



HEADQUARTERS
2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines
1st Marine Division (Rein), FME
FPO San Francisco 96602

2nd BN, 3rd MAR, B & C
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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, First Marine Division
Subj: Command Chronology for period 010001H to 312400H Aug 68
Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
(b) FMFPAGO 5750.8
(c) DivO 5750.2B
Encl: ✓(1) 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines Command Chronology
for 010001H to 312400H Aug 68.

2/3

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

J. W. Davis
J. W. DAVIS

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HEADQUARTERS
2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines
1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF
APO San Francisco 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

010001H to 312400 August 1968

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<u>1. DESIGNATION</u>	<u>COMMANDER</u>	<u>PERIOD</u>
2nd Bn, 3rd Mar	LtCol J. W. DAVIS	1-31 Aug 68

SUBORDINATE UNITS

R&S Co	1stLt W. W. DUNDAP	1-31 Aug 68
Echo Co	Capt W. E. RUSSEL	1-31 Aug 68
Foxtrot Co	1stLt W. C. DISHMAN	1-27 Aug 68
	1stLt V. J. NORISGA	28-31 Aug 68
Golf Co	2ndLt W. J. TEHAN III	1-31 Aug 68
Hotel Co	Capt J. J. MCGOY	1-31 Aug 68

2. LOCATION

CAM LO DISTRICT, QUANG TRI PROVINCE, RVN	1-31 Aug 68
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3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer	Maj J. C. CLICK	1-31 Aug 68
S-1/Adjutant	1stLt P. J. MATTHEWS	1-31 Aug 68
S-2	1stLt V. J. NORISGA	1-27 Aug 68
	Capt P. J. SINOTT	28-31 Aug 68
S-3	Capt J. L. TEROCKMORTON	1-31 Aug 68
S-4	1stLt T. M. MCCAFFREY	1-31 Aug 68
S-5	1stLt V. J. NORISGA	1-27 Aug 68
	Capt P. J. SINOTT	28-31 Aug 68
CommO	1stLt . T. GEORGE, Jr.	1-31 Aug 68

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
29	1050

<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
4	56

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During the month of August, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines remained under the administrative control of the 1st Marine Regiment and under operational control of the 3rd Marine Regiment.

The Battalion continued to participate in Operation LANCASTER II in the northern sector of I Corps. The mission of the 2nd Battalion during the first portion of the month was to provide security at TRON SON LAM, CAMP CARROLL, DONG HA MOUNTAIN OP and that portion of National Route #9 within 3rd Marine AO.

During the remainder of August the Battalion AO was changed and modified several times. Activities were characterized by Battalion and Company size search and destroy operations throughout the 3rd Marine AO.

Enemy resistance during the month was light and sporadic until 15 August when the Battalion engaged an estimated NVA Company west of CAM LO. The action resulted in 43 NVA killed and the capture of numerous enemy weapons and miscellaneous equipment while the Battalion sustained only light casualties.

August ended with the 2nd Battalion providing security at CAMP CARROLL, DONG HA MOUNTAIN OP, that portion of National Route #9 within the AO and conducting search and destroy operations within the AO.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Personnel and Administration

a. Awards. 17 Bronze Star Medals, 4 Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry Medals, 5 Navy Commendation Medals, 1 Navy Cross Medal and 1 Silver Star Medal were awarded during the month of August.

b. R&R. A total of 66 R&R quotas were utilized during the month of August.

c. Personnel Losses and Gains for August.

USMC

<u>OFFICERS</u>		<u>ENLISTED</u>	
<u>JOINED</u>	<u>DROPPED</u>	<u>JOINED</u>	<u>DROPPED</u>
<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>94</u>	<u>115</u>

USN

<u>OFFICERS</u>		<u>ENLISTED</u>	
<u>JOINED</u>	<u>DROPPED</u>	<u>JOINED</u>	<u>DROPPED</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>6</u>

d. Casualties for August 1968.

	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
KIA	0	0	0	0
WIA	1	13	0	0
DOW	0	0	0	0
MIA	0	0	0	0

e. Promotions. Private First Class - 3, Lance Corporal - 14, Corporal - 18.

