

DECLASSIFIED

ORIGINAL

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 165  
Marine Aircraft Group 16  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, MAFAC  
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

3:IBJ:rgl  
03A00669  
6 Jan 69

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code AO3D)  
Via: (1) Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 16  
(2) Commanding General, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing  
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 6 December to 31 December 1968

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2  
(b) MAFAC 5750.8

Encl: ✓ (1) MM-165 Command Chronology

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

2. Downgraded at three year intervals; declassified after 12 years DOD directive 5200.10.

*G. L. Patrick*  
G. L. PATRICK

Copy / of 8 Copies

|                   |        |
|-------------------|--------|
| MMN-165 SAC Files |        |
| Control #         | 02-69  |
| Copy #            | 1 of 8 |

ORIGINAL

UNCLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

3:LBJ:rgl  
03A00669  
6 Jan 69

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 165  
Marine Aircraft Group 16  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac  
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY  
6 December 1968 to 31 December 1968

INDEX

PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA  
PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY  
PART III - SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS  
PART IV - SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

UNCLASSIFIED<sup>1</sup>

ENCLOSURE (1)

3: LBJ:rgl  
03A00669  
6 Jan 69

PART I  
ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. DESIGNATION

COMMANDER

Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 165

G. L. PATRICK, 6 Dec - 31 Dec

SUBORDINATE UNITS

None.

ATTACHED UNITS

None.

2. LOCATION

6 December through 31 December 1968: Marble Mountain Air Facility, DaNang RVN.

3. STAFF OFFICERS

|                             |                       |              |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| a. Commanding Officer       | G. L. PATRICK, LTCOL  | 6Dec-31Dec68 |
| b. Executive Officer        | R. D. TAYLOR, MAJOR   | 6Dec-31Dec68 |
| c. Operations Officer       | A. D. DAVIS, MAJOR    | 6Dec-31Dec68 |
| d. Administrative Officer   | T. M. HADDOCK, CAPT   | 6Dec-31Dec68 |
| e. Maintenance Officer      | V. S. REED, MAJOR     | 6Dec-31Dec68 |
| f. Logistics/Supply Officer | L. R. ADAMS, CAPT     | 6Dec-31Dec68 |
| g. NATOPS Officer           | R. G. MITCHELL, MAJOR | 6Dec-31Dec68 |
| h. Safety Officer           | R. G. MITCHELL, MAJOR | 6Dec-31Dec68 |

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

|                       |            |                       |                 |                   |                 |
|-----------------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| <u>NAVAL AVIATORS</u> | <u>AGO</u> | <u>FLIGHT SURGEON</u> | <u>ENLISTED</u> | <u>BOEING REP</u> | <u>G.E. REP</u> |
| 44                    | 4          | 1                     | 160             | 1                 | 1               |

PART II  
NARRATIVE SUMMARY

6 Dec 68. Major V. S. REED led 8 White Knight aircraft into the MEADE RIVER area for combat resupply and trooplift activity. The 165 crews lifted 292 troops and 18,000 pounds of cargo during 98 sorties. Major REED and his flight continued the mission despite sustained automatic weapons fire in six different zones.

UNCLASSIFIED

3:LBJ:rgl  
03A00669  
6 Jan 69

7 Dec 68. HMM-165 conducted a routine and emergency trooplift and also carried out extensive resupply missions. Two-thousand rounds of .50 caliber ammunition were returned during the movement of 647 troops in the MEADE RIVER vicinity.

8 Dec 68. Captain L. R. ADAMS effected two emergency extracts in the Thuong Duc area. Fourteen Marines from the 1st Recon Battalion were air lifted from enemy infested positions. Throughout the remainder of the day, HMM-165 flew 211 sorties in 55.0 flight hours. Threehundred-eighty three troops and 5,000 pounds of cargo were helo-lifted by the White Knights.

9 Dec 68. Major R. G. MITCHELL led a flight of 6 CH-46's, 6 UH-34's, 10 UH-1B's and 2 CH-53's on an allied troop lift into the MEADE RIVER area. Automatic weapons fire was encountered during the 500 man lift.

10 Dec 68. During the early morning hours of Dec. 10, Major V. S. REED and his section of White Knights flew a total of 9.5 hours while performing casualty extraction missions. Fifteen Marine and ARVN emergency medical evacuation cases were helo-lifted from field positions south of DaNang to rear hospital pads. Throughout the remainder of the day, HMM-165 supported Third Marine Amphibious Forces with 84 sorties in 22.9 hours flight time.

