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

4th Bn. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
C-188-67

3/DEV/cdf  
5750  
Ser: 03A247-67  
4 Oct 1967

486567

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 30 September 1967 (U)  
Ref: (a) MDO 5750.22  
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8  
(c) DivO 5750.1A  
Encl: (1) 4th Battalion, 12th Marines Command Chronology  
(2) 1st 155 Gun Battery Command Chronology FILED SEP

1. In accordance with the provisions of reference (a), (b), and (c), enclosures (1) and (2) are submitted.

✓ TAB A - Unit Journal

J. K. Gastrock III

Copy to;  
CO, 12th Mar

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

Copy 1 of 11

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## PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. Designation

4th Battalion(-)(Rein) 12th Marines  
3d Marine Division

Commanders

LtCol J.K. GASTROCK III  
(1-30 Sep)

Subordinates Units

Hq Btry

Btry K, 4th Bn, 12th Marines

Btry L

Btry M

Capt C.M. DAVIS (1-30Sep)  
Capt J.P. ATHERTON (4-30  
Sep)  
Capt F.A. BENDRICK(1-30  
Sep)  
Capt P.B. GAYNOR(1-30Sep)  
Capt O.M. CREWS(1-30Sep)

Attached Units

1st 155mm Gun Btry(-)(Rein)

Btry B, 1st Bn, 13th Marines

Capt M.M. BAIG(1-16Sep)  
Maj. N.J. BECKMAN(17-30  
Sep)  
Capt J.L. LATROP(1-30Sep)  
Capt C.M. DAVIS(4-30Sep)

2. Location

1-30 Sep: PHU BAI, RVN (YD 885129)

3. Staff Officers

XO

SgtMaj

S-1

S-2

S-3

S-3A

S-4

Supply

S-4

SupplyO

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Maj. J.W. CAMPBELL(1-30  
Sep)  
SgtMaj L.J. CYR(1-30Sep)  
1stLt R.D. ESMOND(1-30  
Sep)  
GySgt C.G. HOWELL(1-10  
Sep)  
2dLt D.J. BERENTSON(11-  
30Sep)  
Capt D.E. VOWELL(1-30Sep)  
1stLt R.D. HAWKINS(1-6  
Sep)  
GySgt J.A. WILLIAMS(7-10  
Sep)  
2dLt W.M. ANDERSON(11-24  
Sep)  
1stLt R.P. HORNE(1-10Sep)  
Capt D.G. PURDY(25-30Sep)  
Capt H.W. KERN(1-30Sep)  
1stLt R.P. HORNE(1-10Sep)  
2dLt F.W. COWDRY(11-30  
Sep)

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Commo

MaintO

MTO

Capt J.P. ATHERTON(1-30  
Sep)  
1stLt R.P. FOSTER(1-30  
Sep)  
1stLt D.N. GOAD(1-30Sep)

4. Average Monthly StrengthUSMCOfficers

42

Enlisted

641

USNOfficers

0

Enlisted

14

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Narrative Summary

As of the first of September, the 4th Battalion was exercising operational control of B/1/13, L(-)/4/12 and the 1st 155mm Gun Battery (-)(Rein). Administrative control was exercised over B/1/13, K/4/13, L/4/12 and the 1st 155mm Gun Battery.

On 1 September, the PHU BAI Vital Area received approximately 76 incoming 82mm mortar rounds. All three batteries under the operational control of this Battalion returned counter-mortar fires. The attack originated from grid YD 883111 and subsequent surveillance credited this Battalion with 5 KIA (C) and 7 KIA (P). The Battalion sustained 12 minor WIA and slight damage to two buildings.

Operational control of the 2d Platoon, L/4/12 was returned to this Battalion from 1st FAG on 10 September.

