

DET 7, 600TH PHOTO SQUADRON

Da Nang AB, Vietnam

PERSONNEL:

Key personnel for 1 Jul 66 to 25 Nov 66:

MSgt Verlie D. Stonehocker	Det Commander
SSgt Jackie L. Cook	NCOIC of Maintenance
SSgt Edgar G. Ellison	NCOIC of ComDoc

The total strength at 1 Jul 66 was 6 PCS personnel with 1 TSgt and 1 SSgt 232XO on loan from the 35th TFW Information Office. TSgt Edward L. Knipple, Sr., was assigned PCS to Det 7, 25 Nov 66 and assumed duties as NCOIC Still Section. ALC William E. Dodd departed Det 7, 10 Aug 66 for 30 days emergency leave. He was reassigned PCS to the CONUS 16 Sep 66.

As of 31 Dec 66, a total of 17 personnel were assigned to the detachment. This was approximately 85% in manning according to AAVS OPLAN 501.

EQUIPMENT:

During the period of 1 Jul through 8 Sep 66, Detachment 7 was operating from a 12' x 8' end of a quonset hut. This not only housed the operation part of the detachment but also the maintenance section, still section and ComDoc Section. The Operations trailer was received 30 Jul and the Maintenance trailer, 20 Aug 66, but the detachment was unable to operate from them until 8 Sep 66 due to the lack of a generator.

on 26 Aug 66, a 100KW generator was received from Bien Hoa and operations was moved to the trailers. (see pictures following page) On 1 Oct 66, the generator went out of commission and was unable to be repaired at the base. Temporary power was restored 3 Oct by connecting power with the generator at Base Supply.

During the months of Aug and Sep 66, the Detachment received their photo lab equipment. Since the Supply Storage Area was not established as yet, a periodic walk through had to be conducted to receive the equipment as quick as possible.

The Interim Still Lab Trailer arrived 29 Nov 66. After modification and installing equipment we became partially operational approximately 20 Dec 66.

As of 1 Jul 66, this Detachment had only one vehicle; a 6 pax pick-up that was operating only half the time. During Colonel Warndorf's and Mr Albert's staff visit, 8 Jul 66, a new vehicle which had been issued to another organization was reassigned to this Det. This was the first of three vehicles authorized under AAVS 501 OPLAN. We received the carryall 5 Aug and the Metro 17 Nov 66. All vehicles were in good operating condition.

MISSION:

ComDoc : The mission was to record Combat Documentation by Motion Picture and Still Photography. From 1 Jul to 10 Sep 66 the section had to utilize the only still photographer assigned to the detachment. This made them only 75% manned.





On 14 Aug 66 the section became 100% manned, however, due to the lack of proper lighting equipment they could not function properly. Lighting equipment was received in Nov, making the section 100% operational.

Still Lab: On 1 Jul 66, one 23250 was assigned. He filled in as a ComDoc still photographer.

Until receipt of the still lab trailer in Nov 66, no processing or printing could be accomplished. All exposed film was shipped to 600th Photo Sq for processing.

On 31 Dec 66 the detachment was supporting the base with a still lab capability, with the exception of printing 4 x 5 negatives to 8 x 10 or larger which was accomplished at 600th Photo Sq.

By 31 December the lab was 95% operational.

Maintenance Section: From 1 Jul through 31 Jul 66 all maintenance personal assigned reported in for duty.

The section supervised and built two 18 x 32 ft tents for living quarters. July, August and September were devoted mostly to erecting a walk in 800 cu ft reefer and leveling and blocking trailers.

A requirement from higher headquarters directed the maintenance section to check out all Scope cameras for operational status. Since most of these cameras had been inoperative for a long period of time, considerable amount of maintenance had to be performed during October 1966.

In November, a new type of photo documentation was implemented at this detachment. Two motion picture cameras were installed on a HH3C helicopter for rescue operations. This was an added function of this section.

Project "Charging Sparrow" began 31 Nov 66. Only a limited amount of correlator lights worked. This required a continuous change over of operational cameras and scopes to aircraft with inoperative correlator lights. A close monitoring of aircraft flying this project had to be established. Correlator lights were ordered through Base Supply. New lights were scheduled to be installed as soon as they arrived.

The first Blister Camera modified aircraft was received on 17 Dec. During the period, one additional aircraft arrived with an inoperative camera. Actual flying of these cameras was scheduled to begin in Jan 67.

TRAINING PROGRAM:

4 personnel were on formal OJT, including 2 - 232XO still photographers and 2 - 402XO aerospace photographic repairman.

There was a requirement to OJTone 233XO to the 7 level. However no UMD position existed on base for this AFSC and therefore there is no authorized OJT trainer. AF Form 1098 was scheduled to be submitted placing the Detachment Commander as the OJT trainer.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE BASE:

These contributions included: Normal base lab requirements,

base build-up pictures for Base Commander and Turnkey photos.

SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS:

Two remote cameras were mounted on the HH-3C helicopter, one external and one internal. They were used to film rescue pick-up operations. The external camera works well, but due to the lack of light, the interior camera film was underexposed. Plans were formulated for a lighting system.