

DECLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS
4th Battalion, 12th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein) FMF
FPO San Francisco 96502

3/RSV/jdk
5750
5 Mar 1967

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)
Via: (1) Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (-)(Rein) FMF
(2) Commanding General, III MAF
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 to 28 February 1967

Encl: ✓(1) 4th Battalion, 12th Marines Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of reference (a), (b), and (c), enclosure (1) is submitted.

L. G. Snyder
L. G. SNYDER
Acting

12th MARINES
S & C FILES
LOCAL CONTROL
No. 138-67

COPY No. 2 of 3

4TH BATTALION
III MAF

COM CHRON

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DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10

FEB 1967

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HEADQUARTERS
4th Battalion, 12th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein) FMF
FPO San Francisco 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 February to 28 February 67

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Filed w/C/Chron ✓ Excerpts from 12th Marines 5-3 Jnl

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Enclosure (1)~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION4th Battalion (-)(Rein) 12th Marines
3d Marine DivisionCOMMANDER

LtCol D. G. JONES (1-28 Feb)

SUPERORDINATE UNITSHq Btry
Btry K
Btry M1st Provisional Btry
2d Provisional BtryCapt J. H. GILLESPIE (1-28 Feb)
Capt G. G. GARWICK (1-28 Feb)
Capt J. B. WAY (1 Feb)
Capt O. J. CREWS (2-28 Feb)
Capt W. J. DOWD (1-28 Feb)
Capt J. H. BUTLER (1-28 Feb)ATTACHED UNITS1st 155mm Gun Btry (-)(Rein)
Btry E, 2d Bn, 12th Marines
Btry C, 1st Bn, 13th Marines
Btry D, 2d Bn, 12th Marines
Mortar btry, 1st Bn, 12th MarinesMaj E. D. LITZENBERGER (1-28 Feb)
Capt W. R. HART (1-28 Feb)
Capt J. T. BRACKMAN (1-12 Feb)
Capt L. T. GUNDLACH (5-15 Feb)
Capt H. L. RICHEY (5-13 Feb)2. LOCATION

1-28 Feb: PHU BAI, RVN (YD 885 129)

3. STAFF OFFICERSXO
SgtMaj
S-1
S-2
S-3
S-3A
S-4
SupplyO
CommO
MaintO
MTOMaj L. G. SNYDER (1-28 Feb)
SgtMaj L. J. CYR (1-28 Feb)
2dLt R. D. ESMOND (1-28 Feb)
GySgt R. F. PICKETT (1-28 Feb)
Maj R. S. VARNEY (1-28 Feb)
2dLt R. D. HAWKINS (1-28 Feb)
Capt D. G. CADIZ (1-28 Feb)
2dLt R. P. HORNE Jr. (1-28 Feb)
Capt W. W. HAMMOND (1-28 Feb)
2dLt W. DOMKE (1-28 Feb)
2dLt D. H. GOAD Jr. (1-28 Feb)~~UNCLASSIFIED~~
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b. AVAILABILITY MONTHLY STRENGTH

USMC

USN

Officers Enlisted

40 862

Officers Enlisted

0 16

PART II

Narrative Summary

At 012400H January 1967 the 107mm Mortar Battery, 2d Battalion, 12th Marines was chopped to BLT 1/3. As of the first of February the 4th Battalion was exercising operational control of E/2/12, C/1/13, the 1st 155mm Gun Btry, the 1st Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery (towed) and the 2d Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery (towed). Administrative control was exercised over E/2/12, C/1/13, K/4/12, and M/4/12. The 1st and 2d Provisional 155 Howitzer Batteries administratively functioned as detachments of Headquarters Battery, 4th Battalion.

On 5 February the Battalion assumed OPCON/ADCON of D/2/12 and the 107mm Mortar Battery, 1/12. These batteries had been chopped from BLT 1/9.

On 10 February the Battalion assumed ADCON of the 1st 155 Gun Battery and as of this date exercised both ADCON and OPCON of this Battery.

