

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

30:ACC:tvg
5750-1
Ser:03A00568
5 January 1968
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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 36
Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1-31 December 1967;
submission of

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

Encl: ✓(1) Part I; Organizational Data
✓(2) Part II; Narrative Summary of Significant Highlights
✓(3) Part III; Significant Events

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

W. J. White
W. J. WHITE

VMO-6
CMD CHRON

MAO-36 S&C Files

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Enclosure (5)

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Part I: Organizational Data

1. Commanding Officer and Staff with inclusive dates:

Commanding Officer: Lieutenant Colonel William J. WHITE 1-31Dec67

Executive Officer: Major Bertram A. MAAS 1-31Dec67

Operations Officer: Major Arthur C. CRANE 1-31Dec67

Logistics Officer: Major Robert L. HELF 1-31Dec67

Intelligence Officer: Captain Gregory A. MCADAMS 1-31Dec67

Administrative Officer: Chief Warrant Officer Edwin R. VAUGHN
 1-31Dec67

2. Unit location with inclusive dates:

Quang Tri, Republic of Vietnam 1-31Dec67

3. Average monthly squadron strength:

<u>MARINE OFFICERS</u>	<u>MARINE ENLISTED</u>	<u>NAVAL OFFICERS</u>	<u>NAVAL ENLISTED</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
37	183	1	0	221

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

1 December 1967. Majority of aircraft still down pending x-ray of tail rotor hubs and maintenance. The one aircraft in an up status was flown by Captain KUFELDT on med-evac chase for a total of 7.9 hours.

3 December 1967. Poor weather limited maneuverability during emergency resupplies and med-evacs. Captain DUPONT, however, took fire from YD 265535 while leading a section of gunships in support of Dixie Diner 14E. He returned the fire which resulted in a secondary explosion on the target.

4 December 1967. Major WORKMON'S section of gunships was diverted from a resupply escort mission to deliver fire on 10 VC in the open for Polish 3B resulting in 2 probable KBA's. One VC surrendered to ground units after Major WORKMON made several low passes over him even though he had expended all rockets and his M-60's were jammed.

6 December 1967. While flying Med-Evac escort in support of Southern 14D, Major MCRANEY's aircraft came under fire. While in a gun run on the enemy position three rounds from an automatic weapon entered the cockpit, one of which hit Major MCRANEY in the arm. His co-pilot, Captain CAPEHART, gained control of the aircraft and returned to Dong Ha. Diverted to support this same action, Captain FAIRFIELD's aircraft quickly became engaged in the fight and after expending all his ammunition, took a hit in the fuel tank. No fire or serious damage resulted and the original med-evac was successfully completed.

7 December 1967. LtCol WHITE, flying a slick, did double duty today. First, he acted as a resupply bird to bring emergency supplies of blood plasma and ammunition to Southern 14 and then switched to a Med-Evac aircraft by taking two emergency cases from Southern 14 to "D" Med.

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9 December 1967. Major CRANE, leading a section of gunships on a resupply mission was diverted to YD 175752 on Mission 74 for Grey Reader K who had spotted a large enemy unit. Controlled by Smitty Hotel, Major CRANE engaged the enemy and the next day Grey Reader K confirmed 11 KBA.

10 December 1967. Major MCGAW, while flying as med-evac escort, spotted approximately twelve NVA running into a tree line. Expending his ordnance into this target accounted for a probable KBA of 50% (6). In both this action and yesterday's engagement with the NVA, the original sighting of the enemy was made by Corporal P. N. GREENE who was flying as crew chief of the lead aircraft on both occasions.

11 December 1967. Space 2-1 flight, escorted by a section of gunships led by Major CRANE, received incoming mortar fire while working on an emergency resupply to Southern 14 and was forced to abort the mission. The Hueys searched for the mortar position and while no positive sightings could be made, all ordnance was expended on the suspected position.

12 December 1967. Major NEFF's section of gunships assisted in the extraction of reconnaissance teams Coffee Cup and Penguin. Everything went as advertised and the teams were picked up without a shot being fired.

