

HEADQUARTERS  
1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

3/LAB/wrk  
005750  
9 April 1970

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF

Subj: Command Chronology for period of 1-31 March 1970

Ref: (a) MCO F5750.1  
(b) FMF PacD 5750.8  
(c) DivO 5750.2

Encl: (1) 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Command Chronology

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

*S. F. Savage Jr.*  
S. F. SAVAGE JR.

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS  
DOD DIR 5200.10

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HEADQUARTERS  
1st Battalion, 5th Marines  
1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 March to 31 March 1970

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- PART II NARRATIVE SUMMARY
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(1)

ENCLOSURE (1)

## PAGE 1

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein) | Lt. Col. C. F. SAVAGE JR.<br>1-31 March 1970  |
| H&S Company                           | Capt. L. C. BROADWELL<br>1-31 March 1970  |
| Company A                             | 1st Lt. J. A. NEILIG<br>1-6 March 1970<br>1st Lt. J. F. ROZMUS<br>7-31 March 1970     |
| Company B                             | 1st Lt. B. J. CATE JR.<br>1-31 March 1970   |
| Company C                             | 1st Lt. R. K. CRAWFORD<br>1-31 March 1970   |
| Company D                             | 1st Lt. C. W. BATES JR.<br>1-6 March 1970<br>1st Lt. G. O. HCFANON<br>7-31 March 1970 |
| <u>Subordinate Unit</u> (ADCON)       | 5-31 Mar70 Capt R. L. NEEDHAM   |
| Co C (Rein) 1st Tank Bn               |   |

2. LOCATIONS. During the month of March the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines operated primarily in the DaNang Southern Sector Defense Command. The first three days of the month were spent in the Arizona Territory and An Hoa Combat Base preparing to move to the Southern Sector Defense Command Area of Operation.

The responsibilities of the Battalion required it to maintain units of various sizes in several different locations.

H&S Company, the Battalion CP, and one rifle platoon remained at the 1/5 cantonment (AT996726) throughout the month. Their responsibilities consisted of cantonment security and upkeep of the Battalion.

One rifle company was maintained in the northern SSBC AO (AT920760) to prevent infiltration by the enemy into the DaNang vital area.

Two platoons operated throughout the month in the south central portion of the SSBC AO (AT940720). This prevented enemy infiltration into the DaNang vital area from the south and southwest.

A reinforced platoon was located at Cau Do Bridge (AT990706) and another at Cobb Bridge (AT945704). They provided security for the two bridges.

Another platoon was on Hill 34 throughout the month. Their main responsibility was perimeter security.

Alpha Company CFCOM 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines from 3-6 March 1970 at Phu Loc sir (6).

~~REDACTED~~  
Delta Company OPCON 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines on 25-26 March 1970 on  
Football Island at Cha Ha.

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ENCLOSURE (1)  
~~REDACTED~~

3. Staff Officers

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| S-1 Officer                  | 2nd Lt. R. B. TEDRICK II<br>1-31 March 1970  |
| S-1A Officer                 | WO L. CORPUS<br>30-31 March 1970   |
| S-2 Officer                  | 2nd Lt. M. K. O'SULLIVAN<br>1-21 March 1970<br>Capt. B. H. BAILEY<br>22-31 March 1970  |
| S-3 Officer                  | Maj. L. A. BECKLEY<br>1-31 March 1970  |
| S-3A Officer                 | 1st Lt. LANIHAN<br>1-12 March 1970<br>1st Lt. R. G. STUMP<br>13-31 March 1970          |
| S-3B Officer                 | 1st Lt. P. G. WINSTEAD<br>1-31 March 1970  |
| S-4 Officer                  | 1st Lt. J. A. MUEHLEISEN<br>1-14 March 1970<br>Capt. J. H. REYNAUD<br>15-31 March 1970 |
| S-5 Officer                  | 2nd Lt. M. K. O'SULLIVAN<br>21-31 March 1970   |
| Communications Officer       | Capt. L. C. BROADWELL<br>1-31 March 1970   |
| Medical Officer              | Lt. S. M. RICHARDSON (USN)<br>1-31 March 1970  |
| Supply Officer               | 1st Lt. T. E. ROBINSON<br>1-31 March 1970  |
| Motor Transport Officer      | 1st Lt. J. A. MUEHLEISEN<br>1-31 March 1970  |
| Assistant Adj./Legal Officer | 2nd Lt. D. E. CRUTKSHANK<br>1-31 March 1970  |
| Chaplin                      | Lt. Cmdr. E. L. HUGHES<br>1-31 March 1970  |

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ENCLOSURE (1)

~~██████████~~  
Air Liaison Officers

1st Lt. C. L. WRIGHT  
1-31 March 1970  
1st Lt. J. R. POSTIGLIONE  
1-31 March 1970

