

HEADQUARTERS
Marine Aircraft Group 13
1st MAW, FMFPac
FPO, San Francisco 96602

3:AJW:meh
5750 ✓✓✓
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13 June 1969

16 June

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, First Marine Aircraft Wing

Subj: Command Chronology Period 1-31 May 1969

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.4

Encl: ✓(1) MAG-13 Command Chronology
✓(2) H&MS-13 Command Chronology
✓(3) MABS-13 Command Chronology
✓(4) VMFA-115 Command Chronology
✓(5) VMFA-314 Command Chronology
✓(6) VMFA-232 Command Chronology
✓(7) VMFA-334 Command Chronology

Filed

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MAG-13
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#1

1. In accordance with reference (a), the subject report is submitted as enclosures (1) through (7).
2. Upon removal of the enclosures, this letter is downgraded to unclassified.

R. S. RASH
R. S. RASH

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

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1-31 MAY 1969

PART ONE:

1. Organizational Data

a. Headquarters, MAG-13 (1-31 May 69)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>T/O</u>	<u>RANK</u> <u>ACTUAL</u>
Richard S. RASH	C.O.	Col	Col
William SHANKS Jr.	X.O.	LtCol	LtCol
Walter S. MEADS	Adj	Capt	1stLt
Robert E. WINSLOW	SgtMaj	SgtMaj	SgtMaj
Henry J. BOND	S-1	Maj	LtCol
Gerald N. BATTERMAN	S-2	Maj	Capt
John R. BRADDON	S-3	LtCol	LtCol
Charles G. FREDRICK	S-4	LtCol	LtCol

b. Headquarters and Maintenance Squadron 13 (1-31 May 69)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>T/O</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
Billy M. ADRIAN	C.O.	LtCol	LtCol
Donald P. BOWEN	X.O.	Maj	Maj
Donald P. BOWEN	S-3	Capt	Maj
Phillip A. NOGGLE	A/C MaintO (1-15 May)	Maj	Maj
Dorris A. DUNCAN	A/C MaintO (16-31 May)	Maj	Capt
Walter K. HEHNER	Admin O	Lt	1stLt

c. Marine Air Base Squadron 13 (1-31 May)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>T/O</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
Ira L. MORGAN	C.O.	LtCol	LtCol
James D. MOODY	X.O. (1-15 May)	Maj	Maj
Norman F. SCHNIPPEL	X.O. (15-31 May)	Maj	Maj
Daniel F. DOUGHERTY	Admin O	Capt	CWO 2
James C. REYNOLDS	Base Serv O	Maj	Maj
Raymond E. STEWARD	SgtMaj	SgtMaj	SgtMaj

d. Marine Fighter/Attack Squadron 115 (1-31 May)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>T/O</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
Robert R. NORTON	C.O.	LtCol	LtCol
Edwin C. PAIGE Jr.	X.O.	Maj	Maj
Nelson E. JACOBUS	S-1 (1 May)	Lt	Capt
Kenneth H. WELSH	S-1 (2-31 May)	Lt	Maj
Daniel L. CRIPE	S-2 (1 May)	Lt	1stLt
Phillip A. CARROLL	S-2 (2-31 May)	Lt	Capt

RANK

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>T/O</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
Kenneth H. WELSH	S-3 (1 May)	Maj	Maj
Richard H. CAGLE	S-3 (2-31 May)	Maj	Maj
Joseph L. CHINAVA	S-4	WO	Capt
Dayton A. LEWIS	A/C Maint O	Maj	Maj

e. Marine Fighter/Attack Squadron 314 (1-31 May)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>T/O</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
John W. BLACK	G.O.	LtCol	Maj
Fredrick J. SCHOBEN	X.O. (1-15 May)	Maj	Maj
James D. MOODY	X.O. (16-31 May)	Maj	Maj
Donald D. BENGMAN	S-1	Lt	Maj
Bobby D. COLE	S-2	Lt	Capt
Alec GILLESPIE	S-3 (1-15 May)	Maj	Maj
James H. VANDIVER	S-3 (16-31 May)	Maj	Maj
Frank A. HUEY	S-4	WO	Maj
James A. DAVIS	A/C MaintO (1-15 May)	Maj	Capt
Michael P. SULLIVAN	A/C MaintO (16-31 May)	Maj	Maj

