

MARINE FIGHTER/ATTACK SQUADRON 232
Marine Aircraft Group 33
3d Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
MCAS, El Toro, Santa Ana, Calif. 92709

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 September 1967 to 31 December 1967

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VMFA-232

Enclosure (1)

1 Sep - Dec 1967

PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

<u>DESIGNATION</u>	<u>COMMANDER</u>	<u>DATES</u>
VMF(AW)-232	MAJOR N. F. SCHNIPPEL JR.	1Sep-8Sep67
VMFA-232	MAJOR N. F. SCHNIPPEL JR.	9Sep-31Oct67
VMFA-232	LtCol W. P. HUTCHINS	1Nov-31Dec67

SUBORDINATE UNITS

NONE

ATTACHED UNITS

NONE

LOCATION

1 Sept - 31 Dec 1967 - MAG-33, 3dMAW, MCAS, EL TORO (SANTA ANA), CALIF.

STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer	MAJOR N. F. SCHNIPPEL JR.	1Nov-26Nov67
	MAJOR J. T. ZYCH JR.	27Nov-31Dec67
Administrative Officer	1stLt T. F. NAGELIN SR.	5Sep-5Dec67
	CAPT. D. L. KNIGHT	6Dec-26Dec67
	MAJOR B. G. ANTHIS	27Dec-31Dec67
Operations Officer	1stLt T. F. NAGELIN SR.	5Sep-23Oct67
	CAPT. J. D. SHINNICK	24Oct-31Oct67
	MAJOR F. M. LOGAN JR.	1Nov-26Nov67
	MAJOR N. F. SCHNIPPEL JR.	27Nov-31Dec67
Adjutant	1stLt T. F. NAGELIN SR.	9Sep-31Dec67
A/C Maintenance Officer	MAJOR L. C. WAIBEL	9Sep-26Nov67
	MAJOR F. N. LOGAN JR.	27Nov-31Dec67

Avionics Officer	1stLt F. P. CISMAR JR.	9Sep-12Dec67
	2ndLt J. T. CROWE	13Dec-31Dec67
Weapons Officer	1stLt T. F. NAGELIN SR.	9Sep-31Dec67
Materiel Officer	1stLt R. W. IMHAUSER	5Sep-5Oct67
	1stLt A. F. GARIBAY	13Oct-31Dec67
Intelligence Officer	1stLt T. F. NAGELIN SR.	5Sep-31Dec67

AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

USMC
Off Enl
 9 204

USN
Off Enl
 0 0

OTHER
Off Enl
 0 0

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

Operational and administrative control of VMF(AW)-232 was transferred from Marine Aircraft Group 11, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing (Viet Nam) on 1 September 1967 to Marine Aircraft Group 33, 3d Marine Aircraft Wing, MCAS, El Toro, California. On this date, Major N. F. SCHNIPPEL was assigned from MAG-33 as Commanding Officer. The units first diary (#197-67) was submitted on 2 September. The following noteworthy events occurred during this period: On 8 September VMF(AW)-232 was redesignated as VMFA-232; on 13 September, First Lieutenant A. F. GARIBAY delivered the squadron colors from Viet Nam; Major W. P. HUTCHINS assumed command on 1 November and was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel on 8 December. Despite minor problems, the squadron continued to expand, growing to a strength of 23 officers and 255 enlisted men by 31 December.

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTSPERSONNEL

The first unit diary of the squadron submitted was #197-67 of 2 September 1967. This started the unit with one enlisted and four officers. Diary #198-67, of 6 September, joined one more officer and two enlisted. The squadron S-1 was opened with Major SCHNIPPEL as Commanding Officer, Major WAIBEL as Maintenance Officer, 1stLt IMHAUSER as Materiel Officer, 1stLt CISMAR as Marine Corps Property Officer and 1stLt NAGELIN as Administrative Officer. By 14 September the squadrons strength was 141 enlisted and five officers. Unit Diary #211-67 of 1 October 1967 showed the strength as six officers and 199 enlisted. Unit Diary #220-67 of 15 October 1967 showed eight officers and 222 enlisted.

On 1 November, with a strength of 11 officers and 231 enlisted, Major HUTCHINS assumed command. The squadron continued to improve its readiness, joining personnel until a strength of 23 officers and 255 enlisted on 31 December was reached. Many of these were included on the stabilization roster submitted on 1 December.

ADMINISTRATION

Though severely hampered by a lack of trained administrative personnel, the section began functioning on 1 September. The most pressing task was the acquisition of directives from higher headquarters. Also required was the extremely difficult task of updating and publishing squadron orders and bulletins to reflect the temporary CONUS relocation. The latter task was accomplished effectively and expeditiously.

INTELLIGENCE

The S-2 section was set up on 7 September with one enlisted man. An immediate program was initiated to satisfy the security needs of the squadron. Required directives were provided and a visitor control system quickly established. As the period progressed, work was begun on the following continuing programs: Obtaining clearances and publishing access lists; current events board; pilot's aircraft recognition; and on 31 December, the intelligence section consisted of an Intelligence Chief and Intelligence Assistant (Air).

TRAINING

The training section began operation on 9 October. Of primary concern was the satisfaction of requirements of higher authority. As a result, the bulk of the training was devoted to weapons qualifications, physical readiness testing and gas chamber drills. Despite a rapid turnover of personnel, these goals were satisfactorily achieved. Commencing 15 November, training schedules were published and training accomplished on a weekly basis. Since aircraft in proper number had not yet been assigned to the squadron, much technical and on-the-job training was accomplished by sending personnel, in small increments, TAD to squadrons deploying to MCAS, Yuma, Arizona. During October, 25 Maintenance personnel deployed with VMJ-3; during November, 26 enlisted men deployed with VMJ-3; in December, ten men deployed with VMFA 334 for flight line training.

OPERATIONS

Although the operations section started on 7 September with two enlisted men and the first F4J aircraft arrived on 19 September, the section began normal flight operations on 18 October and has continued on a regularly scheduled basis. From a modest beginning of 12.8 flight hours in October, the squadron flew 83.2 hours in November and 188.1 hours in December giving it a grand total of 284.1 flight hours and an Accident Free 2nd Quarter of FY 69. The below listing of F4J aircraft acceptance shows how the squadron was capable of quickly increasing its tempo of flight operations.

153853	19Sep67
153892	17Oct67
153843	23Oct67
153820	25Nov67
153834	7Dec67
153862	7Dec67
153865	7Dec67
153866	7Dec67
153819	11Dec67
153817	22Dec67
153804	22Dec67
153825	29Dec67

Operationally the squadron was heavily involved in Phase I training in preparation for deployment.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

None.

COMMAND RELATIONS

Not applicable.

EQUIPMENT

Not applicable.

LOGISTICS

The materiel section was established in consonance with T/O 8848, and functioned under the 3M concept. In the latter part of September, the IMRL for support of the F4J aircraft was received and all items of equipment placed on order. Supply response has gradually increased in effectiveness and approximately 77% of all IMRL items were received.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Not applicable.

COMMUNICATIONS

Not applicable.

REDESIGNATION

The squadron was redesignated on 8 September from VMF(AW)-232 to VMFA 232.

NEW PROGRAMS

None.

COMMAND RELATIONS WITH OTHER MILITARY ORGANIZATIONS

None.