

0269

3D MARDIV S&C FILE  
BT# 135869

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

3/PMP/ads  
5750  
1 April 1969  
Ser No.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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 March 1969 (U)

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

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

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

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

Copy to: CO 12th Marines

Downgrade at 3 year intervals  
Declassified after 12 years

Copy 2 of 12 copies

UNCLASSIFIED

38084/12TH MAR

CMD CHRON

MAR 1969

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

3/PMP/hds  
5750  
1 April 1969

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY  
1 March to 31 March 1969

INDEX

- Part I - Organizational Data
- Part II - Narrative Summary
- Part III - Sequential Listing of Significant Events
- Part IV - Supporting Documents
  - Tab A: Tables of Ammunition Expenditures and Missions Fired
  - Tab B: S-3 Journal
  - Tab C: Combat Operation After Action Report, SCOTLAND II,  
6 Jun 1968 - 28 Feb 1969 [PARTS MIS-16]

ENCLOSURE (1)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNCLASSIFIED

PART I  
ORGANIZATION DATA

1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

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

LtCol E.D. FOXWORTH Jr.  
051383/0802  
1-31 March 1969

Subordinate Units

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

Capt K.C. KALBFLEISCH  
084123/0802  
1-31 March 1969

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

1stLt J.M. BASEL  
0102818/0802  
1-31 March 1969

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

1stLt R.C. KURTH  
0102663/0802  
1-31 March 1969

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

1stLt D.A. VETTER  
0101680/0802  
1-31 March 1969

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

1stLt J.F. GIMBER  
0102781/0802  
1-31 March 1969

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

1stLt J.G. FERRARI  
096660/0802  
1-31 March 1969

Operational Control

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

1stLt R.C. HOOPES  
0100732/0802  
1-31 March 1969

Battery "A" 1st Battalion  
12th Marines, 3d Marine  
Division (Rein)

Capt H.E. LOFTIN  
086349/0802  
5-15 March 1969

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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

1stLt J.J. MARSHALL  
097304/0802  
1-31 March 1969

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

Capt C.F. NORTON  
080524/0802  
15-22 March 1969

## 2. Location

1-31 March Command Group "A" YD000484 Vandegrift Combat  
Base, RVN.

1-31 March Command Group "B" XD754527 Fire Support Base  
Alpine, RVN.

1-31 March Headquarters (Rear) YD300551, Quang Tri, Prov-  
ince, RVN.

## 3. Staff Officers

### a. Executive Officer

Major R.E. GIBSON  
064655/0802  
1-31 March 1969

### b. S-1/Adjutant/Legal/Officer

2ndLt J.G. DUNN  
010744/0130  
1-31 March 1969

### c. S-2 Officer

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

### d. S-3 Officer

Major P.M. PULETZ  
079944/0802  
1-31 March 1969

### e. S-3A Officer

1stLt W.J. WALCHLI  
0102364/0802  
1-31 March 1969

### f. S-4 Officer

Capt E.C. BROWN  
089125/0802  
1-31 March 1969

### g. Communications Officer

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

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

## PART II

During the month the 3d Battalion, 12th Marines continued to provide direct support artillery for the 4th Marine Regiment. The 4th Marine Regimental AO was reduced in size. The 1-5 Mechanized Infantry Brigade assumed responsibility for the north eastern sector of the TAOR.

At 1205H on 1 March "C" 1/4 reported enemy contact and incoming mortars at grid XD970622. "L" 4/12 and "I" 3/12 expended a total of 117 rounds of HE, the enemy broke contact. At 1335H "A" 1/12 fired 94 rounds of HE in support of "C" 1/4 who had received incoming mortars. Surveillance was 1 secondary explosion. Programs of mortar suppression fires were started and proved successful. At 1100H Noville reported incoming which quickly ceased after "E" 3/12 fired 25 rounds of HE. At 2105H "E" 2/4 reported movement on the lines. The movement ceased after "W" 3/12, "L" 4/12, "A" 1/12 fired 225 rounds of HE.

At 1258H 2 March "C" 1/4 reported incoming mortars. "I" 3/12, and "L" 4/12 fired counter mortar fire on grid XD970622. The surveillance given was 1 confirmed NVA KIA. There were a total of 299 rounds of HE fired in the suppression of the mortars. At 1200H on 2 March three (3) guns of "G" 3/12, located at Vandegrift Combat Base (XD997517), returned to the operational control of 3d Battalion, 12th Marines.

At 0900H on 3 March 3d Battalion, 12th Marines chopped operational control of 3 guns of "G" 3/12 located at Vandegrift Combat Base to 1/12 and assumed operational control of "A" 1/12 located at Elliot Combat Base (XD982541). At 0710H "C" 1/4 reported NVA all around him and that he was in heavy contact. A box around "C" 1/4 was fired by 5th 155 Guns, "B" Plt, 1st 8" Howitzer Battery, "I" 3/12 and "L" 4/12. A total of 515, 105 rounds, 65, 8" rounds and 511, 155 rounds were fired. The enemy broke contact. At 1630H "L" 4/12 and "H" 3/12, in support of "K" 3/4, expended 311 rounds of HE on grid XD958628. The surveillance given was 11 bunkers destroyed and 2 secondary explosions.

At 0052H on 4 March, a reconnaissance team reported short contact at XD664573. 2nd Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery fired 26 rounds HE in their support. At 1030H "K" 3/4 reported enemy contact at grid XD928609. "I" 3/12 and "W" 3/12 fired a total of 190 rounds of HE resulting in 2 confirmed NVA KIA. At 1325H "E" 2/4 reported enemy contact. "L" 4/12

UNCLASSIFIED

h. Motor Transport Officer

1stLt G.J. MUNN  
0102905/3502  
1-31 March 1969

i. Supply Officer

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

j. Survey/Metro Officer

1stLt R.J. DUNLAP  
0101772/0802  
1-31 March 1969

k. Liaison Officer

Major G.V. THURMOND  
083878/0802  
1-20 March 1969  
Capt M.G. HOLLIDAY  
082781/0802  
20-31 March 1969

4. Average Monthly Strength

USMC	
Off	Enl
48	627

USN	
Off	Enl
2	16

OTHER	
Off	Enl
0	0

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

expended 72 rounds HE, surveillance was 1 NVA KIA. At 1855H "E" 2/4 reported a squad in contact. Response was made with "L" 4/12, "H" 3/12 and "G" 3/12 firing a total of 282 rounds of HE. No surveillance was given.

The Liaison Officer of 1st Battalion, 4th Marines reported an active enemy mortar at XD945625. The target was engaged by "L" 4/12, "A" 1/12, and "H" 3/12 for a total of 147 rounds of HE expended, with a surveillance of excellent coverage or target.

At 0425H on 5 March, the Liaison Officer with 1st Battalion, 4th Marines reported active mortars at grid XD954390. "L" 4/12, "A" 1/12 and "H" 3/12 engaged the target firing a total of 220 rounds of HE, resulting in the suppression of the mortars. A team from 3d Recon Battalion had contact with NVA at XD765783 on LZ Argonne. 2nd Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery, "B" 1/12 and 175 Guns of 1/94 USA, fired 184 rounds in support of their extraction. At 0600H, "I" 3/4 reports incoming mortars at XD945624, "A" 1/12 and "L" 4/12 fired 383 rounds of HE, to silence the mortars. At 0707H "C" 1/4 fired a precision destruction mission with "B" 1st 8" on occupied enemy bunkers, resulting in 1 NVA KIA and 2 bunkers destroyed. At 1005H "H" 2/4 reported 30 NVA carrying mortar tubes at XD839593. "H" 3/12 attacked the target with 186 rounds HE. At 1045H "M" 3/4 reported active mortars at XD954622. "L" 4/12, "I" 3/12 and "A" 1/12 fired 110 rounds resulting in the mortars being silenced. At 1605H, the Liaison Officer with 1st Battalion, 4th Marines reported 2 NVA in the open plus taking sniper rounds as well as a mortar position at XD954622. "H" 3/12, "B" 1st 8", "L" 4/12 and "A" 1/12 attacked the target with 455 rounds of HE.

