

HEADQUARTERS, MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP-13
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
 FPO, San Francisco 96602

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From: Commanding Officer

To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing

Subj: Command Chronology Period 1-30 November 1967

Ref: (a) MC0 5750.2A
 (b) Wg0 5750.1C

Encl: (1) MAG-13 Command Chronology Period 1-30 November 1967
 (2) H&MS-13 Command Chronology Period 1-30 November 1967
 (3) MABS-13 Command Chronology Period 1-30 November 1967
 (4) VMFA-323 Command Chronology Period 1-30 November 1967
 (5) VMFA-542 Command Chronology Period 1-15 November 1967
 (6) VMFA-314 Command Chronology Period 15-30 November 1967
 (7) VMFA-115 Command Chronology Period 1-30 November 1967

1. In accordance with references (a) and (b), the subject report is submitted as enclosures (1) through (7).

2. Upon removal from the subject report this letter is downgraded to Unclassified.

ENCL 1

END C&C
 NOV 1967

Philip D. Shutler

PHILIP D. SHUTLER
 By direction

1st MAW S&C No.	Copy No.
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MAG-13	
S&C # 67-1851	
COPY #1.	

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MAG-13

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

FOR

1-30 NOVEMBER 1967

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART ONE: ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. Commanders and Staff

a. Headquarters, MAG-13 (1-30 November)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>	
		T/O	ACTUAL
EDWARD N. LE FAIVRE	CO	COL	COL
PHILIP D. SHUTLER	XO	LTCOL	LTCOL
ALONZO B. MCCALL	ADJ	CAPT	2NDLT
ANTHONY B. KOUMA	SGTMAJ	SGTMAJ	SGTMAJ
THOMAS K. BURK JR.	S-1 (1-19 Nov)	MAJ	MAJ
JAMES R. THROGMORTON	S-1 (19-30 Nov)	MAJ	MAJ
GEORGE W. BROKATE	S-2	MAJ	CAPT
HERBERT V. LUNDIN	S-3	LTCOL	LTCOL
LAURENCE A. CAMPBELL III	S-4	LTCOL	MAJ

b. H&MS-13 (1-30 November)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>	
		T/O	ACTUAL
PAUL L. SIEGMUND	CO	LTCOL	LTCOL
HARRY E. TAYLOR	XO	MAJ	MAJ
JAMES S. GAHAGAN	FLTOPSO	MAJ	MAJ
DANIEL H. CHARRON	A/C MAINTO	MAJ	MAJ
HARRY R. SMITH	ADMINO	LT	2NDLT

c. MABS-13 (1-30 November)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>	
		T/O	ACTUAL
LEROY A. MADERA	CO	LTCOL	LTCOL
JOHN I. HUDSON	XO	MAJ	MAJ
HAROLD E. WILSON	ADMINO	LT	CWO
GEORGE W. FRITSCHI	BASEOPSO	MAJ	MAJ
DANIEL I. CARROLL	BASESERVO	MAJ	MAJ
CALEB G. DUNN	SGTMAJ	SGTMAJ	SGTMAJ

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d. VMFA-542 (1-15 November)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>T/O</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
RICHARD C. MARSH	CO		LTCOL	LTCOL
ROBERT N. HUTCHINSON	XO		MAJ	LTCOL
JOHN F. SPENCER	S-1		LT	CAPT
JOHN R. MCCORD	S-2		LT	CAPT
CLARENCE B. MILLER JR.	S-3		MAJ	MAJ
HARVEY D. BRADSHAW	S-4		WO	MAJ
HARVEY D. BRADSHAW	A/C MAINTO		MAJ	MAJ

e. VMFA-323 (1-30 November)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>T/O</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
HARRY T. HAGAMAN	CO		LTCOL	LTCOL
PAUL G. BOOZMAN	XO		MAJ	MAJ
GEORGE BERTHELSON	S-1 (1-18 Nov)		LT	CAPT
ARTHUR J. DELAHOUESSAGE	S-1 (19-30 Nov)		LT	CAPT
WILLIAM I. NORTHLICH	S-2		LT	CAPT
LEE T. LASSETER	S-3 (1-18 Nov)		MAJ	MAJ
HENRY G. MILLER	S-3 (19-30 Nov)		MAJ	MAJ
HENRY D. FAGERSKOG	S-4 (1-20 Nov)		WO	MAJ
NOEL E. DOUGLAS	S-4 (21-30 Nov)		WO	CAPT
CHARLES W. BROWN	A/C MAINTO (1-26 Nov)		MAJ	MAJ
WARREN A. FERDINAND	A/C MAINTO (26-30 Nov)		MAJ	MAJ

