

MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 211  
Marine Aircraft Group 12  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac  
FPO, San Francisco 96602

3:CFB:jdl  
05750  
03A21868  
4 Aug 1968

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From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 12  
Subj: Command Chronology  
Ref: (a) OpO 5750.10

Encl: ✓(1) Command Chronology of Marine Attack Squadron 211, period  
1 July through 31 July 1968

1. In accordance with reference (a) enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. This letter is declassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

*J. Leelanand*  
LTC J. LEEELAND, Jr.

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VMA-211 S&S File (1)

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VMA-211

CMD CHRON

JULY 1968

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VMA-211  
COMMAND CHRONOLOGY  
1-31 JULY 1968

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS  
DOD DIR 5200.10

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## PART I. ORGANIZATION DATA

a. Squadron Staff

LtCol. Leo J. LEBLANC, Jr.	Commanding Officer	1-31Jul68
Maj. Richard C. BARRETT	Executive Officer	1-31Jul68
Maj. Carl F. BERGSTROM, Jr.	Operations Officer	1-31Jul68
Maj. James S. GAHAGAN	Personnel Officer	1-31Jul68
Maj. Gerald L. ELLIS	Maintenance Officer	1-31Jul68
Maj. Robert M. PAYNE	Logistics Officer	1-31Jul68
Capt. Brendan M. GREELEY, Jr.	Aviation Safety Officer	1-31Jul68
Maj. James L. LUMSDEN	NATOPS Officer	1-31Jul68
Capt Kenneth E. COOK	Intelligence Officer	1-31Jul68
Lt (MC) Robert K. HOBBS	Flight Surgeon	1-31Jul68
MSgt. Charles H. DAY	Squadron Sergeant Major	1-10Jul68
MSgt. Dean A. HOPKINS	Squadron Sergeant Major	10-31Jul68

b. All combat operations during the reporting period of 1 July thru 31 July were conducted from Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam.

c. Average Monthly Strength

USMC Officers	22
USMC Enlisted	165
USN Officers	1
USN Enlisted	0

## PART II. NARRATIVE SUMMARY

a. During July, VMA-211 flew 1093 sorties for a total of 1,200.8 hours and dropped 1,602.7 tons of ordnance. Of this total, 541 sorties were close air support missions. Due to Operation THOR, the tempo of operations was increased at the beginning of the month but slowly diminished to about the same pace experienced during June.

The experience level of the pilots remained very high with over 40% having flown over 200 combat missions. During the month Major BERGSTROM flew his 300th combat mission, Major BARRETT flew his 200th and Lts PEARSON and SCHEFFLER flew their 100th missions.

Strike training was commenced by five of the pilots to increase the squadrons operational readiness in this area.

Aviation Safety continued to be stressed and the pay-off was no accidents occurring during the month of July.

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## PART III. SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

a. Personnel

1. Administration. During this reporting period the squadron gained 2 officers and 5 enlisted men. 2 officers and 9 enlisted men were transferred during the month of July.

2. Promotions. During this reporting period the following promotions were effected:

- 1 Staff Sergeant to Gunnery Sergeant
- 2 Lance Corporals to Corporal
- 2 Private First Class to Lance Corporal

3. Awards. There were a total of 61 Air Medals and 3 Distinguished Flying Crosses earned by squadron pilots during the month of July.

b. Air Operations

1. The following is a summary of the hours and sorties flown during the month of July:

Combat Sorties	1,040
Non-Combat Sorties	53
Combat Hours	1,145.4
Non-Combat Hours	55.4
Night Hours	183.0
Actual Instrument Hours	74.7
Total Hours	1,200.8
TPQ Sorties	101
CAS Sorties	541
DAS Sorties	208
Landing Zone Prep Sorties	40
Visual Reconnaissance Sorties	6
Tally Ho Sorties	138
Hostile Fire Missions	107

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2. The following is a summary of the ground operations supported and the number of sorties flown in their support:

Scotland II & III	89
Nevada Eagle	67
Mameluke Thrust	134
Houston	79
Allenbrook	66
Wheeler/Wallowa	8
Jeb Stuart III	34
DMZ	16
Kentucky	37
Swift Play	4
Saline/Napoleon	4
Norfolk Victory II	6
Thor	89
NVN (in addition to Thor)	116
Muskrat Run	2
Mongoose Run	10
Canton II	10
Native Bird	2
Burlington Trail	3
Pocahontas Forest	27
Dragon Palace	16
Lancaster III	70
Eager Yankee	10
Vance Canyon	2
Dodge City	18
Miscellaneous	196

c. Logistics

1. During the month of July the materiel section held inventory on the squadron INRL. The discrepancies are now being corrected.

