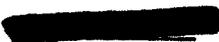


MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 262
Marine Aircraft Group 16
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMF Pacific
FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

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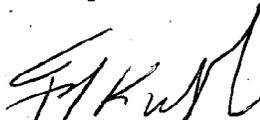
03A10571
3:GPS:leb
15 April 1971



From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 16
Subj: Command Chronology for the period of 1-14 April 1971
Ref: (a) GruO 5750.1D
Encl: (1) HMM-262 Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.

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


FRANK K. WEST, JR.

HMM-262

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1-14 Apr 71

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 262
Marine Aircraft Group 16
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FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1-14 April 1971

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Enclosure (1)

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 262

COMMANDERLtCol F. K. WEST, Jr.
1-14 April 19712. LOCATION

1-14 April, Marble Mountain Air Facility, Danang, RVN

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer	Major John A. ROGERS	1-14 April 1971
Operations Officer	Major William H. REVER, Jr.	1-14 April 1971
Logistics Officer	Captain Wayne T. ADAMS	1-14 April 1971
Administrative Officer	Captain James H. LAVELLE	1-14 April 1971
Aviation Safety Officer	1stLt James V. STIGER	1-14 April 1971
Aircraft Maintenance Officer	Major Harris J. FENNELL	1-14 April 1971
Sergeant Major	Sergeant Major Michail F. DOYLE	1-14 April 1971

4. Average Monthly Strength

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
46	170	1	0

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. During the first half of the month of April 1971 there was a decrease in the number of flight hours flown from March. A daily average of 20 CH-46D helicopters flew a total of 2,326 sorties, and the squadron had 100% aircraft availability on five days. Chatterbox moved 2,837 passengers and 43.5 tons of cargo in 606.0 hours of flight time. The most noteworthy figure is 43.5 tons of cargo, since in this same period in the month of March we carried almost 150 tons of cargo. Squadron medevac flew 43 missions, of which 33 were "emergencies", 8 "priorities", and 2 "routines". These figures also reflect a substantial slowing down from the previous month.
2. HMM-262's Chatterbox aircraft flew support for the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, the 1st Marine Division, the Republic of Korea Marine Corps, the ARVN, and the III Marine Amphibious Force in the provinces of Quang Nam, and Quang Tin as well as the Northern I Corps province of Quang Tri where the squadron sent liaison flights.
3. HMM-262 was involved in nine fire incidents in the first half of April. None of the aircraft were hit in any of the incidents. Of the nine incidents, five occurred on medevac missions, two on troop extracts, one on a troop lift, and one on a resupply mission. There were no confirmed kills in the first half of the month. There were 1500 .50 caliber rounds reported fired either in combat or for training.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. Personnel.

a. Transferred to HMM-262	0 Officers	11 Enlisted
b. Transferred from HMM-262	3 Officers	3 Enlisted
c. Promoted to present rank	0 Officers	0 Enlisted

2. Awards. HMM-262 awarded 5 first Air Medals, 100 total Air Medals and 4 Air Crew Wings.

3. Informational Services. HMM-262 published 24 hometown news releases for promotions and awards.

4. Operational Highlights.

1 and 2 April 1971

A sniper took the first two days of April to remind Chatterbox that they were still in the war. At dusk, from a position near the main highway to the West, the sniper shot at random into the enlisted billeting area and the squadron flight line. PMO and Zulu Company drove the sniper off. There were no casualties.

8 April 1971

Led by LtCol F. K. West, Jr., Chatterbox joined in a strike involving the entire MAC-16. With twelve aircraft HMM-262 carried 132 combat loaded troops into LZ Broadsword in the ZC 0539 grid square. The drop was accomplished by four flights of three aircraft, each flight landing as a unit. The only aircraft to take fire in the entire strike was the lead bird of the third flight and he took no hits.

11 April 1971

The troops having completed their sweep through the field were extracted from LZ Sparrow in the ZC 0442 grid. LtCol West again led HMM-262 in their part of the operation. The nine Chatterbox aircraft carried 117 troops from the field. One of our aircraft in the first wave took fire but was not hit.

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14 April 1971

Chatterbox took part in the flyover which commemorated the change of command from III Marine Amphibious Force to the 3d Marine Amphibious Brigade. The flyover was also in honor of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing officially standing down.

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. There were no supporting documents.

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