



John V. Cox, Major General, USMC (Ret.)
 “John”

Date of Designation: 28 July 1954 V-4897

Dates of Active Duty: 10 July 1952-1 July 1985

Total Flight Hours: 5,054

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 178

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 3,634 Prop: 1,195

Combat Tours:

Vietnam: Danang, VMFA-513 (F-4) Jun. - Oct. 1965
 95 Combat Mission

Vietnam: ChuLai, VMFA-115, MAG-13 (F-4) Nov. 1969-
 Sep. 1970, 197 Combat Missions

Aviation Commands:

CO, VMFA-115, ChuLai

OIC, ChuLai Air Base.

XO, MAG-13 ChuLai, Nov. 1969-Sep. 1970

CG, MCAS El Toro

CG, 3rd MAW, June 1980-May 1982

Combat Awards:

Air Medal with Numeral 19

Bronze Star with Combat “V”

Legion of Merit with Combat “V”

Duty Assignment Chronology

- 1952-1953 Basic School, Quantico, VA.
- 1953-1954 Naval Air Training Command, (SNJ, SNB, F6F, T2V).
- 1954-1956 MCAS Miami, USS *Lake Champlain* (AD4B)
- 1956-1957 Plt Cmdr, Air Naval Gunfire Plt Camp Lejeune MCB (SNB,SNJ)



- 1957-1959 VMF-451, MCAS El Toro, Atsugi, Japan, and Taiwan Rep of China (FJ-4)
- 1959-1962 VMF-333, MCAS Beaufort (F8U)
- 1962 Communication Officer School, MCS Quantico, (T-28).
- 1962-1963 MAG-11, MCAS El Toro (T-1A)
- 1963-1965 VMFA-513 MCAS El Toro, Atsugi Japan and Danang (F4B).
- 1965-1967 MARD NAS Olathe (F-8, A-4, T-1A)
- 1967-1967 Armed Forces Staff College Norfolk Va. (A-4, T-1A)
- 1967-1969 Instructor Naval War College (T1A)
- 1969 VMFA-312, Beaufort MCAS (F4B)
- 1969-1970 CO, VMFA-115 & XO, MAG-13 (F4B)
- 1970 MAG-11, MCAS El Toro
- 1971-1972 XO, MCAS Kaneohe (T-28)
- 1972-1973 J-5 AO, CINCPAC (T-28)
- 1973-1974 National War College
- 1974-1978 Div Air Hdq. Marine Corps
- 1978 MCAS Cherry Point and Yuma (A4, TA4, OV10, CH46, F4J)
- 1978-1979 AWC 1st MAW, CG 9th MAB, Okinawa Japan
- 1979-1980 Asst to the ACMC for R&D
- 1980-1981 CG, MCAS El Toro (UH1R)
- 1981-1982 CG, 3rd MAW ,MCAS El Toro (F4,A4, A6, AH1,UH1,CH46, CH53)
- 1982-1985 J3, CINCPAC, Camp Smith Hawaii

Summary of Significant Career Events

General Cox was born on March 26, 1930, in Bevier, Missouri. He attended Northeast Missouri State Teachers College, Kirksville, MO, earning a B.S. degree in Business Administration. He also holds a masters degree in International Affairs from George Washington University.

He entered the Marine Corps via the Officer Candidate program at Quantico, VA, and was commissioned a Marine second lieutenant in September 1952. After completing The Basic School, he reported for flight training and was designated a Naval Aviator in July 1954. (- continued -)

Successive assignments were with all three active Marine Aircraft Wings and with the 4th Marine Aircraft Wing; service on the USS *Lake Champlain*; duty as an air and naval gunfire platoon commander; duty with Marine Fighter Squadron (VMF) 451, VMF 333, and VMA 324. He completed Communications Officers School, served as Communications Officer at MAG 15, El Toro, and later was Operations Officer of VMFA 513 at El Toro, Atsugi and DaNang (1962-1965).

He graduated from the Armed Forces Staff College in 1967, and after serving as an instructor at the Naval War College, he returned to Vietnam for a second tour of duty, serving as Commanding Officer of VMFA 115 and as Executive officer of MAG 13 at ChuLai.

Tours of duty in the 1970s include Executive Officer of MCAS, Kaneohe Bay, and duty on the staff of the Commander in Chief, Pacific. After graduation from the National War College in 1974, General Cox reported for duty at Headquarters Marine Corps. He was promoted to brigadier general on Nov. 4, 1977. Duty as Assistant Wing Commander, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Commanding General, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade, Assistant Chief of Staff at Headquarters Marine Corps, Deputy Chief of Staff for Research, Development and Studies at Headquarters Marine Corps, and Commanding General, MCAS El Toro/COMCABWEST, followed.

He was promoted to major general on April 9, 1981, with a date of rank of Aug. 1, 1978. He assumed command of the 3d Marine Aircraft Wing, Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, CA, in May 1981. In June 1982, he was assigned duty as the Director for Operations, J 3, for the Commander in Chief, Camp H.M. Smith, Hawaii. He served in this capacity until July 1, 1985, when he retired from the Marine Corps on July 1, 1985.

His personal decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal; Legion of Merit with Combat "V"; Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V"; Air Medal with Numeral 19; the Joint Service Commendation Medal; and the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V" and gold star in lieu of a second award.