

MAG-36 S-3 FILES
SR: 246-67
DATE: JUN 5 1967
COPY 7 OF 8

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

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 5750-1
 Ser: 03A-5667
 4 June 1967
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From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 36

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1-31 May 1967; submission of

Ref: (a) 1stMAWC 5750.1C
 (b) GruO 5750.1A

Encls: ✓(1) Part I; Organization Data
 ✓(2) Part II; Narrative Summary of Significant Highlights Occurring
 ✓(3) Part III; Significant Events

1. In accordance with references (a) and (b), enclosures (1) through (3) are submitted.

J. A. Nelson
 J. A. NELSON

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Part I: Organizational Data

1. Commanding Officer and Staff with inclusive dates:

Commanding Officers: Lieutenant Colonel Joseph A. NELSON 1 - 31 May 1967

Executive Officer: Major Edward J. SAMPLE 1 - 31 May 1967

Operations Officer: Major James H. WALKER 1 - 31 May 1967

Logistics Officer: Major Donald F. KELLEY 1 - 31 May 1967

Intelligence Officer: Captain Nicholas E. BURKE 1 - 10 May 1967
 Captain Edward KUFELDT 11 - 31 May 1967

Administration Officer: Captain Keith K. KERR 1 - 31 May 1967

2. Unit location with inclusive dates:

Ky Ha, Republic of Vietnam 1 - 31 May 1967

3. Average monthly squadron strength:

<u>MARINE OFFICERS</u>	<u>MARINE ENLISTED</u>	<u>NAVAL OFFICERS</u>	<u>NAVAL ENLISTED</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
44	174	1	0	219

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Part II: Narrative Summary of Significant Highlights Occurring during the reporting period.

1. During the period 1 - 31 May 1967, VM0-6 had 27 aircraft assigned and with 6 of these in PAR maintained an average daily availability of 17. 1767 hours and 4,065 sorties were flown. 927 passengers were carried and 71 flights of fixed wing aircraft were controlled. During the month of May 1967, 90 confirmed and 8 probable KBA were accounted for bringing the total for the period 1 Sep 1965 - 31 May 1967, to 798.

2. During May the Squadron participated in the following operations with associated statistics:

<u>OPERATION</u>	<u>HOURS</u>	<u>SORTIES</u>	<u>7.62 EXPENDED</u>	<u>2.75 EXPENDED</u>
Hickory	66.7	207	11,000	82
Beaver Cage	101	228	53,800	382
Frantic Fire	76.1	119	42,700	183
→ Union/Union II	146.1	354	48,500	314
Showee	24.2	62		
Happy Dragon	19.5	57	4,300	17

3. Narrative Summary of Ky Ha based activities:

1 May 67 Capt CHAIRAMONTE led a section of armed UH-1Es in support of Operation Beaver Cage, flying a total of 6.1 hours in actions which included two troop lifts, an aerial reconnaissance, and an extraction.

2 May 67 Maj KELLEY flew BGen KIM (ROKMC) throughout the ROK TAOR.

LtCol NELSON acted as TACA and section leader on an emergency mission in connection with Operation Union. LtCol NELSON controlled fixed wing aircraft on designated targets and suppressed fire with the UH-1Es.

1 May 67 Lt ALMIDA flew BGen NICKERSON throughout the Danang TAOR.

Capt RANKIN flew BGen KIM and party to various positions in the ROK TAOR.

Maj HEALD called to assist "Overpay", a recon team under attack, acted as TACA and delivered suppressive fire. No sooner was "Overpay's" situation cleared up when the UH-1Es were called to assist "Antifreeze" another recon team under fire. Maj HEALD expended fixed wing and delivered close air support thus eliminating the threat to "Antifreeze" also.

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4 May 67 Maj HENDRIX flew MGen NICKERSON throughout the Chu Lai TAOR.

Capt ANDREWS flew BGen KIM (ROKMC) throughout the ROK TAOR.

Maj KELLEY led a section of UH-1Es on a recon insert of "Duckbill". The insert continued for 4.3 hours and was somewhat complicated due to one of the transport aircraft having to make a forced landing after receiving a/w fire. Maj KELLEY, later relieved by Maj WALKER, continued to act as "cap" for the downed aircraft as well as coordinating rescue efforts.

5 May 67 Lt BODEN flew BGen LAHUE throughout the Danang TAOR and returned to Ky Ha.

Capt KERR flew LtGen KRULAK, MGen CUSHMAN, MGen NICKERSON, BGen HERBOLD, and BGen KELLER from Chu Lai to Danang and returned to Chu Lai.

