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68-6705

HEADQUARTERS  
1st Battalion, 12th Marines  
3d Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
FPO San Francisco 96602

3/WDI/mjn  
5750  
Ser:03A12768  
6 May 1968

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
Subj: Command Chronology for April 1968 (U)

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A  
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8  
(c) DivO 5750.1A  
(d) RegtO 5750.1

Encl: ✓(1) 1st Battalion, 12th Marines Command Chronology

1. In accordance with references (a) through (d), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. Enclosure (1) is classified Confidential and is downgraded at 3 year intervals, declassified after 12 years: OPNAVINST 5500.40B applies.
3. This letter is unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

*R. R. Powell*  
R. R. POWELL JR

Copy to: CO, 12th Marines

1ST BN / 12TH MAR  
CMD CHRON

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**TOP SECRET**

HEADQUARTERS  
1st Battalion, 12th Marines  
3d Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
FPO San Francisco 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 APRIL 1968 TO 30 APRIL 1968

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(OPERATIONAL JOURNAL)

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PART IORGANIZATIONAL DATA

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>COMMANDER</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
1stBn, 12thMar (-) (Rein)	LtCol C. H. OFFAR JR (1-6 Apr)	Camp Carroll
	LtCol R. R. POWELL JR (7-30 Apr)	

SUBORDINATE (OPCON) UNITS

HqBtry, 1stBn, 12th Mar	Capt M. F. SHASKI (1-21 Apr)	Camp Carroll
	Capt G. C. FAGERSTEN (22-30 Apr)	
Btry A, 1stBn, 12th Mar	Capt J. J. DAVID	Camp Carroll
Btry C, 1stBn, 12th Mar	Capt J. A. SCHWERER	Camp Carroll (1-23 Apr) Ca Lu (24-30 Apr)
Mort Btry, 2dBn, 11th Mar	Capt J. T. WINKLER	Camp Carroll
Mort Btry, 1stBn, 13th Mar (28-30 Apr)	Capt M. T. PIERSON	Ca Lu
Btry B, 1stBn, 13th Mar (28-30 Apr)	Capt J. C. DECKER	Ca Lu
Btry K, 4thBn, 12th Mar	Capt P. M. BURTON	Camp Carroll
Btry B, 1stBn, 40th Arty (USA)	Capt M. S. ALLEN	Thon Son Lam
2nd (155) ProvBtry, 3rdBn, 12th Mar (28-30 Apr)	Capt W. K. LAW	Ca Lu
239th Radar Det (USA)	SSgt M. L. HALL	Camp Carroll

STAFF OFFICERS

Battalion Executive Officer:

S-1:

S-2:

S-3:

S-4:

Liaison Officer

Maj D. J. CAPINAS  
1stLt D. L. ZUMWALT  
1stLt J. H. EAGER  
(1-2 Apr)  
1stLt T. D. KABLER  
(3-30 Apr)  
Maj W. D. ISBELL  
Capt H. L. WALTERS  
Maj R. W. BOWLES

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CP 32A

AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH (ADCON UNITS)

	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
Headquarters Btry 1-12	13	148	13	3
Btry A 1-12	8	109	0	2
Btry C 1-12	8	111	0	2
Mort Btry 1-12	3	69	0	2
Btry A 1-13	9	122	0	2
Btry C 1-13	9	121	0	2
Mort Btry 1-13	4	80	0	2
Total	54	760	0	15

PART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY

During April, this battalion, concurrent with Operation Lancaster II, provided direct support artillery fires for 4th Marines on Operation Charlton and Operation Rice. Division and Force Reconnaissance patrols were supported by fire and reinforcing fires were delivered as requested by 12th Marines.

On 4 April, Camp Carroll received five rounds of incoming artillery. The battalion had no damage or casualties. C/1/12 fired a mission for an air observer which resulted in one enemy mortar position destroyed.

On 5 April, C/1/12 fired a demonstration mission with shell "Firecracker". 1/12 S-2 observed mission and gave surveillance as "Excellent Coverage". Five rounds were expended.

On 6 April, a change of command ceremony was held for the outgoing and the new battalion commanders. The battalion fired in support of 2/9 during an operation in the area north of Camp Carroll. 108 Smk and 422 HE rounds were expended.

On 9 April, Camp Carroll was visited by the Assistant Division Commander, Brigadier General Glick.

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On 10 April, Camp Carroll received one round of incoming artillery. The battalion had no damage or casualties. A/1/12 fired a mission for an air observer on an automatic weapons position. Firing from the position ceased.

On 11 April, Thon Son Lam received 27 rounds of incoming artillery. No damage was reported.

