

MARINE FIGHTER ATTACK SQUADRON 323  
Marine Aircraft Group 11  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMF, Pacific  
FPO, San Francisco 96602

3:VEB:rlb  
5750  
10 Sep 1966

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 11  
Subj: Command Chronology

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2  
(b) WGO 5750.1B

Encl: ✓(1) Command Chronology

1. In accordance with references (a) and (b), enclosure (1) is submitted for the period 1 - 31 August 1966.

  
A. W. TALBERT

VMFA-323

Cmd Chron

Aug 1966

APPENDIX #6

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## COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

Unit: Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 323

Location: DaNang Air Base, RVN

Period: 1 - 31 August 1966

PART ONE - Organizational Data:

<u>1. NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>DATES</u>
Aubrey W. TALBERT	Commanding Officer	LtCol	1-31
Stanley A. CHALLGREN	Executive Officer	Major	1-10
Billy D. FRITSCH	Executive Officer	Major	11-31
Joseph C. BYRAM Jr.	Operations Officer	Capt	1-30
Robert J. DIVOKY	Operations Officer	Major	31
Jerry C. ROBINSON	Administrative Officer	Capt	1-9
Carey B. CONNELL	Administrative Officer	Capt	10-31
Carroll M. LACROIX	Logistics Officer	Capt	1-7
Richard J. SKELTON	Logistics Officer	Capt	8-31
Larry K. GRISSETT	Aviation Safety Officer	Capt	1-7
Carroll M. LACROIX	Aviation Safety Officer	Capt	8-31
Dayton A. LEWIS	Maintenance Officer	Capt	1-31

2. Unit Locations and Inclusive Dates:

DaNang Air Base, RVN	1 - 31 August
Detachment; Chu Lai, RVN	1 - 8 August

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### 3. Average Monthly Strength:

#### a. Officers: 45

(1) Naval Aviators.....19  
(2) Naval Flight Officers.....18  
(3) Aviation Ground Officers.....7  
(4) Naval Flight Surgeons.....1  
(5) Total.....45

#### b. Enlisted: 231

(1) Marine Corps.....231  
(2) Attached.....0  
(3) Total.....231

### 4. Important Visitors:

a. On 7 August 1966 MajGen KIER visited the squadron and was briefed on the squadron posture and capabilities.

b. On 8 August 1966, General Wallace M. GREENE Jr., Commandant of the Marine Corps, visited the squadron area during his inspection tour of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing.

### PART TWO - Significant Highlights:

a. During the period 31 July to 8 August 1966, a detachment was deployed to Chu Lai, RVN. Six F-4B's, nine flight crews and 72 support personnel were deployed under the cognizance of Major B. D. FRITSCH. On 3 August, one aircraft was lost when the shuttle separated during a catapult shot and portions of the shuttle assembly were ingested into the starboard engine. The crew ejected safely when the aircraft lost power shortly after becoming airborne.

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PART THREE - Significant Events:

1. Personnel:

a. During the period 1-31 August 1966, the following personnel changes occurred:

(1) Joined: 6 officers/9 enlisted/1 Navy enlisted

(2) Dropped: 6 officers/22 enlisted/1 Navy enlisted

b. Total personnel on board as of:

(1) 1 August 1966: 44 officers/237 enlisted/1 Navy officer

(2) 31 August 1966: 44 officers/225 enlisted/1 Navy officer

c. Promotions:

(1) officers.....3(Staff NCO's accepting officer commissions)

(2) enlisted.....28

2. Administration:

a. Administrative activities were routine. The majority of the squadron's administrative effort was concentrated on routine correspondence and Service Record Book entries with emphasis on the emergency data page.

3. Awards:

a. The following personnel have received awards during the month of August 1966:

(1) Captain James A. DAVIS was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V" for his actions during the seige of AS HAU, RVN.

(2) Captains Victor E. BARRIS, Conrad W. HEINZERLING, Mel B. NOLLEY, and 2ndLt Stanley P. JOHNSON were awarded the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Bronze Star for their actions during Operation COLORADO, RVN.

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b. The following personnel have been recommended for awards during the month of August 1966:

(1) Captain Robert C. JOHNSON was recommended for the Distinguished Flying Cross for his presence of mind and professional airmanship when his aircraft experienced loss of power and control difficulties after a catapult shot from Chu Lai on 3 August. Captain JOHNSON remained with his aircraft until he had directed it clear of an ammunition storage area, then he ejected at a critically low altitude.

(2) Captain Jerry C. ROBINSON was recommended for the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry for his actions during Operation HASTINGS, RVN.

4. Civic Action:

a. The personnel of the squadron Seat Shop contributed to the civic action program by donating \$35.00, via the MAG-11 Chaplain, to be used in support of the BUI THI CHO Orphanage.

5. Flight Operations:

a. Flight operations continued at a heavy pace due to favorable weather and excellent aircraft availability. The squadron concluded flight operations for the month of August with a total of 857.6 hours and 662 sorties. The average pilot time for the month was 42.2 hours, the NFO's average time being 46.7 hours. A total of 1,948,000 pounds of bombs, consisting of 4,442 general purpose and napalm bombs, were expended during the month. In addition, 24 5-inch Zuni-Rocket Aircraft Packages, 2,392 2.75-inch Folding Fin Aircraft Rockets (FFAR) and 2,516 rounds of 20MM ammunition were expended.

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57506. Training:

a. Aircrew training consisted of three formal schools with the crew members and dates listed below:

## (1) Sea Survival - Numazu, Japan

<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>CLASS CONVENING DATE</u>
2ndLt	J. N. FLANIGAN	7 August 1966
2ndLt	A. W. MASSEY	21 August 1966

## (2) Escape and Evasion - Clark AFB, P.I.

Capt	P. W. CHAPMAN	29 August 1966
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## (3) Jungle Environment and Survival Training - Cubi Pt., P.I.

1stLt	W. T. HARDAKER	3 August 1966
1stLt	C. R. NORRED	10 August 1966
1stLt	L. W. ALLEN	10 August 1966
Capt	C. W. HEINZERLING	17 August 1966
2ndLt	S. P. JOHNSON	17 August 1966
1stLt	R. H. BEDNARSKY	24 August 1966

7. Maintenance:

a. One aircraft, BuNo 148415, which was flown to NAS Atsugi for rework on 29 August 1966, is presently in E5 Status awaiting PAR induction.

b. Four aircraft, BuNo's 149423, 158258, 148258, and 151020, were inducted into periodic calendar inspection and test flown during the month. In addition, BuNo 151456 was taken in for calendar inspection on 29 August.

c. On 3 August 1966, BuNo 152330 was stricken from Naval inventory.

d. On 14 August 1966, BuNo 150466 was transferred to O & R, North Island. The aircraft sustained damage on 8 July 1966.

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e. On 14 August, BuNo 151455 was received from NAS Atsugi. The aircraft was inventoried and an acceptance inspection performed.

f. On 31 August, BuNo 150411 was enroute to DaNang after completion of rework when engine FOD was discovered at NAS Cubi Pt.

g. One engine was found to contain FOD during the calender inspection of five aircraft.

h. Average A1 aircraft - 14. Average availability - 9.

8. Logistics:

a. In support of the squadron's detachment, 82,140 pounds and 7,170 cubic feet of cargo were moved to Chu Lai on 1 August 1966. This cargo consisted of rolling stock and support equipment and was moved via six KC-130 aircraft. The return of the cargo to DaNang AB started on 8 August and was completed by 12 August by utilizing seven KC-130 aircraft.