

THE YEAR IN

By William T. Baker and Mark L. Evans



Naval Aviation greeted the new millennium responding to crises around the globe and developing the weapons that made it the muscle of America's power projection. Supported by squadrons ashore, the *Abraham Lincoln* (CVN 72), *Dwight D.*

Eisenhower (CVN 69), *George Washington* (CVN 73), *Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75), *John C. Stennis* (CVN 74), *John F. Kennedy* (CV 67) and *Kitty Hawk* (CV 63) battle groups deployed to challenge aggression, as well as rescuing victims of natural disasters and turning up the heat

in the war on drugs.

Repeated Iraqi violations of the cease-fire accords were met by Naval Aviation with continual vigilance. To reflect changing missions, the office of the Chief of Naval Operations was realigned, the Radioman and Storekeeper ratings were revised,

REVIEW 2000



and in the ongoing efforts to increase retention the 2000 Aviation Career Continuation Pay program was enlarged.

The F/A-18E/F *Super Hornet*, C-40A *Clipper* and Standoff Land Attack Missile-Expanded Response all reported for duty, while the Joint Strike Fighter,

CH-60S *Seahawk*, AH-1Z *Super Cobra*, vertical takeoff and landing tactical unmanned aerial vehicle, Joint Direct Attack Munition, AIM-9X Sidewinder short-range air-to-air missile and Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missile all proceeded through testing

toward their planned introduction.

The fleet entered the 21st century prepared to meet all challenges.

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F/A-18F *Super Hornet* photo by Ted Carlson

BOARDERS AWAY!

In February, the Russian tanker *Volgoneft-147*, below, was intercepted by the multinational Maritime Interception Force in international waters in the Arabian Gulf. Suspected of smuggling Iraqi oil in violation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 665, the ship had been shadowed by an SH-60B *Seahawk* from HSL-42's Det 4, embarked on board *John F. Kennedy* (CV 67). When the Russians refused to comply with inspection requirements, the decision was made for a sea-air-land team insertion. HH-60H detachments from HS-11 on board *Monterey* (CG 61), right, and *Taylor* (FFG 50) rushed SEAL Team 2 to the tanker, which they boarded and seized. Evidence obtained on board determined that the oil she was carrying was indeed of Iraqi origin. Oman accepted custody of *Volgoneft-147* and her crew was returned to Russia.



January

To reflect their changing role due to new technology, Radiomen (RMs) were redesignated Information Systems Technicians (IT), though the traditional electronic sparks badge was retained.

General Atomics, San Diego, Calif., was awarded a \$60 million contract in December 1999 to produce a prototype Electromagnetic Aircraft Launch System. Projected to replace steam catapults on board the CVNX carriers, it was designed around a 300-foot linear electric motor that could accelerate a 100,000-pound aircraft to 130 knots and lighter aircraft to 200 knots.

Raytheon Co., Lexington, Mass., was selected to develop an Active Electronically Scanned Array radar for the F/A-18E/F *Super Hornet*. The system was intended to increase the aircraft's air-to-air target detection and tracking range.

10 In a flight over Army installation Fort A. P. Hill, Va., Marines from the 2nd Recon Battalion II MEF became the first personnel to deploy from an MV-22B *Osprey* in a parachute free fall from 10,000 feet.

19 The Navy announced that it would restore ties to the Tailhook Association, suspended since 29 October 1991. The decision was

made following a lengthy review, including a visit by a team led by Secretary of the Navy Richard Danzig to the association's August 1999 convention in Reno, Nev.

26 A Standard SM-3 missile launched from *Lake Erie* (CG 70) completed an Aegis Light Exo-Atmospheric Projectile intercept at the Pacific Missile Range Facility, Kauai, Hawaii. The Navy's theater ballistic missile and cruise missile defense program provided a crucial link in the carrier battle group chain.

27 Raytheon Co., Tucson, Ariz., was awarded a \$109.6 million contract modification for Lot 2 production of the AGM-154A Joint Standoff Weapon (JSOW), providing for a total of 488 JSOWs.

