

HEADQUARTERS

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

3:RKS:jc
 5213
 Ser No 016-69
 10 Apr 1969

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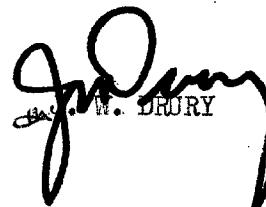
From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding Officer, Marine Air Control Group-18

Subj: Command Chronology, Submission of (U)

Ref: (a) GruO 5750.1

Encl: J(1) Command Chronology for the period 1-31 March 1969

1. In accordance with instructions contained in reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted for the period 1 to 31 March, 1969.


 J.W. DRURY

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

Signature Date 2/2/97

1ST LAAM BN

CMD CHRON

MAR 1969

ENCLOSURE (6)

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1ST LAAM BN S&C 033-69
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Command Chronology
DaNang, Republic of Vietnam
1 to 31 March
1969

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Enclosure (1)

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Command and Staff

Commanding Officer	1-31 Mar	LtCol John W. DRURY
Sergeant Major	1-31 Mar	SgtMaj Phillip P. GIRTEN
Executive Officer	1-24 Mar	Maj George H. EARLE, JR.
Executive Officer	25-31 Mar	Maj Edward L. HOUSE, JR.
S-1/Adjutant	1-31 Mar	1stLt Harold D. MAYO, JR.
Legal Officer	1-31 Mar	1stLt Harold D. MAYO, JR.
S-2/S-3	1-5 Mar	Capt James M. MUTTER
S-2/S-3	6-31 Mar	Capt Glenn K. EVANS
Asst S-2/NBC Officer	1-3 Mar	Capt Glenn K. EVANS
Asst S-2/NBC Officer	4-31 Mar	1stLt Clair W. CLARK, II
S-2/3 Liaison Officer	1-31 Mar	1stLt Richard F. COX
Asst S-3	1-3 Mar	1stLt Michael D. SHANNON
Asst S-3	1-18 Mar	1stLt Don O. THOMPSON
Asst S-3	7-31 Mar	1stLt Paul M. COOK, II
Asst S-3	17-31 Mar	1stLt Randall K. STRONG
S-4	1-31 Mar	Maj James D. MC GOWAN
Asst S-4/Embark Officer	1-31 Mar	1stLt Everett LONG, III
Asst S-4	1-31 Mar	1stLt Peter SANDERSON
Asst S-4	18-31 Mar	1stLt Douglas J. KULIG
Civil Affairs/RPSO	1-31 Mar	1stLt Gregory P. HOCHSTEIN
Motor Transport Officer	1-31 Mar	1stLt Freddie J. FALGOUT
Motor Transport Mainten Officer	1-31 Mar	CWO-3 Glenford A. NEWTOWN

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Maint. Plt Commander	1-31 Mar 1stLt Roy G. RAMIREZ
Weapons Systems Maint Officer	1-31 Mar CWO-2 Edward C. HOWARD
Asst Weapons Systems Maint Officer	5-31 Mar 1stLt Robert P. GEHRDES
OIC, AFU "E"	1-4 Mar 1stLt Robert P. GEHRDES
OIC, AFU "E"	5-31 Mar 1stLt Denham B. CLEMENTS
Asst OIC, AFU "E"	1-4 Mar 1stLt Denham B. CLEMENTS
Asst OIC, AFU "E"	4-31 Mar 1stLt Michael D. SHANNON
Supply Officer	1-31 Mar Maj Dennis E. DAMON
Asst Supply Officer	1-31 Mar 1stLt Ralph J. RECKAMP
Asst Supply Officer	1-31 Mar 2ndLt Ronald B. CARTER
Comm Officer	1-14 Mar 1stLt Thomas J. STAFFORD, III
Comm Officer	15-31 Mar 2ndLt Gordon E. ANDERSON
Asst Comm Officer	1-14 Mar 2ndLt Gordon E. ANDERSON
CO, H&S Battery	1-31 Mar Capt William L. TOWNSLEY
XO, H&S Battery	1-31 Mar 1stLt Thomas S. CARPENTER
Battery Officer	1-31 Mar 1stLt David M. MIYOSHI
CO, Battery "A"	1-5 Mar Capt R. S. NAUGHTEN
CO, Battery "A"	6 Mar 1stLt Paul M. COOK, II
CO, Battery "A"	7-31 Mar Capt James M. MUTTER
XO, Battery "A"	1-5 Mar 1stLt Paul M. COOK, II
XO, Battery "A"	6-31 Mar 1stLt Charles J. BORSANI, III
Firing Plt Cmdr	1-31 Mar 1stLt James H. NELSON
Support Plt Cmdr	1-31 Mar CWO-2 Stanley S. MINIATOGAWA
Security Plt Cmdr	1-5 Mar 1stLt Charles J. BORSANI, III

