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

6/JAH/ceb
6 March 1968
SER: 006A07168

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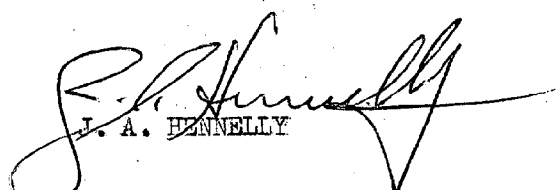
From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps
Via: (1) Commanding General, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade
(2) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 February 1968 to 29 February 1968 (U)

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

Encl: (1) Command Chronology

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


J. A. HENNELLY

Copy to:
Commanding General, 3d Marine Division

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HEADQUARTERS

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

Command Chronology

1 February 1968 to 29 February 1968

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- Part II - Narrative Summary
- Part III - Sequential Listing of Significant Events
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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Designation

1st Battalion, 13th Marines (Rein)

Commander

LtCol J. A. HENNELLY

Subordinate UnitsAdministrative ControlHeadquarters Battery, 1st Battalion,
13th Marines1stLt R. W. DUNN Jr.
1Feb68 - 20Feb68
1stLt W. K. JONES
21Feb68 - 29Feb68

5th 155 Gun Battery (SP) (Rein)

Maj E. B. BEALL Jr.

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

2ndLt R. E. WASSON
1Feb68 - 15Feb68
2ndLt G. A. NEAL
16Feb68 - 29Feb68

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

Capt H. D. SULLIVAN
1Feb68 - 15Feb68
Capt P. M. BURTON
16Feb68 - 29Feb68Operational ControlHeadquarters Battery, 1st Battalion,
13th Marines1stLt R. W. DUNN Jr.
1Feb68 - 20Feb68
1stLt W. K. JONES
21Feb68 - 29Feb68

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

Capt D. L. PARDEE

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

1stLt G. G. WOOD

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

Capt W. J. O'CONNOR

Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines

Capt M. T. PIERSON

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

Capt J. TAYLOR

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

SSgt R. M. MC CULLOUGH

2. Location

Headquarters 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)

Quang Tri City, RVN

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

LZ Evans, RVN

5th 155 Gun Battery (Rear)

Dong Ha, 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

1Feb68 - 20Feb68

Capt T. J. HICKS

21Feb68 - 29Feb68

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4. Average Monthly Strength

	USMC		USN	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
HqBtry, 1stBn, 13thMar	16	130	2	3
Btry "A", 1stBn, 13thMar	9	123	0	2
Btry "B", 1stBn, 13thMar	6	122	0	2
Btry "C", 1stBn, 13thMar	8	125	0	2
Mortar Btry, 1stBn, 13thMar	4	84	0	2
5th 155Gun Btry (SP)(-)(Rein)	12	183	0	3
2ndPlt, 5th 155Gun Btry (SP)	1	32	0	1
1st Prov 155 How Btry (Rein)	3	79	0	2
Btry "K", 4thBn, 12thMar	5	94	0	2

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PART IICOMMANDER'S NARRATIVE

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

At 0147 on 7 February 1968, the U. S. Army Special Forces Camp at Lang Vei came under a heavy NVA ground attack. Nineteen missions were fired in support of Lang Vei, expending 567 rounds of ammunition to include 68 Selected Ammunition projectiles, M444 (firecracker), recently introduced in Vietnam. Air Force air observers (coveys) reported excellent target coverage but an accurate surveillance could not be obtained due to darkness.

On the morning of 8 February 1968, the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines located west of the Khe Sanh Combat Base received a heavy NVA ground attack. Artillery Defensive fires were delivered until the attack was successfully repulsed. One hundred and nine NVA bodies remained after the attack, a large number credited to artillery. However, as no accurate determination could be made, no KIA by artillery for this action appears in the below total.

Two 105mm Howitzers were received by 1st Battalion, 13th Marines as replacement/float weapons bringing the total number of 105mm weapons to 20. These weapons were placed in "slit trenches" in Battery "A" to reduce the danger of being damaged. One 105mm howitzer belonging to the Det of Battery "C" on hill 881S remains inoperable due to a broken trail the result of an incoming rocket impacting in the gun pit. A helicopter lift is required to replace this weapon but due to position location and intense ground fire, the SOP, Khe Sanh, directed that no replacement attempt be made.

An additional 155mm Howitzer arrived 26 February 1968 bringing to a total of seven, the number of weapons on hand. Living and ammunition bunkers were built within the 1st Provisional Battery area to replace the temporary structures constructed when the Battery displaced during the last week of January 1968.

