

HEADQUARTERS  
Battalion Landing Team 2/9  
3rd Marine Division (-) (Rein) FMF  
APO San Francisco 96062

3/GDB/drm  
5750  
20 Feb 1970  
0044-70

**UNCLASSIFIED**

UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL  
OF ENCLOSURE (1)

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code HD)  
Via: (1) Commanding Officer, 9th Marines  
(2) Commanding General, 3rd Marine Division  
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 01 January to 31 January 1970

Ref: (a) MCO 5750  
(b) FMFPACO 5750 8B

Encl: (1) January 1970 Command Chronology(S)

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

2.(U) Downgraded at 3 year intervals; declassified after 12 years. DOD DIR 5200.1D.

*J. R. Van Den Elzen*  
J. R. VAN DEN ELZEN

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HEADQUARTERS  
Battalion Landing Team 2/9  
3rd Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
APO San Francisco 96602

## COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

6 JANUARY TO 31 JANUARY 1970

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GROUP 1  
DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS:  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS  
DOD DIR 5200.10

Enclosure (1) BLT 2/9 ltr  
3/GDB/drm/5750/20 Feb 1970

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## PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

<u>1. (S) Designation</u>	<u>Commander</u>	<u>Date</u>
Headquarters, BLT 2/9	LtCol J. R. VAN DEN ELZEN	1-31 Jan

Subordinate Units

"H&S" Company	Capt H. B. WILBER	1-31 Jan
Company "E"	1stLt C. F. CALDWELL	1-31 Jan
Company "F"	1stLt J. M. ROARK	1-31 Jan
Company "G"	1stLt S. E. McLAUGHLIN	1-31 Jan
Company "H"	Capt R. C. NORRIS	1-13 Jan
	1stLt H. H. PARROTT JR	14-31 Jan

Attached Units

"E" Btry (Rein), 2/9	Capt I. M. SMITH	1-31 Jan
2ndPlt (Rein), CoC, 3rdEngrBn	2ndLt W. S. McCUE	1-31 Jan
2ndPlt (Rein), CoC, 3rdReconBn	2ndLt J. C. TOMASELLO	1-31 Jan
2ndPlt (Rein), CoC, 3rdMTBn	1stLt R. W. HUNER	1-31 Jan
2ndPlt (Rein), CoC, 3rdSPBn	1stLt M. A. SMITH	1-31 Jan
2ndPlt (Rein), CoB, 1stAmtracBn	1stLt J. B. COON	1-31 Jan
1stPlt (Rein), CoA, 3rdTKBn	2ndLt S. W. BENVENUTO	1-31 Jan
2ndCirPlt (Rein), CoB, 3rdMedBn	Lt R. T. GADACZ	1-31 Jan
LSU, ALFA	2ndLt H. T. CAUMARTIN JR	1-31 Jan
Det. Insurg	WO R. A. ROQUEMORE	1-31 Jan
Det. Dental	Lt A. G. ESQUIRE	1-31 Jan
"W" Btry, 3/12	Capt S. E. WINEGARDNER	1-31 Jan

2. (S) Location. Headquarters, Battalion Landing Team 2/9  
 1-3, 18-28 January - Upper SLF Camp, Subic Bay, Philippines  
 4-7 January - USS Tripoli (LPH-10)  
 29-31 January - USS New Orleans (LPH-11)

3. (S) Staff Officers

XO	Major R. C. MILLER	1-31 Jan
S-1	2ndLt J. A. LINDSAY	1-31 Jan
S-2	1stLt J. B. SWARTZENBERG	1-31 Jan
S-3	Major G. D. BRENNAN II	1-31 Jan
S-4	Capt G. W. SACHTLEBEN	1-13 Jan
	Capt R. C. NORRIS	14-31 Jan
CcmmO	CWO R. S. DOMINGUEZ	1-31 Jan
SupplyO	1stLt J. O. WALLING	1-31 Jan
MTO	1stLt S. G. MILLER	1-31 Jan
Chaplain	Lt W. L. PATRICK	1-31 Jan
Medical Officer	Lt G. W. GOSSMAN	1-31 Jan

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4. (S) Average Monthly Strength

USMC		USN		OTHER	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
65	1550	5	57	6	6

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## PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

- 1.(S) During the month of January Battalion Landing Team 2/9 continued its deployment with SLF ALFA, which later in the month was redesignated SLF BRAVO.
- 2.(C) Training was conducted on board and during two training sessions ashore at Subic Bay, Philippines. The first training period was devoted to platoon/company tactics and live fire exercises, the second to garrison training.
- 3.(C) During both training sessions elements of the BLT assisted the Naval Base by conducting sweeps of the Naval Base for caches of stolen government property.
- 4.(S) Personnel and equipment readiness was good throughout the month, although equipment deadlines increased due to a shortage of repair parts.

