

SF

HEADQUARTERS
 Marine Aircraft Group-13
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing
 Fleet Marine Force, Pacific
 FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

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 13 Jan 1969

MAG-13

CMD CHRON

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing
 Subj: Command Chronology Period 1-31 December 1968
 Ref: (a) Wg0 5750.1C

Encl: ✓(1) LAG-13 Command Chronology
 ✓(2) H&MS-13 Command Chronology
 ✓(3) MAWS-13 Command Chronology
 ✓(4) VMFA-115 Command Chronology
 ✓(5) VMFA-314 Command Chronology
 ✓(6) VMFA-323 Command Chronology

1. In accordance with reference (a), the subject report is submitted as enclosures (1) through (6).
2. Upon removal of the enclosures, this letter is downgraded to unclassified.

N.W. Gourley
 N. W. GOURLEY

1st MAW S&C No.	Copy No.
192-69	1

MAG-13
S&C # 69-057
COPY #1

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MAG-13

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

FOR

1-31 DECEMBER 1968

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PART ONE:

1. ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

a. Headquarters, MAG-13 (1-31 December 1968)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>
		T/C ACTUAL
NORMAN W. GOURLEY	CO	COL COL
IRA L. MORGAN	XO (1-24 Dec)	LTCOL LTCOL
WILLIAM SHANKS JR.	XO (24-31 Dec)	LTCOL LTCOL
WALTER S. LEADS	ADJ	CAPT 1STLT
LEONARD R. LANG	SGTMAJ (1-23 Dec)	SGTMAJ SGTMAJ
ROBERT E. WINSLOW	SGTMAJ (23-31 Dec)	SGTMAJ SGTMAJ
JAMES H. VANDEVER	S-1	MAJ MAJ
JOSEPH MARZICLI	S-2	MAJ CAPT
BILLY M. ADRIAN	S-3	LTCOL LTCOL
SAMUEL E. D'ANGELO	S-4	LTCOL LTCOL

b. H&MS-13 (1-31 December 1968)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>
		T/C ACTUAL
EDGAR A. HOUSE	CO	LTCOL MAJ
HOWARD W. MEISSNER	XO	MAJ MAJ
KENNETH E. COOK	S-3	CAPT CAPT
AUSTIN O. GANDY	A/C MAINTO	MAJ LTCOL
WALTER K. HEHNER JR.	ADMINO	LT 1LT

c. MABS-13 (1-31 December 1968)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>
		T/O ACTUAL
CHARLES V. V. SMILLIE JR.	CO	LTCOL LTCOL
EDWARD R. BAILEY	XO (1-12 Dec)	MAJ MAJ
JAMES D. MOODY	XO (12-31 Dec)	MAJ MAJ
DANIEL F. DOUGHERTY	ADMINO	CAPT CWO-2
PATRICK H. MC KINNIS	BASE OPNSO	MAJ CAPT
GEORGE E. FRANKLIN	BASE SERVO	MAJ CAPT
RAYMOND E. STEWARD	SGTMAJ	SGTMAJ SGTMAJ

d. VFA-115 (1-31 December 1968)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>
		T/O ACTUAL
R. R. MORTON	CO	LTCOL LTCOL
R. G. KROPP	XO (1-7 Dec)	MAJ MAJ
K. H. WELSH	XO (7-31 Dec)	MAJ MAJ

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>	
		<u>T/O</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
W. A. HENDERSON	S-1 (28-31 Dec)	LT	CAPT
J. R. DENTON	S-1 (1-28 Dec)	LT	CAPT
D. L. CRIPPE	S-2	LT	1stLT
O. W. BRITTON	S-3	MAJ	MAJ
W. ACUFF III	S-4	WO	CAPT
H. A. SLOAN	A/C MAINTC	MAJ	MAJ

e. VMFA-314 (1-31 December 1968)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>	
		<u>T/O</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
FRANK E. PETERSEN JR	CO	LTCOL	LTCOL
HARRY H. ZIEGLER	XO (1-9 Dec)	MAJ	LTCOL
KENNETH H. STOVER	XO (9-31 Dec)	MAJ	MAJ
GILBERT TANZER	S-1	LT	CAPT
JOHN P. NOLSEN	S-2	LT	CAPT
RICHARD I. HARRIS	S-3	MAJ	MAJ
GARY R. VAN GYSW	S-4	WO	CAPT
FREDERICK J. SCHOBAR	A/C MAINTC	MAJ	MAJ

f. VMFA-323 (1-31 December 1968)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>	
		<u>T/O</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
IRV L. MORGAN	CO (11-31 Dec)	LTCOL	LTCOL
DON J. SLEE	CO (1-11 DEC)	LTCOL	LTCOL
HENRY C. IVY	XO	MAJ	MAJ
DAVID W. DENTON	S-1	LT	MAJ
BOBBY D. COLE	S-2	LT	CAPT
DONALD D. BERGMAN	S-3 (15-31 Dec)	MAJ	MAJ
JAMES R. BRYAN	S-3 (1-15 Dec)	MAJ	CAPT
JAMES E. BIRCHELL	S-4	WO	CAPT
RICHARD J. PEREIRA	A/C MAINTC	MAJ	MAJ

