

HEADQUARTERS
Marine Aircraft Group 16
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
FPO, San Francisco 96602

3:ERB:jfw
5750
Ser: 003A35068
15 Dec 1968

_____ -Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1)

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, First Marine Aircraft Wing (Attn: G-3)
Subj: Command Chronology for period 1-30 November 1968; submission of
Ref: (a) WgO 5750.1C (U)
Encl: ✓(1) MAG-16 Command Chronology (S) with Appendices

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.

2. MAG-16 is located at Marble Mountain Air Facility, Quang Nam Province,
Republic Of Vietnam.

W. F. MacLean

W. L. MAC QUARRIE

DISTRIBUTION:

1stMAW (5)
MAG-16 Files(1)
MAG-16 S-3 (1)

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5750
Ser: 003A35068
15 Dec 1968

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
Marine Aircraft Group 16
Marble Mountain Air Facility
Republic of Vietnam
Period covered: 1 thru 30 November 1968

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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5750
Ser: 003A35068
15 Dec 1968

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PART IOrganizational Data1. Command Composition

<u>BILLET</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>PERIOD</u>
CO, MAG-16	W. L. MAC QUARRIE	Colonel	1-30 November 1968
XO, MAG-16	G. C. DOSTER, Jr.	LtCol	1-30 November 1968
Adjutant	R. G. WORK	CWO-3	1-30 November 1968
S-1 Officer	R. M. BALCH	Major	1-30 November 1968
S-2 Officer	J. R. CIVELLI	Major	1-30 November 1968
S-3 Officer	E. R. BRADY	LtCol	1-30 November 1968
S-4 Officer	J. W. CONARD	LtCol	1-4 November 1968
S-4 Officer	J. R. DONALDSON	LtCol	5-30 November 1968
CO, H&MS-16	C. W. GOBAT	LtCol	1-30 November 1968
CO, MABS-16	L. W. PARISH	LtCol	1-10 November 1968
CO, MABS-16	Wm. CUNNINGHAM	LtCol	11-30 November 1968
CO, VMO-2	S. J. FULTON	LtCol	1-4 November 1968
CO, VMO-2	T. J. DUMONT	LtCol	5-30 November 1968
CO, HMM-164	W. E. SMILANICH	LtCol	1-17 November 1968
CO, HMM-164	R. T. TRUNDY	LtCol	18-30 November 1968
CO, HML-167	T. F. MILLER	LtCol	1-30 November 1968
CO, HMM-362	J. E. SCHLARP	LtCol	1-30 November 1968
CO, HMM-463	R. W. PEARD	LtCol	1-30 November 1968

2. Task Organization

H&MS-16 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 MABS-16 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 VMO-2 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 HMM-164 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 HML-167 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 HMM-362 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 HMM-463 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN

3. Average Monthly Strength

<u>Squadron</u>	USMC		USN	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
H&MS-16	53	470	Ø	Ø
MABS-16	24	671	3	26

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SECRET

5750
Ser: 003A35068
15 Dec 1968

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<u>SQUADRON</u>	USMC		USN	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
VMO-2	43	229	1	Ø
HMM-164	47	187	1	Ø
HML-167	33	142	Ø	Ø
HMM-362	51	209	1	Ø
HMH-463	49	182	Ø	Ø

4. Important Visitors to the Command

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Purpose of Visit</u>
2 November 1968	Lieutenant General H. NICKERSON (Director of Manpower)	Presented Briefing on Marine Corps Personnel Status/Policies
9 November 1968	Major General C. J. QUILTER (Commanding General, First Marine Aircraft Wing)	Guest of Honor for Marine Corps Birthday Ceremonies

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ENCLOSURE (1)

DECLASSIFIED5750
Ser: 003A35068
15 Dec 1968**PART II****Narrative Summary for November 1968**

MAG-16 continued to fly mainly in support of the First Marine Division. Logistic flights were provided for the ROKMC, ARVN, Army Special Forces, the Third Marine Division and Navy units. Administrative flights were flown in support of the III MAF Headquarters. Statistically MAG-16 aircraft flew 18,508 sorties in 6735.6 hours carrying 31,222 passengers/troops and 3317.8 tons of cargo.

The most significant event was Operation MEADE RIVER, the largest combat helicopter airborne assault in the history of the Marine Corps. MAG-16 planned, coordinated and executed the air operations phase of the assault. Aircraft and aircrews were provided by MAG-16, MAG-36, MAG-39 and the SLF. Of note, was the first employment of the CH-53A aircraft in a combat assault role. Paragraph 9d. of Part III of MAG-16 Command Chronology and Appendix 14 to MAG-16 Command Chronology contain details of the operation.

The following occurrences are listed by date:

7 Nov 1968 - An engine failure on a UH-1E aircraft necessitated an autorotation into Happy Valley. The crew escaped injury and a tactical aircraft recovery was successfully accomplished under hostile fire. (Ref: HML-167 and HMH-463 Command Chronologies)

17 Nov 1968 - On a night medevac mission, a UH-34D aircraft received heavy automatic weapons fire from three positions while entering the landing zone sustaining numerous hits and fatally wounding the crew chief. The aircraft was on fire and crash landed. The pilots and corpsman escaped from the burning aircraft which was destroyed. (Ref: HMM-362 Command Chronology)

20 Nov 1968 - At 0045H, Marble Mountain Air Facility was the target of a mortar attack. Nine MAG-16 personnel suffered minor wounds, ten aircraft sustained minor damage, and two hangars and two huts received minor damage by the 14 round mortar attack. (Ref: MAG-16 S-4 Command Chronology) Operation MEADE RIVER commenced. L-Hour was executed at 0800H.

22 Nov 1968 - Two UH-1E's received enemy fire at coordinates AT 983598 seriously wounding the co-pilot of the lead aircraft. The aircraft lost power and was substantially damaged as a result of an emergency landing.

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5750
Ser: 003A35068
15 Dec 1968

No further injuries were incurred. The second aircraft picked up the crew of the downed aircraft and returned to Marble Mountain Air Facility.
(Ref: HML-167 Command Chronology)

25 Nov 1968 - At 0115H, Marble Mountain Air Facility was under a rocket attack. Eight 122mm rockets fell within the MMAF perimeter. The rockets inflicted major damage to one OV-10A aircraft, minor damage to two additional OV-10A aircraft, two CH-53A and two UH-1E aircraft.
(Ref: MAG-16 COC Watch Officer Log)

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DECLASSIFIED5750
Ser: 003A35068
15 Dec 1968PART IIISignificant Events1. Personnel Changes

- a. Number Joined 187
- b. Number Dropped 264
- c. Promotions
 - (1) Major to LtCol 1
 - (2) Captain to Major 3
 - (3) 1stLt to Captain 7
 - (4) 2ndLt to 1stLt 1
 - (5) Cpl to Sgt 1
 - (6) LCpl to Cpl 9
 - (7) PFC to LCpl 6
 - (8) Pvt to PFC 2

2. Awards

a. Navy Commendation Medal

Lieutenant Colonel R. W. PEARD HMH-463
Corporal M. D. FERRIN HMM-164

b. Purple Heart Medal

First Lieutenant M. M. BOSWELL, Jr.	VMO-2
Corporal L. E. BLACK	HMM-164
Corporal S. E. LOSASSO	HMM-164
Lance Corporal O. O. HORVE	H&MS-16
Lance Corporal F. H. PFEIFFER III	HMH-463
HM-1 D. W. WHITMER	MABS-16 (Medical)

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ENCLOSURE (1)

SECRET

5750

Ser: 003A35068
15 Dec 1968

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c. Air Medals

HMH-463	114
HML-167	25
H&MS-16	2
MABS-16	1

3. Casualties (Hostile)

GySgt	R. L. WOOD	1 November 1968	14 Miles SW Danang, RVN
HM-2	C. M. PEPPER	2 November 1968	Hill 55, Quang Nam Province, RVN
Cpl	D. G. OKADA	5 November 1968	11½ Miles NW Danang, RVN
Cpl	E. L. DOUGLAS	7 November 1968	11 Miles N Danang, RVN
SSgt	J. P. HENDERSON, Jr.	7 November 1968	12 Miles SW Danang, RVN
GySgt	W. H. COX	13 November 1968	10 Miles SE Danang, RVN
1stLt	A. C. NITCHMAN	17 November 1968	8½ Miles SW Danang, RVN
*LCpl	P. R. ANDERSON	17 November 1968	8½ Miles SW Danang, RVN
1stLt	B. F. WEAVER	20 November 1968	MMAF, Quang Nam Province, RVN
GySgt	W. R. AVERY	20 November 1968	MMAF, Quang Nam Province, RVN
Sgt	J. J. DALTON	20 November 1968	MMAF, Quang Nam Province, RVN
Cpl	D. L. FRONMONGER	20 November 1968	MMAF, Quang Nam Province, RVN
Cpl	S. E. LOSASSO	20 November 1968	MMAF, Quang Nam Province, RVN
Cpl	G. C. YOUNG	20 November 1968	MMAF, Quang Nam Province, RVN
Cpl	H. W. WHITE	20 November 1968	MMAF, Quang Nam Province, RVN
LCpl	R. L. STOOPS	20 November 1968	MMAF, Quang Nam Province, RVN
PFC	C. T. JORDON	20 November 1968	MMAF, Quang Nam Province, RVN
Cpl	M. D. FERRIN	21 November 1968	Hill 55, Quang Nam Province, RVN
1stLt	L. T. PIERCE, Jr.	22 November 1968	8½ Miles S Danang, RVN
Sgt	J. T. KOLTER	23 November 1968	9 Miles S Danang, RVN
SSgt	B. T. KOLBE	25 November 1968	18 Miles S Danang, RVN
Cpl	R. A. HAIN	25 November 1968	18 Miles S Danang, RVN
1stLt	R. M. WILLIAMS	29 November 1968	9 Miles SW Danang, RVN

4. Morale/Welfare. (Chaplains Command Chronology). During the month of November 1968, MAG-16 Chaplains provided Sunday and daily religious services at Marble Mountain Air Facility in addition to weekly services at An Hoa Airfield. The Group Catholic Chaplain also conducted masses at the chapels of the 5th Comm Bn. and MCB-128. The Chaplains ministry and allied activities are reflected in the following figures:

<u>Divine Services</u>	<u>Sunday/Att</u>	<u>Weekday/Att</u>	<u>Total Services/Att</u>			
Protestant	8	352	25	90	33	442
Catholic	13	471	28	296	41	767
L.D.S.	4	31	5	21	9	52
TOTALS	25	854	58	407	83	1261

* Indicates KIA

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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DECLASSIFIED5750
Ser: 003A35068
15 Dec 1968

<u>Memorial Services</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
	1	107

a. Schedule of Weekly Religious Services:

Sunday	Catholic Confession	0730
	Catholic Mass	0800
	Protestant Sunday School	0900
	Protestant Divine Services	1000
	Latter Day Saints Services	1330
	Catholic Confession	1730
	Catholic Mass	1800
	Protestant Evening Services	1900

Monday-Wednesday & Friday-Saturday

	Catholic Confession	1730
	Catholic Mass	1800
Thursday	Catholic Confession	1200
	Catholic Mass	1230

Monday thru Saturday

	Protestant Devotion Services	1800
Tuesday and Thursday		
	Bible Discussion	1800
Thursday	Latter Day Saints Services	1930
Saturday	Protestant Choir Practice	1830

5. Civic Action. (MAG-16 Civic Action Command Chronology)

a. Medical/Dental. During the month of November 1968, doctors and corpsmen from MAG-16 assisted at the Stella Maris Dispensary/Orphanage, Catholic Orphanage and the Hoa Long Village Dispensary. In their continuing effort to win the trust and confidence of the local populace, the medical department treated 1994 patients and gave checkups to MAG-16 Vietnamese employees. One hundred and twenty-eight villagers were given dental care during the month of November.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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~~DECLASSIFIED~~5750
Ser: 003A35068
15 Dec 1968

b. Education. The Civic Action Officer presented 16 "General WALT" Scholarships to students at the Hoa Long Primary School. Seven children whose parents work aboard Marble Mountain Air Facility also received funds.

c. Projects. A Vietnamese girl trained as a nurse in the MMAF Dispensary now assists the doctors and corpsmen of MAG-16's MEDCAP Team in treating the local Vietnamese. Eleven Vietnamese farmers were taken to the CORDS Experimental Vegetable Farm near Camp Thien Sha, where they were instructed in the growing of various vegetables on their native land. The farmers were so impressed that each one requested an immediate issue of seeds. Also during the month, repairs were completed on the Hoa Long Primary school which was damaged during October 1968. Due to the classes being overcrowded, plans are in progress to construct a new wing for the school.

d. Material and Financial Assistance. A check for \$450.00 was donated by HMH-463 to MAG-16 Civic Action to be used in various projects. The check was donated through the Captain DEETZ Memorial Fund. Other donations included ten pounds of clothing and one large crate of laundry soap to MAG-16 Vietnamese employees. Various building materials consisting of 800 sandbags, 12 bags of cement, 10 sheets of roofing tin and one box of nails were donated to surrounding villages. The Combined Action Platoon (CAP) received ammunition, cement and medical supplies.

6. Intelligence/Counterintelligence. (MAG-16 S-2 Command Chronology)

During the month, 156 fire incidents were reported by pilots returning from combat operations, a significant decrease when compared to the 295 fire incidents reported during October. Forty-two of the 156 fire incidents reported resulted in aircraft being hit, a decrease of 28 aircraft struck in October. Enemy small arms, 30 caliber, and 50 caliber ground fire were credited with killing one USMC crewman, wounding ten USMC crewmen, three USN crewmen and seven passengers in aircraft of MAG-16.

Statistical Data:

- a. Flight hours per fire incident: 43.0 up 17.7 from October
- b. Flight hours per aircraft hit: 159.6 up 53.1 from October
- c. Flight hours per aircrew spot report: 68.4 down 25.9 from October

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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DECLASSIFIED5750
Ser: 003A35068
15 Dec 1968

Ordnance fire by MAG-16 aircraft resulted in twenty-three KBMA and one WBMA.

7. Air Operations. (MAG-16 Squadron Command Chronology)

<u>HMM-164</u>	<u>CH-46A/D</u>	<u>HML-167</u>	<u>UH-1E</u>	
Hours	1323.3	Hours	1444.7	
Sorties	5364	Sorties	4622	
Pax	18,394	Pax	3,227	
Evacs	483	Evacs	4	
Cargo (Tons)	394.7 T	Cargo (Tons)	--	
<u>HMM-362</u>	<u>UH-34D</u>	<u>VMO-2</u>	<u>UH-1E</u>	<u>OV-10A</u>
Hours	1174.3	Hours	922.1	925.2
Sorties	3630	Sorties	1813	429
Pax	1547	Pax	-17	--
Evacs	1043	Evacs	--	--
Cargo (Tons)	22.2 T	Cargo (Tons)	--	--
<u>H&MS-16</u>	<u>C-117D</u>	<u>UH-34D</u>	<u>CH-53A</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Hours	125.3	46.4	25.2	196.9
Sorties	51	51	13	115
Pax	950	7	--	957
Evacs	--	--	--	--
Cargo (Tons)	14.0 T	.1 T	1.9 T	16.0 T
<u>HMH-463</u>	<u>CH-53A</u>	<u>TAR</u>	<u>MAG-16</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Hours	749.1	11 UH-34 (4F,7A)	Hours	6735.6
Sorties	2535	13 UH-1E (4F,9A)	Sorties	18,508
Pax	7080	5 CH-46 (2F,3A)	Pax	31,222
Evacs	--	1 O-1C (Field)	Evacs	1530
Cargo (Tons)	2884.9 T	1 O-2 (Admin)	Cargo (Tons)	3317.8 T

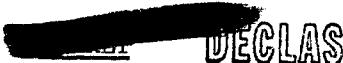
8. Air Control. (MABS-16 Command Chronology)

a. During the month, the following operations at Marble Mountain Air Facility were conducted:

Fixed Wing Operations	4,367
Helicopter Operations	23,413
IFR Operations	52
GCA Operations	433
Special VFR Operations	280

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ENCLOSURE (1)


DECLASSIFIED

5750
Ser: 003A35068
15 Dec 1968

9. Special Operations

a. Operation VICTORY DRAGON V was supported throughout the month by MAG-16 aircrues and aircraft. A total of 750.7 tons of cargo and 5143 passengers/troops were lifted, requiring 551.5 hours and 2406 sorties.

b. Operation HENDERSON HILL was supported by aircrues and aircraft of MAG-16 on 4 November, and 12 thru 30 November 1968. Aircraft flew 1063 sorties, carried 988 passengers/troops and 53.4 tons of cargo, and logged 323.7 flight hours.

c. MAG-16 aircraft and crews flew 96 sorties in 10,4 hours, while carrying 203 passengers/troops and 7.8 tons of cargo on 14 November in support of Operating DARING ENDEAVOR.

d. Operation MEADE RIVER which commenced on 20 November 1968 began the largest combat helicopter assault in the history of the Marine Corps employing forty-six CH-46s, fourteen UH-1Es, seven CH-53s, six UH-34s and three OV-10As; a total of seventy-six aircraft. In order to establish an effective cordon on the west and south side of the operational area shown in Appendix 14, 710 Marines were landed simultaneously along sectors A, B, C, and D. In all 2,700 men were helo-lifted into the objective area within 2 hours and 20 minutes after L-Hour despite an initial delay caused by fog and low stratus clouds and enemy fire encountered in B, C, and D sectors. MAG-16 was tasked with planning and coordination of the assault lifts. The classic execution can be attributed to the detailed planning, accurate and timely airborne decisions of Lieutenant Colonel W. E. SMILANICH, the Helicopter Coordinator Airborne (HC(A)). Participating squadrons were HMM-462, HMM-364, HMM-265, HML-367, HMM-161 and HMM-165 in addition to MAG-16 squadrons HMM-164, HMM-362, HMH-463, HML-167 and VMO-2. A detailed discussion of the operation is contained in Appendix 14. Operation MEADE RIVER was given full support by MAG-16 aircraft and crews during November. A total of 1,906 sorties were flown in 549.6 hours carrying 2,030 passengers/troops and 67.9 tons of cargo.

10. Ground Defense. (MABS-16 Command Chronology)

MAG-16 Ground Defense personnel continue to improve defense positions and bunkers. Mobile Ground Defense Reserve platoons were mustered and trained throughout the month to maintain MAG-16's Quick-Reaction defense capability.


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ENCLOSURE (1)

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5750
Ser: 003A35068
15 Dec 196811. Logistics. (MAG-16 S-4 Command Chronology)

- a. Base construction continued in spite of eight days of heavy rains and two enemy rocket/mortar attacks. Two of the four newly programmed squadron operations buildings are 90% complete and the training and crash crew buildings have been completed. The crosswind runway is complete except for taxiways.
- b. Minor New Construction (Public Works) and self-help efforts repaired a washed out road and began installation of runway strobe lighting. Twenty-two enlisted quarters were also repaired.
- c. A self-help program was initiated to prepare for the influx of two additional squadrons at Marble Mountain. Barrel revetments were relocated on the west side of the field to accommodate the larger CH-46 aircraft, replacing the smaller H-34 aircraft in that area. Revamping of the south-east area of the airstrip was started to make provisions for additional aircraft parking space. Quarters, office and hangar space reassessments were initiated to accommodate the increase in base loading.
- d. Logistics work was interrupted briefly on 20 November and again on 25 November due to necessary repair work on facilities damaged by rocket rounds. Public Works repair crews repaired fourteen holes on the aircraft parking aprons. Nine of these holes were located on the east ramp and four on the west ramp. Other crews repaired shrapnel damage to the HMM-164 and H&MS-16 hangars. Self-help crews repaired minor damage to two S.E.A. huts. On 25 November three holes were repaired on the VMO-2 parking apron.
- e. Marble Mountain Air Facility Air Freight section processed 1,230 passengers and 169.9 tons of cargo. 1,189,369 gallons of aviation fuel were dispensed by MAG-16 TAFDS personnel.

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ENCLOSURE (1)

PART IVSupporting DocumentsContents

- ✓ Command Chronology of H&MS-16 - Appendix 1
- ✓ Command Chronology of MABS-16 - Appendix 2
- ✓ Command Chronology of VMO-2 - Appendix 3
- ✓ Command Chronology of HMM-164 - Appendix 4
- ✓ Command Chronology of HML-167 - Appendix 5
- ✓ Command Chronology of HMM-362 - Appendix 6
- ✓ Command Chronology of HMH-463 - Appendix 7
- ✓ Command Chronology of MAG-16 S-1-Appendix 8
- ✓ Command Chronology of MAG-16 S-2-Appendix 9
- ✓ Command Chronology of MAG-16 S-4-Appendix 10
- ✓ Command Chronology of MAG-16 Chaplain-Appendix 11
- ✓ Command Chronology of MAG-16 Comm 0 - Appendix 12
- ✓ Command Chronology of MAG-16 Civic Action-Appendix 13
- ✓ Operation Meade River: debrief of - Appendix 14

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MAG-16 S&C Log NO.

