



HISTORY

OF

377TH COMBAT SUPPORT GROUP

APRIL - JUNE 1971

(Unclassified Title)

<p><b>Director</b> Aerospace Studies Inst ATTN: Archives Branch Maxwell AFB, Alabama 36112</p>	<p>RETURN TO</p> <p>K-63 SUP-307411 Apr 1971</p>
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Assigned to:

Seventh Air Force, Pacific Air Force

Stationed at:

Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Republic of Vietnam

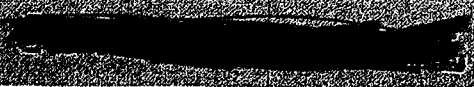
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 Commander

Copy No. 1

GROUP 1  
 DOWNGRADED AT THREE-YEAR INTERVALS  
 DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS

3-0178-19



CHRONOLOGY  
377th Combat Support Group  
April - June 1971

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CLASSIFICATION</u>	<u>SIGNIFICANT EVENT</u>
April		
1	(U)	Chaplain/Commander Luncheon held at TSN Officer's Club.
4	(U)	Catholic and Protestant choirs presented "No Greater Love" as Easter Cantata.
7	(U)	Special Order G-82, HQ PACAF, deleted Merlin Hotel from Real Property Listing.
18	(U)	Capt. Douglas G. Barclay assumed duties as Base Disaster Preparedness Officer.
30	(U)	Renovated Tape Center Opened.
May		
4	(U)	"Project Home Run Extended" was initiated.
5	(U)	Base Major Accident response exercise was conducted.
15	(U)	Hq Squadron assumed administrative responsibilities for AFAT - 5 augmentee force.
19	(U)	Special Order G-116, HQ PACAF, awarded 377th Combat Support Gp the Vietnam Service Medal Campaign Streamer.
28	(U)	Rain storm damaged library and flooded many facilities.
28	(U)	Charlie and Echo sector security alert teams and Quick Reaction teams were commanded with Vietnamese forces.

June

- 1 (U) U.S. coins were authorized for use in RVN.
- 1 (U) Control of all ration cards was turned over to CBPO.
- 3 (U) Lt. Colonel James R. Ford assumed command of the 377th Security Police Squadron.
- 4 (U) Colonel Walter P. Spann assumed command of the 377th Supply Squadron.
- 6-9 (U) PACAF and 7AF conducted a combined survey of Base Disaster Preparedness.
- 10 (U) Colonel Sigurd L. Jensen, Jr. was appointed Deputy Commander, 377th Combat Support Group.
- 15 (U) Bien Hoa civilian pay functions were transferred to Tan Son Nhut AB.
- 21 (U) "Project Golden Flow" was launched.
- 21-25 (U) PACAF career motivation workshop was conducted at Naha AB, Okinawa.
- 22 (U) Protestant spiritual retreat was held.
- 24 (U) Renewal for Catholic personnel was conducted.
- 26 (U) Colonel Ervin F. Bork assumed command of the 377th Civil Engineer Squadron.
- 29 (U) NCO Club reopened after complete renovation.

retirees received counseling. Counseling was also given to 209 individuals returning to the United States for separation.<sup>4</sup>

(U) Applications to marry foreign nationals dropped considerably this quarter. Thirty-nine applications were submitted to marry females of the following countries: Vietnam - 34, Philippines - 2, Taiwan - 2, and Thailand - 1. Ten applications to marry Vietnamese nationals were disapproved.<sup>5</sup>

(U) The casualty reporting rate decreased drastically from last quarter. Two deaths and one seriously ill/not seriously ill were the only casualties reported. ←

(U) The Awards and Decorations Unit processed the following numbers of awards:<sup>6</sup>

Awards processed and forwarded to 7AF	1,854
Awards returned to units for correction	250
Awards approved by 7AF	1,304
Award elements received from other commands	73
Awards processed for tenant units	216

(U) Assignments rose slightly with 2,377 officers and airmen reassigned to the United States or to consecutive overseas tours and 598 individuals reassigned within the Republic of Vietnam. A total of 178 officers and 7,326 airmen were forecasted for reassignment upon completion of their Southeast Asia tour. A total of 3,223 permanent change of station orders were published.

(U) AF Forms 1098 (Personnel Action Request) indicating the initial duty assignment for incoming personnel were prepared on 245

ramp needs reaccomplishment. In addition, the VNAF/Navy Ramp was completely redone and enlarged to accommodate more aircraft.

(U) Aircraft Accidents/Incidents: On 13 April 1971, an O-2 landed with its landing gear up, resulting in minor damage to aircraft and runway closure for 1 hour and 16 minutes. No injuries were sustained in the incident. On 11 May 1971 a China Airlines DC-3 blew a tire upon landing and went off the left side of the runway, causing minor damage to the aircraft but no injuries to personnel. As a result, Runway 25L was closed for 1 1/3 hours. On 22 May 1971 a Vietnamese Air Force C-119 experienced smoke in the cockpit shortly after retracting its landing gear on take off and executed an emergency landing on the departure end of the runway with gear retracted. Minor damage was sustained by the aircraft but personnel did not suffer any injuries. To permit recovery operations, Runway 25L was closed for 6 hours and 5 minutes.

