

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

3/WMA/wrk
005750
5 September 1970

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF
Subj: Command Chronology for period of 1-31 August 1970

Ref: (a) MCO P5750.1
(b) FMF PacO 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.

B. E. Trainor
B. E. TRAINOR

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

1/5 S&C
00585-70

1 OF 3 COPIES

UNCLASSIFIED

S & C FILES
1st MARINE DIVISION

702620

Copy 1 Of 2 Copies

DIV CO
156-70

~~SECRET~~

AUG 1970

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

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 August to 31 August 1970

INDEX

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

UNCLASSIFIED

(1)

~~SECRET~~
ENCLOSURE (1)

~~SECRET~~

PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein)

LtCol. C. F. SAVAGE, Jr.

1-28 August 1970

LtCol. B. E. TRAINOR

29-31 August 1970

1stLt. J. J. HENRY

1-31 August 1970

Capt. J. A. KELLY

1-31 August 1970

Capt. A. GARCIA

1-31 August 1970

Capt. R. C. MADONNA

1-31 August 1970

Capt. R. B. ROBINSON

1-31 August 1970

H&S Company

Company A

Company B

Company C

Company D

ATTACHED UNITS

Company C, 1st Tank Battalion

Capt. R. L. NEEDHAM

1-12 August 1970

Capt. C. E. HATCH

13-31 August 1970

2. LOCATIONS. From 01 to 09 August 1/5 - Southern Sector Defense Command, DaNang, RVN.

From 10 to 31 August 1/5 - Revised AO generally South and East of 1st Marine Division CP, DaNang, RVN.

1st Battalion, 5th Marines operated in the DaNang Southern Sector Defense Command and throughout the Division TAOR on Pacifier Operations. The responsibilities of the Battalion required units of various sizes to be positioned in several locations.

One reinforced platoon is located at Hill 55, OPCON to 3/5. H&S Company and the Battalion CP were located at Hill 34 (AT989709). One platoon was OPCON to III MAF to augment airstrip security from 10 August to 31 August. From 1 August to 10 August, 1 Company (Rein) operated South of Marble Mountain, OPCON to 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines. One Company occupied Division Ridge from 10 August to 31 August, at (AT961741) to provide security for the Division CP area. "A" and "D" Companies occupied Dai La Pass Cantonment (AT939748). 10 August 1970, the Battalion Commander assumed duties as cantonment coordinator for Hill 34.

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer

Maj. G. V. JEFFREYS, Jr.

1-31 August 1970

1stLt. R. B. TEDRICK II

1-31 August 1970

S-1 Officer

Enclosure (1)

1-1

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~
S-2 Officer

1st Lt. J. B. SWARTZENBERG
1-31 August 1970

S-3 Officer

Maj. W. M. ANDERSON
1-31 August 1970

S-3A Officer

Capt. B. H. BAILEY
1-16 August 1970
1st Lt. B. E. HEATH
17-31 August 1970

S-3B Officer

1st Lt. B. E. HEATH
1-16 August 1970
1st Lt. B. L. DENES
17-31 August 1970

S-3C Officer

1st Lt. B. L. DENES
1-16 August 1970

S-4 Officer

1st Lt. D. M. THINSCHMIDT
1-31 August 1970

S-5 Officer

1st Lt. S. D. GREENE
1-31 August 1970

Communications Officer

Capt. F. R. SUTHERLAND
1-31 August 1970

Battalion Surgeon

Lt. C. W. COUCH (USNR)
1-31 August 1970

Assistant Battalion Surgeon

Lt. E. E. PALMER (USNR)
12-31 August 1970

Supply Officer

1st Lt. T. E. ROBINSON
1-31 August 1970

Motor Transport Officer

2nd Lt. A. J. ANDREWS
1-31 August 1970

Assistant Adj./Legal Officer

1st Lt. R. J. HELMICK
1-31 August 1970

Chaplain

Lt. Cmdr. E. L. HUGHES (USN)
1-9 August 1970
Lt. Cmdr. D. I. OLSON (USN)
10-31 August 1970

1-2

ENCLOSURE (1)
~~SECRET~~

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
39	1059	3	51

UNCLASSIFIED

1-3

ENCLOSURE (1)

~~SECRET~~

UNCLASSIFIED

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

The month of August saw 1/5 acquire new assignments and expanded responsibilities in its role as Reserve for the 1st Marine Division. In addition to providing the capability of launching Pacifier heliborne assaults throughout the Division TAOR, the Battalion was tasked with a new area of responsibility including Division Ridge and coordinating the defense of the 1st Marine Division Rear. During the month 8 Pacifier Operations were launched accounting for 11 VC/NVA killed, 12 detainees, plus 15 POW's/CD and four weapons captured.

