

MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 311
Marine Aircraft Group 12
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac
FPO, San Francisco 96602

3:DLG:jmm
03A03668
5 February 1968

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 12 (Attn: S-3)

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1-31 January 1968

Ref: (a) GruO 5750.1B

Encl: √(1) VMA-311 Commanding Chronology for period 1-31 January 1968

1. In accordance with instruction contained in reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. This letter may be downgraded to unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

R. B. Taber
R. B. TABER

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PART I
ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. Commanding Officer and Staff

Richard B. TABER, LtCol, USMC, Commanding Officer
James A. CURTIS, LtCol, USMC, Executive Officer
Darold L. GUTTORMSON, Major, USMC, Operations Officer
Donald E. KIRBY, Major, USMC, Maintenance Officer
Clifford L. MCCRAW, Major, USMC, Material Officer
Robert W. WARDLAW, Major, USMC, Administration Officer

2. Task Organization and Unit Location

- a. Task Organization. None
- b. Unit Location. Chu Lai, RVN

3. Average Monthly Strength

USMC Officers - 30
USMC Enlisted - 170
USN Officer - 1

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PART II
NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. VMA-311 passed its 17,000th combat sortie and 22,000th combat hour in RVN.
2. During January 1968 VMA-311 flew a total of 1190.1 hours of which 1178.3 were combat hours. A total of 991 sorties, of which 977 were combat sorties, were flown during this reporting period.
3. Average aircraft availability was 77% with an average on board count of 19 aircraft and 26 pilots with 2 pilots TAD.
4. Total tonnage dropped this reporting period was 1511 tons.
5. On 31 January 1968 Chu Lai Air Base came under a rocket attack.

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SIGNIFICANT EVENTS1. Personnel:

a. Five (5) officers and forty-one (41) enlisted were joined during this reporting period. Two (2) officers and seventeen (17) enlisted were transferred.

2. Air Operations:

a. During January 1968 the squadron flew 991 sorties for a total of 1190.1 flight hours.

b. Twenty-one (21) non-squadron pilots flew 124 sorties amounting to 153.8 hours. This represents 12.5% of the total flown.

c. Two (2) pilots were transferred and four (4) joined during January 1968. One (1) officer MOS 3002 was joined.

d. At 0400 on 31 January 1968 Chu Lai was subjected to a rocket attack. VMA-311 had four aircraft damaged due to enemy action. Three aircraft suffered "E" damage and one had substantial damage. The substantially damaged aircraft was inside the hangar and was damaged by falling concrete blocks from the hangar wall. Two VMA-311 personnel were wounded in the action, Sgt. John S. NARBUT and Cpl. Thomas B. MANNING. The VMA-311 area did not suffer a direct hit but was subjected to large overpressures and heavy fragmentation from an extensive secondary explosion in the bomb dump.

3. Training:

a. The squadron defense platoons occupied their assigned positions during and after the rocket attack. No enemy contact was made.

b. Squadron personnel fired the M-16 rifle for familiarization.

4. Material:a. NAVY PROPERTY

(1) During the past month, a total of 100 AACP's have been completed. The average number of outstanding AACP's, per-day, for the month, was 20, and at present there are a total of 17 outstanding.

(2) During the past month, a change of S-4 Officer, Material Officer, Responsible Officer, and Fiscal Officer was made.

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(3) A complete inventory was held on all accountable Navy Property.

b. MARINE CORPS PROPERTY

(1) A new Marine Corps Property Officer was assigned. A complete inventory of accountable gear in Marine Corps Property was held. All items were accounted for.

5. Maintenance:

a. The average daily availability for the month of January 1968 was 77 percent. Total flight hours 1190.1; total combat hours 1178.3; non-combat hours 11.8; total sorties 991; total combat sorties 977; total tonnage 1511.

(1) Aircraft Status:

<u>Acft Type</u>	<u>Allow</u>	<u>O/H</u>	<u>% Ready</u>	<u>% NORM</u>	<u>% NORS</u>
A4E	20	19	77	17	06

(2) Comments on excessive NORM percentages:

(a) Eight point six (8.6) percent of NORM time was contributed to major inspections on BuNo's 150124, 149968, 152068, 151077 and 151043.

(3) Critical Items:

Multimeter, 80058 ANPSM4C RD6625-893-3739-TANN (6)
 TER Hardware Kit 5821520 (14)
 MER Hardware Kit 5821500 (14)
 Ignition Cable Assy, RM1095-878-4911-EDGA (162)

(4) Significant Problem Areas. Hangar and maintenance spaces have become critical due to the recent rocket attack.

6. Presently, two aircraft are undergoing repair at FAWPRA, BuNo's 151148 and 151074. BuNo 150105 is at Cubi undergoing Calendar Inspection and BuNo 150070 is undergoing Straad repair at H&MS-13.

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
of
MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 311
Period 1-29 February 1968

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