

UNCLASSIFIED

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

3:TJF:cf
 5750
 Ser: 03A27768
 3 Oct 1968

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From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 36 (Attn: S-3)
 Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1 September - 30 September 1968;
 submission of (U)
 Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A
 (b) GruO 5750.1B
 Encl: (1) Command Chronology Report

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

J. L. Harrison
 J. L. HARRISON

HMM - 363

S&C # 379-68

Copy 3 of 8

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

MAR-30 840 FMS

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689904

copy 1 of 6

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PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA (U)

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

Commanding Officer	1 Sep - 30 Sep 1968	Maj. J. L. HARRISON
Executive Officer	1 Sep - 30 Sep 1968	Maj. T. J. CRONIN
Operations Officer	1 Sep - 30 Sep 1968	Maj. T. J. FALESKIE
Maintenance Officer	1 Sep - 30 Sep 1968	Capt. R. J. HOOTON
Administrative Officer	1 Sep - 30 Sep 1968	Capt. T. B. DICKSON
Material Officer	1 Sep - 30 Sep 1968	2ndLt. W. E. CASEY
Aviation Safety Officer	1 Sep - 30 Sep 1968	Capt. M. D. COOPER
Intelligence Officer	1 Sep - 30 Sep 1968	1stLt. J. C. HAGERMAN

2. Task Organization and unit location with inclusive dates:

HMM-363, MAG-36, 1stMAW, FMFPac 1 Sep - 30 Sep 1968
Phu Bai, RVN

3. Average strength of squadron during period:

Officers: 49 (1 Navy) Enlisted: 192 (3 Navy)

4. Important visitors to the squadron: None

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PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS DURING REPORTING PERIOD (C)

Normal daily flight operations during this reporting period consisted of med-evac, resupply, aerial recon, command and control, VIP chase, and admin/liaison missions. The events listed took place during the course of these operations.

1 Sep 1968

Three aircraft flown by Capt COOPER and Lt. RUCK and Lt. CACCIOLA worked independently in support of 1st Marine Division and ROK Marines. Together they carried 79 U.S., 3 ARVN and 43 ROKMC passengers and lifted 8200 pounds of cargo. Majority of the work completed was south of Da Nang. Lt. SEELEY worked in conjunction with the others but in the Da Nang - Phu Bai area and carried 15 U.S. passengers and 700 pounds of cargo.

Maj. CRONIN led a section in support of 26th Marines in the Phu Bai area. Negative work was reported.

Capt. MCCLUNG led a section in support of 3rd Marine Division in the Dong Ha area. They flew VIP chase carrying 13 U.S. passengers and 100 pounds of cargo.

Maj. FALESKIE, Capt DICKSON and Lt. CALLIHAN flew med-evacs in the Phu Bai area in support of 1st Marine Division and 26th Marines. They carried 6 U.S., 2 ARVN and 2 VN civilian med-evacs with 1 ARVN passenger. No incidents were reported.

2 Sep 1968

Capt. HOOTON led a section in support of 1st Marine Division and ROK Marines in the Da Nang area. The aircraft were split up for VIP chase and Lt. CALLIHAN returned early having carried 7 U.S. passengers and 200 pounds of cargo. Capt. HOOTON continued working for the ROK Marines and carried 10 U.S. and 25 VN civilian passengers plus 500 pounds of cargo. He reported moderate automatic weapons fire from the BT1164 area at 0940H. No hits were received and the mission completed. At 1510H he shut down at Marble Mountain Air Facility with mechanical failure and remained overnight for repairs. He returned to Phu Bai the following day without further incident.

Maj. HARRISON led a section in the Phu Bai area in the support of 26th Marines carrying 35 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. and 1 VN civilian med-evac and 1200 pounds of cargo. Lt. SEELEY chased a SCARFACE aircraft and carried 3 passengers on a VIP mission. Lt. ENGLISH flew an administrative mission in the Phu Bai - Da Nang area carrying 11 U.S. passengers and 1,500 pounds of cargo.

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Capt. WEST led a section in support of 3rd Marine Division in the Dong Ha area carrying 14 U.S. passengers, 5 U.S. med-evacs and 3,100 pounds of cargo.

