

HEADQUARTERS

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

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 4 August 1967

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From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division

Subj: Command Chronology

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
 (b) DivO 5750.1
 (c) RegtO 5750.1
 (d) Map: VIETNAM 1:50000 AMS Series L701 6441 I; 6460 I;
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Enclosure:

- (1) Organizational Data Sheet
- (2) Daily Chronological Report of Significant Events for Operations "CHOCTAW" and "PREMONT"
- (3) Daily Chronological Report of Significant Events for Operation "CUMBERLAND"
- (4) Table of Missions fired and Ammunition expenditures for Operations "CHOCTAW" and "PREMONT"
- (5) Table of Missions fired and Ammunition expenditures for Operation "CUMBERLAND"
- (6) S-1 Matters
- (7) S-2 Matters
- (8) S-3 Matters
- (9) S-4 Matters
- (10) Communication-Electronics Matters
- (11) Combat After Action Report, Opn CHOCTAW, 22 May - 9 Jul 67

1. In compliance with references (a) through (o), the July 1967 Command Chronology is hereby submitted as enclosures (1) through (10).

D. B. Barker
 D. B. BARKER

Copy to: 12th Marines

July 1967

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA SHEET

1. DEPARTMENT AND LOCATION

a. 1-31 July 1967
 Headquarters (Fwd)
 3d Battalion, 12th Marines

Location: Coordinates YD 539518 Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam

b. 1-31 July 1967
 Headquarters (Rear)
 3d Battalion, 12th Marines

Location: Coordinates YD 885127, Phu Bai Base Camp

2. Period Covered: 1-31 July 1967

3. Battalion Commander and Staff:

a. 3d Battalion, 12th Marines

(1) Lieutenant Colonel J. L. MILES, 046209/0802/2070/6704, USMC
 Battalion Commander 1-12 July 1967

Lieutenant Colonel D. B. BARKER, 051846/0802/0840/57
 Battalion Commander 13-31 July 1967

(2) Major K. D. HOLLEN, 052068/0802/0805, USMC, Executive Officer

(3) Second Lieutenant J. M. YORK, JR., 098286/0802, USMC, S-1/
 Adjutant/Legal Officer

(4) WO W. G. JACOBSON, 089212/0130, USMC, Personnel Officer

(5) First Lieutenant C. D. COOKSEY, 091152/0802, USMC, S-2

(6) Major F. R. ALLEN, 0802/3010, USMC, S-3

(7) Captain R. R. WRIGHT, 083926/0802, USMC, S-3

(8) First Lieutenant H. W. LINDHOLM, 090724/0802 S-4

(9) Captain Lyman M. MAXTED 089710/2502 USMC, Communication Officer
 1-5 July 1967 First Lieutenant George E. CADMAN III 091721/2502, USMC,
 Communication Officer, 6-31 Jul 1967

(10) Second Lieutenant J. D. ELEVINS 095582/3002 USMCR, Supply Officer

(11) First Lieutenant A. A. FINLEY, 094691/0802, USMCR, Survey
 Officer

Exposure (1)

DAILY CHRONOLOGY1 July

Elements of 2/4 observed 5 VC/NVA at grid YD 557247. At 1750H, Battery "H" expended 5 rounds of WP and 10 rounds of HE on the target, but no surveillance was given.

2 July

CAT KILLER 22, an aerial observer, sighted 4 VC rafts on the Song 0 tau River at grid YD 471304. Battery "H" expended 2 rounds of WP and 26 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT, at 0830H. Good coverage of the target was given as the surveillance.

At 1700H the 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 14 rounds of HE on suspected movement at grid YD 52352134. The mission was fired for elements of 2/4 and surveillance was not available.

3 July

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

4 July

Enemy movement was suspected by elements of 2/4 at grid YD 546338. Battery "H" expended 2 rounds of illumination, but no movement could be detected. The mission was fired at 0245H.

At 1200H the 1st and 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Batteries expended 21 rounds of HE in recognition of Independence Day.

In celebration of Independence Day, Battery "H" along with the 1st and 2d Provisional Batteries illuminated the area around the Camp Evans CP at 2100H. Battery "H" expended 72 rounds of 105mm illumination and the Provisional 155mm Batteries expended 36 rounds of illumination.

The Battalion's Naval Gunfire team observed VC lights at grid YD 523252. Battery "H" expended 10 rounds of WP and 60 rounds of HE, fuze Time. The mission was fired at 2140H.

At 2250H the Naval Gunfire team requested fire on suspected VC movement at grid YD 523258. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery responded to the call for fire with 29 rounds of illumination and 36 rounds of HE, fuze Quick and VT. No surveillance was given on the mission.

ENCLOSURE (7)

5 July

Elements of 2/4 reported taking incoming enemy mortar fire from grid YD 594293 at 1152H. Battery "H" expended 6 rounds of WP which silenced the mortars.

At 2330H Battery "H" expended 15 rounds of HE, fuze VT and Quick, on suspected VC movement at grid YD 545336. The mission was fired for ARVN forces at the Pho Trach compound, but no surveillance was given.

6 July

The Naval Gunfire Team observed 2 VC at grid YD 528213. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 11 rounds of HE at 1215H. Rounds on target was the surveillance.

From Hill 674 the Naval Gunfire team spotted 3 enemy sampans on the Song Bo River at grid YD 432273. After the 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 3 rounds of WP and 2 rounds of HE, at 1325H, the observer reported the target had escaped.

NETTLE RASH I, a recon patrol, called fire on 4 VC located at grid YD 497224 at 1330H. Battery "H" responded to the call with 7 rounds of WP and 42 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT. Outstanding coverage along with 1 KIA (probable) was the surveillance.

NETTLE RASH I, sighted 5 additional VC at grid YD 495222 at 1340H. This time the 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 20 rounds of HE. A surveillance of 5 KIA (probable) was reported.

At 1500H the Battalion CO left the Camp Evans CP for Operation Cumberland's Area. He returned at 1615H.

Battery "H" in response to another call for fire from NETTLE RASH I, fired 30 rounds of HE on 2 VC at grid YD 482243. The mission was fired at 1505H and the surveillance was 1 KIA (probable).

At 2005H NETTLE RASH I, observed (1) VC setting a fire at grid YD 521216. The 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 1 round of WP and 12 rounds of HE, but the recon patrol could not observe the effect of the rounds on the target.

DECLASSIFIED (2)

7 July

Between 0438H and 0450H the 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 5 rounds of WP and 9 rounds of HE on VC with lights moving south at grid YD 48212417. Excellent coverage of the target was the surveillance on the mission fired for the Naval Gunfire team.

At 0815H the Battalion CO along with the Battalion S-3 departed the Camp Evans CP for the Operation Cumberland area. They returned at 1230H.

The 12th Marines Executive Officer and the Regimental S-3 arrived at 3/12's CP at Camp Evans at 0900H to observe the Battalion's operation. They departed at 1530H.

At 0930H the Naval Gunfire team observed 12 VC at grid YD 522215. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 17 rounds of HE before an air strike was called in to complete the mission. The result of the artillery fire was not reported.

NETTLE RASH I, a recon patrol, sighted 3 VC lights at grid YD 48052438. Battery "H" expended 1 round of WP and 28 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT, at 2015H. The lights were destroyed, 3 KIA (probable) and 3 secondary explosions were reported.

The Naval Gunfire team spotted VC lights moving north at grid YD 472242. After Battery "H" expended 2 rounds of WP and 16 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT, 3 KIA (probable) and outstanding coverage was reported. The mission was fired at 2325H.

8 July

The Naval Gunfire team observed VC with lights at grid YD 526-214. At 0233H the 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 10 rounds of HE after which the lights were reported extinguished.

NETTLE RASH I, a recon patrol, called fire on VC with lights moving up the ridgeline at grid YD 483242. Battery "H" expended 6 rounds of WP and 37 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT at 0325H. The final surveillance was 5 KIA (probable).

At 1140H NETTLE RASH I reported sighting a large group of VC at grid YD 52132140. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 75 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT, to get a result of 1 KIA (confirmed), 7 KIA (probable) and 1 secondary explosion.

ENCLOSURE (2)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Two (2) VC at grid YD 515232 were fired upon by the 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery at 1505H. After 3 rounds of WP and 6 rounds of HE were expended NETTLE RASH I, the recon team observing the mission, conveyed a surveillance of 2 KIA (probable).

The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery responded to a call for fire on 13 VC reported by the Naval Gunfire team at 2100H. 36 rounds of HE were expended on the target which was located at grid YD 522216. Excellent coverage and 10 KIA (probable) was given as the surveillance.

After receiving a TPS-21 reading of 50 VC at grid YD 550330, approximately 1500 meters from the Camp Evans perimeter. Battery "H" expended 120 rounds of HE, fuze VT. Villagers in the area reported the VC had forced them to remove 30 bodies from the target area.

At 2130H the TPS-21 detected 10 VC at grid YD 550336. Battery "H" expended 30 rounds of HE. The surveillance was 1 secondary explosion.

9 July

At 1345H the Naval Gunfire team reported sighting smoke from a VC campfire at grid YD 51501836. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 4 rounds of WP and 8 rounds of HE. The observer gave outstanding shooting as the surveillance.

A helicopter crew reported seeing 7 VC at grid YD 559231. Battery "H" expended 8 rounds of WP and 24 rounds of HE, fuze VT, at 1628H. The rounds were observed landing 25 meters from the target.

The 1st Searchlight Battery observed enemy movement at grid YD 528238. At 1709H the 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 10 rounds of HE. Four (4) secondary explosions were observed.

At 2400H Operation CHOCTAW ended.

ENCLOSURE (2)

OPERATION FREMONT10 July

Operation "FREMONT" started 0001H this date.

An element of 2/4 reported taking heavy sniper fire from a suspected ambush site at grid YD 548250. Battery "H" expended 2 rounds of WP and 20 rounds of HE at 1517H. The observer did not move into the impact area to get a surveillance.

The Naval Gunfire team observed a VC campfire at grid YD 515182. At 1850H the 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 10 rounds of HE and 1 round of WP. The surveillance was excellent coverage of the target.

VC with lights were sighted by the Naval Gunfire team at grid YD 25562584. After Battery "H" expended 2 rounds of WP and 4 rounds of HE at 2030H, the lights were extinguished.

11 July

The Naval Gunfire team observed VC with lights at grid YD 518233. Battery "H", at 0410H, expended 3 rounds of WP and 24 rounds of HE. The final surveillance was lights out and good coverage on the target.

At 1100H a precision registration was conducted using the 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery. Twenty-one rounds (21) of HE were expended and the registration was valid.

12 July

The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 112 rounds of HE on preparation fires at grid YD 41252875 for the recon patrol, NETTLE RASH I, at 0645H. The mission was unobserved.

VC bunkers and spider holes at grid YD 417286 were reported in an intelligence report received from 4th Marines FSCC. The 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery, at 1245H, expended 60 rounds of HE. No surveillance was given on the mission.

Elements of 2/4 sighted a suspected VC base camp at grid YD 507257. At 1745H Battery "H" expended 5 rounds of WP and 36 rounds of HE. Good coverage was given as the final surveillance.

ENCLOSURE (2)

13 July

At 1000H LtCol D. B. BARKER assumed command of the Battalion relieving LtCol J. R. MULRAN who completed his tour in Vietnam.

The new Battalion CO visited the Operation Cumberland area at 1500H. He returned to the Camp Evans CP at 1730H.

An element of 2/4 reported it was taking sniper fire from grid YD 59412911. At 1615H Battery "H" expended 3 rounds of WP and 12 rounds of HE. Rounds on target was the surveillance.

The Naval Gunfire team estimated 10-20 VD at grid YD 523223. At 1940H Battery "H" and the 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 3 rounds of 105mm HE, and 14 rounds of 155mm HE. The mission was not observed.

At 2145H the Naval Gunfire team reported hearing noises from grid YD 522235. Battery "H" expended 2 rounds of WP and 12 rounds of HE. The surveillance was excellent coverage of the target.

14 July

ARVN forces at the Phong Dien artillery compound requested illumination on YD 529345 at 0007H as a result of suspected VC activity. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery fired 2 rounds on the target with good coverage reported, but no VC were observed.

At 0207H the 3/12 Naval Gunfire team supporting a Navy Hydrographic team working near the coastline northeast of Camp Evans reported taking incoming mortar and small arms fire at their position at grid YD 630432. They called for fire from the ARVN artillery compound at Phong Dien via the artillery liaison team from 3/12 located there.

