

MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 223
Marine Aircraft Group 12
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
APO, San Francisco 96602

3:KDH:jkn
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5 October 1967

SECRET

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

Subj: Command Chronology for October 1967; submission of

Ref: (a) GruO 5750.10

Encl: (1) VMA-223 Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.

A. W. Anthony
A. W. ANTHONY

VMA-223

CMD CHRON

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ENCLOSURE (2)

OCT 1967

MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 223
Marine Aircraft Group 12
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
APO, San Francisco 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 October 1967 to 31 October 1967

INDEX

Part I - Organizational Data

Part II - Narrative Summary

Part III - Significant Events

Part I

Organizational Data

1. <u>Designation</u>	<u>Commander</u>	<u>Date</u>
VMA-223	LtCol Arthur W. ANTHONY	1-31Oct67

2. Location
 MCAS Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam

3. <u>Staff Officers</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
Executive Officer	Maj Thomas R. MADDOCK	1-31Oct67
Operations Officer	Maj Thomas D. COONEY	1-31Oct67
Administrative Officer	Capt Charles B. WOODWORTH	1-31Oct67
Intelligence Officer	Capt Charles T. HUCKELBERY	1-31Oct67
Materiel Officer	Maj David R. RAMZEL	1-31Oct67

4. Average Monthly Strength

USMC		USN	
<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>
25 NA 4 A/G	165	1	0

ENCLOSURE (1)

Part II

Narrative Summary.

During the month of October Marine Attack Squadron 223 conducted normal air operations mainly in support of the 3rd Marine Amphibious Force units within the I Corps area of the Republic of Vietnam. However, 327 sorties were flown in or north of the DMZ. Ground operations and enemy contacts during the month were considered moderate. VMA-223 flew 658 sorties and compiled 829 flight hours while delivering 816 tons of aviation ordnance against the enemy.

ENCLOSURE (1)

SECRET

Part III

Significant Events1. Administrative

a. During October the normal personnel gains and loses were; 4 officers and 22 enlisted personnel transferred and 11 officers and 16 enlisted personnel joined. The squadron continued to fly a moderate combat schedule while some departments were 40% below manning level in personnel.

b. Three Special Weapons Pilots received refresher training during this period by the Marine Air Weapons Training Sub Unit, Iwakuni, Japan.

c. During this period VMA-223 pilots were recommended for 27 Air Medals.

2. Operations

a. Combat air operations were conducted on 29 of the 31 days of the month. The Squadron flew 658 sorties and 829 flight hours of which 602 sorties and 772 flight hours were flown as combat missions. The fluctuating pace of air operations in support of apparently light to moderate ground activity limited the Squadron to less than 1000 flight hours for the first time in 7 months. However, again as in the past, Marine Attack Squadron 223 led the Group in combat sorties and flight time. This continued superlative performance reflects great credit upon the Squadron Maintenance personnel and reveals their skill, dedication and professionalism.

b. In October flight operations were largely conducted in support of 3rd Marine Amphibious Force units. However, a significant portion of the 327 combat sorties flown in or north of the DMZ were in support of the 7th Air Force. Major air/ground operations which received support from Marine Attack Squadron 223 were NEUTRALIZE, WHEELER, KINGFISHER, OPERATION PLAN 112.67, MEDENA, FREMONT, ARDMORE, KNOX, GRANITE and ERADICATE.

c. During October the aircraft of this squadron experienced no battle damage. On 5 October a center line fuel tank was inadvertently dropped while jettisoning ordnance in an authorized jettison area. The cause was determined to be improper switch management. During climb to altitude on 21 October an APN 141 antenna was lost from an aircraft. Inspection of the aircraft revealed no evidence of the part having been lost due to unusual stresses or material failure. The most probable cause was incorrect component installation and inadequate inspection.

d. During this month the Progressive Aircraft Rework and Shoehorn Installation programs progressed normally. Two aircraft were inducted into PAR, one returned, and two were undergoing PAR as of 31 October. Four aircraft were delivered to NAS Cubi Point for induction into the Shoehorn modification program, five aircraft were received from the program with appropriate modifications, and three aircraft were being processed at the end of the month. In spite of limited aircraft availability, because of PAR

SECRET

ENCLOSURE (1)

SECRET

and Shoehorn programs, the Squadron maintained an average aircraft availability of 61.7 percent and 11 aircraft up per day. Utilization of aircraft was 163 percent.

e. Despite the reduced number of sorties flown during October, total poundage delivered exceeded September by 99,572. VMA-223 pilots delivered 1,631,755 pounds of aviation ordnance against the enemy. Ordnance expended was as follows:

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>
20MM Ammunition	3,681
MK-59A1 Bombs	20
MK-77 Napalm	228
MK-81 Bombs	1,010
MK-82 Bombs	1,570
M177A1 Bombs	26
M65A1 Bombs	232
LAU 10A	100

f. Captains J. T. CLINE and M. R. SNEDEKER flew their 200th combat mission in this Vietnam conflict. Major T. R. MADDOCK flew his 100th combat mission over Vietnam.

g. On 5 October the squadron flew its 14,000th sortie and on 7 October its 18,000th flight hour in support of combat operations in this Southeast Asian Conflict.

SECRET

ENCLOSURE (1)