

HEADQUARTERS

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

3D MARDIV S&C FILE
BT# 530368

3/MAW/rms
5750
1 September 1968
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From: Commanding Officer
To: CMC (CODE A03D)
Via: (1) Commanding General, 3d Marine Division
(2) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Forces
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1 to 31 August 1968(U)

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

Encl: (1) 3d Battalion, 12th Marines Command Chronology for period
1 to 31 August 1968.

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

E. D. Foxworth Jr.
E. D. FOXWORTH Jr.

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HEADQUARTERS
3d Battalion, 12th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO San Francisco 96502

3/MAW/rms
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1 September 1968

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
1 August to 31 August 1968

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DEFENSE of QUANG TRI
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ENCLOSURE (1)

PART I
ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

L. DESIGNATION

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

COMMANDER

LtCol E.D. FOXWORTH Jr.
051383/0802
1-31 August 1968

Subordinate Units

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

Capt G.V. THURMOND
083878/0802
1-31 August 1968

Battery "H" 3d Battalion
12th Marines, 3d Marine
Division (Rein)

Capt E. C. BROWN
089725/0802
1-31 August 1968

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

Capt G.C. HEARN
076973/0802
1-25 August 1968
Capt R.G. HOLLIDAY
082781/0802
25-31 August 1968

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

WO-4 J.P. FELL
043735/2010
1-31 August 1968

Battery "J" 3d Battalion
12th Marines, 3d Marine
Division (REIN)

1stLt C.S. PLAZA
101385/0802
1-31 August 1968

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

1stLt D.R. RANDALL
097687/0802
1-31 August 1968

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

1stLt R.W. SHUGART
0100675/0802
1-3 August 1968
1stLt R.G. HOOPER
0100732/0802
3-31 August 1968

ENCLOSURE (1)

ATTACHED

3d Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery
1st Battalion, 11th Marines
1st Marine Division (Rein)

Capt T.L. PRESSLEY
093367/0802
1-31 August 1968

2. Location

1 August 1968 Command Group "A" YD 065545 Camp J.J. Carroll, RVN
2-31 August 1968 Command Group "A" YD 011455 CaLu, RVN
1-31 August 1968 Headquarters (Rear) YD 300551 Quang Tri Province, RVN

3. Staff Officers

a. Executive Officer	Major C.P. STAPLETON 064141/0802 1-31 August 1968
b. S-1 Adjutant/Legal Officer	WO-1 F.P. DURBIN 098602/0130 1-31 August 1968
c. S-2 Officer	S/SGT D.E. REALS 1649583/0239 1-28 August 1968 2ndLt D.B. CARPENTER Jr. 0102738/0802 28-31 August 1968
d. S-3 Officer	Major H.A. WESTPHAL 075116/0802 1-31 August 1968
e. S-3A Officer	Capt F.H. WITTEL Jr. 092268/0802 25-31 August 1968
f. S-4 Officer	Capt A.D. NASTRI 082249/0802 1-31 August 1968
g. Communications Officer	2ndLt C.W. ULRICH 0102660/2502 1-31 August 1968

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h. Motor Transport Officer

1st Lt L. LUDWIG
010345/3502
1-14 August 1968
2dLt R.M. GRIFFIN
0104601/3502
14-31 August 1968

i. Supply Officer

2dLt S.M. EASTON
0103464/3002
1-31 August 1968

j. Survey Officer

S/SGT W.R. MARTIN
1911524/0848
1-31 August 1968

k. Liaison Officer

Major J.E. STANTON
077738/0802
1-9 August 1968
Capt R.G. HOLLIDAY
082781/0802
9-21 August 1968
Major P.E. FRASIER
073042/0802
21-31 August 1968

4. Average Monthly Strength

<u>USMC</u>	
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
45	689

<u>USN</u>	
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
2	17

<u>OTHER</u>	
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
0	0

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PART II

On 2 August, 1968, the 3rd Battalion, 12th Marines changed from direct support of the 3rd Marine Regiment at Camp J.J. Carroll to direct support of the 4th Marine Regiment at Ca Lu. The displacement from Camp Carroll to Ca Lu was accomplished without incident.

