

HEADQUARTERS
Marine Aircraft Group 36
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
FPO San Francisco, 96602

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10 May 1969

██████████ Unclassified upon removal of enclosures (1) through (8)

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding General, First Marine Aircraft Wing (Attn: G-3)
Subj: Command Chronology (U)
Ref: (a) WgO 5750.10

Encl: (1) MAG-36 Command Chronology April 1969
(2) H3MS-36 Command Chronology April 1969
(3) MAB3-36 Command Chronology April 1969
(4) HMM-164 Command Chronology April 1969
(5) HMM-265 Command Chronology April 1969
(6) HMM-362 Command Chronology April 1969
(7) HMM-367 Command Chronology April 1969
(8) HMM-462 Command Chronology April 1969

Filed
Dep

1. In accordance with the instructions contained in reference (a), enclosures (1) through (8) are submitted for the month of April 1969.

Bruce J. Matheson
BRUCE J. MATHESON

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1st MAW SBC No.	Copy No.
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DOWN GRADE AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
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DOD DIR 5200.10

MAG-36

COMP CHRON

APR 1969

PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Commander and Staff of MAG-36 and attached Squadrons

MAG-36

CO	1 - 30 April	COL	BRUCE J. MATHESON
XO	1 - 30 April	LTCOL	HERBERT J. BLAHA
ADJ	1 - 30 April	CAPT	THOMAS R. PRESTON
S-1	1 - 30 April	MAJ	FRED E. LACEY
S-2	1 - 30 April	1STLT	GUY R. HANSEN
S-3	1 - 30 April	LTCOL	MERLIN V. STATZER
S-4	1 - 30 April	MAJ	KENNETH P. PALMER
GSO	1 - 30 April	LTCOL	OLIVER R. BARRITT
Spl ServO	1 - 30 April	CAPT	RAYMOND C. PARKER
FiscalO	1 - 30 April	CAPT	THOMAS W. LONGSWORTH
Chaplain	1 - 30 April	LCDR	BASIL H. STRUTHERS
DisbO	1 - 30 April	CAPT	JACK S. WESTBROOK
Flt Sur	1 - 30 April	LCDR	DAVID D. PARKER
MTO	1 - 30 April	1STLT	RICHARD H. DITTMAN
EnbO	1 - 30 April	CWO-2	JOSEPH J. KOCINSKI
OrdO	1 - 30 April	CWO-2	RAYMOND F. GOLON
AMO	1 - 30 April	MAJ	CHARLES A. CAREY
CommO	1 - 30 April	CAPT	LUIS A. JUAREZ
Civ ActO	1 - 30 April	1STLT	THEODORE C. ROBINSON III
ASO	1 - 30 April	MAJ	JAMES D. STRICKLAND
NATOPS	1 - 30 April	CAPT	DAVID E. COX
LegalO	1 - 30 April	CAPT	THOMAS R. PRESTON
SgtMaj	1 - 30 April	SGTMAJ	JAMES R. SKINNER

HMS-36

CO	1 - 30 April	LTCOL	JAMES B. BELL
XO	1 - 30 April	MAJ	CHESTER L. WHIPPLE
OpsO	1 - 20 April	MAJ	EDWIN W. LOCKARD
OpsO	21 - 30 April	MAJ	JOHN C. ELY

MABS-36

CO	1 - 30 April	LTCOL	RONDELL K. WOOD
XO	1 - 30 April	MAJ	WILLIAM J. STRINER
AirField	1 - 30 April	LTCOL	EUGENE H. WINCHESTER
OpsO			

MATCU-68

OIC	1 - 30 April	CAPT	WILLIAM E. McCOLLUM
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ENCLOSURE (1)

* HMM-164

CO	18 - 30 April	LTCOL	RICHARD T. TRUNDY
XO	18 - 30 April	MAJ	ALBERT F. RIBBECK
OpsO	18 - 30 April	MAJ	ROBERT D. FOWNER

HMM-265

CO	1 - 30 April	LTCOL	RALPH THUESEN
XO	1 - 14 April	MAJ	GEORGE L. SHIFFLER
XO	15 - 30 April	LTCOL	ROBERT L. GRAY Jr.
OpsO	1 - 30 April	MAJ	JOHN L. MACFARLANE

** HMM-362

CO	1 - 16 April	LTCOL	JACK E. SCHLARP
XO	1 - 16 April	MAJ	BILLY G. WILKISON
OpsO	1 - 16 April	MAJ	GEORGE E. PRATT

HML-367

CO	1 - 30 April	LTCOL	BOBBY R. WILKINSON
XO	1 - 30 April	MAJ	HOWARD D. GRESS
OpsO	1 - 22 April	MAJ	CLARENCE L. DAVIS
OpsO	23 - 30 April	MAJ	THOMAS B. HILL