A platoon of the 1st 155mm Gun Battery was displaced to GIA LE (YD 829151) on 9 September to support the withdrawal of forces from operation CUMBERLAND. The platoon remained at GIA LE for the rest of the month to provide support for the 3d Recon Battalion and to support the forces protecting the class 60 bridge and Rock Crusher at YD 756135. In addition, a liaison team was sent to NAM HOA (YD 762129) on 15 September to assist in coordinating supporting fires from the ARVN 105mm Battery (2 guns) located there.

On 14 September, OPCON of the 3d Platoon, L/4/12 was chopped to this Battalion from G/7/12. This brought all six of L/4/12's guns to their primary position at PHU BAI (YD 888128) for the first time since 24 June.

ADCON of M/4/12 was returned to this Battalion from 1/12 on 13 September.

September was marked by intensive preparation for the forthcoming monsoon season and continued emphasis on improvement of defenses. New fighting holes were dug, sandbags were replaced, and the wire along the entire perimeter was replaced, repaired, and reinforced. More effective coordination of defenses with adjacent units was effected along the Battalion's portion of the perimeter.

As the month of September closed, the 4th Battalion continued to function as the senior artillery headquarters in the PHU BAI TAOR. B/1/13, L/4/12 and the 1st 155mm Gun Battery remained under the operational control of the battalion.

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## PART III

Sequential Listing of Significant Events

## 1. a. Combat missions assigned:

1-30 Sep 67 - B/1/13 continues D/S of 2/26.  
 1-30 Sep 67 - L/4/12 continues G/S of PHU BAI AO.  
 1-30 Sep 67 - 1st 155mm Gun Battery continues G/S of PHU BAI AO.

## b. Significant operations conducted:

1-10 Sep 67 - Plat/L/4/12 - Operation CUMBERLAND  
 1-5 Sep 67 - 4th Battalion (-)(Rein) - Operation LIBERTY  
 10-15 Sep 67 - 4th Battalion (-)(Rein) - Operation CUMBERLAND

## c. Casualties inflicted on the enemy:

1 Sep 67 - 1st 155 Gun Btry in support of PHU BAI AO - 5 KIA (C) 7 KIA (P)  
 2 Sep 67 - B/1/13 in support of PHU BAI AO - 5 KIA (P)  
 3 Sep 67 - B/1/13 in support of CAC (TA/2A) - 5 KIA (P)  
 12 Sep 67 - 1st 155 Gun Btry in support of 3d Recon Bn 6 KIA (C)  
 24 Sep 67 - 1st 155 Gun Btry in support of PHU BAI AO 15 KIA (C)  
 27 Sep 67 - 1st 155 Gun Btry in support of 3d Recon Bn 1 KIA (C) 1 KIA (P)  
 28 Sep 67 - 1st 155 Gun Btry in support of 3d Recon Bn 25 KIA (P)  
 28 Sep 67 - 1st 155 Gun Btry in support of 3d Recon Bn 40 KIA (P)

## d. Casualties sustained:

1 Sep 67 - 1st 155 Gun Btry sustained 8 WIA during hostile mortar attack at PHU BAI.  
 1 Sep 67 - HQ/4/12 sustained 4 WIA during hostile mortar attack at PHU BAI.  
 17 Sep 67 - K/4/13 sustained 1 WIA during hostile mortar/arty attack at DONG HA.  
 25 Sep 67 - M/4/12 sustained 1 WIA during hostile mortar/arty attack at DONG HA.  
 25 Sept 67 - M/4/12 sustained 1 KIA from enemy automatic weapons fire.

## e. Summary:

(1) Summary of Operations

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## e. Logistics

(1) Logistical Situation. Currently, 4/12 has ADCON of four medium artillery batteries; K/4/13, L/4/12, M/4/12, 1st 155 Gun Btry, one light artillery; B/1/13, and Headquarters Battery 4/12. 4/12 assumed ADCON of M/4/12 during the last reporting period.

