



**FIGHTER SQUADRON ONE HUNDRED TWO  
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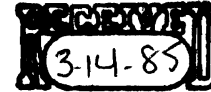
08 MAR 1985

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From: Commanding Officer, Fighter Squadron ONE HUNDRED TWO  
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-0502)

Subj: SQUADRON COMMAND HISTORY

Encl: (1) VF-102 Command History Statistical Data  
(2) Cruise Summary



1. Fighter Squadron ONE HUNDRED TWO was deployed with Carrier Air Wing ONE the majority of calendar year 1984 on board USS AMERICA (CV-66). Commander Marc A. Ostertag, II took command of the squadron on 10 March 1984 at a ceremony on board USS AMERICA during a Port Call in St. Thomas, U.S.V.I. Workups were completed in February and March with the extended deployment beginning 24 April 1984. The battle group spent the first half of cruise in the Indian Ocean. The weather, typical of the Southwest Monsoon Season, had a major impact on the Indian Ocean operations. VF-102 returned to the Mediterranean Sea in September and took part in Display Determination 1984. Deployment ended as USS America docked pierside on 14 November 1984.

2. The following is a brief account of the events in a chronological order.

a. January. The Diamondbacks supported a four aircraft Sopwith Camel detachment on board USS AMERICA from 10-19 January. The Have Quick Operation Evaluation was also completed during this detachment in which the squadron logged 48.4 flight hours and 45 arrested landings. Operations ashore during January included aircrew training in Air to Air Guns, Seabat, Tarps low levels, and Electronic Warfare range training.

b. February. VF-102 aircraft flew aboard on 7 February as the ship proceeded toward the Puerto Rican Operating Area (PROA) for TYT II (10-17 Feb), Readex 1-84 (15-17 Feb) and TYT III (27 Feb - 3 Mar). During TYT II, the squadron trained in Carrier Qualification, Air to Air Guns, Tarps, Surface Search Control, and Vector Logic Missions. Readex 1-84 involved a Joint Carrier Vector Logic AAW exercise with CVW-17. VF-102 flew 52 sorties for 132.4 flight hours during around the clock operations. USS AMERICA enjoyed a port call in Fort Lauderdale, Fl. from 21 - 25 February 1984. TYT III (27 Feb - 3 Mar) was highlighted by a successful missile firing exercise involving an AIM 54A, AIM 7F, and AIM 9L.

c. March. The squadron achieved an outstanding rating in the Operational Readiness Examination (ORE), 5-8 March. A successful AIM-7F missile shoot took place on 5 March. VF-102 flew 55 sorties/137.9 flight hours during the ORE. 9 - 13 March was spent in port St Thomas, U.S.V.I. CDR Marc A. Ostertag, II relieved CDR W.W. Copeland at a change of command ceremony on board the USS AMERICA. CDR J. M. Lyle joined the squadron as the Executive Officer.

d. April. The Diamondbacks spent most of April preparing for deployment on 24 April. CV-66 sponsored a dependents day cruise on 19 April during which VF-102 flew aboard ten aircraft. Ocean Venture 84 began 28 April involving flight operations in the Gulf of Mexico. Flights during Ocean Venture were also dedicated to the KA-93C LCROP Camera evaluation. The exercise ended on 5 May.

Subj: SQUADRON COMMAND HISTORY

e. May. On 10 May, the squadron successfully fired 2 ATM-7E and 1 ATM-9H. The USS AMERICA transitted the Atlantic Ocean from 11 -21 May and pulled into Malaga, Spain for a port call from 23 - 30 May. On 30 May, AB-103's hook slapped the ramp on a night recovery and was diverted to NAS Sigonella, Sicily.

f. June. The battle group transitted the Mediterranean Sea and arrived at the Suez Canal on 4 June. With incho into the 7th Fleet, the squadron assumed an extensive alert posture in the last half of June. The extremely bad weather of the Southwest Monsoon season played a major factor in the Indian Ocean operations. High temperatures, heavy sea states, high winds, poor visibility and humid, slippery flight decks characterized the three months in the area. AB-103 received class "C" damage after sliding across the hangar bay into AB-113 on 9 June. On 20 June, AB-111 was lost over the side during a prelaunch respot. Minor injuries were sustained by the pilot that eventually led to his return to CONUS.

g. July. VF-102 participated in Beacon Flash 1984 from 8 - 11 July. Missions involved flights over Oman for low level training and ACM. On 15 July, AB-105 was lost at sea during a single engine recovery; the aircrew were recovered unharmed after successful ejections.

h. August. Two replacement aircraft arrived on board USS AMERICA on 3 August. The aircraft were flown by crews from VF-101 and VF-31. LT [REDACTED] (VF-31) remained on board until 21 August as an augment pilot. The battle group left the Indian Ocean on 27 August and transitted the Red Sea (29 - 31 Aug).