27 VX-9 completed operational testing of the Standoff Land Attack Missile-Expanded Response (SLAM-ER) at NAWC China Lake, Calif., begun in November 1999. SLAM-ER was intended for surgical strikes against high-value targets at standoff ranges greater than 150 nautical miles. The Navy planned on adding 700 to its inventory.

27 The first production CH-60S

Seahawk made its initial flight at Sikorsky Aircraft Corp., Stratford, Conn. Sikorsky and Lockheed Martin, Owego, N.Y., signed a \$3 billion contract to provide 237 CH-60Ss through 2007, 10 of which were to be delivered in 2000. An amalgam of the Army's *Blackhawk* and the Navy's *Seahawk*, it was intended to replace the CH-46 *Sea Knight* in the cargo utility role, the MH-53 *Sea Dragon* in the anti-mine warfare role and the HH-60 in the combat search and rescue role. Following testing, HC-3, NAS North Island, Calif., was slated to introduce the helo to the fleet.

27 Newport News Shipbuilding, Va., was awarded a \$216.5 million contract modification from the Navy for continual preparations toward the overhaul and refueling of *Dwight D. Eisenhower* (CVN 69). This was to be the ship's single refueling during her anticipated 50-year service.

28 HSL-46's Det 10 returned to NS Mayport, Fla., after completing a counternarcotics deployment on board *Robert G. Bradley* (FFG 49). Following its departure on 24 August 1999, the detachment operated in both the Caribbean and eastern Pacific. It was instrumental in the interdiction and seizure of 204 kilos of cocaine and more than a ton of marijuana, and conducted search and rescue and medical evacuation missions.

28 Full-power testing of the Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) 119-611 engine was completed at Pratt & Whitney, West Palm Beach, Fla. The testing

assisted development of a short take-off/vertical landing propulsion system for the X-35B JSF aircraft.

31 Alaska Airlines Flight 261 crashed into the sea off the coast of Point Mugu, Calif. An NP-3D *Orion* from NAWC Point Mugu, two HH-60H *Seahawks* from HCS-5, NAWS Point Mugu, and USCG helos and an HC-130H *Hercules* responded immediately to the tragedy. Naval and Coast Guard personnel, including an S-3 *Viking* from NAS North Island and HH-60s and SH-60s from *Fife* (DD 991) and *Jarrett* (FFG 33), supported by *Cleveland* (LPD 7), assisted in recovery efforts.

31 Following three years of studies, the Navy announced revised West Coast carrier home ports. Already stationed at NAS North

Island, Calif., was *John C. Stennis* (CVN 74), which would be joined in early 2002 by *Nimitz* (CVN 68) and in 2005 by *Ronald Reagan* (CVN 76), while *Abraham Lincoln* (CVN 72) would remain at Bremerton, Wash. The moves were prompted by the need to replace the Pacific Fleet's aging conventional carriers, *Constellation* (CV 64), due for retirement in 2003, and *Kitty Hawk* (CV 63), assigned to Japan and scheduled for retirement by 2008.

31 Puerto Rican officials

An F/A-18 *Hornet* from Strike Fighter Squadron 34 launches from the flight deck of *George Washington* (CVN 73) while operating in the Mediterranean Sea.

approved a compromise allowing the fleet to continue to train on Vieques Island, P.R., for three years, though cutting the annual training in half to 90 days and requiring that live-fire exercises be reduced to non-explosives. The Navy had trained on Vieques since 1941, but after Marine aircraft accidentally dropped two 500-pound bombs on an observation tower in April 1999, killing one person and wounding four others, protesters demanded an end to the exercises.

February

1 President Clinton directed that a referendum would determine the fate of exercises on Vieques Island, P.R. The island's residents were offered

PH2 Johnnie Robbins



Electronic Attack (VAQ) Expeditionary Squadron Deployments, 2000

Incirlik Air Base, Turkey

VAQ-128	Dec 99–Mar 00
VAQ-209*	Mar 00–May 00
VAQ-135**	May 00–Aug 00
VAQ-142	Aug 00–Oct 00
VAQ-128	Oct 00–Jan 01

Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia

VAQ-133	Apr 00–Jul 00
VAQ-134	Jul 00–Oct 00
VMAQ-1	Oct 00–Jan 01

MCAS Iwakuni, Japan

VMAQ-4	Oct 00–Mar 01
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* Reserve squadron deployment.

