

HEADQUARTERS  
3d Battalion, 11th Marines  
1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

3/11 Control 0036-67  
Copy 1 of 8  
3/JC<sup>W</sup>/des  
5750  
5 Jan 1968

SECRET

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, 11th Marines, 1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 December to 31 December 1967

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

Encl: (1) 3d Battalion, 11th Marines Command Chronology

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

*George T. Balzer*  
GEORGE T. BALZER

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

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TAB (H)

3 RD BN / 11 TH MAR

CMD CHRON

DEC 1967

HEADQUARTERS  
3d Battalion, 11th Marines  
1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
APO, San Francisco, California 96602

5750  
5 Jan 1968

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY  
1 December 1967 to 31 December 1967

INDEX

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

SECRET  
Enclosure (1)

5750  
5 Jan 1968SECRETPART I  
ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

3d Battalion, 11th Marines

LtCol G. T. BALZER  
1-31 DecSUBORDINATE UNITS

Headquarters Battery

Capt G. L. BORTLE  
1-31 Dec

Battery "G"

Capt R. T. PACE  
1-31 Dec

Battery "H"

Capt R. M. BROWN  
1-31 Dec

Battery "I"

Capt D. F. MILLER  
1-31 Dec

107mm Mortar Battery

Capt C. K. ABLES  
1-4 Dec  
Capt R. F. BUNGH  
~~5~~ 31 Dec2. LOCATION

1-31 December: Da Nang, Quang Nam, Republic of Vietnam

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Battalion Executive Officer

Major O. K. JOHNSON, JR.  
1-16 Dec

Battalion Liaison Officer

Major J. P. SPANGLER  
1-31 Dec

S-1/ Personnel Officer

1st Lt. J. C. FITZSIMMONS  
1-31 Dec

S-2/S-5

1st Lt. J. D. DAVIS  
1-19 Dec

S-3

Major J. C. ADAMS  
1-31 Dec

S-3A

1st Lt. E. P. VISSER  
1-31 Dec

S-4

Capt J. M. LUTTON  
1-31 Dec

Ordnance Officer

Capt J. M. LUTTON  
1-3 DecW.O. G. R. HAMMOND  
~~2~~ 31 Dec

Survey/Metro Officer

GySgt R. L. RINEHART  
1-31 Dec

Motor Transport Officer

1st Lt. P. T. KEARNEY  
1-31 Dec

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Communication Officer	Capt G. B. BARNETT 1-31 Dec
Medical Officer	Lt. L. V. ANGIOLETTI, USNR 1-31 Dec
Regimental Naval Gunfire LNO	Lt. W. LONG, USNR 1-31 Dec
Battalion Naval Gunfire LNO	Lt. Jg. A. W. FAHNE 1-31 Dec
	Lt. E. C. FOWLER 1-31 Dec

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>OTHER</u>	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
40	547	4	11	0	0

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5 Jan 1968SECRETPART II  
NARRATIVE SUMMARY

On 1 December 1967 the 3d Battalion, 11th Marines was in direct support of the 7th Marines in that portion of the Da Nang TAOR occupied by its Battalions. The units of 3d Battalion, 11th Marines were located as follows: Headquarters Battery at coordinates 963619; Battery "G" at coordinates AT 923691; Battery "H" at coordinates AT 921795; Battery "I" at coordinates AT 883580; and Mortar Battery at coordinates AT 964618. Two 4.2 Inch Mortars were located at coordinates AT 815382 reinforcing Battery "E" 2d Battalion, 11th Marines. Operation PITT commenced at 050900H December 1967. Battery "H" provided direct support from its position. Battery "M", 3d 8" How Battery (SP), and 3d 155 Gun Battery (SP) had the mission of general support reinforcing 3/11. Operation PITT terminated at 120600 December 1967. Operation NO NAME commenced at 071500H December 1967 with Battery "I" supporting this operation from its position until the operation terminated at 101700H December 1967. Operation CITRUS commenced at 151200H December 1967. Battery "I" provided direct support from its position. Battery "E" 2/11, one platoon of 155 Gun Battery (SP), and one platoon of 3d 8" How Battery (SP) provided supporting fire from their position on a "not to interfere" basis. Battery "K" provided reinforcing fire from its position. Operation CITRUS terminated at 221030H December 1967. At 210245H Battery "G" and OP Month were subjected to a mortar attack. The mortar firing positions were determined by triangulation. Battery "H" and Battery "K" were designated to fire on mortars firing at Battery "G". Mortar Battery 3/11 fired counter mortar fires at the enemy mortars in the vicinity of OP Month.

