**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**
FLEET LOGISTICS SUPPORT SQUADRON FORTY
NAVAL AIR STATION
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA 23511-5330

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From: Commanding Officer, VRC-40
To: Director of Naval History (Op-09BH), Washington Navy Yard, Washington, DC

Subj: 1992 COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.1E

Encl: (1) 1991 Command History
(2) Commanding Officer's Photo

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) and (2) are submitted.

L. V. HUTTON

# 1992 COMMAND HISTORY

## VRC-40

### 1. COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

a. Fleet Logistics Support Squadron Forty (VRC-40) is assigned joint tasks of Carrier Onboard Delivery (COD) and naval Special Warfare support services to the Navy's SECOND and SIXTH Fleet. VRC-40 currently performs these missions in the Grumman C-2A "Greyhound" aircraft.

The Grumman C-2A carries the largest cargo payload of any fixed wing COD aircraft and is the mainstay of the carrier battle group logistics support effort. The optimum fuel endurance and cruising speeds of the C2-A enable the VRC-40 "Rawhides" to provide service to Carrier Battle Groups throughout the vast SECOND and SIXTH Fleet operating areas. Unlike most fleet squadrons, VRC-40 does not deploy as a unit; instead two plane self-sustaining detachments are assigned to each deploying Carrier Battlegroup. The detachments operate while embarked aboard the aircraft carrier or from forward land base sites, providing the most flexible and expeditious delivery of high-priority personnel, cargo, and mail. Additionally, VRC-40 sends one and two plane detachments in support of routine SECOND Fleet carrier schedule requirements.

b. VRC-40 is homeported at Naval Air Station, Norfolk, VA.

c. VRC-40's immediate senior command is Commander, Carrier Airborne Early Warning Wing TWELVE (CAEWW-12) also located at Naval Air Station, Norfolk, VA.

d. VRC-40's Commanding Officer from 24 May 1991 to 04 September 1992 was Commander Robert D. Littlefield, United States Navy. Commanding Officer from 04 September 1992 to present is Commander Linda V. Hutton, USN.

e. Type and Tailcode of Aircraft Assigned

| Side Number | Tail Number | Date Received/Transfer |
|---|---|---|
| 40 | 162160 | JUN 87 |
| 41 | 162144 | JUN 92 |
| 42 | 162152 | JUL 87 |
| 43 | 162153 | APR 91 |
| 44 | 162151 | DEC 87 |
| 45 | 162178 | FEB 90 |
| 46 | 162168 | SEP 88 |
| 47 | 162155 | OCT 90 |
| | 162157 | JUN 92 (TRANSFER TO NADEP) |
| 24 | 162143 | NOV 92 |

