

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

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 5213
 SerNo
 10 May 1969
 Ser No 0022-69

~~REDACTED~~ 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 1-30 April 1969

1. In accordance with instructions contained in reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted for the period 1 to 30 April, 1969.

W. Drury
 W. DRURY

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

Signature Date 7/2/97

1st Light AA Missile Battalion 0038-69
 Copy No. 1 of 9 Copies

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ENCLOSURE (1)

1st Light AA Missile Battalion

Command Chronology

APR 1969

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Command Chronology
DaNang, Republic of Vietnam
1 to 30 April
1969

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Command and Staff

Commanding Officer 1-30 Apr LtCol John W. DRURY

Sergeant Major 1-30 Apr SgtMaj Phillip P. GIRTEN

Executive Officer 1-30 Apr Maj Edward L. HOUSE JR.

S-1/Adjutant 1-30 Apr 1stLt Harold D. MAYO JR.

Legal Officer 1-30 Apr 1stLt Harold D. MAYO JR.

S-2/S-3 1-4 Apr Capt Glenn K. EVANS

S-2/S-3 5-13 Apr 1stLt Paul M. COOK II

S-2/S-3 14-30 Apr Capt Robert A. KOTZ

Asst S-2/NBC Officer 1-30 Apr 1stLt Clair W. CLARK

S-2/S-3 Liaison Officer 1-30 Apr 1stLt Richard F. COX

Asst S-3 1-4, 14-30 Apr 1stLt Paul M. COOK II

Asst S-3 1-30 Apr 1stLt Randall K. STRONG

Asst S-3 21-30 Apr 1stLt Ronald P. JOHNSON

S-4 1-30 Apr Maj James D. McGOWAN JR.

Asst S-4/EMBO 1-30 Apr 1stLt Everett LONG III

Asst S-4 1-30 Apr 1stLt Peter SANDERSON

Asst S-4 9-28 Apr 1stLt Michael R. PERRY

Asst S-4 1-10 Apr 1stLt Douglas J. KULIG

Civil Affairs/RPSO 1-30 Apr 1stLt Gregory P. HOCHSTEIN

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Motor Transport Officer	1-30 Apr 1stLt Freddie J. FALGOUT
Motor Transport Maint. Officer	1-30 Apr CWO 3 Glenford A. NEWTOWN
Maint. Platoon Commander	1-30 Apr 1stLt Roy G. RAMIREZ
Weapons Systems Maint. Officer	1-13 Apr CWO 2 Edward C. HOWARD
Weapons Systems Maint. Officer	11-30 Apr 1stLt Robert P. GEHRDES
Asst Weapons Systems Maint. Officer	1-13 Apr 1stLt Robert P. GEHRDES
OIC, AFU "E"	1-30 Apr 1stLt Denham B. CLEMENTS
Asst OIC, AFU "E"	1-30 Apr 1stLt Michael D. SHANNON
Supply Officer	1-30 Apr Maj Dennis D. DAMON
Asst Supply Officer	1-30 Apr 1stLt Ralph J. RECKAMP
Asst Supply Officer	1-30 Apr 2ndLt Ronald B. CARTER
Comm Officer	1-30 Apr 2ndLt Gordon E. ANDERSON
CO, H&S Battery	1-6 Apr Capt William L. TOWNSLEY
CO, H&S Battery	7-22 Apr 1stLt Thomas S. CARPENTER
CO, H&S Battery	23-30 Apr Capt Albert I. HARTKOPF
XO, H&S Battery	1-6 Apr 1stLt Thomas S. CARPENTER
XO, H&S Battery	7-22 Apr 1stLt David M. MIYOSHI
XO, H&S Battery	23-30 Apr 1stLt Thomas S. CARPENTER
Battery Officer	1-6, 23-30 Apr 1stLt David M. MIYOSHI
Battery Officer	11-30 Apr 2ndLt Wilbur L. SIDERS
CO, Battery "A"	1-30 Apr Capt James M. MUTTER
XO, Battery "A"	1-30 Apr 1stLt Charles J. BORSANI III
Firing Plt. Cmdr.	1-30 Apr 1stLt James H. NELSON
Asst. Firing Plt. Cmdr.	11-30 Apr 1stLt Douglas J. KULIG

