

1st FORCE RECON CO  
S & C NO. 035110 **D**

1ST FORCE RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY  
Headquarters Battalion  
3d Marine Division (Rein), MAF  
APO, San Francisco, California 96601

COPY 6 OF 6 *wis*

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5950  
10 Nov 1965  
SER: 026-65

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force (Attn: Assistant Chief of Staff G-3)

Subj: Command Chronology; report of

Ref: (a) CG, IIIMAF memo 103/HPL/jfc over 5211/1 over 28 Sept 65

Encl: (1) Command and Staff Billets

1. In compliance with reference (a), the following report is submitted for the month of October 1965:

a. Organizational Data

1. Designation/Location. 1st Force Reconnaissance Company, Da Nang, Republic of Viet Nam.
2. Period covered by report - 010001H Oct65 through 312400H Oct65.
3. Command and Staff. See enclosure (1).
4. Average monthly strength. Eight officers, 80 Marine Corps Enlisted and two Navy Enlisted (Corpsmen).

b. Significant Events

1. Personnel.
  - a. Four officers, 29 Marine Corps Enlisted, and two Navy Enlisted (Corpsmen) arrived from Okinawa on 24 October 1965.
  - b. Two reconnaissance platoons, the 5th and 6th platoons, composed of one officer and 14 Marine Corps enlisted each plus four Marine Corps enlisted (support personnel) remain on Okinawa. These platoons and support personnel are being carried as TAD from this company.
  - c. One Marine Corps enlisted is hospitalized at Camp Eue, Okinawa recuperating from a knee operation.

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d. Four Marine Corps enlisted completed the Airborne Course 29 October 1965 on Okinawa. These four men are expected to arrive in Da Nang shortly.

e. One reconnaissance platoon, the 3rd platoon, composed of one officer and 15 Marine Corps enlisted is in Subic Bay, P. I. awaiting transportation to Da Nang. This platoon has just completed a tour with the SLF.

f. The arrival of the personnel noted in paragraph 1.b.(1)(a) above gives this company a near 100% capability to support and coordinate combat operations.

g. The anticipated arrival of the 3rd platoon will bring the in-country operational strength of this unit to 66.67%. It is anticipated that this strength will remain constant, with four reconnaissance platoons in-country and two on Okinawa, but that platoons will rotate between Viet Nam and Okinawa on a cyclic basis so as to provide out-of-country for all operational personnel.

#### h. Strength and Locations at End of Reporting Period

1. Nine officers, 100 Marine Corps enlisted and three Navy enlisted (Corpsmen) at Da Nang, Republic of Viet Nam.

2. Two Officers and 37 Marine Corps enlisted on Okinawa.

3. One officer and 15 Marine Corps enlisted in Subic Bay, P. I.

#### 2. Administration

a. This unit's official designation remains as "Sub-Unit #1, 1st Force Reconnaissance Company", until 1 November 1965 when it will change to "1st Force Reconnaissance Company".

b. With the arrival on 24 October 1965 of necessary personnel, directives, records, and office supplies and equipment, this unit now has a self-administration capability.

#### 3. Command and Control

a. The Commanding Officer of the company now has internal operational and administrative control of the entire unit except for three reconnaissance platoons located out-of-country.

b. Operational control of this unit shifted on 30 October 1965 from Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force to Commanding General, 3rd Marine Marine Division.

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On the same date, this operational control was delegated by the Commanding General, 3rd Marine Division to the Commanding Officer, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, 3rd Marine Division.

c. Administrative control of this unit remains with the Commanding Officer, Headquarters Battalion, 3rd Marine Division.

4. Close Combat

a. Two platoons, the 2nd and 4th reconnaissance Platoons were inserted north of the Da Nang TACR on the evening of 31 October 1965 for reconnaissance/surveillance operations in RAGR #2. Negative enemy sightings or contact reported up to end of reporting period.

5. Logistics

a. This unit's supplies and equipment, including the entire mount-out block, arrived from Okinawa on 24 October 1965, giving this unit a near optimum logistics and maintenance support capability.

b. The company's entire allowance of wheeled vehicles is now in-country, providing adequately for operational and administrative motor transport support requirements.

c. Enough of the unit's communications equipment is now in-country to provide the necessary communications support for any assigned combat operation or other mission.

M. G. GAFFEN

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS,  
DOD DIR 5200.10

COMMAND AND STAFF BILLETTS

<u>BILLET</u>	<u>T/O RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>SER. NO./NOB</u>
Commanding Officer	Major	GAFFIN, Malcolm C.	Major	057259/0302
Executive Officer	Captain	WHITTINGHAM, David	Captain	079067/0302
Operations Officer	Captain	SNAVER, William C.	Captain	080180/0302
Intelligence Officer	Lieutenant	OWENS, Sammy L.	First Lieutenant	085114/0302
Supply Officer	Lieutenant	BEST, Sheldon J.	First Lieutenant	088052/3002
Communications Officer	Lieutenant	GOWNEY, Virgil L.	Gunnery Sergeant	1113771/2539
Platoon Commander, 1stPlt	Lieutenant	GRANNIS, David L. III	First Lieutenant	087538/0302
Platoon Commander, 2ndPlt	Lieutenant	LEMKER, John C.	First Lieutenant	087585/0302
Platoon Commander, 4thPlt	Lieutenant	PARKER, Richard F. Jr.	First Lieutenant	085283/0302

ENCLOSURE (1)

