



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73)
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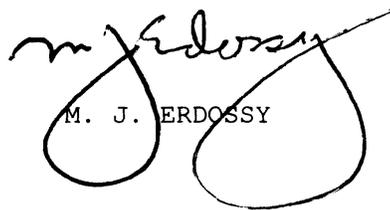
From: Commanding Officer, USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73)
To: Director, Naval Historical Center, Ship's History Branch, 805 Kidder
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Subj: USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73) COMMAND HISTORY FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2002

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) Command history for CY 2002
(2) GW award submissions for CY 2002
(3) Welcome aboard brochure
(4) Change of Command brochure
(5) Commanding Officer's biography
(6) Commanding Officer's photo
(7) News clips
(8) Diskette

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (8) are submitted as command history for calendar year 2002.


M. J. ERDOSSY

**USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73)
COMMAND HISTORY 2002
(UIC 21412)**

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. Homeported in Norfolk, Va., GEORGE WASHINGTON is an asset of Commander, Naval Air Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, commanded by Rear Admiral James M. Zortman who assumed command on July 10, 2002. At the start of this year, GEORGE WASHINGTON was moored at Pier 12S throughout the holiday leave period that ended on January 22.

Captain William J. McCarthy was in command of *GW* at the beginning of the year. Captain Martin J. Erdossy assumed command on April 8, 2002. The ship served as the flagship for Commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group TWO, commanded by Rear Admiral Curtis Kemp until Rear Admiral Joseph A. Sestak relieved him on March 1, 2002.

Carrier Air Wing SEVENTEEN, commanded by Captain Rodger Welch, then by Captain Dana R. Potts as of April, 2002, was the ship'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.

There were about 70 aircraft in *Carrier Air Wing SEVENTEEN*, including: the F-14B Tomcat fighter flown by the Jolly Rogers of VF 103; the F/A-18C Hornet strike fighter flown by the Rampagers of VFA 83, the Blue Blasters of VFA 34 and the Sunliners of VFA 81; the E-2C Hawkeye airborne early warning aircraft flown by the Tigertails of VAW 125; the S-3B Viking sea control aircraft flown by the Diamondcutters of VS 30; the EA-6B Prowler electronic attack aircraft flown by the Scorpions of VAQ 132; the HH-60/SH-60F helicopter flown by the Red Lions of HS 15; and the C-2A Greyhound carrier onboard delivery (COD) aircraft flown by the Rawhides of VRC 40.

USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73) LEADERSHIP

CAPT William J. McCarthy	Commanding Officer
CAPT Martin J. Erdossy	Commanding Officer
CAPT Kevin Donegan	Executive Officer
CAPT Dennis G. Watson	Executive Officer
CAPT Mike Davis	Reactor Officer
CDR Stephen Gragg, CHC	CRMD
CDR Bradford E. Ableson	CRMD
CDR Rick Berkey	Engineering
CDR Kevin Torsiello	Engineering
CDR Thomas J. Henning	Air
CDR Robert Schrader	Air
CDR John Umlauf, MC	Medical
CDR John Browning, DC	Dental
CDR Bill Beacham	AIMD
CDR Steve Wright	Navigator
CDR Joseph Hinson	Navigator
CDR Nathan Nickerson	Weapons
CDR John Qua	Supply
CDR Jeff Amick	Operations
CDR Kendall Tuttle	Safety
CDR Diane Webber	Combat Systems
CDR Gretchen Herbert	Combat Systems
LCDR Kevin Mason	Deck
LCDR Mary Diaz	Training
LCDR Holiday Hanna	Legal
LCDR David Berger	Legal
LCDR Ed Flint	Administration
LCDR Mike Brown	Administration

NARRATIVE

When 2002 began, *USS George Washington (CVN 73)* was moored at pier 12S at the Norfolk Naval Station. The ship was in the middle of the inter-deployment training cycle and approaching intermediate training in preparation for a summer deployment.

On January 25, *George Washington* celebrated its Holiday Party in style when 1,600 Sailors and guests partied at Norfolk's Waterside Marriott Hotel. The event encompassed two ballrooms, and featured dancing, casino games, and prize raffles.

Just days later on January 29, *George Washington* went underway for a week of carrier qualifications for training command and fleet replacement squadron pilots off the Virginia coast.

While still underway on February 3, *GW* hosted a Super Bowl extravaganza in Hangar Bay TWO, complete with five big screen displays, a six-station food court, and a professional stage & light show. The ship also welcomed NFL Guests, Hall of Fame lineman John Hannah of the New England Patriots and standout running back Ickey Woods of Cincinnati Bengals fame as well as the Washington Redskins Cheerleaders. About 1,000 people came to the hangar bay to sit in bleachers, watch the game on a big screen TV, and enjoy popcorn and hot dogs, while cheering for their favorite team. Following the *GW* Battle Group Sail from February 13-15, the ship returned to Pier 12 North at Norfolk Naval Station on February 15.

