

MARINE FIGHTER/ATTACK SQUADRON-323  
Marine Aircraft Group-11  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific  
FPO, San Francisco, 96601

S-3:JGD:def  
5750  
4 January 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group-11

Subj: Command Chronology

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2  
(b) WgO 5750.1A  
(c) GruO 5213.2H

Encl: ✓(1) VMFA-323 Command Chronology for period 1-31 December 1965

1. In accordance with references (a), (b), and (c) the enclosed report is submitted for the period 1-31 December 1965.

*A. W. O'Donnell*  
A. W. O'DONNELL

UNCLASSIFIED

ENCLOSURE (27)

UNCLASSIFIED

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

Unit: Marine Fighter/Attack Squadron-323

Location: Da Nang AB, RVN

Period: 1 thru 31 December 1965

## Organizational Data:

<u>1. Name</u>	<u>Billet</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Andrew W. O'DONNELL	Commanding Officer	LtCol	1-31
John H. DUNN	Executive Officer	Maj	1-9
Walter R. LIMBACH	Executive Officer	Maj	10-31
Walter R. LIMBACH	Operations Officer	Maj	1-9
Robert C. BAUGHMAN	Operations Officer	Maj	10-31
Jerry C. ROBINSON	Administrative Officer	1stLt	1-31
Conrad W. HEINZERLING	Logistics Officer	Capt	1-19
John M. ROSE	Logistics Officer	Capt	20-31
Robert C. BAUGHMAN	Aviation Safety Officer	Maj	1-19
Claude D. HILLIS	Aviation Safety Officer	1stLt	20-31

## 2. Average Monthly Strength

## a. Officers

(1) Naval Aviators.....20  
 (2) Naval Flight Officers.....20  
 (3) Aviation Ground Officers...3  
 (4) Naval Flight Surgeons.....1  
 (5) Total.....44

## b. Enlisted

(1) Marine Corps.....278  
 (2) Navy Corpsman.....2  
 (3) Total.....280

c. Maj J. H. DUNN and CWO J. W. FREDERICK were still carried on the rolls although they were classified as MIA.

### 3. Summary of Significant Events

#### a. Personnel.

(1) On 20 December this squadron made a 25% exchange of personnel with VMFA-115.

(2) One captain promoted to major.

(3) Eleven officers promoted from WO/CWO to second lieutenant.

(4) Two staff sergeants promoted to gunnery sergeant.

b. Casualties. On 7 December 1965 two crewmen were listed as missing in action. See paragraph 2.

#### c. Intelligence.

(1) The following intelligence situation maps were prepared and posted for all aircrews:

(a) Route-Navigation Map

(b) I Corps and Province Map

(c) SAM Order of Battle (North Viet Nam)

(d) AAA Order of Battle (North Viet Nam)

(e) Enemy Ground Order of Battle (Da Nang and Chu Lai area)

(2) A daily in-country mission map was maintained in the hanger for informing the troops of results of missions flown. Numerous access letters and clearances were processed for newly joined personnel.

(3) The following training was accomplished by the Intelligence Section:

(a) Area Indoctrination (troops)

(b) E & E Individual Briefings (aircrews)

(c) Security and Enemy Ground Order of Battle/Capabilities, Da Nang Area (defense platoons)

(d) SA-2 Guideline Missile & AAA Order of Battle (aircrews)

d. Air Operations. On 2 December the squadron commenced combat operations in the Republic of Viet Nam. During the month of December, the squadron flew 407 combat sorties for 520 hours and 43 other sorties for 73 hours. Operational highlights included participation in Operation HARVEST MOON, Second Air Division STEEL TIGER missions and providing FIRECRACKER combat air patrols for VMCF-1. Development of tactics and techniques for these FIRECRACKER missions is continuing as experience is gained.

e. Ordnance<sup>21</sup>. During the period 1-31 December 1965 the squadron expended 1958 bombs for a total weight of 434 tons. In addition, 2071 2.75" Rockets, 156 5.0" Rockets and 146 Napalm bombs were expended.

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