MARINE FIGHTER/ATTACK SQUADRON-542 Marine Aircraft Group-13 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMF, Pacific FPO San Francisco 96602

3:ECW:rgs 03A06867 14 March 1967

From: Commanding Officer

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

Command Chronology period 1-28 February 1967 (U) Subj:

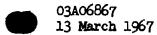
Ref:

(a) MCO 5750.2 (b) WgO 5750.1B

Encl: √(1) VMFA-542 Command Chronology for period 1-28 February 1967

- 1. In accordance with references (a) and (b) the subject report is submitted as enclosure (1).
- 2. Upon removal from the subject report, this letter is downgraded to unclassified.

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1-28 Feb 67

PART I. COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

Capt

lstLt

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Ŀ.	RANK	name	BILLET	INCLUSIVE DATES
	LtCol	DONALD L. MAY	Commanding Officer	1-2 Feb 67
	Maj	FREDRICK L. FARRELL, Jr.	Commanding Officer	3-28 Feb 67
	Maj	WALTER O. POITEVENT	Executive Officer	1-2 Feb 67
	Maj	RAY D. PENDERGRAFT	Executive Officer	3-28 Feb 67
	Maj	EDDIE R. MAAG	Operations Officer	1-28 Feb 67
	Maj	HARVEY D. BRADSHAW	Maintenance Officer	1-28 Feb 67
	Maj	STEPHEN S. EISENHAUER	Logistics Officer	1-28 Feb 67

2. TASK ORGANIZATION and UNIT LOCATION - VMFA-542, Chu Lai, RVN, 1-28 Feb 67.

Personnel Officer

Intelligence Officer 1-28 Feb 67

3. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH -

- a. Marine Officers 49
 - (a) Naval Aviators 23

JAMES J. MORIN

VINCENT M. LEVITSKY

- (b) Naval Flight Officers 21
- (c) Aviation Ground Officers 5
- b. Naval Officers 1
- c. Naval Enlisted None
- d. Marine Enlisted 280
- e. Total Strength 329

PART II. NARRATIVE SUMMARY

VMFA-542 changed Commanding Officers 3 February 1967 when LtCol D. L. MAY was relieved by Maj F. L. FARRELL, Jr.. During the period 1-28 February 1967 VMFA-542 conducted air operations from the northern II Corps area to southern North Vietnam in support of U. S. Marine, U. S. Army, ARVN, 7th Air Force units and such operations as Prairie II, Independence, Chinook, Trinity, Desoto and Deckhouse VI. This involved delivering 2,057,350 pounds of ordnance on targets ranging from structures, AA gun positions, sampans, bunkers, trenchlines, roads and fords.

Noteworthy is the fact that the squadron completed the 6000th combat sortie and 8000th combat hour in Vietnam. At present, four squadron pilots and 10 flight officers have completed over 100 combat missions.



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PART III. SIGNIFICANT EVENTS



- 1. PERSONNEL 25 personnel were joined and 15 transferred.
- 2. ADMINISTRATIVE There were no promotions during February.

AWARDS

a. 10 air medals were awarded to the following personnel: Maj F. L. FARRELL, Jr. (1st & 2nd), Capt's KNIGHT (10th), TOZZI (10th), BUFFINGTON (15th), MATYOLA (9th), GREENFIELD (9th), MORIN (6th), CULLUM (5th), and SHARP (5th).

b. 2 Good Conduct Medals were awarded. Gy Sgt L. N. THOMPSON received his 6th award and SSgt T. L. WELIS received his 4th award.

4. IMPORTANT VISITORS TO THIS COMMAND

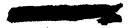
Maj General ROBERTSHAW attended the squadron change of command ceremony on 3 February.

- 5. <u>CASUALTIES</u> None
- 6. AIR OPERATIONS
- a. During the period 1-28 February, VMFA-542 flew sorties/hours as indicated below:

Total Sorties: 548
Total Hours: 703.6
Combat Sorties: 524
Combat Hours: 673.0

b. Ordnance was expended as follows:

MK 77 fire bombs: 153
MK 81, 250 lbs bombs with snake-eye fins: 1,000
MK 82, 500 lbs bombs with snake-eye fins: 3,480
MK 83, 1000 lbs bombs: 23
Rounds, MK 4, Gun Pods: 4,989
FFAR: 63 Pods (19 shot)
ZUNI: None



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c. Confirmed battle damage assessment was as follows:

Stuctures Destroyed: 238
Damaged: 142

AA Weapons Destroyed: 6
Sampans Destroyed: 11
Damaged: 2
Bunkers Destroyed: 3
Damaged: 6

Trenchline Destroyed: 275 meters

Tunnels Destroyed: 2
Trucks Destroyed: 1
Fords cut: 3
Roads cut: 13
Secondary Explosions: 2
KBA Confirmed: 34
Probable: 87

NOTE: 226 of 524 combat sorties flown were TPQ/MSQ Bombing missions for which no BDA was reported. Also on many of the more lucrative bombing missions, the FAC was too occupied to report BDA.

