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2004 Carolyn

John R. Batzler, RADM USN (Ret.)
"Jack"

Date of Designation: 1 1 January 1957   NA# V-11130

Dates of Active Duty: 3 June 1955 - 1 September 1987

Total Flight Hours: 4,826

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 759

Approximate Flight Hours:
Jet: 4,500 Prop: 300 VF/VA: 3,000 VS: 40 VFP: 1,360

Combat Tours:
Vietnam: VF-41, Jan 1968-Jun. 68, USS *Enterprise*,
                  Tonkin Gulf, (F-4B/N)
Vietnam: VF-24, Nov. 1970-May 1971 USS *Hancock*,
                  Tonkin Gulf (F-8J)
Vietnam: VF-24, Feb. 1972-May 1972 USS *Hancoc*k,
                  Tonkin Gulf (F-8J)
Total Combat Missions: 278 (100- F-4B/N, 178- F-8J)

Aviation Commands:
CO, VF-24, Aug 1971- June 1972 (F-8J)
CO, USS *Nimitz,* Feb 1979- Feb 1982
Commander, USS *Enterprise* Battle Group Jun. 1984-Mar.
1986 and concurrently during deployment as Commander
USS Carl Vinson Battle Group Feb. 1985-May 1985.

Combat Awards:
Distinguished Flying Cross
Bronze Star w/Combat "V"
18 Air Medals, (1 Individual and 17 Strike Flight Awards)
Navy Commendation Medal w/Combat "V"
Vietnamese Gallantry Cross (275 Combat Missions)
3 Non-combat Legion of Merit Awards, 2 while in command
at sea.

Duty Assignment Chronology

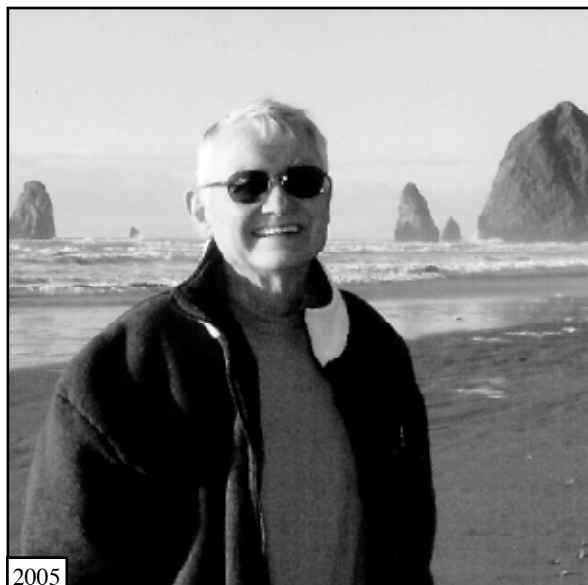|	
6/55-8/55	FASRON 17, NAS Jacksonville, student on hold.
8/55-6/56	NAS Pensacola, Primary and Basic Flight Training (T-34,T-28, SNJ).
7/56-1/57	NAS Kingsville, Advanced Flight Trng. (T-28, T-33, F9F-5).
1/57-6/57	NAS Pensacola, Photo Reconn. School. (T-28, F9F-6P).
6/57-6/6	NAS Miramar, VFP-61/63, Assistant Ops./ Det pilot (F9F-8P, RF-8).
7/61-9/62	USNA Annapolis, Math Instructor (T-2V).
10/62-6/63	NATC Patuxent River, Test Pilot School (T1A,T-28, S2, F-8, F-6A, HU16C, AF1E, B-26, A-4B).
7/63-9/65	NATC Patuxent River, Project Test Pilot (F-8, F-4A/B/J, RF-4B/C, A-4B/C, TA-4, RA-5C, E-2A, C-1, C-54,C-131, T-1A, T-39, R5D, OV-1).
10/65-2/66	NAS Key West, RAG Student (TF-9J, F-4B)
3/66-6/67	VF-31, Maintenance and Operations Officer, NAS Oceana (F-4B).
7/67-6/68	VF-96, Administrative and Operations Officer, NAS Miramar (F-4B/J).
7/68-12 /69	Naval Post Graduate School, Monterey, CA (S-2, T-1A).
1/70-8/70	VF-124, RAG Training, Student, NAS Miramar (F-8).
8/70-5/72	VF-24, XO/CO, NAS Miramar (F-8J).
6/72-6/73	Nuclear Power Training, Vallejo, CA and Idaho Falls, ID (TA-4, F-4, F-8).
7/73-12/74	AirPac Staff, NAS North Island (F-4, F-8, TA-4).
1/75-10/76	USS *Enterprise*, XO.
11/76-1276	Training Schools, NAS North Island, Newport
1/77-8/78	USS *Ashtabula,* CO.
9/78-1/79	Naval Reactor Training.
2/79-2/82	USS Nimitz, CO (S-3, A-7, F-14).
3/82-5/84	Joint Staff DD Ops, Wash. D.C., F-14, TR-1)
6/84-3/86	CCG-3, Commander, NAS Alameda (F-14, SH-3, S-3, C-1,C-12)
4/86-9/87	Space and NavWarSys Comm. (F/A-18)

