

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

3: DSJ: jkm
 5750
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 12 April 1967

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From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding General, First Marine Aircraft Wing (Attn: G-3)
 Subj: Command Chronology for period 1-31 March 1967; 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	
SAC #	00500-67
COPY # 1 of 1	

1498-67	COPY NO.
1	

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 DOWNGRADED 12 YEARS.
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MAR 1967

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 16
MARBLE MOUNTAIN AIR FACILITY
REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM
Period covered : 1 through 31 March 1967

ENCLOSURE (1)

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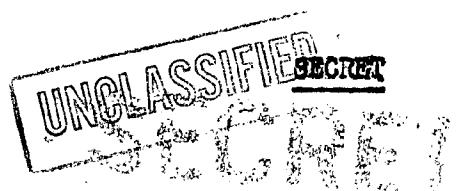
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PART I
Organizational Data

ENCLOSURE (1)



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1. Command Composition

BILLET	NAME	RANK	DATE
CO, MAG-16	F. M. HEPLER	Col	1-31Mar67
CO, MAG-16 (FWD)	S. F. MARTIN	Col	1-31Mar67
EHO, MAG-16	A. W. BARDEN	LtCol	1-21Mar67
Adjutant	O. V. GALLENTINE	LtCol	22-31Mar67
S-1 Officer	T. R. KOLB	2/Lt	1-17Mar 67
S-2 Officer	A. L. MADSEN	2/Lt	18-31Mar67
S-3 Officer	D. L. TINSLEY	Capt	1-31Mar67
S-4 Officer	Y. JOHNSTONE	Capt	1-31Mar67
CO, HAMS-16	H. E. MENDENHALL	LtCol	1-31Mar67
OIC SubUnit #1	M. T. JANNELL	LtCol	1-31Mar67
OIC O-10 DET	W. O. KELLY	LtCol	1-31Mar67
CO, MABS-16	R. L. HAWLEY	Major	1-31Mar67
OIC, MATCUL-62	W. E. DEEDS	LtCol	1-31Mar67
OIC, MATCUL-68	C. E. WYDNER	LtCol	1-31Mar67
OIC, HMM-463 DET	R. O. MEYER	Capt	1-31Mar67
CO, HMM-163	J. G. REVER	Capt	1-31Mar67
CO, HMM-164	W. R. BAKER	LtCol	1-31Mar67
CO, HMM-265	R. B. BLANCHET	LtCol	1-31Mar67
CO, HMM-361	R. D. MCKITTRICK	LtCol	1-31Mar67
CO, VMO-2	C. D. CORN	LtCol	1-31Mar67
CO, VMO-3	W. E. TRAUT	LtCol	1-31Mar67
	W. F. HARRELL	LtCol	1-31Mar67
	K. W. TOWNSEND	Major	1-31Mar67

2. Task Organization

H&MS-16	Marble Mountain Air Facility, Republic of Viet Nam
Sub Unit #1	Marble Mountain Air Facility, Republic of Viet Nam
O-10 Det	Marble Mountain Air Facility, Republic of Viet Nam
CL-53 Det	Marble Mountain Air Facility, Republic of Viet Nam
MABS-16	Marble Mountain Air Facility, Republic of Viet Nam
HMM-163	Marble Mountain Air Facility, Republic of Viet Nam
HMM-164	Hue Phu Bai, Republic of Viet Nam
HMM-265	Marble Mountain Air Facility, Republic of Viet Nam
HMM-361	Marble Mountain Air Facility, Republic of Viet Nam
VMO-2	Marble Mountain Air Facility, Republic of Viet Nam
VMO-3	Hue Phu Bai, Republic of Viet Nam
MATCUL-62	Dong Ha, Republic of Viet Nam
MATCUL-68	Hue Phu Bai, Republic of Viet Nam

3. Average Monthly Strength

Squadron	USMC		USN	
	Off	Enl	Off	Enl
H&MS-16	65	472	1	0
Sub Unit #1	10	68	0	0

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Avonair Monthly Strength (Continued)

Squadron	USMC		USN	
	Off	Enl.	Off	Enl.
B-16 Det	16	31	0	0
HML-463 Det	11	43	0	0
MARCS-16	21	704	6	11
YATUL-62	6	42	0	0
MARCS-63	7	75	0	0
HML-463	46	196	1	2
HML-174	57	208	1	1
HML-263	49	175	1	2
HML-363	51	180	1	6
VML-2	45	120	1	3
VML-3	24	107	1	1

4. Important Visitors to the Command

- a. Major General P. R. WILKINSON 2 March 1967
- b. Lieutenant General V. H. KREJAK 7 March 1967
- c. Major General L. B. ROBERTSHAW 10 and 16 March 1967
- d. Lieutenant General H. W. BUSE 31 March 1967

