



CRUSADER UNITS RETURN FROM VIETNAM – Back at home base at NAS Miramar, California, after deployment to Vietnam aboard USS Oriskany are the “Satan’s Kittens” of VF-191, led by Commander G. A. Aitcheson, the “Red Lightnings” of VF-194, led by Commander James Ryan, and VFP-63, Detachment 34, led by Lieutenant Commander M. D. Long. Typical of the greetings accorded to the returning pilots was the welcome given to Lieutenant Commander Long (photo) by his wife, Valerie, and their two children, Kimberly and Steven.



F-8s FLY FROM PHILIPPINES – Ending a deployment to Vietnam aboard USS Shangri-La, Crusader pilots of VF-111, VF-162 and VFP-63, Detachment 38 made an 8,000-mile flight from the Philippines to NAS Miramar.

The “Sundowners” of VF-111 were led by Commander William B. Rennie, the “Hunters” of VF-162 by Commander M. O. Wright, and the VFP-63 detachment by Lieutenant Commander N. T. Black. The flight from Cubi Point in the Philippines was made via Guam, Wake Island and Hawaii. The pilots made their long aerial journey because the Shangri-La, based on the East Coast, was headed home for mothballing.

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“SATAN’S KITTENS” CONDUCT CEREMONY – The “Satan’s Kittens” of Fighter Squadron 191 conducted an awards and advancement in rate ceremony on the flight deck of USS Oriskany during deployment to Vietnam.

Air Medals were awarded to (front row in photo) Lieutenant Terry Shaffer, Lieutenant (jg.) Ed Wright and Lieutenants Jay Campbell and Howie Nygard. Aviation Electrician’s Mate Third Class Charles Davis (ninth from left) was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal.

Personnel advanced in rate were (left to right) R. D. McCormick AMH3, R. T. Gerton AE2, W. W. Buck AQF2, K. G. Rimmereid AQFZ, B. D. Dickson ATN2, T. L. Nelson ATR2, R. R. Dunham ATN2, H. G. Haywood AMH1, J. M. Schneider AQF3, R. D. Wilson AO2, C. R. Kear AQF3 and K. A. Jacobson AQF3.



PACIFIC FLEET COMMAND CHANGES – The new Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet is Admiral Bernard A. Clarey, who relieved Admiral John J. Hyland in a ceremony at Pearl Harbor.

Admiral Clarey (photo) assumed the post after serving since January 1968 as Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

He was appointed to the U. S. Naval Academy in 1930 and commissioned as an ensign in 1934. During World War II he saw extensive duty in submarines. He served one tour of duty as executive officer of USS Helena in the Korean conflict and one tour as Commander Submarine Division 52.



During his Navy career he also has served as Commander Submarine Force, Pacific Fleet; Deputy Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet, and Commander U. S. Second Fleet.

His decorations include the Navy Cross with two Gold Stars, the Silver Star, the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star, the Distinguished Service Medal and the Presidential Unit Citation.

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PHOTO DETACHMENT WINS TAILHOOK AWARD – After placing as runner-up during USS Oriskany's first three periods on the line in the Gulf of Tonkin, VFP-63, Detachment 34 finally won the golden tailhook award for carrier landing excellence during the fourth line period.

Photo shows (left to right) Lieutenant Commander Mike Long, officer in charge of the detachment; Captain Frank S. Haak, commanding officer of the carrier, and Lieutenants Bob Carr and Gary Dillow.



VF-194 WINS, TOO – The “Red Lightnings” of VF-194 won the golden tailhook award for the best overall landing performance during USS Oriskany's fifth and final period of deployment.

Photo shows (left to right) Commander Jim Ryan, commanding officer of the squadron; Commander D. F. Mow, commanding officer of Carrier Air Wing 19, and Captain Frank S. Haak, skipper of the carrier.



USE OF MARK V MASK CLARIFIED – From the Jet Journal, base newspaper at NAS Miramar:

“Your Jet Journal is read far and wide as an authoritative source of information – articles are even reprinted from its pages to reach readership of other periodicals.

“An example of this came to light recently when Lieutenant Commander J. M. Vincent, who is the damage control assistant aboard USS Hancock, read a Jet article reprinted in the Crusader Fighter Report and found an error. Lieutenant Commander Vincent was quick to point out the error to the editor of the Crusader Fighter Report, who forwarded the information on to your Jet editor for action.

“Readers may recall a special photo-story in the Jet issue of October 2, 1970. It dealt with Fire Prevention Week and highlighted Miramar's Fire Fighting School. In the article we referenced the Mark V gas mask, stating: ‘The Mark V is a filtering system which can deliver pure air from dense smoke for about two hours.’

“According to Miramar's Fire Department Captain Arthur W. Oberle (to whom we went for clarification), ‘The Mark V is a simple filter mask which does not produce oxygen but will filter out smoke solids. The Mark V mask was designed not to go into smoky areas to work but as an escape device.’ ”

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“GRAY GHOST” RETIRED – After a history of 13 years and 2,215.5 flight hours the “Gray Ghost” Crusader of Fleet Composite Squadron 5 has been retired at the Naval Air Facility, Naha, Okinawa. Its last mission – towing a target banner for the “Red Lightnings” of VF-194 – was flown by Lieutenant (jg.) Bill Yanke.



COMMANDER RUTHERFORD LEADS AIR WING 5 – The new commanding officer of Attack Carrier Air Wing 5, NAS Miramar, is Commander Ralph B. Rutherford, who relieved Commander D. J. Ellison.

Commander Rutherford (photo) reported from the systems analysis division of the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations in Washington. Commander Ellison received orders to report to the CNO staff.



The new air wing skipper was previously based at NAS Miramar as executive officer of VF-211 from September 1966 and as that squadron's commanding officer from September 1967 to September 1968. He deployed to Vietnam with VF-211 aboard USS Bon Homme Richard as executive officer and aboard USS Hancock as commanding officer.



VF-162 CONDUCTS AWARDS CEREMONY – Letters of commendation for excellence in performance of their duties while deployed to Vietnam aboard USS Shangri-La have been awarded to eight members of the “Hunters” of Fighter Squadron 162 at NAS Miramar.

Photo shows (left to right) AMS2 Roger R. Rousseau, AMS3 Jerry R. Woolard, AMH3 James S. Thornton, ADJC John R. Tvredovich, AE2 Robert B. Hubert, AE1 Charles L. Cunningham, AN Valley V. Buckley and AK3 Conrado B. Castro.





“SATAN’S KITTENS” IN FLIGHT – Prior to completing a deployment to Vietnam aboard USS Oriskany, pilots of the “Satan’s Kittens” of Fighter Squadron 191 are shown crossing the wake of an escort vessel in their Crusaders.



SKIPPER PRAISES MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL – “The pilots of VF-191 are very proud to be flying the best looking and best maintained aircraft in the fleet,” Commander G. A. Aitcheson, commanding officer of “Satan’s Kittens,” wrote in a squadron Plan of the Day following return from deployment to Vietnam.

The notation followed a post-deployment corrosion control inspection by representatives of Commander Fleet Air Miramar. Squadron grades were not less than 95 percent in any of the areas of consideration.

Inspectors based their grades on the absence of corrosion and bare metal on the exteriors of the squadron’s Crusaders and on the physical appearance of the aircraft. They also judged the planes’ general maintenance, paint condition and log books.

Lieutenant Edward F. O’Gara, VF-191’s aircraft division officer, gave credit for the outstanding condition of squadron aircraft to personnel of the division, including AMH1 Walter C. Coe, AMH1 James W. Barrs and AMH2 Edward B. Zolina.