Lt. MOORE led a section and worked with the 3rd Marine Division carrying 24 U.S. passengers and 300 pounds of cargo. He reported an air burst at his altitude just west of the Razorback area (XD9557) with negative hits or injuries. The mission was completed. Maj. FALESKIE and Capt. DICKSON flew VIP chase carrying 33 U.S. passengers and 1,650 pounds of cargo.

Capt. ABAJIAN and Lt. RUCK flew med-evacs at Phu Bai carrying 1 VN civilian med-evac. There was negative night activity.

3 Sept 1968

Maj. FALESKIE led a section in support of 1st Marine Division in the Da Nang area carrying 48 U.S. passengers and 2,950 pounds of cargo.

Maj. CRONIN led a section in support of 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri area carrying 29 U.S. passengers, 9 U.S. med-evacs and 2,500 pounds of cargo. Capt. HIRE's aircraft had a chip light at XD946609 at 0930H. He saw the aircraft in the landing zone without incident and was lifted out by an H-53 and returned to Phu Bai. No injuries reported. Capt. COOPER's section was split up at Quang Tri as was Lt. WICKERSHAM's section. They carried 79 U.S. passengers and 1,500 pounds of cargo. They were on VIP and administrative flights.

Maj. HARRISON, Capt. FISCHER and Capt. CITRANO flew med-evac at Phu Bai in support of 26th Marines and 1st Marine Division. They carried 5 U.S., 1 ARVN and 3 VN civilian med-evacs with 5 U.S. and 1 VN civilian passenger.

4 Sep 1968

Maj. HARRISON led a section in support of 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri carrying 6 U.S. passengers, 5 U.S. med-evac and 1,200 pounds of cargo. Capt. FISCHER's section carried 6 U.S. passengers. Capt. WEST's section carried 9 U.S. passengers and 200 pounds of cargo.

Maj. CRONIN, Maj. FALESKIE and Capt. MCCLUNG flew med-evac at Phu Bai in support of 26th Marines and 1st Marine Division. They carried 13 U.S. med-evacs and 1 U.S. passenger. Capt. COOPER also flew med-evac carrying 1 U.S. med-evac.

5 Sep 1968

All flight operations cancelled due to tropical storm BESS. No

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injuries or damage received from storm. Three aircraft were at different air stations during the storm and were unable to return until 6 September. No damage reported.

6 Sep 1968

Maj. CRONIN led a section in support of 26th Marines and 1st Marine Division in the Phu Bai Area carrying 37 U.S. passengers and 3,450 pounds of cargo.

Capt. FISCHER stood med-evac at Phu Bai carrying 3 U.S., 2 ARVN and 1 VN civilian med-evacs and 4 VN civilian passengers.

7 Sep 1968

Capt. HOOTON led a section in support of 1st Marine Division in the Da Nang area carrying 35 U.S. passengers and 1,000 pounds of cargo.

Lt. WICKERSHAM led a section in support of 26th Marines and also 3rd Marine Division carrying 10 U.S. passengers and 1,600 pounds of cargo while working between Phu Bai and Quang Tri.

Maj. HARRISON led a section in support of 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri area carrying 22 U.S. passengers, 12 U.S. med-evacs and 5,000 pounds of cargo. The section led by Capt. FISCHER carried 36 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac and 900 pounds of cargo. Lt. CALLIHAN and Lt. CACCIOLA flew VIP chase carrying 16 U.S. passengers and 300 pounds of cargo.

Capt. DICKSON flew med-evac at Phu Bai carrying 1 U.S. and 1 VN civilian med-evacs.

8 Sep 1968

Capt. CITRANO led a section in support of 26th Marines in the Phu Bai area and carried 500 pounds of cargo.

Capt. MCCLUNG led a section in support of 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri area carrying 13 U.S. passengers and 800 pounds of cargo with 1 VC suspect. Maj. FALESKIE's section carried 56 U.S. passengers, 15 U.S. med-evacs and 1,300 pounds of cargo. Other aircraft flew separate or chase missions in the area. Aircraft flown by Lt. CACCIOLA, Lt. TOMEK and Lt. MOORE carried 25 U.S. passengers and 1 U.S. med-evacs and 1,000 pounds of cargo. Lt. SEELEY carried 3 U.S. passengers and 500 pounds of cargo. He also reported taking fire twice in XD887548 and XD885535 at 1005H and 1010H respectively. No hits and damage reported. Later in

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the afternoon he was at XD892537 in a landing zone and had rotor tip damage upon trying to lift out. He managed to get out leaving his crew in the zone. An H-46 brought them to STUD and then the aircraft returned to Phu Bai with Lt. MOORE's section.

