

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

3:JLS:gml
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) HMH-361, Ground Accident, 8-70G; report
(4) CO U.S.S. Tripoli, ltr LPH-10/11:jl 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

198-1111A

Feb 1970

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

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 361

LtCol C. A. BLOCK (1-6Jan70)

Major R. A. GOVONI (7-31Jan70)

Executive Officer

Major P. W. BRONSON (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 HMH-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: 15.3Pax Carried: 40Cargo 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 - HMH-361 enjoyed excellent support and relations from the officers and men of U.S.S. Tripoli (LPH-10).

16 Feb 70 - 24 Feb 70 - HMH-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. HMH-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: HMH-361, Ground Accident, 8-70G; report

Enclosure (1)

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. - Enclosure (2), CG 3d MAW msg 161553Z Feb 70
2. - Enclosure (3), HMM-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)

161553Z FEB70 Enclosure (2)

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
- K. N/A

W. L. DAVILA
 Senior Member

ASO
 Billet

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH OPNAVINST 3750.6 SERIES

Enclosure (3)

Commanding Officer's comments and recommendations:

1. Forwarded
2. Date of last Safety/NATOPS Survey is January 1970.
3. Maintenance personnel have been cautioned and instructed as to proper aircraft parking criteria for folded aircraft with or without jury struts installed.

R. A. Govoni
R. A. GOVONI

Copy to:

Commander, Naval Safety Center (2)
CMC (Code AAP)
COMNAVAIRPAC
CG FMFPac
CG 3dMAW
CO MAG-56

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SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH OPNAVINST 3750.6 SERIES

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

LPH10/11:j1

7220


Ser: 147

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

Enclosure (4)