

The Year in Review

1 Remains returned from Vietnam in August 1997 were identified as those of Capt. Harold J. Hellbach, USMC. While flying an F-8E *Crusader*, Hellbach was lost on a close air support mission over the Quang Binh province of North Vietnam on 19 May 1967. He was buried with full military honors on 16 July 1998 at Arlington National Cemetery.

2 An F-14 *Tomcat* assigned to the VF-103 *Jolly Rogers* photographed the Pentagon in the first airborne demonstration of the newest model of the Tactical Air Reconnaissance Pod System, Completely Digital, which provides real-time high-resolution digital data to the battlefield.

2 Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Installation and Facilities) Duncan Holaday signed a record of decision to move VAWs 112, 113, 116 and 117 to NAWS Point Mugu from MCAS Miramar, Calif.

2-12 Shuttle mission STS-91, with Naval Aviators/astronauts Cdrs. Dom Gorie and Wendy Lawrence serving respectively as pilot and mission specialist aboard *Discovery*, rendezvoused with the Russian space station *Mir* for the ninth and final docking mission. Astronaut Andy Thomas was retrieved after four months aboard the space station.

4 Among the 25 astronaut candidates selected by NASA, the Navy and Marine Corps selectees included Cdr. Michael J. Freeman, LCDrs. Christopher J. Ferguson, Kenneth T. Ham, Alan G. Poindexter and Sunita L. Williams; Lts. William A. Oefelein

and Neil W. Woodward III; and Marine Maj. George D. Zamka.

6 Two Marine C-130 *Hercules* assigned to the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit (SOC) evacuated 172 American citizens and third

country nationals from Asmara, Eritrea, to Amman, Jordan, due to a border dispute that led to fighting between Eritrean and Ethiopian forces.

11 *Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75) returned to Newport News Shipbuilding, Va., following successful completion of initial sea trials.

15 The first production T-6A *Texan II* made its first flight at the Raytheon facility in Wichita, Kans.

17 An SH-60F *Seahawk* from HS-3 conducted air searches in support of Florida firefighting authorities battling fires near Jacksonville by providing aerial reconnaissance to assist in the deployment of firefighting teams.

18 The Navy awarded Raytheon Aerospace a \$21.2 million contract to provide aircraft maintenance service in support of the Joint Undergraduate Flight Officer Program.

21 Capt. Ronald F. Testa, USN (Ret.), a Naval Academy graduate and Naval Aviator, died at his home in Alexandria, Va., after suffering a heart attack. Testa served in the patrol community and commanded Patrol Wing 2 at NAS Barbers Point, Hawaii.

24 *Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75) returned to Newport News Shipbuilding, Va., after completing a series of successful acceptance sea trials.

26 Maj. Gen. Marion E. Carl, Jr., USMC (Ret.), one of the Marine Corps' most highly decorated aviators and a WW II ace, was shot and killed during a burglary at his home in Rosenberg, Ore.

29 The second Tier III Minus *DarkStar* high-altitude endurance unmanned air vehicle (UAV) flew for the first time. This was the first flight since the crash on 22 April 1996 of the first *DarkStar* UAV, which prompted redesigns of the landing gear and flight control software.



Reserve squadron VAQ-209 deployed to Incirlik, Turkey, in support of Operation Northern Watch over Iraq.

Morgan I. Wilbur

VAQ Shore-based Deployments, 1998

Aviano Air Base, Italy

VMAQ-2	Sep 97-Feb 98
VMAQ-4	Feb 98-Jul 98

Incirlik Air Base, Turkey

VAQ-134	Dec 97-Jun 98
VAQ-209 (CVWR-20)*	Jun 98-Jul 98
VAQ-133	Jul 98-Dec 98
VMAQ-1	Dec 98-deployed

Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia

VAQ-142	Mar 98-Jun 98
VAQ-131 (CVW-2)*	Jun 98-Aug 98
VAQ-142	Aug 98-Sep 98
VAQ-128	Sep 98-Dec 98
VAQ-142	Dec 98-Mar 99

MCAS Iwakuni, Japan

VMAQ-3	Oct 98-Mar 99
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Note: All squadrons fly the EA-6B *Prowler*.

