

RESTRICTED

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MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON TWO FIFTY ONE
MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP THIRTEEN
AIRCRAFT, FLEET MARINE FORCE, PACIFIC
U.S. MARINE CORPS AIR STATION
EL TORO (SANTA ANA) CALIFORNIA

T-Y-P-E "B" R-E-P-O-R-T (H-I-S-T-O-R-I-C-A-L D-I-A-R-Y)

PERIOD 1 APRIL 1951 THROUGH 30 APRIL 1951

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I-N-T-R-O-D-U-C-T-O-R-Y S-U-M-M-A-R-Y

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At the beginning of this period, VMF-251 was located at Naval Air Station, Grosse Ile, Michigan under the command of Captain Earl C. MILES, 011692/7302. This squadron was a unit of Marine Air Detachment, Naval Air Station, Grosse Ile, Michigan, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Philip B. MAY, 06680/7302. On 23 April 1951, the unit was transferred from Naval Air Station, Grosse Ile to Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, California, and assigned to Marine Aircraft Group 13, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel John F. DOBBIN, 05334/7302, USMC.

During the period of this report, VMF-251 performed the required functions under Marine Air Detachment, Naval Air Station, Grosse Ile, Michigan, in organizing and training the squadron to accomplish assigned missions. Upon transfer to Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, California, the same policy was in effect.

During the period of this report, routine administrative and functional assignments were made. On the job training of personnel was conducted. Privates were put through an indoctrination course. Squadron regulations and orders were prepared and promulgated setting forth the policies of the Commanding Officer in compliance with existing directives from higher authorities.

In April, seven (7) additional AD-1 type aircraft were assigned, bringing the total assigned aircraft to eight (8) for this squadron.

Colonel D.L. O'Neill, of Commander, Marine Air Reserve Training Staff, inspected this squadron at Naval Air Station, Grosse Ile, Michigan. He was accompanied by the "G" section representatives.

During the period covered by this report, a movement was effected to Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, California. This movement was made in two parts, the first being the men authorized to travel by personal carrier, and the second being the men who were transported via airlift supplied by six (6) R5C transport aircraft based at Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, North Carolina.

On 26 April, Marine Fighter Squadron 251, was redesignated Marine Attack Squadron 251 in accordance with Aircraft, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific General Order Number 58 dated 26 April 1951, effective 20 April 1951.

A total of 163 flights were flown by Naval Aviators of this squadron for a total of 548.7 hours. Of the foregoing total, 75.7 hours was instrument time.

At the end of this period, personnel strength of this squadron was 50 Officers and 190 Enlisted.

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C-H-R-O-N-O-L-O-G-I-C-A-L N-A-R-R-A-T-I-V-E

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2 April 1951

A one hundred and twenty (120) hour acceptance check was completed on one (1) AD-1 type aircraft, Bureau Number 09159.

5 April 1951

Inspection by Colonel D. L. O'Neill, of Commander, Marine Air Reserve Training Staff.

9 April 1951

One hundred and twenty (120) hour acceptance checks were completed on two (2) AD-1 type aircraft, Bureau Numbers 09208 and 09184.

10 April 1951

General Classification Tests were administered by Marine Air Reserve Training Command team. Tests continued through 12 April 1951.

11 April 1951

A one hundred and twenty (120) hour acceptance check was completed on one (1) AD-1 type aircraft, Bureau Number 09153.

13 April 1951

A one hundred and twenty (120) hour acceptance check was completed on one (1) AD-1 type aircraft, Bureau Number 09227.

15 April 1951

Advance echelon, consisting of 33 Officers and 48 Enlisted men departed from Naval Air Station, Grosse Ile, Michigan for Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, California.

17 April 1951

A one hundred and twenty (120) hour acceptance check was completed on one (1) AD-1 type aircraft, Bureau Number 09245.

19 April 1951

A one hundred and twenty (120) hour acceptance check was completed on one (1) AD-1 type aircraft, Bureau Number 09166.

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20 April 1951

Eight (8) Naval Aviators departed with aircraft for Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, California.

21 April 1951

Six (6) R5C aircraft arrived from Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, North Carolina, for airlift of squadron personnel to Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, California.

23 April 1951

Rear echelon consisting of 5 Officers and 122 Enlisted men departed Naval Air Station, Grosse Ile, Michigan at 0430 and arrived at Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, California at 1630.

25 April 1951

Lieutenant Colonel Gregory J. WEISSENBERGER, 05589/7303, assumed command of this squadron vice Captain Earl C. MILES 011692/7302 relieved per Marine Aircraft Group 13 Special Order 115-51 dated 25 April 1951.

26 April 1951

Aircraft, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific general order number 58 dated 26 April 1951, was received redesignating VMF-251 as VMA-251 effective 20 April 1951.

28 April 1951

A personnel inspection was held by the squadron commander. Following the troop inspection, the squadron participated in a Battalion Parade and were reviewed by the Group Commander. All personnel had close order drill at the completion of the parade.

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