

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

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 003A19973
 19 July 1973

SECRET NOFORN

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code HD)
 Via: (1) Commanding General, First Marine Aircraft Wing, Fleet Marine Force Pacific, FPO San Francisco
 (2) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Pacific, FPO San Francisco
 Subj: Semi-Annual Command Chronology for the period 1 January 1973 through 30 June 1973
 Ref: (a) MCO 5750.1B
 (b) FMFPACO 5750.8B
 (c) ForO 5750.1A
 (d) WgO 5750.1B
 Encl: (1) MAG-12 Semi-Annual Command Chronology
 1. In accordance with references (a) through (d), enclosure (1) is submitted.
 2. This letter is downgraded to unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

Paul G. Janssen
 PAUL G. JANSSEN

MAG 12 S&C	
CONTROL #	COPY #
00926-93 1 of 4	

101 MAW S&C No	Copy No
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1st Marine Aircraft Wing
Fleet Marine Force Pacific
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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY1 January 1973 through 30 June 1973INDEX

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CLASSIFIED BY: CO MAG-12
SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO-YEAR
INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED ON 31 DECEMBER 1981

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PART IORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

CTU 79.3.7/MAG-12

MACHO D. C. Col USMC
(1 January - 5 April 1973)JACKSON H. L. LtCol USMC
(6 April - 30 June 1973)SUBORDINATE UNITS

CTE 79.3.7.1/H&MS-12 DET

CONLEY W. J. Maj USMC
(1 January - 3 February 1973)

CTE 79.3.7.2/MABS-12 DET

ROBERTSON H. A. Capt USMC
(1 January - 3 February 1973)

Sub-Unit 2, H&MS-12

PIXTON M. F. III Maj USMC
(1 January - 3 March 1973)

CTE 79.3.7.3/VMA-211

RANNEY D. G. LtCol USMC
(1 January - 30 April 1973)BLACKINGTON R. C. Maj USMC
(1 May - 30 June 1973)

CTE 79.3.7.4/VMA-311

CALDAS J. J. LtCol USMC
(1 January - 30 June 1973)

H&MS-12

MCCARTHY D. J. LtCol USMC
(1 January - 7 June 1973)CRANE A. C. LtCol USMC
(8 June - 30 June 1973)

VMCJ-1

DAILEY J. R. LtCol USMC
(1 January - 3 May 1973)QUIST J. W. Maj USMC
(4 May - 28 June 1973)MORLEY R. J. LtCol USMC
(29 June - 30 June 1973)

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MABS-12

GUENTHER G. G. Maj USMC
(1 January - 30 June 1973)

MNWU-1

MCCRORY K. D. Maj USMC
(1 January - 30 June 1973)

MATCU-60

ANDERSON M. D. Capt USMC
(1 January - 11 January 1973)DAVIS M. S. 1/Lt USMC
(12 January - 18 March 1973)WARNACK A. Capt USMC
(19 March - 30 June 1973)2. LOCATION

Bien Hoa Air Base, Republic of Vietnam (1 January - 3 February 1973)

(H&MS-12 DET MABS-12 DET, H&MS-12 Sub-Unit 2, VMA-211, VMA-311)

IWAKUNI MCAS, JAPAN (1 January - 3 February 1973)

(H&MS-12 MABS-12 VMCI-1 MNWU-1 MATCU-60)

IWAKUNI MCAS, JAPAN (4 February - 30 June 1973)

(ALL UNITS)

3. STAFF OFFICERSEXECUTIVE OFFICER (FWD) MAAG E. R. LtCol USMC
(1 January - 29 January 1973)ACTING COMMANDING OFFICER (REAR) JACKSON H. L. LtCol USMC
(1 January - 29 January 1973)EXECUTIVE OFFICER JACKSON H. L. LtCol USMC
(29 January - 5 April 1973)BAKER T. P. LtCol USMC
(6 April - 30 June 1973)S-1 OFFICER (FWD) DITTO J. H. Maj USMC
(1 January - 13 February 1973)S-1 OFFICER HORNER W. F. Maj USMC
(14 February - 25 June 1973)PRIDGEN N. E. Maj USMC
(26 June - 30 June 1973)

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S-3 (FWD)	HOLLAND K. D. Maj USMC (1 January - 29 January 1973)
S-3 (REAR)	OMER J. L. Maj USMC (1 January - 2 February 1973)
S-3	MAAG E. R. LtCol USMC (3 February - 3 April 1973)
	DITTO J. H. Maj USMC (13 April - 30 June 1973)
S-4 (FWD)	BLACKINGTON R. C. Maj USMC (1 January - 29 January 1973)
S-4 (REAR)	HARRISON J. F. Maj USMC (1 January - 9 February 1973)
S-4	TYRELL N. D. Maj USMC (10 February - 2 May 1973)
	ULM R. H. Maj USMC (3 May - 30 June 1973)
HAD	PRIDGEN N. E. Maj USMC (1 January - 30 June 1973)

