

MARINE FIGHTER ATTACK SQUADRON 334
Marine Aircraft Group 13
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMF, Pacific
WFO San Francisco 96602

3:JRS:ajw
5750
Ser: 03M09969
9 April 1969

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 13 (attn: S-3)

Subj: Command Chronology

Ref: (a) WGL 5750.1C
(b) CMO 5750.1D

Encls: ✓(1) Command Chronology for 1 - 31 March 1969

1. In accordance with instructions contained in references (a) and (b), the Command Chronology for the period 1-31 March 1969 is submitted as Enclosure (1).

2. This cover letter is UNCLASSIFIED upon removal of Enclosure (1).

J R Scafe
J. R. SCAFE
By direction

VMFA-334

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COMIAND CHRONOLOGY

MARINE FIGHTER ATTACK SQUADRON 334
MARINI AIRCRAFT GROUP 13
1st MARINE AIRCRAFT WING, FMF, PACIFIC
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96602

CHU LAI MR BASE, VIETNAM

1 - 3. MARCH 1969

ENCLOSURE (1)

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9 April 19691. Commanding Officer and Staff

<u> billet</u>	<u> Rank</u>	<u> Name</u>	<u> Inclusive Dates</u>
Commanding Officer	LtCol	S. E. D'ANGELO III	1 - 31 Mar 69
Executive Officer	Major	H. J. BOND	1 - 31 Mar 69
S-1 Officer	Capt	B. R. BAIRD	1 - 31 Mar 69
S-2 Officer	1/Lt	J. W. LEIST	1 - 31 Mar 69
S-3 Officer	Major	F. L. PIERI	1 - 7 Mar 69
S-3 Officer	Major	J. R. SCATE	8 - 31 Mar 69
S-4 Officer	Major	J. E. MAX	1 - 31 Mar 69
Mainenance Officer	Major	C. B. JOHNSTON	1 - 31 Mar 69
Safety Officer	Major	M. H. BRAVUM	1 - 7 Mar 69
Safety Officer	Major	A. G. POTENZA	8 - 31 Mar 69

2. Average Monthly Strength

Marine Officers ..	44	Naval Officers -	1
Marine Enlisted ..	244	Naval Enlisted -	0

3. Task Organization and Location

Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 334
 Marine Aircraft Group 13
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMF, Pacific

Chu Lai Air Base, Republic of Vietnam, 1 - 31 March 1969

4. Important Visitors

No important visitors visited the Squadron during the month of March.

PART II. Narrative of significant Highlights

During March, WMA-334 continued to respond to tactical air requests as four (4) new operations were initiated in I Corps. With only eleven (11) aircraft on hand, the Squadron logged an impressive 582 sorties and 724.9 hours. Working with Army, Air Force and Marine FAC's and TACU's, WMA-334 was credited with 83 bunkers destroyed, 19 bunkers damaged, 144 structures destroyed, 54 structures damaged, 83 secondary fires, 17 secondary explosions, 31 KEMA, 1 37mm and 1 24mm position destroyed, 1 truck destroyed, 1 sampan, 1 bridge and 1 aqueduct damaged, 4 road cuts, 4 caves destroyed and 330 meters of trench line destroyed. A total of 1134 tons of ordnance was expended in support of Operations DEER CANYON, PURPLE MARTIN, MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER, MAINE CRAG, KITCHEN JUMPER and STEEL TIGER missions.

On 1 March, Two (2) FAC's with Major BOND (pilot)/1/Lt YORKOFF (RIO) and Capt. RICHARDSON (pilot)/Capt. CATANZARO (RIO) attacked an enemy position in support of the 26th Marines. Despite small arms fire, the flight destroyed 5 structures and were credited with 4 KEMA. In addition, the flight was credited with 4 CHISEL HOL. The surrender of the 4 enemy is considered noteworthy, in

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that this was the second occurrence of voluntary surrender attributed directly to the awesome attack of a section of F4J's from WPA-334.

On 1 March, Captain HARRAH (pilot)/1/Lt LEIST (RIO) received a letter of appreciation from Headquarters, 8th TFW for excellent weapons delivery which resulted in one (1) truck destroyed on 4 February 1969. Captain HARRAH led the seventh section of fighters to strike a convoy of trucks detected by WAIL 77. Under the control of WOLF 03, Captain HARRAH scored a direct hit on his initial pass destroying a truck. At the request of the 7th AF, WOLF 03 photographed the burning truck and forwarded the photo to Headquarters, 7th AF.

