

1988



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
HELICOPTER COMBAT SUPPORT SQUADRON FOUR (HC-4)
FPO NEW YORK 09523

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IN REPLY REFER TO:
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Ser 10/c002
24 MAR 1989

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From: Commanding Officer, Helicopter Combat Support Squadron FOUR
To: Director of Naval History (Op-09BH), Washington, D.C.
20374-0571

Subj: CY 1988 COMMAND HISTORY SUBMISSION

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D

Encl: (1) Biography of CDR R. L. Payne, JR.
(2) Biography of CDR John Walter Mullarky
(3) HC-4 CY-88 Battle Efficiency and CNO Annual Aviation
Safety awards submission (C).

1. In accordance with reference (a), the HELSUPPRON FOUR Command History with enclosures (1) through (3) are submitted for review.

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By direction

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OPNAVINST 5513.16 SERIES
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Ref # R 327-632-786

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COMMAND HISTORY

I. Command Composition and Organization.

- a. Mission - To provide day/night logistic support to SIXTH Fleet units and U.S. Forces Europe.
- b. Organizational Structure - Chief of Naval Operations, COMNAVAIRLANT, COMHELTACWING ONE, COMFAIRMED, HC-4.
- c. Commanding Officers - 01 Jan-22 July, CDR R. L. Payne, JR. /22 July-31 December, CDR J. W. Mullarky. See enclosures (1) and (2) for biographical information.
- d. Permanent Duty Station: Naval Air Station (NAS) Sigonella, Sicily, Italy.
- e. Assets: Six (6) Sikorsky CH-53E Helicopters:
BUNO's: 161532, 161536, 161537, 161538, 161539, 161540.
Anticipate 161988 to arrive in June 89.

II. Chronology

<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Event</u>
01-08 Jan	Detachment (Det) to Naples, Italy in support of CV-67
17-24 Jan	Det to Hyeres, France in support of CV-67
01-08 Feb	Det to Alexandria, Egypt in support of CV-67
09-16 Feb	Det to Izmir, Turkey in support of CV-67
21-27 Feb	Det to Tel Aviv, Israel in support of CV-43
04 Mar	Received COMFAIRMED Silver Anchor Award for 1987
05-20 Mar	Det to Rota, Spain in support of CV-43/LHA-4
06-11 Mar	Det to Alicante, Spain in support of CV-43
08 Mar	MEDIVAC one patient from LHA 4 to Rota, Spain
11 Mar	MEDIVAC one patient from CV-43 to Alicante, Spain
14-17 Mar	Det to Decimomannu, Sardinia in support of CV-43/CVN-69
15 Mar	MEDIVAC one patient from CV-43 to Decimomannu, Italy
18-24 Mar	Det to Palma, Spain in support of CVN-69
20 Mar	MEDIVAC one patient from CVN-69 to Palma, Spain
29 Mar-07 Apr	Det to Hyeres, France in support of CVN-69
07-20 Apr	Det to Naples, Italy in support of LPH-2
08-17 Apr	Det to Hyeres, France in support of CVN-69
11 Apr	Received Navy Unit Commendation for meritorious service during operations in the Libyan area, March/April 1986
11 Apr	MEDIVAC one patient from LPH-2 to Naples, Italy
25 Apr-01 May	Det to Hyeres, France in support of CVN-69
01-10 May	Supported Exercise "Dragon Hammer 88", CAPO Teulada, Sardinia

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04 May MEDIVAC one patient from T-A0187 (USNS Henry J. Kaiser) to Naples, Italy

06-21 May Det to Cigli, Turkey in support of CVN-69

13 May Supported "No Notice" Navy Special Warfare Exercise

20-27 May Det to Alexandria, Egypt in support of CVN-69

24 May MEDIVAC three patients from CVN-69 to Antayla, Turkey

07 Jun INF Mission, transported 25 members of INF Inspection Team from NAS Sigonella to COMISO Air Base and return

08-20 Jun Det to Palma, Spain in support of CVN-69

12 Jun Supported "No Notice" Navy Special Warfare Exercise

15 Jun MEDIVAC one patient from CVN-69 to Palma, Spain

17 Jun MEDIVAC four patients from CVN-69 to Palma, Spain

07-22 Jul Det to Tel Aviv, Israel in support of CVN-69 and Exercise "Juniper Falconry 88"

