



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73)
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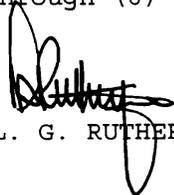
From: Commanding Officer, USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73)
To: Director of Naval History, Washington Navy Yard, Washington, D.C.
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Subj: USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73) COMMAND HISTORY FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1996

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) Command History for CY 1996
(2) CNO Battle "E" package
(3) 1996 Mediterranean/Arabian Gulf Cruisebook
(4) Ship's familygram, The Cherry Tree
(5) Ship's newspaper, The Guardian
(6) Battenburg Cup Submission Package

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (6) are submitted as command history for calendar year 1996.


L. G. RUTHERFORD

USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73) COMMAND HISTORY 1996

COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73), sixth of the NIMITZ-class nuclear-powered aircraft carriers, was commissioned on July 4, 1992 at Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia. Home ported in Norfolk, Virginia, GEORGE WASHINGTON is an asset of Commander Naval Air Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, commanded by Vice Admiral Richard C. Allen who was relieved by Vice Admiral John J. Mazach. The ship is an operational unit of the Second Fleet, commanded by Vice Admiral J. Johnson and later by Vice Admiral Vernon E. Clark.

Commanded by Captain Malcolm P. Branch, GEORGE WASHINGTON is tasked with numerous missions, the primary one to serve as our nations forward deployed force, ready to conduct sustained combat air operations. In this role, the ship serves as the flagship for Commander, George Washington Battle Group commanded by Rear Admiral Michael G. Mullen, who relieved Rear Admiral Henry C. Giffin III in August 1996.

GEORGE WASHINGTON deployed with Carrier Air Wing SEVEN, commanded by Captain Kolin M. Jan. Captain Jan relieved Captain Ronald D. McElraft in June 1996. Effective 1 September 96, Carrier Air Wing ONE relieved CVW 7 as GEORGE WASHINGTON's main armament. The air wing provides the capability to conduct sustained offensive air operations against land, surface, and subsurface targets and to defend the battle group in support of assigned missions.

When fully operational, CVW 7 employed 75 aircraft including: the F-14B Tomcat fighter flown by the Dogs of VF 143; the F/A-18C Hornet strike-fighter operated by the Wildcats of VFA 131 and the Knighthawks of VFA 136; the A-6E Intruder medium attack aircraft flown by the Blue Blasters of VA 34; the EA-6B Prowler electronic warfare aircraft flown by the Patriots of VAQ 140; the S-3B Viking anti-submarine warfare aircraft flown by the Topcats of VS 31; the E-2C Hawkeye airborne early warning aircraft flown by the Bluetails of VAW 121; the ES-3B Raven flown by the Black Ravens of VQ 6; and the HH-60/SH-60F helicopter flown by the Night Dippers of HS 5. The tailcode for Carrier Air Wing SEVEN is "Alfa Golf."

GEORGE WASHINGTON's current, air wing, Carrier Air Wing ONE, is comprised of 79 aircraft and includes: the F-14B Tomcat fighter flown by the Diamondbacks of VF 102; the F/A-18C Hornet strike-fighter flown by the Thunderbolts of VMFA 251; the F/A-18C Hornet strike-fighter flown by the Marauders of VFA 82; the F/A-18C Hornet strike-fighter flown by the Sidewinders of VFA 86; the E-2C Hawkeye airborne early warning aircraft flown by the Screwtops of VAW 123; the S-3B Viking anti-submarine warfare aircraft flown by the Maulers of VS 32; the EA-6B Prowler electronic warfare aircraft flown by the Rooks of VAQ 137; the ES-3B Raven flown by Det "Bravo" of the Black Ravens of VQ 6; and the HH-60/SH-60F helicopter flown by the Dragonslayers of HS 11. The tailcode for Carrier Air Wing ONE is "Alfa Bravo."

Additionally, GEORGE WASHINGTON served as the base of operations for Commander, Destroyer Squadron TWENTY SIX while at sea, and served as a platform for joint operations with Army and Marine Corps aviation and ground units as part of the deployment work up cycle.

USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73) LEADERSHIP

CAPT Malcolm P. Branch	Commanding Officer
CAPT William L. McKee	Executive Officer
CAPT Michael R. Groothusen	Executive Officer
CAPT Joseph Krenzel	Reactor Officer
CAPT Moses L. Stith	CRMD
CAPT James P. Nickols	CRMD
CDR Eddie J. Gardiner	Engineering
CDR Robert E. Snyder	Air
CDR John P. Kindred	Air
CDR Dean A. Bailey	Medical
CDR Roger A. Houk	Dental
CDR Dennis K. Christensen	AIMD
CDR Gerry Mauer	Navigator
CDR Ronald C. Raymer	Navigator
CDR David E. Erickson	Weapons
CDR Carl T. Bright	Supply
CDR Bruce R. Krakau	Operations
CDR Bob Schniedwind	Safety
CDR Christopher E. Feeney	Safety
CDR Janice M. Hamby	Information Systems
CDR Diana M. L. Turonis	Information Systems
LCDR Anthony R. Schallert	Deck
LCDR Johnnie E. Draughon	Deck
LCDR Keith R. Wettschreck	Training
LT Matthew E. Hempel	Training
LCDR Mark D. Budensiek	Legal
LCDR James L. Roth	Legal
LCDR Charles R. Clifton	Administration
LT Jerome S. Morrison	Administration

NARRATIVE

When 1996 began, the USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73) was pierside in its homeport of Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia. During the year, two major events were the focal points for the ship and its crew. First was the ship's sixth month deployment to the Mediterranean and Persian Gulf. Second was the ship's participation in the Navy's first ever Planned Incremental Availability. This was coordinated and implemented at the "*Spirit of Freedom's*" "home yard", the Norfolk Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, Virginia.

Following a well deserved and enjoyable standdown period, the crew of GEORGE WASHINGTON and her embarked air wing, Carrier Air Wing SEVEN, departed for what would arguably turn out to be the Navy's most successful deployment by an aircraft carrier/air wing team. On January 26, 1996, the ship pulled away from pier 12 at Naval Station Norfolk for its second major deployment, again deploying to the Mediterranean Sea and Arabian Gulf areas.

While numerous successes were evident throughout the deployment, the most notable accomplishment for GEORGE WASHINGTON, its embarked Air Wing and personnel, was realized at the end of its deployment. On July 23, 1996, the ship, its ENTIRE crew and embarked air wing returned to throngs of cheering family, friends, and loved ones. Not one Sailor or aircraft was lost. Prior to deployment, Captain Malcolm P. Branch, GW's Commanding Officer, stated his primary goal was to complete the deployment without losing a single life or aircraft. It was a tall order, but GW completed it.

"Of my ten deployments, this one will stand out in my mind as the most memorable," stated Captain Branch. "We made a major contribution to world peace, and we returned with every Sailor and aircraft we left with. That speaks volumes for the professionalism of this crew, and of the spirit that I feel is a part of this great ship."

During the deployment, the GEORGE WASHINGTON and Carrier Air Wing SEVEN team participated in numerous significant events. First was the turnover with USS AMERICA (CV 66) on February 11. This was the last deployment for the "ageless warrior." Upon return stateside, AMERICA went into a decommissioning phase with the official ceremony held at Berth 42/43, Norfolk Naval Shipyard on August 9, 1996. This was the location of AMERICA's commissioning back in 1965.

