

HEADQUARTERS
3rd Battalion, 5th Marines
9th Marine Amphibious Brigade, FMF
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

3/DGD/jec
5750
6 May 1966

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, RLT-5

Subj: Battalion Landing Team 3/5 Command Chronology Report for period
010801Z Jan66 to 060300Z May66

Ref: (a) DO 5750.2

Encl: ✓(1) BLT 3/5 Commander's narrative summary of significant events (S)
✓(2) BLT 3/5 Chronology of Events (S)

1. Battalion Landing Team 3/5 Command Chronology, consisting of enclosures (1) and (2), is submitted in accordance with the format contained in reference (a).

E. J. Bronars
E. J. BRONARS

UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL
OF ENCLOSURES (1) AND (2)

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SERIAL NO. 00117-66

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

COPY# 001 of 10 COPIES

1. Headquarters, Battalion Landing Team 3/5, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade, Fleet Marine Force.

a. Location: Camp Schwab, Okinawa.

b. Period covered: 010801Z Jan66 to 060300Z May66.

c. LtCol E. J. BRONARS	Commanding Officer
Maj J. T. ELKINS	Executive Officer
2ndLt B. F. BEGGS	S-1
1stLt J. M. SIMS	S-2
Maj R. A. MONFORT	S-3
Capt R. W. VORREYER	S-4
Capt H. S. HAUPT	H&S Company Commander
Capt S. GLAIZE	I Company Commander
Capt R. E. MARESCO	K Company Commander
Capt R. P. TATUM	L Company Commander
Capt H. D. PETTENGILL	M Company Commander

2. Commander's Narrative Summary of Significant Events

a. Battalion Landing Team 3/5 was activated on 1 January 1966 at Camp Pendleton and placed under operational control of Commanding General First Marine Division (Rein)(Rear) on that date. On 12 February the Battalion Landing Team came under the operational control of Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Pacific. At that time Battalion personnel strength was 27 Officers and 384 enlisted. Manning level was achieved by attachments and inorganic Navy personnel when the Battalion Landing Team activated. Prior to 12 January training, other than General Military Subjects Training, was not possible. The preponderance of available personnel was effectively utilized to maintain equipment, to prepare supplies and equipment for embarkation and to provide all housekeeping personnel to operate Camp Margarita. This effort, at a time when serious personnel shortages existed, allowed training to be emphasized when personnel became available in the future. It also allowed Battalion Landing Team 2/5 and other units of Regimental Landing Team-5 to satisfy their more urgent requirements for training and embarkation preparations. Although it was necessary to de-emphasize training during this initial formative period of serious personnel shortages, it was by no means ignored. General Military Subjects Training was accomplished to the maximum extent possible for all Battalion Landing Team 3/5 personnel when not engaged in the maintenance of equipment, in preparation for embarkation or in maintaining the Camp.

Enclosure (1)

1
DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

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b. Company K was activated on 17 January and commenced training on 24 January. Company L was activated on 24 January and began training one week later. Company M, the last company formed, was activated on 31 January and commenced training on 7 February.

c. Battalion Landing Team 3/5 embarked for a restricted area on 1 March from USNB San Diego and USNS Long Beach. The Battalion Executive Officer, Major ELKINS, remained at Camp Pendleton with a small command group to close camp facilities and to precede the Battalion Landing Team to Okinawa as an advance party.

d. A planned 15-day shipboard training schedule of 4½ hours per day was commenced two days after embarkation and was completed by the end of the voyage. On 9 March the Battalion Landing Team reached USNB Pearl Harbor. Wet net training for all troops aboard the U.S.S. RENVILLE was accomplished. Briefings at Headquarters Fleet Marine Force Pacific for the Battalion staff were held. Battalion Landing Team 3/5 departed from USNB Pearl Harbor for Okinawa.

e. On 26 March, the Battalion Landing Team debarked assigned shipping at White Beach, Buckner Bay, Okinawa. Headquarters 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines was established at Camp Schwab. The Battalion Landing Team was de-activated upon arrival on Okinawa and all attached units returned to their parent organizations. Formal field training for the Third Battalion, Fifth Marines began on 28 March. During the period 28 March through 10 May all units underwent formal training in Counter-Guerrilla Warfare, Landmine/Demolitions/Booby Traps and Jungle Firing Lanes. Training in the field emphasized small unit tactics on the squad and fire team level with accelerated progression towards platoon and company tactics. The last week of training emphasized company level tactics.