f. VMFA-314 (16-30 November)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>T/O</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
FRANK D. TOPLEY	CO		LTCOL	LTCOL
ROBERT H. SHULTZ	XO		MAJ	LTCOL
WILLIAM D. BAUER	S-1		LT	MAJ
RICHARD A. BARTON	S-2		LT	CAPT
RONALD W. KRON	S-3		MAJ	MAJ
ROBERT L. BAINBRIDGE	S-4		WO	MAJ
GERALD E. WALSH	A/C MAINTO		MAJ	MAJ

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3. VMFA-115 (1-30 November)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>
		T/O <u>ACTUAL</u>
RICHARD E. CAREY	CO	LTCOL LTCOL
CARL L. BATTISTONE	XO	MAJ LTCOL
BOB B. RODGERS	S-1 (1-20 Nov)	LT CAPT
DARREYL R. GRIFFING	S-1 (20-30 Nov)	LT CAPT
ROBERT E. BARKER	S-2	LT 1STLT
JACOB W. MOORE	S-3	MAJ MAJ
ROGER A. GURLEY	S-4	WO MAJ
CHARLES L. ZANGAS	A/C MAINTO	MAJ MAJ

2. Task Organization and Unit Location

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Commanding Officer</u>	<u>Date of Office</u>
MAG-13	CHU LAI, RVN	COL EDWARD N. LE FAIVRE	1-30 Nov
H&MS-13	CHU LAI, RVN	LTCOL PAUL L. SIEGMUND	1-30 Nov
MABS-13	CHU LAI, RVN	LTCOL LEROY A. MADERA	1-30 Nov
VMFA-542	CHU LAI, RVN	LTCOL RICHARD C. MARSH	1-15 Nov
VMFA-323	CHU LAI, RVN	LTCOL HARRY T. HAGAMAN	1-30 Nov
VMFA-314	CHU LAI, RVN	LTCOL FRANK D. TOPLEY	16-30 Nov
VMFA-115	CHU LAI, RVN	LTCOL RICHARD E. CAREY	1-30 Nov

3. Average Monthly Strength

<u>Squadron</u>	<u>USMC</u>				<u>USN</u>	
	<u>MA</u>	<u>NFO</u>	<u>AG</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
H&MS-13	15*	7	29	295	0	0
MABS-13	5	1	13	500	4	23
VMFA-542	21	14	4	270	1	4
VMFA-323	22	15	6	295	1	0
VMFA-314	21	19	5	285	1	0
VMFA-115	20	15	4	309	1	0
	—	—	—	—	—	—
MAG-13	104	71	61	1964	8	27

* This figure includes one NAP - MGySgt J. A. CONROY

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4. Important Visitors to the Command

On 1 November at 1400H, Air Force One landed on Chu Lai West Airfield. Passengers included: Vice President Hubert H. HUMPHREY, General William C. WESTMORELAND/USA and Lieutenant General Robert E. CUSHIAN/USMC. Although they did not specifically visit with any command, MAG-13 personnel greeted them enthusiastically. The Vice President spoke to the gathering and later answered informal questions. MAG-13 Group Guard provided these distinguished guests with an Honor/Guard Platoon while visiting.

Other visitors to this command in November included:

Brigadier General Robert P. KELLER - Assistant Wing Commander
Lieutenant Colonel Roy A. SEAVER - 1st MAW Aviation Safety Officer

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PART TWO: NARRATIVE SUMMARY

Marine Aircraft Group-13 flew 1660 combat sorties for 1858.1 combat hours in November. 2998.9 tons of ordnance were dropped by this Group.

The C-117D flew 115 combat support sorties logging 97.4 hours of flight time; four of these sorties were night flare drop missions.

Operations supported included Kingfisher, Neutralize, Wallawa, Kentucky Cascade, Neosha, Lancaster, Wheeler, Essex, Foster, Dragon Fire, Knox, Granite and the Ashau Valley Campaign. Several other missions were flown in the Talley Ho and Steel Tiger areas respectively.

