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1st 8" HOWITZER BATT (SP)
1st Marine Division (Rein), Fwd
FPO San Francisco 96302

MMB/tcc
5750
030-69
8 November 1969

Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1)

From: Commanding Officer
To: Com andant of the Marine Corps (AO3D)
Via: (1) Commanding General, 1st Marine Division
 (2) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific
Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 October - 31 October 1969
Ref: (a) CO P5750.1C
 (b) FMFPACO 5750.8
 (c) DIVO 5750.2C

Encl: ✓ (1) 1st 8" Howitzer Battery (SP) Com and Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a), (b) and (c),
Enclosure (1) is submitted.

2. Downgraded at 3-year intervals, declassified after 12 years, DOD Dir
5200.1C

W. H. Barnard
W. H. BARNARD

Copy to:
CG, 3d MarDiv
CO, 12th Mar
CO, 11th Mar

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1st 8" HOWITZER BATTERY (SP)
1st Marine Division (Rein), FM
FPO San Francisco 96502

COM AND CHRONOLOGY

1 October 1969 to 31 October 1969

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. DESIGNATION

1st 8" Howitzer Battery (SP)
 1st Marine Division (Rein), FWD

COM ANDER

Major W. H. BARNARD
 070251/0802
 1-31 Oct

SUBORDINATE UNITS

"A" Platoon

Capt J. W. HUGHES
 079509/0802
 1-31 Oct

"B" Platoon

Capt I. M. HITT
 079716/0802
 1-31 Oct

"C" Platoon

Capt J. N. HUDSON
 090558/0802
 1-31 Oct

2. LOCATION

Battery Headquarters: 1-26 Oct, DONG HA COMBAT BASE, RVN
 27-31 Oct, LZ BALDY, RVN

"A" Platoon: 1-20 Oct, ELLIOT COMBAT BASE, RVN
 21-26 Oct, DONG AH COMBAT BASE, RVN
 27 Oct, DA NANG, RVN
 28-31 Oct, AN HOA, RVN

"B" Platoon: 1-11 Oct, CON THIEN, RVN
 12 Oct, DONG HA COMBAT BASE, RVN
 13-24 Oct, DA NANG, RVN
 25-31 Oct, LZ ROSW, RVN

"C" Platoon: 1-19 Oct, C10 LINH (A-2), RVN
 20-26 Oct, DONG HA COMBAT BASE, RVN
 27-31 Oct, LZ BALDY, RVN

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3. STAFF OF TIERS

Fire Direction Officer

1stLt F. J. WATKINS

0100115/0302

1-31 Oct

Supply Officer

1stLt G. M. BARNES

0105013/0302

1-31 Oct

4. AVERAGE TONNAGE STRENGTH

USMC	USN
OFF 9	ENL 200
	OFF 0
	ENL 5

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY1. GENERAL OVERVIEW OF ALL ACTIVITIES

a. The majority of fire missions fired by this battery were against bunker complexes in the southern half of the DMZ. During the month of October, the howitzers of this battery fired 61 observed missions and 45 unobserved missions, expending 1099 rounds of shell HE.

b. During the latter half of the month the battery displaced from QJANG IRI to QUANG NAM Province, Republic of Viet-Nam. The battery was reestablished at L3 BALDY, QUANG NAM Province on 27 October 1968.

2. MISIIONS ASSIGNED

- a. General support, 3rd Marine Division, 1-24 October.
- b. (1) Battery (-): General support, 3d Marine Division, 25-26 October.
(2) "B" Platoon Reinforcing, 3d Battalion, 11th Marines, 25-26 October.
- c. (1) Battery (-): Reinforcing, 3d Battalion, 11th Marines, 27-31 October.
(2) "A" Platoon: Reinforcing, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines, 27-31 October.

