 dated 22 Mar 1970. Subj: CAP Visitation

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HEADQUARTERS
4th Combined Action Group
III Marine Amphibious Force
FPO San Francisco 96602

GruO 1700.1A
1/RDK/rdg
1 Mar 1970

GROUP ORDER 1700.1A

From: Commanding Officer
To: Distribution List

Subj: Request Mast

Ref: (a) US Navy Regulations, 1948
(b) MARCORMAN, par 1701
(c) FMFPacO 1740.1
(d) ForO 1740.1
(e) CAFO 1740.1

Encl: (1) Request Mast Form

1. Purpose. To publish instructions setting forth the procedures by which personnel of this command may avail themselves of request mast.
2. Cancellation. Group Order 1700.1
3. General. Article 0709 of reference (a), and references (b) and (c) contain information regarding the rights of individuals to request mast without fear of prejudice to their interests. Article 1244 of reference (a) defines the rights of individuals to communicate directly with their commander without stating or discussing their problem with any intermediate in the chain of command if they so desire.
4. Procedure
 - a. Personnel of this command who desire to avail themselves of request mast in accordance with the instructions set forth in references (a) through (e), and the instructions set forth herein, may do so by completing a copy of enclosure (1) and forwarding it via the chain of command.
 - b. The Commanding Officer will normally conduct request mast within 24 hours of receipt of a request.
 - c. Reference (e) provides that request mast with the Commanding Officer, Combined Action Force will be conducted on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 1000 at CAF Headquarters, My Khe Compound, Danang, Vietnam, except in cases of an urgent nature which will be conducted as required.
 - d. Reference (d) provides that request mast with the Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force will be conducted in the Commanding General's office at 1300 each Tuesday.

Tab 2

GruO 1700.1A
1 Mar 1970

c. Personnel attending either Language School or CAP School may request mast with Commanding Officer, Combined Action Force by submitting a request through the cognizant executive staff officer.

5. Action

a. All officers and staff noncommissioned officers of this command will actively counsel and assist individuals who voice complaints and problems, the objective being to help them obtain satisfaction and where it is not possible to satisfy their complaint or problem to aid them in the preparation of the necessary request mast form.

b. All request mast cases will be coordinated by the Group First Sergeant.

c. The S-1 Officer is responsible to ensure that all request mast forms addressed to the Commanding Officer, Combined Action Force or Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force are forwarded in compliance with references (d) and (e).

6. Publication. This order shall be posted on all CACO bulletin boards and conspicuously posted in all sections of this Headquarters and read monthly during general formations.

R. D. King
R. D. KING

DISTRIBUTION: "A"

HEADQUARTERS
4th Combined Action Group
III Marine Amphibious Force
FPO San Francisco 96602

GruO 1700.1A
1 Mar 1970

(DATE)

NAME	RANK	SERVICE NO.	MOS
------	------	-------------	-----

1. I desire to request mast with the Commanding Officer of 4th CAG.

2. I have discussed my problem with:

CAP LDR

CACO

1stSgt

OTHER

3. Briefly, my problem is: _____

(SIGNATURE)

4. Commanding Officer's remarks, recommendations and actions:

(SIGNATURE)

ENCLOSURE (1)

HEADQUARTERS
4th Combined Action Group
III Marine Amphibious Force
FPO San Francisco 96602

GruO 8093.1
3/RLK/hde
18 Mar 1970

GROUP ORDER 8093.1

From: Commanding Officer
To: Distribution List

Subj: Control and Accountability of HE Ordnance

Ref: (a) CAFO 8093.1

Encl: (1) Format for Radio Message Report of Lost HE Ordnance
(2) Report of Lost HE Ordnance

1. Purpose. To publish instructions requiring strict control and accountability for HE ordnance in implementation of reference (a).

2. Background. Surprise Firing Device (SFD) incidents account for a high percentage of all casualties in I Corps Tactical Zone. HE ordnance lost by allied forces and subsequently booby trapped by the VC is a major source of these incidents.

3. High Explosive Ordnance Control Practices

a. The practice of keeping HE ordnance in offices, sleeping quarters or other living spaces, or in vehicles is prohibited.

b. All HE ordnance will be collected from personnel entering compounds.

c. CAP Marine squad leaders will inventory all HE ordnance on a daily basis as a part of the routine weapons check.

d. Grenades will be carried only in serviceable grenade pouches or in serviceable button-down or snap-down pockets to preclude accidental loss while on patrol. Patrol leaders will routinely inspect to enforce this requirement. In no case will grenades be suspended from belts or pockets by means of the safety lever, with or without other fastenings.

e. M-79 rounds will be carried in a manner which precludes accidental loss while on patrol. Acceptable means of carrying M-79 rounds include pocketed M-79 vests, haversacks, or suitable pouches with button-down or snap-down flaps.

f. Except when the tactical situation compels otherwise, each position occupied by a unit in the field will be carefully policed and inspected by the unit leader before departure so as to ensure that nothing of value to the enemy is left behind.

