

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 363  
 Marine Aircraft Group 36  
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac  
 FPO, San Francisco, 96602

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 5750  
 03A01867  
 17 Jan 1967

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

Subj: Command Chronology Report for Period 1-18 January 1967;  
 submission of

Ref: (a) 1stMAWO 5750.1B  
 (b) GruO 5750.1A

Encl: ✓(1) Command Chronology Report

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

*K. E. Huntington*  
 K. E. HUNTINGTON

HMM - 363 1 of 3

S&C # 012-67-c-3

MAAG-36 S&C Files	
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S-3

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;  
 DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS  
 DOD DIR 5200.10

HMM-363

Cmd Chron

1-18 Jan 1967

## PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

a. Squadron Commander and Staff, with inclusive dates of duration in assigned billets:

Commanding Officer	1-18 Jan 67	LtCol. K.E. HUNTINGTON
Executive Officer	1-18 Jan 67	Major M. E. DAY
Operations Officer	1-18 Jan 67	Major R. P. ECKMANN
Administrative Officer	1-18 Jan 67	Capt. G. E. THIRY
Logistics Officer	1-18 Jan 67	Major F. OWLETT
Maintenance Officer	1-18 Jan 67	Major E. J. MURPHY
Safety Officer	1-18 Jan 67	Capt. R. M. NEBEL
Intelligence Officer	1-18 Jan 67	2ndLt. R. W. BOLTON

b. Task Organization and unit location:

HMM-363, MAG-36, 1stMAW, FMFPac 1-18 Jan 67

MCAF Ky Ha, RVN 1-18 Jan 67

c. Average monthly strength of squadron:

Officers: 51 USMC 1 NAVY Enlisted: 190

d. Important visitors to the squadron:

Major General L. B. ROBERTSHAW visited the squadron on 7 January to award the Purple Heart Medal to four squadron personnel.

e. Statistics summation for period:

HMM-363 flew 799.2 hours and 2,951 sorties were flown this month in support of III MAF units, Republic of Korea Marines, ARVN forces and other I Corps units. A total of 192.5 tons of cargo and 2,514 troops including 311 battle evacuations were carried. Fifty-three (53) fire incidents were reported and fifteen (15) aircraft were hit.

## PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS DURING REPORTING PERIOD

1 January 1967

This month's flight operations commenced with the launching of two Millpoint aircraft to Chu Lai Airfield to assume SAR duty.

Two aircraft flew three med-evac missions, evacuating four patients to Quang Ngai Hospital. While enroute to Duc Pho during one mission, YZ-84 received sniper fire from the vicinity of BS 785435. No hits were reported and no fire returned.

Two aircraft flew three missions in support of Operation Sierra. 7625 lbs of combat cargo and 19 troops were lifted.

Millpoint aircraft flew five routine admin. and passenger shuttles this date. Most missions were aborted due to marginal weather.

2 January 1967

Two aircraft flew three missions in support of the ROKMC this date. 6450 lbs. of combat cargo and 11 troops were lifted.

4600 lbs. of cargo and 3 troops were lifted in support of Operation Sierra.

Two Millpoint aircraft flew six med-evac missions. Thirty patients were evacuated to Quang Ngai Hospital and 1st Med. Bn.. Enroute to Quang Ngai Hospital with two wounded ARVN aboard, YZ-69 and YZ-62 received enemy small arms fire from the vicinity of BS 730500. Both aircraft were hit. YZ-69 took a round in the forward fuel cell. YZ-62 received a round through the co-pilot's window (this round was stopped by the co-pilot's armor plating). Shrapnel struck the co-pilot on the back of the neck. No other injuries were reported, and no fire was returned by the crews.

Millpoint aircraft flew five routine admin. and passenger shuttles this date. Marginal weather caused the cancellation of most missions.

3 January 1967

Three aircraft flew seven med-evac missions, evacuating twenty-eight patients to Quang Ngai Hospital and 1st Med. Bn. at Ky Ha.

Two aircraft flew seven missions in support of the ROKMC, carrying 12,600 lbs. of combat cargo and 66 troops.

