

# DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN 74) FPO AP 96615-2874 IN REPLY REFER TO:

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From:

Commanding Officer, USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN 74)

To:

Director, Naval History (OP-09BH) Washington Navy Yard

Washington, DC 20374-0571

Subj:

SUBMISSION OF COMMAND HISTORY

Ref:

(a) OPNAVINST 5720.12E

Encl:

(1) Command History for USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN 74) for period 1 January to 31 December 2001

(2) Biographical Information on Commanding Officer

(3) All Editions of the Ship's Newspaper "The Statesman"

(4) Welcome Brochure

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

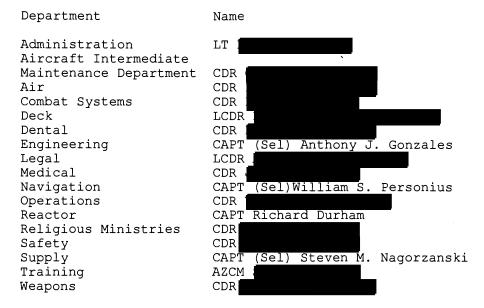
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# USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN 74) 2001 COMMAND HISTORY

# 1. Part I - Command Composition and Organization

- a. Mission of USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN 74). The mission of USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN 74) and her embarked Air Wing is to conduct sustained combat air operations while forward deployed in the global arena.
  - b. Organizational Structure
    - (1) Immediate Senior in Command is Commander, Carrier Group SEVEN.
- (2) The Commanding Officer is Captain James A. McDonell. He assumed command of USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN 74) on 16 November 2001.
- (3) The Executive Officer is Captain Jeffrey B. Miller, USN. He assumed duties as Executive Officer in March 2001.
- (4) The Command Master Chief is CMDCM(AW/SS) Bret Druesne, USN. He assumed duties as Command Master Chief in May 1999.
  - (5) The Department Heads as of 31 December 2001 were:



- c. On 1 January 2001, 3061 personnel were on board: 199 Officers, 212 Chief Petty Officers and 2862 enlisted personnel.
- d. On 31 December 2001, 3,479 JCS personnel were on board: 215 Officers and 3,264 enlisted personnel. Since we were deployed on 31 December 2001, the following numbers are provided for Carrier Group SEVEN, Carrier Air Wing NINE and Destroyer Squadron TWO ONE which was embarked on board USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN 74): Total of 1,846 personnel; 319 Officers and 1,527 enlisted personnel. Total personnel deployed in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM were 5,325.
- e. The command's Senior Sailor of the Year was MM1 (SW/AW)
  The command's Junior Sailor of the Year was DT3 (SW)
  The command's Straight Furrow Award winner was CDR
  Officer. The command's Look Ahead Award winner was MMCS (SW/AW)
  from Reactor Department.

# Part II - Chronological list of Events/Accomplishments

#### **JANUARY**

1-31 Jan: Planned Incremental Availability (PIA).

12 Jan: Participated in Community Relations Project (COMREL) for San Diego

Youth and Community Services. 20 volunteers painted housing units

for at-risk youth.

17 Jan: CRMD coordinated a ceremony flyover by Helicopter Anti-Submarine

Squadron 8 (HS-8) for a 600-student group picture at Montgomery

Middle School, JOHN C. STENNIS' Adopt-A-School.

### FEBRUARY

1-28 Feb: PIA.

2 Feb: Host Job Shadow Day for 40 Coronado Middle School students.

11-15 Feb: Hot Operations in both propulsion plants.

14 Feb: Safety Standdown.

16-24 Feb: Non-critical steaming in both propulsion plants.

Press Secretary Tour for the offices of: Chuck Fant, REP John 20 Feb:

Spratt (D-SC), Tami Graves, Rep Ken Calvert (R-CA), C. Liam Lynch, Rep Ander Crenshwaw(R-FL), Lindsay Taylor, Rep Saxby Chambliss (R-GA), E. Colin Van Ostern, Rep Jim Turner (D-TX), and F. Ryan

Vaart, Professional Staffer, HASC.

20-24 Feb: Non-critical steaming.

Ship wide pre-deployment brief held on board. 22 Feb:

Memorial Service for ABHN Gerald Tate held in Hangar Bay 2. 23 Feb:

Visit by Chief of Naval Personnel, VADM RYAN. Conducted All Hands 27 Feb:

Call in hangar bay.

