

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

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 03A09169
 1 April 1969

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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 1 - 31 March 1969

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

Encl: (1) HMM-165 Command Chronology

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

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

T. E. Raines
 T. E. RAINES

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

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
1 March 1969 to 31 March 1969

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PART 1ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 165

COMMANDERT. E. RAINES
1 Mar - 31 MarSUBORDINATE UNITS

None.

ATTACHED UNITS

None.

2. LOCATION1 March through 31 March 1969: Marble Mountain Air Facility,
Da Nang, RVN.3. STAFF OFFICERS

A. Commanding Officer	T. E. RAINES, LtCol.	1-31Mar69
B. Executive Officer	V. S. REED, Maj.	1-31Mar69
C. Operations Officer	A. C. MACAULAY, Maj.	1-31Mar69
D. Administrative Officer	J. A. HODGE JR., 1stLt	1-31Mar69
E. Maintenance Officer	R. G. MITCHELL, Maj.	1-31Mar69
F. Logistics/Supply Officer	D. L. DAVIS, Maj.	1-25Mar69
	F. F. STAMFIELD, Capt.	26-31Mar69
G. NATOPS Officer	F. S. BASTIEN, Capt.	1-16Mar69
	T. M. CURTIS, 1stLt	17-31Mar69
H. Aviation Safety Officer	P. R. QUAM, Capt.	1-31Mar69

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>Naval Aviators</u>	<u>AGO</u>	<u>Flight Surgeon</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>
49	4	1	166
<u>Boeing Rep</u>	<u>G. E. Rep</u>		
1	1		

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1 Mar 69. The White Knights opened the month with 50.9 hours and 182 sorties. 329 troops, 36,000 lbs. of cargo and 36 med-evacs were helo-lifted during tactical operations in the Da Nang T.A.O.R.

2 Mar 69. Capt. Albert SPROULE received enemy fire while evacuating battlefield casualties south of Da Nang. A total of 27 USMC and Civilian med-evacs were air lifted to hospital pads in rear areas for intensive care.

3 Mar 69. Major A. C. MACAULAY led a flight of six White Knights to the An Hoa combat base for continuing re-supply efforts of the 5th Marine Regiment. 215 troops and 15,000 pounds of cargo were lifted during 21.3 hours of flight time.

4 Mar 69. Today the White Knights flew 195 sorties during 49.9 flight hours. 238 troops and 86,000 lbs. of cargo were transported to III MAF forces in the field. 21 USMC, ARVN and civilian casualties were retrieved during med-evac missions.

5 Mar 69. 1stLt T. M. CURTIS led a section of White Knights during resupply lifts in support of the Korean Marines. 17,000 lbs. of cargo and 35 troops were helo lifted to field positions southeast of Da Nang.

6 Mar 69. Maj. R. G. MITCHELL led a White Knight Flight to An Hoa for operations involving the backloading of fire support base Maxwell. During 40.5 hours of flight time, the six aircraft lifted 106 troops and 14.7 tons of cargo in 106 sorties.

7 Mar 69. Today the White Knights compiled a very high 91 flight hours during 303 sorties. 470 troops, over 110,000 pounds of cargo and 36 med-evacs were helo lifted by the H-46's of HMM-165.

8 Mar 69. Capt. L. R. ADAMS and 1stLt C. D. ALISON lifted 59,000 lbs. of combat cargo for the Korean Marine Corps. Today 84 troops were also transported to forward outposts during the 7.3 hours flight time.

9 Mar 69. Capt. P. R. QUAM and Capt. F. F. STANSFIELD lifted 5,000 lbs. of combat cargo and 5 troops in support of the 1st Marine Division.

10 Mar 69. Maj. V. S. REED led a division of White Knights to An Hoa for combat support of the 5th Marines. 75,300 lbs. of combat cargo and 216 troops were lifted during resupply operations in the area.

