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

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5750
Ser: 03A31168
6 Nov 1968

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commander, Task Force Seven Nine Pt Four

Subj: Command Chronology for the Period 1 October - 31 October 1968;
submission of (U)

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A
(b) CTG 79.4 OpOrd 120-68

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 SFC#

394-68

Copy 1 of 26

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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 Oct - 31 Oct 1968 Maj. J. L. HARRISON
Executive Officer	1 Oct - 31 Oct 1968 Maj. T. J. ORONIN
Operations Officer	1 Oct - 7 Oct 1968 Maj. T. J. FALESKIE
	8 Oct - 31 Oct 1968 Maj. H. F. SAEGER
Maintenance Officer	1 Oct - 31 Oct 1968 Capt. R. J. HOOTON
Administrative Officer	1 Oct - 31 Oct 1968 Capt. T. B. DICKSON
Material Officer	1 Oct - 31 Oct 1968 1stLt. W. E. CASEY
Aviation Safety Officer	1 Oct - 31 Oct 1968 Capt. M. D. COOPER
Intelligence Officer	1 Oct - 31 Oct 1968 1stLt. J. C. HAGERMAN

2. Task organization and unit location with inclusive dates:

HMM-363, MAG-15(Rein), 9thMAB USS Princeton	1 Oct - 27 Oct 1968
HMM-363, MAG-15(Rein), 9thMAB Phu Bai, RVN	28 Oct - 31 Oct 1968

3. Average strength of squadron during period:

Officers: 45 (1 Navy)	Enlisted: 190 (3 Navy)
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4. Important visitors to the squadron: BGen. John E. WILLIAMS, the Commanding General of 9th MAB visited the squadron on 5 Oct 1968.

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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 Oct 1968

Capt. CITRANO led a section in support of 9th MAB in the Da Nang area carrying 27 U.S. passengers and 1,200 pounds of cargo which included the mail run for the USS Princeton, 26th Marines, and HMM-363.

Maj. CRONIN was in charge of a section in support of the 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 21 U.S. passengers and 2,000 pounds of cargo. A section led by Capt. HIRE carried 34 U.S. passengers and 250 pounds of cargo with 9 U.S. med-evacs. The section also provided SAR for a downed F-4 in the DMZ which produced negative results. Capt. COOPER's section carried 61 U.S. passengers, 7 U.S. med-evacs and 3,500 pounds of cargo. A section led by Capt. ABAJIAN carried 45 U.S. and 6 ARVN passengers which included command and control and admin/liaison flights. Capt. HILL and Lt. CALLIHAN flew VIP chase with Seaworthy aircraft carrying 32 U.S., 4 ARVN passengers and 2 U.S. med-evacs.

2 Oct 1968

Maj. HARRISON led a section in support of the 9th MAB in the Da Nang area carrying 16 U.S. passengers and 300 pounds of cargo. The section brought mail back to the ship.

Lt. DUFFY and Lt. WICKERSHAM flew 2 aircraft to Phu Bai for test purposes. They returned to the USS Princeton the same day.

Capt. HILL was in charge of a section on med-evac in support of the 26th Marines in the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 2 U.S. passengers and 4 U.S. med-evacs. Maj. CRONIN led a section in support of the 3rd Marine Division carrying 39 U.S. passengers, 6 U.S. med-evacs, and 1,250 pounds of cargo. They flew a total of 48 sorties and 17 tasks. A section led by Capt. DICKSON carried 49 U.S. passengers and 1,050 pounds of cargo, all flights were command and control. Capt. WEST was in charge of a section that carried 11 U.S. passengers and 200 pounds of cargo. Maj. FALESKIE's section carried 64 U.S. passengers and 2,000 pounds of cargo in 50 sorties and 28 tasks. Capt. ABAJIAN led a section which carried 30 U.S. passengers and 1,900 pounds of cargo.

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Lt. MOORE and Lt. PINSCHENAT flew VIP chase with Seaworthy aircraft carrying 25 U.S. passengers, 3 U.S. med-evacs, and 2,650 pounds of cargo. Seaworthy 4-3 crashed south of A-4, without the VIP aboard, and Lt. MOORE picked up the crew and flew them to 3rd Medical Battalion. All of the crew were released that same day.

