



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
FIGHTER SQUADRON ELEVEN  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
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From: Commanding Officer, Fighter Squadron ELEVEN  
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-05D2)

Subj: Command History Report; submission of

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5720.12B

Encl: (1) Command History Report

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.

  
R. J. KAUBER

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## I Basic History

### A. Chronology of Events

- 01 JAN to 06 JAN - The squadron prepared for type training in Oceana.
- 06 JAN to 15 JAN - The squadron performed type one training.
- 16 JAN to 20 JAN - The squadron visited Mayport, Fla.
- 21 JAN to 28 JAN - The squadron performed type two training.
- 29 JAN to 03 FEB - The USS FORRESTAL entered homeport with the Red Rippers aboard.
- 04 FEB to 12 FEB - Type training three concluded with Operational Readiness Evaluations.
- 13 FEB to 04 MAR - The squadron conducted carrier landing practice for the Mediterranean deployment.
- 05 MAR to 14 MAR - The squadron transited the Atlantic enroute to the Mediterranean.
- 14 MAR to 15 MAR - The Red Rippers visited Rota, Spain.
- 15 MAR to 29 MAR - The squadron operated in the Eastern Mediterranean.
- 29 MAR to 30 MAR - The USS FORRESTAL anchored off Kithira, Greece with the squadron aboard.
- 30 MAR to 07 APR - The Rippers operated in the Tyrehenian Sea.
- 07 APR to 13 APR - The squadron visited Taranto, Italy.
- 14 APR to 18 APR - The squadron operated in the Eastern Mediterranean.
- 19 APR to 22 APR - The USS FORRESTAL anchored off Kithira, Greece with the squadron aboard.

Enclosure (1)

- 23 APR to 28 APR - The squadron operated in the Eastern Mediterranean with a missile shoot on the 25th.
- 29 APR to 05 MAY - The USS FORRESTAL anchored off Kithira, Greece with the Red Rippers aboard.
- 06 MAY to 10 MAY - The Rippers operated in the Eastern Mediterranean.
- 10 MAY to 21 MAY - The Red Rippers visited Taranto, Italy.
- 21 MAY to 27 MAY - The squadron operated in the Eastern Mediterranean with a missile shoot on the 25th.
- 28 MAY to 01 JUN - The USS FORRESTAL anchored in Augusta Bay, Sicily with the Red Rippers aboard.
- 02 JUN to 10 JUN - The squadron operated in the Eastern Mediterranean.
- 11 JUN to 25 JUN - The Red Rippers visited Palma de Mallorca, Spain. One flight crew deployed to RAF Kinloss, Scotland. for Joint Maritime Operational Training.
- 26 JUN to 01 JUL - The squadron operated in the Western Mediterranean.
- 01 JUL to 07 JUL - The squadron visited Naples, Italy.
- 08 JUL to 12 JUL - The Red Rippers operated in the Eastern Mediterranean with a missile shoot on the 11th.
- 13 JUL to 17 JUL - The Red Rippers visited Bari, Italy.
- 18 JUL to 25 JUL - The squadron operated in the Western Mediterranean.
- 25 JUL to 08 AUG - The squadron visited Naples, Italy.
- 09 AUG to 14 AUG - The squadron operated in the Western Mediterranean.

- 14 AUG to 24 AUG - The Red Rippers visited Palma de Mallorca, Spain.
- 25 AUG to 28 AUG - The squadron operated in the Western Mediterranean.
- 29 AUG to 09 SEP - The Red Rippers visited Barcelona, Spain.
- 10 SEP to 11 SEP - The squadron transited to Rota, Spain.
- 11 SEP to 12 SEP - The Rippers visited Rota, Spain for outchop.
- 12 SEP to 21 SEP - The squadron transited the Atlantic enroute to the United States aboard USS FORRESTAL.
- 21 SEP to 22 SEP - The squadron flew off the USS FORRESTAL and returned to the United States.
- 23 SEP to 10 OCT - The squadron conducted limited flight operations.
- 10 OCT to 04 NOV - The Rippers conducted Radar Intercept, CW, and low level navigation flight missions.
- 04 NOV to 08 NOV - The squadron conducted an Integrated Weapons System Review with a missile shoot on the 4th. Red Rippers Change of Command conducted on the 8th.
- 09 NOV to 20 DEC - The Red Rippers conducted normal Radar Intercept, CW, and low level navigation operations. IWSR conducted with missile shoot. One crew deployed to Naval Fighter Weapons School, NAS Miramar, San Diego, California.
- 21 DEC to 31 DEC - The squadron conducted limited flying and celebrated Christmas.

