

CONFIDENTIAL

Command Chronology 1 February to 29 February 1968

PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. SQUADRON STAFF

Commanding Officer	Major W. H. SHAUER JR.	1-29 February
Executive Officer	Major E. A. HOUSE	1-29 February
Administrative Officer	Major H. A. HUNT Captain G. W. RUSSELL JR.	1-10 February 11-29 February
Operations Officer	Major C. R. UPSHAW	1-29 February
Intelligence Officer	1stLt. W. A. KNIGHT Captain R. E. BELL	1-10 February 11-29 February
Logistics Officer	Major N. J. KELLER	1-29 February
Maintenance Officer	1stLt. J. H. GARDERICK	1-29 February

2. LOCATION

a. Throughout the reporting period, HMM-362 functioned as a helicopter transport squadron attached to Marine Aircraft Group 36.

b. HMM-362 was located at MCAS Phu Bai, RVN, 1-29 February 1968.

3. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

	USMC		USN
OFF	114	ENL	
		178	
OFF		1	ENL
			0

4. IMPORTANT VISITORS

None.

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During this period, 1-29 February 1968, HMM-362, located at NCAF Phu Bai, was under the operational control of Marine Aircraft Group 36. The primary activities during this period were combat resupply, VIP chase, administrative and logistic missions.

Squadron flight operations during the month of February at the Marine Phu Bai area were seriously restricted by the heavy rains, low ceilings, ground fog and restricted visibility associated with the Northeast Winter Monsoon. As a result of this monsoon weather prevalent during the entire month of February, performance of 85% of the missions assigned was degraded or incomplete due to the existing marginal weather. Therefore, most of the missions flown during the month of February were emergency. ~~or mandatory~~. Additionally, as noted in Section IV, the squadron's total flight time for the month was less than half accomplished during an average month.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- 3 February - While on a resupply mission south west of Phu Bai, a Pest Killer aircraft observed an NVA/VC rocket site in the act of launching a rocket attack on the Phu Bai area. HMM-362's pilots first informed Phu Bai Tower of the incoming rockets, then passed the information on to the DASC for an artillery mission, which was provided by a three battery area coverage. Impacts were observed by the pilots to be on target but damage to the enemy position was not determined.
- 4 February - While supporting Operation SCOTLAND, one UH-34D of HMM-362 was down. His wingman successfully completed an emergency medevac mission from Khe Sanh to the hospital ship under IFR conditions, single plane.
- 7 February - While on an emergency resupply mission, YL-43 of HMM-362 came under heavy automatic weapons and small arms fire from a village approximately one mile east of Hue. The aircraft received minor battle damage and no casualties. The mission was successfully completed.
- 8 February - One UH-34D of HMM-362 received a direct hit at Khe Sanh, while in the revetments from a 122 mm. rocket, disengaging the tail cone and pylon from the rest of the aircraft. No HMM-362 personnel were injured.