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CAPTAIN JAMES G. DANIELS, III



Captain James G. DANIELS, III, son of the late Senator J. M. Daniels of New Mexico, began his naval career in May 1938 in Kansas City, Missouri. Ordered to Pensacola, Florida, as a Naval Aviation Cadet, he received his commission and "wings" in September 1939. His first fleet duty was as a fighter pilot attached to Fighting Squadron SIX aboard the USS ENTERPRISE. While in Honolulu, he met his wife-to-be, Helen Elizabeth Arnold, daughter of Colonel and Mrs. F. T. Arnold, U. S. Army. They were married August 1940. On December 7, 1941, he was in the air at Pearl Harbor. As one of the six ENTERPRISE fighter aircraft involved in the searching for the enemy in the late afternoon and evening and after having been ordered to proceed from the carrier to Pearl Harbor, they were mistakenly fired upon when landing at Ford Island. Captain DANIELS was the only fighter pilot to successfully land and one of the two pilots to survive the flight. During World War II he served aboard the carrier ENTERPRISE in VF-6 and as Landing Signal Officer (LSO) for Carrier Air Group TEN; as Staff LSO for Commander, Fleet Air Wing West Coast, and later became Commanding Officer of Fighter Bomber Squadron TWO, aboard the USS SHANGRI-LA in 1945. From November 1951 until May 1953 Captain DANIELS served aboard the USS ESSEX, during her second Korean cruise, as Air Group Commander of Air Task Group TWO, and later as Executive Officer of ESSEX in 1956. His other past duties include Operations Officer of the Naval Air Facility, Honolulu, Hawaii, 1949; and Commanding Officer of the fleet oiler USS NAVASOTA. Captain DANIELS assumed command of the USS TICONDEROGA July 7, 1962. He has received orders to report to Commander Carrier Division FIVE as Chief of Staff in August, 1963. Captain DANIELS' combat decorations include Legion of Merit with the Combat V, the Distinguished Flying Cross, Five Air Medals, Commendation Ribbon with Combat V, and various other theater and campaign medals.



COMMANDER CLIFFORD N. SEAVER

Commander Clifford N. Seaver was commissioned and designated as a Naval Aviator on 15 December 1942. His first assignment as a fighter pilot was with Fighter Squadron 6. He served with VF-6 for the duration of the war and then became a flight instructor at the Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla. From April 1948 to August 1950, he was an all-weather fighter pilot, first with VCN-1 and then with VC-3. For the next two years, the Commander was a project pilot for electronics testing at the Patuxent River (Md.) Naval Air Station. He was Assistant Air Operations Officer aboard the USS Hornet from late 1953 until early 1955. His next duties were with Fighter Squadron 52, first as executive officer and then as commanding officer. At the Jet Transitional Unit, Olathe, Kan., he was officer-in-charge from October 1958 to October 1959. Prior to reporting to TICONDEROGA as Operations Officer, he was the skipper of VT-21, NAAS Kingsville, Texas. Commander Seaver, who was Executive Officer from June 1962 until February 1963, hails from Westmont, N. J. and is married to the former Rose La Conte of Newark, N. J.



COMMANDER GORDON M. HART

After winning his wings in December 1942, Commander Gordon M. Hart became an instructor at Pensacola, Fla. Following this he reported to Jacksonville, Fla., for fighter training, and then to Vero Beach, Fla., for night training in the F6F-5N. In 1945 he joined Night Fighter Squadron 55, aboard the USS Enterprise. Next he was with Night Fighter Squadron 90, in Key West, Fla. From 1946 to 1949, CDR Hart was project pilot with Anti-Submarine Squadron 1 doing research work in electronics, radar and night anti-submarine warfare. During 1949-1950 CDR Hart attended General Line School, Newport, Rhode Island. Following this he became an ordnance test pilot at Naval Ordnance Test Station, Inyokern, Calif., where he flew early development of the FFAR Packets. 1952 found CDR Hart in Farnborough, England, as a student in the Empire Test Pilot's School. In January 1953, he joined Fighter Squadron 24, the first deployed Cougar squadron. After the West Pacific cruise with the squadron embarked aboard the USS Yorktown, CDR Hart returned to Alameda, Calif., as the air group training officer for Commander Fleet Air Alameda. In Washington, D.C., from 1955 to 1958, he was head of Navy Air Traffic Control in the office of the Chief of Naval Operations. Following this, he served as the operations and administrative officer of Carrier Air Group 11, where he flew the E11F and made a West Pacific cruise aboard the USS Shangri-La. Next he became commanding officer of Attack Squadron 94. He assumed command, at sea aboard the USS Ranger, of Carrier Air Group 9 in December 1961 and was relieved of CVG-9 in March 1962 to report to TICONDEROGA. In May 1962, he became Operations Officer and, in February 1963, he became Executive Officer. He is a native of Cambridge, Mass., and attended Northeastern University. He is married to the former Emily Swearingen of Pine Hill, Ala.



COMMANDER THOMAS N. MEADOWS

Commander Thomas N. Meadows was commissioned a Naval Aviator at Pensacola, Fla., in June 1943. He flew F4U "Corsairs" with Fighter-Bomber Squadron 94 on the USS Lexington and covered the initial landings of U. S. Marines in Japan at the end of World War II. In 1946 CDR Meadows was discharged from the Naval Reserve and accepted a commission in the United States Navy. Then followed short tours as Flight Instructor at NAAS Rodd Field, Corpus Christi, Tex., and student at Northwestern University. From May 1948 to May 1950, CDR Meadows flew the AD "Skyraiders" of Attack Squadron 44 on the USS Roosevelt and USS Midway. He then returned to the Training Command for another tour as Flight Instructor, this time at NAAS Saufley Field, Pensacola, Fla. In August 1952, he became Flight Deck Officer aboard USS Midway. After completing General Line School at Monterey, Calif., in September 1954, he was ordered to NAS Key West, Fla., where he served as Flight and Assistant Operations Officer for 33 months. CDR Meadows became Executive Officer of Fighter Squadron 24 in June 1957 and flew F3H "Demons" until November 1958. From December 1958 until July 1960, he was on the staff of COMFAIRHAWAII. After reporting to the Advanced Training Command as commanding officer of Training Squadron 23 flying F11F "Tigers". He relieved CDR Gordon M. Hart as Executive Officer on 5 May 1963. CDR Meadows, a native of Cairo, Ill., married Florence Evelyn Frost of Franklin, La., in 1943. They have five children, each born in a different state of the USA.