

MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 311
 Marine Aircraft Group 12
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing
 Fleet Marine Force Pacific
 FPO San Francisco 96602

3:JED:geh
 5750
 03A19373
 12 July 1973

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 12

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 January thru 30 June 1973

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.4
 (b) GruO 5750.1

Encl: (1) Command Chronology Narrative for period 1 January thru 30 June 1973

1. (U) In accordance with the provisions set forth in references (a) and (b), enclosure (1) is hereby submitted.

2. (U) This report is unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

J. J. Caldas Jr
 J. J. CALDAS JR

CLASSIFIED BY: 60 VMA-311
 SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
 SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
 AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO-YEAR
 INTERVALS
 DECLASSIFIED ON 31 DECEMBER 1981

MAGG 12 S&C	
CONTROL #	COPY #
0766-73	10/3

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VMA-311	
CMCC	
CONTROL NO. 260-73	
COPY NO. 1	OF 4

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
Period 1 January thru 30 June 1973

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PART I
ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. DesignationCommander

Marine Attack Squadron 311 LtCol J. J. CALDAS JR 1 Jan - 30 Jun 1973

2. Location

1 Jan - 29 Jan 1973: Bien Hoa, Air Base, Vietnam
30 Jan - 8 Mar 1973: MCAS, Iwakuni, Japan
9 Mar - 7 Apr 1973: NAF Naha, Okinawa
8 Apr - 30 Jun 1973. MCAS, Iwakuni, Japan

3. Staff Officers

Executive Officer	Maj J. T. CLINE	1 Jan - 30 Jun 1973
S-1 Officer	Capt A. W. LIND	1 Jan - 16 Jan 1973
	Capt J. A. BOHN	17 Jan - 30 Jun 1973
S-2 Officer	Lt J. S. ORME	1 Jan - 30 Jun 1973
S-3 Officer	Maj M. R. SNEDEKER	1 Jan - 23 Mar 1973
	Capt H. G. ROSER	24 Mar - 30 Jun 1973
S-4 Officer	Capt C. H. CADMAN	1 Jan - 25 Feb 1973
	Capt M. A. DAVIS	26 Feb - 30 Jun 1973
Maintenance Officer	Capt J. L. WOODS	1 Jan 30 Jun 1973
NATOPS Officer	Capt W. C. PETERS	1 Jan - 20 Mar 1973
	Capt J. F. PERRY	21 Mar - 30 Jun 1973

4. Average Monthly Strength

	<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>OTHER</u>	
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
Jan	20	114	0	0	0	0
Feb	20	115	0	0	0	0
Mar	19	112	0	0	0	0
Apr	18	110	0	0	0	0
May	18	115	0	0	0	0
Jun	20	120	0	0	0	0

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NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. On 29 January 1973, VMA-311 retrograded from R. V. N. with a grand total of 54, 625 combat sorties. The squadron was again operational one day after returning to Iwakuni.
2. The first month saw the Tomcats refamiliarizing themselves with the Japan flying area. The squadron had one aircraft accident during this period; fortunately there was no one injured.
3. On 9 March 1973, VMA-311 deployed to Naha to fulfill the requirement for special weapons requalification. The Tomcats were the first complete Marine Squadron to deploy to Naha in 3 years. Extensive training in shrike, walleye, and nuclear weapons delivery was completed. Conventional ordnance delivery and close air support missions were also flown. T. P. Q. missions were flown in support of MACS-4 to give their radar operators much sought after training.
4. Returning to Iwakuni, 6 enlisted troops were detached to Kwang-Ju to form a turn around crew for MAG-12 aircraft, utilizing the targets in Korea. This gave the squadron much needed flexibility in using the Korean low level routes and bombing ranges for training. Also during this period extensive training was accomplished using the E. C. M. equipment aboard the aircraft. The airplanes were peaked up. All M. C. M. antennas were swept giving VMA-311 a full systems capability with 90 percent of it's aircraft.
5. On 28 April 1973, a 4 plane detachment was sent to NAS Cubi Point to fly simulated close air support for 3rd MARDIV. Faker runs against USS RANGER were also flown to test the ships GCI and fire control radar.
6. On 30 April 1973, VMA-311 was the primary participant in operation Commando Jade. Eight aircraft were flown in 2 flight of four to test the South Korean early warning and GCI radar. The operation was flown in conjunction with EA6B and RF4's who provided jamming and photo reconnaissance. The two Tomcat flights penetrated Korean airspace, crossed the Korean peninsula, attacked their designated target, and retrograded to Kwang-Ju airbase completely undetected. All aircraft were fully ECM equiped and maximum utilization was made of chaff and onboard deception repeater equipment. Low level navigation was used to and from the target with maximum use of terrain marking.
7. On 13 May 1973, a 4 plane VMA-311 detachment was sent to Naha to participate in an armed forces display and provide simulated C. A. S. for the 3rd MARDIV.

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8. On 10 April 1973, the squadron started training in earnest for an NNAI. Most of the squadron personnel were involved in one way or another participating in practice loads, background screening, aircraft preparation, etc. On 21 May 1973, VMA-311 was certified and became the first Marine Attack squadron in West Pac to be ready to accept a SIOP commitment in over a year.

