

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 263
 Marine Aircraft Group 36
 Fleet Marine Force Pacific
 FPO, San Francisco, 96602

3:JW:rhk
 SER: 03A31267
 8 Nov 1967

HMM 263 296-61 '67

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 36 (Attn: S-3)
 Subj: Command Chronology; submission of (U)

Ref: (a) MOO 5720.2
 (b) WGO 5750.1A
 (c) GruO 5750.1

Encl: (1) Command Chronology for the period of 1 October to 31 October 1967

1. In accordance with reference (a) through (c), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. This letter may be downgraded to UNCLASSIFIED upon removal of enclosure (1).

J. C. Robinson
 J. C. ROBINSON

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
 DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
 DOWD 0-100010

Copy 1 of 7

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HMM-263

CMD 3480N

OCT 1967

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SER: 03A31267
8 November 1967

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 263

1 - 31 ^{October} ~~NOVEMBER~~ 1967

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ENCLOSURE (1)
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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

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1. Organization Data:

- a. Reporting Unit: - HMM-263 MAG-36 1stMAW FMFPac
- b. Location: - Ky Ha, Republic of Vietnam
- c. Reporting Period: - 1-31 October 1967
- d. Commanding Officer: - 1-31 October 1967
Maj. James C. Robinson, USMC
- e. Executive Officer: - 1-24 October 1967
Maj. John C. Shaffer, USMC
25-31 October 1967
Maj. Horace S. Lowrey Jr., USMC
- f. Operations Officer: - 1-31 October 1967
Maj. John W. Viglione, USMC
- g. Administrative Officer: - 1-31 October 1967
1stLt. George J. Papciak, USMC
- h. Intelligence Officer: - 1-31 October 1967
Capt. Phillip S. Makowka, USMC
- i. Logistics Officer: - 1-24 October 1967
Capt. David L. Steele, USMC
25-31 October 1967
Capt. Noel J. Keller, USMC
- j. Maintenance Officer: - 1-24 October 1967
Maj. Robert D. Blanton, USMC
25-31 October 1967
Capt. David L. Steele, USMC
- k. Aviation Safety Officer: - 1-31 October 1967
Maj. Clarence L. Smith, USMC
- l. Flight Surgeon: - 1-31 October 1967
Lt(MC) James D. Johannes, USN

2. Average monthly strengths

| | USMC | USN | TOTAL |
|-----------|------|-----|-------|
| Officers: | 47 | 1 | 48 |
| Enlisted: | 169 | 2 | 171 |

a. Personnel dropped during period: 35

b. Personnel joined during period: 10

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NARRATIVE SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT HIGHLIGHTS
OCCURRING DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

- SUMMARY** (U) HMM-263 flew a total of 2144.1 hours, 7,063 sorties and 2,516 tasks with 5,917 troops/passengers and 1,004.9 tons of cargo being lifted. Six hundred seventy-three medevac sorties were flown carrying a total of 556 evacuees. The Squadron participated in one strike, and made numerous recon insertions and extractions. During the month 4 operations were supported: Operation Dragon Fire, Operation Onslow, Operation Knox and Operation Granite. During the first part of the month, the Squadron moved its operations from the South Mat to the North Mat at Ky Ha and shared operating spaces with HMM-165. Operations continued in this semi-packed space for the entire month with no loss in availability or operating ability. During this period of 2,144.1 hours, the Squadron received only 37 fire incidents with five instances of hits. Only one member of the Squadron received injuries due to hostile fire which did not require hospitalization. Four personnel were hospitalized due to a crash not caused by hostile fire. The weather was favorable for flying except for 8 October when low ceiling and visibility and high winds due to a typhoon prevented flight operations. All significant events and experiences will be reported in the following narrative.
- 1 Oct 67 (U) 82.5 flight hours, 232 sorties, and 114 tasks were flown in support of IIIMAF and ROKMC. Two hundred twenty eight troops/passengers and 37.0 tons of cargo were lifted. One medevac mission evacuated 4 priority evacuees. Four UH-34D's supported the ROKMC on Operation Dragon Fire by flying 22.5 flight hours and 96 sorties and lifting 105 troops/passengers and 26.5 tons of cargo. During this mission a Korean threw a rock at EG-14 which damaged the rotor blades; necessitating the return of the section to Ky Ha. Four UH-34's flying mission 68/98 received small arms fire from BT-092515. Two UH-34's on mission 52, day medevac, received small arms fire at 1745H at BT-270180. Two UH-34's flying a night medevac mission received small arms fire at 1920H at BT-2448. No hits were reported from these instances.
- 2 Oct 67 (U) 63.5 flight hours, 268 sorties were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. Two hundred sixty six troops/passengers and 28.3 tons of cargo were lifted. Eighteen medevac missions evacuated 14 emergency, 23 priority and 22 routine medevacs. Operation Dragon Fire was supported by four UH-34's flying 22.3 flight hours and 120 sorties, while lifting 51 troops/passengers and 27.0 tons of cargo. While flying the afternoon portion of ROK resupply for Operation Dragon Fire, two aircraft took small arms fire at 1605H at BS-774836 and at 1615H at BS-765832. Another aircraft received small arms fire at 0805H at BS-733781 while on a medevac mission. No aircraft were hit.

