

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

152168

3/EOL/led  
5750  
Ser: 0468  
1 March 1968

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

From: Commanding Officer  
To: CMC (CODE A03D)  
Via: (1) Commanding General, 3rd Marine Division  
(2) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Forces  
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 to 29 February 1968 (U)

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2  
(b) FMFPAGO 5750.8  
(c) DivO 5750.1  
(d) RegtO 5750.1

Encl: (1) 3rd Battalion, 12th Marines Command Chronology  
for period 1 to 29 February 1968

1. In accordance with the provisions of reference (a)  
through (d) enclosure (1) is submitted.

*G. E. Elliott*  
G. E. ELLIOTT  
By direction

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FEB 1968

HEADQUARTERS  
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FPO San Francisco 96602

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY  
1 to 29 February 1968

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            Fired, Operation OSCEOLA II

ENCOOSURE (I)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~PART I  
ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DesignationCommander

3rd Battalion, 12th Marines (-) Rein.  
3rd Marine Division (Rein)

LtCol ROGER W. GREER  
061366/0802  
1-20 Feb 68  
LtCol J.A. COMO  
059588/0802  
21-29 Feb 68

Subordinate Units

Battery "G" 3rd Battalion  
12th Marines, 3rd Marine  
Division (Rein)

Capt R.J. LUCAS  
083878/0802  
1-29 Feb 68

Battery "I" 3rd Battalion  
12th Marine, 3rd Marine  
Division (Rein)

Capt G.C. HEARN  
076973/0802  
1-29 Feb 68

Headquarters Battery, 3rd Battalion  
12th Marines, 3rd Marine  
Division (Rein)

Capt N.D. HAMILTON  
091615/0802  
1-29 Feb 68

1st Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery  
3rd Battalion, 12th Marines  
3rd Marine Division (Rein)

Capt J. TAYLOR  
087666/0802  
1-29 Feb 68

2nd Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery  
3rd Battalion, 12th Marines  
3rd Marine Division (Rein)

1st Lt C.R. RASOR  
095006/0802  
1-29 Feb 68

Attached Units

240th Field Artillery Group  
Counter Mortar Radar  
U.S. Army

CWO GROSBY, F.W.  
W2215890/211A8  
1-29 Feb 68

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## 2. Location

1-29 February 1968 Headquarters (Fwd) YD 336502 Quang Tri Province, Republic of Vietnam

1-29 February 1968 Headquarters (Rear) YD 885127 Phu Bai Base Camp

## 3. Staff Officers

a. Executive Officer	Major G. E. ELLIOTT 074987/0802 1-29 Feb 68
b. S-1 Adjutant/Legal Officer	Capt S. J. HAYES 098602/0130 <del>0130</del> 0802 1-29 Feb 68
c. Personnel Officer	WO F. P. DURBINO 098602/0130 1-29 Feb 68
d. S-2 Officer	1stLt G. P. JAMESON 092878/0802 1-29 Feb 68
e. S-3 Officer	Major D. E. VOWELL 076105/0802 1-29 Feb 68
f. S-3A	Capt S. B. GRIMES 082336/0802 1-29 Feb 68
g. S-4 Officer	Capt A. D. NASTRI 082249/0802 1-29 Feb 68
h. Communications Officer	Capt G. E. CADMAN 091721/2502 1-29 Feb 68
i. Motor Transport Officer	1stLt L. LUDWIG 0101245/3502 1-29 Feb 68

I-2

ENCLOSURE (1)  
**CONFIDENTIAL**

j. Supply Officer

1st Lt J. D. BLEVINS  
095582/3002  
1-29 Feb 68

k. Survey Officer

1st Lt A.A. FINLEY  
094691/0802  
1-29 Feb 68

l. Liaison Officer

Major J.C. DEEMER  
076888/0802  
1-29 Feb 68

4. Average Monthly Strength

USMC

Off	Enl
37	502

USN

Off	Enl
0	11

OTHER

Off	Enl
0	0

I-3

ENCLOSURE (1)  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]  
PART II

The month of February began with the 3rd Battalion, 12th Marines continuing operation OSCEOLA II which consisted of direct support to the 3rd Marines search and destroy operation in the vicinity of Quang Tri and direct support for the defense of the Quang Tri Vital area. 3rd Battalion, 12th Marines also provided reinforcing fire for the 1st ARVN Division and the 1st Air Cavalry.

