

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 362
 Marine Aircraft Group 36
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
 FPO San Francisco 96602

UNCLASSIFIED

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 5 February 1968

CONFIDENTIAL
 From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 36

Subj: Command Chronology For Period 1 January To 31 January 1968

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.1G
 (b) GruO 5750.1A

Encl: ✓(1) HMM-362 Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a) and (b),
 enclosure (1) is submitted.

2. Downgraded at 12 year intervals; Not automatically declassified DOD
 Dir 5200.10.

W H Shauer Jr
 W. H. SHAUER JR.

HMM-362

CMD CHRON

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DECEMBER
 JAN 1968

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MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 362
Marine Aircraft Group 36
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
FPO San Francisco 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 January to 31 January 1968

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Command Chronology 1 January to 31 January 1968

PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. SQUADRON STAFF

Commanding Officer	Major W. H. SHAUER JR.	1-31 January
Executive Officer	Major E. A. HOUSE	1-31 January
Administrative Officer	Major H. A. HUNT	1-31 January
Operations Officer	Major C. R. UPSHAW	1-31 January
Intelligence Officer	1stLt. W. A. KNIGHT	1-31 January
Logistics Officer	Major N. J. KELLER	1-31 January
Maintenance Officer	Major R. M. CRAMER 1stLt. J. H. GARRICK	1-8 January 9-31 January

2. LOCATION

a. Throughout the reporting period, HMM-362 functioned as a helicopter transport squadron attached to Marine Aircraft Group 36.

b. HMM-362 was located at MCAF Phu Bai, RVN, 1-31 January 1968.

3. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

USMC	USN
OFF 36	ENL 170
	OFF 1
	ENL 0

4. IMPORTANT VISITORS

None.

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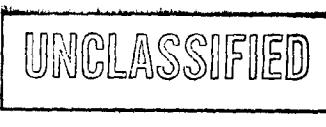
**UNCLASSIFIED****PART II****NARRATIVE SUMMARY**

During this period 1 January - 31 January 1968, HMM-362, located at MCAC Phu Bai, was under the operational control of Marine Aircraft Group 36. The primary activities during this period were logistic lifts, VIP chase and medevac missions.

Since 21 January when Khe Sanh was first hit by mortars, rockets and artillery, HMM-362 has maintained two aircraft there on a twenty-four hour a day basis. During this time the two aircraft of HMM-362 have evacuated over 100 medevacs, mostly from Hills 881, 861 and 950. Substantial battle damage to aircraft and crews has not lessened the ability of HMM-362 to support Operation SCOTLAND.

In the Phu Bai area, the squadron has encountered increasing enemy fire. This has been attributed to the increased build up of both the Viet Cong and the North Vietnamese Army in the area. One aircraft was seriously damaged with shrapnel from a land mine, which may have been command detonated, while on a medevac pickup. Two aircraft, while hoisting a U.S. recon team out, came under heavy grenade and small arms fire. Towards the end of January, the number of fire incidents in the Phu Bai TAOR has steadily increased.

During the early part of January, the squadron lost one aircraft while on a night emergency medevac. The weather was extremely poor and the crew and aircraft were not found till the next day. The pilot and co-pilot were both killed in the crash. The two crewmen and corpsman aboard were successfully rescued the following day. The three survivors all received burns and the corpsman suffered a broken leg.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

4 January - Pest Killer 1-5 of HMM-362 while on a VIP chase, effected a rescue and safe return to Phu Bai of all personnel when the UH-1E made a forced landing due to engine failure. Passengers included the Commanding General, Third Marine Division.

9 January - While on an emergency night medevac mission in very marginal weather, YL-41 crashed and burned. SAR operations were delayed until first light due to weather conditions. The aircraft was located the following morning with three survivors, the pilot and co-pilot were killed in action.

12 January - One UH-34D of HMM-362 took two small arms rounds in the clutch fan compartment from within the aircraft, due to "accidental" discharge by ARVN combat troops.

13 January - Six UH-34D of HMM-362 successfully completed an emergency extract of 42 troops from a zone while receiving small arms and automatic weapons fire. One aerial gunner was killed in action by a round from an enemy small arms weapon.

17 January - Two UH-34D's of HMM-362 while on an emergency extract took heavy fire and a number of hits.

20 January - One UH-34D of HMM-362 successfully rescued the crew of a CH-46D which was shot down about 2 miles north of Hill 881s at Khe Sanh.

21 January - HMM-362 evacuated 44 medevacs in support of Operation SOOTLAND. Two aircraft were damaged in a mortar attack at Khe Sanh.

22 January - One UH-34D of HMM-362 was damaged in a mortar attack at Khe Sanh.

23 January - YL-43 of HMM-362 received twelve holes from shrapnel during a mortar attack at Khe Sanh. YL-33 was externaled by a CH-53A from Khe Sanh to Phu Bai.

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24 January - HMM-362 aircraft and crews came under five mortar attacks during one 24 hour period at Khe Sanh. During one 48 hour period, including the above 24 hours, two UH-34D's of HMM-362 successfully evacuated 50 medevacs flying 100 sorties.

25 January - U-15 was seriously damaged by shrapnel while in fuel pits at Khe Sanh. The crew chief and aerial gunner were both wounded.

26 January - Two UH-34D's of HMM-362 successfully lifted out, by hoist, a U.S. recon team. While doing so they took small arms fire and grenades.

27 January - U-31 while on an emergency medevac mission received ten hits, wounding the aerial gunner as a result of a land mine.

28 January - Two UH-34D's took substantial hits from automatic weapons fire while operating at Khe Sanh.

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ENCLOSURE (1)

PART IVOPERATING STATISTICS1. FLIGHT DATA

	<u>1-31 JAN 1968</u>	<u>ARDMORE</u>	<u>SCOTLAND</u>
Flight Hours	911.5	65.3	115.5
Sorties	2,344	385	496
Pax/Troops	2,823	452	523
Tons Cargo	228.5	87.0	87.6
Medevacs	205	20	136
Casualties	3 KIA 10 WIA	0	3 WIA

2. AWARDS

Purple Hearts awarded to: Sgt. J. G. CORRONA
Cpl. J. M. MURAWSKI

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