

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

3:CB:dls
5750
9 December 1969
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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Air Control Group-18 (S-3)
Subj: Command Chronology
Ref: (a) WgO 5750.1C
(b) GruO 5750.1A
Encl: ✓(1) Command Chronology, Marine Air Support Squadron-3
1-30 November 1969

MASS-3

1. In accordance with reference (a) and (b), the Marine Air Support Squadron-3 (MASS-3) Command Chronology for November 1969 is submitted as enclosure (1).
2. This letter becomes unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

J. H. DUBOIS
for P. P. [unclear]
J. H. DUBOIS

CARD CARBON

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COPY 1 OF 7
MASS-3
592-69

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
MARINE AIR SUPPORT SQUADRON-3
1-30 November 1969
DA NANG, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Command and Staff Officers for the reporting period include:

Commanding Officer	1-30 Nov	LtCol John H. DUBOIS
Executive Officer	1-30 Nov	Maj Pasquale J. FLORIO
Administrative Officer	1-30 Nov	1stLt Jerone ANTKOWSKI
Operations Officer	1-30 Nov	Maj Donald R. HUFFMAN
Services Officer	1-30 Nov	Maj Charles R. KEITH
OIC Da Nang DASC	1-30 Nov	Capt John J. MCNAMARA
OIC Baldy HDC	2-30 Nov	1stLt Dennis W. VICKERY
OIC Da Nang ASRT	1-30 Nov	1stLt Thomas R. SHINE
OIC Chu Lai ASRT	1-13 Nov 14-30 Nov	1stLt Carl POCK 1stLt John P. TUCKER
OIC An Hoa ASRT	1-30 Nov	Capt Frank H. DOWDEN
OIC Birmingham ASRT	3-30 Nov	1stLt Philip M. MARRIE
OIC Quang Tri ASRT	3-30 Nov	1stLt Edward S. FORD

2. Marine Air Support Squadron-3, Da Nang, RVN

- a. CP, Da Nang ASRT, Da Nang DASC, Da Nang, RVN 1-30 Nov 1969
- b. Chu Lai ASRT, Chu Lai, RVN 1-30 Nov 1969
- c. An Hoa ASRT, An Hoa, RVN 1-30 Nov 1969
- d. Birmingham ASRT, Birmingham FSB, RVN 3-30 Nov 1969
- e. Quang Tri ASRT, Quang Tri, RVN 3-30 Nov 1969
- f. Baldy HDC, Landing Zone Baldy, RVN 2-30 Nov 1969

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3. Average monthly strength of Squadron

Marine Officers	49
Marine Enlisted	254
Naval Officers	0
Naval Enlisted	2

4. a. 19 Nov 1969, BGen SPANJER, AWC, visited Da Nang DASC

b. 21 Nov 1969, Col DUNWIDDIE, CO MACG-18, visited Da Nang DASC

c. 26 Nov 1969, MGen SIMPSON, CG 1stMarDiv, visited Da Nang DASC. Col DUNWIDDIE revisited Da Nang DASC

d. 30 Nov 1969, Col POGGEMEYER, Deputy Chief, III MAF visited Da Nang DASC

e. 15 Nov 1969, BGen SPANJER, AWC, visited MASS-3 CP

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the month of November MASS-3 continued to provide control and coordination for fixed wing and helicopter missions in support of III MAF operations. Da Nang DASC was visited by several distinguished persons including MGen SIMPSON, CG 1st MarDiv, who extended his congratulations to the DASC upon completion of their successful move; BGen SPANGER, Assistant Wing Commander; Col DUNWIDDIE, CO MACG-18 and Col POGGEMEYER, Deputy Chief III MAF. A message of appreciation was received from CG 2nd ROK Marine Brigade for the support rendered during operation Pipestone Canyon and Operation Defiant Stand. The letter was endorsed by LtGen NICKERSON, CG III MAF, and MGen THRASH, CG FMAW.

A Helicopter Direction Center (HDC) was established at Landing Zone Baldy on 2 November 1969 to coordinate helicopter operations in the Seventh Marine Regiment AO. The HDC, while subordinate to Da Nang DASC, has direct launch authority over the Baldy medevac package and also provides Sav-A*Plane information. Operations have proved very beneficial.