A mortar attack was initiated by the VC at 0210H on Phong Dien, evidently coordinated with the attack on the Division survey team. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery fired 45 rounds of illumination on YD 529345, and Battery "H" fired 108 rounds of HE as counter-mortar fires in grid square YD 5434. The initial and last mission was called by the 3/12 liaison team, and the intervening grids were relayed from the ARVN at Phong Dien to the FIG by the 4th Marines FSCC. End of mission was given at 0330H and a surveillance of good shooting was given. There were no USMC casualties sustained during this attack.

The attack on the Naval Gunfire team continued until approximately 0330H. A total of 150 rounds of 82mm mortar were taken by the Marines at the Naval Gunfire team's position, and the team itself sustained 1 WIA.

At 0330H the 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery was alerted to displace two guns within one hour to a forward position east of the Camp Evans CP. At 0430H under the cover of darkness two Howitzers from the 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery left the CP accompanied by the Battalion S-3. Four tanks and a platoon of infantry from 2/4 moved with the guns as security to a position east of Highway #1 at grid YD 552331. The two guns were laid on an azimuth of 0900 and reported ready to fire at 0540. The insertion of an infantry reaction unit near the Navy Hydrographic team did not occur as planned, and the two guns returned to the CP at 0750H.

15 July

The Naval Gunfire team observed a VC campfire at grid YD 534220. At 0755H Battery "H" expended 14 rounds of HE and 4 rounds of WP before end of mission had to be given due to air activity over the target; however, the rounds that were expended were reported on target.

At 0800H the Battalion CO accompanied by the S-3 conducted a reconnaissance of a proposed artillery position in the Phu Bai area.

An aerial observer, SACRED MIKE, sighted a VC sniper position at grid YD 601263. Battery "H" expended 18 rounds of HE and 4 rounds of WP at 1104H. The surveillance was rounds on target.

One (1) VC was observed by the Naval Gunfire team at grid YD 542226. At 1515H the 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 3 rounds of WP and 10 rounds of HE. The VC was reported running off into the bushes after he escaped the initial round.

Elements of 2/4 reported receiving heavy automatic small arms fire from grid YD 606266. At 1800H Battery "H" expended 2 rounds of WP and 24 rounds of HE after which the small arms fire ceased.

At 2100H the 1st and 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Batteries assisted ARVN artilleryman at Hai Long by reinforcing their fires on 2 VC Battalions at grid YD 439403. A total of 63 rounds of HE were expended and no surveillance was given on the mission.

16 July

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

17 July

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

ENCLOSURE (7)

18 July

Elements of 2/4 observed 2 VC in the open at grid YD 576264. At 1030H the 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 1 round of WP and 8 rounds of HE, fuze Delay, for a surveillance of good coverage of the target.

MORBD II, a recon patrol, observed 2 VC at grid YD 605226. At 1915H the 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 1 round of WP and 18 rounds of HE. The surveillance was good coverage of the target.

19 July

An element of 1/4 called fire on a suspected VC observation post at grid YD 56622897. Battery "H" responded to the call for fire with 1 round of WP and 9 rounds of HE at 1130H. Surveillance was good coverage of target.

MORBD II, a recon patrol, reported it was in contact with the enemy at grid YD 605226. At 1645H the 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 12 rounds of HE, and good coverage of the target was given as surveillance.

At 2025H the 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 4 rounds of HE and 1 round of WP on a VC camp fire at grid YD 483194.

20 July

Between 0115H and 0445H the 1st and 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Batteries expended 14 rounds of illumination on grids YD 525361, 529345, 529435 and 529434. The 4th Marines FSCC requested the illumination on a suspected VC movement, but no surveillance was given.

Elements of 2/4 reported taking sniper fire from grid YD 466426 at 1353H. After the 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 13 rounds of WP the sniper was reported silenced.

21 July

At 0600H an element of 2/3 observed VC in a field at grid YD 495451. The 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 18 rounds of HE. After the mission 2 VC were captured, the remainder dispersed, and good coverage of the target was reported.

ENCLOSURE (2)

Battery "H" and the 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 197 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT, and 5 rounds of WP on preparation fires requested by 4th Marines between 1225H and 1340H. No surveillance was given.

Thirty (30) VC were reported on the hilltop at grid YD 595235. This report was given in intelligence information received by 4th Marines HSCC. Battery "H" expended 18 rounds of HE at 1505H, but the target was unobserved.

The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery fired 9 rounds of HE, fuze VT, and 3 rounds of WP on a suspected VC mortar position at grid YD 48974108. The mission was for an element of 2/4 but no surveillance was reported.

Elements of 1/4 requested fire on a suspected VC observation post at grid YD 513251. Battery "H" expended 4 rounds of WP and 52 rounds of HE at 1837H. Surveillance was good coverage of the target.

In-coming mortars were reported by elements of 2/3 at grid YD 512452. The 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 32 rounds of HE, after which the mortars were silenced. The mission was fired at 1942H.

22July

At 0713H elements of 2/3 requested fire on a known enemy position at grid YD 512452. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 24 rounds of HE. No surveillance was given on the mission.

The Naval Gunfire team on Hill 674 sighted 6 VC in the treeline at grid YD 567254. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended two rounds of WP and 12 rounds of HE at 1403H. Rounds on target was the surveillance.

Elements of 1/4 called fire on 4 VC in the treeline at grid YD 520-275. At 1542H Battery "H" expended 1 round of WP and 32 rounds of HE. Surveillance was 4 KIA (probable).

ENCLOSURE (2)

23 July

PARTYLINE I, a recon patrol observed a VC boat moving up the river at grid YD 47162534. Battery "H", at 0155H, expended 4 rounds of HE. Rounds on target was the surveillance.

At 1000H the Battalion CO departed the Camp Evans CP for Dong Ha. After a visit at 12th Marines Headquarters he returned at 1500H.

Elements of 2/4 sighted 8 VC in the open at grid YD 563261. At 1132H Battery "H" expended 3 rounds of smoke, 1 round of WP, and 6 rounds of HE. Good coverage of the target was reported.

The Naval Gunfire team called fire on 3 VC in the treeline at grid YD 553243. Battery "H" expended 2 rounds of WP and 16 rounds of HE at 1330H. No surveillance was given on the mission.

The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery responded to a request for fire from the NGF team on a VC camp fire at grid YD 555-205. Seven rounds of WP and 8 rounds of HE were expended at 2017H. The fire was reported extinguished in the final surveillance.

24 July

At 1000H the Battalion CO and the S-3 visited Battery "G" in the Operation Cumberland area and returned at 1520H.

Battery "H" expended 61 rounds of HE and 20 rounds of WP during a Forward Observer School held by the Battalion.

The recon patrol, PEERAGE I, observed 2 VC on a hillside at grid YD 400355. The 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 5 rounds of WP and 16 rounds of HE at 1808H. No surveillance was given on the mission.

25 July

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

26 July

The recon patrol, PEERAGE II, called fire on 1 VC in the open at grid YD 490254. At 0740H Battery "H" expended 22 rounds of HE. Good coverage was given as the surveillance.

ENCLOSURE (2)

[REDACTED]

At 0810H PEERAGE II observed 5 VC at grid YD 498248. Battery "H" expended 4 rounds of WP and 42 rounds of HE, fuse Quick and VT. The recon patrol reported it could not get a surveillance due to the tactical situation.

Between 0908H and 0940H Battery "H" expended 37 rounds of HE on suspected VC movement at grid YD 498248. PEERAGE II requested the fire, but no surveillance was given.

The Naval Gunfire team spotted 6 VC with bundles at grid YD 554-245. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 3 rounds of WP and 13 rounds of HE. Afterwards no bodies were observed, but good coverage was given as the surveillance.

PEERAGE I reported it was receiving sniper fire from grid YD 489-259 at 1535H. Battery "H" expended 2 rounds of WP, but no surveillance was made.

The 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 6 rounds of WP and 18 rounds of HE on preparation fires for the recon patrol, PEERAGE I. Good coverage of the target was reported.

At 2017H PEERAGE I, sighted VC lights at grid YD 433355. The 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 1 round of WP and 12 rounds of HE. Good coverage was given as the surveillance.

27 July

The recon patrol, PEERAGE I, requested preparation fires on grid YD 413362 at 0800H. The 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 20 rounds of HE. Outstanding coverage was the surveillance.

The Naval Gunfire team observed 3 VC in the open at grid YD 554243. Battery "H" expended 24 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT at 1270H. The VC were reported to have split up in different directions, but good effect on the initial target was observed.

At 1258H the Naval Gunfire team observed 12 VC at grid YD 561247. Battery "H" expended 39 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT which resulted in 4 KIA (probable).

Elements of 2/4 reported taking VC automatic weapons fire at grid YD 504339. At 1840H Battery "H" expended 3 rounds of WP and 4 rounds of HE. Rounds on target was the final surveillance.

ENCLOSURE (1)

[REDACTED]

28 July

PEERAGE I, a recon patrol, reported taking sniper fire from grid YD 433376. The 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 13 rounds of HE that silenced the snipers fire. The mission was fired at 0945H.

Elements of 2/4 observed 4 VC in the open at grid YD 556247. At 1143H the 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 4 rounds of HE. No surveillance was given on the mission.

An element of 2/4 requested fire on 10 VC at grid YD 562247. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 12 rounds of HE at 1200H. No surveillance was given on the mission.

Battery "H" expended 17 rounds of HE on suspected VC rally points at grids YD 56282692 and 55102620. No surveillance was given. The mission was fired for elements of 2/4 between 1802H and 1825H.

29 July

Elements of 2/4 called a mission at 1035H on VC in the open at grid YD 569246. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery fired 16 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT on the target, but there was no surveillance.

Five VC were observed at grid YD 426350 by the recon patrol, PUNCTUATE I, at 1105H. Excellent coverage of the target was given as surveillance on the 16 rounds of HE fired on the target by the 2d Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery.

Recon patrol, PUNCTUATE I, called for artillery support at 1215H against an undetermined number of VC who were trying to encircle them. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery fired 11 rounds of HE on avenues of approach at grid YD 426354 and YD 425336 with good coverage reported.

Between 1330H and 1430H the 3/12 Naval Gunfire team observed a VC platoon in uniform at grid YD 565243 and called in fire on them. Four rounds of WP and 52 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT, were expended against the enemy. No surveillance was reported.

At 1630H the recon patrol, PUNCTUATE I, reported itself surrounded and observed 13 VC moving on their position. Prior to the patrol's extraction by helicopter, the 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery fired 3 rounds of WP and 20 rounds of HE as protective fires for the patrol.

During the afternoon, four practice missions and three night defensive fire concentrations were fired in support of 2/4. Also during the afternoon, the 1st and 2d 155mm Provisional Howitzer Batteries registered at Registration Point #2, with the Battalion Naval Gunfire team atop Hill 674 observing.

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ENCLOSURE (2)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ZG July

There were no significant missions fired during this 24 hour period.

21 July

The Battalion Commanding Officer attended a meeting at 3d Marine Division Headquarters at Phu Bai. He left the Camp Evans CP at 0900H and returned at 1400H.

Elements of 2/4 reported taking automatic fire from 14 VC at grid YD 575243. Battery "H" expended 3 rounds of WP and 69 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT. MALE 35, an aerial observer, observed the mission which was fired at 1125H. Good coverage of the target was the surveillance.

At 1130H elements of 2/4 called fire on VC bunkers at grid YD 562249. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 31 rounds of HE, for a surveillance of rounds on target.

ENCLOSURE (2)

CONFIDENTIAL

OPERATION SUMMARY1 July

At 2020H Battery "G" expended 12 rounds of HE on a suspected VC assembly area at grid YD 697156. Elements of 1/4 did not give a surveillance on the mission.

MORBID III, a recon patrol, reported hearing VC movement at grid YD 705121. At 2140H Battery "G" expended 20 rounds of HE for a surveillance of 1 secondary explosion.

2 July

An element of 1/4 observed VC movement in a treeline at grid ID 764064. Battery "G" expended 2 rounds of WP and 7 rounds of HE at 0730H. Excellent effect on target was the surveillance.

Elements of 1/4 called fire on a suspected VC assembly area at grid YD 736145. In answer to the call for fire Battery "G" expended 6 rounds of HE and 7 rounds of WP at 2020H. Excellent effect on target was the surveillance.

3 July

Battery "G" received an intelligence report from 1/4 FSCC at 1520H concerning VC mortar positions at grid YD 715085. Thirty-six (36) rounds of HE were expended, but the mission was not observed.

