

HEADQUARTERS

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

3:JMH:ers
 5750
 Ser No. 0066-68
 6 Nov 1968

~~REF ID: A6525~~ 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 - 31 October 1968

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

J. W. DRURY
 Declassified by the Director of
 Marine Corps History and Museums
 in accordance with the provisions
 of CNO ltr Ser 009D323/252095 of
 21 Feb 1979
 Signature Date 7/21/97

1ST LAAM BN S&C 0066-68
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ENCLOSURE (1)

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 to 31 October
1968

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Enclosure (1)

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1. Command and Staff

Commanding Officer	1-11Oct Maj Norman P. FITZGERALD, JR.
Commanding Officer	12-31Oct LtCol John W. DRURY
Sergeant Major	1-31Oct SgtMaj Bill A. PARSONS
Executive Officer	1-31Oct Maj George H. EARLE, JR.
S-1/Adjutant	1-31Oct 1stLt Robert L. DOUP
Asst S-1/Adjutant	8-31Oct 1stLt William L. TOWNSLEY, III
S-2/3 Officer	1-17Oct Capt Joseph W. ROBBEN, JR.
S-2/3 Officer	18-31Oct Capt James M. MUTTER
Asst S-3/TrainingO	1-17Oct Capt James M. MUTTER
Asst S-3/LiaisonO	5-17Oct 1stLt Gregory P. HOCHSTEIN
Asst S-3/TrainingO	18-31Oct 1stLt Gregory P. HOCHSTEIN
Asst S-2/MEC Officer	1-31Oct 1stLt John W. SMAFFER
Asst S-3/LiaisonO	1-31Oct Capt William W. BENSON
Asst S-3/LiaisonO	1-31Oct 1stLt Glenn K. EVANS
S-4 Officer	1-31Oct Capt Elton R. BROWN, III
Asst S-4/EmbarkeO	1-31Oct 1stLt Charles J. BORSANI, III
Asst S-4 Officer	6-31Oct 1stLt Thomas J. GALIA
Motor T Officer	1-31Oct 1stLt Freddie J. FALCUT
Motor T MaintO	1-31Oct CW0-3 Glenford A. NEWTON
Maint Plt Cmdr	1-11Oct 1stLt Charles B. DRAKE
Maint Plt Cmdr	12-31Oct 1stLt Roy G. RAMIREZ
Msl Sup MaintO	1-31Oct CW0-2 Edward G. HOWARD

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Supply Officer	1-31Oct Capt Dennis E. DATION
Asst Supply Officer	1-20Oct Capt Frank K. TURNER
Asst Supply Officer	1-5Oct 1stLt Thomas J. GALIA
Comm Officer	1-31Oct 1stLt Thomas J. STAFFORD, III
CO H&S Btry	1-31Oct Capt Charles W. SCHROEDER
ExecO H&S Btry	1-7Oct 1stLt William L. TOWNSLEY, III
ExecO H&S Btry	8-14Oct 1stLt George J. DIMATTEO, JR.
ExecO H&S Btry	15-31Oct 1stLt Billy R. COURTNEY
AdminO H&S Btry	15-31Oct 1stLt George J. DIMATTEO, JR.
OIC AFU "E"	1-31Oct 1stLt Denham B. CLEMENTS
MaintO AFU "E"	1-31Oct CW0-2 Ira T. SMITH
CO Battery "A"	1-31Oct Capt William A. DAVIDSON, III
ExecO Battery "A"	1-31Oct 1stLt Charles A. PARSONS, JR.
Firing Plt Cmdr	1-31Oct 1stLt Paul M. COOK, III
Support Plt Cmdr	1-7Oct CW0-2 Stanley S. MINATOGAWA
Support Plt Cmdr	8-31Oct 1stLt Robert P. GEHRDES
Gnd Def Plt Cmdr	8-31Oct 1stLt Richard F. COX
Motor T Officer	8-31Oct CW0-2 Stanley S. MINATOGAWA
CO Battery "B"	1-31Oct Capt Lynn W. WILSON
ExecO Battery "B"	1-31Oct 1stLt Robert B. GARNER
Firing Plt Cmdr	1-7Oct 1stLt Robert W. JOHNSON
Firing Plt Cmdr	8-31Oct 1stLt Robert Y. KEEGAN
Asst Firing Plt Cmdr	8-31Oct 1stLt Robert W. JOHNSON
Maint Plt Cmdr	1-31Oct 1stLt Donald O. THOMPSON

