

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

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3750  
003401267  
12 January 1967

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From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing (Attn: G-3)  
Subj: Command Chronology for period 1-31 December 1966; submission of  
Ref: (a) WgO 5750.1B  
Encl: (1) MAG-16 Command Chronology  
1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is herewith submitted.  
2. This letter is downgraded to UNCLASSIFIED upon removal of enclosure (1).

*F. M. Hepler*  
F. M. HEPLER

MAG-16 SSG  
LOG 3 00115-67  
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DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.  
DOD DIR 5200.10

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY  
MARINE AIR GROUP 16  
MARBLE MOUNTAIN AIR FACILITY  
REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM  
Period Covered: 1 through 31 December, 1966

REF ID: A66723

ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART I  
Organizational Data

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<u>BILLET</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>DATE</u>
CO MAG-16	Frank M. HEPLER	COL	1-31 December 1966
CO MAG-16(FWD)	Samuel F. MARTIN	COL	1-31 December 1966
XD MAG-16	Arnold W. BARDEN	LTCOL	1-31 December 1966
Adjutant	Phillip A. OLSON	WO	1-31 December 1966
S-1 Officer	Oliver J. MCDONALD	MAJ	1-31 December 1966
S-2 Officer	Yerger JOHNSTONE	CAPT	1-31 December 1966
S-3 Officer	Herbert E. MINDENHALL	LTCOL	1-31 December 1966
S-4 Officer	Manning T. JANNELL	LTCOL	1-31 December 1966
CO H&MS-16	Lucius G. DAVIS	LTCOL	1-31 December 1966
CO MABS-16	Rodney K. MCKITRICK	LTCOL	1-31 December 1966
CO HMM-163	Rocco B. BIANCHI	LTCOL	1-31 December 1966
CO HMM-164	Warren C. WATSON	LTCOL	1-31 December 1966
CO HMM-263	Leslie J. DARBYSHIRE	LTCOL	1-31 December 1966
CO HMM-265	Frank B. ELLIS	MAJ	1-31 December 1966
CO VMO-2	William F. HARRELL	LTCOL	1-31 December 1966
CO VMO-3	Kyle W. TOWNSEND	MAJ	29-31 December 1966
OIG SUB UNIT #1	John L. NOLAN	MAJ	1-31 December 1966
OIG MATCU-62	Robert C. MEYER	CAPT	1-31 December 1966
OIG MATCU-68	Kent V. BERGMAN	CAPT	1-31 December 1966

2. Task Organization

H&MS-16	Marble Mountain Air Facility, Republic of Viet Nam
MABS-16	Marble Mountain Air Facility, Republic of Viet Nam
HMM-164	Marble Mountain Air Facility, Republic of Viet Nam
HMM-263	Marble Mountain Air Facility, Republic of Viet Nam
HMM-265	Marble Mountain Air Facility, Republic of Viet Nam
VMO-2	Marble Mountain Air Facility, Republic of Viet Nam
SU #1	Marble Mountain Air Facility, Republic of Viet Nam
HMM-163	Hue Phu Bai, Republic of Viet Nam
VMO-3	Hue Phu Bai, Republic of Viet Nam
MATCU-68	Hue Phu Bai, Republic of Viet Nam
MATCU-62	Dong Ha, Republic of Viet Nam

3. Average Monthly Strength

	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>
H&MS-16	67	419	0	0
SU #1	12	60	0	0
MABS-16	21	585	4	9
HMM-163	53	179	1	3
HMM-164	47	190	1	4
HMM-263	51	179	1	4
HMM-265	45	182	1	3
VMO-2	46	154	1	3
VMO-3	18	61	0	0
MATCU-62	4	34	0	0
MATCU-68	8	64	0	0

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4. Important Visitors to the Command

a. Major General ROBERTSHAW made official visits to the Command on 14, 15, 19, and 25 December 1966.

b. Brigadier General OWNES visited the Command on 15 December 1966.

c. Republic of Korea Marine Corps General CHIA made an official visit on 16 December 1966.

d. Rear Admiral KELLY, Chief of the Navy Chaplain Corps, and DR. Billy GRAHAM visited the Command on Christmas Day for the dedication of the new chapel.

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Part II  
Narrative Summary

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# 1. Special Operations

- a. Operation Prairie 1-31 December
- b. Operation Mississippi 1-7 December
- c. Operation Chinook 23-31 December

## 2. General Summary

December 1966 found MAG-16 spread over five bases throughout I Corps. With Headquarters and the majority of assets still at Marble Mountain Air Facility, a sizable portion of the Group comprised MAG-16 (FWD) at Dong Ha, and a detachment was maintained at Khe Sanh. Hue Phu Bai remained as home base for HMM-163 and MATCU-68, plus additional detachments of UH-1E's and CH-46's from MAG-16 and MAG-36. Throughout the month, MAG-16 relied upon MAG-36 to provide UH-1E and CH-46 augmentation at Marble Mountain and Hue Phu Bai, and our G-1C's continued to fulfill the aerial reconnaissance commitment in the Chu Lai TACR.

Singular recognition must be given to the pilots and crew of HMM-263 for their unswerving performance of duty during December. Flying extremely hazardous missions in the Danang TACR with an unusually high number of hit incidents and several near-tragedies, they nevertheless continued each day to render excellent and unflinching service. They have been an example to the entire Group.

## 3. Chronological Summary

1 December 1966 - Flight Operations were routine in all four TACR's serviced by MAG-16 aircraft. In the Danang area, inclement weather prevented any significant developments in Operation Mississippi.

2 December 1966 - Weather again curtailed most flight operations, necessitating several cancellations. There were no significant events.

3 December 1966 - Weather severely restricted flight operations in all TACR's. Three CH-46's operating as a flight all received hits as small arms fire incidents showed an increase, ostensibly due to the fact that the inclement weather forced aircraft to fly at low altitudes.

4 December 1966 - A Sub Unit #1 CH-37 received over forty hits from small arms and shrapnel from a 75 mm shell while on a routine resupply mission out of Dong Ha. The pilot and first mechanic were both wounded, and one engine was put out of commission. However, the copilot was able to fly the aircraft to a nearby secure landing zone from which the crew was then evacuated.

5 December 1966 - A UH34D from HMM-263 was forced to land approximately eight miles south of Danang due to engine failure and the crew was immediately picked up. Sparrow Hawk was launched to insert a security force

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around the aircraft, but the VC were able to detonate a satchel charge in the cabin first. The UH-34 was recovered by external lift later in the day without further incident.

6 December 1966 - Operations were normal in the Dong Ha, Phu Bai, and Chu Lai TAOR's, but rather active in the Danang TAOR. The Army Special Forces outpost at Tra Bong in Quang Tri province required an emergency troop lift by our CH-46's, and one of the MAG-36 CH-46's augmenting MAG-16 took several hits, without personal injury, in the Danang TAOR. A MAG-36 UH-34, also augmenting MAG-16, crashed inserting a reconnaissance team in Operation Mississippi, and the crew was required to remain overnight in the field. HMM-263's Danang medevac was shot down, and his UH-1E gunship escort received five hits attempting to accomplish the mission. The crew and medevac were evacuated later in the afternoon in an exemplary display of coordination between transport helicopters, gunships, fixed wing, and ground units.

7 December 1966 - Dong Ha and Phu Bai operations were again severely curtailed by weather. A UH-34 from HMM-263 was hit by enemy fire and burned in the zone attempting to put a maintenance team in to work on the medevac aircraft shot down the day before. There were no injuries, but the crew was forced to remain in the zone another night. The remainder of the day's operations were routine, with Operation Mississippi terminating.

8 December 1966 - Shortly after noon, an O-1C from H&MS-16 DET "A" was reported missing on a mission out of Phu Bai. A search was organized by the Phu Bai DASC, and the majority of effort for the remainder of the day was concentrated on the search. At nightfall the search was terminated with negative results.

9 December 1966 - In the Dong Ha area, two WMO-2 UH-1E gunships quelled enemy sniper fire to permit evacuation of a VC prisoner by an HMM-163 UH-34. The wreckage of the downed O-1C was sighted, and the pilot and aerial observer were rescued and returned to the hospital by a UH-1E enroute to Dong Ha. HMM-263's medevac aircraft was hit three times by sniper fire during the day, and the gunner received a moderate wound from shrapnel in the first incident.

10 December 1966 - Flight operations were routine in all four TAOR's served by MAG-16.

11 December 1966 - Flight operations were routine in all four TAOR's, including a 325 man troop lift into Elephant Valley. At Phu Bai, two gunships escorting a CH-46 recon team extraction were unable to silence heavy enemy fire with their own firepower, and called in artillery to effectively cover the maneuver.

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12 December 1966 - Flight operations were normal throughout the area supported by MAG-16, with the exception of an uneventful forced landing by an HMM-163 UH-34.

13 December 1966 - Flight operations were routine, including a 462 man ROK Marine lift by HMM-265.

14 December 1966 - Flight operations were normal, with numerous cancellations forced by weather.

15 December 1966 - Providing aerial reconnaissance for a company sweep in the Danang TAOR, a Det "A" O-1C spotted 20 to 30 VC a short distance in front of the company. Blocking their retreat across a road with his rockets, the O-1C kept the VC at bay until the company moved up and captured 16, killing 4 in light action to do so.

16 December 1966 - A flight of CH-46's from HMM-164 made five trips into a pickup zone twelve miles southeast of Danang under fire to transfer "F" Company 2/5 back to their parent battalion. The lead section went in twice under mortar attack as well as small arms fire, but only three hits were taken, and no injuries.

17 December 1966 - Routine operations were conducted with no significant occurrences.

18 December 1966 - The Danang medevac was hit on three occasions by enemy sniper fire, and personnel were wounded on two occasions. The aerial gunner was wounded in the first instance, and a civilian news correspondent in the second. WMO-2 provided transportation for John STEINBACK, noted author, around the Dong Ha area.

19 December 1966 - The pilot leading a flight of UH-34's from HMM-263 was wounded when his resupply aircraft took enemy fire while delivering an emergency ration of ammunition to "G" Company 2/5. Having landed in the zone after dark, he turned on his lights to mark the zone for his wingman and triggered a mortar barrage which forced him out of the zone, and precluded further helicopter support for the night.

20 December 1966 - HMM-263's Danang medevac was one of two of their aircraft hit as fire incidents again increased. The medevac co-pilot was the only crewmember injured. On a night medevac mission south of Danang, another UH-34 struck trees in a small landing zone and was disabled on the ground in "E" Company, 2/5's position.

21 December 1966 - Numerous medevac and resupply missions were required in the pre-dawn morning and throughout the day by "E" and "G" Company, 2/5, in the vicinity of the downed UH-34. Two crewmen from HMM-265 were wounded on emergency medevac, and an attempt to recover the downed UH-34 was aborted due to intense enemy fire in the area.

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HMM-163 suffered an aircraft accident when an aircraft attempting emergency extraction of a recon team struck trees and crashed near Dong Ha.

22 December 1966 - HMM-263's Danang medevac was again hit by enemy fire as weather hampered flight operations in all TAOR's supported by MAG-16.

23 December 1966 - Weather kept flight operations to a minimum in all TAOR's. HMM-163 sustained a hit from small arms while participating in Operation Chinook, there were no injuries.

24 December 1966 - Flight operations were again kept to a minimum by inclement weather, and HMM-263's Danang medevac aircraft received two hits on the first mission of the day, a scant hour after the Christmas truce went into effect.

25 December 1966 - Most missions were of a routine nature throughout MAG-16's operating areas, with several flights involved in delivering Christmas dinners to units in the field. Six fire incidents were recorded in the Danang area, and the UH-34 stuck in "E" Company, 2/5's position was finally recovered. Retaliatory air strikes were brought to bear on enemy troops who harassed the aircraft recovery and the retraction of "G" Company, 2/5.

26 December 1966 - Normal flight operations were conducted to the extent that inclement weather conditions would allow. Two HMM-263 aircraft sustained battle damage from enemy fire, with no injuries to personnel.

