

HEADQUARTERS

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

3:DBC:jev  
 5750  
 4/11 S&C #68-061  
 1 Mar 68

**SECRET**

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding Officer, 11th Marines, 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF,  
 FPO, San Francisco, California, 96602  
 Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1-29 February 1968

Ref: (a) MOO 5750.2A  
 (b) FMFMACO 5750.8  
 (c) DivO 5750.2B  
 (d) NegtO 5750.2D

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

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



F. B. WOLCOTT

4/14/68/11TH MAR

CMD CHRON

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 DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS  
 DOD DIR 5200.10

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HEADQUARTERS  
4th Battalion, 11th Marines  
1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF  
FPO, San Francisco, 9662

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 February 1968 TO 29 FEBRUARY 1968

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## PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

<u>1. DESIGNATION</u>	<u>COMMANDER</u>	
4th Battalion, 11th Marines 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF	Maj F. B. WOLCOTT	(1-29Feb)

SUBORDINATE UNITS

Headquarters Battery	Capt E.L. NEAL	(1-29Feb)
Battery "K"	Capt R.M. CAVAGNOL	(1-29Feb)
Battery "M"	Capt H.G. HANNAH Capt R.W. SHUSSLER	(1-12Feb) (13-29Feb)
2nd Provisional 155 HOW Battery (Towed)	1stLt P.G. BENDER	(1-29Feb)

2. LOCATION. 1-29 February 1968: Hill 34, Danang, Republic of Vietnam.

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer	Maj T.I. FOLKS	(1-29Feb)
S-1	WO R.F. SANDIDGE	(1-29Feb)
S-2	Unassigned 1stLt J.S. RICHARDSON	(1-12Feb) (13-29Feb)
S-3	Maj D. B. CHAPLA	(1-29Feb)
S-3A	1stLt W.T. PEDERSEN Capt R.W. ROSS	(1-12Feb) (13-29Feb)
S-4	Maj C. CATOE	(1-29Feb)
S-5	Capt R.W. ROSS	(1-29Feb)
Supply	1stLt P.R. PELCZARSKI	(1-29Feb)
Motor Transport Officer	1stLt J.T. EGGER	(1-29Feb)
Communications Officer	1stLt E.L. GREATHOUSE 1stLt W.N. RIDDLE	(1-23Feb) (24-29Feb)
Survey/Metro Officer	Unassigned 1stLt W.T. PEDERSEN	(1-12Feb) (13-29Feb)
Medical Officer	Lt J.A. CLARK (MC) USNR	(1-29Feb)

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AVGAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

USMC  
OFF ENL

23 370

USN  
OFF ENL

1 8

OTHEN  
OFF ENL

0 1

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the period 1-29 February 1968, the Battalion continued to support operations of the 1st Marine Division (Rein), in the Danang T.On.

ORGANIZATION

MISSION

4th Battalion, 11th Marines

G/S 1st Marine Division (Rein)

Battery "K"

Modified mission G/S Rein 3rd Bn, 11th Marines

Battery "L"

Modified mission G/S Rein 3rd Bn, 11th Marines

Battery "M-X"

Modified mission G/S Rein 3rd Bn, 11th Marines

The Tet offensive, which began on 29 January continued into the second week of February. The principal threat to the Danang vital area materialized from the south and southwest. The heaviest activity occurred in the T.On's of the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines and the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines close to the south of the Battalion Command Post. Elements of the 51st ARVN Regiment also occupy this same area.

The Battalion controls the fires of two sections of the 1st Armored Amphibian Company located at Hill 47 and at the 1st ALVT Command Post. At 0520 on 6 February an estimated battalion of VC attempted to overrun an element of the 51st ARVN Regiment. The US Army advisor called for fire and the two weapons at Hill 47 were put in action. Because of the close proximity of friendly elements the observer adjusted one gun onto the enemy on the west side and one gun on the enemy on the east side of the beleaguered ALVT unit. Continuous fire with both guns was maintained until approximately 0735. During this time the advisor, who had been wounded, continued to observe the fire and made the shifts necessary to keep the enemy under effective fire. A total of 290 HE were expended on the target. A surveillance later in the same day reported 80 VC KIA (C).

