

1999



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
FIGHTER SQUADRON COMPOSITE TWELVE
NAVAL AIR STATION OCEANA
VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA 23460-2297

5750
Ser 01A/2082
9 JUN 00

From: Commanding Officer, Fighter Squadron Composite 12
To: Director, Naval Historical Center, Washington Navy
Yard, 805 Kidder Breese SE, Washington, DC 20374-5060

Subj: SUBMISSION OF FIGHTER SQUADRON COMPOSITE TWELVE 1999
COMMAND HISTORY REPORT

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) Fighter Squadron Composite Twelve Command Data
(2) Commanding Officer's Biography
(3) Executive Officer's Biography
(4) 1999 Chronology
(5) 1999 Narrative
(6) Annual Aviation Awards Data for 1999
(7) Photograph of Squadron Aircraft

1. Enclosures (1) through (7) are submitted per reference (a).

C. E. CASH

**FIGHTER SQUADRON COMPOSITE TWELVE
COMMAND DATA**

Commanding Officer

Charles E. Cash, Commander, U. S. Naval Reserve

Executive Officer

Carl J. Murray, Commander, U. S. Naval Reserve

Senior Administrative Command

Commander, Carrier Air Wing Reserve 20

Squadron Title/UIC

VFC-12/52994

Squadron Mission

Provide Dissimilar Air Combat Training (DACT) for Navy, Marine Corps and other aviation units. In addition, provide fleet service missions for air and surface units as tasked.

Aircraft

10 F/A-18A; 2 F/A-18B

Duty Station

When Ashore: Naval Air Station Oceana, Virginia Beach, Virginia

When deployed: Naval Air Station Key West, Key West, Florida

**FIGHTER SQUADRON COMPOSITE TWELVE
1999 CHRONOLOGY**

January NAS Key West Detachment
Local Fleet/FRS support

February NAS Fallon Detachment
NAS Cecil Field Detachment - VFA-106 support
Local Fleet/FRS support

March NAS Cecil Field Detachment - VFA-106 support
NAS Key West Detachment
Local Fleet/FRS support

April NAS Key West Detachment
VFA-131/VFA-136 SFARP
Local Fleet/FRS support

May VF-11/VF-143 SFARP
NAS Key West Detachment - VFA-106/VF-101 support
Local Fleet/FRS support

June NAS Key West Detachment - VFA-106/VF-101 support
VF-211 SFARP

July VF-101 Tactics Support
Local Fleet/FRS support

August NAS Key West Detachment - VFA-106/VF-101 support
Local Fleet/FRS support

September NAS Key West Detachment - VFA-106/VF-101 support
Local Fleet/FRS support

October NAS Key West Detachment - VF-103/VFA-87 SFARP
NAS Key West Detachment - VFA-34/VFA-81 SFARP

November Local Fleet/FRS support

December VF-31 SFARP

**FIGHTER SQUADRON COMPOSITE TWELVE
1999 NARRATIVE**

The "OMARS" of Fighter Squadron Composite Twelve spent the first quarter of 1999 participating in an arduous series of detachments in support of both the F-14 and F/A-18 Fleet Replacement Squadrons (FRS). These training exercises included two detachments to NAS Key West, one to NAS Cecil Field, and one to NAS Fallon. By providing adversary support through a variety of threat presentations, the "OMARS" persistently challenged the student aviators of VF-101 and VFA-106 to fine-tune their piloting skills and to improve the way they employ their aircraft. Meanwhile, during the occasional periods of time the men and women of VFC-12 were back home at NAS Oceana, they provided the same, skillful adversarial support to the local fleet squadrons.

In April, the OMARS once again packed their bags and headed south to Key West to participate in yet another training exercise with the "Grim Reapers" of VF-101 and the "Gladiators" of VFA-106. The OMARS flew over 120 sorties for a total of 168.4 hours of support. Returning from Key West, the squadron dived right in to the Strike Fighter Advanced Readiness Program (SFARP) for VFA-131 and VFA-136. Using the squadron's F/A-18 Hornets painted in the Kola Peninsula MIG color scheme, the OMARS provided the two fleet squadrons with expected adversary tactical presentations. This exercise allowed the OMARS to instruct the fleet pilots how to better utilize their planes and weapons systems to eliminate the potential threat from foreign aircraft.

Following on the heels of the training for VFA-131 and VFA-136, the OMARS charged ahead providing support for VF-11 and VF-143 SFARPs. The SFARP training program is particularly vital to fleet squadron readiness as it prepares the squadron with the tools to integrate into the air wing, as well as the battle group, preparing them for worldwide deployment. With the SFARP training of VF-11 and VF-143 complete, the OMARS once again packed their bags and headed south to the tropical climate of NAS Key West. VF-101 and VFA-106 again required the services of the Fighting OMARS to train the future of Naval Aviation with a standardized Fleet Replacement Squadron basic tactics regimen. As is often the case, the OMARS spent another holiday away from family and friends as the "Grim Reapers" and the "Gladiators" training spanned the Memorial Day weekend, and carried the squadron into the month of June.

With only a week to regroup and prepare their jets, the OMARS gave the full court press to VF-211 as the "Checkmates" began the SFARP portion of their turnaround-training plan. If the demanding flight schedule of SFARP was not enough, the OMARS

undertook one of the oldest administrative evolutions. Keeping with the Navy and Marine Corps tradition of holding a formal Change of Command Ceremony, Commander Charles E. Cash relieved Commander Jerry R. Trudell at 1400 in Hangar 23 at Naval Air Station Oceana as Fighter Squadron Composite Twelve's Commanding Officer. Commander Carl J. Murray was welcomed aboard as the OMARS new Executive Officer. With Commander Cash "at the helm", the men and women of VFC-12 continued to achieve the command mission with unparalleled perseverance and steadfast fortitude.

Completing the SFARP for VF-211 closed out the very busy month of June, leading into a much slower paced schedule. July was spent entirely at NAS Oceana, serving the fleet with a variety of threat presentations in order to fine-tune their piloting skills. Mid-July the OMARS ramped up to provide FRS training for VF-101. This evolution was unusual in that the entire sequence was completed at NAS Oceana, vice NAS Key West. This site change had no impact on the ability of VFC-12 to provide their top-notch adversary support through a variety of threat presentations. August continued the stay on the "home turf" while the OMARS provided the same, skillful adversarial support to all the local fleet squadrons. The month also allowed the squadron to complete much needed internal training of squadron personnel, including some of the younger pilots with a very structured Instructor Under Training (IUT) syllabus. In addition to the in-house IUT syllabus, the OMARS sent two pilots, one F/A-18, and a small maintenance contingent to the "Top Gun" Adversary Training Course, continuing the squadron's goal of excellence.

September started off full steam ahead, finding the squadron back in Key West supporting VF-101. The OMARS flew over 140 sorties for a total of 176.3 hours of professional adversary support. With a week and a half to regroup, the men and women of VFC-12 attacked yet another SFARP. This time the OMARS were tasked to complete and entire air wing at one time, providing adversary support for VF-103, VFA-83, VFA-34, and VFA-81. Continuing into October, the squadron found themselves back at NAS Key West for three weeks to continue the month long evolution. While the deployed OMARS found their plates full, the skeleton crew that remained behind at NAS Oceana was busy moving from Hangar 200 to temporary spaces in trailers. The move to the wheeled domicile was to facilitate the renovation of the squadron spaces in the hangar. Upon return from Key West the deployed OMARS were welcomed to one of the slowest months of the year.

November allowed the OMARS to regroup and attend to many of the regular maintenance items that the jets required. However, the squadron continued to provide the fleet with the same professional adversarial support that they were used to receiving. The OMARS also took the opportunity of a "slow" month

to continue with their in-house training, providing further education for both maintenance personnel and squadron aircrew. As the month closed, the squadron prepared to pick up the pace and charge ahead into the next major training exercise.

The first week of December ushered in SFARP for VF-31. Preparing for the upcoming holiday season did not impede the OMARS from providing the first class and professional adversary support that the fleet had come to expect. On the heels of a grueling evolution for the "Tomcatters" of VF-31, the Fighting OMARS prepare for a well-deserved break at the end of a very busy year. The hard working men and women of VFC-12 finish the year "recharging their batteries" with time at home, celebrating holiday cheer with family and friends in the OMAR tradition.

**FIGHTER SQUADRON COMPOSITE TWELVE
ANNUAL AVIATION AWARDS DATA FOR 1999**

1. Per reference (a), the following data is submitted:

a. OPERATIONS:

(1) Sorties - 2642
Hours - 3303

b. SAFETY:

(1) Total number of reports submitted - 2 total, 2
HAZREPS, 0 NAMDRIP.

(2) Number of articles submitted - 4 total, 1 Pro-of-the-
Week, 3 Safety.

(3) Dates of squadron safety standdowns - 22 May 1999.

(4) Number of NATOPS changes submitted - 0.

(5) Class A Mishap-Free Flight Hours/ Years - 12,762
hours/3 years, 8 months, 8 days.