3 Oct 1968

Maj. CRONIN led a three plane flight in support of the 9th MAB in the Da Nang area carrying 19 U.S. passengers, 4 U.S. med-evacs and 650 pounds of cargo. This flight also picked up the mail for the USS Princeton, 26th Marines and HMM-363.

Maj. FALESKIE was in charge of a section in support of the 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 58 U.S. passengers, 6 U.S. med-evacs and 1,300 pounds of cargo. A section led by Capt. DICKSON carried 25 U.S. passengers, 4 U.S. med-evacs and 100 pounds of cargo in 28 sorties and 10 tasks. Capt. COOPER's section carried 23 U.S. and 4 ARVN passengers with 100 pounds of cargo. Capt. FISCHER led a section which carried 24 U.S. passengers, 7 U.S. med-evacs and 400 pounds of cargo. Lt. RUCK and Lt. CACCIOLA flew VIP chase with Seaworthy aircraft and carried 59 U.S. passengers and 70 pounds of cargo in 45 sorties and 12 tasks.

4 Oct 1968

Capt. MCCLUNG and Capt. HIRE both led a section in support of 9th MAB in the Da Nang area carrying 75 U.S. passengers, 3 U.S. med-evacs, and 1,300 pounds of cargo and mail.

Maj. HARRISON was in charge of a section in support of the 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 32 U.S. passengers, 3 U.S. med-evacs and 400 pounds of cargo. A section led by Capt. HILL carried 36 U.S. passengers, 3 U.S. med-evacs and 500 pounds of cargo. Capt. FISCHER's section carried 27 U.S. passengers in 9 sorties and 5 tasks. A section led by Maj. FALESKIE carried 45 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac and 400 pounds of cargo. Maj. CRONIN led a section which carried 33 U.S. passengers. Lt. CALLIHAN and Lt. STEVENSON flew VIP chase with Seaworthy aircraft and carried 38 U.S. passengers and 1,200 pounds of cargo.

5 Oct 1968

Maj. HARRISON led a section in support of 9th MAB in the Da Nang area carrying 15 U.S. passengers and 1,000 pounds of cargo. Maj. CRONIN led a section to Da Nang which carried 17 U.S. passengers. Capt. FISCHER's section carried 25 U.S. passengers and 200 pounds of cargo and mail.

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A section led by Maj. CRONIN in support of the 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri TAOR carried 74 U.S. passengers, 11 U.S. med-evacs and 300 pounds of cargo in 30 sorties and 12 tasks. A section led by Capt. HIRE carried 5 U.S. passengers and 3 U.S. med-evacs. Capt. COOPER's section carried 32 U.S. passengers, 3 U.S. med-evacs and 1,200 pounds of cargo. A section led by Capt. ABAJIAN carried 28 U.S. and 3 VN civilian passengers with 150 pounds of cargo. Capt. HOOTON led a section which carried 34 U.S. passengers. Capt. CITRANO's section carried 44 U.S. passengers and 800 pounds of cargo in 34 sorties and 15 tasks. Maj. FALESKIE led a section which carried 53 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac and 500 pounds of cargo. Lt. WICKERSHAM and Lt. SEELEY flew VIP chase with Seaworthy aircraft and carried 65 U.S. passengers with 200 pounds of cargo.

6 Oct 1968

Capt. FISCHER led a section in support of the 9th MAB in the Da Nang area carrying 15 U.S. passengers and 800 pounds of cargo and mail.

Maj. HARRISON was in charge of a section supporting the 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 15 U.S. passengers and 500 pounds of cargo in 26 sorties and 2 tasks. A section led by Capt. DICKSON carried 47 U.S. passengers and 2,000 pounds of cargo. Lt. MOORE's section carried 65 U.S. passengers and 200 pounds of cargo in 54 sorties and 20 tasks. While leading a flight Capt. HIRE's section carried 51 U.S. passengers and 850 pounds of cargo. Capt. CITRANO led a section which carried 58 U.S. passengers and 1,200 pounds of cargo in 48 sorties and 20 tasks. Lt. HAGERMAN and Lt. FLICKINGER flew VIP chase with Seaworthy aircraft carrying 27 U.S. passengers and 100 pounds of cargo.

