

HMM 165 S+C # 03A24868

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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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4 September 1968

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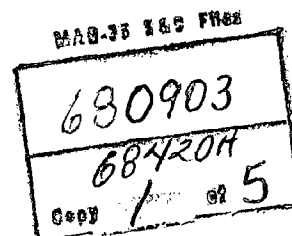
From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 36
Subj: Command Chronology, submission of (U)

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

Encl: (1) Command Chronology for period 1-31 August 1968

1. In compliance with reference (a) thru (c), enclosure (1) is hereby submitted.


G. L. PATRICK



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ENCLOSURE (4)

HMM-165

CMD CHRON

Aug 1968

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

HUE/PHU BAI, RVN

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
for period

1 August 1968 through 31 August 1968

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

Part I1. Organizational Data

a. Commanding Officer	E. E. HAGEDORN, LTCOL	1Aug-22Aug68
	G. L. PATRICK, LTCOL	23Aug-31Aug68
b. Executive Officer	J. E. PRATHER, MAJOR	1Aug-31Aug68
c. Operations Officer	R. D. TAYLOR, MAJOR	1Aug-31Aug68
d. Administrative Officer	R. A. BROWN, 1/LT	1Aug-31Aug68
e. Maintenance Officer	A. D. DAVIS, MAJOR	1Aug-31Aug68
f. Logistics/Supply Officer	R. G. MITCHELL, MAJOR	1Aug- 7Aug68
	L. R. ADAMS, CAPT	8Aug-31Aug68
g. NATOPS Officer	J. B. GARTMAN, CAPT	1Aug- 7Aug68
	R. G. MITCHELL, MAJOR	8Aug-31Aug68
h. Safety Officer	V. S. REED, MAJOR	1Aug-31Aug68

2. Task Organization and Unit Location

a. HMM-165, Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
 FPO, San Francisco, 96602

b. 1 August 1968 - 31 August 1968

3. Average Strength of Squadron

<u>NAVAL AVIATORS</u>	<u>AGO</u>	<u>FLIGHT SURGEON</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>	<u>BOEING REP</u>
45	4	1	160	2

4. Important Visitors to Squadron

a. Major General Charles J. QUILTER 05695 USMC on 22 August 1968

Part II

1 August 1968. A section of CH-46's led by LtCol. E. E. HAGEDORN launched to the north on Mission 74. Three outposts along the DMZ received 4,400 pounds of cargo and 67 troops as a result of the mission. Operation HOUSTON received support from HMM-165 as 1/Lt. W. B. RING led a section of White Knights south of Phu Bai on a recon insert and extract mission. One insert, two extracts of recon teams and two overflights of future recon landing zones were accomplished in completing the mission. This same section launched again late in the day to extract a recon team who had taken two casualties in a skirmish with the

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NVA/VC. Mission 51E, an emergency med-evac, was completed by a section of White Knights led by 1/Lt. G. A. MCKINNEY. This section also completed a resupply of two recon teams located in the hills south of Phu Bai on Mission Number 83.

2 August 1968. Operation HOUSTON being conducted south of Phu Bai received support from Mission 75. Two White Knight aircraft led by Major R. G. MITCHELL lifted 1900 pounds of cargo and 40 troops and conducted two overflights of future recon landing zones along with one emergency med-evac in completing the mission.

3 August 1968. Resupplying of two outposts along the DMZ was the objective of Mission 83. HMM-165 launched two aircraft on the mission led by Major R. G. MITCHELL. Operation MAMALUKE THRUST being conducted south of Da Nang received support from a division of White Knights led by Major J. E. PRATHER. On standby at Hill 55, they were to be utilized to deploy a company of Marines as a reactionary force.

4 August 1968. Major R. D. TAYLOR led his section south of Phu Bai on Mission 78 in support of Operation HOUSTON. Enemy presence was evident as the section repeatedly came under fire while attempting to insert a recon team. Unable to complete the insert due to the heavy enemy fire, they continued their mission and completed two extracts one of which was under fire. Capt. L. R. ADAMS then took to the air with his section of CH-46's and completed one insert in completing the mission. Operation BUFFALO was supported by a section of White Knights led by LtCol. E. E. HAGEDORN. One hundred-seventy seven combat troops were lifted to two positions to begin a sweep of suspected enemy positions east of Phu Bai.

