

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 363  
Marine Aircraft Group 16  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac  
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

3:EJM:fe  
5750  
4 May 1967  
Ser: 03A12467

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 16 (Attn: S-3)  
Subj: Command Chronology for the Period 4 April - 30 April 1967;  
submission of

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

1 of 2  
056-67-C-2

HMN-363

Encl: ✓ (1) Command Chronology Report

1. In accordance with reference (a) and (b), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. This letter may be downgraded to Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

CMD CHRON

*M E Day*  
M. E. DAY

MAG-16  
SAC # 0614-67  
COPY # 15/1

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

[Redacted]

APPENDIX B

4-30 APR 1967

[REDACTED]

HMM-363  
MARBLE MOUNTAIN AIR FACILITY  
DONG HA  
4 APRIL 1967 - 30 APRIL 1967

[REDACTED]

  
PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

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

Commanding Officer	4 Apr - 30 Apr 1967	Major M. E. DAY
Executive Officer	4 Apr - 30 Apr 1967	Major R. P. ECKMANN
Operations Officer	4 Apr - 30 Apr 1967	Capt. A. C. HUEBNER
Administrative Officer	4 Apr - 30 Apr 1967	Major H. H. GAST
Logistics Officer	4 Apr - 30 Apr 1967	Capt. F. T. GRASSI
Maintenance Officer	4 Apr - 30 Apr 1967	Major E. J. MURPHY
Safety Officer	4 Apr - 30 Apr 1967	Capt. R. M. NEBEL
Intelligence Officer	4 Apr - 30 Apr 1967	2ndLt. J. E. STROUPE


2. Task organization and unit location with inclusive dates:

HMM-363, MAG-16, 1stMAW, FMFPac	4 Apr - 14 Apr 1967
HMM-363, MAG-16 (Fwd), 1stMAW, FMFPac	15 Apr - 30 Apr 1967
Marble Mountain Air Facility	4 Apr - 14 Apr 1967
Dong Ha	15 Apr - 30 Apr 1967

3. Average strength of squadron during period:

Officers: 53 (1 Navy)                      Enlisted: 176 (2 Navy)

4. Important visitors to the squadron: Major General L. B. ROBERTSHAW visited the squadron at Dong Ha on 28 April 1967 and presented Purple Hearts to one officer and two enlisted personnel.

  
PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS DURING REPORTING PERIOD

Normal daily flight operations during this reporting period consisted of Med-Evac, Resupply, Aerial Recon and Admin/Liaison missions. The events listed took place during the course of these operations.

4 April 1967

UH-34's from HMM-363 flew admin and para-drop flights in the Chu Lai and Da Nang areas with no fire reported.

5 April 1967

At 1500H, YZ-73 took small arms fire while on approach to a zone at BS 757856. The aircraft was on a resupply flight and took one round through a main rotor blade. No injuries were reported.

6 April 1967

At 0945H, twelve UH-34's participated in a 24 aircraft strike to BT 237476, BT 222466 and BT 228473 in support of Operation Canyon. A total of 252 troops were lifted. No fire was reported.

At 1905H, two UH-34's received fire from BT 210470 while on an emergency med-evac mission to BT 206531. No hits were reported.

7 April 1967

At 1510H, one UH-34 received fire from BT 102587 while departing for a med-evac mission to BT 185513. No hits were reported.

At 1530H, two UH-34's received .50 caliber fire from BT 115535 while on an administrative flight from Marble Mt. Air Facility to Chu Lai. No hits were reported.

8 April 1967

At 1315H, YZ-71 received enemy fire from BT 190489 while delivering supplies and extracting one med-evac from BT 193491. One .30 caliber round struck the tail wheel yoke severing the tail wheel from the aircraft. No injuries were reported.

9 April 1967

At 0900H, one UH-34 received fire from BT 004303 and AT 984535 while on emergency med-evac missions. No hits were reported.

At 1455H, two UH-34's received fire from YD 732215 and YD 534322 while on an administrative flight from Phu Bai. No hits were reported.

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10 April 1967

At 1305H, two UH-34's received enemy small arms fire from the vicinity of YD 192662. Suppressive fire was used and no hits were reported.

