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10064

TYPE "B" REPORT COMMAND DIARY

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 70959

VMA-251



FOR THE PERIOD

1 APRIL THROUGH 30 JUNE 1955

HISTORICAL OFFICER

FIRST LIEUTENANT

ROBERT F. POLK JR.

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FF14/MAG-12
S-2:JDH:emh
A12
Ser: 020/

15 JUL 1955

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FIRST ENDORSEMENT on CO, VMA-251 ltr ser 041 of 5Jul55

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From: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 12
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code AO-3E)
Via: Commanding General, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FIF

Subj: Type "B" Report (Command Diary); forwarding of

Ref: (a) Para 11401, MCM
(b) 1stMAM General Order No. 244 of 13Jul54
(c) MAG-12 General Order No. 122 of 1Aug54

1. Forwarded.

2. This letter may be downgraded to Unclassified upon removal of basic report.

A. W. Fisher Jr.
A. W. FISHER Jr.

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TASK ORGANIZATION

UNIT:

MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 251

COMMANDING OFFICER:

1 APRIL THROUGH 30 JUNE 1955
LIEUTENANT COLONEL ROBERT J.
HOLM 07498/731 USMC

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION:

1 APRIL THROUGH 30 JUNE 1955
K-3 AIRBASE, POHANG, KOREA

NEXT HIGHER ECHELON:

MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP TWELVE
FIRST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING, FMF

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INTRODUCTORY SUMMARY

Marine Attack Squadron 251 was located at K-3 airbase, Pohang, Korea during the period from 1 April through 30 June 1955. Marine Attack Squadron 251, having just recently moved to K-3 airbase from K-6 airbase, Pyongtaek, Korea shortly before this quarter began, was in the process of getting the new squadron area shipshape. The interior of all offices were painted as were the dining rooms and club buildings. There is ample space for quarters and they are above average for living conditions.

The mission and tasks assigned this organization are:¹

Mission: To provide air support of Fleet Marine Force Operation by destruction of surface targets.

Tasks:

1. Conduct close air support.
2. Conduct armed reconnaissance, interdiction operations, and strikes against enemy installations.
3. Provide for fog smoke laying, illumination, and insecticide spraying.
4. Maintain capability to operate from aircraft carriers.
5. Maintain capability to operate during darkness, and under instrument flight conditions.

The Commander of the squadron since November 22, 1954 is Lieutenant Colonel Robert J. HOLM 07498/7331 USMC.

During this quarter, VMA-251, the "Black Patch" squadron, led all squadrons in Marine Aircraft Group 12 in hours flown per month for all three months. Total hours for this period were 4964.6 (1509.7 for April, 1771.3 for May, and 1683.6 for June 1955).

Sorties for the quarter were 2105 with 26 aborts for the quarter. There were 679 sorties for April, 736 for May, and 690 for June. Total effective sorties were 2079. Since VMA-251 has a detachment at Atsugi, Japan the Chronological Narrative will not carry a daily breakdown of hours and sorties of the detachment. They will be shown in footnotes and in the statistical summary.²

The average number of aircraft available for flight was 69% of the aircraft assigned, while the average number of pilots available was 70% of the pilots assigned. Eight (8) instrument cards were renewed during the quarter. Three (3) in April, Two (2) in May, and Three (3) in June.

There were no "Alerts" this quarter. However the squadron does have an aircraft disposal plan in case of attack. Training is still being carried out with the APS-19 radar search gear.

There were two aircraft accidents this quarter. The first was caused by material failure or malfunction. First Lieutenant Lloyd C. DILLON 064551/7331 was forced to make a wheels up emergency landing at A-27, located at Pyongtaek, Korea. There were no injuries to the pilot. This accident occurred on 3 June 1955. The second accident occurred on 30 June 1955, when Captain William D. THAYER Sr. 055064/7331 ground looped on landing at K-3 airbase. The Aircraft Accident Board has not determined the cause or extent of damage as yet.

