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1990



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
STRIKE FIGHTER SQUADRON 22
FPO SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 96601-6202

IN REPLY REFER TO:
5750
Ser PAO/C013
14 MAR 1991

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From: Commanding Officer, Strike Fighter Squadron 22
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-09BH)

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY (OPNAV 5750.1)

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Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D

- Encl:
- (1) Command Composition and Organization
 - (2) Attack Squadron 22/Strike Fighter Squadron 22 Chronology for 1990
 - (3) Attack Squadron 22/Strike Fighter Squadron 22 Narrative for 1990
 - (4) Supporting Documentation
 - (5) Statistical Data

1. Strike Fighter Squadron 22 Command History (OPNAV 5750-1) is submitted per reference (a).

R. Darwin
R. DARWIN

R 265-591709



DECLASSIFIED BY: CNO (N09N2)
OPNAVINST 5513.16 SERIES
DATE: 28 Apr 2000

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ATTACK SQUADRON 22/STRIKE FIGHTER SQUADRON 22

COMMAND COMPOSITION & ORGANIZATION

Attack Mission: Carrier based Light Attack Squadron. Primary mission is putting ordnance "on target" in support of land and sea power projection. Secondary missions include in-flight refueling, reconnaissance and long range search and rescue.

Strike Fighter Mission: Carrier based Strike Fighter Squadron. Primary mission is putting ordnance "on target" in support of land and sea power projection. Secondary missions include Fleet Air Defense, Strike Fighter Cover, Strike Rescue, Mining, and Surface Search and Control.

IMMEDIATE SENIOR IN COMMAND:

Operational: Commander, Carrier Air Wing 11

Administrative: Commander, Carrier Air Wing 11

Commanding Officer: Commander Dale M. Doorly, USN,
Commander G. Robert Darwin, USN,

Homeport: Naval Air Station Lemoore, California

Aircraft: 12 A-7E: Tailcode NH3XX
10 FA-18C Lot XII: Tailcode NH3XX

Callsign: Beefeater

Nickname: Fighting Redcocks

Awards: Squadron awarded Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for period of 17 to 31 January 1990.

ATTACK SQUADRON 22/STRIKE FIGHTER SQUADRON 22 CHRONOLOGY FOR 1990

January 1990

- 4 Commenced CVW-11 Weapons Week off Diego Garcia.
- 10 Shellback Initiation.
- 15 Inchop.
- 25 Steel beach picnic.

February 1990

- 2 Outchop.
- 6 Steel beach picnic.
- 18-23 Inport Rio De Janerio, Brazil.
- 23 Safety stand down.

March 1990

- 5-9 Inport St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands.
- 10 A-7E's fly-off.
- 12-13 Inport Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.
- 13-16 Tiger Cruise.
- 16 Off-load, and airlift to NAS Lemoore, California.

April 1990

- 26 Transferred last squadron A-7E to VA 122.

May 1989

- 3 Squadron redesignated to Strike Fighter Squadron 22 (VFA 22).
- 30 Received FA-18C 301, BuNo. 164039. Transferred to VFA 125 for pilot training.

June 1990

- 22 Received FA-18C 302, BuNo. 164041. Transferred to VFA 125 for pilot training.
- 28 Received FA-18C 303, BuNo. 164044. Transferred to VFA 125 for pilot training.

July 1990

- 5-6 Pre Safe-for-Flight Inspection.
- 6 Received FA-18C 300, BuNo. 164031.
- 11 MTIP Test.

August 1990

- 1 Safety Survey.
- 9 Change of Command.
- 15-16 Safe-for-Flight Inspection. Squadron received highest grade ever for transitioning squadron scoring 37 of 43 outstandings.
- 16 Received FA-18C 305, BuNo. 164054.
- 20 Began daily flight operations.
- 21 Received FA-18C 306, BuNo. 164057.
- 28 Base phone security brief.
- 30 Received FA-18C 310, BuNo. 164062.

September 1990

- 4 First squadron Night Vision Goggle flight.
- 11 Received FA-18C 307, BuNo. 164060.
- 17-31 1 plane, 1 pilot and 18 troops to Top Gun detachment.
- 25 Received FA-18C 311, BuNo. 164063.

October 1990

- 1-19 Top Gun detachment, Class 01-91.
- 10 Received aircraft 302 from VFA 125.
- 11 Received aircraft 301 and 303 from VFA 125.
- 19-20 Participated in Operation Coronet Goldrush with USAF.
- 30 Link 4 exercise with USS Arkansas.

November 1990

- 15 Maintenance completed its portion of Conventional Weapons Technical Proficiency Inspection (CWTPI). Written score for the AO shop was 98.5% and 96.4% for the IWT shop. Overall grade of Outstanding with 881 out of 900 possible points, with zero major and zero minor discrepancies.
- 19-21 Strike Fighter Advanced Readiness Program (SFARP) ground school.
- 23 Advanced SFARP detachment to NAS Fallon.
- 25 Squadron arrived NAS Fallon for SFARP detachment with eight aircraft.
- 26-30 SFARP, NAS Fallon.

December 1990

- 1-7 Complete SFARP, return to NAS Lemoore.
- 10-19 Advanced Attack Readiness Program (AARP) ground school.

