

# The A 1 Skyraider In Vietnam

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*The A 1 Skyraider In Vietnam*

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## DANIELA MCCULLOUGH

*US Navy A-7 Corsair II Units of the Vietnam War* Dog Ear Publishing

The Douglas AD/A-1 Skyraider Part Two covers Skyraider Fleet and Utility squadrons with descriptions about each squadron along with vintage photos, squadron patches and unit insignia.

**Vietnam Air Losses** Bloomsbury Publishing

An illustrated combat history of the two-seat (A-1E/G) and single-seat (A-1H/J) Skyraiders and how they helped train the fledgling VNAF. Equipped only with the two-seat models of the Skyraider, American pilots were required to have VNAF 'observers' in the aircraft for every mission. Eventually, this arrangement was changed as enough Vietnamese pilots were trained to man their own squadrons, while USAF squadrons were tasked with close support for US ground forces. Eventually, no fewer than four USAF and seven VNAF Skyraider units saw service in Vietnam. Additionally, one A-1 training squadron flew from Hurlburt Field, Florida, throughout the Vietnam War era. In the ten years that this squadron was active, nearly 1000 USAF and 300 VNAF pilots were trained in the Skyraider. While the core mission of all Skyraider squadrons was Close Air Support (CAS), other missions were accomplished at various times. Among these were Search and Rescue (SAR), night interdiction on the Ho Chi Minh trail, helicopter escort and special forces support to name but a few. As the author demonstrates in this volume, each of these missions took full advantage of the Skyraider's ability to deliver a variety of munitions in close proximity to friendly forces while inflicting heavy casualties on enemy forces.

**Douglas A-1 Skyraider** Schiffer Military History

USAF Skyraider units were originally tasked to serve as quasi-training units for the fledgling VNAF. Equipped only with the two-seat models of the Skyraider, American pilots were required to have VNAF 'observers' in the aircraft for every mission. Eventually, this arrangement was changed as enough Vietnamese pilots were trained to man their own squadrons, while USAF squadrons were tasked with close support for US ground forces. Eventually, no fewer than four USAF and seven VNAF Skyraider units saw service in Vietnam. Additionally, one A-1 training squadron flew from Hurlburt Field, Florida, throughout the Vietnam War era. In the ten years that this squadron was active, nearly 1000 USAF and 300 VNAF pilots were trained in the Skyraider. While the core mission of all Skyraider squadrons was Close Air Support (CAS), other missions were accomplished at various times. Among these were Search and Rescue (SAR), night interdiction on the Ho Chi Minh trail, helicopter escort and special forces support to name but a few. Each of these missions took full advantage of the Skyraider's ability to deliver a variety of munitions in close proximity to friendly forces while inflicting heavy casualties on enemy forces

*Air Force heroes in Vietnam* Schiffer Military History

*Strike from the Sea: U.S. Navy Attack Aircraft from Skyraider to Super Hornet 1948-Present* celebrates carrier-based air-to-ground attack aircraft, which first came into operation during the Korean War, reached maturity during Vietnam, and are now deployed

throughout the world. Well-known author and naval aviation authority Tommy Thomason not only explores such legendary Navy aircraft as the A4D Skyhawk, A3J Vigilante, and A-6 Intruder, the critical role of the aircraft carrier as well as itself, for without these massive nuclear-powered floating airfields, U.S. Navy attack aircraft would have no sea-borne bases from which to operate. Armament from gravity bombs to today's GPS-guided "smart weapons" are covered in great detail, and this book also explains that while many different types of airplanes were required for flying attack missions in the past, only one aircraft - the advanced F/A-18E/F Super Hornet - is needed to carry out these same missions in an even more complex and hostile combat environment today.

*Wings over Vietnam* Specialty Press (MN)

This book is a most thorough and detailed review of all the fixed wing losses suffered by the USAF, USN and USMC over a 12-year period. The information, culled from a huge variety of sources, is a chronological recording of each aircraft loss including information on unit, personnel, location, and cause of loss. Information is also provided on the background or future career of some of the aircrew involved. Interspersed with the main text is general background information which helps to put the detailed entries into perspective and includes material on campaigns, units, aircraft and weapons, and other relevant topics. A selection of photographs is included, illustrating the various entries in the chronological sections, and there are extensive orders of battle, plus an index of personnel, as well as statistics of the war, list of abbreviations, glossary of code names and a bibliography.