f. Marine Fighter/Attack Squadron 232 (1-31 May)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>T/O</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
Walter P. HUTCHINS	G.O.	LtCol	LtCol
John T. ZYCH Jr	X.O.	Maj	Maj
Gene A. BROWN	S-1 (1-15 May)	Lt	Capt
Jene R. GRUHLER	S-1 (16-31 May)	Lt	Maj
Thomas J. BILLISON	S-2 (1-15 May)	Lt	1stLt
Douglas B. MATZEN	S-2 (16-31 May)	Lt	1stLt
Norman F. SCHNIPPEL	S-3 (1-15 May)	Maj	Maj
Ralph D. MILLER	S-3 (16-31 May)	Maj	Maj
Jene A. GRUHLER	S-4 (1-15 May)	WO	Maj
Gene A. BROWN	S-4 (16-31 May)	WO	Capt
Francis M. LOGAN	A/C MaintO	Maj	Maj

g. Marine Fighter/Attack Squadron 334 (1-31 May)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>T/O</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
Samuel E. D'ANGELO III	C.O.	LtCol	LtCol
Alfonso G. POTENZA	X.O.	Maj	Maj
Stanley J. TRACHTA	S-1	Lt	Capt
Jerry W. LEIST	S-2	Lt	1stLt
James R. SCAPE	S-3	Maj	Maj
Kenneth E. STRAYHORN	S-4	WO	Capt
Charles B. JOHNSTON	A/C MaintO	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 Richard S. RASH	1-31 May 69
H&MS-13	Chu Lai, RVN	LtCol Billy M. ADRIAN	1-31 May 69
MABS-13	Chu Lai, RVN	LtCol Ira L. MORGAN	1-31 May 69
VMFA-115	Chu Lai, RVN	LtCol Robert E. NORTON	1-31 May 69
VMFA-314	Chu Lai, RVN	Maj John W. BLACK	1-31 May 69
VMFA-232	Chu Lai, RVN	LtCol Walter P. HUTCHINS	1-31 May 69
VMFA-334	Chu Lai, RVN	LtCol Samuel E. D'ANGELO III	1-31 May 69

3. Average Monthly Strength

<u>SQUADRON</u>	<u>USMC</u>				<u>USN</u>	
	<u>NA</u>	<u>NFC</u>	<u>AGC</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>	<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
H&MS-13	22	3	30	572	0	0
MABS-13	5	1	10	536	5	26
VMFA-115	23	18	4	248	1	0
VMFA-314	23	16	6	280	1	0
VMFA-232	25	23	6	261	1	0
VMFA-334	24	18	4	235	1	0
MAG-13	122	79	60	2132	9	26

4. Important Visitors to the Command

On 13 May 1969, Brigadier General Ralph H. SPANGER, Assistant Wing Commander Designate, toured the MAG-13 area.

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 Iron Mountain, Purple Martin, Oklahoma Hills, Russell Beach, Fredrick Hills, Project Delta, Massachusetts Striker, Bristol Boats, Pipestone Canyon, Victory Dragon XI, Apache Snow, Virginia Ridge, Cameron Falls, Massachusetts Bay, Herkimer Mountain, Geneva Park, Lamar Plain and Kentucky Jumper. Flying a wide variety of missions, MAG-13 aircraft provided support for the First and Third Marine Divisions, Task Force 77, Attack Force Alpha, Republic of Korea Marines, ARVN forces, 7th Air Force, 101st Airborne Division, Americal Division and other U. S. Army units.

