

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

JCA:trc  
5750  
5 May 1969

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 16  
Subj: Command Chronology

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

Encl: √(1) Command Chronology 1-30 April 1969

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

  
JOHN C. ARCHBOLD  
Acting

MARBLE MOUNTAIN AIR FACILITY, DANANG, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM, MAG-16,  
1-30 April 1969

PART ONE

Organization Data

1. LtCol William CUNNINGHAM, Commanding Officer, 1-30Apr69  
 Maj John C. ARCHBOLD, Executive Officer, 1-30Apr69  
 Maj Barry F. SKINNER, Commanding Officer, Zulu Company, 1-30Apr69  
 Maj Jay "M" DAVIS, Base Operations Officer, 1-30Apr69  
 Capt Thomas L. JONES, Executive Officer, Zulu Company, 1-30Apr69  
 Capt Telford C. BROCK, JR., Food Services Officer, 1-30Apr69  
 Capt George W. BAKER, Clubs Officer, 1-30Apr69  
 Capt Thomas M. HADDOCK, Provost Marshal, 1-30Apr69  
 Capt Ronald MOSS, Civil Affairs Officer, 1-30Apr69  
 Capt Wayne L. TREECE, Ordnance Officer, 1-30Apr69  
 Capt Michael J. GILDEA, Administrative Officer, 1-30Apr69  
 Capt Ralph E. KELLY, Materiel Officer, 1-30Apr69  
 Capt Jerald D. HOPPER, Industrial Relations Officer, 1-30Apr69  
 1stLt Marshall G. HODGES, Legal Officer, 1-30Apr69  
 1stLt James M. DOYLE, Communication Officer, 1-30Apr69  
 1stLt Jeffery ERNST, Base Services Officer, 1-30Apr69  
 1stLt Loyce M. TACKITT, Motor Transport Officer, 1-30Apr69  
 1stLt Henry L. WATSON, Weather Officer, 1-30Apr69  
 1stLt Michael A. STABILE, Billeting Officer, 1-30Apr69  
 1stLt Walter R. HOLTON, TAFDS Officer, 1-30Apr69  
 1stLt Robert L. DAVIS, Assistant Base Operations Officer, 1-30Apr69  
 1stLt John E. JOURNEY, Assistant Base Operations Officer, 1-30Apr69  
 1stLt Timothy F. SHEA, Assistant Motor Transport Officer, 1-30Apr69  
 Lt Joseph N. SESTITO, Catholic Chaplain, 1-30Apr69  
 Lt Gordon B. SCHUMACHER, Protestant Chaplain, 1-30Apr69  
 Lt Michael A. NEWHOUSE, Group Medical Officer, 1-30Apr69
  
2. Marine Officers - 23                      Marine Enlisted - 658  
 Navy Officers - 3                          Navy Enlisted - 22

## PART TWO

Narrative Summary

1. This report covers the period 1-30 April 1969. During this period MABS-16 continued to support the facilities at Marble Mountain Air Facility and An Hoa Airfield.

Significant Events

1. Personnel. Seventy (70) Marine Enlisted and Two (2) Navy Enlisted were joined. Forty-nine (49) Marine Enlisted and Four (4) Navy Enlisted were dropped. There were the following promotions; One (1) to Staff Sergeant, Eleven (11) to Sergeant, Four (4) to Corporal, Three (3) to Lance Corporal and One (1) to Private First Class.

2. Administration. On 1 April 1969 Captain J. D. HOPPER and Captain R. E. KELLY were appointed to their present rank. On 1 April 1969 First Lieutenant T. F. SHEA was appointed to his present rank.

3. Awards. During the month of April 1969, there was One (1) Bronze Star Medal, Five (5) Purple Heart Medals, One (1) Navy Achievement Medal and Twenty-Two (22) Air Medals were awarded to MABS-16 personnel.

