

S-3, 12th Marines

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HEADQUARTERS
4th Battalion, 12th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein) FMF
FPO San Francisco 96601

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein) FMF
Via: Commanding Officer, 12th Marines

Subj: Command Chronology for January; submission of

Ref: (a) DivO 5750.1

Encl: ✓(1) Organizational Data
✓(2) Chronological Summary of Significant Events

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) and (2) are submitted.

E. M. Rudzisz
E. M. RUDZIS

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Enclosure (6)

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Organizational Data, 4th Battalion, 12th Marines

1. Commanders and principle subordinates:

a. Battalion Staff

CO	LtCol E. M. RUDZIS
XO	Maj W. J. SPEISEL
S-3	Maj R. W. HEESCH
S-1	1stLt J. R. PARKER
S-2	1stLt R. J. KUCHINSKAS
S-4	Capt J. L. ROACH
S-3A	1stLt A. HARKNESS IMA
CommO	1stLt E. J. HASSINGER
SuppO	1stLt B. E. EDWARDS
MTO	1stLt L. D. MATHEWS

b. Battery Commanders

Hq Btry	Capt F. S. CARR
M Btry	Capt W. J. FEIND
B Btry	Capt R. C. GREGOR
W Btry	1stLt P. D. CARPENTER

2. Attachments and Detachments

a. Attachments:

B Btry, 1st Battalion, 11th Marines
 107mm Howtar Btry, 1st Battalion, 11th Marines
 Counter-Mortar Radar, Hq Btry, 11th Marines
 Shore Fire Control Party, 1st Battalion, 11th Marines
 Aerial Observer

b. Detachments:

K Btry, 4th Battalion, 12th Marines
 L Btry, 4th Battalion, 12th Marines

3. Location of Units.

B Btry, 1st Battalion, 11th Marines (YD 88891410) Az fire 3772
 M Btry, 4th Battalion, 12th Marines (YD 87601445) Az fire 4150
 107mm Howtar Btry, 1st Battalion, 11th Marines (YD 87951489) Az fire 6400
 Hq Btry, 4th Battalion, 12th Marines (YD 877145)

4. Average Monthly Strength.

Officers (USMC)	25
Enlisted (USMC)	495
Officers (USN)	1
Enlisted (USN)	9

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UNCLASSIFIEDCHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1Jan - At 0900H, the Howtar Battery displaced to (YD 881135) in connection with a demonstration for the officers and NCO's of 2/1. The firing demonstration was designed to demonstrate to the infantry the types of projectiles and fuzes available to them, as well as the effectiveness of the TOT and salvo fire. Later, an unobserved mission was fired by M Battery at (YD 790110) as covering fire for Recon Platoon during retraction from a VC ambush.

2Jan - At 020935H the artillery AO adjusted M Battery on 10-15 VC at (YD 784097). The mission resulted in 3 VC KIA, in addition to one KIA by the aircraft's rockets.

3Jan - Battery W displaced to (YD 874108) at 031310H, and fired 5 observed missions before returning to their primary position. At 1743H, the AO fired Battery M on 2 VC on sandbar. The mission resulted in 2 VC KIA. Sick call was held in PHU LUONG dispensary. 61 patients were seen and 77 treatments administered by Headquarters Battery Corpsmen.

4Jan - At 0640H, Battery B displaced forward to (YD 859118). While in this position, the Battery fired preparation fires in support of H Co, 2/1, and H&I missions. At 0825H, Battery M fired a destruction mission on a VC boat at (YD 820024). The boat was destroyed. Six men from Hq Btry visited KIM LONG Orphanage in HUE. The Marines presented a large box of toys for the nursery, and was shown through the working areas.

5Jan - At 050807H, Battery B displaced to (YD 859118), in support of ARVN/USMC operation EAGLE FLIGHT 48. Battery M supported this operation from their primary position. Following an artillery and air preparation, elements of the 3d ARVN Regiment crossed the TA TRACH river by helicopter, APC, and rubber boats. Elements of 2/1 established a blocking force in the vicinity of (YD 790105). At 0924H Batteries M and B commenced a 6 minute preparation of the landing zone, and after a subsequent preparation by air, the river crossing was executed without incident. At 1113H, an element of a VC Battalion was reported withdrawing from the objective area. Four artillery Fire for Effect missions were fired on the target, followed by an air strike. 22 VC KIA were later reported by ARVN sweeping force. Sick call was again held in PHU LUONG dispensary by the Hq Btry Corpsmen. 74 treatments were administered to 67 patients. Four truck loads of scrap wood was delivered to the refugee village.

