



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN (CVN-72)
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From: Commanding Officer, USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN (CVN 72)
To: Chief of Naval Operations (N-09BH)

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1997

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) Command History for 1997
(2) Biography of Commanding Officer
(3) Welcome Aboard Brochure
(4) Battle "E" Award Submission

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (4) are forwarded.


J.J. QUINN

USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN (CVN 72)

COMMAND HISTORY 1997

Enclosure (1)

1. Command Composition and Organization

a. **Mission.** To support and operate naval aircraft at sea, maintain open sea lanes for maritime traffic, project naval power at sea and ashore, and provide a formidable strike option in response to national tasking. ABRAHAM LINCOLN also serves as a flagship command and control platform, able to direct and support full battle group and joint operations. Wherever it goes, the ship serves as a symbol of U.S. resolve, acting both as an ambassador and as a sea-based deterrent to threats to our national interest.

b. **Organizational Structure.** During calendar year 1997, ABRAHAM LINCOLN's Commanding Officer was Captain Robert F. Willard. Commander Bruce W. Clingan served as the command's Executive Officer until relieved by Commander James A. McDonell on 1 May, 1997. EMCM(SW) Gary Weir was Command Master Chief. The ship's chain of command as of 31 December 1997 was:

Commander in Chief
Secretary of Defense
Secretary of the Navy
Chief of Naval Operations
CINCPACFLT
COMNAVAIRPAC
COMCRUDESGRU THREE

President Bill Clinton
 The Honorable William Cohen
 The Honorable John Dalton
 ADM Jay Johnson
 VADM Archie Clemins
 VADM Michael Bowman
 RADM William Putnam

Department Heads serving aboard ABRAHAM LINCOLN as of Dec. 31, 1997 were:

Administrative Officer
Air Officer
AIMD Officer
Combat Systems Officer
Command Chaplain
Dental Officer
Engineering Officer
First Lieutenant
Legal Officer
Maintenance Officer
Navigator
Senior Medical Officer
Operations Officer
Reactor Officer
Safety Officer
Supply Officer
Training Officer
Weapons Officer

LCDR [REDACTED]
 CDR [REDACTED]
 CDR [REDACTED]
 CDR [REDACTED]
 CAPT [REDACTED]
 CDR [REDACTED]
 CDR [REDACTED]
 LCDR [REDACTED]
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2. Chronological Listing of Significant Events

Date(s)	Event(s)
Jan. 6	Safety Standdown focusing on return to at-sea operations, cold weather hazards, and a change of homeport.
Jan. 8	Change of homeport from Bremerton, WA to Everett, WA.
Jan. 27-31	Independent steaming in the PACNORWEST Operations Area. Achieved a night flight deck certification. Performed 256 fixed-wing aircraft launches and recoveries.
Jan. 31- Feb. 3	Port visit to Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.
Feb. 3-5	Independent steaming in the PACNORWEST Operations Area.
Mar. 3-5	CART II.
Mar. 6-25	Fleet replacement squadron carrier qualifications. Completed 3,378 launches and recoveries.
Mar. 19	Commander, Airwing 14 Change of Command on the flight deck in San Diego, CA.
Mar. 21	Overnight embark by VADM He, Vice Chief of Naval Operations for the Chinese People's Liberation Army (Navy).
Apr. 4	Safety Standdown focusing on hearing conservation, heat stress, summer recreation, and individual risk assessment.
May 8-20	Fleet replacement squadron carrier qualifications.
Jun. 2-4	Career Information Management Program inspection. Received a grade of outstanding.
Jun. 2-6	COMNAVAIRPAC 3-M inspection. Achieved a performance rate of 95.6%.
Jun. 7	3M Assessment.
Jun. 17-27	Fleet replacement squadron carrier qualifications. Completed 1,924 fixed-wing aircraft launches and recoveries.
Jul. 2	Safety Standdown focusing on electrical safety, gas-free engineering, Fourth of July safety, and hazardous material.

