



**Paul H. Engel, RADM, USN (Ret)**  
"Paul"

Date of Designation: 20 January 1950 T322

Dates of Active Duty: 5 April 1948 - 31 August 1980

Total Flight Hours: 5,407

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 541

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 1,500 Prop: 3,907 VF/VA: 1,000 VT: 1,400  
VS: 1,548 VU/VFP: 459

Combat Tours:

Vietnam: Feb. 65-Dec. 65. CVW-16 Operations For Jim Stockdale/XO-VA-164.

Vietnam: Jun. 66 - Oct. 66. CO, VA-164, Tonkin Gulf. 175 combat missions.

Aviation Commands:

CO, VA-164. Jun. 66 - Oct. 66 (A-4s).  
Training Air Wing 7, Saufley Field. Jun. 73 - Jun. 74.  
Training Air Wings 6 & 7. Jun. 74 - Jun. 75.

Combat Awards:

Legion of Merit  
3 Distinguished Flying Crosses  
2 Personal Air Medals  
17 Strike/Flight Air Medals.

**Duty Assignment Chronology**

1950-1953 VS-22, NAS Norfolk, VA. ASW Pilot (TBM & AF).  
1953-1955 NAAS Saufley Field. Flight Instructor (SNJ/TV-2).  
7/55-12/55 NATU Photo School, NAS Pensacola. (F-9F-2P).



1956-1958 VFP-62, NAS Jacksonville, FL., USS Lake Champlain (F9F-8P, F2H-2P).  
1958-1960 Ship's Company USS FDR (CVA-42). Strike OPS/Legal Officer, OOD. (TF, AD5).  
1960-1962 USNPGS. Under-graduate completion with other Flying Midshipmen. (T2J, SNB & T28).  
1962-1964 Fighter Photo Desk, BUWEPS. This was the period of the Cuba Missile Cruise and I was in a support role to my former Photo Squadron, VFP-62. (TV, SNB and TF-1).  
1964-1967 CAG OPS, CVW-16, USS Oriskany. Served for then Commander Jim Stockdale. Was pre-dawn launched the day after he was shot down in search for him. XO/CO VA-164. (A4E).  
1967-1969 Pentagon assignment. Aide to ADM. Jim Russell and recorder on Aircraft Carrier Safety Review Panel. Helped ADM. Jim Holloway III establish the CVN Program Coordination Office which provided justification for the USS Nimitz, USS Eisenhower and USS Carl Vincent.  
1969-1970 Student, National War College and Georgetown University.  
1970-1971 COMCARDIV Nine Operations Officer. Returned to Tonkin Gulf. RADM Hutch Cooper was assigned Command of Task Force at 1800 on night of Son Tay Raid. Exciting night, first launch for the Ranger of the cruise at 0100, many white faced aviators in the briefing room that night.  
1971-1973 Director, Cost Review and Analysis, Office of the Navy Comptroller.  
1973-1975 Training Air Wing Commander. Great to be back in the cockpit. Qualified as a Primary Flight Instructor. (T34, T28, T2J and TA4).  
1975-1978 Navy Auditor General/Director Naval Audit Service.  
1978-1980 Deputy Commander/Comptroller Navy Sea Systems Command. Served about 3 months as Vice Commander. Retired 1980.

- Continued -

## **Summary of Significant Career Events**

- (1) Source of commission - Holloway Plan Flying Midshipman. Reported to Fleet as a First Class Mid'n. Initial Carrier qualification - (SNJ), USS Cabot. Advanced qualification - (TBM), USS Siapan.
- (2) Ships flown from: USS Cabot, USS Siapan, USS Mindora, USS Palau, USS Kula Gulf, USS Siboney, Lake Champlain (in last air group to deploy on axial deck flying F9F-8P), USS Roosevelt, USS Midway, USS Ranger, USS Forestal, and USS Lexington.
- (3) Made final four traps as Commodore TRAWING Six on 30 April 1975 in TA-4. Age required that I have a sitter in the rear cockpit. CDR Ken Webb, CO VT-4 was the brave soul.
- (4) I was very lucky and commended for a successful wheels up night landing after engine failure in the landing pattern at NAS Norfolk on 11 May 1950. I was a First Class Midshipman at that time.
- (5) Survived fires on USS Lake Chaplain 4 July 1957 and USS Oriskany 26 October 1966.
- (6) Awarded fourth Legion of Merit on retirement.

## **Post Military Activity**

- Seven years, United Services Planning Association.  
Independent agent for firm working with military families in their financial management. Military consultant.  
Insurance consultant with the Hauck Companies.
- Past President, Flying Midshipmen Association.
  - President Aviation Midshipmen Foundation.
  - Vice President St. Mary's Hospital Foundation.
  - Served 5 years on board for Aviation Exploring BSA.
  - Past Chairman, Supervisory Comte Andrews FCU.
  - Past Chairman, Music and Arts Comte Aldersgate UMC.
  - Chairman Charity Comte Lexington Park Rotary Club.
  - Board Member, Navy League, Pax River Council.
  - Past Board Member, National War College Alumni Association.
  - Chair for Washington Area National Security Seminars.