** CVW squadron deployed to expeditionary location to fill gaps in expeditionary coverage.

Note: All squadrons fly the EA-6B *Prowler*.



A Prowler from VAQ-128 fires an AGM-88 High-speed Anti-Radiation Missile.

two options: the Navy would end all training and leave by 1 May 2003, or it would remain on terms to be presented at least three months before the vote. In May the *George Washington* (CVN 73) battle group was to train on Vieques using dummy bombs prior to its deployment to the Mediterranean.

7 DOD's report on Operation Allied Force, the campaign to end Serbian atrocities in Kosovo, was released, characterizing the 78-day air campaign as the most effective air operation in history.

8 Under a \$31.2 million contract with the Military Sealift Command (MSC), two SA-330J *Pumas* operated by Geo-Seis Helicopters, Inc., Fort Collins, Colo., replaced Navy helos normally assigned to MSC T-AFS class combat stores ships for vertical replenishment (VERTREP) and ship-to-shore services. The *Pumas* would be rotated among three T-AFS ships during the ships' deployments to the Mediterranean. On this date, a *Puma* performed its first VERTREP when it rendezvoused with the T-

AFS ship *Sirius* off the coast of Italy.

8 BAE Systems/Rockwell Collins Data Link Solutions, Wayne, N.J., was awarded a \$16.1 million contract to commence work on the Multifunction Information Distribution System Low Volume Terminal. The terminal was designed to improve aircraft communications, with delivery of the first of 27 terminals to F/A-18C/D and F/A-18E/F aircraft scheduled for September 2001.

9 Northrop Grumman Corp., San Diego, Calif., received a \$93.7 million contract for the engineering and manufacturing development of a vertical takeoff and landing tactical unmanned aerial vehicle (VTUAV). It was planned to operate VTUAVs from any air-capable ship as well as confined land areas, enhancing the ability to provide real-time intelligence.

10 In ongoing efforts to balance sea-shore rotation, the Secretary of the Navy approved the merger of the Aviation Storekeeper (AK) and Storekeeper (SK) ratings, to be

completed by 1 January 2003.

11 Raytheon Co., Madison, Miss., was awarded an initial \$68.6 million contract to provide aircraft support for all models of the 81 Navy and 28 Air Force C-12 *Hurons*.

15 The successful conclusion of the F/A-18E/F *Super Hornet* operational evaluation was announced, recommending its introduction into the fleet. During the six-month test period, VX-9, NAWC China Lake, Calif., flew 1,233 hours during more than 850 sorties and expended more than 400,000 pounds of ordnance.

18 Raytheon Co., Vienna, Va., was awarded a \$29.8 million contract to provide repair services for the F/A-18 *Hornet* AN/APG-65 radar.

24 The Boeing Co., St. Louis, Mo., received a \$162 million contract for Lot 4 production of the Joint Direct Attack Munition (JDAM) in the low-rate initial production phase, scheduled for March 2001–February 2002. The JDAM guidance kit converts

unguided, free-fall bombs into guided “smart” weapons. The Navy ordered a total of 916 of Boeing’s version.

March

HSL-43 Det 7 returned from a counternarcotics deployment to the Caribbean and eastern Pacific on board *Curts* (FFG 38), during which it supported the interdiction or seizure of more than 8,200 pounds of cocaine. In addition, search and rescue missions rescued a total of 127 Ecuadorian migrants adrift at sea.

1 Following a study of alternative live-fire training sites, including inspections of Cape Wrath, Scotland, and Capo Teulada, Sardinia, Senator James M. Inhofe, (R-Okla.), head of the Senate Armed Services Subcommittee on Readiness, reported that no adequate substitute to Vieques Island, P.R., existed.

