

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

3: CSC:rb
 003A22868
 5740
 15 August 1968

257-68.
 1 of 16

~~SECRET~~

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commander, Task Force 79.1

Subj: Command Chronology for Period 1 to 9 July and 22 to 31 July 1968

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

Encl: ✓(1) HMM-362 Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of reference (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

UNCLASSIFIED

HMM-362

END CHRON

1-9, 22-31
 (9-21 per [illegible])
 JULY 1968

SECRET

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 362
Marine Aircraft Group 25 (REIN)
9th Marine Amphibious Brigade, FMFPac
APO San Francisco 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 July to 9 July 1968
and
22 July to 31 July 1968

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- PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY
- PART III - SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
- ✓ PART IV - OPERATIONAL STATISTICS
- ✓ TAB-A - *Combat Operations After Action Report, Operations
Fortress Attack ~~II~~ / Scotland II*

UNCLASSIFIED

Command Chronology 1 to 9 July 1968 and 22 to 31 July 1968

PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. SQUADRON STAFF

Commanding Officer	Major W. H. SHAUER Jr.	1-31 July
Executive Officer	Major E. A. HOUSE Major H. P. JONES	1-9 July 22-31 July
Administrative Officer	Captain R. E. REED-HILL	1-31 July
Operations Officer	Captain C. S. CHAMPION	1-31 July
Intelligence Officer	Captain R. E. DELL Captain R. H. BURNHAM	1-23 July 24-31 July
Logistics Officer	Captain R. I. HANKLESS Captain D. D. BECKMAN	1-23 July 24-31 July
Maintenance Officer	1stLt J. H. GARBRICK	1-31 July

2. LOCATION

a. Throughout the reporting period HMM-362 functioned as a helicopter transport squadron, assigned to Marine Aircraft Group 15 (REIN), under the operational control of CTG 79.4 SLF "A".

b. HMM-362 was located aboard the USS Princeton, LPH-5, 1 to 9 July, and 22 to 31 July 1968.

3. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

1 to 9 July 1968

USMC	USN
OFF 10	OFF 1
ENL 221	ENL 3

22 to 31 July 1968

USMC	USN
OFF 16	OFF 1
ENL 232	ENL 3

UNCLASSIFIED

ENCLOSURE (1)

~~SECRET~~

4. IMPORTANT VISITORS

Assistant Wing Commander, Brigadier General H. S. HILL, visited the USS Princeton, LPH-5, on 4 July 1968. Brigadier General Hill made the presentation of awards at the award's ceremony for HTM-362 on 4 July 1968.

UNCLASSIFIED

ENCLOSURE (1)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET NOFORN~~PART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the reporting period 1 to 9 July and 22 to 31 July, HMM-362 operating aboard the USS Princeton, LPH-5, was under the operational control of CTG 79.4, SLF "A". The primary activities during this period were day and night medevac standby, and furnishing eight "Command and Control" helicopters to the Marine Regiments in northern most I Corps. These aircraft were utilized for medevac, resupply, administrative and logistic tasks. In addition aircraft were also provided to CTG 79.4, SLF "A" for their direct use as required.

One aircraft of HMM-362 was totally destroyed along with the cargo it carried when it crashed and burned trying to exit a zone. Fortunately none of the aircrafts crew nor passengers sustained any injuries. Other aircraft off HMM-362 during this same period have received both minor and substantial damage in entering and exiting other LZ's. While it is fully understood that the tactical situation many times dictates the choice of LZ's, there is still some latitude permitted in this area, especially when a static base camp is involved. In the case of the aircraft that was totally destroyed the unit concerned had moved the LZ from the top of a mountain to a little gully between two knobs on the top of the mountain. The new LZ was surrounded by the two knobs and high trees cutting off almost all the wind. Other units have established LZ's in blind canyons, in the center of high tress, and in narrow draws. These poor choices of LZ's and many times a unit's insistence to continue using them indicates a lack of knowledge on the part of many ground commanders as to the basic capabilities and limitations of the two basic helicopters they work directly with (CH-46 and UH-34D).