Lt. WICKERSHAM flew a special escort for SEAWORTHY 6-18 in the Quang Tri - Da Nang area. He reported taking automatic fire at XD660435 with no damage reported.

Capt. HOOTON flew med-evac at Phu Bai carrying 1 U.S. and 1 ARVN med-evac.

9 Sep 1968

Capt. FISCHER led a section in support of 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri area carrying 46 U.S. passengers and 1,600 pounds of cargo. Capt. COOPER's section carried 28 U.S. passengers, 6 U.S. med-evacs and 3,000 pounds of cargo. Capt. WEST's section carried 51 U.S. passengers and 1,000 pounds of cargo while working for TASK FORCE HOTEL. Lt. RUCK's section was split for VIP chase in which they carried 27 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac and 700 pounds of cargo.

Maj. HARRISON led a section in support of 26th Marines in the Phu Bai area carrying 29 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac and 1,700 pounds of cargo.

Capt. MCCLUNG led med-evac at Phu Bai carrying 6 VN civilian med-evacs.

10 Sep 1968

Maj. FALESKIE led a section in support of 1st Marine Division in the Phu Bai area carrying 31 U.S. passengers, 6 U.S. and 2 ARVN med-evacs and 1500 pounds of cargo.

Capt. MCCLUNG led a section in support of 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri area carrying 80 U.S. passengers and 1,500 pounds of cargo. A section led by Capt HIRE carried 14 U.S. passengers, 1 VC prisoner of war and 1,000 pounds of cargo. Maj. CRONIN's section carried 17 U.S. passengers, 33 U.S. med-evacs and 4,000 pounds of cargo. Lt. GILLESPIE and Lt. CALLIHAN flew VIP chase carrying 10 U.S. passengers.

Lt. WICKERSHAM flew med-evac in support of 26th Marines in the Phu Bai area carrying 1 U.S. med-evac.

11 Sep 1968

Lt. CACCIOLA led a section in support of 3rd Marine Division in the

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Phu Bai - Quang Tri area carrying 4 U.S. passengers. Later he chased a VIP aircraft to the U.S.S. TRIPOLI carrying 2 U.S. passengers.

Maj. HARRISON led a section in support of 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri area carrying 44 U.S. passengers, 7 U.S. med-evacs and 1,000 pounds of cargo.

A section led by Capt. WEST carried 58 U.S. passengers, 3 U.S. med-evacs and 1,000 pounds of cargo. Capt. HILL's section carried 60 U.S. passengers and 3,000 pounds of cargo. Lt. CALLIHAN and Lt. SEELEY flew VIP chase carrying 29 U.S. and 3 ARVN passengers, 4 U.S. med-evacs and 500 pounds of cargo.

Capt. DICKSON flew med-evac at Phu Bai for the 26th Marines carrying 1 U.S. med-evac.

12 Sep 1968

Capt. HIRE led a section in support of 1st Marine Division in the Da Nang area carrying 45 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac and 2400 pounds of cargo.

Capt. COOPER led a section in support of 1st CAG(USA), 1st Marine Division in the Phu Bai area carrying 2 ARVN passengers and 1,200 pounds of cargo.

Maj. CRONIN led a section in support of 3rd Marine Division carrying 96 U.S. passengers and 1,000 pounds of cargo. Capt. ABAJIAN and Lts. CACCIOLA, GILLESPIE and SEELEY flew VIP chase and independent administrative runs carrying 71 U.S. passengers and 3,800 pounds of cargo.

Lt. DUFFY led a section on night med-evac in the Phu Bai area carrying 1 U.S. med-evac.

13 Sep 1968

Capt. HOOTON led a section in support of 1st Marine Division in the Da Nang area carrying 42 U.S. and 3 ARVN passengers, 4 U.S. med-evacs and 6,600 pounds of cargo.

Capt. HIRE led a section in support of 1st CAG(USA) 1st Marine Division in the Phu Bai area carrying 6 U.S. and 2 VN civilian passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac and 800 pounds of cargo.