2. TASK ORGANIZATION AND UNIT LOCATION

<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COMMANDING OFFICER</u>	<u>DATE OF OFFICE</u>
MAG-13	Chu Lai RVN	COL NORMAN W. GOURLEY	1-31 Dec 1968
H&MS-13	Chu Lai RVN	MAJ EDGAR A. HHOUSE	1-31 Dec 1968
MABS-13	Chu Lai RVN	LTCOL CHARLES V. V. SMILLIE	1-31 Dec 1968
VMFA-115	Chu Lai RVN	LTCOL ROBERT R. NORTON	1-31 Dec 1968
VMFA-314	Chu Lai RVN	LTCOL FRANK E. PERTERSEN	1-31 Dec 1968
VMFA-323	Chu Lai RVN	LTCOL DON J. SLEE	1-11 Dec 1968
VMFA-323	Chu Lai RVN	LTCOL IRA L. MORGAN	11-31 Dec 1968

3. Average Monthly Strength

<u>USMC</u>					<u>USN</u>	
<u>Squadron</u>	<u>MA</u>	<u>NFO</u>	<u>AG</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>	<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
HMS-13	13	5	24	431	0	0
MBB-13	5	0	12	490	5	20
VFA-115	17	15	3	226	1	0
VFA-314	19	18	5	223	1	0
VFA-323	17	18	3	216	1	0
MAG-13	71	56	47	1586	8	20

4. Important Visitors to the Command

On 25 December 1968, Admiral John S. McCAIN, USN, Commander in Chief Pacific toured the MAG-13 area during a visit to the Chu Lai Air Base complex. Accompanying Admiral McCAIN were Lieutenant General CUSHMAN, CG III MAF and Rear Admiral RINDSZOPF, USN.

On 11 December 1968, Major General QUILTER, CG 1st MAW attended Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 323's change of command in which LtCol Ira L. MORGAN relieved LtCol Don J. SLEE.

Archbishop COOKE, Military Ordinariate, visited Chu Lai area on 26 December.

PART TWO: NARRATIVE SUMMARY

Marine Aircraft Group-13 continued its support of III MAF and all other free world Armed Forces in the I Corps, Commando Hunt and Gulf of Tonkin areas. Operations supported were SCOTLAND II, TAYLOR COMMON, VERNON LAKE, FAYETTE CANYON, NEVADA EAGLE, DAWSON RIVER, KENTUCKY, VICTORY DRAGON VI, HENDERSON HILL, MEADE RIVER, NAPOLEAN SALINE II, AND MARSHALL MOUNTAIN. Flying a wide variety of missions, MAG-13 aircraft provided support for the First and Third Marine Divisions, Task Force Hotel, U.S. Army, Republic of Korea Marines, ARVN Forces, Task Force 77, and the 7th Air Force in the Commando Hunt area.

MAG-13's air effort accounted for 117 bunkers destroyed, 102 structures destroyed, 42 confirmed KBA, 913 meters of trench line and an assortment of sampans, gun positions, automatic weapons sites and trucks destroyed or damaged.

Flying around the clock Barrier Cap, MAG-13 Phantoms logged 219 fighter sorties over the waters off North Vietnam in support of air operations in the Gulf of Tonkin. During the same period 11 MIG CAP and 18 fighter escort sorties were provided for B-52 Arc Light missions with negative MIG encounters.

MAG-13 lost one aircraft during the month of December. The F4B was destroyed as a direct result of enemy action and the crew members are listed as Missing in Action.

Chu Lai Air Base came under rocket or mortar attack three times during the reporting period. The rocket attack on the 21st of December 1968 produced minor damage in the MAG-13 supply area, 8 KIA and 5 WIA.

PART THREE: SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Personnel

During the month of December, Marine Aircraft Group-13 had a loss of 15 Officers and 87 Enlisted personnel due to rotation and transfers. During this same period, 14 Officers and 155 Enlisted reported to this Group for duty.