#### c. MARCH

1-31 Mar: PIA.

Power Range Testing of both propulsion plants. 3-7 Mar:

6 Mar: PIA berthing barge departed.

MSI Trainer: Underway Replenishment/Shiphandling. 8-9 Mar:

Weapons Department dock trials. Test and checks of the small arms 15 Mar:

lockers, alarms, and elevator systems were successfully conducted.

15 Mar: Final PIA production meeting.

19 Mar: Fast Cruise began.

Simulated Underway Replenishment/Vertical Replenishment (UNREP/ 20 Mar:

VERTREP), General Quarters, Abandon Ship Drill and Anchoring.

20 Mar: Fast Cruise ended.

26 Mar: Underway for sea trials.

Practice UNREP approaches with USNS TIPPECANOE (TAO 199). 27 Mar:

UNREP USNS TIPPECANOE (TAO 199), 875,000 gallons recieved. 28 Mar:

Visit by Commander, Carrier Group SEVEN, RADM Robb. 30 Mar:

#### APRIL d.

2 Apr: Returned to homeport.

Combat Assessment for Readiness and Training (CART) II commenced. 9 Apr:

Underway for Fleet Reserve Squadron Carrier Qualifications 19 Apr:

(FRS/CQ).

UNREP USNS GUADALUPE (TAO 200) - 1,600,000 gallons of fuel 19 Apr:

transferred.

19-25 Apr: Nuclear Propulsion Mobile Training Team visit (first).

Weapons Department received over 150 lifts of NCEA ammunition from 23 Apr:

USNS SHASTA (AE 33).

Returned to homeport. 25 Apr:

INSURV commenced. 30 Apr:

### e. MAY

4 May: INSURV completed.

9 May: Underway in transit to Pearl Harbor. Disney crew on board for set

up of the Pearl Harbor Premiere set on the flight deck.

12 May: Performed a burial at sea ceremony.

14 May: Moored Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

21 May: World Premiere of the movie "Pearl Harbor" held on the flight

deck. Disney production with the following stars in attendance: Ben Afleck, Josh Hartnet, Dan Aykroid, Kate Beckinsale. Reception

held in Hangar Bay 2, hosted by Disney.

25 May: Underway TSTA I.

30 May: UNREP USNS TIPPECANOE. Moored homeport.

# f. JUNE

4 Jun: Underway for FRS CQ/MTT-2.

4 Jun: Visit by OLA Staff delegation.

4-7 Jun: Nuclear Propulsion Mobile Training Team visit (second).

4-8 Jun: Commander, U.S. Naval Air Force, Pacific (CNAP) Mobile Ordnance

Training Team (MOTT) on board.

7 Jun: Visit by Commander, THIRD Fleet.

8 Jun: Moored homeport.

18-22 Jun: Combat Systems Readiness Assessment held.

Weapons Department inspected by ESSOPAC N712P during COSR I.

18-28 Jun: Exercise KERNEL BLITZ. Experimental DPIA Ship checks.

19-22 Jun: NAVSEA Conventional Ordnance Safety Review.

29 Jun: Safety Standown completed.

Held "Battle of Midway" ceremony on board.

# g. JULY

9 Jul: Underway for FRS CQ.

13 Jul: Anchor Drop Test. Moored homeport.

16 Jul: Carrier Air Wing NINE (CVW-9) onload.

17 Jul: Underway for TSTA II/III/FEP.

19-22 Jul: Paramount Pictures "Sum of All Fears" shoot conducted on board.

(Aerial, CIWS and flight deck shots).

20 Jul: UNREP USNS GUADALUPE. Received 709,917 gallons of JP-5.

23 Jul: TSTA II Debrief.

25 Jul: UNREP USNS GUADALUPE. Received 436,484 gallons of JP-5.

28 Jul: General Ouarters held for Final Evaluation Problem.

30 Jul: UNREP USS LAKE CHAMPLAIN.

31 Jul: Moored Naval Station Everett, Washington.

#### h. AUGUST

1 AUG Underway en route Seattle for Seattle Sea Fair with over 1,700 on

board for Day Cruise transit.
2-4 Aug: Tours provided inport Seattle, Washington to over 12,000 people.

