

[REDACTED]

1ST 155MM GUN BATTERY (SP)
1st Field Artillery Group
1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF
FPO San Francisco 96602

[REDACTED]

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF
Via: (1) Commanding Officer, 1st Field Artillery Group
(2) Commanding Officer, 11th Marines

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1-29 February 1968

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

Encl: (1) 1st 155mm Gun Battery (SP) Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a), (b), (c), and (d) enclosure (1) is submitted for the period 1-29 February 1968.

2. This page is down graded to unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

N. J. Beckman
N. J. BECKMAN

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1ST 155MM GUN BATTERY (SP)
1st Field Artillery Group
1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF
FPO San Francisco 96602

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 February to 29 February 1968

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PART I (U)

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ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

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1. Designation

1st 155mm Gun Battery (SP)

Commander

Major N. J. BECKMAN

2. Location

1-29 February 1968; Phu Bai, RVN

3. Battery Officers

Executive Officer
Assistant Executive Officer
Fire Direction Officer
Supply Officer

Capt. T. P. HOWE 1-29Feb68
1stLt E. A. SMYTH 1-27Feb68
1stLt J. B. GRAVES 1-29Feb68
1stLt A. P. EDELMANN 1-29Feb68

4. Average Monthly Strength

	<u>USMC</u>	
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>	
5	129	

	<u>USN</u>	
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>	
0	3	

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

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During the period 1-29 February 1968, the battery continued to improve its position area and defensive fire plans. Modifications were affected on numerous perimeter bunkers and fighting holes as well as interior positions. As a part of the battery's overall security measures, 7 patrols were run and 13 listening posts established during the month of February. Beginning on 26 February 1968, listening posts were established nightly from the hours of 2200 to 0600.

On 4 February 1968, 54 rounds of 105mm howitzer were received within and adjacent to the battery perimeter. It was later discovered that the rounds were fired by "B" Battery, 321st Artillery, 101st Airborne due to a chart operator error made in their fire direction center. Three WIA's were sustained as a result of the fires.

During the period 1-26 February 1968, the battery provided General Support/Reinforcing Fires in support of operation HUE CITY. A total of 5 observed missions and 109 rounds were fired at enemy command headquarters, bunkers, vehicles, recoilless rifles, and troops. Extensive target damage was reported by the observers. Exact damage assessment and casualties inflicted on the enemy were not readily available due to the inaccessibility of the areas fired upon. In addition, the battery provided an F.O. team from 17 to 22 February to adjust artillery fires in support of ARVN operations within the city of Hue.

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PART IIISEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTSCONFIDENTIAL1. Personnel and Administrationa. Losses

- (1) Battle Evac: None
- (2) Battle Non-Evac: 3
- (3) Non-Battle: None
- (4) Administrative: 17

b. Gains

- (1) Replacements: 11

c. POW's Captured: None

d. Morale and Personal Services: Morale is good. Mail services has been disrupted due to the tactical situation and limited availability of government aircraft. PX and laundry service located in vicinity of Command Post.

e. Awards and Decorations: 4 Purple Heartf. Promotions: 3: 1 2ndLt to 1stLt; 1 LCpl to Cpl; 1 Pvt to PFCg. Billeting: Furnished transient billeting to 4 enlisted personnel during February, 1968.h. Administration: Normal administration accomplished during the month.2. Operations(a) Combat Missions Assigned

- (1) 1-2) February 1968 - General Support/Rein 1stBn, 11thMar
Direct Support designated Recon Patrols

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b. Recapitulation of Fire Missions

<u>OBS</u>	<u>UNOBS</u>	<u>H&I</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
22	51	402	475

c. Entries

09 Feb 1968 Parts necessary to make gun no. 213242 operational were placed on RED BALL by FLSG(A). TERRO no. 3-2415.

d. Significant Fire Missions

191620H Feb 1968 Fired 6 rounds H.E. at enemy recoilless rifle position vic. ZD 770313. One confirmed KIA. Mission shot for 1stFAG F.O.

291904H Feb 1968 Fired 148 rounds H.E. as defensive fires for Recon insert under enemy attack. Fires enabled unit to avoid being overrun while awaiting extraction. Mission shot for 1st Force Recon.

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3. Logistics

a. Supply

(1) The overall supply status of the unit is satisfactory.
Major items on loan are:

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>UNIT</u>
1. Telescope, Panoramic M100	2	1st 8" HowBtry(SP)
2. Sight, M34A2	1	HqBn, 3rdMarDiv(Rein)FMF
3. Compass, Magnetic	15	HQBn, 3rdMarDiv(Rein)FMF
4. Antenna, RC-292	1	1st FAG
5. Aiming Circle, M-2	1	1st FAG
6. Tripod, Aiming Circle, M-24	1	1st FAG

b. Maintenance

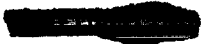
(1) During the month of February, 2 Guns, 155mm (SP) M-53, recieved new tubes. No Quarterly Preventive Maintenance Services were due during the month.

c. Ammunition Expended (1-29 February 1968)

<u>HE</u>	<u>ILLUM</u>	<u>WP</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1386	20	71	1477

d. Gun Status

<u>SER.NO.</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DATE D/L</u>	<u>CAN BE FIRED</u>	<u>WORK ORDER#</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
213243	M-53		Yes		
213252	M-53		Yes		
213232	M-53		Yes		
213242	M-53	26Dec67	No	0-3318	Transmission Main Engine and Equili-brator sys-tem. Loca-tion FL5G(A)



TAB (E) (1st 155 GUN BTRY(SP) (-) COMMAND CHRONOLOGY) TO ENCLOSURE (1)
(COMMAND CHRONOLOGY)

1st 155 Gun Btry

Chronology

Feb-1968

(E-1)