About 5,000 man-hours were expended on corrosion control during the deployment while squadron pilots flew a total of 2,596 hours.

“Our airplanes could go back on cruise right now,” said Lieutenant Eugene P. Feist, assistant maintenance officer.

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RESERVE PILOTS REQUALIFY ABOARD CARRIER — Pilots of Naval Air Reserve Light Photographic Squadrons 206 and 306, established recently at the Naval Air Facility, Washington, D.C., requalified in carrier landings during operations aboard USS Franklin D. Roosevelt off the East Coast.

Commander Frank R. Dunne, a pilot for Eastern Airlines, is the commanding officer of VFP-206 and Commander Robert R. Smiley, a lawyer, is the commanding officer of VFP-306.

Nine days of practice carrier landings at NAS Cecil Field, Florida, preceded the operations at sea. The landing signal officer who would work with the pilots aboard the Roosevelt observed their performance as they touched their RF-8G Crusaders down within boundaries simulating the deck of an aircraft carrier.



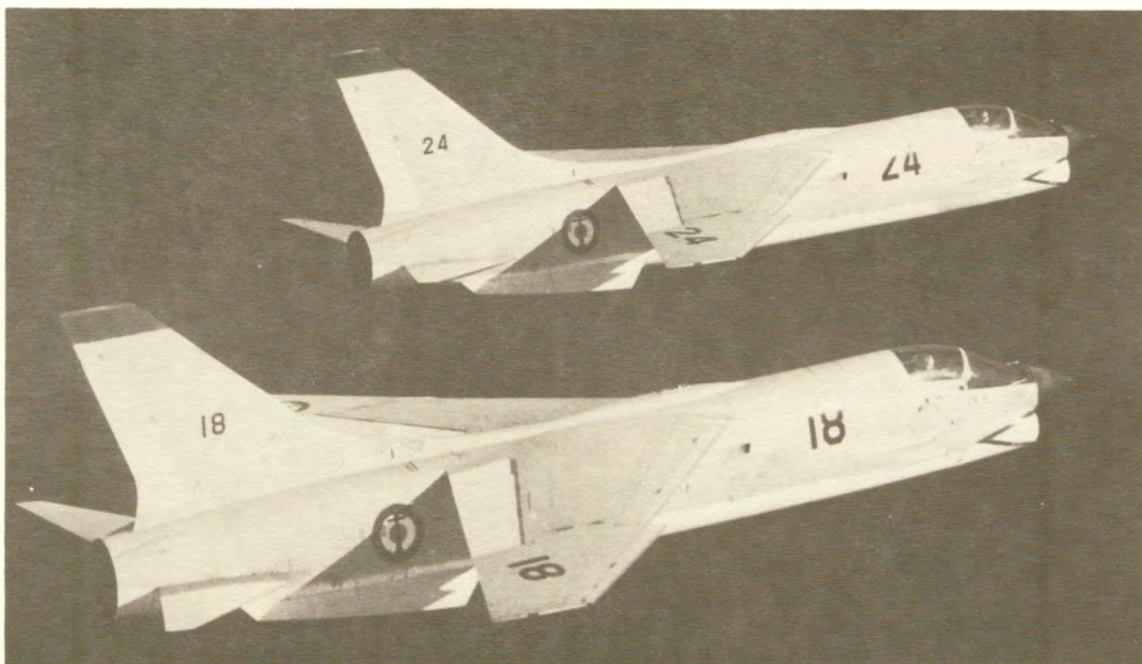
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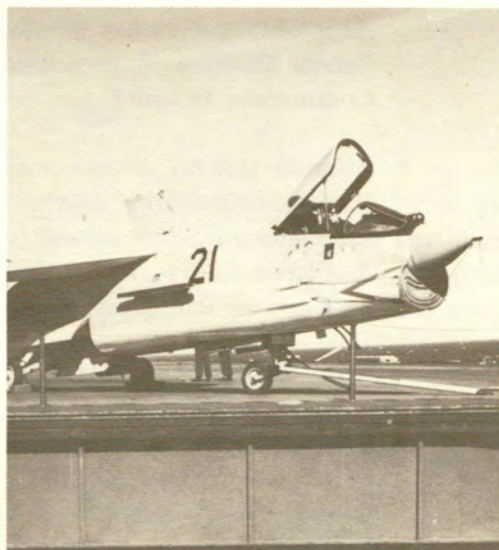
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FRENCH NAVY SQUADRONS FLY CRUSADERS – Two French Navy squadrons have been flying the F-8E (FN) Crusader since 1964, operating from the carriers Foch and Clemenceau. The two units, Squadron 12/F and Squadron 14/F, both passed the 20,000 flight hours mark last year.



2,000-HOUR PLAQUE PRESENTED – When Commander Jack Finney received a plaque in recognition of his accomplishment in logging 2,000 hours in Crusader cockpits the presentation was made by Rear Admiral William A. House, director of the Air Warfare Division, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations.

Commander Finney is assigned to the division's air strike and air ASW branch.

He is a former commanding officer of the "Sundowners" of Fighter Squadron 111 and a veteran of combat action in Vietnam.



FOUR STAR JERSEY – During his last visit to an operating carrier of the Seventh Fleet as Commander in Chief of the Pacific Fleet, Admiral John J. Hyland wore a special four star flight deck jersey.

Rear Admiral James D. Ramage, Commander Carrier Division 7, presented the jersey to the Commander in Chief.

Admiral Hyland, shown with Captain Frank S. Haak, commanding officer of USS Oriskany, was subsequently relieved by Admiral Bernard A. Clarey.



NAS DALLAS COMMAND CHANGES – Captain Louis J. Muery, Jr., has assumed command of NAS Dallas, relieving Captain Jimmie E. Savage.

Captain Savage has been assigned to duties as deputy director of the Seventh Navy Recruiting Area, in Dallas.

Captain Muery (photo) reported from NAS Glenview, Illinois, where he had been serving as Deputy Chief of Naval Air Reserve Training.

NAS Dallas is home base for two Crusader Reserve squadrons, VF-201 and VF-202.



VF-53, VF-162 DISESTABLISHED – Fighter Squadron 53 and Fighter Squadron 162, veterans of combat action over Vietnam, have been disestablished at NAS Miramar, California.

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“SATAN’S KITTENS” RETIRE TROPHY – Permanent possession of the Carrier Air Wing 19 plaque awarded for carrier landing excellence was gained by the “Satan’s Kittens” of VF-191 during a ceremony at NAS Miramar, California.

During deployment to Southeast Asia aboard USS Oriskany VF-191 won the “Golden Tailhook” award during three of the air wing’s five operating periods in the Gulf of Tonkin.

Holding the plaque in the photo are Commander G. A. Aitcheson (left), commanding officer of the squadron, and Commander D. F. Mow, commanding officer of the air wing.

Squadron members include (left to right) Lieutenants H. T. Nygard, “Keefer” Welch, T. R. Shaffer and M. L. Waldron, Lieutenant Commander R. W. Geeding, Lieutenant J. A. Campbell, Commander R. A. Peters, executive officer, and Lieutenant Commander R. F. Ball.

VFP-63, Detachment 34, with Lieutenant Commander Mike Long as officer in charge, won the tailhook award for the fourth line period.

The award for the best overall landing performance during the fifth and final period of deployment was won by the “Red Lightnings” of VF-194, led by Commander Jim Ryan.



“RIVER RATS” SCHEDULE REUNION – The third national reunion of the Red River Valley “River Rat” Pilots Association has been scheduled for May 7-9 in San Diego, California. The association’s membership is composed of pilots who flew combat missions into the Red River Valley area of North Vietnam.

