

HEADQUARTERS
Marine Aircraft Group 15
1st Marine Aircraft Wing
FPO San Francisco 96602

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19 Jan 1974

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of The Marine Corps (Code HD)
Via: (1) Commanding General, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing
(2) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for Period/1 July to 31 December 1973

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.1D
(b) FMFPACO 5750.8B
(c) WgO 5750.1B

Encl: (1) Marine Aircraft Group 15 Command Chronology

1. In accordance with reference (a) through (c), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. This letter is down graded to unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

D E Bjorklund
D. E. BJORKLUND

CLASSIFIED BY: MAG-15 S-3
SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
AUTOMATICALLY DOWN GRADED AT TWO YEAR
INTERVALS. DECLASSIFIED ON 31 DECEMBER
1982.

MAG-15 S&C FILES

0098-74
COPY No. 1 of 5

1st MAW S&C No	Copy No	SECRET
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MAG-15

JUL - 1982 1/3

HEADQUARTERS
Marine Aircraft Group 15
1st Marine Aircraft Wing
FPO San Francisco 96602

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 July 1973-31 December 1973

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Designation
Marine Aircraft Group 15

Commanding Officer
Colonel A. W. TALBERT
1 July to 25 July 1973
Colonel D. E. SJORKLUND
26 July to 31 December 1973

SUBORDINATE UNITS

Headquarters and Maintenance Squadron 15	Major J. F. McNELLY 1 July to 19 November 1973 LtCol N. A. SMITH 20 Nov to 31 December 1973
Marine Air Base Squadron 15	Major D. J. KIELY 1 July to 3 July 1973 Major H. F. PYLE, JR. 4 July to 8 July 1973 LtCol J. C. BYRAM 9 July to 31 December 1973
Marine Composite Reconnaissance Squadron 1	LtCol R. J. MORLEY 1 July to 31 December 1973
Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 115	LtCol H. C. IVY 23 July 1972 to 1 July 1973 LtCol C. V. V. SMILLIE, JR. 2 July to 31 December 1973
Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 232	LtCol J. M. MEAD 1 July to 31 December 1973
Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 533	Major R. E. MERRIHEW 1 July to 30 August 1973 Squadron Reassigned 31 August to 31 December 1973
2. <u>Geographical Location</u> Nam Phong Royal Thai Air Force Base Thailand MCAS, Iwakuni, Japan	<u>Period</u> 1 July to 12 September 1973 13 September to 31 December 1973
3. <u>Staff Officers</u> <u>Executive Officer</u>	LtCol A. F. REALSEN 1 July to 31 December 1973

ENCLOSURE (1)

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S-1 Officer

Capt B.E. WELSH
1 July to 9 September 1973
Major R.T. WARD
10 September to 31 December 1973

S-2 Officer

CWO-3 R.D. WEBB
1 July to 31 October 1973
Major G. E. FRANKLIN
1 November to 31 December 1973

S-3 Officer

LtCol R. PLANT
1 July to 31 December 1973

S-4 Officer

Major J.N. BIBLER
1 July to 20 August 1973
Major F.J. SCHOBBER
21 August to 30 September 1973
Major R.J. McGAN
1 October to 31 December 1973

Group Supply Officer

LtCol J.W. FRIEBERG
1 July to 18 October 1973
Major K.M. WILSON
19 October to 31 December 1973

Aviation Safety Officer

Capt R.S. JONES
1 July to 27 July 1973
Capt B.R. BAIRD
28 July to 31 December 1973

4. Average Monthly Strength

JULY

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>OTHER</u>		
<u>OFF</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>Civ</u>
<u>161</u>	<u>1599</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

August

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>OTHER</u>		
<u>OFF</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>Enl</u>	<u>Civ</u>
<u>171</u>	<u>1730</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>3</u>

SECRETSECRETSEPTEMBER

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>OTHER</u>		
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>CIV</u>
168	1689	8	9	1	11	3

OCTOBER

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>OTHER</u>		
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OTHER</u>
164	1546	0	0	0	0	0

NOVEMBER

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>OTHER</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>CIV</u>	
182	1443	0	0	0	

DECEMBER

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>OTHER</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>CIV</u>	
183	1423	0	0	0	

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PART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY

(S) During July - Combat flight operations continued for MAG-15 with all tactical squadrons delivering ordnance in support of Khmer Forces of the Cambodian Republic in the air-to-ground and close-air-support roles.

(U) During July, increased emphasis was placed on construction of embark boxes and embarkation preparation. The first of two tropical warehouses was completed by MABS and monsoon preparation work continued on drainage ditches and road work.

(U) On 25 July, H&MS-15 Cryogenics section received one lox generating plant thereby providing increased support to the tactical squadrons.

(U) On 25 July, Colonel A.W. "Tail" TALBERT was relieved by Colonel D.E. BJORKLUND.

(U) By the end of July, Ground Aviation Supply had completed retrograde of all known excesses with a program implemented to separate all A6A peculiar items in preparation for transfer of VMA(AW)-533 to MAG-12.

(U) The Fiscal Section was visited by LtCol FOULGER and CWO WILSON of the Wing Comptroller's Office. The purpose of their visits was to review Southeast Asia reporting procedures as well as other operations peculiar to operations at Nam Phong RTAFB, Thailand.

(S) On 15 August 1973, all combat operations against enemy forces within the Republic of Cambodia were terminated in accordance with executive orders. MAG-15 was the last Marine aviation unit engaged in combat in Southeast Asia. The last Combat sortie was flown by Lt BUCKNER (pilot) and Capt HAGERMAN (RIO), and Lt Staver (pilot) and Lt HUMBERD (RIO) aboard the last section of aircraft to leave Cambodian airspace. The above named aviators were all members of the "Red Devils" of VMFA-232.

(S) On 30 August, operational control of VMA(AW)-533 was relinquished to MAG-12 following the departure of the "HAWKS" aircraft from Nam Phong for Iwakuni, Japan.

(S) Less than 24 hours later, the F-4B's of the "Silver Eagles" of VMFA-115 departed the "Rose Garden" for their interim retrograde base, Naha Air Base, Okinawa where training was continued with emphasis on maintaining aircrew proficiency in day and night air-to-air techniques.

(C) The VMFA-115 Silver Eagles concluded the admin and logistical aspects of redeployment and flight operations began on 7 September with an ACM training syllabus designed to bring all aircrews to the same level of readiness. Included in the syllabus was a complete BAM refresher for all aircrews followed by one-on-one and two-on-one ACM. In addition, a re-

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fresher air-intercept syllabus was initiated which was pursued on a continuing basis to ensure readiness for the "Eagles" air-to-air mission.

(S) September First the Red Devils of VMFA-232 had their farewell ceremonies on the Nam Phong flight line. The last tactical Marine aircraft unit to fly in combat in Southeast Asia, they were also the last to fly out of the "Rose Garden", leaving at 15 minute intervals beginning at 0800 the morning of the first. At 0915 the last of six sections of F-4J's left for Cubi Point, Republic of the Philippines. Their interim retrograde base where training was continued in air-to-air, aerial combat maneuvering, and air-to-ground phases of the aircrew training syllabus.

(S) On five September, it was personnel of H&MS-15 who, after supporting the aircraft retrograde, boarded MAC aircraft and began their exodus from the Royal Thai Air Force Base, leaving behind a small "rear" unit to close the Marine facility.

(U) During this period, all the MABS-15 sections devoted extensive hours to ensuring the retrograde went as scheduled. Advance parties departed Nam Phong on 29 August 1973. The Military Airlift Command airlift began on 3 September 1973. This airlift was to continue until 12 September 1973.

(C) The MABS-15 TAFDS Section which secured operations on 14 September 1973 at Nam Phong, Thailand was re-constituted and delivering fuel again at MCAS Iwakuni on 18 September 1973.

(C) Beginning on 17 September, the Marines oldest tactical aircraft squadron insignia, the "Red Devil" of VMFA-232, flew commencing the two day missile exercise of the squadrons Cubi Point training syllabus while members of the unit celebrated the 48th birthday of the "Red Devil". The missile exercise was scheduled to qualify aircrew men in Phase II and Phase III air-to-air training.

(C) On 21 September, MABS-15 departed Nam Phong after completing their duties of US-to-Thai base turnover. MABS-15 continued base support and services until shortly after the last MAC Logistics flight of the retrograde departed. Communications and support personnel remained behind until completion of Base Turnover to the Thai Air Force affording the necessary manpower for last minute repair and area police.

