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4th B. 12th MAR
SEC # C-99-69

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

3/GLT/smf
5751
Ser:03A038-69
5 Apr 1969

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 period 1-31 March 1969 (U)

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.1A
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8
(c) DivO 5750.1A

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

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

2. This document is to be downgraded at three-year intervals and declassified after 12 years in accordance with DOD Directive 5200.10.

E. W. Bailey
E. W. BAILEY

Copy to:
CO, 12th Marine Regiment

Copy 1 of 12 copies

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 March to 31 March

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ENCLOSURE (1)

PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

4th Battalion, 12th Marines LtCol. E.W. BAILEY (1-31 Mar)

SUBORDINATE UNITS

Headquarters Battery	Capt. D.M. BUGBEE (1-12 Mar)
Battery "K"	1stLt. L. BOYD (13-31 Mar)
Battery "L"	Capt. L.D. WALKER (1-31 Mar)
Battery "M"	1stLt. W.G. HORN (1-31 Mar)
	1stLt. D.E. MELCHAR (1-31 Mar)

2. LOCATION

1-31 March: DONG HA, RVN (YD 227596)

3. STAFF OFFICERS

XO	Maj. T.L. EDWARDS (1-31 Mar)
SgtMaj	SgtMaj. F. VIOLETTE (1-31 Mar)
S-1	2ndLt. J.V. MORRIS (1-31 Mar)
S-2	1stLt. T.G. TURNER (1-12 Mar)
	1stLt. C.J. HOLDZKOM (13-31 Mar)
S-3	Maj. J.D. MCNAMARA (1-21 Mar)
	Capt. G.L. TELFER (22-31 Mar)
S-3A	1stLt. J.J. BUTERA (1-11 Mar)
	1stLt. E.J. MURPHY (12-31 Mar)
S-4	Maj. J.D. MCNAMARA (1-2 Mar)
	Capt. D.M. BUGBEE (3-31 Mar)
MaintO	1stLt. P. JULICH Jr. (1-31 Mar)
CommO	1stLt. R.F. HOOGERWERF (1-31 Mar)
MTO	1stLt. G. WERNER (1-31 Mar)
SupplyO	1stLt. T.J. MORRIS (1-31 Mar)

4. AVERAGE OVERALL MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>USMC</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>	<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>USN</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
24		430	0		14

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5. During the period 1 March 1969 through 31 March 1969 the battalion, within its capability of self-administration, performed its assigned mission in the area of personnel accounting and administration. The following is a compilation of statistical data for the period 1 March - 31 March 1969:

a. Authorized Manning Level

Marine Officer Personnel (025)
 Marine Enlisted Personnel (490)
 Navy Enlisted Personnel (008)
 Navy Officer Personnel (001)

b. Distributed Personnel Strength. During the period 1 March 1969 - 31 March 1969 the battalion personnel were distributed and assigned to the following areas in the performance of its general support role:

<u>USMC</u>	<u>DONG HA</u>	<u>FSB ELLIOTT</u>	<u>C-1</u>	<u>C-2</u>
OFFICER	16	4	3	1
ENLISTED	221	92	72	36
<u>USN</u>				
OFFICER	0	0	0	0
ENLISTED	7	2	2	1

c. Personnel Extensions of WestPac Tour. During the period 1 March 1969 - 31 March 1969 there were seven (7) personnel extensions of overseas tour of duty.

d. Awards Recommendations. During the period 1 March 1969 to 31 March 1969 the following awards were recommended for personnel of the battalion:

Bronze Star Medal (06)
 Navy Commendation Medal (04)
 Navy Achievement Medal (13)

ENCLOSURE (1)

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

In the month of March, the 4th Battalion, 12th Marines consisted of the following units: Battery "K", 4th Battalion, 12th Marines, Battery "L", 4th Battalion, 12th Marines, Battery "M", 4th Battalion, 12th Marines, and 3d Provisional 155mm Towed Howitzer Battery. All units were technically controlled from a centralized FDC at DONG HA.

The primary mission of 4th Battalion, 12th Marines remained as general support of the 3d Marine Division. Modification of this mission included Battery "L's" continued reinforcement of 3d Battalion, 12th Marines. On 2 March the battalion was given the mission of direct support of Task Force CLEARWATER. The battalion continued its support of Combined Action Platoons, QUANG TRI and DONG HA Combat Bases.

