

school math, and worked at the Westinghouse Electric company as a software engineer. He taught mathematics at Penn State University's New Kensington extension campus. Jack retired in 2002 and enjoys writing, reading, music, and being the webmaster for his squadron's website. He is a coauthor of *Blue Moon Over Cuba: Aerial Reconnaissance During the Cuban Missile Crisis* (2012) and has also authored or co-authored several articles about naval aviation.

The role of photo reconnaissance (recce) during the Cold War has been relatively unknown to the public, because its photographs and methods for attaining them were highly classified. Low-level photo recce was essential to target selection and bomb-damage assessment during the Vietnam War. While photo recce was conducted by all services and the CIA, this book highlights the role of the US Navy's unarmed, supersonic RF-8A/G throughout various stages of the war.

Jack presents a sequential history of aerial reconnaissance in Vietnam between 1964 and 1972. The air war in Vietnam started in 1964 with US Navy carrier-based jets conducting recce and bombing attacks over Laos to thwart movement of North Vietnamese men and supplies into South Vietnam. The air war expanded with Operation Rolling Thunder and greatly intensified bombing attacks on Haiphong and Hanoi in North Vietnam. Here, pilots encountered highly accurate antiaircraft artillery and surface-to-air missiles, as well as the threat of MiG-21 fighters.

In each chapter, Jack provides historically accurate views of the types of missions flown, the pilots and photo detachments involved, and detailed firsthand accounts from the pilots. He follows these with tributes to, and memories of, those who did not return. Jack focuses his book on Navy Light Photographic Squadron VFP-63 but also dedicates chapters to VFP-62 and Light Marine Composite Reconnaissance Squadron VMCG-1. He also relates the anguish of prisoners of war, with exceptional stories about their shootdowns, capture, and (sometimes) paths to freedom. There are many photographs of recce aircraft. These include not only the RF-8A but also RA-3B, RA-5C, and RF-4C aircraft. Other photos include those of flight and ordnance crew members, attack aircraft carriers, photographic equipment, flak damage to aircraft, and target bomb-damage assessments. Two good appendices analyze bombing effectiveness in Vietnam and aerial bombing as a policy tool.

I really liked this highly informative and quite-readable book. It uncovers a lesser-known area of operations that centers on heroic men with unarmed aircraft, going in harm's way to enhance the safety and effectiveness of their fellow pilots. It is an exciting, must-read book.

Frank Willingham, National Air and Space Museum docent

Flying Catalinas: The Consolidated PBV Catalina in WWII. By Andrew Hendrie. South Yorkshire UK: Pen &

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Eyes of the Fleet Over Vietnam: RF-8 Crusader Combat Photo-Reconnaissance Missions. By Kenneth V. Jack. Havertown PA: Casemate Publishers, 2021. Photographs. Glossary. Appendices. Notes. Pp. 272. \$39.95. ISBN: 978-1-63624-074-9

Kenneth Jack was trained as a Navy photographer and later as a photographic-electronics technician responsible for maintaining the Chance-Vought RF-8A Photo-Crusader's photoelectronic equipment. He participated in Light Photographic Squadron VFP 62's implementation of the advanced KA-45 camera, which gave the unit unique capabilities for capturing detailed photographic intelligence of the Soviet missile sites being installed in Cuba. Upon discharge from the Navy, he obtained two college degrees, taught high