1 Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen approved the merger of the Aviation Structural Mechanic (Structures), AMS, and the Aviation Structural Mechanic (Hydraulics), AMH, ratings. Conversion to the AM rating is automatic, and the current badge will be maintained.

2 Sabreliner Corp., Neosho, Mo., completed the manufacture of the initial lot of 50 RM-6599 engines used to power the AQM-37 supersonic drone utilized as a target by Naval Aviators during training.

8 Raytheon Co., El Segundo, Calif., received two contract awards totaling more than \$667 million for production of the AN/APG-73 radar for Navy, Marine Corps and Royal Australian Air Force F/A-18 *Hornets* and *Super Hornets*.

9 The Marine Reserve accepted delivery of two Cessna UC-35C *Citation Ultra* aircraft.

13 The first permanent hangar designed and built specifically for unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) celebrated its opening at the Webster Field annex, NAS Patuxent River, Md. The \$2.4 million project was crucial to VC-6’s *Pioneer* UAV Det

Patrol Squadron Major Deployments, 2000



Andrew Rutigliano

A Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force P-3 (foreground) and an Orion from Patrol Squadron 47 fly in formation over other bilateral forces during RIMPAC 2000 exercises.

NAS Keflavik, Iceland/NS Roosevelt Roads, P.R.

VP-26	Aug 99–Feb 00
VP-5	Feb 00–Aug 00
VP-10	Aug 00–Feb 01

NAS Sigonella, Italy

VP-16	Aug 99–Feb 00
VP-8	Feb 00–Aug 00
VP-45	Aug 00–Feb 01

Diego Garcia, B.I.O.T. (Det at Bahrain and Al Masirah, Oman)

VP-46	Dec 99–Jun 00
VP-40	Jun 00–Dec 00
VP-47	Dec 00–Jun 01

NAF Misawa, Japan (Det at Kadena, Okinawa)

VP-9	Dec 99–Jun 00
VP-4	Jun 00–Dec 00
VP-1	Dec 00–Jun 01

Note: All squadrons fly the P-3C *Orion*.

A, which had been forced to operate and maintain its *Pioneers* at the mercy of the elements.

14 Remains returned from Vietnam were identified as Maj. Charles E. Finney, USMC, who was lost on 17 Mar 1969 when his A-6A *Intruder* went down during a night armed reconnaissance mission over Laos, and Cdr. James W. Hall, whose A-7C *Corsair II* was shot

down by what was reported as a surface-to-air missile on 28 October 1972 over Nghe An province, North Vietnam.

16 In his final report Commander Operational Test and Evaluation Force declared the Standoff Land Attack Missile-Expanded Response operationally suitable and effective.

17 Raytheon Co., Wichita, Kans., began deliveries of the T-6A *Texan*

The Year in Review

Aircraft Accepted in 2000

Bureau Number	Qty	Type	Name	Contractor
165302-165304	3	E-2C	<i>Hawkeye</i>	Grumman
165421-165430	10	AV-8B	<i>Harrier II</i>	Boeing
165436-165442	7	MV-22B	<i>Osprey</i>	Bell/Boeing
165472-165487	16	T-45C	<i>Goshawk</i>	Boeing
165566-165567	2	AV-8B	<i>Harrier II</i>	Boeing
165661-165667	7	F/A-18E	<i>Super Hornet</i>	Boeing
165669-165679	11	F/A-18F	<i>Super Hornet</i>	Boeing
165682-165687	6	F/A-18D	<i>Hornet</i>	Boeing
165737	1	KC-130J	<i>Hercules</i>	Lockheed
165742-165751	10	CH-60S	<i>Seahawk</i>	Sikorsky
165779-165781	3	F/A-18E	<i>Super Hornet</i>	Boeing
165793-165797	5	F/A-18F	<i>Super Hornet</i>	Boeing

Bureau Numbers Issued in 2000

Numbers below were assigned by CNO during 2000 for future Navy and Marine Corps aircraft procurement:

Numbers	Qty	Type	Name	Contractor
165860-165937	78	F/A-18E/F	<i>Super Hornet</i>	Boeing
165938-165939	2	UC-35D		Cessna
165940-165956	17	V-22	<i>Osprey</i>	Bell/Boeing
165957	1	KC-130J	<i>Hercules</i>	Lockheed
165958-166285	327	T-6A	<i>Texan II</i>	Raytheon
166286	1	TC-18F		Boeing
166287-166288	2	AV-8B	<i>Harrier II</i>	Boeing
166289-166373	85	CH-60S	<i>Seahawk</i>	Sikorsky

II to Randolph AFB, Texas, for multiservice operational test and evaluation.

