

# PEOPLE PLANES PLACES

Edited by J03 Dan Ball



PH3 Jayme Pastoric

## Awards

*Essex* (LHD 2) received the 2001 **Type Commander Surface Ship Safety Award** while forward deployed to Japan as part of Amphibious Group 1. The award promotes excellence in shipboard safety and safety programs, and recognizes innovative efforts in mishap prevention, command contributions to readiness and economical use of resources through safety.

## Scan Pattern

The Department of Defense will not be creating a **Cold War service medal**, and commemorative medals being sold by private vendors are not authorized for military uniforms. Last year, someone began sending e-mails announcing the approval of a Cold War medal, but Arlette King, chief of policy for the Army Award Branch, explained that “we’ve tried to correct the issue by putting out

**Above, a VFA-147 aviation machinist’s mate “rises to the occasion” to check the wing of an F/A-18 Hornet before launching from John C. Stennis (CVN 74).**

messages on our web site stating that there is not an authorized medal.” Wearing unauthorized medals on a military uniform is illegal and punishable by fines and/or imprisonment.

Sailors now receive **increased allowances** for clothing, subsistence and housing. A single rate has replaced three previous rates of basic allowance for subsistence: separate rations, partial BAS and emergency rations. The new rate is \$241.60 per month for all active duty and reserve component members entitled to basic pay, with the exception of initial accessions. Paygrades E-1 through E-6 residing in single government quarters and required to subsist in a government provided mess facility will be charged via automatic pay deduction the

discount meal rate of \$6.75 per day. All other enlisted personnel and officers will be charged the standard \$8.10 per day. New rates for the clothing allowance are basic \$205.20 and standard \$291.60 for enlisted males and basic \$230.40 and standard \$331.20 for enlisted females. BAH increases are payable to members on active duty according to their pay grade, dependency status and geographical location. Also, an act recently passed by Congress and signed by President Bush increases the guaranty on Veterans Affairs home loans from \$50,750 to \$60,000.

## Records

Four **Carrier Air Wing 1** aviators hit milestones while deployed on board *Theodore Roosevelt* (CVN 71) in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Cdr. Mark Hunter, CO of the VFA-82 *Streetcars*, accumulated 3,000 hours in the F/A-18 *Hornet* on 4 November 2001 and on 25 December 2001 logged his 1,000th



**VF-31's ASM3 Michael J. Lauruska was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal by Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) battle group commander RAdm. John M. Kelly after saving a Sailor from an F-14 Tomcat intake.**

carrier arrested landing. Cdr. William Hamilton, CO of the VFA-86 *Sidewinders*, surpassed 3,000 career flight hours on 11 November 2001. Lt. Col. Ray Damm, CO of the VMFA-251 *Thunderbolts*,

reached 2,000 hours in the F/A-18 *Hornet* on 3 November 2001. Cdr. Steve Foley, VFA-82 XO, achieved 3,000 hours in the F/A-18 *Hornet* on 14 January.

On 30 January **VP-46** celebrated its 38th anniversary and more than 267,000 hours without a Class "A" mishap.

## Rescues

A CH-46 *Sea Knight* from **HS-6** rescued four squadron members after a second *Sea Knight* went down during vertical replenishment with *Mount Baker* (T-AE 34) on 7 February, approximately 100 miles east of the Virginia Capes. The copilot and one crew member suffered minor injuries. Both helicopters were embarked on *Seattle* (AOE 3).

