

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

JCA:trc
5750
5 June 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 1-31 May 1969

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


JOHN C. ARCHBOLD

MAB-16

END ENCL

100-44-0000

MARBLE MOUNTAIN AIR FACILITY, DANANG, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM, MAG-16,
1-31 May 1969

PART ONE

Organization Data

1. LtCol William CUNNINGHAM, Commanding Officer, 1-10May69
 Maj John C. ARCHBOLD, Executive Officer, 1-10May69, Commanding
 Officer, 11-31May69
 Maj Ernest C. CUNNINGHAM, Executive Officer, 11-31May69
 Maj Barry F. SKINNER, Commanding Officer, Zulu Company, 1-31May69
 Maj Jay "M" DAVIS, Base Operations Officer, 1-31May69
 Capt Thomas L. JONES, Executive Officer, Zulu Company, 1-31May69
 Capt Telford C. BROCK, Food Service Officer, 1-4May69
 Capt George W. BAKER, Clubs Officer, 1-31May69
 Capt Thomas M. HADDOCK, Provost Marshal, 1-31May69
 Capt Ronald MOSS, Civil Affairs Officer, 1-31May69
 Capt Wayne L. TREECE, Ordnance Officer, 1-31May69
 Capt Michael J. GILDEA, Administrative Officer, 1-31May69
 Capt Ralph E. KELLY, Materiel Officer, 1-31May69
 Capt Jerald D. HOPPER, Industrial Relations Officer, 1-31May69
 1stLt Marshall G. HODGES, Legal Officer, 1-31May69
 1stLt James M. DOYLE, Communication Officer, 1-31May69
 1stLt Jeffery ERNST, Base Services Officer, 1-31May69
 1stLt Loyce M. TACKITT, Motor Transport Officer, 1-31May69
 1stLt Henry L. WATSON, Weather Officer, 1-31May69
 1stLt Michael A. STABILE, Billeting Officer, 1-31May69
 1stLt Walter R. HOLTON, TAFDS Officer, 1-31May69
 1stLt Robert L. DAVIS, Assistant Base Operations Officer, 1-31May69
 1stLt John E. JOURNEY, Assistant Base Operations Officer, 1-31May69
 1stLt Timothy F. SHEA, Assistant Motor Transport Officer, 1-31May69
 CWO-3 Edward A. G. DOWNES, Assistant Ordnance Officer, 11-31May69
 Lt Joseph N. SESTITO, Catholic Chaplain, 1-31May69
 Lt Gordon B. SCHUMACHER, Protestant Chaplain, 1-31May69
 Lt Michael A. NEWHOUSE, Group Medical Officer, 1-31May69

2. Marine Officers - 23 Marine Enlisted - 665
 Navy Officers - 3 Navy Enlisted - 19

PART TWO

Narrative Summary

1. This report covers the period 1-31 May 1969. During this period MABS-16 continued to support the facilities at Marble Mountain Air Facility and An Hoa Airfield.

Significant Events

1. Personnel. Two (2) Marine Officers, Sixty-five (65) Marine Enlisted and three (3) Navy Enlisted were joined. Two (2) Marine Officers, Fifty-three (53) Marine Enlisted and Five (5) Navy Enlisted were dropped. There were the following promotions; One (1) to Gunnery Sergeant, Two (2) to Staff Sergeant, Two (2) to Sergeant, Sixty (60) to Corporal, Two (2) to Lance Corporal and Four (4) to Private First Class.

2. Administration. On 11 May 1969 Major John C. ARCHBOLD assumed command of MABS-16, relieving Lieutenant Colonel William CUNNINGHAM. On 11 May 1969 Major Ernest C. CUNNINGHAM assumed duties as Executive Officer of MABS-16 relieving Major John C. ARCHBOLD.

3. Awards. During the month of May 1969, there were Six (6) Purple Heart Medals, Two (2) Navy Achievement Medals and Twenty-four (24) Air Medals awarded to MABS-16 personnel.

