

MARINE AIR SUPPORT SQUADRON-3  
Marine Wing Headquarters Group-1  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, EMFPac  
APO, San Francisco, California 96602

3:CDG:dkg  
5750  
5 June 1967  
021-67

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From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Wing Headquarters Group-One

Subj: Command Chronology (U)

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.10

Encl: (1) Command Chronology, MASS-3, 1 - 31 May 1967

1. In accordance with reference (a), the MASS-3 Command Chronology for the period 1 - 31 May 1967 is submitted as enclosure (1).
2. This letter is downgraded to unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

*G. D. McPherson*  
G. D. MCPHERSON

MASS-3

COMD CHRON

MASS-3

FILE NO 239-67

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS  
DOD DIR 5200.10

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ENCLOSURE (6)

MAY 1967

UNCLASSIFIED

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY (U)

MARINE AIR SUPPORT SQUADRON-THREE

1 - 31 May 1967

CHU LAI, RVN

UNCLASSIFIED

Enclosure (1)

**CONFIDENTIAL**PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. (U) Commanding Officer LtCol Gordon D. MCPHERSON  
 Executive Officer Maj John C. DIXON  
 Operations Officer Maj Desmond F. BROWNE (1-21 May 67)  
 Maj Charles D. GODDARD (21-31 May 67)  
 Comm-Elect Officer Capt Thomas O. J. FARR  
 Services Officer Capt Robert L. HAGENER (1-27 May 67)  
 Capt James A. VOLLENDORF (27-31 May 67)  
 Supply Officer Capt Otto G. LINDEN  
 Administrative Officer 2ndLt William E. BURLINGAME
  
2. (C) Marine Air Support Squadron-Three, Chu Lai, RVN
  - (1) CP, DASC (Landshark "A") and ASRT (King Lear "B") Chu Lai
  - (2) ASRT (King Lear "A") Quang Ngai (1-18 May 67)  
 Dong Ha (18-31 May 67)
  - (3) HDC (King Lear "Z") Phong Dien (1-15 May 67)
  
3. (C) 25 Officers and 170 Enlisted.
  
4. (C) MajGen ROBERTSHAW visited the ASRT (King Lear "A") several times following its deployment to Dong Ha. Visitors to King Lear "Zulu" during May included Premier KY, Gen WESTMORELAND, LtGen KRULAK, LtGen WALT, MajGen ROBERTSHAW, MajGen HOCHMUTH and BGen RYAN.

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**CONFIDENTIAL**PART II - SIGNIFICANT HIGHLIGHTS

1. (C) During the early part of May, MASS-3 continued to provide air support control services for the southern portion of I Corps through the DASC (Landshark "A") at Chu Lai and two ASRT's (King Lear "A" and "B") located at Quang Ngai and Chu Lai, respectively. At the same time the squadron was furnishing a HDC (King Lear "Z") in support of Operation SHAWNEE.

The tempo in the DASC slowed as the U. S. Army's Task Force Oregon took over the Chu Lai TAOR. Traffic was reduced mostly to medevacs and logistic missions in support of the 2nd ROK Brigade, 2nd ARVN DIV, and the Special Forces Camps in the southern ICTZ. However, at times the routine was abruptly broken, one example being the extraction of the reconnaissance teams BENNINGTON and DONOHUE on May 9 in which every service was a participant. See Appendix A.

On 10 May the squadron received AN/TPQ-10 System A-17 from factory rehabilitation. After a careful checkout the system was emplaced on the 13th and in operation by the 14th as ASRT King Lear "B". King Lear "B's" capabilities were much enhanced by the arrival of this set and it is now housed in an elaborate new bunker.

Due to the decreased tempo of SHAWNEE and in preparation for Operation HICKORY, the HDC (King Lear "Z") was disbanded on 15 May and a portion of its personnel were reassigned to assist in the operation of MASS-2's DASC (Landshark "B") at Dong Ha. (Ref: CO, MASS-3 ltr 1300 dtd 16 May 67) Furthermore, at 1030, 18 May, the ASRT (King Lear "A") at Quang Ngai received orders to displace to Dong Ha to back up MASS-2's ASRT (Devastate "D"). The team arrived at Dong Ha by C-130 at 2330 that same day and was operational by 0400 on the 21st.

To provide continuous ASRT coverage for HICKORY and other DMZ operations, King Lear "A" operated on a day on, day off schedule in conjunction with Devastate "D". During red alerts the standby ASRT would monitor the duty ASRT's missions to provide an instant back up in event the duty ASRT became inoperative. On 29 May, a squadron ASRT record was made when King Lear "A" dropped 86.75 tons of ordnance during a 24 hour period. As HICKORY terminated King Lear "A" remained at Dong Ha providing support for regular DMZ operations.

