

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

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6 June 1970

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

Subj: Command Chronology

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.1C
(b) GruO 5750.1A

Encl: ✓(1) Command Chronology, Marine Air Support Squadron-3 (REIN)
1-31 May 1970

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

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

P. J. Florio
P. J. FLORIO

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MASS-3
0179-70

ANNEX B

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

MARINE AIR SUPPORT SQUADRON-3 (REIN)

1-31 MAY 1970

DA NANG, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

ANNEX B

PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

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

Commanding Officer	1-31 May	Maj Pasquale J. FLORIO
Executive Officer	1-31 May	Maj Charles R. KEITH
Administration Officer	1-14 May 15-31 May	1stLt Jerome ANTKOWSKI 1stLt Francis McGOVERN
Operations Officer	1-31 May	Maj Charles M. McGAIN
Services Officer	1-31 May	Maj Paul K. FARMER
Comm/Elect Officer	1-31 May	Capt Donald D. NIMMOW
OIC Da Nang DASC	1-31 May	Maj John J. McNAMARA
OIC Da Nang ASRT	1-31 May	Capt Jerry R. GERMAN
OIC Baldy HDC	1 May 2-31 May	1stLt John F. RHODES, Jr. Capt Leonard A. WHELCHER
OIC Chu Lai ASRT	1-31 May	Capt Craig D. GALLAN
OIC An Hoa ASRT	1-31 May	1stLt Jerry N. DENARD
OIC Quang Tri ASRT	1-31 May	1stLt F. Eric LEWIS
OIC Birmingham ASRT	1-12 May 13-31 May	Capt Frank H. DOWDEN 1stLt Samuel V. KIRK

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

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

3. Average monthly strength of Squadron:

Marine Officers	42
Marine Enlisted	220
Naval Officers	0
Naval Enlisted	2

4. a. On 1 May, 1970, BGen SPANJER, former Assistant Wing Commander, and BGen CONLEY, new Assistant Wing Commander, visited the DASC, Quang Tri ASRT, and Birmingham ASRT, presenting a letter of appreciation to the two ASRT's. In the afternoon, MGen THRASH, Wing Commander, visited the DASC.

b. On 2 May, 1970, MGen WIDDECKE, CG 1st MAR DIV, visited the DASC for an informal brief.

c. On 6 May, 1970, LtCol W. D. KELLOGG, OIC of the Tactical Air Direction Center, was briefed by the OIC of the DASC at MACG-18 and later visited the DASC.

d. On 8 May, 1970, BGen CONLEY, new Assistant Wing Commander, accompanied by Col DUNWIDDIE, CO MACG-18, visited the DASC, the CP, and the Da Nang ASRT. BGen CONLEY presented a letter of appreciation to the Da Nang ASRT. LtCol KELLOGG visited Hill 327 and the outlying ASRT's.

e. On 23 May, 1970, BGen CONLEY visited the DASC.

f. On 26 May, 1970, BGen CONLEY visited Hill 327 to observe a "Pacifier" operation.

g. On 28 May, 1970, LtCol LONG, Executive Officer of MACG-18, visited the DASC.

PART II

CONFIDENTIAL

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the month of May, 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. The Squadron participated in support of the following operations: Geneva Park, Nantucket Beach, Iron Mountain, Frederick Hill, Texas Star, Green River, Lam Son # 356, and Quyet Than # 56A. In addition to the coordination and direction of ordnance strikes, the DASC devoted a large portion of time to emergency extractions of 14 1st Reconnaissance Battalion teams from enemy territory. A significant amount of time was also employed in directing the relatively new concept of "Pacifier" operations. This involves a mobile strike force ready to deploy by helicopter and contact the enemy as soon as a hostile force is sighted.

A further practical use of the AN/TPQ-10 radar system is presently being tested called the ATAS system. ATAS represents A-6/TPQ-10 aerial survey which is an experimental procedure utilizing the RABFAC beacon and the AN/TPQ-10 radar to register a position on the ground. This position can then be used to shift ordnance strikes to another target or to update existing maps. Da Nang ASRT is presently testing the accuracy and validity of the procedure.

A further rather significant innovation involving Squadron personnel is the initiation of a program by the Security Platoon involving the use of prisoners from the 3rd M P BN. Brig for working parties, allowing better use of Squadron and Security personnel. This program has helped alleviate the problem caused by extreme shortage of personnel in the Security Platoon.

