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HEADQUARTERS
Marine Aircraft Group 12
1st Marine Aircraft Wing
Fleet Marine Force Pacific
FPO San Francisco 96602

3:RTP:ewf
5750
003A19172
8 July 1972

SECRET (Unclassified upon removal of enclosures)

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code HD)
Via: Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 June 1972 to 30 June 1972

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.1
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8

Encl: (1) Marine Aircraft Group 12 (FWD) Command Chronology
(2) Marine Attack Squadron 211 Command Chronology
(3) Marine Attack Squadron 311 Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a) and (b), enclosures (1) through (3) are submitted.

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MAR-12 (FWD)

June 1972

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1st Marine Aircraft Wing
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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 JUNE 1972 TO 30 JUNE 1972

INDEX

PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA
PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY
PART III - SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
PART IV - SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

20
20
20
20
20
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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. DESIGNATION

CTU 79.3.7/MAG-12 (FED)

COMMANDERMACHO, D. C. COL USMC
(1-30 JUNE)SUBORDINATE UNITS

CTU 79.3.7.1/H&MS-12 DET

POWELL, W. B. CAPT USMC
(1-30 JUNE)

CTU 79.3.7.2/MABS-12 DET

DEWOLF, L. LTCOL USMC
(1-6 JUNE)
DUPONT, D. G. LTCOL USMC
(7-30 JUNE)

CTU 79.3.7.3/VMA-211

RANNEY, D. G. LTCOL USMC
(1-30 JUNE)

CTU 79.3.7.4/VMA-311

JOHNSTON, K. C. LTCOL USMC
(1-30 JUNE)2. LOCATION

Bien Hoa Air Base, Republic of Vietnam (1-30 June)

3. STAFF OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

RAPP, J. M. LTCOL USMC
(1-30 JUNE)

S-1

MCELROY, T. R. MAJ USMC
(1-30 JUNE)

S-2

SERRATA, A. T. CWO USMC
(1-30 JUNE)

S-3

POORE, R. T. MAJ USMC
(1-30 JUNE)

S-4

INGLISA, A. M. MAJ USMC
(1-30 JUNE)SECRET

SECRET4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>	
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
78	810

<u>USN</u>	
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
3	11

<u>OTHER</u>		
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>Civ</u>
		3

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. During the month of June 1972, MAG-12 (FWD) conducted flight operations in support of military operations in the Republic Of Vietnam and the Khmer Republic. These operations were conducted from Bien Hoa AB, RVN. During this time frame the Air Group (FWD) consisted of VMA-211, 16 A4E aircraft, VMA-311, 16 aircraft, H&MS-12 Detachment and a MABS-12 Detachment augmented by a security element. Average monthly strength for this period was 898. There were four reportable casualties during the month - one disease, one accident, one assault and one KIA. The KIA was a Bombardier/Navigator flying in an A-37 Air Force aircraft that was hit by ground fire.

2. Combat operations have continued at a steady pace. The scheduled daily sorties have stabilized at 48 - equating to a 1.5 sortie rate. The Air Group has experienced a near perfect sortie completion rate with a 99.7% maintenance completion rate. Aircraft utilization has been approximately 1.7 hours per aircraft with an average availability of 82% at start of daily flight operations. Weather problems inherent with III/IV Corps areas during June has forced 7 AF to cancel a number of MAG-12 missions. The majority of such cancellations have been a direct result of Forward Air Controllers unable to work fixed wing air support due to target area weather. Communications with TACC/DASG and USAF weather facility at Long Tanh have enhanced the Air Group's capability. BDA has been significant, and the targets appear to be of good quality. A large percentage of "troops in contact" close air support missions have been flown, providing invaluable experience. The average company grade aviator has flown at least once daily. Anti-air activity encountered has ranged from small arms up to 37mm. The SA-7 missile has also been employed against MAG-12 aircraft. Statistically the Air Group's gun squadrons flew a combined total of 1320 combat sorties, totalling 1635 flight hours and delivered over 2385 yons of ordnance.

3. The MAG-12 intelligence section has continued with its briefings of all aircrews prior to flight. Additionally, daily intelligence update briefings for local security forces have been instituted. Liaison with USA, USAF, and RVN intelligence agencies continue coordination of intelligence matters and functions. USAF Jungle Survival instructors from Clark AFB, P.I., conducted classes for aircrews.

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4. Logistic support to Bien Hoa was provided by USMC KC-130 assets until 5 June, when USAF C-130's assumed the logistic support mission. Operation under joint and combined logistical support arrangements continues - this includes support from VNAF for LOX and indirectly for POL plus jointly used maintenance spaces. USAF facilities are utilized on both a joint Air Force - Marine Corps and a Marine Corps only basis. Joint usage of Bien Hoa bomb dump has proved beneficial to all.

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1 June MajGen MARSHALL, Vice Commander 7AF, visited MAG-12 (FWD). An internal security exercise was conducted at 1830H.

2 June Extremely poor weather forced the cancellation of 10 sorties. Col MACHO called upon Col TINH, Commander, 3 Air Division VNAF. Discussion included coordination for a joint base defense exercise scheduled for 050930Z. Ten USN tactical strike aircraft diverted from USS CONSTELLATION to Bien Hoa. In conjunction with USAF, MAG-12 provided turn-around assistance and all Navy aircraft were airborne within two hours.

3 June Target weather forced cancellation of 10 sorties. 7AF cancelling agency.

4 June LtGen METZGER visited with staff members 040100Z. Departed 040620Z.

5 June Joint security exercise held with good response. VNAF/US experienced minimum of anticipated communication difficulties. Plans made for future joint security exercise to be held at night. 7AF cancelled 10 sorties due to target weather.

6 June MajGen BROWN and staff arrived 060115Z. Departed 060615Z. 7AF cancelled 22 sorties due to target weather.

7 June 7AF cancelled 14 sorties due to target area weather.

11 June MAG-12 tested surge capability of one squadron (VMA-311). "Tomcats" scheduled for 20 sorties - flew 40 sorties.

12 June MAG-12 suffered one KIA. Lt Samuel POWELL, a B/N, was killed while flying in the right seat of an A-37 on a strike mission.

15 June Conducted internal security defense exercise with excellent results.

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17 June CMC and party arrived 0115Z for short visit. Departed 0220Z.

18 June MajGen WILSON, CINCPACAF staff and BrigGen HOLLAND, 7AF logistics visited with Col MACHO.

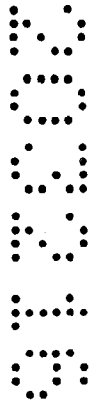
19 June CBS TV covered MAG-12 activities including flight line and A-4 launch. Mr. Bob SIMMONS, reporter for CBS, headed team. No MAG-12 personnel interviewed.

21 June First MAW Security Survey Team arrived. VMA-211 section fired on by SA-7 Evasive maneuvers successful. Increased SA-7 activity last 48 hours reported.

22 June Embassy party visited with Col MACHO. Team included Mr. S. WINSHIP, Political/Military Officer - First Secretary; Mr. R. ENGLAND, Second Secretary; Mr. E. BASH, Political Officer All American Embassy in Saigon.

25 June 24 sorties cancelled by 7AF due to target weather. Wing Special Services and Wing Auditor representatives conducted liaison visit with USAF.

29 June 7AF requested 4 emergency add-on sorties. MAG-12 complied. Internal security exercise held with excellent response/results.

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