

VMO-6  
SFC #179-69

MARINE OBSERVATION SQUADRON 6  
Provisional Marine Aircraft Group 39  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing  
Fleet Marine Force Pacific  
FPO San Francisco, 96602

03:JLS:msb  
5750  
Ser #03A12569  
5 May 1969  
Copy 4 of 8

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, Provisional Marine Aircraft Group 39  
(Attn: S-3)

Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1-30 April 1969

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.14  
(b) GruO 5750.1B

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

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

*B. D. Bouldin*  
B. D. BOULDIN

VMO-6  
CMD CHRON

ENCLOSURE (5)

CONFIDENTIAL

APR 1969

5750  
 Ser # 03A12569  
 5 May 1969  
 Copy of

CONFIDENTIAL

Part I: Organizational Data

1. Commanding Officer and Staff with inclusive dates:

Commanding Officer: LtCol H. A. ZANDER 1 April 1969  
 LtCol B. D. BOULDIN 2-30 April 1969

Executive Officer: LtCol W. G. GREENEY 1 April 1969  
 Major A. K. CHARLTON 2-30 April 1969

Operations Officer: Major A. K. CHARLTON 1 April 1969  
 Major A. S. PIPER 2-30 April 1969

Intelligence Officer: Major T. J. RAUSCHER 1 April 1969  
 Major C. R. BLEDSOE 2-30 April 1969

Administrative Officer: Major T. A. EIKENDERY 1-30 April 1969

Logistics Officer: Major C. R. BLEDSOE 1 April 1969  
 Major J. F. GOLDEN 2-30 April 1969

2. Unit Location with inclusive dates:

Quang Tri, Republic of Vietnam 1-30 April 1969

3. Average monthly squadron strength:

<u>MARINE OFFICERS</u>	<u>MARINE ENLISTED</u>	<u>NAVAL OFFICERS</u>	<u>NAVAL ENLISTED</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
55	262	1	0	318

Enclosure (1)

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS  
Provisional Marine Aircraft Group 39  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing  
Fleet Marine Force Pacific  
APO San Francisco, 96602

3:LFH:jlj  
5750  
03:13:69  
14 May 1969

**UNCLASSIFIED**

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, First Marine Aircraft Wing (G-3)

Subj: Command Chronology for the Period of 1-30 April 1969; submission of

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.1C

- Encl: (1) Command Chronology for Provisional Marine Aircraft Group 39  
 (2) Command Chronology for Headquarters and Maintenance Squadron 39  
 (3) Command Chronology for Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 161  
 (4) Command Chronology for Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 262  
 (5) Command Chronology for Marine Observation Squadron 6  
 (6) Command Chronology for Marine Air Traffic Control Unit 62

*Prov MAG-39  
Filed  
Sep*

1. In accordance with instructions contained in reference (a), enclosures (1) through (6) are submitted herewith.

*E. A. Parnell*  
E. A. PARNELL

*CMD CHRON*

*Prov MAG-39  
S+C # 408-69  
Copy # 1*

1st MAW S+C No.	Copy No.
1816-69	1

**UNCLASSIFIED**

*Apr 1969*

30  
Ser # O3A12569  
5 May 1969  
Copy of

CONFIDENTIAL

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

1 April 1969. Supporting Operation MONTANA MAULER, Seaworthy 98-6 was called by Cat Killer 14, who had sighted numerous NVA, and expended all of his ordnance accounting for 8 confirmed and numerous probable KBA's. Seaworthy 99-3 & 4 covered 4 medevac missions in the MONTANA MAULER and 9th Marine areas, receiving and suppressing fire on one occasion. Seaworthy 97-9 and 98-18, on separate missions, were diverted to LZ Argonne, in the PURPLE MARTIN area. LZ Argonne was taking incoming and the crew of 98-18 spotted the mortar tube's flash and delivered their ordnance with good coverage. The crew of 97-9 spotted NVA in bunkers and controlled 2 flights of fixed wing airstrikes on the enemy, destroying 3 bunkers.

