

2dMAW S&C FILE
No. 01534A
Copy No. 1 of 4

5213
03A02968
29 January 1968

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FIRST ENDORSEMENT on VMFA-251's ltr 1:JFH:fam 01A1068 dtd 10 January 1968
over Command Chronology 1 July to 31 December 1967

From: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 32, 2D MAW, FMFLant
MCAS, Beaufort, South Carolina, 29902

To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)

Via: (1) Commanding General, Second Marine Aircraft Wing
(2) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Atlantic

Subj: Command Chronology 1 July to 31 December 1968

1. Forwarded

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R. J. Schriver
R. J. SCHRIVER

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FMFLANT COPY 2 OF 3 COPIES

095361, A

MARINE FIGHTER/ATTACK SQUADRON 251
Marine Aircraft Group 32, 2d Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFLANT
Marine Corps Air Station
Beaufort, South Carolina 29902

1:JFH:fam

0141068

10 January 1968

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Unclassified when enclosures are removed

S&C MAG 32

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code AO3D)
Via: (1) Commanding Officer MAG-32
(2) Commanding General 2d Marine Air Wing
(3) Commanding General Fleet Marine Force Atlantic

LOG NO. 98-68

COPY NO. 1 OF 5

Subj: VMFA-251 Command Chronology period 1 July 1967 to 31 December 1967

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A
(b) WgO 5750.2
(c) CG 2dMAW 221908Z Dec67

Encl: (1) Synopsis of sequential listing of significant events, VMFA-251 period 1 July 1967 to 31 December 1967.
(2) VMFA-251 Organizational Data, period 1 July 1967 to 31 December 1967.
(3) Sequential listing of significant events period 1 July 1967 to 31 December 1967.

1. In accordance with references (a), (b) and (c), VMFA-251 Command Chronology for the period of 1 July 1967 to 31 December 1967 is submitted.
2. Enclosures (1) through (3) contain the information and documentation as required.

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L. R. Hawkins
L. R. HAWKINS

Downgraded at three year intervals;
Declassified after twelve years;
DOD Dir 5200.10.

S&C VMFA-251

LOG NO: 15-68

COPY NO: 1 of 6

HIST REFERENCE SEC

MAR 12 1968

HISTORICAL

WYBINE COBBS

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S&C MAG 32

LOG NO. 98-68

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Synopsis of Sequential Listing of Significant Events, VMFA-251 period
1 July 1967 to 31 December 1967.

1. The following is a synopsis of those significant events listed in
enclosure (3).

a. VMFA-251 ended calendar year 1967 under the command of Lieutenant Colonel L. R. HAWKINS and was based at Marine Corps Air Station, Beaufort, South Carolina. During this reporting period the squadron has continued to stress the training of aircrews and men to provide them the necessary experience to fully qualify them for an overseas combat tour. The Squadron has also provided an accelerated training syllabus for eleven temporarily assigned pilots. An approximate breakdown of the combat training aircrews receive is 60% toward air to air tactics and the remainder is used in perfecting air to ground ordnance delivery technique.

b. On 5 July 1967 Lieutenant Colonel L. R. HAWKINS received for VMFA-251, the 1967 Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic, Annual Aviation Safety Award for 6,083 accident free hours during fiscal year 1967.

c. VMFA-251 received the Ground Safety Honor Squadron Plaque on 12 July 1967 for "Exceptional Ground Safety Achievement During the Month of June 1967." The plaque is presented monthly to the squadron which sets the lowest monthly ground accident rate per man.

d. August 5th to 24th saw VMFA-251 deployed to Marine Corps Air Station, Yuma, Arizona for practice in techniques of air to ground ordnance delivery. Average aircrew readiness was increased significantly, and the deployment was considered an overall success.

e. At an all hands formation on 9 September 1967, Lieutenant Colonel L. R. HAWKINS presented Major T. E. Bradley an Air Medal in recognition of his action while serving in the Republic of South Vietnam.

f. Major General G. S. Bowman, Deputy Commander, FMFLant, presented VMFA-251 with the CNO Annual Aviation Safety Award during formal ceremonies on September 27, 1967. Lieutenant Colonel L. R. HAWKINS received the award, given "for the most outstanding safety record achieved among fighter and attack squadrons of Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic." At the time of the award the squadron chalked up 29 consecutive accident free months, compiling a total of more than 12,720 hours. The General also presented Captain P. E. Hollands with gold stars in lieu of his 14 and 15 air medal in recognition of his actions while serving in the Republic of South Vietnam.

g. On 28 September 1967, VMFA-251 aircrews and aircraft participated in TESTEX 15. This was a successful exercise in support of the Commander 2dFleet.

h. After the annual Inspector General's Inspection from 23 to 25 October 1967, VMFA-251 received multiple "Noteworthy" comments in his critique. These areas covered such widely diversified areas as administration and physical fitness.

