

0171

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

3/PMF/hds
5750
1 February 1969
Ser No.

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (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 31 January 1969 (U)

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

Encl: (1) 3d Battalion, 12th Marines Command Chronology for the period
1 to 31 January 1969.

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

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

Copy to: CO 12th Marines

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3RD BATT/12TH MAR

CMD CHRON

JAN 1969

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3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO San Francisco 96602

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1 February 1969

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
1 January to 31 January 1969

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART I
ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

<u>1. DESIGNATION</u>	<u>COMMANDER</u>
3d Battalion, 12th Marines 3d Marine Division (Rein)	LtCol E.D. FOXWORTH Jr. 051382/0802 1-31 January 1969

Subordinate Units

Battery "G" 3d Battalion 12th Marines, 3d Marine Division (Rein)	Capt K.C. KALBFLEISH 084123/0802 1-31 January 1969
Battery "H" 3d Battalion 12th Marines, 3d Marine Division (Rein)	1stLt. G.T. SMITH 0101492/0802 1-31 January 1969
Battery "I" 3d Battalion 12th Marines, 3d Marine Division (Rein)	Capt R.C. HOLLIDAY 082781/0802 1-31 January 1969
Headquarters Battery 3d Battalion 12th Marines, 3d Marine Division (Rein)	1stLt D.A. VETTER 0101680/0802 1-31 January 1969
Mortar Battery 3d Battalion 12th Marines, 3d Marine Division (Rein)	1stLt. J.F. GIMBER 0102781/0802 1-31 January 1969
1st Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery 3d Battalion, 12th Marines 3d Marine Division (Rein)	Capt J.B. WILKES 094071/0802 1-31 January 1969

Other Units

Mortar Battery 2d Battalion 12th Marines, 3d Marine Division (Rein)	Capt C.F. NORTON 080524/0802 8-22 January 1969
Battery "F" 2d Battalion 12th Marines, 3d Marine Division (Rein)	Capt R.W. POOLEY 0104905/0802 8-12 January 1969

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

Capt T.S. HUTCHINSON
 094802/0802
 8-12 and 22-31
 January 1969

2. Location

1-15 January 1969 Command Group "A" YD 011464 Ca Lu, RVN.
 16-31 January 1969 Command Group "A" YD 000484 Vandegrift
 Combat Base, RVN.
 1-31 January 1969 Headquarters (Rear) YD 300551 Quang Tri
 Province, RVN.

3. Staff Officer

a. Executive Officer

Major P.E. FRASER Jr.
 073042/0802
 1-5 January 1969
 Major R.E. GIBSON
 064655/0802
 23-31 January 1969

b. S-1 Adjutant/Legal Officer

CWO-2 R.E. FAUST Jr.
 098645/0130
 1-5 January 1969
 2ndLt. J.G. DUNN
 010744/0130
 6-31 January 1969

c. S-2 Officer

1stLt. P.B. TIERNEY
 010384/0802
 1-31 January 1969

d. S-3 Officer

Major P.M. FULETZ
 079944/0802
 1-31 January 1969

e. S-3A

Capt F.H. WITTLE Jr.
 092247/0802
 1-31 January 1969

f. S-4 Officer

Capt E.C. BROWN
 089725/0802
 1-31 January 1969

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g. Communication Officer

1stLt. C.W. ULRICH
0102660/2502
1-31 January 1969

h. Motor Transport Officer

1stLt. J.J. MUNN
0102905/3502
1-31 January 1969

i. Supply Officer

1stLt. S.M. EASTON
0103463/3002
1-31 January 1969

j. Survey/Metro Officer

1stLt. J.L. PETERSON
095760/0802
1-4 January 1969
2ndLt. R.W. DUNLAP
0107442/0802
5-31 January 1969

k. Liaison Officer

Major G.V. THURMOND
081223/0802
1-31 January 1969

4. Average Monthly Strength

USMC	
Off	Enl
49	630

USN	
Off	Enl
1	16

OTHER	
Off	Enl
0	0

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The 3d Battalion, 12th Marines continued in its mission of direct support of the 4th Marine Regiment during the January phase of Operation Scotland II utilizing direct support and reinforcing fire of all calibers. The 3d Battalion, 12th Marines fired in support of single and multi-battalion operations in all areas of the TOAR. At 1547 on the afternoon of 1 January, Special Forces Team Wireball (USA) made contact near coordinates 833672. "H" Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines, reinforced by 8" Howitzer from 12th Marines fired 62 rounds of HE in support of Wireball, resulting in one fire and multiple secondary explosions.

