

MARINE AIR SUPPORT SQUADRON-3 (REIN)
Marine Air Control Group-18
1st Marine Aircraft Wing
APO San Francisco 96002

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7 May 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) 1-30 April 1970

1. In accordance with references (a) and (b), the Marine Air Support Squadron-3 (REIN) (MASS-3) Command Chronology for April 1970 is submitted as enclosure (1)

2. This letter becomes unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1). IAW OPNAVINST 5510.1C.

P. Florio
P. J. FLORIO

MASS-3




COPY 1 OF 7


MASS-3
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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
MARINE AIR SUPPORT SQUADRON-3 (REIN)
1-30 APRIL 1970
DA NANG, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM



PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

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

Commanding Officer	1-21 April 22-30 April	LtCol John H. DUBOIS Maj Pasquale J. FLORIO
Executive Officer	1-30 April	Maj Charles R. KELTH
Administrative Officer	1-30 April	1stLt Jerome ANTKOWSKI
Operations Officer	1-30 April	Maj Charles M. MCCAIN
Services Officer	1-30 April	Maj Paul A. FARMER
Comm/Elect Officer	1-30 April	Capt Donald D. NIMROW
OIC Da Nang DASC	1-30 April	Maj John J. MCNAMARA
OIC Da Nang ASRT	1-30 April	Capt Jerry R. GERMAN
OIC Baldy HDC	1-30 April	1stLt John F. RHODES JR.
OIC Chu Lai ASRT	1-30 April	Capt Craig D. GALLAN
OIC An Hoa ASRT	1-30 April	1stLt Jerry N. DENNARD
OIC Quang Tri ASRT	1-30 April	1stLt F. Eric LEWIS
OIC Birmingham ASRT	1-30 April	Capt Frank H. DOWDEN

2. Marine Air Support Squadron-3 (REIN), Da Nang, RVN 1-30 April 1970

- a. CP, Da Nang ASRT, Da Nang DASC, Da Nang, RVN, 1-30 April 1970
- b. Chu Lai ASRT, Chu Lai, RVN, 1-30 April 1970
- c. An Hoa ASRT, An Hoa Combat Base, RVN, 1-30 April 1970
- d. Birmingham ASRT, Birmingham FSB, RVN, 1-30 April 1970
- e. Quang Tri ASRT, Quang Tri, RVN, 1-30 April 1970
- f. Baldy HDC, Landing Zone Baldy, RVN, 1-30 April 1970

3. Average monthly strength of Squadron:

Marine Officers	43
Marine Enlisted	206
Naval Officers	0
Naval Enlisted	2

4. a. 13 April, 1970, Gen WALT, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, visited the DASC for a formal briefing. He was accompanied by LtGen MCCUTCHEON, CG, III MAF; MajGen THRASH, CG, 1st MAW; and Col DUNWIDDIE, CO, MACG-18.

b. 16 April, 1970, MajGen THRASH, CG, 1st MAW, and Col DUNWIDDIE visited Baldy HDC, Birmingham, Quang Tri, An Hoa, Chu Lai and Da Nang ASRTs.

c. On 30 April, 1970, BGen SPANJER and BGen CONLEY visited the Chu Lai and An Hoa ASRT sites presenting a certificate of appreciation to the Officers in Charge for the outstanding performance of the members of the team.

d. 30 April, 1970, Col PHILLIPS, USA, Senior Army Advisor to Quang Da Special Zone, visited Da Nang DASC.

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY


During the month of April, MASS-3 (REIN) 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 (REIN) participated in support of the following operations in April: Geneva Park, Mantucket Beach, Iron Mountain, Frederick Hill, Texas Star, and the ARVN Lam Son operations. In addition to the coordination and direction of ordnance strikes, the DASC devoted a rather large portion of their time to emergency extractions of 1st Force Reconnaissance Company and 1st Reconnaissance Battalion teams. A total of 11 emergency extractions were effected during this reporting period.

One of the most significant events occurring during April was the utilization of the AN/UYQ-3 Airborne DASC to coordinate available tactical air assets. Coordinated by MASS-3 (REIN) Operations Section, it was the first time in Marine Corps history that this type of self-contained module proved operational under combat conditions. Under the direction of Maj J. J. MCNAMARA, OIC, Da Nang DASC, and with initial instruction provided by Lt K. J. BROWN, the test took place during the three day period of 16, 17 and 18 April. The Airborne DASC satisfied all expectations and requirements for extended operations.

On 10 April, 1970, as a result of the competent foresight and presence of mind of 1stLt LOWERY and other DASC personnel in coordinating various support aircraft, two reconnaissance teams, "Pal Joey" and "Prime Cut", were able to break contact with the enemy, thereby avoiding a hazardous night extraction on a ladder. Due to the professionalism of Lt LOWERY and personnel involved, the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, of the 1st Marine Division praised the highly competent manner in which the situation was handled.

