HEADQUARTERS
PROVISIONAL MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 39
lst Marine Aircraft Wing
FPO, San Francisco, California 96602



3:RRR:gac 5750 Seri 03A22468 11 August 1968

From: Commanding Officer

To: Commanding General, First Marine Aircraft Wing (G-3)

Subj: Command Chronology for the period of 1-31 July 1968; submission of

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.10

Encl: /(1) Command Chronology for Provisional Marine Aircraft Group 39

(2) Command Chronology for Provisional Headquarters and
 Maintenance Squadron 39
 (3) Command Chronology for Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 161

(3) Command Chronology for Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 161 (4) Command Chronology for Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 262

(5) Command Chronology for Marine Observation Squadron 6

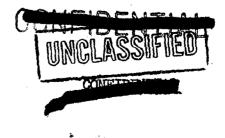
(6) Command Chronology for Marine Air Traffic Control Unit 66
Detachment Alpha

-(7) Command Chronology for Marine Air Traffic Control Unit 62

1. In accordance with instructions contained in reference (a), enclosures (1) through (7) are submitted herewith.

W. SIENKO

Prov MAG-39 S+C # 27/-68 Copy # 1



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PROVISIONAL MARINE ATRICALT GROUP 39
Command Chronology
1 July 1968 to 31 July 1968

PART I

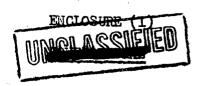
ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

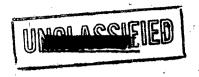
PLIA II

NARRATIVE SUMMET

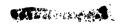
PART III

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS









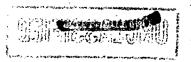
#### PART I ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

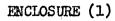
## 1. Staff

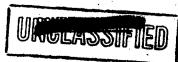
a. Provisional Marine Aircraft Group 39

(1)	LtCol.	Paul W. NIESON	1-4 July 68	C.O.
(2)	Col.	Walter SIENKO	5-31 July 68	
(3)	LtCol.	Louis A. GULLING	1-31 July 68	X.O.
(4)	Capt.	Charles FEASLEMAN		S-1/Adjutant
(5)	Maj.	John A. HATHAWAY	1-31 July 68	S-2
(6)	Maj.	Arthur C. CRANE	1-31 July 68	S-3
(7)	Maj.	David WORKMON	1-31 July 68	s <b>-</b> 4
(8)	Maj.	William A. McGAW Jr.	1-31 July 68	Avn Safety 0
(9)	LCdr.	Rodney R. SCHEER	1-31 July 68	
(10)	Lt.	Drewery H. MORRIS	1-31 July 68	Flight Surgeon

- b. Provisional Headquarters and Maintenance Squadron 39
  - (1) See page 1 of enclosure (1) to enclosure (2)
- c. Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 161
  - (1) See page 1 of enclosure (1) to enclosure (3)
- d. Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 262
  - (1) See page 1 of enclosure (1) to enclosure (4)
- e. Marine Observation Squadron 6
  - (1) See page 1 of enclosure (1) to enclosure (5)
- f. Marine Air Traffic Control Unit 66 Detachment Alpha
  - (1) See page 1 of enclosure (1) to enclosure (6)
- g. Marine Air Traffic Control Unit 62
  - (1) See page 1 of enclosure (1) to enclosure (7)







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5750 Sert **03A22h68** 11 **August 1968** 

2. Provisional Marine Aircraft Group 39
Lat Marine Aircraft Wing
FMF, Pacific, FRO San Francisco, California 96602
Quang Tri Air Base, Republic of Vietnam
1-31 July 1968

3. Average Monthly Strength

Marine Officer: 185 Marine Enlisted:

1039

Navy Officer:

Navy Enlisted:

14

he Important Visitors:

MajGeneral Charles J. QUILTER

BGen Horry G. OLSRII . .

#### PART II NARRATIVE SUCHARY

During the month of July, units of Provisional Marine Aircraft Group 39 supported the following operations: Canton II, Lencaster II, Kentucky, Napolean Saline and Scotland II.

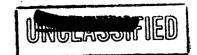
Provisional Marine Aircraft Group 39 helicopters were committed primarily in support of operation Lancaster II. During July a total of 6106.8 hours were flown in 21,412 sorties. A total tonnage of 3377.7 tons and 36,674 passengers were carried by the Group aircraft. There were 1640 med-evacs.

The evacuation of Khe Sanh Combat Base was completed, and Landing Zone Stud became the replacement Combat Base for the Proving-39 aircraft. A detachment of Harine Air Traffic Control Unit 62 was moved to LZ Stud from Khe Sanh Combat Base, and is currently conducting Air Traffic Control operations for the many landing zones in the Stud area.

At Quang Tri Airfield, a new messhall was opened, the Marine exchange moved to permanent quarters and many of the sand/dust areas have been eiled to alleviate the problems in the mat and messhall area. ProviMG-39 Motor Transport has also received sixteen (16) new M-151Al jeeps to make up for the transportation shortage previously experienced.