At 1045 on 4 January, "C" Company, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines reported an enemy mine field at coordinates 839569. The target was engaged by "H" Battery which fired 68 rounds, fuze delay, neutralizing the mines. Later in the day the same company requested fire on an active machine gun position near coordinates 845585. The target was engaged by "H" Battery reinforced by 8" from 12th Marines, and successfully neutralized until air was brought in, which destroyed it.

On 1300 8 January, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines assumed Opcon of "W" Battery, 2d Battalion, 12th Marines located at Vandegrift Combat Base and "F" Battery, 2d Battalion, 12th Marines and 3rd Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery located at Fire Support Base Gates. The Opcon's were effected to provide fire support in the new southern area of the TOAR, created by a boundary change at 1300 8 January.

January 9 "W" Battery (-), three tubes, moved to Fire Support Base Neville from Fire Support Base Elliot to support a sweep conducted by 1st Battalion, 4th Marines in the Neville area. The purpose of the move was to add weight of metal to "G" Battery's capability and to cover the dead space caused by "G" Battery's minimum range capability.

At 1134, 11 January "D" Company, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines reported enemy movement at grid 833602. "W" and "G" Batteries, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines engaged the target. The target was later described as 20 NVA in the open by an AO who took over the mission at approximately 1255. 188 rounds were expended by all batteries with good coverage of target. After the mission was fired "D" Company moved into the target area and found blood trails and an NVA sandal with fragment holes and blood.

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At 1427 Recon Team Heritage reported 20 to 50 NVA at coordinates 962676. "I" and "H" Batteries, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines engaged the target and over a period of 8 hours fired 7 separate missions and expended 498 rounds aiding in the successful extraction of the team.

At 1600 on 12 January, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines chopped Opcon of "W" Battery and 3d Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery to 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines. The Liaison Officer with 1st Battalion, 4th Marines reported finding 3 enemy KIA at grid 822608. Credit for these KIA's were given to 3rd Battalion, 12th Marines.

January 13 at 1104 Recon team Marshall Hall reported an active enemy mortar position at grid 916655, the target was attacked by "H" Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines reinforced by "E" Battery, 4th Battalion, 12th Marines. A total of 130 rounds were fired resulting in 4 secondary explosions.

At 0902 on 15 January Headquarters Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines displaced from Ca Lu to Vandegrift Combat Base, control was passed simultaneously from FDC at Ca Lu to FDC at Vandegrift.

January 18 at 1640 "W" Battery (-), three tubes, displaced from Fire Support Base Meyville to Fire Support Base Elliot.

January 21 at 0810 "B" Company, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines reported 3 NVA at grid 777637. "G" Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines fired 40 rounds resulting in two enemy KIA's.

At 1200 on 22 January 3d Battalion, 12th Marines assumed Opcon of "W" Battery, 2d Battalion, 12th Marines at Vandegrift Combat Base and 3d Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery at Fire Support Base Cates.

January 23 at 0850, an AO call sign "Colorado Zulu" reported 10 NVA in the open, "I" Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines engaged the target and fired a total of 135 rounds of Firecracker and 121 rounds of HE, surveillance was 4 enemy KIA's.

