



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

FIGHTER SQUADRON FOURTEEN

FLEET POST OFFICE

AE 09504-6103

5750

Ser 00

30 Nov 01

From: Commanding Officer, Fighter Squadron FOURTEEN  
To: Director of Naval History

Subj: 2000 COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) VF-14's Command History for 2000  
(2) Biography and photograph of CDR S.B. Richardson  
(3) Photograph of squadron's aircraft  
(4) Copy of squadron's Welcome Aboard Message  
(5) Copy of squadron's News Releases (five articles)  
(6) Battle "E" Submission  
(7) Maintenance Award Package  
(8) CINCLANTFLT Retention Excellence Award

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (8) are forwarded.

*B. W. Fecht*  
B. W. FECHT *he*

## 1. **Command Composition and Organization.**

(a) Command short title and UIC: FITRON 14, 09084

(b) Mission: To intercept and destroy enemy aircraft in all weather conditions, establish and maintain air superiority, and deliver ordnance on target, on time, first pass.

(c) Organizational Structure: VF-14's immediate senior in command is: Commander Carrier Air Wing EIGHT.

(d) Name of Commanding Officer: CDR Samuel B. Richardson

(e) Permanent Duty Station: NAS Oceana, Hangar 200, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23460.

(f) Type and Number of Aircraft Assigned: 11 F-14A, tailcode "AJ"

## 2. **Chronology.**

15-28 January

SFWT Level III BFM and Battle Group air-intercept controller (AIC) detachment to MacDill Air Force Base.

8-18 February

Supported USS Enterprise (CVN-65) during Flight Deck Certification.

22 March - 2 April

Concurrently supported CVW-17 Orange Air requirements at NAS Pensacola while aggressively pursuing air-to-ground SFWT training at NAS Oceana successfully expending over 50,000 pounds of ordnance.

10-22 April

Embarked onboard USS ENTERPRISE (CVN-65) for Independent Steaming Exercise (ISE).

15-24 May

Detached to Hill AFB, UT for valuable FAC(A) and CAS training.

8-13 June

USS ENTERPRISE (CVN-64)

5-20 August

Detached to NAS Fallon, NV for Air-to-Ground SFARP.

18 September - 5 October

Embarked onboard USS ENTERPRISE(CVN-65) for TSTA I/II/FEP.

16 October - 10 November

Detached to NAS Fallon, NV for CVW-8 Air Wing Training.

30 November - 5 December

Conducted fleet carrier qualifications onboard USS ENTERPRISE (CVN-65).

### 3. Narrative.

#### a. OPERATIONS:

|                          | Total/Day/Night     |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| (1) Sorties:             | 2319/1771/548       |
| (2) Hours:               | 3403.7/2681.6/722.1 |
| (3) Sorties Embarked:    | 278/170/108         |
| (4) Hours Embarked:      | 445.6/303.4/142.2   |
| (5) CV Landings:         | 573/413/160         |
| (6) Landing Grades:      | 3.212               |
| (7) Boarding Rate:       | 94.0%               |
| (8) Ordnance Expenditure |                     |

#### Total Expenditure:

| <u>Type</u> | <u>Allocated/Used</u> | <u>%Expended</u> |
|-------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| AIM-54      | 3/3                   | 100%             |
| AIM-7       | 2/2                   | 100%             |
| AIM-9       | 4/4                   | 100%             |
| 20mm        | 726/726               | 100%             |
| Chaff       | 489/489               | 100%             |
| BOL Chaff   | 973/973               | 100%             |
| Flares      | 970/970               | 100%             |
| LUU-2       | 24/24                 | 100%             |
| MK-76       | 714/714               | 100%             |
| BDU-33      | 235/235               | 100%             |
| BDU-45      | 71/71                 | 100%             |
| MK-20       | 8/8                   | 100%             |

|            |         |      |
|------------|---------|------|
| MK-82      | 125/125 | 100% |
| MK-83      | 9/9     | 100% |
| MK-83 (I)  | 68/68   | 100% |
| LGTR       | 34/34   | 100% |
| GBU-12 (I) | 2/2     | 100% |
| GBU-16     | 1/1     | 100% |
| GBU-16 (I) | 1/1     | 100% |
| TALD       | 3/3     | 100% |

b. Contributions to Weapons System and Tactical Development:

(1) The TOPHATTERS fully maximized combat effectiveness. Executed greater than 100% of the available OPTAR every quarter of the FY. During this calendar year's first, second, third and fourth quarter, VF-14 flew 101%, 122%, 121% and 106% respectively of the original quarter's grant. This enabled the squadron to maximize combat readiness, in a non-deployed year, by averaging 16 sorties and over 20 hours per aircrew per month throughout the IDTC.