On 12 April, Thon Son Lam received 32 rounds of mixed artillery and rockets. Operation Charlton commenced. The battalion fired extensively in support of the operation.

On 13 April, Camp Carroll received two rounds of incoming artillery. The battalion had no damage or casualties.

On 14 April, A/1/12 fired a mission for an air observer which resulted in two enemy KIA confirmed. 24 rounds of shell Firecracker were expended.

On 15 April, B/1/40 (USA) received approximately six rounds of enemy 122mm rockets which resulted in one friendly KIA and three friendly WIA. Operation Charlton was terminated as of 1200 hours.

On 16 April, Camp Carroll received four rounds of incoming artillery. One round landed inside of K/4/12 position area. No damage or casualties were sustained.

On 17 April, B/1/40 (USA) fired a mission for a Recon patrol on 10 to 15 NVA. 10 Firecracker rounds were expended, rounds were reported to be on target. No other effects were reported by the observer.

On 19 April, the battalion conducted a direct fire shoot with shell Beehive. 121 rounds were expended. A/1/12 fired a mission in support of the Popular Forces Headquarters in the D-5 area which resulted in three enemy KIA, six enemy WIA, and one Browning Automatic Rifle destroyed.

On 21 April, C/1/12 fired a mission in support of the Popular Forces Headquarters in the D-5 area which resulted in three enemy KIA.

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On 22 April, Camp Carroll received 11 rounds of incoming artillery. The battalion had no damage or casualties. C/1/12 fired counterfires on a radar plot. Radar reported three secondary explosions.

On 24 April, C/1/12 was displaced from Camp Carroll to Ca Lu.

On 25 April, Camp Carroll received two rounds of incoming artillery. The battalion had no damage or casualties.

On 26 April, Camp Carroll received four rounds of incoming artillery. The battalion had no damage or casualties.

On 27 April, Camp Carroll received 96 rounds of mixed incoming; 107/122 rockets, 75mm/130mm artillery, resulting in two friendly WIA in the battalion.

On 28 April, Camp Carroll received four rounds of artillery. The battalion had no damage or casualties. C/1/12 fired a mission in support of 3/1 on VC in fighting holes, which resulted in one enemy KIA. Assumed Opcon of B/1/13, W/1/13, and 2nd Prov. (155 TD) Battery 3/12.

On 29 April, C/1/12 fired a mission for an air observer which resulted in two enemy KIA confirmed, and three mortar tubes silenced.

On 30 April, Camp Carroll received seven rounds of incoming artillery resulting in light damage to battalion buildings and tents. C/1/12 fired a mission on VC in open, which resulted in six enemy KIA and eight enemy WIA. C/1/12 also fired mission on an active mortar which resulted in one 60mm mortar destroyed.

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## PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. COMBAT MISSIONS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDITURES

	<u>MISSIONS FIRED</u>	<u>AMMUNITION EXPENDED</u>
a. <u>A/1/12</u>		
Observed	151	HE 7187
Unobserved	291	WP 300
H&I	582	ILL 41
TOTAL	<u>1024</u>	FC 24
		BH 64
		Other 53
		<u>7669</u>
b. <u>C/1/12</u>		
Observed	210	HE 7531
Unobserved	229	WP 370
H&I	633	ILL 38
TOTAL	<u>1072</u>	BH 57
		Other 222
		<u>8218</u>
c. <u>B/1/40(USA)</u>		
Observed	361	HE 6421
Unobserved	187	WP 655
H&I	511	ILL 91
TOTAL	<u>1059</u>	FC 10
		<u>7177</u>
d. <u>B/1/13</u>		
Observed	6	HE 146
Unobserved	0	WP 33
H&I	14	<u>179</u>
TOTAL	<u>20</u>	

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CONFIDENTIALMISSIONED FIRED & AMMUNITION EXPENDED

e. W/2/11

Observed	70	HE	1723
Unobserved	33	WP	107
H&I	157	Other	20
TOTAL	260		1850

f. W/1/13

Observed	7	HE	93
Unobserved	0	WP	29
H&I	9		122
TOTAL	16		

g. K/4/12

Observed	80	HE	3083
Unobserved	224	WP	96
H&I	310	ILL	24
TOTAL	614		3203

h. 2nd Prov.(155TD)

Observed	1	HE	6
Unobserved	0	WP	4
H&I	1		10
TOTAL	2		

2. SIGNIFICANT OPERATIONS CONDUCTED. Participated in Operation Lancaster II, Operation Charlton, and Operation Rice.

3. CASUALTIES INFLICTED ON THE ENEMY. 20 KIA, 14 WIA.

4. CASUALTIES SUSTAINEDBATTLENON-BATTLE

1 KIA

\* 17 WIA

2

\* 4 MEDEVAC

5. NEW TECHNIQUES EMPLOYED. None.

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6. COMMAND RELATIONS. Satisfactory.

