

VMAQ-2 Welcome Aboard Letter



Dear Marines, Sailors, and Families of the "Death Jesters",

Allow me to be the first to welcome you to Cherry Point, North Carolina and to the squadron. We are fortunate to have you and your family as a part of the "Death Jester" team. Our mission is to "Support the Marine Air-Ground Task Force (MAGTF) Commander by conducting airborne electronic warfare, day or night, under all weather conditions during Expeditionary, Joint, or Combined operations".

You have joined a squadron that possesses a rich, illustrious history of service to the Marine Corps whose roots can be traced back to the early 1950's. Designated in 1975 as VMAQ-2, the squadron saw numerous deployments aboard aircraft carriers, participated in U.S. raids against Libya and deployed to Bahrain in support of Operations DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM. Throughout the rest of the 1990's, VMAQ-2 conducted multiple deployments to Iwakuni, Japan and Aviano, Italy. In 1999, VMAQ-2 supported Operations NOBLE ANVIL and ALLIED FORCE, providing electronic suppression of enemy air defenses as well as firing 57 High Speed Anti-Radiation Missiles (HARMS). After September 11th, VMAQ-2 deployed in support of Operations ENDURING FREEDOM, IRAQI FREEDOM, IRAQI FREEDOM II, IRAQI FREEDOM 05-07, and IRAQI FREEDOM 06-08. This sustained tempo led not only to the highest utilization rate of any Marine Prowler Squadron but also for any Type/Model/Series in the Marine Corps.

Our success as a unit depends on squadron member's readiness as well as the readiness of their families. It is critical to our mission that you and your family possess the information and tools necessary to assist you during your time with the squadron. Cherry Point already possesses an outstanding Family Readiness Program that can provide you and your family information on various services to help manage family issues that will arise. These resources can be found at <http://mccscherrypoint.com/programs/> or through our Family Readiness Officer (FRO) Mrs. Katie Walker. She can be reached at Katie.walker@usmc.mil or by phone at (252) 466-2577 and is ready to assist you with any needs you may encounter during your move. Welcome aboard.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles E. Dudik". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light-colored background.

Charles E. Dudik
Lieutenant Colonel, United States Marine Corps
Commanding