

VRC-40
1972

FLEET TACTICAL SUPPORT SQUADRON FORTY

FLEET POST OFFICE
NEW YORK 09501

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6 MAR 1973

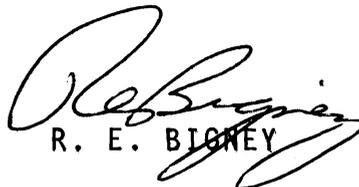
From: Commanding Officer, Fleet Tactical Support Squadron FORTY
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-05D2)

Subj: Command History (OPNAV Report 5750-1); submission of

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12B

Encl: (1) Basic History/with Documentary Annexes A-J.

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is forwarded. This enclosure comprises the squadron command history for calendar year 1972.


R. E. BIGNY

Copy to:

Director of Naval History (OP-09B9)
Washington Navy Yard
Washington, D. C. 20390

COMNAVAIRLANT/COMFAIRNORFOLK
Naval Air Station
Norfolk, Virginia 23511

BASIC HISTORY

FLETAC SUPPRON FORTY (VRC-40) is the only squadron in the Atlantic fleet which carries out the unusual task of Carrier Onboard Delivery, thus the nickname "COD". COD operations primarily consist of transporting passengers, mail, and high priority cargo to and from aircraft carriers operating at sea. Some of our country's most important business, government, and military officials have been passengers of the squadron. During 1972, a total of 157 such VIP's were transported in VRC-40's C-1A aircraft (Annex C). The squadron is often required to deliver urgently needed supply items to ports along the eastern seaboard and occasionally to different islands in the Caribbean Sea. In 1972, Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, was used as a primary staging point for VRC-40 to service Atlantic fleet carriers proceeding to on-station duties in the Pacific fleet (Annex H). In addition, numerous missions such as para-drops for Navy Seal Teams and Marines and occasional gunspotting exercises were conducted in the Virginia Capes area. Consequently, with operational requirements varying widely from day to day, the squadron has developed the ability and flexibility to perform a wide variety of tasks.

With such a varied mission, safety is of paramount importance and the squadron's thorough training program is evidenced by its record of accident free hours. Since November 1968, VRC-40 has logged 22,906.9 accident free hours. In recognition of this outstanding safety record, COMNAVAIRLANT, awarded the squadron a citation for Meritorious Achievement in Aviation Safety in 1972 and a 4 Year citation for continuous safety since 1968, (Annex A and B).

Unlike other aviation commands, VRC-40 rarely deploys as an entire unit. Extended deployments usually consist of only one or two aircraft and their crews. The only extended detachments in 1972, were aboard the USS INTREPID (CVS-11). The first one was DET I from 9 March 1972 to 22 April 1972 and consisted of 3 pilots, 6 enlisted men and one C-1A aircraft. DET II, the only other detachment covered the period from 11 July 1972 to 19 October 1972. It consisted of 2 pilots, 7 enlisted men and one C-1A aircraft for the duration of the cruise, with an augmentation of 4 pilots and 2 enlisted men for the month of September to assist with the COD requirements for the NATO exercise Strong Express. During this exercise VRC-40 pilots operated out of Norway and serviced the 3 carriers involved with Strong Express, USS INTREPID, USS JOHN F. KENNEDY, and HMS ARK ROYAL. (Annex J, page 5).

During 1972, VRC-40 transported nearly 6,000 passengers and over 323,000 pounds of mail and cargo while flying more than 4.9 thousand hours. Complete operational statistics are contained in Annex (C).

All operational and maintenance activities in 1972 were conducted with an average total of 122 enlisted men and 24 officers (21 pilots), both a decrease from 1971.

Of major importance during calendar year 1972 was the change of command, 7 July 1972, in which CDR Russell E. BIGNEY relieved CDR Richard L. BRUMMAGE of VRC-40's helm.

In 1972 VRC-40 was very active in NAS Norfolk sports, participating in softball, tennis, volleyball, and bowling. The bowling team became league champions and then went on to capture the NAS Norfolk base championship.

In the fall of 1972, VRC-40 commenced its own self help program by remodeling various offices and maintenance spaces. A new crews lounge and trophy room was made by a complete overhaul of an old locker room (Annex I).

ACCIDENT FREE HOURS

<u>1968</u>		<u>1969</u>		<u>1970</u>		<u>1971</u>	
NOV	443.3	JAN	469.8	JAN	394.7	JAN	544.7
DEC	546.0	FEB	395.1	FEB	496.6	FEB	450.3
TOTAL	<u>989.3</u>	MAR	590.4	MAR	467.5	MAR	435.8
		APR	567.5	APR	575.6	APR	458.2
		MAY	544.5	MAY	425.8	MAY	527.1
		JUN	425.5	JUN	380.0	JUN	544.2
		JUL	584.3	JUL	387.3	JUL	417.7
		AUG	545.3	AUG	316.2	AUG	487.5
		SEP	559.2	SEP	404.4	SEP	531.9
		OCT	382.4	OCT	468.0	OCT	420.1
		NOV	570.0	NOV	593.3	NOV	459.5
		DEC	372.0	DEC	435.2	DEC	376.5
		TOTAL	<u>6006.0</u>	TOTAL	<u>5344.6</u>	TOTAL	<u>5653.5</u>

1972

JAN	341.3	1968	-	989.3
FEB	454.9	1969	-	6,006.0
MAR	426.1	1970	-	5,344.6
APR	511.8	1971	-	5,653.5
MAY	455.7	1972	-	4,913.5
JUN	440.0	TOTAL		<u>22,906.9</u>
JUL	312.5			
AUG	488.5			
SEP	272.4			
OCT	357.8			
NOV	459.5			
DEC	393.0			
TOTAL	<u>4913.5</u>			



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
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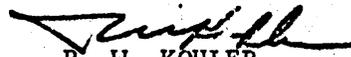
29 JAN 1973

From: Commander Naval Air Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet
To: Commander Fleet Air, Norfolk

Subj: Recognition for Achievement in Aviation Safety

Encl: (1) Accident-Free Aircraft Operations Award letter with Citation

1. The accident-free unit award in enclosure (1) is forwarded for appropriate delivery to Commanding Officer, Fleet Tactical Support Squadron FORTY.


R. W. KÖHLER
By direction

Copy to:
CO FLETACSUPPRON 40 ✓

Safety Award for period: 16 November 1968 to 15 November 1972

ANNEX B

OVERALL OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

	<u>AVG # PILOTS</u>	<u>AVG # A/C</u>	<u>FLIGHT HRS</u>	<u>SORTIES</u>	<u>CV LDGS</u>
JAN	21	6.3	341.3	205	87
FEB	23	6.2	454.9	237	71
MAR	22	5.1	426.1	225	63
APR	24	6.7	511.8	300	110
MAY	24	7.9	455.7	312	135
JUN	22	8.3	440.0	269	89
JUL	21	7.0	312.5	156	74
AUG	18	6.5	488.5	225	103
SEP	19	5.4	272.4	172	66
OCT	19	6.6	357.8	144	71
NOV	20	7.5	459.5	237	57
DEC	20	6.8	393.0	217	99
TOTAL	<u>21.1</u>	<u>6.7</u>	<u>4913.5</u>	<u>2699</u>	<u>1025</u>

	<u># PAX</u>	<u>VIP's</u>	<u>MAIL AND CARGO LBS</u>	<u>DISTANCE</u>
JAN	410	17	22,155	29,895
FEB	385	11	47,438	37,725
MAR	325	11	27,901	18,843
APR	674	14	56,163	48,350
MAY	937	23	42,066	38,724
JUN	813	23	42,351	40,893
JUL	201	3	6,101	18,052
AUG	371	7	12,438	19,218
SEP	384	5	14,386	19,279
OCT	295	8	7,409	18,924
NOV	537	17	18,917	20,389
DEC	498	18	26,290	18,924
TOTAL	<u>5830</u>	<u>157</u>	<u>323,615</u>	<u>329,216</u>

FLEET TACTICAL SUPPORT SQUADRON FORTY 1972 COD SUPPORT

<u>DATES</u>	<u>UNIT SUPPORT</u>	<u>STAGING POINT</u>	<u>REMARKS NOTE (1)</u>
JAN 9-12	CVT-16	Pensacola	2 A/C, COD & CQ
JAN 9-15	CVT-16	Pensacola	
JAN 9-15	CVA-42	Jacksonville	
JAN 12-15	CVA-42	Jacksonville	
JAN 16-19	CVT-16	Pensacola	
JAN 18-19	CVA-42	Norfolk	2 A/C
JAN 20-23	CVA-42	Quonset Point	3 A/C
JAN 23-29	CVT-16	Corpus Christi	2 A/C
JAN 24-29	CVA-60	Jacksonville	
JAN 26-28	CVA-60	Jacksonville	
FEB 4-9	CVT-16	Corpus Christi/Pensacola	2 A/C
FEB 6-11	NAVSTA	Roosevelt Roads	Weapons Load
FEB 12-19	CVS-11	Jacksonville	
FEB 14-19	CVA-60/CVA-42/	Jacksonville	5 A/C
FEB 23	CVS-11	Norfolk	
FEB 19-26	CVA-42	Roosevelt Roads	
FEB 25-29	CVA-42	Roosevelt Roads	
FEB 21-23	CVA-60	Jacksonville	2 A/C
FEB 23-28	CVA-60	Jacksonville	
MAR 1-3	CVA-60	Norfolk	
MAR 6-16	CVA-60	Jacksonville	
MAR 9-11	CVA-60	Jacksonville	2 A/C
MAR 9-APR 22	CVS-11	EASTLANT	DET I
MAR 14-15	CVA-62	Bermuda	2 A/C
MAR 21-23	CVA-60	Jacksonville	
MAR 25-30	CVA-60	Jacksonville	
MAR 29-30	CVA-66	Norfolk	
APR 1-3	CVA-60	Jacksonville	
APR 2-7	CVA-60	Jacksonville	
APR 10-13	CVA-60	Jacksonville	3 A/C
APR 11	CVA-59	Norfolk	
APR 13-16	CVA-60	Roosevelt Roads	6 A/C
APR 12-15	CVT-16	Corpus Christi	
APR 15-20	CVA-66	Norfolk	
APR 24-28	CVT-16	Pensacola	2 A/C
APR 25-30	CVA-66/CVA-59	Norfolk	

NOTE (1): One aircraft for COD service except as noted.

<u>DATES</u>	<u>UNIT SUPPORT</u>	<u>STAGING POINT</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
MAY 1-3	CVA-66/CVA-59	Norfolk	
MAY 7-10	CVT-16	Pensacola	
MAY 7-12	CVT-16	Pensacola	
MAY 9-12	CVA-59	Norfolk	
MAY 9-17	CVA-66	Norfolk	
MAY 14-20	CVT-16	Pensacola	
MAY 15-19	CVS-11	Quonset Point	
MAY 20-30	CVS-11	Quonset Point	
MAY 20-22	VRC-40	Albany	FCLP
MAY 21-24	CVT-16	Pensacola	
MAY 24-26	CVA-59	Charleston	2 A/C, COD & CQ
MAY 29-31	CVA-59	Norfolk	
JUN 1-5	CVA-59	Norfolk	
JUN 1-9	CVS-11	Quonset Point	
JUN 4-10	NAVSTA	Roosevelt Roads	Weapons Load
JUN 6-9	CVA-59	Norfolk	
JUN 6-10	CVA-66	Roosevelt Roads	2 A/C
JUN 14-27	CVA-59	Norfolk	
JUN 18-22	CVT-16	Pensacola/Corpus Christi	
JUL 9-15	CVT-16	Pensacola	2 A/C, COD & CQ
JUL 11-OCT 19	CVS-11	EASTLANT	DET II
JUL 16-21	CVT-16	Corpus Christi	3 A/C, COD & CQ
JUL 23-28	CVT-16	Pensacola	2 A/C, COD & CQ
AUG 13-18	CVT-16	Pensacola	2 A/C, COD & CQ
AUG 20-24	NAVSTA	Roosevelt Roads	Weapons Load
AUG 20-25	CVT-16	Corpus Christi	2 A/C
AUG 26-31	CVA-59	Norfolk	
AUG 27-31	CVT-16	Pensacola	2 A/C
SEP 7-18	CVA-59	Norfolk	
SEP 18-23	CVT-16	Corpus Christi	2 A/C
SEP 23-29	CVT-16	Pensacola	2 A/C
OCT 1-6	CVT-16	Pensacola	
OCT 23-29	CVT-16	Pensacola	3 A/C
OCT 29-31	CVT-16	Corpus Christi	2 A/C, COD & CQ
NOV 1-4	CVT-16	Corpus Christi	2 A/C, COD & CQ
NOV 4-10	CVT-16	Pensacola	2 A/C
NOV 11-16	CVS-11	Norfolk	
NOV 12-17	NAVSTA	Roosevelt Roads	Weapons Load
NOV 26-30	CVT-16	Pensacola	
DEC 4-10	CVT-16	Corpus Christi	2 A/C
DEC 8	CVA-42	Norfolk	
DEC 9-11	CVT-16	Pensacola	3 A/C, COD & CQ
DEC 12-13	CVT-16	Key West	3 A/C, COD & CQ
DEC 14-16	CVT-16	Pensacola	3 A/C, COD & CQ

OFFICER ROSTER

<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DESIGNATION</u>	<u>DATE DESG</u>	<u>INSTRUMENT RATING</u>
CDR	R. E. BIGNEY	PLANE COMMANDER	SEP 71	SPECIAL
CDR	H. A. PETRICH	PLANE COMMANDER	AUG 72	SPECIAL
LCDR	C. H. STILWELL	PLANE COMMANDER	AUG 71	SPECIAL
LCDR	J. M. CALLAWAY	PLANE COMMANDER	NOV 72	SPECIAL
LCDR	R. E. PEARL	PLANE COMMANDER	MAR 71	SPECIAL
LCDR	C. A. PUNDT	PLANE COMMANDER	JAN 72	SPECIAL
LCDR	R. E. NEWELL	PLANE COMMANDER	JAN 72	SPECIAL
LT	T. B. MEZGER	PLANE COMMANDER	NOV 71	SPECIAL
LT	J. B. WHITE	PLANE COMMANDER	OCT 72	STANDARD
LT	D. S. BURGESS	PLANE COMMANDER	OCT 71	STANDARD
LT	G. J. WOLF	PLANE COMMANDER	MAR 72	STANDARD
LT	R. W. BELL	PLANE COMMANDER	DEC 72	STANDARD
LT	R. G. ADAMS	PLANE COMMANDER	DEC 72	STANDARD
LT	L. E. BROWN	PLANE COMMANDER	JAN 72	STANDARD
LTJG	B. S. POWELL	PLANE COMMANDER	NOV 72	STANDARD
LTJG	R. L. RASMUSSEN	THIRD PILOT	MAY 72	STANDARD
LTJG	R. T. POPE	THIRD PILOT	APR 72	STANDARD
ENS	A. M. SVATEK	THIRD PILOT	JUL 72	STANDARD
ENS	J. A. STAMETS	THIRD PILOT	NOV 72	STANDARD
ENS	T. L. PATRICK	TRAINING		STANDARD
LT	V. W. ROBY	ASST ADMIN OFFICER		
ENS	V. W. NIBBS	COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER		
CW02	D. M. ROBY	ASST MAINT OFFICER		
WO1	R. E. ANDERSEN	A/C MAINT CONTROL OFFICER		