27 December 1966 - Flight operations were again curtailed by inclement weather, with Dong Ha operations limited to two emergency medevac missions. HMM-263 again suffered hits in two aircraft, as the medevac aircraft was busied with emergency pick-ups under fire for 1/26 throughout the day.

28 December 1966 - The Bob Hope Show kept MAG-16 aircraft busy for the majority of the day. Sparrow Hawk was launched twice, but no significant incidents were recorded in any of MAG-16's support areas.

29 December 1966 - Normal flight operations were conducted in the Danang, Phu Bai, and Chu Lai TAOR's. In the Dong Ha area, a flight of CH-46's from HMM-164 accomplished a major medevac mission under extremely hazardous conditions without incident.

30 December 1966 - The flight leader on a resupply mission from HMM-163 was shot down by enemy .50 cal. fire, and all four crewmembers were injured. The remaining flights were of a routine nature, with VMO-2 providing transportation for Commanding General FMFPAC, LtGen KRULAK.

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31 December 1966 - Weather again hampered flight operations throughout MAG-16's operating area. An HMM-164 CH-46 slick recovered the HMM-163 UH-34 downed by enemy fire the previous day in spite of extremely poor weather.

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Part III  
Significant Events

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1. Personnel

- a. Number of Joinings: 424
- b. Number of Drops: 126
- c. Promotions:
  - (1) 2/Lt to 1/Lt 4
  - (2) SSgt to GySgt 1
  - (3) Sgt to SSgt 2
  - (4) Cpl to Sgt 62
  - (5) LCpl to Cpl 88
  - (6) Pfc to LCpl 62
  - (7) Pvt to Pfc 12

2. Awards

- a. The following awards were distributed during December:

- (1) Distinguished Flying Cross:

LtCol Arnold W. BARDEN	H&MS-16
Maj Eugene W. GILBERT	HMM-265
Capt William B. KIRBY	VMO-2

- (2) Air Medal:

H&MS-16	28
SU #1	22
HMM-163	56
HMM-164	186
HMM-263	163
HMM-265	105
VMO-2	189

3. Casualties

NON-HOSTILE

<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAMES</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
Cpl	Mark W. WILSON	6 Dec 66	MMAF
Capt	William J. PARSONS	8 Dec 66	3 Mi SW Hai Pass
GySgt	Armand J. NADEAU	15 Dec 66	MMAF

<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
Evt	Robert J. CLYDE	20 Dec 66	MMAF
Capt	Noel L. HAMMER	25 Dec 66	An Hoa
Pvt	Gary J. THOMPSON	26 Dec 66	MMAF

HOSTILE

Capt	Zane V. LAMASCUS	4 Dec 66	Quang Tri Province
LCpl	Jerry D. JONES	4 Dec 66	Quang Tri Province
Sgt	Robert W. TRUELOVE	7 Dec 66	2 Mi South of An Hoa
LCpl	Donald W. TALLOR	9 Dec 66	3 1/2 Mi SE of An Hoa
LCpl	Fernando E. QUINTANILLA	18 Dec 66	Hill 55, Duc Ky
Corr	Martin K. ROSS	18 Dec 66	Hill 55, Quang Dong
Capt	Rocco F. VALLUZZI	19 Dec 66	5 Mi ENE An Hoa
Maj	Arthur H. NUSSEL	20 Dec 66	1 Mi SE Hill 55
GySgt	John F. LORD	21 Dec 66	16 Mi North Danang
Cpl	Walter L. DIEHL	21 Dec 66	7 Mi South Danang
SSgt	Edward A. DICKER	21 Dec 66	7 Mi South Danang
Maj	Peter N. SAMARAS	30 Dec 66	15 Mi West Dong Ha
Maj	John D. DAY	30 Dec 66	15 Mi West Dong Ha
Sgt	George E. WILLIAMS	30 Dec 66	15 Mi West Dong Ha
Pfc	Robert J. DENNY	30 Dec 66	15 Mi West Dong Ha

4. Civic Action

a. Medical. A total of seventeen scheduled sickcalls were held in Son Thuy 2, and at the Catholic Dispensary, there were three thousand five hundred and eighty three people treated. There were five Vietnamese patients from Son Thuy referred to the Naval Hospital for further treatment. MCB-6 treated one thousand nine hundred and eighteen patients at their dispensary in Son Thuy 1. MCB-5 treated one thousand five hundred and sixty four patients at their dispensary in My Thi Hamlet. Fifth Comm. has initiated an immunization program in Da Man Hamlet for plague, cholera, and small pox. There are a total of four Vietnamese being trained as health workers in Hoa Long Village. The preventive medicine section has sprayed the Catholic Complex seven times for mosquito control. They have given five hundred and seventy six plague immunizations at the Catholic School and the Catholic Orphanage in Hoa Long Village. MEDCAP Teams from the Naval Hospital treated two thousand five hundred and sixty patients. There were fifty-nine Vietnamese patients admitted to the Naval Hospital, twenty-five of these were for major surgery. At present the Naval Hospital has ninety-nine out patients. There were nine thousand seven hundred and eighty-three medical, and one hundred and sixty-three dental patients treated this month in Hoa Long Village. A little boy, from Dong Hai Hamlet, who's hand had been hit by a grenade, was sent to the Naval Hospital for treatment. He was then referred to the USOM Hospital in Da Nang, where his hand was bandaged, but not cleaned or sutured. Dr. Gillis, from MAG-16, then took him to the Naval Hospital, where his hand was properly treated. However due to the inefficiency of the USOM Hospital, he may still lose part of his hand. Situations of this nature could be alleviated if some type of follow-up treatment were initiated.

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b. Education. A program for assistance to students has been initiated by MCB-5, with an initial contribution of 3,240 \$VN. To date three children have been enrolled in school through this program. MCB-5 held fifteen, two hour English classes, for a total of thirty hours of instruction. There were three hundred and fifteen students. MCB-6 contributed paper and pens to schools of Hoa Long Village, but have not yet been received.

c. Projects. A combined working party of Seabees, from MCB-6, and Vietnamese repaired two Buddhist Shrines in Son Thuy 1. MCB-5 has completed the construction of homes for Buddhist refugees in My Thi Hamlet, the labor for this project was provided by the people of the hamlet. Benches and desks were also constructed for the new school in My Thi, by MCB-5 and the hamlet people. Fifth Comm. and the people of Dan Man Hamlet have completed the repairs to two of the hamlet walls, and one new well is presently under construction. Construction is continuing on the Catholic Boy's Town complex, the addition to the Catholic Orphanage, and the Buddhist School in Son Thuy. Inclement weather has slowed the progress of these projects for the past month. The public school of Hoa Long Village, located in Son Thuy Hamlet, is being repaired by Marines of H&MS-16, and the people of the village. The crash crew from MAG-16 are constructing two shower units for the dispensary in Son Thuy 2. Doors and shutters, for the dispensary in Son Thuy, are being constructed by Marine from the MAG-16 Maintenance Section on their own time.

d. Government. Mr. Hoa is at present still acting as the village chief of Hoa Long Village. The village officials have instructed the merchants of Hoa Long that if they are caught selling whiskey, narcotics, or prostitutes to American Forces that they will be sent to District Headquarters for disciplinary action. The Vietnamese interpreter from the Military Police Company stationed in Hoa Long Village, attempted to get the Village Chief to falsify residence forms for three women. The interpreter then had the Village Chief, and the Village Police Chief's names placed on the black list at the Military Police check point. This situation has been brought to the attention of the Commanding Officer of the Military Police Company.

e. Population Control. On 9 December it was confirmed by the District Chief, that there would be no refugees located in the Marble Mountain area. On 14 December a copy of the latest census of Dong Hai Hamlet and the Marble Mountain area was obtained from the village officials.

f. Give Away Program. MCB-6 contributed eighty seven pounds of clothing, and eight pounds of candy to the people of Son Thuy 1. Fifth Comm. gave ten pounds of clothing to the people of Da Man Hamlet. Christmas cards were sold by Fifth Comm. for the orphanages of the village, a total of thirty thousand piasters was netted by this project. MCB-5 gave one hundred and fifty pounds of candy, and five hundred toys to the children of My Thi Hamlet. Three hundred and fifty bars of soap were distributed to the people of My Thi by MCB-5. Twenty pounds of clothing and five

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thousand pounds of food were distributed to the needy families in My Thi by MCB-5. Seven thousand seven hundred pounds of cement, six hundred and forty board feet of lumber, twenty sheets of roofing tin, and two truck loads of scrap lumber have been distributed throughout Hoa Long Village in December in support of the various projects now under construction.

g. Civic Action Area. MAG-16 forward has been assigned two small hamlets in the Dong Ha area as a civic action area. They are Luong An, and Phuong Gia Hamlets. There are approximately twelve hundred people in the two hamlets. However, accurate count will be determined by a census. Both hamlets are easily accessible by roads. The civic action program of MAG-16 forward is very limited due to the lack of an interpreter.

h. Summary. On 8 December a boobytrapped grenade was found in the dispensary in Son Thuy. It was deactivated by Marines from 3/1. A meeting was held at the main Buddhist Temple in Marble Mountain on 14 December. It was attended by representatives from the First Division, MAG-36, 3/1, the District and Village Chiefs, and the chief Buddhist Monks of Hoa Long Village. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss certain acts by the Marines in the area which caused friction between the Marines and Vietnamese people. These accusations were resolved, and a better means of liaison between the Village Officials and the Marines was established. Similar meetings of this nature, if scheduled, would serve to establish a better working relationship with the people of the area. On 23 December, during a fire fight in Son Thuy, the village office was grenaded and sprayed by small arms fire. This will be handled as a combat claim by the Village Chief. In recent weeks there has been an increasing amount of MPC being used by Marines, in dealing with the merchants, in the Marble Mountain area. This has been brought to the attention of the Village Chief and CAC Unit stationed in the area. MAG-16's Civic Action Section is still hampered in its primary duty as the area coordinator due to the lack of the sections own means of transportation. Many times it is necessary to go to the various hamlets and units in its area of responsibility with short notice, and at times without any prior notice. Therefore it is impossible to request transportation in advance.

i. MAG-16 Chaplain's Civic Action Program

(1) The "Boys Town" project took in its first 16 boys this month to begin the work of that school, and \$150.00 was donated to help get started.

(2) \$70.00 was donated to Bishop CHI for his charities.

(3) The Vietnamese Education Scholarship Board met twice, and joined two additional religious groups: the Confucian community and the B'hai Church. Small committees were set up for work in Hoi An and Hue. The board received \$738.00 for scholarships, bringing the total to \$1965.50 in grants.

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5. Morale/Welfare Programs

a. A full schedule of Catholic Masses and Protestant services continued and attendance continued to rise.

b. The New Chapel is in full operation, and was dedicated on Christmas Day with RAdm. James W. KELLY, Chief of Chaplains, participating. In attendance were MGen. ROBERTSHAW, Col HEPLER, Col HUNT, and Dr. Billy GRAHAM.

c. The First Marine Aircraft Wing Band gave an excellent concert in the Chapel on 23 December.

6. Intelligence/Counter Intelligence

a. 6 December Intelligence Officer went to Phu Bai to establish direct liaison between the intelligence section of HMM-163 and G-2, Third Marine Division. Satisfactory procedures for mutual support and exchange of information were established.

b. 11 December 1stLt REILLY, an aerial observer whose aircraft crashed in the jungle at Hai Van Pass, was debriefed on his survival experience.

c. 13 December Briefed 2dLt BLACK, Army Intelligence Corps, from the Combined Intelligence Center, Viet Nam on enemy anti-helicopter tactics.

d. 15 December Received a briefing from the Officer in Charge, Fifth Counter-intelligence team, on the support his unit will provide MAG-16.

e. 18 December Conducted Administrative and Material inspection of the intelligence section, HMM-163. Assigned a rating of "Satisfactory", with Minor Discrepancies".

f. 22 December The Group and Squadron staffs received a briefing on the functions and capabilities of Detachment 1, 3d Air Rescue and Recovery Group, USAF, from Maj FRANKS, OIC of the Detachment.

g. 27 December Briefed Intelligence Chief of WMO-3 on MAG-16 intelligence functions and procedures.

h. 28 December Briefed Intelligence Officer HMM-463, on MAG-16 intelligence functions and procedures.

i. 30 December Briefed "B" Company, 1st M.P. Bn., and the CO of G-4 Hospital on intelligence functions and the current enemy situation in the Danang TAOR.

