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HEADQUARTERS
1st Battalion, 5th Marines
1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF
APO San Francisco, California 96602

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005750
20 October 1970

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF
Subj: Command Chronology for the period of 1-30 September 1970
Ref: (a) MCO P5750.1
(b) FMF PacO 5750.8
(c) DivO 5750.2D
Encl: ✓(1) 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Command Chronology

1/5

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

B. E. Trainor
B. E. TRAINOR

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

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 September to 30 September 1970

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(1)

ENCLOSURE (1)

PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

1st Battalion, 5th Marines (-) (Rein)	LT. COL. B. E. TRAINOR 1-30 September 1970
H&S Company	1st Lt. B. E. HEATH 1-30 September 1970
Company A	Capt. J. A. KELLY 1-7 September 1970 Capt. A. C. ZINNI 8-30 September 1970
Company B	Capt. A. GARCIA 1-30 September 1970
Company C	Capt. R. C. MADONNA 1-17 September 1970 1st Lt. R. MEARES 18-30 September 1970
Company D	Capt. R. B. ROBINSON 1-30 September 1970
C Company 1st Tk Bn	Capt. C. E. HATCH 1-6 September 1970

2. Locations. 1st Battalion, 5th Marines operated in the Danang Sector and throughout the Division TAOR on Pacific Operations. The responsibilities of the Battalion required units of various sizes to be positioned in several locations. Camp Dai La was occupied by the Battalion until 2 September. "A" Company vacated the camp 1 September and "D" Company left on 2 September. From 1-21 September, "A" Company was located on Hill 244 (Division Ridge) for security of the Division CP. H&S Company and the Battalion CP were located on Hill 34. One platoon of "B" Company was OPCON to III MAF from 1-26 September for security of the DaNang AB; OPCON returned to 1/5 on 26 September. On 25 September the battalion TAOR was extended to the north and a reinforced platoon assigned to provide external security for the units within the new extension, with a CP located at Force Logistic Command. 1-30 September one reinforced platoon was located in Rumor Valley with "B" and "C" Companies located on Hill 34. From 21-30 September "D" Company was located on Division Ridge.

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer

Major G. V. JEFFREYS
1-7 September 1970
Major F. M. KAUFFMAN
8-30 September 1970

S-1 Officer

1st Lt. R. B. TEDRICK II
1-30 September 1970

S-2 Officer

1st Lt. F. W. NICKEL
1-30 September 1970

S-3 Officer

Major W. M. ANDERSON
1-30 September 1970

S-3A Officer

1st Lt. B. E. HEATH
1-7 September 1970
Capt. J. A. KELLY
8-30 September 1970

S-3B Officer

1st Lt. B. E. HEATH
8-10 September 1970
1st Lt. B. L. DENES
11-30 September 1970

S-4 Officer

1st Lt. D. M. THINSCHMIDT
1-30 September 1970

S-5 Officer

1st Lt. S. D. GRELINE
1-30 September 1970

Communications Officer

Capt. F. R. SUTHERLAND
1-30 September 1970

Battalion Surgeon

Lt. C. W. COUCH (USNR)
1-30 September 1970

Assistant Battalion Surgeon

Lt. E. W. PALMER (USNR)
1-30 September 1970

Supply Officer

1st Lt. T. E. ROBINSON
1-30 September 1970

Motor Transport Officer

2nd Lt. A. J. ANDREWS
1-30 September 1970

Assistant Adj./Legal Officer

1st Lt. R. J. HELMICK
1-30 September 1970

Chaplain

Lt. Cmdr. D. I. OLSON (USN)
1-30 September 1970

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
42	1052	3	52

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During September, 1970 the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines continued in its role as the 1st Marine Division Reserve and provided a company plus command and control elements for Pacifier operations. In addition, the battalion TAOR was expanded to include an area North of the Division Rear to just South of Namu Bridge.

Offensively, the battalion's activity was concentrated on Pacifier operations. A total of six were launched in September, resulting in seven enemy KIA's, one Chieu Hoi, 2 POW's, 10 detainees, miscellaneous medical equipment, various small amounts of field equipment, one civilian radio and a 9mm pistol were captured. Numerous bunkers and spider holes were destroyed. "D" Company served as the Pacifier company from 1 September until 21 September. "C" Company was the Pacifier company for the remainder of the month.

