

1970

FLEET TACTICAL SUPPORT SQUADRON FORTY

FLEET POST OFFICE
NEW YORK 09501

VRC-40/15/hbf
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From: Commanding Officer, Fleet Tactical Support Squadron FORTY
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-05D2)

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

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12A

Encl: (1) Highlights
(2) Basic Narrative
(3) Operational Statistics
(4) Detachments
(5) Officer Roster
(6) Copies of Congratulatory messages
(7) VRC-40 COD NEWSLETTER for month of DEC 1970
(8) Biography and picture of the Commanding Officer
(9) Photo of Squadron Aircraft
(10) News Clippings of VRC-40

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (10) are forwarded. These enclosures comprise the squadron's command history for calendar year 1970.

W. E. Wilder
W. E. WILDER

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HIGHLIGHTS

1. 30 April - 1 May Annual Administrative and Material Inspection. VRC-40 received an overall numerical grade of 92.08, with an adjective grade of excellent. It is noted that the Personnel Inspection and Leadership areas each received numerical grades of 98. The overall Executive Department numerical grade was 96.43, with an adjective grade of outstanding.
2. 3 May - 7 September Detachment 18, involving 3 pilots and 5 enlisted men, deployed for 4 months aboard the USS WASP (CVS-18) in the North Atlantic.
3. 10 July VRC-40 Change of Command. Commander William E. WILDER relieved Commander Christopher WITHERS.
4. 27 July VRC-40 received a citation from COMNAVIAIRLANT for meritorious achievement in aviation safety during Fiscal Year 1970.
5. 4 September VRC-40 was awarded the Chief of Naval Operations' Safety Award for Fiscal Year 1970.
6. 9 September - 15 December 1970 VRC-40 provided 6 ground support personnel to a detachment of Fleet Tactical Support FIFTY, located at Danang, Republic of Vietnam.

BASIC NARRATIVE

COMMAND ORGANIZATION AND MISSION

a. Fleet Tactical Support Squadron FORTY (VRC-40) was commissioned on 1 July 1960 and assigned the mission of providing logistical air support to the Atlantic Fleet. VRC-40 is presently home based at the Naval Air Station, Norfolk, Virginia, and is under the operational control of Commander Naval Air Force Atlantic Fleet, and administrative control of Commander Fleet Air Norfolk. Commander W. E. WILDER relieved Commander C. WITHERS on 10 July 1970 as Commanding Officer.

b. VRC-40 has an allowance of seven aircraft, but operated an average of nine aircraft during 1970, by virtue of the fact that the squadron acts as a repository for replacement C-1A aircraft for Atlantic Fleet units. The squadron operated with 32 officers and 151 enlisted men, approximately, 29 officers were aviators and 23 enlisted men were aircrewmembers, approximately.

c. VRC-40 is the only squadron in the Atlantic Fleet that carries out the unusual task of Carrier-Onboard-Delivery (COD) operations. These operations typically consist of transporting passengers, mail, and high priority cargo to and from carriers operating at sea. Additional missions are as follows: paradrop operations are provided for Navy Sea Air Land (SEAL) Teams and Marine Special Reconnaissance Forces (Pathfinders); air gunspotting services are provided infrequently for Forward Air Controller training; weapons loading exercises are conducted on a quarterly basis at Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay and Naval Station, Roosevelt Roads. Also the squadron maintains a capability of paradropping urgently needed items weighing less than 50 pounds to ships at sea using the Air Deployment Delivery System (ADDS).

d. Many of our country's leading businessmen, government officials and military leaders as well as foreign dignitaries have flown with VRC-40. Some of the noteworthy personnel transported in 1970 were: General H. Howe, USA; U.S. Senators Baker, Cook, Shebe and E. Kennedy; Under Secretary of the Navy Warner; Deputy Assistant Secretary of African Affairs R. C. Moore; and Vice Admirals R. L. Townsend, G. E. Miller and F. C. Wilkinson.

OPERATIONS

a. VRC-40 differs from the majority of aviation commands in that it rarely deploys as an entire unit. The squadron supports fleet operations with COD detachments of one or two planes. During 1970, VRC-40 aircraft

Enclosure (2)

deployed 48 times in assistance of operation along the Atlantic coast, Caribbean area, South America, and Northern Europe. The majority of these were COD detachments in support of Atlantic Fleet carriers. In performing this primary mission, VRC-40 operated out of ports along the Eastern Seaboard and in the Caribbean area for one to two week periods.

b. The longest detachment of the year involved 3 pilots and 5 enlisted men who were deployed for four months aboard the USS WASP (CVS-18) in the North Atlantic/European Area. VRC-40 support to VRC-50, detachment Da Nang, consisted of 6 ground support personnel to Vietnam for a 3 month period.