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Support Plt. Cmdr.	1-30 Apr CWO 2 Stanley S. MINATOGAWA
Security Plt. Cmdr.	1-30 Apr 1stLt Robert D. ARCHER
CO, Battery "B"	1-10 Apr Capt Richard Y. KEEGAN
CO, Battery "B"	11-30 Apr Capt Charles RECHTENBACH
XO, Battery "B"	1-30 Apr 1stLt Dennis A. HEDGE
Firing Plt. Cmdr.	1-30 Apr 1stLt Jonathan B. STAD
Support Plt. Cmdr.	1-30 Apr 1stLt Charles G. T. COLLINS
CO, Battery "C"	1-30 Apr 1stLt Don O. THOMPSON
XO, Battery "C"	1-30 Apr 1stLt John W. JONES
Firing Plt. Cmdr.	1-30 Apr 1stLt Robert J. BOARDMAN
Support Plt. Cmdr.	1-30 Apr 1stLt John W. JONES
Maint. Plt. Cmdr.	1-30 Apr 1stLt Richard M. CARET
Battery Officer	1-1 Apr 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)	ET007750	15 Feb 65
"A" Battery Coordinates	(1:50,000)	AT943917	21 Aug 66
"B" Battery Coordinates	(1:50,000)	BT091837	1 Sep 65
"C" Battery Coordinates	(1:50,000)	AT972737	26 Mar 65
AFU "E" H&S Coordinates	(1:50,000)	AT970620	27 Mar 66

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3. Average Monthly Strength

a. Total Battalion

- (1) 43 Officers (USMC)
- (2) 581 Enlisted (USMC)
- (3) 0 Officers (USN)
- (4) 15 Enlisted (USN)

b. H&S Battery

- (1) 29 Officers (USMC)
- (2) 303 Enlisted (USMC)
- (3) 0 Officers (USN)
- (4) 10 Enlisted (USN)

c. Battery "A"

- (1) 6 Officers (USMC)
- (2) 110 Enlisted (USMC)
- (3) 2 Enlisted (USN)

d. Battery "B"

- (1) 4 Officers (USMC)
- (2) 73 Enlisted (USMC)
- (3) 1 Enlisted (USN)

e. Battery "C"

- (1) 4 Officers (USMC)
- (2) 95 Enlisted (USMC)
- (3) 2 Enlisted (USN)

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4. Important Visitors

On 1 April 1969, Maj. J. D. McGOWAN, 1st LAAM Bn., S-4, visited "A" Battery to begin an investigation into the circumstances surrounding the damage of a M-36A2 at that site.

On 3 April 1969, Maj. A. L. FINK, USMC, 1st MAW Ground Defense Officer, toured "B" Battery area.

On 4 April 1969, Maj. A. L. FINK, USMC, 1st MAW Ground Defense Officer, toured "C" Battery area.

On 8 April 1969, MSgt J. J. GORMAN, FMFPAC Inspector, inspected "A" Battery's Hawk equipment.

On 10 April 1969, LtCol. J. W. DRURY, USMC, 1st LAAM Bn., Commanding Officer, visited "A" Battery for promotion ceremony.

On 10 April 1969, LtCol. J. W. DRURY, USMC, 1st LAAM Bn., Commanding Officer, visited "C" Battery.

On 10 April 1969, Maj. A. L. FINK, USMC, 1st MAW Ground Defense Officer, inspected "A" Battery's defensive positions.

On 11 April 1969, LtCol. J. W. DRURY, USMC, 1st LAAM Bn., Commanding Officer, visited "B" Battery for promotion ceremony.

On 11 April 1969, Maj. D. E. DAMON, 1st LAAM Bn., Supply Officer, and 1stLt R. RAMERIZ, Maint. Platoon Commander, were at the "A" Battery site to begin investigations into the damage of the AN/MPQ-35 and a Hawk missile.

