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MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 161
Provisional Marine Aircraft Group 39
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPAC
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

3/JLB/ccd
5750
03A18468
2 July 1968

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code AAZ)
Via: (1) Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 39
(2) Commanding General, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPAC

Subj: COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A
(b) MO 5750.1
(c) FPACO 5750.8

1. In accordance with references (a) through (c), the information contained herein is submitted.

PAUL W. NIESEN

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Enclosure (3)

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HMM 161 S&C 394-C

HMM-161

CMD CHRON

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MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 161

QUANG TRI, REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIETNAM

1 June through 30 June 1968

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PART I (U) Organizational Data

a. Command and Staff (U)

Commanding Officer	LtCol. PAUL W. NIESEN	1Jun68 to 30Jun68
Executive Officer	Major ROBERT W. BARBER	1Jun68 to 30Jun68
S-1 Officer	Lt. DONALD C. COLLINS	1Jun68 to 30Jun68
S-2 Officer	Lt. ROLAND A. FRECH	1Jun68 to 30Jun68
S-3 Officer	Major JOSEPH L. FELTER	1Jun68 to 30Jun68
S-4 Officer	Major CHARLES D. RIORDAN	1Jun to 30Jun68
Maint Officer	Major ROBERT N. SIMPSON	1Jun68 to 30Jun68
Personnel Officer	Major WILLIAM BOONE	1Jun68 to 30Jun68
Safety Officer	Captain LUFKIN S. SHARP	1Jun68 to 19Jun68
Safety Officer	Lt. CHARLES R. SONGER	19Jun to 30Jun68
NATOPS Officer	Captain MILTON T. WARRING	1Jun68 to 30Jun68
SgtMajor	SgtMajor JOHN H. GOODFELLOW	1Jun68 to 30Jun68

b. Designation/Location (U)

Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 161. Provisional Marine Aircraft Group 39, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPAC, Quang Tri, Republic of South Vietnam.

c. Average Strength (C)

Officers Assigned (Naval Aviators)	51
Officers Assigned (Ground)	5
Enlisted Assigned	215
Total Strength	271

d. Important Visitors (U)

Visitors to Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 161 during the period 1 to 30 June 1968 were LtGen. HENRY W. BUSE, Commanding General FMFPAC, MGen. NORMAN G. ANDERSON, Commanding General, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, MGen. CHARLES J. QUILTER, soon to be Commanding General 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, BGen. HOMER S. HILL, Assistant Commander, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, BGen. HENRY W. HISE, Assistant Commander, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing.

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PART II (C) Narrative Summary

Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 161 provided helicopter support for the 3rd Marine Division. Statistics of the support was 22,932 troops passengers carried, 1,906.6 tons of cargo transported, 1101 medical evacuees evacuated, 54 recon teams inserted and 50 teams extracted. This was the result of 2398.8 hours flown, 5,185 tasks and 10.996 sorties. The majority of support went to the Scotland I Phase I, II and III oper ation.

PART III Significant Events (C)

1 June 1968: Provided helicopter support for 3rd Marine Division.

2 June 1968: Commenced Scotland I, phase I, II and III by helo lifting assualt troops to Landing Zone Robin.

3 June 1968: Lance Corporal W. R. GRUBY while serving as a gunner on a HMM 161 helicopter was responsible for 12 NVA KIA and 2 NVA .50 caliber weapons destroyed while returning enemy fire.

4-5 June 1968: Provided helicopter support for 3rd Marine Division.

6 June 1968: Lance Corporal W. R. GRUBY added 4 NVA KIA's to his existing 12 for a total of 16 in 3 days while serving as a helicopter gunner.

7-11 June 1968: Provided helicopter support for 3rd Marine Division.

12-18 June 1968: Provided helicopter support for 3rd Marine Division.

19 June 1968: YR 31 crashed in Landing Zone Turkey near the Khe Sanh strip killing the pilot Captain L. S. SHARP, and the co pilot 1stLt. M. D. HEIMSTETLER. Crew and passengers were uninjured. Cause of accident is still under investigation.

20-24 June 1968: Provided helicopter support for Marine Aircraft Group 39's area of responsibility.

25-30 June 1968: Provided helicopter support for Marine Aircraft Group 39's area of responsibility.

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