

DECLASSIFIED

70 0217

Command Chronology

Unit: 1st CAG

Date&Page: 1/70

Chrono cover

READ: 10115
1st Combined Action Group
III Marine Amphibious Force
APO, San Francisco, California 96002

3/RL/jaw

5700

Sent: 01-70

6 March 1970

CONFIDENTIAL (Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1))

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code MD)
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 the period 1 January 1970 to 31 January 1970

Ref: (a) APO 5750.11A
(b) F.F.PacO 5750.8A

Encl: (1) Command Chronology, 1st Combined Action Group, III Marine Amphibious Force

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

2. Downgraded at 3-year intervals, declassified after 12 years, DOD Dir. 5200.10.

D. F. SELLER

Copy 1 of 16 Copies

UNCLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

15 January 1970

CAP 1-2-7. A USMC member of a CAP 1-2-7 patrol accidentally detonated an M-26 booby trap rigged with trip wire at BS 441055, 6 km SW of Ly Tin District Headquarters. Two USMC were MIA(M) by the exploding M26. A search of the area for further SFDs was nonproductive. RESULTS: 2 USMC MIA(M).

CAP 1-1-3. A CAP 1-1-3 patrol discovered 1 VC MIA and 3 Chi Com grenades in some bushes at Br 353178, 5.5 km SE of Tam Ky City. Apparently dead for about 10 days, the VC was believed to have been killed in a contact with CAP 1-1-3 on 6 January 1970. RESULTS: 1 VC MIA and 3 Chi Com grenades destroyed.

CAP 1-4-2. The fortified resettlement hamlet of Cham Juan, defended by CAP 1-4-2, a USA rifle platoon, and PUFF, received 57mm AR, RPG, and M-79 fire, and a heavy volume of AMF and SAF from an USMC at BS 775361, 16 km NE of Son Tin District Headquarters. Several of the enemy infiltrated into the hamlet and directed SAF into civilian houses. The defenders returned organic weapons fire, used artillery illumination and spooky gunship support, and repelled the attackers who withdrew in an unknown direction. One USA, 1 PF, and 12 VC civilians were MIA; 1 USA and 19 civilians were MIA(E); and 13 houses were completely destroyed in the action. A sweep of the area disclosed 1 VC MIA (2 credited to CAP), 1 .45 cal pistol (credited to USA), 1 cartridge belt, and 1 RPG round. The RPG round was destroyed. PsyOps was notified. RESULTS: 1 USA MIA, 1 CAP MIA, 12 VC civilians MIA, 1 USA MIA(E), 19 VC civilians MIA(E), 4 VC MIA (2 credited to CAP), 1 IVC (not credited to CAP), 1 cartridge belt captured, 1 RPG round destroyed, and 13 houses destroyed.

CAP 1-3-9. A CAP 1-3-9 patrol initiated organic weapons fire on 1 VC at BS 495062, 11.5 km SW of Binh Son District Headquarters. The VC returned SAF and fled NW. 1 USMC was MIA(M) in the action. A sweep of the area disclosed 1 M-16 rifle and 1 blood trail. RESULTS: 1 USMC MIA(M) and 1 IVC.

17 January 1970

CAP 1-4-6. A CAP 1-4-6 patrol initiated organic weapons fire on 2 VC at BS 733782, 7 km E of Son Tinh District Headquarters. One VC was MIA and the other fled E without returning fire. As the patrol continued on, one USMC was MIA when he accidentally detonated an Olma mortar round booby trap rigged with a trip wire firing device at BS 730770. A medevac helicopter was called in and received SAF from an USMC 1000 meters to the E. Helicopter gunships escorting the medevac suppressed the enemy fire. After medevacing the casualty, the patrol conducted a search of the area for further SFDs with negative results. RESULTS: 1 USMC MIA and 1 VC MIA.

III-8

CONFIDENTIAL
ENCLOSURE (1)

UNCLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

Command Chronology

Unit: 1-3-9

Date&Page: 1/20

P III-10

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CAP 1-3-9. CAP ambush received 15-20 rounds of small arms fire wounding one (1) USMC. Ambush returned fire with organic weapons and swept area with no significant results. RESULTS: (1) USMC KIA (3).

