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HEADQUARTERS  
Marine Aircraft Group 16  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac  
FPO, San Francisco 96602

3:RPG:elh  
5750  
003A04371  
12 February 1971

**DECLASSIFIED**

~~SECRET~~ -- Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1)

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Distribution List

Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1 - 31 January 1971

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.4

Encl: (1) Marine Aircraft Group 16 Command Chronology

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. This letter is downgraded to unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

*L. C. Street III*

L. C. STREET III

DISTRIBUTION: 1st MAW (3)  
MAG-16 S-3 (1)

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;  
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MAG-16  
SAC \* 0081-71  
COPY \* 2 of 4

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PART I

Organizational Data

<u>1. Designation</u>	<u>Commander</u>	<u>1-31 Jan 71</u>
CO, MAG-16	Col STREET, L. C. III	1-31Jan71
XO, MAG-16	LtCol GILLIS, J. E.	1-31Jan71

Subordinate Units

H&MS-16	LtCol PITMAN, C. H.	1-31Jan71
MABS-16	LtCol DEAN, J. M.	1-31Jan71
HML-167	LtCol BLANC, R. J.	1-31Jan71
HMM-262	LtCol WEST, F. K.	1-31Jan71
HMM-263	LtCol KECK, L. K.	1-31Jan71
HMM-364	LtCol STEADMAN, H. W.	1-31Jan71
HML-367	LtCol REESE, C. E.	1-31Jan71
HMH-463	LtCol LEISY, R. R.	1-31Jan71

2. Location

1-31 January 1971: Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN

3. Staff Officers

Executive Officer	LtCol GILLIS, J. E.	1-31Jan71
Adjutant	Capt STEFFAN, W. J.	1-31Jan71
S-1	Maj HAYNES, J. D.	1-31Jan71
S-2	Capt NOLL, E. G.	1-10Jan71
	Capt GARCIA, A. J.	11-31Jan71
S-3	LtCol GUAY, R. P.	1-31Jan71
S-4	LtCol FAILS, W. R.	1-31Jan71

4. Average Monthly Strength

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
335	2,042	9	26

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PART II

Narrative Summary

During the month of January 1971, MAG-16 continued its support of Free World Military Assistance Forces in the I Corps Tactical Zone. MAG-16 began the new calendar year of 1971 by flying a total of 7,782.2 hours and 26,581 sorties while supporting the First Marine Division, First Marine Aircraft Wing, the United States Army, and the Republic of Korea Marines and the Army of the Republic of Viet Nam. The increase of hours over the previous month can be attributed to the decrease in Monsoonal type weather.

There was one change of command during January 1971, Capt A. J. GARCIA relieved Capt E. G. NOLL of the duties as S-2 officer upon his rotation to CONUS.

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PART IIISequential Listing of Significant Events

1. Awards. There were 465 Strike/Flight Air Medals awarded during the month of January 1971.

2. Enemy Casualties and Damage Inflicted. MAG-16 inflicted 73 KBMA (Confirmed), 83 KBMA (Probable), 27 Hootches destroyed, 4 Punks destroyed, 8 Secondary explosions, 7 boats destroyed, and 6 POW's.

3. Intelligence. 34 aircrew spot reports of intelligence value were received from aircrews and other sources: this is 9 more than reported for the previous month. No reports of intelligence value were received from indigenous sources: no change from the previous month.

4. Sequential Listing of Significant Events by Date.

- 6 January 1971: Two UH-1E from HML-167, while on a visual reconnaissance accounted for two (2) KBMA (confirmed) and one (1) M79 destroyed.
- 6 January 1971: Two CH-46D, one CH-53, and four AH-1G, while on a re-supply for the 1st Marine Division, one (1) Hootch was destroyed. This was credited to HML-367.
- 7 January 1971: Two CH-46D, one CH-53, and four AH-1G, while on a re-supply for the 1st Marine Division, witnessed one (1) secondary explosion. This was credited to HML-367.
- 8 January 1971: Six CH-46D, one CH-53, four AH-1G, and one UH-1E, while on a strike for the 1st Marine Division, accounted for two (2) KBMA (probable). This was credited to HML-367.
- 9 January 1971: Two AH-1G, and one UH-1E, while on a visual reconnaissance, HML-167 was credited with three (3) KBMA (probable) and one (1) Boat destroyed.
- 10 January 1971: One CH-53, and four AH-1G, while on a re-supply for the 1st Marine Division, HML-367 was credited with destroying two (2) Hootches and damaging one (1) bunker.
- 12 January 1971: Three UH-1E from HML-167, while on a night visual reconnaissance, accounted for eight (8) KBMA (confirmed).
- 12 January 1971: Two UH-1E from HML-167, while on a visual reconnais-

