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MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON-361  
Marine Aircraft Group-16  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac  
FPO San Francisco, 96602

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5750  
03A31067  
6 Nov 1967

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From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group-16 (Attn: S-3)

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 - 31 October 1967

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2  
(b) WgO 5750.1A  
(c) GruO 5750.1B

Encl: (1) HMM-361 Command Chronology, 1 - 31 October 1967

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

  
D. M. WILSON

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.  
DOD DIR 5200.10

MAG-16  
SAC # 01314-67  
COPY # 1 of 2

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON #361

MARBLE MOUNTAIN AIR FACILITY

1 OCTOBER to 31 OCTOBER

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## PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. Commander and Staff

Commanding Officer	LtCol. H. A. BRUCE (1-18)
	LtCol. D. M. WILSON (19-31)
Executive Officer	Maj. G. A. PORTER
Operations Officer	Maj. G. L. JOHNSON (1-25)
	Maj. F. W. CRONE (26-31)
Maintenance Officer	Capt. E. J. COADY (1-25)
	Capt. L. DELMORE III (26-31)
Logistics Officer	Capt. J. T. MAGEE (1-25)
	Maj. G. L. JOHNSON (26-31)
Administrative Officer	Capt. J. P. RAY (1-22)
	1stLt. J. DRUCKER (23-31)

2. Inclusive Dates and Location

1-31 October 1967: MARBLE MOUNTAIN AIR FACILITY, Republic of Vietnam

3. Average Monthly StrengthUSMCUSN

OFF  
43

ENL  
157

OFF  
1

ENL  
0

4. Important Visitors

Major General N. J. ANDERSON  
Brigadier General R. P. KELLER  
Colonel E. O. REED

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## PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

- 1 Oct: Capt. FARROW received 106RR and mortar fire while on a resupply to YD 118692 but no damage was received. In 6 hours Capt. FARROW'S section hauled 13,600# of resupply.
- 2 Oct: Capt. GRIFFETH, while on night medevac at Dong Ha received small arms fire at YD 118672 and YD 213735 without damage to the A/C.
- Capt. SALMON'S section flew 8.3 hours of medevac (14) and resupply (16,550#) without incident out of Dong Ha.
- 3 Oct: Capt. RAY'S section hauled 10,900# of resupply in 6 hours out of Dong Ha.
- , Major JOHNSON'S section hauled 27,150# of resupply into YD 068843 in 7.4 hours.
- 4 Oct: Capt. GRIFFETH'S section hauled 17,100# and 14 medevacs out in 9 hours of hard flying out of Dong Ha.
- 5 Oct: Capt. FARROW flew his section for 9.8 hours taking medevacs to Dong Ha plus hauling 9000# of resupply out to the field.
- Capt. MCSHANE while on resupply to ZD 005225 received small arms fire but no hits.
- 6 Oct: Lt. COUNCIL received 106RR fire while at XD 873475 on a resupply but received no damage.
- Lt. GILLASPIE'S section received small arms fire from the ville just east of Dong Ha, YD 260590 but had no hits.
- Capt. SALMON'S section hauled 12,000# of resupply to various zones in 5 hours.
- 7 Oct: Capt. SALMON'S section flew 17,000# of resupply, picked up 10 medevacs in 10 hours of flight out of Dong Ha. The section received small arms fire at YD 110701 but received no hits.
- Major JOHNSON'S section put in 8.5 hours of medevac and resupply out of Dong Ha.
- 8 Oct: Capt. CUNNINGHAM'S section, not being relieved for 2 days and 2 nights up at Dong Ha due to inclement weather, flew 12.5 hours, hauled out 32 medevacs, 20 Pax and received sniper fire at YD 395486 with no damage.
- 9 Oct: Capt. SALMON'S division was diverted from relieving Capt. CUNNINGHAM

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by Landshark Charlie to look for a downed aircraft in Grid Square XD 1400. After dark the division refueled at Phu Bai and continued on mission 19 to Dong Ha. North of Hue the division encountered inadvertent IFR conditions. They broke out at 200' after making a right hand descending turn. Capt. MAGEE and his co-pilot, Lt. MADRI, had crashed during the turn. Mission 19 was aborted and IFR conditions discontinued the futile search for the missing Tiger. Through an emergency beeper they were pegged at 312 degrees at 18 miles from Channel 69. Capt. COADY, with 3 experienced pilots, launched out of Dong Ha under severe weather conditions. After 2 hours of search and no armed escort due to O/O weather at Phu Bai the downed crew were spotted and under enemy fire. Capt. COADY took small arms fire during the pickup at XD 7331 but no hits were received. Due to professional and courageous effort Tarbush is still intact.

