

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

JEH:krj  
5700  
9 Mar 1969

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

**Subj:** Command Chronology for period 1 February 1969 to 1 March 1969

**Ref:** (a) MCO 5750.2A  
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8A  
(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-1  
DOWNGRADE AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS

1ST ARMORED AMPHIBIAN CO

COMD CHRON

FEB 1969

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

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY  
1 February 1969 to 1 March 1969

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PART IORGANIZATION DATA1. DESIGNATION

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

COMMANDER

Major J. E. HARMS  
 1-28 February 1969

SUBORDINATE UNITS

None

ATTACHED UNITS

None

2. LOCATIONELEMENTLOCATIONDATES

Company HQ	DaNang, RVN (AT 995723)	1-28 Feb 1969
1st Platoon (-)		
one section	Dien Ban, RVN (BT 066585)	1-28 Feb 1969
one section	Hoi An, RVN (BT 110581)	1-28 Feb 1969
2nd Platoon	Cua Viet, RVN (YD 348698)	1-28 Feb 1969
3rd Platoon (Rein)		
one section	Hill 47 (AT 974703)	1-28 Feb 1969
one section (Rein)	Northern Artillery Cantonment (AT 921799)	1-28 Feb 1969
one section	Company CP	1-28 Feb 1969

3. STAFF OFFICERS  
(Billet)

(Rank and Name)

(Dates)

Executive Officer	1stLt R. F. FULKERSON	1-28 Feb 1969
Fire Direction Officer	1stLt M. L. CAPIK	1-28 Feb 1969
Maintenance Officer	1stLt L. L. YOUNG JR	1-28 Feb 1969
Supply Officer	1stLt J. N. SCHUETTE	1-28 Feb 1969
1st Platoon Commander	2ndLt L. K. THON	1-28 Feb 1969
2nd Platoon Commander	2ndLt L. E. ALLEN JR	1-28 Feb 1969
3rd Platoon Commander	2ndLt J. R. GAZDAYKA	1-28 Feb 1969
Liaison Officer	2ndLt T. R. NISBET	19-28 Feb 1969

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

USMC  
 $\frac{\text{OFF}}{9}$      $\frac{\text{ENL}}{234}$

USN  
 $\frac{\text{OFF}}{0}$      $\frac{\text{ENL}}{5}$

OTHER  
 $\frac{\text{OFF}}{0}$      $\frac{\text{ENL}}{0}$

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. On 23 February 1969, the Company CP received two (2) incoming 140mm rockets in the defensive wire, plus an estimated three additional rockets outside of the wire. (See Part III, section 2, paragraph d, number (7)).

2. From 1 February 1969 to 1 March 1969, 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 066585). One section was positioned at Dien Ban, grid (BT 066585). The Company's organic Fire Direction Center is located with the Platoon Headquarters at the Artillery Battalion Cantonment. In addition to providing direct and indirect fire support for the Korean Marines, the 1st Platoon (-) fires missions for ANGLICO, Civic Action Platoons and RVN units within the Hoi An area. On 23 February 1969, in connection with the Post Tet Offensive, the 1st Platoon fired two contact missions in support of the Korean Marines and a CAP unit. (See Part III, section 2, paragraph b.).

3. From 1 February 1969 to 1 March 1969, the 2nd Platoon remained in the Cua Viet River position, grid (YD 348698), providing direct support for the 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion. Throughout the morning of 23 February 1969, in conjunction with this assigned mission, the 2nd Platoon fired over 1100 rounds in support of Oceanview, grid (YD283763). (See Part III, section 2, paragraph c). On 24 February 1969, 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.

