

HEADQUARTERS
MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 36
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

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12 September 1968

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, First Marine Aircraft Wing (Attn: ACoFS G-3)

Subj: Command Chronology

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.1C

Encl: (1) MAG-36 Command Chronology August 1968
(2) H&MS-36 Command Chronology August 1968
(3) MABS-36 Command Chronology August 1968
(4) HMM-165 Command Chronology August 1968
(5) HMM-363 Command Chronology August 1968
(6) HMM-364 Command Chronology August 1968
(7) HML-367 Command Chronology August 1968
(8) HMM-462 Command Chronology August 1968

Filed
Ref

1. In accordance with the instructions contained in reference (a), enclosures (1) through (8) are submitted for the month of August 1968.

Bruce J. Matheson
BRUCE J. MATHESON

Copy to:

CG, 1st MAW (Copy 1 through 4)
CG, 1st MAW (Copy 5 less enclosures (2) through (8))
S-3 Files (Copy 6)
S&C Files (Copy 7 less enclosures (2) through (8))

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1st MAW SAC No.	Copy No.
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MAG-36 S&C Files	
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MAG-36

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PART I ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Commanders and Staff of MAG-36 and attached squadrons.

MAG-36

CO	1-31 August	Col	Bruce J. MATHESON
XO	1-31 August	LtCol	Herbert J. BIAHA
ADJ	1-31 August	Capt	Thomas R. PRESTON
S-1	1-30 August	Major	Joseph R. SALES
S-1	31 August	Major	Lawrence P. REIMAN
S-2	1-31 August	Capt	Victor J. DEMARIA
S-3	1-22 August	LtCol	Glenn R. HUNTER
S-3	23-31 August	LtCol	Elvyn E. HAGEDORN
S-4	1-31 August	Major	James R. PARSONS
GSO	1-31 August	Major	"D" "C" MICKY
SPL SER O	1-31 August	Capt	Wesley H. BIRT
FISCAL O	1-31 August	Capt	Sidney R. GALE
CHAPLAIN	1-3 August	Lt(USN)	William J. KLAPPS
CHAPLAIN	4-31 August	Lt(USN)	Earl E. KEELE
DISB O	1-31 August	1stLt	James R. RACHAL
FLT SUR	1-31 August	Lt(USN)	Richard F. ROMFH
MTO	1-31 August	1stLt	Billy B. LANE
EMB O	1-31 August	1stLt	Fred DAVIDSON
ORD O	1-31 August	1stLt	Benjamin J. STRICKLEY
AMO	1-31 August	Major	Donald A. IVES
CCMM O	1-31 August	Capt	Phillip R. MORRIS
CIV ACT O	1-31 August	Capt	Gordon W. SMITH
ASO	1-31 August	Major	James W. WARNER
NATOPS O	1-31 August	Capt	Robert C. MOORE
LEGAL O	1-31 August	Capt	Thomas R. PRESTON
SGT MAJ	1-31 August	SgtMaj	James R. SKINNER

H&MS-36

CO	1-22 August	LtCol	George L. PATRICK
CO	23-31 August	LtCol	Ralph THUESEN
XO	1-31 August	Capt	Robert W. WIEGAND

MABS-36

CO	1-31 August	LtCol	William D. WATSON
XO	1-31 August	Major	Edward J. CHESLA Jr.
PEO	1-31 August	Major	James L. LANGFORD
OIC MATCU-68	1-31 August	Capt	William C. JOINER

HMM-165

CO	1-22 August	LtCol	Elvyn E. HAGEDORN
CO	23-31 August	LtCol	George L. PATRICK
XO	1-31 August	Major	James E. PRATHER
OPS O	1-31 August	Major	Robert D. TAYLOR

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HMM-363

CO	1-22 August	LtCol	DuWayne W. HOFFERT
CO	23-31 August	Major	James L. HARRISON
XO	1-22 August	Major	James L. HARRISON
XO	23-31 August	Major	Timothy J. CROWIN
OPS O	1-31 August	Major	Thomas J. FALESKIE

HMM-364

CO	1-31 August	LtCol	Joseph R. DOBBRATZ
XO	1- 3 August	Major	Harold B. ROTH
XO	4-31 August	Major	Kenneth P. PALMER
OPS O	1-31 August	Major	David L. ELAM

