

MARINE OBSERVATION SQUADRON 6
 Marine Aircraft Group 36
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing
 Fleet Marine Force Pacific
 FPO, San Francisco 96602

66D-818
 MSG-33 S&C Files

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From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 36

Subj: Chronology of Significant Events from 1 December 1966 through
 31 December 1966

Ref: (a) 1stMAWO 5750.1A
 (b) GruO 5750.1

1. In accordance with references (a) and (b), the following is submitted:

a. Organization data.

(1) Commanding Officer: Lieutenant Colonel W. R. MALONEY 1-31

Executive Officer: Major J. H. WALKER 1-17
 Major E. J. SAMPLE 18-31

Operations Officer: Major W. E. DODDS 1-17
 Major J. H. WALKER 18-31

Logistics Officer: Major D. F. KELLEY 1-31

Intelligence Officer: Captain N. E. BURKE 1-31

Administration Officer: Captain K. K. KERR 1-31

(2) Marine Observation Squadron Six, Ky Ha, Republic of Vietnam.

(3) Average monthly strength: 195

b. Narrative of significant events occurring in this reporting period:

1 Dec 66. Major DODDS led a section in escort of a troop lift from Quang Ngai to BS 639563. Light small arms fire was received by the transports from BS 650561 and in suppressing it, the UH-1E's destroyed two huts and damaged several others.

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2 Dec 66. Lt. WILSON flew BGen STILES to LZ Magnolia and Hill 69.

4 Dec 66. Captain BURKE carried BGen STILES and Col. SNODDY to Tam Ky. After returning BGen. STILES to the VIP Pad, he then took Col. SNODDY on a tour of the southern TAOR.

LCol. MALONEY had a busy morning as he led a section of UH-1E's in escort of two recon team insertions and two extractions. On the retraction of "BLICKERTON" from BT 236062 the UH-1E's successfully suppressed fire received by the transport helicopters.

5 Dec 66. Major DODDS acted as TAC(A) for a landing zone prep at BT 152177. When a CH-46 crashed near the zone, the UH-1E section capped the downed aircraft. Receiving fire from BT 164171, Major DODDS and his wingman, Capt. WATERS, effectively suppressed the same.

LCol. MALONEY's section relieved Major DODDS on station but was diverted shortly thereafter to investigate a report of VC in the open at BT 161120. The section received and returned fire at that location before returning to Ky Ha.

While operating out of Marble Mountain Air Facility, Major HENDRIX's flight was called on to escort a retraction of "CREPE MYRTLE" from AT 880394. When the flight received fire from AT 814389, Major HENDRIX controlled "OXWOOD" 56 flight in the placing of 20MM fire on the target.

Also operating out of Marble Mountain, Lt. WILSON's section was launched to escort a med-evac aircraft into a hot zone at BT 005579. The H-34 received fire from all quadrants on its approach to the zone but with the UH-1E's delivering suppressive fire all around, was able to successfully complete the medical evacuation.

Lt. GARNER was launched from Marble Mountain as escort for a "SPARROWHAWK" insertion of troops in support of a downed H-34 at BT 046635. The transport helicopters received automatic weapons fire from BT 049637 and the UH-1E's expended most of their ordnance on this position.

Lt. MOTLEY and a section of UH-1E's escorted a flight of H-34's to BT 049637 for the insertion of the maintenance team to cover the downed H-34. After the insertion, the UH-1E section remained on station until the aircraft had been repaired. They then provided it with an escort on its flight back to Marble Mountain.

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6 Dec 66. Lt. MOTLEY was escorting "Powerglide" med-evac out of Marble Mountain when the H-34 was shot down at BT 005579. In making an attempt to pick up the "Powerglide" crew, Lt. MOTLEY's aircraft received five hits. Even though he made two approaches into the face of heavy enemy fire, the pick-up attempts were unsuccessful as the H-34 crew was pinned down and unable to reach the UH-1E.

7 Dec 66. Capt. SWINBURN led a section in support of the attempted recovery of the previously mentioned downed H-34 at BT 005579. While the Klondike aircraft were laying down suppressive fire on the suspected enemy positions, a "Powerglide" aircraft made its approach to the zone to drop off a maintenance crew. This aircraft was hit by a single sniper round while in the zone and burned rapidly, forcing its crew to evacuate. Throughout the rest of the afternoon, Capt. SWINBURN and his wingman Capt. BURKE, were joined at various times by Lt. WILSON, Lt. BODEN, and Capt. WATERS, in providing cover for the infantry and the crew of the downed H-34. Acting in the capacity of close air support aircraft, as weather precluded the use of fixed wing, the UH-1E's expended 23,000 rounds of 7.62mm ammunition and 79 2.75 inch rockets.