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## PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. (C) Training

a. On the 2nd and 3rd of January 1970, Battalion Landing Team 2/9 continued to train at Subic Bay, Philippines. Companies "E" and "F" had day and night live firing exercises with M-16's and M-79's and tank/infantry coordination in the Zambales Training Area. Companies "G" and "H" concentrated on platoon and company tactics in the Zambales and Subic Training Areas. The remaining units held training in and around the Lower and Upper SLF Camps.

b. On 4 January, the BLT backloaded on ARG ALFA shipping and participated in a Phiblex on 5 and 6 January (Tab A to enclosure (1)).

c. From 7 to 17 January, the BLT was deployed off the shores of the Republic of Vietnam. The afloat training plan was again put into effect, utilizing GMS classroom instruction and group MCI study to maintain the military proficiency of the individual Marine.

d. The BLT off-loaded at Subic Bay on 18 January and conducted further training from the 19th through the 26th. From the 19th to the 22nd, the BLT conducted garrison training such as close order drill, inspections (personnel, weapons, and equipment) and administrative matters in the Upper and Lower SLF Camps. On the 20th, the Naval Gunfire detachment observed the Subic NGF detachment calling fire missions from the USS Hollister (DD 788) at Zambales NGF Range. Also on the 20th, forty personnel from the BLT attended the Jungle Environmental Survival Training School. On the 23rd of January, a highly successful BLT Field Meet was held (Tab B to enclosure (1)). From 26-28 January, the BLT continued garrison training and began preparations for backloading. On 27 January another twenty-five personnel from the BLT attended the Jungle Environmental Survival Training School.

e. On 29 January, the BLT backloaded on ARG BRAVO shipping. From the 29th through the 31st the BLT personnel became oriented to their new ships and prepared for a Phiblex.

f. Throughout the month physical training was accomplished by daily physical training periods when ashore. At sea, daily physical training periods were conducted whenever possible.

g. Also during the month a Staff NCO and Officer curriculum was established to better familiarize Company Grade Officers and SNCO's with selected functional areas of interest appropriate to the platoon, company, and battalion level.

2. (U) Special Events

a. On 2 January, Brigadier General, L. E. FRIBOURG, ADC, 3rd Marine Division,

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and his party toured the Upper SLF Camp, lunched in Upper SLF Camp Messhall, and witnessed training in the Zambales and Subic training areas.

b. On 10 January, students from the Vietnamese Defense College visited USS Tripoli (LPH-10). In honor of their visit, members of BLT 2/9 participated in a demonstration of the US Navy/Marine Corps team.

c. On 23 January, Brigadier General FRIBOURG again visited BLT 2/9 in Subic Bay. The ADC watched a portion of the BLT Field Meet and visited with participants.

d. On 27 January, Major General W. K. JONES, CG, 3rd Marine Division visited BLT 2/9 at Subic Bay, touring the Upper SLF Camp and Messhall.

### 3.(U) Education

a. The following is a recapitulation of the BLT Education Program for the month of January

(1) USAFI New Enrollments	38
(2) USAFI Completions	10
(3) MCI New Enrollments	20
(4) MCI Completions	86
(5) GED Test Completions	
Satisfactory	10
Unsatisfactory	19

(6) 92 personnel were counseled on educational opportunities, 3 members of the command received their high school diplomas.

(7) Currently 1225 people are enrolled in one or more USAFI or MCI courses. There are 1491 active courses in the BLT.

b. No member of the command attended formal schools during January.

### 4.(S) Equipment

a. For the Supply Section, the month of January was devoted primarily to on-the-job training. Requisitioned supplies and repair parts were staged in Okinawa awaiting pick-up by the BLT upon its return to Okinawa. The Naval Supply Facility and Public Works Center, Subic Bay, were utilized to the maximum extent authorized. The fill rate of requisitions during January was unsatisfactory.

b. At end end of the month BLT shortages of major items of Combat Essential Equipment were as follows:

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>AUTH</u>	<u>O/H</u>	<u>O/R</u>	<u>REPAIR</u>	<u>ON ORDER</u>
MRC-124	1	0	0	0	1
Compressor M-4	2	1	0	1	1
60mm Mortar M-19	12	0	0	0	12

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5.(C) Logistics

a. Supply and Distribution. Third Force Service Regiment was the primary source of supply for the BLT. Public Works Center, and internal assets, were the primary sources for BLT maintenance.

b. Transportation

(1) Ninety-one per cent of the BLT vehicles were operational as of 31 January 1970.