2. CHRONOLOGY OF DETACHMENTS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 14 JAN - 31 JAN | JACKSONVILLE, FL (JAX) | CV-67 |
| 26 JAN - 11 FEB | JAX/ROOSEVELT ROADS, PR | CV-60 |
| 24 FEB - 06 MAR | VACAPES/SHEARWATER, CN | CV-60 |
| 25 FEB - 29 FEB | VACAPES | CV-67 |
| 16 MAR - 25 MAR | GULF OF MEXICO (GOMEX) | AVT-59 |
| 25 MAR - 02 APR | MAYPORT, FL | CV-60 |
| 29 MAR - 02 APR | VACAPES | CV-69 |
| 02 APR - 14 APR | VACAPES | CV-67 |
| 09 APR - 17 APR | GULF OF MEXICO (GOMEX) | AVT-59 |
| 07 MAY - 08 MAY | VACAPES/BERMUDA | CV-60 |
| 09 MAY - 14 MAY | VACAPES | CV-71 |
| 11 MAY - 27 MAY | VACAPES/NEW YORK(FLT.WK.) | CV-67 |
| 18 MAY - 29 MAY | GULF OF MEXICO (GOMEX) | AVT-59 |
| 04 JUN - 06 JUN | VACAPES | CV-66 |
| 08 JUN - 25 JUN | VACAPES/ROOSEVELT ROADS, PR | CV-71 |
| 11 JUN - 18 JUN | VACAPES | CV-67 |
| 17 JUN - 30 JUN | VACAPES/BEAUFORT, SC | CV-69 |
| 13 JUL - 11 AUG | VACAPES/ROOSEVELT ROADS, PR/ GULF OF MEXICO (GOMEX) | CV-67 |
| 20 JUL - 24 JUL | VACAPES | CV-69 |
| 17 JUL - 22 JUL | VACAPES | CV-71 |
| 25 JUL - 03 AUG | VACAPES | CV-73 |
| 23 JUL - 31 JUL | GULF OF MEXICO (GOMEX) | AVT-59 |
| 05 AUG - 16 AUG | VACAPES/JACKSONVILLE, FL | CV-69 |
| 07 AUG - 16 AUG | VACAPES | CV-71 |
| 13 AUG - 18 AUG | VACAPES | CV-73 |
| 18 AUG - 21 AUG | GULF OF MEXICO (GOMEX) | AVT-59 |
| 10 SEP - 15 SEP | JACKSONVILLE, FL | CV-71 |
| 20 SEP - 08 OCT | ROOSEVELT ROADS, PR | CV-71 |
| 15 NOV - 25 NOV | ROOSEVELT ROADS, PR | CV-71 |
| 27 NOV - 07 DEC | ROOSEVELT ROADS, PR | CV-71 |

3. NARRATIVE. 1992 proved to be a year in which VRC-40 enjoyed accolades for outstanding operational, administrative, and material achievements. Constantly meeting the unique challenges required in operational logistics enhanced the squadron's unequalled reputation. The Distinguished Visitor Program was upgraded to include the squadron providing a turning back-up aircraft on deck and an airborne back-up aircraft at the carrier. In addition, an informative command packet was furnished and extra aircrew were on hand at Base Operations to brief the passengers and answer their questions. Many favorable comments were returned by our distinguished visitors including Congressional members and Staff, SECNAV Guest Cruise, SECDEF Joint Civilian Orientation Cruise, Chamber of Commerce Cruise participants, and Flag/General Officer Orientation Carrier Visits (Capstone). With two aircraft undergoing major re-work at NADEP

North Island, the squadron maintained a high operational tempo with six remaining GREYHOUNDS. Boasting an unprecedented 3290 mishap-free flight hours flown, 8225 passengers (including 835 VIPs), 751,965 pounds of cargo and 282,389 pounds of U.S. mail carried and an impressive 96% Boarding Rate.

a. January: Detachments were sent to NAS Jacksonville, FL to support USS JOHN F. KENNEDY and USS SARATOGA. Late in the month USS SARATOGA sailed to Caribbean waters and one detachment followed to support her out of Roosevelt Roads Naval Station, PR.

b. February: The detachment in Roosevelt Roads, PR continued to support USS SARATOGA while the remaining squadron personnel were busy supporting USS KENNEDY in the local VACAPES area. After completing her operations in the waters off Puerto Rico, USS SARATOGA sailed north to conduct operations off of Shearwater, Canada. A detachment was sent to Shearwater in support of USS SARATOGA and, while there, transported a Capstone orientation group of nearly 20 newly promoted O-7's.

c. March: The Shearwater detachment continued to support USS SARATOGA off the coast of Canada while a detachment was sent to Pensacola, FL and Corpus Christi, TX in support of CNATRA carrier qualifications onboard USS FORRESTAL. USS SARATOGA sailed back to Mayport, FL where the RAWHIDES supported her from Norfolk and sent another detachment to Mayport. During this time USS EISENHOWER was conducting operations in VACAPES and was being supported by the squadron out of NAS Norfolk.

