

VA-125

Lineage

Reserve Attack Squadron FIFTY FIVE E (VA-55E) was most likely established during the activation of the Naval Air Reserve in 1946 and remained in an inactive status.

Redesignated Reserve Attack Squadron NINE HUNDRED TWENTY THREE (VA-923) in January 1950.

Reserve Attack Squadron NINE HUNDRED TWENTY THREE (VA-923) was called to active duty on 20 July 1950.

Redesignated Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE (VA-125) on 4 February 1953.

Disestablished on 10 April 1958. The first squadron to be assigned the VA-125 designation.



This insignia was used by the squadron during its deployment to Korea in 1952–1953 aboard Oriskany (CVA 34).

Squadron Insignia and Nickname

There is no record for an approved squadron insignia. However, an insignia was used by the squadron during its deployment aboard *Oriskany* (CVA 34) in 1952–1953. There are no colors available for this insignia. The Latin phrase *Mors ab Alto* means Death from Above.

Nickname: Rough Raiders, 1952–1958.

Chronology of Significant Events

1 Feb 1953: The squadron's commanding officer, Commander J. C. Micheel was killed in action in Korea.

Home Port Assignments

<i>Location</i>	<i>Assignment Date</i>
NAS St. Louis	*
NAS San Diego	02 Aug 1950
NAS Miramar	Jan 1952

* The squadron's home port was assigned prior to 1950, the exact date is unknown.

Commanding Officers

	<i>Date Assumed Command</i>
LCDR Herb W. Wiley	*
CDR John C. Micheel	24 Mar 1952
LCDR Allan H. Gunderson	01 Feb 1953
LCDR John L. McMahon, Jr.	Jul 1953
LCDR Bernard E. Hackett	Oct 1954
CDR John H. Bahlman	Apr 1956
CDR A. J. Henry, Jr.	25 Oct 1957

* Assumed command prior to 1950, date unknown.

Aircraft Assignment

<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Date Type First Received</i>
TBM	*
AM	1950
AD-2	Sep 1950
AD-4Q	Oct 1950
AD-4	Dec 1950
AD-3	Dec 1950
AD-4B	Jun 1953
AD-4NA	Sep 1953
AD-6	Oct 1954
AD-7	Jan 1957

* The squadron was assigned the TBM prior to 1950, date unknown.

A squadron AM-1 Mauler flown by VA-923. Pilot in photo is Hank Gastrich; it was taken following his landing in the plane in which a gauge indicated the wings were unlocked during flight, circa 1950 (Courtesy Steve Ginter Collection).



Major Overseas Deployments

<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Date of Return</i>	<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Carrier</i>	<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Area of Operation</i>
10 May 1951	17 Dec 1951	CVG-102	CV 31	AD-3/4Q	Korea
15 Sep 1952	18 May 1953	CVG-102	CVA 34	AD-3/4	Korea
03 Mar 1954	11 Oct 1954	CVG-12	CVA 21	AD-4B/NA	WestPac
10 Aug 1955	15 Mar 1956	CVG-12	CVA 19	AD-6	WestPac
19 Apr 1957	17 Oct 1957	CVG-12	CVA 16	AD-6/7	WestPac



A squadron AD-3 or 4 takes off from Bon Homme Richard (CV 31) during their combat deployment to Korea in 1951.

Air Wing Assignments

<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Tail Code</i>	<i>Assignment Date</i>
CVG-102/CVG-12†	D/NJ‡	1950*

* VA-923's assignment to CVG-102 was in August or September 1950.

† CVG-102 was redesignated CVG-12 on 4 February 1953.

‡ The tail code was changed from D to NJ in 1957. The effective date for this change was most likely the beginning of FY 58 (1 July 1957).

Unit Awards Received

<i>Unit Award</i>	<i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i>	
KSM	30 May 1951	06 Dec 1951
	17 Oct 1952	29 Oct 1952
	31 Oct 1952	29 Mar 1953
	27 Apr 1953	02 May 1953

A squadron AD Skyraider prepares to launch from Hancock (CVA 19) during its cruise to WestPac in 1955-1956.



SECOND VA-125

Lineage

Established as Attack Squadron TWENTY SIX (VA-26) on 30 June 1956.

Redesignated Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE (VA-125) on 11 April 1958.

Disestablished on 1 October 1977. The second squadron to be assigned the designation VA-125.



The tiger head was the squadron's first insignia.

was brown and white with black markings; the lightning bolt whiskers were yellow and outlined in black; the tongue and inside of the mouth were red.

When the squadron's mission was changed, a new insignia was approved by CNO on 13 May 1959. Colors for the torch of learning insignia are unknown.

Nickname: Skylancers, 1956–1958

Rough Raiders, 1958–1977.

Chronology of Significant Events

11 Apr 1958: The squadron's mission was changed from air-to-ground/surface attack to the indoctrination and training of pilots and enlisted personnel in attack aircraft for assignment to combat carrier squadrons.

11 Dec 1958: The squadron's commanding officer, Commander J. E. Thomas, was killed in an aircraft accident.

Mar 1960: With the addition of the A4D-2N Skyhawk, the squadron added radar and inflight refueling training to its flight syllabus.

Squadron Insignia and Nickname

The squadron's first insignia was approved by CNO on 18 December 1956. Colors for the cougar insignia were: a dark blue background outlined in black; white scroll outlined in black with black lettering; white stars; the cougar's face



When the squadron's mission changed to fleet replacement training, this insignia was adopted and approved for used by the squadron.

19 May 1966: VA-125 was the first squadron in the Navy to receive the TA-4F Skyhawk.

Jun 1966: The first of several groups of Australians arrived for training by the squadron on the A-4 Skyhawk. The pilots were to form the nucleus of Australia's first A-4 squadron scheduled for assignment to HMAS *Melborne* (R-21).

13 Mar 1967: The squadron's commanding officer, Commander J. D. Shaw, was killed in an aircraft accident during a routine carrier qualification exercise on the *Kearsarge* (CVS 33).

31 Mar 1969: The last A-4 Fleet Replacement Pilot class began.

30 Jun 1969: The last A-4 Fleet Replacement Enlisted Maintenance training program was completed.

Nov 1969: The squadron began to develop the required training program for the Light Attack Weapons School. In December 1969 the squadron, in conjunction with VA-122, inaugurated a graduate level course for the Light Attack Weapons School that involved all phases of attack aviation.

Jan 1970: The first A-7 Fleet Replacement Enlisted Maintenance and Fleet Replacement Pilot classes began.



A formation of squadron F9F-8 Cougars, circa 1957.

Home Port Assignments

<i>Location</i>	<i>Assignment Date</i>
NAS Miramar	30 Jun 1956
NAS Moffett Field	Aug 1956
NAS Lemoore	24 Jul 1961

Commanding Officers

	<i>Date Assumed Command</i>
CDR Richard D. Greer, Jr.	30 Jun 1956
CDR C. H. Carr	11 Apr 1958
CDR J. E. Thomas	15 Jul 1958
CDR F. E. Ward, Jr.	11 Dec 1958

Commanding Officers—Continued

	<i>Date Assumed Command</i>
CDR P. H. Durand	30 Nov 1959
CDR O. L. Dauphin	05 Apr 1961
CDR James W. Porter	09 Apr 1962
CDR Earl F. Godfrey	29 May 1963
CDR William J. Forgy	14 Sep 1964
CDR Jack A. Endacott	27 Aug 1965
CDR John D. Shaw	29 Jul 1966
CDR Gary H. Palmer (acting)	13 Mar 1967
CDR Charles E. Hathaway	12 May 1967
CDR Otto E. Krueger	11 Jul 1968
CDR Ronald H. Caldwell	31 Jul 1969
CDR George E. LeBlanc, Jr.	31 Jul 1970
CDR James B. Busey IV	10 May 1971
CDR James M. Gleim	31 Mar 1972
CDR Charles R. Bowling	06 Jul 1973
CDR Robert C. Taylor	12 Sep 1974
CDR Denis R. Weichman	17 Dec 1975
CDR J. W. Keathley	28 Mar 1977

Aircraft Assignment

<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Date Type First Received</i>
F9F-8B	Jul 1956
F9F-8	Oct 1956
A4D-1	10 Jun 1958
A4D-2/A-4B*	Aug 1958
A4D-2N/A-4C*	03 Mar 1960
AD-5/A-1E*	Sep 1960
A-4E	Dec 1962
TA-4F	19 May 1966
A-4F	Feb 1968
A-7B	25 Sep 1969
A-7A	Oct 1969
A-7C	Aug 1975

* The A4D-2, A4D-2N and AD-5 designations were changed to A-4B, A-4C and A-1E in 1962.



A close up of an F9F-8 Cougar with squadron personnel, taken during the squadron's 1957–1958 deployment to WestPac aboard *Kearsarge* (CVA

Major Overseas Deployments

<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Date of Return</i>	<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Carrier</i>	<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Area of Operation</i>
09 Aug 1957	02 Apr 1958	ATG-3	CVA 33*	F9F-8	WestPac

* During the deployment aboard *Kearsarge* (CVA 33) the squadron was based at NAS Agana, Guam, for a considerable part of the cruise.



A formation of five different models of the A-4 Skyhawk flown by the squadron in 1969; the A-4B, A-4C, A-4E, A-4F and TA-4F.

