

## VFA-113

### Lineage

Established as Fighter Squadron ONE HUNDRED THIRTEEN (VF-113) on 15 July 1948.

Redesignated Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED THIRTEEN (VA-113) in March 1956.

Redesignated Strike Fighter Squadron ONE HUNDRED THIRTEEN (VFA-113) on 25 March 1983. The first squadron to be assigned the VA-113 and VFA-113 designation.



*This beehive and hornet insignia was adopted by the squadron in 1949.*



*When the squadron was redesignated VFA, the insignia was modified by adding a scroll with the squadron designation; it was approved by CNO in 1983.*

### Squadron Insignia and Nickname

The squadron's insignia was approved by CNO on 15 April 1949. Colors for the insignia are: red beehive with white markings and outlined in yellow, with yellow lettering; black and yellow bumble bee with red legs and white wings with black markings.

CNO approved a modification to the insignia on 4 February 1985. The beehive insignia was placed inside a circle with a blue background outlined in yellow; the scroll is red, outlined in black and yellow, with yellow lettering; the other colors of the insignia remained the same.

Nickname: Stingers, 1949 to present.

### Chronology of Significant Events

**5 Aug 1950:** The squadron flew its first combat mission, striking land and sea targets southeast of Kunsan, Korea, and Mokpo harbor.

**12-14 Sep 1950:** Squadron aircraft flew combat sorties in and around Inchon, Korea, in preparation for the landings at Wolmi Island.

**15 Sep 1950:** The squadron participated in offensive sorties during the landings at Inchon, striking targets on the roads between Inchon and Seoul.

**2 & 5 Nov 1950:** Squadron aircraft participated in Operation Pinwheel, the docking and departing of the

carrier from the pier using aircraft engine power to move the ship.

**9-10 & 12 Nov 1950:** During strikes by the squadron's F4U-4Bs on bridges crossing the Yalu River between Sinuiju and Antung, they were attacked by MiG-15s. No damage was inflicted on the squadron's aircraft and no apparent damage was done to the MiG-15s.

**22-23 Dec 1950:** Two squadron aircraft flew spotting missions for *Saint Paul* (CA 73) on 22 December and for *Missouri* (BB 63) on 23 December during shore bombardment against villages and troop concentrations near the front line.

**23 Jun 1952:** Squadron aircraft, along with planes from 3 other air groups and the 5th Air Force, participated in the first coordinated strikes against North Korean hydroelectric power plants. This was the first time that enemy power plants had been so heavily targeted. It also marked the first time that four carriers were on line off the coast of Korea since the fall of 1950.

**8-13 Feb 1955:** Squadron aircraft were on station and available for air support during the evacuation of personnel from the Tachen Islands due to the bombardment of the islands by the People's Republic of China.

**Aug-Sep 1958:** The squadron was part of a task force that provided support to the Republic of China during the shelling of the Quemoy Island group by the Chinese Communists.

**11 Aug-1 Nov 1961:** The squadron was embarked in *Kitty Hawk* (CVA 63) for her transit, via Cape Horn, from Norfolk to her new home port at San Diego.

**Jun 1964:** Squadron aircraft participated in Yankee Team operations, including inflight refueling for RF-8A and RF-101 aircraft and search and rescue missions over South Vietnam and Laos.

**Nov 1964-Oct 1965:** The squadron provided a detachment of personnel and aircraft for use as fighter



*A squadron F4U-4 Corsair catching the wire aboard Philippine Sea (CV 47) during their 1951-1952 combat deployment to Korea.*

protection for the Antisubmarine Carrier Air Group embarked in *Bennington* (CVS 20).

**Dec 1965:** During the squadron's first line-period on Yankee Station, it participated in three major strikes against important North Vietnamese targets, including the Hai Phong Bridge, Uong Bi Thermal Power Plant and the Hai Duong Bridge.

**Jan–Feb 1968:** While embarked in *Enterprise* (CVAN 65) and enroute to Yankee Station, the carrier was ordered to the Sea of Japan for operations following the seizure of the *Pueblo* (AGER 2) by the North Koreans.

**Dec 1972:** The squadron participated in Linebacker II Operations, heavy air strikes against targets primarily around Hanoi and Haiphong.

**Jul 1976:** Following the Israeli raid on Entebbe and the threatened military operations against Kenya by Uganda, the *Ranger* (CV 61), with VA-113 embarked, was ordered to transit from the South China Sea to the western Indian Ocean and operate off the coast of Kenya.

**15 Oct 1980–22 Mar 1981:** Under the Swing Wing Concept to reduce the deck multiple on *Ranger*, VA-113 was off loaded at NAS Cubi Point and operated as a CVW-2 Detachment from the air station. While temporarily shore based the squadron participated in numerous joint and interservice exercises.

**Mar–Oct 1983:** The squadron underwent transition training with VFA-125, becoming the first Navy fleet operational squadron assigned the F/A-18 Hornet.

**Feb–Aug 1985:** VFA-113, along with VFA-25, made the first deployment with the new F/A-18 Hornet. The squadrons deployed aboard *Constellation* (CV 64) and operated in the western Pacific and Indian Ocean.

**Jul 1987:** Squadron aircraft, along with other units of CVW-14, conducted surveillance in the strategic Strait of Hormuz and provided air cover for the first five Earnest Will operations, the escort of reflagged Kuwaiti oil tankers through the Gulf of Oman and Persian Gulf.

**2 Aug 1990:** *Independence* (CV 62), with VFA-113 embarked, was ordered to the Gulf of Oman following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

**Aug 1990:** The squadron's F/A-18s flew mixed combat air patrol missions with F-14s in the Persian Gulf up to 28 degrees north latitude in support of Operation Desert Shield, the build up of American and Allied forces to counter a threatened invasion of Saudi Arabia by Iraq and as part of an economic blockade of Iraq to force its withdrawal from Kuwait.

**3–4 Oct 1990:** VFA-113 conducted flight operations from *Independence* while she operated in the Persian Gulf. This was the first time a carrier had operated in the Persian Gulf since 1974.



*Squadron F9F-5 Panthers over Kearsarge (CVA 33) during their 1953–1954 deployment to Korea and WestPac.*

### Home Port Assignments

| <i>Location</i> | <i>Assignment Date</i> |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| NAS San Diego   | 15 Jul 1948            |
| NAS Miramar     | 15 Sep 1952            |
| NAS Lemoore     | 12 Dec 1961            |

### Commanding Officers

|                            | <i>Date Assumed Command</i> |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| LCDR Robert S. Merritt     | 15 Jul 1948                 |
| LCDR Roy M. Voris          | 09 Jun 1949                 |
| LCDR John T. O'Neill       | 20 Jan 1950                 |
| CDR Harold P. Ady, Jr.     | 30 Jun 1951                 |
| LCDR John R. Strane        | 24 Oct 1951                 |
| LCDR J. H. Tripp           | 29 Sep 1952                 |
| CDR Charles C. Sanders     | Aug 1954                    |
| CDR Harold W. Davis        | Apr 1955                    |
| CDR Richard L. Cormier     | Dec 1956                    |
| CDR H. S. Matthews, Jr.    | 26 Nov 1958                 |
| CDR Robert E. Gallatin     | 16 Oct 1959                 |
| CDR L. A. Tomkins          | 17 Feb 1961                 |
| CDR G. A. White, Jr.       | 30 Mar 1962                 |
| CDR H. A. Borgerding       | 01 Mar 1963                 |
| CDR G. G. Zimmerman        | 21 Feb 1964                 |
| CDR Henry M. Dibble        | 02 Apr 1965                 |
| CDR J. Abbott (acting)     | 11 Apr 1966                 |
| CDR J. A. Burnett (acting) | 04 May 1966                 |
| CDR R. E. Bennett          | 30 May 1966                 |
| CDR R. J. Thomas           | 16 Jul 1967                 |
| CDR E. J. Jacobs           | 23 Jul 1968                 |
| CDR J. E. Newton           | 03 Sep 1969                 |
| CDR J. Brent Streit        | 17 Jul 1970                 |
| CDR Weston H. Byng         | 26 Mar 1971                 |
| CDR Richard L. Grant       | 28 Apr 1972                 |

**Commanding Officers—Continued**

**Aircraft Assignment**

|                                | <i>Date Assumed Command</i> | <i>Type of Aircraft</i> | <i>Date Type First Received</i> |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| CDR D. Bruce Cargill           | 16 Apr 1973                 | F8F-1                   | 15 Jul 1948                     |
| CDR Judson H. Springer         | 10 Dec 1973                 | F8F-2                   | 28 Mar 1949                     |
| CDR M. D. Munsinger            | 28 Mar 1975                 | F4U-4B                  | 09 Mar 1950                     |
| CDR H. D. Lesesne              | 17 May 1976                 | F9F-5                   | Oct 1952                        |
| CDR Michael J. Webber          | 26 Aug 1977                 | F9F-2                   | Feb 1954                        |
| CDR John P. Park               | 22 Nov 1978                 | F9F-8                   | May 1955                        |
| CDR T. D. Hill, Jr.            | 21 Feb 1980                 | F9F-8B                  | Apr 1956                        |
| CDR W. C. Trafton              | 10 Jun 1981                 | A4D-1                   | 29 Apr 1957                     |
| CDR William W. Pickavance, Jr. | 01 Aug 1982                 | A4D-2                   | 08 Sep 1958                     |
| CDR C. A. Langbehn             | 29 Feb 1984                 | A4D-2N/A-4C*            | 29 Mar 1961                     |
| CDR Robert G. Sprigg           | 05 Sep 1985                 | A-4F                    | Oct 1967                        |
| CDR David V. Park              | 24 Jan 1987                 | A-7B                    | 10 Dec 1968                     |
| CDR John V. Chenevey           | 28 Feb 1988                 | A-7E                    | Apr 1970                        |
| CDR Gary L. Koger              | 07 Jul 1989                 | F/A-18A                 | 24 Aug 1983                     |
| CDR Danny L. Clarkson          | 24 Jan 1991                 | F/A-18C                 | 09 Jun 1989                     |