4 Aug: Senator JOHN C. STENNIS Birthday Reception on board.

5 Aug: Underway for COMPTUEX.

6 Aug: Ammunition onload from USNS SHASTA.

7 Aug: UNREP USS LAKE CHAMPLAIN, 190,344 gallons of JP5 received.

11 Aug: UNREP USS BRIDGE; 1,536,471 gallons of fuel received, 82 lifts of

ammunition, 30 pallets of cargo.

15 Aug: UNREP USS BRIDGE; 65,000 gallons of fuel received.

17 Aug: UNREP USNS TIPPECANOE.

17-20 Aug: Nuclear Propulsion Mobile Training Team Visit (third) and

Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination dress rehearsal.

21 Aug: MTT-3 out brief.

21-22 Aug: Final Battle Problem.

23 Aug: COMPTUEX debrief.

JTFEX planning meeting.

Moored homeport.

### i. SEPTEMBER

6 Sep: Underway, NASNI for FRS CQ.

9-10 Sep: Local San Diego television news channel KUSI embark (four separate

news stories).

10 Sep: Actual Man overboard. Helo rescue. Victim recovered and flown to

Naval Medical Center, San Diego.

11 Sep: World Trade Center, New York City/Pentagon Terrorist Attacks.

JOHN C. STENNIS becomes North American Regional Air Defense asset.

12 Sep: Local OPAREA for contingency operations. Launching aircraft in

combat missions to support Combat Air Patrol (CAP) over Southern

California. Operation NOBLE EAGLE commences.

UNREP USNS SHASTA - Weapons and ammunition onload via VERTREP/

CONREP.

12-15 Sep: Weapons Department onloaded over 2,276,780 pounds of ordnance from

USNS SHASTA and USS CAMDEN in support of Operation NOBLE EAGLE after the September 11th terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon; one of the largest onloads to take place.

12-16 Sep: Weapons Department provided load crews and arm/de-arm crews to the

reapons begaring to provide a road crows and army de arm element of

FRS CQ Detachment, enabling setting alert CAP in support of

Operation NOBLE EAGLE.

13 Sep: Memorial service for World Trade Center/Pentagon victims and

families held in hangar bay.

14 Sep: Chief Petty Officer pinning.

15 Sep: UNREP USS CAMDEN - Weapons onload via VERTREP/CONREP; received 98

lifts.

16 Sep: RAS with USNS CAMDEN; 19 pallets received.

18-21 Sep: Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination.

21 Sep: Moored homeport.

23 Sep: Start upkeep period six.

## j. OCTOBER

1 Oct: Combat Systems Readiness Review (CSRR) begins.

2 Oct: Pre-deployment brief held on board.

4 Oct: Dental Readiness Assist visit.

CSRR debrief.

10 Oct: PIA A-12 brief.

16 Oct: Dental Readiness Inspection (Result C-2 grade).

19 Oct: Transit plan brief to COMNAVAIRPAC.

CCG-7 Change of Command; RADM James Zortman relieves RADM Robb

21-26 Oct: G-3 completed successful weapons Fallon Detachment. 22 Oct: Visit by Under Secretary of the Navy Livingstone.

22-25 Oct: Force Protection Exercise held at Naval Air Station, North Island.

26 Oct: CVW-9 onload.

30 Oct: Underway for CVW-9 CQ/JTFEX.

RAS (ammunition onload) with USNS SHASTA; 166 lifts (323 pallets)

of ammunition.

30-31 Oct: Carrier Qualifications.

