

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

3:HWS:elh  
5750  
003A06971  
10 March 1971

**DECLASSIFIED**

~~SECRET~~ -- Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1)

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Distribution List

Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1 - 28 February 1971

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.4

Encl: (1) Marine Aircraft Group 16 Command Chronology

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

*L. C. Street III*  
L. C. STREET III

DISTRIBUTION: 1st MAW (3)  
MAG-16 S-3 (1)

MAG-16	
SAC #	00146-71
COPY #	1064

1st MAW SAC No.	Copy No.
735-71	1

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PART I

Organizational Data

<u>1. Designation</u>	<u>Commander</u>	<u>1-28 Feb 71</u>
CO, MAG-16	Col STREET L. C. III	1-28 Feb 71
XO, MAG-16	LtCol GILLIS, J. E.	1-28 Feb 71

Subordinate Units

H&MS-16	LtCol PITMAN, C. H.	1-25 Feb 71
MABS-16	Maj SILARD, C. D. Jr.	26-28 Feb 71
HML-167	LtCol DEAN, J. M.	1-28 Feb 71
HMM-262	LtCol BLANC, R. J.	1-28 Feb 71
HMM-263	LtCol WEST, F. K.	1-28 Feb 71
HMM-364	LtCol KECK, L. K.	1-28 Feb 71
	LtCol STEADMAN, H. W.	1-23 Feb 71
HML-367	Maj VAN LEEUWEN, N. R.	24-28 Feb 71
HMH-463	LtCol REESE, C. E.	1-28 Feb 71
	LtCol LEISY, R. R.	1-28 Feb 71

2. Location

1-28 February 1971: Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN

3. Staff Officers

Executive Officer	LtCol GILLIS, J. E.	1-28 Feb 71
Adjutant	Capt STEFFAN, W. J.	1-28 Feb 71
S-1	Maj HAYNES, J. D.	1-3 Feb 71
	LtCol REAP, T. S.	4-28 Feb 71
S-2	Capt GARCIA, A. J.	1-28 Feb 71
S-3	LtCol GUAY, R. P.	1-23 Feb 71
	LtCol STEADMAN, H. W.	24-28 Feb 71
S-4	LtCol FAILS, W. R.	1-28 Feb 71

4. Average Monthly Strength

<u>USMC</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
338	2,062

<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
7	25

Enclosure  
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PART II

Narrative Summary

MAG-16 continued its support of Free World Military Assistance Forces in the I Corps Tactical Zone. MAG-16 flew a total of 7,615.2 hours and 25,136 sorties while supporting the First Marine Division, First Marine Aircraft Wing, the United States Army, the Republic of Korea Marines and the Army of the Republic of Viet Nam.

MAG-16's "Purple Foxes" (HMM-364) stood-down this month, resulting in the decrease of flight hours during the month. Their CO, LtCol H. W. STEADMAN replaced LtCol R. P. GUAY as S-3 officer as LtCol GUAY rotated.

H&MS-16 change of command ceremony was abruptly cancelled when LtCol C. H. PITMAN was medevaced to Okinawa a day before the ceremony. Maj C. D. SILARD Jr. replaced LtCol PITMAN on the 26th of the month in an informal ceremony.

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PART IIISequential Listing of Significant Events