6Jan - Battery W displaced at 060830H to (YD 883092). While at this position, they fired 15 missions on suspected avenues of approach, assembly areas and harboring sites in the Southern portion of the TAOR. At 1123H Battery B fired on 8 VC at (YD 883092), obtaining good effect on target, but no body count. During the day, Battery B also fired 6 observed missions for concentration data. B Battery continued a project started by I Btry, by meeting with the village chief of the refugee hamlet to discuss the building of two wells in the hamlet. The battery also delivered two truck loads of scrap wood to the refugees.

1

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Enclosure (2)

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7Jan - At 0830H Battery M displaced to (YD 831148) and fired 3 observed missions on suspected VC positions. At 1725, Battery B displaced four guns to (YD 859118), to fire forward H&I's overnight. At 2020H, Battery B fired one observed illumination mission at (YD 848076). No surveillance was obtained. The first 3 sections of a concrete conduit was moved to DIEM THU Hamlet, along with 2 sacks of cement for the finishing work. 80 pounds of rice was given to the refugees.

8Jan - After Battery B returned to their primary position at 0630H, Btry W displaced to (YD 859118) at 0750. From this position, they fired 8 observed missions on suspected VC harboring sites. At 0924H the AO adjusted M Battery on two bridges at (YD 821024) both of which were destroyed.

9Jan - At 1403H Battery M fired a mission on 3 VC at (YD 800070) but obtained no surveillance. One truck load of scrap wood was given to the refugees. 21 men from the battalion visited KIM LONG Orphanage in HUE, giving them one box of soap.

10Jan - At 100755H M Battery displaced 2 guns to (YD 888124), and fired 7 observed missions on suspected harboring sites and avenues of approach in the southern portion of the TAOR. At 1032H Battery W displaced to (YD 895080) and fired 9 observed missions on suspected enemy positions. 85 treatments were given to 77 patients by Hq Btry Corpsmen at PHU LUONG dispensary. 4 sections of concrete conduit and 4 sacks of cement were delivered to PHAN DANG Hamlet for a second well. One truck load of scrap wood was delivered to the refugees.

11Jan - At 0740H Battery B displaced 4 guns to (YD 827152) and fired 5 observed missions on suspected targets in the western portion of the TAOR. Battery W displaced to (YD 859118) at 1740 to remain overnight in support of a 4/12 OP team at (YD 839133). One truck load of scrap wood was delivered to the refugees.

12Jan - Battery M displaced 2 guns to (YD 883092) at 0801. They fired 7 observed missions on suspected targets in the southern portion of the TAOR, while the artillery observer instructed key personnel from the infantry platoon manning the OP in the techniques of adjusting artillery fires. At 1300, Battery B moved 4 guns forward to (YD 882116). A qualified artillery observer instructed Recon patrol leaders in artillery adjustment by firing Battery B on 8 suspected targets in the southeastern portion of the TAOR. 70 patients were treated by B Btry corpsmen in PHU LUONG dispensary. 27 Marines visited a Buddhist Pagoda and orphanage in HUE, and toured the facilities. Gifts taken to the orphanage included 50 lbs clothing, 4 cases dry cereal, 300 cans of milk and two boxes of soap. Candy and balloons were given to each orphan.

13Jan - During the morning Hq Battery conducted FAM firing with the .50 Cal Machine Gun for 20 personnel.

14Jan - At 0655H W Battery displaced to (YD 883092). They fired 16 observed missions from this position on suspected targets. The OP group was composed of Recon personnel undergoing training in the adjustment of artillery fire. Battery M displaced to (YD 874108) and fired 6 observed missions for OP Crow (YD 848086), while the PO completed training of key infantry personnel manning the OP. M Btry Corpsmen saw 72 patients in PHU LUONG dispensary. 1 1/2 of wood was delivered to the refugees and the first well was completed on this day in the hamlet of DIEM THU.

Enclosure (2)

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15Jan - Battery B displaced to (YD 868118) at 0805 and fired 7 observed missions on suspected targets. W Battery displaced to (YD 859118) at 1705 to remain in position overnight in support of a 4/12 OP group manning Seismic Intrusion Detectors. At 1310, the FO with a recon patrol from OP Crow called fire on 4 VC at (YD 786078). The mission was fired by Battery M, and resulted in 3 VC KIA.