Capt. SHADBURNE led a section in support of a troop lift into BT 160168. After the first several transport helicopters received fire going into the zone, Captain SHADBURNE expended several flights of fixed wing on the enemy positions. No helicopters received fire after the air strike had been completed.

LCol. MALONEY led a section on a "Scrambled" mission to support an ROK unit that was surrounded by VC at BS 550780. Unable to utilize fixed wing due to the low ceiling, LCol. MALONEY led his section in a series of rocket and machine gun attacks on the enemy positions. After the UH-1E's had softened up the enemy, the ROK forces were able to move to a secure area.

Lt. TODT flew BGen. LEE (ROKMC) on a tour of the ROK outposts and then assisted in transporting the Marine Band from BS 628892 to Chu Lai Air Freight.

Lt. MOTLEY flew MGen. NICKERSON and party from Danang to the I Corps Pad, to the Quang Ngai Tropos Pad, to the ROK CP and returned to Danang.

8 Dec 66. Lt. BODEN led a section in support of the recovery of the downed H-34 at BT 005579. As opposed to the events of 7 Dec., all was uneventful.

Lt. WILSON's section, launching in response to a request for fire suppression from Tra Bong outpost, received and returned fire from BS 315855. One secondary explosion was observed.

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9 Dec 66. Lt. ROSS flew the Honorable Henry Cabot LODGE, Ambassador to Vietnam, on a tour of the TAOR in the morning. In the afternoon Lt. ROSS took BGen. LEE (ROKMC) to BS 648732 and back to the ROK CP.

10 Dec 66. Major DODDS led a section on a "scramble" mission to BT 165204 to support "Consulate". Firing on VC in the open at BT 189194 and BT 191185, the UH-1E's recorded two KBA's.

Capt. WATERS led a section as escort of an ARVN landing in three zones in the vicinity of ZC 2054. Fire was received by the transport helicopters from several sources. After Capt. WATERS had controlled the expenditure of "Condole" 34 flight, the UH-1E's made several rocket and machine gun runs, accounting for two KBA's.

Lt. ROSS carried BGen. LEE (ROKMC) from the ROK CP to BS 628658 and return.

11 Dec 66. Capt. SWINBURN carried BGen. LEE from the ROK CP to Chu Lai Air Freight to see off the members of a Korean entertainment troupe. While at Chu Lai, Capt. SWINBURN and LCpl. NICKERSON, his Crew Chief, got their pictures taken with many pretty Korean female entertainers.

12 Dec 66. LCol. MALONEY began Operation "SIERRA" with an LZ prep at BS 678561 utilizing three flights of fixed wing. LCol. MALONEY was relieved as TAC(A) by Capt. ARICK who continued controlling the fixed wing; expending four flights on future objective areas of the ground troops. Captain ARICK's flight fired on VC in a village at BS 688564; destroying 2 huts.

Major DODDS led a section in support of an ROK landing in the Tra Bong Valley at BS 468872. When the transport helicopters received fire from BS 455870, Major DODDS led his section in providing suppressive fire. He then controlled "Oxwood" in its expenditure on the target.

Lt. BALLENTINE flew BGen. OWENS on a tour of the Chu Lai TAOR.

Capt. BURKE flew BGen. LEE (ROKMC) from the ROK CP to Chu Lai Air Freight, to BS 563773, to the terminal and back to the ROK CP.

Capt. WATERS led a section to provide close air support against VC unloading ammunition from boats at AT 977562. After Capt. WATERS' section had received fire from the site, they expended their ordnance, accounting for three KBA's and three boats. Capt. WATERS then acted as TAC(A), expending "Swiss" 064 with excellent results.

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13 Dec 66. Major DODDS' section was diverted from a routine recon team insertion to an emergency retraction of "Bennington" at BS 603465. The flight suppressed fire at BS 603464 while "Buffalo City" 2-15 did an excellent job of hoisting the 9 man team out of the zone.

Lt. WILSON, on his first mission as a designated TAC(A), controlled three flights of fixed wing on VC positions at BS 830362. The UH-1E's received fire from BS 827364 and expended on that location.

14 Dec 66. Capt. BURKE led a section in escort of a "Sparrowhawk" insertion at AT 964659. The transport helicopters received fire in the zone and Capt. BURKE expended "Oxwood" on the source of the fire, crediting them with 8 structures destroyed and 2 VC WIA.

