

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 262
Provisional Marine Aircraft Group 39
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
APO, San Francisco, California 96602

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4 August 1968

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Provisional Marine Aircraft Group 39 (Attn: S-3)

Subj: Command Chronology, Period 1 July 1968 to 31 July 1968

Ref: (a) GruO 5750.1B

Encl: (1) Command Chronology
(2) Flight Schedules

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) and (2) are hereby submitted.

2. This letter becomes UNCLASSIFIED upon removal of enclosure (1).

M. J. Steinberg
M. J. STEINBERG

HMM-262

CH-53HQ

HMM-262 SEC 0241-68

COPY 1 OF 8 COPIES

JULY 1968

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MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 262
COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
1 JULY 1968 to 31 JULY 1968

PART I ORGANIZATIONAL DATA
PART II NARRATIVE SUMMARY AND OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS
PART III SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART I1. ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

a. Commanding Officer	Melvin J. STEINBERG	LTCOL	1-31 Jul
b. Executive Officer	David L. ALTHOFF	MAJ	1-23 Jul
	Leo J. IHLE	MAJ	24-31 Jul
c. Operations Officer	Harvey E. BRITT	MAJ	1-23 Jul
	Donald S. WAUNCH	MAJ	24-31 Jul
d. Logistics Officer	Herman E. BROWN	MAJ	1-31 Jul
e. Personnel Officer	Richard J. RICHARDS	CAPT	1-14 Jul
	Marvin R. NELSON	MAJ	24-31 Jul
f. Aviation Safety Officer	Anton E. THERRIAULT	MAJ	1-10 Jul
	Herman R. BULEN	MAJ	24-31 Jul
g. Intelligence Officer	William J. BYRNE	1SLT LT	1-23 Jul
	Donald L. TEMPLETON	CAPT	24-31 Jul
h. Maintenance Officer	Victor E. HOBBS	MAJ	1-23 Jul
	James A. WELLS	MAJ	24-31 Jul
i. Sergeant Major	Shirley A. WEAVER	SGTMAJ	1-15
	Alexander J. SCNCRANT	1STS GT	16-31 Jul

2. TASK ORGANIZATION AND UNIT LOCATION

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 262
 Provisional Marine Aircraft Group 39 1st Marine Aircraft Wing
 FMF Pacific FPC, San Francisco, California 96602
 Quang Tri Air Base, Republic of Viet Nam, 1-31 July 1968

3. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH OF SQUADRONNAVAL AVIATORS

49

AIRGROUND OFFICERS

5

ENLISTED

187

NAVAL OFFICERS

1

4. IMPORTANT VISITORS TO THE SQUADRON

NCNE

ENCLOSURE (1)

PART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

During the month of July, HMM-262 supported four (4) operations: SCOTLAND II, LANCASTER II, NAPCLEON/SALINE AND KENTUCKY.

Operation LANCASTER II, our latest operation, required more support than any other, accounting for 857.8 flight hours for the month of July. While flying Operation LANCASTER II, HMM-262 lifted 9,424 troops, and 890 tons of cargo for a total of 4,223 sorties. In further support of this operation, HMM-262 successfully completed numerous med-evac missions for both U.S. and ARVN troops.

During the month of July, Operation SCOTLAND II was terminated with the evacuation of Khe Sanh and most of its outposts. HMM-262 led the evacuation and flew a total of 335.1 flight hours in support of the operation during July. In this period, HMM-262 transported 4,180 troops and 267.8 tons of cargo for a total of 1630 sorties.

Operation KENTUCKY accounted for 110.9 flight hours of HMM-262's total 1820.3 for the month of July. A total of 468 troops and 121.3 tons of cargo were carried for 438 sorties during this period.

The least of HMM-262 commitments again went to Operation NAPCLEON/SALINE, a great part of which consisted of ARVN trooplifts. HMM-262 lifted 897 troops and 33.4 tons of cargo for a total of 221 sorties and 53.2 flight hours in support of this operation in July.

In addition to these operations, HMM-262 provided one aircraft, from 16th-31st of July for the 3rd Marine Division Courier Run, making designated stops at Dong Ha, Quang Tri, Phu Bai, and DaNang.

Operations this month were not noticeably hampered by bad weather or enemy attacks on Quang Tri Air Base.

HMM-262 flew a total of 1820.3 flight hours during the month of July, with an average of 72.3 flight hours per aircraft commander.

OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- 4 July 1968 - While flying re-supply to combat troops south-east of Khe Sanh CHATTERBOX 6-5, flown by Maj Harvey E. BRITT, completed his mission even though he took heavy automatic weapons fire.
- 5 July 1968 - CHATTERBOX 6-6 and 6-7 flown by Maj H. R. BOLEN and 1stLt C. E. CROCKALL respectively, combined to fly 17 flight hours in support of Operation SCOTLAND II. We consider this a demonstration of HMM-262 pilot's attitudes and devotion to duty. (1)

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PART II (Cont)

OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS (Cont)

- 6 July 1968 - HMM-262, led by LtCol STEINBERG, set a new squadron record in flight hours for one day with 98.9 while leading the evacuation of Khe Sanh. Most of the pilots and crews flew 10 or more hours this day.
- 11 July 1968 - Four (4) CHATTERBOX aircraft participated in a 600 man troop lift from STUD to Hill 715. The LZ was thoroughly preped by artillery, fixed wing were on station, and two SEAWORTHY gunships flew wing on the transports, but on the fifth trip into the LZ, 6-1 and 6-2 flown by Maj THERRIAULT and 1stLt MURPHY respectively received heavy enemy .50 caliber fire. 6-1 lifted out with two (2) hits in the cockpit, but 6-2 began to burn fore and aft when explosive rounds hit his fuel lines and forward pylon area, and had to be evacuated. The crew sustained minor injury while the aircraft was completely destroyed.
- 12 July 1968 - With less than one hour prior notice, HMM-262 was able to launch 10 aircraft on an emergency troop lift with cloudy skies in Operation SCOTLAND II, the lift was completed with only minor battle damage to one aircraft.
- 17 July 1968 - While in support of Operation LANCASTER II, eight (8) HMM-262 aircraft flew 61.9 flight hours, carrying 1152 troops and 21.8 tons of cargo for 259 sorties. Although enemy fire was at times intense, HMM-262 aircraft sustained very minor damage.
- 23 July 1968 - CHATTERBOX 6-1 and 6-2 flown by Maj Victor HUBES and 1stLt W. M. MURPHY respectively, launched on an emergency insert of a quick reaction platoon in support of recom team ISTHMAS. Although the weather had deteriorated to minimum, the mission was completed and CHATTERBOX aircraft saturated the known enemy position with heavy .50 caliber fire. The mission was completed with negative damage to aircraft or injury to personnel.

PART III1. PERSONNEL

- a. Transfers to HMM-262 - 10 officers - 4 enlisted
- b. Transfers from HMM-262 - 4 officers - 27 enlisted
- c. Promotions to Present Rank:
- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| 1stLt Michael R. MULLEN | 1 Jul 68 |
| Cpl James T. FLOWERS Jr. | 11 Jul 68 |
| Cpl Dennis W. MARTIN | 1 Jul 68 |
| LCpl Robert S. BLUESTEIN | 1 Jul 68 |

ENCLOSURE (1)

PART III (Cont)2. AWARDS

a. AIR MEDAL:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>DATE RECEIVED</u>
BOLEN, Herman R.	MAJCR	26 July 1968
BRYAN, Wayne R.	CAPT.	26 July 1968
CANADA, Ray G.	"	"
ENGLEHART, William J.	"	"
HERBERG, Richard Jr.	"	"
SNEAR, Samuel C.	"	"
MORRIS, DREWRY H.	LT. USN (MC)	"
BARTON, Richard L. Jr.	1stLt	"
BRATTON, Andrew J. III	"	"
BYRNE, William J. Jr.	"	"
COLE, Brasca B. Jr.	"	"
CROOKALL, Charles E.	"	"
DRAPER, Thomas W.	"	"
EVANS, Richard P.	"	"
GOELE, Woodroff C.	"	"
GRUNDY, Raymond B.	"	"
HARRELL, Griffin H.	"	"
HARVEY, Richard N.	"	"
KNESE, Peter G.	"	"
MADDEN, Patrick W.	"	"
MORRISON, Douglas P.	"	"
MULLEN, Michael R.	"	"
MURPHY, William A.	"	"
O'CONNOR, James C. Jr.	"	"
REAMON, Allan E.	"	"
TOMLIN, Robin J.	"	"
VAN WINCKEL, Kent F.	"	"
FICKEL, Stephen F.	2ndLt	"
SCDERBERG, Thomas L.	"	"
CAUBLE, John D.	SSgt	"
FETZER, Robert W.	"	"
HAMIC, Gerald G.	"	"
HOLLAND, Kenneth W.	"	"
KULICH, Frederick R.	"	"
ZEIGLER, Denver D.	"	"