4. Casualties. The following casualties were reported during the month of April 1969.

SGT R. M. GENDRON 224 20 30/1141, USMC, KIA, 14Apr69, 13 miles SW of Da Nang  
 HM2 W. L. SPERB B82 44 22/8404, USN, KIA, 14Apr69, 13 miles SW of Da Nang  
 HM2 A. W. ARMSTRONG B72 02 21/8404, USN, WIA, 19Apr69, 8 miles South of Da Nang  
 SGT P. C. STANSBERRY 201 27 38/3531, USMC, WIA, 20Apr69, MMAF  
 SGT H. A. REYNOLDS 202 91 07/0141, USMC, WIA, 20Apr69, MMAF  
 GYSGT S. J. OUERT 141 77 97/7113, USMC, WIA, 20Apr69, MMAF  
 HM2 R. B. OLSON 693 13 24/8494, USN, WIA, 20Apr69, MMAF  
 SGT R. C. MCCLENDON 186 32 90/3531, USMC, WIA, 20Apr69, MMAF  
 SGT T. A. KNOTT 188 36 23/2533, USMC, WIA, 20Apr69, MMAF  
 SGT H. G. GLOVER 166 61 12/7041, USMC, WIA, 20Apr69, MMAF  
 SGT D. J. GAILIUS 217 66 20/2811, USMC, WIA, 20Apr69, MMAF  
 LCPL C. A. FLYNN III 225 39 60/6811, USMC, WIA, 20Apr69, MMAF  
 SGT R. R. DUNNING 217 86 15/3531, USMC, WIA, 20Apr69, MMAF  
 PFC J. L. CARWELL 233 94 53/2511, USMC, WIA, 20Apr69, MMAF  
 HM3 M. L. PETERS 138 41 21/8404, USN, WIA, 21Apr69, 1½ mile West of Liberty Bridge  
 1stLt R. L. DAVIS 09 65 12/7002, USMC, WIA, 23Apr69, An Hoa

5. Civic Action. The MAG-16 Med-Cap team went to the following places on a weekly basis: Hoa Long Dispensary and the Catholic Orphanage. A total of 1147 patients were rendered medical assistance and 56 villagers and orphans were rendered dental treatment. The Black Death rapped at Hoal Long village during this reporting period. Five persons have succumbed and several are in

the hospital with symptoms. CORDS reacted by having the Preventive Medicine Unit at NSA Hospital inoculate the villagers and dust the living quarters with raticide. MAG-16 CA medevaced three villagers. This command's Civic Action gave out 800\$VN in General WAIT Scholarships to worthy students of Hoa Long village school and to dependents of employees on board. While MAG-16 Civic Action provided thirty metal stakes and barb wire, the Hoa Long village school teachers and students erected a fence at the school's front. Civic Action personnel from HMM-263 are starting English language classes in Hoa Long grade school. Arrangements have been made with the principal and a request for textbooks is being submitted to Wing Civic Action. MAG-16 Civic Action gave 40 lbs. of bar soap, 10 lbs. of nails, two rolls of barb wire, thirty metal stakes and one truckload of used lumber. For a more thorough civic action coverage of Hoa Long village, MAG-16 Civic Action is incorporating the the 212th Aviation Battalion into our program. The 29th Civil Affairs Company has already oriented the battalion's Civic Action personnel on the Hoa Long village.

6. Ground Defense. Contact with the VC/NVA during the month of April 1969 was Two (2) rocket/mortar attacks on 16 April and One (1) rocket attack on 20 April. All platoons continue to rebuild/refurbish and relocate bunker positions on the perimeter. The relocation of the majority of the western perimeter bunkers is nearing completion. It is estimated that all bunkers will have been rebuilt/refurbished by the end of May.

a. Morale/Welfare. The recent influx of OF O3 personnel appears to have contributed significantly to the morale of the company. In general troop morale remains at an above average level.

b. Intelligence/Counter Intelligence. The MAG-16 Intelligence Officer has begun a program to hold weekly briefings for the Staff and Officers of the company and a troop briefing for all hands at the beginning of each month.

