

1650
1 Feb 05

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 2004 COMMAND HISTORY REPORT

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12H

Encl: (1) CO Biography and Photograph
(2) 2004 Flight Hour Summary
(3) CY 2004 Organization and Structure
(4) CY 2004 Detachments
(5) HSL-45 Newspaper Articles

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (5) 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

- SNDL Short Title: HSL FOUR FIVE NORTH ISLAND CA
- UIC: SHORE - 53915; SEA - 55148
- 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)

2. Chronology

The New Year began with all WOLFPACK detachments at home, but soon Detachment SEVEN was called to action with the CARL VINSON Multi-sail, embarking in USS LASSEN (DDG 82) on 21 January 2004. The detachment

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conducted multiple Counter Special Operations Forces (CSOF) exercises as Maritime Airborne Controller, directing F/A-18 Hornets to expend live ordnance on target. Additionally, they joined a Canadian P-3 in the prosecution of a Los Angeles class SSN simulating a Chinese Ming class submarine in a flawless display of interoperability.

Detachments ONE and FOUR participated in exercises NORTHERN EDGE and RIMPAC 2004 as integral assets of the JOHN C STENNIS Carrier Strike Group. These WOLFPACK detachments contributed to joint tactical development and were shining examples of U.S. Naval Aviation. They spearheaded the Under Sea Warfare (USW) effort in three joint exercises with British, Canadian and Australian Forces, conducting extensive tracking operations against a Chilean diesel submarine. The allied nations participating in the exercises were most impressed by the hard-charging professionals of the WOLFPACK. Additionally, the detachments developed and refined archipelagic strait transit tactics during multiple high tempo operations in the archipelagic waters of Indonesia. The detachments were an invaluable part of combined training exercises, helping the U.S. Army develop the skills required to operate in the demanding small deck environment of the CRUDES Navy. The detachments' achievements attest to the skill and initiative of the highly trained and motivated WOLFPACK aircrews.

Detachments ONE and FOUR deployed in May with the JOHN C STENNIS Strike Group in support of the SEVENTH Fleet. They participated in the largest combined operations of our allies in the history of RIMPAC. Detachment ONE successfully defended the USS HOWARD (DDG 83) and other Blue Forces against opposing forces' ships and submarines in the final battle problem, proving to be an extremely vital asset. At the conclusion of RIMPAC, the Strike Group dodged numerous typhoons and eventually joined the KITTY HAWK Strike Group along with several Air Force assets. Both detachments participated in Joint Sea and Air Exercises. Detachment FOUR led the search and recovery efforts for BLUEWOLF 704, a downed S-3 Viking on Kita Iwo Jima Island. The SAR effort proved to multiple fleet units that the WOLFPACK is ready and able to undertake any assignment with a no-notice immediate response, regardless of the conditions encountered.

Detachment SEVEN flew LONEWOLF 45 cross-country to Brunswick, ME in July to embark in USS MOMSEN (DDG-92). The detachment expeditiously trained and prepared the pre-Commissioning crew for flight operations. Specific accomplishments included the qualification of two Helicopter Control Officers, operational evaluation of RAST probe chocks for Naval Air Systems Command, and OBT testing with the SSQ-89(V15). Detachment SEVEN's efforts ensured MOMSEN'S flight deck teams were ready to begin their hectic training cycle.

Detachment SIX is currently embarked in USS CURTS (FFG 38), conducting Counter Narcotics operations in support of JIATF-WEST. In August, the detachment encountered a foundering Ecuadorian flagged vessel and coordinated the rescue effort of 108 souls onboard. Once again, the WOLFPACK demonstrated real time professional response to a real-world crisis situation. In September, LONEWOLF 52 intercepted a cocaine-laden go-fast vessel and vectored a Coast Guard C-130 to the scene of action. Additionally, the detachment supported the Nighttime Tactical Takedown (NTT) of a suspected mother ship, CIELO AZUL. LONEWOLF 52, using the cover of darkness, surprised and transfixed the crew of the mother ship while Coast Guard Law Enforcement personnel stormed and cleared the vessel without incident, recovering six tons of cocaine. Detachment SIX and the crew of CURTS were awarded the Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Citation for the single largest cocaine seizure in history. WOLFPACK combat-ready aircrews proved

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again the outstanding results of matching preparation with opportunity in a team spirit.