At 1805H on 6 March "I" 3/4 reported incoming mortars from grid XD955620. "I" 3/12 fired 60 rounds HE and 114 rounds were fired by "A" 1/12. The mortars were silenced.

At 1610H on 7 March, "M" 3/4 reported incoming mortars and 6 NVA at grid XD945625. "L" 4/12 fired 141 rounds of HE, "H" 3/12 fired 240 HE rounds. The mortars ceased and the NVA were no longer visible.

At 1230H on 8 March "I" 3/4 reported taking rockets and mortars. "L" 4/12 fired 200 HE rounds and "A" 1/12 fired 65 HE rounds. The mortars and rockets ceased.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

At 1154H on 9 March "M" 3/4 spotted 12 NVA at grid XD946624. "I" 3/12 fired 87 rounds of HE and "L" 4/12 fired 48 rounds of HE. The surveillance was 4 secondary explosions. A sweep of the area later found bloody NVA uniforms with fragment holes in them.

At 1710H on 10 March "M" 3/4 received incoming mortars. Counter Mortar Plan Lizard was put into effect. The mortars ceased and the FO observed 7 secondary explosions. "A" 1/12 and "H" 3/12 expended 160 rounds 105 HE and "L" 4/12 fired 60 rounds 155 HE. At 1810H 3d Battalion, 12th Marines Command Group "B" at Fire Support Base Alpine reported taking mortars from grid XD768543. "G" 3/12 at Fire Support Base Neville expended 190 rounds HE. The mortars were silenced.

At 1100H 11 March "G" 2/4 reported heavy contact and small-arms fire. A mission was fired on grid XD822615 by "G" 3/12. They expended 136 rounds HE, the enemy broke contact.

At 1408H on 12 March "M" 3/4 reported 2 NVA in a bunker at grid XD945616. The mission was fired by "I" 3/12. A total of 42 rounds of HE were fired with numerous direct hits on the bunkers reported by the FO.

At 0700H on 13 March prep fires were provided in support of 3d Battalion, 4th Marines. A total of 552 rounds 105 HE and 282, 155 HE were fired. At 1546H "M" 3/4 reported taking incoming mortars from grid XD927649. A total of 94 rounds of HE were fired by "A" 1/12, "L" 4/12 and "I" 3/12 resulting in the suppression of the mortars. At 1645H "G" 2/4 reported taking incoming mortars from grid XD828616, a total of 80 rounds were fired by "H" 3/12 resulting in the mortars being suppressed.

At 1610H on 14 March "F" 2/4 reported taking sniper fire and automatic weapons fire from grid XD828622. "H" 3/12 fired 92 rounds of HE. A surveillance of 4 NVA KIA by artillery and 5 other NVA KIA either by artillery or 81mm mortars was given.

At 1400H 15 March 3d Battalion, 12th Marines chopped opcon of "A" 1/12 to 1st Battalion, 12th Marines. At 1725H 3d Battalion, 12th Marines assumed operational control of "F" 2/12, located at Fire Support Base Elliot, grid XD990540. At 2005H "G" 2/4 reported finding 1 NVA KIA killed by artillery at grid XD828622. "H" 3/12 fired 92 rounds HE. A surveillance of 4 NVA KIA by artillery and 5 other NVA KIA either by artillery or 81mm mortars was given.

UNCLASSIFIED



UNCLASSIFIED

At 0659H on 22 March "F" 2/12 fired a prep fire for "L" 3/4 on grid XD958636. A total of 36 rounds were expended. When "F" 3/4 moved into the area at 0915H two NVA KIA's were found. At 1000H 3d Battalion, 12th Marines chopped operational control of "F" 2/12 to 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines. At 0705H LZ Alpine was hit with a heavy mortar attack. "G" and "GX" 3/12 attacked the target with 536 rounds of HE. The mortars were silenced. At 1854H "L" 3/4 reported small arms fire and incoming mortars at XD950658. "H" 3/12, "I" 3/12 and "B" 1st 8" fired 327 rounds HE. The contact was begun again at 2144H and another 74 rounds were fired. "D" 1/4 took mortars at LZ Argonne, Counter Mortar Plan Tiger was fired by "B" 1/12 and 2d Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery, with "GX" 3/12 firing direct fire for a total of 210 rounds of HE. The mortars were silenced.

At 1550H on 23 March "I" 3/12 received incoming mortars. The muzzle flashes were spotted, and direct fire was brought to bear. A total of 6 WP, 6 Firecracker and 75 HE rounds were fired. An Air Observer was on station and gave a surveillance of 7 bunkers destroyed, and 1 damaged, also 1 mortar pit with a tube in it destroyed, and 1 secondary explosion.

At 1728H on 24 March an Air Observer from 3d Marine Division reported a known enemy position/bunkers. A total of 110 rounds of HE were fired by "H" 3/12 on grid XD909643. This fire resulted in the destruction of 15 enemy bunkers. A program of mortar suppression fires was conducted around Fire Support Base Fuller and the number of mortar incidents decreased in number to 3. LZ Argonne was again hit with enemy mortars. "GX" 3/12 fired direct fire and "B" 1/12 and 2d Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery fired 195 rounds. The mortars were silenced.

At 0740H on 25 March "L" 4/12 and "B" 1st 8" expended 80 rounds HE in a prep fire for "I" 3/4. Later "I" 3/4 moved into the area and found 1 NVA shirt with shrapnel holes in it and covered with blood. There were blood trails all over the area. At 1407H "I" 3/4 reported incoming mortars at XD892638. "H" 3/12, "L" 4/12, and "B" 1st 8" fired 212 rounds HE silencing the mortars. At 0925H "A" 1/4 made enemy contact at XD660577. "B" 1/12 and 2d Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery fired 35 rounds of HE and the enemy broke contact.

At 1830H on 26 March "I" 3/4 reported taking incoming mortars and light contact. Missions were assigned to "H" 3/12, "L" 4/12 and "B" 1st 8". A total of 96 rounds HE were fired. The mortars ceased firing and the contact was broken.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

0317

mortar rounds, 40 chicom grenades, 1000 lbs of rice and numerous RPG rounds.

At 1205H on 16 March "F" 2/4 reported finding two NVA KIA from artillery at grid XD841582. The grid had been fired at 1710H 16 March by "H" 3/12.

At 0900H on 18 March "H" 3/12 fired a 305 round prep fire for "K" 3/4 at grids XD930630 and XD930620. At 1844H "F" 2/4 reported being in contact with NVA in the open. "W" 3/12 fired 42 rounds HE and "L" 4/12 fired 126 rounds of HE. The enemy broke contact and a surveillance of 3 bunkers destroyed was given.

At 0910H on 19 March an Air Observer from 3d Marine Division reported an NVA position consisting of mortar pits and bunkers at grid XD901642. "H" 3/12 expended 40 HE and "L" 4/12 expended a total of 128 rounds HE. The AO reported the destruction of 6 enemy bunkers. At 1058H "I" 3/4 and "L" 3/4 reported an active 50 caliber machine gun position firing at helicopters. The machine gun was silenced with 90 rounds of HE. An active mortar reported by "B" 1/4 was silenced with 151 rounds of HE by "F" 2/12 at 1201H and again at 1325H with 50 HE and once again at 1406H with 115 rounds of HE. "F" 2/12 engaged another active mortar reported by "K" 3/4 at 1646H.

At 0800H on 20 March "G" 3/12 returned to the operational control of 3d Battalion, 12th Marines, and was displaced to Fire Support Base Argonne (XD677572). A 475 round prep was fired for "K" 3/4 before their operation in grid squares XD 9661, 9462, 9562. An extensive prep fire was conducted for 1st Battalion, 4th Marines prior to their insertion into Fire Support Base Argonne.