On 28 November 2001, crew members from **John C. Stennis** (CVN 74), *Lake Erie* (CG 70) and *Lake Champlain* (CG 57) evacuated and provided emergency medical assistance to a 25-year-old Indonesian man aboard the Japanese fishing vessel *Fukuyo Maru* after he was struck by a parted line. The man was transported to *Lake Erie* in a rigid-hull inflatable boat and then to *Stennis* in an **HSL-49** SH-60B

## THE BUSY BLACK



PH3 Jayme Pastoric

**The Black Knights of VMFA-314 started the year 2002 by logging over 1,150 hours in one month in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Flying the F/A-18C Hornet in around-the-clock aerial fire support missions, the aircrew, maintenance and administrative divisions performed together with the common goals of safety and mission accomplishment.**

## TROOPS TO TEACHERS PROGRAM OFFERS SECOND CAREERS

By JO1(SW) Scott Sutherland,  
NB San Diego Public Affairs

Earlier this year, the Defense and Education departments resurrected the Troops to Teachers program with an \$18-million infusion from the 2002 federal budget. The new money will give retiring or separating service members a chance to become teachers.

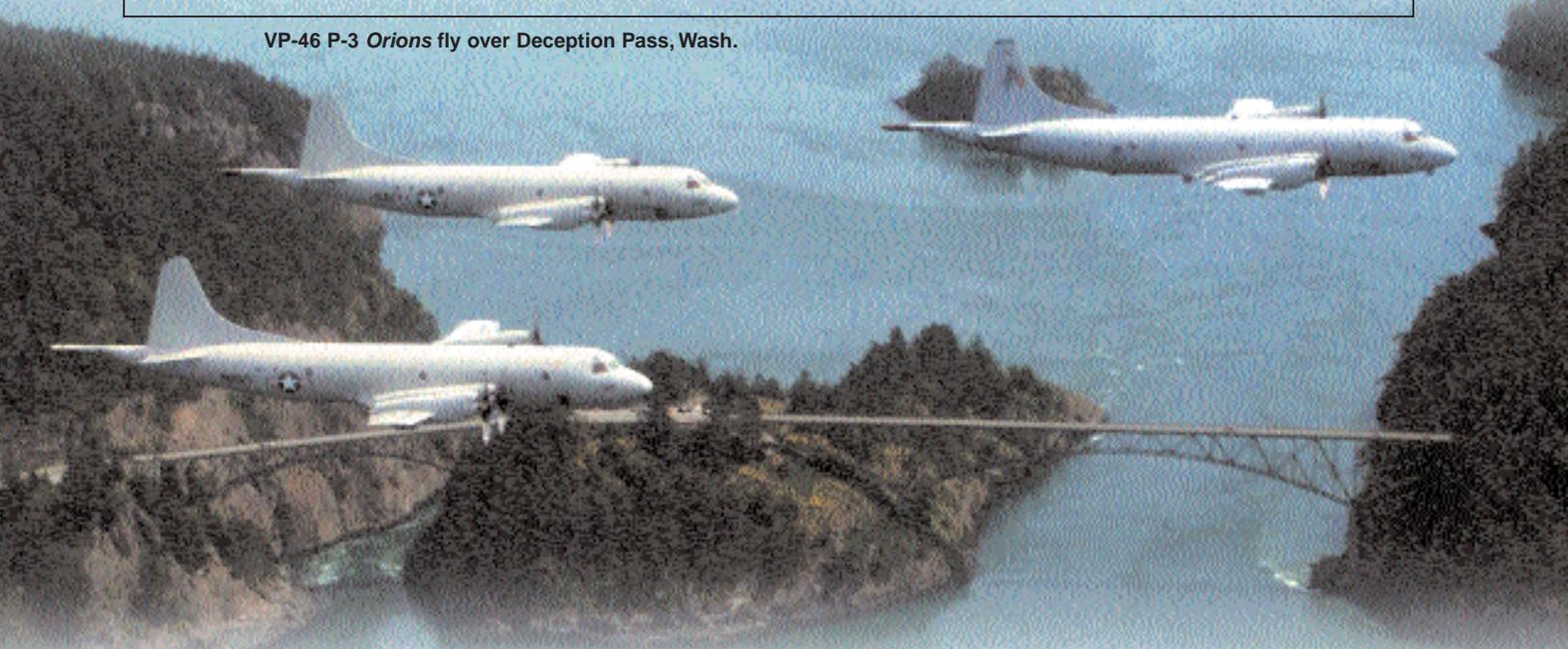
Those retiring from the military have always qualified for the program. The FY 2002 Defense Authorization Act adds a new eligible group: service members who separate after six or more years of service, aren't eligible for retirement and agree to serve three years in the reserves. The program will pay service members a stipend of up to \$5,000 to help cover costs of a teacher certification program. Some participants will also receive a \$10,000 bonus in lieu of the stipend if they accept a job in a

