

MARINE AIR BASE SQUADRON 16
Marine Aircraft Group 16
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
FPO San Francisco, 96602

GKR:slh
5750
5 Apr 1968

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 16 (Attn: S-3)

Subj: Command Chronology

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.1C
(b) GruO 5750.1C

Encl: ✓(1) Command Chronology 1-31 March 1968

1. In accordance with references (a) and (b), enclosure (1)
is hereby submitted.


G. K. RAINWATER
By direction

MAB S-16

CMD CHRON

MAR 1968

MARBLE MOUNTAIN AIR FACILITY, DANANG, VIETNAM, MABS-16, 1-31 Mar 1968

PART ONE

Organization Data

1. LtCol Samuel J. FULTON, Commanding Officer, 1-31Mar68
 LtCol William E. SMILANICH Jr., Executive Officer, 1-31Mar68
 LtCol Joe G. WALKER Jr., Base Operations Officer, 1-18Mar68
 LtCol Charles H. NORTHFIELD, Base Operations Officer, 9-27Mar68
 Maj Edward J. ANDERSON, Commanding Officer Zulu Company/Provost Marshal, 1-31Mar68
 Maj Casey NIX, Communications Officer, 1-31Mar68
 Capt Robert F. WEMHEUER, Clubs Officer, 1-31Mar68
 Capt Laurance A. NOWAK, Industrial Relations Officer, 1-31Mar68
 1stLt George J. HOFFMAN, Weather Officer, 1-31Mar68
 1stLt Ralph A. MILTON, Motor Transport Officer, 1-31Mar68
 1stLt Charles R. WILEMAN, Ordnance Officer, 1-31Mar68
 1stLt George E. LENHART, Assistant Base Operations Officer, 1-31Mar68
 1stLt John M. WEATHERSBY, TAFDS Officer, Crash Crew Officer, 1-31Mar68
 1stLt Michael L. SCHOTT, Assistant Base Operations Officer, 1-26Mar68
 1stLt Richard J. KERCH, Administrative Officer, 1-8Mar68, Assistant Administrative Officer, 9-31Mar68
 1stLt Gerald K. RAINWATER, Administrative Officer, 9-31Mar68
 1stLt Eric D. DAUPHINEE, Training Officer/Legal Officer, 2-31Mar68
 1stLt Larry L. HUNT, Assistant Motor Transport Officer, 4-31Mar68
 2ndLt James H. WEBB, OIC An Hoa, 1-31Mar68
 WO-1 Arthur W. BARKER Jr., Materiel Officer, 1-31Mar68
 WO-1 Ralph PALMER, Base Services Officer, 1-31Mar68
 LtCmdr George E. HAROLDSEN, Protestant Chaplain, 1-22Mar68
 LtCmdr Rodney R. SCHEER, Protestant Chaplain, 23-31Mar68
 Lt(JG) William J. KLAPPS, Catholic Chaplain, 1-31Mar68
 Lt Dennis L. RANDALL, Group Medical Officer, 1-31Mar68
2. Marine Officers - 18 Marine Enlisted - 654
 Navy Officers - 4 Navy Enlisted - 27

PART TWO

Narrative Summary

1. This report covers the period 1-31 March 1968. During this period, MABS-16 continued to support the facilities at Marble Mountain Air Facility and An Hoa Airfield.

Significant Events

1. Personnel. Three (3) Marine Officers, eighty-six (86) Marine Enlisted, one (1) Navy Officer, and five (5) Navy Enlisted were joined. Four (4) Marine Officers, fifty-three (53) Marine Enlisted and six (6) Navy Enlisted were dropped.

2. Awards. During the month of March 1968, there was one (1) Navy Commendation Medal awarded MABS-16 personnel.

3. Civic Action. The MAG-16 Med-Cap Team went to the following places on a weekly basis: Stella Maris Dispensary, Catholic Orphanage, Protestant Orphanage, Boys Town Orphanage, seeing and treating a total of 2,628 men, women, & children.

4. Ground Defense. During the month of March 1968, at Marble Mountain Air Facility, additional bunkers are being built and defensive wire is constantly being worked on and improved. On 4 March 1968, the Marble Mountain Air Facility came under enemy rocket attack.

5. Supply/Materiel. The following occurred in the Materiel Section during the month of March 1968.

a. The Marine Corps Property Section was inspected by both Group and FMFPac. The results were favorable. Marine Corps Property Section also assumed the task of Garrison Property Control for the Group. The Marine Corps Property Section has been instructed in a new system for submitting follow-ups. This required over 150 Follow-ups.

b. The Navy Supply Section was inspected by Group with favorable results. During the month of March over 200 requisitions were submitted.

