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5th 175mm Gun Battery (SP)(REIN)
Fleet Marine Force Pacific
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

ABT/kee
5750
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07 MAY 1969

[redacted]

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade, FMF, FPO San Francisco, California 96602

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1-30 April 1969

Ref: (a) FMF PacO 5750.8
(b) BRIGO 5750.1C

Encl: (1) 5th 155mm Gun Battery (SP)(REIN) Command Chronology for period 1-30 April 1969

1. In accordance with reference (a) and (b), enclosure (1) is submitted.

2. This letter is unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1)

A. B. Thompson Jr.
A. B. THOMPSON JR.

Copy to:
CG 3dMarDiv
CG 12thMar, less part IV
FILE

5th 155mm Gun Bty (SP)

[redacted]

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1-30 April 1969

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Part IV - Supporting Documents - None

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Part I
Organizational Data

Designation	Commanding
5th 155mm Gun Battery (SP)(REIN)	Maj A. B. THOMPSON JR 1-28 April 1969
5th 175mm Gun Battery (SP)(REIN)	Maj A. B. THOMPSON JR 29-30 April 1969
	Executive Officer
	Capt.C. W. GIANNETTI 1-30 April 1969

Subordinate Units	Commanding
Bravo Platoon (155mm Guns) 5th 155mm Gun Battery (SP)(REIN) Redesignated	Capt J. J. MULHOLLAND 1-20 April 1969
Bravo Platoon (175mm Guns) 5th 155mm Gun Battery (SP)(REIN) Redesignated	Capt J. J. MULHOLLAND 20-30 April 1969
Charlie Platoon (155mm Guns) 5th 155mm Gun Battery (SP)(REIN) Redesignated	1stLt W. M. MILES 1-15 April 1969 1stLt J. GORTER 15-23 April 1969
Charlie Platoon (175mm Guns) 5th 155mm Gun Battery (SP)(REIN) Redesignated	1stLt J. GORTER 23-30 April 1969
Delta Platoon (175mm Guns) 5th 155mm Gun Battery (SP)(REIN) Deactivated	Capt J. J. MULHOLLAND 1-20 April 1969

Attached Units	Commanding
Alpha Platoon (8" Howitzer) 1stPlatoon, 5th 8" Howitzer Battery (SP)	Capt J. J. MULHOLLAND 1-20 April 1969

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Location.

a.	Battery Headquarters	1-30 April 1969 Dong Ha West
b.	A and B Platoons	1-30 April 1969 Vandegrift Combat Base
c.	C Platoon	1-30 April 1969 Fire Support Base Elliot (Rock Pile)
d.	D Platoon	1-20 April 1969 Vandegrift Combat Base.

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Part II

Narrative Summary

During April 1969, the 5th 155mm Gun Battery (SP)(REIN), commanded by Major A. B. THOMPSON JR, remained under the operational control of the 108th Artillery Group USA and continued its mission of reinforcing the fires of the 12th Marine Regiment.

On 2 April, a battery 5 ton truck traveling East on Route 9 ran off the road and rolled over. The accident resulted in two men killed, two men medi-evaced, and 9 men with minor injuries. The accident is under investigation at this time.

The turning in of 155mm Guns (M-53) began on 22 April and ended on 25 April. During that period five 155mm Guns were turned into FLSG-B.

Four 175mm Guns (M-107) were received on 23 April brings to six 175mm Guns possessed by the Battery.

With the turn in of the 155mm Guns and the receipts of four more 175mm Guns, Gun platoons were redesignated. Delta Platoon (175mm Guns) became Bravo Platoon (175mm Guns) and Charlie Platoon (155mm Guns) changed over to 175mm Guns.

Also during April, the two 175mm Guns received in March have been retubed. The retubing of these guns took place at Vandegrift Combat Base and were completed in a matter of hours with little difficulty. The changing of the tubes in the field rather that at FLSG-B in Dong Ha eliminated the downing of the guns for a day or more and the wear and tear on the carriage on the road.

Rounds expended during April were 1553 rounds of 155mm, 378 rounds 8" Howitzer, 286 rounds 175mm from Charlie Platoon and 568 rounds from 175mm from Bravo Platoon. Targets fired on were unobserved intelligence/artillery/rocket suppression fires and some observed targets. The battery is also in direct support of some long range recon teams and the covering of Seismatic Intrusion Devices.

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The batteries personnel status has risen to C1 with approximately 92% of essential ranks and MOS's on hand. There is a continuing need for qualified personnel in the 2151 and 1345 fields.

Equipment status is now C1 as the result of the turning in of the M53 155 Guns, and the aquisition of the M107 Gun 175mm SP.

Deadlines were of short duration for tube changes in positions. One 8" Howitzer continues to be inoperable due to the lack of a hydraulic valve in the supply system.

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Part III

Sequential Listing Of Significant Events

2 April 1969 - Vehicle accident resulting in two killed, two mediv-evac and nine minor injuries.

22 April 1969 - Three 155mm Guns (M-53) turned in.

23 April 1969 - Four 175mm Guns received and sent to Fire Support Base Elliot.

25 April 1969 - Two 155mm Guns (M-53) turned in.

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