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7. Air Operations

HMM-163      UH-34D

Hours      1228.8  
Sorties      1947  
Pax      2591  
Evacs      234  
Cargo      103.3

HMM-263      UH-34D

Hours      1609.9  
Sorties      5060  
Pax      3148  
Evacs      869  
Cargo      157

VMC-2      UH-1E

Hours      890.9  
Sorties      2249  
Pax      1787  
Evacs      20  
Cargo      ---

SU #1      CH-37C

Hours      287.7  
Sorties      148  
Pax      1433  
Evacs      11  
Cargo      403.1

HMM-164      CH-46A

Hours      920.5  
Sorties      1337  
Pax      3588  
Evacs      54  
Cargo      400

HMM-265      CH-46A

Hours      815.4  
Sorties      2212  
Pax      7577  
Evacs      26  
Cargo      623.8

HMS-16      O-1C      C-117D

Hours      660.6      96.5  
Sorties      401      55  
Pax      ---      705  
Evacs      ---      ---  
Cargo      ---      37.1

MAG-16      Total

Hours      6510.3  
Sorties      13,409  
Pax      20,829  
Evacs      1,214  
Cargo      1,724.3

8. Air Control

a. The PAR radar at Dong Ha and Khe Sanh received flight checks and GCA operations were begun at both fields. During the month of December Hue Phu Bai conducted 13,156 operations which included 2190 instrument operations and a record 637 GCA's. Khe Sanh conducted 3528 operations, including 161 GCA's. Marble Mountain Air Facility had 12, 675 aircraft operations.

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9. Ground Defense. No probes were experienced during the month. A rehabilitation program of the defensive perimeter bunkers was initiated. Zulu Company and PMO personnel began to rehabilitate the living spaces formerly occupied by the Force Recon Company. All ground defense personnel will be billeted in this early in January.

10. Supply/Material. Primary emphasis was placed on providing increased numbers of personnel with garrison equipment and weapons. Most ground units transfer personnel to the Wing without bringing individual clothing up to the required allowance. The Group Supply Section is adjusting to accommodate these personnel.

11. Motor Transport. The Heavy Equipment Section was used extensively to provide fill for low areas, and for cutting drainage canals for excess water caused by the monsoons. Constant road maintenance is also required due to the monsoons. Transportation of water, men and materials and for command and administrative liaison was provided for a combined total of 40,699 miles. Twenty-five vehicles are deployed to outlying sites and a total of fourteen vehicles are presently on the deadline.

12. TAFDS. The TAFDS continued to support Operation Prairie and local operations from Marble Mountain, Phu Bai and Dong Ha.

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>AVGAS 115/145</u>	<u>JP-4</u>
MMAF	36,427	74,554
Phu Bai	218,538	109,702
Dong Ha	<u>142,153</u>	<u>78,711</u>
Total	397,118	263,027

13. Crash Crew. A total of forty-six personnel (one officer, and forty-five enlisted) were on hand during this reported period. Of this total, three enlisted were TAD to this section from Marine Air Base Squadron 11 for a special detail, eight enlisted were assigned to Phu Bai Airport, and five enlisted were assigned to Dong Ha Airport. Because of the widespread commitments, additional personnel have been requested. Equipment assigned during the period consisted of seven MB-5 crash fire trucks (three of which were down for engines and one for survey) one M-530B structural fire truck, as well as two dry chemical airlift (Ansul) units mounted on M-35A1 trucks. Distribution of these vehicle was:

a. Marble Mountain Air Facility. Four MB-5 trucks (two operational) and one M-530B structural fire truck.

b. Phu Bai Airport. Two MB-5 trucks (one operational)

c. Dong Ha Airport. One MB-5 truck (not operational) and one ansul unit, M-35A1 mounted.

d. Special Detail. One ansul unit, M-35A1 mounted.

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Due to widespread commitments, additional vehicles and equipment have been requested. There were nineteen alerts to assist aircraft in distress. There were three calls to standby for controlled burning and defueling. There were no injuries to personnel or serious damage to property or equipment.

14. Base Operations/Weather. A weather observer was assigned to Khe Sanh Airfield. Traffic control and weather service support is now being provided at each of the four sites.

15. Food Services. The Marble Mountain mess served 199,905 regular meals and 9,920 night rations. The 500 man mess hall at Dong Ha opened on schedule. A new wing to the Phu Bai mess hall was also opened. The food services Section at Marble Mountain was the subject of a letter of appreciation from the Commanding Officer, HMM-263 for the quality of the food and services rendered during Christmas and New Year's Eve.

16. Base Development/Utilities. Thirty-four new personnel were joined and seven were detached.

a. Generator Shop. Minor repairs and maintenance were carried out daily. One 60KW and one 75KW generator were serviced and prepared for shipment to Japan for rehabilitation. The section was inspected by the Wing Inspection Team with very favorable results.

b. Laundry. The laundry processed 22,350 pounds of clothing. Two new dryers and two new washers were received. Adequate power is not presently available to put them into use. The concrete floor for the new laundry building is now 70% complete.

c. Water Point. The water point processed 805,260 gallons of water. A new water tower was serviced and put into operation in the Zulu Company area. Assistance was provided to several outlying commands during periods of water shortage.

d. Paint Shop. Constructed and painted 110 miscellaneous signs. Staining and painting of the new Chapel was completed. Painting was begun on the officer and SNCO shower.

e. Refrigeration Shop. Repairs were made to two ice machines at the Officers Club and to an ME-10 and an MQ-51E unit in the mess hall. Preventive maintenance was conducted daily on all units. The ice plant produced 23,500 pounds of ice.

f. Electric Shop. Seventy trouble calls were handled during this period. A pole line was installed between the barber shop and the Chapel. Wiring was completed in the Chapel. Ten new huts were wired. The Zulu Company billeting area was re-wired.

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g. Carpenter Shop. Forms were set and construction was begun on a wash rack for Motor Transport. A four unit garage is being constructed for WMO-2 and HMM-263. Twenty-three new huts were constructed. Three new heads were constructed. Construction of the Chapel has been completed. Renovation of living quarters in the Zulu Company area was begun. Construction project lumber was cut and shipped to Dong Ha and Phu Bai. Doors and steps are being replaced in living quarters throughout the camp.

17. Exchange. Gross sales at the exchange totaled \$53,810.00. The Concessionaire, James S. LEE Tailor's gross sales totaled \$4,623.50.

18. Logistics

a. 95% of the soil cement of the east apron has been completed and the asphaltic concrete finish has been started.

b. Air Freight processed by organic aircraft during the period was as follows:

<u>Destination</u>	<u>Passengers</u>	<u>Aide</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Phu Bai	106	3287.7	52,577
Dong Ha	124	4222.6	81,584
An Hoa		121.6	3,375
Chu Lai	5	126.3	4,948
Total	289	7758.2	142,484

19. Communications

a. In a move to centralize their control of telephones (over 250) under Group Communications, the wire section has begun remarking and re-numbering all MAG-16 telephones.

b. The Superchief switchboard at Phu Bai was relocated in the MATCU-68 area, and 7000 feet of 5 pair cable laid to improve the installation there.

c. The Zulu Company switchboard was relocated near the Force Recon area, requiring a major cable re-routing job.

d. Radio reliability remained good over the SSB Group Command net with the exception of Khe Sanh, which was down over 30% of the period. Weather hampered efforts to fly in the repair parts. The establishment of a radio relay shot from Dong Ha to Khe Sanh, requested by this Headquarters, will improve the present system considerably.

e. Message traffic was up considerably for the month, with a total of 5,300 messages processed. Outgoing traffic increased only slightly to 1,200.

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f. The following transactions were effected by the Repair Section:

- (1) 108 pieces of equipment processed
- (2) 5 pieces of equipment evacuated to higher echelon
- (3) 2 pieces of equipment returned from higher echelon
- (4) 90 pieces of equipment returned to sections
- (5) 68 requisitions processed

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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Part IV  
Supporting Documents

Contents

MAG-16 S&C  
Log #

✓ Command Chronology of HMM-163	Appendix #1	None
✓ Command Chronology of HMM-164	Appendix #2	073-67
✓ Command Chronology of HMM-263	Appendix #3	0074-67
✓ Command Chronology of HMM-265	Appendix #4	None
✓ Command Chronology of WMC-2	Appendix #5	072-67
✓ Command Chronology of MABS-16	Appendix #6	None
✓ Command Chronology of H&MS-16	Appendix #7	058-67
✓ Command Chronology of H&MS-16, "U" #1	Appendix #8	063-67
✓ MAG-16 Daily Sitreps	Appendix #9	None
✓ S-1 Command Chronology	Appendix #10	

ENCLOSURE (1)

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CO	
EX	13
S-3	Mr

M10-16 SITREP 302100H NOV - 012100H DEC 1966

MAG-46 FLEW A TOTAL OF 101.5 FLIGHT HOURS CARRYING 325 PAX, 30.8 TONS OF CARGO AND 8 MEDEVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 272 SORTIES.

OPERATION PRAIRIE SUPPORT CONSISTED OF 11.3 FLIGHT HOURS CARRYING 33 PASSENGERS AND 4.4 TONS OF CARGO IN 18 SORTIES. THERE WERE NO SIGNIFICANT FLIGHTS IN SUPPORT OF PRAIRIE.

OPERATIONS IN THE DANG AREA WERE OF A ROUTINE NATURE TODAY. THE ONLY EXCEPTION WAS AN EMERGENCY RESUPPLY TO CUE SON. THE WEATHER TODAY HELD UP FURTHER DEVELOPMENT ON OPERATION MISSISSIPPI. THE NORMAL VIP AND 1ST DIVISION SUPPORT WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN SPITE OF FLUCTUATING WEATHER CONDITIONS IN THE TADR.

THIS GROUP FLEW 6 MEDEVAC MISSIONS EVACUATING 0 EMERGENCY, 5 PRIORITY AND 3 ROUTINE CASUALTIES.

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Appendix - 9

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MAG-16 SITREP 012100H - 022100H DEC 1966

CO	16
X2	13
5-3	12
15-3	12

MAG-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 175.8 FLIGHT HOURS CARRYING 769 PAX, 58.9 TONS OF CARGO AND 29 MEDEVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 490 SORTIES.

OPERATION PRAIRIE SUPPORT CONSISTED OF 44.8 FLIGHT HOURS CARRYING 182 PASSENGERS AND 29.1 TONS OF CARGO IN 108 SORTIES. THERE WERE NO SIGNIFICANT FLIGHTS IN SUPPORT OF PRAIRIE.

OPERATION MISSISSIPPI SUPPORT CONSISTED OF 18.5 FLIGHT HOURS CARRYING 132 PAX AND 8.6 TONS OF CARGO IN 60 SORTIES.

OPERATIONS IN THE DANG AREA WERE OF A ROUTINE NATURE. EXCEPTIONS WERE:

1. SPARROW HAWK LAUNCHED AT 1335H CARRYING 20 PAX FROM AT 987644 TO AT 980696.

2. 2 UH-34'S CONDUCTING ROUTINE RESUPPLY RECEIVED SMALL ARMS FIRE AT COORDINATES BT 007548. NO HITS WERE RECEIVED.

3. 1 CH-46A WAS FORCED DOWN IN THE LZ DUE TO MECHANICAL PROBLEMS. 2 CH-46'S BRINGING IN MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL WERE FIRED ON AS THEY APPROACHED THE DOWNED AIRCRAFT.