On 1 May First Lieutenant Robert A. GILLON 060541/7331 was leading an MLR reconnaissance flight along the 38th parallel when he received gunfire damage to his port wing. The gunfire was of undetermined origin. The pilot received no injuries and he brought the aircraft safely home. The port wing was replaced quickly and the plane was back in commission after only two days.

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INTRODUCTORY SUMMARY (CONT'D)

Morale was at an all time high this quarter. This is due to the high percentage of aircraft availability which allowed everyone to fly almost daily and left no one with idle time during working hours. A promotion party was given by pilots of VMA-251 to which VMA-121 was invited. Charcoal broiled steaks and movies provided the entertainment.

There were numerous other Sunday afternoon parties for officers and enlisted men.

¹CMC letter AAP - 2263-bd of 9 June 1954. Subject: Missions and Tasks of Fleet Marine Force Aviation Organizations.

²During this quarter the Special Weapon Detachment at Atsugi, Japan flew 511 sorties for a total of 971 hours. During April the detachment flew 195 sorties for 350.6 hours, during May they flew 150 sorties for 267.6 hours and for June they flew 166 sorties for a total of 352.8 hours. These totals of 511 sorties and 971 hours for the quarter added to the home units 1594 sorties and 3993.6 hours gives VMA-251 a total of 2105 sorties and 4964.6 hours. Also during this quarter VMA-251 aircraft went to Atsugi, Japan and were attached to the Special Weapons Detachment temporarily for Close Air Support exercises. Four aircraft were attached from 18 April to 23 April 1955, and four were attached from 8 May until 19 May 1955. The June exercises were from the 5th until the 16th.

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CHRONOLOGICAL NARRATIVE FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 1955

1 April 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 28
TOTAL HOURS 69.6
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 8 1000 lb. GP Bombs, 40 500 Rockets, and
8 Flares, parachute

2 April 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 22
TOTAL HOURS 50.9
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

On 1 April 1955 First Lieutenant John L. WHITE 055721/6510 was joined from MARS-17, MWSG-17, FMAW.

3 April 1955

Holiday routine this date (Squadron Stand-down).

4 April 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 24
TOTAL HOURS 54.5
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

5 April 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 24
TOTAL HOURS 52.6
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 8 1000 lb. GP Bombs, 8 500 lb. Bombs, and
39 500 Rockets

6 April 1955

Holiday routine this date (Squadron Stand-down).

On 6 April 1955 First Lieutenant Victor J. JOHNSON Jr. 063503/7331 was transferred to CONUS.

7 April 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 28
TOTAL HOURS 69.5
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 48 100 lb. WSF Bombs

8 April 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 21
TOTAL HOURS 53.6
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

9 April 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 19
TOTAL HOURS 41.8
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

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10 April 1955

Holiday routine this date (Squadron Stand-down)

11 April 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 24
TOTAL HOURS 61.3
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

12 April 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 24
TOTAL HOURS 62.4
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 41 5:00 Rockets

13 April 1955

No operations this date due to inclement weather

14 April 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 6
TOTAL HOURS 11
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

15 April 1955

No operations this date due to inclement weather

16 April 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 7
TOTAL HOURS 7.2
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 66 5:00 Rockets

On 16 April 1955 First Lieutenant Wallace D. BRACKEN 061316/7302, First Lieutenant Robert W. CHAPIN 060248/7333, First Lieutenant Eual R. CHRISTIAN 060354/7333, First Lieutenant Frank P. COSTELLO Jr. 055803/7333, and Captain Reagan L. PREIS 050640/7333 joined from MAG-33, FMAW.

17 April 1955

Holiday routine this date (Squadron Stand-down).

On 17 April 1955 Captain Donald H. HELGESON 055192/7333 was joined from MAG-33, FMAW.

On 17 April 1955 Major Vernon J. PEEBLES 021948/7331 was transferred to CONUS.

18 April 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 13
TOTAL HOURS 39.5
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

On 18 April 1955 First Lieutenant Richard L. YANKE 063594/7333 joined from MAG-33, FMAW.

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19 April 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 28
TOTAL HOURS 57.9
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

On 19 April 1955 First Lieutenant Howard M. BISHOP Jr. 060649/7333 was joined from MAG-33, FMAW.

