

MARINE AIR BASE SQUADRON-13
Marine Aircraft Group-13
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMF
FPO San Francisco 96602

1:JML:als
5750
10 April 1970

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group-13 (Attn: S-3)
Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 March to 31 March 1970
Ref: (a) GruO 5750.1D
Encl: ✓(1) MABS-13 Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. This submission is unclassified.


D. T. BENN

MABS-13

APR-2

MARINE AIR BASE SQUADRON-13
Marine Aircraft Group-13
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMF
FPO San Francisco 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 MARCH 1970 TO 31 MARCH 1970

INDEX

PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA
PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY
PART III - SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
PART IV - SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

UNCLASSIFIED

PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

MARINE AIR BASE SQUADRON-13
 Marine Aircraft Group-13
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMF

COMMANDER

LtCol R. D. REVIE, USMC
 1 - 12 March 1970

Maj D. T. BENN, USMC
 13 - 31 March 1970

2. LOCATION

1-31 March 1970: Chu Lai, RVN

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer	Major Lawrence A. WHIPPLE	1-31 Mar 1970
Base Services Officer	Capt Calvin J. GOMEZ	1-31 Mar 1970
Legal Officer	1stLt John T. CASCIO	1-31 Mar 1970
Administrative Officer	WO Juan M. LEM	1-31 Mar 1970

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>	
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
23	579

<u>USN</u>	
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
5	24

<u>OTHER</u>	
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
None	

UNCLASSIFIED

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

Marine Air Base Squadron-13 continued its support of Marine Aircraft Group-13 at Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam. Services encompassed operations dealing with personnel administration, billeting, food services, heavy equipment operations, transportations, clubs operation, medical services and support of Chu Lai Air Base Operations, ie., aircraft refueling, crash and rescue services, aerology and launch and recovery operations. Highlighting the month of March 1970 was the change of command of this Squadron from Lieutenant Colonel Richard D. REVIE to Major Daniel T. BENN. Lieutenant Colonel REVIE commanded the Squadron from 18 October 1969 to 12 March 1970 leading it in its numerous accomplishments. Major BENN joined the Squadron to assume its command from VNFA-314, MAG-13. An appropriate change of command ceremony marked the occasion taking place at the Minahan Memorial Athletic Field on 12 March 1970.

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- a. Change of Command. On 12 March 1970, Lieutenant Colonel R. D. REVIE passed command of this Squadron to Major D. T. BENN. A change of command ceremony was held at Minahan Memorial Athletic Field with a Squadron formation and the added services of the U. S. Army Americal Division Band (App 1). The occasion included presentation of well deserved awards, citations and promotions (App 2). Following the presentation of awards, Lieutenant Colonel REVIE passed the Squadron Colors to his successor Major D. T. BENN (App 3). After departing remarks from Lieutenant Colonel REVIE and remarks from Major BENN, the ceremony concluded, thus the Squadron commencing a new era under its new Commanding Officer.
- b. Personnel. Four Officers were joined to this organization during March and there were two Officer attritions. Eighty-nine enlisted personnel joined while one hundred and thirty-seven were transferred.
- c. Administration. There were fifty enlisted Marines promoted and there were three Officer promotions effected. Four enlisted reductions were effected during this period.
- d. Civic Action. During the month of March, 31 patients were treated by the Medical Section under the Med-Cap program.
- e. Food Services. Meals served by this section numbered 172,785 while providing 4,011 sandwiches and 9,258 midnight rations. Grills and steam lines have been relocated in "E" Mess and an additional line installed providing faster service for enlisted personnel. One electric hot water heater has been installed in the pot storage area. Another electric heater is awaiting installation in the messhalls' new scullery. Work requests for mount out boxes have been submitted to Base Services and all field messing equipment has been turned in to Supply for distribution to Squadrons. Cargo manifest has been completed for all items of garrison and T/E equipment and turned in to the Squadron Embarkation Officer.
- f. Medical. The Medical Section treated 1,200 patients, filled 1,527 prescriptions, and administered 1,512 immunizations and performed 288 x-rays. Three hospital corpsmen joined this section during March 1970 while transferring one to CONUS.
- g. Launch and Recovery. Members of this section performed 429 arrestments of which 423 were M-21 arrestments and 6 were emergencies. In addition, 6 E-28 arrestments were performed of which 5 were emergencies.
- h. TAFDS. This section received 4,342,733 gallons of JP-4 and issued 4,349,642 gallons which constituted refuel services for 3,164 aircraft.

