

Ser 00/050
20 Mar 03

To: Director, Naval Historical Center
(Attn: Aviation History Branch)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12H

- (2) Chronology of Outstanding Events
- (3) Narrative of Outstanding Events
- (5) Photo of CDR Leif E. Lagergren
- (6) Photo of VF-11 aircraft

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (6) are hereby submitted.

Copy to:

COMCARAIRWING SEVEN
COMFITWINGLANT (N002)

COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

AVIATION COMMAND

Fighter Squadron ELEVEN (VF-11) - UIC: 09560

COMMANDING OFFICER

CDR Leif E. Lagergren

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

CDR W. Scott Moyer

Naval Air Station Oceana
Virginia Beach, Virginia

Commander, Carrier Air Wing SEVEN
Commander, Fighter Wing, U.S. Atlantic Fleet
Commander, Naval Air Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet

OPERATIONAL CONTROL AFLOAT

Commander, Carrier Air Wing SEVEN
Commander, Carrier Group EIGHT

11 F-14B Tomcats
Tail Code "AG"

USS JOHN F KENNEDY (CV 67)
Currently: USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73)
Home ported at Naval Station, Norfolk, Virginia

MISSION

Fleet Air Superiority and Power Projection Missions, including:
Combat Air Patrol, Air Intercept, Maritime Air Superiority,
Strike, Strike Escort, Forward Air Control (Airborne), Close Air
Support and Combat Search and Rescue.

Encl (1)

JANUARY

18-26 JTFEX

FEBRUARY

07 Deploy onboard USS JOHN F KENNEDY (CV 67)

01 Southbound Suez Canal Transit

10-31 Operation ENDURING FREEDOM

11 First over combat drop of JDAM by F-111 Squadron

APRIL

01-30 Operation ENDURING FREEDOM

MAY

01 Awarded CINCLANTFLT Golden Anchor Retention Award

01-31 Operation ENDURING FREEDOM

JUNE

01-30 Operation ENDURING FREEDOM

JULY

01-17 Operation ENDURING FREEDOM

20 Northbound Suez Canal Transit

AUGUST

14 Return from Deployment

15-16 Tiger Cruise onboard USS JOHN F KENNEDY (CV 67)

30 Change of Command: CDR Leif Lagergren relieves CDR John Aquilino

SEPTEMBER

20-23 CVW-7 Air Power Demo, NAS Oceana Air Show

27-30 Mig-29 Key West Detachment

OCTOBER

01-06 Mig-29 Key West Detachment

24-27 75th Anniversary Reunion Celebration

28-31 TOPGUN Support, NAS Fallon, NV

NOVEMBER

01-21 TOPGUN Support, NAS Fallon, NV (CV 67)

01-22 TOPGUN Support, NAS Fallon, NV

DECEMBER

06-10 Carrier Qualification, USS JOHN F KENNEDY (CV 67)

Encl (2)

September 11, 2001 still fresh in their minds, the Red Rippers of Fighter Squadron ELEVEN (VF-11) started 2002 awaiting deployment successful cruise that included combat operations over Afghanistan supporting America's War on Terrorism to numerous the year, the Rippers were busy from beginning to end.

After returning from a short holiday leave period, the deployment. From 18 - 26 January, VF-11 participated in Joint Task Force Exercise (JTFEX) 02-01. As part of this exercise the Rippers flew several simulated strikes in support of the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU).

KENNEDY (CV 67) departed from Naval Station Mayport. Ripper jets soon joined for a week of operations off the eastern coast of the Sea. VF-11 received their first award of the year in February as the Rippers were awarded the Grand Slam Trophy for an most successfully employed air-to-air weapons throughout the previous year.

was the Rippers' and CVW-7's turn to stand the watch over Afghanistan, which kept the USS JOHN F KENNEDY (CV 67) steaming Suez Canal on 1 March.

On 10 March the Rippers arrived on station in the North night of operations, the Rippers delivered ordnance with deadly precision. This level of professionalism and support of the were on station. On 11 March the Rippers again distinguished themselves as a premier fighter squadron when the Rippers made Munition (JDAM) from an F-14.

April, May and June were equally busy and rewarding. During missions over Afghanistan. While flying combat missions, the Rippers became the first ever squadron to employ Fast Tactical was awarded CINCLANTFLT's Golden Anchor Retention Excellence Award.

Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. The Rippers were very proud of the important role they played in the War on Terrorism; nonetheless,

Kennedy transited north through the Suez Canal into the Mediterranean Sea where the Rippers would enjoy two well-deserved

On 15 August, the Rippers got their first sight of American soil in over six months as all eleven Ripper aircraft crossed the the completion of an extremely successful cruise during which the Rippers flew nearly 1400 sorties and 3500 flight hours. VF-11 deployment.

Upon their return, all Rippers reacquainted themselves with weeks after the squadron's return, a change of command was conducted as CDR Leif E. Lagergren relieved CDR John C. Aquilino.

Maintenance Department began modification to all Ripper jets in order to incorporate Visual Indicator Display Group Replacement

Maintenance Department continued with its modifications while still providing Ripper aircrew with aircraft to fly. VF-11 then

which VF-11 was chosen to lead the CVW-7 fly-by. September ended with the Rippers participating in Operation AGILE ARCHER. This against Russian-built Mig-29 Fulcrums. All who participated learned a great deal from their training and enjoyed some time in

Beginning in October and extending into late November, VF-11 supported tactical training with fleet jets and maintenance (SFTI) at the United States Navy Fighter Weapons School.

November began with the Rippers providing Orange Air support from NS Roosevelt Roads, PR. The Rippers took advantage of the excellent training opportunity while helping to provide the deployment. The culmination of over a year's worth of work took place in late October when Rippers past and present came from of defending freedom. The weekend allowed past Rippers to share their stories while at the same time getting to see the Rippers tours, an F-14 flight demonstration and a formal dinner. All who participated left with a renewed appreciation of their Ripper

In order to maintain their edge, the Rippers conducted a carrier qualification in early December onboard USS JOHN F

to make their first arrested landing using the Tomcat's new Heads Up Display (HUD).

Red Ripper history. With a 98% sortie completion rate on cruise, successful employment of weapons against Taliban forces and numerous awards won by the squadron, the Rippers once again proved that they are the finest fighter squadron in the world.