

1st 8" HOWITZER BATTERY (SP)  
 3d Marine Division, FMF  
 FPO San Francisco 96602

HNM:wro  
 5750  
 4 August 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding Officer, 12th Marines (Attn: S-3)  
 Subj: Command Chronology; report of  
 Ref: (a) RegtO 5750.1

1. In accordance with reference (a), the following report is submitted:

a. Organizational Data.

- (1) 1st 8" HowBtry (SP), Da Nang, South Viet Nam
- (2) Period 1-31Jul66
- (3) Commanding Officer - Major Louis J. CAVALLO 062684 USMC  
 Executive Officer - Captain Henry N. MEANS 075653 USMC  
 1stSgt - 1stSgt William R. THOMPSON 980174 USMC
- (4) Officers - 9 Enlisted 172 USN Enlisted - 3

b. Significant Events.

(1) This unit joined two (2) officers and twenty-three (23) enlisted personnel during the month of July. The one (1) officer joined as Battery Executive Officer is now acting Commanding Officer in the absence of the Commanding Officer who is temporarily assigned to the Division FSCC. Six (6) enlisted were sent to Hue Phu Bai for an indefinite period of time in support of operation "HASTINGS". Through normal rotation, this unit will lose eleven (11) enlisted during the month of August which will bring us to 77% of T/O strength. There are no replacements scheduled in at this time. Average monthly strength during the period 1-31 July is : 189 or 84% of T/O.

(2) This unit is now down to four (4) Unit Diary Forms (NAVMC 970-PD). Forms have been on order for approximately eight (8) months.

(3) Patrols continue daily through the Phu Hoa, Thank Nahm, Phu Thoc, Cam Wah and along the river, with no positive contact with the enemy. Villagers seem to be very content and corporative. A few VC propaganda leaflets have been turned in by the village officials, and one report of VC crossing the river into the village of Phu Hoa. This incident was immediately reported to the next higher command.

*1st 8" Howitzer Battery (SP)*

*July 1966*

(4) The security force of this unit conducted the following training:

<u>Subject</u>	<u>No of Hours.</u>
Assembly & Disassembly and operation of	
a. M-14 Rifle	1
b. M-60 Machine Gun	5
c. Cal 60 HB M2 Machine Gun	2
M76 Grenade Launcher w/Assembly/M26 Frag Grenade	$\frac{1}{2}$
Squad Tactics/Scouting, Patrolling	6
Employment of Claymore Mines	2
Interpretation of VC Trail Signs	1
Hand & Arm signals	$\frac{1}{2}$

(5) One (1) 155mm gun occupied Kilo Battery Position for the entire month. During the period of 7-16 July, 3rd Platoon occupied "E" Battery position in support of operation "MACON". 1st Platoon occupied position at Hill 41 for the entire month in support of 3rd ReconBn. One (1) 155mm gun occupied position on Hill 55 on 17 July 1966. Mission of general support reinforcing 2dBn, 12th Marines has been assigned to the gun on Hill 55.

(6) One (1) officer and two (2) enlisted were sent TAD to school at Okinawa in connection with assembly operations.

(7) N/A

(8) Installed eight (8) anti intrusion devices around battery position. Carried out normal communications with deployed platoons.

(9) N/A

(10) The battery fired the following rounds: 1137 8" HE, 283 155 HE, 6 155 WP and 2 155 Illumination rounds for a total of 2428 rounds. Four observed missions were fired with the following surveillance: 18 KIA confirmed, 22 KIA confirmed, 10 boats sunk, 3 structures destroyed.

(11) Lost one (1) M55 (SP) 8" Howitzer on 25 July 1966, due to accidental submergence in the Song Cav Do River. Weapon was recovered and processed in accordance with current directives. New weapon has been requisitioned. Received three (3) MCR 10 radios.

(12) No change.

(13) N/A

(14) One hundred, sixty-five (165) local civilians were treated during the reporting period.

(15) Protestant services are held each Saturday in the enlisted club. Catholics are furnished transportation each Sunday to attend mass at the 9th Marines rear command post.

(16) Civic Action efforts have been concentrated in the Phu Hoa (947702), Thanh Nham (955715), Phuac Thri (941712). A school is presently under construction in the village of Phu Hoa. The school is about three quarters completed and will accomodate about sixty (60) students when it is finished. A road has been constructed from the main road into the school. Estimated date of completion of the school is 24 August 1966. This unit has instituted a program whereby the children are gathered together and given soda, candy, kool-aid, food and clothing. At this time about 1100 pounds of food and 500 pounds of clothing have been issued. In addition to the above, 1000 bars of soap and about 500 toys have been issued. This program will continue. A project is presently under consideration to improve the market place in the village of Phu Hoa. This will probably commence upon completion of the school. Public relations with the people of these villages seem to be good and is improving.

*H N Means*  
H. N. MEANS  
Acting