



Leon A. Edney, Admiral, USN (Ret.)
 "Bud"

Date of Designation: August 1958

Dates of Active Duty: 6 June 1957 - 1 August 1992.

Total Flight Hours: 5,700

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 1,020

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 3,700 Prop: 2,000 VF/VA: 3,700

VS: 2,000

Combat Tours:

Vietnam: VA-164, USS *Oriskany* (CVA-34), Apr. 1966 - Nov. 1966 and Jun. 1967 - Feb. 1968.

Vietnam: XO/CO, VA-27, USS *Enterprise* (CVAN-65), Oct. 1971 - Dec. 1971 and Jul. 1972 - Apr. 1973

Total 357 combat missions (Vietnam)

Aviation Commands:

CO, VA 27, Dec. 1972 - Jan. 1974.

CVW-2, Nov. 1974 - Jan. 1976.

CO, USS *Ponchatoula* (A0-148), Jun. 1976 - Jun 1977.

CO, USS *Constellation* (CV-64), Jan. 1980 - Apr. 1981

COMCARGRU One, Feb. 1984 - Nov. 1985

CINCLANT/SACLANT, May 1990 - Aug. 1992

Combat Awards:

3 Legions of Merit

5 Distinguished Flying Crosses

Bronze Star

8 Air Medals (Individual)

33 Air Medals (Strike Flight)

2 Navy Distinguished Service Medals

2 Defense Distinguished Service Medals



Duty Assignment Chronology

6/53-6/57 Midshipman, U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis.
 8/57-8/58 Navy flight training.
 9/58-8/62 Pilot, VS-27 and VS-24.
 8/62-8/63 Graduate studies, Harvard University, MPA.
 8/63-8/65 Special Assistant to DCNO (R&D), Pentagon.
 8/65-10/65 Jet transition training, light attack aircraft.
 10/65-3/68 Pilot, VA-164, USS *Oriskany* (CVA-34).
 Completed two Vietnam deployments.
 4/68-5/70 RAG Instructor, VA-122, NAS Lemoore, CA.
 1970-71 White House Fellow. Special Assistant to the Secretary of Transportation.
 10/71-1/74 XO and CO, VA-27, USS *Enterprise* (CVAN-65). Third Vietnam deployment.
 10/74-5/76 Commander, Carrier Air Wing Two, USS *Ranger* (CV- 61).
 5/76-6/77 CO, USS *Ponchatoula* (A0-148).
 7/77-1/80 Chief of Staff, Commander, Cruised Destroyer Group Five.
 1/80-4/81 CO, USS *Constellation* (CV-64). WestPac.
 6/81-1/84 Commandant of Midshipman, U. S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD.
 1/84-10/85 Commander, Carrier Group One, USS *Constellation* (CV-64). Western Pacific.
 11/85-10/86 Director, Aviation Plans and Requirements , OPNAV, Pentagon.
 10/86-10/87 Director, Office of Program Appraisal for the Secretary of the Navy.
 10/87-8/88 Chief of Naval Personnel and the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Manpower, Personnel, and Training, Washington, D.C.
 8/88-5/90 Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
 5/90-8/92 Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic (NATO)
 8/1/92 Retired from active duty.

Admiral Leon A. "Bud" Edney, a native of Dedham, Massachusetts, was commissioned an Ensign in 1957 following his graduation from the U. S. Naval Academy. He earned a master's degree in Public Administration from Harvard University in 1963.

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Designated a Naval Aviator in 1958, Admiral Edney's first operational flying tours were with Air Antisubmarine Squadrons 27 and 24. Following his graduate studies at Harvard, he served a two-year tour in Washington, D. C., as a Special Assistant to the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Research and Development. In 1965, Admiral Edney transitioned to light attack jet aircraft and was assigned to Attack Squadron 164. In 1970, he was assigned to the Staff of the Chief of Naval Operations as the Western Hemisphere Plans Officer in the Political-Military Plans Division. He was selected as a White House Fellow in 1970 and served as a Special Assistant to the Secretary of Transportation. In 1971, Admiral Edney was named Executive Officer of Attack Squadron 27 and assumed command of the squadron the following year.

Admiral Edney assumed command of Carrier Air Wing TWO embarked in the aircraft carrier USS *Ranger* (CV-61) in 1974. He then became the commanding officer of the fleet oiler USS *Ponchatoula* (AO-148) two years later. He then served as Chief of Staff for Commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group FIVE before assuming command of the aircraft carrier USS *Constellation* (CV-64) in January 1980. Under his command, *Constellation* participated in RIMPAC '80 exercise with navies from the Pacific basin before deploying to the Western Pacific in April 1980. During this deployment, *Constellation* remained on station in the Indian Ocean for 110 straight days in support of U. S. foreign policy.

In June 1981, Admiral Edney was designated a Commodore and became the sixty-ninth Commandant of Midshipmen at the US. Naval Academy. In March 1984, he became Commander, Carrier Group ONE and made another deployment to the Western Pacific embarked in *Constellation* the following year.

Following his assignment as Commander, Carrier Group ONE, Admiral Edney served as the Assistant Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Air Warfare; Director, Aviation Plans and Requirements Division; and later Director, Office of Program Appraisal for the Secretary of the Navy. In 1987, he became the Chief of Naval Personnel, and the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Manpower, Personnel, and Training. He assumed his present rank and the duties of Vice Chief of Naval Operations in August 1988, and as such was directly responsible to the Chief of Naval Operations for the command of the Navy's operating forces and the administration of its share establishment.

In May 1990, Admiral Edney assumed duties as NATO's Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic, and Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Command. He retired on 1 August 1992

Admiral Edney's personal awards and decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the Navy Distinguished Service Medal with gold star, the Legion of Merit with two gold stars, Distinguished Flying Cross with four gold stars, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with gold star, Air Medal with gold numeral 8 and bronze numeral 30 Navy Commendation Medal with Combat V, and the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with gold star, as well as various campaign and unit awards. During his career he has accumulated more than 5,600 flight hours, flown 340 combat sorties, and made more than 1,000 carrier landings.

Family:

Admiral Edney is married to the former Margon Beck of Hastings, Nebraska. They have two daughters, Merrie and Jaimie. The Edneys reside in Annapolis, Md.

Summary of Significant Career Events

- (1) 1970 - 1971 White House Fellow.
- (2) In December 1972, as CO of Attack Squadron 27 on USS *Enterprise*, participated in "Linebacker II" Strikes over Hanoi that terminated U. S. participation in Vietnam War and brought about release of POWs.
- (3) March 1985 and October 1995, as COMCARGRU One, introduced first operational deployment of the F/A-18 aboard flagship USS *Constellation* (CV-64) and the Lamps Mark III helicopter aboard USS *Cromlen* (FFG-7).
- (4) In June 1989, accompanied Admiral Bill Crowe, CJCS, on historic 12 day visit to the Soviet Union just before that empire dissolved ending the Cold War.