



Captain Harold P. Streeper, U.S. Navy  
Commanding Officer, U.S.S. HANCOCK (CVA-19)  
December 10, 1966 – November 17, 1967

A native of Bridgeport, PA., Captain Streeper was graduated from the College of Wooster, Wooster, Ohio, in 1942 and immediately enlisted in the Navy as a Seaman. Shortly thereafter, he was appointed Aviation Cadet and following completion of flight training was commissioned Ensign and designated Naval Aviator on 1 January 1943.

During World War II, he participated in combat operations with both the Atlantic and Pacific Fleets and during Korean Hostilities, participated in action with Navy and Marine units. In early 1954, as Officer in Charge of Detachment DELTA, COMPOSITE SQUADRON THREE, he participated in the Fleet Test and Evaluation Projects of the original steam catapults installed in USS HANCOCK. In 1955, he commanded night jet all-weather FIGHTER/ATTACK SQUADRON 194 and in 1961-1962, commanded ATTACK CARRIER AIR GROUP FIFTEEN. During these years, he was deployed in USS ESSEX, USS ORISKANY, and USS CORAL SEA.

In 1964 – 1965, Captain Streeper served as Operations Officer, CARRIER DIVISION ONE and TASK FORCE SEVENTY-SEVEN and was deployed again in USS HANCOCK and USS CORAL SEA engaged in air strike operations in Vietnam. For this participation, he was awarded the Legion of Merit.

Prior to coming to HANCOCK, he was Commanding Officer of Amphibious Attack Cargo Ship USS TULARE (AKA-112) involved in amphibious assault operations for seven months in TASK FORCE SEVENTY-SIX in Vietnam. He was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal for these operations.

Shore duty assignments include tours as a flight instructor at Pensacola; participation in the Berlin Air Lift; Assistant Operations Officer on the Staff of Commander Naval Forces, Far East; Naval Attache to the Republic of Korea; two tours of duty on the Staff of the Chief of Naval Operations, and Force Training Officer for Commander Naval Air Force, Pacific. He is a 1952 graduate of the General Line School at Monterey and a 1959 graduate of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

Additional awards include the Distinguished Flying Cross; Air Medal with three Gold Stars and Oak Leaf Cluster; Presidential and Navy Unit Commendation; Medal for Humane Action for the Berlin Air Lift; Military Order ULCHI (Korean Legion of Merit) and numerous campaign and foreign medals.

Today the Captain will receive another Legion of Merit for duty in HANCOCK. Also, the South Vietnam Government has awarded him the National Defense Decoration, Fifth Class and the Medal of Heroism with Willow Branch for his three years of participation in the Vietnamese War.



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Transcribed from the Photo – Biography by Jake Jaccard, YN3, USNR (R), on Wednesday, May 2, 2012, see below on Page 3.



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