#### k. NOVEMBER

1 Nov: Carrier Qualifications.

2 Nov: JTFEX begins. CCG-1 arrives.

2 Nov: Commence JTFEX with straits transit.

3 Nov: Jay Leno on board to film "The Tonight Show".

4 Nov: Visit by Commander, THIRD Fleet.

- 7 Nov: RAS with USNS GUADALUPE; Received 824,070 gallons of JP5.
  - C3F visit.
  - JTFEX debrief.
  - CCG-1/(P)CCG-1 depart.
  - Moored homeport.
- 10 Nov: United States Marine Corps' Birthday.
- 12 Nov: Underway WESTPAC 2001-2002 in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. Media on the pier to cover deployment departure.
- 13 Nov: VERTREP USNS SHASTA No fuel taken due to rough seas.
  - Ammunition onload from USNS SHASTA.
- 15 Nov: RAS with USS BRIDGE.
- 16 Nov: JCS Change of Command CAPT James McDonell relieved RADM Richard Gallagher.
- 19 Nov: UNREP with USNS YUKON and USS BRIDGE; received 299,000 gallons of JP-5.
- 21 Nov: Inchop SEVENTH Fleet.
- 21 Nov: Crossed International Dateline.
- 25 Nov: RAS with USNS CONCORD. Received 161 pallets of FFV.
  - RAS (ammunition onload) with USNS FLINT.
- 29 Nov: UNREP with USS BRIDGE. Received 1,090,180 gallons of JP5.
- 30 Nov: Arrived Hong Kong for port visit. Anchored in Hong Kong harbor.
  30 Nov: Media availability 35 media outlets, 85 journalists came aboard.
  - Held interviews with ADM, CO, CAG and Commodore.

# 1. DECEMBER

- 1 Dec: VIP tours conducted for 100 personnel.
- 3 Dec: CCG-7 Big Top Reception on board for 500 guests including U.S.
  - Consul General, Michael Klosson and SAR Security Manager.
- 4 Dec: Departed Hong Kong, enroute to Singapore.
- 7 Dec: Arrived Singapore for port visit. Moored pierside Changi Naval Base.
- 8 Dec: Tours for 150 VIPs; CCG-7 Big Top Reception on board with 156 guests including RADM Sim, RSN Fleet Commander; 16 DVs including Canadian High Commissioner.
- 10 Dec: Departed Singapore, enroute to FIFTH Fleet operating area in North Arabian Sea.
  - VERTREP with USNS CONCORD Received stores.
- 14 Dec: UNREP with USS PORT ROYAL Delivered fuel to Port Royal. UNREP with USS PORT ROYAL (CG-73). No fuel delivered.
- 15 Dec: First day of flying combat operations over Afghanistan. UNREP with USS BRIDGE Received fuel and stores; 780,576 gallons of fuel received and 30 pallets of HAZMAT sent.
  - World Trade Center Flag Ceremony.
- 17-21 Dec: Weapons Department onloaded 41 lifts of ordnance required for Operation ENDURING FREEDOM.
- 19 Dec: RAS (ammunition onload) with USNS FLINT and USNS SATURN.
- 21 Dec: Visit by Canadian Defense Secretary.
- 22 Dec: UNREP with USNS CONCORD (AFS-5). Received 90 pallets of cargo. Visit by Commander in Chief, Central Command, General Tommy R. Franks.
- 23 Dec: Visit by Commander, FIFTH Fleet, VADM Charlie Moore (overnight stay).
  - UNREP with USS BRIDGE (AOE-10); received 772,164 gallons of JP-5.

# 3. Part III - Narrative Summary of Events/Accomplishments

# a. <u>JANUARY</u>

(1) Operations completed Installation of the Improved Fresnel Lens Optical Landing System (IFLOLS).

- (2) Reactor Department, in conjunction with Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, completed maintenance in the final stages of the Planned Incremental Availability (PIA), and Number 2 Propulsion Plant was placed in a maintenance condition (solid) for adjustment of a primary relief. Major shipyard work completed this month: steam generator authorized work, reactor coolant pump breaker re-installation, Reactor Fill Admission Valve work, reactor vessel head buffering, and Electronic Rod Drive Power Supply upgrades. Several precritical preparations were completed in anticipation of returning the reactors to service.
- b. <u>FEBRUARY</u>. Reactor Department began preparing plant equipment for light off. The Commanding Officer re-certified supervisory watch standers to resume standing steaming watches, and hot operations were completed ahead of schedule. Shortly after hot operations, successful completion of non-critical steaming testing indicated that steam driven pumps and generators required for reactor plant start up were ready for use.

