



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS CONSTELLATION (CV 64)
FPO SAN FRANCISCO, 96635

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MAR 23 1983

From: Commanding Officer, USS CONSTELLATION (CV 64)
To: Chief of Naval Operations (Op-05D2)

Subj: USS CONSTELLATION (CV 64) Command History for Calendar Year 1982
(OPNAV Report 5750-1)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

Encl: (1) 1982 Chronology
(2) USS CONSTELLATION (CV 64) 1982 Narrative Command History
(3) Biography of Captain Lyle F. BULL, U. S. Navy

"Sat"

1. Enclosures (1), (2) and (3) are forwarded in accordance with reference (a).
2. Captain Lyle F. BULL, USN, relieved Captain Dennis M. BROOKS, USN, as Commanding Officer, USS CONSTELLATION (CV 64) on 16 September 1982.
3. Major command problems faced during the year: None.


L. F. BULL

Copy to:
Director of Naval History



1982 CHRONOLOGY

01 Jan - 24 Jan Arabian Sea ModLoc

25 Jan - 29 Jan In port, Mombasa, Kenya

30 Jan - 22 Feb Transit from Mombasa to Arabian Sea ModLoc

23 Feb - 28 Feb In port, Fremantle, Australia

01 Mar - 07 Apr Underway, Indian Ocean/North Arabian Sea

07 Apr Transit, Malacca Straits

08 Apr - 12 Apr In port, Singapore

13 Apr - 16 Apr Underway, South China Sea

17 Apr - 28 Apr In port, Subic Bay, R. P.

29 Apr - 10 May Underway, READEX 1-82

11 May - 15 May Underway, transit to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii

16 May In port, Pearl Harbor

17 May - 22 May Underway, transit to San Diego

23 May - 21 Jun Upkeep, San Diego

22 Jun - 28 Jun Underway, Southern Pacific Operating Area for Carrier
Qualifications

29 Jun - 14 Jul Upkeep, San Diego

15 Jul - 28 Jul Underway, FLEETEX 1-82

29 Jul - 15 Aug Upkeep, San Diego

16 Aug - 19 Aug Underway, Fleet Replacement Squadron Carrier
Qualification

20 Aug - 22 Aug In port, San Francisco

23 Aug - 29 Aug Underway, Exercise KERNEL EGRESS 82-2

30 Aug INSURV, Underway Material Inspection

31 Aug - 26 Sep Upkeep, San Diego

16 Sep CONSTELLATION Change of Command -- Captain L. F. Bull
relieved Captain D. M. Brooks

27 Sep - 04 Oct	Underway, Fleet Replacement Squadron Carrier Qualification and F/A-18 Operational Evaluation
05 Oct - 20 Oct	Upkeep, San Diego
21 Oct - 12 Nov	Underway, Fleet Replacement Squadron/Training Command Carrier Qualifications
13 Nov - 28 Nov	Upkeep, San Diego, Preparation for Complex Overhaul
29 Nov - 2 Dec	Transit to Bremerton
3 Dec	Anchorage, Puget Sound
4 Dec	Dry dock, Bremerton in preparation for Complex Overhaul
6 Dec	Commence Overhaul
6 Dec - 31 Dec	Complex Overhaul in progress

USS CONSTELLATION (CV 64) 1982 NARRATIVE COMMAND HISTORY

USS CONSTELLATION began the year at sea in the Arabian Sea. This at sea period which had begun 5 December 1981 ended with a 25 January arrival in port Mombasa, Kenya. Highlighting this at sea period were:

Air operations for proficiency

Exercises with French and British naval ships.

Turnover of Battle Group command from COMCARGRU ONE to COMCARGRU SEVEN on 16 January 1982.

Exercise BEACON FLASH 82-3

Visits by Somalian and Kenyan VIPs.

After a four day port call at Mombasa, Kenya, USS CONSTELLATION returned to the Arabian Sea where a visit by the Secretary of Defense was hosted on 10 February. A thirteen day transit of the Indian Ocean brought USS CONSTELLATION to a 23 February arrival at Fremantle, Australia for a five day port call.

Underway again on 1 March, USS CONSTELLATION participated in Exercise GONZO 82-2 off Diego Garcia, hosted a visit by Commander Battle Force SEVENTH Fleet on 9 March and by Commander SEVENTH Fleet on 10 March. Weapons Week near Diego Garcia 11 - 14 March provided a valuable opportunity to maintain proficiency for delivering ordnance on land targets. During the following transit to the Northern Arabian Sea, during on-station time there, and return to the Diego Garcia area, the ship conducted routine flight operations and exercises. USS CONSTELLATION opposed USS KENNEDY in Exercise ADEX 82-6 30 March - 2 April, then joined USS KENNEDY Battle Group for dual Battle Group operations. Commander Service Force SEVENTH Fleet visited USS CONSTELLATION on 1 April.