Air-to-ground strikes, consisting of 1442 sorties, resulted in 123 KBMA, 726 bunkers destroyed, 289 secondary fires, 728 structures destroyed, 121 secondary explosions, 18 tunnel complexes destroyed, 7 sampans, 10 trucks, 18 AA weapons positions, 2 dams, 1 bridge, 1 armored personnel carrier and 5 water buffalo destroyed.

[REDACTED]

Fightertown Phantoms logged 77 fighter sorties over the waters off North Vietnam as a Barrier Cap in support of air operations in the Gulf of Tonkin. There were no engagements with enemy aircraft.

MAG-13 lost two (2) aircraft as a result of enemy action during May.

On 11 May, an F4B from VMFA-115 was shot down during an air strike in support of Task Force Alpha. The pilot ejected successfully and was rescued some two (2) hours later and required MEDEVAC out of country. The RIO was lost in the crash of the aircraft and declared KIA.

On 12 May, an F4J from VMFA-334 was hit by ground fire during a CAS mission. Both crewmembers egressed successfully and were rescued with minor injuries.

On 16 May, F4B BuNo 153037 crashed on takeoff at NAS Cubi Point. The crew ejected safely and were uninjured.

On 18 May while flying a CAP mission, Major J. D. MCCDY (Pilot)/1stLt R. R. GRIFFITHS (Rio) (F4B BuNo 151450) and Major A. GILLESPIE (Pilot)/1stLt V. R. MADDOX (Rio) (F4B BuNo 152270) were air refueling from a KC-130 when it was struck by a VMFA-542 aircraft. Major GILLESPIE's aircraft broke away and returned safely with minor damage. Major MCCDY's aircraft received FOD damage to both engines with uncontrolled flight ensuing. The crewmembers ejected safely, were uninjured and rescued immediately.

PART THREE: Significant Events

1. Personnel

During the month of May, Marine Aircraft Group 13 had a loss of sixteen officers and 190 enlisted personnel due to rotation and transfers. During the same period, ten officers and 133 enlisted personnel reported to this Group for duty.

2. Awards

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

- a. Distinguished Flying Cross: 2
 - b. Single Mission Air Medal: 1
 - c. Navy Achievement Medal: 2
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

During this same period the following medals were recommended:

- a. Distinguished Flying Cross: 13
- b. Bronze Star: 2
- c. Navy Commendation Medal: 19
- d. Navy Achievement Medal: 25
- e. Purple Heart: 1
- Certificate of Commendation: 3

3. Casualties

Non-Hostile

- a. Total for May 24
- b. Total returned to duty 10
- c. Total MedEvac 9
- d. Total number of man days lost 143

Hostile

- a. Killed in Action 1
- b. Died of Wounds 0
- c. Wounded in Action 1
- d. Missing in Action 0

4. Civic Action

a. The Group Civic Action Program continued in high gear throughout the month as Civic Action personnel conducted a MEDCAP in the village of Binh Son. Vaccinations and treatment were administered to approximately 318 Vietnamese civilians.

b. MAG-13 Civic Action team assisted a Vietnamese father in locating the body of his son, and returned the body from Quang Ngai to Ky Chanh.

c. MAG-13 and 9th Engineers Civic Action Teams were invited to have dinner at a vietnamese home. After the dinner the teams inspected local boy and girl scout units.

5. Intelligence

a. The S-2 section continued it's mission of briefing and de-briefing all aircrew members.

