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MARINE ALL WEATHER ATTACK SQUADRON 533

Marine Aircraft Group 15
1st Marine Aircraft Wing
Fleet Marine Force Pacific
FPO San Francisco, 96602

Command Chronology

1 August to 31 August 1972

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VMA(AW) - 533

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Enclosure (1)

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PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. Designation

Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 533

CommanderLtCol J. C. BROWN
1 Aug 72 - 31 Aug 72Subordinate Units

None

Attached Units

None

2. Location

1 Aug 72 - 31 Aug 72: Nam Phong, Thailand

3. Staff OfficerExecutive Officer

Major K. C. BATEMAN

1 Aug 72 - 31 Aug 72

Operations Officer

Major M. A. HUFFORD

1 Aug 72 - 31 Aug 72

Aircraft Maintenance Officer

Captain P. R. HEMMING

1 Aug 72 - 31 Aug 72

Administrative Officer

Captain D. W. COPELAND

1 Aug 72 - 31 Aug 72

Aviation Safety Officer

1st Lt M. W. MORLEY

1 Aug 72 - 31 Aug 72

Logistics OfficerCaptain H. B. NORMAN
Captain R. L. GARTNER1 Aug 72 - 14 Aug 72
15 Aug 72 - 31 Aug 72

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Strength

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
42	238	0	0

PART II - NARRATIVE

During the period covered by this report, 1 August - 31 August, 1972, Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 533 began flying night, all weather missions into Route Package One in North Viet Nam. This difficult and demanding mission has been met in the true can-do Marine Corps attitude, not only by the aircrews but also by the maintenance and supply departments as well as every other officer and enlisted man in the squadron. There were 65.1 hours flown in Route Package One since 12 August. Besides performing the squadron's night all weather role there were also 274.9 hours flown in Military Region One utilizing visual dive delivery tactics. The squadron flew a total of 228 sorties and 383.5 flight hours in the month of August. Eight hundred fifty seven tons of ordnance were delivered on 199 combat sorties. The results of these missions were: 41 KBA, 1 tank destroyed and 1 damaged, 3 storage tanks destroyed and 4 damaged, 19 bunkers destroyed, 87 secondary explosions, 1 sanpan destroyed and 2 damaged, 1 23mm AAA destroyed, 2 130mm artillery pieces destroyed, and 3 damaged, 1 SA-2 destroyed, 2 trucks destroyed and 4 damaged, 35 structures destroyed and 4 damaged.

Not only is our mission being carried out but it is being done under the adverse circumstances of working from an austere airfield. We are slowly improving the habitability and safety of both living and working spaces, although they are still far from adequate.

A noteworthy increase in re-enlistments have been processed by the career advisor. Of 15 applications submitted 3 have returned approved and 12 are pending approval at CMC. We have also submitted 15 request for extensions. This is particularly noteworthy when the living and working conditions at Nam Phong are considered. The squadron voting program has been active with approximately 80% of squadron personnel submitting absentee ballots for the coming elections. Four crewmembers have been recommended for the Navy commendation medals for action in combat over South Viet Nam. One ground officer has been recommended for the Navy Marine Corps medal for heroic action on the flight line.

SECRET~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~CONFIDENTIAL~~PART III - SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. On 12 August 1972 the squadron began night all weather operations in Route Package One.
2. On 14 August 1972 one mission consisting of two A6As lead by Capt P. G. HIGGINS and including Lt C. R. BELL, Lt G. A. SEYMORE, and Lt J. R. DEFREYTAS received outstanding bomb damage including 41 KBA, 1 POW. This mission also directly resulted in the capture of 100 rounds of 160mm artillery, 3 AK 47 rifles and 13 120mm rocket rounds by friendly forces.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. Photo of Commanding Officer, LtCol J. C. BROWN, enclosed as TAB A.

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LtCol J. C. BROWN
Commanding Officer
VMA(AW)-533
Nam Phong, Thailand
31 August 1972

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VMA(AW)-533 C/Chron, Aug 72
TAB-A

DO
NOT
VMA 62

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