

HEADQUARTERS

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

6/JBC/ceb 5750 9 Dec 1968 Ser: 0012/9/34468

SECRET (Unclassified Upon Removal of Enclosure (1))

From:

Commanding Officer

To:

Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code AO3D)

Via:

(1) Commanding General, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade

(2) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 November 1968 to 30 November 1968

Ref:

(a) MCO 5750.2

(b) FMFPac0 5750.3

Encl: (1) Command Chronology

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

2. The command chronology of the 5th 155 Gun Battery, normally submitted as a supporting document, will be forwarded under separate cover upon receipt.

J. B. CANTIENY

Copy to: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division Commanding General, 3d Marine Division Commanding Officer, 11th Marines HEADQUARTERS
HEI MARINE DIVISION BAR

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SECRET

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Fleet Marine Force, Pacific
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

Command Chronology 1 November 1968 to 30 November 1968

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SECRET

Part I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. De:	signation
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1st Battalion, 13th Marines

Commander

LtCol A. NOVAK
1Nov68 - 15Nov68
LtCol J. B. CANTIENY
16Nov68 - 30Nov68

Subordinate Units

Administrative Control

Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines

5th 155 Gun Battery (SP)(Rein)

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

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

Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines

Battery "K", 4th Battalion, 13th Marines

Operational Control

Headquarters Battery, 1st Battelion, 13th Marines

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

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

Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marinos

2. Location

Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines

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

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

Capt M. E. POPELKA

Maj W. M. STEPHANS

Capt A. J. SWETT

1stLt A. L. HARDING

1stLt R. P. CIPRIANI

Capt R. K. PETERSON

Capt M. E. POPELKA

Capt A. J. SWEIT

1stLt A. L. HARDING

1stLt R. P. CIPRIANI

Danang, RVN

N. Cantonement Area Danang, RVN

Dai La Pass, RVN

Enclosure (1)

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Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines

Hai Van Pass, RVN 1Nov68 - 14Nov68 Dai La Pass, RVN 15Nov68 - 30 Nov68

Battery "K", 4th Battalion, 13th Marines

Phu Bai, RVN 1Nov68 - 19Nov68 Danang, RVN 20Nov68 - 30Nov68

5th 155 Gun Battery (SP)(Rein)

Camp Carroll

3. Staff Officers

Executive Officer	LtCol J. B. CANTIENY 1 Nov68 - 15Nov68
S-1	Capt B. D. NICHOLAS
S-2	1stLt J. R. RYAN
S-3	Maj G. R. HOUCHIN
S-4	1stLt M. C. BUNTON

4. Average Monthly Strength

	US	MC	U	SIV
	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
HqBtry, 1stBn, 13thMr	16	163	2	4
Btry "A", 1stBn, 13thMnr	- 8	126	., . O	2
Btry "C", 1stBn, 13thMr	9	131	. 0	2
Mortar Btry, 1stBn, 13thMar	. 3	85	0	2
5th 155 Gun Btry (SP)(Rein)	9	178	0	7
Btry "K", 4thBn, 13thMnr	4	119	0	3

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Enclosure (1)



Part II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the period 1-30 Nevember 1968; the 1st Battalion, 13th Marines, under the operational control of 11th Marines, provided direct support to the 26th Marines.

Operation NICOLLET BAY began at 071800H November 1968.

On 8 November, 2 105mm howitzers of Battery "A", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines displaced from the Northern Artillery Cantonement Area, Danang, to the Hill 190 Complex in order to provide extended range support to the 3d Battalion, 26th Marines.

On 11 November 1968, Battery "A" fired 16 rounds in support of an element of 3d Battalion, 26th Marines. A subsequent search of the area revealed 1 enemy KIA which was credited to the artillery.

Operation NICOLL I BAY terminated at 14080CH November 1968.

At 141205H, November 1968, Mortar Battery (-), 1st Battalion, 13th Marines displaced from their position in the vicinity of Hai Van Pass and returned to their Dai Ia Pass position.

On 15 November 1968, Lieutenant Colonel J. B. CANTI NY relieved Lieutenant Colonel A. NOVAK as Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines

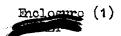
On 15 November 1968, the 2 105mm howitzers of Battery "A", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines returned from Hill 190 to the Northern Artillery Cantonement Area.

On 20 November 1968, Battery "A", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines fired 450 rounds in support of the 11th Marines counter-rocket program. An observer from 1st Battalion, 26th Marines called a mission on an active rocket site and counter fire was directed immediately. A subsequent search of the area by the Rocket Site Inspection Team revealed that this counter fire was extremely accurate and caused the enemy to abandon the firing site, leaving behind 2 122mm rockets.

On 24 November 1968, Battery "C" and Morter Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines were identified as being part of the BLT 3/26 Task Organization; on 25 November, these units reported to the 26th Marines for planning purpose, in preparation for a mid-December activation for operations.

On 25 November 1968, Battory "A", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines fired 4 firecracker rounds in support of 1st Battalion, 26th Marines; 1 enemy

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KIA resulted from these fires which was credited to the artillery.