7 Oct 1968

Lt. SEELEY was in charge of a section sent to Da Nang in support of 9th MAB for admin/liaison work and carried 35 U.S. passengers and 1,300 pounds of cargo and mail.

Maj. HARRISON led a section in support of the 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 53 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac and 750 pounds of cargo. Capt. WEST was in charge of a section which carried 46 U.S. passengers and 400 pounds of cargo. Maj. FALESKIE's section carried 35 U.S. passengers and 2,450 pounds of cargo in 33 sorties and 18 tasks. A section led by Maj. CRONIN carried 49 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac and 500 pounds of cargo. Capt. HILL led a flight and carried 40 U.S. passengers and 400 pounds of cargo. Lt. DUFFY's section flew flights from the ship to Dong Ha for the SLF and carried 22 U.S. passengers and 13 U.S. med-evacs. Lt. CALLIHAN and Lt. HALLIDAY flew VIP chase with Seaworthy aircraft and carried 39 U.S. passengers, 15 U.S. med-evacs and 1,150 pounds

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of cargo.

8 Oct 1968

Capt. FISCHER led a section to Da Nang in support of 9th MAB and carried 25 U.S. passengers and 3,000 pounds of cargo and mail.

Maj. HARRISON was in charge of a flight in support of 9th MAB and carried 17 U.S. passengers and 200 pounds of cargo.

Capt. ABAJIAN led a section in support of the 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 73 U.S. passengers and 600 pounds of cargo in 32 sorties. Capt. HIRE's section carried 47 U.S. passengers and 500 pounds of cargo. A flight led by Maj. FALESKIE carried 58 U.S. passengers, 10 U.S. med-evacs, and 1,600 pounds of cargo. Lt. CALLIHAN's flight carried 13 U.S. passengers in the local area around Dong Ha. Capt. COOPER led a section which carried 14 U.S. passengers, 4 U.S. med-evacs, and 900 pounds of cargo. Capt. HILL was in charge of a flight which carried 10 U.S. passengers and 200 pounds of cargo during the afternoon operations around Dong Ha. Lt. CACCIOLA and Lt. SCHWARTZ flew VIP chase with Seaworthy aircraft carrying 54 U.S. passengers and 1,100 pounds of cargo.

9 Oct 1968

Capt. DICKSON was in charge of a flight to Da Nang in support of 9th MAB carrying 28 U.S. passengers and 950 pounds of cargo.

Maj. HARRISON flew an admin/liaison mission in support of 3rd MAF in the Quang Tri area carrying 11 U.S. passengers and 300 pounds of cargo.

Lt. GILLESPIE led a section in support of the 3rd Marine Division carrying 40 U.S. passengers, 11 U.S. med-evacs and 800 pounds of cargo. Capt. COOPER's section carried 30 U.S. passengers and 200 pounds of cargo. A section led by Maj. FALESKIE carried 213 U.S. passengers, 20 U.S. med-evacs and 1,300 pounds of cargo in 122 sorties and 44 tasks. Maj. CRONIN's section made a single trip into Dong Ha carrying 3 U.S. passengers. Capt. WEST and Lt. TOMEK flew VIP chase with Seaworthy aircraft carrying 48 U.S. passengers, 3 U.S. med-evacs and 600 pounds of cargo.

10 Oct 1968

Maj. CRONIN led a 3 plane flight to Da Nang in support of 9th MAB carrying 35 U.S. passengers and 1,500 pounds of cargo and mail.

Maj. HARRISON was in charge of a section in support of the 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 26 U.S. passengers, 6 U.S. med-evacs and 500 pounds of cargo.

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A section led by Capt. HILL carried 59 U.S. passengers and 450 pounds of cargo in 26 sorties and 12 tasks. Capt. HIRE's section carried 44 U.S. passengers, 10 U.S. and 3 VN civilian med-evacs with 1,000 pounds of cargo in 44 sorties and 16 tasks. Capt. DICKSON led a section which carried 44 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac and 300 pounds of cargo. Lt. CACCIOLA's flight carried 30 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac and 1,100 pounds of cargo. A section led by Lt. HAGERMAN carried 25 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac and 3,100 pounds of cargo in 17 sorties and 9 tasks. A section in charge of Capt. CITRANO carried 36 U.S. passengers and 1000 pounds of cargo. At approximately 1600H YZ-9 (BuNo. 150225) crashed at XD825617 (LZ Catapult). Capt. CITRANO's wingman was unable to fly out due to damage and was rigged for external the following day. Negative injury to the crew was reported. Lt. SEELEY and Lt. MOORE flew VIP chase with Seaworthy aircraft carrying 28 U.S. passengers and 300 pounds of cargo.