The proper selection of LZ's cannot be over emphasized. It is mandatory for units that know they will required helicopter support to properly select LZ's for if the pilot decides that the zone is unsuitable he can not operate from that zone. There is virtually no mission including medevac, where a pilot should risk an entire crew and the aircraft to operate from an unsuitable zone when most likely just a few meters away is a satisfactory one.

During the month of July, from the 1st to 31st, HMM-362 flew a total of 2076.2 hours. This is an average daily flight time of 67.0 hours. This pace of operations was sustained by the squadron, even though there was a shortage of pilots, due to the proffessionalism and superior maintenance support and facilities available on board the USS Princeton, LPH-5.

UNCLASSIFIED

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- 1 July - 2 aircraft of HMM-362 received .50 cal. fire in the vicinity of YD 250800. Neither aircraft were hit, and no injuries resulted. One aircraft of HMM-362 crashed and burned, destroying the aircraft and its cargo. The crew and passengers escaped without injury.
- 3 July - All assigned missions successfully completed while flying a total of 76.0 hours.
- 4 July - Brigadier General H. S. Hill made the presentations at the awards ceremony for HMM-362 aboard the USS Princeton, LPH-5. Three aircraft of HMM-362 took a combination of rockets, mortars and small arms fire. One aircraft was hit by rocket fragments resulting in minor damage. No injuries resulted from the fire.
- 5 July - HMM-362 flew 72.1 hours reporting one fire incident in the vicinity of XD 967466; aircraft received mortars in zone resulting in negative hits nor injuries.
- 8 July - HMM-362 completed all assigned missions while flying a total of 84.8 hours.
- 9 July - HMM-362 offloaded from USS Princeton, LPH 5, to MCAF Phu Bai, RVN OPJON of Marine Aircraft Group 36.
- 22 July - HMM-362 backloaded aboard USS Princeton, LPH 5, from MCAF Phu Bai RVN.
- 26 July - HMM-362 completed all assigned missions while flying a total of 78.1 hours.
- 31 July - One aircraft of HMM-362 enroute between Camp Carroll and LZ Stud, took small arms fire in the vicinity of YD 036513, resulting in negative hits nor injuries.

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~~SECRET NOFORN~~

PART IV
OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

1. <u>FLIGHT DATA</u>		<u>1 to 9 July 1968</u>	<u>FORTRESS ATTACK III</u> <u>SCOTLAND II</u>
Flight Hours	596.1	218.0	
Sorties	1781	543	
Pax/Troops	2056	733	
Tons of Cargo	34.1	22.0	
Casualties	0	0	
Shipboard Landings (Day)	282	95	
Shipboard Landings (Night)	2	0	
<u>FLIGHT DATA</u>		<u>22-to 31 July 1968</u>	<u>FORTRESS ATTACK IV</u> <u>SCOTLAND II</u>
Flight Hours	637.6	247.5	
Sorties	2048	764	
Pax/Troops	1830	880	
Tons of Cargo	40.0	17.3	
Casualties	0	0	
Shipboard Landings (Day)	332	165	
Shipboard Landings (Night)			

2. <u>AWARDS</u>	
a.	1 - Silver Star
b.	2 - DFC's
c.	3 - Bronze Stars
d.	1 - Bronze Star with 1st Air Medal
e.	5 - Purple Hearts
f.	9 - Air Medals
g.	1 - Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry

ENCLOSURE (1)
~~SECRET NOFORN~~

259-68

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

3:JGB:rb
003A23868
3480
25 August 1968

SECRET-NOFORN

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, CTG 79.4, SLF "A"

Subj: After Action Report, Operation Fortress Attack IV/Scotland II; sub-
mission of (U)

Ref: (a) Annex "J" to CTG 79.4 Operation Plan 120A-68

Encl: ✓(1) Chronology of Significant Events
✓(2) Analysis of Helicopter Operations
✓(3) Statistics for Operation Fortress Attack IV/Scotland II

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (3) are sub-
mitted.