"high-needs" school district. Those who enroll in the program must teach for at least three years.

The program is a particular favorite of First Lady Laura Bush. According to published reports, Mrs. Bush sees Troops to Teachers as a win-win situation: service members get second careers, and schools get highly qualified people with proven track records.

For more information on the Troops to Teachers program, visit your command education office or Navy College Office, or go to [www.voled.doded.mil/dantes/ttt](http://www.voled.doded.mil/dantes/ttt).

VP-46 P-3 Orions fly over Deception Pass, Wash.



*Seahawk* from *Lake Champlain*. He was treated and stabilized on board the carrier and then transported to Hawaii.

The **HS-11 Dragonslayers** saved a Sailor who fell overboard from *Theodore Roosevelt* (CVN 71) on 20 November 2001. When the alarm sounded in the middle of a routine crew exchange and refueling of a squadron SH-60F *Seahawk*, the flight deck crew rapidly completed the refueling and assisted the crew change. Less than 10 minutes after launching, the HS-11 helo returned to the carrier with the victim.

The **NAS Patuxent River, Md.**,

## FORMER NANEWS EDITOR DIES

LCdr. Paul N. Mullane, USNR (Ret.), died peacefully in his sleep on 31 October 2001 at his home in Santa Rosa, Calif., after a prolonged illness. As editor of *Naval Aviation News* from 1969 until his retirement in 1973, he upgraded the magazine's format and content and penned major articles on air weapons, new naval air developments and historical subjects. But perhaps he is most remembered for originating the "Naval Aircraft" series in the May 1970 issue, a popular department which spotlighted a current or historical aircraft. His wife, Tommy, said, "Paul had many jobs in his life, but I am sure his favorite was editing *Naval Aviation News* magazine, since it incorporated his journalism degree, his many years of flying and his love of the Navy and naval

**search and rescue** team airlifted an ailing civilian from his sinking

sailboat on 20 November 2001 in the Chesapeake Bay. The man had

## CHANGE OF COMMAND

**CVW-7:** Capt. William E. Gortney relieved Capt. George B. Dom, 4 Jan.

**CVW-11:** Capt. Charles R. Wright relieved Capt. Thomas C. Bennet, 1 Dec 01.

**CVWR-20:** Capt. Stan O'Connor relieved Capt. Jeff Schram, 23 Feb.

**HSL-42:** Cdr. Joseph Bauknecht relieved Cdr. Michael Martin, 10

Jan.

**HSL-47:** Cdr. Curtis S. Chesnutt relieved Cdr. Matthew J. Pringle, 7 Feb.

**NADEP Jacksonville, Fla.:** Capt. Karl E. Yeakel relieved Capt. Christopher Roun, 28 Jan.

**NAS Whidbey Island, Wash.:** Capt. Stephen P. Black relieved Capt. Larry G. Salter, 11 Jan.

**TRAWING-6:** Capt. Chance

Mitchell relieved Capt Pieter VandenBergh, 7 Mar.

