



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
FIGHTER SQUADRON COMPOSITE TWELVE
NAVAL AIR STATION OCEANA
VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA 23460-2297

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Ser/ 102
19 Mar 04

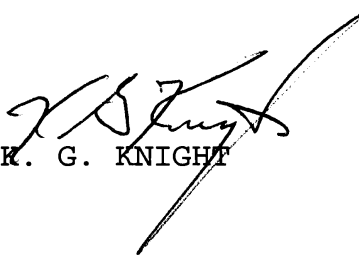
From: Commanding Officer, Fighter Squadron Composite 12
To: Director, Naval Historical Center, Washington Navy
Yard, 805 Kidder Breese SE, Washington, DC 20374-5060

Subj: SUBMISSION OF FIGHTER SQUADRON COMPOSITE TWELVE 2003
COMMAND HISTORY REPORT

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12H

Encl: (1) Fighter Squadron Composite Twelve Command Data
(2) Commanding Officer's Biography
(3) Executive Officer's Biography
(4) 2003 Chronology
(5) 2003 Narrative
(6) Photograph of Squadron Aircraft

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (6) are submitted.


K. G. KNIGHT

**FIGHTER SQUADRON COMPOSITE TWELVE
COMMAND DATA**

Commanding Officer

Kevin G. Knight, Commander, U. S. Naval Reserve

Executive Officer

William M. Crane, Commander, U. S. Naval Reserve

Senior Administrative Command

Commander, Carrier Air Wing Reserve 20

Squadron Title/UIC

VFC-12/52994

Squadron Mission

Provide Dissimilar Air Combat Training (DACT) for Navy, Marine Corps and other aviation units. In addition, provide fleet service missions for air and surface units as tasked.

Aircraft

F/A-18A/B

Duty Station

When Ashore: Naval Air Station Oceana, Virginia Beach, Virginia

When deployed: Naval Air Station Key West, Key West, Florida

**FIGHTER SQUADRON COMPOSITE TWELVE
2003 CHRONOLOGY**

January	NAS Key West Detachment - VFA-122 Local Fleet/FRS support
February	Local Fleet/FRS support
March	NAS Key West Detachment - VFA-106 Local Fleet/FRS support
April	Local Fleet/FRS support
May	NAS Key West Detachment - VF-101 Local Fleet/FRS support
June	CVW-7 SFARP (local) (VF-11/VF-143/VFA-131/VFA-136) NAS Key West Detachment - VFA-125 Local Fleet/FRS support
July	NAS Key West Detachment - VF-101 Local Fleet/FRS support
August	Local Fleet/FRS support
September	Local Fleet/FRS support
October	NAS Key West Detachment - CVW-17 SFARP (VF-103/VFA-34/VFA-81/VFA-83)
November	NAS Key West Detachment - CVW-17 SFARP (VF-103/VFA-34/VFA-81/VFA-83)
December	Local Fleet/FRS support

**FIGHTER SQUADRON COMPOSITE TWELVE
2003 NARRATIVE**

The "OMARS" of Fighter Squadron Composite Twelve spent the month of January 2003 participating in a detachment to Naval Air Station Pensacola in support of the F/A-18 E/F Super Hornet Fleet Replacement Squadron (FRS), the "Flying Eagles" of VFA-122. By providing adversary support through a variety of threat presentations, the "OMARS" persistently challenged the FRS pilots to fine-tune their piloting skills and to improve the way they employ their aircraft.

The men and women of VFC-12 were back on "Home Turf" at NAS Oceana during the month of February providing the same, skillful adversary support to local Fleet Squadrons that they provided on the road to VFA-122. This month also allowed the squadron to complete internal training of squadron personnel, including a very structured Instructor Under Training (IUT) syllabus for new pilots.

In March, VFA-106 required the services of the Fighting "OMARS" to train the future of Naval Aviation with a standardized Fleet Replacement Squadron basic tactics regimen. Arriving at NAS Key West, Florida for the first of many visits, VFC-12 had a good time with the "Gladiators" amassing 243.4 hours in 171 sorties while supporting the adversary requirements for their training.

Upon completion of the support for the Fleet Replacement Squadron, the men and women of VFC-12 were back at Virginia Beach in April, training "in-house" and preparing the jets for what would be a hectic summer. The deployment of the "Hunters" of VFA-201 created a heavy demand on the adversarial support capability of CVWR-20 and the skill and professionalism of the "OMARS" made them the Bandits of choice for the fleet.

May started off full steam ahead, finding the squadron back in Key West supporting the "Grim Reapers" of VF-101, the Tomcat Fleet Replacement Squadron. The "OMARS" flew over 183 sorties for a total of 247.2 hours of specialized adversary support over a two-week period.

Flowing directly into another support exercise at home did not impede the "OMARS" from providing the first class and expert Bandit support that the Fleet has come to expect. June began with the "OMARS" supporting Carrier Air Wing 7 (CVW-7) and its two F-14 Tomcat squadron's VF-11 and VF-143 and its two F/A-18 Hornet squadron's VFA-131 and VFA-136 with 34 sorties and 51.1 hours of support. On the heels of the CVW-7 SFARP, the Fighting "OMARS" returned to the warm beaches of Key West to support the FRS pilots of the VFA-125 "Rough Raiders." With only half of the year behind them, VFC-12 had

instructed and trained all of the Navy's Tomcat and Hornet Fleet Replacement Squadrons (FRS).

After a short break, VFC-12 was back, once again, in the sunshine of South Florida. The "OMARS" were called on to train potential Fleet fighter pilots by supporting the "Grim Reapers" of VF-101 for the second time in three months. The temperatures during July were hot while flying 281.4 hours over 219 sorties, but the men and women of VFC-12 kept a cool head in the chase of great liberty in Key West.

August and September were a welcome break from the high tempo operations of the previous few months. The "OMARS" took the opportunity to continue with their in-house training, providing further education for both maintenance personnel and squadron aircrew. As the month closed, the squadron prepared to pick up the pace and charge ahead into the next major training exercise.

In October and November, the "OMARS" participated in a Strike Fighter Advanced Readiness Program (SFARP) training exercise with Carrier Air Wing 17 (CVW-17), once again at Naval Air Station Key West. CVW-17 is comprised of three F/A-18 squadrons, VFA-34, VFA-81 and VFA-83, and one F-14 squadron, VF-103. The SFARP training program is particularly vital to Fleet Fighter and Strike Fighter Squadron readiness as it arms the squadron with the tools necessary to integrate into the Air Wing, as well as the Battle Group, preparing them for worldwide deployment. The "OMARS" flew 244 sorties for a total of 372.2 hours of support.

Preparing for the upcoming holiday season did not impede the "OMARS" from providing the unmatched and skilled Bandit support that the Fleet expects from VFC-12. On the heels of the CVW-17 SFARP, the Fighting "OMARS" prepared for a well-deserved break at the end of a very busy year. The hard working men and women of VFC-12 finished the year "recharging their batteries" with time at home, celebrating holiday seasons with family and friends in the best "OMAR" traditions.