6. Motor Transport. During the month of March 1968, the Marble Mountain Air Facility Motor Transport Section travelled 64,893 miles, hauled 1,564,600 gallons of water, hauled 40,800 gallons of MOGAS, hauled 35,800 gallons of Diesel Fuel, hauled 1,925 gallons of A/C oil, hauled 2,407 tons of cargo, and transported 35,621 passengers.

7. TAFDS. During the month of March 1968, this section issued the following amount of fuel at the locations indicated:

	<u>115/145</u>	<u>JP-4</u>
Marble Mountain	127,498 gallons	521,324 gallons
An Hoa	1,690 gallons	45,354 gallons
Total	129,188 gallons	566,678 gallons

8. Base Operations. During the month of March 1968, a TRN-16 Low Frequency Homer was received for installation.

a. Projects pending completion.

(1) East parking apron under reconstruction from PSP to ASP by MCB-128.

(2) GCA to become operational - the following must yet be accomplished:

(a) Personnel (operators and technicians) to man GCA site for 24 hour capability are required.

(b) RAPCON lines installed to DaNang AB.

(c) High Intensity Approach and Strobe lights installed for GCA minimums of 1/4 mile.

(d) Flight checked after all the above is accomplished and furnished.

(3) Runway and taxiway repainting by Public Works. This project pending receipt of traffic white and yellow paint.

b. The Crash Crew responded as follows:

<u>FIELD</u>	<u>AC STANDBYS</u>	<u>AC FIRES</u>	<u>STRUCTURAL EMER</u>	<u>VEHICLE ACCIDENT</u>
MMAF	31	none ³	1	none
An Hoa	3	none	1	none

During the month of March 1968, this section continued supporting all Marine Aircraft Group 16 Aircraft Operations in An Hoa and Marble Mountain areas.

c. The Air Freight and Passenger Section loaded freight and passengers as follows:

<u>MARBLE MOUNTAIN TO</u>	<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>CU.FT.</u>	<u>PASSENGERS</u>
Phu Bai	83,160	7,682	265
Dong Ha	90,876	3,649	100
Quang Tri	21,412	869	45

<u>MARBLE MOUNTAIN TO</u>	<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>CU. FT.</u>	<u>PASSENGERS</u>
Rho Canh	-----	-----	20
My Ha	3,974	396	3
An Hoa	74,409	2,524	53
Miscellaneous	17,353	1,387	218
Total	291,184	16,507	704

d. Weather. During the month of March 1968, this section continued to support all Marine Aircraft Group 16 aircraft operations in the An Hoa and Marble Mountain areas.

e. Tower. The total operations conducted at Marble Mountain Air Facility during March 1968 are as follows:

Fixed Wing Operations	4,595
Helicopter Operations	19,194
Total Operations	23,789
IFR Operations	345

9. Food Services. There were approximately 204,600 meals fed at Marble Mountain Air Facility Messhall during the month of March 1968, which includes all normal meals and party rations. The mess used 15,000 lbs of flour in the preparation of breakfast pastry, pie, cake, hot rolls, etc. The new Officers' Mess was officially opened on 17 March 1968.

10. Base Services/Utilities

a. Water Point. During the month of March, the Water Point personnel processed a total of 1,789,970 gallons of water. Of this total, 1,747,570 gallons of water was potable water and 42,400 gallons was non-potable water. All wells are functioning properly.

b. Paint Shop. During the month of March, the paint shop personnel completed some twenty-eight (28) work orders.

c. Electric Shop. During the month of March the Electric Shop completed one hundred two (102) work orders.

d. Plumbing Shop. During the month of March the Plumbing Shop personnel completed thirty-two (32) work orders.

e. Refrigeration Shop. During the month of March the Refrigeration Shop personnel completed sixteen (16) work orders.

f. Heavy Equipment Shop. During the month of March the Heavy Equipment shop completed six hundred sixty-two (662) equipment runs throughout the base to do various jobs.

g. Carpenter Shop. During the month of March the Carpenter Shop personnel completed ninety-five (95) work orders.

h. Base Laundry. During the month of March the Base Laundry processed 51,300 pounds of clothing and collected organizational gear to be turned over to the civilian laundry service. Individual bundle service continued to be available to all ranks.

11. Exchange. During the month of March 1968, the exchange sales were \$66,625.75. Sales for James S. LEE totaled \$2,996.20. Sales for Sachan Photo totaled \$2,229.80. Sales for Huynh Phung Gift Shop totaled \$6,382.60. Sales for Sax Tailor totaled \$6,159.95. Sales for LOC SVP LTD Barber Shops totaled \$1,489.35.

12. Ordnance. During the month of March 1968, the Ordnance Section issued a total of 3,514 2.75" White Phosphorus and High Explosive rockets, 317,250 rounds of assorted small arms ammunition, 26,000 rounds of 5.56mm ammunition for FAM firing the M-16 within this command and 2,564 lbs. of assorted smoke and pyrotechnics.