On 2 March, F4J 155780 flown by LtCol D'ANGELO III (pilot)/1/Lt DALY (RIO) took a hit during a Close Air Support Mission southwest of Danang. The aircraft burst into flames forcing the crew to eject in the proximity of the target. Fortunately, two (2) MAC-16 helicopters were flying nearby. Alerted to the incident via JTF Guard Channel, the crew members of the helicopters immediately diverted and were able to rescue the crew without injury despite heavy hostile fire.

On 21 March, Captain RICHARDSON (pilot)/1/Lt MCMEIKEN (RIO) and 1/Lt O'CONNOR (pilot)/1/Lt SHADOFF (RIO) struck an outpost that had been overrun during the night. Captain RICHARDSON was able to acquire the target without a mark from JAKE 75. The devastating effects of the attack, enhanced by the element of surprise, was evident later when the ground units easily regained the outpost and counted 15 KBA, 11 bunkers destroyed, and the capture of 6 individual weapons and 1 light machine gun. On March 29th, the same section struck a target near the TIF and accounted for 10 bunkers destroyed, 8 bunkers uncovered, 1 mortar pit destroyed, 2 huts destroyed, 1 secondary explosion and a secondary fire.

On 31 March, WPA-334 received three (3) F4J replacement aircraft via the TransPac BEGGAR LION. The addition of these aircraft, plus one (1) received on 22 March brought the Squadron up to its previous strength of 15 aircraft.

PART III Significant Events

1. Personnel.

a. Officers Joined - 5
Officers Dropped - 2

Enlisted Joined - 4
Enlisted Dropped - 8

2. Administrative.

a. WPA-334 had eight (8) Marines promoted to Sergeant, two (2) to Corporal and two (2) to Lance Corporal.

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b. First Sergeant NABONI reenlisted for six (6) years. Gunnery Sergeant BRISUMKO reenlisted for three (3) years.

c. There were no extensions during March.

3. Awards

a. Flight/Strike Air Medals - 79

b. Distinguished Flying Cross - 2 (Capt. G. S. LINEY and 1/Lt W. H. FRIZZELL)
= 4 recommendations were submitted.

c. Purple Heart - 1 (1/Lt J. W. MAXWELL)

4. Air Operations

a. Sorties

- (1) Day Sorties flown - 441
- (2) Night Sorties flown - 141
- (3) Total Sorties flown - 582

b. Type of Sorties Flown

- (1) TPQ - 123
- (2) CAS - 272
- (3) FAS - 142
- (4) EAWAP - 24
- (5) Test - 5
- (6) Other - 16

c. Hours Flown

- (1) Combat Hours - 717.5
- (2) Operational Hours - 7.4
- (3) Total Hours - 724.9

d. Ordinance

- (1) Total Tons of Ordinance Expended - 1134
- (2) The following type and amounts of ordinance were expended:

- (a) D-1 MARK 81 (250#) - 389
- (b) D-2 MARK 82 (500#) - 2,598
- (c) D-3 MARK 83 (1000#) - 103
- (d) D-5 2.75" Rockets (19 shot pod) - 278
- (e) D-7 LAU-10A (ZUNI) - 759
- (f) D-9 MARK 77 Fire Bomb (500#) - 646
- (g) D-14 CGU-24 - 89
- (h) D-22 CS Gas - 11
- (i) D-2D ZONI - 17,862 rounds

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9 April 1969e. Operations Supported

- (1) Deway Canyon - 34
- (2) Kentucky Jumper - 26
- (3) Maine Crag - 24
- (4) Massachusetts Striker - 26
- (5) Purple Martin - 28
- (6) Steel Tiger - 84

f. Units Supported

- (1) III MAF - 262
- (2) 7th AF - 126
- (3) CTF 77 - 24
- (4) U. S. ARMY - 148
- (5) MAC - 14
- (6) ARVN - 8

g. Direct Enemy Action With Incidents, Limited Damage, No Injuries

- (1) 10 March, F4J, 155565, shrapnel holes on underside of aircraft in front of gun pod.
- (2) 17 March, F4J, 155550, small arms round in stabilator.
- (3) 17 March, F4J, 155735, small arms round lodged in left side of ejection seat in forward cockpit.
- (4) 23 March, F4J, 155580, small arms round in port stabilator tip.

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