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

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5750
03A30969
5 NOV 1969

[redacted]AL

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 16 (Attn: S-3)

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1-31 October 1969

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.1C
(b) GruO 5750.1C
(c) SqdnO 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.

W. R. Ledbetter
W. R. LEDBETTER

HMM-263, S & C Files
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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 October 1969

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Enclosure (1)
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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. STAFF OFFICERS

Commanding Officer	LtCol W. R. LEDBETTER	1-31 Oct 69
Executive Officer	Maj J. VAN NORTWICK	"
Operations Officer	Maj E. O. MARQUETTE III	"
Administrative Officer	Capt D. S. VAN LIEW	1-18 Oct 69
	Capt J. G. FLYNN	19-31 Oct 69
A/C Maintenance Officer	Capt B. J. BARENTS	1-31 Oct 69
Logistics Officer	Capt K. A. SWANNACK	"
NATOPS Officer	1stLt T. J. FARRELL	"
Aviation Safety Officer	Capt J. G. FLYNN	1-18 Oct 69
	1stLt D. W. HUTTER	19-31 Oct 69
Intelligence Officer	1stLt D. A. VERNIER	1-31 Oct 69
Transportation Officer	1stLt J. C. SHORT	"
Flight Surgeon	Lt T. S. DAVIS	"
Sergeant Major	SgtMaj M. S. LANDY	"

2. UNIT LOCATION

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

3. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

	USMC	USN	OTHER	TOTAL
Officers	52	1	0	53
Enlisted	168	0	0	168

4. IMPORTANT VISITORS

LtGen H. W. BUSE, CG, FMFPac, LtGen H. NICKERSON Jr., CG, III MAF, MajGen W. G. THRASH, CG, 1st MAW, and BGen L. H. WILSON, on 29 October 1969, for the CNO Safety Award presentation to HMM-263.

5. SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

On 23 October 1969, MajGen W. G. THRASH came to the HMM-263 Squadron area to congratulate crewmen for the emergency extraction of Big Flower Recon Team.

On 29 October 1969, HMM-263 was presented the CNO Safety Award in a formal ceremony in the Squadron area.

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. Daily Summary of Events. The following was flown in support of III MAF, 1st MarDiv, ROKMC, OPERATION FIRESTONE CANYON, and OPERATION VICTORY DRAGON.

1 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 101 sorties for 28.9 flight hours, lifting 9.1 tons of cargo and carrying 147 troops/passengers. Eight medevac missions were flown evacuating 3 emergency, 7 priority, and 6 routine casualties. No fire incidents were reported.

2 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 7 sorties for 2.9 flight hours, lifting 0 tons of cargo and carrying 2 troops/passengers. One medevac mission was flown, evacuating 1 emergency casualty. No fire incidents were reported.

3 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 212 sorties for 58.5 flight hours, lifting 19.2 tons of cargo and carrying 546 troops/passengers. Ten medevac missions were flown evacuating 2 emergency, 16 priority, and 10 routine casualties. 3 fire incidents were reported with 4 hits and negative injuries. 300 rounds of .50 cal were expended.

4 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 112 sorties for 32.9 flight hours, lifting 1.6 tons of cargo and carrying 84 troops/passengers. Twenty-seven medevac missions were flown evacuating 8 emergency, 29 priority, and 29 routine casualties. One fire incident was reported with 1 hit and negative injuries.

5 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 52 sorties for 18.2 flight hours, lifting 2.0 tons of cargo and carrying 63 troops/passengers. Six medevac missions were flown evacuating 2 emergency, 4 priority, and 5 routine casualties. One fire incident was reported with negative hits or injuries.

6 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 31 sorties for 11.0 flight hours, lifting 0 tons of cargo and carrying 4 troops/passengers. Six medevac missions were flown evacuating 3 emergency, 4 priority, and 5 routine casualties. One fire incident was reported with negative hits or injuries.

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7 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 92 sorties for 31.7 flight hours, lifting 15.5 tons of cargo and carrying 202 troops/passengers. Eight medevac missions were flown evacuating 1 emergency, 30 priority, and 26 routine casualties. No fire incidents were reported.

8 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 133 sorties for 30.2 flight hours, lifting 8.8 tons of cargo and carrying 608 troops/passengers. Five medevac missions were flown evacuating 1 emergency, 7 priority, and 8 routine casualties. No fire incidents were reported.

