

Warren B. Christie., Captain USN (Ret.) "Butch"

NA#V-23356 Date of Designation: April 5, 1966

Dates of Active Duty: June 1964 - October 1990

Total Flight Hours: 5,200

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 1,129

**Approximate Flight Hours:** 

Jet: 4,810 Prop: 310 VF/VA: 4,600 VT: 300

Helo: 30 Glider: 20

**Combat Tours:** 

Vietnam: VA-146, USS Constellation, May - Nov. 1967

Total combat missions: 101 (A-4C)

**Aviation Commands:** 

CO, VA-37, July 1980 - October 1981

COMCVW-13, October 1988 - July 1990

Combat Awards:

Distinguished Flying Cross

10 Air Medals

3 Navy Commendation Medals with combat "V"

Navy Achievement Medal wih combat "V"

Non-combat Awards:

Legion of Merit

2 Defense Meritorious Service Medals

2 Meritorious Service Medals

## **Duty Assignment Chronology**

6/60-10/64 U. S. Naval Academy, Midshipman, Assistant

Soccer Coach.

10/64-4/66 Flight Training, NAS Pensacola, FL,

Meridian, MS and Kingsville, TX (T-34, T-2,

TF-9, F-9).



5/66-9/66 VA-125, NAS Lemoore, CA. Fleet

Replacement Pilot (A-4C).

9/66-1/68 VA-146, USS Constellation, LSO, SLJO (A-4C).

1/68-6/69 VA-152, USS Forrestal, LSO, Aircraft

Division Officer (A-4B, F-4B).

6/69-2/70 U. S. Naval Test Pilot School, NAS Patuxent

River, MD. Student Test Pilot (T-1, T-2, T-28,

S-2, F-8, X-26, A-4, OV-10).

2/70-5/72 Naval Air Test Center, Patuxent River, Carrier Suitability Project Officer/Pilot (F-4, F-8, A-4,

A-6, A-7, C-1, E-1, S-2, U-1, OV-10).

VA-174, NAS Cecil Field, FL. Ready 6/72-9/72

Replacement Pilot (A-7E). 10/72-2/75 CVW 17, USS Forrestal, LSO, Safety Officer

(A-7E, F-4B).

3/75-3/77 U. S. Naval Test Pilot School, Operations/

Senior Fixed Wing Instructor (A-4, A-7, U-1, U-6, T-2, T-33, T-38, F-5, F-100, F-101,

OH-58, X-26).

Carrier Group Two/Task Force SIXTY Staff, 4/77-11/78

Naples, Italy. NATO/Bilateral Plans.

12/78-5-79 VA-174, NAS Cecil Field FL. Ready

Replacement Pilot (TA-4J, A-7E).

5/79-10/81 VA-37, USS Saratoga, CO/XO (A-7E).

10/81-11/82 Naval War College, Newport, RI. Student

CINCLANT/CINCLANTFLT, Norfolk, 11/82-6/84

Program Planning.

USS Saratoga, Operations Officer. 6/84-6/86

7/86-3/88 OPNAV, Pentagon, Strike Warfare.

3/88-10/88 Fleet Replacement Pilot/Duty Under

Instruction (FA-18A/B, A-6E).

10/88-10/90 CVW-13, USS Coral Sea, CAG, (FA-18A/B, A-6E, EA-6B, E-2C, SH-3).

## **Summary of Significant Career Events**

(1) The A-4M Navy Preliminary Evaluation and catapult endspeed projects were exciting as were the unpredictable C-1A/C-13 catapult compatibility tests. Development of the - Continued -

## Summary of Significant Career Events continued:

A-7E Approach Power Compensator and certification of the A-7E for automatic carrier landings afforded opportunities to bag traps.

- (2) Elected as Member, Society of Experimental Test Pilots in 1971.
- (3) Top Tailhooker CVW-17/USS Forrestal 1974 deployment.
- (4) Ejection from an A-7E, after explosion of the trouble-plagued TF-41 engine, caught my attention.
- (5) Individual winner of 1980 Light Attack Wing Bombing Derby.
- (6) Operational tours in three generations of single seat aircraft (A-4, A-7, F/A-18) and the opportunity to employ each technological advance.
- (7) As Operations Officer on Saratoga, assisting Jerry Unruh capture the Achille Lauro terrorists and conduct "Freedom of Navigation" operations wherein two Lybian patrol boats were sunk (not as good as flying but still fun).
- (8) As CAG, flawless support of the short-notice airborne emergency evacuation of the U.S. Embassy, Lebanon was rewarding. Coral Sea/CVW-13 awarded Meritorious Unit Commendation for deployment.
- (9) Last trap on Coral Sea prior to her decommissioning.
- (10) Throughout, Joan was my "lead".