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4TH MARINES (REIN)
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HEADQUARTERS  
 4th Marines (Rein), 3d Marine Division (Rein), FPO  
 FPO San Francisco 96002

3/RFB/ccb  
 5750  
 Ser#003A34768  
 12 December 1968



From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)  
 Via: (1) Commanding General, Third Marine Division (Rein), FMF  
 (2) Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force  
 (3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Pacific  
 Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 November 1966 to 30  
 November 1968  
 Ref: (a) FMFPacO 5750.8  
 (b) DivO 5750.1B

Encl: (1) 4th Marine Regiment Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of reference (a), 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

4TH MAR


CMD CHRON

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Nov 1968

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

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 November 1968 to 30 November 1968

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ENCLOSURE (1)  
  
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## PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

4th Marine Regiment (Rein)

COMMANDER

Col M. J. SEXTON

SUBORDINATE UNITSFirst Bn, Fourth Marines  
(1 - 30 November)LtCol T. H. GALBRAITH  
(1 - 15 November)  
LtCol G. T. SARGENT JR.  
(16 - 30 November)Second Bn, Fourth Marines  
(1 - 30 November)Maj W. L. KAMT  
(1 - 19 November)  
LtCol C. E. HOPKINS  
(19 - 30 November)Third Bn, Fourth Marines  
(1 - 30 November)LtCol J. L. FOWLER  
(1 - 20 November)  
Maj R. L. BAKER  
(21 - 24 November)  
LtCol W. A. DONALD  
(25 - 30 November)First Bn, Ninth Marines  
(27 - 28 November)

LtCol G. W. SMITH

2. LOCATION: 1 - 8 November A Command Group FSB GURKHA, B  
Command Group FSB CATES. 8 - 30 November CA LU, CAM LO District,  
QUANG TRI Province Republic of VIETNAM.3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer

LtCol G. T. SARGENT JR.  
(1 - 15 November)  
LtCol J. W. WOOD  
(25 - 30 November)

S-1/Adjutant

1stLt R. J. CADY  
(1 - 7 November)  
Capt T. L. WATTS  
(8 - 30 November)

S-2

1stLt A. F. MILAVIC

-2-

ENCLOSURE (1)

S-3	(1 - 3 November) Capt L. R. OGLE (4 - 30 November)
S-4	Maj G. X. MCKENNA
S-5	Maj J. P. SHEBMAN
Communications Officer	Capt T. L. WATTS (1 - 23 November) 2ndLt W. S. ALEXANDER (23 - 30 November)
Air Liaison Officer	Capt J. J. WHITEHOUSE
Chaplain	Maj G. H. BRAMAN (1 - 12 November) Maj J. C. MORRISON (13 - 30 November)
Medical Officer	Cdr N. W. HUEBLE CMC, USN
	Lt F. T. KIRBELL JR, MC, USNR

4. 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>	
19	207	1	3	230

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the reporting period, the 4th Marines participated in Operation SCOTLAND II. Highlights of November activities were as follow:

01 November 1968 - 1000H-1040H - LtGen WALT, LtGen NICKERSON and MajGen DAVIS visited PSP GURKHA.

04 November 1968 - 1400H-1420H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited FSB GURKHA.  
 1440H-1458H - MajGen DRAKE visited FSB GURKHA.  
 1715H-1726H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited FSB GURKHA.  
 05 November 1968 - 1050H-1055H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited FSB GURKHA.  
 06 November 1968 - 1030H-1047H - MajGen DAVIS visited FSB GURKHA.  
 07 November 1968 - 0901H-0908H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited FSB GURKHA.  
 1330H-1437H - MajGen DRAKE visited FSB GURKHA.  
 1400H-1410H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited FSB GURKHA.  
 1600H-1617H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited FSB GURKHA.  
 08 November 1968 - 0940H-1000H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited FSB GURKHA.  
 09 November 1968 - 1400H - BrigGen GARRETSON arrived for birthday ceremonies at CA LU.  
 10 November 1968 - 1320H-1330H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited CA LU.  
 11 November 1968 - 1515H-1530H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited CA LU.  
 12 November 1968 - 1500H-1520H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited CA LU.  
 14 November 1968 - 1500H-1530H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited CA LU.  
 1546H-1555H - MajGen DAVIS visited CA LU.  
 15 November 1968 - 0945H-1000H - MajGen DAVIS visited CA LU.