19 Jul MEDIVAC 10 patients from CVN-69 to Tel Aviv, Israel

22 Jul Change of Command: CDR John W. Mullarky relieves CDR Robert L. Payne as Commanding Officer, HC-4

01-05 Aug NATOPS Evaluation

07-17 Aug Det to Hyeres, France in support of CVN-69

10-19 Aug Supported Exercises in the Western Mediterranean during "National Week 88"

15-28 Aug Det to Rota/Alicante, Spain in support of CV-59/CVN-69

20 Aug INF Mission, transported 30 members of Soviet, Italian, and U.S. Inspection Teams from NAS Sigonella to COMISO Air Base and return

27 Aug MEDIVAC four patients from CV-59 to Alicante, Spain

29 Aug-11 Sep Det to Alexandria, Egypt in support of CV-67 and Exercise "Sea Wind 88"

12-19 Sep Det to Hyeres, France in support CV-67

04-17 Oct Det to Balikesir/Antalya, Turkey in support of CV-67, LPH-9 and Exercise "Display Determination 88"

27 Oct-04 Nov Det to Palma, Spain in support of CV-67

05-10 Nov Det to Naples, Italy in support of LPH-9

08 Nov MEDIVAC one patient from LPH-9 to Naples, Italy

14-18 Nov Det to Naples, Italy in support of CV-67

17-29 Nov Det to Rota, Spain in support of CV-67/LPH-9

18 Nov INF Mission, transported 31 members of Soviet, Italian and U.S. Inspection Teams from NAS Sigonella to COMISO Air Base and return

29 Nov-12 Dec Det to Rota, Spain in support of CV-67, LPH-9 and Exercise "African Eagle 88"

14-21 Dec Det to Palma, Spain in support of CV-67/LPH-9

21-31 Dec Det to Hyeres, France in support of CV-67

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NARRATIVE

1988 was an economic transition year for HC-4, as Navy-wide budget reductions loomed as a potential menace to an operational expenditure posture previously unaffected by serious financial constraints. However, through impressive and continual strategic planning, the Black Stallions consistently demonstrated the ability to do more with less. Although operational funding was reduced by 21 percent when compared to 1987, the squadron still documented a 15 percent increase in the number of passengers transported, and a two percent increase in the amount of cargo hauled, while logging six percent less total flight hours.

To increase effective logistic support while faced with fewer operating dollars, HC-4 investigated the options of embarking aircraft detachments onboard CV's whenever feasible. For the first time, five separate detachments operated from three different CV's, demonstrating the squadron's unique capability to work successfully from sea or shore locations.

HC-4 was the experimental test-bed, in early 1988, for determining the effectiveness of the Brooks and Perkins dual-point pallet system. Used in conjunction with the CH-53E's dual-point suspension system, the pallet was intended as a method for accelerating cargo transfer, while simultaneously reducing on-load and off-load time. While extensive testing in both the training and operational environment supported the viability of the system, its' use was not proven practical for HC-4's "heavy lift" mission. Pallet utilization was discontinued in May.

The squadron's overall mission of logistic support to the Sixth Fleet was diversified slightly with the ratification of the INF Treaty. HC-4 was assigned with providing helicopter transportation for the Soviet Inspection Team between COMISO Air Base and NAS Sigonella, Italy. Providing critical support in June, August, and November, these missions constituted a national obligation of the highest order.

Once again HC-4 had a tremendous year providing unprecedented support to Sixth Fleet Units. To preclude duplication of reporting, enclosure (3) has been provided as supporting documentation to the narrative. It includes explanations of the support provided by HC-4 to key Sixth Fleet operations, in addition to achievements in maintenance, personnel retention and advancement, safety, awards and commendations, tactical and weapon systems improvements, and lessons learned.

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ADMINISTRATIVE MESSAGE

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SECTION 01 OF 05

PASS TO CNAL CODE 314

SUBJ: SUBMISSION OF CY 88 BATTLE EFFICIENCY AND CNO ANNUAL AVIATION SAFETY AWARDS (U)

- A. COMNAVAIRLANT NORFOLK VA 231320Z DEC 88
- B. COMHFLTACWING ONE NORFOLK VA 281515Z DEC 88
- C. COMNAVAIRLANTINSI 1650.3C
- D. COMNAVAIRLANTINST 3590.5H

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1. (U) IAW REFS A THROUGH D, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION IN CY 88 BATTLE EFFICIENCY AND CNO ANNUAL AVIATION SAFETY AWARDS. RESPECTFULLY REQUEST FORWARDING ENDORSEMENT FROM COMFAIRMED TO COMNAVAIRLANT.

