



Edward L. Feightner, RADM, USN (Ret.)
 “Whitey”

Date of Designation: 3 April 1942 Class #: 10B-41C

Dates of Active Duty: 15 July 1941 - 1 July 1974

Total Flight Hours: 8,610

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 836 Rotary: 38

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 4,100 Prop: 4,510 Helo: 210 VF/VA: 5,318
 VR/VP: 290 HS/HC/HU: 130 VT: 270
 Other: Civilian (Various) - 2,392

Combat Tours:

WW II VF-10 (F4F-4), USS *Enterprise* (CV-6), Pacific,
 Oct. 1942 - May 1943
 VF-10 (F4F-4), Guadalcanal, Nov. 1942 - Jan.
 1943
 VF-8 (F6F-3), USS *Bunker Hill* (CV-17), Pacific,
 Jan. 1944 - Nov. 1944 Mediterranean
 Other: VF-11 (F2H-4), USS *Coral Sea* (CVA-43), Suez
 Crisis, Nov. 1956.

Aviation Commands:

CO, VF-11, Jan. 1955 - Feb. 1957.
 O-in-C, Jet Transitional Training Unit (JTTU), Feb. 1957 -
 Oct. 1958.
 CAG - 10, Mar. 1959 - Apr. 1960. USS *Forrestal* & USS
Essex.
 CO, USS *Okinawa* (LPH-3), Feb. 1966 - Feb. 1967.
 Air-04, BuWeps Sep. 1970 - Sep. 1972.
 Air-01, BuWeps, Sep. 1972 - Jul. 1974.

Combat Awards:

4 Distinguished Flying Cross
 12 Air Medals
 3 Presidential Unit Citations (Combat Awards)



Duty Assignment Chronology

6/41-6/42 Flight Training, NAS Grosse Isle, MI., and
 NAS Corpus Christi, TX.
 6/42-8/42 Advanced Carrier Training Group , NAS
 Norfolk and USS *Charger*.
 9/42-10/42 VF-3, NAS Puunene, Maui, HI.
 10/42-5/43 VF-10, USS *Enterprise* (CV-6) and Guadal-
 canal, 1st Marine Division.
 5/43-11/44 VF-8, NAS Pungo, USS *Intrepid* (CV-11) and
 USS *Bunker Hill* (CV-17).
 11/44-7/45 VF-98, NAS Los Alamitos, CA., and NAAS
 Thermal, CA.
 8/45-11/46 VF-21, NAS San Diego, CA.
 11/46-12/47 COMCARDIV THREE (Aide & Flag Lt.),
 USS *Shangri La* and USS *Antietam*.
 1/48-9/48 COMCARDIV TWO (Aide & Flag Lt.), USS
Princeton, USS *Tarawa*.
 11/48-7/49 U.S. Navy Test Pilot School, NAS Patuxent
 River, MD.
 7/49-12/51 Flight Test Division, Naval Air Test Center,
 Patuxent River, MD.
 1/52-9/52 Blue Angels, NAS Corpus Christi, TX.
 9/52-12/54 VX-3 (Development Officer), NAS Atlantic
 City, NJ.
 1/55-2/57 CO, VF-11, NAS Cecil Field and USS *Coral*
Sea (CV-43).
 2/57-10/58 O-in-C Jet Transitional Training Unit, NAS
 Olathe, KS.
 10/58-1/59 VF-101/PCAG-10, USS *Forrestal* (CV-59).
 3/59-4/60 CAG-10, USS *Essex* (CV-9).
 4/60-7/60 Air Group FOUR.
 7/60-7/61 U.S. Naval War College, Newport, RI.
 7/61-7/62 BuWeps - F4H-1 Project Officer.
 7/62-7/63 BuWeps - Head of Fighter Design (RA5)
 8/63-11/64 COMCARDIV-Three (Ops. Officer), USS
Enterprise (CVN-65)
 11/64-2/66 CO, USS *Chikaskia* (AO-54).
 2/66-2/67 CO, USS *Okinawa* (LPH-3).
 3/67-6/67 Defense Systems Management Center,
 Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. (- Continued -)

Duty Assignment Chronology - continued

6/67-8/70 OPNAV (OP-506, OP-05W, OP-50B) Head
Fighter Studies 2, 3, & 4.
9/70-9/72 NAVAIR, Air-04
9/72-6/74 NAVAIR, Air-01
7/1/74 Retired from active duty.

Summary of Significant Career Events

- (1) Having LCDR Butch O'Hare and LCDR Jimmy Flatley as first two fighter skippers provided a great start as a fighter pilot.
- (2) WWII "Fighter Ace" credited with 9 victories and 4 probables.
- (3) 1946 Jet checkout (P-80) March Field.
- (4) Initial Takeoffs, Landings and Catapult shots on USS *Intrepid* using an F6F-3, during Navy acceptance trials in 1943.
- (5) Graduated in Class Two of U.S.Navy Test Pilot School at Patuxent River and during ensuing tour as a Flight Test Pilot, flew a variety of aircraft from Helos to the Navy's largest transport the Constitution R60-1.
- (6) As the Navy project pilot of the F7U-1 (Cutlass), was the only pilot to qualify aboard ship before the project was abandoned in favor of the F7U-3.
- (7) As the F7F project pilot, checked-out Col. Charles A. Lindberg prior to his evaluation flight in the aircraft.
- (8) In 1952 flew as "Lead Solo" in the Blue Angels flying the F7U-1 (Cutlass).
- (9) As the Development Officer in VX-3 was a participant in the longest non-stop, round trip flight from a carrier flying an F2H-2B with a weapon delivery at the mid-point of the flight (2,873 miles).
- (10) Also participated in a similar non-stop, weapon delivery round-trip, from a carrier, low level flight of 18 hours in an AD-3.