

HEADQUARTERS
3d Battalion, 12th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO San Francisco 96602

20068

3/EOL/jhs
5750
Ser: 02367
1 January 1968

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Commanding Officer
To: CMC (CODE A03D)
Via: (1) Commanding General, 3D Marine Division
(2) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Forces
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 to 31 December 1967 (U)

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
(b) FMFPAGO 5750.8
(c) DivO 5750.1
(d) RegtO 5750.1

Encl: (1) 3D Battalion, 12th Marines Command Chronology for period 1 to 31 December 1967

1. In accordance with the provisions of reference (a) through (d) enclosure (1) is submitted.

Roger W. Greer
ROGER W. GREER

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
1 to 31 ~~January 1968~~
DECEMBER 1967

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ENCLOSURE (1)
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 ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. DesignationCommander

3d Battalion, 12th Marines (-) Rein. 3d Marine Division (Rein)	LtCol ROGER W. GREER 061366/0802 1-31 Dec 67
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Subordinate Units

Battery "G" 3d Battalion 12th Marines, 3d Marine Division (Rein)	Capt S.B. GRIMES 082336/0802 1-31 Dec 67
--	--

Battery "H" 3d Battalion 12th Marines, 3d Marine Division (Rein)	Capt A.C. CONLON 082857/0802 1-28 Dec 67
--	--

Battery "I" 3d Battalion 12th Marines, 3d Marine Division (Rein)	Capt G.C. HEARN 076973/0802 29-31 Dec 67
--	--

Headquarters Battery, 3d Battalion 12th Marines, 3d Marine Division (Rein)	Capt N.D. HAMILTON 091615/0802 1-31 Dec 67
--	--

1st Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery 3d Battalion, 12th Marines 3d Marine Division (Rein)	Capt J. TAYLOR 087666/0802 1-31 Dec 67
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2nd Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery 3d Battalion, 12th Marines 3d Marine Division (Rein)	Capt R.J. LUCAS 083878/0802 1-31 Dec 67
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Attached Units

Battery "B" 1st Battalion 11th Marines, 1st Marine Division (Rein)	Capt R.H. BROWN 080706/0802 29-31 Dec 67
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3d Platoon, 1st Searchlight Battery 12th Marines, 3d Marine Division (Rein)	Sgt M.A. ROZAS 2062436/0811 1-31 Dec 67
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2. Location

1-31 December 1967 Headquarters (Fwd) YD 539318 Thua Thien
Province, Republic of Vietnam

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1-31 December 1967 Headquarters (Rear) YD 885127 Phu Bai Base
Camp

3. Staff Officers

a. Executive Officer	Major G.E. ELLIOTT 074987/0802 1-31 Dec 67
b. S-1 Adjutant/Legal Officer	Capt S.J. HAYES 093169/0802 1-31 Dec 67
c. Asst Battalion Adjutant	1st Lt L.D. HUNT 093945/0802 1-31 Dec 67
d. Personnel Officer	WO F.P. DURBINO 098602/0130 1-31 Dec 67
e. S-2 Officer	1st Lt G.P. JAMESON 092878/0802 1-31 Dec 67
f. S-3 Officer	Major D.E. VOWELL 076105/0802 1-31 Dec 67
g. S-3A	Capt W.K. LAW 092636/0802 1-31 Dec 67 1st Lt A.A. FINLEY 094691/0802 1-31 Dec 67
h. S-4 Officer	Capt A.D. NASTRI 082249/0802 1-31 Dec 67
i. Communications Officer	Capt G.E. CADMAN 091721/2520 1-31 Dec 67

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- j. Motor Transport Officer 2nd Lt L. LUDWIG
0101245/3502
1-31 Dec 67
- k. Supply Officer 1st Lt J.D. BLEVINS
095582/3002
1-31 Dec 67
- l. Survey Officer 1st Lt A.A. FINLEY
094691/0802
1-31 Dec 67
- m. Liaison Officer Capt P.D. WINER
082307/0802
1-22 Dec 67
Major J.C. DEEMER
076888/0802
23-31 Dec 67

4. Average Monthly Strength

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>OTHER</u>	
Off	Enl	Off	Enl	Off	Enl
37	529	2	7	0	0

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PART II

The month of December opened with the 3d Battalion continuing in direct support of the 4th Marines on operation Neosho. Initially the 3d Battalion, 26th Marines conducted extensive search and destroy operations in the Cobi Than Tan Valley and the My Chanh area while the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines provided security for Camp Evans, Hill 51, and Hill 674.

