



HEADQUARTERS  
3d Battalion, 12th Marines  
3d Marine Division (Main), M.F.  
APO San Francisco 96602

3/MAW/hds  
5750  
1 October 1968  
Ser No.

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From: Commanding Officer  
To: CMC (CODE A03D)  
Via: (1) Commanding General, 3d Marine Division  
(2) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force  
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific  
Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1 to 30 September 1968 (U)

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

Encl: (1) 3d Battalion, 12th Marines Command Chronology for the period 1 to 30 September 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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3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF  
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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY  
1 September to 30 September 1968

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART I  
ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

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

LtCol E.D. FOXWORTH Jr.  
051383/0802  
1-30 September 1968

Subordinate Units

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

Capt G.V. THUMMOND  
083878/0802  
1-30 September 1968

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

Capt E.C. THOMAN  
089725/0802  
1-30 September 1968

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

Capt R.G. HOLLIDAY  
082781/0802  
1-30 September 1968

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

WO-4 J.P. FELL  
043735/2010  
1-30 September 1968

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

1stLt C.S. PIAZZA  
101385/0802  
1-30 September 1968

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

1stLt J.L. PETERSON  
0958692/0802  
1-30 September 1968

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

1stLt R.G. HOOPES  
0100732/0802  
1-30 September 1968

ATTACHED

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

Capt T.L. PRESSLEY  
083367/0802  
1-30 September 1968

Battery "K" 2nd Battalion  
12th Marines, 3d Marine  
Division (Rein)

1stLt. D.W. ROBERTS  
0100629/0802/0107  
1-30 September 1968

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2. Location

1-30 September 1968 Command Group "A" YD 0114455 CaLu, RVN  
 1-30 September 1968 Headquarters (Rear) YD 300551 Quang Tri  
 Province, RVN

3. Staff Officer

a. Executive Officer	Major C.P. STABLETON 064141/0802 1-30 September 1968
b. S-1 Adjutant/Legal Officer	WO-1 F.P. DURBINO 098602/0130 1-30 September 1968
c. S-2 Officer	2ndLt D.B. CARPENTER Jr. 0102738/0802 1-30 September 1968
d. S-3 Officer	Major M.A. WESTPHAL 075116/0802 1-30 September 1968
e. S-3A Officer	Capt F.E. VITTEL Jr. 092268/0802 1-30 September 1968
f. S-4 Officer	Capt A.D. MASTRI 082249/0802 1-30 September 1968
g. Communications Officer	2ndLt C.W. ULRICH 0102660/2502 1-30 September 1968
h. Motor Transport Officer	2ndLt R.M. GRIFFIN 0104601/3502 1-25 September 1968 2ndLt J. BORYCKI 0104028/3502 25-30 September 1968

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i. Supply Officer

2ndLt S.W. EASTON  
0103464/3002  
1-30 September 1968

j. Survey Officer

S/SGT W.R. WIGGIN  
1911524/0848  
1-30 September 1968

k. Liaison Officer

Major P.E. FRASIER  
073042/0802  
1-30 September 19684. Average Monthly Strength

USMC	
Off	Enl
49	749

USN	
Off	Enl
2	18

OTHER	
Off	Enl
0	0

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## PART II

1. During the month of September the 3d Battalion, 12th Marines, continued its mission of direct support of the 4th Marines in Operation Scotland II. A liaison team functioned as an artillery co-ordination unit at the Quang Tri Airfield CQC.

2. The movement of several batteries within the Scotland II area of operations reflected the planning and preparation stages of the Khe Sahn plateau sweep. Mortar Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines made an administrative switch of the three guns and crews at LZ Quantico with the ones located at LZ Vandergrift. Golf Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines displaced four guns from its Ca Lu position to XD 864468 in support of a spoiling operation by the 3d Battalion, 4th Marines against a reported NVA battalion in the Hill 950 area. After a successful helilift at 021121H September, Golf's four gun forward element received incoming mortar fire. The next day a direct fire mission at XD 872462 by the Golf forward element silenced the mortars and a fifty caliber machine gun position with the result of 2 NVA KIA's. On 7 September Golf Forward element was returned by helilift to the Ca Lu position. All six guns from Golf Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines were helilifted to LZ Quantico on 11 September in preparation for the Khe Sahn movement. They were returned to Ca Lu position on 13 September as the result of a stand down on the D-Day.

