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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
HELICOPTER COMBAT SUPPORT SQUADRON FOUR (HC-4)  
FPO NEW YORK 09523 - 1800

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IN REPLY REFER TO:  
5750  
Ser 10/C030  
21 March 1985

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From: Commanding Officer, Helicopter Combat Support Squadron FOUR  
To: Chief of Naval Operations, Washington D. C. 20374 (OP-05D2)

Subj: 1984 COMMAND HISTORY; SUBMISSION OF

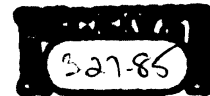
Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

Encl: (1) HELSUPPRON FOUR 200018Z JAN 85 (C)  
(2) Change of Command Program (U)

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) and (2) are submitted as an accurate and thorough description of CY 84 events. Paragraph 9C of enclosure (1) is a chronological narrative meeting the Command History requirement as delineated in reference (a).

2. In addition to the information provided by enclosures (1) and (2), the "Black Stallions" of HC-4 safely conducted shipboard flight operations during 268 days of calendar year 1984, representing nearly nine months of operations in the Navy's most hazardous environment. A tribute to the outstanding leadership at all levels, HC-4's first year of squadron operations was mishap free.

*J. F. Scurria*  
J. F. SCURRIA



Copy to:  
CNO (OP-09BH)

Reg # R296 449 646

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OPNAVINST 5513.16 SERIES  
DATE: 28 Apr 2000

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HELSPUPRON FOUR  
COMNAVAIRLANT NORFOLK VA  
COMFAIRMED NAPLES IT  
COMHELTACWING ONE NORFOLK VA  
INFO CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK

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SUBJ: CY 84 BATTLE EFFICIENCY AWARD; SUBMISSION OF

- A. COMNAVAIRLANT 1650.3A
  - B. COMFAIRMED NAPLES IT 051509Z DEC 84 (NOTAL)
  - C. COMNAVAIRLANT NORFOLK VA 171436Z DEC 84
- 1. (U) IAW REFS A THRU C, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION IN CY84 BATTLE EFFICIENCY AWARD COMPETITION.
  - 2. (C) ACHIEVEMENTS IN COMBAT READINESS.
    - A. (U) FLIGHT HOURS:
      - (1) TOTAL HRS: 2814.6
      - (2) TOTAL DAY HRS/PERCENT OF TOTAL: 2566.7/91.2
      - (3) TOTAL NIGHT HRS/PERCENT OF TOTAL: 247.9/8.8
      - (4) DEPLOYED AND EMBARKED HRS/PERCENT OF TOTAL: 1584.5/56.3
      - (5) DAY HRS/PERCENT OF EMBARKED TOTAL: 1433.5/90.4
      - (6) NIGHT HRS/PERCENT OF EMBARKED TOTAL: 151.0/9.6

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B. (C) MISSION ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

(1) (U) NUMBER OF PAX/TONS INTERNAL CARGO/ POUNDS MAIL:  
13,623/2489.25/1,314,300.

(2) (U) TONS EXTERNAL CARGO: 104.6

(3) (U) SAR MISSIONS: ONE

(4) (C) MEDEVACS/HUMANITARIAN MISSIONS: 22/53

(A) (U) 11 FEB 1984 - EVACUATED 339 U.S. AND FOREIGN NATIONALS, INCLUDING DEPENDENTS, TO THE SAFETY OF LARNACA, CYPRUS DUE TO WAR TORN CONDITIONS IN BEIRUT.

(B) (U) 12 JULY 1984 - PROVIDED IMMEDIATE RESPONSE DURING USAF C-141 MISHAP IN THE VICINITY OF NAS SIGONELLA. ASSISTANCE INCLUDED: INITIAL AIRBORNE ON SCENE COMMANDER; TRANSPORT OF SECURITY AND MEDICAL PERSONNEL TO AND FROM THE CRASH SITE; ON SITE AVIATION SAFETY OFFICER/INVESTIGATOR WHO COORDINATED AND IMPLEMENTED INITIAL INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES UNTIL RELIEVED BY USAF TEAMS 10 HRS SUBSEQUENT TO THE CRASH; AIRBORNE COMMUNICATIONS RELAY BETWEEN THE ACCIDENT SITE AND NAS SIGONELLA OPCON CENTER.

