

MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 121
Marine Aircraft Group 12
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
FPO San Francisco, 96602

3:GGK:mrw
5750
Ser: 003A11467
4 Nov 67

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 12 (Attn: S-3)
Subj: Command Chronology for 1 - 31 October, 1967
Ref: (a) GruO 5750.1C
Encl: ✓(1) VMA-121 Command Chronology
1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.

G. H. Smith
G. H. SMITH
By direction

VMA 121
Log No. 1153-67
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VMA-121

CMD CHRON

Oct 1967

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
of
MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON - 121
Period: 1 - 31 October, 1967

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PART IORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 121
Marine Aircraft Group 12
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
FPO San Francisco, 96602

Lieutenant Colonel Richard J. KERN
1 - 31 October, 1967

NO SUBORDINATE UNITS

NO UNITS ATTACHED

2. LOCATION

1 - 31 October, 1967 - MCAS Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer -	Lieutenant Colonel John H. MILLER, 1-31 Oct 67
Administrative Officer -	Major Bernon R. ERICKSON, 1-11 Oct 67
	Major Richard L. COLLINS, 11-31 Oct 67
Operations Officer -	Major Gerald H. SMITH, 1-31 Oct 67
Maintenance Officer -	Major Kenneth W. LANGFORD, 1-11 Oct 67
	Major Gerald D. JAMES, 11-31 Oct 67
Material Officer -	Major Raymond R. HOWER, 1-11 Oct 67
	Major Frank E. GRAHAM, 11-31 Oct 67

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>	<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
28	155	1	0

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the month of October, VMA-121 continued to support combat air operations from MCAS Chu Lai. In spite of a 3 day stand down to move from East field to West field, the Squadron flew 714.4 hours and 565 sorties, of which 649.1 and 515 sorties were combat missions. 144 night combat missions accounted for 173.1 flight hours.

A total of 842 tons of aviation ordnance was expended during the period with the high day's total being 50.4 tons. There were 144 sorties which returned with a reported BDA from the strike controlling agency. The following lists the reported BDA:

<u>TARGETS</u>	<u>DESTROYED</u>	<u>DAMAGED</u>
Structures	85	18
Trench Line (Meters)	290	—
Bunkers	87	24
Gun Emplacements	11	7
AW Positions	4	—
Mortar Positions	6	—
Rice Pallets	2	—
Bridges	3	3
Boats	1	1
Cattle	23	—
Fighting Holes	20	—
Tunnels	4	3
Enemy Camp	—	1
Road Cuts	4	—
KBA	5 (confirmed)	23 (probable)

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PART IIISIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. PERSONNEL

During October, 1967, VMA-121 joined 10 officers. Transferred, during the month, were 12 officers and 25 enlisted. Promotions for the month were: 2 to Lieutenant Colonel, 2 to Major, 4 to First Lieutenant, 24 to Corporal, and 2 to Lance Corporal. One Lance Corporal was reduced to Private First Class. Reenlistments for the month were: 1 Gunnery Sergeant for 6 years and 1 Corporal for 3 years.

2. AWARDS

The following awards were recommended/presented during the month:

AWARD	RECOMMENDED	PRESENTED
Air Medal	28	
Meritorious Mast (Enlisted)	5	

3. BASE DEVELOPMENT

On 3 October, VMA-121 stood down to move its operation from the SATS site on East field to a more permanent area on West field. The new area features a permanent hangar, concrete taxiways and parking area, larger, and better protected revetments, and a new 10,000 foot concrete runway. New bunkers are being built in the hangar area, and should be completed in November.

a. Under the watchful eye of Squadron Sergeant Major BURGHER, extensive repair of enlisted quarters is being completed in anticipation of the monsoon season; roofs have been sandbagged, scrap canvas and lumber are being used to make bulkheads watertight.

4. TRAINING

A simulated Ground Defense Alert was held by the squadron to familiarize the new personnel with their defensive positions and to learn new problems that will exist with separated working and living areas.

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5. MORALE PROGRAM

A daily information bulletin is published by the Sergeant Major to pass "straight scoop" about the recreational and educational programs, as well as current happenings in the local area, not otherwise published.

The Intelligence Officer has introduced a Situation Map in the hangar to show the men, on a daily basis, the type missions the squadron flies, the amount of ordnance the squadron drops, what the III MAF is doing and pinpointing the areas currently in the news. Tremendous interest has been displayed by the men, with a noticeable effect on squadron "esprit".

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APPENDIX A

OPERATIONS SUPPORTED

1. NEUTRALIZE
2. KNOX
3. ERADICATE
4. KINGFISHER
5. ERRATIC
6. GRANITE
7. BIMBO
8. BEN BALL
9. SHOVE
10. DRAGONFIRE
11. WHEELER
12. SENATOR
13. SAMURAI
14. MADINA
15. CROWD

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