AN HOA AIR FIELD COMMAND CHRONOLOGY FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 1968

1. This report covers the period of 1-31 Mar 1968. During this period, the An Hoa Airfield Facilities, under the control of the Resident Officer-In-Charge, supported all transient aircraft with crash, fire, and rescue facilities, weather information, control tower facilities, air freight assistance (in cooperation with the U. S. Air Force personnel), and TAFDS refueling facilities for aviation (115/145) gas and JP-4.

2. Throughout the month, the MAG-16 Detachment painted all of their living quarters, tower, and truck revetment. The truck revetment was constructed during the month, of 55 gallon drums filled with dirt, and made large enough to accomodate two (2) MB-5 fire trucks. The TAFDS fuel pit and equipment were resandbagged, as well as being enlarged. An old bunker that had fallen down, was entirely removed and the old sandbags were used to help fill the 55 gallon drums, used in the truck revetment. The UH-1E rearming area was redesigned and new pallets of rockets were built up during this period, as needed. MAG-16 supported one operation known as "Operation Rock" from the 6th to the 10th of March, as well as numerous other daily operations.

3. Highlights for specific days of this reporting period are as follows: Night of 3Mar68 and morning of 4Mar68, the airbase and the district headquarters of DukDuk, came under heavy attack. The V.C. mortared the airbase from 0130 to 0430, off and on, and conducted terrorist raids in all of the villages around the airbase. There were no Marine Casualties, however there were approximately 85 civilians wounded and med-evaced, and an additional 30 civilians were killed. 10Mar68, one battalion from the Army Americal Division, 196 light infantry, moved out of the area, and the MAG-16 personnel helped with the use of their 6X6 truck. On this same date, one battery of 105mm guns from "H" Co., also moved back to hill 65, with the assistance of MAG-16 personnel. 13Mar68, a USAF, KC-130 was hit by 30 cal. fire while making an approach to the airbase. While on the ground, the MAG-16 Crash Crew assisted by plugging the hole in the wing tank and they foamed down the area to prevent possible fire. 16Mar68, an AOI, Army, accidentally misfired all four 2.75 HE rockets while taxiing from the rearming area. There was no damage to any of the base property or surrounding civilian areas. 18Mar68, an "Air America, Porter" aircraft was hit by 30 cal. fire while coming into the airbase. MAG-16 Crash Crew was on hand and helped patch up the wing tank. Foam was used to prevent a possible fire. 21Mar68, the Resident Officer-In-Charge left for R&R and had no specific comments to add to this report.

4. Resume of each air field facility for 1-31 Mar 1968 is as follows:

a. The weather section consisting of three men made climatology observations on the hour for each 24 hours, every day. They provided existing weather conditions for the control tower, MIAF weather office, and sub unit #1, H&S 3/7, during all hours of daily operation.

b. The crash crew consisting of 9 personnel performed their function of having crash, fire rescue truck on station and manned during all hours of airfield operations. They also assisted with many med-evacs during this period. The crash crew responded to and provided the following:

<u>A/C WHER STANDBYS</u>	<u>A/C FIRES</u>	<u>STRUCTURAL FIRES</u>	<u>CRASHED</u>	<u>DEFUELS</u>
3	None	1	None	14

AGENTS USED

20 gallons foam
400 gallons water

c. The FAPDS section consisting of three personnel provided and maintained a lot refueling facility fuel farm for all transient aircraft. They replenished their fuel farm by defueling from KC-130 aircraft. During this period the following was accomplished:

<u>No. gal 115/145 AvGas Issued</u>	<u>No. gal JP-4 Issued</u>
1,470	64,370
<u>No. gals 115/145 AvGas Rec'd</u>	<u>No. gals JP-4 Rec'd</u>
None	59,587
<u>No. gals 115/145 AvGas On Hand 31Mar68</u>	<u>No. gals JP-4 On Hand</u>
10,519	13,213

d. The control tower section consisting of two tower controllers and one radio technician performed their duties of providing control tower communications with inbound and outbound aircraft during all hours of operation. The following aircraft operations for this reporting period are submitted:

Total No. fixed wing aircraft operations: 329
Total No. helicopter operations: 1,394

e. One Ground Communications Man provided radio communications with 1 PRC-47 radio to MIAF hourly, giving weather observations reports and broadcasting necessary administrative reports and messages.

f. One Marine with a 3,000 lbs fork lift assisted the 15th Aerial Port Squadron Air Freight and passenger terminal personnel with loading and off loading cargo throughout this reporting period.

g. One mess man was assigned to mess duty from MABS-16 for this reporting period.