On March 1, Rear Adm. Joseph A. Sestak, Jr., assumed command of Cruiser Destroyer Group TWO (CCDG2) and the *George Washington* Battle Group from Rear Adm. Curtis Kemp.

Also on March 1, *GW* hosted 200 Hampton Roads school children onboard to commemorate the national "Read to Kids, Read Across America" campaign and the birthday of Dr. Seuss. The children were welcomed by the Virginia Education Association Vice President in Hangar Bay TWO, then the Executive Officer and the "Cat-in-the-Hat" himself made a grand entrance atop an aircraft tow tractor, riding up to the stage to the delighted squeals and applause of the young crowd. The XO and the VEA vice president read Dr. Seuss' "Green Eggs and Ham", and afterwards the children were taken for a ride to the flight deck in an aircraft elevator. At the end of the event, a cake was cut at a birthday party for Dr. Seuss, then the children were grouped with Sailors who read to them while they enjoyed cake and punch.

GW next went underway on March 22 for the four-week TSTA III/FEP/COMPTUEX/ITA period, followed by a three-day port visit to St. Thomas and prior to beginning two weeks of JTFEX.

The first week at sea brought *GW* challenging damage control scenarios of increasing difficulty as *GW* Sailors worked to earn certification from the Afloat Training Group evaluators. The crew's enthusiasm for meeting challenges was evident in the final grade, when *George Washington* completed the Inter-Deployment Training Cycle Final Examination Period (FEP) with the highest grades, for both the Damage Control Training Team and for overall shipboard readiness, ever received by an Atlantic Fleet CVN. Overall *GW* achieved 376 out of 400 points for a score of 94%. Additionally, Combat Systems aggressively accomplished all competitive and repetitive exercise requirements: thirteen required competitive exercises were completed with an average score of 98.64 and an unprecedented CVN Final Evaluation Period (FEP) score of 99%.

The COMPTUEX portion of the underway began directly after FEP. *GW* commenced use of the Vieques ranges in Puerto Rico on April 1. In accordance with presidential directives, all training on Vieques utilized inert (non-

explosive) ordnance. The *GW/CVW-17* team flew an average of 110-120 sorties a day during the exercise, practicing many of the warfighting techniques that would be needed in combat operations during the upcoming deployment. On 03 April, the firecontrolmen of CS7 Division successfully detected and engaged two BQM drone-training missiles with the NATO Seasparrow Missile System (NSSMS). The first drone was destroyed at approximately 3.89 nautical miles and the second at approximately 2.68 nautical miles. This is the first time a CVN successfully engaged two simultaneous targets.

On April 8, Capt. Martin J. Erdossy III relieved Capt. William J. McCarthy as *GW's* Commanding Officer. On April 18, *Team 92* (CVN 73 + CVW 17 + CCDG2) received its Blue Water Certification. Approximately 180 hours a day of continuous flight operations capped off a successful exercise. From April 22-25 *Team 92* made a port visit to St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands. The final exercise of the interdeployment training cycle began following the port visit on April 25, when *GW* departed from St. Thomas and headed into Joint Task Force Exercise 02-02.

Under the auspices of the Commander, Second Fleet, *GW/CVW 17* and the George Washington Battle Group worked through a combat exercise in the waters off the Virginia and North Carolina coasts. The scenario escalated into the typical operations the battle group could potentially encounter during deployment, culminating in an amphibious assault on the beaches of North Carolina. This was the "graduation exercise" for the battle group. After hosting Senator Martha Bark (R-NJ) on May 3-4, *GW* returned to Norfolk on May 7, ready to deploy.

Thursday, June 20th arrived bright and warm, and it was time to say goodbye to families and friends, cast off the mooring lines and, to the tune of "I'll be home for Christmas" blaring over the 1MC, head off on a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea and Arabian Gulf.

CVW 17 aircraft conducted carrier qualifications in the Virginia Capes Operating Area until June 23. On day two the ship successfully detected and engaged with the NSSMS a single drone missile off the coast of the United States during final work-ups before beginning Trans-Atlantic crossing. *GW* passed the Azores on June 27-28. On the 28th CVW 17 F/A-18s conducted a live missile shoot to the delight of the Portuguese DVs who were embarked for the day and observed the shoot, including Major General Jorge Manuel Antunes de Andrade, Commander of Headquarters Air Zone of the Azores (HAAZ).

GW transited the Strait of Gibraltar on July 1. Two weeks after departing Norfolk, *GW* arrived in Souda Bay, Crete, Greece on July 4 for four days of rest and preparation for the next five-and-a-half months. On the first day the crew was treated to a combination 10th Anniversary and 4th of July party on the pier to celebrate the Nation's birth and *GW's* commissioning 10 years ago. *GW's* Supply Department went all out by headlining performances by the Washington Redskins Cheerleaders, musical entertainment, and other performers. On July 5 Ambassador Tom Miller, U.S. Ambassador to Greece, toured the ship and had lunch with Rear Adm. Sestak, Capt. Erdossy, Capt. Potts and Capt. Roncolato.

