

HEADQUARTERS  
7th Motor Transport Battalion, FMF  
APO, San Francisco, California 96602

3/HWE/trh  
5750  
4 August 1966

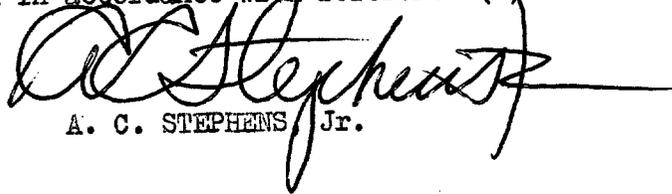
From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF

Subj: Command Chronology

Ref: (a) DivO 5750.2

Encl: (1) Command Chronology with Appendix A and B

1. Enclosure (1) is submitted in accordance with reference (a).

  
A. C. STEPHENS Jr.

728  
M.T.  
BN

June 1966

TAB (17) to Appendix A to Enclosure (1)  
to 1st Mar Div ltr Ser: 5750.2-1-66.

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

Unit: 7th Motor Transport Battalion, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF

Period Covered: 1 July 1966 to 31 July 1966

I. Organization of the 7th Motor Transport Battalion

On 1 July 1966 the 7th Motor Transport Battalion consisted of H&S Company and Companies A, B, C and Transport Company. The Commanding Officer, principal staff and subordinate commanders were as follows:

Commanding Officer	Major A. C. Stephens, Jr.
Executive Officer	None Assigned
S-1/Adjutant	2ndLt. Warren I. Shick
S-2/S-3	Captain Thomas M. Collins
S-4/Supply Officer	1stLt. Robert M. Hutchinson
Commanding Officer, H&S Company	1stLt. James H. Carter
Commanding Officer, Company A	1stLt. Thomas C. Keeling, III
Commanding Officer, Company B	Captain John H. Redgate
Commanding Officer, Company C	Captain Phillip S. Bradley
Commanding Officer, Transport Company	1stLt. James R. Mulhern

II. Narrative Summary of Significant Events

1. During the month of July, the Battalion continued operations under the operational control of the 1st Marine Division. A summary of motor transport operations for the month of July is as follows:

	<u>TACTICAL</u>	<u>LOGISTICAL</u>
a. Number of Trips	184	2812
b. Total Miles Traveled	10101	96789
c. Total Personnel Transported	2905	20748
d. Total Cargo Transported (Tons)	263	12393

Five contacts were made during these tactical convoys with no casualties or vehicle damage sustained.

2. Systematic, supervised 1st echelon maintenance continues to prove its effectiveness as reflected by the high availability of prime movers. The overall Battalion deadline rate has been reduced to a constant 3% to 7% from last month's 7% to 9%.

### III. Detailed description of Significant Events

- 5 Jul The first Driver of the Quarter selection was made in accordance with BnO 1650.1 (see reference (a)). LCpl. Dennis Carstensen, Transport Company, was selected and has been recommended for meritorious promotion, awarded an R&R and an appropriate certificate (see reference (b)).
- 6 Jul Convoy comprised of Transport Company, elements of Company A, and 11 refuelers from MAG-36 transported 133 tons of Class V Artillery and 25,000 gallons of Class IIIA to the airfield at Quang Ngai. Convoy formed into two serials. The first serial made two contacts one half hour apart and received a total of 11 rounds SA fire with no damage or casualties sustained. The second serial made no contacts.
- 9 Jul Captain Herbert H. Ruhl assumed duties as Battalion Executive Officer.  
1stLt. Joseph T. Dunn, Jr. assumed duties as Company Commander, Company B, vice Captain John H. Redgate.
- 12 Jul Convoy comprised of elements of Company C and Transport Company transported 56 tons of Class V artillery to the LSA at Quang Ngai. Convoy received one round SA fire with no casualties or damage sustained.
- 14 Jul Major F. R. Smith assumed duties as Battalion Executive Officer.
- 15 Jul Convoy comprised of elements of Company A transported Company E, 2/7, and Company L, 3/7, from vicinity of Bihn Son to their respective CPs. There were no contacts.
- 19 Jul Convoy comprised of elements of Company B and Transport Company delivered 92.5 tons of Class V Artillery to the LSA at Quang Ngai. Convoy received 10-20 rounds SA fire. There were no casualties and no damage was sustained.
- 26 Jul Convoy comprised of Company C and elements of Company B transported 800 troops of 2/7 to The Loi (2) in support of Operation Franklin. There were no contacts.  
Convoy comprised of elements of Company B transported 360 troops of 1/7 to Long Hoi (1) in support of Operation Franklin. There were no contacts.

