

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

69-395
COPY #1

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 5750  
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 12 Apr 1969

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing

Subj: Command Chronology Period 1-31 March 1969

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A  
 (b) WGO 5750.1C

Encl: (1) MAG-13 Command Chronology Period 1-31 March 1969  
 (2) H&MS-13 Command Chronology Period 1-31 March 1969  
 (3) MABS-13 Command Chronology Period 1-31 March 1969  
 (4) VMFA-115 Command Chronology Period 1-31 March 1969  
 (5) VMFA-232 Command Chronology Period 1-31 March 1969  
 (6) VMFA-314 Command Chronology Period 1-31 March 1969  
 (7) VMFA-323 Command Chronology Period 1-25 March 1969  
 (8) VMFA-334 Command Chronology Period 1-31 March 1969

*Filed*  
*dep*

1. In accordance with reference (a) and (b), the subject report is submitted as enclosures (1) through (8).

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

*R. S. RASH*  
 R. S. RASH

1st MAW S.O.C No.	Copy No.
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MAG-13

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MAG-13  
COMMAND CHRONOLOGY  
FOR  
1-31 MARCH 1969

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PART ONE: ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

## a. Headquarters, MAG-13 (1-31 March)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>	
		<u>T/O</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
NORMAN W. GOURLEY	CO (1Mar-5Mar)	COL	COL
RICHARD S. RASH	CO (6Mar-31Mar)	COL	COL
WILLIAM SHANKS JR.	XO	LTCOL	LTCOL
WALTER S. MEADS	ADJ	CAPT	1STLT
ROBERT E. WINSLOW	SGTMAJ	SGTMAJ	SGTMAJ
JAMES H. VANDEVER	S-1	MAJ	MAJ
BOBBY D. COLE	S-2	MAJ	CAPT
JOHN R. BRADDON	S-3	LTCOL	LTCOL
CHARLES G. FREDERICK	S-4	LTCOL	LTCOL

## b. H&amp;MS-13 (1-31 March)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>	
		<u>T/O</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
BILLY M. ADRIAN	CO	LTCOL	LTCOL
JACK D. WALDO	XO (1Mar-17Mar)	MAJ	MAJ
DONALD P. BOWEN	XO (18Mar-31Mar)	MAJ	MAJ
CHARLES R. PETTY	S-3	CAPT	MAJ
AUSTIN O. GANDY	A/C MAINTO	MAJ	LTCOL
WALTER K. HEHNER JR.	ADMNO	LT	1STLT

## c. MABS-13 (1-31 March)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>	
		<u>T/O</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
CHARLES V. V. SMILLIE JR.	CO	LTCOL	LTCOL
JAMES D. MOODY	XO	MAJ	MAJ
DANIEL F. DOUGHERTY	ADMNO	CAPT	CWO-2
JAMES C. REYNOLDS	BASE SERVO	MAJ	MAJ
RAYMOND E. STEWARD	SGTMAJ	SGTMAJ	SGTMAJ

## d. VMFA-115 (1-31 March)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>	
		<u>T/O</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
R. R. NORTON	CO	LTCOL	LTCOL
E. C. PAIGE JR.	XO	MAJ	MAJ
MEISSNER, H. W.	S-1	LT	MAJ
D. L. CRIPE	S-2	LT	LT
K. H. WELSH	S-3	MAJ	MAJ
J. L. CANNAVA	S-4	WO	CAPT
D. A. LEWIS	A/C MAINTO (6Mar-31Mar)	MAJ	MAJ
H. A. SLONE	A/C MAINTO (1Mar-5Mar)	MAJ	MAJ

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## e. VMFA-232 (1-31 Mar)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>	
		<u>T/O</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
W. P. HUTCHINS	CO	LTCOL	LTCOL
J. T. ZYCH	XO	MAJ	MAJ
G. A. BROWN	S-1	LT	CAPT
T. J. BILLISON	S-2	LT	1STLT
N. F. SCHNIPPEL	S-3	MAJ	MAJ
J. A. GRUHLER	S-4	WO	MAJ
F. M. LOGAN	A/C MAINTO	MAJ	MAJ