4 July

A suspected VC Observation Post at grid YD 704129 was reported by 1/4's FSCC. Battery "G" fired 16 rounds of HE at 1950H. The mission was unobserved.

5 July

At 1300H PEERAGE I, a recon patrol, reported it was in contact with a VC platoon and was exchanging small arms fire. Battery "G" expended a total of 23 HE on grids YD 674002 and YD 677018. Good coverage of the target was the surveillance.

6 July

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

ENCLOSURE (3)

-13-

7 July

At 0745H and 0920H Battery "G" fired 10 and 24 rounds of HE respectively on possible VC escape routes, reported by elements of 1/4 to be at YD 684125 and YD 686133. Good effect on target was the surveillance on these missions.

Between 1840H and 1920H Battery "G" fired 24 rounds of HE on suspected VC supply routes reported by elements of 1/4 to be at YD 737162 and YD 732160. Good effect on target was reported.

8 July

The 3d Marine Division FSCC requested preparation fires at grid YD 677144, for a Recon patrol insertion, and Battery "G" fired 60 rounds of HE on the target area.

During the afternoon Battery "G" fired a total of 76 rounds of HE on suspected VC supply route covering grids YD 737167, 735164, 735161, and 734166.

9 July

At 2115H Battery "G" fired 18 rounds of WP and 54 rounds of HE on VC cadre meeting suspected to be taking place at YD 677144. The mission was sent to the Battery by 1/4's FSCC.

10 July

Again Battery "G" fired on the VC meeting area at YD 677144. Twelve rounds of WP and 54 rounds of HE were fired on this unobserved mission.

11 July

At 0615H incoming mortar rounds hit the Battery "G" position killing three (3) Marines from the Battery and wounding three (3). The Battery fired 300 rounds of counter-mortar fire, the enemy fired 15 rounds of 82mm into Battery "G's" position.

Battery "G" fired on a suspected OP and mortar position located at YD 149086 with 20 rounds of WP. Excellent coverage of target was reported on this mission fired at 1130H for 1/4.

ENCLOSURE (3)

[REDACTED]

At 1200H the Battalion Commander accompanied by the S-3 visited the battery position departing at 1100H.

Helicopters reported receiving anti-aircraft fire from YD 756082, and Battery "G" fired 12 rounds of HE on the target. No surveillance was obtained on this mission which was fired at 1230H.

In AO, SACRED KILO, reported NVA movement at grid YD 715082, and the Battery fired a total of 66 rounds in the vicinity of that grid. Good effect on target was the surveillance on this mission fired at 1300H.

At 1945H Battery "G" Executive Officer reported two suspected mortar positions at grid YD 735083 and YD 718082 and the battery fired a total of 96 rounds of HE on these unobserved targets.

12 July

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

13 July

Battery "G" expended 3 rounds of WP and 4 rounds of HE on 2 VC in the open at grid YD 673173. The recon patrol, PARTYLINE I, requested the mission and observed good coverage of the target. The mission was fired at 1141H.

At 1210H PARTYLINE I reported an undetermined number of VC moving on their position. Battery "G" fired 10 rounds of WP and 2 rounds of HE on the enemy at grid YD 666158. Surveillance was good coverage of the target.

14 July

Elements of 1/4 reported receiving sniper fire from grid YD 737134. Battery "G" expended 27 rounds of HE and 1 round of WP on the sniper at 1055H. Rounds on target was the final surveillance.

The recon patrol, PARTYLINE I, requested Battery "G" to fire on 2 VC at grid YD 684168. At 1710H 13 rounds of HE were expended which resulted in a surveillance of good coverage of the target.

Battery "G" expended 2 rounds of WP and 8 rounds of HE at 1955H on a VC campfire at grid YD 684168. PARTYLINE I, a recon patrol, promised a surveillance at a later date.

ENCLOSURE (3)

15 July

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

16 July

Between 1820H and 1845H Battery "G" expended 20 rounds of HE on suspected VC supply routes at grids YD 735161, 738158, 733166, and 729-152. Elements of 1/4 observed good coverage of the target.

17 July

At 1815H elements of 1/4 called fire on a suspected VC observation post at grid YD 735134. Battery "G" expended 6 rounds of WP, but no surveillance was given.

PUNK II, a recon patrol, sighted 15 VC at grid YD 683156. At 1825H Battery "G" expended 83 rounds of HE on the VC. No surveillance was given on the mission.

18 July

Battery "G" expended 42 rounds of HE on preparation fires for elements of 1/4 at grids YD 613084, 628103, 618085, 617098, 632107 and 647112. The missions were fired between 0630H and 1215H. No surveillance was made.

Elements of 1/4 called fire on 10 VC at grid YD 648093. Battery "G", at 1025H, expended 4 rounds of WP and 24 rounds of HE. Good effect on target was the final surveillance.

Battery "G" fired on suspected VC movement at grid YD 623107. One (1) round of WP and 8 rounds of HE were expended at 2125H. Elements of 1/4 could give no surveillance.

At 2134H elements of 1/4 requested fire on a suspected enemy movement at grid YD 628068. Battery "G" responded to the call for fire with 16 rounds of HE. Surveillance was not given on the mission.

ENCLOSURE (2)

19 July

Between 1230H and 1240H Battery "G" expended 40 rounds of HE on recon by fire concentrations for elements of 1/4. The mission was fired on grids YD 663100, 669105, 669104, 667113, and 642106. Good effect on target was the surveillance.

Elements of 1/4 reported taking enemy sniper fire from grid YD 642106. At 1500H Battery "G" expended 36 rounds of HE, resulting in a surveillance of good coverage of the target.

At 1530H elements of 1/4 reported taking VC small arms fire from grid YD 648092. Battery "G" expended 16 rounds of HE. Good coverage of the target was given as a surveillance.

Battery "G", at 2105H, expended 36 rounds of HE on a suspected VC battalion believed to be located at grid YD 672126. The mission was based on an intelligence report relayed by 1/4 FSCC and was not observed.

20 July

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

21 July

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

22 July

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

23 July

At 1430H elements of 1/4 requested fire on a VC sniper position at grid YD 674089. Battery "G" expended 35 rounds of HE and 1 round of WP, but no surveillance was given.

24 July

Elements of 1/4 requested fire on a suspected VC CP at grid YD 728151. At 1240H Battery "G" expended 2 rounds of WP and 10 rounds of HE. Excellent effect on the target was reported.

25 July

Battery "G" expended 90 rounds of HE on a suspected enemy troop concentration at grid YD 754050. The mission was based on information received in an intelligence report from 1/4's FSCC.

ENCLOSURE (3)

26 July

The FSCC of 1/4 requested fire on suspected VC escape routes at grids YD 601075, 667977, and 655165. Battery "G" expended 30 rounds of HE between 0950H and 1005H, but no surveillance was made.

Between 1400H and 1540H Battery "G" expended 104 rounds of HE on suspected enemy positions at grids YD 737084, 679084, 681077, 677083, 674081, 678078, and 673076. The mission was fired upon a request from 1/4's FSCC. The mission was unobserved.

Battery "G" at 2101H expended 45 rounds of HE on a suspected VC battalion at grid YD 789069. The mission was requested by 1/4's FSCC. The mission was unobserved.

The FSCC for 1/4 called fire on a large light at grid YD 745072. Battery "G" expended 20 rounds of HE and 2 rounds of WP at 2240H. No surveillance was given on the mission.

27 July

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

28 July

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

29 July

The recon patrol, MONOTYPE I, reported 6 or 7 VC were attempting to flank them at grid YD 701071. Battery "G" expended 36 rounds of HE at 1302H. Good coverage of the target was the surveillance.

30 July

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

31 July

At 2025H the recon patrol, MONOTYPE I, reported being probed by VC at grids YD 694065, 692063, 690065, and 692067. Battery "G" expended 14 rounds of HE, but no surveillance was reported.

(2)

TABLE OF AMMUNITION EXPENDITURES
AND MISSIONS FIRED

OPERATIONS CHOCTAW AND FREMONT

MISSIONS FIRED	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th
Obs	2	15	16	12	5	10	19	10	6	3	
Unobs											
H&I'S	106	88	141	121	123	136	160	189	133	100	142
TOTAL	106	90	156	137	135	141	170	210	145	106	145
AMMO EXPENDED											
105 HE	132	102	140	114	108	114	160	468	241	69	100
WP		2	4	10	12	5	4	10	8	5	3
155 HE					78	1		8	6	36	24
WP					1	19	22	14	15	12	4
I.I.I					56	1	50	29	45	14	6
TOTAL	208	188	289	325	351	298	341	858	431	252	302
SURVEILLANCE											
KIA(C)											1
KIA(P)									7	6	29

MISSIONS FIRED	12th	13th	14th	15th	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th
Obs	7	6	7	5	3	2	20	2	11
Unobs	3	2	11	1					
H&I'S	166	116	149	178	153	110	125	55	104
TOTAL	176	124	167	184	156	112	145	58	115
AMMO EXPENDED									
105 HE	133	154	230	163	76	102	185	100	135
WP	25	14	4	10					1
I.I.I	16		19	2					
155 HE	335	125	104	197	123	97	206	79	90
WP	27	6	58	3	2		4	2	2
I.I.I	38	28	2	20			2		21
TOTAL	574	327	417	395	201	199	403	182	249
SURVEILLANCE									
KIA(C)									
KIA(P)									

1
ENCLOSURE

OPERATION FREIGHT

MISSIONS FIRED	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th
Obs	14	17	9	12	12	9	5
Unobs	5				1		
H&I's	96	72	103	84	73	52	55
TOTAL	115	89	112	94	86	61	60
AMMO EXPENDED							
105 HE	239	173	150	122	136	159	98
WP	11	10	3	20	19	45	3
I.I.				9			
155 HE	229	113	50	54	116	93	80
WP	8	6	9	5	10	26	
I.I.	4	3	1				
TOTAL	491	305	213	210	281	323	181
SURVEILLANCE							
KIA (C)							
KIA (P)		4					4

MISSIONS FIRED	28th	29th	30th	31st	TOTAL
Obs	13	18		2	271
Unobs					27
H&I's	50	57	71	72	3380
TOTAL	63	75	71	74	3674
AMMO EXPENDITURES					
105 HE	72	95	35	122	4427
WP		17		3	254
I.I.		6			205
155 HE	118	127	67	109	4099
WP	5	3			267
I.I.		10			331
TOTAL	195	258	102	234	9583
SURVEILLANCE					
KIA (C)					1
KIA (P)					50

ENCLOSURE (4)

TABLE OF AMMUNITION EXPENDITURES
AND MISSIONS FIRED

OPERATION CUMBERLAND

MISSIONS FIRED	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th
Obs	10	17	7	8	3		9	5	2		4
Unobs				2	4				1	1	4
H&I'S	52	50	63	38	44	31	43	55	22	27	38
TOTAL	62	67	70	48	51	31	52	60	25	28	46
AMMO EXPENDED											
105 HE	110	74	103	107	87	21	112	180	105	100	438
WP	8	14	3	8				2	20	18	5
III		3									
HC Smk	3			3	16						
155 HE	14	8	13	10	25	20	10	11		13	
WP	4	9	1							6	44
TOTAL	139	108	120	128	128	41	122	193	125	137	487
SURVEILLANCE											
KIA(C)											
KIA(P)											

MISSIONS FIRED	12th	13th	14th	15th	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th
Obs	1	3	4	1		4	16		
Unobs	5	5	3		2				1
H&I'S	36	32	31	46	45	47	32	73	52
TOTAL	42	40	38	47	47	51	48	73	53
AMMO EXPENDED									
105 HE	196	106	105	77	60	154	143	81	44
WP	36	5	3			13	6		
III									
HC Smk									
155 HE	44	18	18	26	17	28	52	20	12
WP	42						2		
TOTAL	318	129	126	103	77	195	203	101	56
SURVEILLANCE									
KIA(C)									
KIA(P)									

ENCLOSURE

DECLASSIFIED

[REDACTED] 24 JAN 1968 CUMBERLAND

MISSIONS FIRED	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th
Obs	1	5	7	6	4	5	2
Unobs				6	4	18	22
H&I's	63	48	44	47	43	75	55
TOTAL	64	53	51	59	51	98	79
<u>AMMO EXPENDED</u>							
105 HE	103	77	124	158	177	292	318
WP			1	5	2	2	2
TOTAL	127	106	130	187	207	310	365
<u>SURVEILLANCE</u>							
KIA (Q)							
KIA (P)							

MISSIONS FIRED	28th	29th	30th	31st	TOTAL
Obs	8	2	9	13	166
Unobs	1	2			82
H&I's	75	52	47	39	1425
TOTAL	84	56	56	92	1673
<u>AMMO EXPENDED</u>					
105 HE	99	89	105	74	4147
WP	16		4	30	200
TOTAL	125	89	109	104	4347
<u>SURVEILLANCE</u>					
KIA (Q)					
KIA (P)					

ENCLOSURE 15

S-1 Matters

1. Personnel and Administration.

This Battalion has maintained an operational level of approximately 92% of the authorized T/O strength during the month of July.