*Squadron deploys to fill gaps in expeditionary coverage.

30 Remains returned from Vietnam were identified as those of Capt. John B. Sherman, USMC. He was lost during a bombing mission over the Quang Ngai province in an F-8E *Crusader* which was struck by enemy ground fire on 25 March 1966.

July

2 *Theodore Roosevelt* (CVN 71) completed a dry-dock period two weeks ahead of schedule at Newport News Shipbuilding, Va., after a year-long period of maintenance and overhaul work that included replacement of all four propellers, blasting and painting the hull, major renovations of onboard storage tanks and miscellaneous systems upgrades.

3 An MH-53E *Sea Dragon* assigned to HC-4, NAS Sigonella, Italy, helped combat a series of wildfires by providing water resupply to the firefighting personnel battling the blazes on the ground.

8 Navy and Air Force officials gathered at NAS JRB Fort Worth, Texas, to accept the first AGM-154A Joint Standoff Weapon air-to-ground missile, which is operable from eight aircraft platforms in the Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force inventory. It provides accurate weapon delivery while remaining outside the enemy threat area.

8 An SH-60B *Seahawk* crewed by LCdr. Tom Kennedy, Lts. Blake Smelley and Mike Zaner, Ltjg. Tom Foster, AW1 Bill Trippett and AW2 Brian Mowry of HSL-44 Det 5 aboard *John L. Hall* (FFG 32) assisted in the recovery of more than 2,000 pounds of cocaine in the waters near Panama after tracking two boats that were intercepted by the frigate.

8 The UH-1N weapon system trainer built by Raytheon Systems Company was accepted by the Naval Air Warfare Center Training Systems Division, Orlando, Fla., to train U.S. Marine Corps pilots to fly the UH-1N multirole helicopter.

18 *Independence* (CV 62) turned over duties as the permanently forward-deployed aircraft carrier to *Kitty Hawk* (CV 63) while in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. *Kitty Hawk* is the third

carrier to be forward deployed to Yokosuka, Japan.

18 Former Naval Aviator and astronaut James A. Lovell, Jr., was enshrined in the National Aviation Hall of Fame, Dayton, Ohio. Lovell flew four space missions—aboard Gemini 7, Gemini 12, Apollo 8 and Apollo 13—amassing more than 715 hours of space flight.

20 NAS Kingsville, Texas, inaugurated the new FLASHJET facility for

stripping paint from aircraft in the T-45 program. The FLASHJET method, touted as less expensive, less time consuming, more effective and more environmentally friendly, uses pulsed light energy and dry ice pellets to remove paint.

22 RAdm. Alan B. Shepard, Jr., USN (Ret.), died at the age of 74 after a lengthy battle with leukemia. A former Naval Aviator, Shepard was one of the original Mercury astro-

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Major HC Squadron Deployments, 1998

HELTACWINGLANT

Squadron	Dates	Ship
HC-2 Det 1	**	<i>LaSalle</i> (AGF 3)
HC-2 Det 2	**	<i>Manama</i> , Bahrain
HC-6 Det 4	21 Aug 97–19 Feb 98	<i>Concord</i> (TAFS 5)
HC-6 Det 3	3 Oct 97–3 Apr 98	<i>Guam</i> (LPH 9)
HC-6 Det 7	26 Feb 98–1 Jul 98	<i>Santa Barbara</i> (AE 28)
HC-6 Det 5	15 May 98–9 Nov 98	<i>Concord</i> (TAFS 5)
HC-6 Det 1	1 Jul 98–9 Dec 98	<i>Saipan</i> (LHA 2)
HC-6 Det 6	6 Nov 98–5 May 99	<i>Detroit</i> (AOE 4)
HC-8 Det 7	4 Oct 97–2 Apr 98	<i>Seattle</i> (AOE 3)
HC-8 Det 6	30 Jan 98–24 Jul 98	<i>Saturn</i> (TAFS 10)
HC-8 Det 4	26 Feb 98–28 Jul 98	<i>Wasp</i> (LHD 1)
HC-8 Det 3	11 Jun 98–10 Dec 98	<i>Supply</i> (AOE 6)
HC-8 Det 5	19 Oct 98–14 Apr 99	<i>Sirius</i> (TAFS 8)
HC-8 Det 2	13 Nov 98–13 May 99	<i>Nassau</i> (LHA 4)
VC-6 Det 2*	3 Oct 97–31 Mar 98	<i>Shreveport</i> (LPD 12)
VC-6 Det 3*	7 Feb 98–6 Aug 98	<i>Denver</i> (LPD 9)
VC-6 Det 4*	1 Jul 98–9 Dec 98	<i>Austin</i> (LPD 4)