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



*A squadron A4D-1 (A-4) Skyhawk on Hancock's (CVA 19) flight deck, November 1957.*

*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>    |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 05 Jul 1950              | 07 Apr 1951           | CVG-11          | CV 47/45*      | F4U-4B                  | WestPac/Korea               |
| 31 Dec 1951              | 08 Aug 1952           | CVG-11          | CV 47          | F4U-4                   | WestPac/Korea               |
| 01 Jul 1953              | 18 Jan 1954           | CVG-11          | CVA 33         | F9F-5                   | WestPac/Korea               |
| 07 Oct 1954              | 12 May 1955           | CVG-11          | CVA 33         | F9F-2                   | WestPac                     |
| 16 Jul 1956              | 26 Jan 1957           | CVG-11          | CVA 9          | F9F-8B                  | WestPac                     |
| 08 Mar 1958              | 21 Nov 1958           | CVG-11          | CVA 38         | A4D-1                   | WestPac                     |
| 09 Mar 1959              | 03 Oct 1959           | CVG-11          | CVA 38         | A4D-2                   | WestPac                     |
| 16 Jul 1960              | 18 Mar 1961           | CVG-11          | CVA 19         | A4D-2                   | WestPac                     |
| 13 Sep 1962              | 02 Apr 1963           | CVG-11          | CVA 63         | A4D-2N                  | WestPac                     |
| 17 Oct 1963              | 20 Jul 1964           | CVW-11          | CVA 63         | A-4C                    | WestPac                     |
| 19 Oct 1965              | 13 Jun 1966           | CVW-11          | CVA 63         | A-4C                    | WestPac/Vietnam             |
| 19 Nov 1966              | 06 Jul 1967           | CVW-9           | CVAN 65        | A-4C                    | WestPac/Vietnam             |
| 03 Jan 1968              | 18 Jul 1968           | CVW-9           | CVAN 65        | A-4F                    | WestPac/Vietnam             |
| 09 Jul 1969              | 22 Jan 1970           | CVW-3           | CVA 60         | A-7B                    | Med                         |
| 27 Oct 1970              | 17 Jun 1971           | CVW-2           | CVA 61         | A-7E                    | WestPac/Vietnam             |
| 16 Nov 1972              | 23 Jun 1973           | CVW-2           | CVA 61         | A-7E                    | WestPac/Vietnam             |
| 07 May 1974              | 18 Oct 1974           | CVW-2           | CVA 61         | A-7E                    | WestPac                     |
| 30 Jan 1976              | 07 Sep 1976           | CVW-2           | CV 61          | A-7E                    | WestPac/IO                  |
| 21 Feb 1979              | 22 Sep 1979           | CVW-2           | CV 61          | A-7E                    | WestPac                     |
| 10 Sep 1980              | 05 May 1981           | CVW-2           | CV 61          | A-7E                    | WestPac/IO                  |
| 07 Apr 1982              | 19 Oct 1982           | CVW-2           | CV 61          | A-7E                    | WestPac/IO                  |
| 21 Feb 1985              | 24 Aug 1985           | CVW-14          | CV 64          | F/A-18A                 | WestPac/IO                  |
| 04 Sep 1986              | 20 Oct 1986           | CVW-14          | CV 64          | F/A-18A                 | NorPac                      |
| 11 Apr 1987              | 13 Oct 1987           | CVW-14          | CV 64          | F/A-18A                 | WestPac/IO                  |
| 01 Dec 1988              | 01 Jun 1989           | CVW-14          | CV 64          | F/A-18A                 | WestPac/IO                  |
| 16 Sep 1989              | 19 Oct 1989           | CVW-14          | CV 64          | F/A-18A/C               | NorPac                      |
| 23 Jun 1990              | 20 Dec 1990           | CVW-14          | CV 62          | F/A-18C                 | WestPac/IO/<br>Persian Gulf |

\* CVG-11 deployed to Korea embarked in *Philippine Sea* (CV 47) and on 29 March 1951 transferred to *Valley Forge* (CV 45) and returned to the States embarked in *Valley Forge*.



*A formation of squadron A-7E Corsair IIs in 1971.*

### Air Wing Assignments

| <i>Air Wing</i>  | <i>Tail Code</i> | <i>Assignment Date</i> |
|------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| CVAG-11/CVG-11/- |                  |                        |
| CVW-11*          | V/NH†            | 15 Jul 1948            |
| CVW-9            | NG               | 1966                   |
| COMFAIRALAMEDA   |                  | Aug 1968               |
| CVW-3            | AC               | 1969                   |
| CVW-2            | NE               | 01 Jun 1970            |
| COMLATWING-      |                  |                        |
| PAC/VFA-125      |                  | 1983                   |
| CVW-14           | NK               | Feb 1984               |

\* CVAG-11 was redesignated CVG-11 on 1 September 1948. CVG-11 was redesignated CVW-11 when Carrier Air Group (CVG) designations were redesignated Carrier Air Wings (CVW) on 20 December 1963.

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



*A squadron F/A-18A Hornet launching a Sparrow missile, 1984.*

### Unit Awards Received

| <i>Unit Award</i> | <i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i> |             |  |
|-------------------|--|-------------|--|
| NUC               | 04 Aug 1950                                | 29 Mar 1951 |  |
|                   | 26 Dec 1965                                | 14 May 1966 |  |
|                   | 18 Dec 1966                                | 20 Jun 1967 |  |
|                   | 22 Feb 1968                                | 26 Jun 1968 |  |
|                   | 02 Aug 1990                                | 01 Nov 1990 |  |
| KSM               | 01 Aug 1950                                | 29 Mar 1951 |  |
|                   | 20 Jan 1952                                | 12 Jul 1952 |  |
| KPUC              | 01 Aug 1950                                | 29 Mar 1951 |  |
|                   | 20 Jan 1952                                | 12 Jul 1952 |  |
| NAVE              | 01 Jul 1957                                | 30 Jun 1958 |  |
|                   | 01 Jul 1967                                | 30 Jun 1968 |  |
|                   | 01 Jan 1985                                | 30 Jun 1986 |  |
| MUC               | 18 Nov 1970                                | 10 Jun 1971 |  |
|                   | 27 Mar 1983                                | 27 Aug 1985 |  |
|                   | 01 Jan 1984                                | 24 Aug 1985 |  |
|                   | 30 Aug 1958                                | 01 Sep 1958 |  |
| AFEM              | 03 Sep 1958                                | 27 Sep 1958 |  |
|                   | 15 Oct 1958                                | 16 Oct 1958 |  |
|                   | 21 Oct 1958                                | 29 Oct 1958 |  |
|                   | 15 Nov 1962                                | 16 Nov 1962 |  |
|                   | 20 Dec 1962                                |             |  |
|                   | 19 May 1964                                | 10 Jun 1964 |  |
|                   | 23 Jan 1968                                | 22 Mar 1968 |  |
|                   | 05 Aug 1990                                | 04 Nov 1990 |  |
| SASM              | 25 Nov 1965                                | 23 Dec 1965 |  |
|                   | 15 Jan 1966                                | 04 Feb 1966 |  |
|                   | 18 Feb 1966                                | 14 Mar 1966 |  |
|                   | 01 Apr 1966                                | 29 Apr 1966 |  |
|                   | 08 May 1966                                | 23 May 1966 |  |
|                   | 17 Dec 1966                                | 17 Jan 1967 |  |
|                   | 31 Jan 1967                                | 03 Mar 1967 |  |
|                   | 20 Mar 1967                                | 18 Apr 1967 |  |
|                   | 28 Apr 1967                                | 28 May 1967 |  |
|                   | 04 Jun 1967                                | 21 Jun 1967 |  |
|                   | VNSM                                       |             |  |
|                   |  |             |  |
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|                   |  |             |  |
|                   |  |             |  |

### Unit Awards Received—Continued

| <i>Unit Award</i> | <i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i> |             |
|-------------------|--|-------------|
| RVNGC             | 21 Feb 1968                                | 17 Mar 1968 |
|                   | 26 Mar 1968                                | 24 Apr 1968 |
|                   | 30 Apr 1968                                | 21 May 1968 |
|                   | 30 May 1968                                | 27 Jun 1968 |
|                   | 18 Nov 1970                                | 18 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 |
|                   | 09 Dec 1972                                | 03 Jan 1973 |
| RVNGC             | 14 Jan 1973                                | 30 Jan 1973 |
|                   | 01 Feb 1973                                | 06 Feb 1973 |
|                   | 22 Dec 1966                                |             |
|                   | 04 Jan 1967                                |             |
|                   | 07 Jan 1967                                | 09 Jan 1967 |
|                   | 12 Jan 1967                                | 13 Jan 1967 |
|                   | 16 Jan 1967                                |             |
|                   | 20 Feb 1967                                |             |
|                   | 21 Feb 1967                                |             |
|                   | 23 Feb 1967                                |             |
|                   | 25 Feb 1967                                |             |
|                   | 01 Mar 1967                                |             |
|                   | 23 Mar 1967                                |             |
| 27 Mar 1967       |  |             |
| 14 Apr 1967       | 15 Apr 1967                                |             |
| 29 Apr 1967       |  |             |
| 10 Jun 1967       |  |             |
| 22 Feb 1968       | 24 Feb 1968                                |             |
| 26 Feb 1968       | 03 Mar 1968                                |             |
| 05 Mar 1968       | 08 Mar 1968                                |             |
| 12 Mar 1968       |  |             |
| 14 Mar 1968       |  |             |
| 16 Mar 1968       |  |             |
| 29 Mar 1968       | 30 Mar 1968                                |             |

