

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 163
 Marine Aircraft Group 16
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
 FPO San Francisco 96602

3:FRF:krm
 5750
 03A22168
 8 August 1968

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 16 (Attn: S-3)

Subj: Command Chronology for 1 - 31 July 1968, submission of

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.1
 (b) GruO 5750.1C

Encl: ✓ (1) Command Chronology for 1 - 31 July 1968

1. In accordance with references (a) and (b), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. This letter is downgraded to "UNCLASSIFIED" upon removal of enclosure (1).

Richard G. Courtney
 RICHARD G. COURTNEY

HMM-163 S & C FILES

No. 680331
 c 1 of 3 cc

MAG-16	
SAC #	0654-61
COPY #	10/2

CONFIDENTIAL

HMM-163

COMD CHRON

JULY 1968

5750
03A22168
8 August 1968

CONFIDENTIAL

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 163

1 - 31 JULY 1968

MARBLE MOUNTAIN AIR FACILITY, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

1

CONFIDENTIAL
Enclosure (1)

5750
03A22168
8 August 1968

CONFIDENTIAL

PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Commanding Officer and Staff

Commanding Officer	LtCol. R. G. COURTNEY
Executive Officer	Maj. C. L. SMITH
Operations Officer	Maj. J. R. CIVELLI
Personnel Officer	CWO R. O. FLORENCE
Administrative Officer	CWO R. O. FLORENCE
Intelligence Officer	1stLt. T. BUSCEMI
Logistics Officer	Capt. E. W. BARAGAR
Maintenance Officer	Capt. T. V. BURNS

2. Inclusive Dates and Location

1 - 31 July 1968: Marble Mountain Air Facility, Republic of Vietnam

3. Average Monthly Strength

<u>MARINE</u>		<u>NAVY</u>	
<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>	<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
41	164	1	0

CONFIDENTIAL

Enclosure (1)

5750
03A22168
8 August 1968

CONFIDENTIAL

PART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY

- 1 July 1968: HMM-163 flew a total of 43.6 hours, of which 4.2 was for night medevac. The squadron transported 68 troops/pax and 1.2 tons of cargo. The squadron ^{flew} 20 sorties in support of the ROKMC.
- 2 July 1968: HMM-163 flew 56.2 hours of which 5.2 hours was night medevac. The squadron transported 58 troops/pax, 31 medevacs, and 4.5 tons of cargo. In support of the ROKMC, HMM-163 flew 12.9 hours, transporting 46 troops/pax and 5.1 tons of cargo.
- 3 July 1968: HMM-163 flew a total of 50.9 hours, 4.9 hours of which were for night medevac. This included 124 sorties and 42 tasks, while transporting 33 passengers and 68 medevacs. HMM-163 flew 10 sorties and 2 tasks in support of the ROKMC in 2.4 hours of flight time.
- 4 July 1968: HMM-163 flew a total of 49.6 hours, 4.6 on night medevac. The squadron transported 10.6 tons of cargo, 103 passengers and 36 medevacs. The medevac H-34 received one .50 cal hit at AT894528, Damage was limited and the aircraft returned to base. In support of the ROKMC, the squadron flew 14.1 hours, this included transporting 61 troops/pax and 9.9 tons of cargo.
- 5 July 1968: HMM-163 flew 50.6 hours, 2.9 of which was on night medevac. The squadron transported 112 passengers, 2.7 tons of cargo and 42 medevacs. Two squadron aircraft were hit by enemy small arms fire, both aircraft were on medevac missions. Damage to both planes was minor and there were no injuries.
- 6 July 1968: HMM-163 flew 20.3 hours, 6.8 on night medevac. The squadron carried 31 pax and 18 medevacs.
- 7 July 1968: HMM-163 flew 40.1 hours, 5.3 hours on night medevac. The squadron carried 35 pax and 28 medevacs. No further incidents this day.
- 8 July 1968: HMM-163 flew 48.5 hours, 6.6 hours of which were for night medevac. The squadron carried 57 pax and 26 medevacs. There were no reported hits this date.

CONFIDENTIAL
Enclosure (1)

5750
03A22168
8 August 1968

CONFIDENTIAL

- 9 July 1968: HMM-163 flew 71.2 hours, 2.1 of which were for night medevac. The squadron carried 145 passengers, 44 medevacs and 14.8 tons of cargo. Squadron aircraft flying ROK resupply received intense small arms and automatic weapons fire. Completely through grid square 1063. The aircraft received numerous hits causing moderate damage, there were no injuries received and the A/C returned to MMAF.
- 10 July 1968: HMM-163 flew 35.6 hours, 7.5 hours of this was for night medevac. The squadron carried 17 passengers and 1.4 tons of cargo. HMM-163 aircraft were hit by enemy fire twice while on medevac missions into the AT 9667 grid square. Damage was light and there were no injuries sustained, both aircraft returned safely to MMAF.
- 11 July 1968: HMM-163 flew 51.1 hours, 4.7 of which were for night medevac. The squadron transported 115 pax and 43 medevacs and 17.9 tons of cargo. There was one fire incident reported.
- 12 July 1968: HMM-163 flew 51.6 hours, 9.4 on night medevac. The squadron transported 123 passengers and 51 medevacs. The squadron also transported 16.8 tons of cargo. One fire incident reported with minor damage to squadron aircraft.
- 13 July 1968: HMM-163 flew 56.0 hours, 6.0 on night medevac. The squadron transported 147 troops/pax and 54 medevacs. The squadron transported 15.2 tons of cargo in support of the ROKMC. There was one fire incident causing minor damage to Highboy medevac aircraft.
- 14 July 1968: HMM-163 flew 39.5 hours, 2.1 on night medevac. The squadron flew 155 sorties, carried 70 pax and 63 medevacs. One fire incident reported today, again on medevac and minor damage.
- 15 July 1968: HMM-163 flew 41.6 hours, 5.8 for night medevac. This included 174 sorties and 78 tasks, while transporting 131 pax and 3.5 tons of cargo. Three fire incidents this day, all minor with no injuries to crews or passengers.
- 16 July 1968: HMM-163 flew 35.3 hours, 6.9 on night medevac. This included 92 sorties and 35 tasks. The squadron carried 6 pax and 23 medevacs. Four fire incidents were reported today, Highboy night medevac received fire at BT 097640 and was forced to leave the UH-34D at the NSA pad until the following morning.