After leaving Souda Bay on July 8, *GW* headed for the Suez Canal. On the way the ship was visited by Ambassador Robert Bell, Assistant Secretary General for Defense Support, NATO, on July 9, then by Vice Adm. Scott Fry, Commander, U.S. Sixth Fleet, on July 11. *GW* completed the 15-hour Suez transit on July 12 and chopped into the U.S. Fifth Fleet on July 13. After a few days of cruising through the Red Sea, the ship sailed into the Arabian Sea toward the war on terrorism.

On July 17 a French war ship stopped a fast boat moving through the North Arabian Sea and detained two suspected al Qaeda members. They were transferred to the brig aboard *George Washington* on July 18 for holding and initial questioning. Since September, coalition warships have boarded more

than 180 ships and questioned operators of more than 15,000 vessels as part of an effort to ensure they are not carrying fleeing al Qaeda members. It was not until this week, however, that anyone was detained.

Turnover with *USS John F. Kennedy (CV 67)* took place on July 19 in the Arabian Gulf and *GW* took over the duties as the ready carrier in the 5th Fleet Operating Area. *George Washington* and CVW-17 arrived on station ready to conduct sustained combat operations in the skies over Afghanistan and in the Arabian Sea, and on July 23 began flying in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. While the flight schedule was nearly non-stop, the battle group joined the UN coalition's efforts to search for suspicious ship traffic and keep an eye out for escaping Taliban and al-Qaeda operatives.

It wasn't long before the first combat operations of the deployment were conducted. On July 27, U.S. Special forces on the ground in Afghanistan were caught in a firefight with a compound of suspected Taliban and al-Qaeda supporters. This well-entrenched force was determined and heavily armed and, had it not been for the close air support of two F-14 *Tomcats* assigned to VF-103 and four F/A-18 *Hornets* assigned to VFA-81 and VFA-83, U.S. ground forces may have suffered serious casualties. On a moment's notice the CVW 17 aircraft, directed by ground forces, engaged the compound and, using 20 mm cannon fire and 500-pound bombs, destroyed the compound and neutralized the enemy. The action highlights a major reason *GW* sustained presence in theater - to protect troops through long-range power projection from the air. In the end CVW 17 aircraft flew 925 sorties and completed 4378.7 flight hours during OEF.

The month of August was filled with a variety of DV embarks. Visits began with the Chief of Naval Personnel, Vice Adm. Norb Ryan, on the 5th, followed by Commodore James Fanshawe, Deputy Coalition Joint Force Maritime Component Commander (DCJFMCC) on the 10th and Vice Adm. Timothy Keating, U.S. Navy Central Command on the 17th. On August 23, Rear Adm. Kouji Katoh, Commander, Escort Flotilla FOUR, Japanese Navy, embarked *GW*, and Rear Adm. Richard Porterfield, Director of Naval Intelligence embarked as well.

On August 28, *GW* began a four-day port visit in Jebel Ali in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. As the ship moored to the pier, the First Navy Jack emblazoned with the motto "DON'T TREAD ON ME" was raised during a small flight deck ceremony. The Navy had ordered all ships to fly the First Navy Jack during the war on terrorism as an historic reminder of the nation's and Navy's origin and will to persevere and triumph.

This port visit also provided an opportunity to conduct an intensive five-day maintenance availability with Ship Repair Unit (SRU), Bahrain. This availability focused on critical repairs to the ship's incinerator, ventilation cooling coils, and elevator equipment as well as offered a superb time to complete hull painting and flight deck cleaning.

Getting underway from Jebel Ali on September 1, *GW* sailed into Operation SOUTHERN WATCH to enforce the southern no-fly zone over Iraq. This marked the first time in a year that aircraft launched from a U.S. Navy aircraft carrier would operate in conjunction with coalition aircraft to patrol the skies over Iraq, and respond to Iraqi aggression in the southern no-fly zone by launching air strikes against military facilities. The first response option strike against Iraq by CVW 17 aircraft occurred on September 9. Continued Iraqi violations of UN sanctions and the no-fly zone, as well as attacks on coalition aircraft, led to additional strikes through mid-September. In all, *Team 92* executed five Operation SOUTHERN WATCH response options, expertly expending 4 GBU-12's, 4 GBU-16's and 12 MK83 JDAM's.

A poignant reminder to the men and women of *GW* of why we are engaged in the war against terrorism was expressed during a memorial service to honor the victims of September 11, 2001. The service was held on board *GW* as the ship remained on station in the Arabian Sea on the year anniversary of the

attacks against America. It was fitting also that on September 11, 2002, *GW* passed the torch to *USS Abraham Lincoln*, having now coming full circle since standing watch off the coast of New York City on September 12, 2001, then a year later bringing the fight to the terrorists in the Arabian Sea.

