

Edited by JO2 E. Blake Towler

## Awards

**N**AS Whidbey Island, Wash., and NAS JRB Fort Worth, Texas, were both runners up for the **1996 Navy Self-Help Bronze Hammer Award**. Self-help projects aid in providing better living conditions for Navy personnel and their families, better work spaces and improved morale, welfare and recreational facilities.

VT-10 was awarded the **SEC-NAV Energy Award** for the second consecutive year in the aviation squadron category. The squadron's aggressive energy management strategies saved \$725,000 in energy costs. VT-10 was one of only seven Navy commands recognized for outstanding energy management and conservation efforts.

LCdr. Norman Fitzpatrick, a helo pilot with HS-75, was honored by the Florida Sheriff's Association with its **Distinguished Service Award**. Fitzpatrick had dragged an unconscious man from his burning automobile, risking his own life and suffering burns on his hands and arms in the process.

## Special Records

Several units marked **safe flying milestones**:

Unit	Hours	Years
VP-8	120,000	19
VFA-125	90,000	
HSL-48	60,000	8
HS-11	20,000	6

**Cdr. Bob McNaught**, CO of VAQ-141, marked two major milestones in his EA-6B *Prowler*. McNaught logged both his 3,000th hour in the EA-6B and his 1,000th arrested landing while aboard *John F. Kennedy* (CV 67) during her recently completed six-month Med cruise.

## On Final . . .



Lfig. Steve Olivera

**Cdr. Hank T. Stanley**, CO of the VS-33 *Screwbirds*, approaches the flight deck of *Nimitz* (CVN 68) for a carrier arrested landing in his S-3B *Viking*. The photo was taken 16 October, while *Nimitz* was enforcing the UN no-fly zone in the Arabian Gulf.



**LCdr. Ronald Romine**, who is both the safety officer and an associate flight instructor of VT-4, surpassed 6,000 flight hours on 26 November 1997. During his naval career, Romine has flown the T-34C, TH-57A, UH-1L, UH-1N, H-3, C-12, TA-4J and C-130.

## Anniversary

**HC-6** marked its **30th** anniversary in September 1997. As the oldest continuously operational helicopter combat support squadron, HC-6 has racked up over 210,000 flight hours in the H-46 *Sea Knight* since its inception in 1967.

## Rescues



HS-7 SAR crew (l-r): AW3 Scott Peterson, AWC Ken Thompson, LCdr. Bob Ernst and Lt. Chris McAnally.

On 25 September 1997, the *Dusty Dogs* of **HS-7** rescued six Sailors who had been thrown out of their vessel while conducting a night boat launching exercise 100 miles off the coast of Jacksonville, Fla. The rescue took place at night in low visibility conditions with no moon and 10-foot seas. The aircraft crew—pilot LCdr. Bob Ernst, copilot Lt. Chris McAnally, crew chief AWC Ken Thompson and rescue swimmer AW3 Scott Peterson—were aboard *Enterprise* (CVN 65) when the ship received the distress call at approximately 2130. Arriving on scene, the crew rapidly located all six survivors using night-vision goggles. Peterson was lowered into the water and began rounding up the survivors to be hoisted aboard the waiting helo, completing the rescue of all six within 25 minutes.

A helo crew from **HSL-42 Det 4** was recently called on to help a crew member suffering an acute asthma attack on the Maltese-flagged tanker *Formosa Trident*. Shortly before midnight, the helo—piloted by Lts. Chuck Stoffa and Roger Hartman—lifted off from *Samuel B. Roberts* (FFG 58) and made the hour-long flight to the tanker. Since the H-60 *Seahawk* could not land on the tanker's undersized helo pad, crewman AW3 Todd McLaughlin was lowered to the ship by rescue hoist. Once on deck, McLaughlin accessed the victim's condition, then strapped him into a rescue stretcher to be hoisted aboard the helo. Once the victim and McLaughlin were back aboard, the *Seahawk* returned to the

frigate, where the ship's corpsman, HM1 Chad Smith, administered emergency medical attention while the H-60 was refueled. After the patient was stabilized, he was flown by the helo crew on a 120-mile trip to NAS Roosevelt Roads, P.R., where

an ambulance was waiting to take him to a local hospital. He was later reported in stable condition.

On 3 October 1997, the **HS-5 Nightdippers** were returning home from a four-week training mission at NAS Fallon, Nev., when two of their helicopter crews came across an auto accident at Indian Springs, approximately 60 miles north of Las Vegas. As they overflew the accident scene, ground rescue personnel, realizing the SH-60F *Seahawks* could assist them, waved them down. It was a single-car accident in which the driver had run off the road and was killed. Four of the passengers,

including two children, needed immediate medical attention. After loading the victims and two emergency medical technicians into the helos, they were flown to University Medical Center in Las Vegas. Since the rooftop landing pad at the hospital was not strong enough to support the *Seahawks*, they landed in a nearby field where ambulances were waiting to take the patients the rest of the way.