HML-367

CO	1-22 August	LtCol	Robert KING Jr.
CO	23-31 August	LtCol	Richard L. ROBINSON
XO	1- 5 August	Major	Arthur A. DITTMER
XO	6-31 August	Major	Hans A. ZANDER
OPS O	1-31 August	Major	Fred L. GATZ

HMH-462

CO	22-31 August	LtCol	Ronald E. NELSON
XO	22-31 August	Major	Chester L. WHIPPLE
OPS O	22-31 August	Major	Billy J. KAHLER

2. Task organization and unit location.

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DATE</u>
MAC-36	Phu Bai	1-31 August
HMMS-36	Phu Bai	1-31 August
MABS-36	Phu Bai	1-31 August
MATCU-68	Phu Bai	1-31 August
HM-165	Phu Bai	1-31 August
HMM-363	Phu Bai	1-31 August
HMM-364	Phu Bai	1-31 August
HML-367	Phu Bai	1-31 August
HMH-462	Phu Bai	22-31 August

3. Average Monthly Strength.

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>MAR OFF</u>	<u>MAR ENL</u>	<u>NAV OFF</u>	<u>NAV ENL</u>
HMMS-36	55	475	0	0
MABS-36	15	493	3	24
MATCU-68	10	75	0	0
HM-165	48	157	1	0

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<u>UNIT</u>	<u>MAR OFF</u>	<u>MAR ENL</u>	<u>NAV OFF</u>	<u>NAV ENL</u>
HMM-363	50	183	1	2
HMM-364	44	159	1	1
HML-367	49	155	1	0
HMH-462	35	147	0	0
MAG-36				
TOTALS	306	1844	7	27

4. IMPORTANT VISITORS TO MAG-36

a. General Leonard F. CHAPMAN, Commandant of the Marine Corps, Lieutenant General Robert E. CUSHMAN Jr., CG, III MAF, Major General Charles J. QUILTER, CG, First MAF, and other members of the Commandant's party visited MAG-36 on 6 August 1968.

b. Major General Charles J. QUILTER, CG, First MAF, and Major General Paul J. FONTANA, Deputy CG, FMFPac, visited MAG-36 the morning of 22 August 1968. Major General QUILTER returned in the afternoon and was present for the changes of command of H&MS-36, HML-367, HMM-363 and HMM-165. During the ceremony he presented awards to MAG-36 personnel.

c. The following officers of the First Marine Aircraft Wing visited MAG-36 while on orientation tours. Informal briefings were presented by principal Group Staff Officers.

Colonel Virgil D. OLSON
Colonel Richard S. RASH
Colonel Carl E. SCHMIDT
Colonel Stanley H. CARPENTER

PART II NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. During the reporting period MAG-36 provided support to:

- a. III MAF
- b. I Corps Republic of Vietnam Forces
- c. U. S. Army

2. Missions flown by MAG-36 included strikes, medical evacuations, reconnaissance insertions and extractions, troop and logistic movements, search and rescue, aerial reconnaissance, aircraft escort, administrative, courier, and VIP flights.

3. MAG-36 supported the following operations:

HOUSTON	DODGE VALLEY	BUFFALO
SCOTLAND II	DRAGON PALACE III	NAPOLEON/SALINE
LANCASTER II	MAMALUKE THRUST	NEVADA EAGLE
KENTUCKY	ALLEN BROOK	

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OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- a. An average of 16 aircraft per day were used to augment PMAG-39 and MAG-16.
- b. MAG-36 maintained an airborne mortar watch over the Phu Bai vital area during the hours of darkness.
- c. HMH-462 joined MAG-36 this month, and is the first heavy helicopter squadron in the Group.
- d. The MAG-36 area came under rocket attack on 23 August resulting in minor damage to eleven (11) aircraft and three (3) minor casualties.