As a contrast to the somber events of the day before, September 12 offered an opportunity for the crew to escape the daily routine as the Supply Department again planned an unforgettable day of sun, fun, food and games at *GW's* Steel Beach picnic. *GW's* own "Benny the Roach" performed a variety of tunes while those in the competitive mode turned to the various sports competitions held on the flight deck. An abundance of hot dogs, burgers, sodas and other treats were provided to keep the Sailors well fed and well quenched in the hot Arabian sun.

Following the Suez Canal transit on September 16 *GW* found itself once again in the Mediterranean waters under the U.S. Sixth Fleet area of operation.

A joint task force exercise with the Royal Moroccan Navy and Air Force commenced on September 23. Exercise Med Shark involved maneuvering, flashing light and air-tracking exercises. The air events involved virtually all CVW 17 aircraft and up to 12 Moroccan fighters a day. Simulated dogfights, ground-hugging runs at 500 knots, a mock attack on a Moroccan air base and simulated attacks on the carrier put the air wing and *GW's* Combat Direction Center to the test.

A week after Med Shark *GW* was once again in the Atlantic, this time so the crew can enjoy a port visit to Lisbon, Portugal. On September 30 a reception was hosted onboard the ship by Rear Adm. Sestak and Capt. Erdossy and was attended by approximately 200 guests. On October 2 a concert featuring the multi-platinum band "3 Doors Down", the Portuguese band "Jaguar" and "Benny the Roach" rocked *GW* and promised to be a cruise highlight that Sailors and guests won't soon forget.

Too soon it was back to sea and into Exercise Destined Glory which began on October 7. The largest amphibious exercise in Mediterranean history, it involved over 8,000 personnel from 12 NATO nations including 61 ships and 100 aircraft simulating attacks on ships, air-to-air combat and air-to-ground attacks with live bombs on a range in southern Sardinia, Italy. The exercise challenged alliance command and control structures in a contingency where NATO has to force an aggressor to relinquish the captured territory of a smaller, weaker nation.

Soon enough a port visit to Naples, Italy followed on October 17. Although the first liberty day went smoothly, high seas on the second day proved challenging and liberty was suspended for most of the day. Liberty boating opportunities were hit or miss during the rest of the port visit, but the sea states began to improve over the course of the visit. On October 20, CVW 17 sent a detachment to Pula, Croatia to begin a training exercise with the Croatian Air Force. This cooperative effort between the U.S. and Croatia resulted in a visit at sea by the Croatian Deputy Minister of Defense and the Assistant Chief of the General Staff for the Croatian Air Force on the 24th. Other DV visits followed, with Italian Transportation officials and Rome Air Traffic Controllers visiting on the 25th, and the CHOD of Slovene Armed Forces visiting on the 27th, just one day prior to *GW's* port visit to Koper, Slovenia.

The visit to Koper reminded most visitors that Fall was definitely in the air. Cooler temperatures also reminded *GW* Sailors that homecoming wasn't so far away anymore. The ship arrived on October 28 and immediately set up for a reception hosted by Rear Adm. Sestak and Capt. Erdossy that evening for approximately 200 guests and almost as many *GW* officers and chief petty officers. The four-day port visit ended too soon though, and on November 1 the ship headed back out to sea.

Just as the ship was nearing deployment's end and plans for homecoming events were being discussed, the unexpected happened. On November 3, during a nighttime bombing run over the Aegean Sea, 85 miles north of Bari, Italy, a VFA-34 F/A-18 was declared missing after communications were lost with its pilot, LCDR Robert Edward "Plumber" Clukey. A 24-hour extensive search of the area conducted by CVW-17 search and rescue fixed-wing, propeller and rotor-driven aircraft along with ships and aircraft from the GWBG was conducted immediately. USS Normandy (CG 60), with its embarked helicopter, also joined in the search. After searching the area for over 24 hours, the search was suspended on November 4 and the missing pilot is declared lost at sea, presumed dead. On November 9 a memorial service was held on board *USS George Washington*, nearly over-filling the hangar bay with Sailors wishing to pay their respects. LCDR Clukey was an experienced naval aviator, having completed over 20 combat missions over Southern Iraq and Afghanistan in support of Operations SOUTHERN WATCH and ENDURING FREEDOM. He was awarded his second Strike/Flight Award in September 2002.

On November 5, President Alfred Moisiu of Albania and his official party embarked *GW*. The following day MGen Istvan Talla, Deputy Commander, CAOC5, of the Hungarian Air Force embarked. By the end of November *GW* was back in Souda Bay for its last port visit of the deployment. Eight days in Souda Bay provided an opportunity to paint the ship and allowed Sailors to make those last-minute holiday purchases before returning home. On November 30, the day *GW* pulled into port, Adm. Fallon, VCNO, flew aboard via helo for a brief visit prior to the ship mooring. Later that morning Congressman David Hobson led a Congressional Delegation visit to *GW* for lunch with constituents and a tour of the ship. Ambassador Tom Miller, U.S. Ambassador to Greece followed up with a second visit to *GW*.

