



Timothy R. O'Neil, Captain USN (Ret.)
 "Tim"

Date of Designation: 19 October 1943

Dates of Active Duty: December 1942 - August 1946
 October 1951 - February 1970

Total Flight Hours: 6,380

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 531 (242 night)

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 2,900 Prop: 3,480 VF/VA: 1,285

VT: 2,200 Other: 2,895

Combat Tours:

Korea: VC-3, Sept. 1953 - May 1954, USS *Oriskany* (F2H-3)

Vietnam: USS *Kitty Hawk*, Apr. 1966 - Sept. 1967.
 Operations Officer and XO.

Combat Missions: 10 A-6

Aviation Commands:

CO, VF-31, Aug. 1961 - Jul. 1962 USS *Saratoga* (F3H-2N)

CO, VF-121, Apr. 1965 - Mar. 1966 RAG Miramar (F-4)

Flight Performance Awards:

COMNAVAIRLANT Safety Award 1962 while CO, VF-31 (F3H-2N)

Battle Readiness Excellence Pennant 1962 while CO, VF-31 (F3H-2N)

Duty Assignment Chronology

- 7/42-9/42 Naval Aviation Cadet Preflight, MIT.
- 9/42-11/42 Civilian Pilot Flight Training, Clairmont, NH (Piper Cub Aeronca).
- 12/42-10/43 NABTC Flight Training, NAS Pensacola (SNJ)
- 11/43-8/44 NABTC Flight Instructor, NAS Pensacola (SNJ)



- 8/44-8/46 Instrument Flight Instructor School, NAS Atlanta (NH-1).
- 9/46-2/48 Dartmouth College Degree Program, BA.
- 1948-1951 Naval Air Reserves NAS Squantum (FG-1D SNJ).
- 10/51-10/52 Naval Air Reserves Flight Instructor, NAS Memphis (SNJ).
- 11/53-8/54 VC-3 Squadron Pilot, NAS Moffet and USS Oriskany (F4U-5N, F2H-3).
- 6/56 Selected for integration into regular Navy. Accepted reduction in rank from LCDR USNR to LT USN and loss of seniority from Class of 1943 to Class of 1947 with no regrets. Duke Windsor arranged for the orders to Test Pilot School to fill a Pax River requirement for a test pilot with extensive night and all-weather carrier fighter experience.
- 2/57-7/57 USN TPS DUINS Class 18, Pax River (F4D, F2H-2/3, F3H, A3D, F9F).
- 8/57-6/58 Service Test Project Test Pilot (F3H-2N, F8U-1, F4D, F9F-6).
- 7/58-6/59 Naval War College, Newport RI.
- 8/61-7/62 VF-31 Operations Officer, XO/CO, NAS Cecil Field and USS *Saratoga* (F3H-2N).
- 8/62-6/63 USAF Air University, Montgomery AL.
- 7/63-4/66 VF-121 XO/CO, F-4 RAG, Miramar, CA
- 4/66-9/67 USS *Kitty Hawk* Operations Officer and XO, Vietnam.
- 1967-1968 CNO Admin. Assistant to the Office Program Appraisal.
- 1969-1970 OSD Directorate of Inspection Services-DINS.
- 1970 Retired from active duty.

Summary of Significant Career Events

- (1) Member of the second five man jet night fighter team deployed to the Naval Air Pacific Fleet in F2H-3 Banshees.

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Summary of Significant Career Events continued

- (2) One of the first Naval Aviators to accumulate nearly 250 night carrier landings using both LSOs with paddles and later the Mirror Landing System.
- (3) Fired the first operational SPARROW AIM-7 missile from a F3H-2N in Naval Air Atlantic Fleet.
- (4) Flew the F8U at Pax River in the F8U Familiarization and Indoctrination training film.
- (5) With John Wissler, established the F3H-2N Demon flame out approach parameters at Muroc Dry Lake Bed, Edwards Air Force Flight Test Center.
- (6) Served as the Operations officer, Executive Officer and then the Commanding Officer of VF-31, when the squadron was awarded the FLEET "E" and the CNO Aviation Safety Award in 1962.
- (7) Successfully dead stuck a F3H-2N Demon into NAS Cecil Field when the engine quit.
- (8) Have flown almost sixty different types of aircraft.