

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

NJB:rvfg  
5700  
1 May 1968

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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 - 30 April 1968

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

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

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a) through (d), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. This page is downgraded 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  
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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 April to 30 April 1968

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PART I (U)

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Designation

1st 155mm Gun Battery (SP)

Commander

Major N. J. BECKMAN  
1-30 April 1968

2. Location.

1-30 April 1968; Phu Bai, RVN

3. Battery Officers.

Executive Officer	Capt. T. P. HOWE 1-30Apr68
Assistant Executive Officer	1stLt. J. D. MCROY 3-30Apr68
Fire Direction Officer	1stLt. J. B. GRAVES 1-30Apr68
Assistant Fire Direction Officer	2ndLt. M. L. JOHNSON 16-30Apr68
Supply Officer	1stLt A. P. EDELMANN 1-30Apr68

4. Average Monthly Strength.

<u>USMC</u>	
<u>Off.</u>	<u>Enl</u>
5	141

<u>USN</u>	
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
0	5

<u>OTHER</u>	
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
0	0

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the period 1-30 April 1968, the battery continued to improve the position area and defensive fire plans. Numerous ammunition bunkers, perimeter bunkers, fighting holes, and interior bunkers. Additional defensive perimeter wire was constructed during this period. As a part of the battery's overall security measures, 30 listening posts were established and 5 patrols run during the period 1 - 30 April 1968.

On 8 April 1968, a platoon of guns was displaced to a position on the Western PHU BAI perimeter (YD 8736 1265). Since that time the platoon has continued to improve its position area and defensive plans. The displacement has proved valuable both in terms of potential area of coverage and dispersion of artillery weapons. Fires can be, and have been effectively massed from the platoon position and the battery area.

The following ammunition was expended during the period 1 - 30 April 1968.  
155mm Gun:

	<u>1stFAG</u>	<u>1stForceRecon</u>	<u>Total</u>
HE	2690	194	2884
Illum	9	0	9
WP	157	13	170
Total	2856	207	3063

The following missions were fired during the period 1 - 30 April 1968.  
155mm Gun:

<u>OBS</u>	<u>UNOBS</u>	<u>HE:I</u>	<u>Total</u>
39	160	644	843

The consolidated surveillance for missions fired during the month of April is as follows:

<u>KIA</u>	<u>STRUCTURES DAMAGED/DESTROYED</u>	<u>BUNKERS DAMAGED/DESTROYED</u>	<u>SECONDARY EXPLOSIONS</u>
2	0	0	3

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~PART IIISEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. TopicsA. Personnel and Administration(1) Losses

a. Administrative -	9
b. Battle KIA -	None
c. Battle WIA (Evac) -	None
d. Battle WIA (Non-Evac)	None
e. Battle MIA -	None
f. Battle DOW -	None
g. Non-Battle -	4
h. Replacements	20
i. Net Loss -	13
j. Net Gain -	20

B. Intelligence. The battery mans one of the PHU BAI perimeter FLASH OP towers and aids in rocket/mortar target acquisition. For other intelligence and target acquisition the battery depends on the S-2, 1st FAG.

C. Organization and Operations.

(1) The battery participated in no operations during the month of April 1968.

D. Training. During the period 1 - 30 April 1968, the battery scheduled and held seven (7) hours of formal classes in general military subjects. Average attendance at the formal classes was 70%. In addition, a minimum of ten (10) hours of MOS training was accomplished by each section in the battery. Two (2) hours of gun drill and two (2) hours of FDC chart drill was also conducted daily.

E. Logistics, Equipment and Supply. At the end of this reporting period, the five (5) guns possessed by this battery were all operative. During the month of April, one (1) gun, 155mm M-53 was nominated for R & E. The overall supply picture is satisfactory. Major items on loan to other units are:

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>ON LOAN TO</u>
Telescope, Panoramic MMCO	2	1st8"HowBtry(SP)
Sight, M34A2	1	HqBn3rdMarDiv(Rein) FMF
Compass, Magnetic	15	HqBn3rdMarDiv(Rein) FMF

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F. Civic Action/Civil Affairs. The battery is responsible for the Civic Action Program in the village of Loc Bon (YD 926104). The battery's Civic Action Officer and members of the battery visited the village two (2) times weekly during the month of April. Programs were begun to construct wells and a market place for the village, as well as repairs to the school house damaged during the TET Offensive. In addition, 16,800 piasters were donated to the TUOY LOUNG Catholic Orphanage by members of this command.

G. Psychological Operations. None

H. Combined Action Program. During the month of April, the battery provided one (1) meal weekly to the Combined Action Platoon assigned to the village of Loc Bon (FY 926104).

2. Entries.

08 Apr 68 0810 Two guns departed the battery area, arriving at "F" sector of the PHU B'I perimeter (YD 87361265) at 0900 and were laid on azimuth 4000.

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✓TAB (A) TO PART IV  
1ST 155mm GUN BATTERY (SP) COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1ST 155mm GUN BTRY

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APR 1968