On the morning of 13 February the 107mm Mortar Battery 1/12 displaced to the DONG HA Area and was chopped ADCON/OPCON to 1/12 effective 130500H Feb 67. At 130001 C/1/13 was chopped OPCON to 3/12 and, concurrently, the mission of the 2d Provisional Battery became GS/Reinforcing 3/12.

In preparation for operation CHINOOK II D/2/12 was chopped ADCON/OPCON to 3/12 and displaced to the CHINOOK Area of Operations on 15 February. Also on this date C/1/13 was chopped ADCON to 3/12.

On the morning of 16 February the four 155 howitzers (towed) of the 2d Provisional Battery displaced from PK-17 to the CHINOOK Area. The platoon of 8" howitzers attached to the 2d Provisional Battery remained at PK-17 (YD 645279). As Operation CHINOOK II commenced on 17 February 3/12 exercised control of C/1/13 and D/2/12 and was reinforced by the 2d Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery.

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As [REDACTED] month of February closed the 4th Battalion continued to function as senior artillery headquarters in the FNU BAI TAOR. Batteries under operational control of the battalion were E/2/12, the 1st 155 Gun Battery, and the 1st and 2d Provisional 155 Howitzer Batteries.

PART III

Sequential Listing of Significant Events

1. a. Combat missions assigned.

1 Feb 67 - E/2/12 continues D/S of 2/9.

1 Feb 67 - C/1/13 continues support of Operation CHINOOK D/S 3/26.

5 Feb 67 - Assumed OPCON/ADCON of D/2/12 and 107mm Mortar Battery 1/12.

13 Feb 67 - 107mm Mortar Battery 1/12 chopped to 1/12.

13 Feb 67 - C/1/13 chopped OPCON to 3/12. C/1/13 continues D/S 3/26.

13 Feb 67 - Mission of 2d Provisional 155 How Ptry GS/Reinforcing 3/12.

15 Feb 67 - D/2/12 chopped to 3/12. D/2/12 continues D/S 1/9.

16 Feb 67 - Four 155 Howitzers of the 2d Prov Btry displaced to CHINOOK AO. Mission unchanged.

b. Significant operations conducted.

1-12 Feb 67 - C/1/13 and 2d Prov Btry - Operation CHINOOK.

12-14 Feb 67 - 2d Prov Btry - Operation CHINOOK.

17-18 Feb 67 - 2d Prov Btry - Operation CHINOOK II.

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1 Feb 67 - C/1/13 continues support of Operation CHINOOK D/S 3/26.

5 Feb 67 - Assumed OPCON/ADCON of D/2/12 and 107mm Mortar Battery 1/12.

13 Feb 67 - 107mm Mortar Battery 1/12 chopped to 1/12.

13 Feb 67 - C/1/13 chopped OPCON to 3/12. C/1/13 continues D/S 3/26.

13 Feb 67 - Mission of 2d Provisional 155 How Btry GS/Reinforcing 3/12.

15 Feb 67 - D/2/12 chopped to 3/12. D/2/12 continues D/S 1/9.

16 Feb 67 - Four 155 Howitzers of the 2d Prov Btry displaced to CHINOOK AO. Mission unchanged.

b. Significant operations conducted.

1-12 Feb 67 - C/1/13 and 2d Prov Btry - Operation CHINOOK.

13-16 Feb 67 - 2d Prov Btry - Operation CHINOOK.

17-28 Feb 67 - 2d Prov Btry - Operation CHINOOK II.

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c. Casualties inflicted on the enemy.

