

3D MARDIV S&C FILE
BT#476268

HEADQUARTERS
2nd Battalion, 12th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO San Francisco 96602

3:RCM:jl
SER:
6 Aug 1968
P-2-68

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)
Via: (1) Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
 (2) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force
 (3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 July to 31 July 1968

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A
 (b) FMFPACO 5750.8
 (c) DivO 5750.1A

Encl: ✓(1) 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines Command Chronology

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

R. P. Dunwell
R. P. DUNWELL

2ND BN/12TH MAR

COMMAND CHRON

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Declassified after 12 years

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July 1968

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 JULY 31 JULY 1968

PART I ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

PART II NARRATIVE SUMMARY

PART III SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

PART IV SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

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2nd Battalion, 12th Marines

1ST COL R. P. DUNWELL 056608/0802
USMCSUBORDINATE UNITS

Hq Btry, 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines

CAPT E. E. PRICE III 087934/0802
USMC

Battery "D", 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines

CAPT P. D. WINER 082307/0802
USMC

Battery "E", 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines

CAPT P. G. CLARK 092578/0802
USMCR

Battery "F", 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines

CAPT W. W. COOK 083044/0802
USMCMortar Battery, 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines
(1-16 July 1968)1ST LT D. W. ROBERTS 0100629/0802
USMCRBattery "K", 4th Battalion, 13th Marines
(1 July 1968)1ST LT G. G. WOOD 095170/0802
USMCMortar Battery (-), 1st Battalion, 12th
Marines (1-16 July 1968)1ST LT R. A. SAUNDERS 094343/0802
USMCBattery "B", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines
(1-16 July 1968)CAPT F. R. FRANZEN 091810/0802
USMCR2. LOCATION. 1-31 July 1968, Dong Ha, RVN

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3. STAFF OFFICERS

S-1	1STLT B. L. BUSSELL 096305/0130 USMC
S-2	MAJ R. C. MCFARLANE 077495/0802 USMC (1-21 July 1968)
	1STLT R. W. WYAND 0100794/0802 USMC (22-31 July 1968)
S-3	MAJ R. C. MCFARLANE 077495/0802 USMC
S-4	CAFT E. E. PRICE III 087934/0802 USMC
Ordnance Officer	WO S. C. HAFNER 098765/2020 USMC
Supply Officer	1STLT R. E. WOOD 0100787/3002 USMCR
Motor Transport Officer	1STLT W. T. WHEELER 0103885/3502 USMCR
Communications Officer	2NDLT A. S. KYLE 0102617/2501 USMC
Liaison Officer	MAJ K. E. SOESBE 071961/0802 USMC

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

	USMC		USN	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL	
41	540	1	12	

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During July the Second Battalion, Twelfth Marines fired a total of 771 observed missions, 2,050 unobserved missions, and 1,501 H&I missions in support of the Ninth Marines. Ammunition expenditures were 32,482 rounds of 105mm, 1,060 rounds of 155mm, and 3,344 rounds of 107mm.

Enemy casualties inflicted during July were 130 KIA and 37 WIA. In addition there were 30 secondary explosions, 12 fires started, 55 bunkers destroyed, 7 bunkers damaged, 12 fighting holes destroyed, 2 guns destroyed, 22 AK-47's destroyed, 1 observation post destroyed, and 2 structures destroyed.

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Combat Mission Assigned. Direct support of 9th Marines.

2. Significant Operations Conducted. Operations Kentucky, Highrise/Thor, Lancaster II and Scotland II. During the month of July, 9th Marines conducted a two phase search and destroy operation employing their three organic battalions. The first phase took place in the area west, north and east of Con Thien. After firing heavy D day preparation fires, the Battalion delivered on call preparation fires, mortar suppressive fires and a heavy volume of fire on targets of opportunity in support of the infantry scheme of maneuver. During this first phase which lasted 8 days, a large number of bunker complexes, rice and arms caches were destroyed by artillery and maneuver elements. By the third day in the face of superior numbers and overwhelming fire power the NVA began to withdraw to the north and northeast into the DMZ where he was pursued by fire by batteries of this command and by air strikes.

