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HEADQUARTERS
1st Searchlight Battery
3rd Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco 96602

558167

JH:rhb
5750
Ser: 00012-67
1 Nov 1967

SECRET

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)
Via: (1) Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
(2) Commanding General, III 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. 1-31 October 1967.

3. Organizational Data:

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

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

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

d. Battery Officers:

- (1) 1stLt Joseph HANCHARICK, Jr. - Executive Officer
- (2) 1stLt Robert E. NEITHAMMER - Liaison Officer
- (3) 1stLt Michael T. PIERSON - Platoon Commander, 1st Platoon
- (4) 2ndLt John M. CONYERS - Platoon Commander, 2nd Platoon
- (5) 1stLt James C. UECKER - Platoon Commander, 3d Platoon

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End Chron

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e. Battery Strength:

| USMC | | USN | |
|------|-----|-----|-----|
| OFF | ENL | OFF | ENL |
| 6 | 105 | 0 | 2 |

4. Narrative Summary. The vigilance of the 1st Searchlight Battery proceeds while fulfilling its mission of defense to the major perimeters of the I Corps Tactical Zone. No noteworthy enemy contact was made by the Battery during the reporting period nor have any other events of a significant nature occurred. The infra-red capability of individual searchlights have intermittently been rendered inoperable due to the frequent need for replenishment of the power source and the long periods required for repair by third and fourth echelons of maintenance. For the second time, a searchlight at Con Thien Combat Base has been put out of action by enemy fire. Although the infra-red capability is frequently lost, the searchlights maintain the vigil should an immediate need for "white light" become necessary.

5. Sequential Listing of Significant Events:

a. Combat Missions Assigned:

(1) 1st Platoon

(a) 1st Section - perimeter defense at Dong Ha Combat Base (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 2ndBn, 12th Marines.

(2) 2nd Platoon

(a) 1st Section - perimeter defense at Cam Lo (Quang Tri Province) in support of 2ndBn, 12th Marines.

(b) 2nd Section - perimeter defense at Camp J. J. Carroll (Quang Tri Province) in support of 1stBn, 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 CHARLIE 2 (Quang Tri Province) in support of 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 Camp Evans (Thua Thien Province) in support of 3rdBn, 12th Marines.

(c) 3rd Section - perimeter defense at Phu Bai (Thua Thien Province) in support of 4thBn, 12th Marines.

b. Significant Operations Conducted. The Searchlight Platoons/Sections of the Battery were used to support the following operations:

(1) Operation FREEMONT (Thua Thien Province)

(2) Operation KINGFISHER (Quang Tri Province)

(3) Operation ARIMORE (Quang Tri Province)

c. Casualties inflicted on the enemy: None.

d. Casualties sustained: Two minor wounds occurred due to hostile action and one minor injury not as a result of hostile action.

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 nine percent deadlined. The searchlights are 40 percent deadlined. M-18 binoculars, a component of the searchlight, are at approximately 55 percent 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 two Med-Caps. The Battery has also made maximum use of civilian labor which was employed to fill sand bags.

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- j. Administration: No problem areas.
- k. Personnel. No problem areas.
- l. Intelligence. Nothing to report.
- m. Communications. Nothing to report.
- n. Weather. During the reporting period the weather conditions have been favorable for searchlight operations.
- o. Fire Support. Nothing to report.
- p. Air Support. Nothing to report.
- q. Activations/deactivations/redesignations. Not applicable.

V. B. Snider
V. B. SNIDER

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CO, 12th Marines

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