

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 163  
 Marine Aircraft Group 36  
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac  
 FPO San Francisco 96602

UNCLASSIFIED

3:ATR:jd  
 5750  
 SerNo: 03A00868  
 8 January 1968

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 36

Subj: Command Chronology, 1-31 December 1967

Ref: GruO 5750 Series

Encl: ✓(1) Command Chronology, 1-31 December 1967

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

*L. N. Schwindt*  
 L. N. SCHWINDT

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HMM-163

CMD CHRON

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Enclosure (6)

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MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 163

1 - 31 December 1967

Marino Quang Tri Airfield, Republic of Vietnam

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## B. PART TWO - NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1 December 1967 - 5 December 1967 - Normal operations were conducted in the Northern I Corps area. HMM-163 supported the 3rd Marine Division by evacuating 173 medevacs in 49 missions, six (6) of which were night missions.

6 December 1967 - HMM-163 supported 3rd MarDiv by evacuating eighteen (18) medevacs in 5 missions. Operations were limited due to weather. YP-15, BuNo. 148819, Piloted by Lt. GORDON, was shot down in a zone by automatic weapons and one RPG rocket at YD 152728. The crew spent the night in the zone and picked up the following day. Three crewmembers received Brave injury. The aircraft was destroyed due to area being 'inaccessible' for recovery operations.

7 December 1967 - 14 December 1967 - Normal operations were conducted in the Northern I Corps area for this period. The squadron flew forty-eight (48) medevac missions, four (4) which were at night, and evacuated ninety-two (92) medevacs. Two (2) recon extracts and one (1) recon insert were also flown. Operations were hampered by weather during some of this period.

15 December 1967 - Normal day operations were conducted but at 2230 Quang Tri Air Field was mortared. The squadron evacuated 2 KIA and 40 WIA from the airfield this night. Total medevacs for the day were 6 missions 78 medevacs. Six aircraft were damaged from the attack.

16 December 1967 - 23 December 1967 - Normal operations conducted in the Northern I Corps area. HMM-163 flew 49 medevac missions evacuating 164 medevacs in this period. One (1) recon insert was flown.

24 December 1967 - HMM-163 flew a "Ho Ho" mission today carrying Christmas gifts to the troops in the field. These gifts were provided by the squadron, and the Red Cross. Normal operations except for this mission, were conducted in support of the 3rd MarDiv.

25 December 1967 - Operations were limited today due to the Christmas truce. The squadron flew four (4) medevac missions evacuating 18 medevacs. Christmas dinners were flown to the troops in the field this day.

26 December 1967 - 31 December 1967 - The squadron conducted normal operations in support of 3rd MarDiv. 36 medevac missions, evacuating 103 medevacs, were flown in the Northern I Corps area.

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### C. PART THREE - SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

#### 1. Personnel

As of 31 December 1967, forty-one (41) officers and one hundred and ninety-seven (197) enlisted men comprised HMM-163. This shows a decrease in personnel over the previous month. One (1) officer and twenty-nine (29) enlisted were joined during the month.

#### 2. Administration

No significant events

#### 3. Awards

Sixteen (16) Purple Hearts were awarded during the month.

#### 4. Casualties

One KIA and fifteen WIA were suffered during the month of December.

#### 5. Civic Action

No significant events

#### 6. Morale/Welfare Programs

Continued showing movies in the mess hall

#### 7. Informational Services

No significant events

#### 8. Intelligence/Counter Intelligence

No significant events

#### 9. Air Operations

a. Flight hours - 786.2

b. Flights/Sorties - 645/2132

c. Passengers - 1593

d. Cargo - 52.9

e. Medevacs - 183 flights/542 medevacs

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## 10. Special Operations

None during this reporting period

## 11. Training

No significant events

## 12. Ground Defense

No significant events

## 13. Logistics

No significant events

## 14. Motor Transport

No significant events

## 15. Maintenance

No significant events

## 16. Avionics

No significant events

## 17. Base Development

No significant events

## 18. Communications/Electronics

No significant events

## 19. Career Advisery

No significant events

## D. PART FOUR - SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

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