(C) (C) 22 SEPT 1984 - TRANSPORTED EIGHT MEDEVAC PATIENTS FROM BEIRUT TO USS SHREVEPORT AND TEL AVIV, ISRAEL DURING THE AFTERMATH OF THE 20 SEPT EMBASSY ANNEX BOMBING.

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(D) (C) 22 SEPT - 31 DEC 1984 - CONDUCTED 53 HUMANITARIAN SUPPORT MISSIONS AND TRANSPORTED 485 ASSISTANCE/REPLACEMENT PERSONNEL, CASUALTIES, AND MEDEVACS IN AND OUT OF BEIRUT. THESE SUPPORT FLIGHTS, TO LZ'S IN FACTIONALLY CONTROLLED AREAS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS, WERE CONDUCTED WITHOUT BENEFIT OF ARMOR, ARMAMENT OR COUNTERMEASURES EQUIPMENT, AND PROVIDED THE SOLE SOURCE OF INGRESS/EGRESS FOR HIGH VISIBILITY STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS.

C.(U) DECK LANDINGS:

- (1) TOTAL DECK LDGS: 1267
- (2) DAY DECK LDGS/PERCENT OF TOTAL: 1102/86.9
- (3) NIGHT DECK LDGS/PERCENT OF TOTAL: 165/13.1

D.(U) OPTAR MANAGEMENT:

- (1) FLIGHT HRS GRANTED/FLIGHT HRS FLOWN/PERCENT UTILIZATION:
  - (A) FIRST QTR CY 84: 738/727.6/98.6
  - (B) SECOND QTR CY 84: 702/686.9/97.8
  - (C) THIRD QTR CY 84: 842/714.8/84.9
  - (D) FOURTH QTR CY 84: 730/685.3/93.9
  - (E) CY 84 TOTALS: 3012/2814.6/93.5
- (2) DOLLARS GRANTED/DOLLARS SPENT/PERCENT UTILIZATION:
  - (A) FIRST QTR CY 84: 397.5K/395.9K/99.6

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- (B) SECOND QTR CY 84: 372.2K/372.2K/100.0
- (C) THIRD QTR CY 84: 438.6K/439.6K/100.2
- (D) FOURTH QTR CY 84: 380.1K/377.0K/99.1
- (E) CY 84 TOTALS: 1588.4K/1586.3K/99.8

E.(U) FLIGHT CREW READINESS:

- (1) AVERAGE NUMBER OF PILOTS/AIRCREW ONBOARD: 24/20
- (2) AVERAGE NUMBER OF FLIGHT CREW PERSONNEL ONBOARD BY CREW

POSITION:

- (A) HAC: 12
  - (B) H2P: 10
  - (C) PQM: 2
  - (D) FIRST A/C: 11
  - (E) SECOND A/C: 5
  - (F) A/C TRAINEES: 4
  - (G) FLIGHT CREWS REQUIRED/FORMED: 12/11
- (3) FLIGHT CREW DESIGNATIONS GRANTED BY CREW POSITION:
- (A) HAC: 9
  - (B) H2P: 9
  - (C) FIRST A/C: 7
  - (D) SECOND A/C: 11