1 Feb ~ C/1/13 in support of 3/26 - 1 KIA (Prob)

1 Feb ~ 1st 155 Gun Btry in support of Recon Bn. - 1 WIA (Conf)

1 Feb ~ C/1/13 in support of 3/26 - 1 KIA (Conf)

2 Feb ~ C/1/13 in support of 3/26 - 10 KIA (Conf), 2 KIA (Prob)

3 Feb ~ 1st Prov Btry in support of Recon Bn. - 2 KIA (Conf), 4 KIA (Prob)

4 Feb ~ 2d Prov Btry in support of Recon Bn. - 1 KIA (Conf), 10 KIA (Prob), 5 WIA (Conf), 2 WIA (Prob)

5 Feb ~ 2d Prov Btry in support of Recon Bn. - 4 KIA (Prob)

6 Feb ~ C/1/13 in support of Recon Bn. - 3 KIA (Prob)

6 Feb ~ 2d Prov Btry and C/1/13 in support of 3/26 - 20 KIA (Prob)

7 Feb ~ C/1/13 in support of 3/26 - 5 KIA (Prob)

7 Feb ~ 2d Prov Btry in support of Recon Bn. - 2 KIA (Prob)

7 Feb ~ C/1/13 in support of 3/26 - 2 KIA (Prob)

13 Feb ~ 2d Prov Btry in support of Recon Bn. - 2 KIA (Prob)

13 Feb ~ 2d Prov Btry - 1 WIA (Conf)

14 Feb ~ 1st Prov Btry in support of Recon Bn. - 2 KIA (Prob), 1 WIA (Conf), 1 WIA (Prob)

20 Feb ~ 2d Prov Btry in support of 4th Marines - 20 KIA (Prob)

27 Feb ~ 2d Prov Btry in support of 4th Marines - 1 KIA (Conf), 1 WIA (Conf)

d. Casualties sustained.

1 Feb 67 ~ Hq/4/12 sustained four hostile WIAs when a survey vehicle struck a mine.

19 Feb 67 ~ M/4/12 sustained two hostile WIAs due to sniper fire.

25 Feb 67 ~ 1st 155 Gun Btry sustained one hostile WIA as a result of injury during a fire mission against enemy personnel.

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e. New techniques employed.

This Battalion has installed a prototype modification to the 155mm Howitzer (4/12) to permit rapid shifting and enhance the 360 degree capability of the weapon. Test and evaluation is currently underway.

f. Logistics.

1. General - On 5 February, this organization assumed ADCON of 107mm Mortar Battery 1/12 and D/2/12. ADCON of 107mm Mortar Battery 1/12 was relinquished 13 February 1967. ADCON of D/2/12 and C/1/12 was chopped to 3d Battalion, 12th Marines on 15 February 1967. On 10 February, this organization assumed ADCON of the 1st 155mm Gun Battery. Currently, 4/12 has ADCON of five medium artillery batteries; K/4/12, M/4/12, 1st 155mm Gun Battery, and 1st and 2d Provisional Detachments; one light artillery battery (E/2/12) and Headquarters Battery 4/12.

2. Supply - The overall supply situation is satisfactory. Items of equipment on requisition for units of this organization include:

- (1) Three - Generator Set PU-482M
- (2) One - Generator Set PU-348 A/G
- (3) Four - Tractor, Full Tracked, TD-15
- (4) Three - Truck, Cargo, 2½ Ton M-35
- (5) Two - Truck, Cargo, 3/4 Ton M-37

3. Maintenance - Six month maintenance has been completed on the 155mm Towed Howitzers. Two howitzers are being utilized as float weapons to back up the two 4-gun provisional batteries. Maintenance of the 155 Towed Howitzer has improved during the month of February. The overall deadline rate for ordnance is 5%.

4. Food Services - Headquarters 4/12 and 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Detachment mess at 3d Reconnaissance Battalion Mess Hall. The 2d Provisional 155mm Howitzer Detachment, E/2/12, K/4/12, and M/4/12 are operating their own messes. Expected completion date of Hq/4/12 Mess Hall is 15 March 1967.

5. Cantonment - Cantonment for the Artillery Headquarters at PHU BAI has been approved. The Artillery cantonment will consist of 80½' x 16' x 32' units, eight burn-barrel heads and three 16' x 32' shower units. Twenty-four units were constructed during February. Building will commence in the area occupied by E/2/12 when the Headquarters Area is complete.