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Security Plt Cmdr	6-31 Mar	1stLt Robert D. ARCHER
CO, Battery "B"	1-31 Mar	Capt Richard Y. KEEGAN
XO, Battery "B"	1-31 Mar	1stLt Dennis A. HEDGE
Firing Plt Cmdr	1-15 Mar	1stLt Robert W. JOHNSON
Firing Plt Cmdr	16-31 Mar	1stLt Jonathan B. STAD
Asst Firing Plt Cmdr	1-15 Mar	1stLt Jonathan B. STAD
Support Plt Cmdr	1-31 Mar	1stLt Charles G. T. COLLINS
CO, Battery "C"	1-29 Mar	Capt Robert L. DOUP
CO, Battery "C"	30-31 Mar	1stLt Don O. THOMPSON
XO, Battery "C"	1-31 Mar	1stLt John W. JONES
Firing Plt Cmdr	1-31 Mar	1stLt Robert J. BOARDMAN
Support Plt Cmdr	1-31 Mar	1stLt John W. JONES
Maint Plt Cmdr	1-31 Mar	2ndLt Richard M. CARET
Security Plt Cmdr	1-27 Mar	Sgt James E. KISNER
Battery Officer	19-29 Mar	1stLt Don O. THOMPSON
Battery Officer	30-31 Mar	Capt Robert L. DOUP

2. Task Organization and Unit Location

a. Task Organization: N/A

b. Unit Location

H&S Battery Coordinates	(1:50,000)	BT007750	15Feb65
"A" Battery Coordinates	(1:50,000)	AT943917	21Aug66
"B" Battery Coordinates	(1:50,000)	BT091837	1Sep65
"C" Battery Coordinates	(1:50,000)	AT972737	26Mar65
AFU "E" H&S Coordinates	(1:50,000)	AT970620	27Mar66

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3. Average Monthly Strength

a. Total Battalion

- (1) 42 Officers (USMC)
- (2) 591 Enlisted (USMC)
- (3) 0 Officers (USN)
- (4) 13 Enlisted (USN)

b. H&S Battery

- (1) 28 Officers (USMC)
- (2) 318 Enlisted (USMC)
- (3) 0 Officers (USN)
- (4) 8 Enlisted (USN)

c. Battery "A"

- (1) 5 Officers (USMC)
- (2) 105 Enlisted (USMC)
- (3) 3 Enlisted (USN)

d. Battery "B"

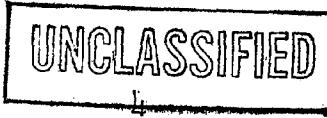
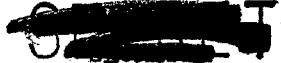
- (1) 4 Officers (USMC)
- (2) 73 Enlisted (USMC)

e. Battery "C"

- (1) 5 Officers (USMC)
- (2) 95 Enlisted (USMC)
- (3) 2 Enlisted (USN)

4. Important Visitors

On 4 March and 12 March 1969, Maj W. J. O'BRIEN, from 1st Marine Aircraft Wing G-2, visited Battery "C" to obtain information on an F-4J aircraft which crashed on 2 March 1969.