At 0815H on 21 March "HQ" 1/4 reported incoming mortars at Fire Support Base Argonne. 2nd Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery 1/12 fired 141 rounds of counter mortar fire, silenced the mortars. At 1023H Fire Support Base Argonne again reported taking incoming mortars. "B" 1/12 fired 105 rounds of counter mortar fire, the mortars were again silenced. At 1120H the FSCC at 1st Battalion, 4th Marines reported two rounds of enemy artillery from a direction of 0500 mils. The 175 Guns of the 1st of the 94th Artillery, USA, from Elliot Combat Base fired a total of 18 rounds counter battery fire on grid XD714646, the artillery was silenced.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~Part IIISequential Listing of Significant Events1. Combat Missions Assigned.

a. 1-31 March 1969 3d Battalion, 12th Marines in direct support of the 4th Marine Regiment.

2. Significant Operations Conducted.

a. Operation Purple Martin 1-31 March 1969

3. Casualties Inflicted on the Enemy.

a. KIA (a) 19

4. Casualties Sustained.

a. KIA 2

b. WIA 13

c. Non-combat casualties 26

5. Equipment. The motor transport maintenance situation showed only slight improvement during March. The Deadline rate rose from an initial 23% to 24% at the end of the month. Lack of direct exchange repair parts accounted for sixteen (16) of twenty-eight (28) vehicles deadlined at second echelon. One AN/MPC-83 was received during the month bringing the battalion up to the full five (5) rated by the T/E.

The ordnance equipment and maintenance situation showed improvement during the month. Weapons turned into FLSG "B" during the month experienced less down time and were back to the unit normally one day after turn-in. Direct exchange services for panoramic telescopes showed a marked improvement during the month with new sights being introduced into the system.

6. General Logistics. Shortage of individual equipment was alleviated during the month with the receipt of upper body armor, helmet liners, sweatbands and folding cots.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

At 1428H on 27 March an Air Observer from 3d Marine Division was taken under fire by an NVA 50 caliber machine gun. The AO was wounded. He called in a mission on the 50 caliber position but had to leave station. The target was located at grid XD827640. "G" 3/12 was assigned to fire. The battery expended a total of 48 rounds of HE, with negative surveillance. At 1605H a target described as active mortars, was reported by "E" 2/4 and "F" 2/4. A total of 251 rounds were expended by "H" 3/12 and "L" 4/12 in the suppression of the mortars.

At 0700H on 28 March "G" 3/12 and "L" 4/12 fired a 266 round prep fire in the XD9061 grid square for "I" and "K" 3/4. At 1715H "I" 3/12 had completed their move from Fire Support Base Fuller (Dong Ha Mountain) to Vandegrift Combat Base. "E" 2/12 occupied Fire Support Base Fuller.

At 1612H "K" 3/4 spotted 9 NVA in the open at grid XD925668. The mission was assigned to "H" 3/12, a total of 14 rounds of HE were expended with negative surveillance.

At 0902H on 29 March the Army Calibration Team was at Fire Support Base Russell to calibrate "H" 3/12. This was not accomplished because of difficulties with the chronograph. "I" 3/4 received small arms fire at XD893667. "H" 3/12 expended 124 rounds HE and the contact was broken.

At 1214H on 30 March "K" 3/4 reported taking incoming mortars and contact at grid XD928669. "H" 3/12 fired 326 HE rounds. The mortars were suppressed and the contact broken.

At 0912H on 31 March "F" 2/4 reported being in contact at grid XD855650. "G" 3/12 fired 33 rounds HE and 2 WP. The contact was broken. A later sweep on the area uncovered 4 bunkers, 3 of which had been destroyed by artillery, a cache consisting of 34 x 82mm mortar rounds, 40 x 82mm fuzes, 2 chicom grenades, and 1 new mortar pit. "K" 3/4 spotted 2 NVA carrying binoculars on an OP at XD941661. "H" 3/12 fired 24 Firecracker with negative surveillance.

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Regiment at XD 6857, in the immediate vicinity of Fire Support Base Argonne. This location was confirmed by elements of 1st Battalion, 4th Marines receiving numerous enemy initiated incidents and incoming mortars upon their insert at Fire Support Base Argonne. 3d Battalion, 246th Regiment was in the vicinity of XD8261, approximately 4,500 meters north of Fire Support Base Neville.

The 246th Regiments artillery support unit, the 4th Battalion of the 84 artillery Regiment, was located in the vicinity of XD9365, approximately 6000 meters north north east of Russell.

Due to allied operations, the enemy has declined to make a stand and has been kept constantly on the move while fighting mainly delaying actions when forced into combat. The numerous bunker complexes located by friendly units and the quantity of enemy supplies, ammunition and food, captured with little or no resistance tends to substantiate the enemy is fighting a delaying action while trying to evade U.S. forces long enough to resupply and regroup for an offensive operation of their own liking.

#### 10. Communication-Electronic.

1. The major effort during March consisted in maintaining reliable communications between the FDC's at Vandegrift Combat Base and Fire Support Base Alpine. A primary VHF/FM net was established using directional antennas. This net was double remoted to the 4th Marines FSCC for use in fire support coordination purposes. Because of the traffic load and interference on this net an on-call HF/AM net was established using the PRC-47. This radio was powered at Fire Support Base Alpine by a MRC-109 lifted to there for that purpose. The function of the AM net was admin and reporting traffic.

2. Division radio relay confirmed to provide trunks to 12th Marines and 3d Division. Radio relay to reinforcing units at Elliot Combat Base was maintained smoothly until the end of March when generator problems required scheduled use.

3. The communications section supported two Naval Gunfire Spot Teams with radio operators and equipment during early March.

4. Radio communications for the 4th Marines FSCC was provided during March by a system of double-remoting the FDC radios.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Construction to improve office space and facilities continued at both Vandegrift Combat Base and Quang Tri during the month with a new bunker being constructed at Vandegrift to house the S-2/3 offices. At Quang Tri construction was completed on a shed with a cement deck to house a 10CKW generator. Also construction on a stand to hold a 3000 gallon water tank to provide the messhall with a more sanitary means of water supply was completed.

Despite bad weather hampering the helicopter resupply to forward fire bases during 20 days of the month approximately 65,000 rounds of 105mm, 1,800 rounds of 107mm and 8,500 rounds of 155mm ammunition were helilifted from the Vandegrift and Quang Tri LSA's to the Battalions forward batteries.

6a. Food Services. The battalion messhalls at Quang Tri and Vandegrift fed approximately 75% "A" rations and 25% "B" rations during the month.

The batteries at the forward fire bases subsisted primarily on MCI, supplemented by "B" rations. During the month the battalion messhall at Vandegrift began to prepare and send out to the fire bases hot meals as the weather and tactical situation permitted.

7. Administration. There were four (4) Commanding Officer's Non-Judicial Punishments awarded for violation of Articles 90, 113, 86, 134, and 91, UCMJ.

8. Personnel. During the month of March the battalion strength averaged 86% of the manning level. Three (3) Marine Officers, thirty-two (32) Marine enlisted, one (1) Naval officer, and one (1) Naval enlisted joined the battalion. One (1) Marine officer and 57 Marine enlisted were rotated or transferred and one (1) Naval officer was transferred.

9. Intelligence. During the month of March elements of the North Vietnamese 246th Independent Regiment were engaged in the northern I Corps area by the 4th Marines.