(2) VF-14 sortie total, in 2000, eclipsed the record-setting performance of 1999.

(3) Awarded the 2000 COMFITWINGLANT ACM Derby for fighter excellence.

(4) Awarded the Vice Admiral "Sweet Pea" Allen Precision Strike Award for 2000.

(5) Participated in the LANTIRN Employment Training Program (LETP), LANTIRN Derby, Bombing Derby, and ACM Derby for FY 2001.

(6) Spearheaded the Air Wing EIGHT Missile Exercise Program. Acted as overall coordinator for two Air Wing missile exercises. Expertly planned and executed the successful expenditure of 100% of the squadron's NCEA. The Air Wing successfully expended three AIM-54, two AIM-120, five AIM-7, ten AIM-9 missiles, eight TALD and two BQM-74 drones.

(7) A forerunner in LANTIRN training. Developed 10 LANTIRN target folders and training routes, which dramatically improved aircrew training. For Paveway II deliveries, VF-14 was able to achieve a 91% target acquisition success rate with 100% of those deliveries on target, on time, first pass during CVW-8 Fallon Training in October 2000.

(8) Exceeded the Strike Fighter Advanced Readiness Program (SFARP) squadron average in every measurable category. Specifically:

| <u>Category (Air-to-Air)</u> | <u>VF-14 Average</u> | <u>SFARP Average</u> |
|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Missions scheduled           | 42                   | 40                   |
| Missions flown               | 38                   | 34                   |
| Mission completion rate      | 90%                  | 86%                  |
| Sorties scheduled            | 96                   | 93                   |
| Sorties flown                | 89                   | 77                   |
| Sortie completion rate       | 93%                  | 83%                  |

| <u>Category (Air-to-Ground)</u> | <u>VF-14 Average</u> | <u>SFARP Average</u> |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Missions scheduled              | 27                   | 25                   |
| Missions flown                  | 27                   | 24                   |
| Mission completion rate         | 100%                 | 92%                  |
| Sorties scheduled               | 108                  | 103                  |
| Sorties flown                   | 102                  | 90                   |
| Sortie completion rate          | 94%                  | 87%                  |

| <u>System</u>            | <u>VF-14 Average</u> | <u>SFARP Average</u> |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Operational radar        | 92%                  | 89%                  |
| Operational MSN recorder | 88%                  | 82%                  |
| Operational RWR          | 76%                  | 70%                  |
| Operational LTS          | 86%                  | 67%                  |

| <u>Air-to-Ground Execution</u>           | <u>VF-14 Average</u> | <u>SFARP Average</u> |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|
| Ave. hit dist. 1 <sup>st</sup> pass (GP) | 123'                 | 143'                 |
| Drop rate 1 <sup>st</sup> pass (GP)      | 77                   | 72                   |
| Valid delivery rate (GP)                 | 70%                  | 52%                  |
| Drop rate 1 <sup>st</sup> pass (LTS)     | 80%                  | 64%                  |
| SF-17 valid drop rate (LTS)              | 75                   | 67                   |
| Average TOT differential                 | 25s                  | 27s                  |

(9) F-14 lead for Fast Tactical Imagery (FTI) testing. Demonstrated link capabilities with man portable receivers. First squadron to successfully transmit/receive FTI images to both an S-3 and an F/A-18 aircraft. Selected to lead the effort to expand FTI capability to SATCOM radios. Squadron received Kudos from NAVAIRSYSCOM for these efforts.

(10) Major contributor in the first Time Critical Strikes (TCS) executed during an Air Wing Fallon Detachment.

(11) Expanded mixed section employment LANTIRN tactics. Utilized the LANTIRN Targeting System to successfully guide simultaneous Laser Mavericks released from Air Wing F/A-18's in the Utah Test and Training Range.

(12) Expanded LANTIRN tactics to include guiding a Hellfire missile during the Air Wing Fallon detachment. With support from the LANTIRN Targeting System, the Hellfire was guided to a direct hit on a tank located in the B-20 range.