Tab #3

GruO 8093.1
18 Mar 1970

g. Fragmentation grenades and M-79 rounds will be issued only on the basis of need as established by the immediate tactical situation.

h. No type of unserviceable or dud HE ordnance will be destroyed by detonation without the express authority of the CAP squad leader or higher authority. When such destruction is authorized, only a detail specifically trained for that purpose will be used for the task. The detail will be personally supervised by the CAP squad leader or assistant squad leader. Exceptions to these requirements will be made only by authority of the CACO Commander or by higher authority.

4. Action

a. The Commanding Officer of each Combined Action Company will:

(1) Conduct a troop information program to impress upon all personnel the necessity for safeguarding grenades, M-79 rounds and other HE ordnance and equipment against inadvertent loss.

(2) Conduct or cause to be conducted an immediate investigation to ascertain the facts and circumstances surrounding any loss of HE ordnance in order to take corrective action without delay. Whenever tactically feasible, a search will be conducted in an effort to recover any ordnance lost.

(3) Make a concerted effort to persuade Vietnamese counterparts to adopt and publish instructions similar to those outlined in paragraph 3, above.

b. To ensure strict control of all HE ordnance, each CAP squad leader will:

(1) Conduct a daily inventory of all HE ordnance and report the results of that inventory to the appropriate CACO Commander. For security reasons, the report will not reveal the total number of rounds on hand. If the inventory reveals no discrepancies, the report will indicate "all accounted for." If, however, an item of HE ordnance is found missing, the CAP leader will take the following action:

(a) Make an immediate message report by radio to the CACO Commander, utilizing the format shown in enclosure (1).

(b) Submit a written report within 24 hours, utilizing the form shown in enclosure (2).

R. D. King
R. D. KING

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HEADQUARTERS
4th Combined Action Group
III Marine Amphibious Force
FPO San Francisco 96602

Gru0 8093.1
18 Mar 1970

FORMAT FOR RADIO MESSAGE REPORT OF LOST HE ORDNANCE

LOST HE ORDNANCE REPORT

- A. UNIT REPORTING:
- B. DTG OF DISCOVERY OF LOSS:
- C. COORDINATES OF PLACE WHERE LOSS OCCURRED:
- D. ITEM LOST:
- E. CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS:
- F. AGENT LAST HAVING POSSESSION OF LOST ITEM:
- G. ACTION BEING TAKEN TO RECOVER LOST ITEM:

SAMPLE REPORT

LOST HE ORDNANCE REPORT

- A. CAP 4-3-2
- B. 050800H Feb 70
- C. YD 600700
- D. 1 M-26 grenade
- E. Found missing from grenade pouch. Believed stolen by VM child between 050600H and 050800H.
- F. M-2106
- G. Village officials and PF checking on suspects.

ENCLOSURE (1)

HEADQUARTERS
4th Combined Action Group
III Marine Amphibious Force
FPO San Francisco 96602

GruO 8093.1
18 Mar 1970

REPORT OF LOST WE ORDNANCE

- A. UNIT (CAP) IN WHICH LOSS OCCURRED: _____
- B. DTG OF DISCOVERY OF LOSS: _____
- C. COORDINATES OF PLACE OF LOSS: _____
- D. ITEM(S) LOST: _____
- _____
- E. CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS: _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- F. PERSON LAST IN POSSESSION OF THE LOST ITEM: _____
- _____
- G. PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LOSS: _____
- _____
- _____
- H. DISCIPLINARY ACTION BEING TAKEN/RECOMMENDED: _____
- _____
- _____
- I. COMMAND ACTION BEING TAKEN TO PRECLUDE SIMILAR LOSSES IN THE FUTURE: _____
- _____

(SIGNATURE OF CACO COMMANDER)

ENCLOSURE (2)

HEADQUARTERS
4th Combined Action Group
III Marine Amphibious Force
FPO San Francisco 96602

GruO 3574.1
3/RDK/hde
21 Mar 1970

GROUP ORDER 3574.1

From: Commanding Officer
To: * Distribution List

Subj: Distribution, Issue and Accountability of Individual and
Crew Served Weapons

Encl: (1) Authorization for issue and Certificate of Familiarization
with the .45 caliber pistol

1. Purpose. To establish a standard distribution and assignment of
individual and crew served weapons for each CAP of the 4th Combined
Action Group.