Artillery Liaison Officer

1st Lt. R. E. ROGERS  
1-31 March 1970

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

| <u>USMC</u>     |                 | <u>USN</u>      |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <u>OFFICERS</u> | <u>ENLISTED</u> | <u>OFFICERS</u> | <u>ENLISTED</u> |
| 41              | 1161            | 3               | 54              |

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## PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

The month of March was a period of change for 1st Battalion, 5th Marines. It was a month of transition from old familiar areas of operation to a new terrain inundated with civilian population. The Battalion received orders to move from the Arizona Territory to the Southern Sector Defense Command near DaNang City and assume responsibility of the Division Reserve. The Battalion had to make adjustments from operating as a separate combat unit in the Arizona to working the unfamiliar, mostly pacified, area of the SSDC. Operating with and around friendly Vietnamese people ultimately proved to be a rich and rewarding experience.

The month of March started out with the Battalion leaving the Arizona one company at a time until the Battalion had transplanted to the Southern Sector Defense Command. Two companies were located at the Dai La Pass Cantonment, one company at Hill 34, and one company and H&S Company occupying the former Tank Battalion Command Post.

On 28 February Charlie Company preceded the Battalion moving from the Arizona to An Hoa and then to the SSDC as the advance party for the Battalion.

On the 1st of March Charlie Company made the move to Hill 34. The company became OPCON to 4th Battalion, 11th Marines for several days awaiting the arrival of the Battalion CP. The company had the task of taking over the defense of Cobb Bridge and Cau Do Bridge. Bridge defense was just one of the new jobs the Battalion would become familiar with in its new AO.

While Charlie Company was making the move out of An Hoa, Bravo Company moved from the Arizona into An Hoa, collected all its equipment and personnel and then moved to the SSDC on 3 March.

Alpha Company remained at work in the Arizona providing CP security. The 3rd Platoon was making a patrol with CIT personnel and a scout dog team when three VC/NVA were spotted in a hootch. The patrol shouted for them to come out, the three enemy fled out the rear of the hootch and were shot. Their bodies were searched uncovering documents, a medical bag, and 50 lbs. of rice.

Later the same morning 16 VC bodies were found scattered in thick brush and trees north of Football Island. The cause of death was from an air strike that had been run two weeks earlier in support of Bravo Company. The air strike had been very wide of the intended objective area and the platoon moved on without checking out the area as it was not along the intended patrol route.

At first light on the morning of the 3rd H&S Company and the CP group moved into An Hoa. The next morning the heli-lift commenced to occupy 1st Tank Battalion CP in the Southern Sector Defense Command. Alpha Company moved from the Arizona to Phu Loc (6) to guard Liberty Bridge and the "New Life Hamlet". The company became OPCON to the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines for the two days it remained at Liberty Bridge.

On the 4th of March, H&S Company and the CP group moved to 1st Tank Battalion and Delta Company prepared to move to An Hoa from the Hot Dog area.

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Helicopters were unable to extract Delta Company because of commitments so Delta Company spent one more night in the Arizona. The company moved into An Hoa on 5 March and the following day was heli-lifted into Dai La Pass. On the 6th Alpha Company was relieved from its defensive positions at Phu Loc (6) and flew to Dai La Pass. The Battalion was at last reformed in the new AO and assumed responsibility of SSDC.

Day and night activities were sent out as normal but new problems in coordination arose. Not only were there Marines in the area to coordinate with, but many varied Vietnamese units. There were many heavily populated hamlets and villages, each with a Popular Forces unit to defend it. The activities of these units had to be accounted for and meticulous care taken not to have Marine activities overlap. In all, six CAP's, one CUPP, one CACO, one District Headquarters, two infantry battalions, one Marine Regiment, NSDC, and Headquarters Battalion operated within or adjacent to the expanded SSDC AO.

In keeping with the Battalion's mission of Division Reserve the Pacifier Operation was formulated. It contained an airborne assault company constructed from four flights of three 17 man heliteams each. The dedicated aircraft package consists of the following:

| <u>No.</u> | <u>Type</u> | <u>Mission</u>      |
|------------|-------------|---------------------|
| 1          | UH1E        | Command and control |
| 2          | OV-10       | FAC(A)              |
| 3          | CH-46       | Troop transport     |
| 2          | F-4H        | LZ Prep             |
| 2          | F-4H        | CAP                 |
| 4          | Cobra's     | Helicopter Security |

The operations are capable of being constituted on 10 minutes notice and aircraft are standing by to launch within 15 minutes notice. This package is available 24 hours a day as a reaction force and to enable the Commanding General to react to any target of opportunity.

The first three operations were used primarily as training exercises and resulted in no enemy contact because of the very low threat targets involved. Delta Company conducted the operations in Sherwood Forest, western Go Noi Island, and southern Dodge City.

The operations generally went smoothly but pointed out some areas of coordination that needed to be improved. Troops needed to become more familiar with helicopter operations, rapid direction orientation, and a few minor problems with supporting arms coordination were encountered.