The second phase of the operation placed 9th Marines on line with 3rd Marines and two ARVN battalions along the southern boundary of the DMZ stretching west from the 08 N-S grid line to the 96 N-S grid line. After a heliborne assault by the 2d and 3d battalions, 9th Marines on D day (17 July), operations centered around the deliberate destruction by artillery and air strikes of a large well developed NVA base of operations in the hill 174 area (YD 052683). The search conducted, revealed large, well constructed observation posts, elaborate communications networks to subsidiary firing units, numerous bunkered living areas and many weapons and food cache sites, all showing signs of recent heavy enemy use. Each complex was destroyed in turn by a heavy volume of direct and general support artillery and air attacks.

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During the latter part of the second phase of the operation, the 2d and 3d battalions of 9th Marines helilifted 3 kilometers to the south to areas known to house enemy base camps and transient resupply stations. Over a five day period, the infantry methodically searched these positions, destroying numerous bunkers, arms caches, rocket launchers and rocket position areas. Scheduled preparations were fired daily and frequent use was made of selected munitions and smoke. The operation terminated on 29 July.

During the operation the following changes in operational control and displacements took place:

2 July, K/4/13 chopped OPCON to 4th Bn, 12th Mar.
7 July, K/4/13 chopped OPCON to 2d Bn, 12th Mar.
9 July, K/4/13 chopped OPCON to 4th Bn, 12th Mar.
16 July, Mortar Battery, 2/12 chopped OPCON to 1st Bn, 11th Mar.
16 July, Mortar Battery (-), 1/12 chopped OPCON to 1st Bn, 11th Mar.
16 July, B/1/13 chopped OPCON to 1st Bn, 11th Mar.
23 July, E/2/12 displaced to CamLo District Headquarters
28 July, E/2/12 displaced to the C-1 position
29 July, F/2/12 displaced to Dong Ha
29 July, Command group displaced to Dong Ha
31 July, F/2/12 displaced to the D-5 area
31 July, Command group displaced to the D-5 area

3. Casualties Inflicted on the Enemy. 130 KIA and 37 WIA.

4. Casualties Sustained. 1 KIA and 7 WIA.

5. Logistics. Complete logistic support was furnished for four organic batteries for most of the month. Class V resupply and ordnance repair support were furnished to four OPCON batteries. A total of 38,086 rounds were moved by truck convoy and helicopter this month.

6. Civic Action. This battalion conducted 4 MEDCAPS during July, treating 162 people at Vinh Dai and Thie Trang hamlets. A cooking fire at one of these villages, Vinh Dai, destroyed 240 homes. To help rebuild the homes, we provided 600 ammunition boxes and 67 sheets of tin. Clothes were requisitioned from G-5 to replace those burned in the fire. Fourteen bags of cement were also provided to build a concrete floor for the pagoda at Vinh Dai.

7. Personnel. The battalion was at 86% T/O strength at the end of the reporting period. Shortages exist in the MOS's 0611, 0844, 0846, 0848, 0849, 2511, 2531, 3041, 3051, and 3371. Forty-five Marines participated in the R&R program during July.

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8. Intelligence. Enemy activity continued at a low to moderate level throughout the 9th Marines AO during the month of July. Enemy initiated ground attacks, attacks by fire and interdiction of LOC's were unusually low in number.

Operations by 9th Marines uncovered large amounts of weapons and clothing, ammo caches and large bunker complexes. These losses coupled with the supply and organization problems the enemy previously had experienced may delay or end plans for the so called third offensive. Lack of major contact with enemy forces tends to support the idea that he has withdrawn in an attempt to resupply and reorganize.

A 26 July report that the 52d and 64th regiments of the 320th NVA Division had moved to the south indicates that this unit may be preparing for future operations or that he is moving to protect supply and base areas threatened by current operations.

Continued sighting of UFO's in the eastern part of the AO indicates that the enemy may possibly be using helicopters for resupply and to build morale among his forces.

The enemy still retains the ability to attack by fire and with ground troops at any time he chooses, although large scale attacks do not seem feasible at this time.