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

A. January 1973

	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>OTHER</u>		
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>CIV</u>
(FWD)	74	697	2	12	0	0	2
(REAR)	72	795	1	7	0	0	1

B. February - June 1973

	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>OTHER</u>		
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>CIV</u>
143	1425	3	14		0	0	2

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PART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. During the reporting period Marine Aircraft Group 12's average strength was 143 officers and 1425 enlisted. Maximum strength of 146 officers and 1517 enlisted was attained on 6 January 1973. As of 30 June three Units were below 80% and one Unit was at 65%. From January to June, 286 Marines were promoted and 44 received meritorious masts. Punishments included 118 office hours, 22 summary court martials, 3 special courts, 2 general courts, and 8 Administrative discharges.

During the retrograde of combat elements to MCAS IWAKUNI, administrative personnel in the Air Group's Logistics Control Center processed 771 officers and men within a period of 5 days. Each Marine had a record audit, unit diary entry, TAD liquidation, and in many cases a reassignment. The monumental task of processing those Marines was conducted in an expeditious and efficient manner.

2. During the first month of the reporting period the Intelligence Section was deployed with Marine Aircraft Group 12 (FWD) to Bien Hoa, Air Force Base in the Republic of Vietnam. The Intelligence Section, while in the RVN, received, processed, and reported intelligence information to the Commanding Officer, Group and Squadron Staff Officers, pilots flying combat air support missions and to visiting dignitaries in the form of daily intelligence briefs. A daily intelligence summary was prepared by the Intelligence Section for dissemination external to MAG-12. During the 28 combat days prior to the 28 January 1973 cease fire, 786 missions were debriefed with the following significant results inflicted on the enemy:

714 KBA	10 trucks damaged
554 fortified positions destroyed	3 bridges destroyed
82 fortified positions damaged	6 bridges damaged
214 structures destroyed	2 tanks destroyed
68 structures damaged	6 tanks damaged
13 sampans destroyed	1 vehicle destroyed
7 sampans damaged	3 lambrettas destroyed
3 gun positions destroyed	9 caliber .51 destroyed
809 bunkers destroyed	1 recoilless 75mm rifle destroyed
154 bunkers damaged	5 machine guns destroyed
2 trenches destroyed	1 water tank destroyed
1 trench damaged	20 supply caches destroyed
625 secondary explosions	2 boxes of .51 caliber ammo captured
12 secondary fires	2 boxes 37mm ammo captured
87 sustained fires	33 foxholes destroyed
18 trucks destroyed	500 meters of road cut
1 pier destroyed	3 ammo caches destroyed
1 ferry destroyed	

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On 2 February 1973, after conducting a security sweep of spaces being vacated by MAG-12, Detachment "C" 7th Counterintelligence Team (CIT) was deactivated and personnel returned to their parent Unit at Iwakuni Japan. On 2 February 1973, all of MAG-12 intelligence personnel were returned to the First Marine Aircraft Wing, Iwakuni Japan. Subsequent to returning, the Intelligence section assumed routine garrison intelligence duties. The Intelligence Section has since assumed the additional duty of administering the Command's Reliability Program.

3. Combat operations closed for MAG-12 units on 27 January. The tempo of combat flying established in the last six months of 1972 continued unabated, with MAG-12 aircraft completing 100% of the scheduled 52 combat sorties per day (1342 scheduled during the month and 1352 flown). Thus for the 8th straight month MAG-12 met every combat commitment. The requirement for retrograde preparations and continuing shortage of personnel necessitated even longer hours and heavier work loads than usual. Combat utilization was 1.8 hours and 1.62 sorties per aircraft a day. Average 0800 daily availability was 83%. 1463 combat support and combat service support sorties were flown by MAG-12 A-4E's and 1,749 hours logged. 2,123 tons of ordnance was dropped with bomb damage assessment that was uniformly excellent. Weather in Mt II, III, IV and the Khmer Republic was good with a very small percentage of weather abort/diverts. Weather briefing service was provided by VNAF weather service personnel at Tan Son Nhut and Bien Hoa. The questionable validity of these forecasts caused the Group S-3 briefing officer to become a "back door" weather observer. "Metro" service provided by the Duty officer over the "Hellborne" base radio consisted of a glance outside and a short description of the ceiling and visibility. The reliability of the base radio contributed to the efficiency of this service. Airstrikes in the Khmer Republic were three times more frequent in January than in previous months. Close air support strikes in support of friendly forces in contact with the enemy were not uncommon. Marine Aircraft Group 12 pilots frequently expended ordnance within 200 meters of the embattled friendly troops. "STRELKA" surface to air missile and AW/AAA threat remained high in the majority of the area covered by MAG-12 operations. USAF TACA/FAC (A) services terminated on 15 January 1973 and all subsequent strikes were conducted by VNAF controllers. Bien Hoa received 64 120mm rockets in 3 attacks by fire during January 1973. On 26 January, the last day of combat flying, one Marine was killed and another wounded by a 33 round rocket attack. The retrograde movement to Iwakuni, Japan began on 26 January 1973 and was completed on 1 February 1973.