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PART II
Narrative Summary

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1. Special Operations

a. Operation Prairie II	1-18 March
b. Operation Prairie III	19-31 March
c. Operation DeSoto	1-31 March
d. Operation Chinook II	1-31 March
e. Operation Deckhouse VI	1-3 March
f. Operation Beacon Hill	19-31 March
g. Operation Gulf	4-7 March

2. General Summary

a. Operational commitments flown by MAG-16 during March ranged from the northern boundary of I Corps on the DMZ to the boundary adjoining II Corps on the south. Bases of operation for the Group during the month were Khe Sanh, Dong Ha, Phu Bai, Marble Mountain, An Hoa and a one plane element of the O-1C Detachment at Chu Lai.

b. Heavy commitments levied on the Group's H-46's for support of operations Prairie II and Prairie III at Dong Ha and the Army Special Operating Group at Phu Bai and Khe Sanh left only limited resources remaining available at Marble Mountain necessitating augmentation by MAG-36 for the majority of March. Daily augmentation consisted of 2-4 H-46's.

3. Chronological Summary

1 March - A VMO-2 UH-1E, forced down near Cam Lo on 28 February, was flown to Dong Ha for repairs. An HMM-163 UH-34D was forced down 3 miles south of Dong Ha due to mechanical difficulties. A security force was placed around the helicopter until it could be recovered. An HMM-361 helicopter was hit by ground fire near DaNang. None of the crew was injured. A Sparrow Hawk mission was conducted by HMM-265 and VMO-2

2 March - Near Khe Sanh, a VMO-2 UH-1E making a target marking run was shot down by .50 cal. fire. The aircraft burned but none of the crew was injured. The second UH-1E effected the rescue of the crew of the down aircraft and itself took hits by ground fire but returned to Khe Sanh. A CH-53A returning a CH-46A hulk from Dong Ha to Marble Mountain dropped the load when the attaching points on the CH-46 broke loose. The load was dropped into DaNang Bay a short distance north of the deep water pier. An HMM-361 UH-34 received one hit on a medevac mission.

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3 March - During the early morning, a mortar attack on the base at Khe Sanh caused the destruction of one CH-46 and badly damaged another CH-46 and two UH-1E gunships. None of the aircraft could be flown out to Dong Ha. In the late afternoon, separate incidents resulted in two aircraft destroyed and a third forced down due to mechanical difficulties. At 1630 an HMM-163 UH-34 experienced mechanical difficulties and effected an emergency landing at YD087655. At 1645 another HMM-163 UH-34 experienced engine failure at YD8531 and upon landing, the aircraft rolled on its side. At 1655 an O-1C experienced engine failure at YD555275, the pilot landed in rice paddies. No one was injured in any of the three incidents. In the DaNang area routine missions were conducted.

4 March - A CH-53 recovered the UH-34 down at YD087655, lifting the helo to Dong Ha. A CH-46 recovered the O-1C downed on 3 March lifting that aircraft to Phu Bai. A CH-46 assigned to support the Army Special Operating Group at Phu Bai is reported down at an undisclosed location with a security force at the scene. Northwest of DaNang, Operation Gulf commenced with L-hour at 1130. HMM-164 and HMM-265 provided strike aircraft with VMO-2 giving support with its UH-1E gunships. A Sparrow Hawk mission was conducted by HMM-265 and VMO-2.

5 March - In the Dong Ha area a combination of heavy enemy contact on the ground necessitating high priority medevac missions and adverse weather forcing the helicopters down into small arms range resulted in six aircraft being hit. At 1220, an HMM-163 medevac UH-34 was hit by two rounds of small arms fire. None of the crew was injured. At 1320, a VMO-2 UH-1E gunship flying medevac escort was hit by four rounds and the co-pilot was wounded by shrapnel. Both the medevac and medevac chase were hit by fire at 1330 resulting in facial cuts to the pilot and co-pilot of the UH-34 from shattered plexiglass. At 1635 the medevac aircraft again took fire. The corpsman was seriously wounded by 2 of 6 rounds which hit the aircraft. Again at 1830 the medevac was hit by ground fire which downed the helicopter. Both pilots suffered facial cuts from plexiglass but no other injuries resulted. A security force was placed around the aircraft. In the Danang area an HMM-361 medevac helo was hit by one round of small arms fire. Shrapnel from the round caused minor wounds to the medevac corpsman. During a recon retraction, an HMM-265 CH-46 took one hit in the ramp. In a night medevac mission the HMM-361 helicopter struck trees on the approach to the pick-up zone. The aircraft incurred blade damage which prevented its being flown out of the zone. A USMC rifle company provided security.

6 March - Adverse weather hampered operations at all bases. A Sparrow Hawk mission was conducted by HMM-265 and VMO-2.

7 March - In the Phu Bai area an attempt was made to retract the forces providing security to the CH-46 down on the S.O.G. mission since 4 March. Eight CH-46's, 6 UH-1E's, 6 USAF CH-3's and 4 VNAF UH-34's were involved. Weather prevented completion of the mission but one aircraft dropped ammunition and evacuated 4 WIA's. Near DaNang an HMM-361 aircraft was hit by small arms fire. None of the crew was injured.