2. This letter may be downgraded to "UNCLASSIFIED" upon removal of en-
closures (1) through (3).

W. H. Shauer Jr.
W. H. SHAUER Jr.

SECRET-NOFORN

TAB-A

HAM-363

COPY/ART FOR FORTRESS ATTACK IV/SCOTLAND II

JULY 1968

SECRET-NOFORN

INDEX

ENCLOSURE (1)	CHRONOLOGY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
ENCLOSURE (2)	ANALYSIS OF HELICOPTER OPERATIONS
ENCLOSURE (3)	STATISTICS FOR OPERATION FORTRESS ATTACK IV/ SCOTLAND II

SECRET-NOFORNCHRONOLOGY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS22 July 1968

HMM-362 OPCON to CTG 79.4 as of 0600Z. All missions were flown in support of the squadron onload to LPH-5 and CTG 79.4, SLF "A". All missions completed. Squadron flew 48.6 hours.

23 July 1968

Eight Command and Control, Logistics, and Administrative missions completed. Squadron flew 73.3 hours.

24 July 1968

All missions assigned HMM-362 completed. Two aircraft RON at DaNang due to weather. Squadron flew 47.6 hours.

25 July 1968

Five Command and Control, logistics, and Administrative missions were successfully completed. Squadron flew 56.0 hours.

26 July 1968

All missions assigned HMM-362 were successfully completed. Squadron flew 78.1 hours.

27 July 1968

All missions assigned HMM-362 were successfully completed, including night carrier qualification of new pilots. Squadron flew 66.1 hours.

28 July 1968

All missions assigned HMM-362 were successfully completed. Eighteen battlefield casualties were evacuated. Squadron flew 56.7 hours.

29 July 1968

Eight Command and Control, Logistics, and Administrative missions successfully completed. Squadron flew 76.8 hours.

30 July 1968

All missions assigned HMM-362 were successfully completed. Squadron flew 60.0 hours.

SECRET-NOFORN

31 July 1968

All missions assigned HMM-362 were successfully completed. One section was split by Dong Ha DASC, and one aircraft of the section was ordered to fly single plane. While flying between Camp Carroll and LZ Stud, this aircraft came under small arms fire. The pilot evaded fire by flying into clouds. Squadron flew 76.3 hours.

1 August 1968

All missions assigned HMM-362 were successfully completed. The squadron flew 83.8 hours, and carried 35 battlefield medevacs.

2 August 1968

All missions assigned HMM-362 were successfully completed, 21 battlefield casualties evacuated, while flying 81.9 hours.

3 August 1968

All missions assigned HMM-362 were successfully completed, 39 battlefield casualties evacuated, while flying 64.0 hours.

4 August 1968

Six Command and Control, Logistics, and Administrative missions were successfully completed. A late afternoon troop lift with eight aircraft was also completed, while flying 76.8 hours.

5 August 1968

All missions assigned HMM-362 were successfully completed, and 41 battlefield casualties were evacuated, while flying 61.9 hours.

6 August 1968

All missions assigned HMM-362 were successfully completed. One aircraft developed magneto trouble, and remained at Dong Ha overnight. Squadron flew 75.2 hours.

7 August 1968

All missions assigned HMM-362 were successfully completed, while flying 67.7 hours.

8 August 1968

All missions assigned HMM-362 were successfully completed, while flying 48.0 hours.

SECRET-NOFORN9 August 1968

All missions assigned HMM-362 were successfully completed, while flying 26.1 hours.

10 August 1968

All missions assigned HMM-362 were successfully completed. Operation Lander I conducted by CTG 79.4, SLF "A" was the squadrons primary mission. The squadron flew 88.7 hours.

11 August 1968

All missions assigned HMM-362 were successfully completed, while flying 26.1 hours.

12 August 1968

All missions assigned HMM-362 were successfully completed. One aircraft at Con Thien received incoming fire, negative hits nor casualties were sustained. Squadron flew 71.7 hours.

13 August 1968

All missions assigned HMM-362 were successfully completed, while flying 60.3 hours.

SECRET-NOFORNANALYSIS OF HELICOPTER OPERATIONS1. General

SLF "A", HMM-362 helicopter operations in support of Bt 2/4 and Third Marine Division Elements, were conducted by HMM-362 from the USS Princeton, LPH-5, during operation Fortress Attack IV/Scotland II.

