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10770 P942 of 12 October 1971.

P. B. Tiffany *3/8/77*

Signature/date

T.G. 45.9 Command Chronology

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

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HEADQUARTERS
Landing Force, CARIB 5-65
% FPO New York, N. Y. 09501

S-1/pwa
5750
21 Mar 1966

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S&C FILES HMM-162

LOG NUMBER 485-66-C-7
4 of 7

From: Commander
To: Commanding General, Second Marine Aircraft Wing, FMF
Commanding General, Second Marine Division, FMF

Subj: Command Chronology

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
(b) WGO 5750.1
(c) DIVO 5750.1

Encl: (1) Organizational Data
(2) Sequence of Events

1. In accordance with references (a) through (c); a composite Command Command Chronology is submitted for Landing Force, CARIB 5-65.

J. E. PERRY

Copy to:
CO MAG-26 MCAF NR JAX N C (2)
CO 8thMar 2dMarDiv FMF (2)

095-66

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GROUP-4
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ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Designation/locations: Task Group 45.9 (45.5), composed of Battalion Landing Team 3/8 and Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 162 (Reinforced) comprised the Landing Force of the Caribbean Ready Group for CARIB 5-65. TG 45.9 (45.5) was activated for planning and operations at Camp Lejeune/MCAF New River during the period 1 October 1965 -- 30 November 1965. From 30 November 1965 until 9 March 1966, TG 45.9 (45.5) was located aboard shipping of PHIBRON 12 with two periods ashore at Vieques, P. R. of approximately 3 weeks duration each.

2. Period Covered. 1 October 1965 to 10 March 1966.

3. Commanding Officer, Staff and principal subordinates:

a. TG 45.9	Landing Force	LtCol J. E. FERRY (CO HMM-162 (REIN))
	Commander	
	Deputy Landing	LtCol R. M. LUCY (CO BLT 3/8)
	Force Commander	
	Chief of Staff	Maj D. M. WILSON (XO, HMM-162 (REIN))
	S-1	Capt R. G. VASS (S-1 HMM-162 (REIN)) 10Oct-6Dec65
		Capt W. W. OGLE (S-1 HMM-162 (REIN)) 6Dec65-9Mar66
	S-2	1stLt J. T. ADAMS (S-2 HMM-162 (REIN)) 10Oct65-3Dec65
		1stLt N. A. HUEBSCH (S-2 BLT 3/8) 3Dec65-9Mar66
	S-3	Maj R. L. ZUERN (S-3 BLT 3/8)
	S-4	Capt R. M. TAYLOR (S-4 BLT 3/8)
b. HMM-162	Commanding	LtCol J. E. FERRY
(REIN)	Officer	
	Executive	Maj D. M. WILSON
	Officer	
	S-1	Capt R. G. VASS 10Oct-6Dec65
		Capt W. W. OGLE 6Dec65-9Mar66
	S-2	1stLt J. T. ADAMS 10Oct-3Dec65
		1stLt N. W. ROGERS 3Dec65-15Feb66
	S-3	Capt J. D. SHOAF 15Feb-9Mar66
		Capt J. D. BALDINGER 10Oct-3Dec65
	S-4	Maj R. J. LANGLEY 3Dec65-9Mar66
		Capt J. D. SHOAF 10Oct65-15Feb66
	5th Flat, 2d	1stLt R. N. RYAN 15Feb-9Mar66
	ForRecon Co	1stLt M. D. POWERS
	Det, VMO-1	Capt Y. W. N. BAIN (RM)

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Task Grp 45.9 (45.5)