b. The month of May was a very active one for the enemy. Chu Lai came under attack six times during the month. The first attack occurred at 0300H on 12 May. This attack consisted of seven (7) 122mm rockets of which four impacted in An Tay, wounding five civilians, two rounds impacted in subsector #3, and one round in subsector #2 with no casualties or damage reported. The second attack occurred at 1020H the same day. This attack consisted of six 122mm rockets with one round impacting in the 312th Evac Hospital with minor damage to a building, one round impacting near 312th beach, one round on the USO beach area, one round between the East and West fields and two rounds impacting in the ocean near the liquid oxygen plant with no damage reported. The third attack occurred on 12 May at 1336H. One round of 122mm rocket fire impacted in subsector #7 with no casualties or damage. The fourth attack occurred on 17 May at 0630H when five 122mm rockets impacted outside of the perimeter on the west side of Highway One, with no casualties or damage reported. The fifth attack occurred at 0236H on 20 May with six 122mm rockets impacting, with two rounds in the ocean, three rounds in subsector #4, and one round outside the perimeter. The attack resulted in no casualties or damage reported. The sixth and final attack occurred at 0155H 24 May with eight (8) unknown type mortar rounds impacting in subsector #8 with no casualties or damage reported.

6. Air Operations

<u>SQUADRON</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>SORTIES</u>	<u>COMBAT</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>HOURS</u>	<u>COMBAT</u>
H&MS-13 (C-117D)	18		5	31.6		18.6
VMFA-115 (F4B)	701		631	786.6		704.0
VMFA-314 (F4B)	728		674	796.5		727.1
VMFA-232 (F4J)	646		622	749.5		722.2
VMFA-334 (F4J)	734		694	790.3		744.3

Operations Supported

AIS, Iron Mountain, Purple Martin, Oklahoma Hills, Russell Beach, Fredrick Hills, Project Delta, Massachusetts Striker, Bristol Boots, Pipestone Canyon, Victory Dragon XI, Apache Snow, Virginia Ridge, Cameron Falls, Massachusetts Bay, Herkimer Mountain, Geneva Park, Lamar Plain and Kentucky Jumper.

Significant Bomb Damage Assessment

Bunkers	711	Des/77	Dam
Structures	720	Des/59	Dam
Secondary Fires	238		

Secondary Explosions 171
 Trenchline 1405 Meters destroyed
 KBMA 132
 Road Cuts 11
 Automatic Weapons Positions 14 Des/1 Dam
 Sumpans 7 Des
 Dams 2 Des
 Armored Personnel Carriers 1 Des
 Mortar Positions 1 Des
 Tunnels 10 Des
 Trucks 5 Des/1 Dam
 Military Pack Train (Water Buffalo) 5 Des

7. Base Development

- a. Landscaping and rescreening of the Mess Hall was completed.
- b. The Special Services tennis court was completed and construction started on a hand ball court near the recreation hut.
- c. Installation of the dial telephone system was completed.

8. Supply

- a. Lt M. W. BOLISH reported aboard on 1 May and assigned duty of Group Material Division Officer.
- b. GySgt E. A. TATE was promoted to his present rank and assigned as Group Aviation Supply Support Chief.
- c. Four-hundred sixty-seven line items of APA material have been reported as excess. Disposition for 138 line items has been received, this material has been pulled from stores and shipped.

9. Morale/Welfare

Religious Services conducted at MAG-13 Chapel

a. Protestant Services

- (1) Sunday - 8; attendance - 213
- (2) Weekday - 1; attendance - 85
- (3) Discussion Group - 3; attendance - 13
- (4) Bible Study - 4; attendance - 63

b. Catholic Services

- (1) Sunday - 6; attendance - 443
- (2) Weekday - 12; attendance - 56

[REDACTED]

c. Memorial Services

(1) 19 May; attendance - 85

Services rendered other than at MAG-13

a. Protestant Services

Sunday

(1) Americal Services - 3; attendance - 16

(2) 198th Infantry Brigade Services - 3; attendance - 10

Weekday

(1) Combined Action Platoons - 11; attendance - 108

b. Catholic Services

Sunday

(1) NSAD Services - 3; attendance - 92

(2) Americal Services - 1; attendance - 57

Weekday

(1) Combined Action Platoons - 6; attendance - 29

Counseling and Interviews

(1) Counseling - 40

(2) Interviews - 64

Red Cross Cases - 15

Hospital Visits - 12

Civic Affairs

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

[REDACTED]

Enclosure (1)