

# Aviation Commands

In order of their establishment:

**Office in Charge of Aviation**  
**Director of Naval Aeronautics**  
**Director of Naval Aviation**

Capt. Washington I. Chambers	26 Sep 1910–17 Dec 1913
Capt. Mark L. Bristol	17 Dec 1913–4 Mar 1916
Capt. Noble E. Irwin	17 May 1917–May 1919
Capt. Thomas T. Craven	May 1919–7 Mar 1921
Capt. William A. Moffett	7 Mar 1921–26 Jul 1921

The person in charge of aviation affairs for the Navy was initially designated as the officer to whom all correspondence on aviation should be referred. This position was a special duty assignment as Officer in Charge of Aviation. The position was identified by the title Director of Naval Aeronautics on 23 November 1914. It was discontinued on 4 March 1916 and reinstated as Director of Naval Aviation on 7 March 1918. The title Director of Naval Aviation was replaced in July 1921 by the establishment of the Bureau of Aeronautics.

**Officer-in-Charge, Aviation, Headquarters Marine Corps**  
**Director of Marine Corps Aviation**  
**Deputy Chief of Staff (Air), Marine Corps**  
**Deputy Chief of Staff for Aviation, Marine Corps**  
**Deputy Commandant for Aviation, Marine Corps**

Maj. Alfred A. Cunningham	17 Nov 1919–12 Dec 1920
Lt. Col. Thomas C. Turner	13 Dec 1920–2 Mar 1925
Maj. Edward H. Brainard	3 Mar 1925–9 May 1929
Col. Thomas C. Turner	10 May 1929–28 Oct 1931
Maj. Roy S. Geiger	6 Nov 1931–29 May 1935
Col. Ross E. Rowell	30 May 1935–10 Mar 1939
Brig. Gen. Ralph J. Mitchell	11 Mar 1939–29 Mar 1943
Maj. Gen. Roy S. Geiger	13 May 1943–15 Oct 1943
Brig. Gen. Louis E. Woods	15 Oct 1943–17 Jul 1944
Maj. Gen. Field Harris	18 Jul 1944–24 Feb 1948
Maj. Gen. William J. Wallace	24 Feb 1948–1 Sep 1950
Brig. Gen. Clayton C. Jerome	1 Sep 1950–1 Apr 1952
Lt. Gen. William O. Brice	1 Apr 1952–31 Jul 1955
Lt. Gen. Christian F. Schilt	1 Aug 1955–31 Mar 1957
Lt. Gen. Verne J. McCaul	1 Apr 1957–2 Dec 1957
Maj. Gen. Samuel S. Jack	14 Jan 1958–20 Feb 1958
Maj. Gen. John C. Munn	21 Feb 1958–14 Dec 1959
Maj. Gen. Arthur F. Binney	15 Dec 1959–10 Sep 1961
Col. Keith B. McCutcheon	11 Sep 1961–17 Feb 1962
Col. Marion E. Carl	18 Feb 1962–4 Jul 1962

Brig. Gen. Norman J. Anderson	5 Jul 1962–20 Oct 1963
Maj. Gen. Louis B. Robertshaw	21 Oct 1963–15 Jun 1966
Maj. Gen. Keith B. McCutcheon	15 Jun 1966–18 Feb 1970
Maj. Gen. Homer S. Hill	19 Feb 1970–24 Aug 1972
Maj. Gen. Edward S. Fris	25 Aug 1972–27 Aug 1974
Brig. Gen. Philip D. Shutler	28 Aug 1974–Jan 1975
Maj. Gen. Victor A. Armstrong	Jan 1975–21 Aug 1975
Lt. Gen. Thomas H. Miller Jr.	22 Aug 1975–29 Jun 1979
Lt. Gen. William J. White	1 Jul 1979–30 Jun 1982
Lt. Gen. William H. Fitch	1 Jul 1982–31 Aug 1984
Lt. Gen. Keith A. Smith	1 Sep 1984–29 Apr 1988
Lt. Gen. Charles H. Pitman	30 Apr 1988–1 Aug 1990
Lt. Gen. Duane A. Wills	17 Aug 1990–30 Jun 1993
Lt. Gen. Richard D. Hearney	1 Jul 1993–14 Jul 1994
Lt. Gen. Harold W. Blot	15 Jul 1994–Jul 1996
Lt. Gen. Terrence R. Dake	Jul 1996–28 Jun 1998
Lt. Gen. Fredrick N. McCorkle	28 Jun 1998–2 Aug 2001
Lt. Gen. William L. Nyland	2 Aug 2001–10 Sep 2002
Vacant	11 Sep 2002–2 Oct 2002
Lt. Gen. Michael A. Hough	3 Oct 2002–2 Nov 2006
Lt. Gen. John G. Castellaw	3 Nov 2006–10 Mar 2007
Lt. Gen. George J. Trautman III	10 Mar 2007–

On 1 April 1936 the title of the senior aviator attached to Headquarters, Marine Corps, changed from Officer-in-Charge, Aviation, to Director of Aviation, and on 25 April 1962 became Deputy Chief of Staff (Air). On 16 September 1972 the title changed to Deputy Chief of Staff for Aviation.

#### **Chief of the Bureau of Aeronautics**

Rear Adm. William A. Moffett	26 Jul 1921–4 Apr 1933
Rear Adm. Ernest J. King	3 May 1933–12 Jun 1936
Rear Adm. Arthur B. Cook	12 Jun 1936–1 Jun 1939
Rear Adm. John H. Towers	1 Jun 1939–6 Oct 1942
Rear Adm. John S. McCain	9 Oct 1942–7 Aug 1943
Rear Adm. Dewitt C. Ramsey	7 Aug 1943–1 Jun 1945
Rear Adm. Harold B. Sallada	1 Jun 1945–1 May 1947
Rear Adm. Alfred M. Pride	1 May 1947–1 May 1951
Rear Adm. Thomas S. Combs	1 May 1951–30 Jun 1953
Rear Adm. Apollo Soucek	30 Jun 1953–4 Mar 1955
Rear Adm. James S. Russell	4 Mar 1955–15 Jul 1957
Rear Adm. Robert E. Dixon	15 Jul 1957–1 Dec 1959

Established by act of Congress, 12 July 1921, and merged 1 December 1959 with the Bureau of Ordnance to form the Bureau of Naval Weapons.

**Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Aeronautics**  
**Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Air**

Edward P. Warner	10 Jul 1926–Mar 1929
David S. Ingalls	16 Mar 1929–1 Jun 1932
Vacant	1 Jun 1932–5 Sep 1941
Artemus L. Gates	5 Sep 1941–1 Jul 1945
John L. Sullivan	1 Jul 1945–17 Jun 1946
John N. Brown	12 Nov 1946–8 Mar 1949
Dan A. Kimball	9 Mar 1949–25 May 1949
John F. Floberg	5 Dec 1949–23 Jul 1953
James H. Smith	23 Jul 1953–20 Jun 1956
Garrison R. Norton	28 Jun 1956–5 Feb 1959

Established by act of Congress 24 June 1926 with title Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Aeronautics. On 11 September 1941 it was retitled Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Air and abolished on 5 February 1959.

**U.S. Naval Air Forces, Pacific Fleet**  
**Commander, Air Force, Pacific Fleet**  
**Commander, Naval Air Force Pacific Fleet**  
**Commander, Naval Air Forces**

Rear Adm. Aubrey W. Fitch	1 Sep 1942–15 Sep 1942
Rear Adm. Leigh Noyes	15 Sep 1942–14 Oct 1942
Vice Adm. John H. Towers	14 Oct 1942–28 Feb 1944
Rear Adm. Charles A. Pownall	28 Feb 1944–17 Aug 1944
Rear Adm. George D. Murray	17 Aug 1944–20 Jul 1945
Rear Adm. Alfred E. Montgomery	20 Jul 1945–31 Aug 1946
Vice Adm. John D. Price	31 Aug 1946–5 Jan 1948
Vice Adm. Harold B. Sallada	5 Jan 1948–1 Oct 1949
Vice Adm. Thomas L. Sprague	1 Oct 1949–1 Apr 1952
Vice Adm. Harold M. Martin	1 Apr 1952–1 Feb 1956
Vice Adm. Alfred M. Pride	1 Feb 1956–30 Sep 1959
Rear Adm. Murr E. Arnold	30 Sep 1959–12 Oct 1959
Vice Adm. Clarence E. Ekstrom	12 Oct 1959–30 Nov 1962
Vice Adm. Paul D. Stroop	30 Nov 1962–30 Oct 1965
Vice Adm. Thomas F. Connolly	30 Oct 1965–1 Nov 1966
Vice Adm. Allen M. Shinn	1 Nov 1966–31 Mar 1970
Vice Adm. William F. Bringle	31 Mar 1970–28 May 1971
Vice Adm. Thomas J. Walker III	28 May 1971–31 May 1973
Vice Adm. Robert B. Baldwin	31 May 1973–12 Jul 1976
Vice Adm. Robert P. Coogan	12 Jul 1976–31 Jan 1980
Vice Adm. Robert F. Schoultz	31 Jan 1980–4 Aug 1982
Vice Adm. Crawford A. Easterling	4 Aug 1982–16 Aug 1985
Vice Adm. James E. Service	16 Aug 1985–21 Aug 1987
Vice Adm. John H. Fetterman Jr.	21 Aug 1987–14 Dec 1990
Vice Adm. Edwin R. Kohn Jr.	14 Dec 1990–17 Jun 1993

Rear Adm. Steven R. Briggs	17 Jun 1993–26 Oct 1993
Vice Adm. Robert J. Spane	26 Oct 1993–24 Jan 1996
Vice Adm. Brent M. Bennett	24 Jan 1996–16 Jan 1998
Vice Adm. Michael L. Bowman	16 Jan 1998–23 Aug 2000
Vice Adm. John B. Nathman	23 Aug 2000–2 Aug 2002
Vice Adm. Michael D. Malone	2 Aug 2002–17 Aug 2004
Vice Adm. James M. Zortman	17 Aug 2004–22 Jun 2007
Vice Adm. Thomas J. Kilcline Jr.	22 Jun 2007–1 Jul 2010
Vice Adm. Allen G. Myers	1 Jul 2010–

\* Acting Commander Naval Air Force Pacific Fleet

Established 1 September 1942 as an administrative command replacing the commands Carriers, Pacific Fleet and Patrol Wings, Pacific Fleet. The title, U.S. Naval Air Forces, Pacific Fleet was changed 14 October 1942 to Air Force, Pacific Fleet and 30 July 1957 to Naval Air Force Pacific Fleet. In October 2001 the Chief of Naval Operations directed Commander Naval Air Force Pacific Fleet to become the type commander for all air commands and assumed the additional title of Commander, Naval Air Forces.

**Commander, Air Force, Atlantic Fleet**  
**Commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic Fleet**

Rear Adm. Alva D. Bernhard	1 Jan 1943–8 Mar 1943
Vice Adm. Patrick N. L. Bellinger	20 Mar 1943–2 Feb 1946
Vice Adm. Gerald F. Bogan	2 Feb 1946–Dec 1948
Vice Adm. Felix B. Stump	Dec 1948–11 Apr 1951
Vice Adm. John J. Ballentine	11 Apr 1951–1 May 1954
Vice Adm. Frederick W. McMahon	1 May 1954–29 May 1956
Vice Adm. William L. Rees	29 May 1956–30 Sep 1960
Vice Adm. Frank O'Beirne	30 Sep 1960–30 Sep 1963
Vice Adm. Paul H. Ramsey	30 Sep 1963–31 Mar 1965
Vice Adm. Charles T. Booth	31 Mar 1965–28 Feb 1969
Vice Adm. Robert L. Townsend	1 Mar 1969–29 Feb 1972
Vice Adm. Fredrick H. Michaelis	29 Feb 1972–14 Feb 1975
Vice Adm. Howard E. Greer	14 Feb 1975–31 Mar 1978
Vice Adm. George E. R. Kinnear	31 Mar 1978–31 Jul 1981
Vice Adm. Thomas J. Kilcline Jr.	31 Jul 1981–1 Aug 1983
Vice Adm. Carol C. Smith Jr.	1 Aug 1983–14 Oct 1983
Vice Adm. Robert F. Dunn	8 Dec 1983–23 Dec 1986
Vice Adm. Richard M. Dunleavy	23 Dec 1986–25 May 1989
Vice Adm. John K. Ready	25 May 1989–6 Aug 1991
Vice Adm. Anthony A. Less	6 Aug 1991–18 Mar 1994
Vice Adm. Richard C. Allen	18 Mar 1994–Mar 1996
Vice Adm. John J. Mazach	Mar 1996–Nov 1998
Vice Adm. Joseph S. Mobley	Nov 1998–12 Apr 2001
Rear Adm. Michael D. Malone	12 Apr 2001–10 Jul 2002
Rear Adm. James M. Zortman	10 Jul 2002–17 May 2004
Rear Adm. H. Denby Starling II	17 May 2004–20 Mar 2007

Rear Adm. John W. Goodwin	20 Mar 2007–13 Jan 2009
Rear Adm. Richard J. O’Hanlon	13 Jan 2009–

Established 1 January 1943 as an administrative command replacing the commands Carriers, Atlantic Fleet and Fleet Air Wing, Atlantic Fleet. The original title, Air Force, Atlantic Fleet, was changed 30 July 1957 to Naval Air Force Atlantic Fleet.

**Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Air)**  
**Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Air Warfare)**  
**Assistant Chief of Naval Operations (Air Warfare)**  
**Director, Air Warfare**

Vice Adm. John S. McCain	18 Aug 1943–1 Aug 1944
Vice Adm. Aubrey W. Fitch	1 Aug 1944–14 Aug 1945
Vice Adm. Marc A. Mitscher	14 Aug 1945–15 Jan 1946
Vice Adm. Arthur W. Radford	15 Jan 1946–22 Feb 1947
Vice Adm. Donald B. Duncan	6 Mar 1947–20 Jan 1948
Vice Adm. John D. Price	20 Jan 1948–6 May 1949
Vice Adm. Calvin T. Durgin	16 May 1949–25 Jan 1950
Vice Adm. John H. Cassady	25 Jan 1950–31 May 1952
Vice Adm. Matthias B. Gardner	31 May 1952–16 Mar 1953
Vice Adm. Ralph A. Ofstie	16 Mar 1953–3 Mar 1955
Vice Adm. Thomas S. Combs	11 Apr 1955–1 Aug 1956
Vice Adm. William V. Davis Jr.	1 Aug 1956–22 May 1958
Vice Adm. Robert B. Pirie	26 May 1958–1 Nov 1962
Vice Adm. William A. Schoech	14 Nov 1962–1 Jul 1963
Vice Adm. John S. Thach	8 Jul 1963–25 Feb 1965
Vice Adm. Paul H. Ramsey	31 Mar 1965–1 Oct 1966
Vice Adm. Thomas F. Connolly	1 Nov 1966–31 Aug 1971
Vice Adm. Maurice F. Weisner	1 Sep 1971–4 Aug 1972
Vice Adm. William D. Houser	5 Aug 1972–30 Apr 1976
Vice Adm. Forrest S. Petersen	1 May 1976–5 Oct 1976
Vice Adm. Frederick C. Turner	6 Oct 1976–30 Jun 1979
Vice Adm. Wesley L. McDonald	1 Jul 1979–1 Sep 1982
Vice Adm. Robert F. Schoultz	2 Sep 1982–27 Jan 1985
Vice Adm. Edward H. Martin	25 Feb 1985–14 Jan 1987
Vice Adm. Robert F. Dunn	15 Jan 1987–25 May 1989
Vice Adm. Richard M. Dunleavy	25 May 1989–12 Jun 1992
Rear Adm. Riley D. Mixson	12 Jun 1992–22 Nov 1993
Rear Adm. Brent M. Bennitt	22 Nov 1993–15 Jan 1996
Rear Adm. Dennis V. McGinn	15 Jan 1996–19 Jul 1998
Rear Adm. John B. Nathman	19 Jul 1998–17 Jul 2000
Rear Adm. Michael J. McCabe	17 Jul 2000–9 Sep 2002
Rear Adm. Mark P. Fitzgerald	9 Sep 2002–14 Aug 2004
Rear Adm. Thomas J. Kilcline Jr.	14 Aug 2004–7 Jul 2006
Rear Adm. Bruce W. Clingan	7 Jul 2006–Aug 2007

Rear Adm. Allen G. Myers	Aug 2007–Aug 2008
Rear Adm. Kenneth E. Floyd*	Aug 2008–Feb 2009
Rear Adm. David L. Philman	Feb 2009–May 2010
Rear Adm. Kenneth E. Floyd	May 2010–

\*Acting Director

Established by the Secretary of the Navy, 18 August 1943, as Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Air). Changed to Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Air Warfare) on 15 July 1971. On 1 October 1987 the Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV) was reorganized and Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Air Warfare) was redesignated Assistant Chief of Naval Operations (Air Warfare). On 10 August 1992 the Assistant Chief of Naval Operations (Air Warfare) was changed to Director, Air Warfare Division (N88).

