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MARINE AIR SUPPORT SQUADRON-3(REIN)
Marine Air Control Group-18
1st Marine Aircraft Wing
FPO San Francisco 96602

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3:CB:dls
5750
8 January 1970
03A01070

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Air Control Group-18 (S-3)

Subj: Command Chronology

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

Encl: (1) Command Chronology, Marine Air Support Squadron-3 (REIN) 1-31 December 1969

1. In accordance with reference (a) and (b), the Marine Air Support Squadron-3(REIN) (MASS-3) Command Chronology for December 1969 is submitted as enclosure (1).

2. This letter becomes unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1). IAW OPNAVINST 5510.1C

J. H. DUBOIS

MASS-3

CMD CHRON

COPY 1 OF 7
MASS-3
010-70

DOWNGRADED AT 3-YEAR INTERVALS
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DOD DIR 5200.10

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

MARINE AIR SUPPORT SQUADRON-3(REIN)

1-31 DECEMBER 1969

DA NANG, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Command and Staff Officers for the reporting period include:

Commanding Officer	1-31 Dec	LtCol John H. DUBOIS
Executive Officer	1-31 Dec	Maj Pasquale J. FLORIO
Administrative Officer	1-31 Dec	1stLt Jerone ANTKOWSKI
Operations Officer	1-15 Dec 16-31 Dec	Maj Donald R. HUFFMAN Maj Charles R. KEITH
Services Officer	1-31 Dec	Maj Charles M. MCCAIN
Comm/Elect Officer	1-31 Dec	Maj James B. HICKOK
OIC Da Nang DASC	1-31 Dec	Maj John J. MCNAMARA
OIC Baldy HDC	1-31 Dec	1stLt Dennis W. VICKERY
OIC Da Nang ASRT	1-31 Dec	1stLt Thomas R. SHINE
OIC Chu Lai ASRT	1-31 Dec	1stLt John P. TUCKER
OIC An Hoa ASRT	1-31 Dec	Capt Jerry R. GERMAN
OIC Birmingham ASRT	1-31 Dec	Capt Frank H. DOWDEN
OIC Quang Tri ASRT	1-31 Dec	1stLt Edward S. FORD

2. Marine Air Support Squadron-3(REIN), Da Nang, RVN

   a. CP, Da Nang ASRT, Da Nang DASC, Da Nang, RVN 1-31 Dec 1969

   b. Chu Lai ASRT, Chu Lai, RVN 1-31 Dec 1969

   c. An Hoa ASRT, An Hoa, RVN 1-31 Dec 1969

   d. Birmingham ASRT, Birmingham FSB, RVN 1-31 Dec 1969

   e. Quang Tri ASRT, Quang Tri, RVN 1-31 Dec 1969

   f. Baldy HDC, Landing Zone Baldy, RVN 1-31 Dec 1969

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3. Average monthly strength of Squadron:

Marine Officers	45
Marine Enlisted	262
Naval Officers	0
Naval Enlisted	1

4. a. 9 Dec 1969, BGen SPANJER, AWC, visited Da Nang DASC

b. 11 Dec 1969, BGen SPANJER, AWC, revisited Da Nang DASC and presented two armchairs for furnishing

c. 11 Dec 1969, Col DUNWIDDIE, CO MACG-18, visited Da Nang DASC and expressed his satisfaction at the physical appearance of the DASC

d. 11 Dec 1969, Col DUNWIDDIE, CO MACG-18, visited Birmingham ASRT and Quang Tri ASRT

e. 20 Dec 1969, MGen THRASH, CG, 1st MAW visited An Hoa ASRT

f. 22 Dec 1969, LtCol CALVIN, Marine Liaison Officer to Horn DASC visited Da Nang DASC for orientation briefing

