

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NWMDM-0994017

32356

WAR DIARY

VMO-251

VMO-251

Dec '43

MARINE OBSERVATION SQUADRON TWO FIFTY ONE
MARINE BASE DEFENSE AIRCRAFT GROUP FORTY-ONE,
PENDLETON AIR FIELD, CAMP JOSEPH H. PENDLETON,
OCEANSIDE, CALIFORNIA.

December 1, 1943 - December 31, 1943

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HISTORICAL DIVISION
HQ., USMC, Room 3235
ARLINGTON ANNEX

DISTRIBUTION: CMC;
ComAirPac;
CG MarAirWings Pac;
CO MarFairWest;
CO MBDAG-41;
F-I-L-E.

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HISTORICAL DIVISION HQ., USMC, Room 3235 ARLINGTON ANNEX
FILE <i>DS</i>

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1. NEST HIGHER ECHELON. Marine Base Defense Aircraft Group Forty-one.

TEMPORARILY ATTACHED

Pilots ----- 6

Wing Officers - 1

2. MISSION - Training for combat duty, and except in emergency situations will not ordinarily be employed as part of the local defense forces. For purposes of local defense VMF type aircraft will when directed be released for operational control to the Fourth Fighter Command of the Fourth Air Force.

Group	1
Company 1	3
Company 2	3
Company 3	11
Company 4	10
Total	32

November, 1943. Routine

December, 1943. Routine

December, 1943. Twelve (12) planes

December, 1943. Routine

December, 1943. Routine

December, 1943. Routine

December, 1943. Eight (8) planes strafed, dive bombed and observed, having radio contact with ground forces.

December, 1943. Routine

December, 1943. Sixteen (16) planes on air combat patrol. Protected landing force at Camp Pendleton. Made contact with "enemy" aircraft.

11 December, 1943. Routine

12 December, 1943. Routine

13 December, 1943. Routine

14 December, 1943. Routine

15 December, 1943. Routine

16 December, 1943. Routine

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1 st December, 1943.	STRENGTH ON 1 December, 1943	
19 December, 1943.	Pilots -----	42
	Ground Officers -	8
20 December, 1943.	Enlisted -----	296
21 December, 1943.	<u>TEMPORARILY ATTACHED</u>	
	Pilots -----	6
22 December, 1943.	Ground Officers -	1
	Enlisted -----	2
23 December, 1943.	Routine	
	<u>NAVAL PERSONNEL</u>	
24 December, 1943.	Enlisted -----	4
25 December, 1943.	<u>PLANES</u>	
	SNJ-3 -----	1
26 December, 1943.	SNJ-4 -----	3
	F4F-7 -----	3
27 December, 1943.	F4U-1 -----	11
	FG-1 -----	10
28 December, 1943.	TOTAL -----	28

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2 December, 1943. Routine

3 December, 1943. Routine

4 December, 1943. Twelve (12) planes in combat patrol over San Clemente

5 December, 1943. Routine

6 December, 1943. Routine

7 December, 1943. Routine

8 December, 1943. Eight (8) planes strafed, dive bombed and observed, having radio contact with ground forces.

9 December, 1943. Routine

10 December, 1943. Sixteen (16) planes on air combat patrol. Protected landing force at Camp Pendleton. Made contact with "enemy" aircraft.

11 December, 1943. Routine

12 December, 1943. Routine

13 December, 1943. Routine

14 December, 1943. Routine

15 December, 1943. Routine

16 December, 1943. Routine

W. C. Holloway
 Major, USMC
 Commanding

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17 December, 1943. Routine
 18 December, 1943. Routine
 19 December, 1943. Routine
 20 December, 1943. Routine
 21 December, 1943. Routine
 22 December, 1943. Routine
 23 December, 1943. Routine
 24 December, 1943. Routine
 25 December, 1943. Routine
 26 December, 1943. Routine
 27 December, 1943. Routine
 28 December, 1943. Routine
 29 December, 1943. Routine
 30 December, 1943. Routine
 31 December, 1943. Routine

STRENGTH ON 31 December, 1943.

Pilots ----- 42
 Ground Officers - 8
 Enlisted ----- 296

TEMPORARILY ATTACHED

Pilots ----- 6
 Ground Officers - 1
 Enlisted ----- 2

NAVAL PERSONNEL

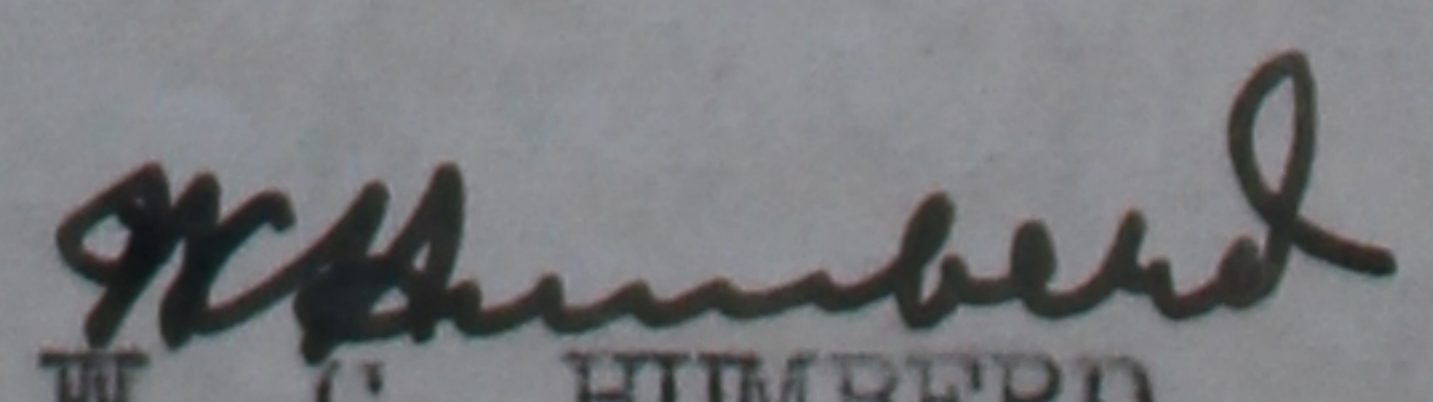
Officer (MD)(FS)- 1
 Enlisted ----- 4

PLANES

SNJ-3 ----- 1
 SNJ-4 ----- 3
 F4F-7 ----- 4
 F4U-1 ----- 12
 FG-1 ----- 10
 TOTAL ----- 30

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 W. C. HUMBERD
 Major, USMC,
 Commanding

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