January 25 "W" Battery (-) displaced from Fire Support Base Elliot to Vandegrift Combat Base, simultaneously 3d Battalion, 12th Marines chopped Opcon of "W" Battery, 2d Battalion, 12th Marines to 2d Battalion. At 1130 Recon Team "Dixie Diner" made contact near grid 848641. An AO, call sign "Colorado India", took control of the mission which was assigned to "G" Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines, 127

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rounds were expended by "G" Battery. Throughout the mission the AO coordinated CAS, Artillery and a Medevac aircraft, exhibiting a high degree of professionalism, and knowledge of Fire Support Coordination.

January 26 at 2112 Cloudy Skies a Recon Team near grid 907516, reported movement around them. "H" and "G" Batteries, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines and "L" Battery, 4th Battalion, 12th Marines fired a covering fire on three sides of the team for a total of 165 rounds of HE. At 2213 gunships arrived as escorts for extraction helicopters. Surveillance for the mission was one secondary explosion, but no final surveillance was given due to extraction.

January 27 "A" Battery 1st/40 Artillery, became reinforcing of 3d Battalion, 12th Marines at 1100 due to an expansion of 4th Marines TOAR. At 1841, the FO for "H" Company, 2d Battalion, 4th Marines reported incoming mortar rounds. "I" Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines engaged the target firing a total of 229 rounds of HE. "A" Battery 1st/40, expended 48 rounds of HE. "B" and "C" of 1st 8" Howitzer Battery fired an additional 51 rounds of HE in a reinforcing role.

January 29 at 1300, "H" Company, 2d Battalion, 4th Marines reported taking 12 to 15 rounds of incoming. "B" Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marines and "E" Battery, 4th Battalion, 12th Marines fired 143 rounds of HE. Mortars were silenced.

31 January "F", 2d Battalion, 4th Marines received small arms fire and a mission was sent to "A" Battery, 1st/40. In firing they expended 427 rounds causing the NVA to break contact with the company.

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PART III

Sequential Listing of Significant Events.

1. Combat Missions Assigned

- a. 1-31 January 1969, 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) 12

4. Casualties Sustained

- a. KIA 0
- b. WIA 0
- c. Non-combat casualties 11

5. Equipment. The motor transport maintenance situation showed continued improvement during January. The deadlined rate declined from an initial 28% to 21% at the end of the month. Lack of repair parts accounts for twelve (12) of the sixteen (16) vehicles deadlined at second echelon. Four M-37s and one M-151 were received through the FME-Pac rebuilt program during January.

The Ordnance equipment and maintenance situation showed improvement during the month. Repair and exchange service through FLSG "R" for sighting and fire control equipment has shown improvement, but the condition of panoramic telescopes remains a limiting factor.

6. General Logistics. January highlights were in the construction area for this battalion. A new command post was constructed at Vandegrift Combat Base and occupied during the month. A 100 man mess hall with Staff and Officers mess was completed, and an enlisted mens club is now under construction. Two bunkers were constructed by the engineers. Four bunkers were constructed under the self-help program utilizing salvaged materials.

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Construction in the Quang Tri area centered in the Battalion motor pool with the completion of a wash rack and additional shop space.

Transition to the Mechanized Embarkation Data System continues as the card decks were received and audited.

During the month approximately 21,000 rounds of 105mm, 700 rounds of 107mm, and 750 rounds of 155mm ammunition were helilifted from Vandegrift LSA to the fire bases.

The on position ammunition stockage level was increased during the month requiring construction of additional ammunition bunkers on the firebases.

a. Food Service. The battalion messhalls at Quang Tri and Vandegrift fed 65% "A" rations and 35% "B" rations. The batteries occupying firebases subsisted on MCI, supplemented by "B" rations. Hot meals were provided by the 4th Marines as the situation permitted.

7. Administration. There were seven (7) Commanding Officer's Non-Judicial Punishments awarded for violation of Articles 86, 90 and 92, UCMJ. There was one Special Court Martial awarded for violation of Article 134, UCMJ.

8. Personnel. During the month of January the Battalion strength averaged 95% of the manning level. Seven (7) Marine Officers, thirty five (35) Marine Enlisted and two (2) Navy Enlisted joined the battalion. Four (4) Marine Officers and forty one (41) Marine Enlisted were rotated or transferred.