One 4.2" mortar has been out of action since 14 February 1968 with a broken standard. A replacement 107mm Howtar was received on 28 February 1968, however it was missing the Panoramic Telescope M-98 sight mount (on order) and has been inoperable since arrival. Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines presently has five 4.2" mortars and two 107mm Howtars.

On 29 February 1968, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines supported the 37th ARVN Ranger Battalion with continued defensive fires during a heavy NVA ground attack. The attack was successfully repulsed with 72 KIA credited to the artillery.

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~~Ammunition~~ expended for the month of February is as follows:

<u>OBS</u>	<u>MISSIONS</u>		<u>105</u>	<u>AMMUNITION EXPENDED</u>		
	<u>UNOBS</u>	<u>H&I</u>		<u>155</u>	<u>4.2"</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
610	1048	2049	33559	5824	5517	44900

Friendly casualties during the month were:

<u>KIA</u>	<u>WIA (serious)</u>	<u>WIA (non-serious)</u>
6	7	51

Enemy casualties and damage during the month credited to artillery:

<u>KIA (C)</u>	<u>KIA (P)</u>	<u>WIA</u>
148	11	19

Secondary explosions - 52
 Bunkers destroyed - 9
 Structures - 15
 Bridge (partial) - 1
 Mortars - 2
 Weapons (MG) - 3
 Trucks - 2

Incoming rounds received during the month:

	<u>Artillery</u>	<u>Rocket</u>	<u>Mortar</u>
Headquarters Battery	5	14	4
"A" Battery	13	23	3
"B"/"C" Battery	41	8	84
1st Provisional 155 Battery	10	21	6
Mortar Battery	<u>9</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>30</u>
Total	78	87	127

A significant problem area developed during the month of February concerning the operational status of vehicles and engineer equipment. The combination of combat losses by enemy action, the extensive use of vehicles to transport paradrop supplies, and the absence of an orderly flow of repair parts into the Khe Sanh Combat Base has caused an exceedingly high deadlined rate. Efforts are being made to eliminate the problem of obtaining repair parts by sending couriers to distant supply sources and utilizing parts from those vehicles which are total combat losses. At present OPCON Batteries have 30 of 44 authorized trucks. Sixteen of these are operable. Ten are repairable and 4 are unrepairable and need replacement.

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PART IIISEQUENCE OF EVENTS

1 February 1968 One 155 Howitzer arrived 1st Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery bringing the number of weapons to six.

7 February 1968 1st Battalion, 13th Marines fired 19 missions in support of the U. S. Army Special Forces Camp at Lang Vei expending 567 rounds of ammunition. Sixty-eight rounds of High Explosive Selected Ammunition M444 (firecracker) were fired for the first time in RVN.

8 February 1968 1st Battalion, 13th Marines fired defensive fire missions in support of 1st Battalion, 9th Marines. After the ground attack, 109 NVA bodies were counted, a large number credited to artillery. (This count does not appear with the total listed in part II).

14 February 1968 Two 105mm Howitzers arrived 1st Battalion, 13th Marines to be used as replacement weapons.

14 February 1968 One 4.2 inch mortar out of action due to broken standard.

14 February 1968 One 155mm Howitzer returned to action after the tube was replaced and the recoil mechanism repaired. Five of six weapons operational.

19 February 1968 One 105mm Howitzer inoperable due to faulty recoil mechanism. Second 105mm Howitzer inoperable due to broken trail incurred during January. Eighteen of twenty weapons operable.

24 February 1968 One 155mm Howitzer arrived from Dong Ha bringing the number of 155mm weapons to seven. Five weapons are in action. One weapon required a recoil guide key, one required recoil mechanism repair.

28 February 1968 One 155mm Howitzer repaired. Six weapons operational.

28 February 1968 Float 107mm Howtar arrived and assigned to Mortar Battery.

29 February 1968 1st Battalion, 13th Marines fired defensive fires in support of the 37th ARVN Ranger Battalion helping repulse a heavy ground attack. Seventy-two NVA KIA credited to artillery. (This figure included in total listed in part II).

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- Sited
ref* {
- TAB "A" - 5th 155 Gun Battery (SP) (-) (Rein) Command Chronology for period 1 - 29 February 1968
 - TAB "B" - Battery "K", 4th Battalion, 12th Marines Command Chronology period 1 - 29 February 1968

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