

MARINE FIGHTER/ATTACK SQUADRON 115
Marine Aircraft Group 13
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMF, Pacific
FPO San Francisco, 96602

03:FJB:tm
5750
03A13069
10 May 1969

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 13

Subj: Command Chronology

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.1A
(b) WgO 5750.1C
(c) GruO 5750.1D

Encl: (1) VMFA-115 Command Chronology for the period 1-30 April 1969

1. In accordance with references (a), (b) and (c), enclosure (1) is submitted for the period 1-30 April 1969.

R. R. Norton
R. R. NORTON

VMFA -115 S&C
CONTROL NO. 0912-69
DATE REC'D 10 MAY 1969
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0912-69

May 1969

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NORTON, R. R.	Commanding Officer	LtCol	1-30
PAIGE, E. C. JR.	Executive Officer	Maj	1-30
WELSH, K. H.	Operations Officer	Maj	1-30
MEISSNER, H. W.	S-1 Officer	Maj	1-27
JACOBUS, N. E.	S-1 Officer	Capt	28-30
CRIFE, D. L.	S-2 Officer	1stLt	1-30
CANNAVA, J. L.	Logistics Officer	Capt	1-30
SLONE, H. A.	Aviation Safety Officer	Maj	1-30
LEWIS, D. A.	Maintenance Officer	Maj	1-30
WALLESTAD, J. E.	Flight Surgeon	LtCdr	1-30
HOLZKAMP, F. W.	Sergeant Major	SgtMaj	1-30

2. Task Organization and Date

VMFA-115 Chu Lai AB, RVN LtCol Robert R. NORTON 1-30 April 1969

3. Average Strength

a. Marine Officers		47
(1) Naval Aviators	23	
(2) Naval Flight Officers	19	
(3) Aviation Ground Officers	5	
b. Naval Officers		1
c. Marine Enlisted		248
d. Naval Enlisted		<u>0</u>
e. Total		296

PART II

During April, VMFA-115 flew 636 Combat Sorties in support of operations throughout Southeast Asia.

Operations and units supported were: The First and Second ARVN Divisions, First and Third Marine Divisions, Americal Division, Task Force Alpha, The Seventh Fleet, Maine Craig, Kentucky Jumper, Oklahoma Hills, Purple Martin, Project Delta, Massachusetts Striker, Montana Marker, and the One Hundred and First Airborne.

In April, the Silver Eagles destroyed 98 structures while damaging 11.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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The Bomb Damage Assessment also included: 153 bunkers destroyed, 33 damaged; 19 hootches destroyed, 5 damaged; 10 fighting holes destroyed; 36 enemy killed by Marine Air; 840 meters of trail destroyed; 540 meters of trenchline destroyed; 9 trail cuts; 6 automatic weapons destroyed; 2 trucks and 1 sampan destroyed.

To acquire this Bomb Damage Assessment VMFA-115 expended 1447.7 tons of ordnance. Ordnance dropped by type was:

238	MK-81	(S/E)	250 lb bombs
3955	MK-82	(S/E)	500 lb bombs
10	MK-82	(con)	500 lb bombs
649	MK-77		500 lb fire bombs
189	MK-83		1000 lb bombs
15	CBU 24	C/B	
37	ROCKEYE II		
435	5" Rockets		ZUNI FFAR
34	LAU 60/A		2.75 Pod
11	LAU 69/A		2.75 Pod

On 11 April Lovebug 031, with Captain GEIGER and Lieutenant BOOTH in the lead and Lieutenant WHOLLEY and Lieutenant COUGHLIN in the number two position, was instructed to attack an enemy mortar position. The flight working in Quang Ngai Province with Helix 19, under an eighteen hundred foot overcast, dropped twelve 500 lb bombs and six 500 lb fire bombs on target, resulting in 10 structures destroyed with 2 damaged, 3 enemy killed, 2 secondary explosions, 7 secondary fires, 100 meters of trail and 100 meters of trenchline destroyed.

Later in April Lovebug 456, with Lieutenant BAIN and Lieutenant RYAN in the lead and Major PAIGE and Captain HAYNES in the wing position, was given a fortified village as a target. The flight dropped twelve 500 lb bombs and six 500 lb fire bombs on target, under control of Helix 34, resulting in 7 structures destroyed and 3 damaged, 6 secondary fires, 1 secondary explosion and 3 enemy killed.

PART III

1. Personnel

VMFA-115 welcomed aboard Captain JACOBUS, and Lieutenants GARSKE and SYPNIEWSKI from VMFA-122. Second Lieutenant JOHNSON will replace Lieutenant WASP as the Material Officer. Major MEISSNER left the squadron to join the First Marine Air Wing in Da Nang.

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Captain HUNTER and Lieutenant SPRAGUE left VMFA-115 to join VMFA-122. Captains MARSHALL and CHURCH returned to the Second Marine Air Wing.

2. Operations

During April, Lieutenants BAIN, MURPHY, BLAHNIK, COUGHLIN, and WHITING reached the coveted 200 mission mark.

3. Bonds

April saw 83% of the Silver Eagles take part in the Savings Bond Program.

4. Morale

In April, 25 officers and men from the squadron took advantage of R & R quotas to various spots in the Pacific area. Places visited included Hawaii, Australia, Japan, Thailand and Hong Kong.

5. Promotions

Nineteen Silver Eagles received promotions during the month of April. There are three newly promoted Staff Non-Commissioned Officers: Master Sergeant McKENNY, Gunnery Sergeant GIGURE and Staff Sergeant FORD. The new Sergeants are: FRIEDMAN, DWIGHT, HAINES, COON, FRAHM, HAMMEL, McCARTHY, MILLER, SELF, WHITE, RECHT and ARPS whose promotion was Meritorious. The three new Eagle Corporals whose promotions were Meritorious are: LITTLE, OLIVERIA and RENOCK. Also promoted Meritoriously were Lance Corporals DELLALLATO and SCHNEIDER.

6. Training

Captain HAYNES attended the Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape course at Clark A. F. B. in the Philippines.

7. Air Operations

Total Hours	771.0
Total Sorties	680
Combat Flight Hours	722.4
Combat Sorties	636
High Day Hours	47.2
High Day Sorties	31
Average Pilot Hours	28.7
Average Pilot Sorties	25
Average RIO Hours	40.4
Average RIO Sorties	35
Non-Squadron Aircrew Hours	57.9
Non-Squadron Aircrew Sorties	54

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