

DECLASSIFIED

3173

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
UNCLASSIFIED

3/CFW/mkp

0301

MAY 11 1972

CONFIDENTIAL - UNCLASSIFIED upon removal of enclosure (1)

FIRST ENDORSEMENT on OIC, Sub Unit One, 1st ANGLICO, FMF
ltr 3/wjl over 5213/2 Ser: 0239 of 21 April 1972

From: Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code HD)

Subj: Command Chronology for the Period 1-31 March 1972

1. Forwarded.

F. X. Quinn
F. X. QUINN
By direction

Copy to:
OIC, Sub Unit One, 1st ANGLICO, FMF

SUB #1, 1st ANGLICO

Group 4
Downgraded At 3 Year
Intervals; Declassified
After 12 Years

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

72 02940

SUB UNIT ONE
1st Air and Naval Gunfire Liaison Company
Fleet Marine Force
APO San Francisco 96309

3/wj1
5213/2
Ser: 0239
21 April 1972

CONFIDENTIAL (Unclassified upon removal of Encl (1))

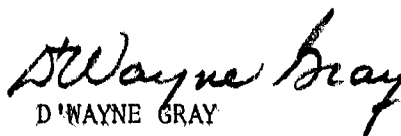
From: Officer in Charge
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code HD), Headquarters U.S. Marine Corps, Washington, D.C. 20380
Via: Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, FPO San Francisco Calif. 96610

Subj: Command Chronology for the Period 1 - 31 March 1972

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8B
(c) CG, FMFPac msg 200127Z Dec 1968

Encl: (1) Command Chronology for 1 - 31 March 1972

1. Enclosure (1) is the Command Chronology for Sub Unit One, 1st Air and Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, FMF for the period of 1 - 31 March and is forwarded in accordance with instructions contained in reference (a) through (c).


D WAYNE GRAY

DISTRIBUTION:

COMUSMACV (HISTORY) - 1
COMUSMACV (J3-06) - 1
COMNAVFORV - 1
COMCRUDESGRUSEVENTHFLT - 1
COMNGFSUPSEVENTHFLT - 1
COMTASKFOR 115 - 1
CO NAVPHIBSCOL, CORONADO - 1
CO NAVPHIBSCOL, LCREEK - 1
1st ANGLICO, FMF - 1

GROUP-4

Downgraded at 3 Year Intervals
Declassified after 12 years

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

SUB UNIT ONE
1st Air and Naval Gunfire Liaison Company
Fleet Marine Force
APO San Francisco 96309

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
1 March - 31 March 1972

INDEX

PART I	ORGANIZATIONAL DATA
PART II	NARRATIVE SUMMARY
PART III	LISTINGS OF SIGNIFICANT DATA
PART IV	SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

ENCLOSURE (1)

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

PART I

ORGANIZATION DATA

1. DESIGNATION

OFFICER IN CHARGE

D'WAYNE GRAY
 LtCol, USMC
 25 July 71 - 31 March 72

SUBORDINATE UNITS

Naval Gunfire Liaison Team
 (XXIV Corps/DaNang)

R. M. KREASSIG
 LCDR USN
 17 Nov 71 - 5 March 72
 L. F. POTTS
 1stLt USMCR
 5 March 72 - 18 March 72
 J. H. COLLINS
 LCDR USN
 18 March 72 - 31 March 72

Naval Gunfire Liaison/Spot Team
 (3rd ARVN Div/Quang Tri)

J. B. EISENSTEIN
 1stLt USMCR
 27 Feb 72 - 31 March 72

Naval Gunfire Liaison/Spot Team
 (2nd ARVN Div/Chu Lai)

A. D. GARRETT
 Lt(jg) USN
 22 Nov 71 - 31 March 72

Naval Gunfire Liaison Team
 (DRAC/Can Tho)

G. C. CREAMER
 LT USN
 16 Nov 71 - 11 March 72
 R. B. ALLEN
 LT USN
 11 March 72 - 31 March 72

Naval Gunfire Air Spot Team
 (DRAC/Binh Thuy)

W. H. LEPPIG
 1stLt USMC
 28 June 71 - 11 March 72
 C. C. KOONS
 1stLt USMC
 11 March 72 - 31 March 72

ENCLOSURE (1)

CONFIDENTIAL

Naval Gunfire Liaison/Spot Team
(21st ARVN Div/Ca Mau)

R. I. STILL
LT USN
22 Jan 72 - 31 March 72

Naval Gunfire Liaison/Spot Team
(9th ARVN Div/Rach Gia)