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On 6 March 1969, Maj E. L. HOUSE, 1st Light AA Missile Battalion, Executive Officer, Staff Sergeant MERRIFIELD and Sergeant SLOANE, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing Criminal Investigation Department, visited Battery "A" in connection with the grenade incident of 5 March 1969 which occurred at that site.

On 7 March 1969, LtCol J. W. DRURY, Commanding Officer, 1st Light AA Missile Battalion, visited Battery "C".

On 10 March 1969, Capt J. J. KNOCKE, USMC, Wing Food Services Officer, inspected the Battery "A" Messhall.

On 11 March 1969, Maj G. H. EARLE, JR., USMC, formerly the Executive Officer of the 1st Light AA Missile Battalion, visited Battery "B" for promotions.

On 15 March 1969, Maj G. H. EARLE, JR., former 1st Light AA Missile Battalion Executive Officer, Maj E. L. HOUSE, JR., the present 1st Light AA Missile Battalion Executive, Maj D. E. DAMON, 1st Light AA Missile Battalion Supply Officer, and Maj J. D. MC GOWAN, 1st Light AA Missile Battalion S-4 Officer, visited Battery "C" as part of a Battalion inspection team.

On 18 March 1969, Maj J. D. MC GOWAN, 1st Light AA Missile Battalion S-4 and Maj E. J. DAHY, III, Marine Air Control Group-18, visited AFU "E".

On 22 March 1969, LtCol J. W. DRURY, Commanding Officer, 1st Light AA Missile Battalion, visited AFU "E".

On 22 March 1969, Majors E. L. HOUSE, J. D. MC GOWAN and D. E. DAMON conducted the Battalion Quarterly S-4 Inspection of Battery "A".

On 23 March 1969, 1st Light AA Missile Battalion Commanding Officer, LtCol J. W. DRURY and 1st Light AA Missile Battalion Sergeant Major, Sgt Maj Phillip D. GIRTEN visited AFU "E".

On 24 March 1969, LtCol ADAMS, USA, Maj R. L. WARD, USMC, III Marine Amphibious Force, Maj T. C. TUDDON, USMC, III Marine Amphibious Force, Maj N. P. FITZGERALD, Wing Base Development, and a NBC representative evaluated the Battery "A" site for future TV translator installation.

On 25 March 1969, LtCol J. W. DRURY, Commanding Officer, 1st Light AA Missile Battalion, visited Battery "A".

On 25 March 1969, LtCol J. W. DRURY, Commanding Officer, 1st Light AA Missile Battalion, visited Battery "B".

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On 28 March 1969, Maj J. L. LILLY, USMC, S-3, 7th Engineer Battalion, inspected the proposed site for a new Battery "A" Messhall.

On 29 March 1969, Capt NEFF and 1stLt SELTZER, USA, Company "A", 37th Signal Corps Battalion, visited Battery "A" for liaison on future TV translator site tests.

On 30 March 1969, LtGen Herman NICKERSON, JR., USMC, Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force, toured Battery "B" site.

On 30 March 1969, Col E. S. FRIS, USMC, Commanding Officer, Marine Air Control Group-18, toured Battery "B" site.

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NARRATIVE SUMMARY

On 2 March 1969, 1stLt C. W. CLARK, II reported aboard and was assigned duties as Assistant S-2 Officer and NBC Officer.

On 3 March 1969, Maj E. L. HOUSE reported aboard for duty as the future Battalion Executive Officer.

On 5 March 1969, 1stLt R. P. GEHRDES was transferred from AFU "E" as OIC to Battalion to work at WSM as Maintenance Platoon Commander.