Air Wing Assignments

<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Tail Code</i>	<i>Assignment Date</i>
ATG-3	Y/NC*	30 Jun 1956
RCVG-12/RCVW-12†	NJ	11 Apr 1958
COMFAIRLEMOORE	NJ‡	01 Jul 1970
COMLATWINGPAC§	NJ	30 Jun 1973

* The tail code was changed from Y to NC in 1957. The effective date for this change was most likely the beginning of FY 58 (1 July 1957).

† The Replacement Air Group designation (RCVG) was changed to Combat Readiness Air Group (RCVG) on 1 April 1963 and then to Combat Readiness Air Wing (RCVW) on 20 December 1963.

‡ RCVW-12 was disestablished on 1 July 1970 and the squadron was assigned to Commander Fleet Air Lemoore. However, the tailcode NJ, which had been assigned RCVW-12, was retained by VA-125 and the other squadrons that had been assigned to RCVW-12.

§ COMFAIRLEMOORE was redesignated COMLATWINGPAC (Commander Light Attack Wing, Pacific) on 30 June 1973.



A squadron A-1E Skyraider, 1965 or 1966.

A formation of squadron A-7 Corsair IIs over NAS Lemoore, California, 1970.



VA-128

Lineage

Established as Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED TWENTY EIGHT (VA-128) on 1 September 1967. The first squadron to be assigned the VA-128 designation.



The stylized phoenix insignia used by the squadron.

Squadron Insignia and Nickname

The squadron's insignia was approved by CNO on 9 August 1967. Colors for the stylized Phoenix insignia are: white background for insignia and scroll, outlined in gold; the stylized Phoenix and the lettering are also gold.

Nickname: Golden Intruders, 1967-present

Chronology of Significant Events

1 Sep 1967: The squadron was assigned the mission of training combat ready flight crews and replacement maintenance personnel for the A-6 Intruder.

Oct 1968: Two U.S. Air Force exchange officers reported aboard for training in the A-6A.

Jun 1973: A Naval Officer from the Federal Republic of Germany reported aboard for training in the A-6.

Mar–May 1980: The squadron's TC-4C, Target Recognition Attack Multisensor (TRAM) equipped aircraft, was used to monitor the hot spots on Mt. St. Helens in Washington prior to a major eruption on 18 May. The squadron's work with U.S. Geological Survey

authorities provided the forewarning necessary to save hundreds of lives since the mountain was a popular place for campers, boaters and mountain climbers.

Oct 1986: The squadron assumed the additional duty of training all Marine Corps personnel on the A-6 following the disestablishment of VMAT(AW)-202.

1990: The squadron received the first composite wing A-6E on the West Coast.

Home Port Assignments

Location	Assignment Date
NAS Whidbey Island	01 Sep 1967

Commanding Officers

	Date Assumed Command
CDR W. B. Warwick	01 Sep 1967
CDR N. R. Gooding, Jr.	16 May 1969
CDR Leland S. Kollmorgen	26 Jun 1970
CDR Lester W. Berglund	1971
CDR Robert W. Miles	07 Jul 1972
CDR Richard M. Dunleavy	03 Aug 1973
CDR George E. Matt	17 Oct 1974
CDR Robert S. Owens	12 Dec 1975
CDR Van F. Westfall	01 Nov 1976
CDR Lyle F. Bull	03 Feb 1978
CDR Daryl L. Kerr	29 Jun 1979
CDR John M. McNabb	01 Aug 1980
CDR Rodney C. Franz	10 Jul 1981
CDR David D. Williams	15 Oct 1982
CDR Patrick C. Hauert	06 Jan 1984
CDR Robert R. Whittenburg	1985
CDR Bruce V. Wood	24 Oct 1986
CDR Kenneth G. Bixler	22 Jan 1988
CDR Gary W. Stubbs	30 Jun 1989
CDR Michael J. McCamish	17 Aug 1990



Squadron A-6E Intruders conducting aerial refueling, 1982.

Aircraft Assignment

<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Date Type First Received</i>
A-6A	01 Sep 1967
TC-4C	15 Mar 1968
A-6E	16 Dec 1973

* RCVW-12 was disestablished on 1 July 1970 and the squadron was assigned to Commander Fleet Air Whidbey. However, the tail code NJ, which had been assigned to RCVW-12, was retained by VA-128 and the other squadrons that had been assigned to RCVW-12.

† Commander Fleet Air Whidbey was redesignated Commander Medium Attack Tactical Electronic Warfare Wing Pacific (COMMATVAQWINGPAC) on 1 March 1973.

Air Wing Assignments

<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Tail Code</i>	<i>Assignment Date</i>
RCVW-12	NJ	01 Sep 1967
COMFAIRWHIDBEY	NJ*	01 Jul 1970
COMMATVAQWINGPAC†	NJ	01 Mar 1973

Unit Awards Received

<i>Unit Award</i>	<i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i>	
MUC	15 Oct 1982	06 Jan 1984
	01 Feb 1987	01 Feb 1988
SLOC	01 Mar 1980	31 Mar 1981



A squadron TC-4C Academe at Eglin AFB, Florida, in 1993.

VA-133

Lineage

Established as Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED THIRTY THREE (VA-133) on 21 August 1961.

Disestablished on 1 October 1962. The first squadron to be assigned the VA-133 designation.

Squadron Insignia and Nickname

The squadron's insignia was approved by CNO on 13 February 1962. Colors for the blue knight

insignia were: a blue background; a white shield outlined in black; a yellow lightning bolt outlined in black; a blue chess knight with white markings and outlined in black; and the scroll had a white background, outlined in black and blue lettering.



The short lived "Blue Knight" insignia.

Nickname: Blue Knights, 1962.

Chronology of Significant Events

Aug 1961: The squadron was established as part of a new Air Group to increase the strength of the fleet as a result of the Berlin Crisis of 1961–1962.

8–19 Feb 1962: A squadron detachment was aboard *Constellation* (CVA 64) for carrier trials and in a stand-by status for possible assistance during Project Mercury, the launching of Lieutenant Colonel John H. Glenn, USMC, in Mercury spacecraft Friendship 7.

Mar–May 1962: The squadron participated in *Constellation's* shakedown cruise in the Caribbean.

Home Port Assignments

Location	Assignment Date
NAS Cecil Field	21 Aug 1961

Commanding Officers

	Date Assumed Command
CDR M. A. Feher	21 Aug 1961

Aircraft Assignment

Type of Aircraft	Date Type First Received
A4D-2	12 Sep 1961

Air Wing Assignments

Air Wing	Tail Code	Assignment Date
CVG-13	AE	21 Aug 1961

SECOND VA-134

Lineage

Established as Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED THIRTY FOUR (VA-134) on 21 August 1961.

Disestablished on 1 October 1962. The second squadron to be assigned the VA-134 designation.

Squadron Insignia and Nickname

The squadron's insignia was approved by CNO on 15 February 1962. Colors for the scorpion insignia were: a burnt orange background and scroll, outlined in black; a white star with black highlights; the globe was outlined in black with a blue ocean and orange land mass, outlined in black; the scorpion was black with white highlights; the lettering was orange outlined in black.



The scorpion insignia for VA-134.

Nickname: Scorpions, 1962.

Chronology of Significant Events

Aug 1961: The squadron was established as part of a new Air Group to increase the strength of the fleet during the Berlin Crisis of 1961–1962.

Feb 1962: The squadron was aboard *Constellation* (CVA 64) for carrier trials and in a stand-by status for possible assistance during Project Mercury, the launching of Lieutenant Colonel John H. Glenn, USMC, in Mercury spacecraft Friendship 7.

Mar–May 1962: The squadron participated in *Constellation's* shakedown cruise in the Caribbean.

Home Port Assignments

Location	Assignment Date
NAS Cecil Field	21 Aug 1961

Commanding Officers

	Date Assumed Command
CDR Kenneth B. Austin	21 Aug 1961

Aircraft Assignment

Type of Aircraft	Date Type First Received
A4D-2	Sep 1961

Air Wing Assignments

Air Wing	Tail Code	Assignment Date
CVG-13	AE	21 Aug 1961



A squadron A4D-2 Skyhawk is prepared for launch from *Constellation* (CVA 64) in February 1962. This was the first aircraft launched from *Constellation* after her commissioning in October 1961.

VA-135

Lineage

Established as Torpedo Squadron EIGHTY ONE (VT-81) on 1 March 1944.

Redesignated Attack Squadron FOURTEEN A (VA-14A) on 15 November 1946.

Redesignated Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED THIRTY FIVE (VA-135) on 2 August 1948.

Disestablished on 30 November 1949. The first squadron to be assigned the VA-135 designation.

Squadron Insignia and Nickname

There is no record of official approval for the squadron insignia. Colors for the bird insignia, which is believed to have been used by VA-14A, were: a white background with a green border; the bird's body and wings were black with white markings, red head and neck, orange beak and black eyes with red streaks; the machine gun in the beak was black and white, the legs were brown and the tailhook had black and white strips with a gray hook; the torpedo had a yellow warhead streaked with orange, the body was pale blue, the detonator was green and the propeller was yellow; the bomb was black and the rocket was gray with blue shading and a red flame.



This insignia was used by VA-14A.