23 January 1970

CAP 1-3-12. Upon hearing an explosion and receiving information from a POF unit that an USMC was burning Lien Tri Hamlet at BS 015080, 4.5 km SE of Binh Son District Headquarters, CAP 1-3-12 dispatched a patrol to investigate. As it approached the hamlet, the patrol initiated organic weapons fire on the enemy, who fled without returning fire. A sweep of the area disclosed 4 houses completely destroyed and 1 bangalore torpedo which the CAP destroyed in place. Most of the villagers had fled the hamlet and there were no casualties. PsyOps was notified. RESULTS: 1 bangalore torpedo destroyed; 4 VN homes destroyed by terrorists.

CAP 1-2-7. A CAP 1-2-7 patrol received R/G and MAP from an estimated 5 VC located at BS 455053, 2 km SE of Ly Tin District Headquarters. The patrol returned organic weapons fire, causing the enemy to flee SW. Three PFA were wounded in the action and medevaced by helicopter to the 91st Evac Hospital. A sweep of the area was nonproductive. RESULTS: 3 PT KIA(3).

25 January 1970

CAP 1-4-3. A CAP 1-4-3 patrol with a sniper team from the 5th Marine Regiment attached initiated 60mm mortar fire and sniper fire on an USMC at a range of 700 m at BS 770937, 14 km NE of Son Tinh District Headquarters. The enemy fled SW without returning fire. A sweep of the area disclosed 1 VC KIA by sniper fire. RESULTS: 1 VC KIA.

26 January 1970

CAP 1-4-5. A CAP 1-4-5 ambush initiated organic weapons fire on a known VC moving S in a restricted area at BS 095774, 5 km E of Son Tinh District Headquarters. A sweep of the area disclosed 1 VC KIA.

CAP 1-4-6. A CAP 1-4-6 patrol observed 4 VC with weapons and 35 VN civilians carrying food and a large quantity of expended small arms cartridges moving S at BS 714799, 7.5 km NE of Son Tinh District Headquarters. The VC fled E into a tree line and the patrol apprehended the 35 VN. The VCs were taken to District Headquarters where one VN female, age 18, was immediately identified as a local VC guerrilla by District authorities. RESULTS: 34 VCs captured and 1 VC POW.

CAP 1-3-5. A CAP 1-3-5 patrol initiated organic weapons fire on 1 VC at BS 018907, 9.5 km NE of Binh Son District Headquarters. The VC disappeared from sight without returning fire. A sweep of the area disclosed 1 VC KIA and 1 M-16 rifle. RESULTS: 1 VC KIA and 1 M-16.

III-10

DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL
UNCLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

Command Chronology

Unit: 1-3-9

Date&Page: 1/70

P III - 12

30 January 1970

A sweep of the area disclosed 1 VC KIA, 1 AK-47, 2 Chi Com grenades, and 1 cartridge bolt. The grenades were destroyed. RESULTS: 1 VC KIA; 1 FVC and 1 cartridge bolt captured; 2 Chi Com grenades destroyed.

CAP 1-3-5. A CAP 1-3-5 patrol received SAF from 3 VC at the edge of a rice paddy at BS 695947, 10 km NE of Binh Son District Headquarters. The patrol returned organic weapons fire, killing 1 VC. The other 2 VC fled NE. While sweeping the area, the patrol apprehended 3 VN female who had been working in the rice paddy and who were without ID cards. Unresponsive to questioning by CAP PF, the 3 VCS were taken to District Headquarters for further interrogation. RESULTS: 1 VC KIA and 3 VCS.

CAP 1-3-9. A CAP 1-3-9 patrol received SAF from an USLF located at BS 514873, 10 km SW of Binh Son District Headquarters. The patrol returned organic weapons fire and called for a reaction force from the CAP patrol base. As the reaction force approached the area of contact, it received SAF from an estimated 50 VC at BS 516878. The reaction force called an artillery fire mission on both groups of enemy, causing them to flee W and SE, respectively. While sweeping the area of contact, the CAP apprehended 13 VN civilians without ID cards. Unresponsive to questioning by CAP PF, the 13 VCS were delivered to District Headquarters for further interrogation. Continuing on, the CAP received SAF from 3 VC at BS 516820. The patrol returned organic weapons fire, causing the enemy to flee SE. A sweep of the area disclosed 1 VC KIA. RESULTS: 1 VC KIA, 13 VCS.

