

1996 ✓



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
FIGHTER SQUADRON COMPOSITE TWELVE
NAVAL AIR STATION OCEANA
VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA 23460-5190

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From: Commanding Officer, Fighter Squadron Composite Twelve
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Navy Yard,
Washington, D.C.

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY REPORT FOR 1996

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12F

- Encl: (1) VFC-12 Mission/History/Narrative
- (2) F/A-18 Hornet description
- (3) Biography of C. E. Overcash
- (4) Photo of C. E. Overcash

(5) 3 1/2" floppy disk) for AVH filed separately

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (4) are forwarded.

C. E. OVERCASH

**FIGHTER SQUADRON COMPOSITE TWELVE
FIGHTING OMARS
COMMAND HISTORY AND MISSION**

COMMANDING OFFICER

**CDR CHARLES E. OVERCASH
OCT 96-FEB98**

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**CDR JERRY R. TRUDELL
OCT96-FEB98**

COMMAND MASTER CHIEF

**AFCM(AW) L. L. PATTERSON
JUN93-FEB97**

1. MISSION: The mission of the "Fighting Omars" as prescribed by the Commander, Naval Air Reserve Force (COMNAVAIRESFOR) is to provide support services and training to Regular and Reserve Aviation and Surface units in order to maintain combat readiness. Specific services include:

Air Combat Maneuvering	Air Intercept and Radar Tracking
Air to Air Tactics	Strike Fighter Advanced Readiness Program (SFARP)
Fleet Replacement Squadron Fighter Training	

2. HISTORY: Fighter Squadron Composite Twelve was originally commissioned VC-12 on 6 October 1943, at NAS Sand Point, Seattle, Washington. The squadron operated the F-4F "Wildcat" and TBM-1 "Avenger" aboard USS CARD (CVE-11) in WESTPAC until 1944 when the ship was reassigned to Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia. VC-12 saw action against German U-boats in 24 engagements in 1944, and was decommissioned 7 June 1945.

On 6 July 1948, Carrier Air Early Warning Squadron TWO was commissioned at NAS Norfolk, Virginia. The squadron was redesignated Fleet Composite Squadron Twelve on 1 September 1948. VC-12 operated TBN "Avengers" from most of the Atlantic Fleet carriers active at the time. The squadron saw action in Korea aboard the USS BON HOMME RICHARD. VC-12 was again decommissioned on 29 September 1953.

On 1 September 1973, at NAF Detroit, Michigan, VC-12 was recommissioned as the first reserve Fleet Composite Squadron in Naval history. In 1975, VC-12 moved to its current location at NAS Oceana, Virginia. In June 1988, VC-12 was redesignated Fighter Squadron Composite Twelve to more accurately describe the squadrons mission of Dissimilar Air Combat Training.

During Fiscal Year 1994 the squadron was reassigned 11 F/A-18A and 2 F/A-18B aircraft, 33 officers and 180 enlisted members. The command is recognized as a highly professional unit and has earned the respect of Reserve and Fleet units alike throughout the Navy. VFC-12 is an outstanding example of the integration of Reserve Forces to develop and maintain the combat capabilities of regular Navy units.

VFC-12 was awarded the Chief of Naval Operations Aviation Safety Award in 1978, 1980, 1981, and 1992. VFC-12 was awarded the Noel Davis Trophy for squadron readiness for 1980, 1984, 1985 and 1995. In January 1989, the OMARS received a Meritorious Unit Commendation for sustained superior performance from 1 April 1987 to 31 March 1988.

In 1995 VFC-12 added the Strike Fighter Advanced Readiness Program (SFARP) mission to its lengthy list of responsibilities. The Omars were awarded the 1995 Battle "E", Noel Davis award, being recognized as the best squadron in category for Airwing 20. Nearing the end of 1995, ADM S.T. Keith, Commander Naval Air Reserve Force, recognized VFC-12 with an Aviation Safety Citation for achieving another year of Class A mishap-free flying.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN 1996

- In CY-96 VFC-12 conducted five Strike Fighter Advanced Readiness Program (SFARP) exercises for Fleet F-14 squadrons. The Omars flew 818.9 hours and 642 sorties in direct support of SFARP events. VFC-12 along with Strike Weapons and Tactics School Atlantic has led the way in the development of a single SFARP syllabus for all Navy and Marine Corps Strike Fighter Squadrons.