d. April: VRC-40 received the "Battle Efficiency" award this month for the 1991 calendar year. Detachments to Mayport and Pensacola, FL supported USS SARATOGA and USS FORRESTAL, respectively. VRC-40's participation in the annual Azalea Festival Airshow at NAS Norfolk included a static display and a Simulated Carrier Landing Game that raised money for MWR. Additionally, the squadron participated in the airshow by providing an aircraft platform for a Special Warfare paradrop exhibition. USS EISENHOWER and USS KENNEDY were also busy operating in VACAPES during this month and received logistic support each day while underway.

e. May: USS SARATOGA received her final logistics support out of Mayport as she set sail for the Mediterranean on a six month cruise. This marked the last Atlantic Fleet sailing of a Carrier Battle Group without an embarked C-2/COD detachment. Both USS ROOSEVELT and USS KENNEDY operated in VACAPES and USS FORRESTAL was being supported out of NAS Pensacola. Another group of Capstones was brought out to USS KENNEDY on the fourteenth and fifteenth.

f. June: USS ROOSEVELT operated off of Puerto Rico and was once again supported out of Roosevelt Roads Naval Station. USS AMERICA returned from a Mediterranean cruise and received her first COD hits from the states. For the first time, the RAWHIDES set up a detachment in Beaufort, South Carolina in support of USS EISENHOWER conducting a CNATRA CQ evolution.

g. July: The squadron was busy supporting USS KENNEDY and USS FORRESTAL out of Puerto Rico and Pensacola respectively while USS EISENHOWER and USS ROOSEVELT were both being supported in VACAPES. Once again a Capstone group was taken out to USS ROOSEVELT on the eighteenth and nineteenth of the month. USS GEORGE WASHINGTON received it's first operational logistics flight on Tuesday, July 28, and continued to be supported through the month. The squadron held a successful annual all-hands summer picnic at the Officer's Beach aboard Little Creek Amphib Base, Norfolk, VA.

h. August: This month the squadron received the Tenant Incentive Recognition Award in the Hazardous Material Waste Control Program category. The fleet-wide sexual harassment sensitivity training for the squadron was held on base. The Annual GREYHOUND/HAWKEYE Picnic and Ball were held on the twenty-eighth and twenty-ninth. Detachments were sent to Pensacola and Jacksonville to support USS FORRESTAL and USS EISENHOWER respectively. USS KENNEDY continued to be supported by the Puerto Rico detachment. Once again USS WASHINGTON was underway in VACAPES and receiving daily support out of Norfolk.

i. September: The first of the month was busy when both the USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER and USS GEORGE WASHINGTON set sail concurrently. USS JOHN F. KENNEDY was also doing work-ups for the Med Cruise 1-93 which kept Det One busy as well. Later a detachment was sent to Puerto Rico to further support USS GEORGE WASHINGTON. The end of the month was highlighted by several successful special operation practice flights with both SEAL TEAMs TWO and EIGHT.

j. October: With the arrival of cooperative fall weather, the month started off with more Capstone shuttle flights. A Det was assigned to deliver the Capstone Fellows to USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT, further to Pope AFB to meet with the other half of the group and finally to NAS Jacksonville to support USS ROOSEVELT. USS GEORGE WASHINGTON was still being supported by a two plane detachment in Puerto Rico. 10 October marked the historic departure of VRC-40's DET One to support USS JOHN F. KENNEDY Battlegroup on a six month deployment, 1-93.

k. November: The first of the month was accented with outstanding public relations. Aircraft 46 was sent as a static display in the NAS Jacksonville Blue Angel Air Show. Following the airshow a detachment was sent to Bermuda to support USS SARATOGA on her return from the Med. USS EISENHOWER began her return trip from the south and the squadron began support hits upon her arrival to the JAX ops area. USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT set sail for Puerto Rico as did a two aircraft detachment. The aircraft and detachment personnel swapped out with another RAWHIDE complement of personnel the day after Thanksgiving and continued heavy operations as well as a few special warfare operation training flights into December.

l. December: The 7th brought the return of all Puerto Rico det personnel. The return of USS ROOSEVELT from Puerto Rico and USS AMERICA setting sail provided heavy operations for the month. After the squadron's annual Christmas party, the leave periods began for the holidays and the tempo slowed down. However, a CQ period on USS AMERICA was offered for the majority of the junior pilots, enabling them to maintain Carrier Currency throughout the Holidays.