20 April 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 27
TOTAL HOURS 59.6
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

On 20 April 1955 First Lieutenant William H. ENDERS Jr. 063601 was joined from MAG-33, FMAW.

21 April 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 31
TOTAL HOURS 70.2
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

22 April 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 25
TOTAL HOURS 57.5
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 5 100 lb. WSF Bombs, and 45 5000 Rockets

23 April 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 16
TOTAL HOURS 48.2
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

24 April 1955

Holiday routine this date (Squadron Stand-down)

25 April 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 22
TOTAL HOURS 42
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

On 25 April 1955 First Lieutenants Wallace D. BRACKEN 061316/7302, Eual R. CHRISTIAN 060354/7333, William H. ENDERS Jr. 063601/7333, Richard L. YANKE 063594/7333, and Captain Reagan L. PREIS 050640/7333 were transferred to VMA-121, MAG-12, FMAW.

26 April 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 10
TOTAL HOURS 23.9
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

On 26 April 1955 Second Lieutenant George O. MAGUIRE 063926/7333 was joined from MAG-33, FMAW.

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27 April 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 13
TOTAL HOURS 35.4
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

28 April 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 32
TOTAL HOURS 86.8
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

29 April 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 28
TOTAL HOURS 76
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 32 100 lb. WSF Bombs, and 6 Flares, parachute

30 April 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 12
TOTAL HOURS 27.7
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 8 500 lb. GP Bombs, and 32 100 lb. WSF Bombs

During the month of April, pilot training was held on the 6th and 13th. On the 6th lectures were given on Interdiction, Defense against Aggressor Aircraft, and ADF/MDF Procedures. An all pilots meeting was held at the end of the period. On the 13th lectures were given on Current E&E Tactics, Approach, and Retirement from Target, and Close Air Support. An all pilots meeting was held at the end of the period. Basic training for enlisted personnel was held on the 7th, and 14th of April. On the 6th lectures were given on The Pack, and Military Courtesy and Discipline. The remainder of the period was utilized for Drill, and organized athletics. On the 14th lectures were given on UCMJ, US Rifle Cal. 30 M1 and a medical lecture was given by Doctor Taggart from MAG-12 Dispensary.

A total of 195 sorties for 350.6 hours by the Detachment added to the 484 sorties and 1159.1 hours for the home unit gives a total of 679 sorties and 1509.7 hours for the month of April.

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CHRONOLOGICAL NARRATIVE FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 1955

1 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 1
TOTAL HOURS 1.2
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

Holiday routine this date (Squadron Stand-down).

2 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 14
TOTAL HOURS 34.2
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

On 2 May 1955 Major Ovis D. HUNTER 018656/7303 was transferred to MABS-12, MAG-12, FMAW.

3 May 1955

No operations this date due to inclement weather.

On 3 May 1955 Second Lieutenant Charles P. BOLIN 064847/9901, First Lieutenant Gordon W. HOLM 061935/7331, and Captain Robert V. REESE 037849/7302 were transferred to H&MS-12, MAG-12, FMAW. First Lieutenant Gerald A. KEENE 060624/2501 was transferred to MABS-12, MAG-12, FMAW.

4 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 31
TOTAL HOURS 71.5
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 1 100 lb. WSF Bomb, and 48 500 Rockets

5 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 22
TOTAL HOURS 57.6
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 4 500 lb. GP Bombs, and 24 100 lb. WSF Bombs

6 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 10
TOTAL HOURS 30
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

On 6 May 1955 Second Lieutenant Thomas R. FISHER 064939/7302 joined from H&MS-12, MAG-12, FMAW.

7 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 18
TOTAL HOURS 38.4
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 4 500 lb. GP Bombs, 4 100 lb. WSF Bombs, and 133 500 Rockets

8 May 1955

Holiday routine this date (Squadron Stand-down)

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9 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 24
TOTAL HOURS 59.9
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 6 100 lb. WSF Bombs, and 68 500 Rockets

10 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 25
TOTAL HOURS 55.8
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 32 100 lb. GP Bombs, 7 500 lb. GP Bombs,
2 100 lb. WSF Bombs, and 31 500 Rockets

11 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 15
TOTAL HOURS 37.3
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 5 100 lb. WSF Bombs, and 66 500 Rockets

On 11 May 1955 Second Lieutenant Marlowe L. SPRAIN 065121/6501 joined from VMA-121, MAG-12, FMAW.

