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

5750
03A33972
4 December 1972

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 NOVEMBER TO 30 NOVEMBER 1972

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PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

<u>1. DESIGNATION</u>	<u>COMMANDER</u>		
Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 115	Lieutenant Colonel H. C. IVY		
	1 - 30 November 1972		
<u>2. GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION</u>	<u>PERIOD</u>		
Royal Thai Air Force Base, Nam Phong, Thailand	1 - 30 November 1972		
<u>3. STAFF OFFICERS</u>			
Executive Officer	Major J. N. BIBLER 1 - 30 November 1972		
S-1 Officer	Captain J. W. JACOBSON 1 - 17 November 1972 Captain M. P. KRONE 18 - 30 November 1972		
Intelligence Officer	Captain C. W. HOLMES 1 - 4 November 1972 Captain W. T. HICOCK 5 - 30 November 1972		
S-3 Officer	Major G. DEJONG 1 - 30 November 1972		
S-4 Officer	Captain J. E. DERRICO 1 - 30 November 1972		
Maintenance Officer	Major J. D. HOWELL 1 - 30 November 1972		
Aviation Safety Officer	Captain L. R. MARSH 1 - 30 November 1972		
<u>4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH</u>			
USMC	USN	OTHER	
OFF <u>36</u>	ENL <u>210</u>	OFF <u>0</u>	ENL <u>0</u>

USMC	USN	OTHER	
OFF <u>36</u>	ENL <u>210</u>	OFF <u>0</u>	ENL <u>0</u>

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PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

(C) With a "Cease Fire" for Southeast Asia imminent as the month of November began, the "Silver Eagles" entire combat team demonstrated its professional attitude as a Marine Corps unit and personal pride in their squadron, by having its finest operational month since returning to combat.

(U) On 12 November 1972, VMFA-115 received a message from Major General L. E. BROWN Jr., Commanding General, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, for showing a sharp improvement in aircraft availability and maintaining complete weapons systems capability.

(C) VMFA-115 flew 650.3 combat hours and delivered 1092 tons of ordnance while flying Close Air Support and Direct Air Support missions in support of the South Vietnamese forces of Military Regions I and II. Combat missions were also flown in the "Steel Tiger" and "Barrel Roll" areas of Laos in support of friendly government forces.

(C) The Northeast monsoons became a significant factor in November. With typical monsoon clouds and rain in most of the target areas of South Vietnam, the "Silver Eagles" teamed with Air Force and Navy tactical aircraft to make several LORAN, TACAN, and radar bomb drops.

(U) Even with the continued effort to meet the demands of the war, the men of VMFA-115 were able to celebrate the Marine Corps 197th Birthday in fine fashion, with a Birthday Ceremony on the flight line, excellent food, and an evening celebration with entertainment.

PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. PERSONNEL

6 November Captain C. W. HOLMES departed VMFA-115 for the 2nd MAW.

6 November 1stLt. C. C. RICE Jr., departed VMFA-115 to join the 3rd Marine Division for A.L.O. duty.

14 November Captain M. W. STORTZ returned from 3 weeks of TACP School with the 3rd

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Marine Division in Okinawa.

18 November

Captain B. YOUNG joined VMFA-115 from 3rd MAW.

20 November

Captain J. W. JACOBSON departed VMFA-115 for the 2nd MAW.

— November

Promotions to Present Rank

GySgt. R. W. FETZER
Cpl. R. L. MCARTHUR
Cpl. J. M. MURPHY
Cpl. T. D. BARNES
L/Cpl. W. H. WOODS

— November

Awards Received

Sgt. J. L. LONG; Good Conduct
Sgt. E. P. WYATT; Good Conduct
Cpl. J. M. EGLOFF; Good Conduct
Capt. M. J. GANIER; Air Medal
Capt. M. W. STORTZ; Air Medal

— November

Meritorious Mast

Sgt. B. A. TELFER
Sgt. L. V. THOMAS
Sgt. M. YBARRA
Cpl. R. L. NORRIS
Cpl. J. E. STONE

2. TRAINING

6 - 7 November

32 men of VMFA-115 attended the Drug Seminar conducted by the MACTHAI drug education field team.

6 November

Aircrew training on KY-28 operation.

13 November

Air intercept training.

22 November

Aircrew training on the use of LAU-33 rocket launchers.

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28 November

Capt. W. ANDERSON, of VMFA-232, presented his personal experience of ejection, escape and evasion, and rescue in the Steel Tiger area of Laos.

3. OPERATIONS

1 - 30 November

VMFA-115 provided Close Air Support and Direct Air Support to the South Vietnamese forces in Military Regions I and II; and the Laotian Government forces in the Barrel Roll and Steel Tiger areas.

PART IV**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

- a. - (C) BDA for November 1972
- b. - (C) Listing of Total Sorties and Flight Time
- c. - (C) Ordnance Expenditures for November 1972
- d. - (U) Major General L. E. BROWN's Personal Letter of Congratulations
- e. - (U) Listing of Sequence of Events on 10 November 1972; 197th Birthday of the Marine Corps

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1. Bomb Damage Assessment

a. The complete listing received by this squadron.