17 Raytheon Co., Tucson, Ariz., was awarded a \$162 million contract for Lot 14 production of 439 AIM-120 Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles through July 2002, 90 of which were for the Navy.

18 Twenty-two F/A-18C *Hornets* from VFAs 82 and 86, NAS Cecil Field, Fla., were reassigned to MCAS Beaufort, S.C., in preparation for Cecil Field's upcoming disestablishment.

20 "The Spirit of Space," an exhibit dedicated to RAdm. Alan B. Shepard, Jr., was unveiled at the National Museum of Naval Aviation, Pensacola, Fla. The centerpiece of the

exhibit was a 6-foot-10-inch bronze statue of the astronaut sculpted by Capt. Robert Rasmussen (Ret.). Shepard, a Naval Aviator, gained fame as America's first man in space during his epic 15-minute flight on board *Freedom 7* on 5 May 1961.

24 RAdm. Andrew A. Granuzzo transferred the Gray Eagle title to RAdm. James I. Maslowski in a ceremony at the Washington Navy Yard. Since 21 March 1995 Granuzzo had been the Naval Aviator on active duty with the earliest designation date.

24 The Department of Defense issued its Laser Master Plan, which included a statement that laser technology could undermine U.S. air power by targeting aircrew

members' vision using lasers on the ground to produce eye damage or disabling flashblindness. To counter the threat, a team led by LCdr. Sean Biggerstaff, MSC, USN, working at NAS Fallon, Nev., and at the Naval Health Research Center Det., Brooks AFB, San Antonio, Texas, developed the Laser Threat Analysis and Mission Planning System between 1993 and 2000.

25 The amphibious assault ship *Iwo Jima* (LHD 7) was christened at Litton Ingalls Shipbuilding, Pascagoula, Miss.

27 Cdr. Ronald Weisbrook and LCdr. Daryl Martis, both from the Naval Strike Aircraft Test Squadron, released the first GBU-31(v)2/B Joint Direct Attack Munition from their F-14D *Tomcat* during tests at NAS Patuxent River, Md.

28 An Omega Air 707-321B arrived at NAS Patuxent River, Md., to begin conversion into the first modern commercial aerial refueling tanker for the fleet.

30 Rockwell Collins, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, was awarded a \$30.2 million contract for AN/ARC-210 radios, with options for an additional \$85 million for follow-on orders. Scheduled to be installed on both Navy and Marine aircraft, the AN/ARC-210 provides reliable and secure communications in both the tactical and air traffic control environments.

30 Luxell Technologies, Inc., Mississauga, Ontario, received a \$3.1 million contract from Lockheed Martin-Egan to supply flat-panel displays for the Block Mod Update to upgrade avionics systems on the P-3C *Orion*, bringing the total awarded to Luxell through the month up to \$7.3 million. Delivery of the displays, scheduled to begin in February 2001, was expected to run for three years.

31 The AIM-9X Sidewinder short-range air-to-air missile completed its fourth guided launch by intercepting a QF-4 *Phantom II* target at NAWC China Lake, Calif.



PH3 Jason Dooley

The Sidewinder was fired from an F/A-18C *Hornet* flown by LCdr. Terry Barrett, Naval Weapons Test Squadron. The launch was the first conducted in a dogfight scenario involving defensive infrared countermeasure flares, and the first using the Joint Helmet Mounted Cueing System.

31 The Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition accepted a brief from the F/A-18 program manager certifying that all Milestone III exit criteria had been met by the *Super Hornet*. A total of 69 *Super Hornets* had already been delivered or were on order by this date.

