

VA-105

Lineage

Established as Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED FIVE (VA-105) on 1 May 1952.

Disestablished on 1 February 1959. The first squadron to be assigned the designation VA-105.

Squadron Insignia and Nickname



The squadron's only insignia, approved March 1953.

The squadron's insignia was approved by CNO on 2 March 1953. Colors for the winged canon and bomb insignia were: a black bomb superimposed on a yellow background with a red fuse on the bomb; the canon was red with black markings; and the wings were yellow with black markings.

Nickname: unknown.

Chronology of Significant Events

4 Mar 1958: The squadron's commanding officer, Commander E. F. Ternasky, was killed during a night ditching astern of *Essex* (CVA 9).

Jul–Aug 1958: The squadron flew close air support missions during the landing of U.S. Marines in Beirut, Lebanon. Aircraft from VA-105 were the first to be on station during the landings. Squadron aircraft flew road and border reconnaissance sorties. Several aircraft were damaged by ground fire on their reconnaissance missions. However, all aircraft returned to the *Essex* safely.

Sep 1958: When the Chinese communists began shelling the Quemoy Island group in August, *Essex* was ordered to transit the Suez Canal and report to the Seventh Fleet for duty in the Taiwan Straits. The squadron flew numerous sorties in the Taiwan Straits until relieved on 26 September.

Nov 1958: When the squadron was assigned to Replacement Air Group 4, its mission was changed to training personnel in the AD-6 Skyraider for assignment to fleet operating squadrons.

Home Port Assignments

Location	Assignment Date
NAAS Cecil Field*	01 May 1952
NAS Jacksonville	Jul 1955
NAS Cecil Field	Apr 1956
NAS Jacksonville	Nov 1958

* NAAS Cecil Field was redesignated NAS Cecil Field on 30 June 1952.

Commanding Officers

	Date Assumed Command
CDR F. C. Auman	01 May 1952
LCDR R. S. Reeves	Aug 1953
CDR Samuel W. Forrer	Oct 1954
CDR Eugene F. Ternasky	Jun 1956
CDR L. W. S. Cummins	16 Mar 1958
LCDR U. W. Patrick, Jr.	08 Dec 1958

Aircraft Assignment

Type of Aircraft	Date Type First Received
AD-1	09 May 1952
AD-4	22 Sep 1952
AD-4NA	Sep 1952
AD-6	Nov 1954



A squadron AD-4 Skyraider coming in for a landing during deployment aboard *Tarawa* (CVA 40) in 1953.

Major Overseas Deployments

<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Date of Return</i>	<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Carrier</i>	<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Area of Operation</i>
07 Jan 1953	03 Jul 1953	CVG-10	CVA 40	AD-4/4NA	Med
31 Oct 1955	16 Apr 1956	ATG-201	CVA 20	AD-6	WestPac
02 Feb 1958	17 Nov 1958	ATG-201	CVA 9	AD-6	Med/WestPac

Air Wing Assignments

<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Tail Code</i>	<i>Assignment Date</i>
CVG-10	P	01 May 1952
ATG-201	J/AP*	1954
RCVG-4	AD	16 Nov 1958

* The tail code was changed from J to AP in 1957. The effective date for this change was most likely the beginning of FY 58 (1 July 1957).

Unit Awards Received

<i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i>	
01 Jul 1953	30 Jun 1954
01 Jul 1954	30 Jun 1955
16 Jul 1958	01 Aug 1958
11 Aug 1958	20 Aug 1958

SECOND VA-106

Lineage

Established as Bomber-Fighter Squadron SEVENTEEN (VBF-17) on 2 January 1945.

Redesignated Fighter Squadron SIX B (VF-6B) on 15 November 1946.

Redesignated Fighter Squadron SIXTY TWO (VF-62) on 28 July 1948.

Redesignated Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED SIX (VA-106) on 1 July 1955.

Disestablished on 7 November 1969. The second squadron to be assigned the VA-106 designation.

Squadron Insignia and Nickname

The squadron's first insignia was approved by CNO on 23 November 1945. Colors for the skeleton riding a rocket were:



The squadron's first insignia.

a background with a deep purple sky, aquamarine water and white clouds outlined in pale blue; the skeleton had a deep purple sombrero, a white face with light green shading and deep purple sockets, magenta shirt with an orange neckerchief, the hands were white with light green markings, teal trousers with a light blue cuff, tan boots with a brown sole, dark purple stirrups, tan saddle with pommel and under-portions brown; light gray rocket outlined in purple with yellow and orange lines emanating from the tail, light gray pistol outlined in purple with yellow smoke, magenta bomb, and a brown belt and holster.

Colors for the skeleton riding a rocket were: a background with a deep purple sky, aquamarine water and white clouds outlined in pale blue; the skeleton had a deep purple sombrero, a white face with light green shading and deep purple sockets, magenta shirt with an orange neckerchief, the hands were white with light green markings, teal trousers with a light blue cuff, tan boots with a brown sole, dark purple stirrups, tan saddle with pommel and under-portions brown; light gray rocket outlined in purple with yellow and orange lines emanating from the tail, light gray pistol outlined in purple with yellow smoke, magenta bomb, and a brown belt and holster.

A new insignia was approved by CNO on 16 April 1952. Colors for the helmet and shield insignia were: a gold background outlined in dark blue; dark blue shield; the Roman helmet was gold with black markings; white arrow and stylized wing; and the scroll was gold with black lettering.



This insignia was adopted by the squadron in the early 1950s. Following the squadron's disestablishment a new strike fighter squadron adopted this insignia in the 1980s.

Nickname: unknown, 1945–1952.

Gladiators, 1952–1969.

Chronology of Significant Events

Jan 1945: The squadron was established only a month before it entered combat. Personnel from VF-17 were the core of the newly established Bomber Fighter Squadron 17.

16–17 Feb 1945: The squadron participated in strikes against targets in and around the Tokyo area.

20–22 Feb 1945: Squadron aircraft participated in strikes against Iwo Jima and provided air support for the landings on the island.

25 Feb 1945: Conducted strikes in the Tokyo area.

18–19 Mar 1945: Major strikes were conducted by squadron aircraft against Kanoya, the largest airfield on Kyushu and against the Japanese Fleet anchored at Kure Naval Base. On 19 March Lieutenant Edwin S. Conant was awarded the Silver Star for his action as flight leader on a fighter sweep over the Kure Bay. He shot down three planes during an engagement with the enemy and his flight group accounted for a total of 24 enemy planes downed and probably eight or more damaged.

21 Mar 1945: Lieutenant (jg) Henry E. Mitchell became an Ace when he shot down five Bettys (Japanese Navy Mitsubishi Attack Bombers) that were part of a sortie attacking the squadron's task force. He was later killed in action on 3 April 1945. For his action on 21 March he was awarded the Navy Cross posthumously.

Mar–May 1945: The squadron conducted strikes in support of the Okinawa campaign.

6 Apr 1945: Ensign Harold Yeremain became an Ace when he added three more aircraft to his total by downing two Zekes (Mitsubishi A6M Fighters, commonly known as Zeros) and one Val (an Aichi Navy Carrier Bomber) during an engagement near Okinawa. Ensigns John J. Gafeney and William J. Kostik were awarded Silver Stars for their actions in shooting down three Japanese aircraft each during this engagement.

7 Apr 1945: The unit participated in the combined task force strikes against the super battleship *Yamato* and its accompanying escorts, resulting in the sinking of *Yamato*, two cruisers and three destroyers.

7 Apr 1945: Lieutenant Byron A. Eberts became an Ace when he brought his total to five by shooting down a Francis (a Yokosuka Japanese Navy Night Fighter).

12 Apr 1945: Lieutenant Edwin S. Conant became an Ace when he shot down a Zeke (Zero) and a Tojo (a Japanese Army Nakajima Fighter) and brought his tally to six aircraft downed.

14 Apr 1945: Ensigns Robert A. Clarke and William

J. Kostik became Aces when they each shot down a Zeke (Zero).

16 Apr 1945: Lieutenant John M. Johnston became an Ace when he shot down four Zekes (Zeros), bringing his total to eight aircraft. For his action during this engagement he was awarded the Silver Star.

May 1945: The squadron participated in strikes against Kyushu and Shikoku, hitting aircraft plants and airfields.

14 May 1945: The squadron's commanding officer, Lieutenant Commander H. W. Nicholson, was killed in action during a strike against Kyushu.

14 May 1945: Lieutenant (jg) Carl V. Stone became an Ace when he added two Franks (a Japanese Army Fighter) to his total of downed aircraft.

Aug 1956: Following the nationalization of the Suez Canal by Egypt on 26 July, *Coral Sea* (CVA 43) was ordered to the eastern Mediterranean as tensions increased and France and the United Kingdom began preparations for military action against Egypt.

Oct–Nov 1956: On 29 October Israel invaded Egypt and a day later France and the United Kingdom joined in the invasion, with the intent of reoccupying the Suez Canal. *Coral Sea* was on station in the eastern Mediterranean during the American evacuation of Western nationals from Egypt and Israel.

Jul 1959: During the NATO exercise Riptide, held off the east coast of the United States, the squadron conducted cross deck operations with the British carrier HMS *Victorious*.

15–28 Nov 1960: Following a request from Guatemala and Nicaragua, a Navy patrol was established off the coast of these Central American countries to prevent infiltration by communists from Cuba. The squadron operated from *Shangri-La* (CVA 38) as part of the patrol force.

2–19 Jun 1961: Following the assassination of the Dominican Republic's dictator, General Rafael Trujillo, the squadron operated from *Shangri-La* off the coast of that country until the domestic situation began to stabilize.

22 Oct–28 Nov 1962: During the Cuban Missile Crisis the squadron was assigned to the U.S. Air Force's 19th Tactical Air Force, in an alert status.

May 1963: The squadron operated from *Shangri-La* in the Caribbean during the period of unrest in Haiti and the civil strife with the Dominican Republic.