**Unit Awards Received—Continued**

| <i>Unit Award</i> | <i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i> |             |
|-------------------|--|-------------|
|                   | 01 Apr 1968                                | 05 Apr 1968 |
|                   | 07 Apr 1968                                | 10 Apr 1968 |
|                   | 12 Apr 1968                                |             |
|                   | 14 Apr 1968                                |             |
|                   | 16 Apr 1968                                | 20 Apr 1968 |
|                   | 22 Apr 1968                                | 23 Apr 1968 |
|                   | 02 May 1968                                |             |
|                   | 13 May 1968                                |             |
|                   | 01 Jun 1968                                | 02 Jun 1968 |
|                   | 04 Jun 1968                                |             |

**Unit Awards Received—Continued**

| <i>Unit Award</i>   | <i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i> |             |
|---------------------|--|-------------|
|                     | 15 Jun 1968                                |             |
| HSM                 | 25 May 1976                                | 01 Jun 1976 |
|                     | 20 Mar 1981                                |             |
| NEM                 | 30 Oct 1980                                | 12 Mar 1981 |
|                     | 27 Jun 1987                                | 23 Jul 1987 |
| <b>VA-113 Det Q</b> |  |             |
| AFEM                | 19 May 1965                                | 20 May 1965 |
|                     | 25 May 1965                                | 26 May 1965 |
| VNSM                | 26 Jul 1965                                | 17 Aug 1965 |
|                     | 27 Aug 1965                                | 10 Sep 1965 |



*A squadron F/A-18C Hornet in flight, circa 1990.*

## VFA-125

### Lineage

Established as Fighter Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE (VFA-125) on 13 November 1980.

The Fighter Attack designation was changed to Strike Fighter on 25 March 1983. However, the VFA acronym remained the same. It is the first squadron to be assigned the VFA-125 designation.



The squadron's first insignia was approved in 1980 using the old design from VA-125.



A modification to the squadron's insignia was approved in 1991, adding two horizontal lines and changing the designation in the scroll.

### Squadron Insignia and Nickname

The squadron's insignia was approved by CNO on 3 October 1980. The squadron adopted the insignia that had been used by VA-125. Colors for the torch insignia are: a black background outlined in gray; yellow scroll with black lettering and a gray outline; white torch with gray outlines; yellow flame outlined in gray followed by red, outlined in gray; gray electron rings.

CNO approved a modification to the squadron's insignia on 29 January 1991. The gray colors were changed to a light blue and a red and dark blue horizontal strip was added to the lower part of the insignia.

Nickname: Rough Raiders, 1980-present.

### Chronology of Significant Events

13 Nov 1980: The squadron was established with a mission of training fighter and attack pilots to fly the F/A-18 Hornet. It was also tasked with training Navy and Marine Corps maintenance personnel. The commanding officer was a naval officer and the executive officer a Marine Corps officer.

Jun 1981: Squadron's officers, along with the F/A-18, participated in the Paris Air Show.

Aug 1982: The squadron achieved a "Ready for Training" status and VMFA-314 became the first

squadron to begin transition training in the F/A-18.

Sep 1982: The squadron's first carrier qualification detachment began operations aboard *Constellation* (CV 64).

Mar 1983: Training began for the first Navy squadron to transition to the F/A-18.



Squadron F/A-18 Hornets on the flight line at NAS Lemoore, California.

### Home Port Assignments

| Location    | Assignment Date |
|-------------|-----------------|
| NAS Lemoore | 13 Nov 1980     |

### Commanding Officers

|                           | Date Assumed Command |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| CDR James W. Partington   | 13 Nov 1980          |
| CDR Jerry D. Palmer       | 24 Jun 1982          |
| CDR John A. Lockard       | 14 Oct 1983          |
| CDR Dennis V. McGinn      | 14 Dec 1984          |
| CDR W. W. Pickavance, Jr. | 13 Mar 1986          |
| CDR John C. Leslie, Jr.   | 15 Jun 1987          |
| CDR Joseph W. Parker, Jr. | 02 Sep 1988          |
| CDR Alan R. Gorthy, Jr.   | 01 Dec 1989          |
| CDR David C. Kendall      | 08 Mar 1991          |

### Aircraft Assignment

| Type of Aircraft | Date Type First Received |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| F/A-18A          | 19 Feb 1981              |
| TF/A-18A         | 10 Mar 1981              |
| A-7E             | 12 Mar 1981              |
| O-2A             | Apr 1986                 |
| F/A-18B          | May 1986                 |
| F/A-18D          | Jul 1988                 |
| F/A-18C          | 1988                     |
| T-34C            | 1990                     |

***Air Wing Assignments***

| <i>Air Wing</i> | <i>Tail Code</i> | <i>Assignment Date</i> |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------------|
| COMLATWINGPAC   | NJ               | 13 Nov 1980            |

***Unit Awards Received***

| <i>Unit Award</i> | <i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i> |
|-------------------|--|
| MUC               | 13 Nov 1980      28 Mar 1983               |



*A formation of squadron F/A-18 Hornets, including the two-seat versions (Courtesy Duane Kasulka Collection).*



## VFA-127

### Lineage

Established as Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED TWENTY SEVEN (VA-127) on 15 June 1962.

Redesignated Strike Fighter Squadron ONE HUNDRED TWENTY SEVEN (VFA-127) on 1 March 1987. The first squadron to be assigned the VA-127 and VFA-127 designations.

### Squadron Insignia and Nickname

The squadron's first insignia was approved by CNO on 4 February 1963. Colors for the bat and torch insignia were: white and black background outlined in red; black and white bat; white torch outlined in black with a yellow and red flame, also outlined in black; white scroll outlined in black with black lettering.



*The bat and torch design was the first insignia approved for use by the squadron.*

A new insignia was approved by CNO on 4 June 1975. Colors for the globe and serpent design were: a light blue background outlined in dark blue; blue and green globe with black latitude and longitude lines; yellow lightning bolts outlined in black and red; black and yellow serpent with red tongue and fangs; the open book was white with yellow and black markings; black and white aircraft carrier; black plane with dark blue contrail; red and black international date line; light blue scroll outlined in dark blue with black lettering.



*In June 1975, CNO approved the use of the globe and serpent insignia for the squadron. However, this design was used only for the remainder of 1975 and then the squadron requested approval to revert back to its first design, the bat and torch. This request was approved by CNO in December 1975.*

On 17 December 1975 CNO approved the squadron's request to return to its original bat and torch insignia.



*The next insignia approved and used by the squadron was the red star design.*



*In 1984, a modification was made to the red star insignia adding an upper scroll and wording that identified the mission of the squadron. When the squadron was redesignated VFA in 1987, the Attack Squadron 127 designation in the lower scroll changed to Strike Fighter Squadron 127.*

A new insignia was approved by CNO on 10 August 1980. Colors for the red star insignia were: a gray background outlined in black, red and black lines; a red star outlined in white and red; gray aircraft with a black canopy; yellow compass markings; gray scroll outlined in black with black lettering.

A modification to the red star insignia was approved by CNO on 25 October 1984. This

modification added an upper scroll with Pacific Fleet Adversary in black lettering.

Nickname: Royal Blues, 1960s–1980.

Cylons, 1981–present.

### Chronology of Significant Events

**24 Jul 1961–15 Jun 1962:** Prior to being established as VA-127, the unit operated as VA-126 Det Alfa with a mission to provide basic and refresher all-weather jet instrument and transition training for pilots on the west coast.

**15 Jun 1962:** The squadron's primary mission was to provide advanced all-weather jet instrument training for fleet replacement pilots and refresher training for light jet attack pilots. A secondary mission included jet transition and refresher training.

**1 Jun 1970:** The squadron's mission was modified when it was designated as the only A-4 Replacement Air Wing squadron in the Navy. The primary mission included fleet replacement pilot training, basic and refresher all weather jet instrument training and replacement enlisted training in both the TA-4 and A-4 model aircraft, plus the ancillary mission of providing jet transition training. The flight syllabus included weapons delivery (conventional and nuclear), airborne electronic countermeasures, field mirror landing practice, low level navigation, inflight aerial refueling, defensive tactics and carrier qualifications (day and night).

**Apr 1971:** The squadron expanded its training on the A-4 to include personnel from the Argentine Navy, previously only U.S. naval aviators had been trained by the squadron.

**1973:** The squadron continued its program of pro-

viding training on the A-4 to foreign pilots. Beginning in 1973 pilot training for the Singapore Air Defense Command was conducted by VA-127.

**Jul 1975:** The squadron's primary mission was changed. Fleet Replacement Pilot training and the Fleet Replacement Aviation Maintenance Program were discontinued. The squadron's new missions included basic refresher all weather jet instrument training, air combat maneuvering adversary training, foreign pilot training and jet transition/refresher training. In November 1975 CNO officially designated VA-127 with the mission of air combat maneuvering (ACM) adversary training.