c. Since its commissioning in 1960, VRC-40 has transported 76,768 passengers and 70,499,336 pounds of cargo and mail, while logging 62,614 hours of flight time and more than 12,700 arrested carrier landings. During the past calendar year VRC-40 accumulated 5,345 flight hours, 300 catapult launches and 1,169 arrested carrier landings.

d. In 1970, VRC-40 designated 4 COD Transport Third Pilots, 5 COD Transport Second Pilots, and 11 COD Transport Aircraft Commanders.

e. Despite the fact that many of the C-1A's are almost 14 years old, the Maintenance Department maintained an 83% availability throughout the year. This enabled the Operations Department to conduct a comprehensive flight training program for new pilots and aircrews during a period of gradual increased transport mission. The average flight time per aircraft per month was 52.4 hours.

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

<u>Month</u>	<u>Flight time and accident free hrs.</u>	<u>Pounds of cargo and mail</u>	<u>No. of passengers</u>	<u>passenger miles</u>	<u>Arrested landings</u>	<u>Cat. shots.</u>
JAN	394.7	40,770	591	81,607	132	17
FEB	496.7	89,645	887	88,495	96	23
MAR	467.5	99,838	649	94,062	141	53
APR	575.6	83,451	985	141,625	103	31
MAY	425.8	62,378	992	251,458	75	5
JUN	380.0	49,192	657	76,637	151	17
JUL	387.3	97,049	598	117,823	63	15
AUG	316.2	36,168	319	54,282	88	34
SEP	404.4	35,815	213	58,497	27	12
OCT	468.0	49,872	586	140,554	119	50
NOV	593.3	38,258	821	173,512	107	34
DEC	435.2	45,730	481	124,318	67	9
TOTAL 1970	5,344	302,892	7,779	1,192,770	1,169	300
TOTAL SINCE COMMISSIONING	62,614	70,499,336	76,768	4,667,056	12,756	---

Total accident free hours: 12,461.

DETACHMENTS DURING 1970

<u>DATES</u>	<u>NO. OF AIRCRAFT</u>	<u>BASED</u>	<u>SHIP</u>	<u>MISSION</u>
5-15 JANUARY	1	JACKSONVILLE	SHANGRI-LA	COD
11-15 JANUARY	1	PENSACOLA	INTREPID	COD
18-20 JANUARY	3	BERMUDA	SARATOGA	COD
19-26 JANUARY	1	CORPUS CHRISTI	INTREPID	COD
3-27 FEBRUARY	1	ROOSEVELT ROADS	SHANGRI-LA	COD
8-16 FEBRUARY	1	ROOSEVELT ROADS	USS AMERICA	COD
11-17 FEBRUARY	1	CORPUS CHRISTI	INTREPID	COD
14-28 FEBRUARY	1	ROOSEVELT ROADS	USS AMERICA	COD
24-26 FEBRUARY	1	PENSACOLA	INTREPID	COD
2-7 MARCH	1	CORPUS CHRISTI	INTREPID	COD
2-8 MARCH	1	JACKSONVILLE	AMERICA	COD
6-7 MARCH	1	JACKSONVILLE	AMERICA	COD
9-13 MARCH	1	PENSACOLA	INTREPID	COD
5-10 APRIL	2	PENSACOLA	LEXINGTON	COD/CARQUALS
5-6 APRIL	2	MAYPORT	SARATOGA	COD
12-20 APRIL	1	ROOSEVELT ROADS	AMERICA	COD
14-18 APRIL	1	CORPUS CHRISTI	LEXINGTON	COD
22-28 APRIL	1	JACKSONVILLE	INDEPENDENCE	COD
27-8 MAY	1	JACKSONVILLE	SARATOGA	COD
2-7 MAY	2	PENSACOLA/JACKSONVILLE	INDEPENDENCE	COD
17-21 MAY	1	PENSACOLA	LEXINGTON	COD
22-27 MAY	1	CORPUS CHRISTI	LEXINGTON	COD
2-10 JUNE	1	JACKSONVILLE	SARATOGA	COD
8-10 JUNE	1	PENSACOLA	LEXINGTON	COD
15-29 JUNE	1	GUANTANAMO	KENNEDY	COD
15-20 JUNE	1	CORPUS CHRISTI	LEXINGTON	COD
22-25 JUNE	1	PENSACOLA	LEXINGTON	COD/CARQUALS
25-8 JULY	1	ROOSEVELT ROADS	INDEPENDENCE	COD
11-16 JULY	1	PENSACOLA	LEXINGTON	COD/CARQUALS
20-24 JULY	1	CORPUS CHRISTI	LEXINGTON	COD/CARQUALS
26-29 JULY	1	PENSACOLA	LEXINGTON	COD/CARQUALS
3-5 AUGUST	1	ROOSEVELT ROADS	LEXINGTON	WEAPONS LOADING
9-12 AUGUST	1	PENSACOLA	LEXINGTON	COD/CARQUALS
15-24 SEPTEMBER	1	ROOSEVELT ROADS	KENNEDY	COD
15-21 SEPTEMBER	2	JACKSONVILLE	INTREPID	COD
29 SEP - 2 OCTOBER	1	PENSACOLA	LEXINGTON	COD/CARQUALS
12-15 OCTOBER	1	JACKSONVILLE	ROOSEVELT	COD
12-16 OCTOBER	1	CORPUS CHRISTI	LEXINGTON	COD/CARQUALS
18-23 OCTOBER	1	PENSACOLA	LEXINGTON	COD/CARQUALS

