

G-3 #

DECLASSIFIED

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

3:ZVL:pws  
5750  
Ser: 003A10270  
12 April 1970

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

- Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1)

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Distribution List

Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1 - 31 March 1970

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.4

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. This letter is downgraded to unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

*H. R. Smith*  
H. R. SMITH

DISTRIBUTION:

1st MAW (4)  
MAG-16 S-3 (1)

GROUP 4  
Downgraded at 3 year intervals  
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MAG-16	
SAC #	00245-70
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MAG-16

MAR 1970

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PART IOrganizational Data1. DesignationCommander

Marine Aircraft Group 16	Col J. P. BRUCE	1-6Mar70
	Col H. R. SMITH	7-31Mar70

Subordinate Units

H&MS-16	LtCol W. U. BLAKEMAN	1-26Mar70
	LtCol R. P. GUAY	27-31Mar70
MABS-16	LtCol C. R. DUNBAUGH	1-31Mar70
HML-167	LtCol J. E. WEBER	1-31Mar70
HML-367	LtCol W. G. CRETNEY	1-11Mar70
	LtCol H. E. SEXTON	15-31Mar70
HMM-161	LtCol B. H. MANN	1-31Mar70
HMM-262	LtCol R. A. BANCROFT	1-31Mar70
HMM-263	LtCol E. C. YOUNG	1-31Mar70
HMM-364	LtCol P. C. SCAGLIONE	1-31Mar70
HMH-463	LtCol C. A. BLOCK	1-31Mar70

2. Location

1-31 March 1970: Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN

3. Staff Officers

Executive Officer	Col H. R. SMITH	1-6Mar70
	LtCol K. W. ANDRUS	7-21Mar70
	Col R. T. MILLER	25-31Mar70
Adjutant	CWO R. G. WORK	1-31Mar70
S-1	LtCol S. A. CHALLGREN	1-31Mar70
S-2	1stLt J. R. COLE	1-13Mar70
	1stLt T. G. MARGETSON	14-31Mar70
S-3	LtCol K. W. ANDRUS	1-31Mar70
S-4	LtCol G. S. PATE	1-31Mar70

4. Average Monthly Strength

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
448	2530	9	27

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Enclosure (1)

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12 April 1970

PART IINarrative Summary

During the month of March 1970, MAG-16 flew a total of 9,025.1 hours in support of FVMAF in the I Corps Tactical Zone. Over 70% of this effort, 6,365.3 hours and 21,620 sorties were flown in direct support of the 1st Marine Division. Operation Victory Dragon was cancelled on 28 February and no operation was effective during the month of March.

A colorful change of command ceremony was conducted on 7 March 1970, when Colonel J. P. BRUCE relinquished command of Marine Aircraft Group 16 to Colonel H. R. SMITH. In attendance were LtGen LAM, I Corps Commander; LtGen NICKERSON, Commanding General III Marine Amphibious Force; LtGen MCCUTCHEON, Incoming Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force; MajGen THRASH, Commanding General, First Marine Aircraft Wing; MajGen WHEELER, Commanding General, 1st Marine Division; BGen DULAKI, Chief of Staff III Marine Amphibious Force; BGen LEE, Commanding General, ROK Marine Brigade; BGen SPANJER, Assistant Commanding General, First Marine Aircraft Wing; BGen PADILINO, Commanding General, Force Logistics Command; BGen MILLER, Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, III Marine Amphibious Force; and BGen DOEHLER, Assistant Commanding General, 1st Marine Division.

Two other changes of command were conducted during the month at MAG-16 on 15 and 26 March 1970. LtCol H. E. SEXTON assumed command of HML-367 on 15 March and LtCol R. P. GUAY assumed command of H&MS-16 on 26 March.

During March, HMH-463 carried 38,885 passengers, an all time high for one month. The Squadron also flew 1120.7 hours this month; the highest since February 1968.

Major General THRASH, Commanding General, First Marine Aircraft Wing, was afforded a first hand look at the daily operational value of the CH-46 as he flew as copilot with HMM-262 on 25, 26, 27 March. Working resupply missions for the 7th Marine Regiment out of LZ Baldy, Major General THRASH flew a total of 9.8 hours over a two day period. The following day, the General again flew with the squadron in the lead Med-Evac aircraft. HMM-262 effected the evacuation of 25 casualties on that day.

