



James B. Cain, Captain, USN (Ret.)
"Jim"

Date of Designation: 16 October 1941

Dates of Active Duty: 12 April 1941 - 31 December 1970.

Total Flight Hours: 10,000

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed: 455 (44 Night straight deck)

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 3,500 Prop: 6,500 VF/VA: 8,000

Combat Tours:

WW II: 102 Missions

Korea: 101 Missions (F2H-2 Banshees)

Aviation Commands:

CO, VF-ATU-1 (Corsairs)

CO, VF-172 (Banshees)

CO, JTTU (Cougars and Tiger Cats)

CO, USS *Regulas* (AF-57)

CO, USS *Yorktown*

CO, USS *Ticonderoga*

Combat Awards:

Silver Star

Legion of Merit

4 Distinguished Flying Crosses

13 Air Medals

Duty Assignment Chronology

4/12/41 Entered aviation through V-5 program.
11/16/41 Designated a Naval Aviator.
11/41-43 Flight Instructor, NAS Jacksonville, FL.
Additional duties as technical advisor and camera plane pilot for MGM & Warner Brothers pictures. During this assignment, participated in one of first "snatch rescue" operations



1943-45 VF-45 (flying Hellcats). VF-45 formed at NAS Atlantic City, NJ. Trained at NAS Squantum, MA and at Maui, HI. Boarded USS *San Jacinto* and participated in battles of the Marianas, Philippines, South China Sea, 1st and 2nd battles of Tokyo, Iwo Jima, Formosa, and Okinawa. During these air and ground battles, destroyed 8 and 1/2 enemy aircraft in the air, listed two as probables or damaged and some 27 burned in strafing attacks. (No credit was received at that time for aircraft damaged or destroyed on the ground). In addition to these air victories, was credited with sinking a Japanese destroyer escort.

1944-70 During this period commanded; VF-ATU-1 (Corsairs), VF-172 (Banshees), JTTU (Cougars and Tiger Cats). Flew F2H-3 Banshees for two tours in Korea and commanded the USS *Regulas* (AF-57), the USS *Yorktown* and the USS *Ticonderoga* in Vietnam. Last combat tour was Chief of Staff to Commander, Carrier Division THREE in the South China Sea.

12/31/70 Retired from active duty.

1973 Returned to active duty temporarily to become a Convoy Commodore in the War Emergency Force.

Summary of Significant Career Events

- (1) Participated in first trans-Atlantic jet fighter flight of F8U Crusader in 1957.