

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

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5750  
03A12868  
7 May 1968  
Copy 1 of 3

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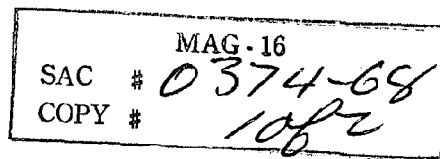
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From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group-16 (Attn: S-3)  
Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 - 30 April 1968; submission of  
Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A  
(b) WgO 5750.1  
(c) GruO 5750.1C

Encl: ✓(1) HMM-361 Command Chronology, 1 - 30 April 1968

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

*F. W. CRONE*  
F. W. CRONE



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HMM-361

CMD CHRON

Apr 1968

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY  
MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON-361

1 APRIL - 30 APRIL 1968

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## PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. Commander and Staff

Commanding Officer	Maj. F. W. CRONE	
Executive Officer	Maj. L. DELMORE III	
Operations Officer	Maj. R. J. RANTA	(1-6 Apr)
	Maj. R. M. BALCH	(7-30 Apr)
Personnel Officer	Capt. W. R. GAGE	
Administrative Officer	1stLt. J. DRUCKER	(1-20 Apr)
	Capt. W. R. GAGE	(21-30 Apr)
Intelligence Officer	Capt. T. S. SIGLER	
Logistics Officer	Capt. R. D. EATON	
Maintenance Officer	Maj. R. J. RANTA	

2. Inclusive Dates and Location

1 - 30 April 1968: Marble Mountain Air Facility, Republic of Vietnam

3. Average Monthly Strength

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
42	150	1	0

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Enclosure (1)

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## PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

Apr 1: Capt. LARocca, while on day medevac, received small arms fire at AT 970590 but the aircraft took no hits.

Capt. DANIELL, while on day medevac, received small arms fire and one mortar round while on his approach into a zone at AT 970592. The aircraft received 7 to 9 hits plus shrapnel damage. The aircraft was externalized from G-4 to MMAF by a 53.

Apr 3: Lt. SABIN, while flying day medevac, received small arms fire at BT 053597 but the aircraft took no hits.

Apr 4: Capt. ATKINSON, while on night medevac, received automatic weapons fire at AT 006589 and BT 060685 but the aircraft took no hits.

Apr 5: Lt. TRAINOR, while on day medevac, came under sniper fire at AT 959695 and took one round through the transmission. The hit was noticed upon return to Marble Mountain.

Apr 9: Capt. EATON, while on night medevac, received small arms fire at AT 915515 but the aircraft took no hits.

Apr 10: Lt. KELLER, while on night medevac, received small arms fire at AT 960515. The aircraft took five hits but the damage was minor.

Apr 11: Lt. SABIN, while on day medevac, received small arms fire at BT 095537 but the aircraft was not hit.

Capt. EATON, while on the rocket belt recon, took small arms fire at AT 835544, AT 978555, and AT 975555 but the aircraft took no hits.

Apr 13: Maj. RANTA, while on day medevac, received automatic weapons fire at BT 050665. The aircraft took one hit but the damage was light.

Apr 14: Capt. ATKINSON, while on a rocket belt recon received small arms fire at AT 923524 but the aircraft was not damaged.

Lt. SABIN, while on day medevac, received fire at BT 040630 but the aircraft took no hits.

Capt. EATON, while on day medevac, took fire at AT 931551 but the aircraft received no hits.

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- Apr 17: Capt. GAGE, while on day medevac, received small arms fire at BT 086631 but the aircraft took no hits.
- Apr 18: Capt. EATON, while on night medevac, received small arms fire at BT 016540 but the aircraft was not hit.
- Lt. WARNER, received automatic weapons fire at YD 9515 while on an emergency blood resupply to Phu Bai but the aircraft took no hits.
- Capt. EATON, while on night medevac, received automatic weapons fire at BT007533 but the aircraft was not hit.
- Apr 19: Capt. ANDERSEN, while chasing a Hostage aircraft on the rocket belt recon received small arms fire at BT 025595. The Huey took one hit.
- Capt. DANIELL, while on day medevac, received small arms fire at BT 043621 but the aircraft took no hits.
- Maj. DELMORE, while on night medevac, received automatic weapons fire enroute to a zone at AT 015612 but the aircraft took no hits. Maj. DELMORE took 18 ARVN medevacs plus his crew out of the first zone at BT 033543. Lt. TRAINOR, the chase, picked up 9 out of the same zone. While Maj. DELMORE went into the next 2 zones the chase aircraft received automatic weapons fire from BT 083593 and AT 985533 but the aircraft took no hits.
- Apr 20: Capt. BARKSDALE, while on day medevac, received small arms fire at BT 032574 but the aircraft was not hit.
- Lt. Aucella, while on night medevac, received automatic weapons fire at BT 0264 and BT 074645 but the aircraft was not hit.
- Apr 21: Capt. DANIELL, while on day medevac, received automatic weapons fire at BT 040660, BT 028518 and BT 089658 but the aircraft took no hits.
- Maj. CRONE, while on night medevac, received automatic weapons fire at AT 085669 but the aircraft took no hits.
- Apr 22: The Chu Lai Air Facility took twelve incoming rockets in the early morning hours. Both of the SAR aircraft sustained damage from flying shrapnel. One aircraft was flown back to MAAF by Maj. DELMORE and the other one was externalized back by a CH-53.
- Capt. BARKSDALE, while on night medevac, received automatic weapons fire at BT 080650, AT 890520 and AT 913475 but the aircraft took no hits.

