

HEADQUARTERS  
1st Field Artillery Group  
12th Marines  
3d Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
APO San Francisco 96602

495067

1st FAG BT No. 452-67  
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S E C R E T

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
Subj: Command Chronology for period 1-30 September 1967  
Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2  
(b) FMFPACO 5750.8  
(c) DivO 5750.1A

Encl: ✓(1) First Field Artillery Group Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a) through (c), enclosure (1) is submitted.

*W. H. Stewart Jr.*  
W. H. STEWART JR.  
By direction

Copy to: CO, 12th Marines

*1st FAG Group  
Cmd Chron*

*30 Sep 1967*

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1st Field Artillery Group  
12th Marines  
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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY  
1 Sept to 30 Sept 1967

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Enclosure (1)

S E C R E T

## PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

<u>1. Designation</u>	<u>Commander</u>	<u>Date</u>
First Field Artillery Group	LtCol R. B. METCALFE	1-30 Sept 1967

SUBORDINATE UNITS

Battery "B", 6th Battalion 27th Field Artillery (USA)	Capt R. L. MENZNER	1-10 Sept 1967
1st Plt Battery "L" 4th Battalion, 12th Marines	-----	1-10 Sept 1967

ATTACHED UNITS

NONE

2. Location

1-30 September 1967: Phu Bai, RVN

3. Staff Officers

Executive Officer	Maj R. P. PALMER Maj W. H. STEWART JR.	1-10 Sept 1967 11-30 Sept 1967
S-1	1stLt B. W. PEARCE	1-30 Sept 1967
S-2	1stLt W. B. BOVEE 1stLt R. J. BRENNAN	1-10 Sept 1967 13-30 Sept 1967
S-3	Maj R. P. PALMER	1-30 Sept 1967
S-4	Capt A. R. JOYNER	1-30 Sept 1967
Adjutant	1stLt B. W. PEARCE	1-30 Sept 1967
Survey Officer	1stLt S. A. JONES	1-30 Sept 1967
Ordnance Officer	1stLt J. T. BOBB	1-30 Sept 1967
Motor Transport Officer	1stLt P. V. SULLIVAN	1-30 Sept 1967
Liaison Officer	1stLt W. C. EADS	1-30 Sept 1967
Communications Officer	Capt J. E. O'BRIEN	1-30 Sept 1967
Assistant S-3	1stLt D. B. ANDERSON 1stLt W. B. BOVEE	1-12 Sept 1967 13-30 Sept 1967
Assistant S-2	1stLt R. J. BRENNAN 1stLt R. E. HULSLANDER	1-12 Sept 1967 16-30 Sept 1967

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Supply Officer	1stLt J. KETTLE	1-30 Sep 1967
FDC Officer	1stLt E. P. KICHI	1-12 Sep 1967
Battery Commander HqBtry	Capt A. R. JOYNER	1-30 Sep 1967
Executive Officer HqBtry	1stLt E. P. KICHI	13-30 Sep 1967
Battery Officer	1stLt R. J. HOOGENDOORN	27-30 Sep 1967

4. Average Monthly Strength

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
15	90	0	2

## PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During September the major effort of the First Field Artillery Group continued to be long range fires into the A SHAU Valley, general support for the 3d Marine Division with priority to deep reconnaissance activities and close defense, counter mortar and counter battery fires in defense of the fire support base. From 1 September to 12 September, First Field Artillery Group occupied two separate locations. The command group, consisting of the operations platoon and the communications platoon were located within the Cumberland operations area. The administration, supply and motor transport sections remained at the Phu Bai base area. On 12 September the entire First Field Artillery Group was located within the Phu Bai base area. On 28 September the First Field Artillery Group was assigned, by the Commanding General 3rd Marine Division, a special project consisting of establishing and operating a Supporting Arms Combat Operations Center in the Dong Ha Combat Base Area. The Command Group consisted of the operations platoon and communications personnel. The administration, motor transport and supply sections remained at the Phu Bai base area.

## PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. Operations

Cumberland The First Field Artillery Group, during the month of September, continued to participate in Operation Cumberland. The operation commenced prior to the reporting period and terminated 152400H September 1967.

