

The OV-10 Bronco: Designed For Counterinsurgency and the Vietnam War. Presented By The OV-10 Bronco Association

VIOLENT SKIES OV-10 PAPER

ABSTRACT: The OV-10A Bronco from North American Rockwell was a product designed for the Vietnam War. It was developed over a period of years starting with a concept paper drafted by two Marine Corps officers. This led to a design competition leading to a contract to North American Aviation for the YOYV-10 and a tri-service evaluation. The resulting OV-10A was fielded initially in Vietnam by the Marine Corps, the Air Force, and the Navy, applied to various tasks associated with the missions assigned to those services. During Vietnam service, capability was added to enhance the OV-10 and those enhancements will be addressed. Topics will include:

- The Concept – LARA/COIN
- The Design Competition
- Tri-service evaluation-YOV-10
- Fielding – the OV-10A, USMC, USAF, and USN
- Post-Employment Development – PAVE NAIL and the YOYV-10D NOGS

VIOLENT SKIES OV-10 PANEL

Our panel will consist of veterans representing the three services that operated the airplane in the Vietnam War; pilots, a weapon system operator, and an aerial observer. Additionally, our panel will include veterans who flew the Bronco with significant modifications that enhanced its capabilities; the Air Force PAVE NAIL and the Marine Corps YOYV-10D Night Observation/Gunship System; NOGS.

Each panelist will be encouraged to prepare a presentation including photographs or video on his/their area of experience and expertise. The panel will cover OV-10 service in the Vietnam War for the Marine Corps, the Air Force, the Navy, Marine Aerial Observer experience, and PAVE NAIL and NOGS experience. Panelists currently committed are:

OV-10 PAPER PRESENTER- C. Ashby Shoop, USMC Pilot VMO-1 (1974) and VMO-6 (1975-77), 2nd Battalion 9th Marines Air Liaison Officer (1975-1976), Vietnam Era Veteran.

Ashby has been employed in the aerospace industry as an engineer and engineering manager since leaving the Marine Corps in 1978, contributing to such programs as B-52 upgrades including OAS/CMI, B-2 Full Scale Development, International Space Station development, X-32 JSF development, F-22 Engineering and Manufacturing Development, and P-8 System Design and Development. He has completed a BS degree in civil engineering, an MS degree in aeronautical systems, and a juris doctor degree. He's a past director of the OV-10 Bronco Association and he presently lives in Oklahoma City where he's assisting the Air Force in executing a weapon integration program on the B-52H.

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VMO PANELIST - Chuck Burin, USMC Pilot VMA-211 (1966) Air and Naval Gunfire Platoon, Communications Company, Headquarters Battalion, Third Marine Division (1966-67) and VMO-2 (1969-70), Vietnam Veteran

Chuck flew over 3500 hours in 20 different aircraft including 420 missions and 800 hours in Vietnam in his 11 years in the Marine Corps. He also served as a ground FAC in Vietnam. After leaving the Marine Corps he spent one year with the IRS and 28 years with the Department of Labor OSHA before retiring in 2003 with 40 years of Federal service. His last 20 years were as Area Director in Detroit (1983-84) and Minneapolis (1984-2003). He is one of the founders of the OV-10 Bronco Association and served as the Chairman of the Board from 2005-15. Chuck was inducted into the Bronco Hall of Fame in 2008 for his work historical work and documentation of the Bronco. He has provided OV-10 related technical assistance on several books and magazine articles. Chuck lives in Apple Valley, MN

VAL-4 PANELIST - Charlie Sapp, USN Pilot VAL-4 (1969) and VA-82 (1972-73), Vietnam Veteran

Charlie participated in the establishment of VAL-4 in San Diego and flew the OV-10 from Can Tho /Binh Thuy and Vung Tau in support of U.S. and allied forces operating in IV Corps and southern III Corps (Jan – Dec 1969). He later flew the A7E from USS America on Yankee Station (Jul 1972 –Feb 1973), accumulating a total of 423 combat missions. Subsequently, he was NAVAIR Program Manager for the A-4 Skyhawk and commanded Naval Aviation Depot North Island in San Diego, the Navy's lead depot maintenance and in-service engineering site for the F/A-18. After leaving the Navy, he served as a management consultant with the Arthur D. Little team guiding a major reorganization of NASA's Langley Research Center and was on the faculty of Regent University teaching leadership and management courses. He holds MS and MA degrees in Aeronautical Engineering, International Relations, and National Security and Strategic Studies and a PhD in Leadership and Organizational Management. He resides in Pensacola, Florida.