*Operations in Korea* Arcadia Publishing

This book presents the evolution and development of perhaps the most iconic German fighter of WWI--the Fokker Dr. 1 triplane or "Dreidecker." The Dr. 1 was born from experiments in cantilever monoplanes and the excellent combat record of the Sopwith triplane, which appeared at the western front at the end of 1916. Only 320 Fokker Dr.1s were built, yet their imprint on aviation history was and is far reaching and enduring--perhaps due to those who flew them. Baron Manfred von Richthofen and his brother Lothar, as well as Werner Voss, Ernst Udet, and many others, all flew the triplane, helping burnish their image in collective memory. This book highlights the design and construction of the legendary Dr. 1, as well as showcasing many flying replicas and where they can be found. Also included are selected museums from around the world where Dr. 1s can currently be seen.

*USAF and VNAF A-1 Skyraider Units of the Vietnam War* Schiffer Military History

For fans of Percy Jackson, from the author of the NYT best-selling fantasy series, Fablehaven, comes a new series... Cole Randolph was just trying to have a fun time with his friends on Halloween (and maybe get to know Jenna Hunt a little better). But when he and his friends break into a spooky house with the scariest rep in town, it turns out to be the start of an adventure on a whole different level! As his friends are mysteriously sucked away into another realm, Cole dives in after them and finds himself in a magical place called The Outskirts. Made up of five kingdoms, The Outskirts lie between wakefulness and dreaming, reality and

imagination, between life and death. It's an in-between place. And once you find your way to the Outskirts, it's very hard to leave... "Fast-paced and exciting from the first page, drawing in readers with multifaceted, strong characters and keeping them enthralled with an intricate and fascinating story" - The Bookpage "The creator of the Fablehaven series gets his newest venture off to a literal flying start" - Kirkus Reviews

**Douglas A-1 Skyraider** Bloomsbury Publishing

The Skyraider became legendary for its ability to soak up battle damage and still keep flying. It was eventually replaced in the US Navy by the swept-wing jet A-6 Intruder and A-7 Corsair. Radar-equipped Skyraiders were operated by the Royal Navy (1951-62) as airborne early warning aircraft, while the French Air Force bought ex-US Navy Skyraiders for use in the Algerian War in the 1960s, and in the 1970s during the civil war in Chad where they were flown by French mercenary pilots.

F-104 Starfighter Units in Combat St Martins Press

Naval Air War: The Rolling Thunder Campaign is the sixth monograph in the series The U.S. Navy and the Vietnam War. It covers aircraft carrier activity during one of the longest sustained aerial bombing campaigns in history. And it would be a failure. The U.S. Navy proved essential to the conduct of Rolling Thunder and by capitalizing on the inherent flexibility and mobility of naval forces, the Seventh Fleet operated with impunity for three years off the coast of North Vietnam. The success with which the Navy executed the later Operation Linebacker campaign against North Vietnam in 1972 revealed how much the service had learned from and exploited the Rolling Thunder experience of 1965-1968.

Alameda Naval Air Station DIANE Publishing

In *Contrails over the Mojave* George Marrett takes off where Tom Wolfe's *The Right Stuff* ended in 1963. Marrett started the Air Force Test Pilot School at Edwards AFB only two weeks after the school's commander, Col. Chuck Yeager, ejected from a Lockheed NF-104 trying to set a world altitude record. He describes life as a space cadet experiencing 15 Gs in a human centrifuge, zero-G maneuvers in a KC-135 "Vomit Comet," and a flight to 80,000 feet in the F-104A Starfighter. After graduating from Yeager's "Charm School," he was assigned to the Fighter Branch of Flight Test Operations, where he flew the latest fighter aircraft and chased other test aircraft as they set world speed and altitude records. Marrett takes readers into the cockpit as he "goes vertical" in a T-38 Talon, completes high-G maneuvers in an F-4C Phantom, and conducts wet-runway landing tests in the accident-prone F-111A Aardvark. He writes about Col. "Silver Fox" Stephens setting a world speed record in the YF-12 Blackbird and Bob Gilliland testing speed stalls in the SR-71 spy plane, but he also relives stories of crashes that killed test pilot friends. He recounts dead-sticking a T-38 to a landing on Rogers Dry Lake after a twin-engine failure and conducting dangerous tail hook barrier testing in a fighter jet without a canopy. A mysterious UFO sighting in the night sky above the Mojave Desert, known as "The Edwards Encounter," also receives Marrett's attention. Whether the author is assessing a new aircraft's performance or describing the experiences of test pilots as they routinely faced the possibility of death, this look at the golden age of flight testing both thrills and informs.