Although most of the activity in the Battalion seemed to be with Delta Company and the Pacifier Operations, the rest of the Battalion remained active. At the CP a training schedule was organized and augmented on the 14th of March. One platoon a week continually goes through the refresher program making optimum utilization of the Division Schools Mobile Training Team.

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Bravo Company continually worked the central part and Alpha Company the northern area of the SSDC with day and night activities. H&S Company provided CP security. Charlie Company positioned one platoon at each of the two bridges and the third platoon was put at Hill 34 to provide perimeter security.

The first productive Pacifier Operation to be conducted started on 24 March. Delta Company was placed in a Hot Pad status early in the morning. The 3rd Platoon of Delta Company was lifted out of Dai La Pass LZ at 0935H. The platoon landed south of the Hot Dog after preping a treeline to the south with on-board OV-10 and AH-1G ordnance. The platoon swept south with negative results. At 1024H the 2nd Platoon was inserted further to the south and swept southwest with negative results also. The 3rd Platoon was extracted and while enroute to Dai La Pass a Recon element on Hill 250 spotted several enemy near Dai Khong (7). The transports were put in a holding pattern while the helicopter and Pacifier Commander Airborne (HCA, POC(A)) investigated the area.

After Cobra gunships preped an LZ 200 meters to the north of the reported position, the 3rd Platoon was landed immediately taking small arms fire from a tree line. The unit aggressively assaulted the tree line to the south with small arms and M79's. The fire chased 10-12 NVA out of the area into the rice paddies. 3rd Platoon established a base of fire to hold the enemy down while Cobra gunships fired organic weapons at the pinned down enemy. The platoon swept the area while the UH1E Command aircraft marked positions of dead and wounded enemy with yellow smoke. 2nd Platoon had meanwhile been inserted to the enemy's eastern flank to preclude their escape into a tree line. Five NVA were killed, five POW's were captured, two AK-47's and numerous ChiComs, packs, and equipment were taken. Air operations and coordination with ground units were excellent for this operation.

Bravo Company at 2000H on the night of the 24th had one of its night activities moving into an ambush sight. Before reaching their position 4 VC opened up with small arms fire. The fire team returned fire with M16's hitting one VC in the chest. The body wasn't found until the next day. One Marine was redevac'd with a minor flesh wound from the contact.

The 26th of March a Pacifier Operation was conducted on Football Island. AO on station conducted artillery and air prep with good coverage. 1st Platoon Delta Company landed and received small arms fire from the tree lines to the northeast and south. The platoon assaulted to the south while gunships and air strikes were called in on several fleeing enemy to the northeast. 2nd Platoon was then inserted into the objective area and swept the hill the enemy had been seen fleeing from. One VC was seen throwing his weapon into extremely thick brush, and was chased down and killed. After Cobra gunships worked the area it was swept by 2nd Platoon. Two(2) NVA KIA's were found. Units then swept east along a sand bar. Small arms fire was received and gunships were called in on seven (7) sighted NVA fleeing 800 meters to the west. Due to pending darkness 3rd and 4th Platoons were inserted for night time reinforcement to conduct ambushes throughout Football Island.

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The morning of the 27th Weapons Platoon was extracted and returned to Dai La Pass and the rest of the company swept the area of the previous days action and found 2 enemy KIA's. The company was then extracted and returned to Dai La Pass.

The 29th of March a Delta Company Pacifier Operation commenced with an air strike prep of an LZ in the southern foothills of the Que Son Mountains called the Slot. At 1102H the leading assault element was inserted in a deserted rice paddy. The area was swept with negative results and the company was extracted and returned to Dai La Pass.

The last day of the month Delta Company and Alpha Company moved out for one more Pacifier Operation and overnight operation. Delta Company inserted southwest of Cam Ha and swept east to the Main Service Road and west to river. Alpha Company was inserted two kilometers to the south and swept the tree line to south and set up a blocking position east to west along the ROKIC boundary. One 81mm mortar dud and one 155mm dud round were found and blown in place. At 1000H the first phase of the operation was terminated, Alpha Company was extracted, and Delta Company set in for operations throughout the local section of the Rocket Belt. Night activities were conducted and on the 1st of April the company was withdrawn.

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ENCLOSURE (1)

## PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

## A. TOPICS

a. Strength. The Battalion's strength at the beginning of the month was 38 officers and 1081 enlisted. On the 15th of the month, the strength changed to 37 officers and 1244 enlisted. By the end of the month of March, the strength was 46 officers and 1263 enlisted. At this time there are 14 enlisted hospitalized.

b. Discipline, Law and Legal. During the month of March there were eight (8) Special Courts-Martial convened. During the same time period 24 Company and 22 Battalion Office Hours (NJP) were also held. There were 2 investigations pending and 1 completed.

c. POW/Detainees. There were 7 detainees processed during this month. They were classified as follows:

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| NVA POW's | 4 |
| VC POW's  | 3 |
| NVA Det.  | 0 |
| VC Det.   | 0 |

d. Morale. Morale and fighting spirit continued to be excellent

e. Postal. Aside from the short postal strike, postal service continued at the same degree of excellence.

f. Awards. During the month of March there were 24 Navy Achievement medals, 23 Navy Commendation medals, and 7 Bronze Star medals submitted for heroic and meritorious service.

g. Interior Management. Administrative procedures and proficiency continued to be excellent.