7. Supply/Materiel. The following occurred in the Materiel Section during the month of April 1969:

a. The Navy Supply Section and Marine Corps Supply Section were inspected by Group with favorable results.

b. The Navy Section completed a complete BPN-11 reconcil~~i~~ation.

c. The Marine Corps Section completed a complete reconcil~~i~~ation of all documents.

d. Provided twelve (12) sheets of plexiglass to the MAG-16 Chapel for windows.

e. Completed survey action on Motor Transport test equipment.

f. Made two (2) transfers of scrap to Army Salvage.

g. Completed paperwork for the receipt of the following vehicles:

(1) Truck, tank, utility, 2½ Ton	M49	1 EA
(2) Truck, cargo, 1¼ Ton	M715	13 EA

h. Completed paperwork for the transfer of the following vehicle:

(1) Trailer, tank, water, 400GL	ML07	7 EA
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i. Completed paperwork for the disposal of the following vehicles:

(1) Truck, utility, ¼ Ton	M38A1	2 EA
(2) Truck, tank, utility, 2½ Ton	M49	1 EA
(3) Truck, cargo, 1¼ Ton	M676	4 EA
(4) Truck, ambulance	M679	2 EA

8. Motor Transport. During the month of April 1969, the Motor Transport Section traveled 76,525 miles, transported 27,505 passengers, hauled 216,000 gallons of water, hauled 17,959 gallons of MOGAS, hauled 15,777 gallons of diesel fuel, hauled 128,691 gallons of JP-4, hauled 0 gallons of Av-oil, hauled 0 gallons of 115/145, hauled 496 Tons of cargo.

a. The following is a list of vehicles received during the month of April by number received and type.

- 14 - M-715 1¼ ton cargo trucks
- 1 - M-49A2C 2½ ton refuelers
- 1 - M-50A2 Water truck, tanker

9. TAFDS. During the month of April 1969, TAFDS Section issued the following amount of fuel at the locations indicated:

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>115/145</u>	<u>JP-4</u>
Marble Mountain	59,748 Gal	802,184 Gal
An Hoa	5,436 Gal	139,456 Gal
Hill 55	<u>N/A</u>	<u>230,120 Gal</u>
TOTAL	65,184 Gal	1,171,760 Gal

10. Base Operations. During the month of April 1969 the following events took place:

a. On 20 April the airfield came under a rocket attack. No equipment nor building under the cognizance of Base Operations received any damage. Sgt C. W. HOWARD of Crash Crew received minor wounds.

b. Three approach light bars were removed from the overrun of approach end of runway 35. These bars were a flight safety hazard.

c. The PSP matting on the west side of the field adjacent to the fuel farm was welded with strips of steel and anchored down plus a sub-base added to aid in preventing ruts and wash-outs.

d. Culverts were put under the three east taxiways in order to run the approach light and strobe light wires through and prevent aircraft from damaging them. The fuel line between JP farms 1 and 2 were also put through a culvert at the center east taxiway.

e. Technicians from COMSEEAPAC arrived at MMAF to install the permanent radio equipment in the control tower and remoted to the Base Operations building. Work is progressing very well and is estimated to be completed by mid-May.

f. A TRC-131 (portable control tower) was set up and is operational at the crash crew ramp in the event the control tower has to be shut down for a temporary period while work mentioned in the above sub-paragraph is being performed.

g. On 30 April 1969 at approximately 0313H a chartered Seaboard World Airways Super DC-8 inadvertently landed at MMAF, thinking they were landing at Da Nang. The aircraft off-loaded 219 passengers and 13 crewmembers. With assistance from the Air Force Military Airlift Command and H&MS-16 Maintenance the aircraft was towed to the north overrun and departed with a three man crew at 0826H for Da Nang without further incident.

#### Crash Crew

##### a. Personnel

(1) Marble Mountain Air Facility	26
(2) U. S. Army Augmentation	8
(3) An Hoa Detachment	11

##### b. Equipment

(1) Equipment assigned this section consists of:

One (1) MB-1 Crash Fire Truck  
 Seven (7) MB-5 Crash Fire Trucks  
 Three (3) M530 Pumpers, Two (2) out for REHAB  
 Three (3) Twinned Agent Units  
 Three (3) M116A1

One (1) Ansul Airlift Unit (P-K-P)  
 One (1) M530C Pumper (U. S. Army Augmentation)

(2) Of the above listed equipment, the following is assigned to the An Hoa Detachment.

