

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

3:RCM:jl
SER: 98-68
6 Oct 1968

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code AO3D)
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 September to 30 September 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.


J. SCOPPA JR.

Downgraded at 3-year intervals;
Declassified after 12 years

Copy No. 1 of 10 copies

CONFIDENTIAL

2ND BN/12TH MAR

CMD CHRON

SEP 1968

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

3:RCM;jl
SER:
6 Oct 1968

CONFIDENTIAL

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 SEPTEMBER 30 SEPTEMBER 1968

PART I ORGANIZATIONAL DATA
PART II NARRATIVE SUMMARY
PART III SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
PART IV SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS (p 7-9)

CONFIDENTIAL3:RCM:jl
SER:
6 Oct 1968

PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

2nd Battalion, 12th Marines

IFCOL J. SCOPPA JR. 058530/0802
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
USMC

Mortar Battery, 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines

1STLT D. W. ROBERTS 0100629/0802
USMCRBattery "B", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines
(18-24 September 1968)CAPT F. R. FRAZEN 091810/0802
USMCR1st Provisional 155 Towed Battery
(18-24 September 1968)1STLT D. R. RANDALL 097687/0802
USMC

2d Provosional 155 Towed Battery

1STLT R. G. HOOPES 0100732/0802
USMC2. LOCATION. 1-30 September 1968, Dong Ha, RVNCONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL3:RCM:jl
SER:
6 Oct 1968

3. STAFF OFFICERS

S-1	1STLT B. L. BUSSELL 096305/0130 USMC
S-2	1STLT R. W. WYAND 0100794/0802 USMCR
S-3	MAJ R. C. MCFARLANE 077495/0802 USMC
	CAPT M. R. ROSS 088020/0802 USMC
S-4	CAPT E. E. PRICE III 087934/0802 USMC
Ordnance Officer	WO S. G. HAFNER 098765/2020 USMC (1-22 September 1968)
	WO C. L. SERGENT 0105810/2020 USMC (23-30 September 1968)
Supply Officer	1STLT P. M. SHEEHAN 095067/3002 USMCR
Motor Transport Officer	1STLT W. T. WHEELER 0103885/3502 USMCR
Communications Officer	1STLT A. S. KYLE 0102617/2501 USMC
Liaison Officer	MAJ K. E. SOESEE 071961/0802 USMC

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
43	603	4	12

CONFIDENTIAL3:R0 01
SER:
6 Oct 1968

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During September the Second Battalion, Twelfth Marines fired a total of 740 observed missions, 1,449 unobserved missions, and 1,335 H&I missions in support of the Ninth Marines. Ammunition expenditures were 50,520 rounds of 105mm, 3,021 rounds of 155mm, and 2,532 rounds of 107mm.

Enemy casualties inflicted during September were 139 KIA and 21 WIA. In addition there were 4 secondary explosions, 1 harbor site destroyed, 1 bridge destroyed, 2 60mm mortars destroyed, and 1 50 caliber machine-gun destroyed.

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

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

2. Significant Operations Conducted. The Second Battalion, Twelfth Marines in the following operations during the month of September: Operations Highrise/Thor, LancasterII/Jupiter, Scotland II/East and Trousdale/North.

a. As in August, the battalion continued to develop and occupy fire support bases in remote positions relying on helicopter insert and subsequent resupply. The concept proved particularly effective this month in which the 9th Marines, with 6 maneuver battalions, conducted a thorough search and destroy operation sweeping from the DMZ south for over 10 miles through territory heretofore considered inaccessible. The battalion continued to move into new territories, develop them and provide close continuous fires for the infantry, frequently expending and resupplying in excess of 5,000 rounds per day.

b. During the period from 17-30 September the battalion had available the fires of the 1st and 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer batteries (towed), a platoon of the 1st 8" Howitzer battery and a platoon of the 5th 155mm Gun battery.

c. The following displacements and changes in operational control were effected during the month of September;

- 2 September D/2/12 from LZ Lejune to LZ Black
- 3 September E/2/12 from Rock Pile to LZ Sandy
- 14 September F/2/12 from Thon Son Lam to LZ Winchester
W/2/12 from LZ Black to Ca Lu
D/2/12 from LZ Black to LZ Winchester
1st Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery from Ca Lu
to LZ Winchester
- 15 September Command Group A to LZ Winchester from Vandegrift Combat Base
- 16 September Command Group B to LZ Winchester from Vandegrift Combat Base
- 18 September OPCON of Battery "B", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines
OPCON of Battery "B", 1st Battalion, 12th Marines
OPCON of 1st Provisional 155 Towed Battery
- 19 September OPCON of 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery Towed

