

DECLASSIFIED

1ST 155MM GUN BATTERY (SP)
4th Battalion, 12th Marine
3rd Marine Division (Rein) FMF
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96302

MMB:fvh
5750
1 June 1967
645-67

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3rd Marine Division (Rein) FMF
Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 to 31 May 1967

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A
(b) FMF Pac 5750.8
(c) DivO 5750.1A

Encls (1) 1st 155mm Gun Battery (SP) Command Chronology

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

M. M. Baig.
M. M. BAIG

Copy to:
4thBn, 12thMar
12thMar

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Copy _____ of _____

Enclosure (2)

1st 155mm Gun Battery
Commanding
DONO CHRON

MAY 1967

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1ST 155MM GUN BATTERY (SE)
4th Battalion, 12th Marines
3rd Marine Division (Rein) FMF
APO San Francisco 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 May to 31 May 1967

INDEX

- PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA
- PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY
- PART III - SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF
SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
- PART IV - SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

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Enclosure (1)

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. DESIGNATION

COMMANDER

1st 155mm Gun Battery (SP)	Major E. D. LITZENBERGER
4th Battalion, 12th Marines	(1-2 May)
3rd Marine Division (Rein) FMF	Captain M. M. BAIG
	(3-31 May)

ATTACHED UNITS

Two U.S. Army M42's	(1-31 May)
Delta Battery, 1st Bn	
44th Arty	

DETACHED UNITS

155mm Gun Platoon	(9-31 May)
Gia Lo, RVN	

2. LOCATION

1-31 May: Phu Bai RVN (YD 893127)
 9-31 May: 155mm Gun Platoon, Gia Lo, RVN (YD 829153)

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3. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>
7	158	0	3

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

On 9 May, 1967, a platoon of 155mm Guns was detached for duty in support of Operation Cumberland. The platoon set up in Gia Lo, 3rd Engineers compound at (YD 829153). On 14 May, 1967, a platoon of M109's from Lima Battery, 4thBn, 12th Marines came under opoon of the 155mm Gun platoon at Gia Le.

During the month of May, the battery under went a large reorganization of the defensive positions and defensive counter-attack plans. Many new bunkers were constructed, along with an extensive wire laying effort. The drills for mortar and/or ground attack have been revised to enable the battery to react under all possible conditions. The flash-bang tower was completed during this reporting period and is manned by the Fire Direction personnel 24 hours per day.

The battery had 8 hours of formal GMS classes this month. These classes were held on the M-16 rifle (2 hrs), NCO leadership (1 hr), First Aid, heat casualties (1 hr), Personal Response (1 hr), Basic Communications (1 hr), NBC Defense (1 hr), and a Vietnam orientation class (1 hr). In addition to the GMS classes, the battery had a FAM fire with the M-16 for 25% of our personnel. On the job training was held by all sections to further enable the battery to maintain its combat efficiency.

During this period the battery ran 7 patrols and put out 16 listening posts.

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PART II

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. a. Combat Missions Assigned

1 May 1967 - 1st 155mm Gun Battery (SP) continues General Support Phu Bai AO.

9 May 1967 - 1st platoon, 155mm Gun Battery (SP) General Support Operation Cumberland and Direct Support designated Recon Patrols.

b. Significant Operations

9 May 1967 - 1st platoon, 155mm Gun Battery (SP) General Support Operation Cumberland, Direct Support designated Recon Patrols.

