



Robert C. Taylor was born in Orlando, Florida on 9 October 1933. He graduated from the University of Florida in 1955 with a B.S. Degree in Business Administration, entered Officer Candidate School in August 1955 and was commissioned an Ensign in January 1956.

Captain Taylor entered Basic Flight Training at NAS Pensacola, Florida in February 1956 and upon completion of Advanced Flight Training at NAS Corpus Christi, Texas was designated a Naval Aviator in March 1957. Following his designation, he served as Weapons Training Officer for Attack Squadrons 36 and 44. Captain Taylor's subsequent tours included assignment as the Operations Officer and Executive Officer of VMA-332 and assignment to Attack Squadron 83 as Operations Officer and Executive Officer.

In September 1968 Captain Taylor served with Attack Squadron 122 as Executive Officer. In March 1971 he reported to Attack Squadron 192, serving as Executive Officer and then Commanding Officer of the Navy's "Golden Dragon" squadron. Captain Taylor attended the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island from May 1973 until June 1974. From 1974 through December 1975 Captain Taylor served as Commanding Officer of VA-125. In February 1976 Captain Taylor transferred to the *USS RANGER (CV-61)* for duties as the ship's Executive Officer. From May 1978 until mid-1979 he served with the Chief of Naval Operations as the head, Carrier Warfare Branch (OP-551) assisting the DCNO (Air Warfare).

Captain Taylor has earned the Silver Star, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Distinguished Flying Cross with three stars, the Bronze Star, the Air Medal with the numeral 32 for over 320 combat missions and eleven individual Air Medals, the Navy Commendation Medal with one star, the Navy Unit Commendation with one star, the Meritorious Unit Commendation, the Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Gold Star, and several other decorations. Captain Taylor has earned a Masters Degree in Management from Chapman College. He assumed command of *USS CAMDEN (AOE-2)* on 19 April 1980.