2. Helicopter Utilization

The squadron was assigned these basic missions during this period; Medevac, Command and Control, and Administrative missions. The day portion the Medevac mission also performed the Command and Control mission for SLF "A". A Corpsman was carried onboard for airborne medical assistance capability. This procedure permitted a section of aircraft to perform both missions. The night Medevac was a condition III standby onboard LPH-5, but due to the great distance between ship and Bt 2/4 they were rarely utilized. Eight aircraft per day were sent by SLF "A" to Dong Ha DASC to augment First Marine Aircraft Wing support of the Third Marine Division, in the northern I Corps area. These aircraft performed the Command and Control missions for the Third Marine Division Regiments, between Cau Viet and Khe Sahn. On occasion they would also work as VIP aircraft or work directly for Dong Ha DASC. These constituted the missions of HMM-362, except for operation Landex I conducted, 10 August 1968, from LPH-5, with 2ndBn. 26th Marines, which was a one day operation for the squadron.

SECRET-NOFORN

STATISTICS FOR OPERATION
FORTRESS ATTACK II/SCOTLAND II

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SORTIES</u>	<u>PAX</u>	<u>TON CARGO</u>	<u>MEDEVAC</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
22 July 1968	118	183	14.5	3	48.6
23 July 1968	234	222	4.8	9	73.3
24 July 1968	134	135	1.0	6	47.6
25 July 1968	177	226	3.0	6	56.0
26 July 1968	263	291	4.0	10	78.1
27 July 1968	244	217	5.0	44	66.1
28 July 1968	248	329	2.7	18	56.7
29 July 1968	251	251	4.3	32	76.8
30 July 1968	198	296	3.6	22	60.0
31 July 1968	264	279	4.3	23	76.3
1 Aug. 1968	266	365	3.5	35	83.8
2 Aug. 1968	278	296	4.0	21	81.9
3 Aug. 1968	196	181	4.6	39	64.0
4 Aug. 1968	252	308	5.9	19	76.8
5 Aug. 1968	224	182	3.6	41	61.9
6 Aug. 1968	277	245	4.0	18	75.2
7 Aug. 1968	193	136	3.5	7	67.7
8 Aug. 1968	144	125	4.0	2	48.0
9 Aug. 1968	59	94		1	26.1
10 Aug. 1968	317	594	11.5	1	88.7
11 Aug. 1968	51	70		2	16.1
12 Aug. 1968	226	235	3.0	16	71.7
13 Aug. 1968	193	156	3.5	43	60.3
<hr/>					
TOTAL	4,807	2,342	42.8	418	1,461.6
<hr/>					
No. aircraft hit by enemy fire				0	
No. fire incidents				4	
No. aircraft damaged or destroyed operationally				0	
No. Personnel wounded in action				0	
No. personnel killed in action				0	

ENCLOSURE (3)
SECRET-NOFORN

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

3:WHW:rb
 003A21968
 5740
 6 August 1968

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 36 (Attn S-3)

Subj: Command Chronology for Period 9 July to 21 July 1968

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.1G
 (b) GrwO 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.

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Copy	1 of 6

ENCLOSURE (5)

~~SECRET (NOFORN)~~

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

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

9 July to 21 July 1968

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| PART III | - SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS |
| PART IV | - OPERATIONAL STATISTICS |

ENCLOSURE (1)
~~SECRET (NOFORN)~~

Command Chronology 9 July to 21 July 1968

PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. SQUADRON STAFF

Commanding Officer	Major W. H. SHAVER Jr.	9-21 July
Executive Officer	Major E. A. HOUSE	9-12 July
	Major H. P. JONES	13-21 July
Administrative Officer	Captain R. E. REED-HILL	9-21 July
Operations Officer	Captain C. S. CHAMPION	9-21 July
Intelligence Officer	Captain R. E. HELL	9-21 July
Logistics Officer	Captain R. I. HARKLESS	9-21 July
Maintenance Officer	1stLt J. H. GARRICK	9-21 July

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, 9-21 July 1968.

3. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

USMC		USN	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
<u>38</u>	<u>188</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>

a. During the reporting period, HMM-362 had the following detached aboard the USS Princeton located at Cubi Point.

USMC		USN	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
<u>2</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>

4. IMPORTANT VISITORS

None.

PART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the reporting period, 9-21 July 1968, HMM-362 located at MCAF Phu Bai, was under the operational control of Marine Aircraft Group 36. The primary activity during this period was furnishing "Command and Control" helicopters to the Marine regiments in northernmost I Corps. These aircraft were utilized for Medevac, resupply, administrative and logistic tasks.