"B" Company was sent OPCON to 2/1 on 1 August to assist in patrolling a portion of the rocket belt during a high threat period. The company returned on 10 August after suffering 3 KIA's and 10 WIA's during their 10 day stay in the area. Two of the KIA's were due to enemy grenades, while the third was caused by friendly artillery.

Company "A" served as the Pacifier company throughout the month.

The first Pacifier of the month was launched into the Que Sen Mountains on 3 August in response to a recon insert that had made contact with an enemy base camp. By the time the Pacifier arrived at the objective area, the recon team had broken contact. The troops landed in two zones. One group swept toward an erroneously identified base camp area with negative results and was extracted. The other group was inserted into the position initially occupied by the recon team and swept the immediate area with negative results. The Pacifier was extracted, and the recon team remained behind.

On 7 August the Pacifier company, using the recon team leader as a guide, was landed in the same area as the 3 August Pacifier. Initially, the recon team leader had difficulty orienting himself, but the base camp was seen discovered. The camp contained a large supply of medicine, clothes, food, documents, a typewriter, and one AM/shortwave radio. The camp was large enough to accommodate 50 people.

The Battalion was assigned its new AO on 10 August. The expanded TAOR included the defense of the Division CP and the area immediately surrounding it. "C" Company moved up to man the defensive position on Division Ridge. A total of 23 units were placed under the coordination of the Battalion. Another commitment was placed on the Battalion on 10 August, when "B" Company sent its 1st platoon OPCON to III MAF. The platoon was given the job of assisting the 1st MP Battalion in guarding the DaNang Air Strip.

The My Hiep area in the "Arizona Territory" was the scene of a successful operation on 12 August. The operation was planned around information given by

ENCLOSURE (1)
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

an intelligence "source". Ground troops searched the suspected area with negative results. However, during the search several VC/NVA were observed by Cobras as they attempted to flee the area. The Cobras delivered on-board ordnance killing 3 of the enemy.

The Pacifier Company participated in a four day operation from 13-16 August with "I" Company and "L" Company, 3/7 in the Que Son Mountains. The operation was launched in search of an intelligence target. A total of four base camps were located by 1/5 units and 3 enemy were killed. The camps contained 782 gear, food, ordnance and documents. One camp had a radio antenna mast. One of the camps was occupied at the time of discovery.

An extremely successful cordon and search operation was held in 2/1's AO on 23 August. Acting on intelligence from two "sources", CIT screened 150 Vietnamese, detaining 12 plus classifying 15 as POW's/GD's. As the cordon was being set, several groups of VC attempted to break out. Ground troops engaged these enemy and accounted for 7 VC/NVA KIA and 3 AK-47's. In addition, 1 VC was killed by small arms as he maneuvered toward the cordon and the RPG launcher and B-40 round he was carrying were captured. Although close contact was made on several occasions, and the enemy used machine guns and automatic weapons, the Battalion suffered no casualties.

One platoon of the Battalion remained OPCON to 3/5 during the month. They continued to operate south of Hill 55 and worked closely with elements of the 51st ARVN and "M" Company, 3/1 in that area concentrating especially on maintaining the security of a portion of Route 4 and the road leading south from Hill 55.

On 18 August, 1st Platoon, "A" Company was heli-lifted to the top of Hill 995 West of Danang to assist in a search of the site where two USAF F-4's had crashed the night before. The platoon located and returned classified documents carried by the pilots and found parts of the crewmen's bodies. The Battalion Commander supervised A-1 and the two recon teams conducting the search.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION

a. Strength. The Battalion's strength at the beginning of the month was 40 officers and 1154 enlisted. On the 15th the strength was 43 officers and 1152 enlisted. By the end of the month the strength was 42 officer and 1133 enlisted with 11 enlisted hospitalized.

b. Discipline, Law and Legal. During August, 1 General Court-Martial, 3 Special Courts-Martial, and 2 Summary Courts-Martial convened. There were 37 Company and 19 Battalion Office Hours (NJP). Twelve investigations were completed and 2 were pending at the end of the month.

c. POW/Detainees. See Narrative Summary.