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11 Mar 69. 1stLt. T. M. CURTIS led a division of White Knights in resupply efforts south of Da Nang. 37,000 pounds of cargo and 81 troops were lifted to III MAF forces in the field.

12 Mar 69. Adverse weather conditions restricted White Knight flight time to 16 hours today. 1000 pounds of cargo and 64 troops were lifted by the Sea Knights of "165".

13 Mar 69. 1stLt. D. D. HUNDLEY led a flight of two White Knight Helicopters on a mission in support of 1st Recon. With 1stLt GROULX as his wingman, the two troop carriers came under fire on two separate occasions receiving moderate automatic weapons fire. Over 1000 rounds of .50 cal. were expended in return fire.

14 Mar 69. Today the White Knights were held to only 68 sorties flown in 19.7 flight hours. 3500 lbs. of cargo and 46 troops were lifted in support of III MAF units. Ten USMC, 1 ROK and 1 RVN civilian med-evacs were included.

15 Mar 69. Today, another quiet day, found the White Knights involved in mostly admin and med-evac missions. 72 sorties were flown during which 90 pax and 19 med-evacs were carried. In addition, 14 gunners were qualified.

16 Mar 69. Med-evac missions were the White Knights' assignments today with 38 combat casualties in 47 sorties being flown. In the morning portion, 1stLt SPROULE attracted light Sniper fire in the zone while at night, Maj. MACAULAY was twice subjected to intense automatic weapons fire. No aircraft hits were received.

17 Mar 69. Marginal weather restricted the White Knights to local area admin and training hops. 48 sorties were flown in 10.0 hours of flight with 24 passengers ferried.

18 Mar 69. The highlights of today's Lady Ace activities included Recon and Resupply missions during which 38,600 lbs of cargo and 175 troops were moved. 1stLt HUNDLEY'S section took moderate small arms fire during one such resupply sortie. Also during an An Hoa medevac mission, 1stLt GROULX'S aircraft was the target of mortar and small arms fire while evacuating 24 U.S. casualties from the Liberty Bridge area.

19 Mar 69. Having been diverted from a ROK resupply mission to emergency med-evacs, Maj. MITCHELL with 1stLt. BLACKBIRD as his wingman, were subjected four times to small arms and automatic weapons fire. Their section accumulated 12.8 flight hours with 30,000 lbs. of cargo and 10 med-evacs handled.

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In addition, 1stLt. HUNDLEY'S med-evac section also took fire. 1stLt. HUNDLEY'S aircraft took two hits and subsequently had to be replaced. White Knight gunners expended more than 4500 rounds of ammunition returning fire. By day's end 84 U. S., ARVN, ROK, and civilian casualties had been lifted.

20 Mar 69. During the stand-down granted for a squadron party, the White Knights still managed to be fragged by Group for 12 events. 100 sorties were flown during which 26,200 lbs. of cargo, 87 troops and 12 med-evacs were lifted in 25.5 flight hours before the White Knights crews adjourned ~~to the bar~~.

21 Mar 69. Today med-evac and resupply missions were passed to the White Knights. 269 sorties yielded 44 tons of cargo, 301 passengers and 31 med-evacs carried in 64.4 flight hours. Four firing incidents were reported when Maj. MITCHELL'S and 1stLt. SCHWEND'S sections took fire during resupply and 1stLt. HUNDLEY'S section twice attracted small arms fire during med-evacs.

22 Mar 69. Maj. REED was the load hacker today as he flew three logistics missions fragged to the White Knights and also assisted in three more missions originally assigned to other squadrons. His section alone flew 62 sorties carrying more than 32,000 lbs. of cargo in less than 5 hours before he was again diverted to pick up a med-evac on his way home. Today also, an aircraft and crew was sent for SAR duty in Chu Lai.

23 Mar 69. Once again resupply dominated the scene as two White Knight sections swept An Hoa clean of outgoing supplies in record time. Within 6 hours, 114 sorties resulted in 51,000 lbs. of cargo and 245 passengers carried.