Lt. DUFFY led a section in support of 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri area carrying 49 U.S. passengers and 1,200 pounds of cargo. Capt. COOPER's section carried 36 U.S. passengers and 300 pounds of cargo. Maj. FALESKIE's section carried 59 U.S. passengers, 10 U.S. med-evacs and

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3,450 pounds of cargo. Lt. ENGLISH and Lt. PINSCHENAT flew VIP chase carrying 27 U.S. passengers and 1,250 pounds of cargo.

Capt. FISCHER and Capt. WEST flew mortar watch in support of III MAF at Phu Bai. Negative incidents reported.

14 Sep 1968

Maj. HARRISON led a section in support of 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri area carrying 57 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac and 1400 pounds of cargo. Maj. CRONIN led a section carrying 36 U.S. passengers, 1 VC prisoner of war, 20 U.S. med-evacs and 5,700 pounds of cargo. Capt. FISCHER's section carried 111 U.S. passengers and 2,000 lbs of cargo. Maj. FALESKIE's section carried 13 U.S. and 2 ARVN passengers, 2 U.S. med-evacs and 2,000 pounds of cargo. Capt. WEST and Lt. ROSE flew VIP chase carrying 42 U.S. passengers and 150 pounds of cargo. Capt. CITRANO led a section carrying 44 U.S. passengers and 200 pounds of cargo. His section was at XD978544 when the base received incoming mortars. Negative damage reported.

Capt. MCCLUNG and Lt. CALLIHAN flew mortar watch at Phu Bai in support of 1st Marine Division. Negative action.

15 Sep 1968

Maj. FALESKIE led a section in support of 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri area carrying 37 U.S. passengers and 400 pounds of cargo. A section led by Lt. DUFFY carried 22 U.S. on administration/liaison flights. Capt. ABAJIAN's section carried 44 U.S. passengers, 15 U.S. and 6 VN civilian med-evacs and 1,300 pounds of cargo. Capt. HILL and Lt. ENGLISH flew VIP chase carrying 21 U.S. passengers, 5 U.S. med-evacs and 300 pounds of cargo.

Capt. HOOTON and Lt. SEELEY flew mortar watch in support of MAG-36 at Phu Bai. Negative reported action.

16 Sep 1968

Capt. ABAJIAN led a section in support of 1st Marine Division in the Da Nang area carrying 61 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac and 5,500 pounds of cargo.

Capt. HILL led a section in support of 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 26 U.S. passengers. A section led by Capt. MCCLUNG carried 20 U.S. passengers and 100 pounds of cargo. Capt. HOOTON's section carried 39 U.S. and 1 ARVN passenger, 3 U.S. med-evacs and 1,000 pounds of cargo. Lt. ENGLISH flying chase with Capt. HOOTON reported an

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air burst at XD9557 at an altitude of 2,000 feet MSL. Negative damage to aircraft or crew. Time of air burst reported was 1515H. Capt HOOTON's aircraft suffered rotor blade damage along with external engine damage while landing at XD897624 (JAWBREAKER G). The helicopter, 147162 (YZ-13), was flown back to Phu Bai. Negative personnel injuries reported. The accident occurred at 1530H.

Capt. CITRANO and Lt. RUCK flew VIP chase carrying 26 U.S. passengers and 300 pounds of cargo.

Maj. HARRISON and Lt. CARBARY flew mortar watch in support of MAG-36 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, in the Phu Bai area. Negative action reported.

17 Sep 1968

Capt. CITRANO led a section in support of 1st Marine Division in the Da Nang - Phu Bai area carrying 6 VIPs.

Maj. HARRISON led a section in support of 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri area carrying 82 U.S. passengers, 2 U.S. med-evacs and 1,100 pounds of cargo. Capt. FISCHER's section carried 67 U.S. passengers and 300 pounds of cargo. A section led by Lt. DUFFY carried 35 U.S. passengers and 2,400 pounds of cargo. All work was Combat cargo and troops. Lt. WICKERSHAM and Lt. CARBARY flew VIP chase with SEAWORTHY aircraft, carrying 45 U.S. passengers and 400 pounds of cargo.

Capt. HIRE and Lt. HAGERMAN flew mortar watch in support of MAG-36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing in the Phu Bai area. Negative action reported.

18 Sep 1968

Capt. MCCLUNG led a section in support of 1st Marine Division in the Da Nang area carrying 45 U.S. passengers and 4,800 pounds of cargo.