(2) Supply. The overall supply situation is satisfactory. Major items of equipment on requisition for this organization include:

- (a) One - Generator Set PU-482/M
- (b) One - Generator Set PU-348/G
- (c) One - Generator Set PE-214
- (d) One - Trk, Cargo, 3/4 Ton, M-37
- (e) Two - Trk, Utility, M422

(3) Food Services. The 4/12 Mess Hall provides messing facilities for Headquarters Battery, B/1/13, L/4/12, 3/12 (Rear), and 1st Field Artillery Group.

(4) Cantonment. Construction of access road from Headquarters Battery 4/12 to Btry "L" 4/12 is scheduled for completion by 20 October 1967. Construction of the concrete ramp for the Butler Building in Headquarters 4/12 Command Post Area has not started.

(5) Water. All batteries truck water to their positions.

(6) Motor Transport. Motor Transport 1st and 2d echelon maintenance is satisfactory. Third echelon maintenance is poor due to the shortage of repair parts at FLSG "A".

(7) Artillery Maintenance. Artillery maintenance will not support operational objectives due to the shortage of repair parts.

(8) Embarkation. All batteries are submitting changes in their embarkation data to this battalion monthly.

(9) Civic Action. During the month of September, work continued in the market place to put on a roof and a cement floor. The villagers are very enthusiastic about the project and it is a true community effort.

Capt J.P. ATHERTON relieved Capt C.M. DAVIS as Battalion Civic Action Officer on 4 September and established liaison with the village chief.

On 17 and 30 September, the villagers were transported to PHU BAI to visit, repair, and remove graves. This action was well received by the older villagers.

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Weekly MED-CAPS continued to be held and a total of 750 Vietnamese were treated.

(10) Administration. This Battalion currently has ADCON of HQ/4/12, B/1/13, L/4/12, K/4/13, and the 1st 155mm Gun Battery.

(11) Personnel

Number of replacements received: 12 Officers  
63 Enlisted

Number of personnel rotated: 1 Officer, 20 Enlisted  
Number of personnel lost through attrition other than rotation: 1 KIA 15 WIA (2 Med-Evac)

Promotions: 2 to Pfc; 16 to LCpl  
14 to Cpl; 18 to Sgt

(12) Fire Support. This Battalion provided fire support during the month of September as follows:

B/1/13 1-30 Sep - D/S of 2/26  
L/4/12 1-30 Sep - G/S of PHU BAI AO. D/S of assigned Recon Patrols.  
1st 155 Gun Btry 1-30 Sep - G/S of PHU BAI AO. D/S of assigned Recon Patrols.

(13) Recapitulation of fire missions.

PHU BAI AREA 1-30 Sep 67

	<u>OBS</u>	<u>UNOBS</u>	<u>H&amp;I</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>HE</u>	<u>ILL</u>	<u>WP</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
155 Gun	32	16	688	736	1250	196	57	1503
155 How	18	11	377	406	1157	300	32	1489
105 How	89	8	1297	1394	4373	1236	166	5775
TOTAL	139	35	2362	2536	6780	1732	255	8767

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## PART IV

Supporting Documents

- 010001H - Journal opened at PHU BAI RVN.
- 010108H - Received approximately 76 mortar rounds (82mm) from grid YD 883111. Executed counter-mortar plans by B/1/13 L/4/12, and 1st 155mm Gun Battery. 1st 155mm Gun Battery sustained 8 WIA; HQ/4/12 sustained 4 WIA.
- 021832H - B/1/13 fired mission for AO at 4-5 VC and 5 Sampans. 4 boats destroyed, 1 damaged. 5 KIA (P).
- 021900H - L/4/12 supported Recon Patrol GALLOWAY BLUE I from 311530H Aug to 021900H Sep. Fired one mission. Results unknown.
- 030155H - B/1/13 fired mission for CAC (TIGER ALPHA 2A) at 10 VC in column. 5 KIA (P).
- 051830H - B/1/13 fired mission for AO at 2 Sampans. 2 sampans destroyed.
- 061330H - 1st 155 Gun Battery supported Recon Patrol GALLOWAY BLUE II from 010600H to 061330H. No missions were fired.
- 082030H - B/1/13 fired mission for A/1/4 at 10 VC in open. Good target coverage; results unknown.
- 091600H - Platoon of 1st 155 Gun Battery displaced to GIA LE (YD 829151). Laid on azimuth 4500.
- 100900H - 1st 155 Gun Battery supported Recon Patrol EMPRESS ALICE II from 061300H to 100900H. No missions were fired.
- 101130H - OPCON Platoon of L/4/12 chopped to 4/12 from 1st FAG.
- 101815H - L/4/12 supported Recon Patrol INKHORN I from 071300H to 101815H. No missions were fired.
- 112215H - B/1/13 fired mission for CAC (TIGER ALPHA 1) at VC platoon. Good target coverage but results unknown.
- 112346H - B/1/13 fired mission for CAC (TIGER ALPHA 1) at VC platoon crossing channel. Results unknown.
- 130816H - B/1/13 fired mission for AO at tunnel entrance and fortified buildings. Tunnel entrance damaged and fortified buildings damaged.