Enclosure (4)

DETACHMENTS DURING 1970 (CONT)

<u>DATES</u>	<u>NO. OF AIRCRAFT</u>	<u>BASED</u>	<u>SHIP</u>	<u>MISSION</u>
21-28 OCTOBER	1	BERMUDA	INTREPID	COD
28 OCT - 3 NOVEMBER	1	BERMUDA	INTREPID	COD
2-5 NOVEMBER	1	ROOSEVELT ROADS		WEAPONS LOADING
3-7 NOVEMBER	1	JACKSONVILLE	ROOSEVELT	COD
8-13 NOVEMBER	1	PENSACOLA	LEXINGTON	COD/CARQUALS
12-19 NOVEMBER	1	JACKSONVILLE	ROOSEVELT	COD
6-11 DECEMBER	1	PENSACOLA	LEXINGTON	COD/CARQUALS
14-18 DECEMBER	2	CORPUS CHRISTI	LEXINGTON	COD/CARQUALS
16-18 DECEMBER	1	ROOSEVELT ROADS	AMERICA	COD

OFFICER ROSTER

<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>PILOT DESIGNATION</u>	<u>DATE DESIGNATION</u>	<u>INSTRUMENT RATING</u>
CDR	W. E. WILDER	Aircraft Commander	October 1969	Special
CDR	[REDACTED]	Aircraft Commander	October 1970	Special
LGDR	[REDACTED]	Aircraft Commander	May 1966	Special
LGDR	[REDACTED]	Aircraft Commander	January 1969	Special
LGDR	[REDACTED]	Aircraft Commander	March 1970	Special
LGDR	[REDACTED]	Aircraft Commander	September 1970	Special
LGDR	[REDACTED]	Aircraft Commander	October 1969	Special
LT	[REDACTED]	Aircraft Commander	August 1969	Special
LT	[REDACTED]	Aircraft Commander	October 1969	Standard
LT	[REDACTED]	Aircraft Commander	April 1970	Standard
LT	[REDACTED]	Aircraft Commander	July 1970	Standard
LT	[REDACTED]	Aircraft Commander	July 1970	Standard
LT	[REDACTED]	Aircraft Commander	July 1970	Standard
LT	[REDACTED]	Aircraft Commander	September 1970	Standard
LT	[REDACTED]	Aircraft Commander	November 1970	Standard
LT	[REDACTED]	Aircraft Commander	December 1970	Standard
LTJG	[REDACTED]	Aircraft Commander	December 1970	Standard
LT	[REDACTED]	Second Pilot	January 1970	Standard
LT	[REDACTED]	Second Pilot	September 1970	Standard
LTJG	[REDACTED]	Second Pilot	February 1970	Standard
LTJG	[REDACTED]	Second Pilot	October 1970	Standard
LT	[REDACTED]	Third Pilot	July 1970	Standard
LT	[REDACTED]	Third Pilot	September 1970	Standard
LTJG	[REDACTED]	Third Pilot	July 1970	Standard
LTJG	[REDACTED]	Third Pilot	July 1970	Standard
LGDR	[REDACTED]	CTPT In Training		Special
LTJG	[REDACTED]	CTPT In Training		Standard
LTJG	[REDACTED]	CTPT In Training		Standard
LTJG	[REDACTED]	CTPT In Training		Standard
LTJG	[REDACTED]	CTPT In Training		Standard
LCDR	[REDACTED]	ASST AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE OFFICER		
LT	[REDACTED]	A/C MAINTENANCE CONTROL DIVISION OFFICER		
LTJG	[REDACTED]	EDUCATIONAL SERVICES OFFICER		