#### **Chief of the Bureau of Naval Weapons**

Rear Adm. Paul D. Stroop	10 Sep 1959–29 Oct 1962
Rear Adm. Kleber S. Masterson	27 Nov 1962–24 Mar 1964
Rear Adm. Allen M. Shinn	28 May 1964–1 May 1966

Established as the Bureau of Naval Weapons on 18 August 1959, merging the Bureaus of Ordnance and Aeronautics. It was abolished on 1 May 1966 during the reorganization of the bureaus. The reorganization assigned elements of the Bureau of Naval Weapons to three new commands: Naval Air Systems Command, Naval Ordnance Systems Command, and Naval Electronic Systems Command.

#### **Commander Naval Air Systems Command**

Rear Adm. Allen M. Shinn	1 May–1 Sep 1966
Rear Adm. Robert L. Townsend	1 Sep 1966–20 Feb 1969
Rear Adm. Thomas J. Walker III	20 Feb 1969–1 Apr 1971
Rear Adm. Thomas R. McClellan	1 Apr 1971–31 Aug 1973
Vice Adm. Kent L. Lee	31 Aug 1973–29 Aug 1976
Vice Adm. Forrest S. Petersen	29 Oct 1976–30 Apr 1980
Vice Adm. Ernest R. Seymour	30 Apr 1980–22 Jul 1983
Vice Adm. James B. Busey IV	22 Jul 1983–23 Aug 1985
Vice Adm. Joseph B. Wilkinson	23 Aug 1985–19 Sep 1989
Vice Adm. Richard C. Gentz	19 Sep 1989–22 Jan 1991
Vice Adm. William C. Boves	22 Mar 1991–10 Mar 1995
Vice Adm. John A. Lockard	10 Mar 1995–4 Jun 2000
Vice Adm. Joseph W. Dyer	2 Jun 2000–Jun 2003
Rear Adm. Charles H. Johnston*	Jun–26 Nov 2003
Vice Adm. Walter B. Massenburg	26 Nov 2003–16 Feb 2007
Vice Adm. David J. Venlet	16 Feb 2007–18 May 2010
Vice Adm. David Architzel	18 May 2010–

\*Acting

Established by a reorganization of the Navy Department effective 1 May 1966.

# Evolution of Carrier Air Groups and Wings

The term Air Group, modified by the name of a carrier, as Saratoga Air Group, came into use during the early days of carrier aviation as a collective title for the squadrons operating on board a particular carrier. It remained a mere title until 1 July 1938, when authorization for Air Group Commander billets became effective. With this action, the squadrons on board acquired the unity of a formal command and the carrier air group as such first took form.

Numerical designation of air groups began in 1942, the first being Carrier Air Group NINE (CVG-9), established 1 March 1942. The carrier air group was sometimes referred to as CAG. However, the official designation was CVG. Existing air groups continued to be known by their carrier names until they were reformed or disbanded, only two of the early groups escaping the latter fate.

On 29 June 1944, new letter designations were set up to bring them in line with standardized complements of different carrier types. The new designations, some of which had been in use for more than a year, showed carrier type affiliation as follows: CVBG for large carrier air group, CVG for medium carrier air group, CVLG for light carrier air group, and CVEG for escort carrier air group. The CVEG designation was assigned to carriers of the *Sangamon* class. The other CVE carrier classes were assigned Composite Squadrons (VC) and listed as air groups. They remained in that category throughout the war period. The CVBG designation was for assignment to the *Midway* class, sometimes referred to as the large carriers.

On 15 November 1946, to correct the results of demobilization, which had left squadron numbers all out of sequence and a system of no apparent order, sweeping changes were made in air unit designations. Carrier Air Groups of four types were designated according to their assigned ship, as CVBG for Battle Carrier, CVG for Attack Carrier, CVLG for Light Carrier, and CVEG for Escort Carrier. Two years later, on 1 September 1948, all carrier air groups became CVG regardless of their carrier affiliation.

Carrier Air Groups were retitled Wings on 20 December 1963, and CVG became CVW. Replacement Air Groups, which were set up in 1958, became Combat Readiness Air Groups on 1 April 1963. Popularly known by the short titles RAG and CRAG in the respective periods, their designation throughout was RCVG. When Groups became Wings, CRAG became CRAW and RCVG became RCW.

Antisubmarine Carrier Air Groups, CVSG, were established on 1 April 1960. They were slowly phased out during the 1960s, and the last were disestablished on 30 June 1973.

On 1 July 1968, the Naval Air Reserve was reorganized into wings and squadrons similar to the active fleet air organizations to ensure a more rapid and efficient transition to combat status in the event of mobilization. Two Reserve Carrier Air Wings were established and all carrier-type squadrons in the reserves were placed in these two wings. CVWR was the acronym assigned for the Reserve Carrier Air Wings. A similar organization was established for the Reserve Antisubmarine Carrier Air Groups and assigned the acronym CVSGR. The implementation of these two reserve wings and groups did not take place until 1970.

Tabulations below have two deviations from the above: use of CVG instead of the original CAG for the period to 20 June 1944, and use of the unofficial CVAG in the period 1946–48 to identify the Attack Carrier Air Groups.

Carrier Air Wings—CVW		
CVW-1	<i>Ranger</i> Air Group Formed	1 Jul 1938
	Reformed as CVG-4	3 Aug 1943
	Became CVAG-1	15 Nov 1946
	Became CVG-1	1 Sep 1948
	Became CVW-1	20 Dec 1963
CVW-2	CVBG-74 Established	1 May 1945
	Became CVBG-1	15 Nov 1946
	Became CVG-2	1 Sep 1948
	Became CVW-2	20 Dec 1963

CVW-3		Saratoga Air Group Formed	1 Jul 1938
		Reformed as CVG-3	25 Sep 1943
		Became CVAG-3	15 Nov 1946
		Became CVG-3	1 Sep 1948
		Became CVW-3	20 Dec 1963
CVW-4		CVG-4 Established	1 Sep 1950
		Became RCVG-4	Apr 1958
		Became RCVW-4	20 Dec 1963
		Disestablished	1 Jul 1970
CVW-5		CVG-5 Established	15 Feb 1943
		Became CVAG-5	15 Nov 1946
		Became CVG-5	1 Sep 1948
		Became CVW-5	20 Dec 1963
CVW-6		CVG-17 Established	1 Jan 1943
		Became CVBG-17	22 Jan 1946
		Became CVBG-5	15 Nov 1946
		Became CVG-6	27 Jul 1948
		Became CVW-6	20 Dec 1963
		Disestablished	1 Apr 1992
CVW-7		CVG-18 Established	20 Jul 1943
		Became CVAG-7	15 Nov 1946
		Became CVG-7	1 Sep 1948
		Became CVW-7	20 Dec 1963
CVW-8		CVG-8 Established	9 Apr 1951
		Became CVW-8	20 Dec 1963
CVW-9		CVG-9 Established	26 Mar 1952
		Became CVW-9	20 Dec 1963
CVW-10	A	CVG-10 Established	1 May 1952
		Became CVW-10	20 Dec 1963
		Disestablished	20 Nov 1969
	B	Established	1 Nov 1986
		Disestablished	1 Jun 1988
CVW-11		CVG-11 Established	10 Oct 1942
		Became CVAG-11	15 Nov 1946
		Became CVG-11	1 Sep 1948
		Became CVW-11	20 Dec 1963
CVW-12		CVG-102 Established for reserve squadrons called to active duty for Korea	1 Aug 1950
		Became CVG-12	4 Feb 1953
		Became RCVG-12	Apr 1958
		Became RCVW-12	20 Dec 1963
		Disestablished	1 Jun 1970
CVW-13		Established	1 Mar 1984
		Disestablished	1 Jan 1991
CVW-14		CVG-101 Established for reserve squadrons called to active duty for Korea	1 Aug 1950
		Became CVG-14	4 Feb 1953
		Became CVW- 14	20 Dec 1963

CVW-15		CVG-15 Established	5 Apr 1951
		Became CVW-15	20 Dec 1963
		Disestablished	31 Mar 1995
CVW-16		CVG-16 Established	1 Sep 1960
		Became CVW-16	20 Dec 1963
		Disestablished	30 Jun 1971
CVW-17		Established	1 Nov 1966
CVW-19		CVG-19 Established	15 Aug 1943
		Became CVAG-19	15 Nov 1946
		Became CVG-19	1 Sep 1948
		Became CVW-19	20 Dec 1963
		Disestablished	30 Jun 1977
CVW-21		CVG-21 Established	1 Jul 1955
		Became CVW-21	20 Dec 1963
		Disestablished	12 Dec 1975
<b>Reserve Carrier Air Wings—CVWR</b>			
CVWR-20		Established	1 Apr 1970
		Became Tactical Support Wing (TSW)	1 Apr 2007
CVWR-30		Established	1 Apr 1970
		Disestablished	31 Dec 1994
<b>Carrier Air Groups—CVG</b>			
CVG-1	A	Established	1 May 1943
		Disestablished	25 Oct 1945
	B	See CVW-1	
CVG-2	A	Established	1 Jun 1943
		Disestablished	9 Nov 1945
	B	See CVW-2	
CVG-3		See CVW-3	
CVG-4	A	CVBG-75	1 Jun 1945
		Became CVBG-3	15 Nov 1946
		Became CVG-4	1 Sep 1948
		Disestablished	8 Jun 1950
	B	See CVW-1	
	C	See CVW-4	
CVG-5		See CVW-5	
CVG-6	A	Established	15 Mar 1943
		Disestablished	29 Oct 1945
	B	See CVW-6	
CVG-7	A	Established	3 Jan 1944
		Disestablished	8 Jul 1946
	B	See CVW-7	
CVG-8	A	Established	1 Jun 1943
		Disestablished	23 Nov 1945
	B	Established	15 Sep 1948
		Disestablished	29 Nov 1949
	C	See CVW-8	

CVG-9	A	Established	1 Mar 1942
		Disestablished	15 Oct 1945
	B	CVG-20	15 Oct 1943
		Became CVAG-9	15 Nov 1946
		Became CVG-9	1 Sep 1948
		Disestablished	1 Dec 1949
	C	See CVW-9	
CVG-10	A	Established	16 Apr 1942
		Disestablished	16 Nov 1945
	B	See CVW-10	
CVG-11		See CVW-11	
CVG-12	A	Established	9 Jan 1943
		Disestablished	17 Sep 1945
	B	See CVW-12	
CVG-13	A	Established	2 Nov 1942
		Disestablished	20 Oct 1945
	B	CVG-81 Established	1 Mar 1944
		Became CVAG-13	15 Nov 1946
		Became CVG-13	1 Sep 1948
		Disestablished	30 Nov 1949
	C	Established	21 Aug 1961
		Disestablished	1 Oct 1962
CVG-14	A	Established	1 Sep 1943
		Disestablished	14 Jun 1946
	B	See CVW-14	
CVG-15	A	Established	1 Sep 1943
		Disestablished	30 Oct 1945
	B	CVG-153 Established	26 Mar 1945
		Became CVAG-15	15 Nov 1946
		Became CVG-15	1 Sep 1948
		Disestablished	1 Dec 1949
	C	See CVW-15	
CVG-16	A	Established	16 Nov 1943
		Disestablished	6 Nov 1945
	B	See CVW-16	
CVG-17	A	CVG-82 Established	1 Apr 1944
		Became CVAG-17	15 Nov 1946
		Became CVG-17	1 Sep 1948
		Disestablished	15 Sep 1958
	B	See CVW-6	
CVG-18		See CVW-7	
CVG-19		See CVW-19	
CVG-20		See CVG-9	
CVG-21	A	Established	15 Sep 1948
		Disestablished	15 Mar 1949
	B	CVG-98 Established	28 Aug 1944
		Became CVAG-21	15 Nov 1946
		Disestablished	5 Aug 1947
	C	See CVW-21	

CVG-74	See CVW-2	
CVG-75	See CVG-4	
CVG-80	Established	1 Feb 1944
	Disestablished	16 Sep 1946
CVG-81	See CVG-13	
CVG-82	See CVG-17	
CVG-83	Established	1 May 1944
	Disestablished	24 Sep 1945
CVG-84	Established	1 May 1944
	Disestablished	8 Oct 1945
CVG-85	Established	15 May 1944
	Disestablished	27 Sep 1945
CVG-86	Established	15 Jun 1944
	Disestablished	21 Nov 1945
CVG-87	Established	1 Jul 1944
	Disestablished	2 Nov 1945
CVG-88	Established	18 Aug 1944
	Disestablished	29 Oct 1945
CVG-89	Established	2 Oct 1944
	Disestablished	27 Apr 1946
CVG-92	Established	2 Dec 1944
	Disestablished	18 Dec 1945
CVG-93	Established	21 Dec 1944
	Disestablished	30 Apr 1946
CVG-94	Established	15 Nov 1944
	Disestablished	7 Nov 1945
CVG-95	Established	2 Jan 1945
	Disestablished	31 Oct 1945
CVG-97	Established	1 Nov 1944
	Disestablished	31 Mar 1946
CVG-98	See CVG-21	
CVG-99	Established	15 Jul 1944
	Disestablished	6 Sep 1945
CVG-100	Established	1 Apr 1944
	Disestablished	20 Feb 1946
CVG-101	See CVW-14	
CVG-102	See CVW-12	
CVG-150	Established	22 Jan 1945
	Disestablished	2 Nov 1945
CVG-151	Established	12 Feb 1945
	Disestablished	6 Oct 1945
CVG-152	Established	5 Mar 1945
	Disestablished	21 Sep 1945
CVG-153	See CVG-15	
<b>Attack Carrier Air Groups—CVAG</b>		
CVAG 1	See CVW-1	
CVAG 3	See CVW-3	
CVAG 5	See CVW-5	
CVAG 7	See CVW-7	
CVAG 9	See CVG-9	

CVAG 11		See CVW-11
CVAG 13		See CVW-13
CVAG 15		See CVG-15
CVAG 17		See CVG-17
CVAG 19		See CVW-19
CVAG 21		See CVG-21
<b>Battle Carrier Air Groups—CVBG</b>		
CVBG 1		See CVW-2
CVBG 3		See CVG-4
CVBG 5		See CVW-6
CVBG 17		See CVW-6
CVBG 74		See CVW-2
CVBG 75		See CVG-4
<b>Light Carrier Air Groups—CVLG</b>		
CVLG-1	CVLG-58 Established	15 Mar 1946
	Redesignated CVLG-1	14 Nov 1946
	Disestablished	20 Nov 1948
CVLG-21	Established	16 May 1943
	Disestablished	5 Nov 1945
CVLG-22	Established	30 Sep 1942
	Disestablished	19 Sep 1945
CVLG-23	Established	16 Nov 1942
	Disestablished	19 Sep 1945
CVLG-24	See CVEG-24	
CVLG-25	See CVEG-25	
CVLG-27	Established	1 Mar 1943
	Disestablished	26 Oct 1945
CVLG-28	CVEG-28 Established	6 May 1942
	Became CVLG-28	20 Jan 1944
	Disestablished	6 Nov 1945
CVLG-29	CVEG-29 Established	18 Jul 1942
	Became CVLG-29	1 Mar 1944
	Disestablished	10 Sep 1945
CVLG-30	Established	1 Apr 1943
	Disestablished	12 Sep 1945
CVLG-31	Established	1 May 1943
	Disestablished	28 Oct 1945
CVLG-32	Established	1 Jun 1943
	Disestablished	13 Nov 1945
CVLG-34	Established	1 Apr 1945
	Disestablished	5 Dec 1945
CVLG-38	See CVEG-38	
CVLG-39	CVEG-39 Established	15 Mar 1945
	Became CVLG-39	27 Jul 1945
	Disestablished	10 Sep 1945
CVLG-40	See CVEG-40	
CVLG-43	Established	1 Aug 1943
	Disestablished	8 Nov 1943