	T/O	O/H	Percentage
Officer	45	42	93.3%
ENGO's	50	30	60.0%
Enlisted	580	561	96.7%

This Battalion joined six Officers and 36 Enlisted personnel of various ranks and MOS's while rotating three Officers and 32 Enlisted to CONUS. This Battalion further transferred one enlisted to Okinawa, and one enlisted to 4th Battalion, 12th Marines. There were three enlisted KIA's, four MIA's during the month of July, and one non-hostile death due to a vehicular accident.

2. Morale and Discipline

The state of morale has remained at a high level. The supply of beer and soft drinks has been adequate and ice for cooling purposes has been available on a daily basis. Both in country and out of country R&R continue to be a factor influencing the high state of morale. Increased emphasis has been placed upon procurement of special services items and a vigorous special services program has been initiated. The Battalion Enlisted Recreation Council and Enlisted Recreation Committee during the month and acted upon proposals submitted by representatives of the recreation program. Although the Battalion does not have a Medical officer or Chaplain assigned, both medical facilities and church services are available through the Fourth Marines Regiment.

There were a total of 12 office hours held during the month for the following violations:

- (1) Article 92 UCMJ - eight (8)
- (2) Article 86 UCMJ - Two (2)
- (3) Article 121 UCMJ - One (1)
- (4) Article 134 UCMJ - One (1)

In addition two violations of Article 113 UCMJ were referred to trial by Special Court Martial. There were no General or Summary Court Martial

ENCLOSURE (6)

S-2 SECTION

1. Enemy Activity- The enemy has concentrated most of their activity around the river routes within the TAOR. Both the Song Bo and My Chanh rivers have been utilized as either a method of transportation or the river banks as concealment for movement of enemy troops and equipment. Most of the significant contacts have been north of the My Chanh River and in the "Street Without Joy" area.

2. Enemy Intentions- The enemy seems to be concentrating on the reorganization of their combat maneuver elements. Even though significant contacts with USMC forces were light the mortar attacks on the Phong Dien, and Hai Lang District Headquarters and the coordinated ground and mortar attack on the Navy Hydrographic teams indicates larger sized maneuver elements. The intelligence report from MACV involving the reorganization of the 5th NVA regiment seems to coincide with the general trend of re-organization and refurbishing of these maneuver elements.

ENCLOSURE (7)

S-3 Section
OPERATION and TRAINING SUMMARY

During the month of July 1967 an aggressive training program was started with the publication of a new battalion training SOP. This training program emphasises MOS training to insure each Marines proficiency in his MOS.

The Fire Direction Centers firing charts were changed from using eight (8) action method to the four action method. This change was made to keep this battalions FDC procedures in align with the new procedures now being taught at the Artillery School, Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

This battalion was involved in three (3) operations during the month of July 1967. Operation Choctaw which ran from 22 May to 9 July 1967 was supported by this battalion. For this operation 21 enemy killed confirmed and 124 enemy killed probable were credited to this battalion. Operations Cumberland and Fremont which started on 9 June 1967 and 10 July 1967 respectively have resulted so far in five (5) KIA confirmed for Cumberland and eight KIA probable for Fremont during the month of July 1967.

On 5 July 1967 the 1st platoon of the 1st Searchlight Battery was attached to the battalion. The searchlights were employed on the perimeter of Camp Evans and on Hill 51 to help detect and locate enemy movement.

On 13 July 1967 a change of Command Ceremony took place in which LtCol D. E. BARKER relieved LtCol J. L. MILES as the Battalion's Commanding Officer.

ENCLOSURE (8)

7. HOSPITALIZATION AND EVACUATION

(1) There were 471 outpatients treated by the BAS during July.

S-4 Section

1. LOGISTICS. The overall supply situation remains fair. During July, 75 requisitions were filled, 1056 remain outstanding. Critical shortages of bunker material and sandbags exist at Camp Evans. Twelve M35A2 multi-fuel trucks were received during July. These trucks replaced M35 trucks that have been turned in.
2. MAINTENANCE. Twenty-five of the battalions motor transport prime movers were deadlined at the end of the reporting period. Twenty-one of these were down for third echelon maintenance.
3. FOOD SERVICE. Rations served have been approximately 65% "A" rations and 35% "B" rations.
4. WATER. Being provided by the 3d Engineer Battalion at the Camp Evans water point.
5. MOTOR TRANSPORT. There are not enough organic M54 5T trucks available to displace all 155mm howitzers at one time. Twenty-four 5T M54 trucks are on order.
6. EMBARKATION. Data continues to be updated by all batteries. Embarkation supplies have been requisitioned.

7. HOSPITALIZATION AND EVACUATION

(1) There were 471 outpatients treated by the BAS during July.

(2) During the month there were four WIA's and five hospitalized WIA's from the battalions. All four of the hospitalized individuals were filled, 1056 remain outstanding. Critical shortages of bunker material and sandbags exist at Camp Evans. There are not enough organic M54 5T trucks available to displace all 155mm howitzers at one time. Twenty-four 5T M54 trucks are on order.

(3) HOSPITALIZATION. Twenty-five of the battalions motor transport prime movers were deadlined at the end of the reporting period. Twenty-one of these were down for third echelon maintenance.

(4) FOOD SERVICE. Rations served have been approximately 65% "A" rations and 35% "B" rations.

(5) WATER. Being provided by the 3d Engineer Battalion at the Camp Evans water point.

(6) MOTOR TRANSPORT. There are not enough organic M54 5T trucks available to displace all 155mm howitzers at one time. Twenty-four 5T M54 trucks are on order.

(7) EMBARKATION. Data continues to be updated by all batteries. Embarkation supplies have been requisitioned.

COMMUNICATION - ELECTRONICS

1. During the month of July, the Communications section continued normal operations in support of the Battalion, located at Camp Evans.
2. A new Battalion Communications Officer, 1/LT G. E. CADMAN, joined the Battalion on 6 July.
3. The Battalion received a new Communications Chief, GYBOT R. FRANCO, on 14 July.
4. A rigorous preventive maintenance program has been instituted in compliance with the 3d Marine Division Communications SOP. Preventive Maintenance records are now held on all Communications and Electronics items. First and second echelon maintenance programs are being followed on all vehicular radio gear.
5. The Communications section is in the process of relocating in a Communication bunker. When complete, the Message Center, Crypto Center, Tech Shop and radio central will be located in the bunker.
6. A radio central, utilizing AN/GRC-125's and a PP-388, has been established in the Comm bunker. This enables the Radio Section to use camp power for 19 hours and battery power for 5 hours daily. Batteries, BA-386, are used during the evening to prevent overloading the camp generator during this critical period.
7. A trunk line was installed to 2d Battalion, 4th Marines FSCC. This line provided more reliable means of communications between the Battalion FDC and 2/4 FSCC. It parallels the Battery "H" conduct of fire net and supplements the Battalion Fire Direction Net.
8. Local Lines were also installed to support the section of 1st Searchlight Platoon that is OPCON to this Battalion in support of the Camp Evans Complex.
9. Reconciliation was made during this period with Battalion Supply on all outstanding requisitions.

ENCLOSURE (30)

HEADQUARTERS

3d Battalion, 12th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF

Copy 2 of 20

3/FRA/wb

3100

14 July 67

01567

To: Commanding Officer
Commanding Officer, 4th Marine Regiment

Subj: Combat After Action Report

Ref: (a) 3d MarDivO 3100.10

Encl: (1) Daily Chronology of Significant Events
(2) Table of Ammunition Expenditures & Types of Missions

1. In compliance with reference (a), the following Combat After Action Report is submitted for the 3d Battalion, 12th Marines (-) (Rein).

2. Code Name. CHOCTAW3. Dates of Operation. 22 May to 9 July 1967

4. Location. The TAOR, located in the Thua Thien Province, was bounded on the north by a line from YD 4140 to YD 3737 to YD 3437; on the west by a line from YD 3437 to YD 3425 to YD 3725 to YD 3718; on the south by a line from YD 3718 to YD 5818; on the east by a line following the Song Bo (River) from YD 5818 to YD 6128; and on the northeast by a line running from YD 6128 to YD 4540.

5. Command Headquarters. 4th Marine Regiment, 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF.

6. Task Organization.

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>COMMANDER</u>
3d Bn, 12th Marines	LtCol J. L. MILES
Hq Btry, 3/12	1stLt M. L. HODDER
Btry "G", 3/12	Capt T. P. KIRLAND
Btry "H", 3/12	Capt A. C. CONLON
1st Prov 155mm How Btry	Capt R. A. CRANE
2nd Prov 155mm How Btry	Capt W. C. SHAW
1st Plt, 1st Searchlight Btry	1stLt J. C. UECKER

2/2

a/n, Open CHOCTAW

320000 - 090067

Enclosure (1)

7. Intelligence.

a. Enemy Activities. The enemy has been concentrating his efforts in the rice paddies mainly to the east of Highway #1. Almost all contacts have been small unit contacts with four to ten man units of VC. During the latter part of June and in early July, the general movement of the enemy forces has been west. Also, both Reconnaissance patrols and AO's have reported the movement of sampans along the rivers bordering Base Area 114 and the Hai Lang National Forest. Patrols, AO sightings, and intelligence reports have noted new bunkers and A-A positions in the vicinity of YD 5825, YD 6023, and YD 5940; and indications are that a rebuilding program is in progress.

b. Enemy Intentions. During the initial phases of Operation CHOCTAW, the enemy forces were concentrated in the rice-producing areas, attempting to procure rice. During the last few weeks, the general movement of the enemy westward and the utilization of sampans is an indication that the enemy is moving captured rice and supplies back into the base area.

8. Concept of Operation. 4th Marines units were to continue aggressive small unit activities throughout the assigned areas of operation as well as providing screening forces and artillery south of Quang Tri.

9. Mission. 3d Battalion, 12th Marines (-) (Rein) was to provide direct artillery support to the 4th Marine Regiment.

10. Execution.

a. See Enclosure (1) for a daily chronology of significant events.

b. Survey. All positions were surveyed from a common Battalion Survey Control Point (SCP). This SCP was located at a map inspected road junction.

11. Results. Total confirmed KIA for the operation was 21. Total probable KIA was 124.

12. Communications. During this operation, all firing batteries, the Regimental Liaison Officer, and the Battalion guarded the Battalion Fire Direction Net. Battalion FDC also monitored the Division Reconnaissance Net and the Rough Rider Net as required. Radio was the primary means of communications with the forward observers, and land lines the primary means with the firing batteries and liaison officers. Radio was used as a supplementary means for the land lines. The 4th Marines maintained the Comm and Crypto guard for the Battalion with courier service between the two GP's. No unusual problems were encountered during the operation.

13. Supply.

- a. Overall Class I, II, III, and V support was adequate.
- b. Class IV support was adequate except for a serious shortage of sandbags and bunker material. Although this organization has been in the Camp EVANS area for over five months, it has not received any bunker material.

14. Commander's Analysis.

- a. Operation CHOCTAW was essentially of the same purpose and nature as Operations CHINOOK and BIG HORN.
- b. On several occasions during this operation, Marine infantry companies have operated in areas outside the range of the artillery located in the Combat Base area at Camp EVANS. Rather than displacing Marine artillery and the requisite security for it, Vietnamese artillery located in ARVN compounds near the areas of the planned operations has been used for direct support. As a coordinating element, a Marine artillery liaison team has been sent to the participating ARVN compound to monitor the Marine company's Conduct of Fire Net and insure that the ARVN Fire Direction Center receives the call for fire. It is recommended that maximum use be made of ARVN artillery when available in the support of company and smaller sized units.
- c. There have been numerous night spottings of groups of up to fifty (50) VC operating around and within the TACR by the AN/TPS-21. With the information obtained from the radar set, fire missions have been conducted with what seemed to be good success. However, on searching the impact areas the next day (some four to six hours after the fire missions) little evidence of kills has been found. It is recommended that the impact areas be checked out for possible enemy casualties immediately after sufficient artillery has been fired on TPS-21 sightings.

