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HEADQUARTERS, MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP-13
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
 FPO, San Francisco 96602

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From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing
 Subj: Command Chronology Period 1-31 October 1966 (U)

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
 (b) WGO 5750.1B

Encl: ✓(1) MAG-13 Command Chronology for period 1-31 October 1966

1. In accordance with references (a) and (b), the subject report is submitted as enclosure (1).

2. Upon removal from the subject report this letter is downgraded to unclassified.

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MAG-13	
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MAG-13
COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
FOR
1-31 OCTOBER 1966

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PART ONE: ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Commanders and Staff:

a. Headquarters, MAG-13 (1-31 October)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANKS</u>	
		<u>T/O</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
DOUGLAS D. PETTY JR.	CO	COL	COL
FREDRIC T. WATTS JR.	XO	LTCOL	LTCOL
MICHAEL O. BOSS	ADJ	MAJOR	CAPT
HARRY D. STOTT	S-1	MAJOR	LTCOL
CLYDE C. SIMON	S-2	MAJOR	CAPT
WILLIAM H. HEINTZ	S-3	LTCOL	MAJOR
KENNETH G. FIEGENER	S-4	LTCOL	LTCOL

b. H&MS-13 (1-31 October)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANKS</u>	
		<u>T/O</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
WALTER E. DOMINA	CO	LTCOL	LTCOL
REECE J. WOODARD	XO	MAJOR	MAJOR
JIMMY L. PAPPAS	A/C MAINTO (1-25Oct)	MAJOR	CAPT
LOUIS F. GAGNON	OPSO	CAPT	MAJOR
RONALD C. ANDREAS	ADMINO (1-25Oct)	LT	CAPT

c. MABS-13 (1-31 October)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANKS</u>	
		<u>T/O</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
OWEN L. OWENS	CO	LTCOL	LTCOL
JAMES L. SHANAHAN	XO (1-15Oct)	MAJOR	MAJOR
RAY B. STICE	XO (15-31Oct)	MAJOR	MAJOR
JOHN L. LOHR	ADMINO	CAPT	2NDLT
WALTER C. SERVICE III	BASEOPSO	MAJOR	MAJOR
JAMES F. NEWELL	BASESERVO	MAJOR	CAPT

d. VMFA-542 (1-31 October)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANKS</u>	
		<u>T/O</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
DONALD L. MAY	CO	LTCOL	LTCOL
WALTER O. POITEVENT	XO	MAJOR	MAJOR
JAMES J. MORIN	S-1	LT	CAPT
VINCENT M. LEVITSKY	S-2	LT	1STLT
EDDIE R. MAAG	S-3	MAJOR	MAJOR
ROBERT L. DANIELS	S-4	WO	CAPT
MICHAEL P. CADY	MAINTO	MAJOR	MAJOR

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e. VMFA-323 (5-31 October)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BULLET</u>	<u>RANKS</u>	
		<u>T/O</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
AUBREY W. TALBERT	CO	LTCOL	LTCOL
BILLY D. FRITSCH	XO	MAJOR	MAJOR
CAREY B. CONNELL	S-1 (1-26 Oct)	LT	CAPT
RONALD C. ANDREAS	S-1 (27-31 Oct)	LT	CAPT
HUGH J. JULIAN	S-2	LT	CAPT
ROBERT J. DIVOKY	S-3	MAJOR	MAJOR
RICHARD J. SKELTON	S-4 (1-26 Oct)	WO	CAPT
JOSEPH B. WUERTZ	S-4 (27-31 Oct)	WO	MAJOR
DAYTON A. LEWIS	MAINTO (1-26 Oct)	MAJOR	CAPT
JIMMY L. PAPPAS	MAINTO (27-31 Oct)	MAJOR	MAJOR

f. VMFA-314 (21-31 October)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BULLET</u>	<u>RANKS</u>	
		<u>T/O</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
DARREL E. BJORKLUND	CO	LTCOL	LTCOL
ROBERT R. SHEAHAN	XO	MAJOR	MAJOR
HARRY COLLINS II	S-1	LT	CAPT
DAVID E. FRITZ	S-2	LT	1STLT
ROBERT D. MILLER	S-3	MAJOR	MAJOR
HERBERT F. STROMAN	S-4	WO	CAPT
JOHN T. TYLER	MAINTO	MAJOR	MAJOR

