



Rear Admiral Robert Byron Fuller, USN, was born November 23, 1927 in Quitman, Mississippi, and raised in Jacksonville, Florida.

Following a year of active enlisted service in the Navy at the end of World War II, Admiral Fuller entered the U.S. Naval Academy and was commissioned an Ensign in 1951.

After designation as a naval aviator in 1952, his first assignment was with Fighter Squadron 192 flying the F9F "Panther." This was followed by tours at the Combat Information Center School, NAS Glynco, Georgia; as Aide and Flag Lieutenant to Commander Carrier Division SEVEN; as an aviation

## Rear Admiral R. Byron Fuller

U.S. Navy

### *Commander Carrier Group Four*

detailer in the Bureau of Naval Personnel; and in Attack Squadrons 55 and 44 flying the A-4 "Skyhawk." He also attended the Armed Forces Staff College in Norfolk, Virginia.

Admiral Fuller was serving as Commanding Officer of Attack Squadron 76 operating from USS BON HOMME RICHARD (CVA-31) off the coast of Vietnam when he was shot down on July 14, 1967 while leading a strike mission over North Vietnam. He was held as a prisoner-of-war by the North Vietnamese until his release in March of 1973.

On August 6, 1974, Admiral Fuller assumed command of USS DETROIT (AOE-4). He became Commanding Officer of USS AMERICA (CV-66) on September 7, 1976.

After selection for promotion to Rear Admiral in January 1978, he reported as Deputy Director for Operations (Reconnaissance and Electronic Warfare) with the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Washington, DC. He assumed command of Carrier Group FOUR on June 20, 1980, embarked on board USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN 69) in the Indian Ocean.

His decorations include the Navy Cross, two Silver Stars, the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit with Combat "V", four Distinguished Flying Crosses, two Bronze Star Medals with Combat "V", 11 Air Medals, three Navy Commendation Medals with Combat "V", two Purple Hearts, and a Vietnamese Air Gallantry Cross with "Silver Wings."

Rear Admiral Fuller is married to the former Mary Anne McGinley of Jacksonville, Florida. They have four children, Robert Jr., 1st LT, USMC, presently in flight training; Mary Jane; Susan; and Peggy.