DB Barker
D. B. BARKER

DAILY CHRONOLOGY1 June

At 0155H Battery "G" fired 16 rounds of 155 HE on VC lights spotted on a hillside at grid YD 515223 by members of the Battalion FDC. Rounds were on target, and the lights were extinguished.

Battery "H" firing in support of the AO, SACRED MIKE, expended 54 rounds of HE at 1806H on a VC supply area. The mission resulted in two secondary explosions in the target area.

At 1808H elements of 1/4 called in fire on a VC bunker at grid YD 543275. Thirteen rounds of HE were expended on the target with a surveillance of good coverage.

At 1905H SACRED MIKE, again called for fire on a VC supply area at grid YD 481325. Battery "H" attacked the target with 20 rounds of HE, and surveillance was rounds were reported on target.

At 1920H SACRED MIKE, spotted 6 rafts on a river bank at grid YD 487325. Seven rounds of HE, fuzes quick and VT, were expended and rounds were reported on target.

At 1958H elements of 2/4 reported receiving small arms fire and incoming mortars from grid YD 603354. Battery "H" responded with 36 rounds of HE, silencing the fire. Surveillance was to be made the following day.

Between 2112H and 2310H Battery "P" fired 22 WP and 87 HE rounds, fuzes Quick and VT, on VC lights spotted in the vicinity of YD 594216. Several fire for effects were called for by the recon team, MORBID I, who observed the mission, and no lights reappeared after end of mission was given.

2 June

Elements of 1/4 reported receiving sniper fire at 0850H from grid YD 578244. Battery "G" fired 11 rounds of HE on the target and the firing ceased.

At 0905H Battery "G" fired 15 rounds of HE as preparation fires for elements of 1/4 who were moving to a new location. The grid was YD 586245, and rounds were on target.

At 0935H Battery "G" fired 2 rounds of WP and 8 rounds of HE on an enemy bunker at grid YD 549249. Excellent coverage of the target was reported on this mission fired for an element of 1/4.

At 1345H elements of 2/4 observed a platoon of VC in a treeline near a village at grid YD 476424. The Second Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery fired 1 round of WP and 12 rounds of HE on the target, destroying four huts and causing 10 KIA's (probable).

ENCLOSURE (1)

111

DECLASSIFIED

At 1600H elements of 2/4 reported taking sniper fire from grid YD 578246. Battery "G" fired 16 rounds of HE on the target, silencing the sniping.

At 1730H Battery "H" fired 1 round of WP and 13 rounds of HE on a reconnaissance by fire mission into the ruins of a village at YD 521265. Excellent coverage of the target was the surveillance on this mission fired in support of 1/4.

At 1855H elements of 2/4 observed 4 VC in the open at YD 437372. Battery "T" fired 1 round of WP and 9 of HE, fuzes Quick and VT, on the target, and surveillance was to follow. At 1912H, the 4 VC appeared again, having taken cover during the mission fired against them at grid YD 5375. Battery "T" fired 8 rounds of HE, fuze VT, on the target, and surveillance was 2 KIA (confirmed) and 1 KIA (probable).

From 2310H to 0325H Batteries "P" and "T" fired a total of 2 WP and 25 HE, fuze VT, on an enemy platoon in a treeline at YD 467432 and 455434. Excellent effect on target was reported by elements of 2/4 who observed the mission, and additional surveillance was to follow.

3 JUNE

Four VC were observed by elements of 2/4 at 1936H and Battery "T" fired 3 rounds of WP and 12 rounds of HE on the target at grid YD 423386. A sweep made later by Company "G", 2/4 discovered two large blood trails at grid YD 435393 and the surveillance was 2 KIA (probable).

At 2055H elements of 2/4 had trapped a body of 30 VC troops in a wooded area at grid YD 455434. Battery "T" fired thirty-five rounds of HE, fuze VT, on the troops, but there was no surveillance on this mission.

While firing H&I's to the south of the CHOCTAW area, the 40mm anti-aircraft detachment observed a large secondary explosion due to one of their volleys. This information was relayed to FDC by the FSCC at 1/4, and an unobserved mission was fired on grid YD 529287 by Battery "H". 9 rounds of HE and 9 rounds of WP were fired. Observation indicated that there might have been another secondary explosion, however it was not confirmed.

Battery "T" fired 15 rounds of illumination on suspected VC movement in support of elements of 2/4 at grid YD 466415. No VC were detected, and end of mission was given.

4 JUNE

At 0300H Battery "H" fired 12 HE rounds and 2 rounds of WP on 6 VC in the open at grid YD 525283. Surveillance was to follow at first light, however, no kills were reported on this mission fired for 1/4.

Members of Headquarters Battery on the lines detected activity on the outer wire. Several rounds of M-79 discouraged further probing attempts.

ENCLOSURE ()

The FSCC of 1/4 reported 2 VC bunkers at grid YD 525269, and Battery "H" fired 1 round of WP and 12 rounds of HE on this target at 0625H. Excellent coverage of the target was the surveillance.

Battery "H" fired 92 rounds of HE in a mission saturating a VC base-camp in the vicinity of grid YD 550240 at 1032H. Elements of 1/4 were to sweep the area the following day.

At 1330H Battery "F" expended 33 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and Delay, while destroying an enemy bunker at grid YD 569245. The mission was fired in support of 1/4.

5 June

The Commanding Officer of the Battalion departed the CP area at 0900H for Phu Bai, where he discussed with the Commanding Officer of 4/12 the location of battery positions during this and forthcoming operations. He returned at 1300H.

Battery "H" expended 19 rounds of HE on 4 VC in the open at YD 565256. Elements of 1/4 requested this mission at 1015H, and the surveillance was good effect on target.

At 1230H Battery "H" fired 1 round of WP and 22 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT, on 2 VC spotted at grid YD 577244. Surveillance on this mission fired in support of 1/4 was 1 KIA (probable).

Six VC were observed at grid YD 575233 by elements of 1/4 at 1250H. Battery "H" fired 7 rounds of HE, fuze VT, on the VC with good effect on the target.

At 1430H word was received from 12th Marines that no H&I's or unobserved missions were to be fired by 105 Howitzers until further notice.

An AO, S/2RED ROMEO, observed several VC in a treeline in the vicinity of grid YD 555244 at 1438H. Battery "H" fired 1 round of WP and 20 HE, fuzes Quick and VT, on the target. There was no surveillance on the mission, and an air strike took the place of artillery attacking the target.

At 1600H the Battalion Commander and the Commanding Officer of Battery "A" 1/12, departed the CP area for the Phu Bai area where they were to conduct a reconnaissance of the battery position for the forthcoming OPERATION COLGATE.

ENCLOSURE (1)

6 JUNE

At 1200H Operational Control of Batteries "A", 1/12, and "W", 2/12 was assumed by this activity. Battery "A" did not set up a position area because it was due to displace for an operation; Battery "W" assumed a position in the vicinity of grid YD 539228, but due to a lack of 4.2" ammunition was not ready to fire.

At 1300H Battery "A", 1/12, and a platoon from the 1st Provisional 155 Battery displaced from the Battalion position to the Phu Bai area where the composite battery will support elements of 1/3 on OPERATION COLGATE. One gun from the platoon of 155mm Howitzers reverted back to the control of its parent unit, 4/12.

VC in the open were spotted at YD 589255 and Battery "H" fired 2 rounds of WP and 5 rounds of HE on the target. Good coverage was the only surveillance on this mission fired at 1500H.

Battery "W" reported taking sniper rounds as they were setting up their position area at approximately 1700H. No fire was returned, and there were no USMC casualties.

Elements of 1/4 reported a target of retreating VC at 1710H in the vicinity of grid YD 572242. Battery "H" fired 15 rounds of HE on the target with good coverage as surveillance.

At 1920H elements of 1/4 reported heavy enemy small arms fire coming from grid YD 589248. Battery "H" fired 5 rounds of WP and 6 rounds of HE on the target causing the fire to cease.

Shortly thereafter, the same FO with 1/4 called in a shift from the last target on renewed small arms fire coming from grid 594242. Three rounds of WP and 6 rounds of HE were fired against this opposition and surveillance was 1 KIA (confirmed) and 5 KIA (probable). Battery "H" fired this mission.

7 JUNE

At 0658H A forward observer with 1/4 observed enemy troop movement at grid YD 589245. Battery "H" expended 1 round of WP and 14 rounds of HE, fuze VT on the target. The forward observer reported that a surveillance would be sent at a later date.

At 0917H Battery "H" expended 1 round of HE on 3 VC in the open at grid YD 587244. The forward observer was unable to orientate himself; therefore end of mission was given.

At 1325H an element from 1/4 spotted an enemy bunker at grid YD 581-269. The First Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery expended 6 rounds of HE on the target. Excellent effect on the bunker was reported as the surveillance.

ENCLOSURE (1)

8 JUNE

From 0815H to 0953H The First Provisional 155 Howitzer and Battery "W" fired 6 rounds of 155mm HE and 8 rounds of 105HE, fuzes Quick and VT, on VC in the open at grids YD 583256 and YD 569246. Surveillance on these missions fired in support of 1/4 was 1 KIA (probable).

Recon patrol PEERAGE II reported VC contact at 0900H, and the First Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery and Battery "H" fired 4 rounds of 155mm HE and 25 rounds of 105mm HE on the target at grid YD 497248. Surveillance on this mission was 1 KIA (probable).

At 1035H PEERAGE II reported suspected VC at grid YD 504 248. Battery "H" fired 5 rounds of WP and 24 rounds of HE on the target. Good coverage was given as the surveillance.

The First Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery and Battery "H" fired 6 rounds of 105 HE and 7 rounds of 155mm HE on VC in the open at grid YD 564248. Good target coverage was the surveillance given by elements of 1/4 on this mission fired at 1045H.

At 1345H The First Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery fired 6 rounds of HE, fuses Quick and VT, on VC in the open spotted at grid YD 582255 by elements of 1/4. No confirmed kills were reported, however 1 VC was known to be wounded.

At least 6 VC were detected at grid YD 53642428 by a TPS-21 manned by elements of 1/4, Battery "H" fired 25 rounds of HE on the target at 2357H with no surveillance reported.

9 JUNE

At least 4 VC were detected in the open at grid YD 53982430 by the TPS-21 manned by elements of 1/4 on Hill 51 at 0016H, shortly after a mission had been fired on a VC squad in the same area. Battery "H" fired 46 rounds of HE on the target and no further movement was detected.

ENCLOSURE (1)

(11)

DECLASSIFIED

Battery "H" fired 1 round of WP and 6 of HE on a suspected VC position at YD 544215. Surveillance on this mission fired at 1248H in support of 1/4 was good coverage of the target.

At 1608H Battery "H" fired 4 rounds of HE, fuze VT, and 2 WP on 2 VC in the open who were spotted by elements of 1/4. No surveillance was given on this target located at YD 567257.

10 JUNE

Prior to the insertion of the recon patrol, PEERAGE II, the Second Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery, fired 28 rounds of HE between 0810 and 0912H clearing a landing zone for the patrol.

At 1110H VC in the open were reported by elements of 1/4 to be at grid YD 586286. The First Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery fired 1 round of WP and 8 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT on the target with a surveillance of 2 KIA (probable).

Battery "G", 3/12 departed the Battalion area at 1230H for its new position area for OPERATION CUMBERLAND at grid YD 717107. The battery arrived at its new position area at 1600H and reported ready to fire at 1700H.

ENCLOSURE (1)

DECLASSIFIED

11 JUNE

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

12 JUNE

The Battalion Commander, the Executive Officer, the SgtMajor and the Battalion Operations Chief departed the CP at 0830H for Dong Ha. The purpose of the trip was to visit the Commanding Officer, 12th Marines and to attend a briefing on FADAC.

At 1015H the Battalion S-3 attended a briefing which was held at the Fourth Marines CP for the CG, 3D Marine Division.

The Battalion Commander and party returned to the CP at 1215H.

At 1330H the Battalion Commander departed the Battalion CP on a reconnaissance of a possible Battery position at grid YD 462379 to support 1/3 on an operation in the Hai Lang National Forest Reserve. The recon party consisted of the Battalion S-3, the company commander of Company "B", 3D Engineers, commanding officer, Battery "H", 3D Battalion, 12th Marines, and the commanding officer, Battery "A", 1st Battalion, 12th Marines.

