

MARINE FIGHTER/ATTACK SQUADRON 115  
Marine Aircraft Group 13  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, MAF, Pacific  
FPO San Francisco 96002

03:IAB:tob  
5750  
03A18868  
6 July 1968

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From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 13 (S-3)  
Subj: Command Chronology

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2  
(b) MGO 5750.1C  
(c) GruO 5750.1D

Encl: ✓(1) VMFA-115 Command Chronology for the period 1-30 June 1968 (C)

1. In accordance with references (a), (b), and (c), enclosure (1) is submitted for the period 1-30 June 1968.

*G. W. Vaughan*  
G. W. VAUGHAN

VMFA -115 S&O  
CONTROL NO. 03259-68

DATE REC'D 10 JUL 1968

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ENCLOSURE (6)

VMFA-115

CMD CHRON

JUNE 1968

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6 July 1968Part One: Organization Data1. Commander and Staff

| <u>Name</u>        | <u>Billet</u>           | <u>Rank</u> | <u>Date</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Gerald W. VAUGHAN  | Commanding Officer      | LtCol       | 1-30        |
| John I. HUDSON     | Executive Officer       | Maj         | 1-30        |
| Jay M. BIELER      | Operations Officer      | Maj         | 1-30        |
| William J. GRIFFIN | S-1 Officer             | Maj         | 1-30        |
| William A. McMAHON | S-2 Officer             | Capt        | 1-30        |
| Denis L. SHORTAL   | Logistics Officer       | Capt        | 1-29        |
| Anthony A. YATSKO  | Logistics Officer       | Capt        | 30          |
| John C. HURST      | Aviation Safety Officer | Capt        | 1-30        |
| Ronald G. KROPP    | Maintenance Officer     | Maj         | 1-30        |

2. Task Organization and Data

| <u>Organization</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>Commanding Officer</u> | <u>Date of Office</u> |
|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| VMFA-115            | Chu Lai, RVN    | LtCol Gerald W. VAUGHAN   | 1-30 June             |

3. Average Strength

## a. Marine Officers

|                              |    |
|------------------------------|----|
| (1) Naval Aviators           | 12 |
| (2) Naval Flight Officers    | 17 |
| (3) Aviation Ground Officers | 4  |

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| b. Naval Officers | 1 |
|-------------------|---|

|                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| c. Marine Unlisted | 264 |
|--------------------|-----|

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| d. Naval Enlisted | 1 |
|-------------------|---|

|                           |     |
|---------------------------|-----|
| e. Total Average Strength | 299 |
|---------------------------|-----|

Part Two: Narrative Summary

During the reporting period VMFA-115 was active in supporting operations throughout the I Corps Area, within the DMZ, in the Panhandle of North Vietnam, and Laos. Operations supported included Scotland II, Lancaster III, Kentucky, Napoleon Saline, Nevada Eagle, Mameluke Thrust, Jeb Stuart III, Houston, Allen Brook, Wheeler Mallowa, Burlington Trail, Dragon Palace, and Norfolk

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Victory II. Missions flown included Close Air Support, Direct Air Support, Visual Reconnaissance, TPO, and Air-to-Air Scrambles.

Bomb damage assessment included 67 structures destroyed, 92 structures damaged; 101 bunkers destroyed; 285 meters of trenchline destroyed; 2 bridges destroyed; 8 secondary explosions; 2 secondary fires; 22 KIA; 8 automatic weapons positions destroyed; 26 road cuts; 1 AAA position destroyed; one tank destroyed; and one bulldozer damaged.

During the reporting period, the squadron dropped 1040.32 tons of ordnance. The squadron dropped an average of 34.68 tons of ordnance per day. Ordnance expended included 1,025 M61 60 lbs, 1,314 M82 60 lbs, 76 M117 60 lbs, 394 M77 Fire Bombs, 25 CBU-74/B bombs, 445 2.75" rocket pods, 208 5.00" Zuni rockets, and 23,061 rounds of 20mm ammunition.

On 2 June 1968 Lieutenant Colonel G. A. VANCE and Major R. G. KNOTT; Captain John A. FALZGUTH and First Lieutenant Jimmy C. ADAMS launched from the Air-to-Ground Hot Targets mission 560. Arriving on the target under very adverse weather conditions, the flight was directed against an automatic weapons position by heli. Expending all their ordnance, 12 D21's and 6 D9's, the flight was credited with 6 structures destroyed, 1 large bunker destroyed, 190 meters of trenchline destroyed, and 1 large secondary explosion resulting in a fire.

On 3 June 1968 Captain J. A. MOGGER and Captain A. A. McALLEN; First Lieutenant R. STRASSIO and First Lieutenant I. A. BASSITT Jr. launched on a scheduled Close Air Support mission. Receiving their target from Finger Point 28, the flight directed their attack against an enemy tank. The flight expended 12 D21's and 7 D5's and was credited with destroying one tank.

### Part Three: Significant Events

1. Personnel. Three Naval Aviators and three Naval Flight Officers were joined. Four Naval Aviators and one Naval Flight Officer were transferred. There was one overseas extension. Ninety seven percent of the squadron participated in the Savings Bond Program.

2. Awards. Recommendations forwarded to higher authority included one Navy Achievement Medal, four Distinguished Flying Crosses, four Single Mission Air Medals, and twenty-two Air Medals. Two Distinguished Flying Crosses, two Purple Hearts, and five Air Medals were received from higher authority.

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3. Civil Action. The VLFM-115 Civil Action team continued their well cleaning and shower building projects in Long Phu II. New and better equipment has been ordered to replace the inadequate pumps in order to provide the school children with a useable shower.

The Village Chief, Mr True, continues to be most cooperative, inviting the Civil Action team to his house warming party.

4. Air Operations

|                              |       |
|------------------------------|-------|
| Total Flight Hours           | 646.6 |
| Total Sorties                | 584   |
| Combat Flight Hours          | 629.1 |
| Combat Sorties               | 574   |
| High Day Hours               | 28.8  |
| High Day Sorties             | 25    |
| Average Pilot Hours          | 41.9  |
| Average Pilot Combat Sorties | 38.1  |
| Average RIC Hours            | 35.8  |
| Average RIC Combat Sorties   | 33    |
| Non-Squadron Aircrew Hours   | 145.7 |
| Non-Squadron Aircrew Sorties | 134   |

During the month Capt R. T. COX and 1stLt F. J. SHAMBAUGH passed the 300 mission mark. 1stLt A. L. SHERMAN passed the 200 mission mark.

5. Training. Aircrew training was conducted throughout the reporting period.

6. Maintenance.

|                            |    |
|----------------------------|----|
| Aircraft Assigned          | 19 |
| Average Aircraft On-board  | 13 |
| Average Aircraft Available | 9  |

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