

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON-362
Marine Aircraft Group-15 (Rein)
9th Marine Amphibious Brigade, FMFPac
FPO San Francisco, California, 96602

10:JGV:1ct
5750
8 November 1966

SECRET - NOFORN

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Special Landing Force

Subj: Command Chronology

Ref: (a) CO SLF ltr 3:BSM:jkf over 5750 dtd 25Oct66

Encl: (1) Command Chronology, 1-31 October 1966

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.

M. B. Armstrong
M. B. ARMSTRONG

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FORNWADED AT 5 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10

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Enclosure (3)

SECRET - NOFORNCOMMAND CHRONOLOGY 1 OCTOBER - 31 OCTOBER 1966

PART ONE: ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Squadron Staff:

Commanding Officer: LtCol Marshall B. ARMSTRONG
 Executive Officer: Major Richard P. BRAY
 Administrative Officer: Capt Donald B. HIRSCH
 Intelligence Officer: Capt Thomas K. TIERNEY
 Operations Officer: Major Harold E. LEWIS
 Material Officer: Capt James B. HIPPERT
 Maintenance Officer: Major James T. GORDON

2. Task Organization:

a. Throughout the reporting period, HMM-362 was assigned to the Special Landing Force.

b. HMM-362 was located at MCAF Futema, Okinawa 1-4 October and aboard the USS Valley Forge (IPH-8) from 5 October through 31 October.

3. Personnel Strength

Marine Officers:	52	(46 Naval Aviators)
Marine Enlisted:	159	
Navy Officers:	1	
Navy Enlisted:	3	
Total:	215	

PART TWO: NARRATIVE

During the period 1-4 October HMM-362 offloaded from the USS Iwo Jima and moved ashore at MCAF Futema. After the offload, squadron aircraft flew several VIP and liaison flights as well as SAR standby.

On 7 October the ship was enroute to Subic Bay and no flights were scheduled.

On 8 October 12 UH-34D's were utilized in rehearsal for Operation Hilltop VII at Green Beach in Subic Bay.

On 9 October the ship was enroute to Hilltop VII operating area near San Jose, Mindoro. No flights were scheduled.

On 10 October, 16 UH-34D's were utilized in ship to shore movement of BLT 3/26 in support of Exercise Hilltop VII. Two (2) additional squadron aircraft were utilized as TAC (A) and SAR. During the day numerous heat casualties were Helo Medevaced to the USS Valley Forge, and at night two (2) aircraft were utilized for water and ration resupply.

Flights on 11 October consisted of direct support missions and troop movements.

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PART TWO: NARRATIVE - Continued

On 12 October withdrawal of the battalion was accomplished in less than six hours without incident. While on a reconnaissance mission of Mud Puppy I operation area YL-35 experienced partial engine failure and was forced to land in the swamps near Navotas, Mindoro. Crew and passengers were recovered unhurt, the aircraft was recovered on 14 October.

During the period 13 - 16 October the USS Valley Forge was at anchor in Subic Bay. Flights during this period consisted of routine maintenance and administrative missions.

On 17 October eight aircraft were utilized to offload elements of BLT 3/26 for Operation Mud Puppy I. Two (2) additional aircraft were utilized as TAC (A) and SAR.

Flights on 18 October consisted of routine resupplies and troop movements. While on an emergency medevac to Cubi Pt., YL-33 experienced generator failure and a sheared accessory drive shaft, necessitating a forced landing in a school yard at Selang, Luzon. The medevac was completed by the section leader. Later, inclement weather forced both crews to RON at Selang. The aircraft was recovered on 20 October after a transmission change in the field.

On 19 October, additional flights were flown in support of Mud Puppy I. The first night medevacs of the training exercises were flown that night.

On 20 October, a helicopter withdrawal of BLT 3/26 was accomplished in a little over three hours.

During the period 21 to 24 October the Valley Forge was at anchor in Subic Bay. The emphasis of work was placed on maintenance. Routine administrative flights were flown to Clark AFB and John Hay AFB during this time.

No flights were scheduled on 25 and 26 October while the Valley Forge was enroute to RVN.

Activities on 27 October consisted of administrative flights to Da Nang and Ky Ha. While practicing autorotations near Da Nang, YL-34 experienced engine failure and suffered "B" damage in the subsequent forced landing at BT 045803. The crew was recovered uninjured and the aircraft was transferred to HEMS-16, bringing to 23 the total number of aircraft possessed by the squadron.

During the period 28 - 31 October activities consisted of routine administrative flights to Da Nang, Dong Ha, and Ky Ha. Additional flights during this period transferred personnel from the Valley Forge to the Iwo Jima and from the Iwo Jima to the Valley Forge.

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PART THREE: OPERATING STATISTICS

	Month	Hilltop VII	Mud Puppy I
Flight Hours	984.8	292.7	186.3
Sorties	3052	1312	988
Passengers/troops	8031	3524	3045
Tons Cargo	152.64	52.44	52.61

Enclosure (1)

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