5 August 1968. Capt. L. R. ADAMS led his section of White Knights north to the Dong Ha area. Launched on Mission 74, a combat troops/cargo mission, they successfully completed the mission while lifting 3600 pounds of cargo and 50 troops to two outposts near the DMZ.

6 August 1968. Capt. L. R. ADAMS launched a section of two White Knights on Mission Number 76/18. Their objective was to give support to the First Marine Division units located southwest of Da Nang. After lifting 2100 pounds of cargo and 122 combat troops, they were relieved by another section of White Knights led by Major A. D. DAVIS. This section completed the mission while lifting 3800 pounds of cargo and 29 combat troops.

7 August 1968. Mission 74, a resupply mission to Con Thien and Qua Viet located south of the DMZ, was undertaken by a section of CH-46's led by 1/Lt. G. A. MCKINNEY. The mission was completed without encountering enemy fire and totals showed 1500 pounds of cargo and 51 combat troops lifted to the two outposts.

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8 August 1968. Major R. D. TAYLOR was the flight leader of two CH-46's launched on Mission 73, a logistics mission. In completing the mission the section lifted 7,280 pounds of cargo and 24 troops. Mission 74 in support of the Third Marine Division was carried out by a section of White Knights led by Major R. G. MITCHELL. Nine hundred pounds of cargo and 72 troops were lifted to three advanced outposts south of the DMZ.

9 August 1968. Operation HOUSTON, located south of Phu Bai, received support from two flights of White Knights. The first flight led by Major A. D. DAVIS completed Mission 78, a recon insert and extract mission. Totals for the completed mission showed two inserts and two extracts accomplished while lifting 600 pounds of cargo and 54 combat troops. The second flight, led by LtCol. E. E. HAGEDORN, completed Missions 77, 73, and 51B. Totals showed 60 med-evac and 14 combat troops lifted in completing the three missions.

10 August 1968. Mission 74 supporting the First Marine Division's outposts of Con Thien and in the Ca Lu area was completed by a section of White Knights led by LtCol. E. E. HAGEDORN. Major J. E. PRATHER completed Mission 73, a VIP Mission, while flying out of Phu Bai to positions scattered around I Corps. First Lieutenant G. A. MCKINNEY led his section south to augment MAG-16. In completing their mission they lifted 23 combat troops. First Lieutenant J. V. BUCCERI led his section on an emergency med-evac, Mission 51F, and successfully lifted a seriously wounded Marine to medical facilities at Phu Bai.

11 August 1968. First Lieutenant W. B. RING launched as section leader of two CH-46's on Mission 73 supporting Operation HOUSTON. The mission totals showed 2,850 pounds of cargo and 7 troops along with 7 med-evacs lifted. Mission 74, in support of the First Marine Division, was completed by two White Knights with Capt. J. J. SMITH as section leader. Eleven hundred pounds of cargo and 51 troops were lifted in completing the mission. The same section also completed Mission 81, a combat troop mission. Mission 57B was completed by a section of White Knights led by Major R. D. TAYLOR.

12 August 1968. LtCol. E. E. HAGEDORN led his section of White Knights on Mission 73 supporting Operation HOUSTON. Totals for the completed mission showed 2300 pounds of logistics cargo and 78 troops lifted. Launched on Mission 57A, 1/Lt. G. A. MCKINNEY led his section south to the Da Nang area. The section lifted 2,000 pounds of cargo and 15 troops in completing the mission. Resupplying an artillery outpost southwest of Phu Bai was the objective of a section led by Major R. D. TAYLOR on Mission 77. Supporting the First Marine Division on Mission 74, two CH-46's led by Major V. S. REED lifted 3,700 pounds of cargo and 69 troops. Capt. L. R. ADAMS led his section south of Da Nang on Mission 75. Totals showed 12,800 pounds of cargo and 38 troops lifted in support of Operation MAMALUKE THRUST.

13 August 1968. Operation MAMALUKE THRUST received support from two sections of White Knights. The first section led by 1/Lt. W. B. RING lifted 12,600

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pounds of cargo and 38 troops while the second section, led by Major V. S. REED, lifted 10,700 pounds of cargo and 10 troops in completing the mission. Operation HOUSTON also received support from HMM-165 as 1/Lt. G. A. MCKINNEY led his section of White Knights on Mission 73. Totals for this mission showed 3,750 pounds of cargo and 44 troops lifted. The third operation receiving support from HMM-165 White Knights was MAMALUKE THRUST. With Majors R. G. MITCHELL and J. E. PRATHER leading their respective sections, 35,000 pounds of cargo and 56 troops were lifted in completing the mission.

