

MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 263
Marine Aircraft Group 16
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
FPO, San Francisco 96602

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5750
4 April 1969
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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 16 (Attn: S-3)
Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1-31 March 1969
Ref: (a) WqO 5750.1C
(b) GruO 5750.1C
(c) SqdO 5750.1

Encl: ✓(1) Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 263, Command Chronology

1. In accordance with references (a), (b) and (c), enclosure (1) is hereby submitted.
2. Downgrading instructions: Group 4. Unclassified when enclosure (1) is removed.

HMM-263, S & C' Files
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R. E. HOFSTETTER
R. E. HOFSTETTER

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MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 263
Marine Aircraft Group 16
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
FPO, San Francisco 96602
Marble Mountain, Republic of Vietnam
1-31 March 1969

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. STAFF OFFICERS

Commanding Officer	LtCol R. E. HOFSTETTER	1-31 Mar 1969
Executive Officer	Major L. I. BLANKENSHIP	"
Operations Officer	Major R. D. FOWNER	1-23 Mar 1969
	Major G. W. HINTZ	24-31 Mar 1969
Administrative Officer	Capt D. S. VAN LIEW	1-31 Mar 1969
Aircraft Maintenance Officer	Major F. P. ACCOMANDO	"
Logistics Officer	Major B. R. TERHORST	1-23 Mar 1969
	Capt K. A. SWANNACK	24-31 Mar 1969
NATOPS Officer	Capt J. G. FLYNN	1-31 Mar 1969
Aviation Safety Officer	Capt J. A. HOCKADAY	1-24 Mar 1969
	1stLt V. R. GEER	25-31 Mar 1969
Intelligence Officer	CWO-2 R. L. WINFIELD	1-31 Mar 1969
Motor Transport Officer	1stLt J. C. SHORT	"
Flight Surgeon	Lt T. S. DAVIS	"
Sergeant Major	SgtMaj D. N. SIMMS	"

2. UNIT LOCATION

HMM-263, 1-31 March 1969, Marble Mountain Air Facility, Danang, Republic of Vietnam

3. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

	<u>USMC</u>	<u>USN</u>	<u>OTHER</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Officer	49	1	0	50
Enlisted	157	0	0	157

4. IMPORTANT VISITORS

None

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1. Daily Summary of Events. The following was flown in support of III MAF, 1st MARDIV, Operation TAYLOR COMMON, Operation OKLAHOMA HILLS and VICTORY DRAGON IX.

- 1 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 150 sorties for 54.4 flight hours, lifting 34.0 tons of cargo and carrying 191 troops/passengers. Ten med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 4 emergency, 18 priority and 34 routine casualties. Three fire incidents were reported, receiving 1 hit, no injuries, and returning 300 rounds of .50 cal.
- 2 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 84 sorties for 23.5 flight hours, lifting 2.0 tons of cargo and 189 troops/passengers. Fourteen med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 12 emergency, 8 priority and 16 routine casualties. One fire incident was reported, receiving 2 hits and no injuries. Negative rounds expended.
- 3 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 137 sorties for 44.4 flight hours, lifting 30.0 tons of cargo and 87 troops/passengers. Twenty-five med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 11 emergency, 5 priority and 32 routine casualties. Two fire incidents were reported, no hits or injuries were sustained, 500 rounds of .50 cal. were expended.
- 4 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 89 sorties for 25.2 flight hours, lifting 25.5 tons of cargo and 244 troops/passengers. Six med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 2 emergency, 2 priority and 10 routine casualties. One fire incident was reported, negative hits or injuries being sustained, 150 rounds of .50 cal. were expended.
- 5 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 141 sorties for 46.9 flight hours, lifting 3.0 tons of cargo and 368 troops/passengers. Fifteen med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 5 emergency, 11 priority and 21 routine casualties. No fire incidents were reported this day.