**VAQ-130:** Cdr. Thomas J. Payne relieved Cdr. Francis R. McCulloch, 13 Feb.

**VAQ-133:** Cdr. Robert P. Papdakis relieved Cdr. E. T. Allen, 19 Dec 01.

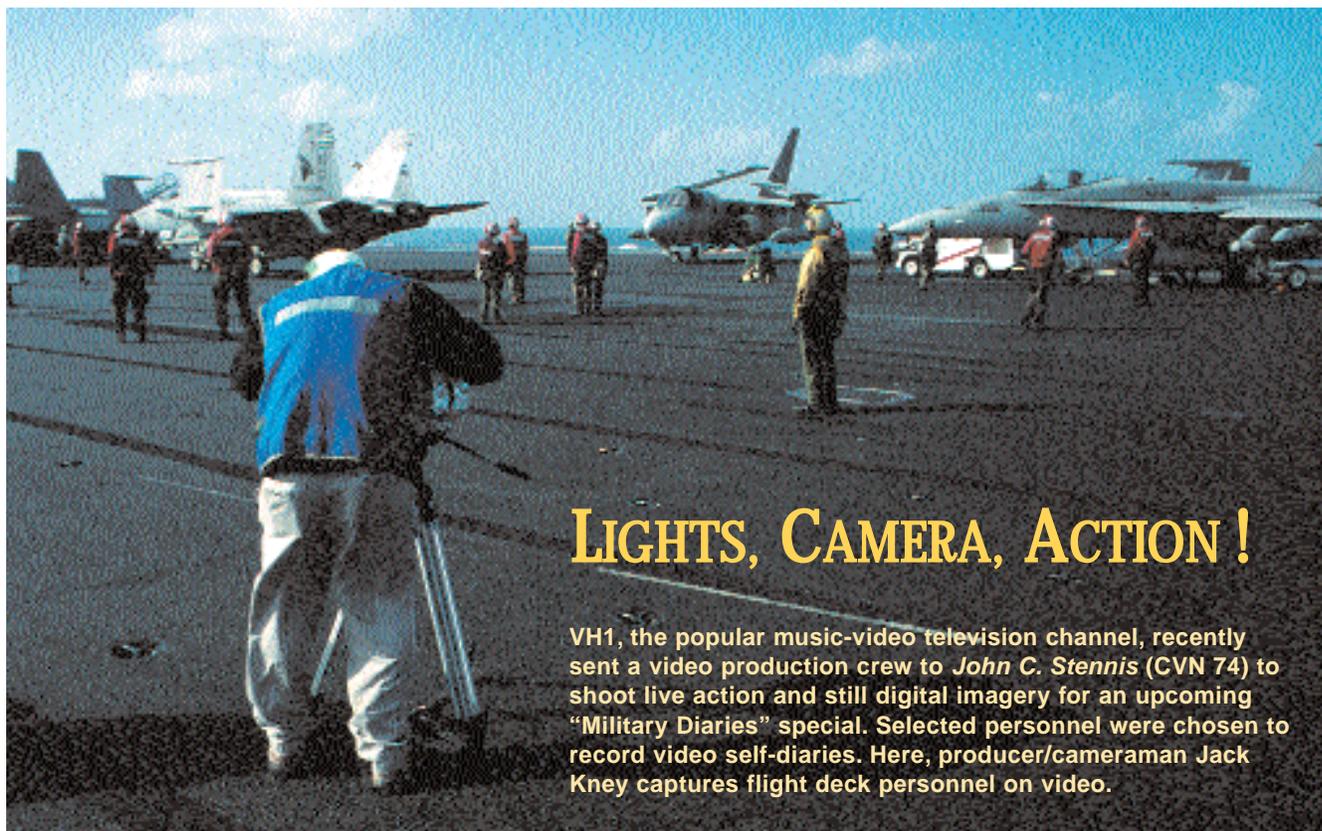
**VF-122:** Cdr. Mark H. Adamshick relieved Capt. Scott H. Swift, 8 Jan.

radioed the Coast Guard saying he was suffering from chest pains and his boat was taking on water. The search and rescue team on duty hoisted him into their HH-3 *Sea King* helicopter and transported him to a regional hospital for treatment.