A Sailor inspects the tailhook of an F-14B Tomcat from the Fighter Squadron 103 Jolly Rogers while on board George Washington (CVN 73) during a Mediterranean deployment.

31 The first T-45C *Goshawk* trainer with USMC markings (BuNo 165475) arrived at NAS Meridian, Miss., joining the 31 Navy-marked *Goshawks* already there.

April

Ground was broken at NAS Oceana, Va., for construction of a \$9.9 million “hush house.”

Completion of the sound-proof building, designed to contain jet engine turn-up noise during maintenance, was expected for fall 2001.

VFA-122, the F/A-18E/F *Super Hornet* fleet readiness squadron, conducted carrier qualifications on board *Abraham Lincoln* (CVN 72), with seven *Super Hornets* completing 293 arrested landings.

The Boeing Co., St. Louis, Mo., demonstrated for the first time an extended-range Joint Direct Attack Munition at Eglin AFB, Fla.

3 Adm. Vern E. Clark was nominated to relieve Naval Aviator Adm. Jay L. Johnson as Chief of

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Naval Operations.

4 *Clipper* was approved as the name for the Navy's C-40A transports converted from a Boeing 737-700C. Designed to replace the C-9 *Skytrain*, it could carry 121 passengers, 8 pallets, or a combination of both. Six of the aircraft were planned for the Naval Reserve by 2001, four at Fort Worth, Texas, and two at Jacksonville, Fla.

6 F/A-18C *Hornets* from CVW-9 embarked on board *John C. Stennis* (CVN 74) struck Iraqi air defense targets in the southern no-fly zone in response to anti-aircraft fire.

6 A joint two-year U.S./German test program to develop short takeoff and landing capabilities utilizing the X-31 thrust vectoring technology demonstrator began at NAS Patuxent River, Md.

6 The *Hawkeye 2000* Integrated Test Team completed the first flight of Mission Computer Build 2A.1 software, initiating the second phase of flight testing of the Cooperative

Engagement Capability (CEC). CEC was developed to improve the fleet's ability to respond to the expanding airborne and antiship missile threat by enhancing the distribution of real-time data, thus enabling threats to be engaged beyond the radar horizon.

7 Ltjg. Brian Hess, USNR, became the 1,000th student to earn Wings of Gold through the T-45 Training System.

8 A ceremony was held off Liepaja, Latvia, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the loss of PB4Y-2 *Privateer* (BuNo 59645) from VP-26 Det A. While on a routine patrol from Wiesbaden, West Germany, on 8 April 1950 the *Privateer* was shot down by Soviet

George Washington (CVN 73) steams through the Arabian Gulf while on a scheduled six-month deployment in support of Operation Southern Watch.

aircraft over the Baltic Sea off Liepaja. Ten crewmen were lost: Lts. John H. Fette and Howard W. Seeschaf; Ltjg. Robert D. Reynolds; Ens. Tommy L. Burgess; and Petty Officers Joe H. Danens, Jr., Jack W. Thomas, Frank L. Beckman, Edward J. Purcell, Joseph J. Bourassa and Joseph N. Rinnier, Jr.

8 An MV-22B *Osprey* from the Multiservice Operational Test Team, NAS Patuxent River, Md., attached to MAWTS-1, MCAS Yuma, Ariz., crashed at Marana Northwest Regional Airport near Tucson, Ariz., killing 19 Marines. The *Osprey* was on a two-plane operational evaluation flight. The crash forced a temporary grounding of all *Ospreys*.

