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HEADQUARTERS
4th Marines (Rein), 3d Marine Division (Rein)
FPO San Francisco 96602

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4TH MARINES (REIN)
SAC FILES
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3/31/68
5750
SAC#0091068
5 November 1968

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code 10310)
Via: (1) Commanding General, Third Marine Division (Rein), FPO
(2) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 October 1968 to
31 October 1968

Ref: (a) FMFPacO 5750.8
(b) DivO-5750.1B

Encl: (1) 4th Marine Regiment Command Chronology

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

2. Downgraded at three year interval; declassified after 12 years in accordance with DOD Instruction 5700.10.

Martin J. Sexton
MARTIN J. SEXTON

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HEADQUARTERS
4th Marines (Rein), 3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF
APO San Francisco 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 October 1968 to 31 October 1968

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John J. DePina

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. DESIGNATION

4th Marine Regiment (Rein)

COMMANDER

Col M. J. SEXTON

SUBORDINATE UNITSFirst Bn, Fourth Marines
(1-31 October)

LtCol T. H. GALBRAITH

Second Bn, Fourth Marines
(1-20, 23-31 October)Maj J. E. O'NEILL
(1-13 October)
Maj W. L. KENT
(14-31 October)Third Bn, Fourth Marines
(3-31 October)LtCol F. L. BOURNE
(1-23 October)
LtCol J. L. FOWLER
(24-31 October)Second Bn, Ninth Marines
(2-17 October)

Maj F. W. SISLEY

2. LOCATION: 1-4 October CA LU, CAM LO District, QUANG TRI
Republic of VIETNAM. 4-24 October FSB CATS. 24-31
October A Command Group FSB GURKHA, B Command Group FSB
CATS.3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer

LtCol G. T. SARGENT JR.

S-1/Adjutant

1stLt R. J. CADY

S-2

1stLt W. R. BLAIR
(1-27 October)
1stLt A. P. MILMVIC
(28-31 October)

S-3

Maj G. X. MCKENNA

S-4

Maj J. P. SHEEHAN

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S-5

Communications Officer

Air Liaison Officer

Chaplain

Medical Officer

Capt T. L. DAVIS

Capt J. J. WHITEHOUSE

Maj G. H. BRAMAN

Cdr W. W. HUBBLE CMC, USN

Lt F. T. KIMBELL JR, MC,
USNR4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH (HqCo, 4th Marines)

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	
1	205	2	3	226

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the reporting period the 4th Marines participated in Operation SCOTLAND II. Highlights of October activities were as follows:

- 01 October 1968 - 1400H - Assumed OPCON of 1/4(-) from Task Force Hotel.
1415H - Chopped OPCON of 3/4(-) to Task Force Hotel.
- 02 October 1968 - 1000H-1030H - MajGen DAVIS visited Ca Lu.
1630H - Assumed OPCON of 2/9 from Task Force Hotel.
- 03 October 1968 - 1400H-1415H - MajGen DAVIS and BrigGen DAVIS ADC 1st Air Cavalry visited Ca Lu.
2100H - Assumed OPCON 3/4(-) from Task Force Hotel.
- 04 October 1968 - 1030H-1035H - MajGen DAVIS visited Ca Lu.
1600H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited FSB Cates.
- 05 October 1968 - 1135H-1150H - MajGen DAVIS and BrigGen GARRETSON visited FSB Cates.
1400H-1430H - LtGen STILLWELL and MajGen TROUNG visited FSB Cates.