2. ENEMY, WEATHER, AND TERRAIN

a. Enemy. Reported enemy activity was at a low level throughout the SSDC for the reporting period. (Note - See current situation reports and intelligence summaries for Pacific Operations regarding enemy elements, contacts, etc.)

b. Weather. No change.

c. Terrain. The Terrain in the SSDC is varied between rice paddies, valleys and mountains, the highest elevation reading in excess of 300 meters.

ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS

a. Organization. The organization of the Battalion remained the same throughout the month with HRS Company and Bravo Company located at the CP, and Alpha and Delta Companies located at Dai La Pass, and Charlie Company at Cam Do Bridge, Cobb Bridge, and Hill 34.

b. Operations. The Battalion ran 10 Pacifier Operations during the month, with day and night activities.

SUPPORTING ARMS

(1) Air. During the month of March 1970 the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines were supported by the 7th Air Force and the 1st MAW. The Battalion required no support of Basketball or Shadow. It should be noted that after 1/5 assumed command of the SSDC that this Battalion received outstanding support from MAG 16. Many VR's were required to give officers and staff a familiarity of the new AO. A breakdown of the BDA and medical evacuations follows:

|                      |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| Killed by air        | 6          |
| Structures Destroyed | 9          |
| Tree Line Destroyed  | 860 meters |

Medevac: Total Missions - 13

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Emergency USMC    | 4 |
| Priority USMC     | 3 |
| Routine USMC      | 3 |
| Emergency ARVN    | 4 |
| Routine Civilians | 3 |

(2) Significant Developments. The departure of our fixed wing ALO/FAC was negated by the arrival of a new ALO/FAC fixed wing pilot whose presence reconstituted this Battalion's ideal condition of one helicopter ALO/FAC and one fixed wing ALO/FAC Air-Ground Team.

The Pacifier Missions which have been developed and refined by the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines in the past month is an example of epitome of co-operation between the Wing and Division. The mission is a swift striking, highly mobile heliborne task force which is able to react to any situation on very short notice. As in any fast moving military situation, communications has played a key role in the success of the Pacifier missions. Units must be thoroughly briefed before each mission and as the situation changes during the conduct of the operation. All concerned parties must be kept abreast of the current situation. The communication requirements of the Pacifier Operation have been solved thus making the concept of the Pacifier air/ground team a force in readiness ready to react swiftly to any enemy situation.

During the past month ten Pacifier Operations have been conducted with the following support from the 1st MAW: 66.1 hours of CH-46 flight time, 70.2 hours of AH-1G "Cobra" flight time, 26.3 hours of UH1E HCA flight time and 29.8 hours of CV-10 AO flight time. In addition, 20 flights of fixed wing have supported the Pacifiers with devastating results upon the enemy.

(3) Artillery. The Battalion was supported by 1st Battalion, 11th Marines and Foxtrot Battery, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines. Support rendered within SSDC consisted of only illumination missions due to the dense population of the area, and lack of need for HE missions. No H&I's were fired within the SSDC during the month of March.

(a) Pacifier Operations. Artillery support for Pacifier operations consisted of LZ prep fires controlled by an AO as well as having an FC on the ground to control missions when the air was off station. Whenever possible assistance from IOD's in the form of readouts and target sitings were utilized.

(b) SSDC. Due to the AO extension for SSDC a new defensive fire plan was developed. This plan was included in the revised SSDC Operations Order 301A-70.

(4) Engineers. None attached.

(5) Shore Party (HST). HST personnel were provided by Company B, 1st Shore Party Battalion; they were primarily employed in coordinating and effecting Helicopter Medevacs, visual reconnaissance, and during the Pacifier Operations.

(6) Scout Snipers. None attached.

(7) Motor Transportation. From 1 March to 31 March 1970 the Motor Transportation Section has had to move all of its assets from An Hoa Combat Base to the former 1st Tank Battalion Cantonment. Because of the change in the Battalion's area of responsibility and the change of the Battalion's mission, vehicular transportation has become more necessary than ever. The four month monsoon season left most vehicles in need of extensive cleaning and repair. To maximize utilization it was necessary to completely renovate every piece of equipment. The section has worked continually cleaning, repairing and painting all equipment within the section. Due to the tremendous effort by the personnel in the Motor Transportation Section, the Battalion's transportation assets have been able to remain and perform at its optimum level of efficiency.

