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HEADQUARTERS
3rd Battalion, 5th Marines
1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

5750
30 August 1966

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF
Via: Commanding Officer, 5th Marines

Subj: 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines Command Chronology Report for period
012300Z Aug66 to 311600Z Aug66

Ref: (a) DivO 5750.2A
(b) MCO 5750.2

Encl: ✓(1)-3rd Battalion, 5th Marines Narrative Summary of Significant
Events (S)
✓(2)-3rd Battalion, 5th Marines Chronology of Events (S)

1. 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines Command Chronology, consisting of enclosures (1) and (2) is submitted in accordance with references (a) and (b).

E. J. Bronars
E. J. BRONARS

5TH MAR S&C FILES

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OF ENCLOSURES (1) AND (2)

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ENCLOSURE (5)

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1. Headquarters, Third Battalion, Fifth Marines, First Marine Division (Rein) Fleet Marine Force.

a. Location: Chu Lai.

b. Period covered: ~~012300Z~~ Aug66 - ~~311600Z~~ Aug66.

c. LtCol E. J. BRONARS

Maj J. T. ELKINS

2ndLt B. F. BEGGS

Capt J. M. SIMS

Capt H. S. HAUPT

Capt R. W. VORREYER

1stLt W. DYKE

1stLt C. KELLY

Capt R. E. MARESCO

Capt R. P. TATUM

Capt H. D. PETTENGILL

Commanding Officer

Executive Officer

S-1

S-2

S-3

S-4

H&S Company Commander

Company I Commander

Company K Commander

Company L Commander

Company M Commander

2. Commander's Narrative of Significant Events

a. On 2 August 1966 Battalion Landing Team 3/5 debarked personnel at Chu Lai, Vietnam and moved into a temporary camp site within the Chu Lai Defense perimeter. Operational Control of Battalion Landing Team 3/5 reverted to the Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force and in turn to the Commanding General, First Marine Division (Rein) Fleet Marine Force. On this same date Battalion Landing Team 3/5 was deactivated and all attached units returned to the Operational and Administrative Control of their parent organization. The 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines commenced refurbishing in the areas of supply and maintenance. The Battalion was in a C2 personnel category due to combat losses during Operation HASTINGS.

b. On 3 August 1966 Lieutenant General Lewis W. WALT, Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force, visited the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines at the Chu Lai encampment and, while speaking to all hands, expressed his praise and congratulations for the performance which Battalion Landing Team 3/5 had demonstrated during Operation HASTINGS.

c. The 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines was assigned a mission on 6 August 1966 to furnish blocking positions and security units during Operation COLORADO. Planning for Operation COLORADO was begun on this date. The 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines commenced participation in Operation COLORADO in Tam Ky province, Republic of Vietnam at ~~060630H~~ August 1966. During this operation the Battalion initially performed the mission of providing blocking positions and security for elements of the 5th and 11th

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Marines. The 3rd Battalion, Fifth Marines was later given a mission of conducting search and destroy operations in an assigned TAOR. Assisted by Popular Forces personnel, the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, terminated its participation in Operation COLORADO with the evacuation of villagers to the Tam Ky refugee center. During the Operation, the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines was visited in the field by LtGen Lewis W. WALT, MajGen Lewis J. FIELDS, BrigGen Jonas M. PLATT and a civilian, Arthur GODFREY. This Battalion's participation in Operation COLORADO terminated at 151815H August 1966. (For a complete account see 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine's Combat After Action Report for Operation COLORADO dated 19 August 1966 (S).)

d. On 20 August 1966 the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines was assigned the mission of Regimental Reserve for the 5th Marines. Company K (Rein) was placed on alert status along with the 2nd Platoon of Company L.

e. The 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines provided Company I (Rein) and a Battalion Command Group to the Chu Lai Defense Command on 22 August 1966 as directed by the Commanding Officer, 5th Marines. On 24 August an additional unit, consisting of Company L (Rein), was assigned to the Chu Lai Defense Command.

f. On 24 August 1966 the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines was released from its mission as the Regimental Reserve. On 241200H the Battalion Command Group and Companies K and M were placed under the Operational Control of the 7th Marines and assigned the responsibility for the 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines TAOR.

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CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

- 2 Aug 1966 Battalion Landing Team 3/5 OPCON Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force and in turn to the Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF.*
Battalion Landing Team 3/5 deactivated.**
- 3 Aug 1966 LtGen Lewis W. WALT, Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force, accompanied by MajGen Lewis J. FIELDS, Commanding General, First Marine Division (Rein) FMF, visited the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines at its Chu Lai encampment.
- 4 Aug 1966 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines commenced planning for Operation COLORADO.
- 6 Aug 1966 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines commenced participation in Operation COLORADO in Tam Ky Province, RVN at 060630H.
- 7 Aug 1966 Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF, MajGen Lewis J. FIELDS visited the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines in the field.
- 14 Aug 1966 Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force, LtGen Lewis W. WALT, Assistant Division Commander, 3rd Marine Division (Rein) FMF, BrigGen Jonas M. PLATT and a civilian, Arthur GODFREY, visited the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines in the field.
- 15 Aug 1966 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines phased out of Operation COLORADO at 151815H.
- 20 Aug 1966 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines assigned mission as Regimental Reserve.***
- 22 Aug 1966 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines provided Company I, one 81mm Mortar Section, and a Battalion Command Group to the Chu Lai Defense Command.#
- 24 Aug 1966 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines released from mission as Regimental Reserve.## Company L and one 81mm Mortar Section provided to Chu Lai Defense Command.
3rd Battalion, 5th Marines (-) consisting of a Battalion Command Group and Companies M and K assigned to OPCON 7th Marines.###

*CG, III Marine Amphibious Force 010508Z Aug66 (S)

**CO, Battalion Landing Team 3/5 030400Z Aug66

***CO, 5th Marines 200718Z Aug66 (S)

#CO, 5th Marines 210615Z Aug66 (S)

##CO, 5th Marines 231212Z Aug66 (S)

###CO, 5th Marines 231210Z Aug66 (S)

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Enclosure (2)