2 April 1969. Seaworthy 99-5 and 98-7 covered the insert of a quick reaction package of 75 ARVN troops to support a downed CH-47. Seaworthy 99-9, working with Seaworthy 98-11 and 98-16, introduced a new escort package for resupply. The support of one UH-1E and one OV-10A for escort of the resupply CH-46's proved to be a well coordinated package. Seaworthy 99-3 & 4 covered the attempted evacuation of LZ Argonne. While nine lifts were completed, 28 mortar rounds were taken in the LZ, and the evacuation had to be postponed. Seaworthy 97-7 and 98-12 controlled fixed wing airstrikes and Marine artillery while Seaworthy 99-3 & 4 expended their ordnance on suspected enemy mortar positions near LZ Argonne. LtCol B. D. BOULDIN relieved LtCol H. A. ZANDER as Commanding Officer of Marine Observation Squadron 6.

3 April 1969. Seaworthy 99-3 & 4 and 99-7 & 8 covered the lift of troops from LZ Argonne by Cattlecall, Dimmer, and Varsity aircraft. The lift was completed in spite of heavy enemy mortar fire which was suppressed by fixed wing airstrikes and Marine artillery controlled by Seaworthy 97-2, 6, 11 and 98-9 & 14 and their AOs.

Seaworthy 99-1 & 2, working on Mission 203 with Black Widow 1-8 and 2-2 and Seaworthy 98-2 & 3, were attempting to insert recon team Hasty Foot when enemy fire was received by 99-1 which wounded the pilot and crew chief slightly. The gunships delivered heavy suppressive fire, then proceeded to Charlie MED.

Seaworthy 98-8 and his AO, controlling artillery and fixed wing airstrikes on troops, bunkers, and a storage area at XD897205, took small arms fire in the aircraft's wind screen but the crew was able to complete the mission and return to base safely.

4 April 1969. With poor weather limiting the extent of VMO-6 operations, emphasis was placed on visual reconnaissance in support of the 3rd MAR DIV. Seaworthy 98-0, launching early in the morning to cover the emergency resupply of Seven-Up Echo, discovered an extensive bunker complex at XD896232. Bomb damage assessment after controlling 3 flights of fixed wing and 4 artillery missions was 13 bunkers destroyed and one secondary explosion. Seaworthy 98-6 controlled 4 flights of fixed wing on NVA in a staging area at XD853151, destroying 5 hootches, killing 5 NVA, and setting off 3 secondary explosions.

Enclosure (2)

CONFIDENTIAL

150  
 Ser # 03A12569  
 5 May 1969  
 Copy of

CONFIDENTIAL

5 April 1969. Extremely poor weather again hampered VMO-6 flight operations, but Seaworthy 99-1 & 2 were able to launch to cover 2 medevacs for Seven-Up. The 2 UH-1E's then covered the recon package which made 3 extracts and 2 inserts. 99-1 & 2 rounded out the day by escorting resupply transports to **Marshall Hall** and Temple Lake units.

Seaworthy 98-8 controlled artillery, observed TPO's, and conducted visual reconnaissance for August Night in the **MAINE CRAG** area. No O-1's were launched.

6 April 1969. In spite of extremely poor weather, Seaworthy 98-15 launched at 2220 last night to attempt to establish communications with Bigshot Delta near the LZ Argonne area. The unit was located, and Seaworthy 98-1, 6 and 9 acted as radio relay for them throughout the day. Seaworthy 99-7 & 8 escorted the attempted resupply of Bigshot Delta but the task was aborted due to terrain. Continuing their mission, the two gunships covered 4 medevac missions in the 4th Marines A/O.

Seaworthy O-1's conducted photo and visual reconnaissance missions in support of all Marine regiments in Northern I Corps and the 3rd Recon Battalion.

7 April 1969. Seaworthy 98-12 and his AO, while searching for an enemy rocket position, discovered an NVA company on a trail in the **MAINE CRAG** area. Controlling artillery and Lovebug and Hellborne fixed wing airstrikes, the Seaworthy crew accounted for 12 KBA's and 4 secondary explosions. Seaworthy 98-10 aided 98-12 in suppressing enemy fire during the airstrikes. 98-14 relieved 98-12 and controlled artillery and Hellborne's "Strikeback" on the NVA troops.