Within 48 hours of relieving AMERICA, GEORGE WASHINGTON was a key element in our nations forward deployed forces in the Balkans. Dedicated to preserving peace, GW's air wing flew over 600 sorties, accounting for over 30% of the NATO Implementation Force's (IFOR) sorties.

In addition to flying missions in support of world peace, GW was the sight for a historic meeting of the Joint Military Commission. This gathering was to be the first time the military leaders of the three former warring factions of Bosnia-Herzegovina had met together. Admiral Leighton W. Smith, Jr., Commander, IFOR, felt GW was the ideal location to demonstrate U.S. resolve and the fire power available, to help keep the peace process on track. It was also another step in IFOR's efforts to continue contact between all parties. The meeting was deemed a success with one notable exception. Major General Zivkor Tolimir, Deputy Commander, Headquarters Army of the Republic of Srpska did not show for the meeting.

On the evening of this historic meeting, Denver, Colorado reporter Hendrick Sybrandy from KMGH Television, filed a live report on the day's news-making events. It was the first such live broadcast from a ship using GW's state-of-the-art satellite technology. In all, Sybrandy conducted five VTC's from the GW. This technology was again used when Secretary of Defense William Perry visited the "*Spirit of Freedom*" in July. Perry had just come from the location of a terrorist bombing in Saudi Arabia that killed 21 Air Force personnel. Perry appeared live on NBC's Meet the Press and ABC's This Week with David Brinkley via VTC.

Shortly after conducting operations in support of Operation Decisive Endeavor, the GW/CVW 7 team was tasked to do a high speed transit to the Arabian Gulf area of operation. This turn of events was the result of increased tensions between mainland China and Taiwan. The situation resulted in the movement of USS NIMITZ (CVN 68) from the Arabian Gulf, along with USS INDEPENDENCE (CV 62), to the waters around Taiwan. GEORGE WASHINGTON was called to replace NIMITZ in the Arabian Gulf, fulfilling United Nations duties under Operation Southern Watch. Although GW was scheduled to go to the Arabian Gulf, this transit was a month early. While on station, CVW 7 flew 1,054 sorties from GW's deck, accounting for 41% of all OSW sorties. According to Vice Admiral Scott Redd, Commander Fifth Fleet, "Your air wing (CVW 7) comprises more than 50 percent of the air power in this theater of operations...and continues to be our greatest asset."

While enroute to the Gulf, GEORGE WASHINGTON commenced its transit of the Suez Canal on March 15 and completed it on March 16. Following departure from the Red Sea, GW came to the assistance of a sinking Saudi Arabian container ship, the Hafuf. Along with USS SAN JACINTO (CG 56), GW assisted the crew in helping to prevent the container ship from sinking. According to the ship's 2nd Mate, a Sudanese sailor, the Hafuf took on 20 feet of sea water in one hour creating a 17-degree list at its stern. Three more degrees and Hafuf's owner would have ordered the crew to abandon ship. The container ship was left in the custody of an Omani salvage ship which towed the container ship to Dubai, United Arab Emirates for repairs.

Immediately after entering the Fifth Fleet region, GEORGE WASHINGTON was greeted by a special visitor, former President George Bush, a crew favorite. While aboard, the former Navy fighter pilot received a whirlwind tour and visited with GW/CVW 7 Sailors. After receiving a thunderous ovation, the ex-Commander-in-Chief began his address to the crew by reenlisting five GW Sailors. After a brief question and answer period, he commenced fulfilling his primary purpose, that of interacting personally with Sailors. Being no stranger to GW, the former president's opportunity to reunite with the "Spirit of Freedom" was a matter of coincidence. GW's early arrival in Arabian Gulf coincided with Bush's goodwill tour of friendly nations in the region. He was expressing his gratitude for their participation in the Gulf War and their commitment to making the world a more peaceful place.

The GW/CVW 7 team continued its pursuit of operational excellence by flying 60 continuous hours of flight operations. This challenge was taken on to ensure that the crew was prepared for any tasking given by Command Authority. The GW Battle Group warfare commanders felt it was a great training evolution and a way to demonstrate the great capabilities of the GW/CVW 7 team. Knowing that a real world situation would require sustained combat operations, GW's leadership wanted all hands to feel confident in conducting such vigorous operations. Fifty scheduled events were recorded, launching every one-hour and 15 minutes. With the exception of one minor postponement due to severe weather conditions, the training was flawless. This afforded valuable training for the crew, and made available significant data for COMFIFTHFLEET to consider the awesome capabilities and offensive punch provided by a forward deployed aircraft carrier.

Following completion of operations in the Arabian Gulf, the GEORGE WASHINGTON transited back through the Suez Canal on May 14 returning to the Mediterranean Sea. While in the Mediterranean Sea, GEORGE WASHINGTON was involved in several significant international exercises.

The first major exercise was Matador '96 with the country of Spain. It was the largest live combined joint task force exercise conducted in the European theater in 1996. For this exercise, GEORGE WASHINGTON served as the first afloat platform for the Joint Forces Air Component Command (JFACC).

The next major exercise was Freedom '96. The purpose of the exercise was to reintegrate the battle group by testing the battle group's warfare commanders and honing their tactical war-fighting skills in a multi-national and multi-warfare environment. This was the first integrated training conducted by the battle group as a whole since the Joint Task Force Exercise. It helped to refine coordination and communication in the battle group.

The GW/CVW 7 team was involved with 13 nations in 20 exercises which accounted for 92 days of 156 days operating in the COMSIXTHFLEET area of responsibility. In the COMFIFTHFLEET area of responsibility, the team was involved with five nations in 7 exercises which accounted for 29 days of the 59 days in the Gulf region. Other exercises include:

EXERCISE	ASSOCIATED COUNTRY
Royal Echo	Great Britian
Spanish Passex	Spain
Royal Sierra	Great Britian
Tapon	Spain
Sharem 114	Spain
Swordfish	Portugal
MD Distance Ops	France and Norway
Moroccan Passex	Morocco
Lafayette Phase 1	France
Destined Glory	Greece
Nador	Israel
Kuznetsov	Russia
CAOCEX	NATO
USS LASALLE OSAR	USS LASALLE (AGF 3)
Sharem 117	USA
Distant Thunder	Turkey
Noble Dina	Israel
Rukus '96	Great Britian
Vigilant Sentinel	NATO
Uni-lateral Training	USA
Keynote III	Breat Britian
Sharem 115	USA
Beacon Flash	Oman
Indigo Anvil	Saudi Arabia
Initial Link	Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and UAE

The deployment also brought GW/CVW 7 crewmembers to several exotic and exciting ports of call. They included (in order of visit) Trieste, Italy (26 Feb - 1 Mar); Marseille, France (7-11 Mar); Jebel Ali, United Arab Emirates (6-10 Apr and 30 Apr - 6 May); Palma de Mallorca, Spain (25-31 May); Corfu, Greece (4-8 Jun); Naples, Italy (21-26 Jun); and Cannes, France (1-9 Jul).

Hundreds of Sailors took advantage of the ship's dedicated Morale, Welfare and Recreation Department which provided reasonably priced trips to other cities as well as special events. Destinations for the crew included Venice, Italy; Salzburg, Austria; Paris, France; Rome, Italy; the Island of Capri (Italy); Florence and Pisa, Italy. Events included snow skiing, diving, mountain biking, camel riding and sand skiing.

