

3rd Marine Div BT#  
593368

HEADQUARTERS  
3d Battalion, 12th Marines  
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF  
APO San Francisco 96602

3/MAW/rhh  
5750  
1 December 1968  
Ser No. 0668

[REDACTED]

From: Commanding Officer  
To: CMC (CODE A03D)  
(1) Commanding General, 3d Marine Division  
(2) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force  
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1 to 30 November  
1968 (U)

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A  
(b) FMFPAGO 5750.8  
(c) DivO 5750.1A  
(d) RegtO 5750.1

Encl: (1) 3d Battalion, 12th Marines Command Chronology  
for the period 1 to 30 November 1968.

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

*E. D. Foxworth Jr.*  
E.D. FOXWORTH Jr.

Copy to: CO 12th Marines

Downgrade at 3 year intervals.  
Declassified after 12 years.

Copy 1 of 12 copies

[REDACTED]

3rd Bu/12th MAR  
CMD CHRON

1968

HEADQUARTERS  
3d Battalion, 12th Marines  
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF  
APO San Francisco 96602

3/MAW/rjh  
5750  
1 December 1968

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY  
1 November to 30 November 1968

INDEX

- Part I \* Organizational Data
- Part II - Narrative Summary
- Part III- Sequential Listing of Significant Events
- Part IV \* Supporting Documents

✓ Tab A: Tables of Ammunition Expenditures and Missions Fired,  
Operation SCOTLAND II

ENCLOSURE (1)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PART I  
ORGANIZATION DATA

<u>1. DESIGNATION</u>	<u>COMMANDER</u>
3d Battalion, 12th Marines 3d Marine Division (Rein)	LtCol E.D. FOXWORTH Jr. 051383/0802 1-30 November 1968

Subordinate Units

Battery "G" 3d Battalion 12th Marines, 3d Marine Division (Rein)	Capt K.C. KALEFLEISCH 084123/0802 1-30 November 1968
Battery "H" 3d Battalion 12th Marines, 3d Marine Division (Rein)	Capt F.C. BROWN 089725/0802 1-11 November 1968 1stLt G.T. SMITH 0101492/0802 11-30 November 1968
Battery "I" 3d Battalion 12th Marines, 3d Marine Division (Rein)	Capt R.G. HOLLIDAY 082781/0802 1-30 November 1968
Headquarters Battery, 3d Battalion 12th Marines, 3d Marine Division (Rein)	WO-4 J.P. FELL 043735/2010 1 November 1968 1stLt D.A. VETTER 0101680/0802 2-30 November 1968
Battery "W" 3d Battalion 12th Marines, 3d Marine Division (Rein)	1stLt R.W. LEWIS 095716/0802 1-30 November 1968
1st Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery 3d Battalion, 12th Marines 3d Marine Division (Rein)	Capt J.B. WILKES 094071/0802 1-30 November 1968
2nd Provisional 155 Howitzer Battery 3d Battalion, 12th Marines 3d Marine Division (Rein)	1stLt R.G. HOOPES 0100732/0802 1-30 November 1968

CONFIDENTIAL

f. S-4 Officer

Capt G.V. THURMOND  
083878/0802  
1-8 November 1968  
Capt E.C. BROWN  
089725/0802  
9-30 November 1968

g. S-4 A

1stLt B.C. WILSON  
0101275/0802  
5-30 November 1968

h. Communications Officer

1stLt C.W. ULRICH  
0102660/2502  
1-30 November 1968

i. Motor Transport Officer

2ndLt J. BORYCHKI  
0104028/3502  
1-30 November 1968

j. Supply Officer

1stLt S.M. EASTON  
0103463/0802  
1-30 November 1968

k. Survey Officer

S/Sgt W.R. MARTIN  
1911524/0848  
1-4 November 1968  
1stLt J. L. PETERSON  
095760/0802  
5-30 November 1968

l. Liaison Officer

Major P.E. FRASEE  
073042/0802  
1-9 November 1968  
Major G.V. THURMOND  
083878/0802  
9-30 November 1968

4. Average Monthly Strength

USMC	
Off	Enl
53	742

USN	
Off	Enl
1	18

OTHER	
Off	Enl
0	0

## PART II

During this reporting period the 3d Battalion, 12th Marines continued to conduct direct support artillery operations in support of the 4th Marine Regiment for the November phase of Operation Scotland II. The operation was scaled down from a Multi-Regiment operation to a Multi-Battalion sweep of the north western end of the division TAOR.