On 2 December, operational control of Battery "H" was chopped to Battalion Landing Team 2/4. However, Battery "H" remained at Camp Evans and continued to deliver fires in support of the 4th Marines while preparations were made to embark with the Special Landing Force. The preparations included command and technical inspections, visits by contact teams, and preparation of embarkation and landing plans. Battery "H" was brought to full Table of Organization strength from the existing assets of the 3d Battalion and new arrivals. Additionally, the Battalion Naval Gunfire Shore Party was attached to Battery "H".

On 4 December the 2nd Provisional 155mm Battery displaced to YD 635253 to support the Army of the Republic of Viet Nam on Operation Lam Son #152. The operation concluded on 8 December and the battery returned to Camp Evans.

The 3d Battalion test-fired six 105mm howitzer Propaganda shells on 5 December. In preparation for the firing, classes on packing, handling, and functioning of the propaganda shell were given to members of the 4th Marines Psychological Operations Section. The test-firing was unsuccessful as none of the fuzes functioned. The information from the test-firing was submitted to ordnance personnel for evaluation.

On 13 December, the 3d Battalion, 26th Marines commenced displacement to Khe Sahn. The loss of the 3d Battalion, 26th Marines reduced the tempo of offensive operations in the Neosho area. To offset the loss, the reconnaissance effort and artillery fires were increased in the areas of known enemy movement. An artillery liaison team was sent to Hai Lang on 17 December to coordinate fires of Army of the Republic of Viet Nam artillery in support of the increased reconnaissance effort in the My Chanh area.

Two 155mm Howitzers from the 1st Provisional 155mm Battery were sent to Khe Sanh on 14 December and chopped to the operational control of the 26th Marines. The displacement was made with CH-53 helicopters.

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Colonel E.S. SCHICK, Jr, Commanding Officer of the 12th Marines, arrived at Camp Evans on 18 December to visit the 3d Battalion and to promote Lieutenant Colonel Roger W. GREER to his present rank.

On 18 December, Lieutenant Colonel GREER and Sergeant Major SELOVER attended a planning conference at Quang Tri in preparation for the displacement of the 3d Battalion to the Quang Tri area during January.

A Christmas cease fire period was established from 1800H, 24 December to 1800H, 25 December. The 3d Battalion fired 1044 rounds, after the cease fire began, against 440 Viet Cong who massed in the Cobi Thanh Tan Valley in violation of the cease fire.

The Neosho area of operation was extended to the north for the period 26-30 December in conjunction with the Special Landing Force Operation Badger Tooth. Companies "B" and "D", 1st Battalion, 1st Marines were placed under the operational control of the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines for the operation. A battery group, headed by Major G.E. ELLIOTT, displaced to YD 469384 to provide artillery support. The battery group consisted of a detachment of Headquarters Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines, the 1st Provisional 155mm Battery (-), and Battery "C", 1st Battalion, 11th Marines. Security of the group was provided by an Army of the Republic of Viet Nam Airborne Company from the 1st ARVN Division. Additional artillery support was obtained from the Army of the Republic of Viet Nam Artillery units at Hai Lang and Phong Dien. Artillery liaison teams from the 3d Battalion were emplaced at both locations to coordinate fires. The battery group returned to Camp Evans on 28 December.

On 27 December, a second test-firing of the 105mm Propaganda shell was conducted, this time with four rounds. The results were the same as the previous test and the data was again submitted to ordnance personnel for evaluation.

Battery "H" departed Camp Evans on 28 December to embark with the Special Landing Force. On 29 December, Battery "B" 1st Battalion, 11th Marines were placed under the operational control of the 3d Battalion. Battery "B" occupied the position at Camp Evans vacated by Battery "H". Also on 29 December, Battery "I", 3d Battalion, 12th Marines was returned to the administrative control of its parent battalion.

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Battery "I" displaced from Camp Carroll to Quang Tri and was placed under the operational control of the 1st Battalion, 11th Marines.

The month of December closed with a cease fire which commenced at 1800H, 31 December. The 3d Battalion continued its role of direct support of the 4th Marines

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PART III

Sequential Listing of Significant Events.

1. Combat missions assigned.

a. 3d Battalion, 12th Marines in direct support of 4th Marine Regiment.