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CO Battery "C"	1-31Oct	Capt John R. MOORE
ExecO Battery "C"	1-31Oct	1stLt Edward N. NEWMAN, JR.
Firing Plt Cmdr	1-31Oct	1stLt John W. JONES
Maint Plt Cmdr	1-24Oct	MSgt Richard M. CAREY
Maint Plt Cmdr	25-31Oct	2ndLt Richard M. CAREY
Support Plt Cmdr	10-31Oct	1stLt Dennis A. HEDGE
Bn Surgeon	1-31Oct	Lt Douglas D. HENNING
Bn Chaplain	1-18Oct	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

3. Average Monthly Strength

a. Total Battalion

- (1) 39 Officers (USMC)
- (2) 762 Enlisted (USMC)
- (3) 1 Officer (USN)
- (4) 12 Enlisted (USN)

b. H&S Battery

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(1) 23 Officers (USMC)

(2) 405 Enlisted (USMC)

(3) 1 Officer (USN)

(4) 12 Enlisted (USN)

c. Battery "A"

(1) 6 Officers (USMC)

(2) 140 Enlisted (USMC)

d. Battery "B"

(1) 5 Officers (USMC)

(2) 100 Enlisted (USMC)

e. Battery "C"

(1) 5 Officers (USMC)

(2) 117 Enlisted (USMC)

4. Important Visitors

On 2 October 1968 LtCol A. J. SKOTNICKI, USMC, 1st Marine Division's G-2 visited Battery "C".

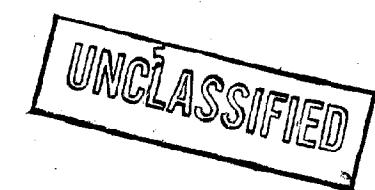
On 3 October 1968 Col E. S. FRIS, USMC, Commanding Officer of Marine Air Control Group 18 visited Battery "C".

On 4 October 1968 SgtMaj J. WILLIAMS, USMC, Sergeant Major of Marine Air Control Group 18 paid a visit to Battery "C".

On 6 October 1968 Maj W. C. HAY, USMC, Wing Ground Defense Officer, inspected the ground defense of Battery "B".

On 8 October 1968 LtCol W. P. GORSKI, USMC, 1st Marine Division inspected the billeting facilities at Battery "A".

On 10 October 1968 LtCol J. W. DRURY, USMC and Maj N. P. FITZGERALD, JR., USMCR, visited Battery "B".

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On 10 October 1968 LtCol J. W. DRURY, USMC, visited Battery "C".

On 10 October 1968 Maj D. C. PAULEY, USMC, S-4 Officer, Marine Air Control Group 18, checked the MUSE Power at Battery "A".

On 17 October 1968 a MACV Department of Defense Team consisting of LtCol Stephen HAYES, USA, WO-2 William VDOVIK, USA, and Mr. Paul CARPENTER, GS-15, visited Battery "B" to obtain information on the problem areas of its tactical power.

On 17 October 1968 Lt COSACK, USN, "B" Company CO, MCB-12, inspected the MCB Team at Battery "A".

On 21 October 1968 Maj R. B. FIELD, USMC, 1st Marine Division's Engineer Officer, and LtCol W. P. GORSKI, USMC, inspected the MP billeting at Battery "A".

On 24 October 1968 Lt LONG, USN, Engineer Officer of MCB-12, and Cmdr LEE, CO of MCB-12 inspected the progress of the MCB Team at Battery "A".

On 24 October 1968 MSgt BERRY, 579th Geodetic Survey Team, visited Battery "A" in conjunction with the project of remapping that area.

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PART II
NARRATIVE SUMMARY~~SECRET~~

On 12 October 1968 Lieutenant Colonel J. W. DRURY assumed duty as Battalion Commander relieving Major N. P. FITZGERALD, JR. who was transferred to First Marine Aircraft Wing's Base Development Office.