The Commanding Officer First Field Artillery Group was designated as the area commander of the Cumberland area of operations.

The mission of the fire support base at Cumberland was to place long range fires into the A SHAU Valley, utilizing heavy artillery weapons (175mm Guns); provide deep supporting fires for long range reconnaissance patrols for units of the 3d Marine Division.

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The light/medium artillery weapons (105mm/155mm) were to provide supporting fires for ground operations and defense of the fire support base.

At 101115H Battery B, 6th Bn, 27thFA (USA) was chopped OPCON from the First Field Artillery Group to the Commanding General III MAF.

At 101130H 1st Platoon of Battery "L", 4th Bn, 12th Marines was chopped OPCON from First Field Artillery Group to its parent unit within the Phu Bai base area.

On 10 September the Commanding Officer and elements of the command group returned to the base area at Phu Bai.

On 12 September the remainder of the First Field Artillery Group returned to the base area at Phu Bai.

At 152400H Operation Cumberland terminated.

Special Project 28 September, the First Field Artillery Group was assigned by the Commanding General 3rd Marine Division a special project consisting of establishing and operating a Supporting Arms Combat Operations Center in the Dong Ha Combat Base Area.

At 281900H, the Commanding Officer, First Field Artillery Group, Operations Chief and three (3) Fire Control men embarked to Dong Ha as advance detail to establish a Supporting Arms Combat Operations Center.

At 300800H the operations platoon and communications personnel (total 28 personnel) embarked to Dong Ha to man the newly established C. O. C.

## 2. Personnel

### a. Losses

- (1) Battles: 0
- (2) Non-Battles: 4
- (3) Administrative: 0

### b. Gains

- (1) Replacements: 27

c. POW's Captured: None

d. Morale and Personnel Services; Morale is good. Mail service has been good. PX and laundry in the vicinity of Command Post.

e. Awards and Decorations: None

f. Promotions: 1 to 1st Lt  
2 to SGT  
4 to CPL  
3 to L/CPL

## 3. Administration

a. Normal administrative functions were accomplished during this month.

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b. Two office hours were conducted.

#### 4. Enemy, Weather and Terrain

a. There was a little intelligence matter received other than periodic intelligence summaries and target listings within the A SHAU Valley.

b. The first week of the month showed a marked increase in heavy rain. Weather did not effect any movement or commitments at the fire support base. During periods of heavy rain zone 3, fuze w, being fired by the 175mm Gun had premature bursts. This delayed firing during these periods.

#### 5. Training

a. Due to personnel shortages and operational commitments, training other than on-the-job training was negligible during this period.

6. Civic Action There was no significant civic action.

#### 7. Logistics

a. Normal logistics support continued for the First Field Artillery Group located at Phu Bai and also at the Fire Support Base at grid YD 602095.

b. The following ammunition was expended during the month for Operation Cumberland and supporting fires:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>155 HOW</u>	<u>175 GUN</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
4th Mar	6	8	14
ARVN	98	294	347
MLF	0	72	72
Cumberland	293	650	943
DIV	12	0	12
Recon	163	0	163
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>979</b>	<b>1551</b>

c. The following missions were fired during the month for the units designated:

#### Missions Fired by 175 Guns

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>OBSERVED</u>	<u>UNOBSERVED/H&amp;I</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
4th Mar	0	2	2
ARVN	0	51	51
MLF	0	22	22
Cumberland	3	190	193
DIV	0	0	0
Recon	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>268</b>

ENCLOSURE (1)

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Missions Fired by 155 HOW(SP)

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>OBSERVED</u>	<u>UNOBSERVED/H&amp;I</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
4th Mar	0	2	2
ARVN	0	28	28
MLF	0	0	0
Cumberland	0	100	100
DIV	0	1	1
Recon	28	3	31
TOTAL	28	134	162

6.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART IV

CHRONOLOGY OF SUBORDINATE COMMANDS  
AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

✓ Appendix 1

✓ Appendix 2

S-1 Journal

S-3 Journal

ENCLOSURE (1)

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S-1, First Field Artillery Group  
Phu Bai, RVN  
010001H to 302400H September 1967

010001 - Journal opened.