CVLG-44	Established	1 Feb 1944
	Disestablished	18 Sep 1945
CVLG-45	Established	1 Apr 1944
	Disestablished	10 Sep 1945
CVLG-46	Established	15 Apr 1944
	Disestablished	14 Sep 1945
CVLG-47	Established	15 May 1944
	Disestablished	21 Sep 1945
CVLG-48	Established	15 Jun 1944
	Disestablished	2 Jan 1945
CVLG-49	CVEG-49 Established	10 Aug 1944
	Became CVLG-49	2 Jan 1945
	Disestablished	27 Nov 1945
CVLG-50	See CVEG-50	
CVLG-51	Established	22 Sep 1943
	Disestablished	13 Nov 1945
CVLG-52	Established	1 Sep 1943
	Disestablished	8 Nov 1943
CVLG-58	See CVLG-1	
<b>Escort Carrier Air Groups—CVEG</b>		
CVEG-1	CVEG-41 Established	26 Mar 1945
	Became CVEG-1	15 Nov 1946
	Became VC-21	1 Sep 1948
	Became VS-21	23 Apr 1950
CVEG-2	CVEG-42 Established	19 Jul 1945
	Became CVEG-2	15 Nov 1946
	Disestablished	1 Sep 1948
CVEG-3	Established	21 Apr 1947
	Disestablished	1 Sep 1948
CVEG-24	CVLG-24 Established	31 Dec 1942
	Became CVEG-24	15 Aug 1944
	Disestablished	25 Sep 1945
CVEG-25	CVLG-25 Established	15 Feb 1943
	Became CVEG-25	28 Aug 1944
	Disestablished	20 Sep 1945
CVEG-26	Established	4 May 1942
	Disestablished	13 Nov 1945
CVEG-28	See CVLG-28	
CVEG-29	See CVLG-29	
CVEG-33	Established	15 May 1944
	Disestablished	19 Nov 1945
CVEG-35	Established	15 Jul 1943
	Disestablished	19 Nov 1945
CVEG-36	Established	15 May 1944
	Disestablished	28 Jan 1946
CVEG-37	Established	15 Jul 1943
	Disestablished	20 Dec 1945

CVEG-38	CVLG-38 Established	16 Jun 1943
	Became CVEG-38	15 Aug 1944
	Disestablished	31 Jan 1946
CVEG-39	See CVLG-39	
CVEG-40	CVLG-40 Established	15 Jun 1943
	Became CVEG-40	15 Aug 1944
	Disestablished	19 Nov 1945
CVEG-41	See CVEG-1	
CVEG-42	See CVEG-2	
CVEG-43	Established	9 Aug 1945
	Disestablished	17 Jun 1946
CVEG-49	See CVLG-49	
CVEG-50	CVLG-50 Established	10 Aug 1943
	Became CVEG-50	1 Oct 1944
	Disestablished	29 Oct 1945
CVEG-60	Established	15 Jul 1943
	Disestablished	19 Nov 1945
CVEG-66	Established	1 Jan 1945
	Disestablished	6 Jun 1945
<b>Night Carrier Air Groups—CVG(N)</b>		
CVG(N)-52	CVLG(N)-52 Established	20 Oct 1944
	Became CVG(N)-52	6 Jan 1945
	Disestablished	15 Dec 1945
CVG(N)-53	Established	2 Jan 1945
	Disestablished	11 Jun 1946
CVG(N)-55	Established	1 Mar 1945
	Disestablished	11 Dec 1945
CVG(N)-90	Established	25 Aug 1944
	Disestablished	21 Jun 1946
CVG(N)-91	Established	5 Oct 1944
	Disestablished	21 Jun 1946
<b>CVLG(N)</b>		
CVLG(N)-41	Established	28 Aug 1944
	Disestablished	25 Feb 1945
CVLG(N)-42	Established	25 Aug 1944
	Disestablished	2 Jan 1945
CVLG(N)-43	Established	24 Aug 1944
	Disestablished	2 Jan 1945
CVLG(N)-52	See CVG(N)-52	
<b>CVEG(N)</b>		
CVEG(N)-63	Established	20 Jun 1945
	Disestablished	11 Dec 1945
<b>Ship-Named Air Groups</b>		
Langley Air Group	Ship commissioned	20 Mar 1922
	Squadrons first assigned	1925
	Air group had not formally organized when ship was reclassified AV	15 Sep 1936

<i>Lexington</i> Air Group	Ship commissioned	14 Dec 1927
	Ships squadrons established individually. Air group organized	1 Jul 1938
	Disbanded after ship was sunk	8 May 1942
<i>Saratoga</i> Air Group	Ship commissioned	16 Nov 1927
	Ship squadrons established individually. Air group organized	1 Jul 1938
	Reformed as CVG-3	25 Sep 1943
	See CVW-3	
<i>Ranger</i> Air Group	Ship commissioned	4 Jun 1934
	Ship squadrons established individually. Air group organized	1 Jul 1938
	Reformed as CVG-4	3 Aug 1943
	See CVW-1	
<i>Yorktown</i> Air Group	Ship commissioned	30 Sep 1937
	Ship squadrons established	1 Apr 1937
	Air group organized	1 Jul 1938
	Disbanded after ship was sunk	7 Jun 1942
<i>Enterprise</i> Air Group	Ship commissioned	12 May 1938
	Ship squadrons established	1 Jun 1937
	Air group organized	1 Jul 1938
	Disbanded	Sep 1942
<i>Wasp</i> Air Group	Ship commissioned	25 Apr 1940
	Air group established	1 Jul 1939
	Disbanded after ship was sunk	15 Sep 1942
<i>Hornet</i> Air Group	Ship commissioned	20 Oct 1941
	Air group established	6 Oct 1941
	Disbanded after ship was sunk	26 Oct 1942
<b>Antisubmarine Carrier Air Groups—CVSG</b>		
CVSG-50	Established as RCVSG	30 Jun 1960
	Disestablished	17 Feb 1971
CVSG-51	Established as RCVSG	30 Jun 1960
	Disestablished	30 Jun 1970
CVSG-52	Established	1 Jun 1960
	Disestablished	15 Dec 1969
CVSG-53	Established	1 Apr 1960
	Disestablished	1 Jun 1973
CVSG-54	Established	18 May 1960
	Disestablished	1 Jul 1972
CVSG-55	Established	1 Sep 1960
	Disestablished	27 Sep 1968
CVSG-56	Established	25 May 1960
	Disestablished	30 Jun 1973
CVSG-57	Established	3 Jan 1961
	Disestablished	30 Sep 1969
CVSG-58	Established	6 Jun 1960
	Disestablished	31 May 1966
CVSG-59	Established	1 Apr 1960
	Disestablished	30 Jun 1973
CVSG-60	Established	2 May 1960
	Disestablished	1 Oct 1968

CVSG-62		Established	25 Sep 1961
		Disestablished	1 Oct 1962
<b>Reserve Antisubmarine Carrier Air Groups—CVSGR</b>			
CVSGR-70		Established	1 Apr 1970
		Disestablished	30 Jun 1976
CVSGR-80		Established	1 Apr 1970
		Redesignated COMHELWINGRES	1 Jan 1976
<b>Composite Squadrons—VC (World War II)</b>			
VC-1	A	VS-201 Established	5 Apr 1941
		Became VGS-1	1 Apr 1942
		Became VC-1	1 Mar 1943
		Disestablished	1 Apr 1944
	B	VOF-1 Established	15 Dec 1943
		Became VOC-1	18 Dec 1944
		Became VC-1	1 Aug 1945
		Disestablished	17 Sep 1945
VC-2	A	See VC-25	
	B	VOF-2 Established	1 Mar 1944
		Became VOC-2	13 Dec 1944
		Became VC-2	20 Aug 1945
	Disestablished	13 Sep 1945	
VC-3		Established	26 Aug 1943
		Disestablished	28 Oct 1945
VC-4		Established	2 Sep 1943
		Disestablished	16 Oct 1945
VC-5		Established	16 Sep 1943
		Disestablished	1 Oct 1945
VC-6		VGS-25 Established	1 Jan 1943
		Became VC-25	1 Mar 1943
		Became VC-6	1 Sep 1943
		Disestablished	5 Oct 1945
VC-7		VGS-31 Established	24 Feb 1943
		Became VC-31	1 Mar 1943
		Became VC-7	1 Sep 1943
		Disestablished	1 Oct 1945
VC-8		Established	9 Sep 1943
		Disestablished	9 Oct 1945
VC-9		VGS-9 Established	6 Aug 1942
		Became VC-9	1 Mar 1943
		Disestablished	19 Sep 1945
VC-10		Established	23 Sep 1943
		Disestablished	25 Oct 1945

VC-11	A	VGS-11 Established	5 Aug 1942
		Became VC-11	1 Mar 1943
		Became VF-21	16 May 1943
		Disestablished	5 Nov 1945
	B	Established	30 Sep 1943
	Disestablished	10 Oct 1945	
VC-12	A	VGS-12 Established	28 May 1942
		Became VC-12	1 Mar 1943
		Became VT-21	16 May 1943
		Disestablished	7 Aug 1945
	B	Established	6 Oct 1943
	Disestablished	7 Jun 1945	
VC-13		VGS-13 Established	5 Aug 1942
		Became VC-13	1 Mar 1943
		Disestablished	24 Sep 1945
VC-14		Established	12 Oct 1943
		Disestablished	1 Oct 1945
VC-15		Established	18 Oct 1943
		Disestablished	14 Jun 1945
VC-16		VGS-16 Established	8 Aug 1942
		Became VC-16	1 Mar 1943
		Became VF-33	15 Nov 1945
		Disestablished	19 Nov 1945
VC-17		See VC-31	
VC-18		VGS-18 Established	15 Oct 1942
		Became VC-18	1 Mar 1943
		Became VF-36	15 Aug 1943
		Became VF-18	5 Mar 1944
		Became VF-7A	15 Nov 1946
		Became VF-71	28 Jul 1948
		Disestablished	31 Mar 1959
VC-19		VGS-23 Established	1 Jan 1943
		Became VC-19	1 Mar 1943
		Disestablished	14 Jun 1945
VC-20	A	VGS-20 Established	6 Aug 1942
		Became VC-20	1 Mar 1943
		Disestablished	15 Jun 1943
	B	Established	24 Oct 1943
		Disestablished	1 Oct 1945
VC-21	A	VGS-21 Established	15 Oct 1942
		Became VC-21	1 Mar 1943
		Disestablished	16 Jun 1943
	B	Established	30 Oct 1943
		Disestablished	15 Sep 1945

VC-22		VS-22 Established	16 Nov 1942
		Became VC-22	1 Mar 1943
		Became VT-22	15 Dec 1943
		Disestablished	22 Aug 1945
VC-23		VS-23 Established	16 Nov 1942
		Became VC-23	1 Mar 1943
		Became VT-23	15 Nov 1943
		Disestablished	19 Sep 1945
VC-24		VS-24 Established	31 Dec 1942
		Became VC-24	1 Mar 1943
		Became VB-98	15 Dec 1943
		Disestablished	25 Jun 1944
VC-25	A	VS-25 Established	15 Feb 1943
		Became VC-2	1 Mar 1943
		Became VC-25	15 Sep 1943
		Became VT-25	15 Dec 1943
		Disestablished	20 Sep 1945
	B	See VC-6	
VC-26		VGS-26 Established	5 May 1942
		Became VC-26	1 Mar 1943
		Became VT-26	15 Nov 1943
		Disestablished	13 Nov 1945
VC-27		Established	5 Nov 1943
		Disestablished	11 Sep 1945
VC-28		VGS-28 Established	4 May 1942
		Became VC-28	1 Mar 1943
		Became VT-28	20 Jan 1944
		Disestablished	8 Aug 1945
VC-29		VGS-29 Established	20 Jul 1942
		Became VC-29	1 Mar 1943
		Became VT-29	15 Dec 1943
		Disestablished	1 Aug 1945
VC-30		Established	1 Apr 1943
		Became VT-30	15 Dec 1943
		Disestablished	18 Aug 1945
VC-31	A	See VC-7	
	B	VC-17 Established	1 May 1943
		Became VC-31	15 Sep 1943
		Became VT-31	1 Nov 1943
	Disestablished	20 Oct 1945	
VC-32		Established	1 Jun 1943
		Became VT-32	1 Nov 1943
		Disestablished	20 Aug 1945
VC-33		VGS-33 Established	22 Jan 1943
		Became VC-33	1 Mar 1943
		Disestablished	16 Nov 1945

VC-34	VGS-34 Established	24 Feb 1943
	Became VC-34	1 Mar 1943
	Became VF-34	15 Aug 1943
	Disestablished	8 Jul 1944
VC-35	VGS-35 Established	28 Jan 1943
	Became VC-35	1 Mar 1943
	Became VT-35	10 Mar 1944
	Disestablished	19 Nov 1945
VC-36	VGS-36 Established	21 Feb 1943
	Became VC-36	1 Mar 1943
	Disestablished	30 Jul 1945
VC-37	VGS-37 Established	22 Jan 1943
	Became VC-37	1 Mar 1943
	Became VT-37	10 Mar 1944
	Disestablished	20 Dec 1945
VC-38	Established	16 Jun 1943
	Became VT-38	11 May 1944
	Disestablished	31 Jan 1946
VC-39	Established	1 Apr 1943
	Disestablished	15 Dec 1943
VC-40	Established	15 Jun 1943
	Became VT-40	1 Jun 1944
	Disestablished	19 Nov 1945
VC-41	Established	5 May 1943
	Disestablished	16 Nov 1945
VC-42	Established	15 Apr 1943
	Disestablished	5 Jul 1945
VC-43	Established	1 Aug 1943
	Disestablished	8 Nov 1943
VC-50	Established	10 Aug 1943
	Became VT-50	8 Nov 1943
	Disestablished	29 Oct 1945
VC-51	Established	22 Sep 1943
	Became VT-51	8 Nov 1943
	Disestablished	7 Aug 1945
VC-52	Established	1 Sep 1943
	Disestablished	8 Nov 1943
VC-55	VGS-55 Established	16 Jan 1943
	Became VC-55	1 Mar 1943
	Disestablished	21 Jun 1945
VC-58	VGS-58 Established	24 Feb 1943
	Became VC-58	1 Mar 1943
	Disestablished	8 Jun 1945
VC-60	VGS-60 Established	24 Feb 1943
	Became VC-60	1 Mar 1943
	Became VT-60	10 Mar 1944
	Disestablished	19 Nov 1945
VC-63	Established	20 May 1943
	Disestablished	23 Oct 1945

VC-64	Established	1 Jun 1943
	Became VF-39	15 Aug 1943
	Disestablished	15 Mar 1944
VC-65	Established	10 Jun 1943
	Disestablished	8 Oct 1945
VC-66	Established	21 Jun 1943
	Disestablished	12 Oct 1945
VC-68	Established	1 Jul 1943
	Disestablished	1 Oct 1945
VC-69	Established	1 Jul 1943
	Disestablished	22 Jun 1945
VC-70	Established	5 Aug 1944
	Disestablished	6 Oct 1945
VC-71	Established	20 Aug 1944
	Disestablished	6 Oct 1945
VC-72	Established	1 Sep 1944
	Disestablished	1 Oct 1945
VC-75	Established	11 Nov 1943
	Disestablished	21 Sep 1945
VC-76	Established	17 Nov 1943
	Disestablished	11 Sep 1945
VC-77	Established	23 Nov 1943
	Disestablished	17 Sep 1945
VC-78	Established	29 Nov 1943
	Disestablished	21 Sep 1945
VC-79	Established	6 Dec 1943
	Disestablished	11 Sep 1945
VC-80	Established	16 Dec 1943
	Disestablished	11 Sep 1945
VC-81	Established	22 Dec 1943
	Disestablished	20 Sep 1945
VC-82	Established	28 Dec 1943
	Disestablished	18 Sep 1945
VC-83	Established	3 Jan 1944
	Disestablished	17 Sep 1945
VC-84	Established	6 Jan 1944
	Disestablished	17 Sep 1945
VC-85	Established	12 Jan 1944
	Disestablished	15 Sep 1945
VC-86	Established	18 Jan 1944
	Disestablished	7 Jun 1945
VC-87	Established	24 Jan 1944
	Disestablished	12 Jun 1945
VC-88	Established	29 Jan 1944
	Disestablished	3 Jul 1945
VC-89	Established	Jan 1944
	Disestablished	Apr 1944
VC-90	Established	3 Feb 1944
	Disestablished	19 Sep 1945

VC-91	Established	11 Feb 1944
	Disestablished	22 Sep 1945
VC-92	Established	17 Feb 1944
	Disestablished	18 Sep 1945
VC-93	Established	23 Feb 1944
	Disestablished	11 Aug 1945
VC-94	Established	29 Feb 1944
	Disestablished	27 Jul 1945
VC-95	Established	1 Feb 1944
	Disestablished	28 Jun 1945
VC-96	Established	1 Mar 1944
	Disestablished	28 Jul 1945
VC-97	Established	8 Mar 1944
	Disestablished	24 Jul 1945
VC-98	Established	15 Mar 1944
	Disestablished	11 Oct 1945
VC-99	Established	22 Mar 1944
	Disestablished	30 Oct 1945

# Squadron Designations and Abbreviations

The system of squadron designations was established to help define part of naval aviation's organizational structure and help identify the operational and administrative functions of aviation within the fleet. Just as the designations for ships, such as DD, CA, BB, etc., were used to define the duties of the specific units and their alignment within the fleet organization, so also were the squadron designations established to formulate the responsibilities and alignment within naval aviation and the fleet structure.