On 7 February the 196th Light Infantry Brigade, (-), began operations in the T.On's of the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines and the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines. 4th Battalion, 11th Marines, again employing elements of 1st Armored Amphibian Company, provided direct support for the Brigade until relieved by the Brigade's own direct support artillery.

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~~UNCLASSIFIED~~ On 9 February the platoon of Battery "M" designated Battery "M-X" was moved to a position AT 95987583 within the Regimental Command Post.

One significant mission was shot as a part of a TIGER massed fire mission at grid BT 032688. 32 HE and 3 WP were expended and a total of 35 VC KIA (C) was reported. M-X returned to the Battery "M" position at 1347 on 12 February.

On 17 February Battery "M-X" was again organized and with, 2 howitzers, moved to a position at AT 98827148 within the 4th Battalion Command Post, and laid on azimuth 2500. The purpose was to better counter the threat of an attack by fire from the South.

On 19 February in view of an increased likelihood of attack "M-X" was brought up to a 4 howitzer battery with two additional weapons from Battery "M".

At 1043 on 19 February, a fire of undetermined origin destroyed OP TIGER at grid AT 98967084. No 4/11 personnel were injured however some equipment including a Battery Commanders telescope and an AN/PRC 25 radio were destroyed. OP CAMEL, at grid 98677197 was occupied as a substitute to maintain capability for observation of the Southern Danang TAOR Rocket Belt.

On 24 February at 2255 a rocket attack was launched on the Marble Mountain Air Facility from vicinity of AT 04746429. The launch site was located by intersection from the Battalion and Regimental OP's and reported to 11th Marines. Counter rocket fire was begun with "M-X" at 2310.

At 0430 on 25 February another rocket attack was launched on Marble Mountain from vicinity of grid AT 06056255. Again the launch site was located by intersection and counter rocket fire begun by "M-X" at 0436. Fire was continued, shifting at the command of Regimental FDC to cover routes of egress.

During the month, 3,486 missions were fired and a total of 10,658 rounds expended.

### PART III

#### 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: 0 Off, 0 Enl

(b) Non-Battle: 0 Off, 0 Enl

(c) Administrative: 1 Off, 30 Enl

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(a) Replacements: 2 Off, 22 Enl

- b. POW's captured: 0
- c. Morale: Excellent
- d. Promotions: 5 Off, 9 Enl
- e. Awards and Decorations: 0
- f. The following courts-martial and Article 15's were awarded:
  - (1) Special: 1
  - (2) Summary: 1
  - (3) Article 15's: 9

## 2. Intelligence

- a. Daily perimeter patrols and nightly ambushes/listening posts were conducted throughout the month.
- b. During the month of February there has been slight decrease in guerrilla activity in the Southern Danang TAOR. An increase in conventional warfare activity by the enemy was apparent.

## 3. Training

- a. Normal training and certain technical training has been conducted in the Battalion with the goal of increasing firing efficiency.
- b. Renewed emphasis has been placed on weapon safety procedures and upon defense against chemical attack.

## 4. Logistics, Equipment, and Supply

- a. Approximately 89% of 20,111 requisitions have been filled since arrival in Vietnam. 17,909 requisitions are completed.
- b. The current deadline status of motor transport equipment is 17%. There are 2 vehicles down for 2d echelon maintenance and 10 down for 3d echelon maintenance.

## 5. Civic Action/Civil Affairs

- a. Because of the increase of enemy activity following the TET holiday period Civil Affairs activities were held to a minimum. During the period 20 to 29 February MedCaps were held in Phu Hoa and liaison was made in Duong Phuoc to begin MedCaps. A truck load of lumber was given to two families in Phu Hoa to repair two homes which were damaged in a fire apparently caused by a parachute flare.

