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MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 163  
Marine Aircraft Group 13 (Rein)  
9th Marine Amphibious Brigade  
Fleet Marine Force, Pacific  
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

3:DVM:ab  
5750  
Ser: 03A24366  
31 Aug 1966



From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 13 (Rein)  
Subj: Command Chronology, 1-15 Aug 1966 (U)  
Ref: (a) BrigadeO 5750.1  
(b) Your msg 190423Z Aug 1966

MMHM-163 S & C FILES  
No. 650667  
1 of 2

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

*R. D. Bianchi*  
R. D. BIANCHI

MAG-13
REF # 66-1173
COPY # 1



APPENDIX XIII

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Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 163  
1-15 Aug 1966  
MCAF Futema, Okinawa



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A. PART ONE - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Commanding Officer and Staff

- a. Charles A. HOUSE, LtCol., Commanding Officer, 1-11 Aug 1966
- b. Rocco D. BIANCHI, LtCol., Commanding Officer, 12-15 Aug 1966
- c. Joseph P. BENO, Maj., Executive Officer, 1-15 Aug 1966
- d. Thomas J. COWPER, Maj., Operations Officer, 1-15 Aug 1966
- e. William S. MORGAN, Maj., Material Officer, 1-15 Aug 1966
- f. William J. GREGORY, 1stLt., A/C Maint. Officer, 1-15 Aug 1966
- g. Robert L. KEMBLE, Capt., Aviation Safety Officer, 1-15 Aug 1966
- h. Forrest E. WALKER, Capt., NATOPS Officer, 1-15 Aug 1966
- i. John R. MORGAN, 1stLt., Administrative Officer, 1-15 Aug 1966
- j. Peter EUSTIS, Capt., Intelligence Officer, 1-15 Aug 1966
- k. James R. FOWLER, Lt., USN(MC), Medical Officer, 1-15 Aug 1966
- l. Harvey J. OLITSKY, 1stLt., Custodian S&C, 1-15 Aug 1966

2. Task Organization

Location - Marine Corps Air Facility, Futema, Okinawa 1-15 Aug 1966.

3. Average Monthly Strength

<u>MARINE</u>		<u>NAVY</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
49	149	1	0

4. Important Visitors

- a. On 6 August 1966, General Wallace M. GREENE(CMC) visited this command.

B. PART TWO - NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1 Aug 1966 - Normal Operations. Only test hops were flown for a total of 2.4 hours.

2&3 Aug 1966 - No flights scheduled or flown. Movement of troops and gear from Republic of Vietnam still in progress.

4 Aug 1966 - Normal operations. Ten (10.0) hours were flown today in area familiarization.

Enclosure (1)

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B. PART TWO - NARRATIVE SUMMARY (continued)

5 Aug 1966 - Normal Operations. 9.1 hours flown. See PART III Special Operations.

6 Aug 1966 - Normal Operations. 13.3 hours were flown carrying sixty (60) passengers in support of paratroops.

7 Aug 1966 (Sunday) - No flights scheduled but three (3) VIP flights were completed.

8 Aug 1966 - Normal Operations. 18.4 hours flown with 76 sorties carrying 69 passengers. One (1) VIP flight completed.

9 Aug 1966 - Normal Operations. 28.6 hours flown with 76 sorties carrying 67 passengers. Paratroop operations conducted.

10 Aug 1966 - Normal Operations. 19.0 hours flown with 45 sorties carrying 48 passengers.

11 Aug 1966 - Normal Operations. 8.6 hours flown with 23 sorties carrying 23 passengers. Flight operations were terminated by 1200 (noon) due to the discovery of one (1) aircraft having a broken input arm assembly. All aircraft were grounded for inspection.

12 Aug 1966 - No flights scheduled or flown due to Change of Command ceremony. See PART III.

13 Aug 1966 - Flight schedule cancelled because of weather.

14 Aug 1966 - Major J. P. BENO (Executive Officer) led a flight of three (3) aircraft to Iwakuni, Japan for overhaul and repair.

15 Aug 1966 - Normal Operations. 10.8 hours flown with 15 sorties carrying 8 passengers. One (1) aircraft found with throttle synchronization unit broken and two (2) other aircraft with the unit cracked. All remaining scheduled flight were cancelled for inspection of remaining aircraft.

Enclosure (1)

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**C. PART THREE - SIGNIFICANT EVENTS**

**1. Personnel**

a. During the period one (1) officer was transferred and five (5) officers and sixteen (16) enlisted were joined. On 12 Aug 1966 LtCol. Charles A. HOUSE was formally relieved as Commanding Officer by LtCol. Rocco D. BIANCHI.

**2. Administration. No significant events.**

**3. Awards**

a. The Distinguished Flying Cross was presented to 1stLt. E. H. RESSLER for his actions in the evacuation of Ashau. Also sixty-two (62) Air Medals, one (1) Navy Commendation Medal, three (3) Good Conduct Awards and seventeen (17) Combat Air Crew Insignia were awarded. Four (4) LCpl's were promoted to Corporal.

**4. Casualties. None.**

**5. Civic Action**

a. The squadron launched two (2) aircraft on 11 Aug 1966 to carry nine (9) passengers on a sight seeing tour over the Futema area in support of the people-to-people program. The nine (9) passengers were local Okinawan civic leaders including the mayor of Koza.

**6. Morale/Welfare Programs. No significant events.**

**7. Informational Services. No significant events.**

**8. Intelligence/Counter-Intelligence. No significant events.**

**9. Air Operations**

a. Flight Hours - - - - - 120.2  
 b. Sorties - - - - - 268  
 c. Passengers - - - - - 275  
 d. Cargo - - - - - 750 LBS  
 e. Med Evacs - - - - - None

Enclosure (1)

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C. PART THREE - SIGNIFICANT EVENTS (continued)

10. Special Operations

a. On 5 Aug 1966 this squadron dispatched three (3) aircraft to be used by the Commandant-of-the Marine Corps and his party during thier recent visit to Okinawa. Major COWPER led the flight which assisted the Commandant in his tour of the island, visiting various Marine installations here. A fourth aircraft was utilized by ISO to cover the Commandant's visit.

11. Ground Defense. No significant Events.

12. NBC Warfare. No significant Events.

13. Training

a. Ground training commenced for both officers and enlisted. Lectures were given to both officers and enlisted by representatives of MCAF, Futema concerning Rules and Regulations and Special Services offered. All enlisted men were given lectures on Venereal Diseases.

14. Logistics. No significant events.

15. Motor Transport. No significant events.

16. Maintenance

a. On 11 Aug 1966 while proceeding from line to active runway one (1) aircraft experienced a severe downpitch in cyclic control. Aircraft was inspected and a broken input arm was found. All aircraft were inspected and two (2) more aircraft, with input arms cracked were found. All arms were sent to be x-rayed and were subsequently returned and aircraft were placed in an up status again. On 15 Aug 1966 one (1) aircraft were found with a broken synchronization arm and two (2) aircraft were found with the arms cracked. All aircraft were grounded and inspections conducted. Aircraft were returned to ready status the following day.

17. Avionics. No significant events.

D. PART IV - SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. None.

Enclosure (1)