

3d 8" HOWITZER BATTERY (SP)
11th Marines
1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF
FPO San Francisco 96602

JPC:jwb
5700
9 Jun 1968

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

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

Encl: (1) 3d 8" Howitzer Battery (SP) Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of referenced (a) through (b) enclosure (1) is submitted

J. P. Crowley
J. P. CROWLEY

Declassified upon removal of Enclosure (1)

3rd 8" How BTRY
CMD CHRON

3d 8" BT NR 0/0050-68
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3d 8" HOWITZER BATTERY (SP)
11th Marines
1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF
FPO San Francisco 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
1 MAY 1968 TO 31 MAY 1968

INDEX

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

1

ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART I
ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

~~SECRET~~1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

3d 8" Howitzer Battery (SP)

Major J. P. CROWLEY 1 to 31 May 1968

2. LOCATION

1 to 31 May DANANG, RVN.

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer	1 to 31 May	Capt. J. L. MILLER
1st Platoon Commander	1 to 31 May	Capt. D. L. BERMAN
2nd Platoon Commander	1 to 7 May 7 to 31 May	1stLt. N. A. LIEURANCE Capt. R. RUTHFIELD
3d Platoon Commander	1 to 31 May	1stLt. M. C. ELLERBEE
Supply Officer	1 to 31 May	1stLt. L. T. REYNOLDS
First Sergeant	1 to 7 May 7 to 31 May	1stSgt J. N. LEECH GySgt. C. DREWEY

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>OTHER</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
10	194	0	4	0	0

PART II
NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the period 1 - 31 May the battery continued to support operations of the First Marine Division. The modified mission of the battery was as follows: 1st Platoon, 3d 8" Howitzer Battery (SP) provides the control element for provisional battery "Q". Firing elements include 1st Platoon, 3d 8" Howitzer Battery (SP); "A" Platoon, 3d 155 Guns (SP) and a detachment of "W" Battery, 3d Battalion, 11th Marines. The mission of provisional battery "Q" is to provide close support for the ARVN forces in the An Hoa area and co-located USMC forces. 1st Platoon is also in a GS/Rein mission of 3d Battalion, 11th Marines. 2nd Platoon remains OPCON to 1st FAG and

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ADCON to 3d 8" Howitzer Battery (SP). 3d Platoon continued its GS/Rein mission of 3d Battalion, 11th Marines. Priority of fires for 3d Platoon was assigned to 1st Recon. Battalion. The Commanding Officer of 3d 8" Howitzer Battery (SP) exercised responsibility as artillery position area coordinator for the artillery complex (AT921799).

During the month of May the Battery fired the following missions:

<u>OBSERVED</u>	<u>UNOBSERVED</u>	<u>H & I</u>	<u>TOTAL ROUNDS</u>
136	532	170	2552

Numerous missions were fired on enemy troop concentrations and positions. While firing 136 observed missions the Battery accounted for 185 confirmed KIA's, 48 structures destroyed, 17 secondary explosions, 3 rocket tubes destroyed, and 1 mortar tube destroyed.

Incidents of close combat during the month of May were: Rocket attacks on 3d 8" Howitzer Battery (SP) Headquarters Platoon during the early morning hours of 5, 13, and 21 May, and mortar attacks on 3d Platoon on 5, 6, and 31 May.

The battery continued its Civic Action Program in the villages of Trung Son, Ap Van Duong (1)/(2) and Huong Phouc.

PART III
SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION

(a) Losses:

- (1) Battle: none
- (2) Non-battle: three (3) enlisted
- (3) Administrative: eighteen (18) enlisted; two (2) officers

(b) Gains

- (1) Replacements: sixteen (16) enlisted; two (2) officers

(c)

(c) POW's captured: none

(d) Morale: excellent

(e) Personal Services: Sunday beach runs for approximately 20 men are provided for the battery. The battery provided the use of its Chapel to all personnel and the Enlisted Club provides entertainment twice monthly to all personnel in the Northern Artillery Cantonement.

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(f) Awards and Decorations: four (4) Purple Hearts

(g) Court Martials: two (2) Summary Court Martials; Article 15; four (4)

2. INTELLIGENCE

(a) Wire patrols and daylight reconnaissance patrols were sent out several times each week from the battery C.P.