Two aircraft lifted 7400 lbs. of cargo and 23 troops in support of Operation Sierra.

Flight operations for the remainder of this day consisted of six routine admin. and passenger shuttles between Chu Lai and Quang Ngai.

4 January 1967

Two aircraft flew seven missions in support of the ROKMC; 3550 lbs. of cargo and 37 troops were lifted. During one mission fire was received from the vicinity of BS 575770. No hits were reported and 100 rounds of 7.62 were returned into the enemy position.

Two aircraft received enemy sniper fire from BS 620430 and BS 610525 while on a routine passenger hop enroute to BATO (BS 565335). No hits were received. 30 rounds of 7.62 were returned into the sniper positions.

7400 lbs. of combat cargo and 27 troops were lifted by two aircraft in support of Operation Sierra.

Two aircraft flew five med-evac missions, evacuating seven patients to Quang Ngai Hospital and 1st Med. Bn.. During one mission YZ-78 received heavy enemy sniper fire while on approach and during take-off from a zone located at BS 567833. A Klondike escort gunship expended rockets and 7.62 fire into the sniper position. YZ-78 sustained two hits, one in the tail pylon, and one round hit a tire causing it to blow out. No injuries were received and the gunners returned 200 rounds of 7.62 into the sniper's position.

Two aircraft launched on a night med-evac mission and flew to BS 713548. Upon arrival over the zone the pilots were informed by personnel on the ground that the patient had minor wounds. Weather was marginal and the aircraft returned to Ky Ha to await daylight and improved weather conditions. Enroute to Ky Ha YZ-77 received enemy .50 caliber fire from the vicinity of BS 545835. No hits were sustained, and no fire returned.

Flight operations for the remainder of the day consisted of routine admin. and passenger shuttles between Chu Lai, Da Nang, and Quang Ngai.

5 January 1967

One Millpoint aircraft flew three med-evac missions, evacuating four patients to Quang Ngai Hospital.

All other flight operations were cancelled due to marginal weather.

6 January 1967

Four aircraft flew thirteen med-evac missions, evacuating thirty-six patients to Quang Ngai Hospital, and 1st Med. Bn.. During five of these missions enemy small arms fire was received while med-evac aircraft were in the pickup zones. No hits were reported, and no fire was returned due to the close proximity of friendly troops in the zones.

Four aircraft flew twenty-two missions in support of the ROKMC. 49,650 lbs. of combat cargo and 163 troops were lifted.

3

Enclosure (1)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Two aircraft flew seven missions in support of Operation Sierra. 22,880 lbs. of combat cargo and 36 troops were lifted.

Millpoint aircraft flew eight routine admin. and passenger shuttles between Chu Lai and Quang Ngai.

7 January 1967

Two aircraft flew nine med-evac missions, evacuating fifteen patients to Quang Ngai Hospital and 1st Med. Bn.. During one mission at BS 528263, YZ-71 sustained six hits while sitting in the landing zone. A Klondike escort gunship expended rockets and 7.62 fire into the enemy positions. Upon take-off the crew members of YZ-71 returned 800 rounds of 7.62 fire at the enemy positions. The gunner aboard YZ-71 received a minor shrapnel wound on his right hand. The pilot was able to fly the aircraft safely to 1st Med. Bn. at Ky Ha.

Two aircraft flew five missions in support of Operation Sierra. 9,375 lbs. of combat cargo and 75 troops were lifted.

Two aircraft lifted 34 troops in support of the ROKMC.

Millpoint launched two aircraft on a routine passenger hop in support of the 5th Marine Regiment. While returning to Ky Ha from a landing zone at BT 312146, both aircraft received enemy fire from BT 323177. Both aircraft sustained hits. No injuries were reported and fifty rounds of 7.62 were returned.

Flight operations for the remainder of the day consisted of routine admin and cargo shuttles between Tam Ky, Chu Lai, and Quang Ngai.