13 December 1967. While on a VR of the local TAOR, Major NEFF spotted about 4 or 5 uniformed NVA carrying large back packs. Before he could obtain fire clearance, the enemy reached concealment in a tree line. After expending his rockets on the target, Major NEFF made a low pass to investigate the packs which had been dropped. As he approached the packs, an enemy soldier jumped up and was about to fire at the aircraft when he was cut down by Major NEFF's crew chief, Corporal SUTTON, utilizing his M-60. The section denied permission by Cadaver base to attempt to pick up the enemy gear and returned to home base.

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14 December 1967. Although not confirmed KBA, it is fairly certain that there are a few less enemy soldiers in the area since Major CRANE called in a napalm strike (very accurate) on five NVA he spotted while attempting to insert recon team Corporal Pete. LtCol WHITE also put a dent in the enemy's transportation equipment by killing two large elephants southwest of Quang Tri. Major NEFF made a friend today when he went down and picked up the pilot and AO from an O-1 which had been forced down by enemy fire.

15 December 1967. Captain JAMES may have regretted coming up from Danang to get some flight time with his old squadron. While flying co-pilot in the lead aircraft of a section of gunships assisting on a resupply mission, Captain JAMES took a hit directly in the center of his bullet bouncer, the shrapnel from which inflicted minor wounds on his neck. The aircraft was forced to make an emergency landing at Candy Tuft due to battle damage at which time it was discovered that Captain JAMES received a permanent impression of the zipper from his flight suit on his chest. Quang Tri airfield was subjected to a mortar attack commencing at 2020. A section of gunships became airborne and remained on station all night in an attempt to locate the mortar positions and to prevent a follow-up attack. The mortars were not located and no significant sightings made.

17 December 1967. Major WORKMON was diverted from his Med-Evac escort mission by Smitty Hotel who found several VC hiding in a trench line. After expending his rockets, Major WORKMON was credited with two confirmed KBA by Smitty Hotel.

18 December 1967. All the action today was of a classified nature done by the Special Forces detachment working out of Khe Sanh.

20 December 1967. Captain KUFELDT led a section of gunships to accompany the med-evac birds to Dixie Diner "E" who was under fire at the time. The gunships found the enemy and delivered suppressive fire while the med-evac was successfully lifted from the zone.

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Enclosure (2)

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21 December 1967. Captain MCADAMS had a productive day, today. Called in to assist Hayride who was in contact with the enemy, Captain MCADAMS led his section at the enemy positions and subsequently received confirmation of 3 KBA. Later, during the TAOR sweep, he spotted a boat with two passengers where it should not have been and received clearance from Big Flower to open fire. The boat is still there but under a few feet of water. LtCol WHITE, working under the direction of Smitty Hotel for Southern, received a confirmation of one mortar position destroyed, one bunker destroyed and one KBA. Good day.

22 December 1967. Captain COBB picked up a downed F-4 RIO while working with the Special Forces out of Khe Sanh even though the air was heavy with .50 caliber and 37mm fire.

23 December 1967. Routine med-evacs, C&C hops and VIP runs occupied the day.

24 December 1967. Sent aircraft to support VMO-3.

25 December 1967. Peace on earth to men of good will except that Captain KUFELDT took fire while on TAOR sweep.

26 December 1967. Sent aircraft to support VMO-2.

28 December 1967. Reconnaissance team Selby found themselves in trouble today and called on Cadaver to help them out. Always willing to assist, Major MCGAW led a section of gunships on the enemy position after which Selby went about its business.

29 December 1967. Major MCGAV had another shoot-em-up today when he covered the successful emergency retraction of recon team Big Shot.

31 December 1967. Major MCRANEY finished up the year in style by working for Darting Star under Smitty Tango's control who confirmed 8 KBA and a tunnel exposed with 1 probable KBA. Captain MCADAMS flew the last hop of the year as a med-evac chase to Carousel.

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Part III: Significant Events

1. The following personnel were promoted to their present rank during the month of December 1967.

TO FIRST LIEUTENANT

G. E. ROSENAL
A. M. ROTHSCHILD

TO SERGEANT

D. L. HARP
R. E. HILL
W. J. PETRIG
R. J. POPP
R. THIEMAN

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