

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

3:LSL:gda
5750
SerNo. 03A31269
8 December 1969

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From: Commanding Officer
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 13 (Attn: S-3)

Subj: Command Chronology; submission of

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

Encl: ✓(1) VMFA-115 Command Chronology

1. In accordance with references (a), (b) and (c), enclosure (1) is submitted for the period 1-30 November 1969.
2. This letter is down-graded to unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

E. C. Paige, Jr.
E. C. PAIGE, Jr.

VMFA 115 S&O
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VMFA-115

COMD CHRON

Nov 1969

CONFIDENTIALPART I1. Commander and Staff

Edwin C. PAIGE, Jr.	Commanding Officer	LtCol.	1-30
Donald P. BOWEN	Executive Officer	Maj.	1-30
Lawrence A. WHIPPLE	Operations Officer	Maj.	1-30
Fredrick B. CRAIG	S-1 Officer	Maj.	1-14
Fredrick J. MEIER, Jr.	S-1 Officer	Capt.	14-30
Lester E. AMICK	S-2 Officer	1stLt.	1-30
John P. MCGILL	Logistics Officer	1stLt.	1-30
Charles S. TUTT	Avn. Safety Officer	Capt.	1-30
Conrad W. HEINZERLING	Maintenance Officer	Maj.	1-30
Thomas R. GAY	Flight Surgeon	Lt. USN	1-12
George H. HUGHES	Flight Surgeon	Lt. USN	12-30
William F. SEARS	Sgt. Major	SgtMaj.	1-30

2. Task Organization and Date

VMFA-115, Chu Lai Air Base, RVN, LtCol. Edwin C. PAIGE, Jr., Commanding
1-30 November 1969.

3. Average Strength

a. Marine Officers	41
(1) Naval Aviators	19
(2) Naval Flight Officers	19
(3) Aviation Ground Officers	3
b. Naval Officers	1
c. Marine Enlisted	216
d. Naval Enlisted	0
e. Total	<u>258</u>

PART II

During the month of November VMFA-115 flew 427 combat sorties and 505 combat hours in support of operations throughout I-Corps and the Gulf of Tonkin.

(C) Units supported during the period 1-30 November were the First and Third Marine Divisions, Americal Division, 101st Airborne, the 7th Fleet, ARVN, ROK Marines, and the 7th Air Force.

(C) Operations supported during the period 1-30 November include Victory Dragon, Republic Square, Iron Mountain, Pipestone Canyon, Geneva Park, Frederick Hill and AIS—an area of special interest.

(C) While supporting these operations and units the Silver Eagles of VMFA-115 achieved the following Battle Damage Assessment:

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Secondary Explosions	110
Secondary Fires	34
Structures Destroyed	42
Structures Damaged	18
Bunkers Destroyed	27
Bunkers Damaged	7
Hoetches Destroyed	16
Hoetches Damaged	3
Tree Line Destroyed	2310 Meters
Probable Killed by Marine Air	2
Fighting Positions Destroyed	3
Trench Line Destroyed	45 Meters
Road Cuts	10
River Fordes	1
LZ Preps	5
Military Vehicles Destroyed	2
Military Vehicles Damaged	3
Tunnel Systems Destroyed	50 Meters
POL	1
Ammo Storage Area	1
Truck Parks Damaged	3

The Manual 41 Steel Tiger hop on November 26th consisted of LtCol. E. C. PAIGE, Jr., 1st Lieutenants SPOON, PANCHISON and DIBBLE. The flight worked with NAIL 16 at XD 018/317 on a target consisting of five trucks stalled on Route 917. Eagle Lead made 3 strafing runs and one bomb run. LtCol. PAIGE's wingman, 1stLt. PANCHISON made a single bomb run. The initial BDA consisted of one truck destroyed and one truck damaged. The secondary BDA was reported as a POL/Ammo Dump destroyed and almost one hundred secondary explosions! Although no KBA's could be confirmed, the possibility that some were achieved was high. NAIL 16 captured the resulting fires and explosions on film and forwarded it along, with his congratulations, to the Squadron.

(C) This damage was accomplished by expending 771.95 tons of ordnance of the following types and amounts:

1150	MK 82	SE	500 Lb. Bombs
1132	MK 82	CON	500 Lb. Bombs
132	MK 83	CON	1000 Lb. Bombs
298	MK 77	NAPALM	500 Lb. Fire Bombs
24	CBU-24	C/B	Cluster Bomb Units
7	MK 20	ROCKEYE II	Cluster Bomb Units
17	CBU-49	C/B	Cluster Bomb Units

Enclosure (1)
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a. In November the Silver Eagles said goodbye to Major CRAIG and Lieutenant SATTLER, both returning to CONUS upon completion of their tours in WESTPAC, and Lieutenant WHITING transferred to Japan.

b. November brought about a change of Flight Surgeons with Lieutenant GAY returning to MAG-12, his replacement, Lieutenant HUGHES joining the Silver Eagles from 3rd MAW, El Toro.

c. November also saw Lieutenant TIBBS return from his FAC tour with the 7th Marines.

d. Promotions

O3 to O4	1
E-1 to E-2	1
E-2 to E-3	1
E-3 to E-4	56

2. Awards. 9 Air Medals, 1st award, with combat "V" device, and 7 Meritorious Masts were awarded at a Squadron formation on the Marine Corps Birthday.

3. Morale. 17 Officers and enlisted men enjoyed R&R during the month of November. The 194th Marine Corps Birthday Ball celebrations were held at the Enlisted, Staff NCO and Officers clubs. Notable guests included Brigadier General SPANJER.

4. (C) Air Operations

a. During November Major WHIPPLE flew his 300th mission, Lieutenant CAMPBELL flew his 200th mission and Warrant Officer BARDON and Lieutenants TELGE and BREWER all flew their 100th mission.

b. Statistics

Total Hours	557.4
Total Sorties	472
Combat Flight Hours	505
Combat Sorties	423
High Day Hours	34.9
High Day Sorties	36
Average Pilot Hours	29.3
Average Pilot Sorties	24
Average RIO Hours	29.3
Average RIO Sorties	24
Non-Squadron Hours	116.2
Non-Squadron Sorties	98

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5. (C) Air Defense. The Silver Eagles flew 28 Barrier Cap Missions over the Gulf of Tonkin in support of the 7th Fleet. Also 4 Bomber Escort Missions were flown, generally over Laos, in support of the 7th Air Force. No MIG contacts were made.

6. Training. Lieutenant's SILVER and CAMPBELL attended PJSS at Kadana. Lieutenants SANDBERG, WISE and McCORMICK attended JEST and Cubi Point. Also 85 enlisted personnel attended 3 hours of lectures in November.