After months of planning and discussion, a training program for Vietnamese Air Force (VNAF) personnel in the techniques of AN/TFQ-10 precision radar bombing was initiated after coordination, liaison and supervision by Maj C. M. MCCAIN. Classroom instruction was presented by Capt J. R. GERMAN, OIC, Da Nang ASRT. Capt R. L. POLLARD assisted in the coordination and development of training aids. At present, the program calls for scheduling Vietnamese flights for mock runs followed by live ordnance flights.

Morale and welfare were enhanced some what by the visit of the Western Pacific Food Management Team from Camp Smedley BUTLER, Okinawa under the leadership of WO B. LEWIS. From 14 April to 23 April, this team conducted approximately 328 hours of field training for cooks and messmen. Lectures, films and individual instruction in food preparation, serving, accounting,



menu planning and sanitation were presented. These classes supplemented by valuable suggestions and recommendations contributed to an improved food services program in the Squadron.

On 13 April, 1970, the personnel of Quang Tri ASRT were pleasantly surprised when they were credited with 31 confirmed KBA's from a routine calibration nop. Further damage was noted and 7 secondary explosions, 20 bunkers and 15 enemy fighting positions were credited to the ASRT.

PART III

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

(U) 1. Administration. None

(C) 2. Personnel. On 22 April, 1970, Maj Pasquale J. FLORIO relieved LtCol John H. DUBOIS as CO MASS-3 when LtCol DUBOIS returned to COMUS because of a personal emergency. 1stLt MCGOVERN and 2ndLt TAVERNA joined the Squadron during this period as did numerous enlisted personnel. The vacancies created by Phase III redeployment were partially filled.

(C) 3. Command Relationships/Command and Control. MASS-3 personnel provided various orientation briefings throughout the month of April pertaining to Squadron operations. Among the distinguished personnel attending were: Gen WALT, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps; LtGen MCCUTCHEON, CG, III MAF, MajGen THRASH, CG, 1st MAF; BGen SPANJER, Assistant wing Commander, 1st MAF; BGen CONLEY, replacing BGen SPANJER; Col DUNWIDDLE, CO, MACG-18; and Col PHILLIPS, USA, Senior Army Advisor to Quang Da Special Zone.

(C) 4. Air Control. During April, 1970, MASS-3 continued to provide and maintain five Air Support Radar Teams (ASRT's) within the I Corps Tactical Zone. 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. The support provided by these agencies is becoming increasingly more difficult due to the shortages of qualified personnel. One significant operation occurring during this reporting period was a calibration hop on 13 April scheduled by Quang Tri ASRT. Unknown to the ASRT that it was an enemy location and unknown to the enemy that the area was a TRQ-10 strike zone, Quang Tri ASRT was credited with 31 ABA, 7 secondary explosions, 20 bunkers, and 15 enemy fighting positions.

(C) 5. Special Operations. On 16, 17, and 18 April, 1970, the AN/UXQ-3 Airborne DASC was used for the first time in Marine Corps history to assume control of available air assets in a combat environment. The Airborne DASC coordinated all air assets during the 3 day test period while Da Nang DASC served as a back up DASC. A total of 137 fixed wing and 130 helicopter missions were controlled by the Airborne DASC during this period. Equally significant was the inception of the Vietnamese Air Force (VNAF) training program initiated to train Vietnamese in the use of the AN/TRQ-10 radar controlled bombing system. It was during April that the program finally crystallized under the supervision of Maj C. M. MCCAIN, the Squadron Opera-

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tions Officer, and Capt R. L. POLLARD's and Capt J. R. GERMAN's coordination and instruction. This pioneer instruction effort further contributed toward Vietnamization program. In addition to these important additional tasks demanded of the Squadron, the Da Nang DASC was involved in numerous emergency extractions of reconnaissance teams. Included among these extractions were: Cape Horn, Coffee Time, Chili Pepper, Cherry Jam, Penny Wise, Texas Fete, Elf Skin, Turf Club, Cayenne and Li'l Abner. On 10 April, 1stLt Paul J. LOWERY and other personnel of the DASC were praised by the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3 of the 1st Marine Division for the highly competent and professional manner in which Lt LOWERY coordinated available air assets in enabling two reconnaissance teams to break contact with the enemy. In accomplishing this break, an extremely dangerous night ladder extraction was avoided. In controlling 53 aircraft on 33 missions on 15 April, Quang Tri ASRT dropped 130.5 tons of ordnance and was credited with 37 targets destroyed. During a period of high threat, the Da Nang and An Hoa ASRT's, between 27-30 April, hit high priority targets nightly in support of 1st Marine Division operations, dropping 232 tons of ordnance during 80 strike missions.

