

CONFIDENTIAL

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON-161  
Marine Aircraft Group-16  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac  
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

3:TEM:abc  
5750  
03A09670  
6 April 1970

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)  
Via: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group-16

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 to 31 March 1970.

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2  
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8

Encl: ✓ (1) Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron-161 Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a) and (b), enclosure (1) is hereby submitted.
2. Downgraded at 3 year intervals; declassified after 12 years.

*B.H. Mann*  
B. H. MANN

*HMM-161*

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Appendix 3

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*22 APR 1970*

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MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON-161  
Marine Aircraft Group-16  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac  
APO San Francisco, California 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 to 31 March 1970

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## PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. DESIGNATION COMMANDER  
 MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON-161 LTCOL B. H. MANN  
1-31 March 1970
2. LOCATION  
 Marble Mountain Air Facility, Republic of Vietnam 1 - 31 March 1970
3. STAFF OFFICERS
- |                              |                          |                |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| Executive Officer.....       | Major L. J. ZILKA.....   | 1-31 March 70  |
| S-1 Officer.....             | Major L. G. POOL.....    | 1-31 March 70  |
| S-2 Officer.....             | 1stLt. J. A. BOULLE..... | 1-14 March 70  |
| S-2 Officer.....             | 1stLt. J. G. ADAMS.....  | 15-31 March 70 |
| S-3 Officer.....             | Major T. E. MURLEY.....  | 1-31 March 70  |
| S-4 Officer.....             | 1stLt. J. M. CARON.....  | 1-31 March 70  |
| A/C Maint. Officer.....      | 1stLt. D. L. KOLEK.....  | 1-31 March 70  |
| Aviation Safety Officer..... | 1stLt. B. A. FRALLIC.... | 1-31 March 70  |
| NATOPS Officer.....          | 1stLt. B. A. FRALLIC.... | 1-31 March 70  |
| Sgt. Major.....              | Sgt. Major J. GIBSON.... | 1-31 March 70  |
4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH
- |   |            |
|---|------------|
| Officers Assigned (Naval Aviators)..... | 42         |
| Officers Assigned (Ground).....         | 3          |
| Officers Assigned (Navy).....           | 1          |
| Enlisted.....                           | <u>160</u> |
| Total Strength.....                     | 206        |

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the month of March 1970, HMM-161 continued to fly in support of the First Marine Division, the Republic of Korea Marines, and the ARVN units located in the DaNang area. CATTLECALL aircraft and crews accumulated a total of 944.8 flight hours while primarily being involved in such tasks as med-evac, resupply, troop lifts, administrative, and numerous reconnaissance inserts, and extracts. In accomplishing these assigned missions, HMM-161 flew 3,092 sorties, while completing 1,724 tasks. CATTLECALL aircraft also transported a total of 6,500 passengers and delivered 222.6 tons of resupply cargo. The squadron evacuated 101 emergency, 175 priority, and 268 routine med-evacs from the field units to medical facilities in the DaNang complex. During the month, HMM-161 had one aircraft accident which resulted in the loss of 4 Marine passengers and Alpha damage to the aircraft.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

10 MAR 70 • While conducting a routine resupply mission the aircraft piloted by 1stLt I. D. HUGHES and 1stLt D. H. CADY, crashed just after take-off. This accident resulted in the loss of 4 Marine passengers and ALPHA damage to the aircraft. The flight crew escaped without injury.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

There are no supporting documents in this report.

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MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON-161  
Marine Aircraft Group-16  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPAC  
APO San Francisco, California 96602

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5750  
Q3A06570  
6 March 1970

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code AO3D)  
Via: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group-16

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 to 28 February 1970

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2  
(b) FMFPACO 5750.8

Encl: ✓(1) Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron-161 Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a) and (b), enclosure (1) is hereby submitted.
2. Downgraded at 3 year intervals; declassified after 12 years.