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- 06 October 1968 - 1000H-1020H - LtGen STILLWELL and MajGen TROUNG visited FSB Cates.
 1545H-1600H - MajGen DRAKE visited FSB Cates
- 07 October 1968 - 0914H-0940H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited FSB Cates.
 0945H-1000H - MajGen DAVIS and MajGen TROUNG visited FSB Cates.
 1300H-1320H - LtGen STILLWELL and MajGen TROUNG visited FSB Cates.
- 08 October 1968 - 1120H-1130H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited FSB Cates.
- 10 October 1968 - 1118H-1135H - MajGen GARRETSON visited FSB Cates.
- 11 October 1968 - 1500H-1555H - Sec. of the Navy, Mr. PAUL R. IGNATIUS visited FSB Cates.
- 16 October 1968 - 1100H-1105H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited FSB Cates.
 1530H - Chopped OPCON D/1/4 to Task Force Hotel.
 1900H - Chopped OPCON 2/9(-) to Task Force Hotel.
- 17 October 1968 - 1605H-1620H - MajGen DAVIS and BrigGen GARRETSON visited FSB Cates.
- 18 October 1968 - 1845H - Chopped OPCON E/2/9 to Task Force Hotel.
- 19 October 1968 - 1000H-1015H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited FSB Cates.
 1400H-1420H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited FSB Cates.
 1457H-1510H - LtGen STILLWELL and MajGen TROUNG visited FSB Cates.
- 20 October 1968 - 1145H - Chopped OPCON 2/4 to Task Force Hotel.
- 21 October 1968 - 1315H-1330H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited FSB Cates.

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- 22 October 1968 - 1045H-1110H - LtGen DAVIS, LtGen JUDSON, Maj Gen DRAKE, MajGen DAVIS and BrigGen GARRETSON visited FSB Gates.
- 23 October 1968 - 1115H - Assumed OPCON of 2/4 from Task Force Hotel.
- 1045H-1100H - MajGen DAVIS and BrigGen GARRETSON visited FSB Gates.
- 1415H - Assumed OPCON of D/1/4 from Task Force Hotel.
- 1415H - Chopped OPCON 1st Flt F/2/9 to Task Force Hotel.
- 1515H-1530H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited FSB Gates.
- 24 October 1968 - 1020H-1030H - MajGen DRAKE and BrigGen GARRETSON visited FSB Gurkha.
- 27 October 1968 - 1000H-1020H - MajGen DAVIS and BrigGen GARRETSON visited FSB Gurkha.
- 30 October 1968 - 0930H-0945H - MajGen DAVIS and BrigGen GARRETSON visited FSB Gurkha.
- 1210H - Assumed OPCON L/3/3 from Task Force Hotel.
- 31 October 1968 - 1500H - Chopped OPCON L/3/3 to Task Force Hotel.

PART III

A. Combat Missions Assigned

(1) Conduct heliborne assaults into designated AO to locate fix and destroy enemy forces, installations and supply caches and locate and capture enemy motor transport, engineer equipment and artillery in AO. Continue defense and operations from fire support bases Gates and Shepherd and limited operations in northern areas of primary interest.

- (a) Conduct operations on the Khe Sahn plateau.
- (b) Conduct assault to establish FSB Gurkha.
- (c) Conduct operations north of FSB Gurkha.

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- (d) Conduct assault to establish FSB Alpine.
- (e) Conduct operations in the vicinity of FSB Alpine.
- (f) Conduct helicopter assault west of FSB Alpine.
- (g) Conduct operations to the north in the vicinity of Lang Ho.

B. Significant Operations Conducted

Multi-Battalion operations were conducted throughout the assigned AO from 5 to 31 October. West of Khe Sahn, south to the vicinity of Lang Hole, and north past Lang Ho.

C. Casualties Inflicted On The Enemy

KIA

VC	0	PW/NVA	1	S/A AMMO	27,564
NVA	127	IWC	18	MORT RDS	530
		CSWC	5	ARTY RDS	0
		RICE	300lbs	ROCKET RDS	4
				EXPLOSIVES	3lbs

D. Casualties Sustained. (Regimental Headquarters Company)

(1) All of the company's casualty losses were due to malaria and fever of unknown origins.

E. New Techniques Employed

(1) Resupply was accomplished during inclement weather by both fixed wing on 14 October and helicopter parachute drop on 15 October.

(2) The logistical technique of surging Days of Supply (DOS) at all Forward Fire Support Bases was implemented during this period. A policy of building up to 5 DOS in Class I and V (for infantry) was adhered to, and as a result all elements of two infantry battalions on search and destroy missions were resupplied on a daily basis. This was possible by requesting helicopters, during periods of inclement weather at Vandergrift Combat Base, to fly directly to the forward FSBs (Gurkha and Alpine) and pick up netted supplies for units operating far from such bases. This procedure was possible due to the factor of flying conditions being acceptable in the northwest area of Quang Tri Province while minimum or below minimum conditions existed elsewhere.