(b) During the month the battery received numerous reports from the 5th Counterintelligence Team regarding VC tax collecting, demonstrations, VC propaganda, enemy documents, assassinations, sabotage of vehicles, interrogations of captured VC and VC rice caches.

(c) Intelligence spot reports and summaries were utilized on a continuing basis in providing for security of the battery command post.

3. TRAINING

(a) One enlisted attended Ammo Tech Scol; one enlisted attended Basic weapons Repair Scol; one officer attended Embarkation Scol, all schools are in Okinawa. One enlisted attended Maintenance Training Course, and one enlisted attended NCO Leadership Scol at Division Scols.

(b) The battery training schedule continues to emphasize safety in employment of weapons, general military subjects proficiency, and proficiency in MOS.

4. OPERATIONS

(a) 3d Platoon supported Operation Ballard Valley from 1 to 3 May, Operation Allen Brook from 4 to 17 May, and Operation Marmaluke Thrust from 19 to 31 May. All these operations were supported from 3d Platoons primary position (AT963610)

(b) 1st Platoon supported Operation Allen Brook from its primary position from 4 to 17 May.

5. COMMAND AND CONTROL

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>GRID</u>	<u>DIRECTION OF FIRE</u>
Hdqs 3d 8" Howitzer Battery (SP)	AT921799	
1st Platoon	AT876475	1200 and 5600
3d Platoon	AT965618	5200

6. CLOSE COMBAT

(a) On 5 May, shortly after 0200H the artillery complex (AT921799) was attacked with approximately 8 incoming 122mm rockets, no damage, no

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casualties.

(b) On May 5 at 0140H 3d Platoon received approximately 10 rounds of incoming 60 mm mortar fire, no damage, no casualties.

(c) On 6 May at 0315H 3d Platoon received approximately 7 rounds of incoming 60 mm mortar fire, no damage, no casualties.

(d) On 13 May at 0200H the artillery complex (AT921799) received approximately 5 incoming 122mm rockets, two (2) WIA'S and minor damage to material was sustained.

(e) On 21 May the artillery complex (AT921799) received 5 incoming 122mm rockets, no damage, no casualties.

(f) On 31 May at 0337H 3d Platoon received 15 incoming rounds of 60mm mortar fire, no damage, no casualties.

7. CIVIC ACTION

(a) During the month of May, 593 Vietnamese civilians were treated on Med Caps originated from the Northern Artillery Cantonment Complex. The majority of treatments were for skin diseases.

(b) 1,000 bars of soap, plus fresh fruit and candy were distributed to the Vietnamese in the surrounding villages and hamlets.

(c) Plans for constructing a new school in the village of Hoa Vien are being made by the Civil Affairs NCO, the Battery Interpreter, and the village chief of Hoa Vien.

PART IV SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. Documentation of 3d 8th Howitzer Battery (SP) Command Chronology

(a) Maps: Viet Nam 1:50,000 and Charts 8541 III, 6540 I, 6540II, 6540 III, 6540 IV, 6541 II, 6640 I, 6640 II, 6640 III 6739 IV, 6640 IV, 6641 II, 6641 III, 6739 II, 6739 III, 6739 I, Series L - not attached

(B) Unit Journal - Appendix A

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JOURNAL (3480)
 NAVMC 219 (REV. 5-63)

UNIT OR SECTION S - 1	
PLACE 3d 8th Howitzer Battery (SP)	
FROM (Date and hour) 010001 May 1968	TO (Date and hour) 312400 May 1968

(Classification)

