

12th Mar S&C  
Control No. C-1342-65

HEADQUARTERS  
1st Battalion, 12th Marines(-)  
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF  
FPO San Francisco 96601

**ORIGINAL**  
[REDACTED]

6/WEM/dlc  
3000  
5 Oct 1965

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, 12th Marines

Subj: Command Chronology

Ref: (a) DivO 5750.1  
(b) RegtO 5750.1

Encl: ✓(1) Command Chronology, September 1965

1. In accordance with references (a) and (b), the following report is submitted.

*W. E. McCain*  
W. E. MCCAIN

COPY NO. 1 OF 8 COPIES [REDACTED]

ENCLOSURE (5)

COMMAND CHRONOLOGYPart I - Organizational Data

<u>UNIT/COMMANDER</u>	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>LOCATION</u>
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	
1stBn, 12thMar LtCol W. E. MCCAIN	34	454	2	10	DaNang
HqBtry, 1stBn, 12thMar Capt W. B. CLARK	13	158	2	4	DaNang
Btry A, 1stBn, 12thMar Capt R. C. PROUTY	8	114	0	2	DaNang
Btry B, 1stBn, 12thMar Capt E. A. CONDON JR.	9	112	0	2	DaNang
MortBtry, 1stBn, 12thMar Capt J. J. CARR	4	69	0	2	DaNang
Avg. strength for Sep:	34	410	2	10	

Staff Assignments

Battalion Executive Officer: Major B. F. READ JR.  
 S-1: 1stLt D. L. CHILCOTE  
 S-2: 1stLt T. R. THOMPSON  
 S-3: Capt H. SCHOFIELD  
 S-4: Capt D. H. OBLINGER

Part II - Narrative Summary

1 September

At 010850, two platoons of Mortar Battery displaced to coordinates (AT 898819) to support elements of the 2d Battalion, 3d Marines and ARVN in defense of the Nam-O Bridge at coordinates (AT 016717). Captain H. SCHOFIELD assumed duties as S-3, vice Captain E. A. CONDON, who assumed duties as Commanding Officer of Battery "B". Major D. H. BALIUS assumed duties as Liaison Officer to the 3d Marine Regiment. The battalion is only marginally combat ready with respect to personnel with only 72% of its authorized enlisted strength. In logistics, unit distribution was effected to provide the subordinate units rapid service and effect maximum utilization of the battalion service elements.

2 September

At 021430, two platoons of Mortar Battery displaced to coordinates (AT 897822) to support the defense of the Nam-O Bridge at coordinates (AT 016717). The mission of the battalion changed from direct support operational control of the 3d Marines to direct support of the 3d Marines pursuant to DivOpO 329-65. The battalion fired 72 harassing, 69 interdiction, and 3 illumination missions.

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4 September

The battalion commenced a training program with caliber .50 machine gun, Headquarters Battery conducting 4 hours training for 21 personnel. The battalion fired 31 harassing, 59 interdiction, and 3 illumination missions.

5 September

Headquarters Battery conducted 8 hours training on the caliber .50 machine gun for 36 personnel. The battalion fired 48 harassing, 37 interdiction, 7 neutralization, and 4 radar observed neutralization missions.

6 September

Battery "A" conducted  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hours training on the caliber .50 machine gun. The battalion fired 45 harassing, 63 interdiction, and 1 neutralization mission.

7 September

Battery "A" conducted 6 hours, Battery "B" conducted 5 hours, and Mortar Battery conducted 5 hours training on the caliber .50 machine gun. The battalion fired 45 harassing, 52 interdiction, and 1 neutralization mission.

8 September

Battery "A" conducted  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hours training on the caliber .50 machine gun. The battalion fired 45 harassing, 63 interdiction, and 1 neutralization mission.

9 September

Approximately 200 pounds of clothing was delivered to the Village Chief of Da Son for distribution to the needy families.

12 September

At 121017 one platoon of Mortar Battery was airlifted to the southern portion of the 9th Marines' TAOR to coordinates (AT 963613) to support deep patrol operations in that area. At 121430 another platoon of Mortar Battery was displaced to coordinates (AT 901774) in order to more effectively support operations in the northwestern portion of the 2d Battalion, 3d Marines' TAOR. The battalion fired 64 harassing, 31 interdiction, and 7 neutralization missions.

14 September

From 140635 to 140637, Battery "A" fired a "prep" at coordinates (AT 913660) in support of 1st Battalion, 1st Marines move to PL Orange. At 140650, one platoon of Mortar Battery was helilifted from coordinates (AT 963613) back to primary position at coordinates (AT 912737). The battalion fired 84 harassing, 48 interdiction, and 1 illumination mission.

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18 September

86 personnel from 1st Battalion, 12th Marines "fam-fired" the machine gun caliber .50 completing training requirements with this weapon. The battalion fired 44 harassing, 22 interdiction, and 4 neutralization missions.

20 September

At 201930, Battery "B" participated in a Regimental TOT at coordinates (AT 898851) at a suspected VC bivouac area. The battalion fired 26 harassing, 46 interdiction, and 8 neutralization missions.

22 September

50 battalion personnel attended 3d Engineers' school on VC Employment of Mines, Booby Traps, and Obstacles. The battalion fired 13 harassing, 42 interdiction, and 2 neutralization missions.

25 September

At 251820, Batteries "A", "B", and Mortar Battery fired an LZ "prep" at coordinates (AT 897708) in support of 1st Battalion, 1st Marines. The battalion fired 40 harassing, 64 interdiction, and 6 neutralization missions. Battery "B" reported that RVN children have been turning in U.S. fragmentation grenades to the Marines at the battery's forward position. Said grenades were turned in to EOD, with the suspicion that the VC had tampered with the grenades by removing the delay mechanism. A report was submitted to Division G-2.

26 September

The incoming draft of 76 USMC enlisted increased the average enlisted strength to 92%, rendering the battalion fully combat ready with respect to personnel.

27 September

At 271655, the battalion participated in firing the 100,00th round from the 12th Marines. The battalion fired 52 harassing, 45 interdiction, and 10 neutralization missions.

28 September

At 280855, Battery "B" began displacing to a new primary position at coordinates (AT 922791). This move was completed at 281325 when "B" Forward joined the battery at the new position. The battalion fired 35 harassing, 64 interdiction, and 13 neutralization missions.

29 September

At 291900, Batteries "A" and "B" participated in a Regimental TOT at coordinates (AT 838737) on a suspected VC bivouac area. The battalion fired 31 harassing, 58 interdiction, and 3 neutralization missions.

[REDACTED] 30 September

Although the personnel posture of the battalion has been improved throughout the month, a critical shortage of radio operators still exists. Civil action projects being pursued include renovation of the Da Son village school, a playground away from the road, and improvement of the local medical installation in the village. During this reporting period, the battalion fired the following missions and expended ammunition as indicated:

	Harassing	Interdiction	Neutralization
Missions:	1382	1488	92
	HE	WP	ILLUM
Ammunition:			
105mm	7073	246	152
107mm	489	14	2