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

> JWC:ejr 5750 6 Dec 1969

From: Commanding Officer

Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 16 To:

Subj: Command Chronology

Ref:

(a) WgO 5750.1C (b) GruO 5751.1C

Command Chronology 1-30 November 1969

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

JOHN W. COFFM

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

PART ONE

Organization Data

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1. LtCol John W. COFFMAN, Commanding Officer, 1-30Nov69
    Maj Robert L. PETERSON, Executive Officer, 1-30Nov69
    Maj Edward H. WALSH, Commanding Officer, Zulu Company, 1-30Nov69
    Maj Frank P. ACCOMANDO, Base Operations Officer, 1-30Nov69
    Maj Herman F. MISITIS, Civil Affairs Officer, 1-30Nov69
    Maj Rudolf M. NEBEL, Officer in Charge, MATCU-68, 1-30Nov69
    Capt Thomas L. JONES, Executive Officer, Zulu Company, 1-30Nov69
    Capt Michael J. GILDEA, Administrative Officer, 1-11 Nov69
    Capt Roger R. BURK, Industrial Relations Officer, 1-30Nov69
    Capt Jack W. WHEELER, Motor Transport Officer, 12-30Hov69
    Capt Wallace E. VANDENBERG, Provost Marshal, 1-30Nov69
    Capt Joseph C. MATTE, Communications Officer, 1-30Nov69
    Capt Carl E. LAMEY, Crash Crew Officer, 1-30Nov69
    Capt Earl P. BASHER, Assistant Officer in Charge, NATCU-68, 1-30Nov69
    Capt Gordon P. STIRLING, Operations Officer, MATCU-68, 1-30Nov69
    Capt James N. HOLK, Maintenance Officer, MATCU-68 1-30Nov69
    lstLt Robert M. WILIMAN, Legal Officer, 1-30Nov69
    lstLt Walter R. HOLTAN, TAFDS Officer, 1-30Nov69
    1stLt Timothy F. SHEA, Motor Transport Officer, 1-11Nov69, Assistant
Motor Transport Officer, 12-30Nov69
    1stLt Francis L. GUALANDRI, Material Officer, 1-30Nov69
    1stLt John B. CHAMPEAU, Utilities Officer, 1-30Nov69
    1stLt Harold C. KERN, Assistant Provost Marshal, 18-30Hov69
    lstLt Thomas N. TUTHILL, GCA Officer, 1-30Nov69
    1stLt Philip A. GRZANICH, GCA Officer, 1-30Nov69
    1stLt Richard C. JONELY, Tower Officer, 1-30Nov69
    lstLt James R. BOWLEN, GCA Officer, 1-30Nov69
    2ndLt William FOWLER, Assistant Motor Transport Officer, 1-30Nov69
    2ndLt Walker TISDALE, Assistant Communications Officer, 1-30Nov69
    CWO-3 Edward A. G. DOWNES, Ordnance Officer, 1-30Nov69
    CWO-2 Francis E. L. BRIDGES, Assistant Crash Crew Officer, 1-30Nov69
    CWO-2 Neil B. LABELLE, Weather Officer, 1-30Nov69
    CWO-2 Charles A. ZILEERLAN, Administrative Officer, 12-30Nov69
    CWO-2 Ervin E. WILES, Clubs Officer, 1-30Nov69
   LtCdr Edward L. GALLANGHER, Catholic Chaplain, 1-30Nov69
    LtCdr James F. LYONS, Group Medical Officer, 1-30Nov69
    Lt Henry G. COOK, Protestant Chaplain, 1-30Nov69
    Lt Paul H. DUMDEY, Squadron Medical Officer, 1-30Nov69
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2. Marine Officers - 3

Marine Enlisted - 1,071 Navy Enlisted - 22 PART TWO

Narrative Summary

1. This report covers the period 1-30 November 1969. During this period MABS-16 continued to support the facilities at Marble Mountain Air Facility, An Hoa Air Field, LZ Baldy, Hill 55 and Phu Bai.

