

77057

FILE COPY

AVIATION HISTORY UNIT

Unit USS KITTY HAWK (CVA-63)	Period Covered (From - To) 30 SEP 1962 - 31 MAR 1963
Signature of Commanding Officer or authorized representative <i>W. Donnelly Jr., Executive Officer</i>	Date Forwarded

DIRECTIONS: Complete in duplicate semi-annually for periods ending 31 March and 30 September, retain copy and forward original to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Op-05ASG, Navy Department, Washington 25, D. C., within 15 days after report period. No covering letter is required.

blanks using "same" to avoid repeating previously recorded information. If more space is needed, attach extra sheets. Amplifying and/or historically significant documents, including photos, may be appended with proper notation under Part VI.

All units complete Part I and other Parts as indicated. Follow instructions for each blank; fill in all required

Security classification may be at any level consistent with content. Identify classified items within the report, by an additional stamp at their position in the report. Avoid over-classification.

PART I - ALL UNITS

1. Designation: Omit if same as in previous period. If changed, enter previous designation, date of change and the authorizing directive. New units record date and place of commissioning.

2. Commanding Officer
W.L. CURTIS, Jr. CAPT. USN

C.O. relieved if command changed this period
Date of change

3. PERSONNEL ON BOARD

	AVIATORS	AIR PILOTS	OTHER	TOTAL
At end of reporting period. Ships give ships company only; wings and groups give staffs only; air stations give station personnel only.	OFFICER 32	X	113	145
	ENLISTED X	NONE	2401	2401
	CIVILIAN X	X	NONE	NONE

4. Mission or function (If changed or specifically assigned during the period, then enter a brief with dates and identity of authorizing directive.)

NO CHANGE

5. Next senior operational command (Give start and end dates if changed during this reporting period.)

30 SEP 1963 - 21 MAR 1963 COMCARDIV SEVEN
21 MAR 1963 - 24 MAR 1963 SEVENTH FLEET **24 MAR 1963 - 31 MAR 1963 FIRST FLEET**

6. GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION: (Air Stations omit; ships enter in Part II. Wings and groups should not record squadron locations; ship-based units give name of ship only. Enter beginning and end dates when part of period is involved.)

PERIOD (From - To)	PLACE
	SEE PART II

7. Participation in special exercises, operations, and operational tests (Principally those of a major nature rather than what is normally a part of routine operational training. Use official code names or descriptive titles, identify the overall command, and give dates, area and brief summary of own participation. Make reference to reports and orders covering the operation.)

SEE ATTACHED SHEET (Special Exercises)

8. Official or other recognition of accomplishment - (Such as unit citations, commendations and awards; decorations and awards to individuals, and records or events believed to be "firsts" which may be fleet-wide or apply only within the unit. Give dates of awards and events; claims for "firsts" are meaningless without a date.) 30 SEP 1962 - 31 MAR 1963

KITTY HAWK was named "Ship of the Year" for 1961 by the Girls Service Organization of the Armed Services YMCA-USO in Philadelphia, Pa.

There were no other such awards presented to the ship during the above period.

9. General resume of activity - (Narrative statement of activity not otherwise covered, summarizing work, training, special cruises and visits, conversion, modification, overhaul, new equipment, and the like. Air Stations consider, in addition, such things as reorganization, new operational administrative and management procedures introduced; special programs initiated or completed, construction in progress, expansion of facilities, etc. Use additional sheets as necessary. Documents appended should be identified in Part VI, page 4.)

30 SEP 1962 - 31 MAR 1963

During this period, KITTY HAWK was deployed to the Far East as a unit of the U. S. SEVENTH Fleet.

Besides her normal operational commitments with air operations and occasional fleet exercises, KITTY HAWK was host to many distinguished visitors.

On October 13, KITTY HAWK became SEVENTH Fleet flag ship for a day for the change-of-command ceremony when Vice Admiral Thomas H. Moorer relieved Vice Admiral William A. Schoech.

KITTY HAWK joined Commander Carrier Division SEVEN embarked in hosting a formal visit to the ship by Vice President of the Republic of the Philippines and Mrs. Emmanuel Pelzez on Wednesday, November 28. William E. Stevenson, American Ambassador to the Philippines, and his wife accompanied the vice president and his wife.

A special CINCPAC Weapons Demonstration was conducted for the free nations of Southeast Asia during the month of December and KITTY HAWK was host to representatives from these countries on 3, 4 and 5 December. KITTY HAWK was one of 15 ships involved in the at-sea phase of the demonstration.

While steaming to Cubi Point NAS, P. I., Cardinal Francis Spellman of New York City flew aboard on December 23 to celebrate Mass, two days before Christmas. Cardinal Spellman, Military Vicar to Catholic Chaplains in the Armed Forces, visited the ship on his twenty-first annual year-end pilgrimage.

