

UNCLASSIFIED
HEADQUARTERS

1st Battalion, 13th Marines
Fleet Marine Force, Pacific
APO San Francisco, California 96602

SECRET

9thMAB S&C

0015917

6/JBC/jrs
5750
8 Mar 1969
Ser: 005-69

(Unclassified Upon Removal of Enclosure (1))

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)
Via: (1) Commanding General, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade
(2) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific
Subj: Command Chronology for Period 1 February 1969 to 28 February 1969
Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
(b) FMFPacO 5750.3
Encl: (1) Command Chronology

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

J. B. Cantieni
J. B. CANTIENY

Copy to: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division
Commanding Officer, 11th Marines

Reproduction of this document in whole or in part is prohibited except with permission of the issuing office or higher authority (in case higher authority authorized reproduction, the issuing office shall be notified promptly by such authority).

144

LCN: 00926

COPY 1 OF 13 COPIES

SECRET

Feb 1969

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
1st Battalion, 13th Marines
Fleet Marine Force, Pacific
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

Command Chronology
1 February 1969 to 28 February 1969

INDEX

- Part I - Organizational Data
- Part II - Narrative Summary
- Part III - Sequential Listing of Significant Events
- filed copy* Part IV - Supporting Documents
(*Letter "K", 4/13 Chronology, Feb 69*)

Enclosure (1)

SECRET

~~SECRET~~

UNCLASSIFIED

Part I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Designation

1st Battalion, 13th Marines

Commander

LtCol J. B. CANTLIENY

Subordinate UnitsAdministrative ControlHeadquarters Battery, 1st Battalion,
13th Marines

Capt J. B. CREEL JR

Battery "A", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines

Capt A. J. SWEET

Battery "K", 4th Battalion, 13th Marines

Capt R. K. PETERSON

Operational ControlHeadquarters Battery, 1st Battalion,
13th Marines

Capt J. B. CREEL JR

Battery "A", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines

Capt A. J. SWEET

Detachment, Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion,
11th Marines

2ndLt S. C. DECOTEAU

2. LocationHeadquarters Battery, 1st Battalion,
13th Marines

Danang, RVN

Battery "A", 1st Battalion, 13th Marines

N. Cantonment Area,
Danang, RVN

Battery "K", 4th Battalion, 13th Marines

An Hoa, RVN

Detachment, Mortar Battery, 1st Battalion,
11th MarinesHai Van Pass,
Danang, RVN~~SECRET~~

Enclosure (1)

~~SECRET~~

3. Staff Officers

UNCLASSIFIED

Executive Officer

None

S-1

Capt B. D. NICHOLAS

S-2

1stLt T. HOLLENSHEAD

S-3

Maj G. R. HOUCHIN

S-4

Capt A. R. GASSER

4. Average Monthly Strength

| | <u>USMC</u> | | <u>USN</u> | |
|---|-------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | <u>OFF</u> | <u>ENL</u> | <u>OFF</u> | <u>ENL</u> |
| HqBtry, 1stBn, 13th Mar | 15 | 150 | 2 | 4 |
| Btry "A", 1stBn, 13th Mar | 9 | 119 | 0 | 2 |
| Btry "K", 4thBn, 13th Mar | 5 | 127 | 0 | 4 |
| Detachment, Mortar Btry, 1stBn, 11th Mar | 1 | 24 | 0 | 1 |

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

UNCLASSIFIED

Part II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the period 1-28 February 1969, the 1st Battalion, 13th Marines, under the operational control of the 11th Marines, provided direct support to the 26th Marines.

On 1 and 15 February 1969, the 1st Battalion, 13th Marines fired numerous fire missions to support an 11th Marines Forward Observer School.

Throughout the reporting period, the 1st Battalion, 13th Marines fired numerous illumination rounds in support of contact in the 1st Battalion, 26th Marines AO. These rounds provided illumination to the initial contact plus subsequent sweeps of the contact areas.

On 11 February 1969, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines fired 82 HE rounds on enemy in the open; a surveillance of 1 KIA was provided for this mission.

At 230210H, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines CP came under a rocket, RPG, and enemy sapper attack. The attack, conducted by approximately 30 enemy, continued for approximately 40 minutes at which time the enemy was expelled from the perimeter. The attack resulted in 4 friendly KIA, 21 WIAE, 7 WIAWE, and 4 structures destroyed. Three enemy KIA were located within the perimeter after the attack was concluded. During the attack, the 1st Battalion, 13th Marines fired 389 artillery rounds on active and suspect enemy rocket sites throughout the zone of responsibility.

