

ORIGINAL
SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
Marine Aircraft Group 16
1st Marine Aircraft Wing
Fleet Marine Force, Pacific
FPO San Francisco 96602

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26 July 1966

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

Subj: Command Chronology; submission of

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.1B

Encl: (1) Marine Aircraft Group 16 Command Chronology

1. In accordance with reference (a), Marine Aircraft Group 16 Command Chronology is herewith submitted as enclosure (1).
2. This letter is downgraded to UNCLASSIFIED upon removal of enclosure (1).

R. L. Simmons

R. L. SIMMONS
By direction

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Marine Aircraft Group 16
Marble Mountain Air Facility
Republic of Viet Nam

Period Covered: 1 through 30 June 1966

ENCLOSURE (1)
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SECRETPART IORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. Command and Rank Composition

<u>BILLET</u>	<u>NAME/RANK</u>	<u>PERIOD</u>
CO, MAG-16	HUNT, R. M. COL	1-30 June 1966
XO, MAG-16	SIMMONS, R. L. LtCol	1-30 June 1966
Adjutant	ROSS, H. W. Capt	1-30 June 1966
S-1 Officer	JOHNSTON, C. B. Capt	1-30 June 1966
S-2 Officer	JONES, P. E. 1stLt	1-23 June 1966
S-2 Officer	GLENN, L. D. 1stLt	24-30 June 1966
S-3 Officer	CLARK, T. LtCol	1-30 June 1966
S-4 Officer	McBARRON, A. LtCol	1-30 June 1966
CO, H&MS-16	DARBYSHIRE, L. L. Maj	1-30 June 1966
CO, MABS-16	WEBSTER, W. J. LtCol	1-18 June 1966
CO, MABS-16	ZEIGLER, L. I. Maj	19-25 June 1966
CO, MABS-16	MCKITRICK, R. D. LtCol	26-30 June 1966
CO, HMM-161	QUINN, W. R. LtCol	1-30 June 1966
CO, HMM-163	HOUSE, C. A. LtCol	1-30 June 1966
CO, HMM-164	WATSON, W. C. LtCol	1-30 June 1966
CO, HMM-263	GOEBEL, J. L. LtCol	1-30 June 1966
CO, HMM-265	MENDENHALL, H. E. LtCol	1-30 June 1966
CO, VMO-2	BARDEN, A. W. LtCol	1-30 June 1966
OIC, SU #1	BROKAW, J. C. Capt	1-30 June 1966
OIC, MATCU 68	BERCHTOLLI, D. V. Capt	1-30 June 1966

2. Task Organization

H&MS-16 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 MABS-16 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 HMM-161 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 HMM-163 - Hue Phu Bai, RVN
 HMM-164 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 HMM-263 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN - MCAF, Futema, Okinawa
 HMM-265 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 VMO-2 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 SU #1, H&MS-16 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 MATCU 68 - Hue Phu Bai, RVN

3. Average Monthly Strengths

	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
H&MS-16	32	309	0	0
MABS-16	17	497	4	10
HMM-161	47	160	1	3
HMM-163	51	157	1	3

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3. Average Monthly Strenghts (Cont'd)

	USMC		USN	
	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
HMM-164	54	186	1	3
HMM-265	56	187	1	3
VMC-2	35	150	1	5
SU #1	12	64	0	1
MATCU-68	7	82	0	0

4. Important Visitors to the Command

None.

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PART II
Narrative

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1 JUNE HMM-265 launched eight aircraft on a strike mission in support of III MAF. HMM-163 had one aircraft effect an emergency landing due to mechanical difficulties (Enclosure 3).

2 JUNE Four CH-37's of Sub Unit #1 flew two missions in support of I Corps in which they carried a total of 20,600 lbs of cargo and 318 pax. (Enclosure 7). One of HMM-265's CH-46A in support of the 3rd Marines crashed in the LZ.

3 JUNE Normal operations.

4 JUNE HMM-163 initiated a spray program planned to reduce the spread of Malaria in the Danang, Chu Lai and Phu Bai areas. (Enclosure 4). VMO-2 flew nine medevac missions in which there were thirty-four medevacs (Enclosure 2). The H&MS-16 C-117D flew 15 KIAs to Saigon and returned to Danang.

5 JUNE HMM-163 conducted an administrative medevac shuttle from NASA(G-4 Med) and "C" Med to the USS Repose from 0930H until 1530H. The H&MS-16 C-117D flew to Nha Trang and returned to Danang with LtGen WALT, MajGen ROBERTSHAW and MajGen KYLE.