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- 3 Oct 67 (U) 34.3 flight hours, 77 sorties and 21 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. Forty six troops/passengers and 4.0 tons of cargo were lifted. Five medevac missions evacuated 1 emergency, 4 priority, and 3 routine evacuees. HMM-263 supported Operation Dragon Fire by flying 4.4 flight hours and 16 sorties, while lifting 9 troops/passengers and 4.0 tons of cargo. This day was also marked by the move of the Squadron from its working spaces in with HMM-165.
- 4 Oct 67 (U) 61.4 flight hours, 204 sorties, and 65 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. One hundred forty seven troops/passengers and 35.0 tons of cargo were lifted. Six medevac missions evacuated 2 emergency, 1 priority, and 4 routine evacuees. Operation Dragon Fire was supported by 7 UH-34D's flying 28.7 flight hours and 130 sorties. Ninety three troops/passengers and 35.0 tons of cargo were lifted. Four aircraft flying during the morning in support of this Operation received fire at 0935H at BS-758 860; however no aircraft were hit.
- 5 Oct 67 (U) 56.8 flight hours, 169 sorties and 74 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. One hundred fifty two troops/passengers and 19.0 tons of cargo were lifted. Four medevac missions evacuated 1 emergency, and 3 priority evacuees. HMM-263 supported Operation Dragon Fire by flying 23.4 flight hours and 98 sorties, while lifting 80 troops/passengers and 17.0 tons of cargo and evacuating 1 priority evacuee. During this support the 2 morning "working birds" received small arms fire at 1210H at BS 773841; also the 2 afternoon aircraft received fire at 1600H at BS 783859. No hits were reported in either instance.
- 6 Oct 67 (U) 66.5 hours, 211 sorties and 68 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. Two hundred fourteen troops/passengers and 27.0 tons of cargo were lifted. Four medevac missions evacuated 3 emergency evacuees. Operation Dragon Fire was supported by 5 UH-34D's flying 28.3 flight hours and 106 sorties while lifting 82 troops/passengers and 24.0 tons of cargo. While flying Mission 68, resupply for the 1st Marines, the Squadron had two aircraft which received automatic weapons fire at 1639H at BT 098628. EG-6 (145770) received 10 hits in the forward cabin section, however no crew members were injured. The pilot flew the aircraft to IZ 411 where it was down long enough to inspect the extent of the battle damage. Then the flight completed the mission receiving fire twice more: at 1835H at BT 070620 and at 1750H at BT 470150. This time, however, the aircraft were not hit.