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Enclosure (1)

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i. Members of VMFA-251 completed 15,000 hours of accident free flight with MAG-32 Commanding Officer, G. J. Collins. This record for the squadron was completed on 25 October 1967. The total is three times more hours of accident free flying than any other fighter or attack squadron in the Second Marine Aircraft Wing and VMFA-251 is the first fighter/attack squadron to reach this goal. The squadron went on to complete an accident free calendar year.

j. From 12 November 1967 to 7 December 1967 VMFA-251 deployed at Naval Station, Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico. Making extensive use of the facilities of the Atlantic Fleet Weapons Range, the "Thunderbolts" flew a wide range of air to air missions, including firing of the Sparrow III and Sidewinder missiles as well as dropping tons of conventional ordnance on nearby targets.

k. On 24 November 1967 VMFA-251 received the Ground Safety Honor Squadron plaque for "exceptional ground safety achievement during October 1967."

l. During a formal ceremony on 19 December 1967, Major General H. M. Elwood, Commanding General, 2d MAF, presented VMFA-251 with the Treasury Departments highest award, the Minute Man flag. The award is given for over 90% participation in the U. S. Savings Bonds program. General Elwood also presented Major P. M. Jacobs, Executive Officer of VMFA-251, with the Bronze Star Medal for exceptional services in the Republic of South Vietnam.

| | | |
|-----|--|---|
| S-1 | Capt V. P. NOLAN Capt H. E. GREENFIELD Maj R. J. PEDERSON | 1 July - 17 September 1967 18 September - 14 Dec 1967 15 - 31 December 1967 |
| S-2 | Capt H. E. GREENFIELD 1stLt W. D. WINTERS Capt B. D. LYNCH | 1 July - 17 September 1967 18 September - 26 Sept 1967 27 Sept - 31 December 1967 |
| S-3 | FltLt C. I. CARRWHITE, RAF Maj J. L. PAPPAS Maj H. P. STROMAN | 1 July - 17 September 1967 18 Sept - 14 December 1967 15 - 31 December 1967 |
| S-4 | Capt G. E. FRANKLIN Capt D. H. BASSETT Maj J. S. LOOP | 1 July - 17 September 1967 18 Sept - 14 December 1967 15 - 31 December 1967 |
| | W. A. FERDINAND T. WILLIAMS R. J. PEDERSON Maj J. L. PAPPAS | 1 July - 17 September 1967 18 Sept - 11 October 1967 12 Oct - 14 December 1967 15 - 31 December 1967 |
| | 1stSgt 1stSgt T. L. BUTLER | 1 July - 31 December 1967 |

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4. Average monthly strength during reporting period.

| | | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC |
| MAF | 20 | 22 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 28 |
| NFO | 24 | 24 | 22 | 22 | 25 | 23 |
| AS | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 8 |
| SHL | 338 | 356 | 362 | 354 | 336 | 336 |

* includes FltLt C. I. Carr-White, 1967

Enclosure (1)

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DESIGNATION

NAME

NOV 3 1967

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Sequential Listing of Significant Events, VMFA-251, period 1 July 1967 to 31 December 1967 with Documentation.

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>EVENTS</u> | <u>TAB</u> |
|------------------------|---|------------|
| 4 Jul 1967 | 1967 FMFLant Safety Award | A ✓ |
| 12 Jul 1967 | Ground Safety Plaque | B ✓ |
| 5 Aug - 24 Aug 1967 | VMFA-251 deployed to YUMA, Arizona | C ✓ |
| 9 Sept 1967 | Air Medal presentation | D ✓ |
| 27 Sept 1967 | CNO Safety Award; Air Medal presentation | E ✓ |
| 28 Sept 1967 | Participated in TESTEX 15 | F ✓ |
| 23 Oct 1967 | VMFA-251 receives multiple "notables" on IG | G ✓ |
| 25 Oct 1967 | VMFA-251 Flies 15,000 accident free hours | H ✓ |
| 12 Nov 1967-7 Dec 1967 | VMFA-251 deployed to NS Roosevelt Roads | I ✓ |
| 24 Nov 1967 | Ground Safety Plaque | J ✓ |
| 19 Dec 1967 | VMFA-251 receives Treasury Dept's highest award; Bronze Star Medal presentation | K ✓ |

Enclosure (3)



ANNUAL AVIATION SAFETY AWARD

COMMANDING GENERAL,
FLEET MARINE FORCE, ATLANTIC

takes pleasure in presenting this certificate of award to

VMFA-251

for meritorious achievement in Aviation Safety
during Fiscal Year

1967

Flight records show that this squadron conducted

6,083

hours of flight operations without the occurrence of an aircraft
accident.