11 Dec 68. HMM-165 flew six missions in support of the First Marine Division. Forty-eight personnel were casualty evaced from the DaNang TACR.

12 Dec 68. Major V. S. REED and 1/Lt. A. J. ZALESKI flew 46 combat cargo and troop sorties in support of 1st Marine Division Forces in the Hai Van pass area. Major REED's section lifted 29,644 pounds of cargo and transported 36 troops during the mission. Totals for the remainder of the day showed 123 sorties flown in 31.1 flight hours.

13 Dec 68. Captain L. R. ADAMS and a flight of three White Knights flew 31 sorties in support of the 1st Recon Battalion. Reinforcements consisted of 102 troops which were inserted during 12.6 hours flight time. HMM-165 began support of Operation TAYLOR CORRAL in delivering 2.8 tons of combat cargo and 11 troops during 5.5 hours of flight time.

14 Dec 68. Major A. D. DAVIS and his section of aircraft flew 42 sorties while conducting a 194 man trooplift in support of the 7th Marines. Moderate small arms fire was encountered during the 3 hours of flight time. Final totals for the day showed HMM-165 flying 156 sorties in 41.7 hours. A total of 148 troops and 5.1 tons of cargo were lifted to III MAF forces in the field.

UNCLASSIFIED

ENCLOSURE (1)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

3: LBJ: rgl  
 03A00669  
 6 Jan 69

15 Dec 68. Captain L. R. ADAMS received intense automatic weapons fire while conducting an emergency extract of a reconnaissance team in support of Operation TAYLOR COMMON. Despite heavy enemy resistance, Capt. ADAMS's extracted the team safely. White Knight aircraft lent support to Operation TAYLOR COMMON with lifts totaling 161 troops and 10,000 pounds of cargo.

16 Dec 68. Seven missions were flown and completed by HMM-165 today. Two hundred twenty-one troops and 7.2 tons of cargo were helo-lifted to 3rd Marine Amphibious Forces in the field.

17 Dec 68. Major A. D. DAVIS led a division of aircraft during a 180 man troop lift west of the An Hoa combat support base. The White Knights continued with the troop insert despite receiving fire four times throughout the day. For the day totals HMM-165 flew 44.2 hours while moving 32.2 tons of cargo and 339 troops.

18 Dec 68. The White Knights flew 50.4 hours while completing seven individual mission in support of the Third Marine Amphibious Force. Major R. G. MITCHELL led a flight of aircraft in a combined squadron troop lift west of An Hoa. Two hundred thirty-eight troops were air lifted to forward positions in the TAYLOR COMMON area.

19 Dec 68. Major R. D. TAYLOR led a section during day long support of the 1st Recon Battalion. Major TAYLOR's section transported 151 troops in 36 flight sorties while performing nine insert/extract missions. HMM-165 contributed substantially to medical evacuation efforts of the 1st Marine Wing with 38 battlefield casualties extracted in 10 missions.

20 Dec 68. HMM-165 flew 225 sorties and 51.5 flight hours in support of Operation TAYLOR COMMON. Seventy-nine thousand, six-hundred pounds of cargo and 515 troops were helo lifted by HMM-165.

21 Dec 68. Lieutenant Colonel G. L. PATRICK flew the lead aircraft during a 560 man troop strike south of Da Nang. The lift of the allied force was completed in 16 sorties. First Lieutenant E. L. FISCHER flew throughout the Da Nang TAOR. During a combined total of eleven flight hours for his section, 1/Lt. FISCHER encountered moderate automatic weapons fire while helo lifting a total of 32 casualties.

22 Dec 68. White Knight aircraft flew 155 sorties in 41.5 flight hours while lifting 10,800 pounds of cargo and 138 troops. Forty-eight battlefield casualties were transported during 15 missions flown.

23 Dec 68. First Lieutenant F. S. BASTIEN and his section of aircraft engaged in day long support of Operation TAYLOR COMMON. The White Knight aircraft lifted 48,000 pounds of cargo and 123 troops in 96 sorties. Totals for the day showed HMM-165 lifting 387 troops and 21.3 tons of cargo in 177 sorties.

CLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
ENCLOSURE (1)

3:LBJ:rgl  
03A00669  
6 Jan 69

24 Dec 68. Captain S. D. TURNER encountered enemy fire while leading a division of White Knight aircraft on a troop insert in support of Operation TAYLOR COMMON. HMM-165 flew 78 sorties and 24.4 hours during missions supporting TAYLOR COMMON. A section of White Knight aircraft were detached to transport part of the Bob Hope Christmas Show to the area around Danang.

25 Dec 68. Christmas day saw HMM-165 fly 166 sorties in 36.2 flight hours during day long support of Operation TAYLOR COMMON. Over 100,000 pounds of combat cargo were airlifted to fire support bases southwest on An Hoa.

26 Dec 68. On the early morning of 26 December, LtCol. G. L. PATRICK led a flight of six White Knight aircraft on a special forces troop strike deep in the Song Tinh Yen River Valley. Two hundred-fifty two troops were inserted in two waves. Later in the day, HMM-165 again supported Operation TAYLOR COMMON with 137 combat cargo sorties during 35.0 hours of flight time. Three hundred thirty-three troops and 42,000 pounds of cargo were transported to hill top positions southwest of the An Hoa combat supply base.

27 Dec 68. Major A. D. DAVIS led a flight of six aircraft to An Hoa for continued re-supply of the TAYLOR COMMON fire support bases. A total of 331 troops and almost 100,000 pounds of cargo were helo lifted to the mountain top zones south of An Hoa. The White Knights also flew 18 casualty evacuation missions while airlifting 50 Marine, Allied and Civilian Med-Evacs.

28 Dec 68. First Lieutenant F. S. BASTIEN and his section of White Knights flew 22 med-evac sorties in 9.4 hours of night flight time. Lieutenant BASTIEN extracted five emergency casualties despite intense automatic weapons fire.

29 Dec 68. Ten missions were given to and completed by HMM-165 today. The White Knights flew 164 sorties while lifting 34.8 tons of cargo and 226 troops in support of Operation TAYLOR COMMON. Twenty-five US, ARVN, ROK, and NVA battlefield casualties were air evacuated by the CH-46's of HMM-165.

30 Dec 68. First Lieutenant G. L. FORD led a section of aircraft during night med-evac extraction missions throughout the DaNang TAOR. Marine and Civilian wounded were transported to hospital pads throughout the night. HMM-165 again supported TAYLOR COMMON with 57 combat resupply sorties. Small arms fire was received.

31 Dec 68. Major A. D. DAVIS received 11 hits while performing the emergency extract of Recon Team SCANDANAVIA. Throughout the extraction, Major DAVIS used his CH-46 to strafe the enemy with the .50 caliber machine guns which his aircraft was equipped. Major DAVIS also controlled A-4 aircraft and directed their ordnance upon the enemy. The team was finally extracted under a murderous volume of fire with one of the team members being wounded as he boarded the aircraft.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

EXCISE (1)

3:LBJ:rgl  
03A00669  
6 Jan 69

PART III  
SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Operations participated in:

- a. MEADE RIVER: 6 December through 9 December 1968.
- b. TAYLOR COMMON: 7 December through 31 December 1968.

2. Personnel:

a. Transfers to HMI-165

Officers 5

Enlisted 46

b. Transfers from HMI-165

Officers 4

Enlisted 33

c. Promotions

Captain P. R. QUAM was promoted from 1stLt.

MSgt. J. H. F. WILLIAMS was promoted from CySgt.

Sgt. M. R. ELLIOTT was promoted from Corporal.

Cpl. D. BARRETT was promoted from Lance Corporal.

Cpl. J. J. LOECKEN was promoted from Lance Corporal.

LCpl. L. G. COLE was promoted from PFC.

LCpl. J. D. GARRETT, Jr. was promoted from PFC.

LCpl. H. D. MCCURT was promoted from PFC.

LCpl. W. J. PIETRZAK was promoted from PFC.

LCpl. PROSIO was promoted from PFC.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

3:LBJ:rgl  
03A00669  
6 Jan 69

d. Casualties sustained

First Lieutenant D. P. SULLIVAN 094207/7562 was wounded in action on 19 December 1968 when he was struck by enemy fire.

3. Logistics:

a. During this reporting period HHM-165 flew 4,149 sorties, carrying 352.8 tons of cargo and 7,398 troops/passengers for the total of 1,086.8 flight hours.

4. Maintenance:

a. Average availability for the period 6 December 1968 through 31 December 1968 was 40%.

PART IV  
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. None.

UNCLASSIFIED

ENCLOSURE (1)

UNCLASSIFIED