Jul. 14-21	Completed TSTA I. Conducted CVW 14 carrier qualifications. Completed 1,508 fixed-wing aircraft launches and recoveries.
Jul. 24- Aug. 4	Fleet replacement squadron carrier qualifications. Completed 1,436 fixed-wing aircraft launches and recoveries.
Aug. 5	Family Day Cruise.
Aug. 6	Conducted Seattle Seafair Cruise. Performed a flight operations demonstration for over 1,500 guests in Elliot Bay.
Sept. 4-28	Conducted CVW 14 carrier qualifications, TSTA II, TSTA III, and Final Evaluation Period (FEP). Completed 2,448 fixed-wing aircraft launches and recoveries.
Sept. 21	CNO-directed Safety Standdown with CVW-14 featuring presentations on Operational Risk Management.
Oct. 1-13	Fleet replacement carrier qualifications. Completed 1,546 launches and recoveries.
Oct. 7-10	Completed Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination with a score of average/satisfactory.
Oct. 11	Participated in San Francisco Fleet Week activities.
Nov. 2-7	The Board of Inspection and Survey conducted a 3-M in-service inspection. Received an overall grade of 96.2%.
Nov. 22-29	Conducted CVW 14 carrier qualifications. Completed 798 fixed-wing aircraft launches and recoveries.
Nov. 29-Dec. 2	COMNAVAIRPAC Quality Assurance Audit.
Nov. 29-Dec. 20	Conducted COMPTUEX 98-1 and Intermediate Training Assessment (ITA). With CVW 14, completed 3,412 fixed-wing aircraft launches and recoveries.
Dec. 18	Holiday Safety Standdown focusing on winter and holiday safety.
Dec. 23	Awarded second consecutive Golden Anchor Award.

3. Narrative

ABRAHAM LINCOLN spent 1997 completing numerous operational readiness tests and inspections during a predeployment workup cycle.

The ship safely completed 9,325 aircraft launches, 9,326 recoveries and 1,000 touch and go landings in support of seven FRS/CVW CQ periods, CART II, TSTA I/II/III, FEP, COMPTUEX, and ITA.

The ship's departments provided support in the following ways:

AIR DEPARTMENT

The Air Department's V-1 and V-2 Divisions conducted over 22,000 aircraft moves on the flight and hangar decks and executed over 700 elevator runs. Crash and Salvage Teams responded to 114 actual emergencies and manned mobile fire vehicles for over 2,000 hours. V-2 Division also maintained the ship's catapults, arresting gear, and visual landing aids with an impressive 100 percent availability throughout predeployment workups.

V-4 Division expeditiously handled over 2,147 mishap-free aircraft refueling evolutions resulting in the safe, efficient delivery of 3.22 million gallons of aviation fuel. Additionally, they received 5.17 million gallons of aviation fuel during 11 incident-free underway replenishment evolutions.

REACTOR DEPARTMENT

The Reactor Department completed several ship alterations and equipment field changes while still providing reliable propulsion and electrical power during all missions. This was highlighted by the completion of the Full Power Run and Reversal during the Board of Inspection and Survey.

Reactor completed the Operational Reactor and Safeguards Examination with a score of average/satisfactory.

AVIATION INTERMEDIATE MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

Through an aggressive maintenance program, AIMD increased capability and improved processes of 65 production work centers in support of the airwing. The department also produced a technical directive data base identifying 100% of the avionic and common support equipment configuration change requirements following the ship's 1996 overhaul.

AIMD managed the ship's renovation of 129 airwing spaces including rehabilitation of all nine ready rooms. In addition, AIMD developed and implemented a comprehensive plan to improve the material condition of over 1,226 compartments, contributing significantly to the successful INSURV inspection.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

The Engineering Department completed several new initiatives in the ship's damage control program including a complete overhaul of the ship's Battle Bill, a restructuring of Rescue and Assistance Team manning requirements, and distributive stowage of the repair lockers.

The ship's damage control team developed, tested, and implemented a complete restructuring of the Rescue and Assistance Detail and Inport Emergency Team. This concept was approved by Commander, Naval Air Forces, Pacific as a permanent change to the Repair Party Manual.

Through a "train the trainers" program, the Air Wing was tightly integrated into the ship's damage control organization by providing them with the tools to effectively self-train their personnel in all areas of damage control, including final qualification.

Engineering Operating Procedures were developed for all major auxiliary equipment including aircraft elevators, steering, air conditioning plants, refrigeration plants, firepumps, anchor windlass, O2N2 plants, and list control. The procedures increased the safe operation of these vital systems and are a first for a NIMITZ-class aircraft carrier.

The Electrical Rewind Shop and the Valve Shop were placed into full operation.

WEAPONS DEPARTMENT

The Weapons Department has had a "Red Letter" year. Inspection teams have commented on the outstanding coordination and excellent material condition in all levels of the department.

Weapons Department successfully conducted a shipfill ammunition on load while pierside at NAVSTA Everett in February. This was the first-ever carrier ammunition on load conducted at Everett.

Other major accomplishments during 1997 included a ship test of the Joint Stand-Off Weapon (JSOW) in February, a magazine sprinkler certification in April, and the first ordnance UNREP in over 19 months (USS Sacramento in May). In October, 2100 short tons of mission load ammunition was transferred from the USNS FLINT while at sea.

