

HISTORY OF ATTACK SQUADRON TWENTY-SEVEN

Attack Squadron TWENTY-SEVEN was commissioned 1 September 1967 by Commander G. T. PAPPAS and commenced training under operational control of Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-TWO. The squadron received its first aircraft, the A-7A, on 19 December 1967. The squadron insignia consisting of a hand held mace with a sky and cloud background was selected by members of the squadron shortly after commissioning. This design depicts symbolically the power and responsibility that Attack Squadron TWENTY-SEVEN carries in its role as a strike component of the Naval Air Force.

The squadron changed operational control to Attack Carrier Air Wing FOURTEEN on 25 January 1968 and on 23 May 1968 the "Royal Maces" departed the continental United States for a combat deployment aboard USS CONSTELLATION (CVA-64). On 30 January 1969, the squadron returned to NAS Lemoore. A second combat cruise aboard CONSTELLATION began 11 August 1969 during which over 2,500 combat sorties were flown.

In May 1970, the squadron returned again to NAS Lemoore for another training cycle and began transitioning to the A-7E aircraft. On 30 June 1970, their first A-7E was received. In April 1971, the "Royal Maces" were designated as the most outstanding visual and hooded weapons delivery squadron during COMLANTWINGPAC Bombing Derby TWO.

The "Royal Maces" along with Attack Carrier Air Wing FOURTEEN commenced their third combat cruise in June 1971, this time aboard USS ENTERPRISE (CVAN-65). Throughout the cruise, squadron pilots amassed over 4,400 hours of flight time from the deck of the "Big E" and participated in over 1,500 combat strikes against the enemy without the loss of a single aircraft or pilot. In February 1972, the squadron returned to NAS Lemoore to commence preparation for a fourth combat deployment.

In July 1972, Attack Squadron TWENTY-SEVEN was named winner of the Admiral Wade C. McClusky Trophy by the Chief of Naval Operations in recognition of being judged the most outstanding Attack Squadron in the Navy for fiscal year 1972. In addition, the squadron received the COMNAVAIRPAC Safety Award for accident free flight operations during the same period. These high honors were the direct result of the tireless, dedicated performance of all squadron personnel and reflect their outstanding professional approach to all phases of attack carrier combat flight operations.

The "Royal Maces" commenced their fourth combat deployment on 12 September 1972, again aboard ENTERPRISE under the leadership of Commander J. L. JOHNSON. Commander Leon A. (Bud) EDNEY assumed command as Mace One during ceremonies aboard the ENTERPRISE while in port Hong Kong 15 December 1972. The Royal Mace pilots played a major role in the all out raids against the Hanoi and Haiphong target complexes in late December 1972 which led to successful peace negotiations after earlier efforts had become stalemated. The "Maces" completed 1972 by receiving the coveted Battle Efficiency Pennant which made it a clean sweep for every award signifying excellence in the light attack community for 1972.



Awards Ceremony



The Royal Mace Squadron

COMMANDER LEON A. EDNEY, U. S. NAVY

Commanding

1000

8 August 1973

NAVAL AIR STATION LEMOORE, CALIFORNIA

The Royal Mace

The earliest maces were hand held weapons designed to pierce heavy armor. Through their use by Royal Bodyguards in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, they came to symbolize authority. In the sixteenth century they became symbols of law and order widely used by cities and towns of Western Europe and Great Britain.

This design depicts symbolically the power and responsibility that Attack Squadron TWENTY-SEVEN carries in its role as a strike component of the Naval Air Force.



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

NATIONAL ANTHEM

INVOCATION

Chaplain J. E. KEMPER

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Captain J. A. HOMYAK

Commander Light Attack Wing U. S. Pacific

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Captain J. A. HOMYAK

COMNAVAIRPAC "E" and Individual Awards

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Commander Leon A. EDNEY

Commanding Officer, Attack Squadron TWENTY-SEVEN

BENEDICTION

Chaplain J. E. KEMPER

RETIRE THE COLORS

AWARDS FORWARDED TO FORMER

MEMBERS OF ATTACK SQUADRON TWENTY-SEVEN

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

CDR J. L. JOHNSON
 LCDR M. G. SHAW (1st & 2nd)
 LT J. W. HANSON

BRONZE STAR

CDR J. L. JOHNSON

AIR MEDAL

CDR J. L. JOHNSON (1st & 2nd) LT T. C. KNUDSON
 LCDR M. G. SHAW LT T. W. WHITE

STRIKE/FLIGHT AIR MEDAL

CDR J. L. JOHNSON (10th - 16th)
 LCDR M. G. SHAW (10th - 16th)
 LT J. W. HANSON (8th - 15th)
 LT T. C. KNUDSON (8th - 11th)
 LT B. E. WOOD (7th - 10th)
 LT T. W. WHITE (8th - 13th)

NAVY COMMENDATION MEDAL

LCDR M. G. SHAW (2nd - 3rd)
 LT J. W. HANSON (2nd - 5th)
 LT T. C. KNUDSON (2nd)
 LT B. E. WOOD (2nd - 4th)
 AEC J. H. MILTON
 AMS2 A. B. HAUGNESS

NAVY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

ADJ1 D. L. STRONG

SEVENTH FLEET LETTER OF COMMENDATION

AMS2 W. A. LOTT ADJ2 D. G. BERNARD

USS ENTERPRISE LETTER OF COMMENDATION

AMHC L. E. THOMAS AE2 D. M. PARR
 ADJ2 L. B. GERISCH AMS3 G. L. STRATTON
 AZ3 R. D. HILTON AME2 G. L. WAAYERS
 DK2 B. T. GUICO AQ2 M. H. YOUNG