Maj. FALESKIE flew a special admin/liaison flight in support of MAG-36 between Phu Bai - Quang Tri and return carrying 2 VIPs.

Capt. HIRE led a section in support of 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 64 U.S. passengers and 22 U.S. med-evacs and 2,350 pounds of cargo. Capt. HILL's section carried 46 U.S. passengers with 1 U.S. med-evac and 500 pounds of cargo. Lt. ENGLISH's section carried 42 U.S. passengers and 800 pounds of cargo while performing visual reconnaissance along the southern boundaries of the DMZ. On return of the section to Phu Bai, Lt. ENGLISH's aircraft developed engine trouble and made a precautionary landing at COCCA BEACH (YD818332). No damage to aircraft or crew. Helicopter lifted out by H-53 (HMF-462) and returned safely to Phu Bai. Lt. RUCK and Lt. HAGERMAN flew VIP chase carrying 99

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U.S. passengers, 2 U.S. med-evacs and 700 pounds of cargo.

Maj. CRONIN and Capt. TROYER flew mortar watch in support of MAG-36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. Negative action.

19 Sep 1968

Capt. WEST led a section in support of 26th Marines, 1st Marine Division in the Da Nang area carrying 89 U.S. med-evacs and 4700 pounds of cargo. He accomplished re-supply and VR of the 26th Marines TAOR.

Maj. CRONIN led a section in support of 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri area carrying 47 U.S. passengers, 3 U.S. med-evacs and 200 pounds of cargo. A section led by Lt. HAGERMAN carried 83 U.S. passengers and 1 NVA POW, 10 U.S. med-evacs and 400 pounds of cargo. Capt. HIRE's section carried 54 U.S. passengers and 1,100 pounds of cargo working mostly with transporting troops. Lt. CALLIHAN flew VIP chase carrying 1 U.S. passenger and 250 pounds of cargo.

Maj. FALESKIE and Lt. Rose flew mortar watch at Phu Bai in support of MAG-36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. Negative activity reported.

20 Sep 1968

Maj. FALESKIE led a section in support of 1st Marine Division in the Da Nang area carrying 40 U.S. passengers, 2 U.S. med-evacs and 2,000 pounds of cargo. Most of the flying was in behalf of logistic troops and cargo. Capt. WEST led a section for the 26th Marines in the afternoon carrying 50 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac and 7500 pounds of cargo. At 1810H his wingman, Lt. RUCK, reported taking small arms fire from AT855795. Neither the aircraft, YZ-7 (BuNo 149228), or crew received damage due to the enemy fire.

Capt. HIRE led a section in support of 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 12 U.S. passengers, 2 U.S. med-evacs and 1,200 pounds of cargo in the morning. At 0900H on Hill 950, XD843456, he crashed the helicopter onto the landing site. He managed to fly the aircraft back to Phu Bai without further incident. The aircraft, YZ-9 (BuNo 149331) received DELTA damage and negative injuries to crew. Capt. HIRE returned later in the afternoon to complete the mission assigned by Dong Ha DASC carrying 37 U.S. passengers and 500 pounds of cargo. A section led by Capt. MCCLUNG carried 66 U.S. passengers and 1,000 pounds of cargo. Capt. HILL's section carried 74 U.S. passengers, 2 U.S. med-evacs and 2,450 pounds of cargo.

Lt. DUFFY and Lt. HALLIDAY flew VIP chase with SEAWORTHY aircraft carrying 34 U.S. passengers and 550 pounds of cargo.

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Maj. HARRISON and Capt. CITRANO flew mortar watch in support of MAG-36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing in the Phu Bai area. Negative action reported.

21 Sep 1968

Capt. HIRE led a section in support of the 26th Marines in the Da Nang area carrying 72 U.S. passengers, 5 U.S. med-evacs and 5,250 pounds of cargo.

Capt. ABAJIAN led a section in support of 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri area carrying 61 U.S. passengers and 1580 pounds of cargo. Lt. DUFFY's section carried 116 passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac and 2,900 pounds of cargo. Most of the flights consisted of command and control sorties. A section led by Capt. FISCHER carried 25 U.S. passengers. His section also performed a VR into the DMZ (XD9367). Capt. CITRANO and Lt. FLICKINGER flew VIP chase with SEAWORTHY aircraft carrying 52 U.S. passengers and 250 pounds of cargo. Lt. FLICKINGER also carried 1 NVA POW.