An Eastward transit brought USS CONSTELLATION through the Malacca Straits on 7 April and to Singapore for an 8 - 12 April port call. Commander Naval Air Force, U. S. Pacific Fleet visited CONSTELLATION on 8 April.

Soviet Bear Aircraft staging from Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam, flew surveillance against USS CONSTELLATION during the 13 - 16 April transit of the South China Sea to Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines. After a 10 day port call for upkeep at Subic Bay, CONSTELLATION was again underway on 29 April for a major SEVENTH Fleet exercise involving three carrier battle groups. Having completed the exercise on 8 May, the ship proceeded Eastward, in-chopped to THIRD Fleet on 11 May, initiated "POLLIWOGS to SHELLBACKS" on 12 May and arrived Pearl Harbor, Hawaii on 16 May for a one day port call.

After embarking about 700 "TIGERS" (male dependents and friends of CONSTELLATION crewmembers), USS CONSTELLATION departed Pearl Harbor on 17 May and completed homeward transit with a 23 May arrival in San Diego, California, homeport.

Upon completion of a 23 May - 21 June upkeep period, USS CONSTELLATION put to sea for 6 days of Fleet Replacement Squadron Carrier Qualifications. 1203 arrestments qualified 186 pilots before returning to San Diego for another 29 June - 14 July upkeep period.

Between 15 - 28 July, USS CONSTELLATION was underway in the Southern California operating area leading her Battle Group in FLEETEX 1-82. This COMTHIRDFLT exercise, which also involved the USS ENTERPRISE Carrier Battle Group, was an advanced level exercise emphasizing tactical development in a multi-threat environment.

Another upkeep period in San Diego 29 July - 15 August was followed by four days of Fleet Replacement Squadron Carrier Qualifications and a northerly transit of the California coast for a 20 August arrival in San Francisco. During a three day port call in San Francisco, about 75,000 San Franciscans visited USS CONSTELLATION. Underway again on 23 August, Air Wing NINE flew on board for Exercise KERNEL EGRESS 82-2. This Ready Force Alertment and Contingency Plans Execution Exercise was completed off Southern California on 29 August. On 30 August, USS CONSTELLATION commenced INSURV Inspection and returned to San Diego on 31 August for completion of INSURV followed by an upkeep period.

Captain L. F. BULL relieved Captain D. M. BROOKS as Commanding Officer on 16 September and took USS CONSTELLATION to sea on 27 September for another Fleet Replacement Squadron Carrier Qualification period and Operational Evaluation of the F/A-18 aircraft. Between 27 September - 4 October, 1393 arrestments qualified 179 pilots. Support for the F/A-18 evaluation included 249 arrestments.

After two weeks of upkeep in San Diego, 5 - 20 October, USS CONSTELLATION was again at sea for Fleet Replacement Squadron and Training Command Carrier Qualifications. A total of 1730 arrestments qualified 257 pilots, including 131 Training Command pilots with 750 traps. An upkeep period in San Diego and preparations for Complex Overhaul followed 13 - 28 November.

On 29 November, USS CONSTELLATION, with about 400 dependents, 800 privately owned vehicles, and pets embarked, commenced transit to Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, Washington, for Complex Overhaul. After arrival in dry dock 6 on 4 December, dependents, vehicles and pets were immediately off-loaded, and overhaul officially began on 6 December.

New Year's eve passed with USS CONSTELLATION's keel dry in dock number 6, Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.

C. Monthly Narrative

January

The new year found CONSTELLATION underway for Subic Bay following an extended period of flight operations on Yankee Station. The inport period proved a needed rest after more than thirty days on the line. On the 12th of the month, catapult number two fired her 40,000th shot and a week later Lt. Randy CUNNINGHAM and Ltjg. Willie DRISCOLL, Fighter Squadron 96, shot down a MIG-21 in an engagement over the DMZ.

The 27th found the ship "standing down" with the "13th Annual Connie Relays." This day featured intra-ship competition in various track events as well as an individual event in pie-eating and a funny uniform contest. Carrier Early Airborne Warning Squadron 116 earned the most team points to cop the "Coveted Connie Cup," symbol of athletic supremacy.

February

On 4 February CONSTELLATION anchored in Hong Kong Harbor for the long-awaited visit to that former British colony. A large number of the ship's wives were on hand to meet their husbands for the scheduled week of vacation. On 9 February, however, orders arrived recalling the ship to Yankee Station immediately. By the evening of the 10th, CONSTELLATION was back on the line.

In mid-February the chaplain's office hosted a two-day conference on military evangelism.- The conference, which spanned five sessions, was conducted with the aid of the Rev. Harry E. JONES, Asian Director of the Campus Crusade for Christ.