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a. Summary of Enemy Activity. Enemy contact for the month was light. The heaviest contact occurred on 15 August when the Battalion encountered an estimated enemy company size unit dug in at XD 076625 and at XD 086597. Total enemy personnel and equipment losses for the month were as follows:

(1) Personnel

NVA KIA - 67
 NVA POW - None
 REFUGEES - None

(2) Equipment and Weapons

13 - AK-47's.
 1 - (Heavy) .30 Caliber Machine Gun
 2 - RPD "56" Light Assault Machine Guns
 2 - SKS Carbines
 1 - Pair Binoculars
 1 - Pair 2 inch Wire Cutters
 1 - Diary
 19 - AK-47 Magazines
 2 - Drum Magazines
 1500 - AK-47 Ammunition Rounds
 10 - 60mm Mortar Rounds
 9 - 122mm Rocket Rounds
 2 - Blocks C-4
 23 - Chicom Grenades

b. Weather and Terrain. The weather in most of our areas of operations has been fair to hot. Temperatures ranged from 100 degrees to 70 degrees. Toward the end of the month there was increased precipitation usually in the late afternoon and evening. Winds also became more prevalent gusting as much as 10 knots by mid morning and 15-20 knots in the afternoon. Terrain varied within the Battalion's various TAOR's. In general it was dominated by steep hills and mountains with triple canopy and dense undergrowth. The valleys, draws, and streambeds were predominantly heavily vegetated with elephant grass and bamboo.

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3. Operations

- 011705H Hotel Company received 20 rounds of enemy artillery and rockets at XD 94986109. Called in counter battery. AO called and directed fixed wing.
- 012000H At YD 019593 Hotel company reported three flares, called artillery mission. Received negative clearance.
- 012035H At YD 019593 Hotel company observed 200-300 rounds of AA fire.
- 022200H At YD 019593 Hotel company reported two flares.
- 032220H At YD 019593 Hotel company observed two lights. Called in artillery mission. Lights went out at beginning of artillery mission.
- 040735H At YD 068584 friendly artillery prepfire fell 500 meters right and 800 meters short. Artillery battery will investigate.
- 041530H At YD 057585 Golf company discovered 20 NVA bunkers. Bunkers heavily damaged, apparent TPQ's. Bunkers not used in approximately two months. Destroyed bunkers.
- 041630H At YD 010641 Hotel company spotted 15-20 NVA moving over ridge. Artillery mission called, excellent coverage of target.
- 041915H At YD 013595 Hotel company spotted 2 NVA moving over ridgeline. Called in artillery mission.
- 062050H At YD 018593 Hotel company observed AA fire at above coordinates. Called in artillery mission.
- 081700H At YD 040625 Echo company found rocket position and 3 rounds of 122mm. Position has not been occupied for approximately 1 month.

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- 091100H At YD 056608 Golf company found 5 enemy bunkers and fighting holes. Bunkers and holes appeared not to be used recently. Destroyed bunkers and holes.
- 111325H At YD 074570 Golf company found four Chicom grenades while conducting sweep.
- 130250H At YD 098600 Echo company received incoming grenades. Searched area with negative results.
- 131230H At YD 088613 Echo company found four living bunkers. Each bunker was capable of housing 3-5 men. Bunkers unused for approximately 3 weeks. Destroyed bunkers.
- 131645H At YD 090602 Echo company found fresh tracks which led to four bunkers which were recently used. Destroyed bunkers.
- 141105H At YD 088602 Echo company found enemy base camp consisting of 6 bunkers, 3 had false bottoms. Uncovered 2 M1 Garbines and assorted equipment. Destroyed bunkers.
- 141220H At YD 087603 Echo company found enemy bunker containing 4 100 pound bags of rice. Fragged Helicopter to pick up rice. Destroyed bunker.
- 141325H At YD 114599 Hotel company found 1 fighting hole with bamboo cover. Destroyed hole.
- 141415H At YD 096603 Echo company found enemy bunkers and 2 100 pound bags of rice. Fragged helicopter to pick up rice. Destroyed bunkers.
- 141415H At YD 094598 Golf company found 2 M-16 rifles while searching for caves along river. Rifles will be brought in to CP.

