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HEADQUARTERS

2d Battalion, 11th Marines
1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF
APO San Francisco, California 96602

3/DJB/jbl

5750

Ser: 00404668

4 October 1968

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, 11th Marines, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF
Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1 September to 30 September 1968

Ref: (a) RegtO 5750.2

Encl: (1) 2d Battalion, 11th Marines Command Chronology

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

R. D. Jameson
R. D. JAMESON

2dBn, 11th Mar

S&C

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ANNEX H

2DBN/11THMAR

CMD CHRON

SEP 1968

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 September to 30 September 1968

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

2d Battalion, 11th Marines

LtCol B.A. MOORE, JR. (1-6 Sept 1968)
LtCol R.D. JAMESON (7-30 Sept 1968)SUBORDINATE UNITS

Headquarters Battery	CWO2 C.D. PECK	1-30 Sept 1968
Battery D	Capt C.G. BLASI	1-30 Sept 1968
Battery E	1stLt J.M. DAVIS	1-20 Sept 1968
	1stLt J.B. GRAVES	21-22 Sept 1968
	Capt J.M. CAVANAUGH	23-30 Sept 1968
Battery F	Capt D.F. SORTINO	1-15 Sept 1968
	1stLt J.L. BILODEAO	16-30 Sept 1968
Mortar Battery	1stLt J.J. BROCHTRUP	1-2 Sept 1968
	1stLt T.A. CURD II	3-30 Sept 1968
* Provisional Battery, 11th Mar	1stLt J.M. CANARIO	27-30 Sept 1968

2. LOCATIONS

2d Bn, 11th Mar	1-30 Sept 1968	An Hoa	AT 866472
Hq Battery	1-30 Sept 1968	An Hoa	AT 866472
Battery D	1-30 Sept 1968	Liberty Bridge	AT 925525
Battery E	1-7 Sept 1968	Conoi Island	BT 006542
	8-30 Sept 1968	An Hoa	AT 8767479
Battery F	1-30 Sept 1968	An Hoa	AT 865471
Mortar Battery	1-30 Sept 1968	An Hoa	AT 878479
* Provisional Battery	27-30 Sept 1968	An Hoa	AT 877476
* OPCON Status, 2d Bn, 11th Mar			

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BnExecO	1-27 Sept 1968	Maj G.L. HILLYARD
	28-30 Sept 1968	Maj R.F. SCOTT JR.
BnSgtMaj	1-30 Sept 1968	SgtMaj B.A. ANDERSON
Bn S-1	1-30 Sept 1968	1stLt J.S. PAULK
Bn S-3	1-30 Sept 1968	Maj D.J. BLAUL
Bn S-4	1-30 Sept 1968	1stLt M.A.G. NELSON
CommO	1-10 Sept 1968	1stLt J.W. BORHMAN
	11-30 Sept 1968	1stLt J.F. DWINELL
MtO	1-30 Sept 1968	1stLt L.L. STRAUCH
SupplyO	1-30 Sept 1968	1stLt K.A. POUCH
OrdO	1-30 Sept 1968	CWO2 H.W. CUTLER
SurvO	1-30 Sept 1968	CWO2 C.D. PECK
ImO	1-30 Sept 1968	Maj L. MICHAEL

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>OTHER</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
43	568	4	12	0	0

PART II**NARRATIVE SUMMARY**

1. During the month of September the battalion provided fire support for the 5th Marine Regiment in Operation Mameluke Thrust and Sussex Bay. At 011510H Sept 68, H 3/11 was returned to the control of 3/11 ending the unusual relationship discussed in this units Command Chronology for August 1968. On 2 Sept. 1968, two Battalions of the 5th Marines, 2/5 and 3/5 attacked eastward into the Gonoï Island. At 011910 E 2/11 was given Op con of two 105 mm Howitzers from D 2/11 and began to heliolift into the Gonoï Island (AT 0065 5415) to support the attack of 2/5 and 3/5.

E 2/11 answered calls for fire from 2/5 and 3/5 with D 2/11 assigned a mission of reinforcing E 2/11. During this portion of Operation Sussex Bay the An Hoa and Gonoï Island areas were subjected to high winds and heavy rains causing innumerable difficulties in resupply as well as those encountered in the execution of their mission. A detailed account of this action is provided in Part IV of this document. Operation Sussex Bay was terminated at 101200H Sept 68 and E 2/11 was heliolifted back to its position in the An Hoa vital area.

The battalion continued to support the 5th Marine Regiment in Operation Mameluke Thrust throughout the month of September. This action saw increased effectiveness in artillery fire in regards to confirmed KIA's and the increasing use of general support artillery in firing preparation fires and targets developed from the S-2 of the 5th Marine Regiment.

