



~~SECRET~~ *Unclass.*
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS KITTY HAWK(CV-63)
FLEET POST OFFICE
NEW YORK, NY 09535-2770

DECLASSIFIED

IN REPLY REFER TO:

5520
Ser 80/C-1-88
28 Apr 88

Unclass.
~~SECRET~~

Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (9) *

From: Commanding Officer, USS KITTY HAWK (CV 63)
To: Director of Naval History (OP 09BH)

Subj: USS KITTY HAWK (CV 63) 1987 COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D

- Encl:
- (1) USS KITTY HAWK (CV 63) 1987 Command History
 - (2) USS KITTY HAWK photography
 - (3) Change of Command, USS KITTY HAWK (CV 63), 21 February 1987
 - (4) End of Cruise Parade USS KITTY HAWK (CV 63)
 - (5) The Flyer, World Cruise 1987
 - (6) Philadelphia, The Hawk is Back
 - (7) COMNAVAIRPAC North Island, CA 261701Z Feb 88 (Battle Efficiency Awards)
 - (8) World Cruise Book 1987
 - * (9) End of Cruise Report (U)

1. Enclosures (1) through (9) are submitted per reference (a).

F. L. Tillotson
F. L. TILLOTSON

Copy to: (w/o encl)
COMNAVAIRLANT (013)

* Held in Classif. File.

DECLASSIFIED

Unclass.
~~SECRET~~

COMMAND HISTORY

1. Command Composition and Organization

a. Mission

USS KITTY HAWK is an operational aircraft carrier whose missions are power projection and sea control in support of national policy.

b. Commanding Officer's, USS KITTY HAWK (CV 63)

CAPT D. W. Hoffman, 1 January - 21 February 1987

CAPT F. L. Tillotson, 21 February - 31 December 1987

c. Immediate Senior Command.

(1) Operational - COMCRUDESGRU FIVE 1 Jan - 21 May 1987
COMCARGRU EIGHT 21 May - 3 Jul 1987

(2) Administrative - COMCRUDESGRU FIVE 1 Jan - 21 May 1987
COMCARGRU EIGHT 21 May - 3 Jul 1987

d. Unit under operational control of KITTY HAWK.

Carrier Air Wing Nine

e. USS KITTY HAWK (CV 63) Home Port.

Philadelphia Naval Shipyard, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

f. Type of aircraft assigned.

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Aircraft Type/No</u>	<u>Tailcode</u>	<u>Homeport</u>
CVW 9	N/A	N/A	Lemoore, CA
VF 211	F-14A/12	NG/100 Series	Miramar, CA
VF 24	F-14A/12	NG/200 Series	Miramar, CA
VA 146	A-7E/10	NG/300 Series	Lemoore, CA
VA 147	A-7E/10	NG/400 Series	Lemoore, CA
VA 165	A-6E/11	NG/500 Series	Whidbey Is., WA
VA 165	KA-6D/4	NG/500 Series	Whidbey Is., WA
VAQ 130	EA-6B/4	NG/600 Series	Whidbey Is., WA
HS-2	SH-3H/6	NG/600 Series	North Is., CA
VAW-112	E-2C/4	NG/600 Series	Miramar, CA
VS-33	S-3A/10	NG/700 Series	North Is., CA
VA-115	A-6E/3	NG/500 Series	Atsugi, Japan
VQ-1	RA-3B/1	NG/010 Series	Agana, Guam
VQ-2	RA-3B/1	NG/000 Series	Rota, Spain

