

'Bull' Is a Hard Man To Knock Off Course

SAIGON (7th AF) — Maj. Bob (Bull) Rilling is a hard man to stop.

On a recent mission over the Mu Gia Pass it took some hard convincing by the other members of his flight to get the 38-year-old major from South Berwick, Me., to jettison his ordnance after he had taken a direct 37mm hit on the tail of his aircraft.

Bad weather prevented Rilling's pilots from striking their primary target and they diverted to the Mu Gia Pass for armed reconnaissance of the heavily traveled area. Everything was quiet until their radio crackled, "We're picking up some fire at 6 o'clock." Calmly, Rilling replied, "Yeah, I found that out the hard way." His No. 3 man said, "I looked up just in time

to see the white puff of smoke hit his tail."

Continuing on course, Rilling made a right turn back into the target area when his No. 3 man asked him where he was going. "I'm going back to drop my bombs," came Rilling's reply. After a few minutes of conversation the flight finally succeeded in getting him to jettison his ordnance and return to the closest air base.

This didn't stop the other two members of his aggressive flight from pressing the attack.

Members of Rilling's flight were Capt. Wally Brug, 35, Cincinnati, Ohio, 1st Lt. Ed McCaffrey, 24, Norwich, Conn. and Maj. Henry Shundinis, Omaha, Neb.