(8) Tanks. Co C (Rein) 1st Tank Bn passed ADCON to this Bn 051200H Mar70.

#### 4. TRAINING

a. The following training was conducted during the month:

- (1) Weapons Safety
- (2) Weapons Inspection, Care and Cleaning
- (3) Mapping and compass
- (4) Leadership
- (5) Viet Cong Mines and Booby Traps
- (6) Drug Abuse
- (7) Familiarization firing of the M16, M60
- (8) XM-174 Automatic Grenade Launcher
- (9) Forward Observer Procedures
- (10) Venereal Diseases
- (11) 60mm Mortar, M79 (live firing)
- (12) Uniform Appearance
- (13) Military Customs and Courtesy
- (14) Individual and Group Hygiene in the field
- (15) Handling of POW's
- (16) Troop Leading Steps
- (17) Conduct of a Marine in and out of the Field
- (18) Anti-Personnel Mine M18A1
- (19) AN/PRC 25 Radio
- (20) M26 Hand Grenade
- (21) Crew training of the 81mm Mortar Teams
- (22) 81mm Mortar (Live Firing)
- (23) Physical Training
- (24) Care and Cleaning of the 106mm Recoilless Rifle
- (25) Crew Training of the 106mm Recoilless Rifle
- (26) Communications Security
- (27) Preventive Maintenance PRC/25 Radio
- (28) Electrical Safety
- (29) Preventive First Aid
- (30) Combat Intelligence
- (31) KY-38
- (32) Driver Training for Testing and Licensing L.D.
- (33) Weekly Preventive Maintenance
- (34) Procedures for Completing NAVMC 106275D
- (35) Vehicle Safety
- (36) Shop Safety
- (37) Battle Sights (live firing)
- (38) Scouting and Patrolling
- (39) Technique of Fire
- (40) Camouflage
- (41) Enemy Tactics
- (42) Supply Administration
  - a. Financial Management
  - b. Status
  - c. Personal Effects
  - d. Logistical Summary Report
  - e. Transaction Codes
  - f. Controlled Items
- (43) Warehousing, Field
  - a. Stock Identification
  - b. Embarkation

ENCLOSURE (1)

- (44) Armory (Operational Procedures)
- (45) Safety (Hand Grenades)
- (46) M-72 LAAW
- (47) XM-191 Multi-shot Flame Thrower

b. The Battalion continued to utilize schools provided by higher headquarters in the DaNang area and Okinawa.

#### 5. LOGISTICS

During the past month this Battalion moved from the Arizona Territory into the Southern Sector Defense Command. The move was completed in approximately 10 days, during which time transportation organic to the Battalion accomplished the move efficiently under adverse weather conditions.

1st Motor Transport Battalion is presently supporting the Battalion with (1) platoon of 2½ ton trucks. These vehicles are being utilized in house-keeping tasks. Two trucks are assigned to the messhalls, one truck at 1/5 cantonment, and one truck at Dai La Pass. Two trucks are utilized in replenishing food supplies from FLC. The remaining truck is used as administrative truck between Cau Do Bridge, Camp 9, Division, and Dai La Pass cantonment.

Logistical support has improved considerably since the middle of March. At the Dai La Pass cantonment considerable improvement in the form of defensive wire has been accomplished, and additional bunkers have been built.

#### 6. CIVIC ACTION NONE

#### 7. PSYCHOLOGICAL OPERATIONS NONE

8. COMMUNICATIONS. Adapting to the new location of the Battalion was the foremost task of communicators during the month of March. By the time the Headquarters group moved to its new CP on 2 March, the advanced party of communicators had already taken over operation of the 1st Tank Battalion message center and planned for the orderly takeover of all other communications equipment and facilities. Consequences of the move continue to be felt, as communications equipment and paperwork are receiving attention that could not be given in the combat environment around An Hoa. Relieved from the constant demands of field duty, technicians have inspected and sent in for repair many essential items that could not be spared from operational commitments previously. The accumulated minor damages to these items of equipment were repaired. Much excess equipment was accepted from redeploying units, enabling the Battalion to improve its stock significantly by replacing worn and damaged items. Section leaders worked throughout the month to inventory equipment, conduct operation checks, and train the large number of new men from the 26th Marines. Several challenging tasks were met by all sections. Development of a communication package for "Pacifier" helicopter assault groups was one of these tasks. Officers in the command helicopter monitor or are ready to switch to a number of tactical nets, requiring a compact, yet dur-

able and flexible package. Technicians and radiomen have developed an arrangement that can be installed quickly and securely, enabling a single operator to handle two covered nets simultaneously. The most formidable task, however, was encountered at the Dai La Pass Cantonment. Direct communications from the Pass are blocked by surrounding hills. The problem was circumvented by establishing a relay station down from Hill 327 to pass radio traffic between CP's.