3. 2d Provisional 155 Battery was chopped from 3d Battalion, 12th Marines to 2d Battalion, 12th Marines on 16 September at 1000H. At the same time Mortar Battery, 2d Battalion, 12th Marines was chopped to 3d Battalion, 12th Marines and displaced to Ca Lu for the purpose of assuming direct support of that area at the commencement of the Khe Sahn operation. On 30 September Mortar Battery, 2d Battalion, 12th Marines was opconed to 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines and displaced to LZ Vandergrift.

4. The latter weeks of September were used for preparing for the delayed Khe Sahn Operation, repairs and rebuilding of some bunkers following several days of rain, and routine training exercises. A total of 18,658 rounds of all calibres were fired during the month indicating a relatively quiet period of conflict. Significant missions are listed on the following pages.

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~~DECLASSIFIED~~2 SEPT

At 0330H "T" 1/11 expended 92 rounds of ILL at XD 842360. Fox Score (Recon) reported enemy movement. All rounds were reported on target.

"W" 3/12 fired 2 rounds of WP and 25 rounds of HE at 10 NVA in open at XD 863462. An element of 1/4 reported this mission at 0700H. The surveillance was excellent coverage of target.

3 SEPT

At 0810H "G" 3/12 expended 7 rounds of HE at NVA in tree line while moving to support an operation conducted by 1/4. "G" 3/12 fired direct fire at XD 872462. Surveillance for the mission was 2 KIA's.

8 SEPT

At 1512H an element of 2/4 requested fire on a well used trail and bunker complex at XD 821451. "T" 1/11 expended 47 rounds of HE. Surveillance was excellent coverage of target and 1 secondary explosion.

9 SEPT

"T" 1/11 expended 2 rounds of WP and 48 rounds of HE at newly constructed bunkers located XD 820446. An element of the 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines reported this mission at 1600H. Surveillance was 4 secondaries.

13 SEPT

At 1755H Recon reported 2 NVA in open at XD 997574. "I" 3/12 expended 1 round of WP and 12 rounds of HE. Surveillance for this mission was 2 KIA's (conf).

14 SEPT

"T" 1/11 expended 2 rounds of WP and 24 rounds of HE at 2 NVA in tree line location XD 951484. An element of 1/4 reported this mission at 1045H. Surveillance was 2 KIA's and excellent coverage of target.

Recon reported 3 NVA in tree line at 1115H location XD 085402. "T" 3/12 expended 2 rounds of WP and 22 rounds of HE. Surveillance for this mission was 1 secondary and 3 KIA's.

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20 SEPT

At 1237H "I" 3/12 expended 12 rounds of WP and 36 rounds of HE at suspected enemy activity at KD 933467. Surveillance was 2 secondary explosions.

23 SEPT

At 2005H Recon reported enemy movement at KD 012397. "G" 3/12 expended 8 rounds of WP, 178 rounds of Ill and 777 rounds of HE. Excellent coverage of target was reported.

25 SEPT

At 1414H "T" 3/12 expended 4 rounds of WP and 65 rounds of HE at NVA in tree line located at KD 922452. An element of 2/4 reported this mission. Surveillance for this mission was 2 KIA's with excellent coverage of target.

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## PART III

## Sequential Listing of Significant Events.

1. Combat Missions Assigned

a. 1-30 September 1968, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines in direct support of the 4th Marine Regiment.

