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

3:RMO:rjd 5750 03A09571 5 April 1971

## CONFIDENTIAL

From: Commanding Officer

To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 16

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

(a) Gru0 5750.1D Ref:

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.

Acting

HML-167 \$65-71

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

# COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 March - 31 March 1971

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### PART I

## ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

# 1. DESIGNATION

## COMMANDER

Marine Light Helicopter Squadron 167

LtCol R. J. BLANC (1-31Mar71)

## 2. LOCATION

1-31 March 1971: Marble Mountain Air Facility, Republic of Vietnam

# 3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer

Major S. L. WEINERTH

(1-31Mar71)

Operations Officer

Major R. M. ONDRICK

(1-31Mar71)

Logistics Officer

Capt O. S. DOUGHERTY

(1-15Mar71)

Major O. E. JAMES

(16-31Mar71)

Administrative Officer

Major J. D. MOODY

(1-31Mar71)

A/C Maintenance Officer

Major J. E. HAYES

(1-31Mar71)

Intelligence Officer

1stLt A. L. RALSTON

(1-31Mar71)

# 4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTHS

USMC		<u>usn</u>		<u>o</u>	OTHER	
Off	<u>Enl</u>	Off	<u>Enl</u>	Off	Enl	
49	151	0	0	0	0	

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### PART II

## NARRATIVE SUMMARY

March brought with it the fairer weather of Spring, and a decrease in total flight time to 1544.4 hours. This decrease was due to the withdrawl of the 5th Marines from the field and a decrease in our combat commitments, especially resupply and med-evac missions for the 5th Marines. However, even with this decrease in commitments, "Comprise" aircraft once again compiled more flight time than any other squadron in MAG-16. The Squadron also sent five aircraft to Okinawa, which brought our total number of aircraft down to 18, 8 guns and 10 slicks. Both the "Guns" and "Slicks" felt the loss of flight time this month. The "Slicks" had a total of 842.3 hours, an 82.9 hour drop from last month, while the "Guns" had a total of 702.1 hours, a drop of 112.4 hours. Squadron aircraft carried 74 VIP's and 2133 passengers, while running up a total of 4102 sorties and 629 tasks.

The Squadron was honored on 19 March by a visit from Lieutenant General ROBERTSON, C. G. III MAF. The occasion was informal, and members of the Squadron got a chance to meet and talk with the Commanding General.

"Comprise Guns" were once again carrying the war to the enemy. Due to a drop in our gun commitments to the 5th Marines, most of the gun time this month came from day rocket belt VR's and night reconnaissance missions (better known as the "Black Hammer").

Squadron S-2 files show that "Comprise" aircraft were involved in 32 fire incidents with 4 aircraft taking hits, one Delta damage and three with Echo damage. On 29 March, Gunnery Sergeant H. R. SHANKEY, 1863529, received a leg wound while flying in TV-3 on a "Black Hammer" mission and was med-evaced to CONUS. Nine KBA's and one probable were confirmed for Squadron pilots, with six hootches and three bunkers destroyed, along with 33 unknown BDA's reported, which accounted for 184,900 rounds of 7.62 and 1,782 FFAR's expended.

At 0255 on 29 March, Marble Mountain Air Facility came under an enemy rocket attack. One rocket hit in the aircraft

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revetments, inflicting minor damage to TV-9 and major damage to TV-18. The rest of the rockets hit between the Ready Room and the beach. Damage to TV-9 was limited to a shattered window on the pilots side door. TV-18 had most of the windows blown out and numerous holes in the skin of the aircraft.

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## PART III

# SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- 11 March 1971 Aircraft TV-3, BuNo 154770, sustained 3 hits, resulting in Delta damage and no injuries.
- Aircraft TV-27, BuNo 153762, sustained 4 hits, 12 March 1971 resulting in Echo damage and no injuries.
- 26 March 1971 Aircraft TV-22, BuNo 155345, experienced an engine failure resulting in Echo damage and no injuries.
- 26 March 1971 Aircraft TV-8, BuNo 154759, sustained 2 hits, resulting in Echo damage and no injuries.
- 29 March 1971 Aircraft TV-3, BuNo 151883, sustained 2 hits, resulting in Echo damage and one injury.

SHANKEY, H. R. GySgt 1863529 Gunner Minor Injury

#### Pilots Joining HML-167

Capt R. L. HERRINGTON

Capt J. D. ROHNER lstLt G. H. DUKELOW

1stLt D. E. JOHNSON

# Pilots Leaving HML-167

lstLt J. L. CLERKIN

lstLt T. O. MILLER

1stLt J. C. YANNESSA

### Ordnance Expended (March)

7.62 - 184,9002.75 FFAR - 1,782

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

No supporting documents for March 1971

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