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- 6 March 1969 (1) HMM-263 flew 123 sorties for 54.0 flight hours, lifting 28.7 tons of cargo and 226 troops/passengers. Twenty med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 10 emergency, 7 priority and 22 routine casualties. One fire incident was reported with negative injury or hits. Seventy-five rounds of .50 cal. were expended.
- 7 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 164 sorties for 48.9 flight hours, lifting 27.9 tons of cargo and 312 troops/passengers. Four med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 2 emergency and 2 priority casualties. No fire incidents were reported during the day.
- 8 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 192 sorties for 48.1 flight hours, lifting 17.8 tons of cargo and 440 troops/passengers. Fifteen med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 5 emergency, 20 priority and 51 routine casualties. No fire incidents were reported.
- 9 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 108 sorties for 44.2 flight hours, lifting 31.4 tons of cargo and 251 troops/passengers. Thirteen med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 5 emergency, 6 priority and 24 routine casualties. Two fire incidents were reported with no hits or injury being sustained, 500 rounds of .50 cal. were expended.
- 10 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 101 sorties for 21.7 flight hours, lifting 7.5 tons of cargo and 100 troops/passengers. Nineteen med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 7 emergency, 22 priority and 27 routine casualties. No fire incidents were reported this day.
- 11 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 78 sorties for 28.9 flight hours, lifting 4.7 tons of cargo and 126 troops/passengers. Twenty-seven med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 5 emergency, 21 priority and 1 routine. No fire incidents were reported this day.
- 12 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 114 sorties for 27.9 flight hours, lifting 11.0 tons of cargo and 153 troops/passengers. Six med-evac missions were flown evacuating 6 emergency, 22 priority and 3 routine casualties. One fire incident was reported with negative damage, 100 rounds of .50 cal. were expended.

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- 13 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 46 sorties for 15.9 flight hours, lifting 2.5 tons of cargo and 37 troops/passengers. No med-evac missions flown and no fire incidents reported.
- 14 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 178 sorties for 35.3 flight hours, lifting 26.2 tons of cargo and 423 troops/passengers. Fifteen med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 11 emergency, 13 priority and 3 routine. Three fire incidents were reported with negative hits or injuries.
- 15 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 202 sorties for 48.3 flight hours, lifting 36.3 tons of cargo and 408 troops/passengers. Ten med-evac missions were flown evacuating 13 emergency, 13 priority and 6 routine. No fire incidents reported.
- 16 March 1969 (C) No flight operations were scheduled this day.
- 17 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 91 sorties for 23.4 flight hours, lifting 0.8 tons of cargo and 101 troops/passengers. Thirteen med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 3 emergency, 10 priority and 5 routine. No fire incidents reported.
- 18 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 226 sorties for 62.3 flight hours, lifting 6.0 tons of cargo and 346 troops/passengers. Thirteen med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 12 emergency 3 priority and 5 routine. No fire incidents reported.
- 19 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 74 sorties for 28.8 flight hours, lifting 0.4 tons of cargo and 156 troops/passengers. Three med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 1 emergency, 4 priority and no routine. Two fire incidents were reported with 68 hits and 5 injuries, 600 rounds of .50 cal. were expended.
- 20 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 134 sorties for 42.6 flight hours, lifting 14.6 tons of cargo and 202 troops/passengers. Thirty-five med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 13 emergency, 9 priority and 23 routine casualties. One fire incident was reported with negative hits or injuries sustained, no ammo expended.
- 21 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 187 sorties for 50.6 flight hours, lifting 47.7 tons of cargo and 285 troops/passengers. Four med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 3 priority and 1 routine casualties. No fire incidents reported.

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- 22 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 187 sorties for 38.3 flight hours, lifting 19.5 tons of cargo and 447 troops/passengers. Seventeen med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 11 emergency, 4 priority and 3 routine. One fire incident was reported with negative hits.
- 23 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 166 sorties for 41.7 flight hours, lifting 20.5 tons of cargo and 345 troops/passengers. Twenty-seven med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 5 emergency, 5 priority and 17 routine casualties. No fire incidents were reported.
- 24 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 140 sorties for 40.2 flight hours, lifting 29.0 tons of cargo and 221 troops/passengers. Eleven med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 2 emergency, 14 priority and 30 routine. No fire incidents were reported.
- 25 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 102 sorties for 29.2 flight hours, lifting 3.7 tons of cargo and 324 troops/passengers. Fifteen med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 5 emergency, 10 priority and 53 routine. One fire incident was reported with negative hits or injuries, 50 rounds of .50 cal. were expended.
- 26 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 140 sorties for 34.8 flight hours, lifting 12.6 tons of cargo and 444 troops/passengers. Thirteen med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 12 emergency, 4 priority and 11 routine casualties. Four fire incidents were reported with five hits and 2 injuries, 60 rounds of .50 cal. were expended.
- 27 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 148 sorties for 46.6 flight hours, lifting 10.5 tons of cargo and 314 troops/passengers. Three med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 4 emergency, 6 priority and 6 routine. Three fire incidents were reported with 1 hit and 1 injury, negative return fire.
- 28 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 65 sorties for 24.9 flight hours, lifting 1.5 tons of cargo and 323 troops/passengers. Four med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 37 routine casualties. No fire incidents reported.
- 29 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 91 sorties for 29.6 flight hours, lifting 99 troops/passengers. Twenty-two med-evac missions flown, 14 emergency, 26 priority and 9 routine. Two fire incidents reported, negative damage, 400 rounds of .50 cal. were expended.