The year continued to be operationally demanding for the WOLFPACK as Detachments ONE and TWO stood up in November. Detachments ONE and TWO are making preparations for upcoming Counter-Drug Operations and CARAT 2005 deployments, respectively, honing their war-fighting skills and grooming their aircraft for peak performance at sea. Additionally, both detachments will be supporting the South East Asia Cooperative Anti-Terrorism Exercise with Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Brunei and the Philippines.

Detachment FIVE embarked in USS MUSTIN in support of the USS RONALD REAGAN Sail Around, which was the first operational underway for both ships. During a joint USW exercise with Peruvian forces, Detachment FIVE logged 6 hours of "on top" time against four Type 209 submarines. During COMPTUEX, the detachment flew 118 hours of Strike Group tasking, including additional LAMPS coverage for USS ANTIETAM (CG 54) when she had to return to port for repairs. As 2004 draws to a close, Detachment FIVE is poised for a January JTFEX with the USS CARL VINSON Strike Group.

3. HSL 45 Summary for 2004

In 2004, the WOLFPACK provided a high level of persistent combat readiness to Fleet Commanders around the world with seven deployable LAMPS detachments, as we fought the Global War on Terrorism, Operation ENDURING FREEDOM (OEF), and Operation IRAQI FREEDOM (OIF). The WOLFPACK was a consistent leader of innovation, weapon system development, tactics development, and countless contributions to allied and coalition forces, and the entire Navy community. HSL 45 conducted a broad range of missions, including armed Naval Special Warfare (NSW) missions involving Small Boat Unit (SBU) MEDEVAC's, Maritime Airborne Support (MAS) Operational Risk Management, and joint USW exercises with multi-national forces, amassing over 15 hours on top of foreign submarines. Additionally, the WOLFPACK submitted 12 tactical Lessons Learned for our community, spearheaded the single largest cocaine seizure in history, utilized our USW talents in support of USS MOMSEN's pre-Commissioning preparations, testing their SSQ-89(V15) USW combat suite and training their crews for the operational employment of their flight deck, and 15 of 19 successful TORPEXs, including four of four at sea. The WOLFPACK has consistently been combat ready, on top, and on time, while fully embracing the newest technical challenges in the Fleet, expanding flexible deterrent options during armed conflict, fully integrating with sister services, and contributing to our community, our Navy and coalition forces worldwide.

In 2004, the WOLFPACK responded with tenacity as one of the Navy's premier war-fighting commands, meeting all challenges presented by our nation, our Navy, and the LAMPS community. Of the six outstanding west coast squadrons assigned to HSLWINGPAC, HSL 45 dominated in many tangible and intangible categories. The WOLFPACK deployed four of seven detachments, embarked for 617 days and operated over 60% of the time at night with 3450 shipboard landings. HSL 45 epitomized sustained combat readiness as the squadron flew over 4200 FOD and mishap-free flight hours. These impressive operational statistics were accumulated in training for and directly supporting Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, Operation ENDURING FREEDOM, the Global War on Terrorism and the Drug War, while meeting the challenge of the CNO's new vision for sustained readiness. The WOLFPACK maintenance team eliminated all "Work in Progress" aircraft, meaning all ten HSL 45 aircraft were operational, or in an "on time" status for scheduled maintenance. WOLFPACK

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aircrews successfully delivered 22 torpedoes and submitted 12 invaluable community Lessons Learned. WOLFPACK readiness is most notably exemplified with its superior safety record of 99,500 mishap-free flight hours over 14 years, the best flight safety record of any operational squadron in the Wing. This milestone was achieved on a daily basis, through sound deck plate leadership and an unwavering dedication to safe mission accomplishment.

The New Year began with all WOLFPACK detachments at home, but soon Detachment SEVEN was called to action with the CARL VINSON Multi-sail, embarking in USS LASSEN (DDG 82) on 21 January 2004 as part of the sustainment portion of the CNO's FRP. The detachment conducted multiple Counter Special Operations Forces (CSOF) exercises as Maritime Airborne Controller, directing F/A-18 Hornets to expend live ordnance on target. Additionally, they joined a Canadian P-3 to prosecute a Los Angeles class SSN simulating a Chinese Ming class submarine in a flawless display of interoperability. Detachment SEVEN returned on 6 February 2004 with many laudatory comments from the USS LASSEN (DDG 82), and other elements of the USS CARL VINSON Strike Group.

