

## HEADQUARTERS

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

3:JWS:tds  
 5750  
 Ser No. 0063-68  
 30 OCT 1968

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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 September to 30 September 1968

1. In accordance with instructions contained in reference (a), Enclosure (1) is submitted for the period 1 September to 30 September 1968.

Classified by the Director of  
 Marine Corps History and Museums  
 in accordance with the provisions  
 of CNO ltr Ser 009D323/232095 of  
 21 Feb 1979

N.P. FITZGERALD, JR.

Signature Date 7/21/92

1st LAAM BN S&C 0063-68

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ENCLOSURE (6)

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1ST LAAM BN

CMD CHRON

SEP 1968

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HEADQUARTERS

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

Command Chronology  
DaNang, Republic of VietNam  
1 September to 30 September  
1968

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Enclosure (I)

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## 1. Command and Staff

Commanding Officer	1-30Sep	Maj N.P. FITZGERALD, Jr.
Sergeant Major	1-30Sep	SgtMaj B.A. PARSONS
Executive Officer	1-30Sep	Maj George H. EARLE, Jr.
S-1/Adjutant	1-30Sep	1stLt Robert L. DOUP
S-2/S-3 Officer	1-30Sep	Capt Joseph W. ROBBEN, Jr.
Asst S-3/Trng0	1-30Sep	Capt James M. MUTTER
Asst S-3/ln0	15-30Sep	Capt William W. BENSON
Asst S-3/ln0	1-30Sep	1stLt Gregory P. HOCHSTEIN
Asst S-2/NBCO	30Sep	1stLt John W. SHAFFER
S-4 Officer	1-30Sep	Capt Elton R. BROWN III
Asst S-4/Embark0	1-30Sep	1stLt Charles J. BORSANI III
Motor T Officer	1-30Sep	1stLt Freddie J. FALGOUT
Motor T Maint0	1-30Sep	CWO-3 Glenford A. NEWTOWN
Maint Plt Cmdr	1-30Sep	1stLt Charles B. DRAKE
WSM Officer	27-30Sep	1stLt Roy G. RAMIREZ
Msl Sup Maint0	3-30Sep	CWO-2 Edward C. HOWARD
Supply Officer	9-30Sep	Capt Dennis E. DAMON
Supply Officer	1-9Sep	Capt Frank K. TURNER
Asst Sup Officer	9-30Sep	Capt Frank K. TURNER
Asst Sup Officer	1-30Sep	1stLt Thomas J. GALIA
Comm Officer	1-30Sep	1stLt Thomas J. STAFFORD III
CO H&S Battery	1-30Sep	Capt Charles W. SCHROEDER
OIC AFU "E"	1-30Sep	1stLt Denham B. CLEMENTS
XO H&S Battery	9-30Sep	1stLt William L. TOWNSLEY III
Maint0 AFU "E"	1-30Sep	CWO-2 T. R. SMITH

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CO Battery "A"	1-30Sep	Capt William A. DAVIDSON III
XO Battery "A"	1-30Sep	1stLt Charles A. PARSONS
Firing Plt Cmdr	1-30Sep	1stLt Paul M. COOK II
Support Plt Cmdr	1-30Sep	CWO-2 Stanley S. MINATOGAWA
CO Battery "B"	1-30Sep	Capt Lynn W. WILSON
XO Battery "B"	1-30Sep	1stLt Robert B. GARNER
Firing Plt Cmdr	1-30Sep	1stLt Glenn K. EVANS
Support Plt Cmdr	1-2Sep	CWO-2 Edward C. HOWARD
Support Plt Cmdr	3-30Sep	1stLt Donald O. THOMPSON
CO Battery "C"	1-30Sep	Capt John R. MOORE
XO Battery "C"	1-30Sep	1stLt Edward N. NEWMAN Jr.
Firing Plt Cmdr	1-30Sep	1stLt John W. JONES
Support Plt Cmdr	1-26Sep	1stLt Roy G. RAMIREZ
Support Plt Cmdr	27-30Sep	MSgt Richard M. CARET
Bn Surgeon	1-30Sep	Lt Donald D. HENNING
Bn Chaplain	1-30Sep	Lt Gordon B. SCHUMACHER