WEATHER CONDITIONS CAUSED CANCELLATIONS OF MANY MISSIONS. AIR SUPPORT OF OPERATION MISSISSIPPI WAS LIKEWISE SEVERELY CURTAILED DUE TO WEATHER.

THIS GROUP FLEW 19 MEDEVAC MISSIONS EVACUATING 8 EMERGENCY, 12 PRIORITY AND 9 ROUTINE CASUALTIES.

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MAG-16 SITREP 022100H - 032100H DEC 1966

MAG-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 145.2 FLIGHT HOURS CARRYING 999 PAX, 70.8 TONS OF CARGO AND 47 MEDEVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 456 SORTIES.

OPERATION PRAIRIE SUPPORT CONSISTED OF 69.0 FLIGHT HOURS CARRYING 847 PAX AND 58.8 TONS OF CARGO IN 269 SORTIES.

OPERATION MISSISSIPPI SUPPORT CONSISTED OF 4.1 FLIGHT HOURS CARRYING 3 PAX AND 0 TONS OF CARGO IN 8 SORTIES.

OPERATIONS IN THE DANANG AREA WERE OF A ROUTINE NATURE. MISSIONS R-11, 31A, 34A, 34B, 34E, 34G, 103 ALL ENCOUNTERED ENEMY FIRE. THREE HUNDRED ROUNDS OF SUPPRESSIVE FIRE WERE RETURNED. THREE CH-46'S WERE HIT BY ENEMY FIRE. EACH SUSTAINED LIMITED DAMAGE.

WEATHER AGAIN SEVERELY RESTRICTED AIR SUPPORT MISSIONS.

THIS GROUP FLEW 22 MEDEVAC MISSIONS EVACUATING 19 EMERGENCY, 18 PRIORITY AND 10 ROUTINE CASUALTIES.

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XO	D
S-3	H
AS-3	CH
admin	off

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MAG-16 SITREP 042100H - 052100H DEC 1966

MAG-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 205.9 FLIGHT HOURS CARRYING 1222 PAX, 88.3 TONS OF CARGO AND 26 MEDEVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 706 SORTIES.

OPERATION PRAIRIE SUPPORT CONSISTED OF 54.6 FLIGHT HOURS CARRYING 320 PAX AND 39.3 TONS OF CARGO. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 178 SORTIES. THERE WERE NO SIGNIFICANT HIGHLIGHTS IN THE DAY'S FLYING AT DONG HA AND PHU BAI. IN THE DAMANG TAOR ONE OF A FLIGHT OF TWO HMM-363 AIRCRAFT FLYING A MAG-16 MISSION WAS REPORTED DOWN SIX TO EIGHT MILES SOUTHEAST OF DANANG.

THE INITIAL REPORT CONFIRMED THAT THE AIRCRAFT HAD MADE A SAFE AUTOROTATION AND THAT THE CREW HAD BEEN PICKED UP BY THE WINMAN. THE CH-46 SPARROW-HAWK AIRCRAFT WERE IMMEDIATELY LAUNCHED TO PUT A SECURITY FORCE AROUND THE DOWNED H-34. BUT AS THEY WERE ENROUTE TO THE DOWNED PLANE FROM THE PICKUP ZONE, THE H-34 WAS BLOWN UP BY A VIET CONG SATCHEL CHARGE. AN AIR OBSERVER WAS OVER THE SCENE AT THE TIME, AND CALLED OUT THE PROGRESS OF THE VIET CONG AS HE RAN SEVERAL HUNDRED METERS OUT TO THE H-34, THREW THE CHARGE INTO THE CABIN, AND ESCAPED. THE SPARROW HAWK AIRCRAFT OPENED FIRE WITH .50 CAL MACHINE GUNS FROM A DISTANCE, AND THE GROUND TROOPS REPORTED BLOOD TRAILS LEADING AWAY FROM THE HELICOPTER, BUT THEIR SOURCE IS UNCERTAIN. UNFORTUNATELY, UH-1E GUNSHIPS WERE NOT ON THE SCENE AT THE TIME, AS THE REGULAR SPARROW HAWK GUNSHIP, WHICH IS ALSO THE MEDEVAC GUNSHIP, WAS OUT ON A MEDEVAC MISSION. AFTER THE SPARROW HAWK TROOPS HAD SECURED THE AREA AROUND THE H-34, DURING WHICH ACTION THEY NETTED 1 KIA VC AND 2 MIA VC AS WELL AS SEVERAL SUSPECTS, THE HULK WAS RETRIEVED AND RETURNED TO MARBLE MOUNTAIN.

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OPERATION MISSISSIPPI SUPPORT CONSISTED OF 19.8 HOURS, CARRYING 256

PAX AND 8.1 TONS OF CARGO IN A TOTAL OF 68 SORTIES.

THIS GROUP FLEW 19 MEDEVAC MISSIONS, EVACUATING 11 EMERGENCY, 7 PRIORITY  
AND 8 ROUTINE CASUALTIES.

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CO	11
XD	8
S-3	24
AS-3	010

admiral

MAG-16 SITREP 052100H - 062100H DEC 1966

MAG-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 134.8 FLIGHT HOURS CARRYING 519 PAX, 37.8 TONS OF CARGO AND 42 MEDEVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 448 SORTIES.

IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION PRAIRIE 20.8 HOURS WERE FLOWN CARRYING 208 PAX AND 18.4 TONS OF CARGO. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 79 SORTIES.

IN THE LOCAL AREA, WEATHER AGAIN HAMPERED OPERATIONS AND CAUSED NUMEROUS FIRE INCIDENTS DUE TO LOW CLOUDINGS. AN EMERGENCY TROOP LIFT WAS ACCOMPLISHED FOR THE ARMY SPECIAL FORCES TO AN OUTPOST AT TRA BONG IN QUANG NGAI PROVINCE. ONE CH-46A ON LOAN FROM MAG-36 RECEIVED NUMEROUS HITS IN THE DANANG AREA BUT RETURNED SAFELY TO BASE WITH NO INJURIES. A MAG-36 UH-34D CRASHED ON A RECON INSERT IN THE MISSISSIPPI AREA. AS FAR AS COULD BE LEARNED THERE WERE VERY MINOR INJURIES ONLY, BUT THE CREW IS STILL OUT IN THE AREA WITH THE RECON TEAM. PLANS ARE NOW IN EFFECT TO RECOVER THEM EARLY IN THE MORNING.

ONE OF HMM-263'S UH-34DS WAS SHOT DOWN ON A MEDEVAC MISSION AND THE WMO-6 ESCORT RECEIVED 5 HITS WHILE TRYING TO PICK UP THE MEDEVAC. TWO 34'S FROM 263 PLUS TWO "GUNS" FROM WMO-6 TEAMED UP WITH AN O-1G AND SOME CONDOLE AIRCRAFT TO GET THE MEDEVACS AND RECOVER THE DOWNED CREW.

THERE WERE NO INJURIES TO THE POWERGLIDE CREW. THE AIRCRAFT IS AT BT 005579 WITH A PLATOON PLUS SEVERAL ONTOS'S PROVIDING SECURITY.

THE SUPPORT OF OPERATION MISSISSIPPI TODAY CAME FROM MAG-36 AIRCRAFT OPERATING FROM MMAT. THOSE STATISTICS ARE NOT AVAILABLE FROM MAG-16.

THIS GROUP FLEW 19 MEDEVAC MISSIONS EVACUATING 9 EMERGENCY, 18 PRIORITY AND 15 ROUTINE CASUALTIES.

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C-2	B
X-0	m
S-3	CP-16
AS-3	off

MAG-16 SITREP 062100H - 072100H DEC 1966

MAG-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 142.0 FLIGHT HOURS CARRYING 759 PAX, 20.4 TONS

OF CARGO AND 37 MEDEVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 381 SORTIES.

IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION PRAIRIE 3.1 HOURS WERE FLOWN CARRYING 0 PAX

AND 4.9 TONS OF CARGO. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 5 SORTIES.

TODAY'S HELO SUPPORT WAS FAVORABLE DUE TO CLEARING WEATHER. SEVERAL

DELAYED MISSIONS FROM PAST DAYS WERE COMPLETED. A MISSION WAS LAUNCHED

WITH NO SUCCESS TO RECOVER 1 UH-34 AT BT 005579. 1 UH-34 LANDED AT

THIS ZONE TO DROP A MAINTENANCE TEAM. THE A/C RECEIVED HITS IN THE ZONE

CAUGHT FIRE AND BURNED. THE CREW AND TEAM DEPLANED WITH NO KNOWN IN-

JURIES. THEY ARE RONGING THIS NIGHT IN THE COMPANY OF A REINFORCED

PLATOON WHICH WAS KIND ENOUGH TO STAY AND GUARD OUR VALUABLE AIRCRAFT.

OTHER OPERATIONS WERE CONSIDERED NORMAL. OCCASIONAL SNIPER FIRE PUNCTUATED

THE DAYS NORMAL OPERATIONS.

THIS GROUP FLEW 20 MEDEVAC MISSIONS EVACUATING 25 EMERGENCY, 2 PRIORITY

AND 10 ROUTINE CASUALTIES.

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CO	13
XO	14
S-3	15
A-5-3	16

MAG-16 SITREP 072100H - 082100H DEC 1966

MAG-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 197.8 FLIGHT HOURS CARRYING 550 PAX, 29.1 TONS OF CARGO AND 14 MEDEVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 582 SORTIES.

IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION PRAIRIE 16.3 HOURS WERE FLOWN CARRYING 91 PAX, AND 10.5 TONS OF CARGO. <sup>Pondy</sup> FORTY FOUR (44) SORTIES WERE FLOWN.

LOCAL OPERATIONS WERE OF A GENERALLY ROUTINE NATURE. NO MAJOR OPERATIONS ARE BEING CONDUCTED IN THE DANANG AREA. AT 1730H A CH-46A FROM HMM-265 RETRIEVED THE DOWN UH-34 (COORD AT 005579). AT 1215 THE ODO WAS ADVISED THAT AN O-1C FROM MAG-16 (DREAMHOUR 36) WAS OVERDUE FROM A ROUTINE MISSION OUT OF PHU BAI. LANDSHARK CHARLIE AT PHU BAI ORGANIZED A SEARCH WITH ARMY AND MARINE CORPS AIRCRAFT FROM PHU BAI AND AIRCRAFT FROM MAG-16. AT DARK NO TRACE OF THE AIRCRAFT HAD BEEN SIGHTED AND THE SEARCH WAS CALLED OFF TO BE RESUMED AT FIRST LIGHT NEXT DAY.

IN SUPPORT OF MAG-16 OPERATIONS VMO-6 CONTRIBUTED 3.7 HOURS OF ARMED HELICOPTER SUPPORT CARRYING 6 PAX AND FLYING 30 SORTIES.

THIS GROUP FLEW 33 MEDEVAC MISSIONS EVACUATING 22 EMERGENCY, 10 PRIORITY AND 9 ROUTINE CASUALTIES.

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MAG-16 SITREP 082100H - 092100H DEC 1966

MAG-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 296.9 FLIGHT HOURS CARRYING 965 PAX, 278.1 TONS OF CARGO AND 65 MEDEVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 316 SORTIES.

IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION PRAIRIE 110.7 HOURS WERE FLOWN CARRYING 478 PAX AND 106.8 TONS OF CARGO IN 314 SORTIES.

PHU BAI OPERATIONS WERE ROUTINE.

OPERATIONS IN THE DANANG AREA WERE ROUTINE WITH THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS:

ONE UH-1E WAS DIVERTED ENROUTE TO DONG HA TO PICK UP THE MISSING O-1C CREW AT AT 9595. THE CREW WAS TAKEN TO C MED AND ARE DOING WELL AT THIS TIME.

TWO CH-46'S WERE LAUNCHED ON BLUE SPRINGS. FOUR CH-46A'S LIFTED 112.1 TONS OF CARGO AND 43 PAX BETWEEN LZ EAGLE AND AN HOA.

