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MARINE LIGHT HELICOPTER SQUADRON 367  
Marine Aircraft Group 16  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac  
APO San Francisco 96602

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OBA31070  
6 November 1970

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Commanding Officer  
to: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 16  
Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 October 1970 to 31 October 1970  
Ref: (a) CRM 5750.1D  
Encl: (1) MIL-367 Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of reference (a), enclosure (1) is hereby submitted.
2. Upon removal of enclosure (1), this letter is downgraded to unclassified.

*C. E. Reese*  
C. E. REESE

HML-367

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6 November 1970

MARINE LIGHT HELICOPTER SQUADRON 367  
Marine Aircraft Group 16  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFAC  
APO San Francisco 96302

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PART I

ORGANIZATION DATA

1. DESCRIPTION

COMMANDER

Marble Mountain Air Base, Republic of Vietnam 367

LtCol E. H. SEXTON  
1-21 October 1970  
LtCol G. E. PHEASIS  
22-31 October 1970

2. LOCATION

1-31 October 1970: Marble Mountain Air Facility, RVN.

3. STAFF OFFICERS

CO	Maj G. D. SILARD, JR.	1-31 October 1970
S-1	Maj R. J. SHEEHAN	1-31 October 1970
S-2	1stLt P. G. OWEN	1-31 October 1970
S-3	Maj E. H. CLARK	1-31 October 1970
S-4	Capt J. C. ARICK	1-31 October 1970
Maintenance Officer	Maj W. T. BIRD	1-31 October 1970
Material Control Officer	Capt R. E. WARNE	1-31 October 1970
ASO	Maj S. TELLES, JR.	1-31 October 1970
BAROPS	Capt S. A. BELL	1-31 October 1970
Flight Sergeant	1stSGT (MG) R. R. OBER	1-31 October 1970
Sergeant Major	2ndSGT W. G. VANWYK	1-21 October 1970
	1stSGT W. E. OBOE	22-31 October 1970

4. ATTACHED PERSONNEL

OFF	
53	154

OFF	
1	0

OFF	
0	0

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PART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY

Marine Light Helicopter Squadron 367 witnessed a change of command in the month of October. In ceremonies conducted on 21 October 1970, LtCol H. E. SWIFT relinquished command of the squadron to LtCol G. E. JENSEN.

Marine Light Helicopter Squadron 367 continued throughout October to demonstrate a high level of professionalism by successfully accomplishing its assigned missions. The squadron logged a total of 1143.9 flight hours with squadron pilots flying 2,726 sorties and 354 tasks.

The operational tempo of the squadron was reduced in the month of October as a result of weather and maintenance. Two typhoons brought winds as high as fifty (50) knots, rain and poor visibility to the area. Typhoon Joan held flight operations to a minimum the 16th, 17th and 18th of the month. Typhoon Kate had a similar effect the 24th, 25th and 26th of the month. Tail rotor failures on the 21st and 25th of the month resulted in the temporary grounding of all HML-367 aircraft on the 27th. Maintenance X-rayed and ZN10 dye penetrated all tail rotor components and discovered cracks in the blade grip area. All faulty parts were replaced. The entire tail rotor assembly will be fully inspected at each 100 hour inspection. Reports of the failures and findings were sent to ARDMAC Corpus Christi, Texas. Further testing is being conducted by NAVAIRSYS-COMM and Bell Helicopter Company.

During October, Marine Light Helicopter Squadron 367 expended 2,963, 2.75 folding fin aerial rockets. Turret ordnance expended was 13,310 rounds of 40mm and 91,000 rounds of 7.62. HML-367 pilots accounted for ten (10) confirmed enemy KBA and three (3) probable enemy KBA. Five (5) bunkers were destroyed and eight (8) damaged. Five (5) huts were destroyed and two (2) damaged. One boat was destroyed and one secondary explosion reported. A total of twenty-seven (27) individual fire incidents were reported resulting in two (2) small caliber hits causing limited damage and no injury to personnel.

The month of October saw Marine Light Helicopter Squadron 367 initiate a civic action program involving Sacred Heart Orphanage. A committee of volunteers visited the orphanage and decided that the most needed items

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were clothing, powdered milk and toilet articles. Plans are also underway to accomplish needed construction at the orphanage. A letter describing the situation at the orphanage and the materials needed was signed by the Commanding Officer and made available to all members of the squadron. These letters were sent to friends, relatives, charitable organizations and anyone else who might desire to contribute to this worthwhile cause. Response has been immediate and rewarding throughout the squadron.

