

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

3:FWM:dw  
5750  
SerNo. 03A06770  
8 March 1970

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

Subj: Command Chronology; submission of

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.1A  
(b) WgO 5750.1C  
(c) GruO 5750.1D

Encl: (1) Marine Fighter Attack Squadron-314 Command Chronology

1. In accordance with reference (a), (b) and (c), enclosure (1) is submitted for the period 1-28 February 1970.

2. This letter is down-graded to unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

*T. J. Kelly*  
T. J. KELLY

VMFA-314

VMFA-314  
StC # 143-70  
Copy 1 of 1

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PART IA. DESIGNATION

MARINE FIGHTER ATTACK SQUADRON-314  
 Marine Aircraft Group-13  
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac

COMMANDER

LTCOL THOMAS J. KELLY  
 2 December 1969- Present

B. STAFF OFFICERS

Robert C. JOHNSON	MAJ.	Executive Officer	2Dec69-20Feb70
Daniel T. BENN	MAJ.	Executive Officer	21Feb70-Present
Terril J. RICHARDSON	CAPT.	S-1 Officer	29Nov69-Present
Frank W. McDUFFEE	1stLt.	S-2 Officer	31Jan70-Present
James B. LEONARD	MAJ.	S-3 Officer	6Dec69-Present
Allen W. MASSEY	CAPT.	S-4 Officer	16Aug69-Present
John H. TROTTI	MAJ.	Maintenance Officer	13Dec69-Present
Rodney R. BURNS	SGTMAJ	Sergeant Major	20Jul69-Present
Jack L. PHILLIPS	MSGT	Maintenance Chief	5Sep69-Present
James M. TALCOTT	LT.	Flight Surgeon	10Jul69-21Feb70
Thomas R. GAY	LT.	Flight Surgeon	22Feb70-Present

C. Task Organization and Date

VMFA-314, Chu Lai Air Base, RVN, 1-28 February 1970

D. Average Strength

1. Marine Officers	44
a. Naval Aviators	23
b. Naval Flight Officers	21
c. Aviation Ground Officers	3
2. Naval Officers	1
3. Marine Enlisted	275
4. Naval Enlisted	0
5. Total	326

PART II

During the month of February the "Black Knights of VMFA-314" again demonstrated their superb "Can Do" attitude in another "1st Team" effort. This exemplary effort has again placed the "Black Knights" on top, by leading MAG-13 in combat sorties flown, total sorties flown and ordnance expended for the month, resulting in a considerable lowering of average flight time required to accomplish each mission.

On the night of 7 February 1970, VW 14, flown by Capt. J. E. SHARKEY and RIO 1stLt. C. D. STEWART crashed on take-off while making an instrument departure, due to a port engine failure. Both crewmembers ejected safely.

On 6 February 1970, Maj. J. B. LEONARD and 1stLt. J. C. COON were in VW 17, lead aircraft on a strike mission south of Chu Lai. While making a napalm run, the aircraft received numerous small arms hits, igniting the remaining ordnance and rendering the aircraft uncontrollable. The aircrew ejected with only a minor leg injury to Maj. LEONARD.

1stLt. D. VAN HORNE and 1stLt. W. M. MEYER were flying VW 08, lead aircraft on a night scramble mission to the Hoi An Valley on 20 February 1970. 1stLt. VAN HORNE led the flight up the valley under an overcast. 1stLt. VAN HORNE commenced his first run under flares and expended two napalm cans. Immediately after release, the remaining napalm ignited under the aircraft. The aircraft became uncontrollable and both crewmembers ejected safely.

These three safe ejections were the result of the professionalism of the aircrews, the reliability of the survival equipment and the thoroughness of the safety and survival personnel.

The squadron supported the 1st Marine Division, 101st Airborne, Americal Division, 7th Fleet, 7th Air Force, ROK Marines and ARVN. The squadron participated in operations: Frederick Hill, Iron Mountain, Randolph Glen, Victory Dragon, and flew numerous sorties in the Steel Tiger area.

The Battle Damage Assessment for the month is as follows and includes operations both in and out of country. It is also noted that in many situations the controllers were unable to give any BDA, but numerous "Well Dones" and all ordnance on target were given.

BATTLE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

Structures Destroyed	31	Treeline Destroyed	1545m
Structures Damaged	17	Road Cuts	19
Bunkers Destroyed	73	Trail Destroyed	180m
Bunkers Damaged	12	Fords Destroyed	1
Secondary Explosions	28	Tunnels Destroyed	2
Secondary Fires	56	Trucks Destroyed	2
Huts Destroyed	11	Trench line Destroyed	135m
Huts Damaged	9	Caves Destroyed	3
Road Destroyed	150m	Fighting Holes Destroyed	6
50 Cal. Positions	1	Elephants	6
Trail Cuts	17	KBMA	41

Total ordnance expenditure for the month was 1390.1 tons.

PART III

1. Personnel. The "Black Knights" gave a hearty fare-well and congratulations for a job well done to Maj. JOHNSON and Lt. TALCOTT along with 20 enlisted men, as they departed for CONUS or duty assignments elsewhere in RVN.

a. Promotions.

E-2 to E-3	3
E-3 to E-4	15
E-4 to E-5	3

2. Awards. The squadron presented 72 Air Medals, 2 Single Mission Air Medals and 1 Navy Commendation Medal during the month of February.

3. The following officers completed the indicated number of missions during the month of February 1970 on their current tour.

1stLt. DOYLE	100	1stLt. CECKA	100
1stLt. FABRIZIO	100	1stLt. BOSEMAN	200
1stLt. BROWN	100	Capt. MASSEY	300
Capt. NELSON	100		

a. Statistics

Total Hours	647.3
Total Sorties	657
Combat Hours	612.7
Combat Sorties	627
Average Pilot Hours	29.4
Average Pilot Sorties	30
Average RIO Hours	32.4
Average RIO Sorties	33
High Day Hours	36.7
High Day Sorties	34

4. Air Defense. In response to the tasks laid down by the 7th Air Force and 7th Fleet, the squadron flew 32 BARCAP and MIGCAP sorties for 58.2 hours.

5. Training. Squadron personnel attended the following courses: 3M course, FACAF course, JEST course, and Basic and TEC Training.