Nickname: Uninvited, time frame unknown.

Chronology of Significant Events

14 Nov 1944: The squadron's first combat strike was conducted against Manila Harbor.

9–20 Jan 1945: The squadron was part of a task force that entered the South China Sea and conducted combat operations against Cam Rahn Bay; Hong Kong and Takao Harbor, Formosa.

16 Feb 1945: The squadron struck the home islands of Japan, flying a seven-plane attack against Hamamatuo Airfield on Honshu.

21 Feb 1945: The squadron participated in its first ground support mission, flying sorties over Iwo Jima.

1 Mar 1945: The squadron flew its last combat strike of the war. During the four months of combat operations from *Wasp* (CV 18) it did not lose any personnel

due to enemy action (two personnel were lost due to operational accidents).

15–29 Jun 1946: The squadron embarked in *Princeton* (CV 37) and transited from Norfolk to San Diego via the Panama Canal.

Home Port Assignments

Location	Assignment Date
NAS Quonset Point	01 Mar 1944
NAAF Martha's Vineyard	01 Mar 1944*
NAAF Boca Chica	20 Apr 1944*
NAAF Otis Field, Camp Edwards	10 May 1944*
NAS San Diego	10 Aug 1944*
NAS Puunene	01 Sep 1944*
NAS Pasco	13 May 1945*
NAAF Sanford, Maine	31 Jul 1945*
NAS Quonset Point	15 Sep 1945
NAS San Diego	Jun 1946
NAS Jacksonville	01 Apr 1949

* Temporary shore assignment while the squadron conducted training in preparation for combat deployment.

Commanding Officers

	Date Assumed Command
LT George D. M. Cunha	01 Mar 1944
LT John A. McGlinn, Jr.	13 May 1945
LT Harold E. Brown, Jr. (acting)	Jul 1945
LT Humphrey L. Tallman	20 Aug 1945
LCDR Albert K. Earnest	Apr 1947
LCDR Robert P. Chase	Jun 1948
LCDR LeVern C. T. Niehaus	21 Jun 1949

Aircraft Assignment

Type of Aircraft	Date Type First Received
TBM-1C	Mar 1944
TBM-1	Mar 1944
TBF-1	Mar 1944
TBF-1C	Nov 1944
TBM-1D	Nov 1944
TBM-3	May 1945
TBM-3E	May 1945
TBM-3Q	1946
AD-4	Sep 1949

Major Overseas Deployments

<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Date of Return</i>	<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Carrier</i>	<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Area of Operation</i>
10 Nov 1944	13 Mar 1945	CVG-81	CV 18	TBM-1C/D	Pacific
03 Jul 1946	15 Apr 1947	CVG-81	CV 37	TBM-3E/Q	WestPac
01 Oct 1948	16 Dec 1948	CVG-13	CV 37	TBM-3E/Q	WestPac

Air Wing Assignments

<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Tail Code</i>	<i>Assignment Date</i>
CVG-81/CVAG-13/ CVG-13*	P†	01 Mar 1944

* CVG-81 was redesignated CVAG-13 on 15 November 1946. CVAG-13 was redesignated CVG-13 on 1 September 1948. CVG-13 was disestablished on 30 November 1949.

† The tail code P was assigned to the carrier *Princeton* (CV 37) in November 1946 and then reassigned to CVAG-13 in December 1946.

Unit Awards Received

<i>Unit Award</i>	<i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i>	
NUC	14 Nov 1944	19 Nov 1944
	14 Dec 1944	16 Dec 1944
	03 Jan 1945	22 Jan 1945
	16 Feb 1945	01 Mar 1945
Campaign Medal (Asiatic-Pacific)	14 Nov 1944	19 Nov 1944
	14 Dec 1944	16 Dec 1944
	03 Jan 1945	22 Jan 1945
	16 Feb 1945	01 Mar 1945



A squadron TBM-3E in flight, March 1946 (Courtesy Robert Lawson Collection).

SECOND VA-135

Lineage

Established as Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED THIRTY FIVE (VA-135) on 21 August 1961.

Disestablished on 1 October 1962. The second squadron to be assigned the VA-135 designation.

Squadron Insignia and Nickname

The squadron's insignia was approved by CNO on 15 February 1962. This insignia was similar to the



The Second VA-135 adopted the same insignia used by the first VA-135.

insignia that had been used by the first VA-135. Colors for the insignia were: upper background light blue, lower background dark blue; insignia outlined in green with a green scroll and white lettering; silver bird with white highlights and black outlines; the head and neck were red with a white star burst at the neck outlined in black; olive green beak and

legs outlined in black; white eye with a black pupil; white tailhook with black stripes; silver rocket and tor-

pedo with black markings and outlines; yellow bomb with black markings and outlines.

Nickname: Thunderbirds, 1962.

Chronology of Significant Events

Aug 1961: The squadron was established as part of a new Air Group to increase the strength of the fleet during the Berlin Crisis of 1961–1962.

Mar–May 1962: The squadron participated in *Constellation's* shakedown cruise in the Caribbean.

Home Port Assignments

Location	Assignment Date
NAS Jacksonville	21 Aug 1961
NAS Cecil Field	07 Aug 1962

Commanding Officers

	Date Assumed Command
CDR Barclay W. Smith	21 Aug 1961

Aircraft Assignment

Type of Aircraft	Date Type First Received
AD-6	21 Aug 1961

Air Wing Assignments

Air Wing	Tail Code	Assignment Date
CVG-13	AE	21 Aug 1961



A squadron AD-6 Skyraider, August 1961. Commander G. C. Watkins, left, congratulates squadron CO Commander B. W. Smith on having the first plane in CVG-13 to fly operationally following the air group's establishment in 1961.

VA-144

Lineage

Established as Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED SIXTEEN (VA-116) on 1 December 1955.

Redesignated Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED FORTY FOUR (VA-144) on 23 February 1959.

Disestablished on 29 January 1971. The first squadron to be assigned the VA-144 designation.



The insignia used by VA-116.

outlined in white with a white scroll and black lettering; red lightning bolt; yellow electron rings and white stars. This insignia was retained by the squadron following its redesignation.

Nickname:
Roadrunners,
1960s–1971.

Squadron Insignia and Nickname

The squadron's insignia was approved by CNO on 23 February 1956. Colors for the lightning bolt and electron ring insignia were: a black background



When the squadron was redesignated VA-144, it continued to use the old insignia and changed only the lower banner designation.

A squadron F7U-3M with squadron personnel in formation during the establishment ceremony for VA-116 at NAS Miramar, California, in December 1955.



Chronology of Significant Events

Sep 1957: The squadron, embarked in *Hancock* (CVA 19), was on station off the coast of Taiwan due to a build-up of Chinese Communist forces on the mainland opposite Taiwan.

26 May–18 Aug 1958: The squadron was embarked in *Ranger* (CVA 61) during its transit from the east coast, via South America, to its new home port at Alameda.

Jul 1959: The squadron, embarked in *Ranger* (CVA 61), maintained station off the coast of Taiwan due to increased tension between Taiwan and Communist China.

Jun–Nov 1964: The squadron participated in Yankee Team Operations. These operations involved support for photo reconnaissance missions over Laos. During these operations, the squadron was the first operational unit to fly with and drop the Snakeeye weapon.

4 Aug 1964: The squadron flew night sorties in support of the American destroyers, *Turner Joy* (DD 951) and *Maddox* (DD 731), following their harassment by North Vietnamese Motor Torpedo Boats in the Gulf of Tonkin.

5 Aug 1964: VA-144 participated in Operation Pierce Arrow, air strikes against North Vietnamese torpedo boats, their bases and supporting facilities in retaliation for the attacks on the American destroyers the previous day. Strikes were flown against the North Vietnamese home port of Hon Gay and the naval craft located there. During this engagement Lieutenant (jg) Everett Alvarez's A-4C was hit by antiaircraft fire and he was forced to eject. A rescue attempt failed and he was captured. He became the first American naval prisoner-of-war during the Vietnam Conflict and was held by the North Vietnamese until 1973.

20 Dec 1967: Commanders J. R. Powell, Jr. and R. C. Bos were awarded the Silver Star for planning and leading a successful strike against the heavily defended Haiphong Thermal Power Plant (west).

24 Apr 1967: VA-144's aircraft participated in a strike against the Kep Airfield, the first time the airfield was hit during the air war over North Vietnam.

Home Port Assignments

<i>Location</i>	<i>Assignment Date</i>
NAS Miramar	01 Dec 1955
NAS Lemoore	May 1962



A squadron F7U-3M Cutlass prepares to launch from Hancock (CVA 19) during their 1957 cruise to WestPac.

Commanding Officers—Continued

	<i>Date Assumed Command</i>
CDR Robert P. Nottingham	02 Jan 1965
CDR David B. Miller	04 Nov 1965
CDR J. Richard Powell, Jr.	14 Sep 1966
CDR Gary H. Palmer	28 Jul 1967
CDR William H. Robinson, Jr.	26 Jul 1968
CDR Donald Hull-Ryde	17 Jul 1969
CDR Galen B. Allen	01 Jul 1970



Two squadron FJ-4B Furys on the deck of Ranger (CVA 61) during their 1959 deployment to WestPac.