- 27-29 Jul Company A supported 3/11 and 7th Marines in displacing their respective forward CPs during Operation Franklin.
- 28 Jul This Battalion received 29 Truck, 6x6, 5 Ton, M-54 under the vehicle rehabilitation program. The vehicles have been issued to Company A and will be put in service as acceptance checks are accomplished. Vehicles which have been replaced will be turned-in to FLETC-B for evacuation and eventual rebuild. This turnover of vehicles replaces all the vehicles of Company A which have been in-country for approximately one year.
- 29 Jul Convoy comprised of Company A and elements of Company C transported 128 tons of Class V Artillery to the LSA at Quang Ngai. The convoy also transported 15 tons of reinforcing rod, 1000 bags cement, and one revival tent from Quang Ngai to Binh Son in support of the Civic Action Program. There were no contacts. The Commanding Officer, in behalf of the Commanding General, presented the Purple Heart Medal to LCpl. Richard Alvarez. LCpl. Alvarez was wounded in action on 8 June 1966 while driving a vehicle in a resupply convoy to the LSA at Quang Ngai. The Commanding Officer administered the oath to SSgt. John W. Wheeler commissioning him a 2nd Lieutenant in the U. S. Marine Corps. The Commanding Officer awarded a Meritorious Mast to Cpl. Rudy Zarate for his meritorious performance of duty serving as a truck section leader in support of 2/5.
- 30 Jul Company A received a letter of appreciation from the Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific. See Reference (c).

LIST OF REFERENCES

- Tab 1 ✓ a. Battalion Order 1650.1
- Tab 2 ✓ b. Driver of the Quarter Certificate
- Tab 3 ✓ c. Copy of CG, FMFPac, Ltr 35/ewk over 1650 dtd 1Jul66

Appendix A  
Enclosure (1)

DOCUMENTATION

- Tab 4 ✓ SITREP 36-66, period 060001H to 062400H  
Tab 5 ✓ SITREP 37-66, period 120001H to 122400H  
Tab 6 ✓ SITREP 38-66, period 150001H to 152400H  
Tab 7 ✓ SITREP 39-66, period 190001H to 192400H  
Tab 8 ✓ SITREP 40-66, period 260001H to 262400H  
Tab 9 ✓ Special SITREP 3-66, period 271600H to 291800H  
Tab 10 ✓ SITREP 41-66, period 290001H to 292400H

Appendix B  
Enclosure (1)

HEADQUARTERS  
7th Motor Transport Battalion, FMF  
FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

BnO 1650.1  
3/TMC/cjn  
26 May 1966

BATTALION ORDER 1650.1

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Distribution List

Subj: Company Driver of the Month and Battalion Driver of the  
Quarter Programs

Ref: (a) DivO 1650.4B

Encl: (1) Criteria for Selection  
(2) Information Required with Nominations

1. Purpose. To establish a Company Driver of the Month and a Battalion Driver of the Quarter program within this Battalion.

2. Background. This command desires to recognize the effort of individual drivers who devote long hours to the care of their vehicles. One method of accomplishing this recognition is to select, through competition, the most outstanding driver in each company each month. The most outstanding driver in the Battalion would be selected from the company nominees. The honor and recognition bestowed on selected Company and Battalion drivers will be a tangible result of their own efforts in safe driving, military and technical knowledge, and preventive maintenance.

3. Action.

a. Company Driver of the Month Program.

(1) At the end of each month Company Commanders will select three (3) nominees from which they will choose a Company Driver of the Month. The three (3) nominees will be placed in numerical sequence one (1) through three (3). Only personnel in the rank of E-4 and below will be eligible for this award.

(2) Company Commanders will select the Driver of the Month by using but not necessarily limiting themselves to the criteria outlined in enclosure (1) with the exception that items 1 and 2 of enclosure (1) need not be used at the company level.

(3) Personnel selected as the Company Driver of the Month will be eligible for nomination by their Company Commander for the Battalion Driver of the Quarter award.

(4) Personnel selected as the Company Driver of the Month will receive a plaque denoting this award which will be

BnO 1650.1  
26 May 1966

mounted on the front of his vehicle for the month following his selection.

(5) Personnel selected as the Company Driver of the Month will receive a suitable certificate for their retention denoting this selection.

b. Battalion Driver of the Quarter.