14 August 1968. Flying a variety of missions while supporting Operation MAMALUKE THRUST, LtCol. E. E. HAGEDORN lifted 5,000 pounds of cargo and 21 troops as flight leader before aircraft mechanical difficulties forced him down. The two remaining White Knights, led by Major R. D. TAYLOR, lifted 8,900 pounds of cargo, 78 troops and 7 med-evacs while carrying out Missions 15, 16, 76, and 5F. Major R. G. MITCHELL, launched on Missions 52A and B, successfully completing the emergency extract of a recon team from the hills south of Phu Bai. First Lieutenant J. V. BUCCERI led his section of CH-46's on Mission 73 supporting Operation HOUSTON. Totals showed 31 troops lifted to outposts southeast of Phu Bai.

15 August 1968. Capt. L. R. ADAMS led his section of White Knights south to the Da Nang area in support of Operation MAMALUKE THRUST on Mission 76. Major R. G. MITCHELL led his section to the same area and relieved Capt. ADAMS section on Mission 76. Totals of the two sections showed 52,000 pounds of cargo and 45 troops lifted. The second section earned a single mission Air Medal as they took enemy fire on ten different occasions with only one hit being registered by the two aircraft. A third section led by Major J. E. PRATHER also on Mission 76, also received fire on numerous occasions but completed the mission while lifting 21,500 pounds of cargo and 11 troops. First Lieutenant W. B. RING led his section on Mission 15/16, also in support of Operation MAMALUKE THRUST. Totals showed 13,200 pounds of cargo and 10 troops lifted in completing the mission.

16 August 1968. Two White Knights were launched with Capt. J. J. SMITH as section leader on Mission 75. Operating in the area between Ca Lu and Dong Ha, the section lifted 900 pounds of cargo and 207 troops despite mechanical difficulties encountered early in the day. LtCol. E. E. HAGEDORN led his section of CH-46's to the north also. Mission 74 required the lifting of 8,800 pounds of cargo and 36 troops to 4 isolated fire support bases located along the DMZ.

17 August 1968. A tropical storm in the South China Sea severely limited flight operations in the I Corps area. A complete overcast along with a constant rainfall held ceilings and visibilities well below minimums. Three White Knights did launch on Mission 74 only to have the mission cancelled after lifting 3,700 pounds of cargo and 27 troops to 3 isolated fire support bases along the DMZ.

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18 August 1968. Major J. E. PRATHER led the first section of White Knights to launch today. Mission 51D, an emergency med-evac, was completed by the section resulting in 32 seriously wounded Marines being lifted to medical facilities at Phu Bai. Resupplying outposts along the DMZ was the objective of Mission 74. LtCol. E. E. HAGEDORN led his section of CH-46's on the mission which when completed showed 2,700 pounds of cargo and 37 troops lifted.

19 August 1968. Supporting the First Marine Division's forces located along the DMZ was Mission 74. First Lieutenant W. B. RING led two White Knights on the mission which resulted in 1,000 pounds of cargo and 60 troops being lifted. First Lieutenant J. R. RUDOLPH led his section of White Knights on Mission 51C, an emergency med-evac. They successfully completed the mission returning a seriously wounded Marine from the hills south of Phu Bai to the medical facilities at Phu Bai. Mission 80 called for three overflights of future recon landing zones and the extract of a recon team. With the weather threatening to prevent the removal of the team from the hilltop landing zone Major R. D. TAYLOR went into the zone and received enemy fire during his tree-top level approach necessitated by the weather. The mission was successfully completed by his section resulting in 200 pounds of cargo and 15 troops being lifted and the three overflights completed.

20 August 1968. Operation KENTUCKY received support from the White Knights of HMM-165, as Major V. S. REED led his section of CH-46's on Mission 74. The objective was the resupply of two outposts along the DMZ. The mission complete, totals showed 1,600 pounds of cargo and 40 troops lifted. Capt. S. D. TURNER led his section of White Knights on Mission 76 which saw 3,800 pounds of cargo and 29 troops lifted in completing the mission.