29 Jul 1967: After four days on the line at Yankee Station tragedy struck *Forrestal* (CVA 59). A Zuni rocket was accidentally ignited on the flight deck causing a chain reaction of explosions among the aircraft loaded with bombs and fuel. The squadron lost eight people out of the 132 killed, two missing and presumed dead and 62 injured. Those killed were Petty Officers H. Fontenot, W. W. Stewart, R. N. Plesh, J. A. Earick and Airman C. R. Rich, J. A. Velez, A. R. Metz and G. E. Wall. Numerous squadron personnel were cited for their acts of heroism during the tragedy.



A squadron P8F-2 Bearcat prepares for launch from *Coral Sea* (CVB 43) in September 1948 (Courtesy David Lucabaugh Collection).

Home Port Assignments

Location	Assignment Date
NAS Agana	02 Jan 1945*
NAS Alameda	08 Jul 1945
NAAS Fallon	Sep 1945
NAS Brunswick	Feb 1946
NAS Norfolk	1946†
NAAS Oceana	25 Sep 1948
NAS Norfolk	22 Nov 1948
NAAS Oceana	20 Jan 1949
NAAS Cecil Field	18 Sep 1950‡
NAS Jacksonville	13 Oct 1952
NAS Cecil Field	Dec 1954

* Temporary shore assignment while the squadron conducted training in preparation for combat deployment.

† The squadron was transferred from NAS Brunswick to NAS Norfolk sometime in July or August 1946.

‡ The squadron's home port was changed to NAS Jacksonville on 5 September 1950 and the move from NAAS Oceana was conducted between 6 and 7 September. On 18 September, Commander Fleet Air Jacksonville changed the squadron's home port to NAAS Cecil Field.



Two squadron F2H-2 Banshees fly over Lake Champlain (CVA 39) during their 1953 deployment to Korea.

Commanding Officers

	<i>Date Assumed Command</i>
LCDR Hugh W. Nicholson	11 Jan 1945
LT Edwin S. Connant (acting)	14 May 1945
LCDR Edwin S. Connant	20 Aug 1945
CDR C. E. Houston	01 Jul 1947
LCDR Walter O. Zoecklein (acting)	1948
LCDR James E. Shew	02 Jul 1948
LCDR Hugh A. Kelly	03 Jan 1950
CDR Douglas A. Clark	19 Oct 1951
LCDR William W. Kelly	25 Nov 1952
CDR Lewis W. Jenkins	27 Feb 1954
CDR Hollis H. Hills	Jul 1955
CDR O. L. Dauphin	Feb 1957
CDR Newton P. Foss	25 Apr 1958
CDR S. O. Bach	05 Dec 1959
CDR L. W. Baldwin, Jr.	22 Jul 1960
CDR L. E. Irvin	31 Jul 1961
CDR W. S. Nelson	25 Jul 1962
CDR G. E. R. Kinnear II	Jul 1963
CDR C. B. Crockett	1 Aug 1964
CDR James H. Scott	Jun 1965
CDR S. R. Foley, Jr.	24 Jun 1966
CDR S. E. Latimer, Jr.	07 Aug 1967
CDR Walter L. Clarke, Jr.	17 Nov 1967
CDR J. H. Harns	03 Mar 1969



Squadron CO, Commander H. H. Hills, inspecting an F2H-2, 1955.

Aircraft Assignment

<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Date Type First Received</i>
F6F-5	Jan 1945
F4U	Sep 1945
F4U-4	Feb 1946
F8F-2	30 Jun 1948
F8F-1B	Feb 1950
F2H-2	03 Aug 1950
F9F-8B	Oct 1955
A4D-2	04 Jun 1958
A-4C	18 Dec 1962
A-4E	Nov 1966
A-4B	Feb 1969
A-4C	Mar 1969



Personnel discuss the refueling probe on a squadron F9F-8 Cougar, 1955.

Major Overseas Deployments

<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Date of Return</i>	<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Carrier</i>	<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Area of Operation</i>
10 Feb 1945	13 Jun 1945	CVG-17	CV 12	F6F-5	Pacific
27 Oct 1949	23 Nov 1949	CVG-6	CVB 42	F8F-2	NorLant
15 May 1951	04 Oct 1951	CVG-4	CV 34	F2H-2	Med
19 Apr 1952	12 Oct 1952	CVG-4	CVB 43	F2H-2	Med
26 Apr 1953	04 Dec 1953	CVG-4	CVA 39	F2H-2	Korea/West Pac/Med
07 Jul 1954	20 Dec 1954	CVG-10	CVA 43	F2H-2	Med
13 Aug 1956	11 Feb 1957	CVG-10	CVA 43	F9F-8B	Med
07 Aug 1959	26 Feb 1960	CVG-10	CVA 9	A4D-2	Med
06 Sep 1960	20 Oct 1960	CVG-10	CVA 38	A4D-2	NorLant
02 Feb 1961	15 May 1961	CVG-10	CVA 38	A4D-2	Med
07 Feb 1962	28 Aug 1962	CVG-10	CVA 38	A4D-2	Med
01 Oct 1963	23 May 1964	CVW-10	CVA 38	A-4C	Med
15 Feb 1965	20 Sep 1965	CVW-10	CVA 38	A-4C	Med
11 Mar 1966	26 Oct 1966	CVW-3	CVA 60	A-4C	Med
06 Jun 1967	15 Sep 1967	CVW-17	CVA 59	A-4E	WestPac/Vietnam
04 Jun 1968	08 Feb 1969	CVW-10	CVS 11	A-4E	WestPac/Vietnam
03 Sep 1969	09 Oct 1969	CVW-7	CVA 62	A-4C	NorLant



Squadron A-4C Skyhawks fly over Saratoga (CVA 60), 1966.

Air Wing Assignments

<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Tail Code</i>	<i>Assignment Date</i>
CVG-17/CVBG-17/ CVBG-5/CVG-6*	C	02 Jan 1945
CVG-4	F	Sep 1950
CVG-10	P/AK†	1954
CVG-1‡		12 Oct 1961
CVG-10/CVW-10§	AK	12 Nov 1961
CVW-3	AC	01 Jan 1966
CVW-17	AA	01 Feb 1967
CVW-10	AK	10 Jan 1968
CVW-7	AG	03 Mar 1969

* CVG-17 was established on 1 January 1943, redesignated CVBG-17 on 22 January 1946, then redesignated CVBG-5 on 15 November 1946. CVBG-5 was then redesignated CVG-6 on 27 July 1948.

† The tail code was changed from P to AK in 1957. The effective date for this change was most likely the beginning of FY 58 (1 July 1957).

‡ The squadron was temporarily assigned to Air Group 1 for operation Blow Torch, simulated nuclear strikes against North American targets, and for nuclear operational suitability tests aboard *Franklin D. Roosevelt* (CVA 42).

§ CVG-10 was redesignated CVW-10 when Carrier Air Group (CVG) designations were redesignated Carrier Air Wings (CVW) on 20 December 1963.

Unit Awards Received

<i>Unit Award</i>	<i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i>	
PUC	16 Feb 1945	10 Jun 1945
Campaign Medal WW-II Asiatic- Pacific Area	Feb 1945	Jun 1945
NAVE	01 Jul 1949	30 Jun 1950
	01 Jul 1955	30 Jun 1956
	01 Jul 1959	30 Jun 1960
	01 Jul 1965	31 Dec 1966
KPUC	09 Jun 1953	27 Jul 1953
KSM	09 Jun 1953	27 Sep 1953
VNSM	15 Jul 1967	17 Jul 1967
	23 Jul 1967	31 Jul 1967
	12 Aug 1967	13 Aug 1967
	05 Sep 1968	27 Sep 1968
	14 Oct 1968	14 Nov 1968
	03 Dec 1968	27 Dec 1968
NEM	03 Jun 1961	11 Jun 1961
	14 Jun 1961	18 Jun 1961



Squadron officers and an A-4C on *Saratoga* (CVA 60) during its 1966 cruise to the Med. Standing left to right: Marine Capt. J. W. Orr, LCdr. C. C. Smith, LCdr. J. E. Potosnak, LCdr. P. E. Phillips, Lt. W. R. Needham, LCdr. J. L. Burton, Lt. (jg) J. B. Mattly, Lt. S. C. Cole, LCdr. K. A. McMillen and Lt. E. L. DeSha. Kneeling left to right: Lt. (MC) H. K. Leathers III, Lt. L. W. Scott, Ens. M. W. Davis, Cdr. J. H. Scott, Cdr. S. R. Foley, Jr., Lt. (jg) R. L. Mattingly, Lt. R. A. Pennington, Ens. J. E. Gause and WO1 G. E. Connolly.

VA-112

Lineage

Established as Bomber-Fighter Squadron ELEVEN (VBF-11) on 9 April 1945.

Redesignated Fighter Squadron TWELVE A (VF-12A) on 15 November 1946.

Redesignated Fighter Squadron ONE HUNDRED TWELVE (VF-112) on 15 July 1948.

Redesignated Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED TWELVE (VA-112) on 15 February 1959.

Disestablished on 10 October 1969. The first squadron to be assigned the designation VA-112.

Squadron Insignia and Nickname

The squadron's first insignia was approved by CNO on 28 August 1945. Colors for the dragon and two headed eagle were: a yellow background; black dragon; sky blue eagle with white heads and red tongues; other markings and outlines were black.



The squadron's first insignia was the double-headed eagle and dragon.

A new squadron insignia was approved by CNO on 9 November 1945. There is no color description of this insignia in the official files. This insignia continued to use the two-headed eagle. It replaced the dragon with a globe showing North and South America. Clouds surrounded the globe.

