

MARINE AIR SUPPORT SQUADRON-3
Marine Air Control Group-18
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

3:CDG:gw
5750
12 October 1967
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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Air Control Group-18

Subj: Command Chronology (U)

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.1C

Encl: (1) Command Chronology, MASS-3, 1-30 September 1967

1. In accordance with reference (a), the MASS-3 Command Chronology for September 1967 is submitted as enclosure (1).

2. This letter becomes unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

H. R. Bumpas

H. R. BUMPAS, Jr.

MASS-3

CMD CHRON

MASS-3

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ENCLOSURE (1)
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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY (U)
MARINE AIR SUPPORT SQUADRON-THREE
1 - 30 September 1967
Chu Lai, RVN

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1 - 30 September 1967

Enclosure (1)

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CONFIDENTIALPART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. (U) Commanding Officer LtCol Gordon D. MCPHERSON 1-15 September 1967
 Executive Officer LtCol Hugh R. BUMPAS, Jr. 15-30 September 1967
 Maj John C. DIXON 1-14 September 1967
 Maj George B. TOWNSEND, Jr. 14-30 September 1967
 Operations Officer Maj Charles D. GODDARD
 Comm-Elect Officer Capt Thomas O. J. FARR
 Services Officer Capt James A. VOLLENDORF
 Supply Officer Capt Otto G. LINDEN
 Administrative Officer 2ndLt William R. BURLINGAME
2. (C) Marine Air Support Squadron-Three, Chu Lai, RVN
 - a. CP, DASC (Landshark "Alpha") and ASRT (King Lear "Bravo") Chu Lai, RVN
 - b. ASRT (King Lear "Alpha") Dong Ha, RVN
 - c. Mobile DASC (Landshark "Yankee") Hill 63, RVN 10-16 September 1967
3. (C) 29 Officers and 180 Enlisted

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CONFIDENTIALPART II - SIGNIFICANT HIGHLIGHTS

1. (C) September opened with the squadron still operating air control agencies at Chu Lai and Dong Ha. During the month the mobile DASC was fielded for a week and preparations were made to take over operation of the DASC (Landshark) at Danang.

The DASC and ASRT at Chu Lai continued their support of allied forces in southern ICTZ. The DASC traffic has decreased considerably as Marine ground forces are replaced by Army units. By the end of the month, the DASC was serving primarily as an artillery advisory center for both Marine and Army aircraft working in the Chu Lai area. Meanwhile the Americal Division has gradually increased its target requests so that U. S. Army targets now make up half of the daily TPQ-10 target lists.

On 3 September, after a week of sporadic shelling, the Dong Ha ASRT was subjected to a particularly heavy bombardment. An ammunition dump was detonated and the area around the ASRT site was leveled by the subsequent fire and explosions. During this critical period, the ASRT was ordered to become operational because the duty ASRT (Devastate "D") had just gone down. The ASRT responded and struck two priority targets within twenty minutes. This action resulted in recommendations for awards for two members of the ASRT. Later in the month, the ASRT became quite busy as bad weather became a significant operational factor. On 18 September the ASRT controlled some helicopter resupply missions into Con Thien. As bad weather becomes more prevalent, these helicopter resupply missions will become a daily task. On 26 September the ASRT set a new tonnage record by controlling the drop of 125 tons in a 24 hour period.

On 9 September the Mobile DASC was heli-lifted by CH-53 from Chu Lai to Hill #63 and participated in operation SWIFT during the period 10 - 16 September. One feature of this deployment was the smoothness of operations once the DASC was emplaced and coordination was established with Task Force XRay's FSOC. This was clearly demonstrated during the night of 13 and 14 September 1967, when Landshark Yankee contributed significantly to the success of a battalion size helicopter lift five miles southwest of Hill 63.

Meanwhile, on 25 September the squadron was ^{activated} ~~ordered~~ to take over operation of the DASC at Danang. This action will result in a more even balance between assets and operational requirements. In order to preserve continuity, a gradual phase-in of personnel commenced on the 26th with the dispatch of an officer and three enlisted to Danang. As the month ended, equipment transfers were still being studied.

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CONFIDENTIALPART III - SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. (C) Air Operations. Air support operations are summarized below:

	<u>DASC</u>		
	<u>"A"</u>	<u>"Y"</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Fixed Wing Missions Controlled	284	117	401
Helo Missions Controlled	532	90	622

	<u>ASRT</u>		
	<u>"A"</u>	<u>"B"</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Bombing Missions	411	183	594
Targets Hit	530	414	944
Ordnance Dropped (Tons)	1325	421	1746

2. (U) Command. On 15 September 1967, LtCol H. R. BUMPAS, Jr. relieved LtCol G. D. MCPHERSON at a change of command ceremony on the squadron parade.

3. (U) Personnel. September was a boon month for promotions. The squadron gained 2 new Gunnery Sergeants, 12 new Sergeants, 29 new Corporals and 9 new Lance Corporals.

4. (U) Civic Action. During the month of September, MASS-3 MedCap team treated 62 adults and 398 children. Also of primary concern during the month was the construction of a dispensary and the continuation of our well improvement program. The children of Trung Toan hamlet were treated to several beach parties on the Chu Lai beach.

Enclosure (1)

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