6 JUNE Two UH-34D's from HMM-163 led by LtCol HOUSE made a night recon retraction. VMO-2 supplied two gunships for escort (Enclosure 3).

7 JUNE HMM-265 launched eight aircraft on an I Corps resupply mission from Hoi An to Que Son. The flight carried 85,300 lbs of cargo and 107 pax. HMM-163 lifted FRANK SUTTON and ARCHIE MOORE on a tour of units in the Danang complex.

8 JUNE LtCol W. C. WATSON led eight aircraft from HMM-164 on a resupply mission for the 4th Marines. The eight aircraft lifted 89,740 lbs of cargo and 135 troops (Enclosure 5).

10 JUNE MAG-16 supported Operation Florida with 126 sorties for a total of 35.3 hours carrying 126 troops, and 17.5 tons of cargo (Enclosure 2 and 3) Sub Unit #1 flew two missions in support of I Corps carrying a total of 69,930 lbs of cargo and 57 pax.

11 JUNE HMM-164 launched 4 CH-46A's on a medevac mission to Dak To in support of Operation Hawthorne. One CH-46A crashed on a GCA into Dak To. (Enclosure 5). HMM-163 and VMO-2 launched two aircraft each on a medevac mission in support of the 9th Marines.

12 JUNE HMM-161 lifted a total of 302 troops from the field to LZ Panther to terminate Operation Florida. (Enclosure 3). VMO-2 and SU #1 launched aircraft to recover a recon team from (AT 837714) (Enclosure 1 and 2).

13 JUNE HMM-161 and VMO-2 worked together on a troop transfer from ISA to Hill 674. Enemy fire was received on the lift and the Deadlock A/C returned and suppressed same (Enclosures 2 and 3). Twelve aircraft from HMM-163 and three from Sub Unit #1 participated in a strike from LZ Crawdad to BT 184593. (Enclosure 4).

SECRET

14 JUNE Normal operations.

15 JUNE Ten UH-34D's from HMM-161 and HMM-163, and three CH-37's retracted 190 troops and 2000 lbs of cargo from BT 185590 to LZ Crawdad.

16 JUNE VMO-2 launched four UH-1E's to MAG-36 to assist in a search for two lost patrols in the vicinity of AT 9564 and AT 9172. During the search one UH-1E from VMO-6 and one from VMO-2 was shot down (Enclosure 2).

17 JUNE HMM-161 launched thirteen aircraft on the initial lift of Operation Dodge. They transferred 210 troops from LZ Panther to YD 983132. Escort was provided by VMO-2.

18 JUNE Twelve UH-34D's from HMM-161 launched on the second major lift in support of Operation Dodge (Enclosure 3). SU #1 had four CH-37's supporting I Corps. The aircraft carried 26,000 lbs of cargo and 444 pax between BT 061745 and Nong Son.

19 JUNE HMM-161 launched thirteen aircraft in support of Operation Dodge (Enclosure 3). Two Superchief aircraft on a resupply mission to An Hoa received automatic weapons fire at BT 002615. Both aircraft received hits and one had to make a precautionary landing to LZ Crawdad. (Enclosure 4).

20 JUNE Two VMO-2 aircraft launched on the night TAOR/AO mission in support of the 9th Marines (Enclosure 2). HMM-161 supported Operation Dodge (Enclosure 3). HMM-164 launched ten aircraft in support of I Corps (Enclosure 5).

21 JUNE HMM-161 launched aircraft in support of Operation Dodge (Enclosure 3).

22 JUNE HMM-164 launched eight aircraft in support of a joint US/ARVN Operation (Lam Son 6-1643) (Enclosure 5). HMM-161 continued support of Operation Dodge (Enclosure 3).

23 JUNE Eight HMM-161 aircraft with the help of two CH-46's retracted 2/4 to landing zone Panther to complete Operation Dodge. HMM-161 launched nine aircraft to A Chau on Operation Turner (Enclosure 5). HMM-163 launched a spray aircraft and one chase plane to spray Hydol in the Phu Bai area.

24 JUNE HMM-265 began testing the Helicopter Illumination System (Enclosure 2).

25 JUNE MAG-16 supported Operation Jay with aircraft from HMM-265, VMO-2 and HMM-161. HMM-265 launched twenty aircraft to lift 987 Marines from Hue Phu Bai to YD 608390. VMO supplied escort for HMM-265 and for HMM-161 on a 385 man troop lift (Enclosure 3). VMO-2 with one Superchief A/C performed numerous medevacs into "hot" zones (Enclosure 2).

26 JUNE MAG-16 aircraft continued to support Operation Jay (Enclosures 3 and 5). HMM-163 launched two aircraft on an emergency resupply mission from Hill 55 to AT 924537.

