

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

UNCLASSIFIED

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5 JUL 1969

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

Subj: Command Chronology, Period 1 June 1969 to 30 June 1969

Ref: (a) GruO 5750.LB

Encl: (1) Command Chronology

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is hereby submitted.
2. This letter becomes UNCLASSIFIED upon removal of enclosure (1).

J. A. Wells, Jr.
J. A. WELLS, JR.

HMM 262 S&CO 135-69
C 20FG

HMM-262

CMD CHRON

JUNE 1969

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MARINE MEDICAL HELICOPTER SQUADRON 262
COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
1 JUNE 1969 to 30 June 1969

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART 1ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. ORGANIZATION DATA

a. Commanding Officer	James A. WELLS, JR.	LTCOL	1-30 June
b. Executive Officer	Leo J. INLI	MAJOR	1-10 June
	Marvin R. NELSON	MAJOR	11-30 June
c. Operations Officer	Marvin R. NELSON	MAJOR	1-30 June
d. Logistics Officer	Dayle O. MCGAHA	MAJOR	1-5 June
	Lester R. GROSE	CAPT	6-30 June
e. Personnel Officer	Donald J. MESMAN	MAJOR	1-30 June
f. Aviation Safety Officer	Howard N. WHITFIELD	MAJOR	1-30 June
g. Intelligence Officer	Charles L. STORV	L/LT	1-30 June
h. Maintenance Officer	Raymond G. PINSON	MAJOR	1-30 June
i. Sergeant Major	Alexander J. SONGRANT	1stSgt	1-30 June

2. Task Organization and Unit Location

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 262
 Provisional Marine Aircraft Group 39, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing,
 MAF Pacific, FPO San Francisco, California 96602
 Quang Tri Air Base, Republic of Vietnam, 1-30 June 1969

3. Average Monthly Strength of SquadronNaval Aviators

42

Air/Ground Officers

3

Enlisted

154

Naval Officers

1

4. Important Visitors to the Squadron

None

ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

MM-262 flew a total of 1090.7 flight hours, the majority of which were in support of Operation Herkimer Mountain. The squadron evacuated a total of 1413 med-evacs as follows: 170 emergency, 376 priority and 867 routine.

The following is a breakdown of the work completed by the squadron during June including significant operational highlights.

	<u>NO. OF SORTIES</u>	<u>HOURS FLOWN</u>	<u>TROOPS LIFTED</u>	<u>TONS OF CARGO</u>
Virginia Ridge	830	147.6	1,547	64.5
Cameron Falls	669	159.1	798	119.6
Herkimer Mountain	1555	380.2	3,168	283.7
Dobbs Crest	68	19.7	250	9.0
Iroquois Grove	10	2.5	7	2.0
Utah Mesa	540	128.9	1,592	61.0
III Mar Div & III MAF	505	252.7	1,097	5.0
TOTALS	4177	1090.7	8,459	544.8

OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS1 JUNE 1969

At 1310H, while picking up an emergency medevac at YD 145735 grid, Chatterbox Med Evac came under intense enemy small arms fire. A wire bundle was cut causing many of the pilots instruments and gauges to go out. A round passed through the control closet just missing the boost lines. The aircraft was flown back to Quang Tri with no injuries to the crew.

2 JUNE 1969

Chatterbox 93-5 was diverted by Vandegrift DISC from resupply to an emergency recon extract. While Chatterbox 93-5 was extracting the team "O'Connor" from the YD 050680 grid, enemy small arms fire was received. The mission was completed without damage to the aircraft or any injury to the crew.

3 JUNE 1969

Chatterbox Med-Evac and Chase were working mission 501 out of Vandegrift Combat Base. At 1130H, Chatterbox Med evac was called to the YD 048622 grid to pick up 10 emergency med-evacs. Chatterbox Med Evac, under the cover of an air strike went into the zone to get the med evacs. While in the zone Chatterbox Med-Evac came under small arms fire, however, the 10 med evacs were picked up and the gunners on the bird were credited for 2 confirmed MIA's, a third possible and a secondary explosion.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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[REDACTED]7 JUNE 1969

At 1835H Chatterbox 93-7 and 8 were diverted from resupply to attempt an emergency extract of a reaction force at the XD 872660 grid. As Chatterbox 93-7 entered the zone, he was hit by automatic weapons, .50 caliber and RPG fire. The aircraft was unable to continue to fly and crashed and rolled down a hill to be consumed by fire. The crew escaped and joined with the reaction force. It was impossible to get another bird into the zone and the crew of Chatterbox 93-7 remained with the reaction force for 4 days until they could move to a more secure area.

30 JUNE 1969

While Chatterbox 93-11 was performing an emergency recon extract at the XD 957362 grid, small arms fire was received which caused the loss of the #2 boost system. The aircraft was flown to Vandegrift Combat Base on a single boost where a landing was made and temporary repairs conducted. The aircraft was then flown with the team back to Quang Tri. No injuries to personnel was incurred.

