

VA-104

Lineage

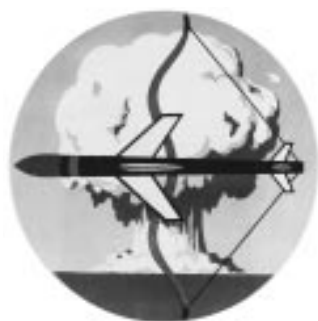
Established as Fighter Squadron ONE HUNDRED FOUR (VF-104) on 1 May 1952.

Redesignated Attack Squadron ONE HUNDRED FOUR (VA-104) in December 1953.

Disestablished on 31 March 1959. The first squadron to be assigned the designation VA-104.

Squadron Insignia and Nickname

There is no record of official approval for the squadron insignia. The insignia on file for the squadron was a missile being shot by a long bow with an atomic explosion in the background. Colors for this insignia were: a light blue background outlined in yellow; the water was medium blue and the atomic explosion was white with shades of light and medium blue; the long bow was red with a black bow string; the missile had a black body, yellow fins outlined in black, and a red tipped nose.



There is no record of an official approval for this insignia.

Nickname: Hell's Archers.

Chronology of Significant Events

Nov 1956: During the Suez War the squadron operated from *Coral Sea* (CVA 43) off the coast of Egypt. It provided air support for the evacuation of Americans and foreign nationals from that country.

Jul 1958: The squadron operated from *Forrestal* (CVA 59) in the eastern Atlantic, ready to enter the Mediterranean if needed for the U.S. Marines' landing in Beirut, Lebanon.

Home Port Assignments

Location	Assignment Date
NAAS Cecil Field*	01 May 1952
NAS Jacksonville	Apr 1953
NAS Cecil Field	Dec 1953
NAS Jacksonville	Feb 1957

* NAAS Cecil Field was redesignated NAS Cecil Field on 30 June 1952.

Commanding Officers

	Date Assumed Command
LT J. R. Mills (acting)	01 May 1952
LCDR R. E. Sequin	13 May 1952
LCDR Harold H. Brock	Nov 1952
CDR D. H. Johnson	Feb 1954
CDR George E. Ford	10 Mar 1955
CDR Jack N. Durio	Apr 1957

Aircraft Assignment

Type of Aircraft	Date Type First Received
FG-1D	May 1952
F4U-5	Dec 1952
AD-6	Jan 1954



A squadron F4U-5 aboard Randolph (CVA 15), circa 1953 (Courtesy Robert Lawson Collection).

Major Overseas Deployments

<i>Date of Departure</i>	<i>Date of Return</i>	<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Carrier</i>	<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>Area of Operation</i>
07 Jul 1954	20 Dec 1954	CVG-10	CVA 43	AD-6	Med
13 Aug 1956	11 Feb 1957	CVG-10	CVA 43	AD-6	Med
02 Sep 1958	12 Mar 1959	CVG-10	CVA 59	AD-6	Med

Air Wing Assignments

<i>Air Wing</i>	<i>Tail Code</i>	<i>Assignment Date</i>
CVG-10	P/AK*	01 May 1952

* The tail code was changed from P to AK in 1957. The effective date for this change was most likely the beginning of FY 58 (1 July 1957).



A squadron AD Skyraider, piloted by Commander G. E. Ford, prepares to launch from Leyte (CVA 33) during carrier qualifications in 1955.