2. Awards

The following medals were presented to MAG-13 personnel during the month of December 1968. Medals presented were:

- a. Distinguished Flying Cross: 1
- b. Single Mission Air Medal: 7
- c. Bronze Star: 2
- d. Navy Commendation Medal: 2
- e. Navy Achievement Medal: 4
- f. Purple Heart: 2
- g. Certificate of Commendation: 4

During this same period the following medals were recommended:

- a. Distinguished Flying Cross: 12
- b. Bronze Star: 10
- c. Navy Commendation Medal: 12
- d. Navy Achievement Medal: 21
- e. Navy/Marine Corps Medal: 0
- f. Purple Heart: 5
- g. Certificate of Commendation: 3

3. Casualties

Non-Hostile

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b. Total returned to duty 12
 c. Total MediEvac 6
 d. Total number of man days lost 157

Hostile

a. Killed in Action 6
 b. Died of wounds 2
 c. Wounded in Action 5
 d. Missing in Action 2

4. Civic Action

a. 1-2 December: Conducted MEDCAP in Long Phu II to a good turnout with VMFA-323 and VMFA-115 assisting. Sixty CARE school kits were distributed to the Long Phu II school with VMFA-115 assisting. A volley ball set was also donated and ISO coverage was provided by Lt. COLLINS. Evening classes at the Chu Lai New Life hamlet school for English instruction began with district education office approval.

b. 3-6 December: Donated two beds to the local Vietnamese hospital now nearing the completion of its new addition. Donated waterpumps to the Chu Lai New Life hamlet livestock farm to facilitate the watering of the animals. Discussed plans with two representatives from Ky Lien Village for a trip to visit the experimental farms in the Danang area.

c. 8 December: MAG-13 motor transport organized a civic action team and has commenced the repair of the Chu Lai New Life School.

d. 9 December: MABS-13 is doing an outstanding job on road construction between Long Phu and Long Phu II. This work is in conjunction with the combined U. S. and Vietnamese pacification and renewal projects. One week has seen the completion of over one mile of road through the hamlet.

e. 10 December: LtCol D'ANGELO attended an open house with the civic action team in AnTan. At the invitation of the Vietnamese, LtCol D'ANGELO represented the MAG-13 Command.

f. 15-21 December: Weekly MEDCAP treated fifty-seven patients. Four Vietnamese were MedEvac to U. S. hospitals. Civic Action Officer met with the newly installed Vietnamese District Chief. CAO attended monthly Wing Civic Action meeting. Civic Action emphasis is on using the Vietnamese political system whenever possible in order to try to show the populace that its government can work for them.

[REDACTED]

g. 22 December: MAG-13 Civic Action Team held a Christmas Party for the children of Long Phu II. The Staff Club hosted 15 children from that hamlet to a party on base.

h. 23 December: Donated 200 toys to the Village Chief for distribution to a refugee hamlet.

i. 24 December: Civic Action Team hosted a Christmas party at the Chu Lai New Life hamlet for 500 children. The American Band presented a Christmas show in An Tan for the surrounding area.

j. 27-31 December: The Civic Action Team met with the principal and teachers of the Chu Lai school to discuss the new school building addition. A project request was submitted to Vietnamese Officials for approval. Weekly MEDCAP treated 42 patients. Three civilians in Ky Lien Village have been given materials for home repairs.

5. Intelligence

a. Continued Intelligence Operations, Briefing and Debriefing of assigned aircrews, and orientation to insure that assigned units receive maximum familiarity with combat conditions in the republic of Vietnam.

b. A general intelligence brief is given each Thursday by the Group Intelligence Officer at 1530 for the Officers and SMCO's of H&MS-13 and MABS-13. Officers and SMCO's of the tactical squadrons are also welcome.

c. The information and materials for intelligence briefs for all ranks of the tactical squadrons is provided by the Group Intelligence Section and is given by the Tactical squadrons Intelligence Officer each week.

d. Intelligence briefs are presented to the Commanding Officer, staff, and Squadron Commanders at the weekly CO's conference.

e. On-the-job training for all intelligence personnel of the Group was conducted on a continuous basis during the entire period.

f. An in country "For Official Use Only" written Intelligence/Counterintelligence briefing for all ranks continued.

g. Classified files were maintained in accordance with OPNAVINST 5510.1C and current applicable directives.

h. Personnel security clearances were processed in accordance with current directives.

6. Air Operations

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<u>SQUADRON</u>		<u>SOFTIES</u>		<u>HOURS</u>	
		<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>COMBAT</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>COMBAT</u>
H&MS-13	TA-4F	30	20	34	21
	C-117D	36	36	38	38
VMFA-115	F-4B	551	532	754	729
VMFA-314	F-4B	546	524	770	700
VMFA-323	F-4B	449	426	605	581

Operations Supported

Scotland II, Taylor Common, Vernon Lake, Fayette Canyon, Nevada
 Eagle, Dawson River, Kentucky, Victory Dragon VI, Henderson Hill,
 Meade River, Napolean Saline II, Marshall Mountain.

