



REAR ADMIRAL CRAWFORD A. EASTERLING U. S. NAVY COMMANDER TASK FORCE SIXTY



Rear Admiral Crawford A. Easterling was born on 29 June 1928 in Nashville, Tennessee. He attended schools in Santa Monica, California and Norfolk, Virginia and graduated from Randolph Macón Academy in Front Royal, Virginia.

Admiral Easterling then attended and was graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in June of 1951 with the Degree of Bachelor of Electrical Engineering and was commissioned an Ensign in the United States Navy.

His first tour of duty was aboard USS PERRY (DD 844) as Electronics Officer. Following this initial sea tour, he completed flight training in April 1953 and attended the U. S. Navy all-weather flight school.

A squadron assignment with Fighter Squadron FORTY-THREE (VF 43) aboard USS TARAWA (CVA 40) followed, during which he completed a world cruise. Next came successive tours with Fighter

Squadrons SEVEN HUNDRED FORTY-ONE (VF 741), ELEVEN (VF 11), and ONE HUNDRED THREE (VF 103) which included several Mediterranean deployments.

After these squadron tours, the Admiral attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he received a Master of Science Degree and an Engineering Degree in Aeronautics and Astronautics in September of 1964. He then completed tours as Maintenance Officer and Operations Officer of Fighter Squadron ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY-FOUR (VF 174) at NAS Cecil Field and as Executive Officer and Commanding Officer of Fighter Squadron THIRTEEN (VF 13) aboard USS SHANGRI-LA (CVA 38). This was followed by a Mediterranean deployment as Operations Officer of USS SARATOGA (CVA 60) and a brief tour on the Staff of Commander, Naval Air Force, U. S. Pacific Fleet.

1970-73 saw the Admiral as Commanding Officer of Fighter Squadron ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FOUR (VF 124) at NAS Miramar, California followed by tours as Tactical Air Warfare Analyst with the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Air Warfare OP-05) and as Executive Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Research and Development) at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

He then reported as Commanding Officer of the USS CONCORD (AFS 5) and deployed with the Sixth Fleet. He was next assigned command of the aircraft carrier USS FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT (CVA 42) in December of 1974 and deployed again with the Sixth Fleet.

At-sea commands were followed by a tour as Chief of Staff to the Commander, Naval Air Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet. He then returned to the Pentagon in Washington as Director, Command, Control, and Information Systems Division in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations and Director of Navy Automatic Data Processing Management under the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management).

Washington duty was followed by the Senior Officer Ship Material Readiness Course at the Naval Nuclear Power Unit at Idaho Falls, Idaho. Admiral Easterling served as Commander Carrier Group FOUR from December 1979 until June 1980. He became Commander Battle Force Sixth Fleet/Commander Carrier Group TWO in July 1980.

Awards include the Legion of Merit (third award), and the Meritorious Service Medal (second award).

He is married to the former Beverly Sherburne of Jacksonville, Florida. They have two children; a son Alan, a 1980 graduate of the U. S. Naval Academy, and a daughter Karen, a student at Stetson University in Deland, Florida.