During naval aviation's early years, due to the limited capabilities of the aircraft, there were big question marks concerning its ability to succeed as a functional component of the fleet and whether it even would survive. In official publications and references, such as the *Daily Aviation News Bulletin* of 1 October 1919, casual terms were used to describe or identify various aircraft squadrons and units. The casual terms were used because no specific fleet aviation organizational structure for squadrons had been officially established. Prior to 1919, naval aircraft, excluding Marine Corps planes, were assigned primarily to shore stations. Therefore, in order to integrate aviation into the fleet, it was necessary to develop a fleet organization that included aviation units.

On 17 July 1920, the Secretary of the Navy prescribed a standard nomenclature for types and classes of naval vessels, including aircraft, in which lighter-than-air craft were identified by the type "Z" and heavier-than-air craft by the letter "V". Class letters assigned within the Z type were R, N, and K for rigid dirigibles, non-rigid dirigibles, and kite balloons respectively, while F, O, S, P, T, and G were established for fighter, observation, scouting, patrol, torpedo and bombing, and fleet planes as classes within the V type.

The use of the "V" designation with fixed-wing heavier-than-air squadron designations has been a question of debate since the 1920s. However, no conclusive evidence has been found to identify why the letter "V" was chosen. It is generally believed it was in reference to the French word *volplane*. As a verb, the word means to glide or soar. As a noun, it described an aeronautical device sustained in the air by lifting surfaces (wings), as opposed to the bag of gas that the airships (denoted by "Z") used. The same case may be made regarding the use of "Z". It is generally believed it was used in deference to Count Ferdinand von Zeppelin, the German general and developer of the airship in 1900. However, documentation has not been located to verify this assumption.

In general terms, the Navy's system for designating naval aircraft squadrons has usually conformed to the following loose classification structure:

1. Squadron designations were based on specific letters used for indicating the missions for each particular type of squadron and its assigned aircraft. As an example, a WWII squadron operating the F4U Corsair aircraft would have been designated a fighting squadron (VF). The letter F, for fighting or fighter, was the key in identifying the type of squadron and was also used in the aircraft's designation.
2. Identification numbers were assigned to each squadron, such as VF-1. The number 1 separates Fighter Squadron 1 (VF-1) from Fighter Squadron 10 (VF-10).

There have been many variations to this basic system throughout naval aviation's history. Changes were also made to the designation system when new plane types were developed and new squadrons were formed to carry out new missions. There is no logical sequence for the numerical designation assigned the various squadrons throughout most of naval aviation's history. The Marine Corps did establish a logical sequence for their squadron designations, however, there are variations to this system, as well.

As Navy squadrons were established, disestablished, or redesignated, many of the same letters and numbers were reused and assigned at a later date for newly established or redesignated units, hence, the lineage of a squadron cannot always be traced or linked by using the same designation. As an example, VF-1 from WWII has no direct relationship to VF-1 established in the 1970s. The rich tradition and heritage of the various squadrons in the Navy has not always been carried over because of the break in continuity between units. Once a squadron is disestablished, that ends its history. If a new squadron is established using the same designation of a previous squadron, it does not have any direct relationship with that unit. The reuse of many of the same letters and numerical designations adds considerable confusion to the squadron designation system. A new squadron may carry on the traditions of a previous squadron, just as a ship that has been assigned the name used by a previous ship, carries on the traditions of

the past ships with the same name. However, a squadron, just like a ship, cannot claim a heritage or historical link to the old unit with the same designation.

Consistency has been the major ingredient lacking in the Navy's squadron designation system. As an example, the use of "Plane" in squadron designations was not consistent during the 1920s. Sometimes the full designation would be written differently, depending on the squadron's assignment to the Battle Fleet, Scouting Fleet, or Asiatic Fleet. A designation such as Scouting Squadron and Scouting Plane Squadron, which used the same abbreviation, VS, was listed in the *Navy Directory* as Scouting Squadron under the Battle Fleet and Scouting Plane Squadron under the Scouting Fleet. The use of "Plane" in squadron designations was most likely designed to identify the squadron as an aviation unit, vice a destroyer squadron. This seems to be especially true during the 1920s when aviation was first being integrated into the fleet organization and operations. The *Navy Directory*; *Monthly Report, Status of Naval Aircraft*; and the *Bureau of Aeronautics Weekly Newsletter* all list squadron designations using "Plane." The Chief of Naval Operations' "Naval Aeronautical Organization," published for each fiscal year, lists the squadron designations without using "Plane" in the designation. It is obvious there is no difference between the squadrons with or without the use of "Plane" in the squadron designation. The acronym remained the same, with or without the use of "Plane" in the full squadron designation. In the 1930s the squadron designations listed in all four sources identified above usually refer to the squadron using its abbreviated designation, such as VF Squadron 1 (VF-1) instead of Fighting Plane Squadron 1. In the 1940s, the use of "Plane" in the full squadron designation is dropped.

In the late 1940s and early 1950s the VC squadron designation was used to identify a group of squadrons with several different missions but all assigned the VC designation. Missions for specific Composite Squadrons (VC) included all-weather night, attack, and defense; air early warning; antisubmarine warfare; and photographic. The only identifying factor to separate the different types of Composite Squadrons was the numerical designation. In the late 1940s, the single-digit numbers were for the Composite Night or Attack and Defense units, those numbers in the teens were for Composite Air Warning squadrons, numbers in the 20s and 30s were for Composite Anti-Submarine units, and the numbers in the 60s were for Composite Photographic squadrons.

Besides the composite squadrons (VC), several patrol squadrons (VP) had specific mission requirements that were different from their normal patrol and reconnaissance duties. However, these squadrons still maintained the normal VP designation. In the late 1940s there were two VP squadrons with a primary photographic mission and one with an air early warning mission. VP-61 and VP-62 were the photographic squadrons and VP-51 was the air early warning squadron.

The special VC and VP designated units were on the cutting edge of technology, which eventually led to the development of specialized squadron designations in the 1950s and 1960s. Squadrons such as VAW (Carrier Airborne Early Warning), VAQ (Tactical Electronic Warfare), and VQ (Electronic Countermeasures or Air Reconnaissance) were the result of technical developments in the late 1940s and early 1950s.

The use of an abbreviated squadron designation with different missions occurred in the early 1950s when the VJ designation was used for both photographic squadrons and weather squadrons. VJ-1 and -2 were designated Weather Squadrons or Weather Reconnaissance Squadrons. VJ-61 and -62 were designated Photographic Squadrons. The missions were totally different for these two types of squadrons but they used a common abbreviated squadron designation.

There are four factors that play a role in developing or changing squadron designations. They have been around since the introduction of aviation in the Navy and will continue to be the primary factors affecting squadron designations. The factors are:

1. the duties or mission of a squadron
2. technical advances in aircraft or equipment
3. changes in tactics or development of new tactics
4. changes in naval aviation or fleet organization

The following is a list of various squadron designations used by the Navy since the early 1920s. The list is in alphabetical order rather than in the chronological order of squadron development. The general time frame for when the designation was in use is listed with most of the squadron designations. Further elaboration on the assignment of squadrons to other organizations and their designations such as: a battle group, carrier air wing, cruiser group, fleet air force, scouting fleet, Asiatic Fleet, naval district, reserves, etc., has not been included in this list to prevent it from becoming too confusing or extensive. The only exception to this is for the reserves. Reserve squadron designations, beginning in 1970, are included in this list. In 1970 the naval air reserve was reorganized and the squadron structure

and arrangement was aligned to mirror the squadron designation system in existence for active fleet units.

U.S. Navy Squadron Designations and Abbreviations		
Acronym	Full Squadron Designation	Time Frame in Use
BLIMPHEDRON	LTA Headquarters Squadron	1943–1946
BLIMPRON	LTA Squadron	1942–1961
BLPHEDRON	Blimp Headquarters Squadron	1943–1946
BLPRON	Blimp Squadron	1942–1961
FASRON	Fleet Aircraft Service Squadron	1946–1960
HAL or HA(L)	Helicopter Attack Squadron Light	1967–1972 1976–1988
HC	Helicopter Combat Support Squadron	1965–2007
HCS	Helicopter Combat Support Special Squadron	1988–2006
HCT	Helicopter Combat Support Training Squadron	1974–1977
HM	Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron	1971–present
HS	Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron [Note: All HS squadrons slowly undergoing redesignation to HSC; HS designation will eventually be eliminated.]	1951–present
HSC	Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron	2005–present
HSL	Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron (Light) [Note: All HSL squadrons slowly undergoing redesignation to HSM; HSL designation will eventually be eliminated.]	1972–present
HSM	Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron	2005–present
HT	Helicopter Training Squadron	1960–present
HTU	Helicopter Training Unit	1950–1957
HU	Helicopter Utility Squadron	1948–1965
HX	Rotary Wing Air Test and Evaluation Squadron	2002–present
RVAH	Reconnaissance Attack Squadron	1964–1979
RVAW	Carrier Airborne Early Warning Training Squadron	1967–1983
STAGRON	Special Air Task Force Squadron (VK)	1943–1944
TACRON	Tactical Squadron or Tactical Air Control Squadron or Tactical Control Squadron [Note: The designation VTC is used by the SNDL office but is not a correct designation.]	1946–present
VA	Attack Squadron	1946–1994
VA(AW)	All-Weather Attack Squadron	1956–1959
VAH or VA(H)	Heavy Attack Squadron	1955–1971
VA(HM)	Attack Mining Squadron	1956–1959
VAK	Tactical Aerial Refueling Squadron	1979–1989
VAL or VA(L)	Light Attack Squadron	1969–1972
VAP or VA(P)	Heavy Photographic Reconnaissance Squadron or Photographic Reconnaissance Squadron (Heavy) or Heavy Photographic Squadron	1956–1971
VAQ	Carrier Tactical Electronics Warfare Squadron or Tactical Electronics Warfare Squadron	1968–1998
VAQ	Electronic Attack Squadron	1998–present
VAW	Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron	1948 1956–present
VAW	Carrier Tactical Electronics Warfare Squadron	1968
VB	Bombing Squadron or Light Bombing Plane Squadron	1928–1946
VBF	Bombing Fighting Squadron	1945–1946
VC	Composite Squadron	1943–1945 1948–1956
VC	Fleet Composite Squadron	1965–2008
VCN	Night Composite Squadron	1946–1948
VCP	Photographic Composite Squadron	1959–1961
VCS	Cruiser Scouting Squadron	1937–1945
VD	Photographic Squadron	1943–1946

U.S. Navy Squadron Designations and Abbreviations		
Acronym	Full Squadron Designation	Time Frame in Use
VE	Evacuation Squadron	1944–1945
VF	Combat Squadron	1922
VF	Fighting Plane Squadron or Fighting Squadron	1922–1948
VF	Fighter Squadron	1948–2006
VFA	Fighter Attack Squadron	1980–1983
VFA	Strike Fighter Squadron	1983–present
VF(AW)	All-Weather Fighter Squadron or Fighter (All-Weather) Squadron	1956–1963
VFC	Fighter Squadron Composite	1988–present
VFN or VF(N)	Night Fighting Squadron	1944–1946
VFP or VF(P)	Light Photographic Reconnaissance Squadron or Photographic Reconnaissance Squadron or Photographic Reconnaissance Squadron (Light) or Light Photographic Squadron	1956–1987
VGF	Escort-Fighter Squadron	1942–1943
VGS	Escort-Scouting Squadron	1942–1943
VH	Rescue Squadron	1944–1946
VJ	Utility Squadron or General Utility Squadron	1925–1946
VJ	Weather Squadron or Weather Reconnaissance Squadron	1952–1953
VJ	Photographic Squadron	1952–1956
VK	Special Air Task Force Squadron (STAGRON)	1943–1944
VN	Training Squadron	1927–1947
VO	Spotting Squadron	1922
VO	Observation Plane Squadron or Observation Squadron	1923–1945 1947–1949 1967–1968
VOC	Composite Spotting Squadron	1944–1945
VOF	Observation Fighter Squadron	1942–1945
VOS	Air Spotting Squadron or Observation Spotter Squadron	1944
VP	Seaplane Patrol Squadron	1922
VP	Patrol Squadron	1924–1944 1946 1948–present
VP-AM	Amphibian Patrol Squadron	1946–1948
VPB	Patrol Bombing Squadron	1944–1946
VP-HL	Heavy Patrol Squadron (landplane)	1946–1948
VP-HS	Heavy Seaplane Patrol Squadron	1946–1948
VPM	Meteorological Squadron	1946–1947
VP-ML	Medium Patrol Squadron (landplane)	1946–1948
VP-MS	Medium Patrol Squadron (seaplane)	1946–1948
VPP or VP(P)	Photographic Squadron or Patrol Squadron (photographic)	1946–1948
VPU	Patrol Squadron Special Unit	1982–1998
VPU	Special Projects Patrol Squadron	1998–present
VPW	Weather Reconnaissance Squadron	1945–1948
VPW	Air Early Warning Squadron	1948
VQ	Electronic Countermeasures Squadron	1955–1960
VQ	Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron	1961–present
VR	Transport Squadron or Air Transport Squadron or Fleet Logistic Air Squadron	1942–1958
VR	Fleet Tactical Support Squadron	1958–1976
VR	Fleet Logistics Support Squadron	1976–present
VRC or VR(C)	Fleet Tactical Support Squadron	1960–1976
VRC	Fleet Logistics Support Squadron	1976–present

U.S. Navy Squadron Designations and Abbreviations		
Acronym	Full Squadron Designation	Time Frame in Use
VRE	Air Transport Evacuation Squadron	1945
VRF	Transport Ferry and Service Squadron	1943–1946
VRF	Air Ferry Transport Squadron or Air Ferry Squadron	1943–1948
VRF or VR(F)	Aircraft Ferry Squadron	1957–1986
VRJ	Utility Transport Squadron	1945–1946
VRS	Air Ferry Service Squadron or Ferry Command Service Squadron	1943–1946
VRU	Transport Utility Squadron	1946–1948
VS	Scouting Plane Squadron or Scouting Squadron	1922–1946
VS	Antisubmarine Squadron or Air Antisubmarine Squadron or Carrier Air Antisubmarine Squadron	1950–1993
VS	Sea Control Squadron	1993–2009
VSF	Antisubmarine Fighter Squadron	1965–1973
VT	Torpedo & Bombing Plane Squadron or Torpedo & Bombing Squadron	1922–1930
VT	Torpedo Plane Squadron	1921
VT	Torpedo Squadron	1930–1946
VT	Training Squadron	1960–present
VTN	Night Torpedo Squadron	1944–1946
VU	Utility Squadron	1946–1965
VW	Air Early Warning Squadron or Airborne Early Warning Squadron or Fleet Early Warning Squadron	1952–1971
VW	Weather Reconnaissance Squadron or Fleet Weather Reconnaissance Squadron	1967–1975
VX	Experimental Squadron	1927–circa 1943
VX	Experimental and Development Squadron or Operational Development Squadron or Air Operational Development Squadron or Air Development Squadron	1946–1968
VX	Air Test and Evaluation Squadron	1969–present
VXE	Antarctic Development Squadron	1969–1999
VXN	Oceanographic Development Squadron	1969–1993
VXS	Scientific Development Squadron	2004–present
XVF	Experimental Development Squadron	1945–1946
XVJ	Experimental Utility Squadron	1945–1946
ZJ	Blimp Utility Squadron	1944–1945
ZK	Kite Balloon Squadron	1922–1924
ZKN	Kite Balloon Training Squadron	*
ZKO	Kite Balloon Observation Squadron	*
ZNN	Non-rigid Airship Training Squadron	*
ZNO	Non-rigid Airship Observation Squadron	*
ZNP	Non-rigid Airship Patrol Squadron	*
ZNS	Non-rigid Airship Scouting Squadron	*
ZP	Airship Patrol Squadron	1942–1961
ZP	Blimp Squadron	1942–1961
ZP	Airship Patrol Squadron (All-Weather Antisubmarine) or Airship Squadron or LTA Patrol Squadron	1942–1961
ZRN	Rigid Airship Training Squadron	*
ZRP	Rigid Airship Patrol Squadron	*
ZRS	Rigid Airship Scouting Squadron	*
ZS	Airship Antisubmarine Squadron	*
ZW	Airship Early Warning Squadron	1956–1961
ZX	Airship Operational Development Squadron or Airship Development Squadron	1950–1957

\* These squadron designations were developed, however, the Navy never established any squadrons using the designations.