Significant Events

- 1. Personnel. Two (2) Marine Officers, Two Hundred Sixty seven (267) Marine Enlisted were joined, of these, one hundred and seventy (170) were assigned TAD to Phu Bai. One (1) Marine Officer and Forty-seven (47) Marine Enlisted were dropped. There were the following promotions; Seventy-one (71) to Corporal and thirty (30) to Lance Corporal, nine (9) to PFC, one (1) to Staff Sergeant and three (3) to Captain.
- 2. Administration. On 11 November 1969, Chief Warrant Officer-2 Charles A. ZIMITERMAN relieved Captain Michael J. GILDEA as Adjutant of MABS-16.
- 3. Awards. During the month of November 1969, there were three (3) Single Mission Air Medals awarded to MABS-16 personnel.
- 4. <u>Casualties</u>. The following casualties were reported during the month of November 1969.

LCpl George A. VALERA 244 85 06/2511 USMC, GSW left forearm, 21 Nov 69, MMAF PFC John F. WHEELER 243 54 75/2531 USMC, GSW left neck, 21 Nov 69, MMAF Pvt Donald A. YUTES 220 82 88/7051 USMC, Cellulitis right arm, 18 Nov 69, MMAF Cpl Charles HUFF 235 42 22/0311 USMC, sprained left ankle, 14 Nov 69, MMAF HM3 James A. GARRETT B60 57 26/8404 USN, DAI, Aircraft Accident, 29 Nov 69, 202 miles south of DaNang

5. Civic Action

- a. During the month of November 1969, MAG-16 Civic Action commenced MEDCAP services in the hamlet of Binh Ky in place of MCB #4.
- b. One Hundred (100) reams of writing tablets, ink-wells, small blackboards and pens were provided to the reopened school in Binh Ky.
- c. When MAG-16 Civic Action commenced operating in the Hoa Phung Village Environments, the Binh Ky Hamlet School consisted mainly of a shell of a building with bullet-ridden walls and roofs. The building was not being utilized as a school nor was there a single teacher in the village. The school was refurbished and reconstructed by the members of the Revolutionary Development Team with the building materials "scrounged" by the Civic Action team. The RD's with the voluntary help of the local carpenters, constructed desks and doors out of discarded 3x12 planks from the old bunkers of Zulu Company. All the lumber that went into the reconstruction of the school was destined for the burn dump had not the civic action team realized their potential use. Discarded

plywood painted with black paint became blackboards while the tin sheets off the MABS-16 Squadron Office was utilized as roofing for the newly furbished school. The RD's received the school and are presently conducting classes for approximately one hundred and fifty of Binh Ky's children until province provides a suitable teacher. This project is representative of the capabilities of a Civic Action Team provided it possess the full cooperation of the people. The MAG-16 Civic Action Team in conjunction with the 5th Comm Bn Civil Affairs section has inaugurated a hog-raising demonstration project in Khue Bach Hamlet, Hoa Long Village. Utilizing discarded lumber materials from Zulu Company, the Civic Action personnel have constructed two covered pig stys and a larger openair rooting pen. Two boars and four sows were procured at half price from the Phuc Long piggery in Saigon. These animals are fed daily from the mess halls at 5th Comm and Marble Mountain and periodic innoculations are administcred by the Army veter anians. We are also attempting to cross-breed with the Vietnamese sows. To this date the villagers are reluctant because of the size of our animals. However, given time, we should be able to persuade them. Although the sty is not guarded by Americans and wholly situated in the hamlet environment, none of the pigs have been stolen or poisoned. This leads us to the belief that the villagers have accepted this project and seem interested in the out come. Ultimately, the hog-raising enterprise will be handed over to the village in an effort to build up the economy of this area. The Buddhists at Marble Mountain are continuing to rebuild their temples at Nui Kim Son. Three pallets of discarded bricks and ten bags of cement were delivered to the Temple. An old woman's house was inadvert**e**ntly destroyed by the CAP Team in Binh Ky while in contact with the VC. Materials scrounged by the Civic Action Team was utilized in rebuilding her house. It is was very encouraging to see the whole village turn out to rebuild her house. Marines supplied the materials while the villagers provided the labor.

