

FIRST ARMORED AMPHIBIAN COMPANY
11th Marines
1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO San Francisco 96602

JEH:krj
5700
7 Dec 1968

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, 11th Marines

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 November to 1 December 1968

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8
(c) DivO 5750.2B
(d) RegtO 5750.2E

Encl: ✓(1) First Armored Amphibian Company Command Chronology

1. In accordance with references (a) through (d), enclosure (1) is submitted.

J. E. Harms
J. E. HARMS

GROUP-4
DOWNGRADE AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS

1ST ARMORED AMPHIBIAN CO

COMD CHRON

Nov 1968

FIRST ARMORED AMPHIBIAN COMPANY
11th Marines
1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF
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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
1 November 1968 to 1 December 1968

INDEX

- PART I - ORGANIZATION DATA
- PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY
- PART III - SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF
SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
- PART IV - SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

PART IORGANIZATION DATA1. DESIGNATION

1st Armored Amphibian Company
 11th Marines
 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF

COMMANDER

Major J. E. HARMS
 1-30 November 1968

SUBORDINATE UNITS

None

ATTACHED UNITS

None

2. LOCATIONELEMENTLOCATIONDATES

Company HQ	DaNang, RVN (AT 995723)	1-30 Nov 1968
1st Platoon (-) one section	Dien Ban, RVN (BT 066585)	1-30 Nov 1968
one section	Hoi An, RVN (BT 110581)	1-30 Nov 1968
2nd Platoon	Cua Viet, RVN (YD 348698)	1-30 Nov 1968
3rd Platoon (Rein) one section	Hill 47 (AT 974703)	1-30 Nov 1968
one section	Northern Artillery Cantonment (AT 921799)	1-30 Nov 1968
one section (Rein)	Company CP	1-30 Nov 1968

3. STAFF OFFICERS

(Billet)

(Rank and Name)

(Dates)

Executive Officer	Major J. M. BYRD	1-30 Nov 1968
Fire Direction Officer	1stLt N. A. LIEURANCE	1-30 Nov 1968
Maintenance Officer	1stLt L. A. CULBERTSON	1-6 Nov 1968
Maintenance Officer	1stLt L. L. YOUNG	7-30 Nov 1968
Supply Officer	2ndLt J. N. SCHUETTE	1-30 Nov 1968
1st Platoon Commander	1stLt J. T. FOWLER	1-30 Nov 1968
2nd Platoon Commander	1stLt J. E. PETERSON	1-30 Nov 1968
3rd Platoon Commander	2ndLt J. R. GAZDAYKA	1-30 Nov 1968
Liaison Officer	2ndLt L. K. THON	1-30 Nov 1968
Liaison Officer	2ndLt L. E. ALLEN	1-30 Nov 1968

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
10	221

<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
0	6

<u>OTHER</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
0	0

PART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. During the reporting period, the Company Headquarters remained at grid (AT 995723); providing logistical and administrative support for all platoons/sections.
2. From 1 November to 1 December 1968, the 1st Platoon (-) remained in the 2nd Korean Marine Brigade area with the assigned tactical mission of general support. One section (rein) was positioned in the Brigade's Artillery Battalion cantonment at grid (BT 110581). One section was positioned at Dien Ban, grid (BT 066585). In addition to providing indirect fire support for the Korean Marines, the 1st Platoon (-) was also called upon to fire in support of U. S. Marine forces engaged in Operation MEADE RIVER.
3. From 1 November to 1 December 1968, the 2nd Platoon remained in the Cua Viet River position, grid (YD 348698). On 13 November 1968, OPCON of the 2nd Platoon was passed from the 12th Marines to the 5th Battalion, 4th Artillery, 1st Brigade, 5th Infantry Division. The fire direction center continued to be provided by the 12th Marines, utilizing both U. S. Marine and Army personnel.
4. During the reporting period, the 3rd Platoon (rein) (reinforced with one LVTH6A1 from the 1st Platoon), remained in the immediate DaNang area. One section was positioned at the Northern Artillery Cantonment, grid (AT 921799); one section at OP HAWK, grid (AT 974703); and one section (rein) at the Company CP, grid (AT 995723). The 3rd Platoon (rein) assigned tactical mission remained as general support. The section located on OP HAWK has a priority mission of direct fire into the "Rocket Belt". In conjunction with this priority mission, on 17 November 1968, this section fired a total of 84 rounds, direct fire, on an active rocket site. (See Part III, paragraph 3). From 28 November to 1 December 1968, one LVTH6A1, from the Company CP, displaced nightly to the 4th Battalion, 11th Marines cantonment to provide direct fire support for the perimeter security.

