

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

DECLASSIFIED

3:JGM:aan
5750
Ser: 003A21668
3 August 1968

SECRET

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

Subj: Command Chronology for 1 - 31 July 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.

J. A. Morgan
J. G. MORGAN

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
of
MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 121
Period 1 - 31 July 1968

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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DECLASSIFIED3:JGM:asn
Ser: 003A21668PART IORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

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

Lieutenant Colonel William D. SHIPPEN
 1 - 31 July 1968

NO SUBORDINATE UNITS

NO UNITS ATTACHED

2. LOCATION

1 - 31 July 1968 - Chu Lai Air Base, Republic of Vietnam

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer -	Major Ray E. BRIGHT, 1-31 July 1968
Operations Officer -	Major David A. LERPS, 1-31 July 1968
Administrative Officer -	Major Rodney R. LETCHWORTH, 1-3 July 1968
	Major Donald B. CAMPBELL, 4-28 July 1968
	Major Thomas R. DURHAM, 31 July 1968
Maintenance Officer -	Major Frank C. REGAN, 1-31 July 1968
Material Officer -	First Lieutenant R. E. MUSSER, 1-31 July 1968

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTHUSMCUSNOFFICERENLISTEDOFFICERENLISTED

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY

During July, VMA-121 flew 992.3 hours and 888 sorties of which 967.5 hours and 862 sorties were flown in support of combat operations in the Republic of Vietnam. The Squadron delivered 1287.25 tons of aviation ordnance with the highest daily total being 61.8 tons on 12 July 1968.

Of the 862 combat sorties flown during July, 190 sorties were given battle damage assessment by the controlling agency. The following lists the reported DDs:

<u>TARGETS</u>	<u>DESTROYED</u>	<u>DAMAGED</u>
Structures	70	62
Dunkers	65	23
KBA	7 (c)	7 (p)
Secondary Explosions	6	
Secondary Fires	24	
Trench Line	475 meters	
Fighting Holes	11	
Sampons	22	5
Bridge	1	
Road Cuts	8	
Rockets	20	

VMA-121 lost one (1) aircraft and one pilot during July. Major Donald B. CAMPBELL was killed in the crash of VK-1 BuNo 151143 on 28 July after his aircraft failed to recover from a napalm run. This loss is attributed to enemy ground fire.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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Personnel. During July, VMA-121 joined 6 officers and 10 enlisted. Transferred during the month were 2 officers and 15 enlisted. Promotions for the month were: One to meritorious Sergeant; one to meritorious Corporal; one to Sergeant and one to Corporal under the regular promotion system. During July one man was reduced from Corporal to Lance Corporal. Reenlistments during the month were one Master Sergeant for 3 years. Extensions of enlistments were one Gunnery Sergeant, for 1 year. Extensions of overseas tours were executed by one Staff Sergeant, one Corporal and four Lance Corporals, all for six months.

2. S-2

a. Air Operations

(1) Eight of the pilots assigned to VMA-121 have over 100 combat missions, 11 have over 200, 1 has over 300, and one has reached 400 combat missions.

(2) At the end of July 1968 VMA-121's accident free hours totaled 7880.2, the last operational accident occurred on 27 December 1967.

b. Training

(1) During July one officer attended the Fifth Air Force Survival School and two enlisted men attended MK-36 Fuse School.

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<u>OPERATIONS</u>	<u>SORTIES FLOWN</u>	<u>UNITS</u>	<u>SORTIES FLOWN</u>
THOR	101	3d MarDiv	160
NEVADA EAGLE	31	1st AirCav	57
JEB STUART III	17	RokMar	17
CANTON II	14	1st MarDiv	183
HOUSTON	26	1st Recon	10
SCOTLAND	6	3rd Recon	10
LANCASTER WEST	14	5th Recon	4
MAMELUKE THRUST	43	26th Mar.	2
KENTUCKY	16	5th Mar	10
GUNSMOKE 14	2	7th Mar	16
ALLENBROOK	37	9th Mar	13
LANCASTER II	35	4th Mar	23
DODGE CITY	25	Task Force Hotel	73
SCOTLAND II	47	Task Force X-Ray	12
MONGOOSE RUN	8	Other	89
POCAHUNTAS	9		
OTHER	245		

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