On 5 March 1969, Capt R. S. NAUGHTEN received extensive minor shrapnel wounds from an M-26 grenade of unknown origin. 1stLt P. M. COOK, II assumed command after Capt NAUGHTEN was helilifted to 1st Medical Battalion. Capt NAUGHTEN is now at Chattanooga, Naval Hospital, Tennessee. 1stLt J. H. NELSON suffered a minor hip wound from this same incident.

On 6 March 1969, Capt James M. MUTTER was transferred from S-3 to Battery "A", 1st Light AA Missile Battalion.

On 6 March 1969, 1stLt Denham B. CLEMENTS became OIC of AFU "E" and 1stLt Michael D. SHANNON became Assistant OIC of AFU "E".

On 7 March 1969, Capt J. M. MUTTER assumed command as Battery "A" Commanding Officer.

On 8 March 1969, 1stLt P. M. COOK, II was transferred to H&S Battery for duty as the Assistant S-3 Officer.

On 15 March 1969, 1stLt Thomas J. STAFFORD, III was transferred to CONUS for duty with Force Troops, FMFLant, Camp Lejune.

On 16 March 1969, 1stLt Randall K. STRONG reported aboard and was assigned duties as an Assistant S-3 Officer.

On 16 March 1969, 1stLt Robert W. JOHNSON was transferred to Marine Air Control Squadron-5, MCAC, New River, North Carolina.

On 17 March 1969, 1stLt Douglas J. KULIG reported aboard and was assigned duties as an Assistant S-4 Officer.

On 19 March 1969, 1stLt Don O. THOMPSON was transferred from 1st Light AA Missile Battalion, H&S Battery to Battery "C", 1st Light AA Missile Battalion.

On 25 March 1969, Maj George H. EARLE, JR. was transferred to 1st Marine Brigade, FMF, MCAS, Kaneoche for duty.

On 27 March 1969, Capt C. RECHENBACH reported aboard for duty.

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SIGNIFICANT EVENTS~~SECRET~~
1. Enemy Action

On the evening of 1 March 1969, the 3rd MP Battalion, the adjacent unit to the south of Battery "C", was attacked by an enemy force of unknown size. On 11 March 1969, the 3rd MP Battalion reported 2 confirmed kills, and on the same night a large number of enemy troops were sighted in an open area approximately 3 kilometers to the southwest of the Battery "C" perimeter moving in a direction toward Battery "C" position on Hill 327. These troops were interdicted by artillery fire.

On 7 March 1969, Battery "A" reinforced recon patrol escorted seven Vietnamese out of a free fire zone (AT942924) after questioning.

On 17 March 1969, B-1-26's killer team, an adjacent unit to Battery "A", spotted movement off Battery "A" Post 13. Twelve rounds of 81mm mortars were fired at AT94599286 and AT94539249 (registered). A sweep of the registered coordinates the next day, 18 March, found no enemy casualties.

On 25 March 1969, five NVA were killed just south of Battery "A" position at AT947898.

On 26 March 1969, nineteen (19) 122mm rockets impacted on Hill 55 complex (AFU "E"). The CWAR received one shrapnel hole in the receiver-transmitter (antenna)--radar still functions properly.

During the month of March there were several rocket attacks launched by enemy units upon the DaNang area; however, these attacks had no effect upon H&S Battery.

2. Casualties

a. The following personnel were evacuated during the month of March:

Cpl T. J. JONES, 2158043, was evacuated to USN Hospital, Guam, for a torn medial meniscus.

Sgt M. A. HOKAMA, 1575659, was evacuated to 106th Group Hospital for an acute cervical sprain.

LCpl N. J. LAJUETT, 2153962, was evacuated to USN Hospital, Yokosuka, for tonsillitis.

Capt R. S. NAUGHTEN, 0828382, was evacuated to USN Hospital, Memphis, for MSW arms and legs.

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Cpl E. E. YOUNG, 2216559, was evacuated to USN Hospital, Yokosuka, for a depressed skull fracture.