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ENCLOSURE (1)



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# see full quart manually and but straight and the control of the co

# Chronological Sequence of Events

1 July 1968. A total of 30 NVA confirmed kills were credited to the gunbards of Vic-6 in the Khe Sanh-area.

2 July 1968. Recon team extractions preved to be the most interesting as the Seasorthy gunbirds of VMO-6 covered the CH-h6's of HM-161. After routine, clandestine insert the team game under fire from three eldes.

The highly accurate suppressive fire from seamorthy and the presence of mind while under fire of Cattlecall circraft enabled the team to be extracted without taking casualities or aircraft hits.

3 July 1960. III MarD v ... Contact called for help and Seaworthy. alreraft answered the call, by controlling three flights of fixed ming and expending 130 rockers and 11,000 rounds of 7.621M.

4 July 1968. Independence tay was fairly calm as the mircraft of ProvMd-19 flew 155.7 hours massly in support of operation Scotland II.

5 July 1968 Seaworthy Units gurdirds were called upon today to provide suppressive fire which enabled a unit to rescue four men pinned down by a sniper 15 heters outside their perimeter.

6 July 1968. Khe Sanh Combat Base withdrawal was completed as well as the Marines on Hill 881. HM-262 led by LtCol. STEINBERG set a new squadron coord by flying 98.9 hours, putting most of the pilots and crews over 10 hours flight time for the day

7 July 1963 Hill 689 near the Sanh Combat Base was the center of activity in the Scotland II TAOR. NVA mortars and small arms hindered resupply of our western most outpost in Northern I Corps, however the resupply by owned and helicopters was carried out thanks in part to the fire suppression of the Seaworthy gunbirds, and their control of three flagate of fixed wing.

8 July 1960 1 689 was again the scene of substantial action as the gunbirds of ascorted transport aircraft into the hill during a 200 man troot lift. Seavorthy found 30-40 NVA, called in a flight of Tixed wing scounting for seven (7) KEA's.

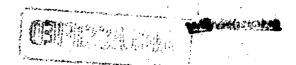
Second a second for seven (1) KEA's.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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11 August 1968



when the transport aircraft waved off because 30 to 40 NVA appeared to have a trap set. The insert was aborted and the gunbirds expended their ordnance but could not get a BDA. Back at Wuang Tri airfield, the crash crew responded quickly to extinguish a fire that errupted on an Air Force HH-3 Jolly Green as it was refueling.

escorts, participated in a 600 man troop lift from LZ Stud to Hill 715. After four (h) uneventual trips into the sone, Chatterbox 6-1 flown by Maj. THERRIAGIT, with the Group C.O. as his co-pilot took fire in the zone, wounding Col. SIENKO slightly in the right arm. Chatterbox 6-2 was hit, caught fire and had to be abandoned. The crew sustained minor injuries, the aircraft was a complete strike.

12 July 1968. Hill 689 was evacuated today by Cattlecall CH-46's. Cover for the troop lift was provided by Seaworthy gunbirds who controlled air strikes against NVA bunker complexes then marked two NVA mortar positions for Fingergrint 49 who ran an airstrike on them.

11 July 1966. Seasorthy aircraft flew 50 sorties for 26.6 hours in a visual reach for an upcoming operation.

17 July 1965. D-Day for operation Lancaster II saw ProvMAG-39 supporting Task Force Hotel with sixteen CH-46's, six gundres and two UH-1E slicks. The mornings troop lift went smoothly, but the afternoon troop lift saw heavy analyzircraft fire resulting in 13 of the 16 CH-46's taking hits, and four of the six gundress taking hits. Seaworthy claimed a total of twelve KFA is confirmed.

18 July 1900 VMO-6 flew 118.2 flight hours today, the majority of this was in support of operation Lancaster II during Battalion size (troop the lifts.

20 July 1968 Recon insertions were the order of the day with seven teams inserted, and five flights of fixed wing airstrikes controlled in IZ preps.

21 July 1968. The crash crew of Quang Tricairfield responded very quickly as an Almance Colle ran off the runway due to brake failures Also at Quang Tra, the new 500 man messhall was opened at ribbon cutting: 6-2 ceremonies conformed by BrigGeneral HILLs. The case sustained minor at the case of the case sustained minor



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(I) BINGSOLDEN

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2) July 1666. The chartophes Carifold of HMM-662 Launched on an emergency minimum weather conditions.

24 July 1968. Fingerprint 28, and an air elegator from III MarDiv found and destroyed 17 bunkers 2 automatic response Positions and got two ward confirmed kill on WM. 200 200 200 200 Linduson now DOC won A ...

25 July 1968. VID-6 prepped a landing sens in operation Centon II when the Fingerprint on station could not run fixed wing airstrikes due to weather. The troop lift was successfully tompleted with no resistance The value of the second of the

for the squadrons of ProvMid-39 was logged 222.2 hours.

