

~~SECRET~~

HEADQUARTERS  
1st Radio Battalion (-) FMF  
III Marine Amphibious Force  
APO San Francisco 96602

3/GHE/gne  
5750  
Ser: 00136-69  
10 Oct 1969

~~SECRET~~

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code AO3B)  
Via: (1) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force  
(2) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology, period 1-30 September 1969

Ref: (a) MCO P5750.1A  
(b) FMFPACO 5750.8A

Encl: (1) Command Chronology, 1st Radio Battalion (-), FMF

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

*D. N. Hopkins*  
D. N. HOPKINS

•••••  
•••••  
•••••  
•••••  
•••••  
•••••

EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC  
DECLASSIFICATION UNDER E.O. 11652  
UNLESS INDICATED OTHERWISE

COPY 1 OF 6 COPIES

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

011122

3K/ lis  
5750/1  
Ser:

19 OCT 1969

00120069

~~SECRET~~ (Unclassified upon removal from the basic letter)

FIRST ENDORSEMENT on CO, 1st Radio Bn (-), FMF ltr 3/GME/gme  
over 5750 Ser: 00136-69 of 10 Oct 1969

From: Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)  
Via: Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology, period 1-30 September 1969

1. Forwarded.

*R.L. Reed*

R. L. REED  
BY DIRECTION

Copy to:  
CO, 1st Radio Bn

•••  
•••  
•••  
•••  
•••  
•••

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

28/rad

5750

002691

NOV 05 1969



(Unclassified upon removal from the basic letter)

SECOND ENDORSEMENT on CO, 1st Radio Bn (-), FMF ltr 3/GME/gme over 5750 Ser: 00136-69 dtd 10 October 1969

From: Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)

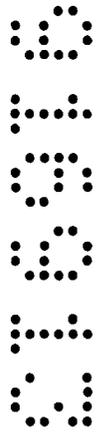
Subj: Command Chronology for period 1-30 September 1969

1. The subject chronology has been reviewed for completeness and is forwarded herewith.

R. D. WHITE

By direction

Copy to:  
CO, 1st Radio Bn  
CG, III MAF

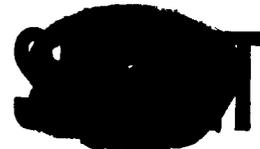


1st Radio Bn

14p 1969

**PERMANENT RETENTION**  
Report Destruction to HQ Classified Files Sect. 3 (Code ABQ)

S916913



HEADQUARTERS  
1st Radio Battalion (-) FMF  
III Marine Amphibious Force  
FPO San Francisco 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 September 1969 to 30 September 1969

INDEX

- PART I - Organizational Data
- PART II - Narrative Summary
- PART III - Sequential Listing of Significant Events
- PART IV - Chronology of Subordinate Commands and Supporting Documents



PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. DESIGNATION

COMMANDER

1st Radio Battalion (-), FMF

LtCol D. M. HOPKINS  
(1-30 September 1969)

SUBORDINATE UNITS

Headquarters and Services Company

Capt B. R. SEPULVEDA  
(1-30 September 1969)

Operations Company

Major E. C. BRINKLEY JR.  
(1-30 September 1969)

2. LOCATION

1-30 September 1969 - Camp Horn, Danang RVN

1-30 September 1969 - Headquarters and Services Company, Camp Hoa Long, East Danang RVN

1-30 September 1969 - Operations Company, Dong Ha Combat Base, RVN

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer

Major D. J. HATCH  
(1-30 September 1969)

S-1 Officer

1stLt R. J. ANDERSON  
(1-30 September 1969)

S-2 Officer

1stLt R. F. GINGRAS  
(1-30 September 1969)

S-3 Officer

Major R. L. O'BRIEN  
(1-30 September 1969)

S-4 Officer

Capt B. R. SEPULVEDA  
(1-30 September 1969)