PART III SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. AIR OPERATIONS

- a. MAG-36 accomplished the following during the month of August:

(1) Flight Hours	5708.1
(2) Sorties	15,865
(3) Passengers Carried	17,184
(4) Tons of Cargo Carried	1089.5
(5) Medical Evacuees Carried	1241

- b. Major aircraft losses were:

<u>CAUSE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>TYPE AIRCRAFT</u>
Direct Enemy Action	2	UH-34
Operational	2	UH-1E

2. INTELLIGENCE

- a. Continued three weekly briefs for the Commanding Officer and his staff. Daily briefs held for Squadron S-2's.

b. On the evening of 23 August the Phu Bai Combat Base received 9 rounds of 122 mm rocket fire. Three of these rounds impacted in the MAG-36 area resulting in minor damages and three casualties. Suspected launching area was to the southwest. An Army operation was initiated as a result of the attack and it uncovered several caches of various arms and munitions.

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c. Enemy activity increased along Route #1 to the south of Phu Bai with the primary areas of enemy attention being the Troui River bridge and the Hai Van Pass. Indications of enemy initiation of the reported III Offensive were apparent in this area. Attacks were centered on our lines of communication with Danang and CAC units.

d. An orientation briefing was held for HMH-462.

e. Fire incidents to hours flown - 1 x 31 hours
 Hit incidents to hours flown - 1 x 228.3 hours
 Hits to total hit incidents - 2.24 hits per acft
 Hit incidents to fire incidents - 1 x 7.28 (14%)

f. Intense Activity Grid Squares

AT 9094 - 4 incidents, 1 hit	YD 1172 - 5 incidents, 2 hits
AT 8952 - 3 incidents, 2 hits	YD 0264 - 3 incidents, 1 hit
AT 8951 - 3 incidents, 2 hits	ZC 0096 - 4 incidents, 1 hit
XD 9154 - 4 incidents, 2 hits	YC 9899 - 5 incidents, 1 hit

g. Total fire incidents - 182
 Aircraft hit - 25
 Holes - 56
 Crew KIA - None
 Crew WIA - 6
 Forced to land - 4
 Recovered - 3
 Destroyed - 1
 Killed by Air (Confirmed) - None

3. LOGISTICS

a. Aviation fuel presented no problems this month. The peak day for fuel was 14 August 1968, when 37,178 gallons of 115/145 and 14,930 gallons of JP-4 were issued for a total of 52,108 gallons. Fuel issued during the month was 116,431 gallons of 115/145 and 382,901 gallons of JP-4 for a total of 499,332 gallons.

b. The rocket attack of 23 August 1968 damaged eleven (11) aircraft, all of which have been repaired. Limited damage to the parking apron has also been repaired.

c. Nine (9) 150-200 KW generators have arrived from Wing and are being installed.

d. The following items were processed for repair or transferred by the MAG-36 maintenance section:

(1) 89 engines received for processing/repair.

(2) 1 transmission received for processing/repair.

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- (3) 13 rotor heads received for processing/repair.
- (4) 68 tail rotor assemblies for processing/repair.
- (5) 2 aircraft transferred.
- (6) 0 aircraft received.
- (7) 4 aircraft received for battle damage repair.
- (8) 2 aircraft repairs completed.

c. Base Development. The month of August saw limited improvement in the MAG-36 area due to the loss of Seabee labor. Matting of the western parking area has been delayed and the new completion date is now 15 November 1968. Erection of Armco revetments did not begin and is now scheduled to start early in October. The water distribution system is approximately 25% complete. Completion is expected by 10 October 1968. The Jet Engine Shop is complete. The box culvert is 85% complete and expected completion date is 8 September 1968. Construction of the Officer's Club has ceased and is not expected to start again until 1 October 1968. Drainage in the Tactical Air Crew Quarters area remains critical. Lack of Seabee heavy equipment and labor support are the prime reasons. At present at least a 30 day delay is expected before work on this problem will resume.

