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

Command Chronology

1 October to 31 October 1967

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1st 155mm Gun Battery

Cmd Chron

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Enclosure (2)

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Oct 1967

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Designation

Commander

1st 155 Gun Battery (SP)
4th Battalion, 12th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein) FMP

Major N.J. BECKMAN

UNITS OPCON 1ST 155MM GUN BATTERY (SP)

One U.S. Army M42
Delta Battery, 1st Battalion
4th Artillery

DETACHED UNITS

155mm Gun Platoon
GIA LE, RVN
155mm Gun Platoon
(YD 829153)

(1 - 28 October 1967)

2. Location

1-31 October: PHU BAI, RVN (YD 893127)
1-28 October: 155mm Gun Platoon, GIA LE, RVN (YD 829153)

3. Average Monthly Strength

| <u>USMC</u> | | <u>USN</u> | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <u>Officers</u> | <u>Enlisted</u> | <u>Officers</u> | <u>Enlisted</u> |
| 6 | 115 | 0 | 3 |

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NARRATIVE SUMMARY

On 28 October 1967, the platoon of 155mm Guns moved from its position at GIA LE, 3d Engineers Compound at (YD 829153) and returned to the battery position at PHU BAI, RVN, (YD 893127).

During the month of October, the battery continued to improve its position and defensive counter-attack plans. One new perimeter defensive bunker and four new fighting holes were constructed. In addition one large artillery ammunition bunker was rebuilt and extensive internal defensive wire was added to more effectively impede and channelize the enemy.

As part of the battery's overall security measures, the battery ran 7 patrols and put out 8 listening posts.

The battery drainage system was improved upon during this period. Culverts were added in poor drainage areas to better prepare the area for the oncoming monsoons.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. a. Combat Missions Assigned

1 October 1967 - 1st 155mm Gun Battery (SP) continues General Support PHU BAI AO.

1 October 1967 - 28 October 1967 - 1st Platoon, 1st 155mm Gun Battery (SP) Direct Support designated Recon Patrols.

b. Significant Operations

1 October 1967 - 28 October 1967 - 1st Platoon, 1st 155mm Gun Battery (SP) Direct Support designated Recon Patrols.

c. Casualties inflicted on the enemy

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| <u>KIA (Conf)</u> | <u>KIA (Prob)</u> |
| 0 | 0 |

d. Casualties sustained 0

e. Logistics

(1) General. During this period the battery remained ADCON/OPCON to 4th Battalion, 12th Marines.

(2) Supply. The overall supply situation is satisfactory. Major items still on loan are:

| <u>ITEM</u> | <u>QUANTITY</u> | <u>UNIT</u> |
|------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| (a) TA 1-1PT | 2 | HqBn, 3dMarDiv(Rein) |
| (b) TA-312/EE8 | 2 | HqBn, 3dMarDiv(Rein) |
| (c) Aiming Circle, M-1 | 1 | 8th RRFS |
| (d) Compass, magnetic | 15 | HqBn, 3dMarDiv(Rein) |

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(3) Maintenance. During this period three guns, 155mm (SP) M-53 had Quarterly Preventive Maintenance held.

(4) Bunkers and Perimeter Security. During the month of October, one new perimeter bunker and four new fighting holes were built. In addition, one large artillery ammunition bunker was rebuilt. A continued wire laying effort has resulted in additional internal networks or wire designed to impede and channelize the enemy.

(5) Water. The battery continues to truck water from the Division water point.

f. Civic Action. The battery has continued its participation in the Civic Action Program in the village LOC BON (YD 926130). Frequent Med Caps and a program to refurbish the village have continued.

g. Administration. The battery is ADCON, 4th Battalion, 12th Marines.

h. Personnel

Number of replacements received: 10 enlisted
 Number of personnel rotated: 1 Officer, 27 Enlisted
 Number of personnel lost through attrition other than rotation: 0

Promotions: 6 Corporals; 18 Lance Corporals

i. Fire Support. This battery furnished fire support as follows:

General Support/PHU BAI AO.
 Direct Support designated Recon Patrols.

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j. Recapitulation of Fire Missions

PHU BAI & GIA LE

1-31 October 1967

| | <u>OBS</u> | <u>UNOBS</u> | <u>H&I</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> | <u>HE</u> | <u>ILL</u> | <u>WP</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> |
|----------------------|------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|-----------|------------|-----------|--------------|
| 1st Plt (GIA LE) | 6 | 0 | 15 | 21 | 40 | 0 | 88 | 128 |
| 155mm Guns (PHU BAI) | 31 | 7 | 349 | 387 | 667 | 165 | 26 | 858 |

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

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

- 012050H Oct 67 - Fired 25 rounds 155mm Gun Illumination at Viet Cong contact vic YD 966042. Excellent target coverage. Fired for 2d Battalion, 26th Marines.
- 072020H Oct 67 - Fired 33 rounds 155mm Gun HE at intelligence target of Viet Cong company on a road vic YD 030150. Rounds unobserved. Fire mission for 2d Battalion, 26th Marines.
- 141050H Oct 67 - Fired 3 rounds 155mm Gun WP at suspected enemy ammunition storage area vic YD 835978. Rounds on target. Fire mission for 3d Recon Battalion.
- 202140H Oct 67 - Fired 57 rounds 155mm Gun Illumination at Viet Cong contact vic YD 978042. Outstanding effect on target. Fire mission for 3d Recon Battalion.
- 271620H Oct 67 - Fired 30 rounds 155mm Gun HE at intelligence target of Viet Cong base camp vic YD 623189. Rounds unobserved. Fire mission for 2d Battalion, 26th Marines.
- 280330H Oct 67 - Fired 6 rounds 155mm Gun HE at Viet Cong voices and movement vic YD 895032. Outstanding effect on target, voices silenced. Fire mission for 3d Recon Battalion.
- 281300H Oct 67 - Fired 27 rounds 155mm Gun HE at intelligence target of suspected Viet Cong political rally vic YD 641175. Rounds unobserved. Fire mission for 3d MarDiv CAC.

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