At approximately 2045H on 1 September the Commanding Officer was alerted to the possibility of a Pacifier operation in support of a recon team emergency extract. The Pacifier Command and Control helicopter was launched at 0640H on 2 September and proceeded to the target area. The ground assault force and three CH-46's remained on the ground at LZ-469. Both recon teams were located by 0725H and were extracted by 1020H, at which time the troops and helicopters secured.

On 5 September a platoon of "D" Company was sent on a Pacifier operation to secure a downed CH-46 in the 7th Marines AO near Spider Lake. Two heloteams and a recovery team were inserted. The two heloteams secured the area and the recovery team prepared the CH-46 for recovery. A CH-53 arrived and lifted out the CH-46. The two Pacifier heloteams were returned to LZ-469.

On 11 and 12 September the Pacifier company (Company "D") operated 4km WNW of LZ Baldy. A cordon was set around An Loc. One VC with a pack was killed by aircraft while fleeing the cordon. An Loc was searched, and following this "D" Company was extracted and reinserted near Hoa My (3). The village was cordoned and searched and a defensive perimeter was established around the village. Several night ambushes and listening posts were established outside the perimeter. Around midnight the 3rd Platoon received 15 rounds of small arms fire. Small arms fire was returned and contact was lost. Simultaneously two Vietnamese were seen running within the perimeter. 1st Platoon opened fire resulting in the capture of a confessed VC. On the morning of 12 September a Vietnamese woman was discovered carrying a basket with approximately 30 lbs of cooked meat. The woman indicated that the food was for a group of VC. She was detained. The operation terminated at noon on 12 September with no friendly casualties.

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On 17 September a platoon of the Pacifier company was launched to provide security for a downed AH1G near Spider Lake. Troops were inserted and remained on the ground until the AH1G was recovered and returned to LZ-469 at approximately 1600H.

On 25 September a Pacifier operation was conducted in the 5th Marines TAOR SW of LZ Baldy. Based upon intelligence reports, two villages were cordoned and searched. A counter-intelligence team source accompanied the Pacifier company. The cordon was completed around the first target, Phu Trach (2), in 5 minutes and the search resulted in the capture of one Chieu Hoi, 5 detainees, and medical supplies. The company was extracted and moved to LZ Baldy. A visual reconnaissance of the second target was conducted with the CIT source aboard the aircraft. At 1700H "C" company was lifted from LZ Baldy to Tuan Tay, which was cordoned within 5 minutes. One POW with a 9mm pistol, medical supplies, and a civilian radio was captured. Two Vietnamese without ID cards were detained. The C&C helicopters killed two VC in green utilities with packs who were running from the cordon. The AH-1G Cobras killed two VC running from the cordon in green utilities.

On 29 September a Pacifier operation was conducted by "C" company in the 5th Marines TAOR SW of Spider Lake. The company was inserted with a Chieu Hoi provided by the Hoi An CIT to attack a holding area used by the enemy to coordinate and control movement in the Que Son Mountains. No contact was made nor enemy sighted, during the operation.

In addition to the Pacifier operations conducted, there was a three day operation conducted in the vicinity of and to the North of Alligator Lake from 18-20 September. Two platoons and the CP of "B" Company with the 3rd Platoon of "D" Company conducted extensive patrols and ambushes in the AO. A battalion CP (Forward) was formed for the last two days of the operation, during which "M" Company (-), 5th Marines was placed OPCON to 1st Bn. 5th Marines.

On 25 September 1970, the TAOR was extended northward from the previous boundary to include several additional cantonments. Defense of the TAOR is being coordinated through three subordinate COC's. One platoon is operating in the northern most portion of the TAOR to provide security for the cantonments.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION

a. Strength. The Battalion strength at the beginning of the month was 43 officers and 1129 enlisted. On the 15th of the month the strength was 41 officers and 1116 enlisted. By the end of the month the strength was 48 officers and 1093 enlisted. On the last day of the month there were 7 enlisted hospitalized. K

b. Discipline, Law and Legal. During September, 1 Special Court-Martial convened. There were 17 Battalion and 17 Company Office Hours. There were 5 investigations completed and 3 are still pending.

c. POW/Detainees. See Narrative Summary.

d. Morale. Morale and fighting spirit continued to be excellent.

e. Postal. Postal service continued at the same degree of excellence.

f. Awards. During September 27 Navy Achievement, 23 Navy Commendation, 14 Bronze Star and 2 Silver Star Medals were submitted for heroism and meritorious service.