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8 March - Routine operations conducted this date.

9 March - Adverse weather hampered flight operations. Routine missions were conducted.

10 March - Routine operations were conducted. Two Sparrow Hawk missions were conducted by HMM-164 and VMO-2.

11 March - An HMM-163 CH-3 lifted an Air Force CH-3 sixty miles from a point in Laos to Udorn, Thailand. The Air Force provided CAP throughout the flight. Northwest of Dong Ha an HMM-265 CH-46 was damaged when mortar fire was received in the drop zone where the aircraft was discharging a cargo of ammunition. Phu Bai operations were routine. A Blue Springs drone recovery mission was conducted by HMM-265 at DaNang.

12 March - HMM-163 carried two UH-34's from Dong Ha to Phu Bai and an Army UH-1D from Minh Long to MMAF. Twice the HMM-361 medevac helicopter was hit by small arms fire. On the first instance no injuries were incurred but on the second an ARW medevac WIA was killed by the fire. Six miles NW of Khe Sanh an HMM-265 CH-46 crashed and burned after experiencing loss of power. None of the crew was injured. Northwest of Dong Ha an C-1C was hit by enemy fire. The aircraft returned to Dong Ha. Operations at Phu Bai and DaNang were routine.

13 March - On a recon retraction mission sixteen miles NW of Dong Ha, an HMM-163 UH-34 was downed by ground fire, crashed and burned. Both enlisted crewmembers were killed and both pilots injured in the crash. While hovering in an attempt to rescue the UH-34 crew, an HMM-164 CH-46 was shot down. The CH-46 also crashed and burned. An Air Force CH-3 later rescued one of the downed crew but was forced to leave the area due to intense ground fire. Weather conditions deteriorated and forced the remainder of the crewmembers to remain at the crash site overnight. Operations at Phu Bai were routine. Southwest of DaNang an HMM-361 aircraft was damaged when a "friendly" hand grenade exploded under the aircraft. The aircraft was flown to An Hoa. Two crewmen were slightly injured by shrapnel in the incident.

14 March - An Air Force CH-3 rescued the crews of the two aircraft down west of Dong Ha. Other operations at Dong Ha, Phu Bai and DaNang were routine. A CH-53 lifted the UH-34 from An Hoa to Marble Mountain.

15 March - In the Dong Ha area two VMO-2 gunships and an HMM-164 CH-46 were hit by ground fire. None of the aircraft were downed but a pilot of one of the UH-1E's was wounded. Operations at Phu Bai were routine. A pre-dawn launch of CH-46's (HMM-265) and UH-1E's (VMO-2) carried troops to a point west of DaNang in an attempt to trap VC elements which launched a mortar attack on DaNang. HMM-164 carried out two morning Sparrow Hawk launches for the same purpose. The HMM-361 medevac aircraft was hit by fire once without injury to the crew.

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16 March - Two miles Northwest of Khe Sanh an HMM-164 CH-46 was hit by ground fire. The aircraft suffered a power loss and was forced down, rolling on its side as it landed. Only one of the crew was slightly injured. None of the 15 passengers were injured. The crew and passengers were retracted from the crash site. Later, another HMM-164 aircraft was mortared in a landing zone 600 meters southeast of the previous incident. None of the crew was injured but the aircraft incurred shrapnel damage. In the DaNang area the HMM-361 medevac helicopter was hit by fire. None of the crew was injured. One Sparrow Hawk launch was conducted from Marble Mountain.

17 March - An O-10 was hit by one round of small arms fire in the Dong Ha area seriously wounding the pilot. Another O-10 pilot riding as observer flew the aircraft to Dong Ha. An HMM-163 UH-34 was also hit by ground fire in the Dong Ha area but none of the crew was injured. Operations at Phu Bai and DaNang were routine.

18 March - An HMM-463 CH-53 lifted the CH-46 from two miles northwest of Khe Sanh to Khe Sanh and thereafter lifted two (2) CH-46's from Khe Sanh to Dong Ha. An HMM-163 UH-34 flying enroute from Dong Ha to Phu Bai for aircraft dispersal was hit by ground fire and forced to land. The crew was retracted but the aircraft could not have a security force placed around it due to weather conditions (300-400 ceiling). In the DaNang area the HMM-361 medevac helicopter was hit by small arms fire without injury to the crew. HMM-164 conducted a Blue Springs drone recovery mission.

