

**UNCLASSIFIED**

HEADQUARTERS  
4th Battalion, 12th Marines  
3d Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
FPO San Francisco 96602

c-367-68  
529168

3/GJM/rgt  
5750  
Ser:03A248-68  
4 September 1968

68/388

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)  
Via: (1) Commanding General, 3d Marine Division  
(2) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force  
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 to 31 August 1968 (U)

Ref: (a) MCO P5750.1A  
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8  
(c) DivO 5750.1A

Encl: (1) 4th Battalion, 12th Marines Command Chronology

- In accordance with the provisions of reference (a), (b), and (c), enclosure (1) is submitted.
- This document is to be downgraded at three year intervals and declassified after 12 years in accordance with DOD Directive 5200.10.

*B. F. Stewart*  
B. F. STEWART

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CO, 12th Marines

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4TH BN/12TH MAR

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3d Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
San Francisco 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 August to 31 August

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## PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

4th Battalion(+)12th Marines Maj. B.F. STEWART (1-31 Aug)

SUBORDINATE UNITS

Headquarters Battery	Capt. B.F. METCALFE (1-31 Aug)
Battery "K"	Capt. H.D. SULLIVAN (1-22 Aug)
	Capt. J.B. ZIMMERMAN (23-31 Aug)
Battery "L"	Capt. D.G. PURDY (1-31 Aug)
Battery "M"	Capt. W.D. JONES (1-31 Aug)
* Battery "K" 4th Battalion	Capt. S.K. SMITH (1-17 Aug)
13th Marines	
+ 1st 155 Provisional How Battery	1stLt. D.R. RANDALL (19-25 Aug)
	1stLt. J.L. PETERSON (25-31 Aug)

\* Chopped OPCON to 1st Marine Division on 17 Aug

+ Assumed OPCON from 1st Marine Division on 19 Aug

2. LOCATION

1-31 August: CAMP CARROLL, RVN (YD 062548)

3. STAFF OFFICERS

XO	Maj. G.O. KENNEDY JR (1-31 Aug)
Sgt Maj	SgtMaj. F. VIOLETTE (1-31 Aug)
S-1	1stLt. A.L. THORNTON (1-31 Aug)
S-2	1stLt. J.J. BUTERA (1-31 Aug)
S-3	Capt. G.J. MISKE (1-31 Aug)
S-3A	1stLt. D.H. WILLARD (1-27 Aug)
	2ndLt. M.F. SHIELDS (29-31 Aug)
S-4/MaintO	1stLt. R.P. FOSTER (1-16 Aug)
	Capt. D.M. BUGBEE (17-31 Aug)
CommO	Capt. B.F. METCALFE (1-31 Aug)
MTO	1stLt. B.J. RENFROW (1-31 Aug)
SupplyO	1stLt. H.J. RADOW (1-31 Aug)

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH\*

<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>USMC</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>	<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>USN</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
23		447	0		9

\* Figures do not include K/4/12 which is ADCON to 9th MAB or 1st Provisional Battery, ADCON to 3/12

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## PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During August, 4th Battalion, 12th Marines was assigned the primary mission of General Support of 3d Marine Division. However, during the month, the battalion provided a "quick fire channel" to four Direct Support Battalions (1/12, 2/12, 3/12, and 4/12) concurrently and separately. The increased number of observed missions, quicker response time, and increased amount of damage inflicted on the enemy, can be closely correlated to these unofficial reinforcing roles. Some priority problems were encountered when all four battalions were reinforced at one time, however, these were minimal.

The battalion also provided Direct Support for as many as ten Reconnaissance teams at one time and fired two close-defensive fire missions which prevented two teams from being overrun.

Two platoons of LIMA Battery were in Direct Support of ARVN forces before displacing from Die Marker site C-1.

The battalion continued to exercise control over four 155 howitzer batteries, however, on the 17th of August, K/4/13 was chopped to 1st Marine Division in exchange for the 1st Provisional 155 Towed Howitzer Battery. This exchange resulted in a net loss of three howitzers.

Continuing to adhere to the principle of maximum centralized fire direction, the battalion continued to also control the technical fire direction of three batteries even though the flank batteries were laterally displaced almost 12 miles. Because of this control, the fires of the battalion have been massed many times quickly and accurately.

