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[REDACTED]
MARINE ALL WEATHER ATTACK SQUADRON 533
Marine Aircraft Group 15
1st Marine Aircraft Wing
Fleet Marine Force Pacific
FPO San Francisco, 96602

VMA(AW)-533 COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 October to 31 October 1972

INDEX

- PART I ORGANIZATIONAL DATA
- PART II NARRATIVE SUMMARY
- PART III SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
- PART IV SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

VMA(AW)-533

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Enclosure (1)
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Oct 1972

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. DESIGNATION

Marine All Weather Attack Squadron-533

COMMANDERLtCol J. C. BROWN
1-31 October 19722. GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATIONRoyal Thai Air Force Base
Nam Phong, ThailandPERIOD

1-31 October 1972

3. STAFF OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE OFFICER	- Major K. C. BATEMAN	1-31 October 1972
S-1 OFFICER	- Captain D. W. COPELAND	1-31 October 1972
S-2 OFFICER	- First Lieutenant H. L. TRAUFFER	1-31 October 1972
S-3 OFFICER	- Major M. A. HUFFORD	1-31 October 1972
S-4 OFFICER	- Captain R. L. GARTNER	1-31 October 1972
MAINTENANCE OFFICER	- Captain P. R. HEMMING	1-31 October 1972
AVIATION SAFETY OFFICER	- Captain N. W. MORLEY	1-31 October 1972

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>OFF</u>	<u>USMC</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>USN</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>OTHER</u>	<u>ENL</u>
42		243	0		0	0		0

PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

(C) During the period covered by this report, 1 October - 31 October 1972, Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 533 continued its supporting role of the Government of the Republic of South Vietnam through interdiction and direct air support. The squadron flew 90 sorties and 152.7 flight hours in Route Package One of North Vietnam in an effort to stem the flow of supplies into South Vietnam. Numerous supplies and other military targets were destroyed utilizing the night all weather delivery capabilities of the A6A Intruder. The squadron flew 124 day visual sorties in South Vietnam's Military Regions One and Two and the Barrel Roll area of Laos. The squadron flew a total of 240 sorties and 410.2 flight hours in the month of October. There were 917.1 tons of ordnance delivered by the squadron resulting in significant BDA.

(C) The squadron continued to experience a major problem with fuel leaks. During the month two aircraft had to be inducted at FAWPRA, Cubi Pt. for leaks in the main landing gear well. One of these aircraft had previously undergone repair for leaks in the same area less

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than two months ago. Presently another aircraft is awaiting flight to FAWPRA, Cubi Pt. for major fuel leaks in the inner wing/fuselage area. Despite continuing high NORS situation, an average of 44 items per day, the squadron was able to fly a 86% completion rate including a 83% completion rate of night systems sorties.

(C) There has been an improvement in the power supply providing the avionics division with the electric output necessary for maintenance and calibration of the delicate navigation and attack equipment.

(C) Living and working conditions are improving. Some progress is shown in the fact that all squadron living areas are now on central power and there is telephone communications available from the squadron spaces to the Commanding Officer's living spaces. Due to the possibility of attack by enemy agents sixteen 20-man bunkers were constructed in squadron working, office and living areas. The morale of the squadron personnel was raised when an intramural volleyball league was established with games each evening. Other recreation facilities are in the planning stages.

(C) The squadron lost one aircraft and crew on 12 October. Aircraft BUNO 155707 was launched for an armed reconnaissance flight into Route Package One, North Vietnam. It never returned and is presumed lost due to hostile enemy action. The pilot 1/LT J. R. PEACOCK and Bombardier Navigator 1/LT W. M. PRICE are listed as missing in action.

(U) The squadron career planner had 2 reenlistments during the month, a reenlistment/retention rate of 67%. Also one career length extension agreement was executed. There were 7 meritorious masts and 1 meritorious promotion to Sergeant. There were also 23 Flight/Strike Medals awarded during the month. Five squadron personnel enrolled in college level education through USAFI in October. One 533 Marine satisfactorily completed the GED and another received his high school equivalency through GED.