On 3 and 4 October the S-2 shop of Marine Light Helicopter Squadron 367 stood an Administrative and Maintenance Inspection conducted by the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. No specific evaluation was given to the squadron but only minor discrepancies were noted.

Awards received in the month of October included fourteen (14) 1st Strike Flight Air Medals and 186 additional Air Medals.

Marine Light Helicopter Squadron 367 is presently operating under a Table of Organization designated for an HML squadron of UH-1H aircraft. Though designated HML, 367 fulfills the roll of an HML squadron. The HML Table of Organization leaves the squadron critically short in certain vital technical areas. Examples of these areas are: turret specialist, Environmental Control Unit technicians and highly trained electricians capable of handling the Stability Control Augmentation System.

Enclosure (1)

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- 30 - S-2 stood an Administrative and Maintenance Inspection conducted by 1st Marine Aircraft Wing.
- 13 - Typhoon Jean brought fifty (50) knot winds and rain to the Da Nang area.
- 17 - Aircraft VF-25 received two (2) small caliber hits resulting in minor battle damage and no injuries to personnel.
- 21 - Lieutenant Colonel E. E. SMITH relinquished command of F-4U-367 to Lieutenant Colonel C. E. REESE. Aircraft VF-3 lost a tail rotor in flight. The aircraft was successfully landed with substantial damage sustained but no injury to personnel.
- 25 - Typhoon Kate brought fifty (50) knot winds and rain to the Da Nang area.
- 25 - Aircraft VF-19 lost a tail rotor in flight. The aircraft was successfully landed with substantial damage sustained but no injury to personnel.
- 27 - All F-4U-367 aircraft temporarily grounded as a safety of flight measure due to recent tail rotor failures.

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SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. In accordance with reference (a), the following supporting documents are hereby submitted.

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# Marine Squadron Adopts Orphanage; Seeks Outside Help In Aiding It

By SSgt. Mike La Bonne

DA NANG — Marine Aircraft Group 16, southeast of Danang, is a montage of brisk, round-the-clock activity, struggling to meet the diverse demands of war.

Two miles north of MAG-16 is a smaller site of bustling action. A niche replete with daily chores, laughter, games, camaraderie, and sometimes tears. The principal characters are not directly concerned with the war.

Yet, many are there because of the conflict.

They are the children of the Sacred Heart Orphanage, run by the Sisters of St. Paul de Chartres.

An orphanage and a Marine

air group do not have much in common outwardly.

But there is a connection. The link is the Marines from HML-367.

Whenever they get the chance, the Marines are at the orphanage. There, they help improve facilities for the overcrowded orphanage, paint weather-beaten buildings, feed tiny tots, and provide clothing and hygiene supplies, or just walk around the crowded complex holding one of the many orphans in their arms.

Though their intentions and efforts are directed to upgrading the condition of the children and orphanage, the Marines are limited financially and materially.

The task of filling basic needs such as clothing and hygienic

items is a great one and might defeat a less determined group.

The HML-367 Marines are determined to do their utmost to provide for the children.

Letters to corporations in the United States, asking for their help in the proper care of the orphans were mailed recently. Marines of HML-367 will also be given a copy of the request to mail to friends, and relatives back home.

The drive to help the children was organized by 1st. Lt's. Ronald L. Kaba, Daniel P. Pender, and Edward A. Horne.

They hope to get as much material as possible and plan to continue efforts to ensure a steady influx of needed items.

In the letter to corporations, friends and relatives back home, the HML-367 Marines have listed 10 basic items badly needed by the children.

Local contributions will also be accepted. Any of the following items can be sent to the orphanage via the squadron: Diapers, baby powder, powdered milk, baby food, laundry soap, hand soap, tooth brushes, tooth paste, infant's clothing, and children's clothing.

Results of the drive won't be known for some time. But it's a sure bet that in the meantime that the "fathers" of HML-367 will continue to spend as much time as possible with "their children" of the Sacred Heart Orphanage.

## Appeal Made to Help Orphans in Vietnam

To the people in the Northshore area, Marble Mountain in Vietnam seems a world away. But to First Lt. Ron Caba, a marine helicopter pilot, Marble Mountain is in his every waking thought.

Caba, while on a flight over Vietnam happened one day to land near what looked like an abandoned garbage dump. Much to his surprise he found the dump inhabited by one nun and 250 children under the age of five.

The children, some of whom are retarded, survived mostly on what they could salvage from the dump. They also were able to beg passing GI's for candy and other foods they might have in their possession.

The nun, who was the only adult caring for the Vietnamese children, explained

that this wasn't a very satisfactory way for the children to be eating.

