



Donald A. Beaufait, Col. USMC (Ret)
"Don"

Date of Designation: 27 July 1970 NA# T-13161

Dates of Active Duty: 5 June 1968 - 30 September 1994

Total Flight Hours: 4,700

Carrier Landings: Fixed Wing: 310

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 4,600 Prop: 90 Helo 10 VF/VA: 4,400

Combat Tours:

Vietnam: July 1972 - March 1973, VFMA-333 (F4J) aboard USS *America* -102 combat missions

Libya: April 1986, Operation El Dorado Canyon. 15 April air strike against Libya (F/A18A).

Desert Storm: January 1991-March 1991 (F/A18A/C - 50 combat missions.

Aviation Commands:

CO, VMF-323, F/A-18s, USS *Coral Sea*

CO, MAG-11, Jul. 1991 - Jan. 1993

AWC 3rd MAW, Feb. 1993 - Sep. 1994

Combat Awards:

Air Medal w/ Strike Flight Numeral 10

Non Combat Awards:

Defense Superior Service Medal

2 Legion of Merit

Duty Assignment Chronology

- 06/68-12/68 The Basic School, Quantico, VA
- 01/69-02/70 USAF Pilot Training, Randolph AFB, TX
- 03/70-08/70 VMAT-203, VMFAT-201, Cherry Point, NC
- 09/70-06/75 VMFA-451, VMFA-333, Deployed in USS *America*, Vietnam



- 07/75-10/75 VF-124, NAS Miramar, CA, for USMC F-14 Training.
- 11/75-06/78 MAWTULANT F-4 Tactics Instructor.
- 07/78-07/80 VMFA-451 Pilot Training Officer, Ops. Off.
- 08/80-03/83 VFA-125, NAS Lemoore, CA. Ops. Off.
- 04/83-05/84 VMFA-323, XO.
- 06/84-07/86 CO, VMFA-323 Deployed in USS *Coral Sea*
- 07/86-02/87 NATO Defense College, Rome, Italy.
- 03/87-03/90 J-3, HQ, US European Command.
- 04/90-07/90 F-18 Refresher Training, VFAT-106.
- 08/90-06/91 MAG-11 XO, Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm.
- 07/91-01/93 CO, MAG-11.
- 02/93-09/94 3d MAW Staff, AWC.
- 10/94 Retired From Active Duty.

Summary of Significant Career Events

1. Was privileged to deploy with VMFA-333 in 1972 aboard USS *America* and to fly with LtCol "Bear" Lasseter and Major "Little John" Cummings on missions over North Vietnam.
2. Selected to be in the Marine Corps' first F-14 squadron.
3. Chosen to participate in the fleet introduction of the F/A-18. Served as the Operations Officer of the first F/A-18 training squadron, VFA-125 at NAS Lemoore. In 1982, became the first marine pilot to land an F/A-18 aboard a carrier. (USS *Constellation*).
4. Commanded VMFA-323 on board USS *Coral Sea* during the first CV deployment of the F/A-18 and flew MIGCAP in the first combat use of the F/A-18 during operations against Libya.
5. Flew 50 missions in Operation Desert Storm as the XO of MAG-11 (F/A-18).

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Post USMC Retirement:

Currently working on the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter Program for Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company in Fort Worth, TX.