(U) 6. Civic Action. During April, the MASS-3 Civic Action program was limited to liaison and cooperation with the MACG-18 Civic Action team and its endeavors. On 25 April, a group of 15 newly arrived personnel were sent to MACG-18 for a personal response orientation. As part of the orientation, the personnel visited the village assigned to the MACG-18 Civic Action team.

(C) 7. Ground Defense. Continuous improvement was made on all bunkers and fighting positions and additional wire was laid around the perimeter. Twice in the month during high threat periods, additional bunkers were manned and a reaction force was positioned to repel any assault that might have occurred.

(U) 8. Training. During the month of April, the general military subjects training included: interior guard, NBC Defense, Code of Conduct and career planning. A drug abuse presentation was also scheduled which was presented by G-3 personnel. Various technical training was accomplished by the individual sections which included both lectures and practical application.

(C) 9. Logistics. Continued logistics support of the outlying ASRT sites was expeditiously accomplished by using MAG-16 helicopters operating out of Landing Zone 13 on Hill 327. The Squadron Motor Transport section with the aid of MACG-18 tankers continued the delivery of water to Hill 327 in the amount of 340,000 gallons. Due to the relentless efforts of of the Squadron drivers and mechanics, the Squadron was never without water.

(U) 10. Supply. Priority utilization continued in an excellent manner on the 361 formal requisitions processed during the month of April. The percentage of priority 02 requisitions continued to decrease and can be verified in the overall utilization listed below:

<u>PRIORITY</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE</u>
02	5%
05	20%
12	30%
17	45%

(U) 11. Engineering. During the month of April, the major engineering effort of the month was the repair of cantonment roads and the main access road up to Hill 327. Over 300 cubic yards of rock and gravel were used in rilling holes and smoothing rough areas under the supervision of Capt T. S. O'SHIELDS, through the use of H&HS-18 personnel and the aid of their scoop loader, the task was facilitated and efficiently accomplished.

(U) 12. Maintenance. The motor transport shop provided excellent service to the Squadron thereby reducing the deadline average to only one vehicle during this period. Considering the deterioration of vehicles due to the rough terrain at some of the outlying sites, this is a commendable record.

(C) 13. Communications/Electronics. The Comm/Elect section personnel continued to visit the outlying detachments and provided technical assistance and inspections totalling 47 working days. The RFS-6 radar set operated a total of 78 hours with only one hour of repair time during the month of April. Ten hours of classes were given on the function and operation of the RFS-6 so as to qualify and familiarize more people with its functions. On 15 April, Baldy ADC was provided with a VHF/FM secure voice net and Da Nang DASC was later provided with 2 VHF/FM and 2 UHF secure nets. On 24 April, a phone patch radio relay link was set up between 1st MAW and MASS-3 providing additional phone lines for MASS-3 to 1st MAW. Comm/Elect also provided cipher equipment and radios to the Operations section for use in the AN/UYQ-3 Airborne DASC.

(U) 14. Construction. The enlisted men's washroom was improved with the addition of four sinks providing hot and cold water and a Finnish Sauna Bath was erected in the shower facility.

A new bar and other improvements were completed in the SNCO Club with volunteer assistance from some of the petty officers of MGB-62, which greatly facilitated the bar's completion. On 3 April, 1970, the project to furnish commercial electrical power to Hill 327 was completed by RMA-BRJ contractors. Over 400 kilowatts of power are available for Squadron use for perimeter lighting, messhall needs and other camp needs, as well as to provide power for tactical operations.

(U) 15. Motor Transport. During the month of April, the Motor Transport section traveled 7,000 miles, carried 2,043 passengers, transported 140 tons of cargo and 340,000 gallons of water in support of Squadron operations.

(U) 16. Informational Service. Regular news releases were sent to home town newspapers during the month of April, including information on the Airborne DASC and on the training of Vietnamese Air Force personnel. The releases totaled 41 this month.

(U) 17. Casualties. Sgt J. D. RADOSEVICH received a wound and fracture of the right leg from an explosive device while clearing fields of fire with a working party on 25 April, 1970, at Birmingham ASRT.

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

Sgt J. B. BOLD	Good Conduct
Sgt G. V. THOMAS	Meritorious Mast
Cpl W. G. KELLEY	Meritorious Mast
Cpl R. E. DAVIS	Meritorious Mast
Cpl R. L. WHEELER	Meritorious Mast
LCpl R. L. CLARK	Meritorious Mast

The following were recommended for awards:

Capt F. H. DOWDEN	Bronze Star
Capt D. D. NIMMO	Bronze Star
1stLt F. L. FREDERICK	Bronze Star
1stLt F. J. LOWERY	Bronze Star
1stLt O. J. WARVEL	Navy Commendation Medal
1stLt J. M. GRIFFIN	Navy Commendation Medal
1stLt J. N. DENNARD	Navy Commendation Medal
MSGT A. M. CHAFORA JR.	Navy Commendation Medal
CySgt L. L. GRAY	Navy Commendation Medal
Sgt D. J. GRIFFIN	Navy Commendation Medal
Sgt T. E. FULTZ	Navy Commendation Medal
Sgt M. J. BERG	Navy Achievement Medal
Cpl T. K. MICHAUD	Navy Achievement Medal
Cpl C. L. HAIDEMAN	Navy Achievement Medal

