

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 164  
Marine Aircraft Group 36  
First Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac  
FPO San Francisco 96602

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75008  
10 July 1975

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From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 36 (Attn: S-3)  
Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 January 1975 to 30 June 1975  
Ref: (a) WgO (R) 5750.1  
(b) GruO 5750.1  
Encl: (1) HMM-164 Command Chronology

1. In accordance with references (a) and (b), enclosure (1) is submitted.

2. This letter is downgraded to unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

J. S. LOOP

HMM-164 CMCC FILES

75008
Copy 1 of 15

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Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 164  
Marine Aircraft Group 36  
First Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac  
FPO San Francisco 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 JANUARY 1975 - 30 JUNE 1975

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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CONFIDENTIALPART IORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. DESIGNATION  
MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 164

COMMANDER

LTCOL. D. R. ALLEN JR.  
1 JAN - 11 APR  
LTCOL. J. S. LOOP  
12 APR - 30 JUN

STAFF OFFICERS  
Executive Officer

NAME

MAJ. T. B. HILL  
1 JAN - 10 JAN  
LTCOL. J. S. LOOP  
11 JAN - 11 APR  
MAJ. R. G. PINSON  
12 APR - 20 JUN  
MAJ. A. T. COMMON  
21 JUN - 30 JUN

Administrative Officer

CAPT. R. D. NEWMAN  
1 JAN - 17 Jan  
1stLT. J. MUSCHETE JR.  
18 JAN - 12 JUN  
CAPT. R. D. NEWMAN  
13 JUN - 24 JUN

Intelligence Officer

1stLT. E. G. HUCKABEE  
1 JAN - 19 JUN  
MAJ. S. F. STOVER  
20 JUN - 30 JUN

Operations Officer

MAJ. R. G. PINSON  
1 JAN - 11 APR  
CAPT. C. D. MORGAN  
12 APR - 19 JUN  
MAJ. S. F. STOVER  
20 JUN - 30 JUN

Logistics Officer

CAPT. M. M. HODGES  
1 JAN - 10 FEB  
CAPT. W. O. SCHWARZ  
11 FEB - 28 MAR  
CAPT. S. P. COOK  
29 MAR - 30 JUN

Aircraft Maintenance Officer

CAPT. G. F. GESKE  
1 JAN - 28 MAR  
CAPT. L. D. LABRIE  
29 MAR - 7 APR  
MAJ. B. J. BARENTS  
8 APR - 30 JUN

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NATOPS Officer

CAPT. R. W. GILLESPIE  
 1 JAN - 17 JAN  
 CAPT. R. D. NEWMAN  
 18 JAN - 12 JUN  
 CAPT. T. W. HOLDEN  
 13 JUN - 30 JUN

Aviation Safety Officer

CAPT. T. W. HOLDEN  
 1 JAN - 30 JUN

2. DETACHED UNITS

HMM - 164 Detachment, Operation  
 Frequent Wind

COMMANDER  
 MAJ. T. T. COMMAN  
 4 APR - 4 MAY  
 LTCOL. J. S. LOOP  
 5 MAY - 22 JUN

3. ATTACHED UNITS

None

4. LOCATION

1 JAN - 23 JAN: USS Tripoli; inport, Subic Bay, R. P.  
 24 JAN - 26 JAN: USS Tripoli; enroute, Okinawa, Japan  
 27 JAN - 30 JUN: Okinawa, Japan

5. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>TOTAL</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
24	127	0	0	24	127

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CONFIDENTIALPART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY

HMM - 164 returned to Okinawa, Japan during the month of January after a seven month deployment as a Composite Helicopter Squadron with the 31st MAU. The Squadron flew a total of 295 hours during the month, most of which was in support of 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines which was conducting unit training in the Zambales Training Area, Subic Bay, R. P. Major General ARMSTRONG, Major General HOTELMAN, and Major General HOUGHTON flew aboard HMM - 164 aircraft for inspection tours of the Subic Bay training areas during this time frame. On 26 January 1975, the Squadron off-loaded from USS Tripoli at White Beach, Okinawa, Japan and returned to its home base, MCAS(H) Futenma.

