

MARINE HEAVY HELICOPTER SQUADRON 462
 Marine Aircraft Group 36
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMF Pacific
 FPO San Francisco, 96602

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 4 November 1968

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding General, First Marine Aircraft Wing
 Via: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 36

Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1 October 1968 to 31 October 1968

Ref: (a) FMFPacO 5750.8
 (b) WgO 5750.1C
 (c) GruO 5750.1B

Encl: (1) HMH-462 Command Chronology

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

R. E. Nelson
 R. E. NELSON

MAC-36 S&C Files

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Copy 1 of 5

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ENCLOSURE (17)

HMH-462

CMD CHRON

OCT 1968

MARINE HEAVY HELICOPTER SQUADRON 462
Marine Aircraft Group 36
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMF Pacific
FPO San Francisco, 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 October 1968 to 31 October 1968

INDEX:

PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY

PART III - SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. DESIGNATION

COMMANDER

Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron Four Six Two

LtCol Ronald E. NELSON

Executive Officer

Maj David H. ANDERSON

Operations Officer

Maj Chester L. WHIPPLE

Maj James D. STRICKLAND

10Oct - 15Oct68

Acting Operations Officer

Aircraft Maintenance Officer

Maj Billy J. KAHLER

2. LOCATION

Marine Aircraft Group 36
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMF Pacific
 FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

10Oct - 31Oct68

3. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

USMC		USN		
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL	
49	143	1	0	October

4. IMPORTANT VISITORS

LtGen Lewis W. Walt	31 October 1968
LtGen Herman Nickerson, Jr.	31 October 1968
BGen Homer S. Hill	7 October 1968
	31 October 1968

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During HH-462's second full month in the Republic of Vietnam, 1,124.5 flight hours were logged. The squadron began the month of October with its original 10 aircraft, receiving the 11th aircraft on 14 October and the 12th on 26 October. During the month, a total of 11,398,400 pounds of cargo and 9,653 troops were transported. On two occasions, over 300 tons of cargo were lifted in a single day. Over 800 hours of the monthly total were in support of the 3rd Marine Division in Northern I Corps. The missions flown in support of the 3rd Division consisted predominately of moving and resupplying fire support bases. The previous month's operations were concentrated in the area within a 5 - 6 mile radius of the LSA Vandegrift, while operations during October increased to a 15 - 18 mile radius of the LSA.

The squadron flew these missions with standard combat configured aircraft, equipped with 2 M-60 machine guns. During October the normal load was 9000 pounds. In addition, bulldozers and other heavy equipment weighing 10,000-11,000 pounds were lifted, as required, for setting up new fire support bases. The only change required in aircraft configuration was modifying the fuel load. The primary missions flown in support of the 1st Division were logistics flights between LSA's. The squadron's prime effort was towards maximum support of the 3rd Marine Division during the daylight hours. During the evenings, the squadron placed its emphasis on logistics flights under instrument conditions to keep air freight moving between Danang, Marble Mountain, Hue Phu Bai and Quang Tri. This proved invaluable in maintaining a high state of proficiency in instrument flying for pilots as well as air controllers. During October, squadron pilots logged 173.9 hours of actual instrument time.

TAR missions during October consisted of externally lifting eleven (11) UH-34D's, six (6) UH1E's and one (1) CH-46D. On all missions except the one involving the CH-46D, the aircraft was lifted with a standard combat configured CH-53A. The CH-46D weighed 12,600 pounds. Due to marginal weather conditions at the destination (Danang) and a requirement for additional fuel, the CH-53A was stripped to TAR configuration in accordance with the CH-53A NATOPS Manual. The squadron also lifted 5 UH-34D's from the deck of the U.S.S. Princeton in a night lift to Marble Mountain Air Facility.

PART III

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. PERSONNEL: No significant events.
2. ADMINISTRATION: No significant events.
3. CIVIC ACTION: During October four medical visits were made by Dr. Parker to Phu Lung School and one medical visit by Dr. Linkhaus to Hue.