## 2. Task Organization and Unit Location

a. Task Organization: N/A

b. Unit Location:

H&S Battery Coordinates	(1:50,000)	BT005749	15Feb65
"A" Battery Coordinates	(1:50,000)	AT946922	21Aug66
"B" Battery Coordinates	(1:50,000)	BT093837	1Sep65
"C" Battery Coordinates	(1:50,000)	AT972737	26Mar65
AFU "E" H&S Coordinates	(1:50,000)	AT970620	27Aug66

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## 3. Average Monthly Strength

## a. Total Battalion

- (1) 34 Officers (USMC)
- (2) 671 Enlisted (USMC)
- (3) 2 Officers (USN)
- (4) 12 Enlisted (USN)

## b. H&amp;S Battery

- (1) 22 Officers (USMC)
- (2) 322 Enlisted (USMC)
- (3) 2 Officers (USN)
- (4) 12 Enlisted (USN)

## c. Battery "A"

- (1) 4 Officers (USMC)
- (2) 137 Enlisted (USMC)

## d. Battery "B"

- (1) 4 Officers (USMC)
- (2) 96 Enlisted (USMC)

## e. Battery "C"

- (1) 3 Officers (USMC)
- (2) 116 Enlisted (USMC)

## 4. Important Visitors

On 6 September 1968, Commander SWEENEY and members of his staff, 30th NCB/S-3 inspected typhoon damage at Battery "A". On 8 September 1968, Col E.S. FRIS, CO MACG-18 and LtCol KAUFMAN, CO MACS-4, with Maj N.P. FITZGERALD, Jr. Bn CO visited Battery "A" to inspect typhoon damage. On 8 September LtCmdr BROCK, CHC 7thMarReg Chaplain, visited Battery "B". On 11 September 1968, Maj N.P. FITZGERALD and SgtMaj B.A. PARSONS, Bn Sergeant Major, attended Memorial services for Sgt Wayne E. THOMAS at "A" and "B" Batteries. On 13 September 1968, Capt FISHER (USN) CO 30th NCR, Cmdr ANDERSON, ~~SECRET~~

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Readiness Division NAFAC, and Cmdr BOWERS, CO NMCB-53, toured Battery "A", inspecting rebuilding progress. On 25 September 1968, MajGen A.H. ADAMS, CG 3rdMAW, Col E.S. FRIS, CO MACG-18 and Maj N.P. FITZGERALD, visited Battery "B". On 26 September 1968, Cmdr LEE, CO NMCB-12, visited Battery "A".

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PART II  
NARRATIVE SUMMARY

Three new officers joined the Battalion in September. Captain D.E. DAMON has been assigned as Battalion Supply Officer, Captain W.W. BENSON as HLO to PANAMA and 1st Lt J.W. SHAFFER as Asst S-2/NBC Officer. On 3 September 1st Lt D.O. THOMPSON became Support Platoon Commander at "B" Battery and CWO-2 HOWARD became Missile System Maintenance Officer. On 27 September 1st Lt R.G. RAMIREZ was transferred to WSM Platoon.

On 5 September a typhoon hit the DaNang area causing minor damage at "B" and "C" Batteries. "A" Battery received extensive damage and one U.S. Army soldier received minor hand injuries. Winds were estimated at 120 MPH.

