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

3/RLP/lis
5700

~~SECRET~~ Declassified 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 April 1970 to 30 April 1970

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.1A
(b) FMFPacO 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. SEILER

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Apr 1970

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1st Combined Action Group
III Marine Amphibious Force
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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 April 1970 to 30 April 1970

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. DESIGNATION

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

COMMANDER

LtCol D. F. SEILER
1Apr70 - 30Apr70

SUBORDINATE UNITS

Combined Action Company 1-1

Captain R. J. DALTON
1Apr70 - 30Apr70

Combined Action Company 1-2

Captain J. E. KNIGHT
1Apr70 - 30Apr70

Combined Action Company 1-3

Captain D. L. LAPHAM
1Apr70 - 30Apr70

Combined Action Company 1-4

1stLt W. R. BLACK JR.
1Apr70 - 30Apr70

ATTACHED UNITS

1. None.

2. Locations

Hq 1st CAG
CACO 1-1
CACO 1-2
CACO 1-3
CACO 1-4

Chu Lai, Ly Tin District, Quang Tin Province, RVN
Tam Ky District, Quang Tin Province, RVN
Ly Tin District, Quang Tin Province, RVN
Binh Son District, Quang Ngai Province, RVN
Son Tinh District, Quang Ngai Province, RVN

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3. Staff Officers

Executive Officer

Major G. N. ROBILLARD JR.
1 Apr70 - 30 Apr70

Adjutant/S-1/HqComdt

Captain J. E. TYLER
1 Apr70 - 30 Apr70

S-2/S-3/ComMO

Major R. L. PADGETT
1 Apr70 - 30 Apr70

S-4/Supply

Captain E. P. WELLS
1 Apr70 - 30 Apr70

S-5/Special Services

Major G. N. ROBILLARD JR.
1 Apr70 - 30 Apr70

Medical

HMC J. D. WOODS
1 Apr70 - 30 Apr70

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

USMC		USN		OTHER	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
10	474	0	31	0	0

5. END-OF-MONTH UNIT DIARY STRENGTH

USMC		USN		OTHER	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
10	472	0	31	0	0

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. During the reporting period 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 (APP).
2. Enemy activity showed a significant increase over the preceding month. The Group experienced more contacts and accounted for more enemy kills, POW's and Hoi Chanh's, with the most noticeable increase occurring in the number of enemy POW's and Hoi Chanh's, the latter more than doubling the previous months total.
3. The Americal Division, USA continued to experience moderate contact throughout its TAOR, with the 196th Infantry Brigade (Operation Frederick Hill) again accounting for the bulk of the enemy contacts and kills. The infantry companies assigned to the Combined Unit Pacification Program continued to operate in their respective areas with no significant changes. The 196th and 198th Infantry Brigades continued to provide logistical and tactical support as required by the CAP's in their TAOR's.
4. A report was submitted to the CO, Combined Action Force concerning the high degree of pacification reached in the CAP areas in Quang Tin Province and it was recommended that consideration be given to relocating the CAP's in that Province.

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Operations Summary
 - a. Nighttime activities - Patrols - 880; Ambushes - 1378
 - b. Daytime activities - 801
 - c. Multi-CAP operations - 2
 - d. Combined operations - 5
 - e. Significant operations conducted - None

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II-1/III-1

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. During the reporting period 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 (APP).
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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Operations Summary
 - a. Nighttime activities - Patrols - 747; Ambushes - 1430
 - b. Daytime activities - 1430
 - c. Multi-CAP operations - 2
 - d. Combined operations - 13
 - e. Significant operations conducted - None

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2. Neutralization of Enemy Forces:

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DDDIR: 5388:18

- a. NVA KIA - 3
- b. VC KIA - 49
- c. NVA POW - 0
- d. VC POW - 18
- e. VCI POW - 0
- f. Hoi Chanks - 69

- (1) NVA - 0
- (2) VC - 14
- (3) VCI - 55

3. Casualties Sustained

- a. USMC KIA - 3
- b. USMC WIA(E) - 17
- c. USMC WIA(M) - 8
- d. USMC MIA - 0
- e. USN KIA - 0
- f. USN WIA(E) - 1
- g. USN WIA(M) - 0
- h. USN MIA - 0
- i. CAP PF KIA - 6
- j. CAP PF WIA(E) - 17
- k. CAP PF WIA(M) - 4
- l. CAP PF MIA - 0

4. How Techniques Employed: The CAPs have found if they conduct activities in an area that larger U.S. Army or ARVN units have recently left that they usually make contact with the enemy units as they start moving back into the area.

5. Command Relationships

a. VN: Daily contact between the CACO CO'S and the District Chiefs was maintained. The Group CO and S-3 made frequent visits to District and Province, coordinating with the District Chiefs, District Senior Advisors, Province Chiefs, Province Senior Advisors and their respective Staffs.

b. Local FMIAF Units: Constant liaison was maintained throughout the reporting period between the CACO CO'S and their proximate USA battalions and between the Group and the 196th and 198th Brigades and the Americal Division.

