

1. Command Composition

<u>BILLET</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>PERIOD</u>
CO, MAG-16	E. O. REED	Colonel	1-31 March
XC, MAG-16	S. G. BEAL	LtCol	1-31 March
Adjutant	G. J. MAREK	1stLt	1-31 March
S-1 Officer	T. A. GOLDSBOROUGH	Major	1-31 March
S-2 Officer	D. V. HOLLES	Major	1-31 March
S-3 Officer	F. M. KLEPPSATTEL, Jr.	LtCol	1-31 March
S-4 Officer	R. LEWIS	LtCol	1-31 March
CO, H&MS-16	H. A. BRUCE	LtCol	1-31 March
CO, MABS-16	S. J. FULTON	LtCol	1-31 March
CO, VMO-2	M. G. ROBBINS	LtCol	1-31 March
CO, HMM-265	W. L. WHELAN	Major	1-31 March
CO, HMM-361	D. M. WILSON	LtCol	1-25 March
CO, HMM-361	F. W. CRONE	Major	26-31 March
CO, HMH-463	J. L. SADOWSKI	LtCol	1-31 March
CO, HML-167	R. C. FINN	Major	15-31 March
CO, 245th SAG	L. W. GARTEN	Major AUS	1-31 March

2. Task Organization

H&MS-16 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
MABS-16 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
VMO-2 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
HMM-265 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
HMM-361 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
HMH-463 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN
* HML-167 - Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN

* Activated on 15 March 1968

3. Average Monthly Strength

<u>Squadron</u>	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
H&MS-16	65	504	0	0
MABS-16	20	630	3	27
VMO-2	37	159	1	0
HMM-265	51	190	1	0
HMM-361	40	150	1	0
HMH-463	59	259	1	0
HML-167	1	0	0	0

4. Important Visitors to the Command

a. Major General Normal J. ANDERSON, Commanding General, First Marine Aircraft Wing, visited the command on 4 March to inspect rocket caused damage, along with the Assistant Wing Commander, Brigadier General R. P. KELLER.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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1. Special Operations

- a. Operation Scotland 1-31 March
- b. Operation Lancaster II 1-31 March
- c. Operation Kentucky 1-31 March
- d. Operation Wheeler/Wallowa 1-31 March
- e. Operation Fortress Attack 1-14 March
- f. Operation Jeb Stuart 1-31 March
- g. Operation Saline II 1-2 March
- h. Operation Saline/Napoleon 3-31 March
- i. Operation Muscatine 1-31 March
- j. Operation Hue City 1-2 March
- k. Operation Dinosaur 1-5 March
- l. Operation Tampa 1-4 March
- m. Operation Houston 1-31 March
- n. Operation Rock 1-10 March
- o. Operation Mingo 5-10 March
- p. Operation Samurai IV 5-31 March
- q. Operation Dinosaur II 6-13 March
- r. Operation Worth 13-26 March
- s. Operation Ford 5-10 March
- t. Operation Marching Dragon 14-23 March
- u. Operation Rice Bowl 24-31 March
- v. Operation Pegasus -31 March

2. General Summary

a. The main enemy effort against MAC-16 occurred on 4 March when MAF was struck by enemy rockets early in the morning causing extensive damage to aircraft. An Hoa Airfield received mortar fire early the same morning causing very limited damage.

b. MAG-16 supported Marine, Army, Navy, ARVN, and ROK units throughout ICTZ during the month.

c. Search and rescue efforts were continued throughout the month for the missing CH-53A, with negative results.

3. Chronological Summary

1 March - MAG-16 operations in all areas were normal.

2 March - MAG-16 operations in all areas were normal.

3 March - MAG-16 operations in all areas were normal. An O-1 Detachment pilot and observer flying an O-1C, spotted an estimated battalion of NVA at coord. YD 770500 and controlled an air strike on that position.

4 March - Operations in the Chu Lai area were normal. In the DaNang area one HMM-361 UH-34D aircraft was hit by enemy fire at coord. AT 919514 resulting in major injuries to the pilot. At 0220H the enemy conducted a 122mm rocket attack against Marble Mountain Air Facility. 29 rockets impacted within the facility resulting in 2 WIA USMC, both minor, and the following damage to aircraft: 1 CH-53A destroyed, 12 damaged; 14 CH-46A damaged; 13 UH-1E damaged; 2 UH-1E damaged. Minor damage was inflicted on some structures and equipment. Two VMO-2 UH-1E gunships observed rockets being launched from BT 051626 and struck the zone with rockets and 7.62 machinegun fire. An Hoa Airbase received sporadic mortar fire from 0130-0430. No Marine casualties resulted.

5 March - MAG-16 operations in all areas were normal.

6 March - In support of Operation ROCK, two divisions of HMM-265 CH-46A aircraft lifted 468 troops into two landing zones in the An Hoa Valley.

7 March - MAG-16 operations in all areas were normal.

8 March - Two VMO-2 UH-1E aircraft attacked sampans and personnel at coord. AT 890514 in support of Operation ROCK. A MAG-16 photographer was wounded at Khe Sanh while taking pictures for MAG-16 ISO.

9 March - MAG-16 operations in all areas were normal.

10 March - MAG-16 operations in all areas were normal. One HMM-361 UH-34D aircraft was hit by enemy fire at coord. AT 940605, no injuries.

11 March - One VMO-2 UH-1E aircraft was hit by enemy fire at BT 073586, no injuries.

12 March - One HMM-361 UH-34D aircraft was hit by enemy fire while enroute to An Hoa from MAF. Exact coord. of position unknown.

13 March - MAG-16 operations in all areas were normal.

14 March - MAG-16 participated in Operation WORTH by inserting 433 Marines onto Charlie Ridge. No opposition to landing reported.

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15 March - An O-1 Detachment pilot and observer controlled an air-strike at XD 834265 resulting in seven confirmed enemy killed and nine structures damaged.

16 March - MAG-16 operations in all areas were normal.

17 March - One HMM-265 CH-46A aircraft was hit by a flat trajectory rocket at coord. AT 993570. The aircraft crashed and burned in the valley below the zone. The crew survived the crash, but 9 of 15 med-evacs aboard were killed. One HMM-361 UH-34D aircraft crashed while attempting to land at coord. ZC 211508 at 1200 feet elevation. The crew sustained minor injuries but the aircraft was destroyed by ground troops after it was determined to be unsalvageable. One HMM-361 UH-34D was hit by enemy fire at coord. AT 998518, no injuries, and two more UH-34D's were hit at AT 976513 resulting in minor wounds to crew chief. Another HMM-361 UH-34D was hit by six S.A. rounds at coord. BT 083673, no injuries.

18 March - MAG-16 operations in all areas were normal.

19 March - MAG-16 operations in all areas were normal.

20 March - HMM-265 aircraft received mortar fire while in a landing zone at coord. AT 850663 but no hits were reported.

21 March - One VMO-2 UH-1E was destroyed by enemy mortar fire at coord. AT 855663. The aircraft had just lifted from the zone when 3 mortar rounds struck the zone. The pilot and crew chief died as a result of the crash. One HMM-361 UH-34D aircraft was hit by enemy fire at coord BT 115515 resulting in major injury to the pilot of the A/C.

22 March - One HMM-361 UH-34D aircraft was hit by enemy fire at coord. AT 923601, no injuries. One VMO-2 UH-1E was hit 7 miles south of DaNang, resulting in major injury to an enlisted crewman.

23 March - HMM-463 performed the following TAR's:

3 UH-34D's - 1 Field, 2 Admin

3 CH-46D's - 3 Admin

24 March - While participating in Operation WORTH, one HMM-265 CH-46A received enemy fire at a point nine miles west of DaNang resulting in major injuries to the pilot.

25 March - MAG-16 operations in all areas were normal.

26 March - A change of command ceremony was held at NFA hospital. Major F. W. CRONE relieved LtCol D. M. WILSON as CO, HMM-361. One HMM-265 CH-46A was hit by enemy fire at coord. AT 993573, no injuries.

27 March - The following HMM-265 CH-46A aircraft received hits: one at coord. AT 999567, one at AT 103652 and one at AT 103530, no injuries.

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28 March - One VMO-2 UH-1E while on an APD (Airborne Personnel Detector) mission fired on three elephants with one confirmed kill and two possible kills.

29 March - MAG-16 operations were normal in all areas.

30 March - MAG-16 operations were normal in all areas.

31 March - In the DaNang area, one HMM-265 CH-46A was hit by enemy fire at coord. PT 074514, no injuries.

(7) LCpl to Cpl	6
(8) PFC to LCpl	14
(9) Pvt to PFC	4

2. Awards

a. Air Medal

H&MS-16	37
HMM-265	320
HMH-463	17

b. Navy Commendation

H&MS-16	1
FARS-16	1
HMM-265	10

c. Good Conduct Medal

H&MS-16	3
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3. Casualties (Hostile)

RANK	NAME	DATE	PLACE
Capt	T. R. KIRKMAN	8MAR68	23 miles SW DaNang, RVN
Cpl	J. L. BRAID	8MAR68	10 mi South Base, RVN
LCpl	G. L. FOULK	17MAR68	7 miles SW DaNang, RVN

III-1

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<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
1stLt	P. H. MOODY	17MAR68	9 Miles SE DaNang, RVN
1stLt	R. J. HIMLER	17MAR68	9 Miles SE DaNang, RVN
Cpl	C. E. FUGGER	17MAR68	9 Miles SE DaNang, RVN
Cpl	E. D. PITMAN	17MAR68	9 Miles SE DaNang, RVN
SSgt	F. E. CONWAY	17MAR68	5 Miles SE MMAF, RVN
Cpl	J. L. HESTER	16MAR68	9 Miles W DaNang, RVN
LtCol	D. M. WILSON	21MAR68	12 Miles S DaNang, RVN
1stLt	N. G. WEYANT	21MAR68	20 Miles N DaNang, RVN
Cpl	G. L. LAKEY	21MAR68	11 Miles SW DaNang, RVN
Cpl	R. J. RUMERO	21MAR68	11 Miles SW DaNang, RVN
CySgt	C. STOEL	22MAR68	7 Miles S DaNang, RVN
Capt	D. W. ARISS	24MAR68	12 Miles SW DaNang, RVN

- a. 276 fire incidents were reported during the month.
- b. 39 of the above incidents resulted in damage to aircraft.
- c. 21 spot reports of intelligence value were received from aircrews and other sources, evaluated and disseminated to subordinate, higher, and adjacent commands.

d. Statistical Data

Flight hours per fire incident	20.6
Flight hours per aircraft hit	115.6
Flight hours per spot report	270.0

7. Air Operations

<u>HMM-265</u>	<u>CH-46A</u>	<u>HMM-361</u>	<u>UH-34D</u>
Hours	1348.6	Hours	1054.5
Sorties	4980	Sorties	3673
Pax	10,417	Pax	1479
Evacs	623	Evacs	1075
Cargo	831.2 Tons	Cargo	20.8 Tons

<u>HMH-463</u>	<u>CH-53A</u>	<u>TAR</u>	
Hours	1011.3	28 UH-34D	
Sorties	2850	5 UH-1E	
Pax	7433	14 CH-46A	
Evacs	0	1 H-23	
Cargo	3402.7 Tons		
<u>VMO-2</u>	<u>UH-1E</u>	<u>245th SAC</u>	<u>OV-10B/C</u>
Hours	1459.8	Hours	944
Sorties	4342	Sorties	524
Pax	1758	Pax	0
Evacs	19	Evacs	0
Cargo	0	Cargo	0

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<u>HAMS-16</u>	<u>O-1C/G</u>	<u>C-117D</u>	<u>UH-34D</u>	<u>CH-53A</u>
Hours	802.5	151.8	15.4	0.5
Sorties	289	85	32	1
Pax	0	821	0	0
Cargo	0	24.7 Tons	0	0

<u>MAG-16</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>
Hours	6783.4
Sorties	16,756
Pax	21,908
Evacs	1717
Cargo	4279.4 Tons

8. Ground Defense. During the month of March at Marble Mountain Air Facility, additional bunkers were built and defensive positions were constantly worked on and improved.

9. Motor Transport. During the month the Marble Mountain Air Facility Motor Transport Section travelled 64,893 miles; hauled 1,564,000 gallons of water; 40,800 gallons of MCGAS; 35,800 gallons of Diesel fuel; 1925 gallons of oil; 2407 tons of general cargo and transported 35,621 passengers.

10. TAFDS. During the month, the TAFDS Section issued the following amounts of fuel:

	<u>115/145</u>	<u>JP-4</u>
MMAF	127,498 gals	521,324 gals
An Hoa	<u>1,690</u>	<u>45,354</u>
TOTALS	129,188 gals	566,678 gals

11. Crash Crew. The Crash Crew responded as follows:

<u>Field</u>	<u>A/C Standbys</u>	<u>A/C Fires</u>	<u>Structural Emergency</u>
MMAF	31	3	1
An Hoa	3	None	1

12. Base Operations

a. During the month a TRN-16 Low Frequency Homer was received for installation.

b. Total operations handled by MMAF tower are as follows:

(1) Fixed Wing Operations	1595
(2) Helicopter Operations	19,194
(3) Total Operations	23,789
(4) IFR Operations	345

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III-4

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