On 11 November a section of A4E Aircraft checked in with An Hoa ASRT for the purpose of checking out bomb dispersion of Banded Snake. A tactical target had been cleared through the DASC and a FAC(A) was on station to observe the dispersion pattern. While checking the target area the AO observed NVA/VC personnel approximately 600 meters from the planned tactical target. Target clearance was obtained on the new target resulting in 7 KBA. On 20 November An Hoa ASRT again aided by a FAC(A) released a total of over 22 tons of ordnance on a target provided by Division G-2. A FAC(A) was provided for the initial strike resulting in one large secondary explosion. Contact was further established with a recon team which assisted in future strikes in which a second secondary explosion was observed and one confirmed KBA.

Da Nang DASC moved into its new location within the Division Command Bunker on 20 November. The move was a total success with no down time occurring during the move. The communications section did a highly professional job setting up the radios and telephones. The DASC's new location, adjacent to the Division FSCC, makes possible close coordination between the two agencies. The remote site for the DASC radios was moved from Hill 200 to Hill 327 and remoted to the DASC over a new twenty-five pair cable. The DASC is presently utilizing AN/GRC-135 radios for UHF traffic on helo, fixed wing, and guard nets.

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On 28 November a "mini arc light" coordinated by Da Nang DASC and controlled by An Hoa ASRT, successfully dropped two Divisions of A6's with a total of 224 500 pound bombs in an area approximately ten miles southwest of An Hoa. The target was provided by 1st MarDiv G-2.

A representative of Da Nang DASC went TAD to RTAFB, Udorn, Thailand for orientation instruction with the Air Force in their Airborne Command and Control Center. Included in the orientation was a 13 hour combat flight with the 7th ACCS Squadron. A Comm-Elect representative went TAD to Korat Royal Thailand Air Force Base for training and to repair modules for AN/GRC-135 radios.

During the month of November the squadron offices were moved to the recently completed sea huts at the top of Hill 327. The move provided much needed additional living areas. The Staff and Officers extension to the squadron mess was completed as well as the installation of a 21,000 gallon water storage tank. Public Works has completed the rewiring of working and living areas. Plans are presently under consideration toward installation of adequate shower and bathing facilities.

Ground defense received active consideration in November. Two bunkers were completely rebuilt and improvements were made on numerous others. Plans are presently underway to rebuild all of the perimeter positions.

The squadron civic action program during the month of November was again limited to liaison and cooperation with the MACG-18 civic action team and its endeavors. Approximately 2 tons of scrap lumber and building materials were given to the MACG-18 civic action team to be utilized in its hamlet improvement program.

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PART III

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Administration. None.
2. Personnel. On 4 November MASS-3 joined 10 Officers and 41 enlisted Marines from MASS-2
3. Command Relationships/Command and Control. MACG-18 conducted an A&M inspection of MASS-3 on 18 November.
4. Air Control. On 2 November a Helicopter Direction Center (HDC) was established at LZ Baldy to coordinate helicopter operations in the 7th Marines Regiment AO. Quang Tri and Birmingham ASRT's came under the operational control of MASS-3 on 3 November.
5. Special Operations. An AN/TPQ-10 drop controlled by AN Hoa ASRT and adjusted by an FAC(A) accounted for 7 KBA on 11 November. An Hoa ASRT also controlled aircraft for paradrops on 26 November. An appreciation message that was originated by CG XXIV Corps (180950Z Nov69) and endorsed by CG III MAF (250946Z Nov69) was received on 27 November. Another message (CG FMAW 272100Z Nov69) was received on 28 November that was originated by BGen LEE, CG 2nd ROK Marine Brigade and expressed his appreciation for the outstanding support received from the DASC and ASRT's during Operation Pipestone Canyon and Operation Defiant Stand. This message was endorsed by LtGen NICKERSON and MGen THRASH. Also on 28 November a "mini arc light" was controlled by An Hoa ASRT, consisting of two divisions of A6's.
6. Civic Action. None.
7. Ground Defense. During the month of November two bunkers were rebuilt. Three patrols provided reconnaissance of the area surrounding the MASS-3 compound. None of these patrols encountered enemy contact.
8. Training. On 11 November 1stLt JAMES M. GRIFFIN went TAD to RTAFB Udorn, Thailand for orientation instruction with the Air Force in their Airborne Command and Control Center. From 17-28 November Cpl CHRIS L. HALDEMAN went TAD to Korat Royal Thailand Air Force Base for training and to repair modules for AN/GRC-112 and AN/GRC-135 radios.
9. Logistics. None.
10. Supply. None.

