The Marines and Sailors of VMM-774, “The Wild Geese” have stood ready to answer our nation’s call since September 5, 1958 and have done so repeatedly to include major operations such as Desert Storm/Desert Shield, Iraqi Freedom, as well as, Hurricane Tomas relief efforts to mention a few. Over the past year, the Wild Geese have prepared and trained to, once again, support global operations and our nation’s tasking.

VMM-774 was mobilized on June 1, 2019 to deploy as part of the Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force Crisis Response to AFRICOM (SPMAGTF-CR-AF). We will serve as the Aviation Combat Element to SPMAGTF-CR-AF 20.1, providing maneuver for the unit as a whole. The purpose of this deployment is to protect U.S. personnel, property, and interests in the AFRICOM area of responsibility. VMM-774 is trained and ready to carry out this mission with the amalgamation of experience and expertise that has made them a “go to” squadron for the U. S. Marine Corps.

In a short amount of time we have come together as whole squadron, comprised of both active and reserve members willing and ready to serve our nation. You should be immensely proud! The success of this unit and its people is in part due to the family and friends that have supported them through this process and beyond. A special thanks is owed to you for your sacrifices. Thank you!

We are an extended family here at VMM-774 and will rely on one another when needed. We will have members of the unit forward deployed along with those remaining in Norfolk. In addition, we will have family and friends spread out all over the country, and some even beyond. I want to ensure that you all have the information and contacts you will need over the coming months. We will have our Unit Readiness Coordinator in Norfolk along with other key staff members that will be ready to answer your questions or point you in the right direction with appropriated resources and points of contact.

Thank you once again! I feel extremely fortunate to serve with the Wild Geese during this extraordinary time as they write the next chapter to the lineage of VMM-774.

Semper Fidelis

LtCol Anthony “Fuzzy” Sferrazza
Commanding Officer
**Mission**

To support the MAGTF Commander by providing assault support transport of combat troops, supplies, and equipment, day or night, under all weather conditions during expeditionary, joint or combined operations.

**Vision**

The Wild Goose will execute a deployment to the EUCOM and AFRICOM area of operations and sustain shore and sea based operations away from home base in order to support SPMAGTF CR-AF missions to include embassy reinforcement, non-combatant evacuation operations, tactical recovery of aircraft and personnel, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.
**Operations and Training Familiarization**

**Special Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force (SPMAGTF)**
A self-mobile, self-sustaining force of Marines and sailors, capable of responding to a range of crises. Members are specifically trained to support the U.S. and partner interests throughout the Area of Responsibility, to include embassy reinforcement, support to non-combatant evacuation operations, tactical recovery of aircraft and personnel, humanitarian assistance, and disaster relief. The unit also takes part in bilateral and multilateral training exercises with regional partners.

**Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU)**
The mission of a MEU is to provide geographic combatant commanders with a forward-deployed, rapid response force capable of conducting conventional amphibious and selected maritime special operations at night or under adverse weather conditions from the sea, by surface and/or by air.

**Detachment (DET)**
An organization of two or more aircraft with associated aircrew, maintenance, and support Marines that separate from the main unit for a specified time in order to conduct or support an operation or exercise.

**Detachment for Training (DET)**
A training exercise that requires part of the squadron (1 or more aircraft) to reposition to another location for the purpose of conducting flight operations in support of squadron training or in support of another unit.
Moron Air Base:

- Marines will be able to enjoy all the area has to offer, including day trips, live entertainment, movie nights, bowling alley, fitness center, dining, on-base library and more!! For more information check out:
  - [www.moronservices.org](http://www.moronservices.org)
  - [www.facebook.com/moronforcesupport](http://www.facebook.com/moronforcesupport)

Naval Air Station Sigonella:

- Embrace the food and warmth of the people you meet in Sigonella! Experience customs, culture, and the way of life in the “Hub of the Med”

- On board NAS Sigonella you will find many of the conveniences you find at a CONUS installation, including American-style food choices, Navy Exchange, commissary and recreation programs
  - [www.facebook.com/nassigonella](http://www.facebook.com/nassigonella)

Pay Entitlements

- Combat Duty Pay - *Mission Dependent and Based of location*
- Hostile Fire or Imminent Danger Pay - *Mission Dependent and Based of location*
- Combat Zone Tax Exclusion - *Mission Dependent and Based of location*
- Family Separation Allowance is paid when a Service Member is involuntarily separated from his/her dependents or active duty spouse for more than 30 days. It is payable at $250.00 per month, or $8.33 per day
- Basic Allowance for Subsistence (BAS)
- Per Diem: All deployed Service Members who are in a Temporary Change of Station (TCS) or TDY status are entitled to OCONUS incidental per diem at $3.50 a day or $105 a month.
From the Unit Readiness Coordinator