The completion of a wash bowl-shower facility for the officers has been greatly appreciated. MCB-62 finished the project in two weeks time. A sauna bath and an improved drainage system were added to the enlisted shower in addition other minor improvements that rendered the facility more efficient and functional.

Work has begun by Squadron operations and technical personnel to extract peak performance consistently from the AN/TPQ-10 system and to demonstrate to and convince other agencies of the capabilities of the system to support ground units with TPQ-10 air strikes at distances out to 35 nautical miles in skin mode and 54 nautical miles in beacon mode.

Idaion was made by Maj G. M. McCAIN, MASS-3 Operations Officer and 1stLt S. V. KIRK, OIC Birmingham ASRT, with Maj WEAVER, 101st Airborne Division G-3 (Air) at Camp Eagle in Thua Thien Province to discuss improved coordination and effectiveness in such areas as: use of Sav-a-Panes and Check-Fires; proper use of aircraft and aircraft ordnance; exploitation of the full capability of the AN/TPQ-10; use of Da Nang ASRT to support the 101st Division. Accord was reached in these areas and Maj McCAIN and 1stLt KIRK were given a detailed briefing on the organization and functioning of the 101st Division Tactical Operation Center (DIOC).

CONFIDENTIAL

ANNEX B

PART III

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

(U) 1. Administration. 1stLt McGOVERN replaced 1stLt ANTKOWSKI as the new Administration Officer.

(C) 2. Personnel. Three officers, Capt PUGLISI, 1stLt GIBSON and WO-1 PHILLIPS, joined the Squadron during this reporting period as did numerous enlisted personnel. Personnel shortages continue to be a significant concern in the Squadron particularly during the coming months because of the large number of critical personnel who will rotate.

(C) 3. Command Relationships / Command and Control. During the month of May, MASS-3 personnel provided various orientation briefings pertaining to Squadron operations. Among the distinguished personnel attending were: MGen THRASH, Wing Commander; MGen WIDDECKE, CG 1st MAR DIV; BGen CONLEY, new Assistant Wing Commander; BGen SPANJER, former Assistant Wing Commander; LtCol KELLOGG, OIC of the Tactical Air Direction Center; LtCol LONG, Executive Officer of MACG-18.

(C) 4. Air Control. During the month of May, 1970, MASS-3 continued to provide and maintain five Air Support Radar Teams (ASRT) in addition to a Direct Air Support Center (DASC) and a Helicopter Direction Center (HDC), which provide for the tactical control of fixed wing and rotary wing aircraft. Once again an alternate "Back-up" system proved its worth as the UYQ-3 was employed under emergency conditions on 26 May, 1970. Chu Lai ASRT dropped ordnance on a target 49 nautical miles from the ASRT in beacon.

(C) 5. Special Operations. The month of May has ushered in an innovation in operations referred to as the "ATAS" system or A-6/TPQ-10 Aerial Survey. This system utilizes the use of a RAEFAC beacon and the TPQ-10 to register a position on the ground from which to shift in bombing targets or from which to improve existing map locations. At the present time, Da Nang ASRT is conducting the experimental facets of the system to insure that the system will be valid and functional. The Vietnamese Air Force Training Program is still functioning with satisfactory results. In addition to the myriad tasks demanded of the Squadron the DASC coordinated and controlled numerous pacifier operations and emergency operations and extractions of reconnaissance teams. Pacifier operations consist of a mobile strike force ready to react and deploy by helicopter as soon as an enemy is sighted in the Marine TAOR. A total of nine "pacifier" operations were successfully directed by the DASC during this period. Included among the emergency extractions of reconnaissance teams were: "Pony Boy", "Sand Hurst", "Delicatessen", "Defend", "Prime Cut", "Policy Game", "Clay Pipe", "Cayenne", "Date Palm", "Parker Pen", "Pickwick Papers", "Turf Club", "Cherry Jam", and "Cossack".

(U) 6. Civic Action. The MASS-3 Civic Action program during the month of May was limited to liaison and cooperation with the MACG-18 Civic Action Team and its endeavors.

(C) 7. Ground Defense. Continued improvement was made on all bunkers and fighting positions as well as having additional wire laid around the perimeter. A new system of sensor devices was begun utilizing the principle of changing water pressure in a hose buried in the ground. Another innovation for the Squadron involved the use of prisoners from the 3rd M. P. BN. Brig for use on working parties on the perimeter.