(C) PAGASA II was a joint exercise which included elements of the United States Navy and Marine Corps operating in conjunction with the Armed Forces of the Republic of the Philippines. VMFA-232 was an element of PROV-MAG-12. This command flew beach preparation, close air support and combat air patrol missions as a member of the invasion force and also doubled as part of the air power of the defending units. From 27 September until 2 October, VMFA-232 flew 51 missions in support of the exercise and maintained alert crews to be called upon if needed.

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(C) During the month of September, the S-4 section was predominately involved in Operation Sunset. The operation consisted of an air and surface lift.

The air portion commenced on 3 September with MAC C-141 and C-5A aircraft. The MAC airlift concluded on 14 September after having moved 4.5 million pounds of cargo and 1371 passengers in 93 C-141 and 13 C-5A aircraft. On 16 September the PATMA C-130 airlift moved the first of 124,000 pounds of cargo and 274 passengers which was to involve 11 aircraft in 4 days.

The surface portion started on 2 September with the first convoy of Thai contract trucking departing from Nam Phong. All surface cargo was trucked to Sattahip, Thailand between 2 and 21 September with the exception of 3 CH-46 helicopters which were ferried on 16 and 17 September. The 7 million pounds of surface cargo was then loaded on MSC shipping (the SS Seatrain Puerto Rico for Okinawa and the SS Green Forest for Iwakuni) between 18 and 23 September.

(C) October found all units of MAG-15 out of Nam Phong and in the process of readjusting to a non-combat environment. Orders and Bulletins were rewritten to cover operations from Iwakuni and other peace-time bases and new garrison training programs were begun.

(C) VMFA-115 conducted Phase II ACM and air-to-ground refresher training with emphasis on low level soft ordnance delivery techniques. In addition to normal training operations 4 sorties/12 hours were flown in support of operation Commando Jade and 3 sorties/4 hours in support of Second Battalion 9th Marines.

(U) General Robert E. CUSHMAN Jr., Commandant of the Marine Corps, visited MAG-15 in conjunction with his first MAW visit on 29 September. He was briefed on MAG-15 operations and specifically the Nam Phong retrograde.

(C) During this period Marine Air Base Squadron-15 continued to off-load equipment shipped from RTAFB Nam Phong via surface. Extensive time was devoted to up-grading all equipment to a fully operational status.

(U) The MABS-15 Motor Transport section was transferred to Wing Engineering and Transport Squadron-17, and the majority of personnel of the Weather, Recovery, Crash Crew, MATCU, Food Services and Communications sections were transferred to Station activities as part of the Fleet Augmentation Program.

(U) Throughout November the S-4 section and MABS-15 were primarily involved with the re-organization of MAG-15 personnel, Equipment and material. This re-organization was aimed at rapidly achieving a return to a posture of Combat Readiness following the retrograde. Large amounts of equipment and material were moved from the port area into 1st MAW and MAG-15 areas where it was inventoried and either surveyed or prepared for future use.

(U) LtCol N.A. SMITH assumed command of H&MS-15, relieving Major J.F. McNELLY. on 19 November 1973.

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(U) Major General W.G. JOHNSON and Major General F.C. LANG, CG 1st MAW, visited the MAG-15 Ordnance department and were highly impressed with all Ordnance work centers.

(U) Personnel from all units not deployed participated in various fields of training such as GMS Testing, Pistol Qualification, Drill and Physical Fitness Training. The training had developed quite well to this point following retrograde from Nam Phong.

(C) VMFA-232 returned to Iwakuni from Cubi Point, Republic of the Philippines. 13 November 1973.

(C) VMFA-115 continued an aggressive Phase II ACM and VID intercept program, refreshing nine (9) aircrew in two on one F4 vs F4 ACM, and bringing eight (8) other crews within one or two sorties of completion. Eighteen (18) sorties of air-to-air gunnery were also flown firing the MK 4 Gun Pod against a towed dart.

(C) The RF4B flight hours and sorties increased significantly from the previous month due to the high percentage of aircraft availability and minimal deployment of RF4B's.

(C) The EA6A flight hours and sorties decreased sharply from the previous month due to the nonavailability of operationally ready aircraft. a determining factor was the unusually high NORS rate encountered during the month of November.

(C) On 2 November 1973, one EA6A and one RF4B departed for Taipei Taiwan for Exercise Eagle Planning Conference. The exercise was unfortunately cancelled due partly to the energy crisis/conservation program. On 5 November 1973, two RF-4B's deployed to Naha, AB for four days of extensive official photo operations. During the middle portion of the month squadron efforts were centered on preparing Det 101 for redeployment aboard the USS Midway. Supply accretment of parts hampered the EA6A efforts while the RF-4B's continued their aggressive flying. Also during this time air refueling hops were conducted by the EA6A's. VMA-211 furnished one A4 configured with a buddy store for the refueling sorties. Cooperation was at a maximum during this effort.

(C) On 23 November 1973 VMJ-1 Det 101 began its "walk aboard" on the USS Midway. On 27 November 1973, three EA6A's flew aboard CVA-41 to begin its second sea period. At this time VMJ-1 was also tasked with furnishing an RF4B detachment to Misawa Air Base for day and night operations for a period of three weeks. On 29 November 1973, the advance party departed for Misawa to begin liaison with COMFAIRWESTPAC Det, Misawa.

(C) On 30 November 1973, VMJ-1 received the 1973 CNO Aviation Safety Award and for its performance in Indo-China operations during periods of 1968 and 1969, was also awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation. The ceremony took place on VMJ-1's flight line presented by Major General JOHNSON.

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(U) MAG-15 S-2 initiated three programs to provide security and intelligence support for MAG-15 Headquarters and subordinate units. The first was the publication and dissemination of a MAG-15 periodic Intelligence Newsletter. This newsletter contains information on foreign military/political events which are deemed pertinent to MAG-15. The second program initiated was a Security Training Program primarily directed toward the actual handling of classified materials. The training includes clearance, access requirements, control methods, stowage requirements, transmittal and destruction. The third program initiated after hours security checks of MAG-15 working areas. These checks, conducted by the MAG-15 Intelligence Officer or Chief, are conducted on a periodic basis, unannounced and after normal working hours to ensure proper stowage of classified materials.

(C) Embarkation activities during December included the return of VMFA-115 to Iwakuni and the deployment of VMFA-232 to Naha Airbase, R.P. In addition VMGJ-1 deployed a detachment to Misawa and subsequently returned that detachment and Det-101 from the USS Midway.

(U) The MABS-15 Communications Section commenced a three week joint training program with MWCS-18 during the first week of December. The training syllabus included all areas of operational communications. A communications field exercise was conducted, following the training program, with MWCS-18, MABS-12 and WERS-17. The COMEX was the final practical application phase for the Joint Training Program.

(C) Commando Jade, the training exercise over Korea, was scheduled and cancelled during the month due to fuel considerations in line with the fuel conservation program.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTSJULY

2 July: MABS-15 completed the first tropical warehouse for LSG.

4 July: A boxing smoker was organized by Special Services. The boxing gear was borrowed from Udorn Special Services. There were eleven bouts and attendance was excellent. Additional smokers are planned for the future.

16-24 July ALCE affiliation training at Iwakuni for 8 persons.

20 July: SSgt C.M. MORROW and SSgt R.R. CIESLINSKI, LCpl H.E. RAMSEY and PFC C.E. TAYLOR Liaison visit to the 8th Tactical Fighter Wing at RTAFB Ubon and the 308th Tactical Fighter Wing at RTAFB Korat. For purpose of receiving briefing on unit missions, aircraft characteristics, USAF briefing/de-briefing procedures and S.E.R.E./SAR procedures.

20-25 July: Preparations for MAG-15 CO's change of command.

22 July: 250 kw MUSE generator moved to power station 2.

25 July: The H&MS-15 Cryogenics Section received one Lo2/Ln2 Generating Plant thereby providing increased support to the tactical squadrons.

AUGUST

1-3 August: ALCE affiliation training conducted at Nam Phong.

1-3 August: Liaison with 603 ALCE.

2-6 August: The new AC/S, G-1, 1stMAW visited Nam Phong to discuss personnel problems during the first week in August.

4-8 August: A representative from the Wing Management Office visited MAG-15 S-1.

14 August: The new Cesium Beam Frequency Standard, possessed by Mobile Calibration Complex-One (MCC-1), became operational. This highly stable unit increases the frequency accuracy capability of the lab to a point of + 5 parts in 10¹² parts. As a side feature to the unit there is a clock which allows this laboratory to maintain very accurate time, + 1 second in approximately 4997 years. This is the most accurate frequency standard held by the Marine Corps in the 1st MAW area.