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. Staff Journals

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

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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APPENDIX 1 (S-1 Journal) to ENCLOSURE (1) (Command Chronology) of CO, 4/11  
 ltr 3: DBC: jev over 5750 serial #68-061 dtd 1Mar68,

TIME IN OUT	SER NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
0800	1	130800H	Capt. ROSS assigned duty as Battalion S-3A vice 1stLt PEDERSEN.	Capt ROSS
0800	2	130800H	1stLt PEDERSEN assigned duty as Survey/ Metro Officer vice 1stLt RICHARDSON.	1stLt PEDERSEN
0800	3	130800H	1stLt RICHARDSON assigned duty as S-2.	1stLt RICHARDSON
0800	4	130800H	Capt SCHUSSLER assigned duty as CO Battery "M" vice Capt HANNAH.	Capt SCHUSSLER
0800	5	240800H	1stLt RIDDLE assigned duty as CommO vice 1stLt GREATHOUSE transferred to 7th Comm Bn.	1stLt RIDDLE

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~~SECRET~~~~UNCLASSIFIED~~ Organization and Operations. (See APPENDIX 3)a. ~~Command~~

Units	Coordinates	Dir. of Fire
Headquarters, 4th Bn., 11th Marines	AT 988718	
Battery "K"	AT 879579	4400 $\Delta$
Battery "M"	AT 919802	5400 $\Delta$
Battery "N-X"	AT 95987583 (9-12Feb) AT 98827148 (17-29Feb)	2600 $\Delta$ 2500 $\Delta$

## 7. Close Combat. (See APPENDIX 2)

a. Battery "K" at Grid 879579 received approximately 15-20 mortar rounds shot from the south. Battery "K" observed flashes from grids AT876555 to AT 892555 and fired continuous counter mortar fire silencing the mortars. Mortar shell tail fins in Battery "K"'s position were found to be from an 82mm Mortar.

b. On 11 February an Ammo convoy from Battery "K" was fired upon in the vicinity of AT 960583. One round went through the open cab window. The driver ducked pulling the wheel to one side. The truck swerved, and the trailer jacknifed, turned over on its side, and came back on wheels. The trailer was dented and side boards smashed. The convoy stopped, the trailer was reloaded and the convoy continued to Battery "K".

## 8. General Support. (See APPENDIX 3)

a. The following missions were fired during the period:

OBSERVED	UNOBSERVED	H&I
273	306	2,907

b. The following rounds were fired:

155mm HOW

10,658

c. The battalion was credited with:

VC KIA (C)	SECONDARY EXPLOSIONS	BUILDINGS	SAFANS	POW'S	BUNKERS
62	4	7	9	0	9

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APPENDIX 2 (S-2 Journal) to ENCLOSURE (1) (Command Chronology) of CO, 4/11  
 ltr 3:DBC:jev over 5750 serial #68-061 dtd 1Mar68

TIME	SER	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
IN	OUT	NO.		
0220-1020	1	060125H	Battery "K" at Grid 879579 received approximately 15-20 mortar rounds shot from the south. 11thMar	
			Battery "K" observed flashes from Grids AT876555 to AT892555 and fired continuous counter mortar fire silencing the mortars.	
			Mortar shell tail fins in Battery "K"'s position were found to be from an 82mm Mortar.	
2030-2040	2	111700H	On 11 February an Ammo Convoy from Battery "K" was fired upon in the vicinity of AT 960583. One round went through the open cab window. The driver ducked pulling the wheel to one side. The truck swerved and the trailer jacknifed, turned over on its side, and came back on wheels. The trailer was dented and side boards smashed. The convoy stopped, the trailer was reloaded and the convoy continued to Battery "K".	