My Secret War NavPress

Get out! Run! We must leave this place! They are going to destroy this whole place! Go, children, run first! Go now! These were the final shouts nine year-old Kim Phuc heard before her world dissolved into flames—before napalm bombs fell from the sky, burning away her clothing and searing deep into her skin. It's a moment forever captured, an iconic image that has come to define the horror and violence of the Vietnam War. Kim was left

for dead in a morgue; no one expected her to survive the attack. Napalm meant fire, and fire meant death. Against all odds, Kim lived—but her journey toward healing was only beginning. When the napalm bombs dropped, everything Kim knew and relied on exploded along with them: her home, her country's freedom, her childhood innocence and happiness. The coming years would be marked by excruciating treatments for her burns and unrelenting physical pain throughout her body, which were constant reminders of that terrible day. Kim survived the pain of her body ablaze, but how could she possibly survive the pain of her devastated soul? *Fire Road* is the true story of how she found the answer in a God who suffered Himself; a Savior who truly understood and cared about the depths of her pain. *Fire Road* is a story of horror and hope, a harrowing tale of a life changed in an instant—and the power and resilience that can only be found in the power of God's mercy and love.

**Naval Air War** Atlasbooks Distribution

Presenting a fascinating insider's view of U.S.A.F. special operations, this volume brings to life the critical contributions these forces have made to the exercise of air & space power. Focusing in particular on the period between the Korean War & the Indochina wars of 1950-1979, the accounts of numerous missions are profusely illustrated with photos & maps. Includes a discussion of AF operations in Europe during WWII, as well as profiles of Air Commandos who performed above & beyond the call of duty. Reflects on the need for financial & political support for restoration of the forces. Bibliography. Extensive photos & maps. Charts & tables.

*Douglas A-1 Skyraider- Warbirdtech* Bloomsbury Publishing

They flew low and slow, at treetop level, at night, in monsoons, and in point-blank range of enemy guns and missiles. They were missions no one else wanted, but the ones all other pilots prayed for when shot down. Flying the World War II-vintage Douglas A-1 Skyraider, a single-engine, propeller-driven relic in a war of "fast-movers," these intrepid US Air Force pilots, call sign Sandy, risked their lives with every mission to rescue thousands of downed Navy and Air Force pilots. With a flashback memory and a style all his own, George J. Marrett depicts some of the most dangerous aerial combat of any war. The thrilling rescue of "Streetcar 304" and William Jones's selfless act of heroism that earned him the Medal of Honor are but two of the compelling tales he recounts. Here too are the courages Jolly Green Giant helicopter crews, parajumpers, and forward air controllers who worked with the Sandys over heavily defended jungles and mountains well behind enemy lines. Passionate, mordantly witty, and filled with heart-pounding adrenaline, *Cheating Death* reads like the finest combat fiction, but it is the real deal: its heroes, cowards, jokers, and casualties all have names and faces readers will find difficult to forget.

**Strike from the Sea** Bloomsbury Publishing

Features: Full colour throughout; Details of the F-14A, F-14B and F-14D Tomcat variants; In-depth views of the Tomcats flown by the US Navy and Iranian Air Force; Walkarounds, weapons and warfare; Flying the Tomcat -- 'From the Cockpit' commentary; 32 Colour side-views; Modelling The Tomcat in popular scales; A guide to available kits, decals and accessories; Scale plans.

