

Command



THEODORE H. WINTERS
Captain, U. S. Navy

Captain Theodore Hugh Winters, USN, was graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1935, and has since served mainly in carrier aircraft and carriers. He received his flight training at Pensacola, where he later served as a flight instructor to assist in the build-up of naval aviators being trained just prior to World War II.

He spent the war-time years in combat squadrons, serving in the North African Campaign in the RANGER and in the Pacific in the then new ESSEX. In 1943, he commanded VF-19 and later, Air Group 19. He had the honor of directing air attacks on three enemy carriers during the destruction of the Japanese fleet at Leyte Gulf, and watching them sink prior to his departure from the scene. Captain Winters received two Navy Crosses and three Silver Stars, in addition to the normal decorations for service in war-time combat squadrons.

After the War, Captain Winters served at Jacksonville as CO of the Instructors Advanced Training Unit and it was during this period that the Blue Angels were formed in the IATU. In peace time years, he served as air officer of the MIDWAY, operations officer of Carrier Division II, on duty at the Naval Academy, on a tour in England, and at Naval War College, and last but not least, Aviations Captains Detail Officer in Washington.

He intends to reside with his wife, Helen, and three daughters in the Jacksonville area.

Captain Winters relieved Captain Shifley of command of the ROOSEVELT 8 August 1959.