- 01064-68
- CO, MABS-16 ltr
- WC:trc over 5750
- dtd 7 Dec 1968
- 01756-68
- 001055-68
- 01053-68
- 001044-68
- 01065-68
- S-1 0 ltr 1:RJM:wos over 5213 dtd 6 Dec 1968
- 01051-68
- S-4 0 ltr 4:JRG:mvn over 4000 dtd 11 Dec 1968
- Grp Chaplain ltr 19:kjd over 5750
- dtd 2 Dec 1968
- Comm 0 ltr 10:JMD:ebf
- dtd 3 Dec 1968
- CAO 1tr BBN:cdw dtd 4 Dec 1968
- LtCol W.E. SMILANICH 1tr 3:WES:aba dtd 23 Nov 1968

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HEADQUARTERS
 Marine Aircraft Group 16
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
 FPO, San Francisco 96602

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 5213
 6 Dec 1968

GROUP S-1 COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

Part 1 Organization Data

MAG-16, Marble Mountain Air Facility, Republic of Vietnam

Period Covered 1-30 November 1968

TASK ORGANIZATION

H&MS-16 Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 MABS-16 Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 VMO-2 Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 HML-167 Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 HMM-362 Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 HMM-164 Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 HMM-463 Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN

COMMAND AND NAME COMPOSITION

BILLER	MAG	RANK	PERIOD
CO, MAG-16	MAG QUARRIE, W. L.	Capt	1-30 Nov 68
XO, MAG-16	DOCHER, G. C., Jr.	LtCol	1-30 Nov 68
Adjutant	WORK, R. G.	CVO-3	1-30 Nov 68
S-1	BALCH, L. M.	Maj	1-30 Nov 68
S-2	CIVILLE, J. R.	Maj	1-30 Nov 68
S-3	BRADY, E. R.	LtCol	1-30 Nov 68
S-4	CONRAD, J. W.	LtCol	1-4 Nov 68
CO, H&MS-16	DONALDSON, J. R.	LtCol	5-30 Nov 68
CO, MABS-16	GORAT, C. W.	LtCol	1-30 Nov 68
CO, VMO-2	PARISH, L. W.	LtCol	1-10 Nov 68
CO, HML-167	CUNNINGHAM, W.	LtCol	11-30 Nov 68
CO, HMM-362	FULTON, S. J.	LtCol	1-30 Nov 68
CO, HMM-463	MILLER, T. F.	LtCol	1-30 Nov 68
CO, HMM-463	SMILANICH, W. E.	LtCol	1-17 Nov 68
CO, HMM-362	TRUNDY, R. T.	Maj LTCOL	18-30 Nov 68
CO, HMM-463	SCHLARP, J. E.	LtCol	1-30 Nov 68
CO, HMM-463	PEARD, R. W.	LtCol	1-30 Nov 68

AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

SQUADRON	USMC		USN	
	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
H&MS-16	53	470	0	0
MABS-16	24	671	3	26
VMO-2	43	291	1	0
HML-167	51	209	1	0
HMM-164	47	191	1	0
HMM-362	33	139	0	0
HMM-463	49	201	0	0

APPENDIX 8

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1:RJM:wos
5213

Following Personnel Changes 1-30 November 1968:

A. Number of Joinings: 187

B. Number of Drops: 264

C. Promotions:

Maj to LtCol:	1
Capt to Maj:	3
1stLt to Capt:	7
2ndLt to 1stLt:	1
Cpl to Sgt:	1
LCpl to Cpl:	9
PFC to LCpl:	6
Pvt to PFC:	2

CASUALTIES

RANK	NAME	SERNO/MOS	UNIT	POSITION
GySgt	WOOD, R. L.	1107014/6351	HML-167	Crew Chief

HOSTILE: 1 November 1968. 14 Miles southwest of Danang, Quang Nam Province, RVN. Flying as crew chief on UH-1E on resupply mission when aircraft was hit by shrapnel wounding crew chief in lower cheek $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from lip.

HM2	PEPPER, C. M.	B818998/2101	MABS-16	Corpsman
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HOSTILE: 4 November 1968. Hill 55, Quang Nam Province, RVN. While on emergency medevac mission received missile wound on right hand.

Cpl	OKADA, D. G.	2214507/6320	HMM-164	Crew Chief
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HOSTILE: 5 November 1968. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles northwest of Danang, Quang Nam Province, RVN. Flying on CH-46 on medevac mission. Aircraft took small arms automatic weapons fire resulting in crew chief being wounded by shrapnel in chest.

Cpl	DOUGLAS, E. L.	2163306/6320	HMM-164	Crew Chief
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HOSTILE: 7 November 1968. 11 miles north of Danang, Quang Nam Province, RVN. Flying on CH-46 on emergency medevac mission. Aircraft received small arms fire while leaving landing zone resulting in crew chief receiving shrapnel wound on right cheek.

SSgt	HENDERSON, J. P., Jr.	1558137/6332	HML-167	Gunner
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HOSTILE: 7 November 1968. 13 miles southwest of Danang, Quang Nam Province, RVN. Flying on UH-1E while retrieving another UH-1E which had been downed. Received small arms fire resulting in gunner being wounded by shrapnel from shattered cockpit.

1:RJM:wos
5213

GySgt COX, W. H. 1352470/6511 VMO-2 Gunner

HOSTILE: 13 November 1968. 10 miles southeast of Danang, Quang Nam Province, RVN. While flying on UH-1E on gun run, M-60 blew up resulting in shrapnel wounds upper neck and lower face.

1stLt NITCHMAN, A. C. 094054/7561 HMM-362 Pilot

HOSTILE: 17 November 1968. 8½ miles southwest of Danang, Quang Nam Province, RVN. Flying UH-34 on emergency night medevac when aircraft received heavy automatic weapons fire from three positions. Aircraft flamed and was forced down 1000 meters away. Pilot received slight burn on left knee.

LCpl ANDERSON, P. R. 2334134/6332/6311 HMM-362 Crew Chief

HOSTILE: 17 November 1968. 8½ miles southwest of Danang, Quang Nam Province, RVN. Flying UH-34 on emergency night medevac when aircraft received heavy automatic weapons fire from three positions. Aircraft flamed and was forced down 1000 meters away. LCpl ANDERSON had been hit and body could not be removed from aircraft due to intense fire. Cause of death third degree burns entire body.

1stLt	WEAVER, B. F.	098173/6302	HMM-164	N/A
GySgt	AVERY, W. R.	1394522/6320/6332	HMM-164	N/A
Sgt	DALTON, J. J.	1556472/6212/0351	HMM-164	N/A
Cpl	FRONMONGER, D. L.	2210001/6351	HMM-164	N/A
Cpl	LOSASSO, S. E.	2250270/6331	HMM-164	N/A
Cpl	YOUNG, G. C.	2163030/6320	HMM-164	N/A
Cpl	WHITE, H. W.	2210714/6320	HMM-164	N/A
LCpl	STOOPS, R. L.	2248037/6320	HMM-164	N/A
PFC	JORDAN, C. T.	2447749/3531	MABS-16	N/A

HOSTILE: 20 November 1968. Marble Mountain Air Facility, Quang Nam Province, RVN. Working on flight line when enemy mortar attack started. All received shrapnel wounds.

Cpl FERRIN, M.D. 2191077/6320 HMM-164 Crew Chief

HOSTILE: 21 November 1968. Hill 55, Quang Nam Province, RVN. While flying on CH-46 on resupply mission, fell out of cargo hold while approaching landing zone.

1stLt PIERCE, L. T., Jr. 094333/7563 HMM-167 Co-pilot

HOSTILE: 22 November 1968. 3½ miles south of Danang, Quang Nam Province, RVN. Flying UH-1E on gun run when aircraft was hit by enemy small arms fire resulting in co-pilot being wounded by bullets penetrating left leg upper and lower.

Sgt KOLTER, J. T. 2199772/6242 HMM-362 Gunner

HOSTILE: 23 November 1968. 9 miles south southwest of Danang, Quang Nam Province, RVN. While flying on UH-34 on medevac mission, received shrapnel from explosive device while in the landing zone resulting in wound in left upper arm.

1:RJM:wos
5213

SSgt KOLBE, B. T. 1921879/3071 HMM-164 Gunner

HOSTILE: 25 November 1968. 18 miles south of Danang, Quang Nam Province, RVN. Flying on CH-46 on troop lift. Took intense small arms fire resulting in shrapnel wound right side of face.

Cpl HIAN, R. A. 2203555/6320 HMM-164 Crew Chief

HOSTILE: 25 November 1968. 18 miles south of Danang, Quang Nam Province, RVN. Flying on CH-46 on troop lift. Took intense small arms fire resulting in shrapnel wound left shoulder.

1stLt WILLIAMS, R. M. 0100778/7564 HMM-463 Co-pilot

HOSTILE: 29 November 1968. 9 miles southwest of Danang, Quang Nam Province, RVN. Flying on UH-1E on medevac mission when aircraft received intense small arms fire resulting in shrapnel wounds, upper and lower extremities left side.

R. M. Balch
R. M. BALCH
By direction.

INTELLIGENCE SECTION
 Marine Aircraft Group 16
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
 FPO San Francisco, 96602

CONFIDENTIAL

2:JRC:dpn
 05750
 02A34068
 5Dec68

CONFIDENTIAL**MEMORANDUM**

From: S-2 Officer
 To: S-3 Officer

Subj: Intelligence Input for Command Chronology (U)

Ref: (a) Group Order 5750.1C, paragraph 6c

1. In compliance with reference (a), the intelligence input for the MAG-16 Command Chronology for November 1968 is submitted herein.

2. Ground Activity. During the month of November the enemy conducted the following attacks against Marble Mountain Air Facility.

20 November - 17 Rounds of 82mm Mortars
 25 November - 7 Rounds of 122mm Rockets

3. Antiaircraft Fire Incidents.

a. 156 fire incidents were reported during the period, down 139 from the previous month; 42 of which resulted in aircraft hits, down 28 from the previous month.

b. Enemy AA fire caused 1 USMC KIA
 10 USMC WIA
 3 USN WIA
 7 PASSENGERS WIA

4. Intelligence Information.

a. 98 aircrack spot reports of intelligence value were received from aircrack and other sources; this is an increase of 19 from the previous month.

b. No reports of intelligence value were received from indigenous sources.

CONFIDENTIAL**CONFIDENTIAL**

MAG-16	
SAC #	01051-68
COPY # 116	

APPENDIX 9

CONFIDENTIAL

2:JRC:dpn

05750

02A34068

CONFIDENTIAL

Subj: Intelligence Input for Command Chronology (U)

5. Statistical Data.

a. Flight Hours per Fire Incident: 43.0; up 17.7 from the previous month.

b. Flight Hours per aircraft hit: 159.6; up 53.1 from the previous month.

c. Flight Hours per aircrew Spot Report: 68.4; down 25.9 from the previous month.