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This resupply system was even executed while resupplying a rifle company operating at the highest elevation in the Republic of South Vietnam (1739 meters).

(3) A technique of installing several warming tents at Fire Support Bases was implemented. These tents, with a stove in each, provided a "dry out" area for troops when they rotated from patrol, search and destroy and other missions. Such a system is considered mandatory in order to reduce "immersion foot", FVO and an overall decrease in combat efficiency.

F. Command Relations

(1) As commanding Officer, 4th Marines the Regimental Commander exercised command over those units assigned OPCOM and support of the Regiment through normal channels.

(2) Contact with D vision Headquarters and adjacent regimental command echelon was maintained through normal command/control communication channels and command/staff visits.

G. Equipment. Three (3) 250,000 BTU Heaters were received during the month of October. Preliminary tests proved satisfactory. Full operation report will be noted in next month report.

H. Logistics

(1) Supply - Primary source of supply was FLSU at Vandegrift CB, with secondary sources at FLSU, Dong Ha Combat Base and Quang Tri Combat Base.

(2) Resupply

(a) Helicopter resupply in general support of Operation SCOTLAND II has been normally routine except as noted in paragraph E (New Techniques Employed).

(b) See TAB (A) for helo resupply weights.

(3) Transportation

(a) G-4 representative, 3d MarDiv furnished truck support during the month of October.

(4) Service

(a) Six (6) attached Otters have been available for Operation SCOTLAND II and to assist during the Monsoon Season.

(7)

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(b) 3d Engr Bn. were responsible for conducting mine detection sweeps over 11,000 meters of road daily.

(3) Hospitalization and Evacuation. (Regimental HqCo).

(a) Medical

(1) Average daily patient visits	8
(2) Referrals to 3d Med Bn.	41
(3) Acute diarrhea/Gastroenteritis	19
(4) Med Cap.	00
(5) Immunization	143

(b) Dental

(1) Referred to 3rd Dental Co.	02
--------------------------------	----

I. Civic Action and Psychological Warfare

(1) Civic Action

(a) Twelve Montagnards from Lang Kat were provided transportation from their hamlet to DONG HA and back in order that they could trade at the market.

(b) Two Montagnards were taken to Quang Tri City where they will study at a school set up by Mr. MILLER, a Montagnard Missionary/Linguist. They will be trained to read and write BRU and possibly to teach.

(2) Psychological Warfare

J. Administrative. Functioning in accordance with Division Order 5450.1.

(1) This unit is operating under split administration (forward and rear).

(2) Staff studies and estimates: None

(3) Local newspapers: None

K. Personnel

(1) Personnel rotating during the month.

USMC

USN

OFF
3

ENL
21

OFF
0

ENL
0

(2) Replacements joined during October.

(8)

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USMCOPR
3ENL
26USMOPR
0ENL
0

- (3) Photographs: None
- (4) Discipline - Courts-Martial and NJP:
- (a) Courts-Martial (0)
- (b) NJP (0)
- (5) Morale: PX: Postal affairs: Liberty and R&R's
- (a) Morale: Morale is considered excellent.
- (b) PX: Basic Post exchange items are currently stocked at a PX located at Vandegrift CB.
- (c) Postal: Unit #7 of the Third Marine Division Post Office is functioning to facilitate all outgoing and incoming mail in the operation area, and to provide other services. The unit is located in Ca Lu.
- (d) Liberty: None
- (e) R&R quotas for the month were adequate and sufficient for one of every 13 Marines on the rolls. R&R continues to contribute to high morale.
- (6) Chaplain Support and Religious Services: Worship services were conducted in the field for those of the Catholic and Protestant faiths.
- (a) Services conducted (Protestant and Catholic).
- (1) 14 Sunday services - attendance 641
- (2) 38 weekday services - attendance 1278
- Above services included Communion attendance.
- (b) The Regimental Chaplain carried out pastoral and counseling ministry in the Regiment.
- L. Intelligence. The month of October was characterized by sporadic light contact in the area of operation.
- (1) A PW with a diary was captured by E/2/4 at 261530H Oct 68 vic 773540. The PW confirmed the presence of

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the 245th Regiment in the SCOTLAND II AO and revealed extremely low morale in that Regiment due to a critical shortage of food.

