

HEADQUARTERS
1st Light AA Missile Battalion
Marine Air Control Group-18
1st Marine Aircraft Wing
Fleet Marine Force Pacific
FPO San Francisco 96602

3:JWR:tds
5750
Ser No. 0053-68
10 SEP 1968

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~~SECRET~~ UNCLASSIFIED when enclosure (1) is removed.

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Air Control Group-18

Subj: Command Chronology; submission of (U)

Ref: (a) GruO 5750.1

Encl: (1) Command Chronology for the period 1 August to 31 August 1968.

1. In accordance with instructions contained in reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted for the period 1 August 1968 to 31 August 1968.

N.P. Fitzgerald, Jr.
N.P. FITZGERALD, Jr.

Classified by the Director of
Marine Corps History and Museums
in accordance with the provisions
of CMO ltr Ser 009D323/232096 of
21 Feb 1979

Signature Date 7/21/97

ENCLOSURE (6)

1st LAAM BN S&C 0053-68

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1st LAAM BN

CMD CHRON

Aug 1968

HEADQUARTERS
1st Light AA Missile Battalion
Marine Air Control Group-18
1st Marine Aircraft Wing
Fleet Marine Force Pacific
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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
DANANG, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
1 August to 31 August 1968

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Enclosure (1)

SECRET1. Enemy Action

a. On the following dates the Danang area was attacked by rockets:

3 July	2215	24/25 July 1968, 2230, 0600
6 July	2130	27 July 0250
23 July	0005, 0100, 0200, 0600	

There were no Battalion casualties and no equipment was damaged.

b. Enemy activity in the Hai Van Pass area increased considerably during July.

c. On 4 July 1968, lights were seen on the peninsula east of "A" Battery site. Swift boats and Battery .50 cal. fire worked over the area. Results were undetermined.

d. On 12 July 1968, Battery "C" personnel noted increasing numbers of Vietnamese workers/woodcutters moving up hill # 327. The greatest concentration of workers was noted at the 240 meter mark on the hill. Adjacent units in "C" Battery's sector questioned the workers. Results of the interrogation by the Southern Sector Counter-Intelligence Team revealed that the workers/woodcutters were from PHONG BAC. Ninety (90) Vietnamese intruders were taken off the hill and no further incidents occurred. Battery "C" assumed an increased ground alert status until the threat was removed.

e. On 30 July at 0100, "A" Battery received three (3) 81mm mortar rounds from Kilo Company, 3rd Battalion, 26th Marines; impacted at coordinates AT941921. There were no casualties or equipment damaged.

2. Casualties

- a. LCpl D.R. ARCHER, schizophrenia, acute. Evacuated to 1st Hosp Co.
- b. PFC G.A. JUDKINS, inguinal hernia. Evacuated to USS Sanctuary.
- c. PFC R.A. LANG, fracture right lower arm. Evacuated to NSA Hosp.
- d. PFC C. GALUZZO, evulsion. left index. Evacuated to USS Sanctuary.
- e. LCpl K.J. HAGGITT, Fever of unknown origin. Evacuated to NSA Hosp.
- f. LCpl L.S. SOREKSON, Fever of unknown origin. Evacuated to NSA Hosp.
- g. MEgt M.W. RYAN, thrombophlebitis. Evacuated to NSA Hosp.

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Enclosure (1)