Marine Corps Squadron Designations/Abbreviations		
Acronym	Full Squadron Designation	Time Frame in Use
AES	Marine Aircraft Engineering Squadron	1941–present
ARS	Marine Air Regulating Squadron	1942–1943
AWRS	Marine Aviation Women’s Reserve Squadron	1944–1945
AWS	Marine Air Warning Squadron	1943–1954
AWS(AT)	Marine Air Warning Squadron (Air Transportable)	1944
H&HS	Marine Headquarters & Headquarters Squadron	1954–circa 1977
HMA	Marine Helicopter Attack Squadron	1971–1983
HMH	Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron	1962–present
HMHT	Marine Heavy Helicopter Training Squadron	1968–1972
HML	Marine Light Helicopter Squadron	1968–1987
HMLA	Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron	1987–present
HMM	Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron	1962–present
HMMT	Marine Medium Helicopter Training Squadron	1966–1972
HMR	Marine Helicopter Transport Squadron	1951–1956
HMR(C)	Marine Helicopter Reconnaissance Squadron	1958–1960
HMR(L)	Marine Helicopter Transport Squadron (light)	1956–1962
HMR(M)	Marine Helicopter Transport Squadron (medium)	1957–1962
H&MS	Marine Headquarters & Maintenance Squadron	1954–1988
HMT	Marine Helicopter Training Squadron	1972–present
HMX	Marine Helicopter Squadron	1947–present
MAAWS	Marine Assault Air Warning Squadron	1944–1945
MABS	Marine Air Base Squadron	1943–1946, 1951–1986
MACS	Marine Air Casual Squadron	1945–1946
MACS	Marine Air Control Squadron	1954–present
MADS	Marine Air Depot Squadron	1942–1945
MALS	Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron	1988–present
MAR&S	Marine Aircraft Repair and Salvage Squadron	1942–1944
MASS	Marine Air Support Squadron	1954–present
MATCS	Marine Air Traffic Control Squadron	1978–1994
MATTS	Marine Aviation Training Support Squadron	1974–1979, 2000–present
MAWTS	Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron	1978–present
MGCIS	Marine Ground Control Intercept Squadron	1946–1954
MOTS	Marine Operational Training Squadron	1943–1944
MTACS	Marine Tactical Air Command Squadron	1993–present
MWCS	Marine Wing Communications Squadron	1967–present
MWFS	Marine Wing Facilities Squadron	1967–1971
MWHS	Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron	1971–present
MWSS	Marine Wing Service Squadron	1943–1947
MWSS	Marine Wing Support Squadron	1986–present
SOES	Marine Station Operations and Engineering Squadron	1961–1977
SOMS	Marine Station Operation and Maintenance Squadron	1982–1997
VMA	Marine Attack Squadron	1951–present
VMA(AW)	Marine All-Weather Attack Squadron	1965–1992
VMAQ	Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron	1975–present
VMAT	Marine Attack Training Squadron	1951–1958
VMAT(AW)	Marine All-Weather Attack Training Squadron	1968–1986
VMB	Marine Bombing Squadron	1937–1946
VMBF	Marine Fighter/Bomber Squadron	1944–1946

Marine Corps Squadron Designations/Abbreviations		
Acronym	Full Squadron Designation	Time Frame in Use
VMC	Marine Composite Squadron	1952–1955
VMCJ	Marine Composite Reconnaissance Squadron	1955–1975
VMD	Marine Photographic Squadron	1942–1946
VMF	Marine Fighting Squadron	1937–1949
VMF	Marine Fighter Squadron	1948–1965
VMFA	Marine Fighter Attack Squadron	1963–present
VMFA(AW)	Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron	1947–1951, 1958–1972, 1989–present
VMFAT	Marine Fighter Attack Training Squadron	1968–present
VMF(AW)	Marine All-Weather Fighter Squadron	1948–1967
VMF(N)	Marine Night Fighter Squadron	1942–1958
VMFP	Marine Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron	1975–1990
VMFT	Marine Fighter Training Squadron	1951–present
VMFT(AW)	Marine All-Weather Fighter Training Squadron	1955–1958
VMFT(N)	Marine Night Fighter Training Squadron	1951–1958
VMGR	Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron	1962–present
VMGRT	Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Training Squadron	1986–present
VMIT	Marine Instrument Training Squadron	1951–1958
VMJ	Marine Utility Squadron	1945–1952
VMJ	Marine Photographic Squadron	1952–1955
VML	Marine Glider Squadron	1942–1943
VMM	Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron	2006–present
VMMT	Marine Medium Tiltrotor Training Squadron	1999–present
VMO	Marine Observation Squadron	1941–1993
VMP	Marine Photographic Squadron	1946–1949
VMR	Marine Transport Squadron	1944–1962
VMS	Marine Scouting Squadron	1937–1944
VMSB	Marine Scout Bombing Squadron	1941–1946
VMT	Marine Training Squadron	1947–present
VMTB	Marine Torpedo Bomber Squadron	1943–1946
VMU	Marine Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Squadron	1996–present
VMX	Marine Tiltrotor Test and Evaluation Squadron	2003–present
WERS	Marine Wing Equipment and Repair Squadron	1966–1976
WES	Marine Wing Engineer Squadron	1974–1986
WTS	Marine Wing Transportation Squadron	1974–1986
ZMQ	Marine Barrage Balloon Squadron	1941–1943

Note: In 1924 the letter “M” was adopted to differentiate Marine Corps squadrons from Navy squadrons.

# Current Squadron Lineage

The lineage and history of U.S. naval aviation squadrons has been a source of confusion since the birth of naval aviation in 1911. Much of this confusion arose from the terminology used by the Navy, the lack of a consistent policy in selecting the alphanumeric designations for squadrons, constantly reusing the same letter and numeric designations, and the many establishments, redesignations, and deactivations of aviation squadrons.

When dealing with a squadron's lineage, the only correct terms to use are establishment, deactivation, and redesignation. The terms commissioning and establishment have been used interchangeably for years and that is incorrect. Only ships are commissioned, decommissioned, and receive commissioning pennants. Squadrons have establishment and deactivation ceremonies.

A unit's history and lineage begins when it is established and ends at the time it is deactivated. Determining a squadron's "family tree" may seem cut and dried, but that is not the case. A squadron may undergo numerous redesignations during the period between its establishment and deactivation. A newly established squadron bearing the same designation of a unit that had previously existed may carry on the traditions of the old organization, but it cannot claim the history or lineage of the previous unit. The same is true of U. S. Navy ships and, thus, the rationale for such a policy becomes apparent. For example, *Ranger* (CV 61) is the seventh ship to bear the name *Ranger* and may carry on the traditions of the previous six ships. *Ranger* (CV 61) is obviously not the same Continental Navy Ship *Ranger* commanded by Capt. John Paul Jones during the War of Independence. The history of *Ranger* (CV 61) begins with its commissioning date, not with the commissioning date of the first *Ranger*.

The most recent squadron with the designation Fighter Squadron One (VF-1) was established 1 October 1972 and disestablished 1 October 1993. It was the seventh squadron in the Navy to be designated VF-1. This squadron is not the same VF-1 that used the designation for the first time in 1922. Designations, like ship's names, are reused again and again. If there is a break in the active status of a unit designation as a result of disestablishment, then there is no connection between the units bearing the same designation.

Another common problem area involves squadron insignia. The lineage or history of a squadron cannot be traced using only its insignia, because the same insignia may have been adopted and approved for official use by more than one squadron during different time frames. The insignia of a disestablished squadron may be officially approved for use by another squadron, but this does not confer upon the new squadron the right to the previous unit's history and lineage. The following outline of the Jolly Roger insignia is an example of the confusion that results if one attempts to trace the lineage and history of a squadron insignia without considering other factors.

VF-17 was established on 1 January 1943, and during WWII—when it produced an outstanding record as a fighter squadron—it adopted the Jolly Roger insignia. On 15 November 1946, all Navy squadrons were redesignated and VF-17 became VF-5B. Subsequently, it was redesignated VF-61 on 28 April 1948, and then disestablished on 15 April 1959 with Cmdr. Robert T. Hoppe as commanding officer. The Jolly Roger insignia had been used by VF-17/VF-5B/VF-61 from 1943 until 15 April 1959.

On 2 July 1955, VA-86 was established and on the same day was redesignated VF-84. This squadron was equipped with the FJ Fury and adopted the nickname Vagabonds. An insignia consisting of a lightning bolt striking the globe in the area of Norfolk, Va., with a sword behind the bolt, was approved on 27 September 1955. The squadron operated under this name and insignia until it replaced the FJs with F8U Crusaders in 1959. Cmdr. Hoppe assumed command of VF-84 two days after the disestablishment of VF-61, the Jolly Roger squadron. He initiated the request to have VF-84 adopt the old Jolly Roger insignia, which had been used by VF-61 and was no longer active. This request was approved by CNO on 1 April 1960. There is no direct connection between the former Jolly Roger squadron (VF-17/VF-5B/VF-61) and VF-84, which adopted the insignia.

To further complicate a review of the records, there have been other squadrons with the designation VF-84. During World War II, a VF-84 was established on 1 May 1944 and disestablished 8 October 1945. Naval Air Reserve squadron VF-921 was called to active duty 1 February 1951 and was redesignated VF-84 on 4 February 1954. This squadron then became VA-86 on 2 July 1955. This occurred on the same day Cmdr. Hoppe's Jolly Roger squadron was established as VA-86 and immediately redesignated VF-84. Neither of these two VF-84 squadrons had any connection with the original Jolly Rogers. Thus, Cmdr. Hoppe's VF-84 operating with the insignia and title of Jolly Roger could lay claim to the traditions of VF-17, VF-5B, and VF-61, if it wished to do so, but could only claim a history that commenced on 2 July 1955, and it was not a direct descendant of the original Jolly Roger squadron. The current Jolly Rogers are VFA-103.

A squadron's history and lineage covers only the period during which a unit is officially declared active (established by CNO), has personnel assigned to it, and is listed in the Naval Aeronautical Organization. When a squadron is disestablished, its history and lineage ends. If a squadron is redesignated while it is active, the lineage and history of the unit is carried on by the newly redesignated squadron. The following is an example of what occurs when a squadron is redesignated and its lineage and history remain unbroken.

The current VFA-25 was originally established as Torpedo Squadron 17 (VT-17) on 1 January 1943. On 15 November 1946, VT-17 was redesignated VA-6B and carried this designation until 27 April 1948, when it was redesignated VA-65. On 1 July 1959, VA-65 was redesignated VA-25 and the unit remained VA-25 until it was redesignated VFA-25 on 1 July 1983. The history and lineage of the present VFA-25 may be traced to 1 January 1943, because there was no break in active duty status of the squadron, even though its designation changed four times.

The current VFA-106 provides an example of what happens when a squadron is disestablished and then, years later, the same number is used again. This squadron was established at NAS Cecil Field on 27 April 1984. VFA-106 adopted the old insignia of VA-106 and had it officially approved. The squadron may carry on the traditions of the old VA-106, but it cannot trace its lineage and history back to VA-106. The list of commanding officers for VA-106 is not part of the list of commanding officers for VFA-106. The history of VA-106 came to an end on 7 November 1969, when it was disestablished and its personnel were transferred to other duty stations. At this time, VA-106 was removed from the active list in the Naval Aeronautical Organization.

These are the Navy squadrons as of January 2011:

Squadron Designation	Changes in Squadron Designations	Date of Change
<b>Helicopter Combat Support Squadron (Designation no longer in use)</b>		
HC-2	(See HSC-2)	
HC-3	(See HSC-3)	
HC-4	HC-4 Established HC-4 Deactivated	6 May 1983 30 Sep 2007
HC-5	(See HSC-25)	
HC-6	(See HSC-26)	
HC-8	(See HSC-28)	
HC-11	(See HSC-21)	
HC-85	(See HSC-85)	
<b>Helicopter Combat Support Special Squadron (Designation no longer in use)</b>		
HCS-4	(See HSC-84)	
HCS-5	HAL-5 Established HAL-5 Redesignated HCS-5 HCS-5 Deactivated	1 Mar 1977 1 Oct 1988 31 Dec 2006
<b>Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron</b>		
HM-14	HM-14 Established	12 May 1978
HM-15	HM-15 Established	2 Jan 1987
<b>Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron (HS designation slowly changing to HSC)</b>		
HS-2	(See HSC-12)	
HS-3	(See HSC-9)	
HS-4	HS-4 Established	30 Jun 1952
HS-5	(See HSC-5)	
HS-6	HS-6 Established	1 Jun 1956
HS-7	HS-7 Established	15 Dec 1969
HS-8	(See HSC-8)	
HS-10	HS-10 Established	1 Jul 1960
HS-11	HS-11 Established	27 Jun 1957
HS-14	HS-14 Established	10 Jul 1984
HS-15	HS-15 Established	29 Oct 1971
HS-75	HS-75 Established HS-75 Deactivated	1 Jun 1970 1 Apr 2007

Squadron Designation	Changes in Squadron Designations	Date of Change
<b>Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron</b>		
HSC-2	HC-2 Established HC-2 Redesignated HSC-2	1 Apr 1987 24 Aug 2005
HSC-3	HC-3 Established HC-3 Redesignated HSC-3	1 Sep 1967 31 Oct 2005
HSC-5	HS-5 Established HS-5 Redesignated HSC-5	3 Jan 1956 28 Feb 2009
HSC-8	HS-8 Established HS-8 Redesignated HSC-8	1 Nov 1969 1 Apr 2007
HSC-9	HS-3 Established HS-3 Redesignated HSC-9	18 Jun 1952 1 Jun 2009
HSC-12	HS-2 Established HS-2 Redesignated HSC-12	7 Mar 1952 1 Jan 2009
HSC-21	HC-11 Established HC-11 Redesignated HSC-21	1 Oct 1977 7 Nov 2005
HSC-22	HSC-22 Established	1 Oct 2006
HSC-23	HSC-23 Established	1 Oct 2006
HSC-25	HC-5 Established HC-5 Redesignated HSC-25	3 Feb 1984 24 Oct 2005
HSC-26	HC-6 Established HC-6 Redesignated HSC-26	1 Sep 1967 24 Aug 2005
HSC-28	HC-8 Established HC-8 Redesignated HSC-28	3 Dec 1984 13 May 2005
HSC-84	HAL-4 Established HAL-4 Redesignated HCS-4 HCS-4 Redesignated HSC-84	1 Jul 1976 1 Oct 1989 1 Oct 2006
HSC-85	HS-85 Established HS-85 Redesignated HC-85 HC-85 Redesignated HSC-85	1 Jul 1970 1 Oct 1994 8 Feb 2006
<b>Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron</b>		
HSM-40	Established as HSL-40 HSL-40 Redesignated HSM-40	4 Oct 1985 1 Nov 2009
HSM-41	Established as HSL-41 HSL-41 Redesignated HSM-41	21 Jan 1983 8 Dec 2005
HSM-70	Established as HSM-70	1 Mar 2008
HSM-71	Established as HSM-71	1 Jan 2007
HSM-77	Established as HSL-47 HSL-47 Redesignated HSM-77	25 Sep 1987 1 Feb 2009
<b>Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light (HSL designation slowly changing to HSM)</b>		
HSL-37	HSL-37 Established	3 Jul 1975
HSL-40	(See HSM-40)	
HSL-41	(See HSM-41)	
HSL-42	HSL-42 Established	5 Oct 1984
HSL-43	HSL-43 Established	5 Oct 1984
HSL-44	HSL-44 Established	21 Aug 1986
HSL-45	HSL-45 Established	3 Oct 1986
HSL-46	HSL-46 Established	7 Apr 1988
HSL-47	(See HSM-77)	
HSL-48	HSL-48 Established	7 Sep 1989
HSL-49	HSL-49 Established	23 Mar 1990
HSL-51	HSL-51 Established	1 Oct 1991
HSL-60	HSL-60 Established	1 Apr 2001
HSL-84	HS-84 Established HS-84 Redesignated HSL-84 HSL-84 Deactivated	1 Jul 1970 1 Mar 1984 30 Jun 2001