Significant Bomb Damage Assessment

Bunkers	121 Des/32 Dam
Fighting Holes	13 Des
Secondary Fires	51
Secondary Explosions	37
Structures	155 Des/34 Dam
Trucks	2 Des/1 Dam
Trenchline	955 Meters
Sampans	2 Des
KBMA	71
Road Cuts	18
Boats	3 Des
Auto Weapons Position	6 Des

7. Base Development

a. During the month of December 1968, MCB-74 started construction on additional cantonment facilities.

b. On 21 December 1968, MCB-74 started construction of an Emergency Heli-Port adjacent to the MAG-13 Dispensary. Construction was completed on 30 December 1968.

c. On 23 December 1968, MCB-74 started construction of seven (7) two-story barracks with head and showers inside at the MAG-13 Beach Site.

d. During the month of December 1968, the Group Motor Transport Operations Section traveled 57,376 miles, carried 1,793 tons of cargo, 16,378 passengers and 76,150 gallons of water. The Refueler Section traveled 5,500 miles and carried 1,046,612 gallons of fuel.

~~SECRET~~~~UNCLASSIFIED~~8. Supply

- a. FY69 AVCAL was processed and returned to COMNAVAIRPAC. FlgJ AVCAL review still in process.
- b. On 21 Dec enemy rocket struck open storage area with one enlisted slightly wounded and estimated \$20,000.00 loss to government property.
- c. A new low in outstanding noms "G" requisitions (27) was achieved on 29 Dec 1968.
- d. A backscreen of outstanding priority two requisitions was conducted at NSD Subic. 30% fill rate was obtained.

9. Morale/WelfareReligious Services

(1) Protestant Services

- (a) Sunday-10;attendance-435
- (b) Weekday-20;attendance-433
- (c) Choir Practice-5;attendance-37

(2) Catholic Services

- (a) Sunday-10;attendance-624
- (b) Weekday-24;attendance-384
- (c) Religious Information Classes-6;attendance-28

(3) Latter Day Saints (Mormons)

- (a) Sunday-4;attendance-35

(4) Christian Science

- (a) Sunday-5;attendance-16

(5) Memorial Services

- (a) 21 December;attendance-220
- (b) 26 December;attendance-126

Services Rendered other than at MAG-13

(1) Protestant Services

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(a) 23rd Support Command (Americana Div.) Service (1)
Attendance (19)

Weekday

(a) CAP Coverage Services (3) Attendance (19)

(2) Catholic Services

Sunday

(a) NSAD Services (5) Attendance (154)
(b) LSU-3 " (5) " (76)

Weekday

(a) NSAD Service (1) Attendance (48)
(b) LSU-3 " (1) " (15)
(c) 14th CAB Service (1) Attendance (25)
(d) CAP Coverage Services (3) Attendance (12)

Counseling and Interviews

Counseling-43
Interviews-37

Red Cross Cases-5

Hospital Visits-19

Civil Affairs

(a) Donated \$200.00 to MAG-13 Scholarship Fund.
(b) Presented 25 lbs. of school supplies and toilet articles along with some religious articles to the Catholic Orphanage in An Tan.
(c) Presented 75 lbs. of toilet articles, school supplies, and clothing to Tabitha Orphanage, An Tan.
(d) Native Christmas cards from the Christian Youth Service Organization in the amount of \$275.00 were purchased by personnel of MAG-13.

Meetings and Trips

(a) Chaplains CUSICK and PRDAN were in Danang on 4 and 5 December to attend Chaplain Corps Birthday Dinner and Wing Chaplain's Conference.

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- (b) Chaplain Perdew was on leave in Okinawa 9 December to 13 December.
- (c) Chaplain CUSICK attended Day of Recollection for Catholic Chaplains in I Corps on 19 December at Danang.
- (d) Five personnel from MAG-13 attended Protestant Retreat at China Beach 27 December to 29 December.
- (e) Archbishop COOKE, Military Ordinariate, visited Chu Lai Area on 26 December. H&S Hangar at MAG-13 was prepared as bad weather site for the visit.

10. Training

- a. Normal on the job and technical training continued within each squadron.
- b. Utilization of the MAG-13 rifle range is being accomplished for the purpose of FAM firing newly joined personnel and maintaining currency of other personnel.
- c. The following schools were attended by MAG-13 personnel during this reporting period:

Schools - December 1968

Jungle Environment and Survival Training	6
Corrosion Control	4
Career Advisory	1

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