9. Intelligence.

1. During the month of January there were only two instances of friendly forces receiving incoming. On January 27 at 1841H, "H" Company, 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines was hit with 25 rounds of 60mm mortars. Counter fire was returned on grid 038683 by "I" Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines, "A" Battery 1st/40, and "M" Battery, 4th Battalion, 12th Marines and "B" and "C" Platoons, 1st 8th Battery, 12th Marines.

On January 29 at 1348H, "H" Company, 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines redeived approximately 15 rounds of 60mm mortar fire.

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Counter fire was returned at grid 036679 by "B" Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marines and "M" Battery, 4th Battalion, 12th Marines. The mortars were again silenced.

10. Communication-Electronics.

1. During January the communication section supported the fire direction requirements of the battalion, the artillery liaison unit located within the 4th Marine Regiment and the battalion's Naval Gunfire Team which deployed along the coast.

2. In mid January the 4th Marines FSCC deployed from Fire Support Base Fuller to Ca Lu Combat Base. Within a week the FDC displaced from Ca Lu to Vandegrift Combat Base. Shortly thereafter the 4th Marines FSCC displaced to the new 4th Marines CP at Vandegrift Combat Base. All of the above displacements were effected in echelon while maintaining full communication capability using both wire and radio.

3. The CP site at Vandegrift Combat Base featured a separate radio center bunker and a more dispersed radio remote arrangement within the FDC.

4. Long wire trunks were again provided by Division Radio Relay. By the end of the month plans were in effect to provide the battalion with two (2) direct radio relay circuits to reinforcing and general support artillery units located at Elliot Combat Base.

11. Naval Gunfire Section.

1. The Naval Gunfire section of the battalion deployed to Oceanview from 30 December to 24 January 1969. 18 Naval Gunfire missions were fired, expending 443 rounds. Missions were fired utilizing the USS New Jersey, USS Newport News, USS Dupont, USS J.P. Strauss, USS R.K. Huntington and USS A.J. Isbell. All missions were fired with 5" Naval rifles. The team made a one day visit to the USS Towers for an informal tour of Shipboard Naval Gunfire Operations.

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Part IV

TABLES OF AMMUNITION EXPENDITURES
AND MISSIONS FIRED

JANUARY

OPERATION SCOTLAND II

MISSIONS FIRED	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th
Obs	5	13	18	16	18	15	3
Unobs	7	27	17	10	14	9	16
H&I's	78	45	88	63	70	37	41
TOTAL	90	85	123	89	102	61	60

AMMO EXPENDED

105 HE	586	585	1093	629	270	137	375
WP	15	31	15	30	12	4	5
ILL	2					1	

Firecracker

Beehive

155 HE

WP

ILL

Firecracker

107 HE	42	44	152	121	44	48	230
WP		6	3				
ILL							46

HC Smoke

CS Gas

TOTAL	645	666	1263	780	326	190	658
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SURVEILLANCE

KIA (C)

MISSIONS FIRED	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th
Obs	4	14	11	15	33	19	21
Unobs	12	16	25	8	21	21	17
H&I's	65	121	77	141	118	132	82
TOTAL	81	151	113	164	162	172	120

AMMO EXPENDED

105 HE	113	482	494	1500	1350	1180	558
WP		10	20	60	34	4	9
ILL		46			2		

Firecracker

Beehive

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MISSIONS FIRED	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th
Obs	8	10	1	8	3	6
Unobs	13	8	4	10	1	4
H&I's	119	103	87	85	91	77
TOTAL	140	121	92	103	95	87

AMMO EXPENDED

105 HE	479	1197	1328	822	1506	1258
WP	2	40	17	34	24	28
ILL		2			3	
Firecracker		135				
Beehive						
155 HE	10	174	77	72	120	93
WP	6	8	6	14		
ILL						
Firecracker						
107 HE	142	390	372	282	150	310
WP		6		10		
ILL	4	5				
HC Smoke						
CS Gas						
TOTAL	643	1957	1800	1234	1803	1689