16Jan - Preparation for Operation LONG KNIFE commenced at 1600 as Battery M displaced four guns to (YD 883092) and B Battery moved the same number of tubes forward to the same position at 1640. Along with elements of HQ Btry, they will stay at that position overnight in anticipation of the operation kicking off the following morning. 20 men from the battalion attended a presentation by the orphans at KIM LONG. One box of soap was given to the orphans.

17Jan - At 0545 the following morning, Battery B left for (YD 895080) to be joined there by their remaining two guns which left the primary position at 0715. The FSCC and FDC from Hq Btry moved to Hill 46 (YD 889087) to control the fires of the two forward batteries in support of LONG KNIFE. 4/12 supported this joint ARVN/USMC sweeping operation with on call artillery fire, totaling 5 observed and four unobserved missions. Although there was no damage assessment for any of these missions, two observed missions were fired to mark targets for air strikes. The four unobserved missions were fired to cover the retraction of participating forces. The operation secured that afternoon, and all units were back at their primary position by 1510. W Battery Corpomen treated 124 patients at PHY LUONG dispensary.

18Jan - Battery W displaced at 1015 to (YD 826152) and fired 12 observed missions on suspected targets in the Western portion of the TAOR. During the night, the Battalion fired 2 observed illumination missions for 2/1 while they were in contact with the VC at (YD 815172). In addition, 2 observed missions were fired for the Air Observer, destroying VC spider traps at (YD 819026) and disrupting an enemy agricultural area at (YD 793067). The second well in the refugee village of PHAN DANG was completed. The Battalion Executive Officer and the Civil Action Chief attended a reception given by the major of HUE.

19Jan - Based on recent intelligence reports, Battery M moved two guns to (YD 826152) at 0855. The AO flight was coordinated with the displacement, to fire four observed missions on suspected VC positions deep beyond the western boundary of the TAOR. Later, the AO spotted a VC squad at (YD 790096), Battery M fired an unobserved mission on this target from their reposition, since the AO was unable to penetrate the incoming cloud cover. Hq Btry Corpomen held sick call at PHU LUONG dispensary administering 87 treatments to 84 people. One truck load of scrap wood and 2 sacks of cement were delivered to the refugees.

20Jan - The firing batteries remained in the primary positions on the 20th while Hq Btry personnel FAM fired the .50 Cal. MG. On the previous night, M Battery fired one observed mission for the ARVN, whose outpost was being attacked at (YD 896235). Also, an observed mission was fired on burning lights at (YD 788098), and (YD 779103). The Team conferred with village and Hamlet Chiefs concerning 4/12 Marine visit to the Hamlets on TET.

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21Jan - Due to the cease fire celebrating TET, no missions were fired on day of the 21st. That night, one round of illumination was fired for Combined Action Company, who suspected VC movement at (YD 911065). None was detected. 10 men from each battery visited refugee village for TET. After meeting in Central Hamlet to greet the village and Hamlet Chiefs, each battery was escorted by a Hamlet Chief to the respective hamlets. The men visited each home, and presented each child with the traditional red envelope containing 5 Piastes. A total of 824 envelopes, 4,120 Piastes was donated.

22Jan - The TET cease fire remained in effect without incident on the 22d. The Battalion Executive Officer along with Bob KROUSE a reporter from the "Honolulu Advertiser" visited refugee village to discuss civic action with the village chief. They, along with representatives from each battery were invited to dinner with the village chiefs.

23Jan - 10 Officers and men and Bob KROUSE of the "Honolulu Advertiser" were hosted by the Hamlet Chiefs at its refugee village to celebrate TET.

24Jan - At 0600, Battery B displaced to (YD 859118), in support of Operation EAGLE FLIGHT 49. At 0610, M Battery moved to (YD 860118). During the operation, both batteries fired a landing zone preparation at (YD 792076). Battery B fired an aerial observed mission on VC in a village at (YD 799081) while Battery M fired on a VC squad sighted by the AO at (YD 797059). Battery M obtained one VC KIA, while Battery B had excellent effect on target with no body count. After the batteries had returned, one observed mission was fired on VC camp fires at (YD 790065). The fires were put out. Battery Corpsmen treated 42 patients at PHU LUONG dispensary. One truck load of scrap wood and 600 lbs of clothing were delivered to the refugee village.