More than 6,000 sailors and Marines "mustered" on KITTY HAWK's four acre flight deck the afternoon of December 29th to watch the Bob Hope show. Hope visited the ship while moored at Cubi Point. This was his first Christmas show on a Navy ship since 1958.

Vice Admiral Thomas H. Moorer, Commander SEVENTH Fleet and Rear Admiral Ralph L. Shifley, Commander Carrier Division SEVEN embarked hosted 18 members of the Industrial Club of Japan on January 24, 1963, while the ship was in-port at Yokosuka.

SPECIAL EXERCISES

17 - 18 OCT 1962 LONE EAGLE COMPHIBGRU - ONE

On 17 and 18 OCT 1962 KITTY HAWK participated in the amphibious assault exercise LONE EAGLE as the carrier support unit of an amphibious task force in the Okinawa area. COMPHIBGRU 1/CTF 76 307-62

25 NOV 1962 PHILIPPINE AVIATION WEEK

KITTY HAWK conducted air operations in support of air show at Manila International Airport.

3 - 6 DEC 1962 CINPAC WEAPONS DEMONSTRATION

High ranking guests from nine Asian nations plus the United Kingdom, France, Australia and New Zealand attended. COMCARDIV SEVEN 320-62

19 DEC 1962 BLUE SKY COMMANDER U.S. TAIWAN DEFENSE COMMAND

KITTY HAWK participated in BLUE SKY a STRIKEX against the Grand Republic of China in the Taiwan area. COMMANDER U.S. TAIWAN DEFENSE COMMAND TRAINING OPERATION ORDER 51-60.

21 DEC 1962 NEWBOY

NEWBOY was a STRIKEX opposing the Philippine Air Defense System.

4 JAN 1963 CHECKERTAIL OKINAWA AIR DEFENSE COMMAND

On 4 JAN 1963 joint task group operations were conducted with 3 other CVA's launching strikes against the Okinawa Air Defense Command.

27 JAN - 2 FEB 1963 PICTURE WINDOW III COMCARDIV SEVEN

Overflights by foreign aircraft were intercepted and visually identified during this period. (Northern Japan)

16 - 19 FEB 1963 RED WHEEL COMCARDIV SEVEN 320-63

An exercise to improve the SEVENTH Fleet ability to conduct conventional and nuclear warfare while maintaining defense against air and submarine attack and to evaluate the capability of the HUK Group to protect two CVA Task Groups. (Southern Japan)

SPECIAL EXERCISES (cont.)

5 - 8 MAR 1963

Overflights by foreign aircraft were intercepted and visually identified during this period. (Northern Japan)

PART IV - SQUADRONS

1. TYPE A/C ASSIGNED		NUMBER ON HAND		DATE FIRST RECEIVED		
2. OPERATIONAL STATISTICS	MONTH	HOURS FLOWN	NO. OF FLIGHTS	MONTH	HOURS FLOWN	NO. OF FLIGHTS

PART V - AIR STATIONS: On board refers in this instance to what is physically present; not to be confused with Home Port assignment. Do not repeat units reported as on board in the previous period unless they departed in this period. For composite units such as Carrier Air Groups, record only the parent group.

1. UNITS ON BOARD			ARRIVED	DEPARTED
2. COMMANDS AND ACTIVITIES ON BOARD			ARRIVED	DEPARTED

PART VI - DOCUMENTARY MATERIAL APPENDED (Number serially and describe sufficiently to insure proper identification.)

CARRIER LANDING RESUME

LANDING	DATE	SQUADRON	A/C NO.	PILOT
1,000	11 SEP 1961	VA 115	AD-6 507	LT. WYLIE
2,000	16 NOV 1961	VA 112	A4D 203	LT. CALLAHAN
3,000	4 JUL 1962	VF 111	F8U 111	LT. BANK
4,000	6 AUG 1962	VA 115	AD6 502	CDR. BOWEN
5,000	29 AUG 1962	VAH 13	A3B 607	CDR. SMITH
6,000	26 SEP 1962	VF 114	F4H 413	LT. DAWKINS
7,000	2 NOV 1962	VA 113	A4C 313	LT. BECK
8,000	21 NOV 1962	VFP 63	F8U 925	LT. DALRYMPLE
9,000	19 DEC 1962	VA 112	A4D 201	LTJG. CULLEN
10,000	7 JAN 1963	VF 114	F4B 408	LT. GIDEON
11,000	5 FEB 1963	VAW 11	E1B 749	LTJG. MC COY
12,000	4 MAR 1963	VAH 13	A3B 607	LT. MC MURTRY
13,000	12 MAY 1963	VF 121	F4B 126	LT. WATKINS
14,000	10 JUN 1963	VA 125	A4C 575	LT. MAULDIN
15,000	16 JUN 1963	VA 122	A1H 201	LT. KLEFFEL

30 SEP 1962 -
25 SEP 1963

FILE COPY
AVIATION HISTORY UNIT



USS KITTY HAWK (CVA-63)
CARE OF FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

CVA63 /5720
Ser: 4551
19 OCT 1963

From: Commanding Officer, USS KITTY HAWK (CVA-63)
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-05A5G) *op-09B9*

Subj: Command History; annual submission of

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.8A

OCT 62 - SEP 63

Encl: (1) Ship's History, USS KITTY HAWK (CVA-63)

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is forwarded.

