

DECLASSIFIED

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 364
Marine Aircraft Group 36
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPAC
FPO San Francisco, 96602

03:CDR:be
5750
Ser:03A24866
5 September 1966

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 36

Subj: Command Chronology 1-31 August 1966

Ref: (a)GruO 5750.1A

Encl: (1) Part I - Organizational Data
(2) Part II - Narrative Summary
(3) Part III - Administrative

1. In accordance with reference (a), Enclosure (1), (2), and (3) are submitted.

D. Somerville
D. A. SOMERVILLE

14 Nov 1964

Command Chronology

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

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1. Commanding Officer LtCol D. A. SOMERVILLE 29 Mar - 1 Sep 66
Executive Officer Maj M. J. NEEDHAM 4 Jan - 1 Sep 66
S-1 Officer Capt E. R. DOANE 1 Jun - 1 Sep 66
S-2 Officer 1/Lt G. M. ANDRES 6 Mar - 1 Sep 66
S-3 Officer Capt C. D. RIORDAN 20 Jun - 1 Sep 66
S-4 Officer 1/Lt J. E. GUNNELS 15 Mar - 1 Sep 66
Maintenance Officer Capt R. E. GLEASON 1 Jan - 1 Sep 66
2. HMM-364, MAG-36, 1st MAW - MCAF Ky Ha, S. Viet Nam - 4 July - 1 Sep 66.
3. Average Monthly Strength - 180.

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PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1-5 Aug: During the period from 1-5 August the squadron flew 12 routine resupply missions and 4 VIP hops. Eight med-evacs were also flown during this period. One convoy escort was flown by two UH-34s. A total of three recon insertion/retraction hops were also flown.

6-15 Aug: On 6 August Operation Colorado, a sweep and clear operation involving the 5th Marine Regiment commenced. The LSA was established as the base of Helicopter operations in the Tam Ky compound at the provincial headquarters Quang Tin.

On 6 August 10 aircraft participated in a 23 plane troop lift from AT982230 to AT037208.

Four aircraft lifted a company of Marines from the LSA to AT037208. Fire was received and returned but no hits were taken.

The aircraft then picked up one company of Marines from coordinates AT979235 and returned them to the LSA.

8 Aircraft participated in a 24 aircraft lift of refugees from AT995124 to Quang Tin.

On a night emergency resupply mission of 8 aircraft to AT994254 fire was received from the vicinity of AT992218. No hits were taken.

Several routine resupply hops were also flown.

On 7 August 5 aircraft participated in a troop retraction of 81 Marines from coordinates AT980325 to Quang Tin.

Four aircraft participated in a recon insertion from the LSA and ~~6 insertion from the LSA and~~ inserted the team at BT135247. Another team was then retracted from BT135247 and returned to the LSA.

During the remainder of the day the aircraft flew routine direct support and med-evac flights.

On 8-9 August the squadron aircraft participated in no major lifts. The aircraft flew direct support missions, med-evac missions, one Area recon/weather check, and several med-evacs.

One troop retraction was flown by two aircraft from coordinates BT000315 to AT985333.

On 10 August the squadron flew one ARVN resupply from Quang Nai to Nui Dau. The squadron also flew direct support for the 9th Marines. One VIP hop was flown to Danang carrying the CMC party from the Marine Air-freight landing area to the III MAF helo pad.

On 11 August 12 aircraft participated in a troop lift from BT228315 and BT137366 to BT195240. Fire was received from the LZ (BT195240). A total of 72 troops were lifted.

Twelve aircraft retracted 120 troops from AT947298 and AT950297 and returned them to the LSA. In addition 4 routine resupplies were flown as well as the 55 med-evacs.

On 12 August 9 aircraft participated in 2 routine troop lifts and several routine resupplies, carrying 10 tons of cargo. Ten med-evac missions were flown carrying a total of 78 people.

On 13 August 8 aircraft lifted 48 troops to coordinates BT164285. Small arms fire was encountered upon entering the zone but no hits were received. The same aircraft then performed mission 1082, a troop lift of 157 troops to coordinates BT164285 from Quang Tin.

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Four aircraft performed a troop lift from Quang Tin to BT239226 lifting 40 troops. During the day 10 routine direct support administrative flights were flown. Four med-evac flights involving 7 Marines were also flown.

On 14 August 4 aircraft departed for BT179293 where 276 troops were carried in 10 trips to coordinates BT165308, heavy fire was encountered and returned at the LZ, but no hits were received. In addition 4 med-evacs were flown as well as 7 routine resupply/admin hops.

On 15 August Operation Colorado drew to a close. Six aircraft retracted troops from BT167312 and BT155301 to Tam Ky and finally ^{LIFTED THEM} ~~to~~ hill 69. A total of 181 troops were carried. In addition one resupply and one med-evac was flown.