(13) Developed and executed an aggressive SFWT training plan. Implemented a strong ground training plan, developed an automated SFWT program tracking, and focused on SFWT qualifications. Completed 270 SFWT sorties, qualified nine Level II candidates, five Level III candidates, and seven Level IV candidates.

(14) Qualified more Strike Leads than any other squadron in Air Wing EIGHT. Under the leadership of five designated Strike Leads and five Strike Leads Under Instruction (SLUIs), VF-14 led the highest number of strike missions during Air Wing EIGHT Fallon Detachment.

(15) Throughout the entire turnaround, VF-14 maintained an exceptional 88.3 percent Full Mission Capable (FMC) rate and a 96.6 percent Mission Capable (MC) rate while completing 99.8 percent of assigned sorties. Specifically:

1. Organized and executed a 13 day SFWT Level III BFM and Battle Group air-intercept controller (AIC) detachment to MacDill Air Force Base from 15-28 JAN 00. Completed 83 total sorties with a 99% sortie completion rate and provided 166 tactical training runs for Battle Group AIC's while actively training against F-16 adversaries.

2. Supported USS Enterprise (CVN-65) during Flight Deck Certification 8-18 FEB 00. Flew 63 sorties and logged 121 traps for a 98% sortie completion rate.

3. Concurrently supported CVW-17 Orange Air requirements at NAS Pensacola while aggressively pursuing air-to-ground SFWT training at NAS Oceana successfully expending over 50,000 pounds of ordnance. Squadron flew 108 sorties for a 100% sortie completion rate.

4. Embarked onboard USS ENTERPRISE (CVN-65) for Independent Steaming Exercise (ISE) from 12-22 APR 00. The

squadron flew 77 sorties and logged 106 traps for a 100% sortie completion rate.

5. Detached to Hill AFB, UT, 15-24 May 00, for valuable FAC(A) and CAS training. The squadron successfully qualified three FAC(a) crews, completed 96 sorties, and expended over 23,000 lbs of ordnance with a 97% sortie completion rate.

6. Detached to NAS Fallon, NV, 5-20 Aug 00, for Air-to-Ground SFARP. The squadron flew 186 sorties and expended over 40,000 pounds of ordnance with a 97% sortie completion rate.

7. Embarked onboard USS ENTERPRISE(CVN-65) for TSTA I/II/FEP 18 Sep 00-5 Oct 00. The squadron flew 184 sorties and accumulated 214 arrested landings with a 99% sortie completion rate.

8. Detached to NAS Fallon, NV, 16 October-10 November 00 for CVW-8 Air Wing Training. The squadron flew 237 sorties and expended over 37,000 lbs of ordnance with a 99% sortie completion rate.

9. Conducted fleet CQ, USS ENTERPRISE (CVN-65), 30 November-5 December 00. The squadron flew 61 sorties and accumulated 85 arrested landings with a 100% sortie completion rate.

(16) Hand-picked to lead USS Enterprise Battle Group SINKEX. Planned the delivery of GBUs, Laser Maverick, IR Maverick, Hellfire, and Harpoon by the Air Wing as well as Harpoon, Mk-48 torpedoes and 5 inch gun by the ASW and ASUW assets in the Battle Group.

(17) Conducted multiple joint training operations. Performed extensive Close Air Support (CAS) training with USAF F-16 and B-1's. Worked closely with the USAF Weapons School, B-1 Division, to improve B-1/FAC(A) tactics.

(18) Provided FAC(A)s in support of joint exercise Roving Sands 2000 from 14-20 APR 00. Instrumental in planning, establishing and exercising joint and combined FAC(A) tactics against an Integrated Air Defense System (IADS). Provided doctrinal combat service support as well as strategic and intra-theater deployment and redeployment.

(19) Provided a vital Air Wing liaison officer tasked

with coordinating Air Wing and Battle Group assets with the Joint Force Air Component Command (JFACC) in support of CVW-17 and CVW-3 during C2X and JTFEX respectively. The JFACC commander complimented VF-14's LNO on his professionalism and tactical contributions.

(20) Provided VF-11, VF-143, and VF-211 a comprehensive deployment lessons learned briefing. This report, along with PowerPoint presentation, armed deploying squadrons with LANTIRN lessons learned and F-14 employment in the STW, AAW, and FAC(A) roles. VF-211 Commanding Officer lauded this brief as the most important brief his squadron received prior to deployment.