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~~SECRET~~APPENDIX 3 (S-3) (Part) 5<sup>th</sup> ENCLOSURE (1) (Command Chronology) of CO, 4/11  
ltr 3:DBC:jev over 5750 serial #68-061 dtd 1Mar68

TIME IN OUT	SER NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESS.GES, ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
1500	1515	34	011435H	Battery "K" fired TX275, grid AT952673, 11thMar expended 12 HE, surveillance: "Outstanding coverage on target", and 1 secondary explosion.
1650	1655	38	011615H	Battery "K" fired UK043, grid AT830516, 11thMar expended 7 HE, surveillance: "Outstanding coverage", 1 secondary explosion.
1220	1240	16	021145H	Battery "K" fired UK048, grid AT906528, 11thMar expended 2 HE and 1 WF, surveillance: 1 KIA (C).
1855	1920	17	021730H	Battery "K" fired UK049, grid AT810544, 11thMar expended 11 HE and 2 WF, surveillance: 2 sampans destroyed.
1920	1945	48	031920H	Battery "K" fired UK056, grid AT810544, 11thMar expended 6 HE and 2 WF, surveillance: 1 sampan destroyed.
1230	1236	19	041013H	Battery "K" fired UK065, grid AT818501, 11thMar expended 26 HE, surveillance: 1 KIA (C).
1230	1236	19	041102H	Battery "K" fired UK066, grid AT824540, 11thMar expended 12 HE, surveillance: 1 KIA (C).
1746	1750	27	041715H	Battery "K" fired UK070, grid AT824552, 11thMar expended 20 HE, surveillance: "Excellent Coverage," 2 sampans destroyed and 2 KIA (C).
0940	1015	39	050905H	Battery "K" fired UK073, grid AT889513, 11thMar expended 9 HE, surveillance: 2 sampans destroyed.
0520	1032	37	060602H	At 060520, 1st Arm'd Amphib Co guns located at Hill 47 were used to fire in support of an element of the 51st ARVN Regiment which had come into heavy contact and was in danger of being overrun. Fire was begun on grid 013668 and shifted to 015669. Adjustment by the U.S. Army advisor. Method of fire was 1 gun continuous fire because of proximity of friendly elements. Fire was adjusted with the other gun on grid 024660 and continuous fire maintained on both locations until approximately 0735. A total of 290 rounds of HE were expended. Surveillance was 80 VC KIA (C).

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TIME IN OUT	SER NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
1755 1806	92	061655H	Battery "K" fired UK124, grid AT947678, expended 33 HE, surveillance: 4 buildings destroyed.	11thMar
1755 1806	92	061730H	Battery "K" fired UK125, grid AT942672, expended 16 HE, surveillance: 1 building destroyed.	11thMar
1310 1315	23	071220H	Battery "K" fired UK137, grid AT905408, expended 21 HE, surveillance: "Beautiful Coverage," 2 KIA (C).	11thMar
1555 1600	31	071335H	Battery "K" fired UK139, grid AT947675, expended 12 HE, surveillance: 2 buildings destroyed.	11thMar
1925 1945	41	071730H	Battery "K" fired UK142, grid AT317483, expended 9 HE, surveillance: 1 KIA (C).	11thMar
2100 2105	48	071956H	Battery "K" fired TX305, grid AT956628, expended 25 HE, surveillance: 1 secondary explosion.	11thMar
2145	49	072145H	4th Battalion, 11th Marines, employing elements of 1st Armd Amphib Co. took direct support role for the 196th Light Infantry Brigade (USA) pending arrival of their own direct support artillery.	S-3, Regt
1645 1650	35	091645H	Mike-6 departed Battery "M"'s position with 2 guns for Regimental C.P..	S-3, Reg't
1705	36	091705H	Mike-6 arrived with 2 guns at Regimental C.P.. Designated Battery "M-X".	S-3
1750 1805	64	100710H	Battery "M-X" fired UX555, grid 032688, expended 36 HE and 3 WP, surveillance: 35 KIA (C). In addition the following items were captured: A lot of 782 gear, 5 AK-47 rifles, 6 cartridge belts, 9 magazines, 1 RFG round, 10 Chi Com grenades, 8 canteens, 4 ammo belts, 400 AK-47 rounds, 7 ponchos, 3 packs, 4 hats, 1 NV gas mask.	11thMar
1150	40	121150H	Battery "M-X" closed station and march ordered Departed regimental C.P. for Battery "M"'s position.	S-3

