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ANNEX A to Part IV

1. Attached HMM-361 Command Chronology.

HMM-361

Command Chron

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A-1

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Enclosure (4)
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Aug. 1966

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MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 361
Marine Aircraft Group 36
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMF, Pacific
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

20:TEP:zjg
5750
Ser: 001A24466
1 September 1966
Copy 1 of 3

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 36 (Attn: S-3)

Subj: Command Chronology, submission of

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.1B
(b) GrO 5750.1A

Encl: ✓(1) HMM-361 Command Chronology, 1-31 ^{Aug} ~~July~~ 1966

1. Enclosure (1) is submitted in accordance with reference (a) and (b).
2. This letter is declassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

M. D. Tweed
M. D. TWEED

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 361
MCAF KY HA
REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
1 AUGUST TO 31 AUGUST 1966

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PART II

1. Commanding Officer LtCol M. D. TWEED
Executive Officer Major R. A. KUCI
Administrative Officer 1stLt D. G. TISDALE JR.
Intelligence Officer Capt J. B. HAYDEN
Operations Officer Major R. W. DUPHINEY
Logistics Officer Major F. D. PATTERSON
Maintenance Officer Major V. J. GUINTEE JR.
2. None; MCAF Ky Ha; Republic of Vietnam; 1 August to 31 August 1966.
3. Average Monthly Strength: Officers (50 NA 1 USN (MC)
Enlisted (158 USMC 0 USN)
4. Important Vistors: None

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PART II

6Aug MAG-36 Participation in Operation COLORADO began with an ARVN strike at AT 980330. LtCol M. D. TWEED led sixteen "Turbush" aircraft into the zone following a flight of "Clipclop" aircraft. A total of 140 ARVN troops were lifted by HMM-361. Later that day another MAG-36 strike, this one to AT 884230, lifted U. S. troops into position. Sixteen aircraft, again led by LtCol TWEED, lifted 96 Marines into the zone. Following this lift, "Turbush" was again called upon to lift U. S. troops into AT 978236 and AT 893238. Twelve aircraft were utilized to lift 72 U. S. Marines in this assault. Routine troops lifts accounted for an additional 295 U. S. personnel lifted by HMM-361 during the day.

7Aug AT 958298 was the scene of another U. S. strike in which "Turbush" aircraft joined. LtCol TWEED's five aircraft lifted 75 Marines in 35 sorties. Major R. A. KUCI's division of four led a MAG-36/MAG-16 strike into AT 992225. Five UH-1E's were attached to the 14 plane flight as escort. Fire was received while in the zone as "Turbush" aircraft unloaded 24 Marines.

8Aug Twenty-three aircraft from MAG-36 and MAG-16 participated in a strike led by LTCOL TWEED's 14 plane flight. The landing zone, BT 169240, was heavily prepared, but sniper fire was received from a nearby village. HMM-361 aircraft lifted 134 U. S. troops in 64 sorties. A large ammunition resupply to Que Son occupied Major KUCI's flight during most of the afternoon. In four trips, 41,100 pounds of artillery shells were lifted.

10Aug Maj. V. J. GUINEE led five aircraft, with a reactionary force aboard, to a zone at BT 231235. A marine unit had been ambushed and the zone was hot with automatic weapons fire. Three of the aircraft in the flight were "Turbush" and two were "Clipclop". On the first pass, the gunner in the number three aircraft, SSgt R. T. WALSH, was mortally wounded. He lived a short time and was kept alive by artificial respiration but failed to make it to an aid station alive. Two of the aircraft were hit while the 78 troops were being lifted. A factor lending difficulty to the situation was that the lift occurred just after dark. LtCol TWEED was conducting a resupply to Que Son with six aircraft when a call was received for an emergency med-evac mission. Maj. R. W. DUPHINEY was detached with two wingman to perform the assignment, and went immediately to BT 2322. Intense automatic fire was encountered and Maj. DUPHINEY's aircraft was hit. A total of 13 evacuees were lifted from the zone by the three aircraft.

14Aug Two trips into a zone at BT 165310 were made by a flight of 12 MAG-36 aircraft, led by Maj. KUCI's flight of four "Turbush". Fire was received in both the pick-up and drop zones. HMM-361 aircraft lifted 50 U. S. and ARVN troops into the area.

