

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

3:RWT:rwt
5750
16 July 1969

From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code AO3D)
Via: (1) Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 32
(2) Commanding General, Second Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFLant
(3) Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic
Subj: Command Chronology, period 1 January 1969 to 30 June 1969
Ref: (a) MCO 5750.1A
(b) WgO 5750.1
Encl: (1) Captain John D. CUMMINGS receives recognition as first
Marine Officer to exceed 2000 flight hours in the F-4
aircraft
(2) "Jetstream" article "VMFA-251 Missile Shoot"

1. Organizational Data

a. Designation/Location

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

b. Period Covered

1 January 1969 to 30 June 1969

c. Command and Staff

Commanding Officer	LtCol E. C. JOHNSON	1 Jan-18 Apr 1969
	LtCol R. O. LAWRENCE	19 Apr-30 Jun 1969
Executive Officer	Major W. W. HARDING	1 Jan-30 Jun 1969
Operations Officer	Major M. G. WADSWORTH	1 Jan-30 Jun 1969
Admin Officer	1stLt F. E. GUILLE	1 Jan-30 Jun 1969
Intellegence Officer	Captain D. E. FRITZ	1 Jan-30 Jun 1969
Logistics Officer	Major C. W. BROWN	1 Jan-2 Feb 1969
	Captain J. C. SEASE	3 Feb-30 Jun 1969

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Aircraft Maint Officer	Captain T. J. WILLIAMS Major C. W. BROWN Major T. J. LYMAN	1 Jan-3 Feb 1969 3 Feb-27 Apr 1969 28 Apr-30 Jun 1969
Flight Surgeon	Lt Cmdr R. A. OAS	1 Jan-30 Jun 1969
SgtMaj	MGySgt B. ROSSI SgtMaj C. T. CAIN	1 Jan-28 Mar 1969 29 Mar-30 Jun 1969

d. Average Squadron Strength

<u>Month</u>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>
January 1969	33	390
February 1969	39	401
March 1969	38	390
April 1969	39	388
May 1969	40	382
June 1969	44	382

Sequence of Events

13-16 Jan 1969	VMFA-251 participated in Group conducted Sparrow III Firex
14 Mar-14 Apr 1969	Squadron deploys to NAS Key West
11 Apr 1969	VMFA-251 receives Group Commander's Administrative Efficiency Award
18 Apr 1969	VMFA-251 has formal Change of Command, LtCol R. O. LAWRENCE relieves LtCol E. C. JOHNSON
23-25 Apr 1969	VMFA-251 participates in Group conducted Sparrow III Firex
19-21 May 1969	VMFA-251 conducts Sidwinder missile shoot
30 May 1969	Captain J. D. CUMMINGS receives award for 2,000 hours in the F-4 Phantom II

3. Narrative Summary of Events

VMFA-251 ended the last half of Fiscal Year 1969 under the command of LtCol R. O. LAWRENCE. The squadron had 18 F-4B aircraft assigned as of 30 June 1969 with 14 aircraft on board. The squadron flew 4,589.5 accident free hours during the Fiscal Year 1969, furthering its already outstanding record of almost 24,000 accident free hours. Aircrew training resulted in five Pilots, seven Naval Flight Officers and ten temporarily assigned officers being transferred to West Pac in a combat ready posture.

During the period of 13-16 January 1969, VMFA-251 participated in a Group conducted Sparrow III Firex successfully firing 15 missiles during the exercise.

VMFA-251 deployed a detachment to NAS Key West, Florida on 14 March 1969. The detachment received a "Well Done" from COMFAIRKEYWEST and returned to its parent unit at MCAS Beaufort on 14 April 1969.

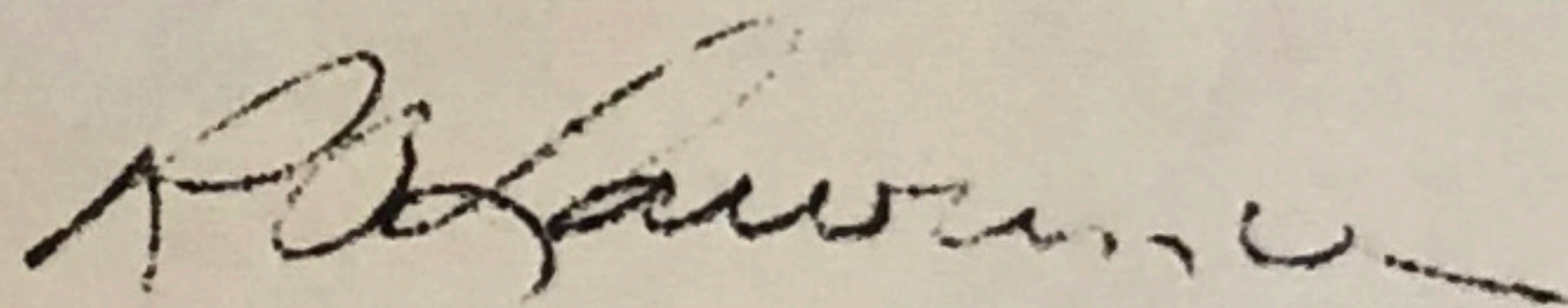
On 11 April 1969, VMFA-251 received the Group Commander's Administrative Efficiency Award for outstanding administrative procedure. This is a quarterly award and was for the period 1 January 1969 through 28 March 1969.

On 18 April 1969, LtCol R. O. LAWRENCE accepted VMFA-251's colors from LtCol E. C. JOHNSON in a formal change of command held in H&MS-32's hanger.

During the period 23-25 April 1969, VMFA-251 participated in its second Group conducted Sparrow III Missile Firex, again successfully firing 15 Missiles during the exercise.

An AIM-7 Firex was conducted on 19 May 1969. During the 3 day period of the exercise the squadron successfully fired 20 missiles providing the necessary qualification to aircrewmen for transfer to West Pac.

Captain John D. CUMMINGS on 30 May 1969 was presented the McDonnell-Douglas 2000 Hour award in recognition for being the first Marine Aircrewman to surpass the two thousand hour mark in the F-4 Phantom II.



R. O. LAWRENCE

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