11 Oct 1968

Capt. HILL led a section to Da Nang in support of 9th MAB carrying 24 U.S. passengers and 3,600 pounds of cargo and mail.

Capt. COOPER was in charge of a section which operated in the 7th Fleet SLF Detachment and carried 37 U.S. passengers, 9 U.S. med-evacs and 400 pounds of cargo.

Maj. CRONIN led a flight in support of the 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 101 U.S. passengers and 1,880 pounds of cargo in 78 sorties and 40 tasks. Capt. HOOTON's section carried 67 U.S. and 2 ARVN passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac and 1,300 pounds of cargo. A section led by Capt. ABAJIAN carried 129 U.S. passengers, 10 U.S. med-evacs and 340 pounds of cargo in 45 sorties and 18 tasks. Lt. HAGERMAN and Lt. FLICKINGER flew VIP chase with Seaworthy aircraft carrying 23 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac and 600 pounds of cargo.

12 Oct 1968

Capt. DICKSON was in charge of a 3 plane flight to Da Nang in support of 9th MAB carrying 35 U.S. passengers and 1,800 pounds of cargo and mail.

Maj. HARRISON led a section in support of the 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 29 U.S. passengers and 4 U.S. med-evacs. A flight led by Lt. CACCIOLA carried 16 U.S. passengers and 200 pounds of cargo. Maj. CRONIN's section made one flight to Dong Ha and carried 14 U.S. passengers and 200 pounds of cargo. Capt. COOPER was in charge of a section that carried 8 U.S. passengers and 300 pounds of cargo. Capt. HIRE's flight carried 22 U.S. passengers. All flights were hampered due to poor weather and accounts for very little accomplished today.

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Capt. HOOTON led a section in support of 9th MAB in the Da Nang area carrying 45 U.S. passengers and 700 pounds of cargo.

Maj. HARRISON led a section in support of the 3rd Marine Division around the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 48 U.S. passengers and 1,100 pounds of cargo. A section led by Maj. CRONIN carried 48 U.S. passengers and 1,200 pounds of cargo. Lt. WICKERSHAM's section carried 30 U.S. passengers and 100 pounds of cargo. Capt. WEST led a section which carried 17 U.S. passengers and 100 pounds of cargo. Capt. HIRE's flight carried 24 U.S. passengers and 1 NVA prisoner. A section led by Lt. HAGERMAN carried 34 U.S. passengers and 800 pounds of cargo. Capt. CITRANO and Lt. GILLESPIE flew VIP chase with Seaworthy aircraft and carried 30 U.S. passengers and 200 pounds of cargo.

14 Oct 1968

Due to poor weather conditions the squadron only launched 1 section led by Lt. CALLIHAN which was forced to return to the ship. Negative work was accomplished.

15 Oct 1968

Capt. COOPER and Lt. MOORE led sections to Da Nang in support of 9th MAB carrying a total of 69 U.S. passengers and 4,100 pounds of cargo and mail.

Maj. HARRISON was in charge of a section in support of 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 74 U.S. passengers, 11 U.S. med-evacs and 2,600 pounds of cargo. Capt. ABAJIAN's section carried 8 U.S. passengers in one flight to Cau Viet. Capt. HIRE led a section which carried 35 U.S. passengers and 800 pounds of cargo in 35 sorties. A flight led by Capt. HILL carried 35 U.S. passengers. Maj. CRONIN was in charge of a section which carried 43 U.S. passengers. Lt. CALLIHAN and Lt. GUILFORD flew VIP chase with Seaworthy aircraft carrying 30 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. and 1 ARVN med-evac with 350 pounds of cargo.