3. OPERATIONS

Operation UPHOLD, 1-26 October

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4. FIRE SUP ORT

DAY	OBSERVED MISSIONS	UNOBSERVED MISSIONS	ROUNDS EXPENDED
1	3	6	45 HE
2	2	26	93 HE
3	2	19	65 HE
4	3	4	93 HE
5	0	10	60 HE
6	0	7	34 HE
7	0	8	15 HE
8	2	0	16 HE
9	2	2	16 HE
10	2	2	56 HE
11	4	0	32 HE
12	5	0	31 HE
13	7	2	72 HE
14	2	0	35 HE
15	3	0	35 HE
16	5	7	67 HE
17	10	0	102 HE
18	2	0	20 HE
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			
25			
26			
27			
28			
29	1	1	25 HE
30	1	0	13 HE
31	6	0	36 HE

5. SURVEILLANCE

Bunkers Destroyed - 29
 Bunkers Damaged - 11
 Structures Destroyed - 1
 Secondary Explosions - 1

6. CASUALTIES SUSTAINED. None

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a. Major problems during the period are concerned with the relocation of the Battery with consequent reestablishment of liaison with support facilities, positioning of supplies, and transportation of battery material to the new positions. Due to the onset of the monsoon season and road conditions in QUANG NAM Province, this has been a slow process. The logistics picture should improve considerably during the coming month.

b. Construction of SEA Huts, bunkers and gun pads is needed at LZ BALDY, LZ ROSS and AN HOA. This construction has been programmed.

8. COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRONICS. No significant problems.

9. EQUIPMENT. Several problems have been experienced with three howitzers which have been in service over two years, and are in need of replacement. Provision for repair parts at the forward LSA's in this area (LZ BALDY and AN HOA) would be a definite asset.

10. CIVIC ACTION. The Battery Corpsemen conducted 2 MEDCAPS, treating 68 Vietnamese Nationals in Northern IGTZ.

11. PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION. The battery joined 27 enlisted, and dropped 29 enlisted. The Operating Percentage (of manning level) of Officers is 100%; Enlisted 111%. Transfer of mail was accomplished without major complications. The changeover in administrative procedures is being accomplished with only minor complications due to delay in receipt of directives.

12. TRAINING. Unit/Section Training, COATIP, Personal Response and CMS Training continued up to the time of the Battery's displacement. MOS Training continued throughout the month.

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. 10 October 1969 Adminstrative control of 1st 8" Howitzer Battery (SP) was passed to the 11th Marines, 1st Marine Division.

Ref: ADMIN FMFPAC 010102Z Oct69 (S) and CO 1st MARDIV 020110Z Oct69 (S)

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2. 11 October 1969

"B" Platoon displaced from CON THIEN (A-4) to DONG HA and subsequently embarked at DONG HA on 12 October enroute to DA NANG. This platoon arrived at DA NANG on 13 October and moved to the Northern Artillery Cantonment thereat.

Ref: 11th Mar FragO 57-69 (S)

3. 19 October 1969

"C" Platoon displaced from GIO LINH (A-2) to DONG HA.

Ref: CG, 3d MARDIV (-) 191350Z Oct69 (S)

4. 20 October 1969

"A" Platoon displaced from ELLIOTT COMBAT BASE to DONG HA. As of 201013H October, the Battery "stood down" from operations in the 3d Marine Division area of operations and continued preparations for redeployment with the 1st Marine Division.

Ref: CG, 3d MARDIV (-) 191350Z Oct69 (S)

5. 25 October 1969

"B" Platoon moved to LZ ROSS in QUANG NAM Province and assumed the mission of reinforcing the fires of the 3d Battalion, 11th Marines.

Ref: 11th Mar FragO 60-69 (S)

6. 26 October 1969

The Battery Headquarters, "A" and "C" Platoons embarked at DONG HA enroute to DA NANG.

Ref: 11th Mar FragO 61-69 (S)

7. 27 October 1969

OFCON of the battery was passed to the 11th Marines. The Battery Headquarters and "C" Platoon debarked at DA NANG and moved to LZ BALDY in QUANG NAM Province. The Battery Command Post was established at LZ BALDY at 271615H October. "A" Platoon debarked and moved to Hill 34 at DA NANG. "C" Platoon assumed the mission of reinforcing the fire of the 3d Battalion, 11th Marines.

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Ref: CG, 3d MARDIV (-) 191350Z Oct69 (S)
and 11th Mar Frag0 61-69 (S)

8. 28 October 1969

"A" Platoon moved to AN HOA COMBAT BASE
and assumed the mission of reinforcing
the fires of the 2nd Battalion, 11th
Marines.

Ref: 11th Mar Frag0 61-69 (S)

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. ORIGINATED MESSAGES. None

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W. H. BARNARD

Commanding Officer
1st 8" Howitzer Battery (SP)

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