

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 262
Marine Aircraft Group 16
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMF Pacific
FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

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5750
5 Feb 1970

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 16
Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1-31 January 1970
Ref: (a) GruC 5750.1
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).

R. A. Dancroft
R. A. DANCROFT

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PART IORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. ORGANIZATION DATA

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------|---------------------------|------------|
| a. Commanding Officer | LTCOL | Richard A. BANCROFT | 1-31Jan70 |
| b. Executive Officer | MAJOR | Wiley J. SELLERS | 1-25Jan70 |
| | MAJOR | James M. PERRYMAN, Jr. | 26-31Jan70 |
| c. Operations Officer | 1STLT | Steven D. BRAVARD | 1-10Jan70 |
| | MAJOR | Wiley J. SELLERS | 11-31Jan70 |
| d. Logistics Officer | CAPT | Lester R. GROSE | 1-10Jan70 |
| | 1STLT | William C. KING | 11-31Jan70 |
| e. Administrative Officer | CAPT | Walter W. GUSTIN | 1-31Jan70 |
| f. Aviation Safety Officer | 1STLT | Donald V. EMMOND | 1-14Jan70 |
| | 1STLT | Charles W. FLEISCHER, Jr. | 15-31Jan70 |
| g. Intelligence Officer | 1STLT | Hugo W. BECK | 1-25Jan70 |
| | 1STLT | Jessie A. PAGE | 26-31Jan70 |
| h. Aircraft Maintenance Officer | CAPT | David L. WHITE | 1-10Jan70 |
| | MAJOR | Robert M. FITZGERALD | 11-31Jan70 |
| i. Sergeant Major | SGTMAJ | Thomas E. DUKE | 1-31Jan70 |

2. Task Organization and Unit Location

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 262
 Marine Aircraft Group 16, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing,
 1MF Pacific, FPO, San Francisco, California 96602
 Phu Bai Air Base, Republic of Vietnam, 1-31 January 1970

3. Average Strength of SquadronNAVAL AVIATORS

50

AIR/GROUND OFFICER

4

ENLISTED

172

NAVAL OFFICERS

3

1

ENCLOSURE (1)

4. Important Visitors to the Squadron, MAJGEN W. G. THRASH, Commanding General, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, visited HMM-262 on 25 January 1970. CGEN R. H. SPANJER, Assistant Wing Commander, visited HMM-262 on 22 January 1970. CGEN T. H. MILLER, Jr., G-3, III Marine Amphibious Force, visited HMM-262 on 25 January 1970.

PART II

OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

1. The month of January 1970 produced a significant increase in flight hours and aircraft sorties flown. For the first time since August 1969, the CNO flight hour utilization factor of 60 hours per month per operational aircraft assigned was attained. An average of 20 operational CH-46D's assigned flew 1237 flight hours and 4214 sorties during January 1970 in support of the 1st Marine Division, Republic of Korea Marine Corps, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, and III Marine Amphibious Force.
2. The majority of the January flight hours and sorties (98%) were flown within the 1st MARDIV/ROKMC TAOR's in Quang Nam and Quang Tin Provinces. January's missions consisted primarily of execution of standard fragmentary orders involving routine command and control, troop movement, resupply, VIP support, medical evacuation, and reconnaissance flights. Two percent of the squadron's flight effort was in support of the Third Force Reconnaissance Company's recon operations in the Ashau Valley, Thua Thien Province.
3. While executing the foregoing combat support flight operations, the value of the CH-53D as a Tactical Aircraft Recovery (TAR) vehicle was thrice demonstrated to HMM-262. Three "Chatterbox" CH-46D's were retrieved by TAR, two from unsecure field locations, after they had been forced to land. The CH-46D's were flying combat missions the day following their TAR.
4. The squadron, currently located at the Phu Bai Combat Base which is approximately 30 minutes flying time north of the MAG-16 Marble Mountain Air Facility, expends one flight hour and two sorties more than a sister CH-46D squadron based at the Marble Mountain Air Facility when both units are flying identical missions in support of 1st MARDIV, ROKMC, and III MAF. This inefficient and undesirable situation for HMM-262 will soon be rectified. The squadron has been alerted to move to Marble Mountain Air Facility between 15 February and 1 March 1970.

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART IIISIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. Personnel

- a. Transferred to HMM-262 5 Officers 27 Enlisted
 b. Transferred from HMM-262 11 Officers 9 Enlisted
 c. Promotion to present rank 1 Officer 12 Enlisted

2. Awards. The Strike/Flight Air Medal was awarded to 40 personnel of the squadron, and one man was awarded a Single Mission Air Medal. LCPL W. H. STICKLER, 2445403, was awarded the Purple Heart Medal on 10 January 1970 for wounds sustained on 17 November 1969.

3. Civic Action. During the month of January, the Protestant Tin Dang Orphanage was supplied with 50 pounds of food. It was noted that the addition to the orphanage was about 75% completed and the supplies donated by the squadron were being put to good use.

4. Informational Services. Two officers joined the squadron which resulted in two Home Town News Releases. Twenty-seven enlisted Home Town News Releases were published on awards and promotions.

5. Intelligence. The reporting period (1-31 January 1970) reflected an increase in aircraft sorties and a slight increase in fire incidents.

| <u>MONTH</u> | <u>SORTIES</u> | <u>FIRE INCIDENTS</u> | <u>NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT RECEIVING BATTLE DAMAGE</u> | <u>% OF FIRE PER SORTIES</u> |
|---------------|----------------|-----------------------|---|------------------------------|
| 1-31 January | 4214 | 22 | 3 | 0.522 |
| 1-31 December | 4646 | 21 | 5 | 0.466 |
| 1-30 November | 1813 | 14 | 6 | 0.568 |

The area receiving the largest volume of fire was from AT8365 to AR6333 to BT2333 to BT2350 to BT1165 to AT 8365.

6. Air Operations

| <u>MONTH FLOWN</u> | <u>TASKS FLOWN</u> | <u>SORTIES FLOWN</u> | <u>CARGO CARRIED</u> | <u>MED-EVACS CARRIED</u> | <u>PASSENGERS CARRIED</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1236.9 | 2002 | 1/ 4214 | 336 TONS | 399 2/ | 6361 |

- NOTES: 1. Includes following reconnaissance effort: 31 Inserts, 18 Extracts, and 1 "Flip-Flop".
 2. Includes 91 "Emergency", 145 "Priority", and 163 "Routine" Med-Evacs.

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7. Ground Defense. The HMM-262 Reactionary Platoon, working in coordination with the Army Rifle Company in charge of Base Defense, has been twice called upon during the month of January to man the perimeter as security against the Tet Offensive.

8. Safety. Listed below are the aircraft accident/incidents for the month of 1-31 January 1970.

| | |
|---|---|
| Ground Accidents..... | 1 |
| Ground Accidents - Due to Enemy Action..... | 0 |
| Air Accidents - Operational..... | 0 |
| Air Incidents - Operational..... | 1 |
| Air Accidents - Due to Enemy Action..... | 0 |
| Air Incidents - Due to Enemy Action..... | 5 |
| Injuries to Personnel..... | 0 |

9. Training. January training included special emphasis on Reactionary Platoon Training and FAM firing in preparation for the Tet Offensive. The Aircrew Orientation program was revised to better prepare crews for combat flights. Special lectures on aircraft systems were conducted by Technical Representatives, along with intensified technical training in maintenance.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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