

DECLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS
3rd Battalion, 11th Marines
1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

3-11 Control
Copy 1 of 10 copies
3/RPJ/cmv
5 December 1968
Control No. 00613-58

SECRET

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, 11th Marines, 1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF
Subj: Command Chronology for period 1-30 November 1968 (U)
Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8
(c) DivO 5750.2B
(d) RegtO 5750.2E

Encl: ✓(1) 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a) through (c),
enclosure (1) is submitted.

R. P. Johnson
R. P. JOHNSON

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
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3RD BN/11TH MAR

CMD CHRON

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ANNEX I

NOV 1968

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57(R)
8 December 1968

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HEADQUARTERS
3rd Battalion, 11th Marines
1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
1 November 1968 to 30 November 1968

- PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA
- PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY
- PART III - SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
- PART IV - SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

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3 Dec 1968SECRETPAGE I
ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

3rd Battalion, 5th Marines

COMMANDER

Lt. Col. F.M. Woeller
1-19 November
Major A.F. Bauer
20-26 November
Lt. Col. R.P. Johnson
27-30 November

SUBORDINATE UNITS

Headquarters Battery

1st Lt. E.H. Kropp
1-30 November

Battery G-3-11

1st Lt. E.P. Visser
1-30 November

Battery H-3-11

Capt J.M. James
1-4 November

Battery I-3-11

Capt W.C. Whitworth, Jr.
1-30 November

Battery W-3-11

Capt J.P. Riordan
1-4 November2. LOCATION

Headquarters 3-11

1-30 November 1968: Dai Loc AT963619

Battery G-3-11

1-30 November 1968: Dai Loc AT923691

Battery H-3-11

1-4 November 1968: Dai Loc AT962609

Battery I-3-11

1-30 November 1968: Dai Loc AT883581

Battery W-3-11

1-4 November 1968: Dai Loc AT965610

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer

Major A.F. Bauer
1-19 November
Unassigned
20-26 November

I-1

SEARCHED
ENCLOSURE

WFO
S. D. Gandy 968

Liaison Officer	Major D.B. Schaefer
Adjutant	1-30 November 1st Lt. O.J. Toland
Personnel Officer	1-30 November 1st Lt. O.J. Toland
S-2/S-5	1-30 November 1st Lt. A.D. Reistetter 1-5 November 1st Lt. M.L. Capik
S-3	6-18 November 1st Lt. P.R. Daigle
S-3A	19-30 November Major F.H. Butler
S-4	1-30 November Unassigned 1-5 November 1st Lt. A.D. Reistetter
Ordnance Officer	6-30 November 1st Lt. R.B. Rodriguez
Motor Transport Officer	1-30 November 1st Lt. J.W. Penits
Communications Officer	1-30 November 1st Lt. E.H. Kropf
Survey Officer	1-30 November 1st Lt. C.A. Campbell
Supply Officer	1-18 November 1st Lt. R.A. Trail
Medical Officer	1-30 November 1st Lt. J.D. Kiley USNR (MC)
Naval Gunfire Officer	1-30 November Lt. J.M. Vanasek USN

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

USMC		USN		OTHERS	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
34	404	4	8	0	0

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PART II
NARRATIVE SUMMARY

On 1 November 1968 the 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines were in direct support of the 7th Marines in that portion of the Da Nang Thuy assigned to the 7th Marines.

Operation Durbin I, which began 280600 7 October 1968 ended at 011800H November 1968.

At 050800H November 1968, chopped option of H-2, H-11 and H-3, H-6 the 11th Marines.

CONSOLIDATION OF AMMO EXPENDITURE
AND SURVEILLANCE

AMMO BY CALIBER

	5	155	4.2	105mm Missiles
7th MAR	36,630	0	623	10,645
11th MAR	7,038	0	103	232
ARVN	0	0	0	0
OPTION	165	0	0	6
Total				
Round	43,833	0	725	10,883

SURVEILLANCE

	KIA	WIA	STRUCTURE DESTROYED	SECONDARY EXPLOSION
3/11	13	0	4	4
3/11 & OTHERS	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	13	0	4	4

5750
5 December 1968~~SECRET~~PART III
SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Topics.

a. Personnel and Administration

	Losses	USMC		USN	
		OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
	Administrative	2	18	0	0
	Battle KIA	0	0	0	0
	Battle WIA (Evac)	0	1	0	0
	Battle WIA (Non-Evac)	0	2	0	0
	Battle MIA	0	0	0	0
	Battle POW	0	0	0	0
	Non Battle	1	3	0	0
	Replacements	6	31	0	0
(2)	Loss	0	0	0	0
(3)	Gain	3	9	0	0

b. Intelligence. Nothing significant to report.c. Organization and Operations.