16 Oct 1968

Maj. CRONIN led a section in support of the 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 33 U.S. passengers and 1,100 pounds of cargo. A section led by Capt. COOPER carried 77 U.S. passengers and 1,600 pounds of cargo in 30 sorties. Capt. HILL's section carried 37 U.S. passengers, 4 U.S. med-evacs and 900 pounds of cargo. Capt. WEST was in charge of a section which carried 54 U.S. passengers, 3 U.S. med-evacs and 1,100 pounds of cargo.

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Leading a section Capt. HIRE carried 11 U.S. passengers and 200 pounds of cargo. Capt. ABAJIAN and Lt. ESLER flew VIP chase with Seaworthy aircraft carrying 33 U.S. passengers and 100 pounds of cargo.

17 Oct 1968

Maj. FALESKIE flew a section to Da Nang in support of 9th MAB carrying 42 U.S. passengers and 2,500 pounds of cargo and mail. Capt. DICKSON was in charge of a section sent to the Da Nang area for admin/liaison and maintenance purposes carrying 62 U.S. passengers and 1,800 pounds of cargo.

Maj. HARRISON led a section in support of the 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 106 U.S. passengers, 16 U.S. med-evacs and 4,200 pounds of cargo in 76 sorties. Lt. CALLIHAN's section carried 18 U.S. passengers and 9 U.S. med-evacs to the USS Sanctuary.

A section led by Capt. WEST carried 102 U.S. passengers, 7 U.S. med-evacs and 1,000 pounds of cargo in 74 sorties while supporting the 4th Marines. Maj. CRONIN's section carried 34 U.S. passengers and 2,500 pounds of cargo. A flight led by Lt. WICKERSHAM carried 30 U.S. passengers and 300 pounds of cargo. Capt. HIRE led a section which carried 82 U.S. passengers and 3,400 pounds of cargo. A flight led by Lt. RUCK carried 51 U.S. passengers, 6 U.S. med-evacs and 1,000 pounds of cargo. Capt. TROYER and Lt. CACCIOLA flew VIP chase with Seaworthy aircraft carrying a total of 18 U.S. passengers.

18 Oct 1968

Maj. CRONIN led a section in support of the 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 64 U.S. passengers, 6 U.S. med-evacs and 600 pounds of cargo. A section led by Capt. ABAJIAN carried 56 U.S. passengers and 500 pounds of cargo in 30 sorties of logistics troops and cargo. Lt. HAGERMAN was in charge of a flight which carried 64 U.S. passengers and 200 pounds of cargo. Capt. HIRE's flight carried 110 U.S. passengers and 1,500 pounds of cargo in 24 sorties on a lift from the USS Dubuque to the USS Princeton.

Lt. RUCK flew a section to Da Nang in support of 9th MAB carrying 38 U.S. passengers while flying VIP chase.

In the afternoon Maj. HARRISON led a 14 plane troop lift in support of 9th MAB from YD3068 and YD3170 areas to the USS Dubuque and the USS Princeton carrying 712 Marines and 4,000 pounds of cargo in 3 hours. Negative fire incidents and aircraft damage was reported during the lift.

19 Oct 1968

Capt. DICKSON and Capt. WEST flew sections to Da Nang for admin/liaison in support of 9th MAB carrying 42 U.S. passengers and 2,500 pounds of cargo and mail.

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Maj. CRONIN was in charge of a flight in support of the 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 46 U.S. passengers and 1,050 pounds of cargo in 38 sorties. A section led by Capt. HIRE carried 4 U.S. passengers on a run to Dong Ha from the USS Princeton. Capt. ABAJIAN's section carried 27 U.S. passengers, 7 U.S. med-evacs and 150 pounds of cargo. A flight led by Maj. FALESKIE made one run to Dong Ha for passenger drop carrying 6 U.S. passengers. Capt. COOPER led a section carrying 13 U.S. passengers and 300 pounds of cargo. Lt. SEELEY and Lt. TOMEK flew VIP chase with Seaworthy aircraft carrying 76 U.S. passengers and 1,000 pounds of cargo.

20 Oct 1968

Capt. ABAJIAN led a section in support of 9th MAB in the Da Nang area carrying 20 U.S. passengers and 1,000 pounds of cargo and mail.

