

OPNAVINST 5750.12J
14 Mar 2005

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Classification (when filled in): UNCLASSIFIED

Command Operations Report

This report is **required** by commands listed in **SNDL Parts 1 & 2** and all operational **Task Forces, Groups and Units** temporarily established to meet operational requirements.

The report format is divided into six sections: Command Data, Commander's Assessment, Chronology and Narrative, Supporting Reports, Published Documents, and Photographs. Required information is identified in specific sections of the form. Instructions on submitting this form and the required attachments are at the end.

1. Command Data

Name of your Command or Organization: USS WASP

Unit Identification Code (UIC), per the SNDL: 21560

Name and Rank of Commander/Commanding Officer/Officer in Charge:

Last: BOARDMAN First: GARY M.I.: M Rank: CAPTAIN

Date Assumed Command (date format YYYY-MM-DD): 2011-12-13

Mission/Command Employment/Area of Operations: Cherry Point Operating Area, Virginia Capes Operating Area, Bermuda Operating Area

Permanent Location (Home Port for deployable units): NORFOLK NAVAL STATION

Immediate Superior In Command:

Operational: EXPEDITIONARY STRIKE GROUP 2

Administrative: COMNAVSURFLANT

Identify your assigned Task Force/Group/Unit name(s) and mission(s). Include OPLAN(s) and or named operations you participated in during Task Force assignment (if applicable): N/A

Name(s) of Forces, Commands, Ships, Squadrons or Units assigned or under your operational control (if applicable): HMLA-167, HMLA-269, HMLA-467, HMH-461, HMH-464, HMH-366, HMM-774, VMM-263, VMM-266, VMA-223, HM-14, HM-15, HSC-22, HSC-28, HSC-26, VX-23

Type and number of Aircraft Assigned and Tail Codes, if applicable:
MH-60S, MV-22, CH-53, AH-1W, UH-1N, AV-8B, F-35B

Commands, Detachments or Units deployed on board or stationed aboard as tenant activities (as applicable): ACU-4, ACU-2, Fleet Surgical Team 6

Number of Personnel Assigned:

01 Jan 2011

Officers: 80 Enlisted: 940 Civilian: 1

31 Dec 2011

Officers: 79 Enlisted: 919 Civilian: 1

Command Point of Contact (required entry, complete in full):

Name (Rank, First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name): LCDR [REDACTED]

Title/Office Code: Navigator

E-mail (both classified and unclassified, if available): [REDACTED]

Phone number(s): (757)443-7315

Command Mailing Address: USS WASP (LHD 1)
FPO AE 09556 1660

2. Commander's Assessment

An LHD is the flagship for an Amphibious Readiness Group, which typically consists of an LSD, LPD, and a big deck amphibious ship (either LHA or LHD). It is a capital ship of the Navy. An LHD has to be capable of supporting operations to their fullest extent, primarily carrying Marine aircraft and landing craft, in order to be a vital National Asset ready for any role from full wartime support to humanitarian operations. After a yard period, the LHD must come out with all of its equipment fully operational.

USS WASP (LHD 1) began the year in the shipyards. We were eager to get out of the shipyards as we had been tied dockside for over seven straight months. Once underway, we were unable to complete a full sea trial due to various casualties with the combat systems suite and engineering plant.

In July, WASP got underway for extensive training, operations, and qualifications. We conducted a significant amount of Deck Landing Qualifications to certify our flight deck and flight deck crew. We took on LCU's and LCAC's as part of our Amphibious Certification. This certification became useful during the Hurricane Irene sortie, as we became the flagship for the primary Defense Support to Civil Authorities mission. We were carrying 12 helicopters and 2 LCU's ready to provide assistance to any area damaged that needed assistance. This precedence was set after the tsunami that destroyed

Sumatra, in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, and the earthquake in Haiti in 2010. Fortunately, the nation did not need us this time. But the importance of always being ready was re-affirmed in every aspect.

The JSF testing was a new and tremendously valuable experience for the entire crew. Seeing a test platform come out to conduct sea trials was a once in a lifetime opportunity for most of them. The testing also allowed WASP to host numerous flag level officers to include the Secretary of the Navy. JSF testing is our assigned mission for 2011-2014.

We finalized the year with our remaining Basic Phase Certifications to include the engine room receiving a perfect 100% on both watch teams. The new Pilot Program certification seemed far less intrusive on the ship's schedule and crew than the previous method of certification. WASP was directed to finish the Basic Phase prior to the end of the year in order to be ready for Bold Alligator beginning in January 2012.