On 25 November 1968, Battery "C" fired 150 illumination rounds in support of a 1st Battalion, 26th Marines contact. These fires assisted the infantry unit in obtaining 2 enemy KIA and 1 AK47 captured.

On 26 November 1968, Battery "A", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines fired 258 rounds on enemy in the open, observed within 1st Battalion, 26th Marines area of operations. The artillery was credited with 10 enemy KIA and 22 enemy KIA probable as a result of these fires.

On 28 November 1968, Battery "A", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines fired 57 rounds of High Explosive and 230 rounds of illumination in support of a 1st Battalion, 26th Marines contact with approximately 20 enemy. A search of the area revealed 14 enemy KIA; 8 of which were credited to artillery.

Arrunition expended during the month of November is as follows:

MISSIONS

AMMUNITION

0BS 184 <u>UNOBS</u> 7379

7563

<u>105 4.</u> 16.737 296 TOTAL 19.704

Friendly casualties during the nonth:

<u>KIA</u>

MIVE

WIANE

Ememy losses during the month credited to 1st Battalion, 13th Marines

KIV(C)

KIA(P)

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Part III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- 7 November 1968 Operation MICOLLET BAY commences
- 8 November 1968 Battery "A", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines displaces 2 105mm Howitzers to Hill 190 to support 3d Battalion, 26th Marines operation.
- 11 November 1968 Battery "A", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines credited with 1 enemy KTA as they fired in support of 3d Battalion, 26th Marines.
- 14 November 1968 Operation NICOLLET BAY terminates.

Mortar Battery (-) 1st Battalion, 13th Marines displaced from Hai Van Pass to Dai La Pass.

15 November 1968 Licutement Colonel J. B. CANTIENY relieved Licutement Colonel A. NOVAK as Commanding Officer, 1st Battalian, 13th Marines.

Two 105mm Howitzers, Battery "A", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines returned to Northern Artillery Cantonement Area.

- 20 November 1968 1st Battalion, 13th Marines fired numerous rounds on an active rocket site within the 26th Marines area of operations.
- 24 November 1968 Battery "C" and Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th
 Marines report for BLT planning to 26th Marines.
- 25 November 1968 Battery "A", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines credited with 1 enemy KIA as they fired in support of 1st Battalion, 26th Marines.

Battery "C", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines fired numerous illumination rounds in support of 1st Battalion, 26th Marines contact.

- 26 November 1968 Battery "A", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines was credited with 10 enemy KIA and 22 probable KIA as they fired 258 rounds in support of 1st Battalion, 26th Marines.
- 28 November 1968 Battery "A", 1st Battalion, 13th Marings credited with 8 energy KTA as they fired 287 rounds in support of 1st Battalion, 26th Marines.

Enclosure (1)

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1st Battalion(Rein), 13% Marines
Fleet Marine Forme, Pacific
FPO San Francisco, Callfornia 96602

3/GRH/ceb 3000 18 Nov 1968 Ser: 0011A32469

SECRET

From: Commanding Officer

To: Commanding Officer, 26th Marines

Subj: Operation NICCLET BAY, After Action Report (U)

Encl: √(1) Artiller, Support during Operation @ICCOLDER BAY

1. Paragraph 7A (Artillery Support) to the 26th Marines After Action Report for Operation MICOLIEF BAY, 7-14 November, is forwarded herewith as enclosure (1).

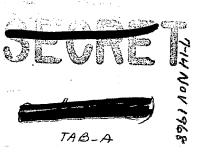
2. This letter is unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

B. CAMPINY

Copy: GG. 9th MAB CO, 11th Marines

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7A. Artillery Support

- (1) Units Providing
 - (a) Headquarters Battery, 1so Battalion, 13th Limines
 - (b) Battery "A", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines
 - (o) Morta Battery, 1st Battalion 13th Marines
 - (d) Reinforcing fires-11th Marines
- (2) Missions Fored during the operation

OBSERVED	16	UNOBSERVET	TOTAL
31		1027	1058

(3) Ammunition Expended

105 1957 1050 130

- (4) Highlights of Missians Fired and Samuery of Artillery Support
- (a) On 11 November 1968, Sattery 4A4, 1st Sattalion, 13th Marines fired on 3 enemy moving array from a village, 1 enemy KIA was credited to the artillery for those fires.
- (b) The unjority of the fires during this operation consisted of preparation, counter mortal, and unobserved these directed against known and suspect energy locations.
- (c) The selective positioning of firing elements of 1st Battalion, 13th Marines proved invaluable during the conduct of the operation. Mortar Battery (-) occupied a position within a fire base in the vicinity of 3d Battalion, 26th Marines CP, and this position provided a significant degree of flexibility in available from support. Two howitzers of Battery "A" were displaced to the Hill 190 constants, order to extend fire deeper into enemy territory and to decrease the mesponse time necessary to react to the fluid tactical situation.
- (d) Battery "M", 4th Battalion, 11th Marines reinforced the fires of 1st Battalion, 13th Marines during the operation and provided the longer range and more destructive fires that were required.

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Enclosure (1)