

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

3:ACC:jet
5750-1
Ser: 03A03568
4 February 1968
Copy 1 of 6

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 36
Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1-31 January 1968; 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. G. White
W. G. WHITE

VMO-6 S&C FILES
SER: 036-68
DATE: 5 FEB 68
COPY 1 OF 6

880163
S-368-575A
COPY 1 of 5

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CONFIDENTIAL

UNCLASSIFIED

Vertical text on the right margin, possibly a file number or date stamp, including "1968".

3:ACC:jet
 5750-1
 Ser: 03A03568
 4 February 1968
 Copy 1 of 6

CONFIDENTIAL
 Part I: Organizational Data

1. Commanding Officer and Staff with inclusive dates:

Commanding Officer: Lieutenant Colonel William J. WHITE 1-31Jan68

Executive Officer: Major Bertram A. MAAS 1-31Jan68

Operations Officer: Major Arthur C. CRANE 1-31Jan68

Logistics Officer: Major Robert L. NEFF 1-31Jan68

Intelligence Officer: Captain Gregory A. MCADAMS 1-31Jan68

Administrative Officer: Chief Warrant Officer Edwin R. VAUGHN
 1-31Jan68

2. Unit location with inclusive dates:

Quang Tri, Republic of Vietnam 1-31Jan68

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	165	1	0	203

DECLASSIFIED

3:ACC:jet
 5750-1
 Ser: 03A03568
 4 February 1968
 Copy 1 of 6

VMO-6

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
 PART II: Narrative Summary of Significant Highlights occurring during the reporting period.

- 1 January 1968. The new year started off comparatively quiet with no significant action taking place.
- 2 January 1968. Routine Med Evacs and reconnaissance team inserts occupied the day. No significant action.
- 4 January 1968. LtCol. WHITE led a section of gunships in escorting Space and High Boy aircraft on two emergency extractions of reconnaissance teams today. Enemy fire was suppressed sufficiently enough to enable the pickups to be made without any injury or damage to personnel or aircraft.
- 5 January 1968. Capt. DUPONT's section of Hueys, detached to Special Forces and operating out of Khe Sanh, escorted a flight of three Army slicks and two Marine H-34's in an attempt to recover the bodies of ten persons killed when their Army slick was shot down. The mission had to be aborted due to intense 50 Cal. and 37mm fire in the area.
- 6 January 1968. LtCol. WHITE, flying an aircraft equipped with APD gear, received a high reading in a free-fire zone. Capt. KUPFELDT's section of gunships immediately expended ordnance on the position and while the probability of kills is high, there was, unfortunately, no way to get an accurate BDA.
- 8 January 1968. Maj. GERARD's section was called out today to help out one of Fire Raider's reconnaissance teams in heavy contact. Suppressive fire from the gunships enabled the friendly forces to break contact and resulted in one confirmed KBA.
- 10 January 1968. Maj. CRANE's section of gunships worked for Southern Charlie who had some enemy troops in the open. Although Maj. CRANE's aircraft took one hit from small arms fire, he more than made up for it by getting seven confirmed KBAs.
- 12 January 1968. Maj. WORKMON spotted two separate groups of boats on the river after curfew during the night TAOR sweep. Although he expended his ordnance on these targets no accurate BDA was possible due to darkness.
- 14 January 1968. Maj. WORKMON was busy again today as his section was called upon to assist recon team Hayride who was in heavy contact with the enemy. After expending most of his ordnance on the enemy position, which was within fifteen meters of the friendly, Maj. WORKMON was joined by another section of guns led by Maj. GERARD. Under this cover the CH-46 was

3. ACC: jet
 5750-1
 Ser: 03A03568
 4 February 1968
 Copy 1 of 6

~~DECLASSIFIED~~
 CONFIDENTIAL

able to make an extraction of the team. Haystack gave the Cadaver flight a BDA of ten confirmed KBA's, one machine gun position destroyed and one secondary explosion of unknown size and color.

16 January 1968. LtCol. WHITE's section came under heavy fire while assisting in the emergency extraction of reconnaissance team Bus Stop. The team was successfully pulled out and gave a BDA of one confirmed KBA.