The battalion headquarters Command Group Alpha remained in the field for the entire month of August. During the month, "I" battery continued to occupy a position at Fire Base Shepherd while "H" and "W" (-) batteries with the Third Provisional 155 Howitzer battery from the 1st Battalion, 11th Marines occupied positions at Fire Base Cates. "W" battery (-) conducted several displacements during the month with elements of the 4th Marines, the most significant of which was conducted in conjunction with three 105mm Howitzers from "G" battery. The two elements joined together to form a fire base at Hill #606, XD 882496. This heliborne operation was successful in providing counter rocket fire against NVA rocket positions that had been harassing the "Rock Pile" area. Logistics and resupply were considered to be the number one problem during the operation.

On 6 August the battalion had a very unique fire mission when "W" battery fired a combination HE/CS gas mission in support of 1st Battalion, 4th Marines. A total of 297 rounds of HE and 165 rounds of CS gas were expended. The results were considered excellent. This mission signaled the end of the Canton II operation which was a part of the Scotland II operation. On the same day at 2130H, a mission was fired on what was believed to be a truck convey. Two observers reported a total of seventy five (75) secondary explosions with several mushroom clouds up to 150 meters high.

On 25 August "W" battery (-) fired a mission for the 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines with the surveillance of fifteen (15) KIAs. Also on the 25th, a mission was fired in the Khe Sanh area; Delmar (Recon) reported fifteen (15) secondary explosions.

The two 155 Howitzers reported last month as being provided by the ARVN were extracted from Fire Base Cates on 18 August. They were replaced by two Howitzers from the 1st Battalion, 11th Marines completing a six gun battery.

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Batteries "H", "I", "T" 1/11, and "W" (-) were resupplied during the month of August from Vandergrift Combat Base. The month ended with the battalion performing its mission of direct support of the 4th Marine Regiment.

The battalion expended a total of forty eight thousand, one hundred and sixty six (48,166) rounds during the month of August, 1968. Significant missions are listed on the following pages.

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PART III

Sequential Listings of Significant Events.

1. Combat missions assigned

a. 1-2 August 1968, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines in direct support of the 3d Marine Regiment.

b. 3-31 August 1968, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines in direct support of the 4th Marine Regiment.

c. 1-6 August 1968, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines in direct support of the defence of the Quang Tri Airfield Complex.

d. 1-6 August 1968, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines in general support-reinforcing of the 1st Air Cavalry Division.

2. Significant operations conducted

a. Operation Lancaster II

b. Operation Scotland II

c. Operation Canton II

3. Casualties inflicted on the enemy

a. KIA (C) 21

b. KIA (P) 2

4. Casualties sustained

a. KIA 1

b. WIA 11

c. Died (NBC) 1

5. Equipment. The highlight of the month of August was the return of "H" and "W" batteries from deployment with the SLF and the establishing of rear echelons in Quang Tri. Emphasis was placed on implementing a new and thorough review program for all their vehicles. Several staff visits

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were made by the new Motor Transportation Officer to the forward unit positions for the purpose of assisting the batteries.

6. General Logistics. Generally, logistical support remains good. The return of the SLF batteries and the establishment of rear echelons at Quang Tri for administrative and supply functions has gone along smoothly. Units are sending regular supply requests from the forward landing zones to the rear echelons for processing. Supplies are then flown from Landing Zone Vandergrift. Chow and water are provided by the infantry units at the landing zones. Class V (artillery) resupply is accomplished by the 3d Bn, 12th Marines S-4. Approximately 30,000 105mm rounds and 8,000 rounds of 155 ammunition were moved from the landing zones at Vandergrift to fire support bases Shepherd and Cates. Preparations for the monsoon are underway at both landing zones and at the unit positions at Ca Lu. Water proofing of living and working spaces, digging drainage ditches, spreading gravel in low areas have been the major concern of all units.

Three strong-backed tents were constructed in the Golf Battery position for messing facilities and two in the Headquarters area for living and working spaces. One TD-15 is working at the Ca Lu position improving roads, digging bunkers, etc.

Construction was begun at the battalion rear on a 250 man messhall. Word was received that approximately 32 South East Asia type huts would be completed by 30 September. The employment of indigenous personnel by Headquarters appears to be working extremely well.

Food Service. The battalion has served 40% "A" rations, 30% "B" rations, and 30% "C" rations during the reporting period. Headquarters battery operated one messhall at the battalion rear in Quang Tri; Battery "G" established a messhall at Ca Lu which also served Command Group "A".

