

MARINE AIR SUPPORT SQUADRON-3 (REIN)

Marine Air Control Group-18
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing
 FPO San Francisco 96602

3:RLF:dls
 5750
 5 April 1970
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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
 (REIN) 1-31 March 1970

MASS-3

1. In accordance with references (a) and (b), the Marine Air Support Squadron-3 (REIN) (MASS-3) Command Chronology for March 1970 is submitted as enclosure (1).
2. This letter becomes unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1). IAW OPNAVINST 5510.1C.

J. H. Dubois
 J. H. DUBOIS*

COPY 1 OF 1
 MASS-3
 0133-70

DECLASSIFIED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
 DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
 DOD DIR 5200.0

ANNEX B

MASS-3

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

MARINE AIR SUPPORT SQUADRON-3 (REIN)

1-31 March 1970

DA NANG, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

ANNEXE

PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

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

Commanding Officer	1-31 Mar	LtCol John H. DUBOIS
Executive Officer	1-31 Mar	Maj Charles R. KEITH
Administrative Officer	1-31 Mar	1stLt Jerome ANTKOWSKI
Operations Officer	1-31 Mar	Maj Charles M. MCCAIN
Services Officer	1-31 Mar	Maj Paul K. FARMER
Comm/Elect Officer	1-11 Mar 12-31 Mar	Maj James B. HICKOK Capt Donald D. NIMMOW
OIC Da Nang DASC	1-31 Mar	Maj John J. MCNAMARA
OIC Baldy HDC	1-26 Mar 27-31 Mar	Capt Robert F. GIBSON 1stLt John F. RHODES JR.
OIC Chu Lai ASRT	1-31 Mar	Capt Craig D. GALLAN
OIC An Hoa ASRT	1-31 Mar	1stLt Jerry N. DENNARD
OIC Quang Tri ASRT	1-11 Mar 12-31 Mar	1stLt Edward S. FORD 1stLt F. Eric LEWIS
OIC Birmingham ASRT	1-31 Mar	Capt Frank H. DOWDEN

2. Marine Air Support Squadron-3 (REIN), Da Nang, RVN 1-31 March 1970

- a. CP, Da Nang ASRT, Da Nang DASC, Da Nang, RVN 1-31 Mar 1970
- b. Chu Lai ASRT, Chu Lai, RVN 1-31 Mar 1970
- c. An Hoa ASRT, An Hoa Combat Base, RVN 1-31 Mar 1970
- d. Birmingham ASRT, Birmingham FSB, RVN 1-31 Mar 1970
- e. Quang Tri ASRT, Quang Tri, RVN 1-31 Mar 1970
- f. Baldy HDC, Landing Zone Baldy, RVN 1-31 Mar 1970

3. Average monthly strength of Squadron:

Marine Officers	44
Marine Enlisted	231
Naval Officers	0
Naval Enlisted	2

4. a. 3 March 1970, Col S. G. DUNWIDDIE JR., CO, MACG-18 visited Da Nang DASC.

b. 6 March 1970, Col REID, 1st MAW, unassigned, visited MASS-3 and Da Nang DASC for orientation briefing.

c. 9 March 1970, Col S. G. DUNWIDDIE JR., CO, MACG-18 and LtCol G. G. LONG, new XO of MACG-18 visited the DASC for an orientation briefing.

d. 10 March 1970, MGen W. G. THRASH, CG, 1st MAW visited Da Nang DASC.

e. 12 March 1970, LtGen K. B. MCCUTCHEON, CG, III MAF, MGen W. G. THRASH, CG, 1st MAW and Col S. G. DUNWIDDIE JR., CO, MACG-18 visited MASS-3 CP for inspection and orientation briefing. LtCol JUKES, British Royal Marines visited Da Nang DASC for orientation briefing.

f. 19 March 1970, LtGen M. ZAIS, CG XXIV Corps, LtGen K. B. MCCUTCHEON, CG, III MAF and MGen W. G. THRASH, CG, 1st MAW visited Da Nang DASC for orientation briefing.

g. 24 March 1970, LtGen K. B. MCCUTCHEON visited Da Nang DASC.

h. 26 March 1970, Col H. S. WILSON, 1st MAW, unassigned, visited MASS-3 CP and Da Nang DASC for orientation briefing.

i. 28 March 1970, Col L. T. ERICKSON, 1st MAW Inspector, visited MASS-3 CP for orientation briefing.