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- (4) PLANE CAPTAINS TRAINED: 42
- (5) ORDNANCE EXPENDED: N/A

F. (C) DEPLOYMENTS/DETACHMENTS:

(1) (C) LOCATION/DATES/PRIMARY TASKING

LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	ACFT	PRIMARY TASKING
LARNACA, CY	1JAN-30APR84	121	2	LOGISTICS SUPPORT TWO CVBG'S, CTF-61, ONE SAG AND CTF-62 BEIRUT, LEBANON
ROTA, SP	5-10 MAR	6	1	CV-62 OUTCHOP
ROTA, SP	10-16 APR	7	1	CV-60 INCHOP
NAPLES, IT	14-20 APR	7	2	CV-60 LOG SUPPORT
ROTA, SP	20-23 APR	3	1	CV-67 OUTCHOP
BARCELONA, SP	22APR-2MAY	11	1	CV-60 LOG SUPPORT
PALMA, SP	03-08 MAY	6	1	CV-60 LOG SUPPORT
LHA-4	10MAY-11AUG	95	1	CTF-61/62/BEIRUT SUPPORT
ROTA, SP	17MAY-03JUN	17	1	CV-66 INCHOP
HYERES, FR	03-13 JUN	11	1	CV-60 LOG SUPPORT
PALMA, SP	14-25 JUN	12	1	CV-60 " "

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ALICANTE, SP	28JUL-06AUG	10	1	CV-60	" "	
HYERES, FR	08-20 AUG	13	1	CV-60	" "	
CAIRO, EG	14AUG-17SEP	35	1	OPERATION	"INTENSE	
				LOOK"		
HYERES, FR	12-23 SEP	12	1	CV-66		
LPD-12	17SEP-25SEP	9	1	MEDIVAC/CONTINGENCY		
				EVAC/DIPLOMATIC		
				TRANSPORT		
LARNACA CY	26SEP-19OCT	25	2	CONTINGENCY EVAC/		
				DIPLOMATIC TRANSPORT		
				AMEMB, BEIRUT		
PALMA, SP	19-29 SEPT	11	1	CV-60	LOG SUPPORT	
ROTA, SP	29SEP-11OCT	13	1	CV-60	LOG SUPPORT	
LARNACA, CY	24OCT-01NOV	9	2	AMEMB, BEIRUT		
PALMA, SP	29OCT-03NOV	6	1	CV-62	LOG SUPPORT	
ROTA, SP	30OCT-04NOV	6	1	CV-66	OUTCHOP	
SOUDA BAY, GR	09NOV-11NOV	3	1	CVN-69	LOG SUPPORT	
LARNACA, CY	11-23 NOV	10	2	AMEMB, BEIRUT		
MARSEILLES, FR	19-21 NOV	3	1	LPH-12	LOG SUPPORT	
ATHENS, GR	20NOV-31NOV	11	1	CVN-69	LOG SUPPORT	

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LARNACA, CY	25NOV-31DEC	37	2	AMEMB, BEIRUT
ATHENS, GR	09-17 DEC	9	1	CVN-69 LOG SUPPORT
NAPLES, IT	20-31 DEC	13	1	CVN-69 LOG SUPPORT

(2) (U) EXERCISES: N/A

(3) (U) TOTAL AIRCRAFT DAYS DEPLOYED: 740

3. (U) ACHIEVEMENTS IN WEAPONS SYSTEMS READINESS, MATERIAL READINESS.

A. PERCENT MISSION CAPABLE (MC): 58.3

B. PERCENT NOT MISSION CAPABLE MAINTENANCE (NMCM): 19.9

C. AIRCRAFT UTILIZATION RATE: 43.7

D. A-799 PERCENTAGE ORGANIZATIONAL/INTERMEDIATE: 5.0/1.7

E. AVERAGE CANNIBALIZATION RATE: 11.3

G. SPECIAL INTEREST AIRCRAFT: NONE

4. (U) ACHIEVEMENTS IN AVIATION SAFETY.

A. ALPHA MISHAPS: NONE

B. BRAVO MISHAPS: ONE; DISINTEGRATION OF THE NO. 2 ENG/MAIN GEAR BOX OIL COOLER FAN DUE TO MANUFACTURE/DESIGN DEFICIENCIES.

C. CHARLIE MISHAPS: NONE

D. NUMBER OF HAZARD REPORTS SUBMITTED: 29

E. RATIO OF TOTAL NUMBER OF LOST WORKDAYS DUE TO ACCIDENTAL INJURIES REPORTED UNDER 5102.1 DIVIDED BY AVERAGE NO. OF OFFICERS/

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ENLISTED ONBOARD: .24

F. NUMBER OF NATOPS CHANGES SUBMITTED: 15

5.(U) ACHIEVEMENTS IN COMMAND INSPECTIONS.