## Damage to "A" Battery and its equipment:

Pulse Acquisition Radar (PAR)/Antenna Pedestal cracked  
Nine SEA Huts/roofs destroyed  
Three SEA Huts lost/frames and roofs destroyed  
Nine SEA Huts/destroyed  
Two four-holers/destroyed  
Three generator sheds/destroyed  
Motor transport shed/destroyed  
Dog kennels/destroyed  
Communications hut for MRC-83's/destroyed  
Four bunkers/destroyed or extensively damaged  
Eight posts/minor damage

Due to equipment damage from water and wind the Battery was in a down status for approximately 96 hours. A detachment from NMCB-53 started re-building the Battery on 8 September

From 2-6 September the Battalion received a Group Administration and Material inspection. The inspection grade was Satisfactory with minor discrepancies.

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

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

1 September	0200	21 September	0205
3 September	0520	28 September	0550
17 September	0510		

The battalion suffered no casualties or damage.

b. VC/NVA activity in the Hai Van Pass continued at a high level during September. On 3 September two VC suspects were seen on the beach at AT 948943, 81mm fire was called by Battery "A". On 8 September 1968 air strikes and artillery were called on a suspected VC/NVA position at AT904930, observer reported seeing 40 NVA. On 19 September, there was a small night ambush at AT928922, no casualties. On 25 September, there was a night attack on a culvert at AT932894. On 27 September, there was a small attack by B-40 RPG's at AT928922, no casualties.

c. Enemy activity increased near Hill 55, however it had no effect on AFU "E".

**2. Casualties**

a. LCpl WALKER, R.L., Peptic Ulcer. Evacuated to USNH Guam.

b. PFC HOLTZ, J.A., Pilonidal Cyst. Evacuated to USNH Guam.

c. PFC QUILES, F.L., Neurogenic Bladder. Evacuated to 249th Gen Hosp.

d. LCpl FRERICHS, T.A., Inguinal Hernia. Evacuated to USNH Guam.

e. PFC NEALEY, V.J., Shrapnel wounds both legs. Evacuated to USNH Yohosuha.

f. LCpl SMITH, D.C., Degenerative Rhinitis. Evacuated to 249th Gen Hosp.

g. LCpl BURRELL, D.M., Suspected drug use. Evacuated to USNH Philadelphia.

**3. Civic Action**

a. Part of the road to Nai Nam was rebuilt and the construction of a cement dike was started.

b. Construction of a frog pond was completed and work continues on three fish ponds.

  
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c. Nai Nam received 2 rolls of screen, 40 sheets of tin, 2 loads of damaged lumber, 1 load of plywood, and 5 tons crushed rock.

d. Sacred Heart Dispensary received 200 pounds of medical supplies. Both Sacred Heart Orphanage and China Beach Orphanage received 3 boxes of toiletries and 3 boxes of shoes. Sacred Heart also received 3 M-36 truck loads of food.

4. Air Defense

a. The Battalion did not better the record number of practice air defense engagements of last month. A total of 1257 or 100% of all engagements were successful, however.

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

5. Ground Defense

a. Several bunkers were rebuilt within the H&S Battery compound; others were improved upon.

b. Work was completed on Posts # 3, 7 and 10 at "A" Battery.

c. At "B" Battery posts # 3 and 16 have been refurbished while posts # 17 and 19 are in the process of being refurbished. All secondary positions along the southern perimeter have been refurbished.

d. Battery "C" continues to improve on all posts.

e. AFU "E" Battery's ground defense posture is being altered. Posts # 34 and 35 are being combined into a single post with better fields of fire and more protection against small arms.

6. Training

a. H&S Battery conducted 17 hours of GMS and 39 hours of technical training.

b. Battery "A" conducted 4 hours of GMS and 32 hours of technical training.

c. Battery "B" conducted 10 hours of GMS and 15 hours of technical training.

d. Battery "C" conducted 12 hours of GMS and 30 hours of technical training.

e. The time available for GMS and technical training was restricted. Major efforts were required to correct typhoon losses thereby reducing time available for training.

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7. Logistics

a. The following items were received from 2nd LAAM Bn.