- d. Nui Kim Son The pigs in the village self development projects have encountered some unknown disease and we haven't been able to convince the villagers to turn over the cadavers in order to perform an autopsy. They profess to have buried the pigs; however, they have probably sold them on the open market.
- e. Binh Ky The transfer of some of the individuals from the CAP unit has facilitated for better working relations with the indigenous personnel. These individuals were a detriment to the Civic Action Programs because of their negative attitudes towards the villagers. Two natives supposedly received flesh wounds from farm firing and steps were taken to remedy that situation.
- 6. Ground Defense. Contact with the VC/NVA during the month of November was one (1) mortar attack on 4 November 1969.

- 7. Supply/Materiel. The following occurred in the Materiel Section during the month of November 1969.
 - a. Held a complete reconciliation of all Marine Corps documents.
 - b. Began requisitioning supplys for an outlying detachment.
 - c. Provided the Mess Hall with fifteen (15) dz Knives, Forks and Spoons.
- d. Received and issued three thousand (3,000) bf of 4x4", eight thousand (8,000) bf of 1x12", and three hundred eighty four (384) sheets of $\frac{1}{2}$ " Plywood.
 - e. Received custody of all MAG-36 organizational equipment.
 - f. Received and issued ten (10) Mechanics Tool Kits.
 - g. Submitted BPN-09 and 15 budget estimates for Third Quarter FY-70.
- h. A complete inventory of all custodial equipment held by Motor Transport and Administrative Office was held.

Weapons

- a. Issued one hundred (100) weapons and recovered seventy five (75).
- b. Verified all serial numbers of in stock weapons.
- c_{\bullet} Verified all serial numbers of MABS-16 held weapons with Marine Corps Property.

Embarkation

- a. A memorandum was sent to each section requesting a Monthly Report on all changes and deletions on Embarkation data.
- b. A notice was sent out to all sections listing their discrepancies on Embarkation data.
 - c. Schooling was held for three (3) new Embarkation personnel.

Billeting

a. Approximately fifteen (15) Officers checked in and were billeted by reassignment of a quonset but to Company Grade Officers.

Personal Effects

- a. Inventory on personal effects of three (3) men.
- b. Made three (3) shipments of personal effects.
- c. Received personal effects of one (1) man, for safekeeping.
- 8. Motor Transport. During the month of November, the Motor Transport Section traveled 94,715 miles, transported 28,653 passengers, hauled 66,600 gallons of water, hauled 26,843 gallons of MOGAS, hauled 19,097 gallons of diesel fuel, hauled 133,449 gallons of JP-4, hauled 0 gallons of Av-oil, hauled 440 gallons of 115/145, hauled 577 Tons of cargo.

DECLASSIFIED

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

LOCATION	115/145	<u>JP-4</u>
Marble Mountain An Hoa Hill 55 LZ Baldy Phu Bai	0 Gal 381 Gal N/A 0 Gal 16,025 Gal	729,088 Gal 118,045 Gal 21,722 Gal 219,336 Gal 222,513 Gal
TOTAL	16 , 406 Gal	1,310,704 Gal

- (2) 25 Nov 69 Increased fuel capacity at LZ Baldy from 80,000 to 90,000 gallons of JP-4.
- (3) 15 Nov 69 Picked up control of Phu Bai and Quang Tri fuel operations. Quang Tri will shortly be turned over to the Army.
- 10. Base Operations. During the month of November 1969, the following events took place:
- a. On 1 November 1969 at about 1900 a CH-53 (HLH-361) crashed in the South China Sea. One survivor was recovered.
- b. On 2 Hovember at 0815 a UH-1, Scarface 45, from Phu Bai went down 3 miles north of the field, SAR Helo and 3 other helos on scene.
- c. On 3 November at 0045 Marble Mountain was under nortar attack. 18 hits in Army and H.H-361 areas. 4 Army UH-1's, 1 Marine CH-46 and 2 CH-53's damaged.
- d. On 10 November at 1015 an OV-10 (VMO-2) crashed on landing. Ran off runway near the Air Freight Building, no fire, 2 pilots uninjured. Crash Crew responded.
- e. On 14 November at about 0750, hi-jacked Army UH-1, call sign Lancer 8 departed southbound after refueling, with 2 Army Huey escorts. The aircraft was from Phu Bai.
- f. On 18 November, Capt STIRLING relieved 1stLt GRZANICH as OIC An Hoa Airfield.
- g. On 19 November convoy to Baldy, with Crash Crew personnel and equipment, unable to get through due to road conditions. Attempted to return to DaNang, but hit by mortars about 1945 5to7 miles from Baldy on Hwy. #1, no damage or injury to our personnel or equipment. Trucks returned about 2300.
- h. On 22 November at 1005 pilots ejected from a F-4 into South China Sea off Marble Mountain, they were picked up by SAR helo.