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

USMC		USN	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
25	347	0	0

UNCLASSIFIED

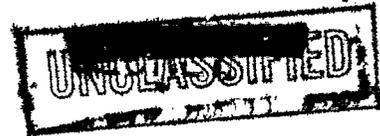
## PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. (S) With the imminent redeployment of the 3rd Marine Division, September was marked by the reassessment and realignment of Radio Battalion Direct Support Units (DSU's) within the I Corps Tactical Zone (ICTZ). The changing tactical situation and the requirement for more effective centralized control and decentralized execution brought about the relocation and redistribution of battalion assets. The 1st Platoon, located at An Hoa, was the first area to become involved. The battalion drew down on the strength of personnel at the 1st Platoon without reducing the SIGINT support of the battalion to the 5th Marine Regiment. A small task organized platoon of eight men, including an NGOIC was found to be sufficient at present to maintain support in this area. The remaining resources, which were no longer required in this area, were moved to the 2nd Platoon area on Hill 327. A centralization effort is currently being undertaken at the 2nd Platoon area in support of the tactical units in the southern ICTZ and III MAF in general. Following through with the results of comparability tests, it was found necessary to relocate a portion of the 6th Platoon's assets with the 2nd Platoon as well. This relocation of men and equipment greatly enhanced the battalion's overall SIGINT support to III MAF forces and in no way detracted from the 6th Platoon's outstanding record of support to the 7th Marine Regiment. Relocation of the 3rd Marine Division necessitated the closing of outlying sites of the 4th Platoon and the eventual displacement of the platoon to the Dong Ha Combat Base. Fire Support Base FULLER, located on Dong Ha Mountain, was the only site that was not closed. Concentration of SIGINT efforts in this area required the addition of new positions at the Dong Ha Mountain site. Currently a task organized unit of eight men and one NGOIC comprise the 4th Platoon at the present location on Dong Ha Mountain. The remaining personnel of the platoon were absorbed by the 3rd Platoon and other battalion functions. At present the six platoons offer the following varieties of SIGINT support throughout the ICTZ: 1st Platoon at An Hoa, COMSEC capability with a special communications circuit to CRS Danang (E); 2nd Platoon on Hill 327, HF/VHF manual morse and voice SIGINT collection with ARDF and SRDF capabilities and a special communications circuit to CRS Danang (E); 3rd Platoon at Dong Ha Combat Base, similarly configured to the 2nd Platoon; the 4th Platoon on Dong Ha Mountain, HF/VHF manual morse and voice SIGINT collection capabilities with a secure voice link to the 3rd Platoon and Operations Company. The 5th Platoon remains at Con Thien and offers HF/VHF manual morse and voice SIGINT collection as well as ARDF support and a special communications circuit with CRS Danang (E). The 6th Platoon at Hill 55 has VHF manual morse and voice SIGINT collection, COMSEC and SRDF support capabilities as well as retaining its special communications circuit with CRS Danang (E). The battalion continued its general support to III MAF during the month, while the platoons remained in direct support of combat operations in the field for the greater portion of the month. Operations Iroquois Grove and Arlington Canyon were terminated on the 21st of September, while operations Idaho Canyon and Georgia Tar continued on until the 25th of the month. All of the aforementioned operations were terminated due to the relocation and redeployment of forces of the 3rd Marine Division in the northern ICTZ.

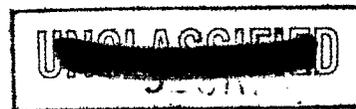
UNCLASSIFIED

ENCLOSURE (1)

A rectangular stamp with a blacked-out redaction bar at the top. The word "UNCLASSIFIED" is printed in a bold, sans-serif font below the redaction. There is some faint, illegible text at the bottom of the stamp.

2. (C) An increase in total hours was shown over the previous month in Transmission Security Monitoring with a total of 1,066 hours for the month. Daily violations however, dropped considerably from that of last month for a total of 359. Conversely, the number of serious violations requiring spot reports was increased by approximately 25 percent, with a total of 62 for the month.

