1:RJC:dtb 5750 12Ju168

1300-293500

From: Commanding Officer

Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D) To:

Operations Officer . Maj H.F. STROMAN

(1) Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 32 Via: (2) Commanding General, 2d Marine Aircraft Wing

(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic

Intelligence Officer Capt B.D. LYNCH Subj: Command Chronology, period 1 January to 30 June 1968

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2A (b) WgO 5750.1

Encl: (1) "Jetstream" Article "General Simpson Takes First Flight" (2) "Jetstream" Article "251 Earns Efficiency Award"

(3) CO, MAG-32, ltr of 8Jan68, "Tactical Readiness Award"

(4) CO, MAG-32, ltr of 8Jan68, "Administration Efficiency Award"

Maj B.W. MEISSMER. 34pr-29 Jun 7

(5) CO, VMFA-251, ltr of 29Feb68

(6) Excerpts from COMKWESTFOR 191907Z Feb68(C)

"Jetstream" Article "VMFA-251, MABS 32, Change of Commanders"

(8) CO, VMFA-251, 1tr of 9May68

(9) "Jetstream" Article "Marine Fighter Pilot Awarded DFC Here"

(10) Special Assistant for Saving Bond ltr Pers Gc/nk 21Mar68 (11) Special Assistant for Saving Bond ltr Pers Gc/nk 21Mar68

(12) Post Exercise Report of Sparrow III Missile Shoot

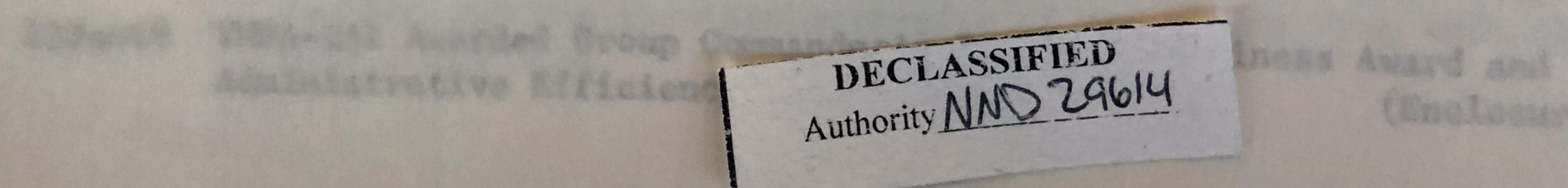
ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

Designation/Location

Marine Fighter Attack Squadron Two Five One, Marine Corps Air Station, Beaufort, South Carolina 29902

Period Covered

1 January to 30 June 1968



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

Maj P.M. JACOBS

1:RJC:dtb 5750 12Jul68

13an-29Jun 1968

Commanding Officer From:

Expedittion Officer

Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D) To:

Operations Officer . Maj H.F. STROMAN

(1) Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 32 Via:

(2) Commanding General, 2d Marine Aircraft Wing (3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic

Intelligence Officer Capt D.D. Lynch 1.Jan-29.Jun 1968 Subj: Command Chronology, period 1 January to 30 June 1968

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Maj J.S. LOOP 1968

Maj H.W. HEISSHER 3Apr-29 Jun 1968

CO, VMFA-251, ltr of 29Feb68

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Period Covered

1 January to 30 June 1968

in File Supplements Sharten.

DECLASSIFIED Authority NNO 29614

T:BAC:940

c. Command and Staff		
Commanding Officer	LtCol L.H. HAWKINS LtCol E.C. JOHNSON	1Jan-29Feb 1968 1Mar-29Jun 1968
Executive Officer	Maj P.M. JACOBS	1Jan-29Jun 1968
Operations Officer	Maj H.F. STROMAN	1Jan-29Jun 1968
S-1 OFFICER	Maj R.J. PEDERSON	1Jan-29Jun 1968
Admin Officer	WO G.E. HOFFMAN	lJan-2Jun 1968
Intelligence Officer	Capt B.D. LYNCH	1Jan-29Jun 1968
Logistic Officer	Maj J.S. LOOP Maj H.W. MEISSNER	1Jan-2Apr 1968 3Apr-29Jun 1968
Flight Surgeon	Lt(MC) POOL UNASSIGNED Lt(MC) OAS	1Jan-31May 1968 1Jun-26Jun 1968 27Jun-29Jun 1968
Aircraft Maint Officer	Maj J.L. PAPPAS Capt T. WILLIAMS	1Jan-25May 1968 26May-29Jun 1968
SgtMaj	SgtMaj T.L. BUTLER	1Jan-29Jun 1968