- The Omars assisted SWATSLANT in their transition as the "Keepers of SFARP" by providing Mission Commander as well as RTO training to the Strike Fighter Tactics Instructors (SFTI'S). VFC-12 maintains its vigilance as the "Threat Experts" by providing an in-depth lecture series covering Threat Aircraft, Threat Tactics, and Threat Weapons. The Omars are also the only fleet adversary unit providing advanced "Electronic Warfare" training with the ALQ-167 in conjunction with all NAS Oceana conducted SFARP exercises.

- October 1996, during the traditional change of command, CDR C. E. Overcash relieved CDR R. S. Dadiomoff as Commanding Officer. The ceremony was held at VFC-12's home station, NAS Oceana, Virginia. The guest speaker was CAPT W.R. Moccock, USNR (Retired).

- As always, the "Fighting Omars" spent a considerable amount of time away from home in support of fleet training. VFC-12 coordinated nine air combat detachments: NAS Fallon, NAS Cecil Field, NAS Key West.

3. NARRATIVE: The Omars of VFC-12 take great pride in the contributions they have made during an extremely busy and successful year providing fleet support services in CY-96. In a year where the regular Navy saw its last Adversary assets decommissioned, the Omars picked up the pace and provided the lion's share of CVWR-20 adversary support for east coast TACAIR. VFC-12 operated on detachment during 11 of 12 months in CY-96, providing 78% of a 3600 flight hour program in direct support of the fleet's training requirement. Additionally VFC-12 in coordination with both East coast TYPEWINGS and their respective Weapons Schools co-authored and implemented the first ever VF/VFA similar Strike Fighter Advanced Readiness Program (SFARP), executing five local graduate level SFARP programs for east coast VF squadrons.

VFC-12 flew 2907 sorties and 3634.3 flight hours in CY-96, representing 98% of the original flight hour program, 2834.7 flight hours were dedicated to fleet support.

The Omars have been a key element in the successful transition to an all Reserve Navy Adversary program. Our goals remain clear and our people are focused on dedication to continued fleet support.

The "Fighting Omars" of Fighter Squadron Composite Twelve (VFC-12) represent NAS Oceana's only Naval Reserve squadron. It is composed of selected reservists, full time reservists (TARS) and active duty personnel. It is made up of 33 officers, 20 Chief Petty Officers and 189 Petty Officers and future Petty Officers.

**FLIGHT HOUR BREAKDOWN
SUPPORT/IN-HOUSE**

	HOURS		HOURS	PERCENT	SUPPORT	PERCENT	INHOUSE	PERCENT
	PROGRAMMED		FLOWN	FLOWN			HOURS	
FY-96	3450		3450	100%	2622.9	76%	827.1	24%
FY-95	3640		3640	100%	2626.3	72.15%	1013.7	27.85%
FY-94	1925		1925	100%	160.1	8.32%	1764.9	91.68%
FY-93	3578		3578	100%	2862.4	80.00%	715.61	20.00%
FY-92	4700		4700	100%	3692.9	78.57%	1007.1	21.43%

Unit Manning Levels

TAR + USN OFF	SELRES OFF	TAR + USN ENL	SELRES ENL		
11	22	121	88		
SELRES	FLIGHT	CREW	TAR/USN	FLIGHT	CREW
PILOT	NFO	ENL	PILOT	NFO	ENL
16	2	0	9	1	0

Aircraft

VFC-12 maintained and flew 13 McDonnell Douglas F/A-18 series aircraft including 11 F/A-18 and 2 F/A-18B aircraft.

Detachment Schedule

The "Fighting Omars" spend a considerable amount of time at other sites in support of fleet training. Detachments included over 111 days per year at the following locations:

NAS CECIL FIELD, FL
 NAS FALLON, NV
 NAS KEY WEST, FL