19 March - Near Dong Ha Operation Beacon Hill kicked off with landings by the SLF. Commencement of this operation also signalled the end of Operation Prairie II and the beginning of Operation Prairie III. MAG-16 resources at Dong Ha participated in the initial operations of Beacon Hill. An HMM-463 CH-53 lifted to Phu Bai the UH-34 downed on 18 March on a dispensal mission and lifted a UH-1E from Khe Sanh to Marble Mountain. The HMM-163 medevac helicopter was hit by small arms fire on a mission near Dong Ha. No injuries resulted. In the DaNang area, a joint Marine Corps/Navy/Air Force HAWK FIREX began. HMM-164 and HMM-361 conducted a drone recovery mission in conjunction with that exercise. In addition a routine Air Force Blue Springs drone recovery mission was carried out by HMM-164.

20 March - An HMM-265 CH-46 was hit by small arms fire while enroute to Dong Ha from Phu Bai after night-time dispersal. No injuries resulted. HMM-463 lifted a CH-46 from Khe Sanh to Dong Ha. Operations at Phu Bai were routine. A Sparrow Hawk launch was conducted by MAG-36 augmentation CH-46's and VMO-2 to a location only 5000 meters southwest of Marble Mountain. HMM-164 and HMM-361 made two HAWK FIREX drone recoveries.

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21 March - Operations at Dong Ha were routine. An HMM-163 UH-34 suffered limited damage when a hand grenade exploded in the pick-up zone during a night medevac mission north of Phu Bai. An HMM-463 CH-53 lifted a VMO-2 UH-1E from Nui Loc to Ky Ha. On a routine resupply mission, an HMM-164 CH-46 landed short of the elevated landing zone at Nui Loc Son. The aircraft sustained overhull damage.

22 March - Two HMM-163 UH-34's made precautionary landings at the International Control Commission "Freedom Village" in the DMZ north of Long Ha. Adverse weather prevented the aircraft being removed and the crews remained in the zone overnight. Operations at Phu Bai were routine. In the DaNang area the HMM-361 medevac helicopter, on a night mission, was hit by 3 rounds of small arms fire and made a precautionary landing in a secure zone (LZ 412).

23 March - Adverse weather forced the helicopters down in a small arms range and hostile fire incidents for the day were four CH-46's and 2 UH-1E's. The weather caused a hold on all but emergency and high priority missions. A Blue Springs drone recovery mission was conducted in the DaNang area.

24 March - Routine missions were conducted at all operating bases. An HMM-463 CH-53 received battle damage from small arms fire while effecting the retrieval of the UH-34 down at LZ 412.

25 March - Operations were routine at Dong Ha and Phu Bai. CH-53's recovered one CH-46 from Nui Loc Son, a UH-34 from the ROK CP near Chu Lai and a CH-46 from Dong Ha. Five CH-46's from HMM-265 and HMM-164 and four from MAG-36 executed a 325 man troop lift into a point southwest of Hoi An from which a VC attack had been launched against a convoy the previous night.

26 March - This was Easter Sunday and operations at all bases were normal. HMM-463 recovered three CH-46's, two from Dong Ha, one from Khe Sanh. HMM-164 participated in two Blue Springs drone recovery missions.

27 March - Operations were normal at Dong Ha and Phu Bai. Near DaNang the HMM-361 medevac helicopter was hit by small arms fire. No injuries resulted. A Sparrow Hawk mission was conducted by HMM-164 and VMO-2.

28 March - At Dong Ha, a VMO-2 UH-1E on an evening visual recon flight around the base perimeter was hit by heavy caliber automatic weapons fire, went out of control, crashed and burned killing all four occupants. Southeast of Phu Bai a VMO-3 UH-1E incurred strike damage when engine failure resulted in an unsuccessful autorotative landing. This helicopter was retrieved by a CH-53. At An Hoa, the VMO-2 medevac chase UH-1E was damaged when the tail rotor struck wires on take-off. This helicopter was also retrieved by CH-53. A Blue Springs drone recovery mission was conducted by HMM-164.

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29 March - In the Dong Ha area, an HMM-163 UH-34 incurred overhail damage when the aircraft, on a night medevac mission, went IFR in dust and made a hard landing. Another HMM-163 helicopter was hit by small arms fire during the day. No injuries resulted in either incident. Operations at Phu Bai were routine. HMM-265 launched a four plane Bald Eagle mission for mass casualty evacuation (ARVN). Twenty casualties were carried. A second Bald Eagle launch recovered the bodies of the crew and miniguns of the Air Force C-47 Dragon Ship which crashed south of DaNang the night of 28 March. HMM-164 participated in a Blue Springs drone recovery. An HMM-361 aircraft incurred slight damage when the helicopter went IFR in dust during take off and drifted into construction equipment parked near the landing zone.

30 March - Operations at Dong Ha were routine. At Phu Bai, an HMM-463 CH-53 recovered a UH-34, lifting that aircraft to Phu Bai. In the DaNang area, an HMM-164 CH-46 was hit by ground fire resulting in one crewmember WIA. An HMM-361 helicopter was hit by fire without injury to any of the crew. Three Sparrow Hawk missions were launched during the day.

31 March - Operations at Dong Ha and Phu Bai were normal. In the DaNang area four CH-46's from HMM-265 conducted an ARVN troop lift transporting 328 personnel.