CONFIDENTIAL

Enclosure (1)

5750
03A22168
8 August 1968

CONFIDENTIAL

- 17 July 1968: HMM-163 flew 26.7 hours, 1.4 of which were for night medevac. This included 168 sorties and 24 tasks. No fire incidents this day.
- 18 July 1968: HMM-163 flew 43.7 hours, 7.0 on night medevac. This included 177 sorties and 80 tasks, while transporting 117 troops/pax and 52 medevacs. The squadron transported 8.2 ton of cargo.
- 19 July 1968: HMM-163 flew 70.3 hours, 5.6 on night medevac and transported 147 pax, 52 medevacs and 11.6 tons of cargo. One fire incident reported from medevac this day. Damage was minor and no injuries were sustained.
- 20 July 1968: HMM-163 flew a total of 27.0 hours, 4.3 on night medevac. This squadron reported one fire incident today with minor damage to aircraft and no injuries to the crew.
- 21 July 1968: HMM-163 flew a total of 33.9 hours, 7.6 on night medevac. This included 142 sorties and 66 tasks, transporting 54 pax and 13.2 tons of cargo.
- 22 July 1968: The squadron flew 42.9 hours, 6.1 on night medevac. The Ridge Runners carried 76 pax and 28 medevacs, along with 16.0 tons of cargo.
- 23 July 1968: HMM-163 flew a total of 43.4 hours, 11.3 on night medevac. This included 178 sorties and 73 tasks while transporting 112 pax, 57 medevacs and 15.7 tons of cargo.
- 24 July 1968: HMM-163 flew a total of 17.4 hours, 5.2 of which were for night medevac. There were no hits this day.
- 25 July 1968: HMM-163 flew a total of 41.7 hours and 11.8 on night medevac. The squadron flew 193 sorties, while transporting 192 pax and 40 medevacs. Three fire incidents were reported this day.
- 26 July 1968: HMM-163 flew 55.1 hours, 4.0 on night medevac. This included 238 sorties and 79 tasks, while transporting 138 pax and 24 medevacs. No fire incidents this day.
- 27 July 1968: HMM-163 flew 47.8 hours, 9.5 on night medevac. The squadron transported 89 pax and 56 medevacs. No fire incidents this day.

CONFIDENTIAL

5750
03A22168
8 August 1968

CONFIDENTIAL

- 28 July 1968: HMM-163 flew 50.4 hours, 9.1 of night medevac. There were no fire incidents this day. One aircraft was left in the field overnight due to engine failure. A CH-53A externalled it the following day.
- 29 July 1968: HMM-163 flew 34.5 hours, 5.8 on night medevac. There were no fire incidents this day.
- 30 July 1968: HMM-163 flew 37.6 hours, 6.4 on night medevac. The squadron carried 136 pax and 54 medevacs. There were three fire incidents today.
- 31 July 1968: HMM-163 flew 34.5 hours, of which 8.6 were for night medevac. There were three fire incidents reported this day. Damage was light and no injuries sustained.

CONFIDENTIAL

Enclosure (1)

5750
03A22168
8 August 1968

CONFIDENTIAL

PART III

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. PERSONNEL

- a. Promotions: Sgt. - 3
Cpl. - 2
- b. Joined and Dropped: 27 Joined
54 Dropped

2. AWARDS. During this period 38 Air Medals were awarded.

3. <u>CASUALATES:</u>	NAME	RANK	DATE	LOCATION
	SMITH, C. L.	CPL	3Jul68	MMAF
	BUSTOS, G. G.	CPL	3Jul68	MMAF
	HAYMES, R. S.	CPL	3Jul68	MMAF
	WINTERTON, L. D.	LCPL	3Jul68	MMAF
	RAY, W. E.	LCPL	20Jul68	7 miles south MMAF

4. INTELLIGENCE. No significant events.

5. AIR OPERATION

Total Flight Hours:	1363.9
Total Sorties Flown:	5152
Total Medevacs:	1326
Total Cargo Carried:	153.9 tons
Total Troops/Passengers Carried:	2571

6. SPECIAL OPERATIONS. During this period the squadron participated in Operation Dragon Palace II.

7. MAINTENANCE. The squadron availability dropped slightly due to the increase in battle damage incidents.

8. GENERAL. No significant events.

CONFIDENTIAL

Enclosure (1)