**1 Oct 1983:** The squadron's instrument training mission was dropped and the primary mission became the Adversary Role (Dissimilar Air Combat Maneuvering).



*A squadron F9F-8T (TF-9J) Cougar at NAS Lemoore, California, July 1963 (Courtesy Robert Lawson Collection).*

### *Home Port Assignments*

| <i>Location</i> | <i>Assignment Date</i> |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| NAS Lemoore     | 15 Jun 1962            |
| NAS Fallon      | 01 Oct 1987            |

### *Commanding Officers*

|                            | <i>Date Assumed Command</i> |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| CDR Emory G. Tiffany       | 15 Jun 1962                 |
| CDR Simpson Evans, Jr.     | 19 Oct 1962                 |
| CDR William F. McCullough  | 13 Sep 1963                 |
| CDR J. R. Harper           | 25 Sep 1964                 |
| CDR W. S. Brown            | 17 Sep 1965                 |
| CDR J. C. Duck             | 02 Sep 1966                 |
| CDR Edward W. V. Webster   | 05 May 1967                 |
| CDR Timothy J. Perry       | 12 Jul 1968                 |
| CDR Loren M. Dierdorff     | 13 Jun 1969                 |
| CDR Lawrence A. Sharpe     | 05 Jun 1970                 |
| CDR George E. Sheldon, Jr. | 14 May 1971                 |
| CDR Thomas W. Poore        | 12 May 1972                 |
| CDR Cecil Richard Tulley   | 31 May 1973                 |
| CDR Ronald M. Shields      | Aug 1974                    |
| CDR Arvin R. Chauncey      | 10 Oct 1975                 |
| CDR Ronald L. Waters       | 21 Dec 1976                 |
| CDR Gary L. Beck           | 08 Mar 1978                 |
| CDR John A. McAuley, Jr.   | 03 Aug 1979                 |
| CDR Donald L. Dill         | 26 Nov 1980                 |
| CDR Wiley P. DeCarli       | 26 Feb 1982                 |
| CDR Paul J. Valovich       | 26 May 1983                 |
| CDR Michael J. Sullivan    | 30 Nov 1984                 |
| CDR David R. Olson         | 30 May 1986                 |
| CDR Ridgeway W. Corbin II  | 20 Nov 1987                 |
| CDR Alan R. Gorthy, Jr.    | 05 Dec 1988                 |
| CDR Gary A. Barrett        | 20 Oct 1989                 |
| CDR Vance L. Toalson       | 11 Jan 1991                 |

*Two squadron TA-4F Skyhawks in flight, 1967.*



**Aircraft Assignment**

| Type of Aircraft | Date Type First Received |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| F9F-8T/TF-9J*    | 15 Jun 1962              |
| TA-4F            | 03 Aug 1966              |
| A-4F             | Mar 1970                 |
| A-4E             | Apr 1970                 |
| TA-4J            | 15 Apr 1971              |
| T-38B            | Sep 1987                 |

**Aircraft Assignment—Continued**

| Type of Aircraft | Date Type First Received |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| QT-38A           | Sep 1987                 |
| F-5E             | Sep 1987                 |
| F-5F             | Sep 1987                 |
| F/A-18A          | Mar 1992                 |

\* The F9F-8T designation was changed to TF-9J in 1962.



Three squadron TA-4J Skyhawks fly in formation with one of the squadron's A-4F Skyhawks, 1983.



A squadron F-5E Tiger II at NAS Fallon, Nevada, July 1989 (Courtesy Robert Lawson Collection).

### *Air Wing Assignments*

| <i>Air Wing</i>  | <i>Tail Code</i> | <i>Assignment Date</i> |
|--|------------------|------------------------|
| RCVG-12/RCVW-12*   | NJ†              | 15 Jun 1962            |
| COMFAIRLEMOORE/<br>COMLATWINGPAC/<br>COMSTRKFIGHT-<br>WINGPAC‡ |                  | 01 Jun 1970            |

\* Replacement Air Groups were redesignated Combat Readiness Air Groups on 1 April 1963. They were popularly known by the short titles RAG and CRAG in the respective periods, but the designation throughout was RCVG. On 20 December 1963, when Carrier Air Group (CVG) designations were changed to Carrier Air Wings (CVW) the RCVG designation was changed to RCVW.

† RCVW-12 was disestablished on 1 June 1970. However, VA-127, and the other squadrons assigned to RCVW-12, continued to use the NJ tail code.

‡ COMFAIRLEMOORE was redesignated COMLATWINGPAC on 30 June 1973 and in 1991 redesignated COMSTRKFIGHTWINGPAC.



*A squadron F/A-18A Hornet at NAS Fallon, Nevada, 1992 (Courtesy Robert Lawson Collection).*

## VFA-131

### Lineage

Established as Strike Fighter Squadron ONE HUNDRED THIRTY ONE (VFA-131) on 3 October 1983.

The first squadron to be assigned the VFA-131 designation.

### Squadron Insignia and Nickname

The squadron's insignia was approved by CNO on 26 January 1984. Colors for the insignia are: a blue background outlined in white and blue; white stars and aircraft; red, white and blue contrail outlined in white; white wildcat head with black markings, black nose, red eye and mouth; blue scroll with white lettering.



The squadron's Wildcat insignia.

Nickname: Wildcats, 1984-present.

### Chronology of Significant Events

**Mar 1986:** During Freedom of Navigation exercises in the Gulf of Sidra, the squadron's aircraft flew Combat Air Patrols in support of the exercise, including the period of 24 and 25 March following a Libyan firing of an SA-5 missile on 24 March against an American aircraft operating in international waters.

**14-15 Apr 1986:** Squadron aircraft, along with other units of CVW-13 and A-7s from CVW-1, provided air-to-surface Shrike and Harm missile strikes against Libyan surface-to-air missile sites at Banghazi. This was the first use of the F/A-18 in combat.

**15 Aug-8 Oct 1988:** Squadron was embarked in *Independence* (CV 62) during the carrier's transit, via Cape Horn, from Norfolk to its new home port at San Diego.

**Aug 1990:** Embarked in *Eisenhower* (CVN 69), the squadron's F/A-18s flew missions in the Red Sea in support of Operation Desert Shield, the build-up of American and Allied forces to counter a threatened invasion of Saudi Arabia by Iraq and as part of an economic blockade of Iraq to force its withdrawal from Kuwait. The *Eisenhower* task force was the first U.S. force in position to deter Iraqi incursion into Saudi Arabia.

### Home Port Assignments

| Location        | Assignment Date |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| NAS Lemoore     | 03 Oct 1983     |
| NAS Cecil Field | 15 Apr 1985*    |

\*This is the official transfer date, however, the squadron had aircraft and personnel onboard the air station in February 1985.

### Commanding Officers

|                           | Date Assumed Command |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| CDR James O. Ellis, Jr.   | 03 Oct 1983          |
| CDR Charles W. Moore, Jr. | 02 Dec 1985          |
| CDR Dean L. Steele        | 05 Jun 1987          |
| CDR Jerry B. Singleton    | 01 Dec 1988          |
| CDR Robert C. Rubel       | 20 Jun 1990          |
| CDR R. E. Hoppock         | 18 Sep 1991          |

### Aircraft Assignment

| Type of Aircraft | Date Type First Received |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| F/A-18A          | May 1984                 |
| F/A-18C          | 05 Nov 1990              |



A squadron F/A-18C Hornet on the deck of George Washington (CVN 73), September 1993.

**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 Oct 1985              | 19 May 1986           | CVW-13          | CV 43          | F/A-18A                 | Med                      |
| 29 Sep 1987              | 28 Mar 1988           | CVW-13          | CV 43          | F/A-18A                 | Med                      |
| 08 Mar 1990              | 12 Sep 1990           | CVW-7           | CVN 69         | F/A-18A                 | Med/Red Sea              |

**Air Wing Assignments**

| <i>Air Wing</i> | <i>Tail Code</i> | <i>Assignment Date</i> |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------------|
| COMLATWINGPAC   |                  | 03 Oct 1983            |
| CVW-13          | AK               | 01 Mar 1984            |
| CVW-17          | AA               | 05 May 1988            |
| CVW-7           | AG               | 17 Oct 1988            |

**Unit Awards Received**

| <i>Unit Award</i> | <i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i> |             |
|-------------------|--|-------------|
| NEM               | 20 Jan 1986                                | 05 May 1986 |
| NAVE              | 01 Jan 1986                                | 31 Dec 1986 |
| NUC               | 02 Oct 1985                                | 19 May 1986 |
|                   | 23 Mar 1986                                | 17 Apr 1986 |
| MUC               | 08 Mar 1990                                | 12 Sep 1990 |
| AFEM              | 12 Apr 1986                                | 17 Apr 1986 |
| SASM              | 08 Aug 1990                                | 24 Aug 1990 |



*A formation of squadron F/A-18A Hornets, 1986.*

## VFA-132

### Lineage

Established as Strike Fighter Squadron ONE HUNDRED THIRTY TWO (VFA-132) on 3 January 1984.

Disestablished on 1 June 1992. The first squadron to be assigned the VFA-132 designation.

### Squadron Insignia and Nickname

The squadron's insignia was approved by CNO on 2 May 1985. Colors for the privateer insignia were: a



The squadron's one and only insignia.

light blue background outlined in yellow; the privateer's coat was red with yellow trim; black boots; black hat with yellow trim; white trousers; the man's face and hands were white and his mustache and eye patch were black; white rockets and green bombs, both outlined in black; yellow contrails from the rockets and bombs; white cutlass

outlined in black with a yellow handle; dark blue scrolls with yellow lettering.