HMH-462

CO	1 - 30 April	LTCOL	RONALD E. NELSON
XO	1 - 14 April	LTCOL	ROBERT L. GRAY Jr.
XO	15 - 30 April	MAJ	JACK MAXWELL
OpsO	1 - 14 April	MAJ	JACK MAXWELL
OpsO	15 - 30 April	MAJ	JOHN A. HELLRETEL

* HMM-164 (SLF Bravo) reported OPCON MAG-36 on 18 April 1969. ADCON remained with 9th MAB.

** HMM-362 (SLF Alpha) Backloaded to the USS Okinawa on 16 April 1969.

2. Task organization and unit location

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DATE</u>
MAG-36	PHU BAI	1 - 30 April
HQMS-36	PHU BAI	1 - 30 April
MABS-36	PHU BAI	1 - 30 April
MATEU-68	PHU BAI	1 - 30 April
HMM-164	PHU BAI	18 - 30 April
HMM-265	PHU BAI	1 - 30 April
HMM-362	PHU BAI	1 - 16 April
HML-367	PHU BAI	1 - 30 April
HMH-462	PHU BAI	1 - 30 April

3. Average monthly strength (Organic Squadrons Only)

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>MAR OFF</u>	<u>MAR ENL</u>	<u>NAV OFF</u>	<u>NAV ENL</u>
H&MS-36	65	435	0	0
MABS-36	17	525	3	19
MATEU-68	10	68	0	0
HMM-265	49	186	1	0
HML-367	45	152	1	0
HMH-462	37	158	1	0
TOTALS	<u>223</u>	<u>1524</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>19</u>

4. Important Visitors to MAG-36

a. 2 April: LtCol S. J. KITTLER, 1st MAF G-3 Plans Officer and other members of the FMAW staff paid a staff visit to MAG-36 S-3 in preparation for the FMFPAC Inspection.

b. 9 April: Col L. C. SHEPHERD III, FMFPAC Force Inspector, with inspection team. They gave MAG-36 a comprehensive inspection of Material Maintenance Programs.

c. 24 April: RearAdm F. D. NORRIS, Acting Inspector General for Medical; Bureau of Medicine and Surgery and RearAdm M. D. TURNER, Inspector General for Dental, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery toured the existing MAG-36 Dental and Medical facility and viewed the new facility which will be operational in the near future.

d. 26 April: LtGen H. W. BUSE Jr, CG FMFPAC; LtGen H. NICKERSON Jr, CG III MAF; Maj Gen C. J. QUILTER, CG 1st MAF; BGen L. W. WILSON, G of S FMFPAC; Col H. PRESTON, G-4, Operations FMFPAC; Col. W. E. DEEDS, G-3, Asst Plans Officer, FMFPAC; Maj K. D. JORDAN, Aide-de-Camp; and Sgt Maj R. E. MCENTIRE, Force Sgt Maj, visited and toured the MAG-36 area. LtGen BUSE presented two Distinguished Flying Crosses, two Purple Heart Medals and one Navy/Marine Corps medal to MAG-36 Marines.

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

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

- a. III MAF
- b. U. S. Army
- c. Republic of Vietnam Forces
- d. Republic of Korea Marine Corps

2. Missions flown by MAG-36 included medical evacuations, reconnaissance insertions/extractions, aircraft escort, tactical aircraft recovery, administrative courier and VIP flights.

3. MAG-36 supported the following operations:

Prairie Fire
Purple Martin
Maine Crag
Oklahoma Hills
Ellis Ravine
Victory Dragon X

4. Operational Highlights

a. During the month of April, MAG-36 provided a daily average of eight CH-46A, four CH-53A, one UH-34D and three UH-1E aircraft to augment PMAG-39, in support of the 3rd Marine Division. In addition, two UH-1E aircraft were provided in support of "Prairie Fire". Also, on thirteen different occasions, a section of UH-1E and a section of CH-46A aircraft were provided to augment MAG-16 in support of ROK Marines. Also, from 4 to 10 UH-34D aircraft augmented MAG-16 daily between 1 and 14 April.

b. On 2 April, an Air Vietnam DC-6 crashed on landing at Hue/Phu Bai airport. The aircraft received strike damage resulting in minor injuries to two of its civilian passengers.