10 Oct: After troops were lifted into the rice paddies to protect Capt. MAGEE'S downed A/C, Capt. COADY landed his section and proceeded to strip all radios, confidential and salvageable gear before destroying the remainder of the A/C.

Lt. GILLASPIE'S section, spending a day and night at Dong Ha, flew 12.5 hours of resupply, medevacs and passengers accounting for 12 missions and 32 sorties.

Capt GLASER'S section hauled 8000# of resupply, 40 Pax and 5 medevacs in 7.9 hours of flying out of Dong Ha.

11 Oct: Capt. SALMON led a division in Support of operation Medina. In 9.7 hours the 3 planes hauled 152 troops without incident.

12 Oct: Capt. FARROW'S section took small arms fire while on night medevac at XD 1055 without damage.

Lt. SCHIPPER, flew 13 missions in 9.8 hours of flying out of Delta Hotel hauling 9600# and 30 Pax without incident.

Capt. SALMON'S section flew 14 night medevacs out in 7.9 hours of flying out of Dong Ha without incident.

13 Oct: Capt. RAY received small arms fire while flying day medevac in the Danang area at BT 125623 without being hit.

Capt. GLASER hauled 6500#, 17 Pax and 17 medevacs out in 9.2 hours north of Dong Ha without incident.

14 Oct: We stopped our commitments up north at Dong Ha and took over the

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Danang Area and south. The pilots, crews, and men can be proud of their hard work under severe weather conditions and enemy fire while working out of Dong Ha. It will be a long time before the men on the ground up north will forget the Tarbush Tigerbacks.

Capt. CUNNINGHAM while on day medevac received small arms fire at ZC 176977 but the A/C received no damage.

- 15 Oct: Capt. MAGEE received small arms fire at AT 825365 while on a day medevac but his A/C took no hits.
- 16 Oct: Capt. SALMON'S section while on a resupply at AT 874478 took sniper fire but received no hits.
- 17 Oct: Capt. HEINLE'S section hauled 10,500# of resupply and 20 Pax in 6.7 hours of flight.
- 18 Oct: Capt. FARROW'S section hauled 14,300# of resupply and 72 Pax in 4.9 hours of flying out of Marble Mountain.

Lt. SABIN put in 8.4 hours hauling troops in operation Medina.

Capt. CUNNINGHAM'S section lifted 7000# of resupply and 60 troops in support of operation Medina in 6 hours of flying.

At 1700, a formation was held for a Change of Command Ceremony. LtCol H.A. BRUCE was relieved of his command by LtCol D.M. WILSON.

- 20 Oct: At 1700 a formation was held for officer and enlisted promotions.

Capt. RAY, while on night medevac, received small arms fire entering and leaving zones at AT 934891 and BT 181589 without receiving damage to his A/C.

- 21 Oct: Capt. MAGEE, while on night medevac, received small arms fire at BT 096509 but got out of the zone without damage.
- 22 Oct: Capt. RAY received small arms and mortar fire at BT 065514 and BT 102509 while flying day medevac without being hit.
- 24 Oct: Capt. BROWN, on a medevac mission, tripped a booby trap while leaving the zone causing light damage of 3 hits to the tail pylon section. While on another mission, Capt. Brown received 7.62 automatic fire but took no hits.

LtCol WILSON'S plane led 8 Tarbush A/C on a strike initiating Operation Knox without incident.

Both A/C in Capt. SIGLER'S section took small arms automatic fire while on a night medevac mission at BT 181588 but neither A/C was hit.

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25 Oct: Capt. RAY's division hauled 100 troops into AT 948943 on a Sparrow Hawk.

Capt. RAY led another division and lifted 90 more troops to 3 different zones.

