



Ronald J. Zlatoper ADM USN (Ret.)
 "Zap"

Date of Designation: 30 October 1964 NA# V21704

Dates of Active Duty: June 7, 1963 - December 31, 1996

Total Flight Hours: 4,375

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 1,031 Rotary: 10

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 4,100 Prop: 200 VF/VA: 3,900
 VS: 200 VT: 100 Helo: 75

Combat Tours:

Vietnam: VA-65, 1965-66, USS *Constellation* (A-6)
 Vietnam: VA-65, 1967 USS *Forrestal*. (A-6)
 Desert Storm: Commander. Carrier Group Seven, 1991,
 USS *Ranger* Arabian Gulf/Kuwait/Iraq (A-6)
 Total Combat Missions 151 (A-6)

Aviation Commands:

CO, VA-85 1979-1980 (A-6)
 Commander. Carrier Air Wing ONE, 1982-1983
 Commander, Carrier Air Wing FIFTEEN, 1985-1986
 Commander, Carrier Group SEVEN, 1990-1991

Combat Awards:

Distinguished Service Medal (Desert Storm)
 Distinguished Flying Cross (Vietnam)
 11 Air Medals (3 Individual, Eight Strike/Flight Awards)
 Vietnam
 Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V"

Duty Assignment Chronology

6/63-5/64 NABTC, NAS Pensacola, FL DUINS (T-34).
 9/63-12/63 NAAS Meridien , MS. DUINS (T-2C).
 5/64-10/64 NAAS Kingsville, TX. DUINS (TF-9/TF-11).
 11/64-1/65 VA-42 DUINS, NAS Oceana, VA. (A-6).



1/65-3/68 VA-65, USS *Constellation*, USS *Forrestal*. (A-6).
 3/68-3/70 VA-42, NAS Oceana, VA (A-6).
 3/70-7/72 VA-34 Assistant Maintenance/Operations Officer, USS *J. F. Kennedy*, (A-6).
 7/72-6/73 Naval War College, Newport, RI., DUINS.
 6/73-6/75 NROTC, MIT, Cambridge, MA. DUINS .
 6/75-11/77 Office of CNO, Program Coordinator for Guided and Air Launched Weapons (OP-506), Washington, DC/
 11/77-4/78 VA-42 DUINS NAS Oceana, VA, (A-6).
 4/78-6/79 XO, VA-85, USS *Forrestal* (A-6).
 6/79-8/80 CO, VA-85, USS *Forrestal* (A-6).
 10/80-10/81 Office of Program Appraisal, EA, SECNAV Staff, Washington, DC.
 10/81-4/82 Naval Air Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, DUINS.
 4/82-7/82 Tactical Wings Atlantic, Readiness Officer.
 7/82-8/83 Commander, Carrier Air Wing ONE USS *America* (A-6, F-14, A-7 ,S-3, EA-6B, EA-3, SH-3, E-2).
 8/83-6/85 Office of the Secretary of Defense; Military Assistant to Secretary of Defense, Washington, DC.
 6/85-8/85 Office of CNO DUINS, Washington, DC.
 8/85-2/86 VF-124 DUINS, NAS Miramar, CA (F-14, A-7, A-6, S-3, EA-6B, SH-3, E-2C).
 2/86-5/87 Commander, Carrier Air Wing FIFTEEN USS *Carl Vinson* (A-6, F-14, A-7, S-3, EA-6B, SH-3, E-2C).
 5/87-8/88 Commander SEVENTH FLEET Chief of Staff, Yokosuka, Japan.
 8/88-7/90 Naval Military Personnel Command Director, Distribution Department (NMPC-4), Washington, DC.
 7/90-11/91 Commander, Carrier Group SEVEN , USS *Ranger*, (A-6, F-14).
 11/91-7/94 Office of CNO, Deputy CNO, Manpower and Personnel (N1)/Chief of Naval Personnel, Washington, DC.

Duty Assignment Chronology continued

8/94-12/96 Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet ,
Pearl Harbor, HI.
1 Jan. 1997 Retired from active duty.

Summary of Significant Career Events

- (1) Winner of East Coast 1971 A-6 Bombing Derby.
- (2) Over 4,000 flight hours in Navy aircraft without a Class A mishap.
- (3) Day and night operational carrier landings in six aircraft types.
- (4) One of the first five nugget pilots to be selected in 1964 to fly the A-6 Intruder and subsequently flew the A-6 for 33 years on five operational carrier tours.
- (5) Over 3,000 flight hours and 300 night carrier landings in the A-6, including two combat deployments in Vietnam (1965-1967) and one combat deployment in Desert Storm (1991).
- (5) 150 combat missions over North Vietnam. One of the few individuals to have flown carrier-based combat missions in both Vietnam and Desert Storm. Flew an A-6 on one mission while COMCARGRU SEVEN in Desert Storm.
- (6) Air Wing Commander on two operational tours. During first assignment as Commander, CVW-1 on USS *America* (1983-1985) led the first organic 1,000+ mile training strikes in the Atlantic and Mediterranean Seas.
- (7) As Commander CVW15 on USS *Carl Vinson*, served as the first Senior CAG. Led and flew with Air Wing in the Bering Sea in February 1986, in treacherous winter conditions without accident, The first Air Wing to operate and fly in the Bering Sea in the 40 years following WW II.
- (8) Never had a technique wave-off in over 1,000 carrier landings.