7. Administration. There was one Commanding Officer's Non-Judicial Punishment during the month of August for violation of Article 91, UCMJ, and Article 92, UCMJ. There were no court martials.

8. Personnel. The average strength for the month was 88% of the manning level. During the month the battalion joined 10 Marine officers and 123 Marine enlisted. There were 10 officers rotated or transferred. There were 45 enlisted Marines either transferred or rotated.

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Intelligence

a. Enemy Artillery/Rocket Activity. Enemy artillery/rocket activity within the Scotland II AO was moderate and sporadic. Instances of enemy artillery/rocket indicated attacks were limited to the area of the "Rock Pile" (XD 984534). LZ Cates and LZ Shepherd received moderate and sporadic instances of mortar fire. 20-21 August AO sightings and PIU read outs indicate the presence of 152mm artillery pieces in the vicinity of Lang Ve (XD 360794). No incidents of units receiving fire from this caliber weapon have been reported as of 31 August 1968.

20. Communications-Electronics

a. On or about 3 August the communications sections effected a tactical displacement from Camp Carroll to Ca Lu. Complete communication capability was maintained by echelon displacement coordinated with the communication section of 1/12.

b. Functional radio units were double remoted from the FDC to the 4th Marines FSCC. Hot lines were established from the FDC to the FSCC and local firing batteries. Radio communications were established to supplement the wire line between 4th Marines FSCC and Task Force Hotel FSCC.

c. The terrain of the Scotland II AO required relay stations to be established for artillery VHF/FM radio communications. These stations were established at Fire Base Cates and Shepherd and Hill 950. No other radio difficulties have developed.

d. The link between 12th Marines and 3/12 is primarily integrated wire-radio relay. In addition a radio voice ciphony capabilities is maintained for instant activation.

e. At the end of August, plans were in progress to link the FDCs at Cates and Shepherd with the battalion FDC by 4th Marines radio relay assets.

f. During the month of August, the battalion continued to provide complete communications capability for the Quang Tri Base Defence FSCC.

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PART IV

1 AUG

At 1255H, "B" 1/12 expended 146 rounds of HE at an active NVA rocket site at XD 954613. Elements of the 4th Marines reported this mission at 1722H. Mission was observed, but no surveillance was given.

2 AUG

"H" 3/12 expended 243 rounds of HE and "T" 3/12 expended 136 rounds of HE at an active NVA mortar position at XD 887534. Elements of the 3rd Marines reported this mission at 1902H. Negative surveillance was given for this mission.

3 AUG

At 2030H the 1st Bn 9th Mar reported active NVA rockets located XD 865362. "I" 3/12 expended 118 rounds of HE. Negative surveillance was reported for this mission.

4 AUG

At 0905H an element of the 3rd Marines reported they were receiving incoming mortars at XD 898543. "H" 3/12 expended 4 rounds of WP and 389 rounds of HE. "T" 1/11 expended 225 rounds of HE. Negative surveillance was reported for this mission.

At 1200H Recon reported receiving incoming mortars at XD 898531. "W" 3/12 expended 1 round of WP and 276 rounds of HE. Negative surveillance was reported for this mission.

5 AUG

Recon requested a covering fire at XD 898507. At 0710H "G" 3/12 expended 8 rounds of WP and 190 rounds of HE. Surveillance for this mission was very good coverage.

At 2138H 4th Marines FSCC reported a NVA convoy moving east at about 6 miles per hour at XD 854410. "H" 3/12 expended 36 rounds of HE. "I" 3/12 expended 12 rounds of WP and 18 rounds of HE which resulted in 4 secondary explosions.

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Tab A

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6 AUG

At 2122H a unit of recon reported a large number of personnel moving east at XD 840413. "T" 1/11 expended 83 rounds of WP and 300 rounds of HE. "H" 3/12 expended 162 rounds of WP and 372 rounds of HE. Surveillance for this mission was 16 secondary explosions with large mushrooms. An element of the 1st Bn 9th Marines reported the surveillance for this mission.

7 AUG

At 1604H 4th Marines FSCC reported heavy vehicle movement at XD 837416. "H" 3/12 expended 108 rounds of HE. "I" 3/12 expended 180 rounds of HE. Negative surveillance was reported for this mission.