2. The squadron Pre-Expended bins are improving. Avionics and Ordnance listing have been up dated. Material has been received or is on order.

3. With the loss of LCpl NUNEZ as CI clerk and Pfc Covington, the materiel section is under-manned.

4. The shortage in hand-tools has been corrected to some extent. It is our goal to have all deficiencies corrected by the end of August.

5. All follow-up action on outstanding requisitions are current and up to date.

6. Marine Corps Property Class II, Type I and Type II was updated and submitted to the Group Supply Officer.

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7. The AOCPS have been lowered considerably through the efforts of Group Supply and the material section.

d. Aircraft Maintenance

1. General. The Maintenance Department completed 12,805 items processed in general support of flight operations. Previously it was shown as unscheduled maintenance in the form of discrepancies.

2. The Maintenance Department was headed by Major G. L. ELLIS with Major W. R. EPTER as assistant Maintenance Officer.

3. The major problem areas for the month were lack of personnel, the squadron manning level is not realistic for a 24 hour 7 day work week, and lack of adequate hangar space with lighting and power supply.

4. Not Operationally Ready Statistics

Operationally Ready	10,937.2
Not Operationally Ready Supply	2,034.0
Not Operationally Ready Maintenance	2,316.8

Normal NOR Percentages ( IAW OPNAVINST 5112.14)

Operationally Ready	75%
NORS	10%
NORM	15%

NOR Percentages for WMA-211 for JULY 1968

Operationally Ready	72%
NORS	13%
NORM	15%

5. Comments on NORS/NORM percentages

a. NORS. Excessive NORS time was primarily due to BuNo's 150074, 151127, 152061 and 152001 having been out for Trunnion Mounts since 5 July 1968, one since 24 July 1968, and one since 28 July 1968.

b. NORM. No comments.

6. AOCPS. 158 AOCPS were requested for a daily average of 5 submitted each day. A high of 15 AOCPS submitted on 28 July with 34 AOCPS outstanding.

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The High 5 items were;

<u>FSN</u>	<u>NOMENCLATURE</u>	<u>DEMAND</u>
RH1660-918-9092	LOX CONVERTER	5
RD1660-719-9724	BOTTLE ASSY.	5
RH1660-872-1728	CANOPY SEAL VALVE	3
PART NO. ONLY	THUMBLON PTS. KIT	4
RG2915-788-0387	FUEL CONTROL	4

7. Present Status of Aircraft

<u>A10</u>	<u>A1B</u>	<u>DE</u>
16	5	3

The average aircraft availability for the morning launch during July was 16 aircraft for 80% of A1 aircraft.

8. Aircraft Damage for July.

- 2 July 68 152046 Took a round, 30cal HEI, at RT. wing tip.
- 21 July 68 152046 Battle damage inside left intake suspect shrapnel.
- 28 July 68 152000 Took shrapnel hit on port aileron.

9. Personnel

On 31 July 1968 there were 148 personnel assigned and 110 effective. Expected losses in August are 17.

e. Aviation Ordnance. The following ordnance was expended in combat operations during the month of July:

<u>NOMENCLATURE</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>
5.00" FFAR	393
2.75" FFAR	1,355
MK 12; SMOKE	18
CBU 24/B	58
MK 77; FIRE BOMB	506
MK 81; BOMB	16
MK 82; BOMB	4,739
ARM 1741, BOMB	91
20 MM	17,582
TOTAL TONNAGE	1,602.71
TOTAL POUNDAGE	3,205,411.42

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