f. On 4 April a detachment consisting of Company K, Company I, H&S Company (-), Battery F 2/11 and a detachment from Company B, First Motor Transport Battalion embarked from Naha, Okinawa for two weeks training at Camp Fuji, Japan. Extensive field firing, including training for the newly formed 60mm Mortar sections, was conducted. All units returned to Camp Schwab on 20 April 1966.

g. The Third Battalion, Fifth Marines and attachments of Anti-Tank platoon, Motor Transport platoon, and Tank platoon stood a personnel inspection for BrigGen STILES, Commanding General 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade on 9 April at Camp Schwab. During the following two weeks the Third Battalion, Fifth Marines underwent technical inspections by the 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade Staff.

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h. An Regimental Landing Team-5 Command Post Exercise-Field Firing Exercise took place from 20-22 April with the Third Battalion, Fifth Marines (-) participating. Its primary purpose was to exercise the Battalion and attached units in Battalion Landing Team/Special Landing Force operations. Although two rifle companies were absent while en-route from Camp Fuji, valuable training was accomplished. Brigadier General RYAN, newly assigned Commanding General 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade, visited and observed operations in the field;

i. Battalion Landing Team 3/5 was activated for planning on 19 April and for operations on 26 April. By this date, due to accelerated training on Okinawa, Battalion Landing Team 3/5 had reached a high state of combat readiness. Units consisting of a Shore Party Team, Amphibious Tractor platoon, Dental Detachment and Force Service Regiment Detachment reported Operational Control/Administrative Control to Battalion Landing Team 3/5 at 060200Z May. All other units had reported on 26 April. The Third Battalion, Fifth Marines chopped Operational Control/Administrative Control from Regimental Landing Team-5 to the 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade at 060300Z May66.

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BLT 3/5 CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

1 Jan Third Battalion, Fifth Marines activated as Battalion Landing Team 3/5.*

4 Jan Capt Michael R. McDONOUGH joined and assigned as Battalion Air Liaison Officer.

6 Jan Maj Marcus COOK, Battalion S-3, transferred to 1st Shore Party Battalion.

7 Jan 2ndLt Joseph MIRGEAUX 091838 joined and assigned as Assistant S-4.

9 Jan 1stLt Thomas A. GUERIN 08850 joined and assigned as Commanding Officer, Company K.

14 Jan 1stLt Mosby G. PERROW 090221 joined and assigned as Battalion Motor Transport Officer.

16 Jan 1stLt Walter DYKE 090365 joined and assigned as Executive Officer of H&S Company.

17 Jan Capt Robert A. MONFORT 060662 joined and assigned as Battalion S-3 Officer.

Company K activated.

24 Jan Company L activated.

2ndLt Donald H. VOGELSANG 092012 joined and assigned as Commanding Officer, Company L.

Company M activated

2ndLt Frederick MATTYS 091449 joined and assigned as Commanding Officer, Company M.

Company K commenced training.

25 Jan 1stLt Reiss P. TATUM 084191 joined and assigned Commanding Officer, Company L.

31 Jan Company L commenced training.

*CG First Marine Division (Rein)(Rear) 302357Z Dec65

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7 Feb Company M commenced training.

11 Feb 2ndLt Edward P. CONTI 090823 joined and assigned as Executive Officer, Company L.

2ndLt Donald GREENLAW 085657 joined and assigned as Battalion Adjutant.

14 Feb 1stLt Paul M. PRINCE 084836 assigned as Commanding Officer, Company M vice 2ndLt Fredrick MATTYS assigned as Executive Officer.

1stLt Cary KELLY 089539 assigned as Executive Officer, Company I.

Company I participates in helicopter operations aboard USS OGDEN.

15 Feb 1stLt Joseph S. KOPFLER 088460 assigned as Commanding Officer, Company I.

16 Feb Capt Richard E. MARESCO 082456 joined and assigned as Commanding Officer, Company K vice 1stLt Thomas H. GUERIN assigned as Executive Officer.

22 Feb 1stLt James M. SIMS 084536 joined and assigned as Battalion S-2 Officer.

1 Mar Battalion Landing Team 3/5 embarked from USNB San Diego and USNS Long Beach for a restricted area aboard USS RENNVILLE APA-227, USS WINSTON AKA-94 and USS TORTUGA LSD-27.