(1) Units of the Battalion participated in one operation during the month of November 1968.

(a) Operation Sabine Draw: 280630H October 1968 to 011800H November 1968 Appendix I to Annex B.

d. Training.

(1) New members of this Battalion attended a three day orientation program.

(2) Gas drills were conducted by all batteries to test gas

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masks and refamiliarize personnel in the use of gas masks. Instruction on care and cleaning of gas mask was held.

(3) A contact team instructed officers and staff of Battalion Headquarters on the Personal Response Programs.

e. Logistics, Equipment and Supplies: None

f. Civic Action/Civil Affairs. Eight (8) Yorkshire pigs provided to Hoa Binh Hamlet to establish self sufficient economy for villagers. School #2 dedicated and picnic held for and with villagers. Water supply survey taken and hamlet water being improved. Civic Action commodities delivered to hamlet.

g. Psychological Operations: Nothing significant to report.

h. Combined Action Company Program: Liaison Officers from each battery attempted to make weekly visits to the CAP units which this Battalion supports and gave instruction on calls for artillery fire and artillery capabilities. Liaison Officers also assisted the CAP units with defensive fire planning and firing defensive fires.

i. Medical. Treated 315 Marines and 73 Vietnamese on Hill 55 and 10 Vietnamese in the hamlet of Hoa Binh.

5750
5 December 1968

SECRET

PART IV
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

ANNEX A STAFF JOURNALS

APPENDIX I S-1 JOURNAL ✓

APPENDIX II S-2 JOURNAL ✓

APPENDIX III S-3 JOURNAL ✓

APPENDIX IV S-4 JOURNAL ✓

ANNEX B AFTER ACTION REPORTS ✓

APPENDIX I SABINE DRAW ✓

IV-1

SECRET
Enclosure (1)

5750
5 December 1968

ANNEX A
STAFF JOURNALS

SECRET

APPENDIX /I S-1 JOURNAL

APPENDIX /II S-2 JOURNAL

APPENDIX /III S-3 JOURNAL

APPENDIX /IV S-4 JOURNAL

VI-A-1

SECRET
Enclosure (1)

5750
5 December 1968

S-1 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines
Da Nang Combat Base
010001H November 1968 to 302400H November 1968

SECRET
JOURNAL

010001H Journal Opened
020300H 4 Enlisted Dr CONUS
040300H 1 Enlisted Dr CONUS
061430H 2 Enlisted Jd CONUS
070800H 1 Enlisted Dr Camp Butler while sick
071700H 2 Officers Jd CONUS
090800H 2 Enlisted Dr CONUS
091430H 1 Officer Jd CONUS
091430H 1 Enlisted Jd CONUS
101200H 2 Enlisted Jd CONUS
101330H 4 Enlisted Jd CONUS
111410H 1 Enlisted Jd from 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines
121415H 1 Officer Jd CONUS
121430H 2 Enlisted Dr CONUS
140800H 2 Enlisted Dr CONUS
160800H 1 Enlisted Dr 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines
161030H 1 Enlisted Dr Camp Butler while sick
171430H 1 Officer Jd from Headquarters Battery, 11th Marines
171800H 2 Enlisted Jd CONUS
190800H 1 Officer Dr Camp Butler while sick
191200H 2 Enlisted Jd CONUS

IV-4-1-1

SECRET
Enclosure (1)

5750
5 December 1968S-1, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines
Da Nang Combat Base
010001H November 1968 to 302400 November 1968SECRET
JOURNAL