(1) Nomination. At the end of each quarter Company Commanders will nominate one (1) of the three (3) Drivers of the Month for that quarter to the Battalion Driver of the Quarter board. Nominations will be submitted in writing to the Senior Member by the 20th day of the last month of the quarter and will contain the information outlined in enclosure (2).

(2) Selection. The driver nominated for the Battalion Driver of the Quarter will be selected by the Battalion Board from the five (5) Company nominees. The board will submit their recommended nomination to the Battalion Commander for approval. The five (5) company nominees will be placed in numerical sequence one (1) through five (5) by the board. All nominees will appear before the board for an interview. Prior to appearing for the interview, nominees will be administered a written General Military Subjects Proficiency and Motor Transport Proficiency test by a member of the board.

(3) Composition and Function of the Board. The Battalion Driver of the Quarter Board will consist of:

- (a) Battalion S-3 Officer (Senior Member)
- (b) Battalion Sergeant Major
- (c) Battalion Truckmaster
- (d) Each Company Truckmaster

The Battalion Driver of the Quarter Board will meet at the end of each quarter at the call of the Senior Member. The board will select a nomination for the Battalion Driver of the Quarter based on the criteria outlined in enclosure (1). Company truckmasters will not vote when the nominee from their company appears before the board. The Senior Member will only vote in case of a tie.

(4) Awards.

(a) Personnel selected as the Battalion Driver of the Quarter will be recommended for meritorious promotion.

(b) Personnel selected as the Battalion Driver of the Quarter will be awarded an R&R quota during the quarter following their selection.

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26 May 1966

(c) Personnel selected as the Battalion Driver of the Quarter will be awarded a plaque denoting this selection which will be mounted on the front of his vehicle for the three (3) month period following his selection.

(d) Personnel selected as the Battalion Driver of the Quarter will receive a suitable certificate for their retention denoting this selection.

  
LOUIS A. BONIN

DISTRIBUTION: "A"

BnO 1650.1  
26 May 1966

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

1. GMSPTest
2. Motor Transport Test
3. Interview (Personal Appearance/Command Presence/Military Bearing)
  - a. Motor Transport Technical Knowledge
  - b. Motor Transport Operational Knowledge
  - c. General Military Knowledge
4. Vehicle Inspection
  - a. Cleanliness
  - b. Maintenance
    - (1) First Echelon
    - (2) Second Echelon
  - c. Tools & Accessories
    - (1) Quantity
    - (2) Condition
5. Records Inspection (DD 110's last 30 days)
  - a. Properly Filled Out
  - b. Vehicle Discrepancies reported/corrected
6. Roadmaster discrepancies during quarter
  - a. Division
  - b. Battalion
7. PMO Citations
8. Commendations from other units

Enclosure (1)

BnO 1650.1  
26 May 1966

INFORMATION REQUIRED WITH DRIVER NOMINATIONS

1. Driver's name, rank and serial number
2. Type of vehicle and USMC#
3. Length of time driver has been assigned to that particular vehicle.
4. The reason and length of down-time of driver's vehicle during the quarter
5. ~~Mileage~~ Mileage put on the vehicle by the nominee during the quarter
6. Age of vehicle since last rebuild.
7. Length of time ~~nominee~~ nominee has been driving
8. Vehicles for which nominee is licensed.

Enclosure (2)

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
Headquarters, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific  
APO, San Francisco, 96602

35/ewk  
1650  
1 Jul 1966

From: Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific  
To: Commanding Officer, Company A, 7th Motor Transport  
Battalion, FMF  
Via: (1) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force  
(2) Commanding General, 1st Marine Division  
(3) Commanding Officer, 7th Motor Transport Battalion, FMF  
Subj: Letter of Appreciation  
Ref: (a) CG, III MAF 261338Z/JUN 66

1. Your nomination for the National Defense Transportation Association Award contained in reference (a) is noted with both pride and pleasure.

2. Since arriving in Vietnam, your support of combat operations has been uniformly superior. It has been characterized by professional exactness notwithstanding the road conditions, adverse weather conditions, and the uncertainties of the enemy situation. The manner in which motor transport was coordinated and executed and the successful results attained are a tribute to the resolution, professionalism and courage of the officers and individual Marines of the command.