Commanding Officers

	<i>Date Assumed Command</i>
CDR J. L. Callis	01 Dec 1955
CDR Ralph H. Beatle	10 Oct 1957
CDR James Ritchie	29 Aug 1958
CDR Carl B. Tanner, Jr.	12 Aug 1959
CDR Rowland G. Freeman III	10 Dec 1960
CDR Jerome S. Roth	12 Oct 1961
CDR Harry S. Sellers	02 Jan 1963
CDR Donald B. Bolstad	06 Dec 1963

Aircraft Assignment

<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Date Type First Received</i>
F7U-3M	Dec 1955
FJ-4B	15 Oct 1957
A-4C	04 Jun 1962
A-4E	Jul 1967
A-4F	12 Nov 1969

Major Overseas Deployments

<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Date of Return</i>	<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Carrier</i>	<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Area of Operation</i>
06 Apr 1957	18 Sep 1957	ATG-2	CVA 19	F7U-3M	WestPac
03 Jan 1959	7 Jul 1959	CVG-14	CVA 61	FJ-4B	WestPac
14 May 1960	15 Dec 1960	CVG-14	CVA 34	FJ-4B	WestPac
09 Nov 1961	12 May 1962	CVG-14	CVA 16	FJ-4B	WestPac
21 Feb 1963	10 Sep 1963	CVG-14	CVA 64	A-4C	WestPac
05 May 1964	01 Feb 1965	CVW-14	CVA 64	A-4C	WestPac/Vietnam
28 Sep 1965	13 May 1966	CVW-5	CVA 14	A-4C	WestPac/Vietnam
05 Nov 1966	19 Jun 1967	CVW-11	CVA 63	A-4C	WestPac/Vietnam
18 Nov 1967	28 Jun 1968	CVW-11	CVA 63	A-4E	WestPac/Vietnam
18 Mar 1969	29 Oct 1969	CVW-5	CVA 31	A-4E	WestPac/Vietnam
02 Apr 1970	12 Nov 1970	CVW-5	CVA 31	A-4F	WestPac/Vietnam

Air Wing Assignments

<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Tail Code</i>	<i>Assignment Date</i>
ATG-2	W/NB*	01 Dec 1955
CVG-14/CVW-14†	NK	01 Apr 1958
CVW-5	NF	01 Jun 1965
CVW-11	NH	15 Sep 1966
CVW-5	NF	01 Nov 1968

* The tail code W was assigned to ATG-2 on 24 July 1956. It was changed to NB in 1957. The effective date for this change was most likely the beginning of FY 58 (1 July 1957).

† CVG-14 was redesignated CVW-14 when Carrier Air Group (CVG) designations were redesignated Carrier Air Wings (CVW) on 20 December 1963.

Unit Awards Received—Continued

<i>Unit Award</i>	<i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i>	
VNSM	03 Sep 1969	
	13 Sep 1969	14 Sep 1969
	04 Nov 1965	22 Apr 1966
	03 Dec 1966	03 Jan 1967
	02 Mar 1967	28 Mar 1967
	12 Apr 1967	28 Apr 1967
	08 May 1967	23 May 1967
	04 Mar 1968	27 Mar 1968
	12 Apr 1968	01 May 1968
	13 May 1968	01 Jun 1968
	27 Jan 1969	01 Mar 1969
	12 Mar 1969	05 Apr 1969
	17 Apr 1969	18 May 1969
	04 Jun 1969	26 Jul 1969
	31 Jul 1969	01 Sep 1969
	23 Sep 1969	09 Oct 1969
	02 May 1970	26 May 1970
01 Jun 1970	14 Jun 1970	
10 Jul 1970	29 Jul 1970	
17 Aug 1970	03 Sep 1970	
11 Sep 1970	12 Sep 1970	
26 Sep 1970	21 Oct 1970	

Unit Awards Received

<i>Unit Award</i>	<i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i>	
NAVE	01 Jul 1960	30 Jun 1961
PUC	23 Dec 1967	01 Jun 1968
MUC	18 Apr 1969	08 Oct 1969
	02 May 1970	20 Oct 1970
NUC	02 Aug 1964	05 Aug 1964
AFEM	29 Jun 1969	
	07 Jul 1969	13 Jul 1969
	24 Jul 1969	



A squadron A-4F Skyhawk comes in for a landing on Bon Homme Richard (CVA 31) during deployment to Vietnam, circa 1969 or 1970.

VA-145

Lineage

Established as Reserve Attack Squadron SEVEN HUNDRED TWO (VA-702) on 1 December 1949.

Reserve Attack Squadron SEVEN HUNDRED TWO (VA-702) called to active duty on 20 July 1950.

Redesignated Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED FORTY FIVE (VA-145) on 4 February 1953.

Disestablished on 1 October 1993. The first squadron to be assigned the VA-145 designation.



The first insignia used by the squadron.

Squadron Insignia and Nickname

The squadron's insignia was approved by CNO on 8 March 1951. There is no record of the color scheme for the insignia. The "Rustlers" insignia denotes the squadron's Texas origins and attack mission.

Following the redesignation of the squadron, a new insignia was approved by CNO on 7 April 1954. Colors for the sword and lion insignia are: a background of black, yellow and blue with a red border; the scroll is outlined in red with a yellow background and black lettering; the sword is silver and blue with a blue hilt, a yellow and black handle outlined in black; the lightning bolts are yellow; the lion is black with white markings and a red tongue and claws.



The squadron's second insignia was a more stylized design used by the squadron for almost 40 years.

Nickname: Rustlers, 1951–1954.

Swordsmen, 1954–1993.

Chronology of Significant Events

27 Mar 1951: The squadron conducted its first combat sortie, flying close air support missions in Korea.

Apr 1951: The squadron, embarked in *Boxer* (CV 9), operated in the Formosa Straits.

20 Sep 1951: VA-702 flew its last close air support sortie in Korea and thereafter, concentrated its strikes on enemy facilities and targets of opportunity as part of the interdiction program. This policy, the result of

fairly stable front lines, was effective 21 September and applied to all units of the Fast Carrier Task Force. Close air support missions were now flown only by the Marine Corps and Air Force. This policy was modified later in the war and Fast Carrier Task Force squadrons again flew close air support missions.

16 Oct 1952: Commander B. T. Simonds, the squadron's commanding officer, was lost when his plane crashed into the water immediately following its launch from *Kearsarge* (CVA 33).

Jun-Aug 1958: The squadron was embarked in *Ranger* (CVA 61) for her transit from Norfolk, via Cape Horn, to her new home port at Alameda.

5-8 Jul 1959: The squadron, embarked in *Ranger*, flew sorties from the carrier while it operated off Taiwan due to increasing tensions between the Chinese Nationalists and Chinese Communists.

Jun 1964-Jan 1965: The squadron participated in Yankee Team Operations, flying Rescue Combat Air Patrols in South Vietnam and Laos.

5 Aug 1964: VA-145 participated in Operation Pierce Arrow, air strikes against North Vietnam in retaliation for the attacks on the American destroyers *Turner Joy* (DD 951) and *Maddox* (DD 731) in the Gulf of Tonkin on 4 August. The squadron's Skyraiders, along with other aircraft from the air wing, struck torpedo boats and other targets at Hon Gay, North Vietnam. A second sortie of squadron aircraft, along with Skyhawks from VA-144, attacked five enemy naval vessels that were at sea, near the Lach Chao Estuary and Hon Me Island. The two vessels attacked by VA-145 were left dead in the water and smoking. During this attack Lieutenant (jg) Richard C. Sather was shot down. He was the first naval aviator lost in the Vietnam Conflict.

31 Jan 1966: The squadron's commanding officer, Commander H. F. Griffith, was awarded the Silver Star for his actions as a flight leader directing and coordinating simultaneous attacks, under extremely adverse weather conditions, against a heavily defended primary enemy line of communications and for his participation in the successful rescue of a downed naval aviator.

1 Feb 1966: During one of the squadron's combat missions over North Vietnam, Lieutenant (jg) Dieter Dengler was shot down. He was captured in Laos and imprisoned. On 30 June 1966 he escaped from a prisoner-of-war stockade, was rescued and returned to the squadron on 21 July. For his daring escape he was awarded the Navy Cross.

Jun-Nov 1967: During 120 days on Yankee Station, the squadron assisted in the recovery of 14 downed airmen, both Navy and Air Force.

16 Apr 1969: *Enterprise*, with VA-145 embarked, departed Yankee Station enroute to Korean waters in response to the downing of a VQ-1 EC-121 aircraft by the North Koreans on 15 April. The squadron operated in the Sea of Japan and the Yellow Sea until 11 May.

Dec 1972: The squadron participated in Linebacker

II Operations, heavy air strikes against targets primarily around Hanoi and Haiphong.

15 Jan 1973: The squadron led the first massive laser bombing attack against targets in North Vietnam. A coordinated strike was launched involving squadron A-6s, which used their Pave Knife Laser Designation System, and A-7s from VA-113 and VA-25. These strikes succeeded in destroying 14 bridges in North Vietnam.

Jan-Feb 1973: Following the cease-fire with North Vietnam on 27 January, the squadron concentrated its attention on strikes against lines-of-communication targets in Laos until an agreement was reached with that country.