The 246th Regimental Headquarters was identified as being in the vicinity of XD9365, approximately 6,500 meters north northeast of fire support base Russell. The 246th Regiment at XD9492, approximately 4,000 meters north east of Fire Support Base Russell, 2nd Battalion, 246th

# TABLES OF AMMUNITION EXPENDITURES AND MISSIONS FIRED

LARON

MISSIONS FIRED	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th
Obs	32	35	3	55	44	56	29
Unobs	22	7	4	10	7	28	53
H&I's	53	126	177	103	68	131	253
TOTAL	107	168	255	166	119	215	335

## AMMO EXPENDED

105 HE	491	707	2930	1322	1849	1864	1152
WP	32	4	24	1	43	16	11
Ill		10	132	11	13	101	
Firecracker							12
155 HE	10	57	126	46	106	90	54
WP			3			3	
Ill			1		7		
Firecracker							
107 HE	61	130	277	150	139	266	62
WP	13	2	17	6	4	9	3
Ill			8		3	16	
CS Gas							
TOTAL	607	910	3518	1536	2164	2365	1294

## SURVEILLANCE

KIA (C)	1	4
---------	---	---

MISSIONS FIRED	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th
Obs	37	48	49	8	42	4	97
Unobs	29	26	28	13	40	3	9
H&I's	94	105	103	137	119	119	102
TOTAL	160	179	180	158	201	126	208

## AMMO EXPENDED

105 HE	877	931	1755	943	912	1518	1993
WP	3	4	7	24	12	105	232
Ill	12	66	1	7	1		139
Firecracker	21						
155 HE	47	83	242	126	156	89	151
WP			4	3	4	2	8
Ill				1	17		
Firecracker							

Pt IV Tab A

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

11. Naval Gunfire. The Naval Gunfire section of the Battalion deployed to the CP's at C-4 and Oceanview from 11 February to 5 March. During the period there was a total of 28 Naval Gunfire missions fired. A total of 3380 rounds were expended. A total of 31 artillery missions were fired with a total of 3593 rounds expended. The results of the missions were 80 KIA's, 10 bunkers destroyed, 3 damaged and 36 secondary explosions.

## PART IV

## SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

(Attached)

UNCLASSIFIED



CONFIDENTIAL

107 HE	84	42	288	106	43	234	298
WP	4		10	1	1	2	10
ILL	6	1	5	4		1	14
CS GAS							
TOTAL	1054	1130	3015	1217	1146	1951	2845

## SURVEILLANCE

KIA (C) 9

MISSIONS FIRED	15th	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th	21st
Obs	2	41	29	54	42	53	33
Unobs		57	12	44	83	73	56
H&I's	58	107	135	145	84	95	104
TOTAL	60	205	176	243	209	221	193

## AMMO EXPENDED

105 HE	2111	2198	2356	2139	2935	3446	2675
WP	14	4	19	18	54	25	42
ILL	189			4	10	17	12
Firecracker			8	8			7
155 HE	163	185	280	90	433	186	753
WP	1	6	2	12	7	11	14
ILL							4

## Firecracker

107 HE	181	42	345	205	194	190	34
WP	4	42	8	7	14	19	7
ILL	30	5		3		8	
CS Gas						30	
TOTAL	2693	2482	3018	2476	3647	3932	3548

## SURVEILLANCE

KIA (C) 2

MISSIONS FIRED	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th	28th
Obs	36	16	45	26	43	56	36
Unobs	29	8	21	29	6	21	15
H&I's	59	98	107	58	78	51	65
TOTAL	144	122	173	113	127	128	116

## AMMO EXPENDED

105 HE	4839	2652	1872	2570	3610	1962	1578
WP	59	71	13	114	11		
ILL	30	21	28	3			
Firecracker		6					
155 HE	231	218	186	174		99	148

UNCLASSIFIED

	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th	28th
WP	2	4	3	8		4	36
III		11					
Firecracker							
107 HE	117	255	113	122	111	116	127
WP	3	17		14	14	23	3
III		11					
CS Gas							
TOTAL	5296	3476	2295	3005	3922	2264	1711

## SURVEILLANCE

KIA (C)

2

MISSIONS FIRED	29th	30th	31st	TOTAL
Obs	51	27	35	1216
Unobs	5	20	37	832
HEATs	16	85	109	3174
TOTAL	102	132	181	5222

## AMMO EXPENDED

105 HE	610	1306	720	58583
WP	34	87	28	1115
III		14	6	875
Firecracker				62
155 HE		87	80	4892
WP		15	8	178
III			4	45
Firecracker				0
107 HE	536	262	229	6022
WP	82	14	16	376
III				121
CS Gas				30
TOTAL	1716	1785	1091	72299

## SURVEILLANCE

KIA (C)

19

Headquarters 3/12 Operations  
VCB, RVN  
010001H to 012400H March 1969

0500H Received word that "C" 1/4 had taken 4 rounds of 60mm mortar fire, also movement on one side approximately 90 meters away. Assigned mission to "H" 3/12 CX 4415 and 970622.

1015 H 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines spotted NVA at grid 977597, 2nd Prov and "B" 1/12 was called in for Fire Support.

1100H "C" 3/12 at Neville reported taking incoming counter mortar plan Mongoose was put into effect, also CH2079 was put into effect, grid was 850590.

1130H At "C" 3/12 Neville reported incoming.

1600H "C" 3/12 at Neville reported incoming "B" 1/12 was assigned a fire mission on grid 831581 CX8091.

1640H "C" 1/4 requested smoke screen for medivac bird "H" 3/12 fired smoke for concealment, grid 965626.

1652H Medivac chopper picked casualties up. 1stBn, 4th Marines reported screen was fine.

2400H Journal closed.

020001H to 022400H March 69

0320H "H" 3/12 reported seeing secondary explosion between the Rockpile and Elliot. They called back and said it could have been muzzle blast from the Rockpile.

1017H "C" 1/4 reported incoming rounds, three targets for counter mortar plan "Cow" were put into effect.

1050H On counter mortar plan "Cow", "A" 1/12 fired 1 round of WP spotter round instead of firing for effect.

UNCLASSIFIED

Pt IV, Tab B

1237H "C" 1/4 called and said they were taking mortars fired counter mortar plan "Cow". Mortar plan "Cow" was given EOM. Assigned to "L" 4/12 grid 953621.

1400H On CX 4145 grid 970522 mission from "I" 3/12 was credited with one confirmed KIA.

1430H Received mission from "I" 3/4 on grid 916618 CX4151, assigned to "E" 4/12, nature of target NVA in bunkers.

2400H Journal closed.

030001H to 032400H March 69

0110H "H" 3/4 reports troop movement on lines, "B" 1/12 was assigned to fire illumination.

0430H "C" 1/4 reports he was getting hit by ground troops and could stand by for mission ASAP. Missions were assigned to "I" and "E" 3/12.

0738H Received mission from "C" 1/4 on 35 NVA in open. Mission assigned to "L" 4/12 and "I" 3/12 with "A" 1/12 standing by.

0900H At this time we dropped Opcon of "G" 3/12 X-ray and took Opcon of "A" 1/12, fire cap will follow.

0915H "A" 1/12 Fire Cap A. "A" 1/12 B. 98205410 C. Az 1400 Def 2800 Alt 30 D. 6 up.

1344H Received boundary change for 1st Bn, 4th Marines A.O. From FSCG. From 000600, west to boundary and south to boundary.

1955 "H" 3/12 has confirmed movement on lines and "L" 4/12 told to lay on Russel and standby.

2100H Recon insert Dockleaf reports being in contact, north and eastern on call clear SBG and SBH.

2400H Journal closed.

Headquarters 3/12 Operations.  
VCB, RVN  
020001H to 012400H March 1969

0500H Received word that "C" 1/4 had taken 4 rounds of 60mm mortar fire, also movement on one side approximately 90 meters away. Assigned mission to "B" 3/12 CX 4485 LAM 920622.

1015H 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines spotted NVA at grid 977597, 2nd Prov and "B" 1/12 was called in for Fire Support.

1100H "C" 3/12 at Neville reported taking incoming counter mortar plan Mongoose was put into effect, also CH2079 was put into effect, grid was 850590.

1130H At "C" 3/12 Neville reported incoming.

1600H "C" 3/12 at Neville reported incoming "B" 1/12 was assigned a fire mission on grid 831581 CX8091.

1640H "C" 1/4 requested smoke screen for medivac bird "B" 3/12 fired smoke for concealment, grid 965626.

1652H Medivac chopper picked casualties up. 1stBn, 4th Marines reported screen was fine.

2400H Journal closed.

020001H to 022400H March 69

0320H "H" 3/12 reported seeing secondary explosion between the Rockpile and Elliot. They called back and said it could have been muzzle blast from the Rockpile.

