

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

3:JLF:rjj
05750
Ser: 03A15569

CONFIDENTIAL (Declassified upon removal of enclosure (1))

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

Subj: Command Chronology for 1-31 May 1969; submission of

Ref: (a) Gru0 5750.10

Encl: ✓(1) VMA-223 Command Chronology

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

M. S. Newbill
M. S. NEWBILL

VMA-223

END ATTN

VMA 223
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(1))

MAY 1969

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
OF
MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 223
FOR THE PERIOD
1 - 31 MAY 1969

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During May 1969, VMA-223 flew 1114.1 hours and 1022 sorties of which 1087.3 hours and 997 sorties were flown in support of combat operations in the Republic of Vietnam. Squadron pilots delivered 1341.24 tons of aviation ordnance with the highest daily total being 67.23 tons delivered on 18 May 1969.

Reported Battle Damage Assessment for May 1969:

<u>TARGETS</u>	<u>DESTROYED</u>	<u>DAMAGED</u>
IKA	40 (c)	8 (p)
Bunkers	241	79
Structures	366	69
Trench Line	465 meters	
Secondary Fires	81	
Secondary Explosions	31	
Gun Sites	16	
Boats/Sampans	14	
Road Cuts	7	
Trucks	6	
Caves	3	

The "Bulldogs" of VMA-223 increased to 13,312.6 the combat hours and 12,171 the combat sorties flown in support of the Republic of Vietnam since returning on 22 March 1968. The total hours flown in support of combat operations in the Republic by the Squadron is 33,108.2 during 27,630 sorties. VMA-223 flew 52 more sorties than any other squadron in Marine Aircraft Group 12 during May 1969 to lead the Group for the fourth straight month and for the sixth time in seven months.

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a. Personnel strength varied throughout the month of May. One Officer, a Naval Aviator, joined the Squadron as did 19 Enlisted Men. Departures due to expiration of overseas tours included 2 Officers. A total of 3 Officers and 1 Enlisted Man were transferred from this Squadron to other WestPac units.

b. First Lieutenant John L. FISCHER, Jr. received a letter of commendatory flight performance on 9 May 1969 for his actions on 4 May 1969 from the Commanding General, First Marine Aircraft Wing.

c. The following personnel were promoted during May 1969:

- (1) M. E. BRIDGEMAN to Corporal
- (2) L. K. MIMS to Corporal
- (3) L. F. PITTS to Corporal
- (4) E. B. ROTELLINI to Lance Corporal
- (5) M. T. STEINERT to Private First Class

2. OPERATIONS

a. VMA-223 conducted air operations on each day of May 1969 in support of I Corps, II Corps, and 7th Air Force targets. Operations and Units supported are listed in Part IV.

b. At the end of May 1969 VMA-223's accident free hours totaled 7,895.2.

c. Two Naval Aviators assigned to VMA-223 have reached 400 combat missions, five have reached 300, three have reached 200, and nine have flown over 100 missions.

d. Training

(1) One Naval Aviator attended SERE School at Clark AFB, Republic of the Philippines.

(2) Two Officers and four Enlisted Men attended Nuclear Weapons schools at MCAS Iwakuni, Japan.

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(3) One Enlisted Man attended NCO Leadership School.

(4) One Enlisted Man attended Career Planning School.

3. MAINTENANCE

a. The Squadron had a daily average of 18 aircraft on hand, 14 aircraft daily available, and averaged 55.7 hours per aircraft for the month for 139.9% utilization.

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<u>OPERATIONS</u>	<u>SORTIES FLOWN</u>	<u>UNITS</u>	<u>SORTIES FLOWN</u>
Apache Snow	18	26th Marines	8
Hireling Gulf	2	9th Marines	20
Virginia Ridge	22	SLF	4
Bristol Boots	2	1stMarDiv	60
Dragon Victory	2	3rdMarDiv	60
Oklahoma Hills	6	1st Marines	12
Kentucky Jumper	12	7th Marines	10
Mass Striker	4	5th Marines	56
Bench Mark "C"	2	3rd Recon Bn	12
Lamar Plain	16	3rd Marines	30
Purple Martin	2	4th Marines	22
Shadow Creek	2	1st Recon Bn	14
		12th Marines	2
		7th Air Force	100
		AMERICAL	165
		2nd ARVN	20
		101st Airborne	175
		ROK Marines	26
		1st ARVN	24
		108th Artillery	14
		5th Mechanized	10
		51st ARVN	2

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