Nickname: Privateers, 1984–1992.

### Chronology of Significant Events

**Mar 1986:** During Freedom of Navigation exercises in the Gulf of Sidra, the squadron's aircraft flew Combat Air Patrols in support of the exercise, including the period of 24 and 25 March following a 24 March Libyan firing of an SA-5 missile against an American aircraft operating in international waters.

**14–15 Apr 1986:** Squadron aircraft, along with other

units of CVW-13 and A-7s from CVW-1, provided air-to-surface Shrike and Harm missile strikes against Libyan surface-to-air missile sites at Benghazi. This was the first use of the F/A-18 in combat.

**Oct 1987–Apr 1988:** The squadron deployed to MCAS Iwakuni, Japan, and was assigned to Marine Air Group 15. While deployed to Japan, the squadron operated detachments at NAS Cubi Point, Tsuiki AB, Clark AB, Yechon AB, Misawa AB and Kadena AB.

**Aug–Sep 1989:** *Coral Sea* (CV 43), with VFA-132 embarked, operated off the coast of Lebanon following the Israeli capture of Sheik Obeid and the reported killing of Lieutenant Colonel William R. Higgins, USMC. In early September the squadron provided air cover for the CH-53 helos used to evacuate personnel from the U.S. embassy in Beirut.

**Jun–Sep 1991:** CVW-6 squadrons participated in Operation Provide Comfort, flying missions over northern Iraq in support of the Kurdish relief effort.

### Home Port Assignments

| Location        | Assignment Date |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| NAS Lemoore     | 03 Jan 1984     |
| NAS Cecil Field | Feb 1985        |

### Commanding Officers

|                        | Date Assumed Command |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| CDR Robert E. Lakari   | 10 Jan 1984          |
| CDR John B. Nathman    | 22 Apr 1985          |
| CDR Scott C. Ronnie    | 1986                 |
| CDR John T. Morris     | 01 Oct 1987          |
| CDR Robert C. Stephens | 05 May 1989          |
| CDR J. L. Fleming      | 13 Sep 1990          |

### Aircraft Assignment

| Type of Aircraft | Date Type First Received |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| F/A-18A          | 21 Jun 1984              |



Two squadron F/A-18A Hornets preparing to launch from *Coral Sea* (CV 43), January 1986.

**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 Oct 1985              | 19 May 1986           | CVW-13          | CV 43           | F/A-18A                 | Med                      |
| 05 Oct 1987              | 28 Apr 1988           | MAG-15          | MCAS<br>Iwakuni | F/A-18A                 | Japan/WestPac            |
| 31 May 1989              | 30 Sep 1989           | CVW-13          | CV 43           | F/A-18A                 | Med                      |
| 30 May 1991              | 22 Dec 1991           | CVW-6           | CV 59           | F/A-18A                 | Med                      |

**Air Wing Assignments**

| <i>Air Wing</i> | <i>Tail Code</i> | <i>Assignment Date</i> |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------------|
| CVW-13          | AK               | 01 Mar 1984            |
| MAG-15          |                  | Oct 1987               |
| CVW-13          | AK               | May 1988               |
| CVW-6           | AE               | 01 Oct 1990            |

**Unit Awards Received**

| <i>Unit Award</i> | <i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i> |             |
|-------------------|--|-------------|
| NEM               | 20 Jan 1986                                | 05 May 1986 |
| NUC               | 02 Oct 1985                                | 19 May 1986 |
|                   | 23 Mar 1986                                | 17 Apr 1986 |
| MUC               | 30 Mar 1988                                | 30 Sep 1989 |
| AFEM              | 12 Apr 1986                                | 17 Apr 1986 |
| JMUA              | Jun 1991                                   | Sep 1991    |



*A close-up of a squadron F/A-18A in flight.*



## VFA-136

### Lineage

Established as Strike Fighter Squadron ONE HUNDRED THIRTY SIX (VFA-136) on 1 July 1985.

The first squadron to be assigned the VFA-136 designation.

### Squadron Insignia and Nickname



The squadron's *Knighthawks* insignia.

The squadron's insignia was approved by CNO on 23 May 1985. Colors for the Knight-hawk insignia are: a light blue background outlined in dark blue; black shield outlined in red; blue-white hawk with black markings; yellow feet and beak; black eye; light blue scrolls outlined in dark blue with black lettering.

Nickname: Knight-hawks, 1985-present.

### Chronology of Significant Events

**Aug 1990:** Embarked in *Eisenhower* (CVN 69), the squadron's F/A-18s flew missions in the Red Sea in support of Operation Desert Shield, the build-up of American and Allied forces to counter a threatened invasion of Saudi Arabia by Iraq and as part of an economic blockade of Iraq to force its withdrawal from Kuwait. The *Eisenhower* task force was the first U.S. force in position to deter Iraqi incursions into Saudi Arabia.

### Home Port Assignments

| Location        | Assignment Date |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| NAS Lemoore     | 01 Jul 1985     |
| NAS Cecil Field | 28 Mar 1986     |

### Commanding Officers

|                       | Date Assumed Command |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| CDR G. A. Gurick      | 01 Jul 1985          |
| CDR M. D. Malone      | 24 Aug 1987          |
| CDR John B. Sandknop  | 11 Mar 1989          |
| CDR Jeffrey R. Nelson | 20 Sep 1990          |
| CDR D. R. Miller      | 14 Dec 1991          |

### Aircraft Assignment

| Type of Aircraft | Date Type First Received |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| F/A-18A          | 07 Jan 1986              |
| F/A-18C          | 13 Nov 1990              |



A squadron F/A-18A Hornet about to be launched from *Eisenhower* (CVN 69).



A squadron F/A-18A Hornet in flight, circa 1986 or 1987.

**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> |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 29 Sep 1987              | 28 Mar 1988           | CVW-13          | CV 43          | F/A-18A                 | Med                      |
| 08 Mar 1990              | 12 Sep 1990           | CVW-7           | CVN 69         | F/A-18A                 | Med/Red Sea              |
| 26 Sep 1991              | 02 Apr 1992           | CVW-7           | CVN 69         | F/A-18C                 | Med/IO/NorLant           |

**Air Wing Assignments**

| <i>Air Wing</i> | <i>Tail Code</i> | <i>Assignment Date</i> | <i>Unit Award</i> | <i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i> |             |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|--|-------------|
| CVW-13          | AK               | 10 Jun 1986            | MUC               | 08 Mar 1990                                | 12 Sep 1990 |
| CVW-7           | AG               | 01 Oct 1988            | SASM              | 08 Aug 1990                                | 24 Aug 1990 |

**Unit Awards Received**

*A squadron F/A-18A Hornet in flight armed with a Sidewinder missile on its wing tip, February 1989.*

## VFA-137

### Lineage

Established as Strike Fighter Squadron ONE HUNDRED THIRTY SEVEN (VFA-137) on 1 July 1985.

The first squadron to be assigned the VFA-137 designation.

### Squadron Insignia and Nickname

The squadron's insignia was approved by CNO on 1

April 1985. Colors for the stylized hawk design are: a black background outlined in orange; the upper part of the hawk design is white and the lower part is reddish-brown; gray beak outlined in black; yellow eye with a black pupil; grayish-blue contrails; orange stylized aircraft; black scrolls outlined in orange and the lettering is orange.

Nickname: Kestrels, 1985-present.



The squadron's stylized hawk design was approved by CNO in April 1985.

### Chronology of Significant Events

Aug–Sep 1989: *Coral Sea* (CV 43), with VFA-137 embarked, operated off the coast of Lebanon following the Israeli capture of Sheik Obeid and the reported killing of Lieutenant Colonel William R. Higgins, USMC. Squadron aircraft flew air support (Combat Air Patrols) during this crisis and the evacuation personnel from the U.S. embassy in Beirut.

### Home Port Assignments

| Location        | Assignment Date |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| NAS Cecil Field | 01 Jul 1985     |

### Commanding Officers

|                        | Date Assumed Command |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| CDR Raymond E. Thomas  | 01 Jul 1985          |
| CDR Barry J. Dysart    | 03 Sep 1987          |
| CDR Philip G. Howard   | 02 Mar 1989          |
| CDR Craig B. Henderson | 04 May 1990          |

### Aircraft Assignment

| Type of Aircraft | Date Type First Received |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| F/A-18A          | 25 Nov 1985              |



A squadron F/A-18A Hornet about to trap on *Coral Sea* (CV 43), 1989.

**Major Overseas Deployments**

| <i>Date of<br/>Departure</i> | <i>Date of<br/>Return</i> | <i>Air<br/>Wing</i> | <i>Carrier</i> | <i>Type of<br/>Aircraft</i> | <i>Area of<br/>Operation</i> |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 29 Sep 1987                  | 28 Mar 1988               | CVW-13              | CV 43          | F/A-18A                     | Med                          |
| 31 May 1989                  | 30 Sep 1989               | CVW-13              | CV 43          | F/A-18A                     | Med                          |

**Air Wing Assignments**

| <i>Air Wing</i> | <i>Tail Code</i> | <i>Assignment Date</i> | <i>Unit Award</i> | <i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i> |             |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|--|-------------|
| CVW-13          | AK               | 01 Jun 1986            | NAVE              | 01 Jan 1987                                | 31 Dec 1987 |
| CVW-6           | AE               | 01 Oct 1990            | MUC               | 30 Mar 1988                                | 30 Sep 1989 |

**Unit Awards Received**

*A squadron F/A-18A in flight, March 1991.*

## VFA-146

### Lineage

Established as Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED FORTY SIX (VA-146) on 1 February 1956.