i. Ground Defense. During this period, one sweep for unfriendlies was conducted outside the MAG-13 perimeter area producing negative results. One practice alert was conducted for the CLDC platoon. There were no incoming rockets for the month of March. Five prisoners were confined in the Correctional Custody compound and four detainees held in the detention cell during the month.

j. Crash Crew. On 9 March 1970, the services of this section were called upon when a F-100 crashed on landing. During March, 43 other emergencies were attended and escort service was provided for 30 medical evacuations. In addition, ten fires were controlled, 23 hot refuels and 72 washdowns necessitated the utilization of members of this section.

k. Utilities. During the month of March, this section completed over 83 work orders involving construction, repair, plumbing, water supply and electrical shop personnel. With the addition of a third laundry, this service has increased greatly. In addition, a movie screen was moved from the messhall area and relocated at the MAG-13 EM club. Construction of 56 embarkation boxes was completed, four sea huts were moved from the MAG-12 area to MAG-13 and an overhead was built for the MAG-13 EM club.

l. Communications. This section continued to provide communication services for 1st MAW units, 9th Engineer Battalion, 1st CAG, 15th Aerial Port Detachment, Red Cross and FLC Sub-Unit 1, all based at Chu Lai. This section processed 12,024 incoming and 2,580 outgoing messages for a total of 14,604. Electronic Maintenance support was provided to the 1st CAG and MCB-7 by providing communication electronic contact teams as well as shop support. The operations bunker was rewired and cabled to upgrade service and a security wire system was installed for the 14th Aviation Company. An intensive 2d/3d echelon electronic preventive maintenance program introduced in February has reduced the deadlines rate of electronic equipment by 89 percent and is a continuing program with approximately one third of all equipment receiving this maintenance monthly.

m. Heavy Equipment. This section totaled over 1780 hours of operations during this period and its 3rd echelon shop completed 27 of 31 work orders on engineer equipment. A total of 14 Engineer Equipment operators were issued licenses during March.

n. Motor Transport. This section amassed 123,240 road miles traveled for this month. This accounted for 53,045 tons of cargo hauled and 19,655 passengers transported. Fuel dispensed to all vehicles in the Chu Lai Air Base by the Refueler Section amounted to 222,601 gallons.

o. MATCU-67. This unit averaged 954 daily operations at Chu Lai Air Base during the month of March. The East Tower accounted for 16,935 operations while the West Tower accounted for 12,310. Total operations processed by this unit to date total 1,301,860 and GCA approaches number 348.