12 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 19
TOTAL HOURS 35.7
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 31 500 Rockets, and 12 Flares, parachute

13 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 22
TOTAL HOURS 59.6
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 31 500 Rockets, and 12 Flares, parachute

14 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 13
TOTAL HOURS 34.9
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 8 1000 lb. GP Bombs, 36 100 lb. WSF Bombs, and
27 500 Rockets

On 14 May 1955 First Lieutenant George O. MAGUIRE 063926/7333 was transferred to H&HS, FMAW.

15 May 1955

Holiday routine this date (Squadron Stand-down).

16 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 10
TOTAL HOURS 22.3
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

On 16 May 1955 Lieutenant Colonel Frank L. MAERZ 08015/7333 was transferred to H&HS, FMAW.

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17 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 24
TOTAL HOURS 59.2
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 6 500 lb. GP Bombs, and 24 500 Rockets

18 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 40
TOTAL HOURS 106.8
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

19 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 46
TOTAL HOURS 136.6
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 6 500 lb. GP Bombs, 24 100 lb. GP Bombs, and
47 100 lb. WSF Bombs

20 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 43
TOTAL HOURS 112.5
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 31 100 lb. GP Bombs, 47 100 lb. WSF Bombs,
and 29 500 Rockets

On 20 May 1955 First Lieutenant Kenneth C. SANGUINETTI 063580/7331 was transferred to H&HS, FMAW.

21 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 34
TOTAL HOURS 80.3
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 16 500 lb. GP Bombs, and 73 500 Rockets

22 May 1955

Holiday routine this date (Squadron Stand-down)

On 22 May 1955 First Lieutenant James M. REED 064407/7331 was transferred to H&MS-12, MAG-12, FMAW.

23 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 36
TOTAL HOURS 95.3
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 32 100 lb. GP Bombs, and 40 100 lb. WSF Bombs

24 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 25
TOTAL HOURS 63.9
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 103 100 lb. WSF Bombs

25 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 31
TOTAL HOURS 87.1
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 146 100 lb. WSF Bombs

26 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 32
 TOTAL HOURS 82.7
 ORDNANCE EXPENDED 40 100 lb. WSF Bombs

27 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 19
 TOTAL HOURS 49.6
 ORDNANCE EXPENDED 6 500 lb. GP Bombs, and 22 5!00 Rockets

28 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 7
 TOTAL HOURS 9.4
 ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

On 28 May 1955 First Lieutenant Thomas BAKER 063671/6610 was transferred to CONUS

29 May 1955

Holiday routine this date (Squadron Stand-down)

On 29 May 1955 First Lieutenant George O. MAGUIRE 063926/7333 was joined from H&HS, FMAW.

30 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 1
 TOTAL HOURS 2.4
 ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

31 May 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 30
 TOTAL HOURS 79.5
 ORDNANCE EXPENDED 48 100 lb. WSF Bombs, and 48 5!00 Rockets

During the month of May, pilot training was held on the 11th. Lectures were given on Basic Instrument Patterns and Radio Range, Ordnance, Supply Discipline, and Safety Review. An all pilots meeting was held at the end of the period. Basic training for enlisted personnel was held on the 4th of May. Lectures were given on Supply Economy, Technique of Instruction, and Shelter Tents. A lecture on Malaria was given by Doctor Taggart from MAG-12 Dispensary.

A total of 150 sorties for 267.6 hours by the detachment added to the 586 sorties and 1503.7 hours for the home unit gives a total of 736 sorties and 1771.3 hours for the month of May.

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CHRONOLOGICAL NARRATIVE FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 1955

1 June 1955

No Operations this date (Pilot and Basic Training)

On 1 June 1955 First Lieutenants Robert W. CHAPIN 060248/7333, and Ray A. LOWE 064551/7331 were transferred to CONUS.

