



**Richard W. Hamon, CAPT USN (Ret.)**  
 "Dick"

Date of Designation: 9 November 1961 NA # V-18290

Dates of Active Duty: 8 June 1960 - 30 June 1990

Total Flight Hours: 3,860 (Accident Free)

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 1,050

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 3,460 Prop: 400

Combat Tours:

Vietnam: VA- 164 (A-4E), USS Oriskany, May-Nov. 1965, 138 combat missions

Vietnam: VA-105 (A-7A), USS Saratoga, May 1972 - Jan 1973, 148 combat missions

Total Combat Missions: 286

Aviation Commands:

VA-37 "Bulls": Oct. 1976 - Jan. 1978, USS *Saratoga* (A-7E)

Combat Awards:

3 Distinguished Flying Crosses

7 Individual Air Medals

25 Strike/ Flight Air Medals

3 Navy Commendation Medals w/Combat "V"

### **Duty Assignment Chronology**

3/54-6/56 NARTU, AR-AT3, NAS Miami, FL, First aircraft flight (R4D) in 6/54 to NAS Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

6/56-6/60 USNA, Annapolis, MD, (N3N & LTA/ T-34/T-28, Aviation Summer, 1958).

8/60-11/60 VT-1, Saufley Field, FL (T-34).

11/60-4/61 VT-3, Whiting Field, FL (T-28A/B).

4/61-5/61 VT- 5, Barin Field, FL (T-28C).



6/61-9/61 VT-22, NAS Kingsville, TX (F9F-8B/T).  
 10/61-11/61 VT-23, NAS Kingsville, TX (F11F).  
 12/61-2/62 Photo Recon School, NAS Pensacola, FL (SNB-5P).  
 3/62-9/62 VA-125/126, NAS Lemoore, CA (F9F-8T, A-4A/B).  
 10/62-11/65 VA-164, LSO, NAS Lemoore, CA & USS *Oriskany* (A-4B/E).  
 12/65-10/68 USN PGS Monterrey, CA; Awarded MSEE Degree (T-28B/C, US-2B).  
 11/68-2/69 VA-44/45, RAG Student, NAS Cecil Field, FL (TA4F, A-4B/C).  
 3/69-4/69 CVW-17, LSO, USS *Forrestal*; VA-15 (A4C).  
 5/69-8/70 CVW-17, Senior Air Wing LSO, USS *Forrestal*; VA-36, Asst Ops, NAS Cecil Field, FL (A4C).  
 8/70-2/71 VA-174/45, RAG Student, NAS Cecil Field, FL (TA4F, A7A/B/E).  
 2/71-3/73 VA-105, Maintenance & Ops, NAS Cecil Field & USS *Saratoga* (A7A).  
 4/73-2/75 VX-5, Project & Weapons/ECM OPEVAL Pilot, Maintenance, Reports Management; NAF China Lake, CA (TA4J, A7B/C/E, AH1J, A4M, US2B).  
 3/75-6/75 VA-174, RAG Student, NAS Cecil Field, FL (A7E).  
 6/75-1/78 VA-37, XO/CO, NAS Cecil Field, FL & USS *Saratoga* (A7E).  
 1/78-8/79 OPNAV 983, Joint Service Test & Evaluation Coordinator, Arlington, VA.  
 8/79-8/80 Student, Advanced Professional Military Education (ICAF) & George Washington University; Awarded MSA Management Degree, Washington DC.  
 8/80-3/84 NAVLEX (PME-120), Program Director, Air Traffic Control, Surveillance & Navigation Systems, Arlington, VA.  
 4/84-7/85 Attaché Training (Defense Intelligence College & Spanish Language Instruction), Washington DC.

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### Duty Assignment Chronology continued

7/85-7/88 Defense Attaché & Naval Attaché, Madrid, Spain.  
8/88-6/90 Director, East Asia & Pacific Division, Navy International Programs Office (reporting to SECNAV), Arlington, VA.  
7/1/90 Retired from active duty

### **Summary of Significant Career Events**

1. Formal Education:  
6/56- Associate of Arts (AA), University of Florida  
6/60- Bachelor of Science (BS), US Naval Academy  
10/68- Master of Science in Engineering Electronics (MSEE), Naval PGS  
8/80- Master of Science in Management (MSA), George Washington University.
2. LSO Tours: VA-164 (1962-65); Air Wing Seventeen Senior LSO (1969-1970).
3. On 1972-73 Vietnam Cruise, as a LCDR, selected by CAG as his Alternate Alpha Strike Lead. Led successful Alpha Strike on Hon Gay Port Facility east of Haiphong.
4. 1972 Iron Hand mission leader supporting major Alpha Strike two miles southeast of Hanoi. Many Shrikes launched by Wingie and myself. Flamed out when pulled through Shrike exhaust to setup for next Shrike launch. Successful manual relight. (A7A).
5. On 1972 Armed Recce mission (A-7A) just north of Vinh, took 37 mm direct hit on port wing and flap. Hydraulic fire extinguished by climbing to altitude. Successfully trapped aboard Saratoga with two sq ft hole/tear in wing and flap and punctures in vertical stabilizer and tail cone. CNAL "Attaboy."
6. 8/72-On an Armed Recce mission (A-7A) in NVN was diverted north to karst islands east of Haiphong where a NVN Intrusion Trawler (SL-1) had been sighted. Wingie and I put a MK-82 midship and on the bow. Ship beached to prevent sinking.
7. 1973-75- RDT&E Tour: VX-5 Project/OPEVAL Pilot; author of "Coordinated Strike Tactics Guide" in response to CNO tasking.
8. 1973 & 1974 Tailhook Reunions- Received award for LCDR with most arrested landings (803).
9. 10/76-1/78- Squadron Command (A7E); Squadron awarded CNAL Safety "S".
10. 1980-84 Program Director Air Traffic Control, Surveillance and Navigation Systems (NAVELEX)- Responsible for the development, testing, acquisition and life cycle support for equipment and software for ACLS and ATC air surveillance radars for Naval Air Stations and carriers, Fleet Area Control and Surveillance Facilities (FACSFACs), and IFF, SATNAV, OMEGA, and TACAN navigation systems.
11. 9/99- Retired to Pinehurst, NC.