2. (C) ACHIEVEMENTS IN COMBAT READINESS.

A. FLIGHT HOURS:

- (1) TOTAL HOURS: 2580
- (2) TOTAL DAY HOURS/PERCENT OF TOTAL: 2229/86
- (3) TOTAL NIGHT HOURS/PERCENT OF TOTAL: 351/14
- (4) DEPLOYED/EMBARKED HRS/PERCENT OF TOTAL: 1128/44
- (5) DEPLOYED/EMBARKED DAY HRS/PERCENT OF TOTXL EMBARKED HRS: 1011/90
- (6) DEPLOYED/EMBARKED NIGHT HRS/PERCENT OF TOTAL EMBARKED HRS: 117/10
- (7) UTILIZATION RATE PER MONTH/AVERAGE FOR YEAR (BASED ON WSPD UTILIZATION OF 32 FOR FY 88): 44/44

B. MISSION ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- (1) NUMBER 9F HAX/TONS OF INTERNAL CARGO/POUNDS OF MAIL: 9402/2600/1,181,020

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- (2) TONS VERTREP CARGO: 65
- (3) SAR MISSIONS: 1
- (4) OTHERS:

(A) MEDEVAC MISSIONS: 12

- 1. 08 MAR 88: ONE PATIENT FROM USS NASSAU TO ROTA, SPAIN.
- 2. 11 MAR 88: ONE PATIENT FROM USS CORAL SEA TO ALICANTE, SPAIN.
- 3. 15 MAR 88: ONE PATIENT FROM USS CORAL SEA TO DICIMOMANNO, ITALY.
- 4. 20 MAR 88: ONE PATIENT FROM USS EISENHOWER TO PALMA, SPAIN.
- 5. 11 APR 88: ONE PATIENT FROM USS IWO JIMA TO NAPLES, ITALY.
- 6. 04 MAY 88: ONE PATIENT FROM USNS HENRY S. KAISER TO NAPLES, ITALY.
- 7. 24 MAY 88: THREE PATIENTS FROM USS EISENHOWER TO ANTALYA, TURKEY.
- 8. 15 JAN 88: ONE PATIENT FROM USS EISENHOWER TO PALMA, SPAIN.
- 9. 17 JUN 88: FOUR PATIENTS FROM USS EISENHOWER TO PALMA, SPAIN.
- 10. 19 JUL 88: TEN PATIENTS FROM USS EISENHOWER TO TEL AVIV, ISRAEL.
- 11. 27 AUG 88: FOUR PATIENTS FROM USS FURRESTAL TO ALICANTE, SPAIN.
- 12. 08 NOV 88: ONE PATIENT FROM USS GUAM TO NAPLES, ITALY.

(B) INF MISSIONS: 3

- 1. 7 JUN 88: FLEW 25 MEMBERS OF SOVIET, ITALIAN AND U.S. INF INSPECTION TEAMS ROUND TRIP TO COMISO.
- 2. 20 AUG 88: FLEW 30 MEMBERS OF SOVIET, ITALIAN AND U.S. INF INSPECTION TEAMS ROUND TRIP TO COMISO.
- 3. 18 NOV 88: FLEW 31 MEMBERS OF SOVIET, ITALIAN AND U.S. INF INSPECTION TEAMS ROUND TRIP TO COMISO.

C. DECK LANDINGS:

- (1) TOTAL DECK LANDINGS: 1020
- (2) DAY DECK LANDINGS/PERCENT OF TOTAL: 864/85
- (3) NIGHT DECK LANDINGS/PERCENT OF TOTAL: 156/15
- (4) DAY LANDINGS ASHORE: 4500
- (5) NIGHT LANDINGS ASHORE: 1085

D. OPTAR MANAGEMENT BY QUARTER AND CALENDAR YEAR:

- (1) FLIGHT HOURS GRANTED/FLIGHT HOURS USED/PERCENT UTILIZATION:

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- (A) FIRST QTR CY 88: 757/695/92
- (B) SECOND QTR CY 88: 617/560/91
- (C) THIRD QTR CY 88: 798/698/87
- (D) FOURTH QTR CY 88: 579/627/92
- (E) CY 88 TOTALS: 2851/2580/90

NOTE: FLYING THE ENTIRE FLIGHT HOUR GRANT IS NOT POSSIBLE DUE TO HIGHER COST PER GALLON AT FOREIGN FBO AND GROUND ROTOR HEAD TIME DURING LOGISTICS SUPPORT FLIGHTS.

