

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

3:CRM:rgs
03A28267
9 Oct 1967

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

Subj: Command Chronology; period of 1-30 September 1967

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
(b) WgO 5750.1B

Encl: (1) VMFA-542 Command Chronology for period 1-30 September 1967

1. In accordance with references (a) and (b), the subject report is submitted as Enclosure (1).

2. Upon removal of enclosure (1), this letter is downgraded to Unclassified.

R. C. Marsh
R. C. MARSH

VMFA-542

CMD CHRON

ENCLOSURE (4)

SEP 1967

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PART I. ORGANIZATION DATA

1. Commander and Staff

NAME	BILLET	INCLUSIVE DATES	RANK	
			T/O	OH
John HUEMER	CO	1-14 Sep 1967	LtCol	Maj
Richard C. MARSH	CO	15-30 Sep 1967	LtCol	LtCol
Clarence B. MILLER Jr.	XO	1-16 Sep 1967	Maj	Maj
Robert N. HUTCHINSON	XO	17-30 Sep 1967	Maj	LtCol
Harvey D. BRADSHAW	S-3	1-16 Sep 1967	Maj	Maj
Clarence B. MILLER Jr.	S-3	17-30 Sep 1967	Maj	Maj
Harvey D. BRADSHAW	MaintO	1-30 Sep 1967	Maj	Maj
Paul M. COLE	S-1	1-25 Sep 1967	Lt	Maj
John F. SPENCER	S-1	26-30 Sep 1967	Lt	Capt
Everrett W. KRANTZ	S-4	1-16 Sep 1967	Maj	Lt
Harvey D. BRADSHAW	S-4	17-30 Sep 1967	Maj	Maj
John R. MCCORD	S-2	1-30 Sep 1967	Lt	Lt

2. Task Organization and Data

ORGANIZATION	LOCATION	COMMANDING OFFICER	DATE OF OFFICE
VMFA-542	MCAS Chu Lai, RVN	LtCol R. C. MARSH	15 September 1967

3. Average Monthly Strength

A. Marine Officers	37
(1) Naval Aviators	20
(2) Naval Flight Officers	14
(3) Aviation Ground Officers	3
B. Naval Officers	1
C. Marine Enlisted	258
D. Naval Enlisted	0
E. Total Average Strength	295

4. Important Visitors to this Command - NONE

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PART III: NARRATIVE SUMMARY

During the period 1-30 September 1967, VMFA-542 conducted operations in the support of the III Marine Amphibious Force. The area of operations ranged from the southern Panhandle of North Vietnam, through the DMZ and to the southern boundaries of I Corps. This squadron flew in support of operations Kingfisher, Cumberland, Fremont, Yazoo, Ardmore, Swift, Cook, Dragon Fire, Ashau, Neutralize, Wheeler, Ashau Barrier, Ballistic Charge, Shelby and Shelbyville. The following crew members surpassed three hundred total combat missions during this month; Captain's J. P. FAULKNER, V. M. RUSSILLO and First Lieutenant P. A. GEIGER. Crew members surpassing two hundred total missions this month was Captain J. A. MARSHALL. Crew members surpassing 100 missions during this month was First Lieutenant D. B. OLSEN.

PART III. SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. Personnel. 7 Officer and 4 enlisted personnel were joined and 6 officer and 46 enlisted personnel were transferred.

2. Administrative. The following promotions were made: Private First Class to Lance Corporal - 18; Lance Corporal to Corporal - 51; Corporal to Sergeant - 36.

3. Awards.

A. 67 Air Medals were earned during the month of September 1967.

B. 18 Meritorious Masts were awarded.

4. Casualties. One squadron aircraft was lost due to enemy action while conducting a Tally Ho mission against an automatic weapons position. The pilot, Major Paul M. COLE, obtained back injuries and RIO Lt Harold S. MOE was killed.

5. Air Operations.

A. During the period 1-30 September 1967, VMFA-542 flew sorties/hours as indicated below:

Total Sorties:	626
Total Hours:	750
Combat Sorties:	625
Combat Hours:	749

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B. Ordnance was expended as follows:

MK-77 Fire Bomb:	645
MK-82, 500 lb bomb with snakeye fins:	1999
MK-117, 750 lb bomb with box fins:	836
MK-83, 1000 lb bomb w/cable:	22
CBU 24/B:	44

C. Confirmed battle damage assessment was as follows:

Structures Destroyed:	595
Structures Damaged:	86
Bunkers Destroyed:	80
Bunkers Damaged:	4
Trench-Line Destroyed:	1,085 meters
Trench-Line Damaged:	75 meters
Automatic weapons positions Destroyed:	9
Automatic weapons positions Damaged:	2
Sampans Destroyed:	4
Fox-Holes Destroyed:	28
Road Cuts:	15
Rocket Positions Destroyed:	1
Secondary Fires:	25
Secondary Explosions:	3
Truck:	1
Water Buffalo:	6
KBA Confirmed:	247
KBA Probable:	294