Significant BDA included 50 KBA confirmed, 109 KBA probable, 428 structures destroyed and 166 damaged. (Complete list in para 9, Part Three)

During the month of November, MAG-13 witnessed the smooth transition of VMFA-314 into Vietnam replacing the deploying VMFA-542. VMFA-314 brought their main body of aircrew members and personnel into country on the 15th. In the early hours of the 16th, the newly joined squadron launched the first mission of their deployment.

The number of sorties flown slackened somewhat during November as compared to the previous month, nevertheless the known BDA stayed at its approximate normal level. With the onset of the expected monsoons and unfavorable strike conditions, it is pleasing to note that negative casualties/aircraft losses occurred in November.

Crew members in this command worthy of praise include Major Charles S. ESTERLINE and Captain Moyers S. SHORE. Major ESTERLINE (NA/MABS Ops) departed MAG-13 for CONUS with 334 combat missions. Captain SHORE (NFO/VMFA-323) surpassed 300 missions this reporting month.

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PART THREE: SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Personnel. During the month of November, Marine Aircraft Group-13 had a loss of thirty two (32) officers and eight five (85) enlisted personnel due to rotation and transfers. During this same period, twenty nine (29) officers and one hundred and eighty six (186) enlisted personnel reported to the group for duty.

2. Administration. The month of November saw a drop in participation in the Savings Bond Program to 84.4% from 88.2% for the previous month. On 15 November, MAG-13 welcomed VMFA-314 back from Japan and assumed administrative control over them. Forty three (43) officers and two hundred and sixty eight (268) enlisted personnel reported with this squadron. At the same time, VMFA-542 with thirty six (36) officers and two hundred and sixty six (266) enlisted personnel was released from this group to report for administrative control to 9th MAB, Iwakuni, Japan.

During the reporting period 25 officers were promoted while only two enlisted personnel were advanced.

3. Awards. There were four hundred and sixty (460) air medals and stars in lieu of medals received by members of this command. Total awards are as follows:

a. Distinguished Flying Cross.....	7
b. Navy Commendation Medal.....	17
c. Bronze Star.....	1
d. Air Medals.....	32
e. Silver Stars in lieu of Air Medals.....	75
f. Gold Stars in lieu of Air Medals.....	327
g. Navy Achievement Medal.....	1

4. Casualties. It is refreshing to note that during the month of November the casualty rate for this group decreased markedly. There were no hostile casualties while non hostile casualties were as follows:

a. Total for November.....	22
b. Total returned to duty.....	9
c. Total MedEvac out of RVN.....	2
d. Total number of man days lost.....	127

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5. Civic Action. Colonel LE FAIVRE, along with several officers, Staff NCO's and men of MAG-13, began November by attending ceremonies held by the Vietnamese to celebrate National Day. These festivities were held at Ly Tin District Headquarters. Ten of the officers, along with twelve Staff NCO's and enlisted men received decorations of Good Will from the Vietnamese. During the reporting month a Corpsman from MAG-13 was sent to Bangkok to study a program of village sanitation problems encountered in our local Vietnamese villages.

A good deal of time and effort was devoted during this month to the quelling of a possible rabies epidemic. Approximately twelve villagers had been bitten by a dog that appeared mad. Upon investigation it was discovered that the dog had been prematurely disposed of making it impossible to confirm the disease. Medical personnel conducted a successful fourteen (14) day series of anti-rabies shots to the bitten people. Also over one hundred and seventy five (175) dogs were inoculated against rabies.

6. Intelligence. Briefing and debriefing of aircrews and orientation to new aircrews were conducted. Publication of the weekly S-2 "Tactical Brief" continued. (See Supporting Documents, Part Four). Along this same line, the distribution of the booklet "Who are the Viet Cong" was continued.

General intelligence briefs were given each Thursday for all personnel of the five squadrons in the group.

7. Industrial Relations. MAG-13 continues to employ 31 LNC's.

8. Airfield Operations. Base Operations sections from MAG-13 combined with those of MAG-12 on 6 November to include both personnel and facilities. The merger of these two Groups onto the West Field occurred very smoothly with no mishaps noted. MAG-13 continues to utilize the crosswind runway when the situation warrants.

A total of 6,723 aircraft were recovered during the month of which 1,458 were arrested landings.