On 5 November an Xray unit (3 Guns) of W Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines displaced forward from LZ Vandergrift to LZ Argonne, in order to reinforce fires in the extreme northwestern sector of the area of operation.

At 0900 on 7 November E Company, 2d Battalion, 4th Marines received mortar and small arms fire in the vicinity of grid XD 660580. A fire mission was called and the target was attacked by W and G Batteries of the 3d Battalion, 12th Marines. 2 rounds of WP and 81 rounds of HE were fired by these units and the mortars were silenced.

On 8 November, I Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines fired 19 rounds of HE at 5 NVA in a tree line near coordinates 756522. The mission was in support of an element of 2d Battalion, 4th Marines, and reported by them at 1825H.

9 November saw the 3d Battalion, 12th Marines celebrate the 193d birthday of the United States Marine Corps, with a visit from the regimental commander, and an appropriate ceremony conducted at headquarters in Ca Lu.

3 105mm Howitzers from I Battery at Fire Base Gurkha displaced to Ca Lu for use in fire support of Ca Lu and LZ Vandergrift on 10 November.

At 0902H 11 November the 3 remaining guns of W Battery 3d Battalion, 12th Marines at LZ Gates were chopped up on to 1st Battalion, 12th Marines at Camp Carroll. At 1815H the remaining 3 Howitzers of I Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines were in position at LZ Argonne after moving from LZ Gurkha. I Battery (-) completed the reinforcement of the northwestern end of the TAOR. At 1500H on the afternoon of 11 November G Battery fired 16 rounds of Firecracker in support of 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines, the target engaged was 3 NVA crossing a stream at coordinate 773538, excellent coverage of target was sent as surveillance.

At 1200H November G Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines fired direct fire on a reported NVA in the wire at IZ Alpine. 5 rounds of HE were expended and one confirmed kill was reported.

On 13 November I Battery (-) at IZ Argonne expended 137 rounds of HE at a known 50 Cal. position at coordinates (665-621), surveillance reported the position silenced.

The 14th of November was characterized by routine support operations throughout the area of operations with the exceptions of a fire mission fired by W Battery (-), 3d Battalion, 12th Marines, in support of Recon insert "Amanda" on automatic weapons firing, surveillance reported a secondary explosion during the second fire for effect.

On 15 November at 1800H G Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines engaged active mortars at coordinates WD 774538, 77 rounds were fired. Mortars were silenced.

At 1820H on 17 November Fire Base Alpine received enemy mortar fire. Counter Mortar plan "Gazelle" was put into effect in two minutes, and 108 rounds were fired in return. The enemy mortars were silenced.

On 18 November I X-ray (3) tubes and H Batteries fired on a bunker complex and automatic weapons in the vicinity of coordinates 924488, surveillance from the aerial observer revealed 5 bunkers destroyed, one secondary explosion and two automatic weapons destroyed.

On 20 November a large pack train was sighted by a aerial observer in the vicinity of coordinates 660600. The target was described as 30 to 40 pack animals. Target was engaged with I Battery (-) and 3d Provisional Battery (-) (155 Howitzer) 163 rounds of HE and 60 rounds of Fire-cracker were expended with a negative surveillance due to the A.O. having to leave station prior to fire for effect. On the same day another A.O. reported taking small arms fire at coordinates 681641. The target was attacked by I Battery (-) which expended 59 rounds of shell HE resulting in one bunker destroyed.

CO

## PART II.

During this reporting period the 3d Battalion, 12th Marines continued to conduct direct support artillery operations in support of the 4th Marine Regiment for the November phase of Operation Scotland II. The operation was scaled down from a Multi-Regiment operation to a Multi-Battalion sweep of the north western end of the division TAOR.

On 5 November an Xray unit (3 Guns) of W Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines displaced forward from LZ Vandergrift to LZ Argonne, in order to reinforce fires in the extreme northwestern sector of the area of operation.