February and March were months of change and reorganization for HMM - 164. The Squadron went from an onboard strength of 46 Officers and 220 Enlisted men on 1 January 1975 to 28 Officers and 139 Enlisted men on 31 March 1975. Quality Assurance audits for all aircraft were the first order of business for the Squadron when returning from seven months of sea duty. With the transfer and rotation of many of the pilots and the influx of new men, an active training and refamiliarization program was instituted. Although in a state of transition, HMM - 164 was still able to actively support the 3rd Marine Division and its training requirements as exemplified by Mission 215 of 28 February when the Squadron lifted four infantry companies and their associated equipment from Camp Hansen to the Northern Training Area. During the month of February the Squadron flew a total of 270 hours with approximately one half of this time being devoted to pilot and crew member training and the other half spent in support of the Division. In March the Squadron flew 336.5 hours, 161 of which were devoted to Squadron training and 110.9 were flown in support of the 3rd Marine Division. On 27 March two aircraft, 4 Officers and 15 Enlisted personnel were transferred to HMM - 165 and loaded aboard USS Blueridge which joined elements of the 7th Fleet in the South China Sea to participate in Operation Eagle Pull and Operation Frequent Wind. Three days later, the Squadron was tasked to lift elements of the 1st Battalion, 4th Marines from Camp Hansen to White Beach to load aboard USS Dubuque and join the USS Blueridge on its way south.

Within a week, HMM - 164 was again tasked to supply aircraft and personnel to support the 7th Fleet in its operations in South East Asia. On 4 April HMM - 164's Operation Frequent Wind Detachment; which consisted of 6 CH-46 helicopters, 13 Officers and 65 Enlisted men; flew aboard USS Midway with other units from MAG-36.

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Together with these units, the HMM - 164 Detachment was later transferred to USS Hancock and participated in Operation Eagle Pull and Operation Frequent Wind. A Change-of-Command Ceremony was held on 14 April; LtCol. ALLEN's relief was LtCol. J. S. LOOP. LtCol. LOOP joined the Frequent Wind Detachment in Cubi Point, R. P. on 5 May 1975. HMM - 164(Rear) at MCAS(H) Futema flew 45.2 hours during May, the majority of which was devoted to squadron training.

The Frequent Wind Detachment, which constituted the majority of the Squadron assets, returned to Okinawa on 22 June 1975 aboard USS Duluth. Two days later, on 24 June, while on a routine training flight in the Northern Training Area, YT - 05 crashed killing the three crewmen on board. Memorial services were held for Capt. R. D. NEWMAN, 1stLT. C. E. SNYDER AND S/Sgt. J. F. KUNZE on 29 June in the MCAS(H) Futema Chapel.

During the 2nd half of Fiscal Year 1975 the squadron flew a total of 1252.1 hours, 1438 sorties carrying 4478 passengers and 23.3 tons of cargo.

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CONFIDENTIALPART IIISEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

During the month of January the Squadron flew a total of 294.8 hours, 302 sorties, carrying 764 passengers and 6.8 tons of cargo.

7 Jan - Transported Major General HOUGHTON on an inspection tour of Subic Bay Training Areas.

12 Jan - Transported Major General ARMSTRONG from Cubi Point to Baguio, R. P.

13 Jan - Transported a Defense Communication Agency Team and equipment to Baguio, R. P. from Cubi Point.

14 Jan - Transported Major General ARMSTRONG from Baguio to Cubi Point, R. P.

15 Jan - Transported Major General HOFFMAN on a tour of the Subic Bay Training Areas.

16 Jan - Transported Col. SCHULTZ, 1stMAW G-3, from Baguio, R. P. to Cubi Point.

26 Jan - Off-loaded from USS Tripoli to MCAS(H) Futema, Okinawa, Japan.

During the month of February the Squadron flew a total of 270.5 hours, 296 sorties carrying 1059 passengers and 4.8 tons of cargo.

28 Feb - 600 man trooplift of 3rd MAR DIV personnel from Camp Hansen to the Northern Training Area.

During the month of March the Squadron flew a total of 336.5 hours, 388 sorties, carrying 1808 passengers and 25.5 tons of cargo.

27 Mar - On-load HMM - 164 TAD personnel to USS Bluebird.

30 Mar - Transported elements of 1st Battalion, 4th Marines from Camp Hansen to White Beach for on-load to USS Dubuque.

During the month of April the Squadron flew a total of 83.5 hours, 81 sorties, carrying 100 passengers and 1 ton of cargo.