The CNO approved a new squadron insignia on 12 July 1948. Colors for the Custode Pacis Armis (Armed Keeper of the Peace) insignia were: a light blue background; the rocket and machine gun were black with white highlights; gold naval aviator wings outlined in black; upper half of the shield was purple and lower half was dark green; the motto on the shield had a white background with light blue lettering; the dove was white with a red eye and green wreath in its beak; gray helmet highlighted in black, with a red plum; black sword; the shield and items on the shield were outlined in black; and the banner below the shield was white.



The squadron's second insignia replaced the dragon with a globe of the world surrounded by clouds.



The Custodes Pacis Armis insignia became the squadron's third design.



This was the squadron's last insignia, a modification of the Custodes Pacis Armis design.

The squadron continued to use the Custode Paris Armis insignia following its redesignation to VA-112. However, the following color modifications were made: background was yellow outlined in black; upper half of shield was blue; lettering for the motto was red; the white banner was removed and a lower scroll was added with a yellow background and black lettering.

Nickname: Broncos, 1961–1969.

Chronology of Significant Events

25 Mar 1948: *Valley Forge* (CV 45) operated in the Persian Gulf with Saudi Arabian Prince Ibn Saud embarked to view air operations. However, the air display was cancelled because of a sand storm and hazy conditions.

29 Apr 1948: *Valley Forge* (CV 45) moored port side to Dokkeskjaerkaien Dock, Bergen, Norway. The mooring was conducted without the aid of tugs, using the engine power of the squadron's eight F8Fs spotted on the forward deck and eight other aircraft on the aft deck. The mooring operation was called "Operation Pinwheel."

5 Aug 1950: The squadron participated in its first combat operations, flying sorties against targets in the Mokpo-Kwangju area of South Korea.

12–19 Sep 1950: The squadron participated in the pre-assault strikes against targets in and around Inchon, Korea, in preparation for the landings there on 15 September. These strikes included road, rail, and airfield sweeps and Combat Air Patrol. During and after the invasion the squadron continued to fly daily air sweeps, striking at targets of opportunity and the enemy's lines of communications.

10 Nov 1950: The squadron's first encounter with MiG-15s occurred during a sortie over Sinuiju, Korea. One MiG-15 was damaged during the engagement.

23–24 June 1952: The squadron participated in coordinated strikes against North Korean hydroelectric power plants, the first heavy attack conducted against these installations. Nine different hydroelectric power plants were struck by forces from Carrier Air Groups 2, 7, 11, 19, and the 5th Air Force.

6–13 Feb 1955: The squadron was on station and available for air support during the evacuation of over 26,000 personnel from the Tachen Islands which had come under bombardment by the People’s Republic of China in January 1955.

24 Apr 1967: Squadron aircraft participated in a multi-carrier coordinated strike against North Vietnam’s MiG base, Kep Airfield, northeast of Hanoi. This was the first time a strike had been conducted against a North Vietnam MiG airfield.

10 May 1967: Commander M. L. Minnis, Sr., was awarded the Silver Star for action during a strike into North Vietnam against the thermal power plant at Haiphong.

Apr 1969: Following the shoot down of a Navy EC-121 aircraft by the North Koreans, *Ticonderoga* (CVA 14), along with two other attack carriers, was ordered to the Sea of Japan.



The squadron’s snow-covered F8F-1 Bearcats, along with VF-11A’s F8Fs, on the forward flight deck of Valley Forge (CV 45) during her visit to Bergen, Norway, in 1948.

Home Port Assignments

Location	Assignment Date
NAS Alameda	09 Apr 1945
NAAS Fallon	30 Apr 1945
NAAS Santa Rosa	31 Jul 1945
NAS Kahului, Hawaii	21 Feb 1946
NAS San Diego	25 Nov 1946
NAAS Miramar/NAS Miramar*	07 Apr 1951
NAS Lemoore	11 Sep 1961

* NAAS Miramar was redesignated NAS Miramar on 1 March 1952.

Commanding Officers

	Date Assumed Command
LT Richard E. James (acting)	09 Apr 1945
LCDR Ralph W. Cousins	17 Apr 1945
LCDR George E. Savage	09 Jun 1945
LCDR Norman W. Ackley	14 Oct 1945
LCDR Melvin C. Hoffman	31 Jan 1947
CDR Joseph T. Lawler	01 Jul 1948
CDR R. Weymouth	08 May 1950
LCDR J. L. Butts, Jr.	29 Aug 1950
LCDR J. V. Rowney	29 Jun 1951
LCDR James Ferris	11 Aug 1952
LCDR R. W. Jackson (acting)	01 Oct 1952
LCDR C. E. Lair	07 Oct 1952
CDR George S. Morrison	Mar 1954
CDR Marcel N. Piller	01 Oct 1955
LCDR M. M. Casey, Jr.	12 Apr 1957
LCDR J. J. Konzen (acting)	04 Mar 1959
CDR Clyde J. Lee	31 Mar 1959
CDR Hugh N. Batten	18 Feb 1960
CDR James T. Parady	30 Mar 1961
CDR J. F. Kirklighter	25 Apr 1962
CDR F. L. Leib	09 Apr 1963
CDR P. E. Russell	08 May 1964
CDR J. A. Chalbeck	08 Jun 1965
CDR J. H. Alvis	08 Jul 1966
CDR Marion L. Minnis	31 Dec 1966
CDR Charles H. Brown	10 Nov 1967
CDR Tommy L. Gatewood	13 Sep 1968



A squadron F9F-2B Panther launches from the deck of Philippine Sea (CV 47) during her combat cruise to Korea in 1951–1952.

Aircraft Assignment

Type of Aircraft	Date	Type First Received
F6F-3/5		Apr 1945
F8F-1		11 Dec 1946
F8F-2		03 Jan 1949
F9F-2		11 Jan 1950
F9F-2B*		Jul 1950
F9F-3		31 May 1951
F9F-2B		12 Jul 1951
F9F-5		Oct 1952
F9F-6		Feb 1954

Aircraft Assignment—Continued

<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Type First Received</i>
F9F-8		Jul 1955
F9F-8B		Apr 1956
F3H-2M		05 Apr 1957
A4D-1/2		Apr 1959
A4D-2N/A-4C†		26 Mar 1961

* The squadron's F9F-2s were modified at NAS Barbers Point and equipped with rocket launchers and bomb racks and designated F9F-2Bs.

† The A4D-2N designation was changed to A-4C in 1962.



A squadron F9F-8B Cougar on the deck of Essex (CVA 9) following a successful landing during deployment to WestPac in 1956–1957.

Major Overseas Deployments

<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Date of Return</i>	<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Carrier</i>	<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Area of Operation</i>
09 Oct 1947	11 Jun 1948	CVAG-11	CV 45*	F8F-1	World Cruise
05 Jul 1950	07 Apr 1951	CVG-11	CV 47†	F9F-2B	WestPac/Korea
31 Dec 1951	08 Aug 1952	CVG-11	CV 47	F9F-2B	WestPac/Korea
01 Jul 1953	18 Jan 1954	CVG-11	CVA 33	F9F-5	WestPac
07 Oct 1954	12 May 1955	CVG-11	CVA 33	F9F-6	WestPac
16 Jul 1956	26 Jan 1957	CVG-11	CVA 9	F9F-8B	WestPac
04 Oct 1958	16 Feb 1959	ATG-1	CVA 14	F3H-2M	WestPac
16 Jul 1960	18 Mar 1961	CVG-11	CVA 19	A4D-2	WestPac
13 Sep 1962	02 Apr 1963	CVG-11	CVA 63	A-4C	WestPac
17 Oct 1963	20 Jul 1964	CVW-11	CVA 63	A-4C	WestPac
24 Aug 1965	07 Apr 1966	CVW-8	CVA 59	A-4C	Med
05 Nov 1966	19 Jun 1967	CVW-11	CVA 63	A-4C	WestPac/Vietnam
18 Nov 1967	28 Jun 1968	CVW-11	CVA 63	A-4C	WestPac/Vietnam
01 Feb 1969	18 Sep 1969	CVW-16	CVA 14	A-4C	WestPac/Vietnam

* During October through December the squadron operated primarily from NAS Barbers Point with occasional exercises aboard *Valley Forge* (CV 45).

† While docked at Yokosuka, Japan, the squadron transferred from *Philippine Sea* (CV 47) to *Valley Forge* (CV 45) on 30 March 1951 for its return trip to the U.S. *Philippine Sea* continued its tour of duty in Korea with another air group.

Air Wing Assignments

<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Tail Code</i>	<i>Assignment Date</i>
CVG-11/CVAG-11/ CVG-11*	V†/NH‡	09 Apr 1945
COMFAIRSANDIEGO		03 Mar 1958
ATG-1	NA	28 Jun 1958
CVG-5	NF	13 Mar 1959
CVG-11/CVW-11§	NH	Nov 1959
CVW-8	AJ	08 Jul 1965
COMFAIRALAMEDA		08 Apr 1966
CVW-11	NH	1966**
CVW-16	AH	01 Oct 1968

* CVG-11 was redesignated CVAG-11 on 15 November 1946. It was redesignated CVG-11 on 1 September 1948.

† The tail code V was assigned to CVG-11 on 12 December 1946.

‡ The tail code was changed from V to NH in 1957. The effective date for this change was most likely the beginning of FY 58 (1 July 1957).

§ CVG-11 was redesignated CVW-11 when Carrier Air Group (CVG) designations were redesignated Carrier Air Wings (CVW) on 20 December 1963.

** VA-112 was reassigned to CVW-11 sometime between June and November 1966. There are no records available for VA-112 and CVW-11 for this period.



A flight of squadron F3H-2M Demons, circa 1957–1958.

