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MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 165
Marine Aircraft Group 36
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

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03A21667
4 August 1967

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 36 (Attn: S-3)
Subj: Command Chronology, submission of (U)

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A
(b) WGO 5750.1C
(c) GruO 5750.1B

Encl: (1) Command Chronology for the period 1-31 July 1967

1. In compliance with references (a) through (c), enclosure (1) is submitted.

J. A. Reames
J. A. REAMES

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MM-165

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July 1967

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MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 165
Marine Aircraft Group 36
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

Part I

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Commanding Officer | LtCol J. A. REAMES | Total Period |
| Executive Officer | Major R. E. ROMINE | Total Period |
| Operations Officer | Major D. C. HELM | Total Period |
| Administrative Officer | Major J. J. THARP | Total Period |
| Maintenance Officer | Major D. W. ANDERSON | Total Period |
| Logistics/Supply Officer | Major C. R. PERRY | Total Period |
| NATOPS Officer | Major L. L. PAYTON, JR. | Total Period |
| Safety Officer | Major W. T. READ | Total Period |
2. MCAF KY HA, RVN 96602
1-31 July 1967
3. Average Strength: OFF 48 ENL 204
4. Important Visitors: NONE

Part II

a. During the month of July, HMM-165 supported six operations. The BUFFALO CITY Flight Leaders distinguished themselves constantly while leading the major strikes and resupply missions in support of these operations. No matter what area HMM-165 was called to operate in during the month, the missions were handled competently and with extreme professionalism by the "CAN DO" pilots of BUFFALO CITY.

During the month of July the squadron maintenance department once again faced seemingly insurmountable obstacles due to the lack of parts needed to repair the BUFFALO CITY aircraft. Only by working long and hard hours were they able to maintain an average availability of 10 aircraft per day during this trying period. Their diligence to duty and untiring sacrifices enabled BUFFALO CITY to fly 1189.7 flight hours during this period. Since arriving in 1st MAW in September, HMM-165 has accumulated 12,705.8 flight hours.

In support of Operation CALHOUN, BUFFALO CITY lifted 162 troops and passengers and 24.3 tons of cargo. A total of 59 sorties in 20.6 hours in support of this operation.

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In support of Operation PECOS, BUFFALO CITY logged 54.6 flight hours, and lifted 17.9 tons of cargo and 305 passengers and troops. A total of 136 sorties were flown in support of this operation.

In support of Operation GEM, BUFFALO CITY logged 28.1 flight hours, and lifted 390 passengers and troops. A total of 87 sorties were flown in support of this operation.

In support of Operation HICKORY II, BUFFALO CITY logged 4.5 flight hours, and lifted 7.0 tons of cargo and 27 passengers and troops. A total of 18 sorties were flown in support of this operation.

In support of Project DELTA, BUFFALO CITY logged 15.6 flight hours, and lifted .3 tons of cargo and 60 passengers and troops. A total of 25 sorties were flown in support of this operation.

In support of Operation STOCKTON, BUFFALO CITY logged 14.9 flight hours, and lifted 251 passengers and troops. A total of 60 sorties were flown in support of this operation.

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1 July 1967. A section of 2 BUFFALO CITY aircraft led by Major R. E. ROMINE departed KY HA in support of Operation CALHOUN. The 2 aircraft lifted 10.7 tons of cargo and 69 passengers before returning to KY HA.

2 July 1967. A section of 2 BUFFALO CITY aircraft led by Major R. E. ROMINE departed PHU BAI and joined another section led by Major D. C. HEIM for a troop lift from DONG HA. While lifting OLDFIELD "K" into the zone at YD130706, Major HEIM's flight encountered incoming enemy artillery. Despite this, Major HEIM brought his section back for a total of 3 trips to the zone. OLDFIELD "L" was then lifted to YD210537 without incident, and the section returned to DONG HA.