Lt. WICKERSHAM and Lt. CALLIHAN flew mortar watch in support of MAG-36 1st Marine Aircraft Wing in the Phu Bai area. Negative action reported.

22 Sep 1968

Capt. HOOTON and Lt. ROSE flew VIP chase with Hostage aircraft in the Da Nang area while supporting the 1st Marine Division. They carried 18 U.S. passengers and 200 pounds of cargo, and all the sorties flown were VIP.

Lt. CALLIHAN led a section in support of the 1st Marine Division in the Phu Bai area carrying 21 U.S. passengers as logistics troops for ground operations.

Maj. FALESKIE led a section in support of the 3rd Marine Division and worked between Phu Bai and Quang Tri. The section flew 8 sorties of logistics troops and a total of 4 U.S. passengers. This was the only section able to work due to poor weather conditions.

Maj. HARRISON and Lt. RUCK flew the mortar watch at Phu Bai, in support of MAG-36, 1st MAW. Negative action was reported.

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23 Sep 1968

Maj. HARRISON led a section in support of the 3rd Marine Division. His first mission required an emergency med-evac and one corpsman from Phu Bai to NSA Da Nang. Completing the med-evac the section proceeded to work in the Quang Tri area carrying 12 U.S. passengers and 220 pounds of cargo. A section led by Capt. HIRE carried 79 U.S. passengers and 2 U.S. med-evacs with 500 pounds of cargo. Maj. FALESKIE's section carried 46 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac, and 400 pounds of cargo. Lt. CALLIHAN and Lt. ESLER flew VIP chase with Seaworthy aircraft carrying 12 U.S. passengers and 1 U.S. med-evac. Bad weather in the Vandergrif - Quang Tri area hampered the flying most of the day and made the missions difficult to complete during the daylight hours. Two sections stayed purposely late to complete all missions.

Capt. DICKSON led a section in support of the 26th Marines in the Da Nang area carrying 51 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. and 1 VN civilian med-evac with 8,600 pounds of cargo.

24 Sep 1968

Maj. CRONIN led a section in support of the 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 39 U.S. passengers and 1,000 pounds of cargo in 47 sorties and 12 tasks. A section led by Capt. DICKSON carried 25 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac plus 450 pounds of cargo. Lt. DUFFY was in charge of a section which carried 64 U.S. passengers and 3,400 pounds of cargo flying 46 sorties and 23 tasks in 4.2 hours. Lt. RUCK and Lt. SCHWARTZ flew VIP chase with Seaworthy aircraft carrying a total of 9 U.S. passengers.

Lt. CACCIOLA was in charge of a section while working in support of the 1st Marine Division in the Da Nang area. The section carried 55 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac and 3,500 pounds of cargo.

Lt. MOORE flew the night mortar watch of Phu Bai in support of MAG-36, 1st MAW. Negative enemy action reported. At 2305H an OV-1 (ARMY) crashed and Lt. MOORE recovered the two pilots from the accident and took them to the 22nd Surgical Team (ARMY) for medical care.

25 Sep 1968

Maj. FALESKIE led the only section sent to the Da Nang area to work for the 1st Marine Division. The section carried 41 U.S. passengers, 7 U.S. med-evacs and 14,800 pounds of cargo.

Maj. HARRISON led a section in support of the 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 46 U.S. passengers, 2 U.S. med-evacs and 2,600

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pounds of cargo. A section led by Capt. HILL carried 52 U.S. passengers and 2,000 pounds of cargo. Capt. FISCHER's section carried 77 U.S. passengers, 2 U.S. med-evacs and 5,500 pounds of cargo, and also performed visual recons along the southern boundary of the DMZ. Lt. SEELEY and Lt. BUSCEMI flew VIP chase with Seaworthy aircraft carrying a total of 15 U.S. passengers, 2 U.S. med-evacs, and 100 pounds of cargo.

26 Sep 1968

Maj. CRONIN led the only section to work in the Da Nang area in support of the 1st Marine Division carrying 65 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac, and 3,600 pounds of cargo. The section had a combined flight time of 15.8 hours.

