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From: Commanding Officer, HSL 45  
To: Director of Naval Historical Center, 805 Kidder Breese Street, SE,  
Washington Navy Yard, Washington, DC 20374-5060

Subj: CALENDAR YEAR 2003 COMMAND HISTORY REPORT

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12H

Encl: (1) CO Biography and Photograph  
(2) 2003 CNO Aviation Safety Award Nomination Package  
(3) 2003 Flight Hour Summary  
(4) CY 2003 Organization and Structure  
(5) CY 2003 Detachments  
(6) Fall 2003 Aviation Magazine article (*HSL 45-The Wolfpack*)  
(7) Fall 2003 Rotor Review article (*HSL 45 Det 3 Continues Successful CD Ops Deployment*)  
(8) Summer 2003 Rotor Review article (*HSL 45 Welcome Home Det 5 and Wolfpack at 90,000 Hour Milestone*)  
(9) Navy Dispatch article (*HSL 45 Wolfpack Achieves 95,000 Mishap-free Milestone*)  
(10) Compass article ("*Wolfpack*" Detachment 5 completes At-Sea Training)  
(11) Photo published at Navy News Stand website on 27 July 2003

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (11) are provided.

a. Command Mission. Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light FOUR FIVE's primary mission is to provide fully mission capable LAMPS III detachments for deployment aboard cruisers, destroyers, and frigates assigned to the U.S. Pacific Fleet. The helicopters assigned to these detachments are an integral part of the ship's weapons systems, extending the ship's anti-surface, subsurface and strike capabilities. They also perform medical evacuation, vertical replenishment, and communications relay.

b. Organizational Structure

- Immediate Senior in Command: Commander, Helicopter Anti-Submarine Light Wing, U.S. Pacific Fleet.
- Commanding Officer: J. Curtis Shaub, CDR, USN
- Executive Officer: Timothy M. Wilson, CDR, USN

Homeport

Naval Air Station, North Island, San Diego, CA

Aircraft Assigned

Type: SH-60B Seahawk  
Number: Ten  
Tailcode: TZ (Tango Zulu)

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2. **HSL 45 Summary for 2003.** In 2003, the Wolfpack provided an unprecedented level of persistent combat readiness, affording seven separate LAMPS detachments to Fleet Commanders around the world during a time of crisis in our country as we fought the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT), Operation ENDURING FREEDOM (OEF), Operation IRAQI FREEDOM (OIF), and Operation CAPER FOCUS. The Wolfpack was in the forefront of innovation, weapon system development, tactics development and countless contributions to Coalition Forces, and the entire Navy community. From armed Naval Special Warfare (NSW) missions which interdicted Iraqi tugboats with United Nations hostages; to tracking a Chinese Ming class submarine in the SEVENTH Fleet Area of Responsibility (AOR); to the first ever LAMPS weapons detachment on San Clemente Island during helicopter Advanced Readiness Program in support of USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN 74) Carrier Strike Group (CSG); to spearheading the CNO's Sea Swap Initiative; to submitting 36 tactical lesson learned for our community; to having "the most successful counter-drug deployment in recent history," as hailed by the U.S. Attorney General in Florida, capturing over 15 tons of cocaine totaling over 1.5 billion US dollars; to being hand-selected for the first ever LAMPS employment of the newest fleet torpedo, the Mk-54 Light Weight Torpedo; to the armed helicopter escort of RFA SIR GALAHAD (L3005) from the Northern Arabian Gulf up the Khar-Abd-Allah (KAA) waterway, the first coalition humanitarian aide vessel to reach Iraqi soil during the war; to successfully launching 15 Hellfire missiles; to capitalizing on our Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) expertise during support to USS SALT LAKE CITY (SSN 716) Tactical Evaluation, including 13 of 13 squadron Torpedo Exercises (TORPEX) and 3 of 3 ship TORPEXs. The Wolfpack has consistently been combat ready, on top, on time, while fully embracing the newest technical challenges in the Fleet, expanding flexible deterrent options during armed conflict, fully integrated in a joint environment, and contributing to the LAMPS community and our Naval Forces worldwide.