From 7 March to 27 March, Battery "K", 4th Battalion, 12th Marines located at C-1, was in direct support of an ARVN battalion/USMC tank company, Operation LAMSON 171, PHASE V, south of the mouth of BEN HAI River. The battalion supplied an FO team for this operation. Battery "K", 4th Battalion, 12th Marines also continued its support of reconnaissance teams operating in the DMZ.

Battery "M", 4th Battalion, 12th Marines located at C-2 had the mission of direct support of reconnaissance teams located in and south of the DMZ; in addition, on 23 March Battery "M" was in direct support of Operation MONTANA MAULER conducted by C Troop, 3d of the 5th Cavalry. This direct support status for Battery "M", 4th Battalion, 12th Marines lasted through 30th March. On the 16th of March the battalion was given a reinforcing mission for the 5th Battalion, 4th Artillery in the MIA LOC area. This mission was accomplished by Battery "M", 4th Battalion, 12th Marines (-) located at DONG HA. On the 24th of March due to an AO change the battalion assumed a reinforcing role for 2d Battalion, 12th Marines in the same area.

Battery "L", 4th Battalion, 12th Marines located at Fire Support Base ELLIOTT continued to be the workhorse of the battalion firing 16,061 rounds during the month. In addition to their reinforcing 3/12 they also were in direct support of the MONTANA MAULER Operation.

ENCLOSURE (1)

[REDACTED]

On 15 March the battalion assumed OPCON of 3d Provisional, 155mm Towed Howitzer Battery located at grid 238598. This unit had just returned from Operation DEWEY CANYON and required considerable instructional assistance to return them to an operational status.

During the period 29-30 March a considerable shuffle took place within the units of the battalion; Battery "L", 4th Battalion, 12th Marines moved from Fire Support Base ELLIOTT to DONG HA, Battery "K", 4th Battalion, 12th Marines moved from C-1 to Fire Support Base ELLIOTT and Battery "M", 4th Battalion, 12th Marines moved from DONG HA to C-1. These moves were accomplished without the loss of fire support from any of the bases. On 31 March Battery "M", 4th Battalion, 12th Marines at C-2 returned to its parent unit at C-1.

During the month the battalion developed and had constructed concrete firing pads at DONG HA and at C-2. Further construction will be done at C-1 and Fire Support Base ELLIOTT next month. These pads provide a stable level plane for a conduct of fire. Furthermore, these pads prevent any piece displacement due to firing. The blueprints and the photos of these pads are in the CMC copy under supporting documents. The negatives will be retained on file with the command.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTINGS OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. COMBAT MISSIONS ASSIGNED

1-31 March: 4th Battalion, 12th Marines (Rein)-General Support of 3d Marine Division.

2. SIGNIFICANT OPERATIONS SUPPORTED

During the month of March, the 4th Battalion, 12th Marines participated in the following operations: MAIN CRAG (10-31 Mar); MONTANA MAULER (23-31 Mar); HIGHRISE (1-31 Mar); and LAMSON 171, PHASE V (8-31 Mar).

3. FIRE SUPPORT PROVIDED

a. Recapitulation of Fire Missions:

<u>TARGET</u>	<u>MISSIONS</u>	<u>TOTAL ROUNDS</u>
Confirmed	262	11,332
Acquired	1,601	16,076
Preparation	73	1,642
Special Purpose	76	1,269
Counterbattery	80	3,344
Grand Total	2,092	33,663
HE Total		31,746
Illum Total		1,198
M49 Total		194
WP Total		525

4. CASUALTIES INFLICTED ON THE ENEMY (OPCON UNITS)

a. KIA: 25 WIA: 34

5. CASUALTIES SUSTAINED (ADCON UNITS)

a. HOSTILE: KIA: 2 WIA: 1

b. NON-HOSTILE: DEATH: 0 INJURY: 3

ENCLOSURE (1)

6. MEDCAP VISITS

a. On 4 March 1969, the village of DONG XUAH, hamlet of TRUC KHE was visited and 140 patients were treated for respiratory ailments due to recent cold and damp weather.

b. On 8 March 1969, DONG XUAH, hamlet of TRUC KHE was visited again. The villagers were very receptive to the MEDCAP team. An estimated 75 patients were treated. Some of the illnesses encountered were eye, ear and upper respiratory infections; impetigo; and dysentery.

c. On 20 March 1969, DONG XUAH, hamlet of TRUC KHE was visited once again. This visit was the 4th Battalion's third to the village. There was some evidence of improvement in the health of the villagers. Approximately 50 villagers were treated.