3. Please extend my sincere thanks to every member of your command for a job well done.

/s/V. H. KRULAK  
V. H. KRULAK

HEADQUARTERS  
 7th Motor Transport Battalion, FMP  
 FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

3/HWH/hwh  
 3500  
 6 July 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMP  
 (Attn: G-3)

Subj: SITREP 36-66, period 060001H to 062400H

1. Unit Operations. Convoy comprised of Transport Company, elements of Company A, and 11 refuelers from MAG-36 transported 133 tons of Class V Artillery and 25,000 gallons of Class IIIA to the airfield at Quang Ngai. A reinforced platoon of Company C, 1/7, provided security. The convoy formed into two serials; the 1st serial departing the SP (RJ Routes 1 & 22) at 060745H and the 2nd serial departing at 060800H. The 1st Serial returned to the SP at 061400 and the 2nd serial returned at 061420H.

2. Contacts.

a. While proceeding south on route 1 at 060900H, the 1st serial of the convoy received 6 rounds SA fire at BS619883 from BS622880. No fire was returned and the convoy did not stop. No casualties or damage were sustained.

b. While proceeding south on route 1 at 060930H, the 1st serial of the convoy received 5 rounds SA fire at BS622870 from BS625871. No fire was returned and the convoy did not stop. No casualties or damage were sustained.

3. Battalion Plans. 7th Motor Transport Battalion remains in direct support of the 1st Marine Division.

A. C. STEPHENS, Jr.

HEADQUARTERS  
7th Motor Transport Battalion, FMF  
FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

3/RWH/trh  
3500  
12 July 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF  
(Attn: G-3)

Subj: SICREP 37-66, period 120001H to 122400H

1. Unit Operations. Convoy comprised of elements of Company G and Transport Company transported 56 tons of Class V Artillery to the LSA at Quang Ngai. Company F, 2/7, provided one platoon for security. Convoy departed SP (RJ Routes 1 & 22) at 120820H and returned to SP at 121405H.

2. Contacts. Convoy was proceeding south on route 1 at 120940H at BS 634801 when 1 round SA fire was received from an undetermined position. No fire was returned and the convoy did not stop.

3. Casualties. None

4. Battalion Plans. 7th Motor Transport Battalion remains in direct support of the 1st Marine Division.

A. C. STEPHENS, Jr.

HEADQUARTERS  
7th Motor Transport Battalion, FMF  
APO, San Francisco, California 96602

3/HWH/hwh  
3500  
15 July 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF  
(Attn: G-3)

Subj: SITREP 38-66, period 150001H to 152400H

1. Unit Operations. Convoy comprised of elements of Company A transported Company E, 2/7 from BS603915 and Company L, 3/7 from BS595929 to their respective CPs. Convoy departed SP (RJ Routes 1 & 22) at 151535H and returned to SP at 151815H.

2. Contacts. None

3. Battalion Plans. 7th Motor Transport Battalion remains in direct support of the 1st Marine Division.

A. C. STEPHENS, Jr.

HEADQUARTERS  
7th Motor Transport Battalion, FMP  
APO, San Francisco, California 96602

3/Hml/trh  
3500  
19 July 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMP  
(Attn: G-3)

Subj: SITREP 39-66, period 190001H to 192400H

1. Unit Operations. Convoy comprised of elements of Company B and Transport Company delivered 92.5 tons of Class V Artillery to the LGA at Quang Ngai. On return trip convoy delivered 8 truck loads of steel rod, cement, corn, and miscellaneous items to Bihn Son for the G-5. One platoon of Company L, 3/7, provided security. Convoy departed SP (RJ Routes 1 & 22) at 190735H and returned to SP at 191510H.

2. Contacts.

a. Convoy was proceeding south on route 1 at 190815H at BS624869 when convoy heard 10-20 rounds SA fire from an undetermined position. No damage was sustained and convoy did not stop.

b. Convoy was proceeding north on Route 1 at 191335H at BS633810 when a grenade of unknown type was observed on the road. Grenade did not detonate and convoy by-passed it without stopping.

3. Casualties. None

4. Battalion Plans. 7th Motor Transport Battalion remains in direct support of the 1st Marine Division.

A. C. STEPHENS, Jr.

HEADQUARTERS  
 7th Motor Transport Battalion, FMF  
 FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

3/104H/trh  
 3500  
 26 July 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding General 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF  
 (Att: G-3)

Subj: MILEZ 40-66, period 260001N to 262400H

1. Unit Operations.

a. Convoy comprised of Company C and elements of Company B transported 300 troops of 2/7 from their OP to The Loi (2) in support of Operation Franklin. Convoy departed SP (28 65996) at 260530H and returned to SP at 260753H.

b. Convoy comprised of elements of Company B transported 360 troops of 1/7 from their OP to Long Noi (1) in support of Operation Franklin. Convoy departed SP (28 65996) at 260533H and returned to SP at 260740H.