4 Apr - Operation Frequent Wind Detachment flies aboard USS Midway.

11 Apr - Change-of-Command Ceremony.

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During the month of May the Squadron flew a total of 45.2 hours, 46 sorties, carrying 29 passengers.

5 May - Squadron Commanding Officer takes Command of the Frequent Wind Detachment.

During the month of June the Squadron flew a total of 124.8 hours, 145 sorties, carrying 222 passengers and 2 tons of cargo.

22 Jun - Frequent Wind Detachment returns to Okinawa, Japan aboard USS Duluth.

24 Jun - YT - 05, BuNo 154800 crashed on a routine training mission in the Northern Training Area, killing the three crewmen aboard.

25 Jun - Col. SCHULTZ, 1stMAW G-3 visited the Squadron.

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CONFIDENTIALPART IVSUBORDINATE UNITS COMMAND CHRONOLOGY1. HMM - 164 FREQUENT WIND DETACHMENT4 April 1975 - 22 June 1975

OTC: CAPT R. D. NEWMAN  
 LTCOL. J. S. LOOP

4 Apr - 4 May  
 5 May - 22 Jun

LOCATION:

4 Apr - 6 Apr: USS Midway  
 6 Apr - 8 Apr: Cubi Point, R. P.  
 8 Apr - 4 May: USS Hancock; South China Sea  
 4 May - 10 May: Cubi Point, R. P.  
 10 May - 20 May: USS Okinawa  
 20 May - 18 Jun: Cubi Point, R. P.  
 18 Jun - 22 Jun: USS Duluth

NARRATIVE: On 4 April a detachment of 6 CH-46's under the command of Capt. R. D. NEWMAN flew aboard USS Midway with other elements of MAG-36 for transportation to Cubi Point, Republic of the Philippines. Arriving in the Philippines on 6 April the Detachment off-loaded to NAS Cubi Point to await the arrival of the USS Hancock. The Detachment flew aboard USS Hancock on 8 April and sailed for the South China Sea to assume position off the coast of Cambodia in support of Operation Eagle Pull. Although aircraft from the HMM - 164 Detachment did not participate in the evacuation of personnel from the Phnom Penh LZ's, the Detachment provided two SAR aircraft for Operation Eagle Pull on 12 April 1975.

On 14 April USS Hancock arrived inport Singapore but put to sea again on 16 April and arrived on station off the coast of South Vietnam to await orders to participate in the evacuation of Saigon. Orders were received to execute Operation Frequent Wind on the morning of 29 April 1975. HMM - 164 Detachment aircraft flew a total of 61.4 hours in a 24 hour period in support of the operation.

On 4 May, the USS Hancock returned to Subic Bay, R. P. with approximately 2000 refugees evacuated by the embarked helicopter squadron and detachments. HMM - 164 Detachment off-loaded to NAS Cubi Point to await transportation back to Okinawa, Japan. LtCol. J. S. LOOP took Command of the Detachment at this time. On 10 May the Detachment flew aboard USS Okinawa. USS Okinawa left Subic Bay, R. P. on 12 May enroute to Okinawa, Japan but was recalled to Subic Bay in order to participate in the recovery of SS MAYAGUEZ. HMM - 164 once again off-loaded to NAS Cubi Point. The USS Duluth returned the Detachment to Okinawa, Japan on 22 June 1975. While deployed the HMM - 164 Frequent Wind Detachment flew a total of 360.3 hours.

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SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- 4 Apr - HFM 164 Operation Frequent Wind Detachment flies aboard USS Midway.
- 6 Apr - Detachment off-loads from USS Midway to NAS Cubi Point, R. P.
- 8 Apr - Detachment flies aboard USS Hancock.
- 12 Apr - Operation Eagle Pull.
- 29 Apr - Operation Frequent Wind; YT-26 Buno 154042 crashed with the loss of two crewmen.
- 4 May - Detachment off-loaded to NAS Cubi Point.
- 10 May - Detachment flies aboard USS Okinawa.
- 20 May - Detachment off-loads from USS Okinawa to NAS, Cubi Point, R. P.
- 18 Jun - Detachment on-loads to USS Duluth.
- 22 Jun - Detachment returns to Okinawa, Japan.

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