

4thBn, 12thMar  
S&C #C-268-69

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

3/CLT/smr  
5751  
Ser: 03A043-69  
5 Sept 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 August 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.

*A. J. Croft*  
A. J. CROFT

Copy to:  
CO, 12th Marine Regiment

Copy 1 of 11 copies

4THBN/12THMAR

CMD CHRON

AUG 1969

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 August to 31 August

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PART IORGANIZATIONAL DATADESIGNATION

4th Battalion, 12th Marines

LtCol. A. J. CROFT (1-31 Aug)

SUBORDINATE UNITS

Headquarters Battery

Capt. D.M. BUGBEE (1-7 Aug)  
 1stLt. R.F. HOOGERWERF (8-31 Aug)  
 Capt. L.D. WALKER (1-31 Aug)  
 Capt. C.I. ADAMS (1-13 Aug)  
 Capt. W.M. SPARKS (1-31 Aug)

Battery "K"

Battery "L"

Battery "M"

2. LOCATION

1-31 August: Camp ROMANELLI (DONG HA West), RVN (YD 227596)

3. STAFF OFFICERS

XO

Maj. J.R. DEWAN (1-2 Aug)  
 Maj. B.D. KRAKBERGER (2-31 Aug)  
 SgtMaj. M. JAKLEWICZ (1-31 Aug)  
 2dLt. J.V. MORRIS (1-31 Aug)  
 1stLt. F.J. HILTEBRAND (1-26 Aug)  
 1stLt. R.W. FOUT (27-31 Aug)  
 Capt. G.L. TELFER (1-31 Aug)  
 1stLt. D.E. MELCHAR (1-31 Aug)  
 Capt. L.R. GARDNER (1-31 Aug)  
 Capt. D.M. BUGBEE (1-20 Aug)  
 MGySgt. D. KRAFT (21-31 Aug)  
 1stLt. R.F. HOOGERWERF (1-31 Aug)  
 1stLt. G. WERNER (1-21 Aug)  
 2dLt. R.W. MEYER (22-31 Aug)  
 1stLt. T.J. MORRIS (1-31 Aug)

SgtMaj

S-1

S-2

S-3

S-3A

S-4

MaintO

Commo

MTO

SupplyO

4. AVERAGE OVERALL MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
19	325	0	12

ENCLOSURE (1)

PART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY1. General Overview/Missions Assigned

a. In the month of August, the battalion comprised the following units: Battery "K", 4th Battalion, 12th Marines; Battery "L", 4th Battalion, 12th Marines; Battery "M", 4th Battalion, 12th Marines, and a detachment (3 tubes) of the 4.2 inch Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marines. All units were technically controlled from a centralized FDC located at Camp ROMANELLI (DONG HA West).

b. The 4th Battalion, 12th Marines, mission continued to be general support of the 3d Marine Division. Modifications of this mission included "Quick Fire" channels to the 1st Battalion, 12th Marines; 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines, and 5th Battalion, 4th U. S. Army Artillery. The battalion continued in direct support of Task Force CLEARWATER, the Combined Action Platoons, Reconnaissance teams, QUANG TRI, and DONG HA Combat Bases. In addition the battalion was in direct support of eight SID strings and a TPS-25 radar.

c. Battery "K" located at Fire Support Base ELLIOTT fired over 10,000 rounds during the month. During the period 0600 17 August to 0600 18 August the battery reached it's individual high for a twenty-four hour period, firing 1,242 rounds in support of the 1st Battalion, 12th Marines. One mission on the 7th of August for the 1st Battalion, 12th Marines, resulted in 14 NVA KIA. The battery had a total of 22 KIA's for the month.

d. Battery "L" located at Camp ROMANELLI (DONG HA West) provided direct support for reconnaissance teams south of DONG HA, DONG HA, and QUANG TRI Combat Bases and Combined Action Platoons operating around DONG HA. The battery continued its preparations for redeployment to OKINAWA during the first week of the month, and on the 9th of August stood completely down in preparation for its move on the 13th to CUA VIET. The move to CUA VIET went smoothly and on the 14th the battery loaded aboard LST 1073, the Outagamie County, and left for OKINAWA. At the time of Battery "L's" departure it had the longest continuous service of any U. S. artillery unit in the Republic of Vietnam (15 April 1965 to 14 August 1969).

e. Battery "M" located at C-1 provided direct support for the TPS-25 radar located at A-4 and for Task Force CLEARWATER. On 9 August three of the battery's howitzers moved from C-1 to Camp ROMANELLI to take over the support formally provided by Battery "L".