g. 24 Dec 1969, MGen WHEELER, CG, 1st MarDiv, visited Da Nang DASC

h. 26 Dec 1969, BGen MILLER, Chief of Staff, III MAW visited Da Nang DASC

i. 27 Dec 1969, BGen SPANJER, AWC revisited Da Nang DASC

j. 27 Dec 1969, MGen THRASH, CG, 1st MAW visited Da Nang DASC

k. 31 Dec 1969, MGen WHEELER, CG, 1st MarDiv, visited MASS-3 CP

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the month of December, MASS-3 continued to provide control and coordination for fixed wing and helicopter missions in support of III MAF operations. MASS-3 participated in the following operations in December: Iron Mountain, Frederick Hill, Nantucket Beach, Geneva Park, and Fulton Square. The squadron and its outlying sites were visited by several distinguished persons including BGen SPANJER, AWC, who presented Da Nang DASC two armchairs for furnishing. Da Nang DASC was also visited by MGen WHEELER, CG, 1st MarDiv, MGen THRASH, CG, 1st MAW, and Col DUNWIDDIE, CO, MACG-18, who expressed his satisfaction over the physical appearance of the DASC. The MASS-3 CP was visited by MGen WHEELER on 31 December 1969. Visitors to outlying sites included MGen THRASH who visited An Hoa ASRT and Col DUNWIDDIE who visited Birminham ASRT and Quang Tri ASRT. On Christmas Day, LTCol DUBOIS, CO, MASS-3, accompanied by the Sergeant Major and Operations Chief, visited An Hoa ASRT and the HDC at LZ Baldy presenting Red Cross Christmas packages. Da Nang DASC was complimented by the USMC Liaison ALO, ROK Marine Corps, for a job well done by DASC personnel in coordinating a night medevac of 43 Vietnamese civilians wounded when their village was overrun by enemy forces.

Throughout the month of December Da Nang ASRT controlled a variety of missions in addition to strike control of high performance jet aircraft. Four flare missions were conducted in December. Three in support of the 1st MarDiv and one in support of the USA north of Hai Van Pass. On Christmas eve, Da Nang ASRT, coordinating with Da Nang DASC, controlled BasketBall 796 (KC-130) and positioned the aircraft to provide lighting for a medevac being conducted south of Liberty Bridge. Aerial resupplies were conducted in support of the 7th Marine Regiment. Performing the drop was a KC-130 which delivered a total of 18,000 pounds of supplies on 16 and 17 December. On the 29th and 31st of December a study of paradrops from CH-53's was conducted producing excellent results. A special seeding mission along an infiltration route south of Da Nang was conducted on 9 December. Total ordnance amounted to 56 D2A bombs with "Q" fuses. Two "mini-arc-lights" were controlled in support of 1st MarDiv G-2. Total aircraft involved were 5/A6's, 6/F4's, and 3/A4's. On 31 December 1969, an AN/TPQ-10 demonstration was conducted utilizing IOD for hit spots. Among those present for the demonstration were the CO, MACG-18, 1st MarDiv FSCC Officer, 1st MarDiv NGF Officer,

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S-3, MACG-18, CO, MASS-3, S-3, MASS-3, Asst OIC, DA Nang DASC, OIC, Da Nang ASRT, and OIC, AN Hoa ASRT. Results of the demonstration were excellent. On 4 December 1969, an air ambush was conducted in support of 1st MarDiv. A recon team in the area observed the strike and passed a BDA of 52 probable KBA.

Various improvements in living conditions took place at the outlying ASRT sites during December. At Birmingham ASRT resandbagging of the bunker commenced and the enlisted Marines moved to their new living quarters in a recently constructed bunker. The shower was reconstructed and on 7 December, a 2000 gallon diesel tank was installed. Arrangements were made by the OIC to have the Army provide 1200 gallons of diesel fuel every six days. Prior to the present arrangement, ASRT personnel had to make daily fuel runs using 55 gallon drums. Complete resandbagging of the bunker at An Hoa ASRT commenced on 8 December. A new generator and truck park was constructed allowing for direct deposit and pick-up of generators. Kitchen facilities were remodeled and a new sink with hot and cold water was installed. Quang Tri ASRT completed the painting of their bunker in December.

The overall Services situation continues to improve. New construction and maintenance of motor transport and engineering equipment have improved as a result of emphasis placed on the establishment of priorities and coordination of operational commitments with maintenance necessities. Non-receipt of clothing items has created problems in issuing full allowance of clothing to incoming personnel. Resupply of outlying ASRT sites has been accomplished by ground, fixed wing, and rotary wing transportation.

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PART III

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

(U) 1. Administration. None.

(C) 2. Personnel. On 1 December Capt Jerry R. GERMAN relieved Frank H. DOWDEN as OIC of An Hoa ASRT. Capt Frank H. DOWDEN relieved 1stLt Philip M. MARRIE as OIC of Birmingham ASRT. Throughout the month of December Squadron representatives visited the MASS-3 outlying sites. On 16 December Maj Charles R. KEITH relieved Maj Donald R. HUFFMAN as Operations Officer.

(C) 3. Command Relationships/Command and Control. MASS-3 provided various orientation briefings pertaining to squadron operations throughout the month of December. Among those attending were LtCol CALVIN, Marine Liaison Officer Horn DASC, MGen WHEELER, CG, 1st MarDiv, and BGen MILLER, Chief of Staff, III MAF. Squadron representatives joined with MACG-18 representatives in conducting air control briefings at MAG-11 and MAG-16. Also presented was a briefing held at MACG-18 Headquarters for newly arrived personnel to RVN.

