



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

COMMANDING OFFICER  
VFA-201  
NAVAL AIR STATION JOINT RESERVE BASE  
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76127-5000

5750  
Ser N00/021  
**MAR 14 2003**

From: Commanding Officer, Strike Fighter Squadron 201  
To: Chief of Naval Operations, Director Air Warfare Division  
Special Assistant for Publications and Operational  
Records (N78H)

Subj: CALENDAR YEAR 2002 COMMAND HISTORY REPORT

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) Commanding Officer's Biography

1. Per reference (a), the following information and enclosure  
(1) are forwarded.

2. Command Composition and Organization.

Strike Fighter Squadron TWO ZERO ONE  
STRKFITRON TWO ZERO ONE  
UIC: 09309

Mission:  
Fleet Contributory Support and Tactical Sea Strike and Power  
Projection.

Organizational Structure:  
Commander Carrier Air Wing Reserve TWO ZERO (Jan-Sep 02)  
Commander Carrier Air Wing EIGHT (Oct 02-Present)

Commanding Officer:  
Commander Thomas W. Marotta, USNR-R

Duty Station:  
Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base, Fort Worth, TX 76127

Type and number of aircraft assigned:  
F/A-18A+, 12 aircraft assigned, Tailcode AJ

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Personnel Assigned:

TAR Officers: 7

SELRES Officers: 21

TAR Enlisted: 123

SELRES Enlisted: 93

### 3. Chronology.

27 Jan-09 Feb 2002: Squadron detachment to NAF Key West, FL for 2 weeks of air-to-air fleet replacement training with VFA-106.

16 Mar 2002: Change of Command, CDR Hermon C. Cook relieved by CDR Thomas W. Marotta.

21-27 Mar 2002: Squadron detachment to MCAS Miramar, CA for one week of carrier qualifications aboard the USS CONSTELLATION (CV-62).

05-18 May 2002: Squadron detachment to NAF Key West, FL for 2 weeks of air-to-air fleet replacement training with VF-101.

01-05 Jun 2002: Squadron participated in High Speed Anti-Radiation Missile (HARM) Exercise at NAWC Pt Mugu, CA. This was the command's first ever live HARM shot.

16-21 Jun 2002: Squadron participated in Missile Exercise at NAS/JRB New Orleans employing live AIM-7 and AIM-9 air-to-air missiles in tactical scenarios.

28 Jul-10 Aug 2002: Squadron detachment to NAS Lemoore, CA for 2 weeks of air-to-air Fleet replacement training with VFA-122, the Navy's first Super Hornet squadron.

04-21 Sep 2002: Squadron detachment to NAF El Centro, CA for 2 weeks of annual CVWR-20 air wing training. Squadron won air wing bombing derby with a 19 foot CEP. LCDR [REDACTED] won the individual competition with a 15 foot CEP.

04 Oct 2002: Squadron mobilized in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and assigned to Carrier Air Wing EIGHT (CVW-8). This was the first mobilization of a tactical reserve squadron since the Korean War.

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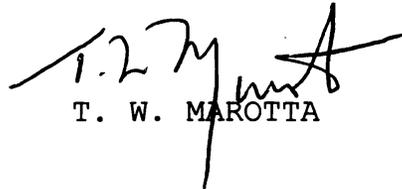
12-17 Oct 2002: Squadron conducted Strike Fighter Advanced Readiness Program (SFARP) training at NAS/JRB Ft Worth, TX. The exercise was supported by VFC-12, VFC-13, VFA-204, and the Strike Fighter Weapons School Atlantic.

20 Oct-10 Nov 2002: Squadron detached with CVW-8 to NAS Fallon, NV for three weeks of fleet air wing training. Two squadron pilots, CDR [REDACTED] and CDR [REDACTED], completed the demanding Air Interdiction Mission Commander course and were designated air wing strike leads.

30 Nov-19 Dec 2002: Squadron deployed for three weeks aboard the USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN-71) with CVW-8 completing TSTA I/II and night carrier qualification of all 18 squadron pilots.

#### 4. Narrative.

The men and women of VFA-201 made history in 2002. For the first time ever, a Navy Reserve FA-18 squadron was mobilized and deployed with an active duty carrier air wing. In 2002, the Hunters proudly stepped up to the plate and excelled in meeting every challenge. The squadron flew 3290 hours and recorded over 300 day and 135 night CV landings. The Hunters also executed 9 demanding detachments to 6 different locations and expended 100 percent of their allocated CVWR-20/CVW-8 NCEA. The squadron's pilots attained the highest Combat Training and Readiness levels ever for a reserve unit and led both air wings in targets found and destroyed. The Hunters enthusiastically embraced unprecedented challenges and ultimately achieved combat ready status. We proudly represent the Naval Reserve and stand poised, ready and willing to deploy our FA-18 A+ aircraft to any theater of operations.

  
T. W. MAROTTA