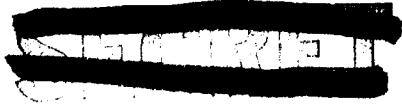


1st Searchlight Battery
3d Marine Division(Rein), FMP
FPO San Francisco 96602

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JMC:kls
5750
1 Oct 1967
Ser. 0008-67



From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (CODE A03D)
Via: (1) Commanding General, 3d Marine Division(Rein), FMP
(2) Commanding General, 3d Marine Amphibious Force
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8

1. In accordance with references (a) and (b), the following report is submitted.

2. Reporting Period. 1-30 September 1967.

3. Organizational Data:

a. Designation of Unit. Reporting Unit 21503, 1st Searchlight Battery, 3d Marine Division(Rein), FMP, FPO San Francisco 96602.

b. Commanding Officer. Captain Victor B. SNIDER - 31 January 1967 - present.

c. Location of Unit. Dong Ha, Republic of Vietnam - 29 June 1967 - present.

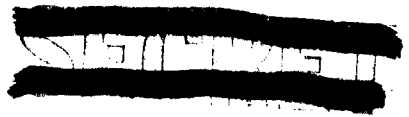
d. Battery Officers:

- (1) 1stLt Joseph HANCHARICK JR. - Executive Officer
- (2) 2ndLt John M. CONYERS - Liaison Officer
- (3) 1stLt Michael T. PIERSON - Platoon Commander, 1st Platoon
- (4) 1stLt Thomas J. STACK - Platoon Commander, 2nd Platoon
- (5) 1stLt James C. UECKER - Platoon Commander, 3d Platoon

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1st Searchlight Battery - End Mission

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1 Oct 1967

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e. Battery Strengths

USMC	
OFF	ENL
6	110

USN	
OFF	ENL
0	3

4. Narrative Summary. First Searchlight Battery continues in its role of perimeter defense. Of significant interest, are the events on 4 and 5 Sep 1967. On the evening of 4 Sep 1967, at Con Thien in Quang Tri Province, members of the 1st Searchlight Platoon sighted an enemy 57mm Recoilless Rifle as it was being prepared to fire. As the first enemy fire broke the silence of the night an 81mm mortar mission (called for and adjusted by Searchlight personnel) silenced the hostile weapon. On the following night, 5 Sep 1967, an enemy artillery piece was observed firing from across the DMZ into the direction of Camp Carroll. Shortly thereafter, Camp Carroll reported receiving incoming artillery fire. The location of the enemy weapon (later determined to be a 152mm Gun) was given to 8" Howitzers which neutralized it immediately. During the remainder of the reporting period, the infra-red capability of the Searchlight was lost due to the failure of the M-18 Binoculars. At this time, all but three of eighteen sets have been turned in for repair. It has been determined that the moisture caused by the recent "monsoon type" weather has caused the "power packs" to short out. The loss of infra-red capability has caused the use of Searchlights in the areas around the DMZ to be virtually discontinued as the visual light, in most cases, is not feasible in this area of operation. Consequently, the Searchlights have been operating in a "STANDBY STATUS" awaiting the possible call for visual light.

5. Sequential Listing of Significant Events:a. Combat Missions Assigned:

(1) 1st Platoon

(a) 1st Section - perimeter defense at Dong Ha (Quang Tri Province) in support of 12th Marines.

(b) 2nd Section - perimeter defense at Khe Sanh (Quang Tri Province) in support of "A"Btry, 1stBn, 13th Marines.

(c) 3rd Section - perimeter defense at Con Thien (Quang Tri Province) in support of "D"Btry, 2ndBn, 12th Marines

(2) 2nd Platoon

(a) 1st Section - perimeter defense at Camp Carroll (Quang Tri Province) in support of 1stBn, 12th Marines.

(b) 2nd Section - perimeter defense at Cam Lo (Quang Tri Province) in support of 2ndBn, 12th Marines.

(c) 3rd Section - perimeter defense at Gio Linh (Quang Tri Province) in support of Composite Artillery Battalion.

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(3) 3rd Platoon

(a) 1st Section

1. Light 1 - perimeter defense at C2 (Quang Tri Province) in support of "F" Btry, 2ndBn, 12th Marines

2. Light 2 - perimeter defense at Cua Viet (Quang Tri Province) in support of 1st LVTA.

(b) 2nd Section - perimeter defense at Phu Bai (Thua Thien Province) in support of 4thBn, 12th Marines.

(c) 3d Section - perimeter defense at Camp Evans (Thua Thien Province) in support of 3dBn, 12th Marines.

b. Significant operations conducted. The Searchlight Platoons/Sections of the battery were used to support the following operations:

(1) Operation Fremont (Thua Thien Province)

(2) Operation Kingfisher (Quang Tri Province)

c. Casualties inflicted on the enemy: None

d. Casualties sustained: Two Searchlight operators suffered wounds caused by shrapnel. Medical evacuation was required.

e. New techniques employed: None.

f. Command Relations: Command Relations continue to be very good.

g. Equipment. At the present time the equipment of the battery, with the exception of the Searchlights themselves, is below ten per cent deadlined. The searchlights are approximately twenty per cent deadlined for third and fourth echelon repairs. M-18 Binoculars, a component of the Searchlight, are at approximately eighty-three per cent deadlined. (See paragraph 4, Narrative Summary)

h. Logistics. The overall logistics situation within the battery is considered satisfactory.

i. Civic Action. During the reporting period the Battery Corpsmen participated in Eight MED-CAPS.

j. Administration. No problem areas.

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- k. Personnel. No problem areas.
- l. Intelligence. Nothing to report.
- m. Communications. Nothing to report.
- n. Weather. As reported above, the weather has had an effect on some of the battery's equipment.
- o. Fire Support. Nothing to report.
- p. Air support. Nothing to Report.
- q. Activations/deactivations/redesignations. Not applicable.

V. B. Snider
V. B. SNIDER

COPY TO:
CO, 12th Marines

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