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MARINE OBSERVATION SQUADRON 6  
Marine Aircraft Group 36  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FAW, Da Nang  
APO San Francisco 96302

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| VMO-6 S&C FILES |
| SER: 404-66     |
| DATE: 6 NOV.    |
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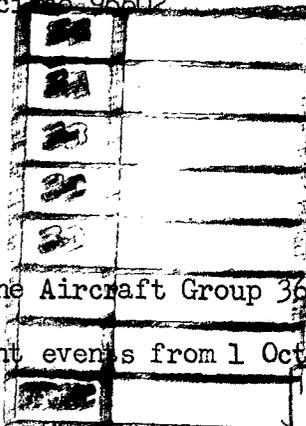
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From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 36

Subj: Chronology of significant events from 1 October 1966 thru 31 October 1966 (U)

Ref: (a) Wgo 5750.1A  
(b) GruO 5750.1



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1. In accordance with references (a) and (b), the following is submitted:

a. Organization Data.

|                        |      |                 |       |
|------------------------|------|-----------------|-------|
| (1) Commanding Officer | Maj  | W. R. MALONEY   | 1-31  |
| Executive Officer      | Maj  | R. M. GREGORY   | 1-19  |
|                        | Maj  | W. E. DODDS     | 20-31 |
| Operation Officer      | Maj  | W. E. DODDS     | 1-20  |
|                        | Maj  | C. E. HENDRIX   | 19-31 |
| Logistics Officer      | Capt | J. C. ARICK     | 1-31  |
| Intelligence Officer   | Capt | B. M. SHADBURNE | 1-20  |
|                        | Capt | N. E. BURKE     | 21-31 |
| Administration Officer | Capt | E. O. MARQUETTE | 1-31  |

(2) Marine Observation Squadron 6, Ky Ha, Republic of Vietnam

(3) Average monthly strength 142

(4) On 30 October LGEN KRULAK visited the squadron for presentation of the CNO Aviation Safety Award.

b. Narrative of significant events occurring in <sup>this</sup> reporting period:

1 Oct 66. Maj DODDS led a section in support of a KMC troop landing in three zones centered around grid square BS 5387. The flight observed several VC in and around huts at BS 508877, and, taking them

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Oral Chron

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under fire, destroyed 1 hut. Oxwood 75 flight also expended their 20 mm with good coverage.

Lt WILSON flew MGEN DAVIS from Chu Lai to the Hilltop Pad at DaNang.

2 Oct 66. Capt WATERS, while at Hue Phu Bai on a convoy escort, was launched in a single UH-IE to escort an emergency retraction of "Home Run," a recon team that was surrounded by VC at YD 627188. The retraction could not be completed initially due to the heavy volume of enemy fire in and around the zone. Capt WATERS however, managed to keep the VC from overrunning the team by using his own and Oxwood 04's ordnance until he was reinforced by Deadlock UH-IE's.

Back in the Ky Ha area Capt ARICK was also launched as escort for an emergency retraction, this one of "Creditor" from BT 065226. Through the skillful deployment of his section and the use of Oxwood 03 flight, Capt ARICK also managed to keep the VC at bay while the retraction was being accomplished.

Lt GARNER flew BGEN HERBOLD around the Chu Lai TAOR while Capt PECORARO flew MGEN DAVIS around the DaNang TAOR, and LT ROSS gave BGEN STILES some flying lessons while carrying him in the Chu Lai area.

3 Oct 66. Maj DODDS spent an interesting morning in support of several recon teams. After a routine insertion of "Chatsworth", his flight drew fire while inserting "Commotion" at BT 296116. Expending his own flight and Oxwood 75, Maj DODDS claimed 1 PKBA for each. After returning from these two insertions, the section was launched on an emergency retraction of "Bickerton" at BS 549469. Although the zone was quiet on the arrival of the helicopters, bad weather made the retraction a very tricky one.

4 Oct 66. Capt ARICK was scrambled with a section to assist "Courthouse" who was under attack at BS 469718. In preparation for a retraction by Millpoint he ran Condole 47, Oxwood 08, and Oxwood 07 in on the enemy positions with 100% target coverage. Capt ARICK also employed the firepower of his own section to prepare the area for the retraction, and to suppress the fire received by the transport helicopters going into and leaving the zone. All aircraft on the scene reported receiving light to heavy fire.

Capt HEALD, while on all night recon coverage of the DaNang area, received fire from several places and captured two VCS that had been trying to hide while he and the flare ship flew overhead.

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Capt OLSON carried ROK BGEN lee and LTGEN CHEA from the ROK CP to Chu Lai and return.

Capt SWINBURN flew MGEN NICKERSON around the various CP's in the Chu Lai TAOR.

LT BODEN went "Hollywood" when in the process of carrying a civilian movie producer and crew around, they decided to use his face and voice in several scenes in a movie they were making about the Marines in Vietnam.

6 Oct 66. Capt OLSON, in response to an emergency call, led a section in escort of a retraction of "Combustion" from BT 134196. The transport helicopters received fire on their approach and the UH-1E's suppressed this fire very effectively.

