

MARINE FIGHTER ATTACK SQUADRON 323
Marine Aircraft Group 13
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMF, Pacific
FPO, San Francisco 96602

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5750
9 Dec 1967

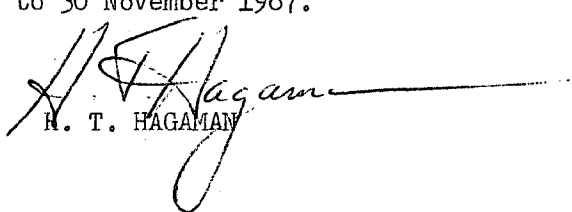
From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 13

Subj: Command Chronology; submission of

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
(b) WgO 5750.1B
(c) GruO 5750.1C
(d) BrigO 5750.1B

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

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


H. T. HAGAMAN

VMFA-323

CMD CHRON

Nov 1967

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

Unit: Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 323

Location: MCAS Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam

Period: 1-30 November 1967

PART I - Organizational Data1. Commander and Staff

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>PERIOD</u>
Harry T. HAGAMAN	Commanding Officer	LtCol	1-30 Nov
Paul G. BOOZMAN	Executive Officer	Major	1-30 Nov
Lee T. LASSETER	S-3 (Operations)	Major	1-18 Nov
Henry G. MILLER JR.	S-3 (Operations)	Major	18-30 Nov
George (n) BERTHELSON	S-1 (Administration)	Capt	1-18 Nov
Arthur J. DELAHOUSAYE	S-1 (Administration)	Capt	18-30 Nov
Henry D. FAGERSKOG	S-4 (Logistics)	Major	1-20 Nov
Noel E. DOUGLAS	S-4 (Logistics)	Capt	20-30 Nov
Charles W. BROWN	Maintenance Officer	Major	1-26 Nov
Warren A. FERDINAND	Maintenance Officer	Major	26-30 Nov
Rabun N. PATRICK	Aviation Safety Officer	Capt	1-30 Nov

2. Task Organization and DataOrganization

Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 323
 Marine Aircraft Group 13
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing
 Fleet Marine Force, Pacific

Location

MCAS Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam

Commanding Officer

Lieutenant Colonel H. T. HAGAMAN

Date of Office

13Oct67 - Present

Enclosure (1)

3. Average Monthly Strength

a. Marine Officers

(1) Naval Aviators22
 (2) Naval Flight Officers15
 (3) Aviation Ground Officers..... 6

b. Naval Officers 1

c. Marine Enlisted295

d. Naval Enlisted 0

4. Important Visitors to the Command. NonePART III - Narrative Summary

November commenced the fourth month of combat operations at Chu Lai on the squadron's third combat tour in Vietnam. In general, weather conditions declined during November which restricted flight operations to 483 combat sorties, 538.4 combat hours and 1176.5 tons of ordnance delivered on the enemy.

Types of missions flown were Close Air Support and Direct Air Support missions in support of virtually all major ground operations in the I Corps Tactical Zone including Foster, Wheeler, Lancaster and Kentucky, interdiction missions in the A Shau Valley, Tally-Ho strikes in the North Vietnam panhandle, Steel Tiger interdiction strikes in Laos along the Ho-Chi-Minh Trail, TPQ-10 radar directed bombing missions plus a small number of helicopter escorts, landing zone preps, visual reconnaissances and air-to-air alert scrambles.

Enemy opposition slackened somewhat during November compared to the previous month, possibly due to unfavorable visibilities in deteriorating weather conditions. Nonetheless, three aircraft sustained battle damage; however, all were quickly repaired. There were no accidents and only one minor incident of an operational nature.

During November, there was a large officer turnover, particularly in the field grade ranks. Eight new officers joined while seven were transferred, and efforts were made to get these new members indoctrinated to combat operations as quickly as possible. Lastly, all departments were busy in preparation for an Administrative and Material Inspection to be held on 1 December.

Some highlight missions flown during November were:

Enclosure (1)

9 Nov: Major BROWN (RIO - Captain LEE) led a Steel Tiger strike into Laos with Captain DELAHOUSSEY/Capt GRIMSHAW on wing and destroyed a road grader plus cutting a road.

