



COMMANDER FRANK K. UPHAM

"CAPTAIN"

Los Angeles, California . . . U. S. Naval Academy

When great fighting skippers' names are listed, Frank Upham's will rank at the top of the role. Never in the history of any squadron has there been a leader more respected and at the same time possessed of all the qualities necessary to entrench him in the hearts of his men.

His frank personality, his keen wit, his ever-present laugh, and his patient and understanding nature make up his contribution as a squadron mate, while his deep knowledge of men, his flying ability, and his unfailing leadership give him everything that is essential in a great skipper.

He joined the squadron without previous combat experience but there was never a moment that his

decisions were questioned or even doubted. He established in his men an unswerving faith that grew steadily throughout the long training period — a faith that was never challenged during the months of combat duty — and it was this faith that gave spirit to the squadron and held it together through its toughest trials.

The records and achievements that have been established by the squadron are but a reflection of the time, energy and personality that was poured into it by the Captain. The officers and men of Fighting Eighty-One will ever be appreciative and grateful for the opportunity that was theirs to serve under him.