Many special guests visited GW while in port. Among them were former world heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali in Jebel Ali; Mr. Jim Neighbors of Gomer Pyle fame and Mr. Larry Harmon of Bozo fame, both who visited the ship while inport Cannes, France. The GW was a host for numerous military and diplomatic leaders including the Son of the Crown Prince of Bahrain and U.S. ambassadors from Denmark, Hungary, Poland, France, Bahrain, and the United Arab Emerites. GW Also hosted each of the fleet Commander-in-Chiefs including VADM Donald L. Pilling, COMSIXTHFLEET, VADM John S. Redd, COMFIFTHFLEET, and ADM William J. Flanagan III, CINCLANTFLT. A list of some major distinguished visitors follows:

- The Honorable William J. Perry, Secretary of Defense
- The Honorable Richard Danzig, Under Secretary of the Navy
- The Honorable Joe R. Reeder, Under Secretary of the Army
- The Honorable Pamela Harriman, U.S. Ambassador to France
- The Honorable Edward E. Elson, U.S. Ambassador to Denmark
- The Honorable Nicholas Rey, U.S. Ambassador to Poland
- The Honorable Donald Blinken, U.S. Ambassador to Hungary
- The Honorable David Ransom, U.S. Ambassador to Bahrain
- The Honorable David Litt, U.S. Ambassador to United Arab Emirates
- Sheikh Jamal al-Suwaidi, Political-Military Advisor to the President of the United Arab Emirates
- Mr. Carl Bildt, High Representative
- ADM Leighton "Snuffy" Smith, Commander, Implementation Force
- Govenor of Virginia, George Allen
- GEN Rasim Delic, Commander, Army of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- MGEN Zivko Budimir. Commander-in-Chief, Army of the Republic of Srpska
- LTGEN Sir Michael Walker, Commander, Ace Rapid Reaction Corps
- VADM John J. Mazach, COMNAVAIRLANT
- VADM Walter Davis. Director, Space and Electronic Warfare
- Mr. Dolf Lungren, Actor

Presence, flexibility and interoperability were key to GW's service as a forward deployed national asset. The following statistics epitomize those terms:

- Launch and recoveries: 8,510
- Aircraft moves: Flight Deck: 34,809
Hangar Bay: 4,450
- Sortie completion ratio: 99.3%
- Elevator runs: 9,251
- # Underway replenishments: 43
- Fuel received: 15, 506,443 gallons
- Fuel transferred: 1,339,836
- Pallets transferred: 5,570
- Personnel highlined: 6
- Messages processed: 1,370,000
- Other:
 - First afloat JFACC to write and execute a real world Air Tasking Order
 - First to conduct live Video Teleconference with stateside commercial television
 - First deployed carrier to establish a Worldwide Web Home Page
 - Scored 100% on all live fire competition exercises

- Other (continued)

- Air Department's V-2 Division set new records for Atlantic Fleet in rigging the Manually Operated Visual Landing Aid System. Times were 51 seconds for the port station and 50 seconds for the starboard station. (GW previously held the record with times of 57 seconds for the port station and 54 seconds for the starboard station.)
- Won the Best CPO Mess award for Atlantic Fleet carriers
- GW's Engineers remove an unused auxiliary boiler from the seventh deck saving the Navy almost \$2 million dollars
- Won Navy Health Promotion Award (this is second time in a row)
- Won SECNAV Environmental Protection Award
- Won awards in three CHINFO Merit categories

On July 12, the USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73) conducted a turnover with the USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65) and headed home. After transiting the Strait of Gibraltar, the next big event was the onload of family and friends for GW's first Tiger Cruise out of Bermuda. Nearly 700 tigers boarded the GW on July 21 to experience life at sea. On July 23, GW arrived at its homeport, Norfolk, Va., and the crew enjoyed a well deserved homecoming celebration. The ship got underway briefly to offload ammunition and pulled in to Norfolk Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, Va. on August 29, to conduct the Navy's first ever Planned Incremental Availability. All totaled, the ship offloaded 2,015 tons of ordnance to the USS SEATTLE (AOE 3) and USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) prior to pulling in to the shipyard.

The PIA is a six month maintenance period and is a significant change from the way carrier maintenance is conducted. It is both shorter in duration and more intense in nature, but will provide a considerable savings to the Navy. The PIA bill for GW is set at \$75 million dollars, but will produce time and cost savings utilizing this new procedure. Two major projects that were tackled by the crew is improving habitability in 12 berthing compartments and cutting out access covers in the ship's ventilation system providing greater ease in maintenance.

While in the shipyard for the remainder of the year, the crew worked closely with NNSY personnel to accomplish the PIA objectives. However, the crew was also actively involved in the local community and shared some camaraderie. Events included the Sixth Annual Umoja (unity) Festival at the Children's Museum of Virginia in Portsmouth; 3,500 Sailors and family members participated in GW's Family Day at Busch Gardens; 13 Sailors volunteered two-weeks of their time to assist residents of Front Royal, Va., who were devastated by Hurricane Fran; GW sponsored a Blue Shirt Best Ball golf tournament for E-6 and below and a Khaki Best Ball golf tournament. Both events were held at the Sewells Point Golf Course; GW's 50 State Flag Detail and Chili Cook-off Team participated in the Second Annual Fleet Week Hampton Roads. The Chili Team won the "Best Showmanship" award and the "Peoples Choice" award; GW conducted a Health Fair to help raise awareness of positive healthy lifestyles; GW participated for the first time in the annual Parade of Lights on the Elizabeth River in downtown Norfolk; GW held its holiday party at the Virginia Beach Pavilion with an appearance by Sinbad as the main entertainment. A children's holiday party was also conducted at the Pavilion and a duty section party was held aboard the Spirit of Norfolk for a dinner cruise.

Calendar year 1996 was highlighted by numerous successes, accomplishments and achievements for the GW team. However, two tragedies impacted the entire ship. One was the loss of shipmate Airman Apprentice Brad Daily, V-2 Division, who died from injuries received in an altercation outside a Norfolk nightclub located on Hampton Blvd. near Old Dominion University. The incident occurred on December 4. A memorial service was held aboard ship December 20 following the arrival of family members to the area. According to Captain Branch, "He was a great shipmate, a teammate and a friend. We will miss him greatly."

The other low point for the year was the tragic and shocking death of former Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Jeremy "Mike" Boorda, who died May 16, the result of a self-inflicted gun shot wound to the chest. The crew was obviously impacted upon hearing the news. On Saturday afternoon, May 18, the Sailors of GW/CVW 7 team gathered on the flight deck to honor the "Sailor's Sailor," not because he died, but because he lived. "This is a time to reflect on a man who was totally dedicated to improving the quality of life of each and every Sailor of our Navy," said Captain Branch. "I pray that we leave here with renewed commitment and dedication to take the tools that Admiral Boorda gave us and each day make our Navy better than it was yesterday."