(21) Front-runner in fleet product improvement. Through Operational Advisory Group (OAG) Program participation, the squadron recommended changes to the 2F95A and 15C9 simulators to include visual improvements, out of control flight characteristics, and the importance of linking front and rear cockpit trainers to maximize training.

c. General contributions to the Tomcat Community:

(1) Provided aircraft for VF-101 to train VF-154 aircrew in the FAC(A) syllabus. Provided support for the 24<sup>th</sup> Marine Expeditionary Unit Special Targeting Squadron and the USMC Expeditionary Warfare Training Group Atlantic for their Tactical Air Control Party training requirements.

(2) Provided two aircraft for NSAWC/TOPGUN aircrew to maintain NVD/FAC(A) proficiency.

(3) Provided Red Air sorties in support of VFA-15 and VFA-87 air-to-air SFARP.

(4) Hand picked to fly VADM Mobley and three AIRLANT staff members and USS Enterprise (CVN-65) Commanding Officer. Led the Airwing in flying CVW-8 staff members with 86 total sorties.

(5) Flew more SWATSLANT aircrew for more hours than any other F-14 squadron. Provided SWATSLANT aircrew with approximately 17% of SWATSLANT's total flight hours for the year.

(6) Fully supported fleet professional organizations. VF-14 boasts 100% membership in Tailhook and was the only Fighter Squadron to host an admin at the first Navy sanctioned



Tailhook Convention in nine years. One TOPHATTER was awarded Tailhooker of the year for recruiting the most new members.

(7) Fully supported COMFITWINGLANT with fly-by support. This included the SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER ATLANTIC (SACLANT) Change of Command, Arlington National Cemetery Memorial Services, OP Sail 2000, New York City Fleet Week 2000 and memorial services for LT Dey and LT Bergstrom.

(8) Provided aircraft static displays for USS ENTERPRISE (CVN-65) Change of Command, Carrier Air Wing EIGHT Change of Command, and NAS Pensacola Fleet Week on board USS ENTERPRISE (CVN-65) and the season ending Blue Angel air show.

(9) Provided six aircraft for an Air Power Demonstration during the USS ENTERPRISE (CVN-65) Friends and Family Day Cruise.

(10) Provided maintenance for NSAWC aircraft during a NSAWC/TOPGUN 1v1 Detachment to NAS Oceana, August 2000.

(11) Hosted numerous squadrons and detachments to include: VF-32, VF-211, VF-31, VAQ-141, VS-24, and USAF 160th Special Ops Detachment.

(12) Significantly improved F-14 Material Condition. Incorporated 351 technical directives. Coordinated and resolved 15 depot-level repairs requiring Planner and Estimator services. Completed thirty-four aircraft upgrades and modifications to include the critical fuselage station 353 beam repair, "tough wing II" and wing bearing modifications, as well as the back-up flight control wiring modification, and Shielded Mild Detonating Cord (SMDC) replacement. Conducted 13 ASPA inspections with outstanding results. Astute foresight in the scheduling of these 13 ASPA inspections as well as the AMCI and CWTPI inspections and aircraft modifications during the height of the turnaround cycle enabled the command to exceed all CNO aircraft readiness goals while meeting every operational commitment.

(13) Maintained 100 percent accuracy during three unannounced Material Obligation Validation inspections. Expertly managed and expended 7F and 7B accounts totaling nearly \$2.75M to within 99.75 percent.

(14) Submitted three critical HAZREP discrepancies. This included: a HAZREP for binding flight controls due to improper stowage of the Programmable Tactical Information

Display (PTID) System connector, a discrepancy concerning the material failure of horizontal stabilizer trailing edges, and an oil breather pressure switch defect. Submitted 15 Conventional Ordnance Deficiency Reports (CODRs) in an effort to resolve an ongoing problem with certain weapons systems. Submitted 26 Naval Aviation Maintenance Discrepancy Reports (NAMDRPs) leading to increased productivity, enhanced safety and reduced material failures.

(15) Squadron established itself as the local expert on DFCS. Maintaining liaison with NAVAIR and engineers, VF-14 identified problems with ground roll braking failures, autopilot discrepancies, and power supply degrades.