Capt PECKHAM flew BGen KIM (ROKMC) throughout the ROK TAOR.

6 May 67 Capt PLESS flew BGen KIM (ROKMC) throughout Danang TAOR and returned to Ky Ha.

Maj HEALD flew BGen LAHUE from Chu Lai to Danang and returned to Ky Ha.

In support of Operation Beaver Cage Capt ARICK's section was credited with two confirmed KBM's spotted in the open while Capt ARICK was controlling fixed wing aircraft on targets assigned by the ground units.

7 May 67 Capt MOTLEY flew BGen KIM (ROKMC) to various points in the ROK TAOR.

Maj KELLEY conducted a landing zone prep to kick-off Operation Happy Dragon; expending 2 flights of fixed wing aircraft, 17 2.75" rockets and 1000 rounds of 7.62mm.

8 May 67 Capt RYAN flew BGen KIM (ROKMC) throughout the "Happy Dragon" operating area.

Lt BOSTON flew BGen LAHUE throughout the Danang TAOR.

9 May 67 Capt SAUNDERS flew BGen KIM (ROKMC) to various points in the Happy Dragon operational area.

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During the period 7 to 9 May the Klondike detachment supporting Operation Beaver Cage flew 70 sorties; expending 120 2.75" rockets and over 17,000 rounds of 7.62mm.

10 May 67 Capt PECKHAM flew BGen KIM (ROKMC) and party to various points in the ROK T.AOR.

11 May 67 Capt BARNARD flew BGen KIM (ROKMC) to Danang and returned to Ky Ha.

12 May 67 On 12 May, the Klondikers flew 126 sorties, accomplishing 49 tasks for a total of 38.2 hours. 87 2.75" rockets were fired and over 12,000 rounds of 7.62mm were expended.

13 May 67 Lt THATCHER flew BGen KIM (ROKMC) and party throughout the ROK T.AOR.

14 May 67 Lt GILBERT flew MGen CUSHMAN and BGen KIM (ROKMC) throughout the Chu Lai/ROK T.AOR.

Capt PECKHAM flew MGen NICKERSON from the Hilltop pad to LZ 465 in the Danang area.

LtCol NELSON used his capacity as T.A.O. during an extraction of "Duckbill"; controlling fixed wing aircraft on sniper activity in the vicinity of the LZ.

15 May 67 Capt BARNARD flew BGen KIM (ROKMC) throughout the ROK T.AOR and returned to Ky Ha.

On 15 May, the Klondikers flew 183 sorties, accomplishing 47 tasks for 72.4 hours, carried 25 med-evacs, 51 passengers, 400 lbs. of cargo, and expended 67 2.75" rockets and 7,000 rounds of 7.62mm.

16 May 67 Capt PLESS flew BGen KIM (ROKMC) to Chu Lai, Ky Ha and returned to the ROK CP.

Capt RYAN flew LtCol ZORACK from Ky Ha to Quang Ngai and returned.

17 May 67 Capt BARNARD flew BGen LAHUE to Quang Ngai, Danang, and returned to Ky Ha.

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Captain PETERSON flew BGen KIM (ROKMC) and party from the ROK CP to Chu Lai and returned.

Maj SMITH christened our new "smoke bird" in operations at Dong Ha providing a smoke screen on helicopter landing zones in the area.

18 May 67 Capt PETERSON flew BGen LAHUE and Col HOUGHTON throughout the Danang TAOR.

Maj HEALD's section, supporting operation Hickory flew 12.5 hours, totaling 80 sorties, and accomplishing 20 tasks. The section expended 48 2.75" rockets, over 6,000 rounds of 7.62mm, and was credited with 4 KB.'s.

19 May 67 Capt PECKHAM flew BGen KIM (ROKMC) to Danang and returned to the ROK CP.

Capt SAUNDERS flew BGen LAHUE and party to Hill 29 and returned to the Chu Lai VIP pad.

20 May 67 Capt BARRETT flew BG KIM (ROKMC) throughout the Chu Lai/ROK TAOR and returned to Ky Ha.

Capt BRICK flew BGen LAHUE and Col HOUGHTON to LZ Marion and returned to Ky Ha.

Lt BODEN flew BGen RYAN and party throughout the Danang TAOR.

Lt BODEN flew to Dong Ha to pick-up MGen HOCHMUTH and flew to the USS Princeton, returning to Dong Ha.

