

DECLASSIFIED

MARINE HEAVY HELICOPTER SQUADRON 361
Marine Aircraft Group 56
3d Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
MCAS (H), Santa Ana, California 92709

3:JLS:gmt
5750
26 March 1970

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 56

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 February 1970 to 1 March 1970

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8
(c) WgO 5750.1D
(d) GruO 5750.1B

Encl: (1) Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 361 Command Chronology
(2) CG 3d MAW msg 161553Z Feb 70
(3) HMM-361, Ground Accident, 8-70G; report
(4) CO U.S.S. Tripoli, ltr LPH-10/11:j1 7220 of 15 Feb 1970

1. In accordance with provisions of references (a) through (d), enclosures (1) through (4) are submitted.


J. L. STEWART
By direction

1/22/70 - 361

0208

1970

DECLASSIFIED

MARINE HEAVY HELICOPTER SQUADRON 361
Marine Aircraft Group 56
3d Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
MCAS (H), Santa Ana, California 92709

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 February 1970 to 1 March 1970

INDEX

PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY

PART III - SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

Enclosure (1)

PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. DESIGNATION

Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 361

COMMANDER

LtCol C. A. BLOCK (1-6Jan70)
Major R. A. GOVONI (7-31Jan70)

Executive Officer

Major P. W. PRONSON (1-23Jan70)
Major R. C. MARSHALL (24-31Jan70)

Operations Officer

Major R. C. MARSHALL (1-31Jan70)

Maintenance Officer

Major P. A. STONE (1-31Jan70)

2. LOCATION

1-28 January 1970, Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN

3. STAFF OFFICERS

ASO

1/Lt J. A. MOTISI (1-31Jan70)

NATOPS Officer

1/Lt T. H. MCDERMOTT (1-31Jan70)

Flight Surgeon

Lt(USN) W. C. HULON (1-31Jan70)

Intelligence Officer

1/Lt J. R. CARLISLE (1-31Jan70)

Sergeant Major

SgtMaj T. A. MOORE (1-21Jan70)
1stSgt L. H. SHELLEY (22-31Jan70)4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

USMC

USN

OFFICERS

ENLISTED

OFFICERS

ENLISTED

33 159

1

0

5. IMPORTANT VISITORS

On 16 January MajGen THRASH visited in regards to the deployment of HMM-361

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

HMH-361 remained the the Vietnam combat zone embarked aboard the U.S.S. Tripoli (LPH-10) on 1 February 1970, departing enroute from the Republic of Vietnam to the Continental U.S. (Operation KEYSTONE BLUEJAY, Phase III Withdrawal). With 14 aircraft assigned and a skeleton compliment of 9 Officers and 36 Enlisted men, no operational flying was done. The Officers and men were kept busy with preventative maintenance and "House-keeping" chores while aboard ship.

The U.S.S. Tripoli arrived at NAS North Island, San Diego, California on 16 Feb 1970. HMH-361 flew eight of it's aircraft ashore at NAS North Island and that evening the first flight of four, led by Major R. A. Govoni arrived at MCAS (H), Santa Ana. After docking MajGen R. G. Owens Jr., CG,3d MAW, came aboard and welcomed home all embarked Marines.

The balance of the month was spent unpacking, taking inventory and setting up shops in hanger 1 at MCAS (H), Santa Ana. The balance of the aircraft were flown from NAS North Island to MCAS (H), Santa Ana by pilots from HMH-363 as all but one of the 9 HMH-361 pilots were under orders for further transfer. The last of the 14 CH-53A's arrived at MCAS (H), Santa Ana from NAS North Island on 25 Feb 1970.

On 18 Feb 1970 a ceremony was held at MCAS (H), Santa Ana. MajGen R. G. Owens Jr., CG 3d MAW, welcomed HMH-361 home and into the 3d MAW. Col. M. B. Porter, CO of MAG-56, accepted the HMH-361 colors from Major R. A. Govoni, thus officially joining HMH-361 with MAG-56 and the 3d MAW.

Enclosure (1)

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. The following is a sequential listing of significant events:

a. Operations Summary:

Feb 1970 - Total Hours: 15.3

Pax Carried: 40

Cargo Carried (tons): 18

b. 1 Feb 70 - 16 Feb 70 - Participated in Operation Keystone Bluejay, Phase III withdrawal plan. Departed RVN aboard the U.S.S. Tripoli (LPH-10) with 9 Officers and 33 Enlisted and 14 CH-53A's 1 Feb 70. Arrived NAS North Island, San Diego, California 16 Feb 70.

c. 1 Feb 70 - 16 Feb 70 - HMM-361 enjoyed excellent support and relations from the officers and men of U.S.S. Tripoli (LPH-10).