5. TABLE OF FIRE MISSIONS AND ROUNDS EXPENDED

<u>DIRECT</u>	<u>OBSERVED</u>	<u>UNOBSERVED</u>	<u>TOT</u>	<u>H&T</u>
<u>FIRE MISSIONS</u>	<u>FIRE MISSIONS</u>	<u>FIRE MISSIONS</u>		
1	206	70	11	804

105mm ROUNDS EXPENDED

400
17
788
1084

FIRED FOR

ARVN
ROK Marines
11th Marines
3rd Marine Division

~~SECRET~~

1010
1783
5082 (Total)

U. S. ARMY
1st Marine Division

CONSOLIDATED SURVEILLANCE

KIA - 6
Bunkers (Destroyed) - 4
Secondary Explosions - 5
Sampans (Destroyed) - 1
Rice Destroyed - 50 Bags
Enemy Rockets Captured - Assisted in capture of 20
enemy 140mm rockets

PART IIISEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION

a. With two LVTH6A1 platoons not being under direct Company control, the Company's personnel readiness category has been rated as C-4. The projected readiness category during December 1968, if all elements were under Company control, is C-2. This rating is based on the projected loss of 14 personnel through rotation and 20 personnel being on special leave during the month of December. The shortage of SNCOs and Sergeants, OF 1831, continued. Timely replacements for rotating personnel have not been forthcoming. Unless this situation is corrected during December, the operational readiness of the Company will be seriously hampered. The Company had a net loss of 11 personnel during the month of November 1968.

b.	(1) Losses	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
		OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
	Administration	1	26	0	1
	Battle WIA (Evac)	0	0	0	0
	Battle WIA (Non-evac)	0	0	0	0
	Battle KIA	0	0	0	0
	Battle DOW	0	0	0	0
	Nonbattle	0	3	0	0
	(2) Replacements	1	18	0	1
	(3) Net Losses	0	11	0	0
	(4) Net Gain	0	0	0	0

2. TRAINING

a. From 5 to 8 November and 13 to 15 November 1968, three LVTH6A1s from the 3rd Platoon, two LVTP5A1s and one LVTR1A1 from the maintenance section conducted water training exercises at the 3rd Amphibious Tractor Battalion CP, grid (BT 083703). Water training was conducted during the day and one night, with the LVTH6A1s being positioned as perimeter defense weapons during the night.

3. ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS

a. Direct Counterrocket Fire - 17 November 1968. On 17 November 1968, the LVTH6A1 section located on OP HAWK fired a total of 84 rounds direct fire at an active enemy rocket site located at grid (AT 966694).

(1) 170510H Nov 1968. OP HAWK observed the launching of what appeared to be 10-15 enemy rockets at a range of approximately 1,500 meters. The U. S. Army searchlight team immediately illuminated the launch site.

(2) 170511H Nov 1968. After ensuring that the target met the established criteria for immediate direct counterrocket fire, OP HAWK commenced firing.

(3) 170524H Nov 1968. A "Check Fire" was placed on the guns by the 4th Battalion, 11th Marines. The two LVTH6Als had fired a total of 63 rounds of HE and 21 rounds of WP. The rocket position had been silenced.

(4) Surveillance - Although it was found that all rounds were approximately 100-150 meters short of the actual rocket site, 20 140mm rockets, prepared for firing, were discovered unfired on their mud launch ramps.

PART IVSUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

<u>REFERENCE MAPS</u>	<u>ATTACHED</u>
a. Map, Vietnam, 1:50,000 Series L7014, Sheet 6641LIII DANANG	Not Attached
b. Map, Vietnam, 1:50,000 Series L7014, Sheet 6442IV QUANG TRI	Not Attached
c. Map, Vietnam, 1:50,000 Series L7014, Sheet 6640I HOI AN	Not Attached
d. Map, Vietnam, 1:50,000 Series L7014, Sheet 6640IV DAI LOC	Not Attached