



David Charles Richardson, VADM, USN (Ret.)

“Dave”

Date of Designation: 1 April 1940 NA # 6328

Dates of Active Duty: 4 June 1936 - 1 July 1972

Total Flight Hours: 3,231

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 100 Prop: 3,130

Combat Tours:

- WW II: VF-5, USS *Wasp* (CV-7), South Atlantic, 7 Dec. 1941 - 10 Dec. 1941.
- VF-5, USS *Wasp* (CV-7), North Atlantic, 26 Dec. 1941 - 17 Feb. 1942.
- WW II: VF-5, USS *Saratoga* (CV-3), Guadalcanal, 10 Jun. 1941 - 21 Oct. 1942.

Aviation Commands:

- CO, Advanced Training Squadron, Vero Beach, FL., Jan. 1944 - Mar. 1944.
- CO, Advanced Training Squadron, Daytona Beach, FL., Mar. 1944 - Sep. 1944.
- CO, VF-1, Sep. 1944 - Jan. 1945
- Commander, Air Group 13, Aug. 1948 - Sep. 1949
- CO, USS *Hornet* (CVS-12), Sep. 1960 - Sep. 1961
- COMCARDIV 7, Feb. 1966 - Aug. 1966.
- COMCARDIV 5 (CTF-77), Aug. 1966 - Jun. 1967
- COMSIXTHFLT, Aug. 1968 - Sep. 1970.

Combat Awards:

- Legion of Merit
- Distinguished Flying Cross
- Air Medal
- Purple Heart



Duty Assignment Chronology

- 6/32-6/36 Midshipman, U. S. Naval Academy.
- 6/36-6/38 USS *Tennessee*.
- 6/38-2/39 USS *Downes*.
- 2/39-4/40 Flight Training, NAS Pensacola, FL.
- 4/40-12/42 Fighter Squadron VF-5.
- 1/43-1/44 Operational Training Command.
- 1/44-3/44 CO, Advanced Training Squadron, Vero Beach, FL.
- 3/44-9/44 CO, Advanced Training Squadron, Daytona Beach, FL.
- 9/44-1/46 CO, VF-1.
- 1/46-6/46 Royal Navy Staff College.
- 6/46-6/48 Naval War College.
- 8/48-9/49 Commander, Air Group 13.
- 10/49-5/52 Joint Strategic Plans Group, JCS.
- 5/52-6/53 XO, USS *Badoeng Strait*.
- 6/53-11/54 Assistant Plans Officer, COMNAVAIR-PAC Staff.
- 12/54-6/57 CNO, Air Weapons Analysis Staff.
- 7/57-7/59 Operations/Intel, ComStrikeForSouth, Naples, Italy.
- 9/60-9/61 CO, USS *Hornet* (CVS-12).
- 11/61-2/64 CNO (OP-60), Navy's "planner" to JCS.
- 2/64-2/66 ComFairNorfolk.
- 2/66-8/66 Commander, CARDIV SEVEN.
- 8/66-6/67 Commander, CARDIV FIVE (CTF-77).
- 7/67-7/68 Assistant DCNO (Air).
- 8/68-9/70 COMSIXTHFLT.
- 9/70-6/72 Deputy CINCPACFLT.
- 7/1/72 Retired from active duty.

Summary of Significant Career Events

- (1) Shot down first Jap plane while under intercept control of USS *Saratoga*, a "MAY" seaplane; a first for both ship and me.

Summary of Significant Career Events (continued)

- (2) Operations Officer of first Navy fighter squadron based on Guadalcanal. Wounded and hospitalized 4 weeks, returned to get three more kills. Departed 21 October 1942.
- (3) As COMSIXTHFLT, created Mediterranean wide area surveillance information net, later expanded to Ocean Surveillance Information Net. It was the first to:
 - Succeed in getting satellite photo support for tactical exploitation. (CINCPACFLT had tried for KOREA coverage, but was denied.)
 - Request (and obtain) satellite sensor systems support for wide area surveillance, including SAM systems locations and electronics for strike planning.
 - State need for, provide test support of and exploit operationally the resultant nuclear weapons sensor for determining which Soviet ships had such weapons aboard, what kind and which SSN-3 missiles were so armed.
 - Operationally exploit Soviet underwater communications tactically.
 - Create "National Week" series of exercises for Mediterranean, purpose to test surveillance effectiveness, expanded at urging of Jerry O'Rourke to carrier-vs-carrier encounters, and this led to first "hiding" from Soviet surveillance of our carriers by placing them inside three miles of shorelines. (We saw Soviets do that, to defeat us, so copped the idea.)
 - Exploit CIA offer to "put a Mercedes on my masthead" by getting leased private boat support for multiple tasks where no other access to Soviet controlled areas was possible. Included underwater communications intercepts. Admiral Tom Moorer, CNO, provided me a direct communications link to him to be used to identify surveillance and intelligence needs. We had complete coverage with positional accuracies measured in minutes of Soviets in Operation OKEAN-70.
- (4) Post retirement consultant in all aspects of computer exploitation for command and control of naval forces. OUTLAW HAWK, OUTLAW SHARK, the TALLEY-MAN series and TFCC. C3 countermeasures development and space systems support to deployed tactical forces.