Crash Crew

- a. Personnel
 - (1) Marble Mountain Air Facility
 - (2) U. S. Army Augumentation 6
 - (3) An Hoa 10
- b. Equipment
 - (1) Equipment assigned this section consists of:
 Eleven (11) MB-5 Crash Fire Trucks
 Three (3) 530B Pumpers, Pending Survey (1) Pending Action
 Seven (7) M116A1 (2) Phu Bai (3) IMAF
 One (1) Ansul Airlift Unit PKP
 One (1) M530B Pumper (U.S. Army out for repairs)
 Two (2) Pumpers (1) Phu Bai (1) MMAF
- (2) Of the above listed equipment the following are assigned to An Hoa.

 Two (2) Twinned Agent Units, one (1) mounted on 6x6 One (1) mounted on a M116A1

Three (1) MB-5 Crash Trucks One (1) 6x6 TAU

One (1) 6x6 with TAU

- (3) No vehicles accidents involving personnel or vehicles during this reporting period.
 - c. Emergency Responses:
 - (1) Marble Mountain Air Facility

Aircraft	Aircraft	Structural	Structural
Emergency Responses	Fires_	Responses	F _{ires}
7	2	1	1

A/C Hover Checks

0

Standby Defuels

Standby Washdowns

2

AIRCRAFT FIRES

- (1) MMAF 8 Nov 1969, Tower called, CH-46 on fire by H&MS Hanger, all crews responded. 1 150 lb PKP used.
- (2) MMAF 22 Nov 1969, VMO-2 called, A/C on fire on flight line. 1 30 lb PKP.

STRUCTURAL FIRES

(1) MMAF 17 Nov 1969, Bingo 3 informed C/C of a fire at 245th Motor Pool, all crews responded. Fire was out when C/C arrived.

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DECLASSIFIED

Air Freight and Passenger Section

a. The total monthly operations conducted by Marble Mountain Air Facility Air Freight Section during the month of $^{\rm N}$ ovember 1969 is as follows:

An Hoa	PAX	WEIGHT	CUFT
Phu Bai	739	40,485	1088
	337	118,704	7343
Other	<u>405</u>	<u>48,836</u>	2382
TOTAL	1,481	208,025	10,813

Tower

- a. The total monthly operations conducted by Marine Air Trific Control Unit 68 Facility during the month of November 1969 are as follows:
 - 1. Air control

a.	ITAF Tower	-VFR SVE3 IFR TOTAL	24,980 1,242 13 26,235
	MMAF GCA	-VFR IFR TOTAL	384 28 412
b.	An Hoa Tower	VFR SVFR TOTAL	3,598 140 3,738
	An Hoa GCA	-VFR IFR TOTAL	1 0
C.	Baldy Tower	VFR SVFR IFR TOTAL	12,385 0 0 12,385

Weather

- a. During the month of November 1969, the Weather Section continued to support all Marine Aircraft Group 16 Operations in the Marble Mountain and An Hoa areas.
- b. An informal observation program was instituted at LZ Baldy on 3 November. A formal program will commence when Baldy becomes fully operational.
- c. Received personnel and equipment from the now defunct MAG-39 during this month. Weather van complex now awaiting power and communication lines.