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9. Combat Operations

<u>Squadron</u>		<u>Sorties</u>	<u>Hours</u>
H&MS-13	TF-9J	19	20.6
	C-117D*	115	97.4
VMFA-542	F-4B	196	215.4
VMFA-323	F-4B	483	545.9
VMFA-314	F-4B	230	265.9
VMFA-115	F-4B	617	702.6
Total		1660	1858.1

* The C-117D aircraft responded to flare drop missions on four occasions.

Operations Supported:

Kingfisher	Lancaster	Granite
Neutralize	Wheeler	Neosha
Wallawa	Essex	Knox
Kentucky	Foster	Ashau Valley Campaigns
Cascade	Dragon Fire	Steel Tigers
		Talley Ho Missions

Significant Bomb Damage Assessment

KBA (Confirmed).....	50
KBA (Probable).....	109
Structures (Destroyed).....	428
Structures (Damaged).....	166
Bunkers (Destroyed).....	124
Bunkers (Damaged).....	31
Secondary Explosions.....	39
Secondary Fires.....	28
Trenchline Destroyed (Meters).....	950
Fighting Holes (Destroyed).....	29
Artillery Positions (Destroyed).....	2
Automatic Weapons Positions (Destroyed).....	7
Anti-Aircraft Gun Positions (Destroyed).....	5
Bridges (Destroyed).....	5
Road Cuts.....	30
Road Grades.....	1
Sampans (Destroyed).....	22

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10. Base Development. To comply with the merger of MAG-13's and MAG-12's operations sections, the base operations office was expanded and remodeled. (See supporting documents, Part Four)

The old control tower was remodeled for use as a weather observation site with plans for relocation of the entire weather service complex in the Base Operations area.

Another development, within MAG-13 near completion is the MAG-13 recreation hall (See supporting documents, Part Four).

11. Morale/Welfare. Morale/welfare in MAG-13 is not a problem. The normal long working hours and close proximity to combat operations keep the men adequately busy. Also the fulfillment of R&R quotas is continuing to maintain high morale within this command. Scheduled movies and floorshows are well received and attended. Church attendance remains high.

12. Training. Normal on-the-job/technical training continued within each unit of this group.

A generator contact team from the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing presented classes to appropriate personnel within MAG-13. The following formal schools were utilized by MAG-13 in November:

<u>School</u>	<u>Quota</u>
Jungle Escape and Survival Training	8
Embarkation School	2
Corrosion Control School	2
NCO Leadership School	1
Tropical Analysis School	1

13. Electronic Counter Measures. The installation of the "Shoehorn" ECM/Warning equipment continued during the month of November.

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PART FOUR: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

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MAG-13 S-2 TACTICAL BRIEF

REF ID: A18 NOVEMBER 1967

UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE III, SECTION 3:

"Treason against the United States, shall consist only in levying War against them, or in adhering to their Enemies, giving them Aid and Comfort."

"COMPANIONS-IN-ARMS"

North Vietnamese Premier Pham Van Dong has expressed confidence in the ability of U. S. peace demonstrators to stop the war. Speaking to a U. S. peace group in Hanoi, Pham referred to demonstrators as "companions-in-arms". He thanked the peace delegation for its support and wished it success in the U. S.

HANOI HAMMAM SAYS.....

On 16 October Hanoi Radio announced that the Viet Cong-sponsored "South Vietnam People's Committee for Solidarity With the American People" was formally set up that day "somewhere in South Vietnam". The broadcast stated that the Committee intends "to contact the progressive organizations and individuals in the American people's struggle." The broadcast also stated that one of the Committee's main objectives was "to give maximum assistance to American personnel and Army men in South Vietnam and American people who wish to return to their country, or go to another place".

COMMUNIST FORCES

Over the past two months, Army Intelligence has received several reports of six Caucasians sighted moving with a group of VC six miles west of Chu Lai. All sources stated that they were not prisoners, but were in the lead as the group moved.

III MAF Intelligence received another report of two unidentified white American interrogators working for the VC in Tanoy, Cambodia. The Americans have been with the VC since 1966 and were sent to Vietnam by a "secret party" in the U. S. Their job is to interrogate American prisoners before they are sent to prison camps in the north.

