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TYPE "B" REPORT

COMMAND DIARY



36257

FOR PERIOD 1-31 October 1953
HISTORICAL OFFICER 2nd Lieutenant
F. E. MARTIN

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UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 251, MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 12
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Fleet Marine Force
c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, California

TYPE "B" REPORT

COMMAND DIARY

1-31 OCTOBER 1953

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TAB A
TABLE OF CONTENTS
1 PAGE

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

TABLE OF CONTENTS FOR OCTOBER 1953 DIARY

TABLE OF CONTENTS	TAB A	1 PAGE
TASK ORGANIZATION	TAB B	1 PAGE
MONTHLY SUMMARY	TAB C	1 PAGE
CHRONOLOGICAL NARRATIVE	TAB D	1-16 PAGES
MISSION LOG SHEETS	TAB E	1-16 PAGES
STATISTICAL SUPPLEMENT AND RECAPITULATION OF FLIGHTS	TAB F	1-2 PAGES
DEPARTMENTAL SUMMARIES	TAB G	1-5 PAGES
STATION LIST	TAB H	1-2 PAGES
ASSUMPTION OF COMMAND	APPENDIX I	1 PAGE
GLOSSARY	APPENDIX II	1 PAGE

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

TASK ORGANIZATION

UNIT

Marine Attack Squadron 251

COMMANDING OFFICER

1-15 October 1953
LtCol Harold A. HARWOOD
08585/7331, USMC

16-31 October 1953
LtCol Rufus D. SAMS, Jr.
07287/7331, USMC

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

K-6 Air Base, Pyongtaek, Korea

NEXT HIGHER ECHELON

Marine Aircraft Group 12
1st Marine Aircraft Wing

B-1

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Authority NND 70959

SUMMARY OF MONTHLY OPERATIONS

During the month of October 1953, Marine Attack Squadron 251, was located at K-6 Air Base, Pyongtaek, Korea. The Commanding Officer from 1 October through 15 October 1953 was Lieutenant Colonel Harold A. HARWOOD 08585/7331 U. S. Marine Corps. On 16 October 1953, Colonel HARWOOD was relieved by Lieutenant Colonel Rufus D. SAMS, Jr., 07287/7331 U. S. Marine Corps. Colonel HARWOOD has been assigned to S-4, Marine Aircraft Group 12. Colonel SAMS joined this squadron from Marine Airbase Squadron 12 where he was assigned as Commanding Officer. Colonel SAMS is serving his second tour of duty in Korea and has a total of 42 Korean Combat Missions. This Squadron is a unit of Marine Aircraft Group 12.

On 24 October 1953 Marine Attack Squadron 251 commenced Night Close Air Support Training, utilizing searchlights to illuminate and also pinpoint targets. The searchlights have been set up in the SUWON Bombing Range and are operated by a unit of the 1st Marine Division.

A Yellow alert was sounded at 1119 on 31 October 1953. All aircraft assigned to this squadron were dispersed in accordance with Marine Aircraft Group Secret General Order Number 75 of 17 August 1953. The alert was secured at 1145 and a critique was held at the Group Briefing Room in order that the discrepancies noted in the aircraft dispersal could be corrected.

On 31 October 1953, personnel assigned to Marine Attack Squadron 251 and the authorized T/O were as follows:

Assigned:		T/O
Naval Aviators	35	53
Aviation Ground Officers	4	7
Enlisted	182*	207

During the month of October 1953, Marine Attack Squadron 251 flew a total of 494 Operational Sorties for a total of 781.7 Operational Hours. 80 Night Patrol sorties were flown for a total of 208.1 Night Patrol Hours. 91 Ground Controlled Approaches were made by pilots of this squadron during the month of October 1953.

The average aircraft availability for the month of October 1953 was 15. This squadron has 14 AD-3, four (4) AD-4, and six (6) AD-4B aircraft, for a total of 24 AD type aircraft assigned.

* (Includes three (3) NAP's)

SECRET
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CHRONOLOGICAL NARRATIVE FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 1953

1 OCTOBER 1953

Today the squadron flew two (2) AIA sorties, four (4) familiarization sorties, four (4) GCA sorties, three (3) night patrol sorties, three (3) test hops and two (2) cross-country flights for a total of 27.8 operational hours.

0135/0435
2dLt SUMNER

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #04

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the flight as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN and patrolled the area from INCHON to 30 miles east of SEOUL. No contacts or intercepts were made.

2130/0030
MSGT DELACQUA

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the flight as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. He patrolled the area from INCHON to 50 miles east of SEOUL. No contacts or intercepts were made.