3. Chronology and Narrative

CMAV 11A1	NAVSTA NORFOLK	01OCT-11JAN
CNO AVAILABILITY	BAE SHIPYARD	12JAN-24APR
ENGINEERING LIGHT- OFF ASSESSMENT	BAE SHIPYARD	11APR-15APR
BAE DOCK TRIALS	BAE SHIPYARD	20APR-22APR
BAE CONTRACT TRIAL	VIRGINIA CAPES	27APR-01MAY
LANTRAMID PHASE 0 (MIDSHIPMEN)	NAVSTA NORFOLK	12MAY-27MAY
WEAPONS ONLOAD	NAVSTA NORFOLK	19MAY-20MAY
LANTRAMID PHASE 1 (MIDSHIPMEN)	NAVSTA NORFOLK	31MAY-24JUN
LANTRAMID PHASE 2 (MIDSHIPMEN)	NAVSTA NORFOLK	27JUN-22JUL
AIR CERT, PALS, 2D MAW DLQ'S	VIRGINIA CAPES CHERRY POINT OPAREA	06JUL-22JUL
AIR 1.4B	VIRGINIA CAPES	13JUL-17JUL
AMW 1.4	VIRGINIA CAPES	18JUL-21JUL
LANTRAMID PHASE 3 (MIDSHIPMEN)	NAVSTA NORFOLK	23JUL-16AUG
TRIDENT WARRIOR FLIGHT DECK NON-SKID REPAIR	VIRGINIA CAPES NAVSTA NORFOLK	26JUL-01AUG 02AUG-24AUG
AVIATION MAINTENANCE INSPECTION	NAVSTA NORFOLK	15AUG-19AUG
HURRICANE SORTIE SUP 1.4/AIR 1.4B (BERMUDA TO NEW YORK)	WESTERN ATLANTIC	26AUG-02SEP
SUPPLY MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION	NAVSTA NORFOLK	01SEP-02SEP
NAV 1.3B/ENG 1.3B	NAVSTA NORFOLK	01SEP-02SEP
FPEX	NAVSTA NORFOLK	07SEP-08SEP
NAV 1.3C/MED 1.4	VIRGINIA CAPES	12SEP-15SEP
CMAV11A2/JSF INSTRUMENTATION	NAVSTA NORFOLK	17SEP-30SEP

CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS SAFETY REVIEW	NAVSTA NORFOLK	19SEP-23SEP
JSF (F-35B) DT-1	VIRGINIA CAPES	02OCT-18OCT
AW/SUW/INTEL/CRY/EW 2.1	NAVSTA NORFOLK	18OCT-21OCT
3M 1.4	NAVSTA NORFOLK	24OCT-28OCT
AW/SUW/INTEL/CRY/EW 2.2	NAVSTA NORFOLK	14NOV-18NOV
MOB-D 1.3B, MOB-S 1.3C	VIRGINIA CAPES	18NOV-23NOV
MOB-D, N, S 1.4	VIRGINIA CAPES	28NOV-02DEC
BOLD ALLIGATOR DLQ'S	CHERRY POINT OPAREA	07DEC-16DEC
AW/SUW/INTEL/CRY/EW 2.1	NAVSTA NORFOLK	19DEC-22DEC

USS WASP (LHD 1) and her crew began the year with a two month Continuous Maintenance Availability (CMAV), followed by a four month Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Availability at the BAE Berkley Shipyard in Norfolk, VA. Upon completion of the maintenance, WASP successfully completed Dock Trials and Sea Trials.

Shortly after returning to Homeport, WASP conducted a weapons onload and received the first of three groups of midshipmen. This is a critical training opportunity for the Naval Academy, NROTC Units throughout the country, and its future Officers. The second group arrived in time to get underway for WASP's Aviation and Amphibious Warfare Certifications. The final group of midshipmen arrived as WASP returned from sea.

At the end of July, WASP had the opportunity to host USFF's Trident Warrior. Trident Warrior takes the software and systems of tomorrow to sea for initial performance testing. WASP returned home in early August for flight deck non-skid repairs. During this down-time, AIMD Department completed a very successful Aviation Maintenance Inspection.

Late August saw WASP getting underway for the Hurricane Irene Sortie. While the original sortie was part of CTG 183.1 for hurricane avoidance, WASP became the flagship for ESG 2 who became CTF 26. This new task force was on alert to render Defense Support to Civil Authorities following the hurricane. This sent WASP to a MODLOC box off the coast of New York until the hurricane passed while the other ships of CTG 183.1 returned home. During this underway, Supply Department completed its Supply Management Certification with superb results.

WASP wrapped up the remainder of September in port conducting Basic Phase events with the Afloat Training Group, for the new certification process called the Pilot Training Program. She also successfully completed a Conventional Ordnance Safety Review (COSR).

At the beginning of October, WASP was underway again to begin the first sea based operational test of the Joint Strike Fighter (F-35B).

November and December saw WASP complete many of the required events for her Basic Phase Certification, prior to rolling into the new year. On 13 December, the WASP had a change of command ceremony while underway.

