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

6/JAH/ceb
3 April 1968
Ser: 006 A09668

(Unclassified Upon Removal of Enclosure (1))

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 March 1968 to 31 March 1968 (U)

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

Encl: (1) Command Chronology

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

J. A. HENNELLY

Copy to:
Commanding General, 3rd Marine Division

(Unclassified upon
Removal of Enclosure (1))


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1ST BN/13TH MAR

CMD CHRON

MAR 1968


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Command Chronology


1 March 1968 to 31 March 1968

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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 W. K. JONES
1Mar68 - 15Mar68
Capt J. P. ROGERS
16Mar68 - 21Mar68
1stLt J. W. HUGHES Jr.
22Mar68 - 31Mar68

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

Maj E. B. BEALL Jr.

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

Capt P. M. BURTON

Operational ControlHeadquarters Battery, 1st Battalion,
13th Marines1stLt W. K. JONES
1Mar68 - 15Mar68
Capt J. P. ROGERS
16Mar68 - 21Mar68
1stLt J. W. HUGHES Jr.
22Mar68 - 31Mar68

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

Capt V. B. SNIDER

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

Capt J. C. UECKER

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 S. J. HAYES

ENCLOSURE (1)

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

SSgt R. M. MCCULLOUGH
1Mar68 - 14Mar68
SP5 C. OGDEN
15Mar68 - 31Mar68

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
1Mar68 - 8Mar68
Maj D. W. WILSON
9Mar68 - 10Mar68
Maj R. W. CAMPBELL
11Mar68 - 31Mar68

S-1

1stLt D. W. KELLY

S-2

1stLt W. K. JONES
1Mar68 - 4Mar68
1stLt L. M. PALM
5Mar68 - 31Mar68

S-3

Capt L. R. SALMON
1Mar68 - 8Mar68

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Maj G. R. HOUGHIN
9Mar68 - 31Mar68

S-4

Capt T. J. HICKS

4. Average Monthly Strength

	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>USA</u>	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
HqBtry, 1stBn, 13thMar	16	132	2	3	0	0
Btry "A", 1stBn, 13thMar	9	125	0	2	0	0
Btry "B", 1stBn, 13thMar	6	119	0	2	0	0
Btry "C", 1stBn, 13thMar	8	127	0	2	0	0
Mortar Btry, 1stBn, 13thMar	4	85	0	2	0	0
5th 155 Gun Btry (SP)(-)(Rein)	10	178	0	3	0	0
2ndPlt, 5th 155 Gun Btry (SP)	1	30	0	1	0	0
1st Prov 155 How Btry (Rein)	4	89	0	2	0	0
Btry "K", 4thBn, 12thMar	5	120	0	2	0	0
Det 238th Arty (Radar)	0	0	0	0	0	7
1stBn, 40th Arty						

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PART II

COMMANDER'S NARRATIVE

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

On the evening of 1 March 1968, the 37th ARVN Ranger Battalion received an NVA ground attack on the eastern portion of the Khe Sanh Combat Base. Artillery defensive fires were delivered until the attack was successfully repulsed. Two hundred and seventy-four artillery rounds were fired in support of the Ranger Battalion, including 26 Selected Ammunition Projectiles, M444 (Firecracker).

On 2 March 1968, the 1st Battalion, 13th Marines fired 157 artillery rounds in support of the 37th ARVN Ranger Battalion. These rounds, including 11 Firecracker, were directed against an NVA attack on the eastern portion of the Combat Base.

On 18 March 1968, the 1st Battalion, 13th Marines supported the 37th ARVN Ranger Battalion. Four hundred and six artillery rounds were fired during this action, to include 59 Firecracker rounds.

On 21 March 1968, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines fired 1,138 rounds consisting of "preparation" and "on-call" fires, in support of a combat patrol operation conducted by the 1st Battalion, 26th Marines.

On 30 March 1968, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines fired 2,608 rounds consisting of "preparation", "on-call" and "will adjust" fires, in support of a combat patrol operation conducted by Company "B", 1st Battalion, 26th Marines. One of the KIA's sustained during this action was a Forward Observer from Battery "A", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines.

On 8 March 1968, a Howitzer in Battery "A" received a direct hit which destroyed the weapon. The replacement was a float weapon that was stored in the Battery "A" position. On 9 March another float 105mm Howitzer was received by the 1st Battalion, 13th Marines. On 22 March Battery "B" and Battery "C", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines received a heavy artillery attack which destroyed a Battery "C" Howitzer position and damaged the weapon. One 105mm Howitzer belonging to the Detachment of Battery "C" on Hill 881S remains inoperable due to a broken trail, and the terrain and tactical situation still precludes a replacement attempt. The 1st Battalion, 13th Marines has a total of 19 105mm Howitzers of which 17 are in firing order.