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The Battalion continues to produce its own met data, and high burst registrations remain the primary method of determining corrections by firing. At 271200H Sept 68 this battalion was given Opcon of Provisional Battery 11th Marines, however the mission of this unit remains general support, reinforcing 2/11.

AMMUNITION EXPENDITURES

<u>CALIBER</u>	<u>5th MARINES</u>	<u>RECON</u>	<u>ARVIN</u>
105 How Td	22522	438	4
4.2 Mortar	2023		
155 How Td	66	184	

MISSIONS FIRED

<u>OBSERVED</u>	<u>UNOBSERVED</u>	
589	342	TOTAL 931

HARRASSMENT AND INTERDICTION

<u>MISSIONS</u>	<u>ROUNDS</u>
1973	10527

TOTAL ROUNDS SEPT: 35774 TOTAL MISSIONS SEPT: 2904

CONSOLIDATED SURVEILLANCES

During the month of September elements of the battalion were credited with 57 KIA, 12 structures destroyed as well as 2 mortar sites and 2 B-40 rocket sites destroyed. In addition to these figures elements of the 5th Marines discovered graves containing 29 NVA/VC killed by fragmentation. While this additional figure cannot be claimed solely by artillery it is felt that the majority of these were killed by air or artillery fire.

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTSTOPICSa. Personnel and Administration

(1) Losses

	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
Administration	6	15	0	0
Battle KIA	0	0	0	0

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Battle WIA (Evac)	0	6	0	0
Battle WIA (Non-Evac)	0	1	0	0
Battle MIA	0	0	0	0
Battle DOW	0	0	0	0
Non-Battle	0	3	0	0
(2) Replacements	8	62	1	0
(3) Loss	6	25	0	0
(4) Gain	8	62	1	0
(5) Promotions	2	4	0	0
(6) Awards				
Purple Heart Medal	0	2	0	0

b. Intelligence - Based upon input from aircraft and battalion observation agencies a skelton flak suppression plan was developed for the An Hoa area. Since the development and implementation of this plan a marked reduction in anti-aircraft fire was noted. While it would be presumptuous to assume that a plan of such modest proportions has completely eliminated enemy anti-aircraft activities, it does point out the success that battalion level agencies can achieve through coordination and rapid response. During the month the battalion counter mortar plan was fired on several occasions. On the morning of 21 September 1968 battalion observation agencies noted counter mortar fires falling on the muzzle flashes of two active mortar sites and the mortars were silenced.

Reconnaissance elements and Air Observer reports available to the S-2 of the 5th Marines as well as observation by units of this battalion indicated a marked increase in enemy activity in the central and western portion of the Gono Island. Both observed and unobserved fires have been delivered on this activity for a period of approximately two weeks. A marked decrease in this activity has been noted during the last 3-4 days of this month.

c. Organization and Operation - During the month of September this Battalion participated in Operation Mameluke Thrust and Sussex Bay. Operation Sussex Bay terminated during the month.

d. Training - The improvement of position areas continues to require a considerable amount of time and effort but the battalion has continued to increase the amount of time spent on training. Emphasis has been placed upon defense of position areas and orientation on current tactical situation. The initial phases of NBC training were carried out with protective mask drill.

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e. Logistics - The reporting period was characterized by gradual improvement of battery position areas throughout the battalion. The S-4 coordinated with the 5th Marines in the use of scarce engineer equipment and material assets in many construction projects. The building of the FDC bunker, Battalion Aid Station and an indoor electrically heated shower facility were all completed during Sept. The 5th Marine S-5 program provided working parties of Vietnamese nationals who were utilized in construction within the battalion area. Much work was accomplished through temporary loans of equipment by the 7th Engineers and MCB 301.

The reporting function of the S-4 section was accomplished with the required reports submitted by the prescribed due dates.

The most significant logistics problem during September was the unreliability of the transportation, between An Hoa & Danang. At times the river at Liberty Bridge becomes too shallow or the current too fast causing the ferry to suspend operations until conditions are more favorable. All supplies must be flown in by helicopter or C 130 which causes delay in receiving low priority items. The increased use of C 130 aircraft to evacuate items to Danang has partially relieved the problem but an unsatisfactory transportation system still exists.

f. Civic Action/Civil Affairs - During the month of September Vietnamese from the villages surrounding the 2/11 CP were offered Employment as laborers to supplement their income.

The battalion also co-ordinated its civic action efforts with the 5th Marines by donating all available ammunition boxes for the rebuilding of schools, churches, and other public buildings in neighboring villages. After these buildings have been restored it is planned to assist the villagers in repairing their own houses, as many will be unfit during the monsoon season.

The Battalion Medical Section continues to assist the nearby German hospital in the treatment of Vietnamese civilians.

g. None

h. Combined Action Company Program - Will be reported IAW RegtO 3121.1 on 10 October 1968.

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