8 AUG

At 0927H Spotlight reported 200 troops in open at XD 843411. "T" 1/11 expended 3 rounds of WP and 90 rounds of HE. "H" 3/12 expended 108 rounds of HE which resulted in 2 secondaries.

9 AUG

At 0010H Recon reported a convoy moving east at XD 837416. "I" 3/12 expended 7 rounds of 111 and 440 rounds of HE. "T" 1/11 also expended 162 rounds of HE. The surveillance was 2 large secondaries.

30 AUG

"H" 3/12 expended 108 rounds of HE; "I" 3/12 also fired 10 WP and 180 rounds of Firecracker at XD 844408. Recon reported 30 to 40 people at 0310H. Negative surveillance was given due to terrain.

At 2020H Spotlight reported a convoy moving south at XD 853045. "I" 3/12 expended 76 rounds of WP and 104 rounds of HE; "H" 3/12 expended 90 rounds of H E. Three Secondaries were reported.

11 AUG

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

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12 AUG

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

13 AUG

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

14 AUG

At 1403H Spotlight reported about 20 stationary vehicles at XD 837416. "H" 3/12 expended 216 rounds of HE; "I" 3/12 fired 54 rounds of WP, 54 rounds of Firecracker, and 162 rounds of HE; "T" 1/11 expended 90 rounds of HE. This mission resulted in two large secondary explosions.

15 AUG

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

16 AUG

At 0900H "I" 3/12 expended 192 rounds of HE at an active NVA position at XD 888365. Elements of 3d Recon reported for this mission. No surveillance was given.

Elements of 3d Recon reported active NVA movement at YD 596436. At 1640H "I" 3/12 expended 246 rounds of HE. Negative surveillance reported for this mission due to terrain.

17 AUG

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

18 AUG

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

19 AUG

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

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20 AUG

"H" 3/12 expended 1 round of WP and 17 rounds of HE at 6 NVA in open at XD 849367. Recon reported this mission at 0748H. Negative surveillance was reported for this mission.

21 AUG

At 0644 "I" 3/12 expended 3 rounds of WP and 100 rounds of HE at XD 862495. Recon reported receiving incoming mortars. Mission was unobserved; no surveillance could be given.

22 AUG

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

23 AUG

At 1555H Recon reported 4 NVA in open at XD 839408. "H" 3/12 expended 90 rounds of HE resulting in 4 KIAs (confirmed).

24 AUG

At 1028H "H" 3/12 expended 182 rounds of HE at XD 836417. Recon reported 2 NVA in open. Surveillance for this mission was 1 KIA (prob).

25 AUG

At 2100H Recon reported vehicle lights at XD 841416. "T" 1/11 expended 115 rounds of HE; "I" 3/12 expended 54 rounds of WP and 56 rounds of HE; "H" 3/12 expended 327 rounds of HE. The result was 18 secondaries.

26 AUG

At 1707H an element of the 1st Bn, 4th Marines reported receiving incoming mortars at XD 875349. "I" 3/12 expended 162 rounds of HE resulting in 5 KIAs (confirmed), 1 mortar destroyed and 1 RFG destroyed.

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27 AUG

At 0641H "I" 3/12 expended 3 rounds of WP and 112 rounds of HE at NVA fortified bunkers at XD 942475. Elements of 1/4 reported this mission. Surveillance was 2 bunkers destroyed.

28 AUG

At 1403H "T" 1/11 expended 7 rounds of WP and 140 rounds of HE at an NVA bunker complex at XD 894455. An element of the 2nd Bn, 4th Marines reported this mission, resulting in 6 bunkers destroyed.

29 AUG

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

30 AUG

At 1935H "I" 3/12 expended 2 rounds of WP, 1 round of HE and 75 rounds of Firecracker at 6 NVA in tree line at XD 838385. Recon reported this mission. Negative surveillance was given due to the terrain.

31 AUG

No significant missions were fired during this 24 hour period.

