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

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5750
5 Feb 1970

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 16

Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1-31 January 1970

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).

R. A. BANCROFT

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. ORGANIZATION DATA

a.	Commanding Officer	LTCOL	Richard A. BANCROFT	1-31Jan70
b.	Executive Officer	MAJOR	Wiley J. SELLERS	1-25Jan70
		MAJOR	James M. PERRYMAN, Jr.	26-31Jan70
c.	Operations Officer	1STLT	Steven D. BRAVARD	1-10Jan70
		MAJOR	Wiley J. SELLERS	11-31Jan70
d.	Logistics Officer	CAPT	Lester R. GROSE	1-10Jan70
		1STLT	William C. KING	11-31Jan70
e.	Administrative Officer	CAPT	Walter W. GUSTIN	1-31Jan70
f.	Aviation Safety Officer	1STLT	Donald V. EDMOND	1-14Jan70
		1STLT	Charles W. FLEISCHER, Jr.	15-31Jan70
g.	Intelligence Officer	1STLT	Hugo S. BECK	1-25Jan70
		1STLT	Jackie A. PAGE	26-31Jan70
h.	Aircraft Maintenance Officer	CAPT	David L. WHITE	1-10Jan70
		MAJOR	Robert M. FITZGERALD	11-31Jan70
i.	Sergeant Major	SGTMAJ	Thomas E. DUKE	1-31Jan70

2. Task Organization and Unit Location

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 262
Marine Aircraft Group 16, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing,
FMF Pacific, FPO, San Francisco, California 96602
Phu Bai Air Base, Republic of Vietnam, 1-31 January 1970

3. Average Strength of Squadron

NAVAL AVIATORS	AIR/GROUND OFFICER
50	4
ENLISTED	**NAVAL OFFICERS**
172	1

ENCLOSURE (1)

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4. Important Visitors to the Squadron. MAJGEN W. G. THRASH, Commanding General, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, visited HMM-262 on 25 January 1970. BGEN R. H. SPANJER, Assistant Wing Commander, visited HMM-262 on 22 January 1970. BGEN T. H. MILLER, Jr., G-3, III Marine Amphibious Force, visited HMM-262 on 25 January 1970.

PART II

OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

1. The month of January 1970 produced a significant increase in flight hours and aircraft sorties flown. For the first time since August 1969, the CNO flight hour utilization factor of 60 hours per month per operational aircraft assigned was attained. An average of 20 operational CH-46D's assigned flew 1237 flight hours and 4214 sorties during January 1970 in support of the 1st Marine Division, Republic of Korea Marine Corps, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, and III Marine Amphibious Force.

2. The majority of the January flight hours and sorties (98%) were flown within the 1st MARDIV/ROKMC TAOR's in Quang Nam and Quang Tin Provinces. January's missions consisted primarily of execution of standard fragmentary orders involving routine command and control, troop movement, resupply, VIP support, medical evacuation, and reconnaissance flights. Two percent of the squadron's flight effort was in support of the Third Force Reconnaissance Company's recon operations in the Ashau Valley, Thua Thien Province.

3. While executing the foregoing combat support flight operations, the value of the CH-53D as a Tactical Aircraft Recovery (TAR) vehicle was thrice demonstrated to HMM-262. Three "Chatterbox" CH-46D's were retrieved by TAR, two from unsecure field locations, after they had been forced to land. The CH-46D's were flying combat missions the day following their TAR.

4. The squadron, currently located at the Phu Bai Combat Base which is approximately 30 minutes flying time north of the MAG-16 Marble Mountain Air Facility, expends one flight hour and two sorties more than a sister CH-46D squadron based at the Marble Mountain Air Facility when both units are flying identical missions in support of 1st MARDIV, ROKMC, and III MAF. This inefficient and undesireable situation for HMM-262 will soon be rectified. The squadron has been alerted to move to Marble Mountain Air Facility between 15 February and 1 March 1970.

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PART III

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Personnel

a.	Transferred to HMM-262	- 5 Officers	27 Enlisted
b.	Transferred from HMM-262	-11 Officers	9 Enlisted
c.	Promotion to present rank	- 1 Officer	12 Enlisted

2. Awards. The Strike/Flight Air Medal was awarded to 40 personnel of the squadron, and one man was awarded a Single Mission Air Medal. LCPL W. H. STRICKLER, 2445403, was awarded the Purple Heart Medal on 10 January 1970 for wounds sustained on 17 November 1969.

3. Civic Action. During the month of January, the Protestant Tin Dang Orphanage was supplied with 50 pounds of food. It was noted that the addition to the orphanage was about 75% completed and the supplies donated by the squadron were being put to good use.

4. Informational Services. Two officers joined the squadron which resulted in two Home Town News Releases. Twenty-seven enlisted Home Town News Releases were published on awards and promotions.

5. Intelligence. The reporting period (1-31 January 1970) reflected an increase in aircraft sorties and a slight increase in fire incidents.

MONTH	SORTIES	FIRE INCIDENTS	NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT RECEIVING BATTLE DAMAGE	% OF FIRE PER SORTIES
1-31 January	4214	22	3	0.522
1-31 December	2646	23	5	0.766
1-30 November	1813	14	6	0.568

The area receiving the largest volume of fire was from AT8365 to AT8333 to BT2333 to BT2350 to BT1165 to AT 8365.

6. Air Operations

HOURS FLOWN	TASKS FLOWN	SORTIES FLOWN	CARGO CARRIED	MED-EVAC CARRIED	PASSENGERS CARRIED
1236.9	2082 1/	4214	336 TONS	399 2/	6361

NOTES: 1. Includes following reconnaissance effort: 31 Inserts, 18 Extracts, and 1 "Flip-Flop".
2. Includes 91 "Emergency", 145 "Priority", and 163 "Routine" Med-Evacs.

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7. Ground Defense. The HMM-262 Reactionary Platoon, working in coordination with the Army Rifle Company in charge of Base Defense, has been twice called upon during the month of January to man the perimeter as security against the Tet Offensive.

8. Safety. Listed below are the aircraft accident/incidents for the month of 1-31 January 1970.

Ground Accidents.....1
Ground Accidents - Due to Enemy Action.....0
Air Accidents - Operational.....0

Air Incidents - Operational.....1
Air Accidents - Due to Enemy Action.....0
Air Incidents - Due to Enemy Action.....5
Injuries to Personnel.....0

9. Training. January training included special emphasis on Reactionary Platoon Training and FAM firing in preparation for the Tet Offensive. The Aircrew Orientation program was revised to better prepare crews for combat flights. Special lectures on aircraft systems were conducted by Technical Representatives, along with intensified technical training in maintenance.

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