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5th 155mm Gun Battery (SP) (Rein)
First Battalion, 13th Marines (Rein)
FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

0268
TWS/elh
5750
1 Mar 1968

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines, FPO, San Francisco,
California 96602

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 February to 29 February 1968

Ref: (a) FMFPacO 5750.8

Encl: (1) 5th 155mm Gun Battery (SP) (Rein) Command Chronology

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. When enclosure (1) is removed, this letter is unclassified.

E. B. Beall, Jr.
E. B. BEALL, Jr.

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1st Battalion, 13th Marines
FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 February - 29 February 1968

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PART I

Organization Data1. Designation

5th 155mm Gun Battery (SP)(Rein)

CommandingMajor E. B. BEALL, Jr.
1 February - 29 February 1968Executive OfficerCaptain A. J. SCHMIDT, Jr.
1 February - 19 February 1968
Captain T. W. STEELE
20 February - 29 February 1968Subordinate Units2nd Platoon, 5th 155mm Gun Battery (SP) Commander
(Rein)2ndLt G. A. NEAL
16 February - 29 February 1968Attached Units1st Platoon, 5th 8" Howitzer Battery (SP) CommanderCaptain A. J. SCHMIDT, Jr.
1 February - 19 February 1968
Captain T. W. STEELE
20 February - 29 February 19682. Location:

a. Battery (-)(Rein)

1 February - 29 February 1968
LZ SHARON, Quang Tri City

b. 2nd Platoon

1 February - 29 February 1968
LZ EVANS (formerly Camp EVANS)

c. Battery (Rear)

10 February - 29 February 1968
Dong Ha3. Average Monthly Strength

	USMC		USN	
	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
1-20 February 1968	13	210	0	4
21-29 February 1968	12	156	0	3

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During February 1968, the battery under the command of Major E. B. BEALL, Jr. continues to support the Army's 1st Air Cavalry Division in the Northern I Corps area. The battery headquarters, 4 155 Guns and the attached 8 inch platoon are located at Landing Zone SHARON, Quang Tri City, in general support of the 1st Brigade, 1st Air Cavalry Division, reinforcing the fires of the 2nd Battalion, 19th Artillery, the Brigade's direct support battalion. Battery operations consist of numerous daytime missions for aerial observers in support of "OPERATION JEB STUART" and nightly TOT missions and H&I's.

The 2nd Platoon, under the command of 2d Lieutenant G. A. NEAL, is located at Landing Zone EVANS (formerly Camp EVANS) and is assigned the mission of general support/reinforcing the fires of the 2nd Brigade, 1st Air Cavalry Division. The entire battery is under the operational control of the 1st Battalion, 30th Artillery located at Landing Zone EVANS.

The battery supply rear, the last battery elements to depart from Chu Lai, under the command of Captain R. B. CASSIDY, debarked 10 February 1968 from LST shipping and arrived at Dong Ha via the Cua Viet River. The battery rear area has been established in Dong Ha and includes the supply facility and motor transport maintenance.

Problem areas include serious personnel shortages in certain critical ranks and MOS's and the deadlining of 3 M53 155 Guns and 1 M10 8 inch Howitzer.

Primary emphasis in the new position continues to be the preparation of positions, defensive bunkers, and the establishment of local security. The battery has received occasional incoming rockets and mortars in three locations, one attack on the Dong Ha Supply rear damaged beyond repair 2 MRC 83 radio vehicles, 1 M109 Shop Van, 2 BC scopes and 2 pair of binoculars. No personnel casualties have been sustained.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- 9 February 1968 - 8" Replacement Cadre of 2 Officers and 13 enlisted reported aboard for duty.
- 10 February 1968 - Captain R. B. CASSIDY arrived from Chu Lai and rear area was established at Dong Ha.
- 16 February 1968 - 2nd Lieutenant G. A. NEAL assumed command of the Second Platoon at Landing Zone EVANS
- 18 February 1968 - M51 Retriever on temporary loan to SLF for 11 months arrived at rear area, Dong Ha.
- 19 February 1968 - Battery's first case of malaria detected. Patient was Med evaced to 3dMarDiv Hospital, Phu Bai.
- 20 February 1968 - Captain T. W. STEELE relieved Captain A. J. SCHMIDT as battery executive officer/8" platoon commander.
- 26 February 1968 - Battery rear (Dong Ha) received artillery and rocket incoming which destroyed 2 MRC 83 radio vehicles, 1 M109, shop van; 2 BC scopes, and 2 pair of binoculars.
- 29 February 1968 - Operation JEB STUART continues.

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