CONFIDENTIAL (Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1))

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code HD)
Via: (1) Commanding Officer, Combined Action Force
(2) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 March 1970 to 31 March 1970

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.1A
(b) M.PPacC 5750.8B
(c) CAFD 5750.1

Enc: (1) 1st Combined Action Group Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a), (b) and (c), enclosure (1) is submitted.

2. Downgraded at 3-year intervals, declassified after 12 years, DOD Dir 5200.10.

D. F. SEILER
D. F. SEILER
## COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 March 1970 to 31 March 1970

### INDEX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PART</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>PAGES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PART I</td>
<td>ORGANIZATIONAL DATA</td>
<td>I-1 - I-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PART II</td>
<td>NARRATIVE SUMMARY</td>
<td>II-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PART III</td>
<td>SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS</td>
<td>III-1 - III-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PART IV</td>
<td>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS</td>
<td>NONE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL
ENCLOSURE (1)

S52970

DECLASSIFIED
PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. DESIGNATION

1st Combined Action Group
II Field Marine Amphibious Force
BPO, San Francisco, California 96602

COMMANDER

LtCol D. F. SEILER
1Mar70    31Mar70

SUBORDINATE UNITS

Combined Action Company I-1

Captain H. H. GROSZ
1Mar70    10Mar70
Captain R. J. DALTON
11Mar70    31Mar70

Combined Action Company I-2

Captain J. E. KNIGHT
1Mar70    31Mar70

Combined Action Company I-3

Captain J. W. MURPHY
1Mar70    20Mar70
Captain D. L. LAPHAM
21Mar70    31Mar70

Combined Action Company I-4

1stLt W. R. BLACK JR.
1Mar70    31Mar70

ATTACHED UNITS

1. None.

2. Locations

Hq 1st CAG
Chu Lai, Ly Tin District, Quang Tin Province, RVN

CACO I-1
Tam Ky District, Quang Tin Province, RVN

CACO I-2
Ly Tin District, Quang Tin Province, RVN

CACO I-3
Binh Son District, Quang Ngai Province, RVN

CACO I-4
Son Tinh District, Quang Ngai Province, RVN
PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. During the reporting period the 1st Combined Action Group continued to conduct operations that enhanced the accomplishment of its assigned mission of village and hamlet security and the goals of the GVN Accelerated Pacification Program (APP). In conjunction with the APP, two CAP's in Son Tinh District changed boundaries.

2. Enemy activity increased from the preceding month and the Group accounted for more enemy kills, more POW's and more Hoi Chans, while suffering fewer Marine Casualties. The number of contacts increased in all four company areas and CAP 1-2 was the only company to end the month with less kills than the previous month.

3. The Americal Division, USA continued to experience moderate contact throughout its TAOR, with the 195th Infantry Brigade (Operation Frederick Hill) accounting for the bulk of the enemy contacts and kills. The infantry company from the 195th Brigade participating in the Combined Unit Pacification Program (CUPP) was relocated to a new area north of CAP 1-N-5 in Son Tinh District and CAP's 1-I-5 and 1-K-6 modified their AO's to include a portion of the area formerly covered by the CUPP. The 195th and 196th Infantry Brigades continued to provide logistical support for the Group during the month.

4. Two of the battalions of 198th Infantry Brigade (1/6th and 5/16th) exchanged TAOR's which affected the CAP's located in these areas with regard to logistical resupply and it took approximately two weeks to correct the resupply problems. A shortage of helicopters in the Americal Division is resulting in irregular resupply of many of the Third and Fourth Company CAP's.

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Operations Summary
   a. Nighttime activities - Patrols - 958; Ambushes - 1617
   b. Daytime activities - 860
   c. Multi-CAP operations - 1
   d. Combined operations - 2
   e. Significant operations conducted - None
2. Neutralization of Enemy Forces

a. NVA KIA - 2
b. VC KIA - 4

c. NVA POW - 0
d. VC POW - 0

e. WIA - 0

f. Not Charlie

(2)  NVA - 2
(3)  VC - 0
(5)  WIA - 0

3. Casualties Sustained

a. USMC KIA - 1
b. USAF KIA - 0

c. USMC WIA(D) - 7
d. USMC WIA(H) - 0

e. USN KIA - 0
f. USN WIA(C) - 2
g. USA WIA(H) - 1
h. USA WIA(D) - 0
i. USAF WIA(H) - 0
j. USAF WIA(D) - 25

b. HowJennifer assumed: The PF Trungems are being encouraged to plan all or most of the activities and the marine squad leader is staying in the background unless the proposed activities are tactically unsound.

5. Command Relationships

a. WI: Full contact between the CACO CO's and the District Chiefs was maintained. The Group CO and S-3 made frequent visits to District and Province, coordinating with the District Chiefs, District Senior Advisors, Province Chiefs, Province Senior Advisors and their respective Staffs.

b. Local DMZF Units: Constant liaison was maintained throughout the reporting period between the CACO CO's and their proximate USA battalions and between the Group and the 196th and 198th Brigades and the Americal Division.