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- 30 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 152 sorties for 37.5 flight hours, lifting 19.0 tons of cargo and 310 troops/passengers. Fifteen med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 5 emergency, 14 priority and 25 routine. Two fire incidents were reported with negative damage, 150 rounds of .50 cal. were expended.
- 31 March 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 162 sorties for 47.5 flight hours, lifting 7.7 tons of cargo and 423 troops/passengers. Thirty-five med-evac missions were flown, evacuating 17 emergency, 8 priority and 61 routine. One fire incident was reported with negative damage.
2. HMM-263 flew a total of 1,145.6 flight hours; 3,972 sorties; lifting 7,895 troops/passengers and 446.0 tons of cargo with an average aircraft availability of 11 aircraft for the period.

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	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
a. Personnel Joined	7	4	11
b. Personnel Dropped	7	8	15

2. ADMINISTRATION

	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
a. Personnel Promoted	0	4	4
b. Personnel Reduced	0	0	0

3. CASUALTIES FOR THE MONTH

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>SERNO.</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>KIA/WIA</u>	<u>DATE</u>
LOBDELL, Guy W.	CPL	2277146	USMC	WIA	19Mar69
LAMBERTSON, Boyd A.	LCPL	2331856	"	"	"
HAUPT, Robert W.	SGT	2072329	"	"	"
WILCOX, James T.	LCPL	2297853	"	"	"
CRAWFORD, Robert C.	L/Lt	0100967	"	"	"
CROCE, Joseph D.	LCPL	2282435	"	"	26Mar69
MARKWOOD, Paul E.	CPL	2271310	"	"	"
TRAASDAHL, E. C.	L/Lt	095737	"	"	"
THOMAS, Roosevelt	SSGT	1694788	"	"	27Mar69

The above were all wounded in Quang Nam Province, RVN

4. INTELLIGENCE

a. The Squadron received and recorded intelligence information from III MAF, 1st MAW, 1st Division, MAG-16 and the 1st Recon Bn. The 7th Marines were used as an intelligence source for the first time this month. Direct liaison was established prior to the commencement of Operation OKLAHOMA HILLS. Daily ISUM's are received while the Squadron supports them and will continue until the completion of the operation.

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b. Liaison with 1st Marine Division (G-2) and the 7th Marines (S-2) was established for Operation OKLAHOMA HILLS. This liaison provided the Squadron with the Operation Order, area study, and a limited amount of hand held and panoramic photography to support the operation.

c. HMM-263 received one incoming 122mm rocket round during the reporting period.

d. During this period the Intelligence Section produced two newsletters and gave 3 formal briefs in a continuing update of intelligence. One brief was to the enlisted air crews prior to the commencement of OKLAHOMA HILLS.

(1) A SERE movie was presented to members of the Squadron, both Officers and Enlisted.

(2) Six officers attended JEST School at Cubi Point.

e. Fire incidents for March are as follows:

<u>Fire Incidents</u>	<u># Aircraft Hit</u>	<u>Number of Hits</u>
30	10	86

5. LOGISTICS

a. NCRS "G" Resume

(1) Submitted	290
(2) Completed	251
(3) Pending	39 against 5 A/C

b. NCRS "N" Resume

None

6. OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

a. Major Operations Supported:

(1) Thirty-one aircraft of HMM-263 flew 997 sorties for 292.2 flight hours, lifting 1,838 troops/passengers and 152.9 tons of cargo. One hundred-one med-evac missions were flown as follows, 29 emergency,

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30 priority and 42 routine. Total ammunition expended amounted to 1,625 rounds, all in support of Operation TAYLOR COMMON.

(2) Fourteen aircraft of HM-263 flew 190 sorties for 47.0 flight hours, lifting 641 troops/passengers and 52.0 tons of cargo. Two med-evac missions were flown, one emergency and one priority, all in support of Operation VICTORY DRAGON IX.

(3) Seven aircraft of HM-263 flew 76 sorties for 11.6 flight hours, lifting 259 troops/passengers. One priority med-evac mission was also flown in support of Operation OKLAHOMA HILLS.

b. Total Flight Hours	1,145.6
c. Total Tasks	948
d. Total Sorties	3,972
e. Total Troops/passengers	7,895
f. Total Tons Cargo Lifted	480.0
g. Total Med-evacs carried	1,027

7. AIRCRAFT DAMAGE

The following Squadron aircraft received battle damage during the period 1-31 March 1969; 154791, 154800, 154802, 154803, 154807, 154808, 154809, 154810, 154812, 154813, 154814, 154827 and 154829.

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