Unit Awards Received

<i>Unit Award</i>	<i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i>	
KPUC	01 Aug 1950	16 Mar 1951
	20 Jan 1952	12 Jul 1952
NUC	04 Aug 1950	16 Mar 1951
AFEM	20 Apr 1969	27 Apr 1969
	29 Jun 1969	
	07 Jul 1969	13 Jul 1969
	24 Jul 1969	
	04 Aug 1969	
	16 Aug 1969	24 Aug 1969
	30 Aug 1969	
	03 Sep 1969	
	13 Sep 1969	14 Sep 1969

Unit Awards Received—Continued

<i>Unit Award</i>	<i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i>	
MUC	18 Feb 1969	07 Sep 1969
PUC	23 Dec 1967	01 Jun 1968
VNSM	03 Dec 1966	03 Jan 1967
	02 Mar 1967	28 Mar 1967
	12 Apr 1967	28 Apr 1967
	08 May 1967	23 May 1967
	04 Mar 1968	27 Mar 1968
	12 Apr 1968	01 May 1968
	13 May 1968	01 Jun 1968
	03 Mar 1969	20 Mar 1969
	29 Mar 1969	16 Apr 1969
	09 May 1969	04 Jun 1969
	25 Jun 1969	01 Aug 1969



A squadron A-4C Skyhawk lands aboard Kitty Hawk (CVA 63), circa 1967–1968.

VA-114

Lineage

Established as Bombing Squadron ELEVEN (VB-11) on 10 October 1942.

Redesignated Attack Squadron ELEVEN A (VA-11A) on 15 November 1946.

Redesignated Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED FOURTEEN (VA-114) on 15 July 1948.

Disestablished on 1 December 1949. The first squadron to be assigned the VA-114 designation.

Squadron Insignia and Nickname



This was the only insignia approved and used by the squadron.

The squadron's insignia was approved by the Bureau of Aeronautics on 17 September 1942. Colors for the Bellerophon-Pegasus insignia were: a black winged horse, rider, and bomb with white highlights; and a red shield and helmet plume. The Greek motto translated as First to Attack.

Nickname: unknown.

Chronology of Significant Events

Apr–Jul 1943: The squadron was landbased at Guadalcanal and participated in the Solomons Campaign. Flying patrol, search and strike missions against targets primarily in and around New Georgia.

10 Oct 1944: Squadron aircraft participated in the first strikes against Okinawa, opening the Leyte campaign.

12 Oct 1944: The squadron participated in the first strikes against Formosa.

25 Oct 1944: During the Battle for Leyte Gulf, the squadron participated in the engagement known as the Battle Off Samar. Launching from a range of 340 miles, which was beyond the normal combat radius for World War II carrier aircraft, 11 of the squadron's SB2Cs engaged the Japanese fleet after it broke off its engagement with the American escort carriers and destroyers guarding the landing force at Leyte. Hits were scored on a battleship and cruiser. A second strike by nine squadron aircraft later scored hits on two cruisers.

Nov 1944: Squadron aircraft struck targets on Luzon in continued support for the capture of Leyte.

Dec 1944: Targets were struck on Luzon in support of the landings on Mindoro.

18 Dec 1944: While operating east of the Philippines, the task force, of which the squadron was part, was overtaken by an unusually severe typhoon causing the loss of three destroyers and damage to several other ships, including four light carriers.

Jan 1945: In early January, the squadron struck ships and targets on Formosa in support of the landings in Lingayen Gulf, Luzon.

9–20 Jan 1945: The squadron participated in operations in the South China Sea, the first time an American Task Force had entered these waters since the beginning of the war. During these operations, squadron aircraft struck a large convoy of tankers; targets along the coast of Indochina reaching almost to Saigon; Formosa was hit again; and then strikes were flown against Hong Kong.

25 Mar 1948: *Valley Forge* (CV 45) operated in the Persian Gulf with Saudi Arabian Prince Ibn Saud embarked to view air operations. The air display was cancelled because of a sand storm and hazy air conditions.

29 Apr 1948: *Valley Forge* moored port side to Dokkeskjaerkaien Dock, Bergen, Norway. The mooring was conducted without the aid of tugs, using the engine power of the squadron's eight SB2C-5s spotted on the aft deck and eight other aircraft on the forward deck. The mooring operation was called "Operation Pinwheel."



A squadron SBD-3 Dauntless on the flight deck, circa late 1942 (Courtesy Robert Lawson Collection).

Home Port Assignments

<i>Location</i>	<i>Assignment Date</i>
NAS San Diego	10 Oct 1942
NAS Barbers Point	26 Nov 1942*
NAF Nandi (in the Fiji Islands)	Feb 1943*
NAF Guadalcanal	26 Apr 1943
NAS Alameda	Aug 1943
NAS Hilo	06 Apr 1944*
NAS Barbers Point	19 Jun 1944*
NAS Alameda	Feb 1945
NAAS Fallon	30 Apr 1945*
NAAS Santa Rosa	26 Jul 1945*
NAS Kahului, Hawaii	21 Feb 1946
NAS San Diego	25 Nov 1946

* Temporary shore assignment while the squadron conducted training in preparation for combat deployment.

Commanding Officers

	<i>Date Assumed Command</i>
LCDR Weldon L. Hamilton	10 Oct 1942
LCDR Raymond B. Jacoby	30 Sep 1943
LT Charles A. Skinner (acting)	01 Nov 1943
LCDR Lloyd A. Smith	15 Nov 1943

Commanding Officers—Continued

	<i>Date Assumed Command</i>
LT Eugene M. Yoder (acting)	01 Nov 1944
LCDR Edwin John Kroeger	07 Nov 1944
LTJG George G. Beckham (acting)	09 Apr 1945
LT Eugene M. Yoder (acting)	10 Apr 1945
LCDR Ried W. Stone	05 May 1945
LCDR Raymond A. Boyd	05 Jun 1947
LCDR F. E. Miller (acting)	16 Jun 1948
CDR Adolf L. Siegener	28 Jun 1948
LCDR J. E. Savage	30 Jun 1949
LCDR E. T. Deacon	01 Aug 1949

Aircraft Assignment

<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Date Type First Received</i>
SBD-3	Oct 1942
SBD-4	Feb 1943
SBD-5	Oct 1943
SB2C-1C	25 Nov 1943
SB2C-4/4E	Apr 1945
SB2C-5	Jan 1946
AD-1	31 Aug 1948
AD-2	20 Dec 1948
F8F-2	Nov 1949



A squadron SB2C-5 flies over Gibraltar during its world cruise aboard Valley Forge (CV 45), 1948.

Major Overseas Deployments

<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Date of Return</i>	<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Carrier</i>	<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Area of Operation</i>
Feb 1943	Aug 1943	CVG-11	*	SBD-3/4	SoPac
29 Sep 1944	01 Feb 1945	CVG-11	CV 12†	SB2C-1C	Pacific
09 Oct 1947	11 Jun 1948	CVAG-11	CV 45‡	SB2C-5	World Cruise

* The squadron was landbased during operations in the South Pacific.

† The squadron transferred to *Kasaan Bay* (CVE 69) on 1 February 1945 at Ulithi for its return trip back to the States.

‡ During October through December 1947 the squadron operated from NAS Barbers Point with occasional exercises aboard *Valley Forge* (CV 45). The squadron departed NAS Barbers Point, embarked on *Valley Forge*, and continued on its world cruise, stopping at Australia, China, Singapore, Ceylon, Saudi Arabia, Gibraltar, Norway, England, New York, and Panama Canal Zone.

Air Wing Assignments

<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Tail Code</i>	<i>Assignment Date</i>
CVG-11/CVAG-11/CVG-11†	V*	10 Oct 1942

* The tail code V was assigned on 7 November 1946.

† CVG-11 was redesignated CVAG-11 on 15 November 1946. CVAG-11 was changed back to CVG-11 on 1 September 1948.

Unit Awards Received

<i>Unit Award</i>	<i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i>	
PUC	10 Oct 1944	22 Nov 1944
	14 Dec 1944	16 Dec 1944
	03 Jan 1945	22 Jan 1945
Campaign Medal (Asiatic-Pacific)	08 Feb 1943	20 Jun 1943

Unit Awards Received—Continued

<i>Unit Award</i>	<i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i>	
PUC	10 Oct 1944	29 Nov 1944
	14 Dec 1944	16 Dec 1944
	09 Jan 1945	12 Jan 1945
Campaign Medal (Asiatic-Pacific)	12 Jan 1945	16 Jan 1945



A squadron AD-2 Skyraider loaded with weapons on the deck of *Valley Forge* (CV 45), circa 1949 (Courtesy Robert Lawson Collection).

VA-115

Lineage

Established as Torpedo Squadron ELEVEN (VT-11) on 10 October 1942.

Redesignated Attack Squadron TWELVE A (VA-12A) on 15 November 1946.

Redesignated Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED FIFTEEN (VA-115) on 15 July 1948. The first squadron to be assigned the VA-115 designation.

Squadron Insignia and Nickname

The squadron's first insignia was approved by CNO on 25 June 1945. Colors for this Walt Disney designed



The squadron's first insignia was designed by Walt Disney Studio.

insignia were: a grayish blue background outlined in black with a wide outer red ring; deep green ocean; black torpedo with a white skull face and white markings and gray streaks with black outlines and markings; the winged cherub was flesh color with white wings and eyes, black pupils and mouth, and a deep pink tongue; the cherub was wearing a deep green helmet and cream colored goggles with a black strap and black outlines.

A new squadron insignia was approved by CNO on 17 September 1956. Colors for the globe and abstract wing design are: a black background; white globe with black lines; white stylized clock hands; gold stars and abstract wing design; gold scroll outlined in black with black lettering.



A new stylized globe and wing insignia was approved for use by the squadron in 1956 and has become a well-known design.

Nickname: Arabs, 1950s–1979.

Eagles, 1979-present.*

Chronology of Significant Events

1 Jan–1 Feb 1943: A detachment of 6 aircraft from the squadron were sent to Kanton Island, in the Phoenix Islands, for antisubmarine defense and search missions.

* During the squadron's deployment to the Indian Ocean in 1989, they temporarily changed their nickname back to Arabs to enhance the esprit de corps while operating in the Arabian Sea.