Maj. CRONIN was in charge of a section in support of the 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 41 U.S. passengers and 1,100 pounds of cargo. A flight led by Capt. COOPER carried 23 U.S. passengers. Capt. HILL's section carried 43 U.S. passengers and 1,500 pounds of cargo. Leading a section, Capt. WEST's flight carried 74 U.S. passengers and 4,500 pounds of cargo. Capt. HOOTON led a section carrying 114 U.S. passengers and 1,700 pounds of cargo. Lt. FLICKINGER and Lt. HAGERMAN flew VIP chase with Seaworthy aircraft carrying 68 U.S. passengers and 2,600 pounds of cargo.

Maj. FALESKIE led his flight of 3 sections on the troop transport from the Cau Viet and USS Dubuque to the USS Princeton carrying a total of 143 U.S. passengers and 14,950 pounds of cargo.

21 Oct 1968

Capt. WEST was in charge of a section in support of 9th MAB from the USS Princeton and Quang Tri carrying 52 U.S. passengers and 500 pounds of cargo. Lt. HAGERMAN's section carried 58 U.S. passengers in the same area.

Lt. CACCIOLA led a 3 plane flight to Da Nang in support of 9th MAB carrying a total of 30 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac and 3,000 pounds of cargo.

Maj. HARRISON led a 4 plane division on Operation Mighty Yankee to return 14 North Vietnamese to the area of XF0957. The operation was accomplished without incident to aircraft or personnel.

22 Oct 1968

Maj. CRONIN was in charge of a section in support of 9th MAB in the

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Da Nang area carrying 19 U.S. passengers on an admin/liaison flight. Lt. MOORE flew single plane in the afternoon on the same mission carrying 31 U.S. passengers and 500 pounds of cargo. Lt. SEELEY led a section to Da Nang carrying 3 U.S. passengers.

23 Oct 1968

Maj. HARRISON led a section in support of 9th MAB to Da Nang carrying 40 U.S. passengers and 10,000 pounds of cargo in 24 sorties and 4 tasks. Capt. TROYER was in charge of a section which carried 30 U.S. passengers and 1,200 pounds of cargo. A section led by Lt. CALLIHAN carried 12 U.S. passengers and 400 pounds of cargo. Lt. MOORE's flight carried 38 U.S. passengers, 1 U.S. med-evac and 100 pounds of cargo while flying a photographic mission for 1st MAB Medical Battalion. Capt. COOPER was in charge of a section which carried 8 U.S. passengers and 6,000 pounds of cargo. Capt. CITRANO led a flight which carried 52 U.S. passengers, 3 U.S. med-evacs and 8,250 pounds of cargo.

24 Oct 1968

Capt. DICKSON was in charge of a section in support of 9th MAB in the Da Nang area carrying 13 U.S. passengers. Lt. ROSE led a section which carried 34 U.S. passengers. A flight led by Lt. RUCK carried 33 U.S. passengers. Lt. WICKERSHAM's flight carried 67 U.S. passengers and 500 pounds of cargo. The USS Princeton has been in the Da Nang harbor the past 3 days and is in preparation of the coming strike south of Da Nang. This is the reason that all flights are in the Da Nang area.

25 Oct 1968

Maj. HARRISON was in charge of an 18 plane strike from the USS Princeton to the strike zone (BT0965) in support of 9th MAB and the 1st Marine Division. The strike (Eager Hunter) was accomplished in less than 3 hours. The strike consisted of moving 651 troops and 8,400 pounds of cargo. Negative fire incidents and no casualties were reported. Aircraft flight time was 73.1 for the strike and supporting flights. One aircraft went down because of engine failure but was quickly lifted out after the strike. The entire squadron supported this operation and no other flights were flown. In all there were 290 sorties flown.

26 Oct 1968

Capt. COOPER flew a section in support of 9th MAB in the Da Nang - Chu Lai area carrying 17 U.S. passengers.

Maj. HARRISON led a section in support of the 1st Marine Division in the

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Da Nang TAOR carrying 10 U.S. and 16 ARVN passengers. This is in support of the strike staged yesterday. A section led by Lt. HAGERMAN carried 61 U.S. passengers, 9 U.S. med-evacs and 2,800 pounds of cargo. Capt. HOOTON's section carried 18 U.S. passengers and 2,500 pounds of cargo. Maj. CRONIN led a section which carried 42 U.S. passengers, 1 NVA prisoner, 1 U.S. med-evac and 7,500 pounds of cargo.

