

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 262  
Marine Aircraft Group 16  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMF Pacific  
FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

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5760  
1 November 1969

**[REDACTED]**  
From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 36 (Attn: S-3)  
Subj: Command Chronology, Period 16-31 October 1969  
Ref: (a) GruO 5750.1\_  
Encl: ✓(1) Command Chronology

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is hereby submitted.
2. This letter becomes UNCLASSIFIED upon removal of enclosure (1).

*H. M. Whitfield*  
H. M. WHITFIELD  
Acting

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16-31 OCT 1969

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. ORGANIZATION DATA

- |                            |                     |        |           |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--------|-----------|
| a. Commanding Officer      | Donald J. MESKAN    | MAJOR  | 16-31 Oct |
| b. Executive Officer       | Howard M. WHITFIELD | MAJOR  | 16-31 Oct |
| c. Operations Officer      | Simon F. STOVER     | CAPT   | 16-31 Oct |
| d. Logistics Officer       | Lester R. GROSE     | CAPT   | 16-31 Oct |
| e. Personnel Officer       | Paul W. DOSS        | 1STLT  | 16-31 Oct |
| f. Aviation Safety Officer | Donald V. ESMOND    | 1STLT  | 16-31 Oct |
| g. Intelligence Officer    | Hugo T. BECK        | 1STLT  | 16-31 Oct |
| h. Maintenance Officer     | David L. WHITE      | CAPT   | 16-31 Oct |
| i. Sergeant Major          | Thomas E. DUKE      | SGTMAJ | 16-31 Oct |

2. Task Organization and Unit Location

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 262  
 Marine Aircraft Group 16, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing,  
 MAF Pacific, FPO San Francisco, California 96602  
 Phu Bai Air Base, Republic of Vietnam, 16-31 October 1969

3. Average Monthly Strength of Squadron

<u>Naval Aviators</u>	<u>Air/Ground Officers</u>
43	3
<u>Enlisted</u>	<u>Naval Officers</u>
139	1

4. Important Visitors to the Squadron

None

ENCLOSURE NO

UNCLASSIFIED

PART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

HEM-262 flew a total of 602.8 flight hours, the majority of which were in support of III MARINE DIVISION & III MAF. The squadron evacuated a total of 22 med-evacs as follows: 11 emergency, 8 priority and 3 routine.

The following is a breakdown on the work completed by the squadron during 16-31 October 1969, including significant operational highlights.

	<u>NO. OF SORTIES</u>	<u>HOURS FLOWN</u>	<u>TROOPS LIFTED</u>	<u>TONS OF CARGO</u>
IDAHO CANYON	58	18.5	83	7.0
III MARDIV & III MAF	1755	584.3	3705	130.7
TOTALS	1813	602.8	3788	137.7

Flight operations were hampered during this reporting period (16-31 October) due to the fact that Northern I Corps was under the influence of heavy monsoon rains resulting in low ceilings and poor visibility. Further curtailment of flight hours resulted from reduced operational commitments to the III Marine Division as it pulled out of the field.

OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS19 October

Chatterbox 93-9 received small arms fire at YD 125635 during a recon extract. No hits were received and the mission was completed.

23 October

Chatterbox Med-Evac received small arms fire in the Traffic Pattern at Quang Tri, YD 318558. No hits.

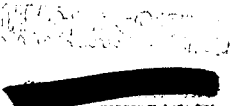
31 October

Chatterbox 11 & 12 launched to YD 275654 to extract "Barcroft", a six man recon team surrounded by an estimated seventy-five man NVA unit. Chatterbox 11 made the extract and received automatic weapons fire departing the zone. Aircraft starboard gunner returned suppressive .50 caliber fire. No hits.

PART III1. Personnel

- a. Transfer to HEM-262 - Officers 2
- b. Transfer from HEM-262 - None

ENCLOSURE (3)



c. Promotions to present rank:

KLINCK, R. H. LCPL 29 October 1969

2. Awards

NELSON, W. W. 1STLT Bronze Star in Lieu of 1st Air Medal  
 WILSON, D. A. GYSGT 1st Air Medal  
 HOLLER, G. J. LCPL Bronze Star in Lieu of 1st Air Medal  
 SHEETS, J. A. LCPL 1st Air Medal  
 WASSINGER, W. R. LCPL Bronze Star in Lieu of 1st Air Medal

3. Casualties

None

4. Reenlistments

None

5. Safety. Listed below are the aircraft accidents/incidents for the month of 16-31 October 1969.

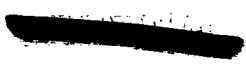
Ground Accidents.....0  
 Ground Accidents - Due to Enemy Action.....0  
 Air Accidents - Operational.....0  
 Air Incidents - Operational.....2  
 Air Accidents - Due to Enemy Action.....0  
 Air Incidents - Due to Enemy Action.....0  
 Injury to Personnel.....0

6. Intelligence

The month of October showed a continued low level of enemy anti-aircraft fire incidents. The reporting period (16-31 October 1969) consisted of a decrease in sorties and also a decrease in fire incidents, as the previous month (16-30 September 1969).

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>SORTIES</u>	<u>FIRE INCIDENTS</u>	<u>NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT RECEIVING BATTLE DAMAGE</u>	<u>% OF FIRE PER SORTIES</u>
16-31 October	1813	5	0	0.276
1-30 September	5178	13	0	0.251
1-31 August	5178	10	1	0.193

EVOLUTION (1)



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The areas receiving the largest volume of fire incidents were:

1. East of An Hoa, South East of Liberty Bridge by Alligator Lake and Spider Lake.
  - a. AT 8741 to AT 8733 to BT 0333 to BT 0341
  - b. AT 9448 to AT 9444 to AT 9944 to AT 9948
  - c. AT 8559 to AT 8549 to AT 9049 to AT 9059

There was a total of 8 fire incidents, none of our aircraft were hit. There were no aircraft forced to land, no strike aircraft and no casualties. 16-31 October fire incidents consisted of the following types of fire:

16-31 October 1969

- 1 - Small Arms
- 0 - Automatic Weapons
- 4 - .30 Cal.
- 2 - .50 Cal.
- 0 - Mortar
- 0 - Grenade
- 0 - RPG
- 1 - Airburst

ENCLOSURE (1)