15 August: The bombing stopped.

15 August: MAG-15 ceased combat operations over S.E. Asia. S-2 secured combat briefing/debriefing and ceased publishing OPREP-4's and INTSUM's.

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28-30 August: Advance parties and staging parties departed Nam Phong.

30 August: Execution order for Operation Sunset, Nam Phong retrograde.

30-31 August: S-2 conducted Intelligence brief for VMFA-115 and VMFA-232 on Communist Forces Air Defense Systems in Laos, NVN and SVN in preparation of retrograde.

September

1-19 September: All MAG-15 Marines retrograded from Nam Phong with the exception of a ten (10) man logistics party remaining at the ship landing point and a three (3) man staff remaining at Udorn, Thailand to serve as a retrograde personnel liaison point.

2-21 September: Convoys move surface cargo to DWP Sattahip.

3-14 September: MAC Airlift 93 C-141 and 13 C-5A moved 4.5 million of cargo and 1371 pax.

3 September: H&MS-15 commenced retrograde from RTAFB Nam Phong, Thailand to Iwakuni, Japan.

IMA A6A personnel joined VMA(AW)-533 and departed for Iwakuni. Fourteen MMF's, two C-2000 air conditioners and four sets of running gear were transferred from H&MS-15 Avionics to MAG-12.

4 September: Two AERO 1A's, one INU, eight IMA technicians from Avionics were attached to VMFA-115 Maintenance deployed eleven men and 67 pieces of equipment to VMFA-115 at Naha, Japan and VMFA-232 at Cubi Pt., R.P. for IMA support of those squadrons.

5 September: Avionics attached seven MMF's, three INU's and twenty-nine IMA technicians to VMFA-232 at Cubi Pt., R.P.

5 September: S-2 Equipment staged for retrograde.

6 September: Intelligence Chief with S-2 classified files retrograded from Nam Phong.

7 September: S-2 enlisted retrograded from Nam Phong.

10 September: The H&MS-15 Ordnance was in full operation in Iwakuni, Japan, consisting of the following shops; MER/TER, Handling Equipment, and Gun Pod Shop. RF4 Avionics joined the H&MS-15 Avionics complex.

Administrative control of VMCI-1 was assumed by MAG-15.

13 September: Intelligence Files/Equipment in place at MAG-15 HQ MCAS Iwakuni.

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- 14 September: Intelligence Officer departs Nam Phong arrives MCAS Iwakuni.
- 14 September: H&MS-15 retrograde to Iwakuni, Japan completed. *H&MS-15*
- 16 September: The H&MS-15 Ground Support Equipment continued partial support of VMA(AW)-533 and gave support to H&MS-12 Ground Support Equipment in support of VMCJ-1
- 16-17 September: 3 CH46 helo moved to Sattahip for surface shipment.
- 16-19 September: PATMA Airlift 11 C-130 A/C moved 124,000 pounds of cargo and 274 pax.
- 18-20 September: SS Seatrain Puerto Rico loaded with Okinawa surface shipment/sails.
- 19-23 September: SS Green Forest loaded with Iwakuni surface shipment/sails.
- 20 September: H&MS-15 Avionics complex fully operational.
- 29 September: Gen Robert E. CUSHMAN, Commandant of the Marine Corps visited.

NOVEMBER

- 1 November: Maj G.E. FRANKLIN assumed duty as S-2 Officer.
- 7 November: First C-130 launched on VMFA-232 Airlift from Cubi Pt. R.P. to MCAS Iwakuni.
- 15 November: Final aircraft of VMFA-232 airlift element arrived at MCAS Iwakuni.
- 16 November: SSgt J.W. MASON reassigned from MAG-15, S-2 to VMFA-232, S-2.
- 20-28 November: Maj G.E. FRANKLIN to Okinawa for liaison with VMFA-115.
- 23 November: LtCol. N.A. SMITH relieved Maj J.P. McNELLY AS Commanding Officer of H&MS-15.
- 30 November: MGen F.C. LANG, CG 1stMAW and MGen W.G. JOHNSON, Asst. CG FMFPAC visited MAG-15 ordnance.
- 29-30 November: Visit of Maj. Gen. William S. JOHNSON, the Deputy Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific.

DECEMBER

- 3 December: 4 RF4B's deploy to Misawa AB.

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4 December: VMJ-1 Det. airlifted from Iwakuni to Misawa, Japan.

6 December: Visit of Major General M.P. RYAN, Commanding General Third

10 December: VMJ-1 briefed officers from the 3rd Marine Division.

11 December: VMFA-115 advance party arrived in Iwakuni from Naha. VMFA-232 advance party departed from Iwakuni to Naha on return aircraft.

11 December: Commando Jade was cancelled.

17 December: First C-130 aircraft launched from Naha on VMFA-115 main body airlift to Iwakuni. VMFA-232 began main body airlift from Iwakuni to Naha on return aircraft.

19 December: Two EA6A's return from the USS Midway.

19 December: Final C-130 aircraft of VMFA-115 airlift element arrived at Iwakuni and returned to Naha with final load of VMFA-232 airlift.

20 December: One EA6A returns from the USS Midway and 3 RF4B's return from Misawa AB.

20 December: SgtMaj. P.J. MAROVICH relieved by SgtMaj. RANDALL as SgtMaj. of Marine Aircraft Group 15.

21 December: One RF4B returns from Misawa AB.

22 December: Main Body returns from Misawa AB.

23 December: VMJ-1 Misawa Det. airlifted back to Iwakuni.

23 December: Main body from Det 101 aboard USS Midway returns to Iwakuni.

31 December: Year ended.

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

MOVREPS PERIOD 1 JUL TO 31 Dec 1973

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END 885555

011321ZM AAN 140700Z 212000Z 8855--RUINAAA.

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TO AIG SIX ZERO

INFO RUMJCS/CS

RUEOFIA/CMC WASH DC

RUMHQA/CINCPAC

RUMHQA/CINCPACFLT

RUMHQA/CINCPACAF

RUMHQA/COMUSMACV HAI

RUAOLKA/COMUS JAPAN

RUAOLKA/COMNAFOR JAPAN

RUMTEK/ANEMB BANGKOK

RUESTO/ANEMB JAPAN

RUMHQA/CG FMFPAC

RUMHQA/CG III MAF

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RUMHQA/MAG ONE TWO

BT

S E C R E T //NOV8855//

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ORG TE 79.3.9.4 RV VMA (AW)-533 12 AUG, 02//

EID P NAM PHONG 300100Z 4 AUG, 03//

VIA P C/B1 POINT 300330Z 9 AUG, 04//

EIA P MAXUMI 300000Z 2 AUG, 05//

BCT C3 CG RUMHQA/INAKUNI, JAPAN, 06//

CHG CHG 300100Z 4 AUG MAG-12, 07//

CFN 300000Z 8, 300100Z 4, 300330Z 9,

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GDS-31

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 RUMNUDA/CMR THIRTEENTH AF ADVON UDN RTAFB THAI
 RUMOSRA/CMR THIRTEENTH AF UDN RTAFB THAI
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 RUADJVA/COMFAIRWE STPAC ATCUG I

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PAGE TWO RUMAAAA3726 S E C R E T

ZEN/CG TASK FORCE DELTA

ZEN/MAO ONE FIVE

BT

S E C R E T //003123//

SECRET 000 MOVREF 301324Z 3 AUGUST VNFA 115, 01//

ORG TE 79.3.3.5 RV VNFA 115 10 PAB 02//

ETD NAM PHONE THAI 310100Z 5 AUGUST 73 03//

VIA P CUBI POINT., 310310Z 8 AUGUST 73 04//

ETA P NANA AB OKINAWA JAPAN 310550Z 4 AUGUST 73 05//

BOY CS BG ASSUMED BY IWAKUNI, JAPAN, 06//

WAL FPO SAN FRANCISCO, 96602, 07//

CFN 301324Z 3 310100Z 5/ 310310Z 8/ 310550Z 4/ 08// END

GDS-81

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OTTSZYUW RUYSAA1212 2430639-5588--RHANAAA:
 ZNY 55555 ZOC
 O 310859Z AUG 73
 FM HARPETATKRON ONE ONE FIVE
 TO AIG SIX ZERO
 INFO RUEHJCS/JCS/JCS WASH DC
 RUEOFIA/CNO WASH DC
 RUHQHQA/CINCPAC CP SMITH HI
 RMHNBRA/CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI
 RUHVAAA/CINCPACAF HI
 RUNOUHA/COMUSMACVTHAI BANGKOK THAI
 RHNOGON/COMNAVFORPHIL SUBIC BAY PI
 RUHNOFA/COMUSJAPAN FUCHU AS JA
 RUADLBA/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA
 RUNTBK/ANEMB BANGKOK THAI
 RUHQHQA/CG FMFPAC HI
 RUHRADA/CG THIRD MAF OKINAWA JA
 RUHNRGA/USAG SEVENTH AF NKP RTAFB THAI
 RUNOSRA/CMR THIRTEENTH AF UDN RTAFB THAI
 RUHNUDA/CMR THIRTEENTH AF/ADVON UDN RTAFB THAI
 RHARSAA/CG FIRST MAW IHAKUNI JA
 RUADJVA/COMFAIRWESTPAC ATSUGI JA