6. Enemy Casualties and Damage Inflicted. MAG-16 inflicted 23 KBMA and 1 WBMA (Conf), 12 structures destroyed, 10 structures damaged, 2 secondary explosions, 1 secondary fire, 1 AA site damaged, 2 foot bridges destroyed and 3 boats destroyed.


J. R. CIVELLI**CONFIDENTIAL****CONFIDENTIAL**

HEADQUARTERS
 Marine Aircraft Group 16
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
 FPO, San Francisco 96602

4:JRG:mvn
 4000

DEC 11 1968

From: Group S-4 Officer
 To: Group S-3 Officer

Subj: Command Chronology; submission of

Ref: (a) GruO 5750.1A

1. In accordance with reference (a), significant events within the Logistics field for the period 1 through 30 November 1968 are as follows:

a. All base construction continued in spite of eight (8) days of heavy rains and mandatory repair interruptions induced by two(2) enemy mortar/rocket attacks. End of the month MILCON status (civilian contractors) showed two of the four squadron operations buildings 90% complete and both the training and fire/crash crew buildings 100% complete awaiting Public Works acceptance inspections. It further revealed the crosswind runway complete except for painting and taxiways. The taxiways are under separate contract due to resiting.

b. Minor New Construction (Public Works) and self-help (MAG-16) end of the month status showed the joint Marine/Army ammunition storage area 70% complete and the relocation of water towers for improved efficiency 60% complete. The washed out road to the enlisted club has been repaired and a new culvert and sidewalk has been installed leading to the enlisted showers. A combined self-help/Seabee project to install runway strobe lights was started and the use of Public Works indigenous personnel resulted in twenty-two (22) enlisted quarters receiving minor but much needed repairs.

c. A crash self-help program was initiated to prepare for the influx of new squadrons anticipated in December. Barrel revetments were relocated to provide additional and larger aircraft parking spaces, bunkers were resited and revamping of the southeast end of the airstrip was started for further aircraft parking space. All billeting, office and hangar areas were reviewed and consolidated to accommodate this inflow.

d. Logistics work was interrupted briefly on 20 November and again on 25 November due to mandatory repair work resulting

APPENDIX 10

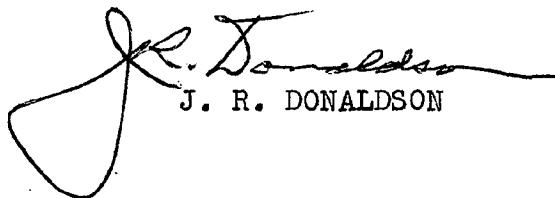
DECLASSIFIED

from enemy mortar/rocket attacks. Public Works repair crews were called in on the 20th to repair fourteen (14) holes in the aircraft parking aprons. Nine (9) of these holes were on the east ramp and four (4) on the west ramp. Other crews repaired shrapnel damage to the HMM-164 and H&MS-16 hangars. Self-help crews repaired minor damage to two (2) S.E.A. huts in this area. On 25 November, three (3) holes were repaired in the VM0-2 parking apron.

e. On the 23rd of November, all MAG-16 M-14 rifles were exchanged for M16A1 rifles and a new 5.56 ammunition procurement procedure was established with the FLC ammo supply point.

f. During the month of November the Marble Mountain Air Facility Air Freight section processed 1230 passengers and 12,483 cubic feet of cargo weighing 331,771 pounds. During the same period the Tactical Air Fuel Dispensing System personnel dispensed 113,140 gallons of 115/145 AVGAS and 1,076,229 gallons of JP-4 fuel. Marble Mountain Air Facility utilized 109,013 gallons of this AVGAS and An Hoa airstrip utilized the remaining 4127 gallons. The JP-4 utilization was divided between Marble Mountain Air Facility - 808,386 gallons, An Hoa - 180,040 gallons and Hill 55 - 87,803 gallons.

g. The motor transport section traveled 85,291 miles transporting 31,355 passengers, 986 short tons of cargo, 363,300 gallons of water, 21,154 gallons of MOGAS, 20,341 gallons of diesel, 770 gallons of AV fuel, 3,786 gallons of 115/145 AVGAS and 116,152 gallons of JP-4 fuel.



J. R. DONALDSON

OFFICE OF THE CHAPLAIN
 Marine Aircraft Group 16
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
 FPO San Francisco, 96602

19:kjd
 5750
 2 Dec. 1968

From: Group Chaplain
 To: Commanding Officer (Attn: S-3)
 Subj: Monthly Chronology Report for the month of November 1968; submission of
 Ref: (a) Wing Order 5750.16
 (b) Group Order 5750.1C

1. In accordance with reference (a) and (b), the following report of the Group Chaplain's activities for the month of November is hereby submitted.

2. Religious Activities

A. Protestant

Sunday services -	- - - - -	- - - - -	8
Attendance -	- - - - -	- - - - -	352
Offerings -	- - - - -	- - - - -	\$310.40
Evening Devotions -	- - - - -	- - - - -	25
Attendance -	- - - - -	- - - - -	90
Bible Class -	- - - - -	- - - - -	4
Attendance -	- - - - -	- - - - -	11
Choir Practice -	- - - - -	- - - - -	4
Attendance -	- - - - -	- - - - -	15
Communion services -	- - - - -	- - - - -	2
Communicants -	- - - - -	- - - - -	76
Attended Protestant Monthly Rally -	- - - - -	- - - - -	2

B. Catholic

Sunday Masses -	- - - - -	- - - - -	13
Attendance -	- - - - -	- - - - -	471
Offerings -	- - - - -	- - - - -	\$284.15
Weekly Masses -	- - - - -	- - - - -	28
Attendance -	- - - - -	- - - - -	296

C. Latter-Day Saints

Sunday services -	- - - - -	- - - - -	4
Attendance -	- - - - -	- - - - -	31
Weekly services -	- - - - -	- - - - -	3
Attendance -	- - - - -	- - - - -	21

Group Chaplain, Nov. 1968

Nov. 1968

5750
2 Dec. 1968

3. Command Activities

Check in - - - - -	201
Check out - - - - -	245
Letters to NOK - - - - -	130
Counseling cases - - - - -	143
Red Cross Messages - - - - -	49
Memorial Services (Requiem Mass) - - - - -	1
Attendance - - - - -	107

4. Civic Action

350 lbs. of surveyed P.X. goods to St. John's Seminary

5. Chaplain's Activities

Attended Day of Recollection at St. John's Seminary on

Convened the Group Narcotics Board for inventory on 2 November.

Attended Group Relations Board meeting 6 & 13 November.

Conducted combined Catholic & Protestant Thanksgiving service on
28 Nov, Attn: 50.

Showed film: "The Bobby Richardson Story", on 26 November, Attn: 51

Conducted Masses at 5th Communications Battalion 3, 10, 17, 24, November.

Gave Moral Guidance Lectures for HMM-362: on the 14 of November, Attn: 30.
on the 15 of November, Attn: 41.


JOSEPH N. SESTITO

COMMUNICATIONS
Marine Aircraft Group 16
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
FPO, San Francisco 96602

10:JMD:ebf
3 Dec 1968

From: Communications Officer
To: S-3 Officer

Subj: Comments for the Command Chronology, November 1968

1. Attached are the comments from Communications for inclusion in the Command Chronology.


J. M. DOYLE

31-Dec-10 version
2020

APPENDIX 12

COMMUNICATIONS: Personnel gains kept pace with personnel losses during this period. A shortage continues to exist in Communication Center (MOS 2542) and Wire (MOS 2511) personnel; however, by cross-training personnel from the Radio Section the Communication Center and Wire Section continue to operate efficiently.

A total of 6,306 messages were processed by the MAG-16 Communication Center, a decrease of 2,042 from the previous month. 41 hours of circuit outage time was experienced during the month due to faulty equipment.

The following transactions were effected by the Repair Section:

1. 164 items of equipment processed.
2. 151 items of equipment returned to sections.
3. 8 pieces of equipment evacuated to higher echelon of maintenance.
4. 6 pieces of equipment returned from higher echelon of maintenance.
5. 36 requisitions processed by supply.

The wire section continues to repair, replace and maintain the extensive wire system supporting MAG-16.

HEADQUARTERS
 Marine Aircraft Group 16
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPAC
 FPO, San Francisco, 96602

BBN:cdw
 4 Dec 1968

From: Civic Action Officer
 To: Commanding Officer

Subj: Command Chronology for the month of November, 1968

Ref: (a) Group Order 5750.1C

1. In accordance with reference (a), the following statistics represent civic action accomplishments by MAG-16 during the period 010001H November to 302400H November 1968.

A. Medical/Dental Treatment

(1) The doctors and corpsmen of MAG-16 assisted the following dispensaries and orphanages during this reporting period:

- (a) Catholic Orphanage
- (b) Hoa Long Dispensary

(2) Medical treatment was rendered to 1994 persons during November.

(3) Twenty-eight (28) villagers were given dental aid.

(4) There has been a definite increase in patients at the bi-weekly MEDCAP. More refugees from the surrounding refugee camps are showing an interest and coming for treatment. They seem to have more trust in the doctors and corpsmen and the civic action personnel. A girl from Nui-Kim-Son who has been trained at the MAG-16 dispensary is now assisting as a nurse at the MEDCAPs.

B. Education

(1) Sixteen (16) students were presented with \$500 VN each through the General Walt Scholarship fund for the month of November. Each of these children are excellent students but lack the funds to sufficiently complete their education.

C. Projects

- (1) On November 29, 1968, MAG-16 Civil Affairs took eleven farmers from Nui-Kim-Son hamlet to the CORDS experimental vegetable farm near Tien Sha. The variety and the ability of the vegetables to grow in Vietnam so impressed the Nui-Kim-Son farmers that they requested immediate issue of seeds. MAG-16 civic action will contact the CORDS representative and it is understood that he will instruct the farmers on the proper cultivation of the vegetables on their land.
- (2) Repairs have been completed on the wing of the Hoa Long Primary School building which was damaged in October. Still conditions remain crowded and classes are being held in the neighboring dispensary. Action is being taken in the making of plans for still another wing for the school.

D. Distribution of Commodities

- (1) HMH-463 gave Civic Action a check for \$450.00 to be used for civic action projects. The check was donated by the citizens of Northfield, Minnesota through the Captain Deetz Memorial Fund.
- (2) One large crate of laundry soap and about ten pounds of clothing were distributed among Vietnamese employees of MAG-16.
- (3) Various building materials were transported to the villages. These included 800 sandbags, 12 bags of cement, 10 sheets of roofing tin, and 1 box of nails. Also, materials were given to the local Combined Action Platoon to assist them in their protection of the village. These included ammunition, cement, and medical supplies.

E. Summary

- (1) During the first part of the reporting period efforts were hampered due to the lack of transportation. GySgt. G. F. Raymond relieved GySgt. L. A. Robison as NCOIC. of MAG-16 Civil Affairs.