191200H 1 Enlisted Jd from Maintenance Company FLSG-A 3rd Service
Battalion FLC

20130H 1 Enlisted Dr Camp Butler while sick

210800H 1 Enlisted Dr CONUS

211500H 3 Enlisted Jd CONUS

231630H 1 Enlisted Jd CONUS

240800H 2 Officers Dr to Headquarters Battery, 11th Marines

241300H 1 Enlisted Jd from Camp Butler

251315H 3 Enlisted Jd CONUS

251530H 3 Enlisted Jd CONUS

261700H 1 Enlisted Jd from Headquarters Battery, 11th Marines

271230H 1 Enlisted Jd CONUS

271340H 1 Officer Jd from 1st FAG, 11th Marines

281230H 1 Enlisted Jd CONUS

300800H 1 Enlisted Dr CONUS

301530H 2 Enlisted Jd CONUS

302400H Journal Closed

IV-A-1-2

SECRET
Enclosure (1)

5750
5 December 1968S-2, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Battalion
Da Nang Combat Base
010001H November 1968 to 302400H November 1968SECRET
JOURNAL

010001H Journal Opened

170130H I-3-11 received four incoming mortar rounds. Battery assumed 100% alert and commenced firing counter-mortar grids. Negative casualties, and no surveillance was available on the counter mortar firing.

230200H Headquarters Battery 3/11 received 5 rounds of 82mm mortars all of which landed outside of the wire. Negative casualties or equipment damage. Battery put on alert.

302400H Journal Closed.

IV-A-2-1

SECRET
Enclosure (1)

5750
5 December 1968S-3, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines
Da Nang Combat Base
010001H November 1968 to 302400H November 1968~~SECRET~~
JOURNAL

010001H Journal Opened
010300H Operation Sabine Draw which began 280630H October terminated.
012400H Fired 238 Missions Expending 1790 Rounds.
022400H Fired 209 Missions Expending 1359 Rounds.
032400H Fired 260 Missions Expending 1445 Rounds.
042400H Fired 311 Missions Expending 1739 Rounds.
050300H Chopped OPCon of H-3-11 and L-3-11 to the 11th Marines.
052400H Fired 286 Missions Expending 1156 Rounds.
062400H Fired 440 Missions Expending 1460 Rounds.
071934H Fired on VC Company. Results one secondary explosion.
072400H Fired 349 Missions Expending 1943 Rounds.
082400H Fired 330 Missions Expending 1639 Rounds.
092400H Fired 358 Missions Expending 1474 Rounds.
102400H Fired 322 Missions Expending 1171 Rounds.
112400H Fired 314 Missions Expending 1033 Rounds.
122400H Fired 378 Missions Expending 1675 Rounds.
132400H Fired 432 Missions Expending 1656 Rounds.
142400H Fired 381 Missions Expending 1305 Rounds.
152400H Fired 390 Missions Expending 1220 Rounds.
162400H Fired 428 Missions Expending 1546 Rounds.
170030H I-3-11 Fired counter mortar at mortars firing on position.
Mortars stopped firing.

5750
5 December 1968S-3, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines
Da Nang Combat Base
010001H November 1968 to 302400H November 1968SECRET
JOURNAL

172400H Fired 374 Missions Expending 1718 Rounds.
182400H Fired 394 Missions Expending 1755 Rounds.
192400H Fired 351 Missions Expending 1483 Rounds.
202400H Fired 446 Missions Expending 1532 Rounds.
212400H Fired 418 Missions Expending 1593 Rounds.
222400H Fired 424 Missions Expending 1805 Rounds.
232400H Fired 344 Missions Expending 1416 Rounds.
242400H Fired 386 Missions Expending 1596 Rounds.
252400H Fired 419 Missions Expending 1679 Rounds.
262400H Fired 331 Missions Expending 1280 Rounds.
272400H Fired 403 Missions Expending 1343 Rounds.
282400H Fired 390 Missions Expending 1260 Rounds.
292400H Fired 399 Missions Expending 1492 Rounds.
302400H Fired 378 Missions Expending 1045 Rounds.
302400H Journal Closed.