27 July 1968. Once again the Quang Tri crash crew was quickly on hand to cover a Marine O-1E from WiD-6 when his starboard brake locked causing him to ground loop off the runway into the send.

30 July 1968. While providing routine gun cover for the afternoon resupply from LZ Stud, Semiorthy he? discovered he rocket launchers and positions. After controlling 5 flights of fixed wing airstrikes on their location, 4-9 totaled 20 secondary explosions and all 12 positions destroyed.

1. Personnel. Critical shortages exists as follows:

PEWAKS THE TOTAL T 6319 Critical shortage continue to exist in the b. HIM-161-15 No critical shortsess education of the land of the l

eds 1000 HTM-262

6320

A critical shortage continues to exist in the supervisory ranks of E-5 to E-7.

The State of State of

No critical shortages exists. 6





- 2. Administration. Administration continues to be hampered by the shortage of office equipment and materials.
- 3. Awards. The following awards recommendations have been submitted during this period:
  - a. DFC's 13
    - b. Silver Star -22
    - c. Bronze Star 2
    - d. Air Medals 29 Single Mission 1327 Flight/Strike
- o. Navy Commendation 7
  - f. Navy Achievement 7
- 4. Casualities

Survey 034241677

a. Hostile: KIA: 0

WIA: 13

5750 b. Non-Hostile: DAI:

32 Anguan 1968 OTHER: 10

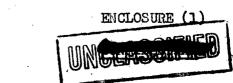
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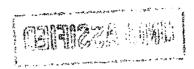
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- 5. Morele Welfare Programs the citin continues to be hampered by the
- the Enlisted and Officers Club are all expected to open within the first week of August a second addition
- b. A new 500 man messhall was opened on 21 July during ceremonies in which BrigGeneral HILL cut the ribbon.
- c. A permanent Marine Exchange has now been located across from the new messhall.
- 6. Civic Action

The Group Chaplain, LCdr Rodney R. SCHEER, CHC, USN, a Lutheran Pastor







also serves as the Civic Action Officer. During July, the Civic Action Program continued to develop satisfactorily with the completion of the school in the Trieu Phong District nearly in sight. School supplies are on hand to be dispensed with the opening of the school.

# 7. intelligence

a. General. Intelligence support of Group operations continued to expand and formalize during the month of July. A concept to lower aerial photographic response time from 48 hours to 6-8 hours was evolved in cooperation with the G-2, 3rdMarDiv, called the Immediate Imagery Interpretation Center Concept (IIIC), it utilizes the organic aircraft and interpretation capability of the 1stMAW and III MAF presently colocated at Da Nang Airbase. This concept was evolved to support a multiregimental sweep in the Northern Lancaster AO below the DMZ.

The morning briefing of the Commanding Officer was expanded into a from a formand briefing with the addition of S-3 and weather briefers. The direct teletype link with Wing G-2/3 was reactivated with the receipt of new equipment. Direct liaison with the Joint Technical Advisory Detachment (USATD) to the ARVN Military Intelligence was established.

# b. Satistics

Fire Incidents	102
Aircraft Hit	35
Alinrew Casualties	9 WIA
Spot Reports	7
Recon Inserts/Extracts	5 <b>7</b>

c. Significant Intelligence Developments. During July the enemy avoided contact and initiated only small unit and harrassment/terror actions in Quang Tri Province. Agent reports early in the month indicated that a countrywide "Autumn-Winter Offensive" would be mounted on or about 20 July and that maneuver elements were regrouping and training in their base areas. This date was not met and new reports indicate that the 19th of August is the new jump-off date.

Enemy action against ProvMAG-39 was limited to the ground-to-air fire incidents shown above. The first day of the Northern Lancaster AO

ENCLOSURE (1)





3: NRIE 206 5750 Ser: 03A22468 11 August 1968



Operation, 17 July, saw 19 aircraft fired on and 15 hit. A growing counterintelligence threat in marijuana sales on the base periphery was noted.

# 8. Air Operations

a. July Totals

CARGO	PAX	MEDEVACS	MEDEVAC MISSIONS	HRS	SORTIES
3377.7 Tons	33,674	1,640	535	6,108.8	21,412

#### 9. Air Control

a. A new letter of agreement with the Air Force RAPCON has been drawn up and will be presented to them during the coming week for their comments.

## 10. Motor Transport.

as 31 July 1968 saw the arrival of sixteen (16) new M-151A1 jeeps to alleviate the transportation shortage previously experienced. They have been allocated to the operating squadrons and various other sections throughout the electrons.

# 11. Base Development/Military Construction

- to The below listed items were completed or started during July:
- (1) Construction was completed on the Medical Bunker with the aid of MCB-11.
  - (2) Completion of the Assistant Wing Commander's facilities.

