

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

LJC:wro
 5750
 3 July 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 1-30 June 1966
- (3) Commanding Officer - Major Louis J. CAVALLO 062684 USMC
 Executive Officer - Captain Burl V. STONUM 073975 USMC
 1stSgt - 1stSgt William R. THOMPSON 980174 USMC
- (4) Officers - 8 Enlisted - 185 USN Enlisted - 3

b. Significant Events.

(1) As per last report, this unit is losing thirty (30) enlisted personnel in July. We will be critically short on supply personnel in August. The thirteen (13) man replacement cadre which was due about 20 June have not reported to this unit nor have we received advance notice of their arrival.

(2) No change.

(3) Patrols continued in the Cam Hoa complex with no positive contact with VC units. On 6 June the patrol received 4 rounds of sniper fire in Cam Hoa 1 Village, coordinates 951702. Squad returned immediate fire with no response from sniper. On 20 June information was received from Mr. BUT (District Security) as to movement of 12 to 20 VC in Bo Ban #1. Patrol deployed with negative contact. Conducted daily patrols of area through 25 June with no contact. On 26 June approximately 6 rounds of small arms were fired into the battery position. The guard returned fire, no KIA/WIA found.

(4) The battery security section received 6 hours of basic infantry classes covering the following:

1. Organization of Marine Infantry Squad

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2. Basic combat formations and their use.
3. Arm and hand signals.
4. Six (6) troop leading steps.
5. Immediate action drills.
6. Counter ambush tactics.

(5) Platoons occupied forward positions in support of two (2) operations for the entire month of June at Btry K position and hill 41. The second platoon departed on 4 June, attached to 1st 155mm Gun Btry in Phu Bai.

(6) No Change.

(7) No Change.

(8) At present the wire chief is acting communications chief.

(9) N/A

(10) The battery fired 1170 HE 8" Howitzer rounds, 341 HE 155mm Gun rounds, 2 illumination and 25 WP rounds. Eleven (11) observed missions were fired with the following surveillance:

3 KIA, 14 Possible KIA
5 WIA, 2 Possible WIA
6 boats sunk and 4 damaged
8 structures destroyed.

(11) No Change.

(12) No Change.

(13) No Change.

(14) Thirty eight (38) local civilians were treated during the reporting period.

(15) Protestant services were held every Saturday at 0830.

(16) This unit displaced to present position. While in the Cham Tam area work with the new life hamlet continued. 900 lbs of foodstuff issued. 700 lbs of clothing, assorted toys donated. Village personnel were hired for field work. Reaction, Cham Tam is pro west. In the Cam Hoa complex; comprising of 9 villages in different locations this unit started a much needed sanitation program. On 21 June this unit initiated "Shower Day" for young people of Cam Hoa #9 (38). This consisted of a shower, one issue of clothing and a snack. New latrines and wells in the Cam Hoa #9 to be initiated in the next month. Shower units to be used by villagers to be erected.

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A plan for a elementary school for over 200 children in both Cam Hoa #8 & 9 is being coordinated with the Hamlet Chief & Battery Civic Action NCO.


LOUIS J. CAVALLO