At 0900 on 7 November E Company, 2d Battalion, 4th Marines received mortar and small arms fire in the vicinity of grid XD 660580. A fire mission was called and the target was attacked by W and G Batteries of the 3d Battalion, 12th Marines. 2 rounds of WP and 81 rounds of HE were fired by these units and the mortars were silenced.

On 8 November, I Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines fired 19 rounds of HE at 5 NVA in a tree line near coordinates 756522. The mission was in support of an element of 2d Battalion, 4th Marines, and reported by them at 1825H.

9 November saw the 3d Battalion, 12th Marines celebrate the 193d birthday of the United States Marine Corps, with a visit from the regimental commander, and an appropriate ceremony conducted at headquarters in Ca Lu.

3 105mm Howitzers from I Battery at Fire Base Gurkha displaced to Ca Lu for use in fire support of Ca Lu and LZ Vandergrift on 10 November.

At 0902H 11 November the 3 remaining guns of W Battery 3d Battalion, 12th Marines at LZ Gates were chopped opcon to 1st Battalion, 12th Marines at Camp Carroll. At 1815H the remaining 3 Howitzers of I Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines were in position at LZ Argonne after moving from LZ Gurkha. I Battery (-) completed the reinforcement of the northwestern end of the TAOR. At 1500H on the afternoon of 11 November G Battery fired 16 rounds of Firecracker in support of 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines, the target engaged was 3 NVA crossing a stream at coordinate 773538, excellent coverage of target was sent as surveillance.

At 1400H 21 November, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines was given opcon of A Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marines located at Fire Base Mack. 1st Battalion, 4th Marines reported 5 NVA in open at coordinates 815485. The target was engaged by G Battery and 3d Provisional (-) (155mm Howitzer).

The 3d Battalion, 12th Marines assumed opcon of the 2nd Provisional (155 Howitzer) Battery at 0915H, 22 November. The battery was emplaced at Ca Lu to assist in supporting fires for the Ca Lu, Vandergrift, Cates and Rockpile area.

A Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marines was chopped opcon of the 1st Battalion, 12th Marines at 1205H, 23 November. A Battery moved from Fire Base Mack to Alpha 4.

On 24 November three missions of special significance were fired. 2d Battalion, 4th Marines reported 6 NVA in open at coordinates 867430. The target was engaged by H Battery, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines and 180 rounds of HE were fired resulting in a report of excellent coverage of target. At 1225H, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines reported (5) NVA carrying mortar tubes at coordinates 667450. W (-) and I (-) Batteries engaged the enemy firing a total of 38 rounds of Firecracker. At 1524H I Battery (-) fired on an estimated (8) to (10) NVA in the open reported by the 1st Battalion, 4th Marines at 668539. 45 rounds of HE and 15 rounds of Firecracker were expended with surveillance, "good coverage of target".

At coordinates 710453 Recon team Barkwood reported heavy enemy movement. The target was engaged by 3d Provisional (155 Howitzer) Battery (-) at 1944H 27 November. 225 rounds of HE were fired. Recon team Barkwood at the debriefing after extraction stated "Artillery support was outstanding and possibly saved them from heavy contact".

At 1215H 28 November chopped opcon of 2d Provisional (155 Howitzer) Battery to 2d Battalion, 12th Marines. The Battery remained at Ca Lu. At LZ Argonne I Battery (-) reported contact at 0645H. A fire fight developed with the enemy firing 30 to 40 rounds of 60mm mortar at the LZ. The mortars were engaged with direct fire from I Battery's guns and were silenced. I Battery also fired direct fire on an enemy 50 Cal position and silenced it during the same engagement.

## PART III

## Sequential Listing of Significant Events

1. Combat Missions Assigned

a. 1-30 November 1968, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines in direct support of the 4th Marine Regiment.