22 February found the ship with a day of rest and boxing was the order of the day. Twelve intra-ship matches were held in the hangar bay, followed by a concert by the Seventh Fleet Band.

March

On 4 March CONSTELLATION completed three weeks on the line and moored in Subic Bay. The week's rest was beneficial and morale was high as the carrier returned to Yankee Station for her final scheduled line period of

the cruise. On 17 March the air wing commander dropped the 50,000th MK-82 of the deployment.

24 March saw CONSTELLATION complete her final scheduled day of combat operations and turn for Subic Bay. En route to port the Engineering Department received a grade of "Outstanding" on a full power run. On the same day twenty-four men reenlisted in a single ceremony in the ship's forecabin.

Arriving in Subic on 24 March, CONSTELLATION off-loaded the staff of Commander, Carrier Division Five. A week later, after six days at sea, the carrier moored at the U.S. Naval Station, Yokosuka, Japan.

April

Activities in Yokosuka were fast-paced. G-Division took nearly two days to load some 350 crated motorcycles into magazines and hangar bay. Supply took on many tons of individually ordered merchandise and the entire crew embarked on a round of shopping and sightseeing.

2 April, Easter Sunday, was CONSTELLATION's day as hostess. Vice Admiral MACK, Commander Seventh Fleet, was one of some 250 worshipers at a windy sunrise service conducted on the flight deck. At the conclusion of the service, the ship held Open House for all base employees. An estimated 2000 braved chill winds to tour hangar bay, flight deck, and aircraft, escorted by officers from the ship and air wing.

Early that morning orders arrived, directing the ship to return to Yankee Station to help stem the tide of the "Easter offensive." A nearly miraculous performance by the entire complement got CONSTELLATION underway late the next afternoon and on 8 April the air wing flew missions in support of allied forces at An Loc and Kontum. For the remainder of the month, the carrier remained on the line, sustained by twenty underway replenishments in twenty-two days.

May

On the 8th, still on the firing line, Lt. CUNNINGHAM and Ltjg. DRISCOLL of Fighter Squadron 96 scored their second MIG kill of the cruise. Two days later the pair connected again, blasting three MIG's

from the sky to become the first "aces" of the Vietnam conflict. Hit by a surface-to-air (SAM) missile, CUNNINGHAM piloted his aircraft out to the water where the two ejected, to be picked up by search-and-rescue helicopters.

Other pilots were not idle on that date, as the air wing garnered seven MIGs while the attack squadrons continued to afford timely support to rallying ground forces.

On 17 May, Cdr. T.R. WILKINSON, commander of Attack Squadron 147, was struck by a SAM missile. He also nursed his stricken aircraft over the water, and parachuted to safety, narrowly escaping capture by enemy boats which were held at bay by cannon fire from circling A-7's.

On that same day CONSTELLATION received orders to Subic accompanied by a message from Vice Admiral T.J. WALKER, Commander Naval Air Forces, Pacific Fleet:

"As the officers and men of the CONSTELLATION and Attack Carrier Air Wing Nine commence a well-deserved respite after 41 days of combat operations, I add my personal congratulations and admiration to the many accolades you have earned. Although your outstanding MIG kill record and the first aces of the Vietnam war are in the limelight and a matter of great pride to all of us, they in no way overshadow the many other successes scored by CONSTELLATION during the recent demanding line period. Well done."

On 19 May, after 47 days at sea, CONSTELLATION put into Subic Bay.

After a brief stop in Subic, the carrier proceeded to Singapore for a four-day rest stop. Here valuable and necessary work was done on the ship's evaporators to ensure an adequate supply of fresh water. During the month of May the Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department serviced their 36,000th aircraft component.

June

Returning to Yankee Station in early June, CONSTELLATION spent another two weeks on the firing line. During this final action, attack aircraft dropped the 91,000th bomb of the cruise. On 15 June, the ship pulled into

Subic briefly and again steamed for Yokosuka, arriving on the 21st. After a short rest in Yokosuka, CONSTELLATION steamed for home.

The return trip was a cheerful time, with a Las Vegas night in the hangar bay and the Captain's Cup athletic competition helping to pass the time. On 31 June the carrier arrived in San Francisco to offload aircraft and ordnance.

July

Arriving in San Diego on 1 July, CONSTELLATION was greeted by Vice Admiral Walker and a pier filled with dependents and friends. On the last day of the month, after four weeks of stand-down an eight-week overhaul began.

August

The overhaul continued throughout the month of August. During this month the Communications Department received the Naval Tactical Satellite System, enabling improved communications by use of the transceiver installed aboard, in coordination with an orbiting satellite.

September

In late September the eight-week overhaul was completed. More than 4 million dollars of work had been accomplished, more than in any previous carrier overhaul of like duration. On the 27th of the month, CONSTELLATION began refresher training (REFTRA) to train new crew members and refresh the old.

