

MARINE FIGHTER ATTACK SQUADRON 323
Marine Aircraft Group 15 (Rein)
9th Marine Amphibious Brigade, FMFPac
FPO, San Francisco 96602

3: CJQ: jrs
5750

AUG 8 1967

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 15 (Rein)

Subj: Command Chronology; submission of

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2
(b) WgO 5750.1B
(c) MAG-13 GruO 5750.1C
(d) BrigO 5750.1B

Encl: ✓(1) Command Chronology for the Month of July 1967

1. In accordance with references (a) through (d), enclosure (1) is hereby submitted for the period 1-31 July 1967.

Edison W. Miller
EDISON W. MILLER

VMFA-323

CMD CHRON

JULY 1967

COMMAND CHRONOLOGYUnit: Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 323Location: MCAS Iwakuni, JapanPeriod: 1-31 July 1967Part I - Organizational Data

<u>A. NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>BILLET</u>	<u>DATES</u>
Gordon H. KELLER, Jr.	LTCOL	Commanding Officer	1-15 Jul
Edison W. MILLER	LTCOL	Commanding Officer	15-31 Jul
John L. THATCHER	MAJOR	Executive Officer	1-31 Jul
Joseph B. WUERTZ	MAJOR	Operations Officer	1-31 Jul
George (n) BERTHELSON	CAPT	Administrative Officer	1-31 Jul
William W. MACKAY	MAJOR	Logistics Officer	1-31 Jul
Charles W. BROWN	MAJOR	Maintenance Officer	1-31 Jul
Rabun N. PATRICK	CAPT	Aviation Safety Officer	1-31 Jul

B. Unit Location and Dates

MCAS Iwakuni, Japan 1-31 July 1967

C. Average Monthly Strength

<u>1. Officer</u>	<u>On-Hand</u>	<u>Manning Level</u>	<u>T/O</u>
a. Naval Aviators	19	21	26
b. Naval Flight Observers	20	21	26
c. Aviation Ground Officers	5	5	5
d. Naval Flight Surgeons	1	0	0
<u>2. Enlisted</u>			
a. Marine	331	325	318
b. Navy	4	0	0

PART II - Significant Highlights

A. On 7 July, the squadron completed its conventional ordnance training deployment at NAF Naha, Okinawa, and the detachment of 120 personnel plus six aircraft returned to Iwakuni. The deployment was highly successful in all respects with all crews requalifying in addition to the three pilots qualifying for the first time. Training was conducted in all types of ordnance, using all modes of delivery both day and night. The deployment substantially increased the squadron's operational readiness for its impending redeployment to Vietnam.

Enclosure (1)

B. On 15 July, Lieutenant Colonel Edison W. MILLER relieved Lieutenant Colonel G. H. KELLER, Jr., as Commanding Officer in ceremonies at Iwakuni. Lieutenant Colonel MILLER was the former Executive Officer of VMFA-513. Lieutenant Colonel KELLER is to assume duties with the G-3 Section, 1st MAW, at Danang, RVN.

C. On 17-20 July, the squadron conducted a Sidewinder FIREX out of Iwakuni. A total of 14 out of 14 missiles were successfully fired. The purpose of this FIREX was to provide aircrews with operational experience in the area of air-to-air weapons.

PART III - Significant Events

A. Personnel: Joined.....Officer 3, Enlisted 33
 Dropped.....Officer 10, Enlisted 40
 Promotions.....Officer 1, Enlisted 42

B. Administration. During July, audits were conducted of Service Record Books and over 200 sets of orders were processed for the Naha Deployment and the advance party which left for RVN on July 29.

C. Flight Operations. Primary efforts in July after the return of the Naha deployment were directed toward air-to-air weapons and tactics training. In connection with this, a Sidewinder FIREX was conducted. All types of intercepts were run, both in GCI and non-GCI environment. In addition a number of aerial combat maneuvering missions were flown in connection with the above intercept missions to round out training for any type of mission which might be assigned the squadron during its third combat tour in Vietnam. The squadron also continued to direct and run ferry missions to and from Atsugi, Japan and Chu Lai, RVN in connection with the "Shoehorn" program. The following statistical summary is presented:

Total Hours.....256
 Total Sorties.....179

D. Training. For the first time since leaving Vietnam, the squadron found more than 90% of its members in one place (Iwakuni) at one time (7-31 July). Accordingly, intensive basic military training was carried out, including GMS Training, NBC Warfare, small arms requalification and fam firing (Including M-14 and M-16 rifle, .38 and .45 Pistol), the Physical Readiness Test, Swimming Qualification, and administration of the GMSF test. To meet these requirements, the squadron stood down from flight operations on a number of days.

Enclosure (1)

E. Ordinance. Ordinance expended in July by type and number included:

ALM-9B Sidewinder Missile..... 14
 MK-77 Firebomb..... 53
 MK-81 250 lb LOGF Bomb.....249
 MK-82 500 lb LOGF Bomb..... 23
 MK-76 Practice Bomb..... 35
 MK-86 250 lb LD WSF Prac Bomb..... 35
 Zuni Rockets.....104
 2.75" FFAR..... 19
 MK-24 Flare..... 26

F. Maintenance

Aircraft Assigned.....20
 Average Aircraft On-Board.....10
 Average Aircraft On-Board Available..... 5 (50%)
 Average Hours Flown Per A/C On-Board.....25

Aircraft Received:

152983	REC'D FM	VMFA-314	9 July 1967
149424	REC'D FM	VMFA-115	16 July 1967
149449	REC'D FM	VMFA-542	16 July 1967
151457	REC'D FM	VMFA-115	23 July 1967
152287	REC'D FM	VMFA-115	24 July 1967
150476	TRANS TO	VMFA-314	7 July 1967
151464	TRANS TO	VMFA-542	11 July 1967
150472	TRANS TO	VMFA-115	15 July 1967
149416	TRANS TO	VMFA-115	22 July 1967
151416	TRANS TO	VMFA-115	22 July 1967
151015	TRANS TO	VMFA-115	28 July 1967

Enclosure (1)