The prolonged port visit proved to be just what the crew needed to relax and regroup before the big homecoming. Almost a week after leaving Souda Bay, *GW* went through the Strait of Gibraltar and cruised into the Atlantic Ocean. Then on December 13, *USS HARRY S. TRUMAN* provided 97,000 tons of relief, and on December 16 *GW* in-chopped to COMSECONDFLT. Homecoming was just around the corner.

Heading for home didn't mean the end of hard work and challenges - far from it. On Dec. 14, the ship, and especially Reactor Department, successfully completed the Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination, or ORSE, a critical series of evolutions that tested the ship's ability to operate its reactors safely. This inspection was the capstone on a year of diligent training and continuous material improvement. Now, the focus could shift to homecoming.

In keeping with the spirit of the upcoming holiday, "Santa Claus" helped launch aircraft from the flight deck when CVW 17 flew off on December 19. Later that day, Jon Wood and Ed Wood of Wood Brothers Racing, Wayne Geoffrey of Ford Motor Company, and Jeff Kryjak of Navy Auto Source embarked *GW* to conduct the "Back in Black" car and truck drawing that evening. Two lucky Sailors would leave the ship the next day as proud owners of one these two vehicles.

The ship fought through heavy seas and a major weather system as it crossed the Atlantic. Mother Nature welcomed *GW* back to Norfolk with heavy rains on Dec. 20, but that did not deter the crowds that descended upon Pier 14 South.

Finally, the morning Sailors and families had waited six months for arrived. Six months earlier, the ship left in support of the fight against terrorism in two theaters of the world. Now, after a job well done, the crew's excitement continued to build as the ship made the slow march up the channel Norfolk Naval Station - home at last.

A spontaneous cheer went up throughout the ship when the announcement, "Moored, shift colors!" was passed on the 1MC. On the pier, the familiar tune, "I'll be home for Christmas," sang out over the assembled masses of family and friends. GW was home.

2002 highlights:

- Won the Deck Department "Crossed White Anchors with Black D" Excellence award for FY2002
- AIRLANT awarded Medical its fourth consecutive Blue "M" for readiness
- Awarded Navy Environmental Health Center Gold Star Award for Command Excellence in Health Promotion
- Earned a grade of Outstanding during the May 2002 Supply Management Inspection, capturing a second Blue "E" for logistics excellence.
- Safely navigated a total of 65,330 miles including 22 restricted water passages.
- 14,431 mishap-free launch and recoveries, 42,798 aircraft moves, 316 mishap-free crash and salvage responses.
- A total of nine-and-a-half tons of precision-guided ordnance was delivered "on target" during Operations SOUTHERN WATCH and ENDURING FREEDOM, with eight tons deposited on Iraq.
- First aircraft carrier to deploy with the latest in electronic navigation, the NAVSSI system, that is to eventually fulfill the CNO's vision for decreasing manpower and enhancing situational awareness for the 21st Century.
- Fired a record number of RIM-7 missiles, five using the NSSMS.
- First aircraft carrier to successfully engage and destroy a dual BQMs stream.
- On-loaded 1,313.49 tons of ordnance.
- Combat missions conducted: 1095; Operation ENDURING FREEDOM: 925, Operation SOUTHERN WATCH: 170
- Achieved unprecedented reliability and operational readiness of the Close-in-Weapon System (CIWS), successfully completing a total of 17 PAC fires using all 4 CIWS onboard for a total of over 25,000 rounds.
- Qualified approximately 3100 personnel for armed watches.
- First to deploy with the Precision Targeting Workstation and the JSPIS-N Concentrator Architecture as integral instruments of BATGRU strike operations.
- Chosen by the Navy's Task Force Web to serve as a testing ground

where sailors using the Web portal, that will connect ships at sea to the Navy-Marine Corps Intranet, can run applications from their PCs that link to ashore systems.

- First carrier battle group in a year to conduct combat missions in support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH.

- Met or exceeded all 17 COMNAVAIRLANT logistics pulse-points for an unprecedented six consecutive months during deployment.

- Completed a total of 46 underway replenishments.

- Ship's Morale, Welfare and Recreation coordinated over 9,600 tours for the crew during the ship's 2002 deployment, and raised over \$3,000 for Navy & Marine Corps Relief through their "Back in Black" truck and car raffle.

- Qualifications: 1,207 propulsion watch station qualifications earned; 13 Command Duty Officers (CDO) Underway; six Officers of the Deck (OOD) Underway; three Surface Warfare Officers (SWO); five Tactical Action Officers (TAO); two Naval Aviation Supply Officers (NASO); two Surface Warfare Supply Corps Officers (SWSCOs); 13 Surface Warfare Medical Department Officers (SWMDO); and 760 Enlisted Air Warfare Specialists (EAWS) and 1,866 Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialists (ESWS).

- GEORGE WASHINGTON's Anti-Terrorism and Force Protection forces developed and implemented tactics, techniques and procedures to safely execute overseas port visits in an increasingly uncertain environment. Some significant highlights included:

- * Executed COMCRUDESGRUTWO and COMSECONDFLT Anti-Terrorism Exercises (ATEXes) to test ship training and responses in a variety of terrorist attack situations.