## B. NARRATIVE

Nineteen hundred and Seventy-five marked the Forty-eighth year the RED RIPPERS have continuously operated as a Fighter squadron. For all officers and men of VF-11 it was another challenging and rewarding year.

The year began on January 6th for the Rippers with a load aboard with Carrier Air Wing SEVENTEEN on the USS FORRESTAL. The ship departed Norfolk for initial carrier training operations off the coast of Virginia during Type Training ONE (TYT-1). These training operations gave the squadron and airwing an opportunity to work together preparing for the forthcoming March deployment to the Mediterranean Sea.

After a four day port visit in NAS Mayport, TYT-2 began on 21 January. TYT-3 began on 4 February and lasted until 12 February. During these training periods further operations were conducted with much success for the squadron. The type training exercises were culminated by a successful Operational Readiness Evaluation (ORE) from 9-12 February. The squadron was found to be in a very high state of combat readiness by the results of various tests and exercises the Rippers participated in.

The remaining days of February were spent in completing preparations for aircrews and aircraft to embark upon an extended Mediterranean cruise.

On March 5, the Red Rippers departed Norfolk aboard the USS FORRESTAL for their deployment. During the ensuing 9 day Atlantic crossing, much time was spent on ground training and completing administrative tasks. The FORRESTAL pulled into Rota, Spain on 14 March officially relieving the USS SARATOGA. After a 2 day inchoport period, the remaining days of March were spent conducting air operations while transitting to the Eastern Mediterranean.

The FORRESTAL anchored in Kithira Bay, Greece on 29 March for several days. Flankering operations were conducted successfully during this period and the proficiency of all hands was tested during these flight operations while at anchor.

The beginning of April saw the Rippers operating day and night in the Tyrehenian Sea. Finally, after 30 days at sea the Rippers enjoyed 7 days in Taranto, Italy - the FORRESTAL's first Mediterranean port visit. The Red Rippers deserved a well earned rest after flying 25 out of 30 days of the operating period.

The Rippers continued flying 20-24 sorties per day the remaining days of April, anxiously looking forward to a scheduled missile shoot at the end of the month,

On the 25th of April a very successful missile shoot was held on the NAMFI Missile Range off the northern coast of Crete. Cdr. Ralph E. KNAPP teamed with LTJG [REDACTED] [REDACTED] scored a 2 ft. miss with an AIM-7 missile firing well within the lethal kill distance. A second crew comprised of LT [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and LTJG Wallace FRANKLIN also had a successful AIM-7 firing when they scored a direct hit on the target drone,

The Rippers operated in the Eastern Mediterranean during the remaining days of April. April operations were concluded with a FORRESTAL People's Day held on the Flight Deck. The open air barbeque and sporting events were enjoyed by all,

May saw the Rippers conducting operations in the Eastern Mediterranean off the coast of Turkey. Here the squadron contributed greatly to Operation Shabaz. In their role as Fighter CAP, they intercepted all inbound enemy aircraft with total success.

Operations continued until a second port visit to Taranto, Italy and the month concluded with the Rippers scoring well on a second missile shoot. This time LT [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and LTJG [REDACTED] scored a direct hit with an AIM-9 missile,

The first half of June was marked by the Rippers participating in Operation Patience which consisted of 48 straight hours of flying. During these 2 days the Rippers flew 56 sorties for a total of 95.2 hours. The second half of June was spent at the Rippers favorite foreign port, Palma de Mallorca, Spain. It provided an ideal location for the Mid-Cruise dependents flight from the states. On 24 June the crew of Cdr. Rod KAUBER and LCdr. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] along with 13 enlisted men deployed with one aircraft to RAF Kinloss, Scotland for Joint Maritime Operational Training with NATO forces.

The Rippers began July operations in the Western Mediterranean where a third successful missile shoot was held. Once again, two crews consisting of LTJG [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and LTJG [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and LTJG [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and LCDR [REDACTED] [REDACTED] combined to give the Rippers a third straight highly successful missile shoot. The first crew scored a direct hit. The second missile fired did not guide after launch although well within the intercept parameters. On 15 July official notification was received stating that this command had won the coveted Golden Anchor Award for outstanding retention in the Airlant Community.

The Rippers next visited Bari and Naples, Italy for two weeks. August 10-14 saw the FORRESTAL participating in National Week with the carrier JOHN F. KENNEDY. Here the Rippers showed their fighting and intercept capabilities as they time after time intercepted the enemy aircraft during the simulated war games. August 25 marked a very happy and rewarding day for the Rippers. A message was received that Fighter Squadron ELEVEN had won the COMNAVIAIRLANT "Battle Efficiency Award" for the East Coast. It was a well deserved award. The hard work, extensive training and successful flight operations paid off for the Rippers. After receiving this award the Rippers enjoyed a well earned port visit in Palma de Mallorca.

Until September 11th the Rippers continued extensive flight operations in the Western Mediterranean with a port visit to Barcelona, Spain. Finally after 6 1/2 months, outchop was completed in Rota, Spain and the FORRESTAL began her transit to CONUS. During the Atlantic transit much ground work and planning was in progress for continued operations at NAS Oceana, Virginia.

The Rippers flew their aircraft to NAS Oceana on September 21st and the next day the FORRESTAL docked at Norfolk. The cruise marked another accident free deployment for the Red Rippers. The remainder of September was spent conducting limited flight operations thus giving personnel an opportunity to spend time with their families.

Shore-based again at NAS Oceana the Rippers began extensive training in Radar Intercepts, Conventional Weapons, and low level intercepts throughout October. A special emphasis was put on aircrew training and planning was set in motion for an Integrated Weapon System Review in November.

The beginning of November was highlighted by a special 24 hour notice missile shoot on November 4th. In the short period of time an aircraft was readied and the crew of LT [REDACTED] and LTJG [REDACTED] performed in typical Red Ripper fashion as they scored a direct hit on the drone.

November 8th the Rippers held a Change of Command when Cdr. Rodney K. KAUBER relieved Cdr. Ralph E. KNAPP as Commanding Officer of Fighter Squadron ELEVEN. He thus became the 48th Red Ripper Skipper. The occasion was marked by remarks from Capt. "MOOSE" MYERS former Commander Fighter Wing ONE.

The next few weeks were very busy for the Rippers as they began their Integrated Weapon Systems Review (IWSR). This provided outstanding formal training for all aircrews and maintenance personnel. During this time the aircrew of LT [REDACTED] and LTJG [REDACTED] deployed with one aircraft to NAS Miramar for six weeks Advanced Air Combat Maneuvering Training at Navy Fighter Weapons School.

A missile shoot concluded the IWSR on 26 November and four Ripper crews were ready. LT [REDACTED] and LTJG [REDACTED], LT [REDACTED] and LT [REDACTED], LTJG [REDACTED] and LTJG [REDACTED], and Cdr. Ron STOOPS and LCdr [REDACTED] all fired missiles with a 100% success rate including two lethal cone kills. It was an excellent end to the IWSR for the entire squadron.

Throughout November and December until the holidays the Rippers continued ACM training in preparation for an ACM deployment in February 1976 to the West Coast with Carrier Air Wing SEVENTEEN.

All the Red Rippers of Fighter Squadron ELEVEN can look back with much pride to their overwhelming success and achievements of 1975. It was a big year for the Rippers and the squadron looks forward to meeting the challenges that 1976 will bring.



OPERATIONS SUMMARY

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>TOTAL HRS</u>	<u>HRS D/N</u>	<u>TOTAL TRAPS D/N</u>	<u>TOTAL SORTIES D/N</u>
JAN	260.19	158.3/102.6	90/58	116/82
FEB	209.9	148.3/61.6	49/28	96/44
MAR	190.4	159.7/30.7	97/25	99/23
APR	393.4	284.3/109.1	158/81	158/78
MAY	383.6	326.9/56.7	186/42	186/42
JUN	264.5	223.6/40.9	124/29	134/26
JUL	379.8	313.9/65.9	165/50	184/42
AUG	297.0	237.9/59.1	124/42	136/31
SEP	166.7	162.1/4.6	66/3	104/3
OCT	238.1	225.0/13.1	-----	140/9
NOV	151.0	117.8/32.4	-----	92/26
DEC	202.8	137.4/32.7	-----	113/25

SQUADRON OFFICER LOSSES AND GAINS

15 JAN 75	[REDACTED]	ENS	USNR
	REC for DUTY from VF-101 NAS OCEANA VA		
16 JAN 75	FRANKLIN Wallace R	ENS	USNR
	REC for DUTY from VF-101 NAS OCEANA VA		
01 FEB 75	[REDACTED]	LT	USN
	TRF to VF-101 NAS OCEANA VA for DUTY		
12 FEB 75	[REDACTED]	LT	USNR
	REC for DUTY from VF-101 NAS OCEANA VA		
14 FEB 75	[REDACTED]	ENS	USNR
	MARRS Alton D	ENS	USNR
	REC for DUTY from VF-101 NAS OCEANA VA		
25 FEB 75	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	LT	USN
	TRF to VF-124 NAS MIRAMAR CA for DUTY		
28 FEB 75	[REDACTED]	LT	USNR
	TRF to VT-86 NAS PENSACOLA FL for DUTY		
03 MAR 75	[REDACTED]	ENS	USNR
	REC for DUTY from VF-101 NAS OCEANA VA		
04 MAR 75	[REDACTED]	LTJG	USN
	REC for DUTY from VF-101 NAS OCEANA VA		
06 MAR 75	[REDACTED]	LTJG	USNR
	REC for DUTY from VF-101 NAS OCEANA VA		
21 MAY 75	[REDACTED]	LTJG	USNR
	REC for DUTY from VF-101 NAS OCEANA VA		
13 JUN 75	MALLAN John M	LTJG	USNR
	REC for DUTY from VF-101 NAS OCEANA VA		
01 JUL 75	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	LTJG	USN
	TRF to NAVWPNSTA YORKTOWN, VA for DUTY		
02 JUL 75	JACKSON Charles P	LT	USN
	REC for DUTY from VF-101 NAS OCEANA VA		
08 JUL 75	[REDACTED]	LT	USN
	REC for DUTY from VF-101 NAS OCEANA VA		
15 JUL 75	[REDACTED]	LT	USN
	TRF to VF-101 NAS OCEANA VA for DUTY		

20 JUL 75	[REDACTED]	CWO2	USN
	REC for DUTY from NAS MERIDIAN MS		
21 JUL 75	[REDACTED]	LT	USN
	TRF to LOWRY AFB DENVER CO for DUINS		
22 JUL 75	[REDACTED]	LTJG	USNR
	TRF to DIS WASHINGTON DC for DUINS		
24 OCT 75	[REDACTED]	LT	USN
	TRF to LANTCOMOPSUPPFAC for DUTY		
31 OCT 75	[REDACTED]	LT	USN
	TRF to VF-43 for TEMDUINS		
05 NOV 75	STOOPS Ronald R	LCDR	USN
	REC for DUTY from VF-101 NAS OCEANA VA		
	[REDACTED]	LCDR	USN
	REC for DUTY from FLTCOMDIRSYSTRACENLANT DNCEK VA		
07 NOV 75	KNAPP Ralph E	CDR	USN
	TRF to COMNAVAIRLANT NORFOLK VA for DUTY		
05 DEC 75	[REDACTED]	LCDR	USN
	REC for DUTY from VF-101 NAS OCEANA VA		
22 DEC 75	[REDACTED]	LCDR	USN
	TRF to OPTEVFOR NORFOLK VA for DUTY		