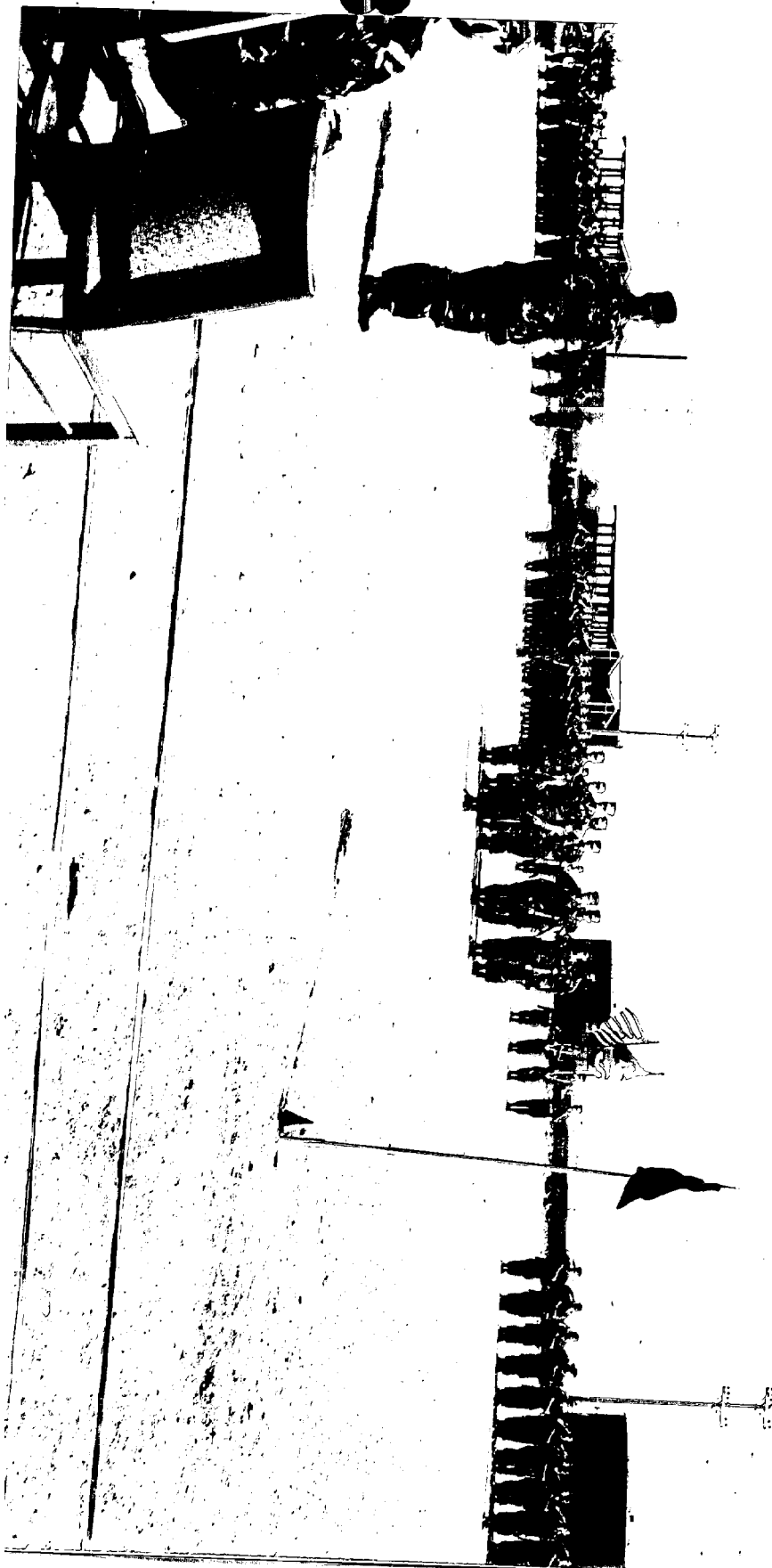
p. Special Services. This air group enjoyed its first month of good weather and used it by turning out in large numbers at the MAG-13 beach. This section supplied lifeguards, surfboards, scuba gear and fishing gear for the group's recreation. This section sponsored a Ping Pong tournament and a tennis tournament was started. The MAG-13 basketball team won the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing championship highlighting the month of March in intramural sports. The tape recording room located in the MAG-13 Recreation hut is in full operation and is continuing to provide added comfort to its patronizers.

q. MAG-13 Post Exchange. This Exchange continues to lead in sales all other exchanges in the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. To date, sales total \$434,820 for the year. Sales for the month of March alone were \$166,824. Eight electronic sales during the month contributed \$81,000. Two new added features for the convenience of MAG-13 Marines are the opening of a case lot sales of beverages and a concessionaire's Gift Shop. The combined services and items offered by this exchange leave very little for its patrons to search elsewhere.

PART IV

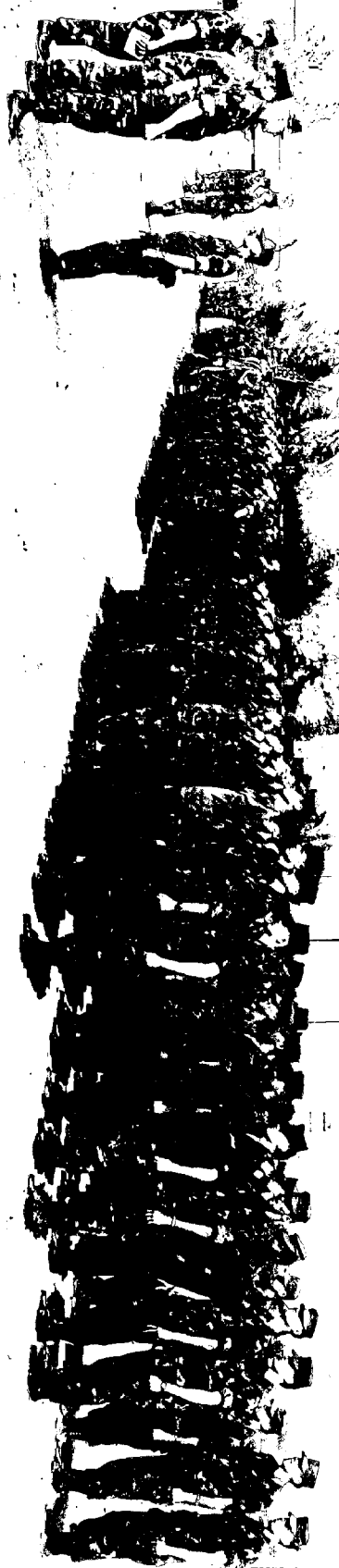
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