ENCLOSURE (1)
[REDACTED]

PART III1. Personnel

- a. Transfers to HMM-262 - officers 3, enlisted 20
- b. Transfers from HMM-262 - officers 4, enlisted 8
- c. Promotions to present rank:

L/Cpl BENNETT, D. E.	1 June 1969
SGT GRIFFITH, M. D.	1 June 1969
SGT MILLER, K. C.	1 June 1969
CPL CUTLERIDGE, G. L.	1 June 1969
CPL BOLAND, D. M.	1 June 1969
CPL NORCOTT, R. B.	1 June 1969
CPL YOUNG, D. R.	1 June 1969

2. Awards.

IMLI, Leo J. Major Purple Heart 2 June 1969
 STOKY, Charles L. 1/Lt Gold Star in lieu of second Air Medal 3 June 1969
 BRAVARD, Steven D. 1/Lt Purple Heart 3 June 1969
 WALKER, Ferrell V. Sgt Bronze Star for 1st Air Medal 3 June 1969
 HILLY, Dale A. Cpl Purple Heart 2 June 1969
 BAILEY, Curtis Cpl Purple Heart 2 June 1969

3. Casualties

WHITE, David L.	CAPT	WIA	7 June 1969
FENTON, Larry W.	1/LT	WIA	7 June 1969
RICHARDSON, Jack L.	SSGT	WIA	7 June 1969
WILLIAMS, Charles A.	L/CPL	WIA	7 June 1969
GRILL, William J.	CPL	WIA	7 June 1969
ULLOA, Hugo H.	CPL	KIA	5 June 1969
NEWCOMB, Cecil E. III	L/CPL	WIA	5 June 1969
NEZLESNY, William W.	Hq (USN)	WIA	5 June 1969

4. Reenlistments

MULLIN, Herbert L. Sgt 16 June 1969

5. Safety. Listed below are the aircraft accidents for the month of June 1969.

Ground Accidents	0
Ground Accidents - Due to Enemy Action	0
Air Accidents - Operational	0
Air incidents - Operational	3
Air Accidents - Due to Enemy Action	3
Air incidents - Due to Enemy Action	1
Injury to Personnel	1

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ENCLOSURE (1)

6. Intelligence

The month of June showed a marked decrease in enemy anti-aircraft fire incidents. The reporting period (1-30 June 1969) consisted of fewer sorties than April and May 1969 and fewer fire incidents than May 1969:

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>SORTIES</u>	<u>FIRE INCIDENTS</u>	<u>NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT RECEIVING BATTLE DAMAGE</u>	<u>% OF FIRE PER SORTIE</u>
JUNE	4177	19	4	0.454
MAY	4533	47	9	1.036
APRIL	5560	16	8	0.287

The areas receiving the largest volume of fire incidents were:

- (1) Helicopter Valley areas - YD 0266 - 0262 - 0962 - 0966 (this included a threat area from the previous month, this month, this month 10 RPG, 9 .50 Cal AW, 2 mortar and 4 SA incidents)
- (2) Along the Da Krong River - YD 0137 - 0135 - 0335 - 0337 (this threat area included 5 AW and 1 .50 Cal incident)
- (3) Utah Meas Area along Route #(- XD 7740 - 7734 - 8634 - 8640 (this area consisted of 9 .50 Cal, 6 AW, 5 SA and two airbursts)
- (4) Song Com River area North - XD 8467 - 8462 - 9662 - 9667 (this threat area was reported in May and has spread out. The fire consisted of 23 .50 Cal AW, 21 AW, 4 RPG and 2 mortar incidents)

A total of 19 fire incidents resulted in 4 aircraft receiving battle damage with an unknown number of hits, resulting in two (2) strike aircraft and 7 casualties (1-KIA/6-WIA). Total fire incidents consisted of the following types of fire:

15 - Small Arms	(May 69 - 23)
9 - Automatic Weapons	(May 69 - 19)
21 - .30 Caliber	(May 69 - 28)
2 - .50 Caliber	(May 69 - 7)
3 - Mortar	(May 69 - 13)
0 - Grenade	(May 69 - 1)
3 - RPG	(May 69 - 1)
0 - Airburst	(May 69 - 3)

The S-2 relocated into the new Ready Room. A new briefing map (1:50) was constructed which extends from the northern part of the DMZ XD/YD down to XC/YC line, covering all of the 3d Mar Div AO. A map (1:100) was posted which carries the plot and plans of friendly troops for the day and another board with all AW weapons capabilities was constructed.

A total of four gunner schools was held during June and 64 hours of intel igence training was accomplished.

Significant events during the reporting period were:

- (1) The total task of fire incidents on the 12-13-14-16 and 18 of June 1969.
- (2) Vandegrift combat base receiving rockets at 201145H June 1969 three times, when flights of aircraft entered the fuel pits.

ENCLOSURE (1)