(C) The Marines of Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 533 are still working hard to accomplish their goal of a 1.0 Sortie Rate. This month the sortie rate was .73 and the enlisted men and officers have renewed their efforts for the attainment of their goal during the month of November.

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

3, 6, 11, 13,
20, 27 Oct 1972 Meritorious Masts/Promotion
10 Oct 1972 Central Power

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Enclosure (1)

PART IV

A. ✓(C) BDA for VMA(AW)-533 for October 1972

B. ✓(U) Meritorious Promotion and Masts for October 1972

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Enclosure (1)

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TAB A

BDA FOR VMA(AW)-533 FOR OCT 72

1. Secondary Explosions: 149
2. Sustained Fires: 31
3. Trucks Destroyed: 19, Damaged: 2
4. Structures Destroyed: 10, Damaged: 1
5. Bunkers Destroyed: 10, Damaged: 1
6. Warehouses Destroyed: 2
7. Road Cuts: Two 25 Meter Road Cuts
Three 5 Meter Road Cuts
One Road Cut
8. Guns: One 12.7 Gun Destroyed
One 122MM Field Gun Destroyed
One Gun Destroyed
9. Supplies: One Supply Cache Destroyed
One Stack Supplies Destroyed
10. Storage Piles: One Storage Pile Destroyed
Two Storage Piles Uncovered
11. Known enemy locations: One Known Enemy Location Destroyed
12. KBA (Killed by air): 34

A-1

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TAB B

Meritorious Promotion and Masts for October 1972

1. These are copies of the Meritorious Promotion and Masts held 3, 6, 11, 13, 20 and 27 October 1972 at Royal Thai Air Force Base, Nam Phong, Thailand. The concerned parties are Sergeant S. J. RACHEL; Corporals G. E. DWYER, T. M. CALL, J. JONES, K. O. BOWERS, P. J. BELLISARIO and Lance Corporal T. W. MCKENDREE.

DO NOT
IMAGINE

B-1

UNCLASSIFIED

1:KCB:jlb
1420
3 Oct 1972

FIRST ENDORSEMENT On Awards Officer ltr 8:RJM:two 1420 of 2 Oct 1972

From: Commanding Officer, Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 533
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 15

Subj: MERITORIOUS PROMOTION, case of Cpl Gary E. DWYER 301 50 46 58/
6531 USMC

1. Forwarded. Recommending approval.

K. C. BATEMAN
Acting

(3)

Direct Marine Force Pacific
FPO, San Francisco 96602

8:45M:two
1420
2 October 1972

From: Awards Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 15
Via: Commanding Officer, VMA(AW)533

Subj: MERITORIOUS PROMOTION, case of CPL GARY E. DWYER, 301 50 46 58/6531 USMC

1. Corporal DWYER has consistently shown outstanding performance in both his regular duties, and the numerous other important aspects of functioning as a Marine NCO since being assigned to this unit.
2. There is no doubt that his technical knowledge in his field (MOS 6531, A6A A/C Ordnance Tech.) surpasses what would normally be expected of a Marine of his rank and experience, even to the extent where he can be, and frequently is, used as an instructor of replacement personnel. He has consistently performed in an exemplary manner, both here at Iwakuni, and while deployed with a detachment at Naha, Okinawa, in both cases showing that he is more than capable of meeting the demands and challenges of high-tempo, combat operations.
3. His appearance and military bearing also clearly reflect his devotion not only to his regular duties, but to the other responsibilities, in the field of leadership, of a Marine NCO. He is clearly a Marine of the highest caliber.
4. I enthusiastically and without reservation nominate Cpl DWYER for meritorious promotion to the rank of Sergeant.

R. J. MCGINN

MARINE ALL WEATHER ATTACK SQUADRON 533
 Marine Aircraft Group 15
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing
 Fleet Marine Force Pacific
 FPO, San Francisco 96602

1:JCB:two
 1650
 6 Oct 1972

SQUADRON BULLETIN 1650

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Distribution List

Subj: Meritorious Mast

Ref: (a) MCO 1650.9

1. Purpose. To promulgate information concerning a Meritorious Mast held for Lance Corporal Thomas M. CALL OOI 38 62 25/6042 USMC.