A. ISIC INSPECTIONS: N/A

B. NTPI/DNSI: N/A

C. TWO ISIC CORROSION/SPECIAL PROGRAMS INSPECTIONS CONDUCTED 4-7 MAY 84 AND 1-3 NOV 84. ADJECTIVE GRADES OF SATISFACTORY WERE ASSIGNED, WITH THE CORROSION PROGRAM RECEIVING GRADES OF EXCELLENT. THE SENIOR INSPECTOR STATED THAT HC-4 HAS ESTABLISHED PROGRAMS THAT HAVE POTENTIAL TO SET THE STANDARD FOR OTHER IN-THEATER UNITS.

D. NATOPS EVALUATION: N/A

E. HUMAN RESOURCES: N/A

F. COMMAND'S FIRST COMNAVAIRLANT MAINTENANCE AND MATERIAL MANAGEMENT ADVISORY VISIT CONDUCTED 16-20 NOV 84. TEAM LEADER SPECIFICALLY PRAISED THE MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT FOR THE EXCELLENT LEVEL OF MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT ACHIEVED SINCE ESTABLISHMENT.

G. COMNAVAIRLANT SAR ASSIST VISIT: SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED INITIAL SAR ASSIST VISIT 22 AUG - NO MAJOR DISCREPANCIES NOTED.

H. NAVAL SAFETY CENTER SURVEY: SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED 27 SEP, WITH SPECIFIC COMMENTS PRAISING THE FLIGHT AND GROUND TRAINING

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PROGRAMS.

6.(U) ACHIEVEMENT IN PERSONNEL READINESS.

A. RETENTION

	ELIGIBLE	INELIGIBLE	REEN	PERCENT
(1) FIRST TERM	4	0	3	75
(2) SECOND TERM	3	0	3	100
(3) CAREER	4	0	4	100

B. ADVANCEMENT

(1) CYCLE 104 (SEPT)

	E-4	E-5	E-6
ELIGIBLE TIS/TIR	52	24	19
NO. TAKING EXAM	50	23	16
NO. NOT REC	0	0	1
NO. SELECTED	34	9	1
NO. PNA	14	13	14

(2) CYCLE 103 (MAR)

	E-4	E-5	E-6
ELIGIBLE TIS/TIR	18	15	15
NO. TAKING EXAM	16	14	14
NO. NOT REC	0	0	0

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NO. SELECTED	6	3	3
NO. PNA	10	11	9

C. ONE YEAR OR GREATER PRD EXTENSION REQUESTS: 70 (REPRESENTS 32 PERCENT OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL ONBOARD).

7.(U) CONTRIBUTIONS TO TACTICAL IMPROVEMENT.

A. TACFAC/TACMEMO/LESSONS LEARNED:

(1) HELSUPPRON FOUR 131100Z JUN 84 - CH-53E UTILITY HOIST GROUNDING REQUIREMENTS.

(2) HELSUPPRON FOUR 041520Z JUN 84 - AIR DROP DELIVERY SYSTEM; CH-53E DELIVERY PROCEDURES FOR SHIPS CERTIFIED LEVEL I CLASS IV.

B. OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

(1) OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENT FOR KC-130 AIRBORNE REFUELING ASSETS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN THEATER.

C. SIGNIFICANT TACTICAL PROJECTS

(1) RAMEC L23-84 FOR THE CH-53E STATIC CHARGE GROUNDING WAND (HEL SUPPRON FOUR 312302Z AUG 84 SUBMISSION). THIS RAMEC OFFERS AN INEXPENSIVE MODIFICATION USING LOCALLY OBTAINED MATERIALS, AND WILL ENSURE POSITIVE GROUNDING OF THE HELICOPTER DURING UTILILTY HOIST OPERATIONS.