1 Oct 65 - 10 Mar 66

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BIT 3.8 Commanding Officer LtCol R. M. LUCY
 Executive Officer Maj J. S. G. TURNER
 S-1 1stLt R. C. COX
 S-2 1stLt N. A. HUESCH
 S-3 Maj R. L. ZEURN
 S-4 Capt R. M. TAYLOR
 H&SCo Capt G. A. JOHNSON
 I Company Capt R. W. SWIGART
 K Company Capt W. S. MARSH 1Oct-1Mar66
 1stLt J. F. MC NAMARA
 L Company Capt E. G. COOK
 M Company Capt E. G. DYER
 Btry C (Rein) Capt H. N. MEANS
 1stBn 10thMar
 1stPlat (Rein) Co 1stLt C. H. HAIL
 C 2d Recon Bn
 3d Plat (Rein) Co 1stLt W. R. ACREE
 C 2d Engr Bn
 3d Plat (Rein) Co 1stLt G. L. PARKER
 A AT Bn
 2d Plat (-) Co A 1stLt A. G. CASFOR
 8th MT Bn
 3d Plat (Rein) Co 1stLt E. J. KLINE
 A 2d Tank Bn
 2d Plat (Rein) Co 1stLt E. W. HINSON
 B AMTRAC Bn
 1st Plat (Rein) Co 1stLt L. R. CORNWELL
 A 2d SP Bn

4. Average Monthly Strength.

HMM-162

	OFF	MARINE	ENL	OFF	NAVY	ENL
Dec	54		195	1		2
Jan	54		195	1		2
Feb	57		190	1		2
Mar	57		189	1		2

1 British Marine Officer

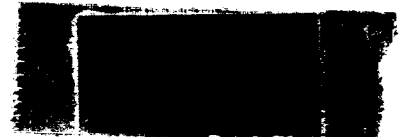
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BLT 2/8

	OFF	MARINE	OFF	NAVY	ENL
Dec	54		6		39
Jan	56		6		40
Feb	53		6		42
Mar	58		6		42

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SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- 1 Oct TG 45.5 Activated for planning. CTG 45.5 reported to COMPHIBRON-12 for planning.
CO, HMM-162 (Rein) reported to CO, PROVMA-60 for contingency planning.
CO, BLT 3/8 reported to CTG 45.5 for planning and to CO, Eight Marine for contingency planning.
Initial planning conference with COMPHIBRON-12 held at Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek, resulting in a tentative schedule of events and proposed itinerary.
- 7 Oct Received COMPHIBRON-12 (CTG 44.5) Planning Directive.
- 22 Oct CTG 45.5 Landing Plans for CARIB 5-65 submitted to COMPHIBRON-12.
- 1 Nov CTG 45.5 and key personnel departed for liaison visit to Caribbean.
- 5 Nov CTG 45.5 OPLAN 1-65 promulgated. The OPLAN was designed as a standard plan, applicable to a wide scope of contingency responses and exercises with only minor modification.
- 7 Nov CTG 45.5 and party returned to CONUS.
- 15 Nov TG 45.5 activated for operations.
- 22 Nov Commenced loading initial elements of TG 45.5 at Norfolk.
CARIB 5-65 pre-sail conference conducted at Little Creek to resolve final detailed planning.
- 24 Nov CO, HMM-162 and CO, BLT 3/8 attended pre-sail conference at Little Creek for PHIBASWEX/MEBLEX 2-65.
- 30 Nov Embarkation of TG 45.5 commenced at Morehead City, N. C., and Onslow Beach. 24 UH-34D's and two UH-1E's of HMM-162 flew a total of 102 hours, lifting 843 personnel and 83,200 pounds of cargo and equipment. Six CH-46A helicopters provided by MAG-26 augmented the squadron embarkation effort. BLT 3/8 chopped OPCON to the 4th MEB.
- 1 Dec The PHIBASWEX 1-65/MEBLEX 2-65 Task Force with elements of TG 45.5 embarked departed CONUS.
- 4 Dec HMM-162 chopped OPCON to PROVMA-80.
- 5 Dec HMM-162 transferred 18,200 pounds of equipment and 516 troops of a rifle company and Headquarters Company element of BLT 1/2 from U. S. S. Guadacanal to U. S. S. Francis Marion.

