



Morris E. Haller, Captain, USN (Ret.)
 "Seb"

Date of Designation: 8 May 1941 NA # 7629

Dates of Active Duty: 15 July 1940 - 30 June 1972

Total Flight Hours: 5,507 (Mostly in Seaplanes PBY, PBM and P5M.)

Approximate Flight Hours:
 Prop: 5,507 VP/ASW: 5,507

Aviation Commands:
 CO, VP-44 (P5M's) 1958 - 1959
 CO, Naval Station Guam, 1965 - 1967

Awards:
 3 Air Medals (for night strikes on Japanese shipping along China coast)
 2 Meritorious Service Medals
 Navy Unit Commendation
 Presidential Unit Citation

Duty Assignment Chronology

- 1941 Completed flight training at Pensacola in May 1941 in P2Y2's and P3M's as Final Squadron. Capt. A.C. Reed, CO, NAS Pensacola pinned on my wings.
- 1941 To Flight Instructor School, NAS Jacksonville, FL., in July 1941 (Smoke Streen was one of my instructors). From there to Primary Flight Instructor, Lee Field, Green Cove Springs, FL.
- 1943 Moved from Lee Field to Mainside-JAX as Instrument Instructor in SNJ's with Charlie Goldtrap (Eastern Airline Pilot) as our mentor.
- 1944 To duty in Coronado, CA., in PBY's and then on West to Kaneohe, Oahu as PPC (Patrol Plane Commander) of PBY-5 TRANSPAC (19.2 hours from San Diego Bay to Kaneohe Bay). Continued West to the Philippines and VPB-71



- "Black Cat" Squadron as PPC and Maintenance Officer. Awarded Air Medals (3) for air strikes at night along the China coast on Japanese "Sugar Charlies" cruising coast at night to get gaso line to Japan. VPB-71 received the Navy Unit Commendation and Presidential Unit Citation during this deployment.
- 1945 War ended and I returned to CONUS to assume duties as XO of Seaplane Tender (USS *Rockaway*) as LCDR. From USS *Rockaway* to Operational Training in PBM's, Banana River, FL. in 1946. Then on to Squadron Duty in Norfolk, VA., in VPAM-3 as Operations Officer.
- 1947 Next duty was at Fleet Sonar School, Key West, FL. Was the only aviator on the Staff to present the Air ASW picture to CO/XO classes. (CAPT George W. Anderson as student, enroute to CO of carrier, was most complimentary).
- 1949 Line School, Newport, RI. (Section Leader).
- 1950 Back to Key West and Air Development Squadron ONE (VX-1) as Tactical Development Officer. Was Project Supervisor for "Fleet Evaluation" of SSQ-2 Sonobuoy and for "Fleet Evaluation" of P5M as Antisubmarine Warfare Aircraft.
- 1953 To OPNAV Staff (OP-05W) for matters related to ASW. Capt. Roy Johnson as Head of OP-05W. Our primary mission was "Air Weapons Systems Analysis Staff" for OP-05. Kept busy preparing studies and painting NAVY picture on Capitol Hill at the Symington Committee Hearings on "Air Power". (RADM James Russell was STAR performer for Navy). While in OP-05W, I participated in P5M/USS *Guavina* (submarine) evaluation of refueling operations as they would apply to future P6M employment. On this small OP-05W Staff were CDR's Dave Richardson, Mickey Weisner, Jig Dog Ramage, Art Brassfield and a few others.
- 1956 Attended Armed Forces Staff College, Norfolk, VA.
- 1957 To VP-44 as XO flying P5M's, NAS Norfolk, VA.

Duty Assignment Chronology continued

- 1958 To VP-44 as CO flying P5M's, NAS Norfolk, VA. Squadron received the Atlantic Fleet NAVY "E" for excellence in ASW.
- 1959 To USS *Saratoga* as Navigator during the Lebanon crisis in Med. (RADM George Anderson was our CARDIV Commander). Back to U. S. and Norfolk Navy Shipyard and CAPT John Hyland as C.O. on Shakedown Cruise to GTMO - (How lucky can you be?).
- 1959 Selected for CAPT and ordered to BUPERS as Head of the Officer Placement Section. Appointed as Recorder of the CDR to CAPT Selection Board, 1960. (A real eye opener). Member of BUPERS Command Selection Boards for 1960, 1961 and 1962.
- 1962 Ordered as Director of Navy Recruiting, THIRD Recruiting Area, Macon, GA.
- 1965 Ordered to Guam as CO of Naval Station during Vietnam conflict. As CO, NAVSTA, was responsible for arrangements for President Johnson's SEATO Conference on Guam. (i.e. billeting, transportation, messing, station security, etc.)
- 1967 Ordered to Staff, Commander U. S. Naval Forces, Southern Command/COM 15th Naval District (via Washington, D. C. and the Latin American Affairs Officers School). As N-4 and Latin American Affairs Officer, I visited every country in South and Central America. Fleeted up to Chief of Staff in 1967. Was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal in 1970.
- 1970 Returned to U.S. and final tour as Director of Navy Recruiting, THIRD Recruiting Area, Macon, GA. During this tour, I was ordered to Pensacola, FL., to establish the Officers School of Navy Recruiting. (Would have been in deep trouble without a lot of help from Smoke Streak).
- 1972 Retired from active duty on 30 June. Received the second Meritorious Service Medal.
- Life Member of ANA - X.O. Bald Eagle Squadron, 1980-82. CO of Banana River Squadron, 1993-96. Life Member, Naval Aviation Museum, Pensacola, FL.