SECRET

27 JUNE MAG-16 aircraft continued support of Operation Jay (Enclosures 2 and 3). HMM-163 launched two UH-34D's to Saigon for the purpose of evaluating a long range fuel/oil system (Enclosure 4).

28 JUNE Normal operations.

29 JUNE HMM-265 launched ten aircraft in support of Operation Oakland (Enclosure 5). HMM-161 launched ten aircraft in support of I Corps. (Enclosure 3). MAG-16 support of Operation Jay continued.

30 JUNE HMM-265 launched their (HIS) CH-46A on a recon mission in support of the 9th Marines located on the Song Ky Lam River. HMM-163 flying the 9th Marines resupply mission received fire from AT 921553 with one aircraft being hit.

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PART III
SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Personnel

a. MAG-16 had 111 joinings during June and 108 transfers.

b. Promotions

- (1) 11 - Warrant Officer
 1 - MGySgt
 1 - 1stSgt
 2 - MSgt
 32 - GySgt
 49 - SSgt
 60 - Sgt
 17 - Cpl
 25 - LCpl
 16 - PFC

2. Administration. Change of Command, MABS-16, Major L. I. ZEIGLER relieved LtCol W. J. WEBSTER on 18 June 1966. Change of Command, MABS-16, LtCol McKITRICK relieved Major L. I. ZEIGLER on 25 June 1966.

3. Awards. The following awards were distributed during June 1966:

HMM-161	227 Air Medals
HMM-163	227 Air Medals
HMM-164	84 Air Medals
VMO-2	250 Air Medals
MABS-16	3 Air Medals
WAMS-16	42 Air Medals

Bronze Star, HMM-163 1stLt J. M. GEISSER and Sgt G. E. HULBERT

Distinguished Flying Cross

HMM-163 - 1stLt E. H. RESSLER
 Capt J. M. DAVIS
 1stLt N. A. URBAN
 Maj L. I. BLANKENSHIP
 VMO-2 - Capt H. E. PJUM
 HMM-163 - Capt W. C. McMINN JR.
 1stLt J. M. GEISSER
 VMO-2 - Maj C. E. REESE

Silver Star

VMO-2 - Capt J. W. RIDER

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SECRET4. Casualties

<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SERVICE NO.</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>
LCpl	Tommie L. CALDWELL	1862013	HMM-163
	Non-Hostile injury due to accidental discharge of weapon on HMM-163 flight line on 2 June 1966. Evac to USAF Hosp Clark AFB.		
Cpl	Larry M. STEAD	2061741	HMM-161
	Non-Hostile injury due to Ureteral Calculus left (Kindney Stone). Evac to USS Repose.		
Sgt	Kenneth E. BEAGLE	1594177	HMM-161
	Non-Hostile accidental discharge of weapon while at Rifle Range.		
Cpl	Robert W. GOLDEN	2059116	HMM-164
	Hostile - KIA; died as result of injuries received while flying as Crew Chief on emergency med-evac on 11 June 1966. Being evacuated to CONUS at time of death.		
1stLt	Ted N. TIFT	084384	HMM-164
	Hostile - WIA; flying as pilot on med-evac mission 11 June 1966 when aircraft had mishap. Evac to Okinawa.		
Cpl	Dennis R. TABOR	2022712	HMM-164
	Hostile - KIA; flying as gunner on emergency med-evac, when aircraft had mishap on 11 June 1966.		
FFC	Lee B. BUCKHOLDT	2127258	VMO-2
	Hostile - KIA; flying as crew chief in UH-1E on escort mission 16 June 1966.		
Capt	Floyd C. LEWIS	076554	HMM-161
	Hostile - WIA; while flying as pilot on med-evac. Treated and returned to duty 22 June 1966		
Sgt	Donald E. STAHL	1545945	HMM-161
	Hostile - KIA; 27 June 1966 died as result of wounds received while flying as crew chief on med-evac. Was in evacuation status to CONUS.		
1st Lt.	Ronald M. STEIN	088534	HMM-164
	Hostile- WIA; flying as co-pilot on med-evac mission 11 June 1966 when aircraft had mishap. Hospitalized at CamRanh Bay.		

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<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SERVICE NO.</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>
PFC	Jerry D. AYOTTE	1903978	HMM-161
	Hostile - KIA; 25 June 1966 while flying gunner on med-evac.		
1stLt	Edward W. MOTEKEW	087614	HMM-161
	Hostile - KIA; 25 June 1966 while flying as co-pilot on med-evac.		
Capt	Floyd F. STANSFIELD	083721	HMM-161
	Hostile - KIA; 25 June 1966 while flying as pilot on med-evac.		
1stLt.	Lawrence D. GLENN	088294	H&MS-16
	Non-Hostile injury on 28 June 1966 due to Jeep accident. Evac to CONUS.		