Ammo Stacks	1 Large Cache Destroyed 13 Medium Caches Destroyed
KBA	14 Confirmed 8 Probable
Large Secondary Explosions	19
Medium Secondary Explosions	33
Small Secondary Explosions	15
Large Secondary Fires	6
Medium Secondary Fires	12
Small Secondary Fires	23
Tanks	2 Destroyed 1 Damaged
Trucks	8 Destroyed 9 Damaged
Bridges	1 Destroyed
Sampans	2 Destroyed
14.5 AA	1 Destroyed
12.7 AA	1 Destroyed
37MM AA	1 Destroyed
122MM Field Gun	1 Destroyed 1 Damaged
130MM Field Gun	3 Damaged
85MM Field Gun	2 Damaged

Tab A
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60MM Mortar	1 Destroyed 1 Damaged
82MM Mortar	1 Damaged
Bunkers	52 Destroyed 38 Damaged
Military Structures	29 Destroyed 1 Damaged
Caves	2 Destroyed
Revetments	30 Meters Destroyed
Trench	85 Meters Destroyed
Roads	40 Meters Destroyed 3 Cuts
Supply/POL Storage	14 Tanks Destroyed 1 Tank Damaged
Tunnel Network	1 Uncovered
Supply Stacks	6 Destroyed
LORAN/SKYSBOT/TACAN	62

b. Results not observed, 97 sorties due to smoke, foliage, or weather.

Tab A
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1. Summary of Air Operations for the period 1 - 30 November 1972.

a. Resume of Flight Operations

TOTAL HOURS FLOWN	677.1
TOTAL SORTIES FLOWN	474
COMBAT FLIGHT HOURS	650.3
COMBAT SORTIES	455
HIGH DAY HOURS	28.0 (12 November)
HIGH DAY SORTIES	21 (4 November)
AVERAGE PILOT HOURS	35.9
AVERAGE PILOT SORTIES	25.1
AVERAGE RIO HOURS	45.5
AVERAGE RIO SORTIES	31.8
NON-SQUADRON AIRCREW HOURS	75.8
NON-SQUADRON AIRCREW SORTIES	53

Tab B
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1. Ordnance Expenditure for November 1972.

a. Ordnance Delivered

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>NUMBER EXPENDED</u>	<u>TONS</u>
MK-82	2925	807
MK-83	368	181
CBU-24	80	33
ZUNI'S (5" ROCKET)	1408	<u>75</u>
		1096

Tab C
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COPY

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NNNNPTEZYUW RHAHAA1948 3150230-EEEE--RUELFMA RHEARSGG.

ZNY EEEEEE

P 100230Z NOV 72

FM CG FIRST MAW IWA JAPAN

TO ZEN/MARFITATKRON ONE ONE FIVE NAM PHONG THAI

INFO RUELFMA/CG FIFPAC CAMP SHIBA HAWAII

RHARSGG/ADMIN FIRST MAW IWA JAPAN

ZLN/CG TASK FORCE DELTA NAM PHONG THAI

ZEN/MAG ONE FIVE MAI PHONG THAI

BT

UNCLAS E F T O //NCO000//

AIRCRAFT AVAILABILITY

1. LESS THAN A MONTH AGO I EXTENDED MY CONGRATULATIONS ON THE SELECTION OF VF-115 AS THE OUTSTANDING MARINE FIGHTER SQUADRON OF FY 1972. RECENT SHARP IMPROVEMENT IN YOUR AIRCRAFT AVAILABILITY CERTAINLY SHOWS THAT YOU ARE WELL ON YOUR WAY TO ANOTHER GOOD YEAR.

2. ATTAINING A NUMBER OF FULL SYSTEMS CAPABLE AIRCRAFT WHICH EXCEEDS BY FAR CNO STANDARDS IN THE VERY AUSTERE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH YOU ARE OPERATING REFLECTS SKILLED MANAGEMENT AND PROFESSIONAL DEDICATION ON THE PART OF EVERYONE IN 115. IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE MEN WHO FIX YOUR BIRDS KNOW AND UNDERSTAND THE PART THEY ARE PLAYING IN THIS EFFORT. PLEASE CONVEY TO ALL MY HEARTIEST WELL DONE. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK. MAJGEN BROWN.

BT

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Tab D

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SEQUENCE OF EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER 10, 1972

0530 - 0930	Brunch
1500	197th BIRTHDAY CEREMONY ON MAG-15 FLIGHT LINE. THE COMMANDING OFFICER, MAG-15 WILL DELIVER THE BIRTHDAY MESSAGE. COLD DRINK AND BIRTHDAY CAKE FOR ALL HANDS
1530 - 1800	SPECIAL BIRTHDAY DINNER SHRIMP COCKTAIL SALAD/MESSING GRILLED T-BONE STEAK BAKED POTATO/SOUR CREAM PEAS/CORN HOT ROLLS CAKE/ICE CREAM
2000 - 2300	197th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION ENLISTED - MESS HALL #1 BAND - "THE YOUNG EMOTIONS" FREE BEER AND SODA STAFF AND OFFICERS - MESS HALL #2 BAND - "TIFFANY" BEER AND SODA

Tab E

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