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the month of March MASS-3 continued to provide control and coordination for fixed wing and rotary wing aircraft in support of operations in the I Corps Tactical Zone. MASS-3 participated in the following operations during March: Geneva Park, Nantucket Beach, Iron Mountain, Frederick Hill, Green River, York Market, Dakota Clint, Randolph Glen and ARVN operation Lam Son. The Da Nang DASC coordinated a total of 14 emergency extractions during the month. Through the efforts of the radar technicians the ASRT's have experienced an increase in range and on 26 March Birmingham ASRT made a successful drop at a range of 45 miles (83,000 meters). Also significant for Birmingham was an unusual volume of operations for a 34 hour period beginning at 2100 on 15 March. A total of 67 missions were controlled using 87 aircraft and dropping 220.45 tons of ordnance.

Numerous orientation briefings were completed by various sections of the Squadron. The following distinguished visitors were among those attending: LtGen M. ZAIS, CG XXIV Corps; LtGen K. B. MCCUTCHEON, CG, III MAF; MGen W. G. THRASH, CG, 1st MAW; Col S. G. DUNWIDDIE JR., CO, MACG-18; Col REID and Col H. S. WILSON, 1st MAW, unassigned; Col L. T. ERICKSON, 1st MAW Inspector; LtCol G. G. LONG, XO, MACG-18; and LtCol JUKES, British Royal Marines. There were also many visits to outlying sites by members of the Squadron to provide technical assistance and ensure a high level of morale and state of welfare.

Logistical support that had been handled so expediently was somewhat hampered by the closing of LZ-13 atop Hill 327. As a result of a concentrated effort the LZ was reopened after it was enlarged to twice the former size and all obstructions to flight operations were removed. Embarkation readiness was continually emphasized during the month and many former discrepancies have been corrected.

A combat patrol from the security section made contact with a small enemy force on 23 March. After a short fire fight which resulted in one minor injury the enemy was dispersed.

PART III

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

(U) 1. Administration. None

(C) 2. Personnel. On 12 March 1970 Capt Donald D. NIMMOW relieved Maj James B. HICKOK as Squadron Comm/Elect Officer and 1stLt Edward S. FORD was relieved by 1stLt F. Eric LEWIS as OIC of Quang Tri ASRT. On 27 March 1970 1stLt John F. RHODES JR. relieved Capt Robert F. GIBSON as OIC of Baldy HDC. Joining the Squadron during this period were 2ndLt KIRBY, 2ndLt CAMPBELL, 2ndLt CRAWFORD and WO DRIGGERS. Throughout the month, Squadron representatives repeatedly visited outlying MASS-3 sites.

(C) 3. Command Relationships/Command and Control. MASS-3 personnel provided various orientation briefings throughout the month of March pertaining to Squadron operations. Among the distinguished personnel attending were: LtGen M. ZAIS, CG, XXIV Corps; LtGen K. B. MCCUTCHEON, CG, III MAF; MGen W. G. THRASH, CG, 1st MAW; Col S. G. DUNWIDDIE JR., CO, MACG-18; Col REID and Col H. S. WILSON, 1st MAW, unassigned; Col L. T. ERICKSON, 1st MAW Inspector; LtCol G. G. LONG, XO, MACG-18; and LtCol JUKES, British Royal Marines.

(C) 4. Air Control. During March 1970, MASS-3 continued to provide, operate and maintain five Air Support Radar Teams (ASRT's) within the I Corps. In addition, a Direct Air Support Center (DASC) and a Helicopter Direction Center (HDC) are provided for the tactical control of fixed wing and rotary wing aircraft. This is becoming an increasingly difficult task due in part to critical personnel shortages. Of particular significance were operations during the 34 hour period beginning 2100 on 15 March to 0700 on 17 March in which Birmingham ASRT controlled 87 aircraft on 67 missions and dropped a total of 220.45 tons of ordnance. On 26 March Birmingham ASRT made a successful drop in beacon mode at a range of 45 nautical miles.

(C) 5. Special Operations. The aforementioned operations conducted by Birmingham ASRT would also be applicable in this paragraph. Additionally the Da Nang DASC was involved in numerous emergency extractions of reconnaissance teams. Included in these extractions were: Thinman; Empire State; Swamp Land; Cherry Jam; Pony Boy; Pony Boy "A"; Durham; Abe Lincoln; Bad Actor; Trailer Park; Flakey Snow "B"; Flakey Snow "C"; Knoxville; and Take Out. On 5 March 1970 the DASC coordinated a 33 plane strike force in the "Horseshoe" supporting the Republic of Korea Marines. A "Blackboard" exercise was coordinated by the DASC on 29 March 1970 utilizing C-130 flareships, OV10A, AHIG and A4E.

(U) 6. Civic Action. During March the MASS-3 Civic Action program was limited to liaison and cooperation with the MACG-18 Civic Action team and its endeavors.

