

CONFIDENTIAL

5th 175mm Gun Battery (SP) (REIN)
Fleet Marine Force Pacific
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

9thMAB S&C**017783**

ABT/wmm
5750
01A28469
29 OCT 1969

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade, FMF, FPO
San Francisco, California 96602

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 - 30 September 1969

Ref: (a) FMFPacO 5750.8
(b) BrigO 5750.1C
(c) CMC ltr AO3D45-SM dated 16 Sep 1969

Encl: (1) 5th 175mm Gun Battery (SP) (REIN) Command Chronology for
period ending 1 - 30 September 1969

1. In accordance with references (a), (b) and (c), enclosure (1) is
submitted.

2. This letter is unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

A. B. Thompson Jr.
A. B. THOMPSON JR.

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1-30 September 1969

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Organizational DataDesignation

5th 175mm Gun Battery (SP) (REIN)

CommandingMaj A. B. THOMPSON JR.
1-30 September 1969Executive OfficerCapt C. W. GIANNETTI
1-3 September 1969Capt J. J. MULHOLLAND
4-30 September 1969Subordinate UnitsBravo Platoon
5th 175mm Gun Battery (SP) (REIN)Commanding1stLt J. A. GORHAM
1-7 September 19691stLt J. W. LUCEY
7-30 September 1969Charlie Platoon
5th 175mm Gun Battery (SP) (REIN)1stLt J. W. LUCEY
1-7 September 19691stLt R. L. BAILEY
7-30 September 1969Attached UnitsAlpha Platoon
1st Platoon, 5th 8" Howitzer BatteryCommanding1stLt J. A. GORHAM
1-7 September 19691stLt J. W. LUCEY
7-30 September 1969Location

a. Battery Headquarters

1-30 September 1969
Dong Ha West

b. A and B Platoons

1-30 September 1969
Vandergrift Combat BasePage 2 of 6 PagesCONFIDENTIAL**CONFIDENTIAL**

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c. C Platoon

1-30 September 1969

Fire Support Base
Elliot (Rockpile)Average Monthly Strength

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
10	250	0	6

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Part II
Narrative Summary

During September 1969, the 5th 175mm Gun Battery (SP) (REIN) commanded by Major A. B. THOMPSON JR., remained under operational control of the 108th Artillery Group USA and continued in its mission of reinforcing the fires of the 12th Marine Regiment.

On September 2d, 1969 Typhoon Doris struck northern I Corps causing heavy damage to the Battery CP at Dong Ha West. Repair was accomplished during the following week.

Captain J. J. MULHOLLAND relieved Captain C. W. GIANNETTI as Battery Executive Officer on 3 September 1969. Captain GIANNETTI returned to Okinawa to serve as Executive Officer of Headquarters Company, 9th MAB.

1stLt R. L. BAILEY relieved 1stLt J. W. LUCEY as commander of "C" Platoon on 7 September 1969 and 1stLt J. W. LUCEY relieved 1stLt J. A. GORHAM as commander of "A" and "B" Platoons. On 12 September 1969, 1stLt J. A. GORHAM returned to CONUS. On 18 September 1969, 2dLt T. J. BARRETT relieved 1stLt J. KUSMA as Supply Officer.

On 16 September 1969, by reference (c), the battery received entitlement to the National Defense Service Streamer and the Vietnamese Service Streamer with one Silver Star.

On 19 September 1969, Captain D. E. HARTMAN, MCSA visited the battery for the purpose of collecting data on selected items of equipment for analysis to determine the effectiveness of the provisioning effort.

Colonel CHAMBERS, Deputy Chief of Staff, 9thMAB and Colonel REID, Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, visited the battery area.

A booby trap incident occurred on 28 September 1969 at Fire Support Base Elliot. Five members of the battery were wounded by an enemy booby trap while on patrol.

Round expenditure from Vandergrift during September were 577 for Alpha and 1417 for Bravo. Charlie Platoon fired 1700 rounds during this period.

The battery fired in support of the 3d Marine Division in the following operations: Arlington Canyon, Georgia Tar, Idaho Canyon and Iroquois Grove and in support of unnamed operations in the 101st Abn, 2d ARVN, High Rise, 4th Marines and Recon Zones.

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As in the past, the majority of rounds fired were in support of seismic intrusion devices and prep fires. Other targets included rocket suppression, intelligence targets and targets of opportunity. Target surveillance credited the battery with numerous bunkers destroyed, four probable KIA's and one confirmed KIA.

The battery personnel status is now C-1 through the month of September with critical MOS shortages in the 2151 field.

The battery continues to fire in support of Regimental AO's within the 3d Division AO.