THE MEDEVAC AIRCRAFT WAS HIT ON THREE SEPERATE MISSIONS TODAY. INJURY TO PERSONNEL WAS ONE GUNNER WHO RECEIVED A SHRAPNEL WOUND IN THE NECK. HIS INJURY IS LISTED AS MODERATE AND HE IS PRESENTLY LOCATED AT C MED.

IN SUPPORT OF MAG-16 OPERATIONS, VMO-6 FLEW 19.7 HOURS OF ARMED HELICOPTER SUPPORT CARRYING 6 PAX IN 51 SORTIES.

THIS GROUP FLEW 38 MEDEVAC MISSIONS EVACUATING 25 EMERGENCY, 20 PRIORITY AND 20 ROUTINE CASUALTIES.

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CO	ST
XO	13
S-3	10
AS-3	10
ADMIN	10

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MAG-16 SITREP 092100H - 102100H DEC 1966

MAG-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 288.3 FLIGHT HOURS CARRYING 1229 PAX, 125.7 TONS OF CARGO AND 256 MEDEVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 1119 SORTIES.

IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION PRAIRIE, MAG-16 FLEW 111.7 HOURS CARRYING 450 PAX AND 90.1 TONS OF CARGO FOR A TOTAL OF 354 SORTIES.

IN THE DONG HA, PHU BAI AND DAIANG TAOR'S ALL OF MAG-16'S MISSIONS WERE ROUTINE, WITH THE OUTSTANDING FACTOR OF THE DAY BEING THE UNUSUALLY LARGE NUMBER OF MEDEVAC MISSIONS. WITH THIS SINGLE EXCEPTION, THERE WERE NO SIGNIFICANT OCCURRENCES. THE MAJORITY OF THE DAY'S AIR SUPPORT WENT TO THE 3RD AND 9TH MARINE REGIMENTS, AND TO 2/5.

VMO-6 ADDED 13.8 HOURS AND 42 SORTIES, CARRYING 2 PAX AND 2 BATTLE EVACS. THIS GROUP FLEW 32 MEDEVAC MISSIONS EVACUATING A TOTAL OF 256 CASUALTIES, OF WHICH 109 WERE EMERGENCY, 72 PRIORITY, AND 75 ROUTINE.

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MAG-16 SITREP 102100H - 112100H DEC 1966

MAG-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 270.5 FLIGHT HOURS CARRYING 1602 PAX, 80.7 TONS OF CARGO AND 71 MEDEVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 831 SORTIES. IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION PRAIRIE MAG-16 FLEW 75.4 HOURS CARRYING 702 PAX AND 46.6 TONS OF CARGO IN 321 SORTIES.

IN THE DANANG, CHU LAI AND PHU BAI AREAS MAG-16 MISSIONS WERE ALL OF A ROUTINE NATURE WITH THE EXCEPTION OF A 325 MAN TROOP LIFT INTO THE ELEPHANT VALLEY AREA. THE LIFT MOVED ELEMENTS OF 1/26 AND 3/7.

TODAY'S SUPPORT WENT MAINLY TO 2/5, 2/1, 3/7, 3/9 AND 2/26.

WMO-6 ADDED 18.2 HOURS AND 69 SORTIES, CARRYING 2 PAX AND 0 BATTLE EVACS.

THIS GROUP FLEW 18 MEDEVAC MISSIONS EVACUATING 7 EMERGENCY, 52 PRIORITY AND 12 ROUTINE CASUALTIES.

CO	H
XO	B
S-3	W
AS-3	CB

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MAG-16 SITREP 112100H - 122100H DEC 1966

MAG-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 216.8 FLIGHT HOURS CARRYING 1294 PAX, 38.5 TONS  
OF CARGO AND 37 MEDEVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 634 SORTIES.

IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION PRAIRIE MAG-16 FLEW 68.9 HOURS CARRYING 328 PAX  
AND 23.4 TONS OF CARGO IN 200 SORTIES.

MISSIONS WERE ROUTINE IN THE DANANG, PHU BAI, AND DONG HA TAOR'S.

HOWEVER, HMM-163 HAD A FORCED LANDING DUE TO AN ENGINE FAILURE AT DANANG.

VMO-6 FLEW 21.2 HOURS AND 48 SORTIES CARRYING 6 PAX AND 0 MEDEVACS.

CO	
XO	
OPJ OFF.	<i>Jhu</i>
ASST OPS	<i>ECB</i>
OPS ADMIN	<i>TP</i>

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MAG-16 SITREP 122100H - 232100H DEC 1966

MAG-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 247.4 HOURS CARRYING 1102 TONS, 118.1 TONS OF  
CARGO AND 50 PASSENGERS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 767 SORTIES.

IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION PRATIS DURING 22.4 HOURS CARRYING 340  
PAS AND 34.9 TONS OF CARGO IN 23 SORTIES.

FIRE INCIDENTS REPORTED DURING THE PERIOD ARE LISTED AS FOLLOWS:

0805	BT 050637	FLIGHT 112	CONTINUED TO FLY
1055	AT 973651	FLIGHT 113	CONTINUED TO FLY
1527	XD 937600	FLIGHT 114	CONTINUED TO FLY
1815	AT 97052	FLIGHT 115	CONTINUED TO FLY

MAG-265 FLEW 119 HOURS CARRYING 251 TONS AND 80,100 LBS OF CARGO

IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION PRATIS DURING 24.1 HOURS CARRYING 340  
PAS AND 34.9 TONS OF CARGO IN 23 SORTIES.

MAG-265 FLEW 119 HOURS CARRYING 251 TONS AND 80,100 LBS OF CARGO

IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION PRATIS DURING 24.1 HOURS CARRYING 340  
PAS AND 34.9 TONS OF CARGO IN 23 SORTIES.

CO 11  
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ADMIN 12  
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MAC-16 SITREP 132100H - 1421 ON DEC 1966

MAC-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 125.2 HOURS CARRYING 766 FAX, 34.7 TONS OF CARGO

AND 25 MEDEVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 201 SORTIES.

MAC-16 SUPPORTED OPERATION RAIRIE WITH 55.4 HOURS CARRYING 512 FAX,

22.8 TONS OF CARGO AND 2 MEDEVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 14 SORTIES.

MAC-16 FLEW 9.0 HOURS AND 25 SORTIES.

OPERATIONS WERE NORMAL. THE WEATHER PREVENTED THE COMPLETING OF NUMBERED MISSIONS.

THIS GROUP WENT 24 MEDEVAC MISSIONS EVACUATING 12 WOUNDS BY, 4 PREVIOUSLY

AND 9 REVERSE CASUALTIES.

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CO	13
XO	13
S-3	26
A3-3	60

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MAG-16 SITREP 142100H - 152100H

MAG-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 226.6 HOURS CARRYING 1575 PAX, 54.2 TONS OF CARGO

AND 33 MEDEVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 799 SORTIES.

MAG-16 SUPPORTED OPERATION PEARLIE WITH 74.1 HOURS CARRYING 595 PAX,

29.8 TONS OF CARGO AND 13 MEDEVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 267 SORTIES.

WMO-6 FLEW 29.2 HOURS AND 90 SORTIES.

GENERALLY GOOD FLYING WEATHER PERMITTED COMPLETION OF NEARLY ALL SCHEDULED

MISSIONS. ALL OPERATIONS WERE ROUTINE. SPARROW HAWK REACTION AIRCRAFT

WERE LAUNCHED AT 1205.

THIS GROUP FLEW 27 MEDEVAC MISSIONS EVACUATING 7 EMERGENCY, 19 PRIORITY

AND 7 ROUTINE MEDEVACS.

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MAG-16 SITREP 152100H - 162100H DEC 1966

MAG-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 181.1 HOURS CARRYING 723 PAX, 26.4 TONS OF CARGO

AND 29 MEDEVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 531 SORTIES.

IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION PRAYING, MAG-16 FLEW 74.8 HOURS CARRYING 139 PASSENGERS AND 12.5 TONS OF CARGO IN 222 SORTIES.

OPERATIONS WERE ROUTINE IN ALL CASES SUPPORTED BY MAG-16 WITH THE EXCEPTION OF A SINGLE MISSION IN THE LAO AREA.

LTCOL WARREN C. WATSON, COMMANDING OFFICER OF HMM-164, TOOK A SECTION OF HIS CH-46'S TO A PICKUP ZONE APPROXIMATELY TWELVE MILES SOUTHEAST OF DANG FOR AN ADMINISTRATIVE TRANSFER OF F COMPANY 2/5 BACK TO AN HOA. THE SECTION TOOK FIRE ON THEIR FIRST APPROACH INTO THE ZONE, AND RECEIVED MORTAR FIRE WHILE IN THE ZONE THE FIRST AND SECOND TIME. LTCOL WATSON AND HIS WINGMAN, MAJ EDWARD C. HERTBERG, MADE FIVE TRIPS INTO THE ZONE UNDER FIRE, AND WERE UNDER MORTAR ATTACK TWICE. A SECOND SECTION JOINED THE LIFT FOR THE LAST TWO TRIPS, SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETING THE TRANSFER OF 188 PAX AND 2 BATTLE EVACS WITH ONLY THREE HITS TO THE AIRCRAFT.

VMO-6 STATISTICS NOT AVAILABLE THIS TIME.

THIS GROUP FLEW 36 MEDEVAC MISSIONS, EVACUATING 19 EMERGENCY, 9 PRIORITY AND 16 ROUTINE CASUALTIES.

CC	13
XC	
CASE	W
ALPHA	CC/10
ADVIS	7P

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MAG-16 SITREP 162100H - 172100H DECEMBER 1966

MAG-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 237.7 HOURS CARRYING 977 PAX, 79.1 TONS OF CARGO, AND 21 MEDEVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 788 SORTIES.

IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION PRAIRIE MAG-16 FLEW 86.7 FLIGHT HOURS CARRYING 394 PAX AND 56.8 TONS OF CARGO IN 261 SORTIES.

A SPARROWHAWK WAS LAUNCHED IT RECEIVED FIRE WHILE ATTEMPTING LANDING. AC FROM MAG-16 DIRECTED FIXED WING TO SUPPRESS THE FIRE. SPARROWHAWK CONTINUED WITHOUT FURTHER HARRASSMENT.

THE H-34'S GOT SHOT AT AGAIN TODAY ON FOUR SEPARATE OCCASIONS. AT 0230 AT AT99-9755; 1130 AT AT944535; 1235 AT 041 000; AND 1420 AT AT839546.

OTHER THAN THIS OPERATIONS WERE CALM FOR THIS FINE SUNNY DAY.

VNO-6 FLEW A TOTAL OF 2.9 FLIGHT HOURS CARRYING 1 PAX IN 24 SORTIES.

THIS GROUP FLEW 10 MEDEVAC MISSIONS EVACUATING 11 EMERGENCY, 5 PRIORITY, AND 5 ROUTINE MEDEVACS.

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MAG-16 SITREP 172100H - 182100H DEC 1966

MAG-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 253.0 HOURS CARRYING 1512 PAX, 102.4 TONS OF CARGO AND 50 MEDEVACS IN 778 SORTIES.

OPERATION PRAIRIE SUPPORT INCLUDED 95.6 HOURS WHILE CARRYING 915 PAX AND 56.6 TONS OF CARGO IN 247 SORTIES.

OPERATIONS AT DANANG CONTINUE ROUTINE. MEDEVAC MISSIONS CONTINUE TO TAKE FIRE ON MANY OCCASIONS. ON THREE MISSIONS TODAY MEDEVAC AIRCRAFT WERE HIT BY FIRE (MISSION 11) AND DURING THE CONDUCTING OF MISSION 11C, THE GUNNER WAS WOUNDED AS THE AIRCRAFT LEFT THE PICKUP ZONE. (COORD. AT 982609). THE MEDEVAC GUNNER AND CREW-CHIEF EXPENDED 600 ROUNDS OF SUPPRESSIVE FIRE.

