

MAG-11 S&C
NO. 00680-66
COPY 1 OF -

MARINE ALL WEATHER FIGHTER SQUADRON TWO THREE FIVE  
 Marine Aircraft Group 11, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing  
 Fleet Marine Force, Pacific  
 FPO, San Francisco, 96602

3:AGS:jpw  
 Ser: 003A09666  
 6 April 1966

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From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 11 (Attn: S-3)

Subj: Command Chronology for March 1966 (U)

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.1B

Encl: ✓(1) Marine All Weather Fighter Squadron 235 Command Chronology  
 for March 1966

1. Enclosure (1) is submitted in accordance with reference (a).
2. This letter is unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

*G. A. Gibson*  
 G. A. GIBSON

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VMF(AW)-235

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ENCLOSURE (1/3)

2 Apr 1966

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Ser: 003A09666MARINE ALL WEATHER FIGHTER SQUADRON 235  
COMMAND CHRONOLOGY FOR MARCH 1966Part I - Organizational Data

- a. Designation Location  
VMF(AW)-235 Da Nang AB, RVN
- b. Period Covered  
1-31 March 1966
- c. Task Organization  
N/A
- d. CO and Executive Staff

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u> <u>T/O</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
GIBSON, George A.	C. O.	LTCOL	LTCOL
SMITH, Kenneth E.	X. O.	MAJ	MAJ
CARROLL, William R.	AdminO	LT	CAPT
EVERSOLE, Carl J.	OpsO	MAJ	MAJ
GARRISON, Marvin T.	MaintO	MAJ	MAJ
DOWNING, David E.	LogO	WO	CAPT

- e. Average Strength  
NA - 26  
AG - 4  
NMC - 1  
MAR ENL - 195

f. Visitors to Command. CBS and ABC television network representatives visited the squadron area and took motion pictures of a typical day's activities. On 29 March 1966 Major Tai, Deputy Commander of the 41st RVN Wing, and Captain Khiet, Combat Group Commander and Captain Vuong, Squadron Commander, visited our flight line area and photographs were taken with the CO, MAG-11 and CO, VMF(AW)-235. The visitors observed the squadron effort in the people to people program in which the names of one of seventeen major cities in the I Corps area was painted on one side, and the words "A firm ally of South Viet Nam" in Vietnamese on the other side of each of our aircraft.

Part II - Highlights. The squadron flew 806 sorties and 1027.8 hours for the month which ranks as the highest sortie/hour rate this squadron has flown since reforming in December 1964.

Enclosure (1)

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This was also the highest rate flown by any squadron of MAG-11 in any single month's operation in RVN to date.

Part III - Sequential Listing of Events

a. Personnel - 1 GySgt and 8 SSgts' were selected for promotion to temporary Second Lieutenant. Two Officers were transferred out of the squadron. Efforts are being made to fill a four man shortage in our ordnance section.

b. Administration - A program of reviewing and updating of directives continues. To date thirty five squadron directives have been rewritten to comply with MAG-11/1st MAF regulations. Pilots qualified for seventy three air medals and/or gold stars in lieu of subsequent awards.

c. Civil Affairs/Military Government - The squadron flight surgeon and other squadron personnel made ten visits to the towns of Cao Dai, Hoa Phat, Mai Tye, the school at Tin Lanh and the W. E. C. orphanage. Sick calls were held and balloons were given to the children. See also people to people program under subparagraph f of Part I.

d. Moral/Welfare Programs - Due to the current defense condition liberty has been cancelled. Maximum emphasis is being put on recreational sports. Plans are being made for swimming and fishing trips for personnel once defense condition "yellow" is lifted. A coffee/soft drink mess has been opened in the flight line area and is available to all for short periods of relaxation. The mess has been named "The Red Nose Roost" by a squadron wide contest. Officers continually urge their men to attend religious services.

e. Public Information - The ABC television Network filmed a story of a father-son team within our squadron. MSgt D. H. TYNES, our Maintenance Chief and Sgt L. H. TYNES from our Avionics section were featured. ABC representatives indicated the story will receive nationwide coverage. The CBS television Network filmed several scenes of our flight line activities.

f. Casualties - First Lieutenant John Brooks SHERMAN, 085296/7305, was killed in action on 25 March 1966. Lieutenant Sherman's death occurred nineteen miles west of Chu Lai Air Field, Quang Ngai Province, while on a CAS bombing mission as a direct result of enemy ground fire.

g. Intelligence/Counter Intelligence - N/A

h. Air Operations - During the reporting period the squadron flew 806 sorties for a total of 1027.8 hours. These sorties consisted of air to ground missions in the I and II Corps areas, helicopter escort, tanker escort, ship escort and TPQ/ID missions in support of III MAF forces and day and night special missions. On 15 March 1966, forty three days after arrival in RVN, the squadron flew its 1000th sortie.

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i. Air Defense - The squadron flew limited radar calibration sorties to provide controller training for local agencies.

j. Ground Defense - Continued improvements have been made in revetments in our bomb dump area. Additional defensive and protective bunkers have been built.

k. Special Operations - During the reporting period the squadron flew in support of operations: Double Eagle, Texas, Kings, Utah, Indiana, Alabama and in support of the Special Forces Camp at As Hau.

l. ECM - N/A

m. Photo - N/A

n. Command and Control - N/A

o. Training - The familiarization firing of squadron personnel with their T/O weapon is nearly complete. 10 Officers and 144 Enlisted Men have fired. A Venereal Disease lecture was given by the squadron flight surgeon to the enlisted men. This was the third such lecture since the squadron's arrival in RVN. All Marines are receiving Technical Training in their MOS in accordance with current directives.

p. NBC - Technical training was begun for NBC team members. Specific team member duties as outlined in current Wing and Group directives was briefed. The NBC Ready Box was completed. Equipment and Personnel Status reports were submitted.

q. Logistics and Supply - The material section submitted a total of 1296 stubs and 200 turn-ins into the supply system. A complete overhaul of publications and files was affected. Two IMRLS checks were made, and a complete inventory of our tool room was instigated. A locator system for Marine Corps property was initiated. Embarkation readiness is being stressed. Requisitions for and/or turn-ins effected for all material that was either added or dropped from allowance lists. Average AOC rate was twenty eight requisitions on three aircraft and ANFE rate was forty nine requisitions on seventeen aircraft.

r. Motor Transport - The Motor Transport section was inspected by the FMFPAC Contact Instruction Team. The inspection results indicated a smooth running and efficiently organized section.

s. Engineering - N/A

t. Maintenance - Average daily aircraft availability rate was above 70%. On one day during the reporting period we flew 32 sorties with

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8 aircraft being turned around 3 times which is fairly unique for F8 aircraft. Average Ground Support Equipment for the reporting period is as follows: TUD-80-66%, NC-5-33%, NC-10-75%, Air Compressors-50%, GTC-85's-40% and weapons loaders-66%. A soil stabilization project was instituted whereby the 7th Engineers laid down asphalt capping in our maintenance and working spaces. Other areas were stabilized with diesel oil.

u. Communications/Electronics - N/A

v. Combat Aircraft Losses - One (1) F-8E BuNo 150673 was lost on a Close Air Support mission on 25 March 1966 as a result of enemy ground fire.

Enclosure (1)

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