CONGRATUALTIONS IN ORDER – Two Crusader milestones have been passed by the “Fighting Checkmates” of Fighter Squadron 211.

The squadron’s skipper, Commander Dave Perault (right in photo), passed the 2,500 flight hours mark in the F-8 and Lieutenant Commander Jerry Kuechman, operations officer, logged his 100th F-8 night carrier arrested landing.

VF-211 is serving aboard USS Hancock off the coast of Vietnam.



NEW COMNAVAIRPAC NAMED – Rear Admiral Thomas J. Walker, Commander of the Naval Air Systems Command, has been nominated for promotion to vice admiral and selected as the new Commander Naval Air Force, Pacific Fleet.

Admiral Walker (photo) has headed the Naval Air Systems Command for two years and will relinquish command on April 1. His new headquarters will be at NAS North Island, San Diego, California.

As COMNAVAIRPAC, he will relieve Vice Admiral W. F. Bringle, who has been named Commander of Naval Forces in Europe and will be promoted to four-star rank. Admiral Walker will be responsible to the Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet for the readiness of all Naval air units in the Pacific. He will command 60,000 officers and men who man the nine aircraft carriers, 23 shore stations and 100 squadrons assigned to the Pacific air command.



A 1939 graduate of the U. S. Naval Academy, he was designated a Naval Aviator in 1942. During the World War II invasion of Africa at Safi and Casablanca he spotted shore bombardment and later participated in anti-submarine flights over convoys.

In addition to a postgraduate tour at Annapolis and duty with the Bureau of Aeronautics he commanded six aviation squadrons and the ammunition ship Nitro. He was the first commanding officer of USS Constellation, commissioned in 1961.

Prior to reporting to the Naval Air Systems Command in 1967 he commanded Carrier Division 3, which operated in the Gulf of Tonkin. He made two deployments to Southeast Asia and was awarded the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star and the Vietnam National Order and Gallantry Cross for combat operations in support of the Republic of Vietnam.

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MEET THE "HAWKEYES" – Naval Air Reserve pilots of the "Hawkeyes" of Light Photographic Squadron 206, based at the Naval Air Facility, Washington, D.C., include (left to right) Lieutenant Commanders Gordy James, Jess Stewart and Ron Meier, Lieutenant Kev Smith and Commander Frank Dunne, commanding officer.



10,000th FLIGHT HOUR LOGGED – Captain George C. Watkins, deputy commander of the Naval Air Test Center, Patuxent River, Maryland, has logged his 10,000th hour of flight time.

The milestone was passed as the veteran test pilot, designated as a Naval Aviator in 1945, recorded the 1,323rd carrier landing of his Navy career during automatic landing tests of the F-4J aboard USS Enterprise.



Captain Watkins has made more than 6,000 individual flights and has filled six logbooks and started a seventh. He has flown 86 different and distinct types of aircraft and has operated from 37 aircraft carriers.

His total flight time includes about 1,500 hours in Vought-built aircraft, including the F4U Corsair, the F7U Cutlass, the F-8 Crusader and the A-7 Corsair II.

Currently qualified to fly 40 different types of military aircraft, including 10 helicopter models, he has averaged more than 30 hours of flight time monthly since 1945.

VF-191 CONDUCTS AWARDS CEREMONY – During a ceremony on the parade grounds at NAS Miramar, California, Rear Admiral James D. Ramage, Commander Carrier Division 7, presented awards to 26 members of Fighter Squadron 191.

Commander G. A. Aitcheson, commanding officer of the squadron, received the Bronze Star for “meritorious service as commanding officer of Fighter Squadron 191, embarked in USS Oriskany from 1 June to 9 December 1970 during combat operations.” He also received his fourth through seventh Air Medals.

Commander R. A. Peters, the squadron’s executive officer, received his 13th through 15th Air Medals.

Air Medals were presented to Lieutenant Commander Robert W. Geeding, Lieutenant Commander John M. Welch and Lieutenants Howard T. Nygard, Curtis M. Anderson, Edward F. O’Gara, Thomas M. Letter, Charles F. Lowry, Terry R. Shaffer, Jay A. Campbell and John J. Roach III.

Lieutenant Roach also received the Navy Commendation Medal for heroism while serving at NAS Miramar on December 22, 1969.

“On the occasion of a catastrophic fire at Hangar K-277,” the citation noted, “dazed and injured personnel were observed within the hazard area. With complete disregard for his own safety and aware of the personal dangers involved, Lieutenant Roach unhesitatingly entered the fuel inundated and burning hangar to assist numerous men to safety.”

Navy Achievement Medals were presented to AE1 Raymond H. Mueller and AMS2 Edward B. Zolina.

Commander-in-Chief Pacific Fleet Letters of Commendation were received by ADJC Phillip Shepherd, ADJC Arthur M. Tilley, AMS2 Daniel C. Brockway and AQBAN James T. Weaver.

Seventh Fleet Letters of Commendation were presented to AQCS Bennie J. Allen, ADJC Eugene E. Christy, YN1 Anthony J. Shulkusky and AE1 Daniel W. Vear.



FORMER “IRON ANGELS” SKIPPER LEADS AIR WING – Commander Paul T. Gillcrist, a former executive officer and commanding officer of the “Iron Angels” of Fighter Squadron 53, is the new commanding officer of Attack Carrier Air Wing 3 at NAS Cecil Field, Florida.

While serving with VF-53, he flew the Crusader and made combat tours to Vietnam aboard USS Ticonderoga in 1966, USS Hancock in 1967 and USS Bon Homme Richard in 1968. He has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star, the Air Medal (17 awards), the Navy Commendation Medal and the Vietnamese Air Gallantry Cross.

He reported to Air Wing 3 after a tour of duty in Washington, where he served on the staff of the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Air) as assistant for anti-air warfare.





TAILHOOK AWARD PRESENTED — The VFP-63 detachment aboard USS Franklin D. Roosevelt in the Mediterranean has won the golden tailhook award for carrier landing excellence during the first period of the deployment.

The detachment's pilots are (left to right in photo) Lieutenant Craig Sherman, Lieutenant Skip Leonard, Lieutenant Commander Dick Leach, officer in charge; Lieutenant Denny Baker and Lieutenant Dave Hilgenberg, photo intelligence officer.



2,000 F-8 HOURS RECORDED — Lieutenant Commander Gary W. Harrell, of Fighter Squadron 211, has recorded his 2,000th hour in Crusader cockpits.

The "Checkmates" of VF-211 are serving aboard USS Hancock off the coast of Vietnam.

Also aboard the carrier are the "Fighting Red Checkertails" of Fighter Squadron 24.



1,000 HOURS LOGGED — Lieutenant Skip Leonard, flying with the VFP-63 detachment aboard USS Franklin D. Roosevelt in the Mediterranean, has logged his 1,000th flight hour in the Crusader.

The milestone was marked on the second day of Mediterranean operations during the carrier's current deployment with the Sixth Fleet. On the preceding day, Lieutenant Leonard had recorded the first arrested landing of the operational period.



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“HARD HAT” PRESENTED – A specially decorated “hard hat” aviator’s helmet was presented to Commander D. F. Mow, commanding officer of Carrier Air Wing 19, when he paid a visit to NAS Miramar, California.



The presentation was made by Commander G. A. Aitcheson, skipper of the “Satan’s Kittens” of VF-191.

Commander Mow, who is based at NAS Lemoore and has VF-191 as part of the complement of his air wing, made six F-8J Crusader familiarization flights during his visit.

