

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 163
Marine Aircraft Group 36
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
APO San Francisco 96612

3:FOF:djl
5750
SerNo: 03A 9568
4 April 1968

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

Subj: Command Chronology, 1-31 March 1968

Ref: (a) GruO 5750 Series

Encl: ✓(1) Command Chronology, 1-31 March 1968

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

L. W. Schwindt
L. W. SCHWINDT

Copy to:
File

HMM-163

CMD CHROD

MAR 1968

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MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 163

1 - 31 March 1968

MARINE Quang Tri Airfield, Republic of Vietnam

575
April 1968

4. PART ONE - ORGANIZATION DATA

1. Commanding Officer and Staff

- a. Louis W. SCHTNET, LtCol., Commanding Officer, 1-31 March 1968
- b. William T. LUNSFORD, Major, Executive Officer, 1-17 March 1968
- c. Clarence L. SMITH, Major, Executive Officer, 18-31 March 1968
- d. Clarence L. SMITH, Major, Operations Officer, 1-17 March 1968
- e. Henry L. EISENBERG, Major, Operations Officer, 18-31 March 1968
- f. Franklin D. RICHIEY, Major, Logistics Officer, 1-31 March 1968
- g. Bernard M. GORDON, 1stLt, Aviation Safety Officer, 1-17 March 1968
- h. Thomas V. BURNS, Captain, Aviation Safety Officer, 18-31 March 1968
- i. James L. RIGGS, Major, Maintenance Officer, 1-17 March 1968
- j. William S. AINSLEY, Captain, Maintenance Officer, 18-31 March 1968
- k. Gerard P. TETU, 1stLt, Administration Officer, 1-31 March 1968
- l. John A. GIBBINGS, Lieutenant, USN(MC), Medical Officer, 1-31 March 1968
- m. Robert H. BLUMH, Captain, Intelligence Officer, 1-23 March 1968
- n. Robert W. McILVAIN, 1stLt, Intelligence Officer 24-31 March 1968
- o. Jac A. CHRISTIANSEN, 1stLt, Custodian, S&C Files, 1-17 March 1968
- p. Christopher N. SHARKEY, 1stLt, Custodian, S&C Files, 18-31 March 1968.

2. Task Organization

Location - Marine Quang Tri A.F., Republic of Vietnam, 1-31 March 1968

3. Average Monthly Strength

Marine		Navy	
<u>Officer</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>	<u>Officer</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>
48	171	1	0

4. Important Visitors

None, during this reporting period

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5750
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B. PART TWO - NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1 March 1968 - 6 March 1968 - HMM-163 conducted normal operations in support of the Third Marine Division. The Squadron evacuated 264 medevacs in 68 missions, of these 124 were emergency medevacs. 31.2 tons of cargo and 859 troops/pax were transported by HMM-163.

7 March 1968 - 12 March 1968 - Normal operations were conducted in the Quang Tri area. HMM-163 flew 61 medevac missions, extracting 215 medevacs, of these 70 were emergency. During this period 4 recon inserts and 3 extracts were flown. HMM-163 carried 493 troops/pax and 16.5 tons of cargo.

13 March 1968 - Squadron aircraft flew 46.2 hours today in support of Operation Scotland, Kentucky and Lancaster. Fifteen medevac missions were flown by HMM-163, while extracting 22 emergency, 22 priority and 4 routine medevacs. While on an emergency medevac from hill 558, at Khe Sanh Highboy 3-1 lifted 9 medevacs out at low fuel state, without ASE making instrument climbout and safe return to Delta Med at Dong Ha.

14 March 1968 - 15 March 1968 - Conducting normal operations in the Northern I Corps area, HMM-163 flew 81.5 hours. Sixteen medevac missions were flown evacuating 33 emergency, 15 priority and 4 routine medevacs. Highboy 6-1, 6-2 Khe Sanh medevac birds logged a total of 9.4 hours while extracting ten medevacs and 50 troops/pax in 47 sorties flown.

16 March 1968 - 21 March 1968 - HMM-163 continued in support of the Third Marine Division. Seventy-two medevac missions were flown, evacuating 263 casualties.

22 March 1968 - 27 March 1968 - HMM-163 conducted normal operations during this period. The squadron flew 15 medevac missions while evacuating 32 emergency, 58 priority, and 11 routine medevacs. Eight tons of cargo and 295 troops/pax were carried by HMM-163 during this period.

28 March 1968 - 31 March 1968 - Normal operations were conducted in the Quang Tri area. One hundred twenty-nine (129) casualties were evacuated in 40 missions by HMM-163 aircraft. The squadron carried 367 troops/pax and 16.0 tons of cargo.

3:FCF:djl
5750
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C. PART THREE- SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Personnel

As of 31 March 1968, forty-eight (48) officer and one hundred and seventy-one (171) enlisted men comprised HMM-163. This shows an increase of officers over the previous month. Thirteen (13) officers and seven (7) enlisted were joined during the month.

2. Administration

No significant Events

3. Awards

Two hundred and sixty-one (261) Air Medals were awarded during the month of March.

4. Casualties

None

5. Civic Action

No significant events

6. Morale/Welfare programs

No significant events

7. Information Services

No significant events

8. Intelligence/Counter Intelligence

No significant events

9. Air Operations

a. Flight Hours - 1284.2

b. Flights/Sorties - 886/3657

c. Passengers - 2919

d. Cargo - 113.1

e. Medevacs - 1118

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5750
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10. Specific Operations

HMM-163 supported Operations Scotland, Kentucky, Lancaster, Saline, Napoleon, and Dyemarkar during the month of March 1968.

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 Developments

None

18. Career Advisory

No significant events

D. PART FOUR - SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None