5. Civil Affairs

a. Medical. Eighteen scheduled sick calls and eight medcap patrols were held in the village of Hoa Long. The doctors treated: 1337 people medically, and 158 dental patients. The USNH admitted 54 Vietnamese civilians to the hospital, 29 of these cases required major surgery. Doctors from the USNH are assisting in the Danang civilian hospital. One village health worker is being trained at the Son Thuy sick call. A nun from the Catholic orphanage is receiving nurse's training at the USNH.

b. Education. English classes were begun in the hamlet of My Thi and Son Thuy by MCB-6 and MCB-11.

c. Projects. The pond in Son Thuy was completed and the Buddhist priests are happy with the results. The dike in My Thi has been worked on, and is almost completed. The dike will be capped with cement, with Vietnamese supplying the labor. Security, consisting of both American and Vietnamese forces, was placed on the dump. No longer are civilians permitted to enter the dump. MAG-16 was given coordinating responsibility for "Boys Town" construction and development project. A large portion of the needed funds are coming from the Marine Reserve Fund. Cement and tool kits were requested through channels. Showers and "four holer" toilets were constructed in My Thi, and the villagers were instructed in the maintenance of these facilities. The Buddhist priests have extended invitations to the armed forces to visit the pagoda on Marble Mountain.

d. Government. Mr. SUN was relieved as village chief of Hoa Long. Mr. HOA, assistant village chief, took over as village chief. Mr. HOA is using his village officials effectively and is very cooperative with the American forces.

SECRET

e. Tours. General ROBERTSHAW was taken on a tour of the civic action area on 2 June 1966. He met three of the four hamlet chiefs. The Protestant Chaplain sponsored weekly visits of MAG-16 Marines with orphanages in the Catholic Orphanage.

f. Psychological Operations. The wing band performed in the hamlet of Da Men on 18 June. A "Psy War" team was with the band. Soap, candy, and "Psy War" booklets were distributed. The MAG-16 Chaplains delivered four lectures on Vietnamese culture and religion to over 250 Marines.

g. Census and Population Control. The census in the hamlet of Dong Hai has begun and is over 50% completed. The census team went into the hamlet with security provided by MAG-16 and the local Popular Forces. On 17 June, after receiving word of a possible VC cadre in the hamlet of Son Thuy, the Popular Forces conducted a sweep with Marine Forces acting as a block. Five VC suspects were apprehended and taken to District Headquarters.

h. Give Away Program. MCB-11 distributed clothing, food, and soap to the people in My Thi. All gifts were regulated and distributed by the hamlet chief. 5th Comm. Bn. constructed a bulletin board in Da Men; donated a Vietnamese flag to the school; and provided coverings for the hamlet wells. MCB-6 delivered a load of scrap lumber to Son Thuy at the request of the hamlet chief. The Bishop of Da Nang was given \$550.00 to be used on various charity projects.

6. Morale/Welfare

a. Morale and Religious Program.

(1) Roman Catholic

(a) Sunday Mass	0800	Blessed Sacrament Chapel	MAG-16
	0930		5th Comm Bn.
	1030		III MAF
	1700	Blessed Sacrament Chapel	MAG-16
(b) Weekly Mass	1700	Blessed Sacrament Chapel	MAG-16
(c) Other Masses as requested.			

(2) Protestant

(a) Sunday	0930	Temporary Chapel	Communion Service
	1830	Temporary Chapel	Bible Study Class
	1900	Temporary Chapel	
(b) Weekday	1830	Temporary Chapel	Wed. evening in Chapel.

(3) Protestant Services in Phu Bai

0900	Sunday Worship Service
1800	Bible Study Class

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(4) Other Religious Groups

A church party bus - covering all of east Da Nang, from Camp Tien Sha to 1st Regimental Headquarters, picks up and returns personnel for following services:

1330	Letter Day Saints	Temporary Chapel MAG-16
1330	Orthodox	Blessed Sacrament Chapel MAG-16
1330	Jewish	Hospital
1330	1st Sunday in month,	Episcopal, Hospital
	3rd Sunday in month,	Lutheran, Hospital

7. Informational Services. ISO coverage for the month of June consisted of newspaper articles and pictures of interest to the local and nationwide newspapers. Hometown news releases for the month were as follows:

HMM-161	-	9
HMM-163	-	48
HMM-164	-	2
HMM-265	-	35
VMO-2	-	22
H&MS-16	-	2
MARS-16	-	25

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SECRET8. Air Operations - June 1966

<u>HMM-161</u>	<u>UH-34D</u>	<u>HMM-163</u>	<u>UH-34D</u>	<u>HMM-164</u>	<u>CH-46A</u>
SORTIES	6,327	SORTIES	3,252	SORTIES	2442
HOURS	1807.5	HOURS	1,532.7	HOURS	937.0
EVACS	518	EVACS	169	EVACS	66
CARGO	353 Tons	CARGO	142.7 Tons	CARGO	377.4 Tons
PAX	9,865	PAX	3,506	PAX	5,574
<u>HMM-265</u>	<u>CH-46A</u>	<u>VMO-2</u>	<u>UH-1E</u>	<u>S.U.#1</u>	<u>CH-37C</u>
SORTIES	2,643	SORTIES	3,758	SORTIES	793
HOURS	1,138.0	HOURS	1,288.1	HOURS	320.0
EVACS	33	EVACS	510	EVACS	0
CARGO	439 Tons	CARGO	0	CARGO	301.7 Tons
PAX	7,702	PAX	1,433	PAX	2,218
		<u>H&MS-16</u>	<u>C-117D</u>		
		SORTIES	6		
		HOURS	19.8		
		EVACS	0		
		CARGO	2.25 Tons		
		PAX	40		
		<u>MAG-16</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>		
		SORTIES	19,221		
		HOURS	7043.1		
		EVACS	1296		
		CARGO	1616 Tons		
		PAX	29,708		

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9. Communications. Section reorganization continued. Due to shortage of personnel it was necessary to go to a two section watch; 12 hours on duty and 12 hours off. The personnel shortage is expected to continue for several months. Total traffic for the month was over 5,000 messages with over 1,000 originated by Marine Aircraft Group 16.

Radio relay was relocated to obtain an improved signal. The Radio and wire equipment in the Group Command and Control Center Bunker was relocated. An additional SB-22 switchboard was installed to handle additional hot line requirements.

Three new telephone lines were laid: (1) a hot line from I Corps Headquarters to MAG-16 Command and Control Center, (2) a hot line from the new III MAF CP to VMO-2's operations, and (3) a trunk line to the 1st Marines via the FLAMINGO switchboard.

Automatic retransmissions tests were conducted utilizing AN/PRC-25 radios at MAG-16 and MAG-36 with a C-117 aircraft configured with ARC-44 acting as the airborne relay station. Results were generally unsatisfactory due to excessive distance (35 miles) between stations.

After a three month wait, a critically needed FU-454, 400 cycle generator was received on a priority 2 "Red Ball" requisition from MCSC Barstow. This generator was received with extensive damage even though the packing crate was intact.

The repair section made the following transactions during the month:

- a. 176 pieces of equipment processed.
- b. 8 pieces of equipment evacuated to higher echelon.
- c. 9 pieces of equipment returned from higher echelon.
- d. 174 pieces of equipment repaired and returned to sections.
- e. 73 new requisitions processed by supply.

10. Logistics. Logistics support remained normal for all organic units, sources of supply were unchanged.

a. The following weight of air freight was processed with delivery destination as indicated:

(1) Marble Mountain Air Facility	700 lbs.
(2) Hue/Phu Bai	230,160 lbs.
(3) Dong Ha	400 lbs.
(4) Chu Lai	300 lbs.
Total	231,500 lbs.

b. Construction of 24, 50' X 50' aircraft parking pads at Marble Mountain Air Facility has been Completed.

SECRET

c. The increased population of Ch-46A aircraft by the joining of HMM-265 during May has not yet caused any notable deficiencies in supply support over and above those experienced by HMM-164. It should be noted that the pack-up shipped from FMFLANT activities in support of HMM-265 was based upon a "peace time" computation therefore it is questionable as to whether such depth will support a constant 960 hour per month flight hour program for HMM-265. Deficiencies not included in the pack-up due to non-availability in FMFLANT assets have been placed on order and a satisfactory support position is contingent upon ability of the system to effect timely response to these stock replenishment requisitions. Some 391 line items were not included in the pack-up. Most of these items were already in the "hard to get" category.

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Squadron Chronologies

- ✓ 1. H&MS-16, S.U. #1
- ✓ 2. VMO-2
- ✓ 3. HMM-161
- ✓ 4. HMM-163
- ✓ 5. HMM-164
- ✓ 6. HMM-265
- ✓ 7. H&MS-16
- ✓ 8. MABS-16

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