2. Significant Operations Conducted

a. Operation Scotland II

3. Casualties inflicted on the Enemy

a. KIA (C) 3

4. Casualties Sustained

a. KIA 0

b. WIA 11

c. Died 1

5. Equipment. The motor transport maintenance situation did not improve during the month of November. Lack of parts, especially "direct exchange" items, was the main reason for the high 1st and 2nd echelon deadline rate. 20 vehicles are deadlined for 2nd echelon maintenance and 24 deadlined for 3d echelon maintenance. Ordnance equipment maintenance continues to improve with only the panoramic telescope a continuing problem due, primarily, to the weather. An increase in allowance of one (1) panoramic telescope per battery was authorized during the month and these have been requisitioned. Battalion communications is seriously hindered by equipment shortages. Fourteen (14) AN/PRC-25s, forty-six (46) TA-312/PT and one (1) AN/MRC-83 are on order. This shortage of radios is critical, affecting the ability of the battalion to carry out its assigned mission. Shortages of typewriters and imprinters coupled with the lack of a duplicating set also hinders the administrative capability.

6. General Logistics. During the month of November, approximately 13,390 rounds of 105mm, 3,690 rounds of 107mm, 3,900

They received approximately 30 rounds of 60mm mortar fire. Battery I fired direct fire on active mortars, XD 669576. The mortars were silenced and the attack repulsed.

#### 10. Communications/Electronics

a. The communications section supported the battalion FDC and 4th Marines FSCC at Ca Lu after a successful displacement from Fire Base Cates early in November.

b. The acquisition of the AS-2236 antenna improved VHF/FM communications with distant fire bases, a problem compounded by distance and terrain. In addition, however, extensive use of relay stations was made.

c. Division radio relay at Task Force Hotel permitted wire communications to 12th Marines and 3d Marine Division. 4th Marines radio relay allowed an FDC hotline from Ca Lu to Battery H at Fire Base Cates.

d. The primary communications difficulties revolved around overextended VHF/FM communications, a situation brought about by mountainous terrain and lack of HF/AM equipment.

e. In the latter part of November, the section supported two Naval Gunfire Teams deployed along the coast.

f. In mid-November, the battalion was relieved of communications requirements to support the FSCC at the Quang Tri Base Defense COC.

#### 11. Naval Gunfire

a. During November the battalion trained five naval gunfire spotters. The battalion now has nine personnel trained for this purpose. Two, four man teams, occupied the observation posts at A-1 and Oceanview just south of the DMZ for a two week period starting 20 November. One of the highlights of the period was firing the battleship New Jersey.

NOVEMBER

OPERATION SCOTLAND II

155 HE	52	38	44	205	45	164	109
WP	15			3		9	2
ILL							
Firecracker	4						
107 HE	173	128	85	112	40	127	12
WP	7		4		4	29	9
ILL	17						33
TOTAL	591	586	1004	700	427	867	1090

SURVEILLANCE

KIA (C)							1
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--	---

MISSIONS FIRED	15th	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th	21st
Obs	24	15	25	20	26	15	27
Unobs	6	16	8	23	33	24	22
H&I's	99	78	93	89	95	15	94
TOTAL	129	109	126	132	154	54	143

AMMO EXPENDED

105 HE	593	670	602	623	515	901	387
WP	25	37	31	25	17	24	26
ILL				2	4		
Firecracker				36			16
H.C. Smoke							
155 HE	139	34	48	77	133	199	152
WP		3		2	6	18	2
ILL							
Firecracker							
107 HE	83	24	67	23	85	5	40
WP	1	5	8	4			8
ILL							
TOTAL	841	773	756	792	760	1147	631

SURVEILLANCE

KIA (C)							
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

MISSIONS FIRED	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th	28th
Obs	21	25	27	25	30	32	18
Unobs	33	4	21	34	30	43	34
H&I's	31	54	54	148	96	146	161
TOTAL	85	83	102	207	156	221	203

(A)

TABLES OF AMMUNITION EXPENDITURES  
AND MISSIONS FIRED

NOVEMBER

OPERATION SCOTLAND II

MISSIONS FIRED	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th
Obs	19	22	21	16	11	9	8
Unobs	13	6	15	27	15	1	1
H&I's	126	113	138	95	113	73	61
TOTAL	158	141	174	138	139	83	70

