



Robert M. Lurie, 2nd LT USMC (Ret.)
 “Bob”

Total Flight Hours: 28,582

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 87 F4U

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 7,200 Prop: 10,116 VF/VA: 4,900

Helo: 416 Other (Civilian): 10,850 jet as corporate pilot.

Combat Awards:

Silver Star (Vietnam)

Distinguished Flying Cross

38 Air Medals (33 Vietnam and 5 Korea)

Purple Heart (Vietnam)

Navy Commendation Medal with combat “V” (Vietnam)

Summary of Significant Career Events

- (1) Received his Wings of Gold while serving as a Master Technical Sergeant in the Marine Corps during WWII. Flew Corsairs in several carrier based squadrons. Commissioned an officer then reverted back to Master Sergeant Naval Aviation Pilot (NAP) in order to continue flying.
- (2) Selected by Marion Carl to become a pioneer jet pilot in the first Marine Corps jet squadron, VMF-122, flying the FH-1 Phantom and the F2H Banshee. Flew in the Marine jet aerobatic team at air shows nationwide.
- (3) Went to Korea with the Marines first jet combat squadron, VMF-311, flying 116 missions in the F9F-2 as a flight leader of several future Marine general officers.
- (4) Member FMFPAC Instrument Flight Board and instructor pilot for Marines transitioning to jets.
- (5) Assigned as a VIP aircraft commander to fly various dignitaries, administration officials, Ambassadors and



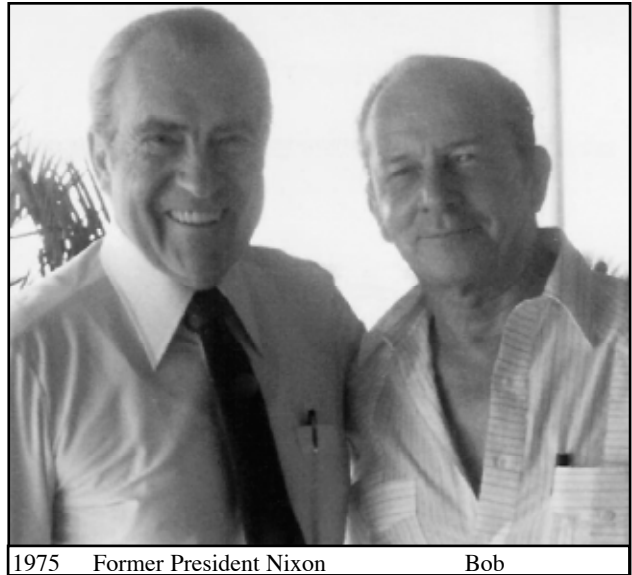
their staffs worldwide to 58 world capitals and countries including Alaska, Argentina, Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, Sumatra, Borneo, Greenland, Iceland and other Polar regions.

- (6) Staff pilot for NATO Task Group Commander flying from north of the Arctic Circle to eastern Mediterranean.
- (7) Along with Col. Luther S. (Sad Sam) Moore flew the first U.S. Marine Corps airplane over the North Pole training navigators in polar grid navigation from Bodo, Norway over the geographic pole to Thule, Greenland then from Thule over the magnetic pole to Alaska.
- (8) Flew 2,100 hours during 25 continuous months in combat zone with MAG-12 at Chu Lai, MAG-36 VMO-6 at Ky Ha, and MAG-16 VMO-2. Flew low altitude night flare missions in the R4D-8 and the UH1E gunship and medevac missions in support of ground forces. Flew several TACA missions.
- (9) Flew with his son 1st Lt. Robert M. Lurie as a father-son combat team. His son Bob Jr., affectionately known throughout Marine Corps Aviation as “Little Bob”, flew as his copilot on flare drops and logistical flights and then he proudly flew as his son’s copilot on UH1E gunship missions in VMO-2.
- (10) After debriefing a mission at An Hoa Combat Base was wounded by enemy ground fire along with the radio operator on 21 July 1967 fifteen miles south of DaNang en-route to Chu Lai.
- (11) One year later exactly to the day, after debriefing a mission at An Hoa Combat Base, his son Bob Jr. was en-route to Marble Mountain in a UH1E when he encounter heavy enemy ground gunfire in exactly the same location fifteen miles south of DaNang, was hit and shot down. There were no survivors. Bob was airborne at the time and just a few miles from the scene.

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- (12) Norm Anderson, Jay Hubbard, Les Brown Paul Fontana (all Golden Eagle Generals) and General Lew Walt convinced a devastated Marine father that he needed to stay with his Marine Corps friends during that time of grief and to keep flying for the Marines.
- (13) Assigned to FMFLANT as staff pilot for numerous General Officers and Flags flying R5D, HU-16, and one of the Marine Corps three Convairs. Flew support for HQMC.
- (14) Chosen to participate in the Marine Corps procurement of their first jet transport. Designed and installed avionics package to equip T-39 as a VIP transport.
- (15) NATOPS Officer and primary VIP pilot for CMC, APMC, SecNav, Senior Officers, Members of Congress and foreign dignitaries.
- (16) Flew such dignitaries as Richard Nixon, Hubert Humphrey, Philippine President Ramon Magsaysay, SecNav John Chafee, former Commandant General A.A. Vandegrift, and serving Commandants General Chapman and General Cushman.



- (17) After flying over 17,600 hours in 30 different aircraft from open cockpit bi-planes to sophisticated jets with more than 40 of the Golden Eagles retired in April 1973 as the last Sergeant to fly as a designated aircraft commander in the Marine Corps.
- (18) After retirement from the Marine Corps flew an additional 10,850 jet hours as the Chief Pilot, Vice President and Director of Flight Operations of a multi-national corporation.
- (19) Hung up his helmet, scarf and goggles and kicked off his flight boots in 1996 after receiving a Silver Star, the Distinguished Flying Cross, five individual Air Medals and the numeral 35, the Purple Heart, a Navy Commendation Medal with combat "V", an Army Commendation Medal, the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry all for aerial combat and having been recommended twice for the Navy Distinguished Service Medal.
- (20) One of his most treasured possessions is a book sent to him by former President Richard Nixon inscribed, "To Bob in appreciation for your service to the nation beyond the call of duty".