The Battalion joined seven new officers. 1stLt G. J. DIMATTEO, JR. was assigned to H&S Battery as Administrative Officer, 1stLt B. R. COURNEY to H&S Battery as Executive Officer, 1stLt R. F. COX to Battery "A" as Ground Defense Platoon Commander, 1stLt R. P. GEHRDES to Battery "A" as Maintenance Platoon Commander, 1stLt R. Y. KEEGAN to Battery "B" as Firing Platoon Commander, 1stLt R. W. JOHNSON to Battery "B" as Assistant Firing Platoon Commander, and 1stLt D. A. WEDGE to Battery "C" as Support Platoon Commander. Master Sergeant R. M. CAREY, Maintenance Platoon Commander, Battery "C", was promoted to the rank of Second Lieutenant on 25 October 1968.

1stLt G. K. EVANS was transferred to S-2/3 and was assigned to Panama as Hawk Liaison Officer, 1stLt W. L. TOWNSLEY, III was transferred to S-1 for duty as Assistant S-1/Adjutant, and 1stLt T. J. GALLA was transferred to the S-4 to assume duty as Assistant S-4.

Three officers rotated to CONUS, Captain J. W. ROBBEN, JR, S-2/3 Officer, Captain F. K. TURNER, Battalion Supply Officer, and First Lieutenant C. B. DRAKE, Maintenance Platoon Commander.

The Battalion Chaplain, Lieutenant G. B. SCHUMACHER, was transferred to Marine Air Control Group 18 on 18 October 1968.

First Lieutenant G. P. HOCHSTEIN was transferred to 1st Marine Aircraft Wing Civic Action on 1 October 1968. On 5 October 1968 he returned to assume duty as Assistant S-3/Liaison Officer.

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~~SECRET~~1. Enemy Action

- a. During the month Battery "A" took an active role in the defense of Hai Van Pass. The battery fired approximately 25,000 rounds of .50 caliber H&I fire in support of "K" 3/5.
- b. No enemy activity was experienced by Battery "C". Three, seven man patrol sweeps of the Romeo Section showed no indication of enemy activity in that area.
- c. There was a substantial increase in the number of mining incidents on road which connects AFU "E" (Hill 55) and Da Nang City.

2. Casualties

- a. LCpl PROCTOR, R. L., Paranoid Schizophrenia. Evacuated to USNH, Oakland, California.
- b. SSgt FARELL, G. N., Middle Ear Disease. Evacuated to USNH, Yokosuka, Japan.
- c. LCpl GEESE, D. L., Herniated Disc. Evacuated to USNH, Guam.
- d. Cpl CRUMB, T. J., FX Mandible Left. Evacuated to NSA Hospital, RVN.
- e. Sgt WARD, B. L., Old wound infected. Evacuated to NSA Hospital, RVN.
- f. Cpl BLAIR, B., Depressive Reaction. Evacuated to USS Repose.

3. Civic Action

- a. Five students of the Sacred Heart Orphanage School are still receiving General WALT Scholarship Assistance through the battalion's sponsorship. The Sacred Heart Orphanage received 2,626 pounds of food, 180 gallons of milk, and 60 dozen eggs.
- b. Two of the four bridges at the battalion's Civil Affairs Area have been completed and a third is presently under construction.
- c. MedCaps on 8, 15, and 22 October 1968 treated approximately 60 people from the battalion's Civil Affairs Area.

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~~SECRET~~4. Air Defense

- a. The Battalion engaged 1,347 targets during 83 ANEXES. Of this 1,344 or 99.8% were successful.
- b. There were seven HAWK runs of which four or 57% were successfully engaged.

5. Ground Defense

- a. Battery "A" strung wire between posts # 9, 10, and 11. "Crazy Wire" was laid to completely cover the knoll between posts # 13 and 14. Post # 17 was completed and posts # 1, 3, 6, and 7 were improved.
- b. Battery "B" refurbished posts # 17 and 19. Post # 2 has been relocated to afford better fields of fire and mutual support. All battery secondary positions have been refurbished. A Ground Defense Drill was conducted on 10 October 1968. On 26 October 1968, 58 men FAM fired the M-14, M-79, and M-60.
- c. Battery "C" improved the area about the helipad and rebuilt its primary ammunition locker. On 23 and 27 October 1968 all battery personnel FAM fired.
- d. H&S Battery continued work on the bunkers within the compound. AFU "E" completed construction on Post # 34, its fields of fire have been cleared.