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(2) DUE TO UNRESOLVED GROUNDING PROBLEM FOR CH-53E UTILITY HOIST OPERATIONS, HC-4 HAS DEVELOPED AND IMPLEMENTED WORK-AROUND PROCEDURES RESULTING IN SUCCESSFUL DELIVERY OF HI-PRI CASREP/NMCS MATERIAL TO SHIPS CERTIFIED ONLY FOR LEVEL I CLASS IV CH-53E OPERATIONS.

8.(U) CONTRIBUTIONS TO WEAPONS SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT.

(A) 28 TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS DEFICIENCY REPORTS WERE SUBMITTED ON CH-53E MAINTENANCE PUBLICATIONS.

(B) SUBMITTED CHANGE TO NWP-55-8 (SAR TACAID) TO INCLUDE PERTINENT SAR INFORMATION AND CAPABILITIES OF THE CH-53E.

(C) SUBMITTED RECOMMENDATION FOR AN ECP TO THE LTN-211 OMEGA COCKPIT CDI/BDHI DISPLAY.

(D) RECOMMENDATIONS TO ILSMT FOR CH-53E HELICOPTER TACTICAL ACFT RETRIEVAL.

(E) RECOMMENDATIONS TO ILSMT FOR CH-53E COMBAT SURVIVABILITY ENHANCEMENT.

9.(C) ADDITIONAL SQUADRON REMARKS.

(A) (U) SQUADRON AWARDS/COMMENDATIONS/BZ'S

-CTF 61 082211Z FEB 84 - "...EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE DURING COMBAT OPERATIONS IN AND AROUND BEIRUT, LEBANON."

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- CTF 60 190142Z FEB 84 - FOR SUPPORT OF CVW-6. "IN SHORT, RESPONSE WAS SUPERB."
- USS NEW JERSEY 271842Z MAR 84 - FOR SUPERIOR LOGISTIC SUPPORT.
- COMNAVAIRLANT 110246Z APR 84 - FOR ZERO NMCS. "THANK YOU FOR SHOWING THE WAY AND THANKS FOR A JOB WELL DONE." VADM DUNN
- USS JOHN F. KENNEDY 241659Z APR 84 - "THEIR QUICK REACTION AND CAN DO SPIRIT ENABLED JFK TO RESPOND IN AN EXPEDITIOUS MANNER TO TASKING BY HIGHER AUTHORITY."
- USDAO NICOSIA CY 251128Z APR 84 - "EACH MEMBER SHOULD BE CITED FOR HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE."
- CTF 60 142342Z MAY 84 - "FROM A GRATEFUL CUSTOMER, WELL DONE!"
- USS NASSAU 281605Z MAY 84 - "HC-4 DET NASSAU HIT THE DECK RUNNING..."
- USS AYLWIN 311858Z MAY 84 - APPRECIATION FOR AIR DROP OF CASREP/NMCS MATERIAL.
- CINCUSNAVEUR 011554Z JUN 84 - COMMENDATION FOR SUPPORT OF COMISO, SICILY.
- COMFAIRMED 051252Z JUN 84 - "A WELCOME TESTIMONIAL THAT WE MADE THE RIGHT DECISION AND SENT THE RIGHT PEOPLE."
- NAS SIGONELLA LTR DTD 26 JUL 84 - "THE PROFESSIONALISM

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- DISPLAYED BY HC-4 HAS BEEN A MODEL OF THE CAN DO ATTITUDE."
- USS NASSAU 111945Z AUG 84 - "IT WOULD BE A PRIVILEGE TO HAVE THE BLACK STALLIONS EMBARKED AGAIN."
  - COMFAIRMED 151351Z AUG 84 - "...THE PROFESSIONALS OF HC-4 ARE UNSURPASSED IN THE AIR LOGISTICS BUSINESS." RADM HACKER
  - COMPHIBRON SIX/TWO FOUR MAU 151410Z AUG 84 - "YOU HAVE OUR RESPECT AND SINCERE THANKS FOR A JOB WELL DONE."
  - CGFMFLANT 212019Z AUG84 - "THEIR POSITIVE ATTITUDES, PROFESSIONALISM AND DEVOTION TO DUTY CAN BEST BE DESCRIBED AS HERCULEAN." LTGEN MILLER
  - CTF 155 180630Z SEP 84 - "SHOULD THE OPPORTUNITY AGAIN PRESENT ITSELF I WOULD BE PROUD TO WELCOME THE BLACK STALLIONS AS PART OF THE TEAM." COMO NEWMAN
  - FAIRECONRON TWO 26 SEP 84 - "YOUR GENEROUS HELP WAS TRULY EXCEPTIONAL."
  - CINCUSNAVEUR 041502Z OCT 84 - WELL DONE FOR LOGISTICS SUPPORT OF OPERATION INTENSE LOOK.
  - CTG 68.2 061205Z OCT 84 - "...OUTSTANDING IN THEIR CONSPICUOUS DEVOTION TO DUTY."
  - USS SARATOGA 111134Z OCT 84 - "FROM THE CREW OF THE USS

