

MARINE AIR SUPPORT SQUADRON 3
 Marine Air Control Group 18
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing
 FPO San Francisco, California 96602

3: CWF:cwg
 5750
 6 June 1968
 051-68

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From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding Officer, Marine Air Control Group 18


Subj: Command Chronology (U)

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.1C
 (b) GruO 5750.1

Encl: ✓(1) Command Chronology, MASS-3, 1 - 31 May 1968

1. In accordance with references (a) and (b), the MASS-3 command chronology for May 1968 is submitted as enclosure (1).

2. This letter becomes unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).


 W. J. SULLIVAN
 Acting

MASS-3

CMD CHRON

MASS-3

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ENCLOSURE (4)
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MAY 1968

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY (U)
MARINE AIR SUPPORT SQUADRON 3
1 - 31 May 1968
Chu Lai, RVN

ENCLOSURE (1)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

- (U) Commanding Officer LtCol Johnny O. GREGERSON
 Executive Officer Maj William J. SULLIVAN
 Operations Officer Maj George B. TOWNSEND, Jr.
 Comm-Elec Officer Capt Charlton H. BLANKS
 Services Officer Capt Donald C. ALFORD III 14May-31May
 Capt James A. VOLLENDORF 1May-13May
 Supply Officer 1st Lt William C. HUNDLEY
 Administrative Officer Capt George F. WARD, Jr.
- (C) Marine Air Support Squadron 3, Chu Lai, RVN.
- a. CP, Chu Lai, RVN
 b. DASC One, ASRT Alfa and ASRT Charlie, DaNang, RVN
 c. DASC Two and ASRT Bravo, Khe Sanh, RVN
- (C) 34 officers and 183 enlisted

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PART II - SIGNIFICANT HIGHLIGHTS

During May, MASS-3's detachments in Khe Sanh and Da Nang continued to pull heavy work loads. The vigorous efforts of our men in the Chu Lai based Squadron CP resulted in a minimum of equipment down time, marked improvements in the living conditions of those deployed to Khe Sanh and allowed the detachments to continue concentrating on their primary missions without being taxed by support problems.

The operations of the DASC and ASRT in Khe Sanh picked up in the latter half of May. After the lull which followed operation PEGASUS, the 1st Marines working under Task Force Hotel assumed a highly mobile offensive posture. The end of May witnessed the addition of an Army Helo Recon Company to operate in the SCOTLAND II AO. At the same time several additional artillery pieces were brought in and a counter-battery fire operation (DRUM FIRE) was launched. Although both of these events, when added to the already active ground operations, further intensified the problems of tactical air control, the detachment was able to cope with the new requirements without any additional personnel. Khe Sanh continues to take a significant number of mixed incoming rounds. Our total of WIA's rose to eight when a LCpl was hit by shrapnel while in route to Khe Sanh.

With the advent of operations ALLEN BROOK on the 4th and MAMALUKE THRUST on the 18th, May brought our Da Nang detachment's activity to the highest level since the TET offensive. On 5 May the DASC controlled 52 separate Med-Evac missions alone. There was a marked increase in the volume of F/W sorties and numerous significant BDA's were turned in throughout the month. The contact in the 1st MAR DIV's TAOR was such that all operations continued past their estimated dates of completion. The Da Nang DASC added one more man to each crew and a new HD net (UHF) to handle the additional traffic. To replace the ASRT which left country for return to Okinawa in April, system A-12 was transferred from Mass-2's Dong Ha detachment to Hill 327 in Da Nang on 24 May. The MASS-3 ASRT "Charlie" will serve as both a back up for ASRT "Alfa" and as a source for parts in the event the parts needed to bring any of the sets in I Corps back up are not available elsewhere within MACG-18.

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PART III - SIGNIFICANT EVENTS(C) Operations. Air support operations for the month:DASC

	<u>Da Nang</u>	<u>Khe Sanh</u>	<u>Total</u>
Fixed-wing missions	1614	901	2515
Helo missions	730	141	871
Med-evac missions	667	124	791

ASRT

	<u>Alfa</u>	<u>Bravo</u>	<u>Charlie</u>	<u>Total</u>
Bombing missions	370	313	10	693
Targets hit	678	296	12	986
Ordnance dropped (tons)	1137.69	1554.40	17.02	2709.11

2. (U) System operational hours as of 31 May

	<u>Alfa</u> <u>A-9</u>	<u>Bravo</u> <u>A-17</u>	<u>Charlie</u> <u>A-12</u>
Total operational hours	2053	14,759	19,450
Hours since rehab	10,535	9,925	14,916
Hours during May	648	645	560

3. (U) Squadron participation in operations

<u>Operation</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Agency</u>
SCOTLAND II	15 Apr 68 -	Khe Sanh DASC and ASRT "B"
ALLEN BROOK	4 May 68 -	Da Nang DASC and ASRT's "A" & "C"
MAMALUKE THRUST	18 May 68 -	-do-

4. (U) Civic action. 129 adults and 391 children were treated by MASS-3 med-caps. Two Vietnamese nationals were taken to the 27th Surgical Company for intensive treatment. Thirty-five sheets of tin were delivered to Trung Toan's Hamlet chief for use on public buildings. Twelve students from Trung Toan and Sam Hai Hamlets are being supported by the General Walt Scholarship. Recreation was provided 190 children at Chu Lai beach.

5. Compound improvements. The entire cantonment was completely rewired by Chu Lai public works.

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