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HEADQUARTERS
1st Battalion(Rein), 13th Marines
Fleet Marine Force, Pacific
Fleet Post Office, San Francisco 96602

6/JAH/mmm
3 Feb 1968
SER: 003A03468

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(Unclassified Upon Removal of Enclosure (1))

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps
Via: (1) Commanding General, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade
(2) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 January 1968 to 31 January 1968 (U)

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8

Encl: (1) Command Chronology

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

J. A. HENNELLY

Copy to:
Commanding General, 3d Marine Division

1st BN/13th MAR
CMD CHRON

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HEADQUARTERS

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Command Chronology

1 January 1968 to 31 January 1968

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- Part I - Organizational Data
- Part II - Narrative Summary
- Part III - Sequential Listing of Significant Events
- Part IV - Supporting Documents

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PART IORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. Designation

1st Battalion, 13th Marines (-)(Rein)

Commander

LtCol J. A. HENNELLY

Subordinate UnitsAdministrative ControlHeadquarters Battery, 1st Battalion,
13th Marines

1stLt R. W. DUNN Jr.

5th 155 Gun Battery (SP)(-)(Rein)

Maj E. E. BEALL

1st Platoon, 5th 155 Gun Battery (SP)

1stLt M. C. KALIN

2nd Platoon, 5th 155 Gun Battery (SP)

2ndLt R. E. WASSON

Battery "K", 4th Battalion, 12th Marines

Capt H. D. SULLIVAN

Operational ControlHeadquarters Battery, 1st Battalion,
13th Marines

1stLt R. W. DUNN Jr.

Battery "A", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines

Capt D. L. PARDEE

Battery "B", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines

1stLt G. G. WOOD
21Jan68 - 31Jan68

Battery "C", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines

Capt W. J. O'CONNOR

Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines

Capt E. M. ASANOVICH
1Jan68 - 4Jan68
Capt M. T. PIERSON
5Jan68 - 31Jan681st Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery (Rein),
3d Battalion, 12th MarinesCapt J. TAYLOR
5Jan68 - 31Jan68Detachment, 238th Field Artillery (Radar),
1st Battalion, 40th ArtillerySSgt R. M. MC CULLOUGH
22Jan68 - 31Jan68

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2. LocationHeadquarters Battery, 1st Battalion,
13th Marines

Khe Sanh, RVN

Battery "A", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines

Khe Sanh, RVN

Battery "B", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines

Khe Sanh, RVN

Battery "C", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines

Khe Sanh, RVN

Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines

Khe Sanh, RVN

1st Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery (Rein),
3d Battalion, 12th Marines

Khe Sanh, RVN

5th 155 Gun Battery (SP)(-)(Rein)

6 miles North of
Chu Lai, RVN

1st Platoon, 5th 155 Gun Battery (SP)

Dong Ha, RVN

2nd Platoon, 5th 155 Gun Battery (SP)

Da Nang, RVN

Battery "K", 4th Battalion, 12th Marines

Camp Carroll, RVN

Detachment, 238th Field Artillery (Radar),
1st Battalion, 40th Artillery

Khe Sanh, RVN

3. Staff Officers

Executive Officer

Maj R. W. CAMPBELL

S-1

1stLt D. W. KELLY

S-2

1stLt W. K. JONES

S-3

Capt L. R. SALMON

S-4

1stLt H. P. KLUNK

4. Average Monthly Strength

	USMC	
	OFF	ENL
HqBtry, 1stBn, 13thMar	16	141
Btry "A", 1stBn, 13th Mar	9	118
Btry "B", 1stBn, 13th Mar	6	127
Btry "C", 1stBn, 13th Mar	8	119

	USN	
	OFF	ENL
	2	3
		2
		2
		2

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	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
Mortar Btry, 1stBn, 13thMar	4	75		2
5th 155 Gun Btry (SP)(-)(Rein)	8	131		2
1st Flt, 5th 155 Gun Btry (SP)	1	36		1
2nd Flt, 5th 155 Gun Btry (SP)	1	32		1
1st Prov 155 How Btry (Rein)	3	74		2
Btry "K", 4thBn, 12thMar	5	100		2

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PART IICOMMANDER'S NARRATIVE

During the month of January 1968, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines continued participation in Operation Scotland in support of the 26th Marines.

On the 6th of January, a forward observer was sent to the U. S. Army Special Forces Camp at Lang Vei to register defensive fires for the Camp. These defensive fires were completed by 11 January. In addition, defensive fires for the Huong Hoa District Headquarters at Khe Sanh were completed.

On 13 January, the artillery defensive fire plan for Hills 881S, 861, 950, and the Khe Sanh Combat Base was approved. By 15 January, the close-in defensive fires had been registered.

On 16 January, two 4.2" Mortars located with Battery "C" (Rear) were relocated with Mortar Battery (Rear). Movement of these weapons provided centralization of four 4.2" Mortars at one position alleviating many fire direction problems and allowing greater weapon density. The Battery Fire Direction Center was operational by 18 January 1968.

With the arrival of an additional 155mm Howitzer towed and 27 personnel on 5 January, the establishment of a 155mm Howitzer Battery (Rein) was feasible. Concrete firing pads, gun positions, and ammunition bunkers were started early in the month. On 17 January, three 155mm Howitzers from Battery "A" and three from Battery "C" were displaced to the new firing position. Continued improvement occurred throughout the month.

