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## HEADQUARTERS

3rd Battalion, 5th Marines

1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF

APO San Francisco, California 96602

3/DJN/jrw

5750

7 July 1968

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

Subj: Command Chronology for period 010001H to 302400H June 1968.

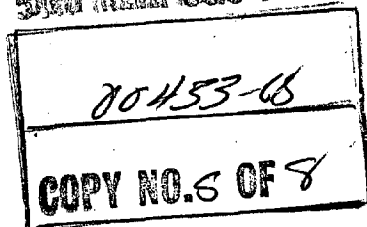
Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A  
 (b) FMF PacO 5750.B  
 (c) DivO 5750.2B

Encl: (1) Command Chronology Report

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a), (b) and (c), the Command Chronology for the month of June 1968 is hereby submitted.

*G. W. Bowers*  
 G. W. BOWERS  
 By direction

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00176-68

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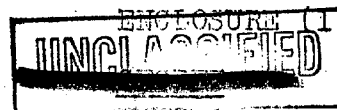
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 DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.  
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HEADQUARTERS  
3rd Battalion, 5th Marines  
1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

Command Chronology  
010001H to 302400H June 1968

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Part I - Organizational Data  
Part II - Narrative Data  
Part III - Sequential Listings of Significant Events



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PART I  
ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

<u>1. Designation</u>	<u>Commander</u>	<u>Period Covered</u>
3rd Battalion, 5th Marine	LtCol D. N. REXROAD	

SUBORDINATE UNITS

H&S Co	1stLt G. C. BACON	
Co I	Capt H. KOLAKOWSKI	To 15 Jun 68
	Capt J. E. MITCHELL	Fr 16 Jun 68
Co K	1stLt F. W. SMITH	
Co L	Capt J. D. NIOTIS	To 8 Jun 68
	1stLt L. C. GOUND	Fr 9 Jun 68
		To 18 Jun 68
	1stLt A. M. CLEMENTS	Fr 19 Jun 68
Co M	Capt F. D. PACELLO	

2. Location. Quang Nam Province, RVN.

3. Staff Officers

XO	Major R. C. WISE	To 3 Jun 68
	Major G. W. BOWERS	Fr 4 Jun 68
S-1	WO J. S. BISESI	
S-2	WO J. W. BEFIER	
S-3	Major G. W. BOWERS	To 3 Jun 68
	Major R. C. RICH	Fr 4 Jun 68
S-4	1stLt G. C. BACON	
S-5	2ndLt W. H. DODSON	

4. Average Monthly Strength

USMC  
OFF    ENL  
 30       999

USN  
OFF    ENL  
 4       50

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PART II  
NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. The Battalion's officer shortages are one (1) Lt 0130, one (1) Lt 0202, one (1) Capt 0302, eight (8) Lt 0302, one (1) Capt 0402, and (1) Capt 2502. The Battalion's enlisted shortages are six (6) SSgts 0369 and forty five (45) O3 Sgts. The major area of shortages are in platoon leadership billets in the O3 field. The Battalion has 66% of its M/L strength of Lt's O3, 81% of its M/L strength in Staff NCO's 0369, and 50% of its M/L strength of Sgts O3.

2. Intelligence operations were conducted in support of Operation MAMELUKE THRUST in the Quan Duc Duc District (Arizona Area) Quang Nam Province. The enemy moved in small units, using harassing and delaying tactics in order to avoid contact with major friendly forces.

3. The Battalion terminated its participation in Operation ALLEN BROOK and was in division reserve during the first week of June. The remainder of the month the Battalion was engaged in Operation MAMELUKE THRUST. The Battalion conducted search and destroy operations deep in the Quan Duc Duc District with emphasis on locating and destroying enemy personnel, caches, and base camps.

4. All newly joined personnel attended a Regimental Indoctrination School. While in division reserve training was conducted in the following subjects: Weapons Safety, Radio Procedures, Spot Reports, FO and FAC Procedures, Field Communication Expedients, and fam firing of all individual and crew served weapons.

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PART III  
SEQUENTIAL LISTINGS OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Topics

a. Personnel and Administration

(1) The battalion began the month of June with an on board strength of 30 Marine Officers, 1057 Marine Enlisted, 4 Navy Officers, and 32 Navy Enlisted. The current on board strength is 31 Marine Officer, 1001 Marine Enlisted, 4 Navy Officers, and 49 Navy Enlisted.

(2) The current effective strength of the Battalion is 26 Marine Officers, and 866 Marine Enlisted.

(3) Three Marine Corps Officers, and 44 Marine Enlisted are scheduled for rotation during July 1968.