21 August 1968. Operations MAMALUKE THRUST and ALLEN BROOK received support from Missions 15, 42, and 76. Major R. D. TAYLOR was the flight leader as three White Knights successfully completed these missions. Encountering mortar fire in their pick-up zone on four separate occasions, they continued missions 15 and 76 successfully while lifting 32,000 pounds of cargo, 29 troops, and 11 emergency med-evacs wounded in the mortar barrage. Mission 42 was then carried out with 120 troops being lifted as part of a quick reaction force.

22 August 1968. No significant flight operations this date. LtCol. E. E. HAGEDORN turned over the Command of Marine Medium Helicopter squadron 165 to LtCol. G. L. PATRICK in a formal change of command ceremonies held at Phu Bai.

23 August 1968. Major V. S. REED led his section of White Knights north to replenish outposts along the DMZ. Totals showed 1,000 pounds of cargo and 93 combat troops lifted in 9.3 flight hours by the section.

24 August 1968. Mission 81 supporting First Marine Division's Operation HOUSTON was completed by a section led by 1/Lt. W. B. RING. One insert and

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one extract of recon teams was accomplished in the hills southwest of Phu Bai. First Lieutenant E. L. FISCHER led his section north on Mission 80. Fourteen hundred pounds of cargo and 20 combat troops were lifted in completing the mission.

25 August 1968. Capt. J. J. SMITH led his section south of Phu Bai on an emergency extract of a recon team. The mission was completed without incident. Major R. G. MITCHELL led his flight of 3 CH-46's on Missions 78, 80, and 81 in support of Operation HOUSTON. When the mission was completed, totals showed 7,600 pounds of cargo and 19 troops were lifted in completing one insert, one extract and one emergency extract of recon teams south of Phu Bai.

26 August 1968. Mission 75, 119 was carried out by three CH-46's led by Major R. G. MITCHELL. Thirty-six hundred pounds of cargo and 104 combat troops were lifted in completing the inserts and extracts of the recon teams southwest of Quang Tri.

27 August 1968. With LtCol. G. L. PATRICK in the lead three Ch-46's launched to the north to give support to recon forces in the Quang Tri area. A total of four inserts, and one extract were flown while lifting 19,000 pounds of cargo and 53 combat troops.

28 August 1968. Missions 74 and 112 were completed by the section of White Knights led by Major J. E. PRATHER. Twelve troops and 3,200 pounds of cargo were lifted in completing the mission. First Lieutenant G. A. MCKINNEY led his section north to the Ca Lu and Khe Sanh areas where they lifted 16,300 pounds of cargo and 103 troops in completing mission 109.

29 August 1968. Missions 74 and 109 were carried out by a section of CH-46's led by Major R. D. TAYLOR with totals showing 5,500 pounds of cargo and 28 troops lifted.

30 August 1968. Major V. S. REED led his section of White Knights north on Missions 74, 108, and 128. Totals showed 30,000 pounds of cargo and 16 troops lifted in support of the Third Marine Division's forces located west of Quang Tri.

31 August 1968. Capt. J. J. SMITH led his section of CH-46's north to re-supply positions west of Quang Tri. Totals showed 13,000 pounds of cargo and 120 troops lifted in completing Mission Number 74.

Part III

1. Listing of Significant Events

a. Personnel.

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(1) Transfers to HMM-165

- (a) Officers 7
- (b) Enlisted 32

(2) Transfers from HMM-165

- (a) Officers 9
- (b) Enlisted 25

(3) Promotions

- (a) Capt. J. V. BUCCERI was promoted from 1/Lt.
- (b) Capt. G. V. OTTO was promoted from 1/Lt.

(4) Casualties

- (a) NONE

b. Operations. During this reporting period HMM-165 flew 3,023 sorties, carrying 3,644 troops/passengers and 233.4 tons of cargo for the total of 967.5 flight hours.

c. Maintenance.

(1) Average availability for the period 1 August through 31 August 1968 was 25 %.

Part IV

1. Supporting Documents.

- a. NONE

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Marine Aircraft Group 15
9th Marine Amphibious Brigade
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

USS TRIPOLI, LPH-10

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
for period
1 September 1968 through 30 September 1968