3. (S) A total of 4,020 direction finding fixes this month consisted of 222 from SRDF and 3,798 from the airborne platforms. A total of 814 of the aforementioned fixes were identified. 169 of the fixes were utilized by the tactical commanders in the field as bases for fire missions. As of 30 September the VHF-DF capability of the battalion was still down, awaiting parts for the AN/GRA-94 equipment.

A rectangular stamp with a blacked-out redaction bar across the middle. The word "UNCLASSIFIED" is printed in a bold, sans-serif font above the redaction. There is some faint, illegible text below the redaction.

~~SECRET~~

PART III  
SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

UNCLASSIFIED

1. (S) Operations supported by the 1st Radio Battalion during the period 1-30 September 1969 were:

<u>Operation</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Supported Unit</u>	<u>Supporting Unit</u>
Iroquois Grove	1-21 Sep	1st Bde, 5th Mech	5th Platoon
Arlington Canyon	1-21 Sep	4th Marines	4th Platoon
Georgia Tar	1-25 Sep	4th Marines	3d, 4th Platoon
Idaho Canyon	1-25 Sep	3rd Marines	3d, 4th, 5th Platoon

2. (S) Physical location of Radio Battalion Platoons on 30 September 1969:

1st Platoon	AT 873 476	(Task organized)
2nd Platoon	AT 971 738	No outlying sites
3rd Platoon	YD 229 597	Vinh Dai YD 171 588
		C-1 YD 211 673
		C-2 YD 132 645
		Con Thien YD 116 701
		Dong Ha Mountain YD 019 593
4th Platoon	YD 019 593	(Task organized)
5th Platoon	YD 115 705	No outlying sites
6th Platoon	AT 970 619	Hoi An BT 097 582
		Hill 37 AT 917 581
Direct Support Team	BT 136 452	(Task organized)

3. (U) As of 30 September, this command had 75 priority O2 requisitions outstanding that were responsible for deadlining a piece of combat essential equipment. 20 of these requisitions are in a "due-in" status and 25 are still in a "pending" status at MC1 or MR1. Of the remaining 30 that have been passed to either MR1, WRB or MPB by MC1, only two are on backorder status. Although this command has an additional 63 priority O2 requisitions outstanding, they are not presently deadlining combat essential equipment. Most of them are for end items and affect "Supplies and Equipment on Hand". Rapid follow-up action has been initiated since 20 August and has been taken on all the above requisitions since that time.

4. (S) On 15 September Messrs MINAHAN (GS-13) and HARRIS (GS-12) of NRV(C) Saigon and Messrs ROBINSON (GS-12), HERRIN (GS-11) and WOODZELLE (GS-11) of NSA Fort Meade, Maryland arrived at 1st Radio Battalion and proceeded on to Dong Ha and Vandegrift Combat Base (VCB) in connection with Project "ABOVE-BOARD". After preparations were being made for the launch and testing of the aerodynamic antenna system, it was announced that VCB would be closed and the FWF were to be relocated within the Northern ICTZ. On 22 September the test crew began withdrawal plans for relocation at Dong Ha Combat Base (DHCB). The antenna system arrived at DHCB on 23 September and the system was launched on 25 September. At present, testing of the system has been slowed due to the inclement weather conditions, i.e., rain, fog and winds.

ENCLOSURE (1)  
UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~

The system appears to be compatible with existing electronics equipment currently in use by the Radio Battalion and testing will continue until definite results can be ascertained.