4. Casualties. The following casualty was reported during the month of May 1969.

LCPL L. P. CARRITHERS 242 07 12/1391, USMC, WIA, 19 May 69, 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 1152 persons were rendered medical assistance and 80 villagers and orphans were rendered dental treatment. MAG-16 Civic Action purchased school supplies that were awarded to scholastically outstanding students at Hoa Long school. MAG-16 Civic Action sponsored a picnic to Tram Nam O Hamlet for the students and teachers of Hoa Long Village School. Also during this reporting period, MAG-16 Civic Action supplied the lime and the village contractor white-washed the Hoa Long School. Civic Action is negotiating with NSA Security for passes that would allow the Hoa Long Village Chief to get used lumber from the NSA dump. Civic Action hopes this will make the villagers rely on themselves for building materials rather than relying on Civic Action. Civic Action took tin, lumber, and cement to Xom Son Thuy Hamlet Chief for construction of a temple. Already the zealous villagers have erected the sides and roof and are about to lay the cement floor. MAG-16 Civic Action arranged for Mr. Eddie Chin (CORDS Agricultural Advisor) to visit Hoa Long Village farmlands. He talked with

interested farmers about non-native crops and improved farming methods. One of the farmers volunteered a portion of his land for Mr. Chin's production, and Mr. Chin is confident that his model garden will win over the farmers to his methods and crops. On May 4, MAG-16 Civic Action sponsored a human-interest tour of Danang City for eighteen Marines on board. MAG-16 Civic Action also conducted two tours to Marble Mountain and plans to supplement its Personal Response orientation with these revealing tours.

6. Ground Defense. Contact with the VC/NVA during the month of May 1969 was One (1) mortar attack on 18 May with negative casualty/damage and One (1) mortar attack on 19 May with negative casualty/damage. The Third Platoon started collecting materials for their new Command Post Bunker.

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

- a. The Marine Corps Section issued (2) ME-10 Refrigeration and (3) Prefab units to the Mess Hall.
- b. Issued (2), M-60 Machine Guns, (1) M-79 Grenade Launcher to An Hoa, and provided (1), M-60 Machine Gun and (1), M-79 Grenade Launcher to Zulu Company.
- c. Provided the Mess Hall with (3,000) plastic knives, forks, spoons, paper plates and paper cups.
- d. Issued I.S.O. a Household Refrigerator.
- e. Completed a complete Reconciliation of all Marine Corps Documents.
- f. Provided TAFDS with (3), Water Sterilization Bags.
- g. The Navy Section received new NA-00-35QP-B allowance list, revised files, ordered newly authorized items which were required.
- h. Submitted project 09 and 15 budget requirements.
- i. Transferred 3,000 and 6,000 LB forklift to MAG-36.
- j. Salvaged (3), M35A1's Truck Cargo 2½ ton.
- k. Received (4), new MB5's from MAG-11.
- l. Transferred (6), Trailers V3661M to H&MS-16.

8. Motor Transport. During the month of May 1969, the Motor Transport Section traveled 83,903 miles, transported 25,924 passengers, hauled 105,400 gallons of water, hauled 21,239 gallons of MCGAS, hauled 19,250 gallons of diesel fuel, hauled 100,334 gallons of JP-4, hauled 0 gallons of Av-Oil, hauled 0 gallons of 115/145, hauled 483 Tons of cargo.

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

4 - MB-5

9. TAFDS. During the month of May 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	42,372 Gal	859,594 Gal
An Hoa	11,484 Gal	196,373 Gal
Hill 55	<u>N/A</u>	<u>177,663 Gal</u>
TOTAL	53,856 Gal	1,233,630 Gal

a. On 1 May 1969, Sixteen (16) 500 gallon fuel pods were destroyed due to the Ammunition Dump explosion; they were on temporary loan to 7th Separate Bulk Fuel Company, and have subsequently been surveyed.

b. On 20 May 1969, One (1) 10,000 Gallon Fuel Bag was destroyed at An Hoa, but only 500 gallons of fuel were lost.

c. On 22 May 1969, TAFDS Section started the project of rebuilding its West Fuel Pits. This operation should be completed by the submission of this report.