## Scan Pattern

**John F. Kennedy (CV 67)** pulled into Mayport, Fla., on 28 October 1997 to conclude her six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea and Arabian Gulf. Ship's company comprised 90 percent active duty and 10 percent Training and Administration of Reserves (TAR) personnel. The cruise provided a unique opportunity for TARs—who don't usually go to sea—to make an extended deployment aboard a carrier.



An HS-3 helo flies over *John F. Kennedy* (CV 67) while operating in the Red Sea on 22 August 1997.

More than 4,000 American veterans and their guests looked on as Queen Elizabeth officially opened the **American Air Museum in Britain** on 1 August. The dedication ceremony at Duxford Airfield culminated a 12-year campaign. The museum features more than 20 vintage and contemporary American combat planes from all arms and eras of service, representing the largest collection outside the United States. The muse-





Queen Elizabeth confers with Field Marshal Lord Bramall, co-chairman of the American Aviation Museum in Britain campaign, at the opening of the museum.

um is a tribute by the British to American air power and its contribution to the defense of freedom throughout the century.

A surgical team from *Nimitz* (CVN 68) and Carrier Air Wing 9 brought Navy medicine to the deck plates in an unusual procedure on an ailing aircraft. CVW-9 flight surgeon Lt. Juliann Gould and *Nimitz* surgeon Capt. Frederick Ludwig used a medical tool to investigate possible structural damage to an F-14A *Tomcat* which had suffered a hard landing on the flight deck four days earlier. When an aircraft endures a hard landing, its internal components must be inspected for damage; however, a missing tool made one of these

components unreachable. The only other option was to disassemble the aircraft, a month-long procedure which could cost up to \$100,000. With a colonoscope, which uses a fiberoptic camera attached to a slender probe to provide video imagery inside the human body, the surgeons and maintenance crew were able to look inside the aircraft. No structural damage was found.

## Change of Command

**CVW-11:** Capt. James Knight relieved Capt. Robert Taylor, Oct.

**Enterprise (CVN 65):** Capt. Evan M. Chanik relieved Capt. Michael D. Malone, 10 Nov.

**HS-8:** Cdr. Terrance Jones relieved Cdr. Louis J. Cortellini, 5 Oct.

**HSL-47:** Cdr. Thomas J. Culora relieved Cdr. Leslie J. McCoy, 21 Nov.

**Kearsarge (LHD 3):** Capt. Peter Masciangelo relieved Capt. T. Michael Wittkamp, 14 Nov.

**LOGGRU 2:** Capt. Michael Kaczmarek relieved Capt. Louis Deasaro, Oct.

**NAEL 0286:** Cdr. Mark G. Estes relieved Capt. Edward L. Brandt, Oct.

**NAL 1086:** Cdr. Michael J. McGraw relieved Capt. Daniel S. Mastagni, Oct.

**NR TRAWING 5 Det 282:** Cdr. Raymond M. Kutch relieved Cdr. Arthur L. Stephens, 8 Oct.

**TACRON 21:** Cdr. Edward Butler, Jr., relieved Cdr. Terrance Cush, 21 Nov.

**VAQ-134:** Cdr. Stephen C. Rorke relieved Cdr. Michael L. Moran, 10 Oct.

**VAW-115:** Cdr. William Dubyak relieved Cdr. Robert Schoppe, 8 Oct.

**VAW-117:** Cdr. Joseph Kupcha relieved Cdr. Roger Jaskot, Oct.

**VFA-25:** Cdr. Patrick J. Lorge relieved Cdr. Barry J. Brocato, 7 Nov.

**VFA-27:** Cdr. Garry R. Mace relieved Cdr. Vincent F. Shorts, Oct.

**VMA-214:** Lt. Col. David H. Tierney relieved Lt. Col. Randy W. Siders, 24 Oct.

**VMFA(AW)-121:** Lt. Col. Rolf A. Siegel relieved Lt. Col. William C. Macak, 19 Sep.

**VQ-5:** Cdr. David Robey relieved Cdr. Paul Insch, Nov.

**VS-41:** Cdr. James P. Kelly relieved Cdr. Lee Pontes, 24 Nov.

## Corrections to Sep–Oct 97

Cdr. Don Barbaree relieved Cdr. Eric Neidlinger as XO, vice CO, of *Nimitz* (CVN 68).

## Bush Library Dedicated

The George Bush Presidential Library was dedicated 6 November at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas. Many dignitaries attended the ceremony, including (l-r, below) Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson, former president and Mrs. Jimmy Carter, the former president and Mrs. Bush, President and Mrs. Bill Clinton, former president and Mrs. Gerald Ford, and Mrs. Ronald Reagan. Also in attendance at the dedication were former British Prime Minister John Major, former Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney and former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Colin Powell. The 69,000-square-foot facility will be committed to the preservation, research and exhibit of official records, personal papers and memorabilia from the life and career of George Bush. One of the exhibits within the library will include a TBM Avenger torpedo-bomber, similar to the one Bush flew as a Naval Aviator in WW II.



Photos courtesy of the George Bush Presidential Library