October

Refresher Training continued through the month of October. On the 28th the ship hosted some 2500 guests - dependents and friends - on a Dependents Day Cruise.

November

In November, CONSTELLATION resumed air operations in preparation for deployment. The third of November saw the ship return to port to take on fresh water and to place a group of 130 sailors ashore, designating them

the "CONSTELLATION Beach Detachment." (See "Special Problems,--Encl II) CONSTELLATION spent 8-26 November in port. On the 17th DPSN William Jay KISSELL was married to the former Jean CRESPIN in the ship's forecastle. Captain J.D. WARD gave away the bride and Chaplain SCHNEIDER performed the ceremony. On 24 November CONSTELLATION completed canvassing for the Combined Federal Campaign; contributions from the ship's company totalled more than \$17,000.

December

On 5 December, CONSTELLATION commenced her Operational Readiness Inspection. Certified ready for combat, the ship went to a maximum liberty and leave policy, preparing for deployment in early January. During this inport period the Engineering Department made a valuable addition, incorporating an Aviation Fuel Oil Analysis Laboratory into their operation. In this same period the Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department completed installations to support the EA-6B aircraft on CONSTELLATION. The major part of this installation consists of three vans suspended from the overhead in the forward section of the Hangar Bay. These vans contain the special electronics test equipment needed to sustain the peculiar EA-6B weapons system components.

D. Special Information

1. Flight Information

- (a) Launches 1972: 11,294
- (b) Recoveries 1972: 14,414

2. Underway Replenishments

- (a) Receiving : 76
- (b) Delivering: 8
- (c) Vertical replenishments: 19

3. Medical Report

Total outpatient referrals	23,149
Admission referrals	189
Flight Physicals	192
Other complete physicals	1684
Limited Services	3572
Refractions	384
Glasses ordered	1335
Prescriptions filled	11,720

Commanding Officer USS CONSTELLATION



Captain Lyle F. Bull, U. S. Navy

Captain Lyle F. Bull was born in [REDACTED] Illinois on [REDACTED]. He graduated from Iowa State University in 1960 and began his Naval Career at Officer Candidate School, Newport, Rhode Island. Upon commissioning in September 1960, he was assigned to flight training at Pensacola, Florida, and was ordered to VAH-123 at NAS Whidbey Island, Washington, where he was designated a Bombardier/Navigator in May 1961. After completing his assignment with VAH-123 Captain Bull was assigned to VAH-4 until March 1964.

In November 1964, he reported to VAH-123 as an instructor in the A-3B Skywarrior. In January 1965, he was selected as one of six Bombardier/Navigators to be trained in the A-6A at VA-42, NAS Oceana, Virginia. In May 1965, he returned to Whidbey Island to help establish VA-128, the first A-6A training squadron on the West Coast.

Assigned as a replacement crew to VA-196 in August 1967, Captain Bull and his pilot took a replacement A-6A to USS CONSTELLATION (CVA-64) on Yankee Station after three A-6A's were lost in a strike on Hanoi.

From 1967 to 1970, Captain Bull flew 237 combat missions with VA-196 during three cruises, two aboard USS CONSTELLATION (CVA-64) and one aboard USS RANGER (CVA-61)

In April 1970, Captain Bull was assigned to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations where he was Attack Weapons Systems Program Coordinator in the Aircraft requirement Section of DCNO (Air Warfare). While at the Pentagon, Captain Bull initiated the A-6E/A-7E TRAM Programs, which are now in the fleet.

Captain Bull was screened for command and received interim orders to VA-128 waiting return to VA-196 as Executive Officer in July 1974 and subsequently, Commanding Officer in June 1975.

Following Captain Bull's tour as Commanding Officer of VA-196, he was assigned to the USS ENTERPRISE (CVN-65) as the Air Operations Officer.

In February 1978, he assumed command of VA-128, the West Coast A-6 Intruder replacement training squadron, after which he was assigned as Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations for Carrier Group SEVEN which included duty as the first Carrier Group on station in the Indian Ocean during the Iranian hostage crisis.

In February 1981, Captain Bull assumed the duties of Commanding Officer, USS SAN JOSE (AFS-7), then based in Alameda, California. In August 1981 USS SAN JOSE (AFS-7) changed homeport to Guam where Captain Bull was relieved on 3 August 1982.

Among Captain Bull's awards are the Navy Cross, Distinguished Flying Cross, nineteen Strike-Flight Air Medals, seven Navy Commendation Medals for service in Vietnam, and the Meritorious Service Medal for his work on the A-6E/A-7E TRAM Programs.

Captain Bull is married to the former Diana Kay Stone, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lester R. Stone of East Moline, Illinois. They have four children, Ron, Vince, Bruce and Dell, three daughters-in-law, Gina, Sheri and Tacie, and two grandchildren, Jason and Lindsay.

ENCLOSURE (3)