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4th Bn, 12th Mar
S&C # C-401-68
3D MARDIV S&C
BT# 575768

HEADQUARTERS
4th Battalion, 12th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein) FMF
FPO San Francisco 96602

3/GJM/rgt
5750
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1 October 1968

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code AO3D)
Via: (1) Commanding General, 3d Marine Division
(2) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific
Subj: Command Chronology for period 1-30 September 1968 (U)
Ref: (a) MCO F5750.1A
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8
(c) DivO 5750.1A
Encl: (1) 4th Battalion, 12th Marines Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of reference (a), (b) and (c), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. This document is to be downgraded at three year intervals and declassified after 32 years in accordance with DOD Directive 5200.10.

B. F. Stewart
B. F. STEWART

Copy to:
CO, 12th Marines

4TH BN/12TH MAR

CMD CHRON

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4th Battalion, 12th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein) FMF
APO San Francisco 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 September to 30 September

INDEX

- PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA
- PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY
- PART III - SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF
SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
- PART IV - SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

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Enclosure (1)

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

4th Battalion, 12th Marines Maj. B.F. STEWART (1-30 Sep)

SUBORDINATE UNITS

Headquarters Battery	Capt. B.F. METCALFE (1-30 Sep)
Battery "K"	Capt. J.B. ZIMMERMAN (1-30 Sep)
Battery "L"	Capt. D.G. FURDY (1-30 Sep)
Battery "M"	Capt. W.D. JONES (1-30 Sep)
* 1st 155 Provisional How Battery	1stLt. J.L. PETERSON (1-12, 15-17 Sep)

* Chopped OPCON to 1st Bn, 12th Mar on 12 Sep, regained OPCON on 15 Sep, and chopped OPCON on 17 Sep to 2nd Bn, 12th Mar.

2. LOCATION

1-30 September: CAMP CARROLL, RVN (YD 062548)

3. STAFF OFFICERS

XO	Maj. S.H. HELMS (1-30 Sep)
Sgt Maj	SgtMaj. F. VIOLETTE (1-30 Sep)
S-1	1stLt. A.L. THORNTON (1-30 Sep)
S-2	1stLt. J.J. BUTERA (1-7 Sep)
	1stLt. E.L. GARNETT (8-30 Sep)
S-3	Capt. G.J. MISKE (1-30 Sep)
S-3A	1stLt. M.F. SHIELDS (1-30 Sep)
S-4/MaintO	Capt. D.M. BUGBEE (1-30 Sep)
CommO	Capt. B.F. METCALFE (1-30 Sep)
MTO	1stLt. B.J. RENFROW (1-30 Sep)
SupplyO	1stLt. H.J. RADOW (1-30 Sep)

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH *

<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>USMC</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>	<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>USN</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
25		475	0		11

* Figures do not include K/4/12 which is ADCON to 9th MAB.

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During September, the 4th Battalion, 12th Marines was assigned the primary mission of General Support of 3d Marine Division. Again, it provided "Quick-Fire Channels" to four Direct Support Battalions (1/12, 2/12, 3/12, and 5/4). These unofficial reinforcing roles again accounted for an increased number of observed missions, with minimum response time and consequently, a greater degree of damage inflicted on the enemy. Direct Support fires were also furnished to 113 Reconnaissance teams.

The battalion continued to control the tactical fires of the 2nd Platoon, 1st 8" Howitzer Battery located at the ROCKPILE and later LZ PETE; the 2nd Platoon, 5th 155 Gun Battery, at CAMP CARROLL and later the ROCKPILE; and the 8" Platoon of the 5th 155 Gun Battery, at CA LU. The General Support fires for the 3d Marine Division in the Lancaster II (3d & 9th Marines) and Scotland II (4th and 9th Marines) AO's were controlled by 4th Battalion, 12th Marines.

The tactical and technical fire direction of the three organic batteries were again centrally controlled in the Battalion FDC at CAMP CARROLL. This again provided the battalion with the capability for instantaneous massing of fires over a wide front.

On the 12th, OPCON of the 1st Provisional Howitzer Battery Towed was chopped to 1/12. Subsequently, on the 14th, the 8" Platoon at the ROCKPILE moved to LZ PETE and was assigned the mission of reinforcing 2/12, as was the 2nd Platoon of the 155 Gun Battery when it moved to the ROCKPILE.

By the end of the month, the battalion controlled the tactical fires of four firing units and technical fires of three. Nevertheless, General Support fires for the entire Division were provided in the usual timely and accurate manner.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. COMBAT MISSIONS ASSIGNED

1-30 September: 4th Battalion, 12th Marines (Rein) - General Support of 3d Marine Division.

2. SIGNIFICANT OPERATIONS SUPPORTED (OPCON UNITS)

During the month of September, the 4th Battalion, 12th Marines participated in the following operations: HIGHRISE (1-30 Sep); THOR (1-30 Sep); LANCASTER II (1-30 Sep); SALINE II (1-30 Sep); KENTUCKY (1-30 Sep); SCOTLAND II (1-30 Sep).

