

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

3:JED:ps
5750
03A33672
1 December 1972

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 12
Subj: Command Chronology for the month of November 1972 (U)
Ref: (a) WgO 5750.4
(b) GruO 5750.1G

Encl: (1) Command Chronology Narrative for period 1 - 30 November 1972

1. (U) In accordance with the provisions set forth in references (a) and (b), enclosure (1) is hereby submitted.
2. (U) This report is unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

J. J. Caldas Jr.
J. J. CALDAS Jr.

VMA-311	
CMCC	
CONTROL NO.	<u>331-72</u>
COPY NO.	<u>1</u> OF <u>4</u>

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS,
DOR DIR 5200.10

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VMA 311

Nov 1972

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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
Period 1 November thru 30 November 1972

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PART I
ORGANIZATION DATA

1. Designation Commander
 Marine Attack Squadron 311 LtCol J. J. CALDAS Jr.
1 November - 30 November 1972

2. Location
 1 November - 30 November 1972 Bien Hoa Air Base, Vietnam

3. Staff Officers

Executive Officer	Maj T. L. ELSER 1 Nov - 30 Nov
S-1 Officer	Capt A. W. LIND 1 Nov - 30 Nov
S-2 Officer	1/Lt J. S. ORME 1 Nov - 30 Nov
S-3 Officer	Maj M. R. SNEDEKER 1 Nov - 30 Nov
S-4 Officer	Capt C. H. CADMAN 1 Nov - 30 Nov
Maintenance Officer	Capt R. F. CAROLL 1 Nov - 2 Nov
	Capt C. K. LUNN 3 Nov - 30 Nov
NATOPS Officer	Capt W. C. PETERS 1 Nov - 30 Nov

4. Average Monthly Strength

<u>USMC</u>	<u>USN</u>	<u>OTHER</u>
<u>OFF ENL</u>	<u>OFF ENL</u>	<u>OFF ENL</u>
21 132	0 0	0 0

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NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. (U) November saw VMA-311 starting off with a total of 52,411 combat sorties flown. Our 26 sorties per day pace was continued with 6 sorties lost to weather and cancelled by higher authority.
2. (U) Two VMA-311 pilots flew their 200th combat mission this tour and two pilots flew their 100th combat mission.
3. (C) VMA-311 began airstrike coordination with VNAF FAC's with good results.
4. (U) An ice cream and cake party for the squadron sponsored orphanage was given at the base mess hall. At this time the squadron commander presented the orphanage "sisters" with \$1,000.00 that was collected from squadron members. Along with this, numerous boxes of clothing were also given.
5. (U) A pilot training session was held for VMA-311 pilots. The ejection seat, aircraft electrical system and fuel systems were discussed with emphasis placed on detecting malfunctions and pilot corrective action to be taken.
6. (U) On 10 November a party celebrating the Marine Corps birthday was held for squadron personnel. Gen. TAYLOR was guest of honor at the Officer, SNCO ball.
7. (C) On 11-12 November cracks were discovered on the left inboard side of two aircraft intakes. These were patched by intermediate level maintenance a Safety UR was sent recommending reinforcing this area. It is strongly suspected that gun blast is causing the cracks. On 25 November two more aircraft were discovered to have hairline cracks in this same area. These were stop drilled and potted. Gun firing has been limited to only lucrative targets.
8. (C) On 16 November a 9 man advance party departed for Iwakuni in anticipation of a 20 November retrograde from R.V.N.
9. (U) Thanksgiving dinner was served to all hands at the Shain Memorial mess hall, various news media were represented.
10. (U) A free telephone home program has been instituted by the squadron for Sgt and below. The funds are being provided by Miss Josephine McDONELL 401 North Saginaw St., of Owosso, Michigan who gathers them from different patriotic groups. There have been 10 free call's home completed to date.
11. (C) VMA-311 completed the month of November with 776 combat sorties flown.

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12. (C) As the month closed and it became evident that the squadron would remain at Bien Hoa for the foreseeable future the advance party at Iwakuni was returned to country.

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SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS (C)

3 November	Squadron all hands picnic.
9 November	Bird strike on aircraft BuNo 150049
11-12 November	Cracks found behind intakes of aircraft 151038 and 149972.
12 November	Rocket attacks 0245 and 0520.
12 November	Wing PIO visited squadron.
14 November	Open house in squadron operating spaces.
16 November	9 man advance party to Iwakuni.
24 November	Admiral HOLLOWAY visited squadron.
25 November	Hairline cracks found in aircraft 151044 and 151999.
30 November	776 combat sorties flown by VMA-311 for the month.

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2. (C) Summary of Air Operations

a. Sorties

Day Sorties Scheduled	774	Day Sorties Flown	792
Night Sorties Schedule	0	Night Sorties Flown	0
Total Sorties Scheduled	774	Total Sorties Flown	792
		Write in Sorties Flown	16

b. Units Supported

ARVN
 KHMER

c. Types of Sorties

CAS	776
TEST	10
FERRY	6
TRNG	0
DIVERTS/RTB	0

d. Hours Flown

Combat Hours	900.9
Operational Hours	20.1
Total Hours	921.0

e. Ordnance

20MM	24,856
MK-81	1.955
MK-82	3,400
MK-83	167
5" Rockets	61
Total Tons:	1279.27

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f. (C) Bomb Damage Assesment	<u>Destroyed</u>	<u>Damaged</u>
KBA (Confirmed) 42		
KBA (Probable) 10		
Secondary Fires 11		
Secondary Explosions 188		
Structures	62	20
Fortified Positions	93	19
Sampans	20	8
Bunkers	95	23
Buildings	6	4
Supply Stacks	16	
51 Cal Sites	4	
Mortar/Gun Positions	3	
Roads Cut	1	1
Trucks	2	
Tractors		1
105 MM Howitzer	1	
Ferrys	1	
Trenches	2	
VC Flag	1	
Rice Cache	1	
10 Foxholes uncovered		
3 Bunkers uncovered		
4 TIC broken		
1 50 meter trench line destroyed		

3. (U) Summarization of Individual Sections

a. Personnel. During the reporting period a Captain and 2 Corporal's were promoted to their present rank. One PFC was reduced to Private.

b. Awards. Three meritorious masts, three air medals, two good conduct awards and one Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry were awarded.

c. Aviation Safety. During this reporting period this squadron had three aircraft incidents. To date, the squadron has accumulated 1085.5 hours of accident free flying.

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1 December 1972d. (C) Maintenance

Sched Maint Hrs	133.0	Unsched Maint Hrs	986.5
%	1.2	%	8.6
NORS Hrs	235.5	A/C Allowed	16
%	2.0	Assigned	19
		On Hand	16
		Op Ready	10165.0
		%	88.2
NORM	1355.0		
%	11.8		

e. (U) Logistics. The squadron has listed below the Hard Down NORS Items and also the requisitions pending, filled, and pending from previous submissions.

(1) NORSPART NUMBERHOSE ASSY
DOOR ASSYS2548087-32-0493
8TJ59GAL2(2) Requisitions

NORS carried over from October	2
Total requisitions	270
Total filled	242
Total pending	28

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PART IV
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

NONE

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