

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
FIGHTER SQUADRON FOURTEEN
FLEET POST OFFICE
NEW YORK 09501

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From: Commanding Officer, Fighter Squadron FOURTEEN
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-05D2)

Subj: Command History; submission of OPNAV report 5750-1

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.1B

Encl: (1) Command Organization
(2) Chronology of Events
(3) FITRON FOURTEEN Officer and Billets held 31 DEC 78
(4) FITRON FOURTEEN 1978 Flight Statistics
(5) 1978 Weapons Expended
(6) Admiral Joseph Clifton Award Nomination
(7) TOPHATTER 1978-1979 Mediterranean Cruise Report
(8) CNC Annual Safety Award
(9) Biography of Commander T. W. WRIGHT, Commanding Officer
(10) Biography of Commander J. J. DANTONE, Executive Officer

1. (U) In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (10) are submitted.


T. W. WRIGHT

Copy to:
Director of Naval History (OP-09B9)

Classified by OPNAVINST 5750.1B
Declassify on 31 December 1985

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COMMAND ORGANIZATION

1. (U) Command Organization:

a. Command organization opened in 1978 with CDR Francis J. DOUGHERTY commanding with CDR Timothy W. WRIGHT as Executive Officer. On 7 April, CDR DOUGHERTY was relieved by CDR WRIGHT and CDR Joseph J. DANTONE became Executive Officer of the TOPHATTERS as VF-14 prepared for Exercise Solid Shield and the June 28 Mediterranean Deployment.

b. The basic mission of Fighting FOURTEEN has not changed. As stated in the VF-14 Watch and Information Sheet, the mission of Fighter Squadron FOURTEEN is to intercept and destroy enemy aircraft and anti-ship capable missiles in all weather conditions and to establish and maintain local air superiority.

2. (C) Summary of Operations: Calendar Year 1978 was another fine year much like 1977. The TOPHATTERS of Fighter Squadron FOURTEEN were embarked over 9 months involved in various exercises with Carrier Air Wing ONE. Significant events to be covered in detail in this history include: ORE 1978, Solid Shield, and Mediterranean deployment 78-79. During 1978 the TOPHATTERS flew 5444.7 hours with 2608 arrested landings and a sortie completion rate of 90 percent. TOPHATTER aircrews expended 4170 rounds of 20mm; eight AIM-7 Sparrows, two AIM-9L Sidewinders and one AIM-54 Phoenix during calendar year 1978. Three major air combat maneuvering exercises were held in 1978, two while deployed and one at NAS Oceana. A major missile firing exercise was conducted while deployed during BUZARDEX 1978 in the Mediterranean Sea. Primary emphasis of the deployment was on Carrier Operations with limited ACM and MAS training.

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Enclosure (1)

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CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

1. (C) The squadron re-located numerous times prior to Mediterranean deployment 1978. The changes in location and significant events are summarized below.

1-5 JAN	Stationed ashore NAS Oceana
6-20 JAN	Embarked in USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) Refresher Training
21-29 JAN	Inport Norfolk, VA
30 JAN - 10 FEB	Type Training ONE
11-20 FEB	Ashore NAS Oceana
21 FEB - 10 MAR	Type Training TWO and THREE and Operational Readiness Exercise. (ORE)
24 MAR- 8 MAY	Ashore NAS Oceana, Fleet Fighter Readiness Program (FFRP), ACM vs. VF-43
7 APR	CDR Francis J. DOUGHERTY relieved by CDR Timothy W. WRIGHT
8-26 MAY	USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) Exercise Solid Shield
27 MAY - 21 JUN	NAS Oceana POM
21-23 JUN	Embarked in USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67)
23-27 JUN	Inport Norfolk
28 JUN	Departed Norfolk
30 JUN - 8 JUL	Flight Operations SIXTH Fleet INCHOP
9-11 JUL	Inport Rota, COMCARGRU SIX onboard
12-16 JUL	Flight Operations
17-19 JUL	Inport Naples
20-28 JUL	Flight Operations
24-25 JUL	Open Ocean Missile Shoot (BUZZARDEX)
29 JUL	Anchorage

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30 JUL - 5 AUG	Flight Operations, National Week
6-11 AUG	Inport Trieste, Italy
12-18 AUG	Flight Operations
16-18 AUG	NAMFI Missile Shoot
19 AUG	Flight Operations
21 AUG - 3 SEP	Inport Naples
4-11 SEP	Flight Operations
12-17 SEP	Inport Alexandria, Egypt
18-22 SEP	Flight Operations
23-26 SEP	Inport Naples
27 SEP - 12 OCT	Flight Operations, DISPLAY DETERMINATION
13-16 OCT	Inport Taranto, Italy
17-23 OCT	NAMFI Missile Shoot
24 OCT - 6 NOV	Inport Palma De Majorca
7-12 NOV	Flight Operations, OPERATION POOP DECK
13-21 NOV	Inport Naples
22-26 NOV	Flight Operations, EXERCISE LAFAYETTE
27 NOV - 3 DEC	Inport Barcelona/DACT DET Zaragoza
4-8 DEC	Flight Operations
6 DEC	Missile Shoot, SALTO DE QUIRO, Sardinia
9-17 DEC	Inport Valencia/DACT DET Zaragoza
18-20 DEC	Flight Operations
21 DEC 78 - 7 JAN 79	Inport Naples/Sigonella DET

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Enclosure (2)

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FITRON FOURTEEN 1978 FLIGHT STATISTICS

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Total for Year 78'	DEC	NOV	OCT	SEP	AUG	JUL	JUN	MAY	APR	MAR	FEB	JAN	
325.6	46.6	30.3	0	0	0	0	36.2	26.2	129.0	19.5	3.5	3.7	Day Hours Ashore
73.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	18.4	17.4	10.0	5.1	0	22.9	Night Hours "
399.4	46.6	30.3	0	0	0	0	54.6	44.2	139.0	24.6	3.5	56.6	Total ashore
3577.0	172.0	294.9	690.9	379.8	362.5	551.0	61.0	459.1	25.6	272.9	204.7	102.6	Day Hrs Embk
1468.3	80.9	119.9	286.6	184.9	134.5	173.3	17.3	110.6	1.4	156.6	148.5	53.8	Night Hrs. Embk
5045.3	252.9	414.8	977.5	564.7	497.0	724.3	78.3	569.7	27.0	429.5	353.2	156.4	Total Embk
5444.7	299.5	445.1	977.5	564.7	497.0	724.3	132.9	613.9	166.0	454.1	356.7	213.0	Total Embk/ashore
1752	82	142	303	202	173	263	48	230	14	130	98	67	Day traps
856	43	65	170	111	76	109	15	64	1	83	79	40	Night traps
2608	125	207	473	313	249	372	63	294	15	213	177	107	Total
2041/830 Yrly Sortie Total - 2871	99/52	181/57	374/ 127	231/ 91	209/ 75	288/ 111	35/19	255/67	11/1	168/90	128/96	62/44	Sortie Sched Embk D/N
274/67 341	34/0	24/0	0	0	0	0/0	30/14	19/19	127/7	15/2	3/0	22/25	Sortie Sched

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ENCLOSURE (4)

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WEAPONS EXPENDED - 1978

AIM-54	Phoenix	1
AIM-7	Sparrow	8
AIM-9L	Sidewinder	2
20mm	Rounds	4150

Enclosure (5)

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