Three visits were made to Hue orphanage in order to work with the children, repair play equipment, and take groups of children on a tour of Hue City and the Citadel.

Two 6x6 truck loads of lumber, 82 bags of cement, 20 blankets, and four beds were delivered to Phu Lung School for continued construction of classrooms and sleeping quarters for orphans. 7,000 plasters were donated by the squadron to supplement local funds for teachers' salaries for November. HMM-462 provided 20 bags of cement for the MAG-36 Civic Action Officer.

18.7 man days were expended by squadron personnel in Civic Action.

4. INTELLIGENCE: No significant events.
5. AIR OPERATIONS: HMM-462 flew 1,124.5 flight hours, completed 4,468 sorties and 3,114 tasks, lifted 5,699.2 tons of cargo, and transported 9,653 troops. Squadron pilots logged 173.9 actual instrument flight hours.
6. SPECIAL OPERATIONS:
 - a. In support of "Scotland II" HMM-462 flew 447.7 flight hours, completed 1,981 sorties and 1,163 tasks, lifted 2,851.2 tons of cargo and carried 3,899 troops.
 - b. In support of "Lancaster" HMM-462 flew 223.5 flight hours, completed 1,154 sorties and 857 tasks, lifted 1,293.1 tons of cargo, and carried 2,383 troops.
 - c. In support of "Jeb Stuart" HMM-462 flew 17.3 flight hours, completed 84 sorties and 48 tasks, lifted 154.9 tons of cargo, and carried 44 troops.

d. In support of "Napoleon Saline" HMH-462 flew 90.3 flight hours, completed 370 sorties and 407 tasks, lifted 536.3 tons of cargo, and carried 378 troops.

e. HMH-462 flew 18 tactical aircraft missions (TAR):

- 1) On 6 Oct. HMH-462 accomplished the TAR of an UH-34D.
- 2) On 7 Oct. HMH-462 accomplished the TAR of an UH-34D.
- 3) On 12 Oct. HMH-462 accomplished the TAR of an UH-34D and an UH-1E.
- 4) On 15 Oct. HMH-462 accomplished the TAR of an UH-34D, a CH-46D and an UH-1E.
- 5) On 19 Oct. HMH-462 accomplished the TAR of an UH-1E.
- 6) On 21 Oct. HMH-462 accomplished the TAR of an UH-1E.
- 7) On 22 Oct. HMH-462 accomplished the TAR of an UH-1E.
- 8) On 27 Oct. HMH-462 accomplished the TAR of six UH-34D's.
- 9) On 28 Oct. HMH-462 accomplished the TAR of an UH-34D and an UH-1E.

f. HMH-462 evacuated 28 U.S. soldiers in four emergency and 10 priority medevac missions during October.

g. Twice HMH-462 lifted over 300 tons of cargo in a single day:

- 1) On 1 Oct. HMH-462 flew 43.8 flight hours, completed 249 sorties and 176 tasks, lifted 307.2 tons of cargo and carried 445 troops.
- 2) On 26 Oct. HMH-462 flew 38.4 flight hours, completed 217 sorties and 108 tasks, lifted 304.5 tons of cargo, and carried 196 troops.

7. TRAINING: During October 94% of squadron personnel, officers and enlisted, completed a classroom course and Fam Fire of the XM-16E1 rifle. The transition from the M-14 to the M-16 is completed.

8. LOGISTICS: No significant events.

9. MAINTENANCE: Two CH-53A's were transferred from HMH-463 to HMH-462, BuNo 153730 on 14 Oct. and BuNo 153712 on 26 Oct. The aircraft statistical data totalled 5,226.2 hours for operational ready time (67%), 408.5 hours for scheduled maintenance (5.3%), 956 hours for unscheduled maintenance (12.2%), and 1,209.3 hours for NORS (15.5%).