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- Apr 23: Maj. CRONE, while on day medevac, received small arms fire at AT 925688 but the aircraft took no hits.
- Capt. DANIELL, while on night medevac, received small arms fire at AT 910534 and AT 952502 but the aircraft took no hits.
- Apr 24: Lt. WARNER, while on night medevac, received automatic weapons fire at AT 919575 but the aircraft took no hits.
- Apr 25: Lt. AUCELLA, while on day medevac, received heavy automatic weapons fire at AT 873550. The aircraft took 5 hits and one of the tail rotor servo cables was shot away. Lt. AUCELLA attempted a landing at Hill 37 but then decided against it and returned to home field. With the help of the crew chief Lt. AUCELLA regained partial directional control of the aircraft and landed safely. Lt. AUCELLA got a new aircraft and returned to the same zone and while a flight of fixed wing and 3 Hueies suppressed fire he went in and picked up the medevacs.
- Capt. EATONS, while on night medevac, received fire at AT8971 but the aircraft took no hits.
- Apr 26: Lt. WARNER, while on day medevac, received fire at BT 030595 but the aircraft took no hits.
- Apr 27: Lt. JACKSON, while on night medevac, received fire at BT 001634 but the aircraft was not hit.
- Apr 29: Lt. JACKSON's section flew a C&C flight for the 2nd BN, 7th Marines in direct support of Operation Ballard Valley.

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## PART III

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. Personnel

- a. Promotions: To 1stLt. - 2  
To Sgt. - 3  
To Cpl. - 3
- b. Joined and Dropped: 12 Officers - Joined  
5 Officers - Dropped  
16 Enlisted - Joined  
18 Enlisted - Dropped

2. Awards. During this period three individuals were awarded the Purple Heart and one individual received the Bronze Star with Combat "V".

3. Intelligence. The weekly Intelligence briefings were continued for officers during this period.

A total of 41 anti-aircraft fire incidents were experienced by the pilots of this squadron during this period. Five of these fire incidents were hits.

4. Air Operations

Total Flight Hours	1146.9
Total Sorties Flown	3996
Total Medevac	881
Total Cargo Carried	37 Tons
Total Passengers Carried	1952

5. Special Operations. During this reporting period the squadron participated in operations Brilliant Dragon, Black Dragon, Rice Bowl and Ballard Valley.

6. Logistics

## a. AOCF Resume:

(1) Total Submitted:	205
(2) Total Filled:	157
(3) Outstanding:	12
(4) Cancelled:	16

## b. ANFE Resume:

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(1) Total Submitted:	25
(2) Total Filled:	16
(3) Outstanding:	7
(4) Cancelled:	0

7. Maintenance. The ratio of diverted time to direct labor time for the month tended to be well above the mean as did the number of hours of overtime accountability due mainly to preparation for the up coming A&M Inspection on 3 May.

No aircraft were shipped to PAR, however, two aircraft were received, YN-6 (148786) on 3 April and YN-4 (150210) on 28 April. There were three aircraft which received battle damage severe enough to warrant major component changes, YN-14, YN-16 and YN-9.

Maintenance was affected personnel-wise by the loss and acquisition of four staff NCO's. At the end of the month the squadron was accountable for 22 aircraft. The average aircraft availability was 13 at both the 1600 and the 0400 reports. This number of aircraft enabled the squadron to successfully meet its combat commitments for the month. The establishment of an Oil Analysis Program Facility at DaNang which has been made available to the squadron has greatly effected the predictability of time for unscheduled maintenance.

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

No supporting documents for this period.

✓TAB-A- *Combat Operations After Action Report Fortrese Attack /  
Kentucky / Lancaster II*

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