2345/0235
2dLt SUMNER

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #03

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the flight as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. He patrolled from INCHON to 50 miles east of SEOUL. No contacts or intercepts were made.

2 OCTOBER 1953

Captain Ralph M. EUWEMA made a forced landing at K-5 when his AD type aircraft developed an oil leak. The right front tire blew out on landing and he had to remain overnight at K-5. A mechanic and the necessary equipment were flown to K-5 on 3 October and Captain EUWEMA flew his aircraft back to K-6 at 1030.

This squadron flew four (4) rocket training sorties, five (5) simulated interdiction sorties, four (4) MPQ sorties, two (2) ADF training flights, three (3) night patrol sorties and five (5) cross-country flights for a total of 40.1 operational hours this date.

0130/0430
MSGT SIMPSON

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #04

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the flight as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. He patrolled the area from INCHON to 50 miles east of SEOUL. No contacts or intercepts were made.

2145/0015
MSGT BEARDEN

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the flight as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. He patrolled the area from INCHON to a point 50 miles east of SEOUL. No contacts or intercepts were made.

D-1

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 70959

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

2345/0225
Capt MARK

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #03

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the mission as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. He patrolled the SEOUL, INCHON, and SUWON area. No contacts or intercepts were made.

3 OCTOBER 1953

Today the squadron flew four (4) MPQ sorties, one (1) night familiarization sortie, four (4) instrument training sorties, three (3) night patrol sorties and two (2) cross-country flights for a total of 22.1 operational hours.

0145/0430
MSGT DELACQUA

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #04

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the flight as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. He patrolled the INCHON, SEOUL and SUWON area. No contacts or intercepts were made.

2145/0015
MSGT SIMPSON

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the flight as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. He patrolled the area from SEOUL to K-55 and INCHON to K-46. No contacts or intercepts were made.

2340/0230
2dLt SUMNER

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #03

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the flight as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. He patrolled the area from INCHON to 40 miles east of SEOUL. No contacts or intercepts were made.

4 OCTOBER 1953

Today the squadron flew three (3) MPQ sorties, four (4) radar calibration hops, four (4) instrument training sorties, two (2) GCA sorties, and three (3) night patrol sorties for a total of 24.9 operational hours.

0145/0430
MSGT DELACQUA

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #04

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the flight as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. He patrolled the area 30 miles west of INCHON to 30 miles east of SEOUL. No contacts or intercepts were made. K-6 was closed due to ground fog, so the pilot landed at K-55 at 0430 and returned to K-6 at 1045.

2135/0010
MSGT BEARDEN

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the flight as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. He patrolled the area from 10 miles west of INCHON HARBOR to K-47. There were no contacts

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

or intercepts made.

2330/0100
2dLt MARTIN

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #03

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the mission as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. He patrolled the area from INCHON to 30 miles east of SEOUL. There were no contacts or intercepts made.

5 OCTOBER 1953

Today the squadron flew two (2) strafing sorties, eight (8) simulated interdiction sorties, four (4) MPQ flights, two (2) night patrol sorties and three (3) cross-country flights for a total of 25.8 operational hours.

Night patrol mission #04 was conducted as a standby alert due to inclement weather.

2145/0015
Maj BARTON

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the flight as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. He patrolled from K-16 to a point 20 miles east. No contacts or intercepts were made.

2345/0215
Maj STOKES

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #03

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the mission as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. He patrolled from 10 miles west of INCHON to 20 miles east of SEOUL. No contacts or intercepts were made.

6 OCTOBER 1953

Today the squadron flew three (3) night patrol sorties and one (1) cross-country flight for a total of 8.6 operational hours. Training flights will be kept to a minimum each Tuesday in order that ground training may be conducted within the squadron.

0140/0410
2dLt MARTIN

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #04

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the mission as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. He patrolled the area from INCHON to 20 miles east of SEOUL. No contacts or intercepts were made.

2145/0025
MSgt DELACQUA

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the flight as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. He patrolled the area from INCHON to 30 miles east of K-16. No contacts or intercepts were made.

2350/0215
MSgt BEARDEN

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #03

D-3

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 70959

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the mission as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. He patrolled the area from INCHON to 15 miles east of SEOUL. No contacts or intercepts were made.

7 OCTOBER 1953

Today the squadron flew four (4) simulated close air support sorties, two (2) MPQ sorties, one (1) familiarization flight, two (2) radar calibration hops, four (4) GCA sorties, two (2) night patrol sorties, two (2) test hops and three (3) cross-country flights for a total of 28.0 operational hours.

0140/0430
Capt MARK

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #04

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the flight as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. The pilot observed AAA fire on the HAEJU PENINSULA. He patrolled the area from 15 miles west of INCHON to 40 miles east of SEOUL. There were no contacts or intercepts.