Feb-Mar 1973: The squadron flew limited sorties in support of Operation Endsweep, minesweeping operations in North Vietnamese waters.

Jul 1976: Following the Israeli raid on Entebbe and the threatened military operations against Kenya by Uganda, the *Ranger* (CV 61), with VA-145 embarked, was ordered to transit from the South China Sea to the western Indian Ocean and operate off the coast of Kenya.

Aug-Nov 1987: The squadron provided support for Operation Earnest Will, the escorting of reflagged Kuwaiti oil tankers through the Persian Gulf.

Oct 1987: VA-145 and other assets from CVW-2 provided support for Operation Nimble Archer, retaliatory strikes by surface forces against an Iranian oil platform used as a base by Iranian small boats that were attacking oil tankers.

Aug 1989: During a routine mission, a squadron aircraft sighted a foundering Vietnamese refugee boat leading to the rescue of 39 refugees by HS-14 and *Ranger*.

15 Jan 1991: *Ranger* (CV 61), with VA-145 embarked, transited to station in the Persian Gulf.

16 Jan-28 Feb 1991: The squadron participated in Desert Storm, flying combat missions against targets in Iraq and Kuwait. VA-145 flew 621 combat sorties, striking land based and sea based targets. Squadron strikes resulted in the destruction of 33 tanks, 1 bridge, 48 artillery pieces, 41 Iraqi naval vessels, 20 ammunition storage bunkers, 3 chemical weapon storage facilities, and 7 command and control sites. All of this was accomplished by the squadron without the loss of a single person or damage to its aircraft.

17 Sep-3 Dec 1992: Squadron aircraft flew missions in support of Operation Southern Watch. This operation was in support of UN Resolution 688, which demanded that Iraqi government stop the repression of its Shi'ite population in southern Iraq and banned Iraqi planes from flying south of the 32nd parallel.

7-18 Dec 1992: Squadron aircraft flew missions in support of Operation Restore Hope, a UN authorized effort to relieve mass starvation amid factional fighting in Somalia.



A squadron AD-2 Skyraider prepares for launch from Boxer (CV 21) during their 1951 combat deployment to Korea.

Home Port Assignments

<i>Location</i>	<i>Assignment Date</i>
NAS Dallas	01 Dec 1949
NAS San Diego	28 Jul 1950
NAS Miramar	Mar 1953
NAS Moffett Field	May 1962
NAS Alameda	Sep 1963
NAS Whidbey Island	28 Jan 1968

Commanding Officers

	<i>Date Assumed Command</i>
LCDR S. C. Seagraves	01 Dec 1949
CDR Bruce T. Simonds	06 Dec 1951
LCDR Harry C. McClaugherty (acting)	16 Oct 1952
LCDR Harry C. McClaugherty	28 Oct 1952
CDR John A. Duncan	May 1953
LCDR Gale L. Bergey	Jul 1954
CDR W. P. Blackwell	Feb 1956
CDR Charles S. Brooks	Jul 1957
CDR W. H. Alexander II	15 Sep 1958
CDR Harvey S. Herrick	Aug 1959
CDR Warren H. Ireland	11 May 1960
CDR Harvey S. Herrick	17 Aug 1960
CDR E. B. Berger	28 Dec 1960
LCDR B. L. Blackwelder (acting)	12 Sep 1961
CDR R. A. Norin	12 Oct 1961
CDR B. L. Blackwelder	14 Aug 1962
CDR H. A. Hoy	31 Jul 1963
CDR Melvin D. Blixt	03 Aug 1964
CDR H. F. Griffith	06 Aug 1965
CDR D. E. Sparks	03 Aug 1966
CDR W. J. Schultz	20 Jul 1967

Commanding Officers—Continued

Aircraft Assignment

	<i>Date Assumed Command</i>	<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Date Type First Received</i>
CDR N. R. Gooding, Jr.	02 Feb 1968	TBM	1949
CDR J. S. Holland	27 Apr 1969	AD-2	Aug 1950
CDR W. A. Rubey	29 Apr 1970	AD-4Q	Sep 1950
CDR G. E. Matt	23 Apr 1971	AD-1	Dec 1951
CDR R. S. Owens	29 Feb 1972	AD-4L	Apr 1952
CDR F. J. Metz	01 Jun 1973	AD-3Q	Apr 1953
CDR R. W. McFerren	15 Jul 1974	AD-4B	Apr 1953
CDR R. A. Powell	07 Nov 1975	AD-4NA	Aug 1954
CDR V. J. Huth	18 Feb 1977	AD-5	Oct 1954
CDR J. Juan	20 Jun 1978	AD-6/A-1H*	Feb 1956
CDR D. D. Williams	28 Sep 1979	A-6A	04 Jun 1968
CDR F. D. Litvin	08 Dec 1980	A-6B	06 Aug 1968
CDR M. J. Reilly	12 Mar 1982	A-6C	11 May 1970
CDR C. G. Overton	29 Jul 1983	KA-6D	1972
CDR A. N. Langston III	07 Dec 1984	A-6E	22 Sep 1976
CDR K. G. Bixler	21 Feb 1986	A-6E TRAM†	30 Nov 1981
CDR S. A. Hazelrigg	02 Nov 1987		
CDR Russell T. Palsgrove	30 Nov 1988		
CDR H. Denby Starling II	1990		
CDR Richard J. Cassara	29 Jul 1991		
CDR David A. Rogers	27 Nov 1992		

* The AD-6 designation was changed to A-1H in 1962.

† The A-6E TRAM version was capable of carrying and firing the Harpoon missile (an antiship missile).



A squadron A-1H Skyraider at NAS Alameda, California, in 1967. Note the unofficial Tonkin Gulf Yacht Club insignia on the fuselage (Courtesy Duane Kasulka Collection).

Major Overseas Deployments

<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Date of Return</i>	<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Carrier</i>	<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Area of Operation</i>
02 Mar 1951	24 Oct 1951	CVG-101	CV 21	AD-2/4Q	Korea/WestPac
11 Aug 1952	17 Mar 1953	CVG-101	CVA 33	AD-4/4L	Korea/WestPac
03 Jun 1955	03 Feb 1956	CVG-14	CVA 21	AD-4/4B	WestPac
21 Jan 1957	25 Jul 1957	CVG-14	CVA 12	AD-6	WestPac
03 Jan 1959	27 Jul 1959	CVG-14	CVA 61	AD-6	WestPac
14 May 1960	15 Dec 1960	CVG-14	CVA 34	AD-6	WestPac
09 Nov 1961	12 May 1962	CVG-14	CVA 16	AD-6	WestPac
21 Feb 1963	10 Sep 1963	CVG-14	CVA 64	A-1H	WestPac
05 May 1964	01 Feb 1965	CVW-14	CVA 64	A-1H/J	WestPac/Vietnam
10 Dec 1965	25 Aug 1966	CVW-14	CVA 61	A-1H/J	WestPac/Vietnam
11 May 1967	30 Dec 1967	CVW-10	CVS 11	A-1H	Med/IO/West Pac/Vietnam
06 Jan 1969	02 Jul 1969	CVW-9	CVAN 65*	A-6A/B	WestPac/Vietnam
27 Oct 1970	17 Jun 1971	CVW-2	CVA 61	A-6A/C	WestPac/Vietnam
16 Nov 1972	23 Jun 1973	CVW-2	CVA 61	A-6A/B & KA-6D	WestPac/Vietnam
07 May 1974	18 Oct 1974	CVW-2	CVA 61	A-6A & KA-6D	WestPac
30 Jan 1976	07 Sep 1976	CVW-2	CV 61	A-6A & KA-6D	WestPac/IO
21 Feb 1979	22 Sep 1979	CVW-2	CV 61	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac
10 Sep 1980	05 May 1981	CVW-2	CV 61	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac/IO
07 Apr 1982	19 Oct 1982	CVW-2	CV 61	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac/IO
13 Jan 1984	01 Aug 1984	CVW-2	CV 63	A-6E & KA-6D	WestPac/IO
18 Aug 1986	20 Oct 1986	CVW-2	CV 61	A-6E & KA-6D	NorPac/WestPac
02 Mar 1987	29 Apr 1987	CVW-2	CV 61	A-6E & KA-6D	NorPac
14 Jul 1987	29 Dec 1987	CVW-2	CV 61	A-6E	WestPac/IO
24 Feb 1989	24 Aug 1989	CVW-2	CV 61	A-6E	WestPac/IO
08 Dec 1990	08 Jun 1991	CVW-2	CV 61	A-6E	WestPac/IO/ Persian Gulf
01 Aug 1992	31 Jan 1993	CVW-2	CV 61	A-6E	WestPac/IO/ Persian Gulf

* The squadron was temporarily shore based at NAS Barbers Point from January to March 1969 following a fire on *Enterprise* (CVAN 65) on 14 January 1969. The carrier was repaired at Pearl Harbor and was enroute to WestPac on 11 March with VA-145 embarked.

Air Wing Assignments

<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Tail Code</i>	<i>Assignment Date</i>
CVG-101/CVG-14/ CVW-14*	A/NK†	01 Aug 1950
COMFAIRALAMEDA		Oct 1966
CVW-10	AK	1967
COMFAIRWHIDBEY/ VA-128‡		Jan 1968
CVW-9	NG	Sep 1968
COMFAIRWHIDBEY		02 Jul 1969
CVW-2	NE	01 Jun 1970

* CVG-101 was redesignated CVG-14 on 4 February 1953. CVG-14 was redesignated CVW-14 when Carrier Air Groups (CVG) were redesignated Carrier Air Wings (CVW) on 20 December 1963.