#### c. MARCH

- (1) The Educational Services Office held March exams totaling 1,062 Navy-Wide examinations for the following paygrades: 298 for E-4 paygrade (180 advanced = 60.73%); 574 for E-5 paygrade (123 advanced = 21.42%); and 190 for E-6 paygrade (44 advanced = 22.63%).
- (2) March continued the testing phase and marked the end of the PIA. Power range testing certified all critical equipment supporting propulsion. The watch teams participated in casualty control drills during Fast Cruise and Sea Trials to certify their watch standing proficiency. Sea Trials completed the testing requirements for PIA. Unfortunately, Sea Trials also revealed steam leaks from all four main engines. All testing was completed on time, and the ship was certified for use.
- (3) Operations Department, OW Division completed several hurdles to ensure the ship's Electronic Warfare Systems were performing up to specifications before beginning the inter-deployment training cycle. Successful CSPAAT evaluations were completed on the ship's EW systems in conjunction with outstanding ULM-4 range evolutions of the SLQ-32(V)4 and WRL-1H. Field changes on the SLQ-32 were also completed. The USS JOHN C. STENNIS was chosen as the acting operational test platform, the 1st Navy unit to employ the Precision Targeting Workstation 4.0 system.

# d. APRIL

- (1) Public Affairs assisted with the "Men of Honor" DVD/VHS Premiere aboard USS BUNKER HILL as media escorts.
- (2) Upon completion of Sea Trials, focus shifted to preparations for INSURV. In addition to INSURV preps, Nuclear Propulsion Mobile Training Team (NPMTT) commenced their first visit in a series of three in preparation for the Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination (ORSE).

#### e. MAY

- (1) The ship held the premiere of the epic movie "Pearl Harbor" on board in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. This event was months in planning and encompassed the efforts of the entire ship. During the transit to Pearl Harbor, Disney came on board and erected a stage on the flight deck. The premiere was held on 21 May and was the highlight for the entire crew during the port visit.
- (2) The Career Counselors processed 44 reenlistments, 22 alone were held on the flight deck during the premiere of the movie Pearl Harbor. Public Affairs assisted in conducting 500 interviews with Radio stations during the

movie premiere week. 150 TV interviews were produced locally, nationally and internationally and included a massive amount of media coverage that reached the all-important and recruiting-age MTV/Entertainment Tonight generation; 150 print interviews promoting the Navy. While in Pearl Harbor, the ship conducted tours for 2,000 quests.

- (3) Completed Install and Certification of the Long Range Laser Line-up System (LRLS).
- (4) Reactor Department successfully performed all aspects of the full power demonstration, including a one-hour full power run, a quick reversal, prolonged astern operation, and a quick reversal ahead. During the trip to and from Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, casualty control response became the focus of training. Without an embarked air wing, the drill team was able to perform more complex casualty control drills including complete loss of propulsion (DIW) and power affecting drills. This concentrated training time greatly enhanced the proficiency of watch standers.
- (5) Battle Group Passive Horizon Extension System (BGPHES) was successfully upgraded with Field Changes 5 and 7. These upgrades enhanced SSES's ability to provide Indications and Warning (I&W) to the battle group by increasing the number of receivers available and allowing increased network connectivity by operators.

#### f. JUNE

- (1) Held a frocking ceremony in the hangar bay where 347 personnel were frocked to the next paygrade.
- (2) Completed installation of the Flight Deck Control Handler Camera System.
- (3) COMNAVAIRPAC NPMTT returned for their second visit to assess the Reactor Department's progress in preparing for ORSE. The inspection included casualty control drills, level of knowledge testing and interviews, and a thorough administrative review. Puget Sound Naval Shipyard personnel performed emergent repairs to number four main engine turbine and turbine casing.
- (4) OZ division and strike plot from 18-28 June productively hosted Fleet Battle Experiment-I. Nine separate C4ISR systems were successfully tested. OA division also provided stellar support with the Tactical Oceanographic and Atmospheric Summary System (TOAS). This system supports and provides all battle group platforms and assets with updated metrological forecasts and updates via message traffic.
- (5) AIMD had its COMNAVAIRPAC Maintenance Program Assist. The inspection was completed with an outstanding 41 of 44 programs graded "On Track".

# g. JULY

- (1) Public Affairs published 15 issues of the Statesman; produced ADM/CO/CAG/Commodore Brief; Friends and Family Day video; Tijuana Liberty video; Seattle Port Briefs and Foreign Object Debris video. Provided inport tours for 350 people in San Diego.
- (2) Operations Department OI division successfully completed two CIWS PACFIRE exercises and performed outstanding during TSTA II/III and FEP. The OA division supported FEP providing the "best ever" environmental predictions allowing for optimum weapons strikes.