31 January 1970

CAP 1-2-5. Ambush engaged (20) VC moving W to E. VC returned fire with small arms, machine gun and M-79 fire and split into three elements, fleeing in several directions. Second ambush of CAP 1-2-5 engaged several of the fleeing enemy, as did an ambush from CAP 1-2-2. CAP 1-2-5 swept the area finding: (2) VC KIA and (1) AK-47. Results: (2) VC KIA; (1) AK-47 captured.

UNCLASSIFIED

III-12
DECLASSIFIED

ENCLOSURE (1)

DECLASSIFIED

Command Chronology

Unit: 1st CAG

Date&Page: 2/10

Chrono cover

HEADQUARTERS
1st Combined Action Group
III Marine Amphibious Force
FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

3/RLP/jaw

5700

Ser: 02-70

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1))

From: Commanding Officer

To: Commanding Officer, Combined Action Force

Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1 February 1970 to 28
February 1970

Ref: (a) MCO P5750.11A
(b) FMFPacO 5750.3A

Encl: (1) Command Chronology, 1st Combined Action Group, III Marine
Amphibious Force

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

2. Downgraded at 3-year intervals, declassified after 12 years, DOD Dir
5200.10.

D. F. Seiler
D. F. SEILER

Copy 2 of 16 Copies

UNCLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

3. Operationsa. General

(1) The 1st Combined Action Group continued to conduct operations that enhanced the accomplishment of its assigned mission of village and hamlet security and the goals of the GVN Accelerated Pacification Program (ACP) throughout the reporting period. In conjunction with the ACP, two CAP's were relocated in Tam Ky District and one CAP was relocated in Ly Tin District.

(2) Enemy activity continued to decline resulting in fewer contacts, fewer sightings and fewer kills than the previous month. The lack of enemy activity may be due to the lack of sufficient forces in the 1st CAG area of operations to mount any major attacks. If the present level of activity continues the level of pacification in many of the CAP's TACG's will undoubtedly be upgraded.

(3) The Americal Division USA continued to experience moderate contact during the month. The four major operations being conducted continued to produce favorable results, as a total of 400 VC and 199 NVA were reported killed. This was a total increase of 59 kills over last month. Operation Fredrick Hill, being conducted west and south of 1st Company's CAP's, had the best results with 252 of the total kills. Operations Geneva Park and Nantuckot Beach, operating around the third and fourth Companies respectively, were moderately successful, combining for a total of 183 of the total. The Iron Mountain Operation being conducted outside the Group's operational area, accounted for the remainder of the kills. Plans remain underway to relocate one company of the Combined Unit Pacification Program to a new area. The 198th and 196th Infantry Brigades continued to provide logistical and tactical support, as required, throughout the month.

b. Activities

(1) The CAP's continued to conduct combined operations with the Regional Forces and Popular Forces during the month. On several occasions two CAP's combined forces for one day operations in or near their TACG's. During the high threat period of TET the 198th Infantry Brigade positioned rifle platoons near the coastal CAP's and located a reinforced company near CAP 1-3-9 in the village of An Phong. The Americal Division continued to maintain the bulk of its forces to the west of National Highway #1, with occasional small unit operations in the coastal areas to the east. During the periods that US Army units were positioned in or near CAP TACG's, the CAP's frequently conducted joint operations with the Army units.

(2) CAGO 1-1 experienced fewer contacts and sightings than the previous month and ended the month with only eleven (11) enemy kills as compared to twenty seven (27) for the month of January. The company captured two (2) POW's but failed to receive any Hoi Chanhs during the month. CAP's 1-1-4 and 1-1-5 were installed in their new TACG's which brought the company up to its original strength of seven (7) platoons.

