

MARINE FIGHTER/ATTACK SQUADRON-314
Marine Aircraft Group-13
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
FPO, San Francisco 96602

3:DLC:dle
5750
Ser: 03A28268
8 October 1968

[REDACTED]

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group-13 (Attn: S-3)

Subj: Command Chronology for the period 1-30 September 1968 (U)

VMFA-314
SAC # 1042-68
Copy 1 of 1

Ref: (a) FMFPacO 5750.8
(b) WgO 5750.1C
(c) GruO 5750.1D

Encl: ✓(1) VMFA-314 Command Chronology

1. In accordance with references (a), (b) and (c), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. This letter is downgraded to Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

Frank E. Petersen Jr.
FRANK E. PETERSEN JR.

VMFA-314

CMD CHRON

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
LGD DIR 5200.10

[REDACTED]

SEP 1968

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGYPART IORGANIZATIONAL DATAA. DESIGNATIONCOMMANDER

Marine Fighter/Attack Squadron-314
 Marine Aircraft Group-13
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac

LtCol. Frank E. PETERSEN Jr.
 28 July 68 - Present

B. LOCATION

1 - 30 September 1968; Chu Lai Air Base, Republic of Vietnam

C. STAFF OFFICERS

Harry H. ZIEGLER	MAJOR	Executive Officer	25Jun68-Present
Gilbert TANZER	CAPT	S-1 Officer	05Aug68-Present
John P. NOESEN	CAPT	S-2 Officer	01Sep68-Present
Carl E. R. BLACK	MAJOR	S-3 Officer	25Jun68-Present
Gary R. VAN GYSEL	CAPT	S-4 Officer	01Aug68-Present
Frederick J. SCHOBBER	MAJOR	Maintenance Officer	07Jun68-Present

D. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH1. OFFICERS

a. Naval Aviators	20
b. Naval Flight Officers	18
c. Aviation Ground Officers	7
d. Naval Flight Surgeons	1

2. ENLISTED

a. Marine Corps	238
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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

Marine Fighter/Attack Squadron-314 directed the majority of its operations toward air to ground ordnance delivery during the month of September. Operations supported during September included Jeb Stuart III, Lancaster II, Houston, Scotland II, Nevada Eagle, Mameluke Thrust, Champagne Grove, Dragon Victory, Neopolitan Saline, Kentucky and Task Force Hotel. Elements of the U. S. Army, Republic of Korea and ARVN forces were supported.

The Squadron assumed the Air to Ground Hot Pad during 1-7 September and 23-30 September. The Squadron flew 545 combat sorties for a total of 589.6 combat hours. Pilots averaged 27 sorties and RIO's averaged 33 sorties during the month. No BARCAP missions were flown during the month.

Included in VMFA-314's bomb damage assessment during September were 85 structures destroyed, 30 structures damaged, 11 huts destroyed, 8 huts damaged, 123 bunkers destroyed, 11 bunkers damaged, 3 gun positions destroyed, 3 boats destroyed, 2 boats damaged, 1 bridge destroyed, 1 tracked vehicle damaged, 1 truck damaged, 2 ammo storages uncovered, 485 meters of trenchline destroyed, 9 spider holes destroyed, 7 road cuts, 3 secondary explosions, 11 secondary fires, 11 KBA, and 100 lbs. of rice destroyed.

On 10 September 1968, LtCol. F. E. PETERSEN Jr. and Capt. K. D. EDELEN were shot down and ejected safely.

From 1-9 September, 20 aircraft were assigned. On 10 September, one aircraft was lost to enemy action. On 15 September, one aircraft was transferred to VMFA-115 bringing assigned aircraft to 18 for the duration of the month. Average daily availability of 9 aircraft was maintained. Thus each available aircraft averaged 61 sorties for the month of September.

Capt. G. F. FRANKLIN completed 300 missions in September. Major H. H. ZIEGLER, Capt. G. H. ROBINSON and 1stLt. J. F. WIRTZ exceeded 200 missions in September. 1stLt. R. G. SCHMITT, 1stLt. R. G. MORIN and 1stLt. S. L. DUBA exceeded 100 missions during the month.

Major Carl E. R. BLACK and 1stLt. Robert G. SCHMITT flew VMFA-314's 6000th Combat Sortie since the Squadron's return to RVN in November 1967 on 29 September 1968.

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PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

A. PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION. During September VMFA-314 joined 12 Officers and Transferred 6. VMFA-314 joined 14 enlisted and transferred 24.

B. AWARDS. Four Air Medals (1st award).

C. CASUALTIES. Two WIA were sustained.

D. AIR OPERATIONS. The Squadron flew 565 sorties and 607.8 hours of which 545 sorties and 589.6 hours were combat. One aircraft was lost to enemy action on 10 September 1968. The crew ejected to safety.

E. TRAINING. Two aircrew members attended Sea Survival School at Numazu, Japan and two aircrew members attended the Jungle Survival School at NAS, Cubi Point. Two aircrew members went TAD to FAC School on Okinawa. One Marine attended the ALQ-51A School at NAS, Cubi Point. Two Marines attended the KY-28 School at Danang while one Marine attended the NBC School in Iwakuni, Japan.

F. ORDNANCE. Total ordnance expended during September was 1137.2 tons. The breakdown is as follows:

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
MK-117	68
MK-82	3357
MK-81	880
MK-77	320
CBU	13
Zuni Rockets	126
2.75" FFAR	170

G. PROMOTIONS: TO SERGEANT - 1
 TO CORPORAL - 1
 TO LANCE CORPORAL - 1