SURVEILLANCE

KIA (C)	7
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MISSIONS FIRED	28th	29th	30th	31st	TOTAL
Obs	28	3	7	27	374
Unobs	3	1	15	3	337
H&I's	37	91	63	37	2365
TOTAL	68	95	85	67	3076

AMMO EXPENDED

105 HE	836	1224	959	730	22519
WP	7	26	4	2	545
ILL	2				63
Firecracker					135
Beehive					0
155 HE	56	153	85	40	1028
WP		1			35
ILL					0
Firecracker					0
107 HE	243	75	30	24	4679
WP	1			4	35
ILL	3				184
HC Smoke					0
CS Gas					0
TOTAL	1148	1479	1079	800	29529

SURVEILLANCE

KIA (C)	12
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155 HE			33	54	60		
WP							
ILL							
Firecracker							
107 HE	169	334	77	201	107	163	374
WP	4		1				
ILL	9						
HC Smoke							
CS Gas							
TOTAL	295	872	625	1815	1553	1347	941

SURVEILLANCE

KIA (C)							3
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MISSIONS FIRED	15th	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th	21st
Obs	10	12	11	7	9	13	6
Unobs	8	5	5	11	14	18	4
H&I's	47	47	48	37	78	83	77
TOTAL	65	64	64	55	101	114	87

AMMO EXPENDED

105 HE	474	264	165	269	602	924	450
WP	13	19	2	5	19	18	16
ILL			5				
Firecracker							
Beehive							
155 HE							
WP							
ILL							
Firecracker							
107 HE	48	36	46	5	183	93	114
WP							
ILL						6	109
HC Smoke							
CS Gas							
TOTAL	535	319	218	279	804	1041	719

SURVEILLANCE

KIA (C)							2
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	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th	28th
155 HE		72	81	97	17	80	123
WP							1
ILL							
Firecracker							
107 HE	94	99	126	141	17	180	208
WP	4	39					6
ILL							2
CS Gas							
TOTAL	960	1200	1044	2135	634	1579	2413

SURVEILLANCE

RIA (C)

1

22

MISSIONS FIRED

TOTAL

Obs	174
Unobs	220
H2I's	2718
TOTAL	3412

AMMO EXPENDED

105 HE	25650
WP	574
ILL	240
Firecracker	352
155 HE	1928
WP	2
ILL	73
Firecracker	
107 HE	4332
WP	60
ILL	785
CS Gas	
TOTAL	33994

SURVEILLANCE

RIA (C)

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AMMO EXPENDED	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th
107 HE	219	299	254	149	222	210	134
WP		33			20	28	
Fl							

CS Gas							
Total	1163	1463	1280	1008	1428	1016	1384

SURVEILLANCE

KIA (C)		
	1	2

MISSIONS FIRED	15th	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th	21st
Obs	22	13	4	22	1	7	22
Unobs	1	2	2	5	15	17	17
HEIT's	123	110	11	147	131	81	79
TOTAL	146	125	17	174	147	105	118

AMMO EXPENDED

105 HE	1023	645	87	1023	1856	1482	863
WP	12	6		5	113	21	21
Fl							

Firecracker

155 HE	73	54	54	74
WP				
Fl				

Firecracker

107 HE	141	80	24	288
WP		6	3	
Fl		11	8	681

CS Gas

TOTAL							
	1249	802	122	2052	2142	1545	1008

SURVEILLANCE

KIA (C)		
		1

MISSIONS FIRED	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th	28th
Obs	3	20	24	21	24	29	29
Unobs	4	6	10	17	28	45	8
HEIT's	112	173	104	82	129	53	
TOTAL	119	199	138	38	134	203	80

AMMO EXPENDED

105 HE	872	877	717	1782	595	1284	1571
WP	10	99		115	5	15	14
Fl		14				12	2

Firecracker

		120	93

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