

MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 311  
 Marine Aircraft Group 12  
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPAC  
 FPO, San Francisco 96602

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 03A09568  
 4 April 1968  
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From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 12 (Attn: S-3)

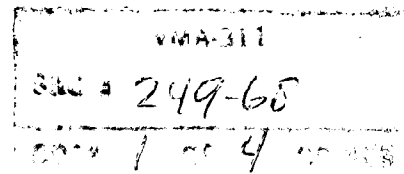
Subj: Command Chronology for period 1-31 March 1968

Ref: (a) GruO 5750.1B

Encl: V(1) VMA-311 Command Chronology for period 1-31 March 1968

1. In accordance with instructions contained in reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. This letter may be downgraded to unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

*N. B. MCCRARY*  
 N. B. MCCRARY



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1 APR 1968

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ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. Commanding Officer and Staff

Richard B. TABER, LtCol, USMC, Commanding Officer 1-10 March 1968  
Norman B. MCCRARY, LtCol, USMC, Commanding Officer 11-31 March 1968  
James A. CURTIS, LtCol, USMC, Executive Officer 1-19 March 1968  
Donald L. YELEK, Major, USMC, Executive Officer 20-31 March 1968  
Darold L. GUTTORMSON, Major, USMC, Operations Officer 1-12 March 1968  
John A. HERBER, Major, USMC, Operations Officer 13-31 March 1968  
Donald E. KIRBY, Major, USMC, Maintenance Officer  
Clifford L. MCCRAW, Major, USMC, Material Officer  
Robert W. WARDLAW, Major, USMC, Administrative Officer 1-12 March 1968  
Thomas W. KRIMMINGER, Captain, USMC, Administrative Officer 13-31 March 1968

2. Task Organization and Unit Location

- a. Task Organization. None
- b. Unit Location. Chu Lai, RVN

3. Average Monthly Strength

USMC Officers - 28  
USMC Enlisted - 171  
USN Officer - 1

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Enclosure (1)

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PART II  
NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. VMA-311 has flown 19091 combat sorties and over 24,000 combat hours in the Republic of Viet Nam.
2. During March 1968 VMA-311 flew a total of 1154.9 flight hours of which 1135.9 were combat hours. A total of 992 sorties of which 971 were combat were flown during this reporting period.
3. Average aircraft availability was 79% with an average on board count of 18 aircraft and 24 pilots 2 of which were TAD.
4. Total tonnage dropped this reporting period was 1368 tons.

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PART III  
SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Personnel:

a. Five (5) officers were joined and seven (7) dropped during March. Twenty one (21) enlisted were joined and eleven (11) dropped.

2. Air Operations:

a. During March 1968 VMA-311 flew 992 sorties for a total of 1154.9 flight hours.

b. Twenty two (22) non-squadron pilots flew 172 sorties amounting to 206.4 flight hours. This represents 19% of the total sorties flown.

c. Five (5) pilots were joined and seven (7) pilots were transferred during this period.

3. Training:

a. There was one practice alert for the Provisional Rifle Company during the month.

b. A General Military subjects quiz is made available to the troops on a daily basis to refresh their knowledge.

4. Material:

a. NAVY PROPERTY

(1) During the past month a total of 188 AACP's have been completed. The average number of outstanding AACP's, per-day, for the month was 17 and at present, there are a total of 27 outstanding.

(2) All Navy boxes were re-marked, and tactical markings were painted on.

(3) Continued daily support of VMA-311.

b. MARINE CORPS PROPERTY

(1) All Marine Corps Property boxes were re-marked and re-tact marked.

(2) An upstairs was built in the back room of Material and all Marine Corps Property was moved to this new storage room.

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### 5. Maintenance:

a. The average daily availability for the month of March 1968 was 79 percent. Total flight hours 1154.9; total combat hours 1135.9; non-combat hours 19.0; total sorties 992; total combat sorties 971. Total tonnage 1368.

#### (1) Aircraft Status:

<u>Acft Type</u>	<u>Allow</u>	<u>O/H</u>	<u>% Ready</u>	<u>% NORM</u>	<u>% NORS</u>
A4E	20	18	79	15	06

#### (2) Comments on excessive NORM percentage:

(a) Of the 18 A4E's on hand, 15% NORM rate was due to the following reasons:

1. BuNo 149660, 150028 and 150105 were down for Acceptance checks.
2. BuNo 150111, 151087, 152002, 150100 and 150070 were down for Calendar Inspections.

#### (3) Critical Items:

<u>NOMENCLATURE</u>	<u>FBN/PN</u>	<u>FOLLOW UPS</u>
Ignition Cable Assy	RM1095-878-4911-BDGA	2
TER Hardware Kit	5821520	3
MER Hardware Kit	5821500	3

#### (4) Significant Problem Areas:

(a) Aircraft BuNo's 150124, 150111, 151038, 150041, 150105, 151043 and 150127 all had fuel transfer gripes. Three fuel transfer float valves, FSN 2R-2915-758-4056-Y120, P/N 3820790-1 were changed due to sticking. All fuel tanks were checked for contamination, and all fuel filters and main fuel cells were cleaned. Problem still exists.

(b) Presently, two aircraft are undergoing repair at FANPRA, BuNo's 151148 and 151074. BuNo's 149968 and 149970 are undergoing PAR at Atsugi. On 22 March 1968, BuNo 151077 was lost near Hoi An, RVN. BuNo 152068 blew up on take off the night of March 24.

III-II

Enclosure (1)  
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