d. On 24 March 1969, DONG XUAH, hamlet of TRUC KHE was visited and a total of 73 patients were examined and treated in a three hour period. Of the diseases encountered, respiratory and skin diseases continued to be the most prevalent. A great deal of improvement has been noted since the team's initial visit on 4 March 1969. It appeared that the villagers were making use of the drugs being dispensed by the medical team on each visit, and satisfactory results, both medically and from a "People to People" standpoint, are quite evident.

e. On 31 March 1969, DONG XUAH, hamlet of TRUC KHE was visited for the fourth time by the 4/12 MEDCAP team. A total of 45 patients were seen. The majority of the complaints encountered were of respiratory tract and skin diseases. Much improvement was noted in the cleanliness of the people and of the hamlet area.

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. The following significant entries are excerpts from the S-3 Work Sheet (Record of Missions), and the Fire Direction Officer's Log Book:

- 021354H - "L" fired 22 HE on active mortars at 970622 for 1/4 FO, resulting in 1 secondary.
- 031815H - "L" fired 1 WP and 120 HE on active rockets/7 NVA at 945653 for 3/4 FO, resulting in 3 bunkers destroyed and 1 secondary.
- 050728H - "L" fired 130 HE on active mortars at 945624 for 3/4 FO, resulting in numerous secondaries, mortars suppressed, and a ridgeline left burning.
- 050910H - "K" fired 25 HE on fresh trails/bunkers at 248788 for 12th Marines AO, resulting in 1 bunker destroyed.
- 071637H - "L" fired 6 M449 and 20 HE on 1 NVA at 945625 for 3/4 FO, resulting in 1 probable KIA.
- 081228H - "L" fired 30 HE on 3 NVA/bunkers at 947624 for 3/4 FO, resulting in 1 bunker destroyed.
- 081700H - "L" fired 15 HE on a bunker complex at 94586226 for 3d Marine Division AO, resulting in 1 bunker destroyed.
- 081807H - "L" fired 20 HE on a active mortar at 94106577 for 3/4 FO, resulting in 1 secondary.
- 090843H - "M" fired 1 WP and 43 HE on enemy contact at 113512 for 3/3 FO, resulting in 15 confirmed KIA.
- 091204H - "L" fired 48 HE on 12 NVA at 946624 for 3/4 FO, resulting in 4 secondaries.

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- 091323H - "L" fired 1 WP and 20 HE on enemy bunkers at 978623 for 3/4 FO, resulting in 1 bunker destroyed,
- 101242H - "L" fired 30 HE on 4 NVA/bunkers at 946624 for 3/4 FO, resulting in 1 secondary, 1 bunker destroyed, and 1 probable KIA.
- 102000H - "L" fired 65 HE on a suspected mortar position at 946624 for 3/4 FO, resulting in 1 secondary.
- 111713H - "M" fired 3 WP and 6 HE on 2 NVA at 15137374 for 108th Group AO, resulting in 2 probable KIA.
- 122320H - "M-D" fired 14 illumination on an illumination mission contact at 265620 for Recon, resulting in 2 prisoners and 1 WIA.
- 131620H - "L" fired 40 HE on active mortars at 948628 for 3/4 FO, resulting in 4 secondaries.
- 142018H - "K" fired 18 HE on 2 NVA at 231764 for 108th Group AO, resulting in 1 probable KIA.
- 150638H - "K" fired 1 illumination, 2 WP, 48 HE, and 10 M49 on active rockets at 269791 for 108th Group AO, resulting in 1 secondary.
- 161925H - "M", "M-D", and "L" fired 1 WP and 108 HE on 10 NVA at 098549 for 3/3 FO, resulting in 3 WIA.
- 171620H - "M" fired 14 HE on a bunker at 066595 for 3d Marine Division AO, resulting in 1 bunker destroyed.
- 181230H - "M" fired 1 WP and 45 HE on active mortars at 056587 for 3/12 FO, resulting in 1 secondary.
- 181502H - "L" fired 1 WP and 128 HE on contact at 07885910 for 2/4 FO, resulting in 3 fighting holes uncovered, 3 bunkers damaged and 3 bunkers destroyed.
- 181730H - "L" fired 2 WP and 40 HE on convoy in contact at 054575 for 12th Marines FO, resulting in 1 secondary.
- 191031H - "L" fired 1 WP and 128 HE on NVA in bunkers at 901642 for 3d MarDiv AO, resulting in 3 bunkers damaged and 3 bunkers destroyed.