9. During the period covered by this narrative it is interesting to note that a personnel shortage existed throughout the squadron but, in usual Tomcat fashion, VMA-311 came through first with the best.

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PART III
SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

29 January	Retrograde from Bien Hoa, R. V. N.
6 February	Aircraft Accident
9 March	Deployed to Naha
10 April	Training and Administrative processing for NWAI
13 April	Turn around crew to Kwang-Ju
16 April	Extensive use of Korean target and low level structure.
18 April	E. C. M. training for pilots
28 April	Detachment to NAS, Cubi Point
30 April	Commando Jade
3 May	Detachment to Naha
19 June	NWAI

2. Summary of Air Operations

a. Sorties

Day Sorties Scheduled	2434	Day Sorties Flown	2206
Night Sorties Scheduled	145	Night Sorties Flown	106
Total Sorties Scheduled	2579	Total Sorties Flown	2312
		Write-in Sorties Flown	134

b. Units Supported

ARVN
KHLER

c. Types of Sorties

CAS	669
Test	52
Ferry	68
Training	1765
Operational	108

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d. Hours Flown

Combat Hours	781.0
Operational Hours	2236.0
Total Hours	3017.0

e. Ordnance

MK-81	2232
MK-82	2765
20MM	12413
Total Tons:	1083.25

f. Bomb Damage Assessment

	<u>Destroyed</u>	<u>Damaged</u>
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KBA (Confirmed)	226	
KBA (Probable)	150	
Secondary Fires	15	
Sustained Fires	46	
Secondary Explosions	268	
Structures	123	40
Fortified Positions	362	41
Sampans		6
Bunkers	396	78
Buildings	3	3
Supply Boxes	77	3
51 Cal Sites	6	
Trucks	7	4
Tanks	1	2
Tunnel		1
Fighting Holes	33	
Water Tank	1	
Ferry		1
80 Meters Trail Destroyed		
100 Meters Road Destroyed		
1,020 Meters Trench Line Destroyed		
2 TIC Broken		

3. Summarization of Individual Sections

a. Awards. During this reporting period 1 Bronze Star, 2 Single Mission Air Medals, 212 Strike/Flight Air Medals, 12 Navy Commendation Medals, 10 Navy Achievement Medals and 8 Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry Medals were awarded to squadron personnel.

b. Aviation Safety. During the reporting period this squadron has had one major aircraft accident and zero fatalities. To date, the squadron has accomplished 1547.0 hours of accident-free flying time.

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	<u>JAN</u>	<u>FEB</u>	<u>MAR</u>	<u>APR</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUN</u>
Sched Maint Hrs	556.7	687.0	1022.0	550.0	1653.0	2892.0
% Sched	.049	7.4	10.2	4.6	11.9	20.4
Unsched Maint Hrs	1441.5	2089.0	1096.0	1966.0	1969.7	2522.4
% Unsched	.126	22.3	11.0	16.6	14.2	17.8
MORS Hrs	912.0	1662.0	1186.0	1426.0	2187.2	700.0
%	.013	16.6	12.7	12.0	15.9	4.9
A/C Allowed	16	16	16	16	16	16
Assigned	21	21	21	20	20	20
On Hand	15	15	14	17	19	20
OP Ready	889.0	5377.0	6228.0	7914.0	8038.1	8069.0
%	.077	57.6	62.2	66.8	58.0	56.9
NORM	144.0	2118.0	2516.0	2776.0	3622.7	5414.4
%	.013	21.2	21.2	29.8	26.1	38.2

d. Logistics. The squadron has listed below the Hard Down MORS Items by month; and also the requisitions pending, filled, and pending from previous submissions by month.

JanuaryWork Unit Code

Fuel Press Trans Switch Assy
Brake Cylinder
Fire Warning Detector
ARC-51A

February

AFT NLG DOOR LATCH ASSEMBLY	13422
NOC (FUEL HOSTS)	46319
FUEL DUMP COMPONENTS	46510
STANDBY COMPASS	51312
1EX 2488A/AJBB3 (TI) COMPASS COMPONENTS	7311F

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MarchWork Unit Code

NOC (FUEL HOSES)	46319
AN/AJB3 LOFT BOMB COMPATER SET	72110
AIR DAT SENSOR	5751H
RELEASE ANGLE COMPUTER	7311H
FUEL CONTROL	23562

April

EMERGENCY AIR DRIVEN GENERATOR	42311
HOSE ASSY	41415
ANTI-G VALVE	41411
SPEEDBRAKE MECH COMPONENTS	14410
HOOK ASSY	13825

May

DISPLACEMENT GYRO	7311H
NOC (FUEL HOSES)	46319
CSD	42221
CANOPY SEAL PRESS REG VALVE	11362
RECEIVER TRANSMITTER	71431

June

NOC	29629
MLG ACTUATING CYLINDER	13131
MLG DRAG LINK CYLINDER	13132
AERO 20A-1 EJECTOR RACK	75480
HOSE ASSY	41415

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<u>MON</u>	<u>ORDER</u>	<u>REC</u>	<u>OUT</u>
JAN			
FEB			
MAR			
APR			
MAY			
JUN			

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PART IV
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

NONE

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