Redesignated Strike Fighter Squadron ONE HUNDRED FORTY SIX (VFA-146) on 21 July 1989. This is the first squadron in the Navy to be assigned the designation VA-146 and VFA-146.

### Squadron Insignia and Nickname

The first insignia for VA-146 was approved by CNO on 23 November 1956. This design consisted of two concentric circles.



*The globe and mach wave symbol was part of the squadron's first insignia.*

Emanating from North America was a 300 degree arc in black. The mach wave and arc from North America symbolized the range and striking power of the squadron.

The first nickname the squadron reported to have used was Blacktails. This name was in reference to the black color assigned to the squadron's position in the air group. The nickname Blue Diamonds was adopted by the squadron sometime in the late 1950s. In 1968 the squadron elected to simplify their insignia and



*The squadron's insignia was modified and approved for use by CNO in 1968. When the squadron was designated VFA, the designation in the scroll was changed from VA-146 to VFA-146.*

bring it in concert with their nickname. Their insignia was revised and approved by CNO on 29 August 1968. The new insignia kept the old design of two concentric circles with an outer circle of dark blue and the inner circle of light blue. Superimposed on the two circles was the yellow mach wave and four dark blue diamonds. Attached to the lower part of the insignia was a scroll

outlined in dark blue with a light blue background and lettering in yellow.

Nickname: Blacktails, 1956-late 1950s.

Blue Diamonds, late 1950s-present.

### Chronology of Significant Events

**17–21 Jan 1960:** VA-146 squadron aircraft participated in a coast to coast non-stop cross country flight.

**8 Jun–13 Jul 1964:** The Blue Diamonds participated in Yankee Team Operations. These operations involved photo reconnaissance missions over Laos. The squadron's A-4C Skyhawks were used to provide tanker and rocket-armed escort support for the photo reconnaissance sorties over Laos and South Vietnam. This type of support was also provided by the squadron during the period 15 August to 20 September 1964.

**4–5 Aug 1964:** Aircraft from VA-146 flew night sorties in support of Desoto Patrol operations conducted by American destroyers operating in international waters off the coast of North Vietnam. These sorties were the result of attacks conducted against *Maddox* (DD 731) by North Vietnamese motor torpedo boats on 2 August 1964. The American destroyer had been conducting Desoto Patrol operations when this incident occurred. Desoto Patrol operations involved the collection of signal intelligence.

**5 Aug 1964:** VA-146 aircraft participated in Operation Pierce Arrow. This operation involved retaliatory air strikes against North Vietnamese torpedo boats and their bases and supporting facilities because of the attacks against the *Maddox* (DD 731) and *Turner Joy* (DD 951) on 4 August by North Vietnamese motor torpedo boats. VA-146's A-4Cs flew 8 sorties against two installations. They experienced heavy antiaircraft ground fire but none of their aircraft were damaged. The sorties by VA-146 and the other



*A squadron F9F-8 Cougar trapping aboard Hornet (CVA 12), March 1957 (Courtesy Robert Lawson Collection).*

units of CVW-14 against Hon Gay and the torpedo boats operating near Hon Me Island resulted in the sinking or damaging of 8 torpedo boats.

**5 Aug 1964:** VA-146 was one of the first squadrons to employ the A-4C in combat.

**29 Jun 1966:** CDR Schaufelberger led a 28 plane strike of VA-146 and other CVW-14 aircraft against the Haiphong POL complex. This was the first American strike against this complex.

**30 Sep 1967:** CDR Robert F. Dunn was awarded a Silver Star for his actions on this date.

**16 Jun 1969:** While operating on Yankee Station aboard *Enterprise*, the carrier was ordered north to the Sea of Japan in response to an international incident involving the shoot down of a Navy EC-121 by the North Korean Air Force.

**Apr 1970:** The squadron flew across the country to board an east coast based carrier, *America* (CVA 66), for an extended combat deployment to Vietnam.

**May 1970:** CDR Stephens, along with other pilots from VA-147, flew the newest update version of the A-7 Corsair II, the A-7E, into combat for the first time.

**Dec 1971:** During their second line period on Yankee Station, VA-146 became the first Navy squadron to use the laser-guided bomb (LGB) during combat in Southeast Asia.

**May 1972:** The squadron's A-7Es conducted the first night mining missions for the Corsair II E models when they flew combat mining sorties on North Vietnamese rivers.

**Feb-Apr 1973:** VA-146 acted as a deterrent force during Operation Endsweep, the sweeping of mines from North Vietnamese waters.

**Nov 1974:** VA-146, as part of the CVW-9 team aboard *Constellation*, operated in the Persian Gulf. This was the first time in 26 years that an American carrier had entered and operated in the Persian Gulf.



A squadron FJ-4B Fury on the elevator of Ranger (CVA 61) during her cruise to the Med in 1959.

**7 Mar 1979:** *Constellation* and her air wing were ordered to make a high speed transit to the Indian Ocean from the Philippines in response to the conflict between North and South Yemen.

**Feb-Oct 1980:** VA-146 made the first western Pacific deployment with the new Forward Looking Infrared Radar System (FLIR) installed on the A-7E Corsair II.

**1983:** The Blue Diamonds were tasked with fleet introduction of the HARM system. This new missile succeeds Shrike and ARM as the primary antiradiation, defense-suppression air-to-surface missile.

**Sep 1988:** *Nimitz* (CVN 68), with VA-146 embarked, operated in the Sea of Japan in support of the Summer Olympic Games in Seoul, Republic of Korea.

### Home Port Assignments

| Location    | Assignment Date |
|-------------|-----------------|
| NAS Miramar | 01 Feb 1956     |
| NAS Lemoore | 15 May 1962     |

### Commanding Officers

|                          | Date Assumed Command |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| CDR E. V. Davidson       | 01 Feb 1956          |
| CDR J. R. Kincaid        | 30 Aug 1957          |
| LCDR W. W. Alldredge     | 29 Aug 1958          |
| CDR G. S. Hodgson        | 12 Aug 1959          |
| LCDR J. R. Faulk         | 28 Dec 1960          |
| CDR R. G. Hanecak        | 12 Oct 1961          |
| CDR J. D. Ingram         | 09 Mar 1963          |
| CDR E. V. Crangle        | 28 Oct 1963          |
| CDR W. H. Harris         | 20 Nov 1964          |
| CDR H. B. Loheed         | 03 Dec 1965          |
| CDR A. A. Schaufelberger | 01 Feb 1966          |
| CDR R. F. Dunn           | 25 Jan 1967          |
| CDR P. E. Johnson        | 14 Nov 1967          |
| CDR Ford J. E. Schultz   | 13 Feb 1968          |
| CDR Jesse R. Emerson III | 18 Feb 1969          |
| CDR Wayne L. Stephens    | 19 Dec 1969          |
| CDR Manual B. Sousa      | 29 Jan 1971          |
| CDR John A. Miller       | 07 Dec 1971          |
| CDR O. F. Baldwin        | 15 Dec 1972          |
| CDR D. K. Tyler          | 28 Mar 1974          |
| CDR L. A. Sanders        | 11 Jun 1975          |
| CDR R. I. Howson         | 16 Sep 1976          |
| CDR L. H. Price          | 14 Dec 1977          |
| CDR J. A. Lair           | 04 Nov 1978          |
| CDR L. J. Vernon         | 26 Feb 1980          |
| CDR W. S. Orr            | 22 Apr 1981          |
| CDR M. G. Shaw           | 09 Jul 1982          |
| CDR P. C. Campbell       | 01 Dec 1983          |
| CDR G. N. Crim, Jr.      | 14 Jun 1985          |
| CDR R. E. Arnott         | 30 Sep 1986          |
| CDR David C. Kendall     | 11 Mar 1988          |
| CDR Phillip H. Mills     | 21 Jul 1989          |
| CDR Steven E. Davis      | 02 Nov 1990          |



*A formation of squadron FJ-4B Furys, 1961.*

**Aircraft Assignment**

| <i>Type of Aircraft</i> | <i>Date Type First Received</i> |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| F9F-8                   | Feb 1956                        |
| F9F-6                   | Feb 1956                        |
| F9F-5                   | Feb 1956                        |
| FJ-4B                   | 04 Sep 1957                     |
| A4D-2N/A-4C*            | 06 Jun 1962                     |

**Aircraft Assignment—Continued**

| <i>Type of Aircraft</i> | <i>Date Type First Received</i> |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| A-7B                    | 04 Jun 1968                     |
| A-7E                    | 20 Sep 1969                     |
| F/A-18C                 | 18 Nov 1989                     |

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



*A squadron A-4C Skyhawk and a VA-144 Skyhawk on Constellation's (CVA 64) elevator during her combat deployment to Vietnam in 1964–1965.*

