

MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON-211
Marine Aircraft Group-12
1st Marine Aircraft Wing
Fleet Marine Force, Pacific
FPO San Francisco, 96602

3:TWG:dmg
5750
2 July 1972
003A2184

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group-12

Subj: Command Chronology for Period 1 January 1972 - 30 June 1972

Ref: (a) MCO P5751.1
(b) FMFPacO 5750.8
(c) WgO 5750.14
(d) GruO 5750.1G

Encl: (1) Marine Attack Squadron-211 Command Chronology

1. In compliance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. This cover letter is downgraded to unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

D. G. Ranney
D. G. RANNEY

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 January 1972 - 30 June 1972

- INDEX -

- PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA
- PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY
- PART III - SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
- PART IV - SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Enclosure (1)
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2 July 1972
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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. UNIT

COMMANDER

Marine Attack Squadron TWO ONE ONE

LtCol W. E. WILSON, JR
(1 Jan - 23 May 1972)

LtCol D. G. RANNEY
(23 May - 30 June 1972)

2. LOCATION

1 Jan - 13 Jan 1972 - MCAS Iwakuni, Japan
14 Jan - 13 Apr 1972 - NAF Naha, Okinawa
14 Apr - 16 May 1972 - MCAS Iwakuni, Japan
17 May - 30 Jun 1972 - Bien Hoa AB, Republic of Vietnam

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer	-	Maj S. P. BRUTCHER (1 Jan - 28 Feb)
		Maj R. A. BISHOP (29 Feb - 13 Apr)
		Maj D. M. FERRIS (14 Apr - 6 May)
		Maj L. S. UNDERHILL (7 May - 30 Jun)
Administrative Officer	-	Capt P. K. DAVIS (1 Jan - 26 Feb)
		Capt R. B. HAYNES (27 Feb - 25 Jun)
		Capt F. M. RIVERS (26 Jun - 30 Jun)
Intelligence Officer	-	Capt W. E. RANSBOTTOM (1 Jan - 19 Apr)
		Capt J. M. MALONEY (20 Apr - 30 Jun)
Operations Officer	-	Maj R. A. BISHOP (1 Jan - 28 Feb)
		Maj L. S. UNDERHILL (29 Feb - 6 May)
		Maj M. V. GRIFFITH (7 May - 30 Jun)
Logistics Officer	-	Capt M. D. SMITH (1 Jan - 25 Jan)
		Capt R. G. NEELEY (26 Jan - 28 Feb)
		Capt G. A. AMPAGOOMIAN (29 Feb - 30 Jun)

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5750
2 July 1972
003A2184

Maintenance Officer

- Maj D. M. FERRIS (1 Jan - 13 Apr)
Capt R. L. GATEWOOD (14 Apr - 30 Jun)

4. AVERAGE STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>	
<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
23	155

<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>ENLISTED</u>
0	0

-3-

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5750

2 July 1972

003A2184

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PART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. Operationally, the period covered by this report will be divided into two parts. The first part is from 1 January to 16 May 1972. The second is from 17 May until 30 June 1972.

2. 1 January - 16 May 1972:

a. During this period the squadron continued to operate from two bases in the Western Pacific, MCAS Iwakuni, Japan and NAF Naha, Okinawa. A total of 1769.8 hours were flown. Ordnance training comprised 51.2 percent of these hours or 685 sorties for 911 hours. This was a significant increase over the 35.2 percent of flight time devoted to ordnance training the previous six months. The improvement is attributable to the weapons training facilities available at Naha, compared to the necessity for utilizing Korean targets when operating from Iwakuni.

b. From 14 April through 16 May, the squadron headquarters was located at MCAS Iwakuni. Six officers, nineteen enlisted and five aircraft were located at Naha, Okinawa as part of ALPHADET-12, the weapons training detachment of MAG-12.

c. On 8-9 May, the squadron successfully completed an NTPI, recertifying VMA-211 as a special weapons ready squadron. Four loading teams as well as administrative records and operational procedures were examined and found to be in compliance with all existing directives.

d. Ordnance delivered 1 January - 16 May 1972:

Bomb, Practice Mk-76	-	1184
" " Mk-106	-	363
" " Mk-104	-	23
Bomb, Mk-82	-	326
" Mk-83	-	18
" Mk-84	-	2
Firebomb, Mk-77	-	52
Round, 20MM	-	22,500
Rocket, 2.75"	-	1442
" 5.0"	-	188

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5750
2 July 1972
003A2184

e. Two aircraft accidents occurred during this period with one fatality.