ENCLOSURE (1)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~PART III (Cont)2. AIR MEDAL: (Cont)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>DATE RECEIVED</u>
BROWNELL, David R.	SGT	26 July 1968
CREASEY, Eugene L.	"	"
PALMER, Russell D.	"	"
RUHF, Gary L.	"	"
SMITH, Eldon W.	"	"
AMCS, Wendell L.	CPL	"
ARDCUR, Leonard R.	"	"
DERRY, William M.	"	"
BILLINGTON, John H.	"	"
BOCKMAN, Gerald A.	"	"
DRAWN, Edwin B.	"	"
CANNADY, Lynn C.	"	"
CREWS, Vernon	"	"
DABROWSKI, George W.	"	"
DAVIS, Marc	"	"
DELAMARE, Richard D.	"	"
DENHOFF, Robert W.	"	"
ELLIS, David W.	"	"
EMMONS, Peter A.	"	"
EVANS, John C.	"	"
FLORES, Samuel J.	"	"
FOX, Arland W.	"	"
GREEN, Michael J.	"	"
HAFF, Frederick W.	"	"
HAZELTON, Thomas C.	"	"
HEALING, Nicholas J.	"	"
HELLMAN, Earl R., Jr.	"	"
HILL, "C."V"	"	"
HOLLIDAY, Willie "E"	"	"
HOFFMAN, Terry A.	"	"
HUTCHISON, John W.	"	"
KUEHN, Donald E.	"	"
LOGAN, William M.	"	"
LYON, William M.	"	"
MANARA, James A.	"	"
MARTIN, Dennis W.	"	"
NOELL, Livingston P. III	"	"
PARKER, Charles J.	"	"
PLACKER, Alton W.	"	"
RUSSANO, Frank G.	"	"
SHOEFLER, George E.	"	"

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PART III (Cont)2. AIR MEDAL: (Cont)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>DATE RECEIVED</u>
SHULTZ, Ernest R.	CPL	26 July 1968
SMITH, William E.	"	"
WALKER, Troy D.	"	"
WALLACE, Lawrence S.	"	"
PINGHAM, Stephen L.	LCPL	"
ECLAND, David M.	"	"
BRADLEY, Edward J.	"	"
HAMMOND, Larry D.	"	"
HRAN, William D.	"	"
HUTH, Bradley R.	"	"
JOHNSON, Dale L.	"	"
JONES, Lee A.	"	"
KEELING, Marc C.	"	"
LEVETT, Gregory	"	"
LIVINGSTON, Norman W.	"	"
McREYNOLDS, Richard D.	"	"
NORTON, Chandois M.	"	"
ROMANO, Thomas J.	"	"
WENDT, Richard F.	"	"
WILLS, David H.	"	"
YOVICH, Alan C.	"	"

b. NAVY COMMENDATION MEDAL:

LCpl PINGHAM, Stephen L. - 26 July 1968

3. CASUALTIES

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>DATE RECEIVED</u>
TERRIAULT, Anton E.	MAJOR	11 July 1968
MURPHY, William A.	1STLT	11 July 1968
BOCKMAN, Gerald A.	CPL	11 July 1968
BLUESTEIN, Robert S.	LCPL	1 July 1968
KUEHN, Donald E.	CPL	17 July 1968

4. REENLISTMENTS

a. NONE.

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PART III (Cont)

5. SAFETY. Listed below are the aircraft incidents and accidents for the month of July 1968:

GROUND ACCIDENTS.	NONE
AIR INCIDENTS.	11 ECHO
	1 ALPHA
	1 DELTA
INJURY TO PERSONNEL.	5 MINOR

6. INTELLIGENCE. July proved to be a very quiet month, there were no enemy initiated rocket/mortar attacks against Quang Tri Air Base. There was one incident of friendly artillery landing on Quang Tri Air Base resulting in no casualties.

A total of 36 fire incidents were recorded during the month with 15 aircraft taking hits. One aircraft was totally destroyed on landing at LZ as a result of .50/12.7 fire. The pilot received a minor injury from the incident. Hits were registered at altitudes varying from 0-800 ft agl and at speeds from 0-135. All hits were taken either at the LZ's, or landing at and taking off from the LZ's. Fire taken consisted of SA, AW, .30 cal, .50/12.7, mortars, and one incident of punji stakes. Number of hits on aircraft ranged from 1 to 10.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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