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11. Engineering. None.
12. Maintenance. None.
13. Communications/Electronics. Throughout the month of November representatives from the Comm/Elect section visited all the ASRT's providing technical assistance and performing informal inspections of the ASRT's. On 20 November the remote site for the DASC radios was moved from Hill 200 to Hill 327. The radios are remoted to the DASC over a twenty-five pair cable. On 27 November the UHF nets used by the DASC for helo, fixed wing, and guard were all placed on AN/GRC-135 radios. The floater is the only remaining net using the AN/GRC-48 radio.
14. Construction. During the month of November the Staff and Officer extension to the squadron mess was completed and was opened on 11 November. Completion of the relocation of the Da Nang DASC was achieved on 20 November. On 24 November the installation of a 21,000 gallon water storage tank was completed by MCB 74.
15. Motor Transport. None.
16. Informational Services. None.
17. Casualties. None.
18. Awards. During the month of November MASS-3 personnel were awarded one Navy Commendation Medal, four Navy Achievement Medals, eight Good Conduct Medals, and four Meritorious Mast's'.
19. Moral and Welfare. MASS-3 personnel enjoyed three floor shows during the month of November. On 10 November the squadron celebrated the Marine Corps Birthday and on 27 November the messhall provided an outstanding Thanksgiving meal.
20. Air Defense. None.
21. Base Development and Military Construction. Aforementioned.
22. The following operational data for the reporting period included:

A. DA NANG DASC

<u>Da Nang DASC</u>	<u>USMC</u>	<u>USN</u>	<u>USAF</u>	<u>USA</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Fixed Wing Missions	708	3	46	13	770
Helo Missions	965	0	0	0	965
Medevacs	840	0	0	0	840

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B. ASRT 1-30 November 1969 Inclusive (USMC)

	Da Nang <u>All</u>	An Hoa <u>A1</u>	Chu Lai <u>A7</u>	Birmingham <u>A3</u>	Quang Tri <u>A8</u>	TOTAL
Bombing Missions	205	151	192	32	223	803
Targets Hit	265	231	375	24	223	1120
Visual Targets	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ordnance Dropped (Tons)	657,426	594,934	750,475	66,276	7727,031	2796,142
Sorties	239	208	208	47	254	924

C. ASRT 1-30 November 1969 Inclusive (USN)

	Da Nang <u>All</u>	An Hoa <u>A1</u>	Chu Lai <u>A7</u>	BIRMINHAM <u>A3</u>	Quang Tri <u>A8</u>	TOTAL
Bombing Missions	13	11	9	8	25	66
Targets Hit	12	12	13	7	25	69
Visual Targets	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ordnance Dropped (Tons)	37,046	32,750	43,927	25,645	78,661	223,029
Sorties	23	18	18	18	33	110

D. ASRT 1-30 November 1969 Inclusive (USAF)

	Da Nang <u>All</u>	An Hoa <u>A1</u>	Chu Lai <u>A7</u>	Birmingham <u>A3</u>	Quang Tri <u>A8</u>	TOTAL
Bombing Missions	3	1	5	2	11	22
Targets Hit	3	1	8	2	11	25
Visual Targets	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ordnance Dropped (Tons)	13,680	4,716	26,826	7,497	37,996	90,715
Sorties	6	2	10	4	13	35

E. ASRT 1-30 November 1969 Inclusive (TOTALS)

	Da Nang <u>All</u>	An Hoa <u>A1</u>	Chu Lai <u>A7</u>	Birmingham <u>A3</u>	Quang Tri <u>A8</u>	TOTAL
Bombing Missions	221	163	206	42	259	891
Targets Hit	280	244	396	33	259	1214
Visual Targets	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ordnance Dropped (Tons)	708,152	632,400	821,228	99,418	843,688	3109,886
Sorties	268	196	236	69	300	1069

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F. ASRT Operating Hours as of 30 November 1969

	Da Nang <u>A11</u>	An Hoa <u>A1</u>	Chu Lai <u>A7</u>	Birmingham* <u>A3</u>	Quang Tri <u>A8</u>
Total Op Hours	11,842	24,872	25,773	UNK	18,185
Hours since Rehab	7245	16,509	20,939	UNK	10,760
Hours in November	714	716	718	420	710

* Hour meter not operational therefore no time recorded from the past. Time for Birmingham for this report will commence with the month of November.

G. During November 1969 MASS-3 participated in the following Operations:

Operation	Agency
Geneva Park	Chu Lai ASRT
Iron Mountain	Chu Lai ASRT
Nantucket Beach	Chu Lai ASRT
Frederick Hill	Chu Lai ASRT
Fulton Square	Quang Tri ASRT
Pipestone Canyon	Da Nang DASC, Da Nang ASRT, An Hoa ASRT

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