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- 141435H At YD 111598 Hotel company found old trench line and bunker approximately 9 months old. Destroyed bunker.
- 141450H At YD 112597 Hotel company found bunker with no overhead cover with good fields of fire. Bunker 2-5 days old. Destroyed bunker.
- 150855H At YD 086592 Foxtrot company lead elements received sniper fire from above coordinates. Called in artillery mission and requested fixed wing.
- 151030H At YD 086592 and YD 084597 Foxtrot company received automatic weapon fire from YD 080596. Estimated small number enemy using fire to harass and delay friendly movements. Deploying to dislodge enemy.
- 151150H At YD 085593 enemy fire opposing Foxtrot company has increased. Larger enemy size force than originally believed. Estimate company size enemy dug in and appeared to be holding their ground - not withdrawing. Employing all infantry weapons, tanks, 81's and artillery.
- 151235H At YD 077623 Hotel company received fire from enemy to north. Engaged enemy with heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire. Killed 15 NVA as they fled.
- 151300H At YD 079598 Echo company lead element observed movement to front. Opened fire killing 5 NVA. Other enemy in area returned fire. No friendly casualties.
- 151730H At YD 080596 Echo company while sweeping area of today's contact found 1 heavy .30 caliber machine gun and assorted weapons, ammunition and equipment. Will forward weapons to 5-2.
- 151735H At YD 080596 Echo company swept area of days enemy contact. Found 41 NVA dead along with weapons and equipment.

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- 151800H Assumed OPCOM of A Company, 1st Bn, 3rd Mar.
- 160225H At YD 076623 Hotel company received 10 82mm mortar rounds from above coordinates. Called in counter artillery mission.
- 160240H At YD 076623 Hotel company received 9 82mm mortar rounds. Called counter artillery mission with excellent coverage.
- 160800H At YD 080596 Echo company, while searching area of yesterday contact, found 2 NVA bodies, 2 AK-47's, 2 notebooks and numerous equipment. Gear forwarded to S-2.
- 160945H At YD 083603 Foxtrot company found a booby trapped 60mm mortar round. Blew booby trap in place.
- 161800H Chopped OPCOM of A Company, 1st Bn, 3rd Marines.
- 171050H At YD 075614 Hotel company found enemy mortar position surrounded by 6 freshly dug fighting holes.
- 171630H At YD 095593 Golf company while searching ville with team from 15th CIT found 2 pounds of C-4 and aircraft flare. Apprenended 4 VCS and destroyed aircraft flare.
- 180030H At YD 066606 Echo company LP observed 5 NVA moving on ridgeline toward position. Took enemy under fire wounding 2. Enemy withdrew to west with wounded. Called artillery mission on enemy route of withdrawl.
- 181620H At YD 059601 Golf company found a well used trail running north and south through elephant grass. Also found a launching sight for rockets which was about 1 month old.

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- 230945H At YD 080596 Hotel company found 2 bunkers, one containing 31 82mm mortar rounds and the other containing 50 82mm mortar rounds. One of the bunkers was booby trapped with trip wire across the entrance. Blew bunkers and mortar rounds in place.
- 241700H Assumed OPCON of Echo Company, 2nd Bn, 9th Marines.
- 251200H Chopped OPCON of Echo company, 2nd Bn, 9th Marines.
- 252245H At YD 064544 Golf company observed light and movement southeast of position. Received 1 incoming M-79 round. Called in artillery mission.
- 261445H At YD 048569 Fox company found 2 freshly dug graves. Found new coffins containing decomposed bodies.
- 262045H At YD 091514 Hotel company observed 4-5 personnel 150 meters west of position. Called in 81mm mortar mission.
- 271200H Assumed OPCON of K company, 3rd Bn, 9th Marines.
- 271600H At YD 054514 unit from DBT-5 (PI) located at MAI LOC went to recover body of VN civilian killed by boobytrap. When unit arrived at scene received approximately 50 rounds of AK-47 fire. Fresh trenches and other evidence at scene indicated large enemy unit spent previous night in vicinity. Fired 81mm mission and called in artillery.
- 272005H At YD 093514 VN civilian (wood cutter) reported that he observed 10 NVA (9 men and 1 woman) at YD 068513. NVA dressed in green utilities jungle hats and rubber sandals and were armed with carbines and M-26's. Fired 81mm mission on coordinates.