3 July 1967. While augmenting MAG-16 forward at DONG HA, a section of 2 BUFFALO CITY aircraft led by First Lieutenant D. A. LINDQUIST were returning to DONG HA from a routine recon overflight. About 330/2.5 NM from DONG HA, YW-21 (#2 of 2 aircraft) crashed and caught fire at YD212-608. In an attempt to dissipate the flames, Lieutenant LINDQUIST hovered above the burning aircraft, while his co-pilot, First Lieutenant J. C. JONES and the crewmembers attempted to extricate the crew of the crashed aircraft. Captain J. S. ROEDERER, 086449, was evacuated from the aircraft, but died on the way to "D" Med. at DONG HA. Second Lieutenant E. H. EATON, 095598, Lance Corporal F. R. ALLENDER, 2241556, Gunnery Sergeant H. D. PHILPOTT, 1095777, perished in the crash. An investigation team was inserted at the crash site, and the cause of the crash is still being investigated at this time.

4 July 1967. A section of 2 BUFFALO CITY aircraft led by Captain C. H. MANNING, augmenting MAG-16 forward at DONG HA launched on a resupply mission, and in a little over 3 hours lifted 13 Marines, 13.6 tons of cargo, further attesting to the "can do" spirit of HMM-165.

5 July 1967. A section of 2 BUFFALO CITY aircraft led by Captain C. H. MANNING, augmenting MAG-16 forward at DONG HA, launched on a resupply near the DMZ, and carried 67 Marine and 6.2 tons of cargo.

6 July 1967. Major D. C. HEIM, leading a section of 2 BUFFALO CITY aircraft on a resupply mission in support of the ROKMC, came under enemy fire while on his approach to two different company positions. Major HEIM's section lifted 36 ROKMC and 11.6 tons of cargo before returning to KY HA.

7 July 1967. A section of 2 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by D. C. HEIM augmenting MAG-16 forward at DONG HA, launched on a resupply mission

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to OLDFIELD at YD130726. While in the zone, the section received incoming enemy mortar rounds. The section continued the mission and completed the much needed resupply without further incident.

8 July 1967. A flight of 4 BUFFALO CITY aircraft led by Major C. R. PERRY, departed KY HA on a resupply mission in support of the ROKMC. On departing the landing zone at BS722851, the flight took sniper fire, but Major PERRY elected to continue, and the flight went on to lift 15 passengers and 8.4 tons of cargo.

9 July 1967. A section of 2 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by Major R. E. ROMINE, departed KY HA on a resupply mission in support of the ROKMC. While on final to BS547857, the section received automatic weapons fire. Major ROMINE's section lifted 74 passengers and 15.3 tons of cargo before returning to KY HA.

10 July 1967. A flight of 2 BUFFALO CITY aircraft led by the squadron Commanding Officer Lieutenant Colonel J. A. REAMES departed KY HA on mission 74, ROKMC resupply. Coming into the ROK LSA, Captain J. B. SRAMEK experienced a single engine failure, and successfully landed the aircraft in the LSA. Captain SRAMEK returned to KY HA in the lead aircraft and got another aircraft, the section returned to the ROK LSA. While on approach to BS547857, the section received enemy fire from BS552837. Lieutenant Colonel REAMES pressed on, however, the resupply was completed without further incident.

11 July 1967. A section of 2 BUFFALO CITY aircraft led by Major T. P. LOUGHEED departed KY HA on mission 55, resupply in direct support of ROKMC. While in the first drop landing zone, the section received enemy fire. Major LOUGHEED, elected to continue the mission and the section returned to the same landing zone twice more and completed the resupply and then returned to KY HA without further incident.

12 July 1967. A section of 2 BUFFALO CITY aircraft led by Captain B. R. MASSEY, departed PHU BAI, while in support of MAG-16, for a recon insert of NETTLEFASH II. On short final to the landing zone at YD415284, the section received enemy fire, and the insert was aborted. One of the recon team members, while returning fire from the aircraft, accidentally fired a round through the stubwing of the lead aircraft. The section returned to PHU BAI and temporary repairs were effected.