The successes, achievements, and contributions were the result of unmatched teamwork. The crew's commitment to maintenance excellence and innovation has realized cost savings to the Navy and countless improvements in operational capability, material condition, and readiness sustainment. The crew is passionately dedicated to continued success in support of WASP's unofficial motto "Number 1. It's not just a number. It's an Attitude."

Operational Summary of USS WASP's 2011 activities includes: participated in TRIDENT WARRIOR 2011 where she was instrumental in the

technical experimentation of more than 50 critical maritime initiatives as well as was the Data Link Interface Control unit, responsible for managing a complex multi-TDL for more than 10 coalition C2F/C5F units; Paving the way for future air and strike operations, WASP was the test platform for the F-35B Joint Strike Fighter; While not deployed during CY11, WASP traveled over 10,847 nautical miles, flew 652 hours with over 1,200 launches and landings, conducted numerous ballast operations with numerous LCAC and LCU launches and recoveries, and received over 5 million gallons of fuel and issued more than 1.4 million gallons for over 1,200 aircraft refuelings; WASP was one of the first Large Deck Ships to operate with paperless charts as she expertly navigated without incident throughout over 26 sea and anchor, refueling at sea details, and other special evolutions. WASP is truly "#1 in the Fleet".

4. Supporting Reports

See attached:

1. 2011 Draft Battle "E" Award
 2. Calendar Year 2011 Medical History
 3. Chaplain 2011 Phoenix Award Input
 4. 2011 Phoenix Award Submission
 5. 2 After Action Reports for command picnic and Christmas Party
 6. USS WASP Initial NMT Evaluation
 7. NMT Overview Brief
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5. Published Documents

See attached:

1. CO Bio (CAPT Boardman)
 2. XO Bio (CAPT Teets)
 3. 64 First Call Editions
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6. Photographs

See attached:

1. USS WASP year end wrap up from PAO
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1650
Ser N00/

From: Commanding Officer, USS WASP (LHD 1)
To: Commander, Amphibious Squadron SIX

Subj: 2011 NAVY BATTLE EFFECTIVENESS AWARD

Ref: (a) COMNAVSURFORINST 3502.1D CHANGE 2 (SURFORTRAMAN)

Encl: (1) Award Recommendation Summary

1. Per reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted in support of WASP's recommendation for the 2011 Navy Battle Effectiveness Award and Command Excellence Awards.
2. In CY2011, WASP set the standard for excellence on the waterfront:
 - a. WASP completed a safe and extended three-month Chief of Naval Operations Availability.
 - b. WASP was the first large deck amphibious class ship to begin Basic Phase Certification through ATG's Pilot Program.
 - c. WASP hosted more than 250 Midshipmen throughout the summer, affording them the opportunity to review ship operations from refueling at sea to fixed wing and rotary aircraft operations and was Second Fleet's first choice to support priority one operations, specifically for 2D MAW.
 - d. Completing more than 50 critical maritime initiatives, WASP participated in Fleet Forces Command's TRIDENT WARRIOR Exercise and was assigned as Task Force 26 command ship during the Hurricane IRENE natural disaster where the crew made numerous preparations in providing disaster relief in support of Defense Support of Civil Affairs, all within 72 hours notice.
 - e. WASP received numerous accolades while serving as the test platform for the Navy and Marine Corps F-35B Joint Strike Fighter (JSF). A significant portion of her flight deck was utilized to test temperature and pressure effects for a new non-skid Thermion replacement in conjunction with JSF testing. Additionally, WASP hosted several distinguished visitors during the three-week strike fighter testing, namely the Secretary of the Navy, the Commandant of the Marine Corps, and the Chief of Naval Aviation.
 - f. WASP completed the 3M Certification with an overall score of 88.60% and was only the second ship of past seven commands to certify.
3. WASP proved time and again that it could handle any tasking asked of her. She is truly "NUMBER ONE IN THE FLEET" and most deserving of recognition of this prestigious award!

B. M. HOLDENER

E

Maritime Warfare (Power Projection/Sea Control) Excellence

Team WASP maintained the following Maritime Warfare certifications within periodicity and proficiency throughout the competitive period: AMW, ARQ, AT/FP, AW, MOB-N, MOB-S, SAR, SUW, and USW. AIMD, AIR, C5I, DECK, and WEAPONS Departments completed their departmental 3M certification, all with scores greater than 85%. There were zero explosive mishaps, or inadvertent/accidental decoy firings, physical loss of ordnance, incidents, groundings, collisions or mishaps. Operationally, WASP participated in TRIDENT WARRIOR 2011 where she was instrumental in the technical experimentation of more than 50 critical maritime initiatives as well as was the Data Link Interface Control unit, responsible for managing a complex multi-TDL for more than 10 coalition C2F/C5F units. Paving the way for future air and strike operations, WASP was the test platform for the F-35B Joint Strike Fighter. While not deployed during CY11, WASP traveled over 10,847 nautical miles, flew 652 hours with over 1,200 launches and landings, conducted six LCAC and six LCU launches and recoveries, and received over 5 million gallons of fuel and issued more than 1.4 million gallons for over 1,200 aircraft refuelings. WASP was one of the first Large Deck Ships to operate with paperless charts. Even though her schedule precluded the prescribed certification pipeline, she was persistent and proactive certifying without a Limited Team Trainer or 90 day waiver period. She expertly navigated without incident throughout over 26 sea and anchor, refueling at sea details, and other special evolutions. When it comes to Maritime Warfare, WASP is truly "#1 in the Fleet".

