PRIME HEAVY HELICOPTER SQUADRON Marine Aircraft Group 36

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

3:JLM;dfs 5750 03406469 5 March 1969



(Unclassified when enclosure (1) is removed)

Frem: Commanding Officer

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

Subj: Oramand Chronology for the period 1 February 1969 to 28 February 1969

Ref:

(a) FMPPacO 5750.8

(b) WgO 5750.10

(c) Gru0 5750.1B

Encl: (1) HMH-462 Command Chronology

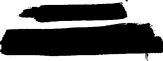
1. In accordance with references (a), (b), and (c), enclosure (1) is submitted.

R. E. NELSON

MAG-85 S&C Flies

69020 5

ENCLOSURE (7)



HMH-462

FEB 1969



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

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

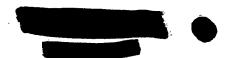
1 February 1969 to 28 February 1969

INDEY:

PART T - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

PART II - MARRATUVE SUMMARY

PART III - SIGNIFICANT EVENTS



PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

DESIGNATION

COMMANDER

Marine Heavy Helicepter Squadron 462 LtCel Renald E. NELSON (1-28Feb69)

Executive Officer

Maj David H. ANDERSON (1-28Feb69)

Operations Officer

Mnj Chester L. WHIPPLE (1-4Feb69) Maj Jack L. MAXWELL (5-28Feb69)

Maintenance Officer

Maj Billy J. KAHLER (1-4Feb69) Moj John J. MCMEMAMIN (5-28Feb69)

LOCATION

HMH-462 1-28Feb69 HUE/PHU BAI RVN

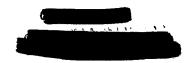
AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

USMC OFF ENL OFF ENL 168 44

IMPONUANT VISITORS

None

2





PART II NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During February, HMR-462 felt the brunt of the seasonal monsoons in the Republic of Vietnam as inclement weather severely hampered air operations throughout the month. The squadron logged 833.3 flight hours flown, 5,504,000 pounds of carge lifted, and 5225 troops transported. Squadron pilots flew 209.1 flight hours under actual instrument conditions, the majority of which were logged during tactical sorties between combat bases and outlying fire support bases.

HNH-462 lent its support almost entirely to the First Morine Division in the An Hoa area during the first half of February. Although full workdows were few, and the cargo was rigged in lighter-than-normal loads, the squadron flow over 300 hours and lifted more than 1100 tons while

supporting operation Taylor/Common.

The Third Marine Division received the majority of the squadrons supported during the last half of the month as HMH-462 participated in operations Dawson River West, Dewey Canyon, and Scotland II. The squadron transported five aircraft in as many tactical aircraft recovery (TAR) missions, and evacuated 188 U.S. casualties in twenty-two medevac missions.

Requirements to keep two CH-53A's at Vandergrift Combat Base overnight enabled HNH-462 to bypass the poorer weather conditions found enroute from Hue/Phu Bai to Vandergrift during the early morning hours. This advantage was more than offset, however, as the lack of proper maintenance facilities at Vandergrift Combat Base reduced aircraft availability.

Despite reported terrorist activity, HMH-462 continued its Civic Action program, denating feed, clothing, and school supplies to the school and orphanages of Hue and Phu Leung, along with spare time and

m∴noy.

On 14 February, six squadren pilets and crewmen received their firsteward Air Medals in a presentation by LtGol R. E. Nelson, HMH-462 Commanding Officer.



PART III

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

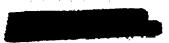
- 1. PERSONNEL: No significant events
- 2. ADMINISTRATION: No significant events.
- 3. CIVIC ACTION: Reports of terrorist activity along Highway One during the Tet h lidays caused a slight curtailment of HMH-462's Civic Action activities. However, the squadran still managed two trips to Phu Loung and three to Hue, denating one box each of clothing and educational materials to Phu Loung, and fifteen cases of corned beef, thirty cases of fruit, and twelve cases of vegetables to Hue. HMH-462 contributed \$40.00 to the school and orphanages while expending forty man-days in spare time.
- 4. AWARDS: On 14 February, LtCol R. E. NELSON, HMH-462 Commanding Officer, presented six squadron pilots and crewmen with first-award strike/flight Air Medals for neritoricus aerial achievement while serving in the Republic of Victnam.
- 5. INTELLIGENCE: No significant events.
- 6. ATR OPERATIONS: During the month of February, HMH-462 flew 833.3 flight hours comprising 2402 sorties to complete 1577 tasks. Tens of cargo lifted totaled 2752.0 and troops carried totaled 5225. Squadron pilots Togged 209.1 hours actual instrument time. A breakdown of droperations for the month consists of:

UNITS SUPPORTED	FLIGHT HOURS	SORTIES 997	TASKS 655	TONS LIFTED	TROOPS CARRIED 2496
3rdMAR DIV	386.4	1151	735	1416,2	2167
III MAF	141.5	245	180	168.4	557
OTHER	3.4	9	7	6,3	5

7. SPECIAL OPERATIONS BREAKDOWN:

a.	OPERATIONS	SORTIES	PASSENCERS	TONS	<u>Hours</u>
•	TAYLOR/COMMON	919	2342	1058.3	281.8
	SCOTLAND II	47	58	61.8	10,2
	DAWSON RIVER WEST	20	11	19,6	5.3
	DEWEY CANYON	891	1655	1143.3	307.0

- b. During the nenth of February, HMH-462 flew nine tactical aircraft recovery (TAR) missions, transporting two UH34D's, two CH46D's, and five UHIE's.
- c. HMH-462 evacuated 188 U.S. soldiers in twenty-two routine, pricrity, and emergency medevac missions during Fe bruary.





- 8. LOGISTICS: No significant events.
- 9. MAINTENANCE: HMH-462 continued operating with sixteen aircraft assigned during February. Partially due to the reduced maintenance the aircraft remaining overnight at Vandergrift Combat Base were able to receive, availability for the month was reduced from more than sixty percentifum previous menths to slightly less than fifty percent. The number of hours for operational ready time totaled 5025.9, while NORS hours exceeded 3000.