- * Developed and executed ten choke-point force protection Transit Plans. GW Transit Force Protection Plans were adopted as the primary basis for GEORGE WASHINGTON Battle Group choke-point transit tactics.

- * Developed and executed robust Inport Security Plans for 6 multi-day port visits.

- * Developed and executed special event plans for a Fourth of July celebration on the pier in Souda Bay Greece; a formal reception, and a major flight deck concert by the rock group "Three Doors Down" in Lisbon, Portugal; a formal reception in Koper, Slovenia, and a community relations project.

- * First CVN since September 11, 2001 authorized to conduct a port visit in Jebel Ali, UAE and extending into Dubai. Also first to visit Naples, Italy, since making a port call in November 2000, prior to the Navy restricting port visits there.

- * Developed an innovative Integrated Crew Served and Small Arms ship defense plan that greatly increased crew-served weapon coverage surrounding the ship.

- * Developed Anti-Terrorism procedures which were selected as the model for an Atlantic Fleet standard.

- * Researched, developed and proposed an ammunition augment for small arms and crew-served weapons that was later proposed to NAVSEASYSKOM by COMNAVIRLANT and COMLANTFLT as the Atlantic Fleet standard for CVNs.

- Committed to personal growth and excellence, *George Washington* executed a large and highly successful Navy College Program for Afloat

College Education (NCPACE). A total of 704 students successfully completed traditional instructor-led college courses, another 135 completed academic skills courses, 34 participated in Old Dominion University's Masters at Sea Program, 12 completed computer-based college courses. *George Washington* also successfully offered foreign language at sea for the NCPACE program.

- During the 2000 deployment, the leadership of CVW-17 and CVN-73 joined together to create a winning team that earned accolades during each phase of training. Building upon this superb foundation, "*Team 90*" then responded flawlessly to each national tasking, proving it could, when called upon, project power from the sea, expertly execute peacetime engagement missions or conduct a humanitarian response of exceptional magnitude in the midst of a port visit. Already demonstrating an unprecedented example of the synergy possible between a ship and Air Wing, CCDG2 was added to the "*Team 90*" concept, becoming "*Team 92*" during the 2002 deployment which resulted in success at every turn.
- Safely navigated 50,378 miles including 16 restricted water passages.
- A total of nine-and-a-half tons of precision-guided ordnance was delivered "on target" during Operations SOUTHERN WATCH and ENDURING FREEDOM, with eight tons deposited on Iraq.
- 34 underway replenishments completed during deployment
- Total of 220 days underway
- Received a total of 29.8 million gallons of fuel
- Almost \$5 million in Selective Reenlistment Bonuses paid during the deployment
- Provided over \$1 million dollars of dentistry for the crew.
- Onboard GW, 20 volunteer recorders donated over 600 man hours scheduling and recording 900 tapings, shattering all Uniting Through Reading (UTR) records previously held by a deployed unit
- 14,431 mishap-free launch and recoveries
- Total amount of fuel handled safely: 29,811,504 gallons
- 98% sortie completion rate in support of Operations SOUTHERN WATCH and ENDURING FREEDOM
- 98.2% aircraft launch and recovery equipment (ALRE) availability rate
- Received over 27 million pounds of cargo and mail

2002 CHRONOLOGY

January

- 17 RDML David Antanitus, SPAWARSSYSCOM
- 18 His Excellency, George Fernandes, Minister of Defense, Republic of India.
- 22 Holiday leave period ends. Second leave period personnel return to duty.
- 22 Ms. Carolyn Hanna, Senate Armed Services Committee
- 25 GW Holiday Party at Waterside Marriott
- 28 Staffers, Senate Armed Services Committee
- 28 GWBG Anti-terrorism Exercise
- 29 Underway from Pier 12S for FRS/TRACOM CQs
- 30 NASCAR/INDY DV embark

February

- 03 GW Superbowl Party in Hangar Bay
- 07 Mr. Ted Barreaux, SES-6, Director, Oversight and Evaluation Office of Multifamily Housing Assistance Restructuring
- 11 GW conducts medevac of USS MAHAN (DDG 72) Sailor to Portsmouth Naval Hospital.
- 13-15 GW Battle Group Sail
- 15 Pull in Naval Station Norfolk Pier 12N

March

- 01 Commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group TWO (CCDG2) Change of Command. Rear Admiral Joseph A. Sestak relieved Rear Admiral Curtis Kemp on board USS George Washington at 12 North, Naval Station Norfolk.
- 01 Hosted 200 Hampton Roads school children to commemorate national "Read to Kids, Read Across America" campaign and the birthday of Dr. Seuss.
- 07 Mr. James Kadane, SES-4, Program Director, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Systems, SPAWAR
- 07 Harlem Globetrotters, tour and demonstration
- 09 USO celebrities

13-14 "ALL HANDS" family pre-deployment briefs presented on board USS George Washington.