(U) 8. Training. The general military subjects training during the month of May included four hours of classes: First Aid and Heat Disorders, Map Reading, and Supporting Arms (Artillery). A Drug Abuse presentation was presented by MAG-13 personnel and several Drug Abuse films were viewed throughout the month. Forty people attended the GMS classes and 75 attended the Drug Abuse Lecture.

(C) 9. Logistics. MAG-16 helicopters continued to supply support for the Logistical effort required to provide for 5 ASRT's, the DASC, and the CP. high priority items such as 400 cycle generators and air conditioners and electronic components for the AN/TPQ-10 were flown into the sites in an efficient, timely manner.. The major Logistical effort continues to be the replenishment of potable water to Hill 327 in the sum of up to 15,000 gallons daily. Gunnery Sergeant AMELIGARCIA assumed the duties as NCOIC of the messhall and has provided outstanding food as was attested by BGen CONLEY, Assistant Wing Commander, in commending the preparation of food for a buffet during a night operation.

(U) 10. Supply. The Squadron Supply Section processed a total of 407 formal requisitions during May. Priority utilization is again noteworthy since the priority 02 and 05 requisitions reflect prior planning and excellent supply management:

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
02	4%
05	11%
12	40%
17	45%

(U) 11. Engineering. Generator Support for the ASRT's has been a primary concern for the month, however the efforts of the generator section should be greatly enhanced since the reporting aboard of WO-1 R. P. PHILLIPS who will be assuming the Billet of Engineering Maintenance Officer. Six new commercial air conditioners were received of which two were sent to Birmingham ASRT for their bunkers and one was sent to Quang Tri ASRT. Support for the tactical air conditioners for the RCDC vans and technical assistance for the PU-719 series generator was adequately provided by FLC. The rough terrain fork lift was sent to be rebuilt after much faithful service.

(U) 12. Maintenance. The Wing Motor Transport Officer performed a detailed courtesy inspection of the Motor Transport Section and was quite pleased

with the results. During May, the great majority of the maintenance effort was conducted on water trucks and M-35's from outlying sites. In addition to vehicular difficulties, the hot water heater ^{at the mess hall} was a problem for one week until Corporal BOND repaired it in record time.

(C) 13. Communications / Electronics. The Comm/Elect Section personnel continued to visit the outlying detachments and provided technical assistance and inspections totalling more than 37 working days. Technical assistance in aligning the IF strips proved to be a greater improvement in tracking than was expected; Chu Lai ASRT dropped ordnance 49 nautical miles (beacon) from station. On 7 May, the KY-3 secure telephone was placed in service by Air Force personnel, on 20 May, a secure voice line was provided from the DASC to the TADC, and on 22 May, all 5 ASRT's were provided with secure voice as Chu Lai finally acquired theirs. During this reporting period, 6 pieces of test equipment, 5 TPQ-10 makor units and 24 sub-assemblies were repaired and returned to service.

(U) 14. Construction. The highlight of the construction program was the completion of the new officers shower and washroom which was started and completed in a two week period by MCB-62. The facility provided sinks and showers with hot water and adequate space to avoid early morning waiting for a washbowl. A wind blast wall 12 feet by 64 feet long was constructed near the landing zone to prevent wind and dust from periodic helicopter visits from disrupting administration procedures. Additional minor construction projects were completed including an external drain pipe for the mess hall and shower which precluded an open sewer and the foul odor associated with it.

(U) 15. Motor Transport. The Motor Transport Section received two new steam cleaning units which were greatly needed and sent one M-35 vehicle to be rebuilt. From an operational stand point, the section hauled 167 tons of cargo, drove a total of 11,570 miles, carried 3027 passengers, delivered 6,055 gallons of Pol, and hauled 334,000 gallons of potable water.

(U) 16. Informational Service. Regular news releases, totaling 46, were sent to home town newspapers during this month.

(U) 17. Casualties. On 5 May, Corporal T. R. REID crushed his right hand in a generator fan belt and was transferred to USN Hospital, Guam.

On 13 May, Sergeant R. L. CARPENTER suffered a severe ankle sprain while on a combat patrol and was medevaced to the Hospital Ship Sanctuary.

On 16 May, Lance Corporal L. P. COUGHLIN was wounded in the back by an accidental discharge and was transferred to USN Hospital, Guam.

On 17 May PFC T. D. BLUME was wounded in the right shoulder. The circumstances are under investigation.

On 21 May, PFC J. M. ENGLISH was transferred to USN Hospital, Guam, after

suffering from LSD flashbacks.

On 23 May, Corporal S. M. LIVOTI split open his finger when hit by a forklift. He was taken to 1st Medical BN. and returned to duty on 2 June, 1970.