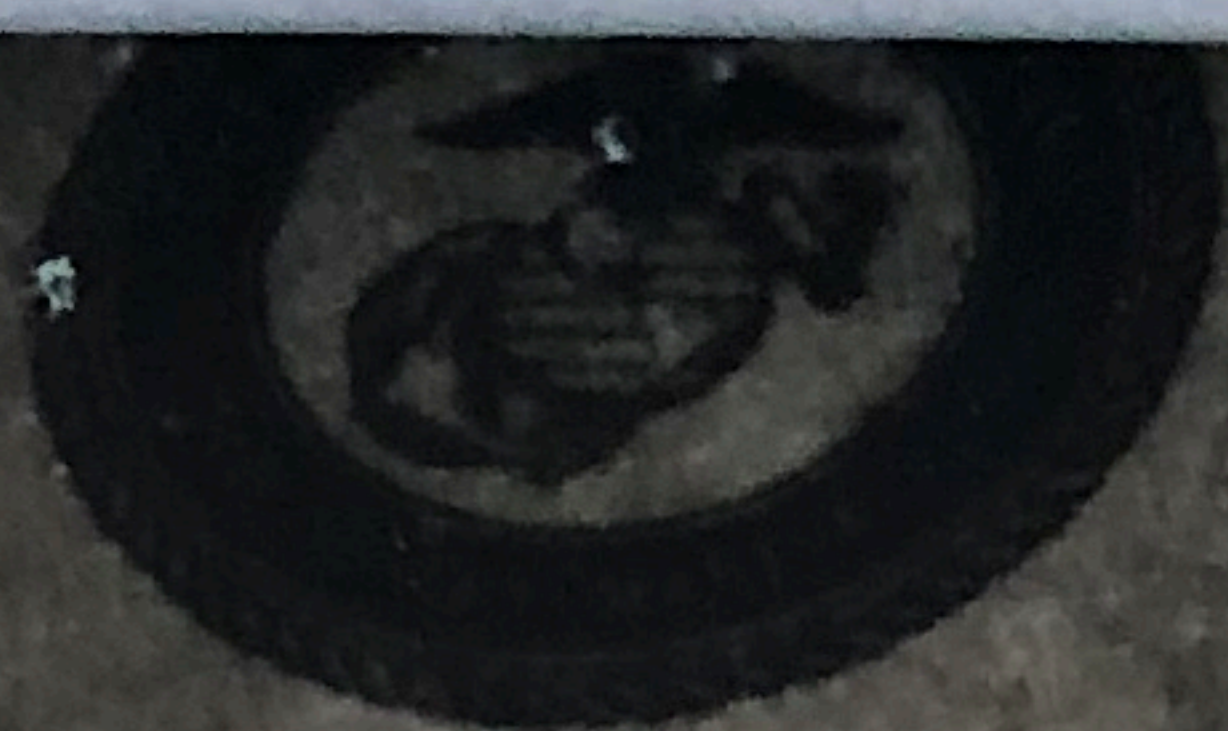
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The achievement of this accident-free record demonstrates strong leadership and effective supervision, excellent flight discipline, employment of sound maintenance procedures and the attainment of a high level of professional competence by all personnel who contributed to this outstanding accomplishment.

To the officers and men whose efforts made possible attainment of this enviable record, my hearty congratulations.

R. G. Weede
COMMANDING GENERAL

Tab A



HEADQUARTERS MARINE CORPS AIR STATION
BEAUFORT, SOUTH CAROLINA

IN REPLY REFER TO

PL/TC/111
5100

12 JUL 1967

From: Commanding Officer, Marine Corps Air Station, Beaufort,
South Carolina 29902

To: Commanding Officer, VMFA-251

Via: Commanding Officer, MAG-32

Subj: Exceptional Ground Safety Achievement

1. The Ground Safety Honor Squadron Plaque has been awarded to VMFA-251 for exceptional ground safety achievement during the month of June 1967.

2. VMFA-251 incurred only two minor accidents resulting in first aid injuries. Continued adherence to good safety practices, by all hands, and effective leadership can only be responsible for this enviable record.

3. I personally commend you and your unit on this sustained outstanding performance and I am confident of your continued success in the promotion of safety.

L. H. STEMAN

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P 281754Z SEP 67

FM USS SHANGRI LA

TO PATRON ONE SIX
MAG THREE TWO

INFO COMFAIRJAX
CFAW ONE ONE
COMSECFLT SPECIAL PROJECT TEAM
COMSECFLT

S&C VMFA-251
LOG NO: C-2978
COPY NO: 2 of 2

C O N F I D E N T I A L

TESTEX 15 A/C SERVICES

A. MY 231532Z (NOTAL)

B. MY 231534Z (NOTAL)

1. REVISE TESTEX 15 SERVICES REQ BY REF (A) AND (B) AS FOLLOWS:

FOR VP-16 REQ 1 P3 ON STATION 291230Z-1630Z.

FOR MAG 32 REQ 2 F4 ON STATION 291900Z, 2200Z, 301100Z-1400Z AND 301600Z
1730Z.

2. PLM AND FREQS 1AW REF (A) AND (B).

DIST : REF..A.. NOT HELD.....
REF..B..NOT HELD.....

ACTION : S-3 251

INFO : CO S-4 312

TOR : 28/2232Z/SEP67/CRS/1742/C8

USS SHANGRI LA

281754Z Sept 67

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Tab F