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TIME IN	SER NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS.	ACTION TAKEN
1347	1350	42	121347H	Battery "M-X" arrived and occupied position S-3 in the Mike Battery area. 11thMar
2115	2120	63	121656H	Battery "K" fired UK192, grid AT88985080, 11thMar expended 21 HE, surveillance: 2 bunkers damaged and 2 storage bunkers destroyed.
1800	1805	48	141530H	Battery "K" fired UK209, grid 826502, 11thMar expended 10 HE, surveillance: 1 KIA (C).
1630	1640	38	151500H	Battery "K" fired UK217, grid 823510, 11thMar expended 9 HE, surveillance: 1 KIA (C).
1202	1909	27	161140H	Battery "K" fired UK248, grid 843526, 11thMar expended 6 HE and 2 WP, surveillance: "Excellent coverage," and 1 cave destroyed and 2 caves damaged.
1100	31		171100H	Mike-6 and 2 guns departed Battery "M"!s S-3 position.
1150	34		171150H	Mike-6 and 2 guns arrived new position S-3, Reg't Designated Battery "M-X" at grid AT 98837148. Laid on Azimuth 2500.
0955	26		190955H	Mike-6 and 2 guns departed Battery "M"!s S-3 position.
1043	27		191043H	OP TIGER caught fire, reason unknown at this S-3 time.
1110	1115	28	191110H	Mike-6 and 2 guns arrived Battery "M-X" S-3, 11thMar position. Battery "M-X" now consists of 4 guns.
1118	1120	30	191118H	Cause of the fire at OP TIGER unknown at this 11thMar time. 3 personnel manning the tower escaped uninjured, extent of damage to equipment unknown at this time. Fire department was called and they dispatched a truck to the scene.
1835	1835	67	191835H	11th Marines notified that OP CAMEL (grid 98677197) was now being manned by 4/11 as a substitute for OP TIGER. 11thMar

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TIME IN OUT	SER NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
0943 0945 26		230930H	Battery "K" fired UK284, grid AT855551 expended 4 HE, surveillance: 4 KIA (C). Target was reported by Kilo-6	11thMar
1530 1545 49		231438H	Battery "K" fired UK285, grid AT886547, expended 27 HE, surveillance: 3 KIA (C) and 1 bunker destroyed.	11thMar
1950 1955 59		231835H	Battery "K" fired UK288, grid AT803562, expended 18 HE, surveillance: 10 KIA (C).	11thMar
(LATE ENTRY)		242255H	OP's LAUGH reported rockets at Az 1240, "B" TOWER at Az 4300, LOU at Az 1840, HAWK at Az 2220, a grid of 04746429. was reported to 11th Marines FDC at 242305H.	11thMar
			At 2310 Battery "M-X" commenced firing on grid 049635. At 2313 Hill 47 commenced firing on grid 049635. At 2316 "M-X" shifted to grid 051649.	
			At 2324 OP LOU reported that the artillery rounds were landing on the rocket site.	
		250430H	Rockets were reported by the Southern OP's. OP CHOWS NEST, Az 3300, OP "B" TOWER, Az 3600 OP HAWK, Az 2460, and OP CONDOR (Northern OP) reported Az 2404. Grid 06056255 was reported to Regimental FDC at 0435.	
			At 0436 "M-X" commenced firing on grid 061632 Hill 47 commenced firing on grid 041651 at 0449. "M-X" shifted to grid 059628, at 0448. "M-X" shifted to grid 060629 at 0453. EOM for Hill 47 at 0454. "M-X" shifted to grid 061632 at 0502, shifted to grid 061627 at 0510, shifted to grid 060628 at 0513, shifted to grid 056627 at 0516, shifted to grid 059629 at 0518, shifted to grid 05856275 at 0519, shifted to grid 05836285 at 0522, shifted to grid 06056275 at 0524, shifted to grid 06056315 at 1526, EOM at 0528.	
0817 0852 29		260735H	Battery "K" fired UK306, grid AT819553, expended 8 HE, surveillance: 4 bunkers destroyed.	11thMar