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c. Significant Problem Areas: None

6. Significant Accomplishments of Attachments: The Kit Carson Scouts accounted for three (3) enemy kills and one (1) enemy POW. They also assisted with sixteen (16) classes.

7. Lessons Learned: No new or significant lessons learned during the period.

8. Logistics

a. Significant Events

(1) Combat losses for the month were two (2) rifles, 5.56mm, M16, two (2) binoculars, 6X30, two (2) radio sets, PRT-4, one (1) radio set, PRR-9 and two (2) trucks, Utility, $\frac{1}{2}$ ton, M151.

(2) The loading/unloading dock was completed during the month.

(3) FARREP report has been submitted on all required items.

b. Supply

(1) The Group is short some T/E items but they do not effect the unit readiness, however, the shortage of certain vehicles, i.e. Truck, Utility, $\frac{1}{2}$ ton, at times causes problems in the transportation section.

(2) Seven (7) M79's were received at the Group Armory during the month.

c. Maintenance

(1) Excessive down time was experienced during the month for radios in repair. This situation has been corrected.

d. Motor Transport

(1) During the month Group motor transport logged 23,849 miles.

(2) A shortage of five (5) Trucks, Utility, $\frac{1}{2}$ ton and two (2) Trucks, $\frac{3}{4}$ ton caused some problems during the month.

e. Miscellaneous

N/A

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9. Civic Action

a. Civic Action projects during the month of April 1970 proceeded at a normal pace. The following commodities were distributed throughout the 1st Combined Action Group Area of Operation during April 1970.

- (1) Foodstuffs - 624 pounds
- (2) Meals - 304
- (3) Clothing - 7 pounds
- (4) Soap - 180 pounds

b. Educational Assistance: Forty-one (41) English classes were taught by CAP personnel for one hundred and sixty-three (163) Vietnamese students.

c. Financial Aid: None

d. Other Projects:

(1) CAP 1-3-9 located BS473863, Tra Bong Village, Binh Son District, Quang Ngai Province, blew one well due to the fact that the well was dry. In order to go deeper to attain more water a shaped charge was used which proved effective.

(2) CAP 1-2-3 located in Ly Tin District, Quang Tin Province, Ky Khong Village completed a dispensary at BT472079. The medical supplies were furnished by Headquarters, 1st Combined Action Group.

(3) CAP 1-2-2 located in Ly Tin District, Quang Tin Province has started a garden. The garden consists of corn and watermelons. The village is Ky Chong at BT415125.

10. Personnel and Administration

a. Personnel Transactions. During the month of April 1970 the following personnel transactions were completed.

(1) Joined USMC
 Off Enl
 0 36

(2) Rotated CONUS USMC
 Off Enl
 0 4

(3) Reassignment Within WestPac

USMC
 Off Enl
 0 1

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(4) Transferred by Service Records While Sick (Out of Country Hospital)

USMC	
Off	Enl
<u>0</u>	<u>8</u>

(5) Extension of WestPac Tour Effected

USMC	
Off	Enl
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

b. Promotions: During the month of April 1970 the following promotions were effected:

To LCpl	<u>43</u>
To Cpl	<u>5</u>

To Sgt	<u>4</u>
To SSgt	<u>1</u>

c. Legal Matters

(1) Courts Held:	GCM	0
	SpCM	0
	SCM	0

(2) Article 32 Investigations: 0

(3) NJP 16

(4) JAG-type Investigations Completed: 6

d. Award Recommendations

SSM	1
NMCM	9
BSM	4
NCM	1
FHM	22

e. CONGRINTS/SPLINTS/WELREPS

The command has responded to:

(0) CONGRINTS

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(0) SPLINTS

(13) WELREPS

f. Morale and Welfare

(1) R&R. The command has utilized the following number of quotas to the R&R areas listed:

(a) Hong Kong	(6)	Japan	(2)
Taipei	(3)	Bangkok	(5)
Hawaii	(6)	Sydney	(8)
Okinawa	(1)	Manila	(1)

(b) In-Country - 16

(2) Mail. Daily average bags of mail processed:

<u>Incoming</u>	<u>Outgoing</u>
6	2

(3) Hospital Visitations. Hospital visits are made daily by the Hospital Corpsman Representative, the Casualty NCO and the Mail Orderly, who also delivers mail to the patients located in hospitals at Chu Lai. Frequent visits are made by the Commanding Officer, Executive Officer, Adjutant, First Sergeant and Administrative Chief.