- (2) DOLLARS GRANTED/DOLLARS SPENT/PERCENT UTILIZATION:
 - (A) FIRST QTR CY 88: 264,870/264,597/100
 - (B) SECOND QTR CY 88: 214,873/214,377/100
 - (C) THIRD QTR CY 88: 264,480/264,386/100
 - (D) FOURTH QTR CY 88: 248,500/245,356/99
 - (E) CY 88 TOTALS: 992,723/988,716/100

E. FLIGHT CREW READINESS:

- (1) AVERAGE NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT AND PILOTS/AIRCREW ON BOARD: 5/24/24
 - (2) AVERAGE NUMBER OF FLIGHT CREW PERSONNEL ON BOARD BY CREW POSITION:
 - (A) HAC: 13
 - (B) H2P: 9
 - (C) PQM: 2
 - (D) CREW CHIEF: 16
 - (E) SECOND CREWMAN: 3
 - (F) AIRCREW TRAINEE: 5
 - (3) NUMBER OF FLIGHT CREW DESIGNATIONS GRANTED DURING CALENDAR YEAR:
 - (A) HAC: 6
 - (B) H2P: 11
 - (C) CREW CHIEF: 7
 - (D) SECOND CREWMAN: 9
 - (4) PLANE CAPTAINS TRAINED: 63
 - (5) ORDNANCE EXPENDED:
 - L554, MK 25 SAR MARKERS: 11
 - L580, MK 58 SAR MARKERS: 15
 - NW 20, CHAFF: 209
 - MD/48/MF 60. IMPULSE CHAFF: 228
 - A400, .38 CAL: 170
- NUMBER OF PERSONNEL QUALIFIED: 32

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SUBJ: SUBMISSION OF CY 88 BATTLE EFFICIENCY AND CNO ANNUAL AVIATION

F. DEPLOYMENTS/DETACHMENTS:

(1) LOCATIONS/DATES:

LOCATIONS	DATES	DAYS	ACFT	PRIMARY TASKING
NAPLES, IT	07JAN-10JAN	4	1	CV43
HYERES, FR	17JAN-25JAN	9	1	CV43
ALEXANDRIA, EG	02FEB-08FEB	7	1	CV43
IZMIR, TU	09FEB-17FEB	9	2	CV43
TEL AVIV, IS	20FEB-02MAY	12	1	CV43
ROTA, ALICANTE, SP	06MAR-22MAR	17	1	CV43, CVN69
ROTA, SP	05MAR-22MAR	18	1	CV43, CVN69, LPH2, LPH3, LPH4
DECIMOMANNU	14MAR-17MAR	4	2	CVN69, CV43
PALMA, SP	1AMAR-24MAR	7	1	CVN69
HYERES, FR	29MAR-07APR	10	1	CVN69
HYERES, FR	09APR-19APR	11	1	CVN69
NAPLES, IT	07APR-20APR	14	1	LPH2
HYERES, FR	25APR-02MAY	8	1	CVN69
CVN69	20MAY-27MAY	8	1	CVN69
PALMA, SP	08JUN-20JUN	13	1	CVN69
TEL AVIV, IS	08JUN-22JUN	15	2	CVN69
HYERES, FR	07AUG-16AUG	10	1	CVN69
ALICANTE/ROTA, SP	15AUG-27AUG	13	1	CVN69
NAPLES, IT	19AUG-20AUG	2	2	CVN69
ALEXANDRIA, EG	27AUG-11SEP	16	2	CV67
HYERES, FR	12SEP-21SEP	10	1	CV67
BALIKESIR, TU/CV67	04OCT-17OCT	14	2	CV67, LPH9
PALMA, SP	28OCT-04NOV	8	1	CV67
NAPLES, IT	05NOV-10NOV	6	1	LPH9
NAPLES, IT	14NOV-17NOV	4	1	CV67
ROTA, SP	17NOV-30NOV	14	1	LPH9
ROTA, SP	01DEC-16DEC	17	2	LPH9, CV67
CV67	14DEC-21DEC	8	1	CV67
HYERES, FR	21DEC-31DEC	11	2	CV67

(2) EXERCISES:

- (A) DRAGON HAMMER 88, CAPO TEULADA, SARDINIA 1-10 MAY 1988
- (B) NU-NOTICE NAVY SPECIAL WARFARE EXERCISE, 13 MAY 1988
- (C) NU-NOTICE NAVY SPECIAL WARFARE EXERCISE, 12 JUNE 1988

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PROGRAM. AWARDED OCTOBER 1988.