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PART III
Significant Events

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a. Number of joinings: 262

b. Number of drops: 230

c. Promotions:

(1) Capt to Major	5
(2) 1stLt to Capt	32
(3) GySgt to 1stSgt	0
(4) SSgt to GySgt	6
(5) Sgt to SSgt	2
(6) Cpl to Sgt	83
(7) LCpl to Cpl	13
(8) PFC to LCpl	5
(9) Pvt to PFC	6

2. Awards

a. The following awards were distributed during March:

(1) Distinguished Flying Cross:

Major Robert L. BOYER	HMM-263
Major Bertram W. McCUALEY	HMM-263
Captain Francis A. HOCEVAR	HMM-263
Captain Hugh CAMERON	HMM-163
Captain Donald F. WALKER	HMM-163

(2) Bronze Star:

Captain Robert L THIEN HMM-163

(3) Air Medal:

HMM-163	210
HMM-265	148
HMM-164	75
VMO-2	266
SUB UNIT	38
HMM-263	195
H&MS-16	102
VMO-3	138
HMM-361	209
MABS-16	0

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(4) Navy Commendation Medal:

HMM-163	2
HMM-265	4
HMM-164	0
VMO-2	2
SUB UNIT	0
HMM-263	2
H&MS-16	0
VMO-3	0
HMM-361	0
MABS-16	0

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(5) Purple Heart Medal:

HMM-163	7
HMM-265	3
HMM-164	0
VMO-2	5
SUB UNIT	0
HMM-263	1
H&MS-16	0
VMO-3	0
HMM-361	3
MABS-16	2

3. Casualties (Hostile)

<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
Capt	Jack C. OWENS	2 Mar 67	Khe Sanh
Cpl	Charles P. MADDOCKS	2 Mar 67	7 Mi south of Khe Sanh
Cpl	Dwain P. FUGATE	2 Mar 67	7 Mi south of Khe Sanh
1/Lt	Charles T. ALLEN III	5 Mar 67	7 Mi west of Dong Ha
HMC	John T. GOODWIN	5 Mar 67	7 Mi SW of DaNang
HM2	Jack W. CALDWELL	5 Mar 67	7½ Mi NW of Dong Ha
1/Lt	Robert C. HUGHES	5 Mar 67	8 Mi NW of Dong Ha
Capt	Gordon H. GUNNIS	5 Mar 67	8 Mi NW of Dong Ha
1/Lt	Robert G. KISLING Jr	5 Mar 67	8 Mi NW of Dong Ha
1/Lt	George J. O'CONNELL Jr	5 Mar 67	8 Mi NW of Dong Ha
Capt	Gerald F. DOOLEY	11 Mar 67	Con Thien
Sgt	William C. H. BABBITT	11 Mar 67	Con Thien
LCpl	Charles E. MORROW	13 Mar 67	5 Mi south of Ha Ton
Cpl	James D. KIRKER	13 Mar 67	5 Mi south of Ha Ton
Major	Peter N. SAMARAS	13 Mar 67	14 Mi west of Dong Ha
2/Lt	Robert E. SWETE	13 Mar 67	14 Mi west of Dong Ha
LCpl	Virgil B. TERWILLIGER	13 Mar 67	14 Mi west of Dong Ha
PFC	Paul W. HARRIS	13 Mar 67	14 Mi west of Dong Ha

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NAME

DATE

PLACE

Cpl	Michael J. GUY	13 Mar 67	15 Mi west of Dong Ha
LCpl	Robert E. TERMAINE	13 Mar 67	15 Mi west of Dong Ha
Capt	David P. CONNELLY	13 Mar 67	15 Mi west of Dong Ha
Capt	Leo J. FARRELL	13 Mar 67	15 Mi west of Dong Ha
1/Lt	Robert B. WALLS Jr	15 Mar 67	3 Mi north of Cam Lo
Sgt	Douglas C. TAYLOR	16 Mar 67	3 Mi N.W. of Khe Sanh
Capt	Robert A. MATHEWS Jr.	17 Mar 67	10½ Mi N.W. of Dong Ha
Capt	John P. RAY	22 Mar 67	7½ Mi S.W. of DaNang
Sgt	Fred E. WHITE	24 Mar 67	8 Mi N.W. of Dong Ha
SSgt	Cecil A. DICKEY	23 Mar 67	9½ Mi N. W. of Dong Ha
Lt(MC)	Curtis R. BAKER	17 Mar 67	7 Mi W. of Dong Ha
Capt	Harry R. MILLS	23 Mar 67	10 Mi N. W. of Dong Ha
Capt	Jack C. OWENS	28 Mar 67	3 Mi N.W. of DaNang
Lt(MC)	Curtis R. BAKER	28 Mar 67	3 Mi N.W. of Dong Ha
Cpl	Paul E. ALBANO	28 Mar 67	3 Mi N.W. of Dong Ha
PFC	George M. STEVENSON	28 Mar 67	3 Mi N.W. of Dong Ha

4. Civic Action

a. Medical. A total of sixteen scheduled sick calls were held at the Catholic Dispensary and the Son Thuy-2 Dispensary in Hoa Long Village. There were 3887 medical patients treated and 176 dental patients treated. One Vietnamese from Son Thuy-2 was referred to the Naval Hospital for treatment and one Vietnamese boy was taken to the USOM Hospital for treatment. Four Vietnamese are presently being trained as village health workers in Hoa Long Village.