The aircraft of HMM-362 normally supported the 1st, 3rd, 4th and 9th Marine Regiments. In addition, aircraft also worked directly for Dong Ha DASC and Stud DASC. Although the pilots knew who they were supporting, they were generally not aware of what operation they were supporting. This was due to the manner in which the aircraft were fragged. The squadron was simply told to send ten aircraft to Dong Ha DASC, which in turn assigned them mission numbers, but was unable to give them the "names" of operations they would be supporting.

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~~SECRET-NOFORN~~PART IIISEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- 9 July - HMM-362 offloaded from USS Princeton to MCAF Phu Bai, changing OpCon to MAG-36.
- 11 July - HMM-362 provided 10 aircraft for support of 1st MAW, flying a total of 70.4 hours. All missions were successfully completed.
- 13 July - HMM-362 provided 10 aircraft for support of 1st MAW, flying a total of 76.8 hours. All missions were successfully completed.
- 15 July - HMM-362 provided 10 aircraft for support of 1st MAW, flying a total of 63.3 hours. All missions were successfully completed.
- 18 July - HMM-362 provided 10 aircraft for support of the 1st MAW, flying 71.8 hours. All missions were successfully completed.
- 21 July - HMM-362 provided 10 aircraft for support of 1st MAW, flying 73.4 hours. All missions were successfully completed while the squadron packed up in preparation for back-loading aboard the USS Princeton on the morning of 22 July 1968.

UNCLASSIFIED

ENCLOSURE (1)
~~SECRET-NOFORN~~

SECRET-NOFORNPART IVOPERATIONAL STATISTICS

<u>1. FLIGHT DATA</u>	<u>9-21 Jul 68</u>	<u>DRAGON PALACE II</u>
Flight Hours	874.6	10.5
Sorties	2601	38
Pax/Troops	2622	56
Tons of Cargo	52.2	3.0
Casualties	0	0
Shipboard Landings (Day)	0	0
Shipboard Landings (Night)	0	0

2. AWARDS

None.

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

3:JGB:wpw
03A21368
3480
31 July 1968

HMM-362

COPIES A/ARPT, FORTRESS ATTACK III, NAPOLEON/SALINE/SCOTLAND II, 30 JUL 1968

[REDACTED]
From: Commanding Officer
To: Commander, Task Group 79.4

Subj: After Action Report, Operation Fortress Attack III/Napoleon
Saline/Scotland II, submission of (U)

Ref: (a) Annex "J" to CTG 79.4 Operation Plan 120A-68

Encl: ✓(1) Chronology of Significant Events
✓(2) Analysis of Helicopter Operations
✓(3) Statistics for Operation Fortress Attack III/Napoleon/Saline
Scotland II

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (3) are submitted.

2. This letter may be downgraded to "UNCLASSIFIED" upon removal of enclosures (1) through (3).

W. H. Shauer Jr.
W. H. SHAUER Jr.

TAB-B

INDEX

ENCLOSURE (1)

CHRONOLOGY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

ENCLOSURE (2)

ANALYSIS OF HELICOPTER OPERATIONS

ENCLOSURE (3)

STATISTICS FOR OPERATION FORTRESS ATTACK III/
NAPOLEON/SALINE/SCOTLAND II


CHRONOLOGY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS2 Jun 1968

HMM-362 OpCon to CTG 79.4 as of 1200H. All missions were flown in support of the squadron onload to LPH-5 and MAG-36. All missions completed.

3 Jun 1968

Eight command control, logistic and administrative missions were completed. Four aircraft completed the backload of BLT 2/4 to LPH-5.

4 Jun 1968

Eight command control, logistic and administrative missions were completed. Two aircraft were left on the beach due to engine failures.

5 Jun 1968

Seven command control, logistic and administrative missions completed, along with 47 battlefield medevacs. One aircraft lost due to engine failure over water.

6 Jun 1968

Eight command control, logistic and administrative missions completed.

7 Jun 1968

Eight command control, logistic and administrative missions completed. Six pilots night carrier-qualified.

8 Jun 1968

Seven command control, logistic and administrative missions completed along with 17 battlefield medevacs.