Maj GREGORY carried BGEN LEE from the ROK CP to "D" Med and return, while Capt PECORARO carried GEN ROBERTSHAW to the Tropos Pad and then to Minh Long and return.

7 Oct 66. Maj DODDS, while on an A/O hop, was diverted to assist "Crossing" who was under attack at BS 412773. Upon his arrival the Major received and returned fire at BS 421780. By the time the fixed wing arrived on station Maj DODDS was low on fuel, and he turned the TAC(A) over to Capt HEALD who had just arrived on station with a section. Captain HEALD, in covering the retraction, also received and returned fire but was unable to expend fixed wing due to darkness.

Maj MALONEY carried MGEN NICKERSON from Chu Lai to the ROK CP and return.

9 Oct 66. Capt OLSON flew BGEN STILES and party on a recon of the southern TAOR.

10 Oct 66. Capt MARQUETTE began an interesting day in VMO-6 when at approximately 0700, several miles west of Tam Ky, his tail rotor drive shaft severed and his engine failed. Displaying a tremendous amount of aeronautical ability, Capt MARQUETTE managed to land the aircraft in-tact in a rice paddy. Tarbush 5-1 made the pickup of the crew and drew fire climbing out of the zone.

Meanwhile, Maj MALONEY's flight, was diverted from several recon inserts, and proceeded to the scene to cover the insertion of a reaction force and a maintenance crew led by Capt WATERS.

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When the aircraft, the maintenance crew, and the reaction force were retracted at approximately 1030, the transport helicopters drew heavy fire and Maj MALONEY controlled the expenditure of Swift 22 and Card 050 flight. During the climbout of the transport aircraft, while LT GARNER was making a "gun" run, his copilot, LT GRIMM, was hit in the leg and immediately taken to the hospital, from where he was later medevaced out of country.

Later in the day, Maj DODDS was called out on an emergency retraction of "Bearlake" at BS 593517. Arriving on the scene, the Major found that the team was surrounded and immediately began making gun and rocket runs on the enemy positions. Also expending Condole 053 flight, Maj DODDS was able to ensure the successful retraction of the team.

Capt OLSON carried MGEN NICKERSON to the Hill Top Pad and return Chu Lai.

11 Oct 66. While on a scrambled TAC(A) launch, Capt HEALD experienced control difficulties and was forced to land his aircraft at BS 438794. His wingman, Capt SWINBURN landed behind him, and gaining contact with Capt OLSON, managed to steer him and a flight of H-34's to the area. After the crew was retracted, a reaction force and maintenance crew was inserted and a short while later the aircraft was repaired and flown home by Capt WATERS. PFC CANON, a member of the maintenance crew was struck in the heel by a round while sitting in the belly of a CH-46 that was orbiting the zone.

Capt OLSON flew MGEN NICKERSON around the DaNang area.

12 Oct 66. Capt MARQUETTE was in the DaNang area and was sent on an emergency retraction of "Sun" at BT 873644. Arriving on the scene he suppressed fire with his own armament and controlled the expenditure of Oxwood 01 flight to enable the 34's to make the retraction.

13 Oct 66. Capt WATERS was diverted while returning from a Med Evac mission to cover a downed H-34 at BS 779858. While there he delivered suppressive fire to cover the retraction of the crew.

Capt CHADWICK flew MGEN NICKERSON and BGEN FLATT around the DaNang area.

14 Oct 66. Capt OLSON flew BGEN STILES to <sup>the</sup> ROK CP and return.

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Late in the evening, Lt. BODEN launched on a MedEvac escort several miles up the Tra Bong valley. While the Millpoint aircraft made a very difficult, but very well done, hoist pickup from the trees, Lt. BODEN controlled the dropping of flares by a flare ship and also controlled mortar fire in the area.

16 Oct 1966. Major GREGORY led a section in escort of a troop lift into BS 474936. The transport helicopters took fire from BS 475932 and "Klondike" expended, killing one V.C. Major Gregory also expended "OXwood" 04 flight, killing 2 V.C.

Major MALONEY acted as TAC(A) to cover the insertion of a maintenance crew and the attempted retractions of a downed H-34 at BS 392653. The Major expended four flights of fixed wing on this retraction.

Captain WATERS flew MGen NICKERSON around the DaNang area, and Capt HEALD flew MGen ROBERTSHAW around the DaNang TAOR.

17 Oct 1966. Major GREGORY was launched to cover an emergency retraction of "Dampen" from BS 404768. After the retraction the Major ran several flights of fixed wing in on the reported V.C. positions.

18 Oct 1966. Lt. GARNER flew MGen NICKERSON around the DaNang area, and Major GREGORY flew BGen STILES & MGen ECKHART, U.S.A., on a local TAOR recon.

19 Oct 1966. Major DODDS had another busy day as he started off running an air strike on V.C. troops crossing a river at BS 605503, damaging 3 Sampans and giving "Condole" 05 flight 1 KBA and 2 PKBA's. The Major moved north several hours later and TAC(A) led against a VC junk beached at BT 367270. The junk was destroyed by "OXwood" 01 flight in one pass, and Major Dodds' flight then escorted 10 CH-46's on a troop lift into the area.