(C) 7. Ground Defense. Continuous improvement was made to all bunkers and fighting holes during March. The security section ran 3 patrols and on 23 March 1970 made contact with a small enemy force. After a short fire fight the enemy was dispersed. One member of the patrol sustained a minor injury.

(U) 8. Training. During March 1970, training in general military subjects included: survival, escape and evasion, heat disorders, military courtesy, fitness reports, combat patrolling and drug abuse education presentations. Technical training was accomplished by the various sections and included classes and practical application.

(C) 9. Logistics. The continuing logistics support of the out-lying ASRT's was accomplished in an expeditious manner by using MAG-16 helicopters operating out of LZ-13 on Hill 327. The closing of LZ-13 created an added transportation requirement to move equipment and personnel to LZ-11 and LZ-401. This requirement was met from organic motor transport assets. A concentrated effort was undertaken to correct the hazards to flight operations and reopen the LZ. H&HS-18 furnished a scoop loader and dump trucks to fill an area for LZ extension. Matting was obtained to increase the surface from 1500 square feet to approximately 3000 square feet. Several obstacles were removed to improve safety and the LZ was reopened. Embarkation readiness was emphasized throughout the month and a re-inspection by the 1st MAW Embarkation Officer gave Supply and Motor Transport an excellent rating. Many boxes have been built including many irregular size boxes for special uses. A water shortage occurred on 28 March 1970 and over 21,000 gallons was hauled that day by Squadron and other 1st MAW tankers.

(U) 10. Supply. A total of 430 formal supply requisitions were submitted during March. Continued emphasis on proper priority planning resulted in a considerable improvement in priority 05 utilization. The Squadron priority utilization overall was excellent and reflected the following percentages for March:

<u>PRIORITY</u>	<u>PERCENT</u>
02	9%
05	12%
12	22%
17	41%

ANNEX B

ENCLOSURE (1)

(U) 11. Engineering. The major engineering effort for March has already been discussed in the logistics paragraph. The installation of commercial electrical power was started and almost completed during this period. This installation was provided by Naval Support Activity Public Works, with RMK-BRJ as contractor. This electrical power will furnish camp power, perimeter lighting and run a convertor for 400 cycle power.

(U) 12. Maintenance. The Squadron generator shop is extremely short of personnel and third echelon maintenance capability has been greatly reduced. Only a dedicated effort by all hands under the direction of Cpl S. M. LIVOTTI kept the generators maintained.

(C) 13. Communication/Electronics. The Comm/Elect section continued to provide assistance to the ASRT's with regular visits and troubleshooting teams. The cable from the DASC to Hill 327 is now operating at complete capacity. A radar set AN/PPS-6 was made operational and security personnel were instructed in its use.

(U) 14. Construction. The Seabee's have completed their work on the messhall drainage system. The Commanding Officer's office building and motor transport shop were completed.

(U) 15. Motor Transport. During March the Motor Transport section traveled 7,037 miles and carried 8,304 passengers. The section transported 197 tons of cargo in addition to 20,600 gallons of POL and 361,000 gallons of water.

(U) 16. Informational Service. Regular news releases were sent to home town newspapers during the month of March. The releases, covering numerous subjects and occasions, totaled 46 during this period.

(U) 17. Casualties. On 23 March, PFC A. BARRIENTES JR. was injured by an enemy grenade while on patrol from Hill 327.

(U) 18. Awards. During the month of March the following personnel received awards for personal recognition:

Sgt RADOSEVICH, J.D.	Good Conduct
Sgt SMITH, C.N.	Good Conduct
Sgt MURRAY, G.B.	Good Conduct
Sgt NORMAN, P.D.	Meritorious Mast
Cpl SEGOVIS, M.F.	Meritorious Mast
Cpl WHEELER, R.L.	Combat Skill School Award

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ENCLOSURE (1)

The following were recommended for awards:

Maj HICKOK, J.B.	Bronze Star
Lt FORD, E.S.	Navy Commendation Medal
	RVN Award
Lt BLACKMAN, C.	Navy Commendation Medal
Lt LOYD, R.L.	Navy Commendation Medal
Lt VICKERY, D.W.	Navy Commendation Medal
GySgt WILSON, G.H.	Navy Commendation Medal
SSgt AUSTIN, J.W.	Navy Commendation Medal
Sgt LOPEZ, J.	Navy Commendation Medal
Sgt LARSEN, E.M.	Navy Commendation Medal
Sgt NESTE, D.K.	Navy Commendation Medal
Sgt WALLS, R.S.	Navy Achievement Medal
Sgt HUNCOVSKY, D.R.	Navy Achievement Medal
Sgt GODWIN, W.I. III	Navy Achievement Medal
Cpl ST DENIS, L.E.	Navy Achievement Medal
Cpl ENGLE, S.B.	Navy Achievement Medal
Sgt KLINE, M.J.	Combat Action Ribbon
Cpl COLLINS, W.H. JR.	CG, Letter of Appreciation

(U) 19. Morale and Welfare. During the month of March weekly China Beach runs were made for off-duty personnel to enjoy a Sunday afternoon at the beach. Special Services constructed a boxing ring and a basketball court. Additionally there were four floor shows and movies nightly.

