

253-67

HEADQUARTERS  
 4th Battalion, 11th Marines  
 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF  
 FPO, San Francisco, 96602

3:GJW:chm  
 5750  
 4/11 S&C #155-67  
 1 May 1967

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding Officer, 11th Marines (Rein), 1st Marine Division (Rein),  
 FMF, FPO, San Francisco, California 96602  
 Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1 to 30 April 1967

Ref: (a) MSC 5750.2A  
 (b) FMFPacO 5750.8  
 (c) DivO 5750.2B  
 (d) RegtO 5750.2C

Enclos: ✓(1) 4th Battalion, 11th Marines Command Chronology

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

*G. M. B. Livingston*  
 G. M. B. LIVINGSTON

4TH BATTALION  
 11TH MARINES  
 COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

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TAB (I),

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DEGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;  
 DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.

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~~SECRET~~PART I  
ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

4th Battalion, 11th Marines,  
1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF

LtCol J. M. LANAY, JR. (1-18 Apr)  
LtCol G. M. B. LIVINGSTON (19-30 Apr)

SUBORDINATE UNITS

Headquarters Battery	Capt D. A. COSTIN	(1-30 Apr)
Battery "K"	Capt C. E. ASH	(1-30 Apr)
Battery "L"	Capt R. E. PFREMMER	(1-30 Apr)
Battery "M"	Capt W. S. PARKER	(1-30 Apr)

2. LOCATION. 1-25 April; CHU LAI, Republic of Vietnam.  
26-30 April; DANANG, Republic of Vietnam.3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer	Maj P. F. BURAN	(1-30 Apr)
S-1	2dLt J. W. WELLS	(1-30 Apr)
S-2	Capt D. B. CHAPLA 1stLt J. A. PAYNE	(1-28 Apr) (29-30 Apr)
S-3	Maj G. J. WATERS	(1-30 Apr)
S-3A	Capt D. B. CHAPLA	(1-30 Apr)
S-4	Maj G. V. MEMMER	(1-30 Apr)
Supply Officer	1stLt E. F. CARLSON	(1-30 Apr)
Motor Transport Officer	1stLt L. J. WALSH Unassigned 2dLt G. L. GRUHN	(1-24 Apr) (25-29 Apr) (30 Apr)
Maintenance Officer	1stLt R. G. SHORE	(1-30 Apr)
Communications Officer	Capt D. A. COSTIN	(1-30 Apr)
Medical Officer	Lt H. R. BIRD-BAKER, (MC) USN	(1-30 Apr)

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

USMC  
OFF ENL

21 458

USMC  
OFF ENL

1 9

1  
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ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART II  
NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the period 1-25 April, this battalion continued to support operations of Task Force XRAY in the Chu Lai TAOR. Headquarters Battery and Battery "M" displaced by sea transport to Danang to support operations of the 1st Marine Division (Rein), on 26 April and occupied their present positions. Battery "L" remained in the Chu Lai TAOR in support of the 5th Marines while awaiting shipping. Battery "K", presently under operational control of 3d Battalion, 11th Marines in conjunction with Operation OREGON, displaced to the Danang TAOR independent of the battalion. The battalion and it's assigned batteries have the following missions:

4th Battalion	G/S Task Force XRAY
Battery "K"	Modified mission G/S, Rein, 3d Bn, 11th Marines
Battery "L"	Modified mission G/S, Rein, 2d Bn, 11th Marines
Battery "M"	Modified mission G/S, Rein, 3d Bn, 11th Marines

The 3d 105mm Howitzer Battery (SP) and the 3d 155mm Gun Battery (SP) continued to occupy collocated positions with the battalion at coordinates BT441100, BT39461445, and BS53909441; however, areas of operational control terminated upon execution of Operation OREGON. The battalion observation post at An Hoa (BS4738c3) was manned until 21 April when relieved by elements of the U. S. Army. The battalion continued to furnish personnel to man the observation post at Nui Tron (BS516778) until 21 April. During the month the battalion fired 1547 missions, with a total of 12619 rounds. The six 155mm towed howitzers were turned over to 2d Battalion, 11th Marines effective 200830H April.

Normal administrative functions were accomplished during the month. No difficulties were encountered.

The battalion forward observer team at An Hoa continued to furnish reports on enemy movements and actions.