Summary of Significant Career Events

(1) U.S. Navy Test Pilot School, June 1963.

(2) Project pilot for system NPE evaluations on the RA-5C and RF-4B.

(3) Flight test evaluations of air warfare systems.

(4) Captive/carry/release tests of new air to ground ordnance.

(5) Flown every model of the F8 Crusader except the two-seat version (includes the French, the photo, and all US models of the fighter).

(6) Flown 50 different models of military aircraft.

(7) Three combat tours in Vietnam in both Phantoms and Crusaders.

(8) Masters degree in Computer Systems; Graduate of Naval Nuclear Training.

(9) Commanding Officer of the USS *Nimitz* for three years. Served as the launch platform for helicopters that flew the ill-fated Iranian hostage rescue mission. Conducted successful Gulf ops culminating in the shootdown of two Libyan fighters.

Commander of two different Battle Groups (Enterprise and *Carl Vinso*n) in the Western Pacific and North Arabian Sea during the period of June 1984 to March 1986.

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Biography

John R. Batzler, RADM. USN (Ret), graduated in mathematics from the University of California at Berkley in 1955, and was commissioned an Ensign in the U.S. Navy. Following flight training, he served the first 20 years of his Naval Career as a fighter pilot in several carrier based squadrons, deploying to both the Western Pacific and the Mediterranean. In the late 1960s and early 1970s he completed three combat deployments during the Vietnam conflict, with over 275 missions and numerous awards including the Distinguish Flying Cross, Bronze Star, numerous Air Medals, and the Navy Commendation Medal. As a senior officer, Admiral Batzler served as Executive Officer of the USS *Enterprise*, and as Commanding Officer of USS *Ashtabula* and the USS *Nimitz*. During his command of USS *Nimitz* they supported the Iranian hostage rescue attempt in the spring of 1980, and the first Gulf of Sidra operations in August 1981 that resulted in the shoot-down of two Libyan Fitter aircraft. Other assignments included a three-year tour as a Navy test pilot and service as a mathematics instructor at the U.S. Naval Academy.

Selected for Flag rank in 1981, Admiral Batzler served in the Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, as Deputy Director of Operations for Reconnaissance, Space, Electronic Warfare, and C3 Countermeasures, where he had the opportunity to fly the USAF TR-1, a very high altitude strategic recon platform. In 1984-86 he was Carrier Group Commander in the Pacific Fleet, deploying as the Battle Group Commander in both USS ENTERPRISE and USS CARL VINSON. In his last active duty assignment, RADM Batzler served as the first Director, Warfare Systems Architecture and Engineering, in the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command.

In September 1987, Admiral Batzler became an independent consultant, working with several defense industry firms, as well as the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory and the Center for Naval Analyses. He has actively participated in major study efforts involving analyses of Carrier Battle Force requirements, maritime air superiority initiatives, over-the-horizon targeting, wide area surveillance, modeling and simulation, and space systems operations. He has acted in an advisory capacity to industry in the area of aircraft proposals, avionics for EW and processor systems, precision guided munitions, C4ISR, Information Warfare, combat tactical training range requirements, and numerous other defense related research and development issues. He has served on study boards for the National Academy of Science, in both Space Systems and Information Warfare, and currently is a member of a senior advisory team in support of military operations for the National Reconnaissance Office.

Admiral Batzler is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Test pilot School, the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Engineering Curriculum, and a course in National Security Affairs from the Harvard John F. Kennedy School of Government. He holds a Master Degree in Computer Systems and is currently serving as Chairman of the Board for Maxims Systems, a southern California Defense Industry firm. He is also a Director of the Del Mar television Foundation, and a member of the Crusader Association, Navy/Marine Corps Memorial Foundation, Naval Aviation Museum, National Aerospace Museum, Navy League, Association of Naval Aviation, Tailhook Association, USS NIMITZ Association, Nature Conservancy, and the Save the Beach Foundation of Del Mar. He is also a former member of the Society of Experimental Test Pilots.