W. E. DONNELLY, Jr.
By direction

SHIP'S HISTORY
USS KITTY HAWK (CVA-63)
30 Sept. 1962 - 30 Sept. 1963

On September 30, 1962, KITTY HAWK departed the Hawaiian Islands enroute to the Far East for her first Western Pacific Cruise. KITTY HAWK officially joined the Seventh Fleet October 1, as she relieved the USS MIDWAY (CVA-41). Her first port-of-call was Yokosuka, Japan.

On October 13, KITTY HAWK became flag ship of the Seventh Fleet for a day when hosting the change-of-command ceremony for the U.S. SEVENTH Fleet. Vice Admiral Thomas H. Moorer relieved Vice Admiral William A. Schoech in ceremonies at Yokosuka.

On November 5, 1962, KITTY HAWK was named "Ship of the Year" for 1961 by the Girls Service Organization of the Armed Services YMCA-US in Philadelphia, Penn., where the ship had been commissioned in April of that year.

KITTY HAWK visited Manila, P.I., where Carrier Air Group ELEVEN embarked participated in the Philippine Republic Aviation Week Air Show on November 24. Vice President of the Republic of the Philippines Emmanuel Pelaez and his wife made a formal visit to KITTY HAWK November 28 while the ship was at Manila. The Vice President and his wife were accompanied by the Ambassador to the Philippines and Mrs. William E. Stevenson.

KITTY HAWK was host to 45 top military guests of Admiral Harry D. Felt, Commander-in-Chief, Pacific, from free nations of Southwest Asia and the Western Pacific in December for the at sea phase of a CINCPAC weapons demonstration. The Weapons Demonstration, coordinated by Commander SEVENTH Fleet, was initiated to offer friendly foreign nations visual knowledge of the advancements in modern Naval weaponry. The guests boarded the ship December 3 and remained aboard for the three day exercise which involved some 15 ships and more than 10,000 men. The Naval demonstration included submarine warfare exercises

(surface and air), underway replenishment, nuclear submarine maneuvering, anti-aircraft gun firing, surface-to-air missile shoots and static displays.

KITTY HAWK'S contribution to the exercise included a Terrier Missile shoot, night and day flight operations, weapons delivery, aircraft rides for guests, night illumination and static displays.

The ship visited Hong Kong in the early part of December 1962. The Public Information Office conducted a clothing drive for refugees in Hong Kong, and with the aid of the ship's bakers taught the Chinese people at a missionary camp how to use a bread making machine.

December 18, 1962 saw the first Congressman make a night jet landing aboard an aircraft carrier, Dr. Durward G. Hall, Springfield, Mo. Congressman Hall, representing the Seventh Congressional District of his state, was making an extensive tour of military facilities of the Far East as a member of the House Armed Services Committee. He flew aboard KITTY HAWK from Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines in a Navy Skywarrior bomber and departed early the morning of December 19.

While sailing to Cubic Point, NAS, P.I., Francis Cardinal Spellman was flown aboard to celebrate Mass on December 23, 1962. Cardinal Spellman, Military Vicar to Catholic chaplains in the U. S. Armed Forces, visited the ship on his twenty-first annual year-end pilgrimage to spend Christmas holidays with the servicemen stationed overseas. The Cardinal flew on board by helicopter from nearby Sangley Point Naval Air Station, P.I.

During the in-port period at Cubic Point, the Bob Hope show was staged on the flight deck. More than 6,000 sailors and Marines "mustered" on KITTY HAWK's flight deck December 29th to watch the 13th presentation of Bob Hope's 1962 annual Christmas Show. Hope's show on KITTY HAWK was his first on a Navy ship since 1958.

On January 2, 1963, KITTY HAWK returned to Yokosuka for her second visit. For the next two and a half months KITTY HAWK visited various ports in Japan including Kobe, Beppu, and Iwakuni.

On April 2, 1963, KITTY HAWK returned to her homeport of San Diego. On May 4, 1963, CAPT Horace H. Epes, Jr., became the third Commanding Officer of KITTY HAWK, relieving CAPT W. L. Curtis, Jr. Like CAPT Curtis, CAPT Epes had served as Commanding Officer of the USS THETIS BAY (LPH-6) before coming to KITTY HAWK.