2. Significant Operations Conducted.

a. Operation NEOSHO

b. Operation LAM SON 152

3. Casualties inflicted on the enemy.

a. KIA (C) 55

b. KIA (P) 86

4. Casualties sustained

a. KIA 0

b. WIA 2

c. Died (NBC) 0

5. Equipment. 4.6% of the Battalion's Motor Transport prime movers are on deadline. Two Trucks, Cargo M37 are presently deadlined for 3rd echelon repair. One 155mm Howitzer is deadlined awaiting jack parts. One TD-15 Tractor is deadlined for starter and voltage regulator. The over all maintenance situation for other types of equipment remains good.

6. Logistics. The overall Logistics situation remains good although some authorized allowance shortages of major items of equipment still exist. During December, the issue of M16 rifles and the recovery of M14 rifles was completed. Four (4) CP Tents were received during the month, but no GP Tents were received. The Battalion's FPC bunker was completed during December and is now in use. Requisitions are still outstanding on 1070 bags of cement ordered to improve gun positions. There are presently seven PRC-25 radios and one MRC-83 deadlined at FPC "A". Total tonnage of goods transported from Phu Bai to Camp Evans during December was 330 tons; total troops transported was 2,274; and total miles traveled was 5,564.

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a. Food Services. The Battalion served 60% "A" rations, 30% "B" rations and 10% "C" rations during the month.

b. Medical. There were 233 outpatients treated by the Battalion Aid Station during the month. The Battalion had no KIA's two (2) WIA's, and one (1) hospitalized (NBC) during the reporting period.

7. Administration

a. Morale has maintained its high level due to 100% participation in R&R opportunities. Also, several out of country stand-by quotas were utilized. Training of new administration personnel is being carried out in compliance with the training schedule.

b. A total of 3 Commanding Officer's Non-Judicial Punishments were held during December for the following violations:

(1) Article 89, UCMJ - 1

(2) Article 91, UCMJ - 1

(3) Article 115, UCMJ - 1
Article 134, UCMJ - 1

There were no summary, special, or general courts-martial during this period.

c. Administrative procedures are being accomplished in an efficient manner. The respective batteries are coordinating their administrative work with that of the battalion and the results are quite effective.

8. Personnel. The average strength for the month was 84% of the authorized manning level. The Battalion is currently operating at 77% of the manning level. This decline was occasioned by the loss of Battery "H" and the joining of Battery "I". The battalion joined 4 Marine officers, 70 Marine enlisted. There were 84 Marine enlisted either transferred or rotated.

9. Intelligence

a. Enemy Activity. Reconnaissance patrols in the vicinity of the Cobi Than Tan Valley have observed a large number of

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enemy troops using the area in the vicinity of YD 5625 as an assembly area before they move into base area 114 or across route #1. The enemy has stepped up its attempts to mine route #1 and to collect taxes in the areas bordering the road.

b. Enemy Intentions. Local agent reports seem to indicate a buildup of troops for the purpose of attacking Camp Evans, the district Headquarters at Phong Dien, or the district Headquarters at Hai Lang. The program of mining route #1 is compatible with the enemy's program of harassment during the monsoon season. Collecting taxes is a standard practice by the Viet Cong to raise money for their post-monsoon operations.

c. Administration. The crater analysis team was revised due to the departure of Battery "H" from the Camp Evans area. Classes concerning crater analysis techniques were held after the team revision. The classes dealt with mortar craters, howitzer and gun craters, and shell report forms. Practical application of the techniques was accomplished by actual analysis performed within the area of operations.

10. Communications-Electronics

a. During the month of December, the communications section continued to provide support for the Battalion, located at Camp Evans.

b. The Fire Direction Center moved into the new FDC bunker. The communications section installed all electrical and telephone wiring. The RC-292's were relocated at the new bunker site. The move from the old FDC to the new one was effected smoothly, with no loss of communications resulting.

c. The battalion Technical Repair shop was relocated in the old FDC bunker which has proven to be more than adequate.

d. The battalion communications section has provided liaison teams for Phong Dien and Hai Lang several times this month. Communications has been good with both of them.

e. A radio retransmission team was inserted on Hill 674 for support of Operation Badger Tooth. They played a key role in providing continuous communications from the field to the appropriate FDC.

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f. The Battalion established a command group with the Battery group at YD 469384. Two Fire Direction Nets and one Conduct of Fire Net were guarded at this position. Communications was difficult in the lower megacycle range, but very good in the higher spectrums.

g. The Battalion Fire Direction frequency still is over-ridden periodically by an unauthorized station, but it doesn't last for any great duration. The problem seems to be predicated on the atmospheric conditions.

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