- 5. ACHIEVEMENTS IN COMMAND INSPECTIONS
 - A. GRADE FOR ISIC COMMAND INSPECTION: NONE CONDUCTED CY 88
 - B. NTPI7DNSI: N/A
 - C. SQUADRON CORROSION INSPECTIONS: RECEIVED ADJECTIVE GRADES OF SATISFACTORY ON TWO AIRCRAFT MATERIAL CONDITION AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS AUDIT, CONDUCTED BY COMFAIRMED.
 - D. NATOPS EVALUATION:
 - (1) RECEIVED A GRADE OF "OUTSTANDING" FROM COMNAVAVIRLANT/COMNAVAVIRPAC NATOPS EVALUATOR IN AUGUST 1988. RECOGNIZED BY THE EVALUATOR AS "HAVING THE BEST NATOPS PROGRAM IN THE FLEET."
 - E. HUMAN RESOURCES: HC-4 MAINTAINS AN HRU AND CMED ORGANIZATION THAT CONTINUALLY IDENTIFIES AND SOLVES PROBLEMS THROUGH THE CHAIN OF COMMAND. ALL SQUADRON MEMBERS RECEIVE THE CMIO WORKSHOP AS PART OF INDOCTRINATION. THE COMMAND ASSESSMENT TEAM INCLUDES THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER, ALL DEPARTMENT HEADS AND THE COMMAND MASIER CHIEF. THE COMMANDING OFFICER CONTINUALLY RECEIVES INPUTS FROM THE CAI TEAM, CAPTAIN'S CALLS, CO'S SUGGESTION BOX ITEMS, AND THE SEMI-ANNUAL COMMAND ASSESSMENT. THIS CALENDAR YEAR, THE COMMAND HAS HAD 2 COMMAND ASSESSMENTS AND 2 CAPTAIN'S CALLS FOR EACH RANK WITHIN THE COMMAND, INCLUDING JUNIOR OFFICERS,

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SUBJ: SUBMISSION OF CY 88 BATTLE EFFICIENCY, AND CNO ANNUAL AVIATION DEPARTMENT HEADS, AND SQUADRON SPOUSES.

- 6. ACHIEVEMENTS IN PERSONNEL READINESS
 - A. RETENTION:

	ELIGIBLE	NOT ELIGIBLE	NUMBER REENLISTED	GRUSS/NET PERCENTAGE
FIRST TERM	15	4	10	53/ 67
SECOND TERM	2	0	1	50/ 50
CAREER	9	3	9	75/100

B. ADVANCEMENT:

(1) CYCLE (MAR 88)

	E-4	E-5	E-6
ELIGIBLE TIS/TIR	43	26	19
NO. TAKING EXAM	41	27	19
NO. NOT REC	2	1	0
NO. SELECTED	16	12	0
NO. PNA	25	15	19

(2) CYCLE (SEP 88)

	E-4	E-5	E-6
ELIGIBLE TIS/TIR	54	37	23
NO. TAKING EXAM	54	37	23
NO. NOT REC	0	0	0
NO. SELECTED	13	6	2
NO. PNA	41	31	21

C. ONE YEAR OR GREATER PRO EXTENSION REQUESTS: 31

7. CONTRIBUTIONS TO TACTICAL DEVELOPMENT IMPROVEMENT:

A. OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS SUBMITTED: "CH-53E HELICOPTER ONBOARD WEATHER RADAR"

8. CONTRIBUTIONS TO WEAPONS SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT:

A. CH-53E ILSMT/RIP REVIEW

9. ADDITIONAL SQUADRON REMARKS

A. SQUADRON AWARDS/COMMENDATIONS:

(1) USS CORAL SEA 191536Z FEB 88, LOGISTICS SUPPORT FOR IZMIR PORT VISIT: THE TIRELESS EFFORTS OF HC-4 CH-53E CREWS MADE THE AGELESS WARRIOR'S VISIT TO IZMIR A BIG SUCCESS. IN ADDITION TO THE DAILY FLOW OF MAIL, PAX AND CARGO, FORTY PALLETS OF FFV, FIFTY PALLETS OF MILK, AND FORTY PALLETS OF SODA WERE MOVED. ALSO, WHEN BAD WEATHER PREVENTED EATING, OVER 300 PAX WERE TRANSPORTED TO AND FROM THE SHIP.