MCB-133 has treated 1039 medical patients and 21 dental patients at their dispensary in Son Thuy-1.

MCB-5 has treated 3331 medical patients and have given 359 immunizations at their dispensary in My Thi Hamlet.

Fifty three Vietnamese have been admitted to the Naval Hospital for treatment, of which 47 were for major surgery. There are presently 402 Vietnamese being treated by the hospital as out-patients. The hospital neurosurgeon has performed thirteen operations and has held consultations at the Da Nang Civilian Hospital. The ENT Doctor treated twenty cases of ear infection and the Ophthalmologist performed nine eye operations and treated twenty cases of eye infection at the Da Nang Civilian Hospital.

Medcap teams from the Hospital have treated 7803 medical patients in various hamlets south of Da Nang.

The Preventive Medicine Section are continuing their rodent control programs and their mosquito control programs in the hamlets surrounding Da Nang, Phu Bai, and Dong Ha.

Dental technicians in conjunction with the Medcap teams from the Naval Hospital have treated 368 dental patients in various hamlets south of Da Nang.

MAG-16's dispensary treated 35 Vietnamese medical patients.

There were 16,612 medical and 583 dental patients treated during the month of March by Area #2 coordinating units.

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b. Education. The Protestant Chaplain from MAG-16 has held five hours of English language classes with 85 Vietnamese students.

Fifth Comm has held eight hours of English language classes with ten Vietnamese students.

MCB-5 has held 58 hours of English language classes with 882 Vietnamese students.

MAG-16's Protestant Chaplain has initiated a student assistance program. The best English student at Marble Mountain Air Facility has his tuition paid for one semester at the Vietnamese-American Association in Da Nang.

MCB-133 distributed fifty school kits to the school children of Son Thuy-1.

MCB-5 is conducting English classes in the My Thi Hamlet School. MCB-5 has also given 12,000 piasters to the hamlet for educational assistance.

c. Projects. Fifth Comm and the people of Da Man Hamlet are continuing the construction of new wells and the repairing and capping of all the hamlet wells.

MCB-5 has completed three grading projects at the Stella Maris Convent.

MCB-133 has distributed various types of seeds to the people of Da Man and Son Thuy-1 to initiate a hamlet agriculture improvement program.

d. Give Away Program. Fifth Comm has distributed two hundred fifty bars of soap to the people of Da Man Hamlet.

MCB-5 has distributed five hundred bars of soap, twenty pounds of clothing, fourteen hundred pounds of cement, and four thousand feet of scrap lumber to the people of My Thi Hamlet.

MCB-133 has distributed two hundred pounds of food, ninety bars of soap, and sewing materials to the people of Son Thuy-1.

MAG-16 has contributed two thousand five hundred piasters to aid one of the Vietnamese workers in paying his hospital bill. The Protestant Chaplain is now furnishing eight hundred piasters a month to pay the village health worker now being trained in Son Thuy-2.

e. Government. A new Village Chief for Hoa Long Village has been appointed by District Headquarters. The new chief is Huynh Ba Lien. The Village officials are now preparing for the coming local elections on 30 April 1967.

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Catholic Confession	0730
Catholic Mass	0800
Protestant Sunday School	0900
Protestant Divine Services	1000
Latter Day Saint Services	1300
Catholic Confession	1730
Catholic Mass	1800
Protestant Evening Services	1900
Protestant Communion	2000

Monday thru Saturday:

Catholic Mass	1800
Protestant Prayer Services	1900

Thursday:

World Religions Classes (Interdenominational)	1830
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Saturday:

Protestant Choir Practice	1830
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b. Using Chapel funds, additional improvements were made to the interior of the chapel. This included laying asphalt tile throughout the chapel. Chaplain Graham integrated into the regular Navy during the month. On 31 March a joint Catholic and Protestant Memorial Service was held for the four victims of the VMO-2 helicopter crash at Dong Ha. This marked the first time a joint service of this nature has been held at MAG-16.

6. Intelligence/Counter Intelligence

a. In the five weeks of March MAG-16 experienced the usual amount of combat damage due to anti-aircraft fire. The aircraft of the Group flew 7691 flight hours, experienced 313 fire incidents and suffered 91 aircraft hit; 29% of the anti-aircraft fire incidents resulted in an aircraft hit. On the average, MAG-16 aircraft flew 24 flight hours per fire incident and 83 flight hours per hit. The Group submitted 206 spot reports of enemy activity or one report per 37 flight hours.