One (1) TSW-2  
One (1) MPQ-34  
One (1) MPQ-37  
Three (3) MPQ-39  
One (1) TSM-44  
One (1) TSM-43  
One (1) TSM-4  
Five (5) XM78E1  
Four (4) XM501E2  
One (1) Missile can  
One (1) GSA-50  
Five (5) 503E2  
One (1) GSA-34  
Four (4) Power Distribution Boxes

b. On 18 September AFU "E" received one AN/MPQ-39 from WSM.

c. During September Supply was inspected by the Field Supply Analysis Office Team # 3. Several minor discrepancies were noted.

d. During the month of September \$42,532.18 was obligated from OpBud funds. The Hotel obligations were \$4,812.18 and the Quebec obligations were \$5.29.

e. Total obligations for the month are \$53,349.65.

f. The end of the month brought to a close the first quarter of fiscal year 1969. From a grant of \$196,515.00 for the first quarter in OpBud, Battalion Supply utilized \$159,013.38 with the remainder of \$37,516.62 being transferred to the next quarter for utilization.

g. Hotel had a quarterly grant of \$60,000.00 of which \$30,131.80 was obligated leaving a balance of \$29,868.20 which was transferred to the second quarter.

h. Quebec had a quarterly grant of \$4,000 of which \$1,918 was obligated leaving \$2,081.77 which was transferred to the second quarter.

i. During September, Supply processed 2,261 requisitions, not including ServMart items. Of this number 1,730 items were issued from stock which gave a gross effectiveness of 76.3%. This is a decrease of 1.1% from the previous month. Of the total requisitions submitted, 320 were for items not previously carried. This accounted for a net effectiveness of 88.19%. This is a decrease of 2.1% from the month of August.

j. Total milage was 41,322; 2,498 passengers were carried.

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#### 8. Military Construction and Camp Improvements

- a. H&S Battery rebuilt several bunkers and improved others in the compound. Work continues on the interior of the Enlisted Club and the Sgt's Club remodeled the bar.
- b. "A" Battery continues to rebuild their area along with a detachment from NMCB-53 following the typhoon of 5 September. Posts # 10, 7, and 3 were completed.
- c. "B" Battery began work on severe erosion problems along the upper firing level. Relocation of Battery Communications has been completed. Drainage ditches have been completed around the fuel bladders. Work to put concrete floors in the generator sheds is continuing.
- d. "C" Battery continues work on its perimeter defense, defoliation and erosion control. A 600 cubic foot refrigeration unit was installed in the messhall. The Helopad was repaired and refinished. Construction on launcher pad # 6 and generator sheds completed, along with securing the camp's buildings
- e. AFU "E" is nearing completion of post # 34. Construction has begun on a new missile storage pit/missile test area.
- f. The Communications Section has replaced old sandbags with sand filled 55 gallon drums in its area within the H&S Battery compound.

#### 9. Operations

- a. Radio Relay made several administrative improvements on work order flow, material distribution and preventive maintenance.
- b. A Radio Relay Generator Section was formed to more efficiently run and maintain the power unit assigned to that section.
- c. Technical improvements included replacement of antennas damaged during the typhoons, and repair of five PU-278 generator sets. The section also received two rebuilt PU-346 generators.
- d. As a result of the A&M Inspection the log books on MRC-83's and TRC-75's were corrected.
- e. The Operation Central, AN/TSQ-57 was without an air conditioner the first part of the month, but it is not operating effectively.

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~~SECRET~~10. Awards

a. Promotions during the month were as follows:

	H&S	"A"	"B"	"C"
CWO-2	1	1		
Master Sergeant		1		
Corporal	2	2	3	1
Lance Corporal	1	1		1
Private First Class	2	3	1	

b. Two Good Conduct Medals were awarded in H&S Battery and a Meritorious Mast was awarded Corporal John H. BOLT at "B" Battery.

11. Informational Services

a. During September, there were 92 Home Town News Releases forwarded from the Battalion.

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