HELTACWINGPAC

Squadron	Dates	Ship
HC-5 Det 1	1 Jan 98–30 Apr 98	<i>Spica</i> (TAFS 9)
HC-5 Det 5	7 Jan 98–31 Jun 98	<i>Kilauea</i> (AE 26)
HC-5 Det 3	19 Jun 98–21 Dec 98	<i>Niagara Falls</i> (TAFS 3)
HC-5 Det 6	***	<i>Belleau Wood</i> (LHA 3)
HC-11 Det 4	7 Feb 98–6 Aug 98	<i>Tarawa</i> (LHA 1)
HC-11 Det 2	9 Jun 98–8 Dec 98	<i>Camden</i> (AOE 2)
HC-11 Det 5	27 Jun 98–21 Dec 98	<i>Essex</i> (LHD 2)

* Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) squadron

** HC-2 Dets 1 and 2 permanently deployed to these locations.

*** Detachment is permanently forward deployed to Japan.

LAMPS MK III Ship Deployments, 1998

HSLWINGLANT

Battle Group Deployments

Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) Battle Group

10 Jun 98–10 Dec 98

Squadron	Ship
HSL-42 Det 7	Anzio (CG 68)
HSL-44 Det 8	Deyo (DD 989)
HSL-46 Det 8	Cape St. George (CG 71)
HSL-48 Det 10	Stump (DD 978)

George Washington (CVN 73) Battle Group

3 Oct 97–3 Apr 98

Squadron	Ship
HSL-42 Det 1	Boone (FFG 28)
HSL-44 Det 7	Underwood (FFG 36)
HSL-46 Det 6	John Rodgers (DD 983)
HSL-48 Det 8	Normandy (CG 60)

John C. Stennis (CVN 74) Battle Group

26 Feb 98–26 Aug 98

Squadron	Ship
HSL-42 Det 2	Monterey (CG 61)
HSL-44 Det 4	San Jacinto (CG 56)
HSL-46 Det 3	Caron (DD 970)
HSL-48 Det 3	Simpson (FFG 56)

Enterprise (CVN 65) Battle Group

6 Nov 98–6 May 99

Squadron	Ship
HSL-42 Det 9	Gettysburg (CG 64)
HSL-44 Det 3	Nicholson (DD 982)
HSL-44 Det 10	Philippine Sea (CG 58)
HSL-46 Det 2	Nicholas (FFG 47)
HSL-48 Det 1	Thorn (DD 988)
HSL-48 Det 2	Klakring (FFG 42)