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- 7 Oct 67 (U) 72.7 flight hours, 165 sorties and 60 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. Ninety-eight troops/passengers and 19.0 tons of cargo were lifted. Ten medevac missions were flown evacuating 8 emergency, 12 priority, and 1 routine evacuees. HMM-263 supported Operation Dragon Fire by flying 6.6 flight hours and 27 sorties while lifting 13 troops/passengers and 6.0 tons of cargo.
- 8 Oct 67 (U) 0.9 flight hours and 2 sorties were flown. All missions except SAR and Med Evac were put on condition four due to the weather. All the aircraft were folded and the field was secured for typhoon conditions. Rains and heavy winds continued all day with a few brief pauses.
- 9 Oct 67 (U) 88.8 flight hours, 232 sorties, and 80 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. One hundred sixty three troops/passengers and 38.5 tons of cargo were lifted. Five medevac missions evacuated 3 emergency and 1 priority evacuees. HMM-263 supported the ROKMC by launching 5 UH-34's in support of Operation Dragon Fire. These aircraft flew 103 sorties and 25.4 flight hours while carrying 85 troops/passengers and 32.5 tons of cargo.
- 10 Oct 67 (U) 69.7 flight hours, 233 sorties and 98 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. Two hundred thirty seven troops/passengers and 35.0 tons of cargo were lifted. Five medevac missions evacuated 1 emergency, 9 priority, and 2 routine evacuees. Operation Dragon Fire was supported with 29.4 flight hours and 113 sorties flown and 134 troops/passengers and 29.0 tons of cargo being lifted. Four UH-34's flying Mission 72 took sniper fire at 1000H at AT 818468. Two aircraft flying Mission 73 received small arms fire at 1930H at AT 870520. No hits were received in either instance.
- 11 Oct 67 (U) 111.8 flight hours, 570 sorties and 189 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. Two hundred seventy eight troops/passengers and 83.5 tons of cargo were lifted. Eleven medevac missions evacuated 6 emergency, 4 priority, and 38 routine evacuees. Nine UH-34's from HMM-263 flew 42.0 flight hours and 226 sorties carrying 146 troops/passengers and 45.5 tons of cargo and evacuating 3 routine medevacs in support of Operation Dragon Fire. A flight of 4 UH-34's flying Mission 68 made a recon insertion at AT 943919 and extraction from AT 924427. One aircraft in the flight received a hit in the tail cone. Time and coordinates were unknown because the enemy fire was neither seen nor heard. The battle damage was not discovered until the flight had returned to Ky Ha. Four aircraft flying Mission 69 (ROK Resupply) received small arms fire at 0900H at BS 562823; however no hits were reported.

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- 12 Oct 67 (U) 90.7 flight hours, 291 sorties and 102 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. Two hundred seventy eight troops/passengers and 35.4 tons of cargo were lifted. Thirteen medevac missions evacuated 12 emergency, 9 priority and 6 routine evacuees. The morning portion of Mission 68 working from LZ 410 was incomplete due to weather and Mission 69, 1st Marine working birds did not launch due to lack of aircraft. Again HMM-263 supported Operation Dragon Fire by flying 27.3 flight hours and 134 sorties lifting 119 troops/passengers and 35.0 tons of cargo. One routine medevac was evacuated. Five UH-34's flying Mission 70 made a recon insertion at AT 844014 and also picked up 3 emergency medevacs. The flight received small arms fire at 1015H at AT 934374. EG-2 (147183) received 4 hits; 1 round in the clamshell doors, 1 round through the center windscreen, and 2 rounds in the belly of the fuselage. EG-14 (149395) also received 4 hits; 3 rounds in the fuselage and 1 round in the rotor blades. Captain D. L. STEELE, pilot of EG-14 and LCpl C. L. HUGHBANKS, from HMM-165 aboard EG-7, received minor shrapnel wounds and were taken to Marble Mountain for treatment and then released.
- 13 Oct 67 (U) 67.6 flight hours, 286 sorties and 92 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. One hundred eighty six troops/passengers and 49.5 tons of cargo were lifted. Six medevac missions evacuated 1 emergency, 6 priority, and 1 routine evacuee. Operation Dragon Fire was supported by 7 UH-34's flying a total of 33.6 flight hours and 181 sorties while carrying 95 troops/passengers and 32.0 tons of cargo. One priority and 1 routine medevac was evacuated. Two aircraft flying the afternoon portion of ROK resupply (Mission 55) received small arms fire at 1325H at BS 771832. Two other aircraft flying Mission 71 out of LZ 410, received small arms fire at 1510H at AT 793566. No hits were reported.
- 14 Oct 67 (U) 79.8 hours, 222 sorties and 109 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. One hundred eighty six troops/passengers and 39.0 tons of cargo were lifted. Fourteen medevac missions evacuated 4 emergency and 5 priority evacuees. Operation Dragon Fire was supported with 35.6 flight hours and 150 sorties. The aircraft lifted 110 troops/passengers and 47.0 tons of cargo and evacuated 2 priority medevacs. During the morning portion of the ROK resupply, 2 aircraft received small arms fire at 1045H at BS 778838 with no hits received. Enemy automatic weapons fire was received at 1550H at ZC 176988 by the aircraft flying Mission 69, flying recon insertions and extractions. The early morning launch on Mission 69 started out with a taxi accident. The rotor blades of 1 UH-34D hit and damaged a set of rotor blades on a parked CH-46. The aircraft inserted a team at ZC 176988 and extracted a recon team at