2145/2350
Capt MARK

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the mission as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. No contacts or intercepts were made. He patrolled from 10 miles west of INCHON to 50 miles east of SEOUL.

Night patrol mission #03 was conducted as a standby alert due to inclement weather.

8 OCTOBER 1953

Today the squadron flew four (4) simulated close air support sorties, two (2) GCI sorties, two (2) instrument training sorties, two (2) night patrol sorties and two (2) cross-country flights for a total of 21.2 operational hours.

Night patrol mission #04 was conducted as a standby alert due to inclement weather.

2145/0015
Maj BARTON

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the flight as briefed, contacting the controllers ELGIN and ROMEO. He patrolled from INCHON to 10 miles east of SEOUL. No contacts or intercepts were made.

2335/0240
MSgt SIMPSON

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #03

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the mission as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. He patrolled from INCHON to a point 50 miles east. No contacts or intercepts were made.

D-4

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

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Authority NND 70959

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

9 OCTOBER 1953

Marine Attack Squadron 251 flew 12 simulated interdiction sorties, one (1) familiarization flight, one (1) night patrol sortie, one (1) abort and one (1) cross-country flight for a total of 19.2 operational hours.

Missions #02 and #03 were conducted as standby alerts due to inclement weather.

0135/0200
MSgt DELACQUA

NIGHT PATROL
(Air Abort)

Mission #04

The pilot was prebriefed to conduct a night patrol, but was forced to abort due to mechanical difficulties.

0225/0425
MSgt DELACQUA

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #04

The pilot, forced to abort in his previously assigned aircraft, returned in another aircraft and continued his patrol. ELGIN controlled and no contacts or intercepts were made. He patrolled from INCHON to a point 40 miles east.

10 OCTOBER 1953

The squadron flew three (3) night patrol sorties and three (3) cross-country flights for a total of 12.0 operational hours this date.

0145/0415
MSgt SIMPSON

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #04

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the flight as briefed, contacting the controller ROMEO. Radar contact was made at 0342 with an aircraft at 6500' on a heading of 230°. A visual observation was made and the aircraft was determined to be an unknown type jet. Contact was lost at 0345 and the pilot returned to K-6 at 0415.

2140/0035
2dLt SUMNER

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the flight as briefed, contacting the controller ROMEO. He patrolled the SEOUL, K-47 and K-18 area. No contacts or intercepts were made.

2345/0230
MSGT DELACQUA

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #03

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the flight as briefed, contacting the controller ROMEO. He patrolled from K-16 to 10 miles east of K-46. No contacts or intercepts were made.

11 OCTOBER 1953

The squadron flew three (3) GCA sorties, two (2) night patrol missions, two (2) test hops, one (1) abort and one (1) cross-country flight for a total of ~~10.0~~ 9.9 operational hours this date.

0140/0230
MSgt SIMPSON

NIGHT PATROL
(Air Abort)

Mission #04

D-5

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 70959

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

This flight departed K-6 prebriefed as a night patrol, but returned early due to an electrical short.

0300/0435
MSGT SIMPSON

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #04

After one (1) abort as mentioned above, the pilot returned and continued his patrol as briefed. ROMEO controlled the flight and no contacts or intercepts were made. The pilot patrolled the area from SEOUL to K-47.

2145/2235
MSGT DELACQUA

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

This flight departed K-6 prebriefed as a night patrol mission. ROMEO controlled the mission and no contacts or intercepts were made. The pilot patrolled the K-6, K-13 and K-16 area. He returned to the base early due to thunderstorm activity in the patrol area.

Mission #03 was conducted as a standby alert due to inclement weather conditions.

12 OCTOBER 1953

Marine Attack Squadron 251 flew 12 simulated interdiction sorties, one (1) MPQ flight, three (3) night patrol sorties, and one (1) test hop for a total of 24.0 operational hours this date.

0255/0435
Capt MARK

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #04

This flight was a prebriefed night patrol under ELGIN's control. The pilot patrolled the area from INCHON to 20 miles east of SEOUL. No contacts or intercepts were made.

2135/0030
Capt STEINWAY

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

This flight departed K-6 as a prebriefed night patrol and contacted the controller ELGIN. The pilot patrolled the INCHON - SEOUL area and made three (3) practice intercepts on friendly aircraft.

2345/0215
MSGT SIMPSON

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #03

The pilot was prebriefed to conduct a night patrol mission. ROMEO controlled the patrol of the SEOUL, K-47, K-46 and K-55 area. There were no contacts or intercepts.

13 OCTOBER 1953

Marine Attack Squadron 251 assumed the task of briefing squadron pilots prior to each night patrol mission. The briefing, previously performed by Marine Aircraft Group 12 personnel, will be conducted by the squadron operations duty officer.

Winter clothing was issued to personnel of this command by the squadron materiel section.

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

The squadron flew 28 bombing flights, during which 56 napalm tanks were dropped, two (2) MPQ flights, two (2) cross-country flights, three (3) night patrol sorties and one (1) test hop for a total of 57.6 operational hours this date.

0135/0435
Capt MARK

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #04

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. ELGIN, ROMEO and TOPKICK controlled the patrol of the SEOUL, K-47, K-46 and K-18 area. The pilot made an unidentified contact over K-47 at 0350.

2145/0015
2dLt SUMNER

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. ROMEO controlled a patrol of the area from INCHON to SEOUL. No contacts or intercepts were made.

2345/0230
Capt MARK

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #03

The pilot was prebriefed to contact ELGIN for a night patrol. The patrol of the area from INCHON to 20 miles east of K-47 was turned over to ROMEO control at 0010. No contacts or intercepts were made.

14 OCTOBER 1953

All pilots assigned to this squadron were fitted for the Mark III (Mod) exposure suit. Boots are being vulcanized onto the exposure suits by the squadron parachute section.

The squadron flew eight (8) simulated close air support sorties, two (2) MPQ flights, two (2) GCI flights, one (1) familiarization flight, two (2) GCA sorties, two (2) night patrol sorties and one (1) test hop for a total of 26.6 operational hours this date.

0155/0415
2dLt MARTIN

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #04

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. ELGIN controlled and no contacts or intercepts were made. The pilot patrolled the area from SEOUL to K-46.

2145/0110
Capt MARK

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

This flight departed K-6 prebriefed to conduct a night patrol mission, ELGIN controlled the patrol from INCHON to 40 miles east of SEOUL. No contacts or intercepts were made.

15 OCTOBER 1953

Lieutenant Colonel Harold A. HARWOOD, 08585/7331, U. S. Marine Corps was relieved of command of Marine Attack Squadron 251 by Lieutenant Colonel Rufus D. SAMS, Jr., 07287/7331, U. S. Marine Corps. this date.

The squadron flew eight (8) simulated interdiction sorties, two (2) familiarization sorties, four (4) GCA flights, four (4) night patrol sorties and one (1) cross-country flight for a total of 31.6 operational hours.

0045/0200
Maj STOKES

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #03

D-7

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

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Authority NND 70959

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SECURITY INFORMATION

This flight departed K-6 prebriefed to conduct a night patrol under ELGIN's control. The pilot patrolled the area from K-6 to K-13 to 20 miles west of K-13 to 20 miles east of K-13. No contacts or intercepts were made.

0145/0415
Capt STEINWAY

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #04

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The patrol of the area from 20 miles south of INCHON to 30 miles east of SEOUL was controlled by ELGIN. No contacts or intercepts were made.

2145/0030
MSGT SIMPSON

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

This flight departed K-6 prebriefed as a night patrol mission. ROMEO controlled the patrol from SEOUL to INCHON. No contacts or intercepts were made.

2340/0230
MSgt DELACQUA

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #03

The pilot was prebriefed to contact ELGIN for a night patrol mission. The flight patrolled from SEOUL to K-46. No contacts or intercepts were made.

16 OCTOBER 1953

Captain Robert L. WILDEY, 048848/7331, U. S. Marine Corps, joined this squadron from Service Squadron, Aircraft, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific.

Marine Attack Squadron 251 flew eight (8) simulated interdiction sorties one (1) familiarization flight, five (5) GCA sorties, two (2) night patrol sorties, four (4) test hops and one (1) cross-country flight for a total of 26.7 operational hours this date.

0145/0415
MSgt BEARDEN

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #04

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol to be controlled by ELGIN. The area patrolled was from INCHON to a point 40 miles east of SEOUL. No contacts or intercepts were made.

2145/0040
1stLt KUCHARSKI

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

This flight departed K-6 prebriefed as a night patrol mission. ELGIN controlled a patrol of the INCHON - SEOUL area. There were no contacts or intercepts.

17 OCTOBER 1953

Liberty was cancelled for personnel of this command from 2100, 17 October until 0800, 20 October due to the possibility of Communist demonstrations in the surrounding villages.

The squadron flew four (4) simulated interdiction sorties, four (4) night patrol sorties, two (2) test hops and four (4) cross-country flights for a total of 18.1 operational hours.

0045/0215
1stLt BOULDIN

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #03

D-8

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 70959

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

The pilot was prebriefed to contact ELGIN for a night patrol. He contacted the controller as briefed and patrolled the area from 20 miles west to 40 miles east of SEOUL. No contacts or intercepts were made.

0135/0445
Capt MARK

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #04

The pilot was prebriefed to conduct a night patrol under ELGIN's control. He patrolled the area from SEOUL to K-47 and made no contacts or intercepts.

2145/0010
Capt AARON

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol. The pilot was forced to abort at 2200 due to mechanical difficulties, but returned in another aircraft and resumed the patrol. ROMEO controlled a patrol of the area from K-16 to 30 miles west of K-46 to K-47 to POINT ABLE. No contacts or intercepts were made.

18 OCTOBER 1953

A 1000 pound GP bomb dropped from the right pylon of an AD type aircraft assigned to this squadron. The missile did not explode and no damage occurred. The aircraft was being run up on the flight line when the accident occurred.

The squadron flew four (4) night patrol sorties and eight (8) cross-country flights for a total of 16.3 operational hours this date.

0010/0210
MSGT SIMPSON

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #03

The pilot was prebriefed to conduct a night patrol. ELGIN controlled the mission and no contacts or intercepts were made. The INCHON - SEOUL area was patrolled by this flight.

0145/0420
1stLt BOULDIN

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #04

This flight departed K-6 as a prebriefed night patrol. ELGIN controlled a patrol of the area from INCHON to 30 miles east of SEOUL. No contacts or intercepts were made.

2145/0015
Maj BARTON

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

The pilot was prebriefed to conduct a night patrol under ELGIN's control. He patrolled from INCHON to 20 miles east of SEOUL and no contacts or intercepts were made.

2345/0225
Maj STOKES

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #03

This flight departed K-6 as a prebriefed night patrol mission. ELGIN controlled a patrol from INCHON to 35 miles east of SEOUL and no contacts or intercepts were made.

19 OCTOBER 1953

Master Sergeant SIMPSON, USMC, made an emergency landing at K-52 due to a leak in the hydraulics system of his AD type aircraft. Sergeant SIMPSON was

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

forced to remain overnight at K-52.

All pilots of this command attended a lecture on regulations concerning the buffer zone in Korea.

Lieutenant Colonel Frank PORTER, USMC made a forced landing at K-8 when the propeller control rod sheared off just forward of the fire wall in his AD type aircraft.

Nine (9) bombing flights, seven (7) rocket flights, one (1) MPQ flight, three (3) night patrol sorties, one (1) ferry hop, three (3) test hops, two (2) aborts and four (4) cross-country flights were flown for a total of 43.1 operational hours this date.

0130/0430 NIGHT PATROL Mission #04
MSGT DELACQUA

The pilot departed K-6 prebriefed to conduct a night patrol. ELGIN controlled and no contacts or intercepts were made. The pilot patrolled from INCHON to 30 miles east of SEOUL.

2130/0130 NIGHT PATROL Mission #02
MSGT DELACQUA

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the flight as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. He patrolled from INCHON to 30 miles east of SEOUL and no contacts or intercepts were made.

2345/0050 NIGHT PATROL Mission #03
MSGT BEARDEN

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol under ELGIN control. The pilot returned to K-6 at 0050 due to a radar failure.

20 OCTOBER 1953

Lieutenant Colonel Frank R. PORTER, Jr., 07082/7331, USMC joined Marine Attack Squadron 251 this date and has been assigned the duties of Executive Officer vice Major James W. MERRITT, 011242/7331, USMCR. Major MERRITT has been reassigned as Operations Officer vice Major William A. LAMONT, 018619/7331, USMC. Major LAMONT has been transferred to Headquarters Squadron, Marine Aircraft Group 12 where he was assigned as Assistant Operations Officer. Lieutenant Colonel Harold A. HARWOOD, 08585/7331, USMC, former Commanding Officer of this squadron, was transferred to Headquarters Squadron, Marine Aircraft Group 12 to assume the duties of Logistics Officer.

Marine Attack Squadron 251 flew four (4) night patrol sorties, two (2) test hops and one (1) cross-country flight for a total of 11.2 operational hours this date.

0105/0205 NIGHT PATROL Mission #03
MSGT BEARDEN

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the mission as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. He patrolled from INCHON to 30 miles east of SEOUL and no contacts or intercepts were made.

0135/0425 NIGHT PATROL Mission #04
Capt MARK

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. ELGIN controlled a patrol from INCHON to K-47 with no contacts or intercepts.

2140/0015
2dLt SUMNER

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission to be controlled by ELGIN. The pilot patrolled from INCHON to 30 miles east of SEOUL. No contacts or intercepts were made.

2345/0235
2dLt MARTIN

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #03

The flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. ELGIN controlled the flight and no contacts or intercepts were made. The pilot patrolled from INCHON to 25 miles east of SEOUL.

21 OCTOBER 1953

Today a practice four (4) plane JOC standby was alerted. Thirteen (13) minutes were required for the alert to become airborne from the time the pilots were alerted in the ready room.

The squadron flew 12 simulated close air support sorties, one (1) MPQ sortie, two (2) familiarization sorties, four (4) GCA flights, three (3) night patrol sorties, three (3) test hops and one (1) cross-country flight for a total of 45.0 operational hours this date.

0145/0435
Maj STOKES

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #04

The pilot was prebriefed to contact ELGIN for a night patrol mission. He conducted the mission as briefed, patrolling from 10 miles west of INCHON to a point 20 miles east of SEOUL. The flight was extended 20 minutes due to two (2) BOGIES reported 50 miles west, south west of INCHON. No contact was made.

2145/0030
1stLt BOULDIN

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission to be controlled by ELGIN. The pilot patrolled from INCHON to 30 miles east of SEOUL. One (1) positive identification was made on an aircraft at 5000' over INCHON. The plane was a USAF B-26 type aircraft.

2345/0245
MSgt DELACQUA

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #03

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the mission as briefed, contacting the controllers ELGIN and ROMEO. He patrolled from INCHON to K-47 and no contacts or intercepts were made.

22 OCTOBER 1953

Captain Everett J. SMITH, 038191/7331, USMCR and Second Lieutenant John H. DUNN, 059941/7331, USMCR joined this squadron from Service Squadron, Aircraft, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific.

The squadron flew eight (8) bombing sorties, four (4) rocket flights, four (4) simulated interdiction sorties, three (3) night patrol sorties, two (2)

D-11

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

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Authority NND 70959

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

test hops and one (1) cross-country flight for a total of 35.1 operational hours this date.

0145/0435
2ndLt MARTIN

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #04

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol to be controlled by ELGIN. The pilot was diverted to ROMEO's control and patrolled from INCHON to a point 40 miles east and no contacts were made.

2140/0010
MSgt SIMPSON

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot contacted the controller ELGIN, and patrolled from INCHON to a point 20 miles east of SEOUL. No contacts or intercepts were made.

2325/0230
Capt MARK

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #03

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the mission as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. He patrolled from INCHON to K-47, making no contacts or intercepts.

23 OCTOBER 1953

The squadron flew four (4) simulated close air support sorties, three (3) navigation training sorties, four (4) GCA sorties, three (3) night patrol sorties, one (1) test hop, three (3) cross-country flights and four (4) aborts for a total of 24.2 operational hours.

0210/0420
Capt AARON

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #04

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot patrolled from SEOUL to a point 60 miles east and made no contacts or intercepts. The flight was controlled by ELGIN.

2145/0030
Maj STOKES

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

The pilot was prebriefed to conduct a night patrol mission under ROMEO's control. He patrolled from K-16 to K-18 and made no contacts or intercepts.

2355/0215
2ndLt SUMNER

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #03

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot patrolled from INCHON to 30 miles east of SEOUL. ROMEO reported a BOGIE in the area, but the pilot was unable to make contact due to thunderstorms.

24 OCTOBER 1953

The first night searchlight training hops were flown this date. Search lights have been set up in the SUWON bomb range area and will enable this squadron to continue night close air support training as requested in the Commanding Officer's secret letter serial 003 of 24 August 1953. (See Appendix I to VMA-251 Command Diary for August 1953.)

D-12

SECRET
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Authority NND 70959

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

Marine Attack Squadron 251 flew six (6) navigation training sorties, two (2) night searchlight training sorties, three (3) night patrol sorties and five (5) cross-country flights for a total of 26.1 operational hours this date.

0300/0545
MSGT BEARDEN

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #04

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission to be controlled by ELGIN. The pilot was vectored on an unidentified aircraft by ROMEO at 0500. 20 miles north of SEOUL, but was unable to make a visual or radar contact. The BOGIE was below 4500' and travelling at 90 miles per hour. The pilot was relieved by ROMEO at 0525 and returned to K-6.

2140/0040
1stLt BOULDIN

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

The pilot was prebriefed to conduct a night patrol mission. ELGIN controlled a patrol of the area from INCHON to a point 40 miles east. There were no contacts or intercepts.

2345/0230
MSGT DELACQUA

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #03

This flight departed K-6 prebriefed as a night patrol. ELGIN controlled and no contacts or intercepts were made. The area patrolled was from INCHON to a point 40 miles east.

25 OCTOBER 1953

Seven (7) Naval Aviators joined this squadron from Service Squadron, Aircraft, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific. (See Tab H.)

Major James R. BLUNT, 030505/7331, U. S. Marine Corps Reserve, the squadron Intelligence Officer and Public Information Officer departed for the United States today on emergency leave.

Today the squadron flew three (3) night patrol sorties and one (1) cross-country flight for a total of 9.8 operational hours.

0140/0430
Capt MARK

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #04

The pilot was prebriefed to conduct a night patrol mission. He conducted the mission as prebriefed, contacting the controller ELGIN and patrolled the area from SEOUL to a point 40 miles east. ELGIN reported an unidentified aircraft in the vicinity of K-13, but no contact was made.

2145/0030
MSGT BEARDEN

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

This flight departed K-6 prebriefed as a night patrol to be controlled by ELGIN. The pilot patrolled the area from INCHON to 30 miles east of SEOUL. No contacts or intercepts were made.

2340/0220
Capt STEINWAY

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #03

This flight departed K-6 prebriefed as a night patrol mission. ELGIN

D-13

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 70959

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

controlled the mission and no contacts or intercepts were made. The pilot patrolled the INCHON - SEOUL area.

26 OCTOBER 1953

The squadron flew 13 parade formation flights in preparation for an air show to be conducted at K-3 on 27 October 1953. Squadron pilots also flew three (3) night patrol sorties, three (3) test hops and two (2) cross-country flights for a total of 40.3 operational hours. There was one (1) abort.

0145/0420
Maj STOKES

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #04

The pilot departed K-6 prebriefed to contact ELGIN for a night patrol mission. The pilot patrolled from INCHON to 10 miles east of SEOUL. No contacts or intercepts were made.

2150/0050
2ndLt MARTIN

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the flight as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. He patrolled from INCHON to 30 miles east of SEOUL. No contacts or intercepts were made.

2340/0215
1stLt BOULDIN

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #03

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot patrolled the INCHON - SEOUL area under ELGIN control. No contacts or intercepts were made.

27 OCTOBER 1953

Today the squadron participated in a group practice parade. This parade and review is to be conducted in honor of Lieutenant General BRICE, USMC on 29 October 1953.

Officer ground training today consisted of a briefing on cold weather operation of the AD type aircraft by Major Kevin (n) COCHRANE, USMC, and a one (1) hour class of blinker practice. All new pilots assigned to this squadron since 1 October 1953 attended lectures conducted by Marine Aircraft Group 12.

The squadron flew one (1) night patrol sortie and five (5) test hops for a total of 5.6 operational hours on this date.

0150/0410
2ndLt SUMNER

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #04

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the flight as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. He patrolled from INCHON to 30 miles east of SEOUL. No contacts were made.

Missions #02 and #03 were cancelled due to inclement weather.

28 OCTOBER 1953

All pilots assigned to this squadron attended a briefing in the Marine Aircraft Group 12 briefing room on the forthcoming MARLEX III exercise.

All night patrol sorties were conducted as standby alerts this date due to inclement weather.

SECRET
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There were no operational sorties this date due to inclement weather.

29 OCTOBER 1953

Lieutenant General William BRICE, USMC, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps for Air, and Major General Vernon MEGEE, Commanding General, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, visited K-6 today and inspected the squadron area.

Marine Attack Squadron 251 was excused from the parade and review to be held today in honor of Lieutenant General BRICE's visit, due to the squadron's commitments in the MARLEX III operation. The squadron flew 22 sorties in support of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines, reinforced, landing on the island of TOKCHOK-TO. Squadron briefings on the MARLEX III exercise were delivered by Second Lieutenant F. E. MARTIN, Assistant Intelligence Officer. The landing conducted today was a rehearsal for the landing to be held on 30 October 1953.

Today the squadron flew 22 tactics sorties, three (3) familiarization sorties, two (2) night patrol sorties and two (2) test hops for a total of 47.7 operational hours.

2145/0030
Capt AARON

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the mission as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. During his patrol, Captain AARON intercepted an unidentified aircraft 20 to 25 miles east of K-16. The aircraft was identified as an SNJ type aircraft with United Nations markings. The serial number was unreadable. The aircraft landed at K-16 and was reported to ELGIN. The pilot patrolled from K-16 to a point 40 miles east.

2350/0315
2dLt MARTIN

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #03

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The flight was conducted as briefed and controlled by ELGIN. The pilot patrolled from INCHON to 20 miles east of SEOUL. No contacts or intercepts were made.

30 OCTOBER 1953

The squadron flew 16 sorties in support of the landing on the island of TOKCHOK-TO in accordance with Marine Aircraft Group 12 Operation Plan 7-53 of 27 October 1953.

General Lemuel C. SHEPHERD, Jr., Commandant of the Marine Corps, visited K-6 Airbase and inspected the Squadron area.

Captain Elree G. BARR, 029052/7331, USMCR, the Squadron Fire Marshall and Damage Control Officer departed this date on emergency leave.

The squadron flew 16 CAS sorties, six (6) familiarization sorties, one (1) night patrol sortie and three (3) test hops for a total of 47.3 operational hours. There were four (4) aborts.

0145/0430
Capt MARK

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #04

The flight was prebriefed as a night patrol. The pilot conducted the mission as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. He patrolled from INCHON to

D-15

SECRET
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SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

K-47 and made no contacts or intercepts.

Missions #02 and #03 were conducted as standby alerts.

31 OCTOBER 1953

A Yellow Alert was sounded today at 1119. All aircraft were dispersed in accordance with Marine Aircraft Group 12 General Order Number 75. The alert was secured at 1145.

The squadron flew three (3) night patrol sorties for a total of 5.8 operational hours.

Mission #04 was conducted as a standby alert due to inclement weather.

2145/2240
2dLt SUMNER

NIGHT PATROL
(Air Abort)

Mission #02

This flight departed K-6 prebriefed as a night patrol. ELGIN controlled but no patrol was conducted due to a radar failure.

2305/0050
2dLt SUMNER

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #02

The pilot returned to the base on the first hop and was assigned another aircraft. He resumed the patrol under ELGIN control. He patrolled from SEOUL to 30 miles east. No contacts or intercepts were made.

2345/0300
Maj STOKES

NIGHT PATROL

Mission #03

This flight was prebriefed as a night patrol mission. The pilot conducted the flight as briefed, contacting the controller ELGIN. He patrolled the INCHON SEOUL area and made no contacts or intercepts.

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STATISTICAL SUPPLEMENT

1. PERSONNEL:

(a) Personnel authorized:

Officers	AG 7	NA 53	Enlisted 207	NAP 0	Total 267
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(b) Personnel assigned:

Officers	AG 4	NA 35	Enlisted 182	NAP 3	Total 224
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(c) Personnel lost:

None

(d) Personnel returned to duty from MIA:

None

2. AIRCRAFT:

(a) Aircraft authorized:

Type	AD-3, AD-4, AD-4b	Number 24
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(b) Aircraft assigned:

Type	AD-3, AD-4, AD-4b	Number 24
------	-------------------	-----------

(c) Aircraft lost:

None

3. OPERATIONS:

Availability of pilots	-----25
Availability of aircraft	-----15
Total flight sorties	-----511
Total flight hours	-----782

F-1

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Authority NND 70959

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

RECAPITULATION OF FLIGHTS

<u>NON-COMBAT FLIGHTS</u>	<u>SORTIES</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
BOMBING	202	302.4
PATROL	80	208.1
CROSS COUNTRY	67	69.4
INSTRUMENT	44	61.3
FAMILIARIZATION	21	30.4
TEST	40	29.5
ROCKET	9	21.4
AIA and GCI	6	8.9
STRAFING	2	1.5
MISCELLANEOUS	<u>23</u>	<u>48.8</u>
TOTAL	<u>494</u>	<u>781.7</u>

4. ORDNANCE EXPENDED:

Bomb, GP 100 Lb. - - - - -	74
Napalm Tank. - - - - -	57
Rocket, 2.25" - - - - -	187
Flare, Acft. Para Mk5 - - - - -	3

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 251, MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 12
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Fleet Marine Force
c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, California

16 October 1953

SQUADRON ORDER)

: Assumption of Command

NUMBER.....52)

1. I have this date assumed command of Marine Attack Squadron 251, Marine Aircraft Group 12, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Fleet Marine Force. All orders and directives issued by my predecessor remain in effect until revoked or revised.

R. D. Sams, Jr.

R. D. SAMS, JR.
Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps

GLOSSARY

ADF - - - - - Automatic Direction Finding
AIA - - - - - Airborne Intercept Attack
CAP - - - - - Combat Air Patrol
CAS - - - - - Close Air Support
ELGIN - - - - - Code name for Fifth Air Force
Tactical Air Direction Center
Fam. - - - - - Familiarization
GCA - - - - - Ground Controlled Approach
GCI - - - - - Ground Controlled Intercept
MPQ - - - - - Mobile Radar equipment used to
direct bombing
P/P - - - - - Pre-planned
ROMEO - - - - - Code name for Fifth Air Force
Tactical Air Direction Center
RON - - - - - Remain Overnight
Sim. - - - - - Simulated
TACA - - - - - Tactical Air Controller Airborne
X-C - - - - - Cross Country

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