The recon party returned to the Battalion CP at 1530H.

At 1813 an air observer, ~~Scored~~ Mike, reported 12 rafts on the river bank at grid YD 472304. Battery "H" fired 52 rounds of HE which brought a surveillance of 3 secondary explosions.

The Second Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery expended 4 rounds of HE and 9 rounds of WP at 1900H on the same rafts which were reported earlier. The surveillance given by the Air Observer was rounds on target.

13 JUNE

Battery "H", at 0935H, fired on a suspected VC position at grid YD 5200-2392. After observing 3 rounds of WP and 24 rounds of HE the recon patrol, PUNCTUATE II was unable to give a surveillance, but reported hearing voices.

At 1636H the recon patrol, PUNCTUATE I spotted VC in holes at grid YD 523243. The First Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery expended 45 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT, before ending the mission because the VC were too close to the patrol.

At 1740H the VC at YD 523243 had spotted the recon position and PUNCTUATE I reported about 20 VC/NVA were moving upon them. The First Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery expended 41 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT until an extraction from the area was made possible for the patrol.

ENCLOSURE (1)

11

After the extraction of PUNCTUATE I air and artillery were called to cover the area which had previously been fired on. Following a fixed wing strike, the 1st Provisional and 2d Provisional 155 Howitzer Batteries expended a total of 19 rounds of WP and 148 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT. 4th Marine personnel observed 5 secondary explosions and one pyrotechnic explosion with tracers going up as high as 1000 feet. Before being extracted the recon patrol had observed several .50 caliber machine guns and it was suggested that possibly a VC arms and ammo cache had been hit.

At 2050H the Commanding Officer of 2/4 reported receiving sniper fire from YD 637314. The 1st Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery expended 3 rounds of HE, fuze Quick and VT, on the sniper(s). The mission was continued as an H&I to be fired at 2400H, 0200H, 0400H, and 0600H. No further harassment from the sniper(s) was noted.

14 June

At 1346H elements of 1st Battalion, 3d Marines, observed 3 VC in the open at grid YD 415372. The 1st Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery expended 8 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT, to obtain a surveillance of 3 KIA (probable) and a secondary explosion.

At 1600H the Battalion sent a liaison team consisting of three enlisted men and one officer to the ARVN artillery compound at Hai Lang to coordinate any fire requested by Company "G", 2d Battalion, 4th Marines, who would move into that area under the cover of darkness.

Between 1600H and 1630H the 2d Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery fired on VC who were attempting to surround the recon patrol, PUNCTUATE I, at grid YD 459255. A total of 18 HE rounds were expended and the recon patrol reported 1 KIA (confirmed).

At 1644H Naval Gunfire elements located on Hill 51 observed 5 VC in the open at YD 569245. Battery "A" had expended a total of 17 HE, fuze Quick and VT, before a check fire was ordered because of incoming Medical Evacuation helicopter.

At 1650H PUNCTUATE I reported VC were again attempting to surround their position. The 2d Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery fired 2 rounds of HE that interrupted the VC activity and the recon patrol reported excellent effect on the target.

At 1835H elements of 1/3 spotted a suspected VC OP at YD 421365. The 1st Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery expended 3 rounds of WP and 18 rounds of HE, after which 4 KIA (probable), 2 KIA (confirmed) and the area neutralized was offered as surveillance.

At 1920H elements of 1/3 observed 5 more VC in the open at grid YD 419-320. The 1st Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery expended 1 round of WP and 8 rounds of HE, fuze Quick and VT, to get a surveillance of 3 KIA (probable).

ENCLOSURE (1)

19 June

The Naval Gunfire Team from 3/12 located on Hill 674 (YD 517219) observed a possible VC bunker located at grid YD 525232. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery fired 57 rounds of HE on the target, resulting in a secondary explosion. The mission was fired at 1025H.

At 1455H elements of 2/4 reported receiving heavy automatic weapons fire from grid YD 658144. The First Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery fired 2 rounds of WP and 3 rounds of HE on the target, but no observation was possible and end of mission was given.

20 JUNE

At 0945H the Battalion S-3 departed this position for a reconnaissance of a future position for Battery "A", 1/12, in the vicinity of grid YD 4638. The recon party returned at 1045H.

Elements of 2/4 reported a VC assembly area at grids YD 480235 and YD 488233 at 1000H. The 1st and 2nd Provisional 155mm Howitzer Batteries expended 3 rounds of WP and 82 rounds of HE on the grids with good coverage of target and 3 KIA (confirmed), and 6 KIA (probable) as the surveillance.

An Intelligence report of a VC Battalion was received at 1120H from 4th Marines. The 1st & 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Batteries fired 1 round WP and 25 rounds of HE on the target with no surveillance at the time.

At 1315H elements of 2/4 reported a VC assembly area at grid YD 490233. The 1st and 2nd Provisional 155mm Howitzer Batteries fired 1 round of WP and 25 rounds of HE on the target with no surveillance at the time.

Elements of 2/4 called for counter-mortar fires at 2045H on suspected VC mortar positions at grids YD 494203 and YD 494206. Good coverage of target was reported on the 15 rounds of HE and 4 rounds of WP that the 1st Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery fired.

21 June

At 0330H the Naval Gunfire Team on Hill 674 called for fire on VC with lights at grid YD 525230. The First Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery fired 5 rounds of WP and 6 rounds of HE on the target with good coverage and lights extinguished as surveillance.

At 0600H Battery "A" displaced from the Battalion position to a temporary location at grid YD 467385. The Battery reported laid and ready to fire at 0750H.

ENCLOSURE (1)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
15 June

The recon patrol, PUNCTUATE I, called a fire mission at 1310H on VC in the open at grid YD 467251. The 2d Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery expended 67 rounds of HE which resulted in a surveillance of 6 KIA (probable).

At 1735H Battery "A" firing in support of PUNCTUATE I, expended 8 rounds of HE on VC at grid YD 459260, who were trying to surround the recon patrol.

16 June

Battery "A" in support of an element from 1/3 expended 9 rounds of illumination on suspected VC movement at grid YD 546291.

The Battalion Commander departed the CP at 1300H for Phu Bai and returned at 1530H.

The initial instruction and familiarization firing of the M-16 was completed for members of this Battalion at 1600H. Instructors were trained by Division G-3 on May 30, 1967.

At 1925H the 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery fired 1 round of WP and 15 rounds of HE on a VC mortar position at grid YD 418374. There was no surveillance on this mission which was fired for an element of 1/3.

17 June

Battery "H" expended 16 rounds of WP and 18 rounds of HE at 2037H on VC lights located at grid YD 530224. The recon patrol, PEERAGE I, who observed the mission reported the lights extinguished as the surveillance.

At 2147H the Naval Gunfire Team located on top Hill 674 reported seeing a light at grid YD 558252. The light went out after the 2d Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery fired two rounds of WP.

18 June

A call for fire was received from the recon patrol, PEERAGE I, at 0200H. The nature of target given was lights at grid YD 53592287. The 1st Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery expended 42 rounds of HE and 22 rounds of WP on the target. The surveillance given was 17 secondary explosions.

The Battalion Commander and the Executive Officer departed the CP by helicopter at 1500H to visit Battery "G" which is located in the Cumberland Operational Area. They returned to the CP at 1705H.

At 1735H the recon patrol, PEERAGE I, reported that they were being surrounded by an undetermined number of VC and requested to be extracted. A fire mission was prepared by the FDC to cover grids YD 534233, 534227, and 532224. The 1st Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery expended 102 rounds of HE after the recon patrol had been extracted. There was no surveillance for the mission.

ENCLOSURE (1)
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(11)

At 0905H the Battalion Commander departed the Battalion position for Battery "A", and returned at 1105H.

A VC ambush was sprung by elements of 2/4 at 0930H, and the First Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery was called upon to deliver support. Forty-three rounds of HE were fired on the target area when end of mission was given, and surveillance was to follow.

At 1055H Battery "A" expended 14 rounds of HE on VC snipers at grid YD 468428. Surveillance on this mission fired for 1/3 was 4 KIA (probable).

At 1805H The First Provisional and Second Provisional 155mm Howitzer Batteries fired 101 rounds of HE on VC assembly areas reported at grids YD 470222, 479219 and 493224. Good target coverage was the surveillance on the mission fired in support of 2/4.

Recon patrol, MORBID II, spotted 2 motorized sampans moving down the Song Bo River at grid YD 609223. The First Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery fired 12 rounds of WP and 12 rounds of HE on the target at 2115H and one direct hit on the sampans was reported.

The Naval Gunfire Team observed VC lights at grid YD 524234, and at 2135H Battery "H" fired 32 rounds of HE and 2 rounds of WP on the target. Surveillance was good shooting, excellent target coverage and lights extinguished.

22 June

Recon patrol, MORBID II observed a beached VC sampan on the Song Bo River at grid YD 608225. The First Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery fired 6 rounds of HE and 6 rounds of WP on the target, sinking the boat and causing 2 KIA (probable).

At 1015H MORBID II spotted 3 VC in the open at grid YD 609225. The First Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery fired 6 rounds of WP and 4 rounds of HE, fuze VT, on the target with a surveillance of 3 KIA (probable).

At 1400H Battery "A" returned to the Battalion position from their displacement and reported ready to fire on azimuth 3600.

Elements of 1/3 reported contact with 3 VC with automatic weapons at 1720H. The First Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery fired 5 rounds of HE on the target at grid YD 500424 with excellent coverage of target reported as the surveillance.

ENCLOSURE (1)

The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery fired 25 rounds of WP and 6 rounds of HE on VC chopping wood at grid YD 453257. Recon patrol, MORBID II, who called the mission at 2010H, reported 1 secondary explosion.

At 2050H MORBID II, observed 4 VC sampans on the Song Be River at grid YD 609225. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery fired 15 rounds of WP and 12 rounds of HE, fuze VT, on the crafts with a surveillance of 2 secondary explosions.

23 June

Between 1745H and 1905H the 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 8 rounds of WP firing in defensive concentrations for elements of 2/4. Grids fired were YD 550293, 555283, 546274 and 542284.

VC lights were observed at 2000H on a hillside at grid YD 520235 by the Naval Gunfire Team of 3/12, located on top Hill 674. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery fired 1 round WP and 18 rounds of HE on the target with excellent coverage, putting out the lights.

The Naval Gunfire Team on top Hill 674 spotted flashes from enemy mortar tubes at grid YD 553245. The 1st 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 4 rounds of HE on the target, but no surveillance was made. The mission was fired at 2145H.

At 0715H the 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 7 rounds of WP, one round every 10 minutes to serve as position marking rounds for the recon patrol, PEERAGE.

The 4th Marines FSAC requested a field at grid YD 471252 be set on fire. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 5 rounds of WP on the target at 1620H. No surveillance was given.

24 June

The recon patrol, PEERAGE II, observed VC taking cover in a bunker at grid YD 45122580. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery responded with 14 rounds of HE and 24 rounds of WP which were fired on the enemy at 1655H. Excellent coverage of the target was given as surveillance.

25 June

PEERAGE I, a recon patrol, spotted 1 VC at grid YD 578192. 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 2 rounds of HE on the enemy troop. Good coverage was given as the surveillance.

ENCLOSURE (1)

At 1805H the Battalion fired a High Burst Registration using Battery "H". Six (6) rounds of HE, fuse Time, all of which were usable, were expended. The target area was at grid YD 533287. The registration was valid.

At 1955H PEERAGE I, observed a VC sampan on the Song Bo River at grid YD 59362051. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 4 rounds of HE, but the recon patrol was unable to observe damage.

VC lights were sighted at grid YD 451257 by the recon patrol, PEERAGE II. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer expended 10 rounds of WP and 6 rounds of HE. Surveillance was good coverage on target and screams were heard from the enemy. The mission was fired at 2120H.

26 June

Recon patrol PEERAGE I, reported a VC sampans at 0045H on the Song Bo River at grid YD 593205. The 1st Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery fired 4 rounds of HE on the target with good coverage reported. Darkness prevented further surveillance, however.

From 0655H to 0950H Recon patrol, PEERAGE II, conducted a series of reconnaissance by fire missions at grids YD 451254, 452257, and 449259. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery fired 64 rounds of WP and 9 rounds of HE on these missions with good target coverage as a surveillance.

27 June

The 2d Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery fired 3 rounds of HE and 5 rounds of WP at a VC sampan on the Song Bo River at grid YD 593-205. End of mission was given by the Recon patrol, PEERAGE I, at 0408H after a fifty foot ball of flame erupted from the sampan when it received a direct hit.

