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

3:MRS:ses 5750 03A27772 3 October 1972

# Confidential

From: Commanding Officer

To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 12

Subj: Command Chronology for the month of September 1972

Ref: (a) WgO 5750.4 (b) GruO 5750.1G

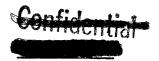
Encl: (1) Command Chronology Narrative for period 1-30 September 1972

1. In accordance with the provisions set forth in references (a) and (b), enclosure (1) is hereby submitted.

2. This report may be downgraded to unclassified upon the removal of enclosure (1).

VMA-311 CMCC CONTROL NO. 266-72 COPY NO. 1 OF 3

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# COMMAND CHRONOLOGY Period 1 September thru 30 September 1972

#### INDEX

PART I - ORGANIZATION DATA

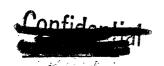
PART II - NARRATIVE SUMMARY

PART III - SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

PART IV - SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

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# PART I ORGANIZATION DATA

1. Designation

Commander

Marine Attack Squadron 311

LtCol K. M. JOHNSTON 1 September -

7 September 1972

LtCol J. J. CALDAS 7 September - 30

September 1972

2. Location

1 September - 30 September 1972:

Bien Hoa Air Base, Vietnam

3. Staff Officers

Executive Officer S-1 Officer S-2 Officer S-3 Officer S-4 Officer

S-4 Officer
Maintenance Officer
NATOPS Officer

Maj. T. L. ELSER 1 Sept - 30 Sept Capt. A. W. LIND 1 Sept - 30 Sept Capt. J. L. BLOCHER 1 Sept - 30 Sept Maj. M. R. SNEDEKER 1 Sept - 30 Sept Capt. G. K. MITTEER 1 Sept - 30 Sept Capt. R. F. CAROLL 1 Sept - 30 Sept Capt. W. C. PETERS 1 Sept - 10 Sept

Capt. W. C. PETERS 1 Sept - 14 Sept Capt. J. F. PERRY 14 Sept - 30 Sept

4. Average Monthly Strength

USMC		
OFF	ENL	
	-	
24	140	

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#### PART II NARRATIVE SUMMARY

- 1. (C) The month of September saw VMA-311 heavily committed in combat operations over Military Regions III and IV RVN. One of the highlights of the month was the successful completion of 100 combat missions by five highly qualified pilots. Due to the outstanding maintenance provided by the maintenance department the squadron was provided 81% aircraft availability. The squadron was fragged for 26 daily sorties. Those sorties that were cancelled were due to weather and cancelled by higher headquarters. Two aircraft sustained battle damage from ground fire and returned to base safely. One aircraft will require depot maintenance and is awaiting a one time flight to rework.
- 2. (U) The squadron joined five new officers; 3 pilots, one ground aviation ordnance officer and one aviation avionics officer.
- 3. (C) The squadron weathered two extraordinary events.

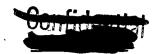
On 3 September as the result of a violent moonsoon rain, the squadron offices and readyroom were flooded under 102 inches of water.

The second noteworthy event was the explosion of the VNAF bomb dump. The explosion sent a mushroom cloud 6,000 feet in the air, threw bomb fragments over the entire base and closed the airfield for two hours. Four VMA-311 aircraft had to divert into Tan Son Nhut AB since Bien Hoa was closed. More than a hundred VNAF aircraft were damaged or destroyed. Luckily no VMA-311 aircraft were damged during the explosion.

4. (U) The squadron was honored by the visits of several high ranking dignitaries. Brig Gen. TAYLOR, Lt Gen. WILSON and Gen. ANDERSON toured the flight line and addressed the members of the squadron.

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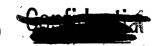
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# PART III SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS (C)

3 September	Squadron offices and readyroom flooded by $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches of water as a result of moonsoon rain.
4 September	VMA-311 executive officer leaves on emergency leave.
5 September	18 sorties lost due to weather.
6 September	General TAYLOR visited VMA-311. 14 sorties lost due to weather.
7 September	LtCol J. J. CALDAS assumed command of VMA-311.
10 September	VNAF bomb dump explosion. Over 100 VNAF aircraft damaged.
12 September	Squadron formation and awards ceremony held.
13 September	VMA-311 flew 32 combat sorties.
17 September	A/C # 151096 piloted by Col MACHO received battle damage.
24 September	LtGen WILSON, CG, FMFPAC visited squadron.
27 September	Gen ANDERSON, Assistant CMC visited VMA-311.





# 2. (C) Summary of Air Operations

## a. Sorties

Day Sorties Scheduled	780	Day Sorties Flown	745
Night Sorties Scheduled	0	Night Sorties Flown	0
Total Sorties Scheduled	780	Total Sorties Flown	745
		Write-in Sorties Flown	0

# b. Units Supported

ARVN KHMER

## c. Types of Sorties

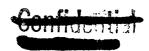
CAS:	721
Test	14
Ferry	4
Training	0
Diverts/RTB	6

#### d. Hours Flown

Combat Hours	886.4	
Operational Hours	21.7	
Total Hours	908.1	

#### e. Ordnance

20MM	20,029
MK-81	1,971
MK-82	1,793
MK-83	230
MK-84	1
5" ROCKETS	1,065
Total Tons:	905.91



ENCLOSURE (1)

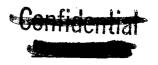
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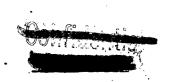
#### 3. (U) Summarization of Individual Sections

- a. Personnel. During the reporting period 17 CPL's, 2 LCPL's and 1 PFC were promoted to thier present rank. One SGT was reduced to CPL.
- b. Awards. One meritorious mast, One individual was awarded the Naval Achievement Medal, seven Air Medals were awarded.
- c. Aviation Safety. During this reporting period this squadron had one minor accident (DEA) resulting from enemy ground fire. There were no injuries. To date, the squadron has accumulated 6641.7 hours of accident-free flying time.



ENCLOSURE (1)

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#### d. (C) Maintenance

Sched Maint Hrs.	279•3 2•5	Unsche %	d Maint H	rs. 1290. 11.
NORS Hrs. 562.5 % 4.9	•		OP Ready %	9207.7 81.2
NORM 2132.3 % 18.8				

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

## (1) NORS

COLLAR ASSY
FIRE WARNING PIGTAIL
STATIC POST
TAIL PIPE ADAPTER
RELAY UNIT

#### Work Unit Code

4449-23503 873765 3820048501 38140778501 ЕВ41В1

## (2) Requistions

NORS carried over from August	47
Total requistions	318
Total filled	266
Total pending	49

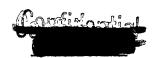


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PART IV
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

NONE



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