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6. Bunkers - request for 43 bunkers has been approved by Division Engineers. Three standard 18' observation towers for perimeter security have been requested. Both orders are pending on availability of material.

7. Water - All batteries transport water to their positions. The Division Water Point has been relocated in the immediate vicinity of the 6th Cantonement and is to become operational during March.

g. Civic Action.

One officer attended a two day seminar on Personal Response during February. A Personal Response Contact Team is scheduled to visit all batteries in March.

h. Administration.

This Battalion currently has ADCON of E/2/12, K/4/12, M/4/12, Hq/4/12, and the 1st 155 Gun Battery. The 1st and 2d Provisional Batteries function as detachments of Hq Btry/4/12.

i. Personnel.

Number of replacements received:	0 Officers	21 Enlisted
Number of personnel rotated:	2 Officers	22 Enlisted
Number of personnel lost through attrition other than rotation:	1 Enlisted (WIA) EVAC) 13 Enlisted (Re-assigned)	

Promotions: 40 to Cpl; 6 to LCpl; 2 to PFC

j. Fire support.

This Battalion provided fire support as follows:

E/2/12	1-28 Feb 67	D/S 2/9
C/1/13	1-12 Feb 67	D/S 3/26 - Operation CHINOOK.
1st Prov Btry	1-28 Feb 67	G/S PHU BAI AO. D/S Recon inserts.
2d Prov Btry	1-12 Feb 67	GS/Rein C/1/13 - Operation CHINOOK.
	13-28 Feb 67	GS/Rein 3/12 - Operation CHINOOK and CHINOOK II
1st 155 Gun Btry	1-28 Feb 67	G/S PHU BAI AO. D/S Recon inserts.

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k. Recapitulation of fire missions.

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PHU BAI AREA 1-28 Feb 1967

	<u>Obs</u>	<u>Unobs</u>	<u>H&I</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>HE</u>	<u>ILL</u>	<u>WP</u>	<u>Total</u>
105H	62	17	527	606	1847	114	245	2236
155H	28	57	135	220	722	81	107	910
155G	23	86	120	229	356	29	26	411
8"	4	1	15	20	20	0	0	20
TOTAL	117	161	797	1075	2945	254	378	3577

CHINOOK AREA 1-28 Feb 67

105H	115	12	562	689	3968	303	16	4287
155H	50	131	468	649	1337	108	19	1464
8"	21	74	324	419	568	0	0	568
TOTAL	186	217	1354	1757	5873	411	35	6319
GRAND TOTAL	303	378	2151	2832	8818	665	413	9896

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. The following chronological supporting entries were extracted from the 4th Battalion, 12th Marines December S-3 Journal.

010001H - Journal opened at PHU BAI Area CP.

010855H - C/1/13 fired 14 HE at 1VC in house at (YD 596259). Recon reported house destroyed; 1 KIA (Prob).

011245H - 4/12 vehicle received 1 rd SAF from YD 679 265 while heading South on route #1. No SAF returned, no action taken.

011600H - 1st 155 Gun Btry supported Recon Patrol NIGHT STICKER #1 from 291000H to 011600H. Fired 2 missions; 49 HE, 5 WP, resulting in 1 WIA (Conf).

011700H - C/1/13 fired at 20 VC on ridge (YD 486328). Fired 47 HE resulting in 1 KIA (Conf).

020130H - E/2/12 post #3 saw movement on wire. Fired 81 Mortar illum. Sentry saw 3 men, having rifles, on wire. Fired 15 rds SAF. One man went down; all three then ran off to the south. Check was made of wire with no results.

021120H - C/1/13 fired at 12 VC in open (YD 583253). 96 HE; 3/26 reported 10 KIA (Conf), 2 KIA (Prob).

031100H - 1st 155 Gun Btry sentry at main gate reported receiving 1 rd sniper fire (YD 895126). Round came from tree line south of the battery's position. No action was taken.