CONFIDENTIAL3:RCM:jl
SER:
6 Oct 1968

- 23 September Chopped OPCON of 1st Provisional 155 Towed Battery
Chopped OPCON of Battery "B", 1st Battalion,
12th Marines
- 27 September Chopped OPCON of Battery "B", 1st Battalion,
13th Marines
- 30 September W/2/12 from Ca Lu to Vandegrift Combat Base
3. Casualties Inflicted on the Enemy. 139 KIA and 21 WIA.
4. Casualties Sustained. 2 KIA and 20 WIA.
5. Logistics. Complete logistic support was furnished to three organic batteries and three OPCON batteries. The first half of the month support was furnished from Dong Ha. On 15 September the battalion moved to LZ Winchester in which resupply was flown in by air. A total of 56,064 rounds were supplied by air to LZ Winchester.
6. Civic Action. Due to the absence of the Civil Affairs Officer, most of the civil affairs work was done by the Message Center Chief in the rear. Toys were ordered for the two villages, Thie Trang and Vinh Dai, for the mid-autumn festival in October. A Medcap program is being planned in conjunction with the 12th Marines in several villages around Dong Ha.
7. Personnel. The battalion was at 88% T/O strength at the end of the reporting period. Shortages exist in the MOS's 2531, 2841. Forty-two Marines participated in the R&R program during September.
8. Intelligence.
- a. Enemy activity was sporadic throughout the month but mostly continued at a low level. Attacks by fire continued to be the harassing type. Enemy initiated ground attacks continued to consist of small probes and attempts at interdiction of LOC's.
 - b. Friendly forces continued to find huge caches of ammo, foodstuffs and miscellaneous gear usually stored in well developed bunker complexes. Current operations of friendly forces appear to delay for the time being any offensive operations which may have been planned. Along with delaying any planned operations these operations by friendly forces force the enemy to disperse his forces to avoid detection and deny him avenues of approach to major installations. The vast caches seized in areas previously thought inaccessible will undoubtedly compound his supply problems.
 - c. In the future the enemy can be expected to continue harrassing type attacks by fire and small ground probes. Any major attacks seem forestalled by aggressive friendly operations.
 - d. During the month pre-planned prep fires, using the latest target information available, were prepared by the S-2 section and distributed to all battalion 24's.

CONFIDENTIAL3:RCM:jl
SER:
6 Oct 1968

9. Communications. During the month of September the majority of the Communications platoon was employed in the support of the Battalion FDC. For the first half of the month the platoon was at Vandegrift Combat Base, and moved to LZ Winchester on the Tien Ridge on the night of the 14th. The move to Winchester marked the first displacement of the FDC entirely by helicopter. In order to effectively control the six battalion operation from the Tien Ridge, the principle of double remoting the PRC 25 was used extensively. This was done both to the firing batteries and to the infantry regimental FSCC. In the rear at Dong Ha, the wire section installed a new wire system to guard against deterioration of the old wiring from the monsoon weather.

10. Training. During the month of September, training was primarily oriented toward section and MOS classes. The battalion headquarters was at Vandegrift Combat Base and on 16 September moved to LZ Winchester to support 9th Marines in operation Trousdale North. During this operation valuable training was gained in heliborne operations and tactical loading at all echelons. Troop indoctrination and GMS classes were continued at the rear in Dong Ha for headquarters elements. Two battalion personnel attended out-of-country formal schools consisting of Career Advisory School and Noncommissioned Officer School. In addition, four battalion personnel attended in-country formal school consisting of Supply School, Staff Noncommissioned Officer School, Personal Response School and Projector School.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

RCM:jl
SER:
6 Oct 1968

EXTRACTS OF MISSIONS FROM 2ND BATTALION, 12TH MARINES

PERIOD 072300 to 082300 September 1968

1318 1 FM, E-2-12, (876644), Suspected active artillery, Hall Mark-24
EOM 1708, 76 HEQ, 16 WP, 2 Bunkers destroyed, BX 1688

PERIOD 092300 to 102300 September 1968

1428 1 FM, E-2-12, (884573), Enemy bunkers, Hall Mark-61
EOM 1656, 157 HEQ, 4 WP, 12 Bunkers destroyed, BX 1837

0530 2 FM, E-2-12, (854590), Prep fire, 9th Marines
EOM 0630, 30 HEQ, 1 KIA, 2 bunkers destroyed, BX 1755

PERIOD 102300 to 112300 September 1968

1208 1 FM, D-2-12, (885581), Enemy bunkers, Smitty Charlie
EOM 1320, 33 HEQ & D, 4 WP, 1 Bunker destroyed, BX 1892

PERIOD 152300 to 162300 September 1968

1002 1 FM, E-2-12, (882584), Known enemy position, Seven Up-63
EOM 1130, 18 HEQ, 8 WP, 2 WIA, 1 bunker destroyed, BX 2142

2050 2 FM, F-2-12, (875589), Night Defense Fire, Seven Up-63A
EOM 2015, 1 HEQ, 7 WP, 1 WIA, BX 2170

PERIOD 162300 to 172300 September 1968

2220 1 FM, E-2-12, (909615), Suspected harbor site, Jaw Breaker-63
EOM 2243, 40 HEQ, 2 WP, Harbor site destroyed, BX 2183