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Part III
Sequential Listing of Significant Events

2 September 1969	Typhoon Doris hit Dong Ha causing heavy building damage
3 September 1969	Capt MULHOLLAND relieved Capt GIANNETTI as Executive Officer
7 September 1969	1stLt BAILEY relieved 1stLt LUCEY as Platoon Commander of "C" Platoon
7 September 1969	1stLt LUCEY relieved 1stLt GORHAM as Platoon Commander of "A" and "B" Platoons
9 - 10 September 1969	Observed RVN wide cease fire due to Ho Chi Minh's death
12 September 1969	1stLt GORHAM detached PCS to CONUS
16 September 1969	Battery received entitlement to National Defense Service Streamer and Vietnamese Service Streamer with one Silver Star
19 September 1969	Capt D.E. HARTMAN, MCSA Philadelphia Provisioning Team visited battery
24 September 1969	Colonels CHAMBERS and REID, 9thMAB visited the battery
28 September 1969	Booby trap injured five individuals from "C" Platoon while on patrol

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5th 175mm Gun Battery (SP) (REIN)
 Fleet Marine Force Pacific
 FPO San Francisco, California 96602

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ABT/wmm
 5750
 01A28569

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From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding General, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade, FMF, FPO
 San Francisco, California 96602

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 - 10 October 1969

Ref: (a) FMFPacO 5750.8

Encl: (1) 5th 175mm Gun Battery (SP) (REIN) Command Chronology for
 period ending 1 - 10 October 1969

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. This letter is unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

A. B. Thompson Jr.
 A. B. THOMPSON JR.

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1-10 Oct 69

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1-10 October 1969

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Organizational DataDesignation

5th 175mm Gun Battery (SP) (REIN)

CommandingMaj A. B. THOMPSON JR.
1-10 October 1969Executive OfficerCapt J. J. MUIHOLLAND
1-10 October 1969Subordinate UnitsBravo Platoon
5th 175mm Gun Battery (SP) (REIN)Commanding1stLt J. W. LUCEY
1-10 October 1969Charlie Platoon
5th 175mm Gun Battery (SP) (REIN)1stLt R. L. BAILEY
1-10 October 1969Attached UnitsAlpha Platoon (8" Howitzer)
1st Platoon, 5th 8" Howitzer BatteryCommanding1stLt J. W. LUCEY
1-10 October 1969Location

a. Battery Headquarters

1-10 October 1969 Dong
Ha West

b. A and B Platoons

1-10 October 1969
Vandergrift Combat Base
5-10 October 1969 Dong Ha

c. C Platoon

1-10 October 1969 Fire
Support Base Elliot(Rockpile)Average Monthly Strength

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
10	250	0	6

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Part II
Narrative Summary

During the reporting period 1 - 10 October 1969, the 5th 175mm Gun Battery (SP) (REIN) commanded by Major A. B. THOMPSON JR., remained under operational control of the 108th Artillery Group USA and continued in its mission of reinforcing the fires of the 12th Marine Regiment.

This period witnessed the closing of the units position at Vandergrift Combat Base on 5 October 1969. Alpha Platoon moved to Fire Support Base Elliot and Bravo Platoon occupied a position in Dong Ha. On 6 October 1969 Alpha Platoon moved into Dong Ha and joined Bravo Platoon.

On 7 October 1969, Major J. C. ATKINS, 08 30 81, USMC joined the Battery and is at this time awaiting to relieve Major A. B. THOMPSON JR.

At 100001 H October 1969, Command less opcon of the battery was passed to the 11th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division. The battery has terminated all connections with 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade.

Rounds expended for Alpha Platoon for the reporting period were 335 and for Bravo Platoon 191.

Charlie Platoon fired 1505 rounds during the reporting period.

The battery fired in support of unnamed operations in the 101st Abn, Recon, 1stBde/5th Mech and High Rise Zones.

The battery personnel status is C-1 through the reporting period with critical MOS shortage still in the 2151 field.

The battery continues to support Regimental AO's within the 3d Division AO.

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Part III
Sequential Listing of Significant Events

5 October 1969

Alpha and Bravo Platoons moved from Vandergrift Combat Base with Alpha going to Fire Support Base Elliot and Bravo Platoon moving into Dong Ha

6 October 1969

Alpha Platoon moved from Fire Support Base Elliot into Dong Ha and joined Bravo Platoon

7 October 1969

Major J. C. ATKINS, 08 30 81 joined the battery

10 October 1969

Command less Opcon of the 5th 175mm Gun Battery (SP) (REIN) passed to CO, 11th Marines

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