Individual Deployments

Squadron	Dates	Ship
HSL-46 Det 1	15 Jul 97–15 Jan 98	O'Bannon (DD 987)
HSL-48 Det 4	15 Jul 97–15 Jan 98	Elrod (FFG 55)
HSL-48 Det 2	25 Sep 97–27 Jan 98	McInerney (FFG 8)
HSL-42 Det 4	14 Nov 97–3 May 98	Samuel B. Roberts (FFG 58)
HSL-44 Det 1	5 Dec 97–30 Apr 98	Scott (DDG 995)
HSL-46 Det 10	6 Jan 98–2 Jul 98	Robert G. Bradley (FFG 49)
HSL-42 Det 6	2 Feb 98–5 May 98	Conolly (DD 979)
HSL-46 Det 4	13 Mar 98–13 Sep 98	Briscoe (DD 977)
HSL-46 Det 7	13 Mar 98–13 Sep 98	Kauffman (FFG 59)
HSL-48 Det 9	18 Apr 98–4 Aug 98	Yorktown (CG 48)
HSL-44 Det 5	25 Apr 98–25 Aug 98	John L. Hall (FFG 32)
HSL-42 Det 3	7 Jul 98–16 Nov 98	Moosbrugger (DD 980)
HSL-44 Det 6	7 Jul 98–16 Nov 98	Doyle (FFG 39)
HSL-48 Det 6	13 Jul 98–13 Jan 99	Carr (FFG 52)
HSL-44 Det 9	13 Jul 98–13 Jan 99	Hayler (DD 997)
HSL-48 Det 5	25 Jul 98–5 Oct 98	Hawes (FFG 53)
HSL-46 Det 9	25 Sep 98–4 Feb 99	Ticonderoga (CG 47)
HSL-44 Det 1	31 Oct 98–15 Jan 99	Stephen W. Groves (FFG 29)



HSLWINGPAC

Battle Group Deployments

Carl Vinson (CVN 70) Battle Group

6 Nov 98–2 May 99

Squadron	Ship
HSL-43 Det 4	<i>Princeton (CG 59)</i>
HSL-45 Det 1	<i>Antietam (CG 54)</i>
HSL-47 Det 5	<i>Oldendorf (DD 972)</i>
HSL-47 Det 6	<i>McClusky (FFG 41)</i>

Nimitz (CVN 68) Battle Group

1 Sep 97–1 Mar 98

Squadron	Ship
HSL-37 Det 1	<i>Port Royal (CG 73)</i>
HSL-45 Det 8	<i>Ford (FFG 54)</i>
HSL-47 Det 2	<i>Kinkaid (DD 965)</i>
HSL-49 Det 3	<i>Lake Champlain (CG 57)</i>

Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) Battle Group

17 Jun 98–7 Dec 98

Squadron	Ship
HSL-43 Det 1	<i>Elliot (DD 967)</i>
HSL-43 Det 2	<i>Jarrett (FFG 33)</i>
HSL-45 Det 10	<i>Valley Forge (CG 50)</i>
HSL-47 Det 3	<i>Shiloh (CG 67)</i>

Individual Deployments

Squadron	Dates	Ship
HSL-43 Det 10	19 Aug 97–19 Feb 98	<i>Gary (FFG 51)</i>
HSL-45 Det 7	19 Aug 97–19 Feb 98	<i>Harry W. Hill (DD 986)</i>
HSL-45 Det 9	18 Nov 97–18 May 98	<i>John Young (DD 973)</i>
HSL-37 Det 4	25 Nov 97–25 May 98	<i>Reuben James (FFG 57)</i>
HSL-37 Det 5	25 Nov 97–25 May 98	<i>Ingersoll (DD 990)</i>
HSL-49 Det 8H	1 Jan 98–1 Jun 98	<i>Vincennes (CG 49)</i>
HSL-51 Det 6	23 Jan 98–6 Jun 98	<i>Bunker Hill (CG 52)</i>
HSL-37 Det 3	21 Feb 98–21 Aug 98	<i>Crommelin (FFG 37)</i>
HSL-51 Det 1	9 Mar 98–28 Aug 98	<i>O'Brien (DD 975)</i>
HSL-47 Det 4	26 May 98–23 Nov 98	<i>Cowpens (CG 63)</i>
HSL-51 Det 3	9 Jun 98–19 Nov 98	<i>Thach (FFG 43)</i>
HSL-49 Det 8I	5 Jul 98–5 Dec 98	<i>Vandegrift (FFG 48)</i>
HSL-37 Det 7	31 Aug 98–27 Feb 99	<i>Fletcher (DD 992)</i>

LAMPS: Light Airborne Multi-Purpose System

HSL-47 SH-60B photo by Ted Carlson

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nauts and became the first American in space during his flight aboard Freedom 7 on 5 May 1961. Shepard returned to space aboard Apollo 14 in 1971, becoming the fifth man to walk on the moon.