9. Communications. The communications section was split for most of the month of July. On 5 July, the entire radio section and over half the wire section moved with the Battalion FDC to C-2, while the rest remained at the rear in Dong Ha. The wire section at C-2 installed and maintained a five pair cable wire system for telephone and radio remote lines. The tech shop rearranged the repair facility in the rear and constructed a maintenance, repair and storage bunker at C-2. Two technicians formed a contact team and visited each firing battery to inspect equipment and records.

10. Training. During the month of July, training was primarily oriented toward section and MDS classes. The battalion headquarters was at the C-2 position supporting a 9th Marines major operation. One individual attended an out-of-country formal school for Basic Ammunition Techicians. In addition, five battalion personnel attended in-country formal schooling consisting of Staff Noncommissioned Officers School, Supply School and Cable Splicing School. Within the firing batteries, a direct fire exercise was held using beehive and conventional ammunition. Gas mask drills were also held by the gun sections and frequent use was made of high angle fire. Troop indoctrination classes were also held in each battery. Fam firing was held at C-2 and at the battalion rear.

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EXTRACTS OF MISSIONS FROM 2ND BATTALION, 12TH MARINES

PERIOD 302300 June to 012300 July 1968

1158 1 FM, B-1-13, (152702), Bunkers and storage area, Klondike Echo
EOM 1245, 11 HEQ & D, 3 Bunkers destroyed, 1 fire, BX 65241634 2 FM, K-4-13, (051619), Bunkers covered, Klondike Echo
EOM 1719, 8 HEQ & D, 2 WP, 2 Bunkers destroyed, 1 fire, BX 6528

PERIOD 012300 to 022300 July 1968

0505 1 FM, B-1-13, (16016991), 30 NVA, Amanda-62
EOM 0710, 175 HEQ, 8 KIA, BX 65500625 2 FM, K-4-13, (16686860), Enemy movement, Amanda-61
EOM 0700, 31 HEQ, 3 WIA, BX 65860705 3 FM, K-4-13, (178692), Enemy bunkers, Amanda-61
EOM 0800, 33 HED, 3 Bunkers destroyed, BX 65870515 4 FM, A-1-12, (160699), 30 NVA, Amanda-62
EOM 0800, 230 HEQ, 7 KIA, BX 65500745 5 FM, B-1-13, (152702), Enemy bunkers, Klondike Echo
EOM 0900, 92 HEQ, 4 WP, 3 Bunkers destroyed, 2 bunkers damaged,
2 structures destroyed, BX 65890820 6 FM, A-1-12, (16686860), Small arms, Amanda-61
EOM 0855, 118 HEQ & D, 5 Bunkers destroyed, BX 65391700 7 FM, A-1-12, (185695), Enemy contact, Amanda-63
EOM 1737, 38 HEQ, 4 WP, 1 KIA, BX 66561917 8 FM, W-2-12, (13997388), 4 NVA in trees, OP-2
EOM 1934, 26 HEQ & VT, 1 Secondary explosion, 4 WIA, BX 6671

PERIOD 022300 to 032300 July 1968

1623 1 FM, B-1-13, (150702), NVA movement and contact, Amanda-64
EOM 2005, 180 HEQ & VT, 10 KIA, BX 6661

PERIOD 062300 to 072300 July 1968

1551 1 FM, E-2-12, (135738), 8 NVA in bushes, Sand Box Bravo
EOM 1733, 24 Selected Munitions, 26 HEQ, 2 WP, 5 KIA, BX 7213

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EXTRACTS OF MISSIONS FROM 2ND BATTALION, 12TH MARINES

PERIOD 082300 to 092300 July 1968

1602 1 FM, E-2-12, (142738), NVA in brush, Klondike Romeo
EOM 1650, 42 HEQ & VT, 1 WP, 1 KIA, BX 73851215 2 FM, D, E, F-2-12, (134739), Prep fire, Side Dish-24
EOM 1226, 36 HEQ & D, 3 WP, 10 KIA, BX 7385

PERIOD 102300 to 112300 July 1968

1840 1 FM, D-2-12, (043768), Suppression fire, Klondike Romeo
EOM 1927, 30 HEQ & D, 5 WP, 1 Gun damaged, HW 643471140 2 FM, D, E, F-2-12, (154744), 100 NVA in open, Side Dish-63
EOM 1300, 205 Selected Munitions, 22 HEQ & TI, 20 KIA,
1 bunker destroyed, 22 AK-47's destroyed, BX 7450

