

MARINE ATTACK HELICOPTER SQUADRON 369  
Marine Aircraft Group 36  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac  
FPO, San Francisco 96602

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5750  
15 July 1972  
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From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code HD)  
Via: (1) Commanding General, First Marine Aircraft Wing  
(2) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 January 1972 to 30 June 1972

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.1B  
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8B  
(c) ForO 5750.1A  
(d) WgO 5750.1B

Encl: (1) HMA-369 Command Chronology

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

2. Downgrade at 12 year intervals; not automatically declassified. Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

*D. P. Hansen*  
D. P. HANSEN

*HMA-369  
(Redesignated from S21 #1, HMA-369 on 1 Apr 72)*

*Jan - June 1972*

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MARINE ATTACK HELICOPTER SQUADRON 369  
Marine Aircraft Group 36  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac  
FPO, San Francisco 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 January 1972 TO 30 June 1972

INDEX

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

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UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~5750  
15 July 1972

## PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

MARINE ATTACK HELICOPTER SQUADRON 369

Major D. P. HANSEN  
16 June - 30 June 1972SUBORDINATE UNITS

NONE

ATTACHED UNITS

NONE

2. LOCATION

1 January 1972 - 16 June 1972: MCAS Futema, Okinawa

16 June 1972 - 30 June 1972 : USS Denver, LPD-9

3. STAFF OFFICERS

<u>Period</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>
Officer In Charge 1Jan - 8Feb72	F. W. CRONE	Maj
Officer In Charge 9Feb - 20Mar72	J. W. HAYES	Maj
Officer In Charge 20Mar - 31Mar72	R. G. OSBORNE	Capt
Commanding Officer 1Apr - 15Jun72	R. G. OSBORNE	Capt
Commanding Officer 16Jun - 30Jun72	D. P. HANSEN	Maj
Asst Officer In Charge 1Jan - 8Feb72	G. E. BAILEY	Maj
Asst Officer In Charge 9Feb - 20Mar72	R. G. OSBORNE	Capt
Asst Officer In Charge 21Mar - 31Mar72	W. C. CORLEY	Capt
Executive Officer 1Apr - 18Apr72	W. C. CORLEY	Capt
Executive Officer 19Apr - 15Jun72	M. R. MULLEN	Capt
Executive Officer 16Jun - 17Jun72	R. G. OSBORNE	Capt
Executive Officer 18Jun - 30Jun72	J. H. MARSHALL	Maj
Operations Officer 1Jan - 8Feb72	W. C. RYAN	Maj
Operations Officer 9Feb - 20Mar72	R. G. OSBORNE	Capt
Operations Officer 21Mar - 18Apr72	J. D. SCHMIDT	1stLt
Operations Officer 19Apr - 27Jun72	R. G. OSBORNE	Capt
Operations Officer 28Jun - 30Jun72	J. K. JOHNSON	1stLt

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ENCLOSURE (1)

~~SECRET~~5750  
15 July 1972

Maintenance Officer	1Jan - 8Feb72	F. G. WIKERSHAM	Capt
Maintenance Officer	9Feb - 7Mar72	E. G. TARDIF	CWO-3
Maintenance Officer	8Mar - 17Jun72	M. R. MULLEN	Capt
Maintenance Officer	18Jun - 30Jun72	D. L. CALDON	Capt
Material Officer	1Jan - 8Feb72	M. L. BARTLETT	Capt
Material Officer	9Feb - 28Mar72	W. G. SIDEBOTTOM	1stLt
Material Officer	29Mar - 30Jun72	R. L. BARRETT	1stLt
Administrative Officer	1Jan - 9Jan72	J. A. CANNON	1stLt
Administrative Officer	10Jan - 3Apr72	J. C. BRONSON	1stLt
Administrative Officer	4Apr - 30Jun72	G. SANMIGUEL	1stLt

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>
15	48	0	0	0	0

PART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY

The period of 1 January 1972 to 30 June 1972 was the time frame which held the metamorphic evolution of this unit. This transfiguration affected all components, both in their nature and application.

