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Ser 015
26 March 1973

B

1972
VF-14

 (Unclassified upon removal of enclosures)

From: Commanding Officer, Fighter Squadron FOURTEEN
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP 05D2)

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

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12B

Encl: (1) VF-14 Command History for Calendar Year 1972

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


T. D. KUJAWSKI

Rec. 7/10/73
Registered
5000

Copy to:
Director of Naval History (OP-09B9)

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FIGHTER SQUADRON FOURTEEN (VF-14)

On New Year's Day 1972, Fighter Squadron FOURTEEN was inport Barcelona, Spain. The Navy's oldest Fighter Squadron deployed to the Mediterranean aboard the USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CVA-67) a month earlier than scheduled to relieve the USS AMERICA (CVA-66) as the central element in Task Force 60.2 of the Sixth Fleet.

Commander Thomas L. CURRY, the forty-eighth Commanding Officer of the "TOPHATTERS", was in command of the squadron with a complement of twelve (12) F4B "Phantom II" aircraft; manned with 32 officers and 213 enlisted men.


On 5 January 1972, Fighter Squadron FOURTEEN and the KENNEDY left Barcelona for nine days of routine training operations in the Western Mediterranean Sea. On 13 January, the Squadron participated in an Air Wing demonstration for high ranking German Officials, which emphasized the fire power and flexibility of the Carrier/Air Wing striking force.

Following a short anchorage at Naples, Italy from 14 to 16 January, the KENNEDY steamed into the Eastern Mediterranean where she remained until 26 April. In addition to routine air operations conducted during this period, the Squadron participated in Exercise National Week XII (06 February to 10 February) and a missile exercise on the NAMFI Missile Range in which five Sparrow III Missiles were fired. The Squadron enjoyed the opportunity to visit the Greek ports of Athens, Corfu, Thessaloniki and Rhodes during this period. These inport periods were highlighted by a two week "stand down" from 24 February to 09 March in Athens during which time a "mid-cruise" charter flight was scheduled, reuniting many Squadron families.

Before departing the Eastern Mediterranean in late April, the news of the increased Communist offensive in Vietnam reached the KENNEDY, followed shortly thereafter by the announcement that the USS SARATOGA would deploy to the Seventh Fleet rather than relieve the KENNEDY as scheduled. The KENNEDY's cruise was therefore extended until 19 June 1972.

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On 25 April the KENNEDY transited the Straits of Messina and entered the Western Mediterranean for a visit to Genoa, Italy (26-30 April). On 30 April, the KENNEDY commenced flight operations in the Western Mediterranean. Fighting FOURTEEN participated in Exercise Dawn Patrol from 4-10 May, flying Combat Air Patrol (CAP) missions with the Spanish Air Defense Command.

Following the Exercise on 10 May, the KENNEDY visited the port of Cannes, France where Squadron personnel were allowed to enjoy the festivities of both the International Film Festival and the Monaco Grand Prix. On 17 May the KENNEDY left Cannes and conducted routine flight operations until arriving at Barcelona, Spain on 21 May. Shortly after arriving in Barcelona, word was received that the USS AMERICA (KENNEDY's scheduled relief) would be deploying to the Western Pacific vice the Mediterranean, forcing the USS FORRESTAL, which was scheduled to deploy in late July, to deploy early and relieve the KENNEDY.

On 26 May the KENNEDY departed Barcelona and remained at sea in the Western Mediterranean until 31 May. During this at-sea period, Fighting FOURTEEN participated in Exercise Red Eye, which was conducted with the Spanish Air Defense Command, involving CAP missions and simulated Medium/High Altitude Strikes against Spanish targets.

Following a 1-9 June inport period in Palma de Mallorca, the KENNEDY became the first CVA to visit the Spanish port of Malaga, Spain (15-20 June), allowing Squadron personnel the opportunity to enjoy the famous Costa del Sol.

Departing Malaga on 21 June, the "TOPHATTERS" participated in air power demonstrations for visiting dignitaries on 26 and 28 June.

Soon after KENNEDY's return to Palma on 6 July, news was received of the serious fire on-board the USS FORRESTAL, causing at least a two month delay in her deployment and a third extension for the KENNEDY.

The KENNEDY departed Palma and operated from 14-24 July, and became an integral part of Exercise National Week XIII. Following the exercise and debrief, the KENNEDY returned to Palma for a MINI-RAV period for routine upkeep, lasting until 3 August.


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On 4 August, the KENNEDY returned to the Eastern Mediterranean where the squadron conducted routine operations until arriving at Izmir, Turkey on 10 August. While in Izmir, Turkey on 11 August, Commander Theodore D. KUJAWSKI relieved Commander Thomas L. CURRY as Commanding Officer of Fighter Squadron FOURTEEN, thereby becoming the forty-ninth (49) in an illustrious line of predecessors unequalled in the ranks of Naval Aviation. On 13 August, Commander J. T. MCHUGH reported aboard Fighter Squadron FOURTEEN as the Executive Officer.

Following the brief inport period at Izmir, operations continued in the Eastern Mediterranean until arriving at Athens on 20 August. During this at sea period, the Squadron was involved in a Missile Exercise which resulted in the firing of two Sparrow III Missiles.

The KENNEDY departed Athens on 26 August and conducted routine operations until arriving at Palma on 3 September for the final visit to a Mediterranean port. Following the Palma visit on 8 September, the KENNEDY conducted operations in the Western Mediterranean until 10 September.

On 11 September KENNEDY transited the Straits of Gibraltar terminating her Mediterranean deployment. After a brief stop at Rota, Spain on 12 September, the KENNEDY headed north to participate in the NATO Exercise, "Strong Express".

During "Strong Express" (largest exercise in the twenty-three year history of NATO), the Squadron and ship personnel qualified as "Blue Noses" by crossing the Arctic Circle. This massive NATO Exercise in the Norwegian and North Seas tasked the squadron more than any previous exercise, due to the demanding schedule and intensive Soviet surveillance. Because of the Soviet interest, Alert 5 was set on 14 September and remained in affect during all daylight hours until the completion of the exercise on 28 September. This commitment was in addition to the 16 CAP sorties scheduled daily. During the exercise, one hundred and ninety (190) sorties were flown for a total of 293.8 flight hours (263.7 day/30.1 night). Fighting FOURTEEN aircrews intercepted thirty Soviet aircraft, including 18 Bears, 8 Bisons, 2 Badgers, and 2 Moss. In addition, over 130 Orange Force aircraft were intercepted ranging from the high speed F-5, F-104, and Vulcan aircraft to the older and more conventional Argus, Nimrod, and Shackelton. At the conclusion of Exercise "Strong Express", the KENNEDY commenced her transit of the Atlantic Ocean to return home to Norfolk, Virginia.

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On 5 October, Fighter Squadron FOURTEEN changed location by flying off the KENNEDY and landing at NAS Oceana, Virginia. Fighter Squadron FOURTEEN now operating from NAS Oceana, occupied spaces in Hangar 500 and Barracks 521, marking the completion of a ten month deployment that began on 1 December 1971.


From 6 October to 3 November, post-deployment stand-down was in effect with approximately 50% of the squadron on leave. During the "turn-around" period prior to the next scheduled deployment (March 1973), the squadron transferred all twelve (12) of its aircraft obtaining freshly reworked F-4B's from Progressive Aircraft Rework (PAR). Concurrently, the squadron transferred/received a large number of personnel. Following the "stand-down", the squadron faced the challenges associated with this turmoil and continued its quarterly flight/ground training program with additional emphasis on conventional weapons delivery in preparation for the impending March 1973 combat deployment to South East Asia. This program enabled the squadron to maintain the high state of combat readiness necessary by including approximately fifty different training sorties in a formalized syllabus which permits the progress of each aircrew to be systematically monitored. Also, the scope of training required during the turn-around had to be broadened to include new equipment such as the Data Link System, recently installed in the reworked F-4B aircraft.

Throughout the year the squadron was deeply involved in the Air Combat Maneuvering (ACM) role of the F-4B aircraft, having flown over 400 ACM sorties of which over half were against dissimilar aircraft. Every possible attempt was constantly made to maintain the high skill level required of each aircrew in this field. On 15 November, LT [REDACTED] and LT [REDACTED] flew to NAS Miramar, California in F-4B BUNO 152292 to attend the Navy Fighter Weapons School for an extremely successful one month period.

On 10 December three aircraft and six aircrewmembers deployed to Tyndall AFB, Panama City, Florida for Operation "College Dart," in which Navy F4's conducted ACM Exercises with Air Force F-106 aircraft. These crews returned on 16 December following a highly successful week of intensive training.

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LIST OF ENCLOSURES

- (1) Chronology of Events
- (2) 1972 Flight Statistics
- (3) Pilot Hours/Landings
- (4) RIO Hours/Landings
- (5) Ordnance Expenditures
- (6) List of Officers and Billeets Held
- (7) Commanding Officer's Biography
- (8) Commanding Officer's Photograph
- (9) Photograph of Squadron Aircraft

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CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

01 JAN - 04 JAN 72	Inport, Barcelona, Spain
05 JAN - 13 JAN 72	Operations, Western Mediterranean
14 JAN - 16 JAN 72	Inport, Naples, Italy
17 JAN - 26 JAN 72	Operations, Eastern Mediterranean
27 JAN - 03 FEB 72	Inport, Athens, Greece
02 FEB -	LCDR [REDACTED] detached from VF-14
04 FEB - 11 FEB 72	Operations, Eastern Mediterranean Exercise National Week XII
09 FEB -	LTJG [REDACTED] reported aboard
12 FEB - 17 FEB 72	Inport, Corfu
18 FEB - 23 FEB 72	Operations, Eastern Mediterranean
24 FEB - 08 MAR 72	Inport, Athens, Greece
08 MAR -	LT [REDACTED] reported aboard
09 MAR - 14 MAR 72	Operations, Eastern Mediterranean
15 MAR - 18 MAR 72	Inport, Thessaloniki, Greece
16 MAR -	LT [REDACTED] detached from VF-14
19 MAR - 23 MAR 72	Operations, Eastern Mediterranean, Missilex NAMFI Missile Range (5 Sparrow III's fired)
24 MAR - 03 APR 72	Inport, Rhodes, Greece
04 APR - 15 APR 72	Operations, Eastern Mediterranean
16 APR - 19 APR 72	Inport, Athens, Greece

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CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS (CONT'D)

20 APR - 25 APR Operations, Eastern Mediterranean

26 APR - 30 APR Inport, Genoa, Italy

01 MAY - 10 MAY Operations, Western Mediterranean
Exercise Dawn Patrol (With Spanish
Air Denfense Command - Flew CAP)

11 MAY - 16 MAY Inport, Cannes, France

17 MAY - 20 MAY Operations, Western Mediterranean

21 MAY - 25 MAY Inport, Barcelona, Spain

26 MAY - 31 MAY Operations, Western Mediterranean
Exercise Red Eye (With Spanish Air
Defense Command flew CAP and MED /
HIGH Altitude simulated strike missions
against Spanish targets)

01 JUN - 09 JUN Inport, Palma, Spain

06 JUN - W01 [REDACTED] detached from VF-14

08 JUN - LT [REDACTED] detached from VF-14

10 JUN - 14 JUN Operations, Western Mediterranean

15 JUN - 20 JUN Inport, Malaga, Spain

19 JUN - LT [REDACTED] detached from VF-14

21 JUN - 05 JUL Operations, Western Mediterranean

28 JUN - LCDR [REDACTED] detached from VF-14

06 JUL - W01 [REDACTED] detached, LTJG [REDACTED] and
LTJG [REDACTED] reported aboard

06 JUL - 13 JUL Inport, Palma, Spain

[REDACTED]

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CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS (CONT'D)

14 JUL - 24 JUL Operations, Eastern Mediterranean Exercise National Week XIII

25 JUL - 03 AUG Inport, Palma, Spain

26 JUL - LCDR [REDACTED] reported aboard

02 AUG - LT [REDACTED] detached from VF-14

03 AUG - LT [REDACTED] detached from VF-14

04 AUG - 10 AUG Operations, Eastern Mediterranean

07 AUG - LCDR [REDACTED] detached from VF-14

11 AUG - CDR Theodore D. KUJAWSKI relieves CDR Thomas L. CURRY as Commanding Officer of Fighter Squadron FOURTEEN

11 AUG - 13 AUG Inport, Izmir, Turkey

13 AUG - CDR John T. MCHUGH reported aboard as Executive Officer

14 AUG - 19 AUG Operations, Eastern Mediterranean Missilex (2 Sparrow III's fired)

15 AUG - LTJG [REDACTED] and LTJG [REDACTED] reported aboard

20 AUG - 25 AUG Inport, Athens, Greece

24 AUG - LT [REDACTED] detached; LT [REDACTED] reported aboard

26 AUG - 02 SEP Operations, Western Mediterranean

03 SEP - 07 SEP Inport, Palma, Spain

07 SEP - LT [REDACTED] reported aboard

08 SEP - 10 SEP Operations, Western Mediterranean

11 SEP - Transit Straits of Gibraltar Operations off Rota, Spain

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CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS (CONT'D)

12 SEP - Anchor, Rota, Spain
13 SEP - Enroute North Atlantic
14 SEP - 28 SEP Operation North Atlantic
Exercise Strong Express
29 SEP - 06 OCT Transit to Conus
06 OCT - USS JOHN F. KENNEDY arrives Norfolk,
Virginia
07 OCT - 31 DEC Based ashore NAS Oceana, Virginia
15 NOV - 16 DEC F4B BUNO 152292, Pilot [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
RIO, LT [REDACTED], [REDACTED] to TOPGUN School
NAS Miramar, California
28 NOV - LTJG [REDACTED] detached from VF-14
10 DEC - 16 DEC Three crews to Tyndall
AFB for College Dart
06 DEC - LT [REDACTED] reported aboard
29 DEC - ENS [REDACTED] and ENS [REDACTED]
reported aboard



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FIGHTER SQUADRON FOURTEEN STATISTICS
01 JANUARY 1972 THRU 31 DECEMBER 1972

FLIGHT TIME	3889
NIGHT TIME	804
AVERAGE HOURS/PILOT	259.3
TOTAL CARRIER LNDGS DAY/NIGHT	1438/453
AVERAGE DAY CARRIER LNDGS/PILOT	95.8
AVERAGE NIGHT CARRIER LNDGS/PILOT	30.2
TOTAL INTERCEPTS	2933
AVERAGE INTERCEPTS PER CREW	195.5
ACM ENGAGEMENTS	719
AVERAGE ACM ENGAGEMENTS/CREW	47.9
CW SORTIES	327
AVERAGE CW SORTIES/CREW	21.8
INFLIGHT REFUELINGS	1819

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FIGHTER SQUADRON FOURTEEN 1972 HOURS/LANDINGS
PER PILOT

NAME	TOTAL HOURS	DAY HOURS	NIGHT HOURS	FIELD LNDGS		CARRIER LNDGS	
				DAY	NIGHT	DAY	NIGHT
CDR CURRY	178.3	143.2	35.1	0	0	75	28
CDR KUJAWSKI	280.8	218.9	61.9	21	25	105	36
CDR MCHUGH	83.0	60.5	22.5	20	23	25	4
LCDR [REDACTED]	105.7	87.5	18.2	40	10	26	8
LCDR [REDACTED]	294.9	248.3	46.6	40	7	106	31
LCDR [REDACTED]	270.4	214.4	56.0	27	15	103	38
CAPT [REDACTED]	280.6	226.9	53.7	30	25	100	41
LT [REDACTED]	230.1	190.5	39.6	19	3	92	35
LT [REDACTED]	257.6	212.8	44.8	27	18	95	36
LT [REDACTED]	14.6	8.1	6.5	6	13	0	0
LT [REDACTED]	247.8	211.5	36.3	24	9	82	28
LT [REDACTED]	265.9	240.0	25.7	38	5	102	36
LTJG [REDACTED]	90.3	78.0	12.3	47	21	24	0
LTJG [REDACTED]	130.1	109.0	21.1	44	15	35	12
LTJG [REDACTED]	102.5	74.8	27.7	30	36	23	2
LTJG [REDACTED]	112.5	94.6	17.9	25	12	36	11
LCDR [REDACTED] (CVW-1)	198.7	155.5	43.2	24	11	82	32

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FIGHTER SQUADRON FOURTEEN RIO 1972 HOURS AND CARRIER LANDINGS

NAME	TOTAL HOURS	CARRIER LANDINGS	
		DAY	NIGHT
LT [REDACTED]	238.4	82	39
LT [REDACTED]	57.6	14	5
LT [REDACTED]	308.6	118	40
LT [REDACTED]	253.1	102	35
LT [REDACTED]	57.1	11	3
LT [REDACTED]	278.2	111	37
LT [REDACTED]	278.7	112	34
LTJG [REDACTED]	160.5	70	35
LTJG [REDACTED]	304.7	120	39
LTJG [REDACTED]	264.1	100	42
LTJG [REDACTED]	198.5	86	41
LTJG [REDACTED]	292.5	111	41
LTJG [REDACTED]	254.2	100	35
LTJG [REDACTED]	299.3	111	40
LTJG [REDACTED]	268.2	86	39
ENS [REDACTED]	5.3	0	0
ENS [REDACTED]	9.8	0	0

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FIGHTER SQUADRON FOURTEEN 1972 ORDNANCE EXPENDITURES

<u>NOMENCLATURE</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>
1. MK-76	1126
2. 5.0" ZUNI	276
3. MK-82 LDGP	151
4. MK-82 INERT	30
5. MK-24/45 FLARE	24
6. 20 MM TP	2266
7. AIM 7	15
8. AIM 9	10

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FIGHTER SQUADRON FOURTEEN OFFICERS AND BILLETTS HELD
31 DEC 1972

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BILLET</u>
CDR KUJAWSKI	COMMANDING OFFICER
CDR MCHUGH	EXECUTIVE OFFICER
LCDR [REDACTED]	OPERATIONS OFFICER
LCDR [REDACTED]	MAINTENANCE OFFICER
LCDR [REDACTED]	ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
CAPT [REDACTED] (USAF)	WEAPONS TRAINING OFFICER
LT [REDACTED]	ASS'T OPERATIONS OFFICER
LT [REDACTED]	TRAINING OFFICER
LT [REDACTED]	AIRCRAFT DIVISION OFFICER
LT [REDACTED]	E. W. TRAINING OFFICER
LT [REDACTED]	LANDING SIGNAL OFFICER
LT [REDACTED]	LINE DIVISION OFFICER
LT [REDACTED]	SAFETY OFFICER
LT [REDACTED]	NATOPS OFFICER
LT [REDACTED]	MAINT/MAT'L CONTROL OFFICER
LT [REDACTED]	QUALITY ASSURANCE OFFICER
LT [REDACTED]	PERSONNEL OFFICER
LT [REDACTED]	AVIONICS/ARMAMENT DIVISION OFFICER
LT [REDACTED]	COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER
LTJG [REDACTED]	FLIGHT OFFICER
LTJG [REDACTED]	AIRFRAMES BRANCH OFFICER
LTJG [REDACTED]	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
LTJG [REDACTED]	COM/NAV/FIRE CONTROL BRANCH OFFICER
LTJG [REDACTED]	LEGAL OFFICER
LTJG [REDACTED]	POWER PLANTS BRANCH OFFICER
LTJG [REDACTED]	NAVIGATION/SURVIVAL OFFICER
LTJG [REDACTED]	ELEC/INSTR BRANCH OFFICER
LTJG [REDACTED]	AVIATORS EQUIPMENT OFFICER
LTJG [REDACTED]	ED SERVICES/RETENTION OFFICER
LTJG [REDACTED]	ASS'T MATERIAL CONTROL OFFICER
LTJG [REDACTED]	AIR INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
ENS [REDACTED]	ASS'T LEGAL OFFICER
ENS [REDACTED]	FIRST LIEUTENANT
CWO3 [REDACTED]	ASS'T MAINT CONTROL OFFICER
WO1 [REDACTED]	ARMAMENT BRANCH OFFICER

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