W. H. COUNCIL
1stLT USMC
30 Nov 71 - 6 March 72

2. LOCATION, 1 - 31 March 1972, RVN

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer

E. J. DYER
Maj USMC
25 Feb 72 - 31 March 72

Adjutant

J. H. COLE JR.
CWO-2 USMC
22 Jan 72 - 31 March 72

Operations Officer

R. W. MARSTELLER
Capt USMC
8 Dec 71 - 31 March 72

Supply Officer

R. K. HARRIS
CWO-4 USMC
11 Nov 71 - 31 March 72

ENCLOSURE (1)

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

4. STRENGTH AS OF 2400, 31 March 1972

<u>MILITARY REGION 1</u>	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>/ ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>/ ENL</u>
DANANG	1	15	1	1
QUANG TRI	3	11	0	0
HOI AN	0	0	0	0
CHU LAI	<u>0</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>
MILITARY REGION 1 TOTAL	4	35	3	1
<u>MILITARY REGION 2</u>				
VACANT				
<u>MILITARY REGION 3</u>				
SAIGON	<u>5</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
MILITARY REGION 3 TOTAL	5	40	1	1
<u>MILITARY REGION 4</u>				
BINH THUY	1	0	0	0
CAN THO	0	2	1	0
CA MAU	<u>1</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
MILITARY REGION 4 TOTAL	2	13	2	0
GRAND TOTAL:	11 /	88	6 /	2

ENCLOSURE (1)

CONFIDENTIAL

UNCLASSIFIED

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

On 30 March 1972, the long expected NVA offensive was initiated. But the intensity, size, and location of the assault surprised both ARVN and US commanders. A large, well coordinated attacking force, estimated to be three divisions with supporting units, crossed the DMZ with supporting tanks, artillery, and mobile AA and SAM batteries after heavy artillery barrages. During the first forty-eight hours of the advance four ARVN fire bases fell or were abandoned, and several others were in extreme danger. The 3rd ARVN Division lost most of its artillery, and weather grounded most friendly aircraft, leaving naval gunfire as the only continuously effective supporting arm available to ground forces in northern MR 1.

During the last two days of March, outpost Alpha 2 received heavy assaults by fire from enemy rockets, artillery, and mortars. The USS STRAUSS (DDG-16) and the USS BUCHANAN (DDG-14), directed by ANGLICO personnel at the outpost, fired suppression, counter-battery, and interdiction missions into the advancing enemy formations. The outpost was probed by enemy ground forces on 31 March 1972, and was nearly surrounded.

The combat base at Quang Tri received sporadic incoming rounds during this period, assumed to be NVA 130mm artillery rounds fired from locations north of the DMZ.

There were no ANGLICO personnel in MR 2 and MR 3, with the exception of headquarters section in Saigon.

In MR 4, The level of enemy activity slightly increased towards the end of the month. This increase consisted of small unit attacks primarily against regional and popular forces outposts, and met with limited success.

During March, Light Attack Squadron 4 (VAL-4) ceased combat operations preparatory to its stand down from Vietnam. The NGLO to the Delta Regional Assistance Command has requested additional VNAF assets to replace the departing VAL-4 assets.

ENCLOSURE (1)

UNCLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

Several problems have arisen in flying with VNAF in the Delta area. Pilots have shown a persistent reluctance to fly during lunch time, to make more than one hop daily, and to vary their schedules. The problems were brought to the attention of the Commander of VNAF Squadron 116, and they are being resolved.

For the first time in several months, naval gunfire was effectively utilized in conjunction with maneuvering ground units. Increased ground fire at observation aircraft indicate the effectiveness of naval gunfire's role. On 11 March 1972, a battalion of the 33rd Regiment, 21st ARVN Division, trapped an estimated battalion size enemy force near the western coast of the Ca Mau peninsula. Naval gunfire was used for blocking fire, and during the night unobserved fire was directed onto the enemy position. The following morning, advancing ARVN troops discovered numerous blood trails, field equipment, and weapons scattered throughout the area.

The level of naval gunfire activity controlled by Sub Unit One, 1st ANGLICO, FMF, rose slightly during March 1972, primarily because of the NVA offensive beginning 30 March 1972. Although the number of ship days provided by CTG 70.8 (Commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group, Seventh Fleet) fell to 91, the number of rounds per ship day fired rose from 79 in February to 92 in March, with 8,382 rounds of all types and caliber being fired in support of the Army of the Republic of Vietnam units and Vietnamese provincial forces.

ENCLOSURE (1)

CONFIDENTIAL

PART III

LISTINGS OF SIGNIFICANT DATA

1. Allied organizations committed to combat.

a. The following ships operated with elements of Sub Unit One, 1st ANGLICO in support of operations conducted during the month of March 1972 in the Republic of Vietnam.