2. Contacts. None

3. Battalion Plans. 7th Motor Transport Battalion remains in direct support of the 1st Marine Division.

THOMAS H. O'LEARY  
 By direction

HEADQUARTERS  
7th Motor Transport Battalion, FMF  
APO, San Francisco, California 96602

3/HWH/trh  
3500  
29 July 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF

Subj: Special SITREP 3-66, period 271600H to 291800H

1. Unit Operations.

a. Convoy comprised of elements of Company A transported 20 tons of Class V Artillery from BS 628845 to BS670753 for 3/11 in support of Operation Franklin. Convoy departed SP (RJ Routes 1 and 22) at 271730H and returned to the SP at 291130H.

b. Convoy comprised of elements of Company A reported to 7th Mar CP at Binh Son to support 7th Mar in displacement of CP at Binh Son to Buddha Mountain in support of Operation Franklin. Convoy departed SP (RJ Routes 1 and 22) at 271730 and returned to the SP at 291740H.

2. Contacts. None

3. Battalion Plans. 7th Motor Transport Battalion remains in direct support of the 1st Marine Division.

THOMAS M. COLLINS  
By direction

6/ACS/cjn  
1650  
31 July 1966

THIRD ENDORSEMENT on CG FMPPac ltr 35/ewh over 1650 of 1 July 1966

From: Commanding Officer, 7th Motor Transport Battalion, FMF  
To: Commanding Officer, Company A, 7th Motor Transport Battalion, FMF

Subj: Letter of Appreciation

1. Delivered with congratulations. Every Marine in this battalion can take pride in the fine performance of Company A.

A. C. STEPHENS, Jr.

1/GFB/gh  
1650  
30 Jul 1966

SPECIAL ENDORSEMENT on CO FMFPac ltr 35/ewh over 1650 of 1 July 1966

From: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF  
To: Commanding Officer, Company A, 7th Motor Transport Battalion, FMF  
Via: Commanding Officer, 7th Motor Transport Battalion, FMF

Subj: Letter of Appreciation

1. It is with gratification and delight that I forward this letter of appreciation.
2. Please express my appreciation to all concerned for a job well done and your continuing excellent performance in support of this Division.

JAMES J. TILLS

35/jnb  
1000  
25 Jul 1966

FIRST ENDORSEMENT on FMFPac ltr 35/ewh over 1650 of 1 July 1966

From: Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force  
To: Commanding Officer, Company A, 7th Motor Transport Battalion, FMP  
Via: (1) Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMP  
(2) Commanding Officer, 7th Motor Transport Battalion, FMP

Subj: Letter of Appreciation

1. I am pleased to note and forward this basic letter.
2. The professional manner displayed by you and your unit in performance of your assigned duties has materially assisted in the successful execution of our mission.

/s/ L. W. Walt  
L. W. WALT

# OFFICER OF THE QUARTER



## 7th Motor Transport Battalion Chu Lai Vietnam

Presented to

Awarded for meritorious achievement and exceptional performance of duty as a motor vehicle operator during the period  
Your outstanding initiative and attention to duty have contributed substantially to the operational success of this Battalion and have been a source of inspiration to your fellow Marines. Congratulations on a job well done.

Commanding Officer

HEADQUARTERS  
7th Motor Transport Battalion, MTF  
APO, San Francisco, California 96602

3/24/66/wh  
5500  
29 July 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein), MTF  
(Attn: G-5)

Subj: SITREP 41-66, period 290000H to 292400H

1. Unit Operations. Convoy comprised of Company A and elements of Company C transported 128 tons of Class V Artillery to the LSA at Quang Ngai. The convoy also transported 15 tons, reinforcing rod, 1000 bags cement, and one revival tent from Quang Ngai to Binh Son in support of the Civic Action Program. Company F, 2/5 provided security. Convoy departed the SP (RJ routes 1 and 22) at 290745H and returned to the SP at 291850H.

2. Contacts. None

3. Battalion Plans. 7th Motor Transport Battalion remain in direct support of the 1st Marine Division.

THOMAS H. COLLINS  
By direction