13 The X-31 thrust-vectoring technology demonstrator aircraft arrived at NAS Patuxent River, Md.

14 At Renton Municipal Airport, Renton, Wash., the C-40A *Clipper* made its initial flight.

20 A \$375 million contract was awarded to Lockheed Martin,

PH2 Lisa Marcus





Carrier and Air Wing Deployments, 2000

John F. Kennedy (CV 67)

CVW-1 (Tail Code: AB)
Mediterranean/Arabian Gulf
17 Sep 99–17 Mar 00

Squadrons

VF-102***
VFA-82
VFA-86
VMFA-251 (DW)**
VAW-123
VAQ-137
VRC-40 Det 2
VS-32
HS-11

Aircraft

F-14B
F/A-18C
F/A-18C
F/A-18C
E-2C
EA-6B
C-2A
S-3B
SH-60F/HH-60H

John C. Stennis (CVN 74)

CVW-9 (Tail Code: NG)
Arabian Gulf
7 Jan 00–3 Jul 00

Squadrons

VF-211***
VMFA-314 (VW)**
VFA-146
VFA-147
VAW-112
VAQ-138
VRC-30 Det 4
VS-33
HS-8

Aircraft

F-14A
F/A-18C
F/A-18C
F/A-18C
E-2C
EA-6B
C-2A
S-3B
SH-60F/HH-60H

Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69)

CVW-7 (Tail Code: AG)
Mediterranean/Arabian Gulf
18 Feb 00–18 Aug 00

Squadrons

VF-11***
VF-143***
VFA-131
VFA-136
VAW-121
VAQ-140
VRC-40 Det 3
VS-31
HS-5

Aircraft

F-14B
F-14B
F/A-18C
F/A-18C
E-2C
EA-6B
C-2A
S-3B
SH-60F/HH-60H

*Kitty Hawk (CV 63)**

CVW-5 (Tail Code: NF)
Contingency Operations
11 Apr 00–4 Jun 00

Squadrons

VF-154***
VFA-27
VFA-192
VFA-195
VAW-115
VAQ-136
VRC-30 Det 5
VS-21
HS-14

Aircraft

F-14A
F/A-18C
F/A-18C
F/A-18C
E-2C
EA-6B
C-2A
S-3B
SH-60F/HH-60H

George Washington (CVN 73)

CVW-17 (Tail Code: AA)
Mediterranean/Arabian Gulf
21 Jun 00–19 Dec 00

Squadrons

VF-103***
VFA-81
VFA-83
VFA-34
VAW-125
VAQ-132
VRC-40 Det 4
VS-30
HS-15

Aircraft

F-14B
F/A-18C
F/A-18C
F/A-18C
E-2C
EA-6B
C-2A
S-3B
SH-60F/HH-60H

Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72)

CVW-14 (Tail Code: NK)
Arabian Gulf
14 Aug 00–12 Feb 01

Squadrons

VF-31***
VFA-25
VFA-113
VFA-115
VAW-113
VAQ-139
VRC-30 Det 1
VS-35
HS-4

Aircraft

F-14D
F/A-18C
F/A-18C
F/A-18C
E-2C
EA-6B
C-2A
S-3B
SH-60F/HH-60H

Above, *Kitty Hawk (CV 63)* cruises before a western Pacific sunset. Photo by PH3 John Sullivan.

*Kitty Hawk (CV 63)**

CVW-5 (Tail Code: NF)
Contingency Operations
26 Sep 00–20 Nov 00

Squadrons

VF-154***
VFA-27
VFA-192
VFA-195
VAW-115
VAQ-136
VRC-30 Det 5
VS-21
HS-14

Aircraft

F-14A
F/A-18C
F/A-18C
F/A-18C
E-2C
EA-6B
C-2A
S-3B
SH-60F/HH-60H

Harry S. Truman (CVN 75)

CVW-3 (Tail Code: AC)
Mediterranean/Arabian Gulf
28 Nov 00–23 May 01

Squadrons

VF-32***
VFA-37
VFA-105
VMFA-312 (DR)**
VAW-126
VAQ-130
VRC-40 Det 1
VS-22
HS-7

Aircraft

F-14B
F/A-18C
F/A-18C
F/A-18C
E-2C
EA-6B
C-2A
S-3B
SH-60F/HH-60H

* *Kitty Hawk* is permanently forward-deployed to Yokosuka, Japan.

** While on deployment, VMFA squadrons take on the tail code of the air wing. Their original tail codes are noted in parentheses.

*** All deployed F-14 squadrons are equipped with the Tactical Air Reconnaissance Pod System and Low Altitude Navigation and Targeting Infrared for Night.