i. September. The battle group transitted the Suez Canal on 2 September and pulled into Naples, Italy from 7 - 10 September. Another port call in Monaco, France (13 - 22 September) followed normal operations upon leaving Naples. Display Determination 1984 (24 - 28 Sep and 3 - 13 Oct) provided excellent training for Diamondback aircrew. The exercise, divided by a second port call in Naples (29 Sep - 2 Oct), involved low level overland flights and dissimilar ACM with NATO aircraft.

j. October. A squadron detachment was established at NAS Sigonella that ran concurrently with the ship's port call in Catania, Sicily (16 - 24 Oct). Upon leaving Sicily, the USS AMERICA proceeded to Rota, Spain while conducting normal flight operations.

k. November. USS AMERICA's battle group incho to the 2nd Fleet occurred on 2 November after a one day anchorage in Rota, Spain. The squadron participated in routine flight operations during the Atlantic Ocean transit. The Air Wing fly off was 13 November and USS AMERICA arrived pierside on the 14th.

l. December. The month of December included a post cruise standdown associated with the holidays and the beginning of the squadron's turnaround training syllabus. VF-102 supported USS AMERICA's Sopwith Camel Detachment with 4 Aircraft, 30 November - 17 December 1984.

  
M. A. OSTERTAG, II

Copy to:  
Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington, D.C. 20374

VF-102 COMMAND HISTORY  
STATISTICAL DATA

I. Aircraft Assigned - January 1985

	A/C Lost
AB 100 - 159466	AB 111 - 161283
AB 101 - 159458	AB 105 - 159439
AB 102 - 159447	
AB 103 - 159006	
AB 104 - 159465	
AB 106 - 159004	
AB 107 - 159460	
AB 112 - 161285	
AB 113 - 161286	
AB 114 - 161280	
AB 115 - 159589	

II. Ammunition Expenditures - 1984 Calendar Year

	NALC	ITEM	EXPENDITURE
January	NW20	RR-129 chaff	46
	ND48	CAD's (MD48)	46
February	NW20	RR-129 chaff	15
	MD48	CAD	15
March	A891	20MM TP	1356
	FW77	AIM-54A	1
	FW70	AIM-7F	2
	PA72	AIM-9L	1
	A891	20MM TP	600
	A890	20MM HEI	570
	LW58	MK-46 FLARE	19
	NW20	RR-129 chaff	43
	M363	MK-124 CAD	4
	M363	MK-107 CAD	1
	M297	MK-131 CAD	55
	A890	20MM HEI	2385
	A891	20MM TP	600
	FW67	AIM-7F	1
	FW70	AIM-7F	1
	FW77	AEM-54	1
	PA72	AIM-9L	1
	M363	MK-124	4
	M943	MK-107	1
	NW20	RR-129 chaff	149
M197	MK-131 CAD	166	
LW58	MK-46 DECOY FL	19	
PA74	AIM-7F	1	
April	NW20	RR-129 chaff	163

	M197	MK-131 CAD	163
	A891	20MM TP	2167
May	A891	20MM TP	41
	PA34	AIM-9H	1
	HW67	AIM-7E	2
	M363	MK-124 CAD	2
	A891	20MM TP	291
	LW58	MK-46 DECOY FL	12
	NW20	RR-129 chaff	72
	M197	MK-131 CAD	84
	PA34	AIM-9H	1
	HW90	AIM-7E	1
	HW83	AIM-7E	1
	M363	MK-124 CAD	2
July	LW62	MK 46 DECOY IC	65
	MD48	IMP CTG	247
	M197	CTG MK131	98
	NW20	Chaff RR-129	247
	LW60	MK46 DECOY FLARE	23

ORDNANCE LOST WITH AB 105

	PA74	AIM-7F	1
	PB55	AIM-9M	1
	PA57	AIM-54A	1
	M890	20MM HEI	600
	LW60	MK-46 DECOY FL	20
	NW20	RR-129 chaff	40
	MD48	MD48 CAD	40
	M197	MK-131 CAD	20
	M943	MK-107 CAD	5
	M363	MK-124 CAD	2
August	A890	20MM HEI	3476
	LW62	MK-46 DECOY IC	62
	M179	CTG MK-131	73
	MW120	Chaff RR-129	246
	LW60	MK-46 DECOY	11

III. Officer Compliment

COMMANDERS

OSTERTAG, MARC A., II  
 LYLE, JOHN M.

LIEUTENANT COMMANDERS



Officer Compliment (Cont'd)

LIEUTENANTS

[REDACTED]

LIEUTENANTS (JUNIOR GRADE)

[REDACTED]

WARRANT OFFICERS

OVO-4 [REDACTED]  
OVO-3 [REDACTED]