

NAVAL HISTORY PROGRAM

CAPTAIN JULIUS C. EARLY, JR.
MEDICAL CORPS, U. S. NAVY

Julius C. Early, Jr., was born in Aulander, North Carolina, on June 1, 1902, son of Julius Cherry and Johnnie (Saunders) Early. He graduated from Aulander High School in 1921, received a Certificate in Medicine from Wake Forest (North Carolina) College in 1928 and 1930 was awarded the degree of Doctor of Medicine from the Medical College of Virginia at Richmond. On June 28, 1930 he was commissioned Lieutenant (jg) in the Medical Corps of the U. S. Navy and subsequently advanced in rank, attaining that of Captain, to date from March 20, 1945.

Following his commissioning in the U. S. Navy in 1930, he interned at the U. S. Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, Virginia. In July 1931 he became Ward Medical Officer there, and continued serving in that capacity for five months, when he transferred to the Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, for duty as Assistant Medical Officer. He joined the USS CHAUMONT as Junior Medical Officer in March 1933, and in March 1935 reported as Assistant Medical Officer at the Naval Air Station, Norfolk, Virginia. He was Medical Officer at the Navy Recruiting Station, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, from August 1936 until July 1938, when he was ordered to the Army School of Aviation Medicine, Randolph Field, Texas, for instruction.

In November 1938 he reported as Assistant Medical Officer and Flight Surgeon on board the USS YORKTOWN, and in June 1939 was detached for instruction at the School of Aviation Medicine, Pensacola, Florida. Designated Flight Surgeon in October 1939, he was assigned in February 1940 as Assistant Medical Officer at the Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida. He remained there until September of that year, when he joined the staff of Commander Patrol Wing FOUR, based on the Naval Air Station, Seattle, Washington, and later on the Aleutian Islands, as Medical Officer. He was Medical Officer on the staff of Commander Advanced Carrier Training Group, San Diego, California, from February 1942 until January 1943, when he transferred, in a similar capacity, to the staff of Commander Fleet Air, West Coast, with headquarters at San Diego.

Reporting in July 1943 for flight training at the Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida, he was designated Naval Aviator (HTA) on February 11, 1944. He was then assigned as Medical Officer on the staff of Commander, Naval Operational Training Command, Jacksonville, Florida, and between January and July 1945 was Director of the Physiological Flight Test Section at the Naval Air Test Center, Patuxent River, Maryland. He became Force Medical Officer on the staff of Commander FIRST Fast Carrier Task Force, and in January 1946 joined the staff of Commander FIFTH Fleet as Fleet Medical Officer.

In April 1947 he reported for duty in the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Navy Department, Washington, D. C., and in that assignment was Liaison Officer between that Bureau and the Bureau of Aeronautics and the Office of the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Air).

He also served on various panels and committees of the Research and Development Board. In June 1950 he became Senior Medical Officer at the Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, Florida, with collateral duty on the staffs of Commander Naval Air Bases, Sixth Naval District and Commander Fleet Air, Jacksonville.

He was a student at the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island, from August 1953 until March 1954, when he was designated Commanding Officer of the Naval School of Aviation Medicine, Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida.

Captain Early has the American Defense Service Medal; the American Campaign Medal; the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal; the World War II Victory Medal; Navy Occupation Service Medal, Asia Clasp; and the National Defense Service Medal.

Dr. Early is a member of the American Medical Association and a Fellow of the Aero Medical Association. His hobbies are golf, fishing and hunting.