

MARINE OBSERVATION SQUADRON 6  
Marine Aircraft Group 36  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing  
FPO San Francisco 96602

3/NRJ/pls  
5750  
1 Jan 1973

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 36  
(Attn: S-3)

Subj: Monthly Chronology; month of December 1972

Ref: (a) GruO 5750.3B

Encl: (1) VMO-6 December Chronology of U. S. Operation/  
Support for Vietnam

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is  
submitted.

  
D. E. DILLEY

VMO-6

Dec 1972

VMO-6 DECEMBER CHRONOLOGY OF U. S. OPERATIONS/SUPPORT FOR VIETNAMPART IORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. <u>Designation</u>	<u>Commander</u>
Marine Observation Squadron 6	LtCol D. E. DILLEY 1 December 1972 - 31 December 1972
<u>Staff Officers</u>	<u>Name</u>
<u>Executive Officer</u>	Major J. N. KEATHLEY 1 December 1972 - 31 December 1972
S-1 Officer	Captain C. R. STEINMETZ 1 December 1972 - 31 December 1972
S-2 Officer	CWO-2 DONER 1 December 1972 - 31 December 1972
S-3 Officer	Major D. G. WORKMON 1 December 1972 - 31 December 1972
S-4 Officer	Captain L. D. GABLE 1 December 1972 - 31 December 1972
Human Relations Officer	Captain F. A. BEST 1 December 1972 - 31 December 1972
Aircraft Maintenance Officer	Major G. A. ROSS 1 December 1972 - 31 December 1972
NATOPS Officer	Captain T. F. BRUNK 1 December 1972 - 31 December 1972

Aviation Safety Officer

Captain V. L. GENNARO

1 December 1972 -

31 December 1972

Chief Aerial Observer

Captain M. BAKER

1 December 1972 -

31 December 1972

Subordinate Units

None

Attached Units

None

2. Location

1 December 1972 - 31 December 1972 MCAS (H) Futema

3. Average Monthly Strength

	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>
USMC	37	147
USN	None	None
Other	None	None

PART II

During the month of December VMO-6 flew 222 sorties to produce 561.1 hours of flight time. A portion of this time (106.5) was flown from Atsugi, Japan in support of the 12th Marines and the 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion. The remaining flight hours were utilized to meet various commitments and conduct routine training missions. Missions completed by VMO-6 included; artillery air spotting, paradrops, photo, aerial observation, ordnance delivery, instrument and familiarization training.

The detachment at NAS Atsugi, Japan remained in position from 18 November through 21 December. This detachment conducted visual reconnaissance, artillery spotting, and paradrop missions with the 12th Marines and the 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion. Missions of this nature provided training for six (6) squadron pilots and four (4) aerial observers.

On 2 December VMO-6 executed its first aerial delivery of supplies. Captain John THOMAS, and Captain Vince GENNARO delivered a 120 pound cargo pallet by parachute to elements of the 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion in the Atsugi drop area.

On 4 December a Quarterly Safety Standdown was conducted. Classes were aimed at refreshing pilots in their NATOPS procedures, and the use of safety and survival equipment. Enlisted training was programmed for personal safety as well as squadron safety, and included classes in motorcycle handling, and Japanese traffic regulations.

On 18 December, the squadron commenced an ordnance training syllabus utilizing targets in Warning Area 176. The first mission, led by LtCol D. E. BILLEY, marked the first time ordnance had been delivered by MAG-36 aircraft inside the Okinawa ADIZ, since April 1972. The ordnance procedures utilized were prepared and approved by a liaison team consisting of members of the Japanese Self Defense Force, Naval Weapons Command, Civil authorities and MAG-36.

PART IIISEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- 1 - 21 December - The 2 plane detachment sent to NAS Atsugi on November 18 continued its commitment in December and returned on the 21st.
- 4 - 5 December - Squadron safety and maintenance standdowns were conducted.
- 15 December - VMO-6 Officer and enlisted men participated in a squadron party held at the station picnic area.
- 17 December - VMO-6 and H&MS-36 held a Christmas Party for the Special Education classes of the Okinawa DOD schools.
- 18 December - VMO-6 Aircraft commenced ordnance training syllabus.
- 27 December - VMO-6 conducted a squadron PFT.