041345H - 1st Prov 155 How Btry supported Recon Patrol NIGHT STICKER #2 from 290935 to 041345H. 3 missions were fired resulting in 2 KIA (Conf), 4 KIA (Prob); 26 HE, 10 WP.

041500H - 2d Prov 155 How Btry supported Recon Patrol NETTLERASH #1 from 290800 to 041500H. During this period 20 missions were fired resulting in 1 KIA (Conf), 10 KIA (Prob), 5 WIA (Conf), and 2 WIA (Prob). 351 rounds were expended.

041500H - C/1/13 supported Recon Patrol NETTLERASH #2 from 290800 to 041500H. One mission was fired with unknown results. 21 rounds were expended.

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041530H - 1st 155 Gun Btry patrol found 2 documents at (YD 894119). Also found 3 sticks lashed together stuck in deck at 45 degree angle making an arrow effect. Documents were forwarded to 1st CIT.

041830H - 2d Prov 155 How Btry fired at 3 auto weapons firing. 33 VC bodies found in area. 17 HE, 4 WP were expended and Army Advisors stated the VC were killed by artillery.

042300H - E/2/12 outpost heard movement on wire; fired 81 mortar illum and saw man with black trousers and white shirt. Sentry fired 24 rds SAF at man. Negative surveillance.

051600H - Assumed ADCON/OPCON of D/2/12 and Mortar Btry 2/12.

051755H - 2d Prov 155 How Btry fired at 6 VC crossing river at (YD 605238). 20 HE were fired resulting in 4 KIA (Prob).

060825H - C/1/13 fired at 5 VC in open at (YD 585264). 14 HE resulting in 3 KIA (Prob).

061745H - E/2/12 fired at 7 to 10 VC at (YD 799106). 94 HE resulting in 90% destruction of 4 houses and damaging of 6 houses. (Reported by AO).

061802H - 2d Prov 155 How Btry and C/1/13 fired at 50 VC in open at (YD 580255). 65 HE resulting in 20 or more KIA and WIA reported by 3/26.

071005H - C/1/13 fired at 5 VC in open at (YD 597285). 28 HE resulting in 5 KIA (Prob); reported by 3/26.

071804H - 2d Prov 155 How Btry fired at 2 VC in open at (YD 610231). 18 HE resulting in 2 KIA (Prob); reported by Recon.

071820H - C/1/13 fired at 7 VC at (YD 575247). 38 HE resulting in 2 KIA (Prob); reported by 3/26.

072020H - 2d Prov 155 How Btry fired at large enemy movement at (YD 560243). 21 HE resulting in one secondary explosion; reported by 3/26.

080950H - 1st 155 Gun Btry received sniper round near Btry center at (YD 693127). No action taken.

081000H - 2d Prov 155 How Btry supported Recon Patrol PARTYLINE #1 from 041430 to 081000H. Fired 2 missions expending 23 HE. Results unknown.

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081030H - 2d Prov 155 How Btry supported Recon Patrol PARTYLINE #2 from 041530 to 081030H. No missions were fired.

091330H - 2d Prov 155 How Btry supported Recon Patrol MONOTYPE #1 from 050800 to 091330H. 2 missions were fired resulting in 8 KIA (Prob); 35 HE were expended.

091700H - 1st Prov 155 How Btry supported Recon Patrol PRIMNESS # 2 from 041500 to 091700H. No missions were fired.

091700H - 1st 155 Gun Btry supported Recon Patrol NIGHTSTICKER #3 from 041530 to 091700H. No missions were fired.

100800H - Assumed ADCON of 1st 155 Gun Btry.

120720H - 1st 155 Gun Btry sentry at gate reported incoming rounds from friendly village at vicinity of YD 898124. No casualties or action taken.

121300H - 1st 155 Gun Btry (8" plt) fired at 4 VC in bunker at (YD 593252). 13 HE resulting in 4 KIA (Prob) and bunker destroyed.

121310H - 3/12 arrived in PHU BAI TAOR.