20 Visit by the Israeli Navy Surgeon General, CDR David Mankluta

20-22 COMPTUEX Anti-terrorism Exercise

22-28 Underway to conduct TSTA III

23-26 Conduct CVW 17 CQ

24 OLA embark

29-31 Conduct FEP

April

01-18 Conduct COMPTUEX, Puerto Rico op area

03 Successfully detected and engaged two BQM drone training missiles with the NATO Seasparrow Missile System (NSSMS).

08 Change of Command where Captain M. J. Erdossy III, USN, relieved Captain W. J. McCarthy, USN, as Commanding Officer on board USS George Washington.

09 MGEN Felix A. Santoni, U.S. Army, Retired

12 RADM Green, COMUSNAVSO

18 Conducted Burial-at-Sea of cremains of Hospital Corpsman Second Class Mark Francis Guenther, United States Navy.

19-21 ITA, Puerto Rico op area

22-25 Port visit to St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands

23 St. Thomas Navy League visit, lunch and ship tour.

23 St. Thomas Navy League hosted reception.

25 Underway to conduct JTFEX, VACAPES

28 OLA embark

May

03 VADM Dawson, COMSECONDFLT

03 Senator Martha Bark, New Jersey State Senator

07 Return from JTFEX

10 Begin first Preparation for Overseas Movement (POM) leave period.

11 RADM Foley, COMNAVSURFLANT

- 13 RADM Roberto Frascaro, Deputy Chief, Department of the Italian Defense General Staff
- 22 Col. Henning B. Larsen, Commander, Royal Danish Defense College
- 30 VADM Dawson, COMSECONDFLT
- 31 Begin second POM leave period

June

- 01 VADM Mayer, Deputy Commander, U.S. Joint Forces Command
- 17 End second POM leave period.
- 18 Final "family" pre-deployment brief presented on board USS George Washington
- 18 Lord William Bach, Minister of Defense Procurement, United Kingdom
- 19 Mr. Jack Williams, SES-5, Regional Director for GSA
- 20 Deployment to Arabian Gulf and Mediterranean Sea begins
- 21 MISSILEX, Surface-to-Air
- 22 Successfully detected and engaged with NSSMS a single drone missile off the coast of the United States during final work-ups before beginning Trans-Atlantic crossing.
- 28 MISSILEX, Air-to-Air
- 28 MGen Jorge Manuel Antunes de Andrade, Commander of Headquarters Air Zone of the Azores (HAAZ)
- 30 In-chop to COMSIXTHFLT

July

- 04-08 Port Visit, Souda Bay, Crete, Greece
- 04 USS George Washington commissioned ten years ago in 1992. GW birthday and Independence Day celebration held on pier in Souda Bay.
- 05 Ambassador Tom Miller, U.S. Ambassador to Greece
- 09 Ambassador Robert Bell, Assistant Secretary General for Defense Support, NATO
- 11 Ambassador Thomas Miller, U.S. Ambassador to Greece
- 11 VADM Scott Fry, COMSIXTHFLT
- 12 Suez Canal transit

- 12 Emergency Medevac to Cairo, Egypt with head injury
- 13 In-chop to COMFIFTHFLT
- 14 First time ever refueling at sea of a Dutch NAVY Frigate, the Van Galen
- 18 Al Qaeda members who were detained at sea by a French war ship were transferred to the brig for holding and initial questioning
- 19 Turnover with USS John F. Kennedy, Arabian Gulf
- 23 Begin Operation ENDURING FREEDOM
- 27 GW's first combat action - close air support provided by CVW 17 F-14s and F/A-18s rescued U.S. ground forces caught in a firefight with suspected Taliban and al-Qaeda supporters in Afghanistan

August

- 05 VADM Norb Ryan, CHNAVPERS
- 10 Commodore James Fanshawe, Deputy Coalition Joint Force Maritime Component Commander (DCJFMCC)
- 17 VADM Timothy Keating, NAVCENT, and LtGen Michael Moseley, CENTAF
- 19 Commodore Dan Murphy, Commander Task Group 307.3, Canadian Navy
- 23 Rear Adm. Kouji Katoh, Commander, Escort Flotilla FOUR, Japanese Navy
- 23 Rear Adm. Richard Porterfield, Director of Naval Intelligence
- 28 Port visit to Jebel Ali, UAE
- 28 Staffing of the "DON'T TREAD ON ME" Jack upon mooring to the pier at Jebel Ali, UAE
- 28 Mr. Gordon Olson, Deputy Chief of Mission, UAE

September

- 02 Begin Operation SOUTHERN WATCH
- 05 CAPT Harold Robinson, CHC, USNR, embarked for Rosh Hashanah services
- 06 Rear Adm. Thomas Q. Donaldson V, Commander, Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Center (CNMOC)
- 06 HSL-5 SH-60 aircraft mishap with recovery of pilot on board GW. Patient on ward in medical holding company for 1 week. Civilian cameraman with CBS in Los Angeles was killed in mishap.
- 07 Ambassador Ronald E. Neumann, U.S. Ambassador to Bahrain
- 09 First response option strike against Iraq in support of OSW