c. On 3 April, a UH-34D aircraft from HMM-362 crashed ½ mile north-east of Phu Bai after two unsuccessful GCA approaches to the Phu Bai airstrip. The aircraft received substantial damage with no injuries to the crew.

d. On 9 April, a CH-53A aircraft from HMM-462 crashed at Vandegrift LSA while attempting an external pick up. The resulting fire completely destroyed the aircraft as well as the LSA. Three crewmen received major injuries and were evacuated. The fourth crewman received minor injuries. Two ground personnel at Vandegrift received minor injuries and one person received major injuries due to the crash. The following day, additional injuries, including one fatality, were received by ground personnel as ammunition in the LSA continued to explode.

e. On 22 April, a truck from MABS-36 went out of control and ran off of highway QL-1 between DaNang and Phu Bai. The truck overturned and the driver received fatal injuries.

ENCLOSURE (1)

PART III

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. Air Operations

a. MAG-36 accomplished the following during the month of April.

(1) Flight Hours	5006.1
(2) Sorties	15,649
(3) Passengers Carried	18,369
(4) Tons of Cargo Carried	5480.4
(5) Medical Evacuees Carried	2651

2. Intelligence

a. Enemy Action

(1) There were no incoming mortars or rockets received in the MAG-36 area. However, on 26 April at approximately 2205H, seven 122 MM rockets impacted on the XXIV Corps side of the Phu Bai Combat Base. There were two minor casualties and minor damage to 2 helo pads in the U. S. Army's 22nd Surgical Hospital area.

(2) During the month, enemy activity decreased and only a few minor squad size or smaller contacts were made, none of which involved the Phu Bai Combat Base. There is no apparent threat of a large scale enemy offensive at this time, however the enemy still maintains the ability to harass with mortars and rockets.

b. Intensity of fire received by grid zones.

AT - 6 FI/O hit	YD - 20 FI/O hit
BT - 10 FI/C hit	XD - 22 FI/O hit
YC - 2 FI/O hit	2 FI in classified grid zone

c. Incident Statistics

Fire incidents - 62 (Total)

Aircraft hit - 0

Fire incidents to hours flown - 1 x 80.7 hrs

Hit incidents to hours flown - no hits

d. Aircraft Statistics

Forced to land 4

Recovered 4

Destroyed 0

e. Enemy killed by Air (KBA)

KBA (Confirmed) 7

KBA (Probable) 71

3. Logistics

a. The Tactical Airfield Fuel Dispensing System (TAFDS) performed smoothly again this month. Total fuel dispensed for the month was 112,466 gallons of 115/145 AvGas and 596,229 gallons of JP-4. The eastern TAFDS refueling stations were inoperative from 2 April through 5 May, as a result of damage caused by a civilian DC-6 crash which destroyed \$1690.00 worth of TAFDS equipment.

b. Principal H&MS-36 Maintenance Section activities during the month were:

(1) Processed or repaired

(a) 59 engines

(b) 11 transmissions/gear boxes

(c) 18 rotor heads

(d) 24 tail rotors

(e) 132 miscellaneous dynamic components

(2) Aircraft received ----- 1

(3) Aircraft transferred ----- 0

(4) Aircraft enroute to overhaul ----- 1

(5) Aircraft received for battle damage repair --- 4

(6) Aircraft received for IMA work ----- 8

(7) Aircraft completed repair and rework ----- 12

c. Base Development

(1) Due to the recent austerity program and the extreme shortage of plywood, all non-operationally urgent projects have been delayed. Relief from current restrictions is expected in late July or August.

(2) The MAG-36 Commanding Officer's Quarters were completed and accepted on 21 April 1969.

(3) Delay was experienced in the construction of the Dispensary and Dental facility due to the non-availability of lead for the X-ray room, a master electrical control panel and the exhaust system for the operating room. All now have been received and completion is expected in mid-May. A generator to supply electrical power has been requested by NSAD Phu Bai from NSA DaNang.

(4) Construction of a handball court by a Vietnamese contractor was started on 20 April. Completion is expected in late May.

(5) The ceiling in the EM Club is being lowered to allow air conditioning of the club. Completion is expected in mid-May.

(6) Work on the rematting of the SLF area by MCB 121 has progressed slowly. A completion date of late May has been given.

(7) Work on the Ready Ammo Storage Area has not progressed. One to two months work remains to be done, with an estimated time of completion of mid-June.

(8) The temporary Aircraft Wash Facility was completed on 14 April.

(9) Erection of a second perimeter defense watch tower was completed in the second platoon area. Work on a building for the top should be completed in late May.