The decorating of the helmet was done by PR1 Lawrence Jaworski.



TASK FORCE 77 COMMAND CHANGES – Vice Admiral Frederick A. Bardshar has been relieved by Rear Admiral Damon W. Cooper as Commander Attack Carrier Striking Force, Seventh Fleet (Task Force 77).

The change of command ceremony took place in the Gulf of Tonkin aboard USS Kitty Hawk, flagship for the task force commander.

Vice Admiral Bardshar, completing his fifth deployment to the Western Pacific and commander of Task Force 77 since February 1970, had received orders to become the first director of tactical electromagnetic programs in the office of the Chief of Naval Operations.

Rear Admiral Cooper assumed his new duties after serving as Commander Carrier Division 9 and as a task group commander with Task Force 77. A graduate of the Naval Academy and a Naval Aviator, he has held several commands, including USS Ticonderoga. His decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star with combat V and 13 Air Medals.



ORISKANY EAGLE AWARD PRESENTED – The first recipient of the Oriskany Eagle Award is Lieutenant Commander William E. Asbell, who was given recognition for exceptional performance as senior landing signal officer of Carrier Air Wing 19 during the carrier’s 1970 combat cruise to Southeast Asia.

The award will be presented annually to the individual, division or squadron best typifying the professional standards of the Oriskany/Air Wing 19 team. Selection of winners is based on the decision of a 20-man board comprised of 10 officers and 10 enlisted men.

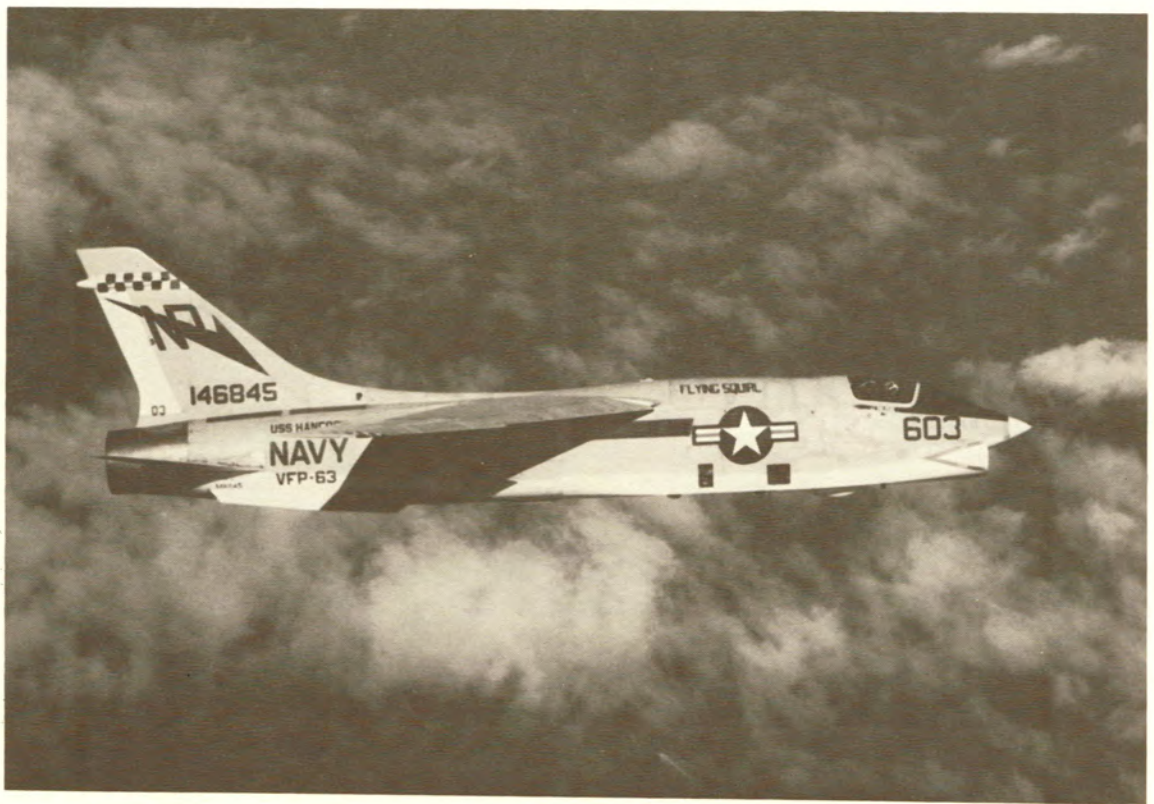
Sponsoring the award is Vought Aeronautics, builders of the Crusader and Corsair II aircraft which operated from the carrier during the 1970 deployment.

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VFP-63 IN ACTION — Serving aboard USS Hancock off the coast of Vietnam are the pilots of Detachment 1, Light Photographic Squadron 63.

Lieutenant Commander Bill Petitt, officer in charge of the detachment, is shown in the driver's seat of his RF-8G Crusader. The other pilots are Lieutenants Bill Hester, Frank Blair and Tom Pearl.



MILESTONES REACHED — Two pilots of the "Fighting Red Checkertails" of VF-24 have reached milestones in their Navy careers while operating from USS Hancock in Southeast Asia.

Lieutenant Commander Jerry Unruh (left photo), squadron maintenance officer, has recorded his 2,500th flight hour.



Lieutenant Commander Ken "Hans Brinker" Cox (right photo) has achieved his 100th night carrier arrested landing in the Crusader.



BRONZE STARS AWARDED – Officiating at separate squadron ceremonies at NAS Miramar, California, Rear Admiral James D. Ramage, commander of Carrier Division 7, presented Bronze Stars to (left photo) Commander George A. Aitcheson, commanding officer of the “Satan’s Kittens” of VF-191, and (right photo) Commander James W. Ryan, commanding officer of the “Red Lightnings” of VF-194.



VF-194 AWARDS CEREMONY CONDUCTED – At an awards ceremony conducted in the station theater at NAS Miramar, Commander James W. Ryan, commanding officer of VF-194, received the Bronze Star and his eighth Air Medal strike/flight award.

Other recipients of Air Medals or strike/flight awards included Commander C. D. Metzler, executive officer of the squadron; Commander L. C. Ermis, Lieutenant Commander K. F. Jackson, Lieutenants J. T. Phaneuf, J. H. Rockwell, F. W. Sage, R. F. Johnson, G. D. Cromwell, D. C. Priest, R. A. Parker, A. E. Erickson and J. C. Johnson, and ATR2 M. L. Noye.

Navy Commendation Medals were awarded to AE1 F. J. Kurtzinger, AQ1 J. W. Foster and AMS1 C. M. Johnson.

Navy Achievement Medals were presented to CS1 S. D. Arnold, ADJ1 R. W. Evans, AMH1 R. L. Carr, AT1 J. K. Smith, AQ1 J. S. Shifler and AE2 S. C. Jones.

Commander in Chief Pacific Fleet Letters of Commendation were awarded to AME1 R. A. Nelson, AE2 P. L. Zircher, ATN2 T. J. Kern, AQ2 R. P. Tanner, ATN3 J. R. Allen, AO1 R. A. Feuillerat, AO3 L. L. Waulet, AE3 J. W. Magher and AQF3 W. E. Bacon.



RESERVE POST FILLED – Captain Richard C. Altmann is the new deputy chief of Naval Air Reserve training at NAS Glenview, Illinois.

He replaced Captain Louis J. Muery, Jr., assigned to command NAS Dallas.