## f. VMFA-314 (1-31 Mar)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>	
		<u>T/O</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
THOMAS R. MORGAN	CO (1Mar-9Mar)	LTCOL	LTCOL
JOHN W. BLACK	CO (10Mar-31Mar)	LTCOL	MAJ
JOHN W. BLACK	XO (1Mar-9Mar)	MAJ	MAJ
KENNETH H. STOVER	XO (10Mar-31Mar)	MAJ	MAJ
VIRGIL M. BERDINE	S-1	LT	CAPT
RICHARD I. HARRIS	S-3	MAJ	MAJ
GARY R. VAN GYSEL	S-4 (1Mar-10Mar)	WO	CAPT
FRANK A. HUEY	S-4 (11Mar-31Mar)	WO	MAJ
FREDERICK J. SCHOBBER	A/C MAINTO	MAJ	MAJ

## g. VMFA-323 (1-25 Mar)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>	
		<u>T/O</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
IRA L. MORGAN	CO	LTCOL	LTCOL
JOHN K. COCHRAN	XO	MAJ	MAJ
JAMES R. BRYAN	S-1	LT	CAPT
WILLIAM C. RYAN	S-2	LT	1STLT
HENRY C. IVY	S-3	MAJ	MAJ
JAMES E. BIRDWELL	S-4	WO	CAPT
DONALD D. BERGMAN	A/C MAINTO	MAJ	MAJ

## h. VMFA-334 (1-31 Mar)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>	
		<u>T/O</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
S. E. D'ANGELO III	CO	LTCOL	LTCOL
H. J. BOND	XO	MAJ	MAJ
B. R. BAIRD	S-1	LT	CAPT
J. W. LEIST	S-2	LT	1STLT
F. L. PIERI	S-3 (1Mar-7Mar)	MAJ	MAJ
J. R. SCAFE	S-3 (8Mar-31Mar)	MAJ	MAJ
J. E. MAY	S-4	WO	MAJ
C. B. JOHNSTON	A/C MAINTO	MAJ	MAJ

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## 2. 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	1-5 MAR 1969
MAG-13	CHU LAI RVN	COL RICHARD S. RASH	6-31 MAR 1969
H&MS-13	CHU LAI RVN	LTCOL BILLY M. ADRIAN	1-31 MAR 1969
MABS-13	CHU LAI RVN	LTCOL CHARLES V. V. SMILLIE	1-31 MAR 1969
VMFA-115	CHU LAI RVN	LTCOL ROBERT R. NORTON	1-31 MAR 1969
VMFA-232	CHU LAI RVN	LTCOL W. P. HUTCHINS	21-31 MAR 1969
VMFA-314	CHU LAI RVN	LTCOL THOMAS R. MORGAN	1-8 MAR 1969
VMFA-314	CHU LAI RVN	MAJ JOHN W. BLACK	9-31 MAR 1969
VMFA-323	CHU LAI RVN	LTCOL IRA L. MORGAN	1-29 MAR 1969
VMFA-334	CHU LAI RVN	LTCOL SAMUEL E. D'ANGELO	1-31 MAR 1969

## 3. Average Monthly Strength

<u>SQUADRON</u>	<u>USMC</u>				<u>USN</u>	
	<u>NA</u>	<u>NFO</u>	<u>AG</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>	<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
H&MS-13	20	5	26	543	0	0
MABS-13	7	1	9	481	11	25
VMFA-115	21	14	5	217	1	0
VMFA-232	25	23	5	282	1	0
VMFA-323	15	11	2	211	1	0
VMFA-314	22	14	5	216	1	0
VMFA-334	<u>21</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>245</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
MAG-13	131	85	57	2195	16	25

## 4. Important Visitors to the Command

5 March 1969

MAJGEN CARL A. YOUNGDALE - DEPUTY III MAF  
 MAJGEN CHARLES J. QUILTER - CG FIRST MAW  
 MAJGEN CHARLES M. GETTYS - CG AMERICAL DIV  
 BRIGGEN GEORGE E. DCOLEY - III MAF  
 BRIGGEN WALLACE L. CLEMENT - ASST DIV CG AMERICAL DIV

15 March 1969

MAJGEN HERMAN HICKERSON JR. - CG III MAF

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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 Tactical Zone, Laos and the Gulf of Tonkin. Operations supported were EAGER PURSUIT, KENTUCKY JUMPER, RUSSEL BEACH, MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER, DEWEY CANYON, VICTORY DRAGON IX, IRON MOUNTAIN, MAINE CRAIG, GENEVA PARK, FREDERICK HILL, OKLAHOMA HILLS AND PURPLE MARTIN.

MAG-13 Air-to-Ground effort of 2013 sorties expending 4370 tons of ordnance resulted in 293 bunkers destroyed, 622 structures destroyed, 79 secondary explosions, 226 secondary fires, 48 confirmed KBA and 4 Chieu Hoi's.

