

BATTERY K

4th Battalion, 13th Marines
Fleet Marine Force, Pacific
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

WCB:rme
005750
31 Mar 1969

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines

SubJ: Command Chronology for period 1 March 1969 to 31
March 1969

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8
(c) 1stMarDivO 5750.2
(d) RegtO 5750.2

Encl: (1) Btry "K", 4thBn,13thMar Command Chronology for
the subject period

1. In accordance with reference (a) through (d), enclosure
(1) is herewith submitted.
2. This page is downgrade to UNCLASSIFIED upon removal of
enclosure (1).


WM. C. BARTELS

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. Designation

Battery K, 4th Battalion, 13th Marines

Commander

Capt WM. C. BARTELS

2. LocationAn Hoa, RVN AT 86787.89 47257.71, Dai Loc
Sheet 6640 IV, serial L7014, AMS3. Battery Officers

Commanding Officer

Capt WM C. BARTELS

Executive Officer

1stLt L. E. CRAIG

Assistant Executive Officer

1stLt R. C. GIESEN

Fire Direction Officer

1stLt A. L. HARDING

LNO/Assistant Fire Direction Officer

2ndLt J. A. HENRY

4. Average Monthly Strength

USMC	USN	OTHER
113	3	0

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the month of March, "K" Battery, 4th Battalion, 13th Marines continued it's mission of general support of the 5th Marines and 3rd Battalion, 26th Marines and direct of recon inserts throughout the An Hoa area. During the month the battery remained under command less opcon of 1st Battalion, 13th Marines. From 1 March to 8 March the battery was opcon to 1st FAG. On 8 March opcon of the battery was passed to 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines where it remained throughout the remainder of the month.

Fire support during the month was characterized by numerous counter-rocket/mortar missions, many of which were fired during periods of incoming. Other missions included observed and unobserved missions for recon teams, harrassing and interdiction missions, rocket suppression missions and fires on intelligence targets. Surveillance included the following:

KIA.....	15
WIA.....	2
Possible KIA.....	35
Mortar/AA pans neutralized.....	4
Structures/bunkers destroyed.....	38
Secondary explosions.....	14

Throughout the month the battery continued emphasis on the construction of bunkers and strengthened defensive positions. Cross training of personnel continued to be stressed to insure maximum flexibility.

Personnel gains and losses during March were as follows:

Administrative losses.....	26
KIA.....	1
WIAE.....	3
MIA.....	0
NBC.....	0
Replacements.....	26

On 5 March "K" Battery had ten 155 Howitzers on position. The extra four were towed 155 Howitzers from Tango Battery, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines returning from a fire base. They were placed in a position so that they could cover the battery perimeter in a direct fire role.

On 8 March at about 0530H An Hoa base received 120 enemy rocket and mortor rounds of which six landed in "K" Battery. One round landed in Gun #1 position resulting in two WIA's. They were gunnery LCpl HOBSON and PFC MISSI who were medevaced. One of "K" Battery's five ton trucks,

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#345696, took a direct hit from an enemy recoilless rifle round. The truck suffered heavy damage to the left fender, door, windows and the interior. Also damaged was the radiator and the power steering unit. The battery fired at counter-rocket/mortor targets.

On 8 March at 0800H operation "Taylor Common" ended and "Task Force Yankee" was dissolved. At this time Battery "K" left the operational control of 1st FAG and came under the operational control of the 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines.

On 19 March at about 1430, a 122mm rocket hit the battery supply tent. One man was killed, LCpl KOPP, B. L. 2420026/2531 and one man wounded, PFC ARONHEIM, an 0844 who was medevaced. The supply tent was completely destroyed with communications and ordnance suffering damages to equipment. The battery returned counter-rocket/mortor fire.

On 20 March at about 0310, Battery "K" fired continuous illumination in support of "D" Battery, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines which was under ground attack, expending 84 rounds.

On 29 March Battery "K" received an administrative working inspection and assistance team from Headquarters, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines.

MISSIONS FIRED DURING MARCH to 2200H, 31 MARCH

<u>OBSERVED</u>	<u>UNOBSERVED</u>	<u>H&I's</u>	<u>TOTAL MISSIONS</u>
167	187	252	606

AMMUNITION EXPENDED DURING MARCH TO 2200H, 31 MARCH

<u>HE</u>	<u>WP</u>	<u>ILL</u>	<u>FC</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
4815	244	559	151	5769

ROUNDS OBSERVED	3125
ROUNDS UNOBSERVED	1292
H&I's	1352
TOTAL	5769

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1 March - Capt W. C. BARTELS joined the battery.

1-23 March - The battery was subjected to sporadic and sometimes continuous hostile artillery fire. Most of the rounds impacted outside the battery area.

5 March - "K" Battery had four towed 155mm Howitzers on position. They were returning from a fire base and were here temporarily for a period of four days.

6 March - Capt BARTELS assumed command of the battery. 1stSgt HOWLAND joined the battery.

8 March - "K" Battery had several hostile round impact in the Battery area resulting in two 0811 WIA's and one 5 ton truck took a direct hit resulting in extensive damage to it. At 0800H operation "Taylor Common" ended and "K" Battery went to the operational control of 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines.

11 March - Gun #4, serial #374665 was sent to Danang to have the equilibrator repaired. A float gun, serial #374656 was sent to the battery in exchange for gun #4.

15 March - The TD-15 was repaired and used to improve the battery area.

19 March - A 122mm rocket hit the battery supply completely destroying it, resulting in one KIA and one WIA.

20 March - About 0310, "K" Battery fired continuous illumination in support of "D" Battery, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines which was under heavy ground attack. Construction was started on a Battery Aid Station and personnel bunkers. This is being accomplished without the aid of engineers.

23 March - The An Hoa perimeter near the Battery area was subjected to incoming rounds.

31 March - Seven LCpl's and four Sgt's were presented promotion warrants.