III-2

ENCLOSURE (1)

DECLASSIFIED
d. Motor Transport

(1) During the month Group motor transport logged 21,464 miles.

(2) Declined vehicles increased during the month and on occasions has created problems within the Group.

Miscellaneous

9. Civic Action

a. Civic Action projects during the month of March 1970 proceeded at a normal pace with the continuation of S-5 personnel holding Civic Action meetings at each of the CAGO Headquarters. These meetings are held bi-monthly for the purpose of advising and adjusting Civic Action work in the 1st Combined Action Group Area of Operation. The following commodities were distributed throughout the 1st Combined Action Group Area of Operation during March 1970:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Red Stuffs</td>
<td>757</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rugs</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothing</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sacks</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

b. Educational Assistance. Forty-five (45) English classes were taught by CAP personnel for one hundred and four (104) Vietnamese students.

c. Medical Aid - None

d. Other Projects.

(1) Lumber was delivered to Quang Ngai Hospital for the construction of artificial arms and legs.

(2) CAP 1-3-6 arranged for one Vietnamese youth from their area to go to Quang Ngai to be fitted for an artificial leg. He was from Ky My Village north of Tam Ky.

(3) CAP 1-3-3, located in Phouc Hoa (1) B566977 Binh Son District Quang Ngai Province, helped rebuild a fence around the village that had been destroyed by the VC.
10. Personnel and Administration

a. Personnel Transactions. During the month of March the following personnel transactions were completed:

(1) Discharged

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>USMC</th>
<th>OFF</th>
<th>ENL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2) Retained CONUS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>USMC</th>
<th>OFF</th>
<th>ENL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(3) Permanent within WestPac

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>USMC</th>
<th>OFF</th>
<th>ENL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(4) Transferred by Service Records While Sick (out of country hospital)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>USMC</th>
<th>OFF</th>
<th>ENL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

b. Promotions. During the month of March the following promotions were effective:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>To</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>To SSgt - 0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LCpl</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>GySgt - 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cpl</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1stSgt/HSgt - 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sgt</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Sgt/Maj/HCySgt - 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

c. Legal Matters

(1) Courts held:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GCM</th>
<th>0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SpCM</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCM</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2) Article 32 Investigations: None

(3) NJP: 17
(4) JAG-Type Investigations Completed: 1

d. Award Recommendations
SSM - 1
BSM - 5
NM - 3
PA - 5
FX - 20

e. CONFORMITY/SPLINTS/WEARERS
The command has responded to:
CONFORMITY = 0
SPLINTS = 0
WEARERS = 7

f. Morale and Welfare
(1) FAC. The command has utilized the following number of quotas to the FAC area listed:
   (a) Hong Kong (1)  Japan (2)
   Jeddah (4)  Bangkok (12)
   Hawaii (11)  Sydney (7)

(1) In Country
   China Beach Recreation Center: 60

(2) Mail. Daily average bags of mail processed:

                   Incoming   Outgoing
                 ___________   ___________
                   5           2

(3) Hospital Visitations. Hospital visits are made daily by the Hospital Corpsman Representative, the Casualty NCO and the Mail Orderly, who also delivers mail to the patients located in hospitals at Chu Lai. Frequent visits are made by the Commanding Officer, Executive Officer, Adjutant, First Sergeant and S-1 Administrative Chief.
c. Significant Problem Areas: None

6. Significant Accomplishments of Attachments: The Kit Carson Scouts accounted for five (5) enemy kills, one (1) enemy POW and three VCS detained. They also participated in four (4) psyops aerial broadcasts.

7. Lessons Learned: No new or significant lessons learned during the period.

8. Logistics

   6. Significant Events

   (1) Combat losses for the month were one rifle, 5.56mm, M-16, one rifle, 7.62mm, AK-47, one Grenade Launcher, M-79, one transceiver, FH-4, five antennas, whip, PRC-25 and one pair of binoculars, 6x30.

   (2) The loading/unloading dock at Group Supply was not completed during the month due to other conditions but will be completed during the month of April.

   (3) Fields & report has been submitted on all items.

   (4) An accident occurred between an ARVN M51 truck and a vehicle from 1st CAV, one M35, 2.5 ton truck, during the month. An investigation was conducted into the circumstances surrounding the accident and the driver was found not to be at fault.

9. Supply

   (1) The Group is short some T&E items but they do not effect the unit readiness. Too items short are expected at Group Supply soon.

   (2) Fifty (50) rifles, M-16, fourteen (14) SIDs, one (1) 3.5 rocket launcher, five (5) 50 caliber machine gun barrels, three (3) base plates for 81 mortars, one (1) flame thrower and two (2) 81 mortar tripods were turned in to HCL14 disposal unit at PLO during the month.

   (3) Three (3) SIDs were taken to Cam Ranh Bay for repair. Upon arrival we were informed that the items are not repairable and when the items break down they are to be disposed of.