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1. Command and Staff

a. Maj Norman P. FITZGERALD, Jr.	Commanding Officer	14Aug68
(1) SgtMaj B.A. PARSONS	Sergeant Major	1Dec67
b. Maj George H. EARLE, Jr.	Executive Officer	14Aug67
c. 1stLt Robert L. DOUP	S-1/Adj	14Aug68
d. Capt Joseph W. ROBBEN, Jr.	S-2/S-3 Officer	19Jul68
(1) Capt James M. MUTTER	Asst S-3/TrngO	24Aug68
(2) 1stLt Denham B. CLEMENTS	Asst S-3 Officer	19Jul68
(3) 1stLt Gregory P. HOCHSTEIN	Asst S-2 Officer	1Aug68
(4) 1stLt William L. TOWNSLEY III	Asst S-3/LnO	4Jul68
e. Capt Elton R. BROWN III	S-4 Officer	14Aug68
(1) 1stLt Charles J. BORSANI III	Asst S-4/EmbarkO	1Aug68
(2) 1stLt Freddie J. FALGOUT	Motor T Officer	19Jun68
(3) CWO-3 Glenford A. NEWTOWN	Motor T MaintO	19Jun68
(4) 1stLt Charles B. DRAKE	Maint Plt Cmdr/ Msl Sys MaintO	19Jul68
(5) 1stLt Donald O. THOMPSON	Battery Officer	28Aug68
(6) Capt Frank K. TURNER	Supply Officer	1Nov67
(7) 1stLt Thomas J. GALIA	Asst SupplyO	13Jul68
f. 1stLt Thomas J. STAFFORD III	CommO	27Feb68
g. Capt Charles W. SCHROEDER	CO H&S Battery	14Aug68
(1) Capt Lynn W. WILSON	OIC AFU "E"	7Jul68
(2) WO-1 Ira T. SMITH	MaintO AFU "E"	1Aug68
h. Capt William A. DAVIDSON III	CO Battery "A"	8Apr68
(1) 1stLt Charles A. PARSONS	XO Battery "A"	15Aug68

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Enclosure (1)

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b. H&S Battery

- (1) 20 Officers (USMC)
- (2) 281 Enlisted (USMC)
- (3) 2 Officers (USN)
- (4) 12 Enlisted (USN)

c. Battery "A"

- (1) 4 Officers (USMC)
- (2) 102 Enlisted (USMC)

d. Battery "B"

- (1) 3 Officers (USMC)
- (2) 34 Enlisted (USMC)

e. Battery "C"

- (1) 3 Officers (USMC)
- (2) 96 Enlisted (USMC)

4. Important Visitors

On 2 August 1968 the 7th Marines Regimental Chaplain, LtCdr BROCK visited AFU "E". On 3 August LtCol M.J. TREADO, Battalion Commanding Officer and Maj R.C. YEZZI, 2nd LAAM Bn, visited "A" Battery. On 7 August 1968 the MACG-18 Commanding Officer, Col E.S. FRIS, LtCol DILLON and LtCol TREADO visited AFU "E". On 8 August "A" Battery entertained Col FRIS along LtCol TREADO. During their visit Col STOKELY, USA, Head of the Advisory Teams, together with RLTL-26's Commanding Officer, Col MEYERS and his relief, Col HUNTER, inspected the site. On the 10th, Col FRIS and LtCol TREADO toured "C" Battery. On the 11th, MajGen PEACHER, LtCol TREADO and Maj N.P. FITZGERALD, Jr. visited "B" Battery site. On 19 August LtCol R.S. HARTMAN, 1st MAW GEO and Maj R.W. CHAMBERS, MACG-18 GEO, conducted a staff visit of 1st LAAM Bn. Comm. And on 28 August LtCol W.H. JACKSON, and LtCol T.H. KAUFMAN, soon to be assigned duties in MACG-18, toured 1st LAAM Bn.

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c. Battery "A"

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d. Battery "B"

- (1) 3 Officers (USMC)
- (2) 14 Enlisted (USMC)

e. Battery "C"

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- (2) 96 Enlisted (USMC)

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PART II
NARRATIVE SUMMARY~~SECRET~~

The Battalion welcomed three new arrivals to its Officer Corps, Capt James M. MUTTER who was assigned as Asst S-3 Officer, 1stLt D.O. THOMPSON Battery Officer, and Lt Gordon B. SCHUMACHER, Battalion Chaplain. Considerable changes in significant billets occurred during August. On the 14th Maj N.P. FITZGERALD, Jr. received custody of the Battalions Colors from 1stCol M.J. TREADO who departed to CONUS. On the same day Major G.H. EARLE, Jr. assumed the duty as the Battalion Executive Officer, Capt E.R. BROWN III became the S-4, Capt C.W. SCHROEDER the Commanding Officer of H&S Battery and 1stLt R.L. DOUP the S-1/Adjutant. Previously 1stLt C.J. BORSANI III had been transferred to the billet of Asst S-4/Embark Officer, 1stLt E.N. NEWMAN Jr. to XO/Firing Plt Cmdr of "C" Battery and WO-1 I.T. SMITH to Maint Officer of AFU "E".

