

CHRONOLOGY

366TH TACTICAL FIGHTER WING

JULY - SEPTEMBER 1968

<u>Date</u>	<u>Class.</u>	<u>Significant Event</u>
23 July	(e)	The base sustained its first and second rocket attacks for the month on 0204 hours and 0602 hours, respectively. No KIAs or WIAs were reported. However, the 18 rockets that impacted caused minor damage to an Air Force C-47 and a VNAF UH-34D.
24 July	(c)	At 2219 hours, two rockets fell on Da Nang Air Base causing no damage.
27 July	(e)	At 0245 hours, six rockets wounded five U. S. Marines, caused minor damage to Air Force aircraft and revetments, trailers and miscellaneous equipment.
31 July	(e)	There were no aircraft or aircrew losses for the month despite the fact that the wing BDA was outstanding. The wing had a total of 2,064 sorties for the month, bringing the total combat sorties flown in Southeast Asia to 48,028.
1 August	(e)	The first aircraft and aircrew to be lost in two months were downed by unknown causes. Major Thompson and Lieutenant Ross were listed as MIA.
16 August	(e)	An F-4 Phantom and its crew were downed by small arms fire while making a BLU27 pass. Both crew members were recovered in good condition.
19 August	(e)	While on a BLU27 pass, an F-4 Phantom was downed by 50 Cal-ground fire. Both members were recovered and treated for injuries.
23 August	(e)	At 0303 hours, 13 rockets impacted on the base killing one and injuring seven other Air Force personnel. Three

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- 23 August (S) Air Force aircraft sustained light damage, two buildings were destroyed and seven others were damaged. One truck was destroyed and another damaged, and two aircraft passenger steps were damaged.
- 27 August (S) A fire occurred in the left trailing edge of an F-4 Phantom upon take-off. Both crew members successfully ejected, though the aircraft commander, Major Pirk was killed in action. Lieutenant Wilburn was recovered in good condition.
- 27 August (S) At 0453 hours, six rockets impacted wounding one Air Force airman. Light damage was inflicted on five aircraft and three Air Force vehicles.
- 31 August (S) The 366 TFW passed a significant milestone since the wing's arrival in early 1966. The wing's 50,000th mission was flown by Colonel P. C. Watson, wing commander. First pilot was Lieutenant Tucci. The flight also marked Colonel Watson's 50th mission over North Vietnam.
- 31 August (S) At 0455 hours, one rocket wounded five Americans, destroyed one Air Force vehicle and damaged one aircraft.
- 31 August (S) As of this date, 2,016 combat sorties were flown. The wing ended the month with a total of 50,044 sorties.
- 2 September (S) At 0128 hours, one rocket impacted on Da Nang Air Base and caused light damage to one USAF building.
- 4 September (S) At 0529 hours, two rockets destroyed an USAF building and caused light damage to three others.
- 4 September (S) The first typhoon of the season, "Bess" affected operations for three consecutive days. A total of 79 missions were canceled.
- 6 September (S) "Stormy FAC" missions utilizing the F-4 Phantom began. The F-4 FAC mission is t

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- 6 September ~~(S)~~ gather intelligence data via visual reconnaissance and to direct air strikes against targets in North Vietnam and Laos.
- 11 September ~~(S)~~ A "Stormy FAC" mission, 01, was lost to suspected 37mm ground fire. The aircraft commander, Major Bustle, was recovered, however, his pilot Lieutenant Van Dyke was listed as MIA. This was the first "Stormy FAC" loss since the activation of the program earlier this month.
- 18 September ~~(C)~~ At 0515 hours, three rockets landed, killing two USMC and wounding seven others. No Air Force casualties or damage.
- 29 September ~~(S)~~ At 0446 hours, five rockets were launched against this base. Three U.S. Navy personnel were wounded. Some USN and USMC aircraft received minor damage. No Air Force casualties or damage.
- 30 September ~~(S)~~ As of this date, 1,777 combat sorties were flown for the month. This raised the wing Southeast Asia total to 51,821 sorties.