

**Headquarters
1st Battalion, 5th Marines
1st Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force
c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, California**

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps
Via: (1) Commanding Officer, 5th Marines
(2) Commanding General, 1st Marine Division, FMF
(3) Commanding general, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Historical Diary of October, 1950

Ref: (a) Paragraph 11401, Marine Corps Manual
(b) Division General Order #16 with addendum

Map: AMS L751 KOREA, 1:50,000

SUMMARY:

1. This diary covers the activities of the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines during the period 1-31 October, 1950. From 1 October to 5 October the battalion was located to the northwest of SEOUL, KOREA conducting patrols. On 5 October this battalion made a motor march to the 1st Marine Division Assembly Area at INCHON, KOREA preparatory to going aboard ship. From 8 October to 27 October this battalion was embarked aboard the USS BAYFIELD (APA-33) enroute to WONSAN, KOREA. From 27 October to 31 October the battalion moved north to an assembly area at WONSAN and then to YONGHUNG, KOREA with the mission of the battalion being to protect and keep open the Main Supply Route from WONSAN to HAMHUNG. Special Action Reports cover this entire period, one report ending 7 October and the another beginning on that date.

CHRONOLOGICAL NARRATIVE:

DATE

1. The battalion CP and companies except "C" were located in the Middle School, SEOUL, KOREA, in a standby status to move to a new assembly area at TA 1764. "C" Company had been detached to 2/5 on 30 September. At 1530, this battalion, (less "C" Company), began movement as directed arriving at designated assembly area at 1730, with the CP being established at TA 1764-M-3. The battalion dug in and established local security. At 1945 orders

were received from the 5th Marines (Rein) that the battalion would send out two (2) patrols to assigned sectors and also to provide a security detail for the 3rd Battalion's supply train to 3/5 positions. At 2040, "C" Company rejoined the battalion.

2. Patrols #1 and #2 from "A" Company departed from the battalion area. The patrols covered their assigned routes meeting negative enemy resistance. Mine fields were located by both patrols. Information gathered from civilian sources indicated that small groups of enemy were raiding the villages. At 1900, the patrols returned to the assembly area. At 1940, the security guard for 3/5's supply train departed. While enroute a truck overturned on a soft shoulder in the road slightly injuring three (3) men of the security guard. The S-4 of 3/5 supplied two jeeps and trailers to reload the supplies from the damaged truck and to deliver them to 3/5. The security guard returned to the battalion area at 0800.

3. Patrol #1 and #2, formed from "C" Company departed the battalion area at 0800. Patrol #1 returned at 1500 and reported engaging in a light fire fight with an undetermined number of enemy. One (1) member of the patrol was wounded. At 1649, patrol #2 returned to the battalion area with negative enemy contact. Patrol reports indicated that the groups of enemy reported by the previous patrols had been withdrawing to the northwest. At 0930, "B" Company which had provided a security guard for a supply convoy returned at 1345 reporting that no enemy had been encountered. At 2040, orders were received that on the following day the battalion would send a reinforced patrol in the area covered by patrol #1 of that day. At 2035, orders were received that the battalion would provide one rifle platoon reinforced with two sections of "A" Battery, 50 AAA (USA), as security element for 3/5's supply train. Weapons Company was assigned this mission.

4. "B" Company (Rein) with one squad of "B" Company, 1st Engineer Battalion, and one section of 81mm mortar platoon, departed from the assembly area to patrol to the northwest to the village of SADOK, KOREA, to destroy enemy reported in that area. "B" Company (Rein) patrolled to the village of SADOK and returned with no enemy contact. Four (4) mine fields were found along route of patrol and were destroyed by the detachment of engineers. A total of 82 anti-tank and anti-personnel mines were destroyed. At 0830, the supply train departed the battalion area with security elements attached and returned at 1600, reporting no activity while enroute to and from destination. The battalion remained in assembly area and no enemy activity encountered.

5. At 1130 the battalion, upon orders of 5th Marines (Rein), entrucked for movement to the 1st Marine Division Assembly Area at INCHON, KOREA. At 1245, the first serial was underway and by 1600 the last serial had arrived at the new assembly area. The battalion was billeted in buildings of the Jinsen Electrical Works.

6-7. This battalion remained in the assembly area and began reorganization and re-supply.

8. The battalion remained in assembly area at INCHON, KOREA.
9. "B" Company entrucked for movement to dock and embarked aboard the USS BAYFIELD (APA-33) at 1335, followed by Weapons Company at 1500. "C" Company embarked at 1945 followed by "A" Company at 2045.
10. All attached units, less Shore Party, embarked aboard the USS BAYFIELD at 1100. H&S Company, 1st Battalion and H&S Company, 5th Marines, less Command Groups, boarded at 1445. At 1810, the Command Groups embarked.
11. School conducted on small unit tactics and physical drill was held. This battalion completely embarked.
12. USS BAYFIELD continued to be stream loaded with the Shore Party detachment boarding at 1800.
13. USS BAYFIELD continued to receive additional cargo.
14. Preliminary planning of the WONSAN landing began.
15. 5th Marines Operational Plan 35-50 was received and planning for the WONSAN landing continued. All embarked troops were inoculated for Small-Pox.
16. Loading of USS BAYFIELD continued.
- 17-24. At 0100, 17 October the loading was completed with the USS BAYFIELD (APA-33) getting underway at 0800 for the port of WONSAN, KOREA. Plans were formulated and distributed for the forthcoming operation at WONSAN. Physical drill was held daily. Training conducted in small unit tactics, cold weather operations, debarkation and abandon ship drill, basic amphibious indoctrination, and combat in built up area.
25. At 1500, the USS BAYFIELD anchored off the coast of WONSAN, KOREA.
26. The unloading of the USS BAYFIELD commenced with no troops debarking from our battalion.
27. At 0730, the advance party for the battalion debarked and moved to an assembly area, north of WONSAN at TA 5983-N-2.
28. The battalion supply section debarked and moved to the new assembly area.

DATE

29. The remainder of the battalion debarked at 0930 and began movement by truck convoy to assembly area. At 1745, all units, less ship's platoon, arrived at the assembly area. Orders were received during the evening for the battalion to move by truck convoy to the vicinity of YONGHUNG.

30. At 0930, this battalion embarked aboard trucks and began movement to designated assembly area at YONGHUNG arriving there at 1315 with the CP being established at TA 4978-P-3. No enemy contact was made during the motor march. There were 500 ROK troops also located in the YONGHUNG area. "A" Battery, 11th Marines was attached.

31. Active patrolling was conducted for the protection of the Main Supply Route with negative enemy contact. At 1605, the warning order was received for movement to new position at CHIGYONG, KOREA.

/s/ **John L. Hopkins**

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All diaries were copied exactly from photo copies received from the Historical Section, Headquarters, Marine Corps. Only change made was the addition of a header to maintain page placement.