VMO-6 CONTINUES TO PROVIDE EXCELLENT SUPPORT TO MAG-16 WITH ITS HUHEY GUNS AND SLICKS. TODAY'S EFFORT PROVIDED 12.1 FLIGHT HOURS CARRYING 10 PAX IN 37 SORTIES AND EXPENDING 9000 ROUNDS OF SMALL ARMS AND 38 FFAR'S RESULTING IN 1 CONFIRMED KAMA.

THIS GROUP FLEW 30 MEDEVAC MISSIONS EVACUATING 42 EMERGENCY, 6 PRIORITY AND 2 ROUTINE CASUALTIES.

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MAG-16 SITREP 182100H - 192100Z MAR 1966

MAG-16 ELIM A TOTAL OF 174.9 HOURS CARRYING 648 PAX, 47.4 TONS OF CARGO AND 32 MEDEVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 494 SORTIES.

OPERATION PRAIRIE SUPPORT CONSISTED OF 56.3 FLIGHT HOURS CARRYING 361 PAX AND 20.6 TONS OF CARGO IN 178 SORTIES. DONG HA AND PHU BAI REPORT NO ACTIVITY OF A NOTEWORTHY NATURE DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD.

IN THE DANANG AREA AN ACTIVE MISSION AND SEVERAL OTHER EMERGENCIES ACCOUNTED FOR A BUSY DAY. A RECON TEAM FROM THE FIRST RECONNAISSANCE BATTALION REQUIRED EMERGENCY EXTRACTION BY SPARROW HAWK OH-46'S FROM THEIR POSITION IN THE MOUNTAINS SOUTHEAST OF DONG CON. SHORTLY THEREAFTER, "E" COMPANY 2/5, REQUIRED AN EMERGENCY RESUPPLY OF AMMUNITION AT THEIR POSITION ON THE HOI AN RIVER NORTHEAST OF AN HOI. THEN JUST BEFORE DARK ANOTHER EMERGENCY RESUPPLY WAS LAUNCHED TO "G" COMPANY, 2/5, IN THE SAME VICINITY. BY THE TIME THE UH-34'S WERE READY TO GO INTO THE DROP ZONE IT WAS ALREADY DARK. THE LEAD AIRCRAFT GOT INTO THE ZONE EASILY, AND THEN MARKED THE ZONE FOR HIS WINGMAN BY TURNING ON HIS POSITION LIGHTS AS THERE WAS NO FLARESHIP. EVIDENTLY THIS ACTION ENABLED THE VC TO PINPOINT THE COMPANY POSITION, FOR A MORTAR ROUND PROMPTLY LANDED NEAR THE LEAD HELICOPTER. BOTH AIRCRAFT DEPARTED THE ZONE IMMEDIATELY, HAVING DELIVERED 1500 POUNDS OF AMMUNITION AND EVACUATED 3 CASUALTIES. "G" COMPANY THEN CAME UNDER HEAVY MORTAR ATTACK, AND ADVISED THAT HELICOPTER SUPPORT COULD NOT BE USED ANY LONGER. THE VMO-6 GUNSHIPS REMAINED IN THE AREA TO CONDUCT STRIKES ON SUSPECTED MORTAR POSITIONS UNTIL 2/5 WAS ABLE TO BRING IN ARTILLERY FIRE. THE VMO-6 DETACHMENT CONTRIBUTED 15.6 HOURS AND 45 SORTIES, CARRYING 2 PRIORITY MEDEVACS, AND DELIVERING 14 ROCKETS AND 5300 ROUNDS OF 7.62

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IN SUPPRESSIVE FIRE.

MAG-16 FLEW 19 MEDEVAC MISSIONS, CARRYING 32 CASUALTIES OF WHICH 13 WERE  
EMERGENCY, 12 PRIORITY, AND 7 ROUTINE.

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MAG-16 SITREP 192100H - 202100H DEC 1966

MAG-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 256.4 SORTIES CARRYING 1080 PAX, 66.4 TONS OF CARGO

AND 96 MEDEVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 733 SORTIES.

OPERATION PRAIRIE SUPPORT COMPLETED OF 91.8 FLIGHT HOURS, CARRYING 769

PAX AND 27.7 TONS OF CARGO IN 222 SORTIES.

PHU BAI SUPPORT AIRCRAFT HAD NO SIGNIFICANT OPERATIONS TO REPORT.

IN THE DANANG TAOR THE MEDEVAC AIRCRAFT WAS KEPT QUITE BUSY ONCE AGAIN

AND RECEIVED SMALL ARMS FIRE ON SEVEN SEPERATE MEDEVAC MISSIONS. THE

MEDEVAC WAS HIT ON TWO OF THE MISSIONS WITH ONE OF THE HITS RESULTING IN ONE CO-PILOT KIA.

TWO UH-34S RECEIVED SMALL ARMS FIRE AT AT 987597. ONE AIRCRAFT WAS HIT. NO INJURY TO PERSONNEL.

FOUR CH-46S WERE LAUNCHED ON AN EMERGENCY TROOP LIFT TO AT 986538. SHORTLY

AFTER THEY WERE AIRBORNE THE MISSION WAS CANCELLED BY LANDSHARK. TWO OF

THE 46S WERE DIVERTED FOR 15 EMERGENCY MEDEVACS AT THE SAME CO-ORDINATES.

AFTER A DELAY OF APPROXIMATELY 45 MINUTES THE PICK-UP ZONE WAS REPORTED

TOO SMALL FOR 46S. TWO UH-34S WERE LAUNCHED FOR THE MEDEVACS. ONE 34 HIT

SOME TREES IN THE LZ WITH HIS ROTOR BLADES AND ENCOUNTERED ENGINE DIFFI-

CULTIES WHICH PREVENTED THE AIRCRAFT FROM BEING ABLE TO DEPART THE LZ.

THE AIRCRAFT REMAINED OVERNIGHT WITH BOHO COMPANY OF 2/5. THE CREWS AND

MEDEVACS WERE LATER LIFTED OUT BY THE RECONSTITUTED MEDEVAC AIRCRAFT

WHICH ALSO RESUPPLIED THE ZONE WITH EMERGENCY AMMO. THE 34 DOWN AT THE

LZ WILL BE RECOVERED WHEN THE AREA HAS BECOME SECURE.

THREE CH-46S WERE UNABLE TO COMPLETE A "BODY RECOVERY" MISSION. THE RESCUE

HOIST WAS NOT LONG ENOUGH TO REACH THE GROUND DUE TO HIGH TREES.

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ONE O-16 TOOK ONE HIT FROM SMALL ARMS FIRE AT 0956 WHILE CONTROLLING  
AN AIR STRIKE FOR GOLF COMPANY OF 2/5.

WHO-6 STATISTICS UNAVAILABLE THIS TIME.

MAC-16 FLEW 44 MEDEVAC MISSIONS CARRYING 96 EMERGENCY, 35 PRIORITY AND  
38 ROUTINE CASUALTIES.

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MAG-16 SITREP 202100H - 212300H DEC 1966

MAG-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 309.7 HOURS CARRYING 1033 PAX, 67.4 TONS OF CARGO AND 162 MEDEVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 738 SORTIES.

OPERATION PRAIRIE SUPPORT CONSISTED OF 94.9 FLIGHT HOURS, CARRYING 256 PAX AND 67.4 TONS OF CARGO IN 255 SORTIES.

IN THE DANANG AREA, HMM-263 CONDUCTED MEDEVAC MISSIONS THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT AND EARLY MORNING TAKING SMALL ARMS TRACER FIRE ON MISSIONS 11W AND 103 (COORD. AT 975518). MISSION 103 WAS AN EMERGENCY RESUPPLY (2130H) CONDUCTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MEDEVAC. THIRTY FOUR (34) CASUALTIES WERE NIGHT MEDEVACED BETWEEN SUNSET 20 DEC AND FIRST LIGHT 21 DEC.

AT APPROX. 0845, 163 TROOPS WERE LANDED AT COORD. ZC 206558 IN 5 H-46'S AND 4 H-34'S. A PRE-L HOUR ARTILLERY PREP WAS INSUFFICIENT AND THE HELICOPTERS AND TROOPS WERE HIT ON WHILE IN THE LZ.

AT 1230 (APPROX.) AN ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO RECOVER THE DOWN H-34 AT BT 9654 BUT THE MISSION WAS ABORTED DUE TO INTENSE ENEMY FIRE. HMM-164 AND HMM-265 EACH PROVIDED 1 H-46 SLICK, HMM-263 2 H-34'S AND WMO-2 2 UH-1E GUNSHIPS.

AT 1328H, 1425H AND 1746H, HMM-265 LAUNCHED ON SEPARATE SPARROW HAWK MISSIONS FOR TROOP INSERTS AND EMERGENCY RESUPPLY. A MEDEVAC WAS CONDUCTED AT 1535H (APPROX.) WHEN ONE OF THE SPARROW HAWK AIRCRAFT WAS HIT BY GROUND FIRE AND TWO CREWMEMBERS WERE WOUNDED. ONE CREWMAN IS LISTED AS SERIOUS, ONE AS MINOR. 2300# OF CARGO AND 76 PAX WERE CARRIED BY THE SPARROW HAWK AIRCRAFT.

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MISSION 45 (BODY RECOVERY) WAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED BY 3 H-46's AND 2 H-1E's. 3 HUNG KIA AND 1 US KIA WERE RECOVERED FROM BENEATH 120' CANOPY AT COORD. YC 580240. OF SIGNIFICANT INTEREST IS THE INCIDENT OF THE TAC LOG AIRCRAFT (H-46, HELL-164) HIT BY ONE ROUND OF SMALL ARMS WHILE AT 2000 FEET 2 MILES SE OF PHU BAI.

AN AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT WAS INCURRED BY HELL-163 AT DONG HA WHEN THE PILOT ATTEMPTED AN EMERGENCY RECON EXTRACTION AND HIT TREES ATTEMPTING TO GET OUT OF THE R/U ZONE. SUBSTANTIAL (C) DAMAGE WAS INCURRED. MAJ

WAG-6 CONTRIBUTED 24 HOURS OF SUPPORT TO THIS GROUP FLYING 58 SORTIES, CARRYING 13 PAX AND FIRING 50 WEAPAR ROCKETS AND 14,309 ROUNDS OF 7.62. MAG-16 FLEW 53 MEDEVAC MISSIONS CARRYING 50 EMERGENCY, 67 PRIORITY AND 45 ROUTINE CASUALTIES.

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MAC-16 SITREP 212100Z - 222100H DECEMBER 1966

MAC-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 118.5 HOURS CARRYING 552 PAX, 27.5 TONS OF CARGO AND 42 MED EVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 329 SORTIES.

IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION PRAIRIE 53.6 HOURS WERE FLOWN, 372 PAX CARRIED, 24.1 TONS OF CARGO IN 148 SORTIES.

THERE WERE NO SIGNIFICANT OPERATIONS IN THE PHU BAI AREA.

IN THE DA NANG AREA BELL-263 RECEIVED ONE HIT IN THE FUEL CELL WHILE COMPLETING EMERGENCY MED EVAC MISSION # 116 AT COORDINATES BT 010566.

HHM-263 AIRCRAFT WHILE EXERCISING MISSION # 316 ENCOUNTERED ENEMY SMALL ARMS FIRE AT COORDINATES AT 975535 RESULTING IN NO HITS.

ATTEMPTS TO RECOVER THE DOWN H-34 AT COORDINATES BT 9654 WERE CANCELLED DUE TO WEATHER. WEATHER RESTRICTED FLIGHT OPERATIONS TODAY.

VMO-6 STATISTICS UNAVAILABLE THIS TIME.

MAC-16 FLEW 20 MED EVAC MISSIONS, EVACUATING 6 EMERGENCY, 6 PRIORITY AND 30 ROUTINE MED EVACS.

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MAC-16 SIGHT 222100H - 232100H FEB 1966

MAC-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 130.3 HOURS CARRYING 446 PAX, 25.6 TONS OF CARGO AND 41 MED EVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 417 SORTIES.

IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION PRAIRIE MAC-16 FLEW 52.1 HOURS CARRYING 266 PAX AND 26.6 TONS OF CARGO FOR A TOTAL OF 125 SORTIES. THREE PRIORITY MED-EVACS WERE EVACUATED.

OPERATIONS IN THE FIM BAY TAOB WERE OF A ROUTINE NATURE WITH FEW SIGNIFICANT HIGHLIGHTS. FOR THE SECOND TIME IN RECENT WEEKS IN THIS AREA, IT IS BELIEVED THAT AN ATTEMPT WAS MADE BY THE VC TO LURE A MED-EVAC HELICOPTER INTO A TRAP. ON A NIGHT MISSION, THE PILOT REPORTED SEEING LIGHT SIGNALS AND TAXI MARKS IN A ZONE ABOUT 1000 METERS FROM THE FRIENDLY POSSESSION. NO ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO LAND AT THE SUSPECT ZONE. A CH-46A AT FIM BAY TOOK ONE HIT FROM SNIPER FIRE WHILE COMPLETING A LIFT OF TWO COMPATS, 2/3. THERE WERE NO INJURIES.

IN THE DANANG TAOB, EXTREMELY BAD WEATHER KEPT FLIGHT OPERATIONS TO A MINIMUM. THE MED CONTROL MISSION WAS REQUESTED, BUT COULD NOT BE RUN, AND SEVERAL MED-EVAC MISSIONS WERE STILL IN A WEATHER HOLD STATUS AT THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD. THE SPARROW HAWK AND BALD EAGLE AIRCRAFT WERE LAUNCHED TO FIM BAY TO RUN FOR A TROOP LIFT IN THE MORNING.

MAC-6 CONTRIBUTED 6.4 HOURS AND 23 SORTIES TO MAC-16 SUPPORT.

MAC-16 FLEW 23 MED-EVAC MISSIONS EVACUATING 10 EMERGENCY, 17 PRIORITY AND 6 ROUTINE CASUALTIES.

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MAG-16 STARTED 232100H - 242100H DECEMBER 1966

MAG-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 15.9 HOURS CARRYING 204 PAX, 1.3 TONS OF CARGO  
AND 14 MED EVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 83 SORTIES.

MAG-16 DID NOT FLY IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION PRAIRIE TODAY.

THERE WERE NO SIGNIFICANT PHU BAI OPERATIONS.

IN THE DAMANG AREA BQM-263 A/C RECEIVED TWO HITS, ONE IN THE RADIO  
COMPARTMENT AND ONE IN THE MAIN ROTOR BLADE ON MED EVAC MISSION (ALA  
AT COORDINATES AT 976653.

FLIGHT OPERATIONS FOR MAG-16 WERE KEPT TO A MINIMUM DUE TO INCLEMENT  
WEATHER.

WMO-6 CONTRIBUTED 3.8 HOURS OF SUPPORT TO THIS GROUP FLYING 2 SORTIES  
AND CARRYING 2 EMERGENCY MED EVACS.

MAG-16 FLEW 5 MED EVAC MISSIONS EVACUATING 3 EMERGENCY, 12 PRIORITY  
AND 0 ROUTINE CASUALTIES.

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MAC-16 SITREP 242100H - 252100H DECEMBER 1966

MAC-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 177.5 HOURS CARRYING 809 PAX, 111.5 TONS OF CARGO AND 23 MED EVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 408 SORTIES.

IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION PRAXITE MAC-16 FLEW 55.2 HOURS CARRYING 292 PAX AND 69.7 TONS OF CARGO FOR A TOTAL OF 164 SORTIES.

FAVORABLE WEATHER IN THE DA NANG AREA PERMITTED COMPLETION OF NEARLY ALL ASSIGNED MISSIONS. CHRISTIAN DINNER WAS DELIVERED TO SEVERAL UNITS IN THE FIELD BY THE GROUP'S HELICOPTERS. MOST OPERATIONS WERE ROUTINE. SIX ☒ FIVE INCIDENTS WERE RECORDED.

THE H-34 DOWN AT COORDINATES AT 985538 SINCE 20 DEC WAS RETRIEVED BY 3 CH-46'S WITH 2 UH-1H GUNSHIPS PROVIDING COVER.

GOLF CO., CASUALTIES, WAS RETRACTED FROM AT 986538 TO ANHUA.

SPARROW HAWK A/C WERE ALERTED FOR A BIRD CONTROL MISSION BUT WERE NOT REQUIRED AND DID NOT LAUNCH.

MAC-16 STATISTICS UNAVAILABLE THIS TIME.

MAC-16 FLEW 19 MED EVAC MISSIONS EVACUATING 2 EMERGENCY, 21 PRIORITY AND 3 ROUTINE CASUALTIES.

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MAG-16 SITREP 252100H - 262100H DECEMBER 1966

MAG-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 95 HOURS CARRYING 403 PAX, 26.6 TONS OF CARGO

AND 24 MED EVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 264 SORTIES.

IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION PRAIRIE MAG-16 FLEW 65 HOURS CARRYING 8 PAX

AND NO CARGO FOR A TOTAL OF 8 SORTIES.

OPERATIONS WERE NORMAL IN THE DA NANG AREA.

THE REMAINS OF 6<sup>1</sup> DEMOLISHED H-34<sup>2</sup><sup>WAS</sup> WERE RETURNED TO MMAF FROM AN HOA.

MAG-16 FLEW 15 MED EVAC MISSIONS EVACUATING 7 EMERGENCY, 10 PRIORITY

AND 7 ROUTINE CASUALTIES.

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This is a poor sitrep  
and action has been taken  
to insure improvement.  
JG Marshall

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MAG-16 SITREP 262100H - 272100H DECEMBER 1966

MAG-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 58.6 HOURS CARRYING 158 PAX, 4.8 TONS OF CARGO AND 22 MED EVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 213 SORTIES.

IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION PRIZIE, MAG-16 FLEW 4.6 HOURS CARRYING 7 PAX AND NO CARGO FOR A TOTAL OF 11 SORTIES. FLIGHT OPERATIONS AT DONG HA WERE RESTRICTED TO 2 EMERGENCY MED EVAC MISSIONS BY EXTREMELY BAD WEATHER.

IN THE DANANG AREA MOST OF THE DAY'S FLYING WAS OF A ROUTINE NATURE, SOMEWHAT HAMPERED BY BAD WEATHER. THERE WERE FIVE FIRE INCIDENTS REPORTED, TWO OF WHICH WERE GENERATED ON EMERGENCY MED EVAC MISSIONS TO THE 2D PLATOON, "A" COMPANY, 1/26 ON SEPERATE OCCASIONS DURING THE DAY. THE MED EVAC SUSTAINED ~~SIX~~ <sup>SIX</sup> HITS ON THE FIRST MISSION INTO THE PLATOON'S POSITION, BUT TOOK NO CASUALTIES. IN THE SECOND MISSION TO THE PLATOON'S POSITION 1500 METERS NORTH OF THE BATTALION CP, THREE UH-1E GUNSHIPS AND THE MED EVAC UH-3A GAVE A SPLENDID SHOWING OF TEAMWORK TO ACCOMPLISH THE PICKUP UNDER FIRE BUT WITHOUT HITS. THE TIMING AND COORDINATION BETWEEN THE GUNSHIPS IN THEIR FIRING RUNS AND THE MED EVAC IN HIS APPROACH AND RETIREMENT WAS AN EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE.

VMO-6 STATISTICS WERE UNAVAILABLE THIS TIME.

MAG-16 FLEW 9 MED EVAC MISSIONS EVACUATING 10 EMERGENCY, 3 PRIORITY AND 9 ROUTINE CASUALTIES.

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MAG-16 SITREP 272100Z - 232100H DECEMBER 1966

MAG-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 98.7 HOURS CARRYING 273 PAX, 32.8 TONS OF CARGO AND 25 MED EVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 219 SORTIES.

IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION PHALGIE, MAG-16 FLEW 29.0 HOURS CARRYING 138 PAX AND 25.6 TONS OF CARGO FOR A TOTAL OF 74 SORTIES.

IN THE DANANG AREA MANY ENJOYABLE HOPS WERE FLOWN BY MAG-16 PILOTS IN SUPPORT OF THE BOB HOPE SHOW.

WMO-6 STATISTICS UNAVAILABLE AT THIS TIME.

AT 1610H F4M-262 SPARROW HAWK AIRCRAFT WERE LAUNCHED FROM FMAF TO COORDINATES AT 918312. SPARROW HAWK AIRCRAFT WERE LAUNCHED A SECOND TIME IN SUPPORT OF MISSION #40D. TWO F4M-262 AIRCRAFT REPORTED RAN AN NOA DUE TO LOW FUEL STATE AT 1815H. HOURS AND SORTIES NOT AVAILABLE.

MAG-16 FLEW 12 MED EVAC MISSIONS EVACUATING 15 EMERGENCY, 9 PRIORITY AND 1 ROUTINE CASUALTIES.

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MAC-16 SITREP 282100H - 292100H DECEMBER 1966

MAC-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 124.1 HOURS CARRYING 475 PAX, 57.3 TONS OF CARGO AND 84 MED EVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 395 SORTIES.

IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION PRITHVI, MAC-16 FLEW 28.7 HOURS CARRYING 68 PAX AND 40.9 TONS OF CARGO FOR A TOTAL OF 81 SORTIES.

OPERATIONS IN THE PHU BAI AREA WERE OF A ROUTINE NATURE.

IN THE DANANG AREA, MAJ GEN NICKERSON'S COMMAND AND CONTROL AIRCRAFT RECEIVED FIRE ON TWO OCCASIONS. NO HITS WERE RECEIVED AND NO FIRE WAS RETURNED.

TWO UH-1B GUNSHIPS FROM WMO-6 WERE LAUNCHED AT 1800 IN SUPPORT OF A RECON TEAM IN CONTACT WITH THE ENEMY AT AT 810446. AT 1820 TWO CH-46'S WERE LAUNCHED TO RETRACT THE RECON TEAM. UPON ARRIVAL THE CH-46'S WERE INFORMED BY THE GROUND UNIT THAT THE LZ WAS TOO SMALL FOR A CH-46. THE CH-46'S MADE A PASS AT THE LZ IN AN ATTEMPT TO CONFIRM THAT THE ZONE WAS TOO SMALL BUT WERE FORCED TO WAVE OFF DUE TO ENEMY FIRE. SPOOKY REMAINED ON STATION WHILE THE GUNS RETURNED FOR REFUELING AND FOUR UH-34'S WERE ALERTED TO LAUNCH. AT APPROXIMATELY 2140 WITH THE AID OF SPOOKIES FLARES AND GUNS, AND WMO-6'S SUPPORT, HMM-263 RETRACTED THE RECON TEAM. WMO-6 STATISTICS UNAVAILABLE.

HMM-262 ASSISTED MAC-16 FLYING 12.8 HOURS, CARRYING 65 PAX AND 4,650 POUNDS OF CARGO IN 19 SORTIES.

MAC-16 FLEW 27 MED EVAC MISSIONS EVACUATING 62 EMERGENCY, 8 PRIORITY AND 14 ROUTINE CASUALTIES.

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MAG-16 SITREP 292100H - 302100H DECEMBER 1966

MAG-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 257.8 HOURS CARRYING 1144 PAX, 115.1 TONS OF CARGO AND 43 MED EVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 709 SORTIES.

IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION PRAIRIE, MAG-16 FLEW 70.1 HOURS CARRYING 460 PAX AND 52.1 TONS OF CARGO FOR A TOTAL OF 202 SORTIES.

HMM-163 HAD ONE AIRCRAFT CRASH AT COORDINATES XD 980580 AT 1530H 30 DEC. INJURY TO PERSONNEL WAS MINOR. COMPLETE INFORMATION OF THE MISHAP IS NOT AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME.

OPERATIONS IN THE PHU BAI AREA WERE OF A ROUTINE NATURE.

IN THE DANANG AREA OPERATIONS WERE OF A ROUTINE NATURE, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE LAUNCHING OF SPARROW HAWK.