3. FIRE SUPPORT PROVIDED

a. Recapitulation of fire missions:

<u>TARGET</u>	<u>MISSIONS</u>	<u>TOTAL ROUNDS</u>
CONFIRMED	305	12,100
ACQUIRED	618	4,107
PREPARATION	168	3,657
SPECIAL PURPOSE	136	523
GRAND TOTAL	1227	20,387
HE TOTAL		19,094
WP TOTAL		738
ILLUM TOTAL		507
M49 TOTAL		48

4. CASUALTIES INFLICTED ON THE ENEMY (OPCON UNITS)

a. KIA: 2 WIA: 12

5. CASUALTIES SUSTAINED (ADCON UNITS)

a. HOSTILE: KIA: 2 WIA: 3

b. NON-HOSTILE: DEATH: 0 INJURY: 1

6. COMMAND RELATIONS

a. 4th Battalion, 12th Marines
1-30 September: OPCON and ADCON to 12th Marines

7. EQUIPMENT

The one M109 155 howitzer on temporary loan from the U.S. Army continued to be used as "float" weapons, adding a greater degree of flexibility and enhancing our weapons readiness posture. One R & E 155 SP Howitzer arrived for "M" on 280800Z Sep.

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SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. The following significant entries are excerpts from the Operational Status Report File (OPSTATS):

OPSTAT 035 of 100700Z - one 155 How SP of M/4/12 at FLSG-B for recuperator cylinder. Three 155 How SP of K/4/12 displaced from CAMP CARROLL to ROCKPILE.

OPSTAT 036 of 111000Z - Three 155 How TD of 1st Prov Btry displaced from CAMP CARROLL to ROCKPILE.

OPSTAT 037 of 110700Z - Three 155 How TD of 1st Prov Btry chop to 1/12.

OPSTAT 038 of 151500Z - Assumed OPCON of 1st Prov Btry from 1/12.

OPSTAT 039 of 180400Z - Two 155 How SP of L/4/12 displaced from DONG HA to CAMP CARROLL at 170930Z. - Chop OPCON of 1st Prov Btry to 2/12 at 170930Z. Two 155 How SP of L/4/12 displaced from CAMP CARROLL to DONG HA at 180330Z. One 155 How SP of M/4/12 at FLSG-B for recuperator cylinder. Two 155 How SP of K/4/12 at FLSG-B; one for elevation cylinder; one for sight repairs

OPSTAT 040 of 260500Z - Three 155 How SP of K/4/12 displaced from ROCKPILE to CAMP CARROLL at 260450Z. M/4/12 received one new R & E 155 How SP at ROCKPILE 250800Z.

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2. The following significant entries are excerpts from the S-3 Work Sheet (Record of Missions):

- 011155H - "K" fired 4 WP and 321 HE on tunnels at 058666 for Recon Team (Whitty Ordeal) resulting in 59 secondary explosions.
- 011745H - 1st Prov Btry and "K" fired 44 HE on active rockets for Whitty Ordeal resulting in 2 secondary explosions.
- 011945H - 1st Prov Btry and "M" fired 6 WP and 231 HE on active rockets and anti-aircraft position for Whitty Ordeal resulting in "over 100 secondary explosions, 15-20 large fireballs 25-50m in the air looking like an oilwell on fire."
- 020815H - "K" fired 93 HE danger close defensive fires for Recon Team (Badminton) at 035642 resulting in 50 possible KIA's. (Team stated that "arms and legs flew into the air" but unable to give confirmed body count - figure not included in totals for casualties inflicted).
- 02123CH - "K" fired 8 WP and 48 HE on suspected radio relay site for Badminton resulting in antenna destroyed.
- 031243H - "M" fired 4 WP and 23 HE on suspected enemy position for M 3/9 at 052648 resulting in 6 bunkers destroyed.
- 081916H - "M" fired 3 WP and 243 HE on active artillery at 989667 for C 1/3 resulting in 6 secondary explosions.
- 101215H - "K" fired 2 WP and 243 HE on enemy position for B 1/3 at 946624 resulting in 5 secondary explosions.
- 120757H - "K" fired 1 WP and 114 HE on prep fires for C 1/3 at 943613 resulting in 2 KIA's and one bunker destroyed.
- 130835H - "M" fired 2 WP and 42 HE on prep fires for F 2/26 at 911619 resulting in "Beaucoup KIA's." (Not added to casualties inflicted totals).
- 131236H - "L" fired 23 HE on enemy position for Recon Team (Hungarian) at 238548 resulting in one secondary explosion.
- 131351H - "M" fired 4 WP and 58 HE on NVA for G 2/26 at 913606 resulting in 2 WIA.
- 14021CH - "M" fired 24 HE on harbor site for G 2/26 at 91856140 resulting in 6 WIA.

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- 141105H - "M" fired 97 HE on active mortar for C 1/3 at 92576190 resulting in one tube destroyed.
- 141740H - "M" fired 3 WP and 30 HE on base camp for A 1/3 at 954633 resulting in 25 secondary explosions.
- 141930H - "K" fired 27 HE on active mortar for L 3/3 at 936612 resulting in one secondary explosion.
- 142020H - "M" fired 6 HE on movement for E 2/26 at 90226253 resulting in 4 WIA's.
- 191215H - "M" fired 2 WP and 104 HE on active mortars for C 1/3 at 929540 resulting in excellent coverage and 5 bunkers destroyed.
- 191900H - "L" fired 12 HE on 3 NVA in bunkers for Recon Team (Hungarian) at 243488 resulting in 2 bunkers destroyed.
- 200855H - "K" fired 1 WP and 76 HE on bunkers for AO (Smitty) at 994648 resulting in 5 bunkers destroyed.
- 241831H - "L" fired 25 HE on active mortars for Recon Team Andrew at 236544 resulting in four secondary explosions.
- 262123H - "K" and "L" fired 25 HE on active mortars for Recon Team (Mailtruck) at 158511. Team stated "movement ceased, good shooting, really appreciate it."

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