8 April 1969. Seaworthy 99-5 & 6, conducting a weather reconnaissance in the Ba Long valley, answered a priority call from Labor Alpha Yankee (ARVN) who was pinned down by an enemy machine gun. Receiving intense automatic weapons fire, the 2 UH-1E's suppressed it and the enemy fire ceased. 99-5 received a hit in the No. 1 hydraulics system but the crew was able to reach Vandergrift Combat Base safely.

9 April 1969. Seaworthy 99-1 & 2, covering the recon package in an attempted insert at XD751396, observed NVA troops in the zone. 99-1 & 2 delivered their ordnance on the NVA and 98-3 controlled fixed wing on the zone.

After coordinating the emergency extract of a recon team, Seaworthy 97-11 was returning to Quang Tri when the crew was diverted to another recon team (Alexander) at YD050620. The team had movement around them and had received small arms fire. 97-11 controlled 98-12's suppressive fire on the suspected enemy positions. VMO-6's night standby package was launched shortly after dark with 98-14 arriving with flares to relieve 97-11 and coordinate the extract. 99-13 & 14 escorted Chatter Box medevac to the pick up zone while 98-14 controlled the Basketball flare ship. All aircraft were subjected to enemy fire, but with Seaworthy 99-13 & 14 delivering suppressive fire, the extract was successfully completed.

Enclosure (2)

CONFIDENTIAL

Ser # 03A12569  
5 May 1969  
Copy of

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
UNCLASSIFIED

10 April 1969. Early in the morning Seaworthy 98-0 & 1 assisted recon team Black Bud by delivering fire where the team had heard movement. 99-1 & 2 and 98-2 then covered Phoenix 22 & 47 (Army UH-1H's) during the extract of Black Bud. While Seaworthy 99-5 & 6 were covering an ARVN lift in the XD9524 area they killed 3 enemy observed in the open.

Seaworthy 98-11 controlled 3 flights of fixed wing aircraft, one OV-10A, and suppressed fire with his own ordnance for Temple Lake "F" who was in contact.

Seaworthy 99-13 & 14 launched at 2100 to work with Spooky in support of Borax Labor Alpha "Y" (ARVN) who was under attack. The flareship, Finger-print 833, was utilized and Cattle Call medevac was lead through an overcast into the zone by 99-13.

11 April 1969. Seaworthy 99-1 & 2, supported by 98-2, discovered several NVA on a trail in the MAINE CRAG area. The unknown size enemy force was attacked by the UH-1E's with 98-2 providing suppressive fire, resulting in 2 KBA's and 5 probable WIA's. Later, Seaworthy OV-10's controlled fixed wing airstrikes on the same area with excellent coverage.

WMO-6 received 4 additional OV-10A's today raising our assets to 18 on hand.

12 April 1969. Marine units in the PURPLE MARTIN area received most of WMO-6's support today, with reported contacts lasting throughout the daylight hours. During the morning, Seaworthy OV-10's controlled six flights of fixed wing and artillery missions near Temple Lake's units. Suppressing enemy fire, the OV-10 crews observed 14 destroyed bunkers, 1 KBA, 1 mortar pit destroyed, and 1 secondary explosion after controlling the aircraft and artillery.

Seaworthy UH-1E's escorted resupply and medevac missions in support of Temple Lake throughout the day, suppressing enemy fire and attacking suspected enemy positions. The recon package completed 3 inserts and 5 extracts in 5.0 hours of productive flight time per UH-1E aircraft. Army UH-1H's were used to transport the recon Marines.

13 April 1969. Seaworthy 99-3 & 4 escorted a total of 10 medevac missions in support of Marine operations and ARVN units in Northern I Corps.

In the early morning 97-0 was diverted to support recon team Football Star located between Dong Ha Mountain and the Cam Lo river. The team had taken small arms fire. 97-0 controlled 1 flight of fixed wing on the suspected location of the enemy and was hit in the wing but was able to remain on station until relieved by Seaworthy 98-5. 98-5 and his AO continued to control airstrikes and Marine artillery on the suspected enemy position receiving small arms fire. Later, 99-1 & 2 and 98-8 covered Lancer 55 in the successful emergency extraction of recon team Football Star, with the 2 UH-1E's receiving fire. A secondary explosion and fire resulted from the airstrikes and artillery controlled by 98-8 and his AO.