Beginning as Sub Unit One of Headquarters and Maintenance Squadron 36, Marine Aircraft Group 36, this squadron carried on a primary function of pilot training and simulated tactical participation with other units. Flight operations were oriented about local training missions for conversion pilots and refresher flights for those pilots who had previously commanded the AH-1J, Seacobra. Familiarization flights were conducted for numerous visiting VIPs and several MAG-36 aviators. Mission support was also provided for the 3rd Marine Division in exercises which included helicopter aerial escort missions, simulated close air support for ground personnel and field problem medevac/extract fire support.

During the month of January, Sub Unit One was visited by Colonel Kim Kee Sung and Major Lee Chang of the ROK Marines, who were given familiarization flights in the AH-1J. On the 15th of this month Colonel A. F. Garrotto, Commanding Officer of Marine Aircraft Group 36, inspected Sub Unit One and presented the Silver Star to Major G. E. Bailey, then Assistant Officer In Charge, for actions in Vietnam. Later in the month, familiarization rides

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ENCLOSURE (1)

5750

15 July 1972

in the AH-LJ were given for Lieutenant General Sir Richard Ward, Commander of the British Forces, Hong Kong and Lieutenant General L. Metzger, Commanding General, 3rd MAF.

Major F. W. Crone relinquished command of Sub Unit One to Major J. W. Hayes on 8 February. A Commanding General's Inspection of all personnel was conducted by Major General R. G. Owens, Commanding General, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, on the 25th of February. February saw Sub Unit One receive a new Officer In Charge and prepared for the Commanding General's Inspection, but it was also a month which found Sub Unit One critically lacking in experienced pilots. The reason for this circumstance was the simultaneous, mass rotation of the majority of officer and enlisted personnel who had brought the AH-LJ to the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. The intensity of training new pilots in the AH-LJ increased because of this dearth of experience.

March operational flights continued in efforts to produce qualified AH-LJ pilots. This undertaking was assisted by the arrival of several qualified pilots who were to manifest their overseas tour with this unit. Captain R. G. Osborne assumed command of H&MS-36, Sub Unit One, from Major J. W. Hayes at a change of command ceremony on 20 March. H&MS-36, Sub Unit One, was re-designated Marine Attact Helicopter Squadron 369 on 1 April.

On 18 April, five pilots, 12 enlisted personnel and two AH-LJs were transferred to HMM-164 for deployment with that unit. This action left the Futema based HMA-369 with two aircraft with which to continue its functions as a tactically ready squadron. This situation limited the capabilities of the unit in its training role because of the increased demands made upon the remaining two aircraft.

On 9 May 1972, Lieutenant General L. E. Brown, Commanding General 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, visited the HMA-369 area. Four new AH-LJ Seacobras were delivered to the squadron on 16 May. This delivery was made possible by the landing of a U. S. Air Force C5-A at MCAS(H) Futema. With six aircraft and an influx of new personnel, HMA-369 completed the expansion of its working spaces on 25 May 1972.

Squadron operations continued on a normal basis until 12 June 1972 when HMA-369 received word of possible deployment. Later that afternoon message traffic suggested that the squadron would depart on 14 June and embarkation procedures were begun. With the arrival of the 14th came the return of the pilots, aircraft and personnel which had been deployed with HMM-164 and then transferred to HMM-165. The squadron's aircraft assets now numbered eight AH-LJs. On 15 June Major D. P. Hansen assumed command of HMA-369 from Captain R. G. Osborne.

UNCLASSIFIED

ENCLOSURE (1)

~~SECRET~~5750  
15 July 1972

Embarkation was delayed until 16 June when the men and aircraft of HMA-369 were deployed on the USS Denver (LPD-9). One of the aircraft was unable to depart MCAS(H) Futema because of mechanical difficulties.

While enroute to their operational area, HMA-369 conducted day and night carrier qualifications and received mission plan instructions. The first mission flight, MARHUK 1, was conducted on 22 June 1972 and consisted primarily of observations of the activities about a 3d Country MERSHIP off the North Vietnamese coast. The activities of HMA-369 through 30 June were to include visual surveillance, photographic reconnaissance, target ordnance delivery, control of fixed wing aircraft, strikes and developmental tactics for the environment in which the squadron was now operating.

