

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

3/PCE/jww
5750
9 Jan 1970
Ser: 007-70

SECRET (Unclassified Upon Removal of Enclosure (1))

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)
Via: (1) Commanding Officer, 11th Marines, 1st Marine Division, Fleet
Marine Force
(2) Commanding General, 1st Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1 December 1969 through
31 December 1969

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
(b) FMFPacO 5750.3
(c) DivO 5750.2C

Encl: (1) Command Chronology
(2) Picture of Commanding Officer

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

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

D. H. Strain
D. H. STRAIN

GROUP 4
DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS

COPY NO. 1 OF 7 COPIES

LCN: 1-70

11TH MARINES
SEC FILES
COPY # 1 OF 6 COPIES
31-70

15784/1374 MAR

CMO CHRON

DEC 1969

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

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 DECEMBER 1969 THROUGH 31 DECEMBER 1969

INDEX

Part I - Organizational Data

Part II - Narrative Summary

Part III - Personnel and Administration and Sequential Listing of Events

UNCLASSIFIED

PART IORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. Designation

1st Battalion, 13th Marines (REIN)

CommanderLtCol. D. H. STRAIN
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 1969SUBORDINATE UNITSHeadquarters Battery, 1st Battalion,
13th Marines
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 19691stLt. J. L. HYDE
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 1969Battery "A", 1st Battalion,
13th Marines
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 1969Capt. J. J. MCNAMARA
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 1969Battery "B", 1st Battalion,
13th Marines
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 1969Capt. J. BOYER
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 1969Battery "C", 1st Battalion,
13th Marines
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 1969Capt. D. G. MILLER
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 1969Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion,
13th Marines
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 19691stLt. J. E. DECKER
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 1969OPERATIONAL CONTROL ONLYMortar Battery, 1st Battalion,
11th Marines
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 1969Capt. H. H. KASOLD
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 19692. LocationHeadquarters Battery, 1st Battalion,
13th MarinesNorthern Artillery Cantonment
Danang, RVN
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 1969Battery "A", 1st Battalion,
13th MarinesFSB Sixshooter
(AT 921737)
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 1969Battery "B", 1st Battalion,
13th MarinesFSB Los Banos
(AT 832999)
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 1969

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

~~SECRET~~
Northern Artillery Containment
(AT 921795)
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 1969

Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion,
13th Marines

FSB Los Banos
(AT 833999)
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 1969

Detachment, Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion,
13th Marines

Hill 10
(AT 921692)
4 Dec. - 8 Dec. 1969

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

Hill 10
(AT 922692)
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 1969

Detachment, Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion,
11th Marines

Hai Van Pass
(AT 944918)
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 1969

3. Staff Officers

Executive Officer

Maj. C. H. CIUBA
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 1969

S - 1

W-1 J. E. WOODRUFF Jr.
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 1969

S - 2

2d Lt. J. C. L. GUYMON
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 1969

S - 3

Maj. P. C. ENGLISH
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 1969

S - 4

Capt K. R. UPDEGROVE
1 Dec. - 19 Dec. 1969
Capt. W. H. CLIMO Jr.
19 Dec. - 31 Dec. 1969

S - 5

Capt. R. S. MCKELVEY
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 1969

Artillery Liaison Officer

Maj. W. C. BARTELS
1 Dec. - 31 Dec. 1969

UNCLASSIFIED

4. Average Monthly Strength

	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
HqBtry, 1stBn, 13thMar	21	191	5	6
Btry"A", 1stBn, 13thMar	9	123	0	2
Btry"B", 1stBn, 13thMar	8	128	0	2
Btry"C", 1stBn, 13thMar	9	108	0	1
MortarBtry, 1stBn, 13thMar	5	94	0	2

MISSIONS

<u>OBSERVED</u>	<u>UNOBSERVED</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
386	6,421	6,807

AMMUNITION EXPENDED

<u>105mm</u>	<u>155mm</u>	<u>4.2"</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
30,133	1,793	7,450	39,376

~~SECRET~~

PICTURE OF COMMANDING OFFICER

Enclosure (2)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

UNCLASSIFIED

PART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY

Command of the First Battalion, 13th Marines remained with the 11th Marines for the entire month of December. The Battalion mission remained, direct support of the 26th Marines.

The month of December was considered by G-2 to be a period of extremely high threat of rocket attacks and attacks by fire and sappers. To assist the 26th Marines in countering this threat, rocket suppression fires and interdiction fires on primary infiltration routes were greatly increased. The very limited activity of the enemy during this period tends to indicate that our fire plans were successful.