Caba described the dirt and insects surrounding the children. The absolute lack of any insecticides, soap or other cleaning agents appalled him. He has taken it upon himself to help these orphaned children by trying to collect \$2,000 to buy things needed right now for the children.

In a letter to his sister-in-law, Mrs. Robert Lean of 6255 NE 184th, Seattle, he made a plea for packages which would contain such things as diapers, (new or used) toothbrushes and toothpaste, powdered milk and other powdered foods, cereals and cleaning soaps or agents.

Mrs. Lean who is a Northshore resident and has made contacts with several schools, scout groups and through newspapers, is getting frustrated. The slow process of getting people interested in working together will make mailing of packages very late to be helpful to Lt. Caba.

Persons who would like to donate cash, or any articles that could be used by these children may call Mrs. Lean at 485-2554 for information on how to get these things in the mail. Or she will be glad to see that things are bought and sent as soon as possible.

# Marine needs help for 250 children in Vietnam orphanage

Ronald Caba, a Marine Corps 1st lieutenant and helicopter pilot, has found himself surrounded by 250 children "living in a garbage dump" in Vietnam.

He needs help.

Caba, a University of Oregon graduate who arrived in Vietnam in July, wrote about the situation to his sister-in-law, Mrs. Robert Lean, 6255 N. E. 184th St., who now is trying to rally friends and neighbors to help the orphanage.

"All the children are under 5; some are retarded," Mrs. Lean said.

**THE ORPHANAGE**, near Marble Mountain, is run by a nun practically single-handed.

"The G. I.s used to give the children candy," Ron wrote, "but that's not very satisfactory," said Mrs. Lean.

An informal collection drive of goods and cash was

begun, with \$2,000 as the goal.

"At first it seemed like we were over-reaching," Mrs. Lean said. "But judging from the response, I'm sure we'll make it."

Schools were invited to join the drive.

Some groups and individuals are sending packages directly to Caba. Some goods are being repackaged by Mrs. Lean and mailed.

**SHE PLANS** to purchase

heavy items in San Francisco to save on postage (postage for military addresses overseas is based on the distance from the point of mailing to the overseas shipment point, in this case San Francisco). A relative will arrange mailing in San Francisco.

Caba listed items needed by the orphanage as new and used diapers, clothing (small sizes), bedding, hand and laundry soap, cleaning fluids, baby powder and lo-

tion, foot powder, powdered milk, baby food and cereals, toothbrushes and toothpaste.

Caba can furnish photographs and descriptions on recording tape of the orphanage to groups which may decide to "adopt" it.

**PACKAGES** can be mailed to 1st Lt. Ronald Caba, HML 367, MAG 16, F. P. O. San Francisco 96002. Contributions may be directed to Mrs. Robert Lean, 6255

N. E. 184th St., Seattle 98155.

Mailing deadlines for Vietnam destinations are:

Surface mail, November 6; SAM (space available mail) packages less than 5 pounds and greeting cards, November 20; PAL (parcel airlift mail), November 27, and regular air mail of all weights, December 11.

SAM and PAL are special-rate categories for military destinations only. Packages should be so labeled.

MARINE LIGHT HELICOPTER SQUADRON 367  
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 FPO San Francisco 96602

The men of HML-367 are sponsoring an assistance program for approximately 250 needy orphans. HML-367 is part of Marine Air Group 16, 1st Marine Air Wing, and is currently stationed at Marble Mountain Air Facility, located five miles southeast of Danang, Republic of Vietnam. From our location, some of us have seen first hand the undesirable conditions with which these unfortunate children contend. Due to the area in which we are located, we are very limited by the meager resources we have to help these needy children.

The basic necessities we are trying to obtain are the needs of small children anywhere. It is in this area that we are asking for your help. If you are willing to assist us in this worthwhile cause, we would appreciate receiving charitable donations by 1 December 1970. If you care to donate but would rather do it by sending money, you may make your check payable to the "Orphans Christmas Assistance Program" and mail in care of the HML-367 Commanding Officer.

It is impossible for so few of us to help so many. We need your assistance. It is equally impossible for us to fully relate the needs of these children.

These are the items we are desirous of obtaining.

- |                  |                        |
|------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Diapers       | 6. Hand soap           |
| 2. Baby powder   | 7. Tooth brushes       |
| 3. Powdered milk | 8. Tooth paste         |
| 4. Baby food     | 9. Infant's clothes    |
| 5. Laundry soap  | 10. Children's clothes |

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely Yours,



C. E. REESE  
 Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps  
 Commanding