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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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 03427567
 2 October 1967

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 36 (Attn: S-3)

Subj: Command Chronology, submission of (U)

Ref: (a) MOO 5750.2A
 (b) WgO 5750.1C
 (c) GruO 5750.1B

Encl: V(1) Command Chronology for the period 1-30 September 1967

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

J. A. REAMES

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

Part I

1. Commanding Officer	LtCol J. M. REAMES	Total Period
Executive Officer	Major R. M. ROMINE	Total Period
Operations Officer	Major D. C. REIM	1-6 Sep 67
	Major T. F. LOUGHREED	6-21 Sep 67
	Major J. J. THARP	22-30 Sep 67
Administrative Officer	Major J. J. THARP	1-21 Sep 67
Maintenance Officer	Major D. M. ANDERSON	Total Period
Logistics/Supply Officer	Major G. R. PERRY	Total Period
NATOPS Officer	Major L. D. PAYTON, JR.	Total Period
Safety Officer	Major M. T. READ	Total Period
2. MCAS KY MA, RVN 96602		
1-30 September 1967		
3. Average Strength: OFF 50 ENL 212		
4. Important Visitors: NONE		

Part II

a. During the month of September, HMM-165 supported no operations against the insurgent Viet Cong forces. Flight operations were held to a minimum, due to the fact that the CH-46A aircraft in MM was grounded for all except emergency missions, while accidents incurred by HMM-262 and HMM-265 were being investigated.

b. HMM-165 maintenance, in their usual professional manner, kept an average of 8.2 aircraft up per day during the month. The squadron logged 148.0 hours for the month, and since arriving in MM in September 1966, the squadron has logged a total of 14,224.8 flight hours.

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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1 September 1967. A section of 2 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by Captain D. L. STEWART, departed KY HA for Hill 55 for a passenger shuttle between Hill 55 and Hill 10. The shuttle was completed successfully, and the aircraft returned to MAF where they were grounded due to accidents incurred by HMM-265 and HMM-262, involving suspected structural failure.

2-3 September 1967. No flight operations.

4 September 1967. A flight of 5 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by Major D. C. HELM, departed KY HA on a troop lift. The 5 aircraft lifted 240 U. S. Marines into the drop zone in 4 trips. The flight received small arms fire, but after BLACK ACE F-4's and KLONDIKE gunships successfully suppressed the enemy fire, Major HELM completed the lift and the flight returned to KY HA.

5-12 September 1967. No flight operations.

13 September 1967. A flight of 6 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by Squadron Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel J. A. REAMES, with MAG-36 Commanding Officer, Colonel F. E. WILSON as co-pilot, departed KY HA on a night emergency troop lift of U. S. Marines. During the approach to the first pickup zone, Lieutenant Colonel REAMES and his wingman took sporadic sniper fire. After suppressive fire was laid down by KLONDIKE UH-1E gunships, Lieutenant Colonel REAMES, realizing the urgency of the mission, elected to land in the zone for the pickup. Off the deck with the first load of troops, Lieutenant Colonel REAMES led the BUFFALO CITY flight to the drop zone, where, after suppressive fire was again delivered by the valiant KLONDIKE gunships, the first wave was inserted. Proceeding to TAN KY for fuel, 2 aircraft were forced to return to KY HA with mechanical difficulties. Lieutenant Colonel REAMES, with the remaining 4 aircraft returned to the pickup zone and successfully completed the lift before returning to KY HA, again demonstrating BUFFALO CITY's renowned quick reaction capability and competent leadership in missions of all types.

14-21 September 1967. No flight operations.

22 September 1967. A flight of 3 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by Captain R. H. PEARCE, departed KY HA on an emergency retraction of the Marine recon team CHANKAIS. The team had come under heavy fire from suspected RVN troops in the area. As Captain PEARCE circled the area, KLONDIKE UH-1E gunships controlled 2 OV-10C A-4's on bombing and strafing runs in and about the prospective landing zone. After sufficient prep, Captain PEARCE and his wingman commenced their approaches to the zone, leaving the third aircraft high as SAR. Both aircraft took intense fire on the approach, as

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well as in the zone, but amazingly, neither aircraft was hit. Nine team members scrambled aboard the first aircraft and ten aboard the second. Both lifted out of the zone, taking fire all the while, and successfully completed the extraction, saving the beleaguered team from almost certain annihilation. Captain FALKO's superior airmanship and cool-headedness throughout the entire ordeal is further testament to BUFFALO CITY's ability to complete even the most hazardous missions successfully.

23-30 September 1967. No flight operations.

Part III

1. Personnel. During this reporting period, BUFFALO CITY joined two new officers, bringing the squadron to 42 officers and 197 enlisted men. Twelve officers were detached from the squadron during the month of September. On 14 September 1967 5 pilots received TAB orders from MAG-36 to augment HMM-263, flying the CH-34 in support of operations against the insurgent Viet Cong.

2. Casualties. During this reporting period, Major H. L. CONNOLLY was slightly wounded on 8 September 1967 while flying with HMM-263. Corporal H. F. MACHIBOTON was also slightly wounded on 27 September 1967 while flying as aerial gunner with HMM-263.

3. Awards. During this reporting period, BUFFALO CITY was awarded 163 Air Medals for operations against the insurgent Viet Cong. Sergeant J. KOMARY was awarded his second purple heart. Major, D. N. ANDREWS was awarded his second DFC. The following personnel were awarded the Navy Commendation medal:

Sergeant R. A. DICK (2nd Award)
Corporal J. P. SILVINA
Corporal R. E. LOCHIS
Corporal W. S. WHITENR

4. Civic Action. Lieutenant J. M. PAGE USAF(NC), the squadron Flight Surgeon, continued to devote his spare time to the MEDCAP team on their program at the village of SAM HAI.

5. Squadron Totals.

Flight Hours:	146.0
Sorties:	403
Cargo (tons):	.2
Troops/Passenger:	776

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