The squadron's C.O., LCdr. F. L. Ashworth, in his TBF-1 Avenger on Guadalcanal in May 1943.

Apr–Jul 1943: The squadron was landbased at Guadalcanal and participated in the Solomons (New Georgia) Campaign. They flew patrol, search, spotting, strike, and night minelaying missions against targets in the Solomon Islands.

5 May 1944: Squadron aircraft were involved in an antisubmarine attack off the coast of Hilo, Hawaii. The attack against the enemy submarine was assessed as probable by the squadron commander.

10 Oct 1944: The squadron participated in the first strikes against Okinawa, part of the opening of the Leyte Campaign.

25 Oct 1944: The Japanese Fleet, in three elements, converged on Leyte to oppose the landings. While 340 miles from Leyte, which was beyond the normal combat radius for World War II carrier aircraft, squadron aircraft were launched for a strike on the central element of the Japanese Fleet. Its TBMs arrived over the enemy fleet after it had broken off its engagement, the Battle Off Samar, with the American escort carriers and destroyers guarding the landing and supply ships. The TBMs struck the retiring Japanese Central Fleet, scoring hits on a battleship and two cruisers. All the squadron's aircraft returned, completing a 600 mile round trip combat flight. For their actions during this engagement, the following squadron personnel were awarded the Navy Cross: Lieutenants Wilbur J. Engman, Melvin L. Tegge, and Thomas B. Adams and Lieutenant (jg)s Richard W. Russell, Lawrence E. Helmuth, John M. Davis and William Maier.

26 Oct 1944: Strikes continued against the Japanese Fleet and Lieutenant Leroy H. Grau was awarded the Navy Cross for a successful torpedo attack against a Japanese light cruiser.

Nov 1944: The squadron continued to provide support for the Occupation of Leyte, striking targets on Luzon.

13 Nov 1944: The squadron's commanding officer, Lieutenant Commander R. Denniston, Jr., was lost on a combat mission over Manila Harbor.

Dec 1944: Squadron aircraft struck targets on Luzon in support of the landings on Mindoro.

18 Dec 1944: While operating east of the Philippines the task force was overtaken by an unusually severe typhoon causing the loss of three destroyers and damage to several other ships, including four light carriers.

Jan 1945: In early January, the squadron struck ships and targets on Formosa and Luzon in support of the landings in Lingayen Gulf, Luzon.

9–20 Jan 1945: The squadron participated in operations in the South China Sea, the first time an American Task Force had entered these waters since the beginning of the war. The squadron struck targets at Cam Ranh Bay and a convoy off Qui Nhon, French Indo-China; shipping at the Pescadores Island; and Hong Kong.

12–18 Sep 1950: The squadron participated in the pre-assault strikes against targets in and around Inchon, Korea, in preparation for the landings there on 15 September. During and after the invasion, the squadron continued to fly deep support missions into the areas surrounding Inchon, striking at targets of opportunity.

9 Nov 1950: The squadron's first encounter with MiG-15s was during a mission against Sinuiju, Korea. All the aircraft returned safely to *Philippine Sea*.

Dec 1950: The squadron provided close air support for American troops in the Chosen Reservoir area.

Feb–Jul 1952: The squadron's combat missions in Korea during this time period centered on rail interdiction, with some strikes against North Korean transportation, communication, industrial and supply facilities.

23–24 Jun 1952: The squadron participated in coordinated strikes against North Korean hydroelectric power plants, these were the first heavy attacks conducted against these installations. Nine different hydroelectric power plants were struck by forces from Carrier Air Groups 2, 7, 11, 19, and the 5th Air Force.

Feb 1955: The squadron flew air cover missions during the evacuation of over 26,000 personnel from Tachen Islands which had come under bombardment by the People's Republic of China in January.

Aug–Sep 1958: The squadron was part of the task force that provided support to the Republic of China during the shelling of the Quemoy Island group by the Chinese Communists.

May–Jun 1964: During the Laotian crisis, the squadron flew Combat Air Patrol and Search and Rescue sorties over the country.

Aug 1967–Jan 1970: During this period the squadron was in an inactive stand-down status. There were no aircraft and only a few administrative personnel assigned. The inactive status was a transitional period, awaiting the time when the squadron would assume an active status and receive the A-6 Intruder. This is the only known instance in which a squadron was not disestablished but remained on the active squadron inventory in an inactive status. The squadron resumed an active status on 1 January 1970.

May–Oct 1972: The squadron participated in Linebacker I operations, heavy air strikes against targets in North Vietnam to interdict the flow of supplies.

Apr–May 1975: The squadron participated in Operation Frequent Wind, the evacuation of American personnel from Saigon, South Vietnam, as the country fell to the communists.

Aug–Sep 1976: The squadron operated near the Korean Peninsula following the murder of U.S. military personnel in the Korean DMZ by North Koreans.

Apr–May 1979: *Midway*, with VA-115 embarked, deployed to the Gulf of Aden to relieve *Constellation* (CV 64) and maintain a U.S. carrier presence following the outbreak of fighting between North and South Yemen and the fall of the Shah of Iran.

Oct 1979: As a response to anti-American demonstrations in Iran, *Midway* and its air wing, including VA-115, were ordered to deploy to the Indian Ocean for the second time in 1979.

Nov–Dec 1979: In response to the seizure of the American Embassy and its staff by an Iranian mob, *Midway* returned to the Arabian Sea.

May–Jun 1980: Following the massacre of several hundred people in the city of Kwangju, South Korea, the squadron operated from *Midway* off the coast of South Korea until the crisis subsided.

Dec 1981: Following unrest in South Korea the squadron operated from *Midway* off the coast of South Korea for several days.

29 Feb 1988: During an exercise in the Gulf of Siam, a squadron aircraft spotted a boatload of Vietnamese refugees, leading to their rescue by *Midway* (CV 41).

Sep 1988: During the Summer Olympics in Seoul, South Korea, the squadron was embarked on *Midway* and operating in the Sea of Japan to demonstrate U.S. support for a peaceful olympics.

Nov 1990–Jan 1991: The squadron flew missions in support of Operation Desert Shield, the build-up of American and Allied forces to counter a threatened invasion of Saudi Arabia by Iraq and were part of an economic blockade of Iraq to force its withdrawal from Kuwait.

20 Jan–9 Mar 1991: The squadron participated in Operation Desert Storm, striking Iraqi naval targets and bases, airfields and bridges, a communication center, and providing close air support for Allied ground forces.



A squadron TBF-1 Avenger on Guadalcanal with Lt. (jg) George Gay, LCdr W. L. Hamilton and LCdr F. L. Ashworth, May 1943.

Home Port Assignments

Location	Assignment Date
NAS San Diego	10 Oct 1942
NAS Pearl Harbor	01 Nov 1942*
NAS Barbers Point	07 Nov 1942*
NAF Nandi (in the Fiji Islands)	28 Feb 1943*
NAF Guadalcanal (Henderson Field)	17 Apr 1943
NAS Alameda	19 Aug 1943
NAS Hilo	08 Apr 1944*
NAS Barbers Point	19 Jun 1944*
NAS Alameda	24 Feb 1945
NAAS Fallon	30 Apr 1945*
NAAS Santa Rosa	26 Jul 1945
NAS Kahalui	22 Feb 1946
NAS San Diego	26 Nov 1946
NAS Miramar	15 Sep 1952
NAS Moffett Field	08 Dec 1961†
NAS Lemoore	03 Apr 1963
NAS Whidbey Island	01 Jan 1970
NS Yokosuka (NAF Atsugi & Misawa)	05 Oct 1973‡

* Temporary shore assignment while the squadron conducted training in preparation for combat deployment.

† On 30 June 1961 the squadron's home port was changed to NAS Moffett Field. However, the squadron did not arrive there until 8 December 1961.

‡ VA-115, along with CVW-5 and *Midway* (CVA 41), were part of a program to permanently assign a carrier and air wing to an overseas home port. *Midway's* new home port was Naval Station Yokosuka, Japan, and the squadron would normally operate out of NAF Atsugi or Misawa when the carrier was in NS Yokosuka. The assignment was effective 30 June 1973. However, the squadron did not arrive until 5 October 1973.

Commanding Officers

	Date Assumed Command
LCDR Frederick L. Ashworth	10 Oct 1942
LCDR Radcliffe Denniston, Jr.	25 Sep 1943
LT Wilbur J. Engman (acting)	13 Nov 1944
LCDR John A. Fidel	25 Dec 1944
LT John W. Carmody	12 Sep 1946
LCDR George B. Riley	14 Oct 1946
LCDR Lawrence B. Green	09 Jan 1948
LCDR William H. House	14 Oct 1948
LCDR Richard W. Fleck	16 Jan 1950
CDR Charles H. Carr	30 Jun 1951
LCDR J. H. Sands (acting)	08 Jul 1952
LCDR J. M. Ritzdorf (acting)	17 Sep 1952
CDR J. D. Taylor	18 Oct 1952
CDR C. L. Dillard	Jun 1954
CDR C. W. Smith, Jr.	May 1955
CDR Leone E. Kirk, Jr.	Mar 1957
LCDR R. L. Bothwell	04 Jun 1958
CDR G. W. Gaiennie	09 Oct 1959
CDR J. F. Driscoll	27 Feb 1961
CDR C. H. Bowen	15 Jan 1962
CDR George A. Parker	03 Jan 1963
CDR Merrill C. Pinkepank	21 Jan 1964
CDR M. C. Cook (acting)	05 Aug 1964
CDR D. D. Smith	Oct 1964
CDR M. C. Cook	22 Jul 1965
CDR H. G. Bailey	15 Jul 1966
CDR C. E. Hathaway	Aug 1967*
CDR O. E. Krueger	Jul 1968*
CDR R. H. Caldwell	Jul 1969*

Commanding Officers—Continued

	<i>Date Assumed Command</i>
CDR C. J. Ward	16 Jan 1970
CDR E. I. Carmichael	09 Jul 1971
CDR Paul D. Barrish	11 Jul 1972
CDR J. C. Presley	06 Jul 1973
CDR James J. Hower	12 Jun 1974
CDR Russell E. Whippes	22 Dec 1975
CDR Jay T. Grafton	28 Jan 1977
CDR Louis E. Thomassy	24 Feb 1978
CDR Rodney C. Franz	26 Jun 1979
CDR Joseph D. Favaro	01 Nov 1980
CDR Robert R. Wittenburg	21 Apr 1981
CDR William W. Radican	16 Jul 1982
CDR William A. Gouslin	27 Dec 1983
CDR Richard J. Rhoades	20 Jun 1985
CDR Paul D. Cash	19 Dec 1986
CDR David P. Polatty III	10 Jun 1988
CDR Terry J. Toms	Nov 1989
CDR James D. Kelly	01 Jul 1991

* During the squadron's inactive period between August 1967 and January 1970 the squadron was under the administrative control of VA-125. The Commanding Officer of VA-125 was also the Commanding Officer of VA-115.