(10) Additions to the IRO building which included a storage area and a room for searching female indigenous personnel were completed on 27 April.

(11) A generator shed for the HMM-265/Chapel area was completed on 25 April.

(12) The Library was completed and officially opened on 12 April.

(13) The MAG-36 Amphitheater officially opened on 23 April.

(14) Oiling of the roads by MCB 40 on a regular basis has done much to alleviate the dust problem in the MAG-36 cantonment.

ENCLOSURE (1)

4. Administration

a. Officer and enlisted strength remained fairly constant throughout the month of April.

b. The Provisional Rifle Company, experienced a build-up of permanent personnel during April with 31 Marines in occupational field 03 reporting for duty. This allowed a like number of aviation personnel to be returned to their aviation billets, enhancing the ability of MAG-36 to perform its primary mission.

c. The Civic Action section continued progress on the cement wash platform and dock, the dispensary addition and the irrigation well near Thuy Phu Village.

d. The MAG-36 Civic Action section brought seventy Vietnamese children to the staff club for a movie, punch and cookies. This program will be repeated monthly.

e. The MAG-36 Mess Hall provided 2000 pounds of food for distribution to the area orphanages through coordination with the Catholic Relief Society.

f. MAG-36 medical personnel treated 124 patients at the Thuy Phu dispensary and a weekly training session with the GVN medical worker was instituted.

g. The first issue of the MAG-36 Civic Action/Personal Response monthly newsletter was published and distributed.

h. Casualties for April included:

	<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
Hospitalizing injuries, non-hostile USMC	2	31
Hospitalizing injuries, non-hostile USN	0	1
WIA	0	2
KIA	0	0
MIA	0	0
*Killed, non-hostile USMC	0	1
Killed, non-hostil USN	0	0

*MAG-36 truck driver killed in convoy accident on 22 April.

i. Weekly visits to hospitalized Marines at 22nd Surgical Hospital, Phu Bai, and the 85th Evacuation Hospital, Phu Bai, were made by senior officers of the Group.

5. Inspections

a. The MAG-36, Operations, Safety, Training, MATOPS and NDC sections received a staff visit from LtCol S. J. KITTLER and his team from 1st MAW in preparation for the FMFPac Material Maintenance Programs inspection.

b. On 9 and 10 April, FMFPac inspection team of 54 members conducted an inspection of MAG-36 and its attached squadrons. Primary emphasis of the inspection was on material maintenance programs.

6. Off-Duty Education. MAG-36 Off-Duty Education Program expanded during the month of April.

a. Review Mathematics and review English, which are high school GED test preparatory courses, had 12 and 14 students enrolled, respectively.

b. A USAFI Basic Electronics Course has 13 students enrolled.

c. MAG-36 has 4 students enrolled in Economics 31 and 4 enrolled in Russian 1 which are college courses conducted under the auspices of the University of Maryland (Far East) and offered at the XXIV Corps area of the Phu Bai Combat Base.

7. Chaplain's Services

a. During the month of April, the assigned Chaplains conducted Divine Services for personnel of the Protestant and Catholic faiths. Divine Services were available for Latter Day Saint personnel at the 26th General Support Group Chapel and for Jewish personnel at XXIV Corps Chapel.

b. The Catholic Chaplain conducted Divine Services for PMAG-39 and MCB-40 each Sunday of the month and for MCB-40 each Wednesday evening. The Catholic Chaplain also conducted masses for CAG units during the month. Hospital visits were made to MAG-36 personnel at the 85th Evacuation Hospital.

c. A total of 60 services were conducted aboard the MAG-36 compound with 1246 personnel attending. Off-base services totaled 29 with 578 in attendance. There were also six religious film showings with a total attendance of 251.

d. Two memorial services were conducted: One for a Marine from 3rd CAG and one for a Marine from MABS-36. A total of 175 men attended.

e. In addition to their primary duties, the MAG-36 Chaplains maintained contact with their Vietnamese counterparts. Visits were made and assistance given to the American Nuns, Christian Brothers and Catholic Orphanage in Hue; and the Tin Lanh Church Schools and Orphanages in Phu Luong and Hue. Chaplain Civic Action gifts for the month consisted of 16 cases of food, 5 boxes of other foodstuffs, 2 boxes of school supplies, 5 boxes of clothing, 4 cases of soap, 1 box of toys, 500 packets of vegetable seeds, 1 case of water purification tablets, 2 pigs from HMM-265, a variety of Catholic vestments and altar gear, and cash donations of \$420.00. Arrangements were made for 10 men from MABS-36 to assist in painting at Kim Loung Orphanage for two days.

f. The Chaplains arranged for three tours of Hue during the month with a total of 52 men participating.