<u>MOS</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
0302	2
0250	1
0311	8
0331	2
0341	3
0351	10
2511	1
2311	1
2531	2
2542	1
2847	1
3041	2
3371	2
3516	2
3531	2

(4) Critical MOS shortages are shown below:

<u>MOS</u>	<u>ML</u>	<u>OH</u>	<u>SHORTAGES</u>
0130	2	1	1 Lt
0202	1	0	1 Lt
0302	32	23	1 Capt, 8 Lt
0311	577	464	30 Sgts, 57 Cpl, 75 MU
0402	1	0	1 Capt
0331	110	87	7 Sgts, 8 Cpl, 8 PFC
0341	125	105	2 Sgts, 24 PFC
0351	146	124	6 Sgt, 7 Cpl, 11 LCpl
0369	33	27	6 SSgt
0441	2	1	1 SSgt
2531	43	29	4 Cpl, 10 PFCs

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2591	1	0	1 MSgt
3041	8	5	1 GySgt, 1 Cpl, 1 PFC
3531	12	10	1 CySgt, 1 Sgt, 1 LCpl
9999	6	4	1 SgtMaj, 1 1stSgt

(5) Casualties

KIA	28
DOW	1
WIA	126
WIANE	36
NON HOSTILE	18
MIA	0
DIA	0

b. Intelligence(1) Personnel

(a) During the month of June 1968 the Battalion Intelligence Section gained one (1) LCpl 0331, one (1) LCpl 0311, one (1) PFC 0311 and lost one (1) Cpl 0311.

(b) During the reporting period Scout Dog Teams and Armed Propaganda Teams were not used, however, Scout Sniper were effectively employed. The Battalion is augmented by three (3) Scout Sniper Teams.

(2) Collection The main collection efforts during the reporting period have been on operation MAMELUKE THRUST and have been as follows:

- (a) Map corrections
- (b) Trail and water point locations
- (c) Enemy order of battle
- (d) Enemy infrastructure
- (e) New landing zones
- (f) Terrain

(3) Reporting The Battalion S-2 Section conducted daily Commander and Staff briefings during June 1968.

(4) Enemy Activity

(a) Synopsis 1. During the reporting period, enemy activity took the form of limited attacks by fire, sniping, small scale ambushes, and explosive devices spread widely throughout the Battalion AO. Many of the enemy's food caches were found and destroyed. With a few small exceptions, the enemy has been moving in small units (5-20) and has been trying to evade contact with major Allied Forces. Terrorism has been displayed on several occasions.

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(2) The enemy has been prevented from conducting large scale activities in the Battalion AO.

(3) Although it has been reported that all enemy casualties have already been replaced by at least a one-to-one ratio, the disposition of enemy forces does not lend itself to the immediate accomplishment of widespread success against major friendly installations.

(b) Capabilities Continued harrassing actions to include;

- a Sniping
- b Small scale attacks and ambushes
- c Use of mines and explosive devices
- d Propaganda
- e Terrorism
- f Attacks by fire
- g Mortar attacks

(5) Vietnamese Attachments

(a) Interpreters. The Battalion continues to employ five ARVN interpreters. Efforts are continually being made to ensure that each of the rifle companies and the S-5 have at least one qualified ARVN interpreter each.

(b) Kit Carson Scouts. The Battalion does not have any Kit Carson Scouts.

(6) Enemy Losses

Operation MAMELUKE THRUST

KIA:	43
POW:	9
DET	4
CHIEU HOI	0

(7) Weather.

- (a) Rainfall:  $\frac{1}{2}$ "
- (b) Temperature:
  - 1. Avg. high; 96
  - 2. Avg. low; 80
- (c) Light:
  - 1. Avg. sunrise; 0620
  - 2. Avg. sunset; 1922

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(8) Terrain. Sparse to thick vegetation, hedgerows, rice paddies, small villages, and mountainous areas.

(9) Captured Equipment. The following is the total of weapons and equipment captured by the Battalion during June 1968 on Operation MAMELUKE THRUST.

(a) Weapons. 1 Russian machinegun, 1 light assault machinegun, 8 AK-47 rifles, 5 SKS, 4 AK-44 rifles, 96 B/40 rocket rounds, 130 ChiCom grenades, 10 60mm Mortar rounds, 13 75mm recoilless rifle rounds, 1 heavy machinegun barrel.

(b) Equipment. 175 gas masks, 45 hammocks, 1 field phone.

(c) 782 Gear. 35 pounds

(d) Documents. 10 pounds

c. Training

(1) Training included lectures, demonstrations, and/or practical applications in the following subjects.

(a) Weapons safety

(b) Radio procedures

(c) Spot reports

(d) FO & FAC procedures

(e) Field communications expedients

(f) Fam firing of all individual and crew served weapons

(2) Eight Indoctrination Schools were conducted by 5th Marines. Classes on FO procedures, and on care and cleaning of the M-16 rifle are included in the school syllabus.