MISSIONS FIRED IN DA NANG TAOR

TOTAL MISSIONS FIRED	19,678
Targets of Opportunity	641
Harrassing and Interdiction	18,703
Registrations	61
Defensive Fires	40
Fire for Effect	189
Prep Fires	19
Counter Rocket Fires	0
FO School	25
AMMUNITION EXPENDED	72,813

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Enclosure (1)

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5 Jan 1968SECRETPART III  
SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

5 Dec 67            Operation PITT commenced at 050900H

7 Dec 67            Operation NO NAME commenced at 071500H

10 Dec 67           Operation NO NAME ended at 101700H

12 Dec 67           Operation PITT ended at 120600H

15 Dec 67           Operation CITRUS commenced at 151200H

21 Dec 67           Btry "G" received incoming mortars

23 Dec 67           Operation CITRUS ended at 231000H

29 Dec 67           Relayed four 155 How on azimuth 2900 to support  
Operation ARRURN

SECRET  
Enclosure (1)

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5 Jan 1968SECRETPART IV  
DOCUMENTATION TO COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 December 1967 to 31 December 1968

- ✓ Tab (A) S-1 Journal
- ✓ Tab (B) S-2 Journal
- ✓ Tab (C) S-3 Journal
- ✓ Tab (D) S-4 Journal
- ✓ Tab (E) After Action Report, Operation CITRUS

SECRET  
Enclosure (1)

S-1, 3d Battalion, 11th Marines  
 Da Nang Combat Base  
 010001H December 1967 to 312400H December 1967

SECRET  
 JOURNAL

010001H	Journal Opened
010800H	DR 2 ENL COMUS
031400H	JD 1 OFF and 1 ENL COMUS
040900H	DR 2 ENL COMUS
050800H	DR 2 ENL COMUS
060800H	DR 4 ENL COMUS
070800H	DR 4 ENL COMUS
081300H	Jd 2 ENL COMUS
090800H	DR 3 ENL COMUS
091400H	Jd 1 ENL COMUS
120800H	DR 1 ENL COMUS
130800H	DR 1 ENL COMUS
141300H	Jd 2 ENL COMUS
150800H	DR 1 OFF and 2 ENL COMUS
171530H	Jd 2 OFF and 1 ENL COMUS
180800H	DR 1 ENL CAMP RUTLER
181200H	Jd 1 ENL 1st Bn, 5th Mar
201200H	Jd 2 ENL COMUS, Jd 1 ENL 11th Mar
211600H	Jd 3 ENL COMUS
231300H	Jd 3 ENL COMUS
241300H	Jd 6 ENL COMUS

SECRET  
 Enclosure (1)

TV-A-1

S-1, 3d Battalion, 11th Marines  
Da Nang Combat Base  
010001H December 1967 to 312400H December 1967

SECRET  
JOURNAL

250800H	DR 3 FNL COMUS
260800H	DR 2 FNL COMUS
270800H	DR 7 FNL COMUS
291600H	Jd 3 FNL COMUS
301300H	Jd 8 FNL COMUS
310800H	DR 1 FNL COMUS
312400H	Journal Closed

IV- A-2

SECRET

S-2, 3d Battalion, 11th Marines  
 Da Nang Combat Base  
 010001H December 1967 to 312400H December 1967

SECRET  
 JOURNAL

010001H Journal Opened

011545H 2 vehicle convoy departing Hill 55 received auto & semi-auto fire FM approx. 50 meters out on south side of the road. An unknown explosive device resulted in 1 USMC WIA.