0545 2 FM, E-2-12, (878588), Enemy small arms, Seven Up-63
EOM 0627, 15 HEQ, 6 WP, 1 Secondary explosion, BX 2201

1354 3 FM, E-2-12, (902644), 15 NVA in open, Smitty Papa
EOM 1427, 25 Selected Munitions, 50 HEQ & D, 6 WP, 31 KIA, BX 2277

PERIOD 172300 to 182300 September 1968

1605 1 FM, D-2-12, (873590), Enemy contact, Seven Up-61
EOM 1628, 310 HEQ, 2 WP, 12 KIA, BX 2398

PERIOD 212300 to 222300 September 1968

0700 1 FM, E-2-12, (911642), NVA and bunkers, Jaw Breaker-64
EOM 0840, 127 HEQ, 14 KIA, 4 bunkers destroyed, BX 2818

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL3:RCM:j1
SER:
6 Oct 1968

EXTRACTS OF MISSIONS FROM 2ND BATTALION, 12TH MARINES

PERIOD 202300 to 242300 September 1968

- 0705 1 FM, B-1-13, (891658), Prep fire, Ice Boat-64
EOM 0710, 150 HEQ & D, 4 WP, 20 KIA, BX 2670
- 0718 2 FM, F-2-12, (900659), Prep fire, Ice Boat-64
EOM 0723, 45 HEQ & D, 20 KIA, BX 2660
- 0709 3 FM, D-2-12, (902656), Prep fire, Ice Boat-64
EOM 0725, 60 HEQ, 20 KIA, BX 2662
- 0935 4 FM, D-2-12, (925633), Prep fire, John Brown Bravo-62
EOM 1625, 126 HEQ, 8 WP, 1 50 caliber machine gun destroyed,
BX 2716

PERIOD 232300 to 242300 September 1968

- 0700 1 FM, D-2-12, (854592), Prep fire, Seven Up-24
EOM 0745, 200 HEQ, 12 KIA, BX 2585
- 1606 2 FM, D-2-12, (888648), NVA in open, Ice Boat-64
EOM 1641, 8 HEQ & D, 6 WP, 2 WIA, BX 3110

PERIOD 242300 to 252300 September 1968

- 0631 1 FM, F-2-12, (928544), Known enemy position, Hall Mark-64
EOM 0736, 38 HEQ & D, 2 KIA, 1 bunker destroyed, BX 3160
- 1115 2 FM, D-2-12, (878673), Suspected enemy OP, Hall Mark-64
EOM 1220, 112 HEQ, 2 WP, 2 Secondary explosions, BX 3166
- 0935 3 FM, E-2-12, (853593), Contact with snipers, Seven Up-61
EOM 1320, 302 HEQ, 4 WP, 4 KIA, BX 3163
- 1320 4 FM, E-2-12, (891657), 4 NVA in trees, Ice Boat-64
EOM 1415, 90 HEQ, 2 WP, 7 WIA, HW 64386

PERIOD 252300 to 262300 September 1968

- 1425 1 FM, E-2-12, (851593), NVA mortar, Smitty Lima
EOM 1448, 60 HEQ, 4 WP, 1 Mortar destroyed, BX 3338

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL3:RCM:j1
SNR:
6 Oct 1968

EXTRACTS OF MISSIONS FROM 2ND BATTALION, 12TH MARINES

PERIOD 262300 to 272300 September 1968

- 0645 1 FM, D-2-12, (848605), Prep fire, Seven Up-24
ECM 0715, 30 HEQ, 3 WIA, BX 3370
- 1128 2 FM, D-2-12, (845597), Cover fire, Seven Up-61
ECM 1207, 26 HEQ, 4 WP, 1 Secondary explosion, BX 3420
- 1220 3 FM, D-2-12, (878650), 4 NVA in open, Ice Boat-64
ECM 1304, 24 HEQ, 4 WP, 1 WIA, BX 3421
- 1230 4 FM, E-2-12, (878650), 4 NVA in open, Ice Boat-64
ECM 1315, 10 HEQ & D, 1 WP, 1 WIA, BX 3421
- 1630 5 FM, E-2-12, (892662), NVA in open, Ice Boat-64
ECM 1700, 48 HEQ & D, 1 WP, 3 WIA, BX 3428

PERIOD 272300 to 282300 September 1968

- 1145 1 FM, D-2-12, (846536), Small arms and mortars, Seven Up-61
ECM 1340, 34 HEQ & D, 2 WP, 1 WIA, BX 3508
- 1715 2 FM, E-2-12, (985555), Active mortars, Ice Boat-64
ECM 1810, 22 HEQ, 3 WP, 1 Bridge destroyed, 1 bunker destroyed,
BX 3520

PERIOD 282300 to 292300 September 1968

- 1815 1 FM, D-2-12, (90996401), Enemy contact, Ice Boat-61
ECM 1917, 234 HEQ, 2 WP, 3 KIA, 1 60mm mortar destroyed, BX 3716

CONFIDENTIAL