

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

1/HSM/jtg  
5750  
7 May 1968  
01A12868

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From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 12 (Attn: S-3)  
Subj: Command Chronology for 23 to 30 April 1968; submission of  
Ref: (a) Gru0 5750.1  
Encl: ✓(1) Marine Attack Squadron 223 Command Chronology  
1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.

  
E. D. SMITH

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VMMA-223

CMD CHRON

23-30 APR 1968

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

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

23 APRIL 1968 TO 30 APRIL 1968

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## PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Designation                      Commander                      Date  
     VMA-223                      LtCol Arthur W. ANTHONY                      23-30 Apr 1968
2. Location  
     Chu Lai Air Base, Republic of Vietnam
3. Staff Officers

Executive Officer	LtCol Albert E. BREWSTER	23-28 Apr 1968
	LtCol Charles W. HENRY	29-30 Apr 1968
Operations Officer	Major Lawrence J. GODBY	23-30 Apr 1968
Aircraft Maintenance Officer	Major John A. MORRA	23-30 Apr 1968
Materiel Officer	Major James L. CUNNINGHAM	23-30 Apr 1968
Intelligence Officer	Major Earl R. ALLEN	23-30 Apr 1968
Administrative Officer	1stLt Ralph P. HUNDLEY	23-30 Apr 1968
4. Average Monthly Strength

	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>
<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>
N/A - 28	224	1	0
A/G - 5			

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## PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

On 23 April 1968, Marine Attack Squadron 223 arrived at Chu Lai Air Base, Republic of Vietnam, after spending 5 months at MCAS, Iwakuni, Japan. Within two hours of the arrival of the squadron's A4C aircraft, the first combat sorties were being launched. During the remainder of April, the squadron conducted combat air operations in support of units of the 3rd Marine Amphibious Force, 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions, 1st Air Cavalry, and Republic of Korea Marines in the I Corps area. VMA-223 flew 136 sorties and compiled 167 flight hours while delivering 141 tons of ordnance against enemy targets.

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## PART III

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. Administration.

a. During the last week of April, two officers were joined and two were transferred. A total of 45 enlisted personnel were transferred to H&MS-12 and MABS-12 while no enlisted personnel were joined.

b. A comparison of On-Board, T/O, and Manning Level figures is presented below:

	<u>Total Strength</u>	<u>T/O</u>	<u>Manning Level</u>
Aviators	28	35	28
Aviation/Ground	5	6	4
Enlisted	<u>224</u>	<u>218</u>	<u>187</u>
Total	257	259	219

2. Operations.

a. Combat air operations were conducted on all of the 8 days that the squadron was aboard Chu Lai in April. A total of 136 sorties and 167.0 flight hours were logged, of which 121 were combat sorties and 146.1 were combat flight hours. An additional 32.9 hours were flown in MAG-12 TA4F aircraft by the 11 squadron pilots having no previous combat experience.

b. Combat operations consisted primarily of close air support missions in support of the 3rd Marine Division, and various Army Airborne and Cavalry units operating in the I Corps area. The remaining flights were daylight TPQ missions when target weather precluded normal delivery methods.

c. Through the dedicated efforts of the VMA-223 Maintenance Department the squadron's aircraft were maintained at an enviable 89% availability level. As a direct result of these efforts, the squadron was able to assume its share of MAG-12's frag within an exceptionally short period of time.

d. During operations in April, 141 tons of ordnance were delivered on enemy targets by VMA-223 pilots. The following ordnance was expended:

MK 81 S.E.	174	M 117A1	95
MK 82 S.E.	164	MK 77	15
MK 82	105	20MM	2,444

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## PART III

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS (CON'T)

e. The Progressive Aircraft Rework program progressed normally. Two aircraft remained at PAR during the entire month of April. One aircraft was inducted and none were returned. No battle damage was incurred during this period.

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