

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

3:RJJ:rjj  
 5750  
 Ser: 003A27568  
 1 October 1968

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SECRET

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

Subj: Command Chronology for 1-30 September 1968

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.50  
 (b) GruO 5750.10

Encl: (1) VMA-121 Command Chronology

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

*J. G. Morgan*  
 J. G. MORGAN  
 By direction

VMA 121  
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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY  
OF  
MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 121

Period

1 - 30 September 1968

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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 William D. SHIPPEN  
1 - 30 September 1968

NO SUBORDINATE UNITS

NO UNITS ATTACHED

2. LOCATION

1 - 30 September 1968 - Chu Lai Air Base, Republic of Vietnam

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer	Major David A. LERPS, 1-30 Sep 1968
Operations Officer	Major Jimmie G. MORGAN, 1-30 Sep 1968
Administrative Officer	Major Thomas R. BURHAM, 1-30 Sep 1968
Maintenance Officer	Major Leon D. TYRRELL, 1-30 Sep 1968
Material Officer	1stLt Richard E. MUSSER, 1-30 Sep 1968

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTHUSMCUSN

<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
28	159

<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
1	0

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During September, VMA-121 flew 927.3 hours and 826 sorties of which 894.1 hours and 801 sorties were flown in support of combat operations in the Republic of Vietnam. The Squadron delivered 1135.52 tons of aviation ordnance, with the highest daily total being 63.25 tons on 12 September 1968.

Reported Battle Damage Assessment is as follows:

<u>TARGETS</u>	<u>DESTROYED</u>	<u>DAMAGED</u>
Structures	129	35
Bunkers	106	22
KBA	15 (o)	5 (p)
Secondary Explosions	12	
Secondary Fires	12	
Trench Line	475 meters	
Sampans	10	
Bridges	2	
Road Cuts	14	
Gun Sites	13	

VMA-121 lost one (1) aircraft and one (1) pilot during September. On 26 September 1968, Captain Dale A. LUSTER was killed in the crash of VK-3 BuNo 150094. It was Captain LUSTER's 372 combat mission over a span of two tours in the Republic of Vietnam.

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Personnel. During September, VMA-121 joined 8 officers and 5 enlisted. Transferred during the month were 4 officers and 5 enlisted. One man was Meritoriously Combat promoted to Staff Sergeant and one man was promoted to Corporal. One Staff Sergeant reenlisted for three years and one Sergeant reenlisted for six years. One Staff Sergeant, one Corporal and two Lance Corporals extended their overseas tours for periods of seven months.

2. S-3a. Air Operations

(1) Four of the pilots assigned to VMA-121 have over 100 combat missions, fifteen have over 200 and two have reached 300.

(2) At the end of September 1968 VMA-121's accident free hours totaled 10,021.5. The last operational accident occurred on 27 December 1967.

b. Training. During September no personnel from the unit attended any school outside the Group.

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PART IVOPERATIONS/UNITS SUPPORTED

<u>OPERATIONS</u>	<u>SORTIES FLOWN</u>	<u>UNITS</u>	<u>SORTIES FLOWN</u>
LANCASTER II	56	3d MarDiv	94
SCOTLAND II	24	1st MarDiv	133
MAMELUKE THRUST	28	1st Marines	28
GUNSMOKE IV	4	9th Marines	18
MILLBROOK	2	7th Marines	68
DRAGON VICTORY	36	3d Marines	6
SUSSEX BAY	12	3d Recon	6
NEVADA EAGLE	36	11th Marines	10
JEB STUART	28	1st Recon	24
KENTUCKY	4	5th Marines	22
CHAMPAIGN GROOVE	2	1st AMTRACKS	8
Peer Ledge	2	4th Marines	14
ALLENBROOK	2	26th Marines	6
HOUSTON	12	7th Air Force	22
NAPOLEAN SALINE	2	AMERICAL DIVISION	56
OTHER	551	1st AirCav	18
		Special Forces	16
		ROK Marines	36
		Task Force HOTEL	22
		ARVN	10
		101st Airborne	4
		5th Mechanized	12
		82nd Airborne	4
		OTHER	164

ENCLOSURE (1)  
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