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## SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

## 1. Personnel and Administration. (See Appendix 1)

a. The following losses and gains in personnel occurred during the reporting period:

## (1) Losses:

(a) Battle: 1 KIA; 4 WIA (evac)

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(h) Non-battlers: 2

(c) Administrative: 7 Enl; 2 Off; 0 Navy

(2) Gains:

(a) Replacements: 32 Enl; 3 Off; 0 Navy

b. POWs captured: 0

c. Morale: excellent

d. Personal services: The weekly PX run for personnel of the battalion and collocated units was continued. Once a month, a mail run (money orders, stamps, etc.) is sent to each battery.

e. Promotions: 6 Officers; 61 Enl

f. Awards and Decorations: 3 Cross of Gallantry  
1 Navy Commendation  
1 Army Commendation (non-combat)  
1 Bronze Star

g. The following courts-martial and article 15s were awarded:

(1) Special: 0

(2) Summary: 4

(3) Article 15: 4

2. Intelligence. (See Appendix 2)

a. Daily perimeter patrols were conducted and listening posts were established nightly.

b. Local Vietnamese civilians reported information to the battalion on VC activity on three separate occasions.

3. Training. Normal training on general military subjects and technical training was conducted.4. Logistics, Equipment and Supply. (See Appendix 4)

a. Approximately 65% of the total requisitions submitted since arrival in Vietnam have been filled.

b. The current deadline status of motor transport equipment is 21%. Eight are deadlined for 2d echelon only (awaiting parts); 13 are deadlined for a combination of 2d and 3d echelon work.

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5. Civic Action/Civil Affairs. (See Appendix 5)

a. MedCaps were continued throughout the Civic Action Area of Responsibility. Work was continued on the access road at BT440014, but due to operational commitments could not be finished. School kits were distributed in the school (BT445117) to 90 children.

b. Clothing was distributed to 60 children in the hamlet of Khuong Dai during the month.

c. The repairs and replacement of school tables and benches in the schools at Khuong Dai, Khuong Phu and Khuong Hung were completed. The repairs of the school (BT437107) was delayed as the Hamlet Chief was late in submitting his requirements to the Battalion S-5 (2dLt J. W. WELLS).

6. Organization and Operations. (See Appendix 3)a. Command

<u>Units</u>	<u>Coordinates</u>	<u>Direction of Fire</u>
Headquarters, 4th Battalion	BT441100 (1-25 Apr) AT957756 (26-30 Apr)	
Battery "K" Btry Hq, 2 How Plt 1 How Plt	BT44150955 (1-13 Apr) AT98677177 (14-30 Apr) AT87705796 (14-30 Apr)	4500 2700 4400
Battery "L"	BT39461445 (1-30 Apr)	4600
Battery "M"	BS53909441 (1-25 Apr) AT91938020 (26-30 Apr)	4200 5400

b. Operations

(1) Operation BOONE. Battery "L" (-) OpCon 3/11, displaced from BS6268558 to BS690771 on 011500H April. During the operation, the battery fired 90 total missions, expending 1433 HE, 11 T-11, and 129 WP. The battery was credited with 11 KIA (Prob). On 051600H April, Btry "L" (-) reverted OpCon this headquarters and displaced from the operation area to it's primary position.

7. Close Combat. (See Appendix 3)

a. The battalion headquarters complex (BT441100) and the observation post at An Hoa (BS473863) experienced 8 incidents of enemy contact, consisting of probes, harrassing small arms fire, fragmentation grenades, and one mine detonation. Battery "K" experienced one mine detonation at AT883573 in the Danang TACR.

8. General Support (See Appendix 3)

a. The following missions were fired during the period:

<u>Observed</u>	<u>Indiscriminate</u>	<u>H&amp;I</u>
208	114	1225

b. The following rounds were fired:

<u>155mm How</u>	<u>8" How</u>	<u>155mm Gun</u>
10981	741	597

c. The battalion was credited with:

<u>VC KIA (Conf)</u>	<u>VC KIA (Prob)</u>	<u>VC WIA (Prob)</u>
13	36	19

PART IV  
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. Staff Journals

- ✓ a. S-1 Journal (Appendix 1)
- ✓ b. S-2 Journal (Appendix 2)
- ✓ c. S-3 Journal (Appendix 3)
- ✓ d. S-4 Journal (Appendix 4)
- ✓ e. S-5 Journal (Appendix 5)

2. Operation Overlay

- ✓ a. Operation BOONE (Addendum 1 to Appendix 3)

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APPENDIX 1 (S-1 Journal) to Enclosure (1) (Command Chronology) of CO, 4/11  
ltr 3:GJW:chr over 5750 serial #155-67 dtd 1May67.