Lt. GARNER carried MGen. NICKERSON and BGen. STILES to BS 435035, to 1st Med Bn. , to the "REPOSE", and back to the VIP Pad.

15 Dec 66. Lt. BALLENTINE carried BGen. STILES and his party to BS 701601 and return to the VIP Pad.

LCol. MALONEY acted as TAC(A) for a landing zone prep in support of Operation "Sierra". Two flights of fixed wing were used and the landing was uneventful.

16 Dec 66. Flying out of MMAF, Capt. BURKE's section was called on to assist a Marine Squad that had been separated from its company and was pinned down at AT 875475. Firing on the enemy positions at AT 882540, Capt. BURKE'S section destroyed 3 huts and the Marines were able to return to their company's position.

17 Dec 66. Lt. BODEN flew BGen. STILES from the VIP Pad to Danang and then flew MGen. NICKERSON and BGen. STILES to various points in the Danang area prior to returning to the VIP Pad with BGen STILES aboard.

Lt. BALLENTINE flew BGen LEE (ROKMC) from the ROK CP to the I Coprs Pad in Danang and returned to the ROK CP.

While Capt. BURKE was picking up an emergency "med-evac" at AT 946535, his aircraft came under heavy fire. Although the aircraft received two hits while in the zone, the "med-evac" was successfully completed and the patient was carried to G-4 hospital.

Capt. CAVERLY also took a round in his aircraft while attacking enemy positions on a troop extraction from AT 960524.

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Lt. MOTLEY picked up MGen. NICKERSON at the III MAF Pad and carried him on a tour of the ARVN outposts in the Southern I Corps area.

18 Dec 66. Capt. SWINBURN flew Lt.Gen. BROCKMIRE (Dutch Army) from AT 915730 to the III MAF Pad.

19 Dec 66. Capt. BARTLEY flew BGen. STILES to the 175mm gun positions at BS 6383, then to Quang Ngai and return to the VIP Pad.

Lt. RANKIN flew MGen. NICKERSON from Hilltop Pad to An Hoi, Dai Loc, and LZ Finch.

While Capt. SWINBURN's section was escorting an emergency night resupply at AT 973518, the transport helicopters received heavy automatic fire and mortar fire in the zone. While the UH-1E's were expending on the enemy positions, they also received heavy automatic weapons fire, but were able to destroy 3 huts from which much of the fire had originated.

20 Dec 66. Lt. RANKIN carried MGen. NICKERSON from Hilltop Pad to the VIP Pad, and BGen. STILES from the VIP Pad to the ROK CP and Hill 54.

21 Dec 66. Capt. ARICK had a busy day as he flew section leader on a priority resupply and two "Sparrowhawks". In the morning, the transport helicopters took fire on the resupply from AT 980530 and Capt. ARICK controlled "Oxwood" 138 flight on a strike at those coordinates.

In the afternoon, Capt. ARICK's section delivered suppressive fire when the transport helicopters received fire on a "Sparrowhawk" at AT 985512. Approximately one hour later, the transport helicopters took heavy fire from BT 020606 on another "Sparrowhawk". Capt. ARICK then controlled "Condole" 054 and "Swiss" 064 in their expenditure on the enemy positions. The UH-1E section also provided suppressive fire at the same coordinates.

Lt. GARNER flew MGen. NICKERSON from the Hilltop Pad to AT 925528 and return.

Major WALKER flew BGen. KIM (ROKMC) to the RMK Terminal at Chu Lai and return to the ROK CP.

22 Dec 66. Lt. CHIARAMONTE picked up BGen KIM (ROKMC) at Chu Lai Air Freight and carried him to the ROK CP.

24 Dec 66. Extremely bad weather and the beginning of the Christmas Truce held most of the squadron's aircraft on the deck. At Marble Mountain however, Capt. ARICK and Lt. GARNER had an exciting day on "Med-evac". An emergency med-evac at AT 976533 required several trips to complete as the H-34 took several hits on the first trip and was forced

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to return to the MMAF for a new aircraft. On the second attempt, flown beneath 100 to 500 foot ceilings with visibility as low as one half mile, Capt. ARICK was able to suppress the enemy fire with rocket and machine gun runs, and the transport helicopter was able to complete the "med-evac".

25 Dec 66. Lt. RANKIN flew MGen NICKERSON on a Christmas day tour of the Battalion CP's in the Danang area, and Lt. WILSON flew BGen. KIM on a tour of the Korean CP's.