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

a. The Naval Support Activities Public Works commenced work on the runway and taxiway shoulder by grading, applying laterite and spraying with oil. This will aid in reducing soil erosion and wash-out of runway sub-grade.

b. The JP-4 number three fuel farm was closed for re-work of the fuel pit and berms. Again NSA's Public Works graded and applied laterite and oil to aid in stabilizing the soil and improve the working conditions of the farm and Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 165. Two JP-4 fuel trucks were positioned adjacent to the fuel farm to fuel aircraft while the work was being performed.

c. Four new OSKOSH MB-5 Crash Fire Rescue vehicles were assigned to MMAF Crash Crew to replace the obsolete MB-5's on hand. Training is now in progress to completely train all Crash Rescuemen in the proper operations of these vehicles.

d. On 16 May 1969 an OV-10A from VMO-2 inadvertently retracted the landing gear while taxiing off the duty runway onto the southeast taxiway. Crash Crew responded immediately to wash down fuel spillage and to cool the rockets. The aircraft damage was extensive, however no fire ensued. The taxiway was cleared of the damaged aircraft with the aid of a Bay City Crane lifting the aircraft so the gear could be dropped in place manually.

e. At 0015H on 20 May 1969 one enemy rocket impacted in the sand between the runway and the northwest parallel taxiway resulting in negative damage.

f. Total flight operations at Marble Mountain Air Facility for the month exceeded 29,000 operations as an all time high for this Air Facility.

Crash Crew

a. Personnel

(1) Marble Mountain Air Facility	22
(2) U. S. Army Augumentation	7
(3) An Hoa Detachment	10

b. Equipment

(1) Equipment assigned this section consists of:

One (1) MB-1 Crash Fire Truck
 Eleven (11) 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 Augumentation)

(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>
28	0	1	1
<u>Standby A/C Hover Checks</u>	<u>Standby Defuels</u>	<u>Standby Fuel Wash downs</u>	
0	47	15	

AIRCRAFT FIRES

No aircraft fires reported for this month.

STRUCTURAL FIRES

(1) MMAF-10 May 69 Crash Crew responded on a trash barrel on fire by 282 messhall. Approximately 15 gallons of water used.

Air Freight and Passenger Section

a. The total monthly operations conducted by Marble Mountain Air Facility Air Freight Section during the month of May 1969 is as follows:

Marble Mountain to:

	<u>PAX</u>	<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>CUFT</u>
Phu Bai	161	24,467	1,996
An Hoa	191	62,141	1,668
Other	<u>280</u>	<u>34,056</u>	<u>2,858</u>
TOTAL	632	120,664	6,522

Tower

a. The total monthly operations conducted by Marble Mountain Air Facility during the month of May 1969 are as follows:

Fixed Wing Operations	4,498
Helicopter Operations	24,641
Total Operations	29,139
IFR Departures	14
GCA Operations	487
SVFR Operations	

Weather

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

b. On 28 May 1969, the UHQ-5 Wind Detector was moved to the South end of the Base Operations building. In the previous location, wind from the Northwest was deflected by a recently built antenna tower.

11. Food Service

a. There were approximately 242,300 meals fed at the Marble Mountain Air Facility Messhall, which does not include party rations. Bread and Donuts were issued from the Red Beach Bakery. The Marble Mountain Messhall used approximately 1200 pounds of flour for the preparation of breakfast pastries and cakes. Fresh and Dry Stores were procured from NSA.

b. The back door of the Officer's Mess has been screened, in order to keep flies out. New doors have been installed to replace the ones which were wore out. A new boiler has been installed at the Enlisted Mess and is now in full operation. The new hot water heater for the Enlisted Mess Scullery is also in full operation.

c. On the job training and technical training were conducted for all mess personnel and properly recorded. Night snacks were furnished for all Enlisted Clubs for the month of May.