ATTACK SQUADRON 22/STRIKE FIGHTER SQUADRON 22 NARRATIVE FOR 1990

1990 began with Attack Squadron 22 in the Indian Ocean onboard USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65) during World Cruise 89/90. Ending the cruise in Norfolk, Virginia, the squadron began transition from the A-7E Corsair II to the FA-18C Hornet. Both pilots and maintenance personnel had to be trained to fly and fix the new aircraft. As part of the squadron transition all A-7E aircraft were transferred to other commands and Attack Squadron 22 (VA 22) was redesignated Strike Fighter Squadron 22(VFA 22) in May. Deliveries of the FA-18C began within the month. All squadron instructions needed to be updated and maintenance manuals obtained. Prior to the squadron flying the new aircraft a safe-for-flight inspection was held by LATWINGPAC with the squadron earning the highest score ever obtained by a transitioning command at NAS Lemoore. A Change of Command was held in August. The remainder of the year was filled with training and detachments in preparation for the next deployment.

Additional information to that listed below can be found in enclosures (4) and (5) supporting documentation and statistical data. Especially noteworthy in enclosure (4) is the submission package for the 1990 CNO Aviation Safety Award which is a comprehensive listing of VA 22/VFA 22's achievements in 1990. Statistical data, including flight hours and missions flown, can be found in enclosure (5) under weekly and monthly training reports.

Highlights of the year include:

January

VA 22 began 1990 onboard USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65) enroute to the Indian Ocean. Events of early January were highlighted by a weapons week off the island of Diego Garcia and the traditional "Shellback Initiation" as the ship crossed the equator. The remainder of January was spent on station in the Indian Ocean, conducting training and flying in and around the Persian Gulf in support of National Policy.

February

February saw VA 22 and USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65) leave the Persian Gulf area and began the long trip around the horn of Africa. Flight operations were held to a minimum during the transit and by the third week of February VA 22 was in Rio De Janerio, Brazil. The month came to a close with the ship again underway as the squadron held a safety stand down.

March

Following four days of flight operations, the squadron made a port call to St. Thomas, Virgin Islands. Soon after leaving St. Thomas, VA 22 flew all their aircraft off the carrier to the west coast. The remainder of cruise was filled with the Tiger Cruise, the squadron off load in Norfolk, Virginia and the airlift back to NAS Lemoore, California. Once in Lemoore, the squadron immediately began sending personnel through the FA-18 training track in preparation for the squadron's transition to the Hornet.

APRIL

The month of April was similar to March, with Pilots and maintenance crews attending FA-18 schools and the transfer of squadron aircraft to other commands. By the end of the month, VA 22 had transferred all of their A-7E aircraft.

MAY

On 3 May, the squadron held a redesignation ceremony and ATTACK SQUADRON TWO TWO became STRIKE FIGHTER SQUADRON TWO TWO. Once again, schools dominated the month. 30 May saw the arrival of the squadron's first FA-18C Hornet.

JUNE

June saw the arrival of two more FA-18C aircraft. The squadron also began receiving fully trained FA-18 personnel back from FRAMP schools. The maintenance department began preparing for their Pre Safe-for-Flight Inspection.

JULY

Schooling dominated the month as the squadron continued to train for their new aircraft. On 5 July, a Pre Safe-for-Flight Inspection was held. Another FA-18C was delivered on 6 July. MTIP testing rounded out the month's activities.

AUGUST

VFA 22 began the month of August with a Safety Survey on the first, and a Change of Command on the ninth. In the Change of Command, CDR. Robert Darwin took the helm as "Redcock One" from Dale Doorly. Mid-month saw the squadron pass the Safe-for-Flight Inspection with the highest grade ever scored in LATWINGPAC. The "Redcocks" scored "Outstanding" in 37 of 43 inspection areas. Two more aircraft arrived in August, and daily flights in the squadron began on 20 August 1990. The month ended with all personnel attending a phone security brief.

SEPTEMBER

September began with the "Redcocks" flying their first Night Vision Goggle sortie on 4 September. Two more aircraft arrived this month and the squadron sent a small detachment, including one aircraft and pilot, to NAS Miramar for Top Gun training, a first for the "Redcocks".

OCTOBER

VFA 125 returned three "Redcock" aircraft on loan for pilot training, bringing the squadron total to nine FA-18C aircraft onboard. Squadron continued training, participating in two exercises involving other commands and services. Operation Coronet Goldrush saw "Redcock" FA-18's oppose a USAF strike protected by F-15's. Operations with the USS Arkansas off the coast of California tested our Link 4 capabilities.

NOVEMBER

November was extremely busy with maintenance preparing for the CWTPI, completed on the 15th. An overall grade of Outstanding was achieved with 881 out of 900 points being scored and zero major/zero minor discrepancies. The pilots completed SFARP ground school and shortly after Thanksgiving the squadron detached to NAS Fallon for the flying portion of SFARP.

DECEMBER

The month of December opened with VFA 22 in Fallon, Nevada, completing their SFARP detachment. Proloads began in preparation for the January NWAII. Pilots entered AARP ground school in preparation for the upcoming AARP detachment in El Centro, California next year.