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VF-24, VF-211 BACK HOME — Back at home base after deployment to Southeast Asia aboard USS Hancock are the “Fighting Red Checkertails” of VF-24, led by Commander Bruce R. Boland, and the “Checkmates” of VF-211, led by Commander David J. Perault.

During the cruise VF-24 pilots flew 2,876 flight hours in 101 flying days. Although 1,217 sorties were scheduled, they actually flew 1,329 to exceed their commitment by 10 per cent.

Top photo shows one of the squadron’s Crusaders escorting one of the RF-8G photo reconnaissance planes of VFP-63, Detachment 19. Bottom photo shows members of the squadron on the flight deck of the Hancock, ready for their return to NAS Miramar, California.



VF-211 KEPT 'EM FLYING — A celebration was in order when VF-211, operating from USS Hancock off the coast of Vietnam, racked up a total of 857 flight hours during the carrier's last line period of deployment and set a squadron record for any one-month period during its six deployments to WESTPAC.



Participating in the festivities were (left to right in photo) Captain Wayne Hammett, chief of staff, Commander Carrier Division 3; Captain T. L. Johnson, commanding officer of the Hancock; Captain Gary Palmer, commanding officer of Carrier Air Wing 21, and Commander David J. Perault, commanding officer of the squadron.



DOUBLE CENTURIONS — Status as Double Centurions of USS Hancock was won by three of the "Checkmates" pilots of Fighter Squadron 211 during the carrier's deployment to Southeast Asia.

Photo shows Commander David J. Perault, commanding officer of the squadron, offering congratulations to (left to right) Lieutenant Commander Gary Harrell, Lieutenant Charlie Robinson and Lieutenant Commander Jerry Kuechman for their accomplishment in making their 200th landings aboard the Hancock.



COMMANDER FINNEY LEADS VF-124 — The new commanding officer of VF-124, the "Crusader College" training squadron at NAS Miramar, California, is Commander Jack L. Finney.

Commander Finney (photo) relieved Commander Crawford A. Easterling, who has been assigned to serve as director of naval airborne weapons systems in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations.



The new skipper is a veteran of combat operations over Vietnam. After a 1967 deployment to "Yankee Station" as executive officer of VF-111 aboard USS Oriskany he became commanding officer of the "Sundowners" in April 1968 and made another deployment aboard USS Ticonderoga. His decorations include the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star Medal with combat V, 12 Air Medals, two Navy Commendation Medals with combat V, the Navy Unit Commendation, the Meritorious Unit Commendation and the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross with bronze star.

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AEROSPACE MUSEUM GETS PHOTO DISPLAY – VFP-63, NAS Miramar, California, has made a gift to the citizens of San Diego in the form of a naval aerial photo reconnaissance display at the Balboa Park Aerospace Museum.

Photo shows (left to right) John P. Starkey, president of the museum; Commander Ben Cloud, commanding officer of VFP-63, and Owen Clark, the museum's executive director.



Topped by a scale model of the photo Crusader, the permanent display depicts the various types of aerial photography provided by the squadron. It includes vertical and oblique frame photography, panoramic photography, and night photography accomplished with high-powered flashes. The panoramic photos include a view of San Diego taken from an altitude of 50,000 feet.

The display was prepared by Lieutenant (jg.) Howard Martin, assisted by AVCM Herb Herrmann, PH2 Bob Keller and PH2 Del Christensen.



2,000 CRUSADER FLIGHT HOURS RECORDED – Commander John M. Schulze, Jr., executive officer of VFP-63, has logged his 2,000th hour in Crusader cockpits.

The milestone was reached while he was flying out of NAS Miramar, California, on a photo mission to the San Francisco Bay area.

Designated a Naval Aviator in 1958, the veteran pilot has logged a total of 3,000 flight hours and has made 450 carrier landings during his Navy career.



MILESTONE LANDING – Lieutenant John J. Roach III, one of the “Satan’s Kittens” pilots of Fighter Squadron 191, has been credited with making the 162,000th carrier landing aboard USS Oriskany.

Sampling the commemorative cake are (left to right in photo) Commander G. A. Aitcheson, commanding officer of the squadron, Lieutenant Roach, and Captain Frank S. Haak, commanding officer of the Oriskany.



The milestone landing was recorded while the carrier was conducting night operations off the coast of southern California.



BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS – With a season's record of 11 wins and one loss, the basketball team of VF-124 won the intramural cage championship at NAS Miramar, California.

Photo shows (front row, left to right) Steve Lambert, Dick DallaTorre, Captain A. B. Smith, Jr., Commander Fleet Air Miramar, who made the trophy presentations; Skip Giles and Commander C. A. Easterling, VF-124's commanding officer.

Back row: Nate Jenkins, Tim Bone, Bob Hollingsworth, Marty Long, Steve Higgins, Dick Greathouse and Sam Washington.



VF-191 COMMAND CHANGES – Commander Richard A. Peters has relieved Commander George A. Aitcheson as commanding officer of the "Satan's Kittens" of VF-191, based at NAS Miramar, California.

Commander Aitcheson has been assigned to the Army War College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

Commander Peters (photo) was commissioned as an ensign in July 1955 after being graduated from the University of Rochester. After being designated as a Naval Aviator in September 1956 he served with VF-84 at NAS Oceana, Virginia.



In February 1966 he joined VF-111 and made two WESTPAC cruises aboard USS Oriskany. His decorations include the Distinguished Flying Cross, 16 Air Medals and two Navy Commendation Medals.

After serving as a flight instructor with VF-124 he attended the Armed Forces War College, Norfolk, Virginia. Returning to NAS Miramar, he was assigned to duty on the staff of RCVW 12 until he joined VF-191 as executive officer in May 1970.

NAS MIRAMAR COMMAND CHANGES – Captain George E. R. Kinnear II has relieved Captain Alfred W. Chandler, Jr. as commanding officer of NAS Miramar, California, home base for the fighter squadrons of the Pacific Fleet.

Captain Chandler has received orders to duty as the Bureau of Naval Personnel's West Coast representative for personnel affairs. He also will serve for several months as officer in charge of the Navy's drug rehabilitation center at Miramar.

Vice Admiral Thomas J. Walker, Commander Naval Air Force, Pacific Fleet, presented Captain Chandler with a Gold Star in lieu of a second Legion of Merit for his achievements while in command of the air station.



Captain Kinnear (photo) assumed his new duties after serving as commanding officer of USS Spiegel Grove (LSD-32). During a previous assignment to NAS Miramar, he was the commanding officer of Carrier Air Wing 2 in 1967 and 1968.

He has logged more than 5,000 hours of flight time and 800 arrested carrier landings and his decorations include the Legion of Merit (combat V and Gold Star), the Distinguished Flying Cross (three Gold Stars), four individual Air Medal awards and 11 strike/flight awards, the Navy Commendation Medal with combat V and three Gold Stars, the Navy Unit Citation with two bronze stars, the Navy Meritorious Unit Citation and the South Vietnamese Navy Distinguished Service Order.

Squadrons with which he served during his Navy career include VF-173, VA-45, VA-44, VA-12 and VA-106.



720th "TRAP" RECORDED – Flying a Crusader from USS Oriskany, on station off the coast of Vietnam, Commander Samuel W. Hubbard, commanding officer of Attack Carrier Air Wing 19, has recorded the 720th arrested carrier landing of his Navy career.

Of that total, 615 landings were made in Crusaders.

Commander Hubbard is now flying both the Crusader and the Corsair II.