(2) COMCARAIRWING THIRTEEN 201042Z FEB 88, CVW-13 CIGLI AB

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DET: HELICOPTER COMBAT SUPPORT SQUADRON FOUR (HC-4) PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN MAKING THE DETACHMENT A SUCCESS. THE BLACK STALLIONS BEGAN FLIGHT OPS AS EARLY AS 0700 DAILY TO TRANSPORT MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL AND AIRCREW TO CIGLI. SHUTTLE SERVICE WITH TWO H-53'S THEN CONTINUED THROUGHOUT THE DAY IN SUPPORT OF BOTH THE DETACHMENT AND NORMAL CORAL SEA LOGREQS.

- (3) USS IOWA 241400Z FEB 88, DAILY UPREP-5 FEEDER/BB-61/AS OF 241400Z FEB 88: BZ TO CH-53 CREWS OF HC-4 FOR A VERY FINE SERIES OF VOD P/M/C LIFTS.
- (4) USS YORKTOWN 021111Z MAR 88, AT-SEA HARPOON EXCHANGE: THE BATTLECRUISER WISHES TO THANK ALCON AND RECOGNIZE THE EXTRA EFFORT AND ATTENTION WHICH FACILITATED HARPOON TRANSFER 02 MAR. THE PROFESSIONALISM OF FLIGHT CREWS ARE DEEPLY APPRECIATED. BELIEVE UE HAVE ATTAINED A FIRST. MERCI.
- (5) USS OKINAWA 021953Z MAR 88, AIRLIFT SUPPORT SERVICES: OUR SINCERE APPRECIATION TO ALL CONCERNED IN PROVIDING REQUESTED SUPPORT SERVICES. ALL HANDS WERE LOOKING FORWARD TO A LONG AWAITED MAIL CALL AND THOSE WHO RECEIVED FOLLOW-ON AIRLIFTS WERE MOST APPRECIATIVE. IT IS GRATIFYING TO KNOW THAT SUPPORT TO THE FLEET IS APPLICABLE TO ALL, NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE FROM. TO THE BLACK STALLIONS, MANY THANKS FOR THE LONG HAUL, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF WINDS AND WEATHER. YOUR FINE REPUTATION IS JUSTLY EARNED.
- (6) COMFAIRMED LTH 1650 SER 0070257 OF 4 MARCH 1988, SUBJ: COMFAIRMED SILVER ANCHOR AWARD: THE SILVER ANCHOR AWARD FURTHER EXEMPLIFIES YOUR COMMAND'S SUPERIOR RETENTION AND SUPERB LEADERSHIP. YOUR POSITIVE COMMITMENT TO THE INDIVIDUAL NEEDS OF YOUR PERSONNEL IS REFLECTED BY THE SUCCESS YOU HAVE ACHIEVED IN CAREER ENHANCEMENT AND RETENTION AND IS INDICATIVE OF EXCEPTIONAL PRIDE IN THE U.S. NAVY, HELICOPTER COMBAT SUPPORT SQUADRON FOUR'S SUCCESSFUL EFFORTS TO RETAIN QUALITY AND PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL HAVE MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE READINESS OF THE COMMANDER, FLEET AIR, MEDITERRANEAN. MY SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS ON A JOB WELL DONE.
- (7) USS OKINAWA 111701Z MAR 88, AIRLIFT SUPPORT SERVICES: OUR SINCERE THANKS TO ALL CONCERNED FOR SERVICES RENDERED 10 MAR IN SUPPORT OF MAGTF 1-88 REAR PARTY EMBARK AND PMC TRANSFER. TO HC-4, ONCE AGAIN THE BLACK STALLIONS CAME THROUGH WHEN MOST NEEDED.
- (8) COMCARGRU TWO 181055Z MAR 88, MED LOGISTICS SUPPORT: TO THE BLACK STALLIONS OF HC-4, MY SINCERE THANKS AND APPRECIATION FOR THE SUPERB LOGISTICS SUPPORT YOU PROVIDED TO EVERY UNIT OF THE ME

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4-87 BATTLE GROUP OVER THE PAST SIX MONTHS. YOUR DEDICATED EFFORTS MARK YOU AS A FRUNTRUNNER IN YOUR COMMUNITY AND ARE THE SIGN OF TRUE PROFESSIONALS. WELL DONE, RADM READY.

