DECLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS
3d Combined Action Group
Combined Action Force
III Marine Amphibious Force
PPO San Francisco, California 96662

1/3/70/omb
5700
17 April 1970

CONFIDENTIAL

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) NOO 5750,1A
(b) FMFPacO 5750,6B

Enc: (1) 3d Combined Action Group Command Chronology

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

2. Downgraded at three year intervals. Declassified after 12 year interval in accordance with DOD Directive 5200,10.

C. M. DUBIEIS

DECLASSIFIED
HEADQUARTERS
3d Combined Action Group
Combined Action Force
III Marine Amphibious Force
PPO San Francisco, California 95602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
1 March 1970 to 31 March 1970

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<tr>
<th>Combined Action Company 3-1</th>
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*Enclosure (1)*
3. **STAFF OFFICERS**

   **Executive Officer**
   Major Walter N. COMBSON Jr., USMC

   **S-1**
   Capt William N. JUSTICE Jr., USMC
   1st Lt. Michael W. BASSLER, USMCR
   31 Mar 1970

   **S-2/3**
   Major William J. LANNES III, USMC

   **S-4**
   Capt Roger D. ZORENS, USMC

   **Chaplain**
   LCDR Donney V. PAGE, USN

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I. COMMAND, OPERATIONS, AND TRAINING

A. Enemy activity decreased significantly throughout the 3d Combined Action Group's TACO during this reporting period as evidenced by the number of enemy contacts and casualties.

B. The extensive loss of personnel during March due to Phase III redeployment has adversely affected the operations of this Command, both tactically and administratively. During the latter part of this reporting period, most of the companies had to rotate personnel each night to maintain the minimum of nine Marines per CAP required for night activities; in addition to purging their headquarters, already manned on an austere basis, of personnel to meet the minimum personnel requirements of the CAPs.

C. The lack of personnel has also affected the Command's capability to conduct training. The normal 2½ day refresher training could not be accomplished because the companies had insufficient personnel to replace the men who would be undergoing the 2½ day training program. In order to continue training, 3d CAG sent a training team (Lt Thomas and Sgt Kindred) to the CAPs. This afforded the opportunity for formal training for the first time with minimum interference to CAP operations. Seven CAPs received two hours of instruction from the training team, with 64 Marines and 62 Filipino soldiers in attendance for these classes. Also during this period, 4 Marines and 1 Filipino attended the 1st Marine Division's NBC Leadership Course, and 5 Marines attended CAP Language School in Danang.

D. During the month of March, the Commanding Officer, 3d Combined Action Group, initiated a program in conjunction with Major CHAO, G-5, Thanh Tien Province, of conducting periodic visits to the CAPs for the purpose of promoting better understanding between the CAPs and Marines. Major CHAO accompanied the Commanding Officer on three different occasions. Major CHAO has since been transferred and replaced by Captain Kim, who will continue the program.

E. During this period, the G-3 Officer began coordinating, to include attending daily briefings, with the 2nd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Americal). On 1 April 1970, the 2nd Brigade will assume responsibility for all of the area in which this Command operates.

F. Emphasis on Civic Action increased under the guidance of Captain PAGE. A considerable amount of materials was obtained and made available for issue to the CAPs.

Enclencure (1)
0. A summary of activity by CACO is as follows:

1. CACO 3-1
   b. CACO 3-1 has re-emphasized its company training and continues to have selected PFs attend special training. The CACO is making good use of the company interpreter for these classes.

2. CACO 3-2
   a. This company has increased training efforts with the PSIDS and as a result the CAPs are reporting very favorable utilization of these devices.
   b. On 28 March 1970, CAP 3-2-4 made contact with four NVA resulting in two NVA KIA and two individual weapons captured.

3. CACO 3-3
   a. On 25 March 1970, Captain McCARREN assumed command of CACO 3-3. Captain CARLSON was transferred to San Francisco.
   b. PF participation in this company continues to be low and the new Company Commander has approached the District Chief on this problem.
   c. CACO 3-3 continued to encounter numerous booby traps within its TACO. CAP 3-3-1 initiated a vigorous VIP program and this effort is the primary reason that VIP fund expenditures increased considerably during this period.

4. CACO 3-4
   a. On 21 March 1970, CAP 3-4-1 made contact with four VC/NVA resulting in one VC KIA and one AK47 captured.

5. CACO 3-5
   a. On 11 March 1970, CAP 3-5-4 made contact with four NVA resulting in one NVA KIA and one AK47 captured.

H. On 15 March 1970, 3D CAG was visited by Lt. General MCUTCHERON, Commanding General, III MAF, and Col. METZGER, Commanding Officer, CAF. General MCUTCHERON was briefed on 3D CAG operations by the Commanding Officer, 3D CAG.