Aircraft Assignment

<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Date Type First Received</i>
TBF-1	Oct 1942
TBM-1	13 Oct 1943
TBM-1C	Nov 1943
TBM-3	19 Dec 1944
TBM-3E	Apr 1945
TBM-3Q	Jan 1947
TBM-3W	Oct 1947
AD-1	Dec 1948
AD-2	20 Dec 1948
AD-3Q	Aug 1949
AD-4	Dec 1949
AD-4Q	Jul 1950
AD-4L	May 1951
AD-4NA	Aug 1952
AD-6/A-1H*	Jan 1954
AD-7/A-1J*	Nov 1958
A-6A	03 Apr 1970
KA-6D	Feb 1971
A-6B	Oct 1973
A-6E	Apr 1977

* The AD-6 and AD-7 designations were changed to A-1H and A-1J in 1962.



A photo of Manila harbor following an attack by squadron TBMs in November 1944.



Squadron TBM-3s on the deck of Valley Forge (CV 45) depart Portsmouth, England, during its world cruise in 1947–1948.

Major Overseas Deployments

<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Date of Return</i>	<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Carrier</i>	<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Area of Operation</i>
Feb 1943	Jul 1943	CVG-11	*	TBF-1	SoPac
29 Sep 1944	01 Feb 1945	CVG-11	CV 12†	TBM-1C/3	Pacific
09 Oct 1947	11 Jun 1948	CVAG-11	CV 45‡	TBM-3E/Q/W	World Cruise
05 Jul 1950	07 Apr 1951	CVG-11	CV 47§	AD-4/4Q	WestPac/Korea
31 Dec 1951	08 Aug 1952	CVG-11	CV 47	AD-4/4L	WestPac/Korea
01 Jul 1953	18 Jan 1954	CVG-11	CVA 33	AD-4NA/4B	WestPac
07 Oct 1954	12 May 1955	CVG-11	CVA 33	AD-6	WestPac

Major Overseas Deployments—Continued

<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Date of Return</i>	<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Carrier</i>	<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Area of Operation</i>
16 Jul 1956	26 Jan 1957	CVG-11	CVA 9	AD-6	WestPac
08 Mar 1958	22 Nov 1958	CVG-11	CVA 38	AD-6	WestPac
09 Mar 1959	03 Oct 1959	CVG-11	CVA 38	AD-7	WestPac
16 Jul 1960	18 Mar 1961	CVG-11	CVA 19	AD-7	WestPac
11 Aug 1961	01 Nov 1961	CVG-11	CVA 63	AD-6	++
13 Sep 1962	02 Apr 1963	CVG-11	CVA 63	A-1H/J	WestPac
17 Oct 1963	20 Jul 1964	CVW-11	CVA 63	A-1H/J	WestPac
19 Oct 1965	13 Jun 1966	CVW-11	CVA 63	A-1H/J	WestPac/Vietnam
05 Jan 1967	22 Jul 1967	CVW-5	CVA 19	A-1H	WestPac/Vietnam
16 Apr 1971	06 Nov 1971	CVW-5	CVA 41	A-6A/KA-6D	WestPac/Vietnam
10 Apr 1972	03 Mar 1973	CVW-5	CVA 41	A-6A/B & KA-6D	WestPac/Vietnam
11 Sep 1973	05 Oct 1973	CVW-5	CVA 41	A-6A/B & KA-6D	WestPac**
26 Nov 1973	22 Dec 1973	CVW-5	CVA 41	A-6A/B & KA-6D	WestPac
29 Jan 1974	06 Mar 1974	CVW-5	CVA 41	A-6A/B & KA-6D	WestPac
18 Oct 1974	20 Dec 1974	CVW-5	CVA 41	A-6A/B & KA-6D	WestPac
13 Jan 1975	18 Feb 1975	CVW-5	CVA 41	A-6A/B & KA-6D	WestPac
31 Mar 1975	29 May 1975	CVW-5	CVA 41	A-6A/B & KA-6D	WestPac
04 Oct 1975	19 Dec 1975	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6A/B & KA-6D	WestPac/IO
13 Mar 1976	26 Apr 1976	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6A/B & KA-6D	WestPac
19 May 1976	22 Jun 1976	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6A/B & KA-6D	WestPac
09 Jul 1976	04 Aug 1976	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6A/B & KA-6D	WestPac
01 Nov 1976	17 Dec 1976	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6A/B & KA-6D	WestPac
11 Jan 1977	01 Mar 1977	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6A/B & KA-6D	WestPac
19 Apr 1977	05 May 1977	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6A/B & KA-6D	WestPac††
08 Aug 1977	02 Sep 1977	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac
27 Sep 1977	21 Dec 1977	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac/IO
11 Apr 1978	23 May 1978	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac
09 Nov 1978	23 Dec 1978	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac
11 Jan 1979	20 Feb 1979	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac
07 Apr 1979	18 Jun 1979	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	IO
20 Aug 1979	14 Sep 1979	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac
30 Sep 1979	20 Feb 1980	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	IO
14 Jul 1980	26 Nov 1980	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac/IO
23 Feb 1981	05 Jun 1981	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac/IO
26 Jun 1981	16 Jul 1981	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac
03 Sep 1981	06 Oct 1981	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac
26 Apr 1982	18 Jun 1982	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac
14 Sep 1982	11 Dec 1982	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	NorPac/WestPac
02 Jun 1983	13 Aug 1983	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac
25 Oct 1983	11 Dec 1983	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac
28 Dec 1983	23 May 1984	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	IO
15 Oct 1984	12 Dec 1984	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac
01 Feb 1985	28 Mar 1985	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac
10 Jun 1985	4 Oct 1985	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	IO/WestPac
15 Nov 1985	12 Dec 1985	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac
17 Jan 1986	30 Mar 1986	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac
09 Jan 1987	20 Mar 1987	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac
23 Apr 1987	13 Jul 1987	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6/E & KA-6D	WestPac
15 Oct 1987	12 Apr 1988	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac/IO
18 Oct 1988	09 Nov 1988	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac
21 Jan 1989	24 Feb 1989	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac
27 Feb 1989	09 Apr 1989	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac
31 May 1989	25 Jul 1989	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac

Major Overseas Deployments—Continued

<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Date of Return</i>	<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Carrier</i>	<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Area of Operation</i>
15 Aug 1989	11 Dec 1989	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac/IO
20 Feb 1990	06 Apr 1990	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac
02 Oct 1990	17 Apr 1991	CVW-5	CV 41	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac/IO/ Persian Gulf

* The squadron was landbased during its operations in the South Pacific.

† The squadron transferred to *Kasaan Bay* (CVE 69) on 1 February 1945 at Ulithi for transport back to Hawaii, it then boarded Curtiss (AV 4) for transportation to the States.

‡ During October through December 1947 the squadron operated from NAS Barbers Point with occasional exercises aboard *Valley Forge* (CV 45). In January 1948 the squadron departed NAS Barbers Point, embarked in *Valley Forge*, continuing its world cruise.

§ While docked at Yokosuka, Japan, the squadron transferred from *Philippine Sea* (CV 47) to *Valley Forge* (CV 45) on 29 March 1951 for its return trip to the U.S. *Philippine Sea* continued its tour of duty in Korea with another air group.

++ The squadron operated from *Kitty Hawk* (CVA 63) during its home port change from the Atlantic to the Pacific. The transit to the Pacific, via Cape Horn, was part of a training cruise that included operations in the Caribbean, South Atlantic and eastern Pacific.

** The squadron and *Midway* (CVA 41) arrived at their new home port, Naval Station Yokosuka, Japan. Since the squadron is permanently forward deployed all future deployments for the squadron will cover only those operations outside the home waters of Japan.

†† The squadron exchanged its A-6A and B model Intruders for A-6Es while *Midway* was in port at NS Subic Bay. Transitional training in the A-6E was conducted from NAF Atsugi during May to August 1977.



Squadron AD-4 Skyraiders prepare to launch a strike from Philippine Sea (CV 47) during their first combat deployment to Korea, circa September 1950.

Air Wing Assignments

<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Tail Code</i>	<i>Assignment Date</i>
CVG-11/CVAG-11/ CVG-11/CVW-11†	V/NH*	10 Oct 1942
CVW-5	NF	16 Jul 1966
VA-125‡		Aug 1967
CVW-16	AH	1970
CVW-5	NF	1971

* The tail code V was assigned to CVG-11 on 7 November 1946. The tail code was changed from V to NH in 1957. The effective date for this change was most likely the beginning of FY 58 (1 July 1957).

† CVG-11 was redesignated CVAG-11 on 15 November 1946. The CVAG-11 designation was changed back to CVG-11 on 1 September 1948. CVG-11 was redesignated CVW-11 when Carrier Air Group (CVG) designations were redesignated Carrier Air Wings (CVW) on 20 December 1963.