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

e. Postal. Postal service continued at the same degree of excellence.

f. Awards. During August, 14 Navy Achievement, 18 Navy Commendation, 1 Navy Cross and 13 Bronze Star Medals were recommended for heroism and meritorious service.

2. ENEMY, WEATHER AND TERRAIN

a. Enemy. Enemy activity increased slightly over the previous month.

b. Weather. The weather was hot and humid with thunder showers occurring frequently in the afternoon and early evening.

c. Terrain. No change.

3. ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS

a. Organization. The organization of the Battalion remained the same with H&S, "B" and "C" Companies located at the Battalion C.P., and "A" and "D" Companies operating from Camp Dai La.

b. Operations. The Battalion conducted 8 Pacifier operations during the month as well as day and night activities throughout the Battalion AO.

UNCLASSIFIED

4. SUPPORTING ARMS

a. Air. Pacifier Operations accounted for 97% of all air fraged by 1st Battalion, 5th Marines during the month of August. Wing resources used consisted of both helicopter and fixed wing assets.

(1) <u>Type Aircraft</u>	<u>Hours Accumulated</u>
UH-1E	67 Hours
AH-1G	234 Hours
CH-46 D	189 Hours
OV-10A	28 Hours
CH-53 D	6 Hours
(2) <u>Other Air</u>	
Fixed Wing	5 Flights
KEMA	3

b. Artillery. 1st Battalion, 5th Marines continued to be directly supported by "F" Battery, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines during the month of August. 1/5 was also supported by elements of 1st Battalion, 11th Marines in a general support capacity. Due to the concentration of friendlies in the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines TAOR, this support was largely restricted to illumination missions. Units of 11th Marines were used in support of Pacifier Operation controlled by 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, throughout the Division AO.

c. Engineers. Engineer personnel provided extensive demolition support on each Pacifier Operation, and road sweep of roads in the AO.

d. Shore Party (HST). HST personnel were provided by Company "C", 1st Shore Party Battalion and were primarily employed during the Pacifier Operations, coordinating operations at LZ 469 (Hill 34) and LZ Rockcrusher (Camp Dai La).

e. Scout Snipers. None attached.

5. 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

UNCLASSIFIED

- (7) Familiarization firing of the M16 and 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) Training of 81mm Mortar Crews
- (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) Preventive Maintenance of AN/PRC-25 Radio
- (27) Electrical Safety
- (28) Preventive First Aid
- (29) Combat Intelligence
- (30) KY-38 Operation
- (31) Driver Training for Testing and Licensing
- (32) Weekly Preventive Maintenance
- (33) Procedures for Completing NAVMC 106275D
- (34) Vehicle Safety
- (35) Shop Safety
- (36) Battle Sights (live firing)
- (37) Scouting and Patrolling
- (38) Techniques of Fire
- (39) Camouflage
- (40) Enemy Tactics
- (41) Supply Administration
 - a. Financial Management
 - b. Status
 - c. Personal Effects
 - d. Logistical Summary Report
 - e. Transaction Codes
 - f. Controlled Items
- (42) Warehousing, Field
 - a. Stock Identification
 - b. Embarkation
- (43) Armory (Operational Procedures)
- (44) Safety (Hand Grenade)
- (45) M-72 LAAW
- (46) XM-191 Multi-Shot Flame Thrower

UNCLASSIFIED

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

6. LOGISTICS

a. In the month of August the Battalion was assigned the responsibility of defending the Division Ridgeline along Hill 244. One reinforced rifle company was moved to the hill. Two additional housekeeping vehicles were attached to the Battalion to support the company on the ridge. Four generators which provide power for the ridgeline were also provided to us. The personnel manning the division ridgeline utilize the messhall facilities near the Division CP. Work requests for three living bunkers (8x12x8; 20x32 and 10x24) on the Division Ridge were submitted to the Commanding General. These bunkers are to be utilized as follows:

- (1) Company CP
- (2) 1st Platoon CP
- (3) CP for 60mm mortarmen

b. During August "B" and "C" Companies, 7th Engineer Battalion moved off the Hill 34 cantonment and their billeting areas will be taken over by "A" and "D" Companies, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, when they move in from the Dai La Pass Cantonment.

c. During this period the Battalion was preparing to turn over the Dai La Pass Cantonment. Captain Kelly, as the cantonment commander supervised necessary repairs and police work of the cantonment so that it would be ready to turn over to the RF's on 2 September, 1970.