I. During this period, LCDR D. V. PAGE, 3D CAG Chaplain, conducted 51 religious services. In addition, Chaplain PAGE counseled 25 Marines and assisted 15 Marines in coordination with the Red Cross. There was one memorial service held in 3D CAG during March.
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J. The details for this month's activities are as follows:

**DAY PATROLS**

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**ENEMY CASUALTIES**

**FRIENDLY CASUALTIES**

USMC: KIA WIA(E) WIA(M) MIA POW NHU
1 5 3 0 0 4

PP: KIA WIA(E) WIA(M) MIA
0 0 2 0

VIP PAYMENTS

79,200$VN paid to Vietnamese Nationals for ordnance or information.

**HYORE**

Leaflets/Handouts Distributed: 1,435
Posters Distributed: 245
Newspapers Distributed: 0

Enclosure (1)
II. PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION

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

1. Joined USMC
   Off Enl
   3 56

2. Rotated CONUS USMC
   Off Enl
   3 74

3. Reassignment Within WestPac USMC
   Off Enl
   0 52

4. Transferred by Service Records While Sick (out of country hospital)
   USMC
   Off Enl
   0 8

5. Extension of WestPac Tour Effective USMC
   Off Enl
   0

B. PROMOTIONS: During the month of March the following promotions were effected:

   To PFC 1
   To LCpl 7
   To Cpl  2
   To Sgt  6

   To SSgt  0
   To GySgt 0
   To 1stSgt/MSgt 0
   To SgtMAj/MGySgt 0

C. LEGAL MATTERS

1. Courts held
   GCM 0
   SpGCM 3
   SCM  1

Encl.(1)

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2. Article 32 Investigations completed: 0
3. NJP: 16
4. JAG-Type Investigations: 8 Completed: 7

D. AWARD RECOMMENDATIONS:

SSM 0
BSM 0
NCA 0
NAM 0
PH 13

E. CONGRATS/SPLINTS/WEIGHTS

The Command has responded to:

1. CONGRINT
0. SPLINTS
3. WEIGHTS

F. MORALE AND WELFARE

1. R&R. The Command has utilized the following number of quotas to the R&R areas listed:

a. Hong Kong 8 Japan 1
   Taipei 4 Bangkok 12
   Hawaii 9 Sydney 10
   Okinawa 2 Manila 1

b. In Country
   15

Enclosure (1)
2. Mail. Daily average bags of mail processed:

   Incoming   Outgoing
   12         3

3. Hospital Visitations:

   21 Visits
   87 Patients

C. CAREER PLANNING

   Re-enlistments: 0
   Extensions: 0

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On 4 March 1970 until 8 March 1970, Doctor MCINTIRE from III Marine Amphibious Force visited 3rd CAG and investigated the increase in cases of gastroenteritis and diarrhea in several CAGs. He determined these illnesses were caused by the large number of flies in the areas. Control measures were instituted to eliminate the fly problem.

B. During the reporting period, 21 hospital visits were made, and 67 patients were visited.

C. Monthly totals are as follows: WIA(E)-5; WIA(M)-3; XIA-1; MIA-4; FIO-5; Malaria-0; MedCap treatments - 13,697.
A. Significant Events

1. Of all excesses, 95% have been turned in to Forc LOGISTICS Command, Danang.

B. Damage to Weapons Due to Enemy Action

1. A negative report was submitted for the month of March.

C. Motor Transport

1. Motor Transport vehicles averaged 38,500 miles during the month. Cargo transported consisted of 68 tons of Class I and Class V in support of the Combined Action Platoons in the field.

D. Food Service

1. The Food Service Department, 26th General Support Group, Phu Bai, provided adequate support to this Command during the reporting period.

E. Ordnance

1. ASP continued satisfactory support during the reporting period.

2. The following is a breakdown of repairs made and repairs pending.

A. Weapons Repaired by 3rd CAG Armory

- M-16 Rifle 26
- M-60 Machinegun 18
- M-79 Grenade Launcher 15
- .45 Cal Pistol 7
- Shotgun 3
- Starlight Scope 8

B. Weapons Sent to Danang for Repair

- M-16 Rifle 3
- Starlight Scope 4
- 60mm Mortar 3

C. Weapons Still Pending Repair at Danang

- M-16 Rifle 8
- Starlight Scope 3
- 60mm Mortar 3

E. Miscellaneous Service

1. Public Works has responded satisfactorily to all routine work requests.

Enclosure (1)
G. Supply

1. During the reporting period, one degreaser and thirty-one blasting cap crimpers were received.

2. Reconciliation of the financial records has been made with Fiscal, Force Logistics Command.

H. Communications

1. This Command received satisfactory support from 24 Maintenance Battalion, XXIV Corps, during the reporting period.
1. On 2 March 1970, CAP 3-3-6 was in its day position at YD902188 when VN boys brought one 105mm HE round, one 175mm HE round, two claymores, four 82mm HE rounds, ten M79 HE rounds, three M26 grenades, one M72 (F66), two M34 WP grenades, three MGAI anti-personnel mines, two pounds of C-4 explosive, and one 60mm illumination round to the CAP. The ordnance was destroyed, and VIP payments were effected.