ENCLOSURE (1)

On the 16th Battery "M" at C-1 received six 82mm mortars causing damage to two vehicles. Again on the 19th the battery received six 122mm rockets in the same position resulting in no damage to personnel or equipment.

f. The detachment (3 tubes) of Battery "W", 1st Battalion, 12th Marines, came under the OPCON of the 4th Battalion, 12th Marines, on the 14th of August. The detachment's mission was to provide defensive fires for the base and to act as a counter mortar battery. Since arriving at Camp ROMANELLI the battery has constructed three excellent gun pits and is presently building an EXEC Pit. The battery was inspected on the 21st of August and found to be in excellent condition to perform its mission.

g. On the 12th of August a ceremony was held renaming DONG HA West, Camp ROMANELLI in honor of HM 1 Louis V. ROMANELLI, of the battalion, who gave his life on 16 March 1969 while operating with a CAP unit in QUANG TRI Province.


h. Headquarters Battery received 34-81mm mortars on the night of 11 August causing slight damage to the vehicles of 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines, which were staged in the area in preparation for that unit's redeployment to OKINAWA on the 13th. The battery area was again hit on the 18th of August by four 140mm rockets, these however caused no damage.

## 2. Significant Operations Conducted

a. During the month of August, the 4th Battalion, 12th Marines, participated in the following operations: HIGHRISE (1-31 Aug), IROQUOIS GROVE (1-31 Aug), IDAHO CANYON (1-31 Aug), ARLINGTON CANYON (1-31 Aug), and GEORGIA TAR (1-31 Aug). In support of these operations the following fire support was provided:

<u>TARGET</u>	<u>MISSIONS</u>	<u>TOTAL ROUNDS</u>
Confirmed	186	5,137
Acquired	552	6,807
Counterbattery	88	1,799
Preparation	81	1,821
Interdiction	147	645
Special Purpose	155	1,637
Grand Total	1,209	17,846
HE Total		17,194
Illum Total		137
M449 Total		292
WP Total		223

ENCLOSURE (1)

### 3. Results of Operations

a. Enemy casualties resulting from these operations for the month were 27 confirmed KIA's. The battalion was also credited with the destruction of 55 enemy bunkers, one mortar tube, 15 rockets and obtained 22 secondaries.

### 4. Casualties Sustained

a. The battalion sustained no friendly casualties during the month of August.

### 5. Command Relations

a. On the 1st of August, LtCol A. J. CROFT assumed command of the 4th Battalion, 12th Marines, vice Major T. L. EDWARDS. On the same date Major B. D. KRACKBERGER replaced Major J. R. DEWAN as Battalion Executive Officer.

### 6. Civic Action

a. The 4th Battalion, 12th Marines is the direct financing agent (labor and material costs) for two school construction projects, located within DONG XUAN Village, GIO LINH District.

b. Because of delays occasioned by numerous mines and booby-traps surrounding the school site at Truc Khe, DONG XUAN, the project has reached a temporary "standstill" until such time as Regional Forces have thoroughly cleared the area. The project at the time of the work stoppage was about 50% completed.

c. Battalion MEDCAPS continued weekly visits to Father COE's settlement in CAM LO.

### 7. Administration

a. During the month of August the battalion continued to perform its administrative mission of personnel accounting and administration through centralized control. This centralized control consisted of the Battalion S-1 as the central control and each battery headquarters (administration), located in the rear in close proximity to the Battalion S-1. This centralized control facilitated close liaison between the S-1 and battery 1st Sergeants in personnel administration and the smooth, orderly flow of various administrative details.

ENCLOSURE (1)



b. This month saw members of the battalion recommended for various personal decorations, to include: Bronze Star Medal (9), Navy Commendation Medal (7), Navy Achievement Medal (7), and Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry, with Silver Star (4). During the month, four (4) Vietnamese Crosses of Gallantry were presented to members of the battalion.

#### 8. Communications

a. A top priority project for the communications section during the early part of the month of August was establishing a direct radio link with Battery "K" located at Fire Support Base ELLIOTT. Other units of the division found that it was necessary to establish a relay at DONG HA Mountain to accomplish this. The battalion communications section found, however, that by using extra mast sections on the AS-2236 antenna and shooting in the directional plane, excellent communications could be established without the requirement of a relay station. In addition it was discovered that by utilizing the M-442 HF adapter from the auxiliary antenna RC 292, two radios could be driven at the same time from one AS-2236, giving the battalion two dependable radio channels with Battery "K" at Fire Support Base ELLIOTT.

b. The communication section has acquired a quantity of 26 pair cable and at the present time is rewiring the FDC bunker. This is part of the overall program to keep improving the communication facilities of the battalion.