7. CIVIC ACTION

a. Meetings with all hamlet chiefs were held and projects discussed. These projects included a new well for hamlet of Phuoc-Thuan, (AT932716). We continue to run into the problem of obtaining equipment through GVN sources. Requests take too long to be processed and often the materials requested aren't available anyway.

b. One MedCap was held and a total of 250 people were treated for simple cuts and bruises. The lack of simple first aid continues to be a problem. Two classes were held on sanitation/hygiene with a total attendance of 88.

c. IRO problems continue to be reduced due to the close supervision and inspection of workers entering and leaving the cantonment at our inspection station.

d. The "Early Word" broadcast was used once in connection with a Pacifier Operation and resulted in 24 detainees, 3 POW's, 8 VC/NVA KIA's, 3 AK-47's, 1 RPG-2 with round, asserted ChiComs and documents.

3-4

ENCLOSURE (1)

UNCLASSIFIED

8. MEDICAL

a. A total of 619 outpatients were seen during this reporting period. Of this total, 27 were referred to other medical facilities for admission. One hundred sixteen complete separation physicals were conducted and 164 limited services were performed, including PPD reading, brig physicals and mess physicals. Thirty four pairs of single vision spectacles were ordered. Eight hundred and thirty one prescriptions were filled. Thirty nine Vietnamese Nationals were seen and one MedCap was held in a Vietnamese village.

b. Preventive Medicine. During the reporting period five hundred twenty nine health records were checked for immunizations and four hundred and forty four immunizations were administered. At month's end, ninety five percent of all 1st Battalion, 5th Marines personnel were up to date on immunizations. Daily sanitation inspections were held and reports of discrepancies were submitted to the Commanding Officer weekly. Effective Rodent Control measures are in operation. Overall sanitation is considered to be good. A total of twelve cases of Gonorrhea and ten cases of Non-specific Urethritis were treated during this reporting period. These figures represent a decrease of five cases from the last report period. Fifteen of these cases cited contact in the Danang area. Overall health of the Battalion is considered to be good.

c. Training. A total of fifteen training sessions were presented to troop personnel including such topics as Self and Buddy Aid, Venereal Disease and Heat Casualties. Twelve lectures for Corpsmen were given during this reporting period including such topics as Common Dermatologic Problems and their treatment, Treatment of Immersion Foot and Health Record Procedures. Overall training is considered to be good.

9. COMMUNICATIONS. The Communication Platoon continued normal operations in support of the Battalion's mission during the month of August 1970.

10. SIGNIFICANT ENEMY EQUIPMENT/FOODSTUFF CAPTURED

3xAK-47's
1xRPG-2
Medicines and medical equipment
1xShortwave Radio
500 lbs. Miscellaneous Foodstuffs
Portable typewriter

11. SIGNIFICANT ENEMY ORDNANCE CAPTURED

1xB-40 round
7xChiCom grenades

UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

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

3-6

ENCLOSURE (1)
SECRET

SECRET

PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- ✓Tab "A" Staff Journal for period of 1 August through 31 August 1970.
- ✓TAB "B"-Co C, 1st Tank Bn Command Chronology August 1970. *FILED SEP*

4-1

ENCLOSURE (1)
SECRET

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

DECLASSIFIED

[illegible]