1. Awards. There were 474 Strike/Flight Air Medals awarded during the month of February 1971.
2. Enemy Casualties and Damage Inflicted. MAG-16 inflicted 24 KBMA (Confirmed), 25 KBMA (Probable), 21 Hootches destroyed, 3 Hootches damaged, 9 Bunkers destroyed, 8 Bunkers damaged and 19 Secondary explosions.
3. Intelligence. 29 Aircrew spot reports of intelligence value were received from aircrews and other sources: this is 8 less than reported for the previous month.
4. Sequential Listing of Significant Events by Date.
  - 1 February 1971: One UH-1E from HML-167, while on a strike mission, HC(A), received numerous hits from automatic weapons (.30 cal.), requiring immediate landing and was consumed by fire. Pilot received minor flesh wounds in the face by 7.62 rounds.
  - 2 February 1971: A CH-46D from HMM-364 during a medevac mission took fire while attempting to leave the zone. With loss of all controls and one engine they crash landed. The crew escaped with minor injuries while the aircraft was a total loss due to the resulting fire.
  - 2 February 1971: Two UH-1E's from HML-167, while on a mission 70, were credited with two (2) secondary explosions.
  - 3 February 1971: While on a mission 86, one UH-1E from HML-167 was credited with one (1) KBMA (confirmed) and one (1) KBMA (probable).
  - 3 February 1971: On a visual reconnaissance mission, two AH-1G's from HML-367 were credited with one (1) KBMA (probable).
  - 3 February 1971: One UH-1E from HML-167 was credited with destroying one (1) Hootch, while on a visual reconnaissance mission.
  - 3 February 1971: During a visual reconnaissance mission, one UH-1E and two AH-1G's destroyed two (2) Hootches and damaged another. Both were credited to HML-367.
  - 4 February 1971: While flying escort for a 1st Marine Division troop insert, two AH-1G's from HML-367, were credited with destroying three (3) Hootches.

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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- 4 February 1971: While on a visual reconnaissance mission for the 1st Marine Division, two UH-1E's from HML-167 destroyed one (1) Bunker.
- 4 February 1971: Three AH-1G's from HML-367, while on a strike mission, were credited with destroying one (1) Hootch and one (1) Bunker.
- 5 February 1971: While on a visual reconnaissance mission for the 1st Marine Division, two UH-1E's and one AH-1G had two (2) KBMA (probable). These were credited to HML-367.
- 5 February 1971: Two UH-1E's and one AH-1G had a secondary explosion during a visual reconnaissance mission. This was credited to HML-167.
- 5 February 1971: During a strike mission for the 1st Marine Division, a UH-1E from HML-167 was credited with two (2) KBMA (confirmed).
- 5 February 1971: Two AH-1G's from HML-367 were credited with two (2) KBMA (probable), while flying a strike mission for the 1st Marine Division.
- 6 February 1971: Supporting a resupply mission, two AH-1G's from HML-367 were credited with destroying three (3) Hootches and damaging one (1). They also were credited with one (1) secondary explosion.
- 8 February 1971: On a strike mission for the 1st Marine Division, two AH-1G's from HML-367 were credited with three (3) KBMA (confirmed) and one (1) KBMA (probable).
- 9 February 1971: Two UH-1E's from HML-167, were credited with destroying one (1) Hootch and accounted for one (1) KBMA (probable), while on a visual reconnaissance mission.
- 11 February 1971: While on a visual reconnaissance mission for the 1st Marine Division, two AH-1G's from HML-367 were credited with one (1) KBMA (confirmed) and one KBMA (probable).
- 11 February 1971: Two AH-1G's from HML-367 on a mission 86 were credited with three (3) KBMA (probable).
- 11 February 1971: One UH-1E from HML-167 was credited with one (1) KBMA (probable), during a mission 86.
- 11 February 1971: Two UH-1E's and one AH-1G during a visual reconnaissance mission for the 1st Marine Division, had three (3) KBMA (confirmed) and eight (8) secondary explosions. All were credited to HML-167.