052030 - GySgt J. W. BERGERON SR. to sk 3dMedBn.

060730 - Sgt F. ACEVEDO and Sgt R. T. GORMAN promoted to present rank.

060800 - 1stLt B. W. PEARCE to TAD, Japan.

061000 - 1stLt S. A. JONES III from TAD, Okinawa.

080900 - Cpl L. J. MOLITOR JR. to sk 3dMedBn.

081800 - 1stLt J. KETTLER promoted to present rank.

101630 - Cpl K. M. DAY from TAD, Hartford, Conn. (Spl Lv).

111030 - Cpl L. J. MOLITOR JR. from sk.

111600 - Cpl D. ALANIZ JR. from TAD, San Antonio, Texas (Spl Lv).

121000 - 1st Lt D. B. ANDERSON to sk 3dMedBn.

121300 - NJP imposed on Sgt K. E. HANSING II.

160630 - Cpl W. T. HAMPER, Cpl D. F. BATOVSKY, Cpl K. J. MEYER, Cpl C. E. ZWIERSZYNA, LCpl R. L. FRIEDMAN, LCpl D. J. FROMMELT, and LCpl J. S. GUTHRIE promoted to present rank.

171200 - PFC R. J. MERRILL to sk NSA DaNang RVN.

191000 - 1stLt B. W. PEARCE from TAD, Japan.

191500 - Cpl K. J. MEYER to sk 3dMedBn.

240800 - SSgt R. L. JONES to TAD, 12th Marines.

251030 - PFC R. J. MERRILL from sk.

260800 - 1stLt E. P. KICHI to TAD.

261200 - 1stLt S. A. JONES III to TAD, 12th Marines.

261333 - PFC S. GRAVES JR. to sk 3dMedBn.

281315 - NJP imposed on PFC E. J. REYNOLDS.

302400 - Journal closed.

8.

ENCLOSURE (1)  
*Appendix 1*  
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S-3, First Field Artillery Group  
Phu Bai, RVN  
010001H To 302400H September 1967

- 010001 - Opened journal.
- 010125 - Phu Bai under mortar attack, FAG not hit.
- 030953 - CG, FME FAG arrived this position.
- 031019 - CG, FME FAG departed this position.
- 061625 - Div FSCC required zone 4 shifting fire on 20 NVL/VC at grid 591151 unobserved fire.
- 070745 - A SHAU Valley now belongs to the Air Wing. Reported by Div FSCC.
- 071010 - From Div FSCC ASK no longer in effect.
- 091200 - B/6/27 Reported they will check fire, except for emergency, to get ready to CSMO.
- 101115 - B/6/27 in march order and ready to leave, FIC secured.
- 101130 - B/6/67 and L-X/4/12 CSMO. 1st FAG CSMO, leaving personnel behind to tear down bunkers.
- 101630 - FAG CO departed area.
- 121300 - CSMO for FAG personnel remaining in Cumberland area.
- 121700 - FAG personnel returned to Phu Bai.
- 181800 - FAG assumed 100% alert from Div.
- 190700 - Secured from alert status.
- 281900 - CO 1st FAG dispatched to Dong Ha by Asst Div Commanding General with advance party.
- 291030 - Warning order issued to augment the command at Dong Ha. All 0848 and 0844 personnel to depart this afternoon.
- 291200 - CO 1st FAG returned to Command Post.
- 291500 - CO 1st FAG and 28 men went to Dong Ha for transportation to Dong Ha.
- 291600 - CO 1st FAG and 28 men returned due to lack of transportation to Dong Ha.

9.

ENCLOSURE (1)  
*Appendix 2*  
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300800 - CO, 1st FAG and 28 men departed area for Dong Ha. Six (6) of the personnel and Three (3) vehicles went by Rough Rider, the CO and remaining personnel went by aircraft.

301100 - CO and party arrived at Dong Ha .

301530 - Rough Rider party arrived at Dong Ha .

312400 - Journal closed.

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