2. General

a. The following distribution of individual and crew served
weapons will be standard for all CAPs of the 4th Combined Action Group:

(1) One M-60 Machine Gun

(2) One 60mm Mortar

(3) Two M-79 Grenade Launchers

(4) Two .45 caliber pistols issued to the following individuals
only:

(a) M-60 Gunner

(b) CAP Corpsman

(5) Shotguns may be issued only to CAP squad leaders at the
discretion of the CACO Commander.

b. Issue and accountability of the individual and crew served
weapons will be accomplished as follows:

(1) M-16 Rifles and .45 Caliber Pistols. Will be issued by the
4th CAG Armory and accounted for by individual receipt.

(2) M-60, 60mm Mortar and M-79 Grenade Launcher. Will be
issued by the respective CACO Headquarters and accounted for by individual
receipt.

Tab #4

GruO 3574.1

21 Mar 1970

3. Action

a. CACO Commanders will implement and enforce the provisions of paragraph 2 above, and will insure that the following is accomplished prior to authorizing the issue of a .45 caliber pistol:

(1) That each individual is instructed on the safety procedures of handling a .45 caliber pistol, and has demonstrated before a qualified Officer or NCO instructor his ability to safely load (including chambering a round), unload, and handle the weapon.

(2) That the individual has fired the .45 caliber pistol for familiarization within the preceeding four months. If he has not fired for familiarization within the specified time, he will fire a minimum of 50 rounds for familiarization prior to issue of the pistol. This familiarization firing will be conducted under the personal supervision of a qualified officer or NCO instructor.

(3) That the certificate contained in enclosure (1) is completed and signed prior to issue of the pistol.

b. The Supply Officer will insure that a completed certificate of authorization to draw a pistol is obtained from the individual prior to issuing the pistol. The completed certificate will be appended to the individual receipt and filed in the Group armory.

c. Personnel will not carry, use, load, or fire any firearm not officially assigned to them by T/O billet unless specifically authorized to do by the CAF Squad Leader or higher authority. Such authorization will not be granted except when compelled by tactical necessity. In a firefight when casualties may necessitate immediate redistribution of key weapons, such redistribution may be effected on the authority of a CAF fire team leader.

R. D. King
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HEADQUARTERS
4th Combined Action Group
III Marine Amphibious Force
FPO San Francisco 96602

GruO 3574.1
21 Mar 1970

(DATE)

From: Commanding Officer CAGO
To: Commanding Officer, 4th CAG (attn: Supply Officer)

Subj: Authorization to Issue .45 Caliber Pistol

1. The below named individual is authorized issue of a .45 caliber pistol.
2. This individual has been instructed on the safe handling of the .45 caliber pistol and has demonstrated his ability to safely handle, load and unload the pistol (to include chambering a round and safely clearing the weapon).

(Signature of Instructor)

(Signature of CAGO Commander)

CERTIFICATE OF FAMILIARIZATION WITH THE .45 CALIBER PISTOL

NAME:

RANK:

BILLET:

CAP:

Date _____

I certify that I have received instruction on the safe handling of the .45 caliber pistol. I further certify that I have fired the .45 caliber pistol for familiarization within the preceeding four months and understand that an assembled pistol held in the hand will never be pointed other than in a safe direction. I also understand that rounds will not be chambered in the .45 caliber pistol unless in actual visual contact with an enemy, in contact by fire with an enemy, or participating in an authorized period of supervised familiarization firing or training.

(Individual Signature)

ENCLOSURE (1)

HEADQUARTERS
4th Combined Action Group
III Marine Amphibious Force
FPO San Francisco 96602

GruO 5041.1
3/RDK/hde
22 Mar 1970

GROUP ORDER 5041.1

From: Commanding Officer
To: Distribution List

Subj: CAP Visitation

Encl: (1) Visitation Checklist

1. Purpose. To publish instructions to implement CAP visitations by members of the Group Headquarters.

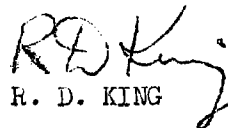
2. Action

a. Staff Officers and Staff NCOs from the Group Headquarters will visit CAPs in order to identify problem areas, provide future counsel, and assist in providing the CAP Marine the best possible support.

b. On the day prior to the visitation, representatives will advise the CACO Commander of the scheduled CAP and request a suitable time.

c. Enclosure (1) lists items which have been problem areas in the past. Visitation representatives will review this list with the CAP and complete the form with appropriate comments. Completed forms will be returned to the CAG Operations Officer for review after the Visitation Representative has discussed the contents with the CACO Commander or Gunnery Sergeant.

d. A roster of visitation representatives will be published by separate directive.


