

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

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5750  
5 October 1969

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, Provisional Marine Aircraft Group 39 (Attn: S-3)  
Subj: Command Chronology, Period 1 September 1969 to 30 September 1969  
Ref: (a) GmO 5750.1B  
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).

*D. J. MESSIKAN*  
D. J. MESSIKAN

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SEP 1969

ENCLOSURE 1/0

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PAGE IORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. ORGANIZATION DATA

a. Commanding Officer	Donald J. MESKAN	MAJOR	1-30 September
b. Executive Officer	Howard M. WHITFIELD	MAJOR	1-30 September
c. Operations Officer	Simon F. STOVER	CAPT	1-30 September
d. Logistics Officer	Lester R. GROSE	CAPT	1-30 September
e. Personnel Officer	Paul W. DOSS	1/LT	1-30 September
f. Aviation Safety Officer	Donald V. ESMOND	1/LT	1-30 September
g. Intelligence Officer	Charles L. STONY	1/LT	1-30 September
h. Maintenance Officer	David L. WHITE	CAPT	1-30 September
i. Sergeant Major	Darrel A. WILSON Thomas E. DUXE	GYSGT SGTMAJ	1-18 September 19-30 September

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 96302  
 Quang Tri Air Base, Republic of Vietnam, 1-30 September 1969

3. Average Monthly Strength of Squadron

<u>Naval Aviators</u>	<u>Air/Ground Officers</u>
45	4
<u>Enlisted</u>	<u>Naval Officers</u>
172	1

4. Important Visitors to the Squadron

NONE

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PART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

HMM-262 flew a total of 1167.0 flight hours, the majority of which were in support of III MARINE DIVISION & III MAF. The squadron evacuated a total of 448 med-evacs as follows: 106 emergency, 138 priority and 154 routine.

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

	<u>NO. OF SORTIES</u>	<u>HOURS FLOWN</u>	<u>TROOPS LIFTED</u>	<u>TONS OF CARGO</u>
GEORGIA TAP	678	145.1	3797	81.5
IDAHO CANYON	1063	132.4	2111	152.6
ARLINGTON CANYON	331	37.2	509	21.0
MAI LOC	13	4.6	0	4.0
1ST/5TH ORANGE (ARMY)	6	2.0	0	2.5
IRQUOIS GROVE	6	1.0	0	2.0
III MAR DIV & III MAF	3076	794.7	7715	362.9
TOTALS	5173	1167.0	12132	426.5

OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS15 Sep

Chatterbox morning Med-Evac was mortared out of Penguin K's position at XD 955625 while picking up med-evacs, resulting in no battle damage.

Chatterbox afternoon Med-Evac received small arms fire from the same position, resulting in no battle damage.

16 Sep

Chatterbox 7 & 8, while working afternoon resupply from Vandegrift Combat Base, were diverted for an emergency recon extraction. Chatterbox 7 went into the zone without enemy harassment, but while in the zone a team member walked into the forward rotor blades and was killed.

20 Sep

HMM-262 began the first stage of the retrograde of the 3rd Marine Division from the field. Aircraft involved in the troop lift took mortars in LZ Penguin K all three times into the zone, but there was no damage to aircraft or injury to crews.

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PART III1. Personnel

- a. Transfer to HAM-262 - Officers 1, Enlisted 23  
 b. Transfer from HAM-262 - Officers 1, Enlisted 7  
 c. Promotions to present rank:

HAPP, F. W.	SGT	1 Sep 69
OSBORNE, R. F.	"	"
STEWART, R. W.	"	"
BAILLY, C.	"	8 Sep 69
BOWMAN, T. R.	"	"
BROSHAK, J. J.	"	"
CASE, G. A.	"	"
FITZGERALD, J. T.	"	"
HAZELTON, T. C.	"	"
LAWSON, S.	"	"
MARTIN, S. W.	"	"
MILLER, H. C.	"	"
WALKER, T. D.	"	"