1017H "C" 1/4 reported incoming rounds, three targets for counter mortar plan "Cow" were put into effect.

1050H On counter mortar plan "Cow", "A" 1/12 fired 1 round of WP spotter round instead of firing for effect.

UNCLASSIFIED

PETTY T. L. A

1554H 1st Battalion, 4th Marines submitted mission on 2 NVA in open and small arms fire, on choppers forced down at LZ. Mack, grid 961612. "L" 4/12 and "A" 1/12 were assigned, given negative clearances, to close to friendlies.

1745H Received missions from "C" 1/4 on grid 964610, taking RPG's, "I" 3/12 to fire CI 2638, clear SAE at 1748, shot at 1750.

070001H to 072400H March 69

1452H Check fire "I" 3/12, "E" 3/12, "L" 4/12, "A" 1/12 due to birds from FSCC, due to troop lifts.

1610H "M" 3/4 reports 6 NVA on ridge line and taking active mortars, "L" 4/12 is adjusting mission on grid 945625, "A" 1/12 and "H" 3/12 are firing Counter Mortar Plan Lizard, at 1628 he reported he stopped taking incoming.

2033H Received two KIA's from a mission fired 4 March for "E" 3/4, gave "I" 3/12 one on CI 2624 grid 930606 and to "W" 3/12 on CW 1823 grid 928609.

080001H to 082400H March 69

0850H Received live mission on 2 NVA in open from "M" 3/4, grid 946624, "L" 4/12 to fire CX4383. "A" 1/12 will fire CX 4434 on grid 945624. "H" 3/12 is layed on the AZ and is standing by.

0914H Received mission from "M" 3/4 on grid 944623, precision destruction by 1st 8" Plt on bunkers with personnel.

1045H Received A.O. change from FSCC, the 9361 and 9461 grid square are to go to 3/4 and 2/4 will lose them.

1142H Rocket suppression fires are in check fire from FSCC due to air.

2000H Sent reinforcing fires to 12th Marines and FSCC.

040001H to 042400H March 69

1030H "K" 3/1 reports enemy contact, gave fire mission on grid 828609, "I" 3/12 to fire.

1600H Received boundary change between 2/4 and 1/4 A.O. received from FSCC.

1715H Received two Bat Cats from FSCC. Bat Cat 007, 77355404 and 008 70345603, personnel, medium reading, reading average.

2000H Received word from FSCC that Recon Insert Dock Leaf has movement inside their position they are firing M-79 and 2nd Prov 1/12 is firing a mission and 175's have been notified to come up on Mike 55 and contact 3/12 FDC for possible mission.

2210H Received active enemy mortars, mission from 1st Bn, 4th Marines FSCC on grid 945625, "L" 4/12 and "A" 1/12 will be firing.

2400H Journal closed.

050001H to 052400H March 69

0526H 12th Marines informed us that we were to come up and contact Romeo for a mission for Dock Leaf. They had 2 friendly KIA's and three WIA's, assigned mission to 2nd Prov 1/12 and "B" 1/12.

1000H Received mission from "H" 2/4, nature of target 10 to 15 NVA grid 839593, "H" 3/12 was assigned this mission.

1015H On mission 10 to 15 NVA it was changed to 20 NVA carrying mortar tubes. "W" 3/12 and "G" 3/12 assigned mission along with "H" 3/12.

1025H "G" 3/12 reports that they were taking incoming at this time. How many rounds is not known at this time.

1033H "G" 3/12 called back and said they did not take any incoming, it was a mixup in their station.

DECLASSIFIED

090001H to 092400H March 69

1145H Received mission from "M" 3/4 on grid 946624, 12 NVA, mission assigned to "A" 1/12, "L" 4/12.

1230H Received word from "M" 3/4 that on mission on grid 946624 had 4 secondary explosions.

1400H Submitted three grids to ESCC for Calibration of "H" 3/12.

1635H Received mission from A.O. Colorado Kilo, grid 832605, nature of target, contact/active mortars and RPG's. Assigned "G" 3/12 to mission.

1155H "Hq" 3/12 forward at LZ Alpine reports approx 20-25 incoming mortars. Counter Mortar Plan "Gazelle" in effect.

2400H Formal closed.

100001H to 102400H March 69

0907H Received mission from "G" 2/4 grid 832605 contact RPG's assigned "H" 3/12 to mission.

1035H Received two grids from 4th Marines ESCC, both are active AA positions 820630 and 818635, requested 175's to fire on them.

1223H Received mission from "M" 3/4 grid 946624, 4 NVA in open, assigned to "L" 4/12.

1400H Prep fires for 3d Bn, 4th Marines received from 4th Marines ESCC. To be fired tomorrow.

1500H Mission from Division A.O. grid 827614 active mortars assigned to "H" 3/12. "G" 2/4 was taking mortars.

1700H Received word "M" 3/4 was taking incoming mortars, Put counter mortar plan Lizard into effect.

1717H Received mission from "L" 3/4 grid 949635, active mortars assigned to "A" 1/12.

1802H Received 3 secondary explosions on grid 949635.



1804H Purple Martin A.O. changed, it now belongs to 1st Bn, 4th Marines.

2045H Received word from, 2nd Bn, 4th Marines FSOC that they had found one NVA body, about 3 days old killed by arty.

2400H Journal closed.

110001H to 112400H March 69

1100H Received mission from "G" 2/4 on enemy contact grid 822615 assigned to "G" 3/12, contact broken.

1524H "G" 2/4 in contact again grid 822615 mission assigned to 2nd Prov 1/12.

1745H Night rocket suppression fires from 12th Marines.

2400H Journal closed.

120001H to 122400H March 69

1408H Received mission from "M" 3/4 grid 945626, 2 NVA in bunkers. Assigned to "I" 3/12 fired 42 HE, fuze delay, negative surveillance.

2400H Journal closed.

130001H to 132400H March 69

0700H Started firing prep fires for "M" 3/4 and "I" 3/4 "H" 3/12, "I" 3/12 and "A" 1/12 firing them.

1105H "M" 3/4 reported seeing NVA on objective, fired preps.

1220H Received mission from "E" 2/4 grid 892587, NVA in open assigned to "W" 3/12.

1354H Division Air Observer called in mission on grid 013693, 1 NVA in open, assigned to "I" 3/12.

1524H Received mission from "I" 3/4 enemy contact/small arms fire grid 940626, assigned to "A" 1/12. Contact broken.

1545H Received mission from "G" 2/4 grid 822615, small arms fire. Mission assigned to "G" 3/12.

UNCLASSIFIED

2029H Received mission from "H" 3/4 grid 941623 ground attack/contact "H" 3/12 firing HE. "I" 3/12 firing illumination, contact broken.

2400H Journal closed.

160001H to 162400H March 69

0230H "G" X 3/12 located at VCB 0046 reported 6 rounds incoming near their position believed to be 105.

0330H Rounds "G" X 3/12 reported were from 105 battery at LZ Cates.

1208H Received mission 5 NVA from "M" 3/4 grid 937628 assigned to "H" 3/12.

1404H Received active mortar mission from "G" 2/4 grid 819629 assigned to 2nd Prov 2/12.

2400H Journal closed.

170001H to 172400H March 69

1507H Received mission from "F" 2/4 grid 880590 enemy contact, assigned to "H" 3/12 and "W" 3/12.

1726H Surveillance received from "F" 2/4 on grid 880590, 5 NVA KIA.

1935H "F" 2/4 reports 2 NVA KIA for "H" 3/12 on mission fired 16 March 69 at 1700, nature of target was suspected enemy position.

2215H Boundry change from 4th Marines FSCC from DMZ south along 89 grid to Cam Lo River east to present boundry west is 2/4 east is 3/4 A.O. .

2400H Journal closed.

180001H to 182400H March 69

1112H Received mission from "K" 3/4 on active mortars grid 036586, "F" 2/12 to fire.

1151H Received contact mission from "K" 3/4 on active mortars grid 056587, "M" 4/12 to fire.