Enclosure (1)

11. Food Service

- a. There were approximately 214,850 meals fed at the Marble Mountain Air Facility Messhalls during the month of November, which includes all normal meals and party rations. Bread and donuts for the month of November were issued from the Red Beach Bakery. The messhall is required to pick up the donuts three (3) times weekly and bread each day. Marble Mountain Messhall used approximately 4,600 pounds of flour for the preparation of pastries, pies, and for the Marine Corps Birthday cakes. Fresh and dry stores were procured from NSA.
- b. Extention has been added to the SNCO & Sgt's Mess. The new storeroom for the enlisted mess has been completed and is now in operation. A new scullery is being added to the enlisted mess but is still under construction. The back dock of the enlisted mess has been recaped.
- c. On the job training and technical training was condicted for all mess personnel and properly recorded. Night snacks were furnished for all enlisted clubs for the month of November. The messhall is still unable to furnish ice for parties because of the shortage at the ice plant. As stated in previous reports, the messhall needs a drainage system in back of the enlisted messhall. Both the enlisted and officer's messes are in bad need of roof repairs.

12. Base Services/Utilities

- a. <u>Water Point</u>. During the month of November 1969 the Utilities Water Point distributed a total of 3,293,300 gallons of potable water. Of this a total of 68,550 gallons were distributed to other units outside of MAG-16.
- b. <u>Paint Shop</u>. During the month of November 1969 the Utilities Paint Shop completed a total of 26 work orders. Signs were painted for Special Services, MAG-16 Post Office and Base Operations.
- c. Electric Shop. During the month of November 1969 the Utilities Electric Shop completed a total of 75 work orders. The MARS Station was wired up, plus the Zulu Command Bunker. Broken lines were repaired at Sick Bay, a fuse box was installed for a 400 cycle generator at Comm. The MAG-16 CO's trailer was rewired to correspond with the remodeling. Minor electrical repairs were made throughout the living area. The Utilities Section, Electric Shop also has a man at An Hoa as a gherator operator to supply emergency power for the flight line and a man is also supplied for off duty hours to answer any electrical problems that arise. The Electric Shop completed the above with a total of eighteen men.
- d. Plumbing Shop. During the month of November 1969 the Utilities Plumbing Shop completed a total of 22 work orders. The Plumbing Shop completed a drain system for the E Mess. Many smaller jobs were also completed, such as repairs to the enlisted showers, repairing leaks and unstopping drains at the mess halls.

- e. Refrigeration Shop. During the month of November 1969 the Refrigeration Shop completed a total of 34 work orders. Most of these were repairs on the air conditioners in the officer living area. Water coolers and refrigerators were also repaired. Many units were sent to the China Beach $^{\rm R}$ efrigeration Shop for repairs.
- f. Carpenter Shop. During the month of November 1969 the Utilities Carpenter Shop completed a total of 81 work orders. Embarkation boxes were built for HMH-463, H&MS-16, VMO-2, Chaplain, Disbursing, HMH-361, and Ordanance. A picket fence for H&MS-16 was constructed to be used as a barrier. H&MS-16 and MABS-16's mail rooms were enlarged. Roofs were repaired at Special Service, Motor Transport and Zulu Company. Saw horses and a surf board rack were constructed for Special Services. The new MAG-16 MARS Station complex was completed. Frames were built for HMH-463 and HML-167. The construction of 2 fuel sample racks for VMO-2, file box for LAG-16 Analysis, stands for air conditioners at MAG-16 Weather and a bench for HMH-463 Ready Room were completed. A total of 125 sheets of plywood were issued for self help projects. The Carpenter Shop completed the above with a total of twenty two men.
- g. <u>Base Laundry</u>. During the month of November 1969 the Base Laundry processed a total of 2712 bundles of clothing. An additional 4275 pounds of organizational gear was also processed for a total of 44,955 pounds of clothing processed. The individual bundle service remains open to all ranks.

13. Heavy Equipment

- a. <u>Maintenance</u>. For the month of November 1969 the maintenance section opened twelve (12) work orders. Out of this number five (5) were closed out and seven (7) remain open. There are two (2) work orders still open from the month of September 1969, but there are no work orders still open from the month of October 1969.
- b. Operations. The Operations Section completed 354 equipment requests. Of this total the following break down is submitted.

	•	
Art	30001b forklift	26
C-40	4000lb forklift	60
RTF	6000lb forklift	152
H-150-C	15000lb forklift	10
72-31M	Scooploader	32
M-12	Grader	3
Wabco	Grader	. 13
M-60	Crane, Anthony	12
M-180	Crane, Bay City	2
325-TC	P&H Crane	43
D-4	Dozer	1
		
$ ext{TOTAL}$		354

Enclosure (1)



- 14. Ordnance. During the month of November 1969 the MABS-16 Ordnance section issued a total of 12,635 White Phosphorus and High Explosive rockets. 516,210 rounds of assorted small arms ammunition and 123,100 rounds of restricted ammunition was transferred to MAG-11 Ammo Dump for disposition. Received by MAG-16 Ordnance during the month of November, 4,636 High Explosive and 8,047 White Phosphorus rockets.
- 15. Exchange. During the month of November 1969 the Exchange and Facilities sales totaled as listed below:

Exchange James E. LEE Saehan Laboratories Huynh PHUNG Laundry & Gift Shops LOC SVP LTD Barber Shops SAX Tailor Photo & Engraving Kong YONG Laundry	\$67,475.43 5,339.85 4,813.35 5,661.15 1,643.85 9,381.50 1,905.20 6,262.65
Kim YONG Portrait	257.00
Total	\$103 , 739 .9 8



AN HOA AIRFIELD COLLIAND CHRONOLOGY FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 1969

- 1. During the month of November 1969, the MAG-16 Detachment supported all transient aircraft with Crash Fire and Rescue services, Weather, Refueling, Ordnance, and Air Traffic Control services.
- 2. During the month of November, An Hoa Combat Base received no hostile fire or ground attacks.
- 3. A brief description of activities are as follows.
- a. Weather. The Weather Section provided meteorological services to the 5th Marine Regiment, Air Traffic Control Tower and Marble Mountain Air Facility.
- b. <u>Communications</u>. The Communications Section provided it's normal functions as a radio link between An Hoa Airfield and Marble Mountain Air Facility. Traffic consisted of weather information and general administrative messages.
- c. <u>Crash Crew</u>. Crash Crew continued to provide it's function as Crash, Fire and Rescue Services to An Hoa Combat Base. The section leader conducted the monthly inspection on 16-17 November for the 5th Marine Regiment. Crash Crew responded to the following.

7Nov69 - CH-46 with possible fire

14Nov69 - CH-46 with battle damaged control box

20Nov69 - To a live flare in the vicinity of ammo bunkers

21Nov69 - Cobra with hydraulic failure

26Nov69 - To fire in messhall

27Nov69 - Cobra with hydraulic failure

29Nov69 - CH-53 electrical fire windshield wiper motor

d. TAFDS. The TAFDS Section provided JP-4 and Aviation Gasoline refueling services to all aircraft requesting such.

		115/145 A	vGas JP-4
NO.	GAL REC'D	0	110,000
NO.	GAL ISSUED	484	117,819
NO.	GAL ON HAND	4 , 260	65,009

Sec. 10 28

e. Ordnance. The MAG-16 detachment provided Ordnance support for all aircraft requesting same.

TYPE	ISSUED	ON HAND
HE ROCKET	776	254
WP ROCKET	120	370
7.62 Belted	43,200 rds	43,800 rds
.50 Belted	12,380 rds	2,124 rds
Red Smoke	9	16 G er nades
Green Smoke	8	12 G er nades
HC	16	0 Gernades
40mm Belted	2,510	250

f. MATCU-68. During the month of November 1969 Marine Air Traffic Control Unit 68 provided services at An Hoa Airfield. These services consisted of Control Tower, Ground Control Approach, and TACAN. Airfield operations for the month are as follows.

-	FIXED WING	HELICOPTER	GCA
VFR	256	3494	2
Special VFR	4	272	