UNCLASSIFIED

Enclosure (2)

5750

er # O3A12569

5 May 1969

Copy of

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

14 April 1969. While conducting a visual reconnaissance for Grasshopper 14, Seaworthy 97-7 observed 5 NVA and controlled Lovebug 586 to obtain 5 KBA's. During the afternoon Seaworthy 98-17 was diverted to recon team Box Score which was surrounded by NVA in the MAINE CRAG area. Displaying their usual professional handling of a bad situation, 98-17 and 99-1 & 2 escorted U.S. Army M1-1H's (Lancer) who made a successful emergency extract of the team. All aircraft involved received fire during the extract and 98-17 controlled Lovebug 258 extremely close to the team during the extract that controlled Hellborne 592 on the area from which fire had been received. 99-1 & 2 covered a total of 8 inserts and 3 extracts during the day.

Seaworthy crews controlled 36 flights of fixed wing in support of the 3rd Marine Division today.

15 April 1969. Seaworthy 97-0, while conducting routine visual reconnaissance for Crystal Star, received heavy caliber fire near Dong Ha Mountain. 97-0 and his AO controlled airstrikes and artillery on the suspected positions with unknown results. 98-3 and 99-1 & 2 were called upon to cover the emergency extraction of recon team Air Police. The extract was successfully completed with 98-3 controlling Lovebug 029 and his own ordnance on the NVA around the zone.

16 April 1969. Seaworthy 98-0 on a routine reconnaissance for Seven-Up observed a manned .50CAL position. 98-0 and his AO controlled airstrikes and artillery which destroyed the weapon and killed 1 NVA. Further surveillance of the area revealed 2 more active .50CAL positions. Again, airstrikes controlled by 98-0 and 98-8 silenced the guns. Seaworthy 97-3 spotted a small base camp and controlled Lovebug 226 destroying the camp and killing 5 enemy. The area around Temple Lake was generally quiet, but 98-12 controlled Hellborne 368 on a storage area resulting in a very large secondary explosion.

Seaworthy 99-1 & 2 covered 4 recon inserts and 3 extracts.

17 April 1969. While on a routine resupply escort, Seaworthy 99-9 and 98-12 observed NVA in the open. After obtaining clearance they attacked the NVA and obtained 1 confirmed KBA.

Seaworthy 99-1 & 2 received intense small arms fire while attempting to insert recon team Hungarian. The insert was delayed while fixed wing airstrikes were controlled on the enemy positions.

Visual reconnaissance flights conducted throughout the day by the O-1's and OV-10's yielded few sightings.

18 April 1969. Seaworthy 98-0 discovered NVA in the old DEERY CANYON area. 98-7 joined 98-0 but was forced to return to Quang Tri after ground fire damaged an engine. No airstrikes were controlled on the NVA due to marginal weather. While covering the insert of recon team Constitution and Basel, Seaworthy 99-1 & 2 received heavy small arms fire. After 98-4 suppressed the enemy fire he was relieved by 98-11 who controlled airstrikes on the enemy positions.

Poor weather limited operations in much of the 3rd Division A/O.

Enclosure (2)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ UNCLASSIFIED

5720  
 Ser # 03A12569  
 5 May 1969  
 Copy of

CONFIDENTIAL

19 April 1969. Seaworthy 97-11, 98-13, and 98-19 teamed up to control airstrikes in support of Temple Lake. The strikes resulted in 6 secondary explosions when a concealed supply cache was destroyed.

The recon package successfully inserted 7 recon teams and extracted 4 teams. Routine visual reconnaissance and escort missions were performed during the remaining daylight hours.

The night standby package was launched to escort Cattle Call medevac to C-4. Cattle Call picked up 23 medevacs under the flares of Seaworthy 98-18 and was supported by 99-13 & 14's suppressive fire.

20 April 1969. In the early morning, Seaworthy 99-1 & 2 conducted Sniffer operations and then teamed up with 98-2 & 3 to cover 5 recon team extracts and 3 inserts.