7. EQUIPMENT. The battalion continued to have a high motor vehicle deadline rate due to the lack of repair parts and requirements for higher echelon of maintenance.

8. LOGISTICS.

a. The battalion was resupplied primarily by convoy from Dong Ha Combat Base. Priority resupply to Camp Carroll and outlying units was accomplished by helicopter.

b. Construction was completed on the battalion FDC bunker, the battalion aid station bunker, and four battery executive bunkers. Back filling of holes and completion of entrance ways remains to be accomplished.

c. The battalion was visited by a team from the Field Supply Analysis Office. A Class II, Type II allowance list is now being compiled.

d. Progress continued on improvement of personnel and equipment shelters.

9. CIVIC ACTION.

a. The first MEDCAP since January was held this month. A total of 220 children and adults were treated during the MEDCAP. Skin infections and stomach aches were the most common ailments.

b. A total of six Marines accompanied two Corpsmen on the MEDCAP to observe and to learn the problems of the local refugee populace.

c. The S-5 attended a one day Personal Response Course conducted by the 3rd Marine Division G-5.

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H&I	310	ILL	24
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Unobserved	0	WP	4
H&I	1		10
TOTAL	2		

2. SIGNIFICANT OPERATIONS CONDUCTED. Participated in Operation Lancaster II, Operation Charlton, and Operation Rice.

3. CASUALTIES INFLICTED ON THE ENEMY. 20 KIA, 14 WIA.

4. CASUALTIES SUSTAINED

BATTLE

NON-BATTLE

1 KIA

\* 17 WIA

2

\* 4 MEDEVAC

5. NEW TECHNIQUES EMPLOYED. None.

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**10. ADMINISTRATION.**

a. One Marine was tried by special court-martial during the month.

b. A total of 102 Marines were promoted; 50 to lance corporal, 43 to corporal and nine to sergeant.

c. Two extensions of overseas tour were approved.

**11. PERSONNEL.****a. Strength**

	USMC		USN		USMC		USN	
	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
Battle	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-battle	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Administrative	3	36	0	0	4	40	0	0

Net gain of one Marine officer and two Marine enlist-

ed.

**12. INTELLIGENCE.**

a. During the month, Camp Carroll was subjected to H&I artillery fires. The artillery was identified to be 75mm and 230mm weapons. The counterfire program was oriented to compensate for the employment of the 75mm weapon.

b. Daily intelligence and weather briefings were conducted for the battery commanders and the battalion staff.

**13. COMMUNICATIONS.**

a. A "Hot Line" was run from K/4/12 to 4th Marines FSCC, and K Battery FDC was rewired to accept equipment for the alternate battalion command post and FDC.

b. The battalion communications officer and technicians held an LTI and records inspection.

c. The message center processed 685 messages during the month: 656 incoming and 29 outgoing.

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d. The electronics maintenance section processed 19 pieces of communications equipment, 13 of which were evacuated to FLSG-B for repair.

14. FIRE SUPPORT. As indicated in paragraph 1.

15. AIR SUPPORT. Priority resupply by helicopter as required.

16. ACTIVATIONS/DEACTIVATIONS/REDESIGNATIONS. None

17. PERSONNEL SERVICES.

a. Mail was received on a routine basis.

b. 29 MARS calls were placed by members of this battalion.

c. Rest and Recuperation leave was granted to 60 individuals.

d. Regularly scheduled church services in both the Catholic and Protestant faiths. Jewish members of the battalion were afforded the opportunity to attend Jewish Holiday services in Da Nang.

18. MEDICAL. During April, the aid stations of this battalion treated 319 Marines. A total of 143 immunizations were given and 30 sanitation inspections were conducted. Eight first aid lectures were given.

19. TRAINING.

a. Training in general military subjects, familiarization firing of individual weapons, and on the job training in all occupational fields was conducted.

b. Personnel were assigned to schools as follows:

NCO Leadership	2
Embarkation	2
Military Justice	1
Basic Ammo Tech.	1
Basic Organic Supply	1

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c. A monthly battalion NCO school was attended by 106 sergeants and corporals.

d. A troop indoctrination lecture for newly joined personnel was conducted by the battalion commander and his staff. A total of 59 Marines attended the lecture.

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