UNCLASSIFIED

1546H "M" 3/4 reports incoming mortars from grid 947627 assigned to "A" 1/12.

1559H "I" 3/4 reports incoming mortars from grid 948628, fired by "L" 4/12.

2400H Journal closed.

140001H to 142400 March 69

0300H Received mission from "M" 3/4 enemy contact grid 942647 assigned to "H" 3/12, contact broken.

0557H "I" 3/4 reported incoming mortars from grid 945631 assigned to "I" 3/12, "I" 3/4 reported 16 rounds of mortars, 60mm.

1026H Received mission from "M" 3/4, enemy bunkers NVA grid 940636, assigned to "I" 3/12.

1600H "H" 3/12 at Fire Support Base Russell taking sniper fire. "H" 3/12 fired direct fire.

2040H Received surveillance on mission fired at auto weapons fire grid 828622. 4 confirmed arty kills, 5 kills either arty or 81mm. 50 cal position destroyed, gun dragged off, bodies and AK's still in holes.

2400H Journal closed.

150001H to 152400H March 69

1400H Dropped Opcon control of "A" 1/12 to 1/12, "A" 1/12 given march order.

1426H Received mission on active mortars from "G" 3/4 grid 818619, assigned to "B" 1/12.

1725H Took Opcon control "F" 2/12, received fire cap Line A. F 2/12 B. 9820 5460 C. 1400 D. 6 up.

1745H Received active mortar mission from "M" 3/4 grid 945655, assigned to "I" 3/12 to "L" 4/12.

2005H Received surveillance from "G" 2/4 on grid 826616 found 1 KIA NVA by arty, 70-82mm rds, 1000 lbs of rice, 3 -82mm mortars pits destroyed.

2044H Received Spot Report from "G" 3/12 on the 3 incidents of incoming this morning. Sent to 12th Marines.

2400H Journal closed.

220001H to 222400H March 1969

0655H Fire Support Base Alpine reported taking incoming mortars. Counter mortar plan Gazelle in effect. Also firing on grid 73045420 with "G" 3/12.

0945H Received Spot Report and Mortar Report from FDC at Fire Support Base Alpine. Sent to 12th Marines.

1000H Dropped Operational Control of "F" 2/12.

1020H Received word from "K" 3/4 that they found 2 dead NVA at grid 950636 at 0915H this morning. These were given to "F" 2/12 who fired a preparation fire in that area at 0659H this morning.

1610H Received from FSCC at 3d Battalion, 4th Marines that on preparation fires this morning fired by "H" 3/12 and "L" 4/12 that they had uncovered a cache consisting of 50 rounds 82mm mortar, 1500 AK rounds, 3000 x .50 cal rounds, 1 claymore and 1 antitank mine, 1 stove and some NVA Propaganda.

1854H Received mission from "L" 3/4, active small arms fire/mortars at grid 950658, "H" 3/12 to fire.

1921H Received word that Fire Support Base Argonne taking incoming mortars at this time. Counter mortar plan in effect.

2020H "G" 3/12 at Fire Support Base Argonne report that at 1921 they received 15-20, 82mm mortar rounds.

2131H FSCC at 3d Battalion, 4th Marines reported 1 NVA KIA dug up at grid 959650 that was killed by artillery. "L" 4/12 fired into this area 6 days ago.

230001H to 232400H March 1969

0010H Received Shell report and Spot Report from "G" 3/12 on yesterdays incoming. Sent to 12th Marines.

1157H Received contact mission from "F" 2/4 NVA in the open grid 87885910, "F" 3/12 and "I" 4/12 to fire.

1205H Received contact mission from "I" 3/4 of NVA in open assigned to "F" 3/12.

1400H March ordered "W" 3/12 from FSB Russell to FSB Neville.

1511H "I" 3/12 reported taking incoming mortars, Counter Mortar Plan "Beaver" put into effect. "I" 3/12 reported 20 rounds of 82mm from the north at Az 0100.

1605H Received Spot Report from "I" 3/12, they took 20-25 rounds 82mm mortars to the north and south of their position, returned fire with 18 rounds of Firecracker no casualties, sent to 12th Marines.

2400H Journal closed.

190001H to 192400H March 69

0807H Received active mortars mission from "G" 2/4 on grid 814615, assigned to 2nd Prov 1/12.

1110H Received enemy contact mission from "I" 3/4 grid 946654, "I" 3/12 to fire.

1158H Received active mortar mission from "B" 1/4 grid 042581, "F" 2/12 to fire.

1325H "B" 1/4 reported incoming mortars at grid 037581 "F" 2/12 to fire, mortars ceased.

1344H "F" 2/4 reports active mortars at grid 814644 2nd Prov 1/12 to fire.

1650H "K" 3/4 reported incoming mortars from grid 042502, "F" 2/12 to fire mortars ceased.

2400H Journal closed.

200001H to 202400H March 1969

1528H "K" 3/4 reports 2 NVA bodies 10-15 days old with artillery shrapnel in head and chest found at grid 946632.

UNCLASSIFIED

1235H Received active mortar mission from "I" 3/4 at grid 902630. "L" 4/12 to fire.

1554H "I" 3/12 reports taking incoming rounds at Fire Support Base Fuller. Firing counter mortar plan.

1740H Received spot report and shell report from "I" 3/12. Relayed on to 12th Marines.

2400H Journal closed.

240001H to 242400H March 69

1156H "I" 3/12 is being shared by 3/12 and 2/12 for fire support because of a boundary change around Dong Ha mountain.

1729H Received mission from "G" 2/4 of active small arms fire, "W" 3/12 to fire on grid 834594.

1815H Received mission from "I" 3/4 of 3 NVA in bunkers, "L" 4/12 to fire on grid 933662. Negative surveillance.

2400H Journal closed.

250001H to 252400H March 69

0957H Received active mission from "F" 3/4 of NVA in tree-line. "H" 3/12 to fire grid 882630.

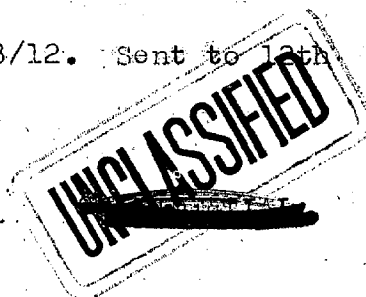
1050H Active mission from "L" 3/4, active 50 cal position 1 NVA. "G" 3/12 to fire grid 827638.

1158H Received EOM on "L" 4/12's mission, prep fire, grid 911643. Surveillance 1 secondary explosion, and blood trails.

1420H "I" 3/4 reports active mortars grid 892630. "H" 3/12 and "L" 4/12 to fire.

1905H Received Mortar Rep from "G" 3/12. Sent to 12th Marines.

2400H Journal closed.



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

260001H to 262400H March 1969

1137H Received contact mission from "H" 2/4 at grid 840599, "W" 3/12 to fire.

1837H "I" 3/4 reported taking incoming mortars from grids 912648 and 912653. "H" 3/12, "L" 4/12 and "B" 1st 8" to fire.

2335H "I" 3/12 reports they have a round stuck in tube. They fired a charge 1 and it didn't clear the tube told to call gun out of action and wait for EOD.

2400H Journal closed.

270001H to 272400H March 1969

1425H Received word from air observer that he had been wounded by 50 cal fire coming from grid 827640. "G" 3/12 to fire. Air observer left station.

1605H "K" 3/4 reported incoming mortars.

2400H Journal closed.

280001H to 282400H March 1969

1141H Received mission from 2/4 FSCC on NVA in open grid 805565, "G" 3/12 and "W" 3/12 to fire.

1607H Received word from "G" 3/12 that resupply chopper dropped load of ammo into burning trash dump. The ammo exploded, no casualties.

1751H "I" 3/12 moved to Vandegrift Combat Base from Fire Support Base Fuller. Fire Cap as follows: A. "I" 3/12 B. 99924945 C. 6400 D. 5 up.

2400H Journal closed.

290001H to 292400H March 1969

1456H Received mission from "I" 3/4 of blocking fires and units in contact grid 895672 "H" 3/12 to fire.

