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SER. NO. 437-69
3 October 1969
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To: Recording Officer
Cc: Commanding Officer, Provisional Headquarters Group 10
(Admin 8-3)

Subj: General Chronology for the period of 1-30 September 1969

Refs: (a) Hqs 5750.16
(b) Hqs 5750.1B

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

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

VMO-6 S/C FILES

SER. NO. 437-69

DATE 4 OCT 69

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A. K. CARLSON

Group S-3
S/C #605-69

ENCLOSURE (5)

VMO-6

CMD CHRON

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Part I: Organizational Data.

1. Commanding Officer and Staff with inclusive dates:

Commanding Officer:	LtCol A. E. CHANTON	1-30 September 1969
Executive Officer:	Major A. S. PIPER	1-30 September 1969
Operations Officer:	Major J. A. BRANDON	1-30 September 1969
Maintenance Officer:	Major J. T. HAGAN	1-30 September 1969
Intelligence Officer:	Major R. L. THOMPSON	1-30 September 1969
Administrative Officer:	Capt. R. L. PAPPAS	1-30 September 1969
Logistics Officer:	Capt. R. L. NEEL	1-30 September 1969

2. Unit Location with inclusive dates:

Quang Tri, Republic of Vietnam 1-30 September 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>
48	254	1	0	303

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Part II: Narrative Summary of Significant Highlights

1 September 1969. Seaworthy OV-10's and O-1's accomplished various visual reconnaissance missions throughout our area of operation and controlled sixteen sorties of Marine fixed wing in support of the 3rd Mar Div. The Huey-Bronco team supported a Sparrow Hawk insertion and later extraction which attempted locating NVA rocket launch sites. The Seaworthy recon package controlled and supported the insertion and extractions of 3 recon teams and executed a flip flop with two additional teams.

2 September 1969. A devastating typhoon hit Quang Tri this date with tremendous force tearing off roofs, collapsing buildings and disrupting all operations. The main hangar collapsed on an O-1. Recovery operations were commenced immediately after the winds and rain subsided.

3 September 1969. Seaworthy aircraft weathered the storm of yesterday and were ready for operations. As the OH-46's were grounded, the only mission Seaworthy accomplished was the insert of one recon team and one flip flop. OV-10A's controlled two flights of Marine fixed wing aircraft in support of the recon package.

4 September 1969. Poor weather in the morning held all flights, but late in the afternoon the recon package inserted and extracted air teams. The night section launched to cover and control an emergency medevac near the Demilitarized Zone.

5 September 1969. Visual reconnaissance missions by OV-10 and O-1 aircraft uncovered numerous bunkers, fresh trails, suspected enemy positions, and evaluated TFQ and artillery damage. The recon package accomplished three inserts and three extracts without enemy contact.

6 September 1969. Seaface gunships supported the recon package this date. Seaworthy aircraft supported the troop lift for the 2nd ARVN Regiment without incident.

7 September 1969. Seaworthy O-1's and OV-10's flew reconnaissance missions in support of 3rd Mar Div and ARVN units. Four teams were inserted and six were extracted as the recon package was accomplished without incident.

8 September 1969. Routine reconnaissance missions were flown today. Five recon teams were inserted and five extracted in the recon package.

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9 September 1969. The recon package inserted six and extracted four teams.

10 September 1969. Five inserts, one extraction and two flip flops were accomplished with the recon package.

11 September 1969. OV-10A's controlled nine sorties of Marine fixed wing aircraft and the O-1's controlled three sorties of Navy fixed wing, while performing FAC (airborne) missions. Seaworthy aircraft supported a troop lift of three companies of 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines and all of the 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marines. The recon package inserted six teams and extracted three.

12 September 1969. The O-1's and OV-10's controlled five flights of fixed wing aircraft in support of the 3rd Mar Div. The recon package completed two inserts and four extracts. Seaworthy 99-5 and 6 supported an Army 513 (VIP) mission.

13 September 1969. Seaworthy's recon package completed one insert and seven extracts. The O-1's controlled four flights of fixed wing aircraft and the OV-10's controlled sixteen Marine and two Air Force flights of fixed wing aircraft.

14 September 1969. The recon package accomplished seven inserts and five extracts without incident. One team (Seven Up) had to be emergency extracted in the afternoon as it came under small arms and automatic weapons fire. The O-1's and OV-10's ran airstrikes, spotted for artillery and ran visual reconnaissance missions. Seaworthy 99-3 and 4 supported "L" 3/3 who were in contact with an NVA force which had them pinned down. One bunker was destroyed with an unknown number of enemy KBA's.

15 September 1969. The recon package was accomplished without incident, putting in five teams, taking out six and working a flip flop with two more teams. The OV-10's controlled ten sorties of Marine fixed wing. The gunship sections were in a standby status all day.

16 September 1969. The recon package made three inserts and two extractions. The gunship sections continued to be in a standby status. The O-1's and OV-10's controlled Air Force, Navy, and Marine fixed wing aircraft.

17 September 1969. Seaworthy 99-7 and 8 flew from 0305 to 0750 this morning in support of "L" 3/3 who was in contact all night. They returned for rearming three times while covering medevacs with Cattlecall Medevac helicopters. The O-1's and OV-10's ran VR missions and controlled nine sorties of

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 fixed wing. The recon package completed six inserts and three extractions.

16 September 1969. Seaworthy aircraft supported a troop lift of "L" 3/3 with four Chatterbox helicopters without incident. The recon package made one insert and extract, and two flip flops. An emergency medevac from "M" 3/3 was accomplished with no problems arising.

19 September 1969. There was no recon package today. Seaworthy 99-5 was working with Gasline 6 southwest of Con Thien. They took fire while strafing Gasline 6's route of withdrawal and the pilot was hit in the right leg. The flight returned to the 3rd Med pad to have the pilot's wounds treated.