1996 CHRONOLOGY

January

- 1 New Year's Day
Moored Pier 12, Naval Base Norfolk, Va.
- 2 Commanding Officer, Navy Environmental and Preventive Medical Unit 2 inport tour
- 3 Conducted Zone Inspection
- 6 Conducted Married Pre-deployment Brief
- 10 Conducted Ammo Onload
Conducted Zone Inspection
Tidewater Community Health Education Coalition inport tour.
- 11 RADM Donald K. Muchow, Navy Chief of Chaplain's inport visit
Conducted Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Service
- 12 Decorama Award Presentation
- 13 Conducted Single Sailor Pre-deployment Brief
Town Point Club Staff inport tour
- 15 Observed Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
Norfolk Boy Scout Troop inport tour
- 16 Carrier Air Wing 7 Staff moves aboard
Conducted E-2/3 Advancement Ceremony
- 17 Conducted Zone Inspection
VADM Walter Davis, Jr., Director, Space and Electronic Warfare, inport tour
- 18 SYRATECH Silver Presentation/inport tour
Conducted E-7 Advancement Examination
- 19 Conducted Ammo Onload
Navy International Logistics Control Office inport tour
- 22 VADM Harold W. Gehman, Jr., Deputy Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Command,
inport tour
Carrier Program Office, OPNAV (CNO/N889D) inport tour
- 23 ADM Jeremy M. Boorda, Chief of Naval Operations, inport visit/Command Quarters
Commander, Naval Air Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet inport visit (Annual Dental Readiness
Examination)
- 23-24 Carrier Air Wing 7 squadrons onload
- 24 Conducted Zone Inspection

- 25 BGEN Hoffman, USAR, Chaplian Corps, inport tour
VADM Richard C. Allen, Commander, Naval Air Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, inport visit
Guests of RADM Paul W. Parcells (Retired) inport tour
Conducted media availability for deployment
HS 5 helos fly-on
- 26 Underway for Mediterranean/Persian Gulf Deployment
Conducted Flight Operations - Carrier Qualifications
- 25-27 The Learning Channel embark
- 27 Conducted Underway Replenishment with USS MOUNT BAKER (AE 34)
Conducted Flight Operations
- 27-28 Washington, DC Navy League embark
- 29 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
Conducted Underway Replenishment with USS BARRY (DDG 52) and USS ARTHUR
W. RADFORD (DD 968)
Conducted Verticle Replenishment with USS MOUNT BAKER (AE 34)
- 30 Conducted Underway Replenishment with USS STOUT (DDG 55) (This was the first
UNREP alongside a carrier for the STOUT which received 150,000 gallons of fuel.)
Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
Conducted General Quarters Drill
- 30-3 Feb NPMTT embarks
- 31 Conducted CIWS PACFIRE
Conducted Zone Inspection
Conducted Underway Replenishment with USS CONOLLY (DD 979), USS ARTHUR
W. RADFORD (DD 968) and USS SAMUEL B. ROBERTS (FFG 58)
Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations

February

- 1 Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted full bore 50 caliber shoot
Conducted Underway Replenishment with USS SAMUEL B. ROBERTS (FFG 58)
Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
- 2 Advanced clocks to conform to 3+P
Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
Conducted Underway Replenishment with USS ARTHUR W. RADFORD (DD 968)
Conducted General Quarters Drill
- 3 Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted Underway Replenishment with USS MERRIMACK (AO 179)
Conducted small arms fire
Conducted CIWS PACFIRE
- 4 Advanced clocks to conform to +20
Conducted Flight Operations
COMUSFORAZORES Lajes Field personnel daylight embark

5-7 Conduct French PASSEX

5 Conducted Flight Operations

6 Advance clocks to conform to +1N
 Conducted Underway Replenishment with USS MERRIMACK (AO 179)
 Conducted Flight Operations
 Conducted General Quarters Drill

7 Conducted Zone Inspection
 Conducted Flight Operations

8 Advance clocks to conform to +0Z
 Inchop to European Command Theater
 Transit Strait of Gibraltar

9 Conducted Flight Operations
 Conducted General Quarters Drill
 Conducted full bore 50 caliber shoot

10 Advance clocks to conform to 1A
 Conducted Flight Operations

10-15 NAVINFO Southwest Media Embark (KXTV (ABC), Sacramento, CA; WSSU (NBC),
 New Orleans, LA; KPRC (NBC), Houston, TX; Denver Post; Tulsa World)

11 Turn over with USS AMERICA (CV 66)
 Conducted Vertical Replenishment with USS AMERICA (CV 66)
 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations

12 Conducted Safety Standdown
 Conducted Flight Operations
 Conducted Underway Replenishment with USNS LEROY GRUMMAN (T-AO 195)

12-13 Combined Air Operations Center (CAOC) embark for orientation briefs

13 Conducted Flight Operations
 RADM Peter Franklyn, Commander, HMS ILLUSTRIOUS Battle Group day embark
 Conducted General Quarters Drill

13-15 COMSIXTHFLT Media Training Team embarks

14 Conducted Zone Inspection
 Conducted CIWS PACFIRE
 Conducted Flight Operations

15 Conducted Flight Operations

16 Conducted Flight Operations
 Conducted E-2/3 Advancement Ceremony
 Conducted General Quarters Drill

- 17 Conducted Underway Replenishment with USNS LEROY GRUMMAN (T-AO 195) and USNS SATURN (T-AFS 10)
Conducted Flight Operations
- 17-20 NAVINFO Southwest Media Embark (KMGH (ABC), Denver, CO; WBBH (NBC), Fort Meyers, FL; Virginian Pilot, Norfolk, VA; WSAV (NBC), Savannah, GA; WGST (AM/FM Radio), Atlanta, GA)
- 18 Conducted Underway Replenishment with USNS SATURN (T-AFS 10)
Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted Damage Control Requalification Testing for all hands
- 19 Conducted Flight Operations
Joint Military Commission Meeting/day embark (Participants: ADM Leighton Smith, COMIFOR; LGEN Sir Michael Walker, Command, Allied Command Europe Rapid Reaction Corps; GEN Rasim Delic, Commander, Army of Bosnia and Herzegovina; MGEN Zivko Budimir, Commander-in-Chief, Army of the Republic of Srpska; Mr. Carl Bildt, The High Representative. Media: ABC News; Reuters; U.S. News and World Report; Zagreb Daily Newspaper; Croatia Wire Service; Bosnia and Herzegovina TV.)
- 20-21 Anchored Gulf of Manfredonia
- 20 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
- 21 Conducted Zone Inspection
Conducted Flight Operations
- 22-23 RADM Steve Abbot, Director of Operations, USEUCOM embark
Mr. George Wilson, Times Newspapers, embark
- 22-26 Military-to-Military, Joint Contact Team Program embark (3 Polish Field Grade Officers: Komandor (O-6) Gorski; Porucznik (O-5) Gombinski; Podporucznik (O-4) Krawczyk.)
- 23-24 Ecuadorian Naval Exchange Officer embark (LCDR Roberto Jara stationed aboard USS STOUT (DG 55))
- 23 Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted General Quarters Drill
- 24 Conducted Underway Replenishment with USS BIG HORN (AO 198)
Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted Black History Month Celebration
- 24-26 Bulgarian film crew embark; TV Program "The Explorers"
- 25 Conducted Underway Replenishment with USNS LEROY GRUMMAN (T-AO 195)
Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
- 26-1 Mar Inport Trieste, Italy
- 26 Italian Visitors embark for tour
Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations

- 10 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
Conducted Daily Shipboard tours for local citizens
- 11 Conducted Underway/Verticle Replenishment with USNS SAN DIEGO (AFS 6)
Conducted Flight Operations
- 12 Conducted E-6 Advancement Examination
- 13 Advance clocks to conform to -2B
Conducted CIWS PACFIRE
Conducted Zone Inspection
Conducted Flight Operations
Mr. Richard Danzig, Under Secretary of the Navy and Mr. Joe R. Reeder, Under Secretary of the Army for daylight embark and F-14 "TOMCAT" familiarizaiton flight
- 14 Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted Vertical Replenishment with USS MOUNT BAKER (AE 34)
Conducted Underway Replenishment with USS MERRIMACK (AO 179)
Anchored Port Said
- 15 Underway, Transit Suez Canal
INCHOP to CENTCOM
- 17 Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted E-2/3 Advancement Ceremony
- 18 Conducted Bab el Mandab Transit
Conducted General Quarters Drill
- 19 Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted 50 caliber shoot
Advanced clocks to conform to -3C
- 20 Conducted Underway Replenishment with USS SAN JACINTO (CG 56)
Conducted Zone Inspection
Conducted Flight Operations
- 21 Conducted Underway Replenishment with USS SAN JACINTO (CG 56)
Conducted CIWS PACFIRE
Conducted General Quarters Drill
- 21-22 Conducted Strait of Hormuz Transit
- 22 Conducted Flight Operations
Former President George Bush day embark (President Bush was on a "good will" mission visiting former Gulf War Coalition countries and made time in his busy schedule to visit GW.)
- 23 Conducted Flight Operations
- 24 Conducted Flight Operations

- 27 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
Conducted inport tours for local citizens
- 28 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
Conducted inport tour for local citizens
- 28-2Mar Military-to-Military, Joint Contact Team Program embark (2 Albanian Naval Officers:
LT Ion; LT Ciontiu.)
- 29 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
Conducted inport tours for local citizens
- 29-2 Mar Armed Forces Network embark

March

- 1 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
VADM Donald L. Pilling, COMSIXTHFLT daylight embark (Commander's
Conference)
- 2 Conducted Zone Inspection
Conducted CIWS PACFIRE
Conducted Flight Operations
- 3 Conducted CIWS PACFIRE
Conducted Flight Operations
CAOC Guests day embark
- 4 Conducted Underway Replenishment with USS BIG HORN (AO 198)
Conducted Flight Operations
- 5 Conducted E-4 Advancement Examination
Conducted Captain's Call
Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
Transit Strait of Messina
- 6 Conducted Zone Inspection
Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted General Quarters Drill
Transit Strait of Bonifacio
- 7-11 Inport Marseille, France
- 7 Conducted E-5 Advancement Examination
Marseille, France Distinguished Visitors for inport tour
- 8 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
Conducted Daily Shipboard tours for local citizens
- 9 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
Conducted Daily Shipboard tours for local citizens
Conducted Sunset Parade with over 200 local citizens in attendance

- 25 Conducted Underway Replenishment with USS MERRIMACK (AO 179)
Conducted Flight Operations
Observed Women's History Month Celebration
- 26 Conducted Underway/Verticle Replenishment with USNS SIRIUS (T-AFS 8)
Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted General Quarters Drill
- 27 Conducted CIWS PACFIRE
Conducted Zone Inspection
Conducted Flight Operations
VADM John S. Redd, COMFIFTHFLT day embark
- 28 Conducted Flight Operations
- 28-1 Apr NAVCENT AOR Media Embark (Media: WFOR-TV (CBS), Miami, FL; WBNS-TV,
Columbus, OH; Boston Post Gazette; Defense Daily; New Hampshire Union Leader,
Manchester, NH.)
- 29 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
Conducted Underway Replenishment with USS MERRIMACK (AO 179)
MARDET conducted live fire exercise
- 30 Conducted Flight Operations

April

- 1 Conducted Flight Operations
- 2 Conducted Underway Replenishment with USS MERRIMACK (AO 179) and USS
MOUNT BAKER (AE 34)
Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted General Quarters Drill
- 2-3 MGEN Hollingsworth, Deputy Commander, Combined Joint Task Force
Southwest Asia. embark
- 3 Conducted Zone Inspection
Conducted Flight Operations
- 4 Conducted Flight Operations
- 5 Advanced clocks to conform to -4D
Conducted Vertical Replenishment with USNS SIRIUS (T-AFS 8)
Conducted Underway Replenishment with USS MERRIMACK (AO 179)
Conducted Flight Operations
Supply Corps Flag Officer day embark (RADM David. R. Ruble, Director,
Logistics/Fleet Supply Officer, CINCLANTFLT; RADM Leonard Vincent, Deputy
Chief of Staff, Fleet Supply and Ordnance, CINCPACFLT; RADM Robert C. Crates,
Commander, Naval Expeditionary Logistics Support Force.)
- 6-10 Inport Jebel Ali
- 7 Conducted inport tours for local citizens

- 8 Conducted inport tours for local citizens
- 9 Conducted inport tours for local citizens
60 local law enforcement officials attend FBI briefing aboard GW
- 10 Conducted Flight Operations
Foreign Defense Attaches day embark 9 BGEN Mahammed Ramadan Yousef, Egyptian Army; BGEN Mahammed Al Motawa, Saudi Arabian Army; COL Chris Copeland, Royal Army, United Kingdom; LTCOL Ismail Dashti, Kuwati Army; Mr. Donald Grahm, United Kingdom, Container Port Manager at Port Zayid; COL Alberto Moretti, Italian Air Forcc.)
- 11-13 Conducted SURGE Operations (60 hours continuous flight operations)
- 11 Conducted Flight Operations
Dr. Jamal Al Suwaidi, Political-Military Advisor to the Chief of Staff of the United Arab Emirates day embark. (U.S. Ambassador David Litt and His Highness Sheikh Diab Bin Zayed Al Nahyan are part of official party.)
- 12 Conducted Flight Operations
- 13 Conducted Flight Operations
- 14 Conducted Flight Operations
- 15 Conducted CIWS PACFIRE
Conducted Underway Replenishment with USS SAN JACINTO (CG 56)
VADM Walter Davis, Director, Naval Space and Electronic Warfare (OPNAV N6) day embark
Conducted E-8/9 Advancement Ceremony
Conducted E-2/3 Advancement Ceremony
- 16 Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted General Quarters Drill
- 17-19 HMS CHATHAM personnel embark
- 17 Conducted Underway Replenishment with USS MERRIMACK (AO 179)
Conducted Flight Operations
- 18 Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted Zone Inspection
Conducted Mass Casualty Drill
- 19 Conducted Flight Operations
COL Daniel C. Clarke, Deputy Chief, CCJ3 Exercise Division, CENTCOM day embark
Conducted General Quarters Drill
- 20 Conducted Flight Operations
- 21 Conducted Underway Replenishment with USNS SIRIUS (T-AFS 8))
Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations

- 22 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
Conducted Burial at Sea for YNC Edward J. Pearia. Cremains were remitted to the sea at latitude 26-54N, longitude 051-38.8E at 1043C.
- 23 Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted General Quarters Drill
- 24 Conducted Underway Replenishment with USNS YUKON (T-AO 202)
Conducted Flight Operations
Air Force 4404th personnel day embark
- 25 Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted Zone Inspection
Sheikh Sulman bin Hamad Al-Khalifa, Under Secretary, Minister of Defense (Son of Crown Prince of Bahrain) day embark (Accompanied by: Shaikh Abdulaziz bin Mubarak Al-Khalifa, Assistant Director of Information and Follow-up, Prime Minister's Court (Ambassador designate to the UK); Shaikh Khalid bin Mohammed bin Salman Al-Khalifa, Ministry of interior (Traffic); Shaikh Fawwaz bin Mohammed Al-Khalifa, Ministry of Interior; The Honorable David Ransom, U.S. Ambassador to Bahrain.)
MGEN Franklin, Commander, Combined Joint Task Force Southwest Asia day embark (Accompanied by his relief MGEN Anderson.)
Air Force 4404th personnel day embark
- 26 Conducted Flight Operations
Air Force 4404th personnel day embark
- 27 Conducted CIWS PACFIRE
Conducted Flight Operations
Deputy Wing Commander, Air Force 4404th day embark
- 28 Conducted Flight Operations
Mr. Joseph Angeles, Vice Consul of the Philippine embassy, Abu Dhabi day embark (Guest speaker for Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Ceremony)
Observed Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Celebration
- 29 Conducted CIWS PACFIRE
Conducted Zone Inspection
Conducted Verticle/Underway Replenishment with USS MERRIMACK (AO 179)
Bahrain Business Executives day embark
Advanced clocks to conform to -4D
- 30-6 May Inport Jebel Ali
- 30 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
RADM Alain Bereau, CTF 623 inport tour
- May**
- 1 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
- 2 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
- 5 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations

- 6 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
VADM John S. Redd, COMFIFTHFLEET day embark (Accompanied by Brigadier Hussein, CNO, Jordanian Navy.)
Transit Strait of Hormuz
- 7 Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted CVW/CVN Missilex
Omani Distinguished Visitors day embark (Mr. Gerald Feierstein, Deputy, Chief of Mission, U.S. Embassy, Oman; Ambassador Fuad Hinai, Deputy Chief, Office of Conferences and international Organization, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ambassador Rashid Nassir Al-Lamki, Deputy Chief of Consular Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.)
- 7-11 NMPTT embarks
- 8 Conducted Zone Inspection
Conducted Flight Operations
Retard clocks one hour to conform to -3C
Conducted NMPTT Reactor Drill Set #1
- 9 Conducted NMPTT Reactor Drill Set #2 and #3
- 10 Conducted Bab el Mandab Transit
Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted General Quarters Drill
- 11 Conducted Flight Operations
Saudi Arabian Air Force Officers day embark (Officers are participants in Exercise Indigo Anvil.)
Conducted Underway Replenishment with USS SAN JACINTO (CG 56)
- 12-25 RADM Kenneth W. Pettigrew, JFACC embark (Matador '96)
- 12 Conducted Flight Operations
- 13 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
Anchor Port Suez
Conducted Health Fair
Conducted Captain's Call
- 14 Transit Suez Canal
GW Fun Day for crew
- 15 Conducted Vertical/Underway Replenishment with USS MERRIMACK (AO 179) and USS MOUNT BAKER (AE 34)
Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted General Quarters Drill
Spanish JFACC embarks
- 16 Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted Zone Inspection
Conducted E-2/3 Advancement Ceremony
Retard clocks one hour to conform to -2B

- 17-25 Participated in Matador '96 Exercise with Spain
- 17 Retard clocks one hour to conform to -2B
Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted General Quarters Drill
- 18 Conducted Verticle/Underway Replenishment with USNS SAN DIEGO (AFS 6)
Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted Memorial Service on flight deck in honor of Admiral Jeremy M. Boorda, Chief of Naval Operations
- 18-19 VADM John J. Mazach, COMNAVAIRLANT embark (Accompanied by Mr. Duncan Holaday (SES-4), Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Installations and Facilities.)
Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted Underway Replenishment with USS SAN JACINTO (CG 56)
- 19 All hands quarters with COMNAVAIRLANT
VADM Donald L. Pilling, COMSIXTHFLEET day embark (Accompanied by MGEN Palacin, Spanish Air Force and MGEN Nix, U.S. Army.)
- 20 Weapons Department conducts shotgun shoot
Conducted Flight Operations
Spanish Flag Officers day embark (LTGEN Lius Martinez, Spanish Army, Commander, Rapid Response Force; LTGEN Sebastian Rodriquez-Barrueco Salvador, Spanish Air Force, Chief of Infrastructure, Division of Logistics Command; LTGEN Eduardo Gonzalez Gallarza; RADM Juan Jose Gonzalez-Irun Sanchez, Spanish Navy, Chief of Staff, Naval Operations Command.)
- 21 Conducted Verticle/Underway Replenishment with USS SAN JACINTO (CG 56)
Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted General Quarters Drill
- 22 Conducted Flight Operations
- 23 Conducted Zone Inspection
Palma de Mallorca Distinguished Visitors day embark (BGEN Jose Rodriguez, Military Governor of the Balearic Islands; Mr. Juan Fegeda, Mayor of Palma de Mallorca; Mr. Pedro Serra, President of the Serra Group (media consortium); Mr. Tumi Bestard, U.S. Consular Agent, Palma de Mallorca; Mr. Bartolome Beltran, President, Real Mallorca Soccer Club; Mr. Francisco Casilles, Chief-of-Police, Palma de Mallorca; LTCOL Franciso Garrido, Head, Guardia Civil of Balearics; Mr. Jose Francisco Conrado, President of la Caixa Bank, Mallorca.)
Conducted Flight Operations
- 23-24 Spanish photographers embark (covering Matador '96)
- 24 Conducted Vertical/Underway Replenishment with USS PLATTE (AO 186)
LTGEN Norman Ehlert (Ret.), Exercise Mentor for Matador '96 day embark
- 25-31 Inport Palma de Mallorca Spain
- 25 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
Conducted inport tours for local citizens

26 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
Conducted inport tours for local citizens

27 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
Conducted inport tours for local citizens

28 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
Mr. Juan Huguet, President of the Parliament of the Balearic Islands inport tour

29 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
Palma de Mallorca Navy League Representatives inport tour
Rotary Club of Palma de Mallorca inport tour

29-2 Jun CNAL Handling Team Visit

30 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations

31 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations

June

1 Conducted Flight Operations

2 CIWS PACFIRE
Conducted Flight Operations

3 Conducted Zone Inspection
Transit Strait of Messina
Advance clocks one hour to conform to -3C
Held Captain's Call

4-8 Inport Corfu, Greece

4. Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
CVW 7 Change of Command (Captain Kolin W. Jan relieved Captain Ronald D. McElraft as Commander, Carrier Air Wing SEVEN)
VS 31 Change of Command

5 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations

6 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations

7 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations

8 Retarded clocks one hour to conform to -2C
Conducted Leapfrogs with USS SAN JACINTO (CG 56)
Conducted Flight Operations

8-9 Honorable Edward E. Elson, U.S. Ambassador to Denmark embark (Accompanied by Count Frants Bernstorff; Director Nils Foss; Baron Ebbe Wedell-Wedellsborg; Baron Nils Iuel-Brockdorf; Director Peter Heering.)