g. Career Planning

Re-enlistments: None

Extensions: None

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11. Intelligence

a. The reluctance of the enemy to fight, coupled with the southward movement of the 409th Sappers of the Front Four Section, were the major reasons for the lack of contact in the Tam Ky area for the month. There was no reported contact with the elements of the 1st Inf. Bn. (NVA) which was reported in the Tam Ky area last month. The lack of rifles, uniforms, and equipment on the kills in the early part of the month helped identify them as elements of the LF guerrillas which still inhabit the outlying areas of Tam Ky. Of note was the terrorist activity in the Tam Ky area where an ammunition truck was destroyed in the city.

b. The second company in the Ly Tin area experienced limited contact during the month but was able to ambush 3 NVA and capture 3 individual weapons. The NVA were possibly from the 78th MF Rocket Bn., which has been posing a threat in the area just Southwest of CAP 1-2-7, or elements of the 409th Sapper Bn. which was last located in the Southwest of CAP 1-2-5's TAOC. Americal OE reports have placed the 74th LF Co. in the same general area. A possible threat to the 2nd Company CAP's is the appearance of the Chu Lai Front of the 402nd MF Sapper Bn. The 402nd at this time, however, is located too far west to pose an immediate threat.

c. Binh Son, the home of the Third Company was comparatively active during the month. The elusive 48th MF Bn. was reported in the Son Tinh area, but for a portion of the month, agent reports, as well as contact, placed the 48th Bn. or elements of it in the no man's land just Southwest of the 3rd Co's coastal CAP's. Reports indicate that one squad of the 107th Mortar Bn. is presently attached to the 48th Bn. The K-51st Weapons Co. is presumed to be the enemy element that mortared Binh Son District Headquarters late in the month.

d. The efforts of the 4th Company Marines in Son Tinh District did not go unrewarded as they produced more KIA's than any other company for the month; although there was the same reluctance on the part of the major enemy forces in this area to engage in any large contact, there were numerous contacts with the LF and MF guerrillas. The major noticeable change in the 4th Company's TAOC, is the presence of the 506A and 506B Sapper Co's just Northwest of Quang Ngai. Of note during the month, was the large increase of Hoi Chanhs received by the 4th Company. The Hoi Chanhs list the majority of their jobs as being subordinate to the 48th Bn. and give the large ARVN operation in their area as the reason they rallied.

e. Enemy units in the 1st CAG TAOR remain vulnerable to interdiction by artillery and aerial bombardment directed by the CAP's. Enemy morale remains vulnerable to psychological exploitation by propaganda concentration on NVA/VC defeats in combat; fear of death, battle hardships and GVN ability to support the needs and aspiration of the people.

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12. Communications

a. No significant problems occurred in communications..

b. MAG-13 and LSU-B continue to provide maintenance support and they are making every effort to reduce the down time of the Group's radios.

13. Fire Support

a. Fire support during the period was provided by Division Artillery, Americal Division (1/14th and 1/82nd Bn's) and ARVN artillery, on occasions in the Tam Ky area. The artillery support has been quite timely and effective, with very few exceptions.

14. Air Support

a. Tactical air support was used frequently during the month; this included fixed wing strikes, helicopter gunship strikes and visual reconnaissance missions. No major problems were encountered with close air support and the CAP's continue to utilize the Air Force FAC's to support their daylight operations. The FAC's not only observe for the CAP's but also call artillery missions and control air strikes.

b. Air support is not limited to tactical requests, as logistical resupply of outlying CAP's requires daily attention. The time for these missions is allotted by the proximate battalion on a daily basis. These missions are neither requested nor controlled by the CAG. At times the availability of aircraft was reduced by the requirement for helicopters to support Combat Assaults (CA's) in the Americal Division.

15. Activations, Deactivations, Redesignations, Relocations of CAP's

a. Two CAP's were withdrawn during the period; CAP's 1-1-2 and 1-2-7 to await formal authorization to deactivate.

16. Combined Action Force School

a. Graduated: 31

b. Attending: 18

17. Combined Action Force Vietnamese Language School

a. Graduated: 9

b. Attending: 7

18. Other Schools

a. Infantry Weapons Repair Course: 2

b. 1st Marine Division NCO School: 6

c. Americal Division Artillery School: 18

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19. Psychological Operations

a. Friendly operations

(1) The Group distributed 3,585,000 leaflets by aircraft and 28,000 by hand for a total of 3,613,000.

(2) Aerial broadcasts were used for a total of 6 hours and 55 minutes. The "Early Word" aerial broadcast was utilized several times during the month.

(3) The Combat Speaker Team, of the 198th Infantry Brigade was used by CAP 1-3-9 to exploit a rallier from that area.

20. Volunteer Informant Program

a. During the month of March the Group paid 35,850\$VN to Vietnamese nationals for ordnance under the VIP. CACO 1-1 in Tan Ky continues to lead the group in the number of pieces of ordnance received under the program.

III-9

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