**PERSONAL MAILING ADDRESS OVERSEAS:** Activated on 26 August 2019/ deactivated on 30 April 2020**

RANK FULL NAME
SPMAGTF CR-AF 20.1CE
UNIT 80110
FPO AE 09508-1000

Mail addressed to military overseas are subject to certain conditions or restrictions of mailing regarding content, preparation, and handling. A detailed listing of restrictions can be found by visiting: https://postcalc.usps.com/MilitaryRestrictions

DSTRESS Line
- Phone – 1-877-476-7734
- www.dstressline.com
  - A 24/7, anonymous phone and chat counseling service with a ‘Marine-to-Marine’ approach. The call center is staffed with veteran Marines, former FMF Corpsmen, Marine Corps family members, and licensed clinicians with specific training in Marine Corps culture

Military OneSource:
- 1 (800) 342-9647
- www.Militaryonesource.mil
  - A confidential DOD funded program providing comprehensive information on every aspect of military life at NO ADDITIONAL COST to active duty, National Guard, and reserve members, and their families.
  - Information includes, but is not limited to, deployment, reunion, relationships, grief, spouse employment and education, parenting and childhood services. It’s a virtual extension to installation services.

**Important Numbers:**

**FOOD RESOURCES:**
- Food Stamp Program: 757-664-6000
- WIC: 888-942-9675
- Commissary Store Manager: 757-423-3188

**FAMILY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS:**
- Base Chaplain: 757-444-7361
- Exceptional Family Member Program: 757-445-6876
- Family Advocacy Program: 757-xxx-xxxx
- Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society: 757-322-3134

**PERSONAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS:**
- MCCS Employment: 757-444-6146
- Housing Service Center: 757-445-2902

**Commissary**

**Address:**

1588 mall drive
Naval Base Building CD-13
Norfolk, VA 23511-6002

**Hours of operation**

- Sunday 0900 - 1800
- Monday closed
- Tuesday 0900 - 1900
- Wednesday 0900 - 1900
- Thursday 0900 - 2000
- Friday 0900 - 1900
- Saturday 0900 – 1900

Norfolk NEX Mall Retail store CD-13, 440-6528.

**Hours of operation**

- Sunday 0900 - 1900
- Monday 0900-2100
- Tuesday 0900 - 2100
- Wednesday 0900 - 2100
- Thursday 0900 - 2100
- Friday 0900 - 2100
- Saturday 0900 – 2100

VMM-774 Unit Readiness Coordinator
Master Sergeant Ramiro Vizcarra
Office: 757 341-6842
EMERGENCY POINT OF CONTACT'S

VMM 774 Squadron Duty Officer:  (757) 341-6870
Fleet Family Command Representative (FFCR) for MAG-49 is Tara Johns:
(757) 322-9129
tara.johns1.ctr@navy.mil

Base Information (Quarterdeck):  (757) 322-2365/66 or 67
Base Medical (Sick Call):  (757) 953-8760
Base Police (PMO) Non-Emergency Line:  (757) 444-2324
Emergency Medical Services:  (757) 444-3333

Ready Virginia: http://www.vaemergency.gov/readyvirginia

Veterinary Services:
For disaster planning for livestock, horses, birds, reptiles, or small animals such as gerbils and hamsters, please visit: The Humane Society of the United States: https://www.humanesociety.org/
or Ready.gov: https://www.ready.gov/

Poison Control:  (800) 876-4766
Dental Appointments:  (757) 953-8635
American Red Cross:  (877) 272-7337
American Red Cross Virginia Regional HQ:  (804) 780-2250
https://www.redcross.org/find-your-local-chapter.html#locationFound

Military One Source:  (800) 342-9647
https://www.militaryonesource.mil/confidential-help/non-medical-counseling

Hero Care App: (for Immediate Assistance) Text GetHeroCare / 90999
Online registration: https://redcross.org/herocare

NAVSTA Office of Health & Disaster Info:  (757) 322-2320 or DSN 262-2320
NAVSTA Base Housing Office: (757) 445-2802/2850 / Toll Free: 1 (800) 628-7510
For further information contact: NorfolkHousing@navy.mil

ARRIVE ALIVE:  Yellow Cab:  (757) 855-3333/4444

Casualty Assistance Calls Officer (CACO):
Individual responsible for representing the Commandant and the Marine Corps with the NOK.

• Responsibilities include but are not limited to:
  • Making notification/condolence call to Primary Next of Kin and Secondary Next of Kin
  • Assisting with mortuary affairs, funeral honors, benefits and entitlements.