

DECLASSIFIED

MARINE FIGHTER/ATTACK SQUADRON 542
 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMF, Pac
 FPO San Francisco, California, 96602

001452-66

MAG-11 S&C
No. 001452-66
COPY 1 OF -

OPS:WJS:ps
 5750-1
 Ser: 0034A21366
 1 August 1966

From: Commanding Officer
 To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 11

Subj: Command Chronology for the month of July 1966; Submission of (U)

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.1B

Encl: ✓(1) Part I Organizational Data
 ✓(2) Part II Narrative Summary
 ✓(3) Part III Significant Events

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (3) are 3-3 submitted.
2. This letter may be downgraded to UNCLASSIFIED upon removal of 26466 enclosures (1) through (3).

W. O. Poitevent
 W. O. POITEVENT
 By direction

VMFA-542 S&C No.

0034A21366

Copy 1 of 3

VMFA-542

Command Chron

July 1966

COPY 1 OF 3 COPIES

DECLASSIFIED AT 3-YEAR INTERVALS
 DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
 DOD DIR 5200.10

APPENDIX #5

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. COMMANDER AND STAFF

- a. Lt. Col. Donald L. MAY, Commanding
- b. Major Walter O. POITEVENT, Executive Officer

2. TASK ORGANIZATION AND UNIT LOCATION

- a. VMFA-542, DaNang RVN, 1-31 July 1966

3. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

a. Marine Officers	41
(1) Naval Aviators	21
(2) Naval Flight Officers	16
(3) Aviation Ground Officers	4
b. Naval Officers	1
c. Naval Enlisted	4
d. Marine Enlisted	238
e. Total Strength	294

ENCLOSURE (1)

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. On 1 July 1966, VMFA-542 commenced the fifth month of its second combat tour in the Republic of South Vietnam. During the month VMFA-542 flew combat missions in support of the following operations:

Operation Holt
Operation Hastings

VMFA-542 had three (3) aircraft hit by ground fire during the month of July. All three of these aircraft were repairable at this command.

- a. During a scramble in support of a Close Air Support Mission on 11 July 1966, 1stLt John P. KEENE, 090726, pilot of WH-12, Bureau Number 152300, received a projectile through the starboard aileron. The aircraft was recovered without further incident.
- b. During a scramble in support of a Close Air Support Mission on 22 July 1966, 1stLt Charles L. BACON, 087298, pilot of WH-15, Bureau Number 149415, received a small arms round (approximately 30 cal.) through the starboard aileron. The aircraft was recovered without further incident.
- c. During a RED BLAZER Mission on 30 July 1966, 1stLt Michael McGUIRK, 087726, pilot of WH-11, Bureau Number 151459, received a projectile through the port flap. The aircraft was recovered without further incident.

2. A recapitulation of sorties, hours and ordnance expended follows:

a. Total hours	774.1
b. Combat hours	756.1
c. Total sorties	575
d. Combat sorties	556
e. Total Ordnance expended	1,534,324 pounds

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3. Battle damage assessment for July was:

a. Structures Destroyed	238
b. Structures Damaged	102
c. Vehicles Destroyed	17
d. Vehicles Damaged	4
e. AW Positions Destroyed	4
f. AW Positions Damaged	1
g. Bunkers Destroyed	3
h. Gun Emplacements Destroyed	13
i. Trenchlines Destroyed	14
j. Caves Destroyed	4
k. Sampans Destroyed	4
l. Sampans Damaged	2
m. Bridges Damaged	4
n. Tunnels Damaged	5
o. Foxholes Destroyed	37
p. Killed by Air confirmed	23
q. Killed by Air possible	85
r. Wounded by Air confirmed	1

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PART III

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. CHANGE OF COMMAND

a. On 8 July 1966, LtCol Donald L. MAY relieved Major Paul S. FRAPPOLLO as commanding officer of VMFA-542.

2. PERSONNEL

a. Three (3) Captains, one (1) 2ndLt and three (3) Corporals were promoted to their present ranks during the month of July.

3. AWARDS

a. One (1) Navy Commendation Medal and thirty-three (33) Air medals were awarded to officers of the squadron during the month of July.

ENCLOSURE (3)