#### 9. New Developments

a. Due to the high annual rainfall in the Republic of Vietnam, the storage of powder and projectiles is a constant problem. Certain protection must be afforded these items while in storage both from the weather and direct fire of the enemy. The most satisfactory method of providing this protection was found to be by constructing a septic tank with an adjoining projectile or powder berm built on a slope and floored with pallets. This allows the water to flow through the berm and into the septic tank; thus protecting the munitions from both the elements and enemy fire. A drawing of this construction is included in the CMC copy under supporting documents.

ENCLOSURE (1)

PART IIISEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

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

- 020556H - "M" fired 34 HE on 5 personnel moving south at 16927660 for 12th Marines radar, resulting in 1 secondary.
- 070920H - "K" fired 43 HE and 1 WP on NVA dug in at 993633 for 2/3 FO, resulting in 4 KIA.
- 071407H - "K" fired 111 HE and 1 WP on a contact mission at 925611 for 2/3 FO, resulting in 6 secondaries and 14 KIA.
- 081211H - "M" fired 15 HE and 2 WP on 3 NVA at 142736 for 12thMar AO, resulting in 1 KIA.
- 101400H - "K" fired 12 HE and 4 WP on a contact mission at 916492 for 3/4 FO, resulting in 2 KIA and 3 bunkers destroyed.
- 111136H - "M" fired 20 HE on a suspected mortar position at 201743 for 12th Marines FO, resulting in 1 bunker destroyed and 1 secondary.
- 121416H - "M" fired 34 HE on 3 bunkers at 247799 for 12thMar AO, resulting in 4 bunkers destroyed.
- 131307H - "K" fired 65 HE and 1 WP on trails, bunkers, and an infiltration route at 888639 for 3dMarDiv AO, resulting in 8 bunkers destroyed and 3 secondaries.
- 140140H - "K" fired 26 HE and 10 WP on a known enemy position at 937543 for 1/12 FO, resulting in 2 secondaries.
- 151202H - "M" fired 33 HE and 2 WP on bunkers and movement in a treeline at 213799 for 12thMar AO, resulting in 3 bunkers destroyed and 20 meters of trenchline destroyed.
- 171500H - "K" fired 104 HE on 12 to 15 NVA in the open at 993601 for 2/3 FO, resulting in 4 KIA and 3 bunkers destroyed.

ENCLOSURE (1)