MAG-13 Phantoms logged 168 BARCAP sorties over the waters of North Vietnam in support of the Seventh Fleet air operations in the Gulf of Tonkin. In support of the Seventh Air Force, 18 F4 Escort Missions were flown for protection of the B-52 Arc Light Flights. There were no engagements with enemy aircrafts.

Highlighting the month of March, MAG-13 changed command on 5 March 1969 with Col N. W. GOURLEY being relieved by Col R. S. RASH. The ceremony held on the MAG-13 flight line was attended by many distinguished guests.

On 2 March an F-4J of VMFA-334, flown by LtCol S. E. D'ANGELO and 1stLt DALY took a hit during a CAS mission south west of Danang. The aircraft burst into flames forcing the crew to eject. Rescue was completed without injury despite heavy hostile action.

VMFA-314 changed command on 9 March 1969 with LtCol T. R. MORGAN being relieved by Major J. W. BLACK.

On 21 March VMFA-314 was designated the "Most Outstanding Marine Fighter Squadron" in the Marine Corps with the presentation of the Robert M. Hanson award.

VMFA-323 "Death Rattlers", a veteran of Vietnam with more than 17,000 combat sorties and 21,000 combat hours was relieved by VMFA-232 on 30 March 1969, in one of the most successful Transpac in history.

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**PART THREE: SIGNIFICANT EVENTS****1. Personnel**

During the month of March, Marine Aircraft Group 13 had a loss of six (6) officers and 123 enlisted personnel due to rotation and transfers. During this same period, twenty-one (21) officers and 118 enlisted personnel reported to this Group for duty.

**2. Awards**

The following medals were presented to MAG-13 personnel during the month of March 1969. Medals presented were:

- a. Distinguished Flying Cross: 8
- b. Single Mission Air Medal: 12
- c. Navy Commendation Medal: 7
- d. Navy Achievement Medal: 2
- e. Purple Heart: 1

During this same period the following medals were recommended:

- a. Distinguished Flying Cross: 28
- b. Single Mission Air Medals: 1
- c. Bronze Star: 9
- d. Navy Commendation Medal: 45
- e. Navy Achievement Medal: 74
- f. Certificate of Commendation: 1

**3. Casualties****Non-Hostile**

- a. Total for March ..... 22
- b. Total returned to duty ..... 8
- c. Total MedEvac ..... 9

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d. Total number of man days lost ..... 162

#### Hostile

a. Killed in Action ..... 0

b. Died of Wounds..... 0

c. Wounded in Action ..... 0

d. Missing in Action ..... 0

#### 4. Civic Action

a. 1-10 March: Work on the Information Center in Long Phu II is nearly complete.

b. 10-13 March: Meetings were held with 1stLt KING of 9th Engineers and the three hamlet chiefs of Ky Lien Village. 9th Engineer responsibilities and pending projects were discussed. They will complete all unfinished projects.

c. 13 March: The 1969 Attitude Survey was conducted to determine problem areas in intercultural relationships between the Americans and the Vietnamese. From the survey a training program will be developed to increase positive attitudes between the Americans and the Vietnamese.

d. 14-31 March: MAG-13 Civic Action met with Binh San District Officials to coordinate new areas and discuss needed projects. Plans were made to meet with Binh Sa Village Chief and Hamlet Councils in the near future.

#### 5. Intelligence

a. During the month of March the S-2 Section continued to brief and debrief all flight crews. The section also continued to brief the CO daily as well as the CO's conference each week. The Staff NCO's were briefed each Thursday at 1500 on the local situation.

b. Also this past month VMFA-232 personnel were briefed upon their arrival at Chu Lai. The squadron's advanced party was briefed on the 20th and the remainder of the squadron was briefed on the 31st of March 1969.

c. A Group SERE brief was conducted on the 6th and 7th of March with a guest speaker from the Wing G-2. Also during the month the S-2 in conjunction with the S-3 continued to brief all new flight personnel every Monday and Friday at 1300, on SERE and other related subjects.

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d. On the 3rd of March the S-2 section published a new SERE order for the Group. This order deals with all of the information necessary for the performance of the section as the Group SERE center. This order is known as GruO 03305.2, and is available for reading either at the S-2 or S&C for personnel with appropriate clearances and access.