26 Oct: Capt. YULE received small arms fire at AT 995610 but had no hits.

Lt. CRUTCHER received small arms fire on a medevac mission at YD 113651 but the aircraft was not damaged. Lt. CRUTCHER 's 10.1 in the air was a high since we stopped flying up north.

27 Oct: Capt. SIGLER's section took small arms fire while on a night medevac at BT 033625 without damage to the aircraft.

28 Oct: Capt. DELMORE led his division and hauled 65 troops on a strike in support of Operation Knox.

Lt. CRUTCHER took automatic fire at ZC 133958 while on a resupply in support of Operation Knox.

Lt. WOJDYLA took automatic fire at BT 728604, AT 825865, AT 914843, and AT 958866 while flying night medevac but received no hits.

29 Oct: Capt. SIGLER's section hauled 8000 lbs and 30 troops in support of Operation Granite in 6.4 hours without incident.

Capt. HEINLE took small arms fire at AT 997601 while on a medevac mission but received no hits.

Capt. CUNNINGHAM took automatic fire while on a night medevac mission at BT 130600 without being hit.

30 Oct: Capt. MCSHANE let his division on a recon insert carrying 115 troops. The aircraft received automatic weapons, small arms and 50 cal. fire at AT 949346 but all Tarbush aircraft got out without being hit. It was a long 8.0 hour day.

Capt. BROWN's section hauled 11,650 lbs of resupply and 45 pax in 9.5 hours of flying.

31 Oct: Capt. GAGE's section took small arms fire while on a strike with 65 pax at BT 158608 without receiving damage to the aircraft.

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## PART III

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. Personnel

a. Promotions: To Capt. 8  
 To Cpl. 23  
 To LCpl. 4

b. Joined and Dropped: 11 - 7561 NA's IN  
 9 - 7561 NA's OUT  
 2 - Ground Officers IN  
 2 - Ground Officers OUT  
 15 - Enlisted IN  
 28 - Enlisted OUT

## c. Analysis:

(1) The manning level (8932) we rate 53 - 7561's. We have On-Hand as of the 31 October 38.

(2) According to the Manning level the squadron rate 185 enlisted, as of 31 October we had on-hand 146. The greatest shortage existing in MOS 6332.

2. Awards

Distinguish Flying Cross	2
Navy Commendation Medal	3
First Air Medal Award	4
Purple Heart	46
Good Conduct	4
Meritorious Mast	3
Letter of Commendation	2

3. Intelligence. Enemy activity concerning fire incidents during the period 1 - 31 October 1967 continued at a normal rate. There were a total of 31 aircraft shot at resulting in four planes taking a total of eight hits with no casualties. During the latter part of the month the squadron was on a "Condition 3" for a possible rocket attack, but nothing materialized.

4. Special Operations. During the month of October 1967 the squadron participated in operations Madina and Knox.

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5. Air Operations

Total Flight Hours	1218.6
Total Sorties Flown	2789
Total MEDEVAC	779
Total Cargo Carried	218 Tons
Total Passengers	2478

6. Logistics

## a. AOCF Resume:

(1) Total Submitted:	468
(2) Total Filled:	374
(3) Outstanding:	59
(4) Cancelled:	35

## b. ANFE Resume:

(1) Total Submitted:	89
(2) Total Filled:	71
(3) Outstanding:	7
(4) Cancelled:	11

## c. AV-GAS Resume:

(1) Total Av-Gas Cost:	\$15,790.45
(2) Gallons Utilized:	92,885

## d. AV-OIL Resume:

(1) Total Av-Oil Cost:	\$2,750.00
(2) Drums Utilized:	100

7. Maintenance. The month of October saw an overall increase in aircraft availability despite critical personnel and parts shortages. The availability span ranged from a low of six aircraft to a high of eighteen aircraft. Maintenance continued on a twenty four hour a day basis undaunted by the inclement weather conditions experienced during this the onset of the of the monsoon season. The majority of the maintenance work load was directed toward returning the aircraft damaged at Dong Ha to a flyable status. To augment our overworked personnel H&MS-16 temporarily assigned fourteen crews to assist in this effort. Shortage of critical parts, such as rotor blades, continued to prevail; however, due to the concentrated and devoted efforts of our personnel sufficient aircraft were provided to meet the squadron's commitments.

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PART IV

SUPPORT DOCUMENTS

None submitted for this period.

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