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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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2 October 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 1-30 September 1967  
1. In compliance with references (a) through (c), enclosure (1) is submitted.

J. A. REAMES

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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        | 1-6Sep67     |
|                                     | Major T. F. LOUGHMEED   | 6-21Sep67    |
|                                     | Major J. J. THARP       | 22-30Sep67   |
| Administrative Officer              | Major J. J. THARP       | 1-21Sep67    |
| Maintenance Officer                 | Major D. M. ANDERSON    | Total Period |
| Logistics/Supply Officer            | Major C. H. 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            |                         |              |
| 1-30 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 OH-46A aircraft in RVN was grounded for all except emergency missions, while accidents incurred by HH-262 and HH-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 RVN 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 KMAF where they were grounded due to accidents incurred by HMM-265 and HMM-262, involving suspected structural failures.

2-3 September 1967. No flight operations.

4 September 1967. A flight of 5 BUFFALO CITY aircraft, led by Major D. C. HEIM, 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 HEIM 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 MAC-36 Commanding Officer, Colonel F. B. 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 OH-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. M. PEARCE, departed KY HA on an emergency retraction of the Marine recon team CHANKASS. The team had come under heavy fire from suspected ARVN troops in the area. As Captain PEARCE circled the area, KLONDIKE OH-1E gunships controlled 2 OV-10A'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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ENCLOSURE (1)

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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 PEARSON'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 TAD orders from MAC-35 to augment MAC-263, flying the OH-34 in support of operations against the insurgent Viet Cong.
2. Casualties. During this reporting period, Major E. L. CONRADSON was slightly wounded on 8 September 1967 while flying with MAC-263. Corporal E. F. WASHINGTON was also slightly wounded on 27 September 1967 while flying as aerial gunner with MAC-263.
3. Awards. During this reporting period, BUFFALO CITY was awarded 163 Air Medals for operations against the insurgent Viet Cong. Sergeant J. KENNEY was awarded his second purple heart. Major, D. N. ANDERSON 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. LOMIS
  - Corporal W. S. WINTERMAN
4. Civic Action. Lieutenant J. E. PAGE HEN(MC), the Squadron Flight Surgeon, continued to devote his spare time to the MEDCAP team on their program at the village of BAN HAI.

5. Squadron Totals.

Flight Hours:	148.0
Sorties:	403
Cargo (tons):	.2
Troops/passengers:	776

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