Two (2) Twinned Agent Units, One (1) mounted on 6x6  
 One (1) mounted on a M116A1  
 Two (2) MB-5 Crash Fire Trucks  
 One (1) M530 Pumper

(3) No vehicle accidents involving personnel or vehicles during this reporting period.

c. Emergency Responses:

(1) Marble Mountain Air Facility

<u>Aircraft Emergency Responses</u>	<u>Aircraft Fires</u>	<u>Structural Responses</u>	<u>Structural Fires</u>
29	2	8	3
<u>Standby A/C Hover Checks</u>	<u>Standby Defuels</u>	<u>Standby Fuel Wash downs</u>	
0	36	15	

AIRCRAFT FIRES

(2) MMAF-3 Apr 69 Crash Crew responded on a Mohawk which blew right tire upon landing. Tire caught fire, and fire was extinguished. Approximately 800 gallons of water, and 1 can of foam used.

(3) MMAF-16 Apr 69. Crash Crew responded to fire in 1226, CH-46 with left engine on fire. 1 PKP, and 1 CO2 Extinguisher used.

STRUCTURAL FIRES

(4) MMAF-3 Apr 69 Crash Crew responded on a trash barrel smoking. Approximately 200 gallons of water used.

(5) Three personnel and 1200 water tanker dispatched to standby at MWSG-17 Fire Department for A S P - 1 ammo dump fire.

(6) MMAF-13 Apr 69 Crash Crew responded to PMO where fire was reported in trash barrel. Approximately 50 gallons of water used.

Air Freight and Passenger Section

a. The report of Air Freight Operations at this Facility during the month of April 1969 is as follows:

Marble Mountain to:

	<u>PAX</u>	<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>CUFT</u>
An Hoa	187	78,015	2,877
Phu Bai	493	41,547	2,543
Quang Tri	48		
Others	<u>85</u>	<u>14,894</u>	<u>1,561</u>
TOTAL	813	134,456	6,981

Tower

a. The total monthly operations conducted by Marble Mountain Air Facility during the month of April are as follows:

Fixed Wing Operations	4,309
Helicopter Operations	21,233
Total Operations	25,542
IFR Departures	49
GCA Operations	322
SVFR Operations	579

Weather

a. During the month of April 1969, the Weather Section continued to support all Marine Aircraft Group 16 aircraft operations in the An Hoa and Marble Mountain areas.

b. The Weather Detachment at An Hoa was reduced to Two (2) observers. Observations are taken from 0600 to 2000. Personnel revert to a standby status after 2000 unless aircraft are operating in the local area.

11. Food Services

a. There were approximately 242,400 meals fed at Marble Mountain Air Facility Messhall, which does not include all normal meals and party rations. Bread and donuts were issued from the Red Beach Bakery. The Marble Mountain Messhall used approximately 1,000 pounds of flour for the preparation of breakfast pastries and cakes. Due to the shortage of flour at NSA, Marble Mountain Messhall was not issued their regular amount of Hard Wheat Flour. Fresh and Dry Stores were procured from NSA.



b. Three (3) new huts have been added to the Messhall for storage of supplies. Extension pipes for the new Hot Water Heater are being made for the Enlisted Scullery.

c. On the job training and technical training were conducted for all mess personnel and properly recorded. Night snacks were furnished for all Enlisted Personnel Clubs for the month of April. As reported in last month's report, a drainage system is needed in the back of the Enlisted Messhall, so the water which is being used for cleaning and washing off the back dock and reefers will drain into the present sewer system and not along side of the road. This is one source of the fly problem at the Messhall.

## 12. Base Services/Utilities

a. Water Point. During the month of April the Water Point distributed a total of 4,760,858 gallons of potable water. Of this 436,041 gallons were distributed to other units outside of MAG-16. To this date there are two (2) well pumps in operation.

b. Paint Shop. During the month of April the Paint Shop completed 6 work orders. In addition to this many small jobs were completed. The Paint Shop consists mainly of sign painting.

c. Electric Shop. During the month of April completed eighty-six (86) work requests and trouble calls during the month. These consisted mainly of repairing shorts, replacing faulty switches, receptacles, and florescent lights. The electric shop is supplying one (1) man to An Hoa in support of the MAG-16 Detachment there.

