

2/68-8/68 Office of Assistant VCNO (Director of
Naval Administration).
8/1/68 Retired from active duty.

Summary of Significant Career Events

James Robert Reedy was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on June 16, 1910, son of Mrs. James A. (May McGinty) Reedy and the late Mr. Reedy. He attended West Technical High School in Cleveland, and Baldwin Wallace University, Berea, Ohio (one year) before entering the U. S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD., on July 11, 1929, on appointment from his native state. As a Midshipman he participated in football all four years (Captain, 1932), boxing two years and lacrosse two years. Upon graduation on June 1, 1933, he was honorably discharged from the Navy when half of the Class of 1933 was not commissioned due to previous legislation.

He enlisted in the Army Air Corps as a Flying Cadet, and finished the course at Randolph and Kelly Fields' Texas in June 1934. Appointed Ensign in the U. S. Navy in July 1934, he was sent to NAS Pensacola, Florida, for further flight training, and was designated Naval Aviator in January 1935. He subsequently advanced in rank to that of Rear Admiral, to date from July 1, 1961.

When detached from the NAS Pensacola, in January 1935, he was ordered to the USS *Northampton*, in which he served for two and one-half years, then reported to Bombing Squadron SIX, based on the USS *Enterprise*. A year later he joined Patrol Squadron TWO, at Coco Solo, Canal Zone, which subsequently flew in the Atlantic on Neutrality Patrol. While attached to that squadron he was a member of a photographic mission off the coast of Ecuador, and there made a flight involving a hazardous landing and take-off at sea to a Grace Line ship to pick up an injured seaman.

On his return to the U. S. in October 1940 he served as an instructor in VP airplanes at the NAS Pensacola, and in March 1941 was transferred to the NAS Corpus Christi, TX., where he assisted in forming a dive bomber and fighter squadron. There he later served as an instructor in dive bombers during the early months of World War II. In November 1942 he became XO of Patrol Squadron 203, while it was engaged in anti-submarine operations on the Eastern Sea Frontier.

In July 1943 he commissioned Patrol Bombing Squadron 110 (Liberator aircraft) and assumed command of that squadron in September, reporting to Fleet Air Wing SEVEN, based in England for antisubmarine duty in cooperation with the British Coastal Command. He was awarded the Air Medal, Distinguished Flying Cross and the Bronze Star Medal.

When he returned to the United States in February 1945 he took command of Headquarters Squadron FIFTY-TWO at Boca Chica, Florida, training ASW crews for Liberator aircraft. These crews were sent to England as replacements. When his squadron was decommissioned in June 1945, he formed and commanded Night Fighter Training Unit Detachment FIVE, Atlantic, which was engaged in the training of night fighter pilots. Detached in December 1945, he was assigned to the Naval Air Test Center, Patuxent River, Maryland, as Assistant Director of the Armament Test

Division. Detached for temporary duty in connection with Operation CROSSROADS (the atomic bomb tests on Bikini Atoll in the Pacific) during the summer of 1946, he returned to his assignment at Patuxent River in September of that year.

From June until November 1947 he served on board the USS *Shangri-La* (CV-38), first as Air Officer, later as XO, and for eighteen months thereafter was on board the USS *Princeton* (CV-37) as Operations Officer and XO. In July and August 1949 he served as Assistant to the Administrative Officer on the Staff of Commander Air Force, Pacific Fleet, then reported as a student at the Armed Forces Staff College, Norfolk, Virginia. He completed the course in January 1950, after which he had a tour of duty in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Navy Department, Washington, D. C., assigned to the Air Intelligence Division, Analysis Branch, later becoming Deputy Chief of the Analysis Branch.

He was CO of Composite Squadron ELEVEN from September 1951 until June 1952. Some of the detachments of his squadron operated in the Korean area against enemy North Korean and Chinese Communist forces during that period. In July 1952 he reported to the U. S. Naval School, All-Weather Flight, at Corpus Christi, Texas and served as CO until June 1954. He then had two years' duty as Chief of the Plans and Policy Branch, Intelligence Division, at Supreme Headquarters, Allied Powers, Europe. In August 1956 he began the advanced study of Strategy and Sea Power at the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island, completing the course in June 1957.

Designated Commander, Heavy Attack Wing ONE, he served in that capacity from June 1957 until July 1958, when he took command of the USS *Lexington* (CVA-16) arriving in the SEVENTH Fleet in time to be on station for the Formosan crisis. He retained command until June 1959, then reported as CO of NAS Jacksonville, Florida. In August 1961 he was detached for command of Carrier Division TWENTY, an Anti-Submarine Hunter-Killer Division operating out of Quonset Point Naval Air Station. He served as such until November 1962, when he assumed command of the U. S. Naval Support Forces, Antarctica and in June 1963 was assigned further duty as U. S. Antarctic Projects Officer. For outstanding services in that assignment, he was awarded the Legion of Merit and a Gold Star in lieu of the Second Air Medal.

In June 1965 he assumed command of Carrier Division FIVE and as such directed all carrier-based air strikes in the Vietnam area. "For exceptionally meritorious service...as Commander Attack Carrier Striking Force SEVENTH Fleet, from July 23, 1965 through April 30, 1966..." he was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal.

In September 1966 he reported as Deputy Director for Evaluations, Defense Communications Planning Group, Defense Communication Agency, Arlington, Virginia. For his services in this assignment he was awarded the Gold Star in lieu of the Second Legion of Merit.

In February 1968 he was assigned to the Office of the Assistant VCNO/Director of Naval Administration and continued duty there until retirement on August 1, 1968.