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AT 867875. The insertion at AT 953372 was incomplete due to a poor zone and the extraction from ZC 168666 incomplete because the gunships were called away to help the team inserted at ZC 176988.

- 15 Oct 67 (U) 79.1 flight hours, 247 sorties and 65 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. One hundred eighty three troops/passengers and 19.0 tons of cargo were lifted. Eleven medevac missions evacuated 7 emergency, 4 priority, and 5 routine evacuees. HMM-263 supported Operation Dragon Fire with 23.6 flight hours and 96 sorties while lifting 73 troops/passengers and 17.0 tons of cargo. One routine evacuee was evacuated. The Squadron also supported Operation Onslow by flying 15.7 flight hours and 55 sorties and lifting 16 troops/passengers and 2.0 tons of cargo. The morning portion of Mission 55 (ROK resupply) received small arms fire at 0940H at BS 547857 at 1035H at BS 770830. EG-3 (150199) received 1 hit in the center fuel cell. Four UH-34D's flying Mission 72, inserted a recon team at AT 925426 and AT 168662. They also inserted 1 team at ZC 179988 to replace another team.
- 16 Oct 67 (U) 85.8 flight hours, 240 sorties and 74 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. One hundred troops/passengers and 27.4 tons of cargo were lifted. Eight medevac missions evacuated 10 emergency and 3 priority evacuees. HMM-263 supported Operation Dragon Fire by flying 26.1 flight hours and 95 sorties carrying 38 troops/passengers and 24.0 tons of cargo and evacuating 1 emergency, 1 priority, and 6 routine evacuees. Four aircraft flying Mission 71 received 50 caliber fire at 1710H at AT 9334 with no hits reported. Three aircraft made recon insertions at ZD 147062 and AT 952372. Two aircraft flying Mission 70, working birds for LZ 410, received small arms fire at 1810H at BT 118640 without getting hit.
- 17 Oct 67 (U) 71.8 flight hours, 275 sorties and 107 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. One hundred seventy five troops/passengers and 40.2 tons of cargo were lifted. Nine medevac missions evacuated 10 priority and 8 routine evacuees. HMM-263 flew 21.7 flight hours and 117 sorties, lifting 80 troops/passengers and 28.0 tons of cargo. One emergency evacuee was evacuated. Two aircraft flying Mission 71, working out of LZ 411, received 50 caliber fire at 1840H at BT 0856, no hits reported.