‡ Administratively assigned to VA-125 during the squadron's stand-down.



A flight of squadron A-1H Skyraiders, circa 1964.

Unit Awards Received

<i>Unit Award</i>	<i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i>	
PUC	10 Oct 1944	22 Nov 1944
	14 Dec 1944	16 Dec 1944
	03 Jan 1945	22 Jan 1945
	30 Apr 1972	09 Feb 1973

Unit Awards Received—Continued

<i>Unit Award</i>	<i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i>	
Campaign Medal (Asiatic-Pacific)	08 Feb 1943	20 Jun 1943
	10 Oct 1944	29 Nov 1944
	14 Dec 1944	
	09 Jan 1945	



A flight of two squadron A-6E Intruders loaded with cluster bombs, 1991.

Unit Awards Received—Continued

<i>Unit Award</i>	<i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i>	
	12 Jan 1945	
	16 Jan 1945	
KPUC	01 Aug 1950	16 Mar 1951
	20 Jan 1952	12 Jul 1952
NUC	04 Aug 1950	16 Mar 1951
	26 Nov 1965	14 May 1966
	29 Apr 1975	30 Apr 1975
	01 Jan 1978	30 Jun 1979
	17 Jan 1991	07 Feb 1991
SASM	02 Nov 1990	14 Mar 1991
KLM	17 Jan 1991	28 Feb 1991
NAVE	01 Jul 1959	30 Jun 1960
	01 Jul 1961	Oct 1962
	Nov 1962	Feb 1964
	01 Jul 1977	31 Dec 1978
	01 Jan 1978	30 Jun 1980
AFEM	20 May 1964	10 Jun 1964
	17 Oct 1971	19 Oct 1971
	29 Apr 1975	30 Apr 1975
HSM	29 Apr 1975	30 Apr 1975
MUC	20 Jan 1967	14 Jul 1967
	07 May 1971	28 Oct 1971
	13 Nov 1979	08 Feb 1980
	27 Jul 1982	01 May 1984
	15 Oct 1989	29 Oct 1989
NEM	15 Apr 1979	06 Jun 1979

Unit Awards Received—Continued

<i>Unit Award</i>	<i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i>	
	21 Nov 1979	07 Feb 1980
	19 Aug 1980	13 Nov 1980
	12 Mar 1981	19 May 1981
RVNGC	30 Mar 1972	15 Jul 1972
VNSM	25 Nov 1965	23 Dec 1965
	15 Jan 1966	04 Feb 1966
	18 Feb 1966	14 Mar 1966
	01 Apr 1966	29 Apr 1966
	08 May 1966	23 May 1966
	05 Feb 1967	25 Feb 1967
	15 Mar 1967	12 Apr 1967
	28 Apr 1967	04 Jun 1967
	12 Jun 1967	27 Jun 1967
	17 May 1971	09 Jun 1971
	29 Jun 1971	20 Jul 1971
	31 Jul 1971	17 Aug 1971
	26 Sep 1971	11 Oct 1971
	01 May 1972	01 Jun 1972
	11 Jun 1972	07 Jul 1972
	16 Jul 1972	13 Aug 1972
	23 Aug 1972	10 Sep 1972
	19 Sep 1972	12 Oct 1972
	23 Oct 1972	23 Nov 1972
	03 Dec 1972	22 Dec 1972
	31 Dec 1972	
	04 Jan 1973	24 Jan 1973
	03 Feb 1973	09 Feb 1973

VA-122

Lineage

Established as Composite Squadron THIRTY FIVE (VC-35) on 25 May 1950.

Redesignated Attack Squadron (All Weather) THIRTY FIVE (VA(AW)-35) on 1 July 1956.

Redesignated Attack Squadron ONE TWENTY TWO (VA-122) on 29 June 1959.

Disestablished on 31 May 1991. The first squadron to be assigned the VA-122 designation.

Squadron Insignia and Nickname

The squadron's first insignia was approved by CNO on 13 September 1951. Colors for the owl insignia



The owl design was the squadron's first approved insignia.

were: a red background with a blue and white owl, the eyes of the owl were gold.

Following the redesignation to VA-122 the squadron requested approval for a new insignia. The new insignia was approved by CNO on 22 April 1960. The colors of the eagle and book insignia were: a blue background for the insignia and scroll, out-

lined in black; a white wreath; the book had black pages, edged in white with a red cover; brown eagle with black highlights, its head was white with black highlights and a yellow beak and claws; a white bomb outlined in black with three red bands; and the scroll's lettering was white.

Nickname: Flying Eagles, 1971–1991.



The squadron's second insignia highlights its mission as a fleet replacement training squadron.

Chronology of Significant Events

May 1950: The squadron was established with a mission of all-weather attack and ASW. The squadron trained detachments for carrier deployments and also participated in various exercises held on the west coast.

9 Nov 1950–9 Jun 1951: VC-35 Det 3 was the squadron's first detachment to deploy. It deployed to Korea and flew ASW patrols, night heckler missions, and other combat sorties. These became the standard

missions for the squadron detachments that deployed to Korea.

29 Jun 1959: The squadron's mission was changed from all-weather attack to fleet replacement training. It was responsible for instrument flight training for fleet prop pilots, including ground school; enlisted ground training for Skyraider maintenance personnel; and the training of fleet replacement pilots for the AD-6/7 Skyraider.

Jun-Aug 1960: The squadron trained eight officers from the South Vietnamese Air Force in the operation of the AD Skyraider.

Nov 1966: With the acceptance of the A-7A Corsair II, the squadron took on the additional mission of fleet replacement training in this new aircraft.

1967: VA-147 was the first squadron to be trained in the A-7 by VA-122.

Dec 1969: The squadron joined with VA-125 to inaugurate a graduate level Light Attack Weapons School which involved three intensive weeks of classroom and flight syllabus training covering all phases of attack aviation.

15 Oct 1973: VA-122's Weapons Training Center, which conducted the Light Attack Weapons School, became a separate command and was designated Light Attack Weapons School, Pacific.

30 Jun 1988: With the disestablishment of VA-174 the east coast Fleet Readiness Squadron for the A-7, VA-122 assumed the responsibility for A-7 training on both coasts.

May 1991: Prior to VA-122's disestablishment, it had trained and graduated over 5,000 light attack pilots and over 55,000 highly skilled maintenance personnel during its career as a fleet replacement training squadron.

Home Port Assignments

	<i>Location Assignment Date</i>
NAS San Diego/North Island*	25 May 1950
NAS Moffett Field	01 Jul 1961
NAS Lemoore	01 Jan 1963

* NAS San Diego was redesignated NAS North Island in 1955.



Squadron AD-4NL Skyraiders in flight, 6 October 1951 (Courtesy Robert Lawson Collection).

Commanding Officers

	<i>Date Assumed Command</i>
CDR Charles R. Stapler	25 May 1950
CDR David A. Marks	19 May 1951
CDR William L. Conley (acting)	25 Aug 1951
CDR David A. Marks	29 Nov 1951
CDR Louis E. Burke, Jr.	31 Jul 1952
CDR Frank G. Edwards (acting)	31 Oct 1952
CDR Louis E. Burke, Jr.	25 Nov 1952
CDR John H. Pennoyer	Apr 1953
CDR Guiseppi Macri	16 Sep 1955
CDR Donald B. Ingerslew	Jan 1956
CAPT Edward V. Wedell	09 Aug 1957
CAPT L. E. Harris	29 Jul 1959
CDR P. E. Payne	26 Jul 1960
CDR J. A. Davenport	23 Jun 1961
CDR John E. Ford	19 Oct 1962
CDR Joseph L. Coleman	08 Nov 1963
CDR M. C. Pinkepank	10 Aug 1964
CDR Hugh A. Hoy	06 Oct 1965
CDR Melvin D. Blixt	11 Oct 1966
CDR Carl Birdwell, Jr.	Jul 1967
CDR Melvin M. Quaid, Jr.	23 Aug 1968
CDR Walter S. Gray III	29 Aug 1969
CDR John L. Nicholson, Jr.	07 Aug 1970
CDR Jesse R. Emerson III	10 Aug 1971
CDR Cecil B. Hawkins, Jr.	08 Aug 1972
CAPT Robert N. Livingston	30 Nov 1973
CDR Richard L. Grant	07 Feb 1975
CDR Kenneth A. Dickerson	16 Apr 1976
CDR Meredith W. Patrick	19 Aug 1977
CDR John A. Moriarty	06 Dec 1978
CDR Lawrence H. Price	20 May 1980
CDR Howard E. Koss	09 Sep 1981
CDR John E. Vomastic	05 Apr 1983
CDR William S. Orr, Jr.	01 Jun 1984
CDR Thomas R. Mitchell III	11 Sep 1985

Commanding Officers—Continued

	<i>Date Assumed Command</i>
CDR Russell C. York	17 Dec 1986
CDR George Crim	15 Mar 1988
CAPT Jeffery Harrison	14 Jul 1989

Aircraft Assignment

<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Date Type First Received</i>
AD-4N	Jun 1950
AD-3Q	Jun 1950
AD-4Q	Jul 1950
AD-2Q	Jul 1950
AD-3	Jul 1950
TBM-3E/N	Jul 1950
AD-1Q	Aug 1950
AD-3N	Dec 1950
AD-4NL	Aug 1951
AD-4N	Jan 1952
AD-4B	Feb 1952
F3D-2	Feb 1953
AD-5N	Mar 1954
AD-5/A-1E*	May 1954
AD-6/A-1H*	May 1954
S2F-1	Oct 1956
TF-1Q	18 Jan 1957
AD-5Q	20 Nov 1957
AD-7/A-1J*	05 Dec 1958
T-28B	01 Mar 1959
A-7A	15 Nov 1966
A-7B	May 1968
A-7E	14 Jul 1969
A-7C	Jul 1971
T-39D	1971
T-28C	1973
TA-7C	1978

* AD-5/6/7 designations were changed to A-1E/H/J in 1962.