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- 13 February 1971: Two UH-1E's from HML-167 were credited with one (1) KBMA (probable), during a mission 71.
- 14 February 1971: During a Gun Training mission, two UH-1E's from HML-167 were credited with destroying two (2) Hootches and two (2) Bunkers.
- 14 February 1971: During an emergency extract of a recon team, two CH-46D's from HMM-262 were credited with one secondary explosion.
- 14 February 1971: A CH-46D from HMM-262 crashed after it went into severe vibrations. The pilot could not control the aircraft as it turned over on its side. The co-pilots' bruises were the only injury.
- 17 February 1971: Two AH-1G's from HML-367 were credited with two (2) KBMA (confirmed) and one (1) KBMA (probable) while on a recon mission for the ROKMC.
- 18 February 1971: One CH-53D from HMM-463 crashed, resulting in strike damage, killing all nine men aboard.
- 19 February 1971: During a strike mission for the 1st Marine Division, two AH-1G's from HML-367 were credited with two (2) KBMA (probable).
- 19 February 1971: Two UH-1E's from HML-167 were credited with six (6) secondary explosions while on a mission 71.
- 20 February 1971: On a strike mission for the 1st Marine Division, two AH-1G's from HML-367 were credited with destroying three (3) Hootches and damaging another.
- 21 February 1971: One UH-1E from HML-167 is credited with destroying two (2) Bunkers and damaging two (2) Hootches while on a mission 86.
- 22 February 1971: Two UH-1E's from HML-167 were credited with destroying one (1) Hootch and one (1) Bunker.
- 23 February 1971: One UH-1E from HML-167 was credited with two (2) KBMA (confirmed) and one (1) KBMA (probable), while on a mission 82.
- 23 February 1971: HMM-463 lost a CH-53D while on a resupply mission. Aircraft sustained hits from a mortar round and automatic weapons, with no fatalities being suffered by the crew.
- 24 February 1971: One UH-1E from HML-167 is credited with destroying two

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- 24 February 1971: (2) Hootches while on mission 71 for the 1st Marine Division.
- 24 February 1971: On a strike mission for the 1st Marine Division, one UH-1E from HML-167 was credited with eight (8) KBMA (confirmed).
- 26 February 1971: Two AH-1G's from HML-367 were credited with one (1) KBMA (probable) and damaging seven (7) Bunkers, during a training mission.
- 27 February 1971: One AH-1G from HML-367 was credited with one (1) KBMA (probable) during a mission 80.
- 28 February 1971: During a reconnaissance mission, two UH-1E's from HML-167 were credited with two (2) KBMA (confirmed) and one (1) KBMA (probable).

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5. Air Operations

	<u>HML-167(UH-1E)</u>	<u>HML-367(AH-1G, AH-1J)</u>		
Hours	1,739.7	1,661.4		
Sorties	4,818	4,477		
KBA (Confirmed)	13	11		
Pax	1,943	Ø		
	<u>HMM-262(CH-46D)</u>	<u>HMM-263(CH-46D)</u>	<u>HMM-364(CH-46D)</u>	
Hours	1,331.7	1,175.4	513.0	
Sorties	5,246	4,791	2,034	
Pax	12,400	14,978	3,695	
Cargo (Tons)	212	30.2	70.9	
Evacs	149	192	104	
	<u>HMH-463(CH-53D)</u>	<u>H&amp;MS-16(CH-46D)</u>		
Hours	1,183.9	10.1		
Sorties	3,761	9		
Pax	8,890	Ø		
Cargo (Tons)	6,613.3	Ø		
TAR's	6	Ø		
<u>MAG-16</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>		<u>MAG-16</u>	<u>TOTAL FY71</u>
Hours	7,615.2		Hours	66,404.2
Sorties	25,136		Sorties	223,438
Pax	41,906		Pax	434,205
Cargo (Tons)	6,926.9		Cargo (Tons)	40,268.3
Evacs	445		Evacs	8,559
KBA (Confirmed)	24		KBA (Confirmed)	338
TAR's	6		TAR's	59

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## 6. Hostile Fire Analysis

### a. Enroute Fire Incident/Hit Chart

	OVER 500'	UNDER 500'	TOTAL
INCIDENTS	22	15	37
HITS	4	4	8

(1) The following conclusions are based on the above chart.

- (a) 41% of enroute fire incidents occurred below 500'.
- (b) 50% of all enroute aircraft hits occurred below 500'.
- (c) There was a decrease of 5% in enroute fire incidents this month as compared to last month. This can be attributed to a decrease in operations this month.