Most of the other Seaworthy missions were focused along Route 9 and the hills east of Dong Ha Mountain. Seaworthy's OV-10's and O-1's worked together in neutralizing the mortar and automatic weapons positions threatening Route 9. 98-7 suppressed enemy fire while airstrikes were being controlled on the positions by 97-7.

21 April 1969. The recon package completed 3 inserts, 1 extract, and 1 emergency extract which developed after recon team Constitution had been inserted. The transports began taking fire but Seaworthy 98-5 suppressed the fire and the extract was completed.

Route 9 and the hills east of Dong Ha Mountain received Seaworthy attention again. Seaworthy OV-10's and Seaworthy 97-9 controlled airstrikes on 2 active mortar positions destroying both and killing 2 enemy.

A prebriefed trooplift was coordinated by 99-3 & 4 after 98-2 prepped the LZ.

22 April 1969. The recon package was extremely productive today with 8 inserts and 4 extracts completed. Team Saloon Keeper required emergency extraction by Cattle Call who was covered by Seaworthy 99-7 & 8 and CAP aircraft controlled by 98-17.

Other activity was centered around the troop lift to landing zones Junior and Squirrel. Both zones were hot and several transports had been hit. Seaworthy aircraft suppressed enemy fire and controlled airstrikes in support of transports which had been shot down near the zones.

Seaworthy O-1's conducted visual reconnaissance flights in the 3rd Division A/O and the DMZ.

23 April 1969. Seaworthy 99-3 & 4 escorted a trooplift and assisted crewmembers of a downed CH-46. The zone had been prepped by airstrikes controlled by 98-2 and 98-6. Seaworthy UH-1E's and OV-10's covered the trooplift during most of the day.

Extensive visual reconnaissance was conducted by Seaworthy O-1's and the recon package completed 6 inserts, 3 extracts, and 2 emergency extracts.

750  
 Ser # 03A12569  
 5 May 1969  
 Copy of

CONFIDENTIAL

24 April 1969. Seaworthy OV-10's and O-1's controlled 16 flights of fixed wing aircraft in support of the 3rd Marine Division today. In the late afternoon recon team Carpet came under attack and Seaworthy UH-1E's and OV-10's teamed up to escort Chatter Box transports for the emergency extract of Carpet. When a Chatter Box transport was shot down in the zone, the Seaworthy aircraft coordinated and supported the extraction of the recon team and the Chatter Box crew. Assistance was given by the Seaworthy OV-10 flare bird as the extract operation continued into the night.

25 April 1969. While escorting a convoy on Route 9, Seaworthy 98-9 controlled 3 flights of fixed wing in support of the convoy. Routine reconnaissance and escort missions were launched throughout the day. Seaworthy 99-13 & 14 and 98-22, the flare bird, were launched after dark to escort Cattle Call medevac. Ten emergency medevacs were picked up from Sword 63's zone under flare illumination.

26 April 1969. The recon package completed 4 inserts, 2 extracts, and one emergency extract. During the emergency extract of recon team Fairlane, Seaworthy 99-1 & 2 and 98-5 controlled airstrikes in support of the transports, Phoenix 1 & 2.

Seaworthy 99-7 & 8 observed 3 to 5 NVA while escorting resupply transports. As 99-7 delivered suppressive fire on the enemy, the aircraft was hit and the crew chief received minor injuries.

27 April 1969. Seaworthy 97-7 controlled 4 flights of fixed wing and OV-10 suppressive fire on an NVA storage area. When one bunker was hit a rice cache was uncovered.

Most of the reconnaissance and escort missions were in support of the ARVN's who were in sporadic contact. Seven-Up requested Seaworthy 98-15 to suppress sniper fire. No BDA was obtained but the sniping ceased.

Six recon teams were inserted and 5 teams were extracted by the recon package in only 5.4 hours.

28 April 1969. Seaworthy 99-5 picked up an emergency medevac from a patrol from League Leader Golf and evacuated him to "C" Med.

