



Jerry L. Unruh, VADM, USN (Ret.)

“Jerry”

Date of Designation: 28 March 1961

Dates of Active Duty: 28 January 1958 - 1 October 1994

Total Flight Hours: 5,100

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 720

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 4,900 Prop: 200 VF/VA: 4,100

VU/VFP: 750 VT: 250

Combat Tours:

Vietnam: VF-211, USS *Hancock*, Dec. 1964-Mar. 1966 (F8)

Vietnam: VF-211, USS *Hancock*, Nov. 1970-May 1972 (F8)

Total - 295 missions

Aviation Commands:

CO, VF-142, Jun. 1975 - Nov. 1976

CO, Navy Fighter Weapons Squadron - TOPGUN,
Mar. 1978 - Jan. 1979

CO, VF-124, Feb. 1979 - May 1980

CO, USS *Wichita* (AOR-1), Jan. 1983 - Jul. 1984

CO, USS *Saratoga* (CV-60), May 1985 - Apr. 1987

COMCARGRU ONE, Jul. 1989 - Apr. 1991

Commander, Third Fleet, Apr. 1991 - Oct. 1994

Combat Awards:

Legion of Merit

4 Meritorious Service Medals

14 Air Medals

Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry



Duty Assignment Chronology

- 1/57-1/58 Naval Reserve (Active duty service periods).
- 1/58-7/59 Enlisted training bases & COMNAVAIRLANT
- 7/59-3/61 Flight Training, Pensacola FL, Kingsville, TX.
- 4/61-9/63 VU-7, San Diego (FJ-4, F-8, F-9, T-33).
- 10/63-1/64 VF-124, San Diego (F-8).
- 2/64-4/66 VF-211, San Diego (F-8).
- 5/66-12/69 VF-124, San Diego (F-8).
- 1/70-5/72 VF-24, San Diego (F-8).
- 6/72-3/74 U.S. Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA. BS Degree - Computer Science.
- 4/74-2/75 VF-124, San Diego (F-14A).
- 3/75-11/76 VF-142, Virginia Beach, VA (F-14A).
- 11/76-2/78 COMNAVAIRLANT, Norfolk, VA.
- 3/78-1/79 Navy Fighter Weapons Squadron - TOPGUN.
- 2/79-5/80 VF-124, (F-14).
- 12/80-6/82 USS *Kitty Hawk* (CV-63). Executive Officer.
- 1/83-7/84 USS *Wichita* (AOR-1), Commanding Officer.
- 5/85-4/87 USS *Saratoga* (CV-60), Commanding Officer.
- 6/87-4/88 CNO Strategic Studies Group.
- 4/88-6/89 NATO, SACEUR Staff.
- 7/89-4/91 Commander, Carrier Group One.
- 4/91-10/94 Commander Third Fleet.

Summary of Significant Career Events

- (1) One of five pilots to fly the F-8 Crusader in excess of 3,000 hours.
- (2) As CO, USS *Saratoga*: directed and captured Libyan terrorists who had taken over the cruise ship Achille Lauro in the Mediterranean Sea.
- (3) Made the first ever night transit of the Suez Canal by an aircraft carrier.
- (4) Took the carrier inside the lagoon and pierside at Diego Garcia, Indian Ocean. Evaluated too risky for future carriers.