TERRORISM

On 8 November, an estimated 30 VC attacked the Ly Tra Refugee Center, ten miles northwest of Chu Lai along Highway 1. The terrorists killed four civilians and wounded 14. Upon withdrawal, the VC kidnapped eight young men. The village had been burned out by the VC previously as it has a history of being anti-communist.

FOUND: ONE M-16

On 16 November, a U. S. Army Spec-4 left an M-16 in a laundry in An Tan. A Vietnamese girl working in the laundry called a MAG-13 corpsman who was passing by. She told him what had happened and gave him the rifle to be returned to its owner. She did not give her name or ask for any reward.

This event is considered very significant, as the villagers could have turned the rifle over to the Viet Cong for a cash reward. For a villager to be seen by the Communists as he turns over a weapon or ammunition to an American is worth his life.

IBC WARFARE

On 7 and 8 November, elements of the 5th Marines in Operation Essex, northwest of Chu Lai, received about 38 rounds of 120 mm mortar fire. Several of the rounds emitted a smokey-white gas, irritating to the eyes, nose, throat, and tongue, similar to our CS gas. This did not deter the troops from engaging the enemy.

MAG-13

On 17 November, a Corporal found three 20 mm cannon rounds (one incendiary, two high explosive) on the deck in front of the air-to-air hot pad, wrapped in oily rags. A 20 mm HE round has a damage radius of 15 to 20 feet, and they have been known to explode accidentally when handled improperly.

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MAG-13 S-2 TACTICAL BRIEF

26 NOVEMBER 1967

VC ATROCITIES

On 10 November, a civilian truck enroute from Dien Ban to Dai Loc was ambushed by an unknown number of VC on Highway Four, 45 miles northwest of MAG-13. One man on the truck was killed by small arms fire, and a woman was bayoneted to death. Another man was kidnapped by the VC.

Three weeks ago four VC entered a village 40 miles northwest of Chu Lai during the night, kidnapped one farmer, and assassinated another farmer who refused to go with them.

On the same night, a VC platoon entered another village 45 miles southwest of here and assassinated the village secretary in his home.

On 7 November, a civilian refrigerator truck and a Lambretta bus detonated two VC mines on Highway One 15 miles southeast of Chu Lai. Seven civilians were killed and one was wounded.

About three weeks ago, five VC entered a hamlet 50 miles northwest of Chu Lai and assassinated the hamlet chief.

Two weeks ago, an unknown number of VC entered a village 40 miles northwest of here and kidnapped seven Vietnamese civilians.

ENEMY ACTIVITY

On 21 November a unit of the 198th Infantry Brigade four miles southeast of MAG-13 received eleven rounds of mortar fire, probably 60mm. There were no friendly casualties.

During the morning of 12 November, a Marine was killed by a command-detonated mine three miles south of Chu Lai on Highway One, while on a mine sweeping detail. A Marine with him saw one VC fleeing the area and fired at him, but the VC escaped.

Last week, Marines in Operation Foster, 40 miles northwest of Chu Lai, located 100 tons of rice and a cache of medical supplies. The rice and supplies were distributed to refugee camps in the area.

Soldiers of the 101st Airborne Brigade in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa, 25 miles northwest of Chu Lai, located and destroyed 25 pounds of marijuana in an NVA position on 20 November. The primary market for narcotics is US servicemen and the Communists control 90% of this traffic in Ly Tin District (the Chu Lai area).

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ROK MARINES

The 2nd Marine Brigade of the Republic of Korea holds our southern flank. These men have a slightly different value system than ours. They are proud men and have proven themselves in combat. For example, in March of 1967, two ROKMC companies inflicted 243 confirmed kills, in hand-to-hand combat, with the Communists in a 14 hour battle southwest of Chu Lai.

They are not authorized to be in the MAG-13 living quarters unless they are accompanied by a Marine who lives in the hut in question. Exercise courtesy and tact when you meet them, and notify the Group Guard Company (phone number 67) if they are found unescorted in a living hut.