5750
5 December 1968

S-4, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines
Da Nang Combat Base
010001H November 1968 to 302400H November 1968

SECRET
JOURNAL

010001H Journal Opened

312400H Journal Closed

IV-A-4-1

SECRET
Enclosure (1)

5750
5 December 1968

ANNEX B
AFTER ACTION REPORT

SECRET

APPENDIX / I After Action Report for Sabine Draw

IV-B-1

SECRET
Enclosure (1)

HEADQUARTERS
 3d Battalion, 11th Marines
 1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF
 FPO San Francisco, California 96602

3/PGV/cmv
 3480
 7 November 1968
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From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding Officer, 11th Marines

Subj: Combat After Action Report

Ref: (a) DivO 3480, 1A
 (b) Frag Order Issued Verbally

1. Code Name: Search and Destroy Operation Sabine Draw
2. Dates of Operation: 280630H October 1968 to 011800 November 1968
3. Location: Maps, Viet Nam, 1:50,000 AMS Series L7014, sheet 6640 IV.
4. Command and Control: Headquarters, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines
5. Reporting Officer: Lt. Col P. M. Woeller
6. Organization for Combat:

3rd Bn, 11th Marines Direct Support of 7th Marines	Lt. Col Woeller
Battery H-3-11 Operational Control 3/11	Capt James
Mortar Battery Operational Control 3/11	Capt Roirdan
Battery L-3-11 General Support-Reinforcing 3/11	Capt Blasi

7. Intelligence: Current Intsums.

8. Mission: 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines to provide artillery support for the forces involved in Operation Sabine Draw.

9. Concept: To provide close and continuous support from the fire base at Hill 55 (vicinity AT966616) for 2nd Bn, 7th Marines and elements of the 51st ARVN Regiment. Displacement of mortar battery to Hill 37 (vicinity AT916583) to provide additional support to elements of the 51st ARVN Regiment.

ANNEX B IV-B
 1. ENCLOSURE (1)

3489
7 November 1968SECRET

10. Execution: On D-Day minus two, Mortar Battery 3-11 displaced to Hill 37 (vicinity AT976583) where it remained until it was returned to Hill 55 (vicinity 965616) on D-Day plus four. Battery H-3-11, Platoon C 3rd 8" Battery and Battery L-4-11 supported the operation from their fire base on Hill 55. Battery I-3-11 provided additional support for the operation from a fire base on Hill 65 (vicinity AT823579)

MISSIONS FIRED

H BATTERY 3-11

Type Mission	No. Missions	HE	WP	ILL	
PREP FIRE	7	306	4	—	
NDF	5	2	11	—	
REG	3	30	3	—	
OBS	32	2760	37	3	TOTAL ROUNDS
UNOBS	10	407	—	—	
TOTAL	57	3505	55	3	3563

I BATTERY 3-11

Type Mission	No. Missions	HE	WP	
PREP FIRE	3	89	—	
OBS	3	320	13	
UNOBS	17	168	—	
TOTAL	23	577	13	590

MORTAR BATTERY 3-11

Type Mission	No. Missions	HE	WP	
REG	4	73	7	
OBS	2	71	10	
UNOBS	1	12	—	
TOTAL	7	156	17	173

L BATTERY 4-11

Type Mission	No. Missions	HE	WP	
PREP FIRE	12	144	—	
OBS	2	80	4	
TOTAL	14	224	4	228

Platoon C, 3rd 8" Howitzer Battery fired zero missions.

3480
7 November 1968~~SECRET~~

11. Results: A fresh grave was found containing 5 KIA NVA/VC caused by fragmentation rounds from artillery or other supporting rounds.
~~0~~ MI/ NVA/VC ~~0~~ Structures Destroyed ~~0~~ Secondary explosions.

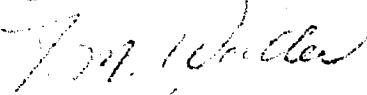
12. Administration Matters

a. Administrative details were covered in a conference prior to the operation.

- (1) Supplies: Supplies were furnished through normal channels.
- (2) Maintenance: Normal.
- (3) Transportation: Transportation was furnished by organic vehicles.
- (4) Communications: PRC-25 radios provided the primary means of communication.

13. Special Equipment and Techniques: None.

14. Commanders Analysis: As in all joint operations, it was found advisable to attach a liaison officer with communication personnel and equipment to the ARVN maneuver battalion. This facilitated clearances and enabled the ARVN requests for fire to be efficiently processed. Due to the brief duration of the operation and an absence of enemy contact there was nothing else of significance on which to comment.



F. M. WOELLER

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