PERIOD 112300 to 122300 July 1968

1936 1 FM, B-1-13, (120633), Illumination, Hasty Foot-3
EOM 2000, 10 Ill, 2 WP, 3 Fires started, BX 73731632 2 FM, E-2-12, (160640), Suspected enemy position, White Fish-3B
EOM 1647, 5 Ill, 1 WP, 1 Fire, BX 76471654 3 FM, E-2-12, (170654), Suspected enemy position, White Fish-3B
EOM 1711, 5 Ill, 1 WP, 1 Fire, BX 76421757 4 FM, D-2-12, (177737), 6 NVA in open, Hasty Foot-62
EOM 1836, 15 Selected Munitions, 25 HEQ & TI, 6 WIA, BX 7658

PERIOD 122300 to 132300 July 1968

1020 1 FM, D-2-12, (14597172), Enemy bunkers, Fancy Dan
EOM 1106, 27 HEQ & D, 2 WP, 2 Bunkers destroyed, BX 77351132 2 FM, E-2-12, (055676), Gun pit and bunkers, Klondike Romeo
EOM 1215, 48 HEQ & D, 3 Bunkers destroyed, BX 76361418 3 FM, D-2-12, (17597410), 3 NVA in open, Hasty Foot-62
EOM 1505, 25 Selected Munitions, 8 HEQ & TI, 4 WP, 3 WIA, BX 77431804 4 FM, D-2-12, (166758), Enemy bunkers, Klondike-X
EOM 1846, 38 HEQ & D, 2 Bunkers damaged, HW 643551900 5 FM, D-2-12, (12137372), 6 NVA in trench, Eagle Eye
EOM 2026, 45 Selected Munitions, 32 HEQ & VT, 2 WIA, BX 7767

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EXTRACTS OF MISSIONS FROM 2ND BATTALION, 12TH MARINES

PERIOD 142300 to 152300 July 1968

1536 1 FM, E-2-12, (135715), Two harbor sites, Klondike-X-ray
EOM 1432, 83 HEQ & D, 2 Bunkers destroyed, BX 7906

PERIOD 162300 to 172300 July 1968

1055 1 FM, D-2-12, (044659), Receiving small arms fire, Side Dish-64A
EOM 1150, 92 HEQ & TI, 1 WP, 5 KIA, BX 8032

PERIOD 172300 to 182300 July 1968

0944 1 FM, E-2-12, (062638), Suspected enemy position, Fancy Dan-62
EOM 1038, 87 HEQ & VT, 3 WIA, BX 81571350 2 FM, D-2-12, (082732), 2 NVA on trail, Sand Box Charlie
EOM 1424, 23 Selected Munitions, 10 HEQ & TI, 2 WIA, BX 81621443 3 FM, F-2-12, (166708), Enemy bunker storage area, Klondike Echo
EOM 1603, 80 HEQ & D, 4 WP, 2 Bunkers destroyed, BX 81731612 4 FM, E-2-12, (101664), 1 NVA in open, Dallas Girl-61
EOM 1711, 6 Selected Munitions, 78 HEQ & TI, 2 WP, 4 Secondary
explosions, BX 81761416 5 FM, F-2-12, (101664), Troops in open, Dallas Girl-61
EOM 1703, 87 HEQ & D, 11 Bunkers destroyed, 4 Secondary
explosions, BX 81761055 6 FM, D-2-12, (036664), Prep fire, Side Dish-24
EOM 1115, 12 HEQ & VT, 12 HEQ & VT, 12 KIA, BX 8133

PERIOD 182300 to 192300 July 1968

1800 1 FM, E-2-12, (035645), Assy area, Side Dish-24
EOM 1935, 4 WP, 1 Fire, BX 82551930 2 FM, E-2-12, (060679), Assy area, Fancy Dan-63
EOM 2020, 10 III, 1 Fire, BX 80601950 3 FM, F-2-12, (047645), Assy area, Side Dish-24
EOM 2110, 20 HEQ & TI, 24 III, 1 Fire, BX 82622105 4 FM, E-2-12, (05486486), Suspected enemy position, Side Dish-24
EOM 2142, 46 HEQ & D, 3 Secondary explosions, BX 82610835 5 FM, E-2-12, (074642), Prep fire, Dallas Girl-61
EOM 0912, 79 HEQ & VT, 1 WP, 1 Secondary explosion, BX 82960810 6 FM, D-2-12, (088775), Old artillery piece, Klondike Tango
EOM 0841, 18 Selected Munitions, 38 HEQ, 1 WP, 1 Gun damaged,
HW 64397