The month of March was a grim period for MAG-16, as 15 crewmen and 9 aircraft were lost. 1stLt L. D. PARSONS, a 16th crewman, reported as lost, was recovered alive on 9 April 1970. A full report will appear in the April Command Chronology.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Awards. 60 Strike/Flight Air Medals/3 Single Mission Strike/Flight Air Medals, 4 Distinguished Flying Crosses, 6 Purple Hearts, and 1 Bronze Star Medal were awarded during this period.
2. Enemy Casualties and Damage inflicted. MAG-16 inflicted 35 KBMA(conf), 37 KBMA(poss), 41 hooches destroyed, 4 hooches damaged, 8 sampans destroyed, 2 sampans damaged, 1 bridge damaged, 17 bunkers destroyed, and 33 bunkers damaged.
3. Intelligence:
  - a. 168 fire incidents were reported during the period, up 59 from the previous month; 38 of which resulted in aircraft hit, up 15 from the previous month.
  - b. 42 aircrew spot reports of intelligence value were received from aircrews and other sources; this is a decrease of 5 from the previous month.
4. Sequential Listing of Significant Events by Date.
  - 5 March 1970: Brigadier General SPANJER visited MAG-16.
  - 6 March 1970: HML-367 lost one aircraft due to direct enemy action.  
Ref: HML-367 Command Chronology  
(Appendix 2 to MAG-16 Command Chronology)
  - 6 March 1970: HMM-262 lost one crew member while attempting to extract downed crew of another squadron aircraft.  
Ref: HMM-262 Command Chronology  
(Appendix 4 to MAG-16 Command Chronology)
  - 6 March 1970: Brigadier General SPANJER visited MAG-16.
  - 7 March 1970: HMM-263 lost one aircraft when it crashed in coastal waters four crew members were killed and one injured.  
Ref: HMM-263 Command Chronology  
(Appendix 5 to MAG-16 Command Chronology)
  - 7 March 1970: Colonel H. R. SMITH assumed command of MAG-16.
  - 8 March 1970: HMM-364 had one pilot killed when he sustained a fatal neck wound.  
Ref: HMM-364 Command Chronology  
(Appendix 6 to MAG-16 Command Chronology)

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12 April 1970

10 March 1970: Major General THRASH, Commanding General, First Marine Aircraft Wing visited MAG-16.

10 March 1970: HMM-161 lost one aircraft due to operational causes. Four Marine passengers were killed.  
Ref: HMM-161 Command Chronology  
(Appendix 3 to MAG-16 Command Chronology)

11 March 1970: Brigadier General SPANJER visited MAG-16.

11 March 1970: HML-367 lost one aircraft due to direct enemy action. One crew member was killed.  
Ref: HML-367 Command Chronology  
(Appendix 2 to MAG-16 Command Chronology)

11 March 1970: HMM-262 had one aircraft damaged when it detonated a surprise firing device while touching down in a Landing Zone.  
Ref: HMM-262 Command Chronology  
(Appendix 4 to MAG-16 Command Chronology)

11 March 1970: LtCol JUKES (RM) arrived for a helicopter orientation tour of MAG-16.

12 March 1970: Brigadier General SPANJER visited MAG-16.

12 March 1970: Lieutenant General MCCUTCHEON, Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force visited MAG-16.

13 March 1970: Major General THRASH, Commanding General, First Marine Aircraft Wing, visited MAG-16.

13 March 1970: HML-167 lost one aircraft this date due to operational causes.  
Ref: HML-167 Command Chronology  
(Appendix 1 to MAG-16 Command Chronology)

14 March 1970: Brigadier General SPANJER visited MAG-16.

15 March 1970: LtCol H. E. SEXTON assumed command of HML-367.  
Ref: HML-367 Command Chronology  
(Appendix 2 to MAG-16 Command Chronology)

19 March 1970: Brigadier General SPANJER visited MAG-16.

21 March 1970: Brigadier General SPANJER visited MAG-16.

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- 21 March 1970: HML-167 lost one aircraft this date due to direct enemy action. All four crew members were killed.  
Ref: HML-167 Command Chronology  
(Appendix 1 to MAG-16 Command Chronology)
- 25 March 1970: LtCol R. P. GUAY assumed command of H&MS-16.  
Ref: H&MS-16 Command Chronology  
(Appendix 8 to MAG-16 Command Chronology)
- 25 March 1970: HML-367 lost two aircraft due to a mid-air collision. All four crew members were killed.  
Ref: HML-367 Command Chronology  
(Appendix 2 to MAG-16 Command Chronology)
- 25,26,27 March 1970: Major General THRASH, Commanding General, First Marine Aircraft Wing. Flew 9.8 hours as co-pilot with HMM-262 on tactical missions.  
Ref: HMM-262 Command Chronology  
(Appendix 4 to MAG-16 Command Chronology)
- 26 March 1970: Rear Admiral ROTRIDGE visited the MAG-16 Chapel.
- 27 March 1970: HMH-463 lost one crew member due to enemy fire while working a mission in support of the 5th Marines.  
Ref: HMH-463 Command Chronology  
(Appendix 7 to MAG-16 Command Chronology)
- 29 March 1970: Major General THRASH, Commanding General, First Marine Aircraft Wing visited MAG-16.