- 11 Ceremony conducted in observance of September 11 year anniversary, hangar bay.
- 11 Turnover with USS Abraham Lincoln, Arabian Sea
- 12 Steel beach picnic
- 12 Rear Adm. Wolfgang Kalaehne, Maritime Flotilla, CTF 150, German Navy
- 16 U.S. Embassy in Cairo DV visit.
- 16 Suez Canal transit
- 17 In-chop to COMSIXTHFLT
- 19 MTT 2
- 23 Begin Exercise Med Shark
- 28 Lisbon DV Embark:
 - Dr. Paulo Portas, Minister of State and National Defense, Ministry of Defense (MOD)
 - Ambassador John Palmer, U.S. Ambassador to Portugal
 - Joao Gullherme Nobre Prata F. Rebelo, Deputy, National Defense Committee, Parliament
 - Rear Admiral Joao Barbosa, Chief Operations Division
 - General Jose Manuel da Silva Viegas, Chief of Staff of the Army
 - Lt. General Rui Alberto Fidalgo Ferreira, Commandant Air Force Personnel
 - Vice Admiral Henrique Alexandre Machado da Silva de Fonseca, Superintendent of Material Services
 - William J. McGlynn, Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM)
- 29 Port Visit, Lisbon, Portugal
- 30 Official call by CAP.M.G. Joaquim Nobre (O-6), Commadante da Esquadriha de Submarinos, Portuguese Navy
- 30 CCDG-2 and GW CO hosted reception on board USS George Washington.

October

- 2 Concert performed by national recording artists "3 Doors Down" on board USS George Washington, Lisbon, Portugal
- 7 Begin Exercise Destined Glory
- 08 Vice Adm. Scott Fry, COMSIXTHFLT
- 09 Rear Adm. Nowakowski, COMPHIBGRU TWO
MGEN Milton, COMUKMARFOR, Royal Marines
- 17 Port visit, Naples, Italy
- 17 Naples DV visit, the Honorable Nicola Cosentino, Member of Italian

- Parliament and LtGen Ciro Cocozza, Chief of Staff, Italian Air force.
- 19 Swiss Guards visit
- 20 Begin CVW-17 Pula Det, Pula, Croatia
- 24 His Excellency, Mr. Zlatki Gareljic, Deputy Minister of Defense, Croatia, and MGen Josip Culetic, Assistant Chief of the General Staff, Croatian Air Force
- 25 Dr. Paolo Romani, President, Italian Transportation Commission and member of Italian Parliament, and BGen Pilotto, Commander Brigata Spazio Aereo, Rome, Italy
- 27 Brigadier Ladislav Lipic, Chief of General Staff, Slovene Armed Forces (CHOD)
- 28 Port visit, Koper, Slovenia
- 28 Brigadier Bojan Suligoj, Commander, Force Command, on board for lunch and a ship tour
- 28 CGWBATGRU and GW CO hosted a reception on board George Washington
- 29 Ambassador Young, U.S. Ambassador to Slovenia

November

- 03 LCDR Robert "Plumbr" Clukey, VFA-34, declared missing while flying an F/A-18 during a nighttime bombing run over the Aegean Sea near Bari, Italy. A 24-hour extensive search of the area conducted by CVW-17 search and rescue fixed-wing, propeller and rotor-driven aircraft along with ships and aircraft from the GWBG did not result in recovery of the pilot nor airplane.
- 04 Search for LCDR Clukey suspended after 24-hours with no recovery.
- 05 President Alfred Moisiu, Albania
- 06 MGen Istvan Talla, Deputy Commander, CAOC5, Hungarian Air Force
- 09 Memorial Service held in honor of LCDR Robert Clukey, III, USN, on board USS George Washington
- 10 MTT 3
- 21 Marmaris, Turkey, DVs
- 30 Port visit, Souda Bay, Crete, Greece
- 30 ADM William Fallon, VCNO
- 30 Congressman David Hobson CODEL visit, and BGEN Ronald Young, Commander, Ohio Army National Guard
- 30 Ambassador Tom Miller, U.S. Ambassador to Greece

December

- 05 Souda Bay DV Visit
- 13 Turnover with USS Harry S. Truman
- 14 Completed successful Operational Reactor Safeguards Exam (ORSE)
- 16 In-chop COMSECONDFLT
- 19 CVW 17 Fly Off.
- 19 Embark by Jon Wood and Ed Wood of Wood Brothers Racing, Wayne Geoffrey of Ford Motor Company, and Jeff Kryjak of Navy Auto Source. Conducted "Back in Black" drawing for car and truck giveaways.
- 20 Vice Adm. Konetzni, Deputy Chief of Staff, CLF
Rear Adm. Zortman, COMNAVAIRLANT
RADM Rutherford, CCG4
- 20 End of deployment, homecoming in Norfolk. Pull in Pier 14 South.