



Allard G. Russell, CAPT, USN
"Slim"

Date of Designation: 15 July 1941 NA # 8178

Dates of Active Duty: 1 Nov. 1940 - 1 Nov. 1962

Total Flight Hours: 6,500 military, 3,000 civilian. (In about 125 type and model aircraft).

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 380

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 650 Prop: 5,850 VF/VA: 5,700
VR/VP: 800

Combat Tours:

WW II: 1941-1942. VS-3 embarked on USS *Saratoga* and land based on Guadalcanal.

Korea: 1952. VC-3 embarked on USS *Philippine Sea*. Total - 75 combat missions.

Aviation Commands:

CO, Torpedo FIVE (VT-5, later VA-6A), 1945-1947. Pacific O-in-C, VF-ATU-1, 1950-1951
O-in-C, VC-3 Team "Charlie", Korea, 1952
Commander, Air Group 162, NAS Oceana, VA. Operated from *Forrestal*, *Ranger*, and *Intrepid*.

Combat Awards:

2 Distinguished Flying Crosses
5 Air Medals
Presidential Unit Citation

Duty Assignment Chronology

1942 Flew SBDs in 1942 from USS *Saratoga* until she was torpedoed off Guadalcanal, then flew from Henderson Field for two months. Credited with damaging two destroyers (night) and one troop transport and destruction of many landing barges and two Float Zeros (beached). Evacuated to



a French Hospital on Efate for one month. Flew close air support for Marines in the extended operation on Guadalcanal.

1943-44 Early VA/VF instructor at Daytona, thence to Assistant Air Officer on USS *Card* in Atlantic Fleet.

1945 Executive Officer of VF-52 and VF-5.

1945-47 CO, Torpedo Squadron FIVE.

1950 Student at Navy Line School, Monterey (with wife Edith and two Indians, operated a 6,500 cattle ranch for one year.)

1950-51 O-in-C, ATU-1 at Cabaniss Field.

1951-54 VC-3 at Moffett Field. O-in-C of Team "Charlie" in USS *Philippine Sea* from Jan.-Aug. 1952. Shot down by ground fire at night, well inland, in March 1952. Made it to Wonson Harbor and was rescued after a half hour in 38 degree water. Credited with destruction of several guns, numerous trucks and other vehicles, small boats and one bridge. Also flew close air support missions for both Marines and Army operations.

1954-55 Student at Naval War College.

1955-56 Was All-Weather Coordinator in OPNAV (OP-05W). Also flew with Royal Navy during this period.

1956-57 Was one of leading pioneers in All-Weather Carrier Landing System development and participated in first ACLS landings on USS *Antietam* in January 1957. Made tremendous contributions to all U. S. air operations in '56-'57 by planning and overseeing development, installation and testing of TACAN at numerous USN/USMC Air Stations and at Chance-Vought, Dallas and North American, Columbus, OH.

1957-58 Commanded Air Group 162. During this period, led a 182 USN/USMC air parade/air show over International Fleet in Hampton Roads. Also, planned and led first Navy Trans-LANT flight of 4 F3H and 4 F8U from CONUS to Port Lyautey, May 1958. Inaugurated "Operation Pipeline", in

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support of SIXTHFLT operations as part of the Specified Command Middle East activation and deployment to the Western Med in connection with landing of U. S. Marines at Beirut, Lebanon. The following month, was assigned as Chief-of-Staff to the Commander of the then forming East Coast RCVG-4.

- 1959-60 Moved to become Operations Officer in USS *Franklin D. Roosevelt* making two Med deployments.
- 1960-62 OPNAV (OP-561) At OP-05's direction, was the driving force in the development of NATOPS.
- 11/1/62 Retired from active duty after last flight that day in an F4H at Pax River testing the SPN-10 automatic carrier landing system.
- 1962-67 Joined Bell Aircraft as Director of Flight Research. Among other duties was responsible for development and testing of Air Cushion Vehicles, leading to the large vehicles of that type in current USMC use.
- 1968-70 Joined Hughes Aircraft Division, Washington Office, as Head, Military OH-6A Programs Officer.
- 1970-74 With Action Agency under the White House.
- 1974-75 Deputy Chief, Navy Division, Vietnam.
- 1975-80 Returned in a civilian capacity to OPNAV (OP-61). Was department head in Foreign Military Sales, including a \$4 billion F-14 Program for Iran.
- 1980-82 Assigned as the Air Forces' NATO AWACS Officer at the Boeing Aircraft Company, Seattle.

Other Civilian Activities

- Charter member of ANA and current CO of the Sarasota, Florida ANA Squadron.
- Flies with and served as President of the Sarasota Chapter of Florida's Angel Flight, part of a five state 250 pilot group who provide free emergency medical flights to injured and sick individuals who cannot themselves manage such needed transportation. Now past-president of Sarasota Chapter, part of Angel Flight SE which flew 1,650 medical flights in year 2000 and are on a scale to reach 2,000 in year 2001.