### b. Fire Incident/Hit Chart

TYPE MSN.	<u>FLT TIME</u>		<u>FIRE INCIDENTS</u>		<u>HITS</u>	
	HR.	%	NUMBER	%	INCID	%
MEDEVAC	471	7	37	29	2	7
STRIKE	3016	39	25	20	10	31
OTHER	4128	54	65	51	20	62
TOTAL	7615	100	127	100	32	100

c. Analysis of fire incidents/hits sustained indicates that most occur at random except the strike and medevac mission where a definite trend has been shown. Based on the above chart and prior compiled data, all flights below 1500 feet AGL are escorted by gunships.

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10 March 1971

PART IV

Supporting Documents

	<u>MAG-16 Control Number/ Letter Identification</u>
✓ Command Chronology of HML-167 ✓	03A06571
✓ Command Chronology of HML-367-	03A06571
✓ Command Chronology of HML-262 ✓	03A06471
✓ Command Chronology of HMM-263 ✓	03A06571
✓ Command Chronology of HMM-364 ✓	03A06071
✓ Command Chronology of HMM-463 ✓	CO, HMM-463 ltr 3: MJW: wlb 5750 of 6 March 1971
✓ Command Chronology of H&MS-16 ✓	CO, H&MS-16 ltr 1/CTL/ggs 5213 of 9 March 1971
✓ Command Chronology of MABS-16 ✓	CO, MABS-16 ltr of 6 Mar 71
✓ Command Chronology of MAG-16 S-1 ✓	S-1 Off, MAG-16 ltr of 8 Mar 71
Command Chronology of MAG-16 S-4	S-4 Off, MAG-16 ltr of 4 Mar 71
✓ Command Chronology of MAG-16 Chaplin ✓	Chaplin, MAG-16 ltr of 1 Mar 71
Command Chronology of Motor Transport	MTO, MAG-16 ltr of 28 Feb 71
✓ Command Chronology of MAG-16 Communications ✓	Comm Off, MAG-16 ltr of 1 Mar 71

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COMMUNICATIONS  
Marine Aircraft Group 16  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, MACV  
APO, San Francisco 96602

10:00:pal  
3100  
1 March 1971

From: Communications Officer  
To: 3-3

Subj: Comments for the Command Chronology, February 1971

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

R. B. BURN

COMMUNICATIONS: COMBAND CHRONOLOGY FOR FEBRUARY 1971MAINTENANCE

1. During the month of February the Elect-Maint Section performed the following:

- 45 pieces of equipment turned in for maintenance
- 30 pieces of equipment repaired
- 4 pieces of equipment evacuated to higher echelon
- 2 pieces of equipment off evacuation
- 13 pieces of equipment AP'd
- 2 pieces of equipment off AP
- 12 pieces of equipment awaiting work

RADIO

1. During the month of February 1971 15 incoming messages and 45 outgoing messages were processed making a total of 60 messages processed for the month.

2. The section has 3 radio operators operating at RHE SAKK.

3. The 1st HP's TACC/2 Net Frequency and Call Signs were changed.

WIRE SECTION

1. During the month the MAG-16 trouble shooters answered 121 trouble calls within the MAG-16 compound.

2. During this period the MAG-16 Trouble Desk reported 43 dial troubles to DDO, 3 of which still remain in the down status.

3. The following constructions were completed during this reporting period:

- a. All TP-6s have been replaced by TA-312 Field Phones
- b. Repairing of a 50 pair cable at MAG-16

COMM CENTER

1. The MAG-16 Communication Center processed a total of 3,329 Incoming and 1,043 Outgoing messages during this reporting period. The following is a breakdown by classification:

	Top Secret	Secret	Confidential	Unclass	Total
Incoming	1	223	532	2,573	3,329
Outgoing	0	10	48	985	1,043
Total	1	233	580	3,558	4,332

2. The total down-time for the Communication Center was 13 hours and 40 minutes, due to the following reasons:

a. Wg. equipment trouble	3 hours	25 min
b. Line trouble	4 hours	25 min
c. Power failure MAG-16	5 hours	20 min
d. Bad equipment		30 min
e. Total.....	13 hours	40 min

