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

3:KWA:pws  
5750  
Ser: 003A16370  
12 June 1970

**[REDACTED]** - - Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1)

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Distribution List

Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1 - 31 May 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)

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MAG-16

MAY-1970

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During the month of May 1970, MAG-16 flew a total of 10,990.7 hours in support of FVMAF in the I Corps Tactical Zone. Over 74% of this effort, 8,236.7 hours and 28,167 sorties were flown in direct support of the First Marine Division. The remaining hours were flown in support of the First Marine Aircraft Wing, the Republic of Korea Marines, the Army of the Republic of Viet Nam, and the United States Army. No Major Operations were in effect during the month of May.

The month of May saw two (2) changes of command in Marine Aircraft Group 16. On 19 May, LtCol R. A. BANCROFT relinquished command of Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 262 to LtCol G. S. PATE. On 29 May, LtCol L. K. KECK received the squadron colors of Marine Air Base Squadron 16 from LtCol C. R. DUNBAUGH. Major R. C. MARSHALL assumed duties as the MAG-16 S-4 Officer on 19 May.

Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 463 again broke its own records as they flew an all time squadron high of 1,355.6 hours and carried a total of 43,388 passengers. As a strike aircraft, the CH-53D's took part in a total of 12 strikes including an eight (8) plane night strike. Sixteen (16) TAR's were completed by the Sea Stallions.

HMH-463 made the initial delivery of Napalm by Marine Helicopters with the CH-53D on 8 May 1970. This was accomplished by filling 55 gallon drums with Napalm, loading twenty drums in cargo nets and dropping the load from an altitude of 1000-1500 feet AGL on a known or suspected enemy complex. When the drums contact the ground, the drums burst soaking a large area with Napalm. Approximately 15-30 seconds later, the Napalm is touched off by a WP or HE rocket fired from an OV-10A or a helicopter gun ship. The Squadron is continuing to develop its skill in the delivery of this highly effective weapon.

Marine Light Helicopter Squadron 167 shattered all time squadron highs with a total of 2,702.3 hours. This was made possible by an average of twenty-five (25) aircraft available per day provided by the squadron's maintenance sections. HML-167 also staged a 33 plane flyover on 31 May.

According to all available records, Marine Light Helicopter Squadron 367 also broke a record for a helicopter squadron in the Republic of Viet Nam. On 17 May, they staged a 100% flyover with the AH-1G Cobras.

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Enclosure (1)

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PART IIISequential Listing of Significant Events

1. Awards. 1 Joint Service Commendation Medal, 3 Navy Commendation Medals, 2 Distinguished Flying Crosses, 3 Single Mission Strike/Flight Air Medals, 147 Strike/Flight Air Medals, and 2 Purple Hearts were awarded during this period.

2. Enemy Casualties and Damage Inflicted. MAG-16 inflicted 56 KBA's (Confirmed), 51 probables, 41 hooches destroyed, 13 hooches damaged, 15 bunkers destroyed, 18 bunkers damaged, 1 cave destroyed, 1 bamboo bridge destroyed, 1 mortar tube destroyed, 4 secondary explosions, and two (2) prisoners of war.

3. Intelligence. 29 Spot reports of intelligence value were received from air crews and other sources.

4. Sequential Listing of Significant Events by Date.

- 1 May 1970: Brigadier General CONLEY visited HML-367 for a FAM hop in the AH-1G Cobra.
- 7 May 1970: HML-167 lost one aircraft due to engine failure.  
(Appendix 1 to MAG-16 Command Chronology)
- 8 May 1970: The initial Napalm Strike by MAG-16 was flown by a CH-53D from HMH-463.
- 9 May 1970: Lieutenant General McCUTCHEON visited MAG-16 and flew a hop in the AH-1G Cobra.
- 13 May 1970: HML-167 lost their second aircraft for the month due to engine failure.  
(Appendix 1 to MAG-16 Command Chronology)
- 17 May 1970: HML-367 staged a 100% flyover.  
(Appendix 2 to MAG-16 Command Chronology)
- 26 May 1970: Major General THRASH visited MAG-16.
- 27 May 1970: Brigadier General MILLER visited MAG-16.
- 27 May 1970: 8 CH-53D's were utilized in a night strike.
- 31 May 1970: HML-167 staged a 33 plane flyover.  
(Appendix 1 to MAG-16 Command Chronology)
- 31 May 1970: Lieutenant General McCUTCHEON visited MAG-16.

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5. Air Operations

	<u>HML-167(UH-1E)</u>	<u>HML-367(AH-1G)</u>	
Hours	2,702.3	1,853.3	
Sorties	6,972	4,188	
KBA (Confirmed)	17	38	
Pax	3,623	Ø	

  

	<u>HMM-161(CH-46D)</u>	<u>HMM-262(CH-46D)</u>	<u>HMM-263(CH-46D)</u>
Hours	1,122.8	1,241.0	1,289.4
Sorties	3,651	4,471	5,157
Evacs	386	419	444
Pax	8,899	7,469	9,314
Cargo (Tons)	181.8	273.0	173.2

  

	<u>HMM-364(CH-46D)</u>	<u>HMH-463(CH-53D)</u>	<u>H&amp;MS-16(CH-46D)</u>
Hours	1,419.7	1,355.6	6.6
Sorties	5,783	5,647	4
Evacs	482	Ø	
Pax	12,800	43,388	
Cargo (Tons)	315.7	5,216.7	
TAR's	N/A	16	
KBA (Confirmed)	1	Ø	

  

<u>MAG-16</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Hours	10,990.7
Sorties	35,873
Evacs	1,731
Pax	85,493
Cargo (Tons)	6,160.4
KBA (Confirmed)	56
TAR's	16

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PART IVSupporting DocumentsMAG-16 Control Number/  
Letter Identification

✓Command Chronology of HML-167	03A15270
✓Command Chronology of HML-367	03A15670
✓Command Chronology of HMM-161	03A15670
✓Command Chronology of HMM-262	03A15770
✓Command Chronology of HMM-263	03A14470
✓Command Chronology of HMM-364	03A15570
✓Command Chronology of HMM-463	03A15470
✓Command Chronology of H&MS-16	CO, H&MS-16 ltr 1/JFD/erg 5000 of 8 June 1970
✓Command Chronology of MABS-16	CO, MABS-16 ltr of 4 June 1970

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