10R 0940
 108 / 9132
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 M-15

PAGE 2 RUYSAA1212 S E C R E T

RHANAAA/CG TASK FORCE DELTA NAMPONG THAI
 RHANAAA/CO MARA3RGRU ONE FIVE NAMPONG THAI
 RUHJAJA/FPO SAN FRANCISCO CA

BT

S E C R E T

SECRET DGD ARREP 310859Z, AUGUST 1973 VMFA 115, 01//
 ORG TE 79,3,3,5 BY VMFA 115 10 F4B, 02//
 ARR P NAMA AB OKINAWA JAPAN 310730Z AUGUST 1973, 03//
 MAL FPO SAN FRANCISCO, 0600Z, 04//
 CNP 310859Z, 310730Z/ 05//
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CLASSIFIED MATERIAL ROUTING

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OTTSZYUW RUMMKIA6742 2440551-SSSS--RHAAAA.
 ZNY SSSSS ZOC ZZ1-4 RUMTBK RUESWO
 010551Z SEP 73
 FM MARFITATKRON TWO THREE TWO
 TO AIG SIX ZERO
 INFO RUEKJCS/JCS WASH DC
 RUEOFIA/CMC WASH DC
 RUHQHQA/CINCPAC
 RHHMBRA/CINCPACFLT
 RUHVAAA/CINCPACAF
 RUADLGA/COMUSJAPAN
 RUADLBA/COMNAVFOR JAPAN
 RUMTBK/AMEMB BANGKOK (DD)
 RUESWO/AMEMB JAPAN(DD)
 RUHQHQA/CG FMFPAC
 RUMRADA/CG III MAF
 RUMMRGA/CMR SEVENTH AF
 RHMIAAAA/CMR THIRTEEN TH AF
 RUMMRGA/DEPCMR SEVENTH AF
 RHMIAAAA/DEPCMR THIRTEENTH AF
 RHARSGG/CG FIRST MAW
 RUADJVA/COMFAIRWESTPAC

PAGE 2 RUMMKIA6742 S E C R E T
 RHAAAA/CG TASK FORCE DELTA
 RHAAAA/MARAIRGRU ONE FIVE

S E C R E T
 000 NOVREP 010551Z SEP 73 VMFA-232 01//
 ORG TE 79.3.3.3 RV VMFA-232 12 F4J, 02//
 ARR P CUBI PT, 010502Z SEP 73 03//
 OCT C3 BG ASSUMED BY IWAKUNIA, 04//
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CLASSIFIED MATERIAL ROUTING

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Page 34

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OTTSZYUW RHARSAA 0029 249 0232-SSSS--RHNOGOA RUHGOAA RUYNWCA RUHJRDA
 RUHKBQA RUHJAJA RUHNDQ RUENAAA RULYSAA RUMGSAA RUYNBAA RUMPSFF
 RUWNSSE RUEKJCS RUOFIA RUHQHQA RHMBRA RUHVAAA RHMFMTA RUMTBK
 RUEIKO RUADLBA RUHMOPA RUHRADA RUHMRGA RUOSRA RUHMUDA RUADJVA
 RHAAAA.

ZNY SSSSS

G 000232Z SEP 73

FM HAMRON ONE FIVE

TO AIG SIX ZERO

INFO RUEKJCS/JCS/JCS

RUOFIA/CMC WASH DC

RUHQHQA/CINCPAC

RHMBRA/CINCPACFLT

RUHVAAA/CINCPACAF

RHMFMTA/COMUSNACTHAI

RHNOGOA/COMNAVFOR PHILLIPPINES

RUMTBK/AMEMB BANGKOK

RUEIKO/AMEMB TOKYO

RUADLBA/COMNAVFOR JAPAN

RUHMOPA/COMUS JAPAN

RUHQHQA/CG FMFPAC

RUHRADA/CG III MAF

RUMRGA/USAG SEVENTH AF NKP TRAFB THAI

RUOSRA/CMR THIRTIETH AF UDN RTAFB THAI

RUHMUDA/CMR THIRTIETH/ADVON UDN RTAFB THAI

ZEN/CG FIRST MAW

RUADJVA/COMFAIRWEST PAC

RHAAAA/CG TASK FORCE DELTA

RHAAAA/MAG ONE FIVE

BT

SECRET // 003123 //

SECRET 000 MOVREP 000232Z 3 SEP, 01 //

ORG TU 79.3.3.1 RV HANS-15, 02 //

ARR P IWAKUNI, 060044Z 4 SEP, 03 //

CFN 000232Z 3, 260044Z 4 04 //END

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NAVAL MESSAGE

OPNAV FORM 2110/23 (REV 3-69) S/N 1007-705-400

RELEASED BY COL D.E. DOCKLUND	DRAFTED BY CALVIN D. THOMPSON	PHONE EXT NR 212	PAGE 1	PAGES 2	
DATE 31 Sep 73	TOR/TOD	ROUTED BY	CHECKED BY		
MESSAGE NR 1902	DATE/TIME GROUP 120050Z	PRECEDENCE ACTION INFO	FLASH	IMMEDIATE XXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXX	PRIORITY ROUTINE

FM MARAICRU ONE FIVE
TO AIG SIX ZERO
INFO CINCPAC FLT
CINCPACAF
COMUSMACV
COMNAVFOR PHILIPPINES
AMEMB BANGKOK
AMEMB TOKYO
COMNAVFOR JAPAN
COMUS JAPAN
CG PEPAC
CG III MAW
USSAG SEVENTH AF NKP RTAFB THAI
COMR THIRTEENTH AF UDN RTAFB THAI
COMR THIRTEENTH AF ADJON UDN RTAFB THAI
CG FIRST MAW
CG TASK FORCE DELTA

BT

~~SECRET~~ //NO3000//

MARAICRU ONE FIVE (REAR), ESTABLISHMENT OF,
2. AT TIME OF SUBMISSION OF MOVIES FOR MAC-15, A REAR
ECHELON WILL BE FORMED AT RTAFB NAM PHONG, THAI.

2. O.I.C. LTCOL R. PLANT TASK FORCE DESIGNATOR 79.3.3.)

3. MESSAGES REQUIRING ACTION BY MAC-15 (REAR) SHOULD BE ADDRESSED
ROUTED TO HUMOSRA, RTAFB UDN THAI.

4. NOTIFY SERVING COMM CENTERS

GDS-81

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UNCLASSIFIED

DATE/TIME GROUP

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	NAVPER	NAVPER	
	MCTENGR	MCTENGR	
	AUDITOR	AUDITOR	
	PAO	PAO	
	MED	MED	
	S/ST	S/ST	
	PWO	PWO	
	OPS	OPS	
	SUP	SUP	
	COM	COM	
	PMO	PMO	
	DISB	DISB	
	CHAM	CHAM	
	SJA	SJA	
	S&C	S&C	
	CSO	CSO	
	HRHS	HRHS	
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	A/SAFE	A/SAFE	
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	211	211	
	533	533	
	MASS-12	MASS-12	
	MASS-2	MASS-2	
	MASS-18	MASS-18	

12

SECRET MESSAGE

OFNAV FORM 2110/28B (REV. 3-69)
S/N 0107-705-4201SECRET
(when filled in)

RELEASED BY A. W. BARNETT LACOL		DRAFTED BY R. J. MEYER GYSOT		PHONE EXT. NR. 3521	PAGE 1	PAGE 2
DATE 20 SEP 1973	TOR/TOD	ROUTED BY		CHECKED BY		
MESSAGE NR. 045	DATE/TIME GROUP 200246	PRECEDENCE	FLASH	IMMEDIATE	PRIORITY	ROUTINE
		ACTION		XXXX		
		INFO		XXXX		

FM: MARAIRCEN ONE FIVE

TO: AIG SIX ZERO

INFO: CINCPAC FLT

CINCPAC AF

COMUSMACTHAI

COMNAVFOR PE

AMEMB BANGKOK

AMEMB TOKYO

COMNAVFOR JA.