d. Plumbing Shop. The Plumbing Shop during the month of April completed seven (7) work orders. A pipe line was installed at Heavy Equipment, the Staff Club, Police Shed, and Officers Quonset Hut area. The drains at ISO, EM-mess, O-Club, and the Sgt mess were repaired. One hot water heater was hooked up at the Zulu Company showers.

e. Refrigeration Shop. The Refrigeration and Air Conditioner repair shop completed 21 work orders during the month of April. In addition to these many other small jobs were done. The majority of the jobs were air conditioning units but water coolers and refrigeration units were also repaired.

f. Carpenter Shop. During the month of April the Carpenter Shop completed nine (9) work orders. The majority of these were embark boxes. The Zulu Company dog kennels were repaired and an extended storage was added to the P.X. The enlisted living area had many steps and doors repaired or replaced.

g. Base Laundry. The Base Laundry processed 2,751 bundles of clothing for a total of 46,845 pounds. In addition 5,600 pounds of organized gear were done. The individual bundle service remains open to all ranks.

13. Heavy Equipment.

a. Maintenance. For the month of April 1969, the Maintenance Section opened eight (8) work orders, out of this number five (5) were completed and five (5) were brought forward.

b. Operations. The Operation Section completed 903 equipment requests. Of this total the following breakdown is submitted:

ART-30	3,000 lb forklift	38
C-40	4,000 lb forklift	73
RTF	6,000 lb forklift	223
H-150-C	15,000 lb forklift	61
72-31M	Scooploader	450
M-12	Grader	5
Wabco	Grader	18
M-60	Crane, Anthony	13
325TC	R&H Crane	15
D-4	Dozer	7

Total	903
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14. Ordnance. During the month of April 1969, the MABS-16 Ordnance Section issued a total of 11,903 White Phosphorus and High Explosive 2.75" rockets, 468,395 rounds of assorted small arms ammunition and 1,354 pounds of assorted smoke and chemical agents to the squadrons at MAG-16. Also 312 2.75" rockets and 32,000 rounds of assorted small arms ammunition were issued to An Hoa.

15. Exchange. During the month of April 1969 the Exchange and Facilities sales totaled as listed below:

Exchange	\$76,246.95
James S. LEE	2,765.60
Saehan Laboratories	3,258.45
Huynh PHUNG Laundry & Gift Shop	4,077.55
LOC SVP LTD Barber Shops	1,495.25
SAX Tailor	13,194.00
Photo & Engraving	1,519.45
Kong YONG Laundry	6,278.75
Kim YONG Portrait	458.50
TOTAL	\$109,294.50

An Hoa Airfield Command Chronology Month of April 1969

1. During the reporting period the An Hoa Airfield facilities, supported all transient aircraft with Crash, Fire and Rescue services, Weather information, communications from An Hoa to the Marine Aircraft Group 16 command post, re-fueling services of 115/145 Av Gas, and JP-4 type fuel and Air Traffic Control services provided by MATCU-67A.

2. During the reporting period the An Hoa combat base was under enemy attack using 82MM mortars, 60MM mortars, 122 and 140MM rockets and small arms fire eleven times. One ~~UH-1H~~ <sup>UH-1H</sup> -16 man received minor shrapnel wounds, one AH-1G helicopter and one UH-34D helicopter were damaged, and the four pilots of the two aircraft were wounded. One 122MM rocket struck the main parking apron leaving a four foot crater, which has since been repaired. Construction is presently under way to construct a 200x160 foot rearming pad adjacent to the helo revetments.

3. A resume of each airfield activity is as follows:

a. Weather. The section has been reduced to two men and weather observations are only taken between 0600-2000 daily. The weather section provided existing weather to the control tower, Da Nang RAPCON, and MAG-16 weather office.

b. Communications. The communication center has been moved to the space occupied by the weather section. The communications link between An Hoa and Marble Mountain is still being provided. Contact is made each hour to pass weather information and general message traffic.

c. Crash Crew. The crash crew provided normal crash, fire and rescue services to aircraft. Two hot spots were maintained, one at the BAS refueling area and the other on the duty runway. The crash crew provided structural fire protection to the 5th Marine Regiment. The Crash Crew responded to the following emergencies:

- 1 April - 1stLt DAVIS, GySgt REYNOLDS, LCpl GOULD, PFC YUTES and PFC LOBES responded to a call to go to a down helo and remove bodies.
- 7 April - Responded to a CH-46 with battle damage and wounded crew members. Buno 153344 Modex 17 Sqdn HMM-165.
- 7 April - Responded to a CH-46 with one engine out. A/C landed without incident. Buno 154815 Modex EG 5 Sqdn HMM-263.
- 27 April - Responded to electrical fire at Chapel. Fire extinguished.
- 30 April - Responded to fire in GCA van, van had an electrical fire. Fire extinguished.

d. TAFDS. The TAFDS Section maintained two refueling locations during the reporting period one at the BAS refueling area and the other at the airfield. Both JP-4 and Av Gas fuel were dispensed. The TAFDS Section has been assigned two more Marines thusly the BAS refueling area will be open from 0900-1700 daily. TAFDS accomplishments are as follows:

	<u>115/145 Av Gas</u>	<u>JP-4</u>
NO. GALLONS REC'D	5,000	135,261
NO. GALLONS ISSUED	5,436	139,456
NO. GALLONS ON HAND	9,187	70,775

e. Ordnance. The Ordnance Section consisting of one man provided ordnance support for MAG-16 helicopters. Presently the ordnance rearming and reloading pad is under construction expected to be completed by 10 May. Ordnance status as shown below:

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>ISSUED</u>	<u>ON HAND</u>
WP WAR HEADS	0	144
H-519 Rockets	453	600
H-490 Rockets	980	686
A1-31	42,200	51,400
A-551	2,832	9,140
MK115	0	60
Red Smoke	10	8 cases
Green Smoke	0	1 case
White Smoke	0	4 cases
Incendiary	0	4 cases

f. Radio Relay. Consisting of three Marines provided telephone relay services between the An Hoa Combat Base and the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing/ Marine Aircraft Group 16 area.

e. MATCU-67A. Marine Air Traffic Control Unit 67A, consisting of one officer and twelve enlisted accomplished the construction of a new concrete hard stand for the GCA van and the TSN-11 has been repositioned. A diesel workshop and storage area has been constructed. Concertina wire has been laid around the TACAN area to keep away unauthorized personnel, also high voltage signs have been placed around the TACAN. The MATCU continues to provide 24 hour a day air traffic control services.

f. Take-off and landings month of April.

<u>Fixed Wing</u>		<u>Helicopters</u>		
C-130	12	H-1	1545	Air Americal 72
C-123	9	H-46	3353	

Fixed Wing

C-7A	0
OIC	28
O2	10
OV-10	20
RVN Cessna	166
U-6	16

Total	<del>264</del>
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Helicopters

H-53	78
H-54	10
H-34	407
H-13	4
H-6	18
Army H-1	227
Marine Cobria	97
Army H-47	2

Total	<del>5801</del> 5741
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Monthly	<del>6057</del> 74
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## b. Instrument Operations

Radar Climbs	0
Radar Vectors	0
Flight Following	0
TACAN Approaches	0

## c. Radar Approaches

	<u>ASR</u>	<u>PAR</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
IFR	0	1	1
VFR	0	0	0
W/O	0	0	0

## MABS-16 Self Help Program

The majority of this month was spent in moving SEA Huts from the old III MAF Transient Center, Danang AFB to MAG-16. These huts were moved at night aboard 40 foot flat-bed trucks a distance of six road miles. All survived the trip well, there were no accidents or incidents incurred. Arrangements were made with the Danang Armed Forces Security Force to provide convoy escort which proved extremely beneficial for traffic control. Additionally, the Self Help Program completed five other major projects.

On 22 April a complete rework of the MAG-16 Headquarters boardwalks was completed. This included the reworking, replacing and reinstalling about 900 feet of boardwalks.

On 23 April, a complete sandbag protective wall was placed around all Expando trailers that required replacement.

On 24 April, a 1600 sq yd area was cleared and leveled for the H&MS-16 Avionic storage area.

On 27 April, the Enlisted Amphitheatre was re-sited from its old area to a new location between the runway and the Enlisted Mess Hall. In moving the amphitheatre it was found that the dressing room area had rotted through. A new area will be added when implaced in the new site.