21 May 67 Lt THATCHER flew BGen LAHUE from Danang to Tam Ky and thence to the VIP pad.

Lt BODEN flew BGen METZGER and party throughout the Operation Hickory area.

Lt WARNER flew BGen KIM (ROKMC) to various points in the ROK TAOR.

On May 21, the Klondikers flew 189 sorties, accomplishing 78 tasks for a total of 51.0 hours. Sixty-one passengers were carried, 107 2.75" rockets were fired and over 15,000 rounds of 7.62mm were expended.

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22 May 67 Capt ARICK flew BGen KIM (ROKMC) to various points throughout the ROK T.AOR.

LtCol NELSON led the afternoon quick reaction aircraft on a fire suppression mission in support of the POE's. The forward air Controller on the scene (Togo 88) directed the Klondike flight on the enemy positions. The Klondikers recorded 5 confirmed KBA for their marksmanship.

24 May 67 Maj HENDRIX led a section escorting Buffalo City 2-4 flight on an insert of "April Date". Diverted to recon team "Donahue's" position Maj HENDRIX controlled fixed wing aircraft on suspected VC positions. The Klondikers then escorted Buffalo City 2-4 flight to retract "April Date" who had made heavy contact in the landing zone. Klondike expended 62 2.75" rockets and 8500 rounds of 7.62 in direct air support.

25 May 67 Maj SMITH's section had a busy afternoon escorting the Buffalo City Sparrow Hawk on Emergency MED-EVACS. On the initial mission for "Ham Saled 14C" at BS 732822 in the ROK T.AOR, Maj SMITH acted as T.A.C.(A) for Penguin 137, controlling suppressive fire in the vicinity of the LZ. Later at BS 747811 for the pick-up of 40 WL and 5 KL for "Darby's Killers B" fire was received and suppressed at BS 735795.

26 May 67 Maj HEALD's section proceeded to recon team "Donahue 2's" position to find the team pinned down by a large force of VC with automatic weapons not more than 50 feet away. At the request of "Donahue 2" Maj HEALD led his section in rocket and machine gun attacks within 15 meters of the teams position. After driving the enemy back another 15 meters, fixed wing strikes (December 04) were controlled on targets within 50 meters of the team. After controlling several more flights of fixed wing in close proximity of the zone, Buffalo City 2-9 was able to retract the team without incident.

29 May 67 LtCol NELSON's section, in support of Operation Union II TAG(A) for Miss Muffit 147 and Castor Oil 195 for a LZ prep.

De GEFMAN flew BGen LAHUE from Danang to Chu Lai.

30 May 67 Capt PECKHAM flew BGen KIM (ROKMC) and staff to several CP's in the ROK T.AOR.

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While escorting Buffalo City 2-1 and Mohair 5-1 flights for a 1,000 man troop insert for "Union II" at BT 113217 and BT 100210 Maj GALLAGHER's section and the transports received fire from vicinity of LZ's. Klondike fired suppressive rocket and machine gun fire and controlled Low Gap 31 and Miss Muffit.

Lt THATCHER flew BGen LAHUE from VIP pad to Hill 29, III MAF, and returned him to the VIP pad.

31 May 67 Capt PEORHAM flew BGen LAHUE to Hilltop pad.

Maj HELLD's section acted as TAC(A) in support of Union II forces. Controlled Miss Muffit 112, 118, 107, Jersey Day 060, December 117 and Penguin 03.

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Part III: Significant Events

1. The following awards were presented during May 1967:

340 - Air Medals

Secretary of the Navy Certificate of Achievement

Staff Sergeant Albert H. THAMES Jr. 13558141

Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry

Corporal David L. HAMILTON 2121534

Captain William RANKIN 089831

Captain Robert S. SAUNDERS 089552

Purple Hearts

First Lieutenant Joseph I. MURPHY 091845

Captain Nicholas L. BURKE 074930

First Lieutenant William H. MILES 094141

Sergeant Danny L. MCBRIDE 1460114

Private First Class Manning J. FERREIRA 2277070

Corporal Michael W. LEFTRIDGE 2090546

Promotions

BARNARD, John W.	091100	to Captain
PECKHAM, Thomas J.	090993	to Captain
PETERSON, John R.	080994	to Captain
JIMENEZ, Pedro	2243538	to Lance Corporal
VEACH, Larry J.	2196749	to Private First Class
COLLUM, James I	2108821	to Sergeant (Meritorious)