3. There were no problems on the "CCC" test circuit during this reporting period.

4. There were no major equipment problems encountered during this reporting period.

R. B. DUNN

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

1:CHF:mjt  
5213  
8 Mar 71

## GROUP S-1 COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

## Part 1 Organizational Data

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

TASK ORGANIZATION

H&MS-16, MMAF, RVN	HMM-263, MMAF, RVN
MABS-16, MMAF, RVN	HMM-364, MMAF, RVN
HML-167, MMAF, RVN	HML-367, MMAF, RVN
HMM-262, MMAF, RVN	HMH-463, MMAF, RVN

COMMAND AND RANK COLFOCUSURE

<u>BILLET</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>PERIOD</u>
CO, MAG-16	STREET, L. C. III	Col	1-28 Feb 71
XO, MAG-16	GILLIS, J. E.	LtCol	1-28 Feb 71
S-1	HAYNES, J. D.	Maj	1-28 Feb 71
	KEAF, T. S.	LtCol	4-28 Feb 71
S-2	GARCIA, A. J.	Capt	1-28 Feb 71
S-3	GUAY, R. F.	LtCol	1-24 Feb 71
	STEADMAN, H. W.	LtCol	25-28 Feb 71
S-4	FAILS, W. R.	LtCol	1-28 Feb 71
CO, H&MS-16	FITMAN, C. H.	LtCol	1-25 Feb 71
	SIGARD, C. C.	Maj	25-28 Feb 71
CO, MABS-16	DEAN, J. E.	LtCol	1-28 Feb 71
CO, HML-167	BLANC, R. J.	LtCol	1-28 Feb 71
CO, HMM-262	WEST, P. K.	LtCol	1-28 Feb 71
CO, HMM-263	KECK, L. K.	LtCol	1-28 Feb 71
CO, HMM-364	STEADMAN, H. W.	LtCol	1-23 Feb 71
	VANLIEVWEN, N. R.	Maj	24-28 Feb 71
CO, HML-367	REESE, C. E.	LtCol	1-28 Feb 71
CO, HMH-463	LEISY, R. R.	LtCol	1-28 Feb 71

AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

	USMC		USN	
	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
H&MS-16	50	436	0	0
MABS-16	32	679	3	25
HML-167	51	163	0	0
HMM-262	47	185	1	0
HMM-263	42	146	1	0
HMM-364	25	100	0	0
HML-367	57	157	1	0
HMH-463	35	199	1	0

S-1 - MAG-16

FEB 1971

5213  
8 March 1971

Following Personnel Changes 1-28 February 1971

- a. Number of Joins: 265
- b. Number of Drops: 110
- c. Promotions: E-8 to E-9, 1      E-4 to E-5, 10  
                   E-6 to E-7, 1      E-3 to E-4, 43  
                   E-5 to E-6, 2      E-3 to E-3, 55  
                                       E-1 to E-2, 11

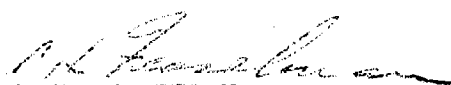
CASUALTIES

<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SERNO/MCS</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>POSITION</u>
LtCol	FITMAN, C. H.	069426/7565	H&MS-16	Pilot

HOSTILE 231815H Feb 71, Operating out of Kae Son, RVN. While hovering in LZ, the Aircraft was fired upon by mortars, resulting in Multiple Frag wounds to the right leg to the above named person.

Major	HYATT, W. R.	077485/7564	HMH-463	Pilot
1stLt	WOOD, S. F.	0111727/7564	HMH-463	Co-Pilot
SSgt	BAKER, R. T.	1584357/0239	HMH-463	Gunner
Sgt	ODOM, W. C. Jr.	2353358/6242	HMH-463	Crew Chief
Cpl	HATLER, L. R.	2454985/6055	HMH-463	Gunner

NONHOSTILE 181900H Feb 71, Dai Dien, Thua Thien Prov, RVN. While in-route to Marble Mountain CH53D experienced mechanical failure, causing the aircraft to crash, all personnel listed above were killed.