9. SIGNIFICANT CASUALTIES INFLICTED OR SUSTAINED: VC/NVA CAPTURED

a. Friendly Casualties  
1st Battalion, 5th Marines

|        | <u>USMC</u> | <u>USN</u> |
|--------|-------------|------------|
| KIA    | 2           | 0          |
| VIA    | 5           | 0          |
| WIA/NE | 1           | 0          |
| DOW    | 2           | 0          |
| MACE   | 9           | 0          |

b. Enemy Casualties

|     |       |       |          |
|-----|-------|-------|----------|
| KIA | NVA 2 | VC 10 | TOTAL 12 |
|-----|-------|-------|----------|

10. SIGNIFICANT ENEMY ORDNANCE CAPTURED DURING THE MONTH

|                     |                               |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2 M26 Hand Grenades | <u>Captured enemy weapons</u> |
| 14 ChiComs          | 2 AK-47's                     |
| 2 105mm rounds      |                               |
| 1 155mm round       |                               |
| 1 81mm round        |                               |
| 3 60mm rounds       |                               |

11. SIGNIFICANT ENEMY EQUIPMENT CAPTURED DURING THE MONTH

50 lbs. tea  
Miscellaneous medical supplies  
Assorted documents  
2 Rafts 6' x 6' (bamboo)  
1 NVA Helmet  
10.00\$VN  
3 Packs



12. ENEMY BOOBY TRAPS/MINES FOUND AND DESTROYED DURING THE MONTHFoundDetonated

3 - M26 grenades w/trip wire  
1 - Pressure detonated mine

2 - M26 grenades w/trip wire

13. ENTRIES. See Tab "A" to Enclosure (1) (Staff Journal for the period of 010001H through 312400H March 1970).

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ENCLOSURE (1)  
SECRET

SECRET

PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Tab "A" Staff Journal for period of 1 March through 31 March 1970.

TAB "B" Co C (Rein) 1st Tank Bn Command Chronology 1-31 MARCH 1970 Also see

4-1

ENCLOSURE (1)  
SECRET

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JOURNAL FORM

UNIT OF SECTION S-2 1st Bn., 5th Mar.  
S-2

Quang Nam Province  
PLANT

010001H 012400H March 1970  
FROM TO

| TIME<br>IN / OUT | STR<br>NO | DATE TIME<br>GROUP | INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS   | ACTION<br>TAKEN |
|------------------|-----------|--------------------|---|-----------------|
|                  |           |                    | Journal Opened  |                 |
| 0855             | 1         | 010835H            | A3F while on patrol with CIT personnel spotted 3 VC/NVA in a hooch. The Chien Hoi started yelling something to the 3 people and they started to flee. The dog handler for CIT and A3F point men opened fire resulting in 3 VC/NVA KIA. Captured assorted documents 50lbs. tea, medical bag w/equip. medical supplies, assorted clothing in packs. | S.F.            |
| 0750             | 2         | 011750H            | A3G while enroute to ambush site tripped a M26 E/T, lying beside trail along bushes w/Trip wire extending along trail. First aid administered, medevac called and completed. 1 USMC KIA.  | S.F.            |
|                  |           |                    | Journal Closed  |                 |

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JOURNAL FORM UNIT OR SECTION S-3 1st Bn., 5th Mar.

UNIFORM SECTION S-3 1st Bn., 5th Mar.  
S-2

Quang Nam Province

PLACE

~~020001H 022400H March 1970~~

022400H March 1970

FROM \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_

TO

[illegible]

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JOURNAL FORM UNIT OR SECTION S-3 1st Bn., 5th Mar.

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|     | DATE | PLACE | REMARKS |
|-----|------|-------|---------|
| 1   | 1906 |       |         |
| 2   | 1907 |       |         |
| 3   | 1908 |       |         |
| 4   | 1909 |       |         |
| 5   | 1910 |       |         |
| 6   | 1911 |       |         |
| 7   | 1912 |       |         |
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| 110 | 2015 |       |         |
| 111 | 2016 |       |         |
| 112 | 2017 |       |         |
| 113 | 2018 |       |         |
| 114 | 2019 |       |         |
| 115 | 2020 |       |         |
| 116 | 2021 |       |         |
| 117 | 2022 |       |         |
| 118 | 2023 |       |         |
| 119 | 2024 |       |         |
| 120 | 2025 |       |         |
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| 124 | 2029 |       |         |
| 125 | 2030 |       |         |
| 126 | 2031 |       |         |
| 127 | 2032 |       |         |
| 128 | 2033 |       |         |
| 129 | 2034 |       |         |
| 130 | 2035 |       |         |
| 131 | 2036 |       |         |
| 132 | 2037 |       |         |
| 133 | 2038 |       |         |
| 134 | 2039 |       |         |
|     |      |       |         |