(3) Personnel attended the following schools

(a) SNCO Leadership School

(b) Officers Leadership School

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(c) NCO Leadership School	- 4
(d) Embarkation (Officers)	- 1
(e) Embarkation	- 3
(f) Vietnamese Language	- 1
(g) Psychological School	- 1
(h) Basic Organic Supply Accounting	- 1
(i) Basic Inf Wpns Repair	- 1
(j) Basic Ammo Tech	- 1
(k) Preventative Medicine	- 1

d. Operations

(1) 030630H June 68 3rd Bn. 5th Marines participation in Operation ALLEN BROOK terminated

(2) 030630H June 68 3rd Bn. 5th Mar. chopped to CG, 1st MarDiv as division reserve.

(3) 090600H June 68 3rd Bn. 5th Mar. chopped from CG, 1st MarDiv to OPCON Seventh Marines for Operation MAMELUKE THRUST.

(4) 161600H Lima Company chopped from 3rd Bn. 5th Mar. to OPCON 1st Bn. 5th Marines.

(5) 231000H June 68 assumed OPCON of A Co. 1st Bn. 7th Marines.

e. Artillery Support

(1) During the month of June 3/5 was supported by a number of direct support, reinforcing, and general support batteries. Foxtrot 2/11, the assigned direct support battery for 3/5 took on other roles of support, both direct support and reinforcing for other infantry Battalion's in the An Hoi area of operations. The following is a break down of the artillery support: From 1 to 7 June Alpha 1/13, from 8 to 13 June-India 3/11, from 14 to 17 June-Charlie 1/13, from 18 to 23 June-India 3/11, from 24 to 28 June Fox 2/11, from 28 to 30 June-Kilo 4/11, and Tango 4/11.

(2) The direct support batteries fired 5801 rounds and the general support batteries fired 724 rounds. There were 434 rounds fired on 120 harrassing and interdiction targets. There were 148 observed missions and 29 unobserved

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missions. There were 212 rounds fired with fuze variable time, 53 with fuze delay, 5981 with fuze quick, 282 white phosphorous, 13 smoke and 14 illumination.

f. Air Support

(1) Tactical Fixed Wing Support

- (a) 82 TAC (A) controlled
- (b) 5 FAC controlled

(2) Helicopter Support

- (a) 43 medevac missions
- (b) 8 Huey gunship strikes

(3) Miscellaneous

- (1) 5 Spooky gunship
- (2) 70 AO missions

g. Communications

(1) The Communication Platoon supported the Battalion operations without pronounced communication difficulties.

(2) Courier service was established with Division Message center when the Battalion was in division reserve.

(3) Especially noteworthy was the support given by the 7th Marines Regimental Communication Platoon. Only with their assistance was it possible to complete necessary 2nd Echelon L.T.I. of equipment.

(4) The communications with the 3rd Battalion 5th Marines rear at Phu Bai was marginal because of the interference of stations on or near our assigned frequency.

(5) Support by Electronics Maintenance of FSR has been outstanding during the entire month.

h. Logistics

(1) General. The overall logistical status of the Battalion is satisfactory.

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(2) Supply.

(a) During the month of June Battalion Supply maintained an armorer and supply man in the field to expedite repairs and requisitions.

(b) On 14 June Battalion supply received a grade of satisfactory on a quarterly fiscal inspection. Battalion supply was able to pick up \$8,640.00 from canceled requisitions.

(3) Motor Transport

(a) Quarterly and annual preventive maintenance is up to date on all vehicles.

(b) Approximately seventy five percent of the M274A2's have broken starters.

(c) The motor transport chief billet is presently being filled by a corporal because of the lack of a 3500 Staff NCO.

i. Civic Action

(1) Medcaps. There were 963 civilians treated by the Battalion Medcap Team.

(2) PsyOps. 1,500 leaflets, 300 Chieu Hoi balls and 600 Chieu Hoi pens were distributed in the Phu Long area.

(3) Civic Action Assistance. Two TEETER-TOTTERS were installed in the refugee camp at Phu Luong.

(4) Problems. There were no significant problems.

(5) Serious Incident Reports. There were no serious incidents.

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2. CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

a. 1-2 June 68

Operation ALLEN BROOK

b. 4 June 68

Major G. W. BOWERS  
assumed duties as Bn. XO.

c. 4 June 68

Major R. C. RICH assumed  
duties as Bn. S-3

d. 3-8 June 68

Division Reserve

e. 9-30 June 68

Operation MAMELUKE THRUST

f. 9 June 68

Lt L. C. GOUND assumed  
duties as CO Lima Co.

g. 9 June 68

Capt J. D. NIOTIS  
assumed duties as Bn.  
S-3A

h. 15 June 68

Capt J. E. MITCHELL  
assumed duties of CO  
of India Co.

i. 19 June 68

Lt A. M. CLEMENTS  
assumed duties as CO  
of Lima Co.

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