   8. Maintenance

   (1) No problem during the month in this area.
g. Career Planning
Re-enlistment: None
Extensions: One 3 months

11. Intelligence

a. First Company, in the Tam Ky area received the brunt of its contact from the main force and local force Viet Cong that inhabit the area. There were no sustained ground attacks or large scale enemy ambush tactics employed during the month. The 409th Sapper Battalion which has been a constant adversary in the past, is reported to have moved too far south to pose any threat to 1st Company's CLPs. One incident at 1-16 resulted in the death of seven NVA probably from the 1st Infantry Battalion (NVA). Among the dead was one NVA Captain.

b. Second Company did not make contact during the entire month with the elements of the 31st NVA Regiment which are believed to be in the company's AO. They did, however, succeed in occasionally ambushing the local force VC who inhabit the area.

c. The Third Company, in Northern Quang Ngai had very limited contact with NVA forces during the month, but managed to kill three NVA in ten contacts. Two of the NVA are believed to be from the 95th Sapper Battalion, while the other one is probably from the 48th Battalion, which has been reported as high as 50% NVA. Most of the remainder of the contacts saw small enemy units that are firmly entrenched in the area between the inland and coastal CLPs east of Binh Son. These include the F-31st Infantry Company, and the K-31st Weapons Company.

d. At Fourth Company, in Son Tinh District, the main aggressor is the 48th Battalion. Strategically located just north of the infamous Ky Lai area, the 48th seems to have ample time to conduct their operations against the CLPs and steal away before they can be hit. The T-20th Infantry Company and the 95th A Sapper Company are the other units identified in this area.

e. Enemy units:

By the end of the month, American Order of Battle placed the following enemy units in, or in close proximity of the 1st Combined Action Group area of operation:

Quang Tin Province

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Strength</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>70th Infantry Battalion</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-48th Infantry Company</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DECLASSIFIED
40th Infantry Battalion
V-15th Infantry Company
1st Infantry Battalion NVA

Quang Ngai Province

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Strength</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>40th Infantry Battalion</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V-15th Infantry Company</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Infantry Battalion NVA</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55 A Sapper Company</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55 B Sapper Company</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T-34 Infantry Company</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

f. Enemy forces in 1st Combined Action Group's AO continued to be vulnerable to detection by tactical air and combat assault directed by CAP Marines. Enemy morale remains vulnerable to psychological exploitation with themes centering defects in combat, fear of death, battle hardships, disease and lack of food and the number of Hoi Chahns is rapidly increasing.

12. Communications

a. Communications within the Group continue to improve and a new capability was added with the installation of the KY-38 radios at the CCF Headquarters and the Group CCO.

b. AN/PRC-116 and AN/PRB-1 continue to provide maintenance support and they are making every effort to reduce the down time of the Group's radios.

13. Fire Support

a. Fire support during the period was provided by Division Artillery, Artillery Division (1/4th and 1/82d Inf's) and ARVN artillery, on occasions in the Truc Ky area. The artillery support has been quite timely and effective, with very few exceptions.

14. Air Support

a. Tactical air support was used frequently during the month; this included fixed wing strikes, helicopter gunship strikes and visual reconnaissance missions. No major problems were encountered with close air support and the CAP's continue to utilize the Air Force FAC's to support their daylight operations. The FAC's not only observed for the CAP's but oversaw all artillery missions and control air strikes.
b. Air support is not limited to tactical requests, as logistical resupply of outlying CAP's requires daily attention. The time for these missions is allotted by the proximate battalion on a daily basis. These missions are neither requested nor controlled by the CAG. At times the availability of aircraft was reduced by the requirement for helicopters to support Combat Assaults (CA's) in the Americal Division.

15. Activations, Deactivations, Redesignations, Relocations of CAP's
   a. No CAP's were activated or deactivated during the period.
   b. 1-3-5 and 1-3-6 modified their boundaries to improve their respective operating areas.

16. Combined Action Force School
   a. Graduated: 54
   b. Attending: 17

17. Combined Action Force Vietnamese Language School
   a. Graduated: 10
   b. Attending: 7

18. Other Schools:
   a. Infantry Weapons Repair Course: 1
   b. 1st Marine Division NGO School: 6
   c. Americal Division Artillery School: 8

19. Psychological Operations
   a. Intensity operations
      (1) The Group distributed 5,919,000 leaflets by aircraft and 41,500 by hand for a total of 5,960,500.
      (2) Aerial broadcasts were used for a total of 10 hours and 50 minutes. The "Early Word" aerial broadcast was utilized fourteen times during the month.
      (3) The Combat Speaker Team, of the 196th Infantry Brigade was used a total of 10 hours, broadcasting the Chieu Hoi theme.
      (4) The Movie Teams showed a total of 10 hours and 15 minutes of films.
20. Volunteer Informant Program

a. During the month of March the Group paid $75,650 to Vietnamese nationals for ordnance under the VIP. This was an all time high for any month since the program was initiated. C4C0 1-1 in Tan Ky continues to lead the Group and it should be noted that six SFD's were turned in and the people would not accept any reward; they just asked that the Marines destroy the SFD's.