

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

3:GBT:atp
 5750
 8 August 1968

060-68

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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 July 1968

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

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

G. B. Townsend Jr.

G. B. TOWNSEND, Jr.
 By direction

MASS-3

COMMAND CHRON

MASS-3

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July 1968

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY (U)

MARINE AIR SUPPORT SQUADRON 3

1 - 31 July 1968

Chu Lai, RVN

ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. (U) Commanding Officer LtCol Johnny O. GREGERSON
Executive Officer Maj William J. SULLIVAN
Operations Officer Maj George B. TOWNSEND, Jr.
Comm-Elect Officer Capt Charlton H. BLANKS
Services Officer Capt Donald C. ALFORD III
Supply Officer 1st Lt William C. HUNDLEY
Administrative Officer 1st Lt John A. HODGES
2. (C) Marine Air Support Squadron 3, Chu Lai, RVN.
 - a. CP, Chu Lai ASRT ALFA, Chu Lai, RVN.
 - b. Da Nang DASC, Da Nang ASRT ALFA, Da Nang ASRT BRAVO, Da Nang, RVN.
 - c. Vandergrift DASC, LZ Vandergrift, RVN.
3. (C) 34 Officers and 178 Enlisted

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PART II - SIGNIFICANT HIGHLIGHTS

(C) In July MASS-3 units deployed throughout I Corps Tactical Zone continued to support III MAF Operations. In the north Vandergrift DASC (formerly Stud DASC) showed a marked increase in helicopter activity, due in part to an increasing utilization of helicopters for tactical troop movements. In the Da Nang area the helicopter mission totals also increased over June's figures with a substantial gain in Med-Vac missions. The two air support radar teams in Da Nang maintained generally the same tempo of operations as in June with one significant difference. The ratio of targets hit per TPO mission increased by 38% from 1.40 targets hit per mission to 1.93.

In Chu Lai ASRT ALFA (system A-17) which had been transferred from Khe Sanh on 24 June began to present serious tracking problems. The fiberglass radome had received a number of shrapnel hits while at Khe Sanh and was no longer weather proof allowing moisture to collect between the layers of fiberglass material. In addition the parabolic reflector had three holes of one to two inches made by fragments penetrating from the rear with consequent distortion of the reflecting surface. The antenna was removed from the system and disassembled. The holes in the reflector were smoothed and covered with heavy aluminum foil and MAG-12 provided the fiberglass repair for the radome. The antenna was then assembled, mounted and aligned successfully with excellent tracking results. It is believed that the above described field expedient in lieu of fifth echelon repair will allow the radar to remain in operation until the new antenna ordered in June arrives.

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PART III - SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. (C) Operations. Air Support Operations for the month:DASC

	<u>Da Nang</u>	<u>Vandergrift</u>	<u>Total</u>
Fixed-wing missions	1376	1481	2857
Helo missions (less med-evacs)	847	389	1206
Med-evac missions	728	308	1036

ASRT

	<u>Chu Lai "A"</u>	<u>Da Nang "A"</u>	<u>Da Nang "B"</u>	<u>Total</u>
Bombing missions	8	169	138	315
Targets hit	8	328	265	601
Visual targets	0	26	31	57
Ordnance dropped (tons)	14.89	455.25	335.60	805.74
Sorties	8	193	172	373

2. (U) System Operating hours as of 31 July

	<u>A-17</u>	<u>A-9</u>	<u>A-12</u>
Total operating hours	15,706	21,248	20,717
Hours since rehab	10,872	11,784	16,183
Hours during July	411	713	641

3. (U) MASS-3 units participated in the following operations:

<u>Operation</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Agency</u>
SCOTLAND III	1 - 31 July	Vandergrift DASC
LANCASTER II	1 - 31 July	-do-
ALLEN BROOK	1 - 31 July	Danang DASC, ASRT's "A" & "B"
MAMALUKI THRUST	1 - 31 July	-do-
POCHAHONTAS FOREST	1 - 31 July	Danang DASC, ASRT's "A" & "B" Chu Lai "A"
WHEELER WALLONA	1 - 31 July	Chu Lai ASRT "A"

4. (U) Civic Action. MASS-3 Medcap treated 112 adults and 335 children. A well for the public shower in Trung Toan hamlet was completed. The scholarship program for the coming school year has been initiated and six new scholarships have been awarded. 115 children of Trung Toan and Sam Hai hamlets were taken on weekly recreation outings to Chu Lai beach.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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