30 Lt. Col. Kenneth A. Walsh, USMC (Ret.), a recipient of the Medal of Honor for his actions at the Battle of Guadalcanal during WW II, and the first F4U *Corsair* pilot to achieve "ace" status, died after suffering a heart attack at the age of 82.

August

5 Remains returned from Vietnam in 1997 were identified as those of Cdr. Danforth E. White and Lt. Ramey L. Carpenter, crew members of an RA-5C *Vigilante* that exploded in flight and crashed on 31 March 1969 while on a reconnaissance mission over Laos.

5 The Navy awarded Northrop Grumman a \$13.9 million contract for development and installation of an upgraded Vertical Display Indicator Group for F-14B *Tomcats* to provide a state-of-the-art pilot's display, improved weapon delivery and night vision capability at approximately one-third the cost of maintaining and supporting the old system.

6 The Navy awarded Newport News Shipbuilding, Va., a \$1.8 million contract for the first planned incremental availability for *John C. Stennis* (CVN 74), to occur at the ship's home port in San Diego, Calif.

11 *Kitty Hawk* (CV 63) arrived at her new home port in Yokosuka, Japan.

13 General Electric delivered the first two F414 production engines for the F/A-18E/F *Super Hornet* program.

20 Reconfigurable flight controls of the F/A-18E/F *Super Hornet* were demonstrated at NAS Patuxent River, Md. The reconfigurable flight control system replaces the mechanical backup system of earlier *Hornets* and greatly

enhances aircraft safety and the pilot's ability to recover control of the aircraft.

20 Lockheed Martin was awarded a \$61 million contract for the development of a new cockpit prototype for the Navy's H-60 helicopter fleet.

26 *John C. Stennis* (CVN 74) arrived in her new home port in San Diego, Calif., marking the end of her first overseas deployment to the Arabian Gulf and an around-the-world cruise to change home ports.

September

10 Newport News Shipbuilding, Va., announced its award by the Navy of a \$45.3 million contract for the advanced procurement and construction for the next *Nimitz*-class aircraft carrier, CVN 77, which will serve as the first transition ship to a new class of aircraft carriers.

17 Raytheon Systems Company was awarded an \$8 million contract

option from the Boeing Company to provide additional infrared systems for the U.S. Marine Corps V-22 *Osprey* under the Low Rate Initial Production phase of the tilt-rotor aircraft program.

19 Capt. Walter J. Stewart II, a Naval Aviator and combat veteran of the Pacific theater during WW II, died at the age of 90 in Annandale, Va.

25 E-6B *Mercury* TACAMO aircraft, operating from Tinker AFB, Okla., took over the flying command post mission from the Air Force following retirement of the last EC-135 *Looking Glass* aircraft.

October

19 HSL-46 Det 9 deployed aboard *Ticonderoga* (CG 47) participated in its first successful drug interdiction mission. The detachment was instrumental in recovering about 4 metric tons of cocaine with a street value of \$50 million, which was dumped over-

Aircraft Accepted in 1998

Bureau Number	Qty	Type	Name	Contractor
165078-165079	2	T-45A	<i>Goshawk</i>	Boeing
165082-165091	10	T-45C	<i>Goshawk</i>	Boeing
165295-165296	2	E-2C	<i>Hawkeye</i>	Grumman
165354-165357	4	AV-8B	<i>Harrier II</i>	Boeing
165380-165383	4	AV-8B	<i>Harrier II</i>	Boeing
165395-165396	2	AH-1W	<i>Super Cobra</i>	Bell
165403-165416	14	F/A-18C/D	<i>Hornet</i>	Boeing
165445-165450	6	AH-1W	<i>Super Cobra</i>	Bell
165509-165525	1	T-39N	<i>Sabreliner</i>	Boeing N. American
870157	1	NC-130H	<i>Hercules</i>	Lockheed

Bureau Numbers Issued in 1998

Numbers below were assigned by CNO during 1998 for future Navy and Marine Corps aircraft procurement:

Numbers	Qty	Type	Name	Contractor
165651	1	CH-53E	<i>Super Stallion</i>	Sikorsky
165652-165659	8	AV-8B	<i>Harrier II</i>	Boeing
165660-165687	20	F/A-18D/E/F	<i>Hornet/Super Hornet</i>	Boeing
165688-165734	47	RQ-2A	<i>Pioneer</i>	AAI/IAI
165735-165739	5	KC-130J	<i>Hercules</i>	Lockheed
165740-165741	2	UC-35C		Cessna

Crew members aboard *Enterprise* (CVN 65) prepare to launch the fourth night of air strikes against Iraq during Operation Desert Fox.



PH2 Class Michael W. Pendergrass

board by the crew of a speedboat.

20 DRS Technologies was awarded a \$3.7 million contract to design and manufacture the Acoustic Data Recorder (ADR) system for the Navy's P-3C *Orion* maritime patrol aircraft. The ADR records multiple channels of acoustic information from sonobuoys used to support the antisubmarine warfare missions of the P-3C.

20 VXE-6 departed for its last tour of duty in Antarctica providing aerial and logistical support for the Antarctic program.

29 Oct–7 Nov Shuttle mission STS-95, with retired Marine Corps Naval Aviator/astronaut Senator John Glenn serving as payload specialist aboard *Discovery*, conducted medical experiments on space flight and aging as well as astronomical research on the effects of the sun on Earth.

November

1 Navy P-3 *Orions* began flying daily surveillance missions over Kosovo in support of NATO enforcement operations. The *Orions'* onboard surveillance equipment provides NATO commanders with real-time video and radar images of the situation on the ground.

6 VAW-117, the last Navy squadron to depart MCAS Miramar,

Calif., brought to a close a chapter in Naval Aviation history. Following its WESTPAC deployment aboard *Carl Vinson* (CVN 70), VAW-117 will return to its new home port at NAS Point Mugu, Calif.

11 Cdr. Patrick Driscoll of the Navy's Flight Demonstration Squadron made history as he landed *Blue Angel* No. 1 aboard *Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75). This was the first time a *Blue Angels* aircraft trapped aboard a carrier.

16 Richard Danzig took over as the 71st Secretary of the Navy from John Dalton.

20 DRS Technologies was awarded a \$33.5 million contract to produce AN/UYQ-70 Advanced Display Systems and peripherals for tactical computer workstations to be installed on several Navy platforms, such as the E-2C *Hawkeye* airborne early warning aircraft.

25 Adm. Douglas F. Mow, USN (Ret.), a highly decorated Naval Aviator of the Vietnam War, died at the age of 70. During his career Mow served as CO of VA-164 and later COMTACWINGLANT.

December

2 NAWS Point Mugu, Calif., was redesignated NAS Point Mugu.

3 LCdr. Bill Hamilton, flying the F/A-18E/F *Super Hornet* (F2), suc-

cessfully fired two HARM missiles in the first full system live-fire test of the *Super Hornet* program with forward-firing ordnance.

4–12 Shuttle mission STS-88, with Marine Corps aviators/astronauts Col. Robert D. Cabana and Maj. Frederick W. "Rick" Sturckow serving respectively as mission commander and pilot aboard *Endeavour*, embarked on the first assembly mission of the International Space Station.

7 Raytheon Company was awarded a Department of Defense contract for \$167 million for the qualification and production of the Miniature Airborne Global Positioning Receiver 2000 to provide precision GPS navigation for military airborne platforms, including the F/A-18 *Hornet* and AV-8B *Harrier II*.

16–19 During Operation Desert Fox, naval forces from the *Enterprise* Battle Group launched strikes against nuclear, chemical and biological weapons programs to limit Iraq's ability to produce, store, maintain and deliver weapons of mass destruction and threaten its neighbors.

29 Raytheon Systems was awarded a \$133.8 million contract for full-rate production of the Joint Standoff Weapon (JSOW) AGM-154A and low-rate initial production of the JSOW AGM-154B for the Navy and the Air Force. ✈