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Throughout the month the Group S-2 continued to provide intelligence support for squadrons and to forward developed intelligence to adjacent and higher commands. The Group's intelligence effort was seriously hampered by a lack of trained intelligence officers and staff NCO's. Because of a critical shortage of O2 occupational field personnel, the Group is attempting to alleviate intelligence personnel deficiencies by retraining NCO's and officers from other O.F.'s.

7. Air Operations

HMM-163 UH-34D

Hours 1271.3
Sorties 1246
Pax 1310
Evacs 335
Cargo 28.6 Tons

HMM-164 CH-46A

Hours 851.8
Sorties 739
Pax 1851
Evacs 71
Cargo 78.9 Tons

HMM-361 UH-34D

Hours 2,052.8
Sorties 5,873
Pax 3,956
Evacs 1,163
Cargo 316

HMM-265 CH-46A

Hours 1,162.7
Sorties 2,914
Pax 9,140
Evacs 750
Cargo 1,245.2 Tons

VMO-2 UH-1E

Hours 1020.7 Gun Slick
Sorties 2893 691.3 329.4
Pax 1801
Evacs 48
Cargo 0

VMO-3 UH-1E

Hours 467.2 Gun Slick
Sorties 1155 244.6 222.0
Pax 446
Evacs 14
Cargo 0

HMH-463 CH-53A

Hours 260.5
Sorties 527
Pax 925
Evacs 0
Cargo 782 Tons

SU #1 CH-37C

Hours 361.8
Sorties 709
Pax 2806
Evacs 4
Cargo 419.4 Tons

H&MS-16 O-1C UH-34D C-117D CH-46A UH-1E MAG-16 TOTAL

Hours	811.7	88.4	117.6	21.2	6.1	Hours	8,493.8
Sorties	471	76	48	26	10	Sorties	16,687
Pax	0	25	447	0	0	Pax	22,707
Evacs	0	0	0	0	0	Evacs	2385
Cargo	0	2.0 Tons	49.6 Ton	0	0	Cargo	2921.7

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~~SECRET~~8. Air Control

a. Responsibilities assigned the two MATCU Units remained constant during March. MATCU-62 performed base operations functions at Dong Ha and Khe Sanh, MATCU-68 at Hue/Phu Bai and Marble Mountain. In addition, MATCU-68 provides control tower services at An Hoa. On 5 March, a mortar attack on the airfield at Khe Sanh badly damaged the AN/GRC-99 portable tower. Tower operations continue using other portable equipment until a replacement tower is available.

b. MATCU-62 Operations

	<u>Dong Ha</u>	<u>Khe Sanh</u>
(1) VFR	17,660	4,294
(2) IFR	746	156
(3) GCA	696	80

c. MATCU-68 Operations

	<u>MMAF</u>	<u>HUE</u>	<u>An Hoa</u>
(1) VFR	17,390	17,384	2687
(2) IFR		3,060	
(3) GCA		982	

9. Ground Defense. No enemy contact or incidents occurred during the month. Improvement and relocation of ground defenses were continued. Familiarization firing of M-60, M-14, 45 Cal. Pistol, M-79 and shotguns were conducted in addition to a demonstration of arming and detonating the Claymore Mine.

10. Motor Transport. The section traveled 64,427 miles during the month of March. The section hauled 968,300 gallons of water working on an around the clock schedule. There were 22 vehicles deadlined at the completion of this period.

11. TAFDS. During the month TAFDS section supported operations Prairie III, Beacon Hill and Chinook II. Support of Marble Mountain, Phu Bai, Dong Ha and Khe Sanh was continued.

<u>Location</u>	<u>JP-4</u>	<u>115/145</u>
Marble Mountain	295904	213430
Phu Bai	289409	114553
Dong Ha	220120	166996
Total	805433	494979

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12. Crash Crew. A total of seventy five personnel (one officer and 74 enlisted) were assigned during this reporting period. Of this total, fourteen enlisted were assigned to the Phu Bai Airfield, fourteen enlisted were assigned to the Dong Ha Airfield and four enlisted were assigned to the Khe Sanh Airfield. A total of one officer and 42 enlisted were assigned to the Marble Mountain Air Facility.

a. Marble Mountain Air Facility Crash Crew responded to a total of 20 emergencies during the reporting period including two generator fires, one at the Mess Hall and one at the Control Tower.

b. The Phu Bai Section of the MMAF Crash Crew responded to a total of 25 emergencies.

c. The Dong Ha Section of the MMAF Crash Crew responded to a total of 71 emergencies including one fire in the Mess Hall.

13. Base Operations/Weather. During the month of March 1967, MAG-16 weather units located at Dong Ha, Phu Bai and Marble Mountain supported all operations conducted from those airfields.