The battalion continued to control the tactical fire direction of the second platoon, 1st 8" Howitzer Battery located at the ROCKPILE; the second platoon, 5th 155 Gun Battery, at CAMP CARROLL; and the 8" platoon of the 5th 155 Gun Battery, at CA LU. Having these three units reinforcing the fires of the battalion, accounted partially for the ability for 4/12 to reinforce the fires of four Direct Support Battalions. It also gave, in essence, the Direct Support Battalions the opportunity to utilize 8" fires on active missions with a minimum of delay.

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## PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. COMBAT MISSIONS ASSIGNED

1-31 August: 4th Battalion, 12th Marines (Rein)-General Support of 3d Marine Division.

2. SIGNIFICANT OPERATIONS SUPPORTED (OPCON UNITS)

During the month of August, the 4th Battalion, 12th Marines participated in the following operations: HIGHRISE (1-31 August); THOR (1-31 AUGUST); LANCASTER II (1-31 August); SALINE II (1-31 August); KENTUCKY (1-31 August); SCOTLAND II (1-31 August); LANCASTER II JUPITER (17-31 August).

3. FIRE SUPPORT PROVIDED

## a. Recapitulation of fire missions

<u>TARGET</u>	<u>MISSIONS</u>	<u>TOTAL ROUNDS</u>
CONFIRMED	269	7128
ACQUIRED	1507	8828
COUNTER BATTERY	123	274
PREPARATION	271	4893
SPECIAL PURPOSE	81	1245
SUPPORT OF ARVN	56	482
GRAND TOTAL	2307	22850
HE TOTAL		21628
WP TOTAL		463
ILLUM TOTAL		638
M449 TOTAL		121

4. CASUALTIES INFLICTED ON THE ENEMY (OPCON UNITS)

a. KIA: 59      WIA: 47

5. CASUALTIES SUSTAINED (ADCON UNITS)

a. HOSTILE: KIA: 0      WIA: 4  
 b. NON-HOSTILE: DEATH: 0      INJURY: 0

6. COMMAND RELATIONS

a. 4th Battalion(+) (Rein), 12th Marines

1-31 August: OPCON and ADCON to 12th Marines

7. EQUIPMENT

The two M109 155 howitzers on temporary loan from the U.S. Army continued to be used as "float" weapons, adding a greater degree of flexibility and enhancing our weapons readiness posture.

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## PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. The following significant entries are excerpts from the Operational Status Report File (OPSTATS):

OPSTAT 027 of 110500Z - Four 155 How SP of K/4/12 displaced from MAI LOC to CAMP CARROLL. Three 155 How SP at FLSG-B for tube replacement. Three 155 How SP deadlined for fuel leak, elevation cylinder, and faulty actuator.

OPSTAT 029 of 180001Z - Two 155 How SP of L/4/12 displaced from C-1 to C-2. Chopped OPCON of K/4/13 to 1st Mar Div. One 155 How SP of L/4/12 displaced from DONG HA to C-2.

OPSTAT 030 of 190001Z - One 155 How SP of L/4/12 displaced from C-1 to C-2. Assumed OPCON of 1st Provisional 155 How TD Battery (C-3).

OPSTAT 031 of 231430Z - Two 155 How SP of L/4/12 displaced from C-1 to DONG HA.

OPSTAT 032 of 281000Z - Four 155 How SP of L/4/12 displaced from C-2 to DONG HA.

OPSTAT 033 of 301000Z - Three 155 How TD of 1st Prov Btry displaced from C-3 to CAMP CARROLL.