5. (U) COMMAND RELATIONS

a. Mr. GLEASON (GS-11) from the 8th RRFBS visited radio battalion from 3 to 5 September for orientation and analytical discussions.

b. Mr. DRAKE (GS-17) Chf NSAPAC, Col HACKWOOD CUSASAPAC, Col RODEN CO 509th RRGp and Col COYKENDALL CO 8th RRFBS visited the 5th Platoon at Con Thien on 4 September and received an orientation briefing from Lt CARNAKO, the Platoon Commander.

c. Maj O'BRIEN and Capt SUTHERLAND, prospective P&R Officer, visited the 138th AVN Co for an operational briefing on 10 September.

d. Mr. MUELLER (GS-13) OPSCo NRV(C) and Mr. HAYNLE (GS-12) ICTZ ANAL NRV(C) visited Radio Battalion on 10 and 11 September for general orientation and analytical discussions, which included a tour of the 2nd Platoon Area on Hill 327 and the 138th AvnCo.

e. CWO-2 MAYETTE, OIC P&R and Sp4 SCHAPPEL, ARDF analyst, both from 330th RRCO, Plietu, visited Radio Battalion on 11 September for an operational briefing/liaison and analytic discussions.

f. Maj SHORT, Maj ARCHIBALD and CWO-4 TATLOY from 8thRRFBS and Lt(USN) HOOVER from Det A, NAVFAC visited Radio Battalion on 12 September for informal operational discussions.

g. Capt SUTHERLAND, prospective P&R Officer, visited Operations Company and the 3rd Platoon at Dong Ha, the 4th Platoon at Vandegrift Combat Base, the 5th Platoon at Con Thien and the 8th RRFBS at Phu Bai for a general orientation visit from 14 through 18 September.

h. Mr. MINAHAN (GS-13) and Mr. HARRIS (GS-12) from NRV(C) and Messrs HERRIN (GS-11), ROBINSON (GS-12) and WOODZELLE (GS-11) from NSA Fort Meade, Maryland arrived at Radio Battalion on 15 September and continued on to VCB for site preparation in connection with project "ABOVEBOARD".

i. Maj BRINKLEY, CWO-2 LANSON and SSgt MITCHELL attended the ARDF Conference held at the 8th RRFBS on 16 September at Phu Bai.

j. Maj O'BRIEN, OpsO, visited the 8th RRFBS on 16 September for coordination of efforts in the event of Force Reduction.

k. Maj GOLDFARB and Capt JACKSON from DODSPECREP, Saigon, visited Radio Battalion from 17 to 19 September in connection with project "ABOVEBOARD".

l. Mr. FOX (GS-13) DODSPECREP Saigon, visited Radio Battalion on 20 and 21 September for coordination of DANCER personnel and then traveled to Dong Ha on the 22nd, where he joined the project "ABOVEBOARD" team.

m. Col PATTON, G-2 XXIV Corps, attended opening briefings held at III MAF Headquarters by 1st Radio Battalion on 24 September concerning joint tactical SIGINT collections in ICTZ. Others that attended and participated in later discussions were LtCol FULTZ, CO 8thRRFS; Maj SHORT, OpsO 8th RRFS; Capt HAMPTON, CO 407thRRU; Capt GROSS, CO 265thRRCo and CWO-2 MASSY, P&R Officer, 8thRRFS along with representatives from 1st Radio Battalion.

n. LtCol HOPKINS and Maj O'BRIEN visited XXIV Corps and the 8thRRFS on 29 September to coordinate SIGINT collection in ICTZ.

o. Mr. THOMAS (GS-13) and Mr. JACOBSON (GS-13) from DODSPECREP Saigon visited 1st Radio Battalion on 30 September through 1 October for general orientation and analytical discussions.

6. (U) PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT CASUALTIES. None

7. (U) EQUIPMENT AND LOGISTICS

a. The battalion continues in a C-2 status in Equipment Readiness, with 71.1 per cent of equipment in service and 44 pieces of equipment in a deadlined status. Of these, 16 are in a NORS status and 28 are in a NORM status. Of the latter, 15 have been evacuated to a higher echelon and 13 are in Radio Battalion maintenance shops.

b. As of 30 September a total of 48 GA cards have been submitted; 5 of which have been completed and 43 are still outstanding.

8. (U) CONSTRUCTION

a. On 20 September a request to construct two additional SEA huts on Hill 327 was submitted. On September 22 the request was approved and materials received. This is a self-help project and construction is presently underway.

b. A request was submitted on 20 September to rebuild the existing bunker on Hill 327. The request was approved on 22 September and the task assigned to the 7th Engineer Battalion.

