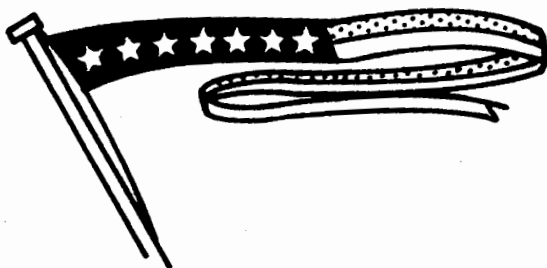


COMMISSIONING CEREMONY



**Light Attack Squadron
FOUR**

**NAVAL AIR STATION, NORTH ISLAND
1000, 3 JANUARY 1969**



COMMANDER GILBERT L. WINANS
COMMANDING OFFICER

Commander Gilbert L. WINANS, the son of Ross A. and Inez (McIntyre) WINANS, was born on 1 November 1931 in Battle Creek, Michigan.

He began his Naval Career in 1951 while attending Michigan State University. In 1952 he reported to Pensacola, Florida for flight training. Designation as a Naval Aviator followed in December of 1953.

Reporting to Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED FIVE at Naval Air Station, Cecil Field, Florida in early 1954, he was to begin a fourteen year association with the Douglas A-1 Skyraider. In 1956 he reported to Fleet Aircraft Service Squadron SIX at Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, Florida. A tour in the Basic Training Command at Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Whiting Field, Florida followed from 1958 to 1961.

In June of 1961 he reported to the USS FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT (CVA-42) as Catapult and Arresting Gear Officer. June of 1963 brought orders to Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron THIRTY THREE at Naval Air Station, Quonset Point, Rhode Island. During his tour in VAW-33 he was Officer-In-Charge of Detachment 18 aboard the USS WASP (CVS-18) and Detachment 11 aboard the USS INTREPID (CVS-11), and he deployed to the Caribbean area during the Dominican Republic crisis in 1965 as Officer-In-Charge of Detachment 36.

In February of 1966 he reported to Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY SIX where he served as Maintenance Officer during that squadron's Southeast Asia and Mediterranean deployments. In January of 1968, CDR WINANS reported to Attack Squadron FORTY-THREE at Naval Air Station Oceana, Virginia, where he served as Executive Officer until September 1968. Since October of this year he has been attached to Air Anti-Submarine Squadron FORTY-ONE for OV-10A training.

Commander WINANS presently resides on "G" Avenue in Coronado, with his wife Frances (Stuart) Winans and their three children, Mike, Nancy, and Teresa.

Commander WINANS wears the following medals: Air Medal with Eight (8) awards, Navy Commendation, China Service, National Defense, Armed Forces Expeditionary, Vietnam Campaign and Vietnam Service.



PROGRAM

Music

*Commander Naval Air Force
U. S. Pacific Fleet Band*

Parade the Colors

National Anthem

INVOCATION

Commander Ralph G. Caldwell (CHC), U. S. Navy

GUEST SPEAKER

*Vice Admiral Allen M. Shinn, U. S. Navy
Commander Naval Air Force, U. S. Pacific Fleet*

REMARKS AND READING OF ORDERS

Commander Gilbert L. Winans, U. S. Navy

BENEDICTION

Commander Ralph G. Caldwell (CHC), U. S. Navy

Retire the Colors

Reception



**COMMANDER MARTIN S. SCHUMAN
EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Commander Martin S. SCHUMAN, the son of Dr. and Mrs. Alvin SCHUMAN, was born 5 February 1930 in Brooklyn, New York. He was commissioned an Ensign and designated a Naval Aviator after completion of flight training as a Naval Aviation Cadet in December 1953.

In March 1954, Commander SCHUMAN reported to Air Anti-Submarine Squadron TWENTY-SIX to begin a career covering many facets of Naval Aviation. In May 1957 he reported to Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED FIVE, and while embarked aboard USS ESSEX (CVA-9) participated in the Lebanon and Quemoy-Matsu Crises of 1958. He was then assigned to the Naval Air Basic Training Command at Pensacola, Florida, in 1959, with Training Squadron THREE. In February 1962 Commander SCHUMAN reported for duty to the staff of Commander Operational Test and Evaluation Force.

In August 1964 Commander SCHUMAN was assigned to Attack Squadron EIGHTY-ONE. As Maintenance Officer he completed two deployments aboard USS FORRESTAL (CVA-59). In July 1966 he reported to the staff of Commander, Carrier Air Wing THREE where he served as Operations Officer until October 1968. Since that time, he has been attached to Air Anti-Submarine Squadron FORTY-ONE for OV-10A training.

Commander SCHUMAN holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Georgia.

He is married to the former Mary Ann Gilpin of Athens, Georgia. Commander and Mrs. SCHUMAN are the parents of two sets of twins; Richard, Darsey, Mark and Ruth.

Commander SCHUMAN wears the following medals: Navy Occupation European Clasp, National Defense Service Medal with Star and the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with Star.

OV-10A "BRONCO"

The OV-10A "Bronco" offers flexible support tailored to modern limited war and counterinsurgency. Built by North American Rockwell Corporation of Columbus, Ohio, this extremely versatile aircraft is a multi-mission close-support type military aircraft with characteristics and performance making it suitable for operations in time of conflict, and in peacetime.

The "Bronco" has been flown effectively by the United States Air Force and Marine Corps in Vietnam for the past year. Now the United States Navy plans to utilize the Bronco in conducting operations in South Vietnam. In this respect, the Navy riverine warfare team can well capitalize on many of the features and advantages of the OV-10 aircraft.

Some of the key aspects of this twin turboprop-powered aircraft are its normal operating speed range (75 to 244 kts), ordnance load capacity (more than 3000 lbs.), endurance (up to 5½ hrs.), range (up to 1200 miles), and short-field landing/takeoff capability. Pilot and observer positions are positioned well forward of the engines and wings for maximum visibility. Both cockpits in the two-placed aircraft are equipped with ejection seat systems capable of zero altitude and zero velocity ejections. In addition to four 7.62 mm N60C machine guns mounted in the sponsons, a variety of external stores and armament packages may be mounted on the sponson, centerline, and wing stations. The cargo compartment door swings open 180° for unobstructed loading, and can be removed for air drop operations.

Since the first production OV-10A "rolled out the door" on 30 June 1967, the "Bronco" has performed ably in Southeast Asia. The Navy will shortly add to that record of success.

"VA(L) 4 IN THE MAKING"

Today a newly commissioned squadron and a vital new addition to the Navy's arsenal of Counterinsurgency Forces but for over one year, a thought, an idea, a concept, a plan. What basically was this plan? It was the utilization of an effective counterinsurgency (COIN) fixed-wing aircraft in support of our riverine warfare forces. Vietnam "hastened the need for the "Bronco", but the VA(L) concept will surely prove itself an invaluable instrument for our national security, in future crisis areas of the world and in countless operations.

The tactical and utility capabilities of the OV-10A are but two of the many advantages to be gained by the employment of the "Bronco" in concert with our waterborne forces and the Navy's attack helicopters. Land based, VA(L)-4 will be closely attuned to the on-scene commanders' desires, and immediately available to engage in a variety of operations and activities.

The squadron's aircraft still are officially owned by the Marine Corps, but VA(L)-4 pilots are very glad the Bronco is "theirs". VA(L)-4 is thankful and proud that she has been chosen as the first COIN squadron, and confident she will see her role proven and perfected. VA(L)-4 eagerly awaits the opportunity to become an active working member of the Navy's riverine team.