## h. AUGUST

- (1) On the day trip from Everett to Seattle, enroute to Seattle Sea Fair, JCS hosted 1,700 personnel and provided tours, lunch and entertainment. Hosted over 12,000 people for tours during inport Seattle for Sea Fair. Hosted Seattle Sea Fair on board during reception for JOHN C. STENNIS' 100th birthday.
- (2) Reactor Department made significant improvements in preparation for ORSE, while the Air Wing certified for blue water operations. On the return from Seattle, the ship successfully completed the Intermediate Phase of the Inter-deployment Training Cycle with the end of COMPTUEX and the Final Battle Problem. NPMTT completed the third of three visits. This visit served as a dress rehearsal for ORSE.
- (3) Stellar support for the Seattle Sea Fair started a busy month for the USS JOHN C. STENNIS. The OP division directly assisted the Public Affairs Office by providing outstanding photographic support of Sea Fair and the Parade of Ships. The Shogun Quick Strike Cell, Strike Fusion Cell and the Time Critical Targeting Cell were stood up providing CVW-9 and the USS JOHN C. STENNIS full and complete integration. OP division provided over 5,000 feet of TARPS film in support of COMPTUEX. OM and OI division controlled numerous USW aircraft for over 30 hours and coordinated 24 attacks to complete numerous COMPTUEX objectives.
- (4) AIMD maintained a 98 percent test bench readiness rate and managed the successful verification of 792 rotatable pool items, which directly contributed to the command's highly successful completion of TSTA II/III, FEP and COMPTUEX.

# i. SEPTEMBER

- (1) While underway performing FRS CQ, the tragic terrorist bombings of September 11 took place. JCS immediately became a North American Air Defense asset and began flying Combat Air Patrol missions over the Western Continental United States, the only aircraft carrier ever to conduct such missions.
- (2) During this month, the Educational Services Office processed 1,189 Navy-Wide Examinations for the following paygrades: 324 for E-4 paygrade (209 advanced = 64.50%); 646 for E-5 paygrade (144 advanced = 22.29%; and 219 for E-6 paygrade (55 advanced = 25.57%).
- (3) JCS received notification of her early deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.
- (4) Reactor Department successfully completed another Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination, continuing a high standard set during two previous examinations.

#### j. OCTOBER

- (1) The John C. Stennis Center for Public Service hosted the Straight Furrow and Look Ahead Awards Dinner. The dinner was held on 12 October 2001 at the Hanalei Hotel in Mission Valley with about 65 personnel and spouses in attendance. The Straight Furrow Award was presented to CDR Operations Officer and the Look Ahead Award was presented to MMCS (SW/AW) from Reactor Department. Mr. Rex Buffington, Executive Director of the Stennis Center for Public Service, presented both awards.
- (2) The Reactor Department conducted the annual Reactor Accident Drill and preparations for deployment.

(3) AIMD NDI Shop obtained a grade of satisfactory with zero discrepancies during a NAVSEADETRASO Inspection. A new piece of equipment called Liquid Filtration Cooling Unit (LFCU) was acquired from CNAP to support the air wing.

#### k. NOVEMBER

- (1) Public Affairs embarked Navy Marine Corps News, which created three stories to be aired this month; Public Affairs Center team completed 275 expanded photo news features with photos of Sailors for the deployment story.
- (2) Largest amount of  ${\it JP-5}$  and lube oil received via Underway Replenishment.
- (3) Operations Department charged headfirst into an abbreviated JTFEX, another successful CIWS PACFIRE and providing outstanding support to the CVW-9 team.

# 1. DECEMBER

- (1) Frocked 408 personnel during a frocking ceremony held in the hangar bay.
- (2) Port visits in Hong Kong and Singapore provided the crew with ample liberty while also allowing Puget Sound Naval Shipyard personnel the opportunity to repair the Attached Lube Oil Pump to number four main engine while inport Hong Kong.
- (3) A flag that was found in the rubble of the World Trade Center was raised on December 15th, the day of the first combat sortie into Afghanistan.