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- 281400H Assumed OPCOM of Bravo company, 1st Bn, 3rd Marines.
- 281400H Chopped Echo company, 2nd Bn, 3rd Mar, to 1st Bn, 3rd Marines.
- 281500H Chopped OPCOM of Kilo company, 3rd Bn, 9th Marines.
- 290830H Chopped OPCOM of Bravo company, 1st Bn, 3rd Marines.
- 290830H Assumed OPCOM of Echo company, 2nd Bn, 3rd Marines.
- 291730H At YD 065584 Hotel company found 1 NVA helmet in good condition, 1 82mm mortar round and several old fighting holes. Destroyed helmet and 82mm round.
- 291845H At YD 002572 Foxtrot company found an abandoned friendly position that had been occupied by the enemy within the last 24 hours. A small amount of rice in plastic bags was found.
- 301515H At YD 018593 Golf company unit, located on top of Dong Ha Mountain OP, observed muzzle flashes and heard the report of guns from northerly direction.
- 301715H At YD 045585 Hotel company observed 2 figures moving approximately 700 meters east of their position. Unable to determine type of uniforms or if they had weapons. Called in 81's and artillery.
- 301730H At YD 045585 Hotel company observed figures moving again. Fired M-60 and 60mm. One figure dropped.
- 301910H At YD 002573 Foxtrot company noticed secondary explosions while firing artillery prep. Fired additional rounds in area of explosions.
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- 302125H At ^{XD} YD 002573 Foxtrot company IP spotted about 15 enemy to west of companies night position. After the initial spotting, enemy were also detected to the south and east. Artillery missions and 81's were called in.
- 310805H At ^{XD} YD 998572 Foxtrot company searching area of last night's action found 4 NVA KIA, 2 AK-47's, 1 SKS, 7 Chicom grenades and miscellaneous 782 gear. Numerous blood trails in area.
- 310900H At YD 053586 Hotel company patrol searching area where 2 figures were observed moving the day before, found new comm wire running from above coordinates to position vicinity YD 045583.
- 311905H At YD 027562 Golf company OP spotted 6 personal moving in a south easterly direction vicinity YD 023562. Artillery 81's, 60mm, M-60 and 106's were employed.
- 312110H At YD 027562 Golf company saw 6 NVA/VC moving from south to north crossing road at YD 023562. Artillery, 81's, M-60 and 60mm were employed.
- 312210H At YD 027562 Golf company received 60mm fire outside of their position. 1 incoming chicom on west of perimeter. Enemy were wearing helmets but no packs. Artillery, 81's, 60mm and small arms were returned.

4. Training. The command has continued training in all general military subjects when not deployed on operations. A week-long intensive indoctrination program is conducted for the training of all replacement personnel with emphasis on familiarization, care, clearing and safety of the M-16 rifle. Technical training was accomplished through both attendance at school and on-the-job training. During the month of July the following schools were utilized:

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<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NO. ATT.</u>
Staff NCO Leadership	Danang	1
Embarkation School	Danang	1
NCO Leadership School	Danang	4
Officer Leadership	Danang	2
Supply Accounting School	Danang	1
Embarkation School	Okinawa	1
Basic Inf Wpn Repair	Okinawa	1
Basic Ammo Tech	Okinawa	1
Comm Crypte School	Japan	1

5. Artillery Support.

a. During the month of August Bravo Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marines was in direct support of this Battalion. Artillery fire support was excellent.

b. During the operation conducted from 15 August to 23 August, high angle artillery fire was required. High winds and map inaccuracies caused artillery inaccuracy at times. This should be considered in planning operations in this area: Grid YD 0261 to YD 0562 to YD 0860.

c. An extensive R&I program was conducted both while the Battalion was in stationary positions and while operations were being conducted. Direct and general support Batteries fired 948 R&I missions. The following data pertains to missions fired during the month of August:

105mm Howitzer

Observed Missions	643
Unobserved Missions	635
R&I	827

Alpha 1/12 105mm

HE-W:	8615
HE-VT:	369
ILLUM:	155
WP:	698
Fire Cracker	54
Total	9891

155MM Howitzer - 8 inch

Observed Missions	62
Unobserved Missions	323
R&I	121

Charlie 1/12 105mm

HE-W:	7647
HE-VT:	430
ILLUM:	302
WP:	853
Fire Cracker	40
Total	9272

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Bravo 1/12 105mm

HE-Q: 7816
 HE-VT: 325
 ILLUM: 2
 WP: 451
 Total 8604

Echo 2/12 105mm

HE-Q: 104
 WP: 5
 Total 109

Tango 3/12 155mm

HE-Q: 387
 WP: 72
 Total 459

Foxtrot 2/12 105mm

HE-Q: 391
 Total 391

Kilo 4/13 155mm

HE-Q: 188
 ILLUM: 2
 WP: 5
 Total 195

Lima 4/12 155mm

HE-Q: 238
 WP: 11
 Total 249

Mike 4/12 155mm

HE-Q: 2294
 HE-VT: 95
 ILLUM: 50
 WP: 13
 Total 2452

Kilo 4/12 155mm

HE-Q: 1841
 HE-VT: 76
 WP: 29
 Total 1946

1st 8 Inch

HE-Q: 343
 Total 343

6. Air Support

a. The air support for the month of August was satisfactory.

b. There was a total of 207 support missions flown for this Battalion during the month of August.