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

Sgt P. H. GRIMM	Good Conduct
Cpl M. G. RIBOTTO	Good Conduct
Cpl D. L. STOCKDALE	Good Conduct
Sgt R. A. LEFAVE	Certificate of Appreciation
Sgt R. H. PUTNAM	Certificate of Appreciation

The following were recommended for awards:

Capt W. D. KEITH	Navy Commendation Medal
GySgt R. C. WONG	Navy Commendation Medal
Sgt J. D. SINCLAIR	Navy Achievement Medal
Cpl J. H. LANGSTON	Navy Achievement Medal
Sgt R. L. WOOD	Navy Achievement Medal

The following were promoted during the month of May:

To GySgt	J. L. MIZELL
To SSgt	D. F. STRAUB
Meritorious to Sgt	J. D. SINCLAIR, Jr.
To Cpl	A. M. ALVARADO
	D. F. BENDER
	R. F. BILYEN
	R. C. CHAFE, Jr.
	R. L. CLARK, Jr.
	R. W. GILBREATH
	T. L. GOURLEY
	J. L. HIGHFILL
	E. R. JONES
	V. C. JONES
	M. J. LESLIE
	G. J. McMULLAN
	M. L. MUELLENBACH
	T. C. PARISH
	D. P. SKIDMORE
	M. E. SUNGENIS
	E. E. TEAL
	R. TOZER
	M. V. LAMB
	M. G. WEST
TO PFC	G. S. OWENS

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

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

Sydney	5
RON Hong Kong	2
Hawaii	1
Okinawa	3
Tokyo	1
Taipei	2

(U) 20. Air Defense. None

(C) 21. Base Deployment and Military Construction. Aforementioned.

(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	791	6	69	44	920
Helo Missions	1040	0	0	0	1040
MEDEVACS	808	0	0	0	808

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

	<u>A 11</u>	<u>A 1</u>	<u>B 1</u>	<u>B 2</u>	<u>A 8</u>	
	<u>DA NANG</u>	<u>AN HOA</u>	<u>CHU LAI</u>	<u>BIRMINGHAM</u>	<u>QUANG TRI</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Bombing Missions	98	242	109	124	92	665
Targets Hit	132	260	148	163	133	836
Visual Targets	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ordnance Dropped	286.949	885.596	495.275	584.590	462.324	2,719.734
Sorties	168	291	243	159	118	979

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

Bombing Missions	7	14	13	66	70	170
Targets Hit	8	14	18	66	71	177
Visual Targets	0	0	0	0	0	0

Ordnance Dropped	29.982	43.402	53.652	232.836	235.669	595.541
Sorties	15	27	29	132	131	334

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

Bombing Missions	1	6	11	8	24	50
Targets Hit	1	7	11	9	25	53
Visual Targets	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ordnance Dropped	1.640	19.340	23.978	25.196	67.676	137.830
Sorties	1	8	12	11	28	60

E. ASRT 1-31 May 1970 Inclusive (VNAF).

Bombing Missions	0	0	7	1	0	8
Targets Hit	0	0	9	2	0	11
Visual Targets	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ordnance Dropped	0	0	15.316	2.096	0	17.412
Sorties	0	0	13	2	0	15

F. ASRT 1-31 May 1970 Inclusive (RAAF).

Bombing Missions	0	0	0	3	0	3
Targets Hit	0	0	0	3	0	3
Visual Targets	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ordnance Dropped	0	0	0	7.380	0	7.380
Sorties	0	0	0	3	0	3

G. ASRT 1-31 May 1970 Inclusive (Totals).

Bombing Missions	106	262	140	202	186	896
Targets Hit	141	281	186	243	229	1080
Visual Targets	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ordnance Dropped	318.571	948.338	588.221	857.098	765.669	3,477.897
Sorties	184	326	297	307	277	1391

H. ASRT Operating Hours as of 31 May 1970.

	DA NANG	AN HOA	CHU LAI	BIRMINGHAM	QUANG TRI	A 14 Float
Total Hours	16,074	33,134	4,041	3,584	22,358	UNK
Since Rehab	11,477	20,801	N/A	N/A	14,933	1,437
Hours in May	791	809	818	792	783	89

I. During the month of May 1970, MASS-3 participated in the following operations:OperationAgency

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
Green River	QUANG TRI ASRT
LAM SON #356	QUANG TRI ASRT
Quy et Than #54A	QUANG TRI ASRT