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- 7 Dec A rehearsal landing for MEBLEX 2-65 was conducted at Orange Beach on the western end of Vieques.
- 8 Dec D-Day for MEBLEX 2-65, an assault landing conducted on Vieques by the Fourth MEB. BLT 3/8 was exercised as a completely helo borne assault force, and HMM-162 as a subordinate unit of PROVMAF-80 in a support role.
- 9 Dec BLT 3/8 and BLT 1/2 (The surface landed BLT) effected link up.
- 10 Dec Following re-tasking of BLT forces, attack continued with BLT's abreast.
- 11 Dec MEBLEX 2-65 concluded with an abbreviated FIREX viewed by all hands of TG 45.5. Admin offload completed to Camp Garcia, Vieques. The squadron provided 234 hours of flight time for MEBLEX 2-65, transporting 1,051 troops and 324,915 pounds of cargo and equipment in support of the Landing Force. BLT 3/8 and HMM-162 chopped OPCON to CTG 45.5 who relieved CARIB 4-65 and the CARIB Ready Landing Force, assuming the designator 45.9. Upon completion of the debarkation and movement to Camp Garcia, TG 45.9 chopped OPCON to CG, 2dMAW, for a period of training ashore. Company L of BLT 3/8, which had participated in MEBLEX 2-65, embarked aboard USS Francis Marion for transit to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.
- 13 Dec Company L of BLT 3/8 chopped OPCON to CG, Marine Barracks, Guantanamo Bay, and assumed its duties as part of the Guantanamo Bay Defense Force. CTG 45.9 and CG, BLT 3/8, in company with CTG 44.9, called on COMCARIBSEAFRON and COMTEN at the Naval Station, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- 17 Dec Liberty parties embarked aboard USS GUAM and USS SUFFOLK COUNTY for St Thomas and St. Croix to return on 20 December 1965.
- 20 Dec CLF 45.9 and CG, BLT 3/8 made official call on local Vieques officials.
- 24 Dec CLF presented a tape recorder, purchased with donations by LF personnel, to Isabel Segunda School.
- 25 Dec Staff NOC's sponsored party for Vieques orphans.
- 26 Dec Body of PFC Martin Luther PERRY, member of Shore Party Platoon recovered from San Antonio Canal, San Juan, while on liberty.

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TAB B to
ENCLOSURE (4)

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- 27 Dec Conference aboard USS GUAM in preparation for reembarkation.
- 30 Dec CO, BLT 3/8 conducted inspection of all major items of equipment. CLF and CO, BLT 3/8 attended conference with CTG 44.9 concerning changes to Guantanamo Bay visit schedule.
- 3 Jan Preparation and Staging for reembarkation.
- 4 Jan Landing Force reembarkation CTG 44.9 shipping under simulated emergency recall conditions, and proceeded to San Juan. Squadron flew 81 hours, lifted 613 troops and 270,750 pounds of cargo and equipment.
- 6 Jan Departed San Juan.
- 8 Jan Completed 4,000th landing aboard USS GUAM.
- 9 Jan CLF with selected Landing Force officers and NCO's embarked aboard USS SPIEGEL GROVE for transit to Guantanamo Bay for orientation. Guantanamo Bay orientation cancelled, personnel returned to respective ships. USS SPIEGEL GROVE continued to Guantanamo Bay.
- 10 Jan CO, Eighth Marines and party visited Landing Force. Departed 11th.
- 12 Jan Company L embarked aboard USS SPIEGEL GROVE at Guantanamo; chopped OPCCN to BLT 3/8.
- 13 Jan Company L personnel transferred to USS GUAM by boat.
- 14 Jan Enroute liberty ports. Company L cargo and equipment transferred to USS GUAM by helicopter. 25 flight hours, 25,100 pounds external lifts.
- 15 Jan Port call: USS GUAM and USS YANCEY - Bridgetown, Barbados
USS SPIEGEL GROVE - Martinique
USS SUFFOLK COUNTY - Roosevelt Roads
- 16 Jan USS GUAM open house including static display of weapons and aircraft.
- 17 Jan Official visit by Governor of Barbados.
- 18 Jan Pistol and Golf matches with Navy and civilian teams at Barbados.
- 19 Jan Departed liberty ports, enroute Vieques to conduct "Exercise Gaucho", an exercise designed to test the CARIB 5-65 contingency planning, and exercise the Landing Force capability to command and control units operating independently in a situation requiring controlled application of force, and strict fire discipline. A Joint Control Group was established to create a simulated intelligence input which would elicit a realistic planning evolution by the TF and LF staffs.