On 1 February 1968, a double change of command took place with 1stLt C.R. RASOR taking over as OIC of the 2nd 155 Howitzer Provision Battery, vice Capt. R.J. LUCAS. Capt R.J. LUCAS in turn relieved Capt. S.B. GRIMES, who became the Battalion Assistant S-3.

On the 16 February 1968, there were two (2) significant events. At 0800 the 2nd 155 Howitzer Provisional Battery sent one (1) of the two (2) remaining 155 Howitzers to Khe Sanh to replace one (1) Howitzer belonging to 1st 155 Howitzer Provisional Battery. The second significant event took place at 2400 with the ending of Operation OSCEOLA II. The 3rd Battalion, 12th Marines continued its mission of direct support of the 3rd Marines in defense of the Quang Tri Vital area.

On 21 February 1968, a change of command ceremony took place with LtCol ROGER W. GREER being relieved by LtCol J. A. COMO.

The latter portion of February was spent preparing for the relocation of Headquarters Battery 3rd Battalion, 12th Marines within the Quang Tri complex. As of 29 February 1968, the 2nd 155 Howitzer Provisional Battery still has only one (1) 155 Howitzer.

II-1

ENCLOSURE (1)  
[REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

## PART III

## Sequential Listing of Significant Events.

1. Combat missions assigned

a. 1-29 February 1968, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines in direct support of the 3d Marine Regiment.

2. Significant Operations Conducted

a. Operation OSCEOLA II

3. Casualties inflicted on the enemy

a. KIA (C) 5

b. KIA (P) 0

4. Casualties sustained

a. KIA 0

b. WIA 8

c. Died (NBC) 0

5. Equipment. The overall maintenance situation is good. Ten of the battalion's motor transport prime movers are deadlined. The TD-15 tractor continues to be deadlined.

6. Logistics. Supply support improved during the month due to the Battalion Supply Administrative section being moved to Quang Tri. T/E shortages of some major items of equipment continue to be a problem area.

a. Food Services. The Battalion served 38% "A" rations, 60% "B" rations, and 2% "C" rations during the month of February.

b. Medical. During February there were 315 outpatients treated by the BAS. There were no KIA's and 8 WIA's during the month.

III-1

ENCLOSURE (1)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

7. Administration

a. Morale has maintained a high level due to wide participation in R&P opportunities. Training of new administration personnel is being carried out in compliance with the training schedule.

b. There was one Commanding Officer's Non-Judicial Punishments awarded during February. There were no courts-martial.

(1.) Article 91, UCMJ  
Article 92, UCMJ

c. On the 29th of February the battalion ceased operating on Battalion Administration. All batteries are back on battery administration.

8. Personnel. The average strength for the month was 87% of the authorized manning level. The battalion is currently operating at 87% of the manning level. During the month the battalion joined 4 officers and 126 enlisted. There were no officers rotated. One officer was transferred and there were 49 enlisted Marines either transferred or rotated.

9. Intelligence

a. Enemy Activity. The activity early in the month centered around the Quang Tri air strip in the form of probes of the lines, mortar attacks and rocket attacks. Toward the end of the month there has been a decrease in activity around the air field and adjoining areas. Some movement from Base Area 101 to the area west has been sited.

b. Enemy Intentions. Activity during the past two thirds of this month seem to indicate that the enemy is recovering from heavy losses of the "Tet" offensive and is resupplying his troops in the area for a possible new offensive.

c. Administration. The counter mortar/rocket plan for the Quang Tri positions was made up and successfully implemented.