(2) One serious incident occurred during November in Nui-Kim-Son which involved two boys from the area. Two U. S. Army trucks were destroyed by satchel charges on 28 November 1968. The second truck was destroyed while evacuating personnel from the first truck. The two boys, ages 13 and 15 were detained and taken to Hoa Vang District Headquarters where interrogators confirmed them as Viet Cong.

(3) Large donations were received from the United States of clothing, toys, and medical supplies. They will be distributed in the village in the near future.

B-B. Nelson
B. B. NELSON

Copy to:

MAG-16 S-3 (6)
1st MAW (1)
File (1)

HEADQUARTERS
 Marine Aircraft Group 16
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
 FPO, San Francisco, 96602

3:WES:aba

23 Nov 1968

From: Lieutenant Colonel Willaim E. SMILANICH 061039, USMC
 To: Commanding Officer, Marine Air Group 16

Subj: Operation Meade River; operational debrief of

I. PLANNING PHASE

On 14 November 1968 a briefing was held at the 1st Marine Division at 1300 as the initial planning for a cordon operation in the "Dodge City" area within the 1st Marine Division AO. The basic concept of the operation included the use of 9 Marine Battalions, (4 of which were helo lifted) and 3 ARVN Battalions to completely seal off an area bounded by the river along the 61 grid line to the North, Route 1 Delta to the West, Route 1 to the East and Route 4 to the South.

At 1600 on 16 November the initial planning conference was held to plan the specific details of the operation at LZ 410, the 1st Marines CP. CO, 1st Marines was designated as overall Troop Commander. Aviation attendees at this conference included the HACA (MAG-16); MAG-16 S-3, TACA; UH-1E Gun Ship Comdr; MAG-36 S-3; HMM-265 XO; MAG-39, Maj WELLS; Ass't Div Air Officer's MAJ JILEY, MAJ RANTA; III MAF Helicopter Liaison Officer, MAJ ZYKETWITZ; SLF "Bravo" Co; 1st Marines 14; MAJ NEWTON, 1stMAW.

In order to provide a cordon in a minimum time frame, Division requested the assignment of the following:

7 CH-53's } or 60 CH-46's
 40 CH-46's }
 12 UH-1E (G)
 2 UH-1E (S)
 2 UH-34
 2 OV-10A
 8 A4's (Road prep)
 16 A4's (Close Air Support)

In view of terrain considerations and Intelligence on suspected enemy positions and vulnerability of CH-53 helicopters it was requested that the CH-53 be utilized along Route 1 Delta. This was denied by division which insisted that 2/7 the SLF Battalion be assigned that area of responsibility. It was further suggested that 2/7 be brought ashore and staged at either Hill 55 or LZ 410 on D-1. In view of Naval objections that the SLF Battalion be helo lifted as an amphibious assault by the SLF CH-46 squadron this was denied.

The HACA and MAG-16 S-3 flew a road recon of the area on 16 November and ascertained, although there was an increase in risk, the CH-53 could be utilized along the first 2000 meters of Route 4 extending Eastward. This was brought to the 1st MAW G-3 for decision and approval was received on 17 November.

Operations plans were formulated with the following considerations:

a. The area would receive a road prep at L-Hour minus 10 minutes with L-Hour tentatively scheduled at 0800, utilizing 8 A4's with forward firing ordnance to detonate any mines that may have been placed along Route 4. The division insisted upon no zone prep as such, since Route 4 was some 9200 meters in length. Zone prep was considered extremely delicate in the Eastern "C" area in view of the ROK Marine Corps position at "Ham Salad Charlie". Prep ceased 200 meters east and west of the position.

The HACA presented to the 1st Marines 10 pre-planned artillery fire missions on areas posing the greatest threat to the helicopter assault. These were to be fired at L-Hour - 3 hours and cease at L-Hour minus 2 hours.

Assignments of Helo Assets were as follows:

Flight "A" 12 CH-46's HMM-165 lift SLF 2/7 along Route 1 D.

Flight "B" 7 CH-53's HMM-463, 462 lift 3/26 along area Bravo.

Flight "C" 14 CH-46's HMM-265, 364 lift 3/5 along area Charlie.

Flight "D" 14 CH-46's HMM-164 lift 2/5 along area Delta.

UH-1E (G) would be attached by area to provide helo escort and suppressive fire. MAG-36 guns were assigned areas Alpha and Bravo. MAG-16 guns were assigned areas Charlie and Delta in view of area familiarity.

TACA (2 aircraft) would control road prep and on call CAS within the Objective area.

Artillery check fire from L-Hour minus 2 hours until termination of the helo assault.

Final planning with the 1st Marines was held on 18 November at 1500 with representatives from Div Air, III MAF, Wing, MAG-16, 36 and 39 attending.

No objection on Annex K of Op Order 318-68 were raised at this time.

A briefing was held in MAG-16 COC Bunker on 19 November at 1500 with all flight leaders of SLF, MAG-39 and MAG-12. Also attending were Wing and Div Air personnel. Overlays of approaches and retirement lanes were provided each flight leader along with photo's of the objective and landing areas. A briefing sheet was given each flight leader in order that continuity of brief be maintained at each MAG.

MAG-39 would support the helo assault with 6 CH-46's to act as spares and provide SAR capability. (2 in orbit over Hill 37 and 4 at An Hoa)

Staging of Helo's was as follows:

MAG-39	6 CH-46 remain MMAF D-1 proceed An Hoa 0630 on D-Day.
MAG-36	14 CH-46's depart Phu Bai arrive An Hoa refueled at 0700 on D-Day. 4 CH-53 depart Phu Bai arrive Dai La Pass at 0700 refueled. 6 UH-1E (G) arrive An Hoa at 0700 D-Day refueled.
MAG-16	14 CH-46's depart MMAF at 0630 on D-Day for An Hoa. 4 CH-53's depart MMAF arrive Dai La Pass at 0700 on D-Day. 6 UH-1E (G) depart MMAF arrive in objective area at L-Hour minus 15 minutes.
SLF "B"	Depart USS Tripoli with 12 CH-46 arrive orbit point Alpha at L-Hour minus 05 minutes on D-Day.

II. ASSAULT PHASE

Aircraft launched from bases as directed in the planning phase and all were at pick up zones at assigned times. The HACA launched from MMAF at 0700 proceeded to LZ 410 and picked up Panama Hat 6 in the C & C aircraft. A problem had arisen the evening before wherein 2/5 had requested that they be dropped 500 meters from Ham Salad "Charlie" position to the East. Decision by Panama Hat 6 was requested and 2/5 was directed to conduct his operation as pre-briefed.

HACA arrived over the objective area at 0725H on D-Day 20 November. A sweep of the AO showed that one of the trucks in the Motor lift had detonated a mine on Route 1. However, troops were disembarked and proceeding to their assigned positions.

South of Route 4 a fog bank had formed during the early morning hours along the Hoi An river and appeared to be drifting North and could possibly obscure the landing areas along Route 4. Fixed Wing aircraft were on station and the decision was made to commence the Prep of Route 4. (Note: Route 1 D was not prep'd by direction of Division inasmuch as it is a major LOC from Hill 55 South) Preparation commenced at L-Hour minus 13 minutes. Total preparation of the area was conducted with the exception of the area stipulated around Ham Salad "Charlie's" position. Prep consisted of A-4 aircraft utilising 2.75 rockets.

The fog bank continued to move in a North East direction and obscured portions of area "Charlie" as "Delta" area received the last of the prep.

Assault aircraft arrived at their orbit points at L-Hour minus 03 minutes. However, at this time, the Eastern portion of "Bravo" area and "Charlie" area became obscured under the fog. The TACA was directed to descend and check the base of the fog, which was established as tops 400' base zero.

CO of troops wanted all aircraft to land at L-Hour and the HACA would not concur, but suggested that elements of "Alpha" and "Delta" be landed. CO of troops concurred. Alpha and Delta flights landed at L-Hour plus 02 minutes, without incident. Alpha 4 shut down in the zone, cause unknown. (However he lifted prior to the last wave being inserted).

Bravo and Charlie flights continued to orbit their respective orbit areas. At L-Hour plus 16 Bravo area cleared of fog and Bravo flight landed in their assigned area. Charlie area was under the fog bank at this time, as was Delta area.

At L-Hour plus 28 Charlie area cleared and Charlie flight landed, receiving moderate to heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire from the North and South of Route 4. 4 UH-1E gun ships were providing suppressive fire during and while the assault helo's were on the ground. Upon lift out of the zone, the TACA was directed to use A-4's for attack on enemy positions. During the 2nd Wave 4 aircraft received substantial battle damage with Charlie-5 leaving for G-4 Hospital with a wounded pilot. Charlie 6 followed him back. Echo 1, 2, 3 and 4 (MAG-39 spares) were directed to fill in on subsequent waves.

Time lapse between waves was approximately 12 minutes with the exception of Alpha flight. Immediately following the departure of Charlie flight from the zone A-4 attack commenced and was terminated after 1 flight due to ground elements claiming they were receiving shrapnel. (It is of significant note that ground elements remained standing along Route 4 observing the air strike). UH-1E's continued with suppressive fire until Charlie flight returned with the 3rd wave of troops.

Flight Delta's area cleared at L-Hour plus 32 minutes and inserted their 2nd wave.

Flight Alpha and Bravo 2nd waves were landed at L-Hour plus 33 minutes.

Flight Charlie's 2nd wave landed at L-Hour plus 41 minutes, receiving intense small arms and automatic weapons fire along the center portion of Route 4. Charlie 11, HMM-265, crashed at BT005564 (cause yet undetermined). As aircraft departed the landing zone they continued to receive enemy fire. Suppressive fire continued during their egress. Due to close proximity of ground elements to enemy (25-50 meters) orbiting Fixed Wing aircraft could not be employed.

Charlie flight was then directed to drop all remaining lifts at positions 500 meters from their East and West area boundaries. Subsequent waves received intermittent sniper fire.

Immediately after the departure of Charlie flight's second wave, Echo 5 (SAR/Medevac CH-46 orbiting Hill 37) was directed to proceed to the crash site of Charlie 11 for medevac. Echo 5 received battle damage during his approach, did not land and returned to Hill 55. Echo 6 was called in and also received battle damage and was shot out of the zone - returning to Hill 55.

Bravo flight was completed at L-Hour plus 47 minutes (3 waves + 1 aircraft) and released to parent Groups.

Alpha flight was completed at L-Hour plus 130 minutes and released to assume Log/Admin/Medevac role at L2 490 and L2 412.

Delta flight was completed at L-Hour plus 120 minutes. Delta 1 and 2 were directed to Delta orbit. Remainder Delta flight released from mission. Delta 1 was directed to attempt medevac of crew and injured personnel of Charlie 11. A successful approach was made from the south with UH-1E's providing suppressive fire. Delta 1 picked up 11 emergency/priority medevacs leaving 4 routine in the zone. D-1 received enemy fire on egress from the zone.

