



LTjg George Kenneth Blaser, USNR

WWII 1942-1945

LTjg Blaser was born in New Jersey in 1919 and enlisted in the US Navy in April of 1942. He was a pilot flying Torpedo Bombers (TBM) in the Pacific off the USS Yorktown (CV-10). He flew numerous dangerous mission most notably campaigns in support of the liberation of Guam and the Battle of the Philippine Sea where he earned the Distinguished Flying Cross.

On the morning of 12 June, 1944 LTjg Blaser was in the second wave of aircraft to Attack Orote Airfield on Guam. He and his crew were apprehensive about the mission due to reports from the first wave of planes lost due to heavy Anti-Aircraft fire. VT-1 did encounter intense anti-aircraft fire that day. According to LTjg Blaser *"...didn't see how it was humanly possible for a plane to go through the barrage without being hit. I said my most fervent prayers right. It worked - we came through without a scratch, while nearly every plane in the formation was hit."*



*T-1 aircraft preparing to launch from the USS Yorktown to attack the Japanese fleet on June 20th 1944 (Battle of the Philippine Sea).*