III-2

ENCLOSURE (1)

**10. Communications-Electronics**

a. During the month of February the battalion supported the Third Marine Regiment, in Quang Tri Province.

b. Slight difficulties were encountered in this AO, due to interference from Air Cavalry frequencies being the same as USMC frequencies. These problems were resolved at division level by the CEO. No other significant radio problems have been encountered.

c. Wire communications have had some difficulty due to the sandy terrain. Vehicles will cut wires lines unless they are buried at least two feet and sand bagged. A minimal amount of outage was experienced on all radio relay circuits.

d. On 19 February the Battalion welcomed aboard a new Communications Chief GySgt G. A. HEESH.

e. On 19 February the Battalion Communications Officer attended a one week Crypto school, for off-line crypto, at Yokosuka, Japan.

f. At the end of the month the Communications in the Fire Direction Center moved from the Fire Direction bunker into a tent that will be utilized as an FDC while a new FDC bunker is under construction at a new position. The transition was effected very smoothly.

III-3

ENCLOSURE (1)

OPERATION OSCEOLA II1 FEBRUARY

PARASOL (Recon) requested fire on 4 VC in the open at YD 273545 at 1340H. Battery "I" expended 3 rounds of WP and 6 rounds of HE. The surveillance reported 1 VC WIA.

2 FEBRUARY

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour mission.

3 FEBRUARY

At YD 318605, YD 318604, and YD 318603 the 3rd Marines FSCC requested reinforcing fire on a confirmed VC battalion. At 1120H Battery "G" expended 96 rounds of HE on this unobserved mission.

HINDERANCE (Recon) requested fire on 1 VC in open at YD 260525. Battery "G" at 1425H expended 18 rounds of HE. A negative surveillance was reported for this mission.

4 FEBRUARY

Elements of 1/3 reported that they were receiving sniper fire from YD 275549. At 0934H Battery "I" expended 4 rounds of WP and 18 rounds of HE. Sniper cease firing was the only surveillance given.

Elements of 1/3 reported that they were again receiving sniper fire at 1155H. Battery "G" expended 3 rounds of WP and 30 rounds of HE at YD 267535. Sniper cease fire was the surveillance.

5 FEBRUARY

At 0845H Battery "G" expended 8 rounds of WP and 10 rounds of HE on 4 VC in the open. This mission was called in by elements of 1/3 at YD 274548. Negative surveillance was reported for this mission.

6 FEBRUARY

At 2200H MAC-V (Military Advisors Command-V) requested fire on an NVA Co. at YD 307607. Battery "G" expended 36 rounds of HE on this unobserved mission.

ENCLOSURE (1)

TAB-A

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~7 FEBRUARY

OSCEOLA II

DELMARE (Recon) requested fire on 6 NVA at YD 266537 at 1910H. Battery "G" expended 4 rounds of WP and 22 rounds of HE. Surveillance was reported as good coverage.

8 FEBRUARY

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

9 FEBRUARY

BLACK PANTHER 8 (Army Air Calvary Artillery) requested fire on the HQ's of an NVA regiment which was confirmed by scouts at YD 418534 at 2030H. Battery I expended 40 rounds of HE on this unobserved mission.

10 FEBRUARY

At 2015H Dapper Slugger (Army Advisors to RVN) requested fire on a VC Battalion massing at YD 285562. Battery "G" expended 72 rounds of HE on this unobserved mission.

11 FEBRUARY

Dapper Slugger (Army Advisors to ARVN) requested fire on a VC battalion at YD 293615. At 0730H Battery "G" fired 18 rounds of HE. Negative surveillance was reported for this mission.

12 FEBRUARY

At YD 267553 3rd Marines FSCC requested fire on a VC battalion movement. Battery "G" fired 50 rounds of HE at 0004H on this unobserved mission.

13 FEBRUARY

During this 24 hour period there were no significant missions fired.

14 FEBRUARY

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

ENCLOSURE (1)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(A)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~OPERATION OSCEOLA II15 FEBRUARY

At 0440H FSOC requested fire on a suspected mortar position, YD 296506. Battery "G" and Battery "I" expended 238 rounds of HE. Mission was unobserved so no surveillance could be given.

16 FEBRUARY

At 2400H Operation OSCEOLA II was terminated and 3/12 continued to support the 3d Marines.

17 FEBRUARY

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

18 FEBRUARY

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

19 FEBRUARY

Cougar 8, Army Air Calvary requested a time on target on suspected NVA at YD 366614. At 2148H Battery "G" expended 30 rounds of HE on this unobserved mission.