Major Overseas Deployments

<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Date of Return</i>	<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Carrier</i>	<i>Det*</i>	<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Area of Operation</i>
09 Nov 1950	09 Jun 1951	CVG-19	CV 37	3	AD-4N	Korea
06 Dec 1950	09 Jun 1951	CVG-2	†	4	AD-4N	Korea
02 Mar 1951	24 Oct 1951	CVG-101	CV 21	5/A	AD-2/4N & 4Q	Korea
10 May 1951	17 Dec 1951	CVG-102	CV 31	6/G	AD-3/4N	Korea
May 1951	29 Aug 1951	CVG-19X	‡	7	AD-4N	Korea
26 Jun 1951	25 Mar 1952	CVG-5	CV 9	8/B	AD-2, AD-3, N/Q, AD-4, L/Q & AD-4NL	Korea
08 Sep 1951	02 May 1952	CVG-15	CV 36	9/D	AD-4NL/4Q	Korea
15 Oct 1951	03 Jul 1952	ATG-1	CV 45	10/H	AD-4NL & AD-2Q	Korea
31 Dec 1951	08 Aug 1952	CVG-11	CV 47	C	AD-4NL/Q & 2Q	Korea

Major Overseas Deployments—Continued

<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Date of Return</i>	<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Carrier</i>	<i>Det*</i>	<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Area of Operation</i>
08 Feb 1952	25 Sep 1952	CVG-2	CV 21	A	AD-4N/2Q/3N/4NL	Korea
21 Mar 1952	03 Nov 1952	CVG-19	CV 37	E	AD-4NL/4Q & 3Q	Korea
16 Jun 1952	06 Feb 1953	ATG-2	CVA 9	I	AD-4N	Korea/WestPac
16 Jun 1952	Sep 1953	§	§	W	AD-4B/NL/N	WestPac
11 Aug 1952	17 Mar 1953	CVG-101	CVA 33	F	AD-4N/NL	Korea
15 Sep 1952	18 May 1953	CVG-102	CVA 34	G	AD-4N	Korea
20 Nov 1952	25 Jun 1953	CVG-5	CVA 45	B	AD-4N	Korea
15 Dec 1952	14 Aug 1953	CVG-9	CVA 47	M	AD-4N	Korea
24 Jan 1953	21 Sep 1953	CVG-15	CVA 37	D	AD-4N	Korea/WestPac
30 Mar 1953	28 Nov 1953	ATG-1	CVA 21	H	AD-4N	Korea/WestPac
01 Jul 1953	18 Jan 1954	CVG-11	CVA 33	C	AD-4N	Korea/WestPac
03 Aug 1953	03 Mar 1954	CVG-2	CVA 10	A	AD-4N	WestPac
14 Sep 1953	22 Apr 1954	CVG-19	CVA 34	E	AD-4N	WestPac
01 Dec 1953	12 Jul 1954	ATG-2	CVA 9	I	AD-4N	WestPac
03 Mar 1954	11 Oct 1954	CVG-12	CVA 21	G	AD-4NL	WestPac
12 Mar 1954	19 Nov 1954	CVG-5	CVA 47	B	AD-4NL	WestPac
11 May 1954	12 Dec 1954	CVG-9	CVA 12	M	AD-4N	World Cruise
01 Jul 1954	28 Feb 1955	CVG-15	CVA 10	D	AD-4N	WestPac
01 Sep 1954	11 Apr 1955	ATG-1	CVA 18	H	AD-4N	WestPac
07 Oct 1954	12 May 1955	CVG-11	CVA 33	C	AD-5N	WestPac
03 Nov 1954	21 Jun 1955	CVG-2	CVA 9	A	AD-5N	WestPac
02 Mar 1955	21 Sep 1955	CVG-19	CVA 34	E	AD-5N	WestPac
01 Apr 1955	23 Nov 1955	ATG-2	CVA 47	I	AD-5N	WestPac
03 Jun 1955	03 Feb 1956	CVG-14	CVA 21	F	AD-5N	WestPac
10 Aug 1955	15 Mar 1956	CVG-12	CVA 19	G	AD-5N	WestPac
29 Oct 1955	17 May 1956	CVG-5	CVA 33	B	AD-5N	WestPac
05 Jan 1956	23 Jun 1956	ATG-3	CVA 38	J	AD-5N	WestPac
11 Feb 1956	13 Jun 1956	CVG-9	CVA 34	M	AD-5N	WestPac
19 Mar 1956	13 Sep 1956	ATG-4	CVA 10	K	AD-5N	WestPac
23 Apr 1956	15 Oct 1956	CVG-15	CVA 18	D	AD-5N	WestPac
28 May 1956	20 Dec 1956	ATG-1	CVA 16	H	AD-5N	WestPac
16 Jul 1956	26 Jan 1957	CVG-11	CVA 9	C	AD-5N	WestPac
16 Aug 1956	28 Feb 1957	CVG-21	CVA 31	L	AD-5N	WestPac
13 Nov 1956	20 May 1957	CVG-2	CVA 38	A	AD-5N	WestPac
21 Jan 1957	25 Jul 1957	CVG-14	CVA 12	F	AD-5N	WestPac
09 Mar 1957	25 Aug 1957	CVG-19	CVA 10	E	AD-5N	WestPac
06 Apr 1967	18 Sep 1957	ATG-2	CVA 19	I	AD-5N	WestPac
19 Apr 1957	17 Oct 1957	CVG-12	CVA 16	G	AD-5N	WestPac
10 Jul 1957	11 Dec 1957	CVG-5	CVA 31	B	AD-5N	WestPac
09 Aug 1957	02 Apr 1958	ATG-3	CVA 33	J	AD-5N	WestPac
16 Sep 1957	25 Apr 1958	CVG-9	CVA 14	M	AD-5N	WestPac
06 Jan 1958	30 Jun 1958	ATG-4	CVA 12	K	AD-5N	WestPac
15 Feb 1958	02 Oct 1958	CVG-15	CVA 19	D	AD-5N	WestPac
08 Mar 1958	21 Nov 1958	CVG-11	CVA 38	C	AD-5N	WestPac
14 Jul 1958	19 Dec 1958	CVG-21	CVA 16	L	AD-5N	WestPac
16 Aug 1958	12 Mar 1959	CVG-2	CVA 41	A	AD-5N	WestPac
21 Aug 1958	12 Jan 1959	ATG-4	CVA 20	K	AD-5N	WestPac
04 Oct 1958	17 Feb 1959	ATG-1	CVA 14	H	AD-5N	WestPac
01 Nov 1958	18 Jun 1959	CVG-19	CVA 31	E	AD-5N	WestPac

Major Overseas Deployments—Continued

<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Date of Return</i>	<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Carrier</i>	<i>Det*</i>	<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Area of Operation</i>
03 Jan 1959	27 Jul 1959	CVG-14	CVA 61	F	AD-5N	WestPac
09 Mar 1959	02 Oct 1959	CVG-11	CVA 38	C	AD-5N	WestPac
26 Apr 1959	02 Dec 1959	CVG-21	CVA 16	L**	AD-5N	WestPac

* The squadron only deployed in detachments, usually four aircraft, and never as a complete squadron. In October 1951 the squadron's detachment designations were changed from numbers to letters.

† Detachment 4 deployed to Korea embarked in *Valley Forge* (CV 45) and on 29 March 1951, as part of CVG-2, transferred to *Philippine Sea* (CV 47). It returned to the States embarked in *Philippine Sea*.

‡ The detachment was sent to Japan, via air and ship transport, as part of Replacement Air Group 19X (CVG-19X). When it arrived in Japan it relieved CVG-19 in *Princeton* (CV 37). Upon completion of its combat tour in Korea it returned to the States embarked in *Princeton*.

§ VC-35 Det W deployed to NAS Atsugi, Japan. The detachment departed for NAS Atsugi embarked in *Essex* (CV 9) and arrived there in the latter part of July 1952. While deployed to Japan, VC-35 Det W was under the operational control of COMFAIRJAPAN (Commander Fleet Air, Japan).

** VA(AW)-35 Det L was the squadron's last detachment to deploy prior to the squadron's change of mission to training fleet replacement pilots and enlisted men and the phase out of its all-weather attack mission.



A squadron TF-1, circa 1957 (Courtesy Duane Kasulka Collection).

Air Wing Assignments

<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Tail Code</i>	<i>Assignment Date</i>
COMAIRPAC	NR*/VV†	
RCVG-12/RCVW-12‡	NJ	29 Jun 1959
COMFAIRLEMOORE	NJ§	01 Jul 1970
COMLATWINGPAC**	NJ	30 Jun 1973

* The tail code NR was assigned to VC-35 by Aviation Circular Letter No. 43-50 dated 19 July 1950.

† The tail code was changed from NR to VV in 1957. The effective date for this change was most likely the beginning of FY 58 (1 July 1957).

‡ Replacement Air Group 12 (RCVG-12) was redesignated Combat Readiness Air Group 12 (RCVW-12) on 1 April 1963. Combat

Readiness Air Group 12 was then redesignated Combat Readiness Air Wing 12 (RCVW-12) on 20 December 1963.

§ RCVW-12 was disestablished on 1 July 1970 and the squadron was assigned to Commander Fleet Air Lemoore. However, the tail code NJ, which had been assigned to RCVW-12, was retained by VA-122 and the other squadrons that had been assigned to RCVW-12.

** COMFAIRLEMOORE was redesignated COMLATWINGPAC (Commander Light Attack Wing, Pacific) on 30 June 1973.

Unit Awards Received

<i>Unit Award</i>	<i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i>	
MUC	01 Jul 1970	31 Jul 1971
	01 Oct 1978	30 Sep 1980



A formation of the squadron's A-7E Corsair II aircraft over the Sierras.