ACCOLADES

USS NASSAU 16 JAN 1992: "LETTER OF APPRECIATION", "Please extend my personal appreciation to the RAWHIDES of VRC-40 for their responsiveness, initiative and professionalism in support of USS NASSAU."

COMNAVAIRLANT 302032Z JAN 92: "BZ to the RAWHIDES for the terrific response in emergency medevac of our injured crewman from USS JOHN F. KENNEDY early morning 30 JAN. The extra efforts put forth in responding to short notice, midnight tasking was impressive, on target and on time. Once again the men an women of VRC-40 have risen to the occasion to emergency tasking and performed superbly. This is an outstanding example of 'Taking care of our own'. Well done." VADM Less

USS JOHN F. KENNEDY 021911Z FEB 92: "BZ to Rawhides involved in the expedient transfer of our injured KENNEDY shipmate on 30 JAN 92... It's a pleasure to have you as part of the team. Well done." CAPT Gay

COMCAEWWING TWELVE 121701Z MAR 92: "Congratulations to the VAW-123 SCREWTOPS and the VRC-40 RAWHIDES as 1991 Battle "E" winners; and to the VAW-124 BEAR ACES as VAWLANT AEW EXCELLENCE award nominee."

COMTACWINGSLANT 121633Z MAR 92: "Sincerest congratulations on your selection as the COMNAVAIRLANT BATTLE 'E' award winner. VRC-40 RAWHIDES can be justifiably proud of their accomplishments over the past year. Your performance was superb and is indicative of a total team effort. Well done."

COMMANDER, 380th OPERATIONS GROUP ltr: "Please pass my sincere appreciation to all members of Lt Commander McGowan's team for their totally professional service during my recent trip to the USS SARATOGA. Operating in severe weather conditions at Shearwater, Nova Scotia, their superb airmanship and first-class service certainly impressed this old Air Force jock--thanks."

USS FORRESTAL ltr of 03 Apr 92: "Forrestal's highly successful 17-24 March at-sea period was highlighted by superb professional support from all concerned. The opportunity to complete carrier landing qualification requirements for students from TRARONS FOUR, SEVEN, NINETEEN, TWENTY-ONE, TWENTY-TWO, TWENTY-THREE, TWENTY-FOUR, TWENTY-FIVE, and TWENTY-SIX in a dynamic training environment made Forrestal's maiden AVT cruise most meaningful. Additionally, the night refreshing of seasoned aviators from VFA-81, VFA-81, VFA-83, and VS-30 allowed FID to maintain fleet skills. The unflagging support provided by HC-16 and VRC-40 is also worthy of special mention. We look forward to upcoming operations with the present and future leaders of naval aviation." CAPT Johnson

USS EISENHOWER ltr of 16 Apr 92: "I wish to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation on behalf of the officers and men of VAW-121 for your thoughtfulness in sending the copies of the March 29, 1992 Sunday newspaper to the USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN 69) Battle Group. This gesture on your behalf was a welcome treat since these were the first American newspapers we had seen since our departure on September 26, 1991. They were also the first newspapers we received which arrived on the same day as they were printed. While we were still three days away from our homecoming in Norfolk, their arrival was an encouraging sign of better times ahead and helped make the last days of deployment more enjoyable. Thank you again for your generosity and close cooperation with VRC-40 to make this happen." CDR Klauss

CINCLANTFLT 161330Z MAY 92: "Appreciate greatly support in hosting the Joint Civilian Orientation Conference. Display of professionalism and unit pride was clear--your attention and enthusiasm throughout the visit received high marks from our guests. Thanks." ADM Miller