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- 1001H-1630H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited CA LU.
- 16 November 1968 - 1325H-1335H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited CA LU.
- 17 November 1968 - 0958H-1005H - MajGen DAVIS visited CA LU.
- 1345H-1400H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited CA LU.
- 18 November 1968 - 1124H-1139H - MajGen DAVIS visited CA LU.
- 21 November 1968 - 1400H- Assumed OPCON of D(-)/1/3 from CG Task Force Hotel.
- 1315H- Assumed OPCON of A(-)/1/9 from CG Task Force Hotel.
- 1425H-1440H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited CA LU.
- 23 November 1968 - 0905H-0925H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited CA LU.
- 24 November 1968 - 1245H-1300H - MajGen DAVIS visited CA LU.
- 1620H-1635H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited CA LU.
- 25 November 1968 - 1015H-1030H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited CA LU.
- 1340H-1350H - MajGen DAVIS visited CA LU.
- 27 November 1968 - 1400H-1415H - MajGen DAVIS visited CA LU.
- 1400H- Assumed OPCON of 1/9(-) from CG Task Force Hotel.
- 28 November 1968 - 1015H-1045H - BrigGen GARRETSON visited CA LU.
- 1045H- 3/D/1/3 chopped OPCON to CG Task Force Hotel. Assumed OPCON of 2/M/3/4 from CG Task Force Hotel.



1200H-

Chopped OPCON of 1/9(-)  
(Rein) to CG Task Force Hotel.

29 November 1968 -- 1030H-

D(-)/1/3 chopped OPCON to  
CG Task Force Hotel.  
Assumed OPCON of M(-)/3/4.

## PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTSA. Combat Missions Assigned

- (1) Conduct offensive operations west of FSB ALPINE.
- (2) Conduct offensive operations north of FSB ALPINE.
- (3) Conduct offensive operations north of FSB GURKHA.
- (4) Conduct helo assault to establish FSB ARGONNE.
- (5) Conduct offensive operations east of FSB ARGONNE.
- (6) Conduct offensive operations in vicinity of FSB's SHEPHERD and CATES.
- (7) Conduct pacification operations in villages and hamlets in AO.
- (8) Conduct offensive operations north of FSB ARGONNE to the Central Border and the DMZ.
- (9) Conduct offensive operations north and south of the QUANG TRI River.
- (10) Execute reconnaissance in force of infiltration routes in northwest sector of AO.
- (11) Conduct search and destroy operations in the vicinity of LANG HO.
- (12) Conduct operations to destroy bunker complex west of FSB WINCHESTER.
- (13) Conduct operations from FSB SHEPHERD, FSB CATES, FSB ARGONNE, FSB ALPINE, FSB WINCHESTER, FSB RUSSELL, FSB

-6-

ENCLOSURE (1)

[REDACTED]

HACK, LZ SIARRA, HILL 691, HILL 950, CA LU, VCB, TSL, BOLO  
HA MOUNTAIN AND KHE GHIA BRIDGE.

(14) Maintain Sparrow Hawk and Bald Eagle.

(15) Conduct engineer road sweep in AO.

B. Significant Operations Conducted. Operations were conducted throughout the assigned AO from the LAOTIAN BORDER on the west, the DMZ on the north, east to the 08 N-S grid line and south to the 36 E-W grid line.

C. Casualties on the Enemy

KIA

VC	0	PW/NVA	0	S/A AMMO	32,243 rds
NVA	9	IWC	42	MORT RDS	399
		CSWC	2	ARTY RDS	0
		RICE	6795 lbs	ROCKET RDS	42
		CORN	55 lbs	EXPLOSIVES	2101 lbs
		TOBACCO	75 lbs		

D. Casualties Sustained. (Regimental Headquarters Company)

(1) All of the companies casualty losses were due to malaria and fever of unknown origin.

E. New Techniques Employed

(1) Two fire support bases were closed during the period covered by this report; FSB GURKHA and FSB SHEPHERD.

(2) At FSB GURKHA, bunker overhead covers were removed and all useable material extracted with the exception of the mutting in three gunpits and overhead cover of the ammunition pits used for these guns. This was done because of the expected reestablishment of these positions prior to closing FSB ARGONNE.

(3) At FSB SHEPHERD all useable material was again extracted but the bunkers were not dismantled. Since FSB SHEPHERD was constructed as a permanent FSB, the construction technique



utilized involved extensive excavation into the steep slopes. The removal of overhead cover and resultant erosion would have rendered the positions useless for future occupancy.

