





OF FORMER MEMBERS OF VF-17, THE SQUADRON WOULD FLY STRIKES OVER TOKYO IN FEBRUARY. AFTER A BRIEF YET DISTINGUISHED WWII CAMPAIGN, THE SQUADRON WAS REDESIGNATED VF-6B IN NOVEMBER OF 1946. IN 1948 THE SQUADRON BECAME VF-62. FINALLY, IN 1955 THE UNIT WAS DESIGNATED ATTACK SQUADRON ONE HUNDRED SIX (VA-106) AND THE SQUADRON ADOPTED THE NAME "GLADIATORS". THE ROMAN HELMET ADORNED BOTH THEIR UNIT PATCH AS WELL AS THEIR AIRCRAFT. IN NOVEMBER 1969 THE SQUADRON WAS DISESTABLISHED. IN APRIL OF 1984 STRIKE FIGHTER SQUADRON 106 WAS ESTABLISHED AT NAS CECIL FIELD. VFA-106 ASSUMED THE "GLADIATOR" NAME AS WELL AS THE ROMAN HELMET INSIGNIA BELONGING TO THE FORMER VA-106. ESTABLISHED AS THE EAST COAST FLEET REPLACEMENT SQUADRON FOR THE F/A-18/B/C/D, 106'S MISSION WAS TO TRAIN PILOTS AND WEAPONS SYSTEMS OFFICERS TO FLY AND FIGHT IN THE HORNET. DUE TO BRAC, THE GLADIATORS WOULD MOVE THEIR OPERATIONS TO NAS OCEANA IN 1999. THEY ADDED THE F/A-18E/F TO THEIR AIRCRAFT INVENTORY IN 2004, AND CURRENTLY THE SQUADRON UTILIZES OVER 90 F-18S OF EVERY VARIANT TO COMPLETE THEIR MISSION.