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2. The following significant entries are excerpts from the S-3 Work Sheet (Record of Missions):

- 010003H - "M" fired on suspected NVA helicopters at 995685 for H 2/3. 25 rounds HE Q&VT expended resulting in three secondary explosions.
- 031000H - "L" fired on 7 NVA with pack animals for 12th Mar FO at A-2 on 188815. 11 HE and 6 Firecracker expended resulting in 2 WIA's and 2 pack animals killed.
- 040957H - K/4/13 fired on arty position for AO (Flight Time K) at 115784. 131 HE expended resulting in 3 hits in gun pit and one hit on gun.
- 041918H - "L" fired on 4 NVA for 12th Mar FO at A-2 on 237783. 2 WP and 6 HE expended resulting in two WIA's.
- 050655H - "L" fired on 3 NVA for 12th Mar FO at A-2 on 203782. 13 HE expended resulting in 3 WIA's.
- 051745H - "L" fired on bunkers and NVA for 12th Mar FO at A-2 on 233777. 1 WP, 34 HE, and 6 Firecracker expended resulting in 8 WIA's and 1 bunker destroyed.
- 070330H - "M" fired on AA position for H 2/3 at 973667. 59 HE expended resulting in one secondary explosion.
- 081040H - "M" fired on enemy movement for Recon insert (Air Police) at 874620. 123 HE expended. Surveillance of, "Excellent target coverage, undetermined number of KIA's and WIA's - you definitely saved our ass".
- 081820H - "L" fired 3 WP and 45 HE on active artillery for 12th Mar FO at A-2 on 228813. Excellent coverage and one large secondary.
- 091735H - "L" fired 15 HE on 3 NVA for 12th Mar FO at A-2 on 235782. 3 WIA's.
- 091830H - "L" fired 2 WP and 16 HE on 6 NVA for 12th Mar FO at A-2 on 244775. 4 WIA's.
- 101545H - K/4/13 fired on mortar position and bunkers for AO (Klon-dike U) at 131749. 1 WP 55 HE expended resulting in two bunkers destroyed and one secondary.
- 111230H - K/4/13 fired on bunkers for F 2/3 on 080602. 34 HE expended resulting in good coverage and one concrete emplacement destroyed.
- 111900H - "L" fired 1 WP 35 HE on 8 NVA for 12th Mar FO at A-2 on 240769, resulting in 2 WIA's and one secondary explosion.

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- 111305H - "L" fired 9 HE on 3 NVA for 12th Mar FO at A-2 on 232782 resulting in 3 WIA.
- 121015H - "L" fired 20 HE on 3 NVA for 12th Mar AO "C" at 157776 resulting in 1 KIA.
- 121025H - "L" fired 21 HE on automatic weapons position for 12th Mar AO "C" at 168775 resulting in gun silenced and 3 KIA's.
- 121620H - "L" fired 3 WP and 14 HE on 3 NVA for 12th Mar FO at A-2 on 234785 resulting in 3 KIA's.
- 151930H - "K" fired 57 HE on sniper position for 2/3 at 091599 resulting in 48 KIA's.
- 161745H - "L" fired on buildings and NVA for B 1/1 on 18888115. .7 HE and 10 Firecracker expended resulting in 1 KIA.
- 170735H - "L" fired 34 HE on 6 NVA for 12th Mar FO at A-2 on 235775 resulting in 1 bunker destroyed and 6 WIA's.
- 201250H - "L" fired 3 WP and 12 HE on active artillery for 12th Mar FO at A-2 on 154787 resulting in one large secondary explosion.
- 211811H - "L" fired 13 HE on 4 NVA for 12th Mar FO at A-2 on 275583 resulting in 4 WIA's.
- 221350H - 1st Prov Btry fired 5 WP and 30 HE on bunkers for B 1/9 at 01166470 resulting in one bunker destroyed and three secondary explosions.
- 221450H - "M" fired 2 WP and 178 HE for troops in contact for M 3/3 at 961601 resulting in 2 KIA.
- 231455H - "M" fired 28 HE on active 50 cal. for 1/9 at 009651 resulting in one secondary explosion.
- 271100H - "K" fired 26 HE on artillery position for L 3/3 at 008644 resulting in one secondary explosion.
- 281507H - "K" and "M" fired 2 WP and 64 HE on NVA position for A 1/9 at 937523 resulting in one secondary explosion.
- 291630H - "M" fired 1 WP and 28 HE on NVA for M 3/3 at 958606 resulting in 1 KIA.
- 301935H - 1st Prov. fired 33 HE on prep fires for F 2/3 at 998588 resulting in one secondary explosion.

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