In 2003, the Wolfpack responded with vigor to the challenges presented to our Nation, our Navy and the LAMPS community. One of six outstanding west coast LAMPS squadrons assigned to COMHSLWINGPAC, HSL-45 led her fellow squadrons in many tangible and intangible categories. The Wolfpack was number one in: detachment flight hours; training hours, operational hours; embarked flight hours; exercise hours; contingency hours, detachment SUW hours, and squadron USW hours. The Wolfpack placed no less than second in: detachment night flight time; detachment overhead hours; deployed hours; and total squadron hours. The Wolfpack deployed 5 of 7 detachments, embarked for 1,083 days and logging over 5,016 shipboard landings with 60% at night. HSL-45 epitomized sustained combat readiness as the squadron flew over 5,924 mishap-free flight hours, an increase of over 20% from the previous year. This significant increase is reflected in the direct support provided during OIF, OEF, the GWOT and the Drug War while meeting the demands of the CNO's new vision for sustained readiness. In part, to meet these demanding challenges, the Wolfpack team completed the buildup of Lonewolf 50, eliminating the squadron's lone long-term non-mission capable aircraft after 15 months in a non-flyable status. This raised the squadron's aircraft inventory by 10%, which enabled a direct increase in mission readiness. Wolfpack aircrews successfully delivered 16 torpedoes and were lauded by SCORE Range officials as the "best tacticians they'd seen this year, "launched 15 Hellfire missiles, and submitted 36 invaluable community 'Lessons Learned'. Wolfpack readiness is most epitomized by the command's superior safety record of over 13 years and 95,000 mishap-free flight hours, the best flight safety record in the Wing.

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Detachment FIVE embarked in USS BUNKER HILL (CG 52) began 2003 readying for war while deployed with the USS CONSTELLATION (CV 64) Strike Group. The detachment flew armed helicopter reconnaissance of the KAA waterway and the strategic Mina al-Bakr Oil Terminal (MABOT) and the Khawr Al Amaya Oil Terminal (KAAOT) oil platforms in support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH. In the days before the war, the detachment flew continuous surveillance and imaging missions of KAAOT and MABOT in preparation for the upcoming offensive operations. Just prior to D-day, the detachment teamed with Special Operations Forces to interdict Iraqi tugboats when United Nations workers were being held hostage. During OIF, the detachment conducted armed escort for mine sweepers in the KAA, and armed escort for the first humanitarian aid vessel to enter port in Umm Qasr, Iraq. Detachment FIVE's accomplishments include discovering Iraqi MK-15 patrol boats laden with mines and Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) in the KAA. They returned in July after seven months, and flying 1,100 flight hours with an astounding 83% flown in the 5th Fleet Area of Responsibility (AOR).

As OIF neared, Detachment SEVEN deployed with the USS CARL VINSON (CVN 70) Strike Group to maintain stability in the SEVENTH Fleet AOR. This new detachment was established and readied for deployment in only 6 weeks and subsequently deployed 4 months ahead of schedule. During their eight-month deployment in support of , the detachment also supported OIF through armed escort duties in the Strait of Malacca.

and participated in Exercise TANDEM THRUST 03 and several bilateral exercises in the Western Pacific.

Detachment SIX spearheaded the CNO's Sea Swap Initiative in USS FLETCHER (DD 992) for the first half of an unprecedented 12-month deployment of two SH-60B helicopters. The detachment designed and implemented the entire concept from the ground up, to include the newest Age Exploration initiatives (a revolutionary life extension plan) on helicopters. This highly successful proof-of-concept is but one part of the CNO's Fleet Response Plan. This concept enabled forces to be forward deployed and in theater up to six weeks longer, exponentially expanding Fleet Commanders' flexibility, readiness and contingency planning. The unique nature of the Sea Swap Initiative resulted in the detachment flying 97% of their flight hours in the FIFTH Fleet AOR, further validating the concept.

Detachment TWO continued the Sea Swap Initiative, flying to Singapore in June to also deploy in USS FLETCHER (DD 992). Operating primarily in the North Arabian Gulf, Detachment TWO conducted an unprecedented number of queries, over 200 boardings, and prosecuted vessels involved in illegal smuggling of Iraqi oil. CTF 55 noted a dramatic decrease in oil smuggling over the course of their cruise. They helped capture a group of armed criminals caught in the act of international piracy and they flew the first armed escort missions to and from Basrah, Iraq, as well as high visibility photo reconnaissance missions over the Shatt-Al-Arab waterway. These missions helped ensure the safe rebuilding of post-war Iraq and were yet another first for the LAMPS community. Additionally, they worked with NSW, training for the capture of High Value Targets (HVTs), and fleeing Al Qaeda operatives from Afghanistan.

Detachment THREE deployed in USS RENTZ (FFG 46) for Counter-Drug Operations. During their training cycle, the detachment was hand-selected for the first LAMPS employment of the Mk-54 Light Weight Torpedo for testing

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and development. Once deployed, the detachment was responsible for four significant drug interdictions that included seizing three go-fast vessels, a logistics support vessel, and a mother ship involved in drug trafficking. The contraband interdicted during the deployment totaled more than 15 tons of cocaine, with an estimated street value in excess of 1.5 billion U.S. dollars. Det THREE was hailed by Paul Perez, U.S. Attorney General for the Middle District of Florida, as "one of the most successful counter-drug deployments in recent history."

A second Detachment FIVE continued the Wolfpack tradition of forging early integration with Pacific Fleet combatants in USS MUSTIN (DDG 89), supporting her commissioning ceremony and Combat Systems Ship Qualification Trials (CSSQT) in the Hawaiian Operating Area. Detachment FIVE met every CSSQT mission assigned and completed the period with a 100% Full Mission Capable rate. While honing their ASW skills during the ship-air interface of the ship's SQO 89 V (14), they received a grade of "Excellent" on their TORPEX. USS MUSTIN's CSSQT was lauded by Naval Sea Systems Command CSSQT Project Officer as, "the most successful CSSQT with the most complete data collection seen to date." Additionally, the detachment worked diligently with project engineers at the DDG FLT IIA Remote Securing Device (RSD) Slippage Conference sponsored by NAVAIR Lakehurst. Invaluable data was collected that will benefit the ship-air teams today, as well as future system designs.

Currently, Detachment ONE in USS HOWARD (DDG 83) and Detachment FOUR in USS LAKE CHAMPLAIN (CG 57) are prepared to enter their surge window with the STENNIS CSG. They were integral drivers of the first ever LAMPS weapons detachment on San Clemente. Requirements and data for potential future expansion of the island and range facility were compiled, evaluated and validated. Detachment SEVEN remains ready as part of the VINSON CSG and its first post-deployment sustainment requirement. Additional contributions to tactics and weapons system development included support to USS CHAFFEE (DDG 90) during her Littoral Warfare Assessment, MUSTIN's ASW Detect-to-Engage event for The Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV) including two separate preliminary warm-ups, volunteered for Beta testing and implementation of Air Combat On Line (ACOL), and assisted with standardization of new flight tracking systems to ensure consistency for surge/sustainment detachments. The Wolfpack will continue to strive for excellence and continue to provide LAMPS detachments for prompt, credible and persistent combat operations worldwide. In 2003, HSL 45's motto, Team - Effort - Honesty, was exemplified in every facet of our contributions to our community, fleet operations and national security.

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J. C. SHAUB

CY 2003 DETACHMENTS

DET ONE (USS HOWARD) (18 Sep - 26 Sep 2003)  
(29 Oct - 21 Nov 2003)

Officer in Charge  
Maintenance Officer  
Operations Officer  
H2P  
H2P  
H2P

LCDR Chase  
LT [REDACTED]  
LT [REDACTED]  
LTJG [REDACTED]  
LT [REDACTED]  
LT [REDACTED]

DET TWO (USS FLETCHER) (24 Jan - 15 Dec 2003)

Officer in Charge  
Maintenance Officer  
Operations Officer  
H2P  
H2P  
H2P

LCDR Olive  
LT [REDACTED]  
LT [REDACTED]  
LT [REDACTED]  
LT [REDACTED]  
LT [REDACTED]

DET THREE (USS RENTZ) (24 Mar - 11 Apr 2003)  
(16 Jun - 16 Dec 2003)

Officer in Charge  
Maintenance Officer  
Operations Officer  
H2P  
H2P

LCDR Crump  
LT [REDACTED]  
LT [REDACTED]  
LT [REDACTED]  
LTJG [REDACTED]

DET FOUR (USS LAKE CHAMPLAIN) (18 Sep - 26 Sep 2003)  
(29 Oct - 21 Nov 2003)

Officer in Charge  
Maintenance Officer  
Operations Officer  
H2P  
H2P  
H2P

LCDR Rutledge/LCDR Sholley  
LT [REDACTED]  
LT [REDACTED]  
LTJG [REDACTED]  
LTJG [REDACTED]  
LTJG [REDACTED]

DET FIVE (USS BUNKER HILL) (4 Nov 2002 - 2 June 2003)

Officer in Charge  
Maintenance Officer  
Operations Officer  
H2P  
H2P  
H2P

LCDR O'Connell  
LT [REDACTED]  
LT [REDACTED]  
LT [REDACTED]  
LT [REDACTED]  
LT [REDACTED]

DET FIVE (USS MUSTIN) (31 Mar - 4 Apr 2003)  
(16 Sep - 30 Oct 2003)

Officer in Charge  
Maintenance Officer  
Operations Officer  
H2P

LCDR Murphy  
LT [REDACTED]  
LT [REDACTED]  
LTJG [REDACTED]

DET SIX (USS KINKAID) (13 Jan 2003 - 9 July 2003)

Officer in Charge  
Maintenance Officer  
Operations Officer  
H2P  
H2P  
H2P

LCDR Lazar  
LT [REDACTED]  
LT [REDACTED]  
LT [REDACTED]  
LT [REDACTED]  
LT [REDACTED]

CY 2003 DETACHMENTS

DET SEVEN (USS INGRAHAM) (24 Feb - 15 Sep 2003)

Officer in Charge  
Maintenance Officer  
Operations Officer  
H2P  
H2P  
H2P

LCDR Devany

LT [REDACTED]  
LT [REDACTED]  
LTJG [REDACTED]  
LTJG [REDACTED]  
LT [REDACTED]