13 July 1967. A section of 2 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by Major W. T. READ, departed KY HA on mission 69. The section inserted DONAHUE

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and extracted CRANKCASE. While at landing zone QUAIL, awaiting another team, a recon team member inadvertently detonated a grenade, killing 1 man and wounding 3 others. The casualties were rushed to the 1st Hospital Company, and the section went on to resupply BEACON LIGHT "X", before returning to KY HA.

14 July 1967. A section of 2 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by Captain L. R. MEDLIN, departed KY HA on mission 72, in support of the ROKMC. While on approach to BS742852, the section received enemy fire but made another trip to the same zone. While on approach to BS589830, the number 2 aircraft, piloted by Captain W. L. OSMONDSON, received fire, and was hit twice, and the section returned to the ROK LSA. The lead aircraft was dispatched to KY HA to pick up parts and a maintenance team for the downed aircraft. Repairs were effected, the section returned to KY HA.

15 July 1967. A flight of 2 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by Major L. L. PAYTON, while augmenting MAG-16, departed DONG HA on recon inserts and extracts. The section inserted PERSPECTIVE I and went on to skillfully extract PLATTSBURG II, by hoist. After inserting GREAT DIVIDE II and completing 2 recon overflights, the section returned to DONG HA.

16 July 1967. A flight of 5 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by Major C. R. PERRY, departed KY HA on an ARVN strike. Troops were picked up at TIEN PHUOC. Three trips were made to the drop zone at BT016238, and fire was received from four sites. With the help of KLONDIKE 4-2 and 4-3 and fixed wing support from JERSEY DAY and CASTOR OIL, Major PERRY was able to press on and complete the lift of 202 troops before returning to KY HA.

17 July 1967. A section of 2 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by Major C. R. PERRY, augmented MOHAIR in support of Operation GEN. While in the PLU zone, at AT807475, the troops received fire, but the entire flight continued, and with support from KLONDIKE 4-5 and 4-6, and SWISS 09, the troops were successfully inserted into their drop zones. The section then returned uneventfully to KY HA.

18 July 1967. A section of 2 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by Major T. P. LOUGHEED, launched on a resupply mission in support of the ROKMC. On what might be termed an uneventful mission, the section lifted an astounding 18.5 tons of cargo and 104 passengers in 5 hours, further attesting to the "can-do" spirit, for which BUFFALO CITY has become well known.

19 July 1967. A flight of 7 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel J. A. REAMES, launched on a ARVN

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strike. The flight took fire in the drop zone at BS356413, but yet another trip was made and a total of 189 troops were inserted before the flight returned to KY HA.

20 July 1967. A section of 2 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by Captain B. R. MASSEY, launched from KY HA in support of project DELTA. The section was escorted by 5 Army UH-1E's, 4 F-4's, and 2 F-8's throughout the mission and the landing zone was prepped by the fixed wing. The lead aircraft made it's approach to the zone, and while hovering prior to setting down, Captain B. R. MASSEY noted the presence of stakes and trip wires which completely blanketed the zone. Captain MASSEY waved-off, and immediately came under enemy fire, which resulted in 1 ARVN casualty and 1 hit upon the aircraft. The mission was aborted and the section remained on standby until 1900, when they returned to KY HA.

21 July 1967. A section of 2 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by Major W. T. READ, launched from KY HA on a series of recon insertions and retractions. DUCKBILL and BASKETBALL were uneventfully inserted and retracted, and the section proceeded to TAM KY to refuel. As the aircraft were approaching the landing zone BT065225 to resupply DONAHUE, they received enemy fire, but completed the much needed resupply and returned to KY HA.