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TRACTS OF MISSIONS FROM 2ND BATTALION, 12TH MARINES

PERIOD 182300 to 192300 July 1968

0900 1 FM, E-2-12, (07432), Prep fire, Dallas Girl-61
EOM 1054, 58 HEQ & D, 4 Secondary explosions, BX 8299

1011 2 FM, E-2-12, (062641), Suspected enemy movement, Dallas Girl-63
EOM 1540, 18 Selected Munitions, 94 HEQ & TI, 1 WP, 1 Smk,
4 WIA, BX 8316

PERIOD 202300 to 212300 July 1968

0900 1 FM, D-2-12, (050688), Enemy bunkers, Sand Box Charlie
EOM 0930, 42 HEQ & D, 5 Bunkers destroyed, BX 8399

1004 2 FM, F-2-12, (055625), Enemy bunkers, Dallas Girl-61
EOM 1110, 68 HEQ, 3 WIA, 3 Bunkers destroyed, 2 bunkers damaged
3 secondary explosions, BX 8406

1352 3 FM, E-2-12, (063690), Active escape route, Fancy Dan-62
EOM 1600, 18 Selected Munitions, 115 HEQ & VT, 5 WIA,
6 secondary explosions, BX 8415

1559 4 FM, D-2-12, (052692), NVA in open, Fancy Dan-62
EOM 1554, 60 Selected Munitions, 14 HEQ, VT & TI, 10 WIA,
5 WIA, 1 bunker destroyed, 3 secondary explosions, BX 8417

PERIOD 212300 to 222300 July 1968

0912 1 FM, D-2-12, (050689), 2 NVA in fox holes, Sand Box Charlie
EOM 0937, 50 HEQ & D, 2 WIA, 4 bunkers destroyed, BX 8517

0940 1 FM, E-2-12, (06406432), Prep fire, Dallas Girl-63
EOM 1027, 12 HEQ & D, 5 WP, 20 ILL, 2 Fires, BX 8316

1425 3 FM, D-2-12, (034683), 4 NVA in open, Fancy Dan-63
EOM 1623, 73 HEQ & D, 1 WIA, 7 Bunkers destroyed, 1 bunker
damaged, 1 fighting hole destroyed, RW 64498

2040 4 FM, F, E, D-2-12, (090624), NVA Battalion, 12th Marines
EOM 2030, 190 HEQ, 1 Secondary explosion, RW 1277

PERIOD 222300 to 232300 July 1968

0720 1 FM, D-2-12, (037636), Enemy bunker complex, Sand Box Mike
EOM 0745, 19 HEQ & D, 4 Bunkers destroyed, BX 8593

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REMARKS OF MISSIONS FROM 2ND BATTALION, 12TH MARINES

PERIOD 232300 to 242300 July 1968

0848 1 FM, D, E-2-12, (031611), Enemy bunkers, 2nd Marines
EOM 2255, 29 HEQ & D, 19 KIA, BX 86441440 2 FM, E-2-12, (036652), Enemy bunkers, Pea Soup
EOM 1529, 25 HEQ, 1 Bunker destroyed, BX 8653

PERIOD 242300 to 252300 July 1968

1840 1 FM, E-2-12, (080603), Enemy bunkers in treeline, Side Dish-644
EOM 1845, 42 HEQ & D, 2 WP, 1 Bunker destroyed, BX 87470920 2 FM, E-2-12, (086605), Enemy OP, Side Dish-62
EOM 1010, 17 HEQ, OP destroyed, BX 8763

PERIOD 272300 to 282300 July 1968

1842 1 FM, E-2-12, (085635), Enemy position, Klondike Romeo
EOM 1859, 20 HEQ, 3 WP, 2 Bunkers destroyed, BX 8917