COMUS JA.

CG, PACPAC

CG, III MAW

USSAG SEVENTH AF NKP RTAFB THAI

COMDR THIRTIETH AF UDN RTAFB THAI

COMDR THIRTIETH AF ADVON UDN RTAFB THAI

CG, FIRST MAW

CG, TASK FORCE DELTA

245 SEP 20

BT

SECRET//NO3123//

SECRET CCO MOVREP 200246 Z 4, SEP CTU 79.3.3 MAG-15, 01//

ORG MAG-15 REAR, 02//

CHG DIS 200246 Z 4, SEP 03//

DATE/TIME GROUP

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JFNAV FORM 2110/288 (REV. 3-69)

S/N 0107-705-4201

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		INFO		XXXXXXX			

RPM CFN 200246Z 4, 200246Z 4, OL/END

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CTTSEYU RHARSAA0041 2640216-SSSS--RHMOGAA RUHGOAA RUYNWCA RUHJRA
 RUHKBQA RUHJAJA RUHKNDQ RUZNAAA RULYSAA RUHGSAA RUYNWAA RUMFSFF
 RUINSEE RHMBRA RUHVAAA RHMTA RUATBK RUEIKO RUADLBA RUYNWHA
 RUHQHQA RUJGFB RUMRGA RUOSRA RUMUDA.
 ZNY SSSSS

O 210216Z SEP 73

FM NABS ONE FIVE

TO AIG SIX ZERO

INFO RHMBRA/CINCPAC FLT

RUHVAAA/CINCPAC AF

RHMTA/COMSUNACTHAI

RHMOGAA/COMNAVFOR PI

RUMTBK/AMEMB BANGKOK

RUEIKO/AMEMB TOKYO

RUADLBA/COMNAVFOR JA

RUYNWHA/CONUS JA

RUHQHQA/CG FMFPAC

RUJGFB/CG III MAW

RUMRGA/USAG SEVENTH AF NKP RTAFB THAI

RUOSRA/COMR THIRTEENTH AF UDN RTAFB THAI

RUMUDA/COMR THIRTEENTH AF ADVON UDN RTAFB THAI

ZEN/CG FIRST MAW

ZEN/CG TASK FORCE DELTA

ZEN/MAG ONE FIVE

BT

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SECRET, 000 MOVEREP 210216Z 2, SEP NABS-15, 01//

ORG TE 70.3.3.2 RV NABS-15, 02//

ETD P NAI PHONG, THAI, 150600Z 2 SEP 73 03//

ETA P IWAKUNI JA 151400Z 1, SEP 04//

BCT C3 BG ASSUMED BY RHARSAA IWAKUNI JA 05//

DAL FPO SAN FRANCISCO 96602 06//

CFN 210216Z 2, 150600Z 2, 151400Z 1, 07//END

GDS-81 CLASSIFIED MATERIAL ROUTING

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CHG CHP 270000Z22 SEP 73 PROVNA612 CIG 192,3, 02//
CFN 270049Z22 SEP 73, 270000Z22 SEP 73 03//END
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CLASSIFIED MATERIAL ROUTING	
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PTTCZYUW RHARSAA0054 2850534-CCCC--RUHQOAA RUYNWCA RUHJDA RUHKNDO
 RUAJMAB RUWJAJA RUENAAA RUHNSAA RUHPSAA RUMFSEE RULYSHH RH0000A
 RUHQHQA RUMRADA.

ZNY CCCCC

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P 120534Z OCT 73

FM MARCOMPRECONRON ONE REAR

TO AIG SIX ZERO

INFO RUHQHQA/CG FMFPAC

RUMRADA/CG III MAP

ZEN/CG FIRST MAW

ZEN/MAG ONE FIVE

ZEN/MAG ONE TWO

BT

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CONFIDENTIAL, PPP MOVREP 120534Z 5 OCT VMCJ-1, 01//

ORG RV VMCJ-1, 02//

CHG CHP 112400Z3 MAG-15, 03//

CFN 120534Z 5, 112400Z3, 04//

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WASHINGTON, D.C.

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PM MARCOMPRECONRON ONE DET MIDWAY

TO RUECFIA/COMMANDANT MARINE CORPS WASHINGTON DC

RUMHQA/PMFPAC CAMP H M SOUTH HI

RUMRADA/THIRD MAP

RHARSGG/CG FIRST MAW

RHARSGG/MARAIROU ONE FIVE

RUMHQA/MARCOMPRECONRON ONE

ZEN/OTO SEVEN SEVEN PT FOUR

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PPH MOVEREP 20034322 OCT VMQJ-1 DET 101, 0811

ORR RD VMQJ-1 DET 101 S-EASA, 0811

STD P INAKUN1, 170400Z OCT 0811

ETA S MIDWAY, 170700Z OCT 0811

CPN 20034323, 170400Z, 170700Z, 0811 END

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OF 1
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 FM MARCOMPRECONRON ONE DET USNMIDWAY
 TO RUEOFIA/COMMANDANT MARINE CORPS WASHINGTON DC
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 RHARSAA/MAG ONE FIVE
 RUHMIIA/MARCOMPRECONRON ONE
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 AGR 3 MIDWAY, 170725Z OCT 73//
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PAGE 1

CLASSIFIED MATERIAL 200718

INITIALS PAGES

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ROADJHA/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA

RUESHOJAMEMB TOKYO JA

RUHQHQA/CG FMFPAC CAMP SMITH HI

RUMRADA/CG III MAF

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QPN 170023Z DEC 73, 170010Z DEC 73, 05/77

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ETD S MIDWAY, 190001Z, DEC 03//

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HEADQUARTERS
Marine Aircraft Group 15
1st Marine Aircraft Wing
FPO San Francisco 96602

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STAFF CHRONOLOGY

1 July to 31 December 1973

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PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY

PART III - SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

PART IV - SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

Marine Aircraft Group 15

GROUP INTELLIGENCE OFFICERCWO-3 R. D. WEBB
1 July to 31 December 1973MAJOR G. E. FRANKLIN
1 November to 31 December 19732. GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATIONRoyal Thai Air Force Base
Nam Phong, ThailandPERIOD

1 July to 13 September 1973

MCAS Iwakuni, Japan

14 September to 31 December
19733. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. (C) During the period 1 July to 15 August 1973, MAG-15 Intelligence Section (S-2) continued Intelligence support of MAG-15 air combat operations over Cambodia. During this period the Group S-2 briefed/debriefed 834 combat air sorties, published 231 OPRFP-4's and 46 Intelligence Summaries, processed over 4000 classified messages, conducted eight S.E.R.E./SAR training sessions to include practical exercises in the use of the Jungle Penetrator and SAR equipment. A total of 42 officers were provided this training. MAG-15 S-2 personnel also conducted periodic liaison visits with the 432nd Tactical Reconnaissance Wing at UDORN, Thailand and also sent four MAG-15 S-2 personnel to the 8th Tactical Fighter Wing at RTAFB UBON and the 388th Tactical Fighter Wing at RTAFB at KORAT for the purpose of receiving briefings on unit missions, aircraft characteristics, USAF briefing/debriefing procedures and S.E.R.E./SAR procedures.
2. (C) On 15 August 1973 MAG-15 ceased air combat operations over S.E. Asia and MAG-15 S-2 published the final OPRFP-4 and Intelligence Summary after briefing and debriefing the final combat sorties. The MAG-15 S-2 Officer prepared and presented an intelligence briefing to the MAG-15 gun squadrons on Communist Forces Air Defense Systems in LAOS, NVN and SVN in preparation for overflights of these areas during retrograde.
3. (U) On 6 September 1973 MAG-15 S-2 received the order to manifest the S-2 personnel and equipment for retrograde from NAM PHONG. The first increment of S-2 personnel and equipment departed on 6 September with the second increment departing on 7 September. The S-2 Officer remained at NAM PHONG with the Headquarters Staff until 14 September at which time he departed for MCAS Iwakuni.
4. (U) During the period September to December 1973, MAG-15 S-2 prepared for changing the intelligence functions from a combat environment to Garrison duty. S-2 published or updated various Group Orders on Visitor Control, Control of Photography, Intelligence/Security Training, Survival/Evasion/Resistance/Escapes (SERE) and Sabotage/Espionage/Subversion/Dissident Activities. In preparation of planned a required Intelligence/Security training functions, MAG-15 S-2 requested and received two quotas for the Jungle Environmental Training (JEST) school at Subic Bay, Philippines. Two MAG-15 S-2 personnel were sent to this course of instruction. MAG-15 S-2 also commenced providing instructors for Security of Classified Material briefings/lectures with the first presentation being to H&MS-15 personnel on 12 December. The S-2 initiated a program of after hours security checks on HQ MAG-15 offices/sections to provide additional security within MAG-15. MAG-15 S-2 published the first of the MAG-15 Periodic Intelligence Newsletter. This Newsletter, disseminated to MAG-15 subordinate units, contains information on foreign military/political events which are deemed pertinent to MAG-15.