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- 18 Oct 67 (U) 85.6 flight hours, 312 sorties and 121 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. Two hundred twenty eight troops/passengers and 51.0 tons of cargo were lifted. HMM-263 supported Operation Dragon Fire by flying 35.0 flight hours and 182 sorties while lifting 126 troops/passengers and 49.0 tons of cargo. Two aircraft flying Mission 55 (ROK Resupply) received small arms fire at 1830H at AT 799980 with no hits received.
- 19 Oct 67 (U) 66.9 flight hours, 218 sorties and 91 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. Ninety three troops/passengers and 39.0 tons of cargo were lifted. Ten medevac missions evacuated 4 emergency, 3 priority and 2 routine evacuees. Mission 99, artillery spotting, was aborted when the aircraft experienced engine chip light, the aircraft made a precautionary landing at Chu Lai, was checked and flown back to Ky Ha. HMM-263 supported Operation Dragon Fire by flying 27.9 hours and 124 sorties and lifting 56 troops/passengers and 35.0 tons of cargo.
- 20 Oct 67 (U) 86.8 flight hours, 228 sorties and 91 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. Two hundred forty one troops/passengers and 27.5 tons of cargo were lifted. Twenty four medevac missions evacuated 13 emergency, 7 priority, and 2 routine evacuees. HMM-263 supported Operation Dragon Fire by flying 34.3 flight hours and 137 sorties, lifting 97 troops/passengers and 22.5 tons of cargo, and evacuating 7 emergency and 7 priority evacuees. Four UH-34's made a recon insertion at AT 830995. A recon insertion/extraction was made at AT 958 337, one team being relieved by another. Two aircraft flying Mission 82, working birds for ROKMC, received small arms fire at BS 598875. Two aircraft flying high medevac received small arms fire at 1955H at BT 0564. No hits were reported.
- 21 Oct 67 (U) 67.2 flight hours, 186 sorties and 83 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. One hundred thirty six troops/passengers and 18.0 tons of cargo were lifted. Fifteen medevac missions were flown evacuating 12 emergency, 2 priority, and 1 routine evacuees. HMM-263 supported Operation Dragon Fire by flying 24.8 flight hours and 100 sorties and lifting 123 troops/passengers and 18.0 tons of cargo. One aircraft, BG-11 (149327) experienced engine failure as it was entering its final approach to the LZ on Cu Lao Re Island (BS 995015). The aircraft crashed 100 meters short of the LZ on a slope, rolled over on its right side, and was consumed by fire. The pilot Captain Alvin L. COLEY, and Co-pilot First Lieutenant Richard J. SPOHN sustained

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BRAVO injuries. The Crew Chief, Sergeant Richard E. BECK, also BRAVO injury, assisted the pilot in his egress of the burning aircraft and no doubt saved his life. The Gunner, Corporal Hans M. WAGNER, sustained FOXTROT injury. The crew was immediately medevaced to 1st Hospital by the wingman in EG-6. Two aircraft flying Mission 75/76 received small arms fire at 1815H at AT 828572 with no hits received.

- 22 Oct 67 (U) 65.7 flight hours, 229 sorties and 73 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. One hundred seventy four troops/passengers and 43.3 tons of cargo were lifted. Five medevac missions evacuated 20 emergency and 2 priority evacuees. Operation Dragon Fire was supported with 25.3 flight hours and 143 sorties. Seventy seven troops/passengers and 43.0 tons of cargo were carried and 3 emergency medevacs evacuated. Four aircraft flying Mission 74 made a recon insertion at AT 830995 and another at ZD 138053. A recon extraction was made at AT 999459.
- 23 Oct 67 (U) 75.5 flight hours, 302 sorties and 114 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. Three hundred six troops/passengers and 47.8 tons of cargo were lifted. Twelve medevac missions evacuated 10 emergency, 7 priority, and 52 routine evacuees. HMM-263 supported Operation Dragon Fire by flying 30.0 hours and 141 sorties while lifting 90 troops/passengers and 38.5 tons of cargo. Two aircraft flying night medevac received fire from BS 672030 and BS 728942. No hits were reported.
- 24 Oct 67 (U) 38.2 flight hours, 175 sorties and 77 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. One hundred forty troops/passengers and 39.0 tons of cargo were lifted. Four medevac missions evacuated 1 emergency, 1 priority, and 1 routine evacuees. HMM-263 supported Operation Dragon Fire by flying 24.3 hours and 147 sorties, lifting 118 troops/passengers and 39.0 tons of cargo. One priority evacuee was evacuated. HMM-263 helped in the beginning of Operation Knox by supplying two medevac aircraft which flew 6.7 hours, 23 sorties, lifted 5 troops/passengers and evacuated 7 emergency, 1 priority, and 3 routine evacuees.