26 Dec 66. Lt. BUERGER carried MGen. NICKERSON from the Hilltop Pad to the III MAF Pad, and Lt. BODEN later returned the General to the Hilltop Pad.

On a troop lift into BS 735535, Capt. WATERS' flight sighted 6-10 VC in the open at BS 695524. The UH-1E's received fire from these VC and, attacking them, claimed 1 KBA.

27 Dec 66. Lt. RANKIN flew BGen. STILES and BGen. OWENS from the MAG 13 VIP Pad to Construe's forward positions.

28 Dec 66. Lts' BALLENTINE and RANKIN had the privilege of flying "Miss World" and singer Vic Damone from "C" Med. to Danang Air Freight. Both pilots reported that "the 'Bob Hope Show' was fine".

Lt. TODT flew BGen. KIM (ROKMC) from the ROK CP to BS 612876 and return.

Major KELLEY flew BGen. STILES to the ROK CP and return.

29 Dec 66. Lt. BUERGER flew BGen. STILES from the VIP Pad to Quang Ngai and return.

Lt. RANKIN flew BGen KIM (ROKMC) from the ROK CP to BT 624884 and return.

Capt. BURKE, while escorting a "med-evac" aircraft into BS 835395, received a round in his aircraft and in returning fire destroyed two huts and damaged three.

Capt. ARICK's section was escorting a troop lift into BS 810385 when Capt. BURKE's aircraft came under fire. Proceeding to the area, Capt. ARICK expended his section and then controlled "Oxwood" 116 on a strike at BS 830295.

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Lt. BODEN and his section, operating out of Marble Mountain Air Facility, were launched to escort a night emergency retraction of "Cornbread", a reconnaissance team under attack at AT 810446. Lt. BODEN controlled a flare ship, but the CH-46's that had been assigned to make the retraction found the zone to be too small and the flight was forced to return to Marble Mountain. Returning to the scene with four H-34's, Lt. BODEN and his section laid down suppressive fire at AT 860494. On this attempt, with Lt. BODEN again controlling the flare ship, the transport helicopters were able to land in the zone and successfully complete the retraction.

Capt. WATERS' section provided armed escort for the insertion of a maintenance crew at BS 817383, the site of a downed CH-46. The section took fire and returned fire from BS 815455. After the aircraft had been repaired and flown out, the UH-1E's were diverted to provide support for an emergency resupply at BS 813422. The helicopters took heavy fire from several areas and Capt. WATERS controlled "Oxwood" 04 on a strike at BS 778424.

30 Dec 66. Lt. SAUNDERS flew BGen. STILES from Chu Lai to Danang and return.

Major KELLEY flew BGen. KIM (ROKMC) from the ROK CP to BS 648730 and return.

Lt. THATCHER flew MGen. NICKERSON from the Hilltop Pad to LZ Rhino and return.

Capt. WATERS flew a UH-1E that had been rigged as a "lightship" to Danang for a demonstration.

31 Dec 66. Capt. KERR flew BGen. KIM (ROKMC) from the ROK CP to BS 635865 and return.

On a troop lift south of Quang Ngai, Capt WATERS' flight received and returned fire on three separate occasions.

C. Squadron statistics for period 1 December through 31 December 1966

(1) Aircraft Assigned	24 (Includes 3 in PAR)
(2) Average Daily Availability	15
(3) Flight Hours	1303
(4) Missions	866
(5) Sorties	3137
(6) Tons Cargo	00
(7) Troops/Passengers	438

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(8) Med-evacs	14
(9) Flights of Fixed Wing Controlled	61
(10) Med-evac Escorts	421
(11) Klondike KBA Confirmed Total from 1Sep65 to 31Dec66	591

d. The following awards were presented during December 1966:

(1) 281 Air Medals

e. The following personnel were promoted to their present ranks during December 1966:

Captain CHIARAMONTE

Master Sergeant LOCHBIHLER, Charles N. Jr.
 Sergeant CAETANO, Patrick T.
 Sergeant CROSBY, Clarence W.
 Sergeant DICKENS, William E.
 Sergeant KRESCY, Bryan S.
 Sergeant PELHAM, William C. Jr.
 Sergeant RODRIGUEZ, Richard A.
 Sergeant RODRIQUEZ, Ernest
 Sergeant WEBB, Clarence G.
 Corporal COLLUM, James I.
 Corporal KRISTICK, David S.
 Lance Corporal MITCHELL, Charles R.

f. VMO-6's accumulated flight hours for the first half of fiscal year 1967 were 8,158. This is a VMO record for total flight hours during a six month period.


 W. R. MALONEY