

MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 214  
Marine Aircraft Group 12  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing  
Fleet Marine Force, Pacific  
FPO, San Francisco 96602

3:RJR:hma  
5750  
4 March 1967

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 12  
Subj: Command Chronology  
Ref: (a) GruO 5750.1C  
Encl: ✓(1) Command Chronology of Marine Attack Squadron 214  
1. In accordance with the instructions contained in reference (a),  
enclosure (1) is submitted.

  
R. E. HEMMINGWAY

*MAR-214*

*CMD CHRON*

*FEB 1967*

MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 214

CHU LAI REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

22 JUNE 1965 - 16 FEBRUARY 1966

1 MAY 1966 - 28 FEBRUARY 1967

ENCLOSURE (1)

PART I. ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. Listing of the Commanding Officer and Staff

Major Richard E. HEMMINGWAY, Commanding Officer, 1Dec1966-28Feb1967

Major Elmer S. PAYNE, Executive Officer, 1Dec1966-28Feb1967

Major Harris J. FENNELL, Administrative Officer, 1Dec1966-28Feb1967

Major Richard E. SKINNER, Operations Officer, 6Nov1966-20Feb1967

Major Robert J. REID, Operations Officer, 21Feb1967-28Feb1967

Second Lieutenant Richard O. BEMISH, Logistics Officer, 15Sep66-28Feb67

Major James M. COX, Aircraft Maintenance Officer, 1Dec66-28Feb67

Major John M. KRETSINGER, Aviation Safety Officer, 5Nov66-10Feb67

Major Garry HARLAN, Aviation Safety Officer 11Feb1967-28Feb1967

First Sergeant Robert P. O'ROURKE, Squadron First Sergeant, 14Jan67-28Feb67

2. Task Organization and Unit Location. Marine Attack Squadron 214, Marine Aircraft Group 12, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Chu Lai Airfield, Republic of Vietnam.

3. Average Monthly Strength

USMC Officers (NA) - 20  
 USMC Officers (AG) - 7  
 USMC Enlisted - 190

USN Officers - 1  
 USN Enlisted - 0

4. Important Visitors. None.

PART II. NARRATIVE SUMMARY. Marine Attack Squadron 214 flew 861 sorties for a total of 1069.3 flight hours during the period 1-28 February, and expended 795.8 tons of ordnance on enemy targets.

PART III. SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. Personnel/Administration

a. Joined/Transferred. Two officers and three enlisted were joined, and seven officers and six enlisted were transferred.

b. Promotions. There were fourteen promotions during the month as follows:

To First Lieutenant. Louis P. ROATH III

To Gunnery Sergeant. Melvin A. BAKER

To Staff Sergeant. John R. OMES

To Sergeant. Gary W. CHRONIC

To Corporal. Alexander P. GOWANS  
Cecil W. GRESHAM JR.

To Lance Corporal. Raymond V. JOHNSTONE JR.  
Howard C. LANHAM  
Roger D. MERCER  
Douglas J. HUGFORD  
Gregory N. PATTERSON  
Peter N. TRYGSTAD  
Vernon L. SCROGGINS

To Private First Class. John W. ALLEN JR.

c. Meritorious Masts. The Commanding Officer presented Meritorious Masts for outstanding performance of duty to the following personnel:

Corporal Thomas J. GRZYWACZ  
Corporal Larry E. HELWIG  
Lance Corporal Patrick F. LENTINI  
Lance Corporal James A. MONTEE  
Lance Corporal Robert L. TREJBAL

d. Rest and Relaxation (R&R). Twenty officers and men enjoyed R&R during the month of February.

(1) Honolulu. Major John M. KRETSINGER, Captain Michael O. BOSS, Warrant Officer Walter E. WALDIE, and Staff Sergeant Richard A. BENNET.

(2) Hong Kong. First Lieutenant Robert O. RIGGS, Corporal Robert J. KARR, Corporal James R. ROSENBERGER, and Lance Corporal John A. MOORE.

(3) Bangkok. Lance Corporal Robert C. EARP Jr., Lance Corporal Frank G. HEUBNER JR., and Lance Corporal James A. MONTEE.

(4) Taipei. Sergeant James B. MITCHELL and Corporal Marvin C. LONG.

(5) Okinawa. Sergeant Charles J. FOWLER Jr.