**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> |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 21 Jan 1957              | 25 Jul 1957           | CVG-14          | CVA 12         | F9F-8/8B                | WestPac                  |
| 27 May 1958              | 20 Aug 1958           | CVG-14          | CVA 61         | FJ-4B                   | SoLant                   |
| 03 Jan 1959              | 27 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          |
| 10 Dec 1965              | 25 Aug 1966           | CVW-14          | CVA 61         | A-4C                    | WestPac/Vietnam          |
| 29 Apr 1967              | 04 Dec 1967           | CVW-14          | CVA 64         | A-4C                    | WestPac/Vietnam          |
| 06 Jan 1969              | 02 Jul 1969           | CVW-9           | CVAN 65        | A-7B                    | WestPac/Vietnam          |
| 10 Apr 1970              | 21 Dec 1970           | CVW-9           | CVA 66         | A-7E                    | WestPac/Vietnam          |
| 01 Oct 1971              | 30 Jun 1972           | CVW-9           | CVA 64         | A-7E                    | WestPac/Vietnam          |
| 05 Jan 1973              | 11 Oct 1973           | CVW-9           | CVA 64         | A-7E                    | WestPac/Vietnam          |
| 21 Jun 1974              | 22 Dec 1974           | CVW-9           | CVA 64         | A-7E                    | WestPac/IO               |
| 12 Apr 1977              | 21 Nov 1977           | CVW-9           | CV 64          | A-7E                    | WestPac                  |
| 26 Sep 1978              | 17 May 1979           | CVW-9           | CV 64          | A-7E                    | WestPac/IO               |
| 26 Feb 1980              | 15 Oct 1980           | CVW-9           | CV 64          | A-7E                    | WestPac/IO               |
| 20 Oct 1981              | 23 May 1982           | CVW-9           | CV 64          | A-7E                    | WestPac/IO               |
| 13 Jan 1984              | 01 Aug 1984           | CVW-2           | CV 63          | A-7E                    | WestPac/IO               |
| 24 Jul 1985              | 21 Dec 1985           | CVW-9           | CV 63          | A-7E                    | WestPac/IO               |
| 03 Jan 1987              | 29 Jun 1987           | CVW-9           | CV 63          | A-7E                    | World Cruise             |
| 02 Sep 1988              | 27 Feb 1989           | CVW-9           | CVN 68         | A-7E                    | WestPac/IO               |
| 15 Jun 1989              | 09 Jul 1989           | CVW-9           | CVN 68         | A-7E                    | NorPac                   |

**Air Wing Assignments**

| <i>Air Wing</i> | <i>Tail Code</i> | <i>Assignment Date</i> |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------------|
| CVG-14/CVW-14†  | A/NK*            | 01 Feb 1956            |
| CVW-9           | NG               | Aug 1968               |
| CVW-2           | NE               | 12 Nov 1982            |
| CVW-9           | NG               | 15 Sep 1984            |

\* 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).

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



*A squadron A-7E Corsair II in flight alongside an A-6 Intruder, 1984.*

**Unit Awards Received**

| <i>Unit Award</i> | <i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i> |             |
|-------------------|--|-------------|
| AFEM              | 09 Oct 1960                                | 12 Oct 1960 |
|                   | 20 Dec 1961                                | 21 Dec 1961 |
|                   | 28 Feb 1962                                | 06 Mar 1962 |
|                   | 06 Jun 1964                                | 13 Jul 1964 |
|                   | 04 Aug 1964                                | 21 Sep 1964 |
|                   | 29 Oct 1964                                | 23 Nov 1964 |
|                   | 20 Apr 1969                                | 11 May 1969 |
|                   | 24 Sep 1970                                | 26 Sep 1970 |
| MUC               | 02 Nov 1988                                | 05 Dec 1988 |
|                   | 26 May 1970                                | 08 Nov 1970 |
|                   | 12 Mar 1979                                | 19 Apr 1979 |

**Unit Awards Received—Continued**

| <i>Unit Award</i> | <i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i> |             |
|-------------------|--|-------------|
| NEM               | 17 May 1979                                | 31 May 1980 |
|                   | 21 Jan 1987                                | 17 May 1987 |
|                   | 12 Mar 1979                                | 19 Apr 1979 |
|                   | 26 Apr 1980                                | 04 Aug 1980 |
| NUC               | 12 Aug 1980                                | 19 Aug 1980 |
|                   | 02 Aug 1964                                | 05 Aug 1964 |
|                   | 10 Jan 1966                                | 06 Aug 1966 |
| PUC               | 18 May 1967                                | 26 Nov 1967 |
|                   | 22 Oct 1971                                | 13 Jun 1972 |
|                   | 24 Jan 1966                                |             |
| RVNGC             | 26 Jan 1966                                | 27 Jan 1966 |
|                   | 30 Jan 1966                                |             |



**Unit Awards Received—Continued**

| <i>Unit Award</i> | <i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i> |             |
|-------------------|--|-------------|
|                   | 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 |
|                   | 01 May 1967                                | 01 Nov 1967 |
|                   | 31 Mar 1969                                | 03 Apr 1969 |
|                   | 05 Apr 1969                                |             |
|                   | 31 May 1969                                | 16 Jun 1969 |
|                   | 30 Mar 1972                                | 01 Jun 1972 |
| 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 |
|                   | 08 Jun 1967                                | 11 Jun 1967 |
|                   | 18 Jun 1967                                | 25 Jul 1967 |
|                   | 01 Aug 1967                                | 03 Sep 1967 |

**Unit Awards Received—Continued**

| <i>Unit Award</i> |             | <i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i> |
|-------------------|-------------|--|
|                   | 25 Sep 1967 | 15 Oct 1967                                |
|                   | 24 Oct 1967 | 12 Nov 1967                                |
|                   | 30 Mar 1969 | 18 Apr 1969                                |
|                   | 22 May 1969 | 24 May 1969                                |
|                   | 29 May 1969 | 17 Jun 1969                                |
|                   | 17 May 1970 |  |
|                   | 19 May 1970 |  |
|                   | 24 May 1970 | 16 Jun 1970                                |
|                   | 28 Jun 1970 | 13 Jul 1970                                |
|                   | 20 Jul 1970 | 04 Aug 1970                                |
|                   | 24 Aug 1970 | 18 Sep 1970                                |
|                   | 13 Oct 1970 | 08 Nov 1970                                |
|                   | 02 Nov 1971 | 22 Nov 1971                                |
|                   | 29 Nov 1971 | 31 Dec 1971                                |
|                   | 09 Jan 1972 | 03 Feb 1972                                |
|                   | 09 Feb 1972 | 02 Mar 1972                                |
|                   | 13 Mar 1972 | 23 Mar 1972                                |
|                   | 07 Apr 1972 | 18 May 1972                                |
|                   | 24 May 1972 | 25 May 1972                                |
|                   | 31 May 1972 | 13 Jun 1972                                |
|                   | 25 Feb 1973 | 14 Mar 1973                                |
|                   | 19 Mar 1973 | 28 Mar 1973                                |



*A squadron F/A-18C Hornet on the flight line at NAS Lemoore, California, December 1989.*

## VFA-147

### Lineage

Established as Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED FORTY SEVEN (VA-147) on 1 February 1967.

Redesignated Strike Fighter Squadron ONE HUNDRED FORTY SEVEN (VFA-147) on 20 July 1989. The first squadron to be assigned the VA-147 and VFA-147 designations.

### Squadron Insignia and Nickname

The squadron's insignia was approved by CNO on 30 June 1967. Colors for Argonaut insignia are: a yellow background outlined in black with an inner circle of yellow and white; gray mythical flying animal with black markings and outlined in black with a red and white eye; white Argonaut with a gray breast plate and helmet, a red skirt and helmet plume, gray sword and the entire figure has black markings. At a later date, a lower scroll was added to the insignia. The scroll was red outlined in black with black lettering.

A modification to the insignia was approved by CNO on 22 December 1989. The color of the Argonaut's skirt, helmet plume and scroll were changed to orange and the mythical flying animal was given a twin tail.

Nickname: Argonauts, 1967-present.



The squadron's Argonaut insignia was approved by CNO on 30 June 1967.



When the squadron was redesignated VFA, the only change to its insignia was the designation in the scroll and the addition of a twin tail on the mythical beast.

### Chronology of Significant Events

**Dec 1967:** The squadron flew its first combat missions, striking targets in North Vietnam. This was the first introduction of the A-7 Corsair II in combat.

**Jan 1968:** The squadron flew support missions for the defenders during the siege at Khe Sanh, South Vietnam.

**Jan 1968:** *Ranger* (CVA 61), with VA-147 embarked, was operating on Yankee Station when it was ordered to the Sea of Japan following the capture of *Pueblo* (AGER 2) by the North Koreans on 23 January 1968. *Ranger* and VA-147 operated in the area until relieved on 5 March.

**Apr 1969:** Following the shoot down of a Navy EC-121 aircraft by the North Koreans on 15 April, *Ranger*, with VA-147 embarked, left Yankee Station and proceeded to the Sea of Japan for operations off the coast of Korea.

**Apr 1972:** The squadron participated in Operation Freedom Train, tactical air sorties against military and logistic targets in the southern part of North Vietnam. It also provided support for forces in South Vietnam following a massive invasion by North Vietnam on 1 April 1972.

**May 1972:** The squadron participated in the early phase of Operation Linebacker I, heavy air strikes against targets in North Vietnam above 20 degrees north latitude.

**29 Jan 1973:** The squadron's commanding officer, Commander T. R. Wilkinson, failed to return from a routine sortie off the coast of the Philippines.

**Mar-Jun 1973:** VA-147 provided aerial support during Operation End Sweep, the removal of mines in North Vietnamese waters.

**Nov 1974:** VA-147, part of the CVW-9 team embarked on *Constellation* (CVA 64), operated in the Persian Gulf. This was the first time in 26 years that an American carrier had entered and operated in the Persian Gulf.