On 12 April 1969, LtCol. J. W. DRURY, USMC, 1st LAAM Bn., Commanding Officer, visited "C" Battery.

On 12 April 1969, the FMFPAC Inspecting Team visited "B" Battery site.

On 13 April 1969, The FMFPAC Inspection Team visited the H&S Battery area. The team was made up of 36 members headed by Col. L. C. SHEPHERD III USMC.

On 13 April 1969, Col. L. C. SHEPHERD, USMC, LtCol. C. F. NICHOLSON, USMC, and Maj. J. W. McCULLOUGH, USMC, visited "C" Battery as part of the FMFPAC Inspection party.

On 13 April 1969, LtCol. J. W. DRURY, USMC, 1st LAAM Bn., Commanding Officer, visited "C" Battery.

On 15 April 1969, General A. J. GOODPASTER, USA, Deputy U. S. Commanding General, Vietnam; Maj. General C. J. QUILTER, 1st MAM, Commanding General; Col. E. S. FRIS, MACG-18, Commanding Officer; and LtCol. J. W. DRURY, 1st LAAM Bn., Commanding Officer, visited one of "A" Battery's launching areas.

On 15 April 1969, General A. J. GOODPASTER, USA, Deputy U. S. Commanding General, Vietnam; Maj. General C. J. QUILTER, 1st MAM, Commanding General; Col. E. S. FRIS, MACG-18, Commanding Officer; and LtCol. J. W. DRURY, 1st LAAM Bn., Commanding Officer, toured the "B" Battery site.

On 15 April 1969, General A. J. GOODPASTER, USA, Deputy U. S. Commanding General, Vietnam, and Maj. General C. J. QUILTER, USMC, 1st MAM, Commanding General, visited the "C" Battery area.

On 16 April 1969, Maj. J. B. TERPAK, USMC, 1st Tank Battalion, S-3, visited "C" Battery.

On 21 April 1969, LtCol. J. W. DRURY, USMC, 1st LAAM Bn., Commanding Officer, visited "C" Battery and remained for the night returning 22 April 1969.

On 22 April 1969, Capt CHRISTANSON, 1st MAM Food Service Officer, was accompanied by 1stLt E. LONG, 1st LAAM Bn., Asst S-4, on an inspection of "A" Battery's Mess Hall.

On 24 April 1969, LtCol. J. W. DRURY, USMC, 1st LAAM Bn., Commanding Officer, visited "B" Battery.

On 24 April 1969, Maj. C. J. HORN, S-3 of 3/11, visited the "A" Battery site.

On 26 April 1969, Col. E. S. FRIS, USMC, MACG-18, Commanding Officer, visited "C" Battery.

On 28 April 1969, "C" Battery was visited by Col. E. S. FRIS, USMC, MACG-18, Commanding Officer; LtCol. N. F. DEFENBAUGH, USMC, 1st MAM, G-4; LtCol. J. R. DOPLER, USMC, H&HS-18, Commanding Officer; Maj. E. L. HOUSE JR., USMC, 1st LAAM Bn., Executive Officer; and Maj. J. D. MCGOWAN, USMC, 1st LAAM Bn., S-4, to view the damage incurred on 27 April 1969.

On 28 April 1969, LtCol. J. W. DRURY, USMC, 1st LAAM Bn., Commanding Officer, visited "C" Battery.

On 29 April 1969, Maj. E. L. HOUSE JR., 1st LAAM Bn., Executive Officer, visited "A" Battery to complete his investigation concerning the grenade incident in March 1969.

On 30 April 1969, Col. E. S. FRIS, USMC, MACG-18, Commanding Officer, visited "C" Battery.

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

On 1 April 1969, Capt. Robert J. DOUP of "C" Battery completed his tour in Vietnam and rotated to CONUS.

On 5 April 1969, Capt. Glenn K. EVANS H&S Battery, S-3, was transferred to CONUS for release from active duty.

On 5 April 1969, the AN/MPQ-35 antenna at "A" Battery was lost during a wind storm.