2 June 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 34
TOTAL HOURS 84.5
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 72 500 lb. GP Bombs

3 June 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 33
TOTAL HOURS 87
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 6 1000 lb. GP Bombs, 1 500 lb. GP Bomb,
76 100 lb. WSF Bombs, and 34 500 Rockets.

4 June 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 15
TOTAL HOURS 32.7
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

5 June 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 5
TOTAL HOURS 15.1
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

Holiday routine this date (Squadron Stand-down)

6 June 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 12
TOTAL HOURS 25.5
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

7 June 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 9
TOTAL HOURS 21.4
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

8 June 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 8
TOTAL HOURS 11.7
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

9 June 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 27
TOTAL HOURS 65.4
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 8 100 lb. GP Bombs, and 40 100 lb. WSF Bombs

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10 June 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 29
TOTAL HOURS 76.4
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 48 100 lb. WSF Bombs

On 10 June 1955 First Lieutenant Lloyd C. DILLON Jr. 064551/7331 was transferred to H&MS-12, MAG-12, FMAW.

11 June 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 25
TOTAL HOURS 65.8
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 8 500 lb. GP Bombs, and 23 5!00 Rockets

12 June 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 38
TOTAL HOURS 95.1
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

Holiday routine this date (Squadron Stand-down).

13 June 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 34
TOTAL HOURS 88.3
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 48 100 lb. WSF Bombs

14 June 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 19
TOTAL HOURS 52.7
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 60 100 lb. WSF Bombs, 16 Miniature Bombs, and 11 5!00 Rockets

15 June 1955

No operations this date (Pilot and Basic Training)

On 15 June 1955 Captain Donald H. HELGESON 055192/7333 was transferred to MAG-11, FMAW.

16 June 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 11
TOTAL HOURS 38.2
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 16 Miniature Bombs

17 June 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 14
TOTAL HOURS 33.7
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

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18 June 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 13
TOTAL HOURS 30.3
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

On 18 June 1955 Second Lieutenant Phillip T. SMITH 065428/7331 joined from MABS-12, MAG-12, FMAW.

19 June 1955

Holiday routine this date (Squadron Stand-down).

20 June 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 36
TOTAL HOURS 92.3
ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

21 June 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 28
TOTAL HOURS 77.8
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 8 500 lb. GP Bombs, 56 100 lb. WSF Bombs,
and 44 5"00 Rockets

On 21 June 1955 First Lieutenant Cecil N. PARKER 063577/7333 joined from MACS-3, FMAW.

22 June 1955

No operations this date (Pilot and Basic Training)

23 June 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 18
TOTAL HOURS 55.1
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 24 100 lb. WSF Bombs, and 22 5"00 Rockets

24 June 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 33
TOTAL HOURS 71.5
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 90 100 lb. WSF Bombs

On 24 June 1955 First Lieutenant Richard F. COLEMAN 064599/7331 joined from MABS-12, MAG-12, FMAW.

25 June 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 9
TOTAL HOURS 24.3
ORDNANCE EXPENDED 96 100 lb. WSF Bombs, 8 Napalm, and
23 5"00 Rockets

On 25 June 1955 Major James J. TUCKER Jr. 032275/7333 joined from VME-451, MAG-11, FMAW.

26 June 1955

Holiday routine this date (Squadron Stand-down).

27 June 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 20
 TOTAL HOURS 47.1
 ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

28 June 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 15
 TOTAL HOURS 38.5
 ORDNANCE EXPENDED None

29 June 1955

No operations this date due to inclement weather

30 June 1955

TOTAL SORTIES 39
 TOTAL HOURS 100.4
 ORDNANCE EXPENDED 40 100 lb. WSF Bombs, 8 Napalms, 16 Miniature Bombs, and 957 rounds of 20 mm Ammunition

