

MARINE LIGHT HELICOPTER SQUADRON 167
Marine Aircraft Group 16
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
FPO, San Francisco 96602

3:RMO:wmh
5750
03A0377L
6 February 1971

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 16

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 January 1971 to 31 January 1971

Ref: (a) GruO 5750.1D

Encl: ✓(1) Marine Light Helicopter Squadron 167 Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions set forth in reference (a), enclosure (1) is hereby submitted.
2. Upon removal of enclosure (1), this letter is downgraded to unclassified.


R. J. BLANC

HML-167
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Copy # 1 of 6

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12-8-71-1087

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Marine Aircraft Group 16
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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 January - 31 January 1971

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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6 February 1971PART IORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

Marine Light Helicopter Squadron 167 LtCol R. J. BLANC (1-31Jan71)

2. LOCATION

1-31 January 1971: Marble Mountain Air Facility; Republic of Vietnam

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer

Major C. W. DEPIETRO (1-14Jan71)
Major S. L. WEINERTH (15-31Jan71)

Operations Officer

Major R. M. ONDRICK (1-31Jan71)

Logistics Officer

Capt D. S. DOUGHERTY (1-31Jan71)

Administrative Officer

1stLt G. J. COOPER (1-13Jan71)
Major J. D. MOODY (14-31Jan71)

A/C Maintenance Officer

Major J. E. HAYES (1-31Jan71)

Intelligence Officer

1stLt D. F. TRUMPE (1-27Jan71)
1stLt A. L. RALSTON (28-31Jan71)4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTHS

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>OTHER</u>	
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
54	164	0	0	0	0

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HML-167 opened the New Year under a full head of steam. With the monsoon season fading for another year, the tempo of flight operations stepped up with total flight hours increasing significantly over the previous months. During January the "Gunships" and "Slicks" compiled a grand total of 1886.3 hours, with the armed escort missions accounting for 790.2 hours and the "Slicks" adding 1096.1 hours to the total.

This month saw the night observation/attack mission begin to pay increased dividends. Now designated as the "BLACK HAMMER", this mission received increased emphasis, as is evidenced in the 510.6 hours of night time logged by squadron aircraft this month. The close coordination developed with the ground forces was utilized to the fullest on the night of 11 January, when CUPP Team 6, Co. G, 2/5 came under attack by a force of approximately 40 NVA. When the engagement was over, the results were 9 KBA and 6 KIA by the air/ground team. Friendly forces suffered no losses.

In other actions, "Comprise" continued to aggressively seek out the enemy. Along with the rise in flight hours, a concurrent rise in fire incidents was noted. Squadron S-2 annals recorded a total of 38 fire incidents during the month, with four aircraft taking hits, all being minor damage. In these actions the "Gunships" amassed a total of 69 KBA's confirmed and 71 probables. This total surpasses the combined tallies of the previous 4 months, thus bearing out the old adage "Huey Guns Forever". In addition, reports show an increase in damage inflicted with 18 hootches, 1 bunker, and 1 sampan being destroyed, while 3 secondary explosions were witnessed.

This month saw the rotation of 3 experienced aviators, however, in exchange, 9 eager replacements are now aboard. Prominent among the 9 is Major S. L. WEINERTH, who took over the reins of Executive Officer, following the departure of Major C. W. DEPIETRO.

With the first trials of the new year firmly tucked under their belts, HML-167 faces the coming months with complete confidence that it will hold fast to its title of "MAG-16's Finest".

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

Pilots Joining HML-167

Major J. D. MOODY
Major S. L. WEINERTH
1stLt J. P. BEAGHAN
1stLt D. B. BEAVER
1stLt D. L. BRYANT
1stLt E. W. BURROUGHS
1stLt R. B. FREEMAN
1stLt R. W. JOHANNESSEN
1stLt M. R. RICHARDSON

Pilots Leaving HML-167

Major C. W. DEPIETRO
1stLt J. F. GALE
1stLt J. L. HUNT

Ordnance Expended (January)

7.62 - 230,800
2.75 FFAR - 1,806

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

No supporting documents for January 1971

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