TIME		SERIAL NO.	DATE TIME GROUP	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN	
IN	OUT				M-Maps S-Staff	T-Troops F-File
		1	050800	Capt. RUTHFIELD, Richard jdohg fr 5th 8 th How Btry (SP) ForTrps, 29 Palms, Calif. 2ndLt. SIGMAN, John G. jdohg fr 5th 8 th How Btry (SP) ForTrps, 29 Palms, Calif. Cpl. BOGER, Bobby E. jdohg fr 3d ReplCo. S StagBn. MCB CamPen, Calif. SSgt. COUVILLON, Ault J. jdohg fr 5th 8 th How Btry (SP) ForTrps, 29 Palms, Calif. Cpl. DEHART, Glendon L. jdohg fr 5th 8 th How Btry (SP) ForTrps, 29 Palms, Calif. GySgt. DRENEY, Clarence jdohg fr 5th 8 th How Btry (SP) ForTrps, 29 Palms, Calif. L/Cpl. GODIN, Donald H. jdohg fr 5th 8 th How Btry (SP) ForTrps, 29 Palms, Calif. Sgt. JACKSON, Floyd A, Jr. jdohg fr 5th 8 th How Btry (SP) ForTrps, 29 Palms, Calif. Sgt. LUNDEY, Edward G. jdohg fr 5th 8 th How Btry (SP) ForTrps, 29 Palms, Calif. L/Cpl. PODSADA, Jeffrey G. jdohg fr 5th 8 th How Btry (SP) ForTrps, 29 Palms, Calif. PFC SHIVERS, Douglas W. jdohg fr 3d ReplCo, StagBn, MCB CamPen, Calif. L/Cpl. TRISH, Nevin A. jdohg fr DefLangSeol, Monterey, Calif. SSgt. WALLEN, Fred L. jdohg fr 5th 8 th How Btry (SP) ForTrps, 29 Palms, Calif.		
		2	060800	Cpl. DUNFORD, Gary S. jdohg fr 5th 8 th How Btry (SP) ForTrps, 29 Palms, Calif. Cpl. KEATING, Charles M. to TAD in conn w/Emb course. SSgt. LARSON, Raymond E. jdohg fr 5th 8 th How Btry (SP) ForTrps, 29 Palms, Calif. Cpl. THOMAS, Thomas C. jdohg fr 5th 8 th How Btry (SP) ForTrps, 29 Palms, Calif. SSgt. WELBORN, Curtis M. jdohg fr 5th 8 th How Btry (SP) ForTrps, 29 Palms, Calif.		
		3	061300	Sgt HATTAWAY, David W. drop tr to nearest MarCorActy Conus, Auth RSO # 101-68 Sgt. DENSMORE, Karl B. drop to HqBtry this Regt. Auth RSO # 137-68 1stSgt LEECH, John N. drop tr to Camp S. D. Butler, Okinawa. Auth RSO # 138-68 Cpl. STANSBURY, Warren W. fr TAD 28-38 Mnt TrngCourse.		
		4	090800	Cpl. KEATING, Charles M. fr TAD Emb course		
		5	091300	1stLt. LIEURANCE, Newton A. Jr. drop tr to		

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PAGE NO.

PAGE 1 OF 5 PAGES

ENCLOSURE (1)

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JOURNAL (3480)
 NAVMC 219 (REV. 5-63)

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(Classification)

TIME		SERIAL NO.	DATE TIME GROUP	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN	
IN	OUT				M-Maps S-Staff	T-Troops F-File
				1st Armd Amphib Co. this Regt. Auth RSO # 139-68 Sgt. JACKSON, Floyd A. Jr. to notchg Quang Tri Province, RVN to sk 1st Hosp. Co. DaNang, RVN		
		6	101300	1st Lt. WAHNER, Richard L. fr TAD Emb scol Okinawa.		
		7	121300	Cpl. CHAMPION, Nicholas F. Jr. drop tr to nearest MarCorActy Coms, Auth RSO# 99-68 Cpl. KING, Gerard D. to TAD in conn w/NGO LdrScol.		
		8	140800	PFC EDELSON, Robert M. jdchg fr 1st replCo StagBn, MCB Campen, Calif;		
		9	141300	SSgt FRIDAY, Huey G. to TAD in conn w/Spl 30 day lv. Okinawa.		
		10	150800	PFC ABBOTT, Richard P.; PFC ALLES, John B.; Cpl. CANNON, Edward; L/Cpl LEWIS, David L. drop tr to 2nd Bn this Regt. Auth RSO#134-68 L/Cpl ONEILL, Dennis M. jdchg fr 2nd Bn 13th Mar.		
		11	170800	L/Cpl ADAMS, Donald C. Jr.; L/Cpl JOYWAIK, Walter G. jdchg fr 2nd Bn 13th Mar.		
		12	171300	Sgt. BUKSZAR, Frank J. drop tr to nearest MarCorActy Coms, Auth RSO# 101-68 L/Cpl KURGAN, Walter drop tr to nearest MarCorActy Coms, Auth RSO# 101-68		
		13	190800	Sgt. WOOD, Merrill W. Jr. fr TAD BasicWpns RepScol, Okinawa L/Cpl SMIGOWSKI, Paul D. fr TAD AmmoTech Scol, Okinawa.		
		14	191300	Sgt. BOLES, Richard A. drop tr to nearest MarCorActy Coms, Auth RSO# 104-68		
		15	200800	Cpl. ORTIZ, Peter M, to notchg to sk 1st Hosp Co DaNang, RVN L/Cpl WILLIAMS, Curtis Jr. drop to nearest MarCorActy Coms, Auth RSO# 99-68		
		16	201300	PFC BANISTER, Leslie A. jdchg fr 2nd Bn 13th Mar		
		17	210800	L/Cpl MANOR, Monte E. Jr.; Cpl JONES, Kenneth W. to TAD in conn W/Spl 30 da lv Coms.		
		18	240800	Cpl. BOGER, Bobby E. drop tr to 1st Bn this Regt. Auth RSO# 156-68.		
		19	260800	Cpl. CROZIER, James C. to notchg to sk, NSA DaNang, RVN Cpl. KING, Gerard D. fr TAD, NCOLdrScol.		