2. On 4 March 1970, a CAP 3-3-6 day patrol discovered an inter-comm set hidden in a bunker at coord YD938198. The set consisted of a transmitter, a speaker, two hand microphones, one battery, and 200 feet of comm wire. The set was turned in to the TRU THU DI000 for evaluation.

3. On 10 March 1970, while CAP 3-3-6 was conducting a day patrol in the vicinity of YD922192, a Marine tripped a SAB resulting in one USMC KIA.

4. On 14 March 1970, CAP 3-5-4 was set in an ambush at YD992050. Utilizing a Starlight Scope, the CAP observed four NVA about 500 meters to the north. An ambush team was dispatched to YD990054. The ambush team initiated contact with the NVA at five meters, killing one NVA and capturing one AK47 rifle.

5. On 21 March 1970, CAP 3-4-1 was set in an ambush at YD708222, when members of the ambush team spotted four VC about 400 meters to the north entering the village. The CAP ambush team opened fire at 50 meters with claymores and small arms fire. One VC was killed and one AK47 rifle was captured.

6. On 22 March 1970, acting on intelligence received from the FFs, CAP 3-4-2 located a bunker/tunnel complex with seven underground tunnels in the vicinity of coord YD694227. The bunker complex was deserted, but appeared to have been used as a storage area. The CAP destroyed the complex.

7. On 23 March 1970, a CAP 3-5-1 day patrol discovered 32 sandbags filled with rice and hidden in a hay stack at coord YD918055. Two VN females were apprehended as VCS.

8. On 23 March 1970, CAP 3-4-1, 3-4-2, and 3-4-3 participated in a combined search and screen operation with Vietnamese RF and FF units. One VCS was apprehended at coord YD700214 and turned over to VN officials.

9. On 24 March 1970, a CAP 3-3-6 day patrol discovered three AK47 rifles hidden in a well at coord YD992285. The weapons were in good condition and were turned over to VN officials.
10. On 28 March 1970, CAP 3-2-4 was set in a night ambush at coord ZD 206024. Four NVA approached the ambush. CAP 3-2-4 initiated contact at 10 meters with claymores, 5.6 rifles, and 1079 grenade launchers. Two NVA were killed and two AK47s, w/eight magazines and 160 AK47 rounds, were captured.
1. The following is a list of the Supporting Documents contained in this report.

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force
Via: Commanding Officer, Combined Action Force

Subj: Monthly Operations Report

Ref: (a) FORO 3121.4B

1. In accordance with reference (a), the following report is submitted for the month of March 1970.

   a. Location and Strength

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**Strength**

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<td>3-5-3</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9607</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3-5-4</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>9806</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3-5-5</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>9705</td>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Activities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day Patrols</th>
<th>Night Patrols</th>
<th>Ambushes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1050</td>
<td>1790</td>
<td>1697</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Enemy Casualties**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VC/KIA</th>
<th>VC/KIA  POW</th>
<th>DET</th>
<th>VGS</th>
<th>TWC</th>
<th>GWC</th>
<th>CHLEU</th>
<th>HOC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Friendly Casualties**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>USMC: KIA</th>
<th>WIA(E)</th>
<th>WIA(M)</th>
<th>MIA</th>
<th>POW</th>
<th>BNG</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PF: KIA</th>
<th>WIA(E)</th>
<th>WIA(M)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

W. N. COLLISON, JR.
Acting

Enclosure (1)

DECLASSIFIED
From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force (Attn: G-4)

Subj: Control, Turn-in and Disposal of Captured Enemy Weapons

Ref: (a) FORO 34G0.4C

1. In accordance with reference (a) the following information is provided for the month of March 1970.

   a. Captured
      IW  9  CS  0
   b. Destroyed by Capturing Unit
      IW  0  CS  0
   c. Turned in to sub-collection points
      IW  7  CS  0
   d. Received at Corps level collection points
      IW  0  CS  0
   e. Turned in to CNEC by Corps level collection points
      IW  0  CS  0
   f. Retained in Museums or Exhibits
      IW  0  CS  0
   g. Retained as War Trophies
      IW  0  CS  0
   h. Recaptured and Returned to USA, PF, or RVN/AF control
      IW  0  CS  0
   i. Other (with appropriate explanations)
      IW  0  CS  0

Copy to:
CO, CAP

W. N. Cullison Jr.
Acting