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- 191824H - "L" fired 1 WP and 41 HE on a large bunker at 943653 for 3/4 FO, resulting in 3 bunkers destroyed.
- 191925H - "L" fired 6 WP and 16 HE on contact at 013644 for Recon, resulting in 4 secondaries and 1 fire started.
- 191930H - "K" fired 3 WP and 36 HE on a suspected mortar position at 210770 for 12th Marines AO, resulting in 1 secondary.
- 201026H - "K" fired 23 HE on bunker/personnel at 232775 for 12th Marine AO, resulting in 1 hootch destroyed and 1 bunker heavily damaged.
- 201204H - "L" fired 1 WP and 56 HE on 7 NVA at 94476537 for 3/4 FO, resulting in 4 probable KIA.
- 210820H - "L" fired 2 WP and 89 HE on a Prep fire at 933655 for 3/4 FO, resulting in 2 secondaries.
- 211415H - "M" fired 1 WP and 20 HE on NVA in open at 075637 for 108th Group AO, resulting in 2 KIA.
- 211545H - "M" fired 2 WP and 24 HE on bunkers at 061626 for 108th Group AO, resulting in 5 bunkers damaged and 3 bunkers destroyed.
- 231355H - "L" fired 1 WP and 63 HE on active mortars at 902638 for 3/4 FO, resulting in 2 bunkers destroyed and 2 bunkers damaged.
- 231411H - "M" fired 14 WP and 29 HE on enemy position/active mortars at 047612 for 108th Group AO, resulting in 8 probable KIA.
- 231626H - "M" fired 7 WP and 15 HE on suspected rocket position at 052671 for 12th Marines AO, resulting in 3 secondaries.
- 240020H - "L" fired 18 HE on a TOT at 912649 for 3/4 FO, resulting in 1 secondary.
- 241305H - "L" fired 1 WP and 65 HE on NVA on road at 044615 for 108th Group AO, resulting in 4 bunkers destroyed, 3 confirmed KIA, and 10 probable KIA.

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- 241845H - "M" fired 1 WP and 65 HE on enemy bunker at 05226331 for 106th Group AO, resulting in 8 bunkers damaged.
- 242017H - "L" fired 5 WP and 30 HE on contact at 068606 for 108th Group AO, resulting in 3 probable KIA.
- 242145H - "M" fired 71 illumination on a contact/illumination mission at 060615 for 108th Group AO, resulting in excellent shooting.
- 251035H - "L" fired 17 illumination and 52 HE on NVA moving at 048630 for 108th Group AO, resulting in 5 confirmed KIA.
- 251135H - "L" fired 2 WP and 40 HE on prep fire at 911643 for 3/4 FO, resulting in 3 secondaries.
- 251150H - "M" fired 1 WP and 36 HE on suspected enemy position at 025621 for 108th Group AO, resulting in 1 bunker destroyed.
- 251610H - "L" fired 86 HE on contact at 91266489 for 3/4 FO, resulting in excellent shooting of target.
- 251650H - "L" fired 100 HE on contact at 950490. Recon team extracted, resulting in no surveillance at this time.
- 251917H - "L" fired 1 WP and 100 HE on 3 mortar pits at 900645 for 3d Marine Division AO, resulting in 1 bunker and 50 meters of trenchline destroyed and 1 secondary.
- 260855H - "M" and "L" fired on an NVA battalion with other supporting arms on grids 032628, 03246300 for 108th Group FO. 670 rounds were expended. The area is still being swept by the ground gaining arms with results so far of 140 enemy KIA. At this time no percentage breakdown has been given for Battery "M" and Battery "L's" participation in the mission.
- 261257H - "L" fired 2 WP and 48 HE on a bunker complex at 891642 for 3/4 FO, resulting in 3 bunkers destroyed, 2 bunkers damaged, and 6 fighting holes damaged.
- 262143H - "K" fired 92 HE on a confirmed battalion of NVA at 095715 for 1/9 FO. No surveillance available at this time.

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262150H - "K" fired 73 HE on 10 men moving south at 16587631 for 12th Marines AO/TPS/25

271645H - "L" fired 120 HE on active mortars at 92646723 for 3/12 FO.

271927H - "K" fired 125 HE on 45 NVA at 140736 for TPS/25.

301745H - "K" fired 1 WP and 44 HE on active rockets at 953659 for 3/4 FO, resulting in 1 secondary.

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