F. Command Relations

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

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

G. Equipment. Received one (1) 250,000 BTU Heater during the month of November. Operation of these heaters has proven highly satisfactory. One heater can warm six G.P. tents beyond maximum requirements. The heaters have been found excellent for drying and warming troops coming out of the field.

H. Logistics

(1) Supply - Primary source of supply was FLSU at VANDEGRIFT Combat Base with secondary sources FLSU at DONG HA Combat Base and QUANG TRI Combat Base.

(2) Resupply

(a) Helicopter resupply in general support of Operation SCOTLAND II has been routine except when weather conditions at times temporarily halted resupply during the month. One (1) Class V emergency resupply was made on 25 November 1968.

(3) Transportation

(a) G-4 representative, 3d MarDiv furnished truck support during the month of November. Commanding Officer, 4th Marines has requested by letter the assignment of a motor transport platoon to the Regiment.

(4) Services. During the month of November 3rd Engineer Bn. conducted mine detection sweeps over 11,000 meters of road daily. The six (6) attached Otters provided transportation for six (6) Med Caps during the month.

(5) Hospitalization and Evacuation. (Regimental HqCo)

[REDACTED]

(a) Medical

(1) Average daily patient visit	7
(2) Referrals to 3d Med En	27
(3) Acute diarrhea/Gastroenteritis	22
(4) Emergency Medical Care	00
(5) Med Cap	185
(6) Immunizations	151

## (b) Dental

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

I. Civic Action and Psychological Warfare

## (1) Civic Action

(a) On the 15th of November the Med Cap/Dentcap program was renewed at LANG KAT village YD 025455. Med Caps were conducted on 15, 16, 20, 22, 25, and 29th of November. On the 27th of November a Med Cap/Dentcap was conducted.

(b) Since the renewal of the Med Cap/Dentcap program 112 adults and 129 children have been treated.

(c) A rudimentary village dispensary has been erected by the villagers, and indicating their increased interest in the Med Cap/Dentcap program.

(d) It is planned to expand the Med Cap and Dentcap program to include the second hamlet (Vietnamese) during the month of December.

## (2) Psychological Warfare

(a) During the month of November four leaflets drops and voice broadcast (air) were requested from 3d Marine Division PsyOps. A total of 750,000 leaflets were dropped and a total of 16 hours of Aerial Broadcasting were completed.

J. Administrative. Functioning in accordance with DivO 5450.1.

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

(2) Staff studies and estimates. Although there have been none per se, the Regiment has prepared and published the following SOP's during the period:

(a) Sparrow Hawk/Bald Eagle

(b) Road Sweep

(c) Regimental COC

(3) Local Newspapers: None

K. Personnel

(1) Personnel rotating during the month.

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
1	7	0	0

(2) Replacements joined during November.

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
7	10	0	1

(3) Photographs: 8

(4) Discipline - Courts-Martial and NJP:

(a) Courts-Martial (0)

(b) NJP: (1)

(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 CE.

(c) Postal: Unit #7 of the Third Marine Division, located at Ca Lu is functioning to facilitate all outgoing and incoming mail in the Area of Operation and to provide other services.

(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) 17 Sunday services - attendance 553

(2) 31 Weekday services - attendance 833

Above services included communion attendance.

(b) The Regimental Chaplain carried out pastoral and counseling ministry in the Regiment.

L. Intelligence. There have been no significant additions to the NVA/VC Order of Battle during the month of November, but it has been noted that one U/I unit of battalion size has entered the AO. For the first two weeks of November, primary intelligence interest was continued in the area to the north and west of Khe Sanh. Primary interest had shifted to this area of the AO, specifically for the development of FSB's ALPINE and ARGONIE in the northwestern portion of the AO. Interest remained in this area, gradually shifting east to include FSB's WINCHESTER and LZ SIERRA along the Central DMZ area. The intelligence collection effort during the reporting period began to show certain areas of concentrated enemy activity. The area surrounding FSB WINCHESTER has been especially conspicuous due to the discovery of large bunker complexes and caches, along

[REDACTED]

with increased STAR/IR/URS reports received in the last two weeks of the month. On the 29th of November intelligence collection efforts commenced in the SOUTHERS RIDGE, ROCKY VALLEY areas in the Central DMZ area.