On 14 August LtCol M.J. TREADO departed for CONUS.

On 27 August Capt A.D. PETTIT was transferred to USNH, Guam.

On 30 August at "B" Battery, 3 men were injured by an accidental fire while burning the perimeter with an AvGas/JP-4 mixture. Capt Alan D. PETTIT, 091863, Sergeant Wayne E. THOMAS, 2142162, and Lance Corporal James S. WALCOTT, 2391167, were evacuated out of RVN for treatment of burns. On 28 August the Battalion received information that Sergeant THOMAS had died.

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~~SECRET~~~~SECRET~~1. Enemy Action

a. On the following dates and times Danang was attacked by rockets:

23 August	0305	27 August	0445
26 August	0550	31 August	0300

b. At M&S Battery Ground Condition 1 was set on the morning of 23 August. There was fire to the south as the enemy had infiltrated over the Cam Le Bridge.

c. Enemy activity in the Hai Van Pass increased its tempo during the month of August. On 3 August a Claymore mine was detonated at AT938912; casualties and damage were not reported.

d. On 20 August sniper fire was received from the vicinity of AT918927; there were no known casualties.

e. On the 28th and 29th air strikes were aimed at the North side of Hai Van Pass. On the 28th India 3/26 was harassed by enemy sniper and mortar fire. On the 28th a UH-1 helicopter was shot down by enemy 50 cal fire. Again on the 28th an ambush was sprung using RPG-7 and small arms; "A" Battery supported with 50 cal fire. At 2130 on 28 August a 3/26 60mm fire-base landed at coordinates AT926923 wounding 1 friendly.

2. Casualties

a. Sgt M. WARDECKIE, ulnar nerve transplant. Evacuated to USS Repose.

b. LCpl B.N. PAYNE, hearing loss. Evacuated to USNH, Guam.

c. LCpl T.J. GILLIAM, hyperthyroidism. Evacuated to NSA Hospital.

d. Sgt W.E. THOMAS, 2nd and 3rd degree burns on 80% of the body. Evacuated to USNH, Yokusha, Japan. Sgt THOMAS died.

e. LCpl J.S. WILCOTT, 2nd degree burns on the arms and back. Evacuated to USNH, Yokusha, Japan.

f. Capt A.D. PETTIT, burns on left hand. Evacuated to USNH, Guam.

g. LCpl J.R. RYE, encephalitis. Evacuated to NSA Hospital.

h. LCpl R.L. WALKER, early ulcer. Evacuated to NSA Hospital.

3. Civic Action.

a. Five students at Sacred Heart Orphanage School continue to receive General WALT Scholarship assistance through the Battalion sponsorship.

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The Orphanage received 960 lbs of food and 1250 lbs of medical supplies.

b. Sacred Heart Nursery received 450 lbs of medical supplies.

c. The China Beach Orphanage received 800 lbs of medical supplies. Med-Cap Teams treated 48 persons. Battalion's Civic Action Area was given 200 lbs of school supplies, 50 lbs of medical supplies, 3100 lbs of cement and 4 loads of lumber.

4. Air Defense

a. The Battalion established a new record for practice engagements during the past month. 1492 aircraft were engaged during 88 AAWEXs. 1488 or 99.7% of the engagements were successful.

b. There were 23 HAWK runs. 21 or 91.3% were successfully engaged.