18 January 1968. Capt. DUPONT received two hits on his aircraft today while flying wing on LtCol. WHITE during a med evac escort mission for "Darting Star". In retaliation the section poured suppressive fire on the area and were later given five confirmed KBA by the ground troops. Later in the day "Darting Star" again came into heavy contact and this time a section of gunships led by Capt. MCADAMS went to their support and accounted for nine more KBA confirmed. Capt. MCMILLAN, flying med evac chase, received two hits in his aircraft while adding three more confirmed KBA's to today's total. The next day Darting Star 6 confirmed 54 KBA for this sqdn.

19 January 1968. Capt. KUFELDER, while flying a "sniffer" mission west of Khe Sanh received heavy automatic weapons fire from a ridge line he was checking out. His chase birds, Cadaver 4-20 and 4-21 delivered suppressive fire on target and then Smitty Hotel, aboard Cadaver 4-20, called in fixed wing and artillery fire on the zone.

20 January 1968. Maj. WORKMAN's section of guns, working out of Khe Sanh, were called in to suppress fire for "India-14" while Frosty Gold went in for med evacs. Frosty Gold received heavy fire from an enemy occupied tree line and was shot down but all the crew was recovered. The Cadaver flight twice expended all ordnance on the tree line and ran four sets of fixed wing on target. Ground troops later reported sixty confirmed KBA with 100 more probable. Capt. COBB gets credit today for picking up an A-4 pilot whose aircraft was shot down operating in the Khe Sanh area.

21 January 1968. Capt. FAIRFIELD had some rather lucky shooting today. Launched on a post maintenance hop to test fire guns and rockets, he received free-fire coordinates from Fire Raider. After firing his guns, Capt. FAIRFIELD expended his rockets and produced a secondary explosion. Reported same to Fire Raider. Attack on Khe Sanh started this morning. Cadaver 4-21 piloted by Capt. HANLEY, received minimal damage and was able to return to Quang Tri.

~~DECLASSIFIED~~
 DISCLOSURE (2)
 CONFIDENTIAL

3:ACC:tvq
5750-1
Ser: 03A03568
4 February 1968
Copy 1 of 6

CONFIDENTIAL

22 January 1968. Working out of Khe Sanh, Capt. KUFELDT's section assisted in several emergency reconnaissance team extractions and in searching area for enemy gun positions. Late in the day, an F-4 pilot was shot down while on a bombing run but Capt. KUFELDT was able to pick the pilot up immediately. Quang Tri airfield took incoming mortars.

23 January 1968. Maj. STEELE's aircraft received limited structural damage from an incoming 82mm mortar while re-arming at Khe Sanh. More incoming at Marine Quang Tri.

24 January 1968. Constant TAOR sweep during hours of darkness, assisted by Basketball flare ship. Operations at Khe Sanh continued to be seriously hampered by incoming mortars and rockets.

25 January 1968. Several flights spotted small groups of enemy soldiers (two to five persons per group) and although fire was received and returned, no BDA could be acquired.

26 January 1968. Most of the air action today took place in the Khe Sanh TAOR with Cadaver aircraft taking fire from many different positions. Several flights of fixed wing were under control but accurate assessment of damage was impossible to obtain due to heavy enemy activity. Marine Quang Tri subjected to approximately seventy-five 122mm rockets early this morning. A section of gunships silenced one enemy firing position.

27 January 1968. More incoming mortars at Quang Tri.

28 January 1968. Same as yesterday.

29 January 1968. Capt. COBE was flying the "sniffer" aircraft today and had several readings west of Quang Tri. He expended his chase gunships in one area and fixed wing on another.

30 January 1968. Incoming mortars at Quang Tri. Low ceilings limit effectiveness of night TAOR sweeps.

31 January 1968. The month ends much as it began, with a relatively quiet day--but a lot has happened in between.

3:ACC:tvq
5750-1
Ser: 03A03568
4 February 1968
Copy 1 of 6

CONFIDENTIAL

Part III: Significant Events

1. The following personnel were promoted to their present rank during the month of January 1968.

TO CAPTAIN

D. W. PRICE

TO LANCE CORPORAL

J. E. PIERCE
C. M. THORNTON
J. L. UNTHANK