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PAGE NO.

PAGE 2 OF 54 PAGES

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JOURNAL (3480)
NAVMC 219 (REV. 5-63)

UNIT OR SECTION S - 3		SECRET
PLACE 3d 8 th Howitzer Battery (SP)		
FROM (Date and hour) 010001 May 1968	TO (Date and hour) 312400 May 1968	

(Classification)

TIME		SERIAL NO.	DATE TIME GROUP	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN	
IN	OUT				M-Maps S-Staff	T-Troops F-File
1640		1	011640	1st Platoon fires 9 HE on 8 VC reported by 1st Recon Bn insert (COW POKE) surveillance: 4 conf. KIAs. tgt # FZ 300.		F
0750		2	030750	3d Platoon 8 th How 351461# dn. Road wheel.		SF
1238		3	031238	3d Platoon 8 th How 351461# up.		SF
1915	1940	4	031915	1st Platoon fires 16 HE on VC bunkers rept by 1st Recon. Bn. insert (BLACK ACE) surveil 2 bunkers destroyed, 1 bunker damaged. tgt # FZ 321.		F
0530		5	040530	3d Platoon 8 th How 351480# down. Rammer chain.		SF
1100		6	041100	1st Platoon fires 3 HE, 2 FC on 14 VC rept. by 1st Recon. Bn. insert (BIG FLOWER). Surveillance: 3 KIAs, tgt # FZ 323		F
1517		7	041517	1st Platoon fires 16 FC on 50 VC reported by 1st Recon. Bn. insert (BIG FLOWER) surveillance: 3 KIAs. tgt # FZ 324.		F
2300		8	042300	3d Platoon 8 th How 351480 up.		SF
1932		9	051932	3d Platoon fires 4 HE on 5 VC reported by 3d Bn. 11th Mar. surveil: 1 KIA. tgt # TX043		F
0615		10	060615	3d Platoon 8 th How 351480# Down. Elect. short		SF
1015		11	081015	3d Platoon 8 th How 351480# up.		SF
1030		12	101030	3d Platoon 8 th How 351480# down. Over-recoil		SF
1245		13	141245	1st Platoon fires 9 HE and 10 FC on 11 NVA Reported by 1st Recon. Bn. insert (TRAILER PARK) surveillance: 2 KIAs. tgt # FZ 419.		F
1315		14	141315	1st Platoon fires 6 HE on 2 NVA reported by 1st Recon. Bn. insert (TRAILER PARK) surveillance: 1 KIA. tgt # 417.		F
1500		15	141500	1st Platoon fires 7 HE on 11 VC reported by 1st Recon. BN. insert (PRIME CUT) surveil. 1 KIA. tgt # FZ 423.		F
1650		16	141650	1st Platoon fires 9 HE on 4 VC Rocket tubes reported by 1st Recon. Bn. insert (TRAILER PARK) surveillance: 3 KIA; 3 rocket tubes destroyed, 1 mortar tube destroyed, 1 secondary explosion. tgt# FE 427.		F
0930		17	150930	3d Platoon 8 th How 351461# down. Elevating brake motor.		SF
1010	1020	18	151010	1st Platoon fires 3 HE on 3 VC. 1 NVA reported by 1st Recon. Bn. insert (TRAILER PARK) surveillance: 1 KIA. tgt# FZ 435.		F
1045	1115	19	151045	1st Platoon fires 8 HE, 8 FC on susp. Co/NVA reported by 1st Recon Bn. insert (TRAILER PARK) surveillance: 3 KIA. tgt# FZ 437.		F
1100		20	151100	1st Platoon fires 2 HE, 2 FC on 36 VC rept. by (TRAILER PARK) Surveil: 1 KIA. tgt# FZ 436.		F