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5. (U) On 1 November 1973, Major C. E. FRANKLIN assumed duties as the MAG-15 Intelligence Officer relieving CWO-3 R. D. WEBB. Major FRANKLIN conducted liaison visits with MAG-15 subordinate unit Intelligence Sections at MCAS Iwakuni and with VMFA-115 at Okinawa during 20 to 28 November.

6. (U) In anticipation of the scheduled Functional Management Inspection scheduled to be conducted by 1st MAW during January 1974, S-2 commenced conducting preliminary inspections on subordinate units in the functions of intelligence, counterintelligence and security. In addition, MAG-15 S-2 monitored the procedures required for establishing Classified Material Control Centers and Secondary Control Points for the MAG-15 Headquarters and subordinate units.

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ENCLOSURE (1)**CONFIDENTIAL**

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

20 July 1973	SSgt C. M. MORROW, SSgt R. R. CIESLINSKI, LCpl H. E. RAMSEY, and Pfc C. E. TAYLOR: Liaison visit to the 8th Tactical Fighter Wing at RTAFB UBON and the 388th Tactical Fighter Wing at RTAFB KORAT. For purpose of receiving briefing on Unit Missions, Aircraft Characteristics, USAF briefing/de-briefing procedures and S.E.R.E./SAR procedures.
15 August 1973	MAG-15 ceased combat operations over S.E. Asia. S-2 secured combat briefing/de-briefing and ceased publishing OPREP-4's and INTSET's.
30-31 August 1973	Conducted Intelligence brief for VMFA-115 and VMFA-232 on Communist Forces Air Defense Systems in LAOS, NVN and SVN in preparation of retrograde.
6 Sep 1973	Intelligence Chief with S-2 classified files retrograded from Nam Phong.
7 Sep 1973	S-2 Enlisted retrograded from Nam Phong.
13 Sep 1973	Intelligence Files/Equipment in place at MAG-15 Headquarters MCAS Iwakuni.
14 September 1973	Intelligence Officer departs Nam Phong and arrives MCAS Iwakuni.
1 November 1973	Major G. E. FRANKLIN assumed duty as S-2 Officer.
2-9 November 1973	SSgt J. W. MASON and LCpl R. D. ROMERO attended JEST School in Philippines.
20-28 Nov 1973	Maj G. E. FRANKLIN to Okinawa for Liaison with VMFA-115.
10 December 1973	Initiated MAG-15 periodic Intelligence Newsletter.
16 December 1973	Instituted system of after hours Group Headquarters checks.

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Bomb damage assessment was derived from Intelligence Summaries and Operational Report-4's for period 1 July thru 15 August 1973.

BOMB DAMAGE ASSESSMENT FOR JULY AND AUGUST

<u>TARGET</u>	<u>DESTROYED</u>	<u>DAMAGED</u>
KBA Confirmed	418	0
WBA	28	0
Sustained Fires	51	0
Secondary Explosions	53	0
NBLV	4	1
Road Cuts	3	0
Bridges	1	0
FTP/Bunkers	345	11
Individual Weapons	59	0
Crew Surveyed Weapons	12	3 Silenced
Supply Stacks/Cache	68	0
Buildings/Structures	162	73
Motorcycles	6	0

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ENCLOSURE (1)

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
Marine Aircraft Group 15
1st Marine Aircraft Wing
FPO San Francisco 96602

21:WFB:hsd
5750
4 January 1974

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 July to 31 December 1973

PART I - ORGANIZATION DATA

PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY

PART III - SEQUENTIAL LISTING
OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

Copy to Group 15

John Doe '73

PART I ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. Designation

Group Supply Department

Supply OfficerLTCOL J.W. FRIBERG
1 JULY - 18 OCT 1973MAJ K.M. WILSON
18 OCT - 31 DEC 19732. Geographical Location

Nam Phong, Thailand

1 JULY - 12 SEPT 1973

MCAS, Iwakuni Japan

13 SEPT - 31 DEC 1973

3. Section Officer

GASSCO

CAPT. L.E. SPEARS
1 JULY - 2 JULY 1973CAPT. M.L. AWALT
26 JULY - 31 DEC 1973

MCPO

CAPT. M.S. FRASIER
1 JULY - 31 DEC 19731STLT J.W. WESTMORELAND
6 OCT - 31 DEC 1973

SRSO

CAPT. R.W. BENNETT
1 JULY - 3 JULY 1973CAPT. H.E. GURNEY
1 JULY - 31 DEC 1973

SASO

1STLT T.C. LAUSH
1 JULY - 11 AUG 19731STLT T.J. ROTHCHILD
1 JULY - 31 DEC 1973

ADPO

2NDLT C.C. CHAMBERS
27 SEPT - 20 DEC 1973

CCSO

CWO-1 G.F. MOORE
1 JULY - 31 DEC 1973

WHSEO

CWO-2 T.D. ROSE
1 JULY - 17 DEC 19731STLT C. WRZENSKI
5 NOV - 31 DEC 1973

PART I ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

GRUSUPCHIEF

MSGT. W.F. BARKER
1 JULY - 31 DEC 1973

GASSC CHIEF

GYSGT. R.E. SICE
1 JULY - 30 JULY 1973MSGT. T. HUNTER
20 AUG - 31 DEC 19734. Average Monthly StrengthUSMCUSNOTHEROFFENLOFFENLOFFENL

14

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

(U) During the month of July, Group Aviation Supply completed shipment of all known excesses. A program was implemented to separate all A6A peculiar items in preparation of transfer of VMA-533 to MAG-12. On the Marine Corps Property side, the annual physical inventory commenced on all Squadron and MCP stocks. GySgt. REED went TAD to Iwakuni to inventory Retrograded supplies. MCP completed renovation of the RIO located in the MABS-15 area and also completed a massive program of receiving and distribution of all minor property items invoiced from Wing to Nam Phong. The Fiscal Section was visited by Lt.Col. FORGER and CWO WILSON of the Wing Comptroller's Office. The purpose of their visits was to review Southeast Asia report procedures as well as other operations peculiar to operation at Nam Phong, Thailand.

(U) During the month of August, Group Aviation Supply completed segregation of all known A6A peculiar items of supply. Documents were cut and all items were physically relocated into a warehouse designated for A6A equipment. A pack-up of spare parts was assembled for each operating squadron in preparation for retrograde. An advance party of supply personnel was deployed to MCAS, Iwakuni. A complete Renovation of the Marine Corps Property warehouse location system and Embarkation program was conducted. There was also a complete pack-up of all Marine Corps Property supplies and Marine Corps Property personnel joined Group Supply to help retrograde the entire group. On 1 August 1973 the Fiscal Section had a change in OIC's. 2ndLt. ROTHCHILD replaced 1stLt. LAUSH as the Officer in Charge of MAG-15 Fiscal Section.

(U) During the month of September, Group Aviation Supply sent a pack-up of spare parts supported by three Group Supply Personnel to locations at Cubi Pt. Philippines and Naha Okinawa. The Rotable Pool was packed and shipped to MCAS Iwakuni on the first air lift of retrograde. All Aviation Supply Stores were packed and staged for retrograde prior to the main body of supply personnel leaving 10 September 1973. Lt.Col. FRIBERG and 10 supply personnel remained with the rear echelon to complete the retrograde from Nam Phong. A massive program was conducted by Marine Corps Property Section to set up a new Office, Warehouse and a complete new functioning system in general. All rolling stock started being invoiced to WETS-17. Lt. WESTMORELAND reported for duty as assistant MCP Officer and completed back order validations from MPP and 3rd FSR. Personnel in the Fiscal Section attended a Accounting Seminar held 17-25 September. The purpose of this Seminar was to familiarize our personnel with Financial procedures established at MCAS Iwakuni Japan.