8 January 1967

Millpoint aircraft flew fourteen med-evac missions this date, evacuating 21 patients to Quang Ngai Hospital and 1st Med. Bn.. Enemy fire was received during two missions with no hits reported, or fire returned.

Two aircraft flew seven missions in support of the ROKMC. 30,000 lbs. of combat cargo and 49 troops were lifted.

6,700 lbs. of cargo and 44 troops were lifted by two Millpoint aircraft in support of Operation Sierra.

Nine routine admin. and passenger shuttles were flown by Millpoint aircraft during flight operations.

9 January 1967

Millpoint aircraft flew thirteen med-evac missions this date. Twenty patients were evacuated to Quang Ngai Hospital and 1st Med. Bn.. Fire was

received during three of these missions. No hits were sustained by any aircraft.

Millpoint's SAR aircraft were launched from Chu Lai Airfield and flown to BS 827340, and aircraft crash site. Seven men were killed when their C-47 flare ship crashed. The cause of the crash has not been determined as of this date. The crew members of the SAR aircraft recovered the remains of the seven men, and three mini guns, and returned to Ky Ha. Enemy small arms fire was received during approach and retirement from the crash site. No hits were reported. Later in the day these aircraft were launched once again to search for a downed observation plane. At BS 7780 an orange dye marker, and oil slick was sighted, but no survivors could be found. Enemy fire was received in the vicinity of the crash site. No hits were reported, or fire returned.

Two aircraft flew seven missions in support of Operation Sierra, carrying 36,280 lbs. of combat cargo and 36 troops. Enemy fire was received during three of these missions. No hits were sustained, or fire returned.

Two aircraft flew five missions carrying 3,375 lbs. of cargo and 17 troops in support of the ROKMC.

While flying a routine passenger shuttle from LZ Dove to BS 777526, two Millpoint aircraft were unable to land due to enemy fire in this zone. One aircraft received a round through a rotor blade and returned to Ky Ha.

#### 10 January 1967

Millpoint aircraft flew seven med-evac missions this date, evacuating 38 patients to Quang Ngai Hospital and 1st Med. Bn.. During one mission at BS 744571, YZ-84 received a round through a main spar of one rotor blade. The crew of YZ-77, which was flying wing, fired 475 rounds of suppressing fire from 1500' while orbiting the pickup zone.

Enemy fire was received during two other missions. No hits or injuries were reported.

Two aircraft operating out of Quang Ngai Airfield in support of Operation Sierra, flew 4,000 lbs. of combat cargo to Mo Duc. While enroute, YZ-64 sustained a hit in the forward fuel cell.

All missions were cancelled for the remainder of the day due to marginal weather.

#### 11 January 1967

Millpoint aircraft flew nine med-evac missions, evacuating sixteen patients to Quang Ngai Hospital and 1st Med. Bn..

Two aircraft operating out of Quang Ngai Airfield in support of Operation Sierra lifted 10,400 lbs. of combat cargo and 25 troops to various rifle

companies in the field.

Two Millpoint aircraft launched from Ky Ha and were proceeding to Quang Ngai Airfield to stand night med-evac. YZ-74 had to make a passenger pickup at the Admin Pad before continuing on to Quang Ngai. The section leader radioed his wingman in YZ-76 to orbit over the beach at Chu Lai to wait for YZ-74. While the lead aircraft was on the Admin Pad a radio transmission was received from YZ-76 stating that the aircraft was down and that the pilot was returning to Ky Ha to get another aircraft. The section leader rogered this transmission. A period of thirty seconds elapsed when the pilot of YZ-76 radioed that he had lost his engine and was ditching in the water off Chu Lai. The pilot of YZ-74 lifted out of the Admin Pad and arrived over the downed aircraft. YZ-76 hit the water at the surf line and due to heavy seas and surf the aircraft was breaking up very fast. There were no survivors to be found on the surface. Millpoint SAR aircraft arrived over the scene minutes later and assumed command of rescue operations. YZ-76 went down with a crew of four, and six Marine troops aboard.

Marginal weather caused the cancellation of all flights during the remainder of this day.