2. Task Organization and Unit Location

MAG-13	MCAS CHU LAI
H&MS-13	MCAS CHU LAI
MABS-13	MCAS CHU LAI
VMFA-542	MCAS IWAKUNI (1-9 Oct)
	MCAS CHU LAI (10-31 Oct)
VMFA-323	DANANG AB (1-5 Oct)
	MCAS CHU LAI (6-31 Oct)
VMFA-314	DANANG AB (1-20 Oct)
	MCAS CHU LAI (21-31 Oct)

3. Average Monthly Strengths

<u>MAG-13</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NFO</u>	<u>AG</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>USN</u>	
					<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
H&MS-13	24	0	22	350	0	0
MABS-13	7	0	12	435	0	0
VMFA-542	22	21	5	255	1	2
VMFA-323	16	16	10	225	1	2
VMFA-314	19	17	5	228	1	2
TOTAL	88	54	54	1493	3	6

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4. Important Visitors to the Command.

Admiral	MAC DONALD	CNO
LtGen	KRULAK	CG FMFPAC
LtGen	WALT	CG III MAF
MajGen	ROBERTSHAW	CG FMAW
MajGen	NICKERSON	CG FIRSTMARDIV

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PART TWO: NARRATIVE SUMMARY

On 5 October MCAS Chu Lai (West Field) was officially opened with Col. D. D. PETTY JR, CO MAG-13, making the first landing in a TF9J. Col. D. D. PETTY was greeted by MajGen. ROBERTSHAW, CG First MAW. LtCol. A. W. TALBERT, CO VMFA-323, made the first F4B landing as he led the transfer of VMFA-323 from MAG-11, DaNang AB to MAG-13 at MCAS Chu Lai. The next day Col. D.D. PETTY JR, and LtCol. A. W. TALBERT flew the first phantom combat mission for MAG-13.

On 10 October VMFA-542 arrived at MCAS Chu Lai from MCAS Iwakuni. Two days later the tiger squadron started flying combat missions. VMFA-314 was the next squadron to arrive at MCAS Chu Lai on 21 October after detaching from MAG-11, DaNang AB.

During the month of October H&MS-13 and MABS-13 were busy with the construction of support and base facilities. Ground Defense was established with the formation of provisional rifle companies and the building of defensive positions for security of the men, aircraft and equipment of MAG-13.

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1. Personnel. During this reporting period, one Private First Class, 89 Lance Corporals, 84 Corporals, two Sergeants, 12 Staff Sergeants, 11 Gunnery Sergeants, one Master Sergeant, one First Lieutenant, 34 Captains, 10 Majors and one Lieutenant Colonel were promoted to their present ranks.

2. Awards. Awards presented:

23 - Air Medals

3 - Good Conduct Medals

CNO Safety Award for FY 1966 to VMFA-542

3. Casualties. On 13 October Cpl. Anthony J. NIGRO, 2078515/USMC was accidentally killed by a gun shot wound in the head. Also wounded by the same accidental discharge was Pvt. Donald L. DADLER, 2189035/USMC.

On 17 October PFC. Edward E. ANDERSON, 2144079/USMC and LCpl. James C. LAMBERT, 2128882/USMC were accidentally killed by an A4 during its take-off roll. The two Marines were crossing the East Field runway at night and apparently did not see the jet taking-off.

4. Morale/Welfare Programs.

With the assignment of the hamlet of An Tan as the MAG-13 civic action area, the Group Chaplain inherited from the 11th Marines Regimental Chaplain the responsibility for coordinating construction of the An Tan Evangelical Church. This is a cooperative venture among the Protestant Chaplains of the Chu Lai area.

The Group Chaplain initiated and directed a Protestant Rally for military personnel of this area. The first rally was held on 9 October and was the first rally of this type to be held in the Chu Lai area.

5. Intelligence/Counterintelligence.

a. Activities

(1) Commenced briefing and debriefing aircrews of VMFA-323 on 5 October, H&MS-13 on 6 October, VMFA-542 on 12 October and VMFA-314 on 21 October.

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(2) Most significant damage incurred against the VC/NVN forces^{was} on 17 October with two confirmed and six probable killed by air; six structures destroyed and 15 structures damaged.

b. Training

(1) Intelligence briefs were presented to the Commanding Officer, his Staff and Squadron Commanders at the regularly scheduled weekly CO's conference.

(2) On-the-job-training conducted by all intelligence personnel within the Group during this period.

c. Administration

(1) Classified files were maintained in accordance with OPNAVINST 5510.1C and current applicable directives.