BOMB DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

During the week of 18-24 November, MAG-13 aircraft flew missions in support of Operations Foster, Kentucky, Neosho, and Osceola. BDA reported during this period by ground and airborne FACs included:

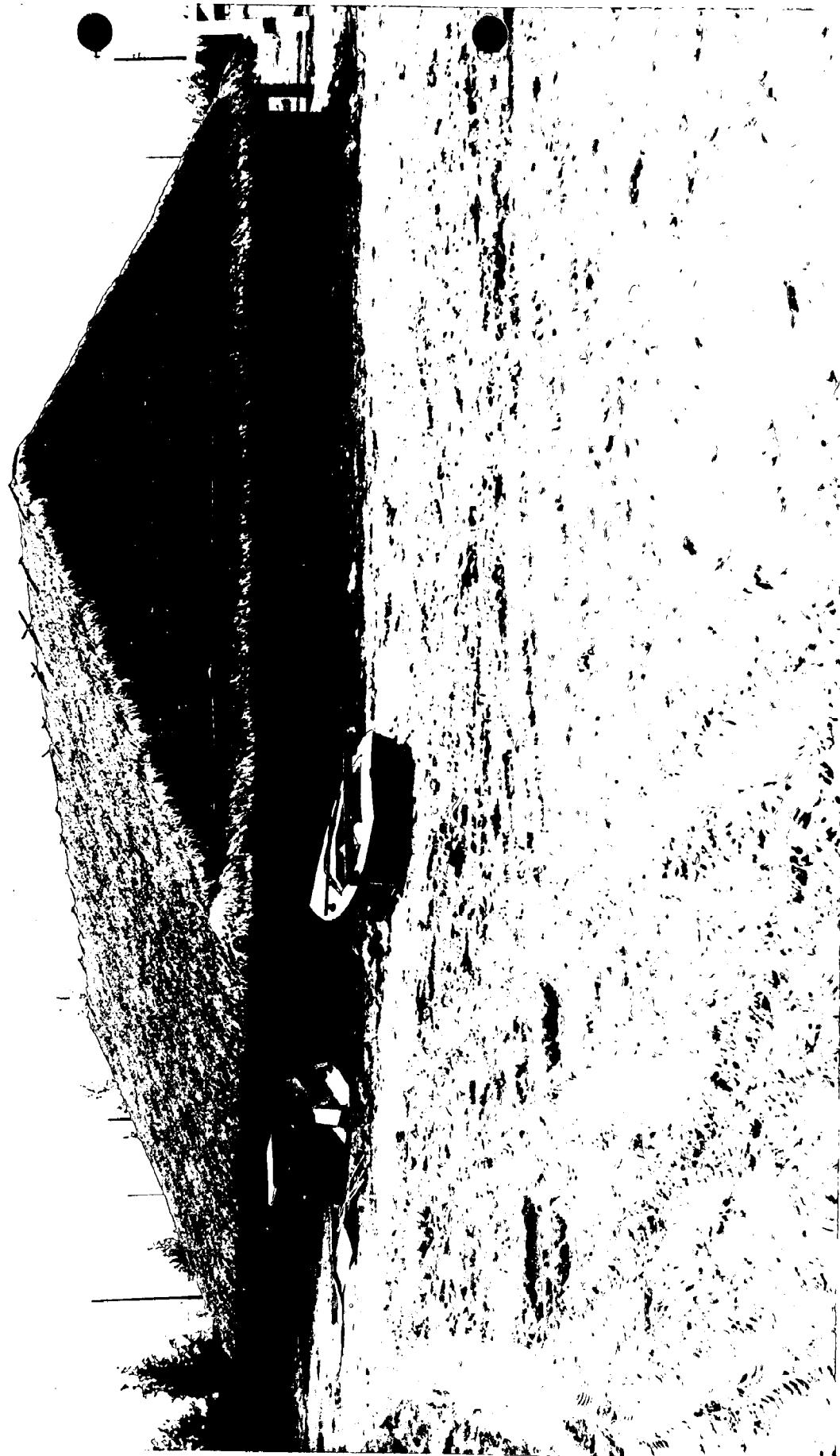
6 KBA (confirmed) and 19 KBA (probable)
80 military structures destroyed and 26 damaged
10 bunkers destroyed and one damaged
10 fighting holes destroyed
10 meters of trenchline destroyed
one secondary fire

As always, this represents only that BDA which was actually observed and reported by ground and airborne Forward Air Controllers, and does not include bomb damage from our radar drops and other unobserved impacts.

HANOI HANNAH

Radio Hanoi commented recently on the anit-war feeling in the United States. Hanoi Hannah claims that it was "mounting like a hurricane." Radio Hanoi also called the 21 October demonstration in Washington, D.C. as a "serious blow to the United States Aggressors' rear base."

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