† The tail code was changed from A to NK in 1957. The effective date for this change was most likely the beginning of FY 58 (1 July 1957).

‡ The squadron was assigned to VA-128 during its transition from the A-1 to the A-6.

Unit Awards Received

<i>Unit Award</i>	<i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i>
KSM	26 Mar 1951 09 Apr 1951
	16 Apr 1951 08 Oct 1951
	08 Sep 1952 29 Oct 1952
	31 Oct 1952 05 Jan 1953
	19 Jan 1953 28 Feb 1953
NAVE	01 Jan 1973 30 Jun 1974
AFEM	09 Oct 1960 12 Oct 1960
	06 Jun 1964 13 Jul 1964
	04 Aug 1964 21 Sep 1964
	29 Oct 1964 23 Nov 1964
	20 Apr 1969 11 May 1969
HSM	20 Mar 1981
MUC	18 Nov 1970 10 Jun 1971
NEM	30 Oct 1980 12 Mar 1981
NUC	02 Aug 1964 05 Aug 1964
	10 Jan 1966 06 Aug 1966
	12 Jun 1967 08 Dec 1967

Unit Awards Received—Continued

<i>Unit Award</i>	<i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i>	
	18 Jul 1988	24 Aug 1989
	17 Jan 1991	07 Feb 1991
SASM	13 Jan 1991	19 Apr 1991
KLM	17 Jan 1991	28 Feb 1991
VNSM	15 Jan 1966	12 Feb 1966
	23 Feb 1966	22 Mar 1966
	12 Apr 1966	09 May 1966
	30 May 1966	30 Jun 1966
	13 Jul 1966	06 Aug 1966
	21 Jun 1967	13 Jul 1967
	29 Jul 1967	27 Aug 1967
	14 Sep 1967	12 Oct 1967
	31 Oct 1967	24 Nov 1967
	30 Mar 1969	17 Apr 1969
	22 May 1969	23 May 1969
	29 May 1969	16 Jun 1969
	18 Nov 1970	19 Dec 1970
	27 Dec 1970	13 Jan 1971
	02 Feb 1971	17 Mar 1971
	31 Mar 1971	18 Apr 1971
	25 Apr 1971	18 May 1971

Unit Awards Received—Continued

<i>Unit Award</i>	<i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i>	
	09 Dec 1972	03 Jan 1973
	14 Jan 1973	30 Jan 1973
	01 Feb 1973	06 Feb 1973
RVNGC	24 Jan 1966	
	26 Jan 1966	27 Jan 1966
	30 Jan 1966	
	04 Feb 1966	
	06 Feb 1966	
	24 Feb 1966	
	26 Feb 1966	28 Feb 1966
	04 Mar 1966	
	06 Mar 1966	12 Mar 1966
	20 Mar 1966	
	27 Apr 1966	28 Apr 1966
	21 Jun 1967	13 Jul 1967
	29 Jul 1967	27 Aug 1967
	14 Sep 1967	12 Oct 1967
	31 Oct 1967	24 Nov 1967
	31 Mar 1969	03 Apr 1969
	05 Apr 1969	
	31 May 1969	16 Jun 1969



A couple of squadron A-6E Intruders fly over Ranger (CV 61) in 1992 during the squadron's last deployment prior to its 1993 disestablishment.

VA-152

Lineage

Established as Reserve Fighter Squadron SEVEN HUNDRED THIRTEEN (VF-713) sometime in the late 1940s.

Called to active duty on 1 February 1951.

Redesignated Fighter Squadron ONE HUNDRED FIFTY TWO (VF-152) on 4 February 1953.

Redesignated Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED FIFTY TWO (VA-152) on 1 August 1958.

Disestablished on 29 January 1971. The first squadron to be assigned the VA-152 designation.

Squadron Insignia and Nickname

The squadron's first insignia was approved by CNO on 15 April 1952. Colors for the hooded falcon insignia were: the shield had a white and black background outlined in gold; brown falcon with white and light brown shadings; yellow feet and beak; the hood was crimson with a gold edge and a white plume; and the gauntlet was silver edged in blue with gray shadings.



The hooded falcon was the squadron's first insignia.

A new insignia was approved by the CNO on 11 March 1953. Colors for the vulture insignia were: background of light blue, yellow and dark blue, outlined in yellow; gray vulture with black and white markings and wings, outlined in yellow; red neck and feet; a yellow head with black markings and a white beak; black bomb with white highlights and outlined in yellow.

There is no record of approval for the ace of spades insignia. Colors for the flying ace of spades insignia were: a black background for the insignia and scroll, outlined in red; the ace of spades was white with black markings;



The squadron's second insignia, a vulture carrying a bomb, was approved in 1953.



The squadron's third insignia was the flying ace of spades.

the wings were gold with black markings; the arrow was gold with white streaks; and gold lettering on the scroll.

Nickname: Fighting Aces, 1953–1956.

The Friendly Squadron (Friendlies), 1957–1968.

Mavericks, 1968–1971.

Chronology of Significant Events

15 Oct 1951: The squadron participated in its first combat operations.

31 Dec 1951: Squadron aircraft were used for Operation Pin Wheel. The aircraft were secured to the flight deck, with engines running, and the thrust provided by the aircraft was used to assist in the docking of *Antietam* (CV 36).

Feb 1955: Squadron aircraft flew night surveillance operations supporting the evacuation of Chinese Nationalists from the Tachen Islands.

Mar 1958: Due to revolts and unsettled conditions in Indonesia and the concern for the safety of Americans in the country, *Hornet* (CVA 12), with VF-152 embarked, departed Hong Kong to operate in the South China Sea.

Sep–Oct 1958: Due to the crisis between the Chinese Nationalists and Communists surrounding the Quemoy Islands, and the bombardment of these islands by the Chinese Communists, *Bennington* (CVA 20), with VF-152 embarked, operated in the area of Taiwan.

Jan 1961: Due to the crisis in Laos and the capture of strategic positions in the country by the Pathet Lao force, *Coral Sea* (CVA 43), with VA-152 embarked, was directed to operate in the South China Sea.

11–12 Jul 1962: The squadron participated in the first carrier flight operations in the Bering Sea since the end of World War II.

Apr–Dec 1964: Squadron personnel, while based at Bien Hoa Air Force Base, South Vietnam, trained South Vietnamese pilots to fly the A-1.

6 and 7 Nov 1965: Commander Gordon H. Smith was awarded the Silver Star for his participation as Flight Leader in directing and assisting in the first night rescue of a downed aviator in enemy territory on 6 November. This was followed by an attempt to rescue another aviator the following day in the same area.

7 Nov 1965: Lieutenant Gordon C. Wileen was awarded the Silver Star for his participation in an attempted air rescue of a downed aviator deep in enemy territory.

13 Nov 1965: Commander Albert E. Knutson was awarded the Silver Star for his attempt to locate and rescue a downed pilot in enemy territory. During the rescue attempt his aircraft sustained 26 hits.

26 Oct 1966: While on Yankee Station and preparing

to launch her first strike of the day, *Oriskany* (CVA 34) suffered a disastrous fire on the starboard side of the ship's forward hangar bay. The squadron lost two personnel in the fire and the damage to the carrier was so extensive that it returned to the States for repairs.



A squadron F4U-4 Corsair launches from Princeton (CVA 37) during their 1953 combat deployment to Korea.

Home Port Assignments

<i>Location</i>	<i>Assignment Date</i>
NAS Denver	*
NAS Alameda	11 Apr 1951
NAS Moffett Field	05 Jun 1952
NAS Alameda	Nov 1963

* Assigned to NAS Denver prior to 1951, exact date unknown.



A formation of squadron F2H-3 Banshees stationed aboard Yorktown (CVA 10), November 1954.

Commanding Officers

	<i>Date Assumed Command</i>
LCDR Robert L. Doering	*
LCDR B. M. Richards	02 May 1952
LT W. M. Doss (acting)	04 Jul 1952
LCDR Robert Stanek	05 Aug 1952
CDR Frank G. Edwards	Sep 1953
LCDR F. X. Bushner (acting)	†
LCDR Robert G. Nester	Apr 1955
CDR Robert M. Soule	27 Sep 1956
CDR Royce A. Singleton	23 Jul 1958
LCDR V. E. Sanderson	16 Feb 1959
LCDR R. M. Sullivan (acting)	08 Feb 1960
CDR John A. Davenport	04 Mar 1960
CDR John R. Bicknell	21 Jun 1961
CDR Isaac N. Pell, Jr.	17 Apr 1962
CDR R. B. Bergner	01 Apr 1963
CDR H. F. Gernert	03 Mar 1964
CRR Albert E. Knutson	19 Mar 1965
CDR Gordon H. Smith	25 Feb 1966
CDR Donald M. Willson	16 Mar 1967
CDR Philip E. Johnson	14 Feb 1968
CDR Elmer E. Sheeley, Jr.	17 Jan 1969
CDR Gerard M. Sturm	28 Jan 1970

* LCDR Doering was commanding officer of the reserve squadron prior to its activation.

