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HEADQUARTERS
 2d Light AA Missile Battalion
 Marine Wing Headquarters Group-1
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing (Adv)
 Fleet Marine Force, Pacific
 FPO San Francisco, California, 96601

2/DRL/cwr
 9 Nov 1965

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing
 Via: Commanding Officer, Marine Wing Headquarters Group-1

Subj: Command Chronology Report

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.1A
 (b) MGO 5750.2

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
 DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
 DOD DIR 5200.10

1. The following report is submitted in accordance with reference (a) and (b).
2. Items listed in this report include the following:
 - a. The arrival of the battalions three firing batteries on 10 September, 1965. The three firing batteries arrived at Chu Lai on September 10 aboard three LST's; The USS Henry County, The USS Stone County, and the USS Jerome County. The next morning off loading was started and by 13 September all personnel and equipment were ashore.
 - b. The arrival of H&S Battery and the Battalion Staff on 15 September, 1965. H&S Battery and the Battalion Command and Staff arrived at Chu Lai on 15 September on board The USS Monticello, an LSD. Off loading started the following day and by 18 September all personnel and equipment were ashore.
 - c. The death of Master Sergeant WEST on 17 September, 1965. In the morning a TD-18 tractor backed over Master Sergeant George A WEST, the Battalion Communications Chief, crushing his chest and abdomen.
 - d. Camp dedication on 29 September, 1965. The Battalion Headquarters area was formally dedicated as "Camp George A. West" in honor of Master Sergeant WEST. A eulogy was composed and delivered by Captain R. C. BRIGHT, the Battalion Communications Officer.
 - e. Preparation of "A" Battery position from 18 September, to 2 October, 1965. Prior to moving into a final position on the island of Ky Hoa, "A" Battery had to clear a space in the jungle and cut a road up the face of a hill. The land for the position was purchased, but some difficulties were experienced constructing the access road. The local villagers had to be paid for individuals trees and areas of swordgrass destroyed. The villagers also complained about the battery using bamboo in construction of the camp and again had to be paid.

- f. The battalion became operational on 2 October 1965. On October 2nd

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 10 Sept - Oct 1965

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the Battalion assumed operational control over the three firing batteries. Prior to this time the batteries were autonomous. On this date the battalion acquisition radar and Anti-Aircraft Operations Center were put into use and the battalion commenced Anti-Aircraft Warfare Exercises.

g. Presentation of the Army Commendation Medal to Captain R. P. Copatosto on 10 October, 1965. Captain Copatosto received the Army Commendation Medal for outstanding performance of duty while an instructor at the Army Air Defense School, Fort Bliss, Texas. The presentation was made by Major E. F. PENICO, the Battalion Commanding Officer.

h. Injury of Pvt Phillips on 12 October 1965. Pvt Phillips of "C" Battery received 1st and 2nd degree burns when a gasoline lantern he was filling exploded. Pvt Phillips was evacuated to "B" Medical Company and from there to the Naval Hospital in Japan.

i. Summary of Anti-Aircraft Warfare Exercise results to 31 October, 1965. Including both mock raids flown by aircraft returning from combat missions and local friendly aircraft designated as hostile for practice purposes. The battalion had a total of 652 engagements. Of these 555 were successful, giving the battalion an 85% kill.

j. Support provided other units since arrival. Due to the large number of vehicles in the battalion motor transport, support has been continually provided to all units at Chu Lai when needed.



E. F. PENICO
Major USMC
Commanding

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Command Chronology Report

1. Organizational Dataa. Unit designations and locations

UNCLASSIFIED
 2d Light Anti-Aircraft Missile Battalion
 MWHG-1 1st MAW (Adv)
 Location - Chu Lai, Vietnam

(2) Subordinate units of this command

- (a) "H&S" Battery, 2d Light Anti-Aircraft Missile Battalion
 MWHG-1 1st MAW (Adv)
 Location - Chu Lai, Vietnam
- (b) Battery "A", 2d Light Anti-Aircraft Missile Battalion
 MWHG-1 1st MAW (Adv)
 Location - Chu Lai, Vietnam
- (c) Battery "B", 2d Light Anti-Aircraft Missile Battalion
 MWHG-1 1st MAW (Adv)
 Location - Chu Lai, Vietnam
- (d) Battery "C", 2d Light Anti-Aircraft Missile Battalion
 MWHG-1 1st MAW (Adv)
 Location - Chu Lai, Vietnam

(3) Attachments - None

b. Commanders and Staff Officers

- (1) E. F. PENICO Major USMC
 Battalion Commanding Officer
- (2) M. S. JOLLY Major USMC
 Battalion Executive Officer
- (3) W. S. MILLER Major USMC
 Battalion S-2/S-3
- (4) R. P. CAPATOSTO Captain USMC
 Battalion S-4
- (5) J. H. ROSENTHAL CWO-2 USMC
 Battalion S-1
- (6) D. H. DINWIDDIE Captain USMC
 H&S Battery Commanding Officer
- (7) M. J. CUMMINGS 2dLt USMCR
 H&S Battery Executive Officer

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- (8) J. A. DESPOTAKIS Captain USMC
Battery "A" Commanding Officer
- (9) D. J. CHRISTENSEN 1stLt USMC
Battery "A" Executive Officer
- (10) C. G. RAHM Jr. Captain USMC
Battery "B" Commanding Officer
- (11) D. B. WILSHUN 2dLt USMC
Battery "B" Executive Officer
- (12) C. B. MCCOY 1stLt USMC
Battery "C" Commanding Officer
- (13) A. B. CARRANO Jr. 2dLt USMC
Battery "C" Executive Officer

e. Average monthly strength

(1) H&S Battery	268
(2) Battery A	89
(3) Battery B	89
(4) Battery C	86
(5) Battalion Total	532

2. Significant Events

a. The battalions three firing batteries arrived at Chu Lai on 10 September, 1965.

b. H&S Battery and the Battalion Command and Staff arrived at Chu Lai on 15 September, 1965.

c. Master Sergeant George A WEST was killed by a TD-18 tractor on 17 September, 1965.

d. The Battalion Headquarters area was formally dedicated as "Camp George A WEST" on 29 September, 1965.

e. Battery A prepared positions in the jungle on Ky Hoa Island from 18 September, 1965 to 2 October, 1965.

f. The Battalion became operational on 2 October, 1965.

g. Captain R. P. CAPATOSTO was presented the Army Commendation Medal on 10 October 1965.

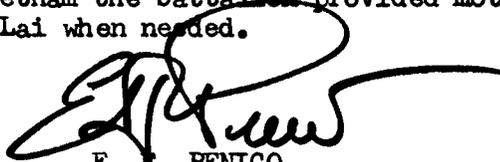
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h. Pvt Phillips of Battery C was burned when a gasoline lantern he was filling exploded on 12 October 1965.

i. During the reporting period the battalion engaged 652 Anti-Aircraft Warfare Exercise raids. 555 were successful, giving a 85% Kill.

j. Since arriving in Vietnam the battalion provided motor transport support to all units at Chu Lai when needed.



E. F. PENICO
Major USMC
Commanding

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