**Mar 1979:** *Constellation*, with elements of VA-147 embarked, was ordered to make a high speed transit to the Indian Ocean from the Philippines in response to the conflict between North and South Yemen.

**Sep 1988:** *Nimitz* (CVN 68), with VA-147 embarked, operated in the Sea of Japan in support of the Summer Olympic Games in Seoul, Republic of Korea.



A formation of squadron A-7E Corsair IIs, circa 1975.

**Home Port Assignments**

| <i>Location</i> | <i>Assignment Date</i> |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| NAS Lemoore     | 01 Feb 1967            |

**Commanding Officers**

|                        | <i>Date Assumed Command</i> |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| CDR James C. Hill      | 01 Feb 1967                 |
| CDR W. Scott Gray III  | 21 Jun 1968                 |
| CDR Donald J. Duhrkopf | 27 Mar 1969                 |
| CDR R. N. Livingston   | 13 Mar 1970                 |
| CDR W. T. Majors       | 29 Jan 1971                 |
| CDR T. R. Wilkinson    | 04 Feb 1972                 |
| CDR W. C. Smith        | 29 Jan 1973                 |
| CDR D. D. Smith        | 08 Mar 1974                 |
| CDR Bobby C. Lee       | 23 May 1975                 |
| CDR Paul B. Austin     | 30 Aug 1976                 |
| CDR Gary L. Harter     | 15 Dec 1977                 |

**Commanding Officers—Continued**

|                          | <i>Date Assumed Command</i> |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| CDR Philip S. Gubbins    | 03 Nov 1978                 |
| CDR David J. L'Herault   | 29 Jan 1980                 |
| CDR Frank C. Bledsoe     | 18 May 1981                 |
| CDR Eric Vanderpoel II   | 05 Aug 1982                 |
| CDR Christopher G. Gates | 06 Jan 1984                 |
| CDR James H. Oliver      | 21 Jun 1985                 |
| CDR J. R. Hutchison      | 01 Jul 1986                 |
| CDR Terry R. Nolan       | 04 Sep 1987                 |
| CDR Jeffrey A. Lehman    | 24 Mar 1989                 |
| CDR Craig F. Weideman    | 14 Sep 1990                 |

**Aircraft Assignment**

| <i>Type of Aircraft</i> | <i>Date Type First Received</i> |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| A-7A                    | 28 Jun 1967                     |
| A-7E                    | 17 Sep 1969                     |
| F/A-18C                 | 05 Dec 1989                     |



*Two squadron F/A-18C Hornets firing air-to-ground rockets, 1990.*

### 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> |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 04 Nov 1967              | 25 May 1968           | CVW-2           | CVA 61         | A-7A                    | WestPac/Vietnam          |
| 26 Oct 1968              | 17 May 1969           | CVW-2           | CVA 61         | A-7A                    | WestPac/Vietnam          |
| 10 Apr 1970              | 21 Dec 1970           | CVW-9           | CVA 66         | A-7E                    | WestPac/Vietnam          |
| 01 Oct 1971              | 30 Jun 1972           | CVW-9           | CVA 64         | A-7E                    | WestPac/Vietnam          |
| 05 Jan 1973              | 11 Oct 1973           | CVW-9           | CVA 64         | A-7E                    | WestPac/Vietnam          |
| 21 Jun 1974              | 22 Dec 1974           | CVW-9           | CVA 64         | A-7E                    | WestPac/IO               |
| 12 Apr 1977              | 21 Nov 1977           | CVW-9           | CV 64          | A-7E                    | WestPac                  |
| 26 Sep 1978              | 17 May 1979           | CVW-9           | CV 64          | A-7E                    | WestPac/IO               |
| 26 Feb 1980              | 15 Oct 1980           | CVW-9           | CV 64*         | A-7E                    | WestPac                  |
| 20 Oct 1981              | 23 May 1982           | CVW-9           | CV 64*         | A-7E                    | WestPac                  |
| 13 Jan 1984              | 01 Aug 1984           | CVW-2           | CV 63          | A-7E                    | WestPac/IO               |
| 24 Jul 1985              | 21 Dec 1985           | CVW-9           | CV 63          | A-7E                    | WestPac/IO               |
| 03 Jan 1987              | 29 Jun 1987           | CVW-9           | CV 63          | A-7E                    | World Cruise             |
| 02 Sep 1988              | 27 Feb 1989           | CVW-9           | CVN 68         | A-7E                    | WestPac/IO               |
| 15 Jun 1989              | 09 Jul 1989           | CVW-9           | CVN 68         | A-7E                    | NorPac                   |

\* The squadron remained ashore at NAS Cubi Point as CVW-9's Beach Detachment during most of *Constellation's* deployment to WestPac. This shore based period for VA-147 was part of the Swing Wing Concept.

### Air Wing Assignments

| <i>Air Wing</i> | <i>Tail Code</i> | <i>Assignment Date</i> |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------------|
| VA-122*         |                  | 01 Feb 1967            |
| CVW-2           | NE               | 28 Jun 1967            |
| CVW-9           | NG               | 02 Jul 1969            |
| CVW-2           | NE               | 12 Nov 1982            |
| CVW-9           | NG               | 15 Sep 1984            |

\* The squadron was under the operational control of VA-122 during its period of training in the new A-7 Corsair II.

### Unit Awards Received

| <i>Unit Award</i> | <i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i> |             |
|-------------------|--|-------------|
| MUC               | 03 Dec 1967                                | 09 May 1968 |
|                   | 26 May 1970                                | 08 Nov 1970 |
|                   | 12 Mar 1979                                | 19 Apr 1979 |
|                   | 21 Jan 1987                                | 17 May 1987 |
| NUC               | 29 Nov 1968                                | 10 May 1969 |
| PUC               | 22 Oct 1971                                | 13 Jun 1972 |
| NAVE              | 01 Jan 1976                                | 30 Jun 1977 |
| AFEM              | 23 Jan 1968                                | 22 Mar 1968 |



A formation of squadron F/A-18C Hornets fly over Kuwait City during Operation Southern Watch, 1993.

**Unit Awards Received**

| <i>Unit Award</i> | <i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i> |             |
|-------------------|--|-------------|
| NEM               | 20 Mar 1969                                | 22 Mar 1969 |
|                   | 20 Apr 1969                                | 27 Apr 1969 |
|                   | 24 Sep 1970                                | 26 Sep 1970 |
|                   | 02 Nov 1988                                | 05 Dec 1988 |
|                   | 12 Mar 1979                                | 19 Apr 1979 |
|                   | 26 Apr 1980                                | 04 Aug 1980 |
| RVNGC             | 12 Aug 1980                                | 19 Aug 1980 |
|                   | 02 Dec 1967                                |             |
|                   | 09 Jan 1968                                |             |
|                   | 15 Jan 1968                                | 16 Jan 1968 |
|                   | 20 Jan 1968                                | 24 Jan 1968 |
|                   | 26 Jan 1968                                |             |
|                   | 19 Mar 1968                                | 25 Mar 1968 |
|                   | 29 Mar 1968                                | 06 Apr 1968 |
|                   | 08 Apr 1968                                | 10 Apr 1968 |
|                   | 21 Apr 1968                                |             |
|                   | 23 Apr 1968                                | 24 Apr 1968 |
|                   | 29 Apr 1968                                | 02 May 1968 |
|                   | 07 Jan 1969                                | 30 Jan 1969 |
|                   | 15 Feb 1969                                | 16 Mar 1969 |
| 04 Apr 1969       | 14 Apr 1969                                |             |
| VNSM              | 30 Mar 1972                                | 01 Jun 1972 |
|                   | 03 Dec 1967                                | 29 Dec 1967 |

**Unit Awards Received**

| <i>Unit Award</i> | <i>Inclusive Dates Covering Unit Award</i> |             |
|-------------------|--|-------------|
|                   | 06 Jan 1968                                | 28 Jan 1968 |
|                   | 18 Mar 1968                                | 12 Apr 1968 |
|                   | 21 Apr 1968                                | 09 May 1968 |
|                   | 07 Jan 1969                                | 30 Jan 1969 |
|                   | 15 Feb 1969                                | 16 Mar 1969 |
|                   | 04 Apr 1969                                | 17 Apr 1969 |
|                   | 17 May 1970                                |             |
|                   | 19 May 1970                                |             |
|                   | 24 May 1970                                | 16 Jun 1970 |
|                   | 28 Jun 1970                                | 13 Jul 1970 |
|                   | 20 Jul 1970                                | 04 Aug 1970 |
|                   | 24 Aug 1970                                | 18 Sep 1970 |
|                   | 13 Oct 1970                                | 09 Nov 1970 |
|                   | 02 Nov 1971                                | 22 Nov 1971 |
|                   | 29 Nov 1971                                | 31 Dec 1971 |
|                   | 09 Jan 1972                                | 03 Feb 1972 |
|                   | 09 Feb 1972                                | 02 Mar 1972 |
|                   | 13 Mar 1972                                | 23 Mar 1972 |
|                   | 07 Apr 1972                                | 18 May 1972 |
|                   | 24 May 1972                                | 25 May 1972 |
|                   | 31 May 1972                                | 13 Jun 1972 |
|                   | 25 Feb 1973                                | 14 Mar 1973 |
|                   | 19 Mar 1973                                | 28 Mar 1973 |



*A squadron F/A-18C Hornet being refueled by an Air Force KC-135H Stratotanker with a couple of F-14 Tomcats in the background, 1993.*