

0016093

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

6/JBC/jrs
5750
7 Apr 1969
SER NO: 0011-69

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 March 1969 to 31 March 1969

Ref: (a) MCG 5750.2
(b) FMFPacO 5750.3

Encl: (1) Subject Command Chronology

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

2. This document is downgraded to unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

J. B. Cantieni
J. B. CANTIENY

Copy to: Commanding Officer, 11th Marines
Commanding Officer, "K" Battery, 4th Battalion, 13th Marines

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HEADQUARTERS
1st Battalion, 13th Marines
Fleet Marine Force, Pacific
APO San Francisco, California 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
1 March 1969 to 31 March 1969

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Part I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Designation

1st Battalion, 13th Marines

CommanderLtCol J. B. CANTLENY
(1-31 March)Subordinate UnitsHeadquarters Battery, 1st Battalion
13th MarinesCapt J. B. CREEL, JR
(1Mar-20Mar)
Capt A. J. SWEET
(21Mar-31Mar)

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

Capt A. J. SWEET
(1Mar-20Mar)
Capt J. B. CREEL, JR
(21Mar-31Mar)Administrative Control Only

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

Capt R. K. PETERSON
(1Mar-5Mar)
Capt W. C. BARTELS
(6Mar-31Mar)Operational Control OnlyBattery "B", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines
(1-8Mar, 28-31March)Capt F. R. FRANCENE
(1-31 March)Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marines
(1-8Mar, 28-31March)1stLt R. A. SAUNDERS
(1-11 March)
1stLt M. KORSTANS
(12-31 March)Detachment, Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion
11th Marines
(1-31Mar)2ndLt S. C. DECOTEAU
(1-31 March)2. LocationHeadquarters Battery, 1st Battalion,
13th Marines (1-31Mar)

Danang, RVN

Battery "A", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines
(1-31Mar)N. Cantonment Area,
Danang, RVN

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Battery "K", 4th Battalion, 13th Marines
(1-31Mar)

An Hoa, RVN

Detachment, Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion,
11th Marines
(1-31Mar)

Hai Van Pass,
Danang, RVN

Battery "B", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines
(1-8 Mar)

Nam Bridge,
Danang, RVN

Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marines
(1-8Mar)

Hill 60,
Danang, RVN

3. Staff Officers

Executive Officer

Maj C. L. MCLENNY
(5Mar-31Mar)

S-1

Capt B. D. NICHOLAS
(1Mar)
1stLt P. SMILEY
(2-31Mar)

S-2

1stLt T. HOLLENSHEAD
(1-21Mar)
1stLt G. PHILIP III
(22-31Mar)

S-3

Maj G. R. HOUGHIN
(1-24Mar)
Maj J. M. UPDYKE
(25-31Mar)

S-4

Capt A. R. GASSER
(1-24Mar)
Capt A. J. SWETT
(25-31Mar)

4. Average Monthly Strength

	USMC		USN	
	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
HqBtry, 1stBn, 13th Marines	15	139	2	3
Btry "A", 1stBn, 13th Marines	8	111		2
Btry "K", 4thBn, 13th Marines	5	109		3
Detachment, Mortar Btry, 1/11	1	24		1

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the period 1-31 March 1969, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines continued under the operational control of 11th Marines while command loss opcon remained with Commanding General, 9th MAB. 1st Battalion, 13th Marines continued to be assigned the tactical mission of direct support of the 26th Marines. In addition, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines fired in support of 11th Marines Forward Observer School and provided fires in support of 11th Marines, counter-rocket program. The majority of rounds were fired on Harassing and Interdiction missions consisting of rocket suppression targets, intelligence targets, "rice cooker" targets, "trail runner" targets and various interdiction targets. Observed missions included illumination and HE missions in support of ambushes and subsequent sweeps, illumination and HE missions against enemy infiltration attempts and rice gathering acts, and emergency illumination in support of Namo Bridge.

At 011500H March 1969, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines assumed opcon of "B" Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines (-) and Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marines (-). "B" Btry, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines occupied position in the vicinity of Namo Bridge and Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marines occupied position on Hill 60. Opcon of "B" Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines and Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marines was passed to 11th Marines at 081900H March as both batteries proceeded to Liberty Bridge.

On 27 March "B" Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines and Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marines returned to this position for a short rehab prior to occupying position in support of BLT 2/26. Opcon of the two batteries was passed to 1st Battalion, 13th Marines at 281200H. On 29 March "B" Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines occupied position west of Dai La Pass at AT 92238 73753. On 30 March Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marines occupied position on Hill 41 at AT 93367 66309.

Throughout the first three weeks of March, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines remained on 100% alert during the hours of darkness with all personnel occupying bunkers or fighting holes and manning the assigned sector of the Camp Perdue perimeter defense. To increase defensive security, several strips of concertina wire and tangle-foot were installed plus trip-flares and claymores. A lighting system was installed along the entire 1st Battalion, 13th Marines perimeter.

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Artillery support provided by 1st Battalion, 13th Marines during March is as follows:

<u>MISSIONS</u>			<u>AMMUNITION EXPENDED</u>		
<u>OBSERVED</u>	<u>UNOBSERVED</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>105mm</u>	<u>4.2"</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
356	4,042	4,398	13,069	3,304	16,372

Friendly casualties for March: None

Enemy casualties credited to 1st Battalion, 13th Marines:

<u>CONFIRMED KIA</u>	<u>PROBABLE KIA</u>
0	12

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- 1 March - Assumed opcon of "B" Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines and Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marines.
- 2 March - 1stLt P. SMILEY assumed duties as Battalion S-1.
- 5 March - Maj C. L. MCLELLIN assumed duties as Battalion Executive Officer. 1st Battalion, 13th Marines was credited with 9 probable KIA's from mission fired by Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marines.
- 6 March - Capt BARTHELS assumed command of "K" Battery, 4th Battalion, 13th Marines. 1st Battalion, 13th Marines was credited with 3 probable KIA's from mission fired by "A" Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines.
- 8 March - "B" Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines and Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marines departed to occupy positions at Liberty Bridge. Passed opcon to 11th Marines at 081900H.
- 17 March - Commanding Officer and S-3 Officer conducted briefing for 9th MAB Chief of Staff, Colonel J. LOWMAN.
- 21 March - 1st Battalion, 26th Marines sweep recovered 4 enemy KIA's, 3 RPG's and numerous grenades under illumination provided by 1st Battalion, 13th Marines.
- 22 March - Maj J. M. UPDYKE assumed duties as Battalion S-3
- 27 March - "B" Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines and Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marines arrived this position.
- 28 March - Assumed opcon "B" Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines and Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marines at 281200H.
- 29 March - "B" Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines occupied position west of Dai La Pass (grid AT 92238 73753).
- 30 March - Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marines occupied position at Hill 41 (grid AT 93367 66309).

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PART IV

CHRONOLOGY OF SUBORDINATE COMMANDS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- ✓ 1. Command Chronology for March for "K" Battery, 4th Battalion, 13th Marines.

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