

MARINE FIGHTER ATTACK SQUADRON 323  
Marine Aircraft Group 15 (Rein)  
9th Marine Amphibious Brigade, FMFPac  
FPO, San Francisco 96602

3:CJQ:bjw  
5750  
5 July 1967

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 15 (Rein)

Subj: Command Chronology; submission of

Ref: (a) MGO 5750.2  
(b) Wgo 5750.1B  
(c) MAG 13 GruO 5750.1C  
(d) BrigO 5750.1B

Encl: ✓(1) Command Chronology for the Month of June 1967

1. In accordance with references (a) through (d), enclosure (1) is hereby submitted for the period 1-30 June 1967.

  
G. H. KELLER, JR.

VMFA-323

CMD CHRON

JUNE 1967

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

Unit: Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 323

Location: MCAS Iwakuni, Japan

Period: 1-30 June 1967

Part I - Organizational Data

<u>A. NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>DATES</u>
Gordon H. KELLER JR.	LtCol	Commanding Officer	1-30 June
John L. THATCHER	Major	Executive Officer	1-30 June
Joseph B. WUERTZ	Major	Operations Officer	1-30 June
George (n) BERTHELSON	Capt	Administrative Officer	1-30 June
William W. MACKEY	Major	Logistics Officer	1-30 June
Charles W. BROWN	Major	Maintenance Officer	1-30 June
Rabun N. PATRICK	Capt	Aviation Safety Officer	1-30 June

B. Unit Location and Dates

MCAS Iwakuni, Japan 1-30 June 1967

C. Average Monthly Strength

<u>1. Officer</u>	<u>ON HAND</u>	<u>MANNING LEVEL</u>	<u>T/O</u>
a. Naval Aviators	21	21	26
b. Naval Flight Officers	19	21	26
c. Aviation Ground Officers	6	5	5
d. Naval Flight Surgeons	1	0	0

  

<u>2. Enlisted</u>			
a. Marine	334	325	318
b. Navy	4	0	0

D. Important Visitors

1. On 23 June 1967, BGen Jacob GLICK, CG 9th MAB, flew with the squadron on a tactical training mission at Naha AB. A number of F4B capabilities were demonstrated at that time.

ENCLOSURE (1)

Part II - Significant Highlights

1. The squadron's efforts in June were directed toward regrouping and the training of new and replacement aircrews for the upcoming combat deployment to Viet Nam. This was accomplished primarily by a five week conventional weapons training deployment at Naha AB, Okinawa which commenced 4 June. Training was conducted in all modes of ordnance delivery, both day and night. Six aircraft were utilized and flight crews were rotated to Naha on a training-as-required basis.
2. The squadron also continued the ferrying of 1st MAF F4B aircraft to and from MCAS Chu-Lai, RVN and NAS Atsugi, Japan in connection with the "Shoehorn" program. A total of 16 aircraft were ferried.
3. At Iwakuni, regular training and refresher flights were flown, while on the ground, a basic military training program involving marksmanship training, NBC warfare, GMS training, close order drill, physical fitness, technical and aircrew ground training was embarked upon. This was somewhat complicated by the fact that the squadron was maintaining two detachments away from Iwakuni at the time (Naha - 117 personnel and Atsugi - 20 personnel).

Part III - Significant Events

A. Personnel: Joined.....Officer 3, Enlisted 36  
 Dropped.....Officer 5, Enlisted 10  
 Promotions.....Officer 1, Enlisted 1

B. Administration: During June, the administration section, although undermanned, continued its review of Service Record Books, updated leave records, and cut and processed innumerable sets of TAD orders for the Naha and Atsugi detachments.

C. Flight Operations: Primary efforts were directed in support of the Naha ordnance training deployment, where three previously unqualified pilots qualified in the conventional ordnance portion of the syllabus. In addition, 4 pilots and 4 NFO's without combat experience requalified at the same time. Crews with combat experience each spent two weeks in ordnance refresher training. The detachment averaged 12.7 sorties per day (1.6 per aircrew). Training was conducted in all modes of delivery, day and night. In addition, 28 day and night air refueling sorties were flown plus 40 GCI missions for MACS-6 controller training (91% MA rate).

During June, the squadron was also heavily engaged in ferrying aircraft to and from Chu-Lai and Atsugi in connection with the "Shoehorn" program. 16 aircraft were ferried in 31 flights for 63 hours flight time. Due to the Naha detachment and the "Shoehorn" ferry commitment, training flights at Iwakuni were restricted to a bare minimum. However, the benefits derived from the intensive training at Naha more than compensated for the reduced schedule at Iwakuni. A statistical summary follows:

Total Hours.....	435	(Naha 298)
Total Sorties.....	337	(Naha 254)
Avg Pilots on board.....	21	
Avg hours per pilot.....	20.7	
Avg sorties per pilot.....	16.0	
Avg NFO's on board.....	19	
Avg hours per NFO .....	22.9	
Avg sorties per NFO.....	17.7	

D. Training. Training in June was somewhat complicated by the 136 personnel detached TAD to Naha and Atsugi; however, basic military training was carried out as follows:

GMS Training.....	777	Man/hrs
NBC Warfare (Gas Chamber/lecture).....	136	Man/hrs
Aircrew ground training.....	80	Man/hrs
Officer/SNCO Special Training.....	142	Man/hrs
Pistol Requalification.....	EX-21	
	SS-	9
	MM-	4
	UNQ-	0

E. Logistics. Logistical efforts were directed toward the support of the Naha detachment with which close coordination was maintained. 6 USAF C-130 aircraft were used on the deployment to Naha carrying 101,052 lbs of equipment and 100 men. Logistic support after this was maintained by MARLOG and F4B ferry flights.

## F. Maintenance

Aircraft Assigned.....	20
Avg A/C on board.....	12
Avg A/C on board available.....	8 (67%)
Avg hrs flown per A/C on board .....	36.5

	<u>BUNO</u>	<u>TO/FROM</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Aircraft received.....	152259	VMFA-542	3 June 1967
	150472	VMFA-542	19 June 1967
	151451	VMFA-115	29 June 1967
Aircraft Transferred.....	151468	VMFA-115	14 June 1967
	148414	VMFA-542	18 June 1967
	149422	VMFA-115	27 June 1967

G. Ordnance. Ordnance dropped in June by type and number included:

MK-76 Practice Bomb.....	737
2.75" Folding Fin Aerial Rocket.....	937
MK-86 Water-Sand Filled Bomb.....	349
Zuni Rocket.....	75
MK-24 Flare .....	67