c. Casualties inflicted on the enemy

<u>MIA (Conf)</u>	<u>KIA (Prob)</u>
0	0

d. Casualties sustained - 2 USMC WIA

e. Logistics

1. General. During this period the battery remained Adcon/ Opcon of 4th Battalion, 12th Marines.

2. Supply. The overall supply picture is satisfactory. Major items still on loan are:

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>UNIT</u>
a. AN/IRC 25	2	4thBn, 12th Marines
b. TA 312/EEB	3	HqBn 3dMarDiv(Rein)FMF
c. TA-1/PT	2	HqBn 3dMarDiv(Rein)FMF
d. RC 292	3	HqBn 3dMarDiv(Rein)FMF
e. Cot folding, canvas	18	HqBn 3dMarDiv(Rein)FMF
f. Insect bar, Cot	9	HqBn 3dMarDiv(Rein)FMF
g. Pole folding, cot (set)	9	HqBn 3dMarDiv(Rein)FMF
h. Truck, 3/4 ton, M37	1	HqBn 3dMarDiv(Rein)FMF

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3. Maintenance. During the period a burned out main engine generator was replaced on one Gun, 155mm (SP), M-53, while a quarterly preventive maintenance service was performed on another while undergoing transmission repairs.
4. Food Services. Ice has been a major problem due to the increased water consumption during the hot weather.
5. Bunkers & Perimeter Security. During this period the battery lost the 81mm mortar used for illumination of the perimeter. This has led to a delay of from 2-5 minutes for illumination of the perimeter. The battery built several more local security bunkers and individual fighting holes. A major effort was made to improve all facets of the defensive perimeter.
6. Water. The battery continues to truck water from the division water point.

f. Civic Action

Plans are being made for the battery's participation in the civic action program of 4th Battalion, 12th Marines.

g. Administration

The battery is A-oon 4th Battalion, 12th Marines.

h. Personnel

Number of replacements received: 2 officers, 6 enlisted
 Number of personnel rotated: 1 officer, 4 enlisted
 Number of personnel lost through
 attrition other than rotation: 3 Med Evac.
 Promotions: 1 Gunnery Sergeant, 1 Staff Sergeant, 7 Lance
 Corporals

i. Fire Support

This battery furnished fire support as follows:

General Support/Rein 4th Battalion, 12th Marines
 General Support Operation Cumberland
 Direct Support designated Recon Patrols

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j. Recapitulation of Fire Missions

PHU BAI & GIA LE

1-31 May 1967

	<u>HE</u>	<u>UNCBS</u>	<u>H&I</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>HE</u>	<u>ILLUM</u>	<u>WP</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1st Flt (Gia Le)	17	5	92	114	190	1	18	209
155mm Guns (Phu Bai)	53	14	142	189	382	32	11	425

PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. The following entries were taken from the computer records and fire reports.

- 031720H May67 - Fired 39 rounds 155mm Gun HE at 100 Viet Cong in area surrounding YD 936024. Negative surveillance. Fire mission for Driving test 22.
- 052120H May67 - Fired 11 rounds 155mm Gun HE and 10 rounds illumination at 1 platoon of Viet Cong via YD 985045. Rounds on target. Fire Mission for Seahook 62.
- 131815H May67 - Fired 8 round 155mm Gun HE at 4 Viet Cong in rice patties. via (YD 995013). Good coverage. Fire mission for Support of Division Intelligence.
- 150930H May67 - Fired 30 rounds 155mm Gun HE at 2 companies of Viet Cong via (YD 695997). No surveillance. Fire mission in support of Division Intelligence.
- 191730H May67 - Fired 28 rounds 155mm Gun HE at suspected Viet Cong location via (YD 682088). Good target coverage. Fire mission for Sacred Uniform.
- 211045H May67 - Fired 3 rounds 155mm Gun HE at 3 Viet Cong sitting on a bunker. via (YD 646197). Viet Cong dispersed, bunker damaged. Fire mission for Ferrage II, 3rd Recon Battalion.
- 211730H May67 - Fired 15 rounds 155mm Gun HE at 7 Viet Cong digging. via (YD 648183). Viet Cong dispersed. Fire mission for Ferrage II, 3rd Recon Battalion.
- 241015H May67 - Fired 27 rounds 155mm Gun HE at two Viet Cong companies via YD (910004). Good coverage. Fire mission for Seahook 63.

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