The number of confirmed KIA during December is eleven, an increase of 120% over the month of November. One interesting point is that five of these kills were decayed bodies found in the vicinity of AT 8582. This is the same area where intelligence indicated 124 NVA/VC were killed by artillery in early November.

During December, the 1st Battalion, 13th Marines entertained a number of distinguished guests. On 1 December, Colonel Ralph A. HEYWOOD fired the 600,000th round expended by the 1st Battalion, 13th Marines in support of the 26th Marines in Vietnam. On 6 December, the CG FMFPAC, Lieutenant General H. R. BUSE, visited the Northern Artillery Commandment. On 17 December, Brigadier General C. S. ROBERTSON visited the Northern Artillery Commandment and on 29 December we were privileged to act as host to Major General E. B. WHEELER, the new Commanding General of the 1st Marine Division.

There was one displacement during December. Two 155mm towed howitzers were moved by Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines from Los Banos to Hill 10 for a period of 5 days to support a deep battalion (-) operation by 1st Battalion, 26th Marines. To support a similar operation of the 3d Battalion, 26th Marines, from 18 December to 24 December, Battery "K", 4th Battalion, 11th Marines was given a general support/reinforcing mission with priority of fires to 1st Battalion, 13th Marines.

The Integrated Observation Device (IOD) on Hill 190 (AT 897820) received two confirmed kills. It was determined that this device could be used for numerous artillery functions other than locating the enemy. Registrations are easily attainable with the IOD. Fire six rounds, average the vertical interval, the distance, and direction; enter the averages into FADAC and compute a grid, then proceed as in a normal mean point of impact registration. With a concurrent net the same procedure slightly refined can be used to calibrate. This was done with Battery "C" charge 5, excellent results were achieved.

UNCLASSIFIED

All howitzers in the 1st Battalion, 13th Marines were calibrated during December using either the IOD or fall of shot procedures. Howitzers were then switched to give Battery "A" the long shooters, Battery "B" the short shooters and Battery "C" the intermediate shooters. Special corrections are being applied to improve battery sheafs.

Logistic support of FSB, LOS BANOS has ceased to be a problem. Added experience by motor transport mechanics has largely eliminated mechanical problems and the 1st Battalion, 13th Marines now enjoys the lowest deadline rate in the 11th Marines.

MISSIONSOBSERVED

532

UNOBSERVED

6,327

TOTAL

6,859

AMMUNITION EXPENDED105mm

30,823

155mm

2,213

4.2"

7,563

TOTAL

40,599

18 December - Battery "K", 4th Battalion, 11th Marines general support/
reinforcing with priority of fires to 1st Battalion, 13th
Marines.

18-22 December - Calibration of all 105mm howitzer batteries.

22 December - 1 Confirmed KIA by IOD with 3d 8" Howitzer Battery firing.

25 December - Christmas cease fire.

25 December - Released Battery "K", 4th Battalion, 11th Marines.

26 December - 3 Decayed bodies killed by artillery found by "L", 3/26
at (AT 8582).

27 December - 2 Decayed bodies killed by artillery found by "L", 3/26
at (AT 8582).

29 December - Northern Artillery Component visited by Major General
E. B. WHEELER, Commanding General, 1st Marine Division.

PART IIIPERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION AND SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF EVENTS1. Personnel and Administration

	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
a. Losses				
Admin	2	89	0	0
Battle KIA	0	0	0	0
Battle WIA (Evac)	0	0	0	0
Battle WIA (Non-Evac)	0	0	0	0
Battle MIA	0	0	0	0
Battle DOW	0	0	0	0
Non-Battle DOW	0	1	0	0
b. Replacements (Joins)	5	17	0	0
c. Net Losses	0	73	0	0
d. Net Gains	3	0	0	0

2. Sequential Listing of Events

- 01 December - Colonel Ralph A. HEYWOOD fired the 600,000th round fired by 1st Battalion, 13th Marines in Vietnam, in support of 26th Marines.
- 04 December - Mortar Battery, 1/13 displaced 2 155mm howitzers to Hill 10.
- 06 December - Northern Artillery Contonment visited by Lieutenant General H. R. BUSE, Jr., Commanding General, FMFPAC.
- 08 December - Mortar Battery, 1/13 returned to LOS BANOS from Hill 10.
- 10 December - 4 Confirmed KIA by Battery "B".
- 14 December - 1 Confirmed KIA by IOD with Battery "C" firing.
- 17 December - Northern Artillery Contonment visited by Brigadier General C. S. ROBERTSON.

010713

MINUTE OF GOVERNMENT CENTER
1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000



1. C. STRAIN
1000, U. S. Marine Corps

1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE COMMANDING OFFICER
1st Battalion, 13th Marines
1st Marine Division (A&A), M&A



D. H. STRAIN
Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps