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VF-14/12:dac 5750 **01**5 Ser **01**5 26 March 1973

(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

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

Rec. 7/10/73 Regentered # 5000



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 "TOPHAT**TERR**S" 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 fortyninth (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 twentythree 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 standdown 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.

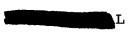
Throughout the year the squadron was deeply involved in the Air Combat Maneuvering (ACM) role of the F-4B aircmaft, having flown over 400 ACM sorties of which over half were against dissimilar aircraft. Every possible attempt was constantly made to maintain the high skill level required of each aircrew in this field. On 15 November, LT **Sector** and LT **Sector** 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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In addition to the ACM, Conventional Weapons, and Radar Intercept training requirements, a great deal of emphasis was placed on Electronic Warfare (EW) training utilizing the Pinecastle EW Range, and on the operation of the Automatic Carrier Landing System (ACLS) recently installed in the reworked Squadron F4B aircraft. To accomodate this variety of training requirements, sorties were scheduled to facilitate multiple mission training on each flight. Mk-76 practice bombs were carried and dropped during most intercept flights, and crews were instructed to enter the ACLS pattern at Fent**ress** Auxiliary Landing Field after completing required intercepts.

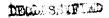
At year's end, 31 December 1972, Fighter Squadron FOURTEEN was based ashore at NAS Oceana, Virginia. The Squadron was completing its shorebased training in preparation for the scheduled Western Pacific deployment. The squadron had a complement of 36 officers and 215 enlisted men. There were twenty-three (23) reenlistments during the year, five(5) of which were first term. Also, seventy-five (75) Squadron personnel were advanced. As a result of Captain's Masts, thirteen (13) personnel were awarded Non-Judical Punishment (NJP). There was one Summary Court Martial and no Special Court Martials.

Operational statistics reflecting the impressive record compiled by the "TOPHATTERS" are included in enclosures (1) through (9).

Claiming its fifty-third year of continuous Naval Service, Fighter Squadron FOURTEEN reflects upon its past with pride and looks with anticipation and great expectations toward its future.

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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 Billets 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 detached from VF-14
04 FEB - 11 FEB 72	Operations,Eastern Mediterranean Exercise National Week XII
09 FEB -	LTJG 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 reported aboard
09 MAR - 14 MAR 72	Operations, Eastern Mediterranean
15 MAR - 18 MAR 72	Inport, Thessaloniki, Greece
16 MAR -	LT 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

Enclosure (1) to VF-14 ltr ser 015 dtd 86 MAR 1973

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CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS (CONT'D)

20	APR	-	25	APR	Operations, Eastern Mediterranean
26	APR	-	30	APR	Inport, Genoa, Italy
01	МАҰ	. —	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	МАҮ	-	31	МАҮ	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	-			WO1 detached from VF-14
08	JUN	-			LT detached from VF-14
10	JUN	-	14	JUN	Operations, Western Mediterranean
15	JUN	-	20	JUN	Inport, Malaga, Spain
19	JUN	-			LT detached from VF-14
21	JUN	-	05	JUL	Operations, Western Mediterranean
28	JUN	-			LCDR detached from VF-14
06	JUL	-			WO1 detached, LTJG and LTJG reported aboard
06	JUL	-	13	JUL	Inport, Palma, Spain

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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 reported aboard
02	AUG	-			LT detached from VF-14
03	AUG	-			LT detached from VF-14
04	AUG	-	10	AUG	Operations, Eastern Mediterranean
07	AUG	-			LCDR 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 and LTJG reported aboard
20	AUG	-	25	AUG	Inport, Athens, Greece
24	AUG	-			LT Internet detached; LT . reported aboard
26	AUG	-	02	SEP	Operations, Western Mediterranean
03	SEP	-	07	SEP	Inport, Palma, Spain
07	SEP	-			LT reported aboard
08	SEP	-	10	SEP	Operations, Western Mediterranean
11	SEP	-			Transit Straits of Gibraltar Operations off Rota, Spain

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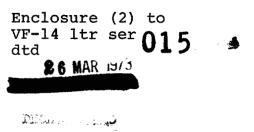
CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS (GONT'D)

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 F4B RIO, LT F5B to TOPGUN School NAS Miramar, California
28	NOV	-			LTJG detached from VF-14
10	DEC	-	16	DEC	Three crews to Tyndall AFB for College Dart
06	DEC	-			LT reported aboard
29	DEC	-			ENS and ENS 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

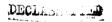


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NAME	TOTAL	DAY	NIGHT	FIELD	LNDGS	CARRIER	LNDGS
NAME	HOURS	HOURS	HOURS	DAY	NIGH	DAY	NIGH
CDR CURRY	178.3	143.2	35.1	0	0	75	28
CDR KUJAWSKI	280.8	218.9	61.9	21	25	105	36
CDR MCHUGH	83.0	60.5	22.5	20	23	25	4
LCDR 1	105.7	87.5	18.2	40	10	26	8
LCDR	294.9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

FIGHTER SQUADRON FOURTEEN 1972 HOURS/LANDINGS
PER PILOT

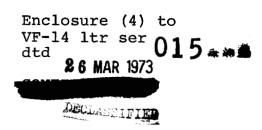
Enclosure (3) to VF-14 ltr ser 015 dtd 26 MAR 1973

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FIGHTER SQUADRON FOURTEEN RIO 1972 HOURS AND CARRIER LANDINGS

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



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FIGHTER SQUADRON FOURTEEN 1972 ORDNANCE EXPENDITURES

	NOMENCLATURE	QUANTITY
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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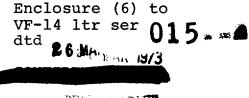
Enclosure (5) to VF-14 ltr ser 015 dtd 26 MAR 1973

FIGHTER SQUADRON FOURTEEN OFFICERS AND BILLETS HELD 31 DEC 1972

NAME

BILLET

COMMANDING OFFICER EXECUTIVE OFFICER OPERATIONS OFFICER MAINTENANCE OFFICER ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER WEAPONS TRAINING OFFICER ASS'T OPERATIONS OFFICER TRAINING OFFICER AIRCRAFT DIVISION OFFICER E. W. TRAINING OFFICER LANDING SIGNAL OFFICER LINE DIVISION OFFICER SAFETY OFFICER NATOPS OFFICER MAINT/MAT'L CONTROL OFFICER QUALITY ASSURANCE OFFICER PERSONNEL OFFICER AVIONICS/ARMAMENT DIVISION OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER FLIGHT OFFICER AIRFRAMES BRANCH OFFICER ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT COM/NAV/FIRE CONTROL BRANCH OFFICER LEGAL OFFICER POWER PLANTS BRANCH OFFICER NAVIGATION/SURVIVAL OFFICER ELEC/INSTR BRANCH OFFICER AVIATORS EQUIPMENT OFFICER ED SERVICES/RETENTION OFFICER ASS'T MATERIAL CONTROL OFFICER AIR INTELLIGENCE OFFICER ASS'T LEGAL OFFICER FIRST LIEUTENANT ASS'T MAINT CONTROL OFFICER ARMAMENT BRANCH OFFICER



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