The transition from combat to training operations began before the retrograde evolution was completed. VMA-211 and VMA-311 drew up plans for establishing a pilot training program to encompass conventional and nuclear delivery, Air Combat Maneuvering, Operational Navigation and Carrier qualifications. Training deployments were scheduled and commitments from higher headquarters laid on. At the close of the half year, MAG-12 A-4 Squadrons had each completed a 4 week deployment to NAF NAHA, Okinawa to conduct special, conventional, advanced conventional weapons delivery, Air-to-Air tactics and operational navigation training.

VMCJ-1 DET 101 at Cubi Point conducted 21 jamming exercises with USN and Royal Navy vessels and Marine Radar units. Results were uniformly excellent, with valuable training afforded to equipment operators and aircrews.

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MAG-12 units participated in 3 EAGLE EXERCISES, which are joint Air Defense Exercises conducted with the Republic of China forces on Taiwan. During the period, 115 sorties by EA-6A and RF-4B aircraft were flown from Tainan AB, Taiwan to test the Taiwan Air Defense System. Results of these flights were exemplary, post exercise messages from USAF and CAF sources contained many congratulatory remarks.

Similar Air Defense exercises with the Republic of Korea were conducted in April and June under the code name Commando Jade. 27 sorties were conducted in these operations which also exercised the command and control capabilities of Iwakuni based First MAW units.

EA-6A aircraft from VMCJ-1 Det 101 also conducted 5 Beaverhound electronic intelligence missions in Korea during the period. A total of 28 missions (52 sorties) were flown to gather data for U. S. intelligence agencies.

Exercise PAGASA I, a joint multinational amphibious exercise, included elements of MAG-12 in the PROVMAG which provided Tactical Air Support for the Landing Forces. VMA-211 (-) (REIN) and VMCJ-1 (Det) flew 116 sorties of CAS, DAS, HELO, ESCORT, MULTI IMAGERY, RECON, and ACTIVE/PASSIVE ECM in support of this operation during May.

During a RLT/LEX in May, VMA-311 Det provided 12 demonstration sorties for Defense Orientation Committee Association (DOCA) to display techniques of beach prep, CAS, DAS and helicopter escort.

TACP training at NAS Cubi Point, R.P. was conducted by VMA-311 (Det) in late April. 24 sorties of practice ordnance delivery were provided to train TAC (A) and TACP personnel in the Wild Horse Creek Impact Area. The following table shows MAG-12 operations in and out of combat during the reporting period:

	<u>JAN</u>	<u>FEB</u>	<u>MAR</u>	<u>APR</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUN</u>
Hours: (Bien Hoa)	1749.4	---	---	---	---	---
Sorties: (Bien Hoa)	1463	---	---	---	---	---
Hours: Det 101	365.2	289.9	332.2	314.5	289.7	185.8
Sorties: Det 101	*	116*	141	132	130	81
Hours: Iwakuni	480.3	1227.2	1652.4	1481.1	1715.0	842.5
Sorties: Iwakuni	230	712	1107	1003	1079	5115

* 31 Combat missions-multiple aircraft.

Bien Hoa based units dropped 2123 tons of ordnance with the following major BDA items -

KBA	714	(150 Probable)
Structures	214	Destroyed
Bunkers	809	Destroyed
5 Gun positions	12	Destroyed
Tanks	2	Destroyed
Sampans	13	Destroyed
		7 Damaged
		6 Damaged

Secondary explosions 625
Secondary/sustained fires 99

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4. For most of January the logistic effort was focused on the support of combat operations from Bien Hoa A.B. Republic of Vietnam. Upon the cessation of combat flight operations, embarkation plans were implemented for the return to Iwakuni AB. The loading of aircraft began a scant 24 hours after the end of combat operations. The move to Iwakuni required 59 - C-141, 5 - C-54, and 6 - C-130 airlifts. Working around the clock, 2,791,000 lbs of cargo and 600 Marines were airlifted during the five day operation. The Logistic Control Center established by the Marine Aircraft Group 12 expeditiously coordinated the returning men and materials. Marine Aircraft Group 12 was reestablished and flying training and support missions prior to the complete retrograde movement from Bien Hoa A.B. During February the principal Logistic effort was directed at reestablishing a smooth flowing supply pipeline. Squadrons continued training flight operations while house keeping, embarkation, material management and aircraft maintenance tasks continued at a fast pace.

