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1st 155MM GUN BATTERY (SP)
4th Battalion, 12th Marines
3rd Marine Division (Rein) FMF
FPO San Francisco 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 September to 30 September 67

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. DESIGNATION

COMMANDER

1st 155mm Gun Battery (SP)
4th Battalion, 12th Marines
3d Marine Division (Rein) FMF

Capt M. M. BAIG (Y - 15Sep)
Maj N. J. BECKMAN (16-30Sep)

UNITS OPCON 1st 155mm Gun Battery (SP)

One US Army M42
Delta Battery, 1st Battalion
44th Artillery

2. LOCATION

1-30 Sep: PHU BAI, RVN (YD 893128)
9-30 Sep: 155mm Gun Platoon, GIA LE, RVN (YD 829151)

3. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>
7	134	0	3

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

On 16 September, Captain M. M. BAIG was relieved of command by Major N. J. BECKMAN.

The 1st Platoon of the battery displaced on 9 September to (YD 829151) to support the withdrawal from Operation CUMBERLAND.

During the month the battery continued to improve its defensive positions. One new bunker was built. The wire defenses were improved by reinforcing and adding to the present wire between the battery's position and Highway 1. The battery ran 8 night patrols, 4 day patrols and 7 listening post.

During the period of 17-22 September the Commanding General's inspection team inspected the different battery functions. The battery was found to be satisfactory.

GMS and on-the-job training continued throughout the month.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. a. Combat Missions Assigned

1-30 September, 1967 - 1st 155mm Gun Battery (SP) continues General Support PHU BAI AO.

9-30 September, 1967 - 1st Platoon, 1st 155mm Gun Battery (SP) General Support Operation CUMBERLAND and Direct Support of designated Recon Patrols.

b. Significant Operations

9-30 September, 1967 - 1st Platoon, 1st 155mm Gun Battery (SP) in General Support of Operation CUMBERLAND and Direct Support of designated Recon Patrols.

c. Casualties inflicted on the enemy

<u>KIA (Conf)</u>	<u>KIA (Prob)</u>
26	72

d. Casualties Sustained - 8 WIAe. Logistics

(1) General. During this period the battery remained ADDON/OPGON of 4th Battalion, 12th Marines.

(2) Supply. The overall supply situation is satisfactory. Major items still on loan are:

	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>UNIT</u>
(a)	TA-1/pt	2	HqBn, 3dMarDiv
(b)	RC 292	3	HqBn, 3dMarDiv
(c)	Tent, General Purpose	7	HqBtry, 1stFAG
(d)	Telephone Set EES	2	HqBn, 3dMarDiv

(3) Maintenance. During this period the battery maintenance section improved on 1st and 2nd echelon PM techniques. One tube is being replaced on a 155mm Gun; the battery continued to have difficulty with the weapons sight mounts. One weapon is deadlined at FLSG-A for equilibration problems.

(4) Bunkers and Perimeter Security. During the month of September, one (1) new bunker was constructed. A continued wire laying effort has resulted in a network of wire designed to both impede and channelize the enemy.

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(5) Water. The battery continues to truck water from the Division water point.

f. Civic Action. During this period the battery completed a wash rack, acquired fourteen rice machines, and furnished crayons and pencils to two schools at our project village LOC BON. Our Med-Cap treated 1354 people.

g. Administration. The battery is ADCON 4th Battalion, 12th Marines.

h. Personnel

Number of replacements received: - 14 enlisted, 2 officers
1 Navy

Number of personnel rotated: - 6 enlisted
Number of personnel lost through attrition other than rotation: - 2 MED-EVAC, 5 transfer, all enlisted.

Promotions: - 5 to Sergeant, 5 to Corporal, 5 to Lance Corporal, 1 to 1stLt.

i. Fire Support. This battery furnished fire support as follows:

General Support Rein 4th Battalion, 12th Marines.
General Support Operation GUMBERLAND
Direct Support designated Recon Patrols.

j. Recapitulation of Fire Missions

<u>OBS</u>	<u>UNOBS</u>	<u>H&I</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>HE</u>	<u>ILLUM</u>	<u>WP</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
32	16	688	736	1250	196	57	1503

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. The following entries were taken from the computer records and fire reports:

- 010105H Sep67 - Fired 3 155mm Gun HE direct fire on Viet Cong mortar position during mortar attack on PHU BAI Combat Base. Battery credited with 5 confirmed KIA's, 7 probable KIA's and 1 82mm mortar.
- 012355H Sep67 - Fired 55 rounds 155mm Gun Illum on suspected Viet Cong position vic YD 994045. Rounds on target. Fire Mission for Combined Action Company.
- 122025H Sep67 - Fired 10 155mm Gun HE on Viet Cong movement vic YD 646179. Battery credited with 6 Viet Cong KIA's. Fire Mission for 3d Recon Battalion.
- 132150H Sep67 - Fired 53 rounds 155mm Gun Illum on suspected Viet Cong position vic YD 977047. Good coverage on target. Fire Mission for Combined Action Company.
- 161655H Sep67 - Fired 48 155mm Gun HE on suspected Viet Cong Battalion, YD 965974, 944978, 956974, 947945. Mission unobserved. Fire Mission for 3d Marine Division.
- 241710H Sep67 - Fired 100 155mm Gun HE on confirmed Viet Cong positions vic YC 968982, 950980, 952972, 965970, 960979. Mission unobserved however, battery credited with 15 confirmed Viet Cong KIA's as a result of subsequent surveillance. Fire Mission for 3d Marine Division.
- 260750H Sep67 - Fired 27 155mm Gun HE on suspected Viet Cong Battalion vic YC 954962, 928967. Mission unobserved. Fire Mission for 3d Marine Division.
- 261110H Sep67 - Fired 12 155mm Gun HE on suspected Viet Cong YD 836010. Negative surveillance. Fire Mission for 3d Recon Battalion.
- 280200H Sep67 - Fired 43 155mm Gun HE and 25 155mm Gun WP on North Vietnamese Army Battalion vic YD 72051290. Battery accredited with 25 probable Viet Cong KIA's and 3 secondary explosions. Fire Mission for 3d Recon Battalion.
- 280330H Sep67 - Fired 47 155mm Gun HE on North Vietnamese Army Battalion vic YD 717127. Battery credited with 40 probable Viet Cong KIA's. Many secondary explosions observed. Fire Mission for 3d Recon Battalion.

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