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Tab A



- 131035H - B/1/13 fired mission for 2/26 at light bunkers. Bunkers destroyed.
- 131200H - ADCON M/4/12 chopped to 4/12 from 1/12.
- 131400H - Fwd platoon, 1st 155 Gun Battery supported Recon Patrol MIDDLE CLASS from 111230H to 131400H. 2 missions were fired resulting in 1 KIA(C) and 14 secondary explosions.
- 141000H - L/4/12 supported Recon Patrol ALABAMA RAIDERS from 120630H to 141000H. No missions were fired.
- 141130H - OPCON of platoon of L/4/12 chopped to 4/12 from 6/3/12.
- 150900H - 1st 155 Gun Battery supported Recon Patrol EMPRESS ALICE I from 111400H to 150900H. No missions were fired.
- 151200H - Fwd platoon, 1st 155 Gun Battery supported Recon Patrol JUSTINE FOSS from 110930H to 151200H. No missions were fired.
- 151515H - 1st 155 Gun Battery fired unobserved mission at suspected VC Battalion. Results unknown.
- 171330H - Fwd platoon, 1st 155 Gun Battery supported Recon Patrol NICHOLAS ISLAND from 140900H to 171330H. Fired one mission with good target coverage. Results unknown.
- 180900H - L/4/12 supported Recon Patrol MIDNIGHT SHIFT from 140930H to 180900H. No missions were fired.
- 181000H - 1st 155 Gun Battery supported Recon Patrol INK HORN from 150900H to 181000H. No missions were fired.
- 220900H - L/4/12 supported Recon Patrol ALABAMA RAIDERS from 0000H to 180800H to 220900H. No missions were fired.
- 230830H - L/4/12 supported Recon Patrol EMPRESS ALICE from 190800H to 230830H. No missions were fired.
- 241330H - L/4/12 supported Recon Patrol MIDNIGHT SHIFT from 200800H to 241330H. No missions were fired.
- 241710H - 1st 155 Gun Battery fired an unobserved mission at VC positions confirmed by Division TIO. Results unknown.
- 250800H - L/4/12 supported Recon Patrol GALLOWAY BLUE. Patrol was aborted on insertion. No mission was fired.

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- 260830H** - L/4/12 supported Recon Patrol MIDNIGHT SHIFT from 220830H to 260830H. No missions were fired.
- 270830H** - Fwd platoon, 1st 155 Gun Battery supported Recon Patrol HE MAN from 230800H to 270830H. Fired 4 missions resulting in 1 KIA (C), 1 KIA (P).
- 281100H** - Fwd platoon, 1st 155 Gun Battery supported Recon Patrol EMPRESS ALICE from 270900H to 281100H. Fired 2 missions at an estimated NVA Battalion resulting in 65 KIA (Prob) and 12 second explosions.
- 291030H** - 1st 155 Gun Battery supported Recon Patrol GALLOWAY BLUE from 261130H to 291030H. No missions were fired.
- 302400H** - Journal closed at PHU BAI RVN.

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