2. CHRONOLOGY

a. Significant Events

- 3 Jan - Underway from North Island, San Diego.
- 4 - 9 Jan - Varsity Scrimmage. Long and short range air operations conducted in the Hawaiian operation area.
- 15 Jan - Crossed international date line, 16 Jan was lost. Steel beach picnic.
- 19 - 21 Jan - Passex
- 20 Jan - Inchop to the 7th Fleet from 3rd Fleet.
- 25 Jan - Transited Bashi Channel at night and entered South China Sea.
- 26 - 27 Jan - Inchop exercise ASW training conducted.
- 27 - 28 Jan - Inport Subic Bay, a working port.
- 29 - 30 Jan - Underway, Transit to Indian Ocean/North Arabian Sea. Practice weapons demonstration.
- 31 Jan - Sultan of Brunei visit
- 1 Feb - Transited Strait of Malacca.
- 9 Feb - Arrived on "Gonzo" Station, North Arabian Sea.
- 21 Feb - Change of Command Ceremony.
- 1 Mar - Steel beach picnic.
- 8 Mar - Steel beach picnic.
- 15 Mar - Beer day.
- 8 - 12 Apr - Inport Karachi Pakistan. Diplomatic visit.
- 13 Apr - President Zia of Pakistan visit.
- 23 Apr - Transit to Mombasa.
- 25 Apr - Crossing the line.
- 28 Apr - 06 May - Inport Mombasa Kenya, a liberty port.
- 28 Apr - Ambassador to Kenya visit.
- 13 - 16 May - Transited the Red Sea.
- 17 May - Transited the Suez Canal.

18 May - MODLOC off Israel due to USS STARK incident.
19 May - Transit to Augusta Bay.
20 - 21 May - Anchored Augusta Bay. COMCRUDESGRU FIVE departs.
COMCARGRU EIGHT embarks aboard KITTY HAWK.
21 May - Transited Strait of Messina at night.
25 - 31 May - Inport Palma, Spain, a liberty port.
01 Jun - Underway for Cannes, France. Safety standdown conducted.
06 - 12 Jun - Inport Cannes, France, a liberty port.
13 Jun - Underway from Cannes, France.
17 - 18 Jun - Turnover with USS SARATOGA while underway.
19 Jun - Anchored Rota, Spain.
20 - 29 Jun - Outchop from Sixth Fleet to the Second Fleet.
Transiting to Philadelphia.
28 Jun - CVW 9 fly off.
30 Jun - 2 Jul - Inport Norfolk, VA to off-load airwing personnel,
equipment and AIMD equipment. Tigers embark.
2 Jul - Underway for Philadelphia PA.
3 Jul - Inport Philadelphia.
3 Jul - 3 Aug - Post cruise standdown.
3 Aug - Scoop started.
1 Oct - Ship shifted from operational manning to SLEP manning.
25 Nov - Dry-docked.
1 - 10 Dec - Move into Building 620.
18 Dec - Ship uninhabitable. Completed move ashore.
15 Dec - 31 Dec - Christmas leave period.

b. Awards Earned by USS KITTY HAWK.

1. The COMNAVAIRPAC Black "E" recognizing AIMD KITTY HAWK as one of the Best CV AIMD's in the Pacific.
2. Selected as COMNAVAIRPAC's Food Service Excellence Award winner for FY 86 represented the Pacific Fleet, and won the NEY award competition in recognition of Food Service Excellence.

3. S-3 (Sales Division) for the second consecutive year was finalist for the NAVRESSO Best Ship's Store Sales and Service award.

4. Won CINCLANTFLT Athletics Excellence Award for large command afloat CV division of 1987.

3. Narrative of Event.

a. USS KITTY HAWK (CV 63) in 1987 began its 26th year of service, preparing for a six month world cruise. On 3 January 1987 KITTY HAWK bid a fond farewell to San Diego, a port it called home for over 25 years. KITTY HAWK spent the rest of the month operating in the Pacific Ocean transiting and conducting training operations, see enclosure (9) for more details. On 15 January KITTY HAWK crossed the International Dateline and lost January 16.

b. In response to a requirement to quickly reestablish a CVBG presence in the North Arabian Sea, Subic Bay was changed to a working port. The inport period was shortened; however, port and starboard watches were set and 10 hours liberty was granted to each section. On 29 January the ship got underway. The Sultan of Brunei arrived on board to observe a weapons demonstration conducted by CVW-9 on 31 January. On 1 February, as the BG transited the Strait of Malacca two Indonesian Nomad aircraft conducted surveillance. On 9 February 1987 the ship arrived at "Gonzo" station in the North Arabian Sea.

c. The first two weeks on GONZO station consisted of five days of flying followed by two alert fly days. After the third week, flying was conducted for five days during the week, and the ship anchored off the Island of Masirah on weekends. See enclosure (9) for intercepts of Iranian, Soviet and Indian aircraft. Ambassador to Oman visited KITTY HAWK on 15 February.

d. A Change of Command Ceremony was conducted 21 February 1987. Capt F. L. Tillotson relieved Capt D. W. Hoffman as Commanding Officer of the USS KITTY HAWK.