3. 17 May - 30 June 1972:

a. On 17 May 1972, VMA-211 moved 16 aircraft from Iwakuni and Naha to Bien Hoa AB, RVN. The squadron had been absent from Vietnam for only two years and two months.

b. Combat operations began on 18 May. On 18, 19 and 20 May most pilots received area familiarization hops in the right seat of USAF A-37 Dragonflies of the 8th Special Operations Squadron. Each pilot's second sortie was flown in a section of A-4's on a combined mission with a section of A-37's. The squadron flew a total of 819 combat sorties as of 30 June 1972 for a 1019.4 combat hour total. All were CAS/DAS missions in MR III and MR IV, and Cambodia.

c. LtCol D. G. RANNEY relieved LtCol W. E. WILSON, JR, as Commanding Officer on 23 May 1972.

d. Ordnance delivered 18 May - 30 June 1972:

Bomb, Mk-81	-	204
" Mk-82	-	4547
" Mk-83	-	27
" CBU-24	-	159

ROCKEYE	-	6
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Round, 20MM	-	21,357
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Rocket, 2.75"	-	864
" 5.0"	-	1237

e. Bomb damage assessment for 18 May - 30 June 1972:

Killed by air	-	(234) confirmed, (77) probable
Wounded by air	-	(50) confirmed
Bunkers	-	(85) plus (1) complex destroyed, (9) damaged
Fortified fighting positions	-	(60) destroyed, (34) damaged

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5750
2 July 1972
003A2184

Foxholes	- (2) destroyed
Structures	- (91) destroyed, (38) damaged
Gun positions	- (16) destroyed
Mortar positions	- (10) destroyed
Sampan	- (25) destroyed, (1) damaged
Trucks	- (6) destroyed, (3) damaged
Bridges	- (3) destroyed, (2) damaged
Supply areas	- (1) destroyed
RPG-2 Rocket launchers	- (2) destroyed
AAA Sites	- (1) damaged
Ford	- (1) destroyed
Secondary Explosions	- (100)
Sustained Fires	- (29)

f. Battle damage sustained totaled (1) drop tank and (1) MER-7, slightly damaged.

g. There were no aircraft accidents or incidents during this period.

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2 July 1972
003A2184

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- 14 January - Deployment to NAF Naha, Okinawa
- 14 April - Return to MCAS Iwakuni, Japan
- 8-9 May - Nuclear Technical Proficiency Inspection
- 17 May - Deployment to Bien Hoa AB, RVN
- 23 May - Change of Command ceremony, LtCol W. E. WILSON, JR, relieved by LtCol D. G. RANNEY

2. PERSONNEL

a. Promotions:

- (1) Ten PFC's to Lance Corporal
- (2) Thirty-five Lance Corporals to Corporal
- (3) Thirty Corporals to Sergeant
- (4) Two Sergeants to Staff Sergeant
- (5) Three Staff Sergeants to Gunnery Sergeant
- (6) One Gunnery Sergeant to Master Sergeant
- (7) One Master Sergeant to Master Gunnery Sergeant
- (8) One Second Lieutenant to First Lieutenant
- (9) Five First Lieutenants to Captain

b. The average total strength of the squadron was 178.

c. An average of 10 personnel were TAD each month.

d. AWARDS: Two Distinguished Flying Crosses and eighteen Air Medals were recommended. Five pilots were also recommended to receive Crosses of Gallantry for action in support of the defense of An Loc.

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2 July 1972
003A2184

3. INTELLIGENCE

a. Prior to the present deployment, the S-2 section worked primarily in the area of security. The following actions were initiated/completed or assigned:

- Six local records checks
- Three background investigations
- Eleven Secret clearances
- Seven Top Secret clearances
- Four Interim Top Secret clearances

Forty-seven persons were screened for the Personnel Reliability Program and access badges were issued for use at the MWWU compound. One man was removed from the reliability program for administrative reasons and one was placed on probation.

a. Since arriving at Bien Hoa, VMA-211's Intelligence Section was consolidated at group level with, MAG-12 S-2 and VMA-311's S-2. The combined staff conducted daily intelligence briefs for pilots prior to each mission and compiled BDA and intelligence from pilot debriefs.

4. AIR OPERATIONS

a. Total flight time 1 January - 30 June 1972:	5872.1 hours
b. Total sorties flown for ordnance training:	685
c. Total hours flown for ordnance training:	911.0 hours
d. Total combat sorties flown:	819
e. Total combat hours flown:	1019.4 hours

PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- None -

-8-

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