22 July 1967. A section of 2 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by Major J. J. THARP, deployed at DONG HA, augmenting MAG-16 fwd, launched on a series of recon insertions and retractions. SPRING WHEAT I was uneventfully inserted, and the section proceeded to YC999661 to insert GREAT DIVIDE I. However, after extensive prep by OAKGATE 4-1, 4-2 and JERSEY DAY 178 and OXWOOD 02, secondary explosions were observed in the intended landing zone. The insert was aborted, and the recon teams returned to DONG HA. The section then launched on a emergency retraction of PERSPECTIVE II, which was accomplished uneventfully. On the attempted insert of PLATTSBURG II, after extensive fixed wing prep, Major THARP was in the zone, and off loading the team when the aircraft received intense enemy small arms/automatic weapons fire from 360°. One recon team member was hit in the haversack, but was uninjured. The team was back-loaded and Major THARP quickly left the zone and aborted the insert.

23 July 1967. A section of 2 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by Major D. N. ANDERSON, launched from KY HA on a much needed resupply mission in support of Operation PECOS. Upon arriving at the pickup zone, a single 55 gallon oil drum was loaded aboard the lead aircraft. Deducing that the oil drum must contain some rare, yet light element, owing to it's weight of only 50 pounds, Major ANDERSON pressed on, the gravity of the

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mission weighing heavily upon his shoulders. Upon landing at the drop zone the drum was off loaded, and much to everyone's amazement, the seemingly precious cargo proved to be an oil drum filled with ambient air! The section returned to KY HA without incident and was warmly congratulated by all hands present for a job well done.

24 July 1967. A section of 2 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by Major R. E. ROLLIE, departed KY HA for a recon insertion of BIRMINGHAM and APRIL DATE. BIRMINGHAM was inserted without incident. On the attempted insertion of APRIL DATE, however, after intense fixed wing prep, the lead aircraft, piloted by Major ROLLIE, came under enemy fire. At 1000 feet and 100 knots the aircraft was fired upon and sustained 1 hit in the plexiglass bubble under Major ROLLIE's feet. He was slightly injured by the flying plexiglass and he wisely aborted the insert of the team. The section returned uneventfully to KY HA.

25 July 1967. A section of 2 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by Major D. B. HELL, departed KY HA for recon insertions of APRIL DATE and BASKET BALL. BASKET BALL was inserted without incident. On the insert of APRIL DATE, the section came under enemy fire after landing in the LZ, and Major HELL wisely aborted the insert. The section returned to KY HA without further incident.

26 July 1967. A section of 2 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by Captain C. E. MANNING, departed KY HA for DONG HA to augment MAC-16 Forward. While in support of MAC-16, the BUFFALO CITY section performed 4 overflights, carried med-evacs and carried much needed troops and resupplies before returning to DONG HA, and ultimately to KY HA.

27 July 1967. A flight of 4 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by LtCol J. A. REAMES, departed KY HA to join MOHAIK on Operations STOCKTON. The flight was escorted by KLONDIKE, who, acting as TAC(A), controlled the fixed wing prep which was instrumental in neutralizing the prospective LZ. The mission was successfully completed, with BUFFALO CITY lifting 251 troops.

28 July 1967. A section of 2 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by Major T. F. LOUGHEED, departed KY HA on recon insertion of DUCKBILL and extraction of APRIL DATE. Insertion of DUCKBILL proceeded uneventfully. On the retraction of APRIL DATE, however, anti-helo stakes and trip wires were observed in the prospective LZ. Major LOUGHEED wisely instructed the team to move to a more suitable LZ, which they did. On the final extraction, Major LOUGHEED took fire in the LZ, but he coolly remained in the zone until the team was aboard, then lifted out, dropped the recon team at LZ QUAIL and returned to KY HA.