- 9 Conducted E-4/5/6 Frocking Ceremony
Conducted Flight Operations
Italian Distinguished Visitors day embark
- 10 Conducted CIWS PACFIRE
Conducted Leapfrogs with USS BARRY (DDG 52)
Conducted Flight Operations
- 10-11 Honorable Nicholas Rey, U.S. Ambassador to Poland embark (Accompanied by Honorable Stanislaw Dobrzanski, Minister of Defense, Poland; Honorable Adnzej Zalucki, Under Secretary of State for Social and Parliamentary Affairs; GEN Tadeusz Wilecki, Chief of General Staff.)
- 11 Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted Underway Replenishment with USS BARRY (DDG 52)
Conducted General Quarters Drill
- 12 Conducted Underway Replenishment with USS MERRIMACK (AO 179)
Conducted Flight Operations
RADM Charles S. Abbot, J3, USEUCOM and MGEN Hornberg, USAF, Director, CAOC day embark
- 13 Conducted 45 caliber pistol shoot
Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted Zone Inspection
CAOC NATO Military Personnel day embark
- 14 Conducted Choke Point Transit
Conducted Flight Operations
Dr. Annette Krygiel (SES-6), Director, Central Imagery Office day embark (Accompanied by Mr. Stephen G. Roberts (SES-3), Chief, Policy Division, Central Imagery Office; Mr. Thomas early (SIS-2), A3I Project Management Office.)
Conducted CIWS PACFIRE
- 15 Conducted Verticle/Underway Replenishment with USNS SAN DIEGO (AFS 6) and USS MOUNT BAKER (AE 34)
Conducted Strait of Messina Passage
- 16 Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted E-2/3 Advancement Ceremony
Conducted Corsica Passage
- 17 Conducted Flight Operations
- 17-18 Honorable Donald Blinken, U.S. Ambassador to Hungary embark (Accompanied by Honorable Gyorgy keleti, Minister of Defense, Hungary; Mr. Csaba Liskay, Deputy State Secretary, Chief of the Cabinet, Minister of Defense, Hungary; LTGEN Ferenc Vegh, Commander and Chief of Staff, Hungarian Home Defense Force; Mr. Bill Siefken, Political Counselor, American Embassy, Budapest.)
- 18 MARDET/Weapons Department conduct small arms shoot
Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted General Quarters Drill

- 19 Conducted Corsica Passage
 Conducted Vertical/Underway Replenishment with USNS SAN DIEGO (AFS 6)
 Conducted Flight Operations
 Italian Distinguished Visitors day embark
- 20 Conducted Underway Replenishment with USNS SAN DIEGO (AFS 6)
 Conducted Zone Inspection
 Conducted Flight Operations
 MGEN Hanlon, USMC, Deputy, STRIKEFORSOUTH and BGEN Burns,
 USA, Plans at CINCSOUTH day embark
- 21-26 Inport Naples, Italy
- 22 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
- 23 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
- 24 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
 Command picnic held at Carny Park, NSA Naples
- 25 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
- 26 Conducted Strait of Messina Passage
 Conducted Underway Replenishment with USS MERRIMACK (A0 179)
- 27 Conducted Zone Inspection
 Conducted Flight Operations
 Milan, Italy Distinguished Visitor day embark (Guests; Honorable George G. B. Griffin, U.S. Consul General, Milan; DOTT. Ennio Presutti, President, Assolombarda; Mr. Roberto Ruozi, Rector Bocconi University; GEN Niccolo Bozzo, Generale di Divisione Carabinieri/Commander, Pastrengo Division; GEN Corradino Corrado, Generale di Division Guardia di Finanza; GEN S. A. Gian Bortolo Parisi, Commandante. Il Corpo D'Armata, Italian Army; DOTT. Salvatore Carruba, Editor in Chief, Il Sole-Ore Americans; GEN D. Carlo Bellinzona, Chief of Staff, Third Army Corps, Italian Army; DOTT. Piero Chiummo, President, American Chamber of Commerce, Italy; ING. Sergio Minoretti, Managing Director, American Chamber of Commerce, Italy; DOTT. Paolo Pasini, Director, External Relations for Assolombarda; DOTT. Vittorio Stello, Prefect, Province of Turin.)
- 28 Conducted Flight Operations
 MGEN Gomik. Slovakian Air Force day embark and S-3 FAMFLIGHT (Escorted by RADM Jay A. Campbell, Deputy Director, Plans and Policy, J-5, EUCOM)
 Naples, Italy Disitinguished Visitors day embark (Guests: Dr. Paola Ambrosio, President, Campania Regional Assembly; MGEN Claudio Soreca, Inspector General, Finance Guards. Southern Italy; Dr. Goffredo Sotille, Prefect of Caserta; Dr. Giulio Angresani, Exccutive Assistant, Campania Regional Assembly; COL Aniello Clemente, Commander, Italian Military Airport, Capaduchino; Dr. Pasquale Manzo, Vice Prefect of Naples; Consul Bill Mueller, Deputy Consul General, American Consul Naples.)
 Conducted General Quarters Drill

- 29 VFA 131 Change of Command
Conducted Flight Operations
Defense Science Board Task Force day embark (Mr. Arthur Money, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition; GEN James P. McCarthy, USAF (Ret.), Private Consultant; Mr. Charles Gandy, Stanford Communications, Inc.; Mr. Lewis Franklin, Stanford Center for International Security and Arms Control; MGEN Robert Rosenberg, USAF (Ret.), Science Applications International Corp.; Mr. John Stenbit, TRW, Systems Integration Group; MGEN John Gordon, Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff for Long Range Planning, Headquarters, U.S. Air Force.)
- 30 Conducted Strait of Messina Passage
USS Conducted Vertical/Underway Replenishment with USNS SAN DIEGO (AFS 6) and MERRIMACK (AO 179)
Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted Strait of Bonifacio Passage
- 30-1July Honorable William J. Perry, Secretary of Defense embark (Accompanied by Honorable Kenneth H. Bacon Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs); ETCM(SW) John Hagen, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy; SMA Gene C. McKinney, USA, Sergeant Major of the U.S. Army; SGT Major Lewis G. Lee, USMC, Sergeant Major of the U.S. Marine Corps; CMSAF David J. Campanale, USAF, Chief Master Sergeant of the U.S. Air Force.)

July

- 1-9 Inport Cannes, France
- 1 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
- 2 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
- 3 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
- 4 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
Observed U.S. Independence Day
- 5 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
Conducted Sunset Parade in Observance of U.S. 220th Birthday and GW's 4th Birthday (Attended by over 700 local citizens. The Honorable Pamela Harriman, U.S. Ambassador to France administered the oath of reenlistment to 31 GW/CVW 7 Sailors.)
- 6 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
- 7 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
- 8 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
Early Bird C-9 departs for United States
- 9 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
- 10 Retarded clocks one hour to conform to -1A
Conducted CIWS live fire
Conducted Flight Operations

- 11 Conducted Zone Inspection
Conducted Underway Replenishment with USS ARTHUR W. RADFORD (DD 968)
Conducted Flight Operations
- 12 Conducted turnover with USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65)
Conducted Vertical Replenishment with USS MOUNT BAKER (AE 34), USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65) and USS SUPPLY (AOE 6)
Conducted Strait of Gibraltar Passage
- 13-19 3M Assessment Team embarks
- 13-15 ORSE Team embarks
- 13 INCHOP TO COMSECONDFLT
Conducted Vertical Replenishment with USS MERRIMACK (AO 179)
Conducted Flight Operations
Conducted ORSE Drills
- 14 Retarded clocks one hour to conform to Zulu
Conducted ORSE Drills
Conducted Flight Operations
Return and Reunion Team embarks
- 15 Conducted Flight Operations
- 16 Retarded clocks one hour to conform to +1N
Conducted Flight Operations
Weapons Department conducts 50 caliber, pistol and shotgun shoot
Conducted E-2/3 Advancement Ceremony
- 17 Retarded clocks one hour to conform to +2O
Conducted Medical Response Team/Mass Casualty Drill
Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
Conducted Vertical Replenishment with USS MERRIMACK (AO 179)
- 18 Retarded clocks one hour to conform to +3P
Conducted Helicopter Flight operations
Conducted Safety Standdown
MARDET conducted rifle shoot
- 19 Conducted Flight Operations
- 20 Conducted Zone Inspection
Conducted Flight Operations
Bermuda Distinguished Visitors day embark
Anchored off of Bermuda
- 21-23 Conducted Tiger Cruise
- 21 Return and Reunion Team departs
Tiger's load aboard
Underway from Bermuda
Conducted Flight Operations

- 22 Retarded clocks one hour to conform to +4Q
CVW 7 fly off
Virginia Governor George F. Allen day embark (Escorted by ADM William J. "Bud" Flanagan, CINCLANTFLT.)
Conducted leap frogs with USS MERRIMACK (AO 179)
- 23 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
VADM John J. Mazach, COMNAVAIRLANT day visit (Provided "Welcome Home" greetings to crew.)
Moored pier 12, Naval Station, Norfolk, VA. (Return from six month deployment.)