2. ENEMY, WEATHER AND TERRAIN

a. Enemy. Enemy activity decreased slightly from the previous month.

b. Weather. The weather was hot and humid with thundershowers occurring frequently in the late afternoon and early evening.

c. Terrain. No change.

3. ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS

a. Organization. The organization of the Battalion remained the same except that "C" Company, 1st Tank Battalion departed on 6 September for CONUS and "A" and "D" Companies left the Dai La cantonment on September 1 and 2 respectively.

b. Operations. The Battalion conducted six (6) Pacifier Operations during the month. From 17-20 September "B" Company (-) (Rein) and the third platoon "D" Company were OPCON to the 5th Marines for an operation in the vicinity of Alligator Lake and area to the North. Day and night patrols and ambushes were conducted throughout the Battalion extended AO.

4. SUPPORTING ARMS

a. Air. Pacifier operations accounted for 82% of all air fraged by 1st Battalion, 5th Marines during the month of September. The three day operation beginning September 17 accounted for another 14%. Wing resources used consisted of both helicopters and fixed wing assets.

(1) <u>Type Aircraft</u>	<u>Hours Accumulated</u>
UH-1E	21 Hours
AH-1G	182 Hours
CH-46	179 Hours
CH-53	6 Hours
OV-10A	8 Hours
(2) <u>Other Air</u>	
None	
KBMA	5 VC/NVA

b. Artillery. 1st Battalion, 5th Marines continued to be directly supported by "F" Battery, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines during the month of September. 1/5 was also supported by elements of 1st Battalion, 11th Marines in a general support capacity. Due to the concentration of friendly forces in the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines TAOR, this support was restricted to illumination missions. Units of the 11th Marines were used in support of Pacifier Operations controlled by 1st Battalion, 5th Marines throughout the 1st Marine Division TAOR.

c. Engineers. Engineer personnel provided extensive demolition support on each Pacifier Operation, and on road sweeps of that portion of Rt 540 which is in the TAOR.

d. Shore Party (HST). HST personnel were provided by Company "C" 1st Shore Party Battalion and were primarily employed during the Pacifier Operations and in coordinating operations at LZ 469 (Hill 34).

e. Scout Snipers. None attached.

5. TRAINING

a. The following training was conducted during the month:

- (1) Weapons Safety
- (2) Weapons Inspection, Care and Cleaning
- (3) Mapping and compass

- (4) Leadership
- (5) Viet Cong Mines and Booby Traps
- (6) Drug Abuse
- (7) Familiarization Firing
- (8) XM-174 Automatic Grenade Launcher
- (9) Forward Observer Procedures
- (10) Venereal Diseases
- (11) 60mm Mortar, M79 (live firing)
- (12) Uniform Appearance
- (13) Military Customs and Courtesy
- (14) Individual and Group Hygiene in the field
- (15) Handling of POW's
- (16) Troop Leading Steps
- (17) Conduct of a Marine in and out of the field
- (18) Anti-Personnel Mine M18A1
- (19) AN/PRC-25 Radio
- (20) M26 Hand Grenade
- (21) Training of 81mm Mortar Crews
- (22) 81mm Mortar (live firing)
- (23) Physical Training
- (24) Care and Cleaning of the 106mm Recoilless Rifle
- (25) Crew Training of the 106mm Recoilless Rifle
- (26) Preventive Maintenance of AN/PRC-25 Radio
- (27) Electrical Safety
- (28) First Aid
- (29) Combat Intelligence
- (30) KY-38 Operation
- (31) Driver Training for Testing and Licensing
- (32) Weekly Preventive Maintenance
- (33) Procedures for Completing NAVMC 106275D
- (34) Vehicle Safety
- (35) Shop Safety
- (36) Battle Sights (live firing)
- (37) Scouting and Patrolling
- (38) Techniques of Fire
- (39) Camouflage
- (40) Enemy Tactics
- (41) Supply Administration
 - a. Financial Management
 - b. Status
 - c. Personal Effects
 - d. Logistical Summary Report
 - e. Transaction Codes
 - f. Controlled Items
- (42) Warehousing, Field
 - a. Stock Identification
 - b. Embarkation
- (43) Armory (Operational Procedures)
- (44) Safety (M26 Hand Grenade)
- (45) M-72 LAAW
- (46) XM-191 Multi-Shot Flame Thrower

b. The Battalion continued to utilize schools provided by higher headquarters in the Danang area and Okinawa.

