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MARINE ALL WEATHER ATTACK SQUADRON 533

Marine Aircraft Group 12
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing
 Fleet Marine Force Pacific
 FPO San Francisco, 96602

3:PAS:rb
 5750
 03A00774
 7 January 1974

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CONFIDENTIAL - Unclassified upon the removal of enclosure (1)

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 12 (Historical Officer)

Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1 July - 31 December 1973

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
 (b) FMFPACO 5750.8
 (c) WgO 5750.1
 (d) GruO 5750.1
 (e) Commanding Officer VMA(AW)-533 ltr 3:RMD:jlo 003A03257 of
 14 September 1973

Encl: (1) VMA(AW)-533 Command Chronology for the period 31 August 1973 -
 to 31 December 1973

1. In accordance with references (a) through (d), enclosure (1) is
 submitted.

2. Reference (e) detailed VMA(AW)-533's Command Chronology for the
 period 1 July - 30 August 1973.

C. L. ZANGAS

**VMA AW 533
 S&C FILE
 NO 73-0417
 COPY / OF 7**

MAG-12 CMCC	
CONTROL #	COPY #
040-74	1 of 6
CHANGE #	

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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5750
7 January 1974PART IOrganizational Data1. Designation

Marine All Weather Attack Squadron-533

COMMANDERMajor R. E. MERRIHEW
31 August 1973 to 22 December 1973
Lieutenant Colonel C. L. ZANGAS
23 December 1973 to 31 December 1972. Location31 August 1973 to 27 December 1973:
28 December 1973 to 31 December 1973:MCAS, Iwakuni, Japan
N.S., Cubi Pt. Philippines3. Staff Officers

Executive Officer

Major T. W. KRIMMINGER
31 August 1973 to 31 December 1973

S-1 Officer

Captain J. O. CHRISTIANSEN
31 August 1973 to 31 December 1973

S-2 Officer

1st Lieutenant S. B. CASEY
31 August 1973 to 31 December 1973

S-3 Officer

Captain R. M. D'AMURA
31 August 1973 to 8 October 1973
Major B. J. NEWSOM
9 October 1973 to 30 November 1973
Captain W. E. BARTELS
1 December 1973 to 31 December 1973

S-4 Officer

Captain J. E. SCHOLLE
31 August 1973 to 22 December 1973
Captain C. E. RAMSEY
23 December 1973 to 31 December 197CLASSIFIED BY MCN 5750.2 SUBJECT
TO QDS E. O. 11652 DOWNGRADED AT
2 YEAR INTERVALS DECLASSIFIED
31 DECEMBER 1980ENCLOSURE (1)
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Aviation Safety Officer

Captain B. N. CAVINESS
 31 August 1973 to 30 September 1973
 Captain S. M. DAY
 1 October 1973 to 30 November 1973
 Captain A. M. LLOYD
 1 December 1973 to 31 December 1973

b. Average Monthly Strength

<u>USMC</u>	<u>USN</u>	<u>OTHER</u>	
<u>Off.</u>	<u>Enl.</u>	<u>Off.</u>	<u>Enl.</u>
34	222	-	-

PART IINarrative Summary

1. 31 August 1973 found VMA(AW)-533 in the process of retrograding from RTAFB, Nam Phong, Thailand. The squadron had been deployed from its parent organization in Japan since 21 June 1972. The retrograde movement, transfer of the squadron from MAG 15 to MAG 12, and the adjustment from primitive base combat operations to the garrison environment has been accomplished not without problems.

2. The majority of these have been resolved. Some significant problem areas which remain are:

a. SACE Support - Poor pre-planning resulted in repeated movement and relocation of the transferred equipment. Although some SACE support was initiated 11 September 1973, complete organic support has not been achieved to date.

b. Supply Support -- The absence of a complete inventory of the A-6A peculiar parts transferred to MAG 12 from MAG 15 delayed utilization of these assets. The existing four to five hour delay in obtaining replacement parts continues to have a detrimental effect on aircraft maintenance.

c. Test Equipment - The A-6A test equipment previously sub-custodied from MAG 12 was not available from MAG 12 until early December 1973 because of inadequate record documentation.

d. Administrative and Maintenance -- These work areas were in universally poor condition upon initial acceptance. Station Public Works backlog of maintenance and a paucity of funds precluded any outside support. Limited self-help projects have been initiated utilizing squadron assets to provide reasonable working conditions.

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e. Billeting Areas - Rehabilitation of the barracks has been to date a completely self-help project. Without considerable replastering, repainting, and refurbishing of fixtures, all beyond the squadron's capabilities, these living areas continue to be marginal for our enlisted personnel.

f. Office Equipment - Typewriters necessary for the accomplishment of a myriad of administrative tasks were not obtained until late December 1973, delaying the timely submission and updating of the files and administrative functions generally.

g. Ground Support Equipment - A general shortage and the unreliable condition of assigned GSE continue to plague both the maintenance and training efforts. Numerous sorties have been lost because of inoperable equipment. Additionally, the lack of operable S-1TS loaders has hampered the squadron's Special Weapons Loading Training Program.

3. VMA(AW)-533 flew 300 sorties with 807.9 flight hours in the period 31 August - 31 December 1973. On 12 September 1973, the squadron flew its 10,000th accident free hour.

4. On 28 December 1973, the squadron deployed to NAS Cubi Pt, Philippines for a period of about six weeks. Eight aircraft and a compliment of 24 officers and 146 enlisted men participated. The major objective of this deployment was to requalify all aircrew in advanced navigation and ordnance delivery.

PART IIISignificant Events

12 September 1973

Rear party departs
RTAFB Nam Phong, Thailand

12 September 1973

Lt J. R. SOWELL and
Capt B. N. CAVINESS fly
the squadron's 10,000th
accident free hour.

17 September 1973

LtGen WILSON, CG FMFPAC
visits the squadron and
is briefed on its mission.

28 September 1973

Gen CUSHMAN, CMC, visits the
"HAWKS" and is given a brief
by Maj. R. E. MERRIHEW on
squadron's combat operations.

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14 October 1973

The MAWTUPAC team conducts a series of classes on Special Weapons Loading

30 October 1973

A division of the squadron's A-6A's participates in Operation Commando Jade testing the Republic of Korea air defence network.

5 December 1973

VMA(AW)-533 successfully completes the 1st MAW Functional Management Inspection.

19 December 1973

Advance party departs for NAS Cubi Ft. P.I. in preparation for squadron deployment.

22 December 1973

LtCol C. L. ZANGAS relieves Maj R. E. MERRIHEW and becomes the 48th CO of the "HAWKS".

28 December 1973

The main body of personnel and equipment arrive at NAS Cubi Ft.

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