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- 21 Jan Commencement of "Gaucha" operations. Evacuation of U. S. and friendly foreign nationals from three widely separated areas. Commenced MCLFDC test of "M" Packet Rations by Companies I, K, and M. Each received one, two and three rations per day respectively. Each ration contains 1,200 calories. Test was conducted for seven day period with supplements prohibited.
- 22 Jan Overnight deterioration of exercise situation required reduced visibility landings followed by successive helicopter landings, culminating in a coordinated BLT attack. Communications were effected over a 27,000 meter distance using AN/FRC 10 relay emplaced atop a mountain by helicopter. Landing force helicopters flew a total of 153 flight hours, lifting a total of 913 troops and 310,750 pounds of cargo and equipment.
- 23 Jan Terminated "Exercise Gaucha". Landing Force Headquarters moved into garrison at Camp Garcia for normal training. Squadron completed night emergency evacuation of Camp Garcia Marine suffering from Anaphylactoid Shock to Roosevelt Roads.
- 28 Jan CTG 44.9 visited CTG 45.9 at Vieques and observed live fire, tank/infantry training and UDT paratroops.
- 29 Jan Termination of "M" Ration test. Interim Landing Force assesment was that ration was adequate and that two per day were sufficient. No ill effects or significant weight loss was observed. Battery C, 1st Battalion, 10th Marines chopped 10th Marines for FIREX-66. HMM-162, LF TACP and SFCP were tasked to support conduct of FIREX-66. period 29 Jan - 10 Feb. Recon of selected areas of Puerto Rico was conducted for potential training sites in coordination with CO, Marine Barracks, San Juan.
- 2 Feb CTG 45.9 and party of 50 officers and staff NCO's departed by VMGR-252 C-130 to Guantanamo Bay for orientation.
- 3 Feb CARIB Ready Group placed on 36 hour reaction time in response to developments in Dominican Republic. CTG 45.9 and party returned from Guantanamo Bay.
- 4 Feb Training reduced in scope, and Battery C withdrawn from FIREX-66 to increase readiness for reembarkation. CLF and CO, BLT 3/8 conferred with CTG 44.9 concerning contingency reembarkation.

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- 7 Feb CG, Second Marine Division and party arrived to observe FIREX-66.
 - 8 Feb CG, FMFLant and party arrived to observe FIREX-66.
 - 9 Feb CLF and CO, BLT 3/8 conducted briefings and demonstrations for CG, FMFLant and CG, Second Marine Division and parties. HMM-162 conducted emergency medical evacuation to Roosevelt Roads of eight year old girl injured in auto accident.
 - 10 Feb BLT 3/8 and elements of HMM-162 attended FIREX-66 demonstration.
 - 11 Feb CG, FMFLant and CG, Second Marine Division departed.
 - 14 Feb TG 45.9 reembarked to TG 44.9 shipping and chopped CTG 44.9. Visit by CO, Eight Marines. HMM-162 flew 80 hours, lifted 899 troops and 306,900 pounds of cargo in accomplishing the backload.
 - 16 Feb Caribbean Ready Force placed on 24 hour reaction time for the Dominican Republic and directed to proceed at best speed to the vicinity of Santo Domingo. Scheduled Panama jungle training was cancelled.
 - 17 Feb Arrived off Santo Domingo and assumed immediate readiness posture for operations as directed.
 - 24 Feb BLT 3/8 notified by CG, Second Marine Division that 569 FLT personnel, corporal and below, would be transferred to WESTPAC during April. Within four hours of notification, 325 Marines had volunteered.
 - 27 Feb Resumed normal 72 hour readiness posture, modified to include Santo Domingo and proceeded San Juan.
 - 4 Mar Departed San Juan.
 - 7 Mar Arrived 25° North Latitude and relieved as Landing Force, CARIP Ready Group. Reassumed Task Designator TG 45.5.
 - 9 Mar Debarked major elements of TG 45.5 at Onslow Beach and Morehead City.
 - 10 Mar Debarked remaining elements and equipment at Norfolk, Virginia.
 - 10 Mar Deactivated as CARIP 5-65.

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