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Authority NWMDM-0994017

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WAR DIARY

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

January 1, 1944 - January 31, 1944

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

#34769

28 Feb. 1944

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

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.

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1 January, 1944. STRENGTH ON 1 January, 1944.

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  
S<sup>N</sup>J-4 ----- 3  
F4F-7 ----- 4  
F4U-1 ----- 12  
FG-1 ----- 10  
TOTAL 30

- 2 January, 1944. Routine
- 3 January, 1944. Routine
- 4 January, 1944. Routine
- 5 January, 1944. Routine
- 6 January, 1944. Routine
- 7 January, 1944. Routine
- 8 January, 1944. Routine
- 9 January, 1944. Routine
- 10 January, 1944. Routine
- 11 January, 1944. Routine
- 12 January, 1944. Routine
- 13 January, 1944. Routine
- 14 January, 1944. Routine
- 15 January, 1944. Routine

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16 January, 1944. Routine  
 17 January, 1944. Routine  
 18 January, 1944. Routine  
 19 January, 1944. Routine  
 20 January, 1944. Routine  
 21 January, 1944. Routine  
 22 January, 1944. Routine  
 23 January, 1944. Routine  
 24 January, 1944. Routine  
 25 January, 1944. Twelve (12) planes escorted dive bombers to San Clemente. Night Flying.  
 26 January, 1944. Routine  
 27 January, 1944. Night Flying  
 28 January, 1944. Night Flying  
 29 January, 1944. Routine  
 30 January, 1944. Routine  
 31 January, 1944. Night Flying  
 Strength on 31 January, 1944.

Pilots ----- 41  
 Ground Officers - 9  
 Enlisted ----- 291

TEMPORARILY ATTACHED  
 Ground Officer -- 1  
 Enlisted ----- 12

NAVAL PERSONNEL  
 Officer (MC)(FS)- 1  
 Enlisted ----- 4

PLANES  
 SNJ-3 ----- 1  
 SNJ-4 ----- 2  
 F4F-7 ----- 4  
 F4U-1 ----- 14  
 FG-1 ----- 9  
 TOTAL 30

for Glen "F" Keithley  
 W. C. HUMBERD  
 Major, USMC  
 Commanding