

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

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05750
Ser: 03A18469

[REDACTED] AL (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 June 1969; submission of
Ref: (a) Gru0 5750.1C
Encl: ✓(1) VMA-223 Command Chronology

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

M. S. Newbill
M. S. NEWBILL

CP: 2-223

CMD CHRON

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VMA-223
S/L 0198-69

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(1))

JUNE 1969

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
OF
MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 223
FOR THE PERIOD
1 - 30 June 1969

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. DESIGNATION

COMMANDER

MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 223 Lieutenant Colonel Merrill S. NEWBILL
Marine Aircraft Group 12
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
FPO San Francisco, 96602

NO SUBORDINATE UNITS

NO UNITS ATTACHED

2. LOCATION

Chu Lai Air Base, Republic of Vietnam

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer	Major Edward J. HEISE	1-30 June 1969
Operations Officer	Major Marvin E. SCHWANINGER	1-30 June 1969
Administrative Officer	Captain Gary E. REED	1-30 June 1969
Material Officer	1stLt Peter D. WALTERS	1-30 June 1969

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
31	158	1	0
<u>NA</u>	<u>AG</u>		
27	4		

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PART IINARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the month of June 1969, VMA-223 flew 1075.8 hours and 952 sorties of which 1023.9 hours and 911 sorties were flown in support of combat operations in the Republic of Vietnam. Squadron pilots delivered 1193.51 tons of aviation ordnance with the highest daily total being 65.54 tons delivered on 5 June 1969.

Reported Battle Damage Assessment for June 1969:

<u>TARGETS</u>	<u>DESTROYED</u>	<u>DAMAGED</u>
KBA	43 (c)	5 (p)
Bunkers	242	42
Structures	200	39
Trench Line	1420 meters	
Secondary Fires	79	
Secondary Explosions	48	
Gun Sites	15	I
Boats/Sampans	2	
Road Cuts	5	
Trucks	I	
Caves	5	
Bridges	7	

The "Bulldogs" of VMA-223 increased to 14,336.5 the combat hours and 13,082 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 34,184.0 during 28,582 sorties.

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PART III

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. ADMINISTRATION

a. Personnel strength varied throughout the month of June. Two Officers, both Naval Aviators, joined the Squadron as did 21 Enlisted men. Departures due to expiration of overseas tours included 4 enlisted men. A total of 2 officers and 1 enlisted man were transferred from this Squadron to other WestPac units.

b. Gunnery Sergeant B. F. Benton received a Navy Commendation Medal on 19 June 1969 for meritorious performance of duty.

c. On 14 June 1969 an incoming rocket impacted in the VMA-223 fuel pits. Although no personnel were injured and no aircraft were damaged a serious fire ensued. Several personnel from the Squadron's ordnance section, led by WO-1 R. J. Keller, rushed to the scene and extinguished the fire, thereby avoiding further damage.

d. The following personnel were promoted during June 1969:

- (1) L. R. PERDUE was promoted to Sergeant
- (2) J. T. PHILLIPS was promoted to Sergeant
- (3) L. E. GOTTSCHALK was promoted to Corporal
- (4) E. D. MONTGOMERY was promoted to Corporal
- (5) T. B. SANDER was promoted to Corporal
- (6) J. D. SMALL was promoted to Corporal

2. OPERATIONS

a. VMA-223 conducted air operations on each day of June 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 June 1969 VMA-223's accident free hours totaled 8,971.0. A minor accident involving 1stLt R. Hickerson occurred on 8 June 1969.

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

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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d. Training

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

3. MAINTENANCE

a. The squadron had a daily average of 17.9 aircraft on hand, 13.9 aircraft daily availability, and averaged 59.8 hours per aircraft for the month for 150.3% utilization.

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PART IVOPERATIONS/UNITS SUPPORTED

<u>OPERATIONS</u>	<u>SORTIES FLOWN</u>	<u>UNITS</u>	<u>SORTIES FLOWN</u>
Herrimer Mountain	4	1st MarDiv	36
Gammeron Falls	5	3rd MarDiv	24
Virginia Ridge	7	7th Air Force	38
Lamar Plain	4	101st Airborne	85
Apache Snow	2	Americal	88
Pipestove Canyon	2	1st Marines	2
		3rd Marines	24
		4th Marines	11
		5th Marines	32
		7th Marines	11
		9th Marines	12
		2nd ARVN	16
		108th Artillery	9
		3rd Recon Bn	14
		Special Forces	3
		ROK Marines	13

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