Detachments ONE and FOUR participated in Exercises NORTHERN EDGE and Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2004 as integral assets of the JOHN C STENNIS Strike Group. These WOLFPACK detachments contributed to LAMPS tactical development with extensive tracking operations against Chilean diesel submarines, spearheading the USW effort in three joint events involving British, Canadian, and Australian Forces. The allied nations participating in the exercises were most impressed by the hard-charging professionals of HSL 45. Additionally, they developed and refined archipelagic strait transit tactics and Army UH-60 small deck operations. Detachment FOUR successfully recorded a live Harpoon missile test on their FLIR, an important achievement, attesting to the skill of the highly trained and motivated WOLFPACK aircrew.

Detachments ONE and FOUR deployed in May with the JOHN C STENNIS Strike Group in support of the SEVENTH Fleet. The detachments participated in the largest combined operations of the United States' allies in the history of RIMPAC. Detachment ONE successfully defended the HOWARD and other Blue Forces against opposing forces ships and submarines in the final battle problem, proving to be an extremely vital asset. At the conclusion of RIMPAC, the Strike Group dodged numerous typhoons, and eventually joined the KITTY HAWK Strike Group along with several Air Force assets. Both detachments participated in Joint Sea and Air Exercises. Detachment FOUR led the search and recovery efforts for BLUEWOLF 704, a downed S-3 Viking on Kita Io Jima Island. The SAR effort proved to multiple fleet units that the WOLFPACK is ready and able to undertake any assignment with a no-notice immediate response, regardless of the conditions encountered.

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The year continued to be operationally demanding for the WOLFPACK as new Detachments ONE and TWO stood up in November. The two detachments are making preparations for upcoming deployments for Counter-Drug Operations and Combined Afloat Readiness and Training Exercise (CARAT) 2005 respectively honing their war fighting skills and grooming their aircraft for peak performance at sea. Additionally, both detachments will be supporting the South East Asia Cooperative Anti-Terrorism Exercise with Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Brunei and the Philippines.

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In summary, the WOLFPACK has demonstrated outstanding professionalism and motivation as the squadron met every challenge with vigor, accomplishing our commitments on time and in a safe manner. In 2004, HSL 45's squadron motto, "TEAM-EFFORT-HONESTY" was exemplified in every facet of our contributions to our community, weapons and tactics development. From developing and refining LAMPS tactics to preventing illicit narcotics from reaching our country's hallowed shores, HSL 45 consistently led the West Coast LAMPS team effort in 2004.

J. C. SHAUB

CY 2004 DETACHMENTS

DET ONE (USS HOWARD) (22 Mar - 9 Apr 2004)
(24 May - 25 Oct 2004)

Officer in Charge	LCDR Chase
Maintenance Officer	LT [REDACTED]
Operations Officer	LT [REDACTED] / LT [REDACTED]
H2P	LTJG [REDACTED]
H2P	LTJG [REDACTED]

DET FOUR (USS LAKE CHAMPLAIN) (22 Mar - 8 Apr 2004)
(24 May - 25 Oct 2004)

Officer in Charge	LCDR Rutledge/LCDR Sholley
Maintenance Officer	LT [REDACTED]
Operations Officer	LT [REDACTED] / LT [REDACTED]
H2P	LTJG [REDACTED]
H2P	LTJG [REDACTED]
H2P	LTJG [REDACTED]

DET SIX (USS CURTS) (24 May - 18 Jun 2004)
(1 Aug 2004 - 1 Feb 2005)

Officer in Charge	LCDR Durdin
Maintenance Officer	LT [REDACTED]
Operations Officer	LTJG [REDACTED]
H2P	LTJG [REDACTED]
H2P	LTJG [REDACTED]
H2P	LTJG [REDACTED]

DET SEVEN (USS MOMSEN) (30 Jul - 24 Sep 2004)

Officer in Charge	LCDR Maune
Maintenance Officer	LT [REDACTED]
Operations Officer	LTJG [REDACTED]
H2P	LTJG [REDACTED]