



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
FIGHTER SQUADRON ELEVEN
UNIT 25504
FLEET POST OFFICE
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1992

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From: Commanding Officer, Fighter Squadron ELEVEN
To: Director, Naval Historical Center (ATTN: Aviation History Branch)

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1992

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization
(2) Chronology of Outstanding Events
(3) Narrative of Outstanding Events
(4) Biography of CDR Bruce W. Clingan
(5) Photograph of CDR Bruce W. Clingan

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (5) are hereby submitted.

BW Clingan
B. W. CLINGAN

Copy to:
COMCRUDESGRU THREE
COMFITAEWINGPAC
COMCARAIRWING FOURTEEN

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COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

COMMANDING OFFICER
(01 JAN 92 to 07 DEC 92) (07 DEC 92 to Present)
CDR Leo F. Enwright, Jr. CDR Bruce W. Clingan

EXECUTIVE OFFICER
(01 JAN 92 to 07 DEC 92) (07 DEC 92 to Present)
CDR Bruce W. Clingan CDR Michael D. Crisp

LOCATION OF COMMAND
(01 JAN 92 to 25 FEB 92) (26 FEB 92 to Present)
Naval Air Station Oceana Naval Air Station Miramar
Virginia Beach, VA 23460 San Diego, CA 92145

ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL ASHORE
(01 JAN 92 to 25 FEB 92)
Commander, Fighter Wing One
Commander, Tactical Wings, Atlantic
Commander, Naval Air Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet
(26 FEB 92 to Present)
Commander, Carrier Air Wing FOURTEEN
Commander, Fighter Airborne Early Warning Wing, U.S. Pacific Fleet
Commander, Naval Air Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet

OPERATIONAL CONTROL AFLOAT
(01 JAN 92 to 25 FEB 92)
Commander, Carrier Air Wing SIX
Commander, Carrier Group SIX
(26 FEB 92 to Present)
Commander, Carrier Air Wing FOURTEEN
Commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group THREE

AIRCRAFT
(01 JAN 92 to 25 FEB 92) (26 FEB 92 to Present)
F-14A TOMCAT Tail Code "AE" F-14D SUPER TOMCAT
Tail Code "NK"

CARRIER ASSIGNMENTS
(01 JAN 92 to 25 FEB 92)
USS FORRESTAL (CV 59)
Homeported at Mayport Naval Station, Florida
(26 FEB 92 to Present)
USS CARL VINSON (CVN 70)
Homeported at Naval Air Station Alameda, California

MISSION
Fleet Air Superiority and Power Projection Missions include: Combat Air
Patrol, Air Intercept, Maritime Air Superiority and Strike Escort.

CHRONOLOGY OF OUTSTANDING EVENTS

JANUARY

Transfer F-14A aircraft to West Coast (VF-24 and VF-211).

FEBRUARY

1 PCS moves to NAS Miramar commence.
26 CDR ENWRIGHT, Commanding Officer, arrives at NAS Miramar.
28 PCS moves to NAS Miramar complete.
28 Final aircraft transferred to West Coast (VF-24 and VF-211).

MARCH

02 F-14D aircrew transition begins at FRS, VF-124.
06 VF-11 welcomed aboard by NAS Miramar-hosted by VF-124.
16 F-14D transition flights begin.

APRIL

Transition training continues.

MAY

Transition training continues.

JUNE

01 VF-11 Maintenance Department stands up and begins
squadron maintenance transition program.
01 First F-14D accepted by VF-11.
10 Aircrew transition training completed.
20 Tomcat Ball.

JULY

01 COMFITAEWINGPAC stand-up inspection - All maintenance programs in
place.
01 First F-14D sortie in VF-11 aircraft.

AUGUST

25-2 Sep Four aircrews conduct initial F-14D carrier qualification on board
the USS NIMITZ (CVN-68).

SEPTEMBER

04-20 Cope Thunder 4-92, Elmendorf Air Force Base, Anchorage, Alaska.
21 FRS Class 92-01D reports.
29-30 Missilex, PMTC, California. Successfully employed 3 AIM-7 and 1
AIM-9 missiles.

OCTOBER

13-23 Four additional aircrews conduct initial F-14D carrier
qualifications on board USS LINCOLN (CVN-72).

NOVEMBER

23 PXO, CDR Michael Crisp reports.
30 FRS Class 92-02D reports.

DECEMBER

07 Change of Command, NAS Miramar, CDR Bruce W. Clingan
relieves CDR Leo F. Enwright.
08-16 Final two aircrews conduct initial F-14D carrier
qualifications on board USS NIMITZ (CVN-68).
14 - 31 Holiday leave period.

NARRATIVE OF OUTSTANDING EVENTS

The Red Rippers were notified in late 1991 of the possibility that the squadron would transition to the Navy's newest fighter, the F-14D, and move to NAS Miramar in San Diego, California. In January, upon return from a well deserved post Mediterranean cruise standdown/leave period, the squadron received confirmation of the transition. The Rippers immediately began an intensive maintenance and administrative effort to prepare VF-11's personnel and F-14As for transfer. Nearly one hundred personnel were chosen to make the move to the west coast; the remaining squadron personnel were transferred during the first three months of 1992. The squadron's F-14A's were transferred to other fighter squadrons, predominantly VF-24 and VF-211 on the west coast.

Personnel designated to make the transcontinental move to NAS Miramar started a mass exodus from Virginia enroute to California in February. CDR Leo F. Enwright, Commanding Officer, reported on board NAS Miramar on 26 February to start the transition process. All officers making the transition had reported on board NAS Miramar by 28 February.

March marked the beginning of a new era for Fighter Squadron ELEVEN and a new home for the World Famous Red Rippers. VF-124, the west coast Fleet Replacement Squadron (FRS), along with other Miramar based fighter squadrons, hosted an official welcome aboard for "Arnold" and the rest of the Rippers at the Officer's Club on 6 March 1992.

The process of transitioning the squadron to the F-14D Super Tomcat was initiated under the auspices of VF-124. The transition, which spanned March, April, and May, was completed in early June. The Maintenance Department accepted VF-11's first F-14D, Ripper 100, BUNO 163904, on 1 June.

The annual Fightertown Tomcat Ball took center stage in the month of June with VF-11 participating in this west coast event for the first time. At the Tomcat Follies, the Rippers won the "Best Skit" competition, with a true demonstration of Red Ripper color and tact.

On 1 July the squadron passed the Functional Wing Commander's inspection of its maintenance programs and LT Dave Burnham and LCDR Paul Pompier flew the first fleet F-14D sortie in Ripper 100. Throughout July and August, intensive familiarization flights were conducted throughout the southern California operating area. In late August, four aircrews conducted initial carrier qualification on board USS NIMITZ (CVN-68) during the first fleet F-14D shipboard operations.

The Rippers participated in Cope Thunder 4-92 from 4 September through 20 September at Elmendorf Air Force Base, Anchorage, Alaska. Cope Thunder is a NATO exercise involving Navy, Air Force, and ground forces from several countries. The Rippers conducted multi-package strikes against air defenses that included fixed-wing, rotary, and ground threats. The squadron focused on developing new combat tactics to best exploit the capabilities inherent in the new engines and weapons systems of the F-14D.

The first fleet F-14D missile firing exercise took place on 30 - 31 September at Pacific Missile Test Center, Point Mugu, California. LCDR Randy King and LTJG Steve Kim launched an AIM-7M from Ripper 100, the first missile fired from a fleet F-14D. A total of three Sparrow missiles and one Sidewinder missile were expended during this exercise; all missiles guided successfully.

During October and November the Rippers continued to concentrate on developing fighter tactics to optimize employment of the F-14D. Four additional aircrews conducted carrier qualifications on board USS LINCOLN (CVN-72).

On 7 December, CDR Bruce W. Clingan relieved CDR Leo F. Enwright at a ceremony at Hangar Two, Naval Air Station Miramar, California. December closed with the final two aircrews completing carrier qualifications on board USS NIMITZ (CVN-68). These final carrier qualifications completed the Red Rippers' transition to the F-14D Super Tomcat.