

Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group – 36

Command Philosophy

Beginning in 1952 and throughout its lauded history, Marine Aircraft Group 36 (MAG-36) has sustained reputation for accomplishing the mission despite new and unique challenges. From being the first MAG in Vietnam, evacuating more than 7000 personnel out of Saigon, to conducting Humanitarian Assistance, Disaster Relief (HADR) missions throughout the Asia-Pacific region, the strength of MAG-36 has always been its ability to adapt to meet the needs of the Marine Corps, and the Nation, while remaining *relevant, reliable and ready*.

Now more than ever, these attributes are critical to the success of our Nation's efforts in the INDOPACOM Theater because of the pivotal role MAG-36 plays in the Commandant's Force Design. The challenges of today may differ from those faced by our predecessors, but our ability to overcome them remains as steadfast as those who came before us. MAG-36 will continue to be the gold standard of Marine Aviation so long as we stay focused and tenacious like the Marines, Sailors, and Civilian Marines who established this great legacy.



The Marine Air-Ground Task Force (MAGTF) is what makes us unique as Marines, separates us from other services, and defines our relevance to the Department of Defense and the Nation. Actions at each level within the organization need to be focused on improving the strength and capabilities of the MAGTF, particularly when it comes to planning and conducting aviation operations as an Aviation Combat Element (ACE).

Teamwork is the essence of what allows the MAGTF to succeed and is the foundation of everything we do in MAG-36. For MAG-36 to achieve greatness as a team, we must be committed to a strong work ethic and finding creative and innovative solutions to problems we face. As members of the MAG-36 team, everything we do on or off duty will either add or detract from the professional reputation of this organization and its ability to execute the mission. I expect everyone to take that responsibility seriously, do the right thing, and take care of one another.

My desire for this command is to be the best MAG in the Marine Corps. We will accomplish this not through arrogance, but through action, and by remaining *relevant, reliable, and ready* to do whatever the Marine Corps and the Nation requires of us:

Relevant

- Understand the INDOPACOM operating environment and the missions we must be prepared for
- Grasp where MAG-36 fits into HHQ/MAGTF missions and communicate that knowledge to others
- Focus on MAGTF effectiveness through the professional execution of expeditionary aviation operations

Reliable

- Maintain a reputation of professionalism and operational excellence on and off duty
- Engaged leadership/mentorship/communication at all levels; everybody knows what is happening
- Sense of personal pride and bias for action that fosters accountability and our teammate's trust

Ready:

- Readiness in all things so that we can fight now! (Personnel, equipment, training, medical, dental, etc.)
- Collective success: MAG readiness over unit readiness as a means to support MAGTF readiness
- Taking a personal interest in the lives of our Marines/Sailors, and their families (Family readiness)


C. M. MURRAY