

UNCLASS

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

3:JAG:dgm  
5750  
SerNo. 03A15670  
5 June 1970

**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 provisions set forth in reference (a), (b), and (c), enclosure (1) is hereby submitted.
2. This letter is down-graded to unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

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

VMFA-314  
Sec # 316-70  
Copy 1 of 5

VMFA-314

28 May 1970

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

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 MAY 1970 to 31 MAY 1970

INDEX

PART I ORGANIZATIONAL DATA  
PART II NARRATIVE SUMMARY  
PART III SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS  
PART IV SUPPORTED DOCUMENTS

ENCLOSURE (1)

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## PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

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

COMMANDER

LtCol Thomas J. Kelly  
 2 December 1969 - Present

2. LOCATION

1 - 31 May 1970: Chu Lai Air Base, RVN

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer	Maj J. B. Leonard	10Mar70 - 11May70
Executive Officer	Maj R. T. Roche	12May70 - Present
S-1 Officer	Capt W. L. ROSBE	20Mar70 - Present
S-2 Officer	1/Lt W. M. Brown	1Mar70 - Present
S-3 Officer	Maj J. A. GRESS	20Mar70 - Present
S-4 Officer	Capt A. W. MASSEY	16Aug70 - Present
Maintenance Officer	Maj J. H. TROTTI	13Dec69 - 18May70
Maintenance Officer	Maj C. K. SIME	19May70 - Present

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

USMC		USN		OTHER	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
49	239	1	0	0	0

ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART II  
NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the month of May the Black Knights of VMFA-314 continued to put forth the tremendous effort that has become nearly routine for this "Can Do" team. Even though working short handed and breaking in new people the Black Knights flying their F4B's amassed the impressive total of 706 combat flight hours and 762 combat missions. This works out to only 1.2 hours per mission, pointing out the increased efficiency of utilization.

In amassing these impressive totals the Black Knights dropped 1776 tons of ordnance on the enemy, his sanctuaries and his supply system. Also included in these figures are the 28 hours and 23 sorties flown in support of the 7th Air Force and the 7th Fleet on BARCAP AND MIGCAP missions. Again this month the majority of our BDA is unknown to us due to the restrictions placed on the FAC(A)'s regarding the information they can pass over unsecure radio, coupled with the fact that the BDA passed to the DASC's by the FAC's never filters down to us. The BDA available included 48 bunkers destroyed, 22 structures destroyed, 18 bunkers damaged, 12 structures damaged, 14 secondary explosions, 8 secondary sustained fires, 20 meters of road cut, 30 meters of road slide, and 100 meters of trail cut.

On the 27th of May Capt R. E. Dahart, and his RIO, 1/Lt R. C. Blakely, were flying a TA-4F Playboy escort mission in Laos when they were hit by AAA fire. They were able to make it back to the vicinity of Quang TRI, RVN, before they were forced to eject due to fire and loss of control. Both crewmembers were picked up by Army helicopters in the vicinity and taken to Quang TRI. A Marine KC-130 was diverted into Quang TRI to return them to Chu Lai. Capt Dahart was med-evaced the next day due to a knee injury sustained in the ejection and landing. The aircraft, VW-18, crashed near Quang TRI with no damage to property or injury to personnel in the vicinity.

The month of May saw Lt Larson pass the 400 mission mark and Lt Lewis pass the 300 mission mark. Passing the 200 mission mark were Capt Nelson and Lt's Wade, Kinzig, Bruce and VanOverloop. The 100 mission mark was passed by Maj Gress, Capt Rosbe, and Lt's Oguss, Brooks and Powers. During the month of May the Black Knights began flying support missions in Cambodia and continued flying missions in II Corps. As usual the majority of our missions were flown in support of the 1st Marine Division, the Army, ARVN, ROK Marines and 7th Air Force in support of operations Texas Star, Green River, Frederick Hill, Iron Mountain, and Geneva Park.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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## PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- a. Combat missions flown: 762
- b. Combat hours flown: 706
- c. Tons of ordnance dropped: 1776
- d. Total missions flown: 793
- e. Total hours flown: 736
- f. ~~Significant~~ Operations Conducted:
  - 1. Texas Star
  - 2. Green River
  - 3. Frederick Hill
  - 4. Iron Mountain
  - 5. Geneva Park
- g. Administration:
  - 1. Personnel Joined: 14  
Personnel Transferred: 13  
Officers on Hand: 49  
Enlisted On Hand: 239
  - 2. Promotions:
    - 1 May 70 E-5 to E-6 (1)  
E-4 to E-5 (4)  
E-2 to E-3 (2)
    - 5 May 70 E-3 to E-4 (9)
  - 3. Re-enlistments:
    - 23 May 70 One six year enlistment
    - 31 May 70 one six year enlistment
- h. Awards:

10 air medals, 3 purple hearts, and 2 distinguished flying crosses.
- i. 27 May 70 A F4B from VMFA-314 was destroyed when it crashed as a result of enemy fire.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 JUNE 1970 to 30 JUNE 1970

INDEX

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PART IV SUPPORTED DOCUMENTS

Enclosure (1)

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## PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

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

COMMANDER

LtCol R. A. CHRISTY  
 7 June 1970 - Present

2. LOCATION

1-30 June 1970: Chu Lai Air Base, RVN

3. STAFF OFFICERS

Executive Officer	Maj R. T. ROCHE	12 May 70 - Present
S-1 Officer	Capt W. L. ROSBE	20 Mar 70 - Present
S-2 Officer	1/Lt W. M. BROWN	1 Mar 70 - 13 Jun 70
S-2 Officer	1/Lt W. L. CULVER	14 Jun 70 - Present
S-3 Officer	Maj J. A. GRESS	20 Mar 70 - Present
S-4 Officer	Capt A. W. MASSEY	16 Aug 70 - 9 Jun 70
S-4 Officer	Capt A. G. CORDES	10 Jun 70 - Present
Maintenance Officer	Maj C. K. SIME	19 May 70 - Present

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

USMC		USN	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
45	223	1	0

Enclosure (1)

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PART II  
NARRATIVE SUMMARY

On 6 June 1970, command of VMFA-314 was passed from LtCol T. J. KELLY to LtCol R. A. CHRISTY. Attending the ceremony were BGen R. F. CONLEY, AWC, 1st MAW; Col R. W. TELLER, C/S, 1st MAW; Col P. B. HENLEY, A-C/S, G-1, 1st MAW; and Col L. J. STIEN, C.O. MAG-13.

Under the leadership of LtCol CHRISTY, the Black Knights once again demonstrated that they are still the finest F-4 Squadron in MAG-13. In amassing a total of 553 combat sorties, they led the MAG in combat sorties, combat hours, and total tons dropped on target. While accomplishing this, an average of only .92 hours per sortie were required, demonstrating the continuing efficiency of VMFA-314 flight operations.

Due to the limitations against broadcasting BDA in the clear, only a small percentage of the damage inflicted on the enemy by the 1416 tons of ordnance dropped can be recorded. However, the BDA available includes 60 Bunkers destroyed, 12 Bunkers damaged, 157 Structures destroyed, 28 Structures damaged, 23 Secondary Explosions, 21 Secondary Fires, 630 meters of Trench Line destroyed, 1,100 meters of Trails cut, 1 Bridge damaged, and 1 Dump Truck destroyed. Additionally, 29 sorties and 38.5 hours were flown on BARCAP and MIGCAP missions in support of 7th Fleet and 7th Airforce operations.

On 11 June, Capt B. A. RINDT and 1/Lt R. C. BLAKELY were flying VW-10 when the aircraft developed a fire, forcing the crew to eject in the South China Sea near Chu Lai. Both crewmembers were picked up shortly after entering the water, and neither sustained any injuries. For 1/Lt BLAKELY, this was his 2nd successful ejection in 14 days.

During June, Lt's DOYLE, COON, and FACCIOLLI passed the 300 mission mark. Capt NELSON, Lt SKELDON, Lt HORTON, and Lt SHACKELFORD passed 200 missions, and Lt BLUMA passed 100 missions. The missions flown during June once again demonstrated the inherent flexibility of a VMFA squadron; in addition to the MIGCAP/BARCAP missions already mentioned, Close Air Support, Escort and TPQ missions were flown in I Corp, II Corp, Laos, Cambodia, and North Vietnam. Flying most missions in close air support role, the Black Knights supported the 1st Marine Division, the U. S. Army, ARVN, ROK Marines, and 7th Air Force, in support of operations Texas Star, Green River, Frederick Hill, Iron Mountain and Geneva Park.

Enclosure (1)

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## PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- a. Combat Missions Flown: 553
- b. Combat Hours Flown: 511
- c. Tons of Ordnance dropped: 1416
- d. Total Missions flown: 568
- e. Total Hours flown: 535
- f. Significant Operations Conducted:
  - 1. Texas Star
  - 2. Green River
  - 3. Frederick Hill
  - 4. Iron Mountain
  - 5. Geneva Park
- g. Administration:
  - 1. Personnel Joined: 14
  - Personnel Transferred: 28
  - Officers on Hand: 45
  - Enlisted on Hand: 223
- h. Promotions:
  - 1. E-6 to E-7 (1)
  - E-5 to E-6 (2)
  - E-4 to E-5 (17)
- i. Re-enlistments:
  - 1. One six year enlistment

Enclosure (1)

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. No supporting documents submitted.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART IV  
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. No supporting documents submitted.

Enclosure (1)  
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