(U) During the month of October, Group Aviation Supply was clearing warehouse space in building 1205 and 1245. All Supply Officers Stores were moved from the staging areas with the bulk items stored in building 1245 and all remaining supplies in 1205. A Wall-to-Wall inventory was initiated. Three MSP Vans were set up in the location of the Avionics complex and Rotable Pool in order to provide faster supply support. Marine Corps Property completed all invoices for transferring VMJ-1 to MAG-15 from MAG-12. MAJOR K.M. WILSON relieved Lt.Col. FRIBERG on 18 October as the new Group Supply Officer.

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

(U) During the month of November, Group Aviation Supply started a program where all items of supply not meeting stocking criteria for garrison type duty would be identified and excessed to the proper supply points. All M800 Vans were invoiced to WETS-17 in compliance with the new Wing Program of consolidated support. An outside storage area was designated for all POL and Wing Tanks which resulted in all items of supply officers stores being in an signed location. The Marine Corps Property Section established and placed on order all requirements for cold weather clothing for VMFA-115, and VMCJ-1. The annual inventory was completed and all adjustments are in the process of being posted to the account. The Marine Corps Property Section established a Armory to control and handle all excess weapons in MAG-15 and other highly negotiable items. The Fiscal Section was visited by the FMFPAC Naval Audit Team. The purpose of this visit was to Audit Accounting procedures of all Wing Units.

(U) During the month of December, Group Aviation Supply completed posting of the inventory with all balance cards and financial records being updated. Technical Training for all 3071's was established for SUADPS U-1500 Computer in preparation for implementation in January 1974. Since MAG-15 retrograded from Thailand, the Marine Corps Property Section has been under a continuous program to identify and invoice back all equipment that had originally came from the 3rd MAW Div. MAG-15 Fiscal Section submitted the annual Navy and Marine Corps Mid-Year Review.

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

(U) AVIATION SUPPLY SECTION

23 JULY The Aviation Section reviewed its stock to identify all A6A peculiar items on hand.

19 AUG A pack-up for operating squadrons were pulled from stock.

29 AUG Supply deployed its advance element to MCAS IWAKUNI.

10 SEPT The main body of Supply Personnel deployed to MCAS IWAKUNI.

15 OCT The Aviation Section started its Wall-to-Wall inventory.

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

(U) MARINE CORPS PROPERTY SECTION

3 JULY Annual Physical Inventory by all Squadrons and MCP Section commenced.

26 AUG MCP completed Retrograde and joined Group Supply in these efforts.

7 SEPT MCP retrograded to Iwakuni.

17 OCT Joined VM CJ-1 from MAG-12.

20 OCT Started Post Deployment Inventory.

25 NOV Completed post deployment inventory.

7 DEC Inspected Squadrons Material Sections.

26 DEC Completed T/E Deficiency/Excess Program.

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S-1, Marine Aircraft Group 15

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 July 1973 TO 31 December 1973

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- PART III - SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
- PART IV - SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

S-1, MAC-15

Final draft 73

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

S-1, Marine Aircraft Group 15

COMMANDER

Capt B. E. WELCH
 1 July - 9 September 1973
 Major R. T. WARD
 10 September - 31 December 1973

2. GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

Royal Thai Air Force Base,
 Nam Phong, Thailand

1 July - 10 September 1973

Marine Corps Air Station,
 Iwakuni, Japan

11 September - 31 December 1973

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Adjutant

2ndLt R. A. CRITZER
 1 July - 8 October 1973
 CWO-3 G. S. LANE
 9 October - 16 December 1973
 1stLt J. R. BROWN
 17 December - 31 December 1973

Assistant S-1 Officer

1stLt D. A. ECHTERNACH
 1 July - 9 September 1973
 Capt P. SULLIVAN
 10 September - 31 December 1973

CMS Officer

1stLt D. A. ECHTERNACH
 1 July - 31 August 1973
 1stLt R. L. SCHMIDT
 1 September - 31 December 1973

HAD Officer

1stLt J. M. HIMES
 1 July - 2 November 1973
 1stLt C. A. GONSER
 3 November - 31 December 1973

Legal Officer

2ndLt R. A. CRITZER
 1 July - 28 September 1973
 1stLt L. A. DILLMAN
 29 September - 31 December 1973

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UNCLASSIFIED

S&C Officer

1stLt J. L. CIESLAK
 1 July - 11 September 1973
 1stLt A. R. PARKHURST
 12 September - 24 October 1973
 1stLt E. R. KELLY
 25 October - 31 December 1973

Speccial Services/
 Career Planning Officer

1stLt S. A. MILLER
 1 July - 18 November 1973
 1stLt G. M. DENKLER
 19 November - 31 December 1973

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>OTHER</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
7	12	0	0	0	0

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. From 1 July to 19 September 1973, MAG-15 S-1 continued to perform administrative functions concerning five squadrons and two detachments at Royal Thai Air Force Base, Nam Phong, Thailand.
2. From 19 September to 31 December 1973, MAG-15 S-1 was located at Marine Corps Air Station, Iwakuni, Japan and was busy converting administrative functions from a forward deployed operation to a garrison operation.

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Administrative control of VMA (AW)-533 was transferred to MAG-12 in August 1973.
2. MAG-15 S-1 returned to MCAS, Iwakuni, Japan from 1 September - 19 September 1973.
3. Major R. T. WARD relieved Captain B. E. WELCH as MAG-15 S-1 Officer on 10 September 1973.
4. Administrative control of VMCJ-1 was assumed on 10 October 1973.

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5. Sub-Unit 1, MABS-15 was deactivated and the RUC closed on 30 October 1973.

6. During November 1973 Motor Transport and Engineering personnel transferred from MABS-15, MAC-15 to WETS-17, MWSG-17 to establish the First Marine Aircraft Wing test of the centralized Motor Transport and Engineering concept.

PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

UNCLASSIFIED

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SECRET

S-3, Marine Aircraft Group-15

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 July 1973 to 31 December 1973

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S-3, MAG-15

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~~SECRET~~

Ref - Dec 73

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. <u>Desination</u> S-3, Marine Aircraft Group 15	<u>Commander</u> <u>LtCol R. PLANT</u> 1 July to 31 Dec 1973
2. <u>Geographical Location</u> Royal Thai AirForce Base Nam Phong, Thailand MCAS Iwakuni, Japan	<u>Period</u> 1 July to 12 September 1973 13 Sep to 31 December 1973
3. <u>Staff Officers</u> Assistant S-3 Officer	Capt E. EDELEN 1 July to 15 July 1973 Capt W.J. SIMPSON 16 July to 24 Sep 1973 Major J.W. SANDERS 25 Sep to 12 Nov 1973 Major P. KRUSE 13 Nov to 31 Dec 1973
NATOPS Officer	Capt PRIESTER 1 July to 27 September 1973 Capt T.J. SINGLETON 28 Sep to 31 Dec 1973
Training/NBC Defense Officer	Capt E. EDELEN 1 July to 15 July 1973 Capt W.J. SIMPSON 16 July to 31 Dec 1973
Aircrew training Officer	Capt F. PRIESTER 1 July to 11 Oct 1973 Capt T.A. TOTH 12 Oct to 31 Dec 1973
Mares/Forstat Officer	Capt D.W. THEUNE 1 July to 31 Dec 1973
Operations Admin Officer	Capt D.W. THEUNE 1 July to 31 Dec 1973

4. Average Monthly Strength (USMC)

<u>JULY</u>		<u>AUG</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>

ENCLOSURE (1)

SECRET**SECRET**

SECRET

SECRET

SEPT

OFF ENL
5 6

NOV

OFF ENL
8 6

OCT

OFF ENL
6 5

DEC

OFF ENL
7 6

ENCLOSURE (1)

UNCLASSIFIED

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PART II

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

A. BDA for period 1 July to 31 December 1973 (includes VMFA-115, VMFA-232 and VMA(AW)-533).

Killed by Air	418
Wounded by Air	28
Bunkers Destroyed/Damaged	345/14
Structures Destroyed/Damaged	134/62
Other Buildings	28/11
Fortified Positions	14/3
Fox Holes	18
Secondary Explosions	53
Secondary Fires	15
Supply Stacks	68
75MM Recoilless Rifles	1
82MM Mortars	2
M-79 Grenade Launchers	5
51 Caliber A/A Gun	2
30 Caliber Machine Gun	16
B-40 Rockets	1
AK-47 Rifles	4
Sustained Fires	51
Road/Trail Cuts	4
Sampans Destroyed	10
Bridge	1
Tank Dams	1
Automatic Weapons	3
Motorcycles	6
Other Small Arms	25
Results Not Observed	in excess of 100

B. Sorties/Hours
(includes VMFA-115, VMFA-232, VMA(AW)-533 and VMCG-1)

Total Hours Flown	8048.6
Total Sorties	4447
Combat Hours	1280.3
Combat Sorties	746

ENCLOSURE (1)

UNCLASSIFIED

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SECRETC. Ordnance Expenditures

<u>Ordnance</u>	<u>Tons Expended</u>
AIM-7/E 2	1.52
AIM-9	.29
MK-76	6.1
MK-77	7.0
MK-81	6.8
MK-82	2144.07
MK-106	.18
2.75 FFAR	12.7
ZUNI	15.55
MK-83	38.22
20MM APT	295 rounds
20MM TP	98 rounds

PART III

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

NONE

UNCLASSIFIED

ENCLOSURE (1)

STAFF CHRONOLOGY S-4

1 July to 31 December 1973

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- PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY
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- PART IV - SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

S-4 memo

File No.

