

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 November 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 1-31 October 1969.

2. This letter is down-graded to unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1).

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

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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.	1-30
Lester E. AMICK	S-2 Officer	1stLt.	1-30
Jon R. GIBSON	Logistics Officer	Maj.	1-19
John P. MCGILL	Logistics Officer	1stLt.	19-31
John K. FRENCH	Avn. Safety Officer	Capt.	1-30
Conrad W. HEINZERLING	Maintenance Officer	Maj.	1-31
Marion C. HARPER	Flight Surgeon	Lt. USN	1-10
Thomas R. GAY	Flight Surgeon	Lt. USN	12-31
William F. SEARS	Sgt. Major	Sgt. Maj.	1-30

2. Task Organization and date

VMFA-115, Chu Lai Airbase, RVN, LtCol. Edwin C. PAIGE, Jr., Commanding
1-31 October 1969.

3. Average Strength

a. Marine Officers	43
(1) Naval Aviators	20
(2) Naval Flight Officers	20
(3) Aviation Ground Officers	3
b. Naval Officers	1
c. Marine Enlisted	232
d. Naval Enlisted	0
e. Total	<u>276</u>

PART II

During the month of October VMFA-115 flew 367 combat sorties and 487 combat hours in support of operations throughout I-Corps, Laos, and the Gulf of Tonkin.

(C) Units supported during the period 1-31 October 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 1-31 October 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	19
Secondary Fires	23
Structures Destroyed	43
Structures Damaged	6
Bunkers Destroyed	28
Bunkers Damaged	10
Hootches Destroyed	29
Hootches Damaged	7
Tree Line Destroyed	1095 Meters
Probable Killed by Marine Air	1
Fighting Positions Destroyed	27
Trench Line Destroyed	325 Meters
Road Cuts	17
River Fordes Destroyed	6
LZ Preps	2
Military Vehicles Destroyed	11
Tunnel Systems Destroyed	3

(C) This damage was accomplished by expending 655.10 tons of ordnance of the following types and amounts:

720	MK-82	S/E	500 Lb. Bombs
1230	MK-82	CON	500 Lb. Bombs
104	MK-83	CON	1000 Lb. Bombs
253	MK-77	Napalm	500 Lb. Fire Bombs
18	CBU-24 C/B	C/B	Cluster Bomb Units
36	MK-20	Rockeye II	Cluster Bomb Units
176	LAU-33/LAU-10	Rocket Pods	5" Zuni Rockets

PART III1. Personnel

a. In October VMFA-115 welcomed aboard Captain C. S. TUTT, the new Aviation Safety Officer from MCAS El Toro. Also joining were Lieutenants RAITHIEL, SILVER, WISE AND McCORMICK from MCAS El Toro. Lieutenants GOODMAN, SURGENT and SCHEULLER from MCAS Beaufort.

b. October brought about a change of Flight Surgeons with Lieutenant HARPER transferring to MAG-36, his replacement, Lieutenant GAY joining the Silver Eagles from MAG-12.

c. Promotions

E-2 to E-3	3
E-3 to E-4	4

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2. Awards. 7 Air Medals, 1st award, and 3 Navy Achievement Medals with combat "V" were awarded during October.

3. Morale. 24 Officers and enlisted men enjoyed R&R during the month of October.

4. (C) Air Operations

a. During October Lt. WHITING flew his 400th mission. Flying their 200th Mission were Captains LARSON, STULTS, SHARP and Lieutenant CAMPBELL. Flying their 100th mission were Lieutenants SATTLER, AMICK and DIBBLE.

b. Statistics

Total Hours	486.9
Total Sorties	402
Combat Flight Hours	454.2
Combat Sorties	367
High Day Hours	34.4
High Day Sorties	24
Average Pilot Hours	23.1
Average Pilot Sorties	19
Average RIO Hours	25.6
Average RIO Sorties	21
Non-Squadron Air Crew Hours	87.4
Non-Squadron Air Crew Sorties	71

c. Air Operations were severely curtailed during the first two weeks of October as record amounts of rain fell throughout I-Corps.

5. (C) Air Defense. The Silver Eagles flew 29 Barrier Cap Missions over the Gulf of Tonkin in support of the 7th Fleet. Also 17 Bomber escort missions were flown, generally over Laos, in support of the 7th Air Force. No MIG contacts were made, although one flight was vectored against a suspected MIG approaching the 12 mile limit offshore of NVN.

6. Training. Major HEINZERLING and Lieutenants LINK, HAYES, GOETT and MCGILL attended Jungle Environmental Survival Training at NAS Cubi Point. Captains FRENCH and MEIER, and Lieutenant DUNLAP attended ALO/FAC School at MCAF Futema. Lieutenants PANCHISON and NELSON attended PJSS School at Clark Air Base and ALO/FAC School on Okinawa.