Beaufort, South Carolina 29902

Marine Corps Air Station

MARLINE FIGHTIER/ATTACK SQUADROB 251

Marine Aircraft Group 32, 28 Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFLant

Average Squadron Strength

Month	Officers*	Enlisted
January 1968	58	352
Febuary 1968	53	358
March 1968	50	362
April 1968	49	366
May 1968	43	368
June 1968	36	363
	* Includes Flt Lt. Carr-White, R.A.F.	Exchange

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Major General Ormand R. Simpson, Receives first ride from VMFA-251 9Jan68 in F-4B Suspersonic Phantom. (Enclosure 1)

VMFA-251 Awarded Group Commander's Tactical Readiness Award and 12Jan68 (Enclosure 2, 3, 4) Administrative Efficiency Award.

W 1008 PRES-231 was honored with a visit from

30Jan68 VMFA-251 deployed with 24 hour notice to NAS Key
West in support of COMFAIRKWEST Air Defense Requirements.
(Enclosure (6) and (7))

lMar68 LtCol. E.C. JOHNSON assumes command of VMFA-251. (Enclosure (8))

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8Apr68 VMFA-251 deployed to Yuma for intensive air to ground training. (Enclosure (9))

10May68 Capt D.M. BASSETT received Distinguished Flying Cross for action in Vietnam.

LCpl C. HONG JR. received Navy Commendation Medal for action in Vietnam.

WO G.E. HOFFMAN received a Treasury Department Citation for promotion of the Saving Bond Program.

VMFA-25l awarded Treasury Department recognition of Saving Bond Program. (Enclosure (10), (11), and (12))

24May68 VMFA-251 participated in Ship Exercise, Lant Fleet.

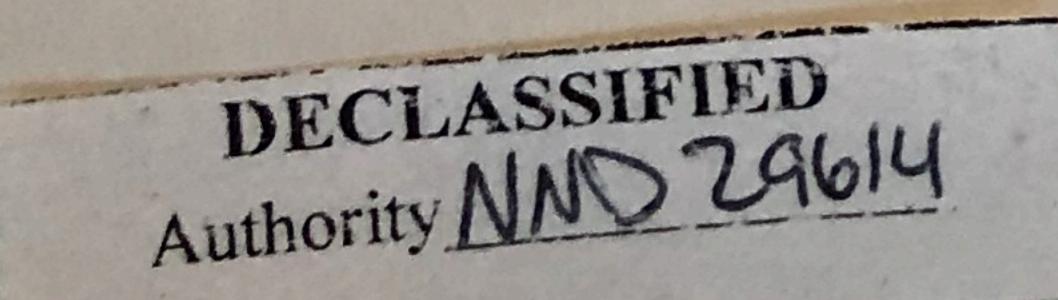
T. The sould be sentered to Middle be about 1968 for an

21Jun68 VMFA-251 conducted Missile Shoot in coordination with MACS 5 at MCAF New River, North Carolina. (Enclosure (13))

3. NARRATIVE SUMMARY OF EVENTS

TOURS PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF

- a. VMFA-251 ended fiscal year 1968 under the command of LtCol. E.C. JOHNSON. The squadron had 16 F-4B aircraft assigned as of 29Jun68 with 13 aircraft on board. The average number of aircraft assigned for the reporting period was 16. On 25Mar68 the squadron received it's first aircraft from PAR with slotted stabilators/drooped ailerons. The squadron flew 2,954.9 accident free hours between 1 January and 29 June 1968. and ended the fiscal year with 18,936.2 accident free hours. Aircrew training resulted in 9 pilots and 11 RIO's being transferred to WestPac in a combat ready posture. During the same period 71 enlisted men were transferred to WestPac.
 - b. On 9 January 1968 VMFA-251 was honored with a visit from Major General Ormand R. SIMPSON, Commanding General of Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, South Carolina. The General received his first ride in a Phantom on a local area fam hop and was provided souvenirs of the flight from VMFA-251 upon completion.