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- 25 Oct 67 (U) 41.8 flight hours, 139 sorties and 60 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. One hundred twelve troops/passengers and 33.7 tons of cargo were lifted. Twelve medevac missions evacuated 9 emergency, 2 priority and 8 routine evacuees. HMM-263 supported Operation Dragon Fire by flying 214.6 hours and 112 sorties while lifting 93 troops/passengers and 33.4 tons of cargo. One priority evacuee was evacuated.
- 26 Oct 67 (U) 110.7 flight hours, 268 sorties and 33 tasks were flown in support of III MAF. Five hundred troops/passengers and 0.1 tons of cargo were lifted. Three medevac missions evacuated 4 emergency, 5 priority and 4 routine evacuees. HMM-263 participated in the start of Operation Granite by launching 16 aircraft. These aircraft flew a total of 107.2 hours and 265 sorties and lifted 486 troops/passengers. The flight received automatic weapons fire at 1420H at YD-540184 and small arms fire at 1530H at YD-463226. No hits were received.
- 27 Oct 67 (U) 86.6 flight hours, 332 sorties and 88 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. Four hundred twenty-one troops/passengers and 38.9 tons of cargo were lifted. Eight medevac missions evacuated 9 emergency, 7 priority and 1 routine evacuees. HMM-263 supported Operation Granite with six aircraft flying 40.6 hours and 119 sorties, lifting 300 troops/passengers and evacuating 1 priority evacuee. The Squadron also supported Operation Dragon Fire with five aircraft flying 25.1 hours, 131 sorties, lifting 74 troops/passengers and 38.4 tons of cargo. One priority evacuee was evacuated.
- 28 Oct 67 (U) 59.2 flight hours, 181 sorties and 95 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. One hundred twenty troops/passengers and 38.2 tons of cargo were lifted. Seven medevac missions evacuated 5 emergency, 1 priority and 9 routine evacuees. HMM-263 flew 24.1 hours, 112 sorties while lifting 52 troops/passengers and 34.0 tons of cargo with three routine evacuees evacuated in support of Operation Dragon Fire. Land Shark diverted Mission 75 aircraft to resupply for Operation Knox, Mission 19. The Squadron flew 10.3 hours and 32 sorties, lifting 23 troops/passengers and 4.2 tons of cargo and evacuated two routine evacuees in support of Operation Knox. One aircraft flying medevac received small arms fire at 0855H at BS-778856 with no hits received.

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- 29 Oct 67 (U) 50.9 flight hours, 145 sorties and 49 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. One hundred twenty-five troops/passengers were lifted along with 32.7 tons of cargo. Thirteen medevac missions evacuated 23 emergency, 2 priority and 8 routine evacuees. HMM-263 flew 24.3 hours, 111 sorties while lifting 72 troops/passengers and 32.7 tons of cargo and evacuating 1 routine evacuee in support of Operation Dragon Fire. Two aircraft flying ROK resupply received automatic small arms fire at 1700H at BS-779860. One aircraft took a round through the right tire, however no crew members were injured.
- 30 Oct 67 (U) 69.0 flight hours, 222 sorties and 46 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. One hundred eighty-five troops/passengers and 31.9 tons of cargo were lifted. Four medevac missions evacuated 2 emergency and 25 routine evacuees. HMM-263 supported Operation Dragon Fire by flying 12.3 hours, 60 sorties and carrying 25 troops/passengers and 17.0 tons of cargo.
- 31 Oct 67 (U) 55.0 flight hours, 228 sorties and 76 tasks were flown in support of III MAF and ROKMC. One hundred seventy-one troops/passengers and 28.0 tons of cargo were lifted. Four medevac missions evacuated 5 emergency and 1 priority evacuees. HMM-263 flew 21.3 flight hours and 91 sorties while in support of Operation Dragon Fire. The Squadron also supported Operation Granite by flying 7.5 hours and 21 sorties carrying 17 troops/passengers and 2.5 tons of cargo. Four medevacs were evacuated. One aircraft EG-19 (149334) flying ROK resupply (Mission 55) crashed into the trees 50 meters short of the ROK LSA. At the bottom of the descent, the pilot attempted to bring in power and the throttle cable broke resulting in a loss of power. The pilot then landed short of the LSA and all four rotor blades hit the trees. The crew, which was uninjured, was flown back to Ky Ha by the section leader and the aircraft was externalled back to Ky Ha later that afternoon by CH-53.