2. General. Meritorious Mast was held this date by the Commanding Officer in accordance with the provision of reference (a). The following remarks were made:

"Since joining Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 533 on 16 March 1972, you have been assigned as an aircraft metalsmith. During this period you have distinguished yourself by your professional knowledge, diligence, and devotion to duty.

In particular your cheerful willingness to accept the difficult working conditions and long hours associated with the combat deployment of this unit to Royal Thai Air Force Base, Nam Phong, have set you apart as being a particularly valuable asset to your shop.

Your military bearing and appearance, as well as your obvious attention to your physical condition show that you approach not only your regular duties, but also the numerous additional responsibilities of a top-flight Marine with a noteworthy degree of diligence and enthusiasm. Your professional knowledge, self-discipline, and cheerful disposition have materially added to the combat readiness of this unit.

Your constant devotion to duty reflects great credit on yourself, on our squadron, and on the United States Marine Corps."

(6)

3. Action. The Administration Section will ensure that a copy of this Bulletin is placed in LCpl CALL's Service Record Book. A copy of this Bulletin will also be forwarded to the Commandant of the Marine Corps for inclusion in his permanent record.

4. Self-Cancellation. 31 December 1972.

J. J. Brown
J. J. BROWN

DISTRIBUTION "A"

MARINE ALL WEATHER ATTACK SQUADRON 533
 Marine Aircraft Group 15
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing
 Fleet Marine Force Pacific
 FPO, San Francisco 96602

1:JGB:two
 1650
 6 Oct 1972

SQUADRON BULLETIN 1650

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Distribution List

Subj: Meritorious Mast

Ref: (a) MCO 1650.9

1. ~~Purpose~~. To publish the awarding of a Meritorious Mast to LCpl Thevil W. MCKENURE 462 96 69 87/6082 USMC.
2. ~~General~~. The following Meritorious Mast is awarded by the Commanding Officer of Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 533 this date for outstanding and noteworthy performance of duty. The citation is set forth in the followings:

"Since joining Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 533 on 19 July 1972, you have been assigned as a Maintenance Admin Clerk. During this period you have ~~consistently~~ distinguished yourself by your conscientious attention to duty, and the outstanding professional manner which you carry out tasks assigned to you. You have shown yourself willing to eagerly accept the increased demands placed on your skills and endurance by the combat status of this unit.


It is noted that on several occasions you have taken it upon yourself to return to your place of duty after being secured, from already long working hours, and devote yourself to extra study of the manuals and technical directives pertaining to your job.

Your appearance and military bearing have also been noteworthy throughout your tour with this unit, and you have significantly contributed to the combat readiness of this unit's aircraft.

It is with great pleasure that I hereby award you this Meritorious Mast."

3. Action. The Administrative Section will ensure that a copy of this Bulletin is placed in the Service Record Book of LCpl MCKENDREE. A copy of this Bulletin will be forwarded to the Commandant of the Marine Corps to become part of his permanent record.

4. Self-Cancellation. This Bulletin is cancelled for record purposes on 31 December 1972.


J. C. BROWN

DISTRIBUTION "A"

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

MARINE ALL WEATHER ATTACK SQUADRON 533
 Marine Aircraft Group 15
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing
 Fleet Marine Force Pacific
 APO, San Francisco 96602

10JUB:pm
 1650
 27 Oct 1972

SQUADRON BULLETIN 1650

From: Commanding Officer

To: Distribution List

Subj: Meritorious Mast

Ref: (a) MCO 1650.9

1. Purpose. To publish the awarding of a Meritorious Mast to Corporal P. J. HECOSARIO O/O 46 24 82/3072 USM.

2. General. The following Meritorious Mast is awarded by the Commanding Officer of Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 533 this date for outstanding and noteworthy performance of duty. The citation is set forth in the following:

"During the period of June 1972 to September 1972 you have been assigned to Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 533 as a NORS expeditor in the Material Section. Throughout this time you have distinguished yourself by your diligence, initiative, and endurance. Your work has often been the subject of praise from higher levels in the Supply system for its exceptional accuracy.