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15Aug "Turbush" aircraft led a large retraction to end Operation COLORADO. A flight of 8 HMM-361 aircraft, followed by 17 from MAG-36, picked up the troops at BT 158303 and returned them to Tam Ky. The troops were then lifted, as a group, to Hill 69. Maj. R. A. KUCI was the flight leader in each case and his "Turbush" aircraft lifted 225 U. S. troops while receiving fire both going into and leaving the zone.

✓ 18Aug A six plane "Sparrow Hawk" flight launched with a reactionary force to BS 769437. A "Clipclop" aircraft was down in the zone and troops had to be put in before maintenance crews could safely be landed. Maj. KUCI led the flight which made two trips, lifting 69 Marines, badly needed ammunition, and a naval gunfire team into the zone. Heavy fire was encountered both going into the zone and lifting out. Three "Turbush" aircraft were hit and the gunners in the flight expended 2000 rounds of 7.62 ammunition. Late in the afternoon, LtCol TWEED led a MAG-36 flight back into the zone to retract the reaction force. While his twelve aircraft lifted out 97 Marines, heavy fire was again taken from all directions. Fortunately, none of the aircraft were hit during the retraction.

25Aug Eight "Turbush" aircraft participated in an ARVN strike at BS 588388. The last three aircraft in the flight led by LTCOL TWEED received small arms fire after 71 ARVN and 3 U. S. troops had been put into the area.

27Aug Operation JACKSON was kicked off by a MAG-36 strike, with 16 "Turbush" leading the way. Two zones were utilized as LtCol TWEED's flight lifted 394 U. S. troops during the strike. The first zone, "Crow", was at BS 513843 and the second, "Sparrow", at BS 5528837. No fire was received in either zone.

20Aug Mo Duc (BS 725528) received 42,050 pounds of cargo from LtCol TWEED's flight of eight aircraft. Three trips were made into the area and no hostile fire was received.

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PART III

1. Awards

A. The following were recommended for Silver Star Awards.

1. Major R. W. DUPHINEY
2. Major V. J. GUINEE JR.

B. The following were recommended for Bronze Star Awards.

1. Major R. W. DUPHINEY
2. SSgt W. W. COHOON
3. MSgt M. DESOUZA JR.
4. LCpl L. E. PRICE
5. Cpl H. F. LANG

C. The following were recommended for Distinguished Flying Crosses.

1. 1stLt J. W. HATELEY
2. Major R. W. DUPHINEY
3. 1stLt G. W. JOHNSON
4. 1stLt J. W. RUYMANN
5. 1stLt P. R. SMITH

D. The following were recommended for Navy Commendation Medals.

1. Cpl A. R. NEVAREZ
2. Cpl E. R. SHAW
3. Cpl J. A. SPRIGGS
4. LCpl J. C. KLEM
5. SSgt D. W. CARL
6. Sgt N. M. ABERNATHY
7. Cpl D. T. HOUGHTON
8. Sgt W. H. KENDALL
9. 1stLt H. A. LOCKE

E. The following were recommended for the RVN Cross of Gallantry.

1. Maj R. W. DUPHINEY
2. Maj G. N. BAILEY JR.
3. LCpl S. E. PRICE
4. Capt R. P. HARRELL
5. Maj R. A. KUCI

F. The following were recommended for the Purple Heart.

1. 1stLt L. C. MARSH
2. SSgt R. T. WALSH
3. Sgt B. J. BEAVERS

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G. There were 191 recommendations for the Air Medal submitted by this command in August.

2. Casualties

A. 1stLt L. C. MARSH and Sgt B. J. BEAVERS were wounded in action on 25 August 1966.

B. SSgt R. T. WALSH was killed in action on 10 August 1966.

3. Intelligence

There were 31 incident and 5 spot reports submitted by this command in August.

4. Training

A seminar is held one night each week for H2P's and new pilots from the States. Area briefs and operational hints are discussed at these meetings, as well as any problems the people wish to discuss.

[REDACTED]

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PART II

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PART III

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3. Intelligence
4. Training

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