During the month of June pilot training was held on the 1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd. On the 8th lectures were given on Civil Air Regulation 60, Mark III Plotting Board, Night Flying, and ABC Warfare. An all pilots meeting was held at the end of the period. On the 15th lectures were given on the Korean and World situation, Aircraft Inspection, Sensations of Flight, and Extreme Hot Weather Procedure. The lectures were followed by a safety review and an all pilots meeting. Basic training for enlisted personnel was held on the 1st, 8th, 15, 22nd, 27th, and 29th of June. On the 1st lectures were given on Marine Corps Policy, Technique of Instruction, Quizzes were given on Technique of Instruction, and Shelter Tents. On the 15th lectures were given on the 45 Cal. Pistol, Communism, and the Technique of Command. A quiz was given on the 45 Cal. Pistol. On the 22nd lectures were given on Motor Vehicle Accident Prevention, Rifle and Hand Grenades and ABC Warfare. A quiz was given on the Technique of Command. On the 27th a lecture was given on the U.S. Rifle Cal. 30 MI. On the 29th lectures were given on individual protection, and ABC Warfare. A Medical lecture was given by Doctor Taggart from MAG-12 Dispensary.

A total of 166 sorties for 352.8 hours by the Detachment added to the 524 sorties and 1330.8 hours for the home unit gives a total of 690 sorties and 1683.6 hours for the month of June.

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OPERATIONS (S-3) SECTION SUMMARY

For the quarter ending 30 June, 1955, VMA-251 continued to lead all other Squadrons in MAG-12. The quarter was completed with a total of 4964.6 hours flown. A total of 2105 sorties were flown during the quarter, 679 in April, 736 in May, 690 in June. There was a total of 26 Aborts, with 6 for April, 8 for May, and 12 for June. Of the total hours flown, 1509.7 were flown in April, 1771.3 in May, and 1683.6 in June. The average number of pilots available were 32 or 70 % of the pilots assigned. The average number of aircraft for flight was 16 or 69 % of aircraft assigned. The Squadron completed 90 % of the quarterly flight syllabus. A turnover in pilot personnel of approximately 40 % occurred during this quarter. Pilot Ground Training continued on Ground Training and foul weather days, including lectures on Flight Safety, review of accident reports, instrument technique, aircraft identification, operational and cold weather procedures, navigation and supply discipline.

Eight (8) instrument cards were renewed during the quarter. Those renewed were issued to LtCol. Robert J. HOLM 07498/7331 USMC, 1stLt. David L. ALTHOFF 064955/7331 USMCR, 1stLt. Donald C. HEIM 064593/7331 USMCR, 1stLt. Robert S. REED 064961/7331 USMCR, 2ndLt. Albert H. BERG 065420/7333 USMCR, 2ndLt. Walter T. BURTON 066591/7331 USMCR, 2ndLt. Chauncey F. CLARK 065972/7333 USMCR, 2ndLt. James C. RHODES 066533/7333 USMCR.

There was an aircraft accident on 3 June, 1955 resulting in strike damage to AL-8, BuNo. 123900. The pilot 1stLt. Lloyd C. DILLON 064551/7331 was uninjured. Lt. DILLON flying AL-8, BuNo. 123900 had an internal engine failure, cause undetermined, at A-27 on a tactical Close Air Support flight. A successful wheels up landing was made and Lt. DILLON was uninjured. The aircraft was transferred on 10 June, 1955. The Aircraft Accident Board determined the accident's primary cause was material failure or malfunction. Further investigation is being conducted on the engine to determine the cause of the accident.

1stLt. Robert A. GILLON 060541/7331 was hit by a missile of undetermined origin while flying AL-2 BuNo. 128981 on an Armed Reconnaissance Mission. The damage incurred resulted in a wing change, but no injury to the pilot. A flash report of the incident was forwarded through the chain of command.

On 30 June, 1955, Captain William D. THAYER Sr. 055064/7331 flying AL-14 BuNo. 123839 ground looped on landing at K-3 Airbase. The Aircraft Accident Board has not determined the cause or extent of damage as of this date.

Completion of service tours are as follows: AD-4 BuNo. 123898, 4/4/55; AD-4 BuNo. 123929, 5/6/55; AD-4 BuNo. 128960, 5/6/55; AD-4 BuNo. 123900, 6/10/55.

