



Alan J. Armstrong, MGEN, USMC (Ret.)
 "Al"

Date of Designation: 5 July 1941 NA # 7829

Dates of Active Duty: 13 January 1941 - 1 July 1973

Total Flight Hours: 5,500

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 72

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 1,000 Prop: 4,400 Helo: 100 VF/VA: 3,400
 VR/VP: 800 VT: 1,200

Combat Tours:

WW II: VMF-223, Nov. 1943 - Jun. 1944. Vella La Vella, Bougainville and Green Island - 58 missions.

Aviation Commands:

CO, VMF 215 (F6F & F4U), Jul. 1945 - Oct. 1945.
 CO, VMF 472 (F4U), Oct. 1945 - Dec. 1945.
 MAG-15 (A-4C, F-4D, F4B), Mar. 1961 - Jul. 1962.
 Commanding General, First Marine Air Wing, Vietnam,
 Jun. 1971 - Apr. 1972.

Combat Awards:

Distinguished Service Medal
 Legion of Merit with gold star
 Distinguished Flying Cross with gold star.
 Air Medal with six stars

Duty Assignment Chronology

1/41-7/41 Flight Training (Pensacola and Opa Locka).
 8/41-3/43 Flight Instructor NAS Pensacola.
 4/43-5/43 VMF-212, MCAS El Toro, CA., and Midway.
 8/43-6/44 VMF-223, Midway and Solomans Islands.
 8/44-10/44 MAG-24, MCAS Mojave, CA.
 11/44-7/45 MAG-24, MCAS Ewa, HI.
 7/45-10/45 CO, VMF-215, MCAS Ewa, HI.
 10/45-12/45 CO, VMF-472, Saipan and USS *Block Island*.



1/46-3/46 XO, MCAS Mojave, CA.
 3/46-7/46 Student, Marine Air-Infantry School, Quantico, VA.
 8/46-3/48 Instructor, Amphibious Warfare Junior Course, Quantico, VA.
 5/48-10/49 VMF-122, MCAS Cherry Point, NC.
 11/49-1/51 20th Fighter/Bomber Group, USAF Shaw Field, Sumpter, SC.
 1/51-7/53 Headquarters Marine Corps, Washington, D. C.
 8/53-7/54 MAG-33, K-3 Pohang, Korea.
 9/54-6/56 STRIKFORSOUTH, Naples, Italy.
 8/56-12/56 Student, Armed Forces Staff College, Norfolk VA.
 12/56-7/58 Headquarters, AIRFMFLANT, Norfolk, VA.
 7/58-7/60 Aide to CNO USN (Burke), Washington, D.C.
 7/60-3/61 Aviation Safety Officer, 3rd MAW, MCAS El Toro, CA.
 3/61-7/62 CO, MAG-15, MCAS El Toro, CA.
 8/62-7/63 Student, U.S. Army War College.
 9/63-8/64 G-3, 1st MAW, Iwakuni, Japan.
 9/64-8/67 Headquarters, Marine Corps, Washington D.C.
 8/67-5/70 Director, Marine Corps Development Center, Quantico, VA.
 6/70-4/71 Commanding General, 1st MAW, Vietnam.
 4/71-6/71 Commander, 3rd MEB, Vietnam.
 8/71-7/73 G-4, Headquarters, Marine Corps, Washington, D. C.
 7/1/73 Retired from active duty.

Summary of Significant Career Events

(1) In a combat mission from Green Island in May 1944, on which we flew cover over Rabaul, New Britain, in support of a B-25 bombing attack and strafing of targets on Duke of York Island, my wing man was Charles A. Lindbergh. He was a great pilot and a truly fine gentleman. My great fear was that something might happen to that famous person on our flight.

- Continued -

Summary of Significant Career Events continued

- (2) After a tour in the Marine Corps' first jet squadron, VMF-122, I was among those included on exchange tours between services. I joined the USAF 20th Fighter/Bomber Group at Shaw Field, Sumpter SC., in November 1949. During that tour, flying F-84s, we crossed the North Atlantic via Bangor, Maine, Goose Bay, Labrador, BW1, Greenland, Keflavik, Iceland and Kinloss, Scotland for a six months stay at RAF Station Manston, England under control of the Strategic Air Command. We returned to the States in December, 1950, via the same route in the awful weather the North Atlantic suffers at that time of the year. After six months in England we were fine instrument pilots, thank goodness!