9 Jun 1968

Five command control, logistic and administrative missions completed along with 63 battlefield medevacs.

10 Jun 1968

HMM-362 completed all assigned missions along with 21 battlefield medevacs. Nine pilots night carrier-qualified.

11 Jun 1968

HMM-362 successfully completed all missions assigned, along with 49 battlefield medevacs.

12 Jun 1968

All missions assigned to HMM-362 were successfully completed.

13 Jun 1968

All missions assigned to HMM-362 were successfully completed along with 21 battlefield medevacs.

14 Jun 1968

All missions assigned to HMM-362 were successfully completed along with 47 battlefield medevacs. Two aircraft landed at Khe Sanh combat base and took enemy rocket and mortar fire. No damage done to the aircraft.

15 Jun 1968

All missions assigned to HMM-362 were successfully completed. One aircraft was left on the beach due to a transmission chip light. One aircraft attempted three approaches to a zone for medevac pick up and was forced to wave off due to heavy artillery fire. The fourth attempt was successful.

16 Jun 1968

All missions assigned to HMM-362 were successfully completed. Two aircraft which were left on the beach in a down status were repaired and flown back aboard LPH-5.

17 Jun 1968

All missions assigned to HMM-362 were completed with the exception of mission number 113 which was diverted to Danang to pick up the crew of YL-21. YL-21 experienced an engine failure sustaining substantial damage. No injuries were sustained by the crew or passengers embarked.

18 Jun 1968

All missions assigned to HMM-362 were successfully completed along with 36 battlefield medevacs. One aircraft received automatic weapons fire when departing from the zone. It was discovered after post flight that the aircraft was hit three times. No fire was returned due to the close proximity of friendly forces.


19 Jun 1968

All missions assigned to HMM-362 were successfully completed.

20 Jun 1968

All missions assigned to HMM-362 were successfully completed.

21 Jun 1968

All missions assigned to HMM-362 were successfully completed.

22 Jun 1968

All missions assigned to HMM-362 were successfully completed. One aircraft received mortar fire while in a zone, but no damage to the aircraft or injuries to personnel occurred.

23 Jun 1968

All missions assigned to HMM-362 were successfully completed.

24 Jun 1968

All missions assigned to HMM-362 were successfully completed.

25 Jun 1968

All missions assigned to HMM-362 were successfully completed. Mortars and rockets were received in four different zones, but there was no damage to the aircraft or injuries to the personnel.

26 Jun 1968

All missions assigned to HMM-362 were successfully completed. One aircraft received a hit, but was unaware of the locality in which the fire was taken.

27 Jun 1968

All missions assigned to HMM-362 were successfully completed.

28 Jun 1968

All missions assigned to HMM-362 were successfully completed. Two aircraft were down on the beach, due to engine trouble, but were recovered aboard ship later in the afternoon.

[REDACTED]

29 Jun 1968

All missions assigned to HMM-362 were successfully completed. Two aircraft were damaged. One aircraft damaged in an unsuitable landing zone, and the other experienced a crack in the transmission.

30 Jun 1968

All missions assigned to HMM-362 were successfully completed.

ANALYSIS OF HELICOPTER OPERATIONS

1. General. Helicopter operations in support of BLT 2/4 and Third Marine Division elements were conducted by HMM-362 from the USS Princeton LPH-5 during operation Fortress Attack III/Scotland II.

2. Helicopter Utilization. The squadron was assigned three basic missions during this period; Medevac, Command and Control and administrative missions. The day medevac mission was conducted in conjunction with two aircraft assigned command and control for SLF Alpha and basically provided an airborne medical assistance capability with one medecal corpsman aboard. Night medevac was on condition III standby on board the LPH-5 and was rarely utilized due to extreme distance between the LPH-5 and BLT 2/4's position. The majority of the missions flown by HMM-362 were command and control missions assigned by First Marine Aircraft Wing augmented from SLF Alpha.