(3) CAGO 1-2 had fewer contacts than the previous month (three (3) as opposed to twelve (12) for January) but the number of enemy kills remained the same, a total of eight. The company had the highest ratio of captured weapons per kill, accounting for six weapons. Ly Tin District continues to be the least active of the four districts, evidencing a high degree of pacification. The PF's are numerous and capable in CAGO 1-2's area.

3 February 1970

P III - 2

CAP 1-2-3. A CAP 1-2-3 ambush initiated organic weapons fire on an estimated 30 VC moving SE at BT434096, 5 km NW of Ly Tin District Headquarters. The enemy returned RPG, mortar, and SAF and fled NW. The ambush called an artillery fire mission on probable enemy routes of escape. Fifteen minutes later, a second CAP 1-2-3 ambush nearby initiated organic weapons fire on an estimated 15 VC moving NW at BT434107. The enemy returned mortar fire and SAF and fled NW. Helicopter gunships were used to fire on the enemy routes of escape. One PF was wounded in the action and was medevaced by helicopter to the 91st Evac Hospital. A sweep of both contact areas disclosed 8 VC KIA, 6 AK-47 rifles, 10 ChiCom grenades, and miscellaneous documents. The grenades were destroyed and the documents were taken to District Headquarters for analysis. RESULTS: 1 PF WIA(3), 8 VC KIA, 6 IWC 10 ChiCom grenades destroyed, and miscellaneous documents captured.

CAP 1-3-4. The Thuan Phuoc Hamlet Chief apprehended 5 VC carrying a large quantity of ChiCom grenades at BT652016, 10 km NE of Binh Son District Headquarters. The hamlet chief informed CAP 1-3-4 that the VC had intended to use the grenades in an attack against the CAP. He did not relate the circumstances surrounding the apprehension. The 5 VC POW were taken to District Headquarters for questioning. RESULTS: 5 VC POW (not credited to CAP) and a large quantity of ChiCom grenades captured (not credited to CAP).

5 February 1970

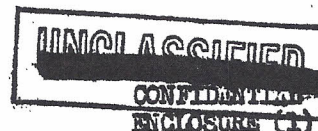
CAP 1-4-4. A CAP 1-4-4 patrol called an artillery fire mission on 3 VC observed across a river in a restricted area at a range of 700 meters at BS736824, 12 km NE of Son Tinh District Headquarters. The artillery impacted among the VC, killing all 3. Because of the intervening river, it was not practical for the patrol to conduct a sweep, but the 3 bodies were clearly visible laying in the open, motionless and obviously dead. RESULTS: 3 VC KIA.

7 February 1970

CAP 1-4-6. A CAP 1-4-6 patrol apprehended 1 VN male attempting to flee from the patrol at BS712790, 7.5 km NE of Son Tinh District Headquarters. Carrying a 20 lb bag of rice and 1000 \$VN, the VN admitted to being a VC supplier. He was taken to District Headquarters for further questioning. RESULTS: 1 VC POW (VCI), 20 lb bag of rice and 1000 \$VN captured.

9 February 1970

CAP 1-3-9. A CAP 1-3-9 patrol initiated organic weapons fire on 1 VC who was wearing grenades on his belt and who was observed across a river at BS463884, 14 km SW of Binh Son District Headquarters. The enemy fell to the ground and was clearly visible at a distance of 100 meters, lying in the open, motionless and obviously dead. Because of the intervening river, a sweep of the area was impractical. RESULTS: 1 VC KIA.



III-2

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

Command Chronology

Unit: 1st CAG

Date&Page: 3/70

Chrono cover

No CAP level
combat info
exists in this
report.

HEADQUARTERS
1st Combined Action Group
III Marine Amphibious Force
FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

3/RLP/lis
5700
Ser: 03-70

UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL (Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1))

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) MCO 5750.1A
(b) M.FPacO 5750.8B
(c) CAFO 5750.1

Encl: (1) 1st Combined Action Group Command Chronology

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

2. Downgraded at 3-year intervals, declassified after 12 years, DOD Dir 5200.10.

D F Seiler
D. F. SETLER

UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

992970

TAB (A)

DECLASSIFIED