

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

3:RPT:rcj
 5750.
 Ser: 003A06468
 4 March 1968

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From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 12 (Attn: S-3)

Subj: Command Chronology for 1-29 February 1968

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.5C
 (b) GruO 5710.1C

Encl: ✓(1) VMA-121 Command Chronology

1. In accordance with references (a) and (b), enclosure (1) is submitted.

R. E. Bright
 R. E. BRIGHT
 By direction

VMA-121

CMD CHRON

FEB 1968

VMA 121
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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
of
MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 121
Period: 1 - 29 February 1968
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ENCLOSURE (1)

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3:RPT:rcj
Ser: 003A06468PART IORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDERMARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 121
Marine Aircraft Group 12
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
FPO San Francisco, 96602Lieutenant Colonel Richard J. KERN
1 - 29 February 1968

NO SUBORDINATE UNITS

NO UNITS ATTACHED

2. LOCATION

1 - 29 February -- Chu Lai Air Base, Republic of Vietnam

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer -	Lieutenant Colonel John H. MILLER, 1-24Feb68
	Lieutenant Colonel Glen H. BARLOW, 25-29Feb68
Administrative Officer -	Major Richard H. ULM, 1-29Feb68
Operations Officer -	Major Ray E. BRIGHT, 1-29Feb68
Maintenance Officer -	Major Gerald D. JAMES, 1-29Feb68
Material Officer -	First Lieutenant R. E. MUSSER, 1-29Feb68

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>	<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
30	160	1	0

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During February, VMA-121 flew 1138.2 hours and 942 sorties of which 1106.0 hours and 908 sorties were combat sorties. The squadron delivered 1450.04 tons of aviation ordnance with the highest daily total being 145.83 tons. This high was delivered on 27 February 1968 while VMA-121 was the MAG-12 Alert Squadron. Throughout the day VMA-121 flew air cover for the resupply of Marine forces in the Khe Sanh and Con Thien areas totaling 72.5 hours and 58 sorties.

Of the sorties flown during February 147 sorties were given battle damage assessment by the controlling agency. The following lists the reported BDA:

<u>TARGETS</u>	<u>DESTROYED</u>	<u>DAMAGED</u>
Structures	202	91
KBA	37 (C)	29 (P)
Secondary Fires	43	
Secondary Explosions	29	
Road Cuts	2	
Gun Positions	8	
Mortar Positions	2	
Sampans	4	
Trench Line	110 meters	
Tank	1	
Bridge		1
Rocket Positions	26	
Bunkers	29	4

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a. Personnel. During February, VMA-121 joined 3 officers and 15 enlisted. Transfers during the month were 3 officer and 15 enlisted. Promotions during the period were: 1 to Captain, 1 to Sergeant, 1 to Corporal and 1 to Lance Corporal. All enlisted promotions were meritorious promotions. VMA-121 had one Staff Sergeant reenlist for a period of 3 years.

b. Awards. The following awards were recommended/presented:

<u>AWARD</u>	<u>RECOMMENDED</u>	<u>PRESENTED</u>
Air Medals Flt/Stk-SingleMsn	69-10	47-0
Distinguished Flying Cross	4	
Bronze Star	1	
Navy Achievement Medal	1	
Navy Commendation Medal		1

2. S-3a. Air Operations

(1) All pilots assigned to VMA-121 have flown at least 40 combat missions, while sixteen of them have over 100 combat missions. VMA-121 has completed another accident free month while leading the way in total hours and sorties flown for the month in MAG-12.

(2) During February, VMA-121 flew 942 sorties. The following lists the sorties by type flown:

TPQ - 611	LZP - 10
CAS - 237	VR - 2
DAS - 54	HE - 2
Test/Ferry - 24	RESCAP - 2

b. Ground Defense. Following a rocket and mortar attack on 31 Jan 1968 intelligence reports indicated that the Chu Lai Air Base was threatened by a ground attack. As a result of this, MAG-12 ground defense units placed on maximum alert every night during the first part of February. It is significant to note that normal flight operations continued during this period in spite of the long hours required from squadron personnel.

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3. S-4

a. Battle Damage Recovery

(1) The VMA-121 hangar received such extensive damage during the rocket and mortar attack on 31 January that it was unuseable. The task of leveling the debris was completed by combat support units before the end of the month.

(2) Tents were erected to provide working spaces and shops. These were moved to the original hangar site after cleanup was completed.

(3) Covers were constructed on some of the line revetments to provide a sheltered maintenance area.

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Ser: 003A06468APPENDIX AOPERATIONS/UNITS SUPPORTED

<u>OPERATIONS</u>	<u>UNITS</u>	<u>SORTIES FLOWN</u>
SCOTLAND		
NIAGRA	26thMar	289
KENTUCKY	9thMar	55
LANCASTER	4thMar	43
WHEELER WALLOW	Americal Division	8
LAMPSON		70
INSERT		2
NAPOLEON		4
OSCELA		2
ASHAU VALLEY		9
	III MAF	1
	1st MAW	69
	1st MarDiv	25
	3rd MarDiv	92
	1st Mar	3
	7th Mar	63
	Neutralize	2
	I DASC	2
	ROK Marines	12
	4th Regt	1
	ARVN	12
	1st ATBn	3
	1st Air Cavalry	1
	Task Force XRAY	11
	Hue City	8
	Other (Unknowns)	155

ENCLOSURE (1)

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