25Jan - At 0755 Battery W displaced to (YD 874108), and fired 13 observed missions on suspected targets in the southern portion of the TAOR. One truck load of fiber containers was delivered to refugee village.

26Jan - The batteries remained in their primary positions on the 26th and fired four observed missions. One was on suspected VC movement at (YD 857067), another on the source of SA fire at the AO at (YD 828060) and two were at VC storage and agricultural areas at (YD 799089) and (YD 792067). No significant damage was assessed from these missions. Sick call was held at PHU LUONG dispensary by Battery M Corpsmen and 93 treatments were given. Hospital Corpsmen conducted plague and malaria surveys throughout the refugee village to determine what controls are required and can be provided. During the period of 25 and 26 January, the 4/12 Chaplain and the Civic Action Chief went to Saigon Catholic Relief Service for supplies for the refugees and orphanages in the HUE-PHU-BAI area. The 57th Aviation Company provided an aircraft, which brought back 3300 lbs of flour, 44 fishing nets, 9 cases of salad oil, 35 cases of vitamins, and one sewing machine.

Enclosure (2)

4

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27Jan - At 0748 Battery B displaced to (YD 859118) in support of a regional FO school for NCO volunteers from all three enclaves. At 0955, the battery moved to (YD 869118) to better support the school. At 1648 they moved to (YD 882115). During the day, they fired 14 observed missions for the trainees. Meanwhile, back at the base camp, M Battery fired an observed mission for Recon Platoon, on a suspected VC OP at (YD 895076). The target was well covered, but no bodies were reported in the area. At 2045, Battery M fired an unobserved mission on suspected VC positions at (YD 785074). On completion of the mission, the airborne observer, just entering the area, reported several secondary explosions and scattered debris burning around the target.

28Jan - Combined Action Company requested illumination on a suspected VC position at (YD 928103) and the mission was fired by B Btry at 0404. No surveillance. Battery B displaced to (YD 859118) at 0700, then to (YD 877123) at 1200. From these positions the battery fired 33 daylight H&I missions. At 0755 Battery W displaced to (YD 883092) and fired 18 observed missions in support of the NCO, FO School. 15 Hq Btry personnel FAM fired the .50 Cal MG during the day. 56 treatments were given 47 patients by Corpsmen of Battery M. 600 lbs of clothing was delivered to refugees of PHAN DANG, KE BANG and DIEM THU Hamlets.

29Jan - In support of the NCO, FO School, Batteries B and M displaced forward to (YD 869118) and (YD 874108) respectively. B Btry moved out at 0745 and M Btry followed 15 minutes later. From these positions, 27 observed missions were fired, 17 105mm and 10 155mm. After returning to their primary position, M Btry fired a destruction mission on a cave for the AO, destroying the cave. Delivered 1 truck load of scrap wood and fiber ammo containers to refugees. Arrangements were made with CO, 3th IRU for employment of two refugee men. Two were taken to IRU for application. Employment will be pending security clearance. The XO and CAO 2/1 visited refugee village and discussed civic action work being done and areas where work is needed. Bn CA Team was entertained in refugee village with songs and dances by refugee children.

30Jan - Batteries W and M again displaced forward in support of the NCO, FO School. Battery W moved out at 0730 to (YD 859368) and M Btry left at 0800 toward (YD 869118). 6 observed missions were fired by the Howtars and 4 by the 155mm Howitzers. During the evening, an observed mission was fired by the 105's in support of the Combined Action Company. No surveillance was obtained. Twenty Marines from Hq and W Btry visited KIM LONG Orphanage in HUE. Candy was given each child. 200 lbs of clothing and 1000 Hotel bars of soap was given orphanage.

During the month, 244 observed, including 7 illumination missions and 59 unobserved missions were fired. Of the 59 unobserved missions, 41 were fired using TOT techniques. H&I's totalled 2721, along with 11 Registrations and 4 precision destruction missions. One demonstration was fired, and 8 preparation fires.

The breakdown of ammunition expenditure for the month is as follows:

	105mm	107mm	155mm	Total
HE	4111	1173	1672	6956
WF	139	144	215	498
ILL	33	9	50	92
Smk	1			4
Total	4287	1326	1937	7550

5

Enclosure (2)

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