



**Richard Lee Cormier, Captain, USN (Ret.)**  
 "Zeke"

Date of Designation: 3 April 1942

Dates of Active Duty: June 1941 - July 1964

Total Flight Hours: 5,000

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 603

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 2,800 Prop: 2,200 Helo: 10 VF/VA: 4,300  
 VR/VP: 50 VS: 50 VU/VFP: 500 VT: 200 LTA: 5

Combat Tours:

WW II: VC-1 carrier based anti-sub warfare, Atlantic Fleet (F4F-3/F4F-4, TBF/TBM), Oct. 1942 - Mar. 1944, 75 combat missions.

WW II: VF-80/VBF-80 carrier based, WestPac (F6F-3, F6F-5, F4U-1), 1944 - 1945, 61 combat missions.

Aviation Commands:

CO, Blue Angels Flight Demonstration Team, Dec. 1953- Nov. 1956.

CO, VA-113 WestPac/AirPac, Feb. 1957 - Oct. 1958

CO, CAG-11, Oct. 1958 - Jan. 1960, WESTPAC/AIRPAC.

Combat Awards:

5 Distinguished Flying Crosses (WW II)

Silver Star (WW II)

Air Medals

Presidential Unit Citation

### **Duty Assignment Chronology**

5/39-6/41 California National Guard, 251st Coast Artillery, Searchlight Battery.  
 6/41 Joined the Navy - V5 Program.  
 6/41-7/41 Elimination Base, NAF Long Beach, CA., Flight Training.



7/41-9/41 Pre-Flight (NAVCAD).NAS Corpus Christi.  
 9/41-4/42 Flight Training, NAS Pensacola, FL.  
 5/42-7/42 Advanced Training (Fighter) NAS Miami, FL.  
 7/42-9/42 Advanced Carrier Training Group, NAS North Island, San Diego, CA.  
 10/42-3/44 Composite Squadron One, AIRPAC and AIR-LANT - 75 combat missions, USS *Card*, USS *Block Island*, USS *Croatan*, USS *Tulagi*, USS *Guadalcanal*. Damaged German submarine, Flying TBF-1 Avenger.  
 3/44-9/46 VF- 80/VBF-80, AIRPAC. USS *Ticonderoga*, USS *Hancock*, USS *Bennington*, USS *Boxer* - 8 Confirmed, 2 Probable, 1 Possible Victories; assisted in sinking 1 Jap Destroyer, 1 Jap Troop Ship, Direct bomb hit on 1 Jap light cruiser.  
 9/46-4/47 VF-98/VF 21-(A) Fleet Air, San Diego, NAS North Island, CA. Instructor, VF.  
 4/47-12/48 Aide/Flag Lieutenant, Comamnder Marianas/ Governor Guam.  
 12/48-12/49 General Line School, Monterey, CA.  
 1/50-5/50 Aide to CHIEFNAVAIRTECHTRACOM, NAS Memphis, TN.  
 5/50-8/50 Blue Angels Public Affairs Officer #7; Staff CNATRA, NAS Pensacola, FL.  
 8/50-1/51 Staff CNATRA, NAS Pensacola, FL.  
 1/51-7/51 Naval Aerial Photography School, NAS Pensacola, FL.  
 7/51-9/51 JTU, NAS Kingsville TX.  
 9/51-1/52 Joint Operations Center, 7th Fleet Representative, KOREA, USS *Essex*.  
 1/52-12/53 VFP-61, AIRPAC, USS *Oriskany*.  
 12/53-11/56 Officer in Charge, BLUE ANGELS, NAS Corpus Christi/NAS Pensacola.  
 12/56-2/57 FAGU, NAAS El Centro, CA.  
 2/57-10/58 Commanding Officer, VA-113, AIRPAC, USS *Shangri La*.  
 10/58-1/59 Commander, Air Group 11, AIRPAC, USS *Shangri La*.  
 12/59-3/60 OPNAV, OP- 502, Washington, D. C.

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Duty Assignment Chronology continued

3/60-5/61 Technical Adviser, Navy Office of Public Affairs, Hollywood, CA.  
5/61-12/62 Executive Officer, USS *Wasp*, Atlantic Fleet.  
1/63-7/64 Aviation Member INSERV BOARD  
7/64 Retired from active duty.

**Summary of Significant Career Events**

- (1) Officer-in-Charge, Blue Angles Flight Demonstration Team.
- (2) Showed early interest in aviation.