e. While transiting to the Gulf of Adan on 24 to 25 February, the KITTY HAWK participated in a joint Sultan of Oman Air Force and USN exercise effort. During the exercise on 25 February a man fell overboard and was recovered. On 26-28 February KITTY HAWK conducted Somali low levels during the transit back to Gonzo station, MODLOC. A mini PASSEX with Commander, Middle East Forces units was also conducted. See enclosure (9) for more details on these evolution and on Indian Navy operations. The first and last beer day was on 15 March while anchored North of Masirah Island in international waters. On 17 March KITTY HAWK participated in a PASSEX with French Navy units, Marne, Jeanne De Vienne, and Commandant Bory. French Admiral Laxande visited and a crew swap was conducted on 26 March. During the period 20 March to 28 March, a Soviet Krivak I conducted marker operations on KITTY HAWK. At approximately 0500 on 31 March, a fire occurred aboard KITTY HAWK on the starboard side in the hanger bay. General quarters was called away. Due to an outstanding reaction from the crew and firefighting teams, a major disaster was averted with no injuries reported.

f. On 8-12 April, a diplomatic visit to the port of Karachi Pakistan was arranged for the crew. President Zia of Pakistan visited during the ship's

stay. In Karachi. E-5 and below were granted Cinderella liberty, E-6 and above enjoyed overnight liberty. At the end of the visit the ship transited back to the North Arabian Sea MODLOC. HS2 and VS33 participated in a PASSEX with a Daphne 55 from the Pakistani Navy. After that, routine flight operations were conducted. On 23 April KITTY HAWK transited to Mombasa, Kenya.

g. On 25 April, 2000 Polywogs were initiated into the Realm on Neptunis Rex and became "Trusty Shellbacks". In Mombasa, the first liberty port of the cruise many enjoyed the variety of wild life, scenery and a well deserved rest. The Ambassador to Kenya visited and toured the ship on 28 April.

h. For the first time in its History, during 13 May - 17 May, KITTY HAWK transited through the Red Sea and the Suez Canal. Air operations in the Red Sea were limited due to the restricted air space.

i. Upon entering the Mediterranean Sea on the 17th of May, KITTY HAWK assumed a MODLOC off the coast of Israel due to the Stark incident in the Gulf of Oman.

j. On 20 May KITTY HAWK anchored near Augusta Bay where a turnover was conducted with Nimitz. Rear Admiral Robert J. Kelly, COMCARGRU EIGHT, embarked and broke his flag on 21 May 1987. After turnover KITTY HAWK transited the strait of Messina at night and made for Palma, Spain. The ship was inport Palma from 25-31 May and was underway to Cannes, France, another liberty port. After Cannes the crew was ready to transit back home to the United States, this time back to Philadelphia.

k. Air operations in the Mediterranean were quite different from those in the Indian Ocean. The large number of restricted air space, and flight information regions combined with the proximity of land required close cooperation. Flight operations included low levels in Sicily, Sardinia and France. Routine flight operations were conducted during the Atlantic transit to Norfolk.

l. On 28 June, CVW-9 flew off. In Norfolk COMCARGRU EIGHT and CVW-9 were off-loaded. A lot of Air Department and AIMD equipment was also off-loaded. Tigers embarked for the short cruise up to Philadelphia.

m. Integrated training of ship's company and squadron personnel prior to the cruise proved its effectiveness during the deployment. The cruise was completed on 3 July 1987 with no fatalities, no major aircraft mishaps and no major shipboard mishaps.

n. During the cruise the Captain headed an aggressive training program for Enlisted Surface Warfare and Enlisted Air Warfare Specialist Qualification, resulting in 99 ESWS and 93 EAWS Qualifications from 3 January -3 July 1987.

o. The months following cruise consisted of a brief standdown where the majority of personnel took leave to collect their family and belongings. August saw the commencement of SCOOP to off-load office equipment and non-essential material. On 25 November KITTY HAWK made a short cold iron trip from Pier 6 to Dry Dock 5. On 18 December the crew completed its move ashore. Christmas leave began on 15 December. KITTY HAWK completed an Around the World Cruise returning just across the river from its birthplace, and received a well deserved rest for her 26 years of service.