| FROM               | TO             |
|--------------------|----------------|
| 1. Mr. Tolson      | Mr. Clegg      |
| 2. Mr. E. A. Tamm  | Mr. Clegg      |
| 3. Mr. Clegg       | Mr. Glavin     |
| 4. Mr. Glavin      | Mr. Ladd       |
| 5. Mr. Ladd        | Mr. Nichols    |
| 6. Mr. Nichols     | Mr. Rosen      |
| 7. Mr. Rosen       | Mr. Tracy      |
| 8. Mr. Tracy       | Mr. Carson     |
| 9. Mr. Carson      | Mr. Egan       |
| 10. Mr. Egan       | Mr. Gurnea     |
| 11. Mr. Gurnea     | Mr. Harbo      |
| 12. Mr. Harbo      | Mr. Hendon     |
| 13. Mr. Hendon     | Mr. Pennington |
| 14. Mr. Pennington | Mr. Quinn      |
| 15. Mr. Quinn      | Mr. Nease      |
| 16. Mr. Nease      | Mr. Gandy      |

<sup>29</sup> <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jml.2019.05.001> (accessed 10 May 2020).

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PLACE

040001H  
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042400H March 1970  
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070001H 072400H March 1970  
FROM TO

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080001H 082400H March 1970  
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090001H 092400H March 1970  
FROM TO

| TIME<br>IN / OUT | SER<br>NO | DATE/TIME<br>GROUP | INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS  | ACTION<br>TAKEN |
|------------------|-----------|--------------------|--|-----------------|
|                  |           |                    | Journal Opened   |                 |
| 2400             | 1         | 092400H            | Camp Monahan had one VC/NVA inside of compound. Enemy was carrying rifle and walked up to post 9 from rear. Post 9 challenged man who then jumped fence and fled. Post 9 opened up with S/A with negative results. Post 9 believed enemy came from fuel dump between post 5 & 6. Notified Sgt. of Guard and now are searching area for more possible enemy. Enemy was wearing grey uniform with shirt tail out. Had cartridge belt around waist and rifle strapped on back. Also patrol reports spider hole - will check out at first light. | S.F.            |
|                  |           |                    | Journal Closed   |                 |

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100001H 102400H March 1970

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|                |           |                    | Journal Opened   |                 |
| 0645           | 1         | 100645H            | Patrol went out to check out spider hole w/negative results. Flew w/G-4.   | S.F.            |
| 1440           | 2         | 101440H            | B3 while on patrol had 2 men collapse under strain and heat of day, resulting in heat exhaustion. Applied first aid and called medevac, med-evac completed. 2 USMC evac.               | S.F.            |
| 2035           | 3         | 102035H            | OP Tiger spotted .50 Caliber Tracer rounds at 011687, rmds. appeared to be directed at choppers flying in immediate area. Called F/M on suspected grid. Pos. investigation continuing. | S.F.            |
|                |           |                    | Journal closed   |                 |

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110001H

112400H March 1970

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|                |           |                    | NO ENTRIES                  |                 |

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PLACE

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152400H March 1970  
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180001H 182400H March 1970  
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|----------------|-----------|--------------------|---|-----------------|
|                |           |                    | Journal Opened  |                 |
| 1835           | 1         | 181835H            | A3G while moving to Cougar site spotted 1 M26 B/T lying beside trail in tall grass. Further investigation showed M26 was in fruit can w/trip wire running across trail B/T marked w/3 sticks in ground. A fourth stick was sharpened on end and pointed to B/T w/Chien Hoi pamphlet on it. Blew in place. | S.F.            |
|                |           |                    | Journal Closed  |                 |

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|-------------------|-----------|-----------------------|--|-----------------|
|                   |           |                       | Journal Opened   |                 |
| 2109              | 1         | 232105H               | B3J was set in night time position. B3I appears to have gotten disoriented moving to night time position and moved into B3J's ambush site. B3J opened fire on B3I with S/A and M-79 fire resulting in one (1) USMC KIA and 2 USMC WIA(E). Medevac requested and completed. Incident under investigation. | S.E.            |

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|------------|-----------|--------------------|---|-----------------|
|            |           |                    | Journal Opened  |                 |
| 1300       | 1         | 241300H            | D2 and D3 on line, swept through area following arty and air strike. Some VC/NVA were seen moving east toward the Hot Dog. Cobras moved into area and fired upon enemy. Scattered fire fights throughout the entire area. Returned fire and continued to sweep and check out area of air strike and S/A fire. Captured 4 POW's in area and were lifted from area. |                 |
| 2000       | 2         | 242000H            | B3J was moving to ambush site when approximately 4 VC/NVA opened fire with AK's and ChiComs at 923728. B3J returned S/A fire with M16's. Spotted tracer rounds hit one enemy in center of chest. Unable to find body. After quick check of battle area moved to high ground to conduct relief.  |                 |
|            |           |                    | Journal Closed  |                 |