121630H - 1st 155 Gun Btry patrol found 2 graves in vicinity of YD 892120 and YD 894124. Each grave had an arrow of small rocks pointing toward 1st 155 Gun's CP. No action taken.

122100H - Two vehicles returning from PK-17 had one grenade thrown at the last vehicle from what appeared to be an ARVN soldier at (YD 719243). Grenade landed approximately 50 meters behind vehicle. No action taken.

122155H - 1st 155 Gun Btry outpost observed movement to front and fired 6 SAF rounds at (YD 894125). Requested 81 mortar illumination and nothing was spotted.

130001H - C/1/13 chopped OPCON to 3/12.

130800H - Held Forward Observer School for Recon.

131325H - 2d Prov 155 How Btry fired at 3 VC on road at (YD 534253). 8 HE resulting in 1 WIA (Prob).

131500H - Chopped ADCON and OPCON of Mortar Btry 1/12 to 1/12.

131500H - 1st 155 Gun Btry supported Recon Patrol NIGHTSTICKER #2 from 091300 to 131500H. No missions were fired.

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131705H - 2d Prov 155 How Btry fired at 15 VC moving west at (YD 602265). 13 HE resulting in 2 KIA (Prob) reported by Recon.

131730H - 2d Prov 155 How Btry fired at 3 VC at (YD 602265). 12 HE resulting in 1 WIA (Conf).

141000H - 1st Prov 155 How Btry supported Recon Patrol NETTLERASH #2 from 080930 to 141000H. 4 missions were fired resulting in 2 KIA (Prob), 1 WIA (Conf), and 1 WIA (Prob). 41 HE and 2 WP were expended.

150930H - D/2/12 displaced to the CHINOOK Area.

151200H - C/1/13 was chopped ADCON to 3/12; D/2/12 chopped ADCON/OPCON to 3/12.

151645H - Warning order issued to 2d Prov 155 How Btry to displace to the CHINOOK Area of operations on morning of 16 Feb 67.

161530H - 2d Prov 155 How Btry arrived in new position. Mission to be in GS/Rein 3/12.

162400H - CHINOOK I terminated.

170001H - CHINOOK II commenced.

171130H - 1st 155 Gun Btry supported Recon Patrol PRIMNESS #2 from 131145 to 171130H. 1 mission was fired with unknown results.

171215H - 1st 155 Gun Btry supported Recon Patrol NIGHTSTICKER #3 from 141115 to 171215H. No missions were fired.

221200H - 1st 155 Gun Btry supported Recon Patrol MUSTER #1 from 171100 to 221200H. No missions were fired during this time.

221345H - 1st Prov 155 How Btry supported Recon Patrol MUSTER II from 171150 to 221345H. No missions were fired during this time.

221350H - 1st 155 Gun Btry supported Recon Patrol PRIMNESS #1 from 160845 to 221350H. 1 mission was fired with unknown results. 8 HE were expended.

230855H - 1st 155 Gun Btry fired at large concrete building at (YD 606231). 31 HE resulting in 80 to 90% destruction reported by Recon.

240100H - 1st 155 Gun Btry observed movement of 1 man to the front of outpost. Fired 6 rds SAF and 5 rds 81mm illum. Outpost reported seeing man fall to ground. Will search at first light.

252050H - E/2/12 outpost observed movement along wire and saw a blue light. Fired claymore with no results.

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~~REF ID: A6511001~~
~~UNCLASSIFIED~~ 2d Prov 155 How Btry fired at 35 VC in open at (YD 603394).
6 HE resulting in 20 KIA (Prob).

270740H - 2d Prov 155 How Btry fired blocking fire at 110 VC at (YD 419639).
63 HE resulting in 1 KIA (Conf), 1 WIA (Conf).

270740H - 2d Prov 155 How Btry fired blocking fire at 110 VC at (YD 419639).
6 HE resulting in 1 KIA (Prob).

270740H - 2d Prov 155 How Btry fired blocking fire at 110 VC at (YD 419639).
6 HE resulting in 1 KIA (Conf).

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