010700H Captain H. M. KISER departed for CONUS on permanent change of station orders.

010800H Captain W. S. PARKER assigned as Battery CO of Battery "M". Captain R. J. GRAHAM relieved and assigned as Battery Officer of Hq Battery.

011500H Received Bronze Star Medal for HM2 WOTTERS (Btry K) and Navy Commendation Medal for Sergeant HIGHSMITH (Btry K), both with citations attached.

011530H PFC E. E. STAFFORD, Jr., (Btry L) returned from 30 days emergency leave in CONUS.

021100H Received Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry (Bronze) for LCpl M. H. SONNEHNSCHIEN (Btry L) for Operation DESOTO.

041330H Bronze Star presented to HM2 W. H. WOOTERS by Battalion Commander (Acting)

041330H Navy Commendation Medal presented to Sgt G. H. HIGHSMITH by Battalion Commander (Acting).

060830H Message received from Red Cross, case of PFC H. S. CALLIHAN, Jr. (Hq Btry) DTG 030303Z "Verified Grandmother's death occurred on Wednesday 29Mar67. Burial 31Mar67. Grandmother partially raised serviceman as a child."

070900H Captain R. J. GRAHAM departed for CONUS on permanent change of station orders.

101000H Citations for Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry (Bronze) awarded to LCpl M. H. SONNEHNSCHIEN and meritorious mast for Sergeant M. J. WEBB awarded by Battalion Commander (Acting) at Battery "L" area.

152300H LCpl N. H. HENSLEY and Cpl W. E. SINS burned in fire on gun at Battery "K" location in DaNang; evacuated to NSA Hospital, DaNang.

170745H MSgt D. B. BARRELLI, PFC G. R. COOPER, LCpl P. R. DIETSCHE, LCpl G. P. STINSON, and PFC P. M. TURNER, all Hq Battery, were med evac to 1st Med Battalion after truck they were riding in hit a mine. Casualty reports submitted by Headquarters Battery.

181430H PFC J. D. ROBINSON III was involved in grenade incident while on patrol of the Battalion area. PFC ROBINSON med evac to 1st Med Battalion in shock.

191615H Captain C. E. ASH Jr., CO Btry "K" informed Battalion truck hit an enemy mine. LCpl Charles E. HAWK 2219429 KIA, LCpl J. H. ZAMROK 2221899 WIA and med evac to 1st Med Battalion, DaNang, RVN.

191930H LtCol G. M. B. LIVINGSTON assumed command of Battalion vice LtCol J. M. LANAY Jr. who was transferred to Regimental Headquarters, 11th Marines.

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201300H Battalion Adjutant departed Battalion area to go with advance party to DaNang.

220800H Received word from Hq Battery 1stSgt that a Red Cross message was received concerning GySgt V. J. KILBRIDE. Cut permissive type orders and sent GySgt KILBRIDE to Regiment for orders. Made phone call to Division to request leave. GySgt KILBRIDE departed on emergency leave on 22 April 1967.

260500H Hq Battery departed Chu Lai TAOR on LST 587 for DaNang and new Battalion Headquarters position.

261630H Hq Battery arrived new position, DaNang, RVN.

291000H 1stLt J. A. PAYNE joined the Battalion and was assigned primary duty as Battalion S-2.

291600H Battalion CO awarded Army Commendation Medal to Captain D. B. CHAPLA, Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry (Silver) to LCpl P. J. PRESTIGIACOMO, meritorious nests for Cpl T. E. DELONG, Cpl R. C. HEAD, and PFC J. D. ROBINSON III.

301000H 2dLt G. L. GRUHL joined the Battalion and was assigned primary duty as Battalion Motor Transport Officer.

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APPENDIX 2 (S-2 Journal) to Enclosure (1) (Command Chronology) of CO, 4/11  
ltr 3:GJW:chm over 5750 serial #155-67 dtd 1 May 67.