  
C. H. FITSMAN  
By direction

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

5750.1G  
 19:JBF:jmm  
 1 March 1971

From: Group Chaplain  
 To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 16 (Attn: S-3)  
 Subj: Command Chronology  
 Ref: (a) WgO 5730.1G  
 (b) GrpO 5750.1G

In compliance with reference (a) and (b), the following is a report of the activities of the Group Chaplain for the month of February 1971.

Part I. Organizational Data:

Group Chaplain (Catholic): LT John FITZGERALD, 1-28 February 1971.  
 Protestant Chaplain: LT Tom CARLSON, 1-28 February 1971.  
 Chaplain's Clerk: SGT J.M. MATO, 1-28 February 1971.  
 Chaplain's Clerk: CPL H.E. ~~GETMAN~~, 1-28 February 1971.

Part II. Narrative Summary of Significant Highlights:

During the month of February MAG-16 Chaplains provided Sunday and weekday services. Bible study, discussion classes, and choir rehearsals were held on Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays.

Part III. Significant Events:

1. Personnel:

a. ~~SGT~~ H.E. GETMAN joined the MAG-16 Chaplain on 1 February 1971.

2. Civic Action:

Visit to 5th ARVN Reg't Social Sgt - Plans for future help.  
 Visit by Bro. John Taber, the Ex-SeaBee- now Catholic Seminarian for Diocese of Danang. Gifts to him for his work.  
 Assisted in distribution of 1000 lbs. of clothing, gifts - plus \$1000 from CONUS - thru HML-367.  
 Motor Transport and Heavy Equipment provided 100 loads of sand for Pastor Tu's Tin Lanh Church as fill for the Church yard.  
 Supplied 20 families with baby clothes and personal items.  
 Delivered 20,000 lbs of food to 5th ARVN widows.  
 Gave building materials and food to Nhat-Le school in Da Nang.

GRP CHAPLAIN-0224-16

FEB 1971



5750.1C

1 March 1971

100 lbs of food, 100 lbs of clothing, 200 pieces of Christian literature to local ville.

Twenty (20) families supplied with baby clothes and items.

Food and Church supplies to Pastor TU of local Tin Lanh Church.

500 lbs of food, school supplies to China Beach Orphanage.

#### Part IV. Supporting Documents:

##### 1. Statistics

<u>a. Activities</u>	<u>Sunday/Att.</u>	<u>Weekday/Att.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Protestant Worship	4 / 136	-----	4/136
Communion	1 / 34	-----	1/34
Catholic Worship	12 / 300	18 / 99	30/399
Communion	12 / 235	18 / 56	30/291
LDS	7 / 74	4 / 28	11/102
Memorial Services	-----	1 / 160	1/160
Baptism			
Confirmation			
Anointing the Sick			
Discussion Group	-----	5 / 43	5/43

#### Chaplains Activities:

Drug Abuse Lecture was turned into a panel discussion with more effectiveness.

Chaplains CARLSON attended JEST School from 8 Feb. - 11 Feb.

Chaplains provided each Squadron with resource material to help with problem of drugs, and supplied the doctors with literature to be used with the DAT program in combatting Drug Abuse at MAG-16.

Attended Feb IMR Catholic Chaplains Dinner - (hosted by MACV REP. of Military Ordinariate).

Wing Chaplains AOM - Embarkation info.

The DAT program Combatting Drug Abuse is showing it's effectiveness. Both Chaplains, legal, Flight-surgeons, and Squadrons are working together.

Invited to lunch with Gordon Smith family of China Beach Orphanage. (pictures will follow).

We had 6 counselling sessions with Drug Users. Three (3) of these men participated, later on, in a Combined Med Cap. Chaplains visited to a near-by ville. We had a Cook-out, softball game with 14 of the troops who attend Chapel, we ended up feeding 25.

On Sunday eve. after the movie 14 young men gathered together to sing some Christian folk music led by HM2 David Basham - They will participate in communion service on 7 March.

JOHN FITZGERALD  
LT, CHC, USNR

Group Chaplain & Catholic Chaplain  
Marine Aircraft Group 16