

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

3:RH:rjj
05750
Ser: 03A12569
5 MAY 1969

CONFIDENTIAL (Declassified upon removal of enclosure (1))

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

Subj: Command Chronology for 1-30 April 1969; submission of

Ref: (a) GruO 5750.1C

Encl: (1) VMA-223 Command Chronology

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

M. S. Newbill
M. S. NEWBILL

VMA-223

Cmd Chron

MAAG-12 S&C#	COPY#
562-69	1

VMA 223
Log to 0194-69
Serial 1 of 6
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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
OF
MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 223
FOR THE PERIOD
1 - 30 APRIL 1969

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5 MAY 1969PART IORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDERMARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 223
Marine Aircraft Group 12
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
FPO, San Francisco 96602Major Leonard T. PRESTON, Jr.
1 - 10 April 1969
Lieutenant Colonel Merrill S. NEWBILL
11 - 30 April 1969

NO SUBORDINATE UNITS

NO UNITS ATTACHED

2. LOCATION

Chu Lai Air Base, Republic of Vietnam

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer	Major Charles D. ROBINSON	1-10 April 1969
	Major Edward J. HEISE	11-30 April 1969
Operations Officer	Major Richard S. ROBERTSON	1-30 April 1969
Administrative Officer	1stLt Larry C. SWINEA	1-19 April 1969
	Captain Gary E. REED	20-30 April 1969
Maintenance Officer	Major John H. SNYDER	1-30 April 1969
Material Officer	1stLt Peter D. WALTERS	1-30 April 1969

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
31	147	1	0
<u>NA</u>	<u>AG</u>		
27	4		

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During April 1969, VMA-223 flew 988.8 hours and 895 sorties of which 963.7 hours and 870 sorties were flown in support of combat operations in the Republic of Vietnam. Squadron pilots delivered 1137.54 tons of aviation ordnance with the highest daily total being 63.21 tons delivered on 25 April 1969.

Reported Battle Damage Assessment for April 1969:

<u>TARGETS</u>	<u>DESTROYED</u>	<u>DAMAGED</u>
KBA	25 (c)	3 (p)
Bunkers	183	20
Structures	181	45
Gun Sites	4	
Bridges	1	
Secondary Explosions	36	
Secondary Fires	63	
Road Cuts	18	
Trench Line	550 meters	
Fighting Holes	13	
Tunnels	7	

The "BULLDOGS" of VMA-223 increased to 12,225.3 the combat hours and 11,174 the combat sorties since returning to the Republic of Vietnam on 22 April 1968. The total hours flown in support of combat operations in the Republic by the Squadron is 32,020.0 during 26,633 sorties. VMA-223 flew 99 more sorties than any other Squadron in Marine Aircraft Group 12 during April 1969 to lead the Group for the third straight month and for the fifth time in six months.

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a. Personnel strength varied throughout the month of April. Four Officers joined the Squadron, all of them Naval Aviators. Twenty four Enlisted personnel also joined. Departures due to expiration of tours included twenty enlisted. A total of five Officers and two Enlisted were transferred from this Squadron to other WestPac units.

b. VMA-223 had a change of command on 10 April 1969 when Major Leonard T. PRESTON, Jr. relinquished the Squadron to Lieutenant Colonel Merrill S. NEWBILL. The Squadron had been commanded by Major PRESTON since 15 October 1968.

c. During the month of April Staff Sergeant R. J. JACOBSON received a Meritorious Mast for his work as Squadron Operations Chief.

d. Personnel Promotions

- (1) T. J. ROBERTS was promoted to Master Gunnery Sergeant
- (2) W. C. GALHOUN was promoted to Staff Sergeant
- (3) R. W. JOHNSON was promoted to Staff Sergeant
- (4) A. J. SEPCIE was promoted to Staff Sergeant
- (5) F. E. STOLL was promoted to Sergeant
- (6) K. G. SHULAR received a Meritorious Combat Promotion to Corporal
- (7) W. H. CUNNINGHAM received a Meritorious Promotion to Lance Corporal
- (8) M. T. STEINERT was promoted to Private First Class

2. OPERATIONS

a. VMA-223 conducted air operations on each day of April in support I Corps, II Corps, and 7th Air Force targets. Operations and Units supported are listed in Part IV.

b. At the end of April 1969, VMA-223's accident free hours totaled 6,781.1. A minor accident involving Captain D. T. PEREIRA occurred on 29 April 1969. The findings of the investigation are still pending.

c. Two Naval Aviators assigned to VMA-223 have reached 500 combat missions, four have over 300, five have over 200, and nine have over 100.

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d. Training

(1) Three Naval Aviators attended Jungle Survival School at Clark AFB, Republic of the Philippines.

(2) Three Naval Aviators attended JEST School at NAS Cubi Point, Republic of the Philippines.

3. MAINTENANCE

a. The Squadron had a daily average of 18.7 aircraft on hand, 14.2 daily availability and averaged 52.9 hours per aircraft for the month for 132.9% utilization.

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<u>OPERATIONS</u>	<u>SORTIES FLOWN</u>	<u>UNITS</u>	<u>SORTIES FLOWN</u>
Icebound	2	AMERICAL	81
War Cloud	2	101st Airborne	64
Purple Martin	28	1st Recon Bn	16
Oklahoma Hills	21	5th Marines	32
Maine Crag	12	MAG-16	4
Mass Striker	8	3rd MarDiv	97
Cass Pack	4	U. S. Navy	2
August Knight	2	7th Marines	11
Borax Labor	2	1st MarDiv	52
Kentucky Jumper	11	Special Forces	12
Victory Dragon	1	RCK Marines	32
Bristol Boots	2	ARVN	32
		7th Air Force	80
		1st Marines	5
		3rd Marines	9
		4th Marines	10
		24th Corps	2
		3rd Recon Bn	7
		108th Artillery	5
		9th Marines	9
		5th Mechanized	3

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