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SARATOGA, THANKS FOR A JOB WELL DONE. WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU IN THE FUTURE."

-COMCRUDESGRU 12 040942Z NOV 84 - "YOUR STRONG SUPPORT CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE BATTLE FORCE." RADM DONNELL

-USS AMERICA 200241Z NOV 84 - "YOU MADE AN OTHERWISE IMPOSSIBLE TASK LOOK EASY."

-COMFAIRMED 310901Z DEC 84 - "...SAFETY AND OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE GO HAND IN HAND AT HC-4..."

-CTF 60 012042Z JAN 85 - "THE DOORS TO IKE'S STABLE ARE ALWAYS OPEN TO A BLACK STALLION." RADM FLATLEY

-COMFAIRMED 020825Z JAN 85 - "YOUR PROFESSIONALISM AND CAN DO SPIRIT ARE COMMENDED WITH UNRESERVED APPRECIATION." RADM AUT

B.(U) INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

TYPE	NO.
(1) NAVY ACHIEVEMENT MEDALS	3
(2) NAVY EXPEDITIONARY MEDALS	59
(3) ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDALS	36
(4) GOOD CONDUCT MEDALS	26
(5) LTRS OF COMMENDATION	2

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C. (C) REMARKS

(1) THE BLACK STALLIONS HIT THE DECK RUNNING IN CY 84, JUST TWO WEEKS AFTER ACHIEVING INITIAL OPERATING CAPABILITY. OPERATING FROM A FORWARD AIRHEAD AT LARNACA, CY, HC-4 QUICKLY ESTABLISHED THE CH-53E AS THE PRIME MOVER FOR AIR DELIVERED CARGO TO SIXTH FLEET UNITS, BY SIMULTANEOUSLY SUPPORTING TWO CVBG'S, AN AMPHIBIOUS READY GROUP, THE NEW JERSEY SURFACE ACTION GROUP, AND CTF-62 SHORE BASED IN BEIRUT. IN THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF OPERATIONS, THE LARNACA DETACHMENT SUSTAINED AN AIRCRAFT UTILIZATION RATE OF 175 PERCENT ABOVE THAT PROGRAMMED BY CNO, AND TRANSPORTED IMPRESSIVE TOTALS OF 5366 PASSENGERS, 493 THOUSAND LBS OF MAIL, AND MORE THAN 1.8 MILLION LBS OF CARGO TO FORCES AFLOAT AND ASHORE IN THE EASTERN MED. BY 01 MAR 84, HC-4 ATTAINED FULL OPERATIONAL CAPABILITY AND BEGAN SIMULTANEOUSLY OPERATING DETACHMENTS FROM ROTA, SPAIN TO BEIRUT, LEBANON. ON 14 APR 84, HC-4 WAS OPERATING DETACHMENTS AT THREE DEPLOYED SITES WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY PROVIDING HELICOPTER LOGISTICS SUPPORT FROM HOME BASE IN SIGONELLA, SICILY.