An aerial observer, SACRED CHARLIE, spotted VC crossing a stream at 1155H, and Battery "H" fired 8 rounds of WP and 6 rounds of HE, fuse VT, on the target located at grid YD 485243. Surveillance was good coverage of target.

At 1550H the 1st Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery fired 10 rounds of WP and 21 rounds of HE on automatic weapons reported by an elements of 2/4 at grid YD 506226. Excellent effect on target was the surveillance on this mission.

The 1st Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery fired on an automatic weapons position at grid YD 508224 with 1 round of WP and 12 rounds of HE. Surveillance on the mission fired at 1840H in support of 2/4 was excellent coverage of target.

ENCLOSURE (1)

At 1915H the 2d Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery fired 8 rounds of WP and 1 round of HE on yellow smoke detected by the Recon patrol, PEERAGE I, at grid YD 581188. Good coverage of target was the surveillance on this mission.

28 June

Recon patrol, PARTYLINE I, observed 10 NVA/VC in the open at grid YD 541224. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 7 rounds of HE and 7 rounds of WP, but the recon patrol was unable to give surveillance because of the smoke. The mission was fired at 1635H.

PEERAGE I, a recon patrol, observed a VC assembly area on the banks of the Song Bo River at grid YD 586202. At 1854H the 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 1 round of WP and 25 rounds of HE, fuze VT, on the target. The surveillance was 2 KIA (probable) and one raft destroyed.

Elements of 1/4 called for a mission on 8 VC moving up a ridgeline at grid YD 524215. At 1943H the 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 2 rounds of WP and 21 rounds of HE, fuze VT, that resulted in enemy losses of 1 KIA (confirmed) and 4 KIA (probable).

At 2110H the recon patrol, PEERAGE I, observed lights in the area of grid YD 601189. The 2d Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery attacked the target with 18 rounds of WP and 29 rounds of HE. A secondary explosion was the surveillance, and the recon patrol reported good coverage of the target.

PEERAGE I, heard noises coming from grid YD 601189 at 2330H. The 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 18 rounds of WP and 36 rounds of HE. Surveillance was 2 secondary explosions.

29 June

Heavy sniper fire was encountered by elements of 2/4 at Grid YD 622-331. From 1130 to 1235H Battery "H" and the 1st Provisional 155 Battery expended 8 rounds of 105mm WP, 6 rounds of 105mm HE, and 2 rounds of 155mm WP. Good effect on the target was reported.

Elements of 2/4 spotted 1 VC at YD 523215. The 1st Provisional 155 Battery fired on the VC at 1251H using 1 round of WP and 19 rounds of HE. Final surveillance was 1 KIA (Probable).

An element of 2/4 sighted 8 VC on a ridgeline at YD 613209. The 2d Provisional 155 Battery expended 8 rounds of WP and 8 rounds of HE at 1916H. Surveillance could not be obtained due to darkness.

ENCLOSURE (1)

DECLASSIFIED

The 1st Provisional 155 Battery expended 10 rounds of HE on suspected enemy movement reported by elements of 2/4. The mission was fired at YD 523215 at 1220H. No surveillance was given, but the mission was fired periodically as an H&I.

30 June

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

ENCLOSURE (1)

11
DECLASSIFIED

DAILY CHRONOLOGY1 July

Elements of 2/4 observed 5 VC/NVA at grid YD 557247. At 1750H, Battery "H" expended 5 rounds of WP and 10 rounds of HE on the target but no surveillance was given.

2 July

CAT KILLER 22, an aerial observer, sighted 4 VC rafts on the Song 0 Tau River at grid YD 471304. Battery "H" expended 2 rounds of WP and 20 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT, at 0830H. Good coverage of the target was given as the surveillance.

At 1700H the 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 14 rounds of HE on suspected movement at grid YD 52352134. The mission was fired for elements of 2/4 and surveillance was not available.

3 July

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

4 July

Enemy movement was suspected by elements of 2/4 at grid YD 546338. Battery "H" expended 2 rounds of illumination, but no movement could be detected. The mission was fired at 0245H.

At 1200H the 1st and 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Batteries expended 21 rounds of HE in recognition of Independence Day.

In celebration of Independence Day, Battery "H" along with the 1st and 2d Provisional Batteries illuminated the area around the Camp Evans CP at 2100H. Battery "H" expended 72 rounds of 155mm illumination and the Provisional 155mm Batteries expended 36 rounds of illumination.

The Battalion's Naval Gunfire team observed VC lights at grid YD 523252. Battery "H" expended 10 rounds of WP and 60 rounds of HE, fuze Time. The mission was fired at 2140H.

At 2250H the Naval Gunfire team requested fire on suspected VC movement at grid YD 523258. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery responded to the call for fire with 29 rounds of illumination and 36 rounds of HE, fuze Quick and VT. No surveillance was given on the mission.

ENCLOSURE (1)

5 July

Elements of 2/4 reported taking incoming enemy mortar fire from grid YD 594293 at 1152H. Battery "H" expended 6 rounds of WP which silenced the mortars.

At 2330H Battery "H" expended 15 rounds of HE, fuze VT and Quick, on suspected VC movement at grid YD 545336. The mission was fired for ARVN forces at the Pho Trach compound, but no surveillance was given.

6 July

The Naval Gunfire Team observed 2 VC at grid YD 528213. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 11 rounds of HE at 1215H. Rounds on target was the surveillance.

From Hill 674 the Naval Gunfire team spotted 3 enemy sampans on the Song Bo River at grid YD 432273. After the 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 3 rounds of WP and 2 rounds of HE, at 1325H, the observer reported the target had escaped.

NETTLE RASH I, a recon patrol, called fire on 4 VC located at grid YD 497224 at 1330H. Battery "H" responded to the call with 7 rounds of WP and 42 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT. Outstanding coverage along with 1 KIA (probable) was the surveillance.

NETTLE RASH I, sighted 5 additional VC at grid YD 495222 at 1340H. This time the 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 20 rounds of HE. A surveillance of 5 KIA (probable) was reported.

At 1500H the Battalion CO left the Camp Evans CP for Operation Cumberland's Area. He returned at 1615H.

Battery "H" in response to another call for fire from NETTLE RASH I, fired 30 rounds of HE on 2 VC at grid YD 482243. The mission was fired at 1505H and the surveillance was 1 KIA (probable).

At 2005H NETTLE RASH I, observed (1) VC setting a fire at grid YD 521216. The 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 1 round of WP and 12 rounds of HE, but the recon patrol could not observe the effect of the rounds on the target.

ENCLOSURE (1)

11

7 July

Between 0438H and 0450H the 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 5 rounds of WP and 9 rounds of HE on VC with lights moving south at grid YD 48212417. Excellent coverage of the target was the surveillance on the mission fired for the Naval Gunfire team.

At 0815H the Battalion CO along with the Battalion S-3 departed the Camp Evans CP for the Operation Cumberland area. They returned at 1230H.

The 12th Marines Executive Officer and the Regimental S-3 arrived at 3/12's CP at Camp Evans at 0900H to observe the Battalion's operation. They departed at 1530H.

At 0930H the Naval Gunfire team observed 12 VC at grid YD 522215. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 17 rounds of HE before an air strike was called in to complete the mission. The result of the artillery fire was not reported.

NETTLE RASH I, a recon patrol, sighted 3 VC lights at grid YD 48052438. Battery "H" expended 1 round of WP and 28 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT, at 2015H. The lights were destroyed, 3 KIA (probable) and 3 secondary explosions were reported.

The Naval Gunfire team spotted VC lights moving north at grid YD 472242. After Battery "H" expended 2 rounds of WP and 16 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT, 3 KIA (probable) and outstanding coverage was reported. The mission was fired at 2325H.

8 July

The Naval Gunfire team observed VC with lights at grid YD 526-214. At 0233H the 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 10 rounds of HE after which the lights were reported extinguished.

NETTLE RASH I, a recon patrol, called fire on VC with lights moving up the ridgeline at grid YD 483242. Battery "H" expended 6 rounds of WP and 37 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT at 0325H. The final surveillance was 5 KIA (probable).

At 1140H NETTLE RASH I reported sighting a large group of VC at grid YD 52132140. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 75 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT, to get a result of 1 KIA (confirmed), 7 KIA (probable) and 1 secondary explosion.

ENCLOSURE (1)

Two (2) VC at grid YD 515232 were fired upon by the 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery at 1505H. After 3 rounds of WP and 6 rounds of HE were expended NETTLE RASH I, the recon team observing the mission, conveyed a surveillance of 2 KIA (probable).

The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery responded to a call for fire on 13 VC reported by the Naval Gunfire team at 2100H. 36 rounds of HE were expended on the target which was located at grid YD 522216. Excellent coverage and 10 KIA (probable) was given as the surveillance.

After receiving a TPS-21 reading of 50 VC at grid YD 550330, approximately 1500 meters from the Camp Evans perimeter, Battery "H" expended 120 rounds of HE, fuze VT. Villagers in the area reported the VC had forced them to remove 30 bodies from the target area.

At 2130H the TPS-21 detected 10 VC at grid YD 550336. Battery "H" expended 30 rounds of HE. The surveillance was 1 secondary explosion.

2 July

At 1345H the Naval Gunfire team reported sighting smoke from a VC campfire at grid YD 51501836. The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 4 rounds of WP and 8 rounds of HE. The observer gave outstanding shooting as the surveillance.

A helicopter crew reported seeing 7 VC at grid YD 559231. Battery "H" expended 8 rounds of WP and 24 rounds of HE, fuze VT, at 1628H. The rounds were observed landing 25 meters from the target.

The 1st Searchlight Battery observed enemy movement at grid YD 528238. At 1709H the 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 10 rounds of HE. Four (4) secondary explosions were observed.

At 2400H Operation CHOCTAW ended.

ENCLOSURE (1)

DECLASSIFIED

Table of Ammunition Expenditures
and type of missions

	MAY												June													
	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th	28th	29th	30th	31st	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th	15th	
Obs	11	6	11	14	3	11	11	30	13	16	8	14	8													
Unobs	4		7	1	2	43				2	15	1	5													
H&I's	268	187	93	146	123	101	75	97	130	84	114	96														
TOTALS	283	6	198	114	150	136	155	105	110	148	107	129	109													

AMMO EXPENDED

105 HE	416	290	310	183	200	196	279	148	194	275	211	52														
WP	21	2	17	46	39	56	11	40	11	23	16	4	10													
111	3		5	3	23							1														
155 HE	184	108	101	111	75	253	103	72	115	197	131	137														
WP	21	5	3	66		2	17	10	12	22	4	4														
111	3	3	1	2	10	14		4	1			25														
8" HE		3																								
107 HE																										
TOTALS	645	8	421	462	399	344	499	439	245	345	510	378	228													

SURVEILLANCE

KIA(C)	7								1			2													
	12		1					2	3			11	2												

MISSIONS FIRED	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th	15th	16th												
Obs	8	4	5	13	22	6	4		6	21	13	9	7												
Unobs		6				2	1																		
H&I's	121	124	125	124	61	32	124	71	42	72	81	123	175												
	129	128	110	143	83	130	72	48	23	94	132	182													

AMMO EXPENDED

105 HE	268	168	20	59	175	64	39		54	64	17	14	8													
WP	5	2	2	16	100	4	2		45				20													
111		21						4	8	6	9															
155 HE	129	36	157	197	190	32	311	119	38	379	163	262	293													
WP	5	10	24	6	2	1		11	76	5		1														
111	3					3																				
8" HE								14	52																	
107 HE																										
TOTALS	397	256	199	298	492	192	353	132	158	568	194	303	488													

SURVEILLANCE

KIA(C)	1								3																
KIA(P)	1	5	1	2				10	10	6															

Table of Ammunition Expenditures
and types of missions

June

MISSIONS FIRED	17th	18th	19th	20th	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th	28th
Obs	12	15	20	15	14	14	11	5	4	11	9	15
Unobs		3				1	2			2	4	
E&I's	89	92	88	95	63	132	151	176	221	144	188	136
TOTALS	101	110	108	110	77	147	170	181	225	155	199	156

AMMO EXPENDED

105 HE	53	75	159	90	87	12	72	60	24	27	231	249
WP	30	29	21	8	8	24	29	10		1	48	150
III		8								37	2	
155 HE	129	280	183	456	253	238	150	248	279	213	140	259
WP	19	54	14	11	17	76	29	34	10	68	25	47
III									2			
8" HE												3
107 HE					17	32	66	27	30	27	20	42
TOTALS	264	446	419	618	397	416	339	382	340	366	488	705

SURVEILLANCE

KIA(C)	3											3
KIA(P)	6							5				4

July

MISSIONS FIRED	29th	30th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	TOTALS
Obs	30	12		2	15	16	12	5	10	19	10	557
Unobs		1							2	2		106
E&I's	131	135	106	88	141	121	123	136	160	189	133	5907
TOTALS	161	148	106	90	156	137	135	141	170	210	145	6570

AMMO EXPENDED

105 HE	477	166	132	102	140	114	108	114	160	468	241	7605
WP	29	45		2	4	10	12	5	4	10	8	974
III	6	1				78			8	6		223
155 HE	245	128	76	84	145	144	133	156	113	328	119	8451
WP	35	3				1	19	1	14	15	12	810
III	3	2			56	1	22	50	29	45		314
8" HE												3
107 HE												502
TOTALS	793	344	208	188	289	403	273	298	341	858	431	18892

SURVEILLANCE

KIA(C)												21
KIA(P)	1							7	6	29		124

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Daily Chronology

22 May

Operation CHOCTAW began at 0001H this date.