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TIME IN	SER NO.	DTG 272110H	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
2223	2255	77	Battery "K" fired UK314, grid AT 804555, expended 40 HE and 16 WP, surveillance: 1 secondary explosion and 1 building destroyed.	11thMar
1145	2225	33	Battery "K" fired UK317, grid AT876511, expended 15 HE, surveillance: 2 sampans with supplies destroyed.	11thMar

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APPENDIX 4 (SECRET) ~~SECRET~~ ENCL (1) : Command Chronology of CO, 4/11  
ltr 3:DBC:jew/over 750 serial #68-061

TIME IN OUT	SER NO.	DTG	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN
1000	1	021000H	S-4 to Division Ordnance for briefing on special munitions - M33, M386 - initial allowance for Battalion issued.	S, Btry's
1115	2	091115H	Battery "K" - M109 #308425 into FSR for SE ASTA M109 improvement modification package, all weapons in Battalion to be modified.	S, F
1705	3	101705H	11th Marines S-4 - Each firing battery will be delivered 45 special munition projectiles and fuzes.	S, Btry's
0800	4	110800H	1st Marine Division (Engr0) - request for S, F culvert material for overhead cover.	
1730	5	171730H	Battery "K" - M109 #308425 modification package installed.	S, Btry "K"
0800	6	200800H	1st Marine Division (Engr0) - request for S, F replacement of tower on OP TIGER	
1100	7	201100H	1st Marine Division (Engr0) - request for S, F repair of supply building.	
1030	8	211030H	Battery "K", Battalion Maintenance Management S Inspection held.	
1115	9	231115H	Battery "M", Battalion Maintenance Management S inspection held.	
2000	10	242000H	11th Marines - request for \$15,000 additional S,F requisitional authority for 3d quarter FY 68.	S,F
0900	11	250900H	Battery "M" - M109 #308437 modification package Btry "M" installed.	
1300	12	261300H	S-4 and Supply Officer to Division G-4 for S conference system (MILIS) reporting procedures.	S
1600	13	261600H	New deck installed in Headquarters Battery messhall by public works, NSA.	
1500	14	291500H	Battery "K" - M109 #313564 modification package completed.	Btry "K"

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APPENDIX 5 (S-5 Journal) to ENCLOSURE (1) (Command Chronology) of 00, 4/11  
 ltr 3:DBC:jev over 5750 serial #68-061 dtd 1Mar68

TIME IN	SEN OUT	DTG NO.	INCIDENTS, MESSAGE, ORIGIN	ACTION TAKEN
1		21Feb.	Because of the observance of TET and the increased enemy activity which followed the holiday period, no civil affairs action was taken between 1 and 21 February.	
1215 0930	2	220930H	The Battalion S-5 conducted a MEDCAP in the Phu Hoa hamlet of Phu Hoa. Sixty-three persons were treated, and one small boy was brought to the Battalion Aid Stations for treatment of a lacerated foot.	
1140 0900	3	241140H	The Battalion S-5 conducted a MEDCAP in the Phu Hoa hamlet of Phu Hoa. Fifty persons were treated.	
1230 0930	4	290930H	The Battalion S-5 picked up one truck load of dunnage lumber to repair two Vietnamese houses which were damaged by a fire, apparently caused by a parachute flare.	

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