Purdue University ltr of 13 May 92: "Although the ride to and from the carrier was exciting and the arrested landing and catapult were thrilling...nothing impressed me more than the caring consciousness of the support personnel and their detailed and thorough concern for safety and comfort! Every sense was stimulating - the smell of diesel fuel, the taste of salt air, the penetrating roar of the jet engines, the vibration of the unleashed engine power - truly a memorable event! Thanks." Dennis J. Weideman, Dean

Portsmouth Naval Hospital ltr of 8 Jun 92: "On behalf of the Navy Blood Program and Portsmouth Naval Hospital, I express sincere thanks and appreciation for the blood drive sponsored by VRC-40 on 06 May 92. Twenty-nine people volunteered to donate blood to the Navy Bloodmobile. Please extend the gratitude of our medical staff to your personnel for wholeheartedly supporting the Navy Blood Program. The enthusiastic response of your personnel is indicative of their compassion for our patients and understanding of our constant need for replenishment of vital blood products. Again, please extend our appreciation to all the blood donors. We look forward to working with the personnel of VRC-40 on future blood drives."

John F. Miller, III ltr of 2 Aug 92: "The flight on your C-2 from Mayport, Florida to the USS Eisenhower on 7 August 1992 and the return trip the next day, was truly an experience of a lifetime. Please accept my thanks to you and your organization for their hospitality."

James Engell ltr: "The service and personal consideration provided by pilot, plane captain, and loadmaster were outstanding. Everything was made clear. They were helpful, instructive, and patient! The pilot (CDR Hutton) was particularly well spoken during the briefing she gave before our flight out. All our group remarked on the courtesy and efficiency of the part of our visit to The USS Roosevelt handled by VRC-40."

Virginia Marine Science Museum ltr of 10 Aug 92: "It seems like the event happened years ago, but in reality it is still fresh in our minds. I am sure that those of us involved with this animal will never forget the cooperation, professionalism, and technical abilities of our flight crew. With your help, we were able to give this rare whale a chance for survival. A belated thanks from the VMSM Stranding Team for all your assistance. I hope we never have to do it again, but I'm sure our experience will serve us well when the inevitable occurs."

COMNAVAIRLANT ltr of 26 Aug 92: "Fleet Logistics Support Squadron 40 has accomplished Class "A" mishap free aircraft operations for the 9 year period from 24 August 1983 to 23 August 1992. All hands are to be congratulated for attaining this superior milestone and should take great pride in such outstanding performance. You have made a major contribution to the readiness of Naval Air Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet and the United States Navy. Well done to all hands." VADM Less

VADM Baldwin ltr of 13 Aug 92: "The support you and VRC-40 provided the Capstone Fellows on July 17-18 was outstanding. I am sure none of them will soon forget their "Trap" and "Cat" from the USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT. Please pass my thanks to your entire flight crew." VADM Baldwin

COMTACWINGSLANT ltr of 2 Sep 92: "Congratulations on your superb achievement of nine years and more than 39,000 hours of major mishap-free flight operations. This is an enviable record, setting the standard for all to emulate. Your success in the demanding environment of naval aviation required strong leadership, strict attention to detail, and the steadfast dedication of all hands. Bravo Zulu to the RAWHIDES for a job exceptionally well done."

Thomas W. Durant ltr of 14 Sep 92: As a guest of CCG-2, I flew aboard JFK from MCAS New River on 10 Sep 92 returning on 11 Sep. The CCG-2, C-2 det OIC and his crew were superb professionals in every respect. It was indeed a pleasure to see such dedicated men and women keeping the faith and the fleet provided for."

Frank B. Gibson ltr of 21 Oct 92: "LCDR McGowan, his co-pilots and crew flew our C-2 which delivered us to the USS Kennedy on Sep 10 and brought us home again on Sept 11. They were all most informative, professional and personable. We thoroughly enjoyed our trips with them. Doug and his detachment in the Med will be in our thoughts and prayers and we wish them a safe return home."