9 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 103 sorties for 30.0 flight hours, lifting 7.0 tons of cargo and carrying 141 troops/passengers. Twelve medevac missions were flown evacuating 10 emergency, 12 priority, and 4 routine casualties. No fire incidents were reported.

10 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 193 sorties for 53.2 flight hours, lifting 20.7 tons of cargo and carrying 728 troops/passengers. Thirteen medevac missions were flown evacuating 4 emergency, 21 priority, and 42 routine casualties. No fire incidents were reported.

11 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 173 sorties for 50.4 flight hours, lifting 21.1 tons of cargo and carrying 335 troops/passengers. Two medevac missions were flown evacuating 3 priority casualties. No fire incidents were reported. 1000 rounds of .50 cal were expended.

12 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 155 sorties for 36.7 flight hours, lifting 9.6 tons of cargo and carrying 353 troops/passengers. Two medevac missions were flown evacuating 23 priority casualties. One fire incident was reported with negative hits or injuries. 200 rounds of .50 cal were expended.

13 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 171 sorties for 52.0 flight hours, lifting 30.5 tons of cargo and carrying 465 troops/passengers. Eight medevac missions were flown evacuating 2 emergency, 7 priority, and 5 routine casualties. No fire incidents were reported. 450 rounds of .50 cal were expended.

14 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 160 sorties for 50.1 flight hours, lifting 2.9 tons of cargo and carrying 301 troops/passengers. Seventeen medevac missions were flown evacuating 3 emergency, 9 priority, and 62 routine casualties. No fire incidents were reported.

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15 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 190 sorties for 52.0 flight hours, lifting 18.5 tons of cargo and carrying 361 troops/passengers. Nine medevac missions were flown evacuating 1 emergency, 25 priority, and 7 routine casualties. No fire incidents were reported.

16 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 218 sorties for 57.4 flight hours, lifting 12.9 tons of cargo and carrying 553 troops/passengers. Nineteen medevac missions were flown evacuating 26 emergency, 19 priority, and 43 routine casualties. One fire incident was reported with negative hits or injuries.

17 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 110 sorties for 27.0 flight hours, lifting 9.5 tons of cargo and carrying 150 troops/passengers. Five medevac missions were flown evacuating 3 emergency, 6 priority, and 1 routine casualties. No fire incidents were reported.

18 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 294 sorties for 64.1 flight hours, lifting 15.7 tons of cargo and carrying 1208 troops/passengers. Five medevac missions were flown evacuating 6 emergency, and 3 priority casualties. One fire incident was reported with 1 hit and negative injuries.

19 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 14[illegible] sorties for 66.1 flight hours, lifting 23.5 tons of cargo and carrying 263 troops/passengers. Thirteen medevac missions were flown evacuating 5 emergency, 1 priority, and 40 routine casualties. No fire incidents were reported.

20 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 179 sorties for 49.9 flight hours, lifting 3.5 tons of cargo and carrying 479 troops/passengers. Six medevac missions were flown evacuating 7 emergency, 12 priority, and 2 routine casualties. No fire incidents were reported.

21 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 124 sorties for 29.7 flight hours, lifting 19.0 tons of cargo and carrying 297 troops/passengers. Eighteen medevac missions were flown evacuating 19 emergency, 21 priority, and 4 routine casualties. No fire incidents were reported.

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22 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 131 sorties for 37.9 flight hours, lifting 2.5 tons of cargo and carrying 95 troops/passengers. Seventeen medevac missions were flown evacuating 12 emergency, 15 priority, and 50 routine casualties. One fire incident was reported with negative hits or injuries. 350 rounds of .50 cal were expended.

23 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 134 sorties for 54.8 flight hours, lifting 11.9 tons of cargo and carrying 229 troops/passengers. Ten medevac missions were flown evacuating 3 emergency, 8 priority, and 14 routine casualties. No fire incidents were reported.

24 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 138 sorties for 35.5 flight hours, lifting 1.2 tons of cargo and carrying 206 troops/passengers. Seventeen medevac missions were flown evacuating 10 emergency, 11 priority, and 29 routine casualties. No fire incidents were reported.

