



HSL-51 WARLORDS

Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron Light (HSL) 51's insignia combines both Japanese and Greek mythology. The character in the patch is based on Miyamoto Musashi, a famous Samurai warrior. A champion of the Japanese people, Musashi was renowned for both his martial prowess and his scholarly works. Instead of the usual Samurai swords, Musashi is armed with the trident of the Greek god Poseidon, symbolizing mastery of all enemies that lurk on or under the sea. The

Warlords are justly proud of this dual capability, since their AGM-119B Penguin and AGM-114 Hellfire antiship missiles and MK 50 lightweight torpedoes enable them to hunt their prey both on and below the waves. The squadron nickname *Warlords* was derived from Minamoto Yoritomo, the first warlord appointed by the Emperor of Japan to bring the proud Samurai under his strong leadership.

Established on 1 October 1991 at Naval Air Facility



Above, one of HSL-51's helos sports a unique paint scheme based on Miyamoto Musashi (1584–1645), the legendary Samurai champion who remained undefeated through many duels of honor.

Atsugi, Japan, HSL-51's mission is to provide combat-ready helicopter detachments for deployment on board ships of the forward-deployed naval forces stationed in Yokosuka, Japan. The *Warlords* fly the SH-60B *Seahawk* antisubmarine helicopter and also maintain a UH-3H *Sea King* VIP transport helo in



support of Commander Seventh Fleet, his flagship *Blue Ridge* (LCC 19) and numerous dignitaries who visit Japan. The *Seahawk* is the world's most technologically advanced shipboard helicopter, capable of performing multiple missions such as antisubmarine warfare, antisurface warfare, search and rescue, medical evacuation, communications relay and vertical replenishment. During deployments, the squadron's

Seahawks operate as an integral part of the forward-deployed ships' capability, serving as remote platforms for sensor deployment, data processing and display, and the delivery of antisubmarine and antisurface weapons.

With this versatile platform, the *Warlords* continue to demonstrate their symbol's warrior ethic.



Our apologies to the Warlords, who were inadvertently omitted from "The Year in Review, LAMPS MK III Ship Deployments, 2000," Jul–Aug 01.

HSL-51 LAMPS MK III Deployments, 2000

Det	Ship	Operating Area	Dates
1	<i>Cushing</i> (DD 985)	Pacific Ocean	05 Jan–04 May
		East China sea	26 May–12 Jun
		Pacific Ocean	26 Jun–09 Jul
		Philippine Sea	24 Jul–14 Aug
2	<i>Mobile Bay</i> (CG 53)	Philippine Sea	07 Jan–26 Jan
		Sea of Japan	01 Feb–09 Feb
	<i>Cowpens</i> (CG 63)	East China Sea	15 May–28 May
		Sea of Japan	02 Aug–23 Aug
3	<i>Vandegrift</i> (FFG 48)	Yellow Sea	15 Jan–11 Feb
		WESTPAC	09 May–09 Aug
	<i>O'Brien</i> (DD 975)	South Pacific	16 Oct–14 Nov
4	<i>Chancellorsville</i> (CG 62)	South China Sea	09 Apr–05 Jun
		East China Sea	28 Jul–12 Aug
		Sea of Japan	02 Oct–20 Nov
		Pacific Ocean	27 Nov–12 Dec
5	<i>Gary</i> (FFG 51)	Arabian Gulf	05 Jan–12 Apr
		Philippine Sea	17 May–22 May
		Sea of Japan	07 Jul–15 Jul
		Philippine Sea	17 Sep–28 Sep
6	<i>Vincennes</i> (CG 49)	Kadena Air Base, Japan	25 Aug–03 Sep
		Philippine Sea	12 Jan–05 Feb
		East China Sea	19 May–09 Jun
		Philippine Sea	27 Jul–12 Aug
		East China Sea	21 Aug–05 Sep
		Sea of Japan	02 Oct–20 Nov
11	<i>Blue Ridge</i> (LCC 19)	Philippine Sea	04 Dec–13 Dec
		WESTPAC	11 Jan–12 Mar
		Sea of Japan	11 Aug–07 Sep

A pair of Warlord helicopters—an SH-60B Seahawk and UH-3H Sea King—fly in formation past Japan's Mount Fuji.