- (9) CONFIRMED N4PLEZ IT 211640Z MAR 88, MED LOGISTICS SUPPORT: THE BLACK STALLIONS HAVE SHOWN ONCE AGAIN IN THEY KNOW HOW TO KEEP THE CUSTOMER SATISFIED. WELL DONE, AND KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK. RADM S. F. GALLU.
- (10) COMHETACWING ONE NORFOLK VA 051815Z APR 88: HC-4 HAS MOST IMHKESSIVE SAFETY PROGRAM EXPERIENCING NO AIRCRAF; MISHAP SINCE YOUR COMMISSIONING IN 1983. YOUR COMPREHENSIVE AND IMAGINATIVE SAFETY PROGRAM, BACKED BY STRONG COMMAND SUPPORT. HAS RESULTED IN AN EXCEPTIONAL DEGREE OF SAFETY AWARENESS AMONG ALL HANDS. YOU ARE THE LEADER IN AVIATION SAFETY IN THE ATLANTIC/SIXTH FLEET F COMMUNITY. CONGRATULATIONS IN YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS. BEST WISHES FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS. WARM REGARDS. CAPT ERNY.
- (11) SECNAV LTR 1650 SER NDBDM/391 DID 11 APR 88, SUBJ: NAV UNIT CUMMENDATION: THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY HAS AWARDED THE NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION TO HELICOPTER COMBAT SUPPORT SQUADRON FOUR FOR EXCEPTIONALLY MERITORIOUS SERVICE IN CONNECTION WITH COMBAT SUPPORT OPERATIONS IN

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SECTION 04 OF 05
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SUBJ: SUBMISSION OF CY 88 BATILE EFFICIENCY AND CNO ANNUAL AVIATION THE LIBYAN AREA DURING THE PERIOD 23 MARCH 1986 TO 17 APRIL 1986. AS A MEMBER OF THE SQUADRON DURING THE PERIOD CITED, YOUR UNWAIVERING SUPPORT, PERSEVERANCE, AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY WERE DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ATTAINMENT OF THIS COVETED AWARD. ACCORDINGLY, YOU CAN BE JUSTIFIABLY PROUD OF THIS SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENT.

- (12) CONFIRMED NAPLES II 141530Z APR 88, CNO SAFETY AWARD: HC-4'S SUPERB SAFETY RECORD IS MATCHED BY X HISTORY OF CONSISTENTLY OUTSTANDING SUPPORT TO THE FLEET. YOUR AL HANDS EFFORT HAS MADE THE BLACK STALLIONS A MODEL OF AVIATION SAFETY. FROM OUR PERSPECTIVE, YOU ARE THE BEST. RADM S. F. OALLO.
- (13) USS MOUNT BAKER 241600Z APR 88: THE SUPER SUPPORT PROVIDED BY THE CREW ON 22 APR IS GREATLY APPRECIATED. THEIR ASSISTANCE ALLOWED MTB TO CLEAR THE FLT DECK AND PROCEED ON ASSIGNED MISSION WITH NO TIME LOST. BRAVO ZULU TO ALL THE BLACK STALLIONS CONCERNED.
- (14) USS PAUL 291210Z APR 88, PAX TRANSFER: FOR HC-4 - APPRECIATE OUTSTANDING SUPPORT 28 APRIL.
- (15) USNS HENRY J. KAISER 041320Z MAY 88, MEDEVAC FLIGHT: EXPEDITIOUS RESPONSE TO SITUATION GREATLY APPRECIATED. THANKS TO ALL INVOLVED.
- (16) CUGARD LORSTIA LAMPEDUSA II 100830Z AUG 88, BRAVO ZULU: FOR HELSUPPRON FOUR: OUR BIG BROTHERS IN THE MED. HC4 HAS BEEN THIS STATION'S LIFELINE FOR A LONG TIME. (THE R/U PERMEATORS ARE NOT THE FIRST CRITICAL LOG THAT HC-4 HAS DELIVERED ON SHORT NOTICE.)
- (17) CTF SIX ONE 131700Z AUG 88, HC-4 VOD SUPPORT TO MARG 1-88: ORIG EXTENDS SINCERE APPRECIATION AND A WELL DOK TO HC-4 BLACK STALLIONS WHOSE SUPPORT TO TF-61 UNITS THROUGHOUT MARG 1-88 DEPLOYMENT CAN ONLY BE DESCRIBED A EXCEPTIONAL IN EVERY REGARD. ALWAYS WILLING TO GO THE EXTRA MILE, VOLUNTEERING FOR ADDITIONAL LIFTS, THE BLA STALLIONS WERE WELCOME ON EVERY FLIGHT DECK. YOUR POSITIVE SUPPORT OF TF-61 SERVED TO ENHANCE MORALE, FACILITATE MAIL, PAX AND CARGO TRANSFERS, AND SUPPORT MEDEVAC AND EMERG LV CASES. ALL OF THE ABOVE WAS ACCOMPLISHED FROM A POSITIVE PERSPECTIVE WHICH MADE IT PLEASURE TO OPERATE WITH THE PROFESSIONALS OF HC-4. TA