#### 6. Air Operations

<u>SQUADRON</u>		<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>COMBAT</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>COMBAT</u>
		<u>Sorties</u>		<u>Hours</u>	
H&MS-13	C-117D	83	19	125.6	38.6
VMFA-115	F-4B	615	579	708.8	663.8
VMFA-232	F-4J	15	0	26.5	0.0
VMFA-314	F-4B	732	703	807.3	775.9
VMFA-323	F-4B	329	319	376.0	367.0
VMFA-334	F-4J	582	561	724.9	717.5

#### OPERATIONS SUPPORTED

Eager Pursuit, Kentucky Jumper, Russel Beach, Massachusetts Striker, Dewey Canyon, Victory Dragon IX, Iron Mountain, Maine Crag, Geneva Park, Frederick Hill, Oklahoma Hills and Purple Martin.

#### SIGNIFICANT BOMB DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

Bunkers .....	293 Des/45 Dam
Structures .....	622 Des/131 Dam
Secondary Explosions .....	79
Secondary Fires .....	226
KBMA .....	48
Cheiu Hoi .....	4
caves .....	4
Tunnels .....	8
A/A Positions .....	6 Des/1 Dam
Trucks .....	6 Des
Sampans .....	4 Des
Bridges .....	2 Des
Road Cuts .....	33
Trails.....	10
Trench Line .....	771 meters
Fighting Holes .....	28
Ammo Cashe .....	1
Hootches .....	1
Tree Line .....	320 meters

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- a. During the month of March 1969, the MAG-13 Post Office was relocated.
- b. During the month of March 1969, the MAG-13 Troop Housing complex was occupied by MAG-13 personnel.

8. Supply

a. WO J. O. DEASE made a screen of Cubi Point for priority O2 requisitions. Results: one hundred and twenty requisitions were filled.

b. The 9th MAB inventory team conducted annual inventory count phase during period 17 March through 2 April 1969.

c. Sixteen hundred (1600) TA-4F aircraft line items transferred to MAG-11.

d. Twenty hundred (2000) NSA/DSA items excessed during March 1969.

9. Morale/WelfareReligious Services

## (1) Protestant Services:

- (a) Sunday-8; attendance - 279
- (b) Discussion Group-6; attendance- 92
- (c) Bible Study-4; attendance- 49
- (d) Choir Practice-8; attendance- 91
- (e) Religious Film Shown-3; attendance- 135

## (2) Catholic Services:

- (a) Sunday-8; attendance-694
- (b) Weekday-21; attendance-94
- (c) Religious Information Classes-5; attendance-20

## (3) Latter Day Saints:

- (a) Sunday-4; attendance-35

## b. Services rendered other than at MAG-13:

## (1) Protestant Services:

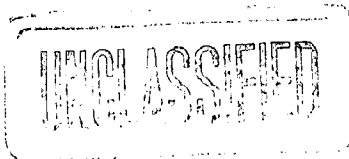
Sunday

- (a) NSAD Services (2) attendance (61)
- (b) LSU-3 Services (2) attendance (22)

Weekday

- (a) Combined Action Platoons (8) attendance (61)

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(b) Religious Film Shown (6) attendance (323)

(2) Catholic Services:

Sunday

- (a) NSAD Services (3) attendance (15)
- (b) Americal Services (1) attendance (68)
- (c) 14th Aviation Services (1) attendance (13)

Weekday

- (a) NSAD Services (3) attendance (15)
- (b) Americal Services (1) attendance (8)
- (c) Combined Action Platoons (6) attendance (59)
- (d) Memorial Service 1st CAG (1) attendance (41)

c. Counseling and Interviews:

Counseling-27  
Interviews-140

d. Red Cross Cases-7

e. Hospital Visits-10

f. Civic Affairs:

(1) Donated \$200.00 to MAG-13 Scholarship Fund from Protestant and Catholic Chapel Fund.

g. Meetings and Trips:

(1) Chaplain CLEVELAND attended Protestant Day of Recollection at the Americal Combat Center Chapel on 19 March 1969.

10. Training

a. Normal on the job and technical training continued within each squadron.

b. The following schools were attended by MAG-13 personnel during this reporting period.

Schools - March 1969

Career Planning	1
KY-28/38	3
Corrosion Control	2
Basic Infantry	1
Embarkation School	3
KW-7	1
NCO Leadership	1

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Welders Cert.	1
MK-36 Destructor	3
Basic Organic Supply	1
Systems Comm	1
Packaging, Preperation, Preservation	1
Civic Action	1
ALQ-100	1
ALQ-51-	1

c. On the 21st and 29th of March 1969 232 enlisted personnel fam fired the M-16 rifle.

d. During the period 1-31 March 1969 MAG-13 completed gas mask inspections.