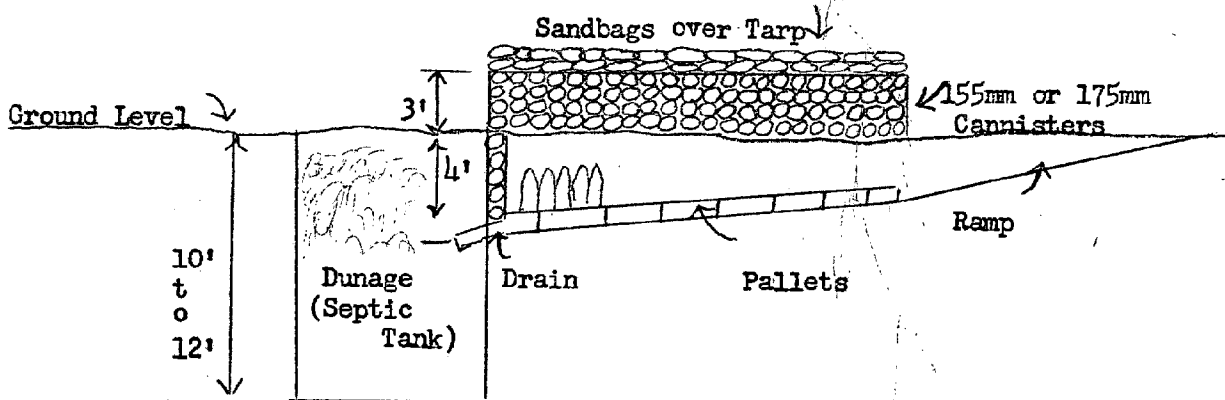
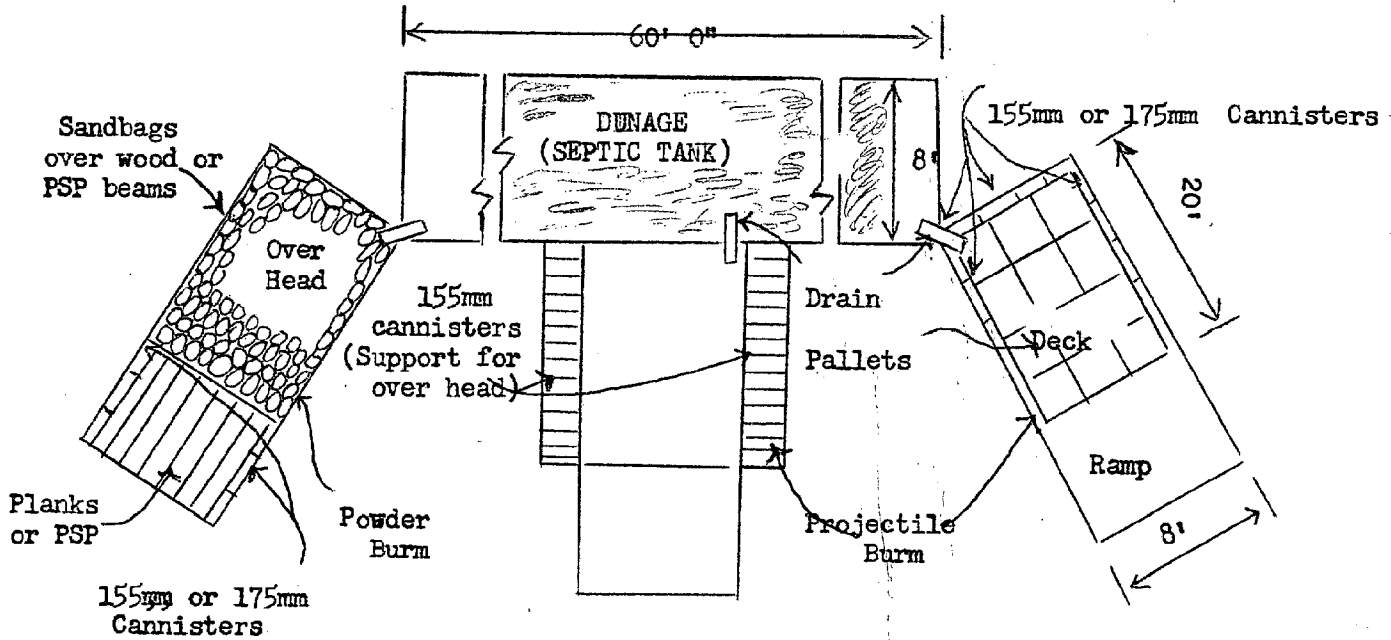


- 171750H - "M" fired 36 HE on a rocket site/supply area at 251803 for 3dMar Div AO, resulting in 4 bunkers destroyed.
- 181816H - "M" fired 55 HE on 5 rocket positions at 246755 for 12thMar AO, resulting in 2 rockets destroyed and 1 secondary.
- 190748H - "K" fired 8 HE and 1 WP on bunkers at 910642 for a Naval AO, resulting in 1 bunker destroyed and 1 secondary.
- 200828H - "K" fired 183 HE and 1 WP on active mortars at 93986484 for 2/4 FO, resulting in 2 bunkers destroyed and 2 secondaries.
- 211315H - "K" fired 87 HE on 50 bunkers at 939655 for 3dMarDiv AO, resulting in 10 bunkers destroyed and 1 secondary.
- 221553H - "K" fired 18 HE and 1 WP on an active mortar at 942653 for 3/3 FO, resulting in 2 KIA and 1 mortar tube destroyed.
- 241538H - "K" fired 26 HE and 2 WP on a bunker complex at 016644 for 3/4 FO, resulting in 1 bunker destroyed.
- 241803H - "K" fired 32 HE on bunkers at 000663 for 3dMarDiv AO, resulting in 1 secondary.
- 242225H - "K" fired 12 HE on small arms fire at 896592 for 2/4 FO, resulting in 1 secondary.
- 261221H - "K" fired 45 HE and 3 WP on 2 NVA/bunkers at 935668 for 12thMar AO, resulting in 1 bunker destroyed.
- 280800H - "K" fired 22 HE and 1 WP on bunkers at 914623 for 3dMarDiv AO, resulting in 5 bunkers destroyed.
- 291515H - "K" fired 41 HE on a precision destruction mission at 989600 for 12thMar AO, resulting in 1 secondary.
- 310154H - "M" fired 36 HE on 15 personnel at 22107973 for 12thMar radar, resulting in 1 secondary.

ENCLOSURE (1)

CONFIDENTIALPART IVSUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

## AMMO BERTS



ENCLOSURE (1)

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NOT TO SCALE