*B. H. Mann*  
B. H. MANN

191-6100H

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FEB 1970

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MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON-161  
Marine Aircraft Group-16  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPAC  
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 to 28 February 1970

INDEX

- PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA
- PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY
- PART III - SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

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## PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON-161

COMMANDERLTCOL B. H. MANN  
1-28 February 19702. LOCATIONPhu Bai, Republic of Vietnam 1 - 2 February 1970  
Marble Mountain Air Facility, Republic of Vietnam 3 - 28 February 19703. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer.....	Major L. J. ZILKA....	1-28FEB70
S-1 Officer.....	Major L. G. POOL.....	1-28FEB70
S-2 Officer.....	1stLt J. A. BOULLE....	1-28FEB70
S-3 Officer.....	Major T. E. MURLEY....	1-28FEB70
S-4 Officer.....	1stLt J. M. CARON....	1-28FEB70
A/C Maint Officer.....	1stLt D. L. KOLIK....	1-28FEB70
Aviation Safety Officer.....	1stLt B. A. FRALLIC..	1-28FEB70
NATOPS Officer.....	1stLt B. A. FRALLIC..	1-28FEB70
Sgt Major.....	Sgt Maj J. GIBSON....	1-28FEB70

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

Officers Assigned (Naval Aviators).....	41
Officers Assigned (Ground).....	4
Officers Assigned (Navy).....	1
Enlisted.....	<u>163</u>
Total Strength.....	209

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CONFIDENTIALPART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY

HMM-161 flew 1000.8 hours during the month of February in support of the First Marine Division, Republic of Korea Marines, and ARVN units located in the DaNang area. The first three days of the month the Squadron mission was twofold. The first priority was completing all assigned tasks and secondly the movement of the Squadron in total from Phu Bai to Marble Mountain Air Facility. The Squadron was tasked throughout the month with med-evac, resupply, troop lifts, reconnaissance inserts/extracts, and administrative type missions. CATTLECALL aircraft were also assigned the search and rescue mission for Chu Lai Air Base. Given these requirements HMM-161 flew 3,225 sorties, completing 1,741 tasks while transporting 7,760 passengers and delivering 348 tons of cargo. The Squadron evacuated 115 emergency, 113 priority and 254 routine med-evacs from field units to designated medical facilities. HMM-161 aircraft were engaged in numerous recon inserts and several emergency extracts. Many were under inclement weather conditions. In spite of the adverse weather these hazardous missions were completed in a very creditable manner. During the month of February one pilot was lost to direct enemy action. In addition, an aircraft and a crew of five perished in a crash while attempting a night emergency blood resupply to the USS Repose during marginal VFR conditions.

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## PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- 2 FEB 70 - Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron-161 began the relocation of the Squadron from Phu Bai to Marble Mountain, DaNang. The movement was completed and the Squadron was operational on 3 February 1970.
- 5 FEB 70 - In an attempted recon insert 1stLt M. J. BENSON (Co-Pilot) was critically wounded by enemy fire while the Pilot Capt. B. J. DUNIEC received minor abrasions. Lt. BENSON finally succumbed to his wounds on 26 February 1970.
- 16 FEB 70 --While enroute to the USS Repose on an emergency blood resupply mission on the night of 16 February the aircraft which was crewed by 1stLt A. C. DeCREANE, 1stLt J. W. SAMPSELL, Cpl R. J. GARRINGER, Cpl R. J. WISE and L/Cpl D. W. MORIN crashed into the side of a hill while in inadvertent IFR flying conditions. The crash resulted in the death of all five crew members.

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MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON-161  
Marine Aircraft Group-16  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPAC  
FPO San Francisco, California 96602

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5750  
03A03670  
5 February 1970

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)  
Via: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group-16

Subj: Command Chronology

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.4

Encl: (1) Command Chronology for period 1 through 31 January 1970

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

*B. H. Mann*  
B. H. MANN

*101-10104*

Downgraded at 3 year  
intervals; declassified after  
12 years

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*101-10104*

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY OF  
MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON-161  
PHU BAI, REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIETNAM  
1-31 JANUARY 1970

ENCLOSURE (1)

-1-

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CONFIDENTIALPART I. Organizational Data (U)a. Command and Staff (U)