† LCDR Bushner became acting commanding officer in late 1954 or early 1955.

Aircraft Assignment

<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Date Type First Received</i>
F4U-4	16 Apr 1951
FG-1D	12 Jun 1952
F2H-3	Oct 1953
AD-6/A-1H*	05 Feb 1959
A-1J	Dec 1962
A-4B	Feb 1968
A-4C	Feb 1968
A-4E	May 1969

* The AD-6 designation was changed to A-1H in 1962.



A loaded squadron AD-6 Skyraider on the deck of Coral Sea (CVA 43), 1960.

Major Overseas Deployments

<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Date of Return</i>	<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Carrier</i>	<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Area of Operation</i>
08 Sep 1951	02 May 1952	CVG-15	CV 36	F4U-4	Korea
24 Jan 1953	21 Sep 1953	CVG-15	CVA 37	F4U-4	Korea/WestPac
01 Jul 1954	28 Feb 1955	CVG-15	CVA 10	F2H-3	WestPac
23 Apr 1956	15 Oct 1956	CVG-15	CVA 18	F2H-3	WestPac
06 Jan 1958	30 Jun 1958	ATG-4	CVA 12	F2H-3	WestPac
21 Aug 1958	12 Jan 1959	ATG-4	CVA 20	F2H-3	WestPac
01 Aug 1959	18 Jan 1960	CVG-15	CVA 19	AD-6	WestPac
19 Sep 1960	27 May 1961	CVG-15	CVA 43	AD-6	WestPac
12 Dec 1961	17 Jul 1962	CVG-15	CVA 43	AD-6	WestPac
03 Apr 1963	25 Nov 1963	CVG-15	CVA 43	A-1H/J	WestPac
22 Apr 1964	01 Aug 1964	*	*	A-1H/J	South Vietnam
05 Apr 1965	16 Dec 1965	CVW-16	CVA 34	A-1H/J	WestPac/Vietnam
26 May 1966	16 Nov 1966	CVW-16	CVA 34	A-1H	WestPac/Vietnam
16 Jun 1967	31 Jan 1968	CVW-16	CVA 34	A-1H/J	WestPac/Vietnam
22 Jul 1968	29 Apr 1969	CVW-17	CVA 59	A-4B	Med
05 Mar 1970	17 Dec 1970	CVW-8	CVS 38	A-4E	SoLant/IO/West Pac/Vietnam

* The squadron, along with 20 of its A-1s, was sent to Bien Hoa Air Force Base, South Vietnam, to train South Vietnamese pilots to fly the A-1. A detachment, VA-152 Det Zulu, was left at NAS Alameda. While operating in South Vietnam the squadron came under the control of Chief, Air Force Advisory Group, Saigon. On 1 August 1964 the squadron (VA-152) based at Bien Hoa was redesignated VA-152 Det Zulu and the detachment at NAS Alameda was designated VA-152. VA-152 Det Zulu continued to train South Vietnamese pilots until 1 December 1964.



A couple of squadron AD-6 Skyraiders in flight, circa 1960–1961.

Air Wing Assignments

Air Wing	Tail Code	Assignment Date
CVG-15	H	11 Apr 1951
ATG-4	ND	14 Oct 1957
CVG-15/CVW-15*	NL	Feb 1959
CVW-16	AH	01 Oct 1964
CVW-17	AA	Feb 1968
COMFAIRALAMEDA		Apr 1969
CVW-8	AJ	Dec 1969

* CVG-15 was redesignated CVW-15 when Carrier Air Groups (CVG) were redesignated Carrier Air Wings (CVW) on 20 December 1963.

Unit Awards Received

Unit Award	Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award	
KSM	04 Oct 1951	15 Apr 1952
	27 Feb 1953	16 May 1953
	29 May 1953	07 Sep 1953
NUC	13 Mar 1953	15 May 1953
	11 Jun 1953	27 Jul 1953

Unit Awards Received—Continued

Unit Award	Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award	
AFEM	10 May 1965	06 Dec 1965
	12 Jun 1966	01 Nov 1966
	14 Jul 1967	12 Jan 1968
	24 Nov 1958	03 Dec 1958
	14 Sep 1959	17 Sep 1959
	25 Apr 1961	28 Apr 1961
	30 Apr 1961	01 May 1961
	04 May 1961	09 May 1961
	12 Jan 1962	19 Jan 1962
	24 Jan 1962	27 Jan 1962
	22 Apr 1964	31 Jul 1964
	07 May 1965	02 Jun 1965
	10 Jun 1965	03 Jul 1965
	17 Sep 1965	18 Sep 1965
31 Jul 1964	01 Sep 1964	
AFEM (VA-152 Det Z)		
MUC	11 Apr 1970	06 Nov 1970
VNSM	04 Jul 1965	18 Jul 1965
	09 Aug 1965	11 Sep 1965
	28 Oct 1965	27 Nov 1965
	06 Jul 1966	
	07 Aug 1966	08 Sep 1966
	24 Sep 1966	26 Oct 1966
	10 Apr 1970	02 May 1970
	12 May 1970	29 May 1970
	13 Jun 1970	04 Jul 1970
	28 Jul 1970	19 Aug 1970
30 Aug 1970	30 Sep 1970	
20 Oct 1970	07 Nov 1970	
RVNGC	02 Oct 1965	
	30 Oct 1965	
	01 Nov 1965	
	03 Nov 1965	
	11 Nov 1965	12 Nov 1965
	06 Jul 1966	07 Jul 1966

A squadron A-4E at NAS Alameda, California, circa 1970.



VA-153

Lineage

During a reorganization of the Naval Air Reserve, a Fighter Squadron at NAS New York (believed to have been VF-718) was redesignated Fighter Squadron EIGHT HUNDRED THIRTY ONE (VF-831) in September 1949.

Reserve Fighter Squadron EIGHT HUNDRED THIRTY ONE (VF-831) was called to active duty on 1 February 1951.

Redesignated Fighter Squadron ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THREE (VF-153) on 4 February 1953.

Redesignated Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THREE (VA-153) on 15 December 1956.

Disestablished on 30 September 1977. The first squadron to be assigned the VA-153 designation.

Squadron Insignia and Nickname



The squadron's only insignia sported the mythical griffin.

The squadron's insignia was approved by CNO on 17 May 1951. Colors for the griffin insignia were: light blue background outlined in orange; the griffin's body was black with white highlights, its beak and claws were orange and yellow, and the eagle head was white. Following the

squadron's two designation changes the basic insignia continued in use with minor modifications.

Nickname: Blue Tail Flies, 1953–1977.

Chronology of Significant Events

Feb 1955: Squadron aircraft flew sorties in support of the evacuation of Chinese Nationalists from the Tachen Islands.

23 Aug–9 Sep 1958: The squadron flew sorties in the Taiwan Straits after the Chinese Communists bombarded Quemoy Island.

Jan 1961: *Coral Sea* (CVA 43), with VA-153 embarked, operated in the South China Sea after Pathet Lao forces captured strategic positions in Laos.

2 Feb 1965: The squadron began participating in operations in Laos. These operations involved Yankee Team, Barrel Roll and Steel Tiger missions.

7 and 11 Feb 1965: The squadron participated in Flaming Dart I and II, reprisal strikes against targets in North Vietnam following a Viet Cong attack on the American advisors compound at Pleiku and the American billet in Qui Nhon, South Vietnam.

Mar 1965: The squadron participated in Rolling Thunder operations, the bombing of military targets in North Vietnam.

13 Aug 1965: The squadron's commanding officer, Commander H. E. Thomas, was killed in action over North Vietnam.

Mar 1968: *Coral Sea* (CVA 43), with VA-153 embarked, operated on station off the coast of Korea following the capture of *Pueblo* (AGER 2) in January by North Korea.

21 Nov 1970: The squadron flew missions in support of an attempt to rescue American prisoners-of-war at the Son Tay prisoner compound, 20 miles west of Hanoi.

11–22 Feb 1973: Following the cease fire with North Vietnam the squadron flew combat missions in Laos until a cease fire was signed with that country on 22 February 1973.

Feb 1973: Commander D. R. Weichman, the squadron's executive officer, completed his 625th combat mission of the Vietnam Conflict. He maintains the record for the highest number of combat missions for a Navy fixed-wing pilot during this conflict.

Nov 1973: *Oriskany* (CVA 34), with VA-153 embarked, departed from operations in the South China Sea to relieve *Hancock* (CVA 19) on station in the Arabian Sea due to the unsettled conditions following the Yom Kippur War in the Middle East.

A VF-831 F9F-2 Panther on the deck of Antietam (CV 36) in January 1952 during combat operations off the coast of Korea.



Home Port Assignments

<i>Location</i>	<i>Assignment Date</i>
NAS New York, Floyd Bennett Field	*
NAS Alameda	01 Apr 1951
NAS Moffett Field	05 May 1952
NAS Lemoore	21 Aug 1961

* Assigned to NAS New York prior to the squadron's recall to active duty on 1 February 1951.