On 18 January, one 105mm Howitzer from Battery "C" was displaced to the rifle range to demonstrate the firing technique to employ the XM 546 "Beehive" projectile. Section Chiefs of all batteries and representatives of infantry units observed the projectiles fired at muzzle action and with a fuze setting.

On the night of 20-21 January, an artillery box was fired in support of a Recon Team. Over 2,200 projectiles were fired throughout the evening. At about 0500, the Khe Sanh Combat Base received a heavy rocket and mortar attack. The attack hit one of two ammunition storage areas causing extensive damage. During the attack, counter-rocket and counter-mortar fire was delivered suppressing enemy firing and neutralizing several enemy positions. Battery "C" 1st Battalion, 13th Marines, located within 200 meters of the ammunition storage area, received considerable damage. As a result, the three Howitzers were displaced

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to Battery "A". With nine weapons, "A" Battery was then divided into two firing units of four and five weapons respectively.

On 21 January, Battery "B", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines arrived and emplaced at grid 84034174. On 22 January, the battery occupied the old Battery "C" position. Ammunition bunkers, gun positions, and personnel bunkers were repaired. With the added space provided within this gun position, the three Battery "C" Howitzers were displaced to join Battery "B".

On 22 January, a Counter-Mortar-Radar detachment of the 238th Field Artillery (Radar), 1st Battalion, 40th Artillery, U. S. Army arrived. The detachment was emplaced and began operations the same day.

Another heavy rocket and mortar attack occurred on 24 January, however, little damage resulted. Damaged areas from both attacks were rebuilt and improvement of overhead cover was emphasized. Continued improvement of fighting holes and underground living bunkers occurred.

Ammunition expended for the month of January is as follows:

<u>MISSIONS</u>				<u>AMMUNITION EXPENDED</u>		
<u>OBS*</u>	<u>UNOB</u>	<u>H&I</u>	<u>105</u>	<u>155</u>	<u>4.2"</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
441	287	4580	20,601	1,367	1,358	23,326

*observed missions included orientation and marking, preparation and defensive fires, and targets of opportunity.

Friendly casualties during the month were:

<u>KIA</u>	<u>WIA</u>
2	49

Enemy casualties and damage during the month credited to artillery:

<u>KIA(C)</u>	<u>KIA(P)</u>	<u>WIA</u>
30	58	8

Secondary explosions	- 24
Bunkers destroyed	- 11
Structures	- 15
Mortars	- 3
50 cal weapons	- 2

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- 2 January 1968 One 105MM Howitzer towed was heli-lifted to Battery "C" (Fwd) on hill 881 to replace a weapon requiring six month maintenance.
- 5 January 1968 1st Battalion, 13th Marines assumed OPCON for one 155MM Howitzer towed, two officers, and 25 enlisted personnel from 1st Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery.
- 6 January 1968 Registration of defensive fires began for the Khe Sanh Combat Base, the U. S. Army Special Forces Camp at Lang Vei, the Huong Hoa District Headquarters, and hills 881S, 861, and 950.
- 10 January 1968 1st Battalion, 13th Marines assumed ADCON of Battery "K", 4th Battalion, 12th Marines.
- 11 January 1968 Registration of defensive fires for the District Headquarters and Lang Vei completed.
- 13 January 1968 The artillery annex (defensive fire plan) for Operation Order 7-67 completed and approved.
- 15 January 1968 Registration of defensive fires completed for hills 881S, 861, 950, and the Khe Sanh Combat Base.
- 16 January 1968 Two 4.2" mortars emplaced with Battery "C" relocated with the two 4.2" mortars in position with Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines. Four weapons at grid XD 84344156.
- 17 January 1968 Three 155MM Howitzers towed from Battery "C" and three from Battery "A" were relocated at grid XD 84094178. All 155MM Howitzers towed grouped within one battery area.
- 18 January 1968 Four rounds of XM546 "Beehive" ammunitions were fired to train cannoneers and to demonstrate the effectiveness of the projectile.

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1st Bn 13th Marines

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- 21 January 1968 The Khe Sanh Combat Base received a heavy rocket and mortar attack causing an ammunition storage area to blow and rendering considerable damage to Battery "C", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines.
- 21 January 1968 Battery "C" (3-105MM Howitzers) displaced to Battery "A" due to damaged firing position resulting from rocket attack.
- 21 January 1968 Battery "B", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines arrived Khe Sanh and OPCON assumed by 1st Battalion, 13th Marines. Battery emplaced at grid XD 84034174.
- 22 January 1968 Battery "B" and "C", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines relocated at grid XD 85184154.
- 22 January 1968 OPCON assumed by 1st Battalion, 13th Marines of a detachment of the 238th Field Artillery (Radar), 1st Battalion, 40th Artillery, U. S. Army.
- 24 January 1968 Khe Sanh Combat Base received a heavy rocket and mortar attack.
- 30 January 1968 Brigadier General KENNEY and team arrived to brief 1st Battalion, 13th Marines of the employment of the cofram munitions.

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- filed
ref*
- TAB "A" - 5th 155 Gun Battery (SP)(-)(Rein) Command Chronology for period 1 - 31 January 1968
 - TAB "B" - Battery "K", 4th Battalion, 12th Marines Command Chronology period 1 - 31 January 1968

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