Commanding Officer.....	LtCol B. H. MANN	1-31 JAN 70
Executive Officer.....	Major L. J. ZILKA	1-31 JAN 70
S-1 Officer.....	Major L. G. POOL	1-31 JAN 70
S-2 Officer.....	1stLt J. A. BOULLE	1-31 JAN 70
S-3 Officer.....	Major T. E. MURLEY	1-31 JAN 70
S-4 Officer.....	1stLt J. R. WAGNER	1-31 JAN 70
A/C Maint. Officer.....	1stLt D. L. KOLEK	1-31 JAN 70
Aviation Safety Officer.....	1stLt B. A. FRALLIC	1-31 JAN 70
NATOPS Officer.....	1stLt B. A. FRALLIC	1-31 JAN 70
Sgt Major.....	SgtMaj J. GIBSON	1-31 JAN 70

b. Designation/Location (U)

Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron-161, Marine Aircraft Group-16, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPAC  
Phu Bai, Republic of South Vietnam 1-31 January 1970

c. Average Strength (C)

Officers Assigned (Naval Aviators).....	44
Officers Assigned (Ground).....	3
Officers Assigned (Navy).....	1
Enlisted.....	<u>152</u>
Total Strength.....	200

d. Important Visitors (U)

There were no important visitors to Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron-161 during the period 1 through 31 January 1970

ENCLOSURE (1)

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## PART II.

## a. Personnel Promoted:

To Captain

B. J. DUNLEC

To First Lieutenant

H. M. RICHIE

To Gunnery SergeantG. E. WALKER  
C. CARSWELL

## b. Personnel Transferred/Joined

Transferred

CySgt. C. CARSWELL  
 Sgt W. L. EDWARDS  
 Sgt W. T. MAXWELL  
 Sgt J. SANTANA, JR.  
 Sgt R. C. FLOREK  
 Sgt J. W. EDMONDS, JR.  
 Cpl E. R. OLIVER  
 Cpl E. D. HOFFMAN  
 Cpl R. W. WOMACK  
 Cpl J. W. PURVIS  
 Cpl R. G. PURGAIN  
 Cpl J. R. ZLATICH  
 Cpl B. D. SUMMERS  
 Cpl M. W. MARTIN  
 Cpl D. L. CLAYTON  
 Cpl R. A. YOUNG  
 Cpl G. E. PETERS  
 Cpl L. R. KEECH  
 Cpl J. R. HANSEN  
 L/Cpl R. P. BOISVERT

Joined

SSgt R. M. YOUNG  
 Cpl M. L. SPILLER  
 Cpl J. P. EDMOND  
 PFC L. T. PIRRO  
 PVT R. BOLAND

## c. Casualties:

MIA'S

NONE

WIA'S

SGT W. D. POULIN

## d. Important Events

During the month of January 1970, HMM-161 achieved a total of 10,402.3 flight hours since the last aircraft accident.

ENCLOSURE (1)

**PART III. Narative Summary (C)**

During the month of January, HMM-161 flew a total of 1206.7 hours while supporting the First Marine Division, Republic of Korea Marines and the ARVNS located in the DaNang area. During this period HMM-161 flew 3,414 sorties while primarily being engaged in Med-Evac, Resupply, Troop lifts, Reconnaissance, and Administrative missions. The Squadron was also assigned the mission of providing SAR Aircraft for Chu Lai Air Base. CATTLECALL aircraft crews completed 1,864 tasks, while transporting 7,792 passengers and delivering 302.1 tons of resupply cargo. There were 133 Emergency, 133 Priority, and 66 routine Med-Evacs evacuated from the field to medical facilities. Marginal weather in the Phu Bai area restricted flight operations from Phu Bai to the DaNang complex. The reduced ceiling and visibility did not detour the Squadron from an increased tempo in operations over the preceding month. Concurrent with flight operations, planning and preparation were in progress for the coming relocation to Marble Mountain Air Facility.

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ENCLOSURE (1)



PART IV. Civic Action (U)

During the month of January, the Squadron's Civic Action Team, headed by 1stLt T. B. JOBE, made numerous trips to Buddhist Day Care Center at LAN SON. During these visits Squadron members continued the building of tables and chairs and completed the painting of the class room building. The personnel of HMN-161 contributed an abundance of gifts to the children, such as coloring books, crayons, paper, pencils, and food, which were sent from many of the members families. Participation by members of HMN-161 totaled approximately 25 enlisted and 5 officers.

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DECLASSIFICATION