4. From 1 February 1969 to 1 March 1969, the 3rd Platoon (rein), (reinforced with one LVTH6A1 from the 1st Platoon), remained in the immediate DaNang area. One section (rein) was positioned at the Northern Artillery Cantonment, grid (AT 921799); one section at OP HAWK, grid (AT 974703), and one section at the Company CP, grid (AT 995723). The 3rd Platoon (rein) assigned tactical mission remained as general support of the 1st Marine Division. The primary mission of the section located at OP HAWK remained as direct counterrocket fire. In relation to this mission, from 23 February 1969 to 26 February 1969, OP HAWK fired on four (4) separate rocket sites, one (1) sampan, and a VC Company carrying rockets and mortars. (See Part III, section 2, paragraph d). During this month, one LVTH6A1 from the Company CP displaced nightly to the 4th Battalion, 11th Marines cantonment to provide direct fire support for the perimeter security. The investigation in regards to the destruction of a LVTH6A1, USMC No. 105420 was completed with the findings forwarded to Commanding Officer, 11th Marines. (See Part III, section 2, paragraph a).

5. TABLE OF FIRE

<u>DIRECT FIRE MISSIONS</u>	<u>OBSERVED FIRE MISSIONS</u>	<u>UNOBSERVED FIRE MISSIONS</u>	<u>TOT</u>	<u>H&amp;I</u>
1	333	102	30	957
<u>105mm ROUNDS EXPENDED</u>		<u>FIRED FOR</u>		
600		ARVN		
842		ROK Marines		
1101		11th Marines		
5069		3rd Marine Division		
2842		1st Marine Division		

CONSOLIDATED SURVEILLANCE

KIA - 11  
Structures (Destroyed) - 22  
Sampans (Destroyed) - 9  
Secondary Explosions - 15  
Mortars (Destroyed) - 1  
Heavy Machineguns (Destroyed) - 1

PART IIISEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION

a. With two LVTH6A1 platoons not being under direct Company control, the personnel readiness category has been rated as C-4. The projected readiness category during March 1969, if all elements were under company control, is C-2 due to T/E deficiencies not yet received by this unit. The shortage of SNCOs and sergeants, OF 1831, is a continuing problem. Based on manning level this Company is authorized 4 SNCOs and 10 sergeants OF 1831. At the present time, there is 1 SNCO and 1 sergeant assigned. The remaining SNCO billets are being filled by OF 0811.

b.	(1) Losses	USMC		USN	
		OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
	Administration	0	7	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	2	0	0
	(2) Replacements	1	12	0	1
	(3) Net Losses	0	0	0	0
	(4) Net Gain	1	3	0	0

2. ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS

a. Results of Investigation - 1 February 1969. On 1 February 1969, a written investigation pertaining to the destruction of a LVTH6A1, USMC No. 105420, was submitted to the 11th Marines.

(1) 010900H Feb 1969. First Lieutenant L. L. YOUNG JR, 099966 USMC, delivered his findings of facts, opinions and recommendations in regards to the damage to an LVTH6A1, USMC No. 105420, to the Commanding Officer, 11th Marines.

(2) 10 February 1969 (approximation). The Commanding Officer, 11th Marines, authorized 1st Armored Amphibian Company to drop from their supply account LVTH6A1, USMC No. 105420.

b. Fire Support Delivered by 1st Platoon During Post Tet Offensive - 23 February 1969.

(1) 230900H Feb 1969. The LVTH6A1 section located at Dien Ban, grid (BT 066585), fired direct fire at an estimated twenty (20) NVA in bunkers, grid (BT 067582).

(2) 230920H Feb 1969. After firing 14 HE rounds, the How-6 located at Dien Ban received a check fire from the Korean Marines.

(3) 230940H Feb 1969. A sweep of the target area by the Korean Marines, revealed three (3) enemy KIA.

(4) 231830H Feb 1969. The LVTH6A1 section (rein) located at Hoi An, grid (BT 110581), fired indirect fire in support of a Combined Action Platoon, grid (BT 055595).

(5) 231900H Feb 1969. The gun section (rein) received an end of mission with a total of 45 HE and 2 WP rounds expended.

(6) 240800H Feb 1969. Surveillance - six (6) NVA KIA.

c. Fire Support Delivered by 2nd Platoon During Post Tet Offensive - 23 February 1969.