11 April 1967

At 1550H, while on an aerial recon of BT 160346, YZ-70 made a forced landing due to engine malfunction. His wingman rescued the crew from the undamaged aircraft and received fire from BT 095378 upon climb-out. YZ-70 was retrieved by a CH-53 several hours later. No injuries and no aircraft hits were reported.

At 1830H, four UH-34's launched from MMAF on a troop lift to AT 934663. Enroute, the aircraft received automatic weapons fire from AT 990700 and at AT 962689. No hits were reported.

12 April 1967

At 1100H, YZ-83 received automatic weapons fire from AT 835360 while on a priority med-evac mission to AT 833353. The aircraft received two hits causing limited damage. No injuries were reported.

At 1110H, YZ-77 received fire from AT 942488 while on a med-evac mission. No hits were reported.

At 1138H, two aircraft received fire from BT 052712 while on an aerial recon of AT 8629. No hits were reported.

13 April 1967

At 1858H, two UH-34's received light small arms fire from AT 910580 while on a priority med-evac mission to AT 915583. No hits were reported.

At 2225H, two UH-34's launched on an emergency med-evac mission to ZC 138530. The aircraft were forced to fly IFR because of low ceilings. Fire was received in the zone but no hits were reported.

14 April 1967

At 1005H, one UH-34 received sniper fire from AT 972568 while on a priority med-evac mission to AT 937688. No hits were reported.

At 1526H, one UH-34 received enemy fire from AT 905503 while approaching the LZ on a routine med-evac mission. No hits were reported.

At 1626H, one UH-34 received fire from AT 998830 while on a med-evac mission. No hits were reported.

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15 April 1967

HMM-363 aircraft flew from Marble Mt. Air Facility to Dong Ha. The majority of squadron equipment and personnel was airlifted by C-130's from VMGR-152. No fire was received.

16 April 1967

At 1800H, two UH-34's received .50 caliber fire from YD 585409 while enroute from Phu Bai to Dong Ha. No hits were reported.

17 April 1967

No fire incidents were reported.

18 April 1967

At 1630H, one UH-34 received small arms fire from XD 965555 while on a resupply mission to the "Rockpile". No hits were reported.

19 April 1967

At 1240H, two UH-34's received mortar fire in the zone (YD 175735) while on a photo recon mission of the DMZ area. No damage or injuries were reported.

20 April 1967

At 1252H, eight UH-34's launched from Dong Ha on a troop lift to YD 175725. The aircraft made two trips into the zone and no fire was reported.

21 April 1967

No fire incidents reported.

22 April 1967


At 1250H, two UH-34's received small arms automatic weapons and mortar fire in the zone while on an emergency med-evac mission to YD 145715. YZ-73 took three .30 caliber hits and received light mortar damage. No injuries were reported.

At 1305H, two UH-34's received enemy fire while on an aerial recon of YD 2142 and YD 1840. No hits were reported.

At 1522H, two UH-34's received enemy fire while on a med-evac mission to YD 243608. No hits were reported.

23 April 1967

At 1330H, twelve UH-34's launched from Dong Ha to PK-17 (YD 637272) in support of Operation Shawnee. 371 ARVN troops were lifted from PK-17 to

  
YD 460207. No fire was received.

24 April 1967

At 1215H, two UH-34's launched from Khe Sahn on an ammunition resupply to XD 976546. The aircraft received enemy fire while in the zone and on take-off. No hits were reported.

At 1535H, two aircraft launched from Khe Sahn on an emergency med-evac mission to XD 790445. YZ-66 received heavy enemy fire while in the zone and took eighteen small arms hits. No injuries were reported.

25 April 1967

At 0920H, two UH-34's received small arms fire from YD 158417 while on a med-evac mission. No hits were reported.

At 1045H, four UH-34's received automatic and small arms fire from YD 995514 while on a troop lift. No hits were reported.

At 1555H, two UH-34's received enemy fire from YD 351474 while on a med-evac mission to YD 356475. No hits were reported.

26 April 1967

At 1730H, two UH-34's and two H-46's received enemy fire from YD 210410 while on a troop lift. No hits were reported.