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**CONFIDENTIAL**PART III - SIGNIFICANT EVANTS

1. (C) Air Operations. Air support operations are summarized below:

DASC/HDC

	<u>DASC</u>	<u>HDC</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Fixed Wing Missions Controlled	406	58	464
Helo Missions Controlled	961	262	1223

ASRT

	<u>"A"</u>	<u>"B"</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Bombing Missions	323	278	601
Targets Hit	492	462	954
Ordnance Dropped (Tons)	740	609	1349

2. (C) Inspections. On 8 - 9 May the squadron underwent its first A&M Inspection since its arrival in RVN. The squadron received an overall rating of "Satisfactory", the highest rating attainable. (Ref: MWHG-1 ltr 05041 dtd 15 May 67)

3. (U) Camp Development. The squadron recreation hut (Fenton Hall) and the Butler building for supply storage were completed in early May. On 23 May, a 26' x 100' Motor Transport maintenance slab was poured by squadron personnel with assistance from MCB-71.

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PART IV - DOCUMENTATION

- I. Appendix A - MWHG-1 ltr 3000 dtd 16 May 67

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## HEADQUARTERS

Marine Wing Headquarters Group - One  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMF, Pacific  
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

6:KTD:jth  
3000  
16 May 1967

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From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing

Subj: Sequence of Events Pertaining to the Emergency Extraction of  
Recon Team DONOHUE

Encl: (1) List of units providing support

1. The following sequence of events pertaining to the emergency extraction of a Recon team is provided for information as it is considered indicative of the complexities of the coordination often required of the various air control agencies for the successful conduct of operations. It should be noted that there were twelve (12) separate agencies representing four (4) military services, involved in this particular incident.

a. At 1340 10 May 1967, an Emergency Med Evac request was received from Recon Team DONOHUE. In addition, DONOHUE stated they were in contact with VC at 15 meters and needed air support. LANDSHARK "A" contacted NAILFILE 3 and passed the Emergency Med Evac request. Concurrently, MOMENT 22 was notified of the situation and CASTOR OIL 063 was scrambled. NAILFILE 3 stated that no TAC(A) gunships were available due to the tempo of operations but that they would try to provide from Wing assets, in order to launch the Med Evac birds.

b. At 1400, DONOHUE requested an Emergency Extraction due to the severity of contact with the VC; LANDSHARK "A" contacted Quang Ngai TOC (2nd ARVN DIV) and requested a JAKE or CAT KILLER FAC to control the fixed wing scramble. Within five minutes JAKE 43 was in contact with DONOHUE and CASTOR OIL 063 and close air support was initiated.

c. At 1450, NAILFILE 3 informed LANDSHARK "A" that he was sending ALLEY CAT 6 for our control to provide additional fire support for DONOHUE. Control of ALLEY CAT was passed to JAKE 43.

d. At 1500, JAKE 44 relieved JAKE 43 on station maintaining air support continuity.

e. At 1520, NAILFILE informed LANDSHARK "A" he was sending SCORPION 045 for additional fire support for DONOHUE. Concurrently, MOMENT 22 kept LANDSHARK "A" advised as to the availability of fixed wing, and was providing diverted and scrambled aircraft for our control. (In

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addition to DONOHUE, we were providing support for the Emergency Extraction of Recon team BENNINGTON). MAILFILE informed us that he would use the birds on the BENNINGTON extraction, as they became available, for the extraction of DONOHUE.

f. At 1630, BUFFALO CITY 2-9 and 2-10 landed and extracted DONOHUE, under cover of SCORPION 045, ALLEY CAT 6, KLONDIKE 4-4, MISS MUFFET 13, and under the control of JAKE 44.

2. It is noted with pleasure that continuous air support was provided for two and a half hours despite the high tempo of operations within the Chu Lai and DaNang TAOR's. Ordnance was delivered within 30 meters of DONOHUE and with such a high degree of accuracy that DONOHUE suffered no additional casualties.

/s/  
K. T. DYKES

Copy to: CO each MAG  
CEO  
ISO  
G-3  
TADC  
MASS-3

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UNITS PROVIDING SUPPORT

LANDSHARK ALPHA  
MOMENT 22  
MAILFILE 3  
KLONDIKE 4-4  
BUFFALO CITY 2-9  
CASTOR OIL 063 and 065  
WAGE CUT 41  
MISS HUFFET 13  
ALLEY CAT 5  
SCORPION 045  
JAKE 43 and 44  
2nd ARVN DIV TOC

MASS-3, MWHG-1  
MWHG-1 (TADC)  
MAG-36  
VMO-6, MAG-36  
HMM-165, MAG-36  
VMFA-542, MAG-13  
VLF(AIF)235, MAG-11  
VMA 223, MAG-12  
282nd Avn Co., 14 Avn, USA  
161st Avn Co., 14 Avn, USA  
20th Tactical Air Support Sqdn, USA  
ARVN

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