#### 12 January 1967

Millpoint aircraft flew twelve med-evac missions, evacuating thirty-six patients to Quang Ngai Hospital and 1st Med. Bn.. There were two fire incidents reported. While on approach to a zone at BT 301146, YZ-73 received three hits from enemy small arms. No injuries were reported and 80 rounds of 7.62 were returned. During an approach to landing at BT 314146, YZ-73 received a round through the forward fuel cell. No injuries were reported, and no fire was returned.

Two aircraft lifted 9,400 lbs. of combat cargo and 33 troops in support of Operation Sierra.

Two aircraft lifted 39 troops during support operations for the ROKMC.

Most flights were cancelled due to marginal weather.

#### 13 January 1967

Millpoint aircraft flew eighteen med-evac missions, evacuating 32 patients to Quang Ngai Hospital and 1st Med. Bn.. During approach to landing at BT 520100, YZ-72 received one enemy round. There were no injuries reported, and 50 rounds of 7.62 were returned.

Four aircraft flew nine missions in support of Operation Sierra. 27,650 lbs. of combat cargo and 124 troops were lifted.

Most routine admin. missions were cancelled during the day due to marginal weather.

14 January 1967

Millpoint aircraft lifted 14,035 lbs. of combat cargo and 79 troops in support of Operation Sierra.

Two aircraft lifted 66 troops while supporting the ROKMC.

Millpoint aircraft flew nine med-evac missions, evacuating twelve patients to Quang Ngai Hospital and 1st Med. Bn.. While enroute to Ky Ha from one mission, YZ-66 received enemy small arms fire from the vicinity of BS 567019. One round entered the aircraft forward of the cabin door. The crew chief was struck on the left arm by shrapnel, the corpsman was hit on the left knee, and the copilot was struck by shrapnel in the left ankle. 50 rounds of 7.62 were returned into the enemy position.

Marginal weather forced the cancellation of most flights this date.

15 January 1967

Millpoint aircraft operating out of Quang Ngai Airfield lifted 1600 lbs. of cargo and nine troops in support of Operation Sierra.

One med-evac mission was flown, and two routine admin. hops were completed. All other flight operations were cancelled due to marginal weather.

16 January 1967

Millpoint aircraft flew fourteen med-evacs to Quang Ngai Hospital and 1st Med. Bn..

Four aircraft flew eight missions in support of Operation Sierra. 27,740 lbs. of combat cargo and 90 troops were lifted. Enemy fire was received during three of these missions. No hits or injuries were reported.

Two aircraft flew aerial recon of the following areas: BS 564975, BS 434852, and Grid Squares BT 1513 - 1613.

Flight operations for the remainder of the day consisted of routine cargo, and passenger shuttles.

17 January 1967

Flight operations during this date were of a limited nature. Routine admin. and passenger shuttles were flown from Da Nang, Tam Ky, Chu Lai, and Quang Ngai. No fire incidents were reported during any mission.

Marginal weather caused the cancellation of most missions.

18 January 1967

Group Operations placed HMM-363 on a stand-down condition this date. All aircraft and Squadron personnel were prepared for deployment aboard the USS Iwo Jima (LPH-2).



## PART III - MISCELLANEOUS

## a. Casualties

Circumstances surrounding the below listed personnel's injuries are described in the narrative portion of this report:

CORDOVA, A.	Cpl	1637420/6422	WIA(7 Jan 67)
HOWELL, D. S.	2ndLt	092935/7335	WIA(14 Jan 67)
JANIKOWSKI, D.	1stLt	090514/7335	WIA( 2 Jan 67)
MOYER, W. C.	Cpl	2145011/6422	WIA(14 Jan 67)
OSMUNDSEN, S. M.	PFC	2145100/6422	WIA( 7 Jan 67)
SCHENA, R. P.	1stLt	091024/7335	Died by drowning(11 Jan 67)
SHIELDS, G. D.	2ndLt	092620/7335	Died by drowning(11 Jan 67)
WILSON, E. H.	Cpl	2128670/6422	Died by drowning(11 Jan 67)
WOOD, P. L.	LCpl	2141848/6422	Died by drowning(11 Jan 67)