Since the Squadron's deployment to Nam Phong you have met the accelerated demands imposed upon you by the difficult supply situation and the combat environment being conducted by this unit with unparalleled energy and enthusiasm, taking it upon yourself to completely renovate the NRS expeditor section, thereby greatly increasing its efficiency and effectiveness.

You have shown yourself always willing to work far beyond what would normally be required or expected by a Marine of your rank and experience, especially in the vital area of training and assisting the other members of your section. Also worthy of special note is the fact that, regardless of the demands placed upon you, you have always maintained a cheerful disposition, and have approached your duties with the positive attitude and enthusiasm that has greatly enhanced the effectiveness of your section, which is so vital to the maintenance of the combat readiness of this Squadron's aircraft.

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

SqdnBul 1650
27 Oct 1972

Your military bearing and personal appearance also show you to be a Marine of the highest caliber. You have reflected great credit on yourself, this Squadron, and on the United States Marine Corps.

It is with the greatest pleasure that I hereby award you this Meritorious Mast^m.

3. Action. The Administrative Section will ensure that a copy of this Bulletin is placed in the Service Record Book of Cpl MELLISARIO. A copy of this Bulletin will be forwarded to the Commandant of the Marine Corps to become part of his permanent record.

4. Self-Cancellation. This Bulletin is cancelled for record purposes on 31 December 1972.


J. C. DEON

DISTRIBUTION "A"

MARINE ALL WEATHER

1650

11 Oct 1977

MARINE ALL WEATHER

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Distribution List

Subj: Meritorious Mast

Ref: (a) MCO 1650.9

1. Purpose. To publish the awarding of a Meritorious Mast to Corporal Keith O. BOWERS 418 68 90 19/7041 USMC.

2. General. The following Meritorious Mast is awarded by the Commanding Officer of Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 533 this date for outstanding and noteworthy performance of duty. The citation is set forth in the followings:

"Since joining Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 533 on 28 May 1972 you have been assigned as Operations Administration and Training Clerk. During this period you have distinguished yourself in a most commendable fashion by your professional competence, diligence, and devotion to duty.

The skill and enthusiasm with which you have approached your duties has been evidenced by a significant lowering of error rate on the Squadrons inputs to the Individual Flight Activity Reporting System (IFARS). As a direct result of your efficiency and competence the Squadron received high marks on the flight records section of the "Pre-IG" inspection, an area for which you are directly responsible. You have shown the greatest initiative in maintaining the aircrew flight log books and combat records.

As the workload of your section increased as a result of the combat deployment of this Squadron you have on numerous occasions, voluntarily chosen to work beyond your normal working hours, and have demonstrated technical proficiency considerably beyond what would be expected from a Marine of your rank and experience. Your continuing positive attitude has contributed materially to the morale of all those with whom you come in contact.


You have also distinguished yourself in the areas of military and appearance. Your overall performance since joining this unit reflects great credit on yourself, on this unit, and on The United States Marine Corps."

③

MEMORANDUM
FOR THE RECORD
SUBJECT: [illegible]
DATE: [illegible]

MEMORANDUM
FOR THE RECORD
SUBJECT: [illegible]
DATE: [illegible]

Re Self-Cancellation, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
on 31 December 1972.


J. C. EGAN

DISTRIBUTION "A"

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/11/01 BY 60322 UCBAW

11 Oct 1972
1650

SQUADRON BULLETIN 1650

From: Commanding Officer

To: Distribution List

Subj: Meritorious Mast

Ref: (a) MCO 1650.9

1. Purpose. To publish the awarding of a Meritorious Mast to Corporal James JONES 420 70 78 46/6082 USMC.
2. General. The following Meritorious Mast is awarded by the Commanding Officer of Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 533 this date for outstanding and noteworthy performance of duty. The citation is set forth in the following:

"Since joining Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 533 in February of 1972 you have been assigned as a Maintenance Administration Clerk. During this period you have consistently distinguished yourself by your professional knowledge of your field, as well as by the diligence and enthusiasm with which you have approached your duties.

You have also performed in a most commendable fashion in areas outside of your normal duties, particularly in your exceptional military bearing and appearance.