Commanding Officers

	<i>Date Assumed Command</i>
LCDR A. J. Denman	*
LCDR G. E. Miller	05 May 1952
LCDR Loys M. Satterfield	Sep 1953
CDR W. L. Abbott	Mar 1955
CDR Alexander D. C. Byers	1956
LCDR Hildry L. Nelson	27 Feb 1957
CDR John F. Bauman	17 Oct 1958
CDR Vernon R. Fierce, Jr.	08 Feb 1960
CDR W. C. May	21 Jun 1961
CDR Zeb V. Knott	30 Jul 1962
CDR William C. Raposa	10 Jul 1963
CDR Peter Mongilardi, Jr.	26 May 1964
CDR Harry E. Thomas (acting commanding officer)	Apr 1965
CDR K. V. McArthur	13 Aug 1965
CDR D. E. Leue	15 Sep 1965
CDR D. E. Leue	25 Jul 1966
CDR T. E. Woolcock	1967
CDR R. J. Dapogny	08 May 1968
CDR Olaf M. Carlson, Jr.	23 May 1969
CDR Peter G. Frederick	20 Aug 1970
CDR William J. M. O'Connor	11 Jun 1971
CDR Paul D. Stephenson	01 Jun 1972
CDR Denis R. Weichman	27 Jul 1973
LCDR Keith S. Jones	20 Sep 1974
LCDR Robert F. Hofford	12 Sep 1975
CDR Lawrence H. Price	15 Dec 1976

* LCDR Denman was commanding officer of the reserve squadron prior to its activation on 1 February 1951.



Squadron F9F-6 Cougars flying over Mount Fuji, Japan, in December 1954 while the squadron was deployed aboard Yorktown (CVA 10) (USN, Courtesy Duane Kasulka Collection).

Aircraft Assignment

<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Date Type First Received</i>
F6F	*
F9F-2	06 Feb 1951
F9F-5	Aug 1952
F9F-6	Oct 1953
FJ-3	Mar 1955
F9F-8	Nov 1955
F9F-8B	Apr 1956
A4D-1	12 Feb 1957
A4D-2	27 Oct 1958
A4D-2N/A-4C†	20 Jun 1961
A-4E	Jan 1967
A-4F	Apr 1968
A-7A	14 Sep 1969
A-7B	May 1973

* While in a reserve status from September 1949 to January 1951, the squadron was most likely utilizing F6F pool aircraft assigned to NAS New York.

† The A4D-2N designation was changed to A-4C in 1962.

Major Overseas Deployments

<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Date of Return</i>	<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Carrier</i>	<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Area of Operation</i>
08 Sep 1951	02 May 1952	CVG-15	CV 36	F9F-2	Korea
24 Jan 1953	21 Sep 1953	CVG-15	CVA 37	F9F-5	Korea/WestPac
01 Jul 1954	28 Feb 1955	CVG-15	CVA 10	F9F-6	WestPac
23 Apr 1956	15 Oct 1956	CVG-15	CVA 18	F9F-8/8B	WestPac
15 Feb 1958	02 Oct 1958	CVG-15	CVA 19	A4D-1	WestPac
01 Aug 1959	18 Jan 1960	CVG-15	CVA 19	A4D-2	WestPac
19 Sep 1960	27 May 1961	CVG-15	CVA 43	A4D-2	WestPac
12 Dec 1961	17 Jul 1962	CVG-15	CVA 43	A4D-2N	WestPac
03 Apr 1963	25 Nov 1963	CVG-15	CVA 43	A-4C	WestPac
07 Dec 1964	01 Nov 1965	CVW-15	CVA 43	A-4C	WestPac/Vietnam

Major Overseas Deployments—Continued

<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Date of Return</i>	<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Carrier</i>	<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Area of Operation</i>
12 May 1966	03 Dec 1966	CVW-15	CVA 64	A-4C	WestPac/Vietnam
26 Jul 1967	06 Apr 1968	CVW-15	CVA 43	A-4E	WestPac/Vietnam
07 Sep 1968	18 Apr 1969	CVW-15	CVA 43	A-4F	WestPac/Vietnam
14 May 1970	10 Dec 1970	CVW-19	CVA 34	A-7A	WestPac/Vietnam
14 May 1971	18 Dec 1971	CVW-19	CVA 34	A-7A	WestPac/Vietnam
05 Jun 1972	30 Mar 1973	CVW-19	CVA 34	A-7A	WestPac/Vietnam
18 Oct 1973	05 Jun 1974	CVW-19	CVA 34	A-7B	WestPac/IO
16 Sep 1975	03 Mar 1976	CVW-19	CV 34	A-7B	WestPac
04 Oct 1976	21 Apr 1977	CVW-19	CV 42	A-7B	Med

Air Wing Assignments

<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Tail Code</i>	<i>Assignment Date</i>
CVG-15/CVW-15†	H/NL*	Apr 1951
COMFAIRLEMOORE		1969
CVW-19	NM	22 Nov 1969

* The tail code was changed from H to NL in 1957. The effective date for this change was most likely the beginning of FY 58 (1 July 1957).

† CVG-15 was redesignated CVW-15 when Carrier Air Groups (CVG) were redesignated Carrier Air Wings (CVW) on 20 December 1963.

Unit Awards Received

<i>Unit Award</i>	<i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i>	
KSM	04 Oct 1951	15 Apr 1952
	27 Feb 1953	16 May 1953
	29 May 1953	07 Sep 1953
NAVE	01 Jan 1973	30 Jun 1974
	01 Jul 1974	01 Apr 1976
	02 Apr 1976	30 Jun 1977
AFEM	26 Aug 1958	07 Sep 1958
	14 Sep 1959	17 Sep 1959



A squadron A-4F Skyhawk prepares to launch from Coral Sea (CVA 43), 1969.

Unit Awards Received—Continued

<i>Unit Award</i>	<i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i>	
	25 Apr 1961	28 Apr 1961
	30 Apr 1961	01 May 1961
	04 May 1961	09 May 1961
	12 Jan 1962	19 Jan 1962
	24 Jan 1962	27 Jan 1962
	02 Feb 1965	05 Mar 1965
	16 Mar 1965	17 Apr 1965
	02 May 1965	28 May 1965
	23 Jun 1965	03 Jul 1965
	23 Jan 1968	22 Mar 1968
NUC	13 Mar 1953	15 May 1953
	11 Jun 1953	27 Jul 1953
	07 Feb 1965	18 Oct 1965
	29 May 1966	24 Nov 1966
	13 Aug 1967	19 Feb 1968
MUC	10 Oct 1968	31 Mar 1969
	01 Jun 1970	09 Dec 1970
	28 Jun 1972	06 Mar 1973
RVNGC	12 Oct 1965	
	21 Jun 1966	22 Jun 1966
	23 Nov 1967	
	02 Dec 1967	
	04 Dec 1967	
	20 Dec 1967	22 Dec 1967
	20 Jan 1968	
	23 Jan 1968	27 Jan 1968
	29 Jan 1968	19 Feb 1968
	15 Oct 1968	
	17 Oct 1968	18 Oct 1968
	21 Oct 1968	
	25 Oct 1968	27 Oct 1968
	14 Nov 1968	16 Nov 1968
	23 Nov 1968	
	25 Nov 1968	
	01 Dec 1968	02 Dec 1968
	04 Dec 1968	05 Dec 1968
	30 Dec 1968	
	01 Jan 1969	03 Jan 1969
	05 Jan 1969	
	07 Jan 1969	10 Jan 1969

Unit Awards Received—Continued

<i>Unit Award</i>	<i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i>	
	14 Jan 1969	19 Jan 1969
	22 Jan 1969	
	24 Jan 1969	
	26 Jan 1969	
	09 Feb 1969	20 Feb 1969
	22 Feb 1969	03 Mar 1969
	19 Mar 1969	31 Mar 1969
VNSM	04 Jul 1965	24 Jul 1965
	11 Aug 1965	11 Sep 1965
	21 Sep 1965	15 Oct 1965
	14 Jun 1966	13 Jul 1966
	27 Jul 1966	31 Aug 1966
	08 Sep 1966	01 Oct 1966
	19 Oct 1966	09 Nov 1966
	26 Aug 1967	01 Oct 1967
	12 Oct 1967	28 Oct 1967
	04 Nov 1967	05 Nov 1967
	11 Nov 1967	08 Dec 1967
	16 Dec 1967	07 Jan 1968
	15 Jan 1968	21 Feb 1968
	29 Dec 1968	30 Jan 1969
	08 Feb 1969	03 Mar 1969
	19 Mar 1969	30 Mar 1969
	13 Jun 1970	29 Jun 1970
	12 Jul 1970	22 Jul 1970
	02 Aug 1970	26 Aug 1970
	17 Sep 1970	13 Oct 1970
	06 Nov 1970	23 Nov 1970
	15 Jun 1971	10 Jul 1971
	24 Jul 1971	07 Aug 1971
	03 Sep 1971	27 Sep 1971
	29 Oct 1971	21 Nov 1971
	26 Jun 1972	23 Jul 1972
	16 Aug 1972	01 Sep 1972
	11 Sep 1972	28 Sep 1972
	08 Oct 1972	31 Oct 1972
	24 Nov 1972	18 Dec 1972
	27 Dec 1972	31 Jan 1973
	10 Feb 1973	06 Mar 1973



A squadron A-7B Corsair II at NAS Glenview, Illinois, August 1973 (Courtesy Fred Roos Collection).