VMO PANELIST - Gordon Evans, USMC Pilot VMO-2 and 1st ANGLICO (1971), Vietnam Veteran

Gordon has accumulated 6,000+ hours of military and civilian flight time in 69 different aircraft types. Based at Da Nang, RVN he served with VMO-2 and a small unit designated as Det. MAG-11, flying some of the last Marine OV-10 missions of the war. He was also a Bn. ALO with the 2nd ROKMC Brigade based in Hoi An, controlling a variety of US Army, Navy, Air Force and RAAF air assets. Upon separation from the Marines 1974, he was a full time vegetable farmer in Ventura County, CA. From 1986 to present, he has been a private commercial real estate investor and property manager. Since 1991, he has been a USCG Auxiliary Aircraft Commander, flying a variety of missions such as SAR, Logistics, and Homeland Security, and has been a safety instructor and an operational planner for numerous multi-unit air/surface training exercises. Gordon has been a director of the OV-10 Bronco Association since 2001, and serves as an active endowment member/benefactor for several national charities and foundations. He is semi-retired and resides in Napa, CA.

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VMO Aerial Observer Panelist – Mike McCollum, USMC Chief Aerial Observer, HqBn, G-2, Target Acquisition Section, 1st Marine Division, flew with VMO-2 (1970-71), Vietnam Veteran

Mike flew 217 sorties and 499.2 hours in Vietnam while attached to VMO-2. He served as a Staff Judge Advocate for the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing his first tour in RVN (June 1969-March 1970). After leaving active duty in June 1971 he served another 28 years in the Marine Corps Reserve in various billets, among them were: Chief Aerial Observer, 14th Marines; Executive Officer, 2Bn, 14th Marines; S-4, 14th Marines; OIC, MTU-TX-9. He has practiced law continuously since 1972 and has been the Adjunct Professor of the SMU Dedman School of Law Criminal Justice Clinic since 1977. He is a Member Emeritus of the WestPac Trial Advocacy Staff, the Managing Trustee of the Metroplex Military Charitable Trust, and the Managing Director of the Metroplex Marine Coordinating Council and the OV-10 Bronco Association. Mike resides in Dallas, Texas.

TASS PANELIST - Tom Kemp, USAF Pilot 23rd TASS (1971-72), Southeast Asia Veteran

Tom has over 5000 flying hours in multiple aircraft during his twenty plus years in the Air Force as both a navigator and a pilot. As Director of Training for the 379th Bomb Wing at Wurtsmith AFB, MI, he led the wing's effort in the integration of the OAS/ALCM system into the B-52G aircraft. Upon retirement, he served as the Instructional Systems Design Manager for United Airlines Aircrew Training and Flight Safety for the development of the C-5 Aircrew Training System. Upon completion of that system, he joined Electrocom Automation as the project lead for computer based training development on the Delivery Bar Code System, an automated mail sorting machine. He retired from Siemens in 2002 as the Manager of Integrated Logistics Support. He presently lives in Crowley, TX where he serves as the treasurer of the OV-10 Bronco Association and the Fort Worth Aviation Museum.

PAVE NAIL PANELIST –Rick Atchison, USAF Weapon System Officer 23rd TASS (1971-72), Southeast Asia Veteran

Rick Atchison has 31 years and 4500 flying hours in the USAF. He has been a B-52 Electronic Warfare Officer, an OV-10 Pave Nail Weapons System Officer (WSO), and a F-4 WSO flying munitions test and evaluation at Eglin AFB. This was followed by a tour of duty in the Defense Intelligence Agency Special Projects Branch. He returned to flying in the F-4G Wild Weasel with the initial F-4G Wild Weasel deployment to Europe. He returned to CONUS as Director of Electronic Combat Test and Evaluation at the Air Force Test and Evaluation Center (AFOTEC) and then Director of Electronic Combat, HQ USAF. In 1989 he became the Deputy Director for Intelligence, Joint Staff (J2), and served in that capacity through operations in Panama and Desert Storm. Upon retirement he joined Pacific Sierra Research Corporation and then formed his own company. He currently coaches marksmanship programs for US Army Wounded Warrior Program.

YOV-10D NOGS PANELIST - TBD