At 0300 this morning units of Task Force Remagen had been attacked and Seaworthy's night standby crews were launched to support Cattle Call medevacs during pickups at Naper's and Sword's positions. Seaworthy 97-0 controlled airstrikes on an NVA supply storage area at XD654682 destroying 2 bunkers and approximately 12 tons of rice.

After dark the night standby crews were launched to escort an emergency medevac for Borax Labor "C". Under illumination from the Seaworthy flare bird the medevac was successfully completed.

Enclosure (2)

CONFIDENTIAL

5750  
 Ser # 03A12569  
 5 May 1969  
 Copy of

CONFIDENTIAL

29 April 1969. Seaworthy 97-4 and his AO discovered a column of 150 to 200 NVA near LZ Cunningham. 98-9 provided suppressive fire and teamed up with 97-4 to control 6 airstrikes on the enemy accounting for 15 to 20 KBA's and the same number of probables. One enemy truck and a half-tracked vehicle were also damaged. Bingo fuel forced the Seaworthy aircraft to return to Quang Tri before further BDA could be acquired.

Other Seaworthy crews covered an Army tank convoy from Khe Sanh to Ca Lu and performed reconnaissance missions throughout the 3rd Marine Division A/O.

30 April 1969. Today WMO-6 broke all known monthly flight time records for a Marine Observation Squadron in the Republic of Vietnam as it accrued a total of 3,046.9 flight hours during the month of April. Seaworthy 98-8 controlled airstrikes on bunkers in the PURPLE MARTIN area resulting in 29 bunkers destroyed. While covering an ARVN lift into LZ Sparrow, 98-9 and his AO controlled airstrikes and ARVN artillery on NVA in bunkers at YD031594. One confirmed and 5 probable KBA's and 50 bunkers destroyed or damaged resulted from 98-9's action. 98-12, diverted to Crown-6 by Vandergrift D/ASC, received heavy .50CAL fire while searching for the source of an emergency "beeper" signal near YD163017.

The recon package successfully inserted 8 recon teams and extracted 3. While returning to base 99-1 & 2 were diverted to provide SAR assistance for a downed aircraft 21 miles east of Dong Ha.

Enclosure (2)

CONFIDENTIAL

Ser # ODA 12569  
5 May 1969  
Copy of

CONFIDENTIAL

## Part III: Significant Events

1. On 2 April LtCol B. D. BOULDIN relieved LtCol H. A. ZAIDER as Commanding Officer of Marine Observation Squadron 6.

Four additional OV-10A's were received on 11 April raising on hand assets to 18.

As the month came to a close, VMO-6 broke all known monthly flight time records for a Marine Observation Squadron in the Republic of Vietnam when it amassed 3,046.9 hours by the end of 30 April 1969.

2. The following officers were welcomed aboard during April:

LtCol B. D. BOULDIN  
Major D. T. SITES  
1/Lt N. K. BILLIPP

3. The following promotions were effected during April:

TO FIRST LIEUTENANT

J. E. STURTEVANT

TO GUNNERY SERGEANT

W. B. FOWLER  
G. B. LOCKWOOD  
R. MORI

TO STAFF SERGEANT

J. D. MCKERNAN

TO SERGEANT

J. V. BANGERT  
J. R. TUCKER  
R. S. WALKER

J. R. WHITAKER  
D. E. WILLIAMS

TO CORPORAL

G. L. ENGBERG  
C. GALLUZO

M. J. HOLDERNESS

TO LANCE CORPORAL

L. E. FAINTER  
R. C. LECOMPTE

T. D. STOCKS

Enclosure (3)

5750  
Ser # OBA12569  
5 May 1969  
Copy of

CONFIDENTIAL

4. VMO-6 said farewell to the following officers during March:

LtCol W. G. CREPNEY  
LtCol H. A. ZANDER  
Major J. D. DURRANT  
Major T. J. RAUSCHER  
Major "H" "W" SHAW

Capt E. V. CORDELL  
Capt G. H. KELLY  
Capt J. R. MIRES  
Capt D. R. SHORE  
Capt S. F. STOVER  
1/Lt J. H. LAWRENCE  
1/Lt M. J. TENNES

Enclosure (3)

CONFIDENTIAL