Squadron Designation	Changes in Squadron Designations	Date of Change
HSL-94	HSL-94 Established HSL-94 Deactivated	1 Oct 1985 1 Apr 2001
<b>Helicopter Training Squadron</b>		
HT-8	HTU-1 Established HTU-1 Redesignated HTG-1 HTG-1 Redesignated HT-8	3 Dec 1950 Mar 1957 1 Jul 1960
HT-18	HT-18 Established	1 Mar 1972
HT-28	HT-28 Established	1 Nov 2006
<b>Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron Redesignated Electronic Attack Squadron on 30 March 1998 (the VAQ designation remained the same)</b>		
VAQ-128	VAQ-128 Established VAQ-128 Deactivated	1 Oct 1997 30 Sep 2004
VAQ-129	VAH-10 Established VAH-10 Redesignated VAQ-129	1 May 1961 1 Sep 1970
VAQ-130	VAW-13 Established VAW-13 Redesignated VAQ-130	1 Sep 1959 1 Oct 1968
VAQ-131	VP-931 Reserve squadron to active duty VP-931 Redesignated VP-57 VP-57 Redesignated VAH-4 VAH-4 Redesignated VAQ-131	2 Sep 1950 4 Feb 1953 3 Jul 1956 1 Nov 1968
VAQ-132	VAH-2 Established VAH-2 Redesignated VAQ-132	1 Nov 1955 1 Nov 1968
VAQ-133	VAQ-133 Established	1 Apr 1996
VAQ-134	VAQ-134 Established	17 Jun 1969
VAQ-135	VAQ-135 Established	15 May 1969
VAQ-136	VAQ-136 Established	6 Apr 1973
VAQ-137	VAQ-137 Established	1 Oct 1996
VAQ-138	VAQ-138 Established	27 Feb 1976
VAQ-139	VAQ-139 Established	1 Jul 1983
VAQ-140	VAQ-140 Established	1 Oct 1985
VAQ-141	VAQ-141 Established	1 Jul 1987
VAQ-142	VAQ-142 Established	1 Apr 1997
VAQ-143	VAQ-143 Established	1 Aug 2002
	VAQ-143 was on the books as being established on 1 August 2002 but funding for the squadron was never provided and shortage of aircraft made it impossible to effectively activate the command. The squadron was removed from the books (SNDL) and the file closed on 12 Nov 2009.	
VAQ-209	VAQ-209 Established	1 Oct 1977
<b>Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron</b>		
VAW-77	VAW-77 Established	1 Oct 1995
VAW-78	VAW-78 Established VAW-78 Deactivated	1 Jul 1970 31 Mar 2005
VAW-112	VAW-112 Established	20 Apr 1967
VAW-113	VAW-113 Established	20 Apr 1967
VAW-115	VAW-115 Established	20 Apr 1967
VAW-116	VAW-116 Established	20 Apr 1967
VAW-117	VAW-117 Established	1 Jul 1974
VAW-120	RVAW-120 Established RVAW-120 Redesignated VAW-120	1 Jul 1967 1 May 1983
VAW-121	VAW-121 Established	1 Apr 1967
VAW-123	VAW-123 Established	1 Apr 1967
VAW-124	VAW-124 Established	1 Sep 1967
VAW-125	VAW-125 Established	1 Oct 1968
VAW-126	VAW-126 Established	1 Apr 1969

Squadron Designation	Changes in Squadron Designations	Date of Change
<b>Composite Squadron (Designation no longer in use)</b>		
VC-6	VU-6 Established VU-6 Redesignated VC-6 VC-6 Deactivated	1 Mar 1952 1 Jul 1965 30 Jun 2008
VC-8	GMSRON-2 (Guided Missile Service Squadron 2) Established GMSRON-2 Redesignated VU-8 VU-8 Redesignated VC-8 VC-8 Deactivated	1 Jul 1958 1 Jul 1960 1 Jul 1965 1 Oct 2003
<b>Fighter Squadron (Designation no longer in use)</b>		
VF-2	(See VFA-2)	
VF-11	(See VFA-11)	
VF-14	(See VFA-14)	
VF-31	(See VFA-31)	
VF-32	(See VFA-32)	
VF-41	(See VFA-41)	
VF-101	VF-101 Established VF-101 Deactivated	1 May 1952 30 Sep 2005
VF-102	(See VFA-102)	
VF-103	(See VFA-103)	
VF-143	(See VFA-143)	
VF-154	(See VFA-154)	
VF-201	(See VFA-201)	
VF-211	(See VFA-211)	
VF-213	(See VFA-213)	
<b>Strike-Fighter Squadron</b>		
VFA-2	VF-2 Established VF-2 Redesignated VFA-2	14 Oct 1972 1 Jul 2003
VFA-11	VF-43 Established VF-43 Redesignated VF-11	1 Sep 1950 16 Feb 1959
	VF-11 adopted the insignia used by the previous VF-11, which had been disestablished on 15 Feb 1959. The newly designated VF-11 (16 Feb 1959) carried on the insignia and traditions of the Red Ripper squadron dating back to 1 Feb 1927, but not the lineage. VF-11 Redesignated VFA-11	18 Oct 2005
VFA-14	Air Detachment, Pacific Fleet Established Became VT-5, an element of AirDet, PACFLT VT-5 Redesignated VP-4-1 VP-4-1 Redesignated VF-4 VF-4 Redesignated VF-1 VF-1 Redesignated VF-1B VF-1B Redesignated VB-2B VB-2B Redesignated VB-3 VB-3 Redesignated VB-4 VB-4 Redesignated VS-41 VS-41 Redesignated VB-41 VB-41 Redesignated VB-4 VB-4 Redesignated VA-1A VA-1A Redesignated VA-14 VA-14 Redesignated VF-14 VF-14 Redesignated VFA-14	Sep 1919 15 Jun 1920 7 Sep 1921 23 Sep 1921 1 Jul 1922 1 Jul 1927 1 Jul 1934 1 Jul 1937 1 Jul 1939 15 Mar 1941 1 Mar 1943 4 Aug 1943 15 Nov 1946 2 Aug 1948 15 Dec 1949 1 Dec 2001
VFA-15	VA-67 Established VA-67 Redesignated VA-15 VA-15 Redesignated VFA-15	1 Aug 1968 2 Jun 1969 1 Oct 1986
VFA-22	VF-63 Established VF-63 Redesignated VA-63 VA-63 Redesignated VA-22 VA-22 Redesignated VFA-22	28 Jul 1948 Mar 1956 1 Jul 1959 4 May 1990
VFA-25	VT-17 Established VT-17 Redesignated VA-6B VA-6B Redesignated VA-65 VA-65 Redesignated VA-25 VA-25 Redesignated VFA-25	1 Jan 1943 15 Nov 1946 27 Jul 1948 1 Jul 1959 1 Jul 1983

Squadron Designation	Changes in Squadron Designations	Date of Change
VFA-27	VA-27 Established VA-27 Redesignated VFA-27	1 Sep 1967 24 Jan 1991
VFA-31	VF-1B Established VF-1B Redesignated VF-6 VF-6 Redesignated VF-3 VF-3 Redesignated VF-3A VF-3A Redesignated VF-31 VF-31 Redesignated VFA-31	1 Jul 1935 1 Jul 1937 15 Jul 1943 15 Nov 1946 7 Aug 1948 1 Aug 2006
VFA-32	VBF-3 Established VBF-3 Redesignated VF-4A VF-4A Redesignated VF-32 VF-32 Redesignated VFA-32	1 Feb 1945 15 Nov 1946 7 Aug 1948 1 Aug 2006
VFA-34	VA-34 Established VA-34 Redesignated VFA-34	1 Jan 1970 30 Aug 1996
VFA-37	VA-37 Established VA-37 Redesignated VFA-37	1 Jul 1967 28 Nov 1990
VFA-41	VF-41 Established VF-41 Redesignated VFA-41	1 Sep 1950 1 Dec 2001
VFA-81	VA-66 Established VA-66 Redesignated VF-81 (same day) VF-81 Redesignated VA-81 VA-81 Redesignated VFA-81	1 Jul 1955 1 Jul 1955 1 Jul 1959 4 Feb 1988
VFA-82	VA-82 Established VA-82 Redesignated VFA-82 VFA-82 Deactivated	1 May 1967 15 Jul 1987 30 Jun 2005
VFA-83	VF-916 Reserve squadron called to active duty VF-916 Redesignated VF-83 VF-83 Redesignated VA-83 VA-83 Redesignated VFA-83	1 Feb 1951 4 Feb 1953 1 Jul 1955 1 Mar 1988
VFA-86	VF-921 Reserve squadron called to active duty VF-921 Redesignated VF-84 VF-84 Redesignated VA-86 VA-86 Redesignated VFA-86	1 Feb 1951 4 Feb 1953 1 Jul 1955 15 Jul 1987
VFA-87	VA-87 Established VA-87 Redesignated VFA-87	1 Feb 1968 1 May 1986
VFA-94	VF-94 Established VF-94 Redesignated VA-94 VA-94 Redesignated VFA-94	26 Mar 1952 1 Aug 1958 24 Jan 1991
VFA-97	VA-97 Established VA-97 Redesignated VFA-97	1 Jun 1967 24 Jan 1991
VFA-102	VA-36 Established VA-36 Redesignated VF-102	1 Jul 1955 1 Jul 1955
	On the same day, 1 Jul 1955, the old VF-102 was redesignated VA-36. This unit is separate from the VA-36 that was established on 1 Jul 1955 and then immediately redesignated VF-102. VF-102 Redesignated VFA-102	1 May 2002
VFA-103	VF-103 Established VF-103 Redesignated VFA-103	1 May 1952 27 Apr 2006
VFA-105	VA-105 Established VA-105 Redesignated VFA-105	4 Mar 1968 17 Dec 1990
VFA-106	VFA-106 Established	27 Apr 1984
VFA-113	VF-113 Established VF-113 Redesignated VA-113 VA-113 Redesignated VFA-113	15 Jul 1948 Mar 1956 25 Mar 1983
VFA-115	VT-11 Established VT-11 Redesignated VA-12A VA-12A Redesignated VA-115	10 Oct 1942 15 Nov 1946 15 Jul 1948
	VA-115 was in an inactive status from Aug 1967 to 1 Jan 1970. It was not disestablished during this time frame and had a very limited number of personnel assigned to the squadron, which was located at NAS Lemoore during the period. VA-115 Reactivated VA-115 Redesignated VFA-115	1 Jan 1970 30 Sep 1996
VFA-122	VFA-122 Established	1 Oct 1998

Squadron Designation	Changes in Squadron Designations	Date of Change
VFA-125	VFA-125 Established VFA-125 Deactivated	13 Nov 1980 1 Oct 2010
VFA-131	VFA-131 Established	3 Oct 1983
VFA 136	VFA-136 Established	1 Jul 1985
VFA-137	VFA-137 Established	1 Jul 1985
VFA-143	VF-871 Reserve squadron called to active duty VF-871 Redesignated VF-123 VF-123 Redesignated VF-53 VF-53 Redesignated VF-143 VF-143 Redesignated VFA-143	20 Jul 1950 4 Feb 1953 12 Apr 1958 20 Jun 1962 27 Apr 2006
VFA-146	VA-146 Established VA-146 Redesignated VFA-146	1 Feb 1956 21 Jul 1989
VFA-147	VA-147 Established VA-147 Redesignated VFA-147	1 Feb 1967 20 Jul 1989
VFA-151	VF-23 Established VF-23 Redesignated VF-151 VF-151 Redesignated VFA-151	6 Aug 1948 23 Feb 1959 1 Jun 1986
VFA-154	VF-837 Reserve squadron called to active duty VF-837 Redesignated VF-154 VF-154 Redesignated VFA-154	1 Feb 1951 4 Feb 1953 1 Oct 2003
VFA-192	VF-153 Established VF-153 Redesignated VF-15A VF-15A Redesignated VF-151 VF-151 Redesignated VF-192 VF-192 Redesignated VA-192 VA-192 Redesignated VFA-192	26 Mar 1945 15 Nov 1946 15 Jul 1948 15 Feb 1950 15 Mar 1956 10 Jan 1985
VFA-195	VT-19 Established VT-19 Redesignated VA-20A VA-20A Redesignated VA-195 VA-195 Redesignated VFA-195	15 Aug 1943 15 Nov 1946 24 Aug 1948 1 Apr 1985
VFA-201	VF-201 Established VF-201 Redesignated VFA-201 VFA-201 Deactivated	25 Jul 1970 1 Jan 1999 30 Jun 2007
VFA-203	VA-203 Established VA-203 Redesignated VFA-203 VFA-203 Deactivated	1 Jul 1970 1 Oct 1989 30 Jun 2004
VFA-204	VA-204 Established VA-204 Redesignated VFA-204	1 Jul 1970 1 May 1991
VFA-211	VB-74 Established VB-74 Redesignated VA-1B VA-1B Redesignated VA-24 VA-24 Redesignated VF-24 VF-24 Redesignated VF-211 VF-211 Redesignated VFA-211	1 May 1945 15 Nov 1946 1 Sep 1948 1 Dec 1949 9 Mar 1959 1 Aug 2006
VFA-213	VF-213 Established VF-213 Redesignated VFA-213*	22 Jun 1955 1 Aug 2006*

\* No official paperwork (OPNAV NOTICE 3111) has been promulgated stating the official date for VF-213's redesignation to VFA-213.

