

## Search and Rescue Kudos

Today's Navy search and rescue (SAR) operations and successes are a crowning tribute to every pilot and aircrewman who has participated in these lifesaving missions. (To learn how to become an Aviation Rescue Swimmer, read "That Others May Live," Nov-Dec 96, p. 24.) Though the current mode of transportation has changed from seaplanes to choppers, the dangers of each mission are real and unique. Years from now when a survivor's family member comes up to you—the SAR aircrew—and says, "Thank you for being there," you'll feel the same satisfaction as others in previous generations.

I can truthfully say that my own years as a combat aircrewman in SAR PBM *Mariners* and PBY *Catalinas* were the most enjoyable of my years in service. Our hats are off to each of you for jobs well done in these crucial lifesaving efforts. You are members, as we were, of the greatest Navy in the world.

Our thanks to the staff of *Naval Aviation News* for continued excellence in keeping both active and retired Navy personnel apprised of historical as well as current happenings.

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## F-14 Tomcat Book

Aerospace Publishing is producing a 256-page, full-color volume on the Grumman F-14 *Tomcat* (similar to its book, *F-4 Phantom, Spirit in the Skies*) and the author wishes to hear from any F-14 aircrew who have a tale to tell or who have interesting photos, cruise patches, etc., to loan. He also wants to contact: aircrew who flew in the unsuccessful Sparrow launches against Iranian

aircraft in 1989 or with unusual adversaries, including German MiG-29s; Marine pilots who began F-14 training; aircrew who flew the *Tomcat* with VFs 191 and 194; and aircrew who flew in the adversary role with the Navy Fighter Weapons School.

He would particularly like to interview: Lt. Stuart Broce, Cdr. Steven P. Collins, Cdr. Joseph B. Connelly, Lt. Hermon C. Cook III, Capt. Nellie Dye, LCdr. Leo F. Enwright, Cdr. Jim Greene, LCdr. Jack H. Hawver, Lt. Col. Don Keast, Cdr. Ron McElraft, Mr. Mike Pelehach, Lt. Sam Platt, Lt. D. Walker, Capt. L. Walker, Cdr. George White and RAdm. John R. "Smoke" Wilson. Anonymity will be respected, if requested. Contact Jon Lake, Military Correspondent, *World Air Power Journal*, by phone in England at 44-1491-837909 (between 0600 and 1700 EST only, please!); or by mail at 12210 Fairfax Towne Center, Suite 610, Fairfax, VA 22033.

## NAS Quonset Point Video

The author of *Quonset Point Naval Air Station, Gem of the Atlantic* is producing a two-hour television documentary on the history of the air station and Commander Fleet Air, Quonset, which will air in the fall of 1997. He wishes to hear from anyone with stories, film or photographs about NAS Quonset. Contact: Sean Milligan, 137 Olympia Ave., Pawtucket, RI 02861-4209; 401-722-5821.

## F-4 Phantom

I am conducting an extensive study on the F-4 *Phantom* in the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps for an American publisher, hoping to expand on the published coverage of the F-4's exploits in three

decades of service. Former aircrew or maintainers are invited to contribute anecdotes, memories or photos to assist me in doing justice to this great fighter.

Peter E. Davies  
28 Claremont Road  
Bristol BS7 8DH, England

## President Coolidge

I am writing a book on the liner/troopship *President Coolidge* lost during November 1942 in the New Hebrides islands of the southwestern Pacific, and I wish to contact any naval personnel who were on board at the time. More than 5,000 men managed to scramble down the sides of the ship and make it to shore less than 100 yards away.

Peter Stone  
303 Commercial Road  
Yarram, Vic 3971, Australia

## Reunions, Symposiums, etc.

**VMFA-451 deactivation ceremony**, 31 JAN, MCAS Beaufort, SC. POC: GySgt. Weber, 803-522-7805/7362/7363.

**Leadership in a Gender-Diverse Military conference**, 20-23 MAR, New London, CT. POC: LCdr. Anne Flammang, USCG Academy, 15 Mohegan Ave., New London, CT 06320-4195, 860-444-8341.

**Tarawa (CV/CVA/CVS 40) reunion**, 17-20 APR, Baltimore, MD. POC: Rudy Marzano, 488 Summit Ave., Maplewood, NJ 07040, 201-762-5710.

**Enterprise (CV 6) reunion**, 28 APR-3 MAY, Melbourne Beach, FL. POC: Dave Lister, 2580 S. A1A Hwy. #20, Melbourne Beach, FL 32951, 407-951-2878.