2. Significant Operations Conducted

a. Operation Scotland II

3. Casualties inflicted on the Enemy

a. KIA (C) 11

b. KIA (P) 0

4. Casualties Sustained

a. KIA 0

b. WIA 0

c. Died (NEC) 0

5. Equipment. The highlight of the maintenance situation for this unit is the centralization of the Motor Transport sections to give guidance and support to all units within the battalion. A large number of vehicles have been placed on deadline during the month with 13 down for 2nd echelon maintenance and 24 down for 3rd echelon maintenance. A lack of necessary spare parts is keeping a large number of items deadlined.

6. General Logistics. Logistics support during the month remained good. One problem area that has developed is the inability to draw large single lots of ammunition from the local A.S.P., presently due to lack of storage facilities and the limited number of forklifts available to off-load convoys. Ammunition is not segregated by lot. The use of single lots is necessary in order to adhere to basic gunnery practices and to provide the safest possible artillery support. A request was made to higher headquarters for assistance and, locally, the battalion has begun to use the same lot of ammunition during each mission.

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The battalion continued to operate in two main areas; the battalion rear at Quang Tri for administration and supply and the battalion forward CP at Ca Lu. Close liaison was maintained with our units at forward fire bases and our battalion rear for processing and transportation of supplies and equipment. Rear echelon units continued to send supplies, personnel, and equipment to LSA Vandegrift via Route 9 convoy where arrangements were made by the S-4 for staging and helicopter transport to forward fire bases. Class V (artillery) continued to be handled by the S-4's drawing from the ASP at Vandegrift and helilifting it to the using units. Approximately 7,672 105 rounds and 155 rounds were helilifted to landing zones Shepherd and Cates. 640 4.2 Inch rounds and 2,280 105 rounds were lifted to LZ Quantico. Monsoon preparation was continued by all units with emphasis placed on safety and security of personnel, equipment, and Class V artillery ammunition.

During the month the Commanding General's inspection was held in the battalion with a rating of satisfactory with minor discrepancies given to the S-4 administration and operations. Particularly noteworthy was the battalion MARES reporting system utilizing a locally reproduced user level G/B to report items to and from deadline.

Battalion Supply was also inspected by the Commanding General's inspection team resulting in a satisfactory with minor discrepancies. A consolidation of individual equipment issue at Battalion Supply was completed and found to work satisfactorily with better control and accounting of items as a result.

The Motor Transport inspection was also held during the month with the battalion receiving a rating of unsatisfactory. The main discrepancies were lack of 1st echelon maintenance and proper record keeping. Maximum effort was applied to rectify the poor 1st echelon condition but has been hampered by the two floodings of the Motor Transport area at the rear position. New administrative and maintenance procedures were instituted to offer better control of vehicles use and proper maintenance. In addition the first in a series of motor transport schools for all Officers and Staff Non-Commissioned Officers was begun to assist them in carrying out their responsibilities.

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During the reporting period a cement foundation was laid for the Battalion rear area messhall and shower stall. Building materials began to arrive for 32 South East Asia type huts to be erected in the rear area at Quang Tri.

a. Food Services. The Battalion continued to operate two messhalls, one in Quang Tri and one at Ca Lu. The messhall at Quang Tri served 80% "A" rations and 20% "B" rations. The messhall at Ca Lu served 60% "A" rations and 40% "B" rations. There were three full batteries and half of another operating at forward fire bases consuming "C" rations on a full time basis, with hot rations sent to them by helicopter lift once a day, weather permitting. The hot rations to the forward fire bases were provided by the supported infantry units.

7. Administration. There were four Commanding Officer's Non-Judicial Punishments awarded during the month; all offenses were violations of Article 86, UCMJ.

a. The Commanding General's inspection team awarded the administration sections of this battalion and the legal section satisfactory ratings.

8. Personnel. The average strength for the month was 95% of the manning level. During the month the battalion joined 15 Marine Officers and 95 Marine Enlisted. There were 7 Marine Officers rotated during the month of September. There were 58 Marine Enlisted either transferred or rotated.