12. Base Services/Utilities

a. Water Point. During the month of May the Water Point distributed a total of 4,953,070 gallons of potable water. Of this 249,580 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 May the Paint Shop completed Nine (9) work requests. In addition to this many other small jobs were completed. The Paint Shop consists mainly of sign painting.

c. Electric Shop. During the month of May the Electric Shop completed a total of Ninety-one (91) work requests. These consisted mainly of repairing shorts, switches, installing lights and receptacles.

d. Plumbing Shop. During the month of May the Plumbing Shop completed a total of Eleven (11) work requests. These consisted mainly of repairing

leaks, and stopped up drains, sinks and repair to the Enlisted Showers. The Plumbing Shop personnel also maintain the Water Point. In addition approximately 400 feet of pipe was run in the Zulu Company area, for use in their showers.

e. Refrigeration Shop. The Refrigeration and Air-Conditioner Repair Shop completed a total of 31 work requests during the month of May. This included the repair as well as the cleaning of air-conditioners in the officers living quarters. Two ME-10 refrigeration units were installed into the Enlisted Messhall.

f. Carpenter Shop. During the month of May the Carpenter Shop completed a total of Twelve (12) work requests. The majority of these were embark boxes. The new amphitheater was constructed. Repairs were made in the living areas.

g. Base Laundry. The Base Laundry processed a total of 2,784 bundles of clothing and in addition 4,700 bundles of organizational gear were done. This amounted to a total of 41,760 pounds of clothing processed during the month of May. The individual bundle service remains open to all ranks.

13. Heavy Equipment.

a. Maintenance. For the month of May 1969 the Maintenance Section opened twenty-three (23) work orders, out of this number nineteen (19) were completed and eight (8) are still open.

b. Operations. The Operations Section completed 950 equipment requests. Of this total the following break down is submitted:

ART-30	3,000 lb forklift	60
C-40	4,000 lb forklift	103
RTF	6,000 lb forklift	297
H-150-C	15,000 lb forklift	72
72-31M	Scooploader	400
M-12	Grader	1
Wabco	Grader	5
M-60	Crane, Anthony	5
M-180	Crane, Bay City	2
325-TC	P&H Crane	4
D-4	Dozer	1
	Total	950

14. Ordinance. During the month of May 1969 the MABS-16 Ordnance Section issued a total of 13,602 White Phosphorus and High Explosive 2.75" rockets,

709,520 rounds of assorted small arms ammunition and 654 pounds of assorted smoke and chemical agents to the squadrons at MAG-16. Also 1,332 2.75" rockets and 48,000 rounds of assorted small arms ammunition were issued to An Hoa.

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

Exchange	\$69,406.91
James S. IEE	3,444.15
Saehan Laboratories	3,781.60
Huynh PHUNG Laundry & Gift Shop	4,212.25
LOC SVP LTD Barber Shops	1,509.65
SAX Tailor	12,935.00
Photo & Engraving	1,371.65
Kong YONG Laundry	7,236.60
Kim YONG Portrait	415.00
Harikla Tailors	1,428.50
Packing & Wrapping	<u>23.00</u>
TOTAL	\$105,764.31

AN HOA Airfield Command Chronology Month of May 1969

1. During the reporting period the MAG-16 An Hoa detachment supported all transient aircraft with Crash, Fire and Rescue services, Weather services, refueling services consisting of 115/145 Av Gas and JP-4 fuel, Air Traffic Control services and communications from the An Hoa Combat Base to the Da Nang area.

2. During the reporting period the An Hoa Combat Base was under enemy attack five different times using 122 and 140MM rockets, 60 and 82MM mortars and small arms fire. The MAG-16 detachment had no casualties and there was no facility damage. The MAG-16 ordnance area has been completed and thusly all aircraft revetments are now available for aircraft parking. During the high threat period improvement on fighting bunkers were accomplished and two new fighting bunkers were completed. Two M-60 machine guns and one M-79 have been procured and placed in the defenses.

3. A resume of each section is as follows:

a. Weather. The Weather Section provided daily weather services to the Control Tower, MAG-16 and the 5th Marine Regiment.

b. Communciations. The Communication Section continues to provide radio link between the An Hoa Combat Base and MAG-16 to pass weather information and general message traffic.

c. Crash Crew. The Crash Crew provided its normal functions in providing crash, fire and rescue services to aircraft operating at the An Hoa Airfield. Two hot spots were maintained, one at the BAS refueling area and the runway hot spot. A monthly fire inspection was held for the 5th Marines. The Crash Crew responded to the following emergencies:

13 May - Two trucks responded to a hootch fire in the 2/5 living area caused by an incoming rocket. Crew received sniper fire from village adjacent to 2/5. 400 gallons of water used.

