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MARINE FIGHTER ATTACK SQUADRON 115  
Marine Aircraft Group 15  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac  
FPO San Francisco, 96602

5750  
03A25672  
12 September 1972

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY  
1 AUGUST TO 31 AUGUST 1972

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VMFA-115

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1. DESIGNATION COMMANDER  
 Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 115 LtCol. H. C. IVY  
1 August - 31 August 1972
2. LOCATION  
 1 August - 31 August 1972 Nam Phong Royal Thai Air  
Base, Thailand
3. STAFF OFFICERS
- |                         |                       |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Executive Officer       | Maj. G. DEJONG        | 1 August - 31 August  |
| S-1 Officer             | Capt. J. W. JACOBSON  | 1 August - 31 August  |
| S-2 Officer             | Capt. C. W. HOLMES    | 1 August - 31 August  |
| S-3 Officer             | Capt. V. M. RUSSILLO  | 1 August - 31 August  |
| S-4 Officer             | Capt. S. R. TOMLINSON | 1 August - 21 August  |
|                         | Capt. J. R. BALLARD   | 22 August - 31 August |
| Maintenance Officer     | Maj. J. D. HOWELL     | 1 August - 31 August  |
| Aviation Safety Officer | Capt. N. J. HART      | 1 August - 31 August  |
4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		<u>OTHER</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
36	206	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø

PART II NARRATIVE SUMMARY

The "Silver Eagles" continued their support of South Vietnamese forces during the month of August. The role of VMFA-115 was slightly altered in that we were flying true close air support missions in support of friendly forces. This was a change from the direct air support mission primarily flown in previous months. Another item differing from previous

CLASSIFIED BY: VMFA-115  
 SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION  
 SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652 1  
 DECLASSIFIED ON 31 DECEMBER 1978

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months, was that the majority of 115's sorties were flown without the aid of Tankers. A crew would fly one mission out of Nam Phong, land at Danang AB, RVN, rearm and refuel, then fly an additional mission prior to returning to MCAS "Rose Garden".

VMFA-115 began August with only 9 aircraft on hand, and ended the month with an average of 10.6 on hand. This was reflected in combat hours and sorties flown, but not in the number of tons of ordnance delivered. The "Silver Eagles" flew 425.8 combat hours and dropped 765.4 tons of ordnance.

The squadron began to reorient it's ground and air training program during August. Ground Training was focused on Air-to-Air tactics, and Air Combat Maneuvering training missions were flown. This along with aircrews being sent to Udorn AB to attend briefings with the 432nd TacRecon Wing missions, provided the squadron with the information required for augmentation of Marine BarCap missions flown in support of 7th Air Force Ops.

It is significant that the "Silver Eagles" operations during August were accomplished under the stringent conditions imposed by the facilities at the "Rose Garden", continuing to demonstrate the ability of Marine Fighter Aviation to successfully operate on an expeditionary basis as "a force in readiness".

PART III SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. PERSONNEL

4 August	Capt. A. R. EASTMAN departed VMFA-115 for the 3rd MARDIV.
6 August	Capt. W. R. LOUNSBERRY left the squadron to join FMFPac, and Capt. R. E. MCLANE left for the 2nd MAW.
18 August	SSgt.'s G. R. BEACH and R. A. CALDWELL were presented good conduct medals.
25 August	Cpl. J. E. SLPWICKI was awarded a Meritorious Mast.
31 August	LCpl. J. W. MARTIN was awarded a Meritorious Mast.

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31 August

Capt.'s G. L. ELSTEN, J. E. RICE Jr.,  
W. J. HOLVERSTOTT, D. C. ANDERSON,  
1stLt.'s M. T. DALTON, and K. H. TRECKER  
were awarded their first Strike/Flight  
Air Medal.

2. TRAINING

15 - 17 August

Selected aircrews attended briefings  
with 432nd TacRecon Wing missions at  
Udorn in anticipation of an Air-to-Air  
commitment being allotted to VMFA-115.

17 - 31 August

The squadron began bi-weekly training  
periods with emphasis on review of  
advantages/disadvantages of the F-4 and  
Soviet BLOC aircraft in an Air-to-Air  
environment.

19 - 20 August

The squadron began flying aircrews on  
air combat maneuvering refresher hops.

PART IV SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. Photo of the Commanding Officer, LtCol. H. C. IVY, is enclosed as  
Tab A.

2. The summary of air operations for the period 1 August to 31 August  
is enclosed as Tab B.

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## 2. Summary of Air Operations for period 1 August to 31 August.

a. Resume of Flight Operations

Total Hours Flown	470.9	
Total Sorties Flown	371	
Combat Flight Hours	425.8	
Combat Sorties	331	
High Day Hours	21.3	11 August
High Day Sorties	17	19 August
Average Pilot Hours	24.8	
Average Pilot Sorties	19.5	
Average RIO Hours	33.6	
Average RIO Sorties	26.5	
Non-Squadron Aircrew Hours	56.7	
Non-Squadron Aircrew Sorties	46	

b. Ordnance Delivered

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>NUMBER EXPENDED</u>	<u>TONS</u>
MK-82	2145	569.5
MK-83	388	191.1
ZUNI	91	4.8

c. Bomb Damage Assessment

(1) The following is a complete listing of BDA received by this squadron for the period of 1 August to 31 August 1972.

Tanks	1 Destroyed
	2 Damaged

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ItCol H. C. IVY  
Commanding Officer  
JMPA-115  
Nam Phong, Thailand  
31 August 1972

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Trucks	6 Destroyed 10 Damaged
KBA	10 Probable 7 Confirmed
130MM Gun	5 Destroyed 2 Damaged
122MM Mortar	1 Destroyed
82MM Mortar	3 Destroyed
75MM Recoilless Rifle	1 Destroyed
57MM Recoilless Rifle	1 Destroyed
Radar Vans	1 Damaged
Structures	35 Destroyed
Bunkers	94 Destroyed 3 Damaged
Large Secondary Explosions	13
Medium Secondary Explosions	60
Small Secondary Explosions	41
Medium Fires	24
Small Fires	19
Road Cuts	2 (Average 3 Meters)

(2) The results of 178 sorties were not observed due to smoke, foliage, or weather.

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