During the remainder of the reporting period logistic support and embarkation assistance was provided to VMA-311 and VMA-211 for weapons training deployments to Naha AB Okinawa. Additional deployments to NAS Cubi Point by VMA-211 and VMCJ-1 to participate in operation PAGASA I were also supported. VMCJ-1 Beaverhound and Eagle exercises also provided embarkation experience and developed logistic support procedures at many Far East operating areas.

During April a U-1500 computer was installed to allow Marine Aircraft Group 12 to accomodate the SUADPS program. This system when fully implemented will provide many benefits in the Supply and Fiscal management areas.

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PART IIISEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

January 1973

- 13 - CG III MAF (MajGen RYAN) and CG FMAW (MajGen BROWN) visited MAG-12 (FWD) at Bien Hoa AB RVN.
- 22 - CG FMFPAC (LtGen WILSON) visited MAG-12 (FWD) at Bien Hoa AB RVN.
- 26 - Attack by fire. Bien Hoa Received 33 rounds of 122mm rocket fire. MAG-12 suffered one (1) KIA, one (1) WIA.
- 29 - A Logistic Control Center, (LCC) was formed at Iwakuni in order to process returning Marines and supplies from Bien Hoa.
- 30 - AN/UPS-1 (MATCU Primary ATC Radar) flight checked for Iwakuni Approach Control.

February 1973

- 4 - Logistic Control Center closed. During the MAG-12 retrograde, the LCC processed 771 Marines, 6 C5A loads, 59 C141 loads and 5 C-130 loads totalling over 1350 tons of supplies and equipment.
- 6 - VMA-311 landing accident: A-4E damaged, pilot received no injury.

March 1973

- 9 - VMA-311 deployed to Naha AB, Okinawa for conventional, advanced conventional and nuclear weapons delivery training

April 1973

- 5 - MAG-12 change of command.
- 8 - VMA-211 deployed to Naha AB, Okinawa for conventional, advanced conventional and nuclear weapons delivery training. VMA-311 returned to Iwakuni.
- 13 - A permanent flight line element of five Enlisted Maintenance personnel was established at Kwang Ju AB, Korea. This element refuels and performs minor maintenance on MAG-12 aircraft utilizing ROK Air-to-Ground Ranges.
- 16 - VMA-211 Aircraft Accident. A4E lost at sea, pilot rescued from Pacific Ocean west of Okinawa.
- 17 - CG 1stMAW (MajGen LANG) visited MAG-12 for orientation briefings. MAG-12 personnel participated in the Wing change of command ceremonies, VMCI-1 provided aerial photography of the event.
- 30 - Commando Jade Bravo - 8 VMA-311 aircraft, 4 VMCI-1 aircraft participated in an exercise against the ROK air defense system.

May 1973

- 2 - Change of command for VMA-211
- 4 - Change of command for VMCI-1
- 6 - MCAS Iwakuni open house. MAG-12 units provided aircraft and equip-

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ment for display and many personnel to man concessions and provide traffic direction and crowd control.

13 - DOCA flight demonstration. VMA-311 provided 4 A-4E for the Defense Orientation Communication Association Demonstration at Okinawa, the aircraft and crews also provided CAS training for Okinawa based 3rd MAHDIV units.

13-19 PAGASA I. VMA-211 and VMCJ-1 provided fixed wing tactical support for a joint multinational amphibious exercise in the Philippine Islands.

June 1973

8 - H&MS-12 change of command ceremony.

15 - NWU-1 successfully completed its Nuclear Weapons Acceptance Inspection

19 - VMA-311 successfully completed its Nuclear Weapons Acceptance Inspection

21 - Exercise Commando Jade Charlie - TA-4F and RF-4B aircraft from H&MS-12 and VMCJ-1 participated in an exercise of the ROK Air Defense System.

22 - VMA-211 successfully completed its Nuclear Weapons Acceptance Inspection

29 - VMCJ-1 change of command ceremony.

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PART IVSUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

H&MS-12 Command Chronology

MABS-12 Command Chronology

VMCJ-1 Command Chronology

VMA-211 Command Chronology

VMA-311 Command Chronology

MWU-1 Command Chronology

*Filed
separately*

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