Battalion Landing Team 3/5 Operational Control Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Pacific and Administrative Control Commanding General, First Marine Division.*

7 Mar Departure of Battalion Landing Team 3/5 Rear/Forward Echelon Group from Camp Pendleton to Okinawa.

9 Mar Battalion Landing Team 3/5 arrived USNB Pearl Harbor. Wet net training conducted. Staff briefings at Headquarters Fleet Marine Force Pacific.

11 Mar Battalion Landing Team 3/5 departed Pearl Harbor. Battalion Landing Team 3/5 Rear/Forward Echelon Group arrived Okinawa.

*Commanding General Fleet Marine Force Pacific 250440Z Feb66

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20 Mar Battalion Landing Team 3/5 Operational Control Commander Task Force 79 Administrative Control First Marine Division (Rein).*

26 Mar Battalion Landing Team 3/5 arrived Buckner Bay, Okinawa. Headquarters at Camp Schwab. Battalion Landing Team 3/5 deactivated.. Attachments reverted Operational Control/Administrative Control parent organizations. Third Battalion, Fifth Marines Operational Control/Administrative Control Regimental Landing Team-5.**

28 Mar Third Battalion, Fifth Marines commenced field training.

31 Mar 1stLt Donald TYSON 088711, Battalion Forward Air Controller, and Tactical Air Control Party departed for two weeks training at Subic Bay, Philippine Islands.

Capt Harold D. PETTENGIL 085115 joined and assigned Commanding Officer, Company M vice 1stLt Paul M. PRINCE 084836 assigned as Executive Officer Company K.

4 Apr Company I, Company K, H&S Company (-) and F Battery 2/11 departed US Army Terminal, Naha, Okinawa aboard USS WHITFIELD CTY (LST-1169) and USS WESTCHESTER CTY (LST-1167) for two weeks field training at Camp Fuji, Japan.

5 Apr 2ndLt Bernard F. BEGGS 091453 joined and assigned Battalion Adjutant vice 2ndLt Donald GREENLAW assigned duty with First Marine Division G-1.

Battalion Command Post Exercise conducted Building 3509 Camp Schwab.

9 Apr Commanding General 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade, Brigadier General STILES, inspected Battalion Landing Team 3/5.

10 Apr Battalion Commander and Sgt Major departed for inspection of Camp Fuji training.

11 Apr Command Post Exercise conducted Buildings 3507, 3511, and 3512 Camp Schwab.

12 Apr Battalion Commander and Sgt Major returned from inspection of Camp Fuji training.

*Commanding General Fleet Marine Force Pacific 250440Z Feb66
**Commanding General First Marine Division 170525Z Mar66

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16 Apr Battalion Command Post Exercise conducted on Camp Schwab Parade Field.

18 Apr 1stLt Robert D. McGINN 087233 joined and assigned Battalion S-3 Air Liaison Officer.

19 Apr Battalion Landing Team 3/5 activated for planning.*

20-22 Apr Third Battalion, Fifth Marines and attachments, minus Company I and Company K, participated in Regimental Landing Team-5 Command Post Exercise-Field Exercise-Field Firing Exercise in Hansen TA #1, 2, and 3.

20 Apr 1stLt Donald TYSON and Tactical Air Control Party return from Subic Bay, Philippine Islands.

Third Battalion, Fifth Marines units returned from Camp Fuji training.

26 Apr Battalion Landing Team 3/5 activated for operations.**

28 Apr Capt Samuel S. GLAIZE 078690 joined and assigned as Commanding Officer, Company I vice 1stLt Joseph S. KOPFLER assigned as Executive Officer, Company I.

1stLt Carey KELLY assigned as Executive Officer, Company K vice 1stLt Paul PRINCE assigned to 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade Staff.

2 May Battalion Landing Team 3/5 alerted to embark as Special Landing Force Battalion on 18 May.#

6 May Battalion Landing Team 3/5 chopped Operational Control/Administrative Control from Regimental Landing Team-5 to 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade.##

Shore Party Team, Dental Detachment and AmTrac Platoon Operational Control/Administrative Control Battalion Landing Team 3/5.*#

*Commanding General 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade 180629Z Apr66
 **Commanding General 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade 250507Z Apr66
 #Commander Task Force 79 020713Z May66
 ##Commanding General 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade 050932Z May66
 *#Commanding Officer Regimental Landing Team-5 060140Z May66

Enclosure (2)