

VFC-13 ✓
1993

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From: Commanding Officer, Fighter Squadron Composite 13
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH)

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY REPORT (OPNAV 5740-1)

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Encl: (1) Narrative
(2) Command Composition and Organization
(3) Chronology
(4) Biography of the Commanding Officer
(5) Command Charter and Goals
(6) VFC-13 Personnel Listing 31 December 1993 } Privacy Act Info

1. Per reference (a), enclosure (1) through (6) are submitted for Calendar Year 1993.

2. Point of Contact is our Public Affairs Officer, LT [REDACTED], AUTOVON [REDACTED] or commercial [REDACTED].

D. L. Pandorf
D. L. PANDORF
By direction

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SQUADRON HISTORY

The "Fighting Saints" of VFC-13 trace their origins back to 1946 when VF-753 was commissioned flying F6F-5 Hellcats. Today's squadron was formed on September 1, 1973 at NAS New Orleans during the reorganization of the U. S. Naval Reserve. Initially, the squadron operated the Chance Vought F-8H "Crusader" with a complement of 17 officers and 127 enlisted men, former members of VSF-76 and VSF-86. In April 1974, the "Saints" transitioned to the single-seat A-4L "Skyhawk." As the demand for West Coast adversary services and other fleet support missions increased, the squadron was permanently transferred to NAS Miramar, arriving in San Diego in February 1976. That summer a transition was made from the A-4L to the more reliable two-seat TA-4J. 1983 marked the return of the single seat aircraft to VFC-13 with the arrival of the A-4E, and in 1988, the squadron moved to the A-4F "Super Fox," the more powerful and capable version of the Skyhawk. October 1993 marked the end of an era when VFC-13 transitioned to the single-seat, two engine F/A-18 "Hornet." This change further enhanced the squadron's ability to perform its adversary mission by providing an even more capable and realistic threat aircraft.

The "Fighting Saints" provide a formidable dissimilar adversary threat. In recognition of that primary mission assignment, on April 22, 1988 VC-13 was proudly redesignated as "FIGHTER SQUADRON COMPOSITE THIRTEEN (VFC-13)." At the same time the squadron logo was redesigned to reflect the changes undergone by the command over the past years. The new logo incorporates as its focal point the wings worn by the highest classification of Soviet Fighter Pilot, the "Sniper." VFC-13 provides quality adversary training for Regular Navy Fleet and Replacement Squadrons and Air Wings, Reserve Fighter and Attack Squadrons, the U. S. Air Force, U. S. Marine Corps and Canadian Forces. As of January 1994, the "Fighting Saints" have flown over 38,000 hours accident free, spanning eight years.

1946	VF-783 - F6F5 Hellcat
1946 - 1949	VF-53L - FG-1D Cosair
1949 - 1955	VF-821 - F4U-4 Cosair, F9F Panther
1955 - 1958	VA-821 - AD-4NA Skyraider
1958 - 1968	VF-821 - F9F-8B Cougar, FJ-3/4 Fury, A-4A/B Skyhawk
1968 - 1970	VSF-75X1 - A-4B Skyhawk
1970 - 1973	VSF-76/VSF-86 - A-4B/C Skyhawk, F-8H Crusader
1973 - 1974	VC-13 - F-8H Crusader
1974 - 1988	VC-13 - A-4L, TA-4J, A-4E Skyhawk
1988 - 1993	VFC-13 - A-4F, TA-4J Skyhawk
1993 - Present	VFC-13 - F/A-18A Hornet

ENCLOSURE(1)



COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

1. Mission. To provide dissimilar air combat training (DACT) for Navy and Marine Corps and other fighter/strike fighter squadrons when tasked. To provide a variety of threat simulations for air and surface units including towed or air launched targets. Specific services include:

- a. Air Combat Maneuvering Training
- b. Air to Air Tactics
- c. Air to Air Missile Exercises
- d. Air Intercept and Radar Tracking Training
- e. CNO Special Projects
- f. Surface to Air Missile Exercises

2. Chain of Command. The "Fighting Saints" are led by Commander Walter L. Baker, USNR, Commanding Officer, and Commander Frederick R. Hollinger, USNR, Executive Officer. VFC-13, based at NAS Miramar, San Diego, CA, is under the administrative and operational control of Commander, Carrier Air Wing Reserve THIRTY located at NAS Miramar, CA who reports to Commander, Naval Air Reserve Force, New Orleans, LA.

3. Manning. VFC-13 is manned with 242 personnel, 36 SELRES, 7 TAR, 2 USN Officers, and 89 SELRES, 108 TAR Enlisted. SELRES and TAR aircrew are hand picked for their expertise, professionalism and their instructional abilities. All aircrew have extensive fleet/adversary experience and average over 2400 flight hours.

4. Aircraft. VFC-13 maintains and flies a total of 7 McDonnell Douglas F/A-18 series aircraft including six F/A-18A "Hornets" and one F/A-18B. All aircraft carry a camouflaged desert paint scheme and are assigned the tail code of November Delta (ND).

ENCLOSURE(2)



1. Significant Events.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
23 January 1993	CDR W. L. Baker relieved CDR J. M. Harris as Commanding Officer during ceremonies held at NAS Miramar, Hangar 2
10 September 1993	Last A-4F flight
17 October 1993	First F/A-18A flight
31 December 1993	VFC-13 completed 8 years 7 months and 38,719.5 flight hours accident free

2. Detachments. The "Fighting Saints" spend a considerable amount of time at other sites in support of fleet training. The following detachments were completed during Calendar Year 1993:

<u>Site</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Type/Support</u>	<u>Hrs/Flts</u>
NAS Whidbey, WA	21 Feb - 26 Feb	DACT/MAWSPAC	72.8/32
NAS Fallon, NV	14 Mar - 26 Mar	DACT/CVW-1	145.0/118
AFB Luke, AZ	30 Apr - 02 May	DACT/944th	15.6/16
NAS Fallon, NV	16 Jun - 26 Jun	DACT/CVW-17	132.1/91
NAF El Centro, CA	06 Dec - 17 Dec	DACT/CVW-2	44.5/31

ENCLOSURE(3)