2. Awards

MERRAN, D. J.	MAJOR	DFC Gold Star in lieu of 3rd DFC
WHITFIELD, H. M.	"	Bronze Star in lieu of 3rd Air Medal Purple Heart
STOVER, S. F.	CAPT	Bronze Star for 1st Air Medal Gold Star in lieu of 2nd Air Medal
WHITE, D. E.	"	Silver Star Bronze Star for 1st Air Medal Gold Star for 2nd Air Medal
ANDERSON, R. C.	1/LT	Purple Heart
DOSS, P. W.	"	Bronze Star for 1st Air Medal
FLEISCHER, C. W.	"	Bronze Star for 1st Air Medal
MIK, D. L.	"	DFC
WHITWORTH, J. R.	"	Bronze Star for 1st Air Medal
WOOD, M. G.	"	Purple Heart
BOWMAN, T. R.	CPL	Bronze Star for 1st Air Medal
ELLISON, J. M.	"	Bronze Star for 1st Air Medal
JONES, T. F.	"	Bronze Star for 1st Air Medal
BOERSMA, J. A.	LCPL	Gold Star in lieu of 2nd Air Medal
SKINNER, W. E.	"	Bronze Star for 1st Air Medal Gold Star in lieu of 2nd Air Medal
STEWART, J. W.	"	Purple Heart
WILKINS, C. A.	"	Bronze Star with Combat "V"

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3. Casualties

NONE

4. Reassignments

WALKER, F. V. SGT 2139240/6212 27Sep69 3 YEARS

5. Safety. Listed below are the aircraft accidents/incidents for the month of September 1969.

Ground Accidents.....1  
 Ground Accidents - Due to Enemy Action.....0  
 Air Accidents - Operational.....0  
  
 Air Incidents - Operational.....4  
 Air Accidents - Due to Enemy Action.....0  
 Air Incidents - Due to Enemy Action.....3  
 Injury to Personnel.....0

6. Intelligence

BMM-262 had a total of 1167.0 flight hours and 5173 sorties.

The month of September showed an increase of enemy Anti Aircraft fire incidents. The reporting period (1-30 September 1969) consisted of a decrease in sorties accompanied by an increase in number of fire incidents from previous month (1-31 August 1969).

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>SORTIES</u>	<u>FIRE INCIDENTS</u>	<u>NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT RECEIVING BATTLE DAMAGE</u>	<u>% OF FIRE PER SORTIES</u>
September	5173	13	0	0.251
August	5178	10	1	0.193
July	4197	9	3	0.213

The areas receiving the largest volume of fire incidents were:

(1) Arlington Canyon and Idaho Canyon

(a) West of Halo Valley 0164-0564-0568-0168. Type fire received 6 - Small Arms, 1 - Automatic Weapons, 2 - .50 Cal.

(b) North of the Rock Pile 9361-9761-9765-9365. Type fire received 8 - Small Arms, 7 - Automatic Weapons, 1 - .50 Cal. and 2 - Mortars.

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(c) South of LZ Catalina 8660-9060-9065-8665. Type Fire received 8 - Small Arms, 7 - Automatic Weapons, 1 - .50 Cal. and 2 - Mortar,

(d) West of Vandegrift 9449-9549-9551-9451. Type fire received 4 - Small Arms, 2 - Automatic Weapons and 4 - .50 Cal.

There was a total of 13 fire incidents resulting in negative battle damage, nor were any aircraft forced to land. No aircraft were struck and no casualties received. September fire incidents consisted of the following types of fire.

September 1969

7-Small Arms  
 2-Automatic Weapons  
 7-.30 Cal.  
 2-.50 Cal.  
 4-Mortar  
 0-Grenade  
 0-RPG  
 0-Airburst  
 0-Rocket

The S-2 conducted two Gunners Schools and a total of 150 hours of intelligence was conducted. SERE classes for all gunners and crew-chiefs, with SERE maps distributed to all flight crewmen.

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