6. Training

- a. H&S Battery conducted seven hours of GMS and six hours of technical training.
- b. Battery "A" conducted one hour of GMS and four hours of technical training.
- c. Battery "B" conducted 14 hours of GMS and 25 hours of technical training.
- d. Battery "C" conducted five hours of GMS and 17 hours of technical training.

7. Logistics~~SECRET~~S-1
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a. The following was received from 2ndLAMBn and distributed within the Battalion:

44 Missiles XMIM-23A

2 Pallet trailers XM1

1 Launcher XM78E3

1 Loader transporter XM501E2

1 Pulse Acquisition Radar AN/MPQ-35

17 Cables GSA-34

b. The battalion received its second quarter grants of \$130,000 in OpBud, \$40,000 in Hotel, and \$1,000 in Quebec. Because of the influx of personnel the Wing increased our Hotel Project to \$31,830 on 21 October 1968. This brought the authorization in OpBud to \$326,575, Hotel \$131,830, and Quebec \$5,000.

c. During the month we spent \$101,099.18 in OpBud, \$28,439.38 in Hotel, and \$1,175.00 in Quebec. This leaves an available balance of \$66,462.44 in OpBud, \$73,258.82 in Hotel, and \$1,906.77 in Quebec.

d. The battalion supply processed a total of 2,991 requisitions, not including clothing or Serv-Mart items. Of this number, 2,164 were made from stock, 546 were from items not previously carried. The gross effectiveness was 72.4%, the net effectiveness 88.5%.

e. DPI down time is causing a large back up of all supply transactions.

f. Total mileage was 53,092; 15,868 passengers were carried.

g. Motor Transportation distributed 17 M-151A1 1/4 ton ~~4x4~~ utility vehicles to replace M-38A1 vehicles.

8. Military Construction and Camp Improvements

a. M&S Battery cleaned out the drainage ditch within the compound and ditches outside the compound. The wall in front of the compound was repainted. A surfaced road was laid in the compound. The S-3

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Office was repainted. AFU "E" continues work on the new missile storage pit and missile test area. Both MRC-83 radio fortifications have been reconstructed and refurbished. The operations/communications building has been re-sandbagged in preparation for the monsoons. The CWR fortification and launcher revetments are being re-sandbagged.

b. The Motor Transport building at Battery "A" was completed. Two generator fortifications were completed. Two MRC-83 fortifications were rebuilt. All SEM huts were strengthened and plumbing and electrical work was done throughout the compound. MCB-12 Company continued work on the repair of typhoon damage.

c. Battery "B" has completed work on the rebuilding of a generator fortification. The battery equipment maintenance facilities have been expanded to accommodate the Platoon Commander's Office. Work is continuing on the severe erosion problems along the upper firing level. The shelter for the AN/MPQ-35 has been completed.

d. Battery "C" improved its guard shack. Three generator pits were rehabilitated. A mailroom was added to the battery office. A concrete drainage ditch was installed in the Battery Motor Transport area. Seventh Communications Battalion installed new telephone poles and cables. The security building was rebuilt and enlarged.

9. Operations

a. The Radio Relay watch room was painted and new lighting installed.

b. A block diagram of the monitoring switch board was made depicting the interconnections of battalion lines. Cross-training is in progress on the operation of TRC-27 gear.

c. During the month 245 work orders were received and 232 were completed; 55 pieces were evacuated to higher echelon (FSR) and 35 pieces of equipment are awaiting parts. Twenty phones were repaired.

d. The security loop has been rewired. New lines were run from the new H&S Battery office to the terminal box and three telephones.

e. The TSQ-57 OC air conditioner is deadlined. Interim measures to satisfactorily cool the van equipment have been unsuccessful, therefore, further evaluation has been delayed.

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f. Quarterly inspections of all batteries were conducted by S-2/3 and Communications Sections and a CRE was conducted at Battery "A"; all with satisfactory findings.

10. Awards

a. Promotions during the month were as follows:

	H&S	"A"	"B"	"C"
Corporal				1
Lance Corporal		1		1
Private First Class	2	1		

b. Master Sergeant T. L. HAMIS, Battalion Supply received a Certificate of Commendation. Lance Corporal R. P. RYAN, Battery "A" was awarded a Meritorious Mast.

11. Informational Services

a. During the month, 373 Home Town Releases were forwarded from the Battalion.

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