27 April 1967

At 1030H, two UH-34's received enemy small arms fire from XD 942415 while on a resupply mission to XD 973547. No hits were reported.

At 1430H, two UH-34's received enemy fire from XD 967245 while on an emergency med-evac mission from Khe Sahn to Phu Bai. No hits were reported.

At 1455H, one UH-34 and one UH-1E received fire from YD 921401 while on an aerial recon of YD 9240. No hits were reported.

At 1650H, one UH-34 and two H-37's received small arms fire from YD 138716 while on a resupply mission. No hits were reported.

At 1700H, two UH-34's received automatic weapons fire from XD 792428 while on an aerial recon mission. No hits were reported.

At 1825H, two UH-34's received mortar fire in the zone at Gio Linh while on an emergency med-evac mission. No hits were reported.

At 2315H, two UH-34's launched on an emergency med-evac mission to Gio Linh. Mortar fire was received in the zone and one hit was reported. No injuries were received.

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At 2115H, YZ-65 over-turned following landing in rough terrain on an emergency med-evac mission to YD 142712. The wingman landed in the zone immediately following the crash and completed the mission. No fire or injuries were reported. The aircraft was retrieved by CH-53 and the crew was returned to Dong Ha the following day.

28 April 1967

At 0230H, Dong Ha came under an enemy rocket and mortar attack which continued until 0310H. Eight UH-34's received shrapnel hits. Four aircraft were placed in a down status.

At 1000H, one UH-34 received sniper fire from YD 158665 while enroute from Con Thien (YD 117701) to Dong Ha. No hits were reported.

At 1600H, two UH-34's received small arms fire from YD 353477 while on a med-evac mission. YZ-61 took one .30 caliber hit through the cabin. No injuries were reported.

29 April 1967

At 1800H, YZ-78 took fire from the vicinity of YD 255680 while transporting troops to pick-up captured enemy rockets and launchers. No hits were reported.

30 April 1967

At 1630H, YZ-73 was hit by enemy small arms automatic weapons fire while sitting in a landing zone (YD 368452) during a VIP mission. The pilot and crew chief both received leg wounds. Two passengers also received minor injuries. Damage to the aircraft was limited and it was flown back to Dong Ha.

Between 2115H and 2225H, YZ-84 and YZ-63 received fire from several positions between Dong Ha and Khe Sahn. The aircraft were on an emergency med-evac mission and no hits were received.

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## PART III - SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Promotions

- a. Officers: Two (2) to Captain
- b. Enlisted: Three (3) to E-5

2. Awards. Purple Hearts were awarded to one officer and two enlisted by Major General L. B. ROBERTSHAW.


3. Casualties

<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SERIAL</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
2ndLt	Richard J. KERCH	099669	28Apr67	Dong Ha, Quang Tri Province; laceration left lower arm.
2ndLt	James E. STROUPE	094429	30Apr67	10 miles SE Dong Ha, Quang Tri Province, Bullet wound lower left leg.
GySgt	Roy J. WHITE	1162396	28Apr67	Dong Ha, Quang Tri Province; laceration right mid shoulder.
Cpl	Eugene GEIGER	2042218	28Apr67	Dong Ha, Quang Tri Province; laceration 1/2" mid scalp area.
Cpl	Samuel J. SHEPPARD	2040647	30Apr67	10 miles SE Dong Ha, Quang Tri Province; Bullet wound left leg and shrapnel wounds both legs.

4. Air Operations

- a. Total flight hours: 1244.5
- b. Total sorties: 3523
- c. Total cargo tons: 194.6
- d. Total med-evacs: 662
- e. Total Pax: 4489

5. Maintenance. Certain difficulties have been encountered concerning the maintenance effort at Dong Ha. Ground support equipment must be moved over rough terrain to the aircraft in the parking areas. As a result, the accessi-

  
bility of some aircraft for maintenance is restricted, increasing the amount of time in a down status.

A lack of reliable ground support equipment has been another significant factor in the increase of aircraft down time. Particular items that have become critical are air compressors and external electrical power units. The squadron presently is attempting to resolve this problem with the group ground support section.