The Executive Officers job changed hands on May 15 when CAPT William E. Donnelly, Jr., then Commander Donnelly, relieved CDR William G. Coulter.

Later that month, KITTY HAWK hosted members of the Early Naval Aviators Association for a one-day orientation cruise. These "Bald Eagles", as they are called, meet each year to see the latest in Naval Aviation.

June 6, 1963, will always be a high point in KITTY HAWK's history. For that day and the morning of June 7, KITTY HAWK was literally a "Floating White House". President John Kennedy was on board to view the at sea phase of a FIRST Fleet Weapons Demonstration. From KITTY HAWK's Flight Deck, he viewed a task force of 18 ships and more than 10,000 men plus countless number of aircraft demonstrating the powerful deterrent force the Navy has today.

The Presidents official party included the Secretary of the Navy, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Chief of Naval Operations, Commandant of the Marine Corps, Governor Brown of California and the Under Secretary of the Navy. More than 100 members of the nations press were aboard to report the demonstration.

A week later more than 200 third class cadets from the Air Force Academy embarked for a week's cruise. These "Falcons" observed Naval Aviation as part of their summer indoctrination program with all branches of the Armed

Forces.

On August 3, more than 3,000 extra crewmembers streamed aboard for the third annual Dependent's Day Cruise. They were treated to an air show similar to the one viewed by President Kennedy including an air-to-air missile shoot.

KITTY HAWK left San Diego for her second Middle Pacific Cruise August 16, returning September 9. The crew enjoyed rest and recreation in Honolulu over the Labor Day weekend.

On September 25, 1963, KITTY HAWK began a series of exercises off the California coast, which included a ten-day strike exercise as a unit of Commander FIRST Fleet's striking force.

- USN -



USS KITTY HAWK (CVA-63)
CARE OF FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

1 JAN 1962
JAN 1963

CVA63 /5720
Ser: 17/ 3335

22 JUL 1963

From: Commanding Officer, USS KITTY HAWK (CVA-63)
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-291SH)

Subj: Annual Ship's History; submission of

Ref: (a) OPNAV Instruction 5750.7
(b) CNO ltr 3209 of 5 June 1963

1962

Encl: (1) Ship's history for 1962
(2) Photographs of events
(3) Bibliography of news events

1. Enclosures (1), (2), and (3) are forwarded in accordance with references (a) and (b).


H. H. EPES, Jr.

SHIP'S HISTORY
USS KITTY HAWK (CVA-63)
1962

January 1, 1962, saw KITTY HAWK in the San Francisco Naval Shipyard for a post shakedown cruise yard period. A change of command was held May 5, 1962, as Capt. Walter L. Curtis, Jr. relieved Captain William F. Bringle to become KITTY HAWK's second commanding officer. Capt. Bringle had been commanding officer since Commissioning Day, April 29, 1961. Shortly thereafter, the ship left San Francisco and returned to her homeport of San Diego, California, for refresher training and carrier landing qualifications.

With 75 NROTC Midshipman aboard, KITTY HAWK left San Diego June 25 for a MIDPAC Cruise with extensive operations near the Hawaiian Islands. During the cruise the ship logged some 5,000 nautical miles. Drills and flight operations were conducted day and night. A first for KITTY HAWK occurred during the cruise when Rear Admiral C.H. Duerfeldt became the first admiral to ever land his own aircraft on our flight deck. During Mid-Pac operations KITTY HAWK was the first ship in the Pacific Fleet to embark an F4B Phantom II squadron.

The ship returned to San Diego July 16 and began a series of exercises off the California coast. They included a ten-day weapons training cruise and a strike exercise as a unit of Commander FIRST Fleet's striking force.

On September 1, the ship hosted more than 2,000 guests on its Dependents' Day Cruise. Highlighting the cruise was a complete air show and rescue operations performed by squadrons of Carrier Air Group Eleven.

KITTY HAWK left San Diego September 13, 1962, on her first Western Pacific Cruise. Accompanying KITTY HAWK on the first leg of her

journey to the Far East were thirteen gentlemen of the press. They were top newsmen from California and Arizona invited on the cruise as guests of the Secretary of the Navy. They boarded KITTY HAWK on deployment day, September 13 and were given extensive guided tours of various departments throughout the ship during the cruise from San Diego to Pearl Harbor. KITTY HAWK operated near the Hawaiian Islands for two weeks. On October 7, 1962, KITTY HAWK officially became part of the Seventh Fleet as she relieved USS MIDWAY (CVA-41). Her first port-of-call was Yokosuka, Japan.

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USN

Enclosure (1)