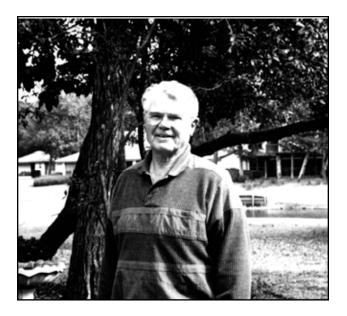


Thomas J. Ross, Colonel, USMC, (Ret.) "Tom"

Date of Designation: 1 April 1943	NA # C-4584	
Dates of Active Duty: 11 May 1942 - 1	December 1970.	
Total Flight Hours: 5,730		
Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 12	Rotary: 300+	
Approximate Flight Hours:		
Jet: 2,500 Prop: 2,100 Helo: 1,100	VF/VA: 4,000	
VR/VP: 400 VS: 200	,	
Combat Tours:		
WW II: Gilbert & Marshalls (SBD & 1	F4U), 1943 - 1944,	
120 combat missions.		
WW II: Philippine Islands/Okinawa, 1	945 - 1945, 45 com-	
bat missions.	,	
Korea: 1952 - 1953, 93 combat missi	ons.	
Vietnam: HMM-361 (H-34), 1963-64, 1		
Aviation Commands:		
OinC, ATU-201 (F9F/T-33), NAS Corpus Christi, 1954 - 55.		
CO, HMM-361 (H-34), Sep. 1962 - Sep. 1964.		
CO, SLF (LPH-8), 1964.		
Combat Awards:		
2 Legion of Merit with Combat "V"		
5 Distinguished Flying Crosses		
26 Air Medals		
Navy Commendation Medal with Comb	at "V"	
2 Purple Hearts		

Duty Assignment Chronology

1943 Designated Naval Aviator. Joined VMSB-331 flying SBDs - participated in Gilberts & Marshalls operations - transitioned to F4Us.
1944 Returned CONUS Nov. 44 to MCAS Cherry Point and trained in SB2C.



1945	Returned to Pacific for operations in Philippines and Okinawa, thence to North
	China after Japanese surrender.
1946	Flight Instructor, F4U operational training at
	Miami & Cecil Field, FL.
1947	VMP-254 at El Toro, CA., flying F4U and
	F7F aircraft.
1948	Navy Flight Test Pilot School, Patuxent River,
	MD. At Pax , flew F4U, F6F, F8F, F7F,
	XF9F, XF2H, XBT2D, XAM, XNQ, XOSE,
	C-45, PBY-6A, PB4Y-2 and P2V.
1949	MCAS Cherry Point O&R as Chief,
	Inspection Dept., and production test pilot
	for FH, F2H, F7F & R4D. In October, joined
	77th Sqdn, 20th Fighter Group USAF as
	exchange pilot flying F-84D. Deployed to
	England for 6 months.
1951	Fighter Maintenance Desk, BUAER. Flew
	evaluation flights in XF7U and was on mock-
	up team for FJ, A2J, A4D & Convair "Sea
	Dart".
1952	Korea in VMF-115, MAG-33 at K-3 flying
	combat in F9F.
1954	Flight Instructor, NAS Corpus.
	OinC of ATU-201, F9F & T-33.
1957-58	Operations Officer, MARTCOM, NAS
	Glenview, IL. TDY to NAS Pensacola for
	helo training. Flew C- 45, F9F, HR2S, H-19 and HUS.
1959-60	Headquarters FAA as Aircraft Noise
1,2,, 00	Abatement Project Officer.
1961-62	MAG-36, MCAF Santa Ana, CA. Became
	CO of HMM-361 embarked in LPH-2.
	Deployed to Caribbean during Cuban missile
	crisis.
1963-64	Deployed HMM-361 to Danang, Vietnam with
	H-34s in support of ARVN. Later embarked
	in Valley Forge with HM-361 and BLT as
	Commander, Special Landing Force.

Duty Assignment Chronology continued

1965-66	Chief, Air Support Division, Marine Corps
	Development Center, then to MarCorps
	Command & Staff College as Asst. Director.
10.5- 50	

1967-68 U. S. Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, PA. - Student.

- 1968-70 Staff Officer U.S. Southern Command, Canal Zone.
- 1970 Retired from active duty.
- 1970-88 University of Oklahoma as Director of FAA Training Programs. Formed and directed a staff of more than 300 to conduct Air Traffic Controller training following the ATC strike of 1981.
- 1988Retired January 1 from the University as
Associate Professor.

Summary of Significant Career Events

- (1) Marine Corps Aviator of the Year, 1964 (Cunningham Trophy).
- In the first class of U.S. Navy Test Pilot School, 1948 49. While at Pax, flew the F4U, F6F, F8F, F7F, XF9F, XF2H, XBT2D, XAM, XNQ, XOSE, C-45, PBY-6A, PB4Y-2 and P2V aircraft.
- (3) First Marine exchange pilot with USAF 20th Fighter Group (F-84, T-33), 1949 1950.
- (4) FAA Award for Extraordinary Service.
- (5) Flight time (5,730 hours) in 38 models.
- (6) Three hundred ninety-nine (399) combat missions.