LT WILSON flew KMC BGEN LEE to the tropos Pad and return to the ROK CP.

20 Oct 66. Major DODDS flew BGEN STILES from Chu Lai to DaNang and return.

21 Oct 66. Capt SWINBURN took BGEN STILES to BS 628997 for an award ceremony and return Chu Lai.

23 Oct 66. Capt BARTLEY while leading a section in support of a company size lift into AT 875392, received and returned fire, and then made a med evac pickup at AT 867388.

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24 Oct 66. The A/O hops provided all of the excitement, when first; Capt BURKE'S aircraft was hit by automatic weapons fire, wounding the A/O, and second; Capt OLSON spotted VC in a trench at BS 480824, and, calling in fixed wing, gave "Swiss" 056 flight two KBA's.

LT WILSON flew KMC BGEN LEE on a tour of the KMC operating areas.

25 Oct 66. Maj MALONEY acted as TAC(A) for the initial landing of Operation Dover, and when the transport helicopters received fire from BT 326109, the Klondike aircraft immediately suppressed it.

LT WILSON flew members of a Senate sub-committee to Phu Bai and on a sight seeing tour of Dong Ha and the DMZ area.

26 Oct 66. LT GARNER flew the Senate sub-committee members around the DaNang TAOR.

27 Oct 66. Capt CHADWICK flew BGEN STILES to Tam Ky and return, and was diverted to make a med evac pickup of one wounded ARVN child.

Capt ARICK, while on a hazardous aircraft ferry mission from DaNang to Ky Ha, received two air bursts at 2000'.

29 Oct 66. Maj GREGORY was on an escort of a retraction of "Bad Actor A" when the aircraft received fire from BS 441775. The UH-1E's attacked the VC and recorded 1 KBA, 1 PKBA, 1 hut destroyed and one hut damaged.

Capt BARTLEY, operating out of Phu Bai was returning from a single plane LZ recon when he heard a call for help from a recon team at YD 715146. Arriving on the scene he found the team under attack and expending his ordnance, was able to hold the VC at bay until he could be joined by a section of UH-1E's led by Capt OLSON. The UH-1E's then escorted transport helicopters into the zone to retract the recon team.

LT GARNER flew BGEN STILES in the local TAOR.

30 Oct 66. LT GARNER flew LTGEN KRULAK to various points in the TAOR. He also brought the General to VMO-6's area where a presentation of the CNO Safety Award for 1966 to the squadron was held.

LT GARNER took one round of sniper fire while sitting in a zone at BS 696974.

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31 Oct 66. Capt CHADWICK responded to an emergency call for a dual recon retraction of "Crossing" and "Dampen" who were within 2000 meters of each other, and were both under fire. The transport helicopters and UH-IE's both received fire from all quadrants, but Capt CHADWICK's flight was able to suppress the fire sufficiently to enable the retraction to be made. At times the UH-IE's were forced to fire within 20 to 30 meters of the zone.

c. The following awards were presented during this reporting period:

- (1) 137 Air Medals  
 2 Purple Hearts- LT GRIMM WIA on 11 Oct 66  
 - PFC CANON WIA on 12 Oct 66

d. The following personnel were promoted to their present rank during Oct 66

|                     |         |
|---------------------|---------|
| GYSGT W. T. FORSYTH | 1339228 |
| SSGT J. R. GHASTIN  | 1890147 |
| SGT J. A. SARVER    | 1552231 |
| CPL H. L. NELSON    | 2090020 |
| CPL W. W. PIGFORD   | 1862209 |
| CPL W. B. WHITE     | 2055943 |
| L/CPL R. R. LAFERTY | 2137773 |
| L/CPL W. NOWACK JR. | 2146737 |
| L/CPL J. L. GILPEN  | 2201643 |
| L/CPL R. C. ASHLEY  | 2177648 |
| L/CPL J. Z. CABRAL  | 2198229 |
| PFC J. W. WATASHE   | 2257175 |

|                       |        |
|-----------------------|--------|
| MAJ C. E. HENDRIX     | 067923 |
| 1stLT R. W. FESPERMAN | 091981 |

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e. Squadron statistics for period 1 October through 31 October 1966.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| (1) Aircraft assigned   | 24 (2 in PAR Japan)                                       |
| (2) Average daily availability                                | 15  |
| (3) Flight hours  | 1293  |
| (4) Missions  | 461   |
| (5) Sorties   | 2652  |
| (6) Tons Cargo  | 0   |
| (7) Troops/Passengers   | 522   |
| (8) Med Evacs   | 10  |
| (9) Flights of Fixed Wing                                     | 58  |
| (10) Med Evac Escorts   | 327   |
| (11) Klondike KBA confirmed,<br>total from 1Sept65 to 31Oct66 | 543   |
| (12) Casualties   | 2 (LT GRIMM not returned to duty)<br>(PFC CANON " " " " ) |

  
 W. E. DODDS  
 Acting