WMO-6 STATISTICS UNAVAILABLE.

HMM-262 ASSISTED MAG-16 FLYING 12.6 HOURS CARRYING 51 PAX AND 8.5 TONS OF CARGO IN 30 SORTIES.

HMM-164/262 SPARROW HAWK AIRCRAFT WERE LAUNCHED FOR AN EMERGENCY RETRACTION MISSION. MISSION WAS SUCCESSFUL.

MAG-16 FLEW 20 MED EVAC MISSIONS EVACUATING 14 EMERGENCY, 10 PRIORITY AND 16 ROUTINE CASUALTIES.

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MAG-16 SITREP 302100Z 30 DECEMBER 1966

MAG-16 FLEW A TOTAL OF 137.0 HOURS CARRYING 558 PAX, 72.9 TONS OF CARGO

AND 18 MED EVACS. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 468 SORTIES.

IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION PRALINE, MAG-16 FLEW 57.2 HOURS CARRYING 331 PAX

AND 30.4 TONS OF CARGO FOR A TOTAL OF 157 SORTIES.

ONE CH-46 SLICK RECOVERED A DOWNED UH-34 IN THE DONG HA AREA. TWO CH-46's

RESUPPLIED CONTAIN WITH 17,100 POUNDS OF CARGO AND 34 ARVN PAX.

IN THE DANANG TAOR 4 CH-46's CARRIED 63,225 POUNDS OF CARGO TO AN HOA.

TWO UH-34's, ON A ROUTINE RESUPPLY RECEIVED LIGHT SMALL ARMS FIRE FROM

BT 010576. THE AIRCRAFT WAS NOT HIT. AN O-1C OBSERVED 3 VC IN A BOAT AT

AT 995547 AND DIRECTED FRIENDLY TROOPS TO THE AREA. WEATHER CLOSED IN

ON THE DANANG AREA IN THE AFTERNOON CAUSING FOUR MISSIONS TO BE ABORTED.

HMM-262 FLEW 5.1 HOURS CARRYING 24 PAX AND 2000 POUNDS OF CARGO IN

SUPPORT OF MAG-16.

MAG-16 FLEW 11 MED EVAC MISSIONS EVACUATING 0 EMERGENCY, 7 PRIORITY

AND 11 ROUTINE CASUALTIES.

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Appendix 9  
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HEADQUARTERS  
Marine Aircraft Group 16  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing  
Fleet Marine Force Pacific  
FPO San Francisco 96602

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GROUP S-1 COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

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COPY 1 of 3

Part 1 - Organization Data

MAG-16 Marble Mountain Air Facilities, Republic of Vietnam

Period covered 1-31 December 1966

TASK ORGANIZATION

H&MS-16 - Marble Mountain Air Facilities, RVN  
SU#1 - Marble Mountain Air Facilities, RVN  
MABS-16 - Marble Mountain Air Facilities, RVN  
HMM-163 - Hue Phu Bai, RVN  
HMM-164 - Marble Mountain Air Facilities, RVN  
HMM-263 - Marble Mountain Air Facilities, RVN  
HMM-265 - Marble Mountain Air Facilities, RVN  
VMO-2 - Marble Mountain Air Facilities, RVN  
VMO-3 - Hue Phu Bai, RVN  
MATCU-62- Dong Ha, RVN  
MATCU-68- Hue Phu Bai, RVN

COMMAND AND RANK COMPOSURE

<u>Billet</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Period</u>
CO, MAG-16	F. M. HEPLER	Colonel	1-31Dec66
EXO, MAG-16	A. W. BARDEN	LtCol	1-31Dec66
Adjutant	P. A. OLSON	WO-1	1-31Dec66
S-1 Officer	O. G. McDONALD	Major	1-31Dec66
S-2 Officer	Y. JOHNSTONE	Captain	1-31Dec66
S-3 Officer	H. E. MENDENHALL	LtCol	1-31Dec66
S-4 Officer	M. T. JANNELL	LtCol	1-31Dec66
CO, H&MS-16	L. O. DAVIS	LtCol	1-31Dec66
OIC SubUnit 1	J. L. NOLAN	Major	1-31Dec66
CO, MABS-16	R. K. MCKITRICK	LtCol	1-31Dec66
CO, HMM-163	R. B. BIANCHI	LtCol	1-31Dec66
CO, HMM-164	W. C. WATSON	LtCol	1-31Dec66
CO, HMM-263	L. L. DARBYSHIRE	LtCol	1-31Dec66
CO, HMM-265	F. B. ELLIS	Major	1-31Dec66
CO, VMO-2	W. F. HARRELL	LtCol	1-31Dec66

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CO, VMO-3	<i>K. id.</i> J. E. TOWNSEND	Major	29-31Dec66
OIC-MATCU-62	R. O. MEYER	Captain	1-31Dec66
OIC-MATCU-68	K. V. BERCHIOLLI	Captain	1-31Dec66

## AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>Squadron</u>	USMC		USN	
	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
H&MS-16	67	419	0	0
SU#1	12	60	0	0
MABS-16	21	585	4	9
HMM-163	53	179	1	3
HMM-164	47	190	1	4
HMM-263	51	179	1	4
HMM-265	45	182	1	3
VMO-2	46	154	1	3
VMO-3	18	61	0	0
MATCU-62	4	34	0	0
MATCU-68	8	64	0	0

Following are listed personnel changes for the period 1-31 December 1966

a. Number of joinings: 424

b. Number of drops: 126

c. Promotions:

(1) 2dLt to 1stLt	4
(2) SSGT to GYSGT	1
(3) SGT to SSGT	2
(4) CPL to SGT	62
(5) LCPL to CPL	88
(6) PFC to LCPL	62
(7) PVT to PFC	12

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## CASUALTIES

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>SerNo/MOS</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Capt	Zane V. LAMASCUS	076184/7335	SU#1, H&MS-16
<u>HOSTILE</u> - 4Dec66. Quang Tri Province, RVN. Wounded in left leg by small arms fire while on a resupply mission. Evacuated to D-Med hospital.			
LCPL	Jerry D. JONES	2142435/6422	SU#1, H&MS-16
<u>HOSTILE</u> - 4Dec66. Quang Tri Province, RVN. Wounded in right hip by shrapnel while on resupply mission. Treated and returned to duty. First mechanic on resupply run.			
SGT	Robert W. TRUELOVE	2063692/6418	HMM-265
<u>HOSTILE</u> - 7Dec66. Two miles south of An Hoa, Quang Nam Province, RVN. Wounded by shrapnel lower extremity (left hip). Treated and returned to duty. Crew Chief of CH-46A to troop lift <del>right</del> <sup>right</sup> site.			
CPL	Mark W. WILSON	2141679/6422	HMM-263
<u>NON-HOSTILE</u> - 6Dec66. MMAF. Reported for sick call, diagnosis Hemotysis (stomach hemorrhage). Hospitalized for seven days.			
LCPL	Donald W. TAYLOR	2127566/6422	HMM-263
<u>HOSTILE</u> - 9Dec66. Three and one-half miles S. E. of An Hoa, Quang Nam Province. Wounded by small arms fire in left neck and scalp. Hospitalized for two weeks, flying as gunner on a UH-34D on Medical Evacuation mission when A/C hit by small arms fire.			
Capt	William J. PARSONS	087622/7333	H&MS-16
<u>NON-HOSTILE</u> - 8Dec66. Three miles S. W. Hai Pass, RVN. Received fracture simple N. E. C. right acetabulum, fracture, simple N. E. C. right thumb, and dislocation right hip. Pilot on recon of TAOR and LOC. A/C crashed non-hostile.			
SSGT	John T. OGBEN	1523315/6511	VMO-2
<u>HOSTILE</u> - 25Oct66. (Report submitted late by Medical Officer). Twenty miles S. W. Da Nang. Received shrapnel right hand. Treated and released at MMAF. Flying as gunner when A/C hit by enemy small arms fire.			

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GYSGT Armand J. NADEAU 1446110/2529 MABS-16  
NON-HOSTILE - 15Dec66. MMAF. Hospitalized with bronchitis acute. Hospitalized for period of 3 days, G-4 hospital.

LCPL Fernando E. QUINTANILLA 2157365/6422 HMM-263  
HOSTILE - 18Dec66. Hill 55, village of Duc Ky (1) Province of Quang Nam. Wounded by shrapnel right hand, left eye and right forearm. Hospitalized one day at G-Med. Flying as gunner on UH-34D, hit by automatic fire.

CORRESPONDENT Martin K. RUSS Flying with HMM-263

HOSTILE - 18Dec66. Hill 55, village of Quang Dong (1) Quang Nam Province. Wounded by shrapnel in left shoulder. Flying as correspondent on a HH-34D on Med-Evac mission.

Capt Rocco F. VALLUZZI 079796/7335 HMM-263  
HOSTILE - 19Dec66. Five miles ~~E. N. E.~~ <sup>ENE</sup> An Hoa near village of Thon Bon (1) Quang Nam Province. Wounded by shrapnel penetrating right forearm. One day at MMAF dispensary. Flying as pilot on UH-34D emergency resupply mission.

Major Arthur H. NUSSEL 067835/7335 HMM-263  
HOSTILE - 20Dec66. One mile S. E. Hill 55, near La Huan (1), Quang Nam Province. Wounded by sniper fire in left ankle and lower right calf. Hospitalization approximately six weeks. Flying as co-pilot on UH-34D on Med-Evac mission.

GySgt John F. LORD 1094661/0141 HMM-164  
HOSTILE - 21Dec66. Sixteen miles North of DaNang. Shrapnel wound from small arms fire penetrating arm below elbow. Flying as gunner on troop lift.

Cpl Walter L. DIEHL 2118123/6418 HMM-265  
HOSTILE - 21Dec66. Seven miles south of Da Nang, Quang Nam Province. Received wounds left buttocks and rectum by small arms fire. Crew chief on CH-46. A/C hit while approaching LZ. Evacuated to G-4 hospital for approximately 90 days.

SSGT Edward A. RICKER 1416375/6441 HMM-265  
HOSTILE - 21Dec66. Seven miles south of Da Nang, Quang Nam Province. Wounded left forearm by small arms fire. Treated and returned to duty. Flying as gunner on CH-46 A/C hit while approaching LZ.

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PVT Robert J. CLYDE 2184974/0311 MABS-16

NON-HOSTILE - 20Dec66. MMAF. Hospitalized with appendicitis.  
Hospitalized at G-4 period about 15 days.

Capt Noel L. HAMMER 085042/7335 HMM-263

NON-HOSTILE - 25Dec66. An Hoa, RVN. Received sprained back in crash  
when UH-34D on test hop developed mechanical trouble and crashed.  
Flying as pilot of A/C. Confined to Quarters 2 days.

PVT Gary J. THOMPSON 2169942/3516 MABS-16

NON-HOSTILE - 26Dec66. THOMPSON reported to sick call MMAF dispen-  
sary, sent to NSA hospital, diagnosis renal cellulitis right side.  
Period of hospitalization unknown.

30Dec66 Same incident, all members of HMM-163. A/C approaching LZ.

Major	Peter N. SAMARAS	069223/7305
Major	John D. WAY	068014/7335
Sgt	George E. WILLIAMS	1514201/6412
PFC	Robert J. DENNY	2183803/6413

15 miles west of Dong Ha, Quang Tri Province, RVN.

Major SAMARAS - Laceration lower lip. Pilot A/C shot down by enemy  
automatic fire approaching LZ. Treated A-Med returned to duty.

Major WAY - Multiple lacerations and abrasions left forearm. Treated  
A-Med and returned to duty.

Sgt WILLIAMS - Multiple lacerations and abrasions of upper and lower  
extremities, right and left side, front and back.  
treated at A-Med and returned to duty.

PFC DENNY - Fractures lateral and posterior malleows. A-Med approx-  
imately three weeks, possible evacuation.

*O. G. McDonald*  
O. G. McDONALD  
By direction

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