2400H Journal closed.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

300000H to 302400H March 1969

1201H Received contact mission from "K" 3/4 grid 928669,  
"H" 3/12 to fire.

1209H Received mission from "L" 3/4 on grid 925667, mortar  
position, "B" 1st 8" to fire a destruction mission.

2400H Journal closed.

310001H to 312400H March 1969

0912H Received contact mission from 2/4 grid 855650.  
Fired by "G" 3/12.

1046H Received surveillance of grid 855650 from "F" 2/4.  
Found cache of 24x82mm mortar rounds, 40 fuzes, 27  
Boosters. The cache was covered by the artillery  
fire. 1 mortar hit with good overhead cover.

1254H Received mission from "I" 3/4 of contact grid 908-  
632, "H" 3/12 to fire.

1449H Received mission of 2 NVA at grid 941661 from "K"  
3/4.

1654H FSCC at 3/4 reports incoming mortars at grid 908-  
668, "H" 3/12 to fire.

1702H Received mission from "M" 3/4 on active rocket  
position at grid 953654, "K" 4/12 to fire.

2400H Journal closed.

UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL



# 10. Results.

Results of the operation of the Battalion are summarized in the following table:

Results of the operation of the Battalion are summarized in the following table:

Results of the operation of the Battalion are summarized in the following table:

Results of the operation of the Battalion are summarized in the following table:

## 11. Administrative Matters.

a. Supply. Throughout the period of the operation, the Battalion headquarters was split between Trang Tri and Co. Co. Vandegrift with the Battalion Rear providing supply and administrative support for the command group and batteries. Class I and IV supplies for the fire bases were provided by the 4th Marines. Class V supplies were provided by the Vandegrift BSA. The remaining classes of supply were provided through the Battalions organic supply.

b. Maintenance. Third and Fourth echelon maintenance as provided by FLSG "B" was a critical readiness factor due to the time and transportation between the shop in Dong Ha and the fire bases. Contact teams were utilized to the maximum to minimize this time loss.

Sighting and Fire Control equipment was a problem throughout the operation. The panoramic telescopes, due to their age and condition, fogged continually in the high humidity and high altitudes at which they are employed. A continuous rotation of sights through the optics maintenance shop was necessary to keep the sights operational.

Lack of assets for the direct exchange maintenance program to function effectively hampered the Battalions capabilities, particularly in the communications and motor transport maintenance area. The long periods of time awaiting direct exchange replacement parts, in addition to the loss of the equipment turned in, put an additional burden on the remaining assets.

Neville area. The purpose of the move was to add weight of retail to "D" Battery's capability and to cover the dead space caused by "G" Battery's minimum range capability.

During January the 3d Battalion, 12th Marines continued to provide direct support in all areas of the TAOR.

At 0902H on 7 January Headquarters Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines displaced from Gd LU to Vandegrift Combat Base.

On the 27th of January, "A" Battery, 40 Artillery USA located at 4-4 YD115500 became reinforcing to the 3d Battalion, 12th Marines to facilitate an expansion to the 4th Marines TAOR in the northeastern sector.

During the month of January, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines fired a total of 3076 missions for an expenditure of 29,529 rounds in support of the 4th Marine Regiment.

The 3d Battalion, 12th Marines continued its mission of direct support of the 4th Marine Regiment during the February phase of Scotland II utilizing direct support and reinforcing fires in an extended TAOR which ran from the DMZ south to Route 9, on the east by Con Thien on the west by the Laotian border.

Increased enemy activity in the TAOR required numerous Recon Teams to be placed in the TAOR. From the isolated positioning of the Recon units it caused them to be primarily supported by artillery fires. Mortar attacks on the FSB's increased to almost a daily occurrence, terminating in a simultaneous mortar and ground attack on Fire Support Base Neville and Fire Support Base Russell on the morning of the 25th of February. At Fire Support Base Neville the NVA penetrated defenses and occupied one of the firing positions of "G" Battery. "F" Battery fought back and recovered the firing position the NVA had occupied. A total of 17 dead NVA lay inside the perimeter. At Fire Support Base Russell, under a combined mortar and ground attack the same morning, the NVA penetrated into and occupied 3 gun positions destroying 2 105mm Howitzers. "E" Battery fought back and regained control of the gun positions. There were 25 dead NVA in these positions.

During the last month of Operation Scotland II a total of 2412 missions were fired expending 33,996 rounds in support of Recon Teams and the 4th Marine Regiment TAOR.

On 5 November, end X-ray unit (3 guns) of "W" Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines displaced from LZ Vandegrift to LZ Argonne. Almost simultaneously "G" Battery moved into Fire Support Base Alpine XD756531, in order to reinforce fires in the extreme northwestern sector of the area of operations. 3 105mm Howitzers from "I" Battery at Fire Support Base Gurkha displaced to Ca Lu for use in fire support of Ca Lu and LZ Vandegrift on 10 November 1968.

On 11 November, the 3 remaining guns of "W" Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines, at LZ Cates, were chopped Opcon to 3d Battalion, 12th Marines at Camp Carroll. At 1815H that same day, the remaining 3 guns of "I" Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines were in position at LZ Argonne after moving from LZ Gurkha. "I" Battery (-) completed the reinforcing of the northwestern end of the TMOB.

1 December 1968. During the month of December the weight of operations shifted north and was supported with the establishment of a line of fire support bases across the northern portion of the area of operations.

On 1 December, (3) guns of "H" Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines displaced from Fire Support Base Cates to Fire Support Base Russell.

At 1200H on 6 December, three (3) guns of "I" Battery at Fire Support Base Argonne displaced to Fire Support Base Gurkha, at the same time Mortar Battery (-), three guns, displaced from Fire Support Base Argonne and occupied Fire Support Base Neville. On 14 December the remaining three (3) guns of "I" Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines displaced to Fire Support Base Fuller at 1720H. "G" Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines moved from Fire Support Base Alpine to Fire Support Base Neville.

On 15 December 1968 Mortar Battery (-), three guns moved from Vandegrift Combat Base, and occupied a position at Fire Support Base Elliot.

During the month of December, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines fired a total of 21,090 rounds in support of the 4th Marine Regiment. Operation Scotland II was still in progress. Twenty-two (22) confirmed enemy killed were registered. Numerous attempts by the enemy to bring fire against our positions were suppressed.

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 fires of all calibers.

January 4. "W" Battery (-), three tubes, moved to Fire Support Base Neville from Fire Support Base Elliot to support a sweep conducted by the 1st Battalion, 4th Marines in the

Lang Ve XD970360 on 3 October 1968. "G" Battery displaced to Fire Support Base Quantico and "W" Battery (4) (3 guns) moved to Fire Support Base Gates. The Battalion FDC displaced forward to Fire Support Base Gates to insure more positive control of the forward Bases. On 4 October additional displacements were conducted during the preparatory phase of the operation. 3d Battalion, 12th Marines assumed Opcon of the 1st and 3rd Plt, 5th 155 Gun Battery at 0800H. 3rd Plt, 5th 155 Guns, (2) (8" How SP) were positioned at Fire Support Base Stormy XD945425 on Route 9 and 1st Platoon, (2) (155 Gun SP), was displaced to Ca Lu YD011458. The 5th Gun Platoon were assigned missions for the suppression of suspected artillery and rocket sites along the Laotian border. An ARVN Battery "A", 2nd Battalion, 94th Artillery assumed the mission of reinforcing 3d Battalion with its four guns (175mm) at Ca Lu. Battery "I", 3d Battalion, 12th Marines march ordered at Fire Support Base Shepard XD934409 1140H, as did 3d Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery (4 guns) at Fire Support Base Gates. At 1130H the Battalion CP and group reached Fire Support Base Gates. Tactical control of the operation shifted from the Ca Lu Fire Direction Center to the CP established on Fire Support Base Gates at 1415H. Battery "I", 3d Battalion, 12th Marines completed its helilift from Fire Support Base Shepard to Fire Support Base Nanking XD831415 and reported six guns in position at 1720H. 1st Plt 5th 155 Gun Battery (8" SP) reported 2 guns in action at Fire Support Base Stormy at 1820H. Land mine props, false props, artillery and flak suppression fires began at 0545 on 5 October. The infantry Battalion met little resistance during their helilift. Battery "B" and Battalion, 12th Marines was chopped Opcon to 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines at 1000H. 3d Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery completed the helilift of four howitzers from Fire Support Base Gates to Fire Support Base Hawk XD954407 at 1200H leaving two howitzers at Fire Support Base Gates. Fire Support Base Hawk was occupied in order to expand reinforcing fires westward. An ARVN 105 Battery of six howitzers was displaced to XD833415 in direct support of the 1st ARVN Regiment units which were maneuvering along the 4th Marines northern flank. A Liaison team was established with the ARVN Battery by 3d Battalion, 12th Marines.