031125H & 031400H Ammo convoy of 3 trucks took 5-6 rounds SA in route to Hill 65. No one injured-returned fire and continued. On return trip convoy took auto-weapons fire at approx. same location, returned fire & continued to 11th Mar Regt.

210230H At approx. 0230 Battery "G" received approx. 20, 82mm mortar rds. Immediately returned approx. 157 HE rds counter fire. 4 friendly WIA.

222145H While Golf Btry was firing on target TG 268 grid 908669, 15 secondary explosion were observed.

312400H Journal closed.

IV-B-1

SECRET

S-3, 3d Battalion, 11th Marines  
 Da Nang Combat Base  
 010001H December 1967 to 312400H December 1967

SECRET  
 JOURNAL

010001H Journal Opened

012400H Fired 702 Missions expending 2408 rounds

022400H Fired 752 Missions expending 2895 rounds

032400H Fired 666 Missions expending 2215 rounds

042400H Fired 742 Missions expending 2028 rounds

050900H Operation PITT Began

052400H Fired 656 Missions expending 2227 rounds

062400H Fired 499 Missions expending 1760 rounds

071500H Operation NO NAME Began

072400H Fired 549 Missions expending 1629 rounds

082400H Fired 615 Missions expending 2339 rounds

092400H Fired 517 Missions expending 1892 rounds

101700H Operation NO NAME Ended

102400H Fired 574 Missions expending 2067 rounds

112400H Fired 517 Missions expending 1923 rounds

120600H Operation PITT Ended

122400H Fired 585 Missions expending 2247 rounds

132400H Fired 657 Missions expending 2472 rounds

142400H Fired 661 Missions expending 2400 rounds

151200H Operation CITRUS Began

152400H Fired 820 Missions expending 2535 rounds

162400H Fired 789 Missions expending 2727 rounds

172400H Fired 661 Missions expending 2297 rounds

IV-C-1

SECRET

S-3, 3d Battalion, 11th Marines  
 Da Nang Combat Base  
 010001H December 1967 to 312400H December 1967

SECRET  
JOURNAL

182400H	Fired 600 Missions expending 1998 rounds
192400H	Fired 569 Missions expending 2509 rounds
202400H	Fired 742 Missions expending 2720 rounds
212400H	Fired 705 Missions expending 3670 rounds
222400H	Fired 860 Missions expending 3670 rounds
231030H	Operation CITRUS Ended
232400H	Fired 635 Missions expending 2491 rounds
242400H	Fired 758 Missions expending 4024 rounds
252400H	Fired 48 Missions expending 285 rounds
262400H	Fired 671 Missions expending 2369 rounds
272400H	Fired 701 Missions expending 2599 rounds
282400H	Fired 673 Missions expending 1889 rounds
290730H	Operation AUBURN Began
292400H	Fired 561 Missions expending 1896 rounds
302400H	Fired 463 Missions expending 2321 rounds
312400H	Fired 730 Missions expending 2321 rounds
312400H	Journal Closed

SECRET

IV-C-2

S-4. 3d Battalion, 11th Marines  
Da Nang Combat Base  
01000H December 1967 to 312400H December 1967

SECRET  
JOURNAL

010001H            Journal Opened`  
312400H            Journal Closed

IV-D-1

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HEADQUARTERS  
 3d Battalion, 11th Marines  
 1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
 FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

3/JC A/kwd  
 3480  
 Control 0037-67  
 5 Jan 1968

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~~SECRET~~  
 From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding Officer, 7th Marines  
 Via: Commanding Officer, 11th Marines  
 Subj: Combat Operations After Action Report

1. Code Name. Search and Destroy Operation CITRUS
2. Date of Operation. 151200H December 1967 to 231030H December 1967
3. Location. Quang Nam Province  
 RVN Map Vietnam 1:500,000 AMS Series L7014  
 Sheets 6540 I, 6540 II, 6640 III, 6640 IV
4. Command and Control. 3d Battalion, 7th Marines
5. Reporting Officer. LtCol GEORGE T. PALZER  
 Commanding Officer  
 3d Battalion, 11th Marines
6. Task Organization.  