ENCLOSURE (1)

3. Special Services

a. The following noteworthy special events were conducted during April 1969.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENTS</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
1,3,8,9,10 April 1969	Recreational Fishing Trips to DaNang	Attended by personnel from all squadrons.
13 April 1969	Billy Graham Movie "The Restless Ones"	Shown at seven locations on base.
3-7 April 1969	DaNang Sports Festival	MSgt. G. StClair partici- pated as an official.
8,11,14,17,20, 24,27 April 1969	Shoot Range	Total of 107 shooters utilized range.
11,17,19 April 1969	Special Services Bands	Performed at Sgt's Club and Staff MCO Club
12 April 1969	MAG-36 Library	Officially opened by CO, MAG-36.
20 April 1969	Robin & She Show	Performed at "E" Club.
20 April 1969	1969 Softball Season Opened	Teams Entered: MSGD-Public Works MRE-36 Group Staff MIL-367 MIL-265 MAG-36 Supply "B" Company 5th Trans MABS-36 173rd Pet Co MRE-36 Maintenance MAG-36 Radio Section MRE-462 MRE-36 Avionics 220th Recon Air 571st Med DET Rifle Company "L" Co, Marine Support Battalion
23 April 1969	The Day Trippers Show	Performed at MAG-36 Amphitheater

b. Construction projects and status of each is reflected below:

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
Library	Officially opened 12 April 1969. Construction complete.
Amphitheater	Dressing rooms completed, temporary lighting installed, project nearly complete, all materials now on hand.
Hobbyshop	Remainder of cement deck poured and ready for construction of extension of present building.
Band Room	Conversion of former office space now sound proofed and converted for utilization as a band room.
Newsletters	One published during month.
Special Services Booklet	A booklet published outlining all facilities and programs currently functional at MAG-36 Special Services.
Handball Court	Construction began 22 April 1969.
Tennis Court	Light poles on site, construction to begin soon by Public Works.
Fifty Mile Club	Fifty five persons currently enrolled. Five persons have completed the fifty mile run.
Sqdn/Unit Picnics	Total of twenty held during month.
Tai Kwon Do Lessons	On 21 April 1969 ROK 1stLt Kim OUNG began instruction in the self-defense art of Tai Kwon Do to 43 students from MAG-36. Classes run daily from 2000 to 2100 on the basketball court. Lt OUNG is attached to MACV Team #5, Phu Bai.

9. Communications

a. The Communications Center processed 6,112 incoming messages and 2,640 outgoing for a total of 8,752.

b. The Radio Section installed an FM antenna on a telephone pole adjacent to the Communications bunker for use on the Wing Tactical Net #2. The Radio Section also installed an RT-524 Radio Transmitter in an AN/MRC-109 Radio vehicle placing it on operational status.

ENCLOSURE (1)

c. The Wire Section installed three 25 pair cables off of a 100 pair cable located in the 3M area. One cable was routed to the Navy Supply area and the other two were routed to the IMA hanger and HML-367 areas. In addition it rewired all three areas and put in new terminal strips thereby eliminating the power hum on the cables servicing these areas. It completed the installation of a new 50 pair cable from the 15th Aerial Port to the Tower and replaced the old switchboard inside the Tower. Additionally, the section completed the installation of 1200 feet of 50 pair cable from the main frame to the alternate Command Post located at the Rifle Company. It installed a new telephone frame complex in the main Communication bunker which will enhance flexibility and facilitate future expansion of the present wire network.

d. The Radio Repair section installed two AN/VRC-77 radios in Crash Crew vehicles. One radio was installed in a tracked vehicle and the other in the Crash Crew Officer's vehicle.

10. Base Defense

a. Capt D. J. STRAW assumed command of MAG-36 Provisional Rifle Company from Capt M. R. MASSIE on 11 April 1969. Capt MASSIE was Med Evac'd.

b. During April the company joined two officers and thirty enlisted, while transferring, two officers and one enlisted. All newly joined personnel conducted familiarization firing of organic company weapons (M-16, M-79, M-60) at Dong Da National Training Center range.

c. There were no fire incidents during the month of April in the MAG-36 area and unusual activity outside the perimeter was minimal. Day and night patrols saturated the area with no enemy contact or sightings.

d. Ground operations included ninety-five hours of night patrols, twenty-five hours of day patrols and two hundred-fifty hours of work improving the perimeter defense positions.

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