(C) 4. Air Control. MASS-3 presently provides, operates and maintains five Air Support Radar Teams (ASRT's) within I Corps. In addition, a Direct Air Support Center (DASC) and a Helicopter Direction Center (HDC) are provided for the tactical control of fixed wing and rotary aircraft. Air Force representatives at Chu Lai have discussed the possible future utilization of the AN/TPQ-10 by VNAF pilots flying A-37's. On 3 December 1969, Chu Lai ASRT recorded a probable 25 KBA's while conducting a AN/TPQ-10 strike. On 4 December 1969, Da Nang ASRT controlled an "Air Ambush" in support of 1st MarDiv with a recon team observing. The strike resulted in 52 probable KBA's. Secondary explosions were reported by Da Nang ASRT on the 5th, 7th, and 30th of December 1969. On 18 December 1969, An Hoa ASRT participated in the first calibration hop utilizing IOD. IOD was again used for calibration purpose on 20 and 21 December 1969. On 28 December 1969, Da Nang ASRT, controlling a flight of F-100's, struck a target 35 miles S.W. of Da Nang in skin mode. The target was in support of Special Forces. On 23 December 1969, Da Nang DASC was complimented by the USMC Liaison ALO, ROK Marine Corps, for a fine job done by DASC personnel in coordinating a night medevac of 43 Vietnamese civilians wounded when their village was overrun by enemy forces. Squadron representatives attended a conference

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on employment of Marine aircraft on 30 December 1969. Also on that date the OIC of Da Nang DASC submitted recommendations to CG, 1st MAW, regarding changes to DASC's operating procedures. The recommendations propose a broad increase in DASC's launch and divert authority.

(C) 5. Special Operations. During December 1969 Da Nang ASRT controlled four flare missions utilizing Marine KC-130 aircraft. On 24 December 1969 Da Nang ASRT, coordinating with Da Nang DASC, controlled BB 796 (KC-130) and positioned the aircraft to provide lighting for a medevac being conducted south of Liberty Bridge. On 2 December 1969, Da Nang ASRT controlled a flare mission in support of the Army north of Hai Van Pass. On 8 and 9 December 1969, Da Nang ASRT controlled "mini-arc-lights" in support of the 1st MarDiv. Total aircraft involved were 5/A6's, 6/F4's, and 3/A4's. A special seeding mission along an infiltration route south of Da Nang was conducted on 9 December. The mission was controlled by Da Nang ASRT. Ordnance dropped totaled 56 D2A bombs with "Q" fusing. Aerial resupply missions were conducted on 16 and 17 December 1969 in support of the 7th Marine Regiment. A total of 18,000 lbs of supplies were dropped. This mission was also controlled by Da Nang ASRT. On the 29th and 31st of December, a study of paradrops from CH-53's was conducted. Flying at 4000 ft. AGL, 150 knots TAS, and with a 20 second delay in chute deployment producing excellent results. On 31 December 1969, an AN/TPQ-10 demonstration was conducted for 1st MarDiv artillery and NGF personnel. IOD was used for hit spots and results of the demonstration were excellent.

(U) 6. Civic Action. The MASS-3 civic action program was mostly limited to providing the MACG-18 civic action program with material from MASS-3's old location on Hill 200. MASS-3 Marines joined with Marines from other units within the Group in presenting a Christmas program for children from the Sacred Heart Orphanage in Da Nang. The activity took place at the MACG-18 compound on Christmas Day.

(C) 7. Ground Defense. During the month of December 15 bunkers were rebuilt. Ground defense is recently in a high state of readiness due to numerous perimeter improvements and the laying of additional wire. Four patrols provided reconnaissance of the area surrounding the MASS-3 compound. The squadron also set up one night ambush. No enemy contact was encountered.

(U) 8. Training. GMS and technical training was conducted in December in accordance with current directives. A special

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three hour drug abuse lecture was presented by a Wing training representative on 19 December 1969. There were two Senior Air Directors, one Strike Controller, and one Air Supprt Operations Operator trained and qualified in December, In addition, two MASS-3 personnel attended a Mares GA/GB assistance presentation given by officers from HQMC. Birmingham ASRT personnel attended GMS training provided by the Army during December.

(C) 9. Logistics. On 26 December 1969, a rebuilt AN/TPQ-10 was transported by fixed wing aircraft from Da Nang to Phu Bai. At Phu Bai the system was rigged and slung for helicopter transport. The AN/TPQ-10 was then lifted by CH-53 to Birmingham ASRT at Birmingham FSB. The system which was replaced was returned to Da Nang on 28 December 1969, by motor vehicle.