a. Command and Control Missions. Sections of two UH-34D's were assigned to each of three Marine infantry regiments in the Dong Ha, Ca Lu, and Khe Sanh areas on a daily basis under the control of Dong Ha DASC. These aircraft were continuously made available on a daily basis and requested to transport passengers and cargo in small increments (one UH-34D load or less) between the regimental CP, the battalions, and their outlying units. The requirements for piecemeal movement reoccured again and again during the same day from the same units. In addition when these aircraft were moving between units and combat bases, they are continually requested to "stop by and pick up a couple of pax" when requesting artillery clearance through a particular units area of operations. This uncontrolled piecemeal movement of troops and cargo increments frequently caused duplication of effort when command and control aircraft were later assigned to these same missions.

b. LPH Operations. Operations conducted aboard the USS Princeton were, on the whole, very satisfactory. Communications problems were encountered and solved when 19 mc equipment was installed in the SLF Alpha S-3 office and telephones installed in the maintenance control/line shack office.

3. Conclusions.

a. In order that the command and control mission be accomplished more efficiently, the regiments must require more advanced planning from its battalions for the administrative movement of troops and cargo. All personnel movement requirements should be transmitted from the outlying units to the regimental air officer as they occur. All this must be accomplished so the section leader of the UH-34D's may plan the utilization of both aircraft and the fuel loading so as to accommodate the separate landing zones with their varying elevations and obstacles.

Enclosure (2)

[REDACTED]

b. Good communications and close liaison are essential between the squadron and the SLF operations section and the squadron operations section and HDC. Any breakdown or lack of communications inevitably results in confusion or delay in accomplishing assigned missions.

STATISTICS FOR OPERATION
FORTRESS ATTACK III/SALINE/NAPOLEON

DATE	SORTIES	TASKS	TON CARGO	MEDEVACS	PAX	HOURS
2 JUNE 68	Backload	aboard carrier.		SITREP not available		
3 JUNE 68	174	83	11.8	4	205	70.7
4 JUNE 68	190	84	3.8	36	141	71.2
5 JUNE 68	159	75	4.6	47	148	51.1
6 JUNE 68	147	83	4.0	6	174	54.9
7 JUNE 68	210	97	2.6	-	-	64.8
8 JUNE 68	183	90	4.5	15	178	72.1
9 JUNE 68	180	102	1.75	68	132	57.1
10 JUNE 68	222	97	2.3	22	182	54.2
11 JUNE 68	219	124	3.6	54	245	80.6
12 JUNE 68	252	125	2.2	35	249	83.0
13 JUNE 68	224	123	3.18	20	217	71.1
14 JUNE 68	184	118	3.3	47	254	54.5
15 JUNE 68	227	118	2.75	21	192	65.6
16 JUNE 68	197	112	2.0	6	178	63.4
17 JUNE 68	167	78	2.3	18	146	50.4
18 JUNE 68	243	134	3.3	36	205	80.9
19 JUNE 68	242	124	2.7	22	314	80.6
20 JUNE 68	198	97	1.7	12	210	70.4
21 JUNE 68	163	99	3.0	15	206	64.9
22 JUNE 68	236	156	3.6	17	224	73.1
23 JUNE 68	168	92	2.0	7	204	57.4
24 JUNE 68	173	85	1.3	45	215	64.8
25 JUNE 68	206	103	2.3	26	217	63.3
26 JUNE 68	228	117	1.7	48	261	69.1
27 JUNE 68	269	154	2.0	60	303	77.2
28 JUNE 68	285	160	5.1	23	409	48.9
28 JUNE 68	231	134	1.2	50	248	75.7
29 JUNE 68	193	116	1.9	13	257	64.4
30 JUNE 68	205	160	5.1	23	409	48.9
1 JULY 68	206	120	3.8	26	289	64.5
2 JULY 68	224	97	3.1	43	260	69.3
3 JULY 68	240	116	1.8	34	304	73.1
4 JULY 68	241	118	2.3	18	225	74.3
5 JULY 68	249	133	2.9	26	257	72.1
6 JULY 68	217	104	2.4	30	199	62.7
7 JULY 68	182	94	4.2	15	206	59.7
JULY 68	266	137	3.7	59	229	64.8
TOTALS	7603	3795	110.38	1024	7983	2445.9

SECRET NOFORN

No. Aircraft Hit by Enemy Fire	2	
No. Fire Incidents	10	
No. Aircraft Damaged or Destroyed Operationally		1
No. Personnel Wounded in Action	0	
No. Personnel Killed in Action	0	