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Cpl S. M. LIVOTI	Navy Achievement Medal
Cpl J. G. BOND	Navy Achievement Medal
Cpl A. C. DROKE	Navy Achievement Medal
Sgt R. H. PUTNAM	Certificate of Commendation
Sgt R. A. LEFAVE	Certificate of Commendation
PFC J. A. MCELROY, USA	Letter of Appreciation

The following were promoted during the month of April:

Meritorious Combat to Sgt SINCLAIR, J. D. LR.

Meritorious Combat to Cpl SALLES, G. W.
ARSENAULT, J. F.

To LCpl ED 700413 FLORES, J.
MONTGOMERY, R. A.
ROBERTS, J. W.
CURTIS, G. R.
MARHAM, T. S. JR.

To LCpl ED 700415 ANDERSON, R. E.
BARRIENTES, A. JR.
HARRIS, R. W. II
MARKS, G. O.
SMITH, T. E.
THERIAULT, R. G.
TYCZKOWSKI, J. M.

(U) 19. Morale and Welfare. During the month of April, weekly China Beach runs were made for off-duty personnel to enjoy a Sunday afternoon at China Beach. Entertainment was provided in the form of five floor shows and a nightly showing of movies.

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

Hawaii	3 Persons
Sydney	5 Persons
Bangkok	4 Persons
Hong Kong	1 Person
Taipei	2 Persons
Manila	0 Person
Tokyo	1 Person
Okinawa	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	830	0	09	03	962
Helo Missions	825	0	0	0	825
medevacs	788	0	0	0	788

B. ASRT 1-30 April 1970 Inclusive (USMC)

	<u>A1 Da Nang</u>	<u>A1 An Hoa</u>	<u>B1 Chu Lai</u>	<u>B2 Birmingham</u>
Bombing Missions	85	156	124	180
Targets Hit	130	178	246	191
Visual Targets	0	0	0	0
Ordnance Dropped (Tons)	344.245	569.004	495.374	716.218
Sorties	99	172	140	265

	<u>A8 Quang Tri</u>	<u>Total</u>
	170	715
	190	943
	0	0
	574.496	2699.897
	239	923

C. ASRT 1-30 April 1970 Inclusive (USN)

	<u>A1 Da Nang</u>	<u>A1 An Hoa</u>	<u>B1 Chu Lai</u>	<u>B2 Birmingham</u>
Bombing Missions	0	8	3	39
Targets Hit	0	8	4	41
Visual Targets	0	0	0	0
Ordnance Dropped (Tons)	0	36.156	11.572	136.576
Sorties	0	15	6	72

AB	
<u>Quang Tri</u>	<u>Total</u>
46	96
46	99
0	0
175.378	359.682
86	179

D. ASRT 1-30 April 1970 Inclusive (USAF)

	<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	3	2	16	4
Targets Hit	2	2	10	2
Visual Targets	0	0	0	0
Ordnance Dropped (Tons)	7.364	4.716	24.557	12.120
Sorties	5	2	22	6

AB	
<u>Quang Tri</u>	<u>Total</u>
23	48
19	35
0	0
44.904	93.061
31	66

E. ASRT 1-30 April 1970 Inclusive (TOTAL)

	<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	88	166	143	223
Targets Hit	132	188	260	234
Visual Targets	0	0	0	0
Ordnance Dropped (Tons)	351.609	609.936	531.503	864.914
Sorties	104	169	176	343

AB	
<u>Quang Tri</u>	<u>Total</u>
239	859
263	1077
0	0
795.278	3153.240
356	1168
	11

ENCLOSURE (1)

F. ASRT operating hours as of 30 April 1970

	<u>All Da Nang</u>	<u>A1 An Hoa</u>	<u>B1 Chu Lai</u>	<u>B2 Birmingham</u>	<u>A8 Quang Tri</u>
Total Hours	15,283	32,325	3,223	2,798	21,575
Since Rehab	10,686	19,962	N/A	N/A	14,150
Hours from 26 March to 27 April	755	757	746	750	760

All
Float

UNK
1,348
58

G. During the month of April, 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
Frederick Hill	Chu Lai ASRT
Texas Star	Quang Tri and Birmingham ASRT
Lam Son 356	Quang Tri ASRT
" 357	Quang Tri ASRT
" 358	Quang Tri ASRT
" 359	Quang Tri ASRT
" 360	Quang Tri ASRT
" 365	Quang Tri ASRT