A flight led by Capt. HIRE carried 11 U.S. passengers and 250 pounds of cargo. Capt. ABAJIAN flew a section on a med-evac mission and returned him to the USS Princeton..

27 Oct 1968

Maj. HARRISON led a 16 plane strike into the BT0762 grid square from the BT1065 grid square in support of the 1st Marine Division and 9th MAB. The strike (Philadelphia) was accomplished in 3 hours while carrying 418 U.S. passengers, 8 U.S. med-evacs and 10,500 pounds of cargo with 196 sorties flown. The squadron suffered 6 aircraft receiving skin damage and punctures, 1 crew chief suffering minor injury with shrapnel wounds in the leg. One ground Marine was wounded while being transported and was flown to NSA MMAF. Enemy fire was scattered throughout the whole area and suppressive fire was returned.

At 1430H Maj. HARRISON was officially notified to move off the USS Princeton and proceed to Marble Mountain immediately. Still flying the downed aircraft from the morning's strike, the squadron was off-loaded by 2000H. The squadron carried 387 passengers and 48,000 pounds of cargo from the ship to Marble Mountain.

During the day many crews flew 9 hours plus work involved in off-loading and getting established for the night. The flight time for today's strike and off load was 118 hours.

28 Oct 1968

Due to yesterday's action and being unable to repair aircraft only one flight was flown by Maj. HARRISON to 1st MAF for admin purposes. The squadron is preparing to move to Phu Bai.

29 Oct 1968

Maj. HARRISON led a 16 plane formation to Phu Bai from Marble Mountain carrying 28,000 pounds of cargo. The flight made one trip and all aircraft were downed for preventive maintenance. Five aircraft had to be externalized to Phu Bai.

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Capt. CITRANO led a section in support of 3rd MAF in the Da Nang area along with Capt. HILL's flight. Together they carried 12 U.S. passengers and 1,700 pounds of cargo.

31 Oct 1968

Capt. DICKSON was in charge of a section in support of the 1st Marine Division in the Da Nang TAOR carrying 11 U.S. passengers and 300 pounds of cargo. Capt. CITRANO's flight carried 10 U.S. passengers and 550 pounds of cargo. Lt. CALLIHAN led his flight in the morning and carried 10 U.S. passengers.

Capt. ABAJIAN led a section in support of the 3rd Marine Division in the Quang Tri TAOR carrying 25 U.S. passengers. Lt. MOORE and Lt. GILLESPIE flew VIP chase with Seaworthy aircraft carrying 19 U.S. passengers and 100 pounds of cargo.

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PART III - SIGNIFICANT EVENTS (C)

1. Promotions

- a. Officers: Two (2) to First Lieutenant
- b. Enlisted: Two (2) to Corporal
One (1) to Lance Corporal

2. Awards

- a. Capt. Homer E. HIRE Jr. 089417 was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.
- b. Maj. James L. HARRISON 065968 was awarded the Purple Heart Medal (2nd award) and a Single Mission Air Medal.
- c. SSgt. Robert W. KING 1820758 was awarded the Purple Heart Medal.
- d. Cpl. Michael L. GUESS 2335244 was awarded the Purple Heart Medal.
- e. Sgt. James F. HAMMONTREE Jr. 2033411 was awarded the Bronze Star Medal.
- f. LCpl. James M. SHIREY 2232331 was awarded a Single Mission Air Medal.
- g. LCpl. William F. DUMMITT 2200698 was awarded a Single Mission Air Medal.
- h. A total of 95 Officers of HMM-363 were awarded Air Medals.
- i. A total of 101 Enlisted personnel of HMM-363 were awarded Air Medals.

3. Casualties

<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SERNO/MOS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
Cpl.	Richards L. BRASHEAR	2190477/6332	27Oct68	WIANE BT090641

4. Air Operations

- a. Total Flight Hours: 1752.0
- b. Total Sorties: 5880

ENCLOSURE (1)

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1971~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

c. Total Cargo, Tons: 142.9
d. Total Med-evacs: 319
e. Total Passengers: 7756

ENCLOSURE (1)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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