Fighter Squadron Composite		
VFC-12†	VC-12 Established VC-12 Redesignated VFC-12	1 Sep 1973 22 Apr 1988
VFC-13†	VC-13 Established VC-13 Redesignated VFC-13	1 Sep 1973 22 Apr 1988
VFC-111	VFC-111 Established	1 Nov 2006
Patrol Squadron		
VP-1†	VB-128 Established VB-128 Redesignated VPB-128 VPB-128 Redesignated VP-128 VP-128 Redesignated VP-ML-1 VP-ML-1 Redesignated VP-1	15 Feb 1943 1 Oct 1944 15 May 1946 15 Nov 1946 1 Sep 1948
VP-4†	VB-144 Established VB-144 Redesignated VPB-144 VPB-144 Redesignated VP-144 VP-144 Redesignated VP-ML-4 VP-ML-4 Redesignated VP-4	1 Jul 1943 1 Oct 1944 15 May 1946 15 Nov 1946 1 Sep 1948

Squadron Designation	Changes in Squadron Designations	Date of Change
VP-5†	VP-17F (VP-17) Established VP-17 Redesignated VP-42 VP-42 Redesignated VB-135 VB-135 Redesignated VPB-135 VPB-135 Redesignated VP-135 VP-135 Redesignated VP-ML-5 VP-ML-5 Redesignated VP-5	2 Jan 1937 1 Jul 1939 15 Feb 1943 1 Oct 1944 15 May 1946 15 Nov 1946 1 Sep 1948
VP-8†	VP-201 Established VP-201 Redesignated VPB-201 VPB-201 Redesignated VP-201 VP-201 Redesignated VP-MS-1 VP-MS-1 Redesignated VP-ML-8 VP-ML-8 Redesignated VP-8	1 Sep 1942 1 Oct 1944 15 May 1946 15 Nov 1946 5 Jun 1947 1 Sep 1948
VP-9†	VP-9 Established	15 Mar 1951
VP-10†	VP-10 Established	19 Mar 1951
VP-16†	VP-741 Reserve squadron called to active duty VP-741 Redesignated VP-16	1 May 1951 4 Feb 1953
VP-26†	VB-114 Established VB-114 Redesignated VPB-114 VPB-114 Redesignated VP-114 VP-114 Redesignated VP-HL-6 VP-HL-6 Redesignated VP-26	26 Aug 1943 1 Oct 1944 15 May 1946 15 Nov 1946 1 Sep 1948
VP-30	VP-30 Established	30 Jun 1960
VP-40†	VP-40 Established	20 Jan 1951
VP-45†	VP-205 Established VP-205 Redesignated VPB-205 VPB-205 Redesignated VP-205 VP-205 Redesignated VP-MS-5 VP-MS-5 Redesignated VP-45	1 Nov 1942 1 Oct 1944 15 May 1946 15 Nov 1946 1 Sep 1948
VP-46	VP-5S Established VP-5S Redesignated VP-5F VP-5F Redesignated VP-5 VP-5 Redesignated VP-33 VP-33 Redesignated VP-32 VP-32 Redesignated VPB-32 VPB-32 Redesignated VP-32 VP-32 Redesignated VP-MS-6 VP-MS-6 Redesignated VP-46	1 Sep 1931 1 Apr 1933 1937 1 Jul 1939 1 Jul 1941 1 Oct 1944 15 May 1946 15 Nov 1946 1 Sep 1948
VP-47	VP-27 Established VP-27 Redesignated VPB-27 VPB-27 Redesignated VP-27 VP-27 Redesignated VP-MS-7 VP-MS-7 Redesignated VP-47	1 Jun 1944 1 Oct 1944 15 May 1946 15 Nov 1946 1 Sep 1948
VP-62	VP-62 Established	1 Nov 1970
VP-64	(See VR-64)	
VP-65	VP-65 Established VP-65 Deactivated	16 Nov 1970 31 Mar 2006
VP-66	VP-66 Established VP-66 Deactivated	1 Nov 1970 31 Mar 2006
VP-69	VP-69 Established	1 Nov 1970
VP-91†	VP-91 Established VP-91 Deactivated	1 Nov 1970 31 Mar 1999
VP-92†	VP-92 Established VP-92 Deactivated	1 Nov 1970 30 Nov 2007
VP-94†	VP-94 Established VP-94 Deactivated	1 Nov 1970 31 Mar 2006
<b>Patrol Squadron Special Project Unit Redesignated Special Projects Patrol Squadron on 8 Apr 1998 for VPU-1 and on 14 Apr 1998 for VPU-2 (the designation VPU remained the same)</b>		
VPU-1	VPU-1 Established	1 Jul 1982
VPU-2	VPU-2 Established	1 Jul 1982
<b>Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron</b>		
VQ-1	VQ-1 Established	1 Jun 1955
VQ-2	VQ-2 Established	1 Sep 1955

Squadron Designation	Changes in Squadron Designations	Date of Change
VQ-3	VQ-3 Established	1 Jul 1968
VQ-4	VQ-4 Established	1 Jul 1968
VQ-5	VQ-5 Established VQ-5 Deactivated	15 Apr 1991 30 Jul 1999
VQ-6	VQ-6 Established VQ-6 Deactivated	5 Aug 1991 30 Sep 1999
VQ-7	Naval Training Support Unit Redesignated VQ-7	1 Nov 1999
VQ-11	VQ-11 Established VQ-11 Deactivated	1 Jul 1997 31 Mar 2000
<b>Fleet Logistic Support Squadron</b>		
VR-1†	VR-1 Established	1 May 1997
VR-46	VR-46 Established	1 Mar 1981
VR-48	VR-48 Established	1 Oct 1980
VR-51	VR-51 Established	1 Jun 1997
VR-52†	VR-52 Established	24 Jun 1972
VR-53	VR-53 Established	1 Oct 1992
VR-54	VR-54 Established	1 Jun 1991
VR-55	VR-55 Established	1 Apr 1976
VR-56	VR-56 Established	1 Jul 1976
VR-57	VR-57 Established	1 Nov 1977
VR-58	VR-58 Established	1 Nov 1977
VR-59	VR-59 Established	1 Oct 1982
VR-61	VR-61 Established	1 Oct 1982
VR-62	VR-62 Established	1 Jul 1985
VR-64	Established as VP-64 Redesignated VR-64	1 Nov 1970 18 Sep 2004
<b>Fleet Logistics Support Squadron</b>		
VRC-30	VR-30 Established VR-30 Redesignated VRC-30	1 Oct 1966 1 Oct 1978
VRC-40	VRC-40 Established	1 Jul 1960
<b>Sea Control Squadron</b>		
VS-21†	CVEG-41 Established CVEG-41 Redesignated CVEG-1 CVEG-1 Redesignated VC-21 VC-21 Redesignated VS-21 VS-21 Deactivated	26 Mar 1945 15 Nov 1946 1 Sep 1948 23 Apr 1950 28 Feb 2005
VS-22†	VS-22 Established VS-22 Deactivated	18 May 1960 31 Mar 2009
VS-24†	VS-24 Established VS-24 Deactivated	25 May 1960 31 Mar 2007
VS-29	VS-29 Established VS-29 Deactivated	1 Apr 1960 30 Apr 2004
VS-30†	VS-801 Reserve squadron called to active duty VS-801 Redesignated VS-30 VS-30 Deactivation Ceremony Official Deactivation	9 Apr 1951 4 Feb 1953 9 Dec 2005 20 Apr 2007
VS-31†	VC-31 Established VC-31 Redesignated VS-31 VS-31 Deactivated	28 Sep 1948 20 Apr 1950 31 Mar 2008
VS-32	VC-32 Established VC-32 Redesignated VS-32 VS-32 Deactivated	31 May 1949 20 Apr 1950 30 Sep 2008
VS-33	VS-33 Established VS-33 Deactivated	1 Apr 1960 31 Jul 2006
VS-35†	VS-35 Established VS-35 Deactivated	4 Apr 1991 31 Mar 2005

Squadron Designation	Changes in Squadron Designations	Date of Change
VS-38†	VC-892 Reserve squadron Activated VC-892 Redesignated VS-892 VS-892 Reserve squadron called to active duty VS-892 Redesignated VS-38 VS-38 Deactivated	20 Jul 1950 4 Aug 1950 4 Aug 1950 4 Feb 1953 30 Apr 2004
VS-41†	VS-41 Established VS-41 Deactivated	30 Jun 1960 30 Sep 2006
Training Squadron		
VT-2	BTG-2 Redesignated VT-2 (Basic Training Group 2)	1 May 1960
VT-3	BTG-3 Redesignated VT-3	1 May 1960
VT-4	BTG-9 Redesignated VT-4	1 May 1960
VT-6	Multi-Engine Training Group, Whiting Field Redesignated VT-6	1 May 1960
VT-7	BTG-7 Activated BTG-7 Redesignated VT-7	1 Jun 1958 1 Jul 1960
VT-9	VT-19 Established VT-19 Redesignated VT-9	2 Aug 1971 1 Oct 1998
VT-10	BNAO School Redesignated VT-10	15 Jan 1968
	Basic Naval Aviation Officers School was established within the training department of NAS Pensacola in June 1960. BNAO School became a separate command under the Chief of Naval Air Training 15 Jan 1968.	
VT-19	(See VT-9)	
VT-21	ATU-202 (Advanced Training Unit 202) Redesignated VT-21	1 May 1960
VT-22	ATU-212 Redesignated VT-22	1 May 1960
VT-23	ATU-222 Established ATU-222 Redesignated VT-23 VT-23 Deactivated	Nov 1958 1 May 1960 30 Sep 1999
VT-27	ATU-402 Redesignated VT-27	1 Jul 1960
VT-28	ATU-611 Redesignated VT-28	1 May 1960
VT-31	ATU-601 Redesignated VT-31	1 May 1960
VT-35	VT-35 Established	29 Oct 1999
VT-86	VT-86 Established	5 Jun 1972
Air Test and Evaluation Squadron (VX/HX), Antarctic Development Squadron (VXE), Scientific Development Squadron (VXS)		
HX-21	Established as Naval Rotary Wing Aircraft Test Squadron Redesignated HX-21	21 Jul 1995 1 May 2002
VX-1	Established as Aircraft Antisubmarine Development Detachment, Atlantic Fleet	1 Apr 1943
	Aircraft Antisubmarine Development Detachment became part of a new unit called Antisubmarine Development Det, Atlantic Fleet	17 Sep 1943
	Antisubmarine Development Det, Atlantic Fleet redesignated VX-1	15 Mar 1946
VXE-6	VX-6 Established VX-6 Redesignated VXE-6 VXE-6 Deactivated	17 Jan 1955 1 Jan 1969 27 Mar 1999
VX-9	VX-9 Established	30 Apr 1994
VX-20	Established Naval Force Aircraft Test Squadron Redesignated VX-20	21 Jul 1995 1 May 2002
VX-23	Established Naval Strike Aircraft Test Squadron Redesignated VX-23	21 Jul 1995 1 May 2002
VX-30	Established Naval Weapons Test Squadron, Point Mugu Redesignated VX-30	8 May 1995 1 May 2002
VX-31	Established Naval Weapons Test Squadron, China Lake Redesignated VX-31	8 May 1995 1 May 2002
VXS-1	VXS-1 Established	13 Dec 2004

† Previous squadrons have been assigned this designation.

# Visual Identification System (Tail Codes)

The rapid and accurate identification of aircraft has always been of prime importance within naval aviation and its explosive expansion during WWII compounded the problem.

A three-part identification system had been in use in the fleet from 1923 until WWII. Under this system, the aircraft identification number 5-F-1, which was placed on the fuselage of the plane, meant this was the first airplane in Fighting Squadron 5. After July 1937, the squadron number for carrier-based squadrons was the same as the hull number of the carrier. Thus *Yorktown* (CV 5) would have had VB-5, VS-5, and VF-5 assigned as part of her complement of squadrons.

This system was modified by Commander Carriers, Pacific Fleet, on 29 April 1942. To help conceal the identity of carriers engaged in operations in enemy waters, the squadron number was eliminated, leaving just the letter designating the type of squadron and the aircraft number within the squadron. Thus, the marking on the fuselage of the plane would have been F-1 to identify it as the first plane in a fighting squadron without identifying the squadron's number. This was further modified on 22 December 1943, by the deletion of the squadron type letter. All identification as to a specific unit was now removed which allowed aircraft to be drawn from a pool as necessary without the requirement of painting identification information on them.

During WWII, with the increase in the number of fleet aircraft operating in the same area as training planes, the necessity grew even more acute to quickly differentiate the large number of training planes from the operational fleet aircraft. To alleviate this problem, Naval Air Operational Training Command, on 12 January 1943, directed that all aircraft within the command be identified by an alpha/numeric system consisting of three groups of characters. The first letter(s) designated the base assignment for the aircraft. The second letter identified the aircraft mission, while the third group was the number of the aircraft within the squadron. For example, V-T-29 would indicate the aircraft was from Vero Beach, Fla., it was a torpedo plane, and the 29th aircraft in that training unit.

During the last two years of the war, many of the aircraft assigned to the carriers in the Pacific carried symbols denoting the ship or air group to which they were assigned. No directives specifying these markings are known to exist, if there ever were any. From a review of photos of the period, it appears that the symbols were assigned to the CV designated aircraft carriers while the escort carriers, designated CVE, had the symbol assigned to the squadrons that operated on board the ships. Squadrons operating on board the CVs only had that specific symbol while assigned to that particular carrier while this was a step in the right direction, the lack of a uniform system was soon apparent when a large number of aircraft were trying to rendezvous after takeoff, before landing, or over target areas.

The United States Navy Air Force, Pacific Fleet, issued on 27 January 1945 a standard set of 28 geometrical designs for the CV and CVL class carriers, which constituted Task Force 58. These designs were assigned to the vessel and were applied to all aircraft of the attached air group as long as it was on board. They were applied to both sides of the fin and rudder. While the drawings in the directive only showed the design on the top surface of the right wing, subsequent directives indicate that it was also to be applied on the under surface of the left wing tip.

The Commander, Air Force, Pacific Fleet, on 11 February 1945, issued an instruction for the aircraft in the Hawaiian Sea Frontier. All carrier and training type aircraft were to be identified with a letter followed by the individual aircraft number running from 1 to 99. These markings were not for the purpose of security, but rather to identify U.S. Navy aircraft after numerous reports of violations of air discipline involving flying too close to transport aircraft and ground installations.

Air Force, Pacific Fleet, on 2 June 1945, prescribed a series of recognition symbols for CVEs. These markings were to be painted on both sides of the vertical tail surfaces, as well as the upper right and lower left wing tips. All CVEGs, MCVGs, and VCs assigned to ships of the Escort Carrier Force, Pacific, were to carry these designs. Each carrier division was assigned a basic design. The position of the individual vessel within the division was indicated by a series of narrow stripes.

The system of geometrical symbols carried by Task Force 58 aircraft was difficult to describe over the radio and was not always readily identifiable in the air. To eliminate this problem, Commander Task Force 38, in July 1945, specified a system of 24-inch block capital letters to be used to identify CV and CVB aircraft. These were to be applied to both sides of the fin and rudder as well as the top right and lower left wing tips. In its original form some ships used a single letter, while others were assigned double letters. This was the beginning of the two-letter Visual Identification System in use today.

Naval Air Stations in Hawaii were assigned letter designations on 10 September 1945, by the Commander, Air Force, Pacific Fleet. These were to be followed by a number from 1 to 99 inclusive. In the event all available numbers in the 1 to 99 series were used, and no additional letters were available, the use of numbers over 100 was authorized.

On 8 January 1946, Air Force, Pacific Fleet, issued instructions for the application of markings on the fast carrier aircraft. This directive also assigned new alphabetical designations for the CVs, CVBs, and CVLs in place of those specified by Commander Task Force 38. This assignment of the same letter to a different carrier than previously designated may well have caused the erroneous identification of some photographs as to what ship the aircraft were actually assigned.

All of the previous directives or instructions were a search for an easy system to rapidly identify aircraft. Finally, on 7 November 1946, the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) established the Visual Identification System for all Navy and Marine Corps aircraft. To be effective, such a system had to be simple, readable, and possess enough different combinations to cover the number of aircraft carriers and all types of squadrons to which naval aviation might expand in case of war. A system using letters satisfies these requirements as long as distinctive characters are used. The elimination of the ambiguous letters G, J, N, O, Q and Y left ample combinations to cover such expansion. Since each letter has a phonetic equivalent in communication procedures, the problem of describing geometric markings was replaced by the simple process of enunciating the names of the letters of the alphabet. Under this system each aircraft carrier had either a single or double letter symbol, some of which were a holdover from the previous system. On 12 December 1946, the Visual Identification System of Naval Aircraft was modified by CNO. Under this change the tail codes assigned to the carriers were now reassigned to individual air groups. This permitted greater flexibility since an air group was not permanently assigned to a specific carrier.

Under the CNO system, non-carrier based squadrons, such as VP, VPP, VPW, VPM, VU, VRU, VX, and VCN, also used a letter system. In these squadrons the first of the two letters designated the wing or class while the second letter designated the squadron within the wing. Marine Corps carrier-based squadrons used the letters assigned to the parent carrier while shore-based Marine squadrons used the first letter to designate the wing or other command, and the second letter identified the squadron within the wing or command. The letters in all cases were underscored to denote Marine. It was possible under this system to have the same code letters assigned to a Navy squadron and a Marine Corps squadron concurrently. This requirement to underscore the letters on Marine Corps aircraft was rescinded on 4 August 1948.

The Training Command continued to use the letter number designation system in which the first of one or two letters designated the base or station, while the second identified the squadron and/or class designation. The aircraft within the squadron were identified by a one-, two-, or three-digit number. The Chief, Naval Air Training, controlled the assignment of the letter symbols within the command.

Naval Air Reserve aircraft were also identified by two letters. The first denoted the air station to which the aircraft was assigned, while the second identified the type of squadron. From this it can be seen that it was possible to have a fleet squadron and a reserve squadron identified with the same two letters. This was resolved by the use of an orange band around the fuselage to denote a Reserve aircraft. Reorganization of the Naval Air Reserve in 1970 arranged the reserve squadron system along the same lines as the active fleet structure. The tail code assignments for these squadrons were redone to follow the procedures used for the fleet squadrons.