24 Mar 69. Today a second aircraft and crew was dispatched to Chu Lai to augment our SAR detachment there. The White Knights were again on the scene at LZ 211 and An Hoa hauling more than 120,000 lbs. of food, water, and ammo and 367 troops in 170 sorties.

25 Mar 69. Once Again the An Hoa resupply was assigned to the capable and available White Knights and two sections of Lady Ace Aircraft assumed the mission. In less than 6 hours of flight, 121 sorties resulted in more than 38 tons of cargo and 230 troops carried.

26 Mar 69. More resupply was required and the MAG-16 fragger confidently assigned all missions to the White Knights. LtCol. RAINES led the ROK resupply section while Maj. MACAULAY led his into An Hoa. The day's results showed more than 138,000 lbs. of cargo and 663 troops lifted.

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27 Mar 69. The howies handled the hurt today as LtCol. RAINES and LtCol. PATRICK each took a portion of the Marble Mountain mod-evac package. A total of 20 casualties were evacuated in 36 sorties. During his third trip out, LtCol. RAINES aircraft fell subject to automatic weapons fire in the zone. No hits were made and the casualties were safely extracted.

28 Mar 69. Both resupply and mod-evac missions dominated the White Knights' day as 43 tons of cargo and 260 troops were lifted. During afternoon mod-evac 1stLt. SJAMEND'S aircraft was the target of heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire resulting in one .30 cal hit.

29 Mar 69. Today was a relatively light load day as 160 sorties resulted in 40 tons of cargo, 370 passengers and 16 mod-evacs were handled in less than 40 flight hours.

30 Mar 69. LtCol. RAINES led a section of Lady Ace aircraft out on a Recon mission and successfully accomplished 2 inserts and 3 extracts in preparation for operation "Oklahoma Hills". The aircraft was twice subject to moderate small arms fire and White Knight gunners promptly returned fire expending nearly 2000 rounds of ammunition.

31 Mar 69. The month ended as operation Oklahoma Hills began with LtCol. RAINES leading out a flight of 12 White Knight Aircraft. 194 unopposed sorties yielded 776 troops and 47,250 lbs of cargo inserted.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Operations Participated In:

- a. TAYLOR COMMON
- b. VICTORY DRAGON IX
- c. OKLAHOMA HILLS

2. Personnel:

a. Transfers To HMM-165

Officers 9

Enlisted 4

b. Transfers From HMM-165

Officers 6

Enlisted 11

c. Promotions

Sgt. L. H. DEVUONO was promoted from Cpl.
Sgt. E. M. GOODMAN was promoted from Cpl.
Sgt. D. M. HOFFMAN was promoted from Cpl.
Sgt. W. R. PETERITIS was promoted from Cpl.
Sgt. E. A. TONDREAU was promoted from Cpl.
Sgt. R. F. VIETH was promoted from Cpl.
Cpl. J. C. BEIER was promoted from LCpl.
Cpl. J. V. HARPOOL was promoted from LCpl.
Cpl. T. C. WIBBERLEY was promoted from LCpl.
LCpl H. L. BROOKS JR. was promoted from PFC.
LCpl J. D. BULLOCK was promoted from PFC.

d. Casualties Sustained

Sgt. R. R. CROCKER 231 54 64/0221, Cpl. R. D. ROSS 226 88 36/6341, and Pfc. W. H. HINKLE 225 55 17/3041 were wounded in action on 3 March 1969 when they were struck by enemy fire.

1stLt T. M. CURTIS 09 41 22/7562 was wounded in action on 4 March 1969 when he was struck by enemy fire.

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3. Logistics:

a. During this reporting period HMM-165 flew 5,019 sorties, carrying 777.7 tons of cargo, 7,450 troops/passengers, 948 med-evacs for a total of 1196.1 flight hours.

4. Maintenance:

a. Average availability for the period 1 March through 31 March 1969 was 80%.

PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. None.

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