CRUSADER



*FIGHTER
REPORT*



RESERVE SQUADRONS REQUALIFY PILOTS – Fighter Squadrons 201 and 202, based at the “Texas Fightertown Branch” at NAS Dallas, have requalified 12 Naval Reserve pilots aboard USS John F. Kennedy, operating off the Atlantic Coast. The VF-201 contingent was led by Commander “Chuck” Blaker, officer in charge, and the VF-202 contingent by Commander P. J. Smith, squadron executive officer and chief representative F-8 requirements at Vought Aeronautics Company.



RESERVE UNIT CONDUCTS F-8H TRAINING – During a two-week active duty tour at NAS Dallas, Reserve Training Unit (RTU) 201 conducted F-8H transitional training for six pilots. Utilizing aircraft and maintenance support from host squadrons VF-201 and VF-202, nine veteran pilots and the six transitional pilots flew 241 sorties for a total of 412 flight hours.

In addition to the familiarization training, rocket, bomb and strafing flights were conducted in conjunction with navigation and day/night aerial refueling flights. Multiple weapon flights were made against the CNAVANTRA targets near Chase Field, Beeville, Texas. Eleven pilots became qualified or refreshed while refueling from a KA-3B of VAQ-202. RTU 201 is commanded by Commander N. M. “Nels” Gillette, a test pilot for Vought Aeronautics Company. The officer in charge is Commander C. N. “Tiny” Wenzlau.

CRUS



*FIGHT
REPORT*



FIVE CRUSADER, CORSAIR SQUADRONS ABOARD ORISKANY – Two Crusader fighter squadrons and three Corsair II attack squadrons are serving aboard USS Oriskany, deployed to Southeast Asia.

The Crusader squadrons are VF-191, led by Commander Richard A. Peters, and VF-194, led by Commander Fred D. Richardson, Jr.

The Corsair II squadrons are VA-153, led by Commander William J. M. O'Connor; VA-155, led by Commander M. R. Seibert, and VA-215, led by Commander Paul E. Phillips.

The aircraft complement of Carrier Air Wing 19 also includes a detachment from VFP-63, led by Lieutenant Commander R. L. Larson, and detachments from VAW-111, VAQ-130 and HC-1.



COMMANDER BAILEY HEADS VFP-63 – Commander Gail R. Bailey has assumed command of VFP-63, NAS Miramar, California, relieving Commander Benjamin W. Cloud.

Commander Cloud, skipper of the squadron since June 1970, has been assigned to the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island.

Commander Bailey is a veteran of combat in Vietnam. In 1964 he joined Fighter Squadron 53 and flew the Crusader during two deployments to Southeast Asia. After shore duty, including an assignment as flight test officer for the Naval Plant Representative's Office at the Vought Aeronautics Company plant in Dallas, he rejoined VF-53 as executive officer in July 1970 during the squadron's last WESTPAC cruise and served until February of this year, when VF-53 was disestablished.





ALOHA FOR CRUSADERS – After six years of service with VC-1 at Barbers Point, Hawaii, the squadron's Crusaders have been retired from active duty.

Squadron personnel include (left to right in photo) Lieutenants W. R. Hanley, P. W. Ogilvie, R. "N" Brantigan and R. P. White, Commander R. G. Sonniksen, commanding officer; Commander S. E. Harrison, executive officer; Lieutenants J. W. Inman and T. W. Holford, ADR3 R. K. Reid and ADJ3 J. C. Rowe.



MILESTONE LANDING – Commander Richard A. Peters, commanding officer of Fighter Squadron 191, has made his 400th landing aboard USS Oriskany, currently deployed off the coast of Vietnam.

The milestone trap increased to nearly 900 the number of arrested carrier landings Commander Peters has made during his Navy career and he has logged 2,800 hours in Crusader cockpits.



Photo shows (left to right) Captain Frank S. Haak, commanding officer of the Oriskany; Captain Leonard M. Nearman, chief of staff, Commander Carrier Division 7; Commander Peters; Commander Sam Hubbard, commanding officer of Carrier Air Wing 19, and Rear Admiral James D. Ramage, Commander Carrier Division 7.



COMMANDER RHODES DIRECTS VF-211 – Commander William K. Rhodes, Jr. has relieved Commander David J. Perault as commanding officer of Fighter Squadron 211, based at NAS Miramar, California.

Commander Perault received orders to report to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, in Washington.

Commander Rhodes (photo) served on the staff of Readiness Attack Carrier Air Wing 12 before reporting to VF-211 as executive officer in June 1970. Previously, he had commanded VF-111, Detachment 2 aboard USS Intrepid. His decorations include the Bronze Star, eight Air Medals, the National Defense Service Medal, the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal and the Navy Unit Commendation.



VX-4 COMMAND CHANGES – Captain Thomas J. Cawley has relieved Captain James E. Foster as commanding officer of VX-4 at Point Mugu, California.

Photo shows (left to right) Captain Foster, Rear Admiral M. D. Carmody, of Norfolk, Virginia, Commander Operational Test and Evaluation Force, and Captain Cawley.

Captain Foster reported to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations for duty in Washington.



COMMANDER RICHARDSON LEADS VF-194 – The new commanding officer of the “Red Lightnings” of Fighter Squadron 194 is Commander Fred D. Richardson, Jr., who relieved Commander James W. Ryan.

The change of command took place aboard USS Oriskany while the carrier was in port at Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines, after completing the first line period of its current deployment to Vietnam.

Commander Richardson (photo) is a veteran of two combat tours with VF-24 aboard USS Hancock and of 156 missions over North Vietnam. He also has served as flight deck officer and aircraft handling officer aboard USS Constellation during a WESTPAC cruise. Prior to joining VF-194 he was executive officer of VF-191. Of the 3,200 hours he has flown during his Navy career more than 900 have been logged in Crusaders.



2,000-HOUR CRUSADER PLAQUE PRESENTED – Lieutenant Colonel Mel Sautter, executive officer of the Marine Air Reserve Training Detachment at NAS Dallas, has received a plaque in recognition of his achievement in recording 2,000 Crusader flying hours.

The presentation was made by Brigadier General Jay Hubbard, commanding general of the Fourth Marine Wing, Glenview, Illinois, as Colonel Steve Furimsky, commanding officer of the detachment, looked on.



Both Brigadier General Hubbard and Lieutenant Colonel Sautter are former commanding officers of VMF-232, the latter in Vietnam.

SEAGOING HIGH SCHOOL CLASS GRADUATED – Three days out of San Diego, completing their sixth deployment to Vietnam, the “Fighting Checkmates” of Fighter Squadron 211 conducted graduation ceremonies for 20 students who had completed requirements for high school diplomas during the cruise.

Photo shows (left to right) AQ2 M. O. Whitley, class valedictorian; Commander David J. Perault, skipper of the squadron, and Captain T. L. Johnson, commanding officer of USS Hancock.



Ranging in age from 18 to 35 years, the class members represented VF-211, VFP-63, VAX-164 and the Hancock. Courses were sandwiched in between working hours, operational activities and sleep but, despite the fact that a 15-hour working day was often climaxed with a class, all of the students completed the program.

The project was instituted prior to deployment when Lieutenant Ed Brown, of VF-211, wrote to Captain A. W. Chandler, Jr., commanding officer of NAS Miramar, California, asking what could be done to establish a seagoing school. Captain Chandler obtained the approval of the Chief of Naval Operations and, for aid in setting up procedures, contacted Kenneth Woodward, dean of the Army and Navy Academy of Carlsbad, California, which maintains a shore-based high school diploma program.

Commander Perault and his executive officer, Commander William K. Rhodes, Jr., served as school sponsors. Members of the faculty included Lieutenant Brown, coordinator, and instructors Lieutenant Rick Amber, Lieutenant (jg.) Ben Woods and Lieutenant (jg.) Tom Hamilton. AT1 Robert Porter handled the paperwork between the at sea classroom and the Army and Navy Academy.

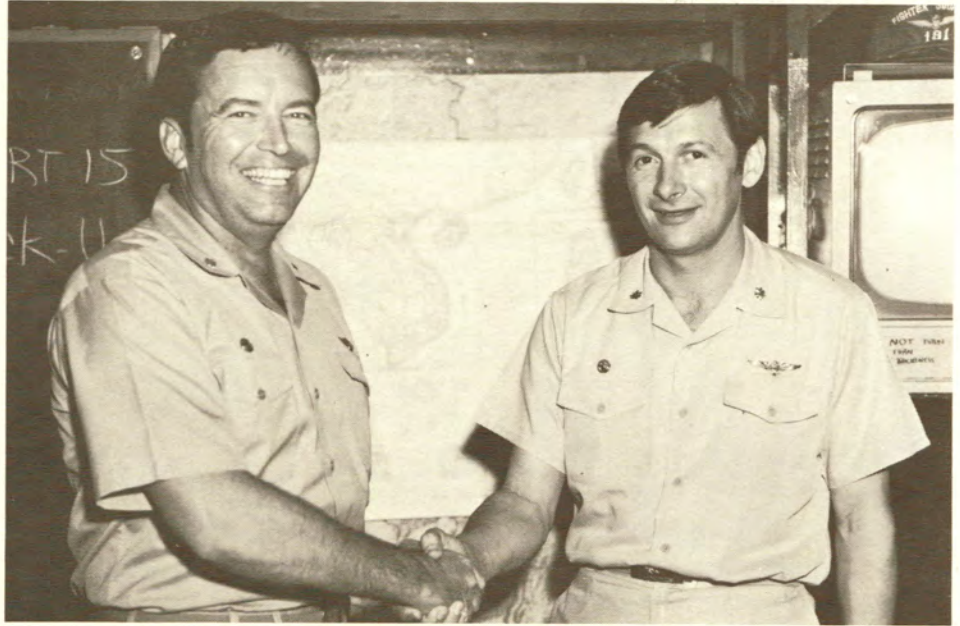
Students receiving diplomas were AQ2 Martin O. Whitley, class valedictorian; AE1 John R. Stanek, AMSC Kenneth W. Nowak, SN Robert E. Halone, AK3 Daniel L. Murrell, AN Frank L. Adams, AT1 Enrique S. Babauta, AN Kenneth W. Dobbs, SN Ronny B. Ellingford, ADJ1 Donald G. Fennell, AOAN John M. Fick, AN Wayne B. Muller, AN Stephen K. Newcomb, AN Wilber G. Sowers, PR2 James A. Stegner, ADJAN Ronald L. Ford, ADJ1 Warren E. Bousquet, AZ3 James J. Flavell, AA R. R. Forgrave and AN Louis J. Frias.

VF-211 reported that earlier high school programs aboard deployed Navy vessels had relied on correspondence courses to prepare students for the general educational development test and, after passing this test, students normally were granted high school equivalency certificates by their home states. Under the VF-211 formal classroom program, students received diplomas from the State of California.

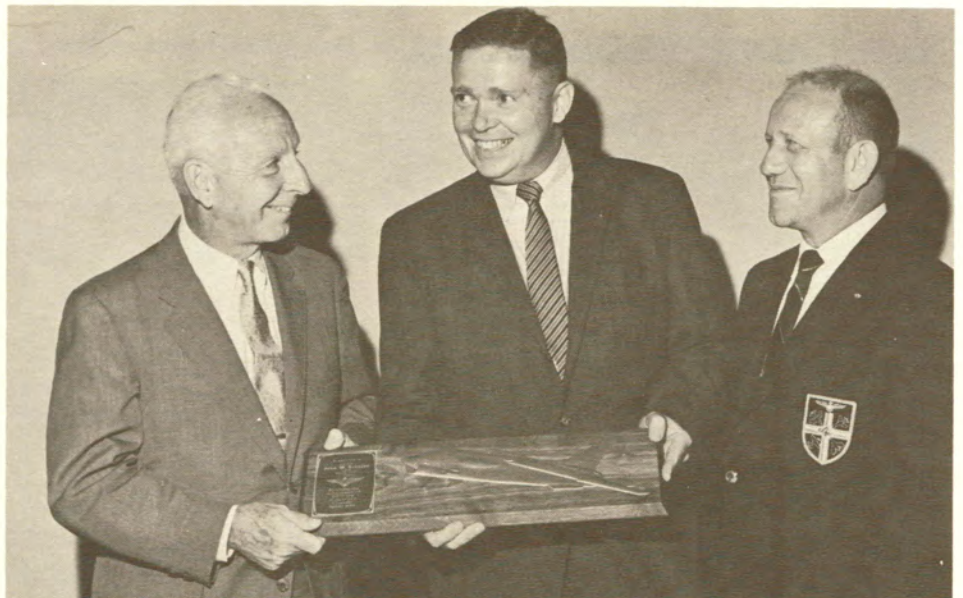
CRUSADER



FIGHTER REPORT



WELL DONE! — Commander Richard A. Peters, who has logged more than 2,900 hours in Crusader cockpits, is shown being congratulated by Commander Sam Hubbard, commanding officer of Carrier Air Wing 19, after recording his 700th F-8 arrested carrier landing. Commander Peters (right in photo) and his "Satan's Kittens" of Fighter Squadron 191 are serving with the air wing aboard USS Oriskany off the coast of Vietnam.



2,000-HOUR PLAQUE AWARDED — When Commander John M. Schulze, executive officer of VFP-63, NAS Miramar, California, received a plaque in recognition of his achievement in recording 2,000 hours of flying time in the Crusader the presentation was made at the 15th Tailhook Reunion in Las Vegas by Admiral Thomas F. Connolly, USN (Ret.), former Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Air), and Sol Love, president of Vought Aeronautics Company.



VF-191 WINS TAILHOOK AWARD – The “Satan’s Kittens” of Fighter Squadron 191, led by Commander R. A. Peters, won the Carrier Air Wing 19 golden tailhook award for carrier landing excellence during USS Oriskany’s first line period of its current deployment to Southeast Asia. Photo shows (left to right) Commander S. W. Hubbard, commanding officer of the air wing; Lieutenant Commander R. M. Vance, air wing landing signal officer; Lieutenant R. F. Johnson, of VF-194, individual fighter squadron plaque winner; Lieutenant H. T. Rittenour, of VA-215, individual attack squadron plaque winner; Lieutenant T. J. Davis, of VAW-111, individual plaque winner; Commander Peters and Lieutenant O. Tolbert, air wing landing signal officer.



“FIGHTERTOWN” WELCOMES VF-302 – The officers and enlisted men of Naval Air Reserve Fighter Squadron 302 have been officially welcomed at NAS Miramar, California. Captain Armistead B. Smith (right in photo), Commander Fleet Air Miramar, extended greetings to Commander William “D” Kiper, skipper of the squadron.



VF-302, which joined VF-301 as a member of Reserve Carrier Air Wing 30, will be composed of 22 officers and 178 enlisted men when up to full strength. The executive officer, Lieutenant Commander Guy Freeborn, also serves as officer in charge of daily squadron functions. Department heads include Lieutenant Commanders Tom Rodger, Larry Lykins and Dudley Moore.

The 16 “Stallions” pilots have amassed 34,000 flight hours, including 17,000 hours in the Crusader, have made more than 4,800 carrier landings and have recorded 2,200 combat sorties in Southeast Asia.

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VF-194 WINS, TOO – The golden tailhook award for the second line period of USS Oriskany's current deployment was won by the "Red Lightnings" of Fighter Squadron 194, led by Commander F. D. Richardson. Photo shows (left to right) Commander Richardson, Rear Admiral J. D. Ramage, Commander Carrier Division 7; Commander S. W. Hubbard, Carrier Air Wing 19 commander, and Captain Frank S. Haak, commanding officer of the Oriskany.

Admiral Ramage and Captain Haak added a little color to the occasion by wearing vintage Navy hats and epaulets of an earlier decade.



CAKE "FESTIVAL" CONDUCTED – A cake "festival" was conducted aboard USS Oriskany to mark the carrier's 166,000th arrested landing, its 75,000th starboard catapult shot and an end to a nine-day liquid oxygen (LOX) support commitment to USS Midway.

The 166,000th arrested landing was made by Lieutenant (jg.) Jay L. Johnson, of VF-191, shown in photo with Captain Frank S. Haak, commanding officer of the carrier.

The Oriskany received a "Thanks A LOX" cake from the Midway after the latter vessel, also serving on Yankee Station off the coast of Vietnam, had regained use of her liquid oxygen generating capacity. Earlier, about 1,000 gallons of LOX, used in jet aircraft for breathing at high altitudes, had been airlifted from the Oriskany to the Midway by helicopter in 50-gallon LOX carts. MM1 Donald G. Wands, leading petty officer of the Oriskany's LOX plant, represented the plant at the cake cutting ceremony.



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REAR ADMIRAL MATTER BECOMES "GRAY EAGLE" – The Navy's 21st Gray Eagle, the officer still on active duty who holds the earliest designation as a Naval Aviator, is Rear Admiral Alfred R. Matter, Commandant, 12th Naval District, with headquarters on Treasure Island, San Francisco.

Admiral Matter, whose designation dates back to December 18, 1935, received the Gray Eagle Award trophy from Rear Admiral George P. Koch, who was retiring as Commandant, Naval District Washington.

The trophy is sponsored by the Vought Aeronautics Company of LTV Aerospace Corporation and the photo at left above shows Sol Love, president of the company, presenting a replica of the trophy to Admiral Koch for transfer to Admiral Matter.

The photo at right shows (left to right) Secretary of the Navy John H. Chafee, Admiral Koch, Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr., Chief of Naval Operations, and Admiral Matter.

The Gray Eagle is "the most ancient aviator on active duty" and the trophy is presented "in recognition of a clear eye, a stout heart, a steady hand and daring defiance of gravity and the law of averages."



RESERVE SQUADRONS QUALIFY PILOTS – Naval Air Reserve Fighter Squadrons 301, led by Commander Walt Smith, and VF-302, led by Commander William "D" Kiper, qualified 27 pilots during carrier qualification deployment aboard USS Coral Sea off the coast of California.

The newest squadrons at "Fightertown", NAS Miramar, California, flew F-8J Crusaders during the deployment.

Making their initial carrier landings in the F-8J were Lieutenant Commanders Guy Freeborn and Tom Rodger, of VF-302; Lieutenant Gary Ferguson and Lieutenant Don Chapman, of VF-301, and Commander Pat Thompson, of RTU-301.

Lieutenant Commander John Browning, operations officer of VF-301, recorded his first carrier landing in a Navy aircraft. He previously served in the Air Force and flew the F-100.

VF-24 COMMAND CHANGES – Commander John R. Batzler has assumed command of the “Red Checkertails” of Fighter Squadron 24, based at NAS Miramar, California.

The new skipper (photo) relieved Commander Bruce R. Boland, who had received orders taking him to the University of California for further studies.

Commander Batzler was commissioned an ensign in the Navy in June 1955, reported for flight training in August, and was designated a Naval Aviator on January 11, 1957. After five months of photo reconnaissance training, he reported to VFP-63 and served a four-year tour of duty.



From August 1961 through September 1962, he served at the U.S. Naval Academy as a mathematics instructor. He then attended the Naval Test Pilot School at Patuxent River, Maryland, and served as a project test pilot with the weapons system test division until October 1965.

From November 1965 through June 1968, he served with VF-31 as maintenance officer and then as operations officer during two deployments to the Mediterranean aboard USS Saratoga and with VF-96 as administrative officer and then as operations officer during a WESTPAC deployment aboard USS Enterprise.

He received his master's degree in computer systems management from the Naval Postgraduate School in December 1969 and, after F-8 refresher training with VF-124, he reported to VF-24 in August 1970 as executive officer. His decorations include the individual Air Medal, eight strike/flight Air Medals, the Navy Commendation Medal with combat V, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the National Defense Service Medal and two Vietnam Campaign Medals.



MILESTONE LANDINGS – Two of the “Red Lightnings” pilots of Fighter Squadron 194 have recorded the 167,000th and 168,000th arrested landings made aboard USS Oriskany, operating in the Gulf of Tonkin.

Lieutenant R. A. “Rod” Parker (second from left in photo) made the 167,000th landing and Lieutenant A. E. “Leif” Erickson (right) made the 168,000th landing.



The two pilots were congratulated by Captain Frank S. Haak, commanding officer of the carrier, and Commander F. D. Richardson, skipper of the squadron, and the traditional cake cutting ceremony was conducted.

Lieutenant Parker is the squadron's line division officer and Lieutenant Erickson is its flight/communications officer.

NEW DCNO (AIR) ASSUMES DUTIES – Vice Admiral Maurice F. Weisner, new Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Air), is a veteran of combat in World War II, the Korean conflict and the war in Vietnam.

The former Commander Seventh Fleet relieved Vice Admiral Thomas F. Connolly, who has retired.

The new DCNO (photo) was graduated from the U. S. Naval Academy in 1941. Assigned to USS Wasp as assistant navigator, he served in that post until the Wasp was lost to enemy torpedo action September 15, 1942. He was subsequently assigned to flight training and was designated a Naval Aviator on May 20, 1943. After duty as a flight instructor he joined Patrol Bombing Squadron 20 for action against the Japanese in the Pacific.



During the Korean conflict his assignments included service as commanding officer of Patrol Squadron 56.

In the war in Vietnam he served as Commander Carrier Division 1, Commander Attack Striking Force, Seventh Fleet and Commander Carrier Division 5, and as Commander Seventh Fleet.

His decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit with Gold Star, the Distinguished Flying Cross with Gold Star, the Air Medal with five Gold Stars, the Commendation Medal and the Navy Unit Commendation Ribbon with star, the American Defense Service Medal, American Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, Navy Occupation Service Medal, China Service Medal, Navy Defense Service Medal with bronze star, Korean Service Medal with star, the United Nations Service Medal, the Philippine Liberation Ribbon, the Korean Presidential Unit Citation Badge, the Vietnam Service Medal with two stars and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with device.



“CRUSADER COLLEGE” WELCOMES NEW CLASS – VF-124, the “Crusader College” training squadron at NAS Miramar, California, has welcomed a new class of student pilots who are undergoing training in all aspects of the F-8.

Under the direction of squadron instructor pilots, Ensign H. L. Valeche and Lieutenants (jg.) R. N. Morrison, M. D. Swofford, C. L. Wayman, G. H. Vorhoff and R. R. Fessenden will complete an extensive syllabus which includes formation flying, radar, instruments, air-to-air and air-to-ground gunnery, and carrier qualifications.

The class is the third to undergo F-8 training with VF-124 during the current fiscal year.

Commander Jack L. Finney is the commanding officer of the “Crusader College” squadron.