3. Civic Action

a. Construction of an elementary school, Khue Trung IV Hamlet, Hoa Cuong Village was completed. The school was dedicated on 28 March 1969. The 1st Light AA Missile Battalion Commanding Officer, Executive Officer and Sergeant Major attended the dedication and the dinner which followed.

b. Fifteen bags of cement were given for the construction of graves in a Hamlet cemetery.

4. Air Defense

a. The Battalion had 178 targets during 38 AAWEX's. Of this total 156 or 87.6% were successfully engaged.

b. Seven Unknowns occurred during March.

c. There were 11 HAWK runs during the month of March. Of this total 8 were successfully engaged for an effective of 72.7%.

5. Ground Defense

a. Battery "A" 's ground defense effort consisted of the construction of tactical wire between Post #3 and 4.2" mortar position. In addition, bunker #20 was constructed midway between Post #3 and 4.2" mortar position, thus alleviating the guard on Posts #19, #1 and #2. A single apron fence along the eastern perimeter has been partially constructed. Sentry dogs are now walking post between Post #5 and #9. Post #3's .50 caliber machine-gun has been moved in order to support ARVN forces at AT947898. Two reconnaissance security patrols have been completed this month. The patrols were augmented by ARVN command units from Hai Van.

b. Battery "B" personnel ran a ground defense drill on 26 March 1969.

c. Battery "C" has put new concertina wire along some areas of the perimeter where the old wire was beginning to show signs of age and was breaking down. Burning and cutting of grass continued throughout the month. Lights were placed at locations near the various pieces of gear on top of the hill with a central switch near the BCC, to discourage any attempt to place a charge on the equipment in case of a sapper attack or infiltration by enemy forces. In addition, construction was started on several "dummy" bunkers and radio installations to present a decoy in the event of a sapper attack. A site has also been prepared for the installation of a 30' tower which is expected in the month of April.

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d. H&S Battery made no changes effecting the Battery's defensive positions during the month of March.

e. AFU "E" spread defoliant on the entire perimeter, and all excess brush was burned off around the area. Work still continues on the alternate positions.

6. Training

a. Battery "A" conducted three hours of GMS and forty-seven hours of Technical training.

b. Battery "B" conducted three hours of GMS and thirty-three hours of Technical training. In addition, six hours of Special Task Team training was conducted.

c. Battery "C" conducted five hours of GMS and fifteen hours of Technical training. Two hours of Special Task Team training was also conducted.

d. H&S Battery conducted four hours of GMS during the month and forty-eight hours of Technical training. The H&S Battery NBC Officer also conducted six hours of NBC team training.

e. AFU "E" conducted four hours of GMS and thirty-one hours of Technical training.

7. Logistics

a. Weapons Systems Maintenance received four (4) new AN/TSQ-2 (BCC-Battery Control Center), on 16 March 1969.

b. A new OC was received for S-3 on 24 March 1969.

c. On 15 March 1969, a Technical Inspection was held at Battery "C" by WSM.

d. On 22 March 1969, a Technical Inspection was held at Battery "A" by WSM.

e. On 29 March 1969, a Technical Inspection was held at AFU "E" by WSM.

8. Supply

The following is a list of Expenditures:

a. OpBud:

Total Spent this Month	\$ 94,527.12
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New Authorizations	\$ 75,000.00
Available Balance	6,672.34
Total Spent this Year	667,902.66
Total Authorized	674,575.00

b. HOTEL:

Total Spent this Month	\$ 38,107.25
New Authorization	NONE
Available Balance	24,017.11
Total Spent this Year	191,711.00
Total Authorized	215,759.00

c. QUEBEC:

Total Spent this Month	\$ 150.36
New Authorization	NONE
Available Balance	4,823.39
Total Spent this Year	3,176.61
Total Authorized	8,000.00

d. During the month of March, Battalion Supply processed a total of 2,344 requisitions, not including clothing and Serv-Mart items. Of this number 591 issues were made from stock, creating a gross effectiveness of 40%. There were 49 requisitions for items previously held in stock, which accounted for a net effectiveness of 38%.