The Doolittle Raid Smithsonian Institution

Once everything is set up, I roll in. Control stick hard left into a sharp left turn and let the nose drop quickly but smoothly to 40° down. Down. My heart is pumping hard. I'm in a sharp dive. I have to do it right and fast. Line up the target in the sight. It's getting bigger as I get closer to the ground. Airspeed is increasing! Quick! Right there! Pickle at 8,000 feet, only 2,000 feet from roll-in altitude. Not much time. NOW! Pull out! Pull hard, but don't over G! All the remaining ordnance is trying to pull the

airplane toward the ground. Smoothly pull to four Gs. Watch the artificial horizon. It's the only visual reference I can count on. Pull! Get the nose up! Don't go below 7,000 feet because rocks can be anywhere below seven. There's level. Bring it on up. Twenty-five degrees nose high. I have plenty of speed, so keep the nose up. Here comes 8,000 feet. Then 9,000. I can let the nose down a little now and look around to see if anyone is shooting. It is 1969 and Dick Diller is on his way to flying warplanes in the Vietnam conflict. He is commissioned to fly A-1 Skyraiders in sometimes harrowing nighttime missions over Laos-surviving not only the danger of the missions he flew, but also the bureaucracy of the air force, from fitness testing to additional duties assigned, to attacking impossible-to-find targets in the dead of night-with minimal fuel supplies. At once entertaining and riveting, as well as thought-provoking, *Firefly* is the story of one man's journey in a world at war, and a day-to-day description of the fighting force that was flying A-1 Skyraiders in combat. *Firefly* contains actual transcriptions of dialogue of pilots locating a target and making a strike in northern Laos.

**Firefly** Naval Institute Press

Whisked through a portal to *The Outskirts*, an in-between world, sixth-grader Cole must rescue his friends and find his way back home--before his existence is forgotten.

*The Praetorian STARShip : the untold story of the Combat Talon*  
DIANE Publishing

The 56-year history of the Alameda Naval Air Station from 1940 to 1997 was a major military presence in the San Francisco Bay Area. As one of the largest and most important naval air stations in the United States, with a population of 45,000, it occupied 300 buildings to service squadrons and Carrier Air Groups. The large Overhaul and Repair facility operated from 1941 through the jet age, and U.S. Naval Reserve squadrons were added in the postwar years.

**Skyraider** DIANE Publishing

Design work on the Skyraider began at the behest of the US Navy late in WWII. Production began in 1946, and the type made its combat debut in the hands of naval aviators during the Korean War. In the following years, the rugged airframe and powerful

engine meant that the type could be adapted into ever-expanding roles of attack, reconnaissance, weather, and electronic-countermeasure types. Though regarded by many as obsolete, in Vietnam the Skyraider again saw combat, now in the hands of not only US Navy and Marine pilots, but also USAF and Republic of Vietnam airmen. Capable of flying low and slow while armed with a massive array of ordnance, the Skyraider not only took on the role of attack aircraft but was also used as air cover for troops on the ground. Its impressive payload earned it the nickname of the "flying dump truck," while its reliance on a massive radial engine in an otherwise jet age caused others to refer to the Skyraider as the "Spad," in homage to the WWI fighter.

**Cheating Death** Createspace Independent Publishing Platform

This publication is the eighth in the series *The U.S. Navy and the Vietnam War*. The publication focuses on the sealift and logistic operations during the war and includes a number of photographs as well as sidebars detailing specific people and ships involved in the logistic operations. This historical pictorial reference would be of interest to students, historians, members of the military, specifically the Navy, and military leaders, veterans, Vietnam War veterans, and the U.S. merchant marines.

**Fire Road** Simon and Schuster

Originally designated AD and later A-1, the 1944-designed Skyraider was conceived and bought by the U.S. Navy as a carrier-borne attack aircraft, and saw combat as such in Korea and Vietnam. During the latter of those conflicts, the U.S. Air Force obtained and used Navy-surplus Skyraiders, as did the South Vietnamese air force. Other nations continued to fly the venerable Skyraider into the 1980s. Known alternately as the "flying dump truck," a testament to its payload capacity; and "SPAD," an homage to its massive radial engine and anachronistic propeller in an age of jet aircraft, the rugged Skyraider endeared itself to both air and ground crews. Retrace the history of the famous Douglas Skyraider through this all-new 80-page book, packed with detailed line drawings, color profiles, and over 180 vintage photographs, more than 30 of them in vintage color.