Marrie Littol, F.C. Ministen assumes command of With-251. (Enclosure (

officer's Quarterly Tactical Readiness Award for overall excellence in increased pilot readiness, scheduled sorties, accident rate and ground safety. The squadron also received the Quarterly Administrative Efficiency Award in recognition of superiority in all administrative functions.

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- d. On 29 January 1968 the squadron was directed to deploy six full systems aircraft with aircrews to NAS Key West by 30 January 1968 to assume the Air Defense Commitment under COMFAIRKWEST. Six additional aircraft were to be in place by 2 February 1968. During the three week deployment a round-the-clock hot pad posture was assumed and resulted in 26 practice scramble sorties and 8 actual scramble sorties. In addition 242.3 hr/138 sorties were flown in accomplishing Phase I and II training.
- e. On 1 Mar 1968 LtCol. E.C. JOHNSON relieved LtCol. L.R. HAWKINS as Commanding Officer, VMFA-251 and LtCol. L.R. HAWKINS relegived LtCol. E.C. JOHNSON as Commanding Officer, MABS-32 at a joint Change of Command.
 - f. The squadron deployed to MCAS Yuma on 8 April 1968 for an intensive three week air to ground training program. 584.3 hours were flown on 491 sorties during the deployment resulting in 631 syllabus credits being completed. An open house was held for the local Cub Scouts Den also during the deployment.
 - g. At a squadron awards formation on 10 May 1968 Col. SCHRIVER, Commanding Officer, MAG-32 awarded Captain D.M. BASSETT the Distinguished Flying Cross. LCpl C. HONG JR. was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal for meritorious performance of duty while serving with the Casualty Section Headquarters, 3rd Marine Division. WO G.E. HOFFMAN was awarded recognition by the Treasury Department for his performance as squadron Savings Bond Officer and LtCol. E.C. JOHNSON accepted the Treasury Department Recognition for Savings Bond Participation on behalf of his squadron.
 - h. VMFA-251 participated in exercises with Naval Forces Atlantic from 8 to 24 May 1968 launching six sorties to aid in the evaluation of the fleet's detection capabilities.

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On 18-21 June 1968 the squadron conducted a Missile Shoot in the W-122 area. The squadron flew 18 sorties and launched 6 Sparrow Missiles at various targets achieving excellent results, including a Boola-Boola direct hit.