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PAGE NO.

PAGE 4 OF 5 PAGES

ENCLOSURE (2)

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JOURNAL (3480)
NAVMC 219 (REV. 5-63)

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TIME		SERIAL NO.	DATE TIME GROUP	INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS	ACTION TAKEN	
IN	OUT				M-Maps S-Staff	T-Troops F-File
1115		21	151115	1st Platoon fires 2 HE, 2 FC on 36 VC reported by 1st Recon Bn insert (Trailer Park) surveil: 1 confirmed KIA tgt # 436		F
1513		22	151513	1st Platoon fires 7 HE on 7VC rept by 1st Recon Bn insert (Trailer Park) surveil: 2 confirmed KIA, tgt #417		F
1540		23	151540	1st Platoon fires 10 HE on NVA column by 1st Recon Bn insert (Trailer Park) surveil: 3 confirmed KIAs, tgt # FZ427		F
0915		24	160915	3d Platoon 8" How # 351461 up		SF
0935		25	161005	3d Platoon 8" How # 351480 up		SF
1031		26	181031	1st Platoon fires 6HE, 6FC on 28 NVA, rept by 1st Recon Bn insert (May Fly) surveil: 9 Conf. KIA, 1 secondary expl, tgt. nr FZ 457		F
1200		27	181200	1st Platoon fires 65 HE, 8 FC on 150 NVA rept by 1st Recon Bn insert (May Fly) surveil 99 confirmed KIAs, 12 structures dest, 8 secondaries, and 8 bunkers dest, tgt # 457		F
0340		28	190340	3d Platoon 8" How # 351480 dn, hydrolic lk		SF
0320		29	191320	1st Platoon fires 27 HE on 16 VC rept by 1st Recon Bn insert (May Fly) surveil, 8 conf KIAs, 3 structures, and 1 bunker dest, tgt# 466		F
1415		30	191415	1st Platoon fires 24 HE, 4 FC on 50 NVA rept 1st Recon insert (May Fly) surveil: 6 conf KIAs, 2 bunkers dest, 2 secondaries, tgt # FZ 467		F
1120		31	201120	1st Platoon fires 20 HE, 2 FC on 21 NVA rept by 1st Recon Bn insert (May Fly) surveil: 3 conf KIAs 2 secondaries, 2 structures dest and 7 bunkers dest, tgt # FZ 473		F
1830		32	231830	3d Platoon 8" How #351461 dn elev break mtr		SF
0900		33	240900	3d Platoon 8" How #351461 up (manual)		SF
1805		34	301805	3d Platoon fires 4 FC on 300 VC rept by 1st Recon Bn insert (Elf Skin) surveil: 15 conf KIAs tgt # PF 101		F
1050		35	311050	1st Platoon fires 10 HE on 5 NVA rept by 1st Recon Bn insert (Trailer Park) surveil: 1 conf. KIA tgt # FZ 516		F
1120		36	311120	1st Platoon fires 4 HE on 5 NVA rept by 1st Recon Bn insert (Trailer Park) surveil: 1 confirmed KIA, tgt # FZ 517		F
1525		37	311525	3d Platoon fires 9 HE on NVA bunkers rept by 3d Bn, 11th Mar. surveil: 1 structure dest, 2 bunkers damaged, tgt # FZ 396		F

(See reverse side for instructions)

PAGE NO.

PAGE 5A OF 5A PAGES

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