

5th 155mm Gun Battery (SP) (Rein) Fleet Marine Force Pacific FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

0768 EBB/elh 4 Aug 1968

From: Commanding Officer

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

California 96602

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 July to 31 July 1968

Ref: (a) FMFPac 0 5750.8

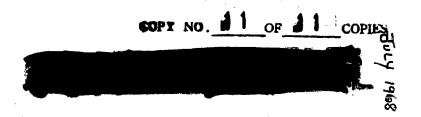
Encl: $\sqrt{(1)}$ 5th 155mm Guh Battery (SP) (Rein) Command Chronology

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.

2. When enclosure (1) is removed, this letter is unclassified.

E. B. BEALL, Y

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

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 July - 31 July 1968

INDEX

PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY

PART III - SEQUENTIAL DISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

Enclosure (4)

PAGE 1 OF 4 PAGES COPY NO. 11 OF 11 COPIES



PART I

Designation

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

Commanding

Major E. B. BEALL, Jr. 1 July = 31 July 1968

Executive Officer

Captain T. W. STEELE 1 July - 31 July 1968

Commander Subordinate Units

1st Platoon, 5th 155mm Gun Battery (SP) (Rein) 1stLt J. M. RAPP 1 July - 7 July 1968

> lstLt L. M. PALM 8 July - 31 July 1968

2nd Platoon, 5th 155mm Gun Battery (SP)(Rein) 1stLt C. R. THORNHILL 26 July - 31 July 1968

> Attached Units Commander

1st Platoon, 5th 8" Howitzer Battery (SP) 1stLt H. K. LEE 1 July - 29 July 1968

> 1stLt J. P. CANNING 30 July - 31 July 1968

Location

1-31 July 1968 LZ SHARON Battery Headquarters Quang Tri City

1st Platoon (Rein) (4-155 Guns) 1-31 July 1968 Cam Lo (C-3)

2nd Platoon 26-31 July 1968 Camp Carroll

1-31 July 1968 Ca Lu 8" Platoon

Average Monthly Strength

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PAGES COPY NO. OF 3



UNCLASSIFIED Trative Summary

During July 1968, the mission and disposition of the 5th 155mm Gun Battery (SP) (Rein), commanded by Major E. B. BEALL, Jr., underwant significant change. From 1-17 July the 2 155 Guns located with the battery head-quarters command post at LZ SHARON, Quang Tri City, continued its mission of general support of the 3rd Marine Division, reinforcing the 12th Marines. The total expenditure of rounds, however; during that period was in support of the 1st Air Cavalry Division, answering calls for fire from the 2nd Battalion, 19th Artillery.

The First Platom (Rein) (4 155 Guns) continued its mission of general support for the 3rd Marine Division, reinforcing the fires of the 12th Marines. On 17 July the remaining 2 guns from Landing Zone SHARON were displaced to Cam Lo in order to maintain 4 guns continuously firing in support of OPERATION THOR. The volume of fire was heavy and during the period 15 - 31 July, 6 tube changes were required, causing considerable down time.

The 8" Flatoon continued its mission of general support of the 3rd Marine Division, reinforcing the fires of the 12th Marines from Ca Lu. The volume of fire during July was very light.

On 26 July, the 2nd Platoon was designated under the command of First Lieutenant Charles R. THORNHILL and directed to displace to Camp Carroll to support also the 3rd Marine Division, reinforcing the fires of the Fourth Battalion, 12th Marines.

Personnel readiness remained C-1 with some relief in the communication ranks. Equipment status fluctuated so rapidly during the month with numerous tube changes and other maintenance problems causing down time. By the end of the month a C-2 status prevailed with 2 155mm Guns deadlined.

The battery now occupies 4 positions. A new messhall was completed at Landing Zone SHARON and Ca Lu. Second Platoon occupied an old Army 175 Gun Position at Camp Carroll. Work continues at all positions to prepare for the monsoon.

The battery continues to support Operations SCOTLAND II, LANCASTER II, NAPOLEON/SALINE II, KENTUCKY and also CANTON II.



PAGE 3 OF 4 PAGES. Enclosure (1)





Sequential Listing of Significant Events

| 1 | July | 1968 | - | Completed construction of new messhall at Battery CP Landing Zone SHARON |
|----|------|------|----------|--|
| - | | \$ | | Commenced Operation THOR |
| 8 | July | 1968 | - | First Lieutenant L. M. PALM relieved First Lieutenant J. M. RAPP as First Platoon Commander |
| 10 | July | 1968 | • | Colonel P. L. MULRONEY, Commanding Officer, 12th Marines, visited Battery Headquarters position Landing Zone SHARON |
| 17 | July | 1968 | • | Displaced 2 155 guns from Lending Zone SHARON to further reinforce 1st Platoon at Cam Lo. |
| | | | | |
| 26 | July | 1968 | | Designated and displaced Second Platoon (2 155 guns) from Landing Zone SHARON and Cam Lo to Camp Carroll, commanded by First Lieutenant Charles R. THORNHILL |
| 29 | July | 1968 | - | First Lieutenant J. P. CANNING releived First Lieutenant H. K. LEE as 8" Platoon Commander. |
| 31 | July | 1968 | * | Battery continues to support OPERATIONS SCOTLAND II, LANCASTER II, KENTUCKY, NAPOLEON/SALINE, AND COMMENCED CANTON II |





PAGE 4 OF 4 PAGES COPY NO. TI OF TO COP