The entire helo assault was completed at L-Hour plus 140 minutes.

The HACA and MAG-16 CO returned to An Hoa airfield to assess battle damage to Charlie flight. 13 of 14 aircraft received various degrees of damage.

Echo flight received minor battle damage and returned to Quang Tri.

HACA returned to MMAF.

Respectfully submitted,

W. E. SMILANICH

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
 Marine Aircraft Group 16
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
 FPO, San Francisco 96602

3:GCD:jry
 5750
 Ser: 003A01569
 15 Jan 1969

SECRET--Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1)

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding General, First Marine Aircraft Wing (Attn: G-3)
 Subj: Command Chronology for period 1-31 December 1968; submission of
 Ref: (a) WgO 5750.1C (U)
 Encl: ✓(1) MAG-16 Command Chronology (S) with Appendices
 1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.
 2. MAG-16 is located at Marble Mountain Air Facility, Quang Nam Province,
 Republic of Vietnam.

W. L. MacQuarie
 W. L. MAC QUARIE

DISTRIBUTION:

1stMAW	(5)
MAG-16 Files	(1)
MAG-16 S-3	(1)

DOWNGRADE: IN 1 YEAR INTERVALS,
 DECLASSIFICATION: IN 12 YEARS.
 0056-69

1st MAW S-3 E No.	Copy No.
242-69	#1

MAC-16	
Set	0056-69
Class	197

MAG-16

CMD CHRON

DEC 1968

SECRET

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS

Marine Aircraft Group 16
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
 FPO, San Francisco 96602

1:RJM:wos
 5213
 8 Jan 1969

GROUP S-1 COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

Part 1 Organization Data

MAG-16, Marble Mountain Air Facility, Republic of Vietnam

Period Covered 1-31 December 1968

TASK ORGANIZATION

H&MS-16 Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 MABS-16 Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 VMO-2 Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 HMM-164 Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 HMM-165 Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 HMM-364 Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 HMM-362 Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 HML-167 Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 HMM-463 Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN

COMMAND AND RANK COMPOSITION

BILLET	NAME	RANK	PERIOD
CO, MAG-16	MAG QUARRIE, W. L.	Col	1-31Dec68
XO, MAG-16	DOSTER, G. C., Jr.	LtCol	1-17Dec68
	FULTON, F. K., Jr.	LtCol	18-31Dec68
Adjutant	WORK, R. G.	CWO-3	1-31Dec68
S-1	BALCH, R. M.	Maj	1-31Dec68
S-2	CIVELLI, J. R.	Maj	1-31Dec68
S-3	BRADY, E. R.	LtCol	1-17Dec68
	DOSTER, G. C., Jr.	LtCol	18-31Dec68
S-4	DONALDSON, J. R.	LtCol	1-31Dec68
CO, H&MS-16	GOBAT, G. W.	LtCol	1-31Dec68
CO, MABS-16	CUNNINGHAM, W.	LtCol	1-31Dec68
CO, VMO-2	DUMONT, T. J.	LtCol	1-31Dec68
CO, HML-167	MILLER, T. F.	LtCol	1-31Dec68
CO, HMM-362	SCHLARP, J. E.	LtCol	1-9Dec68
CO, HMM-364	STATZER, M. V.	LtCol	10-31Dec68
CO, HMM-463	PEARD, R. W.	LtCol	1-31Dec68
CO, HMM-164	TRUNDY, R. T.	LtCol	1-28Dec68
CO, HMM-165	PATRICK, G. L.	LtCol	29-31Dec68

See 1968

Appendix-10

AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

SQUADRON	USMC		USN	
	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
H&MS-16	56	121	0	0
MABS-16	19	648	3	26
VM0-2	42	207	1	0
HML-167	37	137	0	0
HMM-362	54	205	1	0
HMM-364	50	179	1	0
HMH-463	44	186	0	0
HMM-164	48	177	1	0
HMM-165	45	157	1	0

Following Personnel Changes 1-31 December 1968:

- a. Number of Joinings: 321
- b. Number of Drops: 297
- c. Promotions:

Maj to LtCol: 1
 Capt to Maj: 3
 1stLt to Capt: 1
 2ndLt to 1stLt: 1

 GySgt to MSgt: 2
 Sgt to SSgt: 2
 Cpl to Sgt: 2
 LCpl to Cpl: 26
 PFC to LCpl: 14
 Pvt to PFC: 3

CASUALTIES

RANK	NAME	SERNO/MOS	UNIT	POSITION
1stLt	NORTON, R. L.	067718/7576	VM0-2	Pilot

HOSTILE: 3 December 1968. 10½ miles west of Danang, Quang Nam Province, RVN. Flying CV-10 on TAC(A) visual recon mission. Wreckage of aircraft sighted by OV-10 pilot conducting search of area. Lt NORTON was killed in crash.

1stLt	ASTLE, J. C.	094092/7562	HMM-164	Pilot
LCpl	PALERMO, C. L., Jr.	2363881/6320	HMM-164	Gunner

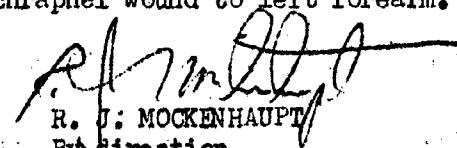
HOSTILE: Flying on CH-46A on resupply mission when aircraft was hit by enemy small arms fire. Pilot received shrapnel wounds of chin and left upper arm. Gunner received shrapnel wound to right buttock.

RANK	NAME	SERNO/MOS	UNIT	POSITION
Sgt	PIERCE, K. D.	2122501/1391	MABS-16	N/A
Cpl	HESTER, J. C.	2160525/1391	MABS-16	N/A

NON-HOSTILE: 21 December 1968. An Hoa, Quang Nam Province, RVN. Working in fuel pit when pit caught fire. Sgt PIERCE received 2nd and 3rd degree burns over 90% of body and Cpl HESTER received 3rd degree burns over 95% of body. Sgt PIERCE died on 27 Dec 68 and Cpl HESTER died on 24 Dec 68.

1stLt GASCIANA, C. A. 0100107/7562 HMM-364 Co-Pilot

HOSTILE: 31 December 1968. 6 miles northwest of An Hoa, Quang Nam Province, RVN. Flying on CH-46 on medevac mission when aircraft received enemy small arms fire while in landing zone resulting in shrapnel wound to left forearm.


R. J. MOCKENHAUPT
By direction

RANK	NAME	SERNO/MOS	UNIT	POSITION
SgtMaj	PHILLIPS, H.	546267/9999	VMO-2	Gunner

HOSTILE: 8 December 1968. 10 miles southwest of Danang, Quang Nam Province, RVN. Flying as gunner on UH-1E when aircraft received small arms fire resulting in wound to right buttock.

Cpl	SWANEY, K. B.	2138625/6320	HMM-164	Crew Chief
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HOSTILE: 9 December 1968. 10 miles south of Danang, Quang Nam Province, RVN. Flying on CH-46 on troop lift mission. Sitting in zone when enemy mortar attack started resulting in shrapnel wound to back.

LCpl	WEGENER, J. B. II	1930274/3071	HMM-165	N/A
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HOSTILE: Reoccurrence of old injury to left hand sustained while gunner on CH-46 on recon mission on 10 October 1968.

Cpl	HIAN, R. A.	2203555/6320	HMM-164	Crew Chief
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HOSTILE: 13 December 1968. 21 miles southwest of Danang, RVN. Flying on CH-46 on resupply mission when aircraft lost RPM's going into limited space zone. Crew Chief sustained a sprained back when aircraft was forced to hit trees.

1stLt	AHMENDO, R. W.	0101599/7564	HMM-364	Co-Pilot
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HOSTILE: 17 December 1968. 10 miles southwest of Danang, RVN. Flying on CH-46 on troop lift mission when aircraft received small arms fire going into zone resulting in shrapnel wounds to face.

1stLt	SULLIVAN, D. P.	094207/7562	HMM-165	Co-Pilot
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HOSTILE: 19 December 1968. 21 miles southwest of Danang, Quang Nam Province, RVN. Flying on CH-46 on Recon insertion mission when aircraft received intensive small arms and automatic weapons fire resulting in traumatic amputation of third toe, right foot.

1stLt	REINHARD, W. A., Jr.	095010/7562	HMM-364	Co-Pilot
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HOSTILE: 21 December 1968. 10 miles southwest of An Hoa, RVN. Flying on CH-46 on resupply mission when aircraft had double engine failure causing aircraft to crash into perimeter of landing zone. Sustained abrasion to left leg and lumbar area.

LtCol	BRADY, E. R.	051664/7562/7530/7500	H&MS-16	Pilot
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HOSTILE: 21 December 1968. 7 miles south of MMAF, Quang Nam Province, RVN. Flying CH-46 on troop lift when aircraft received enemy fire resulting in wound to left forearm.

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5750
Ser: 003A01569
15 Jan 1969

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
Marine Aircraft Group 16
Marble Mountain Air Facility
Republic of Vietnam
Period covered: 1 Thru 31 December 1968

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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REF ID: A6525

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DECLASSIFIED5750
Ser: 003A01569
15 Jan 1969PART IOrganizational Data1. Command Composition

<u>BILLET</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>PERIOD</u>
CO, MAG-16	W. L. MAC QUARIE	Colonel	1-31 December 1968
XO, MAG-16	G. C. DOSTER Jr.	LtCol	1-17 December 1968
XO, MAG-16	F. K. FULTON Jr.	LtCol	18-31 December 1968
Adjutant	R. G. WORK	CWO-3	1-31 December 1968
S-1 Officer	R. M. BALCH	Major	1-31 December 1968
S-2 Officer	J. R. CIVELLI	Major	1-31 December 1968
S-3 Officer	E. R. BRADY	LtCol	1-17 December 1968
S-3 Officer	G. C. DOSTER Jr.	LtCol	18-31 December 1968
S-4 Officer	J. R. DONALDSON	LtCol	1-31 December 1968
CO, HEMS-16	G. W. GOBAT	LtCol	1-31 December 1968
CO, MABS-16	W. CUNNINGHAM	LtCol	1-31 December 1968
CO, VMO-2	T. J. DUMONT	LtCol	1-31 December 1968
CO, HML-167	T. F. MILLER	LtCol	1-31 December 1968
CO, HMM-362	J. E. SCHLARP	LtCol	1-9 December 1968
CO, HMM-364	M. V. STATZER	LtCol	10-31 December 1968
CO, HMM-463	R. J. PEARD	LtCol	1-31 December 1968
CO, HMM-164	R. T. TRUNDY	LtCol	1-28 December 1968
CO, HMM-165	G. L. PATRICK	LtCol	6-31 December 1968

2. Task Organization

HEMS-16 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 MABS-16 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 VMO-2 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 HMM-164 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 HMM-165 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 HMM-364 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 HMM-362 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 HML-167 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
 HMM-463 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN

3. Average Monthly Strength

<u>Squadron</u>	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
HEMS-16	56	421	0	0
MABS-16	19	648	3	26

DECLASSIFIED

ENCLOSURE (1)

DECLASSIFIED

5750
 Ser: 003A01569
 15 Jan 1969

<u>Squadron</u>	USMC		USN	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
VMO-2	42	207	1	0
HML-167	37	137	0	0
HMM-362	54	205	1	0
HMM-364	50	179	1	0
HMH-463	44	186	0	0
HMM-164	48	177	1	0
<u>HMM-165</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>157</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
MAG-16	395	2317	8	26

4. Important Visitors to the Command.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>PURPOSE OF VISIT</u>
16 Dec 1968	Lieutenant General H. W. BUSE Jr. (Commanding General Fleet Marine Force, Pacific)	Present Awards and visit MAG-16 Complete Engine Repair Facility.

