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MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 361

Marine Aircraft Group 36
1st Marine Aircraft Wing
Fleet Marine Force Pacific
FPO San Francisco, 96602

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

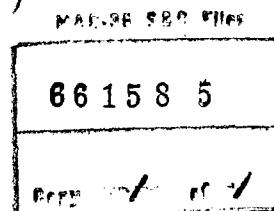
Subj: Command Chronology, submission of

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

Encl: ✓(1) HMM-361 Command Chronology, 1-31 October 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 OCTOBER TO 31 OCTOBER 1966

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PART I

1. Commanding Officer LtCol M. D. TWED
- Executive Officer Major R. A. KUCI
- Administrative Officer Capt. S. A. PEREZ
- Intelligence Officer Capt. M. V. GRIFFITH
- Operations Officer Major K. D. VANEK
- Logistics Officer Major J. R. GREER
- Maintenance Officer Major J. L. MCMANAWAY
2. None; MCAF Ky Ha; Republic of Vietnam; 1 October to 31 October 1966
3. Average Monthly Strength: Officers (35 NA O USN)
Enlisted (120 USMC O USN)
4. Important Visitors: None

PART II

3 Oct A flight of five Tarbush aircraft were led by Major KUCI on three insertions. The flight was escorted by two gunships and two A-4's. A total of 54 US were inserted at BS 535515, BS 550465, and at BT 295125. The flight received fire from BS 507469 and BT 285125. There were no hits. Receiving fire in the landing zone, Capt. HAYMORE on an emergency medevac picked up two ARVN WIAs and one ARVN KIA at BS 730790. Major VANEK on a medevac at BS 734793 received a hit in the center fuel cell. After replacing the aircraft and waiting for a more appropriate zone the medevac was completed by picking up eight ARVN WIAs and four ARVN KIAs.

4 Oct Mission 261A launched a flight of four Tarbush led by LtCol. TWED to BS 628887 where they picked up 93 KMC and 17 US who were taken to BS 783858 in three trips. Fire was received but no hits in the landing zone.

6 Oct Lt. MONDRY on a TAOR recon flight with a Klondike gunship received and returned fire at BS 479719 and at BT 267123.

7 Oct At 1845H Major KUCI led a flight of five to BS 413775. The emergency retraction at BS 413775 was successfully completed, though darkness and semiautomatic fire did not help make the mission easy. The Major's aircraft suffered a hit. LtCol TWED led a flight of five on an insert of 20 US at BT 329131. The number three aircraft received a hit in the vicinity of the landing zone.

9 Oct Five Tarbush aircraft inserted 20 US at BS 583489. Major KUCI's flight received fire in the zone and the number three aircraft received a hit. A medevac emergency at BS 715889 of three KMC WIAs was mission 609K. Capt. HAYMORE received and returned fire in the vicinity of the landing zone. There were no hits to the aircraft or crew.

10 Oct Lt. PICONE on a chase of a Klondike slick during an aerial recon made an emergency pickup when the Klondike bird was shot down. GySgt SCHULER suffered a minor wound from small arms fire during the pick up at BT 258238.

11 Oct Major KUCI's flight of five Tarbush on mission 763A was momentarily diverted when one of the escort gunships was forced down at BS 438795. One of the Tarbush aircraft picked up the crew and then the flight made the insert of a 19 man recon team at BS 327813. Fire was received East of the zone and was suppressed by the remaining gunship. Then the flight went back to the site of the downed bird where they orbited until two CH-46s brought in a reaction team. Major VANEK's flight of two Tarbush was making one of their final landings for the day when his aircraft was hit by gunfire at BT 018628. Lt. BURGESS and Sgt KENDALL suffered minor injury.

12 Oct A strike of 56 US at BS 719941 was led by LtCol TWEED. The five Tarbush aircraft received fire in the landing zone and Lt. ELKINS suffered a minor wound from 30 caliber fire. Lt. CLASBY lead a flight of two UH-34D on a resupply to AT 957634 from Hill 55. On each of the three trips to the drop zone the flight received fire. Cpl. LILLEY suffered a minor wound from the sniper fire. Major KUCI's flight of two Tarbush, escorted by one gunship and two A-4s, had an emergency retraction at AT 831634. While the gunships suppressed the fire being received in the vicinity of the pickup zone, PFC JENKINS received a minor wound from the 30 caliber fire and both tarbush aircraft received hits.

14 Oct Capt. LOCKE's flight of two Tarbush received light fire in the LZ at BS 493897. One round went through the lead aircraft and Capt. LOCKE suffered a minor shoulder wound.