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ENCLOSURE (1)

~~SECRET~~5750  
15 July 1972PART IIISEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- "12 Jan 1972 Familiarization rides in the AH-1J were conducted for Col Kim Kee Sung and Maj Lee Chang of the ROK Marines."
- "15 Jan 1972 Col A. F. Garratto, CO, MAG-36, inspected Sub Unit One."
- "15 Jan 1972 Maj C. G. Bailey was presented the Silver Star for action in Viet Nam."
- "25 Jan 1972 LtGen Sir Richard Ward, Commander of British Forces, Hong Kong and LtGen L. Metzger, CG III MAF, visited Sub Unit One and were given FAM flights in the AH-1J."
- "08 Feb 1972 Maj J. W. Hayes assumed command of H&MS-36 Sub Unit One from Maj F. W. Crone in a change of command ceremony."
- "10 Feb 1972 Safety stand-down commenced for all personnel for a two day period."
- "25 Feb 1972 A CG's Inspection of all personnel was conducted by MajGen R. G. Owens, CG, 1st MAW."
- "28 Feb 1972 All pilots of Sub Unit One participated in both day and night Field Carrier Landing Practice to fulfill yearly requirements."
- "02 Mar 1972 All squadron pilots were day carrier qualified aboard the LPD, USS Denver."
- "03 Mar 1972 Visiting the Sub Unit One area, BrigGen E. J. Miller was given a FAM flight in the AH-1J."
- "08 Mar 1972 Sub Unit One flew helicopter aerial escort missions, field problem medevacs, and provided simulated close air support for 1st Bn 4th Marines exercises."

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UNCLASSIFIED ENCLOSURE (1)

5750  
15 July 1972

"09 Mar 1972 Operations continue in support of 1st Bn 4th Marines' field exercises."

"20 Mar 1972 A change of command ceremony, Capt R. G. Osborne assumed command of H&MS-36, Sub Unit One from Maj J. W. Hayes."

"21 Mar 1972 Sub Unit One provided an AH-1J for static display at Camp Courtney, Camp Hansen, and Camp Schwab. LtGen Metzger, CG III MAF, and MajGen J. C. Fegan Jr., CG III Mar Div, were present for these displays."

"01 Apr 1972 H&MS-36, Sub Unit One was redesignated Marine Attack Helicopter Squadron 369."

"15 Apr 1972 HMA-369 was requested to supply two aircraft, and needed personnel and materials for deployment with HMM-164."

"18 Apr 1972 Five pilots, 12 enlisted personnel, and two AH-1J Seacobras were transferred to HMM-164 for deployment with that unit."

"09 May 1972 LtGen L. E. Brown, CG, 1st MAF, visited the HMA-369 area."

"16 May 1972 Four new AH-1J Seacobras were delivered to HMA-369 by an U.S. Air Force C5-A."

"12 Jun 1972 HMA-369 received correspondence which indicated a squadron deployment on the 14th of June. Embarkation procedures were begun."

"14 Jun 1972 Four pilots, 11 enlisted personnel, and two AH-1Js returned from deployment with HMM-165 after having been transferred to that unit from HMM-164."

"15 Jun 1972 Maj D. P. Hansen assumed command of HMA-369 from Capt R. G. Osborne."

"15 Jun 1972 Embarkation date has been set for 16 June."

UNCLASSIFIED

ENCLOSURE (1)



5750  
15 July 1972

~~SECRET~~  
"16 Jun 1972

Embarkation was accomplished and HMA-369 was now deployed upon the USS Denver (LPD-9). Seven AH-1Js were flown aboard LPD-9, one aircraft remained at MCAS(H) Futema because of mechanical difficulties."

"19 Jun 1972

Day and night carrier qualifications were conducted for all pilots while underway to operations area."

"20 June 1972

HMA-369 arrived on station in the Gulf of Tonkin for participation in Operation Linebacker, MARHUK Mission."

"20 June 1972

BrigGen E. J. Miller arrived onboard the USS Denver for operational plan briefing."

"22 June 1972

MARHUK 1 was conducted and marked the beginning of HMA-369's mission at the Hon La anchorage. Ordnance was expended on designated targets."

"24 June 1972

The experimentation with visual surveillance aids continues. Detailed information is being recorded for adaptive ordnance deliveries. Development of radar control vectoring to spot targets has begun."

"25 June 1972

1stLt C. E. Zinger made the 3000th successful landing aboard the USS Denver."

"30 June 1972

This reporting period ends with the completion of MARHUK 16 and HMA-369 aboard the USS Denver, continuing its mission."

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ENCLOSURE (1)