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5. Air Operations.

	<u>HML-167(UH-1E)</u>	<u>HML-367(AH-1G)</u>	
Hours	2,200.1	1,646.8	
Sorties	5,911	4,146	
KBA (Confirmed)	Ø	29	
Pax	4,344	Ø	

	<u>HMM-161(CH-46D)</u>	<u>HMM-262(CH-46D)</u>	<u>HMM-263(CH-46D)</u>
Hours	944.8	1,027.9	1,006.1
Sorties	3,092	3,484	3,297
Evacs	544	299	532
Pax	6,500	4,975	5,850
Cargo (Tons)	222.6	144.7	191.0

	<u>HMM-364(CH-46D)</u>	<u>HMH-463(CH-53D)</u>	<u>H&amp;MS-16(CH-46D/UH-1E)</u>
Hours	1,042.9	1,120.7	35.8
Sorties	3,861	3,890	22
Evacs	685	Ø	
Pax	7,245	38,885	
Cargo (Tons)	178.3	4,153.8	
TAR's	N/A	6	
KBA	6		

<u>MAG-16</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Hours	9,025.1
Sorties	27,703
Evacs	2,060
Pax	67,799
Cargo (Tons)	4,890.4
KBA (Confirmed)	35
TAR's	6

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PART IVSupporting Documents

	<u>MAG-16 Control Number/ Letter Identification</u>	
✓ Command Chronology of HML-167	03A09170	FILED
✓ Command Chronology of HML-367	03A09570	
✓ Command Chronology of HMM-161	03A09670	
✓ Command Chronology of HMM-262	03A09570	
✓ Command Chronology of HMM-263	03A09470	
✓ Command Chronology of HMM-364	03A09570	
✓ Command Chronology of HMM-463	03A09870	
✓ Command Chronology of H&MS-16	CO, H&MS-16 ltr 1:JFD:jfd 5000 dtd 3 April 1970	
✓ Command Chronology of MABS-16	CO, MABS-16 ltr CRD:ejr 5750 dtd 5Apr70	
✓ Command Chronology of MAG-16 Comm	CommO ltr 10:JCM:rsa dtd 1 April 1970	

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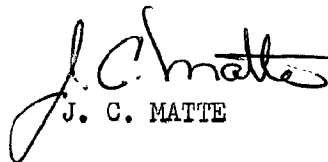
COMMUNICATIONS  
Marine Aircraft Group 16  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac  
FPO, San Francisco 96602

10:JCM:rsa  
1 April 1970

From: Communications Officer  
To: S-3

Subj: Comments for the Command Chronology, March 1970

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

  
J. C. MATTE

MAG-16-Comm

Appendix 10

MAR 1970

COMMUNICATIONS:RADIO SECTION:

1. The Radio Section processed thirty-seven outgoing messages and one hundred-eighteen incoming messages for the month of March.
2. New building completed and Radio Section completely moved in.
3. MRC-109 turned in to FLC for LTI.
4. MRC-87 back from MWCS-1, however was turned in to M. T. for motor repairs, at present it is awaiting parts.
5. Power converter MG-2 has been turned back in to H&MS Avionics.
6. The section continued to maintain and provide all the necessary radio circuits for MAG-16.

MAINTENANCE: During the preceding month the Maintenance Section completed the following:

- 64 pieces of equipment turned in for repair
- 33 pieces of equipment repaired
- 6 pieces of equipment awaiting parts
- 1 piece of equipment evaced to higher echelon
- 2 pieces of equipment returned from higher echelon

During the month of March this section completed the construction of a battery room and completed tiling the shop floor.

The main problem area is still the difficulty in getting parts to repair Crash Crew equipment.

COMM CENTER SECTION:

1. The MAG-16 Comm Center processed a total of 3,983 Incoming and 1197 Outgoing messages for the month of March, the following is a breakdown by classification.

	<u>TOP SECRET</u>	<u>SECRET</u>	<u>CONF</u>	<u>UNCLAS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
INCOMING:	16	440	545	2,901	3,983
OUTGOING:	0	3	46	1,128	1,197

2. The total hours of down time for the Comm Center were 79.21 hours. This is a significant decrease from the previous months, 102.46 hrs. The rewiring of the emergency power lines is believed to have contributed to this factor.

3. There were no off-line transmissions received during this reporting period.

WIRE SECTION:

1. MAG-16 trouble shooters made 175 trouble calls within the MAG-16 telephone system.

2. MAG-16 trouble shooters reported 77 dial telephone troubles to DCO.
3. Turned in one SB-86 for FY-70 R&E program.