(1) Interrogations. On two different occasions during the reporting period, groups of refugees were taken in and interrogated. Interrogations were completed, refugees classified as innocent civilians. All were relocated to MAILLOC resettlement village. Interrogations revealed nothing of a pertinent intelligence nature.

(2) In the month of November, a total of 36 reconnaissance patrols were inserted in the 4th Marines AO. Of these, two had contact with the enemy, eleven made sightings, and one team was aborted.

#### M. Training

(1) Training for the month of November consisted of FAM Firing of weapons, indoctrination classes for replacements and on the job training.

#### N. Communications

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

(2) The communications center processed a total of 899 messages, with 107 transmitted and 812 received.

(3) The AN/PRC-1 radio relay communications was shifted from PSE SHEPHERD and installed at CA LU, with direct communications from PSE GATES to CA LU. It has proven excellent for use within the Regiment.

(4) TRC-27 radio relay communications has been established between Task Force Hotel, and the 4th Marines, to be used as a back up system for the CA LU cable during the monsoon season.

(5) Log periodic antennas are being utilized as required throughout the Regimental AO to provide long range communications. This system is presently being employed between CA LU and PSE ARGONNE with satisfactory results.

O. Weather

(1) November was characterized by light to moderate rain showers, low clouds and fog in the A.M., broken clouds in the P.M. Average visibility was approximately four (4) miles plus. Humidity was 80% average. Temperatures ranged from the high 60's to the high 80's, with an average of 73 degrees.

P. Fire Support

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

(2) Number of missions fired: 4,093

(3) Types of missions:

(a) Observed - 560

(b) Unobserved - 444

(c) Acquired - 2,989

(4) Total number of rounds fired:

(a) 105mm - 18,196

(b) 155mm - 4,698

(c) 4.2mm - 2,664

Q. Air Support. During the month of November the Regiment participated in Operation SCOTLAND II. Air support was as follows.

(1) Helicopter support

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>REQ.</u>	<u>TROOPS</u>	<u>VRS</u>	<u>MEDEVACS</u>
HqCo	64	306	27	0
1/4	15	1,740	5	66
2/4	22	1,632	11	90

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3/4	22	2,146	10	11
3/3	1	190	-	-
3/12	13	64	1	-
SeaBees	1	3	1	-
	138	6,081	55	199

(2) Close Air Support

(a) 88 Fixed wing sorties were flown in support of the 4th Marines.

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

Bunkers destroyed - 10

Meters of trench destroyed - 200

Secondary fires - 9

50 cal. positions destroyed - 5

Structures destroyed - 1

(3) TPG's requested were 432 with 105 hit and 374 tons of ordnance dropped.

R. Activation/Deactivation/Redesignators: None

PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

√ TAB A - Helicopter Resupply Weights

√ TAB B - Order of Battle

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Resupply Weights for November 1968

<u>DATE</u>	<u>WEIGHTS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>WEIGHTS</u>
1 Nov 68	121,366	16 Nov 68	164,250
2 Nov 68	130,456	17 Nov 68	74,425
3 Nov 68	176,065	18 Nov 68	94,400
4 Nov 68	153,260	19 Nov 68	52,332
5 Nov 68	82,020	20 Nov 68	31,575
6 Nov 68	53,560	21 Nov 68	118,706
7 Nov 68	63,750	22 Nov 68	147,468
8 Nov 68	149,325	23 Nov 68	34,851
9 Nov 68	38,976	24 Nov 68	75,310
10 Nov 68	44,500	25 Nov 68	32,826
11 Nov 68	39,890	26 Nov 68	127,114
12 Nov 68	57,450	27 Nov 68	122,580
13 Nov 68	72,070	28 Nov 68	214,940
14 Nov 68	34,575	29 Nov 68	3,200
15 Nov 68	32,050	30 Nov 68	136,734

TAB (A)  
SECRET

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(SAB (B))

ORDER OF BATTLE FOR NOVEMBER

COMBAND CIRCUMSTANCES

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>SUB TO</u>	<u>STRENGTH</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
U/I BN	UNK	UNK	*

- \* 21 NOVEMBER - REC'D AGENT RPT (F-3) U/I NVA BN VICINITY XD 694467
- 23 NOVEMBER - URS REPORT, U/I UNIT VC VICINITY XD 660450
- 24 NOVEMBER - RECON TEAM OBS'D HVA CO. (APPROX) AT XD 684532
- 24 NOVEMBER - RECON TEAM HAD CONTACT VICINITY XD 705423