(1) 230030H Feb 1969. A large force of NVA, estimated as a battalion, launched a ground attack against Oceanview, grid (YD 283763).

(2) 230040H Feb 1969. The 2nd Platoon, grid (YD 348698), began firing a danger close mission in support of the Oceanview compound.

(3) 230600H Feb 1969. An end of mission was received by the 2nd Platoon; a total of 1193 rounds were expended.

(4) Surveillance - negative.

d. Fire Support Delivered by 3rd Platoon During Post Tet Offensive - 23 February 1969.

(1) 230320H Feb 1969. OP HAWK, grid (AT 974703), observed 8 to 12 rockets being launched from grid (AT 995699). After determining the target met the established criteria for direct counterrocket fire, OP HAWK commenced firing.

(2) 230340H Feb 1969. After firing 75 HE and 13 WP rounds, OP HAWK was placed in a check fire by the 11th Marines.

(3) Surveillance - 2 possible secondary explosions.

(4) 230405H Feb 1969. The 11th Marines notified OP HAWK of a sampan at grid (AT 989698). Immediately, OP HAWK took the sampan under direct fire expending 2 HE rounds.

(5) Surveillance - one (1) sampan destroyed.

(6) 230600H Feb 1969. OP HAWK observed approximately six (6) rockets being launched from grid (AT 969683). After a few seconds it was determined the target met the established criteria for direct counterrocket fire. OP HAWK commenced firing.

(7) 230601H Feb 1969. The Company CP received two (2), 140mm rockets in the defensive wire, however there were no casualties. Rockets believed to have been launched from grid (AT 969683).

(8) 230615H Feb 1969. OP HAWK ceased fire. Total rounds expended: 106 HE and 11 WP.

(9) Surveillance - six (6) secondary explosions.

(10) 231800H Feb 1969. OP HAWK received a direct fire mission at grid (AT 965699) from the 11th Marines. The nature of target was one (1) VC Company carrying rockets and mortars. OP HAWK commenced firing.

(11) 231810H Feb 1969. The 11th Marines gave an end of mission on grid (AT 965699). OP HAWK had fired 31 HE and 5 WP rounds on the target area.

(12) Surveillance - one (1) secondary explosion.

(13) 232135H Feb 1969. OP HAWK reported three (3) VC at the base of their OP, grid (AT 974703).

(14) 232139H Feb 1969. After receiving clearance to fire, OP HAWK expended five (5) 105mm "Beehive" rounds direct fire at the enemy.

(15) Surveillance - two (2) VC KIA.

(16) 240600H Feb 1969. The Forward Observer located at OP HAWK sighted six (6) rockets being fired at grid (AT 962682). OP HAWK commenced direct counterrocket fire.

(17) 240620H Feb 1969. After saturating the rocket site with 164 HE and 34 WP rounds, OP HAWK was placed in a check fire by the 11th Marines.

(18) Surveillance - three (3) secondary explosions.

(19) 260145H Feb 1969. OP HAWK observed three (3) rockets being launched at an azimuth of 1495 and a range of 2000 meters. Immediately, the target wastaken under fire by the LVTH6A1 section located at OP HAWK.

(20) 260200H Feb 1969. The 11th Marines placed a check fire on the guns after 127 HE and 33 WP rounds had been expended.

(21) Surveillance - three (3) secondary explosions and one (1) sustained fire.

PART IVSUPPORTING DOCUMENTSREFERENCE MAPSATTACHED

- |   |              |
|---|--------------|
| a. Map, Vietnam, 1:50,000<br>Series L7014, Sheet 6641 III<br>DANANG   | Not Attached |
| b. Map, Vietnam, 1:50,000<br>Series L7014, Sheet 6442 IV<br>QUANG TRI | Not Attached |
| c. Map, Vietnam, 1:50,000<br>Series L7014, Sheet 6640 I<br>HOI AN     | Not Attached |
| d. Map, Vietnam, 1:50,000<br>Series L7014, Sheet 6640 IV<br>DAI LOC   | Not Attached |