20 September 1969. Seaworthy and Cattlecall aircraft supported a troop lift of a 2nd ARVN's unit, "Antique Relief Kilowatt". The recon package inserted one team and extracted seven. The O-1's and OV-10's ran visual reconnaissance and controlled seven sorties on FAC(A) missions.

21 September 1969. The OV-10's controlled four sorties of Air force and ten of Marine fixed wing air and provided visual reconnaissance in support of the 3rd Mar Div. The recon package completed six inserts, three extracts and one flip flop. Seaworthy aircraft provided gun cover for the extraction of the 3rd Marine Regiment and part of the 4th Marine Regiment which was accomplished without incident.

22 September 1969. Today the recon package inserted five teams and extracted five teams. Recon team Drake Pool made contact with the enemy on insert and the landing was aborted. Seaworthy 99-5 and 6 with Chatterbox 6 through 9 extracted all the troops from Fire Support Bases Gates, Russell, and Sheppard.

23 September 1969. The OV-10's and O-1's accomplished visual reconnaissance missions and FAC(A) missions in support of the 3rd Mar Div. The recon package made five inserts and four extracts. Seaworthy 99-3 and 4 covered troop lifts into Sheppard, Cates, and Russell in the morning to police the areas. Seaworthy 99-5 and 6 subsequently went back with Cattlecall 1, 2, 3, and 4 to extract the troops previously lifted into the fire support bases.

24 September 1969. The recon package made two inserts. Seaworthy 99-3 and 4 covered Chatterbox 1, 2, 3, and 4 while they lifted Explosive Ordnance Demolition teams and security forces into fire Support bases ates and Sheppard.

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25 September 1969. The recon package made five inserts and four extracts. Seaworthy aircraft worked a troop lift of Elk Hunter "H" and "E" with Chatterbox 3, 4, 5, and 6.

26 September 1969. The recon package completed three inserts and three extracts. A troop lift into Cates was cancelled when an air strike left two, two hundred and fifty pound duds on the mountain top and attempts by the people on the ground to locate them were to no avail despite directions from Seaworthy 99-1. The OV-10's ran ten VR and five FAC(A) missions.

27 September 1969. The OV-10's completed six visual reconnaissance missions and controlled fourteen sorties of Marine fixed wing. The recon package made four inserts and two extractions.

28 September 1969. Seaworthy 99-5 and 6 worked with Pioneer 6 northwest of Cam Lo. Seaworthy aircraft covered Dust-Off 708 and Batman 19 and 23. On a troop lift with Chatterbox 2 and 3 and an emergency resupply for 6 Romeo, Chatterbox 2 took mortars in the zone with negative damage. The covering fire laid down by Seaworthy aircraft resulted in ten enemy KBA's, one RPG, two machine guns and a suspected mortar tube being destroyed. The recon package inserted seven and extracted seven teams. Approximately one hour after the insertion of team Bazaar southwest of Vandegrift Combat Base, they had to be emergency extracted. Heavy small arms fire hampered the operation, but after Seaworthy 98-4 controlled two flights of Marine fixed wing and Seaworthy 99-1 and 2 had re-armed, they were extracted under heavy covering fire from all three Seaworthy aircraft delivered on three sides of the landing zone.

29 September 1969. Seaworthy 99-3 and 4 covered a "Sniffer" mission with Army slick (Batman 19) northeast of the Rock Pile. They also covered med-evacs and resupply for Elk Hunter "G" and "F". The recon package made five inserts and two extracts. Team Amanda was in contact and had to be emergency extracted early in the evening. The OV-10's also accomplished twenty-seven visual reconnaissance missions.

30 September 1969. The recon package accomplished five inserts and seven extracts. The OV-10's completed thirty-four visual reconnaissance missions. Seaworthy 99-3 and 4 covered an emergency medical resupply of Elk Hunter "G", 2/4, with two Cattlecall transports.

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Part III: Significant Events

1. The Squadron has been preparing for redeployment this month. Captain HEIN, as S-4 Officer, has planned and controlled embarkation procedures. On the 25th of the month the Operation Plan for the move was completed. Normal operations continued during movement preparations with little enemy contact this month. A three day lull in the action was the result of a cease fire initiated by the enemy in commemoration of the death of Ho Chi Minh.

2. Major BRANDON was wounded 19 September 1969 while working with Army unit "Gasline 6" southwest of Con Thien. They were strafing "Gasline 6's" routes of withdrawal when the enemy opened up with heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire.

3. The following officers were welcomed aboard during September:

Captain R. J. SAGNIMINI
1/Lt P. W. HOOPER
1/Lt R. W. PENDARVIS

4. The following promotions were effected during September:

TO SERGEANT

G. K. BROOKSHIRE
T. L. BROWN
J. W. ELEPOULIS
T. FLORIO

M. R. ISSELBACHER
W. R. KEMPER
R. C. MEAD
D. L. SANDERSON

TO CORPORAL

W. M. WICKER

TO LANCE CORPORAL

H. R. BOUCHARD
A. M. CHILDERS
R. G. DEERS
R. C. DYLLER
R. G. FELIENZ
E. F. FOY
J. D. GARCIA
J. E. GILLIAM

D. E. MALMSTROM
G. MORRISON
R. B. PEDERSEN
R. N. RIFORTO
S. R. RITZ
T. M. SHOLLER
W. M. WICKER

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[REDACTED]

5. VMC-6 suffered the following casualty during September:

Major J. A. BRANDON

6. VMC-6 said farewell to the following officers during September:

Captain R. L. HEELEY
1/Lt E. D. O'CONNOR

1/Lt C. M. CANFIELD
1/Lt N. W. THOMAS

Enclosure (3)

[REDACTED]