Naval Air Advanced Training Command on 6 January 1947 issued a directive for identifying aircraft within the command. This alpha/numeric system used a letter to identify the naval air station, followed by a second letter designating the squadron at that activity and then a three-digit aircraft number. On 31 August 1950, the Chief Naval Air Basic Training issued a directive that involved single letters to denote aircraft assigned to the various bases. This was modified on 27 September 1950 to a two-letter system whereby the first designated the base and the second the squadron. These letters were followed by a three-digit number to denote the individual aircraft within the squadron. On 6 September 1956, Chief of Naval Air Training established a new tail code identification system for the training commands. This system included two character alpha/numeric codes whereby the number 2 designated Chief Naval Air Basic Training Command aircraft, 3 designated Chief Naval Air Advanced Training Command, and 4 designated Chief Naval Technical Training Command aircraft.

One major change to occur was the move from a single letter to two letters to identify an air group's tail code. The effective date for this change was most likely the beginning of Fiscal Year 1958 (1 July 1957). Specific documentation has not been discovered to verify this date. However, the tail code (Visual Identification System) listing in the Naval Aeronautical Organization for 1957 shows the changes for the air group tail codes to two letters.

Even though numerous changes have been made since 7 November 1946 to the Visual Identification System, the basic tenet of the system has remained intact. The following is a listing of Tail Codes (Visual Identification System for Naval Aircraft) for Naval Aviation as of 31 December 2010:

Command	Tail Code
Blue Angels	BA
<b>Carrier Air Wings (former designation Carrier Air Groups)</b>	
CVW-1	AB
CVW-2	NE
CVW-3	AC
CVW-5	NF
CVW-7	AG
CVW-8	AJ
CVW-9	NG
CVW-11	NH
CVW-14	NK
CVW-17	AA
RCVW-4 <sup>†</sup>	AD
RCVW-12 <sup>†</sup>	NJ
Tactical Support Wing	AF
<b>ASW Air Commands</b>	
CVSG-51 <sup>†</sup>	RA
HS-10	RA
HELWINGRES <sup>§</sup>	NW
HSC-84	NW
HSC-85	NW
<b>Fleet Logistic Support</b>	
VRC-30	RW
VRC-40	Does not use tail code
<b>Fleet Logistics Support Reserve</b>	
VR-1	Does not use tail code
VR-46	JS
VR-48	JR
VR-51	RV
VR-52	JT
VR-53	AX
VR-54	CW
VR-55	RU
VR-56	JU
VR-57	RX
VR-58	JV
VR-59	RY
VR-61	RS
VR-62	JW
VR-64	BD
<b>Helicopter Sea Combat</b>	
HSC-2	HU
HSC-3	SA
HSC-5	AG
HSC-8	NG
HSC-9	AJ
HSC-12	NE
HSC-21	VR
HSC-22	AM

Command	Tail Code
HSC-23	WC
HSC-25	RB
HSC-26	HW
HSC-28	BR
HSC-84	NW <sup>§</sup>
HSC-85	NW <sup>§</sup>

Note: Many HSC squadrons are assigned to carrier air wings and use the tail code of the assigned air wing.

<b>Helicopter Maritime Strike</b>	
HSM-40	HK
HSM-41	TS
HSM-70	Tail code to be assigned
HSM-71	Tail code to be assigned
HSM-77	Tail code to be assigned

<b>Helicopter Antisubmarine Light<sup>ll</sup></b>	
HSL-37	TH
HSL-42	HN
HSL-43	TT
HSL-44	HP
HSL-45	TZ
HSL-46	HQ
HSL-48	HR
HSL-49	TX
HSL-51	TA
HSL-60	NW <sup>§</sup>

<b>Helicopter Mine Countermeasure Squadron</b>	
HM-14	BJ
HM-15	TB

<b>Patrol</b>	
VP-1	YB
VP-4	YD
VP-5	LA
VP-8	LC
VP-9	PD
VP-10	LD
VP-16	LF
VP-26	LK
VP-30	LL
VP-40	QE
VP-45	LN
VP-46	RC
VP-47	RD

<b>Special Projects Patrol</b>	
VPU-1	OB
VPU-2	SP

<b>Patrol Reserve</b>	
VP-62	LT
VP-69	PJ

Command	Tail Code
<b>Fleet Air Reconnaissance</b>	
VQ-1	PR
VQ-2	LQ
VQ-3	TC
VQ-4	HL
VQ-7	TL
<b>Electronic Attack Expeditionary<sup>a</sup></b>	
VAQ-133	NL
VAQ-134	NL
VAQ-142	NL
VAQ-143	NL
<b>Air Test and Evaluation</b>	
HX-21	JH
VX-1	JA
VX-9	XE
VX-20	WB
VX-23	SD
VX-30	VX
VX-31	DD
VXS-1	RL
<b>Chief of Naval Air Training</b>	
<i>TRAWING ONE</i>	
Meridian	A
VT-7	A
VT-9	A
<i>TRAWING TWO</i>	
Kingsville	B
VT-21	B
VT-22	B
<i>TRAWING FOUR</i>	
Corpus Christi	G
VT-27	G
VT-28	G
VT-31	G
VT-35	G
<i>TRAWING FIVE</i>	
Whiting Field	E
VT-2	E
VT-3	E
VT-6	E
HT-8	E
HT-18	E
HT-28	E
<i>TRAWING SIX</i>	
Pensacola	F
VT-4	F
VT-10	F
VT-86	F
<b>Naval Air Systems Command</b>	

Command	Tail Code
Test Pilot School	TPS
<b>Fleet Marine and Marine Support Units</b>	
<b>Headquarters</b>	
MWHS-1	SZ
MALS-11	TM
MALS-12	WA
MALS-13	YU
MALS-14	CN
HAMS-16	WW
MALS-24	EW
MALS-26	EL
MALS-31	EX
MALS-36	WK
MALS 41	Tail code to be assigned
MALS 49	Tail code to be assigned
HQSSDN-37	QF
<b>Marine Attack</b>	
VMA-211	CF
VMA-214	WA
VMA-223	WP
VMA-231	CG
VMA-311	WL
VMA-513	WF
VMA-542	CR
<b>Marine Strike Fighter (Fighter Attack)</b>	
VMFA-115	VE
VMFA-121 (AW)	VK
VMFA-122	DC
VMFA-134	MF
VMFA-142	MB
VMFA-212	WD
VMFA-224 (AW)	WK
VMFA-225 (AW)	CE
VMFA-232	WT
VMFA-242 (AW)	DT
VMFA-251	DW
VMFA-312	DR
VMFA-314	VW
VMFA-323	WS
VMFA-533 (AW)	ED
<b>Marine Electronic Attack</b>	
VMAQ-1	CB
VMAQ-2	CY
VMAQ-3	MD
VMAQ-4	RM
<b>Marine Aerial Refueler/Transport</b>	
VMGR-152	QD
VMGR-234	QH
VMGR-252	BH

Command	Tail Code
VMGR-352	QB
VMGR-452	NY
<b>Marine Fleet Training/Readiness</b>	
VMAT-203	KD
VMFAT-101	SH
VMFAT-501	Tail code to be assigned
VMFT-401	LS
VMGRT-253	GR
VMMT-204	GX
<b>Marine Helicopter Heavy</b>	
HMH-361	YN
HMH-362	YL
HMH-363	YZ
HMH-461	CJ
HMH-462	YF
HMH-463	YH
HMH-464	EN
HMH-465	YJ
HMH-466	YK
HMH-769	MS
HMH-772	MT
<b>Marine Helicopter Medium</b>	
HMM-161	YR
HMM-163	YP
HMM-165	YW
HMM-166	YX
HMM-261	EM
HMM-262	ET
HMM-264	EH
HMM-265	EP
HMM-268	YQ
HMM-364	PF
HMM-365	YM
HMM-764	ML
HMM-774	MQ
<b>Marine Helicopter Light Attack</b>	
HMLA-167	TV
HMLA-169	SN
HMLA-267	UV
HMLA-269	HF
HMLA-367	VT
HMLA-369	SM
HMLA-773	MP
HMLA-775	MM
<b>Marine Medium Tiltrotor</b>	
VMM-162	YS
VMM-263	EG
VMM-266	ES
<b>Marine Helicopter Training</b>	

Command	Tail Code
HMMT-164	YT
HMT-302	MR
HMT-303	QT
<b>Marine Helicopter Experimental</b>	
HMX-1	MK
<b>Marine Fixed-Wing Experimental</b>	
VMX-22	MV
<b>Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Operations</b>	
VMU-1	WG
VMU-2	EZ

<sup>1</sup>RCVW-4 AD  
VAW-120 AD  
VFA-106 AD

RCVW-4 was disestablished on 1 June 1970. Its tail code was retained by VAW-120 and VFA-106.

<sup>1</sup>RCVW-12 NJ  
VAQ-129 NJ  
VFA-122 NJ

RCVW-12 was disestablished on 1 June 1970. Its tail code was retained by VAQ-129 and VFA-122.

<sup>4</sup>CVSG-51 was disestablished on 30 June 1971. Its tail code was retained by HS-10.

<sup>5</sup>All helicopter squadrons assigned to Commander Helicopter Wing Reserve use the same NW tail code.

<sup>1</sup>The tail code TY has been set aside effective 4 April 2004. On this date HSL-47 was assigned to CVW-2 and will be using the air wing's tail code until it is transferred to another command.

<sup>4</sup>The VAQ expeditionary squadrons all fall under COMVAQMIGPAC and have been assigned the same NL tail code.

<b>Tail Code Alphabetical Listing</b>	
Tail Code	Command
A	Meridian (TRAWING ONE)
A	VT-7 (TRAWING ONE)
A	VT-9 (TRAWING ONE)
B	Kingsville (TRAWING TWO)
B	VT-21 (TRAWING TWO)
B	VT-22 (TRAWING TWO)
E	Whiting Field (TRAWING FIVE)
E	HT-8 (TRAWING FIVE)
E	HT-18 (TRAWING FIVE)
E	HT-28 (TRAWING FIVE)
E	VT-2 (TRAWING FIVE)
E	VT-3 (TRAWING FIVE)
E	VT-6 (TRAWING FIVE)
F	Pensacola (TRAWING SIX)
F	VT-4 (TRAWING SIX)
F	VT-10 (TRAWING SIX)
F	VT-86 (TRAWING SIX)
G	Corpus Christi (TRAWING FOUR)
G	VT-27 (TRAWING FOUR)
G	VT-28 (TRAWING FOUR)
G	VT-31 (TRAWING FOUR)
G	VT-35 (TRAWING FOUR)

Tail Code Alphabetical Listing	
Tail Code	Command
AA	CVW-17
AB	CVW-1
AC	CVW-3
AD	RCVW-4*
AD	VAW-120
AD	VFA-106
AF	Tactical Support Wing
AG	CVW-7
AG	HSC-5
AJ	CVW-8
AJ	HSC-9
AM	HSC-22
AX	VR-53
BA	Blue Angels
BD	VR-64
BH	VMGR-252
BJ	HM-14
BR	HSC-28
CB	VMAQ-1
CE	VMFA-225 (AW)
CF	VMA-211
CG	VMA-231
CJ	HMH-461
CN	MALS-14
CR	VMA-542
CW	VR-54
CY	VMAQ-2
DC	VMFA-122
DD	VX-31
DR	VMFA-312
DT	VMFA-242 (AW)
DW	VMFA-251
ED	VMFA-533 (AW)
EG	VMM-263
EH	HMM-264
EL	MALS-26
EM	HMM-261
EN	HMH-464
EP	HMM-265
ES	VMM-266
ET	HMM-262
EW	MALS-24
EX	MALS-31
EZ	VMU-2
GR	VMGRT-253
GX	VMMT-204
HF	HMLA-269
HK	HSM-40

Tail Code Alphabetical Listing	
Tail Code	Command
HL	VQ-4
HN	HSL-42
HP	HSL-44
HQ	HSL-46
HR	HSL-48
HU	HSC-2
HW	HSC-26
JA	VX-1
JH	HX-21
JR	VR-48
JS	VR-46
JT	VR-52
JU	VR-56
JV	VR-58
JW	VR-62
KD	VMAT-203
LA	VP-5
LC	VP-8
LD	VP-10
LF	VP-16
LK	VP-26
LL	VP-30
LN	VP-45
LQ	VQ-2
LS	VMFT-401
LT	VP-62
MB	VMFA-142
MD	VMAQ-3
MF	VMFA-134
MK	HMX-1
ML	HMM-764
MM	HMLA-775
MP	HMLA-773
MQ	HMM-774
MR	HMT-302
MS	HMH-769
MT	HMH-772
MV	VMX-22
NE	CVW-2
NE	HSC-12
NF	CVW-5
NG	CVW-9
NG	HSC-8
NH	CVW-11
NJ	RCVW-12†
NJ	VAQ-129
NJ	VFA-122
NK	CVW-14

Tail Code Alphabetical Listing	
Tail Code	Command
NL	VAQ-133 <sup>#</sup>
NL	VAQ-134 <sup>#</sup>
NL	VAQ-142 <sup>#</sup>
NL	VAQ-143 <sup>#</sup>
NW	HELWINGRES <sup>§</sup>
NW <sup>§</sup>	HSC-84
NW <sup>§</sup>	HSC-85
NW <sup>§</sup>	HSL-60
NY	VMGR-452
OB	VPU-1
PD	VP-9
PF	HMM-364
PJ	VP-69
PR	VQ-1
QB	VMGR-352
QD	VMGR-152
QE	VP-40
QF	HQSSDN-37
QH	VMGR-234
QT	HMT-303
RA	CVSG-51 <sup>†</sup>
RA	HS-10
RB	HSC-25
RC	VP-46
RD	VP-47
RL	VXS-1
RM	VMAQ-4
RS	VR-61
RU	VR-55
RV	VR-51
RW	VRC-30
RX	VR-57
RY	VR-59
SA	HSC-3
SD	VX-23
SH	VMFAT-101
SM	HMLA-369
SN	HMLA-169
SP	VPU-2
SZ	MWHS-1
TA	HSL-51
TB	HM-15
TC	VQ-3
TH	HSL-37
TL	VQ-7
TM	MALS-11
TPS	Test Pilot School
TS	HSM-41

Tail Code Alphabetical Listing	
Tail Code	Command
TT	HSL-43
TV	HMLA-167
TX	HSL-49
TY	
TZ	HSL-45
UV	HMLA-267
VE	VMFA-115
VK	VMFA-121 (AW)
VR	HSC-21
VT	HMLA-367
VW	VMFA-314
VX	VX-30
WA	MALS-12
WA	VMA-214
WB	VX-20
WC	HSC-23
WD	VMFA-212
WF	VMA-513
WG	VMU-1
WK	MALS-36
WK	VMFA-224 (AW)
WL	VMA-311
WP	VMA-223
WS	VMFA-323
WT	VMFA-232
WW	HAMS-16
XE	VX-9
YB	VP-1
YD	VP-4
YF	HMH-462
YH	HMH-463
YJ	HMH-465
YK	HMH-466
YL	HMH-362
YM	HMM-365
YN	HMH-361
YP	HMM-163
YQ	HMM-268
YR	HMM-161
YS	VMM-162
YT	HMMT-164
YU	MALS-13
YW	HMM-165
YX	HMM-166
YZ	HMH-363
To be assigned	HSM-70
To be assigned	HSM-71
To be assigned	HSM-77

Tail Code Alphabetical Listing	
Tail Code	Command
To be assigned	MALS 41
To be assigned	MALS 49
To be assigned	VMFAT-501
None	VR-1
None	VRC-40

\* RCVW-4 was disestablished on 1 June 1970. Its tail code was retained by VAW-120 and VFA-106.

† RCVW-12 was disestablished on 1 June 1970. Its tail code was retained by VAQ-129 and VFA-122.

‡ CVSG-51 was disestablished on 30 June 1971. Its tail code was retained by HS-10.

§ All helicopter squadrons assigned to Commander Helicopter Wing Reserve use the same NW tail code.

|| The tail code TY has been set aside effective 4 April 2004. On this date HSL-47 was assigned to CVW-2 and will be using the air wing's tail code until it is transferred to another command.

# The VAQ expeditionary squadrons all fall under COMVAQMIGPAC and have been assigned the same NL tail code.