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|              |        | 250001H                               | 252400H March 1970  |
|              |        | FROM                                  | TO  |
| TIME         | SER NO | DATE/TIME GROUP                       | ACTION TAKEN  |
| IN FOOT      |        |                                       | INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS   |
|              |        |                                       | Journal Opened  |
| 1330         | 1      | 251330H                               | Villagers found body of 1 NVA soldier. PF's informed Skeptic 7 and Skeptic 7 verified information. Body was male 27 years old with 1 M-16 round through the chest. He was wearing black trousers and green top. Blood trail led to site of B3J's contact of last night. |
|              |        |                                       | S.E.  |
| 1535         | 2      | 251535H                               | B3J while on daytime patrol spotted 1 VC/NVA wearing all black and having 1 SKS weapon. VC/NVA fired 2 rounds and fled southeast, from approximately 250 meters away. B3J opened fire with S/A, searched area with negative results.                                    |
|              |        |                                       | S.E.  |
| 1535         | 3      | 251535H                               | B3J while searching river at 914734 and 913729 found 2 rafts approximately 6' x 6', made of bamboo. Destroyed rafts and continued on patrol.  |
|              |        |                                       | Journal Closed  |

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|-----------------|-----------|--------------------|---|-----------------|
|                 |           |                    | Journal Opened  |                 |
| 1636            | 1         | 261636H            | Inserted D1 into LZ 876514. Received S/A fire from tree lines to south and hill mass to northeast. Spotted enemy fleeing to the northeast and to the west into treeline. Ran Cobra on-board ordnance and air strike on enemy fleeing to northeast. Inserted D2 vicinity 877519 and swept area of air strike to the south resulting in two confirmed VC KIA, male, age 20-25 in black pajamas. One was seen throwing something into heavy brush near creek, but no weapons were located. Two platoons swept south to sand bar, then swept treeline to the east along sand bar. D1 received small arms fire from east vicinity 885522 at approximately 1815H. Returned small arms fire as HQA aircraft spotted 6-8 NVA moving along trail in treeline. Enemy were pinned down with on-board Cobra ordnance and air strike. Platoon unable to sweep because of preceeding darkness and disability to insert remainder of company prior to night fall. D3 inserted vicinity 516578 at 1812H and D4 at 1848. Commencing to establish night acts and ambushes along Song Thu Bon. Five bunkers were destroyed by Pacifier Operation. S.E. |                 |
|                 |           |                    | Journal Closed  |                 |

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272400H

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|----------------|-----------|--------------------|---|-----------------|
|                |           |                    | Journal Opened  |                 |
| 0730           | 1         | 270730H            | As 3 VII Civilian vehicles passed the south side of Cau Do Bridge an explosion took place near C Company's living quarters. C Company Engineers investigated and reported explosion resulted from a home made bomb. At the time of the explosion the vehicles had proceeded out of sight of C Company personnel. Therefore apprehension of the vehicles was impossible at the time. | S.F.            |
|                |           |                    | Journal Closed  |                 |

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|------------------|-----------|--------------------|---|-----------------|
|                  |           |                    | Journal Opened  |                 |
| 1855             | 1         | 281355H            | While on patrol, point man, which was dog, and dog handler, tripped M-26 B/T. Man out ran initial blast receiving only small flesh wound, dog uninjured. Applied first aid and continued on patrol. 1 USMC non-evac.            | S.F.            |
| 2245             | 2         | 282245H            | C1 at Cobb Bridge observed GACO unit in contact approximately 400 meters to their southwest. C1 received several stray rounds from contact. Rounds were white tracers. Continuing to observe. Fired 81mm and arty illumination. | S.F.            |
|                  |           |                    | Journal Closed  |                 |

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|-----------------|-----------|-----------------------|---|-----------------|
|                 |           |                       | Journal Opened  |                 |
| 0830            | 1         | 290830H               | C1 while providing security for road sweep, found 1 dead VC, possible NVA wearing green utilities. Body had been dragged to present position, apparently so it could be easily found. Person had been killed by S/A fire. C1 searched immediate area with negative findings.  | S.F.            |
| 1215            | 2         | 291215H               | Hostage A/C spotted 1 NVA at above grid in green utilities. Chased him into bunker area in the brush about 300 meters to the northwest. Fired on-board ordnance getting secondary explosion. An abandoned pack Pacifier assault element over objective area 1010H. Air strike prepred target and LZ. Arty FW called but never fired. At 1101H assault element landed and swept north and northwest with negative results. Pacifier assault element extracted 1210H, operation terminated. | S.F.            |
| 2130            | 3         | 292130H               | B3I and B3H, while set in at night time positions observed movement in low ground to their northwest. Opened fire on suspected enemy with S/A fire. B3I (924735) received return AK-47 fire. Enemy moved to high ground to north. B3I requested flashships and continued to observe. Search of area found nothing.  | S.F.            |
|                 |           |                       | Journal Closed  |                 |

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