



VS-21 Redtails Prepare for Deactivation

Upon returning in May from a successful deployment as part of the *Kitty Hawk* (CV 63) carrier strike group, above, the *Fighting Redtails* of Sea Control Squadron (VS) 21 began preparing for their deactivation in January 2005, concluding 59 years of dedicated service.

Prior to the official deactivation ceremony on 4 November, VS-21 is planning a week-long celebration of

the squadron's successes and contributions to Naval Aviation. "Redtail Week" will include events such as a picnic; golf tournament, softball, volleyball other sporting events; and will culminate in the final Redtail Ball with music, dancing and other entertainment.

Following the deactivation ceremony, VS-21 aircraft will be flown to the United States. Regular maintenance will continue to keep the jets prepared for turnover to other squadrons or for transfer to the Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Center at Davis-Monthan Air

Force Base, Ariz., for retirement. Before any Vikings are flown to the desert, one aircraft will be painted in a WW II paint scheme, including nose art, to commemorate VS-21's history.

VS-21 invites past squadron members to join the festivities as the squadron says its final farewells. Contact LCdr. Thomas Himstreet (thomas.himstreet@cvw5.navy.mil), Lt. Desobry Bowens (desobry.bowens@cvw5.navy.mil) or Lt. Michael Miller (scott.miller@cvw5.navy.mil).

ANA Photo Contest

The Association of Naval Aviation's (ANA) photo contest is open to everyone except the staffs of ANA, *Wings of Gold* magazine and *Naval Aviation News*. The subject matter MUST pertain to Naval Aviation. Submissions can be in black and white or color, slides or prints, or electronic images. Please include the photographer's name and address, and PHOTO CAPTION. For details call 703-960-2490. Mail photos to ANA, 2550 Huntington Ave., Suite 201, Alexandria, VA 22303-1499; or email zip@anahq.org. Cash Awards: Bimonthly—\$100. Annual—First, \$350; Second, \$250; Third, \$150.



Lt. Phil Decker, a radar intercept officer in VF-32, won the bimonthly photo contest with this shot of Lt. Jay Hildebrandt landing a squadron F-14B Tomcat on board *Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75) during a replenishment at sea off the coast of Florida.