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PART III
SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

SER: 03A31267
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1. Administrative:

a. Personnel promoted during period:

Officers: 5
Enlisted: 12

2. Awards:

| | OFFICER | <u>ENLISTED</u> |
|------------------|---------|-----------------|
| (1) Given: | 0 | 2 |
| (2) Recommended: | 166 | 159 |
| b. Purple Heart: | | |
| (1) Given: | 1 | 0 |
| (2) Recommended: | 0 | 0 |

3. Casualties during period:

- a. COLEY, Alvin L. USMCR (Injuries requiring medical evacuation out of RVN - Non Hostile)
- b. SPOHN, Richard J. USMCR (Hospitalized period of 12 days - Non Hostile)
- c. BECK, Richard E. USMCR (Hospitalized period of 7 days - Non Hostile)
- d. WAGNER, Hans M. USMC (Hospitalized period of 6 days - Non Hostile)
- e. STEELE, David L. USMC (Minor injuries not requiring hospitalization- Hostile Fire)

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INTELLIGENCE

1. (U) The most significant activities of the Intelligence Section of HMM-263, during the month of October 1967, have been in preparation for the move to Phu Bai.

2. (C) The statistics for the month of October were:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Fire Incidents | 37 |
| Hit Incidents | 5 |
| Total Hits | 20 |
| Fire Incidents to Hours Flown | 56.6 |
| Hit Incidents to Hours Flown | 418.3 |
| Hit Incidents to Total Hits | 4 |
| Fire Incidents to Hit Incidents | .14 |

3. (C) The grid squares of greatest intensity were:

| <u>GS</u> | <u>FIRE INCIDENTS</u> | <u>HIT INCIDENTS</u> |
|-----------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| AT 9337 | 3 | 2 |
| BS 7783 | 2 | 0 |

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OPERATIONAL STATISTICS FOR THE PERIOD 1-31 OCTOBER 1967

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| TOTAL HOURS FLOWN - - - - - | 2144.1 |
| TOTAL PASSENGERS CARRIED - - - - - | 5917 |
| TOTAL SORTIES FLOWN - - - - - | 7063 |
| TOTAL MED-EVACS - - - - - | 556 |
| TOTAL CARGO LIFTED (TONS) - - - - - | 1004.9 |

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LOGISTICS

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1. AOCF Resume 1 thru 31 October 1967

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| a. Total Submitted | 137 |
| b. Total Filled | 133 |
| c. Total Outstanding | 4 |

2. ANFE Resume 1 thru 31 October 1967

| | |
|----------------------|----|
| a. Total Submitted | 29 |
| b. Total Filled | 13 |
| c. Total Outstanding | 16 |

3. AVGAS Resume 1 thru 31 October 1967

| | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| a. Total Cost | \$23,816.49 |
| b. Gallons Utilized | 140,097 |

4. AVOIL Resume 1 thru 31 October 1967

| | |
|---------------------|------------|
| a. Total Cost | \$2,320.00 |
| b. Gallons Utilized | 4400 |

5. A 30 day pickup of aeronautical spares and bits and piece support was received from Group Supply (Aviation Branch).
6. Individual equipment and weapons were received from Group Supply (Marine Corps Branch) with record cards.
7. The unit staged for embark to Phu Bai, RVN, on 29 Oct. 1967
8. The unit operated in a packed up condition for the entire month.

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MAINTENANCE

1. (C) During the period extending from 1 October to 31 October, the major components changed by the squadron included nine (9) clutches, nine (9) fans, eight (8) Tail Rotor Blades, nine (9) Main Rotor Blades, seven (7) Engines, three (3) Main Rotor Heads, three (3) Main Gear Boxes, three (3) Generators, one (1) Tail Rotor Hub, one (1) Magneto, one (1) Starter and one (1) Fuel Pump.

2. (C) A daily average availability of sixteen (16) aircraft was maintained during the month of October. The percent available was 61.4% per day.

3. (C) Pertinent Maintenance Data:

| | |
|---|----------|
| a. Average number of aircraft assigned | 25 |
| b. Total Flight Hours | 2,144.1 |
| c. Total possible Operational Ready Hours | 18,366.0 |
| d. Total Operational Ready Hours | 13,706.0 |
| e. Total Operational Ready Hours in Percent | 74.6% |
| f. Total Not Operational Ready Hours | 4,654.0 |
| g. Total Not Operational Ready Hours in Percent | 25.4% |
| h. Total Not Operational Ready Hours Supply | 557.3 |

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DOCUMENTATION

NONE

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