

14/JLG/wfp
5750

30 AUG 1968

FIRST ENDORSEMENT on CO, 27th Marine Regt ltr 3/HHM/hhm
of 9 May 68

From: Commanding General, 5th Marine Division (-)(Rein),
FMF, Camp Pendleton, California 92055

To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D), Head-
quarters, Marine Corps, Washington, D. C. 20380

Via: Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific,
FPO San Francisco 96602

Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1 January - ~~30~~
15 Feb ~~June~~ 1968

1. Forwarded.

Richard R. Breen
RICHARD R. BREEN
Chief of Staff

2765 11 10 1968

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an 15 Feb 1968

HEADQUARTERS
27th Marine Regiment
1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

3/HEM/hbm
5750
9 May 1968

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 5th Marine Division (Rein), FMF
Subj: Command Chronology; special submission of
Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8
(c) DivO 5750.2A
Encl: (1) Command Chronology, 27th Marines for period 1 January
to 15 February 1968
1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a), (b) and
(c), enclosure (1) is submitted.


A. G. SCHWENK

DISTRIBUTION: "Special"

5th MarDiv (3)
Regt S-3 (4)
Total of 7

HEADQUARTERS
27th Marine Regiment
1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF
APO, San Francisco, California 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY (Special)

1 January to 15 February 1968

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PART IORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

27th Marines (-)

COMMANDERCol A. J. CASTAGNA
1 - 21 January 1968Col A. G. SCHWENK
22 Jan - 15 Feb 1968SUBORDINATE UNITS

Headquarters Company, 27th Marines (-)

Maj L. A. BEHYMER

2nd Battalion, 27th Marines (-)

LtCol L. J. BACHER

3rd Battalion, 27th Marines (-)

LtCol T. J. STEVENS
1 - 4 January 1968LtCol T. J. WOODHAM
5 Jan - 15 Feb 19682. LOCATION. Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, California 920553. STAFF OFFICERS

a. Executive Officer

LtCol N. G. RODES

b. Adjutant/S-1

Maj R. H. BENNETT
1 - 17 January 1968Capt L. D. RICHARDS
18 Jan - 14 Feb 19681st Lt R. S. HUNSBURGER
15 February 1968

c. S-2 Officer

Maj J. J. BURTON

d. S-3 Officer

Maj W. R. BALL
1 Jan - 14 Feb 1968Maj D. F. ALFORD
15 February 1968

e. S-4 Officer

Maj T. K. LYNCH

f. Communications Officer

Maj R. D. BURNETTE

g. Medical Officer

Lt (MC) B. GIBSON (USN)

h. Chaplain

LtCmdr M. C. LEONARD

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>OTHER</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
83	1963	7	71	0	0

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the month of January, 1968 the Regiment had two change of command ceremonies. On 5 January, 1968 Lieutenant Colonel T. J. STEVENS was relieved by Lieutenant Colonel T. J. WOODHAM, Jr. as the Commanding Officer of the 3rd Battalion, 27th Marines. On 22 January, 1968 a regimental change of command ceremony was held when Colonel A. J. CASTAGNA was relieved by Colonel A. G. SCHWENK as the Regimental Commander, 27th Marines(-).

Activities during the month of January centered primarily around the preparation and execution of battalion size airlift training exercises. Extensive training at all levels of the Command continued on annual marksmanship, acquiring battlesight zero's, swimming, physical readiness as well as required general military subjects training and especially that oriented towards operations in Vietnam.

The 2nd Battalion, 27th Marines conducted a full scale BLT Airlift Exercise (Operation RANCHER CORRAL) during the period of 24-30 January 1968. Additionally, a company from the 3rd Battalion, 27th Marines acted as the aggressor force for the exercise, and the Regimental Staff established a Tactical Exercise Control headquarters for the operation. Of major significance was the utilization of the previously conceived Staging and Loading Support Group (December, 1967) which proved to be of great value in relief of the administrative and logistical burdens of the training unit, by organizations not participating in the operation, thereby allowing the training battalion to achieve maximum benefit from the scheduled training. The basic concept and administrative details of this innovation was previously submitted during the month of December to the Commanding General, 5th Marine Division.

The lessons learned and the exercise of all facets, during the month of January, derived from the planning, preparation and execution of Operation RANCHER CORRAL is considered to have improved the combat readiness of the Command considerably.

During the first half of February, 1968, prior to the receipt of the Warning Order and subsequent deployment of the Regiment to the Republic of Vietnam, the Regiment continued to concentrate in training in accordance with current directives from higher headquarters.

On 13 February, the 27th Marines were ordered to deploy to the Republic of Vietnam, by air and surface, and came under Operational and Administrative control of the 1st Marine Division (Rein).

ENCLOSURE (1)

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. SIGNIFICANT TOPICS

a. Intelligence. In addition to normal intelligence functions, the Battalion/Regimental Intelligence Sections prepared the necessary training material which was required for Operation RANCHER CORRAL.

b. Training. In addition to the airlift training exercise (enumerated in Part IV, Annex A) training throughout the Regiment consisted of the required General Military Subjects Training, RVN Orientation, Annual Marksmanship Requalification, Battlesight Zero, Physical Readiness Testing and other related subjects.

c. Operations. The only significant operation conducted during January was Operation RANCHER CORRAL (2nd Battalion, 27th Marines - Part IV Annex A).

d. Logistics. The most significant item to report within the area of Logistics was the sharp increase in personnel fed in the 3rd Battalion Mess Hall during January, an increase of 7,000 rations over the previous month. (Part IV, Annex B refers).

e. Medical. During the month of January the Division Surgeon's Office held a re-inspection of facilities and noted that corrections had been made since the Commanding General's Inspection previously held in November.

2. CHRONOLOGICAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

17 - 19 January 1968	Cold Weather Training, FALLON, NEVADA Ref: Annex A
24 - 30 January 1968	Operation RANCHER CORRAL Ref: Annex A
15 February 1968	Deployment of RLT-27 to RVN Ref: CG, 5th MarDiv RLT-27 Air Movement After Action Report of 19 Mar 1968. (SECRET)

ENCLOSURE (1)

PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Chronology for 2nd Battalion, 27th Marines (-) ✓

ANNEX A

Filed sep

Chronology for 3rd Battalion, 27th Marines (-) ✓

ANNEX B