On 8 April 1969, the skin of a missile was accidentally damaged by a Loader-Transporter at "A" Battery.

On 9 April 1969, Capt. William L. TOWNSLEY was transferred to CONUS for temporary additional duty at MCAS, El Toro, California.

On 9 April 1969, 1stLt Michael R. PERRY reported aboard and was assigned duties as an assistant S-4 Officer.

On 10 April 1969, Capt. Charles RECHTENBACH was transferred to "B" Battery to assume duties as "B" Battery, Commanding Officer.

On 10 April 1969, 1stLt Douglas J. KULIG was transferred from H&S Battery to "A" Battery, 1st LAAM Bn.

On 11 April 1969, a change of command ceremony was held at "B" Battery with Capt. R. Y. KEEGAN being relieved by Capt. C. RECHTENBACH.

On 13 April 1969, CWO 2 Edward C. HOWARD was transferred to CONUS for duty at 2nd MAW, Cherry Point, North Carolina.

On 14 April 1969, Capt. R. A. KOTZ reported aboard and was assigned duties as the S-3 Officer.

On 15 April 1969, 2ndLt Wilbur L. SIDERS reported aboard and was assigned duties as an Assistant Administration Officer.

On 21 April 1969, Capt. A. I. HARTKOPF reported aboard and was assigned duties as the Commanding Officer of H&S Battery.

On 21 April 1969, 1stLt Ronald P. JOHNSON reported aboard and was assigned duties as an assistant S-3 Officer.

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On 28 April 1969, 1stLt M. R. PERRY was transferred from H&S Battery, S-4, to MACG-18 to assume duties as Finance Officer.

During the month of April, "A" Battery received an AN/MPQ-35 replacement and three new launchers. Battery "B" received two new launchers; and "C" Battery received one new launcher during the month.

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PART III

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Enemy Action

On 22 April 1969, a civilian truck was damaged by a RPG type weapon at AT937905 which is on the road a mile below "A" Battery.

On 24 April 1969, "A" Battery reported that elements of the 7th Engineers removed six claymore type mines from the roadway north of Hai Van and just north of the "A" Battery site.

On 25 April 1969, AFU "E" reported that one enemy round impacted on Finger 3 of the hill they are on-Hill 55. There is no positive report on just what type round it was. There was no damage to AFU "E".

On 29 April 1969, "A" Battery reported that two Marines from 6/2/26 were wounded from sniper fire at AT93829228 near "A" Battery.

During the month of April, bunkers along the road on the way to "A" Battery-Highway One, which is guarded by units of the 26th Marines, received light sniperfire.

During the month of April there were several rocket attacks launched by the enemy against 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 April:

1stLt R. G. RAMIREZ, 097684, was MEDEVAC to COMPAC for a torn left Achilles Tendon.

Cpl. K. M. PAHLEN, 2259672, was evacuated to GH Camp Drake for a Minniscus left knee.

Cpl. W. B. WELCH, 2221409, was MEDEVAC to COMPAC for a hernia.

L/Cpl. R. J. BORCHERT, 2398652, was evacuated to USS Sanctuary for emotional instability.

L/Cpl. R. D. BUCKNER, 2107969, was evacuated to USNH Guam for mult. shrapnel.

Pvt. G. BOWAN, 2254781, was evacuated to USNH Guam for severe headaches.

Pvt. L. MISCHIARA, 2355767, was evacuated to NH ST. Albans for Inf. Hepatitis.

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3. Civic Action

a. Twenty-five bags of cement were given for the construction of a well which was completed on 15 April 1969.

b. In addition to the Twenty-five bags of cement given last month, five pieces of second-hand tin and fifteen 2" by 4"s were presented for the reconstruction of a Spirit House adjacent to a sub-hamlet's cemetery.

c. On 26 April 1969, a ceremony and dinner were held and the contributions of civic action were listed on a poster at the entrance.