9. (U) NEW EQUIPMENT

a. During the month of September, nine new M35A2C vehicles were received and placed into service. These multi-fuel vehicles replaced the older M35 gas vehicles.

~~SECRET~~10. (U) MAINTENANCE

a. ELECTRONICS. There were a total of 76 Tactical Equipment Repair Orders (TERO'S) received during the month, of which 28 were completed and one required evacuation to higher echelon for repair.

b. ENGINEER. 45 TERO'S were submitted during the month. 42 were completed, two of which were for quarterly checks. The remainder were for general repairs. 3 TERO'S remain outstanding at the end of the month.

c. MOTOR TRANSPORT. 5,734 personnel were transported and 92 tons of cargo hauled during the month in support of the platoons and outlying sites. In doing so, vehicles traveled 30,141 miles. 74 TERO'S were submitted during the month with 69 completed and 3 evacuated to higher echelon for repair.

11. (U) SUPPLY

a. The battalion supply section was inspected by a Field Analysis Team on 15, 16 and 17 September. Results of the inspection have not as yet been received.

b. No equipment was classified as a combat loss during this period.

c. Total requisitions submitted and completed by priority were:

<u>PRIORITY</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>COMPLETED</u>	<u>FOLLOW-UPS</u>
02	104	42	25
05	186	54	45
12	257	57	147
17	25	11	53

12. (U) COURIER. There were 139 courier runs made by the S-2 section to the platoons and outlying sites of the battalion.

13. (S) COMMUNICATIONS

a. During this period a total of 5 over-the-counter subscribers and 14 electrical subscribers were served by CRS Da Nang (E). There were 37,263 incoming and 20,652 outgoing messages processed to 170,315 various addresses during the month.

b. To facilitate re-wiring and installation of new equipment in the communications center, two AN/TGC-37 vans were provided by III MAF. On 26 September, re-termination of circuits was begun; however, due to malfunctioning of equipment and internal wiring problems within the vans, only nine circuits were re-terminated by the close of this reporting period.

~~SECRET~~

14. (U) PERSONNEL.

- a. Joined: 4 officers and 29 enlisted.
- b. Detached: 2 officers and 23 enlisted.
- c. Overseas Extensions:
  - (1) 6 months: 12
  - (2) 3 months: 1
- d. Reenlistments: 2 career and 0 first term.
- e. Off-duty Educations:
  - (1) MCI: 0
  - (2) USAFI: 3
  - (3) University of Maryland (tuition): 1
- f. Savings Bond and Savings Deposit Program:

Approximately 67 percent of the command participated in the Savings Bond Program and 47 percent in the Savings Deposit Program.

- g. Leaves and R&R:
  - (1) Emergency Leave: 2
  - (2) Annual Leave: 1
  - (3) Special Leave: 8
  - (4) R&R: 11
- h. Hospitalization: 3 non-combat
- i. Personal Awards Nominations:
  - (1) Navy Achievement Medal: 1
  - (2) Navy Commendation Medal: 3
  - (3) Bronze Star Medal: 1
  - (4) Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry w/silver: 3
  - (5) Vietnamese Technical Service Honor Medal 2d Class: 6

15. (U) MISCELLANEOUS.

a. Postal. Postal service is provided by 1st Marine Division, 3d Marine Division and 1st Marine Air Wing. Average mail delivery time is five days.

b. Legal:

- (1) Special Court-Martial: 0
- (2) Summary Court-Martial: 0
- (3) Non-judicial Punishments: 4

c. Disbursing. Disbursing support is provided by III Marine Amphibious Force, 1st Marine Division and 3d Marine Division.

d. Morale. Morale is good.

## PART IV

## Chronology of Subordinate Commands and Supporting Documents.

- 1. (U) Chronology of subordinate commands is not required.
- 2. (U) Supporting documents are of a higher classification and are passed separately as a part of the 1st Radio Battalion Historical File.