



Pierre N. Charbonnet, Jr., VADM, USN (Ret.)
 "Pierre"

Date of Designation: 10 March 1944 NA # P-10675

Dates of Active Duty: 7 February 1941 - 1 September 1978

Total Flight Hours: 6,780* (* is approximate)

Carrier/Ship Landings: Fixed wing: 463*

Approximate Flight Hours:

Jet: 1,423 Prop: 3,741 VF/VA: 2,250

VT: 750 Other: 1,616 (T-39)

Combat Tours:

WW II: USS *Augusta* (CA-31), Ships Company, Dec. 1941 - Jun. 1942. Atlantic campaigns.

WW II: USS *New Orleans* (CA-32), Ships Company, Oct. 1942 - Jul. 1943. Southwest Pacific campaigns.

WW II: VF-24, Jun. 1944 - Aug. 1945. Okinawa and other Pacific campaigns.

Aviation Commands:

CO, VF-24, Jun. 1944 - Aug. 1945

CO, VBF-82, 16 May 1946 - Aug. 1946

CO, VF-18A, Aug. 1946 - Feb. 1948

Commander, CAG-8, Apr. 1955 - Sep. 1956

CO, USS *Coral Sea* (CVA-43), Dec. 1963 - Jan. 1965

Commander CARDIV 6, May 1968 - Aug. 1969

Commander, Fleet Air Mediterranean, Mar. 1971- Aug. 74

Combat Awards:

4 Legion of Merit

3 Distinguished Flying Crosses

7 Air Medals



Duty Assignment Chronology

- 6/37-2/41 Midshipman, U. S. Naval Academy.
- 2/41-7/42 USS *Augusta* (CA-31), Watch & Division Officer, Turret Officer - Atlantic.
- 9/42-7/43 USS *New Orleans* (CA-32), Watch & Division Officer, Main Battery Spotter - Pacific.
- 7/43-10/43 NAS, Dallas, TX (Instruction).
- 10/43-3/44 NAS, Pensacola, FL (Flight training).
- 3/44-6/44 NAS Melbourne FL., (Operational flight training).
- 6/44-8/45 CO, Fighting Squadron 24.
- 8/45-11/45 Staff, Commander Fleet Air, West Coast.
- 11/45-5/46 XO, Bombing Fighting Squadron 17.
- 5/46-8/46 CO, Bombing Fighting Squadron 82.
- 8/46-2/48 CO, Fighting Squadron 18A.
- 2/48-1/51 NAS, Pensacola, FL. (Assistant O-in-C of Instructor Basic Training Unit).
- 2/51-3/51 NAAS Whiting Field, Milton, FL (Instruction)
- 3/51-1/53 XO, Air Development Squadron THREE.
- 1/53-7/53 Test Pilot Training Division, NATC, Patuxent River, MD (Instruction).
- 8/53-4/55 Tactical Test Division, NATC Patuxent River, MD (Head, Carrier Branch).
- 4/55-9/56 Commander, Carrier Air Group EIGHT.
- 9/56-5/58 Staff, Commander Air Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet (Air Group Training Officer).
- 5/58-7/59 XO, USS *Forrestal* (CVA-59).
- 7/59-6/60 National War College (Student).
- 6/60-9/62 Office of CNO (Head, Planning Requirements Branch, Aviation Plans Division).
- 9/62-8/63 CO, USS *Marias* (AO-57).
- 8/63-12/63 Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. Advanced Management Program student.
- 12/63-1/65 CO, USS *Coral Sea* (CVA-43).
- 1/65-11/65 Commander Carrier Division SEVEN (Chief of Staff and Aide).
- 11/65-5/68 Commandant, EIGHTH Naval District.
- 5/68-8/69 Commander, Carrier Division SIX.

Duty Assignment Chronology continued

8/69-3/71 Office of CNO (Director, Fleet Operations Division).
3/71-8/74 Commander, Fleet Air Mediterranean/ADDU: as Commander, Antisubmarine Warfare Force, U. S. SIXTH Fleet/Commander, Maritime Air Forces Mediterranean.
8/74-8/78 Chief of Naval Reserve/ADDU: Director of Naval Reserve (OP-09R); Commander Naval Air Reserve Forces since July 1975, and Commandant Eighth Naval District since April 1977.
9/1/78 Retired from active duty.

Naval Service and Promotions:

6/30/37 Midshipman, U. S. Naval Academy
2/7/41 Commissioned Ensign
6/15/42 Lieutenant (junior grade)
12/1/42 Lieutenant
7/20/45 Lieutenant Commander
7/1/51 Commander
7/1/59 Captain
10/11/66 Rear Admiral
8/21/74 Vice Admiral

Family:

Admiral Charbonnet is married to the former Mary Dutton of Annapolis, Maryland and Upperville, Virginia. They presently reside in Pensacola, Florida. They have five children; daughters Hildegarde Charbonnet Leffen, Louise Charbonnet McIver (deceased), Michelle Charbonnet Tompkins, and Suzanne Charbonnet Benefield, and son Pierre N. Charbonnet III. To date there are eight grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Summary of Significant Career Events

- (1) Member 4-Cs Club (Having flown Corsair I, Cutlass, Crusader and Corsair II).
- (2) As CAG-8, made first deployment in F7U-3M.
- (3) Arthur Godfreys flight instructor.
- (4) Leader in low level bombing tactics for atomic weapons delivery.
- (5) Participation in TACAN procedure development.
- (6) Significant participation in development of all-weather carrier approach tactics and in ZUNI rocket tactics.
- (7) Made milestone landings on USS *Forrestal* and *Coral Sea*, earning him a blue and gold rocker chair complete with relief tube.
- (8) As Air Group Commander on USS *Santee* during the 1944 Okinawa invasion, the Air Group flew 2,902 sorties comprising 9,535 hours against enemy planes and airfields.