9. Motor Transport

a. Total vehicle mileage for the month was 57,225; 22,302 passengers were carried; and 2,937 tons transferred.

10. Military Construction and Camp Improvement

a. Battery "A"'s Communications and Engineer Sections have begun a Battery rewiring program. The installation of individual cubicles in the enlisted men's quarters has been started by the 7th Engineer Battalion.

b. Battery "B" has begun work on the fortification of all HAWK equipment and the covering of a 5000 gallon fuel bladder.

c. Battery "C" began construction on a supply storage room in the Motor Transport area to provide a more secure place to maintain the motor transport parts on hand. In addition, a concrete deck and expansion was added to the messhall-dry storage room to provide increased space, more adequate pest control, and a more secure storage area. A frame and roof was also built over a reefer located adjacent to the messhall to provide protection from the weather. In the last month an outdoor stage was completed, which provides a more suitable facility for floor shows and troop entertainment.

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d. H&S Battery reported that nothing significant was done in this area during the month with the exception that AFU "E" has acquired the three living quarters left vacant by ASRT #C and is still in the process of cleaning up and improving on the quarters before move-in. On 23 March 1969, AFU "E" also completed a new urinal shed.

11. Operations

a. Increased emphasis was placed on use of the Automatic Fire Distribution System (AFDS) as the primary method of control. AAWEX's are conducted in the automatic mode when equipment status permits.

b. A PU-344 generator was received for the AN/UPS-1 radar on 14 March 1969. The radar was integrated and aligned with OC #2 via AN/TKQ-1 and AAWEX operations utilizing the AN/TSQ-57 system were run sporadically.

c. OC #4 arrived approximately 20 March 1969, was checked out, and moved to the new area in anticipation of the Battalion's upcoming displacement. When the displacement is completed, OC #2 will be shipped to Barstow.

d. An air conditioner was received for OC #2 on 22 March 1969, but was not installed, as a question still exists as to whether we will keep it as a back-up for OC #4 or ship it to Barstow with OC #2.

e. The VCC-1 Radio Jeeps have been used as primary ADL communication to Battery "C" since 25 March 1969.

12. Communications

a. Radio Section. During the month of March all missing equipment and parts were put on order. All previous orders were checked for validity along with the Document Number. All equipment was thoroughly cleaned and painted for the upcoming FMFPAC inspection. All the radio section records and paper work was brought up to date.

b. Maintenance. During the month of March operating equipment generated a total of 138 work orders; 108 work orders were completed, 12 work orders are awaiting parts, 4 work orders were evacuated to a higher echelon, and 14 work orders are awaiting work. All necessary preventive maintenance was performed on gear received in the shop.

c. Radio Relay. During the month of March operating equipment and back-up equipment was kept up sufficiently to allow all the batteries the equipment necessary to perform our mission.

d. Message Center. During the month of March the message center completed a total of 86 reproduction orders with a total of 5,900 copies

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reproduced. In the past month the message center has received a total of 460 electrically transmitted messages of which 145 were classified. The message center also processed a total of 60 outgoing messages.

e. Wire. The most outstanding achievement of the past month was the installation of a completely rebuilt and serviceable SB-86 switch-board, and the rewiring of the three terminal boxes leading to the switch-board. The new switch board enables operators to answer and put calls through quickly and efficiently. In addition, the rewiring of the terminal boxes simplifies trouble shooting.

13. Awards

a. Promotions during the month were as follows:

	H&S	"A"	"B"	"C"
Master Sergeant	1			
Staff Sergeant	1	1		
Sergeant	7	2	2	
Corporal	4	2		1
Lance Corporal	2	2	1	3

b. Three Marines were awarded Meritorious Mast.

14. Informational Services

a. During the month of March, 85 Home Town News Releases were forwarded from the Battalion.

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