DESTROYERS

USS STRAUSS (DDG-16)	USS BAUSELL (DD-845)
USS ANDERSON (DD-786)	USS SAMPLE (DE-1048)
USS HIGBEE (DD-806)	USS HAMNER (DD-718)
USS BUCHANAN (DDG-14)	

b. The following units provided spotting aircraft to Liaison/Spot Teams of Sub Unit One, 1st ANGLICO:

<u>U.S. NAVY</u>	<u>ALLIED</u>
Light Attack Squadron 4	116 VNAF Squadron
	122 VNAF Squadron

U.S. ARMY

175th Combat Assault Aviation Company

c. U.S. and allied units supported during the month of March include:

<u>U.S.</u>	<u>ALLIED</u>
None	147th VNMCM Bde
	2nd ARVN Div
	3rd ARVN Div
	9th ARVN Div
	21st ARVN Div
	258th VNMCM Bde

d. Personnel of Sub Unit One, 1st ANGLICO participated in the following named combat operations during March 1972:

New Life Campaign 21

e. The following damage was inflicted on the enemy by ANGLICO controlled naval gunfire during the reporting period:

	<u>MR I</u>	<u>MR II</u>	<u>MR III</u>	<u>MR IV</u>	<u>MR Total</u>
KIA (CONFIRMED)	9	0	0	11	20
KIA (ESTIMATED)	4	0	0	36	40

DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

	<u>MR I</u>	<u>MR II</u>	<u>MR III</u>	<u>MR IV</u>	<u>MR Total</u>
STRUCTURES DAMAGED	25	0	0	90	115
STRUCTURES DESTROYED	6	0	0	250	256
SECONDARY EXPLOSIONS	12	0	0	16	28

f. The following number of missions were fired during March with the indicated ammunition expenditures:

	<u>MR I</u>	<u>MR II</u>	<u>MR III</u>	<u>MR IV</u>	<u>MR Total</u>
MISSIONS	720	0	0	190	910
AMMUNITION					
5"/54	2,481	0	0	0	2,481
5"/38	614	0	0	5,287	5,901
5" Total	3,095	0	0	5,287	8,382
Total Unobserved	1,694	0	0	342	2,036

g. Rest and Recreation

The following are statistics for Sub Unit One, 1st ANGLICO during March for each out-of-country R&R location:

BANGKOK	1	TAIPEI	1
CONUS LEAVE	1		

h. AWARDS

	<u>RECOMMENDED</u>	<u>APPROVED</u>
Bronze Star Medal	1	8
Air Medal	4	15
Navy Commendation	1	12
Navy Achievement	0	9
Combat Action Ribbon	2	1

ENCLOSURE (1)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

i. Sequential Listings

- 1 - 3 March USS ANDERSON supported the 2nd and 3rd ARVN Divisions. Her fires destroyed 1 structure, damaged 1 structure and caused 3 secondary explosions.
- 1 - 14 March USS SAMPLE supported the 9th and 21st ARVN Divisions. Her fires destroyed 152 structures, damaged 49 structures; caused 6 secondary explosions and resulted in 1 estimated KIA.
- 1 - 15, 31 March USS STRAUSS supported the 2nd and 3rd ARVN Divisions. Her fires destroyed 9 structures, damaged 3 structures; caused 3 secondary explosions and resulted in 13 estimated KIA's.
- 3 - 15 March USS HIGBEE supported the 2nd and 3rd ARVN Divisions. Her fires damaged 3 structures and resulted in 2 estimated KIA's.
- 15 - 26 March USS HAMNER supported the 9th and 21st ARVN Divisions. Her fires destroyed 42 structures, damaged 27 structures; and resulted in 14 confirmed KIA's.
- 16 - 31 March USS BUCHANAN supported the 2nd and 3rd ARVN Divisions. Her fires destroyed 4 structures, damaged 5 structures; and caused 2 secondary explosions.
- 16 - 25 March USS BAUSELL supported the 2nd and 3rd ARVN Divisions. Her fires destroyed 47 structures, damaged 19 structures; caused 7 secondary explosions and resulted in 14 estimated KIA's.
- 26 - 31 March USS BAUSELL supported the 9th and 21st ARVN Divisions. Her fires destroyed 1 structure, damaged 8 structures; caused 2 secondary explosions which resulted in 6 confirmed KIA's and 10 estimated KIA's.

ENCLOSURE (1)

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

PART IV
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

NONE

ENCLOSURE (1)

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED