

664068

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

3: EAC:j1
 SER: 3A 35068
 6 Dec 1968

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code AGO)
 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 November to 30 November 1968

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

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

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


 J. Scoppa, Jr.

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NOV 1968

2ND BN/12TH MR

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HEADQUARTERS

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 NOVEMBER 30 NOVEMBER 1968

PART I ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

PART II NARRATIVE SUMMARY

PART III SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

2d Battalion, 12th Marines

LTCOL J. SCOPPA JR. 058530/0802
USMCSUBORDINATE UNITS

Hq Btry, 2d Battalion, 12th Marines	CAPT E. E. PRICE III 087934/0802 USMC
Battery "D", 2d Battalion, 12th Marines	CAPT M. R. ROSS 088020/0802 USMC
Battery "E", 2d Battalion, 12th Marines	CAPT P. G. CLARK 092578/0802 USMCR (1-20 November 1968)
	CAPT H. C. BARNUM 084262/0802 USMC
Battery "F", 2d Battalion, 12th Marines	CAPT W. W. COOK 083044/0802 USMC
Mortar Battery, 2d Battalion, 12th Marines	CAPT C. F. NORTON 080524/0802 USMCR
1st Provisional 155 Towed Battery	CAPT J. B. WILKES IV 094071/0802 USMC
2d Provisional 155 Towed Battery	1STLT R. G. HOOPES 0100732/0802 USMC

2. LOCATION. 1-30 November 1968, RVN

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3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer MAJ R. H. LEDET 063172/0802
USMC

S-1 1STLT N. W. CARMEN 096338/0130
USMC

S-2 1STLT R. W. WYAND 0100794/0802
USMCR

S-3 MAJ L. J. SCOLFORO JR. 068228/0802
USMC (1-10 November 1968)

MAJ E. A. CONDON JR. 072264/0802
USMC (11-30 November 1968)

S-4 CAPT E. E. PRICE III 097934/0802
USMC

Ordnance Officer WO C. L. SERGENT 0105810/2020
USMC

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. SOESBE 071961/0802
USMC

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

USMC		USN	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
46	596	2	15

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During November the Second Battalion, Twelfth Marines fired a total of 457 observed missions, 1,260 unobserved missions, and 1,037 H&I missions in support of the Ninth Marines. Ammunition expenditures were 34,092 rounds of 105mm, 3,684 rounds of 155mm, and 3,763 rounds of 107mm.

Enemy casualties inflicted during November were 1 KIA and 32 WIA. In addition there were 68 secondary explosions, 14 bunkers destroyed, 2 mortars destroyed, and 1 trench line 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 November: Operation Scotland II Afton and Dawson River Afton.

The following displacements and changes in operational control were effected during the month of November;

- 1 November E/2/12 from Calu to LZ Ann
- 5 November D/2/12 from LZ Robbin to LZ Mink
W/2/12 from LZ Robbin to Vandegrift Combat Base
1st Provisional Towed Battery from LZ Robbin to Calu
W/3/12 chopped to 3d Battalion, 12th Marines
- 8 November Took OPCON of F/2/12
- 9 November E/2/12 from LZ Shepard to Tun Tarven
- 10 November 1st Provisional Towed Battery from Calu to Tun Tarven
- 12 November W/2/12 from Vandegrift Combat Base to Tun Tarven
- 17 November E/2/12 from LZ Ann to LZ Dick
- 18 November Command Group from Vandegrift Combat Base to LZ Dick

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20 November W/2/12 from Tun Tarven to LZ Shiloh
21 November W/2/12 from Tun Tarven to Vandegrift Combat Base
23 November W/2/12 from Vandegrift Combat Base to Camp Carroll
D/2/12 from LZ Mink to LZ Shiloh
24 November W/2/12 from Camp Carroll to Delta-5
28 November Took OFCON of 2d Provisional Towed Battery

3. Casualties Inflicted on the Enemy. 1 KIA and 32 WIA.

4. Casualties Sustained. 2 WIA

5. Logistics. During the month, the battalion continued air operations and resupply. A split logistics section is still in operation. The forward section is still handling the air resupply with the rear section providing class II and administrative support. A total 51,539 rounds of 105mm, 107mm, and 155mm ammunition were moved this month.

6. Civil Action. The Civic Action program has been greatly improved. The Medcap programs and assistance programs to Thie Trang and Vinh Dai hamlets were active during November.

7. Personnel. The battalion was at 95% T/O strength at the end of the reporting period. Shortages exist in the MOS's 0122, 0239, 0844, 0848, 0849, 2111, 3041, 3052, 3516, 3531, and 3560. Fifty Marines participated in the R&R program during November.

8. Intelligence. Enemy initiated activity during the month of November followed two different patterns. The first of the month revealed a sharp drop in enemy activity, including a complete absence of incoming artillery fire for the week of 3 thru 9 November, and no attempts of interdiction of the Cua Viet River. Following this week of low activity enemy incidents showed a slight increase although the tempo was still at a reduced level.

The increase was noted by light to moderate attacks by fire along the DMZ, heavy anti-aircraft fire in the eastern and central DMZ, ambushes and mining of the Cua Viet River resulting in the sinking of a river patrol craft on 11 November. Mining incidents along Rt. 9 have shown a marked increase over the past month as the enemy attempts to interdict these important LOC's.

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Current order of battle shows that the enemy has withdrawn his forces north of the Ben Hai River accounting for the drop in large enemy contact by friendly forces. While the enemy has withdrawn the closeness of staging areas in the northern DMZ and eastern Laos still poses a threat to allied military bases and urban centers. The enemy can be expected to continue a stepped up program of developing his infrastructure to assure himself a continued existence in South Vietnam.

Enemy violations of the DMZ were noted during the period as aerial reconnaissance reported sighting of bunker complexes, some of which showed signs of recent activity, foxholes, trenchlines, supplies and small groups of enemy troops. In addition there were sighting of suspected enemy vehicles in and north of the eastern DMZ. An aerial observer directed tactical air strikes on a launch sight inside the DMZ shortly after elements of the 3d Marines experienced 122mm rocket fire while making an assault on LZ Comet.

At the present time the enemy direction may be controlled by a higher headquarters but any large scaled offensive does not seem probable at the present time.

9. Communications. In November, the Communications Platoon supported the Battalion's operations at Dong Ha, Vandegrift Combat Base and at LZ Dick. At Vandegrift Combat Base, the wire section wired in a new FDC bunker and installed an electrical wire system for the headquarters position. The radio section displaced by echelon from Vandegrift Combat Base to LZ Dick. A new log periodic antenna from regiment was erected. The message center updated its operation procedures and drafted a new formal SOP.

10. Training. During the month of November, training was primarily oriented toward section and MOS classes in view of heavy field commitment of all batteries. Normal troop indoctrination classes and CMS training were carried out whenever possible. Four battalion personnel attended out-of-country formal schools consisting of Noncommissioned Officer School, Embarkation School and Basic Infantry Weapons Repair School. In addition four battalion personnel attended in-country formal schools consisting of Forward Observer School, Fire Directional Center School, Basic Supply School, and Teletype School.

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EXTRACTS OF MISSIONS FROM 2ND BATTALION, 12TH MARINES

PERIOD 012300 to 012300 November 1968

1620 PM, D-2-12, (899265), Enemy bunkers, Hasty Foot-61
ECM 1715, 40 HEQ & D, 1 WIA, 4 bunkers destroyed, BX 6126

PERIOD 012300 to 022300 November 1968

1550 PM, D-2-12, (935270), Enemy bunkers, Hasty Foot-62
ECM 1648, 46 HEQ & D, 2 HCS, 3 WIA, 1 secondary explosion, 1 bunker destroyed, BX 6155

PERIOD 092300 to 102300 November 1968

0900 PM, F-2-12, (099283), NVA and bunkers, Hasty Foot-62
ECM 1410, 164 HEQ & D, 10 WP, 2 Secondary explosions, 1 bunker destroyed, BX 6702

1120 PM, D-2-12, (089283), NVA and bunkers, Hasty Foot-62
ECM 1410, 111 HEQ & D, 2 Secondary explosions, 1 WIA, BX 6704

PERIOD 102300 to 112300 November 1968

1037 PM, D-2-12, (998382), 3 NVA in brush, Fighting Mad "W"
ECM 1114, 48 Selected Munitions, 20 HEQ & WP, 2 WP, 2 WIA, BX 6745

PERIOD 122300 to 132300 November 1968

0730 PM, D-2-12, (986306), Prep fire, Hasty Foot-61A
ECM 0825, 40 HEQ, 5 Bunkers destroyed, BX 6861

PERIOD 132300 to 142300 November 1968

1700 PM, D-2-12, (966310), 5 NVA in bush, Hasty Foot-61
ECM 1755, 65 Selected Munitions, 2 WP, 2 WIA, BX 7016

1705 PM, F-2-12, (024363), 3 NVA with tube, Klondike-62
ECM 1845, 214 HEQ & D, 2 WP, 1 KIA, 2 WIA, BX 7017

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EXTRACTS OF MISSIONS FROM 2ND BATTALION, 12TH MARINES

PERIOD 142300 to 152300 November 1968

1700 FM, D-2-12, (10943111), Enemy bunkers, Crystal Star
EOM 1830, 28 HEQ & D, 6 Secondary explosions, BX 7076

0730 FM, F-2-12, (034367), Prep fire, Klondike-61
EOM 0746, 60 HEQ & D, 4 Secondary explosions, BX 7037

1345 FM, F-2-12, (113308), Enemy bunkers, Cyrstal Star
EOM 1600, 178 HEQ & D, 6 WP, 11 Secondary explosions, BX 7076

1700 FM, F-2-12, (10943111), Enemy bunkers, Cyrstal Star
EOM 1828, 120 HEQ & D, 2 WP, 7 Secondary explosions, BX 7076

PERIOD 152300 to 162300 November 1968

1305 FM, F-2-12, (140322), Suspected enemy position, Sand-61
EOM 1750, 290 HEQ, 8 WP, 6 Secondary explosions, BY 0038

PERIOD 162300 to 172300 November 1968

2045 FM, E-2-12, (259341), Enemy movement, Constitution
EOM 2130, 24 HEQ, 2 WP, 7 WIA, BX 7230

PERIOD 172300 to 182300 November 1968

0920 FM, F-2-12, (053271), NVA in open, Heritage
EOM 1026, 36 HWQ, VT, & D, 1 WIA, 2 secondary explosions, BX 7329

0530 FM, F-2-12, (072411), Active mortar position, Intrigue
EOM 1315, 90 HEQ, 1 WIA, 1 mortar tube destroyed, BY 0050

0830 FM, D-2-12, (057394), Active mortars, Intrigue
EOM 1305, 300 HEQ, VT & D, 7 WP, 23 Secondary explosions, 1 mortar
tube destroyed, BX 7327

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EXTRACTS OF MISSIONS FROM 2ND BATTALION, 12TH MARINES

PERIOD 182300 to 192300 November 1968

1555 FM, F-2-12, (993337), 7 NVA in open, Corporal Pete Delta-5
EOM 1645, 30 Selected Munitions, 36 HEQ & D, 2 WP, 2 WIA, 1 Secondary
explosion, BX 7381

PERIOD 192300 to 202300 November 1968

1620 FM, 155 Papa, (148320), Enemy bunkers, Sand Box-61
EOM 1833, 26 HEQ, 2 WP, 1 Bunker destroyed, BX 7491

PERIOD 202300 to 212300 November 1968

1850 FM, F-2-12, (010280), Enemy bunkers, Hasty Foot-63
EOM 1915, 64 HEQ, 2 WP, 1 bunker destroyed, BX 7533

PERIOD 212300 to 222300 November 1968

1640 FM, D-2-12, (103280), Enemy trenches, Delta 5 Alpha
EOM 1715, 50 HEQ, 1 Trench destroyed, BX 7588

PERIOD 232300 to 242300 November 1968

1030 FM, D-2-12, (096319), 6 NVA in open, Klondike-61
EOM 1143, 35 Selected Munitions, 55 HEQ & TI, 2 WP, 6 WIA, BX 7626

PERIOD 252300 to 262300 November 1968

0618 FM, F-2-12, (148317), Prep fire, Klondike-62
EOM 0702, 72 HEQ & D, 2 WP, 1 Secondary explosion, BX 7694

1522 FM, F-2-12, (005253), 3 NVA in open, Coffee Cup
EOM 1522, 88 HEQ, VP, D, 4 WP, 3 WIA, BX 7703

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EXTRACTS OF MISSIONS FROM 2ND BATTALION, 12TH MARINES

PERIOD 272300 to 282300 November 1968

0447 FM, F-2-12, (107342), Prep fire, Klondike-61
EOM 0546, 50 HEQ, 4 WP, 1 Secondary explosion, BX 7764

1430 FM, P-3-12, (024200), Enemy bunkers, Hasty Foot-62
EOM 1900, 20 HEQ, 1 WP, 1 Bunker destroyed, BX 7779

PERIOD 292300 to 302300 November 1968

0500 FM, D-2-12, (066342), Suspected recoilless rifle position, Klondike-63
EOM 0628, 79 HEQ & D, 10 WP, 1 Secondary explosion, BX 7828