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ENCLOSURE (1)

SECRET

5750
Ser: 003A01569
15 Jan 1969

DECLASSIFIED

PART IINarrative Summary for November 1968

During December of 1968, MAG-16 continued to support the III MAF and major subordinate commands in the central I Corps zone. The First Marine Division received the major portion of helicopter support. The ROKMC, Army Special Forces, ARVN, and First Marine Aircraft Wing commands continued to receive a proportionate share of the MAG-16 helicopter lift capability.

Operation "MEADE RIVER", First Marine Division operation (central plains, southwest of DaNang) was terminated for MAG-16 as major support objective on or about 10 December 1968 (see report November 1968 and Part III, Special Operations of this report). Helicopter support emphasis was shifted on 11 December 1968 to the newly organized "TASK FORCE YANKEE" (TFY) under the command of Brigadier General Ross T. DWYER, with command post headquarters at An Hoa Airfield, sixteen miles south, southwest of DaNang. TFY was tasked to occupy the mountain range known as Base Area 112 extending and additional sixteen miles south, southwest of An Hoa. The operation was expected to extend over five months with major troop movements and their resupply entirely dependent upon helicopters because of the dense jungle and mountainous terrain ranging in height from 500 to 1050 meters above sea level. The concept envisioned successive movement from one hill top to another by the establishment of mutually supporting fire support bases. The technique of clearing landing zones on the hill tops first employed conventional aircraft delivered high explosive bombs and napalm followed by a helicopter lifted team of engineers and security force to blast or saw down remaining trees or obstructions in the proposed helicopter landing zone. Normally the helilifted engineer team is delivered by the helicopter hovering over the zone, above obstructions, and lowered by means of the external hoist or rappelling technique. When a one plane zone is cleared helicopters immediately begin landing operations.

During December five fire support bases were established in the objective area, without serious opposition, with MAG-16 providing helicopter lift support (for statistical summary see Part III, Special Operations).

Overall during December 1968 MAG-16 recorded 7847 flight hours, 23,364 sorties, 50,854 passengers/troops and 4980 tons of cargo.

During the calendar year of 1968 MAG-16 aircrues and aircraft of MAG-16 in support of USMC, ROKMC, ARVN, Navy Forces in I Corps flew a

DECLASSIFIED ENCLOSURE (1)

DECLASSIFIED5750
Ser: 003A01569
15 Jan 1969

total of 240,717 sorties in 82,976 flight hours carrying 352,186 passengers/troops and 54,472 tons of cargo. They also carried a total of 24,852 medical-evacuations, and made 466 Tactical Aircraft Recoveries.

The following occurrences are listed by date:

6 Dec 68 - HMM-165 (18 CH-46A) from Special Landing Force Bravo (SLF B) joined MAG-16 for operational control from LPH Tripoli.

8 Dec 68 - HMM-362 (24 UH-34's) detached, joined Special Landing Force Alfa (SLF A), LPH Okinawa off Viet Nam, for operational/administrative control. HMM-362 represented the only UH-34 squadron in MAG-16.

10 Dec 68 - HMM-364 (28 CH-46D's) joined for command from MAG-36 at Phu Bai. The additional CH-46D aircraft were shifted to assist MAG-16 in support of operation "TAYLOR COMMON".

29 Dec 68 - HMM-164 detached from MAG-16 to SLF B aboard LPH Tripoli. HMM-165 shifted to MAG-16 for command.

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ENCLOSURE (1)

III-2

5750
Ser: 003A01569
15 Jan 1969

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PART III

Significant Events

1. Personnel Changes

a. Number Joined	321
b. Number Dropped	297
c. Promotions	
(1) Major to LtCol	1
(2) Capt to Major	3
(3) 1stLt to Capt	1
(4) 2ndLt to 1stLt	1
(5) GySgt to MSgt	2
(6) Sgt to SSgt	2
(7) Cpl to Sgt	2
(8) LCpl to Cpl	26
(9) PFC to LCpl	14
(10) Pvt to PFC	3

2. Awards

a. Legion of Merit Medal

Colonel W. L. MAC QUARRIE MAG-16

b. Distinguished Flying Cross Medal

Major R. D. TAYLOR HMM-165
Major D. D. WILSON HMM-164

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c. Bronze Star Medal With Combat Distinguishing Device

Staff Sergeant F. L. AMOS VMO-2
Sergeant L. E. SMITH VMO-2

ENCLOSURE (1)

DECLASSIFIED

5750
 Ser: 003A01569
 15 Jan 1969

d. Navy Commendation Medal With Combat Distinguishing Device

Lance Corporal B. F. LANE MABS-16

e. Purple Heart Medal

First Lieutenant T. U. WALL	HMM-164
First Lieutenant B. F. WEAVER	HMM-164
Sergeant J. J. DALTON	HMM-164
Corporal R. A. HIAN	HMM-164
Corporal D. L. DOUGLAS	HMM-164
Corporal D. L. IRONMONGER	HMM-164
Corporal H. W. WHITE	HMM-164

f. Air Medals

H2MS-16	7
MABS-16	18
HMM-164	30
HML-167	146
HMH-463	156

3. Casualties

a. Hostile

<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
1stLt	R. L. NORTON (KIA)	3 December 1968	10½ Miles W Danang, RVN
1stLt	J. C. ASTLE	4 December 1968	Quang Nam Province, RVN
LCpl	C. L. PALERMO Jr.	4 December 1968	Quang Nam Province, RVN
SgtMaj	H. PHILLIPS	8 December 1968	10 Miles SW Danang, RVN
Cpl	K. B. SWANEY	9 December 1968	10 Miles S Danang, RVN
LCpl	J. B. WEGENER II	10 October 1968	Quang Nam Province, RVN
Cpl	R. A. HIAN	13 December 1968	21 Miles SW Danang, RVN
1stLt	R. W. ARMENDO	17 December 1968	10 Miles SW Danang, RVN
1stLt	D. P. SULLIVAN	19 December 1968	21 Miles SW Danang, RVN
1stLt	W. A. REINHARD Jr.	21 December 1968	10 Miles SW Danang, RVN
LtCol	E. R. BRADY	21 December 1968	7 Miles S MMAF, RVN
1stLt	C. A. CASCIANA	31 December 1968	6 Miles NW An Hoa, RVN

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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5750
 Ser: 003A01569
 15 Jan 1969

b. Non-Hostile

<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
*Sgt	K. D. PIERCE	21 December 1968	Quang Nam Province, RVN
*Cpl	J. C. HESTER	21 December 1968	Quang Nam Province, RVN

* Indicates Killed Not By Combat

4. Morale-Welfare. (Chaplains Command Chronology) During the month of December 1968, MAG-16 Chaplains provided Sunday and daily religious services at Marble Mountain Air Facility. Civic Action activities by MAG-16 Chaplains provided 2,000 pounds of surveyed P.X. goods to St. John's Seminary, supplied 500 gifts for children of Tinh Lanh Churches and An Hai Church and arranged for 16,000 pounds of rice, bulgar, fish sauce, and canned fish to be flown to Pastor Quang (Tinh Lanh Church) for the needy people in the vicinity of Ninh Binh village. The Chaplains ministry and allied activities are reflected in the following figures:

<u>Divine Services</u>	<u>Sunday/Att</u>	<u>Weekday/Att</u>	<u>Total Services/Att</u>
Protestant	9 438	8 39	17 477
Catholic	15 576	39 481	54 1057
<u>L. D. S.</u>	<u>5 40</u>	<u>3 21</u>	<u>8 61</u>
<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>29 1054</u>	<u>50 541</u>	<u>79 1595</u>

<u>Memorial Services</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
	2	102

a. Schedule of Weekly Religious Services:

Sunday	Catholic Confession	0730
	Catholic Mass	0800
	Protestant Sunday School	0900
	Protestant Divine Services	1000
	Latter Day Saints Services	1330
	Catholic Confession	1730
	Catholic Mass	1800
	Protestant Evening Services	1900

~~DECLASSIFIED~~ ENCLOSURE (1)

~~SECRET~~
DECLASSIFIED5750
Ser: 003A01569
15 Jan 1969

Monday-Wednesday & Friday-Saturday

	Catholic Confession	1730
	Catholic Mass	1800
Thursday	Catholic Confession	1200
	Catholic Mass	1230

Tuesday and Thursday

	Bible Discussion	1800
Thursday	Latter Day Saints Services	1930
Saturday	Protestant Choir Practice	1830

5. Civic Action. (MAG-16 Civic Action Command Chronology)

a. Medical/Dental. During the month of December 1968, Doctors and Corpsmen from MAG-16 assisted the Catholic Orphanage and the Hoa Long Dispensary. In their continuing effort to win the trust and confidence of the local populace, the MAG-16 Medical Department treated 1546 patients and provided dental treatment to 40 villagers and orphans.

b. Education. The Civic Action Team presented nine "General Walt" scholarships to the Hoa Long School principle. These scholarships are given to students of high academic caliber who lack sufficient funds to complete their education.

c. Projects. Primary effort was directed toward the introduction of non-native vegetables to the Hoa Long area and general increase of farm productivity. New and wholesome vegetables are thriving in the Hoa Long area. The use of insecticides has effectively eliminated crop destruction by harmful insects.

d. Material Assistance. In keeping with the holiday spirit, three boxes of assorted toys and two boxes of candy were distributed to the Hoa Long school. The village of Hoa Long received three truckloads of lumber for the building of a new school room and the repair and reconstruction of homes affected by enemy terrorism. In addition, fourteen bags of cement, ten pounds of clothing, six sheets of tin and assorted pieces of lumber were distributed to families living in substandard conditions.