9. Intelligence. Enemy Artillery/Rocket, Mortar Fire. There were no recorded instances of enemy Artillery/Rocket fires within the Scotland II AO. Enemy contacts were light and sporadic. Several Recon teams were inserted, and considerable numbers of small groups of NVA/VC were detected during the month of September.

During the month of September, the Counter Battery/Mortar plans were revised and updated by this battalion due to the receipt of new PIIU, AO, and Recon reports.

10. Communications-Electronics.

a. Functional radio nets remained established as in August. Relay points, notably Fire Base Cates, were again used due to the nature of the terrain.

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b. The primary link between 3/12 Forward and 12th Marines continued to be integrated wire-radio relay. Service was sporadically curtailed and remained diminished in quality due to storm damage to the Task Force Hotel radio relay site. This situation necessitated greater reliance on radio communications. Acquisition of AS-2236 antenna from 12th Marines greatly aided long distance radio communications. A scheduled courier service with the battalion rear in Quang Tri was established in response to deteriorating wire communications.

c. A radio relay link was established between the battalion FDC and "I" Battery at Fire Base Sheppard.

d. The battalion experienced intermittent radio interference from Army units within radio range. The Division C.E.O. was notified but was unable to improve the situation. Alternate frequencies were assigned for further convenience.

e. During the month of September the battalion continued to provide communications capability for the Quang Tri Base Defence FSOC.

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REPORT OF AMMUNITION EXPENDITURE  
AND MISSIONS FIRED

SEPTEMBER  
OPERATION SCOTLAND II

MISSIONS FIRED	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
Obs	28	26	33	9	8	1	16	2
Unobs	15	12	76	11	2	4	40	0
H&I's	100	74	60	74	57	42	63	103
TOTAL	143	112	169	94	67	47	119	105
AMMO EXPENDED								
105 HE	526	545	454	213	64	74	91	224
WP	40	47	17	7	2	4	11	2
ILL	4							
Beehive			1			2	2	
Firecracker								
HC Smoke		3						6
155 HE	166	238	50	34	9	31	35	91
WP	3	4	8	7				4
ILL		111						
Firecracker		20						
107 HE	82	137	122	3	7	31	14	75
WP	51	11	12			13	2	8
ILL	9							
HC Smoke								
CS Gas								
TOTAL	881	1116	664	264	82	155	155	410
SURVEILLANCE								
KIA (C)								
KIA (P)								

## OPERATION SCOTLAND II

MISSIONS FIRED	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th	15th	16th
Obs	17	4	19	13	12	10	33	29
Unobs	15	13	97	8	180	14	38	68
H&I's	69	85	59	65	89	62	81	76
TOTAL	101	102	175	86	281	86	152	173
AMMO EXPENDED								
105 HE	197	661	252	256	413	341	437	620
WP	10	33	19	11	4	28	74	13
ILL								
Beehive								
Firecracker								
HC Smoke						9	2	
155 HE	94	30	85	55	90	169	21	14
WP	13	3	2		17	52	2	
ILL								
Firecracker								
Beehive								
107 HE	16	32	22	13	39	33	37	125
WP	1			16		7	1	5
ILL				14				
HC Smoke								
CS Gas								
TOTAL	331	759	380	365	563	639	574	807

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AMMO EXPENDED	25th	26th	27th	28th	29th	30th	TOTAL
105 HE	537	669	396	325	235	125	12618
WP	30	40	13	9	12	18	787
ILL			31	4	1		218
Beehive							5
Firecracker							51
HC Smoke		3					23
155 HE	61	38	92	108	81	63	2286
WP	3				6	2	139
ILL	2						113
Firecracker							10
107 HE	8	154	132	67	87	104	2073
WP		3	20	5		9	213
ILL			1		4		28
HC Smoke							29
TOTAL	644	907	685	518	427	321	18658
SURVEILLANCE							
KIA (C)							
KIA (P)							

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(A)