25 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 214 sorties for 53.2 flight hours, lifting 22.3 tons of cargo and carrying 1014 troops/passengers. Five medevac missions were flown evacuating 3 emergency, and 7 priority casualties. One fire incident was reported with negatve hits or injuries.

26 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 44 sorties for 17.9 flight hours, lifting 2.7 tons of cargo and carrying 35 troops/passengers. Six medevac missions were flown evacuating 5 emergency, and 13 routine casualties. No fire incidents were reported. 500 rounds of .50 cal were expended.

27 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 125 sorties for 34.4 flight hours, lifting 2.2 tons of cargo and carrying 321 troops/passengers. Twelve medevac missions were flown evacuating 3 emergency, 41 priority, and 9 routine casualties. No fire incidents were reported.

28 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 97 sorties for 31.1 flight hours, lifting 1.5 tons of cargo and carrying 251 troops/passengers. Two medevac missions were flown evacuating 1 emergency and 1 priority casualty. No fire incidents were reported.

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29 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 41 sorties for 19.5 flight hours, lifting 0.0 tons of cargo and carrying 127 troops/passengers. Thirteen medevac missions were flown evacuating 17 emergency, 47 priority, and 24 routine casualties. No fire incidents were reported.

30 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 56 sorties for 19.0 flight hours, lifting 0.0 tons of cargo and carrying 28 troops/passengers. Six medevac missions were flown evacuating 4 emergency, 10 priority, and 1 routine casualties. No fire incidents were reported.

31 October 1969 (C) HMM-263 flew 117 sorties for 49.1 flight hours, lifting 2.4 tons of cargo and carrying 75 troops/passengers. Nine medevac missions were flown evacuating 11 emergency, 4 priority, and 1 routine casualties. No fire incidents were reported.

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PART II

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. PERSONNEL

	OFFICER	ENLISTED	TOTAL
a. Personnel joined	9	9	18
b. Personnel dropped	4	6	10

2. ADMINISTRATION

	OFFICER	ENLISTED	TOTAL
a. Personnel promoted	1	0	1
b. Personnel reduced	0	0	0

3. CASUALTIES FOR THE PERIOD:

None

4. INTELLIGENCE

a. The Squadron continued to receive, report, and interpret Intelligence information from III MAF, 1st MAW, 1st MARDIV, MAG-16 and 1st Recon. Through spot reports, fire incident reports, and other pilot debriefing forms, intelligence information was passed to MAG-16 for dissemination to higher, lower, and adjacent units.

b. MAG-16 came under a mortar attack on 21 October 1969 at 0240. 6 incoming rounds impacted in the HMM-263 area. 3 aircraft were damaged.

c. HMM-263 was involved in 3 strikes during this period. Separate briefs were given to pilots and aircrews.

d. To provide continued up-to-date intelligence, the Intelligence Section conducted briefs at AOM's and on recon missions.

e. 5 officers and 2 enlisted attended Jungle Escape and Survival Training at NAS Cubi Point, R. P.

f. 2 Officers attended Sea Survival School, Okinawa.

g. HMM-263's fire incidents for the month of October are as follows:

FIRE INCIDENTS	NO. AIRCRAFT HIT	NO. OF HITS
11	5	6

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5. LOGISTICS

a. NORS "G" Resume

(1) Submitted	325
(2) Completed	18
(3) Outstanding	307

b. NORS "N" Resume

(1) Submitted	31
(2) Completed	2
(3) Outstanding	29

6. OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

a. Forty-one aircraft of HMM-263 flew 772 sorties for 188.2 flight hours, lifting 2778 troops/passengers and 174.1 tons of cargo. Six medevac missions were flown evacuating 5 priority and 58 routine casualties, all in support of Operation Pipestone Canyon.

(1) Total Flight Hours	1185.3
(2) Total Tasks	1012
(3) Total Sorties	4091
(4) Total Troops/Passengers	9671
(5) Total Cargo Carried (Tons)	297.3
(6) Total Medevacs Carried	1031

7. AIRCRAFT DAMAGE

The following Squadron aircraft received battle damage during the period 1-31 October 1969:

153957	Minor Damage	153394	Major Damage
153389	Minor Damage	153953	Minor Damage
154799	Major Damage	154043	Minor Damage

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