#### Disaster Preparedness

(U) During the period 6-9 June 1971, PACAF and Seventh Air Force conducted a combined survey of the base disaster preparedness program, which resulted in receipt of an overall satisfactory rating. The Survey Team also conducted a major accident response exercise but in this aspect, an unsatisfactory rating was experienced.<sup>2</sup>

(U) The Disaster Preparedness Office hosted a Seventh Air Force working group consisting of members from various bases throughout Vietnam convened for the purpose of drafting a new Seventh Air Force supplement to AFM 355-1.

CHAPTER VFACILITIES

(U) On 26 June 1971 Colonel ERVIN F. BORK replaced Colonel KENNETH T. JONES and assumed command of the 377th Civil Engineer Squadron and was appointed Base Civil Engineer.<sup>1</sup>

(U) The roof project at the Casualty Staging Area was completed.

(U) The new Aerial Mail Terminal project was completed.

(U) The Tape Center project was completed. This renovation effectively doubles the capability of this important morale facility.

(U) Building 16, VIP Transient Quarters, was completed.

(U) The trusses in the Base Chapel were repaired.

(U) Building 942 was converted from an orderly room to a Base Exchange annex.

(U) The runway under the BAK-13 barrier, which was badly grooved, was repaired in one night through a well coordinated and planned effort.

(U) Special Order G-82, 7 April 1971, Hq PACAF, officially deleted the Merlan Hotel from the installation real property listing.<sup>2</sup>

(U) Eleven covered storage sheds, one headquarters building and one administrative office were received from the Army for transfer to the Vietnamese Air Force under the Improvement and Modernization Program.<sup>3</sup>

(U) Building 1668, Officers Quarters, was destroyed by fire and officially disposed of as beyond economical repair.<sup>4</sup>

(U) The Central Base Personnel Office air conditioning project was completed.

(U) The administrative offices at the Officers' Club, along with several other improvements, were renovated.

(U) Excess rubber deposits were removed from runway 25L and new blast deflectors were installed in revetments 54, 55, 56 and 57.

(U) A new steel water tower was constructed and erected for the water tank in the 300 area.

(U) A right turn lane was constructed at the corner of 6th and B streets.

(U) Four modular buildings were erected near buildings 3, 10 and 27 and electric service was connected.

(U) Two 1,200 cubic foot walk-in refrigeration boxes were installed behind Dining Hall No. 1.

(U) The main personnel entrance gate to the base was modified and the 100 area water booster station was connected to the main plant, which provides 420,000 gallon water storage which can be pumped into the system.

(U) On 1 April 1971, 12 Vietnamese Air Force firefighters integrated with the USAF fire department. Eight additional firefighters were integrated in June, bringing the total to 20.

(U) On 6 April 1971, two P-2 crash fire trucks were loaded with a new synthetic foam-forming liquid which significantly increases the fire fighting capability.

(U) On 15-16 April 1971 the CBFO conducted an On-The-Job Training staff assistance visit. The unit program was rated excellent.

(U) A well was completed in the VNAF family housing area under the technical guidance of the Water and Waste Section.

(U) On 30 and 31 May 1971, the trash contractor failed to provide trash pick up services. Civil Engineer forces were mobilized and provided essential trash collection services during the emergency.

[REDACTED]

Security Police Squadron

53

Personnel and Administration

(U) Lt Col James R. Ford relieved Lt Col John F. Murphy, Jr., as Squadron Commander in June 1971.

(U) The squadron manning picture remained favorable during the majority of the quarter with a slight decrease in supervisory personnel.

Operations

The Hostile Threat

(C) Hostile activity remained at a low level around the Saigon/Tan Son Nhut area, with no change in the threat estimate. The primary threat was still felt to be from stand off weapons (e.g., rockets) and sapper units. No large enemy maneuver elements appeared to threaten the base.

(U) There were no rocket or ground attacks against the base.

Squadron Operations

(U) Assigned strength of airmen stayed at approximately 100 percent of authorized strength, however, there were fluctuations during April and May due to the great number of personnel returning to CONUS.

Weapons Systems Security

(U) The Special Projects Section was actively engaged in the support of the security flights. They rebuilt the C flight CONEX with sandbags. Ramp entrance signs at Charlie #4, Bravo #12, and Bravo #5 were replaced with new signs. The Sentry Shelter at Alpha #3 was relocated from inside the MMS area to the area

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

SUMMARY

(C) The hostile threat to Tan Son Nhut Air Base remained at a low level and there were no rocket or ground attacks against the base.

(U) The Vietnamization program continued with four fully trained Vietnamese Air Force Air Operations Specialists (airmen) employed and four additional Vietnamese Air Force airmen placed in training.

(U) A greater number of vehicles were processed for transfer to the Vietnamese Air Force than in any previous period, with 24 General Purpose and seven Special Use vehicles transferred.

(U) The Disaster Preparedness program survey conducted 6-9 June 1971 reflected 377th Combat Support Group received a satisfactory rating. However, in a major accident response exercise, an unsatisfactory rating was experienced.

(U) During the quarter the 377th Supply Squadron Account AFK 5259, Munitions Branch, was transferred to 460th Avionics Maintenance Squadron, thus enabling the munitions function to operate under the PACAF/Seventh AF Maintenance Standardization program.

(U) The report of the annual Command Equipment Survey reflected that Equipment Management Branch of Base Supply was supporting the base in a satisfactory manner, however, overall evaluation was unsatisfactory. Actions to purify the custody receipt accounts prior to rotation of account custodians continue.

[REDACTED]