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SPECIAL WEAPONS SUMMARY

During the period of this report progress in Special Weapons training continued at a high rate. Training in high altitude, high angle dive bombing and low level loft bombing techniques were continued. Considerable emphasis was placed on low level navigation training and numerous flights carrying the T-63 shape were conducted.

In accordance with 1stMAW Operations Order 7-55 this unit conducted a Special Weapons exercise during the period of 9 May to 13 May 1955. During this exercise the unit was under the Operational Control of Commanding Officer, MAG-11. Shikoku Island was designated as enemy territory and targets were picked for possible strikes. During the course of the exercise seven (7) targets were selected. The unit performed all necessary planing to execute Atomic strikes on these targets. Three (3) missions were successfully completed. Two (2) of these missions were MK-7 Mod 3 drops while the other was a MK-8 drop. One (1) mission, with the T-63 shape, aborted to NAS Iwakuni and remained overnight in order to exercise the MWSG-17 Bomb Disposal Team.

The remaining four (4) missions were aborted due to weather conditions, both enroute and over the target area.

Fighter cover during the exercise was provided by FJ-2 aircraft from VMF-451.

One (1) pilot and one (1) ordnance officer were transferred to CONUS during the period. Major V. J. FEEBLES 021948/7331/6510/7305 was transferred on 17 April 1955, and First Lieutenant N. BERRY 055402/6510 was transferred on 20 April 1955. One (1) ordnance officer First Lieutenant John L. WHITE 055721/6510 was attached on 28 March 1955.

The unit has four (4) qualified delivery pilots assigned with one (1) pilot operationally qualified only. Over 375 Special Weapons missions were flown during the period. The flight training syllabus is currently seventy-five percent (75%) complete. Close Air Support training with the 3rd Marine Division was conducted by pilots from Korea.

A total of 971 aircraft hours were flown. Eleven (11) major and twenty-seven (27) intermediate checks were pulled during this quarter. Average availability was four (4) aircraft.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

1. Personnel:

a. Officers assigned:	(Apr)	53	NA's	34	AGO's	2	SWDU	17
	(May)	49		36		3		10
	(Jun)	50		35		4		11

b. Enlisted assigned:	(Apr)	223	NAP's	0
	(May)	195		0
	(Jun)	194		0

2. Aircraft:

a. Number assigned:	(Apr)	22	Type assigned:				
	(May)	22	AD-3	4	AD-4	12	AD-4B 6
	(Jun)	24		5		11	6
				6		12	6

3. Operations:

a. Aircraft availability:	(Apr)	72%	Pilot availability:	68%
	(May)	68%		70%
	(Jun)	67%		73%
	(Quarter)	69%		70%

b. Total flight time:	(Apr)	1509.7	Total sorties flown:	679
	(May)	1771.3		736
	(Jun)	1683.6		690
	(Quarter)	4964.9		2105

c. Tactical hours flown:	(Apr)	350.2	Tactical sorties flown:	140
	(May)	555.5		201
	(Jun)	406.9		149
	(Quarter)	1312.6		490

4. Ordnance Expenditures:

Bombs, 1000 lb. GP.	.30
Bombs, 500 lb. GP.	.162
Bombs, 100 lb. GP.	.127
Bombs, 100 lb. WSF.	.1244
Bombs, miniature practice	.48
Napalm.	.16
Rockets, 5"00	.1019
20 MM rounds.	.957
Flares, parachute	.38

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GLOSSARY

TAC/A	Tactical Air Coordinator/Airborne
AIA	Airborne Intercept Aircraft
WSF	Water, Sand Filled Bombs
GF	General Purpose
GCI	Ground Control Intercept
CAS	Close Air Support
MIQ	Mobile Pulse Radar
GCA	Ground Controlled Approach
MLR	Main Line of Resistance
CONUS	Continental United States
ACOG	Aircraft on Ground
JOC	Joint Operations Center
MSQ	Radar Tracking Close Support Bombing
AFS	Airborne Pulse Radar