27 May - Crew responded to late fire in dump. There were 1200 gallons of water used, with the crew called out twice more during the night due to smoke blowing back into the view of the perimeter defense with a total of 1650 gallons of water used this date at the dump.

28 May - Crew responded to fire at the dump. Same problem as on 27 May with 400 gallons of water used.

d. TAFDS. The TAFDS Section provided refueling services to all MAG-16 aircraft operating out of An Hoa. In addition TAFDS serviced Delta Force tankers for Helicopters and serviced OV-2 and U-1 aircraft. The BAS

refueling area was closed from 13 May - 28 May due to the high threat period and crash equipment availability.

	<u>115/145 Av Gas</u>	<u>JP-4</u>
No. Gallons Rec'd	10,000	195,000
No. Gallons Issued	11,484	189,807
No. Gallons On Hand	7,703	75,968

e. Ordnance. The Ordnance area has been moved from the aircraft revetments to the bunkers located at the rearming area.

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>ISSUED</u>	<u>ON HAND</u>
HE Rockets	604	806
WP Rockets	305	661
7.62 Linked	86,000	96,400
.50 Cal Linked	354 rds	8,786 rds
Red Smoke	0	7 Cases
Green Smoke	0	3 Cases
Incendiary	0	1 Case

f. Radio Relay. Has been transferred from An Hoa to its parent organization.

g. MATCU-67A. Continued its normal functions as providing Control Tower services and maintaining radios for navigational aids such as the LF HOMER, UHF HOMER and TACAN. The GCA was down for most of the month. The GCA will be disassembled and moved to Chu Lai for Rehab. Tentatively it is scheduled for return to An Hoa by 1 Sept 1969.

Aircraft Operations for Month of May

<u>Fixed Wing</u>		<u>Helicopters</u>	
C-130	28	H-1E	1603
C-123	44	H-46	4478
C1A	6	H-53	30
O1C	16	H-54	2
O2	331	H-34	72
OV-10	30	H-6	60
RVN Cessna	136	H-1E	1857
Air Amer	14	AH-1H	139
U6	107	H-47	2
U1	170	Air Amer	<u>108</u>
U8	<u>2</u>		
TOTAL	884	TOTAL	8351
GRAND TOTAL 9235			

MABS-16 Self Help Program

During the month of May, 1969 the Self Help Program completed 10 individual projects.

On 6 May, a new floor was completed in the Industrial Relations Office spaces replacing the old flooring that was worn and broken through in several places.

On 10 May, the enclosing and air conditioning of the Group Disbursing Offices was completed. By completely enclosing and air conditioning these spaces not only will the personnel be more effective in their heavy work load but additional protection is afforded the various typewriters and adding machines.

On 12 May, the Group Adjutants Office was completely enclosed and air conditioned improving the working conditions of the personnel concerned.

On 18 May, forms were completed for the concrete to be poured in building the dog kennels in the Zulu Company area.

On 23 May, a shelter was completed around the new boiler at the Enlisted Mess. This shelter was considered necessary for protection not only from the weather but also from the sandy environment around the boiler.

On 23 May, the entrance to the Officer's Mess Gally and Reefers was enclosed and screened to reduce the problem of flies.

On 23 May, the basketball court was completed in the Special Services Recreation area.

On 24 May, the Medical Evacuation Hot Pad area was completed. This facility consists of three trailers and a bunker to house the flight crews in a central location, thus improving reaction time. These trailers were relocated to this position, completely rejuvenated and enclosed in sand bagged enclosures for protection.

On 26 May, a 50 man bunker was completed at the Staff NCO Mess, replacing the previous bunker that was in unacceptable shape.

On 28 May, the boardwalks in the Lieutenant Colonels living area were relaid and repaired. This involved approximately 100 feet of boardwalk.