

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

Q468
TWS/elh
5750
1 May 1968

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

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 April to 30 April 1968

Ref: (a) FMFPacO 5750.8

Encl: ✓(1) 5th 155 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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5th-155th Gun Btry

CMD CHRON

Apr 68


5th 155 mm Gun Battery (SP) (Rein)
1st Battalion, 13th Marines
FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY


1 April - 30 April 1968

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. Designation

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

CommandingMajor E. B. BEALL, Jr.
1 April - 30 April 1968Executive OfficerCaptain T. W. STEELE
1 April - 30 April 1968Subordinate Units2nd Platoon, 5th 155 Gun Battery
(SP)(Rein)Commander1st Lt H. K. LEE
1 April - 22 April 19681st Platoon, 5th 155 Gun Battery
(SP) (Rein)Commander1st Lt J. M. RAPP
22 April - 30 April 1968Attached Units1st Platoon, 5th 8" Howitzer Battery (SP) CommanderCaptain T. W. STEELE
1 April - 15 April 1968
1st Lt J. A. MENNUTTE
15 April - 30 April 19682. Location

a. Battery (-)(Rein)

1 April - 30 April 1968
LZ SHARON, Quang Tri City

b. 2nd Platoon

1 April - 22 April 1968
LZ EVANS
23 April - 30 April 1968
LZ SHARON, Quang Tri City

c. 1st Platoon

22 April - 30 April 1968
Cam Lo (C-3)

d. 8" Platoon

1 April - 15 April 1968
LZ SHARON, Quang Tri City
16 April - 30 April 1968
Ca Lu3. Average Monthly StrengthOFF USMC ENLOFF USN ENL

Enclosure (1)

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During April 1968, the mission and disposition of the battery underwent significant changes. For the first ten days of the reporting period the battery headquarters, 4 155 Guns and the attached 8 inch platoon continued to support the Army's 1st Air Cavalry Division from Landing Zone SHARON, Quang Tri City during Operation PEGASUS. On 16 April, the 8 inch Platoon, commanded by 1st Lieutenant MENNUTI, displaced to Ca Lu with the mission of general support of the 3d Marine Division, reinforcing the fires of the 1st Battalion, 12th Marines (12 Mar Msg 190445Z APR68). The remaining 4 155 Guns at LZ SHARON were assigned the mission of general support of the 3rd Marine Division, reinforcing the fires of the 3rd Battalion, 12th Marines (12thMar Msg 162010Z APR68)

The 2nd Platoon, located at Landing Zone EVANS, fired in support of 1st Cav operations until 22 April, when it was directed to displace to Cam Lo (12th Mar Msg 220800Z APR 68). The 2nd Platoon rejoined the battery at LZ SHARON 23 April and after certain personnel and equipment changes was redesignated the 1st Platoon, commanded by 1st Lieutenant RAPP. By 24 April, the 1st Platoon has completed the displacement to Cam Lo. Its mission was also general support of the 3rd Marine Division, reinforcing the fires of the 12th Marines.

The battery continues under the administrative control of the 1st Battalion, 13th Marines and is now under the operational control of the 12th Marines. The personnel readiness continues c-2 with a supply chief and motor transport chief the most critical shortages. Equipment readiness for the month has been c-2 with one M53 155 Gun constantly deadlined.

Primary emphasis of work in the two new position areas at Ca Lu and Cam Lo has been improvement of living and defensive fortifications. While at LZ SHARON work has concentrated on personnel and ammo bunker construction. The battery now has the additional work load of supporting the detached platoons and convoys regularly travel to Ca Lu and Cam Lo. Mortar and recoilless rifle fire at LZ SHARON resulted in negative casualties, while 2 rocket attacks sustained by the 8 inch platoon resulted in 3 slight WIA's and equipment damage to two vehicles.

The battery is now supporting operations Rice, Lancaster II, Scotland II, and Saline II.

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- 4 April 1968 - Battery Position, LZ SHARON, received incoming mortar rounds with negative casualties.
- 8 April 1968 - LZ SHARON received recoilless rifle fire. Negative casualties.
- 11 April 1968 - 1st Lt R. J. KIESLING relieved Captain R. B. CASSIDY as Battery Supply Officer
- 16 April 1968 - 12th Marines assumed OPCON of Battery. Displaced 8" Platoon to Ca In GSR 3rd Marine Division/1st Bn, 12thMar
- 22 April 1968 - 8" Platoon received 15-20 Rockets with 3 WIA's
- 23 April 1968 - Displaced 2nd Platoon to LZ SHARON
- 24 April 1968 - Displaced 1st Platoon to Cam Lo
- 26 April 1968 - 8" Platoon received 5 incoming rockets with negative casualties.

Enclosure (1)

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