- (6) Kuala Lumpur. Lance Corporal Robert MILJENOVICH.
- (7) Manilla. Corporal Coy N. TYLER.
- (8) Singapore. Corporal Timothy C. BRESLIN and Corporal George L. ROHRS.
- (9) Tokyo. Sergeant Charles A. ALLEN and Lance Corporal Val R. TAYLOR.
- e. Reenlistments. The following personnel reenlisted during the month.
- Sergeant Robert L. JAMES for six years.  
Sergeant Gary W. CHRONIC for four years.
- f. Extensions of Overseas Tours. There were eleven extensions of overseas tours during the month.
- Major Harris J. FENNELL  
Captain Clyde E. FOREMAN  
Gunnery Sergeants Maynard L. BROWN and Charles E. SAXON Jr.  
Sergeants Jon L. CARL and Michael M. McKEOWN.  
Corporals Dominick DeROSA and Thomas J. KRYGOWSKI.  
Lance Corporals Francis E. PENNY, Julius E. PLANT and Roger L. SHOURDS.
- g. Awards. A total of sixteen Air Medals were awarded to squadron pilots during the month.

## 2. Operations

- a. There were 861 sorties and 1069.3 flight hours flown during the month. Of these, 817 sorties and 1008.5 flight hours were combat missions. The squadron expended 795.8 tons of aircraft ordnance against enemy targets. Each of these figures represents a new high for Marine Attack Squadron 214 since the commencement of operations in Southeast Asia. In addition, the squadron flew it's 10,000 combat sortie, and now has a total of 10,584.
- b. Major Garry HARIAN and First Lieutenant Allen J. BRADEN completed the Jungle Escape and Evasion School at NAS Cubi Point.
- c. Of the twenty-one Naval Aviators assigned on 28 February, nineteen are considered completely qualified in all phases of conventional ordnance delivery and tactics. The remaining two are newly joined and are progressing nicely through the familiarization phase.
- d. Three aircraft incidents occurred during the month. The supporting documents are appended to Part IV of this chronology.

### 3. Aircraft Maintenance

a. The average aircraft availability was 85% for the month. This is an 8% improvement over the preceding month and 10% better than the standard 75.7% for A-4 aircraft. This availability record contributed in large measure to the excellent squadron sortie/flight hour effort.

b. The 795.8 tons of ordnance that was expended by the squadron during the month represents 99% of the ordnance loaded by the Ordnance Section. This is noteworthy reliability.

c. At present there are four aircraft in Progressive Aircraft Rework (PAR) and eighteen aircraft "In-country" in A-1 status.

d. The 3M system of maintenance management was implemented on an "on-the-job" training basis. The squadron will be formally implemented on 1 March.

e. The Ground Support Section completely refinished and repainted two TUD-80 tractors in addition to performing the daily ground support equipment maintenance.

f. The Flight Line Section completed construction of a hut for tire storage and a shelter for engine oil and bowzers.

g. The Avionics Section had four personnel complete the AFCS school at Headquarters and Maintenance Squadron 12. Two other personnel are attending the ALQ-51 school at NAS Atsugi, Japan.

PART IV. DOCUMENTATION. The following supporting documents are attached as appendices to this chronology.

- ✓ Appendix 1 - VMA-214 Aircraft Incident Report 27-67I
- ✓ Appendix 2 - VMA-214 Aircraft Incident Report 28-67I
- ✓ Appendix 3 - VMA-214 Aircraft Incident Report 29-67I

ROUTINE

UNCLASSIFIED

RETC

FROM: MARATKRON TWO ONE FOUR

TO: NAVAVNSAFCEM

INFO: CNO  
 CMC  
 CG FMFPAC  
 CG FMFLANT  
 COMNAVAIRPAC  
 COMFAIRWESTPAC  
 CG FIRST MAW  
 CG THIRD MAW  
 MARAIRGRU ONE TWO

080020Z

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FOR CNO CODE OP-05F AND CMC CODE AAP

REPORT OF AIRCRAFT INCIDENT

A. OPNAVINST 3750.6E

1. A4C, 148465, VMA-214

2. 6Feb67, 1422H, 285 degree radial 18 NM HEB TACAN RVN.

3. DAS

4. ECHO. STBD SLAT DENTED, TWO INCH RIP LEADING EDGE, PORT MAIN LAND GEAR FAIRING DOOR DENTED SLIGHTLY.

5. PILOT MADE A 20 DEGREE STRAFING RUN. AFTER NORMAL PULLOFF, PILOT FELT AIRCRAFT HIT DEBRIS WHICH CAME FROM THE TARGET AREA INTO THE AIR TO APPROXIMATELY 300 FT AGL.