15 Oct Mission 1085 launched Major McMANAWAY's flight of four UH-34D. They were escorted by two gunships. The retraction of 16 US from BS 321847 was successfully completed, though fire was received in the landing zone.

16 Oct Five Tarbush aircraft were led by Major KUCI to BS 479936. The flight, escorted by two gunships and two A-4s, transported 130 US to BS 479001. Fire was received, but suppressed by the UH-34s and the gunships.

19 Oct On mission 1353 Capt. KOLBE's flight of four Tarbush, followed by a flight of four Millpoint aircraft, took 39 US to BT 670015 for a strike. The flight was escorted by two gunships and two A-4s. Fire was received in the LZ and one Millpoint suffered a hit.

23 Oct LtCol TWEED's flight of 5 Tarbush had a successful emergency extraction of 17 US from BS 442853. There were two gunships for escort. The flight received sniper fire, but no hits.

25 Oct Mission 1730 launched LtCol TWEED's flight of four, escorted by two A-4s and 6 F-4s, on a resupply of Nui Dau (BS 869319). Five trips were made from Quang Ngai to Nui Dau carrying a total of 23,350 lbs. and 46 passengers. There was also one ARVN WIA at Nui Dau.

27 Oct A resupply of Nui Vang (BS 815382) by LtCol TWEED's flight of four Tarbush transported 24,075 lbs.. While the flight received fire from BS 780420, there were no hits.

28 Oct On mission 1895 Major MC MANAWAY launched from Ky Ha at 0640 with two UH-34s and preceeded to the KMC CP where they carried a total of 62,700 lbs. of cargo and 62 KMC troops to BS 675903, BS, 648936 and BS 472863. The flight received light small arms fire from BS 670900. Neither aircraft was damaged and the flight did not return the small arms fire.
Capt. KOLBE's flight of two Tarbush on direct support for operation Dover received sniper fire from BS 331007. One round hit the aircraft below the emergency exit on the port side and stopped in the magazine bos of the gunners' M-60. There were no injuries.

29 Oct LtCol TWEED's flight of two UH-34Ds was resupplying the KMCs at BS 673892 when sniper fire was received. The Koreans suppressed the fire and two more lifts were made into the zone without any further incidents.

30 Oct A strike of 48 US at BS 634967 was successfully completed by LtCol TWEED's flight of eight Tarbush. Though the flight received sniper fire, there were no hits.
A flight of five led by LtCol TWEED completed mission 2056A, which was a recon insert of 26 US at BT 098245 without any fire incidents. Then the flight of 5 Tarbush inserted a 21 Marine Recon Team at BT 118239 with no incidents.

31 Oct Capt. HARRELL's flight of five Tarbush aircraft had two back-to-back retractions. The first one was mission 2113D, which was an emergency extraction of a 25 man Marine Recon Team from BT 104245. The zone was receiving fire from the North, East and the West. The second extraction was 'C'. This was again an emergency extraction of a second 21 Marine Recon Team from BT 119235. While on this mission, the zone was also under fire receiving small arms fire and a grenade. Luckily there were no hits.

PART III

1. Awards:

A. The following were recommended for Silver Star Awards.

1. Major R. W. DUPHINEY
2. Major R. A. KUCI

B. The following were recommended for Bronze Star Awards.

1. Major F. D. PATTERSON, Jr.
2. GySgt R. C. STOLL

C. The following were recommended for Distinguished Flying Cross.

1. Captain F. P. KOLBE, Jr.
2. 1stLt J. J. CLASBY

D. The following were recommended for Navy Commendation Medals.

1. PFC R. L. VALDEZ
2. 1stLt C. B. JARVEAUX
3. Capt. J. L. MCMANAWAY

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

1. None

F. The following were recommended for Purple Heart.

1. Capt. H. L. LOCKE
2. 1stLt J. R. ELKINS
3. 1stLt J. P. BURGESS
4. GySgt C. F. SCHULER
5. Sgt W. N. KENDALL
6. Cpl K. O. LILLEY
7. PFC J. L. JENKINS

G. There were 181 recommendations for the Air Medal submitted by this command in October.

2. Casualties

A. GySgt C. F. SCHULER was wounded in action on 9 October 1966.

B. 1stLt BURGESS and Sgt KENDALL were wounded in action on 11 October 1966.

C. 1stLt ELKINS, Cpl LILLEY and PFC JENKINS were wounded in action on 12 October 1966.

D. Captain LOCKE was wounded in action on 14 October 1966.

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3. Intelligence: There were 61 incident and 1 spot reports submitted by this command in October.

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.

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