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Command Chronology 15 April to 30 April 1968

PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. SQUADRON STAFF

Commanding Officer	Major W. H. SHAUER JR.	15-30 April
Executive Officer	Major E. A. HOUSE	15-30 April
Administrative Officer	Captain G. W. RUSSELL JR.	15-30 April
Operations Officer	Captain C. S. CHAMPION	15-30 April
Intelligence Officer	Captain R. E. BELL	15-30 April
Logistics Officer	Captain G. W. ARMSTRONG	15-30 April
Maintenance Officer	1stLt J. H. GARRICK	15-30 April

2. LOCATION

a. Throughout the reporting period, HMM-362 functioned as a helicopter transport squadron assigned to Marine Aircraft Group 15 (REIN), under the operational control of CTG 79.4 SLF "A".

b. HMM-362 was located aboard the USS Iwo Jima, LPH-2, 15-30 1968.

3. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

	USMC		USN
OFF		OFF	
46	202	1	3

4. IMPORTANT VISITORS

Chief of Staff Ninth MAB, Col J. A. ETHERIDGE, USMC.

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the reporting period, 15-30 April 1968, HMM-362 located aboard the USS Iwo Jima, LPH-2, was under the operational control of CTG 79.4, SLF "A". The primary activities during this period were day and night medevac, combat resupply, and administrative and logistic missions.

HMM-362 was in direct support of HLT 2/4 engaged in operations Fortress II/Napoleon/Saline during this period. All missions were in support of these operations.

During operation Napoleon/Saline on the night of 28 April, the lead aircraft on night medevac landed at YD 252713 at 0130. The aircraft upon landing received intense automatic weapons and hand grenades. All members of the crew were hit, the pilot was hit in the left eye which he lost. The co-pilot took control of the aircraft and was able to take off and proceed to a more secure area where the wingman picked up all the crewmen and medevacs and returned them to the ship. The medevac mission was completed and the pilot medevaced to CONUS. The rest of the crew received only minor wounds and recovered quickly.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

15 April - The Squadron completed deployment to USS Iwo Jima, LPH-2, while completing commitments for MAG-36.

16 April - Carrier Qualifications for pilots. Thirty pilots Day Carrier Qualified and eight Night Carrier Qualified aboard the USS Iwo Jima. Also, four standard missions completed. The Squadron accomplished 285 shipboard landings, setting a ship's record for number of landings in one day for the period 1966 through April 1968. This period covered includes two Vietnam cruises for the ship.

17 April - Continued Day and Night Carrier Qualification. Completed all regularly assigned missions.

18 April - Completed Day and Night Carrier Qualifications of pilots. Completed all assigned missions.

19 April - Flew MajGen STILWELL to Hoi An and completed all assigned missions.

23 April - Chief of Staff 9th MAB flown in from Danang, Col EHERRIDGE, USMC, flew as co-pilot with Maj SHAUER, C.O. HMM-362. Capt JEALOUS made the 44,000th landing aboard the USS Iwo Jima.

28 April - Lead aircraft on night medevac received intense automatic weapons fire and a hand grenade. Everyone in the aircraft including the medevacs were hit. The co-pilot flew the aircraft out to a more secure zone where the wingman extracted everyone.

30 April - Eight fire incidents occurred involving 2 aircraft. The fire was small arms and mortars, but no hits.

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