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TABLE OF AMMUNITION EXPENDITURES
AND MISSIONS FIRED

		AUGUST					
OPERATION LANCASTER II		OPERATION CANTON II					
MISSIONS FIRED	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	
Obs	25	20	41	20	34	27	
Unobs	11			20	15	16	
HEI's	35	95	72	96	110	78	
TOTAL	71	115	113	136	159	121	
AMMO EXPENDED							
105 HE	1396	260	996	1224	1286	637	
WP	39	33	59	37	44	22	
ILL	1		4	3	3	173	
HC Smk							
Firecracker							
155 HE	93	156	176	283	39	320	
WP		2	25		44	90	
ILL							
Firecracker				2			
107 HE	78		13	267	279	90	
WP		64		1	12	6	
ILL	23		1	1			
TOTAL	1630	515	1274	1855	1677	1374	
SURVEILLANCE							
KIA (C)							
KIA (P)							

OPERATION SCOTLAND II

MISSIONS FIRED	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th	15th
Obs	44	23	25	29	24	16	8	18	35
Unobs	44	30	31	24	28	16	23	115	95
HEI's	66	48	103	84	97	115	89	20	
TOTAL	154	101	159	137	149	147	120	153	130
AMMO EXPENDED									
105 HE	1343	1362	1791	762	773	668	627	1239	997
WP	222	143	122	21	59	20	6	101	44
ILL	49		7	10	7	5		10	11
HC Smk					1				
Firecracker			184					54	
155 HE	318	273	310	106	167	79	77	216	
WP	2	36	2	1	8	3			
ILL				8					
Firecracker									
107 HE	459	60	57		18	21	9	24	71
WP	95	2	5	4		4			4
ILL	85			4					
CS	180								
TOTAL	2753	1876	2478	916	1033	800	719	1644	1127
SURVEILLANCE									
KIA (C)									
KIA (P)									

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Tab C

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TABLE OF AMMUNITION EXPENDITURES AND MISSIONS FIRED

AUGUST

OPERATION SCOTLAND II

MISSIONS FIRED	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th
Obs	31	46	37	35	42	54	35	54	47	3
Unobs	25	40	13	20	12	40	50	55	45	8
H&I's	175	176	175	176	175	176	175	176	175	1
TOTAL	129	147	154	136	163	142	137	211	193	11
AMMO EXPENDED										
105 HE	1845	1462	984	1129	909	1676	1925	2203	1444	10
WP	4	13	47	377	42	38	15	23	49	2
ILL	19	37		180	2	2				
HC Smk										
Firecracker			36	147				15		
155 HE	441	480	108	197	187	259	399	260	270	17
WP			6	4	4	22	17	47	8	
ILL				2	3	3		64		
Firecracker					25					
107 HE	14	26	29	57	112	67	73	86	139	34
WP		6	6	14	17		4	1	13	5
ILL	11	18		17	3	28	15		1	
CS										
TOTAL	2334	2042	1216	2124	1304	2095	2448	2699	1924	160
SURVEILLANCE										
KIA (C)										
KIA (P)										

OPERATION SCOTLAND II

MISSIONS FIRED	26th	27th	28th	29th	30th	31st	TOTAL
Obs	31	36	30	35	31	19	991
Unobs	65	75	40	80	55	50	750
H&I's	175	176	175	176	175	176	2816
TOTAL	281	287	245	291	261	245	4557
AMMO EXPENDED							
105 HE	1654	900	626	524	304	1467	34572
WP	25	41	27	25	36	21	1782
ILL	1	2	6	2	19		553
HC Smk			3	3	2		198
Firecracker		18			75		529
155 HE	402	96	242	133	128	171	6560
WP	12	3	8	9	13	8	347
ILL		16	1				97
Firecracker		18			24		69
107 HE	58	86	83	93	94	24	2832
WP	18	8	3	17	12	10	377
ILL			28		22	7	259
CS							
TOTAL	2168	1188	1017	796	779	708	48166
SURVEILLANCE							
KIA (C)							
KIA (P)							

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~TABLE OF AMMUNITION EXPENDITURE
AND MISSIONS FIRED

AUGUST

DEFENSE OF THE QUANG TRI AIRFIELD COMPLEX

MISSIONS FIRED	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	TOTAL
Obs		1			1		2
Unobs			1	2	1		4
H&I's	11		19	17	18	9	74
TOTAL	11	1	20	19	20	9	80
AMMO EXPENDED							
IC7 SE	44		57	51	54	54	260
WP		4	5	2	11		22
ILL					5		5
TOTAL	44	4	62	53	70	54	287
SURVEILLANCE							
KIA (C)							0
KIA (P)							0

ENCLOSURE (1)

Tab B