4. Air Defense

a. The Battalion had 38 targets during 19 AAWEX's. Of this total 33 or 86.8% were successfully engaged.

b. Three Unknowns occurred during the month of April.

c. There were no HAWK runs during the month of April.

5. Ground Defense

a. "A" Battery's ground defense effort consisted of putting in three layers of Barb Tape and constructing a tactical fence around "A" Launcher point. Post one and nine were reconstructed using 55 gallon drums and matting. Three reconnaissance-security patrols were conducted this month from "A" Battery.

b. At present, "B" Battery's ground defense capabilities are being revised. On 29 April 1969, a ground defense drill was conducted.

c. "C" Battery put in additional concertina around parts of the Battery perimeter. The burning and cutting of grass continued throughout the month. A 30 foot tower was emplaced on a knoll outside the Battery perimeter which was considered a good position but due to recommendations from Wing and Group, Ground Defense Officers, it is felt the tower should be moved inside the perimeter wire.

d. H&S Battery made no changes affecting the unit's defensive positions during the month of April.

e. AFU "E" made no changes affecting the unit's defensive positions during the month of April.

6. Training

a. "A" Battery conducted three hours of GMS. In addition, two hours of gas mask drill was held.

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b. "B" Battery conducted two hours of GMS and sixteen hours of Technical training.

c. "C" Battery conducted four hours of GMS and fourteen hours of Technical training. In addition, two hours of Special Task Team training was also conducted.

d. H&S Battery conducted four hours of GMS and forty-four hours of Technical training. One hour of gas mask drill was also conducted.

e. AFU "E" conducted four hours of GMS and twenty-three hours of Technical training. In addition, three hours of Special Task Team training was conducted.

7. Logistics

a. On 10 April 1969, WSM received five (5) loader-transporters from CONUS.

b. On 12 April 1969, WSM received six (6) HAWK missile launchers from CONUS. On the same date eight (8) 400HZ, and Two (2) 60HZ generators returned from rebuild. Five (5) AN/MPQ-33 were removed from the system to prepare them for shipment to CONUS.

c. On 12 April 1969, an FMFPAC Inspecting Team inspected WSM and Engineering Section.

d. On 26 April 1969, two (2) AN/TSW-2, and four (4) loader-transporters were evacuated to CONUS.

e. On 29 April 1969, two (2) AN/TSW-2, and one (1) loader-transporter were evacuated to CONUS.

f. On 30 April 1969, a Systems Maintenance Officers meeting was held at the WSM building.

8. Supply

A data processing program for an excess review was completed and tested this month. The excess run will be made next month and it is anticipated that 3000 line items will be dropped from stock as excess.

The FMFPAC Inspection Team visited supply during April.

The following is a list of Expenditures

a. OPEUD:

Total Spent this Month	\$ 61,223.93
New Authorizations	\$175,000.00
Available Balance	\$120,448.11

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Total Spent this Year \$729,126.59

Total Authorized \$849,575.00

b. HOTEL:

Total Spent This Month \$ 7,791.51

New Authorizations \$ 70,600.00

Available Balance \$ 86,825.60

Total Spent this Year \$199,533.40

Total Authorized \$286,359.00

c. QUEBEC:

Total Spent this Month \$ None

New Authorizations \$ 2,000.00

Available Balance \$ 6,825.24

Total Spent this Year \$ 3,174.76

Total Authorized \$10,000.00

d. During the month of April, Battalion Supply received 683 requests from using units not including clothing and Ser-Mart items. Of this number, 489 issues were made from stock creating a gross effectiveness of 72%. There were 39 requisitions, for items not previously held in stock, which accounted for a net effectiveness of 76%.

9. Motor Transport

a. The total amount of vehicle mileage for the month of April was 57,737.

b. The total number of passengers carried for the month of April was 18,622.

c. The total tonnage transferred for the month of April was 3,353.

10. Military Construction and Camp Improvement

a. On 9 April 1969, "A" Company, 7th Engineers began leveling a site for the new mess hall at "A" Battery. "A" Battery also started construction on a new AN/MPQ-35 shelter on 10 April 1969.