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

JOURNAL FORM

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

Quang Nam Province

PLACE

060001H 062400H August 1970

FROM TO

TIME		SER	DATE TIME	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	ACTION
IN	OUT	NO	GROUP		TAKEN
				Journal Opened	
0630H		1	060630H	Pacifier Operation - On 6 August, Alpha Company was launched on a Pacifier Operation on Charlie Ridge, near Hill 423, to search for possible cave/tunnel complex. A total of four heli-teams were inserted into the area, at 0700H 3 Heli-teams had landed. 1 team swept east around the peak and located 2 unoccupied caves on the east-tern slope. 2 Teams swept along the finger running west from Hill 423 and located 2 unoccupied caves and 2 unoccupied bunkers. At 0740H, the fourth team was inserted into a rock formation that appeared to contain caves. The team found 3 fairly fresh camp fires and several natural crevices that had been enlarged to accomodate 2 th 3 men. By 0915H all heli-teams had been extracted.	S.F.
				Journal Closed	

DECLASSIFIED

1. The first step in the process is to identify the problem or issue that needs to be addressed. This involves gathering information and understanding the context of the problem.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

DECLASSIFIED

[illegible]

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

TIME		SER NO	DATE TIME GROUP	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
IN	OUT				
				Journal Opened	
0700H		1	130700H	Pacifier Operation - On 13 August, Alpha Company was launched on a Pacifier in search of an intelligence target in the Que Son Mountains. After a fixed wing prep Alpha, 1/5 and Lima, 3/7 were inserted into the same LZ. The insertions were completed by 0845H. Lima Company swept south from their LZ and Alpha moved north then east. A fixed wing prep was conducted to the west to block avenues of escape. It resulted in numerous small and one large secondary explosions. Throughout the operation the Pacifier Package experienced moderate to heavy interference of its tactical radio nets. At 1100H it was thought that the site of the radio jamming had been located by a Cobra gunship equipped with a homing device. 1st Platoon Alpha Company was extracted from their present position and re-inserted into the suspected area. They searched out several natural caves with negative results. Lima Company completed their sweep at 1230H and linked up with India 3/7 on Hill 381. Alpha continued to search with negative results. They did medevac two USMC (NBC priority). The extract was scheduled to commence at 1500H but was delayed because of a thunderstorm. By 1750H all troops requiring extraction had been lifted to An Hoa. At 1800H Pacifier passed India and Lima Companies back to 7th Marines. At 1830H, the shuttle between An Hoa and LZ Rockcrusher was completed. Pacifier passed OPCON to Division.	S.F.
				Journal Closed	

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

[illegible]

DECLASSIFIED

JOURNAL FORM

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

Quang Nam Province

PLACE

170001H 172400H August 1970

FROM TO

[illegible]

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

DECLASSIFIED

TIME		SER	DATETIME	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
IN	OUT	NO	GROUP		
				Journal Opened	
1220H		1	231220H	Pacifier Operation - On 23 August the Pacifier was launched into the 5th Marines AO to cordon and search a GIT target. By 1241H, the insertion was completed and the villages of La Tho Bac (3) and Phong Luc (3) were cordoned. During the insertion several groups of enemy armed with AK-47's began to flee the area that was to be cordoned. The HCA attempted to engage two of these groups, but the M-60 jammed on both occasions. The Cobras fired at 1 VN male carrying an AK-47 as he fled into a treeline. This man was later detained. He had a head wound and was medevaced to 95th Evac Hospital. A "Snatch" team was inserted into a LZ near the spot where the Cobras fired at the VN male. This team detained 17 people including the previously mentioned male who was classified POW and recovered the AK-47 he had thrown into a paddy. At 1225H Alpha 1 fired on the group of enemy that were attempting to break the cordon and move south to the river. They killed 3 VC and captured 2 AK-47's along with numerous ChiComs. Shortly after, 1 VC was spotted by ground troops 600 meters to the northwest of the previous contact. He was killed and the B-40 launcher and 1 round he was carrying were captured. At 1630H Alpha 1 Echo attempted to talk 2 enemy out of a bunker. They received .45 cal. pistol fire and replied with M-26 grenades resulting in 2 POW's one of which was WIA (E). The pistol was buried by the explosion. Throughout the operation the ground troops received sporadic small arms fire from the RR berm to the west and the river to the south. At 1740H the extraction was commenced. A total of 27 people were detained. 3 were classified POW by the GIT. At 1835H, the extraction was completed with 24 detainees and 1 POW taken to 2/1's CP. The other two POW were WIA and medevaced to 95th Evac Hospital.	S.F.
				Journal Closed	

DECLASSIFIED

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]