20 FEBRUARY

At 0825H Quick Cougar 49 Mike (Army Air Calvary) requested fire on NVA bunkers at YD 365615. Battery "G" expended 65 rounds of HE which resulted in 5 KIA's (confirmed), 5 AK 47's, and 2 82mm mortars tubes captured.

21 FEBRUARY

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

22 FEBRUARY

During this 24 hour period no significant missions were fired.

IV-3

ENCLOSURE (1)  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

23 FEBRUARY

At YD 397543, Quick Cougar 8, Army Air Calvary requested fire on a VC Battalion. At 0915H Battery "I" expended 36 rounds of HE. This mission was unobserved so no surveillance could be given.

24 FEBRUARY

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

25 FEBRUARY

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

26 FEBRUARY

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

27 FEBRUARY

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

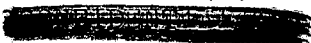
28 FEBRUARY

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

29 FEBRUARY

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

IV-4

ENCLOSURE (1)  


(A)

**TABLE OF AMMUNITION EXPENDITURES  
AND MISSIONS FIRED**

**OPERATION OSCEOLA II**

**FEBRUARY**

MISSIONS FIRED	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th
Obs	17	12	14	12	10	9	3	1	2	6	13
Unobs	2	9	15	17	19	15			1	8	26
H&I's	54	84	110	66	66	81	40	64	105	78	155
TOTAL	73	105	169	95	95	105	43	65	108	92	194
AMMO EXPENDED											
155 HE	23	104	195	72	19	49		97	66	120	314
III											
WP			2								
105 HE	318	408	1232	596	444	416	240	254	581	457	835
III	44	12	43	37	4	3				1	1
WP	40	10	4	10	54	54	7	1	2	17	29
105 HC Smk											
TOTAL	423	535	1477	715	521	522	247	352	649	595	1179
SURVEILLANCE											
KIA (C)											
KIA (P)											

MISSIONS FIRED	12th	13th	14th	15th	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th
Obs	5	3	1	3	3	2	4	8	10
Unobs	9		4	6	5		2	5	9
H&I's	102	101	81	76	129	74	72	63	50
TOTAL	116	104	86	85	138	76	78	76	69
AMMO EXPENDED									
155 HE	126		43	76					
III									
WP									
105 HE	692	364	470	499	479	250	510	264	551
III		3				1	14	50	
WP	19	4	2	6	6	8			51
105 HC Smk								7	2
TOTAL	837	371	515	581	485	259	524	321	604
SURVEILLANCE									
KIA (C)									5
KIA (P)									

IV-5

ENCLOSURE (1)  
CONFIDENTIAL

Tab B

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~TABLE OF AMMUNITION EXPENDITURES  
AND MISSIONS FIREDFEBRUARY

MISSIONS FIRED	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th
Obs	2	3	2		2	1	3
Unobs		12	1		3		1
H&I's	56	91	89	92	113	85	95
TOTAL	58	106	92	92	118	86	99
AMMO EXPENDED							
155 HE							
111							
WP							
105 HE	307	496	406	254	395	460	275
111			2				1
WP		5					
105 HC Smk						2	
TOTAL	307	501	408	254	395	462	276
SURVEILLANCE							
KIA (C)							
KIA (P)							

MISSIONS FIRED	28th	29th	TOTAL
Obs		1	152
Unobs	2	9	181
H&I's	91	66	2459
TOTAL	93	76	2792
AMMO EXPENDED			
155 HE			1304
111			0
WP			2
105 HE	320	417	13190
111			216
WP		2	331
105 HC Smk			11
TOTAL	320	419	15054
SURVEILLANCE			
KIA (C)			5
KIA (P)			0

105 HE	307	496	406	254	395	460	275
111			2				1
WP		5					
105 HC Smk						2	
TOTAL	307	501	408	254	395	462	276
SURVEILLANCE							
KIA (C)							
KIA (P)							

IV-6

ENCLOSURE (1)

MISSIONS FIRED	28th	29th	TOTAL
Obs		1	152
Unobs	2	9	181
H&I's	91	66	2459
TOTAL	93	76	2792