Capt. HOOTON led a section in support of the 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 77 U.S. passengers and 500 pounds of cargo, all sorties were classified as command and control. A section led by Lt. HAGERMAN carried 89 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac, and 1,000 pounds of cargo. Other flights proceeded either single aircraft or chased Seaworthy and Scarface aircraft on missions such as VIP, med-evac, visual recon and admin/liaison. Aircraft flown by Capt. ABAJIAN, Capt. HIRE, Lt. TROYER, Lt. MOORE, and Lt. TOMEK carried a total of 39 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac, and 650 pounds of cargo.

Lt. WICKERSHAM flew night mortar watch at Phu Bai in support of MAG-36, 1st MAW. Negative activity reported.

27 Sep 1968

Capt. HIRE chased a Scarface aircraft to Da Nang in support of the 1st MAW. Negative passengers or cargo were carried.

Lt. DUFFY was in charge of a section working for the 26th Marines, and the 1st Marine Division in the Da Nang area. The section carried 47 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac and 6,300 pounds of cargo. At 1940 the section received light automatic fire at coordinates ZD0116. Negative damage or injuries were incurred.

Maj. FALESKIE led a section in support of the 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 58 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac and 2,300 pounds of cargo. At 1030H on Hill 950 (XD844456) Maj. FALESKIE's aircraft struck the platform while on approach. The tail section was damaged. The aircraft was flown back to Phu Bai and a replacement was obtained. Negative injury to crew or ground personnel. A section led by Lt. RUCK carried 63 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac and 200 pounds of cargo. Capt. HOOTON's section carried 27 U.S. passengers. All 21 sorties were command and control.

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Capt. CITRANO and Lt. STEVENSON flew VIP chase with Seaworthy aircraft carrying 32 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac, and 900 pounds of cargo.

Capt. DICKSON and Capt. ABAJIAN flew night mortar watch without incident at Phu Bat in support of MAG-36, 1st MAW.

28 Sep 1968

Lt. HAGERMAN led a section in support of the 26th Marines in the Da Nang area carrying 79 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac, and 2,100 pounds of cargo. All 72 sorties were command and control.

Capt. CITRANO was in charge of a section which worked for the 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 49 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac, and 100 pounds of cargo. Capt. HILL's section carried 65 U.S. and 1 ARVN passenger plus 500 pounds of cargo. Lt. SEELEY and Lt. SCHWARTZ flew VIP chase with a Seaworthy aircraft carrying 62 U.S. passengers and 200 pounds of cargo. Lt. RUCK led a section which carried 49 U.S. passengers, 2 U.S. med-evacs, and 1,000 pounds of cargo. His wingman, Lt. TOMEK, had an incident in LZ BUZZARD (YD028598), slight damage was sustained by the aircraft, negative injury to the crew or ground personnel were reported.

Maj. CRONIN and Capt. ABAJIAN flew night mortar watch at Phu Bai in support of MAG-36 with negative action reported.

29 Sep 1968

Capt. FISCHER was in charge of a section in support of the 3rd Marine Division between Phu Bai and Da Nang. The section carried 10 U.S. passengers and 12,000 pounds of cargo.

Lt's. HAGERMAN, ROSE, CACCIOLA, and HALLIDAY flew VIP chase at Dong Ha in support of the 3rd Marine Division. Together they carried 50 U.S. passengers and 500 pounds of cargo.

30 Sep 1968

Today the squadron, under the command of Maj. HARRISON, moved from Phu Bai to the USS Princeton. Maj. HARRISON led the 24 helicopter flight to the ship to start the big move. Together the squadron flew 191 sorties and 99 tasks, and accumulated 116.1 flight hours for the day. YZ-15 developed fuel boost pump trouble and remained for repairs and will come to the USS Princeton on 1 Oct 1968.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART III - SIGNIFICANT EVENTS (C)

1. Promotions

a. Officers: None

b. Enlisted: One (1) to Corporal
One (1) to Lance Corporal
One (1) to Private First Class2. Awards

a. A total of 202 Air Medals were awarded to the Officers of HMM-363.

b. A total of 119 Air Medals were awarded to the Enlisted men of HMM-363.

3. Casualties: None4. Air Operations

a. Total flight hours: 1957.3

b. Total sorties: 6551

c. Total cargo, Tons: 156.3

d. Total med-evacs: 331

e. Total passengers: 5554

ENCLOSURE (1)

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