The 2d Provisional 155 Battery expended 2 illuminating rounds at Grid YD 531341 in support of ARVN units at Phong Dien. Rounds were fired at 0135 and 0540H.

Four WP and 16 HE rounds were fired at 3 VC in woods at Grid YD 550260 by Battery "H" at 1015H. This mission was called in by an FO from 2/4, and his surveillance was two KIA(probable).

At 1105H Battery "H" fired 8 WP and 8 HE rounds on 2 VC gathering rice at Grid YD 527275. Rounds were reported on target by an element of 2/4.

Ten WP and 4 HE rounds were expended by Battery "H" at 1200H on rice drying in a courtyard located at Grid YD 538271. This mission was fired for SACRED UNIFORM, an AO, who reported that the rice did not burn as anticipated.

At 1330H Battery "H" fired 10 HE rounds for 2/4 on unobserved VC gathering rice at Grid YD 523271.

The 2d Provisional 155 Battery fired 1 HE spotting round at 1845H for a Recon team, AMBRIDGE I. This mission was fired at Grid YD 409353, and the surveillance reported was round on target.

At 1610H the 2d Provisional 155 Battery fired 54 rounds of HE on 30 VC at Grid YD 427341 who were attacking the Recon patrol PUNCTUATE I. Surveillance on this mission was 7 KIA(confirmed) and 10 KIA(probable).

Battery "H" fired 6 rounds of WP and 24 rounds of HE, fuze VT, on 3 VC in the open at Grid YD 563278. The only surveillance on this mission was good coverage.

Between 2100 and 2130H Battery "H" expended 24 rounds of HE, fuze VT, on VC movement at Grids YD 543259, and YD 541257. Movement was detected by a TPS-21 manned by elements of 2/4 located on Hill 51. Good effect on the target was the surveillance.

At 2359H movement was again detected by the TPS-21; however, no rounds were fired due to the truce for Buddha's birthday, which began at 230001H.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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23 May

Because of a truce which was established to honor the birth-date of Buddha, no missions were fired during this 24 hour period except for illumination, which was used for orientation. No H&I's were fired during this period, although many rice harvesters, presumably VC, were spotted in the free fire zone.

24 May

At 0001H all firing batteries began an H&I program.

Battery "H" fired 4 rounds of WP and 16 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT on 2 VC cutting rice at Grid YD 524271. A surveillance of 1 KIA (probable) was reported by an element of 2/4.

At 1508H Battery "H", in support of a unit from 2/4, fired 28 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT on 5 VC spotted at Grid YD 524271. There was no surveillance on the mission.

The 1st Provisional 155 Battery fired an unobserved mission at 2240H on a suspected VC assembly area. 14 rounds of HE were expended on the mission.

25 May

Between 0950 and 1025H Battery "H" and the 1st Provisional 155 Battery expended 48 rounds of 105mm HE and 36 rounds of 155mm HE, fuzes Quick and Delay, on a group of VG who had surrounded Recon patrol MORBID I. Grids fired were YD 484253, 488249, 494254, 474255, 476263, 546231 and 553231. The patrol was extracted, and there was no surveillance.

Between 1020 and 1056H Battery "H" fired 12 rounds of WP and 16 rounds of HE on VC snipers at YD 535257 and 580265. Surveillance reported by an element of 2/4 was good coverage of target and firing silenced.

At 1145H Battery "H", firing in support of a unit from 2/4, expended 6 rounds of WP and 12 rounds of HE, fuze VT, on VC in the open at Grid YD 579265. Good target coverage was the only surveillance.

Battery "H" fired 45 rounds of HE and 2 of WP at 1910H on VC in a treeline located at Grid YD 575264. Elements of 2/4 gave a surveillance of good target coverage.

Between 1455 and 1715H Battery "H" and the 1st Provisional 155

ENCLOSURE (1)

27 May

At 0620H the 1st Provisional 155 Battery expended 27 rounds of HE on preparation fires for Recon patrol PEERAGE I at Grid YD 574214.

Battery "H" fired 38 rounds of HE at 0810H on 3 armed VC in the open at Grid YD 525278. There was no surveillance on this mission, which was fired in support of a unit from 2/4.

At 1620H Battery "H" expended 18 rounds of WP and 2 rounds of HE on an undetermined number of VC at Grid YD 522272. The AO, CAT KILLER, was unable to give any significant surveillance.

Twelve rounds of WP and 5 rounds of HE were expended by Battery "H" at 2110H on lights which were observed by Recon patrol MORBID II at Grid YD 481-261. Good coverage of target was reported.

At 2352H Battery "H" fired 1 round of illumination on suspected VC movement at Grid YD 558256. This mission was fired in support of an element from 2/4 who gave a surveillance of no movement observed.

28 May

At 0040H Battery "H" expended 43 rounds of HE firing a counter-mortar plan in support of the ARVN at Phong Dien. Mortars silenced was reported by the ARVN Advisor.

The 2d Provisional 155 Battery fired 9 rounds of illumination at 0050H on suspected VC movement at Grid YD 531341. There was no surveillance on this mission.

Battery "H" expended 16 rounds of HE at 0100H on suspected VC positions at Grids YD 543356, YD 545360, YD 550355 and YD 550360. No surveillance was reported on the target.

At 0107H the 2d Provisional 155 Battery expended 12 rounds of HE on reinforcing fires for ARVN forces under attack at their LUONG MAI outpost at vicinity Grid YD 5442. The rounds were fired at Grid YD 546432.

Six illumination rounds were fired by Battery "H" at 0115H for the ARVN at Phong Dien.

The 2d Provisional 155 Battery fired 12 rounds of HE at 0200H as reinforcing fires for the ARVN at Luong Mai. Grids fired were YD 537427 and YD 537440.

At 0205H the 2d Provisional 155 Battery expended 60 rounds of HE on known VC positions reported by the ARVN at Phong Dien near their outpost at Luong Mai. There was no surveillance given at that time.

ENCLOSURE (1)

[REDACTED]

Battery expended 30 rounds of 105mm HE and 2 rounds of 155mm HE on a VC sampan at YD 583265. The rounds were not on target, therefore there was no damage to the sampan.

At 1735H Battery "H" expended 72 rounds of HE on a VC assembly area at YD 551256. There was no surveillance on this mission, which was fired in support of 2/4.

26 May

The 1st Provisional 155 Battery expended 14 rounds of WP and 18 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT at 1130H on VC who were firing at Recon patrol PEERAGE I at their insertion. There was no surveillance on the mission.

At 1700H the 1st Provisional 155 Battery expended 50 rounds of HE and 50 rounds of WP in preparation fires for movement of Recon patrol PEERAGE I. The rounds were unobserved.

Two rounds of WP and 8 rounds of HE, fuze VT, were fired by the 1st Provisional 155 Battery at 1948H on 3 VC in the open at Grid YD 522266. An element of 2/4 gave a surveillance of good effect on target.

Encl (1)
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(11)

The Second Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery was called again at 0300H to provide reinforcing fires for the ARVN at Phong Diem. Ninety-three rounds of HE were expended.

The First Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery fired 11 rounds of HE at 0530H on reinforcing fires for the ARVN at Phong Diem.

Battery "H" fired 58 rounds of HE at 1240H in support of an element of 2/4 who was receiving a heavy volume of enemy fire from grid YD 636346. The surveillance on this mission was rounds on target with 2 KIA (probable).

At 1325H Battery "H" expended 6 rounds of WP and 14 rounds of illumination in an attempt to burn a rice paddy at grid YD 552259. Elements of 2/4 who observed the mission reported that the rice did not burn.

The Second Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery fired 1 round of WP and 1 round of HE at 1920H on a suspected VC campfire which was located at grid YD 428343. Excellent coverage of the target was reported by elements of 2/

29 May

At 0735H Battery "H" expended 4 rounds of WP and 102 rounds of HE on VC in trenches at grid YD 633327. An element of 2/4 reported that the rounds were on target.

From 0737H to 1200H Battery "H" and the Second Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 121 rounds of HE, fuzes Quick and VT, and 5 rounds of WP on preparation fires at grids 480255, 567218, 527231, 525237, 522236, 522-240, 518240, 518240, 518245, and 513248. The missions were fired for the Recon patrols, Morbid II, and Peerage I. The surveillance was rounds on target.

The Second Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery expended 1 round of WP and 7 rounds of HE at 1215H on three VC in the open, grid YD 432374. Surveillance reported by elements of 2/4 was 3 VC KIA (probable).

At 1330H the Second Provisional Battery expended 1 round of WP and 9 rounds of HE on 7 VC in the open at grid YD 434388. The elements of 2/4 observing the mission gave end of mission and reported they lost sight of target.

At 1357H an element of 2/4 reported that helicopters were receiving enemy small arms fire at grid YD 578262. The First Provisional Battery expended 1 round of WP and 13 rounds of HE, fuze VT, all of which were reported on target and silenced the enemy small arms fires.

ENCLOSURE (1)

(1)

The Second Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery fired 16 rounds of 155mm HE, fuzes VT, at 1435H on 5 VC located at YD 414304. Recon patrols in the area reported rounds on target, but no other surveillance could be obtained.

During the evening various defensive concentrations were fired for the forward observers of 2/4. Concentrations were also fired in for the recon patrols operating in and around the 4th Marines TAOR.

From 2030H to 2050H the Battalion displayed its fire power capabilities in an exhibition for visiting Air Force personnel.

30 May

At 1621H Battery "H" expended 3 rounds of WP and 24 rounds of HE on 3 VC in the open at grid YD 555244. Elements of 2/4 reported 1 KIA (confirmed) and good effect on target.

Battery "H" fired 3 rounds of HE and 4 rounds of WP at 2040H on suspected enemy activity at grid YD 52662321. Surveillance by an element of 2/4 was good coverage of target.

At 2115H, the Second Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery fired on suspected VC mortars at grid YD 409293. Peerage II, the recon patrol observing the mission, noted that the 3 rounds of WP and 1 round of HE were on target. No other surveillance could be obtained; therefore, the data was recorded for future use.

During the course of the night the Second Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery and Battery "H" fired illumination and HE on various suspected VC positions. Excellent coverage was reported on all missions which were fired for the recon patrol, Peerage II.

At 1445H Battery "G" 3d Battalion, 12th Marines arrived at the Battalion position (grid YD 558 322) from Dong Ha. The Battalion assumed OPCON and ADCON of the battery at that time. Battery "G" reported laid and ready to fire at 1550H on an azimuth of 3200. Battery "G" normally supports the 1st Battalion, 4th Marines.

31 May

At 1215H the recon patrol, Morbid II called a fire mission on enemy movement observed at grid YD 572217. Four rounds of HE were fired on this target by the First Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery and excellent coverage was the surveillance given.

ENCLOSURE

Between 1425H and 1550H a forward observer school was conducted for personnel from 2/4. Five rounds of HE and six rounds of WP were expended by Battery "G".

Between 1655H and 1926H Battery "G" expended 25 rounds of WP and 3 rounds of HE on night defensive concentrations in support of elements of 1/4 and 2/4.

Battery "G" fired 13 rounds of HE at 2045H on three lights which were spotted on a hillside at grid YD 543234 by elements of 2/4. Surveillance reported was rounds on target.

ENCLOSURE (1)