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 363  
Marine Aircraft Group 15 (Rein)  
9th Marine Amphibious Brigade  
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

3:RAM:fe  
5750  
2 Feb 1967

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commander, Special Landing Force

Subj: Command Chronology for Period 19 January- 31 January 1967;  
submission of

Ref: (a) BrigO 5750.1

Encl: ✓(1) Command Chronology Report

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

*K. E. Huntington*  
K. E. HUNTINGTON

AMM-363

CMO CHRON

19-31 Jan 67

## PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

a. Squadron Commander and Staff, with inclusive dates of duration in assigned billets:

Commanding Officer	19-31 Jan 67	LtCol. K. E. HUNTINGTON
Executive Officer	19-31 Jan 67	Major M. E. DAY
Operations Officer	19-31 Jan 67	Major R. P. ECKMANN
Administrative Officer	19-31 Jan 67	Capt. G. E. THIRY
Logistics Officer	19-31 Jan 67	Major F. OWLETT
Maintenance Officer	19-31 Jan 67	Major E. J. MURPHY
Safety Officer	19-31 Jan 67	Capt. R. M. NEBEL
Intelligence Officer	19-31 Jan 67	Capt. A. RATLIFF

b. Task Organization and unit location:

HMM-363, MAG-15, 9th MAB, FMFPac 19-31 Jan 67

U.S.S. Iwo Jima (LPH-2) 19-31 Jan 67

c. Average monthly strength of squadron:

Officers: 59 (1 Navy) Enlisted: 189 (3 Navy)

d. Important visitors to the squadron: None

## PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS DURING REPORTING PERIOD

19 January 1967

At 0830H, four CH-46 aircraft, attached to HMM-262, commenced lifting Millpoints (HMM-363) personnel and equipment aboard the U.S.S. Iwo Jima (LPH-2).

Millpoint launched four H-34's to join in the lift. These aircraft completed three trips to the carrier before they were shut-down and secured to the flight deck.

By 1230H, the majority of Millpoint's gear was aboard the carrier. At this stage of the on-load, Millpoint operations started launching its aircraft to fly the remaining squadron personnel and gear aboard the U.S.S. Iwo Jima.

This on-load of HMM-363 was completed by 1730H. At 2054H, the U.S.S. Iwo Jima departed from Chu Lai, RVN and started to steam towards the island of Okinawa.

20-22 January 1967

Enroute to Okinawa, no flight operations scheduled.

23 January 1967

Two Millpoint aircraft were launched from the U.S.S. Iwo Jima at 0830I. These aircraft flew a routine passenger shuttle to MCAS Futema, Okinawa.

Commencing at 0930I, Millpoint launched twenty-two aircraft to MCAS Futema. These aircraft were secured upon arrival.

For the remainder of the day, two aircraft flew routine passenger shuttles between the U.S.S. Iwo Jima and various landing zones on Okinawa.

24 January 1967

Two aircraft were launched to White Beach, Okinawa. These aircraft were to be utilized as Command and Control aircraft for the SLF Staff.

25 January 1967

Two aircraft were launched from MCAS Futema to White Beach. These aircraft were used for three routine passenger shuttles by the SLF Staff.

26 January 1967

Two aircraft were launched to White Beach where a passenger pick-up was made and returned to MCAS Futema.

27 January 1967

At 0830I, Millpoint launched its twenty-two aircraft from MCAS Futema to the U.S.S. Iwo Jima. The aircraft were launched by sections, and upon landing aboard the carrier were secured.

Two aircraft were utilized as Command and Control aircraft by the SLF Staff.

28 January 1967

While the U.S.S. Iwo Jima was enroute to Keelung, Formosa, Millpoint commenced a carrier qualification period utilizing four aircraft.

29 - 31 January 1967

During this period, the ship was in port at Keelung, Formosa, and the only flight operations conducted was on the 29th when two aircraft were launched on a routine passenger shuttle ashore.