5. Ground Defense

a. H&S Battery continued work on internal defenses and perimeter positions. It also improved several bunkers within the compound. AFU "E" participated in 2 Ground Defense Drills in conjunction with the 7th Marines. The dates were 5 and 13 August. "E"'s personnel FAM fired the 50 cal machine gun, the M-60, the M-79 Grenade Launcher, and T/O Weapons on 30 August.

b. Battery "A" rebuilt posts #1, #2, and #3. Work was initiated on post #7 and #15. Trip flares were placed in the area between post #3 and #7.

c. Battery "B" FAM fired the 50 cal. machinegun, the M-60, the M-79 Grenade Launcher and T/O weapons on 24 August. A Ground Defense Drill was conducted on 23 August.

d. Battery "C" continued perimeter defoliation. Bunker #12 was remodeled.

6. Training

a. H&S Battery conducted 14.4 hours GMS instruction and 11 hours of Technical Training.

b. Battery "A" held 8 hours GMS instruction and 34 hours of Technical Training.

c. Battery "B" conducted 21½ hours of GMS instruction and 35½ hours of Technical Training.

d. Battery "C" conducted 6½ hours of GMS instruction and 39 hours of Technical Training.

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7. Logistics

a. The following was shipped to CONUS:

1. One (1) Shop Van AN/TSM-41
2. One (1) Shop Van AN/TSM-42
3. One (1) Shop Van AN/TSM-43
4. One (1) Shop Van XM-2

b. Technical Inspections were held on Batteries "A", "B", "C" and AFU "E".

c. The month of August saw the complete conversion to mechanized accounting methods to expedite the handling of the organic account. As of 1 September 1968 approximately 25,000 Stock Record and Inventory Control Cards NAVMAC 708-SD were replaced by the mechanized item record cards NAVMAC 10495-SD.

d. During the month of August \$52,905.46 OpBud Funds were obligated. The Hotel obligations amounted to \$12,698.96. The Quebec obligations amounted to \$1,035.44.

e. The total obligations for the month are \$66,639.86.

f. The month of August Battalion Supply processed 2695 requisitions, not including clothing or ServMart items. Of this number 2087 items were issued from stock which gave a gross effectiveness of 77.4%. Of the total requisitions submitted 401 were for items not previously carried. This gave a net effectiveness of 91.0%. Our gross effectiveness improved .7% while the net effectiveness dropped 2.2%.

g. Total mileage was 45,199; 23,313 passengers were carried.

8. Military Construction and Camp Improvements

a. H&S Battery continued the remodeling of the EM Club. At AFU "E" a wing tank was installed to increase water storage and pressure and work was begun on a 10' X 14' Weight Room. Increased sand bag protection was provided for it's Operation Center and a shelter for inclement weather was completed outside the Operation Center.

b. Battery "A" completed protective shelters for "A" HIPIR and the PAR. The BOC shelter was further fortified along the back wall and roof. The CP bunker constructions and improvements continued. Grass about post #3, #7, and #14 was cut.

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c. Battery "B" completed the pavement of it's Battery road. Work to put concrete floors in the Generator Sheds began. Supply was relocated. Communications is still being relocated.

d. Battery "C" continued its erosion control. New bunkers were erected for the CDG and BCC.

9. Operations

a. The Radio Relay SOP was updated; that section also rewired its Operations room and installed an additional SB-22PT to facilitate monitoring the 4-wire lines.

b. Completion of 155 work orders was accomplished and Mount Out preparations were completed in wire and maintenance.

c. The Operations Central, AN/TSQ-57 was operational 70% of the time, during which integration checks with MACS-4 were conducted. On 22 August the OC air conditioner went down. It is presently awaiting parts and its non-availability hampers operations and further progress.

d. On 9 August, Battery "C" received its CDG, it has since been emplaced and testing of this system continues.

10. Awards

a. Promotions during the month were as follows:

	<u>H&S</u>	<u>"A"</u>	<u>"B"</u>	<u>"C"</u>
Sergeant	1			
Corporal	5	4	3	3
Lance Corporal	1	1	1	2
Private First Class		3		

b. The following personnel received Meritorious Mast:

Cpl W.R. MOODY	1 August 1968
Cpl D.L. ANERS	1 August 1968
Cpl M.J. McNAMARA	1 August 1968
Cpl L. HERNANDEZ	31 August 1968

11. Informational Services

During August, 133 Home Town News Releases were forwarded from the Battalion.

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