4. ADMINISTRATION

a. HMH-462 reported aboard for duty with MAG-36 on 22 August. The squadron, commanded by LtCol R. E. NELSON, consists of 10 CH-53 Sea Stallion aircraft, 30 Naval Aviators, 5 Aviation Ground Officers and 147 enlisted men.

b. The MAG-36 aviator population was on a steady decline throughout August because of normal attrition. The same tendency was present in the enlisted ranks.

c. Civic Action conducted one Med Cap at Phu Bai IV and one at Thuy Phu with 50 persons being treated. HML-367 sponsored orphanage at Thuy Phu Village was the recipient of 100 man-days labor.

d. Casualties for August were as follows:

	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>
Hostile (USMC)	2	7
Non-Hostile (USMC)	2	14
Hostile (USN)	0	0
Non-Hostile (USN)	0	1
MIA	0	0
KIA	0	0
Serious Injuries	0	0
Killed Non-Hostile	0	1
Totals	4	23

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CHAPLAIN SERVICES

a. The assigned Chaplains conducted Divine Services for personnel of the Protestant and Catholic faiths. Chaplain Earl E. KEELE, Lt, CHC, USNR reported aboard on 4 August 1968. Chaplain SULLIVAN, Lt, CHC, USNR of the 1st Med Bn. conducted a joint service at 1030 on 4 August 1968. Chaplains HARVEY and PAYNE of the 63rd Signal Corps, USA, conducted Divine Services on 18 August and 25 August respectively, due to Chaplain KEELE's R&R in Hawaii.

b. The Chaplains, insofar as possible, interview each new man reporting aboard. The Catholic Chaplain writes a brief letter to the next of kin of the new men of the Catholic Faith. The letter covers safe arrival, favorable messing and living conditions, church services that are available and encourages the next of kin to write frequently to the serviceman.

c. The Catholic Chaplain conducts Catholic services for several CAP units on a regular basis each week, as well as weekly Divine Services at MAG-39.

DIVINE SERVICES MAG-36

	Number of Services		Attendance		Total	
	Sunday	Week Day	Sunday	Week Day	Attendance	Services
Protestant	8	0	275	0	275	8
Catholic	8	28	469	340	809	36

DIVINE SERVICES FOR OTHER UNITS

Protestant	None					None
Catholic	8	30	163	384	547	38
Bible Study						
Protestant		8		20	20	8

INDOCTRINATION LECTURES

Number	Attendance
5	128

MEMORIAL SERVICES

1 (Joint Catholic-Protestant)	68
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d. In addition to their primary duties, the Chaplains of MAG-36 contributed time to maintain contact with their Vietnamese counterparts. Also contributed were resources provided by their respective Chapel Funds as well as those provided by individuals and organizations in the U.S. These are listed below.

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(1) HML-367 came to the Chaplains' office to inquire about helping the Vietnamese in some way. They were directed to the school and orphanage located behind the Phu Loung village and this squadron is providing school and recreation needs.

(2) Other Assistance:

(a) Protestant - 11,800 piasters to the Tin Lanh Church, Phu Loung.

(b) Catholic - 25 lbs. clothing to American Sisters of Hue.

e. In response to the interest of the Protestant congregation, the Protestant Chaplain was invited to the Tin Lanh Church for a feast on 28 August 1968. Calls were exchanged by the Protestant Chaplain and the pastor of Tin Lanh Church.

6. SPECIAL SERVICES

a. The Fast Pitch Softball season ended 11 August with MABS-36 winning the championship. Practices for the MAG-36 All Star Team were conducted prior to the team's leaving to participate in the Wing Tournament commencing 26 August. MAG-36 placed third in the Wing standings.

b. A total of fifteen parties were held during the month of August. The pond, softball diamond and Special Services hut were utilized for these parties.

c. The photo lab was completed and is operational. Full operation is pending the arrival of supplies. General knowledge of processing black and white film will be taught to interested personnel. This is an opportunity for those interested to develop their own film and prints.

d. In preparation for the monsoon season, all movies are being moved indoors. At present the Enlisted Club, Sergeant's Club and the Staff Club are showing movies at 1730 every evening. Movies will continue to be shown out-of-doors as long as good weather prevails.

e. The KING'S CROSS REVIEW featuring the Austraillettes, backed by the Wallaby Trio Combo, entertained MAG-36 personnel for two hours on 29 August.

f. The skeet range high house was destroyed by fire on 18 August. Crash Crew was summoned to extinguish the blaze. Damages and losses amounted to \$988.00. Reconstruction of the high house for the skeet range started on 30 August.

g. On 8 August a pool tournament was started. This event ended 12 August with LCpl LOMAX winning first prize and LCpl MORAN coming in second.

h. The Wing Band participated in the Change of Command ceremonies held 22 August. It also held a Mess Hall concert on the same date.

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