(2) Personnel security clearances were processed in accordance with current directives.

(3) Unclassified files were maintained in accordance with SECNAVINST P5213.1 (Naval Filing System).

6. Air Operations

a. H&MS-13. During the month of October 88 TF9J sorties (125.9 hrs) and 59 C117D sorties (111.6 hrs) were flown. Type flights flown by the TF9J were visual recon, helo escorts, DAS, TPQ calibration and TAC(A). The C117 conducted normal scheduled Marlog flights plus the flare drop missions.

b. MABS-13. The Launch and Recovery unit has installed two M-21 arresting gear units, 3500 feet from each approach end of the runway. During the month the Crash Crew responded to 27 emergencies, two of which required the field to be closed until salvage operations were completed. The Crash Crew was able to salvage two F4B's with no further damage than had occurred due to the incidents.

c. Phantom Squadrons. The onset of the monsoon season, coupled with the normal flight deterrent of transitioning between locations and parent groups, slowed the normally high pace of the squadrons' flight operations. The combat missions flown were largely in support of Operation Prairie. The other combat missions being helo escort, DAS, TPQ, Air-to-Ground Alert and Air-to-Air Alert.

The following sorties and hours were flown during October:

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	<u>SORTIES</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
VMFA-542	273	411.9
VMFA-323	472	624.4
VMFA-314	470	617.8

7. Logistics.

a. The first 15 days of October saw a continuation of the build up of MAG-13 in Chu Lai. Unloading of LST 1165, USS Washoe County continued until 3 October. At Iwakuni, VMFA-542 and VMA-211 advance echelon, departed via C-130 with continual loading of LST 1157, USS Terrell County containing the Tactical Squadron's gear. From 4 through 10 October Air Force C-130s from the 315th Air Division Tachikawa lifted VMA-211 and VMFA-542 to Chu Lai in a highly professional manner. On 11 October the USS Terrell County arrived and with the assistance of the 7th Motor Transport Battalion all embarked supplies were off loaded and delivered to the MAG-13 cantonment. By 15 October all elements of MAG-13 were bedded down and operating, including VMFA-323 which had transferred to MAG-13 from MAG-11 on the 5th of October.

b. The period of 16 through 31 October saw the arrival of two more F-9s to augment the H&MS-13 aircraft inventory. From the 17th through the 21st liaison was conducted with MAG-11 to coordinate the transfer of equipment attendant to the move of VMFA-314 from DaNang to Chu Lai. The 22nd saw the arrival of VMFA-314 and setting up in temporary quarters on the northwest turnup ramp. The inconvenience was necessary due to construction of additional parking ramp space. The remainder of the month settled down to the more routine type S-4 business.

8. Motor Transport. The total number of miles traveled by vehicles in MAG-13 was 60,623 carrying 22,672 passengers and hauling 843,144 lbs of cargo. The amount of fuel utilized was 837,145 gallons. The Heavy Equipment Section operated vehicles for a total of 3,594 hours. The Motor Transport Maintenance Section conducted 245 preventive maintenance inspections and repaired 105 tires. The Heavy Equipment Section conducted 272 preventive maintenance inspections.

9. Base Development/Military Construction. On 5 October an additional 32 huts were occupied by VMFA-542 personnel and by 12 October another 32 huts were occupied by VMFA-323 personnel. Also on 12 October the 75' wide, 10,000 foot taxiway was completed by RMK-BRJ. On 15 October, the 7,500' 8" POL line from bulk fuel storage to TAFDS was completed by MCB-3 and put into operation. On 20 October the ARMCO steel aircraft revetments were started on the parking apron by MCB 40. On 21 October, the Group Headquarters moved into the new 5600 square foot Command Post. On 26 October, the new 1600 man messhall/galley was occupied, although the full 15,000 square foot building was not complete. On 22 October, VMFA-314 occupied an additional 27 huts. By 31 October 242 huts were

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completed, or 90% complete, and all were occupied. This included the Group Dispensary which was 95% complete at this time but not occupied, and the five squadron CP's.

10. Communications/Electronics. During October the wire section installed a permanent switch board, 152 telephones, 52 miles of wire and three miles of telephone poles. Also an emergency crash alert phone circuit was installed. A test radio net using encrypted voice transmission was established with the First Marine Aircraft Wing. Communications Guard was assumed on 22 October when the message center established a transmit and receive top secret teletype circuit with Wing Headquarters. Traffic for the month included 198 outgoing and 1363 incoming messages.

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