



**Paul E. Pugh, Rear Admiral, USN (Ret.)**  
 "Paul"

Date of Designation: 29 December 1941 NA # 10354  
 Jet Pilot # 82

Dates of Active Duty: 17 March 1941 - 30 June 1974

Total Flight Hours: 5,482

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 348 (on 10 CV's)

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 1,198 Prop: 4,284

Combat Tours:

WW II: VF-34 (F6F) Solomon Islands, Oct. 1943 - Jul. 1944, - 50 missions.

WW II: VF-2 (F6F-5N) USS *Shangri La* (CV-38), Jul. 1945 - Nov. 1945, - 7 missions.

Korea: 4th Fighter Interceptor Group (USAF), Dec. 1950 - Sep. 1951 - 33 missions (shot down 2 MIG-15's)

Vietnam: CO, USS *Kitty Hawk* (CVA-63), 1966-1967.

Aviation Commands:

CO, VF-211 (FJ-3), USS *Bon Homme Richard* (CV-31), 1955 - 1957.

Commander, Air Group 21 (F8U-1, FJ-4, F-4D), USS *Lexington* (CVA-16), Feb. 19657 - Apr. 1958

CO, USS *Eldorado* (AGC-11), 1965 - 1966.

CO, USS *Kitty Hawk* (CVA-63), 1966 - 1967.

Commander, Naval Forces Marianas/Commander-in Chief Pacific Representative Guam and Trust Territories, Pacific Islands, 1969 - 1972.

Commander, Naval Weapons Center, China Lake, CA., 1973 - 1974.

Combat Awards:

- 1 Legion of Merit (USS *Kitty Hawk* (CVA-63), Vietnam)
- 2 Distinguished Flying Crosses (WW II and Korea, USAF)
- 1 Bronze Star (Korea - USAF)
- 7 Air Medals ( 6-WW II and 1-Korea, USAF)



**Duty Assignment Chronology**

- 1941-1945 Flight Instructor. Gunnery Officer, Fighter Squadron 34 flying F6F on Solomon Islands. Night Fighter Detachment, Fighter Squadron Two deployed in Western Pacific aboard USS *Shangri La*. Awarded Distinguished Flying Cross and six Air Medals.
- 1945-1949 Armament Test Division, Naval Air Test Center (NATC) Patuxent River, MD. Graduated Naval Test Pilot School. Responsible for tests of airborne fire control systems.
- 1949-1950 Air-Development Squadron Three (VX-3). Responsible for development tactics for jet aircraft.
- 1950-1951 USAF Fourth Fighter Interceptor Group CO, 334th Fighter Squadron. Commanding Officer, 4th F.I.G. Combat Orientation Detachment. Shot down two MIG-15 aircraft in Korea. Awarded Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal, Bronze Star.
- 1951-1952 General Line School, Monterey, California.
- 1952-1954 Head Fighter Section, Tactical Test Division, Naval Air Test Center, Patuxent River, MD. Tactical Trials and Evaluation of naval aircraft and aeronautical equipment. Head Systems Branch, Armament Test Division, NATC Patuxent. Conducted Board of Inspection and Survey Trials of new aircraft
- 1954-1955 Naval War College, Newport, RI.
- 1955-1957 Commander Fighter Squadron 211. Deployed Western Pacific aboard USS *Bon Homme Richard*. First Pacific deployment of the Sidewinder missile. Conducted Pacific operational tests for Operational Development Force.
- 1957-1959 Commander, Air Wing Twenty One. Deployed Western Pacific aboard USS *Lexington*.

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Duty Assignment Chronology continued

1959-1960 Deputy for Plans and Operations, Staff, Commander Carrier Division Four. Deployed Mediterranean. Conducted large scale joint Electronic Warfare tests with USAF.

1960-1962 Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OP-05W2). Head, Sea-Based Air Striking Forces Section. Conducted a program of staff studies of the tasks, capabilities and development potentials of sea-based air striking forces and their logistic support.

1962-1963 Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Washington, D. C.

1963-1955 Deputy Chief-of-Staff, Plans and Operations, Commander Sixth Fleet. Planned and executed operations of all SIXTHFLT forces.

1965-1966 Commanding Officer, USS *Eldorado* (AGO-11), Flagship, Commander Amphibious Forces Pacific Fleet. Participated in all amphibious operations against enemy forces in South Vietnam.

1966-1967 Commanding Officer, USS *Kitty Hawk* (CVA-63). Commander Task Group Seventy-Seven Point Five (CTG-77.5). Awarded Legion of Merit, National Order of Vietnam, Gallantry Cross with Palm for delivering over 115 tons of ordnance per day against the most heavily defended enemy targets in North Vietnam. Ship and Air Wing received Navy Unit Commendation.

1967-1969 Deputy for Current Operations, Staff, Commander-in-Chief Pacific. Directly responsible for matters involving all ground, naval and air operations throughout the Pacific. Established a Joint Reconnaissance Center to control surveillance flights within the theatre. Instrumental in development of strategic and tactical concepts for the deployment of combat forces throughout the Pacific. Awarded the Legion of Merit.

1969-1972 Commander, Naval Force Marianas/Commander-in-Chief Pacific Representative Guam and Trust Territory, Pacific Islands. Responsible for ocean surveillance and anti-submarine warfare this area, CINCPAC alternate command post, 34 separate Navy Commands. Awarded Distinguished Service Medal Medal.

1972-1973 Senior Navy Member Military Studies and Liaison Division, Weapons Systems Evaluation Group, Office of the Director of Research and Engineering, OSD. Developed plans for on-going Joint Electronic Warfare Test, method for evaluating Air-to-Air missile systems and Joint Direct Air Support Tests.

1973-1974 Commander Naval Weapons Center, China Lake CA. Directed and coordinated operation of the Navy's largest research and development field activity, manned by about 5,000 personnel, 2,700 of whom were professional

levels. Managed 700 viable programs with a budget of \$210 million.

**Summary of Significant Career Events**

- (1) Test Pilot, NATC Patuxent River.
- (2) In first Test Pilot School class.
- (3) Flew the P-59B-1, 15 March 1946.
- (4) Flew 10 X and Y aircraft.
- (5) Flew 66 different aircraft.
- (6) Commander, 334 Fighter Squadron , USAF, in combat in Korea. Shot down two MIG-15's.
- (7) Project Officer, VX-3. Prosecuted evaluation of current jet aircraft.