MASS-3 provided personnel for the following R&R quotas:

Hawaii	7 Persons
Sydney	6 Persons
Bangkok	3 Persons
Hong Kong	3 Persons
Taipei	1 Person
Manila	1 Person

(U) 20. Air Defense. None

(U) 21. Base Development and Military Construction. Afore-mentioned.

(C) 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	909	1	79	79	1065
Helo Missions	950	0	0	0	950
Medevacs	674	0	0	0	674

ANNEX B

B. ASRT 1-31 March 1970 Inclusive (USMC)

	<u>All</u> <u>Da Nang</u>	<u>Al</u> <u>An Hoa</u>	<u>Bl</u> <u>Chu Lai</u>	<u>B2</u> <u>Birmingham</u>
Bombing Missions	80	98	147	261
Targets Hit	100	118	300	273
Visual Targets	0	0	0	0
Ordnance Dropped (Tons)	358.249	366.240	618.610	874.380
Sorties	114	129	186	370
<u>A8</u> <u>Quang Tri</u>			<u>Total</u>	
	121		707	
	127		918	
	0		0	
	428.850		2619.329	

C. ASRT 1-31 March 1970 Inclusive (USN)

	<u>All</u> <u>Da Nang</u>	<u>Al</u> <u>An Hoa</u>	<u>Bl</u> <u>Chu Lai</u>	<u>B2</u> <u>Birmingham</u>
Bombing Missions	3	9	8	13
Targets Hit	3	10	12	13
Visual Targets	0	0	0	0
Ordnance Dropped (Tons)	16.111	29.094	41.985	49.308
Sorties	6	18	18	27
<u>A8</u> <u>Quang Tri</u>			<u>Total</u>	
	16		49	
	15		53	
	0		0	
	55.500		191.998	
	31		100	

D. ASRT 1-31 March 1970 Inclusive (USAF)

	<u>All</u> <u>Da Nang</u>	<u>Al</u> <u>An Hoa</u>	<u>Bl</u> <u>Chu Lai</u>	<u>B2</u> <u>Birmingham</u>
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Bombing Missions	1	6	12	48
Targets Hit	1	7	17	50
Visual Targets	0	0	0	0
Ordnance Dropped (Tons)	3.280	18.612	20.884	132.090
Sorties	2	9	19	59

<u>A8</u> <u>Quang Tri</u>	<u>Total</u>
15	82
14	89
0	0
30.500	205.900
20	109

E. ASRT 1-31 March 1970 Inclusive (TOTALS)

	<u>All</u> <u>Da Nang</u>	<u>A1</u> <u>An Hoa</u>	<u>B1</u> <u>Chu Lai</u>	<u>B2</u> <u>Birmingham</u>
Bombing Missions	84	113	167	322
Targets Hit	104	135	329	336
Visual Targets	0	0	0	0
Ordnance Dropped (Tons)	377.040	413.946	681.479	1029.378
Sorties	122	156	223	456

<u>A8</u> <u>Quang Tri</u>	<u>Total</u>
152	838
156	1060
0	0
514.850	3017.293
232	1189

F. ASRT operating hours as of 31 March 1970

	<u>All</u> <u>Da Nang</u>	<u>A1</u> <u>An Hoa</u>	<u>B1</u> <u>Chu Lai</u>	<u>B2</u> <u>Birmingham</u>	<u>A8</u> <u>Quang Tri</u>
Total Hours	14,528	31,568	2,477	2,048	20,815
Since Rehab	9,931	19,205	N/A	N/A	13,390
Hours in Mar.	602	635	711	661	573

All
Float

UNK
1,290
120

G. During the month of March 1970, MASS-3 participated in the following operations:

<u>Operation</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Geneva Park	Chu Lai ASRT
Nantucket Beach	Chu Lai ASRT
Iron Mountain	Chu Lai ASRT
Fredrick Hill	Chu Lai ASRT
Green River	Quang Tri ASRT
York Market	Quang Tri ASRT
Dakota Clint	Quang Tri ASRT
Randolph Glen	Birmingham ASRT
Lam Son	Quang Tri ASRT
	Quang Tri ASRT