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- 12 January 1971: sance was credited with three (3) KBMA (probable) and one (1) Hootch destroyed.
- 13 January 1971: One UH-1E from HML-167, while on a night visual reconnaissance, was credited with four (4) KBMA (probable), one (1) Hootch destroyed, and one (1) secondary explosion.
- 13 January 1971: Two UH-1E from HML-167, while on a visual reconnaissance were credited with three (3) KBMA (confirmed).
- 14 January 1971: Two AH-1G, and two UH-1E, while on a visual reconnaissance were credited with one (1) KBMA and three (3) (probables). These were credited to HML-367.
- 14 January 1971: Three UH-1E, from HML-167, while on a night visual reconnaissance, destroyed two (2) Hootches.
- 14 January 1971: Two UH-1E, from HML-167, visual reconnaissance, were credited with two (2) KBMA (confirmed).
- 15 January 1971: Two CH-46D and two UH-1E, while flying visual reconnaissance, HML-167 was credited with 30 KBMA (confirmed), 25 KBMA (probable), and two (2) Boats destroyed.
- 15 January 1971: Two UH-1E from HML-167, while on a night visual reconnaissance mission, were credited with three (3) KBMA (confirmed), and 21 KBMA (probable).
- 15 January 1971: One UH-1E, four AH-1G, and four CH-46D, while on mission 80, were credited with five (5) KBMA (probable).
- 17 January 1971: Two UH-1E from HML-167, while on a visual reconnaissance mission, were credited with one (1) KBMA (probable).
- 18 January 1971: Two UH-1E from HML-167, while on a visual reconnaissance mission, were credited with six (6) KBMA (confirmed), three (3) KBMA (probable) and one (1) secondary explosion.
- 19 January 1971: One UH-1E from HML-167, while on a night visual reconnaissance mission, was credited with five (5) KBMA (confirmed).
- 20 January 1971: Two UH-1E from HML-167, while flying a visual reconnaissance mission destroyed one (1) Hootch and was credited with four (4) KBMA (confirmed).

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- 21 January 1971: While flying mission 6 the pilot of aircraft 153364 of HMM-364 lost rotor turns approaching an LZ at ZC172587. Despite trying to abort the approach, the aircraft settled into the trees resulting in the total loss of the aircraft and six (6) Marines killed.
- 22 January 1971: One UH-1E and two AH-1G, while on a visual reconnaissance mission, destroyed one (1) Hootch. This was credited to HML-367.
- 22 January 1971: One UH-1E from HML-167, while on a night visual reconnaissance mission, destroyed one (1) Hootch and was credited with three (3) KBMA (probable).
- 22 January 1971: One UH-1E from HML-167, while on a night visual reconnaissance mission, destroyed one (1) Hootch and was credited with three (3) KBMA (confirmed).
- 23 January 1971: Four CH-53, six AH-1G and one UH-1E, while flying a strike for the 1st Marine Division, destroyed one (1) Hootch.
- 23 January 1971: Two UH-1E from HML-167, while on a visual reconnaissance mission, destroyed two (2) Hootches and was credited with one (1) KBMA (probable).
- 24 January 1971: Two UH-1E from HML-167, while flying a visual reconnaissance mission, destroyed two (2) Hootches.
- 25 January 1971: Two UH-1E from HML-167, while flying on a visual reconnaissance mission, destroyed three (3) Hootches, and was credited with one (1) secondary explosion and one (1) KBMA (probable).
- 26 January 1971: Two UH-1E from HML-167, while on a visual reconnaissance mission, destroyed two (2) Hootches and was credited with two (2) KBMA (probable).
- 26 January 1971: Three CH-46D and two AH-1G from HMM-367, destroyed one (1) Hootch and damaged two (2) others, while flying reconnaissance. They were also credited with two KBMA (probable).
- 26 January 1971: Six CH-46D, one CH-53, four AH-1G and one UH-1E, while on a strike mission for the 1st Marine Division, HML-367 was credited with destroying three (3) bunkers and one (1) Hootch.