E

Command, Control, Communications, and Information Warfare Excellence

Team WASP led the way in combat systems and intelligence during 2011. The following certifications remained in periodicity throughout the competitive period: CCC, CRY, EW, INT, and C2W. WASP adeptly planned and maintained its AN/SLQ-32 SESEF range testing requirements within periodicity in accordance with PMS and WFIP 115 throughout the reporting period. With numerous crewmembers handling classified material of different forms, WASP had zero security incidents in the areas of classified computer systems, materials, and electronic data spillage. In addition, WASP exceeded CNSL's expectations during its Supply Management Certification, scoring 100% in all ADP areas to include NTCSS training, PQS, system maintenance and tape data back-ups and inventory. WASP passed ISIC EKMS Inspection with no COMSEC violations or incidents, and continued best practices validated during 2010 INSURV on antenna VSWR/TDR maintenance. Completed 3M certification in Operations Department with a score of 91.48%. Without a doubt, WASP CCC and IW team is "#1 in the Fleet."

E

Logistics Management Excellence

WASP's Basic Phase certifications remain in periodicity and good standing. Our Supply Management Certification (SMC) was conducted September 2011 and graded "Excellent" with an overall score of 93.2. Field Examination Group and Disbursing Audits were conducted April 2011 and graded "Excellent" with overall score of 93.93. Supply Department's 3M inspection was conducted November 2011 and graded "Outstanding" with overall score of 94.65%. Individual SMC assessment areas were graded as follows: General Stores 87.68%, Food Service 93.29%, Retail Operations 95.63%, and Postal Assessment 95.63%. WASP's General Stores team oversaw \$2 million worth of Depot Level Repairable Carcass (DLR) receipt, issue and turn-in while maintaining carcass charges at 0.0% -- well below Type Commander's goal of 3% for the second consecutive year. WASP's Food Service operation had no over issue of 2% or greater of allowance and no surveys exceeding 2% of stores consumed. Furthermore, WASP was Atlantic Fleet's Captain Edward F. Ney Memorial Award finalist and overall runner up in the Large Afloat category for the second consecutive year.

WASP's Retail Operation had no Level 3 difference during any reporting period. Sales division achieved \$182,000 in Ship's Store and vending sales, netting disbursements to WASP's Morale, Welfare and Recreation Fund of \$75,000. The laundry operation processed 20,000 pounds of laundry with zero claims, and our Barbershop performed 2,000 haircuts. WASP's Disbursing and Postal Operations had no loss of funds or accountability. Moreover, Postal Operations had no failures to follow proper procedures or any postal offences. Both operations inspections results exceeded Blue E eligibility criteria. WASP's Supply Department had no loss of accountability, material or equipment in 2011.

CNSF Safety Excellence

Team WASP continued to lead the fight in afloat and aviation safety programs and initiatives in 2011. WASP experienced ZERO Class "A" or Class "B" mishaps due to personnel negligence. Safety committee and council meetings have been conducted, and appropriately documented. WASP continued to display excellence in ORM and all elements of the NAVOSH program. All NAVOSH and ORM programs were graded "EFFECTIVE" by ATG and were assessed a passing grade by the Board of Inspection and Survey, and WASP received high accolades in electrical safety during the 3M Certification outbrief. In addition, WASP maintains its currency regarding a formal Safety Survey which was conducted in February 2009. During CY11, WASP traveled over 10,847 nautical miles, flew 652 hours with over 1,200 launches and landings, conducted six LCAC and six LCU launches and recoveries, and received over 5 million gallons of fuel and issued more than 1.4 million gallons of fuel for flight operations; all incident free. WASP completed three Safety Stand Downs, focusing the crew's attention on risk management and mishap reduction efforts. Once recognized by the Naval Safety Center as a "best practice," WASP continued to maintain that reputation with zero reportable Class "A" or "B" mishaps and led the waterfront with its motorcycle safety program. Additionally, WASP contributed to overall Fleet safety with one HAZREP and one Mishap Reduction Effort Lessons Learned message. When it comes to safe and professional operations, WASP is "#1 in the Fleet".