R. D. KING

DISTRIBUTION: "A"

Tab #5

HEADQUARTERS
4th Combined Action Group
III Marine Amphibious Force
FPO San Francisco 96602

GruO 5041.1
22 Mar 1970

(DATE)

From: 4th CAG Visitation Representative
To: Commanding Officer

Subj: CAP Visitation Report

1. WEAPONS

- a. Cleanliness? _____

- b. Lubrication? _____

- c. Weapons clear, magazines removed? _____

- d. Functional safety? _____

- e. Firing tables for mortar present? _____

- f. Mortar rounds in cannisters? _____

- g. Starlight scope serviceable and being used properly? _____

- h. Claymore testers on hand and being used? _____

- i. Number of M-79s? USMC _____ PF _____

Gru0 5041.1
22 Mar 1970

j. P-SIDS on hand and being properly used and cared for? _____

(1) Condition? _____

(2) Turned off? _____

(3) Battery problems? _____

k. Problems with weapons? _____

2. AMMUNITION

a. List shortages in basic allowance: _____

(1) M-16; 7 loaded magazines plus one bandoleer

(2) M-79; 36 rounds per weapon

(3) M-60; 600 rounds per gun

(4) 12 gauge shotgun; 50 rounds 00 Buckshot

(5) 60MM Mortar; as established by CACO Commander

(6) Hand Grenades; At least two per individual but not more than six per individual. If more grenades than this are carried by the CAP, they must be carried in a sealed or locked wooden container.

(7) Claymore mines; At least 6 per CAP

(8) Cal. .45 pistol; 25 rounds

b. All M-60 ammo is in cans or in assault pouches? _____

c. Hand grenades carried in pouch or locked/sealed box? _____

d. M-79 rounds carried in haversack or M-79 vest? _____

Gru0 5041.1
22 Mar 1970

e. Other problems with ammo? _____

3. APPEARANCE

a. Clean clothing available through survey? _____

b. Any unauthorized modifications to uniform? (Pegged trousers, etc.):

c. No buttons, pins or patches except CAP badge and PF badge? _____

d. Authorized headgear being worn? _____

e. Haircuts? _____

f. Daily shave? _____

g. ID card on person? _____

h. Two dog tags around neck, one in left boot? _____

(If missing, record names here) _____

i. How do men get haircuts? _____

j. Rank insignia being worn? _____

4. SUPPORT

a. Hot meals every two days? _____

b. U.S. water being delivered for drinking? _____

c. How often are sundry packs received? _____

d. Pay problems? _____

e. Timely mail delivery? _____

f. Visited daily by SNCO or Officer? _____

Gru0 5041.1
22 Mar 1970

g. Weapon cleaning gear available? _____

h. Any indications of poor support? _____

5. GENERAL

a. Inspect malaria tablet log for daily and weekly record: _____

b. All men have FAM fired weapon with which armed? _____

c. Are there any rumors affecting morale in the CAF? _____

d. Pistolmen properly instructed in safety procedures for pistol? _____

e. Any unauthorized holsters, ammo belts or other equipment present? _____

f. Comment on police of CP _____

g. Corporalman conducting daily MEDCAP? _____

h. How is trash disposed of? _____

6. MARINE-PF-VILLAGER RELATIONS

a. Marine attitude toward PF: _____

b. CAF leader's judgement of Marine-PF relations: _____

c. Visitor's judgement of Marine-PF relations: _____

Gru0 5041.1
22 Mar 1970

d. Judgement of CAP leader - Trung-Si relations: _____

e. Judgement of Marine-Villager relations: _____

f. Do Marines and PF associate other than tactically, i.e., combined sports, combined CP, social activities? _____

g. Are troops avoiding the trampling of crops? _____

7. TACTICS

a. Do CAP leader and Trung-Si mutually plan activities? _____

b. Soundness of CP dispositions the previous night? _____

(1) Was adequate cover provided? (i.e., fighting holes, trenches, etc.) _____

(2) Concrete structures being used to quarter personnel? _____

(3) Weapons well positioned? _____

(4) Proper tie-in or integration of all perimeter forces? (i.e., PF, U.S., PSDF, RD, etc.) _____

(5) Perimeter security not dependent on PSDF? _____

(6) Claymores covering all approaches? _____

(7) Trip flares being used on likely approaches? _____

c. Is mortar crew properly trained to fire HE? _____

d. Is illumination being used other than when in contact or for after contact sweeps? _____

e. PF using radio to send in activity coordinates? _____

Gru0 5041.1

22 Mar 1970

f. Is CAP squad organized into clearly defined teams?

g. Other remarks:

Print Name & Rank of Visitation
Representative

CAP NUMBER

DATE