(2) There were 24 Reconnaissance patrols executed by members of the Third Reconnaissance Battalion in the AO during October; of these, 8 made contact and 6 sighted enemy troops.

M. Training

(1) Training for the month consisted of PAM firing of weapons, indoctrination classes for replacements and on the job training.

(2) The Regimental Snipers, operating with outlying infantry units, and on sniper patrols and ambushes, registered one kill during the month. The snipers sustained no casualties.

N. Communications

(1) Normal communications were maintained between this command and senior and subordinate Headquarters.

(2) The communications center processed a total of 918 messages with 29 being transmitted, and 689 messages received.

(3) The AN/PCC-1 shot to LZ Gates was activated on 9 October 1968. The shot is operational and has proved to be satisfactory. It has been requested that the AN/PCC-1 remain at LZ Gates for the duration of the monsoon season.

O. Weather. During the reporting period the temperatures ranged from low of 70 to high of 95 degrees, with an average temperature of 75 degrees. The average humidity was 83 percent.

P. Fire Support

(1) 3rd Bn, 12th Marines was in direct support of the 4th Marines.

(2) Number of missions fired: 4,097

(3) Types of missions:

(a) Observed - 571

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- (b) Unobserved - 729
- (c) Acquired - 2,797

(4) Total number of rounds fired:

- (a) 105mm 21,959
- (b) 155mm 4,301
- (c) 4.2mm 3,714
- (d) 8" 189

Q. Air Support. During the month of October the Regiment participated in Operations SCOTLAND II. Air support was as follows:

(1) Helicopter support

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>REQ</u>	<u>TROOPS</u>	<u>VRS</u>	<u>MED EVAC</u>
HqCo	108	359	19	3
1/4	25	2598	9	65
2/4	24	3470	11	66
3/4	17	2760	7	109
3/12	9	159	4	0
2/9	9	1565	3	14
<hr/>				
T/1/11	2	95	0	1
	<hr/>			
	194	11,006	53	258

(2) Close Air Support

(a) 186 Fixed Wing Sorties were flown in support of the 4th Marines. Due to inclement weather throughout the month, fixed wing strike were held to a minimum.

(b) The BDA for 1-30 October is as follows:

- Bunkers Destroyed - 381
- Secondary Explosions - 11
- Fox Hole Destroyed - 10
- KBA - 13
- Structures Destroyed - 17
- 1 Bridge was destroyed and 1 bridge damaged
- 1 Truck destroyed and 1 truck damaged.

(3) TPQ - 87 targets. During the reporting period 4th Marines requested 222 TPQ's. 87 TPQ sorties were flown and a total of 175 tons of ordnance were expended on assigned targets.

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Re. Activation/Deactivations/Redesignators: None

PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

✓TAB A - Helicopter Resupply Weights

✓TAB B Order of Battle

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Resupply Weights for October 1968

<u>DATE</u>	<u>WEIGHTS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>WEIGHTS</u>
1 Oct 68	125,934	17 Oct 68	5,700
2 Oct 68	127,780	18 Oct 68	10,377
3 Oct 68	89,820	19 Oct 68	54,336
4 Oct 68	509,086	20 Oct 68	82,408
5 Oct 68	254,882	21 Oct 68	85,190
6 Oct 68	257,435	22 Oct 68	226,279
7 Oct 68	206,333	23 Oct 68	131,326
8 Oct 68	198,227	24 Oct 68	137,926
9 Oct 68	129,900	25 Oct 68	71,080
10 Oct 68	82,150	26 Oct 68	100,529
11 Oct 68	70,215	27 Oct 68	129,975
12 Oct 68	55,401	28 Oct 68	120,625
13 Oct 68	114,840	29 Oct 68	82,502
14 Oct 68	No Resupply	30 Oct 68	104,295
15 Oct 68	6,666	31 Oct 68	42,000
16 Oct 68	21,613		

Tab (A)

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Tab (B)

ORDER OF BATTLE FOR OCTOBER

COM. AND CHRONOLOGY

1. The 246th Regiment was confirmed to be in the vicinity of Khe Sahn, however, this Regiment is now believed to have exfiltrated the AO and returned to DMZ.

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