24 Cranc off one F/A-18 Hornet aircraft

August

- 1 COL Clarence Johnson, Officer in Charge, Defense Courier Service inport tour
- 3 Army Command Staff College inport tour
- 4 HMCS CHARLOTTETOWN personnel inport tour
- 5 MARDET ammo off load
RADM Rick Williams, PEO, Mine Warfare inport tour
- 6 USO Board of Directors inport tour
- 7 COMNAVAIRLANT cruise debrief
- 9 RADM John M. Luecke, ADCNO, Pland, Policy and Operations, OPNAV inport tour
COMCARGRU 8 guests inport tour
- 10 Naval Reservists inport tour
COMDESRON 18 guests inport tour
VF 41 Reunion Group inport tour
RADM Joseph S. Mobley, Director, Navy Staff, OPNAV, guests inport tour
CAPT Abdullah Al-Khwyter, Saudi Naval Attache inport tour
- 11 Mr. Boisseau inport tour
Deputy Project Superintendent for GW PIA inport tour
CDR Rob Ryan, Commanding Officer, VAW 123 and area MARS Station operators inport tour
- 13 Virginia Association of Chief of Police inport tour
- 14 Conducted Zone Inspection
Military Order of the Purple Heart inport tour (200)
- 15 Operation "Clean Ship"; All hands field day
Capital Region Chapter of the U.S. Navy League inport tour/Presentation of GW Model (Model is 1/350th scale replica of GW presented to the ship courtesy of the Navy League. Model was built by Mr. Steve Dunn, an amature modelist contracted by the Navy League.)
Conducted E-2/3 Advancement Ceremony

- 16 COMCRUDESGRU TWO Change of Command. RADM Henry C. Giffin, III was relieved by RADM Michael G. Mullen, Commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group 2.
- 20 American Heritage Magazine Editorial Board inport tour (Guests included Mr. Timothy Forbes, President, American Heritage Company, Forbes Inc.)
- 21 Ms. Roza Otunbayeva, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Khirgistan inport tour
Virginia Beach Amphitheater Staff inport tour
Armed Forces Staff College inport tour
- 22 RADM William H. Snell, Jr., Chief, Navy Dental Corps inport tour
Armed Forces Staff College inport tour
- 23 U.S. Naval Dental Educators inport tour
Naval Transportation Support Center inport tour
- 24 Former COMNAVAIRLANT Chief of Staff guests inport tour
- 25 French-Etats-Unis, Marseille, France inport tour
CAPT Bruce Cavey, Chief of Counter Drug Operations, USACOM inport tour
- 26-29 Underway for ammo off-load
Underwent Command Retention Team Inspection
Aviation Weapons Information Management System Development (AWIMS) and Joint Direct Attack Munitions (JDAM) groups embark
- 26 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
- 27 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
- 27-28 Conducted ammo off-load with USS SEATTLE (AOE 3) and USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67)
- 28 Conducted Helicopter Flight Operations
Conducted Zone Inspection
- 29 Moored Norfolk Naval Shipyard, commence Navy's first ever PIA
- 30 Command Awards Ceremony

September

- 1 CVW 1 officially attached to GW
- 2 Observed Labor Day (Holiday)
- 5 Conducted E-4 Advancement Examination
- 10 Conducted E-5 Advancement Examination
- 11 Conducted Zone Inspection
- 12 Conducted E-6 Advancement Examination

- 14 Command Picnic at Busch Gardens
- 16 Conducted Chief Petty Officer Promotion Ceremony
- 17 Conducted E-2/3 Advancement Ceremony
- 22 Conducted pierside fuel offload
- 25 Conducted Zone Inspection

October

- 3 GW Sponsored Blue Shirt Golf Tournament at Sewells Point Golf Course
GW Sailors participate in "Liberty Shuttle" ribbon cutting ceremony at Portside in downtown Portsmouth, Va. (Joint effort between City of Portsmouth and NNSY)
- 9 Conducted Zone Inspection
- 10 GW Sponsored Khaki Golf Tournament
50 State Flag Detail participates in Fleet Week activities at Nauticus
- 12 GW's CPO Mess participates in CPO Khaki Ball, NAS Oceana, Virginia Beach, VA
- 13 Observed Navy's 220th Birthday
- 14 Observed Columbus Day (Holiday)
- 17 Conducted E-2/3 Advancement Ceremony
- 23 Conducted Zone Inspection
- 28 Shift to winter uniform
- 31 All Hands Hay Ride at Fleet Recreation Park, Naval Base Norfolk

November

- 6 Conducted Zone Inspection
- 7 Congressional Staff Delegation inport tour (Mr. Mike Meerman and Mr. Steve Saulnier obtained briefings on Challenge Athena and various intelligence systems.)
- 8 Conducted ceremony in observance of USMC Birthday
- 10 Observed USMC Birthday
- 11 Observed Veteran's Day (Holiday)
- 12 Conducted Safety Standdown
- 13 Conducted Safety Standdown
- 15 Conducted E-2/3 Advancement Ceremony

- 18 Congressional Staff Delegation inport tour (Mr. Creighton Green and Mr. Steve Sauliner obtained briefings on Challenge Athena and various intelligence systems.)
- 20 Conducted Zone Inspection
- 21 RADM Michael G. Mullen, GWBATGRU, visited GW for a PIA information update brief
Nuclear Power Recruiting Video Production Team site visit (Purpose of visit was to obtain information for scripting and possible production ideas for upcoming recruiting video on the Navy's Nuclear Propulsion Program.)
- 28 Observed Thanksgiving (Holiday)
- 30 GW1 participates in Parade of Lights on Elizabeth River near Waterside, Norfolk, Va.

December

- 4 Observed Native American Heritage Celebration
- 6 RADM Frank L. Bowman, Director, Naval Reactors inport tour (Escorted by RADM Art Clark, Director, Fleet Maintenance, CINCLANTFLT.)
- 9 Conducted Captain's Call
- 12 Conducted Petty Officer Indoctrination Course
- 13 Conducted Petty Officer Indoctrination Course
GW Holiday Party at the Virginia Beach Pavillion
- 14 Sinbad inport tour (The actor/comedian toured GW and conducted a short autograph session for the crew. Sinbad was the main entertainment at GW's Holiday Party at the Virginia Beach Pavillion.)
- 15 Conducted GW Children's Holiday Party at the Virginia Beach Pavillion
- 16 Conducted E-2/3/4/5/6 Advancement Ceremony
Duty Section Holiday Party aboard the Spirit of Norfolk (dinner cruise)
- 17 VADM John J. Mazach, COMNAVAIRLANT visited GW for a PIA information update brief
- 20 Commanding Officer attends CINCLANTFLT Change of Command aboard USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN 74)
- 25 Observed Christmas
- 31 Moored Norfolk Naval Shipyard continuing Navy's first ever PIA