DECLASSIFIED



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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 JAN 1970 TO 31 JAN 1970

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

MARINE AIR BASE SQUADRON-13
 Marine Aircraft Group-13
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMF

LtCol R. D. REVIE, USMC

2. LOCATION

1-31 January 1970: Chu Lai, RVN

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer	Major Billy H. DRAFFEN	1-31 Jan
Base Services Officer	Major Bernard HALPRIN	1-27 Jan
	Capt Calvin J. GOMEZ	28-31 Jan
Legal Officer	Capt Robert L. FRANTZ	1-21 Jan
	1stLt John T. CASCIO	21-31 Jan
Administrative Officer	WO Juan M. LEM	1-31 Jan

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>	
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
20	540

<u>USN</u>	
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
4	27

<u>OTHER</u>	
<u>Off</u>	<u>Enl</u>
None	

UNCLASSIFIED

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

Marine Air Base Squadron-13 continued its support of Marine Aircraft Group-13 at Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam. Services encompassed operations dealing with personnel administration, billeting, food services, heavy equipment operations, transportation, clubs operation, medical services and support of Chu Lai Air Base operations, ie., aircraft refueling, crash and rescue services, aerology and launch and recovery operations. Highlighting the month of January 1970 was the construction and operation of the Squadron's charcoal maker for the use of personnel of Marine Aircraft Group-13 and the additional convenience for all personnel of the relocation of the Concessionaire Laundry near the Group Exchange facilities.

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- a. Personnel. 6 Officers were joined to this organization during January and there were 5 Officer attritions. 89 enlisted personnel joined while 51 were transferred. On 15 January this organization assumed administrative control of Marine Air Traffic Control Unit-67 whose strength numbered, upon joining, 6 Officers and 71 enlisted. Additionally, on 18 January 1970, administrative control of Marine Air Traffic Control Unit-62 was rescinded to Marine Aircraft Group-12. That unit's strength on departing consisted of 5 Officers and 52 enlisted.
- b. Administration. There were 21 enlisted Marines promoted and 4 reduced punitively. There were no Officers promoted during this period.
- c. Awards. There were 6 Naval Commendation, 2 Naval Achievement and 1 Bronze Star Medal recommended for personnel of this squadron.
- d. Civic Action. During the month of January Med-Cap operations were suspended for the duration of TET.
- e. Food Services. Meals served by this section numbered 134,816 while providing 9,375 sandwiches and serving 5,808 midnight rations.
- f. Medical. The Medical Section treated 685 patients during this period and administered 1,082 immunizations.
- g. Launch and Recovery. Members of this section performed 664 aircraft arrestments out of which 654 were M-21 arrestments and 15 were emergencies.
- h. TAFDS. This section received 3,933,041 gallons of JP-4 and issued 3,961,942 which constituted refuel service for 2,336 aircraft.
- i. Ground Defense. During this period, three sweeps for unfriendlies were conducted outside the MAG-13 perimeter area producing negative results. In addition one practice alert was conducted for the Squadron CLDC Platoon. MAG-13 cantonment received 9 incoming rockets on 25 January of which 3 hit outside the cantonment with no damage to personnel or equipment. A correctional custody compound was constructed during the month and commenced operations on 26 January. This facility will be manned and controlled by members of this section.
- j. Crash Crew. On 5 January and 11 January 1970, this section's services were called upon when a C-130 aircraft struck a forklift with the left outboard engine which caught fire and when another A4-10 aircraft struck the windsock at midfield subsequently going out of control. During January, 67 other emergencies were attended and escort service was provided for 45 medical evacuations. In addition, 16 fires were controlled and 15 Hot Refuels and 41 washdowns necessitated the utilization of members of this section.