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- 27 January 1971: One UH-1E and two AH-1G, while on a night visual reconnaissance mission, HML-367 was credited with one (1) KBMA (confirmed). They also destroyed two (2) Hootches and witnessed one (1) secondary explosion.
- 28 January 1971: Six CH-46D, four AH-1G and one UH-1E, while flying a strike mission for the 1st Marine Division, HML-367 was credited with one (1) secondary explosion.
- 30 January 1971: Two CH-46D, and two UH-1E, while flying reconnaissance, HML-167 was credited with one (1) KBMA (confirmed).
- 30 January 1971: Four CH-46D, two AH-1G and one UH-1E, while on mission 80, HMM-262, was credited with one (1) KBMA (probable).
- 31 January 1971: Two CH-46D and two UH-1E, while on a reconnaissance mission, HML-167 was credited with two (2) secondary explosions.
- 31 January 1971: Six CH-46D, one CH-53, four AH-1G and one UH-1E, while on a strike mission for the 1st Marine Division, HML-167 was credited with one (1) POW and three (3) KBMA (probable).
- 31 January 1971: Six CH-46D, one CH-53, four AH-1G and one UH-1E, while on a strike mission for the 1st Marine Division, HML-367 was credited with destroying four (4) Boats and two (2) KBMA (confirmed).
- 31 January 1971: Two UH-1E from HML-167, while on a visual reconnaissance mission, they destroyed one (1) bunker and one (1) Hootch.
- 31 January 1971: Six CH-46D, one CH-53, four AH-1G and one UH-1E, while on a strike for the 1st Marine Division, HMM-262 was credited with two (2) POW's, two (2) KBMA (confirmed) and destroying one (1) Hootch.

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5. Air Operations

	<u>HML-167(UH-1E)</u>	<u>HML-367(AH-1G)</u>		
Hours	1,886.3	1,483.7		
Sorties	5,419	4,635		
KBA(Confirmed)	69	4		
Pax	3,347	Ø		
	<u>HMM-262(CH-46D)</u>	<u>HMM-263(CH-46D)</u>	<u>HMM-364(CH-46D)</u>	
Hours	1,378.1	1,080.8	1,191.0	
Sorties	4,449	4,282	4,892	
Evacs	224	198	170	
Pax	12,211	10,540	11,763	
Cargo (Tons)	215	190.4	228	
	<u>HMH-463(CH-53D)</u>	<u>H&amp;MS-16(CH-46D)</u>		
Hours	748.0	14.3		
Sorties	2,896	8		
PAX	14,561	Ø		
Cargo (Tons)	2,911.7	Ø		
TAR's	10	Ø		
<u>MAG-16</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>		<u>MAG-16</u>	<u>TOTAL FY71</u>
Hours	7,782.2		Hours	58,789.0
Sorties	26,581		Sorties	198,302
Pax	52,422		Pax	392,299
Cargo (Tons)	3,545.1		Cargo (Tons)	33,341.4
Evacs	592		Evacs	8,114
KBA (Confirmed)	73		KBA (Confirmed)	314
TAR's	10		TAR's	53

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12 February 19716. Hostile Fire Analysisa. Enroute Fire Incident/Hit Chart

	OVER 500'	UNDER 500'	TOTAL
INCIDENTS	12	10	22
HITS	Ø	Ø	Ø

(1) The following conclusion is based on the above chart.

(a) 46% of the enroute fire incidents occurred below 500 feet AGL.

b. Fire Incident/Hit Chart

<u>TYPE MSN.</u>	<u>FLT TIME</u>		<u>FIRE INCIDENTS</u>		<u>HITS</u>	
	HR.	%	NUMBER	%	INCID	%
MEDEVAC	590	7	18	18	2	22
STRIKE	2819	37	22	21	3	33
OTHER	4373	56	63	61	4	45
TOTAL	7782	100	103	100	9	100

c. Analysis of fire incidents/hits sustained indicates that most occur at random except the strike mission and the medevac mission where a definite trend has been shown. Based on the above chart prior compiled data, all flights below 1500 feet AGL are escorted by gunships.

d. This command previously initiated correspondence requesting additional fire support from units needing medevac support. This resulted in a drop of 20%, from 66% the previous month to 46% for this month, showing that a constant field of fire by the ground unit when the aircraft is descending to final approach combined with proper gunship air-support procedures, reduces the vulnerability of the medevac transport.

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PART IV

Supporting Documents

MAG-16 Control Number/  
Letter Identification

✓ Command Chronology of HML-167

03A03771

✓ Command Chronology of HML-367

03A03771

✓ Command Chronology of HMM-262

03A03671

✓ Command Chronology of HMM-263

03A03771

✓ Command Chronology of HMM-364

03A03571

✓ Command Chronology of HMH-463

CO, HMH-463 ltr 3: MJW:trs  
5750 of 6 February 1971

✓ Command Chronology of H&MS-16

CO, H&MS-16 ltr 1/CTL/ggs  
5213 of 3 February 1971

✓ Command Chronology of MABS-16

CO, MABS-16 ltr of 6Feb71

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