(2) Transportation organic to the BLT provided the primary means of transportation. Augmentation was provided by Public Works Center, Subic Bay as required.

c. Engineer Support. 2nd Plt(Rein), Co C, 3rd Engr. Bn provided direct support for the BLT. During January the Engineer Platoon made physical improvements at both SLF Camps. An estimate was submitted for sidewalk construction to the Naval Base First Lieutenant via the I MEF Liaison Officer.

d. Service Support. The LSU detachment conducted a second LTI of crew served weapons resulting in a satisfactory with minor discrepancy rating.

e. Supply StatusStatistical data on priority O2 requisitions

- (1) 32 priority requisitions unfilled at the end of December.
- (2) 21 priority requisitions of (1) above unfilled during January.
- (3) 35 priority requisitions submitted during January.
- (4) No priority requisitions filled during January.
- (5) 56 priority requisitions unfilled at the end of January.

f. Medical. The following services were rendered during the month of January 1970 by the Medical Department.

(1) Total seen at sick call:	936
(2) Total hospitalized:	53
(3) Completed physical exams:	10
(4) Spectacles ordered:	23
(5) Prescriptions filled:	485
(6) Cases of Malaria treated:	7
(7) Total VD cases treated:	100
(8) Lectures to USMC Personnel:	8 (VD and Drug Abuse. First Aid)
(9) Lectures to USN Personnel:	6 (Narcotics)

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6.(C) Command Relations. Battalion Landing Team 2/9 became part of SLF BRAVO on 261501Z January, as SLF ALFA was redesignated SLF BRAVO.

7.(C) Special Operations. On 2 and 3, and 19 and 20 January, elements of BLT 2/9 swept six areas of the Naval Base for caches of stolen equipment in conjunction with the Naval Investigative Service and Naval Base Security, Subic Bay.

8.(C) Personnel and Administration

a. Personnel

(1) Enlisted MOS Shortages

MOS	RANK	SHORTAGES
0369	E-6/E-7-E-8	7
3052	E-3	2
5711	E-5	1
5931	E-5	1

(2) Rotation during the month (CONUS)

MC OFF	MC ENL	NAVY OFF	NAVY ENL
0	0	0	0

(3) Replacements received during the month

MC OFF	MC ENL	NAVY OFF	NAVY ENL
0	2	0	0

(4) Casualties: 28 NBC

(5) Promotions

SgtMaj	1stSgt	MSgt	GySgt	SSgt	Sgt	Cpl	LCpl	PFC
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	84	26

(6) Awards: Bronze Star 1  
 Purple Heart 2  
 Navy Commendation Medal 1  
 Good Conduct Medal (1st awd) 1

b. Administration

(1) Discipline

(a) Courts-Martial:

	Completed	Pending
GCM	0	0
SPCM	5	1
SCM	25	9

(b) Battalion Commanders Office Hours: 21

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(c) Company Commanders Office Hours: 93

(2) Marine EX and Postal Affairs

(a) EX. Facilities are considered adequate.

(b) Postal Facilities. Postal Facilities are considered adequate.

(3) Chaplain Services During the month of January, BLT 2/9 participated in divine services at the Upper SLF Camp Chapel and on the hangar decks of the USS Tripoli and USS New Orleans.

(4) Special Services. During the month of January, recreation funds were used to purchase beverages, ice and charcoal, while Special Services procured athletic equipment for the BLT Field Meet. A total of \$352.65 was spent on the Meet. A total of \$352.75 was funded by the BLT recreation fund for unit parties. Two movies were shown every night while the BLT was located at the Upper SLF Camp at Subic Bay. During the latter part of the month, transportation for 200 Marines was arranged for a 2-day trip to Manila, through the Naval Base Special Services.

9.(C) Intelligence

a. During the PHIBLEX on 5 and 6 January, 1970, practical application was received on handling POW's, S-2 responsibilities in combat, employment of psychological operations personnel, journals and reports.

b. The Scouts participated in the PHIBLEX and received practical application on handling POW's and captured material and documents.

10.(C) Communications. During the month of January, the Communications Platoon provided support for BLT 2/9.

a. Radio. The radio section provided communications during the afloat, offloading, and backloading phases, and during training ashore.

b. Wire. Established a telephone system at the SLF Camp, Subic Bay.

c. Message Center. Shifted Comm and Crypto guard for SLF, BLT 2/9, and HMM-165 ashore on 18 January. COMNAVBASE Subic assumed Comm and Crypto guard for SLF "A", BLT 2/9, and HMM 165 on 210100Z Jan 1970. Comm and Crypto guard was resumed by the troop message center aboard the USS New Orleans for SLF BRAVO, BLT 2/9, and HMM-165 on 280100Z Jan 1970. During the month of January the message center processed 425 outgoing and 1997 incoming messages.

d. Radio Relay. The radio relay section provided support for BLT 2/9 as required.

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## PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS - *11FF*

1. Tab A to Enclosure (1)--BLT 2/9 Operation Order 1-70. 031600H January 1970.
2. Tab B to Enclosure (1)--Newspaper article and photos of BLT Field Meet, 23 January, 1970, as it appeared in "Pacific Stars and Stripes", February 12, 1970.

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