AWARD RECIPIENTS

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

CDR L. A. EDNEY (5th & 6th) LT W. W. WYCKOFF (1st)
 LCDR J. P. PARK (2nd) LT K. S. CLANCY (1st)
 LCDR L. B. CARGILL (1st) LTJG R. E. CLAYTON (1st)
 LT J. P. CONNELLAN (1st) LTJG J. A. ROE (1st)

AIR MEDAL

CDR L. A. EDNEY (6th & 7th) LT D. M. TROUSDALE (1st)
 LCDR J. P. PARK (1st) LT H. B. RICHARDSON (1st)
 LCDR L. B. CARGILL (2nd & 3rd) LTJG R. E. CLAYTON (1st)
 LCDR R. L. CAPLINGER (1st)

STRIKE/FLIGHT AIR MEDAL

CDR L. A. EDNEY (21st-22nd) LT J. P. CONNELLAN (1st-8th)
 CDR M. W. PATRICK (17th-19th) LT D. M. TROUSDALE (1st-8th)
 LCDR J. M. DONAWORTH (1st-8th) LT H. B. RICHARDSON (1st-7th)
 LCDR J. P. PARK (21st-28th) LT W. W. WYCKOFF (7th-11th)
 LCDR L. B. CARGILL (7th-14th) LT K. S. CLANCY (2st-8th)
 LCDR R. L. CAPLINGER (1st-8th) LTJG R. E. CLAYTON (1st-8th)
 LT C. S. ABBOT (1st) LTJG J. A. ROE (5th-11th)
 LT G. K. JACOBS (1st-8th)

NAVY COMMENDATION MEDAL

LCDR J. M. DONAWORTH (1st) LT K. S. CLANCY (1st - 2nd)
 LCDR J. P. PARK (5th) LT D. J. ROCKWOOD (1st)
 LCDR L. B. CARGILL (4th) LTJG R. E. CLAYTON (1st)
 LCDR R. L. CAPLINGER (1st & 2nd) LTJG J. A. ROE (2nd & 3rd)
 LT C. S. ABBOT (1st) AVCM J. C. HARDING (1st)
 LT G. K. JACOBS (1st & 2nd) ADCS V. R. BEACH (1st)
 LT J. P. CONNELLAN (1st & 2nd) AOCS H. W. BALLEW (1st)
 LT D. M. TROUSDALE (1st & 2nd) ATC R. E. RALSTON
 LT H. B. RICHARDSON (1st & 2nd) AMEC T. A. HARWOOD
 LT W. W. WYCKOFF (2nd) AT2 T. T. TRIPP
 LT D. A. SCHRAMM (1st) AK3 R. D. BROWN

NAVY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

ENS H. D. TOMER	(1st)	AMS1 J. W. MARTIN	(2nd)
CWO2 D. D. KOCH	(1st)	AE1 W. J. STENNETT	(1st)
AQC E. N. SEAVER	(1st)	YN1 C. PEREZ	(1st)
AZC T. PAIRE	(1st)	ADJ1 R. C. ROWELL	



ATTACK SQUADRON TWENTY-SEVEN COMMANDING OFFICERS

Commander G. T. PAPPAS

1 September 1967 to 24 February 1969

Commander D. L. FELT

24 February 1969 to 4 February 1970

Commander T. W. DURANT

4 February 1970 to 22 January 1971

Commander L. B. KEELY

22 January 1971 to 22 December 1971

Commander J. L. JOHNSON

22 December 1971 to 15 December 1972

Commander L. A. EDNEY

15 December 1972 to Present

SEVENTH FLEET LETTER OF COMMENDATION

AE1 F. F. BLACKBURN	ADJ3 F. J. FIMBREZ
AO2 J. A. ZELINSKI	AO3 B. S. JOHNSON
AQ2 D. A. SMOYER	ADJ3 V. J. KRAUS
AMH2 J. D. HOWLE	ADJ3 D. W. FRANCIS

USS ENTERPRISE LETTER OF COMMENDATION

PN1 C. M. ALARCON	AK1 J. D. MACARAEG
AEC H. F. ALLEN	AT2 T. W. McFADDEN
AMS1 S. L. BAKER	ADJC D. M. McQUISTON
AT1 L. C. BALL	AME3 K. E. MORRIS
AQ2 J. W. BARNES	ADJ3 T. W. MORRISON
AMS3 D. G. BASALLO	AQ3 E. L. O'CONNOR
AE1 L. R. BEERY	AZ2 C. W. OSGOOD
AT2 J. G. BELL	ADJ1 J. E. OWEN
PR1 J. E. BROWN	AMS2 A. L. PRIMM
AMS3 F. S. CARIG	ADJ2 W. E. ROCKWELL
AQ2 C. CHAVEZ	AT3 P. D. ROSSMAN
AMS2 T. A. CLASS	AT3 T. A. SECRIST
AMS2 P. R. CUNNINGHAM	AT3 L. J. SPRUELL
AT3 D. D. DIEMERT	AN S. E. TRAMMELL
AMS2 J. P. DZIOBEK	AO2 L. J. TUCKER
AN D. C. ENDRESS	AO1 D. L. WADELIN
AO2 P. C. GARCIA	AT3 E. N. WALKER
ADJ2 J. D. GORDON	AN E. L. WALLACE
AT1 L. T. KEENAN	PR2 A. C. ZIMMERMAN