(1) Med-evac: 141
 (2) Visual Recon: 17
 (3) Admin: 11
 (4) Logistics: 42
 (5) AO: 6

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c. There were a total of 4 flights of fixed wing run for this Battalion during the month of August.

7. Logistics

a. General

(1) The overall logistical support of the Battalion is satisfactory.

(2) The Battalion's forward supply group was at LZ STUD from 1 August through 4 August with classes I, III, IV and V at LZ STUD and class II support coming from FLSG-B. Since 4 August the re-supply has been conducted from DONG HA LSA with logistical support from FLSG-B. The rear in Phu Bai also obtains class II items from FLSG-A.

(3) The difficulty in movement of equipment still exists. However, this is somewhat relieved by frequent convoys conducted by 1st Motors and 3rd Motors between CA LU and DONG HA to PHU BAI.

(4) Helicopter support teams furnished by 3rd Shore Party Bn have proved satisfactory.

b. Supply

(1) During this reporting period Battalion supply remained with the rear elements at PHU BAI. The operational commitments of the Battalion during this period required two additional personnel to be deployed with the forward element for resupply requisitioning. An Armorer was sent to the forward element for purposes of first and second echelon maintenance repairs.

(2) During the month of August, Battalion supply drew class II equipment from FLSG-A in PHU BAI and in limited quantities from FLC in DAMANG. The Battalion rear at CA LU drew class II items in limited quantities from FLSG-B in DONG HA.

c. Motor Transport

(1) During the month of August the motor transport section supported the Battalion in the field from DONG HA with 20 M-274's and 5 M-151's with trailers and 2 M-37's with trailers. The remainder of the vehicles were maintained in support of the Battalion rear at PHU BAI.

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(2) FLSG-A and FLSG-B provided maintenance support for the motor transport section and service was regarded as good.

8. Communications. Battalion Comm supported the Battalion movement through out the month. With the use of a log-periodic antenna, communications were maintained between the S-4 in DONG HA and the CP through out its movement from Camp CARROLL-turnoff, to CAM LO, through the 15-23 August operation and subsequently to Camp CARROLL. The maximum range of transmission was approximately 20 miles.

Personnel and equipment presently are major problems. Comm received one 5931 radar technician replacement, and some resupply problems were encountered with BA-386's and B-189 handsets. Comm received 6 new AF/PRC-25's through supply for August.

9. Medical

a. First echelon care was provided by the hospital corpsmen assigned to the line companies. They were equipped to hold routine sick call and provide emergency treatment for battle casualties.

b. Second echelon care was provided by the Battalion Aid Station which was composed of several units whose location varied according to the tactical situation. The BAS at PHU BAI was static and served to provide the administrative and medical supply support for the entire Battalion. A field BAS composed of a medical officer and several corpsmen with such equipment to hold sick call and provide emergency surgical and medical support accompanied the Battalion on its operations in August.

c. Third echelon support was provided by the following institutions where all medical and surgical subspecialties were represented along with the necessary equipment to provide full medical care: 1st Med Bn - Phu Bai, RVN; 3rd Med Bn - Dong Ha and Phu Bai, RVN; NSA Hospital - Danang, RVN; USS Repose AH-16 and USS Sanctuary AH-17.

d. Statistics

Outpatients	932	Burns	19	URI	1
Immunizations	167	Heat	11	Urinary	9
Prescriptions	390	Dental	6	GSW	16
FUO	36	Gastro Intestinal	17	Malaise	78
Orthopedics	24	Rabies	9		
Ear	23	NP	2		
Dermatology	75	VD	10		

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f. Legal and Discipline. A total of 3 Non-Judicial Punishments were held during August 1968. There are 1 Special Courts-Martial and 1 Investigation pending. There were 2 Investigations completed this month.

g. Pay and Allowances. Satisfactory.

h. Postal. Fair.

i. Post Exchange. Exchange facilities in Phu Bai are available to the 2/3 Rear. No PX facilities have been available to the Battalion in the field. Supplementary packs are being obtained through resupply channels.

j. Religious Services. Catholic Mass was celebrated by the Battalion Chaplain whenever possible in the field. Protestant services were conducted by visiting chaplains when available. 2/3 Rear personnel attended services in the Phu Bai complex.

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