6. LOGISTICS

a. During the month of September 1970, the 1st Platoon, Co. "B" Engineer Battalion was assigned the billeting area which was vacated by "C" Company, 1st Tank Battalion.

b. On 2 September the Dai La Cantonment, which was commanded by Captain Kelly, was turned over to the Republic of Vietnam after necessary repairs and police work were completed.

c. 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines occupied a segment of 4th Battalion, 11th Marines area which is being utilized as a standdown area for units embarking for departure to CONUS. Both units are expected to leave the Hill 34 cantonment by 12 October 1970.

d. 1st 175 Gun Battery also initiated their standdown phase during the month of September, 1970. 1st 175 Guns will leave the Hill 34 Cantonment during October 1970.

e. Work requests were approved for repair of the road on Division Ridge, Hill 244. The repair should be completed by 20 October.

7. CIVIC ACTION

a. The S-5 section has continued its civic action program within its AOR in the form of three well attended Med-Caps that treated approximately 370 people. The most common problem was infectious wounds caused by lack of basic hygiene. One baby required further treatment at BAS for an infected boil.

b. The S-5 section now handles the VIP funds and paid out 5,730\$VN for assorted ammunition turned in during September.

c. The continuous checking of Vietnamese workers entering and leaving the compound has resulted in fewer attempts by workers to leave with contraband items. Occasionally cartons of cigarettes are found hidden on a vehicle and are confiscated.

d. With the taking over of a new messhall and two new clubs, 1/5's appropriated worker ceiling has been raised from 26 to 39. This increase represents the workers formerly employed by 4/11. Included with these new workers are two carpenters, one laborer, and two mechanics. K

8. MEDICAL

a. Medical services: A total of five hundred and forty nine outpatients

were seen during this report period. Of this total, thirty four were referred to other medical facilities for admission. One hundred and four complete separation physicals were performed and fifty nine limited services were conducted, including PPD readings, mess physicals, brig physicals, and sobriety exams. Twenty pairs of single vision spectacles were ordered. Four hundred and thirteen prescriptions were filled and forty two Vietnamese Nationals were treated. Three Medcaps were held in Vietnamese villages where one hundred and forty additional Vietnamese were treated.

b. Preventive Medicine: During this report period, one thousand one hundred and fifty records were checked for immunizations and five hundred and thirty four immunizations were administered. An Influenza vaccination program is currently in progress. Daily sanitation inspections are conducted and weekly reports are submitted to the Commanding Officer. Effective rodent control measures are in operation. An informal inspection was held by Preventive Medicine Service and measures are being taken to correct discrepancies noted. Overall sanitation is considered to be satisfactory. A total of thirteen cases of Gonorrhea, four cases of Non-specific Urethritis and one case of Syphilis were treated during this report period. This represents a decrease of four cases from the last report period. Fifteen of these cases cited contact in the Danang area. Continued guidance at the platoon and company levels is being used to decrease the number of Venereal Disease cases. Overall health of the Battalion is considered to be good.

c. Training. A total of thirty three training sessions were held for troop personnel during this reporting period, including such topics as drug abuse, Venereal Disease, Immersion Foot and field Sanitation. Six lectures were given to Corpsmen including the following topics: health records, log and record entries and diagnosis of routine back injuries. In addition, Preventive Medicine Service presented lectures on Malaria and drug abuse. Overall training is considered to be good.

9. COMMUNICATIONS. The Communication Platoon continued normal operations in support of the Battalion's mission. A second HYL-3 relay was established on Hill 244 to accomodate the A0 extension.

10. SIGNIFICANT ENEMY EQUIPMENT/FOODSTUFFS CAPTURED

1xK59 9mm pistol
 2x9mm magazines
 1xcivilian AM radio
 medical equipment and supply
 25 pounds rice and fish
 100 pounds rice and corn
 1xpair binoculars

11. SIGNIFICANT ENEMY ORDNANCE CAPTURED

1xChicom hand grenade

12. SIGNIFICANT CASUALTIES SUSTAINED

	<u>USMC</u>	<u>USN</u>
KIA	0	0
WIAE	1	0
WLANE	0	0
DOW	0	0
DCD	0	0
NHC	9	1
NHD	0	0
DAI	1	0

13. ENTRIES. See Tab "A" to Enclosure (1) (Staff Journal for the period of 010001H to 302400H September 1970).

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

✓ Tab "A" Staff Journal for period of 1 September through 30 September 1970.

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ENCLOSURE (1)
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