(U) 10. Supply. During December, MASS-3 introduced a total of 507 requisitions into the supply system. The level of priority 02 and 05 requisitions remain high and are being closely controlled and monitored. Budget estimates were submitted during December requesting funds for third quarter FY-70, FY-71, and FY-72.

(U) 11. Engineering. In December five generators were flown to ASRT sites in response to emergency requirements. An additional five generators were transported by ground transportation. The Trane Airconditioners, which provide cooling to sensitive electrical components within the AN/TPQ-10, have recently became a critical problem due to depletion of the maintenance float. Recent acquisition of a 175 KW 60 Hertz commercial generator from NSA, Da Nang has released tactical generators from cantonment use, easing the maintenance problem caused by continuous use. All ASRT's have primary and back-up power on-site and generator units are available within the MASS-3 compound for immediate reaction and delivery to the ASRT's in case of an emergency requirement.

(U) 12. Maintenance. During December 1969, Birmingham ASRT began rewiring the bunker's electrical system. Approximately 1200 ft. of cantonment wiring was replaced in December. Additional wiring has been installed to allow tactical equipment and cantonment power to be drawn from the newly acquired 150KW generator and 100KW converter. The previous MASS-3 location on Hill 200 was completely disassembled and all materials removed from the site during December.

(C) 13. Communications/Electronics. On 1 December 1969, three TSEC/KY-28 Nestor equipments were installed and ready

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for use. A communication facilities control center was established in the CEO office and put into operation on 2 December. Throughout the month of December radar officers visited outlying sites providing technical assistance and supervising troubleshooting of equipment malfunctions. On 17 December CWO PRICE was sent to Birmingham ASRT to be the permanent Radar Officer at that site. Capt NAILOR from Comm/Elect accompanied the S-3 and S-4 Officers in delivering an new AN/TPQ-10 Radar Course Direction Central, serial A-14, to Birmingham ASRT on 26 December.

(U) 14. Construction. With the completion of the 21,000 gallon water tank, required plumbing was installed. A shower and sauna bath were erected during December for use by all hands within the squadron. A new motor transport maintenance shop was completed during December. The construction was done on a self-help basis and combined with the recent receipt of a new HPCU, the capability of 1st and 2nd echelon maintenance should improve significantly. On 11 December 1969, repair and remodeling of the DASC in its new location was completed. A new E-Club was completed and opened on 24 December. Living conditions were improved at An Hoa ASRT throughout the month of December. New sanitation facilities were installed as well as a 500 gallon hot shower facility. Complete resandbagging of the bunker at An Hoa ASRT commenced on 8 December. A new generator and truck shed was constructed allowing for direct deposit and pick-up of generators. Kitchen facilities were remodeled and a new sink with hot and cold water was installed. Birmingham ASRT also engaged in resandbagging of their bunker in December. On 4 December 1969, the enlisted Marines moved to their new living quarters in a recently constructed bunker. Four loads of rock were placed around the bunker to control the mud from the monsoon rains. The shower was reconstructed and on 7 December a 2,000 gallon diesel tank was installed. Quang Tri ASRT completed the painting of their bunker in December.

(U) 15. Motor Transport. During the month of December 1969, the Motor Transport section traveled 8,500 miles and carried 2,728 passengers. 16,691 gallons of POL was transported along with 240 tons of supplies and equipment. An average of 10,000 gallons of water was transported per day for consumption and use by squadron personnel.

(U) 16. Informational Services. During the month of December 1969, MASS-3 submitted 49 Home Town News Releases.

(U) 17. Casualties. NONE.

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(U) 18. Awards. During the month of December 1969 the following MASS-3 personnel received awards:

Maj HUFFMAN, D.R.	Silver Star
1stLt DEBLANC, D.J.	Gold Star in lieu of 2nd Air Medal
Sgt GOSLIN, J.W.	Navy Commendation
Sgt LAIRD, T.W. III	Good Conduct
Sgt WALLS, R.S.	Good Conduct
Cpl SINCLAIR, J.D.	Meritorious Mast
LCpl HENSLEY, R.N.	Meritorious Mast
PFC HOOPER, P.E.	Meritorious Mast

The following were recommended for awards:

Maj HUFFMAN, D.R.	Legion of Merit
1stLt STIVERS, K.H.	Navy Commendation
SSGT SIDOTE, J.W.	Navy Commendation
Sgt DE WITT, B.L. III	Navy Achievement

A letter was submitted recommending MASS-3 for a Navy Unit Commendation for the period 1 May 1968 - 23 November 1969.