091400H A Vietnamese male informant (Chung Vien) reported that a company of VC (100) were located at BT325107 on 9 April. The VC leader was reported to be Thai Lam who lived at Doang An (1) (BT506092) prior to 1964. The VC are armed with pistols, 8 .30 caliber MG, 1 60mm mortar and wearing yellow pajamas. Information was reported to the 1st FAG, 11th Marines. An artillery TOT was fired on the suspect area at 101640H.

111800H Received information from local hamlet chief that the VC had distributed anti-American propaganda leaflets in the hamlets surrounding the battalion CP on 10 and 11 April. Two copies of the leaflets were recovered and forwarded to 1st FAG.

111850H Received information from District Headquarters at Binh Son that 3 VC battalions were located in the vicinity of BS470950 and BS470930, and have the mission of attacking the Battery "M" complex between 11 and 14 April. Information was reported to 1st FAG. TOT was fired on suspect area at 112100H.

121930H A Vietnamese male informant (Chung Vien) reported that 300 VC, designated the 402nd Battalion, commanded by Nguyen An Thong, was located in vicinity BT405997 and BT418012 at 121600H. VC armament includes 82mm mortars. Information passed to 1st FAG.

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APPENDIX 3 (S-3 Journal) to Enclosure (1) (Command Chronology) of CO, 4/11  
ltr 3:GJW:chm over 5750 serial #155-67 dtd 1Mar67.

011431H Battery "M" fired 6 HE on 3 VC building a bunker at BS484884 reported by M-24 (An Hoa) resulting in good target coverage. VC dispersed.

011600H Battery "L" (-) displaced from BS627956 to BS690771 in conjunction with Operation BOONE, assigned mission GS/Rein 3/11; arrived new position at 011830H, direction of fire 0600 mils.

031043H 2d Platoon, 3d 155mm Gun Battery (SP) fired 9 rounds HE on 5 VC in trenchline at BS501796 reported by N-24 (Nui Tron) resulting in 1 WIA (Prob).

032130H Battery "M" fired 8 rounds HE at BS436870 on VC position area reported by M-24 (An Hoa) resulting in 12 KIA (Conf) and 9 WIA (Conf). Body count reported by U.S. Special Forces, CIDG, Tra Bong.

041850H Battery "M", 2d Platoon, 3d 155mm Gun Battery (SP), and 2d Platoon, 3d 8" Howitzer Battery (SP) fired 36 HE and 29 WP on 200 VC at BS502-882 reported by M-24 (An Hoa) resulting in one large secondary explosion and several fires burning.

051415H Daily security patrol from Battery "M" discovered an antipersonnel mine at BS45540. An explosive ordnance team, requested from 2d Bn, 7th Marines, blew the mine in place at 051430H.

050025H Post #2 on the battalion's northern perimeter, west side of Highway #1, received one fragmentation grenade 20 meters north of the post. Area was illuminated with hand flare with no enemy activity observed. Suspect area to be kept under close surveillance.

051600H Battery "L" (-) displaced for return to primary position. Reverted OpCon 4/11; arrived in battalion area at 052000H to remain overnight. Departed battalion area at 060800H, arrived in primary position at 060920H and resumed normal mission.

061838H Battery "M" fired 16 HE and 3 WP on 5 VC on a trail reported by M-24 (An Hoa) resulting in one secondary explosion and one fire.

061105H Battery "M" fired 6 HE and 3 WP on 3 VC in treeline at BS477936 reported by 1st Reconnaissance Team resulting in 2 KIA (Prob).

071955H Battery "M" fired 9 HE on VC squad with flashlights at BS57898774 reported by M-24 (An Hoa) resulting in 10 KIA, and 3 WIA.

090509H Battery "M" fired 4 WP on 81mm mortar position at BS473926 reported by 1st Reconnaissance Team resulting in mortar fire ceased.

091855H Battery "M" fired 5 WP and 6 HE on 6 VC in house at BS508860 reported by M-24 (An Hoa) resulting in 3 fires, 1 house damaged, 1 secondary explosion, and 6 WIA (Prob).

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102100H One fragmentation grenade was received 40 meters outside of wire on the northern battalion perimeter between Posts 18 and 19. Area was illuminated with 5 155mm rounds; negative surveillance enemy movement. Fire team swept suspect area on the way to listening post site with negative results.

102135H An estimated squad of VC fired 50 rounds small arms at the An Hoa observation post. The FO fired 5 artillery missions on grid BS470876 and BS47898774; ROKMC elements on An Hoa fired 200 rounds small arms and ARVN elements on An Hoa fired 15 rounds 60mm mortar. VC broke contact. No casualties incurred. No known enemy casualties observed.