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The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery (Rein) has six weapons on hand, all in firing order.

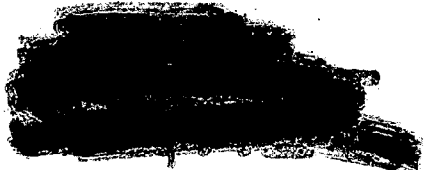
Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines presently has five 4.2" Mortar and two 107mm Howtars. One 4.2" Mortar is out of action with a broken standard. Another 4.2" Mortar is out of action with a broken standard and a faulty recoil mechanism.

On 31 March 1968, Operation Scotland was suspended and the Battalion continued to support the 26th Marines as Operation Pegasus commenced.

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Ammunition expended for the month of March is as follows:

OBS	MISSIONS	H&I	105	AMMUNITION EXPENDED		
	UNOBS			155	4.2"	TOTAL
711	968	360	35,747	6644	5779	48,170

Friendly casualties during the month were:

KIA	WIA(serious)	WIA(non-serious)
6	9	7

Enemy casualties and damage during the month credited to artillery:

KIA(C)	KIA(P)	WIA
167	20	2

Secondary explosions - 128
 Bunkers destroyed - 7
 Mortars - 1
 Weapons (MG) - 1
 Fuel drums (55Gal) - 5 (destroyed)
 15 (damaged)

Incoming rounds received during the month:

	Artillery	Rocket	Mortar	RR	UNK TYPE
Headquarters Battery	22	1	9	0	0
"A" Battery	17	0	0	4	4
"B"/"C" Battery	29	1	44	12	1
1st Provisional 155	29	2	4	0	1
Howitzer Battery					
Mortar Battery	<u>9</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>
	106	6	59	18	6

The Battalion position areas were improved considerably during the month of March. Due to the increased availability of ammunition cases, cannisters, and other building materials, numerous below ground bunkers were completed and gun positions and ammunition bunkers improved. Increased usage of available tractors has assisted in the personnel bunker building program and has provided the opportunity to increase the survivability of vehicles through the digging of vehicle revetments.

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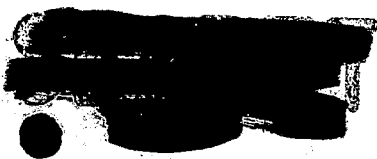
PART III

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- 1 March 1968 The 1st Battalion, 13th Marines supported 37th ARVN Ranger Battalion by firing extensive defensive fires to stop an NVA ground attack on the Eastern portion of the Khe Sanh Combat Base.
- 2 March 1968 The 1st Battalion, 13th Marines supported 37th ARVN Ranger Battalion by firing extensive defensive fires to stop an NVA ground attack on the Eastern portion of the Khe Sanh Combat Base.
- 8 March 1968 Gun #3 of Battery "A", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines, received a direct hit, destroying the weapon. A replacement was provided from Logistic Support Unit.
- 9 March 1968 One float 105mm Howitzer arrived Khe Sanh Combat Base and positioned with Battery "A", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines.
- 14 March 1968 Battery "A", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines changed tubes on Gun #6.
- 14 March 1968 A quantity of CS ammunition for the 4.2" Mortar arrived Khe Sanh Combat Base.
- 18 March 1968 The 1st Battalion, 13th Marines supported 37th ARVN Ranger Battalion by firing extensive defensive fires to stop an NVA ground attack on the Eastern portion of the Khe Sanh Combat Base.
- 21 March 1968 One 155mm Howitzer arrived Khe Sanh Combat Base and was assigned to 1st Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery.
- 21 March 1968 The 1st Battalion, 13th Marines fired 1138 rounds in support of a combat patrol operation conducted by 1st Battalion, 26th Marines.
- 22 March 1968 Battery "B" and Battery "C", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines received a heavy artillery attack which damaged Battery "C" Gun #5 and destroyed the attendant ammunition bunker and gun pit.
- 27 March 1968 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery (Rein), 3rd Battalion, 12th Marines changed the tube on Gun #6.

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- 30 March 1968 The 1st Battalion, 13th Marines fired 2608 rounds in support of a combat patrol operation conducted by Company "B", 1st Battalion, 26th Marines.
- 30 March 1968 The 1st Provisional 155mm Howitzer Battery (Rein), 3rd Battalion, 12th Marines changed the tube on Gun #3.
- 31 March 1968 Operation Scotland suspended as of 0800H. The Battalion, in support of the 26th Marines, began participation in Operation Pegasus.