### 362ND TACTICAL ELECTRONIC WARFARE SQUADRON QUARTERLY HISTORY FOR

JANUARY - MARCH

# 1967

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#### HISTORY

OF

### 362ND TACTICAL ELECTRONIC WARFARE SQUADRON

#### JANUARY - MARCH 1967

Assigned to:

460th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing, Seventh Air Force, Pacific Air Force

Stationed at:

Pleiku Air Base, Republic of Vietnam

DALLACE L. MEEHAN Captain, USAF Historian

Jun /

JACK A. CROOK Lt Col, USAF Commander

DCWGRADE INSTRUCTIONS FOR GROUP 3 AS SHOWN IN AFR 205-2

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#### FOREWARD

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1. (S) The 362nd Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron, originally formed as Detachment 1, 361st Reconnaissance Squadron is responsible for providing ARD reconnaissance in the northern area of RVN, Laos and overwater area north of the 17th parallel.

2. (U) Officially designated a squadron on 1 February 1967, the 362nd is still in the early development phase of organization. Personnel strength is still less than that which is required to completely man all administrative and support function.

3. (U) This report is an honest attempt to provide a unit history for the time period covered. It is only fair to mention that the duties of squadron historian as well as administrative service officer are additional duties, performed by operational line combat aircrew members.



### CHRONOLOGY

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### 362ND TACTICAL ELECTRONIC WARFARE SQUADRON

### JANUARY - MARCH 1967

DATE	CLASSIFICATION	SIGNIFICANT EVENT
JANUARY lo	(U)	Inspection tour conducted by Colonel Williams, Commander, 460th Tac Recon Wing, and Colonel Nelson, DCO, 460th Tac Recon Wing.
JANUARY 30	(5)	A combat ready crew, consisting of two pilots and two navigators, departed for the CONUS to conduct phase III testing of an RC-47 Phyllis Ann equipped aircraft. Duration of TDY eas tentatively set at 60 days.
JANUARY 31	(U)	Detachment 1, 361st Reconnaissance Squadron was officially deactivated dur- ing formal ceremonies at Pleiku Air Base, RVN, and redesignated 362nd Reconnais- sance Squadron.
FEBRUARY 8	(S)	362nd's area of responsibility expanded to include overwater area north of the 17th parallel, designated "Talley-Ho".
March 15	(U)	Squadron designation was officially changed to the 362nd Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron

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#### CHAPTER I

1. Mission: (S) The mission of 362nd Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron is to conduct daily, day/night, all weather ARDF operations against enemy operated transmitters in the RVN and permissive areas of Laos as a basis for tactical exploitation in support of requirements established by CONUS MACV and Commander, Seventh Air Force.<sup>1</sup> During the early part of February, the 362nd's area of responsibility was expanded to include an over water area north of the 17th parallel.

2. Organization: (U) January was a month of constant organizational changes thanks to the fact that necessary personnel finally became available. Among the more significant developments were the appointments of Lt Col Nelson D. Thurman as Staff Navigator,<sup>2</sup> and MSgt John H. Fillmore as NCOIC of Flight Mechanics.<sup>3</sup> Lt Col John G. Heath assumed duties as Assistant Operations Officer, replacing Lt Col John R. Devitt, who departed for approximately sixty days TDY. And to further illustrate the development of the detachment into a full-fledged unit, Lt Col Robert A. Wilke took on the responsibilities of Civic Actions Project Officer.

3. Administration:

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a. (U) Through the efforts of Major Gerald L. Petrie, a crew navigator who assumed the additional duty as Administrative Services Officer, the unit's administrative section was organized and rapidly evolved into an effective section. TSgt Kent L. Winters was assigned as the First Sergeant, AlC Michael W. Zenko as Chief Administrative Clerk and A2C Jeffery L. Johnson as Assistant Administrative Clerk. The administrative building renovation program was completed. The orderly room was established and equipped with necessary furnishings to carry on the unit's administrative supplies. This shortage caused delays in administrative services, but improvement in this area was noticed almost daily. Another problem area encountered in January, was lack of a complete set of pertinent regulations, manuals and other publications. The problem would have been avoided had necessary squadron publications been maintained in kit form at higher headquarters. On 7 February, TSgt Winters was replaced by MSgt Asahel H. Thornton as Squadron First Sergeant.<sup>4</sup>

b. (U) During March, the initial steps of the 362nd's Civic Action Project, under the direction of Lt Col Robert A. Wilke, were taken. This project is an attempt to assist the Vietnamese Christian Service Montagnard Agricultural Training Center.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1. 7</sup>th AF OPORD 450-67, 31 July 66, para 2.

<sup>2.</sup> SO #AB-147, 12 Jan 67, HQ 377 Combt Spt Gp, APO 96307.

<sup>3.</sup> SO #AA-2118, 4 Nov 66, HQ 14 ACW, APO 96240.

<sup>4.</sup> SO #AA-286, 1 Feb 67, HQ 460 TRW, APO 96307.

<sup>5.</sup> Civic Actions Progress Report, 31 Mar 67.

#### CHAPTER II

#### OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

#### A. OPERATIONS

1. (C) Throughout the first calendar quarter of 1967 operational requirements continued to increas. The unit was fragged for an increased number of sorties and flying hours. Five hundred and fifty-four of the five hundred and sixty-two sorties were flown,<sup>6</sup> and it is significant that all sorties fragged in the latter two months were flown. Total flying time for the period was 4,052:30 which surpassed the fragged time of 3,934:00 by 118:30.<sup>7</sup> Total number of leaflets dropped was 17,298,500.<sup>8</sup>

2. (U) The phase II crew training program was finalized, approved and initiated during March, and four new combat-ready crews were formed. The unit briefing room was completed and all crews now receive thourough pre-mission briefings and post-mission debriefings through this new facility.

