



John M. Tierney, RADM, USN (Ret.)
 “John”

Date of Designation: 17 September 1949 NA # T-66

Dates of Active Duty: 6 June 1945 - 31 July 1975

Total Flight Hours: 5,918

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 611

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 1,881 Prop: 2,495 VF/VA: 2,934
 VU/VFP: 28 VT: 1,463 Other: 51

Combat Tours:

- Vietnam: COMCAW-19 (A-4, F-8, A-1), 25 May 1965-Dec. 15, 1965, USS *Bon Homme Richard* (CVA-31). Tonkin Gulf - 100 combat missions.
- Vietnam: CO, USS *Thomaston* (LSD-28), 29 Mar. 1968-4 Aug. 1968. Tonkin Gulf.
- Vietnam: Chief of Staff, COMCARDIV ONE, Jun. 1969-Sep. 1969. Tonkin Gulf.
- Vietnam: CO, USS *Constellation* (CVA-64), Jan. 1970-May 1970. Tonkin Gulf.

Aviation Commands:

- CO, VA-66 (A4D-2N), May 1962 - May 1963.
- COMCAW-19 (A-4, F-8, A-1, E-1, F-8P), Mar. 1965 - Dec. 1965.
- COMCARDIV ONE, Aug. 1969 - Sep. 1969.
- CO, USS *Constellation* (CVA-64), Jan. 1970 - Jan. 1971.
- Commander, Medium Attack/Tactical Electronic Warfare Wing Pacific, Sep. 1972 - Jun. 1975.

Combat Awards:

- Legion of Merit
- 2 Distinguished Flying Crosses
- Bronze Star with combat "V"
- 10 Air Medals (Strike/Flight)
- South Vietnamese Gallantry Medal with Palm



Combat Awards continued
 National Order Vietnam Knight (5th Order)

Duty Assignment Chronology

- 6/42-6/45 Midshipman, U. S. Naval Academy.
- 7/45-9/45 U. S. Naval Mine Warfare School, Yorktown, VA. Student.
- 10/45-1/46 USS YMS 163, Naval Station Pearl Harbor. Executive Officer.
- 1/46-2/47 USS *Henry A. Wiley* (DM 29), Eastern Pacific and San Francisco Bay. First Lieutenant.
- 3/47-4/48 USS PCE 891, Central and Northern Pacific, & Hawaii. Executive Officer.
- 5/48-9/49 Flight Training Command Pensacola & Corpus Christi (SNJ, F4U-4). Student Naval Aviator.
- 11/49-7/52 VA-25, NAS Oceana (AD-4). Maintenance Officer.
- 8/52-6/55 U. S. Naval Postgraduate School Monterey & Princeton. Aeronautical Engineering.
- 7/55-8/55 Jet Transitional Training Unit, Olathe, KS. (TV-1, F9F-6).
- 9/55-8/57 VF-21, NAS Oceana (FJ-3). Maintenance Officer.
- 8/57-7/60 U.S. Naval Test Pilot School, Student Instructor, Performance Engineering and Test Pilot (All aircraft).
- 8/60-11/60 COMNAVAIRLANT for LSO training and RAG instruction.
- 12/60-3/62 CVG-8 Staff, Operations Officer and LSO, NAS Oceana & deployed (A-4, F-8, F4D, A-1, A-3).
- 5/62-5/63 VA-66, Commanding Officer. NAS Oceana & deployed (A4D-2N).
- 8/63-6/64 U. S. Naval War College, Newport, TI. Student - Senior Course.
- 8/64-2/65 Pre-CAG training COMNAVAIRPAC, Lemoore & Miramar (A-4, F-8, A-1).

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Duty Assignment Chronology continued

2/65-12/65 COMCAW-19, NAS Lemoore & Tonkin Gulf (A-4, F-8, A-1).

1/66-1/68 Office of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Systems Analysis). Tactical Air Naval Analyst, Washington, D.C.

3/68-4/69 USS *Thomaston* (LSD 28), Tonkin Gulf & San Diego. Commanding Officer.

6/69-11/69 COMCARDIV ONE, Chief of Staff (6/69-8/69); Commander (8/69-9/69); Chief of Staff (9/69-11/69). NAS North Island & Tonkin Gulf.

1/70-1/71 USS *Constellation* (CVA 64), Commanding Officer. Tonkin Gulf, San Diego and USNSY Bremerton.

2/71-8/72 OPNAV (OP-90), Deputy Director (2/71-4/71); Director (4/71-8/72). Washington, D. C.

9/72-6/75 Commander Medium Attack/Tactical Electronic Warfare Wing Pacific, Whidbey Island, WA.

7/1/75 Retired from Active Duty.

Summary of Significant Career Events

- (1) XO of two ships and Department Head of third as an Ensign.
- (2) As student naval aviator first carrier flight (3 minutes duration, 1 landing, 9th wire, 2nd barrier). No accidents in remainder of flying career.
- (3) Honor graduate of TPT Class 19, Patuxent River.
- (4) As USNTPS instructor, contributed to textbook, developed syllabus and instructed classroom and flight instruction in spin testing.
- (5) Unsuccessful finalist for first seven Mercury astronauts.
- (6) As CO, VA-66, flying off brand new USS *Enterprise*, squadron outflew all other squadrons in hours and landings. No pilot losses.
- (7) As CAG-8 LSO on *Forrestal*, had no landing fatalities for my tour.
- (8) Led Air Wing 19 on successful combat tour in Tonkin Gulf during North Vietnamese introduction of SAMs. Flew 100 combat missions plus some support missions in 7 months combat off USS *Bon Homme Richard*.
- (9) As COMMATVACWING PAC, trained and supported PACFLT A-6s and introduced EA6Bs to fleet and to combat.
- (10) In Navy career, piloted 45 or more basic models of military aircraft.