At 230903H, a 140mm rocket impacted within the 1st Battalion, 13th Marines CP, which resulted in one friendly WIAE and one building destroyed. At 231057H, additional 140mm rockets impacted within and adjacent to the 1st Battalion, 13th Marines CP, however, no personnel or material damage occurred.

At 231630H, search personnel of 1st Battalion, 13th Marines killed 2 enemy while conducting a sweep of the area between the CP and Dai La Pass.

At 242150H, an unarmored cannister from a flare ship that was providing illumination for the area, struck and killed a member of the battalion as he was positioned in a perimeter fighting position.

At 262105H, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines captured a NVN soldier within the battalion CP. This soldier, hiding in the CP area since the attack on 23 February, was turned over to the 26th Marines S-2.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

UNCLASSIFIED

On 28 February 1969, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines fired 182 rounds on known rocket sites in support of the 11th Marines counter-rocket program.

Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Marines on 100% alert from 23-28 February.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

UNCLASSIFIED

Ammunition expended during the month of February is as follows:

| <u>MISSIONS</u> | | | <u>AMMUNITION</u> | | |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|------------|--------------|
| <u>CBS</u> | <u>UNOBS</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> | <u>105</u> | <u>4.2</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> |
| 308 | 4,673 | 4,981 | 13,717 | 1,667 | 15,384 |

Friendly casualties during the month:

| <u>KIA</u> | <u>DOW</u> | <u>DAI</u> | <u>WIAE</u> | <u>WIAWE</u> |
|------------|------------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| 4 | 1 | 1 | 21 | 7 |

Enemy casualties credited to 1st Battalion, 13th Marines

| <u>KIA</u> | <u>POW</u> |
|------------|------------|
| 6 | 1 |

Enemy weapons captured:

AK-47's: 3
RPG-2: 1

Enemy rounds impacting in 1st Battalion, 13th Marines area:

Rockets: 2

Personnel. The fire direction section experienced 12 casualties during the attack on 23 February; 4 KIA and 8 WIAE. A redistribution of 0844 assets has brought the battalion FDC section up to authorized allowance, however, there is a critical shortage of 0848's in the battalion. Of 9 0848's that are rated in the Headquarters Battery of an artillery battalion, two are present for duty and one of these will rotate in April 1969. The ability of this organization to accomplish the assigned mission may be severely effected unless the 0848 problem is alleviated.

Equipment. One of the buildings destroyed in the 23 February attack was the storage area for all battalion survey and meteorological equipment. At this date, due to destruction of this equipment, coupled with shortage of trained personnel, this organization does not possess a survey or metro capability.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

UNCLASSIFIED

Part III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- 1 February 1969 - 1st Battalion, 13th Marines fires in support of 11th Marines Forward Observer School.
- 11 February 1969 - 1st Battalion, 13th Marines fired on enemy in the open and received surveillance of 1 enemy KIA.
- 15 February 1969 - 1st Battalion, 13th Marines fires in support of 11th Marines Forward Observer School.
- 23 February 1969 - 1st Battalion, 13th Marines CP subjected to enemy sapper attack supported by rockets, and RPG's. Sappers entered perimeter through wire and initiated attack simultaneously with the 100% alert sounding. Objective of attack appeared to be personnel living area and the Fire Direction Center. Friendly casualties were 4 KIA, 21 WIAE and 7 WIAWE; enemy casualties were 3 KIA.
- 1st Battalion, 13th Marines fired numerous rounds on active rocket sites that preceded and followed ground attacks on friendly positions in the Danang area.
- At 230903, a 140mm rocket impacted in 1st Battalion, 13th Marines CP and wounded a corpsman.
- At 231057, additional rockets land in and adjacent to 1st Battalion, 13th Marines CP.
- At 231630, 2 enemy killed by 1st Battalion, 13th Marines as area in front of CP searched.
- 24 February 1969 - A member of 1st Battalion, 13th Marines becomes DAI when airplane flare canister fails to function properly and impacts into individual fighting position.
- 26 February 1969 - 1st Battalion, 13th Marines captures NVA soldier hiding within CP.

~~SECRET~~

Enclosure (1)

~~SECRET~~

UNCLASSIFIED

26-27-69 February 1969 - Reconstruction of damaged areas within 1st Battalion, 13th Marines CP commences. Vital installations were not damaged, however, 4 personnel living buildings were destroyed and are presently being rebuilt.

Improvement of defense perimeter continues. Avenue of approach into CP cleared and additional wire and early warning devices installed.

~~SECRET~~