(2) 28 APRIL MARKED SQUADRON DEPARTURE FROM LARNACA, CY, HOWEVER, 10 DAYS LATER HC-4 WAS AGAIN CALLED TO THE EASTERN MED TO RE-ESTABLISH AN "AIR BRIDGE" TO THE USS NASSAU AMPHIBIOUS READY

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GROUP, OPERATING OFF THE COAST OF BEIRUT, LEBANON. WHILE EMBARKED IN USS NASSAU THROUGH 11 AUG, THE HC-4 DETACHMENT SET IMPRESSIVE STANDARDS BY MEETING 100 PERCENT OF ASSIGNED OPERATIONAL COMMITMENTS. ON 14 AUG 84, THREE DAYS AFTER THE RETURN OF THE NASSAU DET, HC-4 WAS TASKED WITH YET ANOTHER UNIQUE DEPLOYMENT BY PROVIDING SUPPORT TO OPERATION "INTENSE LOOK". THIS DEPLOYMENT AGAIN DEMONSTRATED SQUADRON VERSATILITY AND THE RANGE OF THE AIRCRAFT CAPABILITIES, BY PROVIDING RESPONSIVE LOGISTIC SUPPORT TO THIS HIGH VISIBILITY TASK FORCE. WHILE EMBARKED IN USS SHREVEPORT FOR REDEPLOYMENT TO NAS SIGONELLA, LPD-12 WAS UNEXPECTEDLY DIVERTED TO LEBANON FOLLOWING THE 20 SEPTEMBER BOMBING OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY BEIRUT. PROCEEDING DIRECTLY TO THE COAST OF BEIRUT, THE HC-4 DETACHMENT PROVIDED IMMEDIATE MEDEVAC AND CRITICAL SUPPORT TO AMERICAN EMBASSY PERSONNEL. BY JCS DIRECTION, HC-4 DETACHMENTS PROVIDED DIRECT SUPPORT FOR 87 OF THE 101 REMAINING DAYS OF THE CALENDAR YEAR, SERVING AS THE SOLE MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AND LIFELINE TO THE AMERICAN EMBASSY, BEIRUT.

(3) THROUGHOUT CY 84 HC-4 DEPLOYED 29 DETACHMENTS PROVIDING CONTINUOUS SUPPORT TO SIX CVBG'S, THREE AMPHIBIOUS READY GROUPS, A SURFACE ACTION GROUP AND A HOST OF SURFACE COMBATANTS DEPLOYING IN AND OUT OF THE MEDITERRANEAN THEATER. SUCCESSFULLY INTRODUCING THE

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NAVY CH-53E AND ESTABLISHING IMPRESSIVE MEDITERRANEAN LOGISTIC RECORDS, THE FOLLOWING FACTORS ARE SIGNIFICANT:

1. IOC WAS ACHIEVED WITH 60 PERCENT ENLISTED PERSONNEL AND 66 PERCENT OFFICER COMPLIMENT.
2. TEMPORARY FACILITIES; NO AIRCRAFT HANGAR: ALL MAJOR MAINTENANCE PERFORMED ON THE FLIGHT LINE OR FLIGHT DECK.
3. OPERATED FROM REMOTE SITES, OUTSIDE NORMAL SUPPLY CHANNELS.
4. INSUFFICIENT IMRL AND ONLY ONE CSP TO SUPPORT THREE DETACHMENT OPERATIONS.
5. CONCURRENT WITH INITIAL EAST MED OPERATIONS, HC-4 FUNCTIONED AS A FLEET REPLACEMENT SQUADRON, TRAINING 33 PERCENT OF PILOTS AND 25 PERCENT OF AIRCREW NOT PROVIDED ENROUTE FRS TRAINING.
6. USING ASSIGNED CETS, TRAINED AND QUALIFIED MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL, RAISING ONBOARD TRAINING RATE FROM 56 TO 90 PERCENT OF DESIGNATED NEC BILLETS.

(4) HC-4 HAS ATTAINED AN ENVIABLE RECORD OF MISSION READINESS AND DEMONSTRATED SUPERIOR OPERATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS. THE MEN AND WOMEN OF HC-4 ARE CLEARLY DESERVING OF THE 1984 BATTLE EFFICIENCY AWARD.

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Enclosure( 1 )