ENCLOSURE (1)

PART 1

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

MAG-15 S-4

Maj. J. N. BIBLER
 1 July - 20 August 73
 Maj. F. J. SCHOBBER
 21 August - 30 September 73
 Maj. R. J. MCGAN
 1 October - 31 December 73

2. GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATIONPERIOD

RTAFB, NAI PHONG THAILAND

1 July - 11 September 73

MCAS Iwakuni JAPAN

12 September - 31 December 73

3. STAFF OFFICERS

S-4 Officer

Maj. J. N. BIBLER
 1 July - 20 August 73
 Maj. F. J. SCHOBBER
 21 August - 30 September 73
 Maj. R. J. MCGAN
 1 October - 31 December 73

S-4 Officer

1st Lt. F. S. LENTZ
 1 July - 1 October 73

S-4 Officer

Capt. R. HAYNES
 21 August - 21 December 73
 1st Lt. D. VANESSELSTYN
 1 November - 31 December 73
 Capt. J. RICHTER
 1 November - 31 December 73
 Capt. R. L. THACKER
 12 November - 31 December 73

Embark & Ground Safety Officer

Assist. S-4 Officer

Ground Safety & B & G Officer

Embark Officer

Assist. S-4 Officer

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTHJULY

<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>USMC</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
4		6

AUGUST

<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>USMC</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
4		6

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH (Cont.)SEPTEMBER

<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>USMC</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
4		6

OCTOBER

<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>USMC</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
3		5

NOVEMBER

<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>USMC</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
5		5

DECEMBER

<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>USMC</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
6		6

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

The MAC-15 S-4 was working in Nam Phong, Thailand during July and increased emphasis was placed on the construction of embarkation boxes and embarkation preparation. The first of two tropical warehouses was completed at LSG. Monsoon preparation work continued on the drainage with minimum road work commenced. A 250 kw MUSE generator was moved to increase the capabilities and better serve the Headquarters and Communications center.

The August maximum effort was placed on embark preparations and much of the construction effort and resources were directed toward embark boxes. Airlift Control Element (ALCE) affiliation training was conducted by members of the 603rd ALCE at Nam Phong for optimum retrograde readiness. During that period liason was conducted with 603rd ALCE covering all phases of the MAC move for the expected retrograde. At the direction of CG, 1st MAW, in preparation for Operation Sunset a maximum of non-essential equipment was retrograded. Advance and staging parties were positioned on 28-30 August in preparation for an execute order. The execute order for Operation Sunset was received on 30 Aug, R-day.

The air portion of Operation Sunset commenced on 3 September with MAC C-141 and C-5A aircraft. The MAC airlift concluded on 14 September after having moved 4.5 million pounds of cargo and 1371 passengers in 93 C-141 and 13 C-5A aircraft. On 16 September the PATMA C-130 airlift moved the first of 124,000 pounds of cargo and 274 passengers which was to involve 11 aircraft in 4 days. The surface portion of Operation Sunset started on 2 September with the first convoy of Thai contract trucking departing from Nam Phong. All surface cargo was trucked to Sattahip, Thailand between 2 and 21 September with the exception of 3 CH-46 helicopters which were ferried on 16 and 17 September. The 7 million pounds of surface cargo was then loaded on MSC shipping (the SS Seatrain Puerto Rico for Okinawa and the SS Green Forest for Iwakuni) between 18 and 23 September.

The "SS Green Forest" arrived at Iwakuni on 30 September 73 and unloading commenced on 1 Oct 73 lasting through 7 Oct 73. The unloading procedure was somewhat hampered by the need to barge all the equipment from the ship to the pier. Many vehicles and pieces of equipment were noted to have suffered damage and/or pilferage. Tons of cargo were off loaded and staged at the slipway area for customs inspection and further movement to the MAC-15 area for dispersal to proper storage. October was also the month which began a year long study on Motor transport

and heavy equipment. All motor transport and heavy equipment began transfer to H&MS-17 for incorporation into the WETS system.

In November the S-4 section was primarily involved with the reorganization of MAG-15 personnel, equipment and material. This reorganization was aimed towards a rapid return to a posture of readiness. Large amounts of equipment and material were moved from the port area into the 1st MAW and MAG-15 area where it was inventoried and either surveyed or prepared for future use.

The November emphasis on the reorganization of MAG-15 personnel, equipment and material continued into December. A great deal of progress was evidenced by the physical appearance of the MAG-15 area. S-4 embarkation activities included the return of VMFA-115 from NAHA, Okinawa to Iwakuni and, VMFA-232 was deployed from Iwakuni to Naha. In addition, WMCJ-1 deployed a Det. to Misawa and subsequently returned that Det, and their Det. from the U.S.S. Midway. There was a great deal of emphasis, during the month of December, on administrative preparation for the upcoming Wing A&M inspection.

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

2 JULY 1973	Completed the first tropical warehouse for LSG.
16-24 July 1973	ALCE affiliation training at Iwakuni for 8 persons.
20-25 July 1973	Preparations for MAG-15 CO's change of command.
22 July 1973	250 kw MUSE generator moved to power station 2
1-3 August 1973	ALCE affiliation training conducted at Nam Phong. Liaison with 603rd ALCE
28-30 August 1973	Advance parties and staging parties departed Nam Phong.
30 August 1973	Execution order for Operation Sunset.
2-21 September 1973	Convoys move surface cargo to DWP Sattahip.
3-14 September 1973	MAC airlift 93 C-141 and 13 C-5A aircraft moved 4.5 million pounds of cargo and 1371 pax.
16-17 September 1973	3 DH-46 helo's involed to Sattahip for surface shipment.
16-19 September 1973	SS Seatrain Puerto Rico loaded with Okinawa surface shipment sails.
19-23 September 1973	SS GreenForest loaded with Iwakuni surface shipment sails.
1-7 October 1973	Unloading of ship "SS Green Forest".
5 October 1973	Transfer of all motor transport and heavy equipment began to H&MS-17 for incorporation into the WETS system.

7 November 1973	First C-130 launched an VMFA 232 airlift from Cubi Pt. R.P. to MCAS Iwakuni.
15 November 1973	Final aircraft of VMFA 232 airlift element arrived at MCAS Iwakuni.
23 November 1973	LTCOL. N.A. SMITH relieved Maj. J. F. McNELLY as Commanding Officer of H&MS-15
29-30 November 1973	Visit of Maj Gen WILLIAM G. JOHNSON the deputy Commanding General Fleet Marine Force, Pacific.
4 December 1973	VMCJ-1 Det. airlifted from Iwakuni to Misawa, Japan.
6 December 1973	Visit of Maj. General M. P. RYAN, Commanding General Third Marine Amphibious Force.
11 December 1973	VMFA-115 advance party arrived in Iwakuni from Naha. VMFA-232 advance party departed from Iwakuni to Naha on return aircraft.
17 December 1973	First C-130 aircraft launched from Naha on VMFA-115 main body airlift to Iwakuni. VMFA-232 began main body to Iwakuni to Naha on return aircraft.
19 December 1973	Final C-130 aircraft of VMFA-115 airlift element arrived at Iwakuni and returned to Naha with final load of VMFA-232 airlift.
21 December 1973	VMCJ-1 Det. from U.S.S. Midway airlifted from Atsugi to Iwakuni, Japan.
23 December 1973	VMCJ-1 Missawa Det. airlifted back to Iwakuni.

PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. None.