The following promotions were presented:

To Major	MCNAMARA, J.J.
1st MAW Meritorious Combat Promotion to Sergeant	BLASINGAME, L.L. JR.
TO Sergeant	DUNWOODY, S.T.
	LOVASZ, S.R.
	KARLS, D.A.
	HUG, J.W. JR.
	BERG, M.J.
	FARRINGTON, T.G.
	THOMAS, G.V.
	HICKMAN, L.J.
	JOYCE, M.D.
	TURNER, J.M.
To Corporal	BOND, J.G.

(U) 19. Morale and Welfare. During the month of December, Liberty remained secured and recreation was provided by squadron Special Services. The squadron affords all personnel the opportunity to use the beach facilities at Chine Beach R & R Center each Sunday afternoon. MASS-3 personnel enjoyed a total of seven Floor Shows during the month of December. On Christmas Day the squadron messhall prepared an outstanding dinner. Twenty-one Marines from MASS-3 received tickets to the Bob Hope Christmas Show at Freedom Hill on 25 December. MASS-3 provided many R & R quotas for personnel during the month of

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December, among these were:

Sydney	7 Persons
Bangkok	4 Persons
Taipei	3 Persons
Tokyo	1 Person
Hong Kong	1 Person
Hawaii	5 Persons

(U) 20. Air Defense. None.

(U) 21. Base Development and Military Construction. Aforementioned.

(C) 22. The following operational data for the reporting period included:

A. Da Nang DASC

Da Nang DASC	USMC	USN	USAF	USA	TOTAL
Fixed Wing Missions	800	0	26	28	854
Helo Missions	1010	0	0	0	1010
Medevacs	715	0	0	0	715

B. ASRT 1-31 December 1969 Inclusive (USMC)

	A11 DaNang	A1 An Hoa	A7 Chu Lai	A3 Birmingham	A8 Quang Tri	Total
Bombing Missions	220	71	236	0	237	764
Targets Hit	328	105	415	0	257	1105
Visual Targets	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ordnance Dropped (Tons)	854.241	189.696	867.707	0	831.488	2743.132
Sorties	262	76	275	0	329	942

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C. ASRT 1-31 December 1969 Inclusive (USN)

	A11 Da Nang	A1 An Hoa	A7 Chu Lai	A8 Birmingham
Bombing Missions	10	0	3	0
Targets Hit	10	0	5	0
Visual Targets	0	0	0	0
Ordnance Dropped (Tons)	29.982	0	18.410	0
Sorties	20	0	6	0

	A8 Quang Tri	Total
Bombing Missions	33	46
Target Hit	34	50
Visual Targets	0	0
Ordnance Dropped (Tons)	92.137	140.529
Sorties	64	90

D. ASRT 1-31 December 1969 Inclusive (USAF)

	A11 Da Nang	A1 An Hoa	A7 Chu Lai	A8 Birmingham
Bombing Missions	8	1	6	0
Targets Hit	8	1	6	0
Visual Targets	0	0	0	0
Ordnance Dropped (Tons)	36.125	2.860	20.638	0
Sorties	18	1	11	0

	A8 Quang Tri	Total
Bombing Missions	3	18
Targets Hit	3	18
Visual Targets	0	0
Ordnance Dropped (Tons)	18.936	78.559
Sorties	6	36

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E. ASRT 1-31 December 1969 Inclusive (TOTALS)

	A11 Da Nang	A1 An Hoa	A7 Chu Lai	A6 Birmingham
Bombing Missions	238	72	245	0
Targets Hit	347	106	426	0
Visual Targets	0	0	0	0
Ordnance Dropped (Tons)	920.348	192.556	906.755	0
Sorties	300	77	292	0

	A8 Quang Tri	[illegible]	Total
Bombing Missions	273		828
Targets Hit	294		1173
Visual Targets	0		0
Ordnance Dropped (Tons)	862.261		2881.920
Sorties	399		1068

F. ASRT Operating Hours as of 31 December 1969

	A11 Da Nang	A1 An Hoa	A7 Chu Lai	A3[illegible] Birmingham	A14	A8 Quang Tri
Total Hours	12,566	29,582	26,473	UNK	UNK	18,905
Since Rehab	7,969	17,219	21,639	UNK	UNK	11,480
Hours in Dec	724	710	700	400	96	720

G. During the month of December 1969 MASS-3 participated in the following operations:

Operation	Agency
Iron Mountain	Chu Lai ASRT
Frederick Hill	Chu Lai ASRT
Nantucket Beach	Chu Lai ASRT
Geneva Park	Chu Lai ASRT
Fulton Square	Quang Tri ASRT

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