November 13 During the month of November, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines continued in direct support of the 4th Marine Regiment. The operation area was shifted to the north west in a multi-battalion sweep of the DMZ, and artillery moves were made to adjust to the new position.

Ca Lu, Fire Support Base Shepard, and Fire Support Base Cates. With the mission of supporting the 4th Marines search and clear operations in the Scotland AO, the Battalion and its attached units continued to displace and provide close fire support by establishing a series of fire support bases from Ca Lu to the Laotian border.

#### 9. Execution.

On 2 August 1968 the 3d Battalion, 12th Marines assumed the mission of direct support of the 4th Marine Regiment and simultaneously moved Headquarters Command Post from Camp Carroll to Ca Lu. "H" and "W" (-) (3 guns) occupied Fire Support Base Cates with the 3d Provisional Howitzer Battery, 1st Battalion, 11th Marines. "I" Battery 3/12 occupied Fire Support Base Shepard and "G" Battery 3/12 occupied a position at Ca Lu. Elements of "G" Battery (3 guns) and "W" Battery (3 guns) developed a fire support base on Hill 606 XD882496. To successfully conduct counter Rocket fire against enemy rockets which were harassing the Rock Pile area. This counter battery operation lasted until the middle of the month when "G" Battery moved to their position at Ca Lu.

6 August 1968 "W" Battery (-) fired a mission on a target described as a truck convoy which resulted in (75) secondary explosions with mushroom clouds up to 150 meters high.

During the month of August "H" Battery and "W" Battery (-) returned from duty with the Special Landing Force and joined the Battalion in its mission of direct support of the 4th Marine Regiment.

1 Sept 1968 the opening of September saw 3d Battalion, 12th Marines engaged in direct support operations in support of the 4th Marine Regiment. The Battalion's position was shifted to support the Khe Sahn plateau sweep by occupation of Fire Support Bases Quantico, Shepard and Cates.

18 Sept 1968 2nd Provisional 155 Battery were passed to 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines, simultaneously Mortar Battery, 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines became Opcon and were placed to support the Ca Lu area.

The month of September saw the 3d Battalion, 12th Marines, successfully continue their mission of direct support to the 4th Marine Regiment. During the month, the Battalion fired 18,658 rounds in support of Scotland II.

The beginning of October found the 3d Battalion, 12th Marines continuing in direct support of the 4th Marine Regiment. The Battalion commenced to position artillery for support of a multi-Regiment sweep of the ridge north and south of

W Btry 1/12

1stLt D.A. DETBEZ  
1stLt R.A. SAUNDERS

3d Plt, 1st Armor Amphibians

2ndLt B.J. BOSTROM

3d Prov 155 Btry 1/11

Capt T.L. PRESSLY  
1stLt R.L. WARNER  
Capt W.S. HUTCHINSON

W Btry 2/12

1stLt D.W. ROBERTS  
Capt C.F. NORTON

3d Plt, 1st Searchlights

1stLt J.D. SELIM

1st Plt 155 Guns, 3d Plt 8"

1stLt J.E. BOSTRIM

D Btry 2/12

Capt J.B. MOSS

F Btry 2/12

Capt R.W. MOLEY

2nd Prov 155 Btry 2/12

1stLt R.G. HOOPES

6. Intelligence. The intelligence effort of 3d Battalion 12th Marines was directed mainly in two areas during the operation: i.e. target acquisition, and counter Battery/Mortar operations. Enemy rockets and mortars were active in the area of operations on a sporadic basis. By use of crater analysis techniques and FO reports, active enemy mortar/rocket positions were located and subsequently destroyed or suppressed. Programs of movement suppression and H&I fires were developed through use of Intelligence analysis techniques based on sightings, reported locations, Intsums, POW reports and known NVA habits.

The weather during the period of Operation Scotland II included the monsoon season which was characterized by sporadic and mild rains and heavy cloud cover throughout the area of operation. Due to these conditions, programs of day time H&I fires were stepped up based on the above mentioned sources.

7. Mission. To provide direct support and general support reinforcing artillery operations in support of the 4th Marine Regiment.

8. Concept of Operation. On the 2nd of August 1968, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines assumed the role of direct support of the 4th Marine Regiment from 1/12. The Battalion occupied

c. Treatment of casualties and evacuation and hospitalization.

(1) Total sick call: 934  
 (2) Sick call breakdown:

(a) BAS Rear	311
BAS Forward	193
Golf Btry	47
Hotel Btry	80
India Btry	101
1st Prov Btry	60
Mortar Btry	139

(3) Total hospital admissions: 21

(a) Malaria  
 FDO  
 Other

(4) Total cases of Diarrhea: 50

(5) Total cases of VD 4

(6) Upper respiratory infection 19

Immunizations given 178

(8) Prescription filled 493

(9) Mess physicals 5

(10) Glasses ordered 43

(11) Dental Visits 47

(12) Chlorquine-Primaquine 3075

(13) Dapsone 14260

d. Transportation. Personnel and supplies were moved primarily by convoy between Quang Tri and Vandegrift with occasional helilifts directly from Quang Tri to the Fire Support Bases. The fire bases were resupplied exclusively by helilift throughout the operation. Adverse weather frequently limited resupply operations, but due to the

mild monsoon season, the battalion was able to maintain the fire bases at satisfactory operating levels of supply.

Critical items were obtained through the "walkthrough" requisitioning procedures. This system was most effective in the replacement of communications equipment lost during the months of November and December 1968.

e. Communications. Once operating forces of the 4th Marines and "C" and "H" Batteries moved into the Alpine area and northwest, great communications problems were encountered from the FDC at Ca Lu. The primary means of communications was established by a relay at Fire Support Base Cates which had good comm with Fire Support Base Gurkha, Alpine and Argonne. Direct but marginal communications was established between Gurkha and Ca Lu but a much better shot was established between Argonne and Ca Lu.

With the increased range requirement imposed on the PRC-25 radio for these operations, this battalion was one of the first to employ the directional antenna AS-2236 on a large scale. HF/AM communications was tried from Alpine but failed due to a battery resupply problem with the BB-451. As a matter of mention, Alpine proved the poorest base from which to communicate to the Ca Lu/Vandegrift area.

With the general shift eastward into the general area of Fire Support Base Neville, Russell and Fuller positions, communications were greatly improved. For the first time all fire bases were linked to the FDC by direct fire channels. The site at Dong Ha Mountain (FSB Fuller) was extensively used as a relay for increased operations to Mui's Ridge area to the north and Con Thien to the east.

The displacement of the FDC from Ca Lu to Vandegrift provided a superior site for communications both to the west and to Dong Ha. The areas masked by Dong Ha Mountain remains the area of operations requiring a relay.

f. Medical Evaluation. Evacuation procedures were on the most part accomplished by helicopter from the forward elements to 3rd Medical Battalion located at Quang Tri. If for any reason hospitalization was required, it was at Quang Tri. There were also hospital ships available at all times. "G" Company of 3d Medical Battalion was located at Vandegrift Combat Base for the use of the elements at Vandegrift Combat Base and also for a stopover for extreme cases.

[AA rpt: op Scotland II]