DECLASSIFIED ENCLOSURE (1)

III-4

~~SECRET~~
DECLASSIFIED5750
Ser: 003A01569
15 Jan 19696. Intelligence/Counterintelligence. (MAG-16 S-2 Command Chronology)

During the month of December 1968, 226 fire incidents were reported by pilots returning from combat operations, a significant increase when compared to the 156 fire incidents reported during November. Fifty seven of the 226 fire incidents reported resulted in aircraft being hit, an increase of 15 aircraft hit over the previous month. Enemy small arms, 30 caliber, and 50 caliber ground fire were credited with wounding eight USMC crewmen and two passengers in MAG-16 aircraft.

Statistical Data:

- a. Flight hours per fire incident: 34.7 down 8.3 from November
- b. Flight hours per aircraft hit: 137.7 down 21.9 from November
- c. Flight hours per aircrew spot report: 46.4 down 22.0 from November

Ordnance fire by MAG-16 aircraft resulted in seven KBMA (confirmed), seven structures destroyed, thirteen hootches destroyed, one hooch damaged, four secondary explosions, one raft destroyed, three surface explosions, one underground explosion and three underground fires.

7. Air Operations. (MAG-16 Squadron Command Chronology)

<u>HMM-164</u>	<u>CH-46A/D</u>	<u>HML-167</u>	<u>UH-1E</u>
Hours	1264.7	Hours	1648.1
Sorties	5132	Sorties	5083
Pax	13588	Pax0	3957
Evacs	797	Evacs	8
Cargo (tons)	332.0 T	Cargo (tons)	--
<u>HMM-362</u>	<u>UH-1E</u>	<u>VM0-2</u>	<u>OV-10A</u>
Hours	820.5	Hours	782.6
Sorties	778	Sorties	1714
Pax	338	Pax	52
Evacs	--	Evacs	1
Cargo (tons)	2.8 T	Cargo (tons)	--
<u>HMM-165</u>	<u>CH-46A/D</u>	<u>HMM-364</u>	<u>CH-46A/D</u>
Hours	1086.8	Hours	756.3
Sorties	4138	Sorties	2276
Pax	7398	Pax	5583
Evacs	752	Evacs	446
Cargo (tons)	352.8 T	Cargo (tons)	434.4 T

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~~DECLASSIFIED~~5750
Ser: 003A01569
15 Jan 1969

<u>H&MS-16</u>	<u>C-117D</u>	<u>UH-34D</u>	<u>CH-53A</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Hours	128.6	48.5	0.7	177.8
Sorties	62	37	1	100
Pax	730	14	- -	744
Evacs	- -	- -	- -	- -
Cargo (tons)	19.4 T	0.2 T	- -	19.6 T

<u>HMH-463</u>	<u>CH-53A</u>	<u>TAR</u>	<u>MAG-16</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>
Hours	820.9	UH-34D (5F, 8A)	Hours	7869.9
Sorties	3640	UH-1E (2F, 11A)	Sorties	23,331
Pax	12,932	CH-46 (1A)	Pax	44,592
Evacs	52		Evacs	2,056
Cargo (tons)	3841.7 T		Cargo (tons)	4684.5

8. Air Control. (MABS-16 Command Chronology)

a. During the month, the ^{FOLLOWING} operations at Marble Mountain Air Facility were conducted:

Fixed Wing Operations	4,404
Helicopter Operations	22,476
IFR Operations	31
GCA Operations	327
Special VFR Operations	30

9. Special Operations

a. Operation "VICTORY DRAGON VI" was supported throughout the month by MAG-16 aircrues and aircraft. A total of 8,807 tons of cargo and 6,205 passengers/troops were lifted, requiring 394.7 flight hours and 2,149 sorties.

b. Operation "HENDERSON HILL" was supported by aircrues and aircraft of MAG-16, until its termination on 7 December 1968. During this period MAG-16 aircraft flew 79 sorties, carried 197 passengers/troops and 11.4 tons of cargo and logged 69.3 flight hours.

c. Operation "MEADE RIVER/SWIFT MOVE" was supported by aircrues and aircraft of MAG-16 until its conclusion on 9 December 1968. During this time aircraft of MAG-16 flew a total of 1600 sorties, carrying 4,403 passengers/troops and 117.3 tons of cargo and logged 4,080 flight hours. Throughout the duration of Operation "MEADE RIVER/SWIFT MOVE", 20 November

III-~~DECLASSIFIED~~

ENCLOSURE (1)

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DECLASSIFIED5750
Ser: 003A01569
15 Jan 1969

1968 through 9 December 1968, MAG-16 aircrews and aircraft carried 6433 passengers/troops and 185.2 tons of cargo requiring 957.6 flight hours and 3506 sorties. Operation "MEADE RIVER/SWIFT MOVE" is considered to be the largest and most successful operation of this type conducted in the Republic of Vietnam by the Marine Corps resulting in over 1,000 enemy troops being killed or captured.

d. Operation "TAYLOR COMMON" which commenced on 11 December 1968 began the first advance fire base concept of operations in the First Marine Division TAOR. MAG-16 and the Third Marine Regiment were jointly tasked with the planning coordination for the establishment of the five advance fire bases during December. MAG-16 provided ten CH-46D/A's, three CH-53's four HU-1E's, and one OV-10A on a daily basis in support of the operation. A total of 2389.1 tons of cargo and 10,756 passengers/troops were lifted by MAG-16 requiring 1460.3 flight hours and 5514 sorties

10. Ground Defense. (MABS-16 Command Chronology)

Mobile Ground Defense Reserve Platoons were mustered and trained throughout the month to maintain MAG-16's quick-reaction defense capability. Work continued on the improvement and preparation of ground defense positions.

11. Logistics. (MAG-16 S-4 Command Chronology)

a. Military construction at Marble Mountain Air Facility continued at a rapid pace throughout the month of December. Several structures were completed, the most significant units were four squadron operation buildings and the group training building. Three operations buildings are presently occupied and the fourth awaiting the arrival of HMM-263 in January 1969. The Group training building will be utilized for training, education and a hobby shop area for MAG-16 personnel. MILCON Status Reports showed the Motor Transport buildings 99% complete, the Main Sewer System 95% complete, HMM-463 maintenance hangar 90% complete, and one-half of the Dispensary 50% complete. Construction was started on the taxiway for the crosswind runway and the aircraft maintenance hangar on the west side of the Air Facility.

b. Work continued on minor new construction. Public Works estimators and designers started work on two infiltration galleries, GCA PAD, 02/C02 Facility, water tower, Officer's quarters, 5 ton chain falls for each hangar and vehicle/pedestrian runway crossing lights. A 120 gallon hot water heater was installed in the enlisted shower and runway strobe lights were installed and connected.

ENCLOSURE (1)

III-7

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

5750
Ser: 003A01569
15 Jan 1969

c. The Logistics section supported and assisted the embarkation and debarkation of four tactical squadrons. Heavy equipment and trucks were provided to these units and general support was given as required.

d. Marble Mountain Air Facility, Air Freight Section processed 1534 passengers and 134.9 tons of cargo. 1,377,702 gallons of aviation fuel were dispensed by MAG-16 TAFDS personnel.

DECLASSIFIED

ENCLOSURE (1)

III-8

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED

5750
Ser: 003A01569
15 Jan 1969

PART IVSupporting DocumentsContentsMAG-16 S&C Log No.

- ✓ Command Chronology of H&MS-16 - Appendix 1
- ✓ Command Chronology of MABS-16 - Appendix 2
- ✓ Command Chronology of VMO-2 - Appendix 3
- ✓ Command Chronology of HML-167 - Appendix 4
- ✓ Command Chronology of HMM-164 - Appendix 5
- ✓ Command Chronology of HMM-364 - Appendix 6
- ✓ Command Chronology of HMM-463 - Appendix 7
- ✓ Command Chronology of HMM-362 - Appendix 8
- ✓ Command Chronology of HMM-165 - Appendix 9
- ✓ Command Chronology of MAG-16 S-1-Appendix 10
- ✓ Command Chronology of MAG-16 S-2-Appendix 11
- ✓ Command Chronology of MAG-16 S-4-Appendix 12
- ✓ Command Chronology of MAG-16 Chaplain - Appendix 13
- ✓ Command Chronology of MAG-16 Comm O - Appendix 14
- ✓ Command Chronology of MAG-16 Civic Action - Appendix 15

File 8

File 9

File 10

File 11

File 12

File 13

File 14

File 15

File 16

File 17

File 18

File 19

File 20

File 21

File 22

File 23

File 24

File 25

File 26

File 27

File 28

File 29

File 30

File 31

File 32

File 33

File 34

File 35

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File 584

File 585

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File 587

File 588

File 589

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File 591

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File 593

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File 595

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File 599

File 600

INTELLIGENCE SECTION
 Marine Aircraft Group 16
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
 FPO San Francisco, 96602

CONFIDENTIAL

2:JRC:dpn
 05750
 02A00469
 4Jan69

CONFIDENTIAL**MEMORANDUM**

From: S-2 Officer
 To: S-3 Officer

Subj: Intelligence Input for Command Chronology (U)

Ref: (a) Group Order 5750.1C, paragraph 6c

1. In compliance with reference (a), the intelligence input for the MAG-16 Command Chronology for December 1968 is submitted herein.

2. Antiaircraft Fire Incidents.

a. 226 fire incidents were reported during the period, up 70 from the previous month; 57 of which resulted in aircraft hits, up 15 from the previous month.

b. Enemy AA fire caused 8 USMC WIA
 2 PASSENGERS WIA

3. Intelligence Information.

a. 169 aircrew spot reports of intelligence value were received from aircrews and other sources; this is an increase of 71 from the previous month.

b. No reports of intelligence value were received from indigenous sources.

MAG-16
 016-69
 1969

CONFIDENTIAL**CONFIDENTIAL**

Dec 1968

Appendix - II

CONFIDENTIAL2:JRC:dpn
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02A00469**CONFIDENTIAL**

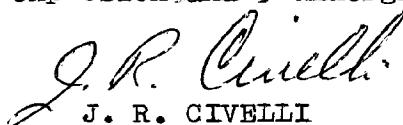
Subj: Intelligence Input for Command Chronology (U)

4. Statistical Data.

a. Flight Hours per Fire Incident: 34.7; down 8.3 from the previous month.

b. Flight Hours per aircraft hit: 137.7; down 21.9 from the previous month.

c. Flight Hours per aircrew Spot Report: 46.4; down 22.0 from the previous month.

5. Enemy Casualties and Damage Inflicted. MAG-16 inflicted 7 KBMA (conf), 7 structures destroyed, 13 hootches destroyed, 1 hootch damaged, 4 secondary explosions, 1 raft destroyed, 3 surface explosions, 1 underground explosion and 3 underground fires.
J. R. CIVELLI**CONFIDENTIAL**