6. DORSIE D. PAGE JR., MAJOR, 071693/7333, USMC, ACTIVE, PARACHUTE NOT UTILIZED, NO INJURY.

7. N/A

8. N/A

9. N/A

10. DIRECT ENEMY ACTION/EVASION OF FIRE.

11. 27-67I

DRAFTED BY:

*G. Harlan*  
 G. HARLAN, MAJOR, USMC  
 AVNSAFO

RELEASED BY:

*R. E. Hemmingway*  
 R. E. HEMMINGWAY, MAJOR, USMC  
 COMMANDING OFFICER

DISTR: MAC-12 CO, ASO (2), S-3, ALL VMA'S

APPENDIX (1)

ROUTINE

UNCLASSIFIED

EFTO

FROM: MARATKRON TWO ONE FOUR

TO: NAVA VNSAFGEN

INFO: CNO  
 CMC  
 CG FMFPAC  
 CG FMFLANT  
 COMNAVIAIRPAC  
 COMFAIRWESTPAC  
 CG FIRST MAW  
 CG THIRD MAW  
 MARAIRCGRU ONE TWO

100100Z  
 FEB.  
 67

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FOR CNO CODE OP-05F AND CMC CODE AAP

REPORT OF AIRCRAFT INCIDENT

- A. OPNAVINST 3750.6E
1. A4C, 145110, VMA-214.
2. 8FEB67, 1730H, UNKNOWN.
3. VISUAL RECON.
4. ECHO, EIGHT INCH GASH ON TOP OF RADOME.
5. PILOT ON VISUAL RECON WHEN HIT BY SPENT 20MM API ROUND. NO KNOWN AIRCRAFT FIRING IN AREA. PILOT DOES NOT KNOW WHEN OR WHERE HIT OCCURED.
6. LOUIS P. ROATE III 2NDLT, 092564 USMCR 7333 ACTIVE, PARACHUTE NOT UTILIZED NO INJURY.
7. N/A
8. N/A
9. N/A
10. DIRECT ENEMY ACTION/ENEMY FIRE.
11. 28-671.

DRAFTED BY:

*G. Harlan*  
 G. HARLAN, MAJOR, USMC  
 AVNSAFO

RELEASED BY:

*R. E. Hemmingway*  
 R. E. HEMMINGWAY, MAJOR, USN  
 COMMANDING OFFICER

DIST: MAG-12 CO, ASO (2), S-3, ALL VMA'S

100100Z  
 FEB 67  
 APPENDIX (2)



ROUTINE

UNCLASSIFIED

BFTO

220550Z

FROM: MARATKRON TWO ONE FOUR

TO: NAVAVNSAFOM

INFO: CNO  
 CMC  
 CG FMFPAC  
 CG FMPLANT  
 COMNAVAIRPAC  
 COMFAIRWESTPAC  
 CG FIRST MAW  
 CG THIRD MAW  
 MARAIRCGRU ONE TWO

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FOR CNO CODE OP-05F AND CMC CODE AAF

REPORT OF AIRCRAFT INCIDENT

- A. OPN VINST 3750.6E
1. A4C, 148530, V.A-214.
2. 23FEB:7, 0958H, 165 RAD 38 NM, CHU LAI TACAN, RVN.
3. DIRECT AIR SUPPORT
4. ECHO, ONE 50 CAL ROUND PENETRATED RUDDER, 24 INCHES FROM TOP OF RUDDER, ENTERED FORWARD PORT SIDE EXITED STARBOARD.
5. PILOT MADE <sup>SIX</sup> ~~THREE~~ 10 DEGREE RUNS. <sup>FIVE</sup> ~~ONE~~ SNAKEYE AND ONE STRAFING RUN. ~~ENEMY~~ R  
 ENEMY FIRE IN AREA, UNKNOWN ON WHICH RUN AIRCRAFT HIT.
6. BEN L. DYALS 1STLT, 091202 USMC 7333 ACTIVE, PARACHUTE NOT UTILIZED, NO INJURY.
7. N/A
8. N/A
9. N/A
10. DIRECT ENEMY ACTION/ENEMY FIRE.
11. 29-671.

DRAFTED BY:

*G. Harlan*  
 G. HARLAN, MAJOR, USMC  
 AVNSAFO

RELEASED BY:

*R. E. Hemmingway*  
 R. E. HEMMINGWAY, MAJOR, USMC  
 COMMANDING OFFICER

DIST: MAG-12 CO, ASO (2), S-3, ALL VMA'S

APPENDIX (3)