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VOD SUPPORT PROVIDED BY HC-4 BLACK STALLIONS MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE SUCCESSES ACHIEVED BY MARG 1-88 DURING THIS DEPLOYMENT. IT WAS A PLEASURE SERVING ON THE SAME TEAM. MY SINCERE APPRECIATION FOR JOB WELL DONE. COMMODORE VAN SLYKE.

- (18) CTF SIX ZERO 211130Z SEP 88, PERSONAL FOR: I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY APPRECIATION FOR THE OUTSTANDING SUPPORT PROVIDED BY HC-4 DURING SEAWIND 88. THE FLEXIBILITY, RESPONSIVENESS, AND HIGHLY PROFESSIONAL, "CAN DO" ATTITUDE DEMONSTRATED BY YOUR AIRCREWS AND ASSOCIATED SUPPORT PERSONNEL WERE A DIRECT AND SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTOR TO SUCCESS OF THE SEAWIND EXERCISE. YOUR 100 PERCENT SORTIE COMPLETION RATE AND DEMONSTRATED ABILITY TO FLEX TO EMERGENT, SHORT-FUSED TASKING RESULTED IN ALL REQUIRED DV AND SUPPORT PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT BEING ON STATION FOR ALL EVENTS. MY PERSONAL THANKS FOR A JOB WELL-DONE. I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING TOGETHER WITH YOU THROUGHOUT THE REMAINDER OF OUR DEPLOYMENT. RADM MORRIS.
- (19) COMSIXTHFLT 251841Z SEP 88, SUPPORT DURING EXERCISE SEAWIND 88: SEAWIND 88 WAS A RESOUNDING SUCCESS BECAUSE OF THE SUPERB SUPPORT PROVIDED BY HC-4. COMMENTS HIGHLIGHT YOUR TOP-NOTCH CONTRIBUTION TO THE EXERCISE WELL DONE. VADM WILLIAMS.
- (20) NAVAVNDEPUTOPSCEN DET ERRA NAPLES IT 271319Z SEP 88, SUPPORT EQUIPMENT TRACER: FOR HC-4, BRAVO ZULU, POSITIVE ACTION TAKEN TO LOCATE AND EXPEDITE FRUSTRATED SHIPMENT OF PSE FOR EMERGENCY REPAIR OF COMCARAIRWING THREE AIRCRAFT IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.
- (21) USNS SAURON 052220Z DEC 88, SUPPORT FOR HC-8 DET 3: YOUR SUPPORT DURING THE RECENT MAINT EFFORT TO REPAIR BR 52 IS GREATLY APPRECIATED. THANKS TO HC-4 FOR GENEROUS HANGAR SPACE, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND EQUIPMENT LOANS AS A DIRECT RESULT OF YOUR SUPPORT, BR 52 WAS PROMPTLY REPAIRED AND ABLE TO RETURN FMC TO NAPLES. YOUR PROFESSIONALISM AND TEAM SPIRIT ARE AN ASSET TO THE SIXTH FLEET.
- (22) CTF SIX ZERO 182250Z DEC 88, AIR LOGISTICS SUPPORT FOR AFRICAN EAGLE 88: I WOULD LIKE TO PERSONALLY RECOGNIZE THE BLACK STALLIONS FOR THE OUTSTANDING SUPPORT YOUR SQUADRON PROVIDED FOR AFRICAN EAGLE 88. YOUR ABILITY TO RESPOND TO BOTH THE ROUTINE AND EMERGENT SHORT-FUSED TASKING MADE A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO THE SUCCESS OF THE EXERCISE. IN ADDITION TO MEETING ALL OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS, YOU WERE ABLE TO DO SO IN A HIGHLY RESTRICTIVE AND POLITICALLY SENSITIVE ENVIRONMENT. BZ FOR THE SUPERB EFFORT. RADM MORRIS SENDS.

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