121445H Battery "M" fired 6 HE on 2 VC with packs in house at BS501869 reported by M-24 (An Hoa) resulting in 2 KIA (Prob) and a hut destroyed.

130704H Battery "M" closed station in preparation for displacement to Danang in conjunction with Operation OREGON, ch<sup>o</sup>p OpCon 3/11.

131030H Battery "L" fired 3 HE, 2 WP on 5 VC with packs in open at BT295069 reported by 1st Reconnaissance Team resulting in 5 KIA (Prob).

131415H Battery "K" embarked aboard LST at Chu Lai sand ramp.

170745H M37 from Headquarters Battery ran over a mine at BT435104 resulting in 5 WIA (USMC), 4 KIA (VN), 2 WIA (VN) and total damage to vehicle.

172140H Post #10 on the battalion's southern perimeter received an undetermined number of small arms fire from houses southeast of the post at BT444093. Sentry on Post #10 returned 15 rounds of small arms. Condition Amber 2 was set; 2d Bn, 11th Marines fired 4 rounds 105mm illumination. Post #7 reported a figure crawling near the outer wire and illuminated with a hand illumination. Post #8 reported seeing a figure run behind a house to the front of Post #7. One 105mm round illumination was fired, but nothing further was observed. A fire team swept area and checked house at BT444093 at 180630H with negative results.

181345H Daily squad security patrol received 1 incoming grenade at BT435095. One man suffered shock and was med-evacuated. Squad swept area with negative results. Patrol continued with assigned mission.

181800H Battery "M" fired 18 HE on a VC storehouse at BS507859 reported by M-24 resulting in heavy destruction to target.

191215H Battery "L" fired 26 HE on 3 VC with packs at BT272118 reported by 1st Reconnaissance Team (Bennington) resulting in 1 KIA (Conf).

191130H M54 truck from Battery "K" hit a mine in the Danang TAOR at AT380573 on Highway 4 resulting in 1 KIA (USMC), 1 WIA (USMC) and total damage to the vehicle.

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201300H Battalion was relieved of OPs An Hoa (BS473863) and Nui Tron (BS516-778) by 2d Battalion, 11th Field Artillery, USA. Forward observer teams returned at 210956H.

201305H Battalion advance party departed Chu Lai TAOR enroute to Danang TAOR in conjunction with Operation OREGON.

211155H Battery "M" fired 12 HE on 15 VC on a trail at BS492842 reported by US Army observer (Upshot 33) resulting in 5 KIA (Prob).

212330H Post #18 on the north side of the battalion perimeter received 3 bursts of automatic weapons fire totaling 30 rounds of unknown caliber from a position 300 meters southeast of Post #18. Rounds passed high over Posts 18 and 19. Condition Amber 2 was set; no fire returned.

221706H Battery "M" fired 9 HE on 6 VC at BS494842 reported by US Army observer (Upshot 61) resulting in 1 KIA (Prob).

230635H Battery "M" advance party completed embarking aboard LST 715 in preparation for move to Danang TAOR in conjunction with Operation OREGON and departed Chu Lai.

251125H Headquarters Battery and Battery "M" closed station and displaced to the embarkation area at Chu Lai in preparation for movement to the Danang TAOR in conjunction with Operation OREGON.

251147H Control of fires of Battery "L" passed to 1st FAG, 11th Marines while awaiting shipping to Danang.

251445H The battalion, less Battery "L", commenced embarkation at Chu Lai.

252130H Loading completed. Headquarters Battery aboard LST 587 and Battery "M" aboard LST 579.

260610H LST 587 and LST 579 underway, enroute to Danang.

261400H Battery "M" arrived and commenced debarking at Danang, Republic of Vietnam.

261430H Headquarters Battery arrived and commenced disembarking at Danang, Republic of Vietnam.

261600H Headquarters Battery arrived in present position and commenced opening of command post.

261800H Battalion headquarters opened command post in the Danang TAOR at AT957756.

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26210JH Battery "M" arrived in present position and commenced occupation.

270010H Battery "M" laid on azimuth 5400 mils.

291548H Battery "L" arrived at embarkation point in Chu Lai TAOR awaiting shipping for Danang in conjunction with Operation OREGON.

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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