3. (S) All missions flown in the EC-47 were under Project "Phyllis Ann".<sup>9</sup> Missions flown were in support of operations Prairie, Pickett, Paul Revere, and Sam Houston. Development missions were flown in the Steel Tiger, Tiger Hound and Tally-Ho areas. During February 1967, the 362nd was pleased to receive a letter of appreciation from the 4th Infantry Division, US Army.<sup>10</sup> This letter of appreciation specifically mentioned the 362nd's support of operation Paul Revere IV." The timely and accurate reconnaissance information provided by the 362nd enabled the 4th Infantry Division to inflict heavy losses in men and material on the enemy. All the officers and men of the 362nd were commended for their performance which was vital to the success of this operation.

- 7. Ibid.
- 8. Ibid.
- 9. 7 AF OPORD 450-67, 31 Jul 66.
- 10. Letter from Major General W.R. Peers, Commander, dated 11 Feb 67.
- \* Paul Revere IV: Code name for U.S.A. operation in central highlands, RVN.

<sup>6.</sup> Data compiled from R-13 reports, Mission Accomplishment.

#### **B. MAINTENANCE**

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1. (S) The lack of spare parts for the ARD-18 system and the Bendix doppler system continued to be the greatest cause of aircraft maintenance problems. On numerous occasions, it was necessary to shift parts from one aircraft to another in order to prevent the loss of scheduled missions.<sup>11</sup>

2. (S) With the addition of an over-water area, new problems arose concerning the Bendix Doppler system, not previously encountered on the over-land missions. Doppler inaccuracies adversely affected these over water missions and although the problem was researched, clear-cut solutions were not found. Therefore it was necessary to increase the circular error of target fixing to compensate for inaccuracies of the doppler while flying over-water.

3. (U) No transportation problems were encountered during this quarter and even the use of a maintenance van as a "roving maintenance command post" was possible. During March, the 362nd maintenance section constructed a mobile phase inspection office, which further speeded up the maintenance function.<sup>12</sup>

4. (U) Because of a lack of suitable test equipment and trained personnel within the 633rd CAMRON, difficulties in maintaining the C-12 compass system were experienced. Aircraft had to be flown to Tan Son Nhut Air Base for necessary repair and calibration of this system. Steps were taken to obtain the MC-1M compass calibrator and associated equipment, and maintenance personnel from the unit were sent to Tan Son Nhut for the necessary training in order that we can conduct our own compass calibration.<sup>13</sup> In February we finally acquired an MC-1M compass calibrator and thus our main problem with the C-12 compass system was solved. Maintenance personnel became sufficiently trained in compass calibration. Another significant problem area was the supply delivery time which during the month of February averaged one hour and thirty minutes for all items delivered. Additional support was requested and received from the 633rd CAMRON, and it is worthy of note that during March, average time was reduced to thirty-four minutes. - This outstanding support was certainly appreciated. Lack of aircraft converters (special equipment) and converter parts was a serious problem area, and we discovered that it would be several months before these parts would be available. Inquires were sent to sister units at Tan Son Nhut and Nha Trang and it was learned that similar problems existed there as well

13. Maintenance Training Summary 3 SECRET

<sup>11.</sup> Information extracted from Monthly Maintenance Reports.

<sup>12.</sup> Ibid.

### MISSION SUMMARY

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SORTIES FRAGGED	SORTIES FLOWN	TIME FRAGGED	TIME PROGRAM ED	TIME FLOWN	LEAFLETS DROPPED					
JANUARY 1967										
165	157	1155:00	1161:14	1161:45	5,965,000					
FEBRUARY 1967										
189	189	1323:00	1350:04	1366 <b>:</b> 40	7,103,400					
MARCH										
208	208	1456:00	1348:31	1524:05	4,330,100					
TOTAL										
562	554	3934:00	3859:49	4052:30	17,398,500					



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#### 362nd TEWS CIVIC ACTION PROGRESS REPORT

#### Lt Col Robert A. Wilke

1. Our civic action project is to assist the local Vietnamese Christian Service Montagnard Agricultural Training Center. Both Lt Col Crook, the Squadron Commander and I felt that a program of this nature would have a more lasting benevolent affect on the lives of the local Montagnard villagers. The present training center is crude and incapable of accomplishing vitally necessary agricultural education to a people who are dependent on agriculture for their very existence. We intend to introduce to these people, through assisting the center, more efficient and modern methods of farming and husbandry.

2. The participation of squadron personnel in the voluntary menial and technical tasks indicated an extremely high degree of enthusiasm for the project. In many cases, volunteers for specific tasks had to be turned down. Volunteers are constantly submitting their names to be considered for work on the project.

3. Among the first jobs tackled was the renovation and relocation of the centers windmill tower. Twelve men dug up the tower and transported it to the base welding shop where it was repaired and modified, and fitted with a newly constructed windmill head. On subsequent visits to the center the men of the 362nd began work on the construction of a water tank and a spillway. The construction of a new school building was also begun and with the help of men from the 633rd CES who provided a grader and driver, the foundation area was leveled.

4. The widespread participation of squadron personnel, both officers and enlisted men, precludes listing all of then here by name. Special mention should be made however of the outstanding and continuous efforts of Major R. Miller, Major L. Mulch, Major C. McLean, Capt J. Schroer, Capt M. Johnson, SSgt D. Godwin, AlC L. Osentowski and A2C F. Stevens.

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