16-20 August: On 16 August 8 passengers were lifted by 4 aircraft on a VIP mission for Premier Ky and his party. Three med-evacs were also flown during the day.

On 17 August the squadron flew three med-evac missions, one courier flight and one resupply from Quang Ngai to Duc Pho and Nui Dang, utilizing 4 aircraft and lifting 60,000 pounds of ammo.

On 18 August one of two aircraft on a med-evac, resupply mission experienced engine difficulties enroute to Song Ha and was forced to land. The aircraft was repaired by the maintenance crew and flown to Ky Ha. Some sniper fire was received in the area, but no hits were sustained.

Sixteen aircraft were launched on a recon insertion to BT252042, lifting 78 troops.

In another emergency insertion, 15 aircraft were flown to BS769437. The aircraft received ground fire and YK-3 receiving 2 hits. The pilots and gunner received minor shrapnel wounds.

On 19 August one med-evac flight and one recon insertion by 5 aircraft to coordinates BT135195 and BT012145 were flown. In addition 2 admin hops were flown as well as one SAR hop.

On 20 August 2 med-evac hops were flown as well as one routine resupply from hill 707 to BT418998.

21 Aug: Six med-evacs were flown during the day. On one of these flights one aircraft received fire from the vicinity of AT409043 and BS6582. No hits were taken.

22 Aug: Five aircraft each performed the following recon insertions and retractions; from Quail to BT308113, a retraction from BT212128 to Tien Phouc, small arms fire was encountered in the vicinity of BT212128, but no aircraft were hit.

23 Aug: Seven aircraft performed a recon insertion from LZ Quail to coordinates BT238086. Five aircraft performed a recon insertion of 18 troops from hill 54 to coordinates 055227. The aircraft received some fire from the Northern portion of the zone upon departing. In addition the squadron performed one med-evac flight and one admin flight.

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24 Aug: Five med-evac missions were flown during the day in addition to one admin and one liaison flight.

25 Aug: Seventeen aircraft departed Ky Ha on an ARVN troop lift of the 1st Bn, 51st Regt, and the 39th Ranger Bn from Hoi An to BT195498 and Dien Ban to BT218520. The flight was led by Major NEEDHAM, the squadron XO.

26 Aug: Six med-evac missions were flown during the day.

The squadron also flew several routine resupplies to the areas around Ky Ha and took maintenance gear from Ky Ha to Quang Ngai for YK-12, a down aircraft.

A VIP hop was flown from the 1st Division VIP pad at Chu Lai to the hospital ship REPOSE with General CARL.

27 Aug: Five med-evac missions were flown during the day along with 2 admin flights. The only major lift of the day was flown between Quang Ngai and Tien Phouc, lifting 2600 pounds of cargo and 17 passengers.

One aircraft received fire from BT3620 on a routine med-evac of 2 ARVN's.

28 Aug: The only major lift of the day saw 16 aircraft and 2 Klondike UH1Es lift 659 Marines from coordinates BS488873 and BS493898 to BS460860. The flight was led by LtCol. SMITH and the new CO of MAG-36, Col. ARMSTRONG flew as co-pilot. The total lift lasted 1.5 hours. In addition 2 med-evacs were flown during the day as well as direct support resupplies for operation Jackson.

29 Aug: Six aircraft attempted to perform a resupply from Quang Ngai to BS798418. The mission was aborted due to heavy AA fire from the ground. On a secondary mission the aircraft carried 25,000 pounds of cargo to Duc Pho.

Two aircraft flew in direct support of the ROK Marines and carried a total of 8850 pounds of cargo for them and 11 passengers. In addition a VIP hop was flown by 2 aircraft.

30 Aug: Four aircraft departed on mission 2119 a recon insertion from Quail to BT275060 and BT322000. A total of 36 troops were lifted.

Four aircraft departed on an ARVN troop lift of 30 people from Nui Khon to An Hoa (BS473863). Upon departing one aircraft experienced engine failure and a reaction platoon and maintenance crew were sent to the downed aircraft. The mission was then completed.

Six aircraft lifted 33,000 pounds of supplies from Ky Ha to Phuc Lam, 82 troops were also carried.

31 Aug: Four med-evac missions were flown throughout the day. In addition 4 aircraft inserted recon teams at BT025085 and BS098998. Four additional aircraft relocated a recon team from BT062078 to BT025085.

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PART III - ADMINISTRATIVE

1. AWARDS: HMM-36⁴ personnel were awarded twelve Purple Hearts, four Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry Medals, two Secretary of the Navy Commendation for achievement ribbons.
2. CASUALTIES: Ten personnel wounded as a result of hostile action.

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Enclosure (3)