16 Feb 70 - 24 Feb 70 - HMM-361 received excellent support from MAG-56 in the preparation and movement of 10 CH-53A's from NAS North Island to MCAS (H), Santa Ana. Particularly noteworthy was Captain Camp from H&MS-56 maintenance. Captain Camp and a detachment of enlisted men were extremely efficient in preparing the aircraft for flight from NAS North Island to MCAS (H), Santa Ana. HMM-363 was also very cooperative in furnishing pilots to ferry the aircraft.

d. 16 Feb 70 - Visited by MGen. R. G. Owens, CG 3d MAW, aboard U.S.S. Tripoli (LPH-10). MGen. R. G. Owens welcomed all embarked Marines home.

Ref: CG Third MAW msg 161553Z Feb 70
(Enclosure 2)

18 Feb 70 - Visited by MGen. R. G. Owens at welcome home ceremony, MCAS (H), Santa Ana.

e. 19 Feb 70 - Ground Accident: The folded, No. 3 blade of YN 33, BuNo. 153303, struck the tip of a tail rotor blade on YN 35, BuNo. 154877 during high wind condition at MCAS (H), Santa Ana.

Ref: HMM-361, Ground Accident, 8-70G; report

Enclosure (1)

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. - Enclosure (2), CG 3d MAW msg 161553Z Feb 70
2. - Enclosure (3), HMH-361, Ground Accident, 8-70G; report
3. - Enclosure (4), CO U.S. S. Tripoli, ltr LPH-10/11:j1 7220 of 15 Feb 70

Enclosure (1)

CO	6
EXO	
ADJ	
SGTM	
S-1	SPB
S-2	
S-3	98
S-4	
AVM	
LEG	
	8

NUUNNCZCPTA560
R11102 YUN R0110581363 0071620-00000--R0110581363

ZAR UUUUU

R 161350Z FEB 70

FM CG THIRD MAW

TO R0110581363 MARINE HELICOPTER THREE SIX ONE

INFO THIRD MAW

BT

UNCLAS // NDD 060//

RETURN OF MM-361

1. AS YOU RETURN FROM VIETNAM, I WISH TO WELCOME YOU HOME TO THE THIRD MAW. YOUR ORDERLY DEPLOYMENT TO VIETNAM IN AUGUST 1969, YOUR SUCCESS IN COMBAT SINCE THAT TIME AND YOUR RETURN HAVE BEEN EXCELLENT EXAMPLES OF THE MARINE CORPS PROFESSIONALISM.

2. I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR CONTINUED SUCCESS AND AM HONORED TO HAVE YOU BACK AS MEMBERS OF THIS COMMAND. ON BEHALF OF THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE THIRD MAW PLEASE ACCEPT SINCERE THANKS FOR A JOB WELL DONE. MAJGEN OWENS.

BT

#1363

161532 FEB 70 Enclosure (2)

DECLASSIFIED

RECORDED: 1970-02-26 10:00:00
MARINE HEAVY HELICOPTER SQUADRON 361
Marine Aircraft Group 56
3d Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
MCAS(H), Santa Ana, California 92709

WLD:tlw
3750
26 February 1970

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commander, Naval Safety Center
Subj: Abbreviated Ground Accident Report

- A. HMH-361, Ground Accident, 8-70G
- B. 19 February 1970, 0830
- C. MCAS(H) Santa Ana, California
- D. CH-53A, 153303, Echo/None; CH-53A, 154877, Golf/None
- E. No structural damage. Main rotor blade change required due to two large dents and a 2 inch tear in pockets #6 and #7.
- F. The folded, No. 3 blade of YN33, BuNo. 153303, struck the tip of a tail rotor blade on YN35, BuNo. 154877.
- G. High winds caused the subject blade to flap and strike the tail rotor of the adjacent aircraft several times.
- H. NONE
- I. No
- J. No (Navy Safety Center)
- K. N/A

W. L. Davila
W. L. DAVILA
Senior Member

ASO
Billet

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH OPNAVINST 3750.6 SERIES

Enclosure (3)

DECLASSIFIED

USS TRIPOLI (LPH-10)
FPO, SAN FRANCISCO 96601

LPH10/11:ji

7220 147

Ser:

FEB 15 1970

From: Commanding Officer, USS TRIPOLI (LPH 10).
To: Colonel T. S. ESCHHOLZ, USMC, Troop Commander of Embarked Marines
Subj: Federal Income Tax Exclusion

Ref: (a) DODPM 70103

1. In accordance with reference (a), U. S. Marine Corps personnel embarked in USS TRIPOLI (LPH 10) on 1 February 1970 were in the Vietnam combat zone and are entitled to federal income tax exclusion for the month of February 1970.

V. P. O'Rourke
V. P. O'Rourke

Enclosure (4)

DECLASSIFIED