

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

3:RCJ:dfs
 5750
 Ser: 003A9468
 4 April 1968

"SECRET"

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

Subj: Command Chronology for 1-31 March 1968

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.50
 (b) GruO 5710.10

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
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 S & C

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"SECRET"

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

of

MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 121

Period: 1 - 31 March 1968

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ENCLOSURE (1)

"SECRET"

3:RCJ:dfs
Ser: 003A9468PART IORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 121	Lieutenant Colonel Richard J. KERN
Marine Aircraft Group 12	1 - 10 March 1968
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac	Lieutenant Colonel William D. SHIPPEE
FP0 San Francisco 96602	11 - 31 March 1968

NO SUBORDINATE UNITS

NO UNITS ATTACHED

2. LOCATION

1 - 31 March *- Chu Lai Air Base, Republic of Vietnam

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer -	Lieutenant Colonel Glen H. BARLOW, 1-31Mar
Administrative Officer -	Major Richard H. ULM, 1-31Mar
Operations Officer -	Major Ray E. BRIGHT, 1-31Mar
Maintenance Officer -	Major Gerald D. JAMES, 1-31Mar
Material Officer -	First Lieutenant R. E. MUSSER, 1-31Mar

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>	<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
29	158	1	0

ENCLOSURE (1)

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Ser: 00389468PART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY

During March, VMA-121 flew 1228.8 hours and 1027 sorties of which 1213.6 hours and 1006 sorties were combat hours/sorties. The squadron delivered 1419.75 tons of aviation ordnance with the highest daily total being 68.99 tons on 4 March. During a one week period, 3 - 9 March, VMA-121 flew 359.3 combat hours and 297 combat sorties while delivering 378 tons of aviation ordnance. Of the 297 sorties, 170 sorties were flown while resupply operations were being conducted at Khe Sanh and the surrounding hills. The high for a single day during this period was 72.6 combat hours and 64 combat sorties.

Of the sorties flown during March, 129 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>
KBA	35 Confirmed	56 Probable
WBA	2 "	
Structures	120	32
Bunkers	51	5
Trench Line	280 meters	
Gun Emplacements	15	
Secondary Explosions/Fires	33	
Fighting Holes	28	
Rocket Tubes	32	
Road Cuts	2	
Water Buffalo	3	

ENCLOSURE (1)

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Ser: 003A9468PART IIISIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. S-1

a. Personnel. During March, VMA-121 joined 4 officers and 28 enlisted. Transfers during the month were 5 officers and 26 enlisted. Promotions for the month were: 1 to Master Sergeant, 1 to Staff Sergeant, 1 to Sergeant, 1 to Corporal, and 1 to Lance Corporal.

b. Awards.

<u>AWARD</u>	<u>RECOMMENDED</u>	<u>PRESENTED</u>
Air Medals Flt/Stk-Single Msn	28	0
Distinguished Flying Cross	3	0
Silver Star	1	0
Navy Commendation Medal	5	4

2. S-3a. Air Operations.

(1) During March, VMA-121 provided in-country familiarization for 2 squadron pilots. Training consists of three flights in the TA-4F and ten daylight missions in the A4E with appropriate support lectures. All pilots assigned to VMA-121, with the exception of the two mentioned above, have flown at least 50 combat missions, twelve have over 100 combat missions, two have over 200 combat missions and one has reached 300 missions.

(2) During March, VMA-121 flew 1027 sorties. The following lists the sorties by type flown:

TPQ	527	HE/CAS	68
CAS	247	TEST	20
HE	78	LZF	10
DAS	68	OTHER	9

ENCLOSURE (1)

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APPENDIX AOPERATIONS/UNITS SUPPORTED

<u>OPERATIONS</u>	<u>SORTIES FLOWN</u>	<u>UNITS</u>	<u>SORTIES FLOWN</u>
NIAGARA	270	26thMAR	98
SCOTLAND	12	9thMAR	9
FALCON	6	4thMAR	7
HELL FIRE	10	1stMARDIV	7
BUXOM	14	3rdMARDIV	75
FORTRESS	12	1stMAW	11
CARLEN	4	III MAF	1
CRUSHER	7	1stBn, 7thMAR	5
SOFIA	10	7thMAR	55
TITHOUSE	6	ROKIC	11
DONGSON	2	TF "X"	24
GINA	10	ARVN	11
COCKATOO	12	101stAirCav	1
DEANNA	8	Army	4
WOODPECKER	12	Other	208
CASTLE	12		
BUICK	2		
KENTUCKY	27		
LANCASTER	7		
WHEELER HALLONIA	8		
HUE CITY	6		
NAPOLEAN	7		
LAMPSON	10		
SALURI	4		
SALINE	7		
HOUSTON	1		
SANDROLLER	1		
WORTH	8		
JEB STUART	2		
TERAPIN	2		
HI RISE	1		

ENCLOSURE (1)

SECRET