



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
FIGHTER SQUADRON COMPOSITE THIRTEEN
45513 REGULUS ROAD HANGAR #2
NAVAL AIR STATION, MIRAMAR
SAN DIEGO, CA 92145-5799

1994 ✓

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From: Commanding Officer, Fighter Squadron Composite THIRTEEN
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH)

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY REPORT (OPNAV 5740-1)

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Encl: (1) Narrative
(2) Command Composition and Organization
(3) Chronology
(4) Biography of the Commanding Officer
(5) Command Charter and Goals
(6) VFC-13 Personnel Listing

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (6) are submitted for Calendar Year 1994.

2. Point of Contact is our Public Affairs Officer, LT Gieselman, DSN 577-1767 or commercial (619) 537-1767.


F. R. HOLLINGER

SQUADRON HISTORY

The "Fighting Saints" of VFC-13 trace their origins back to 1946 when VF-753 was commissioned flying F6F-5 Hellcats. Today's squadron was formed on September 1, 1973 at NAS New Orleans during the reorganization of the U. S. Naval Reserve. Initially, the squadron operated the Chance Vought F-8H "Crusader" with a complement of 17 officers and 127 enlisted men, former members of VSF-76 and VSF-86. In April 1974, the "Saints" transitioned to the single-seat A-4L "Skyhawk." As the demand for West Coast adversary services and other fleet support missions increased, the squadron was permanently transferred to NAS Miramar, arriving in San Diego in February 1976. That summer a transition was made from the A-4L to the more reliable two-seat TA-4J. 1983 marked the return of the single seat aircraft to VFC-13 with the arrival of the A-4E, and in 1988, the squadron moved to the A-4F "Super Fox," the more powerful and capable version of the Skyhawk. October 1993 marked the end of an era when VFC-13 transitioned to the single-seat, two engine F/A-18 "Hornet." This change further enhanced the squadron's ability to perform its adversary mission by providing an even more capable and realistic threat aircraft.

The "Fighting Saints" provide a formidable dissimilar adversary threat. In recognition of that primary mission assignment, on April 22, 1988 VC-13 was proudly redesignated as "FIGHTER SQUADRON COMPOSITE THIRTEEN (VFC-13)." At the same time the squadron logo was redesigned to reflect the changes undergone by the command over the past years. The new logo incorporated as its focal point the wings worn by the highest classification of Soviet Fighter Pilots, the "Sniper." VFC-13 provides quality adversary training for Regular Navy Fleet and Replacement Squadrons and Air Wings, Reserve Fighter and Attack Squadrons, the U. S. Air Force, U. S. Marine Corps and Canadian Forces. As of December 1994, the "Fighting Saints" have flown over 41,500 hours accident free, spanning nine years.

1946	VF-783 - F6F5 Hellcat
1946 - 1949	VF-53L - FG-1D Corsair
1949 - 1955	VF-821 - F4U-4 Corsair, F9F Panther
1955 - 1958	VA-821 - AD-4NA Skyraider
1958 - 1968	VF-821 - F9F-8B Cougar, FJ-3/4 Fury, A-4A/B Skyhawk
1968 - 1970	VSF-75X1 - A-4B Skyhawk
1970 - 1973	VSF-76/VSF-86 - A-4B/C Skyhawk, F-8H Crusader
1973 - 1974	VC-13 - F-8H Crusader
1974 - 1988	VC-13 - A-4L, TA-4J, A-4E Skyhawk
1988 - 1993	VFC-13 - A-4F, TA-4J Skyhawk
1993 - Present	VFC-13 - F/A-18A/B Hornet

COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

1. Mission. To provide Dissimilar Air Combat Training (DACT) for Navy and Marine Corps and other fighter/strike fighter squadrons when tasked. To provide a variety of threat simulations for air and surface units during pre-deployment work-ups and detachments. Specific services include:

- a. Air Combat Maneuvering Training
- b. Air to Air Tactics
- c. Air Intercept and Radar Tracking Training

2. Chain of Command. The "Fighting Saints" are led by Commander F. R. Hollinger, USNR, Commanding Officer, and Commander G. A. White, USNR, Executive Officer. VFC-13, based at NAS Miramar, San Diego, CA, is under the administrative and operational control of Commander, Carrier Air Wing Reserve TWENTY located at NAS Cecil Field, FL who reports to Commander, Naval Air Reserve Force, New Orleans, LA.

3. Manning. VFC-13 is manned with 275 personnel: 22 SELRES, 9 TAR, 6 USN Officers, and 119 SELRES, 124 TAR Enlisted. SELRES and TAR Aircrew are hand picked for their expertise, professionalism and their instructional abilities. All Aircrew have extensive fleet/adversary experience and average over 2400 flight hours.

4. Aircraft. VFC-13 maintains and flies a total of 12 McDonnell Douglas F/A-18 series aircraft including 10 F/A-18A "Hornets" and two F/A-18B's, All aircraft carry a camouflaged desert paint scheme and are assigned the tail code of Alpha Foxtrot (AF).

CHRONOLOGY

1. Significant Events.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
19 March 94	CDR F. R. Hollinger relieved CDR W. L. Baker as Commanding Officer.
31 March 94	VFC-13 is awarded the CNO Safety Award.
1 June 94	Transferred from CVWR-30 TO CVWR-20
5 August 94	Completed first Fleet Fighter ACM Readiness Program to be run by a reserve squadron.
31 Dec 94	VFC-13 completed 9 years and 41,500 flight hours accident free.

2. Detachments. The "Fighting Saints" spend a considerable amount of time at other sites in support of fleet training. The following detachments were completed during Calendar Year 1994:

<u>Site</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Type/Support</u>	<u>Hrs/Flts</u>
NAF El Centro, CA	10 Jan - 21 Jan	DACT/VF-124	122.2/99
NAS Fallon, NV	5 Apr - 15 Apr	DACT/CVW-2	121.2/110
NAF El Centro, CA	20 Apr - 22 Apr	DACT/VA-128	10.2/8
NAF El Centro, CA	1 Jun - 10 Jun	DACT/VF-124	109.8/94
NAF El Centro, CA	24 Jul - 5 Aug	DACT/VF-213	207.6/178
NAS Fallon, NV	18 Sep - 23 Sep	DACT/CVW-11	38.7/30
NAF El Centro, CA	7 Nov - 10 Nov	DACT/VF-31	48.5/40
NAS Key West, FL	4 Dec - 16 Dec	DACT/VF-101	127.4/94