Weapons Department flexed to its highest state of readiness in December during COMPTUEX/MRCI/ITA. During this period, the Department assembled 600 Live and Inert Heavy Bombs, 4 Laser Guided Bombs, 6 Quickstrike Mines, 489 Practice Bombs,

and 18 Mk 20 Cluster Bombs. More than 450 weapons elevator runs were made for ordnance and another 600 runs for movement of supplies, aircraft parts, and other miscellaneous items while maintaining 100% operability.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT

Supply's Readiness Division upgraded Supply support with a new COSAL, Q-COSAL, AMAL, ADAL, and AVCAL. ADP also upgraded the ship's SNAP system while transitioning into the Combat Systems Department. The Aviation Stores Division cross-decked over 550 repairable items to deploying carriers.

The Services Divisions hosted numerous official events on board including the Change of Homeport Cruise, a Family Day Cruise, Seattle Sea Fair Cruise, Pacific Northwest Joint E-9 Ball, 400 distinguished visitors for overnight embarks, and a "state" dinner for China's Vice Chief of Naval Operations. Disbursing Division processed, audited, and transmitted more than 5,800 personnel/disbursing documents monthly, and processed approximately \$2.2 million in monthly collections and disbursements.

Construction of a self-service laundry facility was also begun in 1997, which will increase the quality of life for the Sailors who live aboard.

COMBAT SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT

The Challenge Athena III installation in November increased the number of POTS lines and Sailor phones, in addition to providing the ship improved Internet access. The installation of the Video Information Exchange System (VIXS) provides the Battle Group Commander with videoteleconferencing ability.

In May the SNAPI suite was converted to the NTCSS platform allowing the ship to electronically communicate via the NIPRNET E-mail system. The tactical network was also converted from the Joint Maritime Command Information System to the Global Command and Control System (Maritime). This enhanced ABRAHAM LINCOLN's information warfare capabilities significantly by providing over 100 tactical workstations to the crew and embarked staffs.

Combat Systems received a grade of 98.1% from the Commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group Three on their Comprehensive Communications Assessment.

DECK DEPARTMENT

The Deck Department completed 22 underway replenishments during which the ship received 8.3M gallons of fuel (JP5), delivered 100K gallons of fuel (JP5), received 770 pallets of ammunition, and received 203 pallets of general cargo.

NAVIGATION DEPARTMENT

The ABRAHAM LINCOLN Navigation Department served as the test platform for the Block III installation of the NAVSSI (Navigation Sensor System Interface), a computer-based navigation aid.

In 1997, five Command Duty Officers Underway, 20 Officers of the Deck Underway, 16 Command Duty Officers Inport, 15 Assistant Command Duty Officers Inport, 76 Officers of the Deck Inport, two Along Side Conning Officers, and three Master Helmsmen were qualified.

Navigation Department also coordinated two burials at sea.

TRAINING DEPARTMENT

The Training Department indoctrinated approximately 1,000 new crew members in 10 senior and 24 junior indoctrination courses that included general ship familiarization, 3M, Basic Damage Control, CPR, and Navy Rights and Responsibilities. Training also initiated and processed over 1,000 sets of cost and 2,500 sets of no-cost orders that sent personnel to professional schools in preparation for deployment. Approximately 2,500 Sailors were given school quotas ranging from shipboard firefighting and nuclear propulsion.

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

The Maintenance Department played a large role in the ship's success during the COMNAVAIRPAC 3-M Assessment (grade 96.2%) and the Board of Inspection and Survey in-service inspection. The ship's Quality Assurance Program also received high marks from COMNAVAIRPAC as the "most comprehensive, effective program observed to date on any AIRPAC aircraft carrier."

CHAPLAIN DEPARTMENT

The Chaplain Department provided religious support through on-line faith group programs, biblical/spiritual studies, video-based studies, a Promise Keepers program, Prayer and Praise Services, and numerous Lay Reader services.

In addition to religious services, the Chaplain Department provided quality of life programs in stress management, suicide prevention, recovery groups, and marriage workshops.

The Chaplain Department prepared the library for the installation of the Learning Multimedia Resource Center, which will transition the library from a traditionally book only oriented library to a 21-century leisure and informational electronic media library.

The Chaplain Department also coordinated community service events such as Habitat for Humanity, the Holiday Assistance Program, and Navy/Marine Corps Relief assistance.

LEGAL DEPARTMENT

The Legal Department provided legal services to the Commanding Officer, wardroom, and members of the crew. Additionally, Legal processed 49 Summary Courts-martials, 27 Special Courts-martials, six Article 32 investigations, 538 nonjudicial punishment cases, and 208 administrative separations.

SAFETY DEPARTMENT

The Safety Department implemented Operational Risk Management into the ship's daily routine by incorporating briefs for high-risk operations. One hundred Safety Petty Officers qualified in both PQS and the Safety Programs Afloat Course.

DENTAL DEPARTMENT

A new intraoral x-ray machine, new x-ray processor unit, and a full complement of dentists facilitated attainment of 97% dental readiness for ship's personnel.