k. Base Services. Evidence of the outstanding workmanship of personnel assigned to the Welding Shop are the new MAG-13 sign posted in front of Group Headquarters and the new Group Charcoal Maker. The new group sign was constructed entirely of improvised materials which depict the Group's insignia and the Commanding Officer's name; attached thereto are replicas of the squadron insignias of the 5 squadrons under his command (App 1). The construction of the MAG-13 Charcoal Maker is considered unique in the far east area. Because of a constant demand for charcoal and an often short supply, MABS-13 decided to produce their own high grade charcoal. Previous supply sources have been through Cubi Point P. I. or from local purchase in the village of An Ton. In both cases, the purchase is expensive and often not timely. Blessed with a seemingly unlimited supply of scrap lumber from dump areas and waste materials from the carpenter shop, scrap wood has been collected and stored for the production of charcoal. The process of making charcoal is the chemical process known as destructive distillation. To some extent the chemical action that takes place in making charcoal resembles the natural process by which coal is formed. To achieve this process, a large iron box or retort was constructed and placed on top of a fire box and both were covered with dirt (App 2). On top of the retort is a small stack for gases to escape when the wood is heated. The box is filled with scrap wood then the door is sealed to ensure there are no leaks that would allow oxygen to enter. A continuous fire is then started in the fire box with more scrap lumber. Oil and gas has been tried for fuel but proved unsatisfactory. Once the oven or retort reaches sufficient temperature, a white smoke is emitted from the stack. Although this smoke contains the most valuable by-product of the process, pyroligneous acid, creosote and wood tar, a local method to process these by-products has not yet been achieved. Once the gas stack stops emitting white smoke, the charcoal is ready. The stack is then sealed to prevent oxygen from entering and the box is allowed to cool. The whole process takes about one week on a part time basis. Each "burn" of the present retort produces about 1,000 pounds of charcoal. This charcoal has been provided to the clubs, squadrons and individual work centers for parties and barbecues and has proven highly satisfactory (App 3).

l. Utilities. The excellent handicraft attributable to men assigned this Section is responsible for the fresh coat of paint which dresses the MAG-13 Post Office. Significantly, the building now bears the colors associated with the U. S. Mail - red, white and blue (App 4). Painters also added a coat of paint to the MAG-13 Disbursing Office which now sports symbols connected with their work - dollar signs. The three water points operated by this section purified and distributed approximately 2,500,000 gallons of potable water, while the laundry, another one of its shops, processed approximately 1,200 pounds of clothing a day.

m. Communications. The Communication Section began intergrating with MAG-12 in preparation to assume operational control of all 1st Marine Aircraft Wing communications facilities at Chu Lai. This involves assuming the responsibility for an Airbase Communication System and a Facilities Control Center all of which are operational on a 24 hour daily basis.

n. Heavy Equipment. Greatly due to this section, it was possible to relocate the laundry facility adjacent to the MAG-13 Exchange complex. Operators of this section totaled over 1,562 hours of operating time for the month.

o. Motor Transport. This section amassed 103,840 road miles traveled for this month. This accounted for 610 tons of cargo moved and 24,615 passengers hauled. Fuel dispensed to all vehicles in the Chu Lai Air Base by the Refueler Section amounted to 265,383 gallons.

p. MATCU-67. This unit averaged 910 daily operations at Chu Lai Air Base during the month of January. The East Tower accounted for 14,538 operations while the West Tower accounted for 13,413. Tower Operations processed by this unit to date total 1,251,514 and GCA approaches number 64,513.

q. MAG-13 Post Exchange. The Exchange opened a laundry service to all personnel in MAG-13, and is located in close proximity to the other Exchange functions. This laundry has adequate working hours for all. The Exchange also added to its expanding complex a new building to house a MAG-13 Gift Shop. The shop will be completed in late February or early March and will serve 2,000 Marines. The MAG-13 Exchange also had a large electronic sale on 27 January that grossed \$1,500.00 to keep the MAG-13 Exchange far ahead in proportionate sales than any other exchange facility in the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing.

PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS