

287925#1

HEADQUARTERS
2nd Battalion, 12th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein) FMF
PPO, San Francisco 96601

1/EOS/mjb
5 Dec 1965
Serial 031-65
Copy 1 of 8 copies

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, 12th Marines (Attn: S-3)
Subj: Command Chronology Report for the Period 1-30 November 1965
Ref: (a) 3dMarDivO 5750.1
(b) RegtO 5750.1

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

a. Organizational data including attachments

(1) Designation/Location: 2d Battalion, 12th Marines, 3d Marine Division (Rein) FMF, Danang Sector, South Viet Nam,

(a) "L" Battery, 4th Battalion, 12th Marines remains attached,

(b) Mortar Battery, 2d Battalion, 12th Marines remains detached, being attached to 4th Battalion, 12th Marines.

(2) Period covered: 1-30 November 1965

(3) Name/Rank Commanding Officer and Staff, Including T/O Billet Assignment:

Commanding Officer:	LtCol E. O. SPECKART 050159/0802 USMC
Executive Officer:	Maj J. C. LOVE 055339/0802 USMC
Adjutant/S-1:	1stLt T. R. PRESTON 079337/0130 USMC
S-2:	1stLt A. G. GERWIG 088312/0802 USMCR
S-3:	Maj C. F. KEISTER 055758/0802 USMC
S-4:	Capt A. TRENT 070676/0802
Supply Officer:	1stLt H. J. PAYNE 088942/3002 USMCR 1-12 November 1965 1stLt D. L. WHITE 088184/3002 USMCR 13-30 November 1965

ENCLOSURE (2)

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Dec 1965

Motor Transport Officer: 1stLt W. J. SMALLWOOD 0872881/3502 USMCR

Communications Officer: Capt T. W. TAYLOR 070675/2502 USMC

Liaison Officer: Capt C. D. BAILEY 065692-/0802 USMCR
1-16 November 1965Maj E. F. WHIPPLE 064693/0802 USMC
17-30 November 1965Headquarters Commandant: Capt C. N. ROBINSON 076300/0802 USMC
1-6 November 1965Capt D. M. PHILLIPS 077602/0802 USMC
7-30 November 1965(4) Average Strength for the Period: 649b. Sequential Listing of Significant Events, Especially as they relate to:

(1) Personnel: During the reporting period the battalion maintained 91% of T/O strength, excluding Mortar Battery, attached to 4th Battalion, 12th Marines at Hue Phu Bai. There were no shortages of personnel serious enough to impair the ability of the battalion to perform its mission. Two combat casualties were reported for the month, with three enlisted personnel being evacuated for non-combat medical reasons. Some 41 members of the battalion participated in the R&R program, which provides five days away from the combat zone. Destabilization of units within the regiment was begun, with the battalion transferring 46 personnel and receiving 41 in return.

(2) Administration: There were no unusual or significant events to report.

(3) Intelligence: The S-2 continued to provide intelligence on the activities of enemy forces, and maintained a situation map in Battalion FDC. Intelligence information increased, due to conscientious efforts by all of the batteries in reporting activity near their positions. In some of the battery positions, enemy small arms fire, normally a few rounds at a time, has become a routine occurrence, with an occasional grenade being thrown toward their outposts. Patrols have been conducted by all of the firing batteries, and patrol reports have been submitted to the S-2. During the month the Viet Cong have made extensive use of mines; some of which have contained as much as 20 pounds of TNT for a supplementary charge. The Viet Cong were reported to have the capability of striking the TAOR with one confirmed and two probable battalions at any time, and to reinforce these units with a confirmed Viet Cong regiment within eight to ten days.

(4) Training: During this reporting period formal instruction was conducted for FDC personnel to the extent that the tactical situation

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L:MS:mjb
5 Dec 1965

would permit. The remaining effort was devoted to service of the piece drill, both direct and indirect fire, on the job training, and simulated fire missions. Familiarization firing of individual weapons was conducted to permit newly arrived replacements to determine battle sight settings and other personnel to check their weapons.

(5) Operations: The battalion fired 3,431 missions; 3,015 with 105mm batteries, 416 with 155mm battery; ammunition expenditure 7,313 105mm, 1876 155mm. Enemy casualties for the period were 27 confirmed KIA and a considerable number of possible casualties.

(6) Command and Control: Second Battalion, 12th Marines continued to fulfill its mission of direct support for the 9th Marine Regiment. There were no changes in the deployment of the batteries, with command post location remaining as follows: (Map: Indochina, 1:50,000 series L701, sheets 6658 I & IV, 6659 I, II, and III)

- (a) Headquarters Battery: Coordinates 996221
- (b) Battery D: Coordinates 064681
- (c) Battery E: Coordinates 988672
- (e) Battery F: Coordinates 964712
- (e) Battery L: Coordinates 965717

(7) Communications-Electronics: On 1 November, radio-relay communications were established between Battery D and Headquarters Battery. It remained an effective means of communication until 12 November when difficulties with the primary power source resulted in a temporary suspension of its use. Since that time radio has been the most dependable method of communication with Battery "D" and the forward observers and liaison team supporting the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines. Wire lines have been completed to the forward observers operating with 3d Battalion, 9th Marines. Wire communication continued to be the primary means of communication with Batteries E, F, and L.

(8) Logistics: Although the completion rate for outstanding requisitions improved slightly, to 20%, the battalion was still faced with problems resulting from a lack of material support. Significant problem areas were Motor Transport and Communications. A shortage of vehicle spare parts resulted in an increased second echelon deadline. A shortage of communication wire has necessitated a greater than normal reliance on radio with a resultant higher expenditure of radio batteries to the extent that some batteries are now in short supply. Though behind schedule, the contention program has resulted in a marked improvement of living conditions throughout the battalion. A shortage of 155mm

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1:EOS:mjb
5 Dec 1965

high explosive projectiles existed for period of about one week, when ships carrying the ammunition were unable to unload. A U. S. Army team from Okinawa calibrated the battalion's howitzers.

(9) Air defense: An active air defense posture was continued in all battery positions, and .50 caliber machine guns remained mounted and ready for use if required.

(10) Civil Affairs/Military Government/Community Relations.

(a) Civil Affairs: Medical personnel treated a total of 463 Vietnamese civilians.

(b) Military Government: Nothing to report.

(c) Community Relations: Contacts were continued and expanded with local village chiefs in the areas surrounding the positions occupied by Headquarters, Batteries D and E.

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