14. Food Services. The Marble Mountain Mess served approximately 21,400 meals during the month of March. Bakery products utilized 26,350 pounds of flour. Ice cream is now being served every other day. 2/Lt SHAW became responsible officer vice Capt WATTS. Seven enlisted personnel were joined.

15. Base Development/Utilities. During the month of March four enlisted personnel were joined. The total Utility strength is now 111 enlisted and three officers.

a. Water Point. The Water Point processed 871,440 gallons of potable water and approximately 60,925 gallons of raw water during the month of March. Well pump number 1 and number 2 have been deadlined on different occasions during this period.

b. Paint Shop. The Paint Shop completed some 27 projects. A total of 133 signs and 200 stakes were painted during this month.

c. Electric Shop. The Electric Shop personnel completed 75 projects and trouble calls. Several huts were rewired throughout the base, the power line in the 500 block was raised, disconnected the electric machinery at H&MS Maintenance, rewired this machinery in the new hanger and rewired the P. X.

d. Plumbing Shop. The Plumbing Shop personnel answered 12 trouble calls. A water tower, water drum and plumbing was installed at H&MS Avionics. All equipment was kept in a satisfactory condition. Plumbing was installed in the new laundry.

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e. Refrigeration Shop. The Refrigeration Shop answered three trouble calls during the month. A close watch was kept on each of the units operating in the messhall.

f. Carpenter Shop. During the month of March the Carpenter Shop completed 146 trouble calls and work assignments, completed the new Motor Transport building, tiled the chapel floor, constructed a new Avionics building and 23 living quarters were repaired. The new laundry was constructed, constructed two towers for wind sock bases, enlarged the Group Post Office, constructed and painted anchors and floats for the safety of swimmers, built a water tower for Special Services, constructed 4' X 16' loading platform for Material and built a new 20' X 40' building to handle the supplies for the messhall.

g. Generator Shop. During the month of March, the Generator Shop performed a total of 5 third echelon jobs. All first and second echelon maintenance was performed with a minimum amount of breakdown.

h. Laundry. During the month of March the laundry processed 14,600 pounds of clothing and collected organizational gear to turn over to the civilian laundry service.

i. Progress Report for Phu Bai. During the month of March, the Phu Bai Utilities Section pumped approximately 6,000 gallons of water daily for laundry and shower purposes. The shower water was heated daily and the pump and shower units were P.M.'d daily. One 55 GPM pump was overhauled during the month. Ten huts were wired during this period, an ice machine was installed in the Staff NCO Club and three milk machines were put in service. A new hut was constructed to replace the storeroom that burned down at the messhall.

j. Progress Report for Dong Ha. During the month of March, the Dong Ha Utility Section poured one 15' X 40' concrete slab for the messhall wash pads and one 16' X 16' for another building. Constructed one 20' X 40' messhall store room, rewired the officer's mess and rebuilt the doors and rear wall of the messhall. All camp power lines were reworked. Constructed and wired one 16' X 64' building, performed major repairs to the water pump, installed four additional power poles and relocated two others and constructed an oil spreader and oiled all streets and helicopter landing pads.

16. Exchange. Monthly sales for the exchange during the month of March were \$56,980.00. Monthly sales for James S. LEE totaled \$5,028.64. During the month the exchange underwent new structural alterations.

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~~SECRET~~17. Logistics

a. The third hanger has been accepted and the fourth is expected to be ready for occupancy by 15 April 1967.

b. Work has been started on the remainder of the roads in the MMAF cantonement.

c. MCB-133 started the construction of an 8000 square foot Complete Engine Repair (CER) shop. It is estimated the initial construction will be completed by 1 May 1967.

d. Air Freight processed by organic aircraft during the period was as follow:

<u>Destination</u>	<u>Passengers</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Cube</u>
Phu Bai	127	120,783	12,270.7
Dong Ha	157	155,897	5,486.0
Ky Ha	3	1,170	62.4
Chu Lai	24	3,500	61.0
Khe Sahn		3,198	90.0
An Hoa	3		

18. Communications. Personnel gains exceeded personnel losses. Capt G. A. ENOS reported as the MAG-16 Communications Officer. Staff Sgt RUBY reported as the new wire section chief replacing Staff Sgt BOHAN.

Adequate telephone service is still being hampered by lack of sufficient switchboard repair parts and extreme high usage of the system. Continued rewiring for squadron moves. Installed AN/GIC systems for Group Supply and Aircraft Maintenance. Installed new 25 pair cable to hanger area. The lifeguard now has telephone service to the beach.

In spite of a four day minimize imposed by CNO, the volume was 7829 with 1689 originated from MAG-16.

The following transactions were effected by the Repair Section:

- (1) 161 pieces of equipment processed.
- (2) 13 pieces of equipment evacuated to higher echelon of maintenance.
- (3) 6 pieces of equipment returned from higher echelon of maintenance.
- (4) 128 pieces of equipment returned to sections.
- (5) 60 requisitions processed for supply.

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Supporting Documents

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