The area, however, in which you have excelled is the general positive spirit and enthusiasm with which you have approached your duties. This "can do" attitude, despite the ever increasing work load of a combat squadron, has served to inspire those who come in contact with you and has contributed to the efficiency of the maintenance effort that is so vital to the combat readiness of this squadron.

Your professional competence, military presence, and noteworthy attitude reflect great credit upon yourself, this squadron, and the United States Marine Corps."

(8)

Serial 1650
11 Oct 1972

3. Action. The Administration will ensure that a copy of this Bulletin is placed in the Service Record Book of Sgt. Brown. A copy of this Bulletin will be forwarded to the Commanding Officer of the Marine Corps to become part of his permanent record.

4. Self-Cancellation. This Bulletin is canceled for record purposes on 31 December 1972.


J.C. BROWN

DISTRIBUTION "A"

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

MARINE ALL WEATHER ATTACK SQUADRON 533
 Marine Aircraft Group 15
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing
 Fleet Marine Force Pacific
 FPO, San Francisco 96602

1:JCB:am
 1650
 13 Oct 72

SQUADRON BULLETIN 1650

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Distribution List

Subj: Meritorious Mast

Ref: (a) MCO 1650.9

1. Purpose. To publish the awarding of a Meritorious Mast to Sergeant S. J. RACHOL 237 68 62 73/6234 USMC.
2. General. The following Meritorious Mast is awarded by the Commanding Officer of Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 533 this date for outstanding and noteworthy performance of duty. The citation is set forth in the followings:

"During deployment to Nam Phong you performed your duties in an outstanding and enthusiastic manner. As a crew leader you have exhibited superior skills as an organizer and as an aggressive leader. This has resulted in well planned and well directed execution of the work schedule. Full of initiative you have far surpassed the requirements for your position. You have willingly and cheerfully assumed the voluminous and mostly undesirable tasks that are indigenous to a squadron deployment. This is the mark of a true professional. Your extreme resourcefulness and self-reliance cannot be denied, having resulted in needed material improvements within your work center. You have proven yourself to be an exemplary Marine, one who is thoroughly dependable and can be counted on with confidence. You are to be commended for your superior performance as it reflects great credit upon yourself and the U. S. Marine Corps."

It is with great pleasure that I hereby award you this Meritorious Mast."

3. Action. In compliance with reference (b), and entry will be made in your service record book attesting to this mast. Additionally your reporting officer is hereby instructed to affix a copy of this Mast to your next regular fitness report.

4. Self-Cancellation. 31 December 1972

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

J. C. MCMAN

MARINE ALL WEATHER ATTACK SQUADRON 533

MARINE ALL WEATHER ATTACK SQUADRON 533
 Marine Aircraft Group 15
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing
 Fleet Marine Force Pacific
 FPO, San Francisco 96602

1:JCB:tmh
 1650
 20 Oct 1972

SQUADRON BULLETIN 1650

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Distribution List

Subj: Meritorious Mast

Ref: (a) MCO 1650.9

1. Purpose. To publish the awarding of a Meritorious Mast to Sergeant B. R. HOWEAT O9C 44 22 30/6234 USMC.

2. General. The following Meritorious Mast is awarded by the Commanding Officer of Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 533 this date for outstanding and noteworthy performance of duty. The citation is set forth in the following:

"Since Marine All-Weather Attack Squadron 533 has been deployed at RTAFB Nam Phong you have been assigned as a fire-control technician. During this period you have distinguished yourself not only by your outstanding professional knowledge in your MOS, but also by your enthusiasm, attention to duty and general "can-do" spirit.

You have willingly shouldered the increased workloads of a combat squadron and demonstrated the leadership and ability to work with both your superiors and subordinates that is essential to the smooth functioning of your shop, and, indeed, the whole squadron.

Your military bearing and appearance have also been most commendable, and reflect the greatest credit on yourself, this squadron, and the United States Marine Corps."

3. Action. In compliance with reference (a), an entry will be made in your service record book attesting to this mast. Additionally your reporting officer is hereby instructed to affix a copy of this Mast to your next regular fitness report.

4. Self-Cancellation. 31 December 1972.


 J. C. BROWN

DISTRIBUTION: "A"