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b. "B" Battery reported nothing significant was done in this area during the month of April.

c. At "C" Battery a 3000 gallon water tank was placed on 55 gallon oil drums to provide gravity water flow for the messhall. A large reefer was disassembled and placed on 4 x 4's to allow easier cleaning, better sanitation and prolong reefer life. All buildings at "C" Battery with the exception of the 49 shack and Missile Test Shop were wiped out by the explosions from ASP-1. Work is being started to rebuild the entire camp. Assistance is being obtained from the Sea Bees in rebuilding the messhall, and communications buildings.

d. H&S Battery reported that nothing significant was done in this area during the month with the exception that AFU "E" personnel have completed the move into ASRT "C" living areas which were recently rebuilt and cleaned up. All buildings at AFU "E" were painted and awnings have been installed. AFU "E" has also widened and re-sand-bagged the old revetment around their LPIR.

11. Operations

a. Emphasis is still being placed on the use of the Automatic Fire Distribution System (AFDS) for AAMTEX's. AFDS is used when equipment status permits.

b. Operation Center #4 has been moved back to the old area due to change in Battalion's displacement date for use with AAMTEX's. Operation Center #2 is in the process of being march-ordered to Barstow. Operation Center #2's air conditioner will be march ordered with the van.

c. Primary power unit for UPS-1, the PU-344, was released to Comm 1 April 1969. The TXQ-16 was taken down and packed for storage in anticipation of the move to MACG-18 area.

12. Communications

a. Radio Section. During the month of April radio section had ten (10) MRC-83's down (8NORS/2TRANSIENT) and two (2) TRC-75's down awaiting parts-Couplers. On 13 April 1969, radio section had a FMFPAC inspection. They received a satisfactory with minor discrepancies. All embarkation was brought up to date. During the month operators were sent to different batteries with MRC-83's to set up a practice net to ensure proficiency in their MOS.

b. Maintenance. During the month of April, 173 work orders were received. Of these 113 were completed, 17 were awaiting parts and 4 are at higher echelon repair facilities. Thirty-nine (39) are still awaiting work. Necessary preventive maintenance was performed within the tech shop on incoming gear. A team toured the batteries performing 2nd and 3rd echelon on about half of the total gear. Thirty (30) pieces of gear were sent to the calibration facility for maintenance.

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c. Radio Relay. During the month of April, radio relay has been plagued with numerous equipment failures. Fifteen (15) RT-252's are currently on work orders for repair. This situation has caused all batteries to operate without proper backup equipment, and at times do not operate at all. All equipment on hand is old, and has been used for several years continuously, a major factor in excessive failure and downtime. All required, as well as all needed preventive maintenance has been performed for April.

d. Message Center. During the month of April, 389 incoming messages were received and processed by this command. Of these, 104 were classified requiring special routing. This command originated 82 outgoing messages which were in a large part due to the FMEPAC inspection that occurred the 13th of April. The message center reproduction machine filled 23 work orders for a total of 6,990 copies before it's breakdown. During the month of April the communications SOP was revised, approved, reproduced, and distributed. All required reports were submitted on time with the addition of a KY28/38 report which required that all of the KY-38 gear be inventoried.

e. Wire. During the month of April, eleven (11) lines were checked and/or repaired for various reasons. An additional phone was installed at the motor transport maintenance shop. The terminal box leading to the OC van was removed and the cable spliced together so that the terminal box may be used when wiring the new area. Three lines were laid from MRC-109 to 52 terminal, for AAI, AAG and Echo Admin. This eliminated the Charlie Relay shot. In order to keep gear in top working condition twenty-four (24) items were turned in for repairs.

13. Awards

a. Promotions during the month were as follows:

	H&S	"A"	"B"	"C"
Staff Sergeant	1			
Sergeant	2		2	
Corporal	2	1		2
Lance Corporal	2			1

b. Eight Marines received the Good Conduct Medal.

c. Three Marines were awarded Meritorious Mast.

14. Informational Services

a. During the month of April, 74 Home Town News Releases were forwarded from the Battalion.

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