18Nov: Captain PATRICK (RIO - Captain BRANDON, WM - Captain BEST/Captain SHORE) destroyed three structures, damaged two more, damaged one and half tons of rice, and killed one enemy (confirmed) plus five more (probable) on a close air support for Operation FOSTER near An Hoa.

20Nov: Capt BEST (RIO - Captain NORTHLICH, WM - Captain DELAHOUSSEY/1stLt DAVIS) was scrambled off the hot pad to An Hoa where they accounted for 15 enemy killed by air (confirmed) plus three structures destroyed. Enemy reaction was intense and both aircraft were damaged by groundfire.

20Nov: Major DREWLOW with Captains O'MARA, DRAGE and GRIMSHAW destroyed 12 structures and damaged 13 more on a close air support mission.

22Nov: Major BOOZMAN (RIO - Lt KERR) led Captain O'BLOCK/Capt REYNOLDS on a close air support mission against Viet Cong in the open, destroying six structures and killing six of the enemy (probable) while receiving intense hostile fire.

24Nov: Captains PATRICK, GLISAN, DELAHOUSSEY and REYNOLDS flying support for ROK Marines south of Chu Lai, destroyed 16 structures, damaged one bunker, and killed two (probable) Viet Cong.

27Nov: Captain PATRICK led another mission with Captains GRIMSHAW, THACKER, and HARE which destroyed four structures and killed four enemy (confirmed) plus three more (probable).

And on 8 November, Captain QUILTER killed two cows in the DMZ bringing his personal score up to three and confirming his reputation as the "hamburger king".

During November, Battle Damage Assessments were received from controlling agencies on less than 10% of all missions flown as follows:

Enemy Killed By Air.....	28	Confirmed/23 Probable
Structures.....	124	Destroyed/49 Damaged
Bunkers.....	35	Destroyed/3 Damaged
Secondary Explosions.....	11	
Trenchline Destroyed.....	110	Meters
Automatic Weapons Positions.....	3	Destroyed
Anti-aircraft Gun Positions.....	2	Destroyed
Road Cuts.....	13	
Ford Cuts.....	1	
Bridges.....	1	Destroyed/1 Damaged
Road Grader.....	1	Destroyed
Cows Killed By Air.....	2	Confirmed

Enclosure (1)

PART III - Significant Events

1. Personnel: Joined Officer 8 Enlisted 39
 Dropped Officer 7 Enlisted 20
 Promotions Officer 3 Enlisted 0

2. Awards: Air Medals 106
 Purple Hearts 1
 Good Conduct Medals 9
 Meritorious Masts 3

3. Air Operations: November statistical summary as follows:

Total Combat Sorties	483	#Group/Other Pilots Flying	8
Total Flights	487	Avg Group/Other Pilot Sorties	7
Total Combat Hours	545.9	Avg Group/Other Pilot Hours	8.5
Total Flight Hours	550.0	Avg NFO Strength	15
Avg Pilot Strength	20	Avg NFO Hours	33.2
Avg Pilot Sorties	22	High Day (Sorties)...29Nov	25
Avg Pilot Hours	24.3	High Day (Hours) ...29Nov	34.7

4. Training: During November 95 personnel received indoctrination training and familiarization firing on the M16 rifle.

5. Maintenance: November monthly averages:

No. of A/C Assigned	15
Avg A/C On Board	10
Avg A/C Available	6 (60%)
Avg Hrs per A/C On Board	56.3
No. Calendar Checks Completed	3

Aircraft Transferred/Received:	BuNo	To/From	Date
	152236	To VMFA-314	16Nov
	149452	From VMFA-314	21Nov
	151414	From NAS Cubi Pt	2Nov

6. Ordinance: November Expenditures

Type	Weight in Tons
MK81 250# Snake-eye Bomb	143.07
MK82 500# LD GP Bomb	85.22
MK82 500# Snake-eye Bomb	811.09
MK83 1000# LD GP Bomb	6.50
MK117 750# LD GP Bomb	197.20
MK77 500# Napalm	72.80
2.75" FFAR	(No. = 247)

Total Ordinance Expended	1315.83
Total Ordinance Delivered	1176.56

Enclosure (1)