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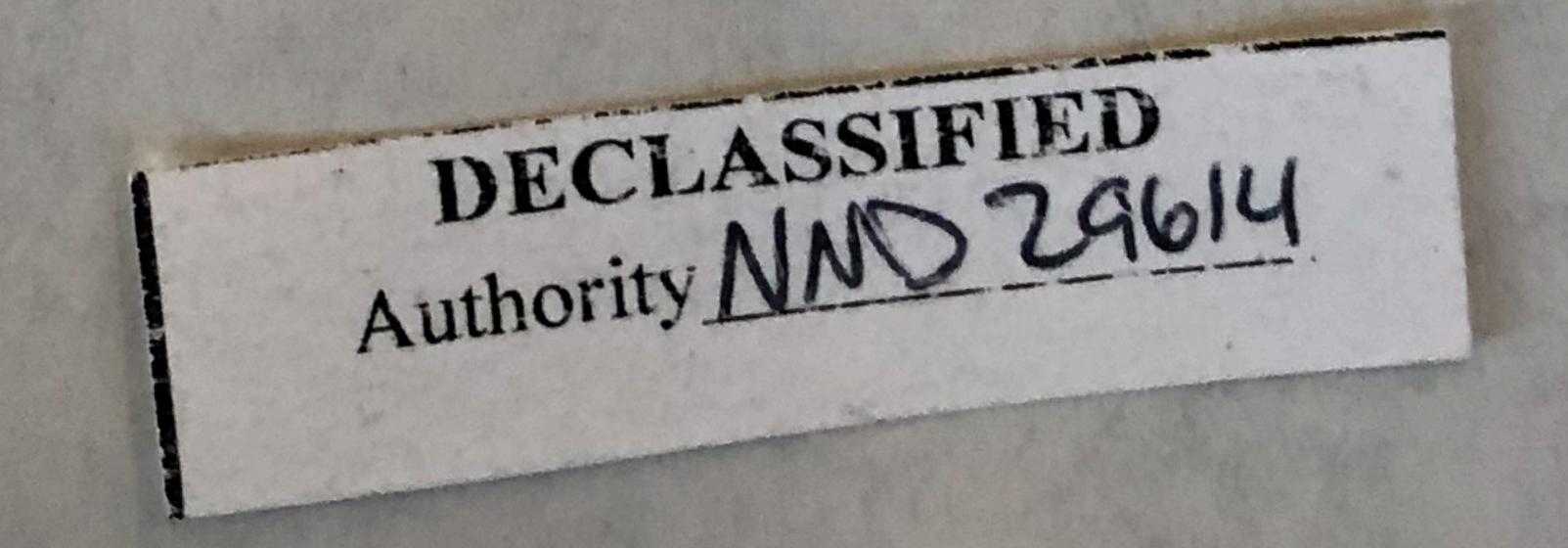
ended the the state of the stat

In addition the squadron was inspected by the Second Marine Aircraft Wing A&M Inspection team on 17 May 1968 and was judged satisfactory with minor discrepancies.

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MARINE FIGHTER/ATTACK SQUADRON 251

Marine Aircraft Group 32, 2d Marine Aircraft Wil.

Marine Corps Air Station

Beaufort, South Carolina 29902

3:WFS:lgl 24 June 1968

From: Range Safety Officer To: Commanding Officer Via: Operations Officer

Subj: Post-Exercise Report of Sparrow III Missile Shoot

Ref: (a) MAG-32 TAD Orders, 1/1320-5 dated 14 June 1968

Encl: (1) Chronological Events (2) Mission Result Sheet

- 1. In accordance with reference (a), this Officer acted as the Range Safety Officer operating with Marine Air Control Squadron 5, located at MCAF, New River, North Carolina during the VMFA-251 Missile Shoot exercise.
- 2. The Missile Shoot was conducted, 18-21 June 1968, in the W-122 area, lanes A,B,C. Each day had two shooting periods scheduled, 1000-1230 and 1600-1930. Two targets were to be used the AQM-37 launched from an F4B and the TDU-22 towed by an F8E, however, only the TDU-22 target was fired at during the Missile Shooting exercise, see enclosure (1).
- 3. Marine Air Control Squadron 5 was designated the GCI controlling agency for the Missile Shoot. They employed the TPS-34 and the MPS-22 search radars during the shoot. No automatic control was provided by use of the Marine Tactical Data System (MTDS), rather all control was done in the manual mode. The control provided by the MACS-5 controllers was felt to be excellent on overall basis. It is noted that the controlling provided by GySgt H. P. PAREND was outstanding in all respects. At no time during the Missile Shoot did MACS-5 lose radar/radios which could have had an effect on the shoot itself, see enclosure (2). For any future Missile Shoots, involving control by MACS-5, it is recommended that a Range Safety Officer be sent to the MACS Squadron, for both the safety aspect and also for effective co-ordination and liaison action.
- 4. Co-ordination during the Missile Shoot presented no problem, in as much as most AUTOVON calls were placed with a very minimum of trouble and delay, in order to keep both VMFA-251 and MACS-5 aware of the up to date situation.

 MACS-5 was able to co-ordinate with the Tactical Air Control Center (TACC) by means of the HE nets established between MACS and TACC.
- 5. All safety regulations were enforced and complied with and there were no violations or deviations of these safety regulations to report.

W. F. SPACE

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Authority NNO 29614

Copy to: MAG-32 (Attn: S-3) (1)
CO, MACS-5 (1)