Six fishermen were saved on 6 January from their sinking vessel 50 miles southeast of Cape Fear, N.C.,

by **Coast Guard search and rescue** crews. An emergency position indicating radio beacon allowed a CGAS Charleston, S.C., HH-65 *Dolphin* to quickly locate the boat. When the *Dolphin* arrived the team found the vessel almost completely submerged and some fishermen jumping into the 10- to 15-foot seas. A CGAS Elizabeth City, S.C., HH-60 *Jayhawk* arrived on scene to assist

and each helicopter hoisted three men and returned them to safety.



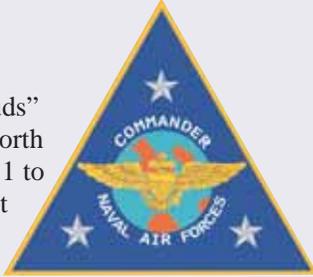
## LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

VH1, the popular music-video television channel, recently sent a video production crew to *John C. Stennis* (CVN 74) to shoot live action and still digital imagery for an upcoming "Military Diaries" special. Selected personnel were chosen to record video self-diaries. Here, producer/cameraman Jack Kney captures flight deck personnel on video.

# PAST REFLECTIONS, FORWARD PROJECTIONS

JO3(SW) Christopher C. Fowler, AIRPAC  
Staff Journalist

When Lieutenant Theodore “Spuds” Ellyson arrived at North Island, Calif., in 1911 to be trained as the first Naval Aviator, the fledgling naval air station took its place in Naval Aviation history. Now, some 90 years later, something is being done to salute the men and women who made the choice to “Fly Navy.”



Commander Naval Air Forces VAdm. John B. Nathman is spearheading the development and creation of a “historical spotlight” inside the Commander Naval Air Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMNAVAIRPAC) headquarters building to illuminate Naval Aviation’s rich local heritage. “When I relieved VAdm. Bowman as COMNAVAIRPAC, he spoke with me about the idea for this project,” Nathman said. “Philosophically, the project resonated with me. Here was a headquarters that has had everything to do with the growth of Naval Aviation, but when I looked around I saw little representation of its rich lineage. I decided that this was an opportunity to not only upgrade the headquarters, but restore its historical value.”

The AIRPAC Historical Foundation (AHF), a nonprofit organization created to promote public awareness of West Coast Naval Aviation, is working closely with Nathman on the renovation. Project coordinator reserve Cdr. Rich Dann described the completed project as a well-rounded, artful representation of the rich aviation heritage of North Island and the San Diego area.

The project centers on an octagonal quarterdeck with an offshoot to one side for watchstanders. “The entire wall to the right as someone enters the quarterdeck will showcase an 8-foot-by-8-foot painting of *Enterprise* (CV 6) and three Grumman F3F fighter planes,” Dann explained. “The quarterdeck will also feature bronze plaques honoring some of the innovators in Naval Aviation, and a scale model of the Curtiss A-1 Triad, the



Top, this painting will be showcased in the new quarterdeck, below, of the COMNAVAIRPAC headquarters building. Bottom, it took artist Steve Anderson six months to complete the painting.



Navy’s first airplane, suspended from the overhead.”

The presentation will continue up the double stairway and down the main hallway toward the admiral’s office with museum-quality artwork displayed chronologically along the walls depicting various aircraft, people and significant events in the history of Naval Aviation.

“The historical spotlight’s overall effect on visitors should be one of quiet dignity,” Nathman said.

“This is where Naval Aviation, particularly carrier aviation, was forged. I think it is important that anyone who comes into this headquarters gets a sense of the history and purpose that Naval Aviation brings.

Today’s pilots should understand that the



technological advances they enjoy were born of the blood, determination and ingenuity of their predecessors.”

The historical upgrade, scheduled to be completed by the building’s 82nd anniversary in June, will transform the headquarters into a living, fully operational showcase of some of the people and events that have played a prominent role in shaping Naval Aviation.