

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

3:KPC:jdd
5750
Ser No: 073-68
7 Nov 1968
Ø73-68

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

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

Subj: Command Chronology (U)

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.10
(b) GruO 5750.1

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

1. In accordance with reference (a) and (b), the MASS-3 Command Chronology for October 1968 is submitted as enclosure (1).
2. This letter becomes unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).


W. J. SULLIVAN

MASS-3

CMD CHRON

MASS-3
FILE NO 717-68

COPY NO: 1 OF ^{7 CLK} ~~2~~ COPIES

DOWNGRADED AT 3-YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOB DIR 5200.10

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

ENCLOSURE (4)

Oct 1968

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CONFIDENTIAL

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

ENCLOSURE (1)

1
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Part I Organizational Data

(U) Commanding Officer	1-31 Oct 68	LtCol William J. SULLIVAN
Executive Officer	5-31 Oct 68	Maj Myrl S. ENGEL, Jr.
Operations Officer	1-31 Oct 68	Capt Kenneth P. CLARENDON
Services Officer	1-31 Oct 68	Capt Charles W. FISH
Administrative Officer	1-31 Oct 68	1/Lt John A. HODGINS
OIC, MASS-3 Det. #1 Da Nang	1-31 Oct 68	Maj Kenneth L. SCARBOROUGH
OIC, MASS-3 Det. #2 Vandegrift Combat Base	1-4 Oct 68	Maj Myrl S. ENGEL, Jr.
	5-28 Oct 68	Capt Robert MARINELLO
	29-31 Oct 68	Maj Charles H. MANAZIR

(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. Vandegrift DASC, Vandegrift Combat Base, RVN

(U) Average monthly strength of squadron:

Marine Officers	41
Marine Enlisted	213
Naval Officers	Ø
Naval Enlisted	2

ENCLOSURE (1)

2.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Part II Narrative Summary

(C) During the month of October, Da Nang ASRT Alfa dropped 1,040.05 tons of ordnance in controlling 324 bombing missions.

On 29 October, ASRT Alfa accidentally dropped a bombing mission's ordnance on a Vietnamese village resulting in the death of approximately 30 Vietnamese civilians. The results of the investigation of this incident concluded that the azimuth switch on the 2A3 Aircraft Position Computer was accidentally moved from its original setting. This resulting error in azimuth caused the ordnance to impact on the village. The recommendations from the investigation were that all switches that are exposed on the Aircraft Position Computer be enclosed by a protective cover to avoid inadvertent moving of the switch settings. This has already been done on the Da Nang ASRT Alfa set and will be done on all ASRT's in Vietnam as soon as printed instructions for this procedure are developed and distributed.

Da Nang ASRT Bravo was up and working on the 30th of October. They received the set from CONUS during the last week in September. Due to the poor condition in which the set arrived in Vietnam, necessitating the substitution of parts to replace the defective components with which the set was received, it wasn't until 30 October that the set was brought up to a working condition.

Chu Lai ASRT Alfa handled 135 missions and hit 158 targets during the month of October. This compares with a total of only 105 missions and 122 targets hit during the previous three months, from 1 July to 30 September 1968. The main factors responsible for this large up time of the ASRT are twofold. One was the arrival of a new antenna for the set, replacing the older one which had taken shell damage during the siege of Khe Sanh. The other factor was the arrival of an experienced Radar Officer at ASRT Alfa during the month of September.

ENCLOSURE (1)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Part III Significant Events1. (C) Operations. Air Support Operations for the month of October:DASC

	<u>Da Nang</u>	<u>Vandegrift</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Firewing Missions	1649	721	2370
Base Missions	850	229	1079
Med-Evac Missions	731	247	978

ASRT

	<u>Chu Lai "A"</u>	<u>Da Nang "A"</u>	<u>Da Nang "B"</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Bombing Missions	142	324	26	492
Targets Hit	164	543	38	745
Visual Targets	0	19	0	19
Ordnance Dropped (tons)	406.92	1040.05	46.17	1493.14
Sorties	166	357	21	544

2. (U) System operating hours as of 31 Oct 1968:

	<u>A-7</u>	<u>A-9</u>	<u>A-1J</u>
Total operating hours	17,260	22,848	14,150
Hours since rehab.	12,786	13,384	10,060
Hours during October	664	480	326

3. (U) MASS-3 units participated in the following operations during the month of October:

<u>Operation</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Wheeler-Mallowa	1-31 Oct	Chu Lai ASRT Alfa
Burlington Trail	1-31 Oct	Chu Lai ASRT Alfa
Henderson Hill	23-31 Oct	Da Nang DASC, ASRT Alfa and Bravo
Gerrand Bay	25-31 Oct	-do-
Maui Peak	06-31 Oct	-do-
Sadine Draw	28-31 Oct	-do-
Talla Dega Canyon	1-14 Oct	-do-
Owen Mesa	26-31 Oct	-do-
Scotland II	1-31 Oct	Vandegrift DASC

ENCLOSURE (1)

4.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

4. (U) Civic Action

During the month of October MASS-3 MEDCAP treated 156 children and 73 adults. 325 bars of soap were passed out to Trung Toan Hamlet and Sam Hai village.

On 8 October the MASS-3 Civic Action Officer passed 12 scholarships to children of Trung Toan and Sam Hai.

Cement was donated to families of Trung Toan for improvements.

On 9 October the MASS-3 Civic Action Team donated school supplies to Sam Hai elementary school. On 20 October the MASS-3 Civic Action Team inspected wells in Trung Toan. Wells were in good condition.

The Civic Action Officer met with the Trung Toan Hamlet Chief to explain new farming techniques.

ENCLOSURE (1)

5.

CONFIDENTIAL