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29 July 1967. A flight of 4 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by First Lieutenant R. M. DALBEY, departed KY HA on a strike mission in support of the ROK Marine Corps. After picking up its load of troops, the flight proceeded to the drop zone, where the first 2 aircraft, piloted by Lieutenant DALBEY and Major L. L. PAYTON, received enemy fire while on approach. 319 troops were lifted, and, amazingly, no fixed wing or UH-1E's participated. BUFFALO CITY, however, pressed on without the aid of air cover or escorts, further testament to the willingness and ability to do more than pull their share.

30 July 1967. A flight of 6 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by Major R. E. ROMINE, departed KY HA on an ARVN trooplift out of the Special Forces TRA BONG outpost. 62 troops were landed in the zone at BS399942, with fixed wing cover by MISS MUFFET and DETAIN aircraft. The valiant ARVN troops set out in search of the enemy, while the BUFFALO CITY aircraft orbited the area, after making sure the troops on the ground were safe, Major ROMINE led his flight home.

31 July 1967. A flight of 3 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by Major L. L. PAYTON, departed KY HA on a series of recon inserts and extractions, a highly valuable means of gathering intelligence concerning the Viet Cong. After preparation by fixed wing, CRANKCASE was inserted. DUCKBILL was extracted without incident and the insertions of ANTIFREEZE and BENNINGTON were successfully accomplished before the flight returned to KY HA.

Part III

1. Personnel. During this reporting period, BUFFALO CITY joined eight new officers and transferred two, which brought the squadron to 49 officers and 212 enlisted men. Captain P. L. HARRINGTON was transferred to Camp BUTLER for processing to CONUS due to injuries incurred in RVN and Captain J. C. TATUM was transferred to MAG-36. The squadron joined Captain W. H. SEWARD and Captain K. H. MACKIE from 2dMAW. First Lieutenants J. B. GARTMAN, J. T. HEINE and C. L. WEAVER and Second Lieutenants J. H. MERRILL and M. J. FRIEL joined the squadron from the 3dMAW. CWO-4 W. B. LONG, JR. joined BUFFALO CITY from H&MS-36.

2. Casualties. During this reporting period, Captain J. S. ROEDERER, Second Lieutenant B. H. EATCH, Gunnery Sergeant H. D. PHILPOTT and Lance Corporal F. R. ALLENDER died as a result of an aircraft accident in the DONG HA area on 3 July 1967. Major R. E. ROMINE, Captain D. B. MCDYRE, Captain J. E. MORGAN and Corporal J. R. ALDRIDGE were slightly wounded by shrapnel on 24 July 1967. Corporal D. J. MURRAY was slightly wounded by shrapnel on 14 July 1967.

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3. Awards. During this reporting period, BUFFALO CITY was awarded 61 Air Medals, 6 Purple Hearts, 1 Silver Star, 6 DFC's, 1 Navy Commendation Medal and 1 single mission Air Medal. Sergeant W. G. DRAKE was awarded the Silver Star for his heroic actions during a night med-evac mission in support of Operation DESOTO in the DUC PHO area. First Lieutenant R. M. DALBEY was awarded a single mission Air Medal and Sergeant R. E. SECKINGER was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal. Major T. P. LOUGHEED, Major C. R. PERRY, Major L. L. PAYTON, JR. (2d Award), Captain J. C. TATUM, First Lieutenant D. A. LINDQUIST and First Lieutenant R. M. DALBEY were awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for their actions against the insurgent Viet Cong forces.

The following personnel received the Purple Heart:

Major R. E. ROMINE
Capt D. B. MCDYRE
Capt J. E. MORGAN
Cpl J. R. ALDRIGE
Cpl D. J. MURRAY
ICpl D. M. CARRILLO

4. Civil Action. Lieutenant J. M. PAGE, USN (MC), the squadron Flight Surgeon continued to devote his spare time to the MEDCAP teams in their program at the village of SAM HAI.

5. <u>Squadron Totals.</u>	Flight Hours	1189.7
	Sorties	3309
	Cargo (Tons)	512.9
	Troops/Passengers	7539

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