Battery "J" 3d Bn, 11th Marines	Capt D. E. MILLER
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7. Supporting Forces.  

Battery "K" 4th Bn, 11th Marines	Capt A. L. GATTAJIO
Battery "E" 2d Bn, 11th Marines	Capt J. M. STOY
Battery "B" 8th Bn 4th ARTY (175 Guns SP)	Capt LARGE
Platoon, 3d " Howitzer Battery (SP)	
Platoon, 3d 155 Gun Battery (SP)	
8. Intelligence. 7th Marines INTSIMS.
9. Missions. Provide artillery fire support to USMC forces participating in operation CITRUS.

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3480  
5 Jan 1968

10. Concept of Operation. The commanding officer of the 11th Marines directed the 3d Battalion, 11th Marines to provide artillery support to the deployed forces in the area of operations.

11. Execution. Battery "I" was in direct support of the 3d Battalion, 7th Marines from its present position, (Hill 65). Battery "E" was available for support of operation CITRUS on a "not to interfere" basis from its present position at An Hoa. A platoon from 3d 8" Howitzer Battery and a platoon from 3d 155 Gun Battery provided general support reinforcing fires from their normal positions at An Hoa. Battery "B" was in general support and delivered supporting fires from the Battery position. At 231030 December, Operation CITRUS terminated and all units reverted to the control of their parent organizations.

<u>Missions Fired</u>		<u>Ammo Expended</u>	
Observed	133	HE	5631
Unobserved	177	WP	324
H&I	517	ILL	4
		Total	5949

12. Results.

VC/NVA KIA Conf	27
VC/NVA KIA Prob	66
VC/NVA WIA	20
Structures Destroyed	38
Structures Damaged	5

13. Administrative Matters. Administrative Plan 301-67 applied to this operation.

14. Special Equipment and Techniques. 15 Time-on-Target Missions were fired utilizing all supporting artillery.

15. Commander's Analysis. Initially, the coordination between air and artillery was poor but this was remedied and for the remainder of the operation went smoothly. On the first day of the operation, not all artillery units were monitoring India Battery's Conduct of Fire Net because of supporting units not having received the Regimental Frag Order for Operation CITRUS. Once this situation was corrected, no other communications problems were experienced. The artillery support thereafter went smoothly. Accurate and effective fire was provided throughout the operation. Time-on-Target missions were fired on heavily fortified villages in the operational area to produce surprise, destruction and shock effect on the enemy.

UNCLASSIFIED

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5 Jan 1968

16. Recommendations.

a. That consideration be afforded to permit artillery to conclude a target engagement before check fires for air in the area be initiated. In some instances, artillery missions in process had to be abandoned to permit air to engage the same area. By allowing artillery to complete its mission, air can become well oriented, flak suppression is effected, and the enemy is fixed, rendering him vulnerable to the spectrum of ordnance available to the aircraft.

b. That more time-on-target missions be fired in support of infantry forces. The tremendous surprise, destruction and shock effect of massed batteries firing TOT's more than compensates for the effort required to effect coordination.

c. That Sav-A-Planes be rigidly observed by aircraft transiting over operational area.

d. That check fires be instituted for only those aircraft which intersect the gun target line, and that this check fire be effective only for the time the aircraft is actually endangered.

*George T. Balzer*  
GEORGE T. BALZER

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