AMMO EXPENDED

105 HE	313	388	789	562	470	251	375
WP	37	34	50	10	4	6	26
ILL	2						

FireCracker

H.C. Smoke				6	1		
------------	--	--	--	---	---	--	--

155 HE	12	92	87	70	38	152	2
WP	3		54		2		8

ILL

FireCracker

107 HE	70	54	76	20	42	24	161
--------	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----

WP	16	8	4		5	6	13
----	----	---	---	--	---	---	----

ILL

TOTAL	453	592	1087	668	562	439	609
-------	-----	-----	------	-----	-----	-----	-----

SURVEILLANCE

KIA (C)

MISSIONS FIRED	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th
Obs	17	6	9	9	17	18	26
Unobs	1	18	7	21	10	10	5
H&I's	111	64	90	97	125	120	110
TOTAL	129	88	106	127	152	148	151

AMMO EXPENDED

105 HE	318	348	868	368	300	516	773
WP	5	8	3	12	38	22	43

ILL

Firecracker

H.C. Smoke		64		1			
------------	--	----	--	---	--	--	--

TABLES OF AMMUNITION EXPENDITURES  
AND MISSIONS FIRED

NOVEMBER

OPERATION SCOTLAND II

AMMO EXPENDED

105 HE	415	1510	553	541	546	579	568
WP	19	32	51	20	20	21	49
ILL	3	31			6	6	
Firecracker			112				
H.C. Smoke							
155 HE	98	106	292	188	866	456	212
WP	7	9	22	5	23	6	7
ILL			15			1	
Firecracker			30				
107 HE	28	20	259	190	193	127	124
WP	3	4	37	1	22	5	11
ILL							
TOTAL	573	1712	1371	945	1696	1201	996

SURVEILLANCE

KIA (C)	2
---------	---

MISSIONS FIRED	29th	30th	TOTAL
Obs	7	15	560
Unobs	19	34	414
H&I's	115	165	2989
TOTAL	141	214	4093

AMMO EXPENDED

105 HE	805	762	17209
WP	9	8	707
ILL			119
Firecracker		12	176
H.C. Smoke			7
155 HE	154	102	1104
WP	5	4	215
ILL	2		18
Firecracker			61
107 HE	114	99	2644
WP	1		220
ILL			66
TOTAL	1120	975	25878

SURVEILLANCE

KIA (C)	3
---------	---

(A)

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MISSIONS FIRED	15th	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th	21st
Obs	5	8		20		27	5
Unobs	3	119		58	5	115	4
H&I's	90	22	29	53	53	152	59
TOTAL	98	149	29	131	58	294	68

## AMMO EXPENDED

105 HE	414	287	496	271	496	523	412
WP	10	22	40	5	8	19	36
Ill						1	
Firecracker		23					22
155 HE				50			
WP				1			
Ill							
Firecracker							
107 HE	9	21	21	19	10	80	203
WP		2	1	11	1	5	
Ill							
CS Gas						151	112
TOTAL	433	355	558	357	515	779	785

## SURVEILLANCE

KIA (C)	1	8	2	2			
---------	---	---	---	---	--	--	--

MISSIONS FIRED	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th	28th
Obs	19		4			4	1
Unobs	2	7	36		7	14	10
H&I's	47	78	106	16	81	85	59
TOTAL	68	85	146	16	124	103	82

## AMMO EXPENDED

105 HE	400	486	387	46	204	315	681
WP	14	12	4		11	10	24
Ill							
Firecracker						20	
155 HE							
WP							
Ill							
Firecracker							
107 HE	124	83	86	7	14	27	50
WP					8		4
Ill							2
CS Gas							
TOTAL	538	581	477	53	237	372	761

## SURVEILLANCE

KIA (C)	2		1				
---------	---	--	---	--	--	--	--

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MISSIONS